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Gay TV's Demise Is Tongue-in-Cheek

But Cable TV 6 Wasn't Laughing As It Cancelled Gay Program

by Allen White

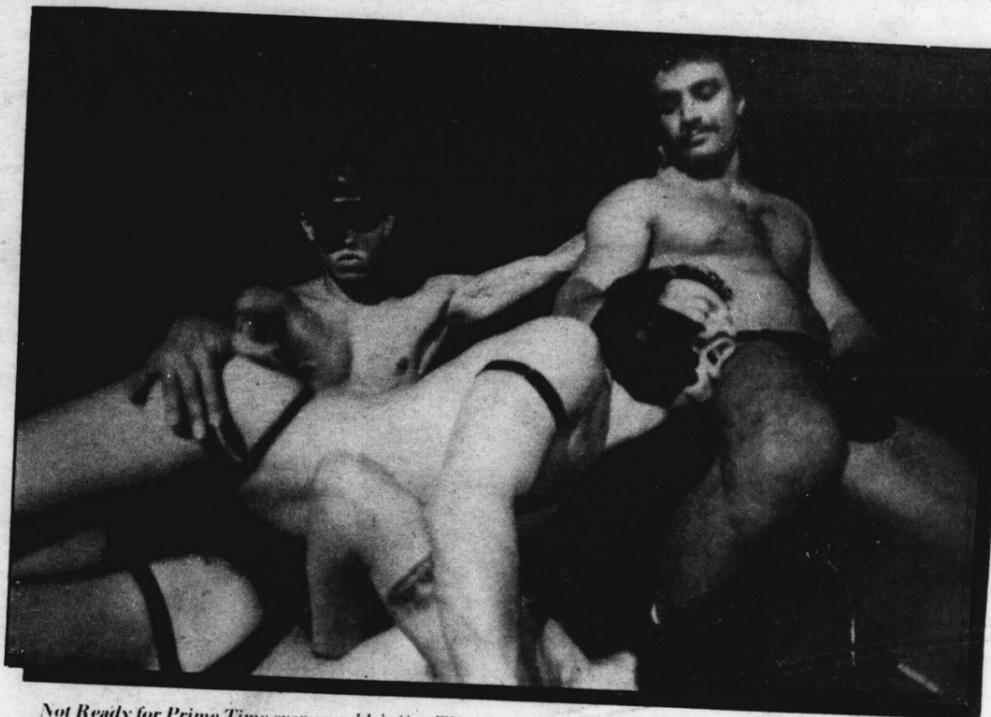
The tongue of John Kass slowly licked the thigh of a half-nude, leather-clad Patrick Toner standing spread eagle against a wall. As Kass' tongue moved up and met the right cheek of the man's ass, it spelled curtains for Gay TV on Viacom's Channel 6. The station found the erotic vignette too much for cable and cancelled the show.

The segment was broadcast as part of the Gay TV program which had aired twice weekly on cable television in San Francisco. Producer Tom Rosso confirmed that there had been "a gentlemen's agreement" not to broadcast erotic material during the program. According to a spokesperson at Channel 6, the particular segment was found to

be offensive. Barret Giorgis, the programming director for the station is out of town and not available for comment.

It was learned that the station had made a verbal agreement regarding program content which left the judgment in the hands of the producers. The primary

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Not Ready for Prime Time even on cable's Gay TV is cavorting by John Kass. That's him preparing to nibble thigh. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

IN THIS ISSUE

IMPROPER INTERFERENCE is claimed in Oklahoma murder case involving two Gay lovers. Federal attorney says Gay editor, investigator tried to influence his client. D.A. Arlo Smith disputes the claim. **Page 2.**

JET SETTING CONDUCTOR will conduct San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. He'll rehearse here weekly — but commute from his home in Seattle. Allen White follows the notes on **page 3.**

GAY LIFE IN CHINA? It's closeted behind the Bamboo Curtain, but in Hong Kong there's a different story. Armand Boulay provides a city-by-city report on **page 10.**

GAY FINANCIAL REPORTER faces 300 years in prison for leaking "inside information" from the Wall Street Journal. Gay activists say it's a set-up. **Page 11.**

POLICE RAID SAN MATEO BAR, and guess what? It's straight. The charge: patrons harassed the Gay place nearby. **Page 15.**

That Was the Year That Was

Gays Are Embraced by Democrats; Both Are Drowned on Nov. 6

Second of Two Parts

by Brian Jones

There was an extra day in 1984, as there is at the end of February every four years. For those of us enduring that other quadrennial rite—presidential elections—it seemed the year was a lot longer than that. Presidential politics was well underway when the year began, and Gays and Lesbians already were a significant factor in the political process.

1984 would be the high-water mark to date of Gay and Lesbian political clout. But in politics, winning is everything. With the defeat of the Democratic presidential nominee went many of the gains Gays and Lesbians had made nationally.

In various localities throughout the nation, though, the story was different. A Gay congressman won reelection in Massachusetts and in San Francisco, a pro-Gay candidate came in first for Board of Supervisors—trouncing an opponent who made a remark many saw as anti-Gay.

(Continued on page 11)

Sisters Retreat to Reassess — Are They Kicking the Habit?

Convent's Closed, Spotlights Dim, Membership Down; 'Dragophobia' And Integrationist Gays Take Their Toll

by George Mendenhall

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and its star attraction, Sister Boom Boom, have retreated from the public spotlight. Whether Jack Fertig (Boom Boom) will take his nun habit out of mothballs again is in question while the Sisters are re-evaluating their role in the Gay community before scheduling another public appearance.

Sister Vicious Power Hungry Bitch (Ken Bunch) reflects that some negative reactions to the Sisters within the Gay community, coupled with granting of a leave-of-absence to Sister Missionary Position (Fred Brungard), has hurt the organization. The Sisters were highly visible until a few months ago. Until then their camp appearances had helped raise thousands of dollars for worthwhile causes.

The group, formed here in 1979, has only raised a few dollars to support its own activities through the sale of postcards and T-shirts. The Sisters' treasury is barren and its "convent" at 231 Ashbury in the Haight district is closed. There is now a telephone answering service. Twelve of the twenty Sisters remain active and have monthly meetings but there are no scheduled public appearances for 1985.

"We are taking a rest now," Sister Vicious explains. "We need to recoup our energies and re-evaluate. No one is working on a project right now. We allow, of course, for 'disorderly nonsense' by individual members without the official sanction from the group."

BOOM BOOM STARS

Vicious is very supportive of



Photogenic and Controversial, Sister Boom-Boom and her national image set off a searing controversy. (Photo: Rink)

Sister Boom Boom's public exposure. However, he recognizes that is "has affected the image of the Sisters." In countless interviews, millions of Americans have read about Fertig's character. Photos of him in his black net stockings, white pearls and heels adorned *Time* and endless newspapers.

Boom Boom got his title as a "pom pom girl" for the Sisters but his real nun title is Sister Rose of the Blood Stains of the Sacred Robes of Jesus. He now says he has "put my vocation on vacation. There is more to me than black mesh net stockings."

Fertig is currently involved in giving private astrological readings and writing two astrology columns, while appearing at Valencia Rose in "Dionysus, The God of Ecstasy." Fertig wants to remain anonymous. "I do not want to be photographed without my white facial makeup. I am a very private person."

The media gave the Boom Boom characterization considerable coverage over the past three years. It began when Fertig ran for a position on the Board of Supervisors in 1982 and filed an "intent" to run for mayor. There was revised interest in him when the Democratic Party convention was held here in 1984. When asked about the great media attention he has received, Fertig surprised by insisting, "I did not seek out the reporters and photographers. They sought me. I am not shy about it but I am not a media hound."

While the media portrayed Sister Boom Boom as an outrageous Gay person in San Fran-

(Continued on page 4)

Gay Editor, Investigator Accused Of Impropriety in Murder Case

Attorney Objects to Contact Made With Client In S.F. Jail; His Appeal Is Rejected

by George Mendenhall

A court magistrate has dismissed an affidavit filed by a federal attorney which alleged that the News Editor of *Bay Area Reporter*, Brian Jones, and Gay activist Ron Huberman, an investigator for the District Attorney, acted improperly in their contact with a defendant.

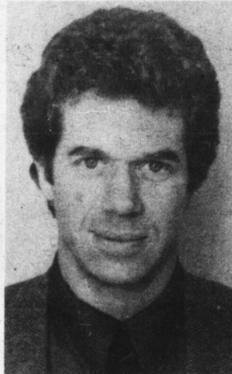
The incident involved a visit by Huberman to the cell of Jay Wesley Neill at the Hall of Justice and subsequent telephone conversations between the defendant and Jones. Neill is charged in the murders of four people in Oklahoma. Huberman was accused of unlawfully interviewing a defendant without the approval of his attorney.

Harry L. Hellerstein, Assistant Federal Public Defender, requested that Magistrate Wayne D. Brazil dismiss murder charges against Neill based on the alleged improprieties. Brazil did not find the argument valid and sent Neill back to Oklahoma to face trial. Hellerstein's affidavit was filed on December 24 and the affidavit was disallowed four days later.

District Attorney Arlo Smith told this reporter, "The affidavit made some inaccurate and false statements. They misrepresented what Ron said—but I want to line everything up here in a response before I talk further about it."



Brian Jones (Photo: R. Pruzan)



Ron Huberman (Photo: Rink)

A SECOND ATTORNEY

The federal attorney had been appointed by the court to represent Neill as federal charges had been brought against his client in Oklahoma. Neill, 19, and his lover, Robert Grady Johnson, 22, are accused of murdering three employees and one customer of a Geronimo, Oklahoma, bank on Dec. 14. The two lived lavishly for three days on the \$17,000 they obtained, police said. They were arrested Dec. 17 at a Holiday Inn here. Both have now been returned to Oklahoma.

The federal attorney, who had been appointed by the court to represent the accused murderer, became miffed when he

talked to his client just before Christmas. He evidently felt threatened when he learned that a private attorney might become involved in assisting Neill. Hellerstein charged Huberman attempted to "cause my client to lose confidence in his court-appointed attorney."

Huberman was not accused of recommending a Gay attorney but he was alleged to have told Neill that he wanted to make sure, as a Gay person himself, that the suspect was being treated properly. Hellerstein said the investigator told Neill "if he should talk to anybody, he

should talk to Brian Jones."

Jones had asked Huberman to give the defendant his telephone number. Neill telephoned Jones. Hellerstein claimed that Jones told his client, "it would be good to have a Gay attorney." The editor, in a letter to the District Attorney, told Smith: "He asked me to try and find him a private attorney for a second opinion on his extradition hearing." Jones recommended an attorney who subsequently spoke with Neill.

Jones sought an interview with Neill. The defendant tele-

phoned the editor several times but stated he did not want to be interviewed until he got approval from his attorney. Hellerstein telephoned Jones and objected to any possible interview with his client.

Jones said he does not believe there was any impropriety on his behalf. Although he informally talked with Neill, he did not interview him nor did he discuss particulars of the murder case with him.

ALLEGED CONVERSATION

Hellerstein, evidently basing his knowledge on a talk with his client, alleged that Huberman had told Neill "he knew he wasn't supposed to be there and that he had to sneak up there to see him." Huberman, it is alleged, told Neill "not to worry" because a lot of people were "fighting to get him to stay here." The attorney claimed that Huberman "tried to draw my client out and obtain statements by appearing sympathetic to his cause and by appealing especially to their being fellow Gays."

Huberman is alleged to have asked Neill if it were difficult to be Gay in Oklahoma, about his relationship with co-defendant Johnson, and whether Neill was

suicidal. Hellerstein called the alleged conversation "improper and outrageous."

Jones told District Attorney Smith that he did not ask Huberman to query Neill about the case. He said that he did request that Huberman give Neill his B.A.R. telephone number because "my belief that Mr. Neill may welcome an opportunity to contact an institution of the Gay community, as indeed he did." Jones concluded in his statement to Smith, "The ethics of my profession proscribe reporters from using law enforcement officials as agents to secure information from people."

It would have been improper for Huberman to have discussed the details of the murder case with the defendant. There was no accusation that he did. Jones told Smith in his statement, "Mr. Huberman did state to me that he did not discuss the case, with either Mr. Neill or anyone else, and that he could not, due to the ethics of his office."

Huberman, Vice President of the Harvey Milk Democratic Club, was on vacation in Florida when the Hellerstein affidavit was filed. He told this reporter that it would be improper for him to discuss the case. ■

Bath Owners Will Assess Surcharge for S.F. Battle

An emergency meeting of the Board of Directors of the Association of Independent Gay Health Clubs was held in Indianapolis, Indiana, Dec. 13 to find ways to raise more funds to pay the legal expenses associated with the bath closings in San Francisco. With costs in the case expected to approach \$1 million in the coming months, the IGHC "war chest" is rapidly running out. Nearly a dozen lawyers are on retainer for the Northern California Bath Owners Association.

The bath owners themselves have already expended a small fortune in legal fees. Stan Berg, Managing Director of the IGHC, was quoted as saying, "We will fight these closings to the bitter end—no matter the cost. We consider this issue to be a civil rights issue and not a medical issue."

To raise additional funds the

IGHC is asking its 38 member clubs to charge a temporary 50 cent per visit surcharge on its members each time they visit the facility. A special account has been established to funnel this money to the lawyers in San Francisco who are handling the case. The surcharge will be made until the baths in S.F. are reopened. ■

Gay TV Cancelled

(Continued from page 1)

reason was that Viacom did not want to have to preview each program in advance. A Viacom spokesperson said the controversial segment was the subject of several complaints.

The controversial material that aired is part of three erotic vignettes which form a 60-minute video tape titled, "John Kass' Male Erotica." Advertising for the video states, "The feeling of pleasurable tension that exists in man-to-man confrontation is interpreted by John Kass and company in movement, muscle and masculine scenarios."

The scene which airs shows John Kass and several other men in leather near their motorcycles. John Kass slowly strips off his leather as he prepares to take aim with his tongue for what may become an historical lick in the history of Bay Area television.

John Kass was amazed that the segment had been the cause for the show's cancellation. He commented that what was not aired was much more sensual. "They cut the tape as my tongue started to lick the cheeks of his ass," Kass said. "What followed and was not aired is much more graphic."

Tom Rosso, producer of the program, said the segment was added "to give the show some

spice." Unlike non-cable programming, there is no way, such as ratings, to gauge who is watching the show. This has proven a problem in attracting advertising to the program. Time was given free by Viacom for the show with advertising to be used as the financial base to support the private venture.

In past months the show had gained moderate success as it covered many Gay events in San Francisco. The locally produced show had featured a political segment with B.A.R. political editor Wayne Friday and for several months aired a continuing soap opera called, "Pacific Heights." B.A.R. columnist Mr. Marcus joined the program last month. The most outrageous recent addition had been a segment called, "Cooking With Esther." Esther is a black drag queen from Atlanta. Her final recipe to air in San Francisco was for cat-nut soup. Esther advised her listeners that when they make the soup they should refrain from using nuts from black cats.

Rosso said that there will be talks with Viacom management and with Barrett Giorgis when he returns. Meanwhile, the show continues to air in New York and in Atlanta. In San Francisco, the show was replaced with a program on family counseling. ■

A. White

High-Flying Seattleite Lands S.F. Chorus Job

He'll Commute Weekly via Jet; To Lead Chorus Through Spring

by Allen White

As the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus warmed up on Christmas Eve for its yuletide concert, members voted to hire Seattle Men's Chorus director Dennis Coleman as interim conductor. Coleman will commute each week from Washington at the expense of the local chorus.

Coleman was selected because of his reputation as being the best Gay chorus director in the country. Since June, 1981, he has directed the Seattle Men's Chorus, now rated, at least by many local chorus members, as one of the best in the country. To get Coleman, the San Francisco organization agreed to change their rehearsal day from Monday to Thursday and to pay his transportation costs.

Spokespersons for the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus said the cost for Coleman to commute to San Francisco is about equal to what they would have paid a person as a fee for conducting. Robin Kay, who founded the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Men's Chorus, was also under consideration for the position.

The position of interim director became available when the chorus voted to accept the resignation of the chorus' current director, Ernie Veniegas, effective after the group's recent Christmas concerts. Veniegas had asked for a leave of absence giving the chorus members three options. He said he would resign after the Christmas concerts, or after the Opera House concert in April, or take a sabbatical leave after the Opera House event and return at the beginning of 1986. The chorus chose to have Veniegas exit last week.

The decision to hire Coleman as the interim conductor was made at meetings conducted just before the chorus concert on Christmas Eve. The proposal was presented to the chorus after the board of Golden Gate Performing Arts met a few days earlier and chose to not let the decision linger. Reportedly there was no serious objection to hiring Coleman. His deal with the chorus is that he will receive no fee but will be reimbursed for his traveling expenses.

The issue that did provoke some serious discussion was the change of rehearsal days from Monday to Thursday. Several members of the chorus perceived that it was a device to force them to leave the organization because of individual scheduling conflicts. Others pointed to the fact that if Dennis Coleman was to become the interim director, Thursday would be the only day possible for him to rehearse the chorus.

According to Coleman, he will be taking on a whirlwind schedule directing three choruses for the next four months. On Thursday he will fly to San Francisco. He will stay through Saturday and then fly to Seattle where he will direct the choir of the Bellevue First Congregational Church on Sunday. On Monday he will rehearse the Seattle Men's Chorus and on Wednesday he will rehearse his Bellevue church choir. Thursday morning he will jet back to San Francisco.

Dennis Coleman, 34, has directed the Seattle Men's Chorus for the past three and a half years. The 125-member Seattle chorus is considered, according to several members of the San Francisco chorus, as the

best Gay chorus in the country and Coleman is similarly considered the best director. The

judgment is subjective as many appear to make a credible argument that the two past permanent directors of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, Dick Kramer and Ernie Veniegas, very easily could enjoy that same honor. Coleman's primary assets are stated as his ability to build quality in a musical organization and his expertise at programming.

He will only direct the San Francisco Chorus in one major concert. It is scheduled to take place April 24 at the San Francisco Opera House. In the Fall of 1985, there is to be a joint concert with the San Francisco and Seattle groups in San Francisco. Following the Opera House event, the San Francisco chorus plans to name a permanent conductor.

Because of the recent near-sellout Christmas concert performances, and through successful fundraising efforts, the San Francisco chorus is again planning to pay its conductor. Coleman's fee will be his transportation expense. It was also learned the chorus is planning to make a sizeable payment on its 1981 tour debt, now nearly four years old, which will save the organization almost \$16,000 in interest payments. The debt, which is in excess of \$160,000, could be paid off by one projection in four years—or could extend through 1990. ■

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City College Offers Class In Gay Lit

A new class of Lesbian and Gay Literature will begin Jan. 15 at the Castro/Valencia site of City College, Everett Middle School at Church and 17th St. The class will meet Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30. Authors studied will include Sappho, Walt Whitman, Herman Melville, Radclyffe Hall, Audre Lorde and Christopher Isherwood. For registration information call 239-3285 or 239-3666 or leave a message with the instructor, Peg Cruikshank, Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons at 239-3657.

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Sisters Kicking the Habit?

(Continued from page 1)

cisco—much to the chagrin of many Gays—Fertig insists he was trying to convey a message. The message: "God creates a beautiful garden—love of self, love of God who wants us to be happy with religion and politics as creative processes that we can enjoy. This includes the celebration of the absurd."

Supervisor Quentin Kopp, who frequently has difficulty with the unusual, was outraged by Fertig's supervisory candidacy. Boom Boom received 23,000 votes. Kopp was then successful in a 9-2 vote in having the city adopt what became known as the "Boom Boom ordinance." It is now illegal for a person to run for city office without using their legal name. This lead Boom Boom to comment, "Now Quentin Kopp will be the only person on the ballot with a funny face and a funny name."

Boom Boom's "message" was evidently also lost on others within and without the Gay community. Rev. Jerry Falwell has used photos of Fertig to promote the Moral Majority's anti-homosexual fundraising efforts. Although Fertig was officially on a leave-of-absence from the Sisters, Falwell and the media constantly referred to Fertig as a Sister. The Sisters suffered from much of the negative reaction to Boom Boom.

Today, Fertig surprises with his self-evaluations. When asked about his Boom Boom characterization, he replied "We are separate people. She comes out through me and does her number. I think, at times, that she conspires with God against me." When asked about his religious conviction he used the words "God" and "spiritual" but added that he was raised an agnostic who primarily studied Greek gods. He now affirms, "I am actually a witch who accepts Jesus as one of the gods in my pantheon." It is understandable that the media found Fertig to be very quotable.

DRAG-O-PHOBIA

The backlash over Boom Boom's exposure has not been the Sisters' only problem. There has been some valid criticism of the quality of the Sisters' public appearances. All of this does not bother Bunch but he is disturbed at what he calls "drag-o-phobia," a fear of men appearing in female attire.

When asked if Boom Boom's exposure had hurt the Gay rights movement and the Sisters, Bunch was emphatic: "Any

(Continued on next page)



Sister Vicious (Photo: Rink)



True Confessions as a penitent gets down on his knees for Sister Vicious on Castro Street. (Photo: Rink)

Nunnery in Iowa Was Birthplace of Sisters

by George Mendenhall

Is the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence a satirical group, anti-Catholic, a mysterious pagan cult, a spiritual movement—none or all of the above?

Political analysts, sociologists and psychologists attempt to determine what the Sisters is and even some of the Sisters make elaborate claims as to its motives—the truth is now out. The Sisters was and remains primarily a fun group of men who want to entertain.

The titles the nuns have taken illustrate the sense of humor inherent in the group. These include Sisters Chanel 2001, Missionary Position, Logenberry Frost, Krishna Kosher, "Mary, Oh Stop!", Frieda Peoples, Amazing Grace Cathedral, and Sadie, Sadie the Rabbi Lady.

The Sisters began when Ken Bunch (Sister Vicious Power Hungry Bitch) was producing a traveling drag show in Iowa in 1977. Gay bar crowds were laughing at the drags on stage who were having fun. When Bunch heard that some nuns at a nearby nunnery were storing away the habits of deceased nuns, his ears perked up.

Bunch borrowed six habits from the nuns and added a new production number—male nuns. He gave them pom poms and had them lead the crowd in high school cheers. The first "sisters" were born. Bunch now recalls, "It was a sensation. Whenever the nuns appeared the crowd would jump up and cheer with them." The number stayed in the show—and the habits were never returned.

Later, while packing to move to San Francisco in 1977, Bunch decided not to pack the drag costumes. He explains that he was now "into body building and moving toward becoming a

Sisters

(Continued from previous page)

time you have a visible drag queen some people are going to use it to their own advantage. The other side of the coin is that no one should be allowed to do it—that we should all dress in a particular way.

"Some of the criticism," Bunch believes, "has come from a vicious anti-drag mentality within our community. Many Gay men do not like themselves and to them, drag is an embarrassment. Being unable to accept who they are, they believe they are hurt by the drag. We have had more support from the heterosexual men than we have Gay men."

Bunch urges, "The vehement criticism we have received from some Gay men has hurt and demoralized us. These critics think all Gay men should look 'normal'—a hangover from Gay activism during the 1970s. Too often, we hear that we should 'look respectable' by being in a suit or a dress in order to win acceptability."

What many "Gay civil rights" activists want, Bunch believes, is a piece of paper that says Gay people are accepted. However, he says, to do this they believe "we must all act 'normal' in order not to offend the heterosexuals. They believe that if we all look 'normal' we will get our rights."

Bunch adds, "The Sisters are saying that the piece of paper they want is not as important as changing attitudes and that includes freedom of expression, diversity, and self-acceptance. The 'civil rights' activists are willing to conform—take on

fascist attitudes—in order to get that piece of paper. That is not Gay liberation."

"Many Gay men are hypersensitive to drag queens appearing in the media. No matter how many Gay men they show on Castro street, whether they are kissing or holding hands, it is the drag queen that is shown that gets the criticism. Many Gay men say 'Let us keep them in the drag shows or in the bars but not out there where everyone can see them. Just keep them out-of-sight.' That is drag-o-phobia. The Sisters want to be what they are. The Sisters do not necessarily fit in. That may include sometimes putting on a dress."

EXHAUSTION

The call to "sisterhood" has involved a dedication to public service. The Sisters have raised thousands of dollars for worthy causes—with their public appearances increasing in the 1982-1983 period to two and three a week.

"We have never kept track of how much money we have raised for others," Bunch explains. Their efforts have included anti-nuclear blockades, Gay Cuban refugee help, marches for jobs and justice, the protest over the mayor's domestic partners veto, KS and AIDS fund-raisers, a VD education drive and a VD pamphlet, prison missionary work and Gay Olympics funding.

Added to these were public appearances at numerous Gay marches and celebrations. Having fun is a large part of being a Sister, but at their monthly meetings some of the fun has



Sisters' Popularity was at its peak in 1982, when the group was cited at the Cable Car Awards. (Photo: Rink)

been somewhat deterred by criticism. There are current internal discussions about how public the Sisters want to be in 1985. Aside from the criticism, there is some exhaustion and a call for a break.

The Sisters have been affected by the "leave of absence" granted Sister Missionary Position (Fred Brungard). He is currently traveling and lecturing on holistic health in the Southern states with his lover, Crazy Owl. "Mish" had been a dynamic force within the Sisters. Boom Boom says Brungard's absence "leaves us much the less without him."

SELF-EVALUATION

Currently there are a nucleus of 12 active nuns and eight who are inactive. They primarily finance their activities out of

their own pockets. "The Gay community here," Bunch explains, "want us to raise money for others and accepts us on that level—but it does not seem to want us to raise money for ourselves."

Some feminists think their appearing in drag is sexist. Mayor Feinstein has told the Sisters personally that she finds their appearance to be offensive. (Brungard allegedly replied, "Some of us find you to be offensive.") Supervisor Quentin Kopp has said, "It sickens me, and I am not Roman Catholic, that they parade around. It is another example of what makes people laugh when they think about San Francisco."

None of this outside criticism has seriously affected the Sisters but they are seriously evaluating their current level of acceptance

within the Gay community. Have they run their course? Has the Gay community lost much of its sense of humor in the days of AIDS? The Sisters are now seeking the answers.

Bunch believes the obstacle may be formidable as "Gay men do not know how to emotionally adjust to religion or to drag and many Gay activists believe we are sabotaging what they are doing." Is his evaluation too severe?

Sister Vicious Power Hungry Bitch and Sister Boom Boom vow that the Sisters will return in a public appearance in 1985—maybe as early as late January—after internal discussions and a good vacation. Friends and foes await the day.

G. Mendenhall

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VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

Gay Mecca

We are a community of castoffs in a city of undesirable in a nation of people nobody else wanted. As such, we are quintessentially American. And we fit this place perfectly. Never has there been a people more suited to a place than Gays and Lesbians are to San Francisco.

You missed something if you missed the most recent revival of that corny classic, *San Francisco*, at the Castro Theatre. It was a rousing send-off into a new year. It provided an opportunity to ponder the roots of this city we call home, and our place here.

Jeannette MacDonald as the virginal new girl in town was torn between competing desires of high-rollers on the low road. Most of us know the predicament all too well. The essential fabric of this city has remained intact since Blackie Norton ran for supervisor in '06. This is a place with high hopes and "low morals"—at least as seen by the Father Kelleys of the world. Most of all, it is a place full of life—some would say extreme. This isn't Seattle or St. Louis. This is San Francisco. People here have always been on the make and some have made it. This place has always been on the farthest edge of America, in more ways than one. Some of us prefer living on the fault line.

There have always been those bent on "cleaning up" this town. In the end, that means making San Francisco more like Milwaukee or Minneapolis—all the places we escaped to come here. The yuppification of the City proceeds apace and our downtown begins to look like Chicago's, except for the bottle of Joy liquid on Montgomery Street. One wonders, if all the blue-noses want a quiet, clean, well-lit place to play canasta, why they don't settle in Omaha. Or, if weather is a problem, San Diego.

This is San Francisco: Bawdy, cocky, brash, daring and more than occasionally off-color; but seldom pushy and often polite and gentle. The rest of the nation calls us weird, then secretly thinks how much fun it would be to live or play here. It would be a shame to lose this special place, this San Francisco. In a world of moths we are the butterfly.

Gays and Lesbians help keep this place special. Long before inner-city renovation hit the pages of *Architectural Digest*, we were rebuilding these neighborhoods, repainting its homes with our own hands. We brought a riot of color and excitement to dowdy streets and breathed new verve into the city. But that was only possible because the place was already hospitable to us. Gays and San Francisco fit together like hand and glove (white evening length).

Today, San Francisco measures well against any other city in any index of quality of life. Crime is low here. The streets are clean. Average income is high. Most of all, this is a city for people: people who throng the sidewalks, not just downtown at rush hour, but at all hours in all sections of the city. And most of them won't butt in front of you in line. It's amazing.

We like it here. We belong here. We're home.

There are those who pine and moan that the "Gay Mecca" is on its last legs. To them, the dirt of scantily clad pectorals lined up on Castro Street like shampoo bottles on a grocery shelf means the decline of a great city. We think a great city is more than that, and this is it.

Well we might ponder the climactic scene of *San Francisco*. The bricks and steel come tumbling down and the great fire incinerates what the great earthquake has left standing. But San Francisco endures, because its people do. San Francisco is spirit; as long as we keep that spirit, this city and all its greatness are ours.

Brian Jones

Monitor's Report

★ This is now Sunday the 23rd. I just got hired as a sex-police person . . . um . . . I forgot . . . a behavior monitor!

"What's it like?," I whispered to my friend as we left the store, "I thought the ad said 'cashier'."

In answer to "What's it like?": I start my first shift on Christmas Day at ten A.M.

See you next week.

I Need the Rent San Francisco

Another Funeral?

★ Well, boys I hate to be the one to tell you this, but *San Francisco Gay life is dead*. In the past 2-5 years I have seen a constant decrease in the city's Gay lifestyle. This is no longer a city of hot men that has a reputation for HOT, HOT times. Instead we are living in a city that the streets in the Gay areas roll up at night, much like the small mid-western towns that a lot of us are from.

Cruising has almost all but ceased and it is very hard to really have a party weekend. I remember so well when there were only a few bars in the Castro and after hours on the street was not to be believed. Filled with beautiful boys and men, this area was the ultimate in cruising. Now Castro is turning into a "trendy" area and even buses in tours of women, housewives, etc., to shop in our stores and eat in our restaurants. Gone are the days when Castro truly belonged to the Gay men and women of our city.

They have taken away our bathhouses and tell us that sex is a crime. The police are attacking Gay citizens and the city government is turning against us. All of this goes on while other major cities such as West Hollywood, Houston, Dallas, Denver, San Diego and New York continue to enjoy the true "Freedom" that they accomplished and the respect that comes with such.

I believe that we should hold a proper funeral service for the *San Francisco Gay lifestyle* and continue to search for our true happiness in other cities. Face it . . . THE GAY MECCA IS DEAD!

Roger Keaton
San Francisco

Masochist

★ So Andrew J. Betancourt and "Other Gay men" found hate-speaking Falwell comments "interesting and worthwhile" (16 Dec.). Andy must belong to that type of masochist who could vote for the Gay-hating Reagan-Schlafly gang last month and now await the inquisitorial fires to which Falwell, Reagan, Schlafly, et al would like to consign all Gay women and men.

Just maybe, Christian Gays can fool Andy and his crowd and live to love—and vote—again, and again.

Fred R. Methered
Honolulu

'Promiscuity Kills' She Said

★ *An Open Letter to Mayor Dianne Feinstein*: It is with grave concern, enormous disappointment and a sense of personal insult that we write this letter in response to your statement of December 13, 1984 that "promiscuity kills." It was especially disheartening that this statement of misinformation was made during the introduction of the interim Health Director.

Our concern is that people will die because they will not understand the way this disease is transmitted. Thousands of listeners will hear that AIDS is transmit-

ted through multiple sexual contacts and will not understand that this disease is transmitted through the sharing of body fluids. In this time of near panic those who are responsible for the public health policy and those that are truly concerned in stopping this epidemic must be very careful to disseminate correct information.

Your statement denigrates the important basic information that needs to be learned by people at risk. For example, the only way a couple who decide to enter a monogamous relationship (who have previously not been monogamous) can be assured of not transmitting this disease to each other is to follow safe sex guidelines. Also, for those people who, for whatever reason, choose not to opt for monogamy or celibacy your statement offers them no guidelines for protection. And, in fact, these improperly focused statements may lead them to believe that they have no alternatives and will continue to engage in unsafe sex. It is vital that your statements on this issue are reflective of medical fact and not a reflection of a particular moral code.

When an opportunity presented itself to focus on the real need of the community in facing the AIDS crisis you chose to focus on what would seem to be a campaign to institute a specific personal moral code on the community. Lifestyles don't kill, germs kill.

The Committee To Preserve Our Sexual And
Civil Liberties
Randy Stallings, Chair
Marguerite Rubinstein, Vice-Chair

Old Is Out

★ I would like to reply to your Brian Jones' response to a letter written in the *B.A.R.* concerning the paper's constant effort to show only the older leather crowd. First of all, the response was not well founded for it was very evident that the author of the subject letter was referring to your "senior" writers such as Mr. Marcus. Since returning to your paper he has not written any story or offered any photographs of men who are not clad in leather garments or are young men.

Your negative response to this letter is clearly an admission of guilt on the part of the *Bay Area Reporter*.

I have enclosed a photocopy of the recent photo-essay covering the Mr. Gay Texas Pageant from the weekly magazine *This Week in Texas*. As you can see, the contestants in this pageant are all ranging in age from 19 (winner) to 31. None of them are the South of Market type but are clean cut, well-groomed, handsome and muscular young men—the exact type that you and Mr. Marcus would probably give your right nut for.

This is not only an example of how another major Gay area thinks of its image but also is a factor in showing that *old is out* and young remains the most desired characteristic. Maybe this choice in public image versus the leather scene is what has kept the Texas area bathhouses opened as well as more support from the City and Governmental offices.

Lee Evans
San Francisco

Letter Policy

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

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

LETTERS

Swearing Off Pop Tarts

- ★ New Year's resolutions:
 1. I'm gonna have sex with a lot of guys that don't have sex with a lot of guys.
 2. I'm swearing off Pop Tarts & Bourbon. The combination'll take a week off your life.
 3. No more Baby Fae jokes (What's the fastest thing in town? A baboon running past a hospital!)
 4. No more dumb boys with funny hair-cuts or their hangouts. I've had enough preppy dance music to last me a lifetime and the Stud is little more than a post-adolescent day care center anyway. I'll show up on Motown night when I can relate.
 5. No more self-effacing humor (I got so fat when I haul ass it takes two trips).
 6. I'm gonna hang out for the good times and not make the bad times any worse.

Listen to Fruit Punch/Gay Radio on KPFA 94.1 Wednesday at 10 p.m. and Happy New Year all.

Jon Sugar
San Francisco

★ Concerning the editorial "Here Comes The Sun," I have this to say:

The enlightened churches whose teachings and interpretations have changed and grown with the passing of time do not teach that Gay is bad, as is stated in paragraph six of the editorial in question. In fact, the church realizes that all love, caring, and affection is good, regardless of the object of that love.

A second mis-statement, related to the first one, is that Gays have rejected religions. For many of us that simply is not so. We have embraced our faith(s) and in turn they have welcomed and received us, and this is especially true during this time of death and suffering from AIDS.

For those curious and literary, may I suggest reading *The Church and the Homosexual* by John J. McNeill, S. J., published by Sheed Andrews and McMeel, Inc., 1976. Call number HQ76.M156.

Richard Ditewig
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Announcing the B.A.R.'s "Name That Church" contest. We invite readers to name that church—any church—which officially and formally states that Gay is good. If that proves elusive, we'll accept any church which does not officially and formally state that Gay is bad.

Grand prize is the Holy Grail—the cup from which Jesus drank at the Last Supper.

We haven't secured the Holy Grail yet but we are confident we will have time to do so before a winner is found for our little contest.

Good luck and say hallelujah.

Brian Jones

Class Dismissed

★ In Brian Jones' editorial of Dec. 13, he comes across somewhere between a kindergarten teacher scolding naughty kids and a blurb writer for the Orlando Chamber of Commerce.

Shit! "Gay leaders are jerks" remark was a legitimate comment on those petty skills for the administration, if reference is made to the "leadership" of the Gay clubs.

Jones bolstered his opinions with heavy use of the word "democracy." Please let me quote you Gore Vidal: "They [the American people] have been told . . . that this is a democracy. It isn't."

Jack Ragsdale
San Francisco

I'll Be Your Friend

★ Goodness Mike Hippler, I'll be your friend.

But I am not so sure you'd want to be mine. Why, I don't drink and seldom do I have the inclination to go to shows, preferring to deal with real people and issues. I've done the Maud's routine or any other bar scene—booring.

But maybe I am taking your article seriously and shouldn't. Your only criteria for friendship couldn't possibly be who would talk to you in a bar? And if we can't look at the same bodies and drink the same booze, shared interests and experiences are non-existent, right?

Who did you think you'd meet in the bars—Mrs. Pitts?

Because I surely did not run into you at the Gay and Lesbian atheist convention. Or the gym. Or out running. Or sitting in a cafe talking about what we as Lesbians and Gay men can create so we can see what we have in common. Or at a Gay seminar working out what it takes to show the world that it is ready for a breakthrough in its attitude toward us. Or driving through our beautiful city discussing the strength of each one of us to come out against all odds. Or coming from behind the back of one of your friends to meet somebody just the way you are, without protective barriers.

Let's just be daring and throw caution and cynicism to the wind for a minute. Let's just celebrate our Gay-

ness and Lesbian-ness. I certainly see much in common with many Gay men and Lesbians and for me to cultivate friendships with my Gay men friends is a rewarding experience as well as enriching.

But be assured, in my particular case it will never be in any bars, which, fashionable or dreary, are no alternative.

So should we run into each other in our travels in the light of his having signed AB-848, provides perhaps the *ne plus ultra* of political illogic for all eternity.

Heidi Mueller
San Francisco

It Doesn't Make Sense

★ Governor Deukmejian's continuing opposition to AB-1, considered alone, is unfortunate, ill-advised, and unjust, to put the very best possible face on it.

On the other hand, that opposition, when considered in the light of his having signed AB-848, provides perhaps the *ne plus ultra* of political illogic for all eternity.

In signing AB-848, the Governor clearly acknowledged that Gays are sufficiently hated for them to be frequently subjected to unprovoked street violence. Yet he holds that the same homophobia that underlies street attacks does not sicken the minds of some employers? C'mon, Guy—give us a break! IT SIMPLY DOES NOT MAKE SENSE!

Charles W. Morrison, MD
San Francisco

Freedom to Be Unsafe

★ John F. Karr's column, while never very astute, hit a new low in the Dec. 27 *B.A.R.*. He makes a plea for Gay freedom of expression and shucking the shackles of "straight-dom," and then proceeds to denigrate those whose lifestyles or fantasies do not coincide with his own.

While he may criticize a newspaper for including ads for unsafe sex practices, the freedom of choice so vitally a part of the Gay lifestyle must include freedom to engage in any practice, safe or unsafe, as long as it is with a willing partner who has made the same informed decision; that includes "rimming," "greeting," "scat," or anything else. Otherwise he becomes a partner with Feinstein and Silverman intent on suppressing the essence of Gay life on the pretext of disease reduction. While it may be suicidal, as he suggests, it is nobody's business but the individuals involved. To infer that they are "not fully alive" is destructive.

Fantasies are important elements in any sexual encounter, even more now that the "full-blown" action is considered hazardous. So what harm is there in fantasies that other men in a circle-jerk are straight? Or in magazines which provide fantasy material for safe-sex practitioners? Better to watch sucking and fucking on screen, for instance, than engage in it with the wrong guy. Of course we build Gay identities based on straight conventions—that is our heritage and our background. So far no one has developed a way of projecting within Gay life. As for "sick" fantasies, Karr's adoration of tits, one of the few erotic zones we share with women, does not seem all that enlightened.

I sincerely hope Karr is fortunate enough to find men turned on by "hoopla and out-out-out." I don't know what they are, but I know my libido is not stirred by the prospects. As you can see, I "connected" with Karr's admittedly "random thoughts" to the point of ignoring future regurgitations under the same byline.

Bill Warner
San Rafael

On The Menu

★ I certainly take issue with Steve Warren's inane review of David Lean's *A Passage to India*. I don't know why Lean would have set the novel in 1928, as Warren states, since the Forster novel was published in 1924, and isn't so much about politics of the period as the clash of cultures.

It would be unfortunate for anyone to be put off by Warren's review and not see this film based on one of the outstanding novels of the 20th century by our most distinguished literary sister, the late E.M. Forster, O.M.

It is encouraging to note that Warren recognized "the marvelous Dame Peggy Ashcroft," as Mrs. Moore, and it will be my pleasure to let Mr. Warren eat the rest of his review when the Academy Awards give this picture its due respect.

Tom Youngblood
San Francisco

Nez Rave

★ My Dearest Nez Pas, HAPPY NEW YEAR to you and thank you for another year of FAITHFUL (if occasionally controversial) weekly reporting. Without your input, the East Bay would be just another dull metropolis. I'm smiling too!

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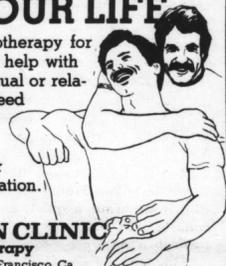
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POLITICS AND POKER

Looking Ahead

WAYNE FRIDAY

With the New Year already here there are a couple of things we should be looking for in 1985. Assemblyman Art Agnos has re-introduced AB-1 and his staff people tell me that the legislation should once again be passed. Observers tell me it won't be easy to get AB-1 approved this year, but Agnos and his supporters are dedicated to seeing it happen. In Washington the prospects aren't as bright for a national Gay Rights bill, but miracles have been known to happen. The one thing Gays and Lesbians must look forward to is an even greater effort by the federal government to find a solution to the AIDS epidemic; more research money is needed and a sincere determination by the Reagan administration is a must.

Locally, Gays have praised Mayor Dianne Feinstein for the support her administration has provided in the AIDS crisis; few, if any mayors, could have done better. Next week Supervisor John Molinari, the president-elect of the Board of Supervisors will announce his committee assignments for the year and you can look for Supervisor Louise Renne to remain as chair of the powerful Finance Committee with two other friends of our community on that committee with her. The mayor race is only two years away and the hopefuls to replace Mayor Dianne are already jockeying for position. Although Molinari doesn't take office as board president until next week, Supervisors Hongisto, Maher, Nelder and Walker are already thinking of coming in first in the next supe election, and one of them surely will. The 49ers are headed for the Super Bowl again and for a while our City will party. Many of our friends and lovers are, however, ill with the dreaded AIDS, but I have to have faith that perhaps this is the year the solution will come.

The Mayor isn't saying so, but those who are supposed to know tell me Dianne Feinstein and her supporters have decided to go after Alan Cranston in 1986. The respected *USA Today* in a story on women politicians last week reported that she "is widely believed to be eyeing Alan Cranston's Senate seat" ... meanwhile, Feinstein's campaign manager, Clint Reilly, was named last week in "California Political Week," the statewide news analysis bulletin.



Which One's Santa? It was Jack Molinari (second from r.) who had all the presents going into the Supervisor's organizing for the coming two-year session. He's joined at Alice Christmas party by Sal Roselli, "Santa" Steve Walters, Louise Molinari, and his Gay campaign aide, Dennis Collins. (Photo: Rink)

as one of the "Political Advisors to watch in 1986," along with Ron Smith, who directed Jack Molinari's first-place finish here and Becky Morgan's state senate race on the peninsula ... Howard Jarvis, the gadfly on the politicos, raised hell in Sacramento last week because he couldn't get an immediate appointment with the Governor; Jarvis thinks he is an important political figure while most Sacramento observers see him as a bothersome, crotchety, mean old nuisance ...

Speaker Willie Brown said recently that he would introduce legislation during the 1985-86 legislative session to raise legislators pay to as much as \$70,000 per year; Brown believes this would eliminate conflict of interest problems (under his plan members would not be allowed to accept outside money from honorariums or side businesses) ... in Santa Monica they say that Assemblyman Tom Hayden's 56 percent to 40 percent reelection victory is giving Jane Fonda's husband reason to look to higher office ... in L.A. a task force convened by Mayor Tom Bradley has recommended that Gay bathhouses in that city should be encouraged to post warnings about the dangers of AIDS "but should not be forced to close" like their San Francisco counterparts ...

Anita Bryant rearing her ugly head again? They tell me that



Milking Support at Milk Christmas party was Supervisor Bill Maher, behind Green Craig, Ron Huberman and Carole Migden. (Photo: Keni Ankeny)

the bigoted former orange juice queen showed up in Houston last week where they are embroiled in a campaign to annul the law there that protects Gays from discrimination in public employment. Although Bryant claims she isn't meddling in the Jan. 18 election, she reportedly met with leaders of the so-called "Committee For Public Awareness" over the weekend. That's the anti-Gay group led by Houston Councilman John Goodner. A year ago Bryant told reporters she no longer held any animosity against Gays and was "through with that type of thing" ... incidentally, Willie Brown, Harry Britt, Willie Kennedy, and Pat Norman are among a group of "former Texans" who are sponsoring a fundraiser (\$10, \$15, \$25 or more) to help save the Houston Gay Rights Ordinance being held this Sunday; Jan. 6, from 4 to 6 p.m.) at 135 Gardendale Drive - call 821-2723 for info and directions ... GOP State Senator Ed Davis, planning a run for the 1986 U.S. Senate nomination, worries about possible Republican primary opponent Charlton Heston ("how can you beat a man who goes up on the mountain and talks to God?" Davis asks) ... Quentin Kopp getting his ideas from Los Angeles? A proposal to limit the amount of campaign donations in that city was placed on the April 9 primary ballot by the City Council. It limits to \$500 the individual contributions for Council candidates with \$1,000 limits for mayor and other city-wide offices ... Don't feel too sorry for Geraldine Ferraro; though she gave up a sure House seat to get whipped by Reagan and Bush, the lady is selling her book for close to \$1 million. Her aide said, "this (book) is not going to be a sentimental, goey kind of deal," but Ferraro has told friends that she has a "few debts to settle," specifically with NY Archbishop John J. O'Connor and New York Post owner Rupert Murdoch (Murdoch's paper dug up the assertion that Ferraro's parents had been arrested 40 years ago on a gambling charge) ...

The *Bay Guardian* last week brought out a point by saying that "The *Chronicle* didn't see fit to begin its (recent) lengthy series on AIDS victims until the disease began to hit a new class of people: heterosexuals" ...

GUEST COLUMN

It's Time to Act on Polk St. Drug Scene

by Wayne Smith

We have some *real* problems in the Polk Gulch area. They are bad for the residents of the area, they are bad for business and merchants, and most of all, they are bad for life as it should be for young people under 25.

Some of these are the same problems which brought us together three years ago, to be known as the Polk Street Town Hall. We successfully discussed the problems, prioritized them, and then went after viable solutions. We need to do that again.

Things were tougher then because the Larkin Street Youth Center was a goal, not a reality. We have done it before, and now we must do it again.

I have walked Polk Street at every hour these past four months looking for sight or word of my charge Larry Gaines, after his disappearance on May 11. Though I instinctively knew that Larry had met with foul play, I saw my search as part of a surrogate father's role, and something to be done for a friend.

In that time I found that the average age of the "kids" out there is not 16—it's more like 21. And the real problem is not the "hustling" in and of itself, it's that these 'kids' are hustling for drugs.

Many work in pairs, turn a \$50 trick (if they're lucky) and buy \$30 worth of speed. They pool the other \$20 for a room (Tenderloin crash) to 'shoot up in.' Some individuals will try to turn two tricks in a similar routine, except that they return to the girlfriends they are keeping. Many put in 12 to 16 hour shifts.

There is a haunting horror here. The Polk Street area in particular abounds with permission and the means to play, escape, rebel and get high. These "kids" pursue image and fantasy because these things are easier and safer than reality. They are addicted to excitement and intensity, and are easily bored.

They live in emotions and are often charming—indeed, dazzling. They enchant, entertain and are experts at pleasing for the moment. They are "dream weavers" who are colorful, opportunistic, manipulative, creative. Once they have scored, they are strangely unavailable.

I have worked the streets of San Francisco for five years as a youth counselor and know that

many of these young people would get off the street if they had viable alternatives. They don't and we know it.

One idea which I have consulted with others about is another center, this one for those 18 to 25. The only problem with the Larkin Street Center is the age cut off. It could be a "service brokerage." It would not have to be as structured as Larkin Street and in fact could be part of a much-needed C.U.A.V. office in the area.

It's going to take a few people who are able to deal with the devastating frustrations of the street, and a willingness to be in constant contact with highly emotional situations, with great risk of burnout.

Notwithstanding the good efforts and fine intentions, there is still a lack of facilities and programs, or knowledge thereof, to aid many of our young people

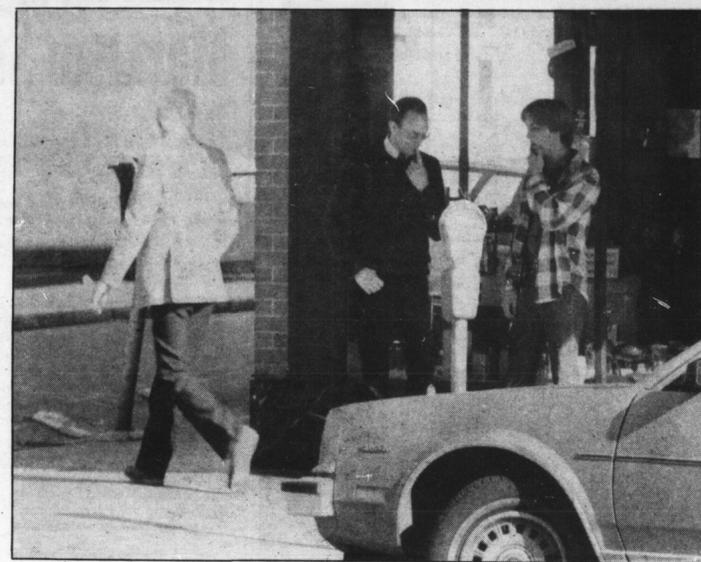
We need an ongoing interdisciplinary, interagency, intergroup study to bring our community in contact with the problems of these young people, and to seek bold, positive solutions.

The Polk Street Town Hall is just such a group, being comprised of police, merchants, clergy, youth counselors, program directors, interested persons and some of the street "kids" themselves. We need to invite our retired social workers, judges, lawyers, psychiatrists, psychologists, law enforcement officers, educators, and all who have worked with young people to participate in developing and administering programs having to do with these problems.

To be effective, this entire community must know the problems and assist in developing solutions without fear of pride of authorship, which can diminish the works of even the most highly motivated, conscientious people.

You don't need credentials to act in behalf of another human being, or for authority to provide a means for housing, clothing, feeding, educating, or to act in medical or dental matters, with an adult's personal consent. The average person is able to provide those experiences, disciplines, emotional support, stimulation, motivation, and loving care which creates an environment conducive to personal growth.

I am ready to help in any way I can. How about you? ■



Christmas Shopping on Polk St., where merchandising goes on 365 days a year. (Photo: Rink)

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Scarce Privacy, Family Pressure, Marxism Stunt Gay Life in China

But It's a Different Story in Hong Kong; 'White Paper' Traces History of Chinese Gays

ED. NOTE: East Bay Gay activist Armand Boulay recently returned from a month's visit to China, his second foray to that country. During his visits, he has researched Gay life in China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. The following are some of his impressions.

by Armand J. Boulay

The greatest obstacle to Gay consciousness in Chinese society comes from strong traditional family values which stress marriage and the raising of children. This is so heavily stressed upon youth that even one who expresses oneself homosexually may feel the necessity of living a heterosexual married life. Whether one is raised in socialist China or capitalist Taiwan, young Gays and Lesbians must cope with anti-Gay dogmas of Marxism and Christianity, placing them at the same stage of self-denial and societal repression that older Gays remember of pre-Moscone San Francisco.

In Shanghai, it is very easy to meet friendly Chinese men by the Bund, a promenade area by the Hwangpu River in the city's old center. Many can speak English and are eager to practice it with foreign visitors.

In the course of conversation, one can gradually ascertain whether or not a deeper relationship can develop—but as the week hours approach, reality sets in and the visitor realizes that neither party of a dialogue can retire to intimate surroundings.

The Chinese friend lives in a small apartment with a family, and the hotel where the foreign guest is assigned prevents Chinese friends from making private visits. Not only are guests checked at the main desk but at a desk at each individual floor.

Beyond conversation, two men are pretty much limited to holding hands, which is acceptable in regular circumstances.

In Peking, it is even more difficult to begin an affair. Marxist and traditional puritanical values are stronger in the northern capital, and fewer people can speak European languages—but with ingenuity and perseverance nothing is impossible.

One may meet someone near Mao's tomb in the main square, but the same problem exists as to the need for privacy.

The southern city of Canton also has large numbers of friendly people very willing to communicate with foreigners. Because of its closeness to Hong Kong, in Canton it may be easier to find hotel management that is more tolerant of what they consider to be a Western vice.

As in parts of the United States and other countries, exposure of one's homosexuality can be very painful. The *South China Morning Post* (of Hong Kong) reported on August 19, 1984, that a teacher in Hunan Province committed suicide out of either shame or party pressure after having been exposed as a homosexual by one of his students.

Homosexuals are still generally objects of disgust and ridicule outside of sophisticated areas, as they certainly are in many areas of the United States, and the subject is rarely mentioned.

At its Dec. 9 meeting, the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee elected the theme "Honor Our Past, Secure Our Future" for the 10th anniversary of Stonewall. The parade is to be held Sunday, June 30, in San Francisco.

The general membership also elected to the parade board of directors reigning Empress Remy and longtime parade activist Kirk Essler. Accountant Harry Robinson, a Stonewall Gay Democratic Club officer and Dignity Board member,

Gang of Four, had Gays clubbed and thrown into the river.

Hong Kong is a completely different story. Under British colonialism, the people, who are 97 percent Chinese, have much more individual freedom and material prosperity than their brothers and sisters in China and Taiwan. The family values are just as strong, but whereas Marxism poses no problem at this time, anti-Gay hostility is encouraged by Christian leaders such as the Anglican Bishop.

Fortunately for Hong Kong Gays, only 10 percent of the 6 million people belong to Christian sects. Most are motivated by the humanistic philosophy of Buddhism, which may also account for their friendliness and tolerance.

Last year, the Hong Kong authorities released an outstanding White Paper in both Chinese and English, outlining the long history of peaceful coexistence of homosexuality and heterosexuality in China over the centuries.

It appears that anti-Gay bigotry surfaced with the introduction of the alien dogmas of Marxism and Christianity in the 19th century (along with opium). The report thereby refuted the argument that homosexuality was un-Chinese and harmful.

The White Paper recommended that it be legalized above the age of 21 and the colonial authorities are quietly implementing this.

There are two major Gay bars in Hong Kong, but no newspaper or organization to serve Gays and Lesbians (the latter of whom are usually absent from the Dateline and Waltzing Matilda taverns). The Dateline is also a restaurant with reasonable prices in early evening and a disco after 10 p.m. with a two-drink minimum charge.

To meet nonbar Gays, one must patiently cruise Nathan Road, the main street in Kowloon, between the districts of Tsimshatsui and Yaumatei (where the two YMCAs are located, neither of which is very cruisy but both of which are comfortable and reasonably

'85 Parade Theme Announced

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There is also the promenade area by the Star Ferry and, of course, the famous beach at Repulse Bay which has a Gay corner.

Cruising can be frustrating to younger U.S. Gays because in Asia it is more subtle. It is common in many areas for even straight men to return a smile to another man without sexual intentions. One must still follow the old process of making eye contact followed by carefully crafted dialogue.

Hong Kong is very important to Gay rights in China because the greater freedom of the community will affect our brothers and sisters in China, since the British colony reverts legally to Chinese control in 1997. Hong Kong's influence on Chinese society at the end of this century will be great and can be very positive.

It is significant that the *Morning Post* recently reported on page one that following a vice squad raid last January of the popular Dateline, public reaction was so strongly negative that the SIU (vice squad) publicly announced it is reevaluating its position on the harassment of homosexuals. The vice squad will redirect its resources to real crimes such as murder and burglaries.

Taipei is the capital of Taiwan. While there are Gay bars, the best way to meet Chinese men is in the pleasant New Park, very near the YMCA, especially in the area around the Pagoda Pond. Day or night, it is easy to establish a friendly dialogue in English with local Gays, who enjoy perfecting their mastery of the language as well as becoming intimate friends in a short time.

In the park, one can cruise without any feeling of danger or hostility from either the police or civilians. But again, one cannot expect to come across Gay rights organizations in a state closely controlled by the police and military. While Taiwan is no Western-style democracy, one experiences more tolerance in inter-personal relationships un-complicated by Marxist or Christian prejudices.

was elected Treasurer.

Two Board slots (one male, one female) and committee recording secretary are still open. The committee is also seeking applications for a half-time, paid (\$120/week) office manager to begin in January. Volunteers are also needed.

The committee meets the second Sunday of every month, 7-7 p.m., usually at the Women's Building on 18th near Valencia Street. Call (415) 861-5404 for information.



Openly Gay Wall Street Reporter On Trial For Leaking Information

Government Wants to Expand Definition of 'Inside Trading'—Unpopular Columnist For W.S. Journal Is The Latest Target
by Morgan Pinney

NEW YORK—Foster Winans is an openly Gay man who goes on trial in New York this month, along with his lover and another man. They are accused of 61 separate criminal counts of using Winans' former position as columnist for *The Wall Street Journal* to make money from stock trading—so-called "insider trading." Winans faces five years in jail on each count (for a total of 305 years) and heavy fines.

People accused of similar crimes in previous cases have gotten off with little more than a slap on the wrist. Winans has cooperated fully with authorities, and his confessions provided the details now contained in the indictment against him. Yet, he has received none of the leniency normally shown to cooperating defendants.

Many Gay people suspect that this "get tough" attitude on the part of the federal prosecutors could have its roots in homophobia. Media people are alarmed because the case represents an attempt by the federal government to extend its power into the newsroom, trampling First Amendment rights.

Everyone agrees that stamping out "insider trading" has become a crusade with the current Reagan-appointed chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, John Shad. Foster Winans seems to be the wrong man, doing the wrong thing at the wrong time.

Winans had admitted that, while working as a columnist for *The Wall Street Journal*, he told stock broker friends in advance of news he was about to reveal in the column, "Heard on the Street." A stock's price often moved dramatically after being mentioned in the column, enabling those brokers to profit from the moves. The brokers reciprocated the favor by paying "interior decorating fees" to Winans' lover David Carpenter.

Winans thus violated rules laid down by his employer, *The Wall Street Journal*, and he was promptly fired. The government is now taking the position that he also violated the securities law. He is charged with defrauding his employer, *The Wall Street Journal*.

The heart of the indictment against Winans is not simply that he stole confidential information from the newspaper, but that he used that information in trading stocks—exactly the charge brought against all so-called "insider traders." Normally, the term "insider trader" refers to someone within a corporation who makes money in trading the corporation's stock

because of information he had prior to the general public's having it. The concept of "insider" has never been applied to a journalist before now.

"This is a whole lot different than prosecuting someone for stealing paper clips from his employer," reminds defense attorney Buchwald. If *The Wall Street Journal* had had no rule against revealing pre-publication information, there would have been no crime. "It's tantamount to allowing a newspaper to define criminal fraud by its internal rules; the idea is patently unconstitutional," Buchwald says.

Buchwald says there was no fraud because the stories written by Winans were accurate and the stock trading itself was legal. Winans may have violated his boss's rules by disclosing information and trading in stocks he wrote about, but that doesn't constitute fraud, per se.

"We think a reporter has a duty to his publication and to his readers but not one enforceable by the government's insider securities law," said James E. Clayton, co-director of the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, a Washington-based organization which monitors First Amendment issues.

Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) enforcement powers are currently limited to civil lawsuits. The government can ask only for a return of any ill-gotten gains and an injunction preventing the defendant from repeating his offenses. When the SEC takes action against "insider traders," 90 percent of cases are settled before trial without the accused admitting or denying the allegations.

But not this time. The U.S. Attorney has stepped into the Winans case, filing criminal

charges which are almost identical to the SEC's civil charges but which bring much stiffer penalties and a much speedier trial.

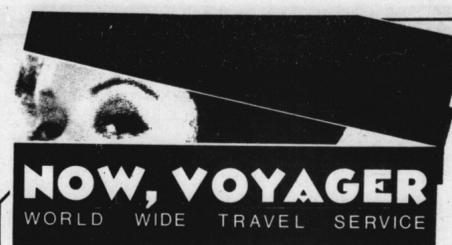
The SEC would like to go further. The SEC believes that journalists have a duty to disclose their personal dealings in any securities they mention in print.

The Investment Advisors Act of 1940 made such disclosure demands on newsletters published by investment advisors but it specifically exempted "bona fide" newspapers, magazines, and other publications of general and regular circulation. However, John Fedders, the SEC Director of Enforcement, has made it clear that he does not think the First Amendment rights of free speech should apply to "economic speech."

Journalists are alarmed at this blatant attempt to extend the government's hand over the press, and several press organizations are filing briefs in the case. According to Jack C. Landau, executive director of the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, "if we allow the SEC to go poking around in every newsroom every time they have a suspicion that some writer may be telling his mother-in-law about stock before it's published, we are going to have the SEC living with us every day."

Almost forgotten in all this posturing is Foster Winans himself. "My conduct was wrong," he said through his attorney. He is paying dearly. He has had to give up his apartment, support himself by driving a cab and working odd jobs, and turn to his family for help in paying the huge legal fees necessary to defend himself

(Continued on next page)



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GUEST COLUMN

"Fight the Disease, Not Its Victims"

by Konstantin Berlanti

A few years ago the then-Mayor of San Francisco ordered a manhunt for the Zebra killers which took a much more specific description of the suspected mass murderers and turned it into a mass ID check of every black male between 12 and 60. The courts later ruled the police action to be an illegal infringement on civil rights, but by then the killers had been found, and many people felt the operation had been successful.

Now we are involved in stopping the killer AIDS. Anything to save "one life," the *Chronicle* editorial proclaimed. In a state of panic, like a state of war, logic takes a backseat alongside civil rights.

"Health" Director Merv Silverman insisted on a Channel 2 call-in talk show he is only closing the baths for reasons of health. Yet he smeared the owners for making "profits." What do profits have to do with Health?

One caller asked the good doctor, point-blank, if he shared body fluids when he had sex, and if so how dare he tell us not to. Silverman avoided the question.

Silverman also acknowledged that some of us are concerned about our civil rights — the closing of bars, for example. He said that he hopes such measures won't be necessary. He added, "We do not intend" to go into private bedrooms.

A year ago he was saying he did not intend to close the baths. Six months ago he promised he would not send in any but his own staff to research what was going on in the baths.

Dr. Silverman has done dangerous damage to health in this city during this AIDS crisis by systematically eroding our faith in the public health services at a time when we so vitally need them. A blip in the falling numbers of anal gonorrhea last spring turned into an axe handle to smash the doors of the bathhouses then.

Why go to the VD clinic again, when you know if you've got something it's only going to be more statistics to justify the Merv-and-Mayor's escalating attack on our community institutions?

Instead of telling the public what we don't know about AIDS and demanding the funds from local, state and federal government to fund responsible epidemiology studies and the like, Silverman has made it his top priority to convince the public Gays have AIDS. This is because, as the Mayor's Lesbian Police Commissioner, Jo Daly, put it at an Alice meeting a few months ago, "You Gay men can't stop fucking each other in the ass."

Or as one caller put it on Channel 2 Sunday night, "They don't care about each other and they certainly don't care about straights."

THE BIG LIE — one promoted by *California* magazine last summer, the *New Republic*, the *New York Times Review of Books*, and the *Journal of the American Medical Association* (which insisted promiscuity was the cause of AIDS without a shred of statistical analysis in a "medical" article) — is one that has targeted the bathhouses first.

Closing the Bathhouses will not stop AIDS, will not even make a dent in the spread of AIDS; in fact, may indeed explode the epidemic even further. Resistance to such repression is now rampantly taking a sexual form of expression, and "safe sex" risk reduction guidelines will no longer be plentifully available in places of congregation.

It is true that repeated exposure may increase your risk of AIDS. Fighting off more frequent exposure to the now presumed virus may eventually result in losing the battle.

Here's a statistical analysis based on my own current average: Just suppose you averaged four sex partners a week and shared body fluids with each of them and they with you. That's 200 a year — 400 in two years.

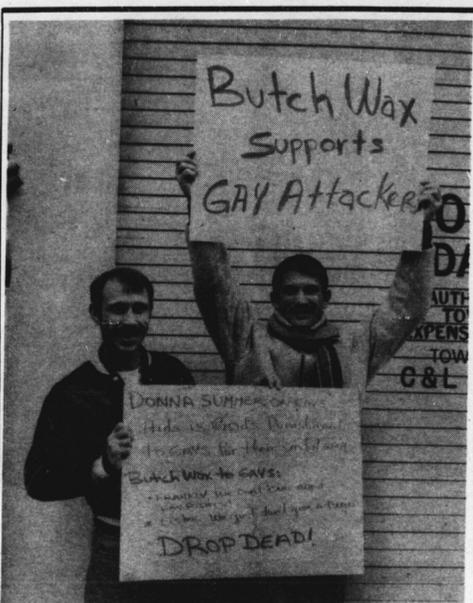
Now suppose, for simplicity also, that each of them averages about the same number of tricks, more or less. On one night, then, you are exposed to the 400 people he's slept with in the last two years, and he to yours. You're sharing the bed with 800 people.

The next night, following the same pattern, you take your 800 people to bed with someone else's 800. By the end of the first four-trick week, you've been exposed to 6,400 people. By the 12th trick, a million and a half, and by the end of one month, over 100 million people.

Of course, there is some overlap, and there is a limit to the set or circle.

The point is, when you have sex with just one person — that single soul from Sacramento the *Chronicle* is supposedly so worried about — it doesn't matter if it's at the baths or at a truck stop on I-580 east of Livermore. You are virtually exposed to a mass of multiple partners whose names you will never get, whose faces you will never see.

You can try to stuff us all into ovens and your kind of showers, Dr. Silverman, but you will not find us all.



(Photo: Rink)

Summer's A Bummer Say Record Store Pickets

Donna Summer was the focus of picketing in front of the "Butch Wax" record store on 18th Street Saturday. The people picketing are protesting the decision by the store to sell records by the artist. Summer has been quoted making statements that AIDS is the effect of what she has described as "the sin of homosexuality."

Bryan Miller, the owner of Butch Wax, said that he will continue to carry the recordings of Donna Summer. "The choice to purchase the records is that of the public. It is not for me to act as my customer's conscience."

Allen White

Reporter on Trial

(Continued from page 11)

against charges which my land him in jail.

The SEC case will seek to recover \$31,000 from Winans and his lover, their alleged profits in the scheme—money long since spent. "Their actual net worth is a negative net worth," according to their lawyer Don Buchwald. Throughout all of this, Winans' lover David Carpenter has stayed by his side.

When the story broke last March, nearly every major newspaper and magazine in the nation carried it. Much of the information originated with *The Wall Street Journal* itself which ran hundreds of column inches on the matter. The *Journal* feared a loss of reader confidence as a result of this breach of ethics by one of its employees.

But many subsequent letters to the editor questioned whether or not it was necessary to mention the sex lives of Winans and Carpenter. The *Journal* had stated bluntly, "the two are lovers," and have a "homosexual relationship."

The *Journal* defended its sexual disclosures by saying that the relationship of the two men was key to establishing a motive for Winans' action, namely Carpenter's medical bills and spendthrift lifestyle. In addition, payoffs were made to Carpenter and not Winans directly. The *Journal* said that coverage of a paramour is often relevant in both hetero and homosexual contexts. One outcome of the whole affair has been that the *Journal*, the nation's largest circulation daily, has publicly stated that "sexual orientation played no role in his employment here," a welcome, if muted, non-discrimination em-

M. Pinney

Year in Review

(Continued from page 1)

JULY

No sooner had the street-sweepers finished after the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade than the parade was in the news. The venue was the *New York Times Magazine*. The date was Sunday, July 1.

"When people see these elements of the party on television (at the Democratic convention), they'll revolt and vote independent or Republican. The leadership of the Democratic Party is out of touch, catering to special-interest groups like the Gays. The people of this country are more traditional than the party thinks. They'll be shocked by the Gays. My constituency was absolutely astonished by the Gay Freedom Day Parade. A sizeable number expressed revulsion."

So said Supervisor Quentin Kopp, the front-runner for president of the supes, in the *Times* interview. On Nov. 6, it was Kopp who was shocked by the Gays. The man who had been running first in the polls until mid-summer came in third—only a few votes ahead of one of those shocking Gays, Harry Britt.

On the national level, there was the lingering fear that Kopp's comment may have hit the mark.

Cheerful, Kind and Gay. Gay? On July 5 the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear a ruling by a lower court which struck down the Boy Scouts' anti-Gay exclusion policy. The case involved the East Bay's Tim Curran, an award-winning eagle scout. Boy Scouts appealed the appeal appeal.

The largest march in Gay history stretched three miles from the Castro to Moscone Center on Sunday July 15. One hundred thousand Lesbians and Gays marched to impress their demands for equality on the Democratic National Convention, set to open the following day.

160 monitors organized by the Community United Against Violence helped to keep peace, and the massive march went off without a hitch.

When the Democrats opened their convention, they approved a platform including most of the demands made at the march. For the first time in history, Gays and Lesbians were specifically mentioned in the platform of a major political party. And on Tuesday night in an electrifying speech, the Rev. Jesse Jackson included us in his "rainbow coalition," twice pleading the cause of equal rights for Lesbians and Gays in the nationally televised speech.

The Mississippi delegation said it would be gold-darned if it would have a Gay as a greeter. They bounced Scott Smith, the late Harvey Milk's lover, who is a native of the Magnolia State. They still have lawn jockeys down there too.

The decorations inside convention hall were hung, in part, by several members of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. Out of habit, in case you're asked.

There were 58 openly Gay or Lesbian delegates and 7 such alternates. They paraded through the convention at one point with Gay banners.

ended in a deadlock—as had the first. Raines was fired as director of the War Memorial Arts Center. 11 jurors agreed that a leading trustee wanted Raines fired for being Gay. But under rulings by Superior Court Judge William Mullins, that wasn't enough.

For good measure, Mullins voided the Gay rights ordinance, ruling it unconstitutional. Attorneys said the ruling wouldn't set a precedent for future cases, though.

If the name "Mullins" is familiar, wait until we get to the part about judges closing the baths.

AUGUST

It's boring in the 'burbs. Five men described as teenagers—actually, they were age 18 to 22—were charged with driving to San Francisco from Vallejo for some fag-bashing. They were linked to three attacks.

One of those beaten, John O'Connell, 40, died four days later. The five men were chased across four states; one was nabbed hiding under his bed after apparently being secreted by his family for six weeks. An accomplice gave an eyewitness confession to police.

What prompts "kids" from Vallejo to kill fags? Maybe it's anti-Gay statements from ministers, or anti-Gay newspaper columns. The *B.A.R.* reported Aug. 9 that the O'Connell murder investigator was a "Cop for Christ" who had signed a column in the August *Policeman* newspaper. Among other things, the column said Gays belonged in prison.

Another of the Cops for Christ was appearing that week in San Diego, with a minister who espoused execution for Gays.

Police insisted there was no conflict of interest.

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Year in Review

(Continued from previous page)

Supervisor Richard Hongisto filed a bill to prevent city workers espousing denigration of a minority to work on cases involving that minority.

Four days after the Hongisto bill was filed, a Gay man was beaten by a cop with a club who followed the attack with a sermon on why God thinks Gays are sick. Several months later, criminal charges were filed against the cop for assault.

The Berkeley School board passed the nation's first "domestic partners" benefits plan for the spouse-like lovers of school employees. The Berkeley City Council had earlier passed such a measure "in principle"—but failed to pass any money for it.

The Board of Supervisors rejected Dr. Mervyn Silverman's "sex ban" proposal. The rejection put the stop-sex forces back to square one. Silverman was where he had been in April: wondering whether to close the baths outright.

Santa wasn't the only one making a list. In August, the B.A.R. disclosed that the federal Centers for Disease Control was pondering a national registry of people with antibody to HTLV-3, the so-called "AIDS virus." The feds disputed the story, until a copy of their internal memo was delivered to the Associated Press.

Goodness! What a busy month August is turning out to be. They used to call it the "dog days" for news... but this year the month was full of howling headlines. One such: "Art Thieves Steal the Show." Thieves working in broad daylight walked into the Pride Center Aug. 18 and stole 32 of 78 artworks on display. A thief was caught and convicted, but the artwork was not recovered.

SEPTEMBER

As we summarized in the last issue, Gov. George Deukmejian had decided anti-Gay discrimination was not a problem in California, and so had vetoed AB-1.

In contrast, he signed AB-848, a bill adding Gays and Lesbians to classes protected from violent attacks.

Mayor Dianne Feinstein, decidedly anti-sleep aroundish, decided she wasn't too keen on lovership either. She rejected a report from her hand-picked panel on domestic partners benefits. In a fit of elan, the mayor rejected the report before it was formally presented to her. Most of the panel members read about it in their morning newspaper along with everybody else in town.

Posters in the Castro blamed the B.A.R. for causing AIDS. Maybe it's the ink. Go wash your hands.

OCTOBER

Merv Silverman said it wasn't the ink. He said it's the baths. On Oct. 9 the health director told 14 bathhouses and sex clubs to close or else. Hours later, the club owners asked "or else what?" and reopened their doors.

The first great San Francisco

bathhouse closure lasted five hours.

Dr. Mervyn Silverman had requested a study by the federal Centers for Disease Control on the relationship of bathhouse attendance to the likelihood of getting AIDS. He didn't release the report, however. The locally based research showed bathhouse attendance was not a factor in AIDS. Number of sexual partners was a risk, however, the research showed.

Dr. Silverman said, "They closed the pools for polio on much less evidence." He later acknowledged that polio had never been spread in swimming pools.

Judge William Mullins—remember him?—closed the baths. He told attorneys he would not hear civil rights arguments in the Oct. 15 hearing on a temporary injunction.

Is that a firehose in your pocket or are you just happy to see me? A group of drunken firefighters attacked a patron at the Casa de Cristal restaurant, then trashed the place, after calling the straight diner a "faggot."

Police refused to enter the restaurant or arrest any of the firefighters. The firefighters were disciplined and internal complaints against the cops are pending. The cops have been cleared of kissing anyone.

A 42-year-old ex-convict was arrested and charged with the murder of 15-year-old Ted Gomez. Gomez was an East Bay kid who had left home to hang out on Polk Street. Police later found the dismembered body of another teenager who hung around Polk Street, buried in the sand at Land's End. The ex-convict was charged in that murder too.

NOVEMBER

A survey commissioned by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation indicated that two-thirds of Gay men had changed their sex habits to limit the spread of AIDS. The *San Francisco Chronicle* ran a front-page story on the survey—reporting on Gays' incomes and spending habits. In the fourth paragraph from the end, the article noted that one-third of Gays continued high-risk sex despite the AIDS epidemic.

The Central YMCA closed its steamroom to halt sex. Two days later it reopened. Dr. Silverman said he had nothing to do with it.

The Reno Gay Rodeo for 1985 was cancelled for unpaid bills.

Superior Court Judge Roy L. Wonder allowed bathhouses and sex clubs to reopen in a Nov. 28 ruling. He forbade "high risk" sex, however, and empowered the AIDS Foundation to set standards. He called for "monitors" to enforce the code.

Bathhouse owners voted to remain closed, objecting to sex monitors. Three clubs—The Academy, The Slot and Animals—subsequently reopened.



And Your Little Dog Too. They all got kudos at this year's Dog Show... proving that the Castro is indeed at the end of the rainbow. (Photo: R. Prazan)

In a B.A.R. interview, Dr. Silverman said a panel of the nation's AIDS experts had been "mixed" on whether to close the baths. Their judgment was "five to five—five saying absolutely close them as soon as possible, the other five saying either don't close them at all... (or) give the community a chance to do something. I left that meeting, in fact went out and had a drink after that, and decided it was time to move." Silverman said.

DECEMBER

Dr. Mervyn Silverman resigned after 7 years as the city's health director, saying, "it's been a rough year."

A man walked into a bank in tiny Geronimo, Oklahoma, and shot seven people, killing four. Police charged two Gay lovers, 19 and 22 years old. The pair was arrested in San Francisco, where police say they went on a spending spree with \$17,000 stolen from the bank.

The motive? Townspeople said the two men were angry that bank employees poked fun at them for being Gay. Oklahomans called for death to the two suspects, who were extradited.

In Maine, three teenagers who murdered a Gay man in a "fag-bashing" attack were serving a maximum of 40 months in the state reformatory.

B. Jones



Conventional Politics got Gays and Lesbians onto the floor of San Francisco's Democratic National Convention. In all, there were 58 openly Gay delegates and 7 alternates. (Photo: Rink)

G BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS S

Incident at Gay Bar Sparks A Raid—of a Straight Bar

Homophobic 'Flasher' Draws a Dozen Cops Who Close Off Street in San Mateo

by Gerard Koskovich

An incident of harassment at B-Street and Sassy's, a Gay and Lesbian bar in San Mateo, brought a swift response from the San Mateo Police Department Friday evening, Dec. 28.

Ten to fifteen officers in seven patrol cars closed the 200 block of B Street at Third Avenue for over half an hour, conducted a sweep of Floorplay, a straight bar across the street from the Gay club, and dispersed a crowd of approximately 45 on the sidewalk outside the straight bar. One suspect was taken into custody and charged with exposing himself at the entrance to B-Street and Sassy's.

According to the manager of B-Street, the incident began when the indecent-exposure suspect attempted to enter the Gay club along with a friend around 9 p.m. Saturday. The doorman at B-Street turned the pair away because one was carrying an open bottle of beer, and again refused the pair entry

when they reappeared half an hour later.

The suspect returned alone around 10:30 p.m., according to the manager and a customer of the Gay club. In the presence of the manager, the doorman and approximately five patrons waiting in the bar's foyer, the suspect took down his pants, fondled his

penis and shouted, "Here, suck on this, you fucking fags!"

The manager of B-Street reported the incident to the San Mateo Police. Two cruisers responded almost instantaneously. This reporter was standing on the west side of B-Street, outside the Gay club, as the manager and the doorman from B-

Street, as well as one of the women bartenders from Sassy's, the Lesbian bar upstairs from B-Street, joined the police outside of Floorplay.

The suspect reacted with surprise when the trio from the Gay club identified him and four San Mateo Police officers arrested him. A number in the crowd reacted with hostility, shouting "fucking fags" and similar taunts.

A full-scale raid on the crowd outside the straight bar commenced: five more patrol cars appeared, without sirens or flashers, closing both ends of the 200 block of B Street and both levels of a two-story parking garage adjacent to Floorplay and the San Mateo Caltrain Station. Five officers entered the straight bar, which attracts a clientele largely composed of working-class youths from the immediate neighborhood, re-emerging a few minutes later. Other officers dispersed the group of patrons and loiterers on the sidewalk, encountering grumbling but little outright resistance.

Officers remained on the

scene until well after B-Street, Sassy's and Floorplay closed at 1:45 a.m. Sunday, approaching individuals attempting to enter the straight bar and keeping the street clear of loiterers. Customers at B-Street and Sassy's were allowed to enter and exit at will. A number expressed surprise that the police presence had been sparked by a homophobic incident.

According to the manager of B-Street, which has been in operation for five years, the opening of Floorplay several months ago has created some problems for the Gay club, but he called the harassment incident Saturday evening "a rare occurrence."

According to Sergeant Jim Steinkro of the San Mateo Police, the suspect taken into custody was Sitiveni Kioa, 20, of San Mateo. He was charged with indecent exposure, interfering with an officer and assault on an officer, and was booked at the San Mateo County Jail. The suspect's brother, Vita Kioa, 18, of San Mateo was arrested and booked for interfering with an officer.

OAKLAND

Crystal Balls

NEZ PAS

Necromancy Mase! (A Predicting Nose?)

Skeptics, non-believers, and other minimifidians take note!

If the likes of Jeanie Dixon, Sylvia Brown, Woods Mattingly, Mousalam, and even Johnny Carson's Carnal the Magnificent can predict the future and bat just about zero, why can't yours truly try a hand at being animistic or even a little clairvoyant?

So with corona in buccinator (that's tongue in cheek, dear reader) here goes with "Pas's Prognostications for 1985":

- The In Between will lend its beer and wine license to ACIE for Coronation '85.
- Big Chuck will not get any new jewelry or fine furs this year.
- Sonny will become celibate... for two whole days!
- Graham Bell will start plans for the 100th Anniversary of the White Horse.
- Steve will show his true color (hair, that is!).
- Emperor II Chuck will rent out the Paradise dining room for Gay wedding receptions.
- Danny and Dego will win Grand Duke and Duchess Elect II because of interchangeable costumes.
- Bars will receive absolutely no bad checks.
- Hagatha will be nice for a month.
- Many will think that Hagatha is ill.
- The Hayward Cockettes will appear three times on MTV with their new hit album, "We Are What We Were When."
- Orka will start Hawaii's first and last court system.
- P.J. will be the barker at the ping pong ball toss and win a fish at Turf's annual carnival.
- There will be no pools at any East Bay bar on Super Bowl XIX.
- Lady Randy will elope with little Joe.
- Larry's army of lawyers will annul the marriage.
- Rick will buy a hearing aid.
- P.J. will hide the batteries.
- Crotch Face will come out of the closet, smelling like anchovies.
- A gigantic scavenger hunt among all East Bay bars will result in Mayor Wilson's admitting, "We do have a community here."
- Vicious Vera will write a complimentary letter to the editor.
- That letter will never be published.
- David will find a lover who has never been in drag.
- That lover will be a transsexual.
- Emperor and Empress VI, Doug and Billy, will bow to public pressure and run for #VII. They win!
- Llari will be seen bar hopping—monthly!
- Jim Sanchez will not go to Mexico for vacation.
- The East Bay Pool Competition will start again. The White Horse will come in dead last.
- Cecil will find a "free" lover.
- George won't let his hangover stop him from defending his title of Mr. Lumberjack II.
- Ethel will win Mr. Lumberjack III.
- Ron will request (and get) all night shifts at Lake Lounge.
- Big Mama's will give up its big video and replace it with

- private booths with individual screens.
- Cup Cakes will be in charge of the token distribution.
- Keith will be in charge of drilling holes.
- Bella Napoli will finally advertise that it is Gay.
- Jack and Jim will re-do the Turf club to include a DJ booth, rectangular bar, dance floor, wall-to-wall mirrors, and lots of live plants. The completion date is scheduled for March 1.
- Phil will not be ill this year.
- Zephyr Jim will go on the wagon for six months.
- Hayward will file for bankruptcy.
- ACIE will hold three profitable functions, all of which will actually start at the advertised time.
- Emperor Don will win the Reader's Digest sweepstakes and will donate all monies to Falwell's Moral Majority.
- Bench & Bar will discontinue disco (and door charge) and start tea dancing, featuring the "Madison" led by Steve and Jim.
- Taco Tony will give private Samba lessons behind the bar.
- Jack E. will expand Cabels Reef so break dancing contests can be held.
- Little Chuck will win the first round.
- Jose will do his duty by picking weeds along Highway 24, for three weekends in a row.
- Hayward bars will make it an annual event.
- Bob will leave the Lake Lounge—sober.
- Lee will finally have the winning ticket, #666, but it will be the wrong raffle.
- Frumpy will try to wear underwear.
- Dean S. will combine all his parties into one big soiree in that infamous parking lot.
- All Hayward police will call in sick that day.

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THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 4

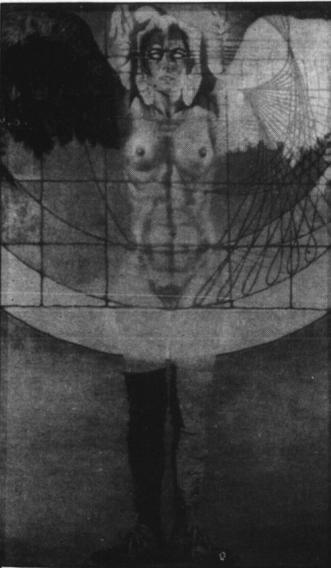
- **Loving Women:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5 to \$8 sliding scale. The Mother Tongue Reader's Theatre offers a dramatic exploration of love between and among women using personal, collective, political, and historical sources.
- **Femprov:** comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 to 8 PM, free.
- **Tom Ammiano:** comedy, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 9 PM, cover.
- **Joe Ross:** music, Buckley's, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5. Featuring works by Jon Hendricks, Kenny Loggins, Joan Armatrading, and original material. With Bob Bauer at the piano.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** Trivial Pursuit night, the FOG House, 2038 22 Ave., S.F., 8 PM. Refreshments, prize. Call 753-6786 for more information.
- **Pictures at an Exhibition:** stage performance, Zephyr Theater, 595 Mission St., S.F., 8:30 PM, cover. Directed by Peter Luce. With Marian Scott, Marianne Simon, Stephen Logue, and Martin Ponch. Call 557-5139 or 753-0492 for more information.
- **Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris:** stage performance, Belrose Theatre, 1415 5th Ave., San Rafael, 8:30 PM, \$10. Starring Ruth Hastings. Call 864-6669 for reservations.
- **Acupuncture Clinic:** for persons with AIDS and their Gay families, The Parsonage, 555A Castro St., S.F., by appointment, free. Call Mark Denzin, C.A., or Peter Betcher at 567-2315 for more information. Stress/pain control.
- **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.
- **The Sound of a Voice and The House of Sleeping Beauties:** stage performance, People's Theatre Coalition, Bldg. B, Fort Mason Center, S.F., 8 PM, cover. The Asian American Theater Company presents two one-act plays.



Romanovsky and Phillips will celebrate the release of their first album, *I Thought You'd Be Taller*, at the Rose.

SATURDAY 5

- **And We Call it Survival:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5 to \$8 sliding scale. The Mother Tongue Reader's Theatre examines social, personal, and universal issues threatening survival, as well as survival techniques and tools, in the newest addition to its repertory.
- **Gay Comedy Night:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. With Tom Ammiano, Romanovsky and Phillips, and Karen Ripley.
- **Monica Palacios and Marga Gomez:** comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8 to 8 PM, free.
- **Faye Carol:** music, Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 9 PM, \$7.50
- **Pamela Ericson:** music, Buckley's, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, cover.



An exhibit of paintings and drawings by Ted Coconis called *Women Who Transcend Reality* will be at the Academy of Art Gallery through Jan. 31.

- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** Monopoly and Risk night, the FOG House, 2038 22 Ave., S.F., 8 PM. Refreshments, prize. Call 753-6786 for more information.
- **Pictures at an Exhibition:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Chanticleer:** music, Green Room, War Memorial Performing Arts Center, S.F., 8 PM, \$8. Bay Area male vocal ensemble in the second concert of its home season.
- **Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **The Concubine at the Feast:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **The Sound of a Voice and The Sleeping House of Beauties:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

SUNDAY 6

- **Chorus Boy at Morning's End:** Garland Richard Kyle reads selections from his works, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM. Reception follows.
- **Eddie Moore Trio:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5 to 8 PM. Jazz.
- **Ralph Michaels and Molly Breen:** music, Buckley's, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, cover.
- **G40+:** meeting, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St., S.F., 2 PM. Dennis McShane, M.D., will speak on Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights and the AIDS Crisis Get Back to the Community.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** 11th anniversary Dolores Park run, begins 10 AM on the corner of 20th and Church Sts. S.F. One to 3.4 miles.
- **East Bay FrontRunners:** Golden Gate Bridge run, meet at 9:30 AM in the parking lot at the south end of the bridge. Flat, windy, three-mile run to Marin County and back. Call 526-7315 or 526-9167 for more information.
- **All Join Hands:** square dancing, 2140 Market, S.F., 5 to 7 PM. Dance with the Bay City Ramblers. Call 474-1917 for more information.
- **The Concubine at the Feast:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **The Sound of a Voice and The House of Sleeping Beauties:** stage performance, 3 and 7 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Drop-in VD Clinic:** sponsored by the Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 7 to 9 PM. Free and confidential. Testing and treatment for gonorrhea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, etc., also counseling and referrals. Call 644-0425 for more information.

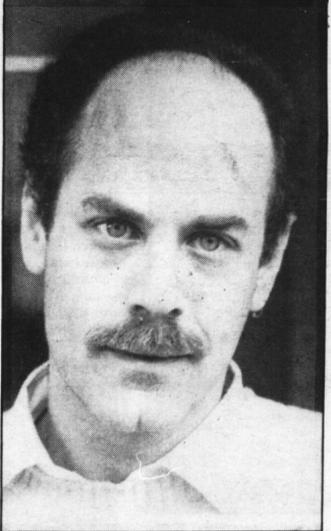
WEDNESDAY 9

- **Tuffy Eldridge and Christa Hillhouse:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.

- **Bay Area Lawyers for the Arts:** seminar, Room 300, Bldg. B, Fort Mason Center, S.F., 7 PM. Paul Thurston will speak on Sales Tax: Dealing with the State Board of Equalization.
- **American Inroads:** dance, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. With Freddie Long, John Lefan, Byron Brown, and Sara Shelton Mann.
- **Nancy Shallman:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- **The Concubine at the Feast:** stage performance, \$8 and \$9 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Artists Involved with Death and Survival:** stage performance (see Tuesday listing for details).

THURSDAY 10

- **Romanovsky and Phillips:** music/comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. Album release celebration for *I Thought You'd Be Taller*.
- **A Name You Never Got:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$6. A one-woman show by Ronda Slater of an autobiographical story of a mother who finds the daughter she gave up for adoption.
- **Impulse F:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM. With Slantstep.
- **Sonja Mahoney:** music, Buckley's, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, cover.
- **Beginners Square Dance:** free introductory classes, YMCA, 220 Golden Gate, S.F., 7:15 PM. Call the Western Star Dancers at 864-6134 for more information.



Robert Gluck and Brad Gooch will read from their works at *Intersection for the Arts* Tuesday. (Photo: Rink)

- **Gay Comedy Open Mike:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$3. With co-hosts Tom Ammiano and Danny Williams. Performer sign-up at 7:30 PM.
- **Something Special:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 to 11 PM. Featuring Rita Lackey.
- **Nat Adderley Quartet:** music, Kimball's, 300 Grove St., S.F., 9 PM, \$6. With Ed Kelly, Herbie Lewis, and Eddie Moore.
- **The God of Ecstasy:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$7. Arthur Evans' translation of Euripides' *Bakkhai*.
- **Robert Gluck:** reading by the author from *Elements of a Coffee Service and Jailbait*, Intersection for the Performing Arts, 756 Union St., S.F., 8 PM, \$3.
- **Women Who Transcend Reality:** painting and drawing exhibit, Academy of Art Gallery, 688 Sutter St., S.F., reception for the artist, Ted Constantinos Coconis, 5 to 7 PM. Through Jan. 31.
- **Playwriting Workshop:** winter session, 7:30 PM. Conducted by George Birmisa. Call 431-6254 for more information.
- **The Velvet Touch:** playreading, Bldg. B, Fort Mason Center, S.F., 7:30 PM, \$2. A situation comedy by Bill Lees.
- **Nat Adderley Quartet:** music, (see Monday listing for details).
- **Beginning Square Dancing:** dance, 2140 Market, S.F., 8:15 PM. Learn with the Bay City Ramblers. Call 474-1917 for more information.
- **Lady Bianca:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- **Artists Involved with Death and Survival:** stage performance, The Studio, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. A collaborative effort of 13 Bay Area Gay and Lesbian artists that delivers new insights into the deepening AIDS crisis.
- **Yoga and Meditation Class:** for people with AIDS and their lovers, 10 AM to noon. Call 921-4471 for more information.
- **International Folk Dancing:** dance class, Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, \$2. No preregistration necessary. Call 552-8413 for more information.

WEDNESDAY 9

- **Lady Bianca:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM. With Ladies Choice and Rita Lackey.
- **Mother/Father Know Best:** panel discussion, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 6 PM. Sponsored by Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays as part of its January meeting. No-host cocktails and free buffet. Call 626-7273 for more information.

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

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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

PERFORMANCE ART

Democracy in America

Does New York's Performance Art Enfant Terrible Really Believe?

by Bernard Spunberg

Some people you can't ignore. Energetic, intelligent, and a little bit irritating, New York performance artist Tim Miller blew into San Francisco for four mid-November performances at the New Performance Gallery of his latest, mixed-media work, **Democracy in America**. A weighty title. An allusion to the seminal work by 19th-century commentator Alexis DeToqueville, the title is justified by the scope of Miller's vision and the power of his communication.

Democracy in America uses abstract slide projections to stimulate the subconscious, music to evoke everything from a square dance to Armageddon, and a five-foot video screen for quotes from the famous and the unknown. There is also a cast of 20 live performers. They undergo a sinister interrogation, re-enact the Westward Movement, and, noses buried in newspapers, dance a witty stylization of rush hour in Manhattan. Amid the chaos and mayhem of the climax, a woman's hysterical efforts to cast her vote make her booth topple over as she flails away at the voting machine ineffectually.

What's it all mean? In his program note to performances at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Miller explains.

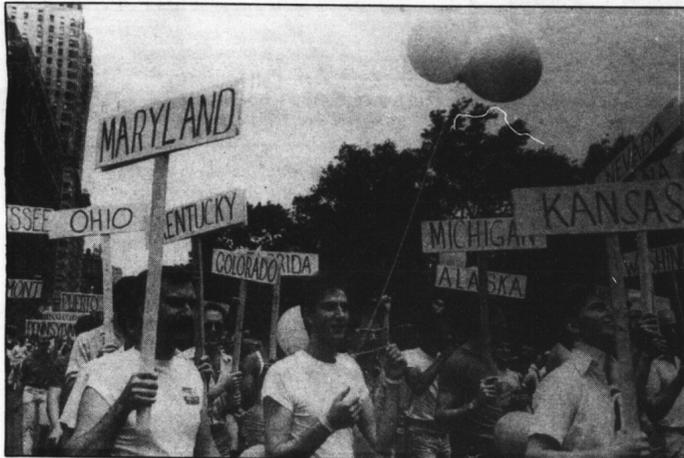
"Ever since I was a little kid I was trying to figure out all this America stuff. How it all works. What it all means. How I fit in. What I'm supposed to do. . . . But then I read the newspapers and read the books and it does seem like something has gotten

terhead. Performances of **Democracy in America** are accompanied by the sale of photographs by Dona McAdams and prose fragments by Miller bound together in a book entitled **Democracy in America**.

Near the end of the book, there's a passage coupled with a photo of young men wearing t-shirts and carrying signs bearing the names of states. Miller's

enough. None of the men are even looking at each other, much less touching, and the word "Gay" is nowhere visible. Talk about discreet.

In the interrogation section of the stage version of **Democracy in America**, one of the actors boldly shouts out his sexual identity as "HOMO!" Miller answers the sex question with the tag "Artist." Why so coy?



So what's all the fuss about? The Gay photo Miller almost didn't include in his picture book accompanying **Democracy in America**.

fucked up somewhere. A little wrong turn. Half a shortcut. The middle of nowhere. . . . So I decided to really look into it all. Talk to some people. Ask questions. Go for a ride. And when I was a little boy I really did want to be president. Which is no big deal. Which is nothing strange. Which is something you leave behind. With a pinch of grow on."

That must have been a hell of a pinch. Born in 1958, Miller grew up in Southern California, lived briefly in Seattle and San Francisco, and moved to New York at age 19. Besides **Democracy in America**, his large-scale pieces include **Postwar** (1982), which was taped by the BBC, and **Cost of Living**. Miller's work has been performed in London, Paris, and Brussels as well as major U.S. cities.

He is also a master of marketing. Correspondence from him concerning **Democracy in America** is written on **Democracy in America** let-

words irritate a Gay consciousness subtly but unmistakably.

"I almost didn't put this picture in here," the passage says in part. "I dunno. Part of me wanted to keep everything tidy and friendly and whose business is it anyway? But that's screwed up. I mean, what is all this stuff with George Washington and responsibility and a brighter future and blab blab blab. How can I crank it out about all that stuff and not talk about back to basics. I'm not sure what my grandma would think of this or me or that guy from Kansas marching onto her farm in Smith County in 1919. She might just shake her head for a long time. Like she did about so many other things before she died. I dunno. I took my boyfriend home for Christmas last year. We had a great time . . ."

So. The truth is out. Miller is Gay. But what's untidy and unfriendly about that? The photo is certainly innocent

"When I said my sexual orientation is art, I meant that as a joke, a parody of older avant garde artists in New York who hide their Gayness behind the artist cloak," Miller said in a recent interview. "In L.A., that line got just the laugh I intended. That section of the piece was more about surface reaction and polarities of topics of social interest. None of those sexual issues were delved into deeply because the piece was not about that kind of information. I just wanted to suggest the margins of attitude on those issues."

"The Gay content was something I thought about a lot because it was central to a whole body of work I did for several years. The earliest work I did was specifically and exclusively Gay-oriented. My relationship with my then-boyfriend, dancer-choreographer John Bernd, was closely chronicled in a serial performance piece. The sections were called **Live Boys: We Drank Tea, We Ate Cashew Chicken, plain Live Boys**, and



Tim Miller

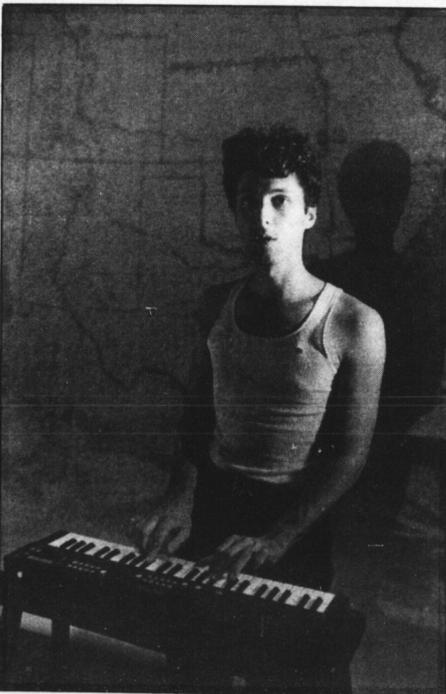
then **Live Boys: I Hate Your Guts**. The central one was a hit that ran for about twenty performances. It was a response to the work of Robert Wilson and Merce (Cunningham), and all those homos who had been non-committal about being Gay for so long in order to preserve their position in the avant garde establishment. It always pissed me off."

The world of politics, how-

ever, calls for a different approach.

"While I am not soft-pedaling Gay content in my art work for fear of homophobic reactions, I would not criticize certain kinds of political compromise at this point because the stakes are so high and what is massed against Gay people at this point is one of the most coherent cultural revolutions this country has

(Continued on next page)



Tim Miller at work.

MUSIC

Britain Whistles a Gay Tune

by Steve Warren

"Little David was small but oh my! . . ."

Knowing the members of Bronski Beat are Gay lets us read all sorts of delicious *double-entendres* into that line from "It Ain't Necessarily So," on its new album, **The Age of Consent**. It also extends the song's basic message, "The things that you're liable to read in the Bible . . . ain't necessarily so," to include transitional misinterpretations of Scripture regarding homosexuality.

Bronski Beat is part of the latest wave of Gay British pop acts, replacing such middle-aged "bisexuals" as David Bowie, Mick Jagger, Elton John, and Ray Davies, most of whom are married if not settled down.

Frankie Goes to Hollywood ("Relax," "Two Tribes") and Bronski Beat ("Smalltown Boy," "Why?") held the top spot on England's singles chart for most of 1984, a year in which bookstore raids and arrests for public displays of affection signaled a new wave of repression against Gays in the U.K. Such a paradox is fitting in a land where the starving working class continues to rever "Betty Windsor," its capital-g Queen.

Those two acts, as well as Tom Robinson, the Smiths, and others, have had a harder time establishing a foothold on the American charts. FGTH has climbed higher with its debut album, **Welcome to the Pleasure Dome**, than either of its first two singles. Bronski Beat hopes to repeat the pattern with **The Age of Consent**, an unabashedly Gay album aimed without apology at the mass market.

A pink triangle is part of the

(Continued from previous page)

post-Stonewall generation, of which I really don't think I'm part," Miller said. "I grew up in Southern California, and in my crucial period of development when I was 15 or 16, it was 1974 and the pop cultural icons were David Bowie, glitter rock, bisexuality—meaning it was fine to wear makeup to high school. And our willingness to do that and the relative acceptance we found can absolutely be traced to Stonewall."

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"The whole idea of the struggle, of what it was like before (Stonewall), is a bit difficult to imagine."

—Tim Miller

So long, Gay political clubs. Bye-bye, Gay candidates and supporters. Forget about that deadline, Gay press. The New Right is here and we might as well all go home.

Never. To withhold Gay support for fear of damaging a candidate is homophobia of the worst kind—the internalized kind. It lends credence to the idea that Gay people lack moral fiber and are worthy of neither full civil rights nor political representation. No. As long as we have the examples of Harvey Milk and Art Agnos, to name but two personal favorites, we need never attempt to substitute discretion or expedience for integrity.

But perhaps the ideological gap between Miller and myself is just a matter of personal history.

"When we did **Live Boys**, there was all this writing about

geometric design on the front cover and stands alone on the back cover and one side of the inner sleeve. While that proclaims "Gay!" to the cognoscenti, some of B.B.'s lyrics—the material is 80 percent original—will tip off even the most naive. "Smalltown Boy," the group's first hit, tells of a Gay youth escaping the town he's grown up in: ". . . Pushed around and kicked around . . . You were the one that they'd talk about . . . The love that you need will never be found at home . . ."

"It remains to be seen whether Gay pop will enter the musical mainstream over here . . ."

Fag-bashing is addressed more directly in "Why?": "Contempt in your eyes/As I turn to kiss his lips/Broken I lie/All my feelings denied/Blood on your fist . . ."

Remember, both of these songs reached number one in England.

More Village People-ish is "Heatwave": ". . . Tattoos and muscle passion and sweat, Summer he-e-e-e-eatwave . . ."

The Donna Summer boycott hit England about two weeks before the album's release, too late to stop a re-do of "I Feel Love," here blended with "Johnny Remember Me": "Johnny, I feel love for you . . ."

If all of the above is too subtle for any listeners, let them find an alternate explanation for these men singing "Need a Man Blues": "Sweet sweet sweet is the taste of a man, and sweeter

still is the taste of his sweet tasting love . . . And the sweetest thing of all is men loving men loving men loving men . . ."

Bronski Beat adds "No More War" to the campaigns of Culture Club ("The War Song") and Frankie Goes to Hollywood ("War," "Two Tribes"), the Gay branch of the peace movement being more active in the U.K. than the U.S.

The beat of Bronski is synthesized—pleasant, danceable, sometimes jazzy soft rock. Arrangements vary somewhat, as with the sudden, humorous intrusion of a "butch" chorus in the middle of "It Ain't Necessarily So" and tap dancing in "Heatwave." The overall sound is dominated and made distinctive by Jimmy, the siren-voiced lead singer and lyricist. Forty-five minutes of his shrill wail is harder to take than any female soprano you might name, so I'd recommend you only listen to one side of **The Age of Consent** at a sitting, at least until you've gotten used to it.

As a public service in keeping with the album's title, the liner notes include a summary of "laws regarding minimum age for lawful homosexual relationships between men" in 30 European countries, and the hotline number for the National Gay Task Force in the U.S.

It remains to be seen whether Gay pop will enter the musical mainstream over here in as big a way as it has in England. And if so, will the parents of young record buyers start a backlash



with new repressive measures against Gays in society?

Stay tuned for the answers, as the barriers between the news and entertainment sections of this paper come tumbling down. Meanwhile, if we can run **The Age of Consent** up the charts, I for one intend to salute.

On a barely related but significant note, *Variety* reports

that **The Terence Davies Trilogy** is co-winner of the 1984 British Film Institute award. The three films from a promising Gay filmmaker showed last year in San Francisco's Gay and non-Gay festivals, but have yet to find a U.S. distributor. The award, according to *Variety*, "is presented annually to the maker of 'the most original and imaginative film' premiered that year at the National Film Theater."

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TALES OF TESSI TURA

Difficult Deliveries

Two months ago I attended Central Opera Service's annual conference. Since its theme was Premiere Development of New Opera/Musical Theatre Works, Ardis Krainik—the jovial general manager of the Lyric Opera of Chicago who started that company's composer-in-residence program—wasted no time in describing her personal excitement at hearing the first notes of a scene composer William Neil had created as part of his tenure there. As the conference progressed and the usual tedium about funding and grant-giving droned on and on, I was delighted to learn how a large donation from a Southern

critically brutalized opera *A Quiet Place*—expressed his intense anger with the press and voiced his strong desire to keep reviewers from covering works-in-progress in order that new operas might have a better chance of surviving the difficult voyage down the birth canal.

RISKY BUSINESS

Among the problems brought up at the COS conference were the fearful expectations faced by today's composers who, upon being commissioned to write a new work, are automatically expected to deliver a hit new opera

'Cruel words, perhaps. But the truth sometimes hurts.'

manufacturer of corn oil almost got that company's product hailed as "The Official Lubricant of Spoleto Festival U.S.A."

Composer Stephen Paulus and librettist/stage director Colin Graham described their collaborative efforts on *The Postman Always Rings Twice* while William Meyer told how he had only recognized the need for certain changes in his score to *A Death in the Family* once he saw the opera performed in workshop. Librettist Stephen Wadsworth—who collaborated with Leonard Bernstein on the

which will satisfy the egos of corporate donors. Also discussed was the continual struggle to be paid a fair price for one's creative output—with particular emphasis on the need for creative artists to be sufficiently reimbursed so that the costs of doing business do not devalue their professional time to such a low level that a funding organization's janitors and receptionists are earning more money than the creative artists.

Actress Carol Lawrence has a sign in the living room of her Beverly Hills home which reads

"It Isn't Creative Unless It Sells." Since I often encounter people who think the life of a freelance writer is pure glamour—and that there is nothing more romantic than flying around the nation to attend opera—rest assured that proper reimbursement for one's work is a highly sensitive issue among writers. I strongly urge any readers of this column who do not understand the agonies of all creative artists seeking recognition for their work—people who must constantly struggle to get their art before the public without, by necessity, going broke in the process—to listen to "Putting It Together" from Act II of Stephen Sondheim's *Sunday in the Park With George*. It is a most enlightening introduction to the realities of the artistic lifestyle.

During the COS conference, the various pros and cons of workshoping new compositions across academia's various stages were amply demonstrated by a production of Sheldon Harnick's newest project, *Dragons*. Performed by students at Northwestern University, *Dragons* proved to be an old-fashioned musical on the scale of *Camelot* which stole ideas from every hit show produced in the past 20 years. It was a phenomenal embarrassment, with the totality of this artistic fiasco made even more appalling by the fact that the composer/librettist (Harnick wrote the lyrics to the music for such hit shows as *Fiddler on the Roof*, *She Loves Me*, and *Fiorello!*) is so passionately in love with his creation he obviously cannot see its glaring and most probably irreparable faults. At intermission, a COS stalwart noted for her foghorn voice stormed up the aisle while announcing to all present, "Of course I'm leaving. I'm utterly bored!"

Cruel words, perhaps. But the truth sometimes hurts.

ONE MORE TIME

In a rare moment of levity during the conference, I jokingly suggested to Stephen Paulus that he consider an opera called *The Vibrator That Leveled Tokyo*. A week later, I conceded that Philip Glass would be infinitely better suited to the job. Glass' newest aural panorama was co-produced this fall by the Houston Grand Opera and New York City Opera. To be honest, *Akhnatn* contains such blatantly accessible music even a child can understand it.



463 bars and still counting... *Akhnatn* (Christopher Robson) and *Nefertiti* (Marta Senn) try to be patient while the *Amon High Priest* (Michael Austin) looks on in Philip Glass' new opera, *Akhnatn*.

Those craving tonality will be delighted to learn that Glass' score—which is little more than a series of broken chords repeated ad nauseam—contains absolutely nothing which could be labeled discordant. Although some dismissed *Akhnatn* as presumptuous trash, I'll be the first to admit I had a rollicking good time watching this pageant about a ditsy-assed hermaphroditic Pharaoh unfold before me. I might have had an even better time had I been stoned, but once I gave in to the melodic monotony of Glass' music, *Akhnatn* proved to be even more seductive than some of the lowest-low-life Muzak.

Several colleagues, strongly critical of David Freeman's bizarre stage production, were aghast that I could find *Akhnatn* so much fun. All things being relative, I reminded them that after being forced to sit through such total artistic bombs as *The Confidence Man*, *Minutes Till Midnight*, *Nine Rivers to Jordan*, and *The Servant of Two Masters*, the new Glass piece was quite a refreshing tonic. The damned thing works onstage with an insidious effectiveness that few new operas have claimed in recent years. It has an identity all

its own and a distinctive sound which is its composer's trademark. If anything, watching the production evolve felt very much like standing in the Museum of Natural History, ripped to the tits, and observing some truly tacky diorama come to life. Twilight Zone, here I come.

Christopher Keene, who conducted *Akhnatn*, delights in telling how once, during a performance of Glass' *Satyagraha*, he lost count in the middle of a stretch where the same phrase was repeated more than 800 times. Turning to the woman at the piano, he rather shamefully asked "Where are we?" She looked up with a beatific smile on her face and answered, "I don't know but I'm loving it!"

Desperate for help, the maestro turned to a violinist and hissed, "Where are we?"

"That's your job," snarled the man.

Akhnatn returns to the New York City Opera for four more performances beginning Nov. 9, 1985. I intend to be there with bells on my toes and, God willing, my brains royally fried.

Anyone care to join me? ■

STAGE

'Tartuffe' Too Tough?

by John F. Karr

The famous scandal following the premiere of Moliere's *Tartuffe* in 1664 has clouded our perception of the play. It was the fanatic, overly-pious Jansenist sect which recognized itself in the hypocrisies of the con-man Tartuffe. Small in number but powerful, their outcry forced the king to restrict the play to private performances. Only five years later was the ban lifted, but the attention of audiences has ever since been focused on religious hypocrisy as the play's core. That's the power of publicity.

Admittedly, the play takes many a swack at organized religion and its casuistry, but that is not its main thrust. *Tartuffe*

is not hypocritical since he's not religious—he's a swindler out to bilk Orgon. A more valid focus is the duping of Orgon. Why is he so easily taken in by a fool preaching morality? *Tartuffe* is less a satire than a most serious comedy about the control some people wish to have over the lives of others, and the happy fact—felt Moliere—that life refuses to be thus plaited.

The current production at the Berkeley Repertory Theatre is a test of their stylistic range passed better by few than most. Their *Tartuffe* alternates scenes that crackle with boisterous comedy and life with those that made me feel like a college student dutifully attending a

classic. The choices of director Albert Takazaukas are difficult to fathom. William S. Eddelman's set, although striking, is only a backdrop. Coupled with a production devoid of props and direction of traffic patterns, without comedy or sight gags, and our attention is thrown solely on the words, handled foursquarely by the majority of the actors. They hurry to the rhyme, creating a sing song effect, swallowing the plot information and internal wit Moliere deposited there.

Berkeley Rep's *Tartuffe* entertains, but too much of the effort is ours. The life in Moliere is currently demonstrated by ACT's School For Wives.

Excellent costumes by Angel of Light Beaver Bauer combine comedy and beauty in each creation.

Tartuffe Berkeley Rep Through Jan. 20; 845-4700

BACK TO BATON

Confetti

The holiday season has come and gone and I suppose most people are busy putting their lives and houses back in order. Resolutions are being made and some are already broken.

Traditionally, this is a time for critics to draw up Ten Best lists. Assuming anyone is interested, they might also contribute a Ten Worst.

As for me, there's one resolution I've been keeping for years. I don't make lists. To say there are ten best of something implies ten negatives. When writing about the San Francisco Sym-

phony it soon becomes apparent that even on an off night it is rarely less than acceptable. List making about the Symphony would be subjective at best, and just plain mean spirited at worst.

Nevertheless, it is a New Year and I have just enough energy left to clear my desk of some of the notes to myself and left over press releases that accumulate so easily. I intend to make confetti out of all the scraps. You can always line your bird cage or train a puppy.

The last concert I attended before New Year's Eve was a pleasant Christmas confection featuring soprano Ruth Ann Swensen and organists John Balka and John Fenstermaker. Titled "Christmas Pipe Dreams" the evening offered several sing-a-longs and a number of seldom-heard yuletide organ pieces. Fenstermaker, with his low key professionalism, and Balka (amusingly vivacious), provided just enough variety and taste to make an organ recital palatable. I'm the first to admit my perverse dislike of that "King of Instruments," as Mozart dubbed it. A little goes a very long way

Jan. 5, I recommend attending the all-Bach concert being given at Herbst Theatre by the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra at 8 p.m. The Wedding Cantata will feature Ruth Ann Swensen and it looks promising, indeed.

A woman will be the central reason for being at Davies Hall this weekend as well. Scottish composer Thea Musgrave will lead the San Francisco Symphony in its premiere of her *Viola Concerto*. Featured soloist in the piece is SFS Principal Violist Geraldine Walther.

Primarily known for her opera and ballet scores, Musgrave is also a respected conductor. Walther is a local favorite, esteemed for her dedication and artistic excellence. An auspicious pairing for the premiere of a major composition.

With the exception of the New York Philharmonic, the San Francisco Symphony has the largest subscription audience of any orchestra in the country. Constantly setting new attendance records for Symphony presentations, the Association has just completed its sixth con-

secutive year with a balanced budget.

Reason enough to applaud the adoption of a new three-year contract for orchestra members, making them the sixth nationally in salary scale for the first two years and fifth in the final year. One only wishes it could be more.

This year's season is approximately at the half-way mark. There's a lot more music in store, and hot on the heels of *Amadeus* comes the sixth annual Mostly Mozart Festival February 4-19 in Davies Hall, Herbst Theatre, War Memorial Green Room, and Cupertino's Flint Center. Superstar flute virtuoso Jean-Pierre Rampal, pianist Claude Frank, organist/harpichordist Anthony Newman, and the irrepressible Professor Peter Schickele performing the music(?) of P.D.Q. Bach highlight this year's festivities.

The glorious symphonies, string quartets, piano, flute, and violin concertos will all be performed in abundance along with sympathetic compositions by Haydn, Rossini, Beethoven, Handel, Vivaldi, Purcell, and others.

The centerpiece remains the Mozart Marathon, and the Symphony is trying to make package ticket sales as appetizing as possible. With their satisfying new contract, orchestra members should be as "up" for a good time as Mozart lovers.

These coming months will also be our last opportunity for savoring the accomplishments of Maestro Edo de Waart during his tenure here. The orchestra has never sounded better. New writers have been given exciting performances, and the San Francisco Symphony is recording again and showing itself to be world class.

Composer-in-residence John Adams has a scintillating rendition of his *Grand Pianola Music* in release on Angel Digital Records, with several new recordings due out in 1985. Individual orchestra members, such as Peter Shelton, Geraldine Walther, Daniel Kobiak, and Robin Sutherland constantly impress with their technique and dedication. All in all, an excellent season thus far, and a good reason for music lovers to anticipate the new year.



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"I'll trade you my leather cap for the garter on your bicep..." Whether we like it or not, the breakdance movies are the musicals of our time. *Breakin' 2: Electric Boogaloo* borrows heavily from the classics for its 'Let's put on a show' plot—this time to save the neighborhood center—and a dancing on the ceiling number by Michael 'Boogaloo Shrimp' Chambers adds some new twists to Fred Astaire's Royal Wedding routine. The talents involved are a long way from making a *Singing in the Rain*—perhaps by *Breaking 10 or 20*—but they're working fast and learning faster, and pleasing their young, multiracial audience in the process.

(Area Theatres) S. Warren

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BOOK RACK

Waiting on May

At Seventy: A Journal
by May Sarton
Norton: 334 pages: \$15.95
by Paul Reed

The fortieth book by May Sarton confirms that she is indeed one of the finest, yet most critically neglected, writers alive in America today. And as one of the Gay community's most unsung artists she is even less well-known. But, at 70, she is finally receiving the attention she deserves, evidenced by the mob scene at her April book signing at Old Wives Tales.

Fans will be delighted with her latest and best diary, and readers unfamiliar with her work will find an introduction to Sarton that will lead them to read more.

The corpus is mighty: 17 novels, each a literary gem; 13 volumes of poetry; eight nonfiction works, including this journal and three others; and two children's books. This is the accomplishment of 53 years of writing on such themes as solitude, love, passionate friendships, aging, feminism, and bi-

sexuality.

The journal begins on the author's seventieth birthday (May 3, 1962) and chronicles the following year. As is true of her earlier journals, Sarton instantly brings the reader into her world, at her seaside home in Maine. Her talent as a journalist resides in the craft of selecting precisely the themes and details that not only capture her life most accurately, but which also appeal to deeply-felt, shared experiences by all.

"What is it like to be seventy?" Sarton muses on the first page. "If someone else had lived so long and could remember things sixty years ago with great clarity, she would seem very old to me. But I do not feel old at all, not as much a survivor as a person still on her way."

The theme of aging, or really, of old age, permeates the book. But life goes on, vividly, with poetry readings and appearances and volumes of mail from the thousands of fans who are, as she terms them, "friends of the work." That Sarton writes so frankly of old age is refresh-

ing, for she truly does not view these later years as though she were "aging," like a cheese or an automobile. Rather, she sees old age as another place to be, a fine place to be, the natural progression of her growth as a human, as an artist, as a part of nature.

The richness of nature is perhaps the strongest theme, running not only through this journal, but throughout her novels and poetry as well. Gardening is Sarton's abiding passion, and she has a deep relationship with the natural world.

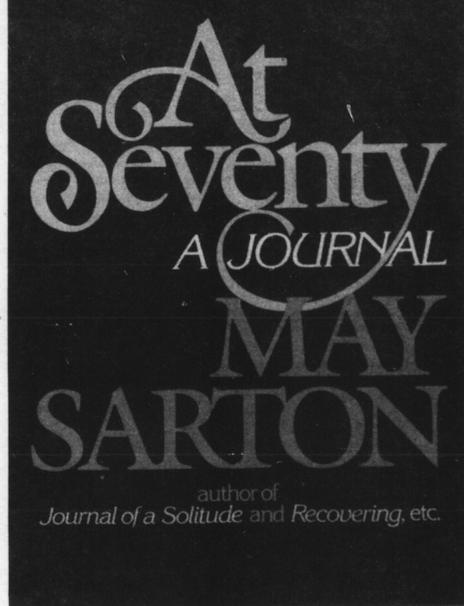
"And I was awakened by the cardinal, who is back again with his two wives, and the raucous cries of the male pheasant," Sarton writes. "I lay there, breathing in spring, listening to the faint susurrations of the waves and awfully glad to be alive."

"Yesterday was a great wallow of weather, a wonderful mass of dark clouds over a tumbled, rough ocean, with towers of spray flashing up at the end of the field, high wind, an exhilarating sense of autumn."

It is significant that, in her deep appreciation of the wild fullness of nature, she should be such an avid gardener. For gardening is a way of harnessing nature, of organizing it and bringing it into meaning, into control. And this is the underlying spirit of her work, her very foundation.

"I have never written a book that was not born out of a question I needed to answer for myself," she writes. "Perhaps it is the need to remake order out of chaos over and over again. For art is order, but it is made out of the chaos of life."

The chaos of May Sarton's life has been rich and varied, as her novels and journals indicate. And she has experienced—and written about—a rich, varied sexuality. Perhaps her lack of self-identification—or self-labeling—as a Lesbian or a heterosexual, or even a bisexual, is the reason the Gay community has turned its head the other way. Yet, if there ever was an



"alternative" view of life, of sexuality, it is present throughout Sarton's work. A strong ethic underlying all her work is that which holds deep reverence for the individual human being, being exactly who and what s/he can be. Perhaps her most famous novel—"Gay novel," that is—in which she expresses this ethic most fully, is *Mrs. Stevens Hears the Mermaids Singing*—the type of book which, once read, you never stop talking about.

Though her four journals are fine and very touching, her strength does not lie in that form. And though many may regard poetry as her great strength—I believe she herself does—it is in the 17 novels that she achieves her finest moments. The journals certainly stand on their own merits, but they are best taken as complements to

her real work. Nowadays, we have the cult of personalities which tends to obscure an author's work—so much does the reading public value the juicy tidbits of personal revelation. With Sarton, however, the tidbits shared in the journals offer rare insight into the psychology of an artist. Glamour and celebrity do not attend her journals, so the reader may glean a fuller understanding of the body of Sarton's work.

So while we may be satisfied to find another finely-drawn journal, we are anxious for more meat, the solid stuff of her poetry and fiction. In that sense, reading *At Seventy* is like waiting for an elevator to arrive. Oh, but when it *does* arrive, the outpouring is extraordinary. Until that next marvelous event, the journal will tide us over. ■



May Sarton enjoys a walk with her dog Tamas.

Theatre Safari

Theatre Rhinoceros announces a Theatre Safari to be held Saturday, Jan. 26, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This is your chance to explore heretofore uncharted nether regions of the theatrical jungle. Witness secret tribal rituals. Explore sacred shrines. Even visit that most arcane practitioner of the theater arts... the makeup man. Your

\$25 registration fee includes the guided tour, catered lunch, and safe passage back to civilization. Here is a schedule of the days events: Theatre tour; Lighting demonstration; Theatre games workshops run by Kris Gannon and Chuck Solomon; Catered lunch; makeup demonstration by makeup designer, Chuck Hilbert; Attend rehearsal of

Mourning Metro by C.D. Arnold. Registration deadline is Jan. 12th and the Theatre Safari is limited to 30 people, so make your reservations early. Please call our business office at 552-4100, between 1 and 5 p.m. Visa/Mastercard accepted. Charge by phone. Cash, check, or moneyorder. ■

BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

FITNESS EIGHTIES

Jumping for Joy

Gay and Lesbian Volleyball Leaves the Ground

by Charles Lineberger

Richard Hongisto, (the San Francisco Supervisor), was at my home a few months ago," Darrell Adkins, the founder of the Gay and Lesbian Volleyball League said over iced Sprites at the Village Deli on Castro Street recently, "and we were looking through the Gay Book directory and we couldn't find any Gay or Lesbian volleyball clubs listed. We couldn't believe it."

Adkins decided to rectify the situation. He sent press releases to the *Bay Area Reporter* and other local Gay media. The B.A.R. published Adkins' release and as he said, "We got a big response." Fifty to 60 people, mostly Gay men, called. Of these, according to Adkins, 10 offered to help in coaching and organizing the new league.

"We got some really good people," Adkins said. "We got one guy who was formerly connected with the Park and Recreation Department and had contacts with school gyms all over the city. A couple of people had their own equipment, and another person had helped organize a league in Portland, Oregon."

All these folks got together at Adkins' place where different functions were assigned to different people. A problem the league ran into right at the

beginning was that gyms weren't available this late in the season, though Adkins says things look good for January. Another problem was raised by the fact that the public school gyms charge \$36 for three hours use, so that the question of dues to pay for playing facilities arose immediately. Again, Adkins feels this obstacle has been surmounted by proposed fees of \$15 to join the league.

Another problem will be presented at the league's next meeting, Adkins believes, because the question of yearly dues will come up, as well as the task of assigning different people to different teams within the new league.

Adkins used to coach a volleyball team in high school. And volleyball has always been part of his life.

"It's fun, and it's sporadic in the sense that you never know

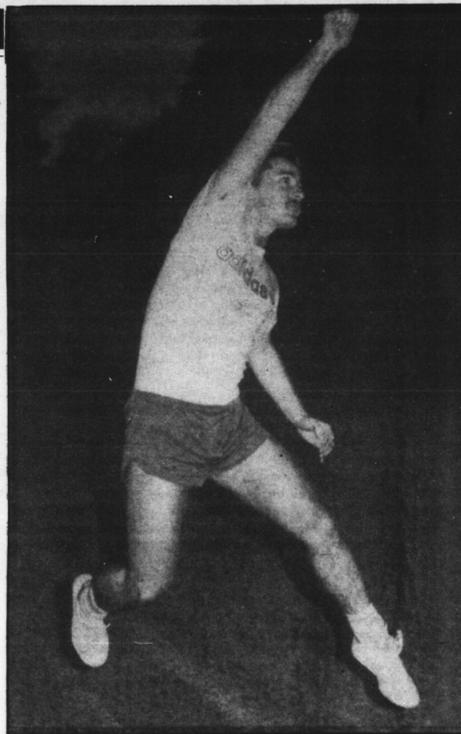
what's going to happen next and you're required to keep jumping all over the place," Adkins said. "According to Adkins, it's also a sport that can be played indoors or outdoors, so that bad weather doesn't have to interfere with the game."

Adkins said volleyball is played with six people on a team, 12 on a court at one time. Game lengths vary, but usually a set lasts between half an hour to 45 minutes. Another thing Adkins likes about volleyball is its informality. According to Adkins, you can put on your volleyball shorts and play in any kind of environment you want.

Adkins has been playing volleyball in Golden Gate Park's Lendley Meadow with a mixed group of Gays and straights. Soon he hopes to play on one of the league's Gay teams, when it has been organized into teams and playing areas have been found. Adkins also plays tennis. Jogging is his favorite sport. He jogs 12 to 16 miles a week in Golden Gate Park. This is convenient for him since he lives on the park's panhandle.

There are not many Lesbians who have responded to the league's ads so far, not as many as Adkins would like, but he feels that in time the teams will be divided on the basis of sex, with separate teams for women and men.

In the long run Adkins said he hopes his league will be able to compete against teams from other Gay leagues in cities such



Gay Volleyballer Darrell Adkins (Photo: Rink)

as Seattle, Portland, and Los Angeles. Anyone interested in partici-

pating in Gay and Lesbian Volleyball should contact Darrell Adkins at 386-7515. ■

TGWEDNESDAYNBL

Sunday Morning Expose

Inadvertently last Sunday, the mystery as to why the Thursday Tavern Guild Bowling Leagues average has been making such impressive leaps upward was solved.

That morning, as is my custom, I drove to Park Bowl in order to pick up some information for my next column. While talking with the desk attendant, a familiar silhouette darted across my field of vision. To appease my highly developed sense of curiosity, a result of living with two cats, I decided to investigate just why a Tavern Guild bowler would be at Park Bowl at 10:30 on a Sunday morning.

Discreetly, I edged toward

the alley on which I had sighted the familiar figure. It was necessary to be within five feet for positive identification because I had left my glasses in the car. Upon reaching the minimum effective distance for clear vision, I found myself surrounded by many other bowlers, all laughing and shouting supportive epithets to the bowler on the lane.

Without thinking, I leaped in front of the bowler whom I now knew to be a Thursday Tavern Guild member, blocking his approach to the lane.

"Ahhh haaha! So this is how you spend your Sunday mornings... practicing, while your

unsuspecting counterparts in the other leagues are still snugly tucked in their respective feather beds, cuddled up to their favorite inflatable (well, some are actually snuggled up to each other, but that is of no consequence here)." I sardonically laughed. "Well, your little secret is out now!"

He looked at me with obvious pity in his huge brown eyes and said, "Secret? What secret? Just look around, honey, half the house is either Monday or Thursday Tavern Guild League bowlers. We practice almost every Sunday morning between 10 a.m. and noon. Is there something wrong with that?"

Taking his advice, I did look around. It was abundantly clear that at least half the occupied lanes were, indeed, either Mon-

day or Thursday TG bowlers. Furthermore, the pleasant sounds of amiable laughter that filled the house gave ample evidence that Sunday practice not only pays off on league nights, but that it also is one hell of a lot of fun.

Again without thinking, which has, by now, become an almost constant state, I rushed

out to the car, retrieved my glasses and bowling ball bag, and shot back into Park Bowl to become an active member of the frolicsome Sunday Before Brunch Bowling Branch.

Of course, while many Thursday League members are bettering their skills on the lanes, other league bowlers aren't just treading water. ■

JERRY R. DE YOUNG

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G.S.L. UPDATE

A New Year's Wish For:

- Scott Mize: attendance at a G.S.L. meeting.
- John Larisa: see Scott Mize.
- Mike Tabeling: see Scott Mize.
- Cha Cha: a sponsor for more than one year.
- Art Jackson: recruiting assistance from the U.S. Army.
- Francis: humility and cooking lessons.
- Bob DiTullio: either gain weight or buy a smaller cup.
- Terry Brooks: a pitcher's mound.

- Mark Brown: a team.
- Mike Dolan: a sponsor. (Check with Cha Cha.)
- Bill Pielock: decorations, razor blades, and a high-scoring pencil.
- Rita: patience.
- John Koster: an alarm clock.
- Ken Stewart: a dictionary.
- Becky: a safe place.
- Dan Carlson: less hours of work.
- Carl Heimann: a new script and lighting director.

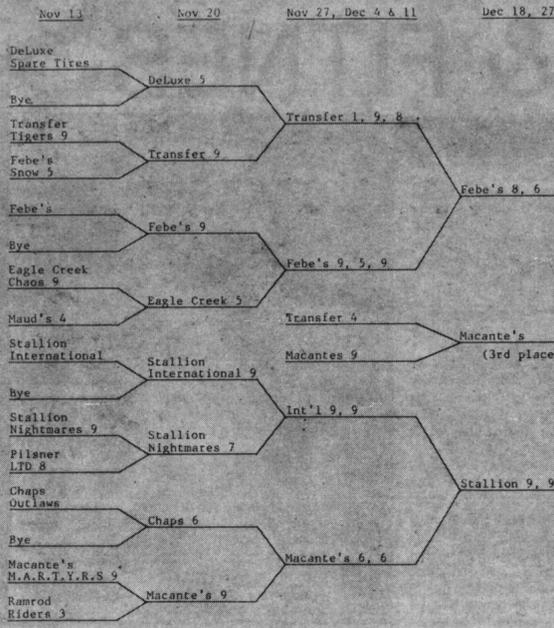
Glenn Burke: all that money he's supposed to be paid.

- "Sarge": a return trip to Milwaukee.
- Randy Hartley: a husband.
- Angie: a husband.
- Darlene: a team that can catch.
- Bob Docca: elevator shoes.
- Jim Bowler: tighter pants.
- "Nooch": a permanent bar (for work purposes only).
- Rennis: Cha Cha one more time.
- Pat Conlon: a coach.
- Remy: another year.
- John Montanez: a trip to the Bahamas and Scandinavia.

(Continued on next page)

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S.F.P.A. PLAYOFFS



All-Star (Class "AA") Tournament

- 1: E. Z.
- 2: Rick Moore
- 3: Bill Kazee
- 4: Dave Tinko

1984 Nine Ball Championship

- 1: Dave Tinko
- 2: Rick Mariani
- 3: Ray Peterson
- 4: Lisa Duncan

STALLION INTERNATIONAL

MVP Tournament

- 1: Bill Kazee
- 2: Lisa Duncan
- 3: Owen Bubar
- 4: Ron McKay

Class "A" Tournament

- 1: Jim Regan
- 2: Chuck Lanier
- 3: Bill Boyles
- 4: Wayne Katnitz

CORNER POCKET

Stallion's 3rd Title

The San Francisco Pool Association's 13th 8 Ball season ended at Febe's Dec. 27 when the Stallion International defeated Febe's 9-6. The Stallion has now produced three championship teams, and another notch is added to team Captain Colin Bradley's record: He's now played on six S.F.P.A. championship teams. He and his fellow Stallion players—Dave Chua, Tommy Sherck, Gino Smith, and Bill Von Prillwitz—will represent the S.F.P.A. at West Coast Challenge X, at West Hollywood's Four Star Saloon Jan. 18-20.

The first match ended, as have other Stallion-Febe's confrontations, in overtime. It was a tough 17th game. Ray Peterson for Febe's, Bradley for the Stallion, and the game ended with one ball left on the table. Peterson's final ball was frozen to the cue ball—his attempt at

the trick shot failed, leaving Bradley an easy 8 ball for the 9-8 victory.

With Peterson, Febe's top player, absent for the second match, Febe's was considerably outweighed but was no push-over, failing 9-6 on (don't read this) my table run and 8 ball scratch against Tommy Sherck.

BEST WOMEN'S FINISH

Third place went to Lauren Ward's Macante's M.A.R.T.Y.R.S., the best finish ever by an all-women's team. In fourth was the surprise team of the season, Larry Fulwider and friends eliminated the top-rated Deluxe Spare Tires with a decisive 9-5 victory, and the team defeated Febe's by the same score in the second match of the semifinals. The final Febe's-Transfer match went to

overtime, Ray Peterson delivering a table run as the Tigers' Chuck Lanier chalked his cue. You can expect the Tigers, more experienced and confident, to be even tougher next season.

FUN AT CHAPS

With the heavy competition behind us, league members now look forward to the Hi-Lo tournament (next Tuesday) and the party/awards presentation (next Saturday), both at Chaps. During that traditionally festive four-day period, several teams will regroup, and intrigue will be thick in the air as rumors circulate.

Spring Season team sign-ups—Jan. 29.

REGISTER TO VOTE

GENE MILLER

SCOREBOARD

PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD BOWLING LEAGUES Team Standings and Personal Achievements

TAVERN GUILD MONDAY LEAGUE		HIGH SCRATCH GAME	
(Week 11 of 21 - as of 12/17/84) League Average: 721			
1. Park Bowl	32 12	Hank Givan (PWIL)	257
2. The San Francisco Gym	31 13	Rob Mallin (P.P.Lkrs)	255
3. Renegade	30 14	Steven Sams (Pndm)	244
4. Grand Central Station	28 16	Skip Christian (PWIL/J)	244
5. Capricorn Coffees	28 16	Roger Spencer (D.S.T.F.'s)	244
6. Welcome Home	26 18	HIGH SCRATCH SERIES	
7. Community Rentals	25½ 18½	Eric Tuff (C.S.M.)	671
8. Top Billing	25 19	Hank Givan (PWIL)	643
9. Deluxe Pickups	24½ 19½	Bob Rolison (P-II)	632
10. Gays of Our Lives	23 21	Rob Mallin (P.P.Lkrs)	629
11. Pilsner Pointless Sisters	22 22	THURSDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE	
12. Ethel Mertz Memorial	21 23	(Week 13 of 21 - as of 12/13/84) League Average: 562	
13. Transferites	20 24	1. Queen Mary's Pub	34 14
14. Men's Room	19 25	2. The Krewé	30 18
15. Rude Prudes	17 27	3. White Horse	29½ 18½
16. Perfect Petals	16 28	4. Pig Pins	28 20
17. Amazing Six Graces	9 31	5. Bracco Dist.	26½ 21½
18. Team #6 (BYE)	0 44	6. Fourplay	26 22
HIGH SCRATCH GAME		7. Schmidy Insurance	26 22
Keith Ray (Rngade)	257	8. Four Keeps	26 22
Lew Watson (G.C.S.)	240	9. Trax	24½ 23½
Rob Mallin (Rngade)	236	10. EJESP	23 25
Angelo Maggio (G.C.S.)	232	11. Febes	23 25
HIGH SCRATCH SERIES		12. Ron Records	22 26
Keith Ray (Rngade)	649	13. C.D.C.	22 26
Mal Garcia (P.B.)	623	14. Park Bowl	19½ 28½
Larry McBroom (G.C.S.)	605	15. Trax Maniax	19 29
Hank Givan (T.Blg)	605	16. The Special	18 30
TAVERN GUILD WEDNESDAY LEAGUE		17. Four Little Pigs	17 31
(Week 10 of 21 - as of 12/19/84) League Average: 744			
1. Park Bowl	30 10	18. Floppy Disks	17 31
2. Pilsner II	30 10	Compiled by Jerry R. De Young	
3. Pendulum	24 16	(Continued from previous page)	
4. Play With It, Ltd.!	23½ 16½	Monte: a belt.	
5. Pendulum Pieces	22 18	Chuck Smith: another auction.	
6. Cafe San Marcos	22 18	Sammy: a theme party.	
7. Pilsner Sleaze Balls	22 18	Les Balmain: lots of love games.	
8. Pilsner Pinguinettes	22 18	Mal Garcia a 300.	
9. Pilsner Pointless Sisters	21½ 18½	Linda Pancost: a bar closer to Castro.	
10. Can We Bowl?	21 19	Nancy: a date with Francis.	
11. S.F. Eagle	20½ 19½	Our Sponsors: less expenses.	
12. Pilsner #1	20 20	To Everyone: a very healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.	
13. Pilsner Potlickers	19 21	T. Vindeed	
14. Sweet Inspiration	18½ 21½		
15. Animals	17½ 22½		
16. S.F. Eagle #2	17½ 22½		
17. Grady's	17 23		
18. Ram's Head Bar	17 23		
19. Stansbury's Tooth Fairies	16 24		
20. David Kelsey's Unmentionables	15 25		
21. PWIL/Japantown	14 26		
22. Scenic Hyway Tours	13 27		

Think the Unthinkable.



Then do the do-able.

The unthinkable is the rejection and isolation that can accompany a diagnosis of AIDS. The do-able is a little time and concern from all of us.

Shanti volunteers provide emotional and practical support for people with AIDS and their loved ones. Volunteers needed now. Call for more information.



Are You Coriaceously Correct?

BAY AREA REPORTER B.A.R. BAZAAR

MR. MARCUS

Read it and Weep



You poor babies. Everyone suffering from a horrendous hangover today still? Well, it's 1985 and you're all swearing that next year you'll exercise more caution. As was to be expected, the bars were filled with locals and tourists alike from all corners of the world. One German leather man from Berlin was heard to exclaim: "My Gott, who said San Francisco was dead? This is pure madness!" as he swaggered around the SF-Eagles' monstrous crowd. Kym Whittington at Chaps ran into a less saucy Aussie from Melbourne who will probably emigrate here after his January 1st exposure to the night life. A leathery South African from Johannesburg opted to say he was from New Zealand rather than endure the hisses of the immature queens who don't even know why they're against apartheid. All around the town, from the 2140 Club on Market to the bright lights of the Galleria and the Gift Center Pavilion, everyone was Auld Lang Syne-ing, including one hot dude from Albuquerque who exclaimed: "New Mexicans could never in a thousand years believe this!" as the parade of costumed decadences and elegances pranced the runway at David Bandy's discothon at the Galleria. As anyone can tell you, a queen is perfectly within his rights to change his/her mind, so rather than give you the Best and Worst of 1984, it was decided that New Year's resolutions would be a more humane and optimistic approach to this first column of the year. So without further ado, following are 1985 resolutions that would/could/should be made by some of our more or less "stellar" personalities on the Campus of Mecca U.

The Pussies: "We'll do more than six shows in '85 and we'll SLAY 'EM in 'Men Behind Bars.'"

Robert Payne, Columnist: "I don't know when the Studstore will open on Castro Street, either. Maybe '86?"

John Rowberry, The Ice Queen: "Sweetie, if I told you a thousand times, get your facts straight. They want ice, I'll give 'em a glacier!"

Kym Whittington, Chaps Manager: "If it's the last thing I do in '85, I'll find out who sabotaged our Memorial Day show."

Terry Thompson, SF-Eagle Manager: (to his staff) "Like I told 'Stella', if any of you win titles in '85, I'll give you 72 hours to get OVER it."

Larry Earl, Co-Owner of the Arena: "Actually, I think

Best "Dish" Line by Steve Iacovino: "She's into leather alright, but unfortunately, it's still on the COW."

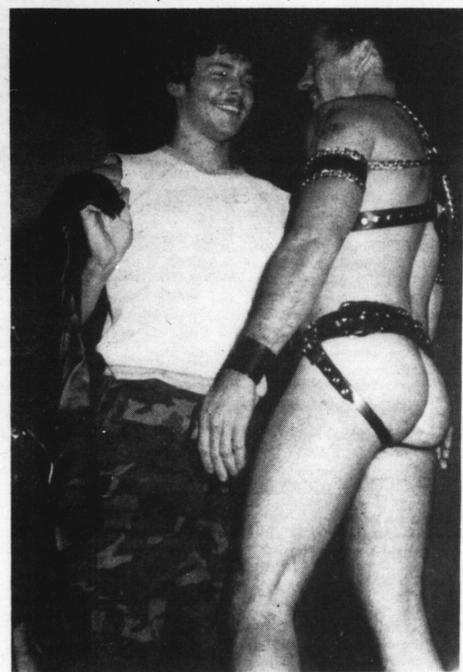
Jim Geary, Exec. Dir., Shanti Project: "We will try to be more flexible in supporting OUR supporters in '85."

Ed Schnaars, Uppity Architect: "Who says I'm pussy-whipped? I don't even like pussy but I do like whipping! More in '85!"

Billy Carter, SF-Eagle: "Dear Beverly Sills, I will try to live up to your expectations in '85. Move over, lady!"

The Gang of Four + One: "We'll try to make everyone take us more seriously in '85. Anyone want a souvenir ball point pen? Guaranteed to leak in your shirt pocket!"

Dowager Grand Duchess Vinny: "Instead of Marcus and



Roger (L.), bartender at Febe's, paid \$20 to disrobe Glenn Terrio at the CMC Carnival in November. (Photo: J. Krause)

I WOULD IF I COULD

Glenn Terrio, Mr. Eagle: "I'll make up my mind between David and George not later than 30 June 1985."

Vern Stewart, Road Captain SFGDI: "I will be content with my lot only if my photo appears in ANY Gay publication at least a half-dozen times in '85."

David "Stella" Stoll, Mr. CMC: "I'm looking for a roommate who will NOT fall in love with someone in Los Angeles and move away in '85."

Butch Freeman (and who cares?): "I'm moving to L.A. for a six-month trial and if Marty DARES touch me, I'll move back to Bernal Heights!"

Mark Friese, B.A.R. Columnist: "Next time I chair a Tavern Guild function, I'll make sure EVERYBODY does their job on my committee."

Elmar Linz: "I'm a South of Market soul trapped in a body that loves to go to North of Market bars and chase titled drag queens, but I'll change."

Mark "Bubbles" Abramson: "I intend to prove in '85 that a HARD man is GOOD to find."

our '85 Bare Chest Calendar is in the same league as the Colt Calendar. Next year it will be in color by a professional photographer."

Steve "Stella" Loignon: "I guess I'll have to marry Suzy Parker for his money if I EVER want to own my own bar."

Larry "Larisse" Parsons (honorary GDI): "I'll get on the ass of every corresponding secretary to generate news of the bike clubs."

Emperor Rich Carle: "It certainly was a WET year! Maybe the next emperor can do something about the weather."

Gary Kenyon, Emperor de Motorcycling: "Has anyone seen my Empress Judy?"

I burying the hatchet into each other, we'll bury it in everybody else in '85."

Spunky Marvin: "I assure you I will not be committed to Napa in '85."

Michael Russo, Golden Gloves Contender: "I promise to confine our domestic differences within the confines of our domicile in '85—if we last that long."

Gabriel (Mouth in Exile) Starr, L.A.: "I got this image of Zelda. Zelda says I should go into the funeral business in '85. And I will."

Rita Rokett, Bon Vivant, Female Dept.: "I intend to live it up Baby in 1985 like I never did before now that I'm never

(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)

Queen of Castro! (female Dept.).

Bill Hahn, Boulevardier: "I want to marry a mail order tycoon in '85. Do you know any? (Hint: Try Mercury Mail Order—more than \$100,000 gross in '85.)"

Robert Pruzana-dana, Photographer: "I'll shoot the hottest and I'll shoot the coldest, but I'll shoot, that's for sure!"

Doorman at the Detour: "I promise I'll put ALL the drawing tickets in one box instead of dividing them into 'Ugly' and 'Hot' boxes in '85."

The Warlocks M/C: "We'll really do it up right in '85—it's the 25th Anniversary of our bike club."

David Sarathain, CMC Prez: "If Glenn doesn't marry me in '85, I'll get my aluminum wedding dress rust-proofed."

Patrick Toner, 1st runner-up in Everything: "I will not suffer eternally in '85. Eternity

Rick Booth, Decorator: "Latex is IN. I intend to popularize it in '85. Here, have an eraser-headed statue."

George Burgess, Bicycle Seat Fancier: "Actually, it wasn't my bike seat. I'm really into the real thing." (Are you reading this, Glenn?)

Bob Ross, B.A.R. Publisher: "Marcus, we're increasing our libel insurance on you to \$3 billion for '85, so cool it!"

Alan Selby, AIDS Fund-raiser: "We hope to raise MUCH more in '85 and with the cooperation of the community, it shall be done."

Jeremy Reinelt, SF-Stud bartender: "If I can't marry Christian in '85, at least I'll keep him out of fisticuffs!"

George Ash, Gym Owner: "Nothing against 'Sisters', but we'll change our image so people will call my gym the 'Muscle Mistery'."



The elegant woman (r.) and handsome escort (l.) at the Brig the other night were not the rumored dominatrix and friend from New York, but bartender Larry Glover's Mom and Dad. (Photo: R. Pruzana)

restore my sense of political realism."

'I want to marry a mail order tycoon in '85. Do you know any?'

—Bill Hahn, Boulevardier

extends from the time you come, 'til the time HE leaves."

Jake Banks, Mr. Leather-SF: "I have forsaken *Reylon* and am now an undergraduate at *Clinique!*"

Dean Gibson, Daddy's Boy: "Ditto."

Chuck Martin, leather tailor: "No more titled leather men for roommates in '85."

Phil Slatin, Prince de Topaz: "Honeybunch, I intend to be more discreet about mingling with 'stars' in the community. Hi! My name is Phil, Mr. Wonderful!"

Red Bentzinger, Leather Store Manager: "Actually, long distance romances are my speed. I intend to visit the nation's capital many times in '85—to

Patrick Batt, Mail Order Tycoon: "I deliver. You deliver. *We deliver!*"

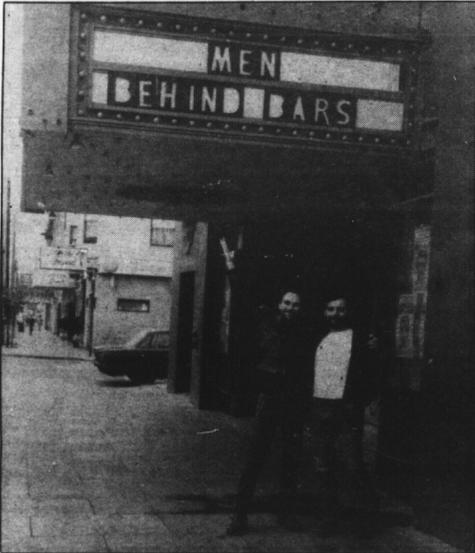
Matt Newman, M.E.N. Enterprises: "Actually, I'm into wood. Sliver lips, anyone?"

AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST

Mister Marcus, Columnist: "It was a good year in spite of all our losses. I hope the Gay Gators can whip the Deputies next year. Thank you all for the fun times in '84—more in '85! Until next week, then, remember: Journalism, like history, is certainly not an exact science. See you 'round the campus. Happy New Year and thanks to all of YOU for making Thursday's tortured trauma too tacky and too terrific to trivialize."

PS: If I missed anyone, I'll "get" you later on this year!

Marcus



Men Behind Bars will take the spotlight in February with Jim Cvitanich (l.) and Mark Abramson producing three shows this year. All bartenders, male and female, are invited to participate. (Photo: Marcus)

BOOK RACK

Literary Sex, Sexy Literature

Christy Dancing
by John Coriolan
Grey Fox, \$7.95

by Paul Reed

A new genre of soft porn books has emerged within the world of Gay publishing, and recent volumes by John Coriolan are fine examples of why that is happening. Fiction that examines life within a sexual context—or, more precisely, with an erotic spirit—holds great interest for Gay readers, for the awkwardness of homosexuality in a straight world creates a unique awareness of a constant sexual rub to life.

To hold great interest for Gay readers is to sell books. Selling books accrues profit to the publisher and author, which in turn creates more works for readers. Highly profitable volumes such as these soft porn collections allow Gay publishers to finance other projects that might otherwise be unaffordable.

Coriolan's *Christy Dancing* is an example of the kind of erotic fiction now being issued. Coriolan, however, is first and foremost a storyteller in the old-fashioned sense, despite all the

steaming loins. Coriolan has a sort of latent fame as the author of *A Sand Fortress*, out of print these many years, but now just re-issued in trade paperback by Gay Sunshine Press. Most recently Coriolan authored a collection of stories titled *Unzipped*, also published by Gay Sunshine last year.

'Nevertheless, (John) Coriolan has accomplished a great deal here, and we undertand there is much more to come.'

Unlike *Unzipped*, *Christy Dancing* is a complete, thorough novel, the story of four men who share a cottage on Fire Island one July. Coriolan's strength lies in his characters, which he develops with almost painful attention. Although the characters in *Christy Dancing* are more deeply developed, the book lacks the sparkle and spirit that was so exciting in *Unzipped*.

More evident in this latest volume is something peculiar to

Coriolan's writing, a certain heaviness that is nearly impossible to describe. But it's there, weighing the stories down as if tethered to another era. One feels that were the writing translated to the screen, it would be categorized as *film noir*.

It has something to do with what he chooses to describe: the moon, late afternoons, people observed from a distance. It has something to do with the names he selects for his many, many characters: Monte, Christy, Theo, Harry, Danny. It has something to do with the

characters' indifference (or separation from) the outside world—it's as if all the action takes place inside some closet somewhere.

Nevertheless, Coriolan has accomplished a great deal here, and we understand there is much more to come—several books in the works. We should look forward to several fine volumes in the next few years.



BLACK LASHES

Crowns and Cable Cars

KARL STEWART

The New Year celebration was filled with bright lights and warm gatherings. The New Year will also bring some rewarding events, almost immediately. First up are the David Awards for the West Coast. Saturday, Jan. 19 will find local fearless leader Michael Buckley and his crew handing out laurels to the Gay-city's favorite workers, entertainers, journalists, and so forth. The place is Ragg's at 22 4th near Market in the Apparel Mart beginning at 7 p.m. The David Society, originally from Florida has been sponsoring these ceremonies for a decade, though this is its second in San Francisco. This society is a networking/community service organization with offices here at 4033 18th St. and in Ft. Lauderdale. The society provides an employment service, roommate sort-and-search, as well as a business guide which leads to a discount for David card-carrying members. For membership info call 861-6329.

You don't have to be a member to vote for your favorite category-teer listed in David's *Networks* this month. Voting parties will be held all over the area this month: tonight, 1/3 at Big Mama's, 22615 Mission, Hayward from 7 to 10 p.m.; Sunday, 1/6 from 1 to 4 p.m., you'll find the troupes gathering at Trax on Haight; and Tuesday, 1/8 it's Buckley's Bistro at 131 Gough St. from 8:30 to 11 p.m. Watch Karl's Calendar for further times and places. See you at Ragg's on the 19th.

Next in the batter's box is Mr. Bob Cramer and his glittering Cable Car Awards, this year to be held at Japan Town Theater on Saturday, Feb. 2 beginning at 6 p.m. This year La Cage Aux Folles producer Allan Carr has pledged \$10,000 toward the production costs, so all of the door receipts can go toward grants to such worthy causes as the AIDS Foundation, AIDS Fund, Ward 5-B, and others. There are several areas in these awards that are by public vote: Columnist of the Year; Poster Art; Photography; and others. You can cast your ballot at the theater during the pre-show cocktail hour. This is always a dazzling affair and one which imparts a great deal of perspective on the accomplishments of our Gay brothers' and sisters' activities of the past year. Prices range from balcony seats at \$10 to front row seats at \$20. Don't miss this one.

Did you know that our Empress's are 20 years old? ... they wish. But the court trip, which, by the way originated here in Bagdad-by-the-Bay, is celebrating the beginning of its third decade of service to the community, dressing up, bitching at one another and generally "crowning" around. This year's coronation follows the Cable Car Awards by a week. Feb. 9th, also at Japan Town Theater, is election day, and that evening folks from as far away as Fairbanks, Alaska and as near as Fresno will gather to crown a new Empress and Emperor—perhaps people who communicate with one another even. The month of campaigning, cajoling, and partying begins with a preview board meeting at Casa Loma on Jan. 9 at 7 p.m. followed on the 12th by an introduction of candidates at Hungarian Hall on Geary

Street near Polk from 6 to 11 p.m. Then the real work begins. If you've never followed an imperial candidate about during "pledge month" it's about truly aggressive campaigning. Parties begin to be scheduled every night of the week and sometimes two or three ... in every pillow and watering hole in the city. Watch out.

The really special event takes place the evening before the coronation when the combined Emperor/Empress councils host an Imperial Ball Friday 2/8, also at Hungarian Hall, to celebrate the court's 20th anniversary. Tickets are \$7, drinks are only \$1, and it features a live orchestra to dance to and best of all, no history-of-MoTown (drag show). The time is 7 to 11 p.m.

The Saturday evening affair is titled Zanadu, Court of Kubla Khan and begins promptly at 6 p.m. The title is wholly appropriate because Zanadu was where the great Khan received his foreign dignitaries. So you can dress up any way your imagination directs you. Stay tuned for more dirt on this race as it develops.

Nearly everyone had a glorious New Year's Eve, especially if you were partying about the Show Place Square area. Dr. Sanford K. and the I-Beam folks presented So Many Men at the Gift Center and the dynamic sound of Evelyn Thomas and Ms. Linda Clifford, whose "If My Friends Could See Me Now" is still a personal favorite, was a hit. Michael Garrett and Bob Viteriti both burned those discs, too.

Down the street at The Galleria, Conceptual Entertainment with David Bandy at the helm rocketed into '85 with *The Sky's the Limit*, and it was Bonnie Pointer was featured here. She ain't bad all by her lonesome self either. The only prob with either of these shindigs is the \$35 chit and the \$2.50 and up drink prices. If you include a new frock, this has got to be a high-evening in more than one way. The Imperial Ball is sounding better and better all the time!

LIFE ON THE BRIGHT SIDE

The San Francisco hostesses worked overtime this season. Queen of Hearts of No/Cal Chris brought together the bright and beautiful for a Christmas fete complete with a huge buffet and a French cafe in which to sup. The John Hedu's not only offered a feast in their designer flat, but libation of every description, including Harvey Wallbanger punch.

The Balloon Girls banded together twice this season: Aurora Borealis and Nora turned their twin flats into a Pink Crystal Party Palace; and Cobalt drew a maximum hospital census at her "Code Blue" affair near New Year's Eve. For this the entire cast was outfitted in Hospital gowns and surgery was definitely necessary on the house the next day. The walls, floors, and "pharmacy" were entirely covered in spray paint and stenciled white cocktail glasses, not to mention the wide-tipped magic marker being liberally passed about.

Bill Ireton and fashion designer Danny Espinosa hosted the crowned heads and



William Moore at his 'Farewell to San Francisco' show at Atlas on Market (Photo: Rink)

the MC camp followers alike for their holiday offering. Here we were fed hot hors d'oeuvres from Bill's most productive ovens. Wonders like hot stuffed mushrooms (which he stole from another Christmas Fete ... I might add), mini-pizzas, lumpia better than they serve in the Mission, and Quiche Lorraine, not to mention the delicious set of guests in attendance made it a wonderful party.

The baronial palace was finally broken in with a long awaited house warming/holiday open house for Baroness Von Dieckoff and Baron Arthur. Printer/publisher Lou Green was honored at a 70th birthday party at Empress Phyllis's Webster Street digs New Years Day, and up on Liberty Street the CMC was curing hangovers with its own remedies. In the public partying mode, Mr. Gay Bruce has turned out to be not just a "Daddy's boy" but a real worker. With Miss Gay Parkay with marriage plans, Bruce has been left to carry out the public service tasks. His most recent effort was a very nicely packed party-party at the Village. This even brought out such non-party goers as Jim Hotham, Warlock prez, and his club buddies coming directly from the BC bacchanal. This little treasure box of a bar is many things, but it is not the most ideal place to do lip-synch. Even so, GD Trixie and Bowman (in Bono wig) did "I Got You Babe." Blair, a new beauty on the street, offered "Excited" and promises to deliver even more ... much more.

Eric Pariser has purchased the 2140 Club (ex-Alfie's) from Jay LeVine and is making the place sing with activity. Last Sunday evening he hosted Skip Barrett's Bay City Ramblers in its advanced and exhibition session in one room as he offered Timothy Thompson's superior stippling pen and ink works in the outer bar. Mr. Thompson received friends and admirers in the early evening as guests sipped and chowed on eats from a local caterer (KSK). Timothy's works are small intricate portraits of primarily youthful men, but one of the exceptions stands out. It is that of a strong woman as she dreams of sea birds in flight. His faces are all sensitive, contemplative creatures who one finds strangely familiar, like an old buddy remembered as through a pleas-

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FRIESE FRAME

Think a Little Differently

MARK FRIESE

Welcome to 1985, even though all the people that kicked 1984 around like it was the worst year ever probably haven't stopped to realize that there is good in everyone and everything. Maybe after we have a few months of 1985 under our belts we might begin to think a little differently about this past year.

Sure there were problems, headaches, and bombs, but there also were the times of togetherness during the parade and the disco parties of which we were a part. Probably the most important thing that has happened is that a lot more of us have become involved with the AIDS crisis and more people with AIDS are receiving better care as a result of it.

So with that in mind, I would like to extend to all a very happy, healthy, and prosperous 1985.

Hope all of you had a great time New Year's eve. Whether you partied at the Galleria, the Giftcenter, Trocadero, or at your favorite bar or friend's house, I hope it was safe and festive for all.

The Fickle Fox on Valencia was one of the good selections I made this week when we decided to brunch there this past Sunday. The steak and eggs were perfect as was the service, and with Steve (how long have you been there?) behind the bar it made for a great Sunday.

Stanley, of the Mint, will be celebrating his 55th birthday on Monday, Jan. 7, from 7 to 9 p.m. This will all be under the watchful eye of Tommy Turner, and of course will be at the Mint. If you must bring a gift make it a drag.

Welcome back to Dolly Dale and Stark as they both took separate vacations over the Christmas holidays. Wonder what that means. Dolly certain-



Chaps and Chiffon at the Beaux Arts Ball. An earlier date and publicity problems doomed the annual masquerade—but those who showed up had a great time. (Photo: Rink)

ly was exhausted when he came home, but he got my imported overalls back safely.

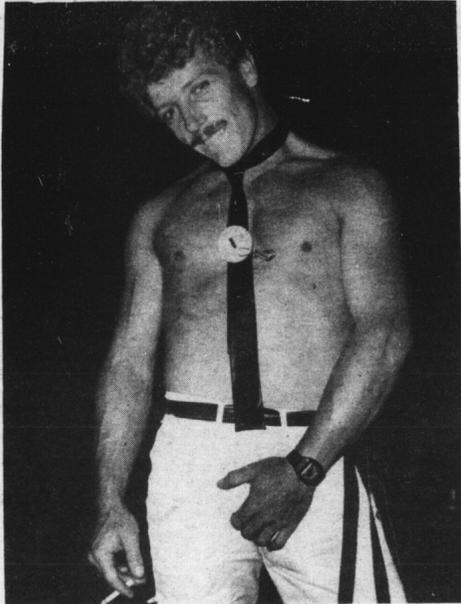
Two of the funniest women I have seen in the Bay Area are Monica Palacios and Marga Gomez, and if you haven't seen them before, you can get your chance this Saturday evening when they perform free at the Baybrick Inn on Folsom Street. Showtimes are 6 and 8 p.m.

The COITS will have its annual ski trip March 1, 2, and 3. This is the trip that goes to Tahoe, and you get the chance to see several of the macho COITS camp it up for the Queen of South Shore contest. The cost for the trip is \$95 and includes almost everything. For more information check with Chuck Demmon or the Mint or Kokpit.

The David Awards will be held at Raggs Saturday, Jan. 19. This year you don't have to be a member to vote because they will be having voting parties at various locations and you will only need your I.D.

The recent posting at the Academy, formerly the Balcony, on Market Street, has got the rumors flying around town and probably has a few of the 6 a.m. bars a little nervous. So far I can't find out too much, but if I do I'll let you know.

The Cable Car Awards nominations will soon be out and the show this year promises to be the best ever. Every year they top themselves and how they do it is beyond me, but it always is one of the top events of the San Francisco social season. Preced-



Getting a Grip on himself is Wes Eacy, contestant in this summer's Mr. Russian River Contest. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

ing the awards in February will be the Emperor and Empress coronation, which is also another fun event. Both of these will be held at the Kabuki Theatre.

At the Alamo Square Saloon, in the Hotel Casa Loma, you can become a Godfather or Godmother of a real live baby, complete with a certificate, all for a donation to the Godfather Fund

of Ward 5-B. So far they have raised more than \$200 and are hoping to raise much more by the end of the month.

For all of you that want 1985 to be a good year, I certainly hope you had blackeyed peas on New Year's Day, as they are rumored to bring good luck. And for all of you who were still dancing at 4 in the afternoon, believe me, "I Understand!"

Karl's Calendar

Monday, Jan. 9: Final Imperial Court Meeting, Kimo's, 7:30 p.m., Rich & Reny's 1st anniversary party.

Thursday, Jan. 3: David Voting Party (DVP), Big Mama's (22615 Mission, Hayward), 7-10 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 4: Jay Ross in Concert, Buckley's Bistro (131 Gough), 9 p.m., \$5. (Also Fri., Jan. 11).

Sunday, Jan. 6: DVP, Trax (1437 Haight), 1-4 p.m.

Country Western Birthday, Kimo's for Tammy Lynn, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 8: Bay City Rambler's, Beginner's square dance class, 2140 Club, 8:15 p.m., \$35 for 10 weeks, Skip Barrett calling, 474-1917.

DVP, Buckley's Bistro, 8:30-11 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 9: Imperial Review Board, Casa Loma's Alamo Square Saloon (Fell & Fillmore), 7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 10: DVP, Baybrick Inn (1190 Folsom), 7-10 p.m., and Amelia's (1647 Valencia), 9 p.m.-12 p.m.

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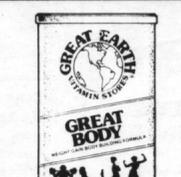
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IN THIS ISSUE

GAY RIGHTS REFERENDUM is shaping up in Houston, the nation's fourth largest city. San Francisco has become an issue as voters head to the polls on Jan. 19. Will Snyder reports on page 2.

CLOSE THE BATHS? Los Angeles and San Diego say "no" after separate, mayoral panels study the issue and reject San Francisco's approach. Meanwhile, New York State examines the issue. George Mendenhall recaps on page 4.

FORTY-NINER FEVER sweeps the Gay bars as San Franciscans root the home-town team. Allen White has the hoopla on page 5.

OAKLAND MAYORAL RACE is getting under way, and Gay pols are wondering whom they'll support. Mayor Lionel Wilson has voted 'right,' but challenger Wilson Riles has been more upfront with support. A look at the candidates in Greater Bay News, page 14.

Feds Quarantine Foreign Gays From Pacific Seaboard States

Centers for Disease Control Issues Order, Bows to Demand from Justice Department

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by Brian Jones

The federal Centers for Disease Control has quietly issued a quarantine order to bar foreign Gays from entering the western United States. The quarantine calls for medical exclusions to be issued to Gays, although no medical exam is to be given. The medical exclusion is normally reserved for cases of infectious diseases such as tuberculosis.

The order was issued in June at the demand of the U.S. Justice Department. It is part of a court dispute regarding immigration rules which bar Gays from entering the country.

(Continued on page 3)



Oh, What a Whirl... The New Year began in a dizzying, dazzling swirl of balloons at the Giftcenter Pavilion. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Their Dream Home Becomes Gay Case

Lovers Win Lawsuit After Mobile Home Park Discriminates

by George Mendenhall

Robert Hoag and Robert Grimes never imagined themselves as "Gay activists." The lovers of 36 years, successful in business, simply wanted to move to the country, live life fully and be left alone. All that changed four years ago, as the two men sat in a motel room 35 miles east of San Francisco. While others rushed about buying gifts for Christmas 1980, Hoag and Grimes felt anger and despair: they had been denied a home for being Gay.

They decided to fight back. Last week, they won.

Contra Costa Superior Court Judge Coleman Fannin agreed to an out-of-court settlement that gave Grimes and Hoag a \$14,000 cash settlement for the anguish they had endured in the case. The decision was against

Hayden Harris, the owner of Vista Diablo mobile park in Antioch, who had refused on Dec. 1, 1980, to allow the couple to occupy a mobile home in his park—because they were a

(Continued on page 13)

Demos May Oust Gay, Minority Panels

'Special Interest' Label Prompts Proposals; Local Democrats To Fight Changes

by George Mendenhall

Gay, Black and Hispanic representation on the standing committees of the Democratic Party will be challenged Jan. 30 when the Democratic National Committee meets in Washington, D.C. There will be a move to drop the official recognition of the seven party caucuses, including the Lesbian and Gay caucus, and to end the procedure wherein caucuses nominate representatives to party committees.

"Some party members are sensitive to criticism that we are the party of special interests," said Terry Michael, the party's director of communications. "There are those who believe the Democrats bought off special interests to get votes—instead of addressing broader concerns of

the American people. Some Democrats want to dispel that impression." Michael would not predict the committee vote.

There was an angry reaction from Bill Kraus, aide to Congresswoman Sala Burton. Kraus, who served on the par-

(Continued on page 9)



Gays Go Marching In... and right back out?... of the Democratic Party's inner circle of power. Some pols say "special interests" like the Gays lost Fritz the election. Quit giggling. (Photo: Rink)