

BAY AREA REPORTER

BAY AREA REPORTER

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**Downtown Plan:
the Stakes for Us**

by Ray O'Loughlin

A NEWS ANALYSIS

The year is 1999. Scenario one: A wealthy, established Gay community is a leading force in city politics. San Francisco is poised on the threshold of the 21st Century with a revamped economy catering to finance, corporate administration and the services the "information society" requires. Surrounding a downtown of executive offices is a city of rejuvenated, prosperous neighborhoods.

Scenario two: Exorbitant housing costs, together with fewer jobs, have dispersed the Gay community—which now

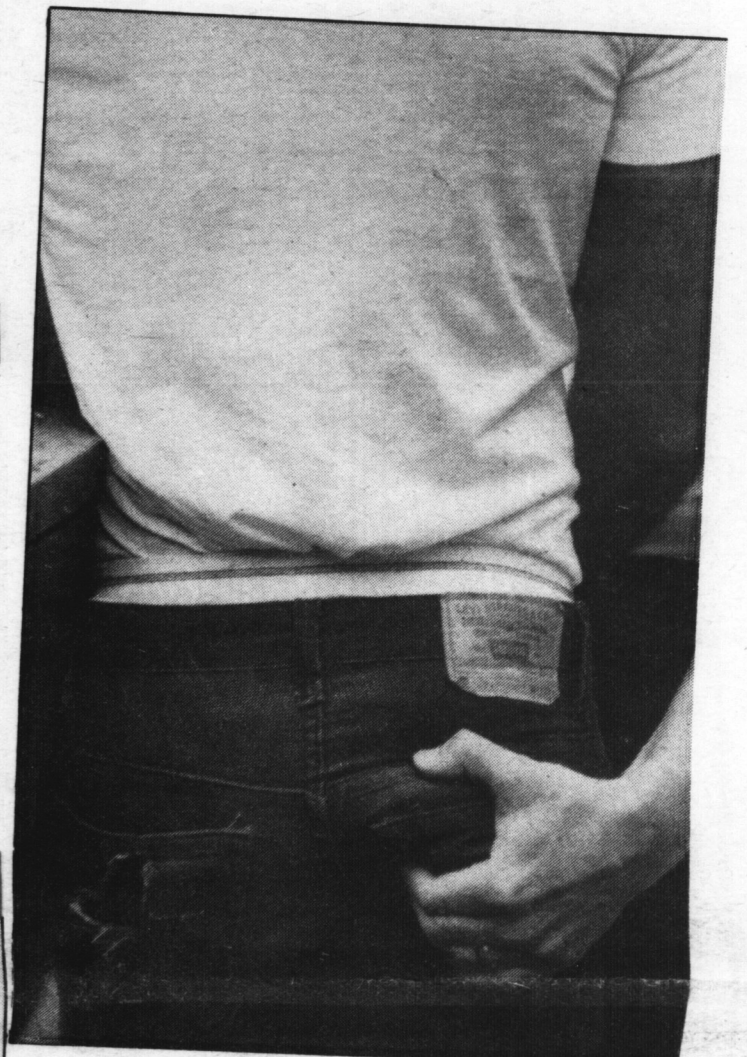
exerts little political effectiveness. Canyons of glass and steel create a sunless, wind-swept downtown into which 400,000 workers rush every morning. "Rush hour" lasts almost all day, a parking space is rare and expensive, and public transit is crammed to over-capacity. City neighborhoods have been homogenized to suit upper income, white executives.

The Gay community is in the middle of a battle for the city's future. All of the factions in the debate over downtown growth

are competing for Gay support. So, too, are Gays and Lesbians discovering that their own interests are at stake. In the words of Greg Day, of the Alice B. Toklas Club, "If we don't have some kind of balanced growth linking housing, transportation and jobs, the impact will be tremendous on the Gay community."

The city's Planning Department says that the Downtown Plan—a hefty and very technical document—does just that, in presenting a comprehensive plan

(Continued on page 16)



Get a grip! Some cheeky fellow really has a hold on him. The holdee's heart is in the right place—or left. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

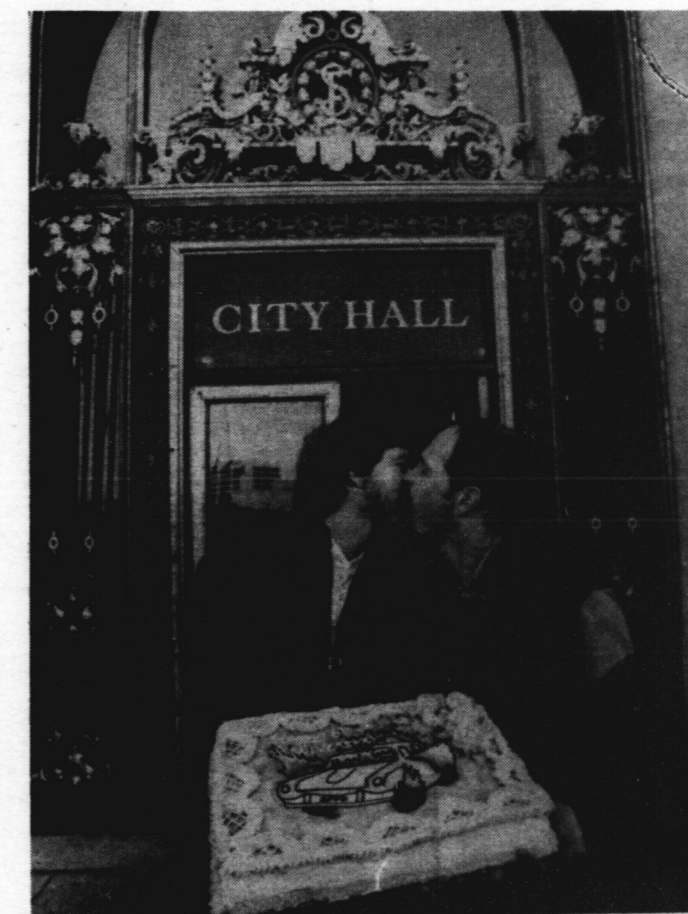
**Love Still Burns
Like a Squad Car**

**They Linked Arms in the Riot,
Remain Together 6 Years Later**

by Charles Linebarger

At City Hall on May 23rd, six years ago, an angry mob tore the gilded cast iron away from the ornate entrance on the Polk Street side of the building. The large fountained plaza in front was filled with thousands of angry Gay men and others, while to their right, a dozen police cars burned in front of the state building. It was the night following Dan White's manslaughter conviction for the murder of Mayor Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk.

(Continued on page 15)



John Blackburn and Bobby Heacock kiss while the sugar squad car on their anniversary cake goes up in flames. (Photo: Rink)

IN THIS ISSUE

**Man Bites Cop;
D.A. Seeks an
'AIDS Test'**

LATE BULLETIN—

In a case with potentially grave import for the Gay community, the District Attorney's Office is seeking for the first time to force a citizen to take an "AIDS test." The test, actually, is for the presence of the antibody to AIDS—and indicates only past exposure.

The case arose when openly Gay officer Tom Cady was bitten in November 1984. Lyle Julius is accused of biting Cady on the hand several times; the wound required medical attention. Julius, who has a history of mental problems, later said he had AIDS.

At a court hearing Wednesday afternoon, Municipal Judge Albert Wollenberg postponed the D.A.'s request. The D.A.'s Office wants a court order to compel Julius to undergo an AIDS test. But a defender for Julius argued such an order would violate the new state law on AIDS confidentiality.

A follow-up hearing is set for Tuesday, June 4.

★ ★ ★

TRIALS ON DRUG are behind schedule in an AIDS research program. Meanwhile, those taking the drug—or wanting to—are afraid time is running out. Will Snyder and Charlie Linebarger explore the issues on page 13.

FOREIGN GAYS are still barred from entering the U.S. But the local Lesbian and Gay Parade Committee is back in federal court to open up the gates. Meanwhile, Congress may act this year on changing the law. Page 17.

**'Peg's Place' Case
Explores History
Of Police Violence**

Lawsuit Alleges Pattern Of Brutality

by Ray O'Loughlin

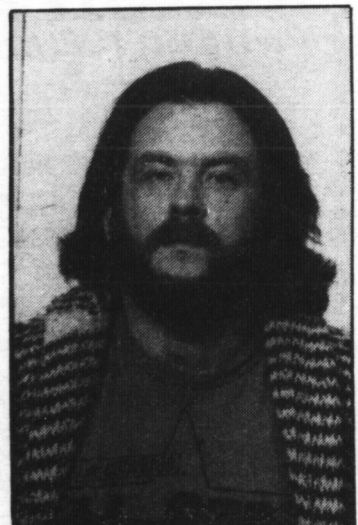
More than 1,200 complaints of excessive force were filed against the San Francisco Police Department between 1974 and 1982. Yet, in that eight year period, only 20 police officers accused of excessive force faced disciplinary actions before the Police Commission. Of that number, fewer than 10 received suspensions of more than 10 days. And not one officer was terminated in that period for use of excessive force.

That, says attorney Thomas Steel, "amounts to a department policy of condoning brutality."

Steel is representing Linda Symaco and two other women injured when off-duty San Francisco police officers assaulted them in March, 1979 inside Peg's Place, a Lesbian bar in the Richmond district. Symaco, owner of the bar; A. Levine, an employee; and Katherine Miller, a customer that evening, are suing the city for damages due to injuries suffered as a result of the policemen's actions. The trial will open June 10.

The suit goes beyond the usual civil damages case. Steel said he plans to demonstrate a long-standing San Francisco Police Department policy of failing to discipline its officers. "The failure to discipline police on brutality charges," said Steel,

(Continued on next page)



Daniel Marr (1979): Still on the force.

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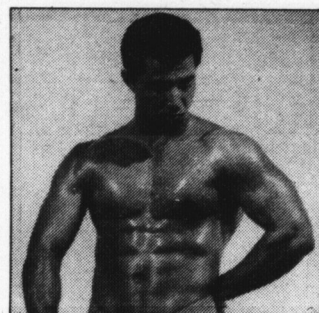
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Peg's Place owner Linda Symaco in a 1979 photo which shows the injury she received when off-duty cops slammed her arm in a door.

Suit Alleges Police Violence

(Continued from page 1)

"sets a policy that communicates itself to officers. It says to them that the department condones that kind of conduct." When the officer assaulted Symaco, said Steel, "He knew, based on prior experience, that he could get away with it."

Steel will introduce in court police department records and reports dating back to 1970 indicating that the department had a problem with discipline. A 1971 study by Mayor Joseph Alioto's Committee on Crime then urged that SFPD internal discipline be made more stringent and uniform. The report warned that "light or ineffective discipline indicates to officers as well as to citizens that the department condones misconduct and is not serious about accountability."

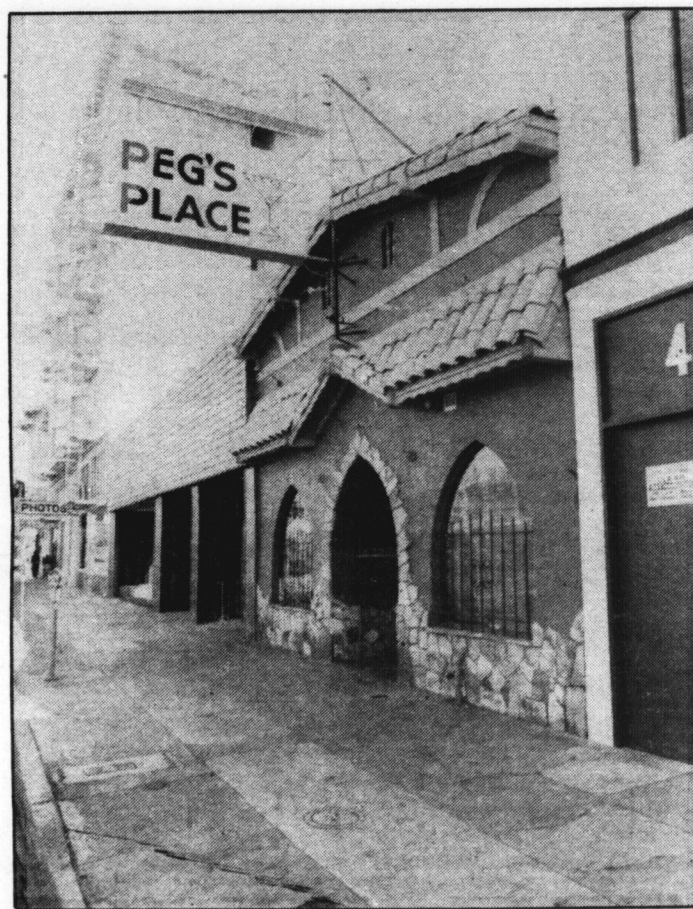
Until 1982, the Internal Affairs Bureau handled all complaints against police. The Office of Citizens Complaints (OCC) was established then to independently investigate complaints. But, according to Steel, the OCC remains ineffective and hamstrung with organizational problems.

Steel sees the Peg's Place incident as an early warning of a "pervasive policy of tolerating and covering up police brutality." This de facto policy, he said, led to the police scandals of recent memory. "If someone had been willing to pay attention to this incident," said Steel, "they would have seen the seeds of the problems we now see in the news every day."

Why is police discipline so difficult to achieve in San Francisco? "There's no backing from the Mayor in any substantial way," said Steel. "We don't have a chief of police intent on it and we don't have a Police Commission willing to bite the bullet on this issue. There's a whole infrastructure totally lacking."

Another part of the problem is that the Police Officers Association (POA) exerts great influence on the administration of the department, Steel said. The POA, for example, has tied up the OCC in court over procedural rules for hearings on complaints. Said Steel, "Certainly, the POA is running the department to a greater extent than are the citizens of San Francisco."

The lawsuit stems from the events of March 30, 1979. As alleged in court documents, off-duty policemen Daniel Marr and Michael Kelly were part of a group of men who, after a drinking party, decided to "go get the dykes" at Peg's Place, a bar on



Peg's Place at 4737 Geary in the Richmond District, site of the March 1979 attack by two cops. (Photo: Rink)

Geary Boulevard. When the obviously drunk group were refused admission to the bar, Marr proclaimed that they were cops and "could do as we damn well please." When still denied entry, Marr yelled, "We are the police!" He then punched the woman at the door. But still they didn't get in.

A short while later, when three women customers entered the bar, Officer Kelly entered behind them. While owner Symaco was examining his driver's license, uniformed police, who had been called earlier, arrived.

Kelly, apparently fearful of being found intoxicated, lunged at Symaco to get his license back. Kelly held Symaco, who is small and suffers a back disability, in a choke hold and dragged her to the door. He did not release her until a uniformed officer ordered him to do so and forcibly pulled him away from her.

Kelly was then handcuffed but when the other officers found out he was a police officer, he was released without questioning.

Marr later also entered the bar and assaulted the doorman, who had recognized him and demanded he be arrested. On-duty officers refused to arrest or even question Marr, telling him sim-

ply to get out of the area.

Three weeks after the incident, after Gay community protests, Marr and another man involved were arrested. Kelly was never charged in the incident. Marr, then a three-year veteran cop, was convicted of battery and placed on three years probation. He was also suspended from the police force for 90 days.

But Marr remains on the San Francisco police force today despite having accumulated 34 citizens complaints for various reasons—11 of them prior to the Peg's Place incident.

Linda Symaco, meanwhile, has been hospitalized 13 times to treat severe back injuries. To relieve her disability and chronic pain, doctors performed spinal fusion surgery on her, a process requiring reduced activity for a period of years.

The civil suit is based on assault and battery charges but also alleged are violations of the women's civil rights. The jury will decide on the amount of damages should any be paid.

The trial begins June 10 in Superior Court. Defending the city in the suit is Assistant City Attorney Phil Ward.

R. O'Loughlin

**The Spark Lives
At Memorial Vigil**

5,000 March on Memorial Day to Support the Living, Honor the Dead

by Charles Linebarger

Market Street was ablaze with candles as 5,000 people marched from the Castro to Civic Center Plaza for an evening of speeches and singing to "honor the dead and support the living" in the continuing AIDS crises. Titled "Fighting For Our Lives" after the first such march two years ago, the night-time, Memorial Day gathering was very similar to the original—a similar-sized crowd, candles, and somber emotions.

There was an electricity in the air as people gathered on Castro Street before the march. Friends gathered in clusters and here and there an individual worked silently, fitting his candle into a paper or plastic cup. Toward the corner of Market and Castro the crowd spilled off the sidewalks and onto the street.

On the corner, a lone gray-haired man beat a mournful beat on a conga drum. The weather was appropriate to a memorial march—cold with leaden skies, but clear. Twin Peaks rose above the Castro looking somber and regal.

The mass of people slowly began to move as the People With AIDS Alliance led the march with their banner. Behind the first crush of people came a series of rainbow flags, the symbol of the Gay community on the move. With an almost painful slowness the mass of marchers began to descend Market toward the political center of the city.

Everywhere there were candles; a sea of candles held aloft by the marchers, clusters of candles flickering on the sidelines, and lone candles burning in the darkened windows of buildings overlooking the route of the march. A wheeled calectar joined the procession carrying people who were handicapped, or too ill to walk the mile or so to the Civic Center.

There were banners, more flags and more and more people as the procession finally wound its way out of the Castro. There were drag queens, Gay nuns, men in full leather, politicians, a stray supervisor, and many women. The mass of the crowd was made up of Gay men bundled up against the night chill and protecting their candles from the shifting wind coming up Market.

From the high vantage point of Dolores and Market, you could look back up the street toward the Castro and see candles held aloft by the marchers stretching back as far as you could see. In unison, everyone looked back and all along the procession marchers held up their candles creating a wave of light moving through the march.

A stage with sound equipment had been set up in the United Nations Plaza and the procession swept into this huge bricked square, filling it. The cordoned area in front of the stage had to be opened to the crowd to make room for people who were still coming from Market Street.

The Lesbian and Gay Community Chorus began the program on the stage by singing the "Rhythm of Light is a Powerful Beat." The crowd was beginning to warm up to the singers when the program called for the chorus to be replaced by speakers. There were calls of "more, more" until one young woman in the chorus called out: "We'll be back."

Dean Sandmire, a person with AIDS, and a co-chair of the PWA Caucus of the Mobilization Against AIDS, spoke to the crowd.

"This event tonight is in honor of many people, such as Bobbi Campbell and the others who participated in that candlelight march in 1983," Sandmire said. "We're going to continue this tradition until a cure is found. This event tonight not only occurred here but also in Boston, Dallas, New Orleans, New York, Miami, San Diego, Jackson Mississippi (the crowd cheered), London, Melbourne, Mexico City, Toronto and Capetown South Africa (another cheer)."

There were loud catcalls and hisses when Sandmire announced that Gov. George Deukmejian would not attend because of prior engagements. Sandmire rose to



Their faces illuminated by the flickering glow, participants in the AIDS vigil joined a sea of people at the Memorial Day affair. (Photo: Rink)

the occasion quickly.

"This is not why we're here," Sandmire yelled to the crowd. "We're here to honor the dead and those who are still living."

500,000 to 1 million people

have been infected with the AIDS virus, Sandmire told the crowd. He explained that no one knows how many of these will become infected with the virus but he said that estimates run to

30,000 new cases in the next two years.

"This is a preventable disease so I urge you to consider the actions we must take to prevent its

(Continued on next page)

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Spark Lives at Memorial Vigil

(Continued from previous page)

spread," Sandmire finished. The Rev. Cecil Williams, the pastor of Glide Memorial Church, delivered a rousing oration which led to the first collection of money. There was another later in the evening.

Williams was followed by Tito, who sang at the first candlelight march two years ago. Tito sang and moved many in the crowd to tears with, "Mama my brothers are dying, nobody knows what's going on . . . but mama don't let it take me along . . . and oh Lord I pray don't let it take anymore."

Fay Castro, Paul Castro's mother, told the crowd that when Paul told her he had AIDS and was Gay she told him: "I had you and I always will love you to the very end."

The Rev. Jim Sandmire, Dean Sandmire's father also spoke to the crowd. "We're a family that has lived ever in the Hayes Valley for 26 years," Jim Sandmire said. "With my spouse, Jack, his mother, and my son, we're a typical American family."

Dan Turner was the last speaker of the evening. Turner is also a person with AIDS.

"I came to San Francisco for the sound of the word 'yes.' I hitchhiked here with \$100 in my pocket and two Safeway bags," Turner recalled. "I like the tradition of candlelight marches because it reminds me of the sparks in Gay men's eyes. Sparks are something this town needs. As Garbo said in Two-Faced



Solidarity in the face of the epidemic: Dan Turner, Fay Castro, Patty Rose, Bobby Hillard and Dean Sandmire. (Photo: Rink)

Woman; 'Outside of love everything else seems a waste of time.' Let us keep the candlelight alive in our eyes. We had it when we came to San Francisco. We did not come out to go back in the dark."

C. Linebarger

NY to New Orleans Hold AIDS Vigils

3 Dozen Cities Comemorate the Fallen, Demand Action

by Allen White

The candlelight memorial march last Monday night was just one evidence of the efforts of the Mobilization Against AIDS. Over three dozen cities across the United States and around the world also held public demonstrations focused on the disease.

In New York City, several hundred people gathered in the rain in Sheridan Square. For one hour they sang the songs of Holly Near and recited names of people who had died of AIDS. Organized by Metropolitan Community Church minister Karen Ziegler, the people responded by word of mouth to the hastily planned event. Through the falling rain many of the participants held candles, a symbol that was present at the many AIDS events across the United States.

In Jackson, Mississippi, approximately 75 people gathered in a public park. They carried candles and several held mounted posters using the design which was used in every city. This gathering of 75 represented one of the largest gatherings of people ever to be identified as being sympathetic to a Gay-related cause in that city.

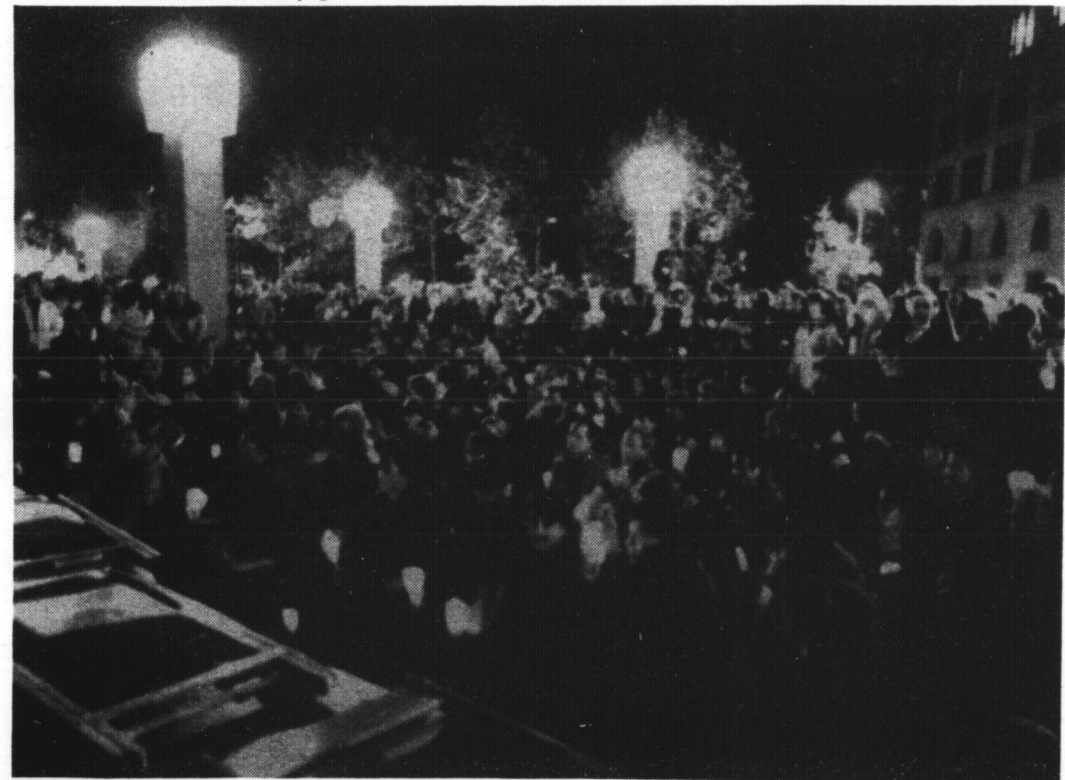
Eddie Sandifer, who heads the Mobilization against AIDS effort in Jackson, said that many Gay people will not appear at a public meeting in that city out of fear of being seen on local television news shows.

In New Orleans, several hundred people gathered at St. Mark's Church near Jackson Square. Following a memorial service there was a candlelight vigil to an area called the Moonwalk. The Moonwalk is on the banks of the Mississippi river. As

the marchers reached the river the candles were thrown into the water.

John O'Brian, a representative of Mobilization Against AIDS in Los Angeles, reported that the Memorial Day vigil at the

(Continued on next page)



The Civic Center Plaza overflowed with people at the vigil. More attended than planned, and barricades were removed to make way. (Photo: Rink)

National Vigils

(Continued from previous page)

Federal Building in West Los Angeles is "Just the beginning, only the first step."

In Los Angeles, he said, there had been resistance by many Gay businesses to support the vigil. "People are trying to ignore AIDS and many businesses feel the mention of the subject is bad for business. Reports indicate about 500 people attended the candlelight vigil.

The West Los Angeles candlelight vigil was one of several vigils held in the Southern California area. Events were also held in San Diego, Santa Ana and in Pomona.

One of the most important events in the country was in Boston. The candlelight march formed in Copley Square and proceeded to the steps of the Emmanuel Church. David Scordas, an openly Gay member of the City Council, was reported to have spoken at that event. In Boston there was anger at the lack of priority placed on the disease by their congressional representative, House Speaker Thomas "Tip" O'Neill, and by Massachusetts Senator Ted Kennedy. The number of AIDS cases in Boston is now beginning to escalate dramatically with a projected number of 25 new cases in the month of May.

The Provincetown, Massachusetts vigil attracted about 150 people last Monday night. There had been an initial reluctance to hold any type of demonstration in the city. Two years ago, the city was the target of heavy media exposure when police were all ordered to wear rubber gloves because there was fear they might contract AIDS in the heavily populated Gay town.

The vigil was held in front of the Universalist Unitarian Church. It was expected there would be outdoor lighting. There wasn't any. Event organizer Preston Babbitt said that the only lights were the dozens of candles which burned throughout the crowd. Joe Interrant, whose lover had recently died of AIDS, was the primary speaker.

Last week a dozen people from four states went to Washington, D.C. to deliver the first of many petitions to government officials. The mood was confrontational and there was visible anger shown by the AIDS representatives.

Mark Cloutier, a person with an AIDS-related condition, said the group pounded away at the need for increased federal funding. He has been a leader in the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, and he said

this group went with a strong sense of urgency.

Cloutier acknowledged that Dr. James Mason, director of the Centers for Disease Control, said the government had discussed quarantine. Mason said he dismissed the idea as "ridiculous." It did serve to point up the fact that the U.S. government has discussed the subject of quarantine as it relates to the disease.

One of those who was in the delegation of 12 was Michael Callen. He was one of several people who appeared before a congressional hearing on AIDS two years ago. Today he is the only living survivor. He forcefully pointed out that though Margaret Heckler has described AIDS as the "number one health priority in the United States," President Reagan has yet to speak publicly about the disease or express any concern for people who are being stricken in this health crisis.

Bay Area congressperson Barbara Boxer was one of the people with whom the group met. She has pledged hearings relating to AIDS in San Francisco on Saturday, June 29. This hearing date is the Saturday before the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade.



A rousing and dramatic finale to the evening's vigil: a mixture of sadness and hope. (Photo: Rink)

Dean Sandmire is a person with AIDS. He is also the adopted son of Rev. Jim Sandmire, the pastor of the Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church. He stressed that the Mobilization Against AIDS is in the process of a national petition drive. There are now over 10,000 signatures and a goal is to achieve over 1,000,000 signatures to present to government officials

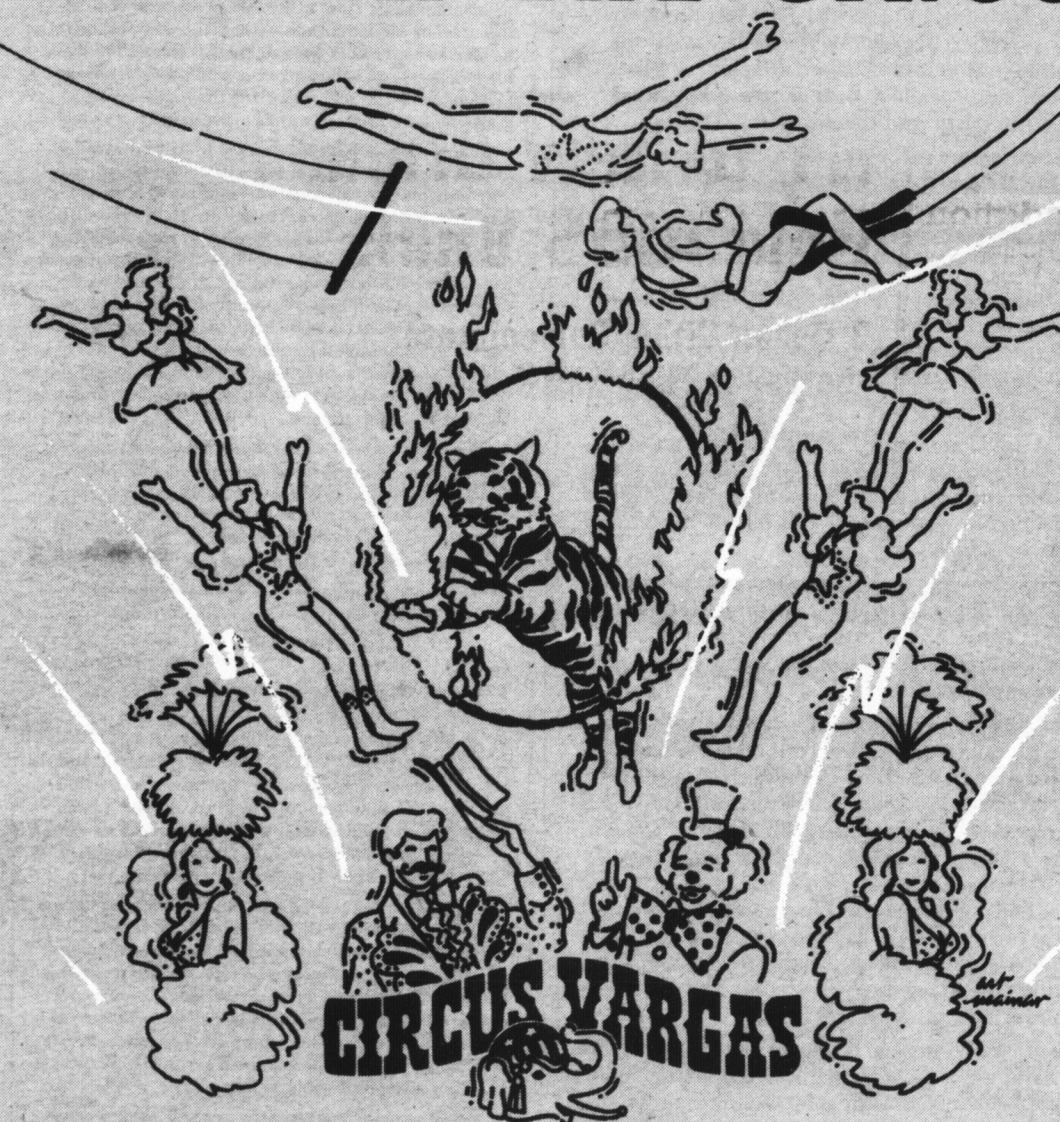
before the end of 1985.

Paul Boneberg, the chairperson of Mobilization Against AIDS, said, "We are no longer going to take 'no' for an answer. We are not going to rule out confrontational tactics. If this means the occupation of Health & Human Service Buildings," he said, "and this is what it takes then this is what we are prepared to do."

The Mobilization Against AIDS was founded in December of 1984. It was formally structured in the last week of March of this year. There are now over 300 members in the organization which had dues ranging from \$25 a year down to \$1 memberships for low income persons with AIDS.

A. White

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Fay Castro (Photo: Rink)

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VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

Cheap Piece of Baggage

'There ain't a dime's worth of difference between the Democratic Party and the Republican Party.'

George C. Wallace, 1968

The chairman of the Democratic Party went to Alabama last week. Paul Kirk journeyed to the Heart of Dixie to counsel with George Wallace—reformed segregationist and on-again, off-again Democrat. Paul Kirk wants Wallace and his ilk to be on-again Democrats. In that effort, Gay and Lesbian citizens have become so many pieces of cheap baggage.

In talking with Wallace, Kirk specifically said the Democratic Party had no business pushing the "special interests" of groups such as the Gays. They were not idle words. Kirk had just concluded a successful effort to purge Gay planks from the party's platform. In January, the party rescinded a rule ensuring that Gays—among others—would be represented on the party's policy-making panels. This month, the party in effect abolished the Lesbian and Gay caucus, along with several similar groups.

That day last week in Alabama was a sad day in the history of the Democratic Party. Many Democrats are still proud of the role their party played in demanding equal rights for Black Americans. It began at the 1948 convention, when Minneapolis Mayor Hubert Humphrey demanded and won a plank calling for integration and equal civil rights for Blacks. The southern Democrats walked out. These "Dixiecrats" threatened to split the party and defeat Harry Truman.

But the party knew where its heart was in those days. Even facing the loss of the White House, the party stood firm. And the party won. In 1965, Sen. Humphrey shepherded the Civil Rights Act into law. In many ways, that law was the indirect foundation of our own struggle for equal rights under the law.

The Dixiecrats finally got their revenge in 1968. Wallace split from the party, ensuring that Humphrey would lose—narrowly—to Richard Nixon. We may well wonder where we would be today if Hubert Humphrey had been elected in 1968 rather than Richard Nixon; and we have George Wallace to thank for that.

How different is the Democratic Party of today. Paul Kirk, acting like a Madison Avenue ad man pushing detergent, is searching for just the right marketing strategy to "sell" the party to the consumers—er, citizens. His efforts are utterly devoid of morality or ethics.

His only concern is winning; and nobody seems to be wondering what benefit there will be in winning anything, if the party abandons its soul in the bargain. If the Democrats are willing to become Republicans in order to win the White House—we might as well vote for Republicans.

But even here, Chairman Kirk errs. The 1984 candidate for President, Walter Mondale, only carried one state: Minnesota. And Mondale carried his home state by one percentage point, or 23,567 votes. The winning margin came from precincts which heavily support equal rights for Gays and Lesbians. Some of the highest totals were from the precincts which sent an openly Gay man to the Minnesota Senate, an open Lesbian to the Minnesota House, and another openly Gay man to Minneapolis City Council. This phenomenon was mirrored across the country: cities which have supported equal rights for Lesbians and Gay rights, including San Francisco, were among the few places the Democrats fared well in 1984.

So, now, those of us who went to bat for Walter Mondale are to be punished. And all of us who really struggled for Mondale's election are to be tossed aside—for the likes of George Wallace.

Brian Jones

Quarantine

So, it has begun. The long-feared spectre of quarantine has appeared. It will not be easily banished. As a Gay man, I am appalled and frightened, but not surprised.

I found most remarks by health officials in your recent quarantine article to be simply incredulous. I cannot agree with Dr. Benjamin that quarantine is an appropriate measure to be taken in the current epidemic of AIDS. His comparison of AIDS to typhus is ludicrous and smacks more of political than epidemiological concern. Typhus is a highly infectious disease that can be casually transmitted. AIDS is not, being transmitted only through specific types of intimate sexual contact. The point is, of course, that since AIDS can be contracted only in a highly limited way, and since the activities that result in the spread of AIDS are not essential to everyday routine (as opposed to eating or breathing), it constitutes a situation very different from the one that occurs in epidemics of diseases that are casually spread. Individuals know that risks are associated with these activities and only they can decide how much risk is acceptable.

There are many health crises in this country where federal and local health commissions grant citizens the right to take risk with their health. A good example would be cigarette smoking, which claims tens of thousands of victims each year due to cancer, emphysema and heart disease. Despite stern warnings, no governmental official has made any serious attempt to ban smoking. How is the AIDS scenario any different? The individual knows that with every contact, he increases his risk of contracting the disease. The difference, of course, is that there is a lot of political mileage to be gained by "cracking down on those shameless faggots who are endangering this great country of ours."

Finally, I don't think that health officials fully realize the consequences of their proposals. At this point, the only time and cost effective way to identify "carriers" is by assaying for antibodies to HTLV-III. Even health officials admit that only a proportion of these individuals are actually infectious. So, how are you going to decide who to quarantine? Not even socially responsible individuals will want to take the test now, when a positive result might carry the threat of quarantine. And without that positive result, a lot of people will continue to bury their heads in the sand, instead of taking charge of their life and helping to stem the spread of this disease.

The imposition of a quarantine now would accomplish little more than an abridgement of civil liberties. Let's put a stop to it before it puts a stop to us.

Raymond Cranfill
San Francisco

Veterans

Your article on Veterans C.A.R.E. by Mike Hippler needs a little clarification.

Veterans CARE is not a military organization, but it is a patriotic group of American service men and women who want the American people to know that they exist. We have one purpose to speak with a large national voice for equal rights. We are going to do this by education. First, it seems that we must educate the Gay press and Mike Hippler about all veterans.

First, as to the "incredible" benefits that veterans receive, Mike should visit the Veterans hospitals and see the basket cases—maimed for life. He should see those with shattered minds who will never recover. Please don't say that there are only a few... there are thousands. Many more, hundreds of thousands with lifetime disabilities. These are the veterans who went to Chateau Thierry, Normandy, Iwo Jima, Korea and Vietnam instead of going to Canada.

Young men and women went to war in the prime of their lives. They left their homes and families, their schools and jobs in their formative years. These peo-

ple rate these "incredible" benefits to help put their lives back in order. As for those who went to Canada, they have returned home and have been forgiven. We still have over 90,000 Gay men and women who served honorably, but because of their sexual preference received bad discharges and have not been forgiven.

As for the "unbelievable" retirement benefits, less than 5% of military personnel go on to retire. Those who do all have served in one war, most have served in two wars and some have served in three wars. Their "unbelievable" benefits do not even come close to those of the politicians who receive benefits after as little as six years.

Since the notes on the article were made some changes have been made. The San Francisco council meets on the first Friday at 7 p.m. at the S.F. Veterans Memorial Building. The Redwood Empire Council meets the second Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Cotati Veterans Memorial Building.

Chuck Schoen
Redwood Empire Council
Rohmert Park, CA

Donna Summers

Juan Clavell's reference to Donna Summers as "the bitch" is sexist. The B.A.R.'s publishing of Clavell's letter perpetuates sexism. An apology is in order.

Boycotts without dialog accomplish nothing. I have yet to read of Gay leaders meeting with Donna Summers to discuss her homophobic comments.

A. Billy S. Jones
San Francisco

Hasty

Charles Lineberger's lead piece on the demise of South of Market may be a little hasty. The spirit that made what Herb Caen dubbed "The Miracle Mile" started with Life magazine's article on The Tool Box in 1963. From 4th & Harrison this later spread through Febe's, The Stud, The Ramrod, The No Name, and The Ambush.

He is wrong to state that the Bolt "was 10 years ago the 'in' place," when in fact this was the No Name (73-76), wild and fun beyond today's standards. The Bolt, which lasted only a couple of years (76-78) was bought and conceived by Sanford Kellman, as a jumping off disco for his now celebrated I Beam. After, as The Brig, Hank Diethelm (and later George Benedict) strived to keep the biker scene intact, the legend kicking.

As witness last year's revival of The Folsom Street Fair, which was so successful, this is a stomping ground staked out long before, and will not easily be shoved out by a fickle group of Yuppies.

Ronald Johnson
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

Hail Hennessey

I really enjoyed your article on Sheriff Mike Hennessey and the art stung the Sheriff's Department pulled off.

We have so many endless problems with the police department in the city—but there's a law enforcement department here already that is doing the job professionally.

And there's so much speculation on who would be the best candidate for mayor. The best man for the job is right in our midst: Michael Hennessey!

Kudos to the B.A.R. for your usual excellent news coverage.

Kingston Leary
San Francisco

Real Heart

Bob Vogel, has done what I pray. It is very nice to know that there is a human being, with a "Real Heart."

He went outside himself to sacrifice, caring enough to help one of the unfortunates with the dilemma of AIDS. I, personally, know that I must succeed in my medical studies as I would like to help.

With greatest respect to Bob, and to the B.A.R. staff,

Timothy M. Poulos
San Francisco

Tacky

I am a Pharisee. As a Reform Jew of today my religious traditions stem from the religious-political movement of the Pharisees. In fact, all Jews of today are Pharisees. Jesus was a Pharisee. The Christian church wants many to believe otherwise, but the Pharisees were the "good guys." They were for the common people, the poor, the oppressed just like the man Yousab ben Yosef, otherwise known as Jesus.

Mr. Dion B. Sanders may not call himself a Roman Catholic any longer, but nevertheless the stuff he learned in his CDC class shows—simple Catholic bias and no knowledge of either the Jewish faith or Jewish history. The religious establishment of ancient Israel of that time period was the Sadducees not the Pharisees.

As for Mr. Jones, have you ever read the Koran? Why did you leave the Moslems off your religious hate list? Just what are you afraid of? You sound as if you were writing for the Kremlin, or was this just to increase the circulation of the B.A.R.? Tacky, tacky, tacky!

Instead of helping Gay men and Lesbian women work together in our struggle you have tried your best to build up walls between people of faith and those who are secular. If you are supposed to be some sort of "Gay Leader," you are a failure! Half a brain indeed! Please stop sitting on your hands!

Tal'Or Israel Broux-Barshank
San Francisco

It Will Not Go Away

As I sit listening to "We Are the World," I can't help thinking of my brothers and sisters and the AIDS crisis we are all involved in. In your May 23 issue, there was an article called "N.Y. Show Biz Spectacular Raises \$500,000 for AIDS."

Phil Donahue told the crowd, "If the truth be told this event should have happened sooner." I just wonder how many of us are sitting waiting to be invited or just thinking that someone somewhere will soon make a difference. It's up to each and everyone of us to make that difference in each other's lives now. Open your eyes and look around, let it in, it will not go away by itself.

In times like this with so much fear and opposition from those outside the community the tide can only be turned through our commitment, love and support.

There's a choice we're making. We're saving our own lives.

Jeremy Costy
San Francisco

Sex-Serpents and Consumers

Once upon a time there was a small group of bizarre, sensitive, homosexual men who accidentally created a subculture. They had a white-hot passion for fetishes, rough sex, and hyper-masculine camaraderie. They were the original "leather community."

When the spotlight of post-Stonewall Gay liberation threw all of the homosexual lifestyles out of the closet, leathermen inherited a level of exposure that was disastrous to their secret ceremonies. Decades of carefully evolved symbols and role definitions suddenly became public property.

This happened just at the time that hordes of homosexual men were searching for masculine alternatives to drag as a means to express their new-found "Gayness." Many of them were attracted to the images of leather. Before Stonewall, leather was something a guy earned. Symbols like thongs, keys, or the color of your leather stated your level of experience. With the invasion of the leather-Gays, people just bought what they wanted off the rack (instead of earning it while tied down on one). The American consumer had conquered once again.

The established leathermen were at first puzzled, then disgusted by the mockery that had been made of their

customs. Something treasured had been cheapened and abused.

Between 1979 and 1981 the crush of inexperienced men in new leather clothes squeezed the original leathermen out. They withdrew in bitterness with a deep sense of having been robbed of a lifestyle that they had created. Private S/M clubs became a haven for a few of the traditionalists, but leathermen had always tended toward extreme individualism (even a bit anarchistic) and most just moved on in search of new ways to meet their psychosexual needs.

And therein lay the death of South of Market. Just those men who possessed the courage and creative energy to help the leather lifestyle to evolve with the changing times were the very ones whom the cocktail-crowd-in-bastion had driven away. Without its roots, South of Market leather was only awaiting a strong breeze to sweep it away. Neighborhood development, media hype about AIDS, the boredom and frustration of seldom finding the expected fantasies were all that it took to complete the transition.

Leather, as many of us fondly remember it, is gone. Like the dinosaur, it didn't stand the test of time. But the same sex-serpent whose gnawings stimulated the original South of Market subculture is uncoiling in the groins of post-Gay homosocial men today. And some of the key men who contributed to that earlier expression of sexual power are still alive and active. Together, in a new locale with new symbols and goals, they will build the temples to radical sexuality that modern man must have to survive the boredom of corporate/urban culture. The party ain't over, folks. It's just moving somewhere down the street.

Thor Leathers
San Francisco

Gay Democrats Unite!

The elimination of the Gay and Lesbian Caucus by the National Democratic Executive Committee may appear at first to be a tragic setback for the whole Gay and Lesbian community. We just barely had our foot in the door and then homophobia slams it loudly in our face. The National Executive Committee eliminated the Gay and Lesbian caucus in an attempt "to clean up its image." It seems that Falwellian morality has even crept into the minds of Democratic leadership. There's only slight consolation in knowing that Gays and Lesbians were dumped along with Asians, progressives, and professionals. Doesn't it seem strange, however, that the Executive Committee finds more pleasure in eliminating its constituency rather than providing unifying leadership?

The vast majority of Lesbians and Gays in San Francisco are registered Democrats. We cannot take the rejection of the Gay and Lesbian caucus lightly. Power in the Democratic Party (the only forum where we have a real opportunity to voice our opinion) depends solely on our ability to deliver a constituency. But right now, especially here in San Francisco, the Gay and Lesbian Democrats are divided into small dwindling groups of hard-working activists. There are three Gay and Lesbian Democratic clubs all struggling to survive with independent newsletters, independent fundraisers, and independent membership rolls right here in San Francisco.

I think it's time for Gay and Lesbian Democrats to unify and merge together under the name of one club, to have a massive membership drive, and let the National Democratic Party know that we mean business. United we stand. Divided we fall flat on our face and lose our power to bring Gay and Lesbian issues before the nation and the world.

I urge all Gay and Lesbian Democrats to call in and voice their opinions to the three Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs in town.

Robert Cole
San Francisco

Spiritual Giants

The discussion of sexual orientation and religion is one of the great nonissues of our time. It is simply one of the many ways the negative power has devised to distract both Straights and Gays from their true task: their own spiritual unfoldment.

Soul, of itself, is neither male or female; Straight or Gay. It is made from the essence of the Creator who is far beyond such distinctions. The individual Soul simply takes on the attributes of sexuality that it needs in order to gain experience, balance its karma, and learn to love while living in these worlds.

Self-indulgence, or letting normal desires of any kind, run amuck are the negative attitudes that darken the consciousness and invite disaster. Yet, the repressive or "white knuckle" techniques have no real lasting effect. They usually, simply serve to rechannel the negative energy into some other, often more destructive behavior. Self-acceptance is the first key step on the road to spiritual recovery.

The true Spiritual Giants of the past, often did not come to this planet with the idea of starting a religion. Most simply came to uplift the people of their own time. It was those who followed later, that remolded them into Gods to be worshipped and feared.

Spiritual Giants still walk the earth today. True ones are unconcerned with your sexual orientation. If you desire Spiritual growth and comfort, then listen to your own inner voice: the light and sound of God. Ask for both inner and outer guidance, use your common sense; and watch and wait. The way will open up to you.

Philip Shepherd
San Rafael

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Let Light and Love and Power restore the Plan on Earth.

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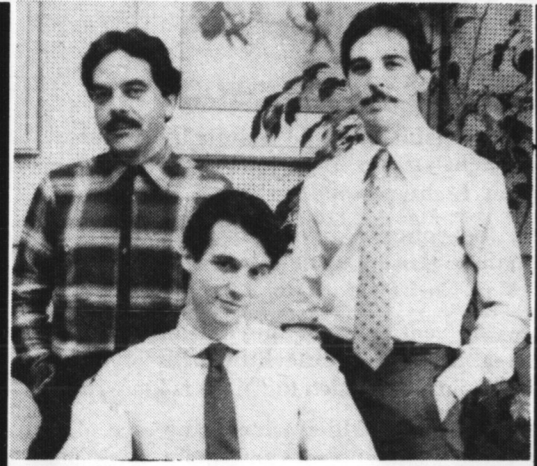
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LETTERS

Some Questions

★ As a man who's friend and roommate has AIDS, there are a couple of things that have been sticking in my craw for some time that I'd like to get off my chest.

Question: Why is it that people who have been diagnosed with AIDS are prohibited from being Shanti counselors? Why is it that only well persons are accepted for these positions, when those who know first hand what it's all about are passed over in their favor? After all, who better than those with the disease can truly relate to just what's involved and therefore share that experience?

I'm not talking about persons in the advanced stages of the illness, though I'm sure they must have some input as well. Nor am I for excluding well persons. Anyone willing to accept the responsibility and is good enough to care, surely must be considered. What I object to is the out-of-hand rejection just because the person is ill. Also, I do not accept the theory that all persons with AIDS lack the emotional stability to be counselors. This is just not true and everyone should be considered on an individual basis.

The other thing that's bugging me is the obscene manner in which some members of our community are treating our brothers with AIDS. And I'm speaking of those turkeys, including a couple of bartenders I could mention, who when a man with AIDS walks in, all but make a hole big enough to drive a semi—to insure they won't be contaminated by this diseased leper. I've seen it happen more than once, and rest assured should that poor soul happen to luck out and not be "known" by the crowd, that one of those tacky bartenders'll get the word out and fast! Particularly should someone show any kind of interest or heaven forbid start to leave with him.

You know, holding all those beer busts, auctions, etc. to combat and find a cure for AIDS is beautiful and we are a beautiful and caring people. Still it's a little less than perfect when we have those among us who treat our ill brothers so shabbily. After all, many of those men will not be around for the cure.

Alan Dale Bigford
San Francisco

Reverse Sexism

★ Blatant discrimination is always a hurtful experience for the recipient.

Such discrimination should never be socially sanctioned, even when it is perpetuated by one's own kind.

The May 1985 *Coming Up* listed an appearance of the authors of *Lesbian Nuns: Breaking the Silence at the Old Wives' Tales* bookstore in San Francisco on May 23rd. Unlike their two appearances in Oakland, which were billed "for women only," this event was listed only as "especially for women."

My sister is a Roman Catholic nun. Therefore, I went to San Francisco to hear a discussion of this book. I planned to purchase the book at Old Wives' Tales bookstore, to ask the authors to autograph it, and to mail it to my sister, urging her to continue her growing sensitivity to the plight of Gay men and Lesbians within both church and society.

What happened when I got to Old Wives' Tales bookstore? Although I held entry pass #99, the woman collecting these passes at the door told me in no uncertain terms: "You are not welcome." Later she said, "If you insist, I will have to let you in, but I'm telling you, you are not welcome here. I don't care if your sister is a nun."

Appealing for reconsideration to the woman at the cash register, I was told flatly I could not enter.

Do not the good folks at Old Wives' Tales bookstore recognize that, in this instance anyway, they are practicing the very sexism that they are struggling so hard to eradicate from Western culture?

Let us hope these good folks reach out with acceptance, and not with rejection, the next time an unexpected male, Gay or non-Gay, knocks gently at their door. All discrimination is a form of hate and is never socially acceptable.

James F. Gibbons
San Leandro

The Task Ahead

★ I wish to respond to your series "The Church and Us." First, let me say that you have reminded me of two failures of the Church: its failure to condemn persecution in the name of religion, consistently and absolutely, and its failure to get its act together concerning the Bible's mixed message on many issues. For most Christians, while the Bible is the Word of God, it is not the last Word. The last Word on the subject of God's creation and God's intention for that creation is not a book but a human being, Jesus. Every aspect of life is to be judged against Jesus, his teaching and, more importantly, his life. That includes the Bible itself.

In the case of Gay and Lesbian people it is most important for Christians to note that Jesus said not one word condemning homosexual people. We Church people should note, in fact, that his condemnations were limited to those who used religion and religious laws, such as those in Leviticus, to exclude others from human and religious societies. When individual Christians or organized Churches quote Biblical texts to justify the exclusion of others, either from the Church itself or from their own love and acceptance, they are ignoring that human Word of God who transcends the Bible.

Many Christians today, and even more organized Churches, are struggling to overcome their blindness to Jesus' own example. Since we have succeeded in that

process regarding slavery, made enormous progress in escaping racism and condemning war and are moving toward nonsexist attitudes, it is to be hoped that the present determination of many Christians, both Gay and Straight, to eliminate homophobia will continue to bear fruit as well. The most important gift of Gay religionists to the Church is their having come out doubly, having come out as Gays and Lesbians in the Church and having come out as Christians in the Gay community.

The Churches have lots of repentance in their future to be sure, but they are in the process of coming to be more fully obedient to their Lord. Thank you for reminding me and others of the task which still is ahead. The Church needs both its Gay critics and its Gay members, often the same people, if it is to conform its life more fully to that of Jesus.

The Rev. Michael W. Merriman
Grace Cathedral
San Francisco

Safe Fiscal Practices

★ Is Pride really gone?

The Gay & Lesbian community should take pride in the "Midas Touch" developed over the last few years in raising funds, both public and private.

The mess at the Pride Foundation is becoming an all too frequent occurrence in our community, however. Rarely a month goes by when the fiscal sheet in some Gay organization doesn't come up criminally short.

While on the physical plane many from our community are dying from AIDS, equally so, many of our community programs are dying from corruption, allegations and downright fraud.

As our community learns "safe sex practices" in the battle against AIDS so too must our community learn "safe fiscal practices" in the battle against fiscal irresponsibility.

While a vaccine for AIDS may be found and the battle against its opportunistic diseases eventually conquered, there will never be a vaccine for corruption and its opportunistic purveyors. The Gay community must have a foundation of fiscal integrity if it is to continue the important work ahead.

There is no Pride in a "Midas Touch" whose Foundation is in the red!

J. Davis Mannino, MSW, LCSW
San Francisco

An Insulting Embarrassment

★ This is in reference to Phylis Wong's letter "Appalled" regarding the malicious and slanderous conduct of the Gay Parade Committee co-chairs. Those are rather mild adjectives describing those characters.

Along with a few of their cohorts, we are truly "scraping the bottom of the barrel" of our community with those two heading the committee. Not only do the co-chairs definitively exemplify unprofessionalism and incompetence, their authoritative and self-seeking demeanors have alienated many of our sisters and brothers from what is alleged as a representation of our community.

Quite the contrary has been obvious at the meetings I have attended from November to April. I can assure you there is little, if any, representation of our community present in attendance. I have personally been subjected to, as a professional, their incompetence and definite malicious behavior resulting in my decision to bow out of their activities. Who needs it?

It's unfortunate but understandable why professional members of our community do not have the time to assume the responsibilities this group takes on. These co-chairs have little else to do. They apparently are too proud and selfish to give up the "hold" they have on their positions by not employing professional participation.

Gone are the days of financial hardships. The Parade Committee is quite solvent these days. I shudder at the thought of all that money going through their hands at the expense of the Gay/Lesbian community.

Unfortunately the thousands of people who attend the parade have little knowledge of what takes place behind closed doors. If they did, the Parade Committee would be very lucky if even the thirty or so people who attend their meetings would show up at the parade. Even less than that elected this committee.

These two people, particularly Ms. Cameron, are an insulting embarrassment to our community.

Jay D. Wilson
San Francisco

Get It Right!

★ Would someone kindly inform George Heymont, your music "critic," that Tancredi and La Donna del Lago were written by Rossini, not Handel.

How can anyone take him seriously when he can't even get his composers right?

Ric Casci
San Francisco

POLITICS AND POKER



Cardinal Sin

WAYNE FRIDAY

And the (homophobic) beat goes on. New York Archbishop John O'Connor, elevated to Cardinal this past weekend, was the subject of an unusual *New York Times* editorial last week for the court battle in which his archdiocese has appealed a New York State Supreme Court decision. By a 3-1 ruling. The court found New York Mayor Ed Koch correct in his Executive Order that says he has the authority to prevent private agencies—including the Archdiocese and the Salvation Army—from receiving city funds if they discriminate against Gays.

The Times, taking the new Cardinal to task for his anti-Gay ways, editorialized that: "The Catholic diocese embracing Brooklyn and Queens (two boroughs not under O'Connor's realm) has affirmed that there is no conflict between its faith and a promise not to discriminate against homosexual job applicants; that is noteworthy because Archbishop John O'Connor of the neighboring New York City diocese has so aggressively taken the opposite view. That means that O'Connor is currently in court because he personally chooses to be, not because church doctrine compels him demurral. Civic harmony would be advanced if the archbishop would direct his energies to more substantial urban problems." ... Your move, Cardinal O'Connor.

Those close to Carolene Marks tell me the wife of the veteran state Senator is sure to be a candidate for the Community College Board next year, and if I were John Rioridon I would be getting a little nervous ... Mayor Dianne Feinstein was a hit when she gave the commencement address to Mills College's 154 female graduating students last week ... tickets are reportedly going well for the \$200 per ticket George R. Moscone Tribute Dinner scheduled for June 15 at the Hyatt Regency; New York Governor Mario Cuomo will be the guest speaker; 567-7580 for tickets and info ... You think politics are bizarre here? Try Stockton. There, the only Black member of the City Council is accusing Mayor Randall Ronk of being racist, while at the same time calling his Honor a "faggot." Apparently homophobia is acceptable to Councilman Ralph White, but God forbid racism.

Here in the city Monday night, the March sponsored by Mobilization Against AIDS drew thousands despite

the wall, and her recent hiring of respected political pollster Pat Caddell to give her "strategic advice" on how to win reconfirmation in next year's election tells us how seriously she sees her problems ... And a recent California Poll of prospective 1988 Democratic presidential candidates shows Senator Ted Kennedy far and away the most popular Democrat in the state. Kennedy leads Gary Hart by a 33 percent to 27 percent margin.

Some of the City's more prominent legal types tell me that the recent threats against Attorney-Supervisor Quentin Kopp by U.S. District Judge William Schwarzer, on why the supe shouldn't be barred from practicing law in the federal court's Northern District, is "serious stuff" ... Bay Area supporters of L.A. Council candidate Mike Woo raised over \$5,000 for their man the other day. Much of Woo's support in Los Angeles comes from the Gay and Lesbian community there who are tired of incumbent Council Member Peggy Stevenson ... The placement of two foster children with two Gay men has prompted the Massachusetts' state House of Representatives to pass an amendment last week barring any future such moves ... Joan Rivers, in the middle of an otherwise hilarious monologue at last week's "Comic Relief" AIDS fundraiser in New York (which netted half a million dollars) suddenly stopped her jokes, and with tears in her eyes, stared at the overflow audience and said "I'm so glad to be doing this, because we all have friends who are dear or who are dying from this terrible disease." The celebrity-packed audience, realized that she was speaking from the heart, rose and gave her a standing ovation.

Here in the city Monday night, the March sponsored by Mobilization Against AIDS drew thousands despite

the lousy weather. Politicos who showed up to march included Milton Marks, Carol Ruth Silver, John Molinari and Louise Renne ... Molinari, incidentally, was the only local politico to attend the 14th Annual Tricycle Race, sponsored again by the Mint. The supervisor received a good reception from the overflow Mint crowd. And while I'm on the subject, let me give a pat on the back to the Mint for the continuous (14 in all) annual bike races that have raised thousands for charity. This year it went to fight AIDS. The Mint has a civic record they should well be proud of, and a few of the other Gay businesses should follow its lead ... Former peninsula Congressman Pete McCloskey, who retired in 1982 saying he was "absolutely" through with politics, is hinting he might be lured back one day soon. McCloskey told certain reporters that he would happily serve in another Republican administration, or better yet, he would be willing to run "if the Republican tycoons woke up and said 'hey, wait a minute, we haven't got anybody to beat Cranston, we better ask McCloskey'."

The Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Demo Club will hold its annual dinner June 26 at the Hall of Flowers in Golden Gate Park. Among the speakers will be West Hollywood Mayor Valerie Ter-rigno, Board of Supervisors President John Molinari and Assemblyman Art Agnos (tax are \$40 per person; 626-7000—Carole Migden for info) ... A number of people are telling me that Community College Board president Julie Tang would make a hell of a candidate for the Board of Supervisors next year ... Circus Vargas presents "Night At the Circus" tonight to benefit the S.F. AIDS Foundation at the Moscone Center parking lot; tickets are \$12.50 and up and are still available at BASS, Ticketron, Headlines and All American Boy on Castro. It's a most worthy cause, and I'll see you there.

An Urgent Appeal

Attend the Circus Tonight—
Help People With AIDS

Today, at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, people with AIDS who need help are going on a waiting list. The number of cases is rising so fast, the Foundation can't keep up.

Tonight, at the circus, we have a chance to help. The Circus Vargas benefit will raise money to help the AIDS Foundation meet its commitments.

The circus is tonight, Thursday, at 8 p.m. The three-ring big-top is at Fourth and Howard Streets, next to Moscone Center. You may buy tickets at BASS or Ticketron today, or at the circus tonight after 5 p.m.

Community response has been great — BUT WE URGENTLY NEED MORE HELP—YOUR HELP—TO MEET OUR GOAL. We need a last-minute groundswell of support to get people with AIDS off that waiting list.

Much has been asked of this community. And so much has been given. But today we urgently need to do more—to support the circus. Nobody who has AIDS belongs on a waiting list. They need help—our help.

And by the way, the circus isn't making a dime on this event. Circus Vargas is donating the gate. We hope you'll be at the gate tonight at 8.

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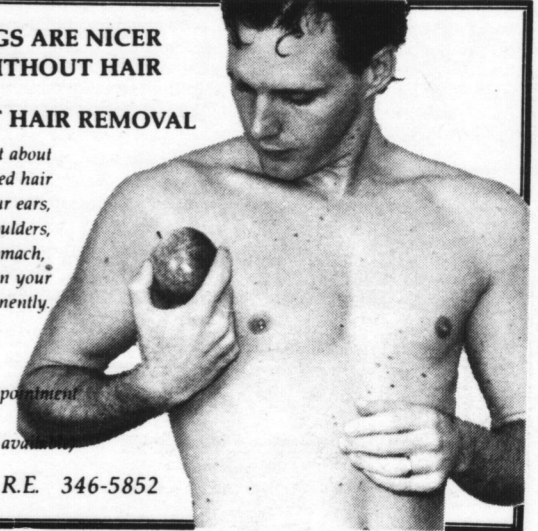
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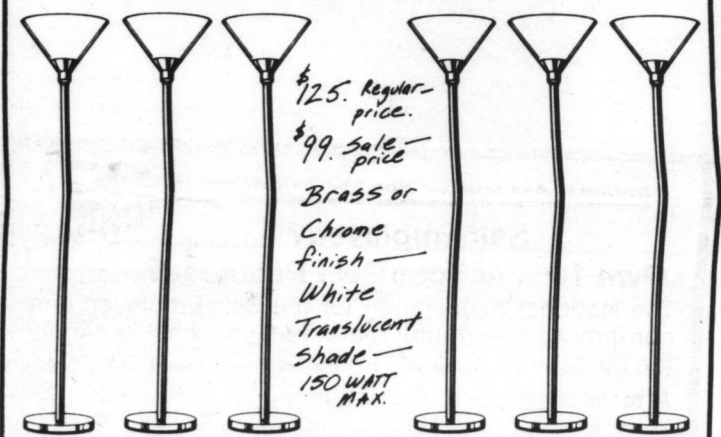
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Steve Perkins has been given a publishing contract for all of his ads and letters to the editors. Unfortunately neither he nor the B.A.R. has retained copies. Steve is therefore offering a \$500 reward to the person who submits the most complete collection of his letters and ads (in copies or originals). If your collection is small, send copies anyway. Steve will pay you \$10 for each ad or letter which is missing from the complete collection. Send copies (or originals) to Steve Perkins, 1226 Haight Street, San Francisco, CA 94117 or call 864-8597 for personal interview.

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DATELINE: THE WORLD

Military May Rescind Order on Blood Tests

by Brian Jones

The Defense Dept. is considering the withdrawal of an order for blood banks to provide information on an AIDS-related blood test. In a memo issued March 13, the military blood program director said civilian blood banks must provide information on any military personnel who test positive for the antibody to the HTLV-3 virus.

The HTLV-3 virus is a primary cause of AIDS, but the antibody test does not in itself provide a diagnosis for the deadly syndrome.

Now, the military is rethinking that order, said Dr. Joseph O'Malley of the American Red Cross. O'Malley said that military officials have agreed to grant waivers from complying with the order, after protests from the Red Cross, the nation's largest civilian supplier of whole blood.

A spokesman for the Defense Dept., however, told the *Washington Blade* that he was not aware of any change of policy. Maj. Pete Wyro was quoted as saying, "Our position now is that positive test results will be turned over to military medical personnel."

The original directive is limited to civilian blood banks which collect blood on military bases. Such blood drives are a significant source of whole blood. At the Irwin Memorial Blood Bank in San Francisco, approximately one-fourth of the whole-blood donors are recruited from among locally based military personnel.

The directive did not cover military personnel who donate blood to civilian blood banks off base.

"I called the people involved and informed them of the possible ramifications involved in this," said O'Malley of the Red Cross. "They said they would reassess their position and issue a second memorandum."

Gays Attacked Laying Wreath at Death Camp Site

French survivors of Nazi concentration camps, some shouting "they should all have been exterminated," attacked Gays attending a service at a cemetery in Struthof, France. The cemetery marked the only site in France where the German Third Reich had erected a concentration camp.

According to the *Associated Press*, witnesses said that Gays were assaulted when they tried to lay a wreath at a monument to the victims of Nazism. After they were chased away, their wreath was destroyed.

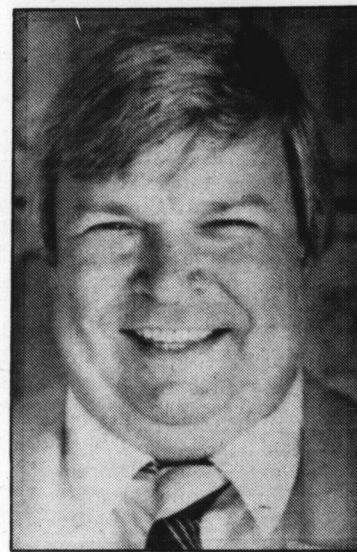
The witnesses reported insults were shouted at the Gay mourners, including, "They should have all been exterminated."

Jean Petiteau, the main speaker at the rite, had refused a request by the Gays to be part of the service.

In a letter, he said, "How can we consider in the same light those who risked their lives, and those who were punished for deviation?"

Bath Owners Split on AIDS

A dissident group of Gay bath-house owners made plans in Miami to withdraw from the



Jack Campbell (Photo: Rink)

Sand, has not received accurate monthly accounting from the distributor as stipulated in their contract. The distributor is TC Films International.

The lawsuit alleges that TC president Jordan Boch may have diverted proceeds from Milk to another company of which he has been an officer, Teleculture Inc.

Endean Returns To Gay Lobby

Former Executive Director of the Gay Rights National Lobby, Steve Endean, is returning to lobby for the group. But Endean's two-month, half-time contract specifically excludes him from lobbying on AIDS-related bills, according to the *Washington Blade*.

Instead, Endean will lobby for a change in immigration law and for a federal Gay-rights bill. Endean will be paid \$1,750 a month for two months and will work a 20-hour week.

Meanwhile, the lobby is seeking a lobbyist for AIDS-related bills. Lobby Executive Director Nancy Roth said a full-time fund-raiser and a full-time office manager have been hired and will be paid in part by the \$82,000 donation made in a supporters' will.

Endean returns to the lobby 16 months after leaving its top post in January 1984 amid criticism that he mismanaged the group's finances and failed to lobby aggressively on the AIDS issue.

Illinois Defeats 2 Gay-Rights Bills

"Quiet lobbying" is being claimed for the defeat of two Gay bills in the Illinois House of Representatives. The votes against both bills was 79-19. One would have extended protection of the state's Human Rights Act to Gays and Lesbians. The other would have added Gays and Lesbians to the classes of people protected from "domestic terrorism," or intimidation.

"The next time, our campaigns for Gay rights legislation must be fought on the editorial pages of the *Chicago Tribune* and the *Pooria Star*," said Gay lobbyist Tim Drake.

Drake said a behind-the-scenes approach didn't work. He said supporters of the bills missed an opportunity by not calling a press conference to explain the bills after they were successfully passed out of committee.

Seattle Seeks AIDS Director

The Northwest AIDS Foundation (NWAFF) is making a nationwide search for an executive director. The Seattle group is looking for a person with administrative and human relations skills who is experienced in training volunteers and fund-raising. The NWAFF raises money for social services and education concerning AIDS in Seattle.

Interested parties should submit resumes to the NWAFF, Executive Director Search Committee, P.O. Box 3349, Seattle, Washington 98114.

Seattle King County AIDS cases currently total 79, a 34 percent increase since the start of the year.

'Milk' Producers Go Sour on Distributor; Sue

Variety, the entertainment trade journal, reported May 17 that *Times of Harvey Milk* producers have sued its distributor, and alleged diversions of film proceeds.

In a lawsuit filed May 16, filmmakers Robert Epstein and Richard Smeichen allege that their production company, Black

GUEST COLUMN

On the Origin of Religion

by Peter D'Amato

It was with great pleasure that I read B.A.R.'s April 25 editorial, the first of three parts, reproaching Gay religionists and their spurious beliefs. What I found particularly amusing was the metaphor of these religionists not using even "half a brain." Sometimes I truly wonder if I am the only Gay person in the world who questions the origin of religion, period, let alone being familiar with the theories of Princeton psychologist Julian Jaynes.

Good theories on the origin of religion are few and far between. In his underground best seller *The Origin of Consciousness in the Breakdown of the Bicameral Mind*, Julian Jaynes offers a stunning array of ideas which, in the words of one reviewer, "... may be the most influential, not to say controversial, of the second half of the Twentieth Century. It renders whole shelves of books obsolete."

What Jaynes proposes is that individualized ego consciousness in humans originated during disaster and catastrophe a mere 3,000 or so years ago out of a previous mentality that was directed by what we would call hallucination, and that consciousness as we know it is a culturally learned phenomenon based upon language and metaphors.

Jaynes cites a variety of sources as evidence. For example, the human body and its functions are bilaterally represented in the brain—the right half of the brain controlling the left side of the body and vice-versa. The only major exception

is speech, which is controlled solely by the left brain. Why?

It is astounding that neurologist Wilder Penfield, experimenting in the 1960s by electrically stimulating the "silent" corresponding speech centers in the right side of the brain, produced in his patients vivid auditory and visual hallucinations, hallucinations described as admonishing and commanding, of authority figures within the belief system of the subjected patient, and often deeply religious in nature.

What Jaynes believes is that prior to the first millennium B.C., that area of the right brain was not as mute as it is today, and there existed what he calls the bicameral, or two-chambered, mind. The left side was the "human" part, the right side was the "god" part.

The god side assimilated experience and then "told" the human side what to do by creating hallucinated voices and visions that the individual could not disobey. It was his volition. There was no consciousness involved whatsoever.

The Old Testament and other ancient works such as the *Iliad* or the *Pyramid Texts* clearly show the bicameral mind at work. Whenever a human has a decision to make, it is the voices and visions of "the Lord" or a "God" or the "Ka" that tells him what to do. In some bicameral civilizations, voices were hallucinated directly from idols, and also from ideograms, which later developed into writing.

Jaynes believes schizophrenia is a direct genetic throwback to

the bicameral age. So are oracles and sibyls and prophets; even modern day mediums such as "Seths" and "Jasons," when the right side of the brain temporarily controls speech and ego consciousness is suspended.

The whole concept of life-after-death originated during the bicameral age, when the voices of the dead did not cease in the minds of the living, giving birth to frenzied burial rituals and ancestor worship. Bodies died, yet their "spirits" lived on.

It is very difficult for us, with our subjective minds, to appreciate what the bicameral age was like. There was no such thing as freedom of thought or action. Bicameral people had no identity crisis, no personality conflicts, no hopes or wishes, no way of pulling out memories at will, no concept of time as we know it, or life span, personal histories or self-fulfillment. There was no deceit or crime or concepts of good or evil as we know it.

There were only voices that told them to do this or don't do that, based upon learned experience, based upon social control. It can be compared to the socially programed organization of bee hives and ant colonies, with verbal hallucination replacing chemicals and color.

Our whole obsession with the search for authority stems directly from the lost voices of the gods. We are still deeply immersed in this transition from bicamerality to consciousness. Julian Jaynes summarizes, "In the second millennium B.C., we stopped hearing the voices of gods. In the first millennium B.C., those of us who still heard the voices, our oracles and prophets, they too died away. In the first millennium A.D., it is their

sayings and hearings preserved in ancient texts through which we obeyed our lost divinities. And in the second millennium A.D., these writings loose their authority."

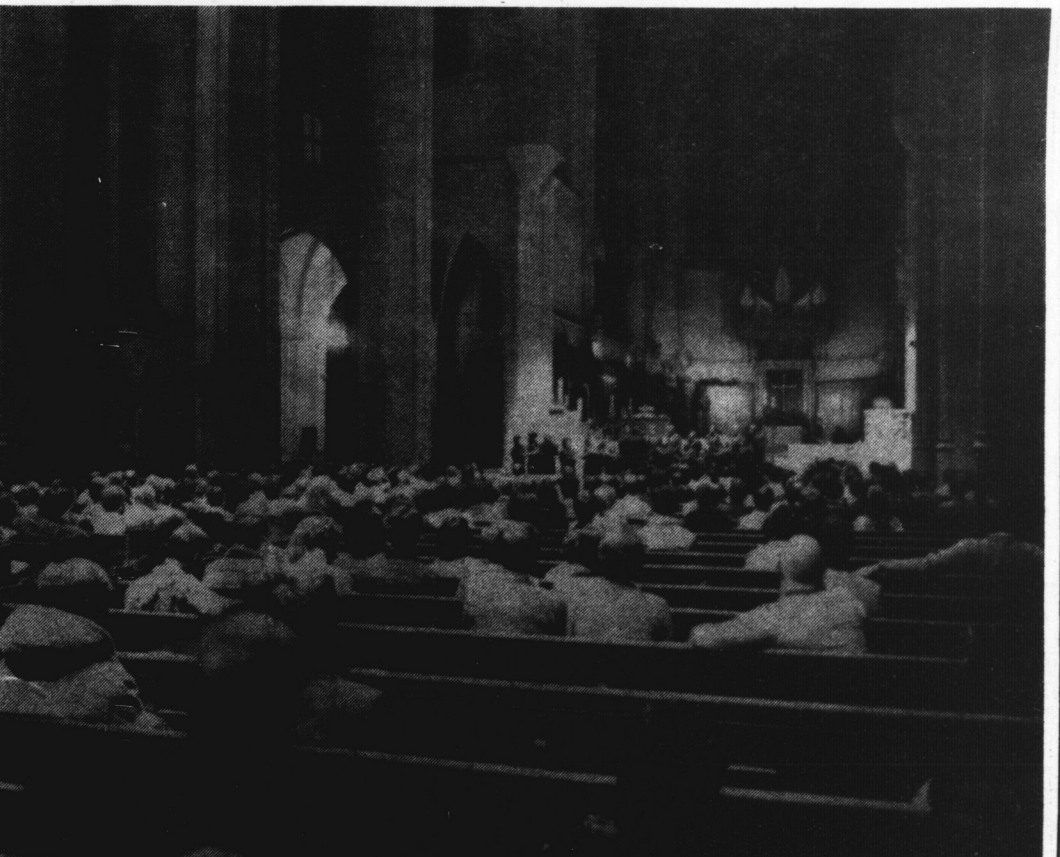
Religion is the social control of decision-making based on archaic—and often irrational—bicameral absolutes. And as individualized ego consciousness further develops, we witness the death-throes of the bicameral mind. Thus one can look with an almost sad irony at what is happening in religion today.

Jaynes believes that force—through legislation or terrorism—is a way that conscious humans try to impose upon themselves and others what was once unconscious obedience to hallucinated voices. As religion dies its slow death, what was once faith now becomes the angry demands of popes and preachers, hysterically clutching to their breasts ancient manuscripts of law and order dictated by what can best be described as schizophrenic automaton minds two and a half thousand years ago.

With feet slipping and hands losing grip, this fundamentalist world-wide revival will probably continue with increased fanaticism through the end of this century, Jaynes believes, as religion makes a last effort to save itself, let alone others, from its most certain fall.

It will be in his forthcoming sequel to *The Origin*, tentatively titled *The Conse-*

quences of Consciousness, that Jaynes will discuss much that will be important to Gay people. To be discussed is the transformation of emotions, now that conscious people can "remember" at will; for instance, fear into anxiety, and shame into guilt. He will also discuss the function of imagery in healing and success, and of our capacity to fantasize, which has helped to bring about the historical increase in sexual activity.



Gays in Grace—Grace Cathedral. What is the origin for the human need to seek spiritual and religious guidance? (Photo: Rink)

Estate Planning for Seniors

In mid-June, GLOE seniors invite the public to join them for a luncheon and talk "Estate Planning for Gay & Lesbian Seniors," given by Dick Jones, a retired trust officer of a major San Francisco bank. This will be a simplified presentation of estate planning, with plenty of time for questions. Mr. Jones will address questions such as: Do I have an estate? Do I need a will? Do I have to hire a lawyer? Do I want my property to go to the state of California, or my family

relatives, or to my lover? Members of the GLOE group and the general public are encouraged to take part in the discussion.

Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE) presents the talk and pot-luck luncheon on Saturday, June 15, from noon until two o'clock, at 225 - 30th Street. That is the senior center, near the corner of 30th Street and Church, at the end of the J-Church MUNI line. You are invited to bring your favorite luncheon dish.

For further information please call one of the program coordinators at 626-7000.

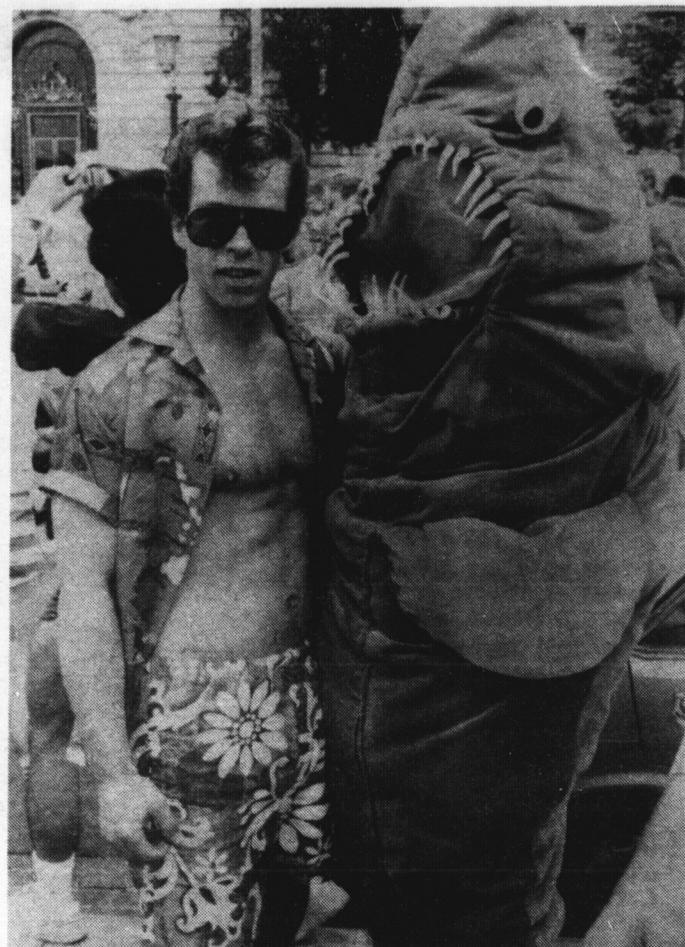
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The spokes men—and ladies—who made up the 14th annual race pose at City Hall (above); a pause for Jaws as Bill and Miguel the shark, from the Special, test the waters (above right); and the winners—again—Jay Bartlett and Scott Kendrick of the CSL. (Photo: Rink)



'Yikes!' on Trikes: A Pedal Parade

The Big Wheels Turn Pedal Pushers; Winners Do Course in 47 Minutes

by Allen White

For the fourth consecutive year, Scott Kendrick, representing the Community Softball League, won The Mint's Memorial Day Charity Costume "Great Tricycle Race." Kendrick's partner was Jay Bartlett. Together, they completed the race in 47 minutes.

At 2:10 p.m., 13 pairs of contestants started pedalling their way from City Hall, up Polk Street, through the Tenderloin, through the Castro and crossed the finish line at the Mint on upper Market Street. The contestants were sponsored by several bars throughout the city. One East Bay bistro, the Paradise Bar & Grill, had two entrants.

One of the entrants sported a dildo and was covered with condoms. The rider, a former Emperor of Alameda who goes by the name of Chuckles, had to drop out. It seems the front wheel sagged from the weight. The dildo kept its shape and Chuckles carried it throughout the afternoon.

Many won prizes. The Community Softball League team won \$300. Second prize in the race went to Roger and Stan from Febe's, who rode off with \$200, and Carlos Vargas and Carla Montaya from the Paradise Lounge, who won third place and \$100.

Before the race started, there was a costume contest. Hank's contestants John Lahrsia and Patterson Davis won. Second

place went to Ed Stark and Doug from "The Special" with a surfboard entry, and Allan and Chuckles with their dildo from the Paradise Grill won third place.

While all this movement was taking place across town, the crowd swelled in size at The Mint. For the 14th year, Naomi the nurse was back as a co-ecce. Sharing the chores for the fourth year was Nurse Nina.

This year there was the trolley festival. Nurse Nina and Nurse Naomi have quite a way with tourists. Out-of-towners on a vintage trolley car all seemed a little perplexed to see a drag queen dressed as a nurse approach their street car on Memorial Day. If nothing else, they had something to tell the

folks back home.

This year, as he has done for the 14 years the Mint has held the race, Tommy Turner was the chair of the event. His co-chair was Monte Ruddick. In addition to the fun of the day is the underlying seriousness of raising money. A major part of the fundraising effort is the selling of raffle tickets.

When all the money was counted, Tommy Turner said that again the Tricycle Race and related activities will raise over \$1,000 and could easily total several hundred more. This year all the money is being donated to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

NGRA Achieves Breakthrough In Insurance for Gay Couples

For the first time an insurance company has agreed to give Gay couples the same 20% discount on auto insurance that it gives to married couples. Known as the "multiple car discount," it is given to couples who own two or more cars. Previously the discount was available only to married couples.

The agreement was reached after extensive negotiation between AAA of Southern California and National Gay Rights Advocates, the San Francisco-based public interest law firm. NGRA represented Leo Laurence and Robert Zelman, Jr., a Gay couple in San Diego who have been in a relationship for seven years.

Leonard Graff, NGRA legal director, said, "I explained to AAA's lawyer that Gay couples have all the same characteristics in their relationships as married couples. I warned him that, under the Insurance Code and other state laws, AAA was engaging in an unlawful discriminatory practice." After much

discussion, and a threatened lawsuit, AAA agreed to extend the multiple car discount to Gay couples.

Jean O'Leary, NGRA executive director, said, "This is a first in the insurance industry and the beginning of the battle for full equal rights for Lesbian and Gay

couples. With AAA being the giant of the industry, I'm confident that other insurers will follow their lead." O'Leary noted that NGRA is committed to doing more litigation for couples' rights as a way to further validate the Gay lifestyle.

AAA has already begun the procedures for implementing the program. This includes reprogramming the computer, developing training materials for its agents, and preparing a bulletin to inform the members of AAA. The discount will go into effect on July 1.

Working with NGRA on this case were attorneys Bill Weinberger in Los Angeles and Kate Steen in San Francisco.

From a press release by NGRA.

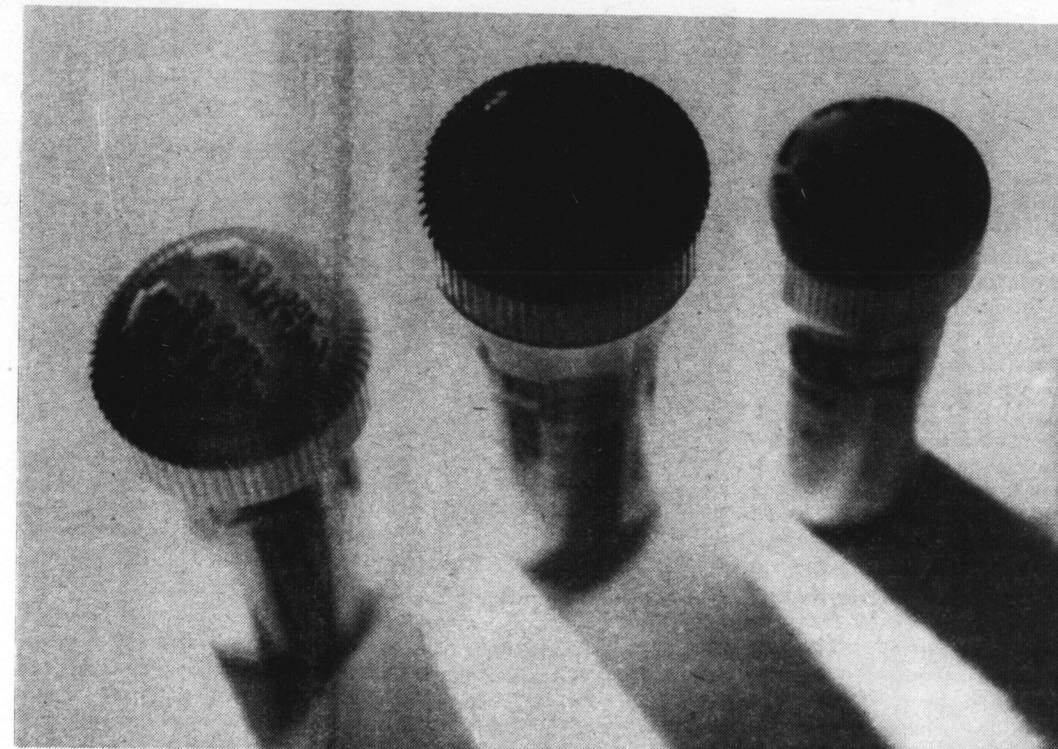
Patients' Urgency, MD's Caution Mark Trials of New AIDS Drug

Trials of 'Isoprinostine' Are Behind Schedule As Study Subjects Fear Time Is Running Out

by Will Snyder

Mikhael Itkin reached for a milky energy drink and took a long drink from the can. "This is one of the end results of my condition," he said, pointing to the can. "Sometimes I just don't have any desire to eat at all and I know I have to get something into my system."

These days, Itkin would like to have something other than the calories from the energy drink circulating through his bloodstream. He would like to have the new, so-called miracle drug known as Isoprinostine. He might even have it in his system now. He is a part of a double-blinded research study being conducted at San Francisco General Hospital's Ward 86 with 24 people with ARC.



Will it be hope or another disappointment that tumbles out of the pill-bottle? Trials now underway will shed some light on the answer. (Photo: Rink)

One Man's Search For 'Wonder Drug'

by Charles Lineberger

An isolated voice on the phone is the only way I have of describing a man who agreed to talk to me of his experiences with Isoprinostine. He was terse and it was a difficult interview but it may help other men who are wondering about this "new" drug.

"Tom," the pseudonym I'll give him, has been worried about AIDS-related conditions since last summer. After a bout of flu-like symptoms, he entered an AIDS study. He was tested and his T-cell ratio was 1, compared to an average 2 for straight men, but not unusual for a Gay man.

In January of this year, after another bout of flu-like symptoms, he had his blood tested. His T-cell ratio had dropped to .7. He began to make inquiries and discovered that a drug called Isoprinostine, which boosts the immune system had been touted as a possible treatment for AIDS.

Tom began to take a couple of readily available vitamin supplements which he feels are similar compounds to those found in the drug Isoprinostine. He took Inosine in the form of one tablet, or 300 mg of Inosine, of the "Work Out Formula" available at Great Earth on Castro Street.

He also took one tablet of PABA daily. The tablets contained 500 mg of PABA. PABA is a readily available vitamin supplement in health food stores.

After taking this combination of supplements for several months, he managed to win a berth on the one of the medical-supervised Isoprinostine studies being conducted in San Francisco early this spring. At

'I felt nervous. My stomach was upset and I was anxious'

the time he entered the study, a blood test showed that his T-cell level had jumped, he feels under the influence of the vitamin supplements related to Isoprinostine; to 1.4.

Then the three-month study of the medically prescribed Isoprinostine began. Half the subjects were given the drug; half, a placebo. For four weeks he took two pills three times a day, during this time, he said that he suffered physical problems that became vaguely disabling.

"I felt nervous. My stomach was upset and I was anxious all the time," said Tom of his experiences with the drug. "I had to make a conscious choice to stay with the pills to the end of the four weeks."

During the month-long period he took the pills, a blood test showed his T-cell level had dropped to .7. Another blood test taken at the end of the pill-taking part of the study showed a T-cell level of 1 again—normal. Another blood test awaits Tom at the official end of the study toward the end of June.

But he doesn't know if he has Isoprinostine, or a placebo, inside of his body. Half of the group has either the drug or the sugar pill. Not knowing which of the groups he falls into has left Itkin worried about his condition and angry at the mode of research.

"I'm one of the guinea pigs of Ward 86," he said sarcastically. "I'd rather get some definitive idea of which way I'm going. The possibility that I may have the placebo, I think, is just not right."

Itkin called double-blinding "an outdated mode of research which goes back to the 19th Century." He says his own observations have convinced him everyone with AIDS or ARC should be getting Isoprinostine as soon as possible.

"Isoprinostine doesn't seem to have any effect whatsoever on the old cases, the cases which are so much more developed," he said. "That's the reason a lot of us who are in the study are extremely angry."

"Every day the damn thing is delayed for us," he added, "our own individual cases could get worse."

Itkin's feelings about the drug may be either unguarded optimism or just grasping at straws. No one knows yet about Isoprinostine. That's why the medical profession is using double-blinded testing of the drug.

SOME 'PESSIMISTIC'

Some local physicians are pessimistic about whether Isoprinostine will be effective in helping anyone with ARC, let alone anyone with AIDS.

"My frank opinion at this stage is that the drug will not be effective," said Dr. Paul Volberding of San Francisco General Hospital. "Of course, a lot of information isn't yet available, but the studies I have seen so far indicate that Isoprinostine will not help prevent AIDS at all and may only slightly help those with ARC."

A San Francisco physician who requested anonymity echoed Volberding's not-too-optimistic words. This doctor has been monitoring the progress of six local men who went to Mexico to buy Isoprinostine before the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) okayed the use of the drug.

"I haven't seen any improvement at all in three of the people I have monitored," the doctor said. "We may not have had enough time to really get the kind of data we need, but so far I am not convinced that Isoprinostine is going to work."

"Don't get me wrong," he added, "I want it to work, but I just don't want to raise false hopes." Because of all of this uncer-

tainty about Isoprinostine, the doctors maintain, double-blinded testing is necessary. Even the physicians won't know until the study is completed whether people such as Mikhael Itkin have taken Isoprinostine or the placebo.

"Double-blinded research is a classic scientific way of finding out facts," said Tom Steinruck, a physician's assistant to Dr. Marcus Conant, the man who is heading the research group which includes Itkin.

Steinruck added that because it has not been determined that Isoprinostine does boost the body's resistance to AIDS, double-blinding is necessary.

'ONLY ETHICAL WAY'

"Later on, if we know the drug is effective," he said, "we will not withhold it from anyone who needs it."

Volberding echoed Steinruck's thoughts. "It (double-blinded testing) is the only ethical way to find out about the drug. There's a sense in the community that Isoprinostine is a breakthrough, at least for people with ARC."

"That remains to be seen," Volberding added, "Until we do know, we have to conduct these kinds of tests."

In the testing procedure, each member of the experimental group takes three grams of either Isoprinostine or the placebo for 28 days. If the Isoprinostine is working, "killer" cells, which attack invading infections, should become more effective. And their "helper" cells—which are destroyed in full-blown AIDS—should become more numerous.

If the person has been on the placebo, none of the above will happen.

Some supporters of Isoprinostine are angry the data from the testing hasn't become public knowledge yet. They point to the fact that announcements about the testing became known in late November. They also point out the study was to have been a three-month study, and wonder where the time went.

"There were spokesmen," said Luana Kruse, a spokesperson for Newport Pharmaceuticals, the Newport Beach, CA firm which manufactures Isoprinostine. "First of all, we had Thanksgiving, Christmas and the New Year's holidays get in the way. Then, some people got into some of the experimental groups late. We still hope to have this data ready within six months."

This is the kind of situation which doesn't please Mikhael Itkin at all.

"I'm angry, I'm frustrated and I'm tired," said the weary Itkin.

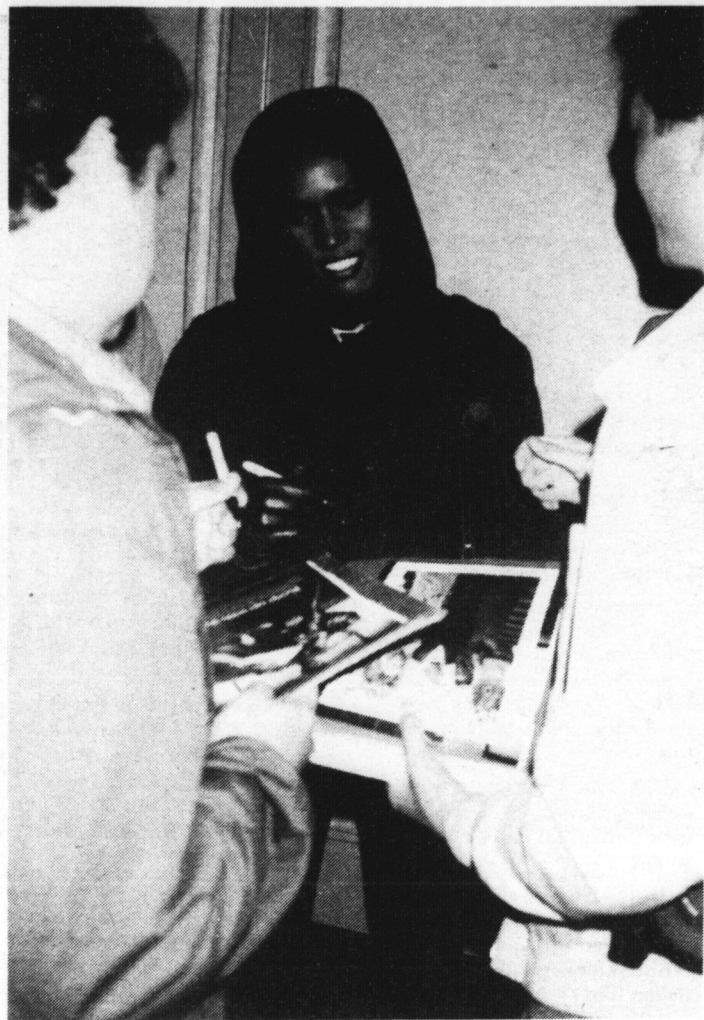
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Grace Jones makes nice after a press conference for *A View to a Kill* (Photo: S. Warren)

Not Much Grace In Jones Affair

Star Twinkles Wanly at Troc; Trouper Sylvester Saves Show

by Allen White

\$5,970 was raised Wednesday night, May 22, for the Shanti Project, through the efforts of Sylvester and the staff of the Trocadero Transfer. The event was the birthday party to honor Grace Jones, planned in conjunction with the opening of the James Bond film, *A View To A Kill*.

The success of the party can be attributed to the efforts of the Trocadero Transfer staff, manager Stan Walker and entertainer Sylvester. The event would have been a failure if it had to rely on the embarrassing presence of Grace Jones. Her appearance was an insult to all those who attended the event.

The party began at 10 p.m. The Trocadero was creatively redone in the theme of the James Bond film. Grace Jones arrived at the Trocadero at 12:30 a.m. She made her way immediately to an upstairs office.

At that time it was made clear that she didn't want to be photographed. To that end all photographers, including a crew from *Entertainment Tonight*, were moved into a side office, where they were told by Moore's publicity people that she would be available for photographs.

It was learned that the instructions were a device to allow Grace Jones to enter the Trocadero dance area through a side door going down a staircase and bypassing the photographers. The photographers didn't buy the ruse, and got their pictures of Jones' entrance.

Once inside the dance area, Jones was escorted to a roped-off area which was off limits to all the people who had paid to see James Bond's pussy of the year. She stayed in a dark corner until 2:30 in the morning.

Sensing the embarrassment of the situation, San Francisco entertainer Sylvester came to the rescue. Just before two in the morning, he took to the stage. It was Sylvester who thanked the crowd of several hundred people for making a donation to the Shanti Project. He then led the crowd in singing "Happy Birthday" to Grace Jones. Not appearing too clear as to what was taking place, the star managed a short wave at the crowd from her secluded table.

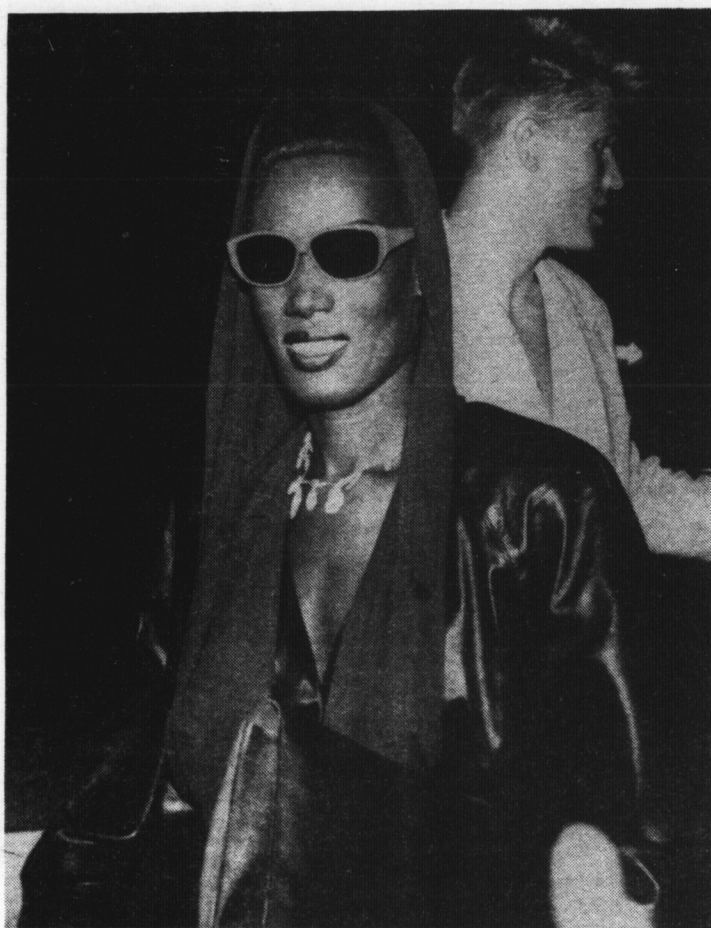
Sylvester then proceeded to give the crowd some sense of focus as he made his way through the crowd. This was an autograph seeking crowd and Sylvester gave special effort to being gracious, talking to all who approached and signing autographs whenever asked.

In spite of Grace Jones, the party was a success. Trocadero Transfer is on a roll of successful

events and they currently have a top-notch group of workers. At no bar was there an extended wait for a drink. The coat check was one of the fastest moving in town. The music and the video presentation matched the mood of the audience the entire night.

This was but one of many nights this year when the Trocadero Transfer dicked with an outstanding dance party event.

Next Saturday they expect to repeat the high energy party level with a party called, "Heat of the Night" with all the door charges before midnight going to benefit the parade committee.



Grace Jones, and in the background, her reported honey, Dolph Lungren. (Photo: Rink)



Grace Jones cuts the rug at the Troc— or is she stepping on Dolph's toes? (Photo: Rink)

AIDS Healing Service

The AIDS InterFaith Network, in cooperation with the Episcopal Diocese of California and Grace Cathedral, announces the third in a series of Ecumenical AIDS Healing Services to be held at Grace Cathedral on Monday, June 3, at 6:30 p.m.

These healing services are offered as a witness of God's healing hand to meet the physical, spiritual, psychological and emotional needs of Persons With AIDS, their lovers, friends, family, medical community, Gay and Lesbian community and all those

in the larger Bay Area community who have concern about the ever expanding AIDS epidemic.

Joining The Rt. Rev. William E. Swing, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of California, will be leaders from the Metropolitan Community Church, The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco, the San Francisco Council of Churches and the Northern California Ecumenical Coalition.

As part of the ongoing ministry and mission of the AIDS InterFaith Network these services are planned for the first Monday of each month. For further information please contact the AIDS InterFaith Network at 928-HOPE.

New Service for Teens

The Teen Clinic, a new service for teens at City Health Center #1, 3850-17th Street is held every Wednesday from 2-5 p.m. The Teen Clinic offers free and confidential services including school and work physical exams, immunizations, treatment of minor illnesses, birth control information and supplies, VD check-ups and treatment, and help with personal problems. If you're a teenager or the parent of a teenager the Teen Clinic may be just the service you've been looking for. Check us out. For more information or to make an appointment, call 538-3905.

Love Burns Still

(Continued from page 1)

This year, a small cluster of people crowded to one side of that same Polk Street entrance to City Hall. The only reminder of the anger and destruction of that night six years ago was the image of a burning squad car on the top of an anniversary cake. John Blackburn and Bobby Heacock met here, on these steps, the night of the riot—and have been lovers ever since.

Blackburn and Heacock's anniversary party on the steps of City Hall was the only commemoration this year of the White Night Riot and Harvey Milk's birthday. Milk's birthday, ironically, followed the manslaughter conviction of his assassin by one day. This was the first year that a rally in Civic Center Plaza hadn't been held to remember that night.

The cake was cut and champagne was passed around in paper cups.

"This is for Harvey," Scott Smith, Milk's former lover, said raising his cup, "champagne, champagne, the drink of queens."

Off to the side of the group a reporter interviewed Bobby Heacock before a KCBS camera while I talked to John Blackburn.

"This is our anniversary," Blackburn said. "We met the night of the riot. When I arrived in the Castro around 6:30 that night it was a mob scene. There were thousands of people milling around. Cleve Jones was trying to organize things but people were in an ugly mood."

Blackburn recalled the march down Market Street to City Hall. There were thousands of people carrying candles. He remembers looking back up Market from Haight and Market and seeing a "sea of candles." When the marchers got to the Civic Center there were thousands of people already there waiting for them.

"There it got uglier," Blackburn remembers, "because there were a lot of people there who were outsiders. Everyone was outraged. This was Gays, straights, Blacks and Whites. Everybody mulled together in a huge conglomeration of anger and frustration. And things just got progressively worse."

As the crowd grew in front of the Polk Street entrance to City Hall, several city officials came out of the building onto the steps to try and calm a growing anger that was becoming audible even in the Mayor's office. Harry Britt, Louise Renne and Carol Ruth Silver all came out to speak to the crowd.

But, according to Blackburn, "I don't think anyone could have stopped it. There was hatred for the homophobic society we live in and for the deals that were out to get this ex-cop off."

Supervisor Silver was cut in the lip when someone threw a rock or bottle at her. According to Blackburn, no one could calm the feelings of the crowd which had suddenly become a mob. Blackburn remembers standing on the steps of City Hall trying to help calm the crowd, but already a fire had been started by someone in the basement of the building.

A chant had begun in the crowd—"kill, kill, kill." And then the police cars lined up in front of the state building on McAllister Street went up one after another in flames. A human barricade was formed on the steps in front of City Hall to protect the building. It was then that John Blackburn and Bob-

by Heacock found themselves holding hands.

According to Blackburn, "I was still crying and here I see this man I've always wanted to meet and it was like a breath of sanity in this mess. In a sense our relationship was forged in fire."

Within minutes another line, this time of policemen, descended on the plaza, headed for the steps of City Hall, where the volunteers stood protecting the building. Despite assurances that had been given to the volunteers, the police headed into the throng with billy clubs swinging, according to Blackburn.

Blackburn and Heacock lost track of each other, but before the deluge they had exchanged phone numbers on paper torn from a protest sign. Soon Blackburn found himself in an emergency hospital ward with a cut in his forehead. The White Night Riot was over for him. He didn't hear about the police riot at the Elephant Walk Bar on Castro Street until the next morning. But he did call Bobby and a relationship developed between the two men which is still strong.



Cheers! They were toasting six years together; six years ago, City Hall was toasting. (Photo: Rink)

This year—though the throng was gone, the police were elsewhere, and Dan White is free somewhere—the lovers remembered and had their anniversary celebration on the same steps where hell broke loose six years ago. And they cut their cake with its burning squad car in sugar

frosting and toasted to Harvey Milk's memory, and to their love, with champagne, and vowed to be back here again next year. But despite the years, bitterness was still in Blackburn's voice as he recalled the cause of the White Night Riot.

"It was a devastating travesty

of justice. This city will never get over it. We got Feinstein and Con Murphy. Dan White got 6½ years and we lost Harvey Milk and George Moscone. We need to watch and remain on our guard, to protect ourselves."

C. Lineberger

AN URGENT APPEAL

From Shanti Project

THE NEED IS URGENT!

AIDS is a fact of our time. With two new cases being diagnosed in San Francisco each day, Shanti Project is in critical need of volunteers to provide emotional support to persons with AIDS and their loved ones. The alternative is to begin a waiting list for newly diagnosed persons who request support.

WHY ME? WHY SHOULD I VOLUNTEER?

The AIDS crisis is touching many lives. For many, the diagnosis of friends or family brings up feelings of helplessness and/or fear. It is vital that we not become paralyzed by these feelings.

One way to show that you care about what is happening in our community is to volunteer a few hours of your time each week at the Shanti Project. You are needed.

WHO ARE SHANTI VOLUNTEERS?

Shanti Project is a volunteer based organization which depends on people like you who give a little of themselves

to help people with AIDS and their loved ones. Over two hundred and fifty men and women are already volunteering at Shanti.

Shanti volunteers are men and women of diverse ethnic backgrounds and sexual orientation who are trained by Shanti to provide emotional support, patient advocacy, information and friendship. The 44 hour emotional support training will give you the skills you need. A professional background in counseling is not necessary.

The next Emotional Support Training will begin the weekend of July 19th and will be continued the weekend of July 26, 1985.

To volunteer, call Shanti Project at 558-9644. Third World/People of Color are needed and are especially encouraged to apply.

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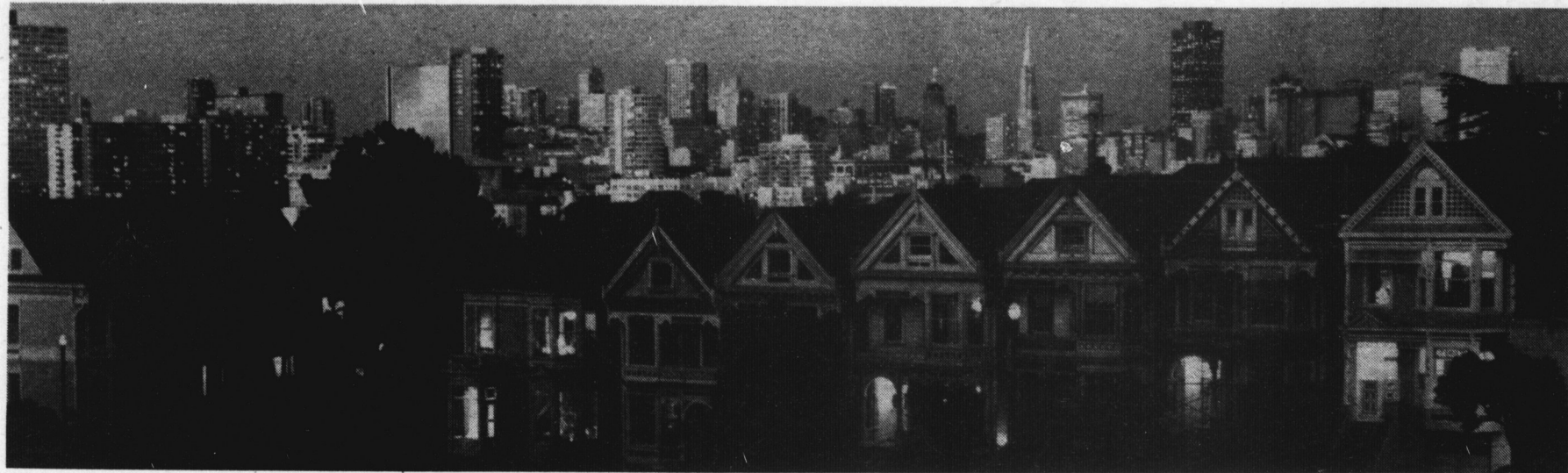
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Chuck Johnson



Downtown Plan: the Stakes for Us

(Continued from page 1)
for San Francisco's thriving downtown core.

Growth and development have long been issues in San Francisco. In the last 10 years, a number of ballot initiatives attempted to impose controls on the construction boom which created the city's present skyline. Though each proposal lost—Prop. O in 1979, Prop. M in 1983—the vote each time grew in favor of some sort of controls on building.

More San Franciscans were seeing their city become like Manhattan—and not liking it. Hence, the 1983 plan was created as a response to those concerns. But some see the plan as an elaborate effort at appeasement without solving any problems.

"The Downtown Plan is an architectural document concerned with the way buildings look," said Georgia Brittan, of San Franciscans for Reasonable Growth (SFRG). "It doesn't do enough to control growth as an annual limit would."

City Planning director Dean Macris, who has suddenly begun appearing at community meetings such as the Harvey Milk Club, defended his plan, saying, "We are looking at other forms of control that parallel development with keeping pace in transit and housing rather than putting a cap on growth."

EFFECT ON GAYS

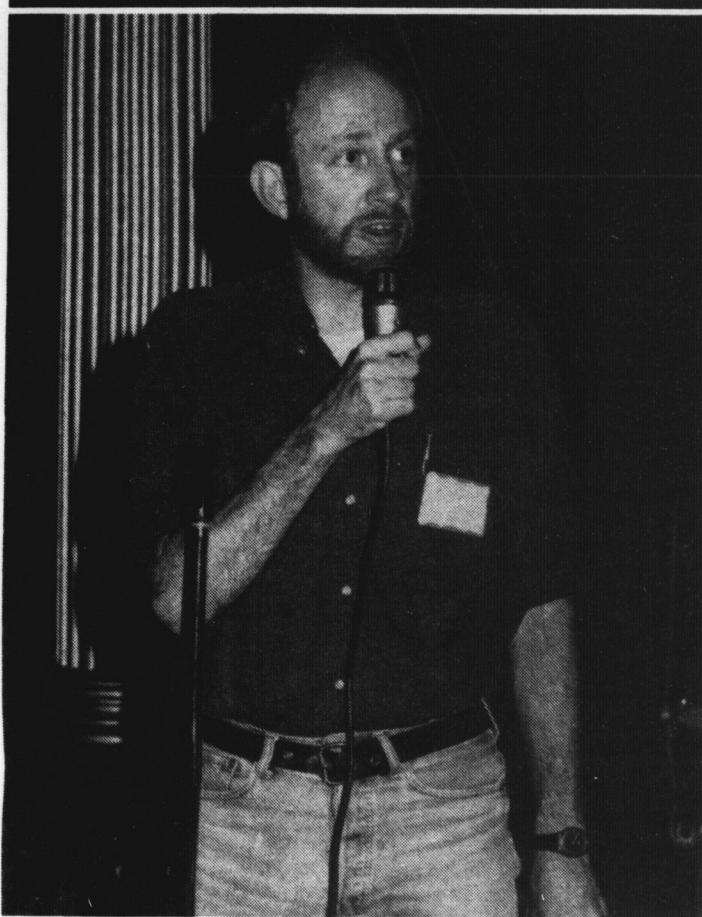
Almost nobody objects to the Downtown Plan itself. What has become an issue is the effort to put a cap on the amount of new building allowed annually. Proposals vary from 500,000 square feet per year—about one new Transamerica Pyramid—to 950,000 square feet per year with numerous exemptions. Pro-development forces characterize the lower limit as a freeze on construction. Limited growth advocates dismiss the larger figure as no control at all.

Jobs and housing are the key concerns. The promise of almost 200,000 new jobs in the city—half of them downtown—could mean a continuing expansion for the Gay community. But, say observers, most Lesbians and Gays in office jobs are found in lower level administrative positions, referred to as "back office" jobs.

As office space becomes scarce, companies move lesser jobs to cheaper quarters, usually outside the city. With high rents in the financial district, only essential headquarters staff can be spared there.

Those favoring development argue that as more building goes on, rents will level off and fewer jobs will leave the city. Conversely, less building means higher rents and more jobs leaving the city. It is a simple economic equation.

The effect on Gays, according



'If we don't have some kind of balanced growth, the impact will be tremendous on the Gay community.'

—Greg Day
Alice Democratic Club

to architect Ron Katz, could be devastating. "Since the annual limit would bring construction to a virtual halt," he said, "back office space would be quickly pressed into service for executives." Katz concluded, "The forces of supply and demand would unite to dilute Gay strength—politically and economically."

Critics of development say it's not so simple. "It's not clear what's going to happen with back office space," said Georgia Brittan of SFRG. "With all the building that's been done, companies haven't stopped moving jobs out of the city. All kinds of factors go into those decisions."

In fact, with a 10 to 13 percent vacancy rate in downtown San Francisco, large employers of Gay people such as Bank of America and Pacific Telephone continue to relocate jobs to the East Bay. Although three million square feet of office space—the equivalent of six Transamerica Pyramids—stands empty and rents have declined, the dispersal continues.

More buildings continue to rise. Ten million square feet are now under construction despite fears of a 19 percent vacancy rate in three years. Why? The economics of building a highrise have little to do with the economics of renting it.

For one, it's a hefty tax write-off. Plus, the land value appre-

jected.

Jim Haas, a land-use attorney, calls himself the only "futurist" in the debate over development. He sees the Downtown Plan as "a response to a lot of environmental issues" but also as a "lightning rod" for critics.

Haas contends, "We should decide what kind of city we want and then draw up a plan." Haas is not opposed to all controls, but favors a two-tiered approach, controlling highrises while promoting construction of back office space to compete with suburban locations.

The city Haas sees taking shape in San Francisco is based on a "post-industrial" economy. He estimates that 85 percent of the city's workforce is in service jobs. "In the future, we'll see more of that," he said, "more affluence, fewer poor people and a higher level of education." Always a city of change, San Francisco will continue its role as urban frontier.

HOUSING SHORTAGE

There will be problems, however. "It is going to be a harder place to stay in," said Haas. "There's always going to be a shortage of space and housing in San Francisco." He advocates that the city maintain services to the disadvantaged. But, he said, "No one has a right to live in San Francisco."

Haas also sees a strong Gay community establishing itself. Although lower income Gays and



'Supply and demand would unite to dilute Gay strength.'

—Ron Katz
Architect

Lesbians may be pushed out, other Gay people will replace them. The net effect, according to Haas, will be a "Gaysian" city politically dominated by an alliance of Gays and Asians. Haas does not see San Francisco becoming more homogenized as its economy and society are gentrified.

Critics of development do see homogenization taking place and say that this augurs poorly for Gays and Lesbians. "Gay businesses are threatened, being driven out by franchises and chains," said Britt. "And small Gay businesses are necessary to the survival of our community." Britt sees San Francisco headed for "the sterile environments of other cities" if growth is uncontrolled.

"There's no Gay political clout in the downtown business world," said Britt. "Development brings a new population into San Francisco and it's not Gay; it's middle-American."

GAY 'DISPERSAL'

According to Rick Pacurar, of the Harvey Milk Club, uncontrolled development will mean "dispersal of the Gay community as in Manhattan." As jobs leave the city, so too will Gay residents. "That'll diminish our ability to lobby for increased services," said Pacurar. "New York has nothing like San Francisco's level of support for people with AIDS. We've accomplished that because we have an identifiable community."

Greg Day concurred with that opinion. "Our political clout is directly tied to the number of votes we can get out on election day," he said. Without that, he sees the Gay community going begging. "We are now underserved by the city," said Day. "And we're dependent on the city because we don't yet have access to philanthropy and foundations." The impact will be felt on a number of community services such as alcohol and drug abuse and help for homeless youth, Day predicts.

The Harvey Milk Club has endorsed the 500,000 square foot annual limit on new construction as proposed by Sups. Britt, Nancy Walker and Richard Hongisto. That figure, said Pacurar, actually is a compromise figure which allows for development while preventing urban blight from over building.

The Alice B. Toklas Club also favors controls, to promote "balanced growth," although it has endorsed no specific plan. "Growth is good," said Day, "because it provides jobs, careers, opportunities. But if our jobs leave town and housing costs go up, if we lose rent control, we won't be here long at all. If we lose political clout in terms of voting numbers, (Gays) will have no significant role in city politics."

R. O'Loughlin

Parade Sues U.S. On Immigration

Seeks Contempt of Court Ruling Against Rules Which Ban Gays

by Charles Lineberger

The Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade Committee filed suit against the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service May 24. Other defendants named in the suit in the U.S. District Court for Northern California were U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese, INS District Director David Ichert, U.S. Attorney Joseph Russoniello and Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Tensing. The INS and the other defendants are being sued for contempt of court.

As the Parade Committee's Memorandum of Points and Authorities puts it, "In deciding *Hill v. INS*, both this court and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the ninth circuit declared in writing that the defendant's (the INS) scheme of exclusion of homosexual aliens based solely on their self-declaration of homosexuality was statutorily invalid. INS's current policy and procedure for exclusion of self-declaring homosexuals spits in the eye of the judge of this court and of the opinions of this court and the Court of Appeals."

The Parade Committee's complaint that the INS is in contempt of court is based on a decision by Judge Aguilar (who is hearing the present case), in 1981. At that time Judge Aguilar issued a temporary restraining order against the INS and the attorney general from enforcing the government's discriminatory immigration policy on Gays.

Aguilar in 1982 issued a permanent national injunction banning the INS from harassing noncitizen visitors on the basis of their sexual orientation.

Konstantine Berlandt, Parade spokesperson, talked about the Parade Committee's reaction to the court's decision.

"We had a victory party," Berlandt recounted, "in the City Hall rotunda in July of '82, the

first day the order was to go into effect."

Subsequently the government appealed Aguilar's decision but the appellate court upheld the lower court holding that mere self-confirmation of being Gay was not reason enough to deny entry to this country to non-citizen aliens.

The INS has begun asking the Public Health Service to issue medical certificates of homosexuality to self-affirming Gay people, under the U.S. quarantine law.

"That's not a medical diagnosis," said Berlandt. "Simply declaring that you are Gay is not an actual medical diagnosis of being Gay."

This time, according to Berlandt, the Parade Committee is looking for more than an injunction. They are asking for the court to oversee the agency to make certain that the INS is not discriminating against Gay visitors.

The case is due to be reviewed on Thursday, June 20 at 9:15 a.m. in the courtroom of Judge Aguilar.

A decision in the case may come before this year's parade, which could protect thousands of Gay tourists from foreign nations who will be coming to San Francisco this June for the annual Gay and Lesbian holiday. ■



KRON-TV news anchor Roz Abrams interviews Ward 5-B Head Nurse Alison Moed as part of a documentary, *In the Midst of Life*, to be aired Sunday, June 2 at 6 p.m. on channel 4. The program examines the human care given to people with AIDS and attempts to allay fears about the spread of the disease.

Alaska Gay Radio Honored

A Gay/Lesbian radio program in Anchorage, Alaska, has received two Excellence in Journalism awards from the Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi.

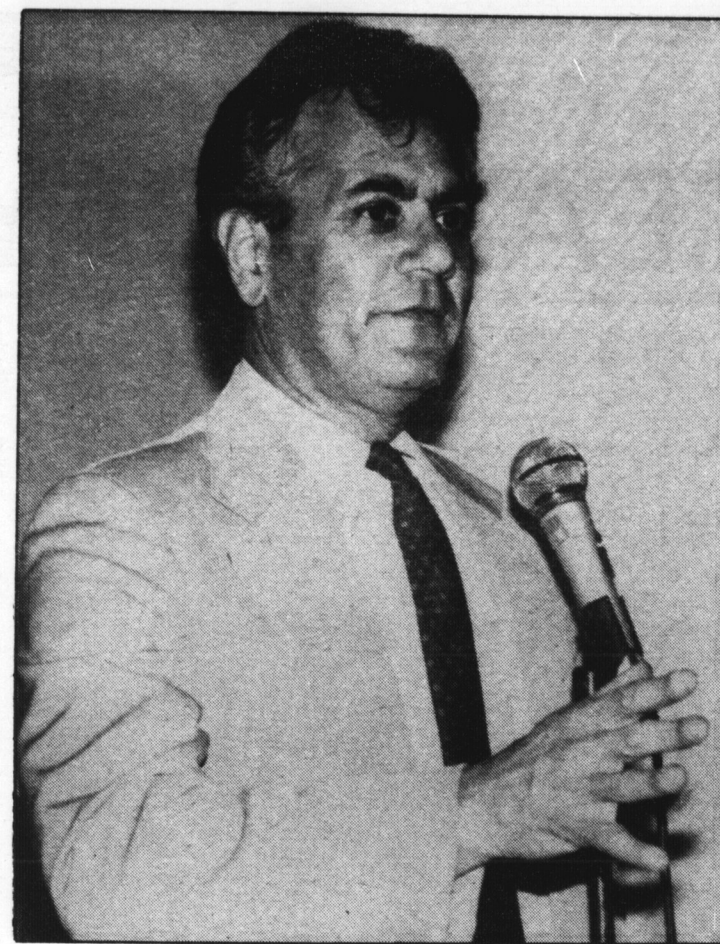
"Out in the North," a weekly public affairs program on KSKA-FM, featured the winning entries during broadcasts in 1984.

Producer David McCartney received a second-place award in the sports category for a feature profiling a Lesbian softball team. He and KSKA news director Johanna Eurich also received a second-place award in the documentary category for "She's Daddy's Girl, Too," the story of

a Fairbanks, Alaska, Gay father who won joint custody of his daughter following a divorce.

The awards were announced recently in Seattle. Newspapers, television and radio stations from a five-state region participated in the annual competition. Of the three awards to Anchorage radio stations, "Out in the North" received two.

"This is exciting not only at a personal level, but also on a professional level," McCartney said. "It demonstrates an awareness and sensitivity of Gay/Lesbian issues on the part of professional journalists who judged the entries."



U.S. Rep. Barney Frank has introduced a bill which may end the exclusion of foreign Gays. (Photo: Rink)

Lobby Has Hope for Immigration Bill

Measure Would Repeal Rule Which Excludes Gay Foreigners

Serious Congressional consideration is expected for the first time this year on legislation to repeal the statutory exclusion of foreign Lesbians and Gay men from the United States.

The Reagan Administration is already on record in support of repeal of the anti-Gay exclusion, enhancing the prospects for ultimate success. Visible opposition has yet to emerge.

The bill was introduced on May 6 by U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Massachusetts, and 22 co-sponsors.

The bill is titled "The Exclusion and Deportation Amendments of 1985" (HR-2361) and it would rewrite the entire immigration law, which regulates the entry of foreigners into the United States. The existing system of alien restrictions, based on the notorious 1952 Walter-McCarran Act, has long been considered outdated and counter-productive.

Frank said he is optimistic that his bill will reach the floor of the House of Representatives for a vote this year. The House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration held hearings in June 1984 on an earlier version of the same legislation.

It was during those hearings that Dr. James Mason, who was then chief of the Federal Centers for Disease Control, declared that homosexuality "should not be included in the health-related grounds for exclusion." Other Administration witnesses subsequently affirmed that this was the official position.

Most of the debate on the Frank bill will probably center on his proposal to curtail sharply the government's power to exclude foreigners for political or foreign policy reasons.

Also on the immigration reform front, U.S. Rep. Julian Dixon, D-California, has reintroduced his bill (HR-2329) to end the anti-Gay exclusion. Dixon's bill has served for several years as a principal vehicle to mobilize Congressional opposition to discrimination against homosexuals from other countries. Enactment of the Frank bill would make separate congressional action on the Dixon bill unnecessary.

Those seeking further information are invited to write or call Craig Howell, who has been coordinating GRNL's Immigration Project for the past three years, at the following address: GRNL, P.O. Box 1892, Washington, DC 20013, telephone (202) 546-1801. ■

Making Changes Doesn't Have To Be Lonely.

Are you confused or concerned about how to get yourself through the AIDS epidemic? Would you like some caring, professional help and support in the company of like-minded gay men who understand your concerns?

The AIDS Health Project sponsors low-cost workshops for people who are at risk for AIDS and who want to learn how to keep themselves mentally and physically healthy. In a small-group setting, you will learn how to:

- avoid exposure to AIDS.
- reduce the stress of daily life.
- handle emotions related to the AIDS crisis.
- build a social support network that works for you.
- develop your own health improvement plan.
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Call us at **626-6637**

This project is funded through the Department of Public Health, City and County of San Francisco.

DEATHS

Peter J. Bateman

Peter J. Bateman died May 24, in London, England, of AIDS. He was surrounded by loving friends.

Peter was born May 10, 1931 in Warwick, England, and came to the United States as a frequent visitor. In 1977, he moved to San Francisco, where he lived until 1983. He was very active in supporting National Gay Rights Advocates and its executive director, Don Knutson, who was Peter's long-time companion.

He will be remembered as well for the beautiful gardens he created and the way he brightened the lives of his friends. He is survived by his loving friend Don Knutson and many others. A remembrance gathering will be held in San Francisco later this year.

Contributions in his memory may be sent to the Terrace Higgins Trust of London, (an AIDS organization where Peter was active and which provided him loving care) or to National Gay Rights Advocates in San Francisco. ■

Robbie Campbell

Robbie Campbell died of AIDS on May 25. He will be deeply mourned by his friends both in San Francisco and New York.

Born in Indianapolis, Robbie ran away to the Big Apple at fourteen, was singing professionally in Paris at nineteen, and the Folies Bergere by twenty. Back in New York, he created and marketed a successful line of perfume, *La Bottega*, and sold his own inventive jewelry at his shop in the East Village. His San Francisco businesses included: Robbie's Gifts for Him, on Sutter; The Potting Shed, on Polk, which evolved into the Gazebo Cafe and Restaurant; and, a travel agency on Nob Hill, Regal Travel.

Robbie's dazzling smile, his style, and great zest for living, traveling, and loving will be greatly missed by his many friends. Contributions in his memory may be made to Hospice and to the Shanti Project who both provided him with home and incredible support during his dark hours. ■

Night at the Circus

The circus is coming to town. On Thursday, May 30th at 8 p.m. Circus Vargas, the world's largest traveling circus performing under the big top, opens in downtown San Francisco. Join honorary ringmasters Willie McCovey and Gina Moscone at the gala benefit for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. "Night at the Circus," on Thursday, May 30 at 8 p.m. Call for tickets today through City Box Office, BASS or Ticketron. ■



G BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS



The Mr. Russian River '85 contest crew. Doesn't Sharon look spiffy?

Lesbian Moms' Day A Romp in the Park

150 Attend Holiday Picnic;
Network for Moms' Support Groups

by Ruth E. Kelley

Wages Due Lesbians, San Francisco, held its third annual Lesbian Mothers' Day in the Park May 12, Mothers' Day. Over a 150 women and their children—Black, White, Third World and Native American—turned out to enjoy the sun and to romp in the grass of Elk Glen Meadow in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. Some of the women came from as far away as Martinez, Eureka and Santa Cruz. At least a dozen women were new mothers, and the children ranged in age from just a few months old to their teens.

Lesbian Mothers' Day in the Park is one of the few organized events where Lesbian mothers and their children can gather and meet one another. Lesbian mothers are even more isolated than other Lesbians, and their family responsibilities make it more difficult to connect with each other.

In the Bay Area, where Gay and Lesbian organizations and support groups abound, there exists no formal organization, few support groups or networks for Lesbian mothers. Wages Due Lesbians has been organizing for more resources and visibility for Lesbian mothers.

Some of the concerns shared by the mothers included surviving on low incomes, dealing with and overcoming prejudice, fighting ex-spouses and family members over custody of their children. Mothers discussed and exchanged information on childcare, schools, childbirth options, health care, getting pregnant, and co-parenting among other issues.

Not only are Lesbian mothers isolated, their children are isolated as well. Often, older children face enormous peer pressure because their family structure is different. Events such as the Lesbian Mothers Day in the Park gives these children an opportunity to meet others like them, and to realize that they are not alone.

The day was full of fun. Two clowns, "Lulu" and "Jojo," entertained the children with face painting, games and banner painting. A volleyball net was set up, and it wasn't long before a game ensued. Smoke poured from barbecue pits, and the aroma of open-air cooking filled the spring air. Those too young to enjoy the feast of hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken and potato salad, nursed contentedly.

As the day came to an end, mothers exchanged phone numbers, said their goodbyes to old and new friends, and left with their tired, dirty, but happy children in tow. Judging by the satisfied smiles on everyone's faces, it can be said that a wonderful time was had by all.

Lesbian Mothers Day in the Park received partial financial support from the Golden Gate Business Association.

Wages Due Lesbians (WDL) is an independent organization of Lesbian mothers, and non-mothers, and part of the International Wages for Housework Campaign. WDL is co-sponsoring a "Sexual Outlaws" benefit at Amelia's June 26 in celebration of Lesbian and Gay Freedom Week. For more information about the group and upcoming activities, call 558-9628, or write to Wages Due Lesbians, P.O. Box 14512, San Francisco, CA 94114.

From a press release provided by Wages Due Lesbians.

Berkeley AIDS Forum

A public information and "how-to" session for all families and their friends concerned about the AIDS epidemic will be held Tuesday evening, June 4. This discussion is intended for Lesbian mothers, Gay fathers, single parents, husbands/wives, grandparents, teachers and all other friends and family members dealing with children.

"We are getting more and more calls from distraught parents and teachers about the impact this epidemic is having on children," said Ann Strack.

The two-hour discussion, to be held from 7-9 p.m. at the West Berkeley Public Library, 1125 University, Berkeley, is free and open to the public. Childcare by reservation (864-6224) will be in the library's children's section during the first hour of the event and then will move into the wheelchair-accessible meeting room for the remainder of the time. For further information, call 841-6224.

Gay and Straight Men Unite At Diablo Peace Encampment

Stage Peaceful Demonstration on Memorial Day
At Weapons Facility Near Concord

by Charles Linebarger

Mount Diablo State Park in Contra Costa County was the scene of a "men's peace encampment" over the Memorial Day weekend. It began on Friday and culminated in a 13-mile hike to the Concord Naval Weapons Station, where a demonstration was held against militarism. Gays, if not predominating at the affair, were well represented.

"The point of the encampment," said one of the organizers, Dennis Green, "was to create a sense of community among the men and to confront militarism. Between 40 and 50 men came to the gathering at Mount Diablo over the weekend. It's hard to say how many of the men were Gay, because everyone was being so intimate, probably a third or a quarter of the men were Gay, as was half of the organizing committee."

Workshops offered over the weekend included one aimed at confronting public and individual violence, a workshop dealing with AIDS awareness, and one in which the socialization of children vis a vis gender roles and homophobia was discussed.

On Saturday night, a public ritual was conducted at which Bill Blackburn was present and participated. According to Blackburn, elements from the

traditions of goddess worship, Native American religions, Yruba (Afro-American) tradition, Jainian and Christian ritual were included.

"We began by purifying ourselves," said Blackburn, "with sage from Mount Tamalpais and Big Mountain in Arizona. We didn't have a priest. We shared the roles of the ceremony. The four directions were called in."

(Continued on next page)

OAKLAND

Gaylight Savings Time

NEZ PAS

HOMEROERIC FERIA JUNTA III (A Parading Nose?)

Someone, somehow, just has to begin cancelling the Gay syndrome of never starting on time. The scenario of a Gay function starting late has been accepted as the norm because of its being allowed to exist by far too many, and the snowball is definitely on a downhill thrust. I predict that if any future functions began as advertised, regardless of who is and who isn't there, gradually the Gay public would be educated to promptness and manners.

It's totally embarrassing and extremely frustrating to the husbands, the organizers, the audience, and the participants who elect to be ready at a specific announced time but choose to cower to those who pointedly predetermine (for whatever reasons) that they, indeed, will be cunctatious.

Because of this kind of precis, the Oakland Float Committee's take-off on the "Hollywood Squares" never did quite leave the runway; some might say that it barely got out of the hanger.

A sparse audience, two no-show panelists, lack of rehearsal, and nervous neuro-presenters resulted in several delays. When the panel was finally solidified, it consisted of: Navy Billy (Radar), Taco Toni (Charo), Stephanie (Dionne Warwick), Richard H. (Peter Lawford), Tommy Castle (Paul Lynde), Fuji (Dianna Ross), B7B's Ray (Charlie Weaver), Rhonda Love (Stevie Wonder), and Miss Cowgirl David (Jane Meadows complete with Mocha Mix!).

The first two contestants were eventually seated, and the show began—but not as the TV presentation was formatted. The questions were asked first, then the contestant selected his or her square to answer. A new MC brought the procedure back to standard, but a third MC continued as did the first. Lack of adequate microphones (plus not too low disco music in the background) eliminated most of the viewing audience, causing the panelists, MCs, and contestants to indulge in their own private party.

Truly an energetic effort was there; but, once again, lack of support took its toll and the affair was mercifully ended 'way ahead of the ten o'clock disco deadline. The fundraising was from sales of Schnapps, and several rounds were consumed by the panelists.

After it was over, one of the contestants was heard to ask, "Who gets the \$50 grand prize?"

The remaining float fundraisers are:

- Saturday, June 8, Lake Temescal Picnic.
- Sunday, June 9, Throw a pie at a friend, at the Paradise from 6 to 9 p.m. It's \$3 a plate.
- Monday, June 10, Mexican dinner at the Paradise from 6 to 9 p.m. It's \$3 a plate.
- Saturday, June 15, Fried chicken at the Lake Lounge from 5 to 8 p.m. It's \$3 a plate.
- Sunday, June 16, Spaghetti feed at Town & Country from 3 to 7 p.m. It's \$3 for all you can eat (watch out for Ethel), with Daryl Wagner at the piano plus guest entertainers. Also, grab bags for

\$1 a grab, and shots of Schnapps for a buck.

- Sunday, June 23, "Bushel and a Peck" at the Town & Country for a second bushel of booze.

BUNGAY WAYFARER (A Ride-On-My-Nose Nose?)

An Oakland-wide raffle is now underway to select five winners who will be entitled to ride on the Oakland float, and most all bars have the tickets for sale. Five categories will be represented: blue collar with hard hat costume; female, with pantsuit costume; male, with formal drag; professional, with scrub suit costume; and uniform, with leather costume.

As the tickets are sold, the buyers enter one of the categories, and one winner will be selected from each designation.

The five winners will be drawn Saturday, June 8, at 3 p.m. at the Oakland Float Fundraiser Picnic at Lake Temescal (Broadway Terrace entrance). Box lunches will be on sale for \$3 (ham or turkey sandwiches, potato salad, chips, and apple pie), plus soft drinks will be available for \$1 each. Weather permitting, it will be a fun afternoon outdoors.

ASSISTANCE ACCUMULATION (A Concerned Nose)

The latest EBAF meeting (East Bay AIDS Fund), held Monday, May 26, brought up several concerns, a main one being the use of its name for fundraising events, when said events don't follow standard formatted policies; i.e., presentation of check made out to Tavern Guild Foundation at the conclusion of each individual event. It is urged that future fundraising functions for this benefit adhere to standard practices set forth by the original series of auctions.

A second concern was the fact that meetings are being announced on EBAF stationery, by other than committee members. This act must cease and desist.

The major concern was what to do with the raised monies, since requests for assistance have been meager at best. All but one request has been granted; the one denial was a traveler from London on vacation. The question that arises is this: All EBAF funds were raised to aid and assist brothers and sisters with AIDS of and in the East Bay. The requests have not met the anticipated demand, and the funds are basically stagnant in the account with the Tavern Guild Foundation. The committee wishes to use this medium to canvass the East Bay community as to its feelings about how the monies should be disbursed. Should raised monies remain in and for only East Bay residents? Should other brothers and sisters benefit from East Bay efforts? Should the funds take a different direction from assisting PWA in rents, emergency funds, etc.?

If you have strong feelings about these East Bay donated monies, please send them to EBAF, 500 Elysian Fields Drive, Oakland, CA 94605, so the committee can represent the entire community and disburse funds as the community wishes. Your

prompt responses would be greatly appreciated. Please include your name and phone number for verification. Any unsigned responses will be invalid.

PASTICCIO (A Mishmash Nose)

Now it can be told! For those who were not at Emperor V Don's First Ever East Bay Suck-Off, here are the particulars. Peeled bananas were covered with chocolate syrup and positioned in the genitalia area of partner number one. Partner number two was to suck off the syrup without breaking the banana. The winner, Jim Weatheron, just had to have had the perfect lips and above par quaff. On what did he practice (or on whom)?

Let's see... Suzie is married (again!); Stan Chapman is moving to Modesto; Taco Toni seems to have chosen Sacramento now as the location for her bar; Pat and Richard would rather have been on their boat; George was in restricted heaven aboard the Carl Vinson; Rick Woolleey picks up paper, glass, and aluminum for recycling for charity; and the model for the Oakland float is a winner in anybody's book.

No matter how drunk you are, you can't fall off the floor! Smile, darn it! Love, NeZ

Rene, of Bill's the Eagle, reports these figures from several fundraisers:	
May 5, 1985 Cut-A-Thon (Several dollars still owed for manicures)	\$ 76.00
May 11, 1985 Monte Carlo Night (Donations bucket, "thefts" (money still owed for "thefts")	859.00
May 26, 1985 Flea Market	56.00
Grab Bags	313.00
Recycling	60.00
	9.00
Total	\$1374.00

The Woods Summer Season '85



Dexter Devoe

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Gays Question Lockheed on Clearances

Acting on reports that Lockheed Missiles and Space Co. has begun screening out possibly Gay applicants for government security clearances, High Tech Gays of San Jose has requested clarification from Lockheed on their policy.

A letter of May 9 stated, "It has been reported to our organization that Lockheed is screening applicants for various government clearances and selectively withholding for submittal the applications of persons known as, or suspected of being, Gay. As a large organization of Gay professional people, High Tech Gays finds this report alarming."

The letter pointed out that a large number of Gay technical people are currently employed in Silicon Valley industries in varieties of classified government projects. "It is our hope that Lockheed will recognize that it is in Lockheed's best interest to treat all security clearance applicants equally, without bias based on sexual orientation."

The group requested an explanation of Lockheed's security clearance application practices. They also offered to "establish a dialogue with Lockheed to help achieve complete non-discrimination in the workplace."

Men's Peace Camp

(Continued from previous page)

and a god and goddess were invoked. We did a serpent dance to build our cone power which, was then released to do healing on the earth. Then we shared bread and juice. Finally the spirits summoned were released and the circle broken."

On Sunday there was more discussion about militarism, according to Green. And on Monday the 26 men remaining were ready to march on the Weapons Station in their own Memorial Day celebration. Some of the men walked the 13 miles to the station and others were driven in car pools. For those who chose to walk, the trail, with its 3,000 foot drop in the first six miles, was quite a hike.

When the men reached the

Concord Naval Weapons Station there was, according to Green, "a lot of wailing and kneeling."

"This was an expression of mourning by the men up against the fence," Green explained. "Some of the men were dressed as women. And at one point some of us were clinging to the fence and screaming. The guards threatened to arrest those who were hanging onto it."

According to Green, the men at the station were expecting a bunch of angry men, and "to them that meant violent men because that was how they had been programmed to expect angry men to behave. When they saw us they couldn't understand it. We got them to think anyway."

C. Linebarger

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THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 31

- **A Whole Lotta Bessie in Me:** (see Sunday for details).
- **Ten Percent Revue:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$8. West Coast premiere of the critically acclaimed music of Tom Wilson Weinberg, starring Elliot Pilshaw. Reservations at 863-3863.
- **Changes and Choices:** rap, Diablo Valley M.C.C., 2247 Concord Blvd., Concord, 7:30 PM; phone 827-2960 for information.
- **Femprov:** comedy, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6-8 PM.
- **Stepping Up and Over:** stage performance, Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10. A tribute to the spirit of the 20s, 30s and 40s through music and dance. Tickets at Headlines and all BASS outlets.
- **Duck's Breath Mystery Theatre:** stage performance, Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 8 PM, \$8.50. Madcap screwball comedy. Tickets through BASS.
- **The Lover and The Bear:** stage performance, San Francisco Actors Theater, 533 Sutter St., S.F., 8:15 PM, \$12. Harold Pinter's *The Lover* looks at a husband and wife and their daytime lovers. *The Bear*, by Anton Chekov, is a hilarious battle of the sexes. Tickets at 922-2602.
- **Tokens:** stage performance, Theatre Artaud, 450 Florida St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$12. A play on the plague by the Blake Street Hawkeyes. Reservations at 621-7797.
- **Talking With . . . :** stage performance, Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 8 PM, \$8. Jane Martin's series of stories by 11 women returns to the stage.
- **Two Queens in Search of a Motif:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$6. Tom Ammiano and Doug Holsclaw team up for a whirlwind, madcap, dazlingly vulgar show.
- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE):** women's support group, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 4:30-6 PM. Call Doty Fowler, 626-7000, for further information.
- **Something Else to Do:** The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley 6-10 PM. An alternative place to relax, have fun and meet people every Friday and Saturday.
- **Women's Drop-in Space:** conversation and caring, 1615 Polk St., upstairs, S.F., 7-9 PM, every Friday.
- **Acupuncture Free Clinic:** for persons with AIDS and their Gay families, The Parsonage, 555A Castro St., S.F., by appointment. Call Mark Denzin, C.A., or Peter Bercher at 567-2315 for information.

SATURDAY 1

- **8x10 Glossy:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$9 & \$10. Sarah Dreher's play is a high voltage comedy/drama and winner of the First National Lesbian Playwrighting contest. Tickets at 861-5079.
- **Monica Palacios and Marga Gomez:** comedy, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6-8 PM.
- **Ten Percent Revue:** stage performance, 8 PM, \$8; 10 PM, \$7 (see Friday for details).
- **Jose Sarria in La Boheme:** opera and comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 6-8 PM, \$6. Jose brings his legendary operatic performances back to the Rose with the incomparable Hazel McGinnis at the piano.
- **Gay Comedy Night:** funnies, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. Tom Ammiano, Doug Holsclaw, and Karen Ripley.
- **The Lover and The Bear:** stage performance, 8:15 PM & 10:30 PM, \$6 & \$8 (see Friday for details).
- **Catulli Carmina and Les Noces:** music, San Francisco Concert Choral, Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, 3301 Lyon St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6 advance, \$7 door. An evening of choral theatre featuring Carl Orff's rarely performed *Poems of Catullus* and Igor Stravinsky's exotic *Les Noces*. Tickets through STBS or call 647-6015.
- **Pops Concert:** music, Marin Civic Light Opera, Marin Veterans Memorial Auditorium, San Rafael, 8 PM, \$12 general, \$10 seniors and students. For information, call 472-3500.
- **The Passion According to St. Matthew:** music, St. Paulus Lutheran Church, Gough and Eddy Sts., S.F., 8 PM, \$2-\$8. Part of the 49th Annual Bach Festival with the San Francisco Bach Choir.
- **Stepping Up and Over:** stage performance, 8 & 10:30 PM, \$10 (see Friday for details).
- **Tokens:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Talking With . . . :** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Different Spokes:** decide and ride, meet in Golden Gate Park at 1 PM (Fill & Stanyan Sts.) and decide destination.



See Empress I Jose Sarria in La Boheme Saturday at the Rose. (Photo: Rink)

SUNDAY 2

- **San Francisco Hiking Club:** day hike, meet at 9:45 AM at Eureka Valley Recreation Center, 18th and Collingwood Sts., S.F., for a 5.5 mile hike up Mt. Tamalpais.
- **Different Spokes:** cycling Mt. Tamalpais the easy way, meet at McLaren Lodge at 10 AM or at the Bookstore Depot in Mill Valley at 11 AM. Bring water, lunch, helmet. Call 641-9838 for details.
- **Different Spokes - South Bay:** decide and ride, meet at Stanford Shopping Center, El Camino entrance at 10 AM.
- **G40 Plus:** meeting, Unitarian Center, 1187 Franklin St., 2 PM. Douglas Warner speaks on the problems of fundraising in the Gay community.
- **Sexual Outlaws Proposition World Governments:** forum for women on prostitution, pornography and SM, 366 Eddy St., S.F., 3 PM, \$3. For more information, call 558-9628.
- **Beer Bust:** benefit for the San Francisco Band Foundation, The Eagle, 12th at Harrison Sts., S.F., 3-6 PM, \$6. Hear City Swing band; all the beer and hot dogs you can drink and eat.
- **Inventory of the Heart:** script reading, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 3 PM, \$3. Gerald Ray Williams' witty and beautiful play about Tennessee Williams' last days in Key West.
- **Monkey Go West:** stage performance, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., S.F., 3 PM, \$5. John Bernd premieres his shamanistic choreography. Tickets at 863-9834.
- **Special Fun:** dancing, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM. Ethno rock from Santa Cruz in a World Beat band.
- **Rita Lackey:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5-8 PM.
- **Ten Percent Revue:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10, special benefit for the Shanti Project.
- **8x10 Glossy:** stage performance, \$8 & \$9 (see Saturday for details).
- **A Whole Lotta Bessie in Me:** cabaret, Buckley's Bistro, 131 Gough St., S.F., 7:30 and 9 PM. Starring Aldo Bell as Bessie Smith; reservations at 552-8177.
- **Stepping Up and Over:** stage performance, 7:30 PM, \$8 (see Friday for details).

- **Tokens:** stage performance, \$10 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Talking With . . . :** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Different Spokes:** decide and ride bicycling, meet at 10 AM in Golden Gate Park (Fill & Stanyan Sts.).
- **Le Jazz Hot:** cabaret, The Black Rose, 335 Jones St., S.F., 9 & 11 PM, \$1. Join MC's Consuelo del Rio and Tommi Rose every Sunday for a classy show featuring S.F.'s finest female impersonators.
- **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.

MONDAY 3

- **Quarantine - The Laws and the Limits:** public forum, Stonewall Gay Democratic Club, Women's Bldg., 3543 18th St., S.F., 7:30 PM.
- **Sapron Obols and Patty Weinstein:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-11 PM.
- **Three of a Kind:** films, 16th Note, 3160 16th St., S.F., 9 PM, free. Three San Francisco filmmakers deal with sexuality.
- **Dexter De Voe:** music, Lipp's, 9th and Howard Sts., S.F., 8:30 & 10 PM.
- **Playwriting for Women:** taught by Terry Baum, call 641-7729 for more information.
- **Artists Involved with Death and Survival:** stage performance, Studio Eremos, 401 Alabama St., at 17th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$7. Theatre Rhinoceros' highly acclaimed AIDS Show continues at a new time and place. Tickets at 861-5079.
- **Gay Comedy Open Mike:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$3. Performer sign-up, 7:30 PM.

TUESDAY 4

- **The Tuffy Band:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM. Featuring Tuffy Eldridge and company.
- **Gay Poetry Series:** reading, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4. The first of four special evenings features Assunta Femia.
- **Gemini Roast:** cosmic comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 7 PM, \$5. Astrologer Robert Cole and comic Linda Moakes join planetary forces for lots of cosmic laughter.

- **Faye Carol:** cabaret, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 6-8 PM.
- **Dexter De Voe:** music, Lipp's, 9th and Howard Sts., S.F., 8:30 & 10 PM.
- **Meditation and Healing Circle:** let go of the past and experience the peaceful core of who you are, 7:30 PM, free. Call 864-5483 for information.
- **Artists Involved with Death and Survival:** stage performance (see Monday for details).
- **Gay Freedom Day Marching Band:** practice, every Tuesday, Gresham Hall, Grace Cathedral, S.F., 7:15 PM. Interested? Call the Bandfome, 621-5619.
- **Playwriting Workshop:** 7:30 PM. Conducted by George Birmisa. Call 431-6254 for more information.
- **International Folk Dancing:** dance class, Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, \$2. No prerequisite necessary. Call 552-8413 for more information.

WEDNESDAY 5

- **8x10 Glossy:** stage performance, \$8 & \$9 (see Saturday for details).
- **The Rick and Ruby Show:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5.
- **Kitty Margolis and Joyce Cooling:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM.
- **Leopard Set with Roxtar:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM.
- **Faye Carol:** cabaret, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 6-8 PM.
- **Joe Ross:** cabaret, 1177 California St., S.F., 8:30 PM, reservations recommended, 776-2100.
- **Improvisation for Women:** taught by Terry Baum, Bethany Church, 1268 Sanchez St., S.F., 7 to 10 PM.
- **Female-to-Male Transsexual Support Group:** Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 86 Keyes St., San Jose, 7 PM, call (408) 293-4525 for information.
- **San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus:** rehearsal, Kassman Piano, 425 Hayes St., S.F., 7:30 PM. For information call 566-6496.

THURSDAY 6

- **Lesbian/Gay Task Force of Media Alliance:** panel discussion, with David Lambie, host; Brian Jones, B.A.R.; Kim Corsaro, *Coming Up!*; and Tom Murray, *Sentinel USA*. Call 921-5177 for details.
- **Bodywork:** free demonstration and discussion of a bodywork method for creating changes in your life, 7:30 PM. Call 921-5177 for information.
- **Tuffy Eldridge Band:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5 or \$4 plus one can of food for the Humanist Party Food Project. Hear the hard driving rhythms of Tuffy Eldridge plus the acoustic swing of Mary Reynolds.
- **Elements of Style and Crash Puppies:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM.
- **8x10 Glossy:** stage performance, \$8 & \$9 (see Saturday for details).
- **Faye Carol:** cabaret, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 6-8 PM.
- **Stepping Up and Over:** stage performance, 8 PM, \$8 (see Friday for details).
- **Tokens:** stage performance, \$10 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Talking With . . . :** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Bonnie Hayes:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** one to five mile run begins at 6 PM at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park.
- **Writing Workshop:** for men 60 and older, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7 PM. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call 431-6254 for details.
- **Yoga and Meditation Class:** for people with AIDS and their lovers, 7 to 9 PM. Call 921-4471 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. This Week compiled by Ray O'Loughlin.

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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

STAGE

Not Glossed Over

Winner of Lesbian Playwriting Contest
At Rhino Mounted to Foster Discussion

by Adele Prandini

About two years ago an idea took root at Theatre Rhinoceros. The result of that inspiration is now on the mainstage. It is the winner of the Lesbian Playwriting Contest, a play called *8 By 10 Glossy*, which was chosen over the more than 100 scripts submitted.

8 By 10 Glossy is being directed by Brenda Berlin, who feels the play is about "women living on the edge, making transformations in their lives." Berlin liked the play because it deals with a basic question, "How to live your life in the most fulfilling way possible." For the director the play carries the ring of truth—"This is how people really talk to each other."

Assistant director Louise Minnick has a slightly different view.

"As a Lesbian, this play forces me to look at a situation I'd rather not be faced with," she said. "The play brings up issues

difficult time looking back on the pain."

Recently, another critic complained that most Gay or Lesbian writers tend to portray Gay relationships as good and het

'No one will be able to accuse author Sarah Dreher of presenting rosy, perfect, Lesbians to her audience.'

of incest, alcoholism and abuse. What's good about doing this play is that it will encourage dialogue among Lesbians. Many of us have been abused, or caught up in the process of denial, and some of us have a

relationships as awful. This is certainly not the case with *8 By 10*. No one will be able to accuse author Sarah Dreher of presenting rosy, perfect, Lesbians to her audience. For me, *8 By 10* is not a play about women loving



Susan Marr (l.) and Sharon McDonald in *8 By 10 Glossy*.

women, but the struggle of four individuals searching for self-acceptance, self-love, and self-respect.

Some will see this play and use it as evidence, as proof, that Lesbians are maladjusted women who have been abused by, ignored by, their fathers or husbands,

and have turned to women as a second choice. Others will appreciate this view of our point in the process of self-actualization. Whichever way you view it, you can't help but be affected by what you see.

Plays provide the community with a catalyst for communica-

tion. The theater helps us to define our history, ourselves, and our visions of our future. In this light I ask you to see *8 By 10 Glossy*, and then start talking.

8 By 10 Glossy
Theatre Rhinoceros
Through July 14; 861-5079

Future Generations

Dancing a Time-Honored Message
Of Survival Through Love

by Steve Warren

The title *For Our Children* doesn't immediately suggest a ballet of interest to the majority of Gay men and Lesbians. But it refers to posterity, and many of us who have chosen not to reproduce ourselves individually have a great concern about the world we leave behind for future generations in general.

That's the subject of *For Our Children*, a multi-media dance presentation created by Peninsula Ballet Theatre and receiving its world premiere in the company's repertory program May 31-June 2.

In an overture and 11 dance segments, all backed by complementary video, the 32-minute ballet focuses on a number of social concerns—"The Women's, Gay and Black movements, Environmental Protection and Nuclear Destruction." The resolution expresses the message, as stated by choreographer Rosine Bena, who is also the company's prima ballerina:

"Each of us has the power to make the world a better place and each has the duty to keep it from being destroyed. If we can—in our small circle of society—disregard our personal differences and accept one another and truly live together, then, and only then, will we have begun to preserve the entire world for future generations."

If that boils down to what everyone has said from Jesus ("Love your neighbor as yourself") to the Beatles ("All You Need Is Love"), it's because

we have to keep saying it until it works.

"The Gay Person," a segment of less than four minutes, occurs just past the midpoint. The same three dancers tell the same story in different ways live and

on video. Sam Weber, who is Bena's husband and PBT's principal male dancer, has the central role of a man insecure in his Gay identity. At first he's with a woman, guest artist Marina Hotchkiss, who on stage represents societal assimilation—or the closet. Sam meets an openly

Gay man, danced by openly Gay Mark Neal, a former soloist with the Stuttgart Ballet. They share a romantic interlude as Sam explores his Gayness, but in the end he goes back to the woman/society, a little wiser but still not ready for Mark's level of independence.

"I wouldn't have done it that way," Tom Hewitt says of the ending, echoing our sentiments; but he believes the intent was to be realistic, not homophobic. "It's all beautifully sensitive," he says.

Hewitt, a dancer with the company, served as music coordinator on *For Our Children* and arranged for the two-piano score to be composed by Merton Brown, a 72-year-old Gay man from Boston who will be present at the premiere.

Depending on whether you're reading this in the City or on the Peninsula, the idea of two men dancing together sounds either old hat or downright revolutionary. Hewitt finds it ironic, in fact "hilarious having a straight man partnering a Gay man instead of the way it usually is (in ballet)—a Gay man partnering a straight woman."

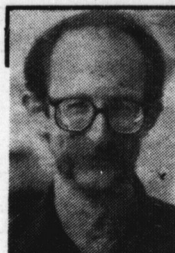
The "video decor" was designed by Stewart Cheifet, who has produced dozens of television shows, most notably for PBS.

If all goes well, the dance, video, music, and other theatrical elements will work in harmony, the way the ballet says we all need to work if we're to leave a peaceful world *For Our Children*.

Peninsula Ballet Theatre
Spring Repertory
San Mateo Performing Arts Center
May 31-June 2; 343-8485

EVEN IN BABYLON

Booked!



JOHN F. KARR

Sometimes I feel like a divining rod. Read that again, please. I'm not claiming my member should be preserved in the Smithsonian, or drawn by Don Bachardy (although plaster casts are available as bookends and doorstops; I use mine to store my rings and other bijoux). No, it's just that you can take me to any event, and I'll find where the Gay element is. I'm not daunted by large crowds, either, like the thousands of people I had to sniff my way through at the American Booksellers Association convention, to find myself face to face with Eve Arden. She's not Gay—my divining rod was just warming up (it works best around cocktail time), but her autobiography, *The Three Phases of Eve*, had just been published by St. Martin's Press, publishers of many an explicitly Gay book. And let's face it, although straight herself, she's most famous for a tongue as sharp as a queen's. Somebody ought to give her Honorary Sister status.

I knew I was getting warm when, following my senses, I turned a corner and found myself face-to-face with a huge bodybuilder. Dressed as Atlas, he was calling attention to Rand McNally's maps and globes by displaying most all of his charms except his globes. He was so big I looked behind his little podium to see if he was standing on a platform, or, God forbid, was wearing platform heels. He wasn't. He was six feet, nineteen inches tall, and had the musculature of the entire Greek army. He wore an ancient Greek pepum, a little skirt just long enough to cover his balls, and nothing else, save sandals and a tasteful armband. Like Arden, he wasn't Gay, but he made me happy I was. Rand McNally won't be printing a map of this man's geography, but oh! if they did. To think of charting the hills and valleys, the mounds, the Great Divide, of this one! Maybe they'd let me start a new division of their company: Randy and McNelly.

Eve and Atlas were pretty

good, but I wanted true Gay. At my modest estimate, based on the standard "one in ten," there were several hundred "avowed" Gay people at the convention. Of those, however, only a handful were Professional Homosexuals, taking part in the convention because they were Gay publishers.

The convention is a massive yearly event in which nearly every publishing company in the country, and quite a few foreign companies, display their books to the owners of bookstores throughout the country. And this year, for the first time, there was an unavoidable Gay presence at the convention that went beyond the large numbers of three-piece-suit cuties who are Gay only when they leave the office and doff those suits for more easily recognized Gay "costumes." I don't put them down; we all have to earn a living. And they add a certain spice to the firms.

But my heart rejoiced when I came upon the booths of Alyson Publications, Knights Press, and Naiaid Press. These three Gay and Lesbian presses were lumped together with several so-called Feminist presses. It was as if being feminist was as outre, against the law, and ignorable in terms of mass-sales potential as Gay and Lesbian books. But this placement was a boon for those interested. In a convention hall with miles of aisles, much plodding around was eliminated for those progressive bookstores interested in the books published by these firms. Also, there was a statement made by the presence of these companies en masse: We Are Here! The thousands of booksellers walking past may not have stopped in to buy, but they couldn't help but be made aware of the Gay and Lesbian presence. That in turn connotes to wholesalers a Gay market, and however small a market is, it still speaks profit. Progress in Amerika is made when you or your product become economically viable. When Madison Avenue learns how to sell Gay, we'll enter the mainstream.



Hammond's Atlas towered over the publisher's N.Y. rep at the A.B.A. convention. (Photo: R. Pruzan)



Sam Steward (l.) and Armistead Maupin pow wow at the Gay at the ABA party at Raggs last weekend. (Photo: Rink)

Right now, the fringes of Gay marketability are being nibbled upon by such larger houses as St. Martin's Press, Dutton (publishers of Edmund White, Doris Grumbach, and Robert Ferro), and of course, by the smaller, all-Gay firms.

The air at the booths of Alyson and the others was festive, a focal point for all Gay activity. Alyson Publications center on two main areas. The press is wholly committed to new Gay writers, publishing many first novels. They also supply us with a host of light entertainment, such as a popular series by John Preston, as well as gothic novels, romances, and murder mysteries. Their most recent publication is one such mystery, with a special—and daring—twist. The "detectives" in this book are

none other than that happy-go-lucky, lovable pair of wise-cracking Americans in Paris, Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas. (No doubt to be played in the forthcoming film version by Liz Taylor and Jane Fonda.) The author, of course, is Sam Steward, for he's the only person who could mix a real-life knowledge of the pair into such a fanciful fiction. It's a swell summer read, and it's called *Murder Is Murder Is Murder*.

Alyson Publications is also the originator of Carrier Pigeon, a clearing house and distributor for many Gay presses, most notably the Gay Men's Press. This English firm has won my vote repeatedly with their choice selection of art folios and reprints. Imagine an author with the repute and backlog of titles

as James Purdy being out of print in his own country! Gay Men's Press editor Richard Dipple has corrected that situation by reprinting (in handsome, matching editions) Purdy's outrageous *Eustache Chisholm and the Works*, with *Narrow Rooms* to follow soon.

Gay Men's Press has also introduced to this country (or at least to this reader) the handsomely crafted, startling-as-a-slap, perceptive writing of Francis King. King's *A Domestic Animal* is that rare thing: a novel you read for the story as well as the author's craft in the telling. It's about the unrequited love of an Englishman for a sexy Italian visitor, and covers every inlet of love and jealousy. I was glad to see King had written several

(Continued on next page)

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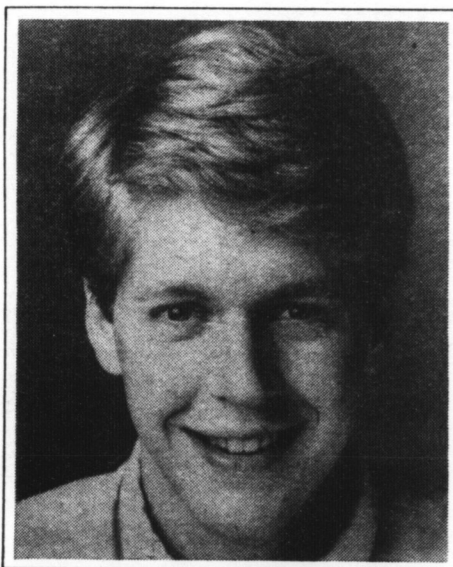
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TALES OF TESSITURA

Long Hauls

GEORGE HEYMONT

Several years ago I wrote a bondage-oriented review of Verdi's *La Forza Del Destino*. Since then I've learned that anyone whose work involves traversing long distances on a regular basis has certain pet stretches of valuable frequent-flyer mileage which feels as if it will never end. For me, it's the last leg of any journalistic sojourn which requires me to fly over the Rockies en route home to San Francisco—those two hours of bladder-bending boredom which, late at night, seem almost interminable. Whether or not I prefer to put myself through such an endurance test, the ritual must be observed in order to finish my trip and reach my final destination.

Occasionally, one encounters a fellow traveler on board the plane whose conversation and sparkling personality transform the flight into sheer delight. Often, sticking through a performance requires the same stubborn dedication demanded of the nation's frequent flyers. Recent months have seen me get through some of the literature's more infamous dramatic whoppers with better luck than usual. But I still find myself wondering why, if opera companies can rent binoculars and infrared hearing devices, no one has ever tried hawking vibrating butt plugs before the show. There must be a market for these devices!

YES, MASTER!

Some such device throbbing away in my innards might have lived up the Met's final performance of *Die Meistersinger Von Nurnberg* this season. Alas, my escort fled the theater after the first intermission, insisting that even the Academy Award telecast would have to be more exciting. But a perverse sense of anticipation made me stick it out in search of an artistic payoff—through some five and a half hours of Wagner. The payoff was there; all right, waiting for me in the Prize Song. Yes, folks, it came late in the evening. How I wish I could boast that I did, too.

On this particular occasion the Met's impressive Meistersinger production—originally conceived by Nathaniel Merrill and designed by Robert O'Hearn—was conducted by Christof Perick and resurrected onstage by Bruce Donnell, whose work has often struck me as mildly efficient and more than a little bit tedious. Matters were not helped in the least by the last-minute substitution of Teresa Kubiak in the role of Eva. No longer what one might call a blushing virgin, Kubiak sounded over the hill and sparked little interest dramatically. Although solidly sung and a stern masculine presence onstage, Anthony Raffell's tall and imposing Hans Sachs remained somewhat distant and aloof. Peter Strummer's Beckmesser labored hard for minor rewards. Ironically, young Diane Kesling's Magdalene almost stole the show.

I say "almost" because miracles do happen—even at the Met. In this instance, the miracle was—quite simply—another glorious performance by the artist singing the role of Walther von Stolzing. Now in his early sixties, tenor John Alexander still somehow manages to capture the sweetness and youth of an angel in his voice. Late in his career, this greatly underrated American artist has be-



Tenor John Alexander may be one of the longest surviving and most underrated American artists in the music profession.

come a classic example of someone who took care to pace himself with enough intelligence and insight so that he always could and always did, sing well. Bravo!

MORE LUDES, PLEASE!

Equally long, yet infinitely more satisfying, was a production of Eugene O'Neill's *Strange Interlude* seen at the Nederlander Theatre. Once the audience becomes accustomed to the playwright's coy double-speak gimmick—in which a character alternates the direction of his thoughts between the audience and whoever else he is addressing onstage—*Strange Interlude* becomes a delicious fencing match of repressed desires, wounded emotions, and spiteful retaliations stretched over a quarter of a century.

Handsomely framed by Voytek and Michael Levine's stark unit set, *Strange Interlude*'s five hours offers audiences a rare chance to savor the crisp wit of O'Neill's writing while relishing the stinging barbs so brilliantly interspersed between his charac-

ters' self-pitying soliloquies.

Alas, we don't encounter too many playwrights today who can wring such bitter tenderness, delicate romanticism, and smoldering eloquence out of the English language in the course of one evening. This superlative production framed O'Neill's writing, coupled with the cleanliness of Keith Hack's direction, transformed this production of *Strange Interlude* into one of the most satisfying dramatic experiences I've had in nearly 25 years of theater going.

The cast worked beautifully together as an ensemble, with Glenda Jackson giving a particularly radiant—nay, *incandescent* performance as the frustrated Nina Leeds. Keith Hack's crystal-clear direction kept the three men in Nina's life (Edward Petherbridge's fussy Gay Charlie Marsden, James Hazeldine's bumblingly macho husband Sam, and Brian Cox's butch lover Edmund) fencing for Jackson's favors with stunning agility.

It was a class act all the way. ■

Babylon

(Continued from previous page)

dozen books. His prose is a joy to read, and I look forward to more.

Carrier Pigeon, by the way, allows Gay-themed books to get around the recent heavyhanded censoring of books at English customs, through a curious legal loophole. Since Alyson and Gay Men's Press have a business agreement, English rules consider Alyson's books, as well as anything carried by Carrier Pigeon, to have been published in Britain, and therefore not subject to the rules of importation that have allowed books by other companies to be impounded. So, thanks to Carrier Pigeon, the British Empire continues to dwindle while the Gay influence grows. Sacha Alexander, the founder of Alyson Press, said he felt it was important for his

J. F. Karr

STAGE

What the Hell?

by Terry Baum

The formally attired four-man orchestra, the sprightly music of the overture so reminiscent of fantasies of bygone musicals, do not prepare the audience for the strangely off-kilter viewpoint on life presented in *Stepping Up and Over*, a new musical revue at the Victoria Theatre. The creators have attempted to blend the theatrical and musical vocabulary of a Busby Berkeley movie with a very modern sensibility. When they succeed, the results are delightful indeed.

Make no mistake about it, this is a no-holds-barred theatrical extravaganza, in the tradition of the *Angels of Light*, which fostered the talents of many members of the current ensemble. The costumes, designed by Scrumbly Koldewyn and Janice Sukaitis, are beautiful and funny and plentiful. The eye-catching scenery by Ric Iringali and Beth Ross is clever. And the eight singers and dancers ably meet the quite sophisticated demands of the evening.

Stepping Up and Over, which purports to be "a musical tribute to the spirit of the '20s, '30s, and '40s," begins very much in the '20s vein with elegant young men and cute young flappers singing and tapping away to the title tune about a bright future just over the next horizon. The song, by Koldewyn, who wrote or co-wrote most of the music for the show, could have been from any number of shows of the period and lulls us into a false sense of security that we can put our minds at rest and enjoy an evening of just plain entertainment.

However, this first song turns out to be the beginning and the end of entertainment without strange quirks. The audience is quickly brought down from '20s gaiety by "Got the Jitters," a song about the stock market that was written during that time, and a very intriguing tune by Koldewyn and Martin Worman called "Patterns," which gaily revolves around dressmaking and a manic search for "Sim-

licity! Simplicity! Simplicity!" with A.C. Griffing as the lead donning a military uniform in an effort to attain a life of simple patterns, while the chorus of ladies gets itself entangled in a maypole of measuring tape. What is the meaning here? I wasn't quite sure, but I was intrigued.

My other favorite of the first half, and really the whole show, was Janee Wyatt's beautiful and passionate rendition of "Celebrity Suicide," by Koldewyn and Janice Sukaitis (also one of the eight performers). Here again, I couldn't tell what the creators intended. Was this a sympathetic treatment of the travails of fame and fortune, or was it a put-on? It is this tension between sincerity and campiness that creates the best work of Koldewyn and Company. But often this same dual viewpoint leads me to wonder, "What the hell is this about?"

I wondered that often in the second act, which was not as strong as the first. For one thing, for some reason the articulation of the singers wasn't quite as clear, so I sometimes had no idea what they were singing about. Now, I know it isn't necessary to understand every word in a live musical performance (although it is preferable). I do think I'm entitled to have some idea of what is going on. However, "Nouvelle Cuisine" (by Sukaitis and Koldewyn) left me in the dark. I think I heard the words "trichinosis" and "Chardonnay" somewhere in the lyrics, but I'm not sure. And why were the two lime-green little monsters bedeviling the Texan in the red-and-white checked jacket? Did the lime-green monsters represent trichinosis, and one of the two words I understood in the lyrics? And what is a song about nouvelle cuisine doing in a revue based on the '20s, '30s, and '40s?

This points up one of the main failings of *Stepping Up*. Even the vague through-line of a period of three decades doesn't link the numbers together. The



The cast of *Stepping Up and Over*.

context of the show seems to be solely the considerable talents of the people who put it together. While this is certainly enough to amuse and entertain, the evening would be much more effective if it picked us up and carried us somewhere further. As it is, while the first act does succeed in evoking older days (at least to one who only experienced them via movies), the second act skitters from the invention of the atomic bomb ("Science Grant") to fashion ("French Heels") to the aforementioned "Nouvelle Cuisine" and ends up, before the finale, with a sad ballad by Noel Coward. It doesn't hang together

at all, which I found irritating, even while part of me admired their courage in tackling such a strange assortment of subjects.

There is much to enjoy in *Stepping Up and Over*. I had seen a lot of dandy put-dancing, choreographed by Tommy James, an eye-ful of sets and costumes, and a stageful of talented performers. Besides Wyatt, Richard Pardini as the starry-eyed young leading man impressed me in the title song, and A.C. Griffing's solid baritone was a delight to the ears in "Patterns." The rest of the cast (Janice Sukaitis, Drew Todd, Don Forgue, Michelle

Mayorga and Ann R. Lawrence) danced with verve and harmonized dreamily. The orchestra, under the guidance of Koldewyn, was lively and tuneful, with some inspired violin playing by Jay Lyon.

I wish the glittering pieces of this music had fit together a bit more securely, but still they formed a fascinating, if sometimes frustratingly obscure, picture. ■

Stepping Up and Over
Victoria Theatre
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Anal Repetitive

by Steve Warren

Critics have prejudices too, and I've never liked Dick Shawn. Before the opening of his one-man show, *The Second Greatest Entertainer in the Whole Wide World*, someone asked me about the title: "Who is the greatest?" My reply was automatic: "If Shawn is the second greatest, the greatest is Anybody Else."

That joke is about as good and about as old as most of those in Shawn's protracted stand-up comedy routine, which makes up the first act. A lot of it has to do with politics and religion, yet somehow everything comes around to his favorite subject—fecal matter and the body functions which produce it—e.g., the pope sitting on the toilet, the president sitting on the toilet, etc. He does mildly preachy raps against nukes and drugs, and a mildly funny line like "It was an Italian who invented the toilet seat, but it was a Jew who put a hole in it." He guessed correctly that his wrestler joke would get the biggest laugh of the evening. Even I laughed.

After stating in the first act that Jews can't sing, he proves it in the second, a Vegas-y bit with a great set. Shawn as a Sammy Davis type does some inten-

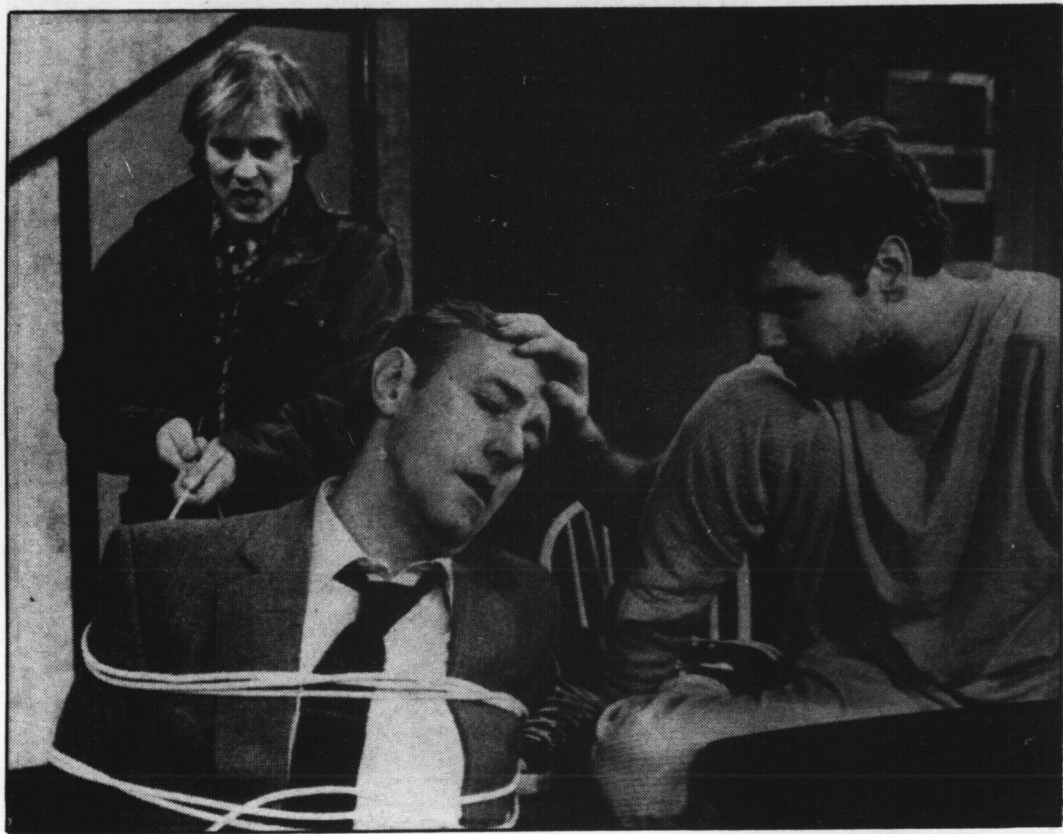
tionally bad Shakespeare, opera, Gilbert and Sullivan, juggling, and impressions. Rick Moranis' bad impressions made me laugh my ass off in *Brewster's Millions*, but Shawn's left me cold. In a final scene he does a bad version of his first act, as if to make us grateful for what we saw earlier.

Pushing too hard is Shawn's *shtick*, but he no longer has the energy to push hard enough to make even the bad jokes funny. "I'm looking at my watch to see how tired I am," he says near the end of the show. I could have told him without looking.

To be sure, hundreds of people in the theater laughed more than I did. Many of them really seemed to be enjoying the show, while I sat feeling like Gerald Nachman at *Noises Off*. I was willing to change my mind—just the day before I'd been charmed by Grace Jones, whom I once considered the Dick Shawn of disco—but nothing in Shawn's act gave me reason to. ■

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STAGE



Terry Kinney (l.), John Mahoney, and Kevin Anderson in *Orphans*.

Power of Love

by Bernard Spunberg

Soap bubbles, music, lights, and one man can conjure sheer magic in Lyle Kessler's *Orphans*, currently onstage at New York's Westside Arts Theater. Directed by Gary Sinise and produced by the Steppenwolf Theater Company of Chicago, *Orphans* was the first of nine shows I saw while in New York recently, and it impressed me—moved me, delighted me—more than any other.

Orphans dramatizes the transcendent, redemptive power of love. Abandoned by their father as tots, two brothers, aged about 18 and 22, have remained in their childhood home since the death of their mother some years earlier. The older brother provides economic support by mugging pedestrians. The younger brother apparently spends his days covering in a closet among his dead mother's coats, occasionally emerging to

watch TV and consume quantities of tuna and mayonnaise. One day, big brother scores big. He entices a drunken businessman home, pours enough booze to ensure unconsciousness, ties the man to a chair, and then discovers bond certificates and an address book in the businessman's briefcase.

The businessman proves a less easy mark than big brother supposed. During his absence, the businessman wakes up and befriends the younger brother. By offering affection instead of hostility, the businessman charms away the younger brother's fears. Big brother returns. The bond certificates are not easily turned into cash, and the address book contains only the names of enemies who laugh at the idea of paying a ransom. Big brother is upset by his failure to cash in, and he's enraged by signs of

(Continued on page 35)

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Stephen Rappaport (l.) and Karin Epperlein in *BlindSite*.

Enigmatic Overload

by Mark I. Chester

Soon 3's premiere of two new performance installations is an attempt to fine tune enigmatic overload into a fulfilling evening of theater. *BlindSite* and *Iguana Hotel* function like hot and cold one-acts, connected only by the broad umbrella of performance. Like hors d'oeuvres, they titillate the palate with interesting flavors and aromas, but I kept waiting for the full-course meal.

While I expect performance is as old an art as theater, the earliest documented art performances I am familiar with grew out of the Dadaist and Surrealist movements. The very nature of performance challenged, questioned, and ultimately destroyed the normal rules, regulations, and conventions governing theater and art. Performance is not bound by the underlying tenet of theater—to captivate and entertain.

During the 1970s, an audience was incidental to a school of performance done in California. Artists hung on crosses in galleries or museums, or sat in chairs till they fell off from lack of sleep, whether an audience was there to see or not. You might call it art of the personal human condition. In the Bay Area, artists such as George Coates, Ellen Sebastian, and Soon 3 are taking performance a step back towards theater; maybe art of the human psyche.

Soon 3 provides a rich blend of textures that weave back and forth in much the way a dream moves. The performances are bursting in details; individualistic, unreal, surreal, and unexpected. Movement, music, lighting, unusual props, colors, movies, and slides are all pieces to the puzzle or landscapes conceived and designed by Alan Finneran.

BlindSite is a surrealist nightmare capturing some eternal conflict between Man and Woman (or a man and a woman). Almost like psychological dance theater, the man and woman declare, stalk, join, fight, dance, break, and enter each other's sacred sanctum. There is a mad leering intensity to the performance. Yet I felt disconnected from the action and performers, even though the action literally threatened to spill out onto the audience, and the actors' presence was immediate and alive.

Iguana Hotel, subtitled *A Set of Circumstances*, is cold, distanced, and impersonal. The landscape, set at a second location four blocks away, has four performers each isolated within their own space, with borders or limits much like cages in a zoo. The audience freely wanders, looking at what and who they want. There is again rich detail, so rich that it is impossible to ac-

tually "see" more than one quarter of the show. But it makes no difference because the performers' actions are nonsense, and although their actions lead somewhere, that somewhere is nowhere. In a sense, every way you put the puzzle together is both absolutely right and absolutely wrong all at the same time. A friend described his reaction to the show as amused boredom.

Finneran and Soon 3 have created two diverse fantasy performing worlds. They are bizarre, iconoclastic worlds that operate and flow on their own rules and regulations. The worlds are more interesting than exciting, and more puzzling than pleasing, they are Rubik's Cubes that have no solution. I enjoyed discussing with friends more than I enjoyed seeing them.

You see, there is this hit man who puts on a baseball players' outfit and then receives a bat in the mail (which has a metal pole in the center) and a book of photographs. Behind each photo is a baseball card with a hole punched in it which is then laid out on the ground next to his gun on green felt (in the shape of a baseball field) and Hair (?) and lit with matches and then . . .

Soon 3
Co-Lab
1805 Divisadero at Bush
through June 1, 8:30 p.m., \$5

FILM CLIPS

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

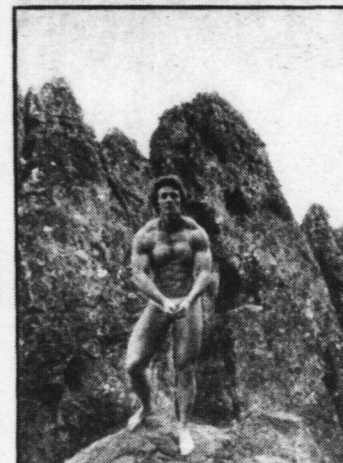
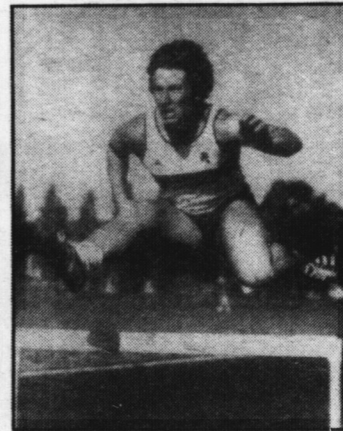
Pumping Iron II: The Women

Las Vegas or Bust

"We're in the 1980s. Who are we to say what a woman should look like?" So argues an official of the 1983 Caesars Palace World Cup Women's bodybuilding championship, an event captured on film in *Pumping Iron II: The Women*.

The question is raised in regard to Bev Francis of Australia who, as one of her competitors puts it, has "muscularity most men wish they had." While some of the women, in a coyly photographed shower scene, put down men who are too insecure to accept females whose development isn't all in the usual areas, it's understandable that not everyone would be ready for the new aesthetic represented by Francis. Her body looks more like that of Charles Atlas than of any woman you've ever seen.

The other three finalists whose background and training are shown have more traditional bodies, including Rachel McLish, who is built along the lines of the similarly named Raquel Welch. Lest anyone think their obsession with muscles makes them less than "real women," most of the contenders are shown cavorting with husbands, boyfriends, or at least male trainers.



Evolution — The changing shape of Australia's Bev Francis is shown in four stages (l. - r. from top): a 14-year-old ballerina; an 18-year-old world class hurdler; a 26-year-old power-lifting champion; a 27-year-old bodybuilder.

like to look at ladies for the usual reasons.

Vegas, the winners have a choice of receiving their prize money in cash, check, or chips.

Perhaps the right to bear muscular arms isn't the most burning of women's issues, but if you're up-to-date on the others, *Pumping Iron II: The Women* will raise your consciousness on this one.

(Ghirardelli Cinema) S. Warren

'(Bev Francis') body looks more like that of Charles Atlas than any woman you've ever seen.'

As the athletes pose and dance in minuscule bikinis, it's obvious the appeal of women's bodybuilding—and by extension this film—is largely to people who

A male bodybuilder dances for the crowd while the doddering judges are delayed in their deliberations because they can't find a calculator. It being Las

Fletch

Chey Takes It All

No, I'm not mistaking Chevy Chase for William Powell, but *Fletch* has the potential to turn into a series that's the modern equivalent of the *Thin Man* comedy-mysteries.

Absent from the screen long enough for us to miss him, Chase exudes a new confidence that even shines through his obligatory pratfalls. His character is caring, compassionate, comic and—"I don't shower much." The narration tells us he lives in an "imitation apartment building," which establishes the setting as Los Angeles, and he writes for the daily paper under the byline "Jane Doe—but what the hell, it's better than Irwin," his given name which he detests.

Fletch, who changes costume more often than Cher, is working undercover among the human driftwood at the beach in search of a story on drugs. He stumbles onto a seemingly unrelated case when wealthy Tim Matheson offers him \$50,000 to kill him; but in

movies like this such plots are never unrelated. One improbable situation follows another on the way to the predictable conclusion, but it's all so fast and funny a standard car chase actually slows things down.

There's an unusual amount of Gay

cludes Geena Davis, star of *Sara* (it's been opposite *Dynasty*) as the faithful assistant *Fletch* takes for granted. Harold Faltermeyer's music all sounds like Axel's theme from *Beverly Hills Cop*, commercial but not quite what *Fletch* needs.

(Regency II) S. Warren

'Absent from the screen long enough for us to miss him, Chase exudes a new confidence that even shines through his obligatory pratfalls.'

humor, none of it offensive, for a mainstream "PG" movie with no Gay characters or situations. Best is the prototypical exam that makes Chevy sing "Moon River" and ask, "Are you using the whole fist, doc?" (PG? There must not be any Gays on the rating board.)

The top-notch supporting cast in-

Brewster's Millions

That's Rich

While Richard Pryor has been establishing himself with the kids on Saturday morning's *Pryor's Place*, a kind of Sesame Street of the social sciences, he's lost his older audience to the homespun philosophy of Bill Cosby and the young, hip crowd to wise-ass Eddie Murphy. *Brewster's Millions* is his attempt to win back both groups, and it just might work.

The story's been filmed several times before, but while it may play as nostalgia for a few, it's old enough to seem new to most moviegoers. Pryor is Monty Brewster, pitcher for the very minor league Hackensack Bats, a team that has a railroad track in its outfield. (Have you ever heard of a game called an account of a train?)

His distant great uncle, Ham, or, Hume Cronyn, leaves him \$300 million

on the condition that he first spend \$30 million in 30 days and have nothing to show for it. There are several rules to make it more difficult, although nothing that says he can't be robbed—why doesn't he just walk through Central Park with the money?

What gives the film its universal appeal and makes the oft-told tale so timeless is that once we suspend our disbelief in the premise, we start thinking we could unload the cash better than Brewster. That's audience involvement, plus a strong fantasy stimulus.

The biggest chunk of money is ultimately spent in a mayoral campaign urging people to vote for "None of the Above" (possibly inspired by Sr. Boom Boom's ballot designation when he ran for San Francisco supervisor as "Nun of the Above").

John Candy is okay as Pryor's best friend and Lonette McKee more unpleasant than necessary as the woman Brewster falls in love with because she's the only person not interested in his money. Frame for frame, Rick Moranis scores the most laughs as the world's least talented mimic.

Brewster's Millions marks a departure for director Walter Hill, whose other pictures have involved action and usually symbolism, and brilliant musician Ry Cooder, whose eclectic score incorporates everything but his trademark bottleneck guitar.

We're not talking superlatives here—just good, solid, light comic entertainment. Pryor's back, and if I had a million I'd bet it on Brewster.

(Royal) S. Warren

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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

FITNESS EIGHTIES

Scott Smith

Hot Shot Third Base in the GSL

by Paul Trefzger

Scott Smith, an outstanding new personality in the Gay Softball League, plays third base for the Vagabond. Smith is a good-looking, likeable, and apparently a valuable ball player. He was modest when I asked him about himself.

"I play a pretty good defensive game," Smith said. "I guess I'm known for my running abilities. I've scored every time I've been on base except once. But I want to add that it's a team effort. There's a lot of spirit with the Vagabond. That spirit is what makes the GSL an outstanding league as opposed to other leagues where guys are out for their own individual statistics, particularly in straight leagues. The attitude of the teams toward each other—no head to head competition—makes the GSL a superior league. It was a turning point for me." I asked Smith how he came to be on the team.

"I was in the bar (Vagabond) one day and the coach, Dan Carlson, just came up and asked if I wanted to play. I did. I played left field last year. We wound up in about the middle of the division. I like the in-field because I keep you on your toes more."

Scott lives in a converted warehouse in the East Bay. He's partners with his straight brother in a contracting business and is applying for his own license. In his spare time he runs, plays volleyball, football and swims.

"I work out," he said, "but I don't lift heavy weights." He explained that doing the work of a contractor you don't exactly feel, at the end of a day, like knocking yourself out at the gym. "I do calisthenics for coordination; curls for arm control, sit-ups for abdominals. I don't do a lot. My main concentration is in running . . . with my dog." I asked what kind. "A Doberman Pinscher I named Commander Cody who is a daddy's boy, a great dog and amazing. He's good, protective, and does tricks. I'll sing a slow song and he'll get up and dance with me. I'll say 'Bang, bang,' and he'll do 'roll over, you're dead.' I wouldn't trade him for a million

dollars," Smith added. "Oh, in the morning and before bed, I do push-ups and sit-ups, 50 each, each time, so it's 100 a day. I eat like a horse."

"I have a high metabolism. I always eat a lot and never gain. I'm hyper. It's a good thing. My parents owned a grocery store. Actually I wish that I could gain some. I weigh 145. I take a lot of vitamins. I don't look forward to going to bed at night because I have so much energy." Prior to his becoming so involved in sports and fitness, "I tried the bar scene and got into some bad habits. Then I saw what I was doing to myself. I was weak. I couldn't control the things I was getting into . . . physically and emotionally. I believe in mind over matter."

"I'm not a religious person, but I believe in karma. The good things that you do to make other people happy make you happy. Mentally, I prepare myself the night before for the following day. I'll make notes and then I go by priorities. I'm usually the type of person who goes with short-range goals. If things aren't going in my favor in business or in my social life, I'll make a drastic change. This sounds kind of crazy. At work, rather than sitting behind a



Scott Smith at bat

(Photo: Rink)

desk, I like to talk to my employees, get behind them and make him his own boss and sort of compare it to a football game and I get better results. Personally, workwise or in sports, I always try to think that I'm number two trying to be number one and that always makes you work a little harder."

Smith was born November 13, 1958 in Lancaster, Ohio. "I've always been athletically inclined," he said. He played the big three sports, plus boxing in grammar and high school. His mother "tricked" him, telling him he couldn't play football with his braces, to protect him. He tried playing Baritone Saxophone in the band but "hated it." Before long, he was back into sports.

"I came out here to California to go to Pepperdine University and major in phys. ed.," Smith said. "I really wanted to go to UCLA. I enrolled, but then it wasn't long before I was hanging out on the beach at Malibu. When I started doing

that all day they, of course, terminated my schooling. I was never accepted at UCLA. I read in the paper about this scam selling magazines door to door in Washington State that would mean travel. They had these 'positive attitude' seminars and I knew it was bull, but I decided to do it. They furnished you a hotel room. It took me to Denver where I played some softball. In El Paso, a woman in her nightgown invited me in and then her husband came home and wondered what the hell was going on. In Texas I was in a redneck bar and I didn't know much about Country and Western music. I played 'Okie From Muskogee' on the jukebox and the guys came after me. I guess it had something to do with Texans versus Okies. Those were some strange times. It was when I first came to Southern California that I began to come out. It was just 'messing around' back then though, like playing sports and coming in out of the rain and continuing inside and things start to get 'hot.' But I really didn't come out until I came

here. I live with my straight brother, but that doesn't present any problems."

We talked about the fitness trend.

"I think it's going to get stronger," Smith said. "There's been a lot of talk of big corporations, Pepsi, IBM, concentrating on physical fitness for their employees because it promotes productivity. The type of work I do, and it being outside most of the time, I make it a game. To me you've got to have fun and enjoy your job. I'd have trouble working in an office." Then we were back to softball.

"I think there's going to be a much better competition this year because the teams are more balanced. And compared to last year, the guys' attitudes are higher and they're out there as teams and not individuals. Now I'll probably get some disagreement on this, but I feel it's definitely a mental game more than being physical."

You can't argue with success.

SCOREBOARD

JAPTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES BOWLING

Team Standings and Personal Achievements
(The League Averages are unavailable)

SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE		(Week 24 of 24 - as of 05/05/85)	
1. Reno, Reno Is . . .	32	16	
2. Vagabond	29	19	
3. With Colour	28	20	
4. Myrna's Boys	27	21	
5. Strange Interlude	26	22	
6. Team #3	25	23	
7. Lois Lanes	24	24	
8. "Alley Cats"	23	25	
9. Bowling Is Not My Life!	23	25	
10. Diced Dolls	22	26	
11. Things Go Br w/Coke	20	28	
12. PWIL Phuckett!!	19	29	
13. Gaysha Boys	19	29	
14. PWIL Phuckett!!	18	30	
5. Dish	34	26	
6. New York Man	33	27	
7. Trash-Lotta's	33	27	
8. All The President's Men	31	29	
9. Bow - K	30	30	
10. Rick's	29	31	
11. Team #17	29	31	
12. Short Circuits	28½	31½	
13. Damaged Goods	27	33	
14. Rick's Rompers	26½	33½	
15. Castro Country Club	25½	34½	
16. The Obelisk	21	39	
17. Blazers	21	39	
18. "Pick-Ups"	0	60	

HIGH SCRATCH GAME

Jim Barnes (M.B.'s)	256
Gay Filla (T#3)	256
Kenny Campaign (Vaga)	236
Myrna McSparen (M.B.'s)	214
Mary Garrett (PWILPk)	202

HIGH SCRATCH SERIES

Gary Filla (T#3)	662
Jim Barnes (M.B.'s)	631
Richard Harry (Vaga)	576
Myrna McSparen (M.B.'s)	561
Mary Garrett (PWILPk)	513

HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE

(Week 36 of 37 as of 05/17/85)	
1. Seattle's Alley-Oops	48½ 23½
2. Pubic's	48 24
3. The Handy-Caps	41½ 30½
4. Play With It, Ltd.	35 37
5. Lady & The Tramps	33½ 38½
6. Mane Islanders	32 40
7. El Rio Tardarugas #1	31½ 40½
8. Twinsplit	31 41
9. Meneluehue's	30 42
10. Golden State Ducks	28 44

MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 29 of 29 - as of 05/13/85)	
1. Play With It, Please	48½ 11½
2. Sutter's Mill	40 20
3. Play With It, Ltd.	37 23
4. Yeah!!!!	35 25

WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE		(Week 32 of 32 - as of 05/08/85)	
1. Church Street Station	46	18	
2. Five Not So Easy Pieces	44	20	
3. K.C.'s Dream	44	20	
4. Quiet Fire	43	21	
5. High Gear	40½	23½	
6. The Pimento	36	28	
7. Bananas Without Attitude	36	28	
8. White Swallow	35	29	
9. Pilsner Vultures	34½	29½	
10. Rag-Tags	30	34	
11. Salsa Supremes	30	34	
12. Pinhead II	30	34	
13. Stud City	29	35	
14. Sutter's Mill - 1	23½	40½	
15. Sutter's Mill Also	20½	43½	
16. Rockin' Rollers	20	44	
17. Gutter Girls	17	47	
18. The Embazzlers	16	48	

HIGH SCRATCH GAME

Lowell Hills (PWIP)	257
Eric Tuff (PWIL)	254
Adrian Stenson (PWIL)	244

HIGH SCRATCH SERIES

John Parry (PWIP)	655
Eric Tuff (PWIL)	649
Lowell Hills (PWIP)	636

TUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 29 of 29 - as of 05/07/85)	
1. Lady & The Tramps	41½ 18½
2. Shanti - T & A's	40 20
3. Splitz	38 22
4. "Not Easy"	36 24
5. 0000's	34 26
6. Shud-A-Bin	33 27
7. Spurts	31 29
8. Oh Merde!	30 30
9. Phoenix Phantoms	30 30
10. Hopeless	28½ 31½
11. Guys & Balls	27½ 32½
12. Overighters	27 33
13. Easy Pick-Ups	26½ 33½
14. 5 Easy Pieces	26 34
15. Late Nite Rollers	25½ 34½
16. Crisco Kids	23 37
17. Ringold Rollers	20 40
18. Ethel	1½ 48½

HIGH SCRATCH GAME

Whirl Gray (Splitz)	260
Kevin Stern (LNR's)	242
Chuck Roppel (N.E.)	235
Charlie Kato (L&Tps)	223

HIGH SCRATCH SERIES

John Moyer (Splitz)	621
Richard Harry (Ohm!)	610
Hugh Smith (Spurts)	608
Lillian Johnson (5EPs)	508

G.S.L. UPDATE

TOM VINDEED

Boston Ramrod Wins Golden Bear Classic

Overcast skies didn't dampen the spirit of the Ramrod from Boston as the team swept to victory in the Second Annual Village Golden Bear Classic last weekend.

To accomplish the win, the Ramrod had to battle for each of its four straight wins. Ray's Five and Dime from Houston was the team's first victim, and went down 8-5. The Pendulum of San Francisco was next, and battled the new champions for 10 innings before bowing 7-5. Next, the host Villages squad, playing before a partisan crowd, also lost by the same 7-5 score and dropped into the consolation bracket, facing the Pendulum, with that winner earning the right to meet the Ramrod for the championship.

In a game many people have been waiting for all year, the Village jumped off to an early 5-0 lead, but an injury riddled and understaffed Pendulum battled back before falling 8-5. This gave the Village one more chance to stop the Bostonians, but M.V.P. Gary Bremner closed the door on the Islanders several times, and the Ramrod posted a 3-2 win for the title.

Enough cannot be said of the caliber of play in this year's tournament, which was far superior to last year. The surprise team of the tournament had to be Details/Haberdash of Long Beach, which took fourth place and also won the coveted Ron Santor True Spirit award for the second straight year.

Many thanks to the San Francisco teams for hosting some fun parties, and to everyone who participated. Teams from our fair city included the Vagabond, Cafe San Marcos, Chaps, Pilsner Inn, and the Pendulum. Next year we will have four more new teams from San Francisco join us in what promises to be a first-class event, according to Village owners Hank, Bill, and Dick.

Also, while the thank yous are being passed out, we can't overlook the Pub from New Haven, Conn., the Rawhide from Los Angeles, W.C.P.C. from San Diego, who had former Community Softball League stars Joe Ross and Jerry Pepper on the team, Details/Haberdash from Long Beach, Ray's Five and Dime from Houston, and of course the champs from Boston, Ramrod.

We look forward to next year with great anticipation as the Village Golden Bear Classic grows in stature with each passing year.

SCHEDULE

June 2, Balboa Park
10 a.m.: Amelia's v. Vagabond and Pilsner Inn v. Kokpit
11:45 a.m.: Hamburger Mary's v. Village and Trax v. Pendulum
1:30 p.m.: Cafe San Marcos v. Gingers and Rawhide v. Phone Booth
3:15 p.m.: Rookies v. Producers and Chaps v. Festus.

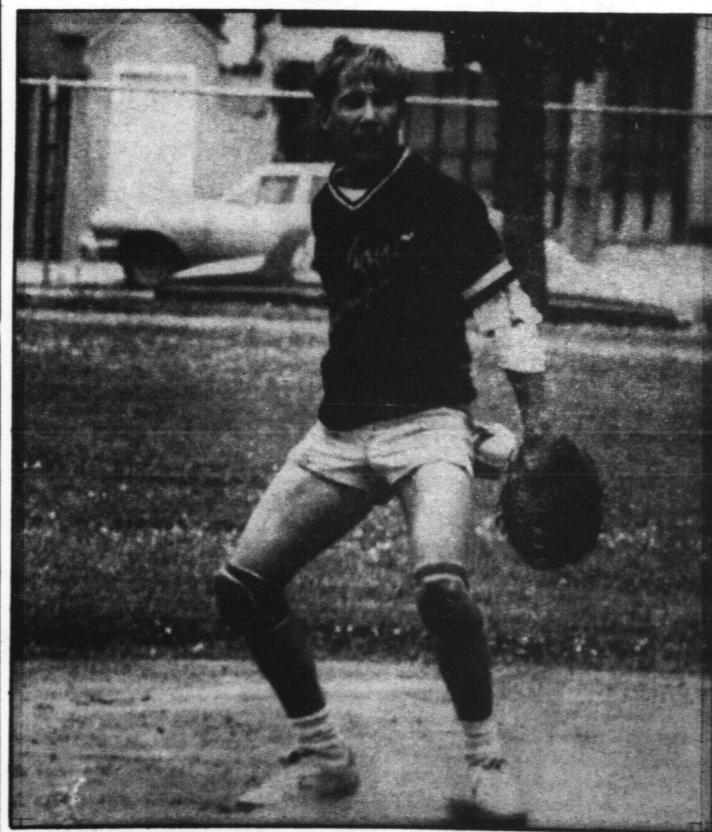
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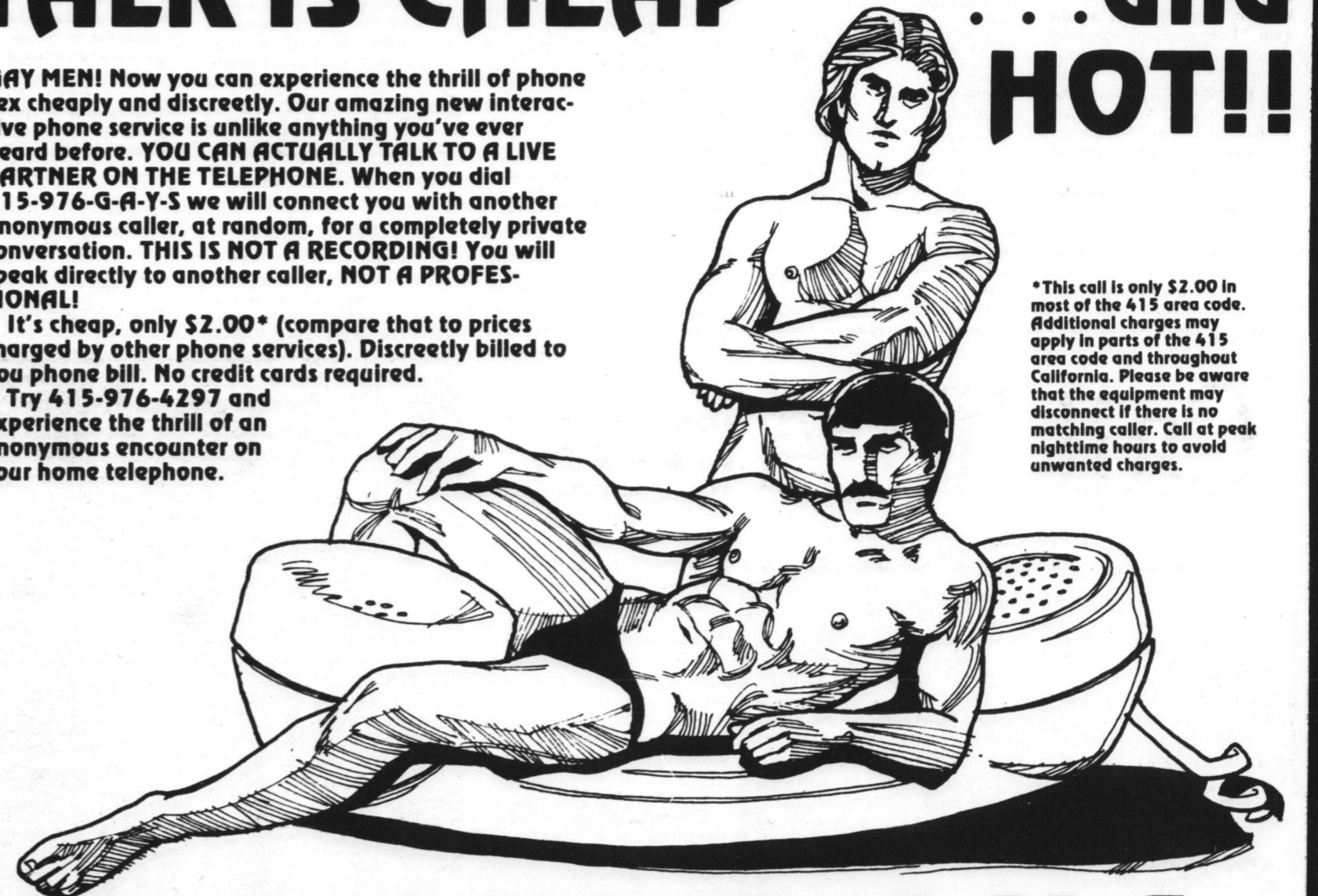
Scott Smith plays outfield for the Vagabond (Photo: Rink)

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S.F. TRACK & FIELD

RICK THOMAN



PA/TAC medalists (l. to r.) Frank Demby (third, 100 m.), Earl Bryant (second, 100 m.), and Rick Thoman (third, 200 m.)

Championship Medals

The San Francisco Track & Field Club garnered medals in every event it entered (100, 200, and 400 meter dashes) at The Athletics Congress (TAC) 1985 championship for the Pacific Section in Los Gatos May 18. The club received four medals in all at the meet sponsored by the governing body of United States track and field competition.

Earl Bryant continued as the club's driving force in the 100 meter dash, clocking a 12.1 for a second place finish and the silver medal. Right behind Bryant was Frank Demby with a 12.3 third place/bronze medal finish. This was Demby's first competition in more than seven years, and his time and place indicate he'll be a vital part of the club's sprint squad.

In the 200 meters, Rick Thoman led the way for the club with a blistering 23.0 sprint that earned him third place and a bronze medal. Thoman was followed by Bryant, who matched his time of 24.7 clocked at the Fresno meet early this year, and Demby, who finished sixth.

Dwayne Isham made his 1985 debut for the club in the 400 meter race, coming away with a second place silver medal for a time of 53.8. Isham was followed by Bernard Turner, who is nursing an injury, and Efre Cavolos, who also was making his first competitive appearance for the club.

"This was a super day for us all," said Bryant after the meet. "We are running much better than we were at our peak of performance last year, yet we're only in the beginning of the season for '85. It's exciting to imagine the kind of times we'll be running at the end of this season if we keep this momentum going."

First-time competitor Demby

West Hollywood Wins

The rematch between the San Francisco and West Hollywood Gay basketball teams ended in a 98-94 win for the Los Angeles team Saturday night, May 4, at Hollywood High School.

It was an exciting evening as hundreds of fans cheered while San Francisco led most of the evening. West Hollywood pulled away in the last four minutes, leading by as many as eight points to capture the trophy.

The Great American Yankee Freedom Band provided a spectacular half-time marching show, complete with flags, twirlers, streamers, and lots of snappy drills. The Rebels Color Guard

was also seen in the pre-game entertainment line-up, performing polished routines to disco music. All the groups, including a pep band from San Francisco, filled the floor for the National Anthem.

Fans, athletes, and performers from both cities poured into the Probe for the post-game victory party to celebrate until dawn.

San Francisco will have the chance to recapture the title again next year just weeks before the opening of Gay Games II in San Francisco, where both teams will have the chance to compete for the title of World Champion Gay basketball team.

AIDS Food Bank Month

42ND Street, which has been enjoying a spectacularly successful engagement at the Golden Gate Theatre since February, will show its appreciation to the Bay Area by responding to one of the area's most pressing problems and declare June AIDS Food Bank Month at the musical.

In exchange for contributions of canned goods and nonperishable foodstuffs they bring to designated "drop off" locations in a four-county area, potential theater-goers will receive coupons enabling them to purchase 42nd Street tickets at half price Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings.

"Drop offs" in San Francisco and other Bay Area counties include AIDS Food Banks, churches, synagogues, and local shops.

42nd Street's interest in the AIDS Food Bank program was sparked by a ball game at Lang Field between the musical's team and the team from The Kokpit.

Admission to the game was by food and donations to the Food Bank and more than \$3,000 and several large drums of food were gathered.

From this al fresco start came the idea of a more extended drive to help and support people with AIDS. Particular focus of the drive are the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Food Bank, which has been in existence a year and a half and currently has 125 people dependent on it, and the newly established Pacific Center AIDS Project Food Bank in the East Bay.

Because people with AIDS receive only \$62 a month in Food Stamps, supplemental food is crucial to them. Among the items most needed is a nutritional drink called "Ensure" (available at pharmacies), bottled juice, and canned fruit.

42nd Street's month-long food program will culminate July 1 with a special benefit at Marines Memorial, written, produced, and performed on the theater's "dark" night at the Golden Gate by cast members from the musical. Sale of tickets to the Marines Memorial benefit will also benefit people with AIDS.

To find the nearest drop-off locations please call: San Francisco AIDS Foundation Food Bank, 864-4376; Pacific Center AIDS Project Food Bank, 548-8283; Human Concerns Center, 457-8182; Golden Gate Theatre, 775-8800.

Parade Booth Deadline Extended

The deadline for booth applications for the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade has been extended until June 14. This means there is still time to reserve your booth space for San Francisco's largest annual event. Remember, a crowd of more than a quarter of a million people attend this event. It's your big chance to promote your crafts, services, food, campaign, etc.

Different categories include nonprofit food, commercial food, nonprofit information, nonprofit sales, artisan/crafts, professional (services, campaigns, lobbies), and commercial sales (any nonfood item).

For information, call the parade office at 861-5404. For an application, come by the parade office at 335 Noe Street, (at Market).

COMM. SOFTBALL LEAGUE

RODGER SOTO

Beake Bros. Come Alive

Bill Haller's Beake Brothers Electric should be all smiles after its third-week, double-header victories. In the first two weeks of play, the team was beaten by both Empire Sales and Nap's Investigators. In the third week of play the Brothers romped over the tough Bunkhouse, 11 to 5, and shut out Nap's Investigators, 10 to zip.

In the first game of the day the team handled Bunkhouse easily. Two new players shined it on, with rookie third baseman Kevin Brannan going three for four for a homerun and a double. The other rookie, Damien Neves, a new shortstop who is reminiscent of a Joey Baretta, went four for four and played some excellent defensive ball. In the second contest, Steve Lenchner pitched a shut-out against Nap's and had the best-pitched game of the day. Again, Kevin and Damien were instrumental, with Kevin going two for four, getting a homerun and a double, and Damien three for four. Also Stu Burton, a seasoned veteran, went three for three, getting some beautiful line drives.

The other team that really looks like a contender is undefeated Empire Sales. This team, which has always been there, looks its best ever this year. Russ Zipkin "the new slender Gazelle" looked awesome both in his hitting and fielding ability. Without a doubt, Russ is probably one of the finest players in the league. Joel Smith, a second year player, went five for five with six to seven RBI's. The other fine playing and good hitting came from Scott Gelfin, who went five for six, and Mark Talbert, who is definitely looking for an All Star award this year.

At this writing it is before the Great Tricycle Race, but I am in great hopes that Scott Kendrick and Jeff Bartlett will take the top prize in this fun event. The Community Softball League has won the race the past three years, and

I hope our men can bring home the bacon for a fourth year.

Also congratulations to Cha Cha and his scrapping Kokpit team with its successful fund raiser softball game with the cast of 42nd Street. This was one of the most successful events of the year with about \$4,000 in food and money going towards the AIDS Food Bank. A standing ovation for all of you who participated in this great event.

A special mention about one of the two new rookie teams, the Ramshead. The team is practicing several times a week, and appears to be getting better each week. Paul and Little John have got spirit that many other teams could instill in their teams. Good luck to Rita of the Ramshead on her run for "The Queen of Hearts." Rita has become a very important member of the C.S.L.

May 19 Scores
Rockin Robins 22, Ramshead 2
Everett's 14, Cinch 4
Empire Sales 9, Heinbaugh Legal 7
Rainbow Cattle 15, Overflo 4
Beake Bros. Electric 11, Bunkhouse 5
Nap's 24, Purple Hayes 0
Beake Bros. Electric 10, Nap's 0
Bunkhouse 20, Purple Hayes 1

George Zepp Jr. Div: W L
Rockin Robins 3 1
Bunkhouse 2 2
Overflo/Slo Rush 2 2
Heinbaugh Legal 2 2
Ramshead 1 4
Purple Hayes Gang 0 5

Jack McGowan Div: W L
Empire Sales 4 0
Everett's of SF 4 0
Beake Bros. Electric 2 2
Cinch 2 2
Nap's Investigators 2 2
Rainbow Cattle Co. 1 2

June 2 Games
Empire v. Everett's, 10:30 a.m.
Overflo v. Ramshead, 10:30 a.m.
Robins v. Bunkhouse, noon.
Cinch v. Nap's, noon.
Rainbow v. Beakes, 1:30 p.m.
Legal v. Hayes, 1:30 p.m.
Beake v. Legal, 3 p.m.
Haze v. Rainbow, 3 p.m.

GAY TENNIS FEDERATION

LES BALMAIN

Tennis Race Heats Up

After three rounds of team tennis, five teams with averages above .500—the White Swallow, Roto Rooter, Ivy's, Atlas Savings, and Sutter's Mill—are emerging as the teams to beat for the playoffs. The race for the championship has just completed the first curve and the matches down the backstretch, to be played in the next few weeks, should prove very exciting.

Round three was completed May 18 and 19. The No. 1 team, White Swallow, suffered its first defeat at the hands of Ivy's by a score of 43-39, but remained in first place. Roto Rooter, the only undefeated team, climbed closer to the top with a big win over Nella/Schmidt Ins. 49-37. Sutter's Mill got into the over .500 bracket by defeating the Pilsner Inn 42-30. Atlas Savings took a strong hold on fourth place by downing Community Rentals 48-34.

The team tennis standings as of May 19 are:

	W	L	%
White Swallow	134	104	.563
Roto Rooter	141	112	.557
Ivy's	125	104	.546
Atlas	130	111	.539
Sutter's Mill	118	108	.522
Nella/Schmidt	111	132	.457
Community Rentals	94	137	.407
Pilsner Inn	98	143	.407

Pink Triangle Connection

A graphics collection for the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay community is in the process of being formed.

Presently, the collection consists of 1,000 works of art, 225 of which are either framed or being framed. The art is categorized into: fine art, movement poster art, folk art, and photographs.

The collection will be shown during the month of June at the Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St. After that there are plans to have the collection on view by appointment. There will also be meetings to tap into the already expressed interest of the community. Call 431-3781 for more information.

BAY AREA REPORTER B.A.R. BAZAAR

MR. MARCUS

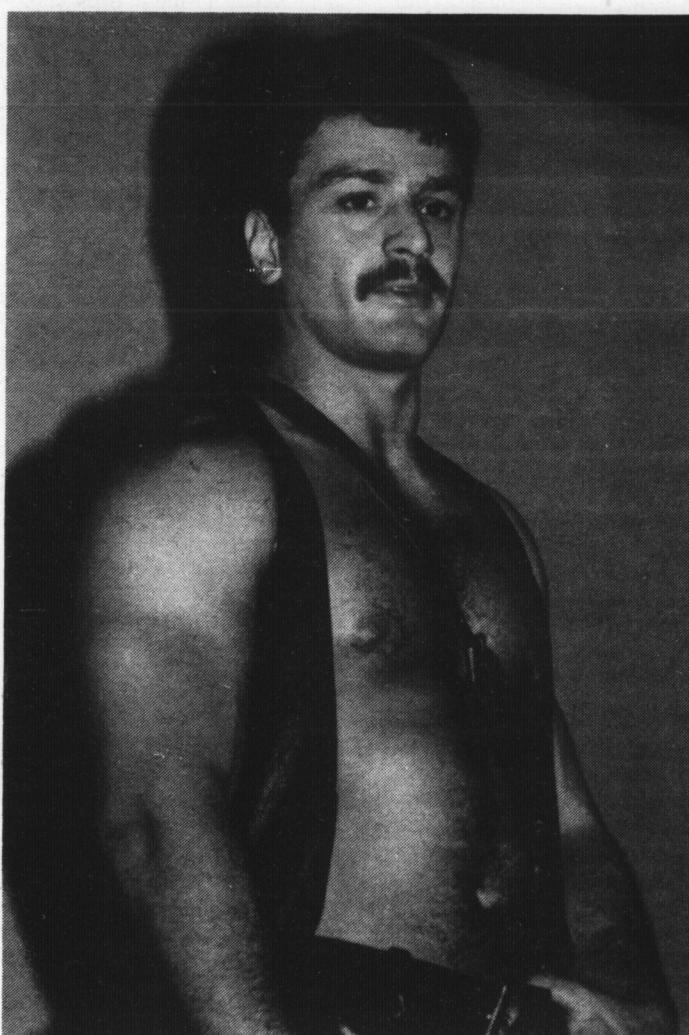
West Coast Leathermen Sweep Chicago



Chicago—The great states of California and Washington laid siege on the macho battleground at the Park West in Chicago last Sunday night, May 26, as the 7th annual paean to leather played out its yearly ritual with flurries of suspense, tons of muscle, poignant and humorous speeches, and the tailored yield of several herds of cattle as some 31 elite of the species paraded, promenaded, and preened before an adoring audience on the trek toward leather stardom.

Patrick Toner, sponsored by Chaps Bar, edged out the stiffest competition ever to grace a stage by laying claim to the International Mr. Leather title, followed by the stunningly masculine Joe Ciarleglio of Long Beach and Rich Hennigh of Seattle in a dazzling spectacle of machismo that proved once again that the rites of manhood and the pagantry of a leather contest are equal in stature, nay superior, to anything that could be offered by the straight world. This year's edition was a show stopper at every turn, including the entertainers.

Quite possibly, the national debt could be erased permanently if measured by the amount of leather garb and accoutrements being worn by more than 1,000 leather men who witnessed the dancing artistry of the Buffalo Chips, a superb clogging group from Atlanta, and the ribald and slightly disarming comedy of comedian Judy Tenuda. Under any other name, juggling as practiced by this great dude would be lumped under the nomenclature of ho-hum, but this guy juggles 12 pound bowling balls as easily as any make-up artist wields cotton puffs, and his *coup de grace* engenders both incredulity and disbelief as he flippantly juggles a hefty amount of horsepower with a chain saw while simultaneously dicing up an apple



Patrick Toner, International Mr. Leather 1985. (Photo: Marcus)

within centimeters of apple sauce. Master of Ceremonies Jim "Felicia" Flint gets top marks for his deft, witty, and timely mastery of pacing and humor even if some of it was lost on the whole audience when directed toward local personalities with scathing "in" dish of a personal nature.

International Mr. Leather VII was sold out and was Standing Room Only as early as last Fri-

day. Chuck Rodocker's Touche bar was packed wall to wall all weekend with special parties, while the Redoubt, with its multi-storied facilities, seemed to be the most popular. Over at Carol's Speakeasy, Sonny Cline, entertained the troops with his sensuous fireman's adagios. The Loading Dock and the Gold Coast proved popular, with "specials" all weekend. All this while the American Gay Volleyball Assn. with some 40 teams from throughout the U.S. were conducting an invitational tournament, and the Gay caucuses of Democratic Clubs were meeting to ponder over why they had been dropped from the official caucus list of the Democratic Party. Without a doubt, Chicago was the scene for heavy Gay action, and natives and visitors alike were friendly, open, loving, caring, and righteous throughout the weekend. The 80-degree-plus weather added to the ambiance, and all over the Windy City shorts and sneakers were de rigueur.

During the proceedings at International Mr. Leather Sunday night, close to \$3,000 was raised for the Chicago Howard Brown Clinic after a poignant, yet strident plea from director Jerry Weller, the former powerhouse of GRNL. The eternal crises of AIDS was on everyone's mind in spite of the frivolity at hand. In their hedonistic pursuits, the delegates to all three activities were most generous in their contributions. It was a wonderful weekend, marred only by the rain that descended on Monday—mostly, I think, to cool off the

(Continued on next page)

ACADEMY
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NUMBER ONE SPOT FOR CLEAN, SAFE, SENSIBLE J/O SEX!
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1808 CLUB
EVERY:
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Tues.—UNCUT GUYS (Very Hot Cut guys welcome)
Wed.—HAIRY MEN'S NIGHT (shirt check encouraged)
Thur.—WELL ENDOWMENTS
Fri./Sat.—VERY BUSHY
Sun.—BODY BUILDERS (Use any gym card plus 10%)
NOTE: 1808 is a private club for J/O artists and includes the body-conscious man. Washboard stomach, masculine looks, etc. We have a full clothes changing system. BYOBeer/VIDEO and friendly.
— 1808 MARKET STREET
COUPON 1/2 PRICE ON 6 MONTH CARD
Regularly \$10.00—Use this coupon for \$5.00 Off!
IN/OUT PRIVILEGES
WHERE THE MEN ARE!

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

proceedings of the previous evening and ensure a good turnout for the Black & Blue Ball at Man's Country Monday night.

Patrick Toner is the reigning International Mr. Leather, and for the third time the title has come to rest in San Francisco in a chain started by David Kloss (1979), Marty Kiker (1981), and numerous other 1st and 2nd runner-ups from San Francisco.

With previous winners Colt Thomas on hand and the outgoing Ron Moore, the 7th Edition of IML has been the best presentation of the leather marathon to date. Congratulations of the highest degree are accorded IML, Inc., and Director Chuck Renslow. With this year's activities now history, it is safe to state that IML has placed itself solidly into a tradition that for the most part is cherished by leathermen throughout the world—a truly international event. Congratulations!

THE CAT BIRD SEAT

So what's headed your way, you ask? This Friday, May 31, Larisse, Queen Mother of All, hosts "Our Guns are Smoking," a roasting of Mr./Mrs. Gay San Francisco Bruce and Parkway at Festus beginning at 8:15 p.m. Judy and Laura will provide the food and entertainment respectively, so bring lots of ammo.

Saturday, June 1, David Ross, a.k.a. Phoebe Planters, and friends present the 2nd Annual Amazon Girl Contest, described

as a beauty contest for small people in BIG bodies at the Hungarian Hall at 1052 Geary. The proceeds, costing \$6 each, will go to the winner's favorite charity, and to enter you must be at least 6 feet tall OR weigh at least 200 pounds, a title I know you ALL want.

If you get the hankering for seafood at night when you're in the Folsom Area, hang on to your rivets as the little cantina/bar across the street from the Ambush will soon be an Oyster Bar and you know what oysters can do to you!

The second annual S&M Fetish and Demonstration party takes place at the Brig on Wednesday, June 12. Your \$10 donation includes a buffet as only the Brig can provide and S&M, B&D and Fetish Fantasies will be on display. Your donation also includes a drink of your choice; it's a benefit for the SF AIDS Fund, and participants include the Knights Templar, SF Bondage Club, and The 15 Association, with door prizes as well, so don't miss it.

If flowers are your bag or need, check out Golden Bear Design's magnificence with flowers. If you caught the two Feb's tables decorated in white at the Closet Ball, you'll know what I mean. Call Tom Ratcliffe at 824-0385 if you want unique and creative designs.

After a two-year absence, Tom Vitale has returned to Mecca and is spinning the hot wax at the Transfer from Wednesday through Fridays and on Sunday afternoons—fans may remember Tom from his former

days at Castro Station and Allie's.

Lots of guys are not amused to read an obituary in this paper from someone who skipped town owing thousands and sent in his own epitaph and saying he died of AIDS—how low can you get?

They had another Lips contest at Esta Noche last Sunday, but I got the info too late for my deadline. Are you reading this Estuardo? Thank God for corresponding secretaries!

The GDI's finally announced their June 14-16 weekend run, entitled Liberty Melting Pot of the World, a weekend of fun and frivolity that will cost you some \$65 and includes the usual amenities. I have a feeling I know why they changed it from Miss Liberty (somebody else got the Kate Smith Hat!).

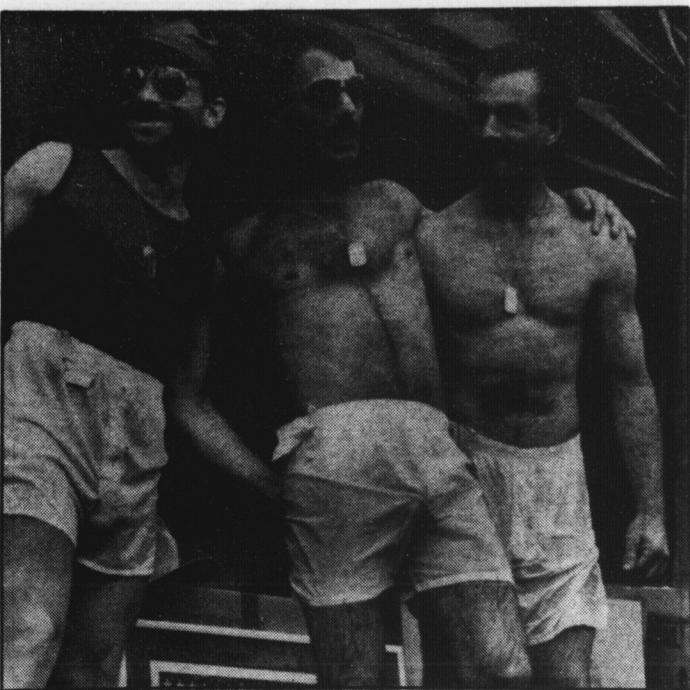
Down San Diego way, the California Cyclemen M/C (CCMC) have a "different" theme for their June 7-9 run, entitled Cell Block 7/Weekend Lock Up, the tariff being only \$55; further info can be obtained by writing to CCMC, P.O. Box 86969, San Diego 92138.

DISH, DADDY, DISH

Here we are in the 300 block of Noe Street where one of the Closet Ball contestants just returned home from a photo session with Matt "booth" Newman, the noted porno photographer. Said contestant just HAD to be photographed in his closet ball dress, so La Newman agreed. When the contestant got out of his car, the neighbor's cat espied him shoeless, in Levi's, T-shirt, full face make-up, and a baseball cap, and promptly sprang to the heights of the nearest tree. As the scene fades, three fire trucks, numerous hunky firemen, a flock of neighbors, and several giggling queens are trying to coax the cat out of the tree—only in San Francisco Episode #19887, for the record.

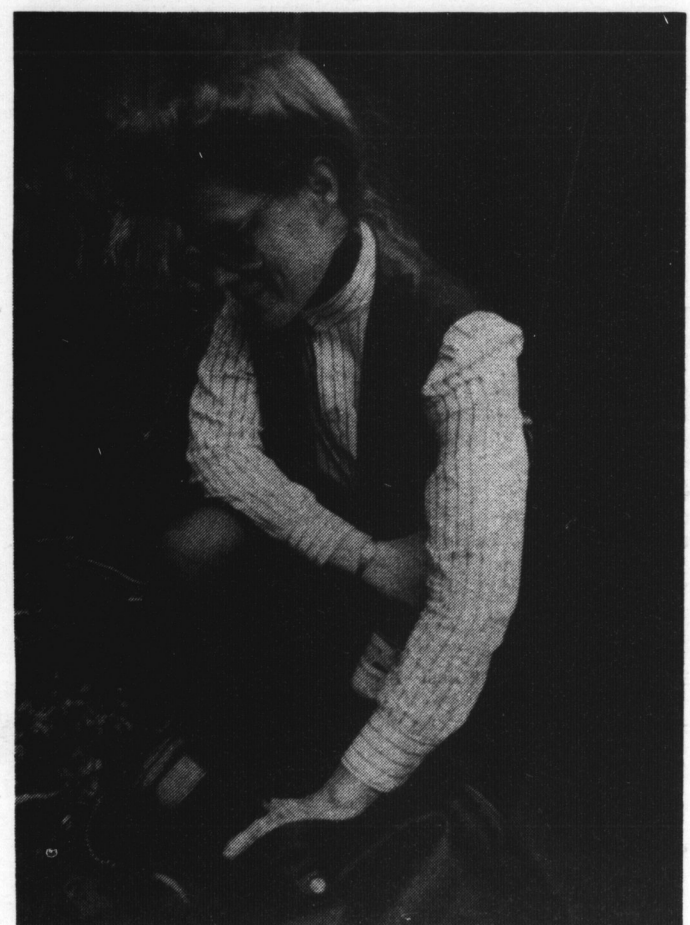
Anthony Bruno, the stellar entrepreneur from LA, arrives in town any minute now to direct a local leather competition armed with all the experience he gleaned after attending Intl. Mr. Leather in Chicago last week; since the competition will be held in a bar this year, you can rest assured the contest will end at least by Last Call—sorry I'll miss it.

Best kept secret in town until now is the Port Deli on 16th and Sanchez—a humongous array of excellent cuisine and even better service; Sunday brunch is a marathon of patience to get in, but worth it. All their bread is made on the premises and besides, Bruce Ann is there to cater to your every whim, er, uh



Scott A. McKuen, (c.) winner of the Wet Boxer Shorts contest, gets double encouragement from 2nd runner-up Eddie Brenner (l.) and 1st runner-up Tom Brown (r.)

(Photo: R. Pruzan)



Famed dominatrix V.K. McCarty dropped into the Eagle last Sunday and brought this man to his knees and her feet.

(Photo: R. Pruzan)

whim.

Push is coming to shove on the streets of South of Market; another vicious attack on Gay men last Saturday night by straight drunks coming from the Oasis—doesn't anybody care? It

doesn't look like it, does it?

This just in . . . There will be a Celebration of the Life of J. Brian, that late great pornmaker, Saturday, June 1, 4 p.m. at the End Up. The public is invited. ■

Mister Marcus

The Party's Just Begun

June 1 at 9 p.m. the doors of the Trocadero Transfer at 5204th St. will open for the Heat of the Night party. Between 9 p.m. and midnight the \$7 door charge will benefit the 1985 Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade. After midnight an additional \$5 Trocadero membership is required. The show begins at 12:30 a.m. with Paul Parker, just returning from appearances in L.A. and San Diego, and Magda Dioni, who's recent release, "Dangerous," is making its way onto dance floors across the country.

Parker said he is excited about the Heat of the Night party and will be bringing a copy of the song he wrote and produced, called "In the Heat of the Night," sung by Debbie Jacobs.

"There's been a period of depression which has hit us extra hard here in San Francisco," said Parker. "I think we're learning to cope, and that includes kicking back a little and having a good time."

Parker's first dance single, "Right on Target/Pushin' Too Hard," was an overwhelming dance success, followed by "Shot in the Night" and the "Too Much to Dream" LP, produced by Patrick Cowley, which brought an enthusiastic international audience, ranging from Europe and Australia to North and South America. Parker's writing and co-production of "Don't Play with Fire/Without Your Love" helped the hits climb to the #1 spot on the UK dance charts in three weeks while released as a promo copy.

Magda Dioni appeared on the entertainment scene just over two years ago. Working in a downtown San Francisco real estate office with her now-producer Gary Noguera proved to be quite a bore. She and Gary produced her first success, "When Will I See You Again," which was somewhat of a struggle for the novices but "provided valuable lessons" for them both. Her new release,

"Dangerous," had a much more comfortable production, which she feels is much better.

"My voice is not one of those high, shrill disco voices which seem to generate excitement," she said. "I'm just getting comfortable with the low, sultry quality of my voice and how to use it in my music." ■

Auditions

Seven men, ages 20-60, racially mixed, are needed for Circle of the Serpent, a new show at the Ambush by Jim N. Jordan, produced and directed by Joe Cappetta.

Auditions will be held Saturday, June 1, from noon to 2 p.m. at Studio Eremos.

Rehearsals begin June 8, and performances will take place July 11 through August 11. ■

COURTLY CHATTER

Gearing Up

REMY

Within the next couple of months we shall be deluged with campaigns for various titles. First up is the contest for King and Queen of Hearts of San Francisco. This contest takes place June 2 at the Rams Head starting at 8 p.m. Voting will be that day, also at the Rams Head, from 12 noon until 5 p.m. Candidates for King are Bobby Love and Tom. Candidates for Queen are Tracee Dunn, Shannon, and Rita. The title is owned by Empress XV Tessie, and its principal purpose is to raise funds for the Senior Luncheon and Holiday Dinner programs.

June 5 starts the official campaign for the title of Mr. and Miss Gay San Francisco. As of this writing, all of the applications for entry into the campaign have not been received. However, rumor has it that the prospective title seekers are: for Mr. Gay; Amber Lee, Bill Ireton, and Peter Dixon. For Miss Gay; Miss Goldblatt, Traci Le Tress, Jeannine, and Tiffany. The voting will be held at the Show Folks of America Hall at 827 Hyde St. from 4 p.m. till 8 p.m. June 22. The pageant for the reigning Mr. and Miss Gay, Bruce Harrelson and Parkway, starts at 7 p.m. The theme is "Give My Regards To . . ." and the evening plans to be a fun-filled event. Information about the pageant and contest can be obtained from either Bruce or Parkway, as well as from various bars.

The Grand Ducal Council will conduct the contest for Grand Duke XII and Grand Duchess XIII August 10. Plans are now being finalized as to the theme and filing dates for the candidates. Rumored contenders are Deena Jones and Miss Piggie for Grand Duchess, with Tony Trevizo for Grand Duke. Although it's still early, there may be others gathering support before the filing date. The ball is set for Bimbo's 365 Club on Columbus Avenue. Be on the lookout for the details, and I'll include them here as time gets nearer.

BUENA VISTA LUNCH

Sunday the 19th was the 6th Annual Box Lunch Social. The SF/GDI Club co-hosted this event in previous years with the Warlocks M/C and now with the CMC. Check-in was at the Transfer where everyone signed up for Bike, Buddy, People Events, and Miss Box Lunch Social. At the stroke of noon we proceeded to the top of Buena Vista Park where the various motorcycle, people events, judging for Miss Box Lunch, and picnic settings took place, with the annual volleyball game and awards rounding out the day. Winners in each category received personalized bottles of wine, and they are: Bike Event, Dan Jeansson, Constantines M/C Road Captain; Buddy Event, Vinnie Russell, Barbary Coasters M/C; People Event, Bob Rowbottom, Barbary Coasters M/C; Tackiest Table Setting, Miss Piggie; Most Elegant, Anna Mae Wong (complete with fortune cookies and champagne); Over-all, Barbary Coasters M/C; Miss Box Lunch was won by Kent Schooler. Kent's southern belle gone astray, complete with ball gown and matching hat, won the day as he dazzled the judges with his mirrored high heels. The volleyball game was a camp, with the BC's playing a potpourri of Miss

Box Lunch contestants and admirers. The BC's almost lost the game, but confusion caught the opponents off guard and proved to be the winning combination. Next, the CMC challenged the GDI's, and with some trick shots the GDI's swept by the CMC to secure a playoff spot. The playoff game was a cliff hanger, pitting the BC's against the GDI's. The GDI's proved to be slicker and more cunning than the BC's, as team captain Jonni Valle led his team to victory. Overall, the Box Lunch Social was a fun and enjoyable event.

After the Box Lunch Social, the participants either headed for the S.F. Eagle to attend the California Eagles' Beer Bust, or the Men's Room for the Barbary Coasters' raffle drawing. The Eagles' Beer Bust was a benefit for the SF AIDS Foundation's Food Bank. Entry was \$6, and if you brought cans of food, you were given a discount. They also held an auction and served up a sumptuous meal to the crowd. Miss Piggie, regaled in Queen Victoria costume, presided over the afternoon as people toasted the birthday of one of England's most powerful monarchs. God Save The Queen!

The Barbary Coasters' raffle drawing at the men's room was packed to the gills as Teresa La Bitch went through the crowd selling raffle tickets. The tickets gave the purchaser a chance to win a dome tent, lantern, sleeping bag, and cooler. The winner was Rona Barrett with a San Francisco P.O. Box. Thanks to



Lily Street (l.) and Miss Goldblatt receive the attentions of two CMC members at the Pre-Box Lunch Social at the Transfer last week

(Photo: Rink)

all of the people who purchased tickets.

BELETED THANKS

In my last column I submitted a list of "thank you's" to people who had made my 39th a festive time. However, my column was lengthy and that part had to be edited out. Not to worry . . . here they are. Thanks to Cameron/Tanner for the lovely hand-carved flower vase, Tony Trevizo for the Balos mouth-blown egg, Rick Manning and Michael Russo for the sushi dinner and my favorite Pikeake (jasmine) leis, Peter, Scott, and Charlie of the Midnight Sun, the birthday cake from the Village,

and Nora Jean of NJN Bar and Grille, and the gang at the Men's Room for making my birthday a joyous occasion. Also to Roger Coca and Monte Reddick for the lovely cards, and Miss Hawaii in perpetuity, Joey Wright for the lovely picture of "Empress Mei Ling Kim" from coronation 1985. Thanks guys, you were all so very wonderful to me!!!

M/C RUN SEASON '85

The 1985 Motorcycle Run Season was officially launched this weekend as the Cheaters M/C hosted its annual Memorial Day weekend run. The run theme was "Faeiric Tales and Nursery Rhymes." This year the

run site was in the Stanislaus Forest area, and from all indications the attendees had a wonderful time. Congratulations, Cheaters, for having another successful run.

Following are the clubs, dates, themes, and locations for each of the clubs having weekend runs: SF/GDI Club, June 14-16, "Liberty—Melting Pot of the World," Lake Edson (El Dorado Forest); CMC, July 5-7, "Human Holiday," Hollister State Park; Force 5 (Palo Alto), July 12-15, "Pre-Historic Madness," Clearlake; Barbary Coasters, July 26-28, "Goodbye, Hollywood, Goodbye," Spring Gap (Stanislaus Forest); Constantines, August 16-18, "Orient Express," Stanislaus Forest; Cycle Runners, August 30-September 2, "Kansas — Land of Abhhhhhs," Big Basin State Park (tentative); Warlocks, September 20-22, "On Silver Wings," Lake San Antonio (Monterey State Park). The price range for three-day runs is between \$60 to \$65, and the four-day runs between \$80 to \$100, depending upon the costs of site accommodations, etc.

If you're interested in attending any of these runs, watch for posters or flyers that will be in the various bars around town. Applications can also be found at some South-of-Market bars or from members of the various clubs. For the money, you can't beat it for food, 24-hour bar, first-rate shows, and most of all, the camaraderie of being with some great people and having a great time. Also, if you attend most of these runs, you will have racked up enough points to nominate and vote in the 1985 Barbary Coasters Motorcycle Awards in February. Information about how you can qualify can be obtained from any member of the Barbary Coasters M/C.

TRAVELS ABROAD

The weekend of May 18, (Continued on next page)

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BOOK RACK

Our Voices

Male Fantasies / Gay Realities
by George Stambolian
The Seahorse Press, \$7.95

by Joseph D. Butkic

Recently in print, a noted East Coast critic bad-mouthed a new play, dismissing it as "faggot nonsense." Then, a conservative commentator who prizes polysyllables in his polemics wrote an irritating article in defense of the aforementioned bad taste. It's obvious those who bill themselves as America's intelligentsia still harbor feelings of ill will towards homosexuals, generalizing to the point of petulant, foot-stomping meanness. Language should be a tool to expand horizons and hint at unborn visions. Yet it is used as a weapon to bash.

It's good then to hear Gay voices speak for themselves. Talk about Gays by non-Gays is every bit as tedious and unproductive as white talk about blacks or male talk about females. It's beneficial to have a Gay intellectual collect a variety of voices in one compact volume. Seahorse Press's latest offering, *Male Fantasies / Gay Realities* by George Stambolian, transcends the petty bickering of establishment critics. Here we have Stambolian, a noted Gay academic at Wellesley, interviewing men whom he happens to find interesting; Gay men who represent the different tastes of a highly diversified community of lovers. Here are ten separate voices belonging to a masochist, a fetishist, an entrepreneur, a self-made man, a father, a handsome man, a soprano, a romantic, a black man, and an analyst.

This work is an intriguing blend of identities, running from overtly sexual categories—in which most non-Gay people usually place and dispose of us—to non-traditional yet non-threatening titles that we create and bestow upon ourselves regardless of society's nose wrinkles of disbelief or disgust. It's regrettable that the interviewees prefer anonymity. The presence of good all-American-boy-type

names coupled with strong, ethnic-pride surnames might help nudge aside the shroud of shame that still limits the vision of too many Gay people.

Hearing and mulling over what a spectrum of Gay men feel and think is deeply enriching. Stambolian comments on this enabling factor in his short introduction: "When a Gay man reveals his deepest thoughts and feelings, the moment always has a special weight; he describes what many would prefer that he not describe; he breaks through the barrier of silence that still surrounds all of us despite the volumes that have been written in recent years about Gay life. Each of these men made the decision to speak not only to me but to the reader, and in that sense each of these stories is a coming-out story and an exercise in openness." The thrill of Christmas morning hovers over this volume. Untie, open, (sure!) go ahead and tear apart those wrappings, a voice urges the reader.

Let's unwrap carefully one of these surprises, the one titled "A Soprano." The interviewer's opening comment about his subject serves well to awaken any sleepy reader. "Here you are, fifty-six-year old, a respected professor of French at a major state university, and a well-known drag queen. That, I must say, is a rather astonishing combination of talents!"

The interviewee, however, does not exploit or apologize for his life. Rather, he emphasizes its multi-dimensionality, a richness in which he revels. The professor explains how his academic commitments take precedence. In addition, he admits to Gay political activities in New York. Being a drag queen is but one facet of his life. We learn that the subject is polylingual, having facility with French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Russian, German, Chinese and Latin. Besides all that, this good-natured Francophile is a soprano. He discards academic gown and pretensions for drag queen glitter attire and proper pumps every so often. Here we have a true Renaissance Man.

The soprano explains with

gutsy irreverence and wit his (and other Gay males') fascination with opera: "Queens who have no palaces go to the opera. That's their palace." We also learn how the interviewee, at 17, worked as a cryptographer in Washington, studying enemy codes, serving his country. "It was a top-secret job, and I had to be cleared by the FBI," our teacher claims. "They must have known I was Gay because all my friends were Gay, and they questioned most of them, including a mad Hungarian art dealer I knew who wore lipstick all the time! But I got the clearance. I guess they were desperate for talent."

Wartime D.C., we discover, was a paradise of khaki and spit-shine for Gay men: "It was marvelous because there was practically nobody in Washington but men in uniform. And there was a lot of fucking going on, my dear, a lot of fucking... I discovered my first (glory hole) in the Greyhound Station in Alexandria, Virginia. I saw this big eye looking at me, which turned out to belong to a paratrooper in full uniform, and just beautiful! But I was frightened to death. I thought he was going to kill me. Then I learned that he had something else in mind!"

The interviewee shares childhood recollections that should delight a Gay male audience in fits of nodding assent: "I was only four or five, but I was always aware of the fact that when they (boys in knickers) walked, there was this switching of creases back and forth and up to a centerpoint on their buttocks. I was fascinated by that. I wanted to get as close to them as possible. Then I saw that some boys' asses ended up on bicycle seats and that those seats had two indentations on them. I realized that boys' asses fit on those seats, and when I saw them ride, leaning forward with their asses lifted, that whole combination of seat and ass made my heart pound. So when I saw them get off their bicycles and walk away, I would go up and touch the seats, the leather and the sweat."

Also, he recalls the fate of being a sissy and being bullied by boys for the unspeakable act of preferring girls as playmates. To avoid confrontations, the soprano would help his tormentors with their homework. How well this episode jogged my memory. I remember giving sheets and sheets of carefully diagrammed Latin homework each morning to my own best friend. As the bus bumped us to school, my crewcut blond heart throb copied and thus ensured his survival in Latin II. His leg touching mine as he balanced books and tablets was thrill enough for a high school sophomore at Our Lady of Lourdes High. Certainly the soprano speaks to many of us.

The interview never turns tedious. Further questioning reveals the subject's relationship with his mother, past lovers, and his current one, a man 31 years his junior. In "The Soprano" we see a life lived to the fullest. Here is a success story—with delightful misadventures—to grin over. The interviewee succeeds in laughing at himself and, as a result, puts a full and varied life into perspective.

George Stambolian offers nine more peeks at Gay men reflecting on their choices. The interviewer is non-judgmental, the interviewees candid. The beauty of this volume is that the reader can sample anywhere among these ten portraits and find himself nodding with knowing self-assurance.



Empress Sissy performed at the shindig for Monte Reddick. (Photo: Rink)

Chatter

(Continued from previous page)

members of San Francisco's courts traveled to Fresno for the annual coronation of their Emperor and Empress. Friday night, the 17th, Fresno hosted the camp coronation of the Emperor and Empress of The Americas. Empress XIII Char and Emperor IX Bob Pace were San Francisco's entrants in the contest. How could you not vote for these two, with their charm and charisma? The catch here is that only reigning or former monarchs are allowed to vote. Physical beauty is not a requirement, and elegance is definitely out. Nevertheless, Char and Bob won. Congratulations, your majesties, for once again ascending the thrones.

Saturday evening, the Fresno Court put on a fabulous coronation, honoring their reigning

\$3,200. Keep up the good work, Ed and Little Mother.

Kimo's was the setting Wednesday the 22nd for Mama Billy's birthday party. What a turnout. The place was jammed to the rafters, as well wishers streamed from floors to wish Mama a happy birthday. The show was festive. Mama's white limousine, complete with champagne, was very impressive, and Mama looked fabulous in white and silver. May you have many more birthdays!

Thursday the 23rd was the First Anniversary of Trax on Haight Street. Bob Douglas and Kenneth-Ann, along with their staff, put on a fun event. The place was party heaven, and everyone who attended had a great time. Good Luck, guys, on your continued success.

Friday, the Village played host to the visiting teams who were here for the 2nd Annual Golden Bear Softball Classic. Teams from New Haven, Boston,

'Happy birthday to Gardner Pond, Edward Emond, and Hector Caceres, who jointly celebrated their 141½ birthdays.'

Empress, Michele De Camp. San Francisco came home with several awards. Grand Duke Michael Bowman won for Best Male In Theme Costume, Sandy Sorrelles for Best Entertainer Overall. Special awards were given to the Court of the Grand Duke and Duchess, and to Grand Duchess XI Sable. The newly elected monarchs of Fresno are Emperor Bryan Petersen and Empress Deli. Once again, Fresno has outdone itself by putting together another great coronation. Congratulations go to Empress Michele and the newly elected monarchs.

WEEK IN REVIEW

SAGA, the Gay ski club, held its annual installation of officers and party at M & M Pavilion Saturday the 18th. The theme was based on the 1940s military era. The whole evening was extremely enjoyable, and I had a wonderful time. Thanks SAGA!

Ed Paulson and Little Mother held another of their series of auctions for San Francisco AIDS projects on Sunday the 19th at the Kokpit. More than \$850 was raised for this charity. This was the fourth auction and brings the total raised by them in San Francisco to more than

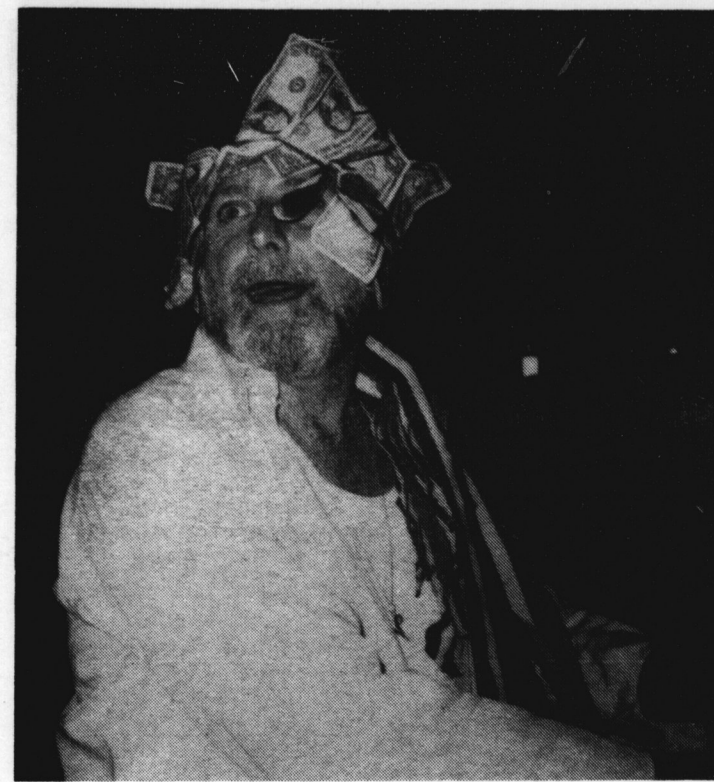
Houston, Long Beach, San Diego, Los Angeles, and San Francisco competed during the two-day tournament. Tom Vindeed and the Village staff gave good party, and the bar was packed till closing. Congratulations to the winners of the Golden Bear Classic. They are: Third Place, The Pendulum, San Francisco; Second Place, The Village, San Francisco; and First Place, The Ramrod, Boston. This tournament is a fun event, and we wish continued success to the organizers and sponsors.

Happy birthday to Gardner Pond, Edward Emond, and Hector Caceres, who jointly celebrated their 141½ birthdays. The parrillada was "muy savaroso y elegante." A fun time was had by all.

Just a note: stop by the Rawhide II and get into western dancing. I was there over the weekend and picked up the two-step and the western waltz, taught to me by my patient teacher, Bruce Elliot. Ray Chalker and his staff were very friendly to me, and the music was great!

Till next time... ALOHA!

Remy

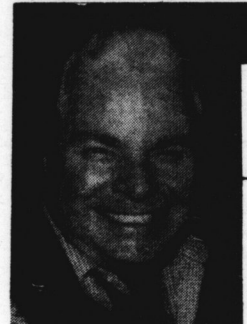


Robbie, aka Helen Trent, of the Kokpit on his 50th birthday

SWEET LIPS SEZ...

Send In the Clowns

DICK WALTERS



When you are downtown this week be sure to stop in and see the completely redecorated Queen Mary's Pub... a fantastic new look done by Robert and Joseph, and it has become a light and delightful looking drinking establishment... your crew did a great job, Daddy Joe Roland.

Have you been to the Double D bar at 1123 Folsom St... especially when Steve is on the planks as he makes you feel very welcome in this lovely western-type bar.

Don't forget this evening, Thursday, the 30th, is a Night At the Circus, that is Circus Vargas, which is having a benefit performance this evening for AIDS at 4th and Howard Sts., opposite Moscone Center, with Gina Moscone and Will McCovey as honorary ring masters... yes you can still get tickets at the tent site—so don't miss this event which promises to be a fun-filled evening.

'Larry of the Giraffe on Polk Street must be hiring his bartenders from the gym he works out at.'

Also on Friday the 31st will be the 13th Black and White Ball, a fundraiser for the San Francisco Symphony beginning at 9 p.m. at five Civic Center locations... what a blast this should be, right Talven?

Larry of the Giraffe on Polk Street must be hiring his bartenders from the gym he works out at... if you don't believe me go to the Giraffe during the day on Monday through Thursday and take a look at the hunk by the name of Tom... besides, you can watch your favorite soaps on their BIG video screen, right Carl?

On Friday the 7th of June from 4 till 8 p.m., Google's on Geary will host a birthday party for the ever young (76 years) "Ma" Perkins, so come on down and help this nice man have a good time.

Speaking of birthday parties, remember that on Thursday, the 6th of June, from 8 p.m. on, there will be a party for Kimo at

Kimo's on Polk St... No, I won't try to guess your age, Kimo, as I know it is on the stone tablet... a Hawaiian buffet will be prepared and served by Mama Billy, and there will be a special show by Empress Sissy and Marlena with a cast of thousands... please dress Hawaiian... this should be a great party, so don't miss it, right Jay Noonan?

Seems as if Russ and Jim of the White Swallow have done a new fluff-up job on the place... what with a new paint job, a new back bar, new bar stools, and a new awning, it looks better than ever, if that is possible. Isn't that right Jerry? So the next time you are doing Polk Street, do drop in to the White Swallow and have a libation with their pleasant crew.

Thursday, the 20th of June... keep that date open as Hunks on Polk Street is going to have a big benefit for the Shanti Project, and according to David

and Jack, the congenial owners, it should be a fabulous one with lots of things to be auctioned off, and many, many more surprises... will let you know more about this great event in the next column... right Dick Cook?

Understand that the fabulous Bella had a great dinner party at her home for the one and only Michelle, who is moving back east again... you will be missed by a lot of people who truly love you, Michelle, and sorry I didn't get to the dinner party, but my invitation must have blown off the porch... but hurry back.

Yes, you can still find Bill Ward on the keyboard at Sutter's Mill at lunch time and at the popular Rags during the cocktail hour on Monday through Fridays, so if you enjoy good piano while you are having lunch do try the downstairs room of Sutter's Mill, right Craig?

Love,
Sweet Lips

Orphans

(Continued from page 26)

friendship between his brother and the businessman. The businessman finds the rage appealing. He offers big brother employment as his bodyguard.

Big brother accepts the job. He also accepts large cash advances, clothing, and furniture. The one thing he refuses is affection. At the end, the businessman returns a few minutes after the younger brother, with whom he's gone for a stroll. The businessman has been sighted by some associates, who have shot the businessman just badly enough to permit him to hobble home and die in the two brothers' arms.

At that moment, the businessman and the older brother acquire humanity. The businessman, obviously the object of a gangland manhunt, has devoted the last few days of life to imparting his fundamental values to the older brother, who lives on the brink of amoral subsistence. "Come here, let me give you some encouragement," the businessman offers throughout the play. Big brother always rejects a friendly arm on his shoulder. For him, warm is the way a pistol feels, and love is a form of domination.

But at the moment of the businessman's death, big brother cracks. "Don't leave me, don't leave me," he cries. For the first time, he feels love and loss. His life is transformed, the businessman's life of crime is redeemed, and the younger brother—heretofore seen as marginally retarded—expresses an all-encompassing love and forgiveness.

Is this an old story? I think so—all the best ones are. By means of an exquisite production, however, *Orphans* conveys all of the story's allegorical power. There is no curtain and, before the play begins, we see a suburban living room and kitchen, designed by Kevin Rigdon, littered with debris. Empty tuna fish cans by the score are stacked on the kitchen counter. Then the lights go down, and dim blue lights go up behind a figure seated on a wide window sill. Seen in silhouette, the figure blows streams of soap bubbles while electrified jazz by the Pat Metheny Group plays. In a single instant, we're transported to the Isle of Lost Boys—a place of lots of fun, little warmth, and less love. Director Sinise's work also conveys the danger of the confrontations between the junior and senior hoodlums but, better still, sustains the magic of that opening sequence throughout.

The cast is delicately balanced and integrated. As the businessman, John Mahoney always has several layers of subtext clicking away below the surface. Terry Kinney's portrayal of the older brother is like a pot about to boil over. Cynical and cruel, Kinney rises to the dramatic moment with heartrending believability. My favorite characterization is that of Kevin Anderson as the younger brother. Anderson scratches, giggles, and leaps around with adolescent energy. At isolated moments, Anderson's naive flickers with a kind of primeval wisdom that is finally allowed to glow.

That sense of something primeval is continuous throughout *Orphans*. I think it's love struggling for and ultimately finding full expression.

B. Spunberg

Orphans
Westside Arts Theater
(212) 541-8394

Bazaar Calendar

Thursday, 5/30: Open Household Meeting, Mr./Miss Gay S.F., Festus, 7:30 p.m.
Cocktail Party, 7th Anniversary, Emperor Rich Carle and Mamie McGongle, The Wagons, 8 p.m., host Obie.

Friday, 5/31: Auction of Desserts and Wines, Casa Loma, 8 p.m., benefit for Light-house for the Blind, Hostess: Jeangine (candidate for Miss Gay SF).

The Gun's Are Smoking, a tribute to Mr./Miss Gay Bruce and Parkay, Festus, 8:15 p.m., a roast hosted by Larice.
Poster Man Contest, Chaps, 10 p.m.

Saturday, 6/1: Amazon Girl Contest, Hungarian Hall, (Geary, between Van Ness and Polk) 6:30 p.m. Contest: 7 p.m., \$6. No host bar, more info 621-3152.

After Amazon Parties: Casa

Loma, Kimo's, Kokpit, and Men's Room, 11 p.m.
Stepping Down Ball, Q. of H. Desiree, Men's Room, 8 p.m.

Sunday, 6/2: Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, S.F. Eagle, 3 to 6 p.m., beer bust, \$6, concert.
Tessie's Wedding, Rathskeller (Polk and Turk), 3 p.m.
Hats Off to Tessie, Wedding Reception, Casa Loma, 8 to 10 p.m.

End-Up Jock Strap Contest, p.m., MCs Randy Johnson and Diamond John.

Monday, 6/3: Big Bird Dance Contest, Village, 8 p.m.
Open Court Meeting, Imperial Court, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, 6/5: Mr./Miss Gay SF Candidate Presentation, Village, 8 p.m., MCs Bruce and Parkay.

Compiled by Karl Stewart

GayWHOGayWHATGayWHEREGay

Gay Youth Switchboard

Since 1978 the Gay Youth Community Switchboard has maintained operation in the greater San Francisco Bay Area. The Gay Switchboard is a pioneer program offering the only youth-for-youth community switchboard.

Since its inception, the switchboard has helped thousands of Bay Area and nationwide callers alike. The founding purpose of the switchboard remains: to provide information and referral on community resources sensitive to Lesbian and Gay youth, to maintain information on Lesbian and Gay youth events and activities, and most important, for the switchboard to maintain operators that are capable peer counselors.

The switchboard offers its services to sexual minority youth (13-25 years of age). For further information, give us a call at 552-6025.

GAWK

Gay Artists and Writers Kollektive (GAWK) needs disc jockeys, writers, comics, musicians, singers, designers, and artists for serious rapping. Wanna meet some cool people? Call the barometer of hip at (415) 664-2682.

Gay Oppression

Blood Moon Press is seeking submissions for a collection of poetry on Gay oppression. Please send submissions, with SASE, to: Blood Moon Press, c/o N. Rehbock, 60-25 67th Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385, by July 1.

Expect to wait six to eight weeks for a response. Money may be involved, but most likely payment will come in the form of contributor's copies.



AGLA on Children's Programming

The Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Artists in the Entertainment Industry called for positive Gay and Lesbian role models on television programs aimed at children during the First International Conference on Children and the Media held at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles May 6, 7, and 8.

During his presentation to the Television Role Models for Minorities workshop, AGLA chairperson Chris Uszler said, "It is imperative that children see positive, heroic, Gay and Lesbian people on TV. Not only will these depictions help instill pride and self-acceptance in young people coming to terms with their sexual orientation, it also will help stop some of the violence Gays and Lesbians experience at the hands of adolescents."

Uszler saw no limit to the types of programs which could contain Lesbian and Gay characters. "Even Saturday cartooning should depict same-sex couplings. It is not necessary to discuss sex or adult issues when showing two individuals living together and caring for each other," he concluded.

The conference, jointly sponsored by Children's Institute International of Los Angeles and the International Children's Center of Paris, was described as "an international gathering of entertainment, media, mental health, and child health professionals dedicated to improving media for and about children."

AGLA is the only media organization of its kind in the United States that responds to the issues raised about Gay and Lesbian characters. AGLA was formed to encourage the responsible portrayal of Gays and Lesbians in the entertainment industry. While working closely with the entertainment industry, AGLA maintains a strong relationship with the community at large. This year saw an expansion of its services to gain national exposure, seeking to inform, educate, and eradicate homophobia throughout American media, not just in Hollywood.

Persons wishing to contact AGLA may do so by writing AGLA, P.O. Box 69A18, West Hollywood, California 90069, or by phoning (213) 851-4997.

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ATTENTION: Nurses, Doctors, EMTs and other Health-Care Personnel Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade
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Please contact:
Parade Office
335 Noe St.
861-5404
Attn: Mike, Shari or Robert
Come to ONE of these Meetings
Tuesday, June 4, 1985 6:30 p.m.
or
Tuesday, June 18, 1985 6:30 p.m.
Both at the Parade Office
Final Mandatory Pre-Parade Meeting
Thursday, June 27, 1985 6:30 p.m.
Location To Be Announced
* CPR Recertification Will Be Offered

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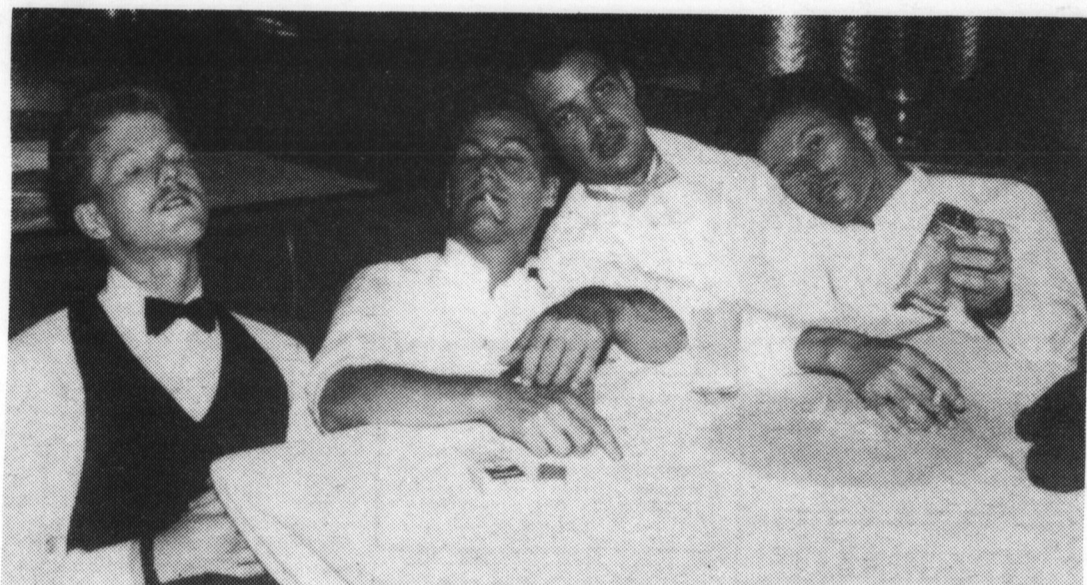
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OWNERS JOYOUS, CURE COMPLETE



SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA—It was announced today that the owners of the famous *P.S. and Casa de Cristal restaurants who caused headlines several months ago by announcing that the price of all entrées would be **cut in half**, have responded to therapy and the pleas of their accountants and are bringing to a close this historic if not somewhat **mad** promotion. The staff of both restaurants are overjoyed because their asses were dragging (see photo) due to the overwhelming response to this fabulous celebration. Busy. Busy. Busy.

Both Tom Waddell and John Adinolfi (the owners) emerged from therapy, blinking in the sunlight, and contrite for their outrageous behavior but grateful

nonetheless to all those who participated in the half price sale. It seems that increased volume offset the low prices and the guys actually realized a modest profit.

Additionally, Tom and John congratulated the staff of both restaurants for their valiant work above and beyond the call of duty but cautioned that new develop-

ments might mean that even though the half price promotion has come to an end, the high volume of business would most likely continue.

The **startling new development** can now be revealed! It concerns a **new menu** that Tom and John have hatched and that will be introduced **for the very first time** tonight at both the *P.S. and Casa de Cristal restaurants. The amazing thing about this new menu are the **drastically reduced prices** which may

give some people cause to wonder whether Tom and John are actually in fact truly cured!

The outrageously **low prices** on this new menu are to be in effect indefinitely. But with this kind of madness, who can be sure? This reporter suggests that all budget conscious diners come to either the *P.S. or Casa de Cristal restaurants **without delay** to check out this amazing new menu and sumptuous dining experience.

ASK ALICE

Mama Said There'd Be Days Like This!



Dear Alice:
It has been a while since I've seen your column and was wondering if this meant you won't be helping with the problems of the world any more. I am an "over-forty queen" and need your wonderful advice. Specifically I need to know about all these benefits for AIDS. Are they all legit or is it just a lot of people jumping on the band wagon?

Need to Know Modesto

Dear Needy:
Thanks for your concern about my writing but not to worry, one of the dailies are sure to **pick me up** as it were.

And as to your question, the AIDS Foundation tries to be on top (pardon the tasteless pun) of all events booked as an AIDS benefit. As of this writing, it appears all have been on the "up and up" and have done a lot for AIDS victims. In fact, I am lending my name and beautiful face to an upcoming event: The Ask Alice Wine Auction at the *P.S. on June 9th. It should be a fun afternoon concluding with a special showing of the "Closest Ball" video. Hope to see you in the receiving line.

Dear Alice:
Glad to see you back girl, but I was a little upset with that letter accusing you of actually being a man disguised as a woman. Some people just don't understand us, do they? I myself am a mature "lady" also, and sometimes people look at me funny as if they

think I am a man. Anyway, I would like to know how you really look at life under these conditions???

Hadda S. Change Snipped, Oregon

Dear Hadda:
I wasn't at all bothered by the letter you mentioned. However, I did have a long talk with my hairdresser who has promised to change my look so I will look a little less "hard." I like that word better than "butch" which I think is over used. As for my outlook on life in these troubled times: Yesterday is paid in full, tomorrow in a promissory note, and today is cash in hand. And as concerns maturity, just relax honey! Be what you are, even if it is an illusion.

Dear Alice:
I have been enjoying the half price dinners at the *P.S. and Casa de Cristal restaurants for a long time now. Can it last forever? Should it? I figure if anyone would know, that person would be you!

Harley Ken Weight Pacific Heights

Dear Harley,
Well my dear, as we go to press the half price celebration is *fini*. But not to fret! The owners (from their sick beds) have put together new menus for both restaurants and the prices have been slashed! This will be the fare from now on: \$10.95 tops at the *P.S. and \$9.95 tops at the Casa. Now that is still the best deal in town, don't you agree? Check it out.

Legislature Set to Spend \$25 Million on AIDS

Proposes Another \$3.7 Million for Medi-Cal; Budget Would Boost Spending Five-Fold

by Brian Jones

The California Legislature is preparing to pass a \$25.3 million budget for AIDS research, education and testing. The proposed budget represents a five-fold increase over the \$4.9 million appropriated for the current budget year, which ends June 30. In addition, a joint legislative panel is calling for a special \$3.7 million boost to Medi-Cal, in order to cover the costs of medically indigent patients who seek care for AIDS at city hospitals—especially in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

The proposed legislative budget represents a dramatic increase in every area of AIDS-related services. The \$25.3 million legislative proposal compares to an \$11.9 million budget proposed earlier this year by Gov. George Deukmejian. On the Medi-Cal appropriation, the governor made no recommendation; the Legislature's proposed \$3.7 million boost for Medi-Cal would bring total AIDS-related state spending to \$29 million.

The State Senate and Assembly both have passed spending bills relating to AIDS. Their proposals are now in a conference committee to reconcile differences. Final action is expected at

'California is setting the standard for Washington D.C.—we now have a plan that let's us wage a real war on AIDS.'

Art Agnos

the end of this week or next week. Then the budget goes to Deukmejian for his approval, or veto.

Both houses closely followed the spending plan drafted by a specially empanelled State AIDS Budget Task Force, under the leadership of the Assembly budget chief, John Vasconcellos. Vasconcellos is the South Bay Democrat who chairs the Assembly Ways and Means Committee.

It seems likely the Legislature will approve something close to the \$25 million package, plus the Medi-Cal supplement. Will the Governor sign it? One member of the task force said privately that he thought Deukmejian would approve the spending bill—pointing out that the Governor's finance chief is a member of the task force.

(Continued on next page)



Titillation: Legal, safe and still immoral. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

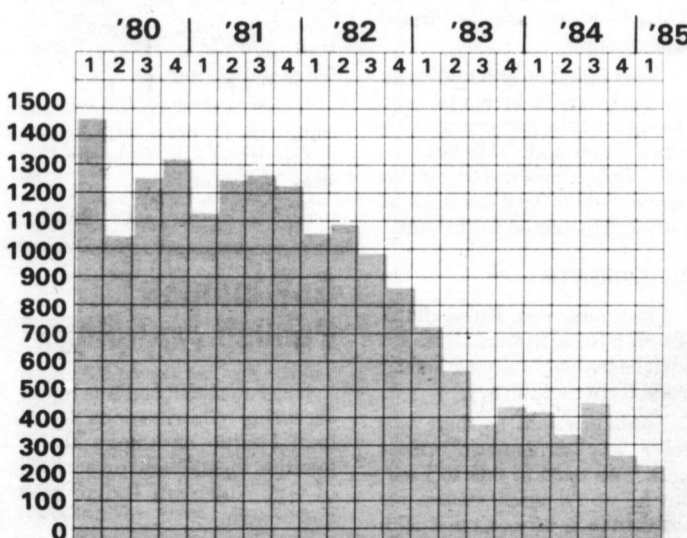
Bottoms Fall Out Of Gay VD Rate

Clinic Van Chases Cases But Comes Up With Just 1

by Charles Linebarger

The Gay community VD rate is dropping—literally—almost out of sight. The number of cases of rectal gonorrhoea logged at City Clinic plummeted 86 percent between early 1980 and early 1985. In the three months ended in March this year, there were 226 such cases at City Clinic—compared to 1,472 cases in the same period five years ago.

And in the past three months, the City Clinic van corps went forth into the community and tested 148 men—but found only one case of VD. So low has the VD rate fallen, the volunteer van corps is disbanding as of the end of this month.



RECTAL GONORRHEA - CITY CLINIC CASES, SAN FRANCISCO (Number of Cases per Quarter - 1980-1985)

IN THIS ISSUE

ANTI-GAY BIAS is hindering the federal effort to fight AIDS, say Gay scientists and researchers. Criticism are leveled at Los Angeles conference. Dion Sanders explains on page 3.

DRUG PROGRAM to help Gay addicts is moving quickly through City Hall. The proposal would fill a gap in city services for drug abuse. Charles Linebarger reports on page 4.

QUARANTINE: Stonewallers talk about an unthinkable subject. Legal, medical and political experts agree it's a real concern, and suggest plans for dealing with the issue. Page 5.

IT'S A CIRCUS as Circus Vargas opens in San Francisco with a spirited benefit for the S.F. AIDS Foundation. Photographer Rink was in a mood to clown around but found time for a story in images on pages 14 and 15.



Trouble brewing for Wilde's, where there's no beer to cry into. (Photo: Rink)

Gay Beer Goes Flat

Brewer Won't Give Gays Head; It's a Walk on the Wilde Side

by Will Snyder

The Kinsey Institute has asked for a bottle of the beer for its museum. Johnny Carson has mentioned the brew on *The Tonight Show*. *MTV* has run ads for the product. *The Wall Street Journal* and *Newsweek* have run articles on it.

But for the creators of Wilde's Beer—the first "Gay" beer—it appears as though the company's slogan, "just between us," may be sadly *apropos*. That's because a Wisconsin brewer changed his mind about brewing Wilde's. The beer may never be more than a conversational topic among Gays. Unless another brewing source can be found, Wilde's may be unfulfilled history.

Wilde's President Ted J. Ross had been hopeful of getting the lager beer (named after Gay Irish poet Oscar Wilde) in the market by late 1984. However, Fred Huber, who heads the Joseph Huber Brewing Com-

(Continued on next page)

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OH, RAPTURE!

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