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# BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XIV NO. 48 NOVEMBER 29, 1984

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## Judge Reopens Baths But Orders Monitors

by Brian Jones

After 44 days of closure, the Gay bathhouses and sex clubs of San Francisco are open again. Superior Court Judge Roy L. Wonder yesterday overturned the city's efforts to shut the businesses. In so doing, he reversed a temporary order issued Oct. 15 by another Superior Court judge.

Attorneys representing club owners and bathhouse patrons were jubilant. "This reverses (Health Director Mervyn) Silverman's closure order and that's the main thing. We've been saying it is illegal and this confirms it," said attorney Thomas Steel.

Attorney Duke Armstrong called the ruling "a significant victory for the Gay community insofar as it constitutes a specific repudiation of Dr. Silverman's attempt at blanket closure of the bathhouses."

Wonder ordered several restrictions for the sex businesses, however. In his one and one-half page ruling, Wonder ordered:

- No renting of private rooms without a hotel license.
- That employees monitor the behavior of patrons, and "expel

from the premises any and all patrons observed engaging in high risk sexual activity." The definition of "high risk" sex is to be provided by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

• Removal of doors to video cubicles, booths or rooms.

The judge also ordered club owners to "participate in the education of its patrons toward the prevention of high risk sexual activity"—something many of the owners have been doing for as long as a year.

Steel said the group of attorneys representing owners and patrons would meet this week to discuss an appeal of the restrictions.

"We find the order objectionable especially in the removal of doors and assignment of monitors. Having monitors to spy on

the behavior of patrons is obnoxious and unconstitutional," Steel said.

The Wednesday ruling was heartening to the anti-closure forces because it came from a judge regarded in City Hall circles as moderate to conservative. Wonder is married and a Republican.

"Whether or not the order is workable on a practical level cannot yet be determined," Armstrong said.

The definition of "high risk" sex promises to generate controversy. The AIDS Foundation, which will issue the formal definitions under the order, recognizes three levels of risk in sexual behavior: unsafe, possibly safe and safe.



Just One Look. Eyes that could melt steel—or Daddy's Heart—say it all at Daddy's Boy Contest recently. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

## Silverman Says AIDS Experts 'Mixed' on Closing Baths

Health Director Explains Why He Changed His Mind, Relates What Was Said at Confidential Meetings

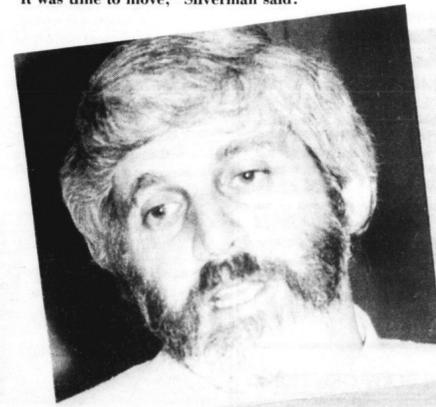
by Brian Jones

A panel of the nation's top AIDS experts was "mixed" on whether the baths in San Francisco should be closed. Dr. Mervyn Silverman said this month. The director of health said the panel of experts, which he called together in early September, was "five to five—five saying absolutely close them as soon as possible, the other five saying either don't close them at all... (or) give the community a chance to do something."

Silverman said he made the decision to close the baths the evening of the meeting with the AIDS experts. "I left that meeting, in fact went out and had a drink after that, and decided it was time to move," Silverman said.

Silverman sought to explain his change of heart on the bathhouse issue during a one hour and 50-minute interview with the Bay Area Reporter. He was a staunch opponent of closing the baths as late as April of this year. He repeatedly called such a move ineffective and potentially counterproductive to overall efforts to limit the spread of AIDS.

"I feel it would be inappropriate and, in fact, illegal for me to close down all bathhouses and other such places that are used for anonymous and multiple sex contracts," Silverman wrote in a letter of May 10, 1983. "It is my belief that we would insult the intelligence of many of our citizens and it would be an invasion of their privacy to take such action."



(Photo: Rink)

(Continued on page 12)

### IN THIS ISSUE

**AIDS IN AUSTRALIA** has become an election issue, with some leaders calling for a quarantine of Gays. But reports of anti-Gay violence are exaggerated. George Mendenhall on page 4.

**WAKE UP AND SMELL** Miss Understanding. She's Mike Hippler's answer to Dear Abby. We suggest counseling on page 15.

**LOITERING LAW IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL** says judge in Sonoma County. Ruling voids charges made in Petaluma last year. Report in Greater Bay on page 16.

**GO GATORS!** It's the First Gay-Sheriff's Dept. Football game and it will benefit charity. Touch or tackle? Paul Trefzger's pre-game warm-up on page 26.

## Candles in the Rain: We Remember

One Thousand March to City Hall To Pay Tribute to Milk, Moscone

by Allen White

As rain fell, hundreds of people marched from Castro Street to City Hall Tuesday night to remember Supervisor Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone. Both city officials were assassinated in their offices six years ago, on Nov. 27, 1978.

The mood of the march was silent, and much more peaceful than any of the previous marches. The marchers, estimated at between 500 and 1,000 persons, struggled against the rain to keep their candles burning.

# Milk, Moscone Remembered

cont. from page 1

The march was led by a contingent from the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. The dozen or so AIDS Foundation representatives were followed by a large mass of demonstrators protesting the closing of the baths. The group with their signs overwhelmed the front of the march.

They were followed by a group representing the Gay American Indians. With one banner and their candles, they set the tone for the remaining marchers. Other groups in the march carrying banners included the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, the Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights and the Campaign for Economic Democracy.

The Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club scheduled their monthly meeting only one half hour before the start of the march. As a result, members and officers of the political club founded by Harvey Milk were not present until the march was half completed. Their club banner, distinctive because it was only the signs bearing the name of Harvey Milk, was displayed for only a few blocks.

The lack of signs and the stillness of the slowly moving crowd seemed to indicate the lack of a need to define the true purpose of the march.

"To remember Harvey" was the answer given by all the people asked why they were participating. They said they planned to march in future years.

Several marchers believed the inclement weather gave strength



Harvey Milk Was Remembered Tuesday night, as 800 marchers braved stormy weather for candlelight march.

Harvey Milk and George Moscone has now become the highest priority. In previous years, many had felt a need to send a message, a statement to the world, that the memory of Harvey Milk and George Moscone would not be forgotten. The statement had been held with loud chants, many signs and a series of speeches at City Hall.

This year, Jones correctly sensed that neither the marchers

Hall steps and began to sing "We Shall Overcome." Changing the second and third verses, she led the people in singing "Harvey is still alive" and "George Moscone lives." It would be the only time during the evening when those in the group would vocally join to express their memory of Harvey Milk and George Moscone. Those in the crowd quietly sang as they held up their candles.

One marcher, Maggi Rubenstein, knew Harvey Milk and was angry the crowd was not larger. She stood with John Wahl, Harvey Milk's attorney and one of his closest friends. "The march strongly demonstrates our solidarity," said Wahl. "It again shows that we are never going to retreat until there is no significant sign of discrimination against Gay men and Lesbians."

Shon Wayrynen, 18, marched for the first time. A native of Finland, he had only been in the United States for two years when Harvey Milk and George Moscone were killed. He knows their importance to the Gay movement and he said it was important to him that he be part of this march.

Tom Brougham was marching for the third time in memory of Milk and Moscone. "I want to march every year," he said. "These people died fighting the same struggles we now face." He marched with a group from the East Bay Gay Democratic Club.

As people have done every year since 1973, they ended the event placing their candles on the only sign bearing the name of Harvey Milk, was displayed for only a few blocks. continued to burn, the crowd slowly left. At 9 o'clock, an hour and a half after the march had begun, Civic Center was still with the Lincoln statue glowing above the glow of burning candles.

A. White

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# Visiting French Activist Assesses Gay Lib

## Sees Common Goals, Strategies On Both Sides of the Atlantic

by Marvin Shaw

When Jacques Vandemborghe and the International Gay and Lesbian Association were denied youth hostel lodging by the Bishop of Strassbourg, Austria, in 1982, a classic case developed of official discrimination against Gay people. Strassbourg is the seat of the Parliament of Europe, a representative body of the continent's nations. This august group is influential in human rights efforts.

The irony, as Vandemborghe pointed out in a recent interview, is that the host country to the Parliament does not recognize Gays and Lesbians as a legitimate minority, as, say, Jews would be. Therefore Gays have no official standing in a court of law. Though the International Gay and Lesbian Association brought suit against the bishop, the case was thrown out of court, and the organization had to pay \$2,000 in court costs.

Vandemborghe is visiting the Bay Area and other cities to establish and strengthen connections between Gay groups here and in his native France. At his first stop in New York, he was quick to see the parallel between the Strassbourg case and the current one in Gotham. New York Bishop O'Connor is refusing to honor the city's Executive Order 50, which bans discrimination against Gays, and which covers the Catholic church's social services agencies because they receive money from the city.

The personable young Frenchman went next to Montreal to see old friends. He was a member of the Association of Gays and Lesbians there before emigrating to France in 1980.

After his Bay Area visit, where he is lecturing at Stanford University's Gay group, he will go to Los Angeles.

The natures of the Gay communities in these localities are becoming apparent to him. He discovered that New York tends to be disunited, with groups in conflict with one another. In contrast, he finds the Bay Area to be more of a cohesive community, better organized to deal with the problems which affect all gay people.

Vandemborghe has combined a career in Gay journalism with extensive organizing and promoting Gay groups and their activities. He was a founder of Rencontre des Homosexualites in Northern France and served as its president from 1981 through 1983. He is a founder and current member of the Commission of the Confederation Francaise du Travail in Paris. This group is moving to ban all discrimination against Gays in employment.

Perhaps his most important post at this time is as secretary general of the Fondation Memoire des Homosexualites, a group dedicated to the gathering, production, preservation and distribution of Gay and Lesbian materials.

Vandemborghe is the Paris correspondent for the Montreal periodicals *le Berdache* and *Sortie* and founder of the monthly *Homophonies* in Paris. He is a collaborator and contributing writer for *Masques* and *Profils* and a broadcaster for Frequence Gaie, a full-time Gay radio station in Paris.

Vandemborghe is the founder and current director of CARIS, Paris, an archive and production company of films and video about homosexuality. It is in the last capacity that he hopes to

videotape Christopher Isherwood's reminiscences and observations in his L.A. visit.

Some reports from Europe indicate that there is less concern with AIDS there than here. Vandemborghe acknowledged that among Gay men generally, there is less concern, probably because the incidence of the disease is not as great in France.

But he pointed out that French medicine is very involved indeed in research on the problem. And quite recently, a group of Gay French doctors published a pamphlet warning against the dangers of some sexual practices. Vandemborghe believes behavior will change as this kind of education of French Gay men accelerates.

This French activist sees American and French objectives and methods as similar: the reduction of repression and elimination of homophobia and the use of organizations, petitions, and demonstration as the means toward those goals. Some strategies must differ because French and American governments and the two societies are different in some important ways.

Also, political affiliations are different. For example, the French left has been more active in helping Gay liberation. Vandemborghe himself is philosophically on the left but places the achievement of Gay objectives above other political, economic, and social concerns.

## 16th District Demos Set Caucus Sunday, Dec. 2

The 16th Assembly District Democratic Caucus will be held Sunday, Dec. 2 at Glide Memorial Church, 330 Ellis Street.

The Caucus is held to elect delegates to the State Democratic Central Committee. It will begin promptly at 2 p.m. and those arriving late will not be permitted to enter the Caucus.

Those who wish to seek election at the Caucus should obtain nomination papers from Assembly member Art Agnos' District Office at 350 McAllister Street, Room 1064, and return them with the required 20 signatures no later than Thursday, Nov. 29.

Membership on the State Central Committee is for a two-year term and carries with it the responsibility of attending two conventions of the State Democratic Party. Members are also expected to actively participate in the local Democratic Party organization.

For more information, contact Agnos' District Office, 557-2253.



Gays in DA's Office. San Francisco District Attorney Arlo Smith is flanked by Gay deputy DAs. Smith has aggressively recruited minorities, including Gays and Lesbians. (Photo: Rink)

# Gays Are Making Progress at DA's Office But City Attorney Resists 'Affirmative Action'

by Charles Linebarger

Gays are slowly making inroads into the local criminal justice system, but the slowness of that process is becoming an issue. The Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom (BALIF) recently sent a critical letter to City Attorney George Agnost asking him to document any efforts he had undertaken to have Gays and Lesbians represented among his staff.

In an interview, Agnost said he opposed the idea of "affirmative action" for Gays, and it remains unknown if any openly Gay or Lesbian staff members work on Agnost's staff.

In contrast, District Attorney Arlo Smith has sought to recruit Gays, Lesbians and other minorities for his staff at the District Attorney's Office.

The City Attorney's Office is the city bureau responsible for representing the city in civil lawsuits such as the one which recently led to the closure of the bathhouses. The District Attorney's Office, on the other hand, is the state bureau responsible for criminal prosecutions, such as the prosecution of former city supervisor, Dan White. In view of the power these two bureaus exert in the lives of Gays and Lesbians, the *Bay Area Reporter* interviewed Ken Cady, one of four openly Gay Assistant DA's in the District Attorney's Office, and George

working with the DA's Office, and according to Cady, two of these are openly Gay.

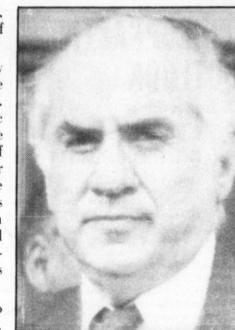
"Gays have traditionally looked with disfavor on the DA's Office," Cady said. "They've preferred the Public Defender's Office. But as more Gays become the victims of crime, robbed by a trick or bashed by fag-bashers, they've begun to look again at the DA's Office. Also Gays who have been interested in advancing our civil rights have preferred the Defender's Office, but this is changing too."

Arlo Smith, the San Francisco DA, has, according to Cady, been actively looking for more Gay Assistant DA's. Cady said that the market for lawyers in the San Francisco Area is terrible. "The competition is terrible. There is a real glut of people who have experience in prosecution here. But my feeling is that Arlo will hire a Gay if it is at all possible."

Cady points out that former San Francisco DA's haven't always been interested in hiring Gays. According to Cady, former DA Joseph Freitas did not actively recruit Gays. And statistics are available that more minorities have been hired under Arlo Smith, than under any previous DA. Cady believes there will be more Gays in the department in the future.

There are several openings right now in the DA's office and Cady suggests that any Gay and Lesbian attorneys who feel qualified should drop by and fill out an application or send in a resume.

The *Bay Area Reporter* also talked to George Agnost, the City Attorney, about his office's hiring practices toward Gay and Lesbian attorneys. The City Attorney said his office does not find that affirmative action vis a vis Gays and Lesbians is



George Agnost (Photo: Rink)

necessary. "We don't discriminate," Agnost said. "We conform to the city's charter and the ordinances which mandate affirmative action on behalf of racial and ethnic minorities. We have a statutory quota to conform to."

Agnost said, "Generally Gay people are smarter than the rest of the population. All things being equal I'd prefer to hire a Gay or Lesbian who is equally qualified, because I don't believe in discrimination."

The B.A.R. asked Agnost several times if he could provide the name of an openly Gay or Lesbian attorney working in the City Attorney's Office. His answer to these requests was that he doesn't feel it would be appropriate to go through his department and ask people what their sexual preferences are.

Agnost said there are no openings in his office right now. "The turnover is very low." He requested the B.A.R. to send him appropriate candidates to be put on file. In lieu of that any Gay or Lesbian attorneys willing to put an application or resume on file might do so.

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# AIDS in Australia: No Violence, But an Issue in the Election

## Gay People and AIDS are a 'Political Football' Says Editor; Gay Quarantine Suggested

by George Mendenhall

A United Press International story Nov. 19 about fag-bashing in Sydney, Australia, has been called a distortion and "a gross exaggeration" by the editor of Australia's largest and oldest gay magazine, *Campaign*. Editor Barry Lowe told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the UPI report, which said, "Homosexuals are being attacked by people who blame them for the AIDS crisis" is erroneous.

Lowe said there was no alleged "violent element" in Australia beating up Gay people because of AIDS. The alarming UPI report was published here by the two San Francisco daily newspapers.

The UPI article gave "officials" as its source but the only source mentioned was Terry Goulden, director of the Sydney Gay Counseling Service. Goulden was quoted as saying "A violent element has already beaten up some of the Gay community." Neither Goulden nor a Sydney/UPI official could be reached for an explanation.

"I am going to contact the UPI in Sydney to deny the story," Lowe said. "We have had telephone calls from London about these untrue reports of violence here. There was only one Gay person attacked here in an AIDS-related incident and that is not 'the Gay community.' Certainly, the responsible daily press here has run no such story."

Was Lowe personally aware of any threats to Gay people over AIDS? "There was a telephone call to the *Campaign* office. It was obviously a crank call so I told him that if he caused us trouble we were going to pollute the water system and poison all the straights. He hung up."

Australia is in the midst of a federal election campaign which may have added to the confusion. Lowe said, "Gay people and AIDS has become a political football here and it is being reported irresponsibly in the sensational press."

Ian Sinclair, head of the conservative National Party, has accused the Labor Party, currently in power, of "spreading AIDS." The politician claims this is so because the state of New South Wales, where Labor is in control, has a law legalizing private consensual sex between adults.

Sinclair has also condemned the quasi governmental Australian Broadcasting Company, which recently granted employ-

ee health benefits to same-sex partners.

The sensational newspapers in Australia—which are similar to *The National Inquirer* here—have been frustrating the attempts at AIDS education efforts with false and hysterical reports. They have been quoting Rev. Fred Niles, who Lowe called "the equivalent to Rev. Jerry Falwell over here."

Australian Gay activists have demonstrated against Niles' Festival of Light church in the past because of its homophobic pronouncements. The radio evangelist is an elected public official in New South Wales. This month, he called upon the national government to prohibit Gay Australians from traveling to the USA, and to quarantine those who are returning—because of AIDS.

Recent Australian newspaper articles about AIDS have been centered around the blood banks, run by the Red Cross. Questionnaires are given to all prospective bank donors. One question is "Are you a homosexual?"

Lowe said that although the UPI account says prospective donors must "sign a declaration" that they are not Gay, "this is not true." He adds that no acknowledged Gay men are allowed to give blood.

The state of Queensland adopted a law Nov. 15 which established a possible \$10,000 fine and 2 years in jail for any person who gives blood while knowingly having AIDS. The legislation was passed after three babies, who had received blood transfusions, died. Allegedly a person with AIDS had given blood that was in the batch used for the infants.

Lowe explained that there is no move to close the Gay steam baths in Australia. The editor said, "The general public in Australia is unaware that the steam baths even exist."

The editor concluded that he was pleased that state health directors had acted responsibly. He said they had become part of a National AIDS Advisory Council and are "beginning to calm the hysteria here surrounding the AIDS crisis." ■

## Bacci's Back, Peretti's Out As Gay GOP'ers Pick Prez

Bob Bacci, making a political comeback, was returned to the presidency of Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, ousting incumbent president Tom Peretti at the club's annual election meeting, Nov. 19 at the Front Page. Bacci served as club president during 1983, but was ousted by Peretti in CRIR's November, 1983 elections. Bacci ran on a platform of renewed vigor and growth for the Bay Area's Gay Republican club.

Also elected were Pat McGonigle and Bob Coates as First Vice-President and Second Vice-President, respectively. McGonigle previously served as club Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary, and lives with Rich Carle, the current Emperor of San Francisco. Coates previously served as a director of the club.

Other officers include Michael Newell, re-elected as CRIR's Recording Secretary and Mike Sher, Corresponding Secretary. This is Newell's third year as Recording Secretary. Sher was active as a director of the club and recently assumed editorship of the *MANDATE*, CRIR's club newsletter.

The club's new directors include Rich Carle, Ray Benson, Larry Lynn, Chris Bowman, Bill Thiele, Wally Myers, Jeff Harlowe, Bill Rowe, and Bob Kravitz.

Officers and directors will be installed at the Club's December meeting, to be held at Raggs on Fourth Street south of Market on Monday, Dec. 17, at 6 p.m. For more information, call Bob Bacci at 668-1772. ■



CRIR President-elect Bob Bacci (Photo: Rink)

In other CRIR business, the club passed a resolution supporting the goals and principles of the Committee to Preserve Our Sexual and Civil Liberties in its opposition to the closing of the bathhouses. ■



The Stars Are Out. The regular crew from the Starlight Room on hand to close a chapter in Gaydom... complete with a benediction. (Photo: R. Yrazan)

## An Era Has Ended At the Starlight Room Nostalgia and Gay Charm At Lower, Lower Nob Hill

by Allen White

Bob Shore closed the Starlight Room for the last time Sunday afternoon. After seven years of a remarkable history, the bar has changed owners and an era of San Francisco's Gay charm has come to an end.

Shore, with Mark Calhoun, began operation of the Starlight Room in 1977. They transformed a small bar operation in one of the seedier parts of Market Street into an amazing success. The team of Calhoun and Shore consistently pulled off some of the most bizarre marketing tricks imaginable.

They cleaned the mural which covered the wall and brightened it to the hilt with blacklight. The San Francisco skyline, painted in 1946, gave off a glow which was stunningly unique when viewed soberly—and unquestionably nostalgic after a few

## Boy Lovers Hear Censorship Talk

The North American Man/Boy Love Association will host Guy Strait, the pre-Stonewall pioneer Gay journalist and activist, in a special public meeting Dec. 1, 1984 at 11 a.m. in San Francisco's Pride Center, Fillmore and Hayes Streets.

Strait will talk about recent censorship of Lesbian and Gay community bookstores; right-wing and feminist campaigns against pornography; and anti-pornography efforts in Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Indianapolis, and Suffolk county, New York. All are welcome, and guests are invited to attend this important public meeting.

Straight edits and publishes *s.t.h.* also known as the *San Francisco Journal of Unnatural Acts*. He produced several of the early Gay newsletters, and brought about some of the first meetings of the politically conscious Gays who pioneered the movement for Gay Liberation in America.

NAMBLA's meetings are open to the public. For further information, call (415) 885-9555 (ext. 8418). ■

The closing of the Starlight Room was done with the same amount of fervor as any of its other special events. The highlight of the afternoon was a prayer by the Rev. Jim Sandmire from Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church.

Sandmire said, "Before I was around hearing confessions, there was the Gay bartender. As a matter of fact, we still compare notes."

As has been typical with the Starlight Room, the prayer and the surroundings were most certainly not predictable. One old geezer walked in off the street, spotted Sandmire, and staggered out in disbelief. At the other end of the bar somebody flushed the toilet. Standing in the middle of the circular bar Sandmire was praying that God would bless and equally petitioning for Shore to make a profit in his new business venture.

With that, Bob Shore bought the house a round of drinks and introduced the bar's new owner, Rudy Martinez. Martinez said nothing would change. He most likely never realized the challenge the statement implied.

Following the drink, Shore led all the people out of the bar and down to the Muni Metro. There, several dozen people ventured out to the Castro and took in the latest enterprise of Bob Shore. With Chuck Morrow and his lover Jon, the three have formed a partnership. What was the Pipeline at 18th and Collingwood has now become "Festus."

In the summer of 1981, Mark Calhoun died. Hundreds packed the Metropolitan Community Church for his memorial service.

The following January, the Starlight Room was keeping up its tradition as the 49ers made their way to the Super Bowl. Many could not believe how Bob Shore was able to cram so many people into the bar. With the unique Chuck Morrow arriving as the Empress Char in a cheerleading outfit, the bar was a Gay sports heaven. *Time* magazine singled out the establishment as an example of Super Bowl hysteria in San Francisco.

The tradition of the Starlight Room has continually been laced with gaudy spectacle coupled with an attitude of fun. In the process, the room has raised tens of thousands of dollars for Gay charities. From politicians to people with AIDS, and the Gay Men's Chorus to the Barbary Coast Cloggers, it was estimated that the Starlight Room in its seven year Calhoun-Shore operation raised over \$100,000 for various causes.

## Unitarians Establish Fund For Gay Retirement Home

A fund to establish a nonsectarian retirement center for older Gay men and Lesbians in San Francisco has been authorized by the board of trustees of the First Unitarian Church of San Francisco.

The new organization has been named GALAXY—an acronym for "Gay And Lesbian Accommodations for the Experienced in Years."

"The purpose of the GALAXY Retirement Center Fund is to establish one or more centers designed for older Gay men and Lesbians, but which will not discriminate against others. The centers will provide residential and assisted independence services, plus recreational and social programs when the present fund-raising campaign is completed and property and buildings are purchased," said Don Williams, Co-Chair of the Retirement Fund Interim Committee and member of the San Francisco Unitarian Church Board of Trustees.

"For a number of years there has been much talking about planning for such a center for the Gay community. The G-40-Plus, an organization of older Gay men that meets on the first and third Sunday afternoons at First Unitarian Church, has many members who are keenly interested in such a center," said J. P. Wilson, a member of the Interim Committee and an international gerontologist.

There are a very few centers for older Gay men and Lesbians in the United States or abroad. Only New York, Los Angeles and San Diego have Centers in the U.S., while abroad Gay centers are confined to the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, the Scandinavian countries and Japan.

"The San Francisco area has a large and growing Gay population that is becoming older—just as the population of the United States as a whole. The goal of GALAXY is to provide services and facilities where older Gay men and Lesbians will, because of a commonality of background and experience, feel comfortable."

Tax deductible contributions to GALAXY Retirement Center Fund may be sent to GALAXY, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109. Additional information on the project may be obtained by calling (415) 431-1949. ■

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VOL. XIV NO. 48 NOVEMBER 29, 1984

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## VIEWPOINT

## LETTERS

### Hollow Words

What is the biggest threat to the nation's blood supply? If you guessed "AIDS," you are half right. The astonishing fact is, the federal government itself is compounding the danger. An unconscionable delay at the Department of Health and Human Services is helping to allow the spread of AIDS. At stake are the lives of the two million Americans who will require transfusions or blood products next year.

We know that HTLV-3, the virus which causes AIDS, is in the nation's blood supply. Approximately 2 percent of the nearly 7,000 people diagnosed with AIDS to date are transfusion recipients, or hemophiliacs who use concentrated blood-derived products.

More alarming are the results of two recent studies which indicate that 72 percent of all hemophiliacs who use the blood derivative have antibodies to HTLV-3 in their blood. Because the incubation period for AIDS is so lengthy—up to five years—many more transfusion and blood-product related cases of AIDS may be expected.

Gay people have seen nothing of the AIDS-generated backlash which will be forthcoming, should the spread of AIDS through the blood supply multiply. Trying to protect the blood supply is very much a Gay issue. So, too, are we especially sensitive to the loss of life—any life—to the horror of AIDS.

Help is at hand. Five drug companies are creating tests which can identify blood or blood products tainted with the HTLV-3 virus. Widespread application of the tests is very likely to limit the spread of AIDS through blood and blood products.

But there is a problem. Incredibly, the Reagan administration is holding up the \$8.5 million which Congress authorized to spend on the blood testing. The appropriation, to the Food and Drug Administration, came in an amendment offered by Sen. Alan Cranston, the California Democrat. Cranston argued—and Congress agreed—that the FDA should begin testing the blood supply immediately upon release of the HTLV-3 test kits. Those kits are said to be available as early as next month.

And yet, the administration delays. Because Congress passed the \$8.5 million as an amendment, the money cannot be spent until the administration formally requests it. That request seemed a foregone conclusion six weeks ago, when Congress approved the FDA appropriation. But, unbelievably, the administration has not requested the money.

Unconfirmed reports in Washington indicate that the FDA has forwarded its after-the-fact budget request to the Office of Management and Budget. It is there, in the office of Budget Director David Stockman, that ways to cut the \$200 billion federal deficit are currently under study.

Is it possible to imagine that urgently needed funds to limit the spread of AIDS are being held up as a budget-cutting measure?

The implications of such a scenario are staggering. While the nation awaits a clean bill of health for its blood supply—an effort which, technically, will be possible in months—the administration delays.

Seven months ago, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Margaret Heckler, promised that a test to detect the AIDS virus in blood would be "available by the end of the year." Those are becoming hollow words—not because we don't have the know-how, but because the administration won't spend the money.

Brian Jones

### Shilts' Postscript

★ Reading the interview I did with free-lance writer George Heymont six months ago, it strikes me that I made too many broad generalizations about the Gay leadership. There are a number of political leaders and Gay organizers—of diverse political perspectives and Gay-activist organizations—who are firmly and primarily committed to the pursuit of a better world for Lesbian and Gay people. Not all are motivated by thoughts of selfish political gain.

Looking back at what I said, I feel my broad brush blurred over the many people who have demonstrated sincere altruism. I particularly want to single out the hundreds of Lesbians and Gay men who are showing courage and fortitude by doing volunteer work with the city's various AIDS-related organizations. Though they are not among the leadership I was discussing in that six-month-old interview, they represent much of what is good about the Gay community.

I apologize for this oversight in my comments.

Randy Shilts  
San Francisco

### Gaydom's Ghetto

★ I enjoyed George Heymont's interview with Randy Shilts. To be an activist is to be a partisan, and it is to be wished that "Gaydom" had more tolerant attitudes in regard to the dissenting views within their own ranks and a better ear to the legitimate criticism offered from the outside world.

More Gays should be thinking about their existing cultural ties with humanity rather than confining both mind and body to a ghetto. At the same time Gays should remember that "Society everywhere is in conspiracy against the soulhood of everyone of its members."

Tom Youngblood  
San Francisco

### Paid Propagandist

★ While the process is painful, as illustrated in your Nov. 21 issue, if you give the demagogues and homophobic ranters enough time they, like Joe McCarthy, will destroy themselves.

The Southern California based "journalist" is shown to have given exposure to a "Kill Queers" sign and now is relegated to explaining his dismissal as the result of "lunatics and morons."

Another "journalist" calls people who don't accept his role as paid propagandist for the homophobic press "jerks" and destroys any credibility he might have left by saying "The baths are a place where it's real easy to die." (The same journalist also has, as did Joe McCarthy, his own "secret lists" which he finally was unable to substantiate.)

The Founding Fathers knew what they were doing in establishing free speech.

Jerry Jansen  
San Francisco

### Picks and Pans

★ With insightful courage and a candid sense of professional responsibility, Randy Shilts (B.A.R., Nov. 21) has compelled the "self-appointed leadership" of the Gay community to take a political-psychological examination of itself.

Since the fifties, in one way or another, I have been active in many Gay-oriented causes. Few "leaders" have carried themselves above Shilts' exacerbating characterizations: Armstrong; Baeci; Beardemph; Da-

ly; Delaney; Foster; Friday; Hughes; Isenberg; LaLeu; Lorch; Morris; Ross and Wahl—all altruistic, dedicated and unique.

On the other hand, the plethora of "activistic-Gay-leaders" have been self-serving manipulators who, in Shilts' words, were "inept" (albeit perhaps accomplished in a one-issue vein), and truly, a "bunch of jerks." Consider: Britt; Broshears; Jones; Kraus; Lyon; Martin; Mendenhall; Midgen; Milk; Rosselli; Scott; White—and their fawning gaggle of idolators and imitators!

Thomas M. Edwards  
San Francisco

### Candid Remarks

★ Randy Shilts' reporting in the *Chronicle* can be maddening, to say the least (especially if you're on your first cup of coffee), but I found myself admiring his candid remarks in the interview with George Heymont. It takes courage to express such "incorrect" views in the Gay press, but I suspect many found themselves in agreement with Mr. Shilts' attitude.

I particularly relished his deflating image of so-called Gay leaders and respected him for daring to identify the proliferation of rigid political correctness for what it is: propaganda. Personally, I resent being told how and when to think by people who presume to represent me and claim to speak for what they perceive as the Gay community.

Richard Street  
San Francisco

### Hornet's Nest

★ *Chronicle* reporter Randy Shilts has stirred up quite a hornet's nest of controversy with his remarks in a Gay publication about leaders of San Francisco's Gay community.

I do not feel his remarks are divisive; in fact, they are quite the opposite and are likely to act as a catalyst for a much needed debate in the Gay Community.

What should we expect of our Gay leaders? How can their leadership reflect our changing community? What role should our leaders play in the wider political and business communities of San Francisco? What alliances should we make to further our interests, and which should we avoid?

These are all healthy questions for a community to ask itself as it moves toward realizing its full potential. Inevitably, the kind of self-appraisal the Gay Community has so courageously undertaken during the AIDS crisis will produce change. As a new leadership emerges in response to a changing community, open and lively debate is essential to ensure that that leadership does not repeat the mistakes of the past, but is able to build on the many accomplishments of the community's pioneers.

Jon Berliner  
San Francisco

### Letter Policy

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

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

## LETTERS

### Shocked

★ I am shocked to see ads for travel to South Africa in the *Bay Area Reporter*. The racist and repressive apartheid system of South Africa is vitally dependent on U.S. dollars for its survival. Dollars spent in South Africa are also dollars contributed to the repression of Gay people: The apartheid regime maintains barbaric laws punishing "unnatural sex acts."

On Nov. 6, the people of San Francisco voted overwhelmingly to stop supporting apartheid through the investment of city pension funds in companies doing business in South Africa. This paper and its readers should join in striking an economic blow to the apartheid system by refusing to promote, or participate in, the expenditure of U.S. travel dollars in South Africa.

Arlo Hale Smith  
San Francisco

### Freedom to Travel

★ I feel obligated to reply to the letter written by Conor Ryan in the Nov. 21 issue of the *B.A.R.*, regarding a tour that I have been promoting to South Africa. Several individuals have expressed anger that a trip to South Africa be advertised in the *B.A.R.*, and have also come to the conclusion that anyone sponsoring such a trip must be a racist. I would like to correct this false assumption by explaining how this trip came into being.

After obtaining a B.A. in Sociology, and spending two years as a Peace Corps Volunteer in West Africa (as well as one year as a U.S. contract teacher in Jamaica, and a year in the Urban Teacher Corps in Chicago), it was very difficult for me to even think of visiting South Africa. I had friends who were political refugees from the country, and I had heard all the horror stories imaginable about apartheid.

It is over ten years later, and I am involved in the travel industry, and have had the opportunity to travel extensively throughout all of Africa. The company I work for has been in business over 25 years, and has an excellent reputation in the community. Travel to all parts of Africa is one of the many areas we specialize in.

Most of my time is involved with group travel, and I was asked a year and a half ago, to go to South Africa, to help with some preliminary arrangements for the World Affairs Council of Northern California's trip in May-June 1984. I had always avoided travel to this part of Africa due to my feelings concerning human rights, yet had always been curious to see for myself what conditions were like.

South Africans are very sensitive about the publicity they are receiving and are quite willing to discuss their views with visitors. I found the experience extremely educational, emotional, and worthwhile. I found that a Gay community exists which may have the potential to break through racial barriers more than many other social forces, and thought this should be of interest to many Gays in this community.

As a promoter of travel to all parts of the world, I feel strongly that every individual has the right to travel wherever they want to. In view of the recent developments in our community, in which many of our freedoms have become endangered, a trip to South Africa should prove to be a most educational one. I think that returning and discussing these impressions with others may do more to change the injustices that exist in the world than, let's say, refusing to eat South African lobster. It does take a special kind of person, however, to undertake such an experience; one that can go as an observer, not a political activist, and put into perspective so many contradictory impressions set against the background of one of the most physically beautiful countries in the world.

The trip, is open to individuals of all races, but certainly is not for everyone. No political message was ever intended in my ad. We are offering individuals an opportunity to travel to an area that many would not venture to on their own, and will defend their right to do so!

Fred M. Apple  
San Francisco

### AIDS and the Psyche

★ Concerning the article, "AIDS Psychotherapy, and Gay Men," I observed these good points: the rethinking some may have about sexual identity and the attendant depression; the deeper consciousness of suffering and death; the loss of so many of our community's members in their young years. Most important of all in this article was the statement that centered on the 70's as an adolescent period with a new plane now being reached.

Above and beyond all of this can be felt a love, depth and concern in the person and work of Leon McKusick, whose questionnaires and surveys have helped us all reach toward new heights.

Richard W. Diewig  
San Francisco

### Whole Lotta Holes

★ SAFE SEX... Safe Sex... ever do it in a safe? We'd have to drill air holes and we'd be right back to what they scream about. If they are closing holes all over—what holes are next? We'd really walk funny then—or explode. Now I wonder what "the hole in the wall" gang was all about.

Next they'll say the groundhog is strange, really strange. He climbs into a hole—no wonder he's haggard, messing around the same hole all winter. Moses was proud of his—we've all heard of "Holy Moses." The Pope is the holiest of all (wears long robes). Can't you imagine Dr. Silverman going berserk in front of him?—Swiss cheese with holes.

Will they cement shut all portholes in the Bay? Will theaters shut that ticket hole—after all a tall Texan may get near it! Sinks and tubs have holes too—nothing is impossible if you put your mind to it. The letters "O" and "Q" would be blacked in. Vitamins will come in pointed bottles—doughnuts will be banned. Too sexy... especially chocolate and coconut ones. Why not cucumbers and carrots too. Hot dogs... after all we are weird. These could be turn-ons. German sausages, absolutely a "no no"—unless it's only seen in a bun. Maybe a campaign to make the word "twattle" a popular phrase—i.e. "I'm confused twattle I do?" Easter baskets will be out—only Easter boxes.

Somehow we always made it—we will again—and that's the hole truth.

Chuck Kennedy  
San Francisco

### Orgy Room

★ People all around are vehement over closure of the baths. Many seem to say it's unnecessary and what is needed is education. Many say this situation came about without any "networking" within the Gay community before the decision to close the baths was made. Our Gay community is frequently throwing beer bucks to raise monies for AIDS related charities, or presenting disco extravaganzas which will donate part of the proceeds to these charities. We are furious with our Mayor for her support of closure and insist that our community is responsible and working tirelessly to end this horror.

So, where the hell does CMC get off by allowing an orgy room at their 1984 Carnival? Am I supposed to believe this highly visible Gay organization had no idea this activity would occur again? Or did they expect it would occur but participants would choose safe sex?

Why isn't our Gay media outraged? What's wrong with this Gay community, which now knows beyond a reasonable doubt what is spreading this disease, and still supports CMC encouraging this activity to continue? When CMC Carnival has the reputation that it has for this type of behavior, just allowing it to occur again in 1984 is in fact condoning and encouraging it.

We must have our rights as individuals to choose our own lifestyle; but as a community we have a responsibility to take action to reduce the high availability of public activities where certain behaviour is occurring which is known to spread this disease.

I am outraged at the apparently lack of public upset over this CMC Carnival and strongly feel the Gay press owes us an investigation into this sort of hypocritical, deadly nonchalance.

Kim R. Nelson  
San Francisco

### Texas Tactics

★ Texas will not allow closure of the bathhouses in any of the major cities. The main reason is that the bathhouse owners helped the Health Departments in screening the customers for sexually transmitted diseases. Usually twice a month a mobile unit would come to one of the baths to hold a "VD Screening" which was well publicized in the Gay area papers. This is a very effective way of helping remedy the problems that we face in our lifestyle. Also this showed cooperation between bathhouse owners as well as the Department of Public Health. It was more convenient to have an exam at the baths than to go to one of the offices of the DPH.

If San Francisco bathhouse owners had taken this initiative, they would not be faced with permanent closure as well as bankruptcy. All it would have taken was a little cooperation, but instead they chose to think of only themselves throughout this epidemic.

Rich Street was far behind in the service to its customers from the other members of the CBC chain. Both Rich Street as well as Eighth and Howard had some of the worst employees that had equally bad attitudes.

I would like to see the Gay community stand up and try and fight the city government to get the baths reopened. If you allow them to take away one of your privileges, they will eventually take them all away from us. Remember how easily Dan White got away with murder to all of us. Now the Mayor and Dr. Silverman are doing the same thing and you are not paying attention to it.

Randy Oakes  
San Francisco

### The Call

★ Farewell, Tip! Killed by Kaposi's sarcoma, Oct. 20. Give my love to Gary (Juanita) who would sneer at it, to David and Jack who knew it, and to Jerry who was it. To all our precious Gay brothers who've died in a state of grace for having died for love. There's quite a gathering going on, on the Other Side. I sometimes feel I'm in an in-between reality—half there with them, half here with all of us. Has anyone else felt their call?

Mark Ryan  
Laytonville

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EXECUTIVE & EDITORIAL OFFICES: 1528 15th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 TELEPHONES: (415) 861-5019/861-7230  
PUBLISHER: Bob Ross  
NEWS EDITOR: Brian Jones  
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR: Dianne Gregory  
FINE ARTS EDITOR: George Heymont  
POLITICAL EDITOR: Wayne Friday  
OFFICE MANAGER: Michael Snyder

CAMERA: Michael Jay Goldberg  
LAYOUT: Peter Keane  
TYPESETTING: Chal Cochran  
PHOTOGRAPHERS: Rink, Robert Pruzan  
AUDITOR/ACCOUNTANT: Robert J. Dern, C.P.A.

G  
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U

CONTRIBUTORS: Burney Allgood, Les Balmain, Michael Benzy, Philip Campbell, Jerry De Gracia, Jerry R. De Young, Leslie Ewing, Dug Figley, Chuck Forester, Wayne Friday, George Heymont, Mike Hippler, Frank J. Howell, T.J. Hughes, Peter Keane, Michael Lasky, Arthur Lazere, Charles Linzberger, George Mendenhall, Gene Miller, Nez Pas, Paul Reed, Dion B. Sanders, Marv. Shaw, Bernard Spunberg, Karl Stewart, Paul Trefzger, Tom Vindeed, Dick Walters, Steve Warren, Rick Weatherly, John Wetzl, Allen White, Keith White, Bob Woolhouse

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# LETTERS

**Nothing New**

★ What's new with Jo Daly? Not much, except that the October 25, 1984 issue of *Bay Area Reporter* carried a story very belatedly questioning Daly's associations and defenses of "Cops for Christ," Lt. Corrales, and anti-Gay Kevin Starr, headlined "Commissioner Jo Daly: Whose Side Is She On?"

Jo Daly: A member of the Human Rights Commission Gay Advisory Panel, and a Jerry Brown delegate to the Democratic National Convention. We were treated to the spectacle of Ms. Daly "Uncle Tomming" her way through a speech on the floor of the April 12, 1976 meeting of members and guests of the Alice B. Toklas Club, admonishing us not to push too hard for a rider to AB-3124 that would have begun to extend discrimination protection to gays. "Antie Tom" Daly's rationale for that diatribe was that we don't want to "Offend the NAACP," the very same NAACP that would not take the defense of a gay black man in Los Angeles who had been busted, hurriedly tried and jailed on a sex offense case after AB-489 had passed, but before it took effect. *Pride Foundation* took the case that the NAACP, whom Ms. Daly doesn't want to offend, wouldn't touch. Common courtesy barely restrained the offering of a burnt cork and the suggestion that she ally herself elsewhere, leaving us free to find an advocate for gay rights.

I wrote that eight years ago for the June 3, 1976 issue of *A Different Beat*. Nothing new with Jo Daly.

Donald Cameron Scot  
San Francisco

**Thank You**

★ Before dashing off to Nashville for the opening of my new Grand Old Ape Ski Shop, I want to thank you and the devilishly charming Mike Hippler for the lengthy and penetrating article about me you ran in your Nov. 8 issue. It made me feel like a real celebrity.

In fact, the next afternoon as I meandered up Castro Street I was stopped by five different people. It's true that three of them wanted to hand me pamphlets and the other two wanted spare change, but (and this is the point) every one of them eventually agreed to accept an autographed copy of the article which I happened to be carrying with me.

Thank you again.

Strange de Jim  
San Francisco

**Animal Rights**

★ Fundamentalists are not the only ones "whooping it up" over the anticipated demise of the Reno Gay Rodeo (B.A.R., Nov. 15). So am I. There are reasons other than those stated in the article for the event's diminishing attendance. One is a rising public consciousness regarding compassion toward animals.

Every humane organization in the country condemns rodeo for its abuse of animals. Extensive bruising, broken bones and horns, even deaths are not uncommon, and not just for the nonhuman participants. But people have a choice here—the horses, bulls, steers and calves do not.

Rodeo is a macho exercise in domination, one step removed from rape. Bucking straps, electric prods and fear madden otherwise docile livestock. Already exhausted by long hauls in overcrowded trucks, the animals are further stressed by improper (or non-existent) veterinary care, food and water.

As a Gay man, it both amazes and saddens me that one oppressed group can so thoughtlessly oppress and exploit another in the name of entertainment. If there is indeed a "Gay community," I would like to see it sponsor an event which neither uses nor abuses other sentient creatures.

Animals have rights, too.

Eric Mills  
Action For Animals  
Box 20184, Oakland, CA 94620

**Ageism Rules, OK**

★ I would like to take this time to express an opinion that I have acquired from living in San Francisco. It is as follows:

As a young man in my early 20s, I have become very disillusioned with your constant effort to "glamorize" as well as highlight only men above the age of 30. There is not enough emphasis placed on the younger men of our city as well as society. Living in San Francisco, one very seldom hears of activities involving men or women in their 20s. This is mostly seen in your paper. Most all of the pictures that you feature with an article relate to men age 30-50 and usually always dressed in leather. Is this really what stands out in our community? I do not dislike men in leather, but it seems that you would take the initiative to give equal space to younger, more attractive people. I, as well as many others in the Bay Area, are tired of opening your paper and seeing men displaying pot-bellies, balding heads, and several times, wrinkles, who are all trying for "Mr. Leather This" or "Mr. Leather That," etc. Other times you place pictures of "drag queens" or what I consider "dragons" in your paper, which all look as if they should be placed to rest.

There used to be a time in our society when we didn't spend so much time emphasizing one group. Again, I say that leather is fine, but do we have to see it in every issue?

Russell Gowen  
San Francisco

**Fundamental Rights**

★ The Committee to Preserve Our Sexual and Civil Liberties has voted to oppose any regulation of consensual sexual activity in bathhouses and private sex clubs. While the Committee continues to support wholeheartedly all efforts to educate the Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual community about the dangers of AIDS, the Committee will not accept any interference with the rights of individuals to make informed decisions about their sexual conduct. The Committee holds these rights to be inviolable, and indeed, considering the long period of repression this community has withstood, any attack on these rights should be unacceptable to all thinking members of the Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual community.

Already in countries as diverse as West Germany and Australia, as well as in our own, efforts are underway to attack our fundamental rights, civil as well as sexual. This Committee continues to view the closure of bathhouses as an ineffective hysterical act against our community, an act which takes energy as well as attention away from the very important efforts needed to fight AIDS and help those who have the disease. It is imperative that we do not allow this to happen.

Randy Stallings, Chair  
San Francisco

**Warning**

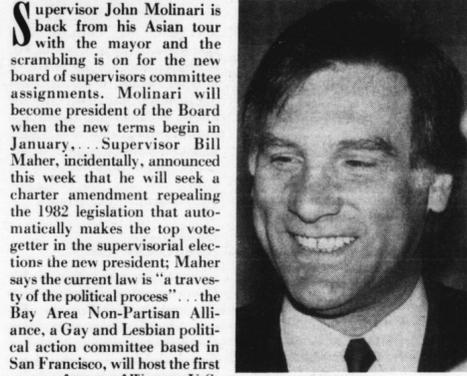
★ Your readers should be warned that the Nob Hill theater is showing soft-core, censored, amateurish, and old, old movies.

Russell Gowen  
San Francisco

## POLITICS AND POKER

### Bits and Pieces

WAYNE FRIDAY

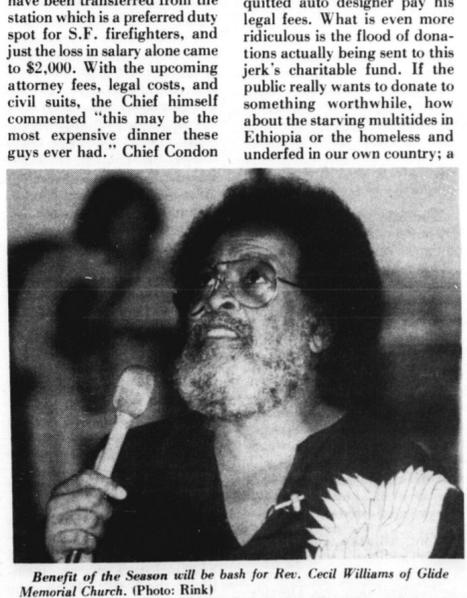


Supervisors President-Elect John Molinari (Photo: Rink)

Supervisor John Molinari is back from his Asian tour with the mayor and the scrambling is on for the new board of supervisors committee assignments. Molinari will become president of the Board when the new terms begin in January. . . . Supervisor Bill Maher, incidentally, announced this week that he will seek a charter amendment repealing the 1982 legislation that automatically makes the top vote-getter in the supervisorial elections the new president. . . . the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance, a Gay and Lesbian political action committee based in San Francisco, will host the first ever conference of Western U.S. Gay and Lesbian political action committees this Saturday, Dec. 1, at the S.F. Press Club, 555 Post Street. Representatives from pac's from San Diego to Portland will be in attendance and you can obtain info by calling Don Disler at 392-2800 or Paul Wotman at 552-5600. . . . "Good work, Senator Marks," but now let's get those unsightly campaign signs down that are still hanging all over town (counted five of them along the palms on Dolores Street the other day); same goes for the campaign signs of the "Unsung Heroine."

As we know by now, five S.F. firefighters from Post Street's #3 firehouse went into the Casa De Cristal, a Gay-owned Polk Street restaurant, and while there the heavy-drinking firemen made anti-Gay comments to the waiters, started a fight with other customers, and a brawl ensued in which considerable damage was done to the establishment. I bring this up again now because some readers have pointed out that Fire Chief Emmet Condon should be commended for his swift action in dealing with these boys-will-be-boys firemen and I agree. Within days, Condon had completed an investigation which resulted in 3 of the men being suspended and the remaining 2 given formal reprimands which will go into their service records. Two of the men involved also face civil charges of battery and disturbing the peace. All five have been transferred from the station which is a preferred duty spot for S.F. firefighters, and just the loss in salary alone came to \$2,000. With the upcoming attorney fees, legal costs, and civil suits, the Chief himself commented "this may be the most expensive dinner these guys ever had." Chief Condon

I guess anybody who is anybody will be at the testimonial dinner of the year—that being the one Dec. 7 at the Hilton honoring Glide's Rev. Cecil Williams. Fix for this are \$250 each but you get Willie Brown (you know, the one Herb Caen manages to plug every day) as emcee and entertainment by Hollywood's Sammy Davis Jr.; the funds from the dinner will be used for Glide's programs such as feeding the needy, etc., and if you can afford it, this is one fundraiser well worth the price. In L.A., they are still scoffing at the full page ads that John DeLorean and his friends placed asking for funds to help the acquitted auto designer pay his legal fees. What is even more ridiculous is the flood of donations actually being sent to this jerk's charitable fund. If the public really wants to donate to something worthwhile, how about the starving multitudes in Ethiopia or the homeless and underfed in our own country; a



Benefit of the Season will be bash for Rev. Cecil Williams of Glide Memorial Church. (Photo: Rink)

dollar or two to the International Red Cross, World Vision International and/or Catholic Relief Services would do a lot more good than helping keep this high-rolling playboy in a Bel Air mansion.

How did the Governor make out in the recent elections? He suffered a bitter personal defeat in the rejection of his reappointment initiative and his major Democratic adversaries, Speaker Willie Brown and Senate President Pro Tem David Roberti, seemingly cemented their respective powers in Sacramento. Not only did Brown and Roberti maintain their own Democratic majorities in both houses of the legislature, but they also succeeded in passing all the bond issues that the Legislature approved while beating back every one of the propositions that the Republicans backed for the radical reform of taxation, campaign financing and welfare, and took special pleasure in having played a big part in the defeat of the GOP sponsored reapportionment initiative.

A recent nationwide poll put San Francisco third (behind Dallas and Houston) as among the "not perfect, but best" places in which to live. . . . and just when we thought we had maybe heard the last from would-be presidential assassin John Hinckley Jr. (who shot Ronald Reagan in 1981), the publicity-hungry Hinckley writes to *Newsweek* magazine offering to seek asylum in the Soviet Union in exchange for Andrei Sakharov, the internally exiled Soviet dissident; saying it would be a "fair exchange." Hickley adds that "I'd feel safer and happier in the USSR. I agree it would be a fair exchange, and I'd bet Jodie Foster would feel "safer and happier" if Hinckley were in Russia too

Signs of things to come? This Saturday, New York becomes the first state in the nation to require all adults to wear automobile seat belts. . . . In Washington, the Republican National Committee announced plans to spend \$15 million in the next two years on county-level party building; the RNC targeted 1,100 key counties across the country for rebuilding the local GOP structure in 1984, and intends to target another 1,100 in 1986. . . . Operating on a political theory that presidential campaigning has become so demanding that a serious candidate hasn't time to hold office because of concentrating all efforts on rounding up convention votes, word has it that Colorado Senator Gary Hart won't seek re-election in 1986.

The new political make-up of the legislature in January in Sacramento will show the Democrats in control of the State Senate by a 25 to 15 margin, while they will control the Assembly by 47 to 33. . . . A few red faces in the leadership of the California branch of the National Women's Political Caucus: the NWPC refused to support State Senate candidate Becky Morgan in the peninsula's 11th district and endorsed her male opponent Arlen Gregorio, despite Morgan's pro-ERA and pro-choice on abortion positions; Morgan defeated Gregorio in the bitterly contested race despite the snub from NWPC.

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**GUEST COLUMN**  
**Gays and the 98th Congress**

by Nancy Roth, Executive Director, Gay Rights National Lobby

During the 98th Congress which concluded on Oct. 12, Gay Rights National Lobby was primarily concerned with three legislative areas: Civil Rights, AIDS Funding, and Immigration Reform. GRNL also monitored developments in the area of military discrimination.

**CIVIL RIGHTS**  
GRNL's ultimate goal is to enact legislation to protect Gay people from discrimination in housing, employment, publicly funded programs, and other areas. Passage of such legislation requires a long-term education and persuasion effort over several years. Significant strides were made in the 98th Congress, and they will provide a foundation for further action in the years to come.

During the 98th Congress, Senator Tsongas (D-MA) was the chief sponsor of S. 430, which called for prohibition of discrimination against Gays in employment, and Congress members Ted Weiss (D-NY) and Henry Waxman (D-CA) were the chief sponsors of a broader bill in the House which called for prohibitions against discrimination in housing, public accommodations and other areas in addition to employment.

GRNL, in cooperation with other national Gay organizations and friends in Congress, was able to obtain 76 co-sponsors for the house bill and 9 on the Senate bill, including then Democratic presidential candidate Gary Hart (D-CO).

A significant advance in the 98th Congress is that no votes on anti-Gay amendments were forced on the floor of either house. This is significantly different from actions in earlier Congresses on such things as the McDonald amendment to the Legal Services Corporation bills. U.S. Rep. Larry McDonald was killed in September 1983 when the Soviet Union shot down Korean Air Lines Flight 007.

GRNL, our network of Field Associates, and other Gay and non-Gay organizations concerned about AIDS made two significant advances on AIDS funding during this session: (1) increased AIDS funding from the \$55 million requested by the Reagan administration to nearly \$93 million, and (2) established the precedent for having an AIDS line item in the budget. The final AIDS budget increases came from initiatives by Ted Weiss (D-NY) in the House and Lowell Weicker (R-CT) and Alan Cranston (D-CA) in the Senate. The final House/Senate Conference committees agreed to a \$14.6 million addition to the Health and Human Services appropriation to fund research at the National Institutes of Health; Centers for Disease Control; and Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration.

The Continuing Resolution also contained an additional \$8.35 million for Food and Drug Administration research. Finally, Senator Weicker promised Gay leaders that an additional \$15.6 million of the NIH budget will be allocated for AIDS research.

The significance of this funding goes beyond the magnitude of the numbers. This is the first time that AIDS has received its own line item in the budget. In the past, researchers were required to scour agencies to find unused money in different pots to fund AIDS research. Establishing a precedent for AIDS line items should make it easier

Former GRNL Executive Director Vickey Monrean was among those who testified at those hearings.

During the second half of the session, much of Congress' immigration focus shifted to the Simpson/Mazzoli Bill, which called for sanctions on employers who hire illegal aliens, among other provisions. This bill died at the end of the 98th Congress.

It did not contain any specifically Gay provisions, but it established the precedent of judicial review of immigration exclusions. Judicial review allows excluded immigrants to appeal Immigration and Naturalization Service rulings to the court rather than limiting recourse to the bureaucratic administrative procedures.

**MILITARY DISCRIMINATION**

No action was taken in this Congress on exclusion of Gay men and Lesbians from the military. A report was released in October that will be useful in future endeavors in this area. Congresswomen Barbara Boxer (D-CA) requested the General Accounting Office to study the cost of dismissing Gays from the military. The study showed that 1,619 Gays were investigated in FY 1983 at a cost of \$373,000.



Our Women in Washington: U.S. Reps. Sara Burton and Barbara Boxer represent us in Congress. (Photo on l.: Rink)

**Strategy Session Set for Gay PAC's; Local Fund Releases Report**

The Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance, a Gay and Lesbian political action committee based in San Francisco, will host the first ever conference of Western U.S. Gay and Lesbian political action committees on Saturday, Dec. 1 at the San Francisco Press Club, 555 Post Street, San Francisco.

Representatives from political action committees from San Diego to Portland will be in attendance. The purpose of the one-day conference is to report on the work of these committees in raising and expending contributions to candidates for local, state, and federal office who are supportive of Gay Rights.

The Alliance treasurer, Don Disler, stated that in 1984 The Alliance raised over \$25,000. "That may sound like a lot," he said, "but it is really only a drop in the bucket. The cost for producing even one television commercial today is often \$35,000 or more."

The Alliance is a non-partisan state political action committee which makes contributions to candidates of both major parties and also to non-partisan candidates and office-holders who are deemed to be supportive of the civil and human rights of Gays and Lesbians.

The Alliance contributed \$6,900 in direct contributions to candidates in the 1984 primary and general elections. The contributions included:

**ON THE JOB:  
GAY PEOPLE AT WORK**

**In Santa Fe, 'Gay' Is Not Said**

ARTHUR LAZERE, C.P.A.



There is no commercial airport in Santa Fe, the capital of New Mexico. Monied travelers fly their Lear jets to the small municipal airport. The rest of us fly whatever friendly skies we can to Albuquerque and drive from there. Our drive was mostly in a blinding hail storm, the first of many unexpected contradictions we were to find. "Bring an umbrella!" I was warned. I didn't. Umbrellas don't go with cowboy boots.

Santa Fe, pop. 49,000, is famous for its focal place in the history of the West, its acclaimed summer opera, its spectacular desert setting, and its multicultural citizenry. The latter includes a substantial population of Lesbians and Gays. The city has a reputation as a haven for those who are different.

Joe Atteberry, a blue-eyed redhead, looks like a younger version of Richard Farnsworth. Born in Kansas, he taught for 10 years at the University of Oklahoma where he was closeted. An artist, he visited Santa Fe on vacations for the well-known art colony and art markets there.

"Being Gay is not part of anything here," he said. "It is more important that you are honest, fair, and work hard." Atteberry moved to Santa Fe in search of that kind of tolerance and to escape the confines of his academic closet. "Art colonies are always more liberated. The Indian, Hispanic, and Anglo cultures all come together here in an atmosphere of tolerance. And we respect each other's privacy."

Atteberry is the Associate Director of Santa Fe East, a posh gallery which sells expensive paintings and precious jewelry. His non-Gay employers know that he is Gay. He says it isn't a problem. "Santa Feans want to be left alone in the sense of being free of family ties and big city complications," he said. "We are a city of misfits, but as misfits we all fit together."

There used to be one downtown Gay bar in Santa Fe. The Senate Lounge. Various people with whom I talked remember the bar with affection. It was the one place where a variety of Lesbians and Gay men came together and it was fun, despite repeated incidents of violence directed at the bar and its customers.

Currently the only establishment that bills itself as Gay is The Chase, a barn-like disco, bar, and pool hall several miles away on the southern outskirts of town. "A guy got beaten up there last Spring," Kathy recalls, "but no one talks about it."

An unadvertised Gay hangout in Santa Fe is the bar at a restaurant called Victor's. Locals, opera professionals, and tourist opera groupies congregated in large numbers at this attractive white-washed watering hole during the summer opera season. But Victor, the proprietor, like many others, was not willing to be interviewed by the Gay press.

Item in a local newspaper the next day: "Two Santa Fe men having breakfast at Denny's Restaurant on Cerrillos Road said they were harassed by two other men in the diner. When they went outside they were jumped by eight men. Both sustained facial lacerations caused by a knife and a pipe." Police Lieutenant Ulibarri, investigator on the case, replied to my inquiry that he didn't know if the assault was Gay-related.

Kathy, 36, is a freelance bookkeeper who works for both Gay and non-Gay clients. She moved to Santa Fe from Sacramento over three years ago. Her lover is a physical therapist. Totally upfront in California, they are "quieter about it here. We just don't bring it up. Personal lives are not discussed. There is a lot of Gay and non-Gay socializing, but 'Gay' is not said. It's a different kind of closet here."

There are substantial numbers of Lesbians in Santa Fe, according to Kathy. "There is a large group of older Lesbians,

ty and ingrown. This is a great place to develop character because it's small and sooner or later you must confront people you've fought with."

A native American, working in a small and unpretentious cooperative art gallery said, "Don't believe what they tell you about all the groups in this town living together in harmony. The Indians keep to themselves, except that they need to sell their products for Anglo dollars. There isn't much mixing between the Anglos and Hispanics. All three groups are suspicious of one another."

Jeremiah, a hairdresser, moved to Santa Fe ten years ago after spending three years in the Gay last lanes of New York City. He prefers the slower pace and the desert. His lover is Hispanic, but he said that mixed relationships are the exception to the rule. Jeremiah said he has been accepted into his lover's family. At least in his case, family bonds transcend the taboo of the Gay relationship.

Marcy Mac Kinnon, 37, came to Santa Fe 12 years ago to visit a school friend and ended up staying. She loves the space, the beauty and the climate of the desert. Marcy has the means to allow her to pursue her sculpting career without

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If you have received a letter or been visited by a representative of the **San Francisco Men's Health Study**, please tell us you care by calling (415) 642-9977 (collect).

**San Francisco Men's Health Study**

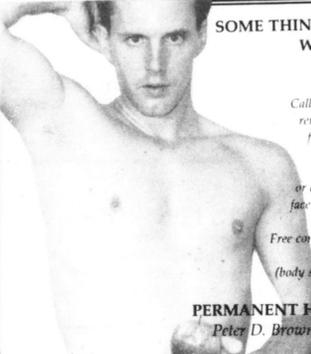
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## Silverman Explains Baths Decision

Again, on Sept. 12, 1983, Silverman wrote, "I do not share your impression that the sub-culture who use bathhouses would not immediately switch to some other locations where we would have less access to posting warnings and providing some education. My fear is that if the bathhouses were closed the community might perceive that the problem of AIDS is solved. This is, of course, patently incorrect."

Those letters were written to longtime Gay activist Larry Littlejohn. Littlejohn, a founder of the Pride Foundation and an openly Gay deputy sheriff, conducted a year-long campaign to ban sex at the baths. His efforts culminated in March with the filing of a proposed ballot initiative to ban sex at the baths.

But as late as March 29, Silverman was arguing strongly against any such measures. In the March 29 *San Francisco Chronicle*, Silverman was quoted in a page 2 article, "Silverman Feeling Bathhouse Heat."

The article stated, "Silverman remained opposed to the action, saying educational efforts within the community were the only effective means of curbing the city's growing AIDS rate."

The article quoted Silverman as saying, "I don't think government has ever been successful in legislating sexual behavior. I'm not going to bow to political pressure."

Just two weeks later, on April 9, Silverman announced he had changed his mind.

Why? To answer that question, Silverman granted the first interview in more than six months—since he first tried to ban sex at the baths, then decided to close them outright.

The Mervyn Silverman we were dealing with prior to April of this year was saying completely different things than the Mervyn Silverman we are dealing with now. An example of this is the letter you wrote last year to Larry Littlejohn. A fundamental change in your thinking has taken place. Why?

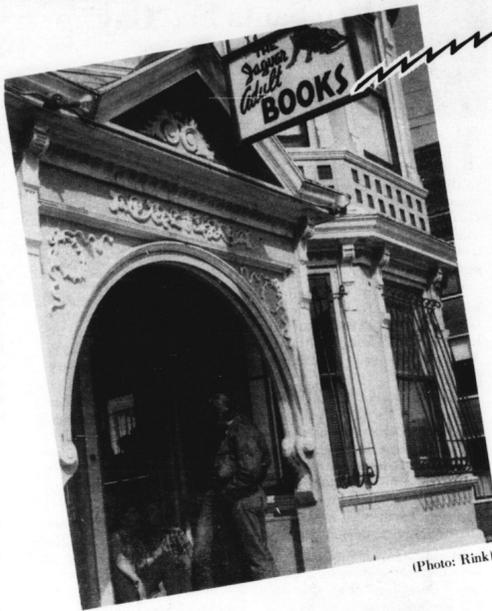
The whole AIDS issue, let's just roughly say it's a couple years old. Initially, one of the things that came up was, it looks like it could be spread—we didn't know what "it" was—it could be spread through sexual contact and bathhouses and those places really encourage it. And you know there was pressure way back then to close.

The statement back then, and you've heard it, is that if this were a heterosexual problem, Silverman would have closed it a long time ago. And in fact that's true... because the impact on the community I was trying to reach really wouldn't have been that significant.

That is, bathhouses to some extent now, but to a much greater extent back then, are very important symbols of the Gay community. My thought was in those days—not that I was thrilled with the existence of them—that what we were trying to do was to make a change in behavior across the community.

In essence, the patient is the community. My feeling was, to take an action back in those days—which would have had some effect—might have had a greater negative effect in the community that we were trying to get a behavior change in.

So, at that time, when I think the attendance was fairly high,



(Photo: Rink)

I tried to put some education into the bathhouses, met with the bathhouse owners and felt that if I closed them at that time, several things would happen.

I didn't think at that time I would be successful in keeping them closed. That would send a real message out to the community. The medical evidence was not that strong in those days. We didn't have a cause, we weren't that sure about the transmission, the epidemiological information was pretty basic.

If it got reversed, that would send a significant message to the community. It would say to the community, "There's no medical evidence, there's no problem." Because people in the Gay community—some of them have said to me, "Listen, I don't go to bathhouses, I don't like them, but if you close them, I'll man the barricades."

Did anybody really say that to you—that they would man barricades?

Oh yes. These are people who originally said, "I'll stand behind you if you do it." Then I called them up, and they said, "No." You know, someone said to me, it will be this, then it will be the bars, then sodomy laws, and all this. This is a symbol for the Gay community.

So my thought process at that time was, people say if you close them and you save one life, it's worth it. My fear was that if I closed them, the issue would be so far directed away from AIDS, toward civil rights, civil liberties, what have you—rightly or wrongly is immaterial—that the issue of AIDS would be seen in a police role rather than a health role.

We are trying to exact this behavior change throughout the community, so that we would probably lose more lives than we would save. That was a concept that was very hard to get across to a number of people in the city.

And you understand that is the position which some of us are still arguing. We are focusing on the effectiveness of alternative strategies.

Then we moved along. Then statistics started coming in showing that drop in the rectal gonorrhea rate. Dropping very, very nicely. Our standing in the country regarding VD was dropping, and that was very pleasing.

I have been thinking more about the bathhouse issue than anybody except the bathhouse owners. Daily, wondering, is it proper? Am I doing the right thing? What would I do in a heterosexual situation? I thought that through and realized why I would do it differently in a heterosexual situation.

In April—I always said, I want to be able to take an action which hopefully would have the support of a lot of the Gay community, because it is important for us to get this message across. And the reason why I thought that was important—and it has been seen as politics, that I wanted to be seen as liked by the Gay community—was not so at all.

What I wanted to do was to get that behavior change. If the community supported it, that means it would have a positive educational impact. So I get this call, that there is this petition urging me—and the names I start hearing are doctors, political leaders—and I figured, aha!

What happened is, they said this, and I said, great, I guess we're at the next point on the continuum of this problem. Then when I started following it through, going out into the community to meet, the people started, as you say, jumping ship. That issue—it wasn't what I had anticipated.

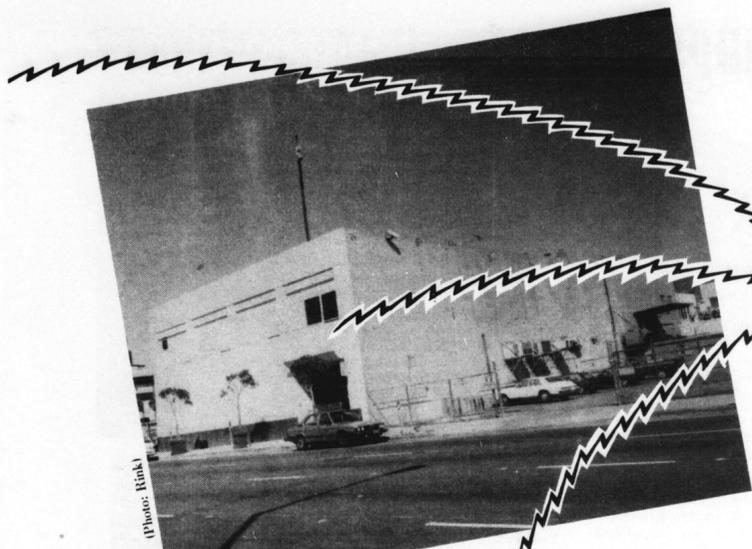
Also at that time, the information I had from the city attorney changed. That it wasn't just a simple matter of closing them, there was a lot of legal implications and ramifications.

That's why I walked into that press conference and did what I've never done before—I didn't do anything.

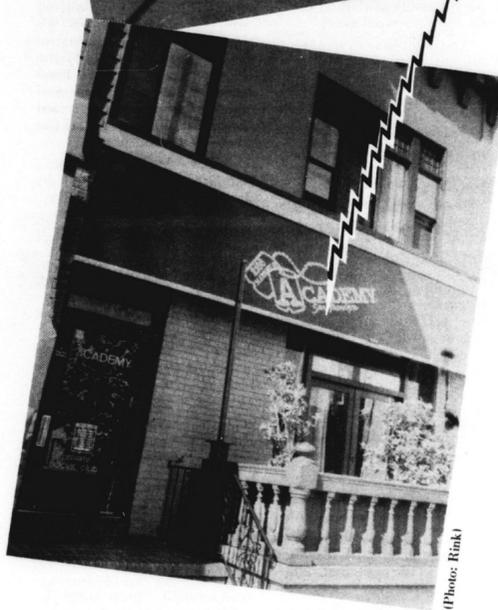
I then brought in what I consider to be experts—people who are really involved; local, state, federal, and we debated. I had a facilitator, and sat off to the side so I wouldn't affect it one way or the other. And it went back and forth for six hours, and the votes were going 9-3, 5-5, whatever, depending on the number that were there.

All of a sudden it coalesced. They said, "Listen. Since we're talking about actions and not the places, so much, why don't we have regulations basically saying, you can't do anything with the sharing of bodily fluids: safe

(Continued on next page)



(Photo: Rink)



(Photo: Rink)

(Continued from previous page)

sex." So it was decided at that meeting and I concurred that what we were talking about was no sex between individuals—because there was no way, really, that we could inspect to see if somebody was wearing a condom, if they had put it on correctly—talk about infringement, that would be incredible. Impossible.

So we proceeded to put the regulations together, sent them over to the police department. I had no interest in the police department being involved, but they were the authority. In fact, we were going to have a physician as the hearing officer, and our inspectors were going to do the inspections, so in name only would it be the police department.

Here, we could come in with regulations, and the owners could make a determination on their own, if they wanted to keep them as social places or what have you. We wouldn't necessarily take away their livelihood.

A few of them have opened up as jack-off places, in Sacramento as well as here, and they're doing well I hear, so you could have changed them around to encourage the eroticism of masturbation; a number of things could be done and still have a place where those individuals who need that environment could meet.

Then the Board of Supervisors on a different tier, is saying, let's move it from police to

health, which to me, made sense. Before, what you were saying about the mayor stopping it, if it were allowed to move through the police department,

I could have done my thing. But I do feel that as a health matter it belongs in the health department. But as you know, that got stopped dead.

Then I had to regroup. I brought the group (of AIDS experts) back together. Since that time, a virus had been identified, antibody studies had been done; I brought the group back together again, and it was about a 5 to 5—five saying absolutely close them as soon as possible, the other five saying either don't close them at all, or don't close them for six weeks—give the community a chance to do something.

One of the things I've left out of this discussion all the way along is that I had tried almost since day one to get the Gay community, whoever that is, it doesn't matter, to go in and do whatever it is I was trying to do. To go into the bathhouses and say, "Look, people are dying as a result of this. Turn up the lights. Close the glory holes. Don't allow the sharing of body fluids. We're going to come back in a few days, and if you do, we're going to picket the place."

They did it for bars which didn't have two exits, if you remember, it was before my time. There were some bars which only had one exit, which was unsafe. Gay bars refused to do it. So they came in and



picketed with a fire door and, like that, two doors.

So I tried a year ago, 18 months ago, again six months ago, as late as the convention—the last night of the convention, BAPHR (Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights) had a party for the delegates to the convention. I started talking and some people said, would you back off.

I said, listen, if these activities don't take place within the bathhouses, you don't have a problem with me. Even if we went in to inspect—if they're not happening, there's no issue. I'm not going to blanket close them, even though some people want that. I'm not trying to "clean up" the city. That's not my role. I will never, ever use health for any reason but health. That is one thing that I refuse to do.

Then I had the meeting after that time, and the staff said to go with this. I mean, no, not the staff. Five said one thing and the other five said...

The panel of experts? Yeah, yeah. Mixed.

I left that meeting, in fact went out and had a drink after that, and decided it was time to move.

We're talking probably into August, the end of August maybe into September, and made up my mind I was going to close it and was going to close

it for the following reasons:

A, although everyone is all excited about the virus being found, and a cure and immunization is going to be just down the road, I didn't believe it. No one else does. It's going to be a long way off.

B, we now have, I think, enough medical information.

C, the number of cases were still going up—and obviously, that reflects the past, but those were going up.

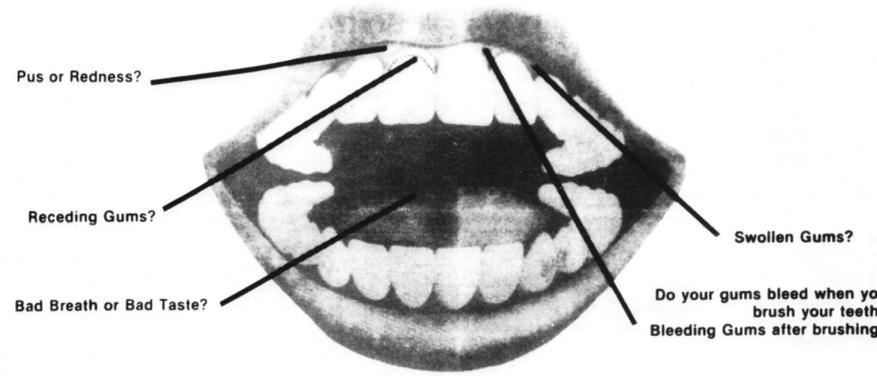
D, the behavior change we had looked for in the community had taken place, to an incredibly significant degree. I think it was a change probably unparalleled in recent history. It's incredible.

So then, and this is the thing that ties it back to the early part of our discussion, you're now dealing with something that, to me, is not terribly different than the heterosexual community. In order words, having gotten this behavior change, if we do it, you're not going to all of a sudden say, "Well, I'm going to change my behavior—I'm going to go out and have unsafe behavior. It's been around enough, and it's been banged into enough people's heads.

And so it moved out of a specialized situation into what I would look at as a heterosexual

(Continued on next page)

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# Silverman: 'Things Changed'

(Continued from previous page)

thing 20 months ago; not to say that they weren't still a symbol for certain people.

It seemed to me, that looking at this now, here were places that had put up signs, a number of them, had put out condoms, were saying they believed in safe sex, there were places—the way in which they were operated, the way in which they managed the places—that belied what they were saying. To me, I think it's incredible for the bathhouses to say they're the reason the VD rate went down. Nonsense. Whatever it is, it ain't the baths.

Someone at one of the meetings I went to said, "It's like putting up a sign about the problems with sugar in a candy store." (Once you're there, the odds are pretty slim. The thing on the pack of cigarettes—once you've bought the pack of cigarettes, you're probably not going to pay a whole lot of attention to the warning.

Let's focus in on that. The thing I found shocking about the private eyes' reports is how unshocking they were. In fact, a majority of the acts that were specifically witnessed fell within the range of safe sex or what I call, possibly unsafe sex; or what the AIDS Foundation calls "possibly safe" sex. Some of the most lurid descriptions in there are movie reviews, where they describe what the porno movies being shown include. There are a couple of hair-raising descriptions of behavior in those reports—but I could have told you where you would find those behaviors before you spent the \$5 grand to find them.

I could have, too.

To a degree, I would venture to say that the activity, and the level of activity today, six months ago, 12, 18 months ago, is changed. I don't think there's any question. Some of them



closed. Of 14 Gay bathhouses or sex clubs in business in January 1983 in San Francisco, five of them are out of business.

I don't argue that things have changed. Things have changed outside the places, things have changed inside the places. But still, the activity was going on which was, without question, unsafe.

This gets to the crux of the problem. Do you think your expectations are reasonable? Do you think there is anything we can do, short of putting guns to people's heads, that's going to force everybody to toe the line on this? You've said two-thirds of the community has changed. And now we're trying to figure out how to get to that last third.

And there's a group we'll never reach.

But how far are you willing to go?

I understand that the guy who is still smoking and his chest X-ray already shows something and he's hacking and coughing, we're not going to reach him. We have lost and will probably lose until he is out cold.

And you're not closing the cigarette machines.

Yes, but there's a difference here. Cigarette machines are one on one. You go to a bathhouse, you're talking about a communicable disease. It's a little bit different. It's not just you...

There's two ways to look at this. One is the communicability of the disease. The second is the cost to society.

What you have done here really takes the role of public health and puts it into an entirely different light. You are now in the business of regulating behavior.

No. No. I'm not. That's where we see things differently.

You're not going to reach everybody. But I think that sex, like a number of other things, is situational. I think in a protective, warm environment, there are a number of people who will continue to go, who might not practice that activity in a park in the fog, in an alley in the rain or the cold, and that the chances of exposure for some are going to be less. There have been some studies which show sex is very situational.

Then I think there's an issue also—and I think one could argue whether it's a public health issue—that is, and I'll use the analogy for lack of a better one, of Russian roulette. If you want to practice Russian roulette in your private bedroom, that's up to you. But if someone opened a parlor and said, "I'm going to make it very convenient for you—provide a gun and a bullet and a setting where you can sit there and do that. It's a commercial establishment. I

think people would not say that we are interfering with anyone's civil rights or civil liberties.

I don't accept that analogy. People don't have a need to play Russian roulette. People do have a sexual need.

You don't have to accept it, I think it's a good one.

If you want to have sex in any way you want, that's up to you. I would hope you would heed some of the warnings, but that's up to you. Where you want to have it, to an extent, is up to you, but not completely... we were saying to these owners, you should not be creating and profiting from creating an atmosphere which has been determined—there isn't a bathhouse owner, most of them are pretty bright guys—who doesn't know how AIDS is spread, and how it is prevented.

We do a lot of these things. We do things for people for themselves, that is, for society. We set speed limits. We set noise limits. We do a number of things. On the autobahn in Germany, you can drive as fast as you want.

This is not unprecedented. They closed the pools for polio.

Once again, that's not analogous. Because if there's a germ in the pool, that's a different thing.

They didn't know. They just knew that kids getting together in the summertime at the pool, and kids got polio in the summertime. A lot looser association. And proved not to be the risk—you don't get it from swimming pools.

Now, when the association was still iffy, and we were trying to do a behavioral thing, then messing with this piece was wrong. When we got to the point that we had the information, had the behavior change to a significant degree, to step back and ignore this piece I think would have been irresponsible on my part. I really believe that.

I closed Embarcadero One. Granted, that was physical. That wasn't behavior. I closed it for a week. It caused a great deal of financial distress. I closed One Market Plaza... I have closed restaurants. I have closed hotels—

In all those cases, you're looking at a physical hazard of the facility.

You're looking at public health in a very narrow way. We have quarantined ships before; the word "quoran" means 40, because when a case of smallpox came in, you quarantined the ship for 40 days, for long enough to see if they came down with it, before you let them off. Pure public health: the regulating of the coming and going of people. We had to, in another city, legally go out and arrest somebody who had syphilis, who was not coming in to be treated, and who we knew was spreading it.

We know for sure that people with AIDS have gone to bathhouses.

One of the effects of what you've done is, that Gay men are no longer cooperating with public health efforts. We have a \$3 million epidemiological study—precisely the type of study we have been arguing for years—and the study may be cancelled because men won't talk to the investigators.

There's that possibility, but I think that is more a factor of the concern over confidentiality.

Well, when you send private investigators into sex clubs...

No names, there were no names taken.

You also said in April, and maybe you shouldn't have, that you would never send cops into the bathhouses.

I didn't send cops.

One of your private investigators was a Berkeley police officer.

That's true, but...

He's a cop. He's a cop, but I didn't send them in as cops. I sent them in as investigators.

The distinction is lost on people who are being approached to help with the AIDS study.

That may be true. Listen. People may decide not to do things for a number of reasons. The biggest reason I've heard is confidentiality. One thing this department has an outstanding record on, and will as long as I'm here, is confidentiality. We will not breach that. I want people to know that.

Let's sum this up. You're saying your approach changed because the complexion of the problem changed.

It's been a very dynamic problem. The poster we put up 18 months ago, that was booted out of Denver, the Lesbian Gay National Task Force, whatever, today is nothing. It was radical.

The people have changed, the disease has changed, we are not where we were. The way in which we educate: look at what we're saying, six months from now, that will be obsolete. So my action was based on changes which had taken place in our knowledge, in community response, and lack of some response in Gay bathhouses and establishments which still were fostering this disease.

If it would have been based on politics, I would have done it 18 months ago. If it was based on the Gay community, I wouldn't have done it at all—some of the Gay community. The rally out in front of City Hall to protest the closing; all of 20 people. The community is changing along with everything else.

B. Jones

## ON THE OFF BEAT



### Dear Miss Understanding

MIKE HIPPLER

At times, when the burden of unbridled ambition becomes too great, I set dreams of Pulitzers aside and concentrate instead on simpler fantasies. Perhaps I could be an advice columnist, I daydream. I'd be a good one, certainly as good as Dear Abby. Oh, Abby has her moments, especially when she has had the chance to wake up and smell the coffee. The trouble is, she has become too predictable. She always says the right thing. And she rarely addressed matters of interest to her Gay public. If I were to take her role, I'd change all that. Perhaps I'd focus mainly on manners and leave all the heartbreak bullshit to someone else...

Dear Miss Understanding,

The other day I ran into an ex-trick who was with his new boyfriend. Now, I don't mind his having another boyfriend, for God's sake. We were only sex partners, after all.

What bothers me is that he tried to pretend that he barely knew me! He clearly doesn't want his new boyfriend to know that he fucked with me—and we did it a lot, let me tell you. Boy, am I burned!

P.O.'ed in Petaluma

Dear P.O.'ed,

There are several explanations for his behavior. One is

that he genuinely does not remember you. You may be the kind of person people easily forget.

Another is that he is simply an unsophisticated, unmannered boor who doesn't deserve to be given the time of day. If this is the case, you would be perfectly within the bounds of good taste to say to him the next time you see him in the presence of his boyfriend, "So, Mary, you sucked any big dicks lately?" If his boyfriend shares a similar background, he will understand.

We have all been pigs at one time or another. Unfortunately,

## DEATHS

### Norman "Hoot" Gibson

Norman "Hoot" Gibson, retired Air Force colonel, died a week ago at Veteran's Hospital in San Francisco. He was a beloved member of the Rainbow and Centurion Motorcycle Clubs and one of the best all-around bikers in the city.

Hoot's sister from San Diego, along with friends here, distributed his worldly goods mostly to the San Francisco AIDS Fund. His family requests donations in his name to the Shanti Project. He has been buried in the Presidio. Private Buddhist services were held.

### Scott Thomas Cleaver

Scott Cleaver, 26, died at home in San Francisco late in the afternoon of Nov. 13. He had been supported through his illness by friends and members of his family since his AIDS diagnosis just over a year ago. Home care was provided by a variety of friends, his family, and organizations.

Scott is remembered fondly and joyously as an outgoing and positive member of our community with a sharp mind, delightful wit, and generous nature. He enjoyed the arts, western dancing, and San Francisco's history; was a member of Psychiatric Detection, Inc.; a member of the Metropolitan Community Church, and a frequent participant in Shanti Project events. Scott's contribution to his fellow Persons with AIDS will be lasting.

Scott is survived by his parents, Tom and Barbara Cleaver of Torrance, California, his sister and brother-in-law Doug and Gina Rogers, his grandparents, and a host of friends. Scott's survivors will long remember his honest nature and willingness to love.

A memorial service which Scott prepared was held on Nov. 15 at MCC. Donations may be made to the Shanti Project.

### Stephen Marrocco

Stephen Marrocco, 27, died at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, on Saturday morning, Oct. 27. He had been hospitalized for three weeks.

Steve arrived in San Francisco in the later 1970s, and was instrumental in The Clean Team for several years prior to moving to New York in the summer of 1982. AIDS was diagnosed on Aug. 2, 1983, at Sloan-Kettering Memorial Hospital, New York. He again lived in his beloved San Francisco from April to September of this year, but, at the urgings of his family, returned to the Boston area shortly after Labor Day to storm "gently into that good night."

Steve is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Marrocco, and two younger brothers, of Woburn, MA, and a few good friends of the haleyoun days, San Francisco and New York, who miss so much "Stevie's" feisty wit, keen mind and restless, insouciant vitalities.

A funeral service, at which he was eulogized by his next-younger brother, was held at Woburn, MA, on Oct. 30.

Donations are requested to the Shanti Project, San Francisco, in his name.

Jay Leo Colt

love affairs that begin in the baths or the backrooms of bars usually end there. In any case, you need feel no responsibility for the progress or demise of their relationship. What's it to you, anyway?

\*\*\*

Dear Miss Understanding,

There is this waiter on Castro Street who is to die for, and I would love to have a date with him, but I don't know how to go about it. I eat in his restaurant all the time just to be near him, but so far I've never said a word to him except to order food. Please advise. I'm desperate. Call me...

Lost In Love

Dear Lost,

Be direct. Strike up a conversation with him between courses. If he likes you, you'll know it. Then, when he presents the check, say something like, "You wanna fuck?"

There are a number of other courses you might take. Whatever you do, however, never, never write your phone number on a napkin and leave it on the table when you depart.

At best, the wrong person may find it. At worst, it will be posted in the waiter's room, and the entire restaurant staff will make jokes at your expense.

A word of caution, however: unless you are absolutely smitten, Miss Understanding suggests you forget the whole idea. One must always look toward the future, and waiters make lousy husbands.

They have little job security, their income is variable, and their hours are too, too inconvenient. When he is at work at 10 p.m. and you want to kick up your heels, for instance, what will you do? And who will look

after the children?

\*\*\*

Dear Miss Understanding,

Try as I might to avoid them, my underwear always has these awful yellow stains in front. I guess the saying is true: "No matter how you shake and dance, the last two drops go down your pants." It's so embarrassing, especially when I change clothes at the gym. What's a fellow to do?

Dying Of Shame

Dear Dying,

Changing your underwear once a day might help, and a cup of Clorox in the weekly wash does wonders. Some people wear colored undergarments to avoid this problem. You might even consider not wearing any underwear at all. It is done in some circles you know.

Your last resort is to discard your underwear at regular intervals and buy new. Might I suggest Dirty Underwear Deposit Box in the toilet room of your favorite bar as a means of getting rid of the filthy things? I will gladly take care of the problem for you.

\*\*\*

Dear Miss Understanding,

The problem is my lover. He likes to cuddle, and I hate it. We have no problems with our sex life at all, but it's afterward that the trouble begins. He rolls on top of me, and I push him off. Sometimes this goes on all night. It's gotten so bad that neither of us can sleep at night, and he says he will leave me unless I give in.

Help!

Dear Help,

Compromise, compromise, is

Miss Understanding's watchword. Try doing this—entwine your legs ever-so-lovingly, but leave the upper body free. That should give him the closeness he requires and the freedom you need. If this does not work, draw a dotted line down the middle of the bed and tell him that if he so much as puts a finger across it, you'll smack the shit out of him.

Tell him if he likes to cuddle so much he can spend the night with a fucking teddy bear. Then come to Miss Understanding, and she'll set you up with a new boyfriend. But be advised—boyfriends don't grow on trees, you know, and you should be grateful for what you can get, especially a whining bitch like you.

\*\*\*

Dear Miss Understanding,

When is it appropriate to use a blowdryer? I take mine on camping trips, but my friends make fun of me. They make me feel so nelly. Should I use it only on the sly or stop using it altogether? I'm so confused.

Wired To The Wall

Dear Wired,

No, honey, you use that thing anytime, anyplace, and if your friends make fun of you, you say, "Look, I didn't come out of the closet to be some uptight, pseudo-macho, insecure mess." Freedom is the name of the game. You do exactly what you want to do and tell your friends to enjoy their closets.

Of course, if you are burning the hell out of your hair, that's another matter altogether. People who have hair ought to take care of it, and it doesn't seem as if you are doing yours any good. Beware. You aren't getting any younger, you know.

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# Sonoma Judge Voids 'Boat Ramp' Charges

## Declares State Loitering Law Is Unconstitutional and Vague

A Sonoma County Superior Court has held a state loitering law unconstitutional. The ruling followed a challenge to arrests which were made last year near a Petaluma park men's room. The law has been used to entrap and arrest gay men for decades.

Fred Rosenberg and John Tally of the Law Offices of Fred B. Rosenberg were the attorneys in the matter.

The statute, Section 647(d) of the California Penal Code, prohibited loitering "in or about any toilet open to the public for the purpose of engaging in or soliciting any lewd or lascivious or any unlawful act." A conviction for this offense required registration as a sex offender, a similar sanction imposed upon convicted rapists and child molesters.

The law has often been used to harass and arrest gay men found in or about a public restroom. "The insidious aspect of this law was that it did not require any illegal activity to take place. Merely being in or near a restroom was enough for a gay man to be ensnared in the net of an overzealous or homophobic police officer," said Rosenberg.

In the spring of 1983, over 30 men were arrested in Petaluma's "Boat Ramp" Park, a popular cruising area. Most of those arrested engaged in no sexual activity. Many were only visiting the park.

Others were lured by undercover officers into conversations which inevitably turned to sex. Even if the conversation centered on private consensual ac-

tivity to be performed in someone's home, the person was arrested.

Rosenberg and Tally based their arguments on the theory that the law was unconstitutionally vague in that an officer who sees a person who is loitering in or near a men's room would have no way to know whether he was there for a "lewd or lascivious" purpose.

The Supreme Court has given a specific definition to the terms "lewd" and "lascivious." For conduct to fall into that category, there must be a touching or a soliciting to touch the sex organs in a public place by someone who knows that a bystander or the person touched would be offended by such conduct.

The lawyers also argued that the statute allows police to arrest persons on "mere suspicion" rather than upon the legal standard which is probable cause. The way the statute was written, no overt conduct by anyone was required. Merely being at a place known for "homosexual activity" used to be reason enough to arrest unwary gay men.

Judge William B. Boone of the Sonoma Superior Court struck down the statute on two grounds:

- It failed to give persons of ordinary intelligence an opportunity to know what is illegal;
- The law failed to give explicit standards to law enforcement to avoid "arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement."

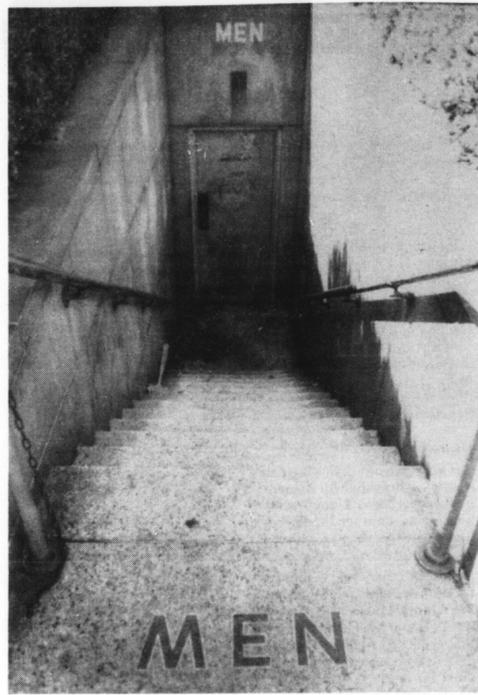
This last aspect of discriminatory enforcement was particularly highlighted by attorney Rosenberg in his oral argument to the court. He maintained that the law was being used as a legal bludgeon by a police officer who may have a personal crusade against gays.

The law has also been previously overturned in San Diego and Los Angeles counties.

Since the decision was handed down by a County Superior Court, this law is still valid in those counties where it has not been overturned.

In San Francisco County most "tea room" arrests are based on a related law, 647(a), which prohibits lewd conduct, and section 314, indecent exposure.

This decision, while important, does not alter the fact that any sexual activity which occurs in a public is still illegal. ■



Just Hanging Around got you arrested—until Sonoma Judge said law is unconstitutional. (Photo: Rink)

## Conviction of Bank Robbers May Settle Oakland Assaults

by John Wetzel

Oakland police detectives have effectively closed the books for now on cases of robbery and assault associated with a popular gay bar in downtown Oakland. Other assault cases against gay bar patrons in the past year now seem to be unrelated, according to police, though no charges have ever been brought to bear.

Police are now certain that a duo convicted of robbing an Oakland bank several months ago is responsible for three incidents reported in the vicinity of Oakland's Bench and Bar, and in its adjacent parking lot, early last December.

"We couldn't get any identification," said Sgt. Simonson of the Criminal Investigation Division, "but we, in our own minds, feel that they're responsible." Simonson did not elaborate except to say that the two suspects, Silvan Armstrong and Samuel Scott, matched suspect descriptions given by victims of the three Bench and Bar assaults.

"Basically, after they were arrested Feb. 20, we haven't had the problem," said Simonson.

Armstrong and Scott were convicted of robbing the Barclay's Bank at 171-12th Street in Oakland. They are serving two and five year terms respectively in state prison. The two had been living at 71-10th Street in Oakland at the time of last December's assaults, "a stone's throw from the Bench and Bar," according to Simonson.

Said Simonson, "Some other cases involved a lady walking to her car in the area. Her car was stolen and recovered in Richmond. Another lady was kidnapped and taken to Richmond. One of these fellows gives a Richmond address as one of their addresses."

As late as last March police thought there was a potential that anti-gay foul play had been a motivation in the assaults, or that, as one investigator put it, "It could be that people are looking for what they see as a weak victim."

But now, not only have police been unable to bring charges

## Pacific Center Leads Gay Outings

Starting Sunday Dec. 2, Pacific Center in Berkeley will offer monthly day-long outings to varied interesting locations around the Bay Area. Beginning with outings for Gay and Bisexual men, Gay Outings will explore the Berkeley and Oakland areas this winter and will expand to longer trips in the Spring to such diverse locales as the Wine Country, Point Reyes National Seashore, Clear Lake, San Gregorio Beach, Angel Island and more.

The winter schedule for Gay Outings, on each first Sunday of the month are as follows:

- Sunday, Dec. 2: University Art Museum, Berkeley. We'll begin with Brunch and see the Museum's special show, including William Morris and James McNeil Whistler.
- Sunday, Jan. 6: Oakland's unique China Town, Jack London Square, and Estuary Park, all following Diem Sum at Tin's Tea House.
- Sunday, Feb. 3: Gay Day at the Movies, following Brunch (again).
- Sunday, Mar. 4: Dunsuir House, Oakland. Following a lively Brunch we'll visit this 37-room Colonial Revival mansion built in 1899 on an original part of Rancho San Antonio in the Oakland Hills.

Please assemble at 9 a.m. at Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley (across Derby Street), ready for leaving by 9:30, exactly. A fee of about \$5 will cover transportation, with participants paying entrance costs. Please reserve your space or get information by leaving a message for Larry Wolfson, Head Facilitator, Men's Raps. Call Switchboard 841-6224.

Pacific Center is a Community Center and Mental Health Center for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and transgender people which has served the Community for over 10 years with counseling, rap groups, Speakers Bureau, AIDS Services, Third World Program and other services. ■

## Rummage Sale Set at River To Benefit AIDS

On Dec. 8 and 9, River AIDS Support Group will conduct another benefit rummage sale to help Sonoma County people with AIDS. The sale will be at River Community Services in Guerneville (15999 River Road). To donate saleable goods contact Tom at (707) 874-2816 or leave message at R.C.S. (707) 869-0654. ■

## OAKLAND

### Back in the Saddle

NEZ PAS

**OLLA-PODRIDA BACHANALIA** (A Catching Up Nose)

% *Dioxy-Dynasty*—Emperor V Don and No. Calif. King of Hearts VI Jim present their second "Xmas Food Drive for the Needy" on Tuesday, Dec. 11 at Town and Country. Along with raffles and entertainment, there will be a buffet for a \$2.00 donation AND a can of food for the less fortunate. Hey, why not make it more than one can (or package)?

• *Senary-Dynasty*—Emperors I and IV Ed Paulson and Frumpy, Empress IV Stephanie, Hayward Gay Sheriff 6 & 7 Sean, Closet Ball Queen II Pam, and Foxy Lady 3 & 4 (5?) Little Mother are having yet another auction for PWA (Persons With AIDS) and the needy on Sunday, Dec. 16, 4 p.m. at Big Mama's.

This auction is to raise monies to purchase fresh holiday meats for PWAs and families in need. This same hexade is sponsoring a month-long campaign, from Nov. 23 to Dec. 23, called "Bring a Can Whenever You Drink." The object being that every time you go out to "bar hop" take along something for the needy.

The "can" might be a package of food, toiletries, or even a child's toy. Boxes will be at selected East Bay bars. All collected contents will be distributed to those who are deservng.

• *Recherche Referendum*—An unprecedented second term was voted to Hayward Gay Sheriff 6 Sean. He is now #7; with Cookie, Deputy 1 and Cheryl, Deputy 2. The Gay Sheriff Rodeo/Round-Up was held at Big Mama's on Sunday, Nov. 17, primarily because of scheduling and husbanding problems. Even with last-minute changes and minimal advertising, a large crowd was in attendance. Sean

### SERENDIPITY

Jerry Holt in drag? The "nose" witnessed this rare occurrence at one recent party.

Rula Lenska now wants to be known as "Chance." (As in, take a...?)

How did Jerry Joint find several partially full liquor bottles in the garbage after his party?

Mr. Lumberjack II George, and runner-up Jerry, are finally planning a charitable function for later this month, hopefully!

ACIE Emperor and Empress Doug and Billy had their first Cut-A-Thon '84 at Big Mama's Sunday, Nov. 25. The \$10 donation, per head, went to East

Bay AIDS. All the cutters were local, reputable, and licensed hairdressers. Along with the donation, cut-ees had to have pre-washed hair (no mail orders, please). Watch for other Cut-A-Thons through 1985.

S'funny, but it does continue. The host bar of the first Cut-A-Thon didn't receive ANY advertisement to that effect until two days before the event. Once again it looks as if the out-of-town events take precedence over in-town events for the folks who elected them into office.

I did hear, however, that the ACIE brought home a prize for its presentation in Modesto.

Since my request for a list of the current Royal household never materialized (was it lost along Highway 99?) the following may be a bit confusing. I was told by the elected Royal Grand Duke Paul that the Grand Duke (a totally different person, if you will) has a great singing voice. And when teamed with Jimi Dee they are a *cappella* renditions are truly outstanding.

Saturday night, Nov. 24, the ACIE and Jubilee combined efforts to raise monies for charity. No local advertisement was evident on this one.

It's not too early to start being creative. The 5th Annual Chili Cook-Off will be held at Revol on Monday, Jan. 14. Once again, every bit of money raised will go directly to Alameda County Special Olympics. Spies tell me that there just may be "professional" judges this time.

If I do something which I am sure will meet with everybody's approval, somebody won't like it. But, I smile anyway and any way. Love, Nez

## AIDS Awareness Week Confronts East Bay Residents' Consciousness

by John Wetzel

Coming to terms with the growing presence of AIDS in their vicinities, five East Bay cities and the county of Alameda proclaimed last week as AIDS Awareness Week. At the end of it all, health care activists seemed both happy and concerned with the outcome and positively concerned with the prospects of what they see as the coming danger of AIDS in Alameda County.

"We had mixed reviews," said Pacific Center Educational Director John DuPree. "On a scale of 1 to 10, I think we maybe did not quite 1.5, and we've got the rest of it to go."

About 200 participated in forums on risk reduction, AIDS and racial minorities, and coming out in the age of AIDS. Forums were held at the Hayward Public Library, a U.C. Berkeley Lecture hall and a bathhouse.

Organizers were only discouraged at the turnout in Hayward. "There are pockets of resistance in places like Hayward," said DuPree. "But the incidence (of AIDS) continues to rise in perfect facsimile of the pattern in New York and in San Francisco. Alameda County is about a year and a half behind San Francisco. So we're not going to resist."

Still, AIDS Awareness Week served as a barometer of public interest in the topic: moderate; and educational needs: great, DuPree said.

The Pacific Center AIDS Project served as a clearinghouse for the AIDS Awareness Week operation. Funded by the county, Pacific Center workers have found themselves at the nexus of public education efforts around AIDS.

The project plans regular AIDS forums to be held at libraries and other public places. "We're going to start with all of the cities in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties which proclaimed AIDS Awareness Week and arrange between January and June general informational and medical overviews, epidemiology, persons with AIDS, etc., in addition to all the incorporated municipalities in Alameda County, and we're going to hit four or five in Contra Costa County," DuPree said.

You know, the city councils each discussed this and they talked about it with their husbands and wives and friends and lovers when they got home. I mean, just the idea that Union City Council discussed this and had the Mayor declare a proclamation means there are a lot of people in Union City who know something about AIDS being a problem now who didn't a few weeks ago," said DuPree.

Said Dublin Mayor Peter Synder, "This really signals a recognition that AIDS is a growing problem in our area and it signals the city's willingness to try to approach some sort of remedy by first trying to expose people to knowledge of the disease."

Dublin is a small community in Contra Costa County. ■

## State Employee Group to Monitor Corrections Dept. Settlement

Advocates for Gay and Lesbian State Employees is a recognized Employee Association made up of Lesbian and Gay state employees. It plans, along with the State Personnel Board, to monitor the Department of Corrections settlement with Gerald LaFevre.

Last May, the Advocates began negotiations with the Department of Corrections on changes in its *Background Investigations Manual*. After initial refusal to consider the suggestions, the department ultimately agreed to most of the changes.

These changes will make it clear that the sexual orientation of a job applicant is not relevant and is not to be considered during the hiring process for any job in the Department of Corrections. It has not yet actually amended its *Background Investigations Manual*.

The department has now agreed to send recruitment materials to media and other organizations in the Lesbian and Gay community, after initially refusing to do so. It has not yet made a firm commitment to send recruiters to Lesbian and Gay organizations. As a matter of equity the Advocates will continue to press the corrections department on this matter because they now send recruiters to other minority communities.

Advocates for Gay and Les-

bian State Employees expects to review drafts of the department's non-discrimination training and to send members to its presentation to Department of Corrections staff.

The Advocates will also monitor the other features of the settlement with Gerald LaFevre, including:

- Creation and use of the non-discrimination statement for job applicants.
- Signing of statements by Background Investigators in which they acknowledge awareness of their department's non-discrimination policy with regard to sexual orientation.
- Addition of sexual orientation to the non-discrimination posters at departmental testing sites.

In these ways the Advocates hope to assure compliance by the Department of Corrections while also playing a constructive role in helping the department overcome its discriminatory attitudes and practices of the past.



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- Support Groups
- Social Services
- Client Advocacy
- December 6th
- Alcohol, Drugs and AIDS
- December 12th

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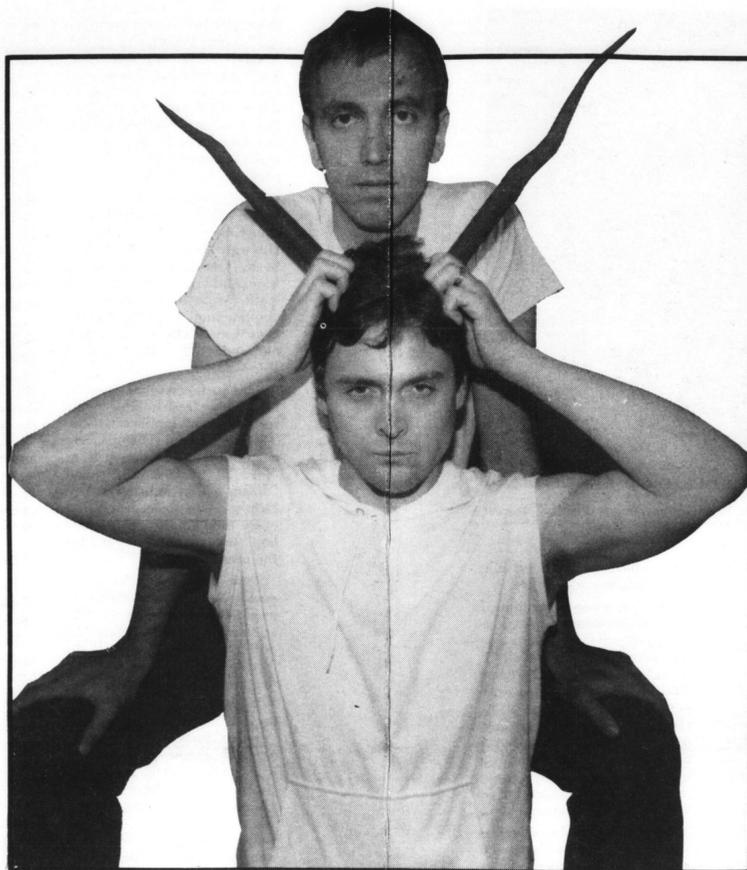
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# THIS WEEK

- **The Vocal Minority:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5.
- **Femprov:** comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- **Art for People's Sake:** 2nd Annual Political Art Exhibit Sale, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., opening reception 6 to 8 PM. To benefit the National Lawyers Guild.
- **Lynda Bergen:** music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$5.
- **The Matador Club:** stage performance, Mission Neighborhood Center, 362 Capp St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$6. A new play about stand-up comedy and bullfighting based loosely on the novel by ex-San Franciscan writer and bistro owner Barnaby Conrad. Written and directed by Gary Aylesworth, with Peter Newton.
- **The Sound of a Voice and The House of Sleeping Beauties:** stage performance, People's Theatre Coalition, Bldg. B, Fort Mason Center, S.F., 8 PM, cover. The Asian American Theater Company presents two one-act plays.
- **Streamers:** stage performance, South of Market Cultural Center, 934 Brannan St., S.F., 8 PM, \$8. Presented by the Full Circle Theatre Collective.
- **Beach Blanket Babylon:** stage performance, Club Fugazi, 678 Green St., S.F., 8 and 10:30 PM, \$16. The holiday version begins.
- **Otherwise Engaged:** stage performance, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley, 8 PM, \$11 to \$14.50. Simon Gray's scathing comedy directed by Richard E.T. White.
- **The Quintessential Image and After Eleven:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2916 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, cover. Theatre Rhino opens its season with two one-act plays, *The Quintessential Image* by Jane Chambers, and *After Eleven* by Victor Bumbalo.
- **Jane and the Family Jewels:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 9 and 11 PM, \$6. Starring Jane Dornacker.
- **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.

- **Winter Women's Arts and Crafts Fair:** sixth annual event presented by The Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 10 AM to 7 PM, \$1 to \$3. Music, comedy, theater, puppetry, food, and drink will be offered in addition to crafts.
- **Gay Poetry Circle of San Francisco:** song recitation, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 7 PM, \$4. With Dan Stimmerman, C. Casey, D.C. Mark, J. Powers, and L. Stensrud.
- **Tom Ammannio:** comedy, Jeremiah's, Santa Rosa, 9 PM. Call (707) 829-1313 for more information.
- **The Vocal Minority:** music (see Friday listing for details).
- **Gay Comedy Night:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. With Margie Gomez, Karen Ripley, and Danny Williams.
- **Jane and the Family Jewels:** stage performance, 9 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Femprov:** comedy, 6 to 8 PM, free (see Friday listing for details).
- **Phil Andros:** author of *Boys in Blue*, *Different Strokes*, and with Sam Steward of *Love Poems: Homage to Housman*, will be at the Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St., S.F., 1 to 3 PM.
- **Bette Midler Birthday Party:** showing *The Rose and Divine Madness*, The Hotel Atherton, 685 Ellis St., S.F., 4 to 9 PM. With hors d'oeuvre and look-a-like contest.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** couples night, the FOG House, 2038 22 Ave., S.F., 8 PM. Refreshments. Call 753-6786 for more information.
- **Hyacinthus:** Potluck for Gay women and men of Greek ancestry, 7 PM. Call 755-6143 for more information.
- **The Matador Club:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **The Sound of a Voice and The Sleeping House of Beauties:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Maura Shannon and Diane Schlectus:** music, Unitarian Fellowship Hall, 1606 Bonita, Berkeley, 8 PM, \$3 to \$5 sliding scale.
- **Leola Jiles:** music, Mames, 389 Bay St., at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$6. Gospel and jazz.
- **Beach Blanket Babylon:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).



Peter Newton and Gary Aylesworth will appear in *The Matador Club*, a new play about bullfighting and stand-up comedy, at the Mission Neighborhood Center through Dec. 29.

- **Otherwise Engaged:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **The Quintessential Image and After Eleven:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Streamers:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

## SUNDAY 2

- **G40+:** meeting, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St., S.F., 2 PM. Mr. Marcus will explain "How It All Happened." With Romeo's Raffles.
- **Sharon McNight:** music, Chaps, 375 11th St., S.F., 7 PM, \$5. Chaps' 2nd annual Christmas Tree lighting for Ward 5-B.
- **Bending With the Wind:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 4 PM, donations. Irish poet and storyteller James Patrick Donohoe, flautist Kathleen Ortiz, and poet-songwriter Dan Stimmerman will perform for a benefit for the Shanti Project and Operation Concern's Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders.
- **The Vocal Minority:** music (see Friday listing for details).
- **Anything Goes:** follies by Hot Flash, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 7 PM, \$5. The outrageous performance group composed of older women.
- **Joyce Imbesi and Elnah Jordan:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5 to 8 PM.
- **Winter Women's Arts and Crafts Fair:** sixth annual event presented by The Women's Building, 10 AM to 5 PM (see Saturday listing for details).
- **FOG Songsters:** Christmas carol practice, the FOG House, 2038 22 Ave., S.F., 7 PM. Refreshments. Call 753-6786 for more information.
- **Affirmation:** Gay and Lesbian Mormons participate in a sing-a-long Messiah, 7 PM, Berkeley. Call 641-0791 for more information.
- **East Bay FrontRunners:** run at Berkeley Marina, meet at 9:30 AM in the first parking lot on the left near the windsurfer's dock. Flat three-mile route. Call 626-7315 or 527-9167 for more information.
- **The Sound of a Voice and The House of Sleeping Beauties:** stage performance, 3 and 7 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Streamers:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Crossover:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 2 PM. Mr. Gwendolyn Watson and John Toenjes with their blend of cello and harpsichord.
- **Drop-in VD Clinic:** sponsored by the Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 7 to 9 PM. Free and confidential. Testing and treatment for gonorrhea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, etc., also counseling and referrals. Call 644-0425 for more information.
- **Beach Blanket Babylon:** stage performance, 7:30 PM, \$14 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Otherwise Engaged:** stage performance, 7 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **The Quintessential Image and After Eleven:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

- **Gay Games II and Cultural Week:** volunteer meeting, Pride Center, 890 Hayes St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Volunteers needed for public relations, data processing, office support, artistic endeavors, and sports activities. Call 861-8282 for more information. Sponsored by SF Arts and Athletics.
- **Gay Comedy Open Mike:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$3. With co-hosts Tom Ammannio and Suzy Berger. Performer sign-up at 7:30 PM.
- **Singers' Open Mike:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$3. Performer sign-up at 7:30 PM.
- **Boogie-Woogie and Acoustic Rock Double Bill:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 11 PM. With Mary Anne Price and Caroline Dawl, followed by Eiman, Goulder, and Eisenberg.
- **Reginald McDonald:** music, 1177 Club, 1177 California St., S.F., 8:30 PM, cover. With Joyce Imbesi at the piano. Reservations suggested, call 776-2101

- **The Burning Fiery Furnace:** music, Trinity Episcopal Church, 1666 Bush St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6, \$8, and \$10. Dick Kramer's Gay Men's Choral presents the west-coast premiere of Benjamin Britten's one-act opera.
- **The God of Ecstasy:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$7. Dionysus descends on Valencia Street in a play about madness and sex roles, translated by Arthur Evans from Euripides' *The Bacchae*. Featuring Michele Richards and Assunta Femia.
- **Lady Bianca:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- **Geneva and the Right Stuff:** music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$5. An Evening of Creole-style music.
- **Gay Bingo:** games, Pride Center, 890 Hayes St., S.F., 7:15 PM. \$6. Prizes between \$50 and \$100.
- **Beginning Square Dancing:** dance, 2140 Market, S.F., 8:15 PM. Learn with the Bay City Ramblers.
- **Artists Involved with Death and Survival:** stage performance, The Studio, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. A collaborative effort of 13 Bay Area Gay and Lesbian artists that delivers new insights into the deepening AIDS crisis.
- **Yoga and Meditation Class:** for people with AIDS and their lovers, 10 AM to noon. Call 921-4471 for more information.
- **International Folk Dancing:** dance class, Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, \$2. No preregistration necessary. Call 552-8413 for more information.

- **Fruit Punch:** radio, KPFA (94.1 FM), 10 PM. Comedy with Jon Sugar and guest Mr. Marcus.
- **Tom Ammannio:** comedy, Lipps, 201 9th St., S.F., 9 PM.
- **The Burning Fiery Furnace:** music (see Tuesday listing for details).
- **The God of Ecstasy:** stage performance (see Tuesday listing for details).
- **Bonnie Hayes:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- **Mamie Van Doren:** cabaret, Mame's, 389 Bay St., at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$12. The star of '50s films *High School Confidential*, *Untamed Youth*, and *Sex Kittens go to College* debuts her cabaret act. Reservations advised.
- **Jane and the Family Jewels:** stage performance, 9 PM, \$5 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Artists Involved with Death and Survival:** stage performance (see Tuesday listing for details).
- **Beach Blanket Babylon:** stage performance, 8 PM, \$14 (see Friday listing for details).

## THURSDAY 6

- **Lea Delaria and Jeanine Strobel:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6.
  - **Tom Ammannio:** comedy (see Wednesday listing for details).
  - **Rita Lackey:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
  - **Mamie Van Doren:** cabaret (see Wednesday listing for details).
  - **Fight or Flight: Mars and the Principles of Conflict:** lecture, The Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$7. Jeff Jawer, astrologer, will speak as part of a series on Astrology and Power. Call 641-1753 for more information.
  - **Jane and the Family Jewels:** stage performance, 9 PM, \$5 (see Friday listing for details).
  - **Beach Blanket Babylon:** stage performance, 8 PM, \$14 (see Friday listing for details).
  - **Yoga and Meditation Class:** for people with AIDS and their lovers, 7 to 9 PM. Call 921-4471 for more information.
  - **Couples Group II:** ongoing drop-in support group for persons with AIDS and their lovers, Pride Center, 890 Hayes St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM. Call 821-8830 or 558-9644 for more information.
  - **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 Binimisa at 431-6254 for more information.
  - **Western Star Dancers:** beginners square dance class, YMCA, 220 Golden Gate, 2nd floor, S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 864-6134 for more information.
- The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays.

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# BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

FILM

## The Story of E

19-Year-Old Hungarian Actress  
On the Rise

by Steve Warren

The page in my notebook is headed "E." For a moment I can't remember the Hungarian spelling of Eszter, and suddenly Eszter Balint is talking and there are other things to write. "I'm an American citizen now, so I can do anything I want," says the petite 19-year-old who spent the first half of her life in her native Hungary. She lives and sometimes works with the New York-based Squat Theatre Company, with whom her family defected during a tour when she was ten. Now she's becoming noticed as the female lead in Jim Jarmusch's delightful *Stranger Than Paradise*, which may be the cult movie of the '80s.

In the engagingly offbeat comedy Eszter plays Eva, a 16-year-old Hungarian who spends ten days in New York with her cousin Willie (John Lurie) before going to Cleveland to live with her elderly aunt. Willie and his friend Eddie (Richard Edson) visit Eva a year later and take her to Florida, where nothing turns out the way anyone would expect.

Male bonding always looks a bit suspicious in films in these enlightened times, especially to Gay viewers, and one might easily wonder about the relationship between Willie and Eddie.

"That's the point of the movie—let 'em wonder," Balint laughs, but she seems genuinely puzzled at my interpretation. "Jim (Jarmusch) intentionally missed all those easy-to-grab-on things—emotional connections, sexual connections. . . . She points out that Eddie shows an interest in Eva, but she has no explanation for Willie's apparent jealousy when he does.

The young actress displays some insight when she objects to this line of questioning: "That can't be all Gays look for in

movies. Their sexuality is just one part of them. They have a whole, sophisticated otherness . . ."

Eszter hasn't had any contact with the Gay scene in Hungary, but she's been back there twice to visit her grandmother and has some observations. The last time, she says, her father took her to a bar "where all the intellectuals gather, but it was also a Gay bar."

'Cleveland looked good to me after Florida . . . I didn't see anyone under 60.'

—Eszter Balint

"It's there," she says of Gay life in Hungary. "You don't have to look for it too hard." Apparently, she means we're obvious enough in public places. Despite the country's generally repressive atmosphere, "I don't think (Gays) have a big problem there."

insecurity just below the surface. She lives with other members of the Squat Theatre Company "for practical reasons," she insists, not because they're into communal living. "Communal" has a lot of connotations I don't like."

Once she starts rejecting labels, there's no stopping her. "It's hard to accept words like 'Off-Broadway,' 'experimental,' 'avant-garde' . . ." she says of terms that have been applied to Squat. The group's last three plays, however, were performed in a store so that the front window was at the rear of the stage and passers-by got caught up in the action. Another production, popular in Europe but less well received in New York, was a condensation of Chekhov's *The Three Sisters*, in which the title roles were played by men. The group develops its own plays and does things no one else has done before, Eszter admits, but "in any other sense we don't experiment."

Balint's mother is a psychologist in Brooklyn, while her father is a prime creative force with Squat. He recently wrote and directed a 40-minute film in which his daughter stars, to be used within Squat's next play, and perhaps expanded later into a feature.

*Stranger Than Paradise* also started small. Wim Wenders offered Jarmusch, who had worked with him on *Lightning Over Water*, some leftover film stock to make a short. Jarmusch stretched it to 30 minutes, the first 30 minutes of *Stranger Than Paradise*, and used that to get financing to complete the film.

Chris Barker, who had



Eszter Balint, star of *Stranger Than Paradise*, at the opening of the Opera Plaza Cinemas recently (Photo: S. Warren)

Like many 19-year-olds, Balint is fiercely independent and outspoken, but reveals a certain

starred in Jarmusch's first feature, *Permanent Vacation*, suggested Eszter Balint to the director for another project he was planning. Just then Wenders preferred the film, and *Paradise* moved to the top of Jarmusch's agenda, with Balint starring in that instead.

Almost two years passed before the company moved to out-of-town locations to complete the feature. The order is reversed in the script, but the Florida portion was shot before filming in Cleveland.

"Cleveland looked good to me after Florida," Eszter says surprisingly. "Florida was really awful." She's not sure what city they were based in—"like Melbourne or something"—but it was all "highways and diners and a couple of pathetic palm trees, because there had to be some palm trees. . . . I didn't see anybody under 60." They really stayed in the motel shown in the picture, where "the motel owner (who plays himself in the film) was after me and (producer) Sara (Driver) all the time. His name was Paul Sloane, but we called him 'Norman Sloane' (after Norman Bates in *Psychol.*)"

Having created three interesting characters and left their futures up in the air, the next logical step for Jarmusch would be *Stranger Than Paradise II*. "I think it's conceivable," Balint says of a possible sequel, but she's had no indication that the filmmaker is planning one.

Despite having been "kind of born into" the theater, Eszter

doesn't have much interest in it. She'd rather work in film.

"I've never seen anything I liked in the theater in my lifetime," she says, confessing that she doesn't go to much at all. "I would like to see Sweeney Todd." She dismisses her work with Squat as "just one of the things I do" and "the only theater work I think I'll ever do." Back on the subject of labels, she says that what Squat does is "only categorized as theater because it happens live."

One more label she eschews is "new wave," both for herself and for *Stranger Than Paradise*.

"Nothing in it was intended to look new wave. . . . New wave??? That was so long ago. What does it mean?" She doesn't think she looks "new wave" in the movie, and is glad I agree she doesn't look "new wave" in person. She doesn't listen to new wave music, preferring "Black music—soul, new disco; a little classical. No rock; hardly any white music."

That's the story of "E"—so far. Things are starting to happen for her, and she realizes this is a crucial time in her career.

"I want to take advantage of everything—in a good way." She still has ideals, and wants only "to be in good films. . . . I hope one day to direct."

With only 19 years behind her, there's no telling what lies ahead for Eszter Balint. We may all learn to spell in Hungarian before she's through. ■

## TALES OF TESSI TURA

### Operatic Alcoholics

GEORGE HEYMONT

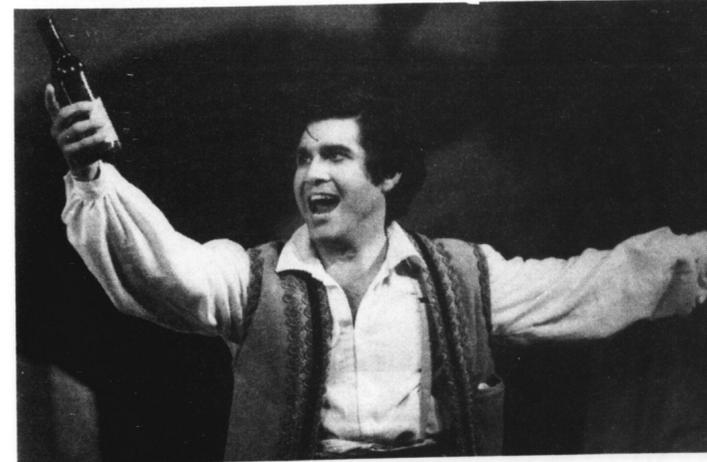
Well, here we go again. 'Tis the season to be jolly and, for many Gay men, that means it's also a time for binge drinking. Office parties, year-end dinners, and a steady stream of friends from out of town combine forces to justify another martini, a few more beers or—in some cases—a month-long hangover. In some instances, a moderate use of alcohol and other mind-altering substances can be fine and dandy. It can even help a person break through some difficult emotional and/or psychological barriers. But the idea that getting loaded can solve any and all problems is not the healthiest approach I know toward dealing with reality.

Recently, while dining out, one of my companions confessed he had never been able to develop a taste for certain kinds of shellfish. Always ready to tackle a culinary challenge, my friend Arthur—a truly dedicated and determined bon vivant—wasted no time in informing the man that "One of these nights we're gonna go out for seafood. First, we'll get you drunk and then I'll teach you how to swallow raw oysters whole." Getting drunk is not always the answer. The important thing to remember is that the solution lies in the process of overcoming one's fears, and *not* in the process of emptying another bottle of booze.

Luis Lima's Nemorino was extremely well sung, and acted with incredible panache. The boyish-looking tenor projects an adorable puppy-like presence which, when combined with his gymnastic skills and fine musicianship, make him all the more lovable. I could eat that man up in no time at all. In her American debut, soprano Alida Ferrarini proved to be a pert and saucy Adina with a feisty coloratura instrument. Dale Duesing's Belcore sounded a bit ragged, but John Del Carlo's larger-than-life portrayal of Dr. Dulcamara proved to be an utter triumph of bel canto buffo. All things considered, this production of *L'Elisir d'Amore* turned out to be a safe, old-fashioned night of light opera.

### WHEN I'M DRUNK, I'M BEAUTIFUL

If, as some doggedly profess, alcohol could cure all our ills, then Donizetti's *Dr. Dulcamara* could easily be elected president. Why? Because the quack bootlegger peddles promises of eternal happiness like a natural politician. It's true that by the end of the evening the lovesick tenor has overcome his basic shyness in time to make the heroine fall in love with him and settle down



Party! Party! Nemorino (Luis Lima) gets loaded in Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'Amore*.

## MUSIC

### Intellect and Heart

by Bernard Spunberg

Too serious. Nathan Milstein's interpretation of the Tchaikovsky *Violin Concerto*, presented at Davies Hall Nov. 23 with the assistance of the San Francisco Symphony under the leadership of guest conductor David Atherton, substituted solemnity for swagger.

Long recognized—and appreciated—as an intellectual musician, Milstein emphasizes structural shape and underpinning. Honeyed tone and flashy technique are downplayed in favor of emotionally modest, undemonstrative musical integrity. Milstein is always

## BLACKING OUT

Meanwhile, back at the Met, our good friend Hoffman was utterly shit-faced and feeling no pain at all. Smashed beyond belief, he continued to chase the elusive Stella through a series of misadventures which, I'm quite sure, would have fared differently under more sober circumstances.

For a stagecraft queen who gets his rocks off watching elevators, rolling wagons, trap doors, explosive flares, and dissolving scrimms, the Met's *Tales of Hoffman* production is one of those magical delights which cannot be resisted. Gunther Schneider-Siemssen's sets are a riotously funny achievement in design and, under Julius Rudel's practiced baton, the Offenbach score was transformed into a captivating evening of music theater. What distinguished this *Tales of Hoffman* from so many other Met performances, was an all-American cast headed by tenor William Lewis as Hoffman, mezzo-soprano Ariel Bybee as Nicklausse, and bass-baritone James Morris as the multiple villains. As always, Andrea Velis was superb in a variety of character roles.

The soprano chores were divided between three talented black women: Gwendolyn Bradley, Isola Jones, and Myra Merritt. While Jones did not fare so well as the courtisan Giulietta, Myra Merritt showed great promise as Antonia. Gwendolyn Bradley's Olympia was a spectacular triumph of comic opera at its very best. Wacky, wily, and winningly sung, Bradley's mechanical doll conquered the audience with more vocal and dramatic ammunition than any soprano has a right to possess. What a phenomenal talent.

As expected, the seductive charms of these three women kept eluding the inebriated poet, who ended up passed out in a drunken stupor at Luther's tavern. A timely plea to readers of this column: Try to keep your drinking in line during the holiday season. The chorus won't be there to back you up. ■

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Eszter Balint as Lolita (Photo: S. Warren)

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★ ★ ★ ★ "ONE OF THE BEST PICTURES OF THE YEAR!"

- Carrie Rickey, Boston Herald

## THE TIMES OF HARVEY MILK

A Film by ROBERT EPSTEIN and RICHARD SCHMEICHER  
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## DEAF TONE DEAF TONE DEAF TONE DEAF TON

JERRY DE GRACIA

### The Revival of Rock and Roll Animals

The year in pop music may well be chronicled as the year of the comeback in spite of all the excellent new music by younger musicians, simply because of the dynamic return of Tina Turner and some great releases by other established musicians.

Lou Reed's *New Sensations*, and the Honeydrippers self-titled debut album, featuring Jimmy Paige and Robert Plant, also reflect the return of former rock legends in the 1984 music market.

It is unlikely that Lou Reed would ever lose his cult following, in spite of a succession of lackluster albums. But *New Sensations* not only revived faith in his hardcore fans, but also garnered him renewed radio play.

In his sold-out Halloween performance at the Warfield, it was clear the man who brought drag queens, sugar plum fairies, and hustlers to Top 40 airwaves, was confident in his renewed success as he strolled through his latest material ("I Love You Suzanne," "Red Joy Stick," "Turn To Me," and "New Sensations") and his past successes ("Walk On The Wild Side," "White Light, White Heat," "Sweet Jane," and "Coney Island Baby," among others).

Reed and his dynamic back-up band were the antithesis of his last Bay Area show, a dreary appearance at the now defunct Old Waldorf. On top of Reed's re-emergence into pop music, Polygram records plans to re-release the Velvet Underground's three albums, *Underground with Nico*, *White Light/White Heat*, and *The Velvet Underground*. The Velvet Underground featured Reed, John Cale, Sterling Morrison, Maureen Tucker, and Doug

Yule. During the process, the record company discovered the missing masters for the band's fourth, unreleased album. The three Velvet re-issues and the newly discovered "fourth album" will be released in January.

The Honeydrippers lp, which is getting local and national airplay, tips the hat to earlier style rock and roll, from doo-wop to rockabilly, and says more about the immortality of rock than it does about the careers of former heavy metal musicians. The band does a great cover of Phil Phillips' "Sea of Love," as well as respectable

less, if you can revel in the Stray Cats rockabilly rebellion, you can appreciate Los Lobos for its even more unique version of that style of music.

#### Revenge of the Killer B's

Sampler albums are usually great bargains, and this Warner Brothers follow-up to *Attack of the Killer B's* is no exception. This collection of B-side music includes "Moon 83" by the B-52s, "Way Out and Up We Go" by Echo and the Bunnymen, "Ain't No Big Deal" by Madonna, "Your Finest Hour" by Tom Verlaine, and "Money" (live) by the Pretenders.

"Buying the album would be more rewarding than seeing (Stop Making Sense)."

renditions of the other songs, but you get the impression that Jimmy Paige and Robert Plant were sitting around the studio saying "If the Stray Cats can do it, why can't we?"

#### How Will The Wolf Survive?

Los Lobos, the dynamic Tex-Mex rockers who sold out the I-Beam in their first San Francisco appearance, have released an even better second lp, *How Will The Wolf Survive?*, a credible performance, considering their first lp contained the Grammy award-winning tune, "Anselma."

In lieu of the fact that the band has gotten a cold shoulder from Top 40 radio, it continues to produce some of the best pure rock around. Perhaps the group's indulgence in "Mexican" music is keeping the white, middle-class record buyer from warming up to it. Nonetheless,

Also included on Killer B's is the Talking Heads' "I Wish You Wouldn't Say That."

#### Stop Making Sense

The Talking Heads is unquestionably the premiere new music band, and its music, which has incorporated a lot of experimentation, is rarely bad. But the new concert movie, "Stop Making Sense," supports the idea that concerts are an experience and cannot be relived.

The movie fails to capture the concert experience, and despite the excellent soundtrack, the movie's director failed to infuse any imagery or photography to complement the music. All you get, aside from the desire to dance, is a straight-forward, uncreative film image of one of the band's concerts with limited editing. Buying the album would be more rewarding than seeing the movie.



Los Lobos

## SYMPHONY

cont. from previous page

Milstein's performance had seemingly inexhaustible energy. Except for a few sforzando chords where the tone momentarily broke up, Milstein was technically brilliant and temperamentally assertive. But where was the warmth, the wit, and the humor? Some connoisseurs hear vulgarity in a lighthearted approach. Occasionally, however, truth can best be expressed by a joke. Art need not always be so damn serious. Sometimes, it giggles.

The Symphony sounded better than usual—wonderful, in

fact. The winds were in their usual fine form and, for once, the violins produced big, juicy tone. One violinist in particular illustrated just the right spiritual approach to the piece. When the first big tune sailed forth, she tried to maintain proper decorum, but her finer, reeler self triumphed over stuffy convention easily. She grinned from ear to ear.

Uncontrollable grins found no outlet in Stravinsky's ballet, *The Fairy Kiss*. With a story based on a morbid little tale by Hans Christian Andersen, the ballet is constructed of quotations from little-known works by Tchaikovsky as filtered through Stravinsky's imagination. Stravinsky gave Tchaikovsky's phrases asymmetrical shapes, ascribed

harmonies, and shiny orchestrations. Fresh and appealing, if a little arid emotionally, *The Fairy's Kiss* both underlines and resolves the conflict between Tchaikovsky's lush sentimentality and Stravinsky's cool objectivity.

Conductor Atherton found expressivity in accenting propulsive rhythms while giving infectious melody its due. Atherton shaped phrases with a sense of purpose that gave the episodic structure unity. His analytical yet spontaneous interpretation of Stravinsky and his direct, unfussy accompaniment of the Tchaikovsky *Concerto* revealed him as a musician of both intellect and heart.

B. Spunberg

## FILM CLIPS

### Falling In Love

For the Incurably Romantic

The reaction so far seems to be that women and Gays love this picture and straight men are hopelessly uncomfortable with it. As directed by Ulu Grosbard and written by Playwright Michael Cristofer, *Falling In Love* is subtle to the point of invisible romance about two ordinary people who, without planning it, fall in love.

The only problem is both are "very married" to other people. Robert DeNiro, in his first role as a completely normal guy, is a construction engineer who commutes from the suburbs to his job in New York City. Meryl Streep is a freelance commercial artist who travels to New York for work, but mostly to visit her ailing father. The two happen to take the same train often, although they board at different stations. They might see each other, but don't really notice anything more than they are just another person, something people in crowded cities tend to do.

By coincidence, they bump into each other in a crowded bookstore during Christmas shopping. Three months later they meet again by chance and the affair begins... sort of.

Both are mindful that they have successful, if uneventful, marriages, and that an outside entanglement will lead nowhere and screw up their lives. So they date platonically as their sexual tension heightens. They act awkwardly and self-consciously guilty, yet needful for each other's companionship. They are lonely, even though they are

### Once Upon a Time In America

The Gangsters All Here

The "uncut" version of *Once Upon a Time in America*, Sergio Leone's epic saga of Jewish Mafiosi, comes on like gangbusters with a killing and a beating the first five minutes. Then it slows to a crawl as it flashes forward and back in search of a plot.

It finds one in 1923 when some boyhood chums form a gang and go up against the established criminals in their neighborhood, New York's lower East side. The leaders are "Noodles," who will grow up to be Robert De Niro, and Max, ditto James Woods. Noodles falls in love with Deborah, the future Elizabeth McGovern, but Max jealously interrupts their times together.

It's a strong element of the film's machismo ethic that women are to be raped or paid for their sexual favors, but never to come between male friends. Of course, no one is Gay...

In 1933 a well-intended act of betrayal wipes out all of the gang but De Niro, who shuffles off to Buffalo until the climactic events of 1968. That's not a lot of plot to cover almost four hours, even with extra characters and details. It's the lavish recreation of the various periods that lends *Once Upon a Time in America* what specialness it has. There's not a scene that can compare with anything in *The Godfather*, but neither should you mistake this for B movie stuff.

De Niro plays a Jewish gangster exactly the same way he plays an Italian gangster; and Woods, for whom I once had high hopes, has also become redundant in his performances—all good but all the same. Leone obviously told his main actors to do exactly what they've done in the past. It's the supporting cast, including the youngsters, who make this film interesting.

(Clay)

S. Warren

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN



Can't you just tell? Meryl Streep and Robert De Niro falling in love.

(Regency II) M. Lasky



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STAGE

Put Your Money on Moliere

by John F. Karr

Could anyone have had higher spirits than Moliere? He gave up all respectability—in his day, actors lost their citizenship and were refused Catholic burial—to found an institution with the glorious optimistic title, *The Illustrious Theatre*. Following its quick demise, he endured the rigors of provincial touring for 13 years, to finally earn great acclaim and regain some respectability when the comic style of writing he'd perfected made him the toast of Paris. But he saw his reputation turn crusty when, at age 40, he married a 20-year-old actress. Gossips wagged that she may have been his daughter. He faced this criticism as he faced life: he wrote a high-spirited, sharp-edged comedy that exposed both critics and the critiqued, and included a starring role for himself.

Facing Parisians squarely, he thus accused and disarmed them with *The School For Wives*, which ACT is currently performing in a production that frisks between airy and boisterous. Those unfamiliar with Moliere's verse will find in it the terse, droll Noel Coward and the *bon*

mot of Oscar Wilde, coached in sprightly rhythms that flow naturally without the stereotyped stiffness of the form. Moliere, in Richard Wilbur's acclaimed translation, amazes with lengthy speeches of comic effect, a sharp contrast to today's comedies, built on a paucity of one-liners. Moliere's wit is abundant, lively; director Nagle Jackson points out that the French for wit is *esprit*—"spirit." And high-spirits are what Moliere has provided and Jackson realized.

*The School For Wives* refers to the convent to which Arnolphe has sent his ward Agnes. He's instructed the nuns to use "whatever means must be employed to keep her mind a perfect void." Thus will she be a suitable wife—subservient, servile and too stupid to make Arnolphe a cuckold. He fails to see the points that will prove his undoing, that "a simpleton, however, can commit adultery without suspecting it," and that Agnes just might be inherently intelligent.

The fun of the show arises not as much from the old plot, in which Arnolphe is duly deceived, ridiculed in his postures,

and deprived of his bride-to-be, but from the illumination Moliere draws from the situation: the revelation of Arnolphe's limited views, the dawning of intelligence and love in Agnes, the clash between youth and age, and the tender ache we can feel for Arnolphe. Despite his selfish use of Agnes, he truly loves her.

Peter Donat is (perhaps too) virtuosic as Arnolphe. Dressed like Captain Hook and sputtering like Lewis Carroll's Pig-and-Pepper Duchess, his whirlwind performance is hilarious when his world (and face) is falling, but perhaps a mite light on engendering our sympathy. Annette Bening is a radiant Agnes, treating verse with gentle art and revealing love's sunrise in wondrous eyes. Mark Murphey is a handsome and gallant object for her love.

As it speaks towards the generation gap, women's rights, and the need for education, *The School For Wives* is surprisingly contemporary. In its *esprit* and depiction of the sweet agony of love, it is timeless. The present company and director have served it buoyantly. What a treat.

**The School for Wives**  
ACT  
Through Feb. 9; 673-6440



Annette Bening and Mark Murphey play young lovers to Peter Donat's old geezer in Moliere's *School For Wives*, at ACT through Feb. 9.

Take It to the City

by John F. Karr

The Southland has arrived in San Francisco, embodied in two recently opened plays. *Home*, an embraceable, endearing play, first presented by the Negro Ensemble Company off-Broadway, and to subsequent acclaim, on Broadway, has been brought to town and given an excellent production by the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre. The other Southern import is that American classic, *The Little Foxes*, presented by a Bolinas producer in a hayseed package that purports to establish the "American Classics Play Series," but serves only to divest the famed play of its "classic" status.

*Home* has everything—a colorful cast of thousands, down-home blues and gospel music, production numbers of excitingly rhymed speech, and an earthy, frequently sexy, nearly tragic story that is ultimately heart-warming. It is told on a canvas that spreads from North Carolina to New York and includes all of us in its embrace.

One of the wonders of author Samm-Art Williams' script, which alternates gritty realism with rhymed flights, is his ability to make his particularly Black story universal. He's been aided by the artful direction of Stanley E. Williams, under whose controlled hand the broadly entertaining aspects of the play do not submerge the simple human story.

The cast is limited to three actors. Anthony J. Haney is superb as Cephus Miles, the central character, and Margarette Robinson and Esther Scott are equally amazing as the several hundred others in Miles' life, including his Conscience and the Devil. This trio eschews the hammy caricaturing so popular recently, to play with quiet self-respect. The resulting clarity reaches quickly and deeply into a fascinating parade of field hands, bible-thumpers, country preachers, cotton pickers, pimps, winos, hookers, and social workers. It's no less entertaining for being played without grandstanding, and is some of

cont. on next page



The case is really rollin' in the jazzy, moving *Home*: (l. to r.) Anthony J. Haney, Esther Scott, and Margarette Robinson. (Photo: A. Nomura)

Ashland's Shrew

by Steve Warren

Of all Shakespeare's plays, *The Taming of the Shrew* is probably least often afflicted with over-reverence in production. But the broadest *Shrew* I've ever seen is the one Ashland's Oregon Shakespearean Festival is bringing to

Marines Memorial Theatre for a fortnight, following a week in Palo Alto.

Director Pat Patton appears to have patterned his love scenes after John Ford Saloon brawls, and everything else on old-time burlesque. The result is a knockabout low comedy that

will please everyone but self-styled purists who insist Shakespeare must be boring.

Katherina's submission to Petruchio's program of beating, bullying, and starvation is played in a conspiratorial manner: she's going along with the gag rather than really giving in. In effect, she gives him the illusion of power in exchange for actual power. This doesn't exactly fit the script, but neither does any other way of playing it, and this is a cute, politically correct variation. Joan Stuart-Morris and Joe Vincent are well matched in the leads.

William Bloodgood's setting is drab and tacky, and not even a good color to set off Michael Olich's stunning costumes. One might quibble that all the outfits are so motley—virtually everyone wears at least six colors, patterns or textures—that Petruchio's outlandish wedding garb hardly stands out; but each creation is a show in itself, and one hat belongs in *Beach Blanket Babylon*. Perhaps the set will be improved for San Francisco; the lighting can hardly get worse.

Several shows sold out in advance on the festival's reputation. If you can get a ticket you should see *The Taming of the Shrew*, but be forewarned that it may persuade you to visit Ashland next year during the festival's 50th anniversary season.

**The Taming of the Shrew**  
Marines Memorial Theatre  
Dec. 4-16; 771-6900.



To the Moon, Alice!—Petruchio (Joe Vincent) and Katherina argue about heavenly bodies on the way home from their wedding in *The Taming of the Shrew*.

The God Of Ecstasy

An electrifying play about madness and sex roles, specially translated by Arthur Evans from Euripides' *Bakkhai*. December 4, 5 & 18 at The Valencia Rose Cafe, 766 Valencia (between 18th & 19th), San Francisco, at 8 p.m. Tickets \$7 at the door (\$5 unemployed). Reservations: 863-3863.



Assunta Femia as Dionysos

STAGE

Family Hour

by Steve Warren

It must have something to do with the new wave of conservatism, but concepts so old that they've long since been milked for their satiric possibilities are being recycled in ways that indicates we're supposed to take their intentional hokum seriously.

In less than an hour, *A Traveling Carnival Show* grafts a local angle onto a blend of *The Music Man*, *Oklahoma!*, and *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. The idea is to give a sense of what audiences saw a century ago, with a few anachronisms thrown in for laughs.

Ron Faria plays a "magic elixir" salesman (it cures "... hepatitis, anal swells ... homosexuality—for those who want curin'") who's chummy

with local madam Betty Porter. Schoolmarm Rachele Lee Vachon pursues him from Kalamazoo to San Francisco, where "For every gentleman there is a girl—or man," and everything's resolved with precious little conflict.

show. Vachon, a ringer for Beth Howland (Vera on Alice), doesn't have much to do besides look wide-eyed and trill coloraturishly, but she does that much well. David Broussal looks funny in a low-key, silently comic way, but the script doesn't take

'The idea is to give a sense of what audiences saw a century ago ...'

Veteran cabaret writer Bill Gundel wisely minimizes the space between songs. But the songs, which he co-wrote, are mostly nothing special. It's questionable whether the show would be improved if Jim Followell relaxed the tempos enough to let us understand the lyrics.

Porter, a buxom Sharon McNight type, has more energy than the rest of the cast and most of the audience combined. She gives 150 percent of herself to the

advantage of his talent either. Faria, who couldn't sell snake oil to someone with a rusty snake, proves good looks are no substitute for personality.

Despite the lines quoted above, you needn't be afraid to take kids, relatives, or business associates to *A Traveling Carnival Show*. They may even enjoy it.

**A Traveling Carnival Show**  
1177 Club  
Indefinitely; 776-2101



Have Show, Will Travel!—(l. to r.) David Broussal, Rachele Lee Vachon, Ron Faria, and Betty Porter in *A Traveling Carnival Show*.

Failed Farce

by Steve Warren

The concept of a farce played by only two actors promises more than it delivers in Michael Frayn's *The Two of Us*, which is also known as *Chinamen*, a title that might be thought sexist and/or racist in San Francisco.

The brilliant playwright who has fun with farces in *Noises Off*, a hit in London and on Broadway, attempts another variation here that doesn't quite come off. Stephen and Jo are

throwing a dinner party for two and a half couples—they've inadvertently invited estranged spouses Barney and Bea and Bea's new lover Alex, a punk who "is about 19, streaks his hair ... and is of questionable gender."

The idea is to keep deserted, depressed, drunken Barney in the kitchen while the rest of the party goes on in the living room. The play takes place in the dining room, which is in-between. Nancy Palmer Jones and Dan Hiatt play five different characters between them, four of them well. When Jones takes on Alex she seem more like a Les-

bian trying in vain to be butch than a young man, or the "pouf" he's described as (more times than is necessary to make the point) by a bitter Barney.

A true farce would build until costume changes are coming with dizzying speed toward the end of the single act. *The Two of Us* settles for using offstage noises to suggest frantic activity, while we're left with our unfulfilled expectations. What does happen in this play should happen in a lot less time.

**The Two of Us**  
One-Act Theatre Co.  
Lunchtime Theatre  
Through Dec. 19; 421-6162

the finest work I've seen locally.

The story concerns Cephus Miles, who only wants to farm the land. Refusing to go to Viet Nam—Thou Shalt Not Kill—he's thrown in jail, stripped of his land, reviled. Without means of earning a living, he succumbs to the incantatory refrain that haunts the play: "The Subway Rolls; Take it to the City." He seeks the sporting life in New York, a brutal adventure. He returns home, and if the onset of a happy ending seems unreal, impossible, remember even Job's trials passed. I swore not

to cry, and was soon awash in happy tears.

*Home* is simultaneously harsh blues and lyrical rhapsody, bitter indictment, and a paean to life. The current production has been brought to bitersweet and jubilant life.

*The Little Foxes* had everything, but its famed combination of melodrama, high theater, wit, and moral conviction is blunted in the Renaissance Ensemble Theatre Company mounting at the Victoria Theatre. It functions on too few levels for such a multi-faceted play; the wit is absent and the

theatrical flair is muffed amidst an impoverished set, one-dimensional acting, and clumsy directing. Rosemary Bock, a favorite Lamplighter, amuses as Birdie, and the script itself is fascinating. But this production is so much deadwood on the words. Yes and godspeed in Bolinas, but not up to city standards.

J. F. Karr

**Home**  
Lorraine Hansberry Theatre  
Through Dec. 15; 474-8842

**The Little Foxes**  
The Victoria Theatre  
Through Dec. 16; 893-BASS

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# BAY AREA REPORTER B.A.R. BAZAAR

## MR. MARCUS

### Thrills on the Miracle Mile

By the time you read this, you should all be recovering from last weekend's romp into madness. Hordes of tourists invaded The City to take part in the national holiday, and burping beauties were to be found everywhere after gorging on turkey, ham, etc.

Chaps Bar kicked off the weekend last Wednesday night with everyone's favorite comedian, Tom Ammiano, who kept the crowd in stitches for almost a full hour, including some very zany insights to football officials' hand signals, and his closing super speedy monologue on every kind of "queen" in the book had them howling for more. If I was in grade school, I'd LOVE to have Mr. Ammiano for a teacher! Then the adorable Val Diamond took the stage with her delightful trio and had the crowd enraptured with her

repertoire that ran the gamut from "Everything Must Change" to "I'm Not Into S&M," wielding a whip throughout the latter, and almost invoking tears in the audience with the former. On Thursday, the comedy brigade of Danny Williams and Marga Gomez invoked more laughter, and the classy stylings of Alicia Daniels and the adorable Mary Buffet got the crowd jumping in the right direction. Sunday evening, the inimitable Jane Dornacker got her rocks off by delving deep into the S&M psyche with bawdy ditties and equally bawdy dialogue that had the crowd gasping. And then, and THEN, Michael Greer bounded on the stage and unleashed almost an hour of dialogue, singing, and jokes that once again had the crowd literally rolling in the aisles. The rapid-fire repartee wrecked



Val Diamond does her whip trick on Tom Ammiano at Chaps (Photo: R. Pruzan)

everyone with a brand of iconoclasm reminiscent of Mort Sahl without the right-wing malarky. I mean NO ONE and NOTHING is sacred, including Mayor Di-Fi (went to China to close down the tea houses), Joan Collins, Nancy Reagan, et al. Greer's rapier-like slaps at everyone from the Pope to leather queens proves his incisive observations of life, love, and humanity in general are right on the button; yet, he manages to temper this side of life with human and touching aspects not always found in modern day comics. Except for a satiric swipe in a ditty at Los Angeles, Michael Greer slayed 'em at Chaps last Sunday night. With Sharon McNight in the audience, he seduced her onto the stage for a little duet and Sharon, not one to be upstaged or outdone, proved her mettle with equally agile repartee in her brief cameo appearance.

Saturday night, another healthy crowd converged at the Galleria to stomp the boards for TM Productions' Last Call disco-thon. JO-LO swooped in and ran through some uptunes for the massive crowd. When attending these mega-disco parties, one always wonders: where do all these hot dudes come from? You don't see them in bars, at church, or on the streets, and we don't have baths or after-hours joints anymore. They literally come out of the woodwork, so to speak.

Sunday afternoon, assured that the 49ers have a solid berth in the play-offs after massacring New Orleans, another jubilant crowd turned up on the patio of the SF-Eagle for the San Andreas M/C (of Los Angeles) beer bust. The Messiah could be appearing at the Warfield and nothing, absolutely nothing else going on in town can keep the attendance down at the Eagle on Sunday afternoons. Much foam and flattery all around. I say you're all just recovering from the long weekend. Hope you all had a bountiful Thanksgiving and a wonderful weekend. Really, it was a delight. The patients at Ward 5-B all enjoyed a great Thanksgiving dinner, courtesy of Chaps Bar—now that's brotherhood!

So you haven't had enough? The weekend coming up holds another new set of activities to keep your juices flowing. Friday night, Nov. 30th, the new Mr. Carnival, David Stoll, and his worthy opponents will join the CMC's open meeting at the SF-Eagle to distribute the more than \$2,000 raised in the Mr. Carnival Contest to the charities they ran for. For all practical purposes, this is an accounting of charities money raised. Truthfully, the CMC has no PAID staff in its membership. It's ALL-volunteer, and has been that way for NINETEEN years, a claim NO OTHER organization can make these days.

On Saturday, Dec. 1st, the CHEATERS M/C present its 2nd Annual PRESIDENT'S CONVENTION at the Rathskeller to name the President of the Year (of bike clubs) with booze, entertainment, and political caucuses, the whole affair beginning at 1900 hours.

Earlier in the day at 1 p.m., the Gay Gators, our formidable flag football team, will take on the SF Deputy Sheriffs for a \$1 donation benefiting Shanti, Gay Games II, and the Special Olympics at Lowell High School Stadium (Winston at Lake Merced Blvd.). This one should be interesting. I understand some Dep. Sheriffs (the Gay ones) are on the team! Don't miss THIS one, as Sharon McNight and

cont. on next page



Jane Dornacker does her thing at Chaps last weekend (Photo: R. Pruzan)

## MARCUS

cont. from previous page

Tom Parker will entertain at half-time.

Also on Saturday, Joe Altman will open his photo show at Chaps bar for an exhibit that will have you panting. Joe's work is also in the December issue of *Advocate Men* and shouldn't be missed.

On Sunday, Sharon McNight takes center stage at Chaps for the 2nd Annual Christmas Tree Lighting for Ward 5-B beginning at 7 p.m., with a \$5 donation. Of course, R. Kassman will furnish the piano which Jim Bob Followell will pound out for our Sharon.

Also for the AIDS Foundation, the ARENA is collecting canned foods the 1st three Thursdays of December (6th, 13th & 20th) with special drink prices for every can of food you bring in! The Bare Chest Calendar is at the printers' still and should be out any day now. All this should be enough to keep

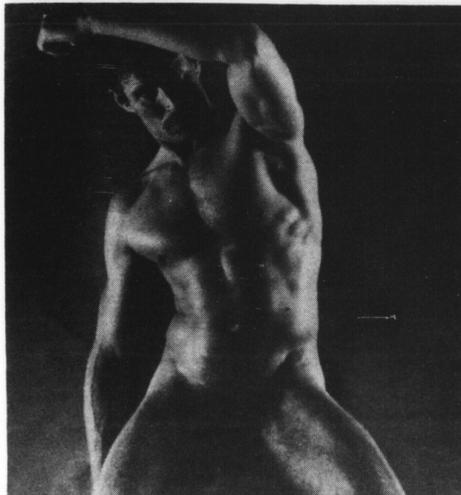
you busy until next week's array of fun. Can you handle it?

## DISH-TINGUISHED CITIZENS

Since Tony Treviso of the CMC got divorced, he has to do something with all his spare time, so he's working on a special project to bring a "fabulous" movie to the Castro Theatre on Dec. 15th, but more about that later... Overheard on Twin Peaks Blvd. the other afternoon at a certain mail order headquarters: "When leather just won't do—buy Cire"—that's pronounced "sir-ray," not "sir-ee"—Alice in Dildo Land is a stickler for pronunciation of French terms... Look for a new magazine coming out one of these fine centuries called *Foreskin Quarterly*—at the rate it's going, shouldn't it be called *Foreskin Annually*?... Nasty and anonymous (naturally) letters circulating about members of the board of directors of a certain charitable organization including super-sleuthing by "concerned citizens" which includes "tailing" officers to Russian



Mary Buffet and Danny Williams at Chaps last weekend (Photo: R. Pruzan)



An example of Joe Altman's photography, on display at Chaps beginning Dec. 1



Michael Greer, with lettuce, at Chaps last weekend (Photo: R. Pruzan)

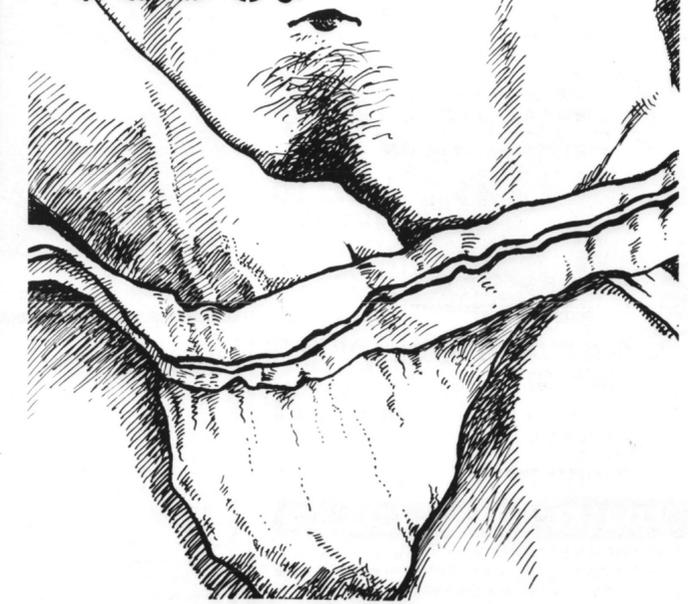
River love nests, and lord only knows what else. Are you reading this Richard Gervais?... Talk about the Anti-Defamation League in action: Rich Duffy (sometimes of Chaps) was on his afternoon shift at the DeLuxe on Haight last week when two young ladies came in to use the "powder room." After they left, a customer noticed some derogatory remarks on the wall about "Fagits." When they returned later in the day, Duffy (gratefully as possible) piped: "If you're going to lay us out to whale-shit, you could at least spell Faggot right! It's Faget, not Fagit!"... Super porn-star

turned AIDS crusader, Richard Locke, says he felt like Jesus feeding the flock with bread and wine after his lecture of "Sensible Sex" at the Castro Station two Sundays ago where he distributed more than 1,000 condoms to the flock—enough rubber to make two good latex outfits for the rubber queens... The GMSMA of NY (Gay-Male S/M Activists) have put out its activities calendar for the coming months, which includes: Dec. 12, Bottoms, Jan. 9, Novices, Jan. 23, Bondage Fashion Show, Feb. 13, Flogging and Feb. 16, Flogging Workshop. For more details

contact them at 132 West 24th St., NY 10011—in a padded envelope of course!... Since President "Art" of the Foot Fraternity doesn't want me to be too "graphic" about its next party, be advised that they'll be having an AIDS benefit on Sat., Dec. 8 at 9 p.m. at FEBE's for the SF and LA AIDS Foundations. Come (as in arrive, not as in climaxing) in your favorite socks (or sockless) or whatever footwear turns you on—this sounds fascinating, and if you want to delve into it more the donation is \$8 and all the footwear you can handle. Call

cont. on next page

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## MARCUS

(Continued from previous page)

Randy at 641-4925 or Art at 563-2771. The main door prize will be the original boots used in making Falcon's film, *Boots*, so hot-foot it over there... The 15 Association is not too pleased about where its "colors" have been moved to at the Brig?... And is it true that some FIFTY people showed up at a meeting last week with plans and CASH

... As for the Outstanding Fund Raiser of the Year, since the Board of Directors of the Cable Car Awards has removed itself from the running for the "La Cage Aux Folles" benefit, it looks like "Men Behind Bars" is in the lead! Don't you love all the "intrigue"?... You'll love it even more on December 8th—the next Full Moon.

So lay back and get mellow, already. The holiday season is

'The freedom of the press works in such a way that there is not much freedom from it.'

to run David Stoll for Emperor? Judging from David's landslide victory in the Mr. CMC Carnival, is there ANY competition? Time will tell. If elected, David would still POUR the booze, not POUR it DOWN!... Cable Car Board of Directors meeting this week, and the nominations are rolling in. Likewise for the Motorcycle Awards, and from where I'm standing, it looks like another Independent biker is leading in votes—Ken Devin, of course!

upon us, and I hope you're dropping hints to the "concerned" people in your little group about what you want Santa to bring you. Until next time, then, remember: The freedom of the press works in such a way that there is not much freedom from it. I knew you'd like that one, Mr. Gervais. See you around the campus, at the board meetings, and all around the town.

Mister Marcus

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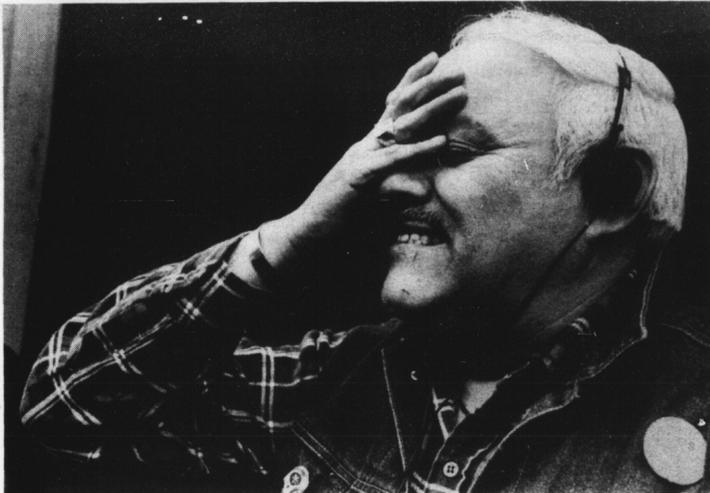
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Marcus can't stand listening to football games (Photo: R. Pruzan)



Mr. CMC Carnival 1984, David Stoll (L), will help distribute more than \$2,000 collected at the carnival Nov. 30 at the Eagle (Photo: J. Krause)



Disco is disco, anyway you look at it (Photo: R. Pruzan)

### Holiday Gift Idea

STBS, San Francisco's half-price ticket booth, is offering a holiday gift your friend will want to exchange—a gift certificate good toward the purchase of any ticket that STBS sells.

Offering half-price tickets on the day of performance, STBS acts as a central box office for many performing arts events in the Bay Area. STBS is also an authorized Ticketron outlet, with access to Hearst Castle and

Alcatraz Island tours, and Broadway shows in New York City.

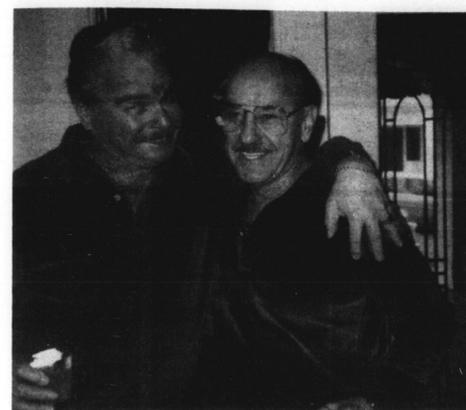
STBS is located on the Stockton Street side of Union Square, between Post and Geary. Hours of operation are noon to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, and noon to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday. STBS is closed Sunday and Monday. For more information call 433-STBS.

Are You Coriaceously Correct?

## SWEET LIPS SEZ...

### Holiday Cheer

DICK WALTERS



Sweet Lips (L) and Bob Golovich at Bob's Thanksgiving bash (Photo: Robbie)

You are all invited to attend the double birthday party of Andy and Sweet Lips Saturday the 1st of December from noon till 5 p.m., with both of us on the planks at Googies'. Yes, this is a celebration of 115 years, and Andy is not 40. Hope to see you all. The great Bill Ward will be playing the piano with Clay on the clarinet, so don't miss it.

AIDS Benefit Canned Food Drive at the Arena Thursday (all day) the 13th of December. Beer, wine, and well drinks will be only 75¢ with a can or package of non-perishable food. This is a worthwhile donation, so don't miss out because it is for a truly needed cause.

Memo to Max at the Gate: No dear, pressed turkey dinner is not the same as pressed duck. Starting the 14th, the very popular Kimo's on Polk Street will be having a new doorman, which is none other than our own Jay (Ethel) Noonan...but Jay, you know how you are when you see something young and cute.

Dick (Roxy Hart) Bumpus had his best friend here for a visit from New York for the holiday, and it was nice to see you again, Sammy...give our regards to all of the lovelies in the Big Apple.

You can now find Seth on the planks at the Giraffe on Polk Street from noon till 7 p.m. Monday through Thursdays, and yes, the popular Chuck Engfinger is still holding forth on the night shifts there and looking great.

After Dark, the hit Swedish musical at the Alcazar Theatre, has extended its run again thru the end of the year. Wouldn't two tickets make a perfect Christmas for a friend—they

### Call For Entries

BERKELEY—Original, unpublished poems in English are invited in the 59th Poets' Dinner contest.

Line limits in the eight categories of competition are: short free verse, to 16 lines; long free verse, 17 to 32 lines; haiku, group of three; sonnet (indicate type); lyric (rhymed, metered poem of intense personal emotion), 32 lines; humorous, 32; French form (indicate type), 72 lines; ballad, 72.

A total of three poems, only one in a category, may be sent by each contestant. Entries must be typed on 8 1/2 x 11 paper and categories shown in the upper right-hand corner of each page. Submit three clear copies anon-

ymously to Robert Shelby, Contest Chairman, 1417 Third Avenue, Oakland 94606. Entries must be postmarked by midnight, Jan. 21, 1985. For a copy of the rules, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the contest chairman.

To win, the author must be present at the March 16, 1985, awards dinner at Spenger's restaurant, 1919 Fourth Street, Berkeley. Winning poems are read and the winners revealed at that time. One grand prize will be given, also prizes and honorable mentions in each category.

The Poet's Dinner, which has been held annually since March 15, 1927, attracts entries from all over Northern California.

The New David Kelsey Trio is one of the best shows in town on Sunday evenings at the popular New Bell Saloon. It's really great music, and of course they still have Bob Sanders at the sing-a-long piano bar Monday and Tuesday nights. You are looking great, Lincoln.

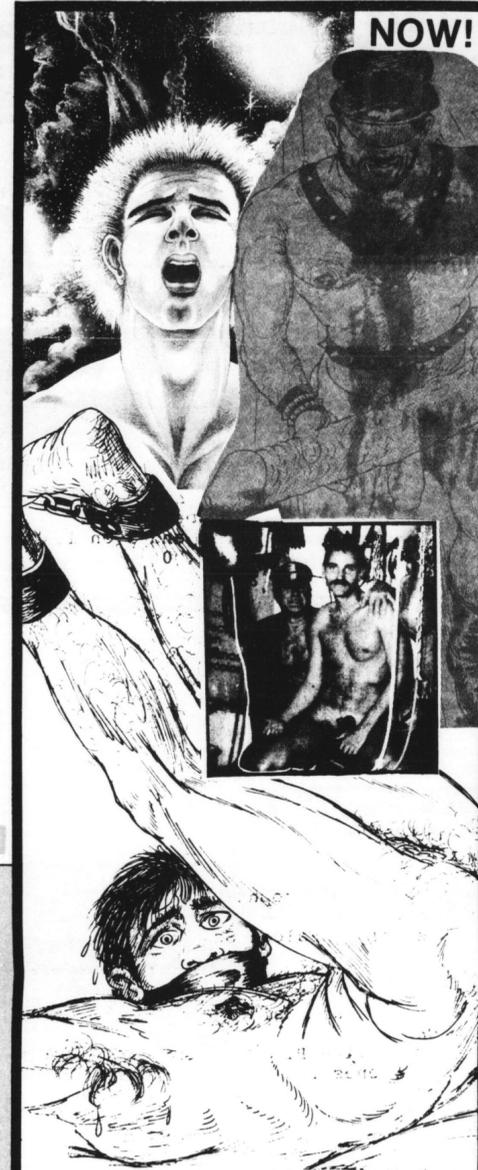
Have you been downtown to see the great Christmas windows, especially Gumps and I. Magnin which are spectacular... It won't be much longer until all of the bars will be doing their things for the holiday season.

The Chez Mollet still has a complete Prime Rib dinner on Sunday and Mondays for only \$9.95, which is about the most reasonable price around town, and is excellent.

Ten percent of your holiday gift purchase at the Obelisk, 489 Castro St., goes to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation thru the 24th of December...now that's a nice gesture for them to do, so please do your shopping at the Obelisk.

Welcome home from your Florida vacation, Scott. Keith and I both missed your smiling face around.

Hope you didn't miss the farewell party that was given at the White Swallow last Sunday for Lucy, who is moving to Portland with Brad of the Renegade and his lover...a blast, but they aren't leaving until the 5th of December so you'll still see Lucy around drinking.



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# GUTTER HEAVEN

Tired of vanilla sex? Want kink? Want raunch? Want excess? This is how, when & why to do it! Thousands of us need to get down, but only hundreds of us do it. This weeks program takes you into the underworld of sex, bizarre and twisted. We'll take you to your knees, and then some, with every graphic detail. This is the action almost beyond belief! Honest!

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### NGN on the Move

The National Gay (radio) Network has grown from seven radio affiliates to nearly 40 in just one year, it has been announced.

NGN Radio Network officials said they have added 19 new affiliates in Australia through a syndication agreement, two in London, and

WWUH in Hartford, Connecticut.

In recent weeks, the Network added stations in Los Angeles, Alaska, Texas and New York, and is featured on four San Francisco Bay Area stations.

The Network feeds its affiliates news broadcasts focusing on Gay news and information. Each network newscast is punctuated with interviews with major newsmakers.

### Karl's Calendar

Friday, Nov. 21: CMC Charity Award, SF Eagle, 8 p.m., Mr. CMC David Stoll and CMC present \$\$\$ to Carnival charities.

Kidstuff, Valencia Rose, 8 p.m., \$6. Vocal Minority in Concert, Director Bill Ganz (also 12/1&2).

Saturday, Dec. 1: Sheriff Dep. vs Gay Gators, 1 p.m., Lowell High Football Stadium, benefit touch football game, \$1, entertainment, Ms. Sharon McNight.

Joe Altman Photo Show, Saturday Afternoon at the Movies 2-8 p.m., Chaps, three films featuring Marilyn Monroe.

Convention '84, Rathskeller (Polk & Turk), 8 p.m., = cocktail with Prez of

the year '83 Bill Woods, 8 p.m. = caucuses begin to select President of the year '84, donation \$5, tickets: Wateringhole, Men's Rm, Kimo's and from Cheater's Members) hosts: Cheaters MC.

Sunday, Dec. 2: 49er Football, 1 p.m.; Febe's (hot dogs), SF Eagle, Chaps, Castro Station, Village (49 TD = hot dog + schnapps) Men's Rm & Trax (49 TD = free drink), Festus, Kokpit, Renegade.

Benefit Tree Lighting, Chaps, 7 p.m., donation \$5, entertainment: Ms. Sharon McNight (plus...?).

Wednesday, Dec. 3: Dynasty Night, 9 p.m.; Febe's (hot dogs), SF Eagle (dinner = \$4), Cafe San Marcos, Chaps, Castro Station, Village, Men's Rm, Festus (Pipeline), Trax, Kokpit, Renegade.

The Network made broadcasting history in 1984 when it became the first Gay media to broadcast from the floor of both the Democratic and Republican National Conventions. NGN News maintained the largest radio news crew of any network during the Democratic Convention in San Francisco.

The Network is the two-and-a-half year old brainstrom of Executive Producer Bernard Lawson and News Anchorman/Producer Tom Post.

"Any time you develop a new product," Lawson said, "You hope there are people who want it." Lawson believes the news operation has access to more than 50 million people worldwide. NGN is the only Network featuring Gay news, and is considered a very reliable source of information to its industry peers.

At the close of each five-minute newscast, Post reminds listeners that "We (NGN) broke the silence." Indeed they have.

The Network is already working on live music and feature programming to expand the operation's menu.

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## WANTED

**GAY MALE NUDISTS**  
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# BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XIV NO. 49 DECEMBER 6, 1984

1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103



Go Gators! The Gay Gators had the spirit—with backing from peppy cheerleaders like these—but went down, alas, to defeat at the hands of deputies in flag football game. Details in Sports & Fitness. (Photo: Rink)

## Gay Man Tells Court Cops Beat, Taunted Him

**Mission Station Patrolmen Charged with Assault In Cases of 2 Gay Men Attacked in August**

by Brian Jones

A Gay man testified last week that a city police officer shouted "You're a faggot and you deserve to be dead!" while pummeling him with a nightstick. Anthony Akins is one of two Gay men who were assaulted and injured by police in similar incidents during late August.

Akins spent four hours on the witness stand recounting the assault on Aug. 24. His voice repeatedly choked with emotion as he described being punched, kicked and clubbed while a police officer yelled anti-Gay taunts.

Officer Scott Quinn is charged with assault with a deadly weapon and unlawful use of force, both felonies, in the Akins case.

In a similar case, Quinn and partner Nial Philpott are charged with abduction, assault with a deadly weapon and unlawful use of force, all felonies, in an attack on a second Gay man, Bruce Lindberg. Lindberg was pulled from a Muni bus, driven in a squad car to the warehouse district east of

Potrero Hill, then maced, kicked and clubbed. All the charges resulting from the Lindberg case are felonies.

Last week's testimony came during a preliminary hearing to determine if the two officers will be tried in Superior Court. After two days of testimony, Municipal Judge Ina Geymont continued the hearing until Dec. 11.

Akins was interrogated for more than three hours by Quinn's attorney. The attorney

sought to portray Akins as drunk and violent the night of the assault—an allegation which, Akins has testified, is untrue. Following the hearing, a story in the *San Francisco Chronicle* called Akins an "alcoholic" and said he had been arrested twice for drunken driving. In an interview after his testimony, Akins was bitter about the experience, and likened the courtroom ordeal to that of a rape victim.

Continued on page 2.

## Experiments Here Will Test Immune Booster as AIDS Drug

**Initial Study Shows Progress with 'Pre-AIDS'—Are Claims Scientifically Sound or Wall St. Hype?**

by Brian Jones

Experiments begin next week in San Francisco on a drug said to show "very encouraging" results in fighting AIDS. Researchers at the University of California-San Francisco will perform a 3-month study of 24 persons with "pre-AIDS" symptoms. The drug, Isoprinosine, has been prescribed for a decade in Europe to treat cancer-related immune suppression. More recently, it has been prescribed to fight herpes. It is not approved for use in the United States.

(Continued on page 3)

### IN THIS ISSUE

**BERKELEY COUNCIL PASSES DOMESTIC PARTNERS**

Berkeley got a new City Council Tuesday night—and a new law to extend family benefits to the domestic partners of unmarried city employees. But an analyst for a major insurer said there may be a hitch. George Mendenhall in Greater Bay News, page 16.

**NO BUBBLES AT THE BATHS.** Despite a court order allowing the baths to reopen, owners have decided to keep their doors locked for now. A look at the issues on page 3.

**GAY MURDER CASE IN JEOPARDY** because repeated delays are making witnesses nervous, says prosecutor. At stakes are murder charges against five Vallejo men accused of killing John O'Connell. Page 7.

**FEINSTEIN FOR U.S. SENATE?** The skies are full of trial balloons for the Mayor's 1986 run against Alan Cranston. Wayne Friday looks at the states in Politics and Poker, page 11.



Packing the Chambers for first meeting of new city's council were more than 400 well-wishers. Many more watched from outside. (Photo: Mary Whitlock)

## West Hollywood: Birth of a City

by George Mendenhall

**WEST HOLLYWOOD**—The fire marshal closed the doors when 400 people jammed into Plummer Park's small Fiesta Hall. When the aisles filled, an additional 100 were forced to watch the proceedings outside on closed-circuit television. Others crowded to the windows—peering in from outside.

The unusual mixture of senior citizens and Lesbian and Gay enthusiasts climbed over one another to obtain seats. They were there to observe what they had worked toward for several months: the Nov. 29 swearing in of the new city's first city council. The council promptly passed a rent freeze and a Gay rights measure. Some in the audience grumbled as 50 reporters and photographers blocked views. There were occasional shouts to "use the microphone" as the hard-of-hearing strained to hear every word.

Continued on page 4.