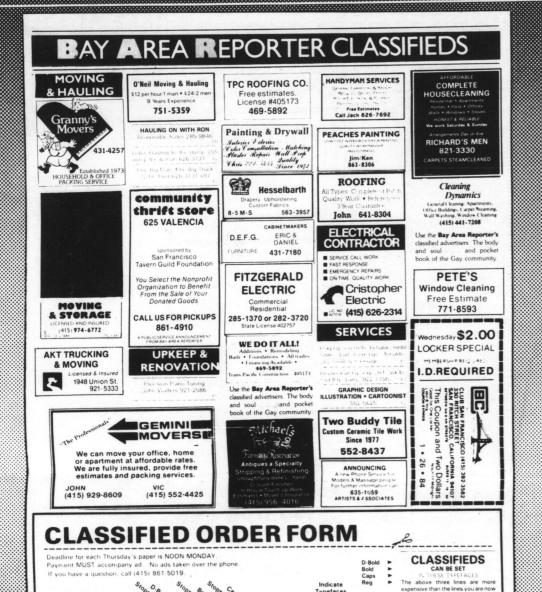
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VOL. XIV NO. 51 DECEMBER 20, 1984

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All Spruced Up for the holiday, these two guys get in the spirit for yuletide tree-trimming. (Photo: Rink)

Gay Lovers' 'Revenge' Killings Stun Small Oklahoma Town

They Shoot 7, Kill 4, in Bank Where Employees Taunted Them; Arrested After Fleeing to S.F.

Citizens of Lawton, Oklahoma expressed feelings of shock following the shooting of seven people by two Gay lovers last Friday. The crime has numbed the town. The lovers, Jay Wesley Neill, 19, and Robert Grady Johnson, 22, were arrested Monday just outside their penthouse hotel suite in San Francisco's Holiday Inn on Union Square.

The Bay Area Reporter talked to several sources in Oklahoma attempting to piece together a profile of the two young Gay men. Many people in Lawton perceive that the men resorted to the brazen violent killings in response to taunts and teasing they received because they were

The FBI said Neill walked into a bank in nearby Geronimo, Oklahoma, Friday afternoon, pulled a .32 caliber pistol on the tellers and told them to empty their cash drawers.

Neill then forced the two tellers and the bank manager into the back room. He shot them each

assailant put his gun to the head of the couple's infant and pulled Their bodies also were slashed with a hunting knife. One of the the trigger, but was out of bulwomen was pregnant. lets, police said.

A farmer who entered the The shooting spree lasted 15 minutes before Neill left the bank also was executed. A cafe owner who entered the bank was bank and entered a tan getaway shot in the head, and remains in car, which police say was driven serious condition in the hospital. A man and wife who walked into the bank were shot, but were wounded only superficially. The

It was no secret in Lawton



Human Rights Commission Investigates 123 Cases

by George Mendenhall

"The number and kinds of discrimination-related problems experienced by people because of AIDS is startling. We are hearing from Gay people who are fired when they take a few days of sick leave because they have the flu. AIDS hysteria is rampant in the city."

Eileen Gillis, staff member of the Lesbian/Gay Unit of the city's Human Rights Commission (HRC), reached this conclusion based on a new phenomenon of discrimination—AIDS panic which is documented in her latest annual report. She reveals that there has been a 41 percent increase in reported cases of anti-Gay discrimination in the past year.



Discrimination Detective Eileen Gillis, staffer for the Human Rights

N THIS SSUE

MARY CHRISTMAS

ART SHOW EMBROGLIO continues on slow boil following August theft at Pride Center. Artists were promised insurance, but their stolen works were never covered. Page 7.

HOW TO MEET LESBIANS. Mike Hippler decides it's time for some women in his life. Page 12.

THE ENVELOPE PLEASE. Woolly's First Annual Bouquets and Brickbats Awards look back on 1984. It was the year of living dangerously. Celebs on page 14.

A LESBIAN LIFETIME is reviewed with the passing of Helen Harder. She was a tomboy, ship-builder, air force instructor and much more in her 66 years.



Unresolved Complaints Pile Up At Police Review Office

New Director Promises to Speed Investigations

by Ray O'Loughlin

The headlines tell the story:

• "Big Rise in Complaints Against Police in SF" (Chronicle, May 25)—San Franciscans complain about police brutality eight times more than other Californians.

• "Cops Probed in Assault on Gay Man" (B.A.R., Oct. 4)—A Gay man is taken off a Muni bus by uniformed officers who drive him to a remote area of the city where he claims they beat him and left him. Investigation reveals that the two officers involved had also been named in other recent incidents of abuse; criminal charges are now pending against them.

• "SF Police Sued Over Terror' Raid" (Chronicle, Aug. 17)—Six heavily armed plainclother cops looking for a Western Addition drug dealer torment an elderly woman and her nephew for two hours. They had the wrong address.

• "SF Police Sued in Beating Case" (Chronicle, Oct. 3)—Three Chinese people stopped for a traffic violation say they were beaten for no reason. One, a deaf mute, was severely beaten when he did not respond to police orders.

(Continued on page 4)

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Lesbian Presbyterian minister

Christmas Caroling Party Following

Women and men will participate equally in the Celebration

Gays Held in Shooting Spree

that Neill and Johnson were Gay. They were certainly out of the closet and they openly flaunted their Gayness. Several sources said that they had seen Johnson, the older of the two, in drag on at least one occasion. One next-door neighbor of the two reportedly loaned nail polish to Johnson on several occasions.

Jay Wesley Neill reportedly had been given an administrative discharge from the Army last July because he was Gay One person who worked with Neill told local news agencies that they sensed him to be "bright and a good worker." It was also learned that Neill had been on a two-year probation for credit card fraud in Oklahoma. There appears to be no other criminal record of any kind against the two men before last

Both Neill and Johnson lived beyond their means and it is known they had serious financial problems. At the time of the robbery and murders, the two owed more than \$7,000 in back debts which included \$400 in back rent for an apartment they shared with a married couple Neill owned a 1984 Oldsmobile

Many in Lawton knew both men and were aware they were Gay. What has stunned the town is the reality that they would resort to such violent

The local District Attorney, Dick Tannery, said he would seek the death penalty against Neill. According to Tannery, Neill used a hunting knife to slash the three bank workers after he shot them.

Following the robbery and killings the two headed for San Francisco. Having stolen \$17,000, they arrived in San Francisco last Friday night. They rented a limousine for five hours on Saturday and again on Sunday from Carey limousine. One of the places they stopped to shop was Wilkes-Bashford, the high fashion clothiers.

While in the store, one employee later said, they acted 'like kids in a toy store." They flashed around large bills, and several in the store commented that they showed little taste in clothing. There were indications that the two were looking around to possibly find a place to rent in San Francisco.

Both Johnson and Neill are currently being held in the Bay Area until a hearing Dec. 27. At that time they will most likely be extradited to Oklahoma to stand

Though the primary thrust of charges which result in the death penalty are against Neill, Johnson also may face a similar sentence. There is speculation that

he bought the gun used in the murders and drove the getaway car. Proof in court of these two points against Johnson would raise the possibility that he too could face death if convicted.

There has been strong media attention focused on the premise that these two men acted out of revenge simply because they were teased and taunted for be ing Gay. Several in Lawton said they were teased because they were "outrageous queens."

In Lawton there is a small but recognizable Gay population. There are Gay bars, the leading place called "Scandals" for a time, and also known as "Atomic Annie's". There have been other Gay bars in recent years called "The Gallery" and "Le

For the people of Lawton, Oklahoma, Robert Johnson and Jay Neill have produced a civic nightmare. There is shock and disbelief at the actions which took place last Friday in the

Services for the four victims drew hundreds of mourners Monday and Tuesday. On Monday, 800 people jammed the gym at Geronimo High School for the funeral of Eddie Zeller, the murdered farmer, who was a former basketball star at the school.

A. White

Christmas Dinner At Pride Center

Christmas is a wonderful time of year to share good food and good company. The Pride Center at 890 Hayes will be hosting its annual Christmas Dinner and would like to invite everyone to share the joy of the holiday season with us. Dinner will be served at no cost from 12 noon until 2 p.m. on Christmas Day.

Holiday Open House For Lesbian & Gay Seniors

Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE) of Operation Concern will be having a Holiday Open House for Lesbian and Gay Seniors and their friends, on Saturday, Dec. 15, from 2 to 4 p.m., at 1853 Market St.

This will be a pot-luck. Please

Dignity Christmas At Trinity

Dignity/San Francisco, the organization of Gay and Lesbian Catholics, their friends and families, will gather with the parishioners of Trinity Episcopal Church, Bush and Gough Streets, on Christmas Eve for a joint celebration of a eucharistic liturgy, beginning at 11 p.m.

Gays, Lesbians **Invited to Christmas**

Kids Who Killed Gay Get 40-Month Term

Their Friends Make Anti-Gay Taunts **During Trial in Maine Courtroom**

Three teenagers who pleaded guilty to manslaughter in the killing of a Gay man in Bangor, Maine are now serving up to 40 months at the Maine Youth Center, but public outrage over the killing still simmers.

James Francis Blaines, 15, Shawn Mabry, 16, and Daniel Ness, 17, were sentenced to indeterminate terms not to exceed three years and four months after the youths pleaded guilty to the lower charge of manslaughter in the "fagbashing" killing of Charles Howard last July.

Howard, who was 23, and a male companion, Roy Ogden, were walking across a bridge spanning the Kenduskeag Stream in downtown Bangor when the youths drove up in a car, pulled over and attacked Howard, pummelling him to the ground, then throwing him into the stream, as Howard screamed. "I can't swim.

The vouths were orginally charged with murder.

Controversy dogged the trial almost from the outset, when Judge David Cox ruled that Baines, Mabry and Ness be tried as juveniles. Had they been tried as adults, the youths could have been sentenced to 25 yearsto-life in prison.

Cox ordered the youths to remain at the youth center in South Portland until each of their 21st birthdays. Ness, the oldest of the trio, will turn 21 in February, 1988.

Members of the Bangor Area Gay/Lesbian/Straight Coali-

"To allow these three individuals to be treated as juveniles, instead of adults and to pleabargain from murder to manslaughter lessens the severity of the crime and may fail to act as a deterrent," Phibbs said in a prepared statement.

Assistant state attorney general Thomas Goodwin, whose prosecution of the youths was sharply criticized by the coalition, denied that a plea-bargaining agreement was reached. He said he chose independently to lower the charges.

"What you're really dealing with is really a state of mind, Goodwin said. "And we felt that their state of mind was more of recklessness or criminal negligence than intent to kill. Teenaged friends of the de-

fendants burst into tears after the sentences were read and voiced intense hostility toward coalition members. Throughout the trial, the teenagers threatened the coalition members with

Bias Complaints Up

stressed these points:

discrimination.

hearings in the past.

• Discrimination complaints

filed by non-Gay people here in

other classifications (race, age,

• People tend not to report

cases of discrimination when it

involves housing and public ac-

commodations. 81 percent of the

unit's complaints involve em-

ployment. Winnow stated.

'When people are fired, they are

really hurt while in other areas

they do not usually follow

through.'

etc.) number less than 123.

The commission lists 13 cases in the current report as being AIDS-related, but believes this is only the beginning. In all, the report recorded 123 formal complaints. Gillis said that her 2-person unit is working with existing service organizations in investigating and processing AIDS-related discrimination cases. She said there is a growing need for an additional source for evaluations and assistance. The HRC is currently developing a questionnaire to document the extent of the problem that will be distributed to the Gay community shortly.

"Once a person is diagnosed with AIDS," Gillis emphasizes, 'some employers act to terminate them out of a reluctance to be responsible for health care benefits or the adaptions that must be made in the workplace to accommodate an employee who will become increasingly unable to perform the job.'

One victim of such discrimination has not been diagnosed with AIDS. He told this reporter that co-employees on his job would not eat food he had bought and one employee placed a towel over a chair after he sat in it. He was socially isolated and then dismissed. The HRC encouraged him to process a complaint. The HRC concluded that his case was valid and a remedy of the situation is now being negotiated. The man is also suing in the courts for back wages and damages.

DOCUMENTATION

Gillis analyzed 123 complaints received in the past year by her division. She emphasized that while there are anti-Gay discrimination complaints filed with other agencies, the HRC Unit is the only one that investigates and reports on them with

Governor George Deukme jian's staff has received a copy of the report. The governor indicated at a recent press conference that since there was still no significant evidence of discrimination against Gay people he would again veto Assemblyman Art Agnos' AB-1 legislation in 1985.

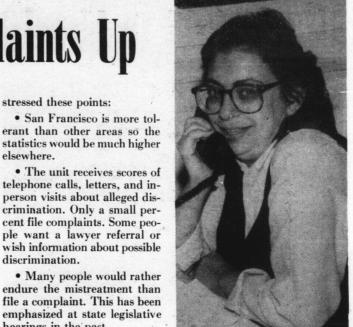
The state legislature passed AB-1 this year. It would have placed "sexual orientation" on the list of classes of people who may file complaints with state agencies, charging discrimina-tion. The state legislature determined, following numerous hearings, that Gay people were discriminated against and needed protection.

No other classified group which is now protected by state law has been required to document that discrimination exists These classes now include sex, age, race or color, pregnancy, ancestry, and religion. Sexual orientation is included for state employees under an executive order signed by former Governor Jerry Brown.

NUMBER OF CASES

Gillis ascribed the 41% in crease in anti-Gay cases partly to increased awareness of the unit's availability, and increased referrals to the unit from other agencies. However, she said the most obvious increase was in AIDS-related cases.

Jackie Winnow, a staff member who works closely with Gillis, said she believes 123 documented cases in this city is significant. While the number may appear to be small amidst the estimated 115,000 Gay men and Lesbians in the city, she



Jackie Winnow (Photo: Rink)

LIMITED POWER

The Lesbian/Gay unit investigates and attempts to resolve charges of discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations involving sexual orientation. Ninety percent of those using the HRC unit's service express satisfaction with the process.

One satisfied person who contacted the unit told this reporter, 'I was not going to bother with it but I was encouraged by them to do it. They took a special interest. It took them seven months of investigation but it was worth it. I needed direction and I got it. I am happy with the way it is working out."

The HRC is limited in its ability to enforce its decisions. City law establishes that if a firm has a contract with the city and it is found to discriminate by the HRC, the agency itself may deny the city contract for up to two years, or may fine the

In all past court appeals under this provision, the HRC has won. However, if the HRC rules that the city or a private employer has discriminated it must rely primarily on its own ability to negotiate. As a last resort, it can take such cases to the City Attorney for possible

STATISTICAL BREAKDOWN

Seventy percent of those using the unit's services are male and 88 percent of those are white. The reluctance of women and racial minorities to contact the HRC is analyzed in the report. "Underrepresented groups feel distrust for the workings of bureaucratic systems. The line of

thought is that if the system acts to discriminate, it will not, on the other hand, move decisively to remedy the inequity.

Complaints took an average of 70 days to investigate and process. Ninety percent of the cases processed involved an employer other than the city or one who contracted with the city. Employment was the major complaint category (81 percent), with the balance in public accommodation (13 percent), housing (3 percent) and transsexual sex-discrimination (3

Gillis encourages Gay people to contact the Human Rights Commission if they suspect that they are being discriminated against. She said the discrimination is sometimes difficult to discern.

'Sometimes," she said, there is an atmosphere which produces discriminatory behavor on the part of the employer. this is common in discrimination complaints and reveals the subtlety of bias in the workplace. What is attributed to 'personality conflicts,' is in fact a kind of 'not fitting in' by the complainant, which is, in stronger terms described as racism, and homophobia, in the discrimination nomenclature.

G. Mendenhall



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Police Review

Hardly a week went by this year, it seemed, without more headlines on problems with the San Francisco Police Department. First, it was a sex scandal in which the enforcers of the law broke the law by hiring a prostitute for a police party. More recently, there was the Kojackstyle raid on Lord Jim's, a posh singles bar. And then there are the growing number of complaints about police violence at peaceful-and generally smallpolitical demonstrations.

The response of the city to these incidents has been a number of "shake ups in the chain of command" which were splashed across news pages. But critics say the moves are actually promotions for the wrong-

Meanwhile, the Lesbian and Gay community, frequently a victim of police abuse and a leader in the fight for police accountability, was outraged by having a Gay officer reprimanded for "conduct unbecoming of an officer." His offense? While in uniform at the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade, Officer Paul Seidler briefly kissed another man.

Police actions have long been a sore point in the Lesbian and Gay community. It has been less than 10 years since homosexual acts were legalized in California. Memories of bar raids and arrests linger. More recently, memories of police attacks during the White Night riot and numerous incidents since then have reinforced the estrange-

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ment between Gays and police. Commenting on that estrangement, Supervisor Harry Britt said, "The police have been the slowest to learn how to deal with

VOTERS REACT

After the Super Bowl riot in January, 1982, in which the cops shocked the city by clubbing football revelers, San Franciscans began to push seriously for civilian review. It was an idea that the local Bar Association and the Northern California American Civil Liberties Union had long urged. They proposed a civilian police review board which would inject community accountability into the SFPD. That November, 62 percent of city voters endorsed the idea. The Office of Citizen Complaints (OCC) was added to the city charter.

Then followed months of delays in hiring a director, assembling a staff and setting up shop. The complaints came in. though. Few complainants heard anything more from the OCC, sequestered on the fifth floor of the Hall of Justice.

The problem got so bad that Mayor Dianne Feinstein, no sympathizer of police review, expressed concern about the ineffectiveness of the OCC. Soon the "police watchdog" found itself in the headlines along with charges of mismanagement. In late September, director Eugene Swann resigned. And on Nov. 1, the Police Commission named Frank J. Schober, Jr. to the \$52,000-a-year job.

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Not Riding Tall i the public's perception, the city police force this year has been involved in one fiasco after another. (Photo: Rink)

Schober grew up in San Francisco. Until two years ago he neaded the California National Guard, to which he had been appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown in 1975. Schober established a similar operation to the OCC in the National Guard.

To a casual observer, Frank Schober appears more the college professor than military commander. In fact, he did teach at West Point and holds a Master's degree in public administration from Harvard. Schober said, "The OCC hasn't succeeded but it is

capable of doing so."

streamline the procedure for filing complaints so that they are

handled "as expeditiously as possible." Slow work and a backlog of cases were major factors in the demise of Swann. Schober wants to establish a strict control system, to keep a

closer watch on complaints-

and notify station commanders

immediately on actions involv-

An apparent failure of the

OCC to notify Mission Station

about a police brutality com-

plaint in August allowed a se-

cond brutality case to take place.

A Gay man severely beaten by

two Mission Station police Aug.

24 filed a complaint the next day

Mission Station Captain Vic

Macia said he was not informed

of that complaint, so the officers

stayed on the street. Macia said

he would have removed the of-

ficers from contact with the

public had he been informed of

the complaint—as regulations

Four days later, the same two

officers were involved in a

similar beating of another Gay

man, in which the man's finger

Had the two officers been

removed from public contact

following the initial OCC com-

plaint, the second brutality case

would not have occurred, Macia

Schober said he wants a sys-

tem with prompt preliminary in-

vestigation to determine how a

case is to be pursued. Com-

plaints of unnecessary force,

said Schober, would get the

'highest priority" and would be

investigated and completed

within 30 to 45 days. Recom-

mendations for action would

then go to Police Chief Con

Murphy, or to the Police Com-

Complaints may be filed at

any police station, by telephon-

ing the OCC (553-1407), or by

walking into the fifth floor office

in the Hall of Justice. Schober

hopes to change that last fact.

He wants to move the OCC out

of the Hall of Justice, a step

urged by OCC supporters. "It's

intimidating to have to come

Although he feels that the

present staff of seven investi-

gators is adequate to do the job

Schober said he plans to require

(Continued on next page

into the Hall of Justice.

Schober said.

WORK WITH

COMMUNITY

ing their officers

with OCC.

was broken.

Explaining that the office is necessary, he said, "Every profession is regulated by an outside agency that can take away licenses to practice if performance is poor." He likened police work o that of other professionals involving public trust such as lawyers and doctors.

OUTLINES GOALS

Schober outlined his goals for the OCC, saying that he wanted to go beyond the probing of complaints, to looking at the training of police officers, the level and quality of supervision, and application of department policies and regulations.

"We want to look at more than just the bare facts of alleged offenses. We must look for patterns. For example, if an officer gets a number of complaints for verbal abuse in a six-month period, and even if they're not sustained, that officer may have a problem that we should take a ook at.'

Among his priorities is to

that investigators be certified in police investigation techniques, and obtain private investigators licenses. "It'll boost their own sense of professionalism," said Schober. He also wants his staff to accompany police officers on patrol four times a year.

At the same time, Schober said he wants to work closely with community groups con-cerned with police issues. He has already met with Community United Against Violence (CUAV) and plans soon to meet with the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club.

Police Review

establishing the OCC after

voters created it in 1982. "The

failure of the OCC cannot be

laid entirely on Swann," said

Britt. "The Police Commission

put no pressure on Swann to re-

solve cases. They had no time-

table for implementation and

conveyed no sense of urgency in

the matter." He added, "It's

hard to believe they'll give any

more support to the new man.

Over at the American Civil

Liberties Union, Amitai

Schwartz, also a proponent of

police review, shared Britt's

doubts. "The mayor is not con-

vinced there's a police problem

in this city. The problem is at the

top," said Schwartz, with in-

action by those in command

"encouraging and condoning

conduct as occurred at the raid

on Lord Jim's." He said the only

solution was to "raise public sen-

sitivity to keep pressure on the

Britt echoed those remarks.

saying, "It's not the rank and

file police officers who are the

problem. As a result of the

the SFPD to hire more minor-

ity officers), we have better atti-

tudes on the street." He blamed

the "good ol' boy network" at

the top that is a "closed group

not receptive to minorities,

the department.

believe in fairness.

OCC.

women or Lesbians and Gays in

Britt cited the actions of Capt.

Vic Macia, who is credited with

greatly improving Mission Sta-

tion, as an indication of what

good leadership can do. "He's

an example of what can happen

if you have people at the top who

have tough, assertive people on

the Police Commission ready to

face up to serious problems.

They should get angry at allega-

tions of police violating citizens'

rights." The present set of com-

missioners, he concluded, "are

uncritical of the chief (of police)

and are pushed around by the

mayor," who, Britt said,

'doesn't give a damn about the

Over the reception desk in

Room 565 of the Hall of Justice,

hangs what Frank Schober calls

the motto for his operation.

"OCC Mission," it reads, "To

advance the internal reality and

public perception of a San Fran-

cisco police force that is both

While most observers of the

SFPD expressed optimism that

Schober would at least get the

OCC to function smoothly, they

efficient and humane.

Said Britt, "You've got to

affirmative action suit (requiring

mayor's office.'

'GOOD OL' BOYS'

Speaking for CUAV, Randy Schell rated Schober highly "I'm impressed," said Schell. "He is a very personable man and seems to understand what the problems are." He said he was hopeful for Schober's plans with the OCC. He added that in protest demonstrations, CUAV and OCC plan to work together to monitor police behavior.

Lesbian police commissioner Jo Daly expressed hope for the OCC. Saying that she has always supported the establishment of the office—the only police commissioner to do so-Daly stated, "It stands to reason that the only way to control the police department is to make sure it (OCC) works. You have to have open communication with citizens so that a level of credibility can be proven." Then she added, "Police can actually get away with more when civilians do the investigating" because there is an "idea of sub-

Daly said that she felt the new director Schober. "In the long run, it'll help us have a better police department with fewer

Asked if she saw a particular problem between the Lesbian and Gay community and the SFPD, Daly said, "Relations between the Gay community and the police department are very good now, better than they ever have been."

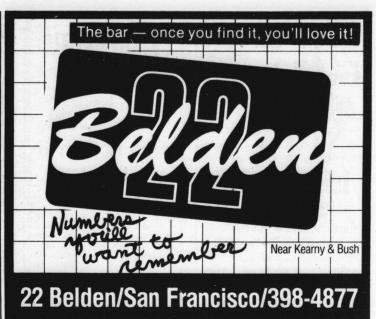
BRITT IS CRITICAL

Britt, long one of the chief supporters of a police review board, dismissed Daly's professed support for the OCC as idle words. "I have not seen any indication at all that the Police Commission wants this to succeed," Britt said. "They're still resisting the idea of citizen accountability and without that we haven't accomplished what we set out to do."

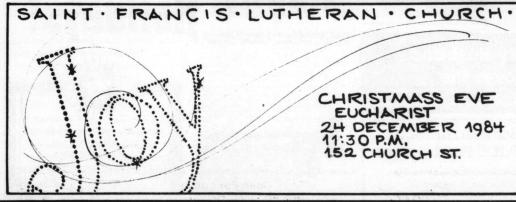
He cited a list of problems in

also doubted that City Hall was going to exert the leadership necessary to effect real change and demonstrate a commitment to police accountability. 'Schober may want it to work,' said one, "but do the higher authorities want it to work?"■

The Police Commission oversees the citizens' complaint office—and is no great supporter of the concept. Third from Contracts & Leases







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OUTLOOK

By DR. RICK PETTIT

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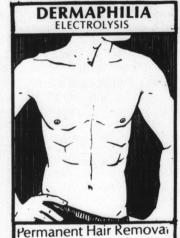
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HE CHURCH FOR UNITY AND SERVIC A CHURCH FOR US! Dec. 24: 11 PM Service eace Possible?

had just died.

Death has become a daily occurence frfom this disease in San Francisco, and the Gay community is uniting to survive. People are aware and responding in many ways.

Chaps, a large South of Market bar has been lighting a lightbulb for every \$5 donation As of Monday night, lights had lit a large Christmas tree, outlined the large balcony area and are beginning to cover the center bar. Almost 600 colored Christmas lights burn as a symbol of money that has been contributed to help the men with AIDS at

Sunday night, more than 500 people filled the Green Room of the Veteran's Building for the Shanti Project's Christmas party. Among those attending were volunteers who work with the organization, people with AIDS and hundreds of others who have been supportive in the past year. The warmth and love of the crowd cut the chill night air as they were entertained by Sharon McNight and Danny Williams with Jim Cvitanich portraying a provocative leather-clad Santa.

Holiday Singing Fills Ward 5-B

The Crisis Unites Gay Families As Community Remembers the Ill

It's not business as usual this Christmas season in San Francisco's Gay community. Beneath a facade of parties, fun and holiday cheer there is the commonality of a people responding to a deadly serious medical crisis.

Monday night the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus performed its most inspiring concert of the year. The presenta-tion took place on the fifth floor at San Francisco General Hospital, in the AIDS Ward. It was much the same music the group had performed the night before to a near-capacity aulience at Nourse Auditorium.

Last Thursday, the bubbly Rita Rockett held forth with a

Christmas family reunion at the

Castro Street Station. As men

danced atop a covered pool table

she talked of her planned Sun-

day brunch with the guys at the

AIDS ward at San Francisco

There were many events

planned to pull people together

during this holiday season. At a

lavish Christmas party the Mid-

night Sun unveiled a spectacular

holiday interior. The video bar

has been converted into a toy-

land encased in what would ap-

pear to be a giant ice cube. At

Cafe Sn. Marcos, Tom Amian-

no was a special guest enter-

tainer for the Gay Softball

League's annual Christmas par-

ty. In the Tenderloin, dozens of

Gay men and Lesbians have

joined others to help distribute

thousands of bags of groceries at

Festus, a new bar at 18th and

Collingwood Streets, has been

collecting Christmas toys for

kids in the Eureka Valley neigh-

borhood. Saturday afternoon

the presents, which now number

over 300, will be taken in Cala

Market shopping carts over to

the Eureka Valley Recreation

Saturday night Trinity

Episcopal Church hosts a com-

munity Christmas celebration

sponsored by the Lesbian and

Gay Ecumenical Alliance. Be-

ginning at 6 p.m., the music will

be presented by the Dick

Kramer Gay Men's Chorale

with a message by Lesbian Pres-

byterian minister Janie Spahr

The event is called, "Christmas

with the Family" and will be

The management of Troca-

dero Transfer is presenting a

of the San Francisco AIDS

e video segments from t

Foundation tonight, Thursday,

first Kaposi Sarcoma Benefit.

December 14, 1982. The theme

that year was "I Want to Live"

and featured the Fifth Dimen-

sion, J.P. Morgan and Carol

Christmas Eve the San Fran-

cisco Gay Men's Chorus will

again present their yuletide pro-

gram, "Now Sing With Hearts

Aglow." This year the simplici-

ty of the set design from previous

years is yet another reminder of the reality of AIDS. Frank Lo-

braico, who in previous years

had magically transformed the

Nourse Auditorium stage, died

Gary Wilson, who sang last

from the disease in mid-October.

Monday night to the people with

AIDS at San Francisco General

Hospital, will again sing with

the chorus. As he sings his two

solos he has grasped the reality

that this may be his last Christ-

mas. Just a few weeks ago doc-

tors told him he too had been

diagnosed with AIDS.

Center and given away.

Glide Church.

General.

Sunday night they sang to close to 1,800 people. Monday there were less than fifty. Director Ernie Veniegas and the chorus he directed gripped the ward with emotion and sensi-

The music was the sound of Christmas. Gary Wilson tenderly repeated the lyrics of "A Christmas Song," just as he had the night before. He commented how a year ago he sang at the hospital knowing his lover had just died of AIDS.

The group moved from room to room. Nurses were forced to thin the ranks of singers as they jammed the small hospital rooms. A dozen chorus members gathered around a man and sang as he lay in the intensive care unit. A family stood in a corner with tear-filled eyes as the chorus sang "Silent Night." A mother slowly opened a door so her son could hear the chorus sing "White Christmas."

A young woman asked a nurse if some chorus members could go to another area of the AIDS ward and sing to a member of her family. As they reached the room they were quietly turned away. The man

followed by a Christmas caroling party. party to honor all the volunteers Francisco General starting at 9 p.m. They will

Last Saturday morning, dozens of organizations joined together to bring canned foods and other items to the Castro Theatre to help stock the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Food Bank. The items to stock this unique food bank are being collected all over the city. At The Arena, a bar on Harrison Street, special nights are scheduled with customers getting discounts on their drinks when they make a donation.

Reporter that a security guard, or someone working in that capacity, was on duty at the Pride Center the day of the theft. This person saw someone, later identified as Effrim Baker, taking artworks out of the building. At that point Baker dropped

the art pieces he had dropped.

The guard picked out Baker.

Baker quickly got himself a lawyer, pleaded guilty and was let off with a 9-month maximum sentence, 2 years probation, and a \$100 fine. Finis Baker, but only the begining of the Gay and Lesbian art heist imbroglio.

Baker, before slipping behind bars, never revealed the whereabouts of the missing \$22,000 worth of art. The problem thus quickly became one of reimbursing the artists for the stolen artwork.

"I found out about the theft two days after the 18th of August," said Dean Paquette, who had lost two watercolors in the heist. "Tony Plewik (exhibit coordinator) called me and told me. I was very upset, mainly because we had been told in writing that the show was

Paquette described a letter he recieved from Holly Smith, "exhibit coordinator for the Pride Center Arts Committee." In the letter, which dealt with the technical aspects of putting up an art show vis a vis the individual artist, an entire paragraph stated that Paquette's work was being insured by the Pride Center, "from the point of delivery through the close of the exhibit.

In his call to Paquette, Plewik, according to the artist, told him to pick up his remaining artworks at Plewik's place of residence. At Plewik's residence Paquette was given a list of names and phone numbers so that he could keep track of what was being done to either retrieve the stolen art or reimburse the artist for it. The names were those of Plewik himself, Holly Smith, Brandy Moore (president of the Pride Foundation Board of Directors), and Inspector Craw-

Paquette called Crawford three times-no response. He called Brandy Moore once at the Pride Center-no response. He called Holly Smith-in a telephone conversation with Smith, Paquette later recalled,

But Stolen Art Wasn't Covered Finger-Pointing Galore in Post-Theft Embroglio; Art Show Thief Behind Bars But Questions Remain

Art Show Promised Insurance

On Aug. 18 a theft occurred at the Pride Center which began a concatenation of events which has divided, and put at odds, the San Francisco Arts and Athletic Commission, the Pride Foundation, and at least a score of Gay and Lesbian artists in the city. The theft was of 32 artworks valued at \$22,000. They were drawings, photographs and paintings from the first-ever Gay and Lesbian Art exhibit associated with the San Francisco Art Commission's Annual Art Festival.

and concerned for the artists.'

for Smith's position, and also for

Plewik's, but, "nevertheless I

felt he was responsible, he was

the coordinator of the show and

it was his responsibility to see to

it that the insurance being car-

ried by the Pride Center would

in fact cover any damage or theft

suffered by the pieces in the

In the meantime, back in

September, Brandy Moore of

the Pride Foundation issued a

news release in which it was

stated, "No insurance respon-

sibility for the event was ex-

pected of Pride, and Pride gave

no evidence that it would take

that he had been told for eight

months preceding the event that

the Pride Center would insure

the Gay and Lesbian Art Show.

"I wanted to cancel the show,

Plewik remembered, "but Del

Dawson (the administrator of

the Pride Center) said, 'Put it

When contacted, Plewik said

Paquette said he felt empathy

Burglary Inspector Tom Crawford told the Bay Area "I felt her feelings to be very genuine, (she was) very upset,

by Charles Linebarger

the pieces he was carrying and ran. The guard ran after him and saw a man getting into a BMW car. Mistakenly assuming, according to Crawford, that this was the thief, he took down the car's license plate number. The man driving the BMW was later tracked down and exonerated. Fortunately, however, the real thief had left fingerprints on

The relatively new San Francisco Police fingerprint computer matched up the fingerprints on the artworks with those of Effrim Baker, a man with an arrest record. Inspector Crawford showed the guard, who had seen the theft, half a dozen photos, including one of Baker.

> According to Plewik, he was told in the summer by Dawson

to use the same "insurance forms" that he had used for an art exhibit a year earlier when

the Pride Center opened. Apparently, according to Plewik these forms were typed on legal size paper and said in effect that the Pride Center takes responsibility for the works of art. The form also describes the pieces the individual artist was exhibiting in the show. These were

"To this very day they have not returned my calls," Plewik said. "All the artists are mad, I'm mad myself.

signed by Smith.

Brandy Moore spoke to the B.A.R. about the insurance controversy and said that only the Executive Committee of the Pride Foundation could take on a financial liability of this kind for the Foundation. He described first seeing the above mentioned "insurance forms" at a meeting between the Arts and Athletics Commission and various members of Pride's Executive Board some time after the

"At that time the meeting broke down," Moore said, "be cause no one can give that kind of liability for the Pride Foundation but the Executive Committee itself. There was also never any objective appraisal of the missing art. The figures they were putting out kept chang-



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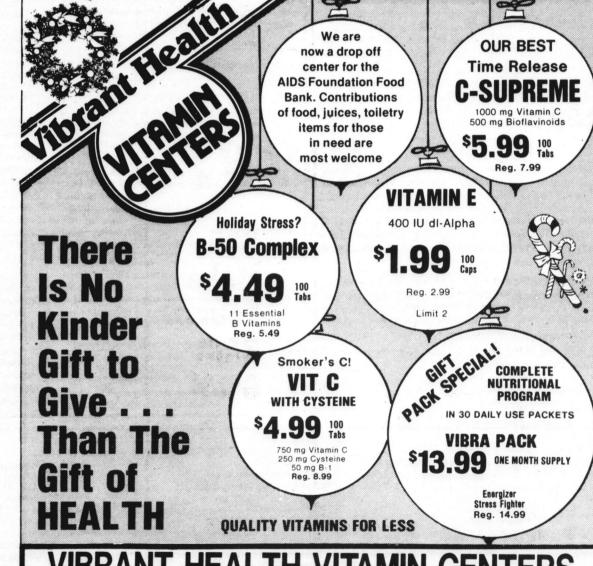
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VOL. XIV NO. 51 DECEMBER 20, 1984

NEXT ISSUE OUT: DECEMBER 27

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IEWPOINT

ETTERS

Here Comes the Sun

Jesus was born in late April or early May. The source of this heresy is the Gospel according to St. Matthew. Matthew said Jesus was born "while shepherds watched their flocks by night"-something they did late in springtime, when the lambs were aborning.

So if you are inclined to say "humbug" to the rushing hither and thither which accompanies these December days, your cause is not without merit. Early popes banned Christmas. So. too, did the pilgrims who settled Massachusetts. They fined citizens a pence for singing carols on the day which is not Jesus' birthday. The descendants, theologically speaking, of these yuletide party poopers, are today's Baptists. Baptists today are rushing hither and thither to place nativity scenes on everybody's City Hall steps. How times change. The nicest thing about timeless truths is how easily they are created.

Baptists might pale at the pagan roots of Christmas. The holiday predated Jesus by at least 20 centuries. Its origin is lost in prehistory. It has been variously celebrated by the sacrificing of virgins, the burning of logs, the giving of gifts, the reversal of roles between slaves and masters, and the drunken Roman revelry known as Saturnalia.

Why all the fuss? We're celebrating the coming of the sun, not the Son. On Dec. 22 or 23, the earth's northern hemisphere tilts as far away from the sun as it will during the year. Then it slowly begins to tilt back. We experience the shortest day of the year—the winter solstice. There was a time when people feared the dwindling days of autumn would continue to shorten until all light left the earth. Thus they sacrificed virgins. It worked. Every winter solstice, the days began to lengthen

There are several thoughts here for Lesbian and Gay people.

The first is that this is our holiday as much as anyone else's. Baptist revisionists and greeting-card manufacturers have created their own ersatz Christmas. Being selfish and unkind. they have cast the holiday in their own image. We have too often allowed that to happen, and walked away from this holiday because we did not relate. We can liberate the holiday. Whatever our spiritual preference, we can experience this festival—this solstice—as a time of joy, of hope, and of renewal.

The second lesson is that religions lie. Religions are people, and people err. Among these errors is the judgment that Gay is bad. All the major churches teach this lesson, and it is a source of great pain to our people. It gives comfort to say that the churches are wrong. Galileo has just been absolved of his sin of 400 years ago: He said the earth revolves around the sun. So it goes.

This holiday teaches a more important lesson. Beneath the imperfect, human covering of religion is something deeper and more profound. It has a million names. It is called the human spirit and it is called God. It is durable, irrepressible and wondrous. It is this quality which makes people want to do goodeven at a sacrifice. While rejecting religions, we may celebrate our spiritual selves, and draw strength from the limitless well of inspiration within us.

Life is a never- ending cycle rolling like a wheel. The solstice, whether celebrated as Saturnalia or Christmas, has been with us always. It remains a source of hope. This is the happie message: the darkest day is the origin of our renewal. Gay and Lesbian people may take heart.

It looks dark out there.

G

U

Here comes the sun.

(Div. of Benro Enterprises, Inc.)

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Brian Jones

No More Poppers

* We were distressed to see in the Dec. 13 B.A.R. a photograph taken at our Studstore opening over a year ago in which an employee is shown in front of a display of poppers. We are exceedingly distressed to have us shown as THE example, accompanying an article supposedly linking poppers to KS.

Both our mail order division and the Studstore ceased to carry butyl nitrate. We do not sell poppers and certainly do not recommend them.

> John H. Embry Publisher, Alternate Publishing San Francisco

Brutal Beating

* Several days ago, five animals (No, that is an insult to God's innocent creatures) five savages in the Mission jumped a decent, hardworking young man, without provocation. They so brutally beat him, that it took the doctors, in the emergency room, over a half hour just to get the contact lenses out of his eyes. He probably saved his life by rolling under a truck where they could not reach him any longer.

Early last Saturday morning I awoke, with a 'reading.' Although I am not a 'professional' psychic, I do have some ability.

One of the attackers will die by fire; one will discover his own homosexuality (as was the man they attacked); one will be shunned, by all, including his family, for all his life. The other two will be removed from society, but I was not 'given' how. I pray they read this-let them figure out, which one

Peter Zoe San Francisco

Seat! Seat!

* First, thank you for doing an important job in our Gay Community. Your newspaper serves us well. After reading your Dec. 6 issue, and after much thought, I must share my feelings with you and others.

I feel that you have not acted responsibly, nor in our best interests. On page 30 there was a large advertisement for a mail-order movie about "shit eating," torture, and permanent disfigurement.

Why do you allow these people to exploit this newspaper? I am not a moralist. I do believe in the first amendment. I also believe that what goes on in your home, short of injury or death, is your business, not

However, this kind of garbage truly belongs some place where we can choose exposure to it or not. This

Can we afford this kind of degradation with our community so desperately fighting for our lives and our selfrespect? Someone has got to draw the line. We really can use a responsible publication. Please.

> George R. Shebley San Francisco

No Barn

* The "new" debate on AIDS, the thoughtless attitudes of the interviewed "straights in the street," and the appallingly ignorant comments by the esteemed Dr. Volberding prompt a few overdue comments:

The public needs to know there has never been any decent coverage of AIDS in the Chronicle, it's haughty tolerance and Randy Shilts notwithstanding. The Bay

Area Reporter and Coming Up are the papers with cientific and sociologic coverage. Even the Examiner's occasional article displays more fact and warmth that the "sub-human interest" mentality of the Chron.

This conspiracy of denial, coupled with a bizarre folie a deux shared by straights and Gays alike regarding bisexuality, has become poisonous and inflammatory

Some facts: Well over a year ago, I heard an East Bay psychiatrist speak of the AIDS "barrier" and was shocked by his belief that fags and junkies live in strict isolation. Two months later, my former lover died of AIDS. He had been married for his last three years. Having watched several people die, I have taken to reading obits. A straight society San Franciscan dies of "a long illness." I know, as do officials, that is was AIDS. The story of the married Walnut Creek doctor died as quickly as he. Even more glaring, a noted pianist dies: Hodgkins Disease in the Chron; AIDS in the BAR. Humans are notorious dissemblers regarding drug use and sexual-practices.

It is time the Chronicle stopped encouraging the public delusion that AIDS is or ever was a Gay issue. It is time that Gays sent the kind of letter that has been appearing for years in our own press to the mainstream media. That's the only barrier. Straights may scream "The horse is out of the barn!" If true, that's rather old news. This is the real news: there never was a barn at all.

Edward F. Jordan, Ir.

Legitimate Suicide

* I was surprised in reading Brian Jones' article "It's Time to Talk About Suicide" that the slant of the piece seemed to avoid the idea that sometimes suicide is a legitimate out.

The strong Christian condemnation of suicide was never the case with the Romans or the more committed barbarians. What we call Moslem terrorist are in actuality members of a culture that believes ending one's life in the service of Allah to be an instant pass to paradise

With the AIDS crisis enveloping our world, who hasn't thought of suicide as a way out should the plague strike us. I don't think anyone has entertained thoughts of suicide less than myself. I'm afraid I might miss something, but given the choice of going through what some of my friends have gone through, I don't fear death as much as I fear the process that AIDS leads one through. I would support legislation that would allow people with AIDS to have the right to terminate their life at will.

Among my tribe, the Choctaw, suicide was a cowardly act, and was only justified if you were cornered in a no win situation, and you took as many enemies with you as possible, but then the Choctaw were a savagely pragmatic people who have degenerated since their

> Tom Youngblood San Francisco

Letter Policy

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

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

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POLITICAL EDITOR: Wayne Friday

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR: Dianne Gregory FINE ARTS EDITOR: George Heymont OFFICE MANAGER: Michael Snyde

TYPESETTING: Chal Cochran PHOTOGRAPHERS Rink Robert Pruzan AUDITOR/ACCOUNTANT: Robert J. Dern, C.P.A

CONTRIBUTORS Burney Allgood, Les Balmain, Michael Benzry, 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 Linebarger, 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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ETTERS

Wild About Woolly

As a visitor from New York, I want to say how much I enjoyed B.A.R. during my visit to San Francisco. It has to be the most professional Gay newspaper

I particularly enjoyed Woolly's article, "A Night In the Baths of Old Budapest," which was one of the funniest I have read in any publication

But why would anyone write in to complain how much more valid his trip was to the same baths, come up with the same conclusions and make it sound like

a mid-term paper for Sociology 101? I'd vote for more Woolly articles and fewer letters attempting a put down.

Larry Emder

Reagan the Grinch

* It shouldn't surprise anyone who has watched the rise of Ronald Reagan that his withholding of funds for AIDS blood testing is just one of the ways he keeps

Everything he has done as president has been designed with this goal: Make America of the 1980s into America of the 1930s. The evidence is all around. Walter Mondale warned of the "Secret Plan" to increase taxes. The ink on the election certificate was barely dry when Reagan's people started planning a flat tax. A flat tax penalizes the middle class. Reagan wants us in the position of the 1930s—broke and dying for lack of medical care and proper testing. In the 1930s it was diptheria. Now it's AIDS. The Reagan-rich will always have their medical care.

David Kaye

Feinstein on Sex

* Recently a writer in your Letter section, Billy Gaylord, declared it's wrong and unfair to attack or criticize Mayor Dianne Feinstein. His reasoning: she's supported public funding for AIDS treament. Her campaign to close the baths, he says, is solely prompted by concern for public health. Mr. Gaylord really ought to examine the Mayor's public career before he praises her motive for anything.

Those who saw her when she came to the Lesbiar and Gay communities when she was getting started saw she was an excellent executive and a well-trained professional 'politician. But very quickly it became noticeable that she'd go haring off on issues relating to sex when her own future made it more sensible not to make herself publicly ridiculous. One of her most extreme efforts was to pass a measure whereby porno book stores had to be a thousand feet from each other and five hundred feet from any dwelling. It's been the same story ever since, when sex comes in the door her usual good sense flies out of the window.

All too soon it was clear we had the familiar story with straight liberals, she's all for Gay rights but would find it easier if homosexuals didn't go to bed with persons of their own sex. It was also noticed that for years she flatly denied the existence of police harassment till it happened to her own aide when he crossed Collingswood Park at night.

What we have is a nonmedical person who feels she's competent to force medical authorities to carry out her policies. When interrogated about her sending of the police into the baths to spy, she replied she "saw no need for due process in the matter." At her urging and to save his job, Doctor Silverman hired plainclothe to spy on the baths, paying them out of City funds.

When two of the Supervisors remonstrated at Dr. Silverman's request for the money and funds for future spying, Doctor Silverman said he "probably" had violated the City Charter but justified his action on the grounds of its necessary secrecy. As is obvious, the Mayoress feels justified in breaking the law when her wishes concerning matters are entailed. Supposedly, no one is above the law in this country but apparently the Mayoress and Doctor Silverman are.

Where she now aims to go she doesn't, so she feels, need gay votes. From now on she had to enlist the Orange County contingent on her side if she's to win in state or national political contests. What better means than by showing she stood up to an issue relating to gay sex?

> Jordan Lee San Francisco

Homophobie Di

* The following was written to Mayor Dianne

I want you to be aware of some of the consequence of your "police can do no wrong (unless sex is involved)" policies, as well as the imposition of your archaic morality on the community at large.

In a matter of days, I learned of a friend having been injured by a hit-and-run driver while on his motorcycle. and a friend robbed at knife point by two young men. What the two incidents have in common is that neither was reported to the S.F.P.D. The reason for the lack of reports is the continuing decline in confidence in the police and city government on the part of the Gay

With police refusing to take action when the Casa

de Cristal was trashed by San Francisco firefighters. brutal misconduct against Gay men by other officers. gross over-reaction by police to increased meetings on the streets South of Market after your bath/private club closure ... it is no wonder Gay men avoid police contact whenever possible.

> James Andrew Nicholas San Francisco

Get Off My Dress

★ I wanted to write a letter to the editor long ago, before the baths were closed, to express my opposition, but I never sent what I wrote. I wanted to say that the baths issue is a civil rights issue; that AIDS is transmitted by what people do, and not where they do it; that there are ways to live around this crisis; that we need education, research, money for supportive care; that we have a crisis in our community; and that so many persons have risen to the occasion in loving support of Gay, Lesbian, and bisexual brothers and sisters who are experiencing severe grief and traumatic sudden loss. On top of it we daily face the twisted and fallacious logic, the morally superior attitudes, and the homophobic and oppressive rhetoric of elected city officials which is then taken, inflamed, twisted and sensationalized further by biased and irresponsible journalistic reporting, not to mention premeditated editing and editorialization of said relevant events in the Chronicle and the Examiner

What with Randy Shilts showing his true colors while expounding his sold-out viewpoints, quoting Feinstein herself with all the authority of a true flunkie, supporting such fallacious logic as the Mayor's own statements not worth repeating while calling "all" Gay leadership an "inept" "Bunch of jerks," apologizing for this state ment while ignoring the damage his irresponsible journalism has caused over the last several months, then expecting his apology is sufficient is really too much

Is there any end to this madness? I mean, it gets to the point where a girl barely has time to dress what with addressing every issue from dawn to dusk. My hair is a wreck, my nails are run ragged, and my cuticles are in shreds, to say nothing of my nerves. What with 10 committee meetings a week, countless funerals, and Big Brother gaining influence by the hour, I feel it is permissible to step outside of the realm of polite political rebuttal and would simply like to say to Dianne Feinstein, Mervin Silverman, John Ward, Larry Littlejohn, Randy Shilts, Judge Roy Wonder, Lawrence Brewster, the Examiner, the Chronicle, Jerry Falwell, and host of individuals with lesser roles who have acted out of hatred, committment to oppression for personal gain, prejudice, fear, hysteria, ignorance, and political per version on our "behalf," that these efforts are neither required further nor appreciated in the least, and that one and all can simply get off my dress!

Donald J. Gorman

Join Hands

* What does a Gay male and a feminist have in common? What possible common interest could there be for a Gay male and a woman seeking her choice of birth control? What does a Gay male and a woman desiring an abortion share? As a Gay male and a feminist I have ought to answer these questions for several of my friends, and I would like to share my thoughts with you.

Perhaps most obvious is the desire on all of our parts to have control of our own bodies. And the same forces are at work to prevent that for us all. Did you know or even care that there have been upwards of 24 health centers that provide woman-oriented services fire bombed this year alone? The same force that took it upon themselves to remove the "blight" of women care centers is the same force that firebombed a Gay bar in New Orleans that also housed a Metropolitan Community Church, killing 17 people. It's also the same force that gathers each and every Saturday right here in San Francisco-nowhere is immune. It's the same force that has repealed Gay rights legislation in cities across this nation, it's the same force that defeated the ERA, and it's the same force that's behind pickets in San Diego, where they picket Gay bars on Friday, abortion clinics on Saturday, and MCC church services on Sunday

Will they be picketing your home? Ponder that question for a moment and tell me one reason why peoples of all colors, sexes, and classes shouldn't join hands now, today, to fight the bigots who are loose on our land. Coalition building must start now, and it must start with you. What can you as a woman do for the Gay male community, or what can you as a male do for the women's community? Get involved! Donate some of your time, talents, and money to a health or political organization. Reach across-so much more can be gained through unity.

Oakland

In Appreciation

★ I would like to thank everyone for the warmth and love given to Joe Balsimo. George and Doug of Company thank you. I'm very grateful.

We will all see Joe again, so let's keep his smile in

Robert Tanguay San Francisco

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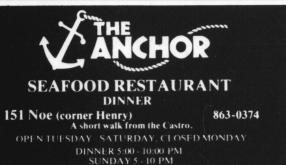
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Tree Trimmings

A tate Democrats have invited Geraldine Ferraro and New York Governor Mario Cuomo to address their convention next month in Sacramento and Colorado Senator Gary Hart is being urged to make an appearance as well ... Speaking of politicos, they do things big in the Big Apple. Friends of Mayor Ed Koch held a dinner last week in celebration of His Honor's 60th birthday and raised \$1.5 million in one evening-a big help in the mayor's re-election campaign next year

also in New York, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese announced last week that it is prepared to give up \$72 million annually in city funds for social programs rather than comply with Mayor Koch's order banning discrimination against Gays by any agencies receiving city funds. Archbishop John O'Connor said last week that his church "doesn't discriminate" but resents government encroachment into church activities.

I got burned on this rumor once before, but I'm hearing it again that Police Chief Con Murphy will retire sometime after the first of the year ... Even though the mayor of San Diego is on trial and his political career rests on the outcome of the court case, he remains very popular with that city's politicially active Gay community. The San Diego M.C.C. Church Choir performed at Mayor Hedgecock's recent inaugural

Speaking of mayors in trouble-Joe Corrigan, the mayor of Casper, Wyoming, resigned his office and a Casper teaching job recently after pleading guilty to misdemeanor sex and alcohol charges, after being accused by a 17-year-old Casper boy . . . Warren Hinckle has a new book coming out this week called "Gayslayer" ("How Dan White Killed Harvey Milk and Got Away with Murder"): (Silver Dollar Publications; ... don't count me among those who are applaud-Merv Silverman's resignation.

Seventy percent of all House of Representatives candidates supported last month by the Human Rights Campaign Fund won election . . . Anthony Garrett is back from a post-election trip to Paris and Israel there are six announced candidates to become the new Democratic party national chair and while all six are campaigning hard, insiders say that former Ted Kennedy aide Paul Kirk, now DNC treasurer, appears to have a slight lead for the post. New York Governor Mario Cuomo. however, announced last week that he is supporting San Franciscan Nancy Pelosi for the Demo party post.

In Oakland, City Councilman Wilson Riles Jr., who headed Jesse Jackson's East Bay presidential campaign this year, accused Jackson of political "betraval" last week when Jesse appeared at a fundraising breakfast hosted by incumbent Oakland Mayor Lionel Wilson, who Riles will be running against next April. The Oakland election is sure to get dirtier before this one is settled ... I don't care what they say about Randy Shilts, the series about AIDS that he did in last week's Chron with Katy Butler was brilliant-very well done . . . in Arlington, Texas, the City Council changed the name of Gay-



WAYNE FRIDAY

wood Drive last week to Garden Oaks Drive; the 18 residents who live there petitioned for the name change because a nearby park is known as a favorite of gays and residents somehow feared the name association.

The L.A. Times carried a front page story last week about life in San Francisco now; in part: "For the most part, life here (in San Francisco) has been good this season. The 49ers are winning big; Mayor Dianne Feinstein has just bought a \$1.5 million mansion; the restaurant strike is finally over, and the city is dining elegantly once again. But San Francisco, well-known for its lust for the good life, also seems cursed these days. The disease AIDS is spreading more rapidly here than in any other city in the nation, and last week city officials issued new warnings that threaten to put a crimp in the lifestyle that is central to San Francisco's image.

In Washington they say Rosalynn Carter is serious about running for the U.S. Senate in 1986 against Republican Georgian Senator Mack Mattingly . Other than the usual political skirmishes, political life in San Francisco during this month is

pretty dull unless you want to write an entire column based entirely on the gossip you hear at the endless Christmas parties. The elections are over and things are pretty quiet until after the holidays, so let me take this opportunity to wish the best of noliday wishes and good health in the New Year to some of the people who have made writing this column interesting for the past year: Mayor Dianne and Richard Blum; chef John Rob ertson of the Galleon; Jack and Louise Molinari; Dennis Collins; Nancy Walker; Peter Nardoza: Tom Horn: Liz and Dick Hongisto: Allan White: Suzie & Hadley Roff; Harry Britt; Bill Kraus; Doris Ward; Herb Caen; Cleve Jones; Walter Caplan; Bill Maher; Ron Smith; Mel & Lia Belli; Jim Bonko; Connie O'Connor; Sarah Wilcox; Jesse Hamlin; Con Murphy; Anthony Garrett; Cecil Williams; Gerry Parker; Milton & Carolene Marks; Duke Armstrong; Tom Peretti; Willie Kennedy; Sam & Betty Ducca; Ron Huberman; Dick Pabich; Gardner, Ed, & Hector; Bob Cramer; June Starling; Marque Murdock; Art Agnos; Karen Miranda; George Agnost; Gwenn Craig; Merv Silverman; Pat Norman; Dave Wharton; Carole Migden; Wendy Nelder; Chris Bowman; Carol Ruth Sil-

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cellos; John Laird; Zohn Artman; Ken Maley; Mike Housh; Lillian Sing; Tom Steel; Don Rogers & the Ginger's gang; Nancy Pelosi; Neil & Susan Eisenberg; Roger Hall; Paul Boneberg; Scott Smith; Wally Albertson: Gordon Armstrong Arlo & Helen Smith; June & George Banda; Scott Beach; Jeff Brown; Tim Brown of Carlsbad; Sue Cowan; Molly Campbell; Steve Cox (Carrottop); Herb Donaldson; Jim Foster; Bob Golovich; Warren Hinckle; Mike Hennessey; John Wahl; Uncle Don Williams; Tim Wolfred; Randy Alfred; Linda Post: Donald Cameron Scot; Randy Shilts; John van Huesden; George Mendenhall; Agar & Diana Jaicks; Mr. Marcus; Sylvie Jacobsen; Joe Daly; Tom Malloy; Brian Jones; Jane McKaskle Murphy; Anne Daley; the New Bell Saloon customers; George Masters; Randy Johnson; Sweetlips; Sal Rosselli; John Barber; Marcia LeRoy; Carol Farlowe; Sharon Johnson; Ken Cady; Mick Ri dolfi; Phyllis Lyon & Del Martin; Bill & Nancy May; Russ Glenn; David Binder; Diana Christensen; Randy Schell; Chris Puccinelli; Art Carter Tom Edwards; Reba; Leonard Mollet: David Kelsev: Thelma Shelley; Capt. Vic Macia; Ray Benson; Len Simpson; Laurie McBride; Charlie Howell; Jerry Berg; Jim Hormel; Brandy Moore; Cyr Copertini; Barbara Reilly; John Bardis; Lee & Pat Dolson; and all the many other friends and acquaintances I have made over the years—the best of Health to each of you.

Barbara Boxer; John Vascon-



Police Chief Con Murphy (Photo:



DEATHS

Richard Bachmann

Richard Hayes Bachmann, 37, died at his home Dec. 2 of AIDS, first diagnosed in Oct. 1983.

Born in Boston March 8, 1947, Richard was a graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York, attended the San Francisco Art Institute and was a member of the Screen Actors Guild. Richard was an artist and an actor, a great cook, and loved his friends, his garden, and God.

After several hospitalizations, he

decided to let his illness take its natural course and was helped to die peacefully at home by his friends Steve, Anthony, Mary, Gertha, John, Charlie and Bruce, as well as his new-found Hospice and Shanti friends Patricia Leigh and David.

Richard was brave and dignified and was, as he did not neglect to remind us himself, an "inspiration" to those of us who were around him these last months. We all feel privileged to have had the opportunity to have been able to participate in an experience which helped make the pain of losing him

Robert Filep

fices, all friends and acquaintances

who helped him, and gave their support when he needed it the most.

As he wished, there will be no

Donations in his memory may be

sent to Shanti Project, 890 Hayes

Sreet, San Francissco, CA 94117.

and/or S.F. Aids Foundation, 54

Tenth Street, San Francisco, CA

His close warm friendship

through the years brought me more

joy and happiness than I ever thought possible between two

friends. I'll miss so much attending

the theatre, which was our mutual

passion. Our yearly vacations in

New York to take in even more

theatre, watching movies and

favorite television shows together.

But most of all, I'll miss his humor

Gene Pellegrini

memorial or funeral services.

Robert Filep, best known to all of us whose lives he touched as Bo Fox, Jan. 17, 1984 with AIDS after being ill most of 1983.

(Bo Fox)

Bo is survived by his wonderful mother, Julianna, brother Ernest, sister Suzi, his brother's and sister's

He wanted me to thank everyone at Shanti Project, S.F. AIDS Foundation, doctors and staff at Kaiser Hospital, Hammill and Wolf law of-

Jeffrey Robert Jones

Jeffrey Jones passed away Nov. 30 at the age of 42. He is survived by his Mother, Pauline Jones of Santa Clara; his Brother, David Jones of San Jose; and by his Lover, Scott Gatewood of San Francisco. Jeffrey was diagnosed as having pneumocystis Nov. 5, prior to which he experienced normal health until only a few days before his diagnosis. Those who loved him are thankful that his illness was brief and

Jeff was a loving and honest man who gave far more to life than he ever took. He was the type that many fell in love with at first sight. I feel honored that I was the one he chose to spend his last two years with. He forever changed my vision of this life, and I pray his rest is



be made to The Shanti Project, The AIDS Foundation, or to San Fran cisco Children's Hospital who were so supportive to Jeff, his family, and his lover during his last few weeks God be with you my sweet beautiful man.

Ric Ryan

Ric Ryan passed away December 12 at the age of 29. He had been diagnosed as having AIDS in March 1983. A native of Massachusetts, Richard had lived in San Francisco for the past five years.

Ric is survived by his lover, Freddie Vieth; his wife; his parents; five brothers; one sister; several nieces and nephews; Darryl; and other caring friends. Funeral services were held in Massachusetts December 18. A memorial to Ric can be made in his name to: The AIDS Foundation of San Francisco, 54 10th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

Shnooks, you often asked if I would write this letter for you. I really thought I wouldn't have to. I look for you over my right shoulder where you always were when we'd walk together. I listen for your lifting weights first thing in the morningevery morning. I see you waving



goodbye to me as I leave for work and you stay behind. I never thought I'd miss our fights, but I do. The past four years were the best. I'l love you always, and anytime I start to miss you, I'll just look over my right shoulder and you'll be there. Goodbye Shnooks Pookie

Michael Warren Faulkner

A memorial by friends and family for Michael will be held at the Piedmont Community Church, 400 Highland Avenue, Piedmont, California on riday, Dec. 21. He died Dec. 16.

Michael grew up in Oakland and attended Skyline High School ('63), Merritt College and was graduated from San Francisco State University in 1969 with an M.A. in art history and languages.

After graduation, Mike lived in Barcelona, Spain for five year where he taught English and operated an import business dealing in primitive pottery and jewelry. He lived in Munich, Germany for three years where he taught English.



Upon returning to San Francisco in 1979, he was a partner in his remodeling business until opening the Pensione San Francisco Hotel and Caffe with two of his friends.

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4 Toast to Friendship. Amelia's bartender Jonna joshes with one of the regulars, Remy. (Photo: Rink)

ON THE OFF BEAT

How to Meet Lesbians

MIKE HIPPLER

ho was the first dyke I ever knew? Ah yes, Miss Pitts. Miss Pitts-honestlywas my seventh grade French teacher. She was without a doubt the strictest, meanest woman in the world. With her short-cropped, jet-black hair, her pointed, heavy-rimmed glasses, her menacing stare, her thickset build, and her threatening stance, she was not only a fearsome and formidable presence but also the very picture of stereotypical bull-dykedom. The woman would have made a perfect Marine drill sergeant.

Of course, I didn't know she was "that way" at the time. I didn't find that out until years later, long after I had learned to see past the gruff exterior to the heart of gold beneath and to value her as one of my all-time favorite teachers. Poor Miss Pitts. I was in college when the news rocked the church congregation at home that my former French teacher was having an affair with the wife of one of the most respected businessmen in the community. This was a woman who sang in the church choir, for God's sake, whose sons were in Boy Scouts with me. But this respectability didn't stop her from leaving her husband when Miss Pitts beckoned. (Many are called, but few was scandalized, naturally, but

I for one was delighted. I don't think I met another Lesbian until my college days, when I joined the university's Gay Alliance. There were only a few brave souls in the Gay Alliance, alas, and because there were so few of us, we drew together quickly and didn't bother to discriminate among each other on the basis of minor differences, like gender. Men got along with women and women with men. And that's the way I liked it, the way it should be, I reasoned—but not the way it was for long.

When I moved to the Big City, I found that men and women rarely socialized with one another. There was no need. With greater numbers came greater opportunity, and this usually meant the opportunity to specialize. Women went to women's bars, and men went to

men's bars. Most Gay people I met were too busy pursuing their own particular visions of Utopia to bother about the larger picture. Boyfriends and girlfriends came first and the Gay community as a whole second.

This was a shame, I-thought, but I soon found myself playing the same game. In my address book there were many Steve's and Paul's and Bob's but not too many Sally's or Jane's. (There were plenty of Miss Velma's and Sister Girlene's, of course.) I began to fear that Miss Pitts was fated to be the sole Lesbian I would ever know. This was my own fault, I realized. If my interests extended to areas other than the crotch, I might have

intermission, "when I was in high school I was forced to take a course on human sexuality, and my teacher, lovely dimwit that she was, taught us emphatically while discussing homosexuality that all Lesbians hated men. It had something to do with their fathers. If I took that little number we just saw seriously, I'd have to believe that there is some truth to that."

A gorgeous young woman to my right flashed her fiery eyes at me and snarled, "Yeah, I heard that, and some of us do

I decided to try an avenue other than the theater to make

'She in turn told us that her name was Hey Lynn - or Helene, I couldn't tell which.'

One day I resolved to change all this. "I am going to meet Lesbians," I said. The trouble was how to do it. I knew that Lesbians hung out around political clubs, but that seemed a dull prospect. I was a little afraid to enter dyke bars. I had little chance of being invited to a potluck dinner, and in the papers I saw no notices for literary roups gathering to discuss Rubyfruit Jungle. At last, however, I saw an ad for a play at Fort Mason produced by a woman's theater group, Lilith. The play seemed harmless enough, and I knew I'd feel at home in the theater. So I called my friend John and dragged him

Did I feel the least bit uncomfortable because John and I were the only two men in the theater? Not me. Did I feel at all out of place? Not a bit. I did squirm a little, however, when one of the actors on stage brandished a gigantic pair of garden shears and sang a little ditty about how she'd like to castrate all the men in the world. Not just rapists, mind you, and not just straight men, but all men. That included me.

"You know," I told John at

t was then that I saw that the Strand was to feature a movie I had always wanted see. This time I called my friend Lionel and said, "Lionel, there's this great movie we have to see, and it'll be the perfect place to meet Lesbians. It's called The Women, and you know the place will be swarm-

The place was swarming, all right, but not with women. The place was filled with Gay men. and there was nary a woman in sight. No wonder. Self-respecting women could hardly be expected to enjoy a movie that portravs females as vicious, catty. spiteful, mean-spirited, and low, or a movie in which the heroine's mother sums it all up by saying, "I know my sex." No wonder, too, that my sisters enjoyed it. 'We seem to have a different sense of humor than the dykes, I told Lionel. The gap, instead of narrowing, seemed to widen.

It was a sense of humor, however, that drew me into a woman's bar at last. A group called Pussies on the Prairie, a Lesbian Country and Western band, was scheduled to play at Maud's on Cole Street, and this time I enlisted my friend Russell

(Continued on next page)

Lesbians

(Continued from previous page) for support. "You'll love it," I promised him. "Besides, I need

Russell did not love it, but I did, mostly because right away I felt at ease. Nobody cared that we were there. They were all having too good a time to bother about us. So when Pussies on the Prairie sang (to the tune of "Skip to My Lou"), "Hey, hey, the gang's all here, Same old crowd every year. What do you do with a bunch of queers? Have a good time, cowgirls," I sang along and had a ball. I also ran into every woman acquaintance I had in town that night—both of them-and they were delighted to see me. Or so they said.

On a subsequent trip to Maud's I took note of finer details that indicated the character of the place. The bar keeps a supply of B.A.R.'s and Sentinel's by the door, for instance -papers which purport to serve the entire Gay community but are directed mainly at men. "That's nice," I thought. 'That's either broad-minded of them or desperate, one." I also learned that the bartender's roommate was a Gay manproof that my high school sexuality teacher was a liar.

Finally, I saw that not everyone was a woman. In fact, at my end of the bar stood three separate Gay male couples. I was glad that they were welcome, but I began to worry about the sanctity of the place. Co-mingling was my object, true, but I couldn't help thinking that women might resent this invasion of their privacy. If heterosexuals invaded a Gay bar, for instance, I wouldn't mind, but I wouldn't appreciate their taking over the place. Perhaps women need a place to call their own as well. But as Maud's seemed in no imminent danger of attack by men in chaps and alligator shirts, I decided to let the matter drop.

Nementina's Baybrick Inn was the next stop in the U Road to Integration. Buoyed by my successful night at Maud's, I took my friend Tom to hear a jazz group—a co-ed jazz group, mind you. Because Clementina's features live entertainment, it's a perfect place for Harmony and the Greater Good of Man and Womankind (such as myself). The entertainment provides the means to avoid standing around feeling foolish and out-of-place. It also provides the opportunity to mingle with those nearby. "Having a good time?" you might say casually to a neighbor.

"Having a good time, boys?" a woman danced over and asked Tom and me. We replied in the affirmative and introduced ourselves. She in turn told us that her name was Hey Lynn-Helene, I couldn't tell which. Whatever, at last a chance for a Lesbian friend! One thing soon led to another (as it always does): cocktails led to life stories. life stories led to dancing, and dancing led to ... no, it was impossible, but I could have sworn I saw Hey Lynn copping a feel from my poor unsuspecting sister, Tom. Before long, it was obvious. There was no escaping it. Hey Lynn was definitely trying to pick Tom up.

"What gives?" I asked Tom. "Just how Gay is this girl?"

"Who knows?" he returned. "But let's scoot before we find

The incident with Hey Lynn pointed out something that should have been obvious all along. Although we have much in common, Gay men and women have two fundamentally different objectives in life-they

want women and we want men (even if Hey Lynn seemed to want anybody). This point was further emphasized on a recent ski trip to the mountains with my friend Bob. Stopping off in Sacramento

on the way, we decided to hit the nearest Gay bar for a little fun and excitement. This turned out us to look at at the Forum. to be the Forum, a dreary, Greco-Las Vegas atrocity peopled largely by women. Whatever attracted them to such a place I cannot imagine, but attracted they were, and Bob and I soon found that in a sea of women the problem was that there was little to attract us.

Even though neither of us was looking for Mr. Right that night

and could have found fun and excitement with any number (or kind) of people, we realized that despite the best intentions, any evening's entertainment value is argely controlled by what we dubbed the Cruise Factor (i.e., even if you don't wanna fuck, it's still fun to look). Unfortunately, there wasn't much for

I gave up the search for women friends soon after that. Oh, I may still drop into Maud's or Clementinas' maybe even Amelia's from time to time, but I learned a few things during my Lesbian Odyssey. I found that it's easy to feel comfortable surrounded entirely by women but that comfort isn't enough. Creating significant bonds

depends on shared interests and experiences, and at present, despite the things we do have in common, there is more that sets us apart. Oh, some Lesbians and Gay men get along, certainly God knows, the boys and girls down at Valencia Rose seem to get along great. But I honestly believe that they are the exception to the rule.

I suppose that someday some Lesbian will walk up to me and say, "I wuv you. Will you be my fwiend?" In the meantime, though, I'll just have to be content with my friend Keaton. She's straight, true, but she drives a pick-up truck.

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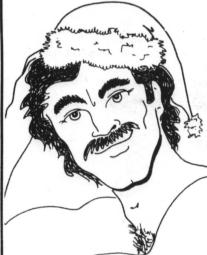
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WILD AND WOOLLY

Bouquets and Brickbats: A Look at 1984

ED NOTE: Dewey-Defeats-Truman media award of the year goes to the Advocate, which hit the streets Nov. 26 with its "Year in Review" issue. The month of December has been cancelled, you may sing Auld Lang Syne and go home now ... not to be outdone, the B.A.R's dauntless humor columnist, Woolly, looks at the picks and pans 1984—it's some dish.

The Golden Gate YMCA,

which closed the steam room

because of the man-to-man ac-

tion, while continuing to adver-

tise in the Gay press for new

• The Hamlet Decisiveness in

Action Citation: Supervisor

Harry Britt for his soliloquy,

"To close or not to close . . . that

• The Gore Vidal/Wm. F.

Buckley Outstanding Bitch Fight of the Year: Joan Rivers

and Michael Jackson.
• The D.H. Lawrence Sons

and Lovers Award: The Dad-

dy's Boy contest at the S.F.

is the question.

• Gay Ghostbusters of the Year: Virginia Apuzzo, executive director of the National Gay Task Force, and Bill Kraus, aide to Sala Burton, for their work in getting Gay Rights back into the Democratic Party

The Clara Peller "Where's the beef?" Award: The Arena for its Bare Chest Contests. Great buns, too.

• Gay History of this or any Year: the National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights . 100,000 strong.
• Best Buddies of 1984: Kevin

Klein (Pirates of Penzance) and William Hurt (Body Heat); after making The Big Chill, which apparently wasn't. Miss Congeniality: Randy

Shilts, for generalizing that all rather than some, Gay leaders are inept, loony and self-serving. · Heavenly Gross Out of the Year: Long Dong Silver, 181/2 inches (BAR 8-16). Or, what do you use that thing for-Trout Fishing in America?

• Best On Campus Recruitment Drive of 1984: Sheriff Mike Hennessey for his Deputy Night at Chaps.
• Survivor of the Year: Rep.

Gerry Studds, formally censured for an admitted homosexual affair with a 17-year-old Congressional page, won renomination and reelection by a wide margin in Massachusetts. • The Trivial Pursuits Citation: Supervisor Wendy Nelder for almost any legislation she

• Graffiti of the Year: This Madness Must Cease, which appeared around town from Hallowe'en to Election Day.

• The Thornton Wilder Memorial Our Town Award: The newly incorporated and Gay dominated municipality of West Hollywood.

• The Better Late Than Never Pronouncement of 1984: The Wall Street Journal for "Gays will be the main political force of the decade.

· Startling Insight of the Year: You never see them together ... that's because Angela Lansbury is Paul

• Malice in Wonderland Citation: Supervisor Quentin 'Revulsion" Kopp, who showed how to alienate 70,000 voters in one easy lesson.

• Turn About (Credible) of 1984: Ed Davis, former homophobic police chief of L.A., who became a Gay Rights advocate.

• Turn About (Incredible) of 1984: Kevin Star; anti-Gay Ex-. aminer columnist, who suddenly revealed himself as pro-gay just in time to run for, and be defeated for, public office.

· Buzzword of the Year: Yuppies, which was immediately followed by Guppies—Gay Urban Professionals-which is fine, if you don't mind being equated with fish food.

· Shirley MacLaine Commemorative Den Mother Award: Lee Meriwether, former Miss America, who did not get axed for playing a Lesbian in the local production of Blue Fish Cove or for officiating at the Castro Dog Show.

Sexual Confusion of 1984:

• Sexist Citation for 1984: Helen Gurley Brown's Cosmo-politan for "All male roommates at 7 a.m. look appropriately rumpled but yet adorable. They exude innocence and sort of a helpless charm. All female roommates at 7 a.m. look like Lon Chaney. No one knows why this is true but it is."

• The Great Outdoors Adventure of the Year: Ringold

• Fun Couple of 1984: Those friendly folks from the Family Forum, Jerry and Phyllis

• Trendy In Spot for Non-gays: Hamburger Mary's. For Gays: The Hard Rock Cafe. • Dukes of Hazzard for 1984: Armstrong, on one side, for

representing Gay voters at the

Republican National Conven-

tion; on the other side, Deukmajian, for vetoing AB-1.
• Fond farewell of the Year: Orgy rooms, the clone look and especially Pure Trash.

The Last Hurrah in 1984: Tennesee Williams, Truman Capote, Lori Shannon, John Sims, Bobbi Campbell and more than 600 of the



Pecs of the Year, if not of the month, paraded across The Arena stage in 1984. This guy won't be on your calendar so we decided to give you a look. Clip and save. (Photo: R. Pruzan)



Miss Congeniality, Randy Shilts, shown here putting the evil eye on an unnamed animal rights activist. (Photo: Rink)

Decking the Halls at Shanti Residences

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The focus of the Shanti Residence Program, which provides permanent homes for persons with AIDS, is independent living. People with AIDS, however, don't always have the energy and resources to create a festive holiday spirit. This holiday season, the Shanti residents are receiving assistance from the community in making this a special Christmas. The Shanti "Adopt a House for the Holidays" program has become an important part of the holiday season for residents of the six Shanti houses.

The holiday adoption program is bringing together residents of each of the six Shanti houses with a community group which has volunteered to help make the holidays a special time. The first challenge for the adopting groups, which this year include the Gay Softball League, Dignity and Shanti volunteer practical support groups, is to determine what is appropriate for the specific house they have adopted. Since the residents in the Shanti houses retain control in their lives by making decisions on how they live independently, interaction between the sponsoring groups and residents to determine what is needed and wanted is essential.

One group, for example, found that the residents of their "house" were too ill to participate in traditional festivities such as tree trimming and parties. So, members of the sponsoring group have organized into teams for visiting residents during the holidays and having planned decorations for residents' bedrooms rather than the living room of the house.

Todd, a resident of another Shanti house, was excited as he told about his plans for Christmas. "We're trying to make a home out of this place," he said. "It's a bright environment, not a gloomy atmosphere, and we are all getting along well." Todd told me that representatives of the group sponsoring his house,

the Gay Softball League, had attended a house meeting where plans were made. Residents and some softball leaguers are going shopping for a tree together. Part of the fun, Todd says, is making new friends to share Christmas with. Another resident of Todd's

house has sent back east to have his own Christmas tree decorations shipped—decorations he thought he would never use

A Christmas party at this house is also planned. It will be co-sponsored by the residents of House #5 and the Softball League, with the League providing most of the refreshments, decorations, etc. Todd was especially excited about the party because they have decided to



Deck the Boughs with hauls of folly. Members of the Gay Softball League share holiday cheer with residents at Shanti house. (Photo: Rink)

invite the residents of all the other Shanti houses, many of whom Todd hasn't met.

"I wouldn't normally buy tree and put it up by myself,' Todd said. "It will be fun to have someone else to do ti with. That's what Christmas is for me, people and friendship.'

Each Shanti residence will have its own special holiday festivities, thanks in part to residents who want to share new friendships and to people from the community who know how to be good friends and good

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Trustees Elect Gay Lawyer Horn Prez of Arts Center Board

The War Memorial Board of Trustees elected Gay attorney Thomas E. Horn as its president and Claude M. Jarman, Jr., Vice President on Dec. 13. The War Memorial Board of Trustees sets policy and oversees the operation of the War Memorial and Performing Arts Center, which includes Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall, Harold L. Zellerbach Rehearsal Hall, War Memorial Opera House and the Veterans Building, which houses the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and Herbst Theatre.

Horn, who has served as Vice President of the War Memorial Board of Trustees for the past two years, was appointed to the Board in May of 1981 by Mayor

of New Mexico, an honors graduate of the University of New Mexico, received his law degree from U.C.L.A. in 1971, and is currently in private practice in



Shanti volunteers provide important emotional support to persons with AIDS and



Six Shanti residences provide permanent homes for persons with AIDS.

THANK YOU

With the holiday season upon us, we at Shanti Project want to say something important to you that has been on our minds and in our hearts for some time.

TO OUR COMMUNITY: You have been magnificent throughout this difficult time. We are proud to be a part of a community that has responded to human need in so many ways. Donations of goods and services have helped us provide important services to people with AIDS and their loved ones. Your generous contributions have provided us financial support and stability. Your spirit of giving has made the difference. Please know that you are deeply appreciated by all of

TO OUR CITY: No other city in the world has responded financially to the AIDS crisis as generously as has San Francisco. Shanti funding from the City has been significant and without it much support to persons with AIDS could not have been provided. All. those who have spoken on our behalf have our deepest

TO OUR VOLUNTEERS: This year you have given over 60,000 hours of direct service to persons with AIDS and their loved ones. You have demonstrated great courage in going past your own fear to be there for your brothers and sisters. We are truly in awe of what you have done and we love you.

TO OUR CLIENTS: Last, and most important, to those who have AIDS and to their loved ones, thank you. Thank you for sharing your courage and love with us. Thank you for giving us perspectives on living and loving we wouldn't have discovered without you. Thank you for touching our hearts, opening our minds and feeding our souls.

With love and affection, The Board and Staff of Shanti Project

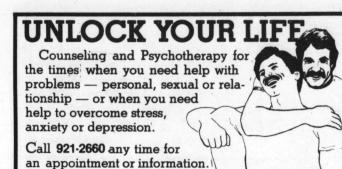




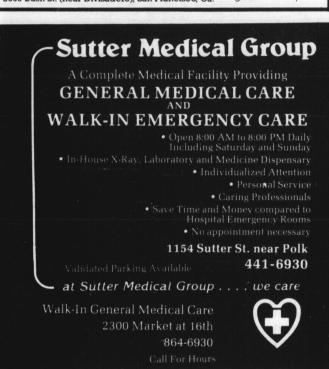
Shanti practical support volunteers do shopping, cleaning and other tasks for persons with AIDS.

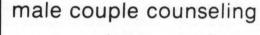


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Gay Man to Sue Over Firing From White House Job

DION B. SANDERS

EDITOR'S NOTE: This issue marks the return of Dion Sanders to the Bay Area Reporter after an absence of four months. Sanders, winner of two Gay Press Association awards, will cover national and international Gay news

n openly Gay man who was fired last January from his job as a White House transcriber said that he will file a lawsuit challenging the withdrawal of his security

Killian Swift, a Washington, D.C. resident, worked as a transcriber of presidential speeches and press conferences from 1981 until his firing. His former employer, Koba Associates, Inc. dismissed him after being notified by the White House that Swift was considered a risk to national

According to Harvey Friedman, Swift's attorney, the White House did not offer any explanation for its decision to revoke Swift's security clearance.

"The White House refused to explain its internal thinking," Friedman told The Washington Blade. Anywhere else, Killian (Swift) would have been notified of (any) charges against him."

Swift suspects that his security clearance was revoked solely because he is Gay, since his sexual orientation was known to company officials and to the White House. He acknowledged, however, that his suspicions are based on hearsay and may not be proven.

In its original security check on Swift, the Secret Service found that Swift was treated in 1972 for depression and that he was tagged with a speeding ticket in 1975.

Officials for the White House and the Justice Department refused to comment on the case, because of the impending

Friedman said that he will charge the White House with violating Swift's constitutional right of due process by not giving Swift an explanation for its withdrawal of his clearance, and for refusing to allow his client to challenge its decision through internal channels.

"We want to know why Killian was denied his clearance, and we want the opportunity to challenge that before a federal judge," Friedman said.

Swift now works part-time at the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the national Gay political action committee.

Custody Fight Rages On

A San Diego Superior Court old boy, caught in a custody battle between his Gay father and his anti-Gay fundamentalist mother, remain in a foster home until another hearing is held in the six-year-old dispute.

Judge Judith McConnell denied custody of Brian Batey to either of his divorced parents. Frank and Betty Lou Batey, on the grounds that Frank "is defensive about his lifestyle, and that Betty Lou had brainwashed the boy to her fundamentalist Christian beliefs.

McConnell's order did not overturn a two-year-old court order granting custody of Brian to his father, however. McConnell based her decision to keep Brian in a foster home in part on the fact that five psychologists testified that Brian so much wants to be with his mother that he "would become a runaway" if he was returned to his father.

McConnell added that Frank

Batey had lied to the court about high court had refused to review his ability to support Brian and a lower court's decision upthat he had become very defensive about his homosexuality in holding a Virginia law banning

On the other hand, McConnell ruled that placing Brian in his mother's custody would place him "in grave danger" of being "regressed intellectually and academically."

the face of Mary Lou Batey's

unrelenting anti-Gay diatribes

The judge also cited Mary Lou Batey's kidnapping of the boy after she lost custody of him in 1982. For two years prior to that and for another 18 months afterward, Mrs. Batey and Brian lived with a fundamentalist Christian sect in the Midwest.

Mrs. Batey, moreover, is under a contempt-of-court citation for refusing to turn Brian over to his father and is under a criminal indictment of felony child-stealing in taking the boy to the Midwest in defiance of the court granting custody of Brian to his father.

Despite her refusal to allow Brian to stay with Frank Batey, McConnell declared that the boy—contrary to his mother's assertions-was in no danger from either his father or his father's lover.

The judge said that contrary to published news reports, there is no evidence that Brian has ever been molested, nor even felt threatened by either Mr. Batey or by his male companon," McConnell said.

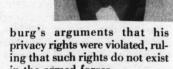
Brian Batey was placed in his mother's custody after she and Frank Batey divorced in 1979. Frank Batey sued for and was granted custody in 1982 after Mrs. Batey steadfastly denied Frank visitation rights and after psychological reports showed that Brian was having emotional and educational problems.

Ousted Gay Navy Man Loses Appeal

The U.S. Second Circuit Court of Appeal has refused to review a lower court's ruling upholding the ouster of openly Gay petty officer James Dronenburg from the Navy.

The court rejected, 7-4, Dronenburg's appeal of a ruling by the federal district court in Washington that the right of privacy does not apply to homosexual acts, or for that matter. any sexual acts outside of

Dronenburg was dismissed in 1981 under a newly-instituted regulation declaring homosexuality "incompatible with military service." Dronenburg sued, but the district court, headed by Reagan-appointed Judge Robert H. Bork, rejected Dronen-



But Bork and Judge Antonin Scalia, both of whom are reported to rank high on President Reagan's list of possible Supreme Court appointments, went further and declared that homosexuals have no right to privacy. They cited a 1974 U.S. Supreme Court decision. The

homosexual acts in private. Attorneys for Dronenburg are reluctant to appeal to the Supreme Court, fearing an adverse ruling, given the fact that the issue revolves around military policy, rather than civilian law.

* * *

Court Upholds NY Mayor's Pro-**Gay Policy**

A New York state court judge has upheld an executive order by New York City Mayor Edward Koch which requires that private agencies doing business with the city not discriminate against Gays in employment.

Judge David Saxe, ruling on a challenge to the order by the New York Catholic Archdiocese and the Salvation Army, declared that Koch's Executive Order 50, in force since he took office nearly seven years ago, is

An injunction against enforcement of the order remains in effect, however, pending appeal by the Archdiocese to the New York State Court of Appeals.

Meanwhile, the Diocese of Brooklyn broke ranks with the Archdiocese and expressed its willingness to comply with the

Brooklyn Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Sullivan told *The New* York Times that while the Brooklyn Diocese does not approve of homosexuality, the Diocese would lose a huge chunk of its workforce if it was to dismiss all of its employees for violating church teachings. Moreover, Sullivan said, "a contract is a contract," and implied that the Diocese could be sued for breach of contract if it defied the mayor's executive order.

Gayness Not Limited to Humans Writer Reveals

Lawrence Maddy, columnis for the Virginia Pilot of Rich mond, revealed the results of a state-commissioned study of the mating habits of bald eagles at Caledon State Park. The study. conducted by the Virginia Department of Parks and Recreation, found that of 80 bald eagles observed at the park, only two mated heterosexually.

Maddy reported that the others-mostly male-mated with other male bald eagles.

He quoted assistant Parks and Recreation commissioner Dennis Baker as saving that these Gay eagles "spend a lot of time cruisng-er, foragingabove the trees.'

GREATER BAY NEWS



Strike Up the Band. Helen Harder, l., with other members of Lemoore Field 4th Corps Women's Band, 1943. (Photo: Lesbian Herstory Archives)

Tomboy, Teacher, WAAC, Activist — Harder Packed a Lot Into 66 Years

They Called Her 'Slugger' in the Army; Later She Helped Found National Organization for Women Chapter in Nevada

by Gerard Koskovich

Archivist, Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford

Eleanor Frances Harder, nee Sugg, of Redwood City —known to her friends as Helen Harder —succumbed Nov. 29 after a prolonged struggle against cancer. Harder came out as a Lesbian in the 1930s, served in the military in World War II, was a long-time feminist activist, and also was a mother and public school teacher.

Harder was born on March 15, 1918 to an upper-middle class family in Wilmington, North Carolina. She attended elementary and high school there, graduating in 1934, and went on to study music and English at Flora MacDonald College in Red Springs, North Carolina, where she received her bachelor's degree in 1938.

Harder was first introduced to Gay life in 1933-34 by a young man she had known in high school. "It was like coming out of the darkness into the light, she said in a 1984 interview. Harder was noted in her last year of high school and in college for her "tomboy" styleclosely-bobbed hair, frequently worn in a pompadour, pants. sports coats and masculine neckwear. Harder met no other Lesbians in Wilmington, however, and had to "keep her hairpins up" until she left for college, where she became lovers for three years with her roommate Shortly after their graduation, Harder's lover married and went straight.

Following college, Harder taught music in the Wilmington School District for two years. Among her many activities while teaching, Harder directed the "All Star Faculty Review" at Roper High School in Plymouth, North Carolina, a production in which she played two travesti roles: the Prince of Broadway and Uncle Sam.

During this period, Harder



Helen Harder (Photo: Lesbian Herstory Archives)

became lovers with the sister-inlaw of the Dean of Flora Mac-Donald College, a relationship which she described as "idyllic. The affair came to an abrupt end when it was discovered by the young woman's mother, who withdrew her from school and forbade her to contact Harder. Harder responded to the trauma by "quitting teaching and going on a three-month drunk" to use her own words.

A Gay male friend came to Harder's rescue at this time by finding her employment as a railway clerk, Harder later worked as a civil servant, then-taking advantage of the positions open to women in the traditionally male-dominated shipbuilding industry due to war-time labor shortages—as a welder at a shipyard in 1943.

Harder joined the United States Armed Forces at the end of the same year, serving for the duration of World War II with the Women's Army Air Corps (WAACs). She took Link flightinstruction training at Lemoore Field, California, then acted as a ground instructor in instru ment flying at Fort Oglethorpe Georgia, and Gardner Field California. During the final six months of her military service, Harder participated as a violinist and comedian in a domestic GI show tour, "How About It?" She received the Good Conduct medal and was honorably discharged with the rank of corporal in 1945.

During her service in the Army, Harder developed an extensive network of Lesbian and Gay friends, who nicknamed her "Slugger." Along with this group, she frequented several of

(Continued on next page)

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Helen Harder

(Continued from previous page)

the Gay bars popular in wartime San Francisco. Harder barely escaped involvement in an anti-Lesbian purge in which a number of women were dishonorably discharged at Gardner Field in 1944. In 1982, San Francisco historian Allan Berube interviewed Harder about these experiences for his research on Lesbians and Gay men in the Second World War.

After the War, Harder returned to Wilmington, making it a home base for extended travels in the South and to Northern and Western states. In 1949, she moved to Chicago, where she supported herself as a hasher and cannery worker, then to the Los Angeles area, where she found employment in a bearing factory and a cannery.

For varying periods, she worked as a California and federal civil servant, a choral instructor and choir director, a music teacher and a chicken and rabbit rancher. By her own estimate, Harder held none of these positions for longer than two-and-a-half

Harder continued with active involvement in an extensive Gay and Lesbian friendship network in Southern California. The group included both new friends and individuals she had met during the War. Harder remained in contact with a number of these friends throughout her life, and several of them traveled to the Bay Area to visit her during her final illness.

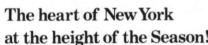
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During the immediate post war period, Harder also maintained her most lasting relationship, with a woman she had met near the end of the War and had followed to Chicago and Southern California. In a 1984 interview, one of Harder's long-time friends remembered the couple as clearly devoted to one another, but quarrelsome and frequently disagreeable. The latter tendency ultimately led to a falling out that put an end to the

In 1959, Harder gave birth as a single mother to her only child, a son. The father, David Linser, was a Gay man with whom she had attempted to found a syncretic Christian sect. Harder lost contact with Linser a few months before the birth. Three years later, she married and set up housekeeping in Westminster, California. Wishing to provide the appearance of a customary home-life for her son in an era when sexual "deviation" was severely condemned, Harder largely dissembled her Lesbianism during the next 10 to 15

In 1966, Harder separated from her husband after studying for an elementary teaching credential at California State College at Long Beach. She moved with her son to Beatty, Nevada, a desert town of 500 inhabitants, 120 miles northwest of Las Vegas, where she taught fifth and sixth grades at the Beatty Elementary School.

Harder explained her move to Beatty in a letter to a friend in 1982: "Decided to go back into teaching to assure my son of an adequate education. Had the opportunity to come to this desert outpost as an elementary teacher; thought (correctly) that here I might have the opportunity to teach the way I thought it should be . . . After the first five years here, things changedadministration became wellnigh unbearable, but I hung on by tooth and toenail Harder retired at the age of 60

Harder was active in the late 1970's and following her retirement, was involved with the Southern Nevada Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW). She was largely responsible for organizing the rural Nevada NOW chapter, acted as its secretary and attended the 1981 NOW Western Regional Conference as its delegate. Harder was also welcomed in the Stanford University Gay community in Northern California for her semi-annual visits to her son, who had become a member of the Steering Committee at the Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford (GLAS-formerly the Gay People's Union at Stan-

In 1983, Harder moved to Redwood City, California, in order to be near her son and the Palo Alto Veterans' Hospital. She had been diagnosed with cancer two years earlier and had managed to maintain her home in Southern Nevada with the help of friends and frequent visits from her son. Harder passed her time in California writing poetry, maintaining her correspondence, read-

ing, and receiving friends. Harder is survived by an older sister; her estranged husband; her son, Rhio Hiersch, a longtime activist in the Stanford Gay community; and many friends in the Bay Area, Southern California and Nevada. Harder had requested that no funeral or memorial services be conducted. Books from Harder's personal collection have been donated to the Stanford University Libraries and the library of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stan-

G. Koskovich

OAKLAND

Wassailing

NEZ PAS

COADJUVANT COMESTIBLES (A Conferring Nose,

The second Christmas Benefit for the needy, hosted by Emperor V Don and King of Hearts VI of California Jim, was held Tuesday evening, Dec. 11, at the Town & Country. An adequate crowd was in attendance, but much of the abundant buffet went begging for more participants.

Donations of food, along with a meager \$2 charge, was supposed to have been the object of the pot-luck; but the "nose" witnessed many consuming who had not brought in any benefaction for the food drive. Those who were guilty, deserve the 'onion" award.

"Orchids" must go to all of the creators of the buffet, plus Carol, Rhonda "rotundarump," and Jimi Dee. "Vandas" also to entertainers David "Dasher" Facio (doing Mac Davis doing "Stop and Smell the Roses"), Sandy "Vixen" Sorrell (doing Swing album's "Let the Good Times Roll"), Jim 'Prancer' Weatherton and Lady "Blitzen" Starr (doing a duo doing "Almost Paradise"), Emperor V "Donner" Don (doing Phil Collins doing "Against All Odds"), Empress VI "Comet" Billy (looking lovely while Tina Turner did "What's Love Got to Do With It?"), and Chet 'Dancer' Simmons doing LIVE South American jazz on

Many raffle tickets (proffering the cause) were sold and lucky tessera holders claimed their sundry prizes. Some even re-donated their treasures for reraffling, as more tickets were

David Montoya earns a 'pogonia" for his totally charmng hand-puppet baby. It fascinated everyone, save for Lady Randy (Royal Grand Duchess elect). She stated that she'd try to have a real one of her very

It was good to see representatives there from Lake Lounge, Paradise, and Revol adding to the festivities. Would that all Oakland bars had been embodied.

YULETIDE AND YEAR'S END A Wassail Nose

Sunday, Dec. 23, noel's the season's festivities at:

· GASPAR-Big Mama's, starting at 8 p.m., with David's video and buffet:

• MELCHIOR—Bench & Bar, commencing at 8 p.m.: • BALTHAZAR—Town & Country, which will forego its regular "soup kitchen" and replace it with a Holiday buffet by Messrs Butterman et Anzalone -matzo balls and

Paradise Bar & Grill will have its successful "After Hours" breakfast both Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, from l a.m. to whenever Lake Lounge invites everyone to "Think Pink In '85." This New Year's Eve party features two shows; the first one is at 10-p.m. and the second, 12:15 a.m.

There will be a \$3 donation at the door. The Lake Lounge will also have complimentary pink champagne and party favors at midnight. Manager Jim informed me that there will be included in the evening's mafficking, complimentary pink carousels; which one has to be present to appreciate. If the champagne

doesn't make your head swim. the merry-go-round will make your entire body spin!

Revol's Christmas party is this Friday, Dec. 21, featuring the song styling of entertainer Terri Cowick (no door donation or entertainment charge). Also on the docket will be hors d'oeuvres and drawings for 'gift" prizes, New Year's Eve brings out Revol's chili once again, and George's doughnuts, along with champagne and noise makers to bring in 1985.

I'm sure that all other East Bay bars have special plans for the Holidays, and welcoming in a new year has its own personal milieu for you, wherever you select to be. So, enjoy all the rollicking and romping that this time of year affords. It would be nice to take a few minutes to remember our brothers and sisters who aren't with us to celebrate.

OMNIUM-GATHERUM (An Olio Nose)

Chuck, Emperor of the City of Alameda, has been selected as chairman of Alameda County Imperial Empire (ACIE) Privy Council. Methinks that most of the future meetings will be very succinct. ACIE Cut-A-Thons will be at more East Bay bars this coming year. Watch for their flyers announcing where

Bob Sandner will return to Revol's piano bar on Friday, Jan. 11. Look for him there more than just the weekends. Big Mama's "ever-changing seasonal wall is up for Christmas, and it's really beautiful. Only time will tell just what "decor" will be there for Valentine's Day.

Not too many details yet, but be prepared for an outstanding and lavish Sweetheart-Valentine-Red & White Ball next February. Plans are already arolling, and it sounds

I understand that the Backyard on Telegraph has on its planks one of the original bartenders from Barry's could it be that there is yet another Gay bar on Oakland's Polkstrasse?

Trashy Trish just finished a stint in the hospital, where she was "cleaned and dusted." One observer stated, "Well, I'll bet

If Sharon has her way-and she usually does—there will be a private 'john' for her and other employees at the new Spoiled

Big Mama's Danny swears that there is going to be yet another Korean restaurant opening right next door to the new Spoiled Brat - and why is Frumpy interested in touring Korea in the near future?

You have to look closely at some of the hand-crafted snowflakes decorating Revol They were cut from bar napkins by patrons, and some of the designs are quite provocative.

Mike Gifford covered all religious bases in his decorating at home this year -every major sect is reflected somewhere throughout the house. However, I did notice that Isalamic was

Anyone can lead a horse to water, but if you can get him to float on his back, you've got something! I'm smiling, Vera!



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Christmas Day &



THIS > WI



The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and the S.F. Lesbian/Gay Chorus will combine for a Christmas concert Dec. 24 at Nourse Auditorium (Photo: Rink)

- Gayslayer: pre-publication party for Warren Hinckle's book, New College Gallery, 762 Valencia St., S.F., 6 to 8 PM. Music by Danny McGinley.
- The Concubine at the Feast: stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$9 and \$10. Rhino's second production of the season, by Paul August Cacciotti, directed by Kris Gannon. Hannukah Celebration: with Congregation Ahavat Shalom, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 8 PM, free. Entertain-
- ment by Elliot Pilshaw. Napata Mero: music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$6.
- Pickle Family Circus: 10th anniversary performances, Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, S.F., 7:30 PM,
- The Committee to Save Our Sexual and Civil Liberties: meeting, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM.
- · Acupuncture Clinic: for persons with AIDS and their Gay families, The Parsonage, 555A Castro St., S.F., by appointment. Call Mark Denzin, C.A., or Peter Betcher at 567-2315 for more information. Stress/pain
- Lea DeLaria and Jeanine Strobel: comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. DeLaria and Strobel, fresh from their three-month New York engagement, return to the Rose to record their first album live in front of "home grown" audiences and premiere their new show, Life Got Tough and We Got
- 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 Coali tion, 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.

Christmas With the Family: community Christmas celebration, Trinity Episcopal Church, 1666 Bush St., S.F., 6 PM. With lessons, carols, and eucharist, followed by a Christmas caroling party. Music by the Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale. The entire offering will be

split between People With AIDS and the S.F. AIDS Fund. Sponsored by the Lesbian and Gay Ecumenical Alliance of the Bay Area.

 The Concubine at the Feast: stage performance (see Friday listing for details). · Danny Williams and Karen Ripley: comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 to 8 PM,

• Gay Comedy Night: comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. With Tom Ammiano, Laurie Bushman, Marga Gomez, and Romanovsky and

• Gay American Indians: Christmas dinner, Pride Center, 890 Hayes St., S.F., 2 PM. Bring a dish to share. Call 621-4716 for more information

• Fraternal Order of Gays: drop-in social, the FOG House, 2038 22 Ave., S.F., 3 to 11 PM, \$3. Call 753-6786 for more information.

• East Bay FrontRunners: Oakland Christmas run, meet on the corner of 14th St. and Oak, 9:30 AM. Flat three-mile loop. Call 526-7315 or 527-9167 for more

· Mame's Christmas Show: celebration, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, 9 PM, \$8. With Pamela Brooks, Jae Ross, Joe Carter, Teresa Tudury, and Danny

• Pickle Family Circus: 10th anniversary perfor mances, 2 and 7:30 PM (see Friday listing for details). Lea DeLaria and Jeanine Strobel: comedy (see Fri day listing for details).

 The Matador Club: stage performance (see Friday . The Sound of a Voice and The Sleeping House of

Beauties: stage performance (see Friday listing for Streamers: stage performance (see Friday listing for

 Beach Blanket Babylon: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

- Leopard Set: music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Jazz and pop stylings. • The Concubine at the Feast: stage performance (see
- Friday listing for details). • Lady Bianca and Ladies Choice: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5 to 8 PM.
- San Francisco FrontRunners: Presidio/Arguello Gate run, meet on the corner of Arguello and Jackson Sts., 10 AM. One to four miles.
- Joe Poltrone: music, Buckleys, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5. With Bob Bauer on the piano.
- Pickle Family Circus: 10th anniversary performances, 2 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- . The Sound of a Voice and The House of Sleeping

Beach Blanket Babylon: stage performance, 7:30 PM, \$14 (see Friday listing for details).

Beauties: stage performance, 3 and 7 PM (see Friday

· 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

listing for details).

- Midnight Christmas Eucharist Celebration: joint Catholic/Episcopal service, Trinity Episcopal Church, 1666 Bush St., S.F., 11 PM. Sponsored by Dignity/San Francisco and Trinity Episcopal Parish. Call 584-1714
- Now We Sing With Hearts Aglow: music, Norse Auditorium, 275 Hayes St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$6 to \$12. With the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and the S.F. Lesbian/Gay Chorus.

- · San Francisco FrontRunners: Christmas Day run, meet at the McLaren Lodge Christmas Tree, Golden Gate Park, S.F., 10 AM. One to five miles.
- · Lady Bianca: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- · Beginning Square Dancing: dance, 2140 Market, S.F., 8:15 PM. Learn with the Bay City Ramblers.

- · Women Only: erotic cabaret with DJ dancing, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 9 PM, \$6. A Blush production. Call 986-4553 for more information.
- The Concubine at the Feast: stage performance, \$8 and \$9 (see Friday listing for details).
- · San Francisco Hiking Club: meeting, 1833 Page St., S.F., 7:30 PM. There will be an opportunity to sign up for future trips.
- Male Strip Show: male entertainment, Renegade, 1548 Polk St., S.F., 10 PM, free.
- · Pickle Family Circus: 10th anniversary performances, 2 and 7:30 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- · Lea DeLaria and Jeannine Strobel: comedy (see Friday listing for details)
- . The Sound of a Voice and The House of Sleeping Beauties: stage performance (see Friday listing for
- · Rita Lackey: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- 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
- 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



The Concubine at the Feast will play at Theatre Rhinoceros through Jan. 27 (Photo: M.I. Chester)

- . Artists Involved with Death and Survival: stage 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

- Fruit Punch: radio, KPFA (91.4 FM), 10 PM. Jon Sugar will masquerade as Swish Kringle.
- The Concubine at the Feast: stage performance, \$8 and \$9 (see Friday listing for details). · Pickle Family Circus: 10th anniversary perfor-
- mances, 2 and 7:30 PM (see Friday listing for details). Bonnie Hayes: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- Artists Involved with Death and Survival: stage per formance (see Tuesday listing for details). Beach Blanket Babylon: stage performance, 8 PM,
- \$14 (see Friday listing for details).

by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call George Birimisa 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.



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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMEN

CABARET

Peregrinations of the Diva Dykes

How the Girls Made It in Mixed Company

by John F. Karr

he world is waiting for a little bit of Lea ... but it's going to get a whole lot. There's no other way to take her. It was Lea, I'm sure, whom Maria Irene Fornes had in mind when writing a lyric for the musical Promenade: "Chicken is he who does not love me: I'm not

Lea and co-star, co-creator Jeanine Strobel have recently returned from their first foray outside our Never Never Land, a culture shock as great for them as for the denizens of Colorado Springs, Kansas City, and Ft. Lauderdale. Natives of those cities may have come to nibble, but they stayed for the whole blow-out, immediate, vociferous gluttons. How quickly an audience learns that you don't sip at Lea. You swill, swig, and gulp.

So successful was the tour that within several weeks the women will be storming out again. That may seem our loss, but there are gains. Stories of their crosscountry skirmishes are providing the brightest winter's tales, and the navigational hours of confinement spent in their Volkswagen provided time for creation. Their current show. playing until the end of the month at the Valencia Rose, is so fresh that it almost gets to the stage before Lea and Jeanine.

Imagine Lea in the South, the land, Tom Lehrer pointed out, of the boll weevil, where the laws are medieval." Cultural patterns are so different there that one feels inoculations and passports ought to be required for entry. Lea surprised me when I met her in San Francisco several years ago. She arrived in the Bay Area Reporter office in a sky blue printer's smock, looking like a decorator packing crate with a porcupine hat. Oh yes, in the South she'd definitev be ... novel.

The smallest town Lea and Jeanine played was Kansas City, not quite the South but a decent warm-up.

"I felt really strange there," said Jeanine. Lea explained that the description offered by

"Everything's Up to Date In for one thing, that there simply Kansas City," still applied. They have Bell telephones and wasn't any other entertainment. In a through-the-looking-glass privies and not much more. manner, "male impersonators" There is certainly no Gay enteradmiring female impersonators tainment as we know it, she is a Gay mirror of the straight world. In a strange fashion, and "The dyke bars have male after a drink or two, Lea felt the

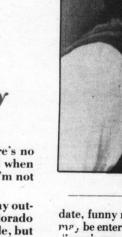
strippers and drag queens." A stand-up comic bull-dyke jazz singer was, how shall we say, expansive to their consciousness. Their new fans clamored for more, and Lea and Jeanine brought them into the modern ages of Gay culture. And culture

Drag, in its most traditional "I am woman" form, is still unusually popular in the South The old "if you're queer, you're not a man, therefore you must be a woman," dies hard, as does the belief of many Southern Gays that they must hate women. Lea and Jeanine were interrupted more than once by the jeering cry, "shut up, you

"There are some vehement misogynists in the South," said Lea. "I'd just say, 'ladies don't raise their voice, and go on with

n unusual phenomenon is the adoration showered on drag queens by Lesbian audiences in the South. Lea felt,

Lea De Laria (l.) and Jeanine Strobel in the act at the Rose (Photo: Rink)



Lea De Laria and Jeanine Strobel

date, funny reality. Lea's show me, be entertaining, but the audience's response went emotionany deeper. Her simple presence said much, giving these audiences permission to be Gay, plus a new view of their potential.

The strangest times were in Florida, where wealth and cocaine were a facade to poverty and second-class stature. Ft. Lauderdale was swank, defensive; Miami was tarnished, embracing. At a Latina bar in Miami their reception was strong but strangely different. Only afterwards, when a woman haltingly thanked them and

Their new fans clamored for more, and Lea and Jeanine brought them into the modern ages of Gay culture."

Jeanine, and the South does have many beautiful queens. This helps us understand Lesoian women enjoying such performances, but we can understand even more why these women would rejoice in the entertainment provided by the unavoidably real De Laria and

women could fantasize about the

'Some guys do it for the sheer

beauty of being women," said

So Lea and Jeanine worked their way through the forbidden backrooms of the South's bars, usually Gay ones, for Lesbian bars are few, and replaced the forbidden fantasies of Gay men and women with their up-to-

said, "but I wish I knew more English," did they realize they had played before a Spanishspeaking audience. In Ft. Lauderdale, they were championed and housed by the queens, who rationalized and defended the hostile reactions of many Gav men.

n Colorado Springs they entered a dazzling club and encountered what Lea calls 'the economies of feminism.

"It was beautiful," Lea said. "It had mirrors and marble, black tables and chrome chairs. and a huge dance floor with thousands of lights and pink smoke. I thought, I'm going to love playing here. But it was the Gay club. The women's bar was the basement, the black

Upstairs was for white Gay men. Lesbians and Black men huddled in a crowded, dank bar below ground. Mostly members of the military, they led severely closeted lives, with only one weekend off a month. "They were like hydrogen

bombs," said Jeanine, and the Raging Bull experience set them From the small towns, Lea

and Jeanine ventered to opposite extremes, playing a Women's Music Festival and then the top Gay cabarets of New York City, the Duplex and Don't Tell Mama. They were a hit. Then they checked out Eighth

Avenue, the netherland of sex ousinesses off of 42nd Street. It runs through the recently Gav neighborhood called Hell's Kitchen. Once inside, the apartments are nice, but you step over

sive inviations of whores on the n this neighborhood their

junkies and decline the aggres-

friend Maggie Smith, a well known activist in the fight against pornography's abuse of women, has opened a bar. On the weekends Smith presents punk bands-"energy music." On weekdays, there's performance art. The combination elicits a diverse clientele, who mingle with local residents. It can be quite refre hing.

"We wore bullet proof vests," said Jeanine. "The Gays and musicians are in one corner, Puerto Ricans in another, and over there are Junkies, pimps and prostitutes. You don't go into the bathroom. You wait.

Of course, Smith had them perform their show. "One old black man, who earns his living playing backgammon on the street, turned to the cook, who he didn't know was a dyke, Lea laughed, "and said, 'Gee, they look like everyone else.

So the dykes made it in mixed company. "They asked us back," said Lea, lifting her nose in mock attitude.

But they've been asked back everywhere, and they're going, two incredibly entertaining emissaries of Gay life and laughter in San Francisco.

Are they afraid of making it big? Not quite yet. For one thing, this particular circuit doesn't pay mega-salaries. But album, perhaps a video, and manic audiences across the country . Wider recognition is day when they won't be, as Lea sings, breaking the mold, swimming upstream?

"That would be in the distant future," said Jeanine. ea clarified the words which

sound personally autobiograpical when she sings "A lot of that refers to our

everyday life, because as Lesbians we go against the current, and also as performers in the entertainment world. We're saying we're going upstream, but we're gonna make it. That's the most important thing we say: it's okay to be Gay or Lesbian or fat or butch, but we can still be funny and have something to say. "It's very simple. We'll go

where we can go, as long as they accept us on our terms, allow the music and accept the comedy. Or what's the use of going

STAGE

Contesting the Will

by Bernard Spunberg

Vil, dreadful money, The Concubine at the Feast, a fascinating new play by Paul August Cacciotti currently onstage at Theater Rhino, finds three middle-aged sisters, two straight and one Lesbian, and a brother assembled for their father's funeral. Also present are the brother's wife, Gay teenaged son, and the Gay male nurse who lived with Dad in his decline. Dad was a crusty old. curmudgeon much detested by his children, who always found reasons not to visit him. Dad also happened to be rich and, now that he's gone, his kids want their inheritance. But what about the nurse? Sure he fed, bathed, and kept Dad company for seven years, but he was on salary. Well, that's not how Dad looked at it. At the beginning of the play, the score is \$3 million to zero. Nurses favor.

Tough, we say. The kids are greedy, selfish, and deserve nothing, while the nurse is a hell of a guy. But not so fast. Through painful memory and argument leavened with much cynical humor, we find that Dad was worse than cantankerous. He was lecherous and violent. And that nurse—he's not nice at all. He's a sneak-or is he? Though he's allowed everyone to assume he is, he may not even

Slowly, delicately, playwright Cacciotti unveils the children's various degrees of illness and hatred. With these characters, the more we know, the more we know we don't know. The son needs his inheritance desperately but his wife wants no part of it. For her, the money is too filthy to touch-or is she just a sweet

woman who, as her husband says, 'doesn't know the meaning of budget"? The oldest daughter, wealthy in her own right, wants her inheritance-you bet. She likes money a lot more than she likes people. Why? Neither the Lesbian nor the youngest daughter want their share. The Lesbian also has her own money The two men are a problem. and would just as soon let the

dicted to downers? As for the nurse, he could be anything. Early in the play he spouts a sentimental story about an 86-year-old black woman he nursed. After she broke her hip and found out she had cancer,

will stand uncontested. But that

youngest sister. Why is she ad-

'The kids are greedy selfish, and deserve nothing, while the nurse is a hell of a guy."

she started going to museums, dog races, and the opera. Then he gets her name wrong. Later, he says, "I never wanted to hurt anybody. I just didn't want to be

The question on the surface of Concubine is: Does a child have a moral claim to a dead parent's property if it has not been specifically willed to him? The characters and relationships, however, are so enigmatic and provocative they subsume

Under Kris Gannon's direction, the production at Theater Rhino is strong. Sweet and wise

with a pocket of bitterness in her heart, Mary Milton's portrayal of the disinherited son's wife is delicate and true. Milton is so believable and natural she could appear in green leotard, announce she's a fern, and we'd say "Fine." Helen Petit, Lucienne Ryerson, and Susan Allen capture the three sisters' essences. As the adolescent grandson in love with the nurse, Liam O'Brien is alternately shy

As the disinherited son, Michael Foley is pale, giving little hint of the desperation underlying his reasons for contesting the will. Chuck Solomon's portraval of the nurse is like a frame around an empty space. The role is meant to be ambiguous to the audience, but it appears to be ambiguous to Solomon as well. He listens, he responds, but we see no personal agenda clicking away below the surface. Those rare moments when he seems personally involved are isolated and add up to no coherent characterization.

Playwright Cacciotti's work appears to have but one lapse. When the disinherited son discovers his son doing a Strauss waltz with the nurse, he simply stops the music. He ignores prime evidence of the nurse's use of sex as the manipulative tool that might have been used to alter the will in the nurse's favor. But no matter. For its integration of Gay characters in a story not primarily about Gay experience, but most of all because t is a richly enigmatic, provocative entertainment. Paul Cacciotti's The Concubine at the Feast is an exceptional achievement.

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OLECTO CRANNER

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Actors Who Can Sing

by Ron Bluestein

he San Francisco Repertory Theater's new production, A Fable Based on Animal Farm With Music, is aptly titled. The script is a weak shadow of Orwell's classic political fairy tale, but the music is simply singably delightful.

The adaptors, Michelle Truffaut, producing director of the S.F. Rep, and Fred Hartman, make two mistakes. The major actions in the novel are the building of the windmill and the death of Boxer, the horse who believes in belief and work. Though they are only animals and it is only a fairy tale, Orwell tionally moving because the animals are so idealistic in their conviction of equality and so human in their malleability. Boxer is the best and the most malleable of the malleable lot, a foil to the swinish, lying, opportunistic pig Napoleon.

In this play, these events are related—the windmill by an actress who steps out of her role as Muriel the goat to recite from headlines, and Boxer's death in a monologue by Benjamin the goat. Too, any child could tell that Animal Farm is about the inhumanity of humans. The novel closes with the pigs in clothes and walking on two legs so that they are indistinguishable from men. The equation of "human equals pigs" is presented theatrically by Napoleon and the treacherous neighbor farmers wearing gas masks, which is a misleading image and only vaguely porcine.



Chief Chicken (Jo Yang, r.) crushes an egg for Squealer (Kevin Simmers) in A Fable Based on Animal Farm With Music

Since they have an unusually gifted team in composer Frank schader and lyricist Lorraine Du Rocher and a cast that can sing, Truffaut and Hartman would have done better to relate these actions in song—perhaps Boxer singing something like "Maybe If I Work Harder," or a duet between he and Clover.

You know a song is good if you can sing it after hearing it once, and I spent the whole next day humming Schader's setting of Orwell's "Beasts of England," which has the beauty and power of a perfect folk song, and Mollie the Silly Filly's "I Can't Stay," a rock tune in a minor key sung by Pamela Minet, who

is a sight and a sound to behold. The S.F. Rep is to be congratulated for assembling such

a group of actors, those remarkable people who work all day to eat and then work all night to entertain us, who can sing. God, l love singers who actually sound their "d's" and "t's," not to mention their "p's" and "q's," at the end of words. Their rendition of Schader and Du Rocher's gospel, "Sugarcandy Mountain," had the opening night audience cheering for

A Fable Based on **Animal Farm With Music** S.F. Repertor through Jan. 6



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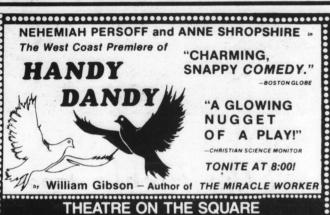
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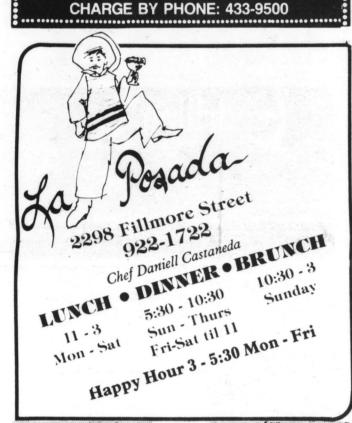


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BACK TO BATON

Ho, Ho, Home Again

fter a two-week strike which forced cancellation of seven A subscription concerts, the musicians of the San Francisco Symphony returned to work last week for performances of Handel's Messiah.

The holiday season would seem dim indeed without this annual event, and even if opening night didn't exactly light my tree, it did revive my flagging Christmas spirit.

Messiah may be more Christian manifesto than baroque Christmas carol, but Handel's particular selection of biblical texts and his extraordinarily inventive and beautiful setting of them make a masterwork that could warm any heart in the dead of winter.

Adding orchestral direction to his usual duties as conductor of the San Francisco Symphony Chorus, Vance George proved himself equal to the task and revealed a flair for the dramatic that went well with his use of a larger performing ensemble. Modern tastes seem to prefer a lush, full-bodied sound for Handel's great oratorio, but George was able to articulate the orchestral passages and elicit a clear and distinct sound from his

I still recall the wonderfully authentic presentation given by conductor Christopher Hogwood last year with a smaller, more truly baroque complement of performers. The results were an enlightenment, but Messiah like Shakespeare or Hello Dolly! for all that, is a sturdy enough piece to allow for some tampering and personal interpretation. George was in full command of the forces at his disposal, and his reading was heartfelt and convincing. Besides, it's useless to pretend that

the "Hallelujah" chorus isn't overwhelmingly impressive when sung by an enlarged choir.

The orchestra members of our Symphony may be some of the best sight readers in the business. They have to be with so much material to prepare every week. These performances certainly called upon that valued ability due to the strike, and they all pulled through like the troupers they are with a fresh and lively response to George's baton. Special mention must be made of First Trumpet Glenn Fischtal. I've put the knock on him in recent columns, but he's playing beautifully these days. The soloists in the Messiah

are given the most grueling duties by the composer. They must move the text along with difficult expository recitatives and illuminate the story with lengthy arias filled with arduous ornamentation. Without them, Messiah would simply be a glorious glee club concert. When the soloists are exceptional, as soprano Emma Kirkby and baritone David Thomas were last year, the experience can prove deeply moving. The quartet of soloists this year simply didn't have it in them to make the evening a great one, but they did work with what they had and, with the exception of mezzosoprano Sheila Nadler, they managed to give satisfactory performances.

Anyone who heard Sheila Nadler's Sosostris in the San Francisco Opera's mounting of Tippett's The Midsummer Marriage knows she posseses an exalted contralto. Her tone is rich and burnished with a burning sensuous edge. She also, it seems, must be in costume in order to perform comfortably. Her stage demeanor during

So now that we've assumed

responsibility, how are we ful-

filling it? With three renditions

of "Silent Night," that's how.

This year, we have a jazzy inter-

pretation sung by the Les-

bian/Gay Chorus, a traditional

version rung by the Bell Choir

of the SFGMC, and a group

Enough already with "Silent

Night." The Lesbian/Gay Cho-

rus takes a campy step in the

right direction with a parody by

Frederic Silver entitled "Twelve

Days After Christmas" listing

the sad fates met by the par-

tridge in a pear tree, etc. The

SFGMC contributes a finale

that climaxes with Santa's ar-

rival. Dressed in pajamas, bath-

robes, and carrying teddy bears,

the SFGMC is as adorable as

Even more adorable and a lot

less predictable are the Men

About Town performing "Monotone Angel" by Don

McAfee. Drawn from the

SFGMC, the Men always per-

form with an imaginative flair

and a distinctively Gay sensibili-

ty. Though comic, their story of

a Johnny-One-Note angel audi-

tioning for the Heavenly Choir

can also be seen as a little

allegory depicting the Gay ac-

quisition of a place in society. Edward Brener's lovable por-

trayal of the novice angel brims

with energy and personality.

sing-along at the end.

PHILIP CAMPBELL



Vance George

Messiah betrayed a case of stage fright that had me praying for her. Her physical appearance is pleasing and her voice has lost none of its thrilling power, but her nervousness affected her breathing and that certainly affected her singing. It broke my heart to see this wonderfully talented performer at the mercy of her own jitters.

Soprano Sheri Greenawald, on the other hand, proved that with confidence and ease, a minor instrument can be highly effective. Her voice gained in power as the evening wore on, but her understanding of the text and assured theatrical expression conveyed intelligence and artistry from the start.

Tenor Seth McCoy is well known to opera lovers and his services are still much in demand for concert performances, but his voice is not youthful anymore, and the resilience and clarity required by Handel's score were served only by an ex-

This guy knows his contribution

may be unconventional, but it's

Aside from Terry Peterson

MUSIC

Lackluster Heart

by Bernard Spunberg

rouches beware: Now Sing With Hearts Aglow, the SF Gay Men's Chorus seventh annual Christmas concert, just might make you smile. Presented at Nourse Auditorium with the assistance of the SF Lesbian/Gay Chorus, the program will be repeated on Christmas Eve. As heard on December 16, outgoing SFGMC Music Director Ernest L. Veniegas led a bloodless, fussy concert—but was it really just a concert? Christmas and av Pride Week performand are more than concerts. They are opportunities to set aside political and worse problems and generate a sense of Gay community.

Mainstream culture hasgrudgingly and condescendingly-conceded Halloween as a Gay holiday, but where's the freedom in putting on a mask if you're invisible all year long? With the annual commemoration of Stonewall, we have created an international Gay holiday. With Hearts Aglow, the SFGMC has helped claim the Gay share of a holiday that is supposed to belong to everybody but actually excludes Gay people no less effectively than every other manifestation of this homophobic culture. Performance quality aside, Hearts Aglow is a triumph because it represents the assumption of responsibility by Gay culture for the celebration of a Gay Christ-

mas with Gay faces scrubbed

still valuable and, damn it, he's going to make that contribution. Soloist Doug Wilson also made penny-bright for all the world to a dramatically clear and direct see, last names and everything. moment of "Sleep, Holy Child."

> and Steve Sanders' fine renditions of two dances from The Nutcracker for piano duet, virtuoso performances by the Bell Choir, and excellent piano accompaniment throughout, the rest of the show is lackluster. The sacred and secular pieces with which the SFGMC begin are clear and correct, and that's all. Though tone is blended and unforced, it's pale, and there's no rhythmic bounce, no zip. A set of pop Christmas tunes likewise lacks the arching phrases and surging countermelodies that make them perennial favorites.

Led by Matthew O'Grady, the Lesbian/Gay Chorus was formed five years ago, though the current membership sounds as though they met for the first time a week ago. At least they seem to be having a good time.

Neither musical nor production values are very high this vear-so what? Judging by audience response, the Gay Christmas spirit is alive and well. Next year, it may glow brighter than ever before. Now that we've expressed a Gay male Christmas identity via campy humor, why not try some tender Gay romance? After all, we don't have to laugh at ourselves all the time. And why not raise a little Lesbian Christmas consciousness for a change?

MUSIC



Frankie say Heil.

Rumors that Holly and Paul

would downplay their Gayness

in the States were not confirm-

ed by one of two San Francisco

concerts near the end of that

tour, where Holly joked about

Crisco and having sex with Clint

Eastwood. FGTH was aug-

mented by an an additional

guitarist and a synthesizer

player, which let the band pro-

duce a fair approximation of its

recorded sound as it performend

most of the album, omitting only

a couple of cover versions of old

Fans will undoubtedly think

Holly Johnson is Frankie the

way they thought Debbie Harry

was Blondie, but the band's

name was simply lifted from an

old magazine article about

Frank Sinatra. Holly fronts the

act, verbalizing its hedonistic

philosophy. On this particular

night he wore an oversized white

suit that could have been a

Paul Rutherford, his hair

curled on top to make him look

less clonelike, danced through

the show, often sticking his butt

out at the audience and wiggling

it. Holly was more subtle, mere-

ly rubbing his ass suggestively or-

resting a black leather gloved

Mustachioed Peter Gill stayed

behind his drums. The string-

men stood on either side of the

stage, punkish Mark O'Toole

seemingly absorbed in his bass

while bushy-haired guitarist

Brian Nash worked close to the

audience, teasing them almost

as much as Paul but without

turning his back. He's not Gay,

The group's instruments and

speakers filled most of the stage.

At the back a screen camouflag-

ed as a giant frame of film hung

at a rakish angle. Slides were

projected on it through much of

the set including, during the first

version of "Relax," pictures of

naked women and sexual activi-

Perhaps the media, the t-

shirts (which sold briskly at the

Kabuki at \$12 per) and the re-

release of "Relax" will convince

us and create a demand when

ty, at least some of it hetero.

you know.

David Byrne reject.

Frankie Goes To San Francisco

by Steve Warren

f the five lads from Liverpool who comprise Frankie Goes to Hollywood, two are Gay-Holly Johnson, the lead singer and lyricist who has the mildly demented look of a young Elton John; and Paul Rutherford, the clonish beauty who sings back-up, dances, and models the overpriced merchandise (e.g., "Jean Genet boxer shorts") advertised in the first FGTH album, Welcome to the Pleasure Dome.

From the look of the San Francisco audience the word about Frankie hadn't gotten out in the Gay community yet, the way it did in England a year earlier when the group became an "overnight success' after two years of struggling. This despite the fact that Frankie t-shirts ("Frankie Says Relax!" "Frankie Say War! Hide Yourself") had begun showing up in trendy Polk Street shop windows-soon to be followed, no doubt, by the backlash shirts that appeared in their wake in England: "I Don't Give a Fuck What Frankie Say!"

Liverpool, once renowned as the birthplace of the Beatles, had settled back into its former obscurity as unemployment soared past the 30 percent mark. The ranks of UB40's (unemployed) were often swelled by five as the members of FGTH failed to find bookings for the outrageous act in which they wore leather codpieces and rubber appendages.

Late in 1983 Frankie released the single "Relax," which went to number one as soon as the BBC took it off the air for its 'obscene" lyrics:

Relax, don't do it When you wanna suck, do it Relax, go to it When you wanna come.

Whether the press or the public, the chicken or the egg first became fascinated with the band, it wasn't long before everyone in Britain soon learned who was being sucked by what. The record continued to sell, eventually becoming the fourth biggest single in U.K. history.

With "Relax" still topping the chart, FGTH released its followup, "Two Tribes." This raucous ode to peace got radio play, but the video was banned for its

FGTH returns to play larger violent depiction of a bloody fight between Reagan and Chervenues in a few month nenko lookalikes. Blockbuster Or perhaps Holly, who is built sales again resulted.

somewhat like Napoleon and looks as if he could have a com plex to match, will find Americans have more sales resistance than Britons and meet his Waterloo in the U.S. Steve Say Don't Overestimate Reagan!

a Country That Could Re-elect

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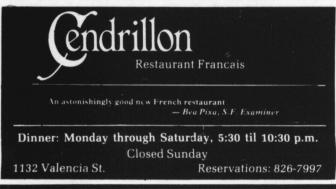
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BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 20, 1984 PAGE 24





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POP MUSIC

Three Girls Three

cesses. She played music and

spoken word tapes that have in-

fluenced her, and talked about

collaborating with people like Burroughs, Peter Gabriel, and Adrian Belew. If she was ulti-

mately unsuccessful, it wasn't

for lack of trying. It was prob-

ably the more restrictive lecture

format and the stupid questions

But we have a more impor-

tant issue to address here.

Everyone knows how androgy-

nous Anderson is. She has a

male/female duality she seems

comfortable with. But just what

is her story? Sex and sexuality

do not seem to even remotely in-

terest her, so I guess I shouldn't

care, but it makes me wonder.

Like Fats Waller said, one never

I've always liked to save the

best for last, so I'm happy to

report that Rickie Lee Jones'

sold out show at the Warfield

was nothing short of brilliant.

Yes, we're talking Major Art

here. It was a performance that

knows . . . do one?

RICKIE'S RETURN

the audience asked her.

by Peter Keane

ll right boys, pack it up. The girls are taking over, and not a moment too soon. Talented and unique women performers are on the rise, and thank goddess their options are not confined to sex kitten/ chanteuse roles anymore. The doors to the Ladies Lounge are wide open now, and women like Meredith Monk, Laurie Anderson, and Rickie Lee Jones are making the most of it. So, guys, if your penchant is for tragic torch singers or bimbo Madonna types, better pick up your marbles and go home right now.

MONK'S MELODIES

Meredith Monk's performance at Davies Hall Nov. 3 as part of the New and Unusual Music Series was billed as her 20th anniversary as a performer. I only became aware of her a little more than a year ago, so I can't provide much historical perspective. As a non-musician, I am not even sure I can tell you how she does what she does. All I know is that the woman has an arsenal of sound effects and an almost frightening command of her technique that allows her to create cinematic vistas with her

Like Diamanda Galas, she uses a wordless form to create her tone poems-squeeks, hiccups, insect sounds, keening, cooing, braying, younameit but unlike Galas, Monk's overall effect is more benign and less psychotic. She can conjure up evocative, pictoral imagery just by using her throat. A series of ten short pieces called "Songs From the Hill" brought to mind the outdoors and open spaces of New Mexico, where in fact they were composed.

Monk's artistry is definitely an acquired taste, and if anyone is so acquisitive, she has two albums available: Songs From the Hill and Dolman Music.

ALK SHOW

The Laurie Anderson show blew into town Dec. 6 for one performance at the Exploratorium as part of its Speaking of Music series. This was a lecture format, quite different from her usual schtick. Anderson played tapes of her own and others' music, showed videos, cracked jokes, did a dead-on imitation of William Burroughs, and in general entertained the audience for three and a half hours with her ingenuous humor. I mean, the girl was funny. On record, her slow, deliberate approach and dry sense of humor might make vou chuckle. But how refreshing to see a Serious Artiste make people laugh.

Anderson's intent was to clue everyone in on her creative pro-

Rickie Lee Jo Baton

(Continued from page 24)

perienced pro who still has the presence and technique to make ess appear more. Of all the soloists, only bass-

baritone Norman Andersson appeared to be in optimum condition. True, his voice did crack once during a particularly difficult passage, but overall his performance was admirable. It is also wonderful to hear English sung so intelligibly that text following becomes unnecessary.

Important as the soloists are, however, it was the chorus that everyone seemed most interested in. Some of the most exciting moments in Messiah are given to it after all and, for myself, I was rooting for the chorus especially because it used to be so good, and in recent appearances it has been so mediocre.

Louis Magor, the chorus' former director, left due to artistic differences with Edo de Waart. Successor Margaret Hillis had it up to de Waart's standards, but her tenure was short lived. Through all that it was universally agreed that the San Francisco Symphony Chorus was one of the very best in the country.

Under Vance George's direction, the chorus has gone through some distressing problems. I'm happy to say that with its performance in Messiah one of the most irritating conditions has been cured, the reediness in the upper reaches of the soprano

For these concerts George did some re-positioning of his singers, and that breathy screechiness has been replaced by a

seamless purity that has me looking forward to the chorus concert this year. That nagging problem with pronunciation and accent with foreign texts was, of course, no problem at all with Messiah, but if George can take care of that, he and the chorus are well on the way back to their former positions of eminence. The trees in the lobby at

had as much to do with theater and dance as it did with music. Her updated beat poetry, a sort of Joni Mitchell meets West Side

Story, was fleshed out with

choreography and character di-

mension. Each of the band

members played several charac-

ters in the scenarios; the

material from her new album,

The Magazine, got especially ef-

All this tampering would have

been distracting if the music had

suffered, but it didn't. Jones'

voice, better now than ever since

she decided not to drink and

drug herself to death, was a

revelation. Some people have

referred to her as the Laura

Nyro of the '80s. That's partially

true, but she's always taken

more artistic chances and has a

truer jazz sense. A medley of

"Lush Life/Something Cool,"

which Jones acted out as a fad-

ed barfly, brought real chills to

the audience. Missing, however,

was her knockout rendition of

It's great to see someone of

talent subvert the standard rock

concert format. In this case,

Ricki Lee Jones gave us more

than our money's worth. If this

is what sobriety will do for a

body, I may never drink again.

"My Funny Valentine."

fective treatment.

Davies Hall have been decorated beautifully once again. This Messiah was overall a pleasure, and soon I'll be spend. ing another New Year's Eve lis tening to the music of old Vienna in the atmosphere of present-day San Francisco. I left the hall feeling satisfied, and with the state of the world today, that's a pretty good feeling. Happy Holidays everyone. Peace be to all of us.

P. Campbell

TALES OF TESSI TURA

Broadway Babies

GEORGE HEYMONT

he past decade has witnessed a dynamic merger between the Broadway idiom and the operatic repertoire. Today, more and more musicals are being performed in opera houses, while a steady stream of operatically-trained voices continues to seek employment on the musical comedy stage. For many years, the Cincinnati Opera -which has produced such shows as The Music Man, The Sound of Music, and Carousel-has included an American musical as part of its annual repertoire. The Houston Grand Opera has toured productions of Showboat, West Side Story, and Hello, Dolly! around the United States.

Such works as Street Scene. The Medium, and Porgy and Bess-which originally premiered on Broadway-are now considered legitimate operatic fare. In Detroit, Michigan Opera Theatre has mounted The Most Happy Fella, The Sound of Music, and A Little Night Music. This year the Baltimore Opera produced Kismet, the New York City Opera revived its smash-hit opera-house version of Candide and, most recently, the Connecticut Opera scored points with Man of La Mancha.

As a result, Americans are finally beginning to regard the vast legacy of the American musical as a legitimate form of theatrical literature. At one point, the blurring of traditional boundaries became so confusing the National Opera Institute changed its name to the National Institute for Music Theatre. This new perspective has helped generate additional funding while permitting producers, performers, and stage directors to redefine the age-old question of whether composers and librettists are writing operas or musicals. Indeed, some folks now ask whether a piece of music theater is strong enough to stand on its own merits in either a Broadway theater or an opera house when considering how it should be produced.

WE'RE IN THE MONEY

How can these works be kept from fading into oblivion when the costs of producing a show on Broadway are prohibitive? Mounting them within a nonprofit repertory situation can cut through some of the mainstream competition for producing rights while giving young singers a chance to cut their teeth on good show music and simultaneously develop their stage technique. This fall, under the artistic direction of Willie Waters, the Greater Miami Opera inaugurated a program of producing two American musicals each year at the renovated Gusman Cultural Center in downtown Miami. Although 1984's season debuted with new productions of Annie Get Your Gun and Carousel, Waters has expressed hopes that the Miami Opera will be able to commission new works in future years as the program continues to develop.

According to Beverly Sills, a gift of \$5 million recently donated to the New York City Opera will be spent on establishing a spring musical theater season. The mere thought evokes strong memories of the good old days when Jean Dalyrymple produced many superb revivals at the City Center and Richard Rodgers mounted lush, new productions during the summer months at Lincoln Center. NYCO's new

musical theater gig will not only lengthen the company's performusicians, but fill a gaping hole in the New York State Theatre's booking calendar as well.

OPERATIC CALIBRE?

Meanwhile, City Opera's recent crack at Sweeney Todd, The Demon Barber of Fleet Street proved to be a mixed success depending on which cast was performing. Whether performed by opera singers or professional Broadway actors, its vivid theatricality and stageworthiness are all that count in my book. While some genuinely felt the show was of operatic calibre, others criticized Stephen Sond heim's music as being much less than meets the ear. Although Harold Prince staged the show much as he had for the touring production which played San Francisco several years ago, certain parts of the evening lacked the definitively evil bite which was evident when Sweeney was performed by tried and true Broadway actors.

Can Sweeney Todd stand on its own two feet in an opera house? It's hard to say. Other than some technical problems forced on the production when the composer insisted on using amplification—in a house without a decent sound system to its name—the most noticeable flaw was the sluggish pacing and lack of bite at some performances. When, on more than one occasion, Paul Gemignani slowed his conducting in order to allow singers to spit out Sondheim's tongue-twisting lyrics, dedication to diction won out over theatrical punch.

Alas, Rosalind Elias proved to be surprisingly weak as Mrs. Lovett-barely able to sing certain musical passages and lack-ing the dramatic skills necessary to deliver a larger than life characterization. Elias' piemaker was very much like Dorothy Loudon's-carefully studied but not inspired, thoughtfully performed but not electric. Her performance was no match for the towering theatrical achievement of the woman who created the role. Following the opening night per-formance in Lincoln Center, the line buzzing around New York was "Well, of course, that show will never be the same without Angela Lansbury!" An extremely talented mezzo-soprano named Joyce Castle-who performed the role of Mrs. Lovett for the Houston Grand Opera last June and headed up the second cast in New York — amply demonstrated that, with the right set of vocal chords and dramatic skills, the role can be a triumphant vehicle for an operatic talent.

Timothy Nolen's Sweeney was a powerfully vivid portrayal but, to my mind, it was only when Stanley Wexler stepped into the role that the demon barber's music was effortlessly and beautifully sung from beginning to end. Once again, Chris Groenendaal showed his many strengths as Anthony, while both Leigh Munro and Sheryl Woods excelled as Joanna. Special mention goes to Adair Lewis for her slimy Beggar Woman and Jerold Siena for his fine work as Pirelli.

It took Sweeney Todd little more than five years following its Broadway premiere to enter the operatic repertoire. I hope it remains for a long and bloodthirsty stay.



'We even do weddings and bar-mitzvahs.' Sweeney (Timothy Nolen) and Mrs. Lovett (Rosalind Elias) open up a catering service in Stephen Sondheim's Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street.



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fruits and vegetables, this oversized tome also features a lucid text that tells you how to select particular produce, when to buy it, and how to prepare it. Writer Beck is a caterer and food instructor, and he includes with the main text side feature information like what to look for, what to avoid, and how to store. While rarely will we see produce as handsome as that pictured, we will at least, given the advice here, find a melon we won't have to throw away be-

cause it isn't ripe.

graphs of perfect examples of

The photos by Andrew Unangst, printed on heavy coated stock are practically 3-D, and make you want to give up eating meat. Well, almost anyway.

larger than life.

Brad Benedict has assembled his second collection of magacoincidence that his style has an zine, book, and advertising airbrushed illustrations which. The book Megastars is a while not as successful or as insumptuous paperback collection novative as the first, is still just as enjoyable. Again, the celebof his cover faces reproduced in almost the exact size of the rities in Fame seem larger than life and are presented both flatmagazine. The color swims off teringly and satirically. Benedict the pages and his neo-camp aphas culled the best works from proach makes each of the celebmany airbrush specialists, and rities, from Goldy Hawn and Diana Ross to Matt Dillon and the book is entirely in jump-off-Mel Gibson, look larger, much the-page color.



Twiggy and Tommy Tune show what Red Shoes is all about.

Of Hunks and Mangos

Man Alive: Dressing the Free Way by Charles Hix

Face Fitness: A Man's Guide to Looking His Best by Daniel Eastman with Ahrgus Juilliard Macmillian; \$17.95

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by Ken Duncan Universe Books, \$14.95

by Richard Bernstein

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Indigo Books, \$12.95

by Michael Lasky

hotographer Kenn Duncan

reached the brass ring as the

chief photographer for After

Dark magazine and its then

sister book, Dance. His photos

have always emphasized the

playful and sensuous/erotic

sides of celebrities and perform-

ing artists. He has always been

able to get his subjects to relax

just long enough for him to

record them in poses that might

not otherwise be achieved in

Red Shoes uses just that as a

motif. Each subject somehow

manages to incorporate a pair of

red shoes of one sort or another

into his or her costume. That is

the entire book. Just a series of

color shots of celebrities in a

playful array of costumes, from

Dick Cavett doing acrobatics to

Brad Davis in a scanty Greek

garb, from Bette Midler camp-

ing it up, to Charles Pierce

camping it up, to Carol Chan-

ning camping it up, Red Shoes

Airbrush artist Richard Bern-

stein has done all the covers for

Interview magazine, so it's not

is a festive nonbook.

artificial, brightly lit settings.

by Brad Benedic

Megastars

A harles Hix is to books what After Dark magazine is to periodicals. Under the guise "general interest" and selfhelp, he writes about male fitness, health, appearance, and dressing. Illustrations of hunky men in various stages of undress serve as models of ways we can

I have no doubt much of the enlightening information and theory he crams into his oversized books could be useful to straight men, if they were interested. I do know that it is not necessarily that information and theory that makes sales of Hix's books enormous, this one in-

Andy Warhol feel to it.

Certainly the irrelevant beefcake photos-which have absolutely (or almost) nothing to do with the context of what is under discussion-attract immediate attention.

Steven AuCain's photogaphy makes the gorgeous models into Michelangelo's Davids, and Hix's text, indeed, has much to tell us about how and why we dress the way we do, and how to recognize where there is room for improvement.

Food For Thought

Guiliano Bugialli's Foods of Italy Stewart, Tabori and Chang, Publishers, \$45

by Michael Lasky

lthough this is an excellent cookbook, its presentation H with full color location photography by John Dominis makes it a coffeetable book as well. It succeeds at whatever level you like. The recipes, primarily from Tuscany, are advanced but clearly and mouthwateringly described, and the photos printed on a thick, slick paper stock include everything but the taste and smell of the food. The transitional text between recipes is informative gastronomic travelogue, transforming this from a cookbook into a delightful travel book as well.

by Bruce Beck Friendly Press, \$35

Primarily a book of photo-

Whether you want to dress for success in the boardroom or the bedroom, Hix has suggestions, many based on psychology and body language theory. So now, please explain why each and every chapter opens with a photo of an undressed adonis?

Because straight men really dig looking at men in their BVDs?

Because it is safe for closeted latent homosexuals to be caught reading a respectable book?

Because Gay men want to learn how to be tasteful and what better way than in a book with fleshy photos.

Yes.

FACE THE MUSIC

At \$17.95 Man Alive is pricey but worth it, considering there's a ton of facts and photos, many in color. But the same price goes for Face Fitness, which is

The information contained in the book could be-and has been-compiled into two magazine pieces and be more in-

Daniel Eastman has the nearly impossible task of describing and proscribing for every skin type. So after you have found yours, the others become worthless to your needs. Because he takes an egalitarian approach, describing the eight most common skin types, you might find yours doesn't even appear.

Let's say you do find your type. What then? You're left with a relatively small section of the book that's relevant to you. In addition, the advice he gives veers on the esoteric too often. For example, a recipe for homemade skin scrub consists of a mixture of mango, oatmeal, and sea salt.

If I wanted breakfast, I could have read Fanny Farmer.

Double, double, boil and bubble, with this book not to trouble. Natural is one thing, but salad bar on my face is not my idea of "fitness."

FILM CLIPS

Dune

Sand Hill

David Lynch's film translation of Frank Herbert's classic science fiction novel is so relentlessly faithful to the book only its readers will have any idea of what the film is about For readers and nonreaders alike, the \$50 million production is still a somber, cliche ridden disaster. It might even qualify for federal emergency aid.

You know you're in trouble when you're handed a two-page glossary as you enter the theater. Unfortunately, you cannot refer to it in the darkened auditorium. Within the first half hour, you don't care if you ever look at it.

Despite the lavish and opulently detailed sets and costumes, Dune comes across as a gratuitously violent film filled with needless gross-out material. The characters, whoever they are (as a nonreader I was never quite sure) are not compelling enough to care for despite the well chosen actors portraying

The advertisement for the film says "A world beyond your experience, beyond your imagination." Indeed, a world where spice is the variety of life is beyond me. The mining of this spice, called melange, is what all the ruckus is about. Protecting the spice are giant worms that attack at the merest vibration. The spice and the worms live on a distant desert planet. The only reason to journey there is to get

Mechanical Robot Stuff

robots of the R2D2 variety are com

mon household appliances. When they

occasionally go awry, the police send

the runaway squad to stop them from

going amuck. Too bad there wasn't a

going amuck, which it quickly does.

imilar squad to prevent this film from

Directed and written by Michael

Crichton, the actual premise of the film

is novel, but the execution is pure run

of the mill TV-style fare. The script

violence is the typical fireworks and

blood that has haunted the Christmas

releases this year. Selleck as a

policeman is not so original, so instead

of being disrobed in Hawaii, he's dress-

The Flamingo

Feel Good Comedy

Inside every schlocko TV sitcom di-

rector there lies a good film. This is Laverne and Shirley/Happy Days director Garry Marshall's good film

And what a likeable, warm, witty early

'60s comedy it is. I never thought I'd

say this, but even Matt Dillon is

Dillon plays a Brooklyn teenager

who has just graduated high school and

has gotten a job at a swank Long

Island beach club for nouveau riche

ne'er do wells like Richard Crenna.

The operator of a successful car dealer-

ship, he takes Dillon under his wing

when he sees the kid has some smarts

Promising him the world, he doesn't

realize Dillon is impressed with his

speil but also on to his cheap, under-

handed ways as well. He is also onto

his naughty niece Janet Jones, who has

the hots for the unpretentious Dillon.

Dillon's father, a plumber played by

college, and like all fathers with plans

But the sight of money and the lure

of the beach seduce Dillon into wan-

ting the get rich quick deals put forth

at the club where he goes from park-

for their offspring, nags a bit too much.

with playing cards.

Kid

and acting are heavy handed, and the

It's the not-too-distant future, and

Runaway

the spice which, when consumed, lets you travel wherever you want without moving. Hell, didn't anyone tell these people about LSD?

Our hero is played by a young British actor, Kyle MacLach lan, who, despite whatever ca-lamity befalls him, always has his hair just right. It makes Ann Miller's porcelain boufant look pliable. Well, according to prophecy (there are a lot of seers in this picture, none of whom apparently could see that even the worms are boring) he is the messiah. And slower than you can say Charlton Heston, he saves the day, if not the movie.

The cast assembled for this star bores includes Jose Ferrer (on for 5 minutes), Linda Hunt (2 minutes), Jurgen Prochnow (10 minutes), Sting (5 minutes), Max Von Sydow (3 minutes) well, you get the idea. All overact or, in the Christmas vernacular, ham it up.

Finally, there is Kenneth McMillian as Baron Vladimir Harkonnen, a homosexual floating pus machine whose face is riddled with lesions, and whose mind is obsessed with hideous evil. He likes to molest young boys as he snuffs them.

Dune is two hours and twenty minutes, two hours and twenty minutes too long.

(Regency I) M. Lasky

ed to the teeth in Vancouver. His part-

ner is a woman (very '80s), Cynthia

Rhodes, an appealing actress first seen

The comicbook sadistic villain who

masterminds some computer chips that

make peaceable robots into murderers

and turns bullets into land missiles is

lead singer of Kiss, Gene Simmons. He

gives good sneer and snarl, and sans

makeup reveals an ugly puss that

Aside from an exciting, well done

M. Lasky

finale, this is a film a robot-could have

directed. Actually, maybe a robot

ing attendant to cabana boy in just

captures the Kennedy '60s evocatively

with the expected music, cars, and

clothes of the period, but with target-

as well. The best example is Richard

Crenna's overindulged wife Jessica

Walter, who gives perhaps the win-

ningest performance in the film. Us-

ed to getting what she wants when she

wants it, she is sneeringly put off by

hubby's fondness for Dillon. She car

icatures in facial expressions and tone

of voice the many spoiled suburban

wives with nothing but material posses-

Dillon is totally appealing with his

short haircut and normal, generous

personality—as the kid who wants it

all and is naive enough to think he can

get it quickly. The film is about his

summer of growing up, and learning

more in two months than he could in

four years of schooling. The dialogue

is witty, the satire is pointed, and the

film is certainly the best so far of the

Christmas season, and one of the 10

best of the year.

sions to keep them occupied.

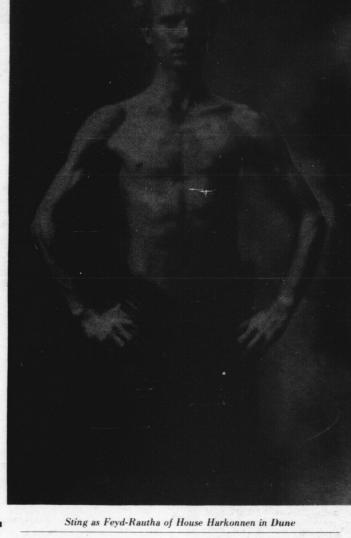
ted characterizations and mannerisi

shows us why he wears it.

could have done it better.

RERERERERERERERERERERERERERE

in Staying Alive.



-reservates and and areas areas.

Micki And Maude

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

Twice the Wives, Half the Laughs

Having read in Variety that Micki and Maude is "one of Blake Edwards" funniest films," I'm not sure I saw the right Micki and Maude. The one I saw is pleasant and mildly amusing, but hardly hilarious.

About 20 minutes in, Dudley Moore gets drunk. I think I've watched him play drunk more times than I've been drunk myself, so the novelty was wasted on me. According to Blake Edwards' moral code, it's necessary for Moore to get drunk to cheat on his wife Micki (Ann Reinking) with Maude (Amy Irving), guest cellist with the Cambodian String Quartet.

Dudley, it seems, wants to be a father; but paternity and politics don't mix. His wife, who campaigned for the governor-elect, is to be rewarded with a state superior court judgeship.

Still, both women wind up pregnant and Dudley winds up married to both of them, which somehow causes no problem even though he's a recognizable local TV personality.

It would be hard to find a more heterosexual plot idea. The only relie for Gay men is a scene spoofing TV magazine shows in which Moore interviews "six nude male models who wear handguns." There's no frontal nudity, just leather trimmed buns and acres of muscular flesh. For Lesbians there's Lu Leonard, who recently played the bulldyke matron in the West Coast production of Women Behind Bars

By the same tokenism, both of Moore's wives are shown as successfu career women, but their emotiona needs are glossed over and everything is seen from the man's point of view

Despite all my quibbles I didn't dislike Micki and Maude, I just didn't

(Galaxy, Stonestown) S. Warren

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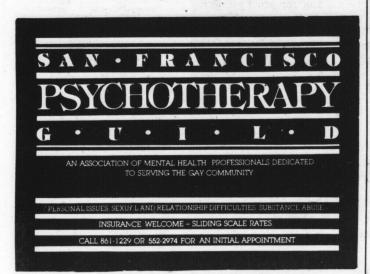
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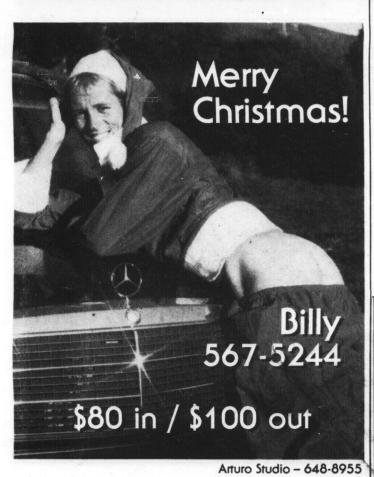
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FOOTBALL

Gators Profiled

Three From the Team That Couldn't Lose for Winning

ED NOTE: We were so impressed by the spirit evoked by the new Gay flag football team, Gay Gators, even when trounced 48-6 by the Sheriff's Deputies in its debut game, that we decided to try to build on that football spirit by highlighting some of the players who lost so nobly.

Team coach Ron Herzog is 42. He is 5'6" tall, weighs 145 pounds, and lives in the Castro. În his past, he has played touch football, done high school wrestling and basketball, and also played softball. He has a **BA** in International Relations from Dartmouth, an MA in Education from Connecticut Weslevan, and an MS in Counseling from San Francisco State. He's currently a high school teacher in Danville. I asked him what the future holds.

"I'd like to be an actor when I retire," Herzog said. "I've done it. I've been in fifteen community theater plays, mostly as a character actor.

With the Gators, besides coaching, he's played end and

"I can picture myself possibly at halfback when we've got a good enough team and I don't have to play all the time," Herzog said. "I'd like to play a little and coach a little. Once you get my age

I asked Herzog why he played the Deputies.

"This is the first interest shown in the Gay community in San Francisco and probably anywhere else," he said. " thought we had a very good team, mainly in the 'skilled positions. The linemen were good, but they were out-sized. We could have benefited from more practice, but I was really pleased with the people who did



Ron Herzog (Photo: Rink)

Herzog likes to watch "definitely professional football and just about any sport. But pro football is the only one I follow on a regular basis. Once at Candlestick I caught a baseball at a Giants game.

For fitness, "I make it to the gym a couple of times a week. I try to make it three. But I consider it 'conditioning.' I do it to feel rather than to look good. A person needs it, particularly in

In his spare time, Herzog said, "I'm into movies, theater, listening to music. I like to go to the Ambush once a week. My

philosophy? You only go around once in life, you may as well do it with gusto. We could get spiritual here, but ... It's not

JOHN PAUL CASTILLO

how long you live. It's how well

The man who impressed people with his running in the Gators vs. Sheriff's Deputies football game, Castillo is 32, stands 5'8", and weighs 160 pounds. His hair and eyes are brown. He was born in Kyle, Texas, and ran track in school. He attended Southwest Texas State and the University of Texas at Austin



John Paul Castillo (Photo: Rink)

"I played running back and did most of the running and blocking for Tom in the backfield," he said of the Gators/Deputies game. "I also played cornerback on defense. As far as what I would like to play, I'd like to play a quarterback and pass as well as being I asked Castillo why he

played in this particular game. "Well, for one, I really like to play football," he said. "I realy enjoy it. Yeah, mostly for love of the game. You know, we bit off more than we could chew. but if we'd have had more preparation . . . I really like to play football, and I'd play under any circumstances. We weren't as prepared as they were. Flag football is more of a finesse game. (You need) timing and good reflexes. We could have done a lot better, given more time (to prepare)." Judging from the turnout at the team's first practice after the game, the Gators should be much tougher

opponents next time around. As a sports observer, Castillo said he enjoys "football, basketball, and volleyball. I also play volleyball and I enjoy playing pool. During the summer, I play volleyball twice a week with the Marin Spikers, a fairly organized team. The other group is a 'pick up' team Sunday mornings n Potrero Hill." Fitnesswise, he jogs "a couple times a week in the Panhandle of Golden Gate Park." John Paul lives in the Haight.

had elaborate plans, but basically he wants to form a club with dues to cover the team's needs such as uniforms, flags, and balls, and to create an "organization." Castillo hopes the response to Gay football is enthusiastic enough to form a league.
"I love football," he said. "That's all there is to it."

When I asked him what he

envisions for the Gay Gators, he

DON HUBBARD

Hubbard is 29 years old, from Ann Arbor, Michigan, stands 5'8" tall and weighs 130 pounds. During his school years he competed in track and cross country. He played neighborhood softball, tennis, football, and says.

"I love badminton." He went to college at Eastern Michigan University where he majored in Recreation. This, he informed me, was a decision made after being a camp worker for 13

He's currently a teachers aide, phys-ed instructor, and general P.E. organizer at an elementary school in Sunnyvale He lives in San Jose and loves it. Regarding the future he says, I'm not sure where I want things to go. There's not a lot of money in recreation. What I really want to do is something with my running. I don't know if it's a fantasy or not, but I want to break the four-minute mile. Hubbard has been in the Bay Area only seven months. He plans on making the most of the opportunities for sports. In the Gators/Deputies game, he played back, then safety.

"I like doing that," he said "I'm sure of my speed and I know that no one could catch me once I get the ball. I've always been a runner, and I've always enjoyed other sports. When I was laid up after foot surgery I had some time to think. There's a lot of opportunity here for sports, and it's a good way to meet people. I saw the articles in the Bay Area Reporter and I had wanted to play football. This particular game was a little rougher than I had anticipated, but I enjoyed it. I had a chest/rib injury and was off work a week. A Deputy 'tat-

"I'd like to see a league with lot of teams-Gay teams,' Hubbard continued. "A nice friendly game of football can be a lot of fun, and sports is a bet ter way to meet people than the bars. That gets tiring. It's easier to talk to people than the

For fitness, Hubbard, of course, runs a lot. "On my job I do stretching

with the kids," he said. "Swimming, tennis, the gym occasionally, always something.



Don Hubbard (Photo: Rink)

As we head into the holiday

season, the exciting Tavern Guild Leagues give no indication of slowing down for a rest.

For example, since the last printing of the scoreboard, the fantastically energetic Monday

League's average has jumped

from 713 to 720. With momen-

tum like that, there may be

second thoughts about breaking for the holidays.

The Thursday League,

youngest of the Tavern Guild Triad, is not marking time

either. In the same span, its

league average has jumped from 557 to 560. It also has sixty-one

200+ games and two 600+

series. Considering its age is less

than four seasons, this is

outstanding bowling and prom-

ises greater things to come. By

the way, the Thursday League

has the newest perpetual trophy

of the three Tavern Guild

Leagues and, quite possibly, the handsomest. If you are ever near

133 Turk St., drop in Queen Mary's Pub and decide for your-

self. It is proudly displayed with

accentuating lights in mid-bar.

Word has it that Queen Mary's

is already a little jittery about

losing it this season. The Krewe,

Bracco Dist., and the White

Horse teams are doing every-

thing they can to assure Q.M.'s

that this doubt is well founded.

League's average has not made

any dramatic jumps, as have the

other two league averages, it,

nevertheless, still has certain

distinctive achievements of

which to be proud. For instance,

While the Wednesday

Momentum Unchecked

JERRY R. DE YOUNG

End of Season Play

TGTHURSDAY**NBL**

The Thursday Night League concluded the 1984 portion of its schedule last week, and for some of the teams, Santa came early -others were thankful 1984 was over. All agreed they are looking forward to the second half of

• The biggest early Christmas present came to league leader Queen Mary's Pub, which received four "freebies" via a forfeit by the Floppy Disks. Fluffy Jarrett rolled a 512 series, and the Queens have nov opened a four-game lead. • The second place Krewe found Trax not in the holiday

spirit as the Traxmen took 21/2 games. Darrell Thomas' 455 paced the winners, while Robert Dorn rang up a 499. • The White Horse, galloping along slowly but surely the past

the team 4-0 to claim fourth

place. Jeff Jones rolled a 489 for

the Porkers, while Mal Garcia

chalked up a 554 for the Beer-

four weeks, claimed third place with a 3-1 victory over hot rolling EJESP. Len Schmidt lead the Horsemen with a 517 and capped off his evening by winning a 15-pound turkey in the annual Park Bowl Turkey shoot. Jack Hamm rolled a 495 to lead EJESP. • The Pig Pins caught Bracco Distributing napping and swept

In closing, let me wish for all season due to a motorcycle acci-

it boasts the highest 200+ game so far (Rob Mallin 255), and the highest 600+ series so far (Eric Tuff 671). Also, as the following listing verifies, another seasonal high for number of 200+ games bowled in a single evening has been set.

Hank Givan Mikel Lindsey Rob Mallin Dan Hartsuff Charley Jarrett Jerry De Young 220 Keith Ray Greg Cassinelli Don Martin Cling Royce **Bob Bryant** Randy Osier Skip Christian Tim Hagerman Glenn Noll **Bob Rolison** Jerry Nee Lew Watson

Seven new stars appear in this radiant galaxy of high achievers, among them Hank Givan and Jerry Nee, both of whom had missed their mark by one pin in the previous article. Congratulations to each of you, and, for their pertinacious perseverance, a special well done to Hank and

of you avid bowlers a very special holiday season, filled with love and caring. And to Jim Knecht of the Pendulum team, who is layed up over the Xmas dent, get well soon and rejoin us on the lanes. We need you.

• Glen Terrio blasted a 544 in pacing the Fourkeeps to a 3-1 win over Trax Maniax. Ric Kroetsch had a 426 for Trax.

• CDC had reason to celebrate when it took a 4-0 sweep over archrival Febe's. Eddie Carmack had a season-high 542 for CDC, while Allen Dale's 455 was not enough to avoid defeat.

• The Park Bowl rang up a 3-1 victory over the Four Little

Pigs when Ed Barids registered a 574—the night's highest series. John Woods' 496 was high for the Piglettes.

ROBERT E. JAHNIGEN

• And concluding the evening's action, the Special had a "special" reason to celebrate when it registered its first 4-0 sweep of the season by knocking off Ron's Records. Darrell Thomas was smoking with a 559 series, while Roger Rigney had a respectable 527 series.

The league's taking two weeks off to enjoy the holidays -resuming action on Jan. 3.

G.S.L. UPDATE

A Good Time Was Had By All

If Rick Brattin is re-elected G.S.L. Commissioner for next year, does that mean we can't ner"? That would be too bad because almost 40 men and women in the G.S.L. honored Rick with this first-ever wel-

The very funny and talented Tom Ammiano provided the evening's entertainment with spoofs on everyone including my personal favorite, Peggy Lee. Tom's explanation of football's signals on penalties was hilar-ious, and the highlight of the

· Schmidt Insurance ad-Probably the best part of the night was the \$250 that was vanced three places in the standings when they swept by the Fourplay. Capt. Ron Herzog's raised for the league. Thirteen of last year's 15 teams were repre-504 lead the Insurers, while sented, with many players drop-ping in just for the cocktail hour. Mike Eyster's 506 was high for

Hector Romo, owner of the Cafe Sn. Marcos, provided us with a fabulous dessert of St. Honore cake to honor Mark Warlick's 32nd birthday. Altogether, Puleeeze!

TOM VINDEED

Last Saturday saw the G.S.L donate several cases of canned food to the AIDS Fund at the Castro Theater. That evening Bob Docca provided dinner for some of our friends with AIDS that was attended by members of the league. Christmas day Bob is cooking dinner at his house for more of our friends with AIDS. Bob will hate me mentioning all of this, but maybe a few of us that "bitch" about the G.S.L. will take a fev moments this holiday season and do something special for our fellow man. Isn't that what it is supposed to be about?

SCOREBOARD

PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD BOWLING LEAGUES **Team Standings and Personal Achievements**

TAVERN GUILD MONDAY LEAGUE

(Week 10 of 21 - as of 12/10/84) League Average: 720 1. The San Francisco 2. Park Bowl 3. Renegade 4. Grand Central 5. Deluxe Pickups 6. Capricorn Coffees Welcome Home 8. Top Billing 9. Community Rentals 22½ 17½ 10. Pilsner Pointless

Sisters 11. Gays of Our Lives 12. Men's Room 13. Rude Prudes 14. Ethel Mertz Memorial 15. Transferstites 16. Perfect Petals 17. Amazing Six Graces 9 31

18. Team #6 (BYE) HIGH SCRATCH GAME

Lew Watson (G.C.S.) Rob Mallin (Rngade) Larry McBroom (G.C.S.) Angelo Maggio (G.C.S.)

HIGH SCRATCH SERIES Mal Garcia (P.B.) 623 Keith Ray (Rngade

Larry McBroom (G.C.S.)

Hank Givan (T.Blng) TAVERN GUILD WEDNESDAY LEAGUE (Week 9 of 26 - as of 12/12/84) League Average: 741

2. Park Bowl 3. Pendulum 4. Play With It, Ltd.!! 211/2 141/ 5. Cafe San Marcos 21 . Can We Bowl? 7. Pilsner Pointless

8. S.F. Eagle 191/2 161/2

9. Pendulum Pieces 10. Pilsner Sleaze Balls 19 11. Pilsner Pinguinettes 12. Pilsner Potlickers 13. Pilsner #1 17 19 14. Grady's 15. Animals 16. S.F. Eagle #2 151/2 201/2 Fairies 141/2 211/2 18. Sweet Inspiration 19. David Kelsev's Unmentionables 20. Ram's Head Bar 23 21. PWIL/Japantown 25 25

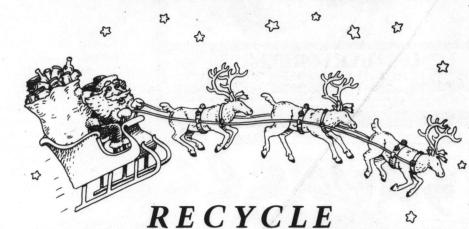
THURSDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE (Week 13 of 21 - as of 12/6/84) League Average: 560

22. Scenic Hyway Tours 11

. Queen Mary's Pub 30 14 3. Bracco Dist 4. White Horse 261/2 171/ 5. Fourplay 6. Pig Pins 8. Febes 9. Ron Records 10. EJESP 11. Schmidt Insurance 12. Trax 14. C.D.C. 26 15. Floppy Disks 161/2 271/2 16. Park Bowl 17. Four Little Pigs

18. The Special

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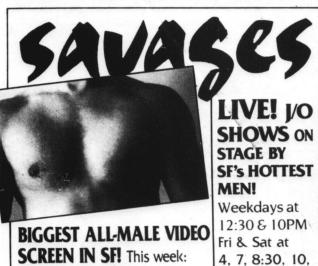
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Zelda Would Have Loved It

final word. As she closed the

ceremony with a few more

platitudes about missing him

and how much brighter he had

made the world, her gentle de-

meanor suddenly shifted to HIGH gear and she literally

shouted: "GOODBYE ZELDA!"

We loved you in life and we love

you now!" and with that the

organist suddenly BOOMED

out: "SAN FRANCISCO!" as

lot of the "regulars" at the Pilsner Inn were saddened two weeks ago when it was learned that Dick (Zelda) Zautke passed away of a heart condition while he was working at his favorite hobby of glass etching. Dick lived only a few doors away from the Pilsner. It was his habit to take libations there daily and kibitz with the other guys and play dice. Despite the City's insufferable attitude toward playing dice, Zautke was undaunted, and every afternoon he was seen downing his rum and cokes with gusto and adding to the clatter of the place with his vehement pounding on the bar with the dice cups, making sure he drowned out the raucous babble

and disco beat. Dick's best friend, Gabriel Starr (still in exile in Los Angeles) flew in when it was learned that his best buddy had passed away. Family and friends were notified, and a memorial service was planned for last Friday evening at 6 p.m. at the First Unitarian Church at Franklin and Geary. The minister was a stern-looking woman with straight hair, bangs, and horn-rimmed glasses. She expounded at length about all Dick's good qualities. It was a speech we've all heard before about the good attributes of the departed: his generosity; his friendliness; his love of life and of humor; his cocky attitude; and his caring for friends. After her sermonizing, a few of Dick's friends marched to the rostrum to give their viewpoints, and to point out the wonderful times they had together, to eulogize his very being and by this time, the tears were flowing and the sobs were audibly heard throughout the lofty room. When one after the other had completed their words of loss and praise, the lady preacher once again

if he were closing his pre-movie act at the Castro Theatre. The entire audience was stunned! Taken aback! Surprised! And with that the ceremony abrupty ended. Well! Out in the lobby, men in leather, suits, work clothes, and every other combination were running in and out of the WC blowing their noses, dabbing their eyes, laughing and wondering what the hell happened. Since Gabriel planned the whole thing, it should not have come as a surprise. It certainly was one of the most unique memorial services anyone EVER attended. Dick's ashes had been strewn out over the Pacific days before. At the Pilsner Inn after the service, a horde converged to hoise a few in honor of Dick Zautke. Bartender Jim Cvitanich created a new drink: The Zelda (rum and coke in a shot glass topped with whipped cream). I tell you, Zelda would have loved it!

It was Tuxedo Junction all over town last weekend: somebody threw this huge pre-party bash at the Green Room in the War Memorial Bldg. and leaover the place, and everyone gorging on the finger food and gourmet buffets as well as cocktails in abundance. I hope you survive them all. Over at the Castro Theatre, Allen White sat down at the organ (mercifully not named Leo Ford) and pounded out a few ditties prior to the "That's Entertainment" performance. Not a big crowd, but a lot of people dropped by with canned goods and other usable items for people with AIDS in need at the Saturday matinee. Later that night, Jim (Mr. Tits) Cvitanich donned the trappings of Santa (minus a nundred pounds or so) to charm the Shanti Project premises and its guests. The staff of the Bay Area Reporter got together at publisher Bob Ross' home for fraternizing and photo snapping. Again Allen White was smitten by the bartender, who is also the man who delivers the B.A.R. to your favorite hangout. It's easy to smite Allen. Dick (Sweetlips) Walters was there to show off his new pearly white teeth, and Dick Rubin endured it all throughout while Michael Lasky and Rink debated the values of being a star and not being a star. When Bob (Continued on next page)

and others discarded their reg-

ular attire to hit the black tie

affair and later converged in

Pacific Heights for more of the

same. The monkey suits finally

appeared on Folsom at the Brig,

Chaps, and Eagle, and it must

have been some shindig. To

quote one of the invited guests:

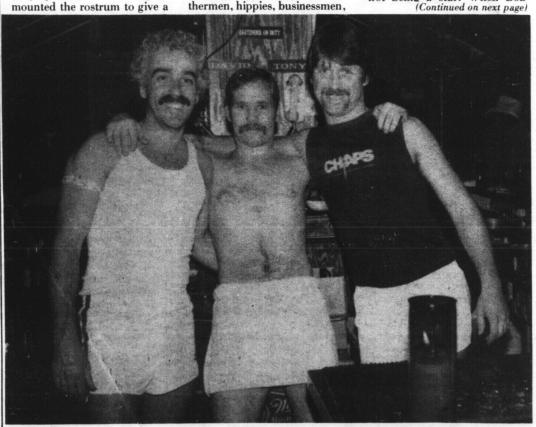
'My dear, it WAS pissy!" The

holiday season is in full swing,

that's for sure. Parties galore all

'Goodbye Zelda! We loved you

in life and we love you now!'



Bartenders at Chaps' Bath House party last weekend (Photo: Rink)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

(Continued from previous page)

Ross fitted Rink for his new "BAR" jacket (wait 'til you see them) and asked what name to embroider on it, LaRink answered: "I don't want everybody to know who I am!"how do you like that coming from a man who has photographed virtually everybody who is anybody in the known Gay world?? It was festive alright. Even Patrick Toner managed to gather a HUGE crowd for his Steam Heat party at Chaps-there was so much fog/heat/steam one could barely see the show, but every bath house and after hours joint was publicized at the affair-nice going Patrick—Bubbles was disappointed that you didn't show your boner, but how many encores can one queen get? * * *

Not a whole lot going on this weekend. The 'Niners are resting before they plunge into what everyone hopes will be the yellow brick road to the Super Bowl; the only question at press time is, who will they play? Go 'Niners! ... At press time none of the corresponding secretaries from the bike, fraternal, or uniform clubs had sent me any press releases, so Larisse will have to go hungry for CLUB news again this week. Tonight, Thurs., Dec. 20, DJ Frank Schmidt at CHAPS will present OMNI-MUSE, a conglameration of electronic and classical music from 9:30 to 11 p.m., and at press time the \$5 donation for Xmas Tree Lights for Ward 5-B were up to \$3,000-nice going men! ... INTERCHAIN will be having a meeting at the BRIG this Friday, Dec. 21 starting around 8 p.m. When I called Lee Copeland he was sleeping, so I hope this information is accurate-I know how you ALL hate inaccurate news. Boy do I know

HAVE A MERRY

Biggest secret on the Miracle Mile these days is that bartenders who are required to wear leather on the job are rebelling! They complain that the booze, soap, water, acid, and other chemicals they deal with ruin their leather and their boots; one dude has a replica of his chaps made out of the dreaded NAU-GAHYDE and others are following suit-looks like rubber will replace leather boots-the Latex Queens will love it!

Kym Whittington, the Saucy

Aussie of CHAPS, is not only a

bartender, but he's a P.R. man as well-P.R. as in PUBIC relations that is; while LaWhittington claims to be in a mad emotional bout with macho man Mike Wilson, he has been seen doing the second-story bit cavorting around with a mysterious biker type in the McCoppin St. area! ... Last Sunday night, George Burgess was feeling no pain and was seen sitting at the bar in the Eagle sniffing a bicycle seat and waving it around like Larisse when she was Ms. GDI. I don't know how Stella Stoll and Red on the Head

can stand it sometimes! When Bob LaBrie (my favorite joke teller) saw all of this, he decided to try a Scandal Cocktail (vodka, cranberry juice, and a twist of lemon) and ran out in the patio ... THE 15 ASSN. has a spiffy new Newsletter out, and if you're lucky enough to be on the mailing list, these little missiles could end up as "collector's items"-nice job! You'll all be glad to know that the Dowager Vinny Russell and myself have buried the hatchet ('tis the Season, you know) and you can all rest now . . . A cou-

The minions gather at Bob Ross' house for the annual Bay Area Reporter staff Christmas do (Photo: Rink) (coming in Feb.) after his stunning performance at David The bike club scene in Los Stoll's raffle party last Thursday Angeles was stunned last week (raised \$600?); La Carter sang when it was learned that Guy a capella, but preceded his per-Chaddock of the Satyrs M/C formance with: "Marcus, I was stabbed to death in the know you're here, so please be driveway of his residence last kind." I am being kind Billy— Beverly Sills would have loved Well, what have we here? A leather maker/sewer and his roommate leather boy created such a disturbance last Saturday night while they were having a knock-down, drag-out battle the Boys in Blue had to

Tuesday (Dec. 11) by unknown assailants. Mr. Chaddock was one of the founding members of the Satyrs and a long-time supporter of the bike club scene. uneral services were pending at

That winds it up for this week, sports fans. Be careful of pickpockets while shopping; remember your loved ones, both living and departed, and have a very special Christmas holiday this year by thanking for your blessings. Until next week, then, remember: If you can't give your word of honor, will you at least give a promise? See you round the campus and be sure to look for HYM and KYM.



Suzy Parker, columnist for LA's Compass Magazine, is caught here giving a donation to David Stoll at the CMC Carnival in November. (Photo: J. Krause)

Galleria New Year's Eve Event

Bonnie Pointer headlines Conceptual Entertainment's 1985 New Year's Eve event Monday, Dec. 31 at the Galleria Design Center. Titled The Sky's The Limit, the presentation will feature non-stop dancing from 10 p.m. until dawn.

Pointer, in an exclusive San Francisco appearance, will introduce the title song she sings in Heavenly Bodies, the sequel to the highly successful motion picture, Flashdance. Pointer will sing a selection of her many hit recordings, as well as the two songs which are performed in the forthcoming film. This will be her first appearance in San Francisco since going solo from

Following up on its success on Halloween, Conceptual Entertainment will again provide a raised runway the length of the dance floor for all attending to model their outstanding wardrobes. The attire is Decadence to Elegance. Groups, couples, or singles may compete for cash prizes of \$300 for most decadent, \$300 for most elegant, and \$300 for best high fashion. Judging will take place between 11 p.m.

This will be the sixth consecutive year Conceptual Entertainment has produced a New Year's Eve dance spectacle at

and 1:30 a.m.

the Galleria. Each year producer David Bandy makes changes to entertain and surprise the crowds that fill the building. Non-stop dancing throughout the night is the one component that never changes. This year, Steve Fabus will be presenting the dance music, utilizing the unique sound system installed specifically for this event.

Tickets for the Galleria New Year's Eve event are priced at \$25 before Christmas. The tickets will then cost \$30 each and, if available, will be \$35 at the door. Headlines on Polk Street and Castro Street are two of several outlets currently selling tickets for the event.



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Yuletide Ebbs

KARL STEWART

t seems this Christmas season is a tad more festive than last. Could it be because the DOL and I are celebrating the 18-month mark and things are loving and secure. Could it be because the shock of the AIDS crisis, while no less intense, has been with us for a while now and we are turning to the business of living, as well as tending to our downed members. Whatever the reason, I sense a great deal of (restrained) joy lurking out there . let it go. To celebrate life is to acknowledge the living of it.

There are a number of folks out there doing precisely that: Royal Liner held sway in his Kokpit position as bartender to provide \$1000 to Lighthouse for the Blind, via a teddy bear and plant auction Tuesday 12/4. Even John (as in owner) sprung for a daddy/daddy's boy set of

Grand Duke and his Duchess Michael and Trixie have been hard at work too. First a Toys For Kids drive and party at the latest addition to 18th Street madness, Festus. While the management squabbles over

control of the reins ... customers are rallying. The bar was filled for the first time in a year, and the show was just a like Rich, Remy, camp ... like Rich, Remy, Michael, and Mr. Gay Bruce doing a Christmas hula. This was followed by The

Grand Ducal A Winter Fantasy Ball produced by Sandra Sorrelles, designed by handsome John Scott. One of the events surrounding the ball was GD Vinnie's Mr. & Miss Claus Contest where the winner, Flo of the Village, raised \$552.50 for the AIDS Fund by selling tickets at a dime each. Mr. SC is Darrell Wright, and we hear he has quite an interesting lap to sit on.

This was a sparsely attended affair, though obviously successful. The show was interspersed with a celebrity pastry auction, done Polish style. The big prizes were Ginger's spice cake and GD Vinnie's homemade, choclate-covered, creamfilled mini-puff pastry ...

divine. The costumes were unusually bright: Tony T. and his better half Dwayne dressed as green, gold, and white Rus-

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11:00, 2:30 AM

and Portuguese!

sian toy soldiers (very clever, since the Grand Ducal Council uses the Russian Imperial theme perpetually). Emcee Sissy spaceout was a cross between Scarlett O'Hara gone punk and Glinda-Good-Witch ... all in tulle and hoops. In this outfit she did "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas," tossing snow to the audience. To which Michael. Trixie, Desiree, and Bruce responded, on hands and knees with straws. I don't know whether you can get high on paper confetti, but some people will try anything, once.

Our reigning Empress of Alameda joined in the fun as coemcee and ACIE's Nova Lea showed her prowess on stage in Liza's "City Lights."

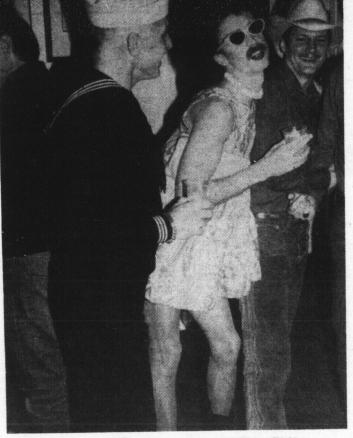
The closing fun included offerings by GD Trixie in a stunning red and gold sequined gown, and Michael "in elf" doing "I believe in Santa Claus." Mr. Bowman and his wife of

state have been a bit busy: Wednesday 12/5 he threw a pleasant set of birthday parties for Hubby Bruce at the Stallion and later the Village. Last Sunday he mounted "Old Fashion Christmas Sharing," a benefit for Xmas gifts for ward 5B, at the New Bell. This was run by the talented Lyn sisters Tammie, Ronnie, and Trixi (dowager Miss Gay-GD Michael's Ex/ of state). Why does he always end up with Trixie's?

If you'd like to join Michael on one of his ventures, the toys for kids will be distributed from Festus, Saturday 12/22. Check the bar for time.

Other worthy fun and fundraisers have been Rita Rocket and her third annual Family Reunion and Christmas Party at Castro Station. Admission to the Thursday (12/13) soiree was a small gift for AIDS patients, and the proceeds go into Rita's wonderful Ward 5-B Sunday buffet program. She has accomplished all of this in spite (or because of) the death of her partner and close friend, Larry Beach . . . a couple of weeks ago of AIDS.

Another work-horse is David 'Stella" Stoll of Eagle wings. He happens to occupy the office of Mr. CMC 1984. Not to set a precedent or anything, but David is actually doing something with it. The men of the Eagle entertained, including DJ David Andez singing his recent



The scene at Nora Neat's holiday party (Photo: Rink)

released single, "You Get Over It," Billy Carter doing Christmas carols accapella. David and the gang raised \$560 for Senior Dinners on Christmas Day.

Tonight, Thursday 12/20, the Eagle is holding its Gala Christmas Party from 8 p.m. and includes food, drink, and draft specials.

Down the street the Arena is also preparing to deliver a big Christmas package to the SF AIDS Foundation Food Bank. The past two Thursdays (12/6 and 13) and tonight from 2:30 p.m. when they open to closing, you can get a 75c well, dom. beer or wine with each donation of canned foods. Bring in a whole bag and stay all evening. Larry and Carl are offering the Arena Bare Chest Calendar for \$10. It is a good first effort, but I suggest a photographer like Joe Altman, and pay him for it. You get what you pay for, va know. It's on sale at Headlines, Does Your Mother Know, All That Jazz, and at the

THE DISH AND THE SPOON: MORE FAIRY TALES

Did you notice the interior decor of Men's Room, The Transfer and others last season? The season's best was brought out by Pat Montclaire's great new decorator service, working out of her shop at 1014 Pine at Taylor. This season's treasury of lights and bows is just as rich.

Farrel "Butch" Freeman has decided to stay with us for a while. He's got a new job, downtown. Roomie Stella Stoll gave the trooper a call at work, shortly aftert he assumed the position, and asked, "Is Farrel there?" Receptionist confused for a moment, "She . . . uh he's out to lunch." More true than you know, lady.

The Eureka Valley Merchants Association of the Castro area has revived an old tradition: the judging of retail shop windows at Christmas. This year's winners are, in reverse order: The Right Light (#4) for a lovely miniature 30-year-old Christmas Cabin. The SF Office Supplies (#3), for the most clever use of a limited space. Au Naturel (#2) for tying the theme of Christmas into its business so cleverly. The Grand Prize winner this year was a new addition. Harmony & Lotus, a natural fiber clothier located where Gramophone used to be. The #1 prize was given because of the use of color in creating a new view of Christmas.

Monday evening, 12/31, New Year's Eve. Ol' Doc Kellman and the I Beam gang invite you to ring it in with "So Many Men, 1985" at the Gift Center Pavilion from 9 p.m. to 9 a.m. Tickets before 12/25 are \$19.85. after, \$25, at doors, \$35. Featured entertaining is Evelyn Thomas (as in "High Energy" and Linda Clifford doing her hits "If My Friends Could See

(Continued on next page)



The award-winning storefront of Harmony & Lotus (Photo: Rink)

FRIESE FRAME

We All Did a Good Job This Year

MARK FRIESE

ello and happy holidays to (don't call it Frisco) San Francisco. This has been to people the same as year's past, which could mean, that it was an A. B. or C year.

A would mean it was a wonderful and meaningful year, and one to celebrate.

B would mean it wasn't one of those years to write home about.

C means that sometimes you don't need a good or bad year to mark off on your calendar, but can be content knowing you have gone through another year and are a better person because

To wish a Merry Christmas to all the people I would like would take an awful lot of space in one column, but to all of my friends I do wish a happy holiday season, and if I am a very good boy, I hope I will have many more friends like the ones I have now next year.

At the New Bell through the holidays is Bob Sandner at the forms me he will run . . . and more important is that Randy Johnson is undaunted and in good spirits. Get well soon, love, The Wazoo.

A big success was last evening's benefit at Buckley's for the San Francisco AIDS Hospice. Congratulations to all on a good show. Hope all of the bartenders and staff of the bars out there signed the Christmas cards brought by the S.F. AIDS Foundation for the men at Ward 5-B, as it certainly was a nice thought and sure to bring cheer

Paul Seidler, one of the people who works very hard for the Godfather Fund, which is set up exclusively for the patient's personal needs at Ward 5-B, is the man you should contact if you have funds for that purpose. Rita Rockett had a fun fundraiser at the Castro Station this past week, and the monies raised there will go towards her luncheons at Ward 5-B.

'I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and rejoice in the ones you love.'

piano Wednesday through Monday evenings at 8:30 p.m. while David Kelsev is on tour in the east. Stop by for the New Bell Christmas party this Sunday. The festivities will begin around 2 p.m.

Trax, on Haight Street, will be having its Xmas party tonight. It all starts at 7 p.m., and there will be a buffet served. With all of the fun people involved with Trax, it is sure to be a festive evening."

The Mint is now serving lunches Monday through Saturdays from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., and is still featuring 2-4-1 barbeque dinners for \$7.50 seven nights a week. A little bird at the laundry whispered in my ear that the manager will be seeking the emperor title this year.

More Christmas parties are in order, and one to catch in the East Bay will be at the Bench and Bar this Sunday evening at 8 p.m. when Sunday night fever is on holiday, but merriment will still prevail

About jockstraps and friends. A good friend fell from a ladder and broke his knee and had to have surgery. However, he inanalengarangarangarangaranga

Ticket orders for the 1985

Cable Car Awards and Show are

now on sale by mail through Dec. 31. This year's event will

be presented Saturday night,

Feb. 2, at the Japan Center

Doors will open at 7 p.m. with

the show beginning at 8 p.m.

Ticket holders will be given a

ballot as they enter the theater

and have the opportunity to vote

for many of the awards being

presented. This year, people at-

tending are being encouraged to

arrive at the theater by 7:30 to

enable them to vote for the

various categories. Voting is

A substantial number of the

awards are determined by public

vote. The remainder are deter-

mined by the Cable Car Board

of Directors and select

discontinued when the show

Theater.

begins.

Cable Car Show Tickets On Sale By Mail

all of those monthly pages.

the S.F. Ballet, then you have The staff of this paper was

So sorry I became exhausted a few Sundays ago at the S.F. Eagle, but hopefully Ron understood. They had their Christmas party last week, and I'm sure Mr. Marcus will give you a full accounting. By the way, the Arena Bare Chest calendar is out, and Mr. Marcus certainly emceed a hot bunch of men onto

If you have never seen the Nutcracker (no jokes please!) by certainly missed a treat. I had the most wonderful evening the night I went, and yes Virginia, there is a Sugar Plum Fairy!

treated to a wonderful Christmas party at the home of Bob Ross. I met quite a few of the staff who I hadn't met before. and truly enjoyed the good company and holiday cheer. Thanks again, Bob.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and rejoice in the ones you love. I love Edgar for sticking with me, and also next door neighbors named Kathy. I hope all of you have people like that around you because friends make your life rich.

Tickets for table seating in the

first two rows of tables and the

front rows of the first two tiers

of the orchestra are priced at \$20

per seat. The remaining seats in

the orchestra are priced at \$15

each. All seats on the main floor

The first two rows of tables in

the balcony will be reserved

seating for the first time this year

with four seats at each table.

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the balcony are not reserved and

now sold out, and 20% of the

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BOOK RACK

Form and Function

Lasting Relations by Rudy Kikel Sea Horse Press; \$5.95

by John D. Dolan

The structure of this book is significant. There are five sections, each with a title, and clustered within each section are groups of poems, each with a title and number. Such organization means that within each section there is an intended unity of meaning. It also means that from section to section there is a development of experience which, with perhaps one exception, is never arbitrarily presented. Thus, this organized collection of single poems tells us a full story by telling smaller stories, although Edmund White's reference to the book as a "gallery," and James Merrill's reference to it as "a photo album" - included in their blurbs on the back of the book — are also accurate but do not. I think, truly describe the stature of what Rudy Kikel has

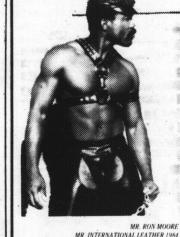
The story told is the story of Kikel's life. It begins with 'Autographs, 1955" which names classmates (both sexes), quotes their adolescent rhymes, and is followed in each instance by a poem "about" that person. mmediately readers will know, or ought to, that they are in the hands of a poet whose mind is as intelligent and sometimes ironic as his heart is affectionate. Yet Kikel is incapable of sentimentality, and he's never only after anybody's libido. The book closes with a somewhat arbitrarstructured "Current Addresses," nine poems, one about an elderly woman, and eight about men, including the poet Richard Howard.

But what, you may ask, is the poetry like? Ah, there's the rub. don't think a book review can be literary criticism, and that's what it would take to fairly and fully evaluate Lasting Relations. On one hand, the complexities of what Kikel is saying (intricate information, observation, and commentary) leads to a syntax from which it is literally impossible to quote without a false rendering of the whole. On the other hand, there's the cumulative effect. The book has 61 pages, and can be read in one sitting. What emerges is the poet's profound capacity to care about people.

It may be helpful to know that Kikel, who has a Ph.D. from Harvard, had an earlier Catholic education (information gleaned from the poetry) and thus, well-acquainted with paradox, uses the complexities of his perceptions and feelings not separate in the poetry — to tell us about loving and losing, and loving and not losing.

Kikel's ordering of his experiences is more than interesting. For instance, the second section ("Miss Gottschee") is a dramatic tour de force. That it follows the first section lets us know that life is more than 'Autographs, 1955," and if it doesn't find its way very quickly into anthologies we should all raise hell.

One section ("Local Visions") has alrady appeared in A True Likeness, edited by Felice Picano, my knowledge of which



caused me to buy Lasting Rela-

tions. Anyone, I thought, anyone who can write about a Gay

relationship that way has got to

have more to say. Rudy Kikel

Which brings me to my final

point. Kikel's parents - we

learn this through his poetry —

were immigrants. His mother

worked for 19 years as a "do-

mestic" until her husband, a

self-made man, got rich. What

Kikel has to say about them,

about his entire family, and

about his relations with them is

truly unique, but it is also about

tion. Kikel's style is inseparable

from his content. Form follows

function, and a life intensely

lived, keenly observed, results in

poetry written with great craft.

discipline, and imagination.

hope a book as significant and

as accessible as this one gets a

wide, wide readership.

our human (American) condi

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(Continued from previous page)

Merry Christmas from the DQL and Lashes (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Me Now," "Runaway Love," et al. Your DJs will be the everarticulate Michael Garret and the venerable Bobby Viteritti. Watch for the Time Square midnight.

Lashes

The great awards ceremonies are upon us, children. Jan. 19, a Saturday, the David Society will present the David awards. It is entirely by public vote, so drop by their 18th Street (near Hartford) office and cast. The awards will be held at Raggs this

The Cable Car Awards are nigh also, Saturday, Feb. 2, Japantown Theater is the place. These two offerings really give one perspective as to what has gone on in the community in the past year; who's done what and to whom ... sort of.

May your seasonal celebrations be joyous and your new year propserous. Live long and be of great cheer. See ya in the skins. On behalf of the DQL and

myself ...

K. Stewart

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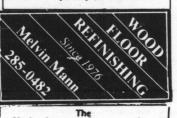
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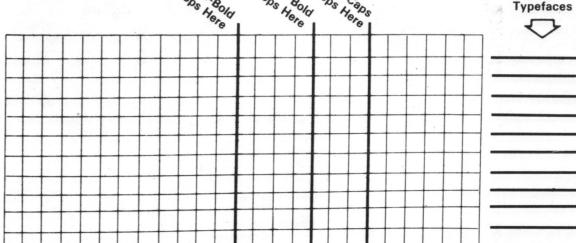
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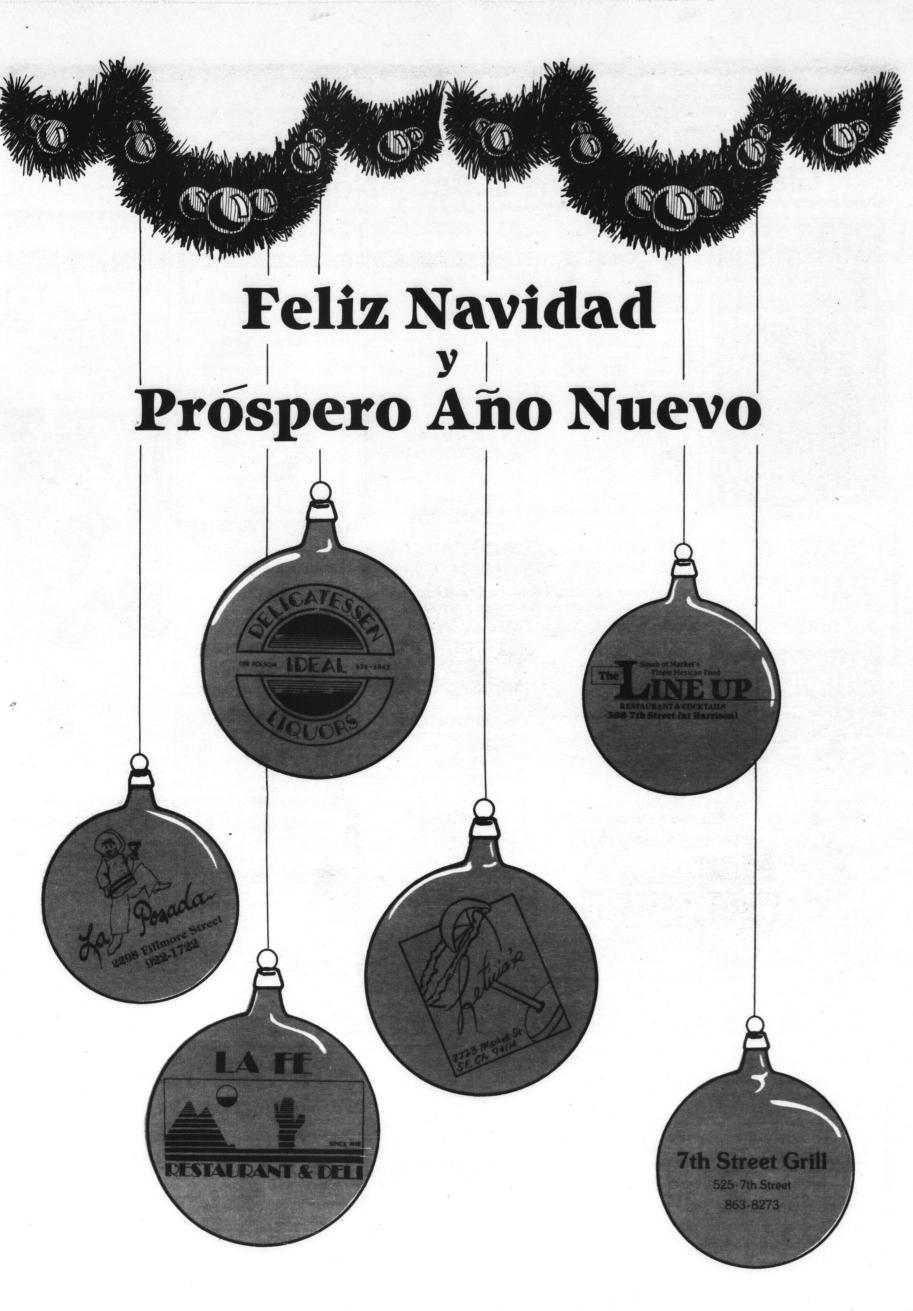
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Thank you all so much for your continued support. We wish you the best during this holiday season, and may the New Year bring you PEACE, LOVE and JOY.

> Sincerely, The Luna Family

BAY AREAREPORTER

VOL. XIV NO. 52 DECEMBER 27, 1984

1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103



A Rose is A Rose is A Rose and a holiday hug adds a rosy glow on a chilly holiday evening out on Market Street

Sacramento Gays Volunteer for Nation's First AIDS Blood Test

UC-Davis Screens Gay Men, Blood Bank, Hemophiliacs; River City AIDS Foundation Urges Caution in Program by Brian Jones

The "AIDS test" is a reality. The University of California-Davis has become the first facility in the nation to make the controversial blood test generally available. This month, a group of 20 Gay volunteers in Sacramento received results of the first batch of blood tests. The test is designed to detect antibody in Human T-Cell Leukemia Virus 3 (HTLV-3). It is known that HTLV-3 can cause AIDS in otherwise healthy people.

Grinch Steals Christmas **But Sheriff Recovers It**

Gays Excluded From Holiday Service At S.F. Jail; Special Rites Held

Gay inmates at the Hall of Justice were invited to participate in a special Christmas Eve religious service following their exclusion from a similar service for all prisoners Saturday. The service was hastily pulled together Monday at the demand of San Francisco Sheriff Mike Hennessey following

The decision to exclude Gay prisoners last Saturday was made, according to several reports, by an unidentified deputy sheriff. Other events for prisoners scheduled through the days before Christmas had included Gays.

Approximately 15 Gay prisoners chose to attend the Christmas Eve service. Among those were Jay Neill, the 19-year-old awaiting extradition to Oklahoma on bank robbery and murder charges; and Dave Murdock, also 19, who is charged with a Land's End murder last

fast and efficient work by Louise Minnick, a sheriff counselor and political activist who is a member of the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee. Religious participants included Supervisor Harry Britt, who is a Methodist minister; Metropolitan Community Church intern Sheila Harken; and Rev. Chris Cartwright, Tom Carroll and Tom Murray from Dignity, a Gay Roman Catholic organization.

To attend the service, the prisoners had to walk from their cells down a corridor between other cells where inmates ridiculed them with the most de-



Sheriff Mike Hennessey (Photo: Rink)

meaning and dehumanizing homophonic comments. It was sickening that any person should be forced to endure such humiliation to attend a religious service on Christmas Eve.

As they gathered in the room, a decision was quickly made to mingle the ministers with the prisoners in an attempt to humanize the setting. Minnick brought cake from Just Desserts and found soft drinks to serve.

N THIS SSUE

MOST SEX is banned at the

baths. Judge toughens his

torney. Clubs stay closed

DIRECTORS QUIT at AIDS

Fund. Their new salaries

estranged them from volunteers. Greg Douth-

waite reports on page 9. **BOFFO BOX OFFICE** for

Harvey Milk documentary,

amid talks of an Oscar.

Tinsel-town tales on page

for now. Page 2.

(Continued on next page)



It was the worst year ever for Gays and Lesbians and the best thing to be said for it is that it will end Monday at 11:59:59-we hope.

They let Dan White out of prison. The Governor vetoed our equal rights bill. Five men from Vallejo attacked Gays and one of the victims died—and the Cops for Christ were assigned to the case. Fag-bashing was up, complaints of anti-Gay bias was up, and our spirits were down. Even the Beaux Arts Ball was a bomb.

Through it all was AIDS, AIDS, AIDS—haunting our hopes and reaching down daily nto our community and grabbing our friends, our lovers and ourselves right off the street. By November's end-with one morbid month to go-229 of us

had died of AIDS in 1984. We watched the monthly press releases from the local Department of Health like we used to watch Walter Cronkhite on Thursday nights, releasing the latest body counts from Viet-(Continued on page 10)

PARTY PLANS aplenty for New Year's Eve. Allen White has the word on what's happening and where. Page 12.

SETTING THE RECORD Gay is singing, songwriting duo Romanovsky and Phillips. Bernard Spunberg spins their new album on