

BAY AREA REPORTER

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TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019



The relatively new 24 line has brought thugs and trouble into the heart of the Castro. (Photo: Rink)

Terror on the 24; Outrage in the City

Gang Attacks Rider as Driver Ignores Trouble; Suspects Escape as Police Delay Dispatch

by Allen White

Run 499 of the 24 Divisadero bus Saturday night (2 a.m. Sunday) has become the subject of outrage and controversy throughout the Gay community, and in many areas of the city government. Following a barrage of homophobic comments from a gang of youths, one straight man was beaten seriously and lay on the floor of the bus for an hour and a half until an ambulance arrived. The judgment of the bus driver, the delay by the police communications department and the long wait for an ambulance have become the subject of public concern.

(Continued on page 13)

IN THIS ISSUE

WE LIKE IT HERE

Are you as tired of the bad news as we are? For the Freedom Day issue in two weeks, we want upbeat material to share with all the out-of-town visitors (The B.A.R. plans a 45,000 press run to reach them all).

Despite all the downers, our town is still the Gay Mecca—the best place to live on earth for Gays and other beautiful people. Can you tell the parade visitors why?

We'll publish reader essays up to 500 words in length—though the briefer, the better. The theme: We Like it Here. The deadline: Friday, June 21.

PAUL CASTRO, the cheerful Texan who put the 'people' in People with AIDS, died this week. Bill Bradley provides a profile of Paul's brief but important reign in San Francisco on page 3.

BLOOD TESTS for the AIDS antibody are underway. On page 4, we report on a private clinic in San Francisco. On page 19, Marv. Shaw reports on testing in San Mateo County.

JUST MARRIED. Mike Hippler was skeptical of Gay nuptials, but his hard heart was softened by Vern and Ray. It's on the Off Beat on page 19.

Alice Enraged At Top Demos

Politics Hath No Fury Like A Constituency Spurned

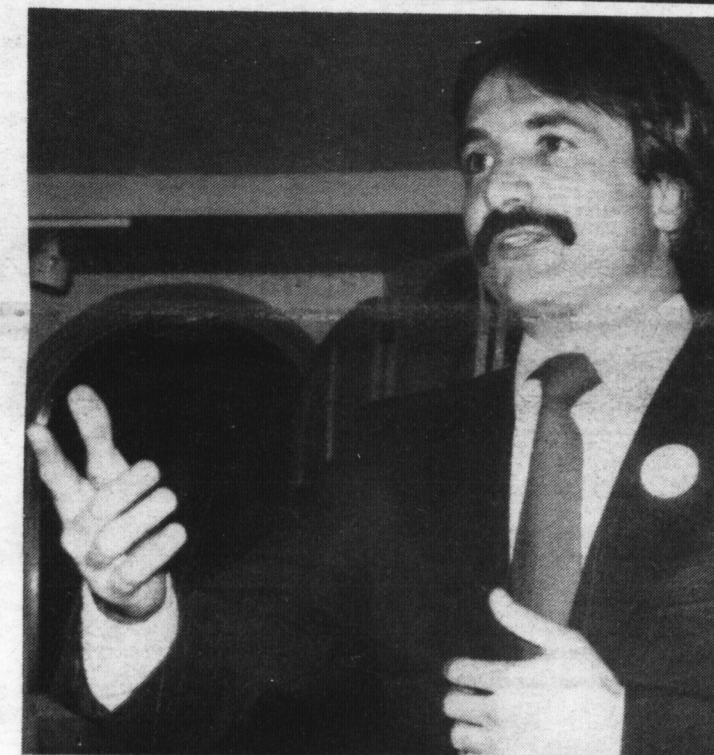
by Allen White

The power of the Lesbian and Gay community in the Democratic Party is starting to react to the decision of National Executive Committee and its Party Chair, Paul Kirk, to oust the Lesbian and Gay Caucus from the party. Monday night the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club became the first club to vote to send no money to the Democratic National Committee. Alice also voted not to support any candidate who will not go on record as opposing the move of Kirk.

The action came as California State Democratic Party Chair Betty Smith addressed the club. She tried to explain the actions of the national party—though she said "not defend"—what had led

to the decision to eliminate the Lesbian and Gay caucus, and the Asian Pacific caucus, from the party. Through all the rhetoric it boiled down to the simple fact

(Continued on next page)



Sal Rosselli pledged to get labor support to restore Gays to party platform. (Photo: Rink)

Gays Lose, Nuclear Families Win in Reagan Tax Plan

by Morgan Pinney, CPA

Gay people will see few benefits from the tax reform measures now being promoted by the Reagan administration—unless they're rich. High income people will benefit most from the Reagan plan because the top tax rate has been slashed to 35 percent from the current 50 percent.

In the middle and low income range, married couples with children and a stay-at-home spouse will see their taxes reduced by larger percentages than will single people. The reason is that the Reagan plan doubles the personal exemption to \$2,000 for every family member and allows a housewife to omit up to \$2,000 from taxable income for an IRA.

As the chart shows, a single gay man earning \$30,000 will see his taxes raised 3% by the Reagan tax "reform," but a married man, with two kids and a wife at home, will find his taxes reduced by a whopping 18%. "Ronald Reagan is paying off his fundamentalist supporters by building more nuclear family bias into the tax code," comments Matthew Reed, CPA, in San Francisco.

Singles are not the only people being left out of the "Second American Revolution." Straight married couples in the medium income range, with two paychecks and no children, will be paying more taxes too (see chart). Ronald Reagan seems to be echoing Phyllis Schlafly, telling them that if the wife will just give up her career and have some children, they will be rewarded with a tax break.

How Reagan Tax Plan Affects Hypothetical 1986 Returns	Guppies Single Gay No Dependents		Nukes Married Two Children With 25% Housewife		Yuppies Married No Dependents	
	Current Law	Reagan Plan	Current Law	Reagan Plan	Current Law	Reagan Plan
INCOME						
First Earners Wages	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Second Earners Wages					20,000	20,000
Employer Health Ins			300	300		300
Total Income	30,000	30,300	30,000	30,300	50,000	50,300
ADJUSTMENTS						
Second Earner Ded					2,000	4,000
IRA Contribution	2,000	2,000	2,000	4,000	2,000	4,000
Total Adjustments	2,000	2,000	2,000	4,000	6,000	4,000
ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME	28,000	28,300	28,000	26,300	44,000	46,300
ITEMIZED DEDUCTIONS						
Charitable Contribs	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Home Mortgage Int	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500
State & Local Taxes	2,184	2,184	2,184	0	2,860	0
Total Itemized	7,684	5,500	7,684	5,500	8,360	5,500
Less Zero Bracket	2,480	2,900	3,670	4,000	3,670	4,000
Allowable Itemized Personal Exemptions	5,204	2,600	4,014	1,500	4,690	1,500
Total ItemExempt	6,284	4,000	8,334	9,500	8,360	5,500
TAXABLE INCOME	21,716	23,700	19,666	16,800	35,640	40,800
TAX	3,570	3,690	2,353	1,920	6,221	6,700
PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN TAX		+3%		-18%		+7%
MARGINAL TAX RATE	26%	25%	18%	15%	28%	25%

DIET RIGHT.

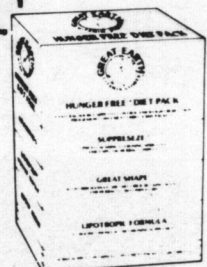
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What's in a Word? Big Bucks for Gays

Gay 'Bleep' Games Joust With Olympians Over \$110,000

by Will Snyder

Gay Games attorney Mary Dunlap wore a cautious smile after jousting with the powerful United States Olympic Committee Tuesday. The issue was attorney's fees, something Vaughan Walker, the USOC attorney from the San Francisco law firm of Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro, favored for himself and his firm.

The scene was the United States 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. It was there that Judges T. Alfred Goodwin, J. Clifford Wallace and Albert Stephens, and a packed hearing room, heard Dunlap and Walker debate whether the USOC should be awarded at least \$96,000 in legal fees. When interest is calculated, the penalty could be \$110,000.

In 1982, Walker had successfully argued that Waddell and San Francisco Arts & Athletics could not use the word, Olympic. Waddell and the SFAA originally had called the games the Gay Olympic Games.

Two things made Dunlap happy. First of all, she finally had a chance to make a public statement in court on behalf of Waddell and the SFAA. She also felt her arguments were starting to make some headway with one of the judges, Wallace.

Wallace had been perceived by some observers as being not friendly to the Gay Games cause. In statements made before the hearing, Wallace allegedly had said the SFAA wanted to use the word, Olympic, "clearly to profit."

The theme was different during Tuesday's hearing. Wallace continually peppered Walker with questions as to how the latter could prove the non-profit SFAA "willfully" used the Olympic designation for profitable reasons.

"I was surprised by that," said Dunlap, "and I might add, quite pleased. I hope that says something about our position and how we hope this decision could go."

Neither Dunlap nor Walker could indicate when the three-judge panel would be able to come to a decision. "It could be three weeks or three months or maybe three years," said Dunlap. "As far as I'm concerned, they can take as long as they want."

Walker argued that the USOC held no ill will against Waddell and his group. He pointed out that "no state action was taken against San Francisco Arts & Athletics." But, he added, the

Waddell to quit using it.

This was not the first time Waddell and Miller had clashed. When Waddell participated in the decathlon event in the 1968 Mexico City Olympics, he also defended Black athletes who had protested racial conditions in the United States. Waddell, then an Army captain, claimed he was threatened with a court martial by Miller, an Army colonel. In 1969, when the two were members of a USOC advisory committee, according to Waddell, Miller again objected to concerns about prejudice. Waddell protested discrimination against Gays at that time.

An attorney for the USOC defended his organization's decision to prevent Waddell's group from using the word. "We don't feel we're being bullied at all about this thing," said Ron Rowan, the USOC's general counsel. "We had told Dr. Waddell right from the beginning what our position was. We simply feel we have a right to protect the trademark Congress has given to us."

Rowan also denied inconsistencies in which certain groups had the right to use the word.

"I've got to be honest," he said. "I've never heard of the Armenian Olympics. As for the Police Olympics, well, that has been a long-going thing which preceded the 1978 Congressional situation."

After Federal Judge Samuel Conti granted a temporary restraining order which prohibited Waddell and San Francisco Arts & Athletics from using the word, Olympic, all mention of the word was struck from anything connected with what came to be known as Gay Games I.

"What rankles me about that decision," said Waddell, "is that the judge just accepted their position without question. We were never granted a jury trial to determine if we were or were not in violation."

Waddell said striking the word, Olympic, from banners, T-shirts, etc., cost his organization an estimated \$15,000. But that wasn't the only financial loss to SFAA. On May 1, 1984, Federal Judge John Vukasin granted an award for attorney's fees in favor of the USOC. The penalty was \$96,000. Waddell says when the interest is thrown in, the penalty is close to \$110,000.

Waddell stands to lose all of his possessions if the three-judge panel rules against him and the SFAA. But, he figures, "at least this time I've had a chance to tell my side of the story."

Alice Angry at Democrats

(Continued from page 1)

that Paul Kirk had the votes to get elected and with that power Kirk made a decision to eliminate the Lesbian/Gay caucus.

Linda Post, the Chair of the San Francisco County Democratic Central Committee, told of the voter registration efforts last Sunday at the Alice Club booth at the Haight Street Fair. Post said people were registering to vote, but to her shock, she realized that many of the people designated their party affiliation as Republican or checked "decline to state."

The significance to the Democratic Party of her report is staggering. Haight Street is one of the most liberal areas in the heavily Democratic city of San Francisco. People registering to vote at a Democratic Party booth as Republican could signal a



Linda Post (Photo: Rink)

change in the political scene not only on the national level but in San Francisco politics as well.

She requested to know what State Party Chair Betty Smith was going to do to help save the party in San Francisco. Smith

was only able to give a reply that the Democratic Party was still the better choice.

Betty Smith said she would "be a messenger to Paul Kirk" to express the concerns of the club.

Club President Sal Rosselli was much stronger in his remarks. Rosselli is fighting mad. He is adamant that any Democrat running for office who does not support the reinstatement of the Lesbian and Gay caucus will get no Gay support, financial or otherwise. He said he will meet with other Gay clubs and clubs representing other communities and Labor to also gain their support.

Rosselli stated, "without the support of the Gay and Lesbian community, candidates are not going to get elected." The anger with which he made the statement would indicate he means it.

A. White

He Put the 'People' in PWA: Paul Castro's Long Fight Ends

'I Am a Person, Not a Disease' He said; Slowly But Surely, We Got the Message

by Bill Bradley

After twenty-seven months of living and fighting with AIDS, Paul Castro died Saturday, June 8. He was 31. He fought a good fight. Paul began speaking out about AIDS, destroying myths and educating all who would listen as soon as he overcame the initial shock of his diagnosis. And he didn't stop for two years while he still had the strength. Some would say he never shut up. He had his own style and a timelessness of purpose which carried him through to the end.

Paul was born and raised in Houston. He was a cute, little Mexican boy determined to make it in an Anglo culture. As a cheerleader at Southwest Texas State University he was voted All Campus Favorite, a role he was to duplicate often, for Paul loved to be loved.

After college, he settled in Houston and threw himself into its baroque Gay social scene. A series of trips to San Francisco in the late Seventies showed him there was a world outside the Montrose.

After a visit in 1981, he told himself, "Honey, if you wake up at 40 wishing you had moved to SF, you'll be sorry." So he packed his 501's and mirabou pumps and jumped into the city as so many had before him.

MEN, BARS, PARTIES

The first 15 months of his life in San Francisco were typical: men, bars, parties, dancing, softball, a series of boyfriends and apartments. His charm, looks and humor won the day once more.

His only regret was in not building a relationship which could lead to something really special. But there were so many men and so little time.

Everything changed in February 1983. Paul was diagnosed with Kaposi's Sarcoma. He reeled from the information and took a few months to absorb what it meant. It was his trial by fire.

Paul's life after his diagnosis is one of the many heroic tales of this epidemic. When KGO TV technicians refused to put a microphone on him—an incident which became a national news item—he realized that there were people who could not see him for the man he was and saw him only as his disease.

From that point on he dedicated himself, his humor, energy, spirit, love and life to educating the world about people with AIDS.

A SHOWGIRL

Paul became active at the AIDS Foundation as a volunteer and a board member. He played a key role as the foundation grew to deal with the epidemic.

He brought a sense of humor and celebration of gay life to the foundation. He once showed up at a board reception in his famous Showgirl outfit, sequins, feathers and pumps.

In the 1983 parade he put on a tutu and danced down Market Street in high heels with a sign proclaiming, "I am a leaper not a leper!"

His other great passion was for his brothers with AIDS. As an interferon patient, Paul was on Ward 86 three times a week for a year. Paul treated the clinic as his own. He lit up everybody's day with a smile, a joke or a rude comment.

And he spoke out again and again, to everyone—students, nurses, psychologists, the Gay community, radio, television, the National AIDS Candlelight Vigil, the San Jose Gay Parade and the 1984 San Fran-

cisco Parade.

He always put enough humor and love into it to reach his audience. And he got through. He had an amazing effect.

GO TO LUNCH

Of all the talks, speeches and appearances, Paul was most proud of his family, and he told them that AIDS hysteria was simply another form of homophobia to be guarded against.

He urged the crowd to overcome their own fears of people with AIDS: "Make yourself talk to people with AIDS or go to lunch or be their friend. If you wait for change to come to you—you may wait a long time and the person who might have been your

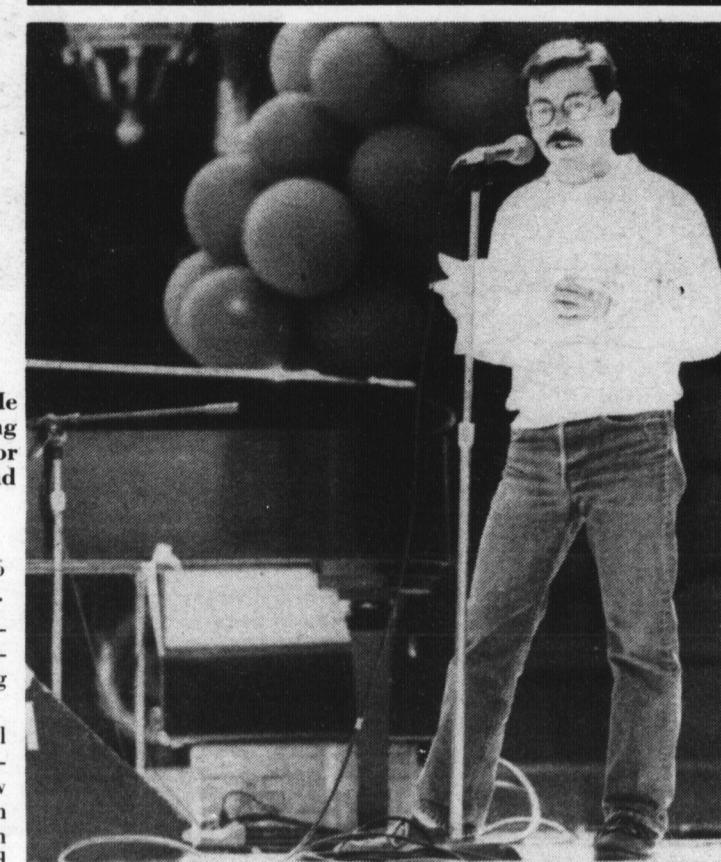
friend may be dead."

Paul's condition began to worsen the summer of '84.

In July he had an attack of appendicitis. It over-taxed his immune system and was the turning point.

But he didn't slow down until he went to Houston for Christmas. When he returned he knew that his time was coming. In March he was hospitalized with pneumocystic pneumonia, and although he recovered, he never got back to full strength.

In April his mom, Faye Castro, flew out to join him. She was at his side day and night for the next two months. He rallied and fought and was furious at dying. And now he's gone.



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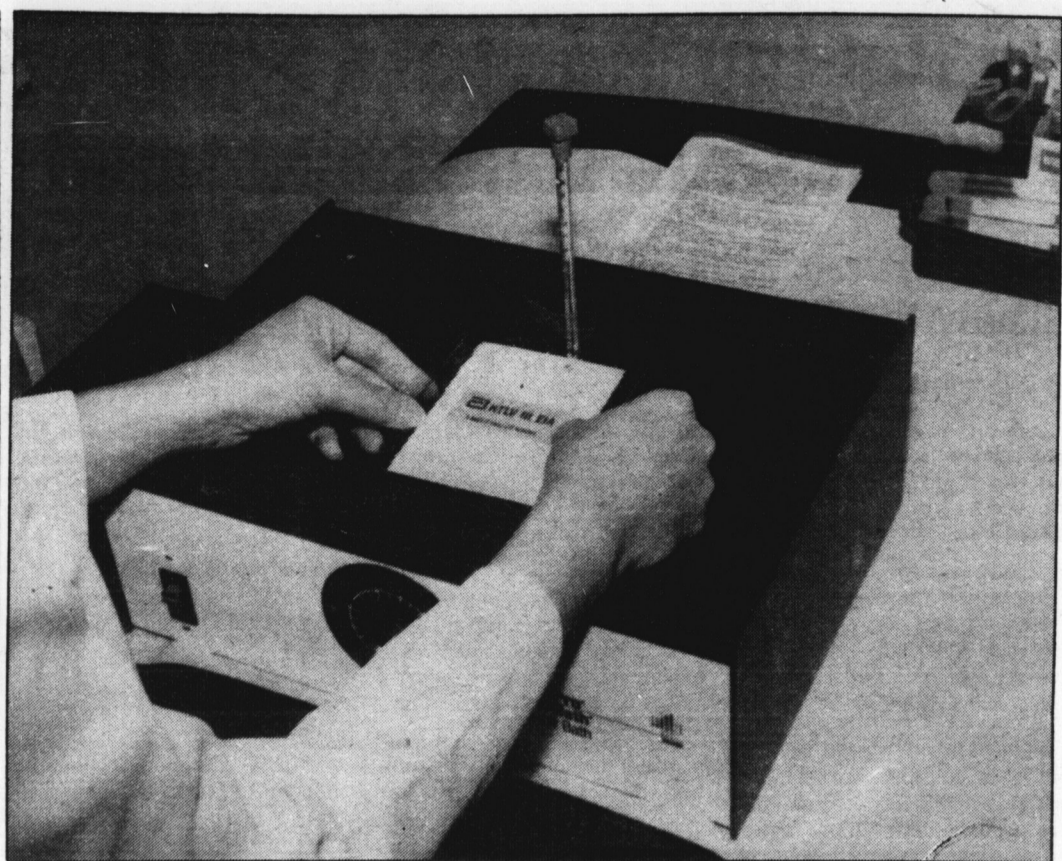
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A technician at Sutter Medical Group demonstrated the procedure for testing blood for the antibody to the AIDS-related virus. (Photo: Rink)

Testing Underway At Private Clinic

Business Has Been Brisk At Sutter Medical Group

By Charles Linebarger

The sign next to the entrance says HTLV testing and Hepatitis B Vaccine available. In the doorway an unshaven man sits in clothes that haven't been washed for a while. This is the Market Street location of the Sutter Medical Group (the group also has an office on Sutter). The sign drew me inside to the waiting room. That is as far as I got.

To do this story, I tried to contact the PR person for the Sutter Medical Group, Jackie Hodkis. But she was unavailable. So I talked to the front-line people: those performing the test—and taking it.

The receptionist at the Market Street office told me to read a seven-page pamphlet after I said I was interested in taking the HTLV-3 antibody test. The pamphlet included information from the federal Public Health Service for persons with a positive antibody test, information on positive antibody tests for physicians and health workers, and a statement from "the Gay and Lesbian Community."

CAUTIONS, CAVEATS

"The tests are not tests for AIDS," stated a paragraph from the information for physicians section. "They only detect antibody against the HTLV-3 virus. They do not determine if the virus is still present and they do not predict if a person will become ill from the virus infection."

This section continued, "... the majority of infected adults will not acquire clinically apparent AIDS in the first few years after infection."

The Gay and Lesbian statement on the AIDS antibody test was dated Jan. 11.

"Individuals should be aware," the statement said, "of the fact that their test results may be requested and obtained by third parties... if a positive antibody test becomes part of your medical record it could become justification for denial of life or health insurance in the future... (It) could become a reason to deny employment. (And)... the misconceptions and general level of hysteria among the general public about AIDS increases the likelihood of a panicked response to a positive test result."

A TEST FOR WHAT?

Why would any Gay man take the test? To find out if they are healthy, or whether they have AIDS? Or perhaps to find out if they are a carrier, if they have been exposed to AIDS and whether they can give it to someone else. But according to the "Gay/Lesbian Community Statement," none of those questions will be answered by the test.

"A positive test result showing the presence of antibodies could mean nothing more than exposure to the HTLV-3 (AIDS) virus." Apparently you will find out whether you've been exposed to AIDS or not, but whether your finding that out—and any third parties finding that out—will do you any good remains the unanswerable question.

I talked to a source at the Sutter Street Office and was told the test costs \$38, of which \$13 is the nursing fee and \$25 is the lab fee. If you decide to take the test, I was told, you will have to sign a consent form.

"We do blood runs every two weeks," the source said. "To be included in the June 13 run you'll have to get your blood drawn before the 12th."

BAD REACTIONS

The test for the HTLV-3 virus has been offered at the two Sutter Medical Group offices for the last two months. And as for the number of Gay men lining up for the test, "It's been more than we expected," the source said. "We average four to five people a day, mostly men, and it's increasing. In the last testing we had a little over a hundred different blood samples to be tested."

I asked the source if he had taken the test.

"No, I haven't," he said.

Would he?

"Personally, no," he said.

"There are so many misconceptions. All it says is that you've been exposed to the HTLV virus. It won't tell you whether you are going to come down with AIDS or not. It is not a cure-all. It's basically up to you whether you feel you can handle this."

When asked whether there had been any bad reactions, the source said yes, "several."

"We recommend that you come in and talk to a doctor after you have the test," he said.

Test results are given over the phone, he explained, though not to third parties. Only to the person who calls, and knows the code number that has been assigned to his blood sample, will be given the result.

At the beginning of July Sutter Medical Group will be joined by the city of San Francisco, which will be offering the HTLV test, for free, at Health Center #1, in the Castro. According to the protocols that have been planned for the city health center, all test results will be given by a professional, in a private office, with pertinent counseling.

Godfathers Day Beer Bust

The S.F. Eagle and Tony Trevizo are hosting A Godfathers Day Beer Bust and Auction on June 16 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. on the patio of the S.F. Eagle. This is the second annual event to raise funds for the Godfather Service Fund, under the auspices of the S.F. Tavern Guild Foundation. The fund presently provides personal care items to people with AIDS at San Francisco General Hospital's Ward 5-B.

The organizers are requesting merchandise donations to be auctioned and which are tax deductible. If your business is interested, please contact Tony Trevizo at 661-5039 or 558-8100.

GGBA Social

Golden Gate Business Association presents Making Contact II, Thursday, June 20, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the Cathedral Hill Hotel in San Francisco. Costs for members are \$6 in advance, \$8 at the door; for guests, \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door. No host bar available with hors d'oeuvres provided. For reservations, write GGBA, 500 Sutter St., Suite 703, San Francisco, CA 94102 by June 15.

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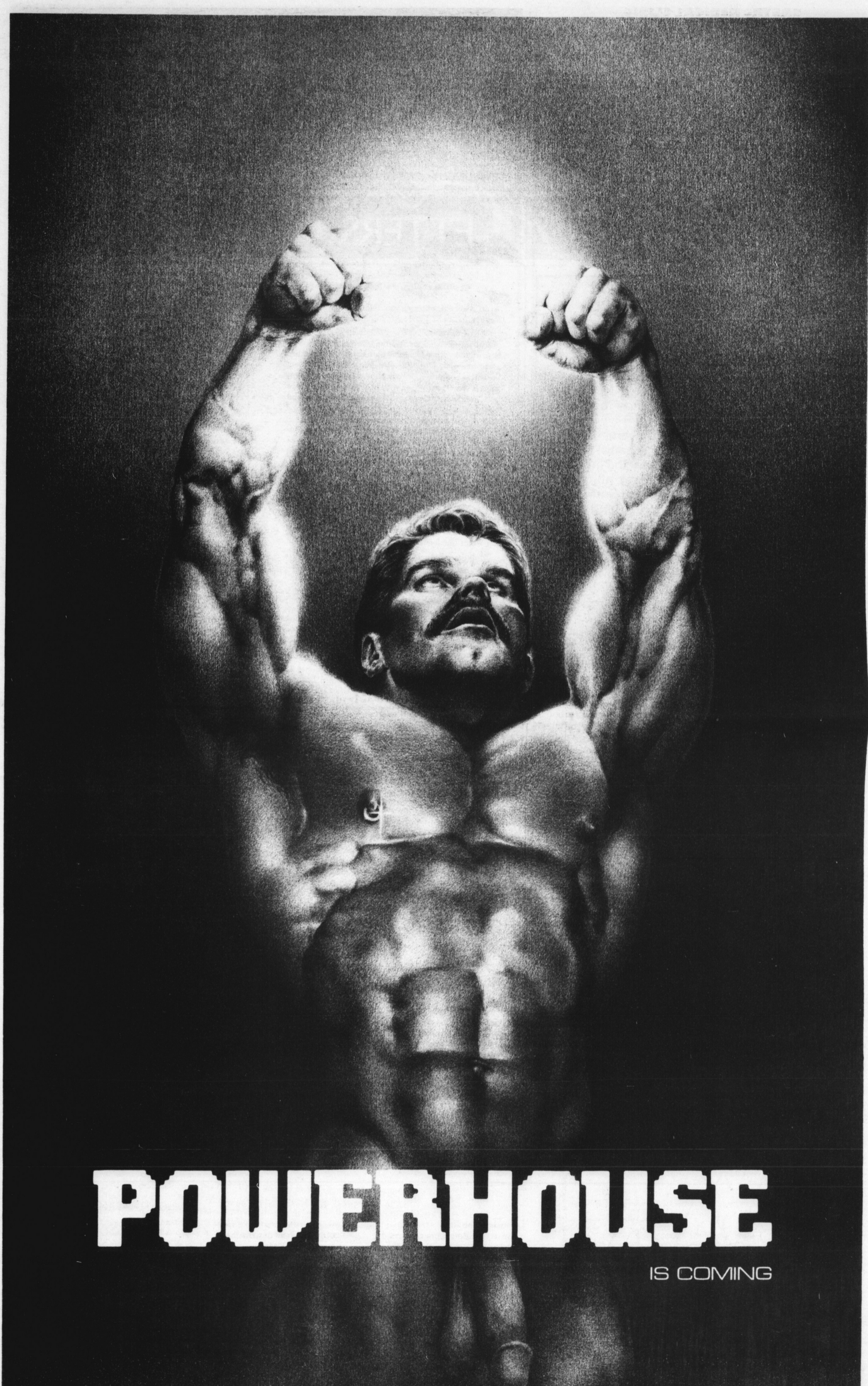


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VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

HAVE YOU ENCOUNTERED VIOLENCE ON THE 24 LINE?

The Public Utilities Commission, which oversees Muni, declared this week that violence on the bus is "the exception, not the rule." Those of us who ride the #24 line know otherwise. Can you help us to open the eyes of the P.U.C.? If you have encountered violence on the #24—either physical assault, or verbal threats which appear to threaten physical assault—report that incident to us. Include specific information: Date, time, nature of incident, number of assailants or harassers. Try to keep your report to 150 words. WE WILL PUBLISH ALL REPORTS WE RECEIVE BY MONDAY, JUNE 24. And we will make sure that the P.U.C. members see them.

If you have encountered violence on the bus, send us your report. It may help bring about changes to make transit safer for members of our community.

Trouble on the 24

There are moments in the newsroom when scattered facts somehow come together, make a connection, and prompt us to say, "wow." That happened Tuesday. We had just completed work on Allen White's series of articles reporting the latest violence on the 24 Divisadero bus line. Then Charlie Lineberger's report on an earlier incident crossed the desk. The irony was frightening.

Lineberger reported that the case against five youths who rode the bus on April 1, then taunted Gays and struck one with a cane, had fizzled on Friday afternoon, June 7. The latest incident on the 24 occurred within 48 hours of that failed court hearing. Both involved youths who were described to police as in their late teens and of Latino appearance.

Is there a connection here?
We don't know. But certainly the failure of the Muni to acknowledge that there is a problem is sending the hoods a message. And certainly the failure of the legal system to successfully cope with anti-Gay thugs is sending the hoods a message.

The message: Bash a fag. Don't go to jail. Pass Go and do it all over again.

The possible source of the problems on the 24 line and in the Castro is both reassuring and disturbing: It may well be that only a small number of young men are causing the bulk of the anti-Gay attacks and harassment now taking place. This is reassuring, in that it challenges the notion of a whole class of kids engaging in ongoing efforts to attack our people. But it is disturbing, in that such a small group can only be encouraged to more serious acts by the failure of Muni to respond. As this group becomes more experienced—and more sure of escaping consequences for its crimes—its attacks may well become more serious. Will someone have to die before Muni admits there is a problem?

It is time we all took action to put the heat on Muni and the P.U.C. Let's make sure the Muni brass feels just a small part of the fear and loathing we feel every time we step aboard the #24 bus.

Brian Jones

Mobilization Is Not a Lobby

* In a recent editorial you said that Mobilization Against AIDS is "filled with political operatives" with "time on their hands," who came late to the AIDS issue.

Two members of our Steering Committee ran for office in 1984. Other members have been active in Alice and Stonewall. Does this somehow make us suspect "political operatives"? Your phraseology implies that there is something wrong with political activity. There isn't. Political activity is essential to our liberation. And believe us, we don't have time on our hands. The time given by our Steering Committee members, is given at the expense of other activities, including our jobs for some of us. You should also know that six members of our Steering Committee are either People With AIDS, People With AIDS-Related Conditions, or lovers or relatives of PWAs or PWARs.

If we came late to activism on the AIDS issue, it is because we saw that existing efforts weren't doing the job. Mobilizing a grassroots, confrontational activism, based on solid information, is necessary. The war-against-AIDS is not being won by lobbying (and lobbying is not our focus).

Mobilization Against AIDS will continue to mobilize people, to bring pressure to bear on the government and the medical establishment, so that we get needed funding for research, preventive education, and patient services, and so that their medical establishment effectively cooperates in the effort (rather than competing against itself for the Nobel Prize). Mobilization will also continue to fight the use of AIDS as a political weapon. We would like your thoughtful support as we continue to do these things.

Dr. Maggi Rubenstein
John E. Wahl
Co-Chairs, Media Committee
MOBILIZATION

It Isn't Just Harry

* I don't think Ronald Bechard (Letters, June 6) was fair or accurate in his references to Supervisor Harry Britt, especially when he criticizes Britt as thinking that "our government (other people) owe you a cheap place to live."

In the first place, Supervisor Richard Hongisto (a landlord) and Supervisor Nancy Walker have joined Britt in proposing legislation which would limit annual growth to 500,000 square feet a year. In the second place, Supervisor Bill Maher has proposed legislation limiting growth to 750,000 square feet a year. Even Mayor Feinstein, who fought hard against Proposition M, has proposed her "cap."

Regardless then, of how we view each or any of these proposals, it isn't just Harry Britt who is questioning unfettered growth.

John D. Dolan
San Francisco

Condoning Homophobia

* I think it's time to get angry and stop denying what is happening to the Gay male population in this country. I know first hand how difficult it is to face the truth, but if we are to survive we need to do something now. Regardless of all the unproved theories, the lies and the controversies surrounding AIDS, there remains one well documented, indisputable fact. The United States government is deliberately and maliciously allowing Gay men to continue to die.

There is proof that officials within the Reagan administration deliberately falsified statistics in order to sabotage research efforts. There was discussion at the national level about quarantine long before the April 18 meeting that has captured headlines here. There is consistent "blatant" condemnation of homosexuality

in Congress every time the AIDS issue is brought up. Some Congressmen have openly said that we deserve to die, that we're being punished by God.

It is statements such as these that have led to a practice that disturbs me very much. Now, when we make demands for better care and more money, we think we have to preface those demands with the statement that AIDS is now spreading to the heterosexual community. It's like we are saying that we know that the life of a heterosexual is worth more than the life of a Gay man. It's as though we are condoning their homophobia. We have heard it from government officials to local newscasters and we continue to let it pass by.

To those who would tell me that this strategy is necessary to get more money I say this: "That money isn't going to mean a lot when you are sitting in some camp because your blood tested positive for HTLV-3." But something like that could never happen here. Tell that to Japanese Americans!

Robert Starkey
San Francisco

Support 18th Street Services

* The Advisory Committee on Drug Abuse recently recommended that the proposal for 18th Street Services for a substance abuse program for Gay men and youth be considered for sole source contracting by the city. This should be heralded by all in our community as a long overdue first step in addressing this critical need.

Drug abuse is a serious problem in the Gay male community that has never been addressed adequately by either public or private agencies. Given the direct relationship between drug abuse and AIDS, this program could help slow the spread of this deadly disease and could potentially save the city millions of dollars.

The 18th Street Services proposal is the first to address the needs of Gay youth. Many of the 2,000 young people who are homeless and living on San Francisco's streets are Gay youth who have been forced to leave home because of their sexual orientation. Faced with little chance for employment or financial support many of these youth turn to prostitution and petty crime in order to survive. Prostitution and drug abuse often go hand in hand.

At the Larkin Street Youth Center we have great difficulty finding substance abuse services for homeless youth and particularly for Gay youth. We welcome this proposal as a much needed program for Gay youth. The Gay community and all of San Francisco will gain much from these substance abuse service once they are in place.

We should all get behind the 18th Street Services' proposal so that a service need that has been talked about for years can finally become a reality. Time is of the essence.

Greg Day
Larkin Street Youth Center

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

Need for Drug Abuse Services

* The following was sent to Sup. Harry Britt.
Dear Supervisor Britt,

I am writing to you to ask for your support of a resolution proposed by Supervisor Molinar regarding funding for the 18th Street Services. As a supporter of your election to the Board of Supervisors, I now hope that you will help on this critical issue.

The Gay male community has gone too long without substance-abuse services. We now have an opportunity to rectify this situation. Many of us in the community have been working hard for some time to both see that these services are provided and that 18th Street Services is saved. We have separated from the Pride Foundation, established a relationship with a new parent organization, and formed a new community advisory board.

The citizens city-wide Advisory Committee on Drug Abuse has unanimously recommended funding for this project. By the way, the ACDA has three openly Gay members who have wholeheartedly endorsed the 18th Street Services proposal. The process has been fair, comprehensive, and has included several public hearings.

I have a special interest in this issue for two reasons. Firstly, as a staff member of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, I am only too aware of the relationship between AIDS and substance-abuse. In our city 13 percent of those people with AIDS also have a history of I.V. drug use. Additionally, the role of drugs as co-factors in the development of AIDS is becoming more apparent daily.

Secondly, I am a graduate of the 18th Street Services program and have subsequently volunteered as a co-facilitator. I am intimately aware of the program and staff of the agency and I have complete confidence in their abilities and effectiveness.

This issue requires our immediate attention. I trust you will speed the above mentioned resolution through the health committee and full Board. If this resolution becomes delayed or bogged down in committee it will be a great disservice to the Gay men who depend on you and your voice in City Hall.

Les G. Pappas
San Francisco

Clarification

* Thanks for printing Will Snyder's interview with me (B.A.R. 5/20). I am very grateful that you are bringing our struggle for treatment as persons with AIDS/AIDS-Related Complex to the public attention.

I would, however, like to correct the erroneous impression given when Will said: "Itkin is a psychologist as well as a person with an AIDS-related condition (ARC)." When I was interviewed, Will happened to notice an announcement which listed me with the degrees Ph.D., D.D. I told him that the Ph.D. is in Pastoral Psychology, while the D.D. is in Theology and Comparative Religion.

I attempted to make it clear—and I accept full responsibility for any communication failure in this regard—that despite the academic degree in psychology and formal training analysis, I am not a psychologist as this term is commonly and legally understood in California. I am not required to be Board Certified or licensed to do the psychospiritual counseling which I did until my illness. Under the law, as a practicing clergyman I am exempted from the licensing requirement. As one who has been engaged in an Independent Catholic ministry within the Gay/Lesbian/bisexual community since 1955 (a Church engaged in such a ministry since 1946), I thus am legally enabled to conduct a psychological/psychospiritual counseling practice as part of my ministry; but not to the designation psychologist.

Thank you for printing this correction.

The Rt. Rev'd. Michael F.M. Itkin
Bishop-Abbot
Community of the Love of Christ

Quite Simply Shocking

* The recent flap surrounding KPFA-FM, Fruit Punch and one Richard Locke chit-chatting about such important matters as "ball-fucking" gives one a momentary pause. There's a faint glimpse of some sort of extraordinarily skewed Gay Abbott and Costello sketch if we squint our eyes just a bit. Not only "Who's on first?" but "Who in hell is in charge?"

Because Locke has made a slew of butchette fuck movies, Fruit Punch has him deliver "advice" on sexual matters that only the most severely distressed candidate for Sex/Love Addicts Anonymous might wish to know. Under the guise of what some deem as politically correct "safe sex"? Good grief—who needs drugs when we've got clowns like this in our midst?

And for Bay Area Reporter to grant Locke on-going column space to discuss arcane sexual matters at tedious length for men who seem to be terminally twisted is to continue its glorious tradition of printing silly—yet very, very memorable—articles. (The Rev. Ray Broshears memory lingers on . . .) A few of the choicer articles (in on-going segments, no less) were about the Handball Express and the Cauldron; both places forever consigned to some category Dante never envisioned. Such articles were a true joy to read for the sheer laughter they induced. Pious denunciations from the owners/managers about drugs and the evil they bring. Or mondo-hoo-hoo babble about I Ching hexagrams whilst being pissed upon by fried hunks grouped into "energy bubbles." Fall down and SCREAM!

It's been a long, odd journey from Stonewall. Our legends became—and, as yet remain, emporiums

devoted to public euphemisms and private screams. The only sin is to be "judgemental" and so the most extreme becomes the natural order of things and we are granted an endless parade of a few certifiable sex fiends discussing on public radio matters of great importance such as "ball fucking" who then wonder why all the fuss. Jeez!

An odd journey since Stonewall, much of it awash in a sea of drugs. A few stopping points over the years: the Barracks, the Red Star Saloon, Langton Alley, the Fair Oaks Hotel, the Catacombs, the Balcony. To name but a few. (And, for Dick Locke to recall, the Sherman Hotel at 11th and Mission in 1972.) Quite a drug haze, huh, folks.

I challenge all to recall one's initial response when first confronted with the concept and practice of fist fucking. Mine was absolute disbelief. When assumed that not only was it possible but becoming popular (in 1970) I was stunned. Quite simply shocked to the core of my being.

Fifteen years later two profound ironies exist about fist-fucking. First, it is no longer called fist fucking. It's "fisting", "handballing" or anything but what it actually is. The second, and to my mind vastly more astonishing aspect of fist fucking 15 years later, is that, when mentioned, people are totally bored. Quite a change from one's first reaction(s). (Will "ball fucking" become "ball balling"?)

Is any of this important? I think so, but damned if I can construct a thoughtful commentary linking it all. Pardon me while I go try.

Don Heimforth
San Francisco

Citizens Input Denied

* Thank you for your article on the Downtown Plan. You omitted several facts however.

The Downtown Plan was partly developed as a means of blunting support for Proposition M, a citizens' initiative requiring that the needs of the city be considered as a whole rather than in the old piecemeal fashion. With its help and \$700,000 raised by real estate interests for the unusual sleazy PR blitz, Prop. M was barely defeated.

In the rush to get it out, five possible growth scenarios intended for public discussion were quietly replaced by the one official Downtown Plan. In both these ways, the Citizens of this city were denied effective input into discussion of the future of their own city. They can only react to planning imposed from on high by the same folks who brought you stagnant freeways, soaring rents, and a brutalized skyline. There should be a statute of limitation on gullibility.

Jim Haas, a frequent and vocal apologist for the Downtown Plan, claims to be the only "futurist" in the debate over development. If Haas truly understood the impact our growing cities are having on the processes that support life, he would know that if we continue on our present reckless course, there will be no "Gay-sian" city in the 21st century because there will likely be no cities at all.

Gray Brechin
San Francisco

Infected

* On the front page of your May 30 issue you state that LAV/HTLV-3 antibody test "indicates only past exposure."

A confirmed positive antibody test doesn't just show you've been exposed, it shows a far more important fact: you've been infected with the virus.

Many people have been exposed to the virus, but only some of those have been infected. And in turn, only a portion estimated between 5% and 20% of those who are infected are expected to come down with the disease in the next five years.

Also, all the medical evidence I know of indicates that, rather like Herpes, infection with LAV/HTLV-3 is "for life." More accurately, since we've been able to watch the virus for only a fairly brief period, it does not appear to go away very rapidly, if ever.

I urge you to drop the phrase so many Gay doctors have promulgated, "exposed to the virus." It's time we tell the truth to people. A confirmed positive test result means you've been infected and all most certainly remain so.

Bruce Voeller, Ph.D.
Mariposa Education & Research Foundation

Shaman Vessel

* I am very interested in hearing from Gay Men who:

1. Already know that the world can't end except by beginning again.
2. Have a Portion of Understanding of what we call "psychic phenomena."
3. Know in your bones that AIDS is germ warfare.
4. Know that there is no death (for whatever reason).
5. Know that we now call Gay Man is Shaman Vessel.
6. Know that we are, in fact, entering the Next Cycle of humanity.
7. Know that the role of the Gay Man will be central to and crucial in this process.

Please write.

Leland Mellott
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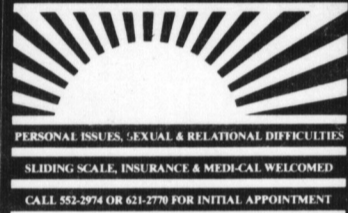
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LETTERS

AIDS Outreach

★ Allen White's article on AIDS statistics and patient services in the May 23 issue described well the problems with the current system of reporting AIDS statistics. It also pointed to the financial repercussions of San Francisco being acknowledged as the best city for the care of people with AIDS. There has been a decided move on the part of many to transfer San Francisco's epidemic to other communities to be adapted to their specific situations.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation encourages and supports the local development of services for persons with AIDS out of the city. Staff have met with numerous groups and individuals doing AIDS work outside the city, the state and the country because we think it is important. With funding from the California Department of Health Services and private donations, we began the Northern California Outreach Program to more effectively assist with the development of AIDS services in other parts of Northern California. This program provides several important services.

First, there is the 800 toll-free AIDS Hotline (800-367-AIDS). Through it, anyone in Northern California can receive free, detailed and accurate information about AIDS, and referrals for AIDS services, thanks to the excellent Hotline volunteers. In many counties, this may be the only AIDS service available.

A second part of the Foundation's Outreach Program encourages the development of local AIDS services by providing training for and consultation with professionals in human services fields and persons at risk or with AIDS. We encourage these people to form county AIDS Advisory Committees and to form either non-profit agencies or to work with the Public Health Departments to apply for local and state funding and to set up AIDS education programs and services. Currently, this program is funded to serve eight counties.

Further, we work with AIDS organizations throughout California. Together, the AIDS education agencies have proposed a plan that provides comprehensive AIDS educational services in California. This plan advocates the local development of AIDS programs and provides for a great deal of support to the new agencies from the existing ones. We hope the state SB-910 AIDS Advisory Committee will recommend this plan to the Department of Health Services for funding.

I am proud of the efforts of the people in San Francisco to stop this epidemic and to take care of those affected by AIDS. I look forward to continuing to assist groups outside of San Francisco to develop the same quality of AIDS services.

Lyn Paleo, Director
California State Services
S.F. AIDS Foundation

Wonderful Marcus

★ Business took me away from Chicago and therefore I missed attending the 1985 International Mr. Leather Contest. On the night of the competition, I hung around the South of Market bars hoping someone somewhere would get the word on who won. You can imagine my delight when around 9:30 p.m. it was announced that Patrick Toner of Chaps Bar here in San Francisco had won the title. I was having a beer at the Brig when I heard the news; the owner promptly ordered a free schnapps for everyone there in honor of Mr. Toner.

By Thursday, May 30, I was still in town and a further delight when your paper came out with the full run-down on the event by your Mister Marcus!

I love your city and especially the leather community. Until now, I never realized how indispensable a Gay newspaper could be. I was searching and longing for news from home and it got to me, luckily, through your wonderful paper. Congratulations to the B.A.R. and your wonderful columnist, Mister Marcus, for making my week visit one I shall never forget.

Until now, I poo-poo'd your city's slogan, "The City That Knows How." As of this date, San Francisco is the Top.

Jake Urzendowski
Chicago, IL

God and Mobilization

★ A god of Love (humanly conceived or otherwise), who doesn't love all loving, is not a God worthy of worship. Reform is overdue... or divine consciousness-raising.

The moneychangers set up shop and Jesus kicked ass. Then Caesar rendered unto Caesar the New Judaism and the moneychangers set up shop again. Such is perpetual human history. Religion largely disinterests me, but I recognize that there would be no coherent church nor any origin of the church without centuries of prophets, priests, monks and their Gay spirited/spirituality. Yet Gay is the overlooked foundation stone.

We live in a time of religious/medical/political moneychangers: profitable irresponsibility. What is needed is money-processing: non-profit ability-to-respond. But while we need to worry about moneychangers of all stripes, there is something even more imperative: inertia and despair within the community. This is not the time for it—although these are times which impell it. There is a deepening concern: AIDS. All channels for AIDS urgently absorb all money for immediate needs. There is one exception: Mobilization

Evander C. Smith
San Francisco

Against AIDS, which concerns wider, future needs and funding for other channels.

Mobilization received a mixed Pat-and-Pan review in your editorial (May 23). This was not without its merits. In the past 12 months, I have contributed several thousand dollars to Gay causes. I consider that money the most fulfilling given in my life. This is a lament, not a boast. I wish it could be more. The community is not adequately helping the community. I would like to urge every reader of this letter to respond to Mobilization. The recent Vigil helped, but many missed it. I propose a toast of remembrance to lost loved ones and effort against future losses. Send in \$1. Those of you who drink, pass up one beer. Literally. No sarcasm intended. But, when you do, designate \$1 for the Research/Documentation Committee (335 Noe St.) because that is where the solid, largely overlooked work is being done for you, me, everyone by People With AIDS.

Let's bind together. And kick-ass!

Rich McKirkeby
San Francisco

Living Doll

★ I happened to pick up your paper on the strength of the sexy coverman, Paul John Gillespie. For a young man who used to weigh 300 pounds, according to Mr. Marcus, he seems to be living proof that inside one fat man was a living doll that got out. Also my compliments to R. Pruzan on his photography.

Albert Howell
Glendale

Reaching Out

★ Like all of us, the reality of the AIDS phenomenon is steadily being forced in on me. But I find myself becoming angry rather than frightened.

First, because I assume that having AIDS or an AIDS-related condition is an automatic qualification for sainthood, I don't find this any more true than the Moral Majority's insistence that it is a punishment for sin.

Perhaps those who do not have AIDS walk in fear of it because we deny the sickness of our own souls, which I feel is a pre-requisite to sickness of the body. I don't have an answer except for myself. I choose not to learn how to live with fear because I choose not to live afraid. I choose to live with hope and seek out and experience those things which build my hope and creativity.

All of this comes from my experiencing the Interfaith healing service at Grace Cathedral. Human beings from the most sanctified of "straight" society saying that they don't have final answers. But they offer what they have, an active reaching love which says "Come and let us touch you with our hands and anoint you and set you apart as one of us, and together find health for our souls and our lives."

I will go to the service again, not because of AIDS but because I need to reach out to their sickness with my love so much as they reach out to my sick soul with theirs.

Robert Batten
San Francisco

Nemesis at Work

★ May I respond to two letters in your Open Form, May 30.

First, James Gibbons' unfortunate rejection by the Old Wives' Tales bookstore. Jim, the next time any business dares to discriminate against you irrespective of their misguided thinking, here is your solution: Turn their arrogance into a problem for them. You do this by placing your entrance fee in front of their cashier and walking in. Let them make the next move. They have a problem to solve. If they are intelligent enough to be in business they will accept the fee. Otherwise, be prepared to exercise the law which is in your favor.

Second, the several righteous religious attacks on Brian Jones concern me. These letter writers attacking Mr. Jones' three recent articles concerning religion are straining at a gnat. Mr. Jones' articles are excellent. I mailed the three B.A.R. copies containing them to my companion atheist in Anchorage, Alaska.

Mr. Jones did not purport to write a treatise on religion. He shared his personal opinions and beliefs on religion. We daily read editorials and columnists who similarly expose their undersides. Had Mr. Jones intended to go for an imprimatur, obviously he would have spent years doing original research and given appropriate footnotes.

Mr. Jones, please accept my belated thanks for sharing your thoughts with your readers. You and I are fast friends; I respect and admire you. We do not know each other, but I hope to meet you.

Now, what do the attackers (and let no one for an instant fail to acknowledge they were attackers) of Mr. James Gibbons and Mr. Brian Jones have in common? Everything. They are the same people, mentally and basically, if not physically in this instance. We have here all minority groups' nemesis at work: self-destruction. We are cannibalistic. If one reads the letters to Open Forum each week, there are constant acrid attacks toward individuals, Gay businesses and Gay institutions. Our true detractors must be in a constant state of joy at our own self-destruction. One of the German philosophers once stated: "Life is too short to be small."

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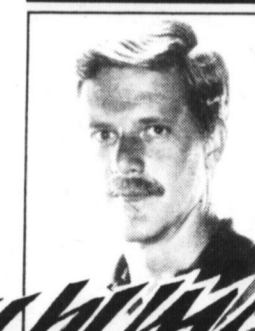
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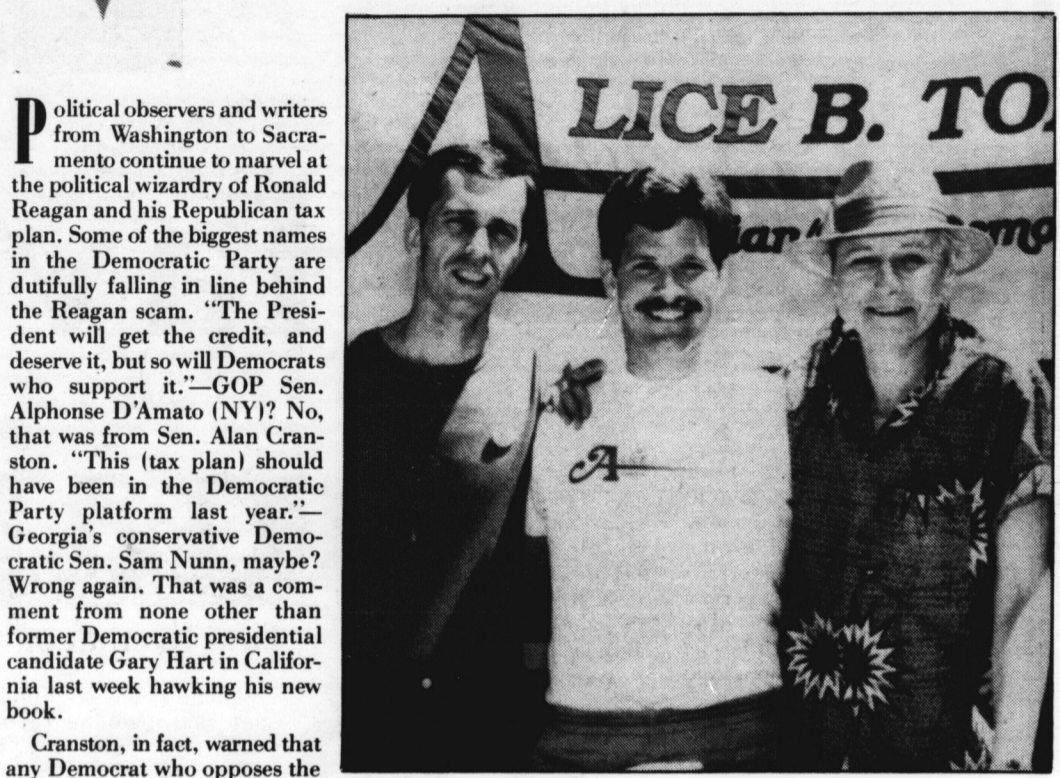
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POLITICS AND POKER

The Reagan Democrats

WAYNE FRIDAY



Alice members were signing up voters on Haight Street—but many registered GOP or unaligned, after news of Demos dumping Gays from party committees. (Photo: Rink)

Political observers and writers from Washington to Sacramento continue to marvel at the political wizardry of Ronald Reagan and his Republican tax plan. Some of the biggest names in the Democratic Party are dutifully falling in line behind the Reagan scam. "The President will get the credit, and deserve it, but so will Democrats who support it."—GOP Sen. Alphonse D'Amato (NY)? No, that was from Sen. Alan Cranston. "This (tax plan) should have been in the Democratic Party platform last year."—Georgia's conservative Democratic Sen. Sam Nunn, maybe? Wrong again. That was a comment from none other than former Democratic presidential candidate Gary Hart in California last week hawking his new book.

Cranston, in fact, warned that any Democrat who opposes the tax reform will be in big political trouble at the polls next year. Hart said that the Democrats "should have done it first," adding that "Reagan is maneuvering to show himself as the populist friend of the people and the Democrats as the protector of special interests."

Ronald Reagan, the old political master, has done it again. Even the liberals are falling in line. And all while the Democrats in Washington are trying to figure what went wrong. Why did they let Reagan take the lead in tax reform? The Republicans are smiling again. Only a few weeks ago the President's visit to a cemetery in Germany where a number of SS soldiers were buried had White House advisors against the wall.

Once again, Reagan and company have taken the initiative on a popular issue (tax revision) while the Democrats were caught wringing their hands. No wonder the party of Ronald Reagan, Jerry Falwell, and Jesse Helms won a landslide last November. Paul Kirk and his party had better soon wake up or we will be saddled with the Right Wing of the Republican Party and their ilk for years to come.

San Francisco City Attorney has sent the City of San Jose a letter threatening to seek "enormous" damage payments from that city if it continues to pursue building a stadium in hopes of luring the Giants. A May 24 letter to S.J. officials said that the City might not even wait to file suit if the Giants leave. City Attorney George Agnost said last week, "I'm not in the position of giving legal advice to San Jose, but I would suggest when figuring costs for a new stadium, they (San Jose) include a hefty provision for damage payments." (The way the hapless Giants have been performing this year, I know a growing number of ex-fans who are saying "let San Jose have 'em.")

Local members of the National Organization for Women (NOW) are predicting that the fight between former NOW president Eleanor Smeal and incumbent president Judy Goldsmith will turn nasty before the 250,000-member organization chooses its leader on July 20. The organization has 800 chapters nationally and an annual budget of \$6.5 million. Mayor Dianne Feinstein will serve as honorary chair of a

Staid Yale Welcomes Returning Gay Alumni

by George Mendenhall

"I did not think Yale was a warm environment for Gay people when I was there ten years ago," activist attorney Matt Coles recalls. "I was just beginning to come out. I was not ready for what was beginning to happen then."

What happened 10 years ago was the formation of a small Gay group on the Yale University campus at New Haven. This week a much larger group gathered on campus to experience mixed reactions under the Yale Gay and Lesbian Alumni (Gala) banner. Today, there are 500 members of Gala in its nine chapters—with alumni from as early as the class of 1928. Six hundred attended last weekend's Gay dance on campus.

Returning Gay people were elated over the turnout although every class chair (except for 1955) before 1970 refused to notify their classes of the Gay reunion. Notification of the group's existence began in 1984 when the alumni newspaper ran a paid \$655 full page advertisement. Gala received 28 hostile responses from older alumni and 73 favorable ones from younger alumni.

Bartlett Giamatti, Yale's president, welcomed the Yale reunion group. "These are Yale alumni. They are loyal, devoted, and supportive of the university. We are delighted to see they are back," he said.

Randy Alfred, San Francisco Gay journalist and broadcaster, has been active in organizing

ACLU Plans Lesbian/Gay Rights Project

The American Civil Liberties Union plans to establish a new project aimed at ending discrimination against Gay men and Lesbians.

The Lesbian/Gay Rights Project, located in the ACLU's national office in New York, will begin by challenging the state sodomy laws that criminalize homosexuality and by attacking the various forms of discrimination that these criminal laws engender.

ACLU Executive Director Ira Glasser and ACLU President Norman Dorsen said that with the creation of the project the ACLU would be able to take a more aggressive and visible role in fighting for equal rights for Gays and Lesbians.

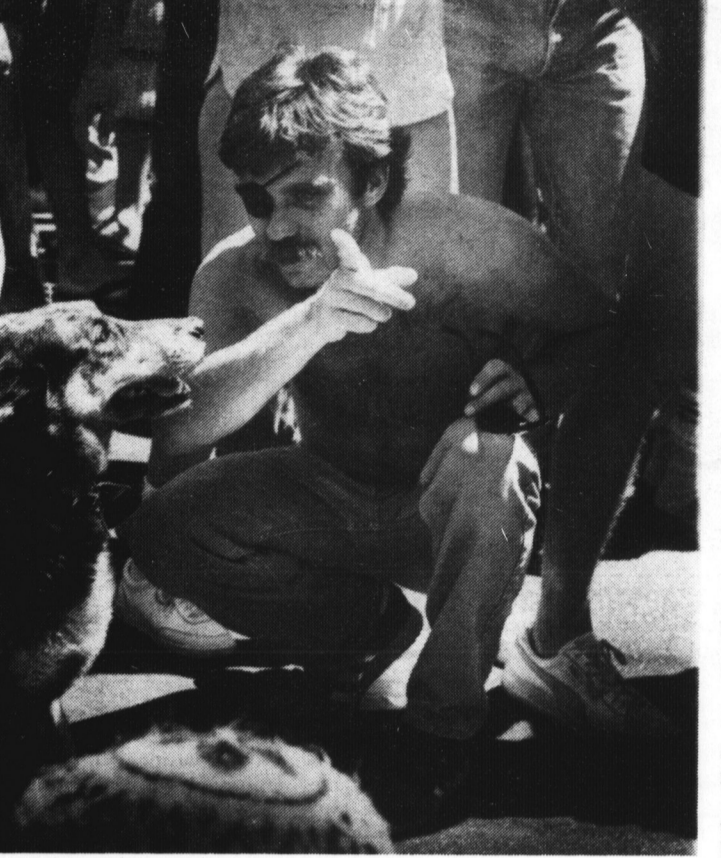
"Gay men and Lesbians confront laws and government practices that would long ago have been struck down as unconstitutional if they applied to racial minorities or women," Glasser said. "Laws in twenty-four states, and the District of Columbia that outlaw consensual sodomy are used as the legal justification for various forms of discrimination, and force Gay men and Lesbians to choose between suffering second class citizenship or keeping their sexual orientation a secret from the world."

67 AIDS Cases Reported in May; City Total Tops 1100

San Francisco has recorded 1192 cases of AIDS as of May 31, according to Department of Public Health Statistics.

During May, 67 new cases were reported. In the same month, 39 people died of AIDS, bringing the total of San Francisco deaths to 578.

For California, the totals rose to 2492 diagnosed cases and 930 known deaths in the state. Na-



First Hydrant on the Left

Finding your way around the Haight Street Fair got doggone confusing down there at curb level. Luckily, there were some people nice enough to give a pooch some directions. Arf. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Peg's Place Wins; City to Pay Damages

The City of San Francisco and other defendants named in the lawsuit stemming from the 1979 incident in Peg's Place bar agreed to a settlement on the second day of trial. Tom Steel, attorney for three women suing the city and individual police officers involved, said that the settlement was for a "substantial amount of money." He could not reveal the exact amount.

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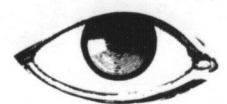


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DATELINE: THE WORLD

Gay Couple Sentenced To Death in Oklahoma Bank Killings



DION B. SANDERS

An openly gay couple convicted of murder in the killings of four people during a bank robbery in Oklahoma last December have been sentenced to die by lethal injection.

The jury handed down its sentence less than 90 minutes after finding Jay Wesley Neill, 19, and Robert Grady Johnson, 23, guilty of first-degree murder in the shootings of three women and one man during a robbery at the First National Bank of Chattanooga in Geronimo, Oklahoma.

One of the women victims was six months' pregnant.

Seven other people were shot in what the prosecutor called "the bloodiest crime in the state's history."

Although it was not pursued during the trial, it was widely reported that the shooting spree was motivated by revenge on the part of Neill and Johnson against anti-gay harassment by bank employees and customers.

Neill and Johnson were standing in a customer line, kissing each other and holding hands when the harassment allegedly began.

Neill left the bank and later returned with a .32 caliber pistol, ordering tellers to empty their cash drawers, according to FBI.

Neill then forced the two tellers and the bank branch manager into a back room and shot them, police said, after which he slashed his victims' bodies with a hunting knife.

Seven patrons who walked into the bank were shot, and an eighth would-be victim—an infant—was grabbed by Neill who pointed his gun at the baby's head and pulled the trigger, but his gun failed to fire, police said.

Following the robbery, Neill and Johnson fled to San Francisco with \$17,000 in loot and went on a lavish spending spree.

Their wild spending prompted a suspicious merchant to call police, who arrested them. They were extradited to Oklahoma shortly after the New Year.

Foster Care Furor Mounts In Massachusetts

Controversy over the removal of two small boys from the foster care of an openly gay couple in Massachusetts mounted last week with the announcement of a new policy by the state's Department of Social Services effectively barring placement of children in the foster care of Gays.

Phillip W. Johnston, State Secretary of Human Services, announced at a news conference that henceforth, the DSS would follow a policy of placing children "in traditional family settings—that is, with relatives or in families with married couples, preferably with parenting experience and with time available to care for foster children."

Johnston's announcement came less than 24 hours after the state House of Representatives passed an amendment to the state budget that barred the DSS from placing children in the foster care of "person or persons whose sexual preference threatens the psychological or physical well-being of the child."

The amendment specifically labels homosexuality as a threat to children, Johnston told reporters that in "extraordinary

circumstances, it might be necessary to place a child in a non-traditional home," but that such placement would require the expressed written approval of DSS Commissioner Marie Matava.

It was Matava who ordered the two boys—aged 2 and 3½—removed from the foster care of Donald Babets and David Jean after their original placement was disclosed in a front-page story in the *Boston Globe*.

The article quoted several neighbors of the Gay couple as opposed to the placement, with one, Fletcher Wiley, labeling it "crazy."

Kevin Cathcart, executive director of Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders (GLAD) and attorney for Babets and Jean, denounced the new policy as a "witch hunt."

"Our rights to have families is under attack," he said, adding that there was now a "very high probability" that he would begin legal action against the state.

"I defy anyone to tell me that this isn't (anti-gay) discrimination," Cathcart told reporters. "This is rampant discrimination."

The controversy has had other political fallout.

At the Massachusetts state Democratic Convention, an amendment to have Gays listed as an outreach group in the state party charter was soundly defeated by a vote of 1,472 to 523.

The defeated charter amendment would have added Gays to the existing outreach groups for Blacks, Hispanics, women, labor, and youth.

The amendment was opposed by Governor Michael Dukakis—who has been accused of pushing for the ban on foster care placement of children with Gays. Dukakis lobbied heavily against the amendment's passage.

The defeat of the amendment has cast doubts on the chances for passage of a state Gay anti-discrimination bill now pending in the legislature.

Falwell Insists AIDS Is a 'Gay Disease'

The Rev. Jerry Falwell, head of the Moral Majority, is insisting that AIDS is "uniquely a male homosexual disease—despite reports that nearly all of the more than 20,000 cases of AIDS in Africa are among heterosexuals."

In a rare interview with a Gay publication, Falwell told the *Philadelphia Gay News* that he still believes AIDS to be the result of "the immoral and indecent behavior of homosexual" and that "God judges sin, no question about it."

Falwell said that it was "foolish" for the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta to include Haitians as an AIDS high-risk group. "Now they've (CDC) acknowledged that only those Haitians who were involved in homosexual activities have AIDS," he said.

Rejecting the existence of monogamous Gay couples, Falwell flatly branded all homosexuals as promiscuous.

"I think that promiscuous homosexuality—and all homosexuality is promiscuous, as far as I'm concerned—is as wrong as promiscuous heterosexuality. It's all wrong."

Falwell claimed credit for the

shutdown of San Francisco's Gay bathhouses last October and for Gay men being barred from donating blood.

"I recommended two years ago that we shut down the bathhouses as a favor to homosexuals because they were communicating it (the suspected AIDS virus) to each other through sexual activity. That, and of course, blood transfusions are the only two ways to get it," he said.

"And the bathhouses are being shut down," he added.

Lesbian to Sue Cops In Rape Case

A Lesbian activist who was raped at knife-point in 1983 is planning to sue the Racine, Wisconsin police department for anti-gay conduct in their investigation of the incident.

According to *Pittsburgh's OUT*, Cindi Lampmann, a member of the Governor's Council on Lesbian and Gay Issues, reported to Racine police that she had been raped in the basement of a local church where she worked by a man who called her "the Governor's Dyke."

Lampmann stated that detective Paul Preuss, who was initially assigned to the case, made anti-gay remarks to her and acted in an unprofessional manner.

An internal department investigation cleared Preuss of all the charges. Preuss is to be named a defendant in the lawsuit.

The city of Racine may also be named as a defendant, Lampmann said.

To date, no suspects have been named in the rape.

Gays Rip Canada Gov't. Over AIDS

The Reagan administration is not alone in being accused of not doing enough in the fight against AIDS. So has the Conservative Party administration of Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

Nine AIDS organizations convened in Montreal at a national AIDS conference and accused the government of "negligence" in allocating only \$1.5 million for AIDS projects in the past four years, according to the *Philadelphia Gay News*.

As of May 1, 212 Canadians have been diagnosed with AIDS. As in the United States, 74 percent of Canadians with AIDS are Gay or bisexual men.

The growth rate of AIDS cases in Canada is believed to lag behind that of the United States by two years, and is now beginning to show a dramatic upward spiral.

Members of the newly-formed Canadian AIDS Society issued a rebuke to the Ministry of Health and Welfare to "provide adequate funding to these community-based (AIDS) organizations for their projects, programs and services."

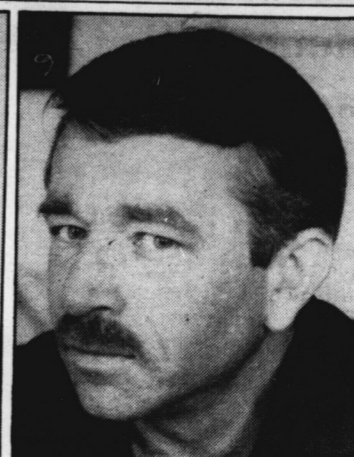
D. Sanders

Shop for a
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in the
Bay Area Reporter

TROUBLE ON THE 24



Liam Kelleher (Photo: Rink)



Blair Partridge (Photo: Rink)

Terror on the 24

(Continued from page 1)

Blair Partridge, 38, saw the tension build. He boarded the bus at Sutter and Divisadero Streets at about 1:45 a.m. At Hayes Street he noted almost a dozen Latino youths board the bus. Partridge said they were loud, and he tried to ignore what he sensed as a potentially dangerous situation by putting his head down and reading his copy of a magazine.

As the bus reached 16th Street, he said the subject of the loud talking turned to "faggots." The youths were leaning out the window yelling anti-gay taunts to people on Castro Street, where bars were just closing.

'FUCKING FAGGOTS!'

At Castro and Market the young hoods began singling out people they perceived as Gay. "Here comes one," they yelled. "You fucking faggots!" they yelled at others. The driver, Lonnie Moore, reportedly did nothing to discourage the actions of the youths.

At 18th and Castro, Liam J. Kelleher, 22, boarded the bus. He was one of those that would be perceived as Gay. In fact he is straight. As the bus moved up Castro Street the taunts continued.

Partridge and several others went up to the bus driver and complained. According to Blair Partridge, bus driver Lonnie Moore told him, "We can hear what's coming down. If you don't like it you can get off." Another passenger, Richard Jordan, 35, was sitting near the front of the bus. Jordan said the bus driver Moore told those complaining to "sit down or get off the bus."

At 22nd and Castro, Liam Kelleher tried to get off the rear exit of the bus. As he attempted to leave his path was blocked by one of the youths. He said he wanted to get off because it was his stop. He was then jumped by about a half dozen youths. He was kicked, punched and mauled by his attackers.

PANIC AND DELAY

The beating continued as people panicked and left the bus. Kelleher was dragged almost the full length of the bus from the rear door and finally lay in physical shock near the front door. During the beating a window of the bus was smashed.

The noise woke several neighbors in the area. One resident phoned the police at 2:03 a.m., according to the police computer printout. Muni officials note that bus driver Moore hit his silent alarm at 2:02 and the police received Muni's call at 2:06.

For some still unexplained reason, the police communications unit at the Hall of Justice held the report of the assault for eight minutes before dispatching a patrol car. In this time the attackers were able to flee the scene.

A. White

Muni's 'Hoodlumism' Policy Apparently Not Followed

Public Utilities Commission Hears Pleas, But Takes No Action on Transit Violence

by Allen White

Inaction by Muni bus drivers to threats aboard their coaches is a violation of Muni policy less than a year old. Yet, even Muni boss Rudolf Nothenberg—interviewed this week by the *Bay Area Reporter*—seems to advise against drivers taking steps which are officially required in the policy.

The policy on hoodlumism came to light Tuesday as the Public Utilities Commission (P.U.C.), which oversees Muni, held a hearing on the weekend attack on the 24 Divisadero bus line. The commission also heard from four Gay leaders. It took no action, however.

The four speakers were Diana Christensen, Community United Against Violence; Pat Norman, Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club; Hank Wilson, Gay Teachers; and Bob Ross, *Bay Area Reporter*.

THE POLICY

Rudolf Nothenberg, the general manager of the Public Utilities Commission, emphasized that the drivers are not police. He also released the policies relating to procedures regarding how drivers should react when there is the threat of violence.

The official policy statement would appear to have little relevance to the conduct of most Muni transit operators.

It states, "Great care must be taken in the safety of passengers and the handling of any juvenile problems. Operators have sometimes ignored pleas from passengers concerning robberies or

A NEWS ANALYSIS

attacks on passengers, fighting among juveniles, or vandalism being committed on transit equipment."

The directive then says, "When you are confronted with such situations, it is your DUTY to take immediate, appropriate action. It is your obligation and Muni's to provide a safe ride and give every possible assistance if passengers are being assaulted. Failure to do so can result in costly litigation."

In bold letters the bulletin then says, "PLEAS FROM PASSENGERS WHO ARE BEING ASSAULTED MUST BE ACKNOWLEDGED IMMEDIATELY AND PASSENGERS LEFT OFF IF THEY SO REQUEST. OPERATORS WHO IGNORE THESE TYPES OF INCIDENTS OC-

CURRING ON BOARD THEIR VEHICLES WILL BE SEVERELY DISCIPLINED." Mechanical instructions on how to operate the alarm system are then stated.

'CRY WOLF'

A second bulletin states the procedure for use of the silent alarm. It states the alarm is only to be used in the cases of a life threatening emergency. It then describes how to use the alarm. It then instructs driver that, "If the procedures are not followed, we are likely to find an increasing reluctance on the part of the Police Department to respond to emergency alarm calls because operators have "cried wolf" too often.

Several members of the Police (Continued on page 17)

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Muni's 'Hoodlumism' Policy



(Photo: Rink)

'In 95 percent of Gay attacks, anti-Gay epithets precede the violence'
Diana Christensen

(Continued from previous page)
Department are now critical of the Muni drivers for not pushing the alarm, a direct conflict to the instructions as issued by Muni management.

The silent emergency alarm is one of two methods of calling for aid. In situations involving danger, which are less than life-threatening, the operator is supposed to use the radio to all Muni Control Central. The radio is equipped with a "priority button" which is designed to give "priority" messages an override over other routine communications.

The members of the Public Utilities Commission stated before the testimony they would take no action relating to the problem of Muni violence which was being discussed. The four speakers then proceeded to educate the P.U.C. members to the problems relating to anti-Gay violence.

Hank Wilson focused on the definition of the word "assault."

"How much must a person be subjected to before he has been assaulted?" asked Wilson. "How much terror, how much trauma, how much physical or psychological violence must a person be subjected to before it can be said he has been assaulted?"

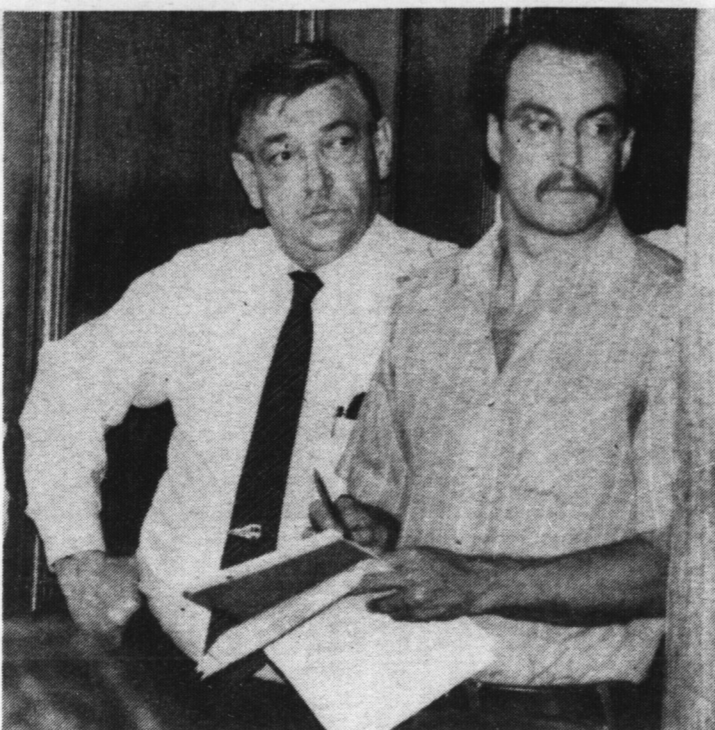
TAUNTS ARE FIRST

Diana Christensen provided a background of basic statistical information for the P.U.C. "In 95 percent of Gay attacks," she said, "anti-Gay epithets precede the violence." How long does a driver wait before he calls on the radio for help? She repeatedly asked the question of the Commission each time, changing the qualifications and challenging the P.U.C. to recognize that they, in fact, have no true guidelines.

Pat Norman, speaking as a representative of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, spoke to the issue of homophobia. "The reason for the attacks are not for our money, not for our clothes," she said, "but because of who we are." She then told the commission members that the Gay community wanted their assistance. Her comment was made more as a plea than a demand.

The final speaker was Bob Ross, publisher of the *Bay Area Reporter*. He told of how the newspaper received complaints relating to the 24 Divisadero bus. He told the commission of how residents on the route of the bus could actually hear the anti-Gay taunts from their homes as the bus traveled by.

Ross also noted that many people choose other bus lines,



Bob Ross and Hank Wilson were two of those who spoke about anti-Gay violence before the Public Utilities Commission. (Photo: Rink)

such as the 35 Eureka, simply to avoid the harassment on the 24 Divisadero bus. Ross concluded by stating the problems presented to the Public Utilities Commission at the meeting are "just the tip of the iceberg." With the summer approaching, he predicted many more cases of violence unless action is taken.

All the commissioners appeared to show a degree of concern for the problem. The most vocal was Commissioner Nancy Levin. She said the operators are going to have to get more

"trigger happy" and call for support. She also wanted to send a message that the incident that occurred last Saturday night was an exception and the public should not "assume it was the norm."

Her comment, though sincere, underscored the frustration of the four speakers. The four speakers were making every effort to indicate that the actions of last Saturday night represented, in fact, the norm—and were not an exception.

A. White



The 24 bus stop at 22nd Street, scene of assault and point of departure for thugs—who all escaped while police delayed the alert. (Photo: Rink)

Cops and Supes Urge Drivers to Hit Trouble Button

Mission Station Lt. Says Comment By Muni Boss is 'Bullshit'

by Allen White

Public officials responded this week to comments in the *Bay Area Reporter's* interview with P.U.C. General Manager Rudolf Nothenberg. Supervisor Harry Britt was joined by Supervisors John Molinari and Doris Ward in requesting the City Attorney immediately draft legislation which would become applicable to Muni drivers. San Francisco Police Commander Frank Jordan challenged Nothenberg's allegations of police inaction. And Lt. Al Casciato at Mission Station responded by stating, "That's bullshit."

The legislation proposed by Britt would make it a city law for bus drivers to report, through their communications systems, all instances of criminal activity immediately to the police. This law, if passed, would make the bus driver responsible for reporting such violations as threats of violence against transit riders or drivers.

In speaking for introduction of the legislation, Supervisor

Britt stated that the incident last weekend on the 24 Divisadero line is part of a "pattern of violence" which permeates the Muni system. He said teenagers know they can intimidate passengers and the operators now have become accepting and conditioned to treat this criminal activity as if it were invisible. "What now exists," stated Britt, "is a climate of fear on our transit system."

(Continued on next page)

'Not Our Problem'

(Continued from previous page)

Nothenberg acknowledged that these violations take place all the time on the Muni and that, in his view, if the police were called every time a misdemeanor law violation took place, they would be calling the police every few minutes. Nothenberg was highly skeptical of the San Francisco Police Department and said that if they were called because of minor law violations they would probably not respond.

He said there is a transit division of the police department assigned to handle problems on the Muni. He also acknowledged that there are only 50 officers in this unit to cover every form of transit on the Muni system. Given the fact that there are three eight-hour shifts and days off, this would mean there is an average of 12 police available to cover every bus, cable car, Muni Metro line and trolley car line at any one time. It is the acts reported by the officers of this police unit upon which Nothenberg bases his estimation of the severity of violence on the Muni transit system. The 24 Divisadero line showed five arrests for May.

Nothenberg was asked if he had any words of support or advice for the Gay community regarding the current problems relating to harassment and abuse on the Muni. He gave no comment that would indicate he was sensitive to the abuse facing Gay men and Lesbians on San Francisco's public transit system.

His response, in some ways, is not unexpected. He has developed a network of supervisors, secretaries and others who are effective in keeping him away from contact with the general public and most of the press. Throughout the crisis last weekend Nothenberg was contacted by intermediaries. Though certainly aware of the public outrage, he chose to have other spokespersons address the issue. And yet, Rudolf Nothenberg is the highest ranking person in the chain of command responsible for operating the Muni, San Francisco's transit system.

A. White

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.

Shanti Project
Affection not Rejection
558-9644

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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.
- have sex that's healthy and fun.

Call us at **626-6637**

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



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Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights

Anti-Gay Taunts 'Not Our Problem' Says Muni Boss

Elusive Rudolf Nothenberg Speaks But Says Little

by Allen White

Rudolf Nothenberg, the General Manager of the Public Utilities Commission, said this week that verbal harassment such as calling passengers "faggots" or "niggers" was not the problem of Muni. "The problem is not Muni's, it is society's problem," he said. The remark came as Nothenberg granted an interview in the wake of public outrage following the weekend beating on the 24 Divisadero bus line.

Every Muni bus has a silent alarm which can alert police. He was asked when the button should be pushed. He said, "the button should only be used when there is a threat to an operator's safety or a life-threatening situation exists." He noted that there are supervisors working for Muni throughout the city. If a rowdy group or a drunk is on the bus, Nothenberg believes that these supervisors should be called and not the police.

Asked directly if the threats and verbal abuse were a reason to call the police, he said, "Abusive language is insufficient reason to call the police." He stated that several illegal acts were not sufficient grounds to call the police. Playing radios, smoking and threatening a person with violence are all against the law.

Many people feel that these acts of arrogance against society create a climate of violence on the Muni transit system. Nothenberg stated the bus driver is not a police officer, yet with equal emphasis he said he would not direct a bus driver to call the police because someone was playing the radio on a bus. He added that just because a person was called a "faggot" or some other name would not be sufficient cause to warrant calling the police.

(Continued on next page)



(Photo: Rink)

'Abusive language is insufficient reason to call police'
Rudolf Nothenberg

'Fag Bashing' Case Fizzles

Five Young Men Walk Free After Terrorizing the Castro

by Charles Linebarger

On April 1 five young men ran amuck in the Castro. After hurling anti-Gay slurs at the passengers on the #24 Divisadero bus, they threatened a man walking his dog at 18th and Castro. Soon they were beating to the ground another Gay man in front of the Village Bar. In this attack the five used a cane on the man as if it were a club.

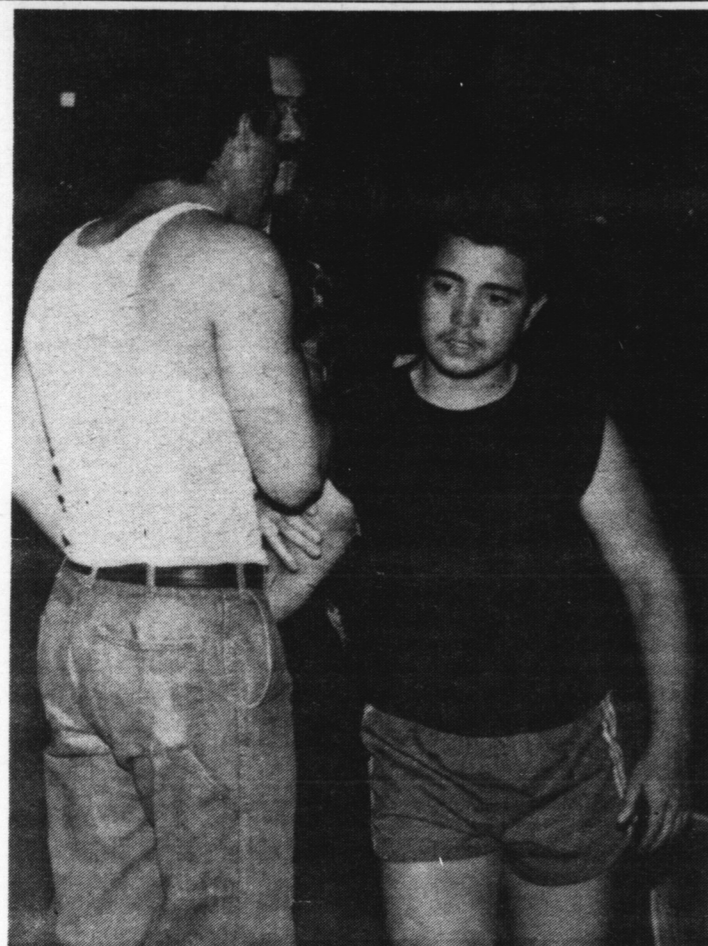
Police apprehended five teenagers. But as it turns out, only three were booked—to be later released on probation. The other two were cited and never saw the inside of the city jail. Now, two months later, it appears all the charges will be dropped because the victim disappeared, not enough witnesses have come forward and, the kids are claiming it was all self-defense.

Rink, a photographer for the B.A.R. was on that #24 Divisadero bus and witnessed the gang's foray into the Castro on a quiet Wednesday evening about 10 p.m.

"Five Latino youths boarded the bus at Castro and Market,"

Rink recalled. "They rode for one block before getting off at 18th and Castro. But before getting off they pushed their way down the aisle of the bus making anti-Gay remarks and other epithets."

Rink watched the five head for



One of the young men arrested during April 1 case (facing camera): following last week's hearing, all are free. (Photo: Rink)

the donut shop on the northeast corner of the street.

"The five youths got into a verbal confrontation with a man who was leading a collie on a leash. At that point I saw what I thought was a club. I had crossed the street so I saw the club up close. I recrossed the street and called the police emergency number 911."

Rink assumed correctly that the youths' shouting, their attitude toward the residents of the neighborhood, plus the club—which turned out to be a cane—would lead to violence.

"After calling 911 I recrossed the street," Rink remembered, "and walked down 18th Street. I found a crowd of 15-20 citizens poised around the five youths. In front of the larger group was a man with a bloody face (the victim of the assault in front of the Village, Henry L. Avila) who

witnesses, Steve Franceschi and James Stephens, identified the suspects and Avila signed a citizen's arrest warrant for all five suspects.

Avila, in the police report, stated to the officers that he observed the suspects harassing a citizen walking a dog. Avila reportedly told the suspects, "Why don't you leave him alone." The suspects responded, according to Avila's statement to the police, with: "Mind your own business, faggot." Two of the suspects then pushed Avila against a wall and began hitting him about the face and body causing him to fall to the ground.

Then one of the suspects, according to the police report, began hitting Avila across the back with the cane as another suspect began kicking Avila in the stomach. After more kicks and punches the suspects ran east on 18th Street where they were subsequently detained by the police.

San Francisco Assistant District Attorney Tony Lukas, explained why a hearing that had been set for Friday, June 7 had been postponed until the 20th.

"It was on a motion for continuance by the attorney for the defendants," explained Lukas, "to get further discovery as to the victim's background. The victim has been in several cases where he has been accused of assaultive behavior. And the kids are claiming it was all self-defense on their parts."

According to Lukas, it will be his decision as to whether or not to prosecute the five. But the likelihood of his taking them to trial "doesn't look particularly good right now," he said. Lukas claims the witnesses reported seeing different things and he needs collaborative testimony.

"I need a witness who saw the initial contact between the victim, Avila, and whichever kid was attacking him, and someone who saw what happened after that," said Lukas.

As for fag bashing and setting an example to would-be fag bashers, Lukas said, "They come up every once in a while. But this is the first I've had in a couple of months... None of the juveniles is being held now. We have crowded conditions and there's no room for that."

was being restrained."

The youths then resumed their rampage down 18th Street, "shouting and pushing people." According to Rink, more than 20 people witnessed this scene, but only two have so far stepped forward to verify what happened.

According to the police report, as related by Wally Hirsch, an investigator with the San Francisco District Attorney's Juvenile Division, "the officers, on their arrival at 18th and Castro, were advised by citizens that five juveniles had just battered a citizen and had fled east on 18th toward Noe. They went to 18th and Noe and found another police car there whose officers had detained two of the juveniles. The other three were apprehended on 18th near Sanchez."

The victim, Avila, according to the police report, and two

DEATHS

Michael Dawes

Michael Gary Dawes, 35, graduated from this earthly classroom following a nine-month struggle with AIDS. A resident of San Francisco for the past 12 years, Michael made many friends and, as the owner of Michael's Flower Shoppe on Haight Street, made many floral contributions to the Gay community.

During his last week at Children's Hospital he was attended by his mother, aunt, and a Shanti volunteer. Any donations to his memory should be made to the Children's Hospital Fund for creating a room for family members to stay while holding vigil.

Michael Avedon

Michael (Allister) Avedon passed away May 9, after almost a year of fighting against incredible odds. Michael, born in Manhattan, was best known for his theater work, his flower shop outside of Canary Island and his help with the original *Men Behind Bars*. Michael had no family and is survived by his roommates Pete McDaniel and John Gordon who will hold a memorial gathering of friends at 2 p.m. Sunday June 16 at 28 Raleigh, San Francisco. For further information call 239-1275.

'Buck' Rogers

The publisher of the Los Angeles Gay monthly events calendar, *Buck Rogers' Happenings*, died last week of AIDS. Robert Rogers, 52, started the popular slim pocket guide in 1980 with Sydney Barbara. The publication will continue and has a circulation of 30,000.

Rogers was active in AID FOR AIDS when he was diagnosed himself. A memorial service was held for Rogers in Los Angeles on Sunday. He had requested that, in lieu of flowers, contributions be sent in his name to AID FOR AIDS, 7985 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90046.

Ed Moore

Ed Moore died on June 3 after an 8-month bout with AIDS. He died in the city he loved so much, San Francisco.

Born in Kansas City on July 9, 1932, Ed migrated to the city in 1961, where his first position was as a sales representative. Next, Ed operated independently as a painting contractor. Eventually he became a successful realtor, originally associated with Herth Realty in the Castro and finally co-owning Zephyr Real Estate & Investments. In the last vital aspect of his business life, he promoted Trophy Video.

Friends and acquaintances will not only remember Ed Moore for his success but also for his humor. His generosity and kindness is shown by his distinguished work for the Salvation Army with the elderly and disabled. Both Gay and straight men and women rallied to support him through his ordeal.

He is survived by his mother Ruth and brother John. Contributions in his memory may be sent to the Ed Moore Writing Prize at San Jose High School, 275 N. 24th St., San Jose, CA 95116.

Robert Rivers

Robert Rivers passed over June 2 at St. Mary's Hospital, when his brave heart gave out. He had been one of the flower children in the Summer of Love in San Francisco. He retained through his life that sense of caring and love. That particular sense of humor he had will be sorely missed by his many friends.

Funeral services will be held in South Carolina.

Joseph Swartz

On June 11 at 8:15 a.m., Joseph Swartz slipped away. Our sweet man was into everything; the world was his fascination. To his friends, he was a teacher and warm generous buddy who loved those he knew. His work included the Shanti Fun Squad, the board of directors for the AIDS Fund, the board of directors for People With AIDS-San Francisco, and much more. Joseph would have been 42 this week. He has fought a good fight and his rest is well deserved. Those wishing to honor him should donate to their favorite AIDS fund since all were dear to him. A memorial service will be held Saturday, June 15, 11 a.m. at Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St., San Francisco.

With love, his friends: Dan, Dominic, Irene, Bill, and John

Roger Verner

Roger Verner died of AIDS on June 9th in the arms of his lover, Doug.

Roger was born December 18, 1951 in Texas and spent his childhood in rural Utah. He lived on both coasts while in the Navy. He and his lover moved to San Francisco in 1982 from San Diego.

Roger is survived by his family who were also in attendance at the time of his death. Roger (Meda to

all who loved him) will be remembered for his calm, his joy, and his music. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Contributions in his memory may be sent to the AIDS Patient Fund, Ward 5-B, San Francisco General Hospital, 1001 Potrero Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94110.

John Good

John Good passed away June 5 at French Hospital following surgery for an aneurysm of the colon. He was 36 years old.

Affectionately known as Flo, John was manager of the Village Bar on 18th Street in the Castro. His special pride and joy was "Flo's Patio" where he could be found holding court on Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

A native of Beloit, Wisconsin, John came to San Francisco after graduation from the University of White Water in 1972. He worked for Grodins at first. His first job in the bar business was at the Men's Room on 18th Street where he started out as a bartender and later manager.

Flo became a San Francisco legend in his own time and participated in just about every Gay activity sponsored throughout the community. He was especially supportive of the Imperial Court and Tavern Guild projects. He put his best foot forward whenever his presence was needed to help raise funds for any and all AIDS related organizations.

John was a giving person, bigger than life and full of love. One of his greatest gifts was laughter. He truly loved people and let that love shine through. He is survived by his lover, Steve, who was with him when he died, and all of those who knew and loved him.

A Memorial Service will be held for Flo Saturday 12 noon at the Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka, San Francisco. There will be a gathering of friends on "Flo's Patio" immediately following the service.

Paul Wombacher

In Loving Memory Paul Andrew Wombacher Sept. 18, 1943 - May 18, 1985

Charles Hoffman

Charles Roy Hoffman, 38 years old, and a native of Blue Earth, Minnesota, died June 8 following a lengthy fight with AIDS. He was surrounded by his friends and lover who made his final hours peaceful.

Information regarding a memorial service can be obtained by calling 285-6562, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Any donations should be made to the San Francisco Hospice Program located at 225 30th St., San Francisco.

Nelson Dumlaio

Nelson "Kainoa" Dumlaio passed away May 18, in Honolulu, Hawaii. He will be deeply missed by his friends in San Francisco and Hawaii. Nelson was born in Honolulu, November 25, 1947. He moved to San Francisco six years ago and was well recognized for his culinary talents in San Francisco's finest restaurants.

He will be well-remembered for his friendliness to those who encountered him, he was an inspiration to all. Nelson will be missed by his lover of six years, Rocco, his sister Deborah, and many friends, neighbors and co-workers.

Contributions in his memory may be made to the Life Foundation, 320 Ward Avenue, Suite 104, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814.

Obituary Policy

The Bay Area Reporter publishes death notices as a community service free of charge. Items are submitted by lovers or immediate family.

Please include complete name and other information to identify the subject to friends and acquaintances. If a memorial service is planned which you wish to publicize, include date, time and place.

Notices of more than 100 words may be edited for space. We cannot accept poetry. Deadline is Tuesday, 12 noon.

AIDS ANTIBODY TESTING Community Meeting

GET THE FACTS. Then Decide For Yourself.

There is a debate within the community about whether or not to take the AIDS antibody test. Now that the test is available at Alternative Test Sites where anonymity is guaranteed, the S.F. AIDS Foundation is not opposed to the test. Our major concern is that you make an informed decision.

We invite you to attend a Public Meeting to learn more about the test and the Alternative Test Site program. Everyone is welcome.

Featured Speaker: Dennis McShane, M.D.
President
Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights

Wednesday, June 19 8:00 P.M.
Metropolitan Community Church (MCC)
150 Eureka at 19th
Sign Language Interpreted



Drivers Told: Hit the Button

(Continued from previous page)

Additionally, Supervisor Britt requested Mayor Dianne Feinstein to take swift and visible action. Two years ago the Mayor instituted a successful campaign which lowered the crime rate on the Muni. Britt wants the Mayor to help get the word out that citizens can also report crimes which they see. "There must be an acceptance of reality by the citizens that they must be part of the solution," said Britt. "I don't want to see a reign of terror in this city."

Supervisor Bill Maher said, "When the drivers see trouble may develop, they should stop. It is better to be safe than sorry." It is Maher's contention that if bus riders find that they are unable to get home from work because of a few punks, public pressure will prevail and solve the problem. He also encouraged the drivers to call the police at the first signs of trouble.

Commander Frank Jordan, who is now based in the North Beach area, said, "Whenever there is any potential for violence, then the police should be called. That's what we are

'It is better for bus drivers to make the first move before someone else does and gets control of the bus.'

Com. Frank Jordan

here for."

"Bus drivers are adults," Jordan said, "and they see the potential for problems better than anybody. It is better for the bus drivers to make the first move before someone else does and gets control of the bus."

Commander Jordan was emphatic in stating that if the bus driver pushes the silent alarm on his bus there will be quick response by the police. "The rules of reason shall apply," he said, "and the bus driver is the best person to know when trouble is imminent."

Lt. Al Casciato, a former head of the Police Officers Association, was in charge last weekend when the 24 Divisadero bus in-

cident took place. He works at Mission Station. He said he strongly supports the proposed legislation. "Pushing the silent alarm and summoning the police is a preventative crime measure. The more you call, the more you alter behavior."

Casciato said, "There are police all around Muni vehicles. They will respond immediately." Reacting to Nothenberg's charge that the police wouldn't respond if called every few minutes, Lt. Casciato said, "That's bullshit! I, and every other police officer, would want to respond to many little calls rather than one big call with a dead person on our hands."

Casciato said, "the only way you are going to alter behavior is to have a heavy police response. It only takes a few minutes to go on a bus and run an ID check on a trouble maker. He may not be happy but you can be sure he won't cause any more problems for the rest of his ride on the bus. When it comes to preventative police action, there is no such thing as 'crying wolf.'"

A. White

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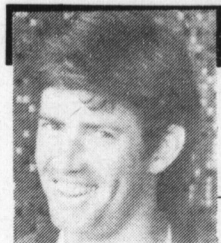
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ON THE OFF BEAT

They Do, They Do— But Would You?

MIKE HIPPLER

In many ways it was the most traditional of weddings. Banks of white gladiolas beneath rows of the purest white candles decorated the altar of the cavernous Gothic sanctuary. While the organist in the balcony above played airs by Bach and Pachelbel, ushers dressed in white led guests to pews bedecked with white ribbons.

The mother of the groom, resplendent in pink, was the last to be seated, just before the wedding party, all in white, marched up the aisle with slow, measured steps.

In the pulpit the minister stood waiting, a beatific smile above his white tuxedo. But when at last he greeted the happy couple, a white veil—white or any other color—was in sight, for at the altar stood not bride and groom but groom and groom. It was a logical, though hardly traditional, climax to this particular *Boy Meets Boy* story.

"What do you want to go to a Gay wedding for?" a friend at

work asked when he heard that I was planning to attend the nuptials of Ray Holloway, a young waiter at Castro Gardens Restaurant, and his beloved, Vern Black, an "awareness counselor" who once worked with Werner Erhard.

"Come on, it'll be the hoot of the year," I replied, ever the romantic.

"I doubt it," my friend scoffed. "But have fun anyway."

Fun is exactly what I intended to have. Since I did not know either of the betrothed very well, I had no idea that I was supposed to take the event seriously. But it quickly became apparent that this wedding, although a joyous occasion, was no laughing matter. After all, you don't spend this kind of dough if you're not serious about the consequences.

To my relief, and, I confess, to my amusement, the ceremony was not as traditional as it first appeared. When the minister, Matt Garrigan, asked us to close



It must be a honeymoon: they're smiling at breakfast. Vern Black and Ray Holloway are the newlyweds. (Photo: Rink)

our eyes, put our hands over our hearts, and "create a space for Ray and Vern to come into, that's full of love, joy, and happiness." I knew we were in the hands of no straight-laced conservative.

Matt, whose enthusiasm and energy nearly leaped from the pulpit, spoke of Ray and Vern not as spouses but as "committed life mates," and he charged them to "tell the truth, go for results, maintain your freedom of choice, keep all your agreements," and more.

In addition, he spoke a great deal about "ecstasy," something my Southern Methodist preacher back home never mentioned, certainly not before a wedding night, for God's sake; he also referred to "the Angels of the Greater Light," beings I have yet to meet.

Ray and Vern departed from tradition, too, when they promised to trust each other and to bring each other ecstasy rather than to honor and obey.

True, they did exchange rings, but they also exchanged crystals, "a symbol of the energy force that is created by our uniting our energies." Vern's crystal was placed on a gold chain around his neck; Ray's was mounted on a leather thong.

Unlike the procedure at other weddings, at this one, vows were timed to be spoken just before 6:30 p.m., a time selected by the couple's astrologer.

And when Ray and Vern were pronounced "committed life mates," it was not in the name of God, but "according to the laws of our hearts, minds, and souls." Nevertheless, even at this wedding, babies cried, and more than one motherly soul shed tears.

"So, what did you think?" I asked a fellow guest after the ceremony while standing in line to sign the guest register.

"I don't know. I came here thinking it was all kind of silly, but I really got into it."

"Wasn't it beautiful?" beamed a lovely, well-dressed woman who earlier had leaned over to me and said, "I give it three months."

"I just love weddings," she said.

After the inevitable and interminable delay while the wedding party posed for pictures, the guests were ushered through a formal receiving line into a reception hall, where champagne and cake awaited them.

And what a cake—a dazzling affair of columns, pink roses, and white swans arranged on

four magnificent tiers topped by two tuxedoed grooms! It was a cake worthy of princes—or princesses—and it was served on delicate napkins imprinted with the grooms' names, the date, and the phrase, "And This Our Life Our Beginning."

At the reception, a friend of the groom sang a sea chanty titled "Peter the Pig," and Ray and Vern thanked everybody under the sun, including the photographer, the florist, the astrologer, and every member of the wedding party.

Then Vern turned to the crowd and said, "Ray and I have given you our convictions, our feelings, and our love. . . . You could have ridiculed us, and you didn't. You came instead to share your love with us. . . . And for that Ray and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts."

Naturally, I felt like a viper in their midst, but not for long, for even I was beginning to admire the obvious sincerity of everyone present, and, in any case, this speech was soon followed by the cutting of the cake. Like other newlyweds, Ray and Vern couldn't resist shoving cake in each other's faces, but, unlike others, these two also licked it off.

Then they ran off under a shower of birdseed (more ecologically correct than rice) to a waiting limousine, which whisked them to their honeymoon suite in the city, chosen by friends and unknown to them.

After a three-week honeymoon in Hawaii, Ray and Vern, who have been lovers off and on for over six years, tried to explain to me at their home why they at last decided to get married. Throughout our conversation, Vern continually referred to something called the "Integrity Tone Scale," which he invented and has posted on the wall of his office. At the top of the chart stood the words, "Be Committed"—words I was to hear again and again during the next hour and a half.

Getting Married "is what I wanted. Short-term commitments were a sell-out," said Ray, who twice before has entered into periods of commitment with Vern, one for three months and the other for a year. For one thing, it makes it easier to clear up misunderstandings, he explained. When you realize there's no backing out, you have to talk.

Vern agreed and added that, according to his philosophy of things, there are two phases we grow through—a youth phase, when it is important "to ex-

perience all kinds of things in order to determine who you are"—and an adult phase.

His own youth phase lasted until he was over 40. Then he realized "that's not what I wanted anymore. . . . I had had enough experience to say, 'More dick, more sex, more this, more that is not going to give me any more than I already have. I'm done with it.'"

"The terror of the next phase," he said, "is that you then pick one person. It's what you want, and yet it's terrifying. . . . because what you feel you've done is closed off spontaneity, freedom of choice. . . . It took us two years to realize that we were ready to go over the terror of that threshold and move into the adult phase."

When questioned how they could be sure that the youth phase was indeed over and that the marriage would endure, Ray offered the following evidence as proof: "Making the [previous] commitments demonstrated to each other that we could keep our commitments, because we did, completely."

Added Vern, the relationship will last because "it has already gone through all the trials that I can see would destroy a relationship—not that there won't be more. . . . but I think it's the first eight or ten trials that are the hardest. . . . If you get through them, the rest of them will be easy."

Ray and Vern have long since learned to overcome those trials by requiring "amendments" of one another or to avoid the trials altogether by allowing room for differences. One such difference that might have led to problems in another relationship concerned the nature of the wedding ceremony itself.

While Vern, who said that he leads with his head while Ray leads with his heart, admitted that he would not have suggested such a formal and traditional public wedding on his own, he willingly acceded to Ray's wishes in the matter.

It was Ray who desired the hoopla. "I'm a very ritual-oriented person," said Ray, who describes himself as an "enlightened" Mormon. "I was raised with that stuff. If Mormonism sells one thing, it's family, it's relationship. So my culture, my background, is steeped in that, and I love it."

Agreeing in the end, Vern noted, "We're steeped in tradition from the day that we're born. . . . and my feeling is that you

(Continued on next page)

G BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

AIDS-Related Antibody Test Begins in San Mateo County

Task Force Including Gay Leaders Created Plan; First People Took Blood Test Last Week

by Marv. Shaw

When Arlette Grubbe learned that a major local TV station was sending a camera crew to film the start of AIDS testing at the San Mateo County Public Health Clinic, she reacted quickly and angrily. The telecasters were told emphatically that strict confidentiality was vital to the process and that she would call the police if videotaping was attempted. Grubbe's prompt action was characteristic of the careful, efficient preparation and start-up of the testing in this community, which is three weeks ahead of neighboring Santa Clara and San Francisco Counties.

Officially the consultant to the county on AIDS, Grubbe, a Lesbian medical social worker, was hired several weeks ago to be the coordinator of the testing process, with the collaboration of already established staff, such as James Olson, the senior public health adviser of San Mateo County, and a carefully selected task force. "I'm proud of what they did," Grubbe stated.

CAREFUL PLANNING

The task force included Tom Nolan, the openly Gay county supervisor; Dennis McShane, the current president of the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights; and Richard Gordon, president of the BAYMEC poli-

tical club. Two months of frequent meetings concentrated on fulfilling the obligations of the state law and providing a process that would serve all related individuals and groups best.

Four members of the task force got the training provided by the federal Centers for Disease Control through its regional teams and in turn trained colleagues.

As Grubbe's job has evolved, it has assumed four distinct functions. First, her mental health training would be applied to counsel the "sero-positive" testees, those discovered to be AIDS-related antibody.

The screening and counseling prior to the test is calculated to

isolate and possibly discourage the high-risk persons who might react violently to the discovery. But as an additional safeguard, a psychiatric emergency room has recently been opened to take care of those who, as Grubbe said, might react to the news with the statement, "I'm going to blow my head off!"

Second, she will train the Health Department's mental health workers in dealing with patients on such highly sensitive matters as how to inform lovers that their mates have the antibody to AIDS. This cadre would also carry through the third step, educating the whole Health Department eventually on sensitivity to Gay issues, deal-

ing with AIDS patients, and probably of at least as much importance, how people do not get AIDS.

Finally, there would be similar work extended to the community. Grubbe has already started some of that with a connection to Jack Isbell, the new minister of the Calvary Metropolitan Community Church in Redwood City, where a support group has been formed.

CLOSET OUTREACH

Overall, Grubbe sees an even larger goal being accomplished, the reduction of homophobia, once the true nature of AIDS is better known and clearly separated from the "Gay disease" omus.

One task the new consultant sees as unique to suburban San Mateo County is counseling the closeted, especially the bisexual men who are heterosexually married. "Whatever motivation the AIDS-identified had to stay in the closet will be gone," she pointed out, adding, "There will be lots of support, lots of service."

Grubbe wants an all-county group which will act as an on-going advisory and proposing body. "I would like to see it composed of a cross-section," she emphasized, "from the Portola Valley matron to the person with AIDS." One of the most important tasks she sees for this group would be pioneering a hospice.

Grubbe came to the job with a substantial history of work in medical counseling. Also, she has gained vital specialized knowledge through her work with the AIDS Foundation. Her own intense personal interest was the prime motivator.

The start of testing on Friday, June 7, drew 12 people. After being counseled, all elected to take the test. The continuation on Monday, June 10, brought seven. Sixteen are already scheduled for Friday, June 14. Reporting of results will be available starting June 17. In Grubbe's view the confidentiality shield is working very well.

EARLY START

Also, the public message will go beyond simple availability, she said. It will demonstrate that the prime need, to protect the blood supply, is being met and that this is an all-county, open service which can go beyond the state-mandated demand.

Too, the dissemination of information will tend to make people feel more secure, she said. As public information becomes widespread, Grubbe feels, there will be changed behavior, of straights toward Gays, and of Gays in their own sex lives and general health.

Asked if any individual or group has registered an objection to the testing, Grubbe replied, "Not so far."

16 Busted in T-Room Take on State Law

Santa Clara Judge Nixes Arrests; Men Unite, File Rights Lawsuit

by George Mendenhall

647(d): Every person who is guilty of disorderly conduct, a misdemeanor, who loiters in or about any toilet open to the public for the purpose of engaging in or soliciting any lewd or lascivious or any unlawful act.

Sixteen men who had been arrested in the South Bay under this state law have combined their cases and are challenging its legality. Charges against the men were dismissed on June 3 by Superior Court Judge Peter Stone in Santa Clara County. Some attorneys who have attempted to change California sex law believe this case will eventually be heard in the state Supreme Court. They believe the chances are good that the section will be voided.

Bruce Nickerson, a San Jose attorney involved in the challenge, explains, "This law has been used for years to round up Gays who hang around rest rooms. There is no objective standard. Hopefully, this will halt police activity around such places—where people are arrested for being Gay and nor for any specific act."

General loitering laws were declared unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1983. The case involved a Berkeley "street person" who had been arrested for walking on the streets at night with no apparent destination. The justices declared that loitering laws were overly vague. However, 647(d) has remained California law although numerous lower court judges have dismissed arrest cases under the statute because they considered the law as too vague.

Nickerson stresses, "If a person is having sex in public he should be arrested. But if people are just waiting around to meet someone, to then go to a

private place, then they should not be busted for it."

Thousands of Gay people have been arrested across California since the "disorderly conduct" section of the penal code was adopted over 50 years ago. Many people have lost their employment and had family relations end because of 647(d) arrests.

The California Supreme Court has moved in recent years to changing oppressive state sex laws.

In *Pryor vs. Municipal Court* (1978) the state court made the grounds for arresting a person for "lewd solicitation" restrictive. Today, a person can not be arrested under 657(a) unless four conditions exist: There must be proven lustful intent, specific sexual activity, the place is public, and proof that the parties might have offended someone.

The state court voided lifetime sexual registration with the police for anyone having been convicted under 647(a). This

(Continued on next page)

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T-Room Arrests

(Continued from page 19)

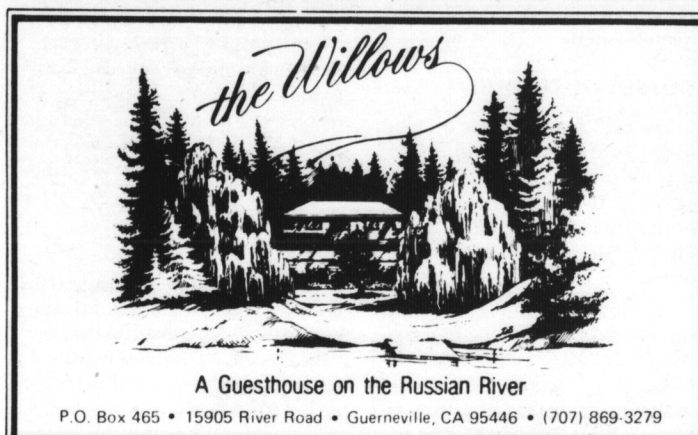
1983 action was followed last year by the court's also voiding registration for anyone convicted for indecent exposure (314.1). However, anyone convicted for rest room loitering must still register.

Last week, the Deputy District Attorney of Santa Clara county, Joseph Thibodeaux, said he does not think 647(d) is vague. He said even eye contact "might be sufficient reason for someone to conclude that what was going on was other than innocent activity." The attorney said he plans to continue to pros-

ecute violators and is appealing the dismissal of the 16 cases by Judge Stone.

Nickerson said he is indebted to the many attorneys who have preceded him in the area of sexual law reform. He said there is a statewide cooperative effort underway between these attorneys. It is time, he urged, to call a halt to sections such as 647(d)—which is so vague that it requires mind reading on the part of cops to know whether a suspect has crossed the line of appropriate behavior in rest rooms.

G. Mendenhall



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I strive for excellence in everything I do, from my involvement in the Chorus to my profession of optometry. I recall an experience with a patient early in my career which gave me a moment of realization about the meaning of pride. He was a withdrawn, middle-aged man who I thought might be gay. I always try to make my patients comfortable and enjoy making them laugh during the course of their exam. When I subtly let him know I was gay by letting the conversation turn to that year's recent Parade and to my upcoming Chorus concert, his mood became more affable and relaxed. In that moment, I realized that in a small way, I'm helping the community by creating a warm environment for my brothers and sisters. After all, gay pride means having compassion for one another. Gay pride... it begins with me.

Monica Chung

Christopher Street West
Los Angeles Gay Pride Celebration

● **FESTIVAL:** Saturday/Sunday June 22nd/23rd Pacific Design Center parking lot, San Vicente and Melrose Avenues.

● **PARADE:** Sunday, June 23rd at 12:30 pm from Santa Monica and Crescent Heights Boulevards to the Pacific Design Center.

● **GAMES:** Saturday, June 8th at Hollywood High, Sunset and Highland Boulevards - 17 Field events, Mr. Mr. Physique contest and Photo Contest. Sunday, June 16th - 5K and 10K "Run for Gay Pride."

● **The 1985 Los Angeles International Gay & Lesbian Film/Video Festival:** June 14-22

● **MORE:** For more information, call Christopher Street West, Los Angeles at (213) 956-6553

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ROLLIN' ON THE RIVER

The Incredible Hulk



CHARLES LINEBARGER

EDITOR'S NOTE: In this issue we begin a sporadic column on the doings up at the Russian River, which will continue throughout the summer season. Our goal is not only to inform you, the dear reader, but also to justify all the time our staff is spending out of town. See you poolside.

by Charles Linebarger

A hulk, a hulk, my kingdom for a hulk. The body-builder's physique has replaced that of the swimmer or surfer as the most idealized male physique for many Gay men. Beyond the search for such an entity in the bars and on the streets, more Gay men are internalizing this definition of male beauty—and achieving it themselves.

Thurmond's Gym in Guerneville caters to these men, and to their straight cohorts. Here a little piece of muscle heaven (or perhaps gym rat heaven) awaits visitors from the city. In a small but spacious one-room building in Brookside Resort you will find all the heavy equipment you need to recreate your body in the likeness of a Greek god.

Michael Thurmond is king here; he is manager, instructor and role model par excellence. He is a hunky, tan man of medium height. As well as having a beautiful body, he is personable. He's a good trainer.

I dropped into the gym on Saturday afternoon and Thurmond immediately swept me into an impromptu exercise class with a novice young man who had never worked out with weights before. As for myself, I've put in years on and off. That Thurmond was able to train us both together was a surprise to me—but that he was able to push each of us to our separate and disparate limits was astonishing.

We worked arms and legs, a combination I never do. We began with a tricep exercise I've never tried before; prone tricep extensions with cable. We two students took turns on the bench until our tricep muscles ached. Mine literally gave out as Thurmond kept shouting:

We do

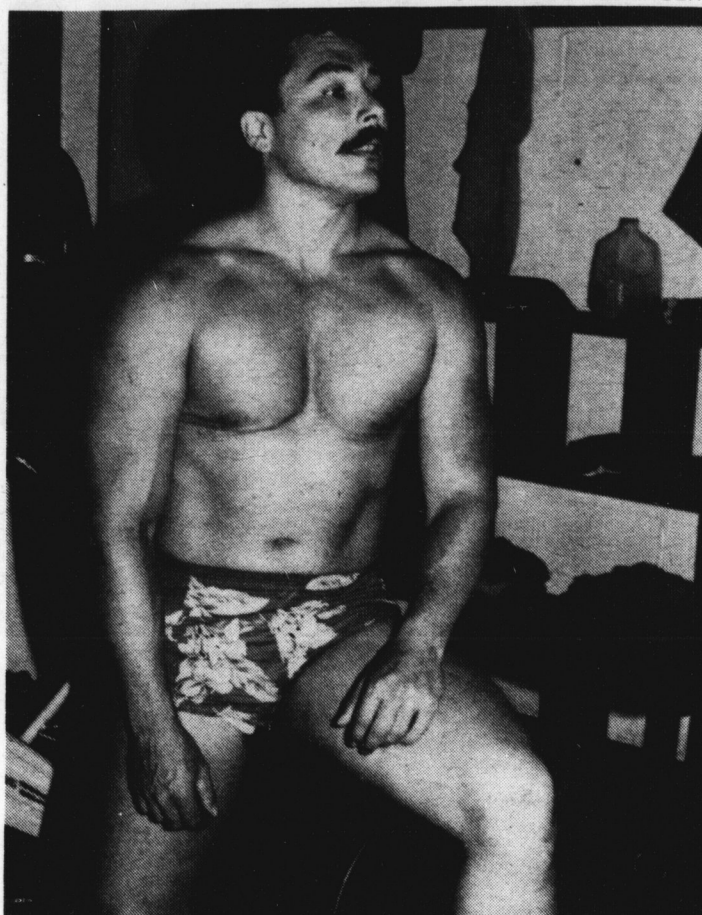
(Continued from page 18)

cannot experience ecstasy in a relationship unless you allow yourself to be who you have learned to be. . . . For Ray and I to have sat down and privately committed to the rest of our lives wouldn't have been the same. It wouldn't have satisfied that part of us that lies dormant in our subconscious. Therefore, we would have been ripping off some of our capacity for ecstasy.

"It would have been like hiding for us," concluded Ray.

However, they caution, despite its public nature, their wedding was not meant to be a Gay political affair but merely a gathering of friends, most of whom are other awareness counselors, 80 percent straight and 65 percent women.

"We did not get married to make any kind of a statement," avowed Vern, "whether or not it has to do with the church. . . . or



Thurmond's gym is pump-room away from home at the River, where Michael Thurmond puts pumpers through the paces. (Photo: Rink)

"You're strong! Strong! Beautiful arms! Beautiful arms!"

I began to smile from a combination of prudishness and amusement but Thurmond pushed me through those last reps and I got fabulous results, a great pump, though I did have to call a halt before my triceps were finished for the next month. The funny thing is I'm back home now, three days later, and my triceps feel fine. It's my shoulder that hurts from all the swimming I did!

From triceps, Thurmond pushed on to barbell curls, where we did good form curls with increasing weight with each set. He didn't push us as far this time. Perhaps he had found our limits. Of course, we two students were working with different weights through the session.

For legs, Thurmond had a surprise for us. We did something again which I've never done before and probably

never seen before, though many of you see so many off-the-wall exercises in a gym that I can't be sure of that.

He had us grab the cable pulleys, pull them into our stomachs and do a type of squat movement like this. We squatted parallel to the floor but, on coming up, arched our stomachs out, which did something funny to our hips. I felt and saw in the mirror how this was working those all-important ham muscles and tightening those swimsuit necessary curves where the butt meets the thigh.

I was impressed with Thurmond's ability to find exercises that work what you want, and need to be worked, and yet avoid the weak and sore spots we all have after a certain age. But they were all, except for the barbell curl, things I hadn't tried or else hadn't put much time into before. As a trainer, Thurmond is probably worth his weight in gold. Come to think of it, simply as a body he's worth his weight in gold.

the state. . . . It's not about trying to change what's going on out there. I just want Ray and I and our relationship to be ecstatic, and if out of that ecstasy changes occur. . . . I would be very happy to see that."

The kind of changes Vern would most like to see, however, are not political but personal ones. As Matt Garrigan noted during the ceremony itself, "The purpose of your commitment is to create an ecstatic relationship to empower others to uncover more of who they are." Does this mean that Ray and Vern, in trying to lead others to be committed, recommend marriage as a course for others?

"Oh, definitely," said Ray. "I think it's necessary. I think there's an experience that people miss out if they don't take this course."

"I absolutely recommend it to everybody, yes," agreed Vern, "but I know that 90 percent of the population can't handle it, that. . . . they won't really be committed. . . . My whole life

M. Hippler

OAKLAND

Floating Away

NEZ PAS

ALFRESCO FIASCO
(A Leftovers Nose?)

Oakland has a picnic and nobody won!

It was a beautiful day, Saturday, June 8—perhaps too beautiful for supporters of the Oakland float. At best count, perhaps a total of eight people arrived at the picnic site. Nice going, huh?

The sponsors lost time and effort. The persons who bought win-a-ride raffle tickets lost because they were not there for the drawing (they had to have been present to win). The ticket purchases must be considered a donation, and the sponsor thanks all of you who bought. The community, as a whole, lost a beautiful day at Lake Temescal, with picnicking right on the lake's edge. Most important was the loss of a chance to show some unity outside the bars that "supported" the Oakland float win-a-ride raffle and picnic.

A good guess would be that the community was more interested in honoring its past than securing its future on that Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The picnic was at the Broadway Terrace Entrance. For those who came and couldn't find the location, contrary to rumor, the tables were not in the bushes! Perhaps this explains the extremely poor attendance. A big thanks is given to those few who found the "secret" location and gave their support.

The sponsors of the picnic suppose that the day of the Parade, Oakland will be united once again—for a few hours. Then a whole year must pass before any unity is expressed again. Perhaps, just perhaps, there really isn't any community here at all. Every float event bears this out. What does one do with all that potato salad and apple pie?

PATISSERIE PLASTERING
(An "I got mine" Nose)

If a beautiful day at the lake couldn't bring them out, what chance did a beautiful day on the patio at the Paradise have? A couple of handfuls of supporters were there; and, indeed, pies were thrown, but only five or six were paying all the money to do the missiling.

One might have thought that a few dozen or more would be willing to plaster this puss with puffed bovine juice, but only David FaCio dared enough to send his very best. Trish got hers (down into the cleavage, yet!), Cheryl got hers, John got his, Jim B. and

Jim S. got theirs, Ann and spouse got theirs, David M. got his, Paul got his, as did David FaCio. Betty (Jim) Bonko and Steve arrived from the flea market—scratching!—but didn't give or receive while I was there. Even Carlos was pulled from behind the bar to receive his grand creaming.

A couple of hundred bucks was raised, but it should and could have been a lot more.

You don't suppose that all the pie throwers went to the Paradise on Saturday, and all the picnickers went to Lake Temescal on Sunday. . . .

The remaining schedule of fundraisers is:

• Saturday, June 15, fried chicken at \$3 a plate, the Lake Lounge from 5 to 8 p.m.

• Sunday, June 16, "all you can eat" spaghetti feed for \$3, the Town & Country, 3 to 7 p.m.

• Sunday, June 23, "Bushel and a Peck," a second drawing of booze, the Town and Country at 9 p.m.

The first bushel of booze contained only a dozen bottles, six of which were well vodka from the Bench & Bar. No clue as to what the second "bushel" might contain.

OLLA-PODRIDA
(A Hotchpotch Nose)

Right on, fellows! For a month or more I've written teasers about Revol's biennial Luau on Sunday, June 23. And, wouldn't you know it, the Bench & Bar decided that its first anniversary could only be held on that day, too. All the staff must be getting off to enjoy the event, as Rick (Cupcakes) from Mama's and George from Revol were broached with the offer of working. Both declined the invitation.

John Drab and Jim Brendon are both sporting Modesto Chamber of Commerce buttons. Seems likely that they just might open a bar down there. Did I hear John say that he got the bar that Taco Toni didn't?

If you're thinking about renting a limousine for any occasion, special or otherwise, why not keep it in our own backyard, as it were. Doug and David own and operate Happy Days Limousine Service, and are eager to please. How much more pleasant—and less expensive—to do all your imbibing and let someone else do the driving, and not have to worry about a DUI. Call 635-3145 for full details.

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STATE NEWS

NAMBLA Banned from L.A. Parade

Claiming that man/boy love is "not a Gay and Lesbian issue" organizers of the Los Angeles Gay Pride Festival have voted to exclude the North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) from the June 23 Gay Pride Parade in West Hollywood.

Tracy Jordon, attorney for the Christopher Street West Association, Inc. (CSW), which sponsors the annual parade and festival, announced the decision at CSW's May 28 board meeting. Accusing NAMBLA of advocating breaking the law, Jordon told NAMBLA members present at the meeting, "We don't agree with what you stand for, and we don't think what you stand for is a Gay and Lesbian issue." She also claimed that NAMBLA

participation in past parades had drawn objections from the community and caused unfavorable publicity.

NAMBLA member David Watson defended the organization's conduct in past parades, and vowed to seek community support in protesting what he called an "unjust and discriminatory political exclusion." He denied that NAMBLA breaks or advocates breaking any laws. "We are a support group for Gay men and youth who suffer oppression because of their sexual and other relationships with one another," he told the CSW Board. "We advocate changing laws, not breaking them."

From a press release by NAMBLA-Los Angeles.

LA Parade Group Sues Time, Newsweek

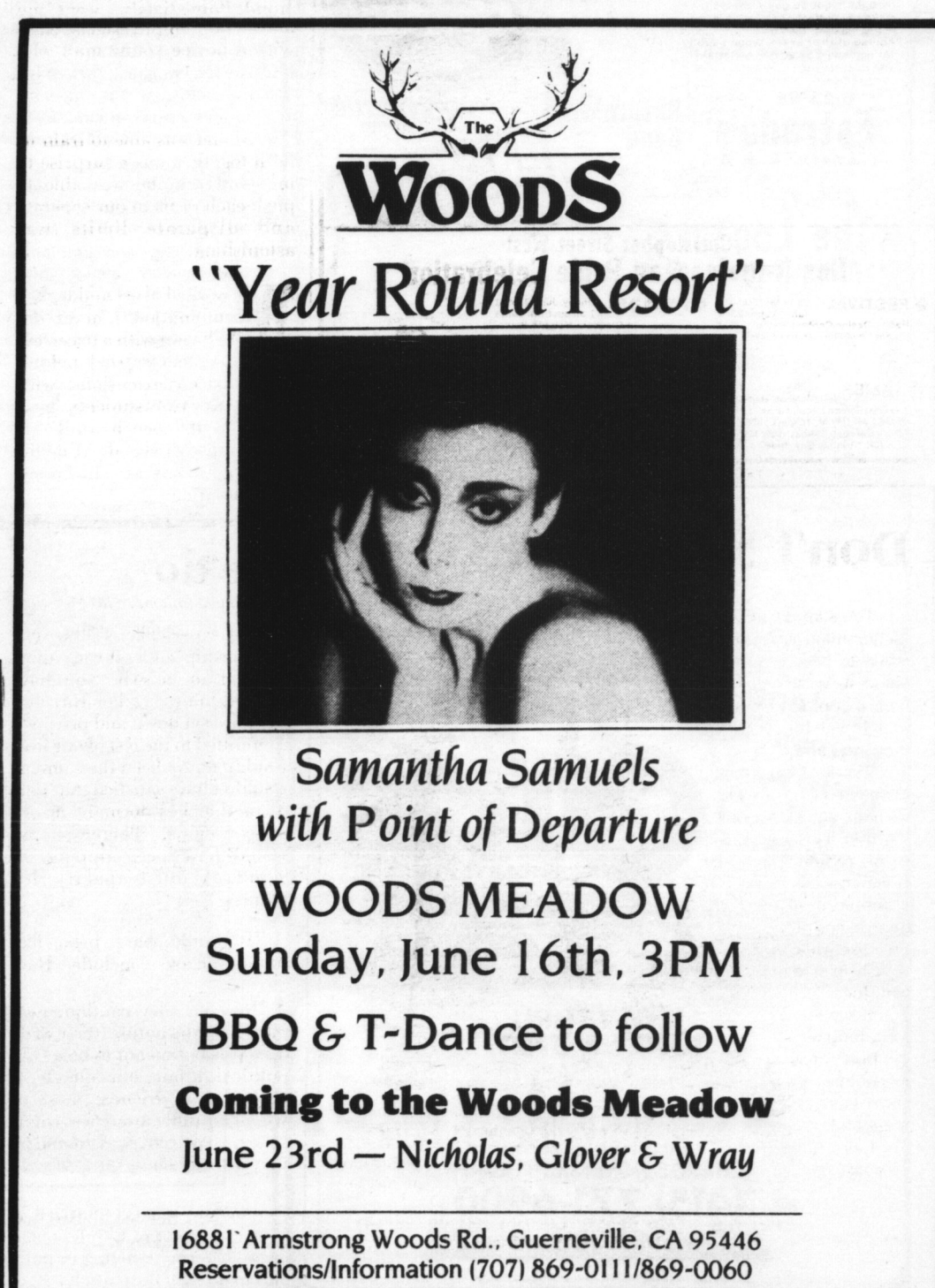
Christopher Street West Association, Inc. (CSW), the organization which sponsors the Annual Gay Pride Festival and Parade in West Hollywood, filed suit May 30 in Los Angeles Superior Court against Newsweek, Time, U.S. News & World Report and Media Networks, Inc. The suit is brought under the Cartwright Act, the California anti-trust statute.

The action is in response to the magazines' rejection of CSW's ads for this year's Gay Pride Festival. The complaint alleges

that Newsweek, Time and U.S. News & World Report, together with Media Networks, entered into an illegal conspiracy in restraint of trade for the purpose of rejecting advertising submitted by any Gay-oriented organization.

CSW alleges that the advertising was rejected solely because of the subject matter and the discriminatory attitudes of all of the publishers toward the Gay and Lesbian community.

From a press release by Christopher Street West.

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by CARYL CHURCHILL

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- **A Whole Lotta Bessie in Me:** cabaret, Buckley's Bistro, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, reservations at 552-8177. Starring Aldo Bell as Bessie Smith.
- **Alexander Hamilton Post 448:** meeting, Green Room, Veterans Bldg., 401 Van Ness Ave., S.F., 7 PM. Join the Gay Post in celebrating the presentation of its American Legion Charter.
- **Tune the Grand Up:** music, 1177 Club, 1177 California St., S.F., 8 PM, \$12.50, reservations at 776-2101. A revue of Broadway composer Jerry Herman's tunes.
- **Bottoms Up:** buns contest, Alamo Square Saloon, 600 Fillmore St., S.F., 9 PM.
- **I Wish I Had Never Met You and I Was Meeting You Now:** stage performance (see Thursday for details).
- **The Tom Ammiano Special:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$6. A new one-person show from the Mother of Gay comedy.
- **Did You Come or Fake It?:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5-\$8. Mother-tongue Readers Theatre examines the complexity of women's sexuality.
- **Over Our Heads:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. Improv by Annie Larson, Theresa Chandler, Karen Ripley, Robert Bowerman.
- **Karen Ripley and Laurie Bushman:** comedy, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6-8 PM.
- **8x10 Glossy:** stage performance, (see Saturday for details).
- **Execution of Justice:** stage performance, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addition St., Berkeley, 8 PM, \$13-\$16. Based on the trial of Dan White, the play examines the nature of justice in American society. Tickets by phone at 845-4700.
- **Top Girls:** stage performance, Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter St., S.F., 8 PM, \$14-\$20. Return engagement of the Eureka Theatre's critically acclaimed production of the hit by Caryl Churchill. Tickets at all major agencies and by phone at 771-6900.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Tokens:** stage performance, Theatre Artaud, 450 Florida St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$12. A play on the plague by the Blake Street Hawkeys. Reservations at 621-7797.
- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE):** women's support group, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 4:30-6 PM. Call Dotty Fowler, 626-7000, for further information.
- **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 Paragon, 555A Castro St., S.F., by appointment. Call Mark Denzin, C.A., or Peter Betcher at 567-2315 for information.

- **San Francisco Hiking Club:** day hike to Wildcat Peak, Tilden Regional Park, meet at 9:45 AM under the Safeway sign near Market and Church, S.F. Bring lunch and water for 4-5 mile hike.
- **East Bay FrontRunners:** Lafayette Reservoir run, Hwy. 24 to Mt. Diablo Blvd. exit, turn left, go to entrance road on left, 3 mile loop, mostly flat. For information, call 658-1440.
- **Fempro:** comedy, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6-8 PM.
- **I Wish I Had Never Met You and I Was Meeting You Now:** stage performance, 8 & 10 PM (see Thursday for details).
- **Women and Peace:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5-\$8. Mother-tongue Readers' Theatre presents their newest work.
- **Pussies 'n Pom Poms:** comedy, Maud's, 937 Cole St., S.F., 9 PM-2 AM, no cover. Celebrating Maud's 19th Anniversary.
- **Breeding Grounds:** stage performance, Lilith Theatre, Golden Gate Park, Peacock Meadow, S.F., 1 PM.
- **Libertarians for Gay and Lesbian Concerns:** meeting, 1800 Market St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Love and sex in the philosophy of Ayn Rand from a Gay perspective.
- **Gay Italian American Organization:** first birthday, Chez Mollet, 527 Bryant St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$17. Write GIA, Box 114, 1550 California St., S.F., 94109 for a reservation.
- **Tune the Grand Up:** music (see Friday for details).
- **Gay Comedy Night:** funnies, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. Linda Moakes, Suzy Berger, Ken Crow.
- **Age of Aquarius:** buffet and show, Alamo Square Saloon, 600 Fillmore St., S.F., \$2, 8 PM. Live entertainment with Trinity Lane and Peter Dixon.
- **Top Girls:** stage performance, 2:30 & 8 PM (see Friday for details).
- **Execution of Justice:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Gay Comedy Night:** funnies, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. Tonight with Tom Ammiano, Monica Palacios and Danny Williams.
- **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 Playwriting contest. Tickets at 861-5079.
- **Ten Percent Revue:** stage performance, 8 PM, \$8; 10 PM, \$7 (see Friday for details).
- **Stepping Up and Over:** stage performance, 8 & 10:30 PM, \$10 (see Friday for details).
- **Tokens:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Different Spokes:** decide and ride, meet in Golden Gate Park at 1 PM (Fell & Stanyan Sts.) and decide destination.
- **Writing Workshop:** for women 60 and older, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 12 noon. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders, call 626-7000 for more information.

SUNDAY

See Aldo Bell as Bessie Smith June 14 at Buckley's (Photo: Balducci)

- **Leola Jiles:** music, Gold Street, 56 Gold St., S.F., 8 PM, \$15. The sensational song stylist appears in a benefit for Mobilization Against AIDS and Metropolitan Community Church. Tickets at STBS.
- **Quiet Fire—Memoirs of Older Gay Men:** bookparty, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Author Keith Vacha will talk.
- **Cindy Herron:** cabaret, 1177 Club, 1177 California St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7, 776-2101 for reservations.
- **Intensive Cure Unit:** 16th Note, 3160 16th St., S.F., 2 PM, \$6. The K'thar Sissies in a theatrical clinic of cheap spectacle that explodes medical mumbo-jumbo. Contagious hilarity.
- **Top Girls:** stage performance, 2:30 & 7 PM (see Friday for details).
- **Execution of Justice:** stage performance, 2 & 7 PM (see Friday for details).
- **Ten Percent Revue:** music, 8 PM, \$7 (see Friday for details).
- **8x10 Glossy:** stage performance, \$8 & \$9 (see Saturday for details).
- **Stepping Up and Over:** stage performance, 7:30 PM, \$8 (see Friday for details).
- **Tokens:** stage performance, \$10 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Different Spokes:** decide and ride bicycling, meet at 10 AM in Golden Gate Park (Fell & 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.



Leola Jiles performs at Gold Street June 16 and 23 to benefit the Mobilization Against AIDS.

MONDAY

- **Domestic Violence:** workshop for women, Centro Legal de la Raza, 1315 Fruitvale Ave., Oakland, 10 AM-12 N. Information at 652-0612.
- **Dexter De Voe:** music, The Lipps, Ninth & Howard Sts., S.F., 8:30 & 10 PM.
- **Saphron Obols and Patty Weinstein:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-11 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.

- **Gay Teachers Association:** Tenth Anniversary celebration, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. A benefit for CUAU to commemorate the winning of contract rights for Gay teachers in S.F. schools. Tom Ammiano hosts.
- **Gay Poetry Series:** readings, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4. Assunta Femia hosts a reading by Gay poets.
- **Dexter De Voe:** music (see Monday for details).
- **Execution of Justice:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Top Girls:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **The Tuffy Band:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM. Featuring Tuffy Eldridge and company.
- **Meditation and Healing Circle:** let go of the past and experience the peaceful core of who you are, 7:30 PM, free. Call 264-5483 for information.
- **Artists Involved with Death and Survival:** stage performance (see Monday for details).
- **Gay Freedom Day Marching Band:** practice, every Tuesday, Graham Hall, Grace Cathedral, S.F., 7:15 PM. Interested? Call the Bandfone, 621-5619.
- **Playwriting Workshop:** 7:30 PM. Conducted by George Birmisa. Call 431-6254 for more information.

- **Pros/Cons of the HTLV-3 Test:** Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 8-10 PM. Get answers to questions about the controversial blood test. ASL interpreters provided.
- **San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus:** rehearsal, All Saints Church, 1350 Waller St., near Masonic, S.F., 7:30-10 PM. Call 334-6542 for information.
- **Tune the Grand Up:** music (see Friday for details).
- **Pamela Brooks:** cabaret, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 6-8 PM.

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To receive your half-price coupon, take canned goods or non-perishable food items to one of the drop-off locations throughout the Bay Area. Drop-off locations will provide coupons which can be redeemed at the Golden Gate Theatre Box Office for any available seat for any Tuesday through Friday evening performance in June. Offer subject to ticket availability.

BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BOOK RACK

Breaking Silence

Lesbian Nuns Confront Themselves, The Church, and the American Public

by Dianne Gregory

Rosemary Curb tossed aside her Actor's Equity card at age 18 to become a nun, something she had wanted to do since she was eight. Now she teaches English at Rollins College in Florida, belongs to a Lesbian spiritual group called Pagoda which has a retreat on the Northeast coast of Florida, and is one of two editors of a book that has confounded press and public alike, *Lesbian Nuns: Breaking Silence*. Her daughter graduates from high school this month.

Nancy Manahan, the other editor of the book, was introduced to Curb in 1981 at a National Women's Studies Association conference by Peg Cruikshank, editor of the *Lesbian Path*. Manahan had already begun to search for other Lesbian ex-nuns in an effort to reconcile her religious past with her present feminism.

"In 1981, during bodywork therapy, I realized that my body held deep feelings about my life (in the convent) and that in suppressing those feelings I was blocking powerful sexual and spiritual energy," Manahan wrote in the book. "I couldn't speak about the convent to my therapist, my friends, or my lover. None of them had been in religious life. I needed other Lesbian ex-nuns. The search for those sisters was the beginning of the book you now hold in your hands."

Manahan's, and later Curb's, search led to this collection of 49 autobiographical essays by both present and ex-nuns who identify themselves as Lesbian. They are a diverse yet singular group.

The women whose voices you hear in this book range in age from late 20s to mid-60s, although about half were born within eight years of one another and are now between 38 and 45. Those who left the convent spent an average of eight years in religious life, and those still there have spent from seven to 45 years in religious communities. More than half entered the convent in their late teens between 1955 and 1965. However, in the wake of Vatican II, almost all of the former nuns in the book left the convent.

Most of these women are white and come from Irish, German, or Italian working-class families in large cities in the Northeast and Midwest. Almost all the book's authors have at least one academic degree. More

"Yes, we do carry the scars and pains of old wounds, but we are visionaries who believe fiercely in the power of the spirit to heal and transform ourselves and the world."

Rosemary Curb, ed., *Lesbian Nuns: Breaking Silence*



(Photo: Rink)

belonging, personal power, poise, independence, creativity, integration, finesse with authority. Unfortunately, we also developed the less desirable traits fostered by our religious rules and superiors: blind obedience, self-denial, discipline, custody of the senses, and perfect self-control. We became more solitary, ascetic, studious, mystical, scrupulous, and introspective, as well as angry, rebellious, revolutionary. A few felt scared, confused, lonely, guilt-ridden, or crazy... Yes, we do carry the scars and pain of old wounds, but we are visionaries who believe fiercely in the power of the spirit to heal and transform ourselves and the world."

Both Curb and Manahan believe part of that transformation, part of that healing, can come from the voices compiled in this book. By breaking the silence of centuries of taboos against both Lesbians and nuns, their voices have burst like a thunderclap on the heads of American readers.

"In many ways religious life offered us a learning and growing beyond our parents' aspirations for themselves or perhaps for us," Curb wrote in the book. "In addition to formal education, degrees, and job experience, religious life enables us to develop positive personality traits: greater self-knowledge, ability to lead and to take risks, greater sense of community and

Press has ever had on its hands. "There has been tremendous excitement and gratitude," said Curb of reaction to the book in a recent interview. "The book would have been selling, with or without the adverse publicity. For us it was a healing/bonding project," Manahan agreed.

"When the truth is told it is painful, but it is ultimately really healing," said Manahan. "Nuns have been terrifically supportive everywhere we go." They speak of the similar reactions of the people they have met in women's bookstores across the nation, of the psychic connections there between both present and ex Catholics.

"Lesbian nuns I know are going to dance!" Sister Sara said of the book in her essay. "In convents this book will go around

like hotcakes, just the way *The Hite Report* did. Everybody read it. Lesbian nuns will be more self-conscious about this book. They're also going to be listening for the response from other members of the community and praying to God it's okay. The book will also be an occasion for confronting a lot of pain. Lesbian sisters who are not out in their communities (and I don't know anybody who is out) will have to listen to homophobic reactions. But it will be a catalyst. All hell's going to break loose. Religious communities are going to have to discuss the book. They're going to have to respond to the reality, and they've never had to do that."

Sister Sara was right. All hell did break loose. And a little bit of heaven, too.

Useful Academic Jargon

Homophobia: An Overview
Number 10 of the Book Series, *Research on Homosexuality*
John P. De Cecco, Editor
The Haworth Press, New York

by Ron Bluestein

"Hot raunchy phosex with tough, dominant straight guys" reads the ad in the *Advocate's* pink pages. "Yng ex-cop sks stri dudes for rowdy mansex—no fags" demands an advertiser in the Berkeley-based sex rag, *The Spectator*. In the same paper, someone asks, "Over 30? Hairy? Un-gay?" (I can see the movie marquee now: "Night of the Un-gay"!) And in the back pages of the very paper you are reading you can conjure in your own living room for only \$80 a "Horny Straight Hunk: Big Boy Big Meat, so on your knees. Worship."

Worship: bodybuilders, leather outlaws, street boys, cowboys, con men, cops, soldiers. Icons of masculinity in Gay pornography from Tom of Finland and Golt's sleek musclemen to Athletic Model Guild's tattooed L.A. hustlers. Images of men that constitute a curious overlap between the straight and Gay worlds. These fantasies at their worst are harmless, if voracious, lovers. There are, however, real

con men and real street boys. Some of them one can seduce, some buy, but some of them hate us and are dangerous. One *Spectator* seeker of straight men had a very bad day when one of his respondents sprayed his brains all over the bedroom and left without leaving clues, though not without putting a bullet through the advertiser's roommate's chest.

What happened? Is such a grisly murder an anomaly by a sociopath or the inevitable outcome of a homophobic society?

Homophobia: An Overview has many fine points. Unfortunately, an analysis of these questions is not one of them. Nor, for the most part, is readability, unless you've earned higher degrees in sociology. In fact, so much of the book is about the vicissitudes of devising and administering tests to measure homophobia that the book could be called *Interview: An Overview*. Of all the academic jargons, I find the

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

social sciences, with their emphasis on statistics, the most baffling. The only thing I know about numbers is that it's a book in the Bible, and I found myself staring in consternated silence for minutes at a time at sentences like, "The bipolar Condemnation-Tolerance factor again accounted for much of the total common variance (e.g., 36% for a 3-factor solution, 39% for a 4-factor solution.)"

The overview that this book promises, then, is not an experiential study on hatred of homosexual women and men, but an overview of the academic work accomplished and in process toward delineating and defining homophobia. The very word "homophobia" has been challenged as inexact "unless individuals manifest physical and psychological responses comparable to other phobic reactions," such as fear of spiders or snakes, and these responses have thus far not been observed. There is no dearth of recommended alternatives to "homophobia"—homoeerophobia, homophile-phobia, heterosexism—but none is any more elegant or exact than the original.

Too much of the book is too much academic finickiness with banal conclusions (homophobes are more likely to be "religious," "less sexually permissive," and "authoritarian"), but I plowed through it and gleaned a few interesting facts. A poll in the '60s listed Gays as the third most dangerous group in America, superceded only by Communists and atheists, which shed a little light on some parents' hostility toward their children's homosexuality. I was not surprised to read that introducing Gay speakers in colleges only "seemed to increase rather than decrease the homophobia of the class" since the young show the same uncritical eagerness in buying the pabulum about sex roles they do in buying Prince tickets or the schlock on television. An article about Gays in the Armed Forces by Joseph Harry underlines that military recruitment policies "may actually increase the number of homosexual persons in the services." For historians there is a bibliography by Gerald Sullivan of government hearings, reports, legislative actions, and speeches made in the House and Senate between 1921 and May, 1983. For those interested in the subject, the bibliographies on homophobia, especially Gregory Herck's, are encyclopedic. Edwin Haebler translated some letter written in 1930 between Magnus Hirschfeld, the founder of the world's first homosexual rights organization, the Scientific-Humanitarian Committee, and one Ernest F. Elmhorst—Ernst Klipfleisch before he abandoned Germany when his idea for a Gay resort in the Hartz Mountains received less than enthusiastic support from local authorities. Undaunted, Elmhorst discovered American ideals, "to the extent that they have any besides making money," included "psychic bisexuality." His idea for an international sport and social organization for homosexuals, a model of imprudence and optimism, got no support from Hirschfeld.

Homophobia: An Overview is the tenth volume in this series. Other topics addressed include homosexuality and the law, alcoholism, literature, psychotherapy, and sex roles. While these books do not belong on everybody's shelves, they certainly should be available to Gay readers, and I hope the head librarian at the Harvey Milk Library, the only San Francisco public library I know with a separate Gay section, has ordered or will order the complete set.

R. Bluestein

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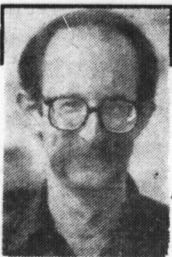
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"When the truth is told it is painful, but it is ultimately really healing."

Nancy Manahan, ed., *Lesbian Nuns: Breaking Silence*



(Photo: Rink)



EVEN IN BABYLON

I Love Lucia

JOHN F. KARR

The boots of 42nd Street were made for tappin', and that's just what they're gonna do. They've been doing it all spring and will continue through most of the summer at the Golden Gate Theatre (tickets are now on sale through July 14) in a run likely to be extended further. It's a fabulous success, and director/choreographer Gower Champion, who died the day the show opened in New York, would be so pleased.

This was an unusually challenging show for Champion to build into a success. The source material was well-known, but the chief problem was to make a technologically heavy show appear light. The show had to recreate—be burdened with—the Byzantine structures and elaborate mechanical tonnage that was the merest cotton candy to motion picture cameras. That Champion got it to move at all is a wonder, and that he got it to stand up and dance before one's eyes is the major attraction of the show.

A second wonder is that the show could be seen outside of New York at all, and the relatively unsung heroine of that saga is Lucia Victor. Victor (pronounce her first name Loo-sha) was Champion's assistant on a handful of shows (*Hello, Dolly!*, *The Happy Time*, *I Do, I Do!*), but not, unusually, *42nd Street*, which she saw only after Champion's death. Well-known and respected within her profession, she is unfeted outside it, even though her credits are extensive.

Although Victor pursued straight plays as her primary interest, she's become known for her work on musicals. Perhaps her early training as a ballerina gave her a feel for the use of music in the theater, aside from her shows with Champion, her name is linked to many musicals, some with great inside stories to be told, like *Art*, the musical disaster made of *Exodus*.

Victor left school at 14 to be a dancer, but later gave up dancing.



Lucia Victor (r.) works with Elizabeth Allen (l.) on the San Francisco edition of Gower Champion's last show, *42nd Street*. (Photo: R. Scherl)

ing, feeling it wasn't quite enough to fill her whole life. "When you're a dancer, you can't do anything else," she said. "I had fun, missed it when I left it, but moved on."

She married a musician, returned to school ("I decided I wasn't quite as bright as I thought I was," she says in her saltily frank manner), finished college, and then studied at the Goodman Theatre in Chicago. Then she was off to New York, where she earned her first reknown as a stage manager.

It was David Merrick who brought Victor and Champion together. As Merrick's Production Stage Manager, she was assigned to learn *Carnival* so she could stage the road company. Champion was so pleased with her work he asked her to join him on his next show, *Hello, Dolly!*

"I was thrilled," she said. "Gower wanted me to know everything in his mind," Victor said about their work together, and she worked closely with him on the creation of several shows. A meticulous planner, Champion would frequently entrust a scene to Victor after discussing it with her. This sometimes led to a certain confusion.

"Maybe 50 percent of the hat shop scene in *Dolly!* was work I put in. We watched it together out of town, and Gower asked me, 'Did you do that or did I?' I couldn't remember.

"That's why I'm the perfect person to direct *42nd Street*, because I know his mind so

thoroughly."

It's such a close understanding it allows their collaboration to continue even after Champion's death, with nobody seeing the seams of the work she has done on *42nd Street*.

"There is so much of Gower in this show—it's like an anthology of all his work. While totally observing his intentions, I've made a lot of changes in the book scenes. The book is very leanly written, and to flesh it out has given me a lot of pleasure. In London, people told the author how wonderful it was that he'd had a chance to rewrite the book! We hadn't changed a word, but they said, 'Well, it certainly, is a very different book now!' I considered that the greatest review I'd ever gotten.

Their mutual understanding was the basis for Champion's close work with Victor; she didn't so much implement or change his intentions as fulfill them.

"Exactly," she concurred when I stated this feeling. "Each company I stage—and I've done twelve of *Dolly!* and several of *42nd Street* already—is a little different, because it has different personalities in it, but it still is Gower."

Staging *42nd Street* was actually a return to Champion for Victor. After such a close and well-known relationship with him, she knew she would have to get away if she was going to do any directing on her own.

"I had to be very firm about saying 'no more,' but he

understood."

Since then, she's not only established her credits as a director, but also as a playwright, with a successful production of her *Detour After Dark* in London. It has since been optioned for film. She's completed the script for a musical about Helen of Troy with composer Johnny Brandon.

But she didn't mind returning to Champion to mount the touring *42nd Street*.

"He was one of my dearest friends," she said, "and I'm so full of respect for his work. He was—it's still hard for me to say 'was'—one of the greatest 'fluid' directors, and Oliver Smith was one of the greatest 'fluid' designers. The combination of these two people is great."

And, though both are now gone, Victor was offered one last chance to collaborate with the pair—as well as 16 pairs of dancin' feet—on *42nd Street*.

A not-to-miss production closer to home-base is the K'thar Sissies production of *Intensive Cure Unit*. It's part cockette, part tribal ritual; part pagan worship, part county fair; part high holy days, and part Ringling Brothers: the flipside to Rhino's AIDS Show.

I loved these wild and zany boys and their approach to the most serious time of our lives. Their show is a little like the Marx Brothers on Ward 5B, and very moving. Check the *Bay Area Reporter* calendar for June 16 for details.

By that time it appears that no segment of the population will be untouched. Our ideal cast would represent as broad a spectrum as possible.

Actors will be required to perform a contemporary piece no longer than two minutes, as well as a brief song to be sung without accompaniment.

The new AIDS show (which has yet to be titled) will open in early August and tour California, Oregon, and Washington for five weeks before opening on the mainstage of Theatre Rhinoceros Sept. 29 as the first show of the 1985-86 season. At the completion of its run (Nov. 10), the show will resume touring the West Coast, and in early 1986 will travel to Toronto, Chicago, Minneapolis, and other American cities. For information and appointments call 552-4100.

Arts Fair

The San Francisco Women's Building is proud to announce it will sponsor its Seventh Annual Winter Women's Arts and Crafts Fair. This year's fair dates will be December 7, 8, and 14, 15.

Crafts Women and Women Fine Artists working in all mediums are encouraged to apply.

For an application, please send an SASE to The Women's Building, 3543 18th St., San

Francisco, CA 94110. For additional information, call Rawna at 431-1180 during afternoon hours.

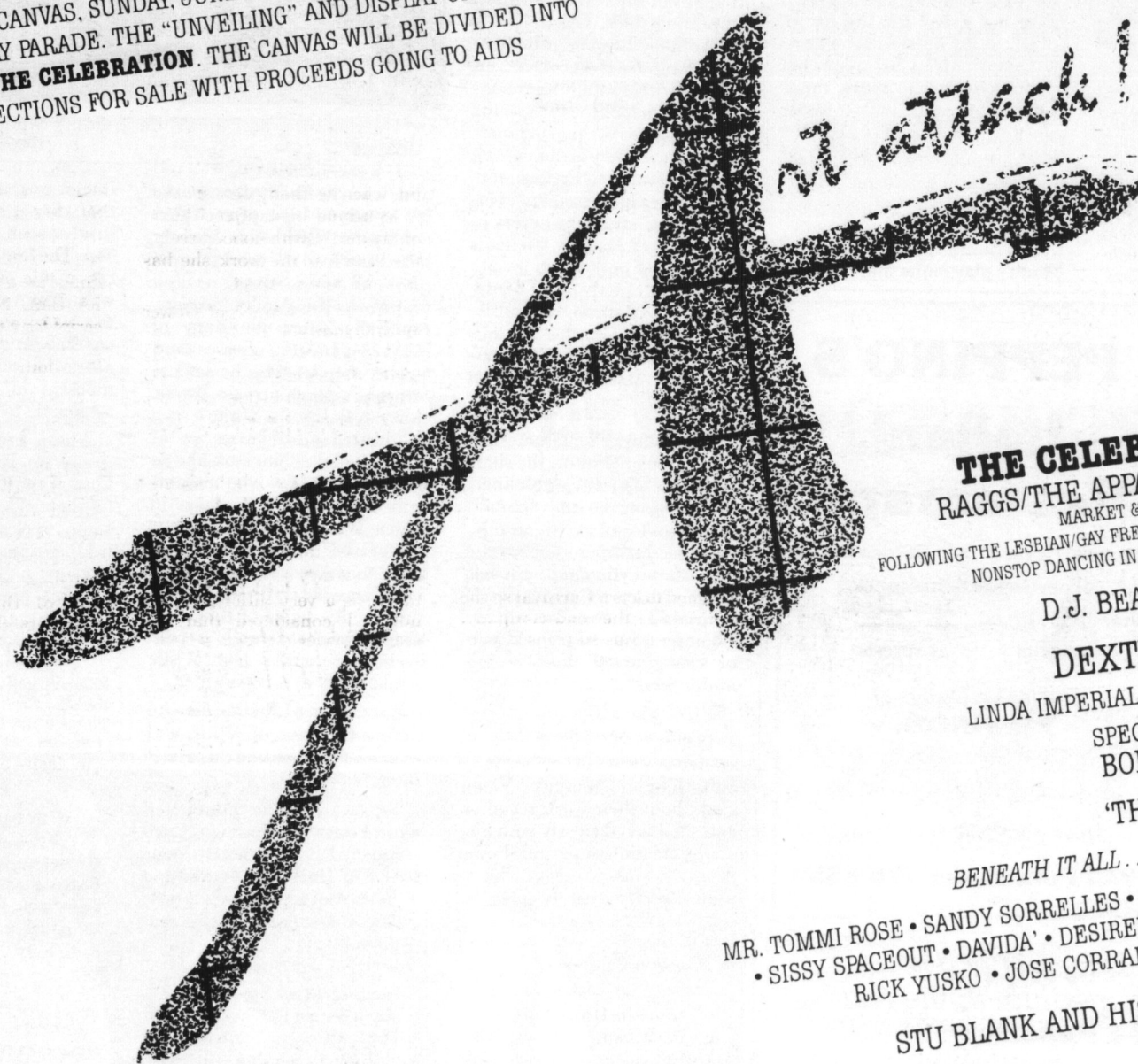
Application deadline is Sept. 15.

The crafts fair is a fundraiser for the Women's Building. More than 100 craftswomen will be accepted to participate in the fair. Latina, Asian, Black, Native American, and Pacific Islanders, as well as older and disabled women, are encouraged to apply.

The Women's Building is wheel-chair accessible.

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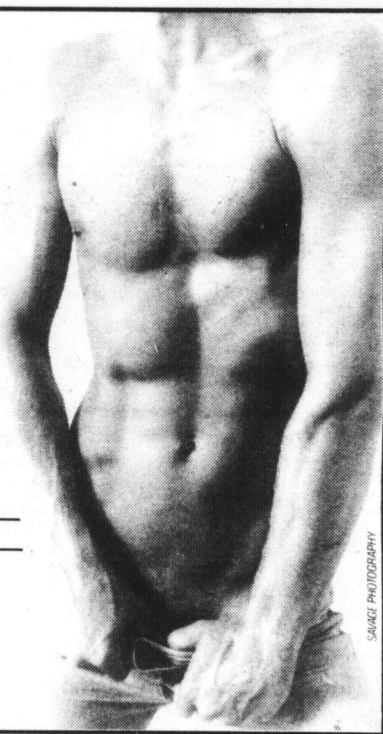
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No Justice

by Bernard Spunberg

To hell with impartiality. Execution of Justice, Emily Mann's dramatization of the Dan White horror, is now receiving its premier Bay Area production at Berkeley Rep. Co-produced by Berkeley and San Jose Repertory in association with the Eureka Theater, Mann's play received national attention last year after a highly successful production at the New Plays Festival in Louisville, and has since been staged in Baltimore and Seattle. Mann's first version was apparently far too long to be practical. Though the play has been trimmed to standard two-act length, Mann may have accidentally cut the heart as well as the fat out of her play.

I wonder if the critics gathered in Louisville from across the country would have been so enthusiastic if they had seen the Berkeley production. Mann has said the White trial is one in which "our American values and the legal system are on trial more than White is." Maybe so. In the theater, however, we need characters and conflict first and ideas later. We also need a strong central emotional point of view.

Without that emotional center, Mann's play is reduced to a heartless mathematical equation.

Execution of Justice is perfect for straight, liberal audiences who want to feel good about themselves. Pay your money, see a rehab about how fags get the shaft, cluck sympathetically, and if you get up during the curtain calls, you may avoid the traffic jam in the parking lot. A puny response to a dreadful story. The Milk-Moscone disaster is monumental, and if its dramatization evokes a less than monumental response, there is something wrong with the dramatization.

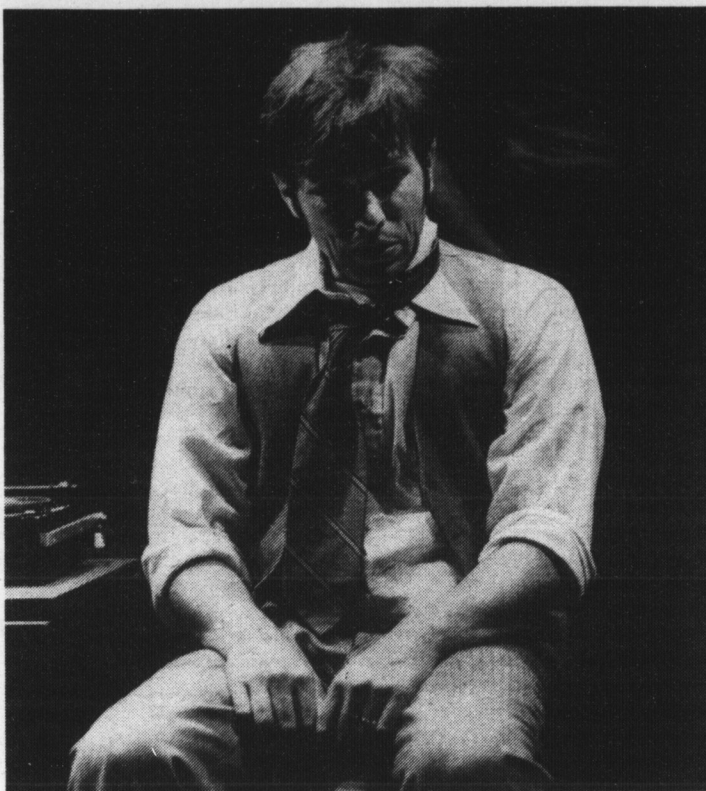
Like Steve Dobbin's *The Dan White Incident*, Execution intersperses long passages of trial transcript with interviews of real and imagined individuals. The collage technique attempts fairness to all sides of all the issues, but the drama is cancelled out in the process. When is some playwright going to be brave enough to depict Dan White as a scumbag? Some people suggest Mann's play omits that point of

view for fear of alienating subscribers who feel sympathy for White. I say: Screw 'em. Am I prejudiced? Could be. But how well do you have to know something before prejudice turns to knowledge? I've never met White, but something tells me—call it faggot's intuition—that White hates Gays. That's the side of White that's missing from Execution of Justice.

Most aspects of the production at Berkeley Rep are fine. Brian Thompson's characterization of Tom Norman, the bumbler from the DA's office who lost the case, is hilariously, pitifully on the mark. As Mary Anne White, Michelle Morain is as incandescent as ever. Irving Israel and Abigail Van Alyn are excellent in supporting roles. Oskar Eustis and Anthony Taccone's direction flows along on a swift current, interrupted occasionally for monologues like that of Joe Freitas, the DA who chose Norman to prosecute the case. Why is such a long passage devoted to Freitas, anyway? To provide a moment of interest for the straight lawyers in the audience? Actually, Freitas is one of the few individuals involved who got exactly what he deserved: a lifetime of public humiliation. Charles Dean's characterization of Freitas conveys the essence of a broken spirit.

James Harper's characterization of Doug Schmidt, the sharp defense attorney, is absolutely wrong. During the trial, Schmidt dressed and spoke with an oily, suave grace. Harper's portrayal is nervous and edgy, which completely distorts the dynamics of the trial. The directors, writer, and actor must share the blame for this glaring fault in the production.

White himself is present but silent almost throughout the play



Randall King as Dan White in Emily Mann's Execution of Justice (Photo: K. Friedman)

and, when he finally does speak, it's by way of his tape-recorded confession. But we've already heard and read the confession in plays and books—there's no need to hear the thing all over again, especially when its litany of White's personal stresses and strains is repeated by the defense attorney's psychiatrists. Worse, that confession is White's own desperate self-defense, so of course it makes him look like an overworked fellow who temporarily blew a fuse. Passages in which White's rationalizations are proved groundless are too weak to make decisive impact and, were a jury to decide White's guilt on the basis of this play, history might actually repeat itself. Once again, Dan White would get away with murder.

Execution of Justice
Berkeley Rep
Through July 7; 845-4700



To the Moon! — William R. Hutton (l.) and Michael Bellino get macho with a telephone in Magic Theatre's Love in the 3rd (Photo: A. Nomura)

Learning the Score

by Bernard Spunberg

Great costumes. Beaver Bauer's designs for Love in the 3rd, O-Lan Jones and Kathleen Cramers' "Play with Songs" currently onstage at the Magic Theater, are a hoot and a half. Trouble is, smart, funny, and sexy as they are, Bauer's costumes are the best thing about the show.

Directed by Julie Hebert, the play depicts efforts by two Las Vegas showgirls to sort out their love lives and become real people. They fail. The two women spend much time fighting over one nogoodnik guy. First one girl has him, then the other—sometimes it almost seems as

though the women are playing emotional pingpong, which may be the point of the play. And that's fine. What is not fine about Love in the 3rd is that not only does no one win the game, no one even learns how to play according to coherent rules. The audience realizes the man is a jealous, possessive creep from the start; why does it take the two women so long to catch on? And even when they do learn the score, there's no indication that the two women wouldn't make all the same mistakes all over again. Is that what straight people are like? Not straight people worth dramatizing.

But at least Bauer's costumes

really are fab. The showgirl scanties with a cactus motif are hilariously imaginative, and some big, flouncy white dresses for the chorus are beautiful as well as whimsical. Thank goodness these are only a sample of Bauer's lavish, creative outpouring. There's a costume change about every 90 seconds, and every one is needed to distract the audience from the play.

As for the songs, my favorite moment of the whole show came when four characters sing at each other: "Don't you care how I feel?" My question precisely.

Love in the 3rd
Magic Theater
Through June 30; 441-8822

Close Proximity

Men Dancing 4 is the kind of collaborative program whose variety pleases audiences and confounds reviewers: how to respond to numerous works in the space of a short article. Even with two of the announced performers absent due to injuries, the evening was a full two hours long, including 12 performers and 11 separate works.

With a few exceptions, the program was slanted toward modern dance and dance theater pieces, reflecting the proclivities of Christopher Beck and Gary Palmer, who produced the event as a benefit for Centertospace, the

'With a few exceptions, the program was slanted towards modern dance and dance theater pieces.'

theater which houses both their companies, and where quite a number of independent performers also appear throughout the year.

Early in the program, Beck performed one of his droopiest solos, a piece whose themes were childishness and disorientation. Beck appears in what resembles a child's black dress—naked from the hips down—and to a piece of romantic piano music by a composer named Galuppi, he expresses his "Questions" (the name of the solo) by means of suppliant cupped hands, tentative creeping around the stage floor, a blank expression, and strabismic blinking of his eyes. The audience was polite. I don't question the sincerity of Beck's concerns, I just don't find his presence—a dowdy, bare-bottomed minimalist—very compelling.

Jan Van Tol, a visiting dancer from the Netherlands, performed a more or less "traditional" modern solo, "Ephemeron," choreographed by Fritz Ludin. Van Tol is lanky and slow-moving, qualities which enhanced the attenuated stolidity of the dance. In an original work called "Ties," Van Tol created with Jess Curtis a linear duet in which the dancers supported themselves against all the walls and vertical surfaces in the space. A more propulsive section of dancing and partnering was short-lived, the resolution of the work resembling a late '60s heavy acid trip of the feeling-the-walls variety.

The above-mentioned pieces were the least avant-garde of the contemporary offerings. Byron Brown, well-known local exponent of contact improvisation, gave a solo performance of movement and vocal expression called "Muscle Tone." A unique talent, Brown's marvelously articulate body exacts a devastating physical investment; it's no wonder he is so thin. Catastrophically seated in a chair facing upstage, Brown began his work with arm and hand gestures of riveting subtlety, gradually incorporating vocal effects which resembled horns, jazz scatting, and fundamentalist "tongues" in turn. The movements and vocalizations became hysterical, exhaustive, and finally, pathetic. Brown's performance was a moving tour de force.

An untitled trio by Jess Curtis, Jeff Mooney, and Keith Hennessy mixed many dance theater elements, seasoned with the tired bouquet of significance. Dressed in white cotton briefs (old-fashioned, high rise, Fruit-of-the-loom variety), the three

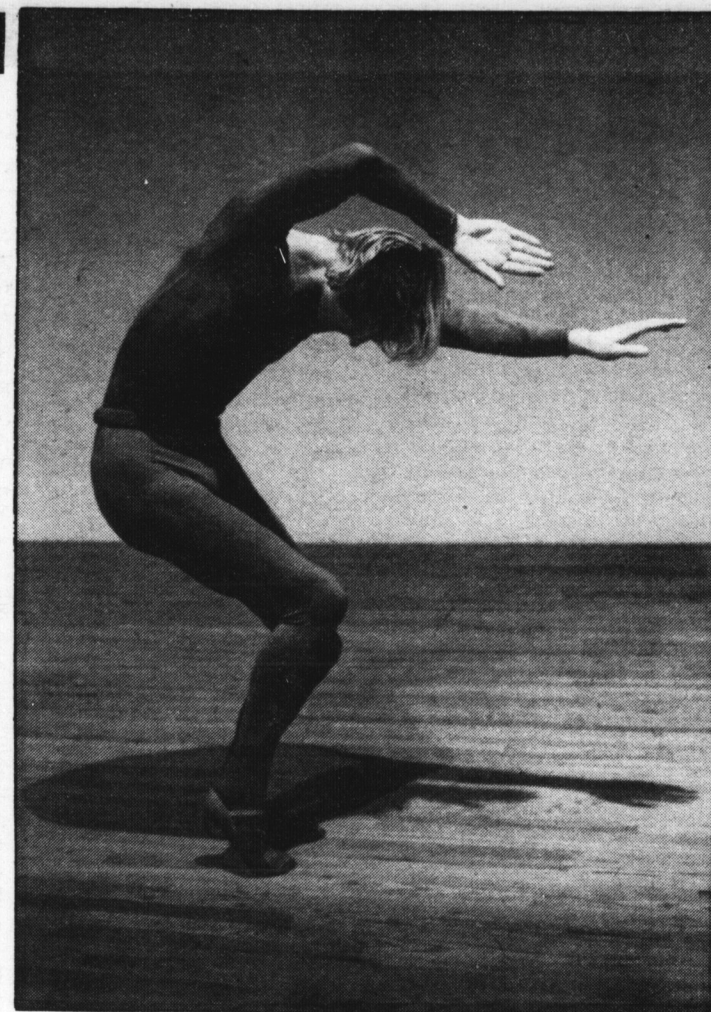
men performed mostly in the dark, illuminating themselves with the flashlights they each held. There were whirring sounds created by the swinging of plastic baseball bats in the dark, simultaneous unintelligible monologues, at least one of which had something to do with Cub Scouts. (Cub Scout involvement was also a prominent part of the dancers' bios contained in the printed program.) I guess the work was meant as a composite ode to painful childhood memories. What could be seen of the piece appeared well-rehearsed, but in the final analysis it didn't add up: a

mime and clowning, was very funny indeed. The clowning was limited to a few pratfalls with a unicycle in classic vaudeville style. Then Child simulated an inning of a baseball game, miming every position, with repeats in two speeds of slow motion. This fortunate addition to the program might have been better placed later in the evening, to offset the solemnity that began to crystallize.

Just before intermission, two men from the Khadra Folk Ballet performed a robust Hungarian "Legenyek," which the program explained as a recruiting dance to test potential soldiers. It was certainly the most aerobic of all the dances we saw, complicated by so much boot and thigh slapping and front and back footwork I know I'd check the box if I lived in Hungary. One of the men looked quite drained by his effort.

Other than Christopher Beck, the only dancers I'd seen before were Rodney Price and Cruz

(Continued on page 34)



Jan Van Tol in 'Ephemeron' (Photo: Savage Photography)

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Classics

Due to financial pressures inflicted on the operatic art form, one often encounters a dangerous misconception that such classics as *Madama Butterfly*, *Carmen* and *La Bohème* can (and somehow will) take care of themselves once they get into production. Not so. Great operatic performances can never be taken for granted because, like good wines, they demand a certain process of maturation before they are ready to be uncorked and savored by an audience. There is no way that such complex creations can be produced successfully on a slipshod basis and still achieve maximum artistic results. Dramatic gimmicks, jet-setting superstars, and fast media marketing will not rescue an ill-prepared dud because, in addition to the years of artistic development necessary for singers to hone their craft, great performance art requires long hours spent in rehearsal.

Often, when attending an opera deemed to be a classic, one naively expects to experience nothing but the best. Unfortunately, these pieces, which are really very fragile works of art, usually stagger through the evening and collapse under their own weight. Thus, when an operatic masterpiece receives the first-class treatment it so richly

DAMN THE CAMELIAS, FULL SPEED AHEAD!

deserves, the shocking reality of the event is accompanied by a heady rush of artistic fulfillment.

Having sat through many wretched productions of Verdi's *La Traviata*, I know what it feels like to see that delicate work miserably and brutally maimed. A recent visit to the Houston Grand Opera, however, brought new insights into Verdi's classic, along with an exhilarating opportunity to experience some truly great artistry onstage. With surtitles developed by Scott Heumann and sets and costumes borrowed from the English National Opera, John Copley directed a *Traviata* which was at once intensely musical, exceptionally theatrical, and shockingly traditional.

Under John De Main's tender musical direction, the two casts delivered radically different performances. The men were solidly cast throughout. In his first attempt at Alfredo, Francisco Araiza scored a major success. His strong tenor voice was in ringing health, his acting utterly convincing. The alternate tenor, Walter MacNeil, sang well and was more than adequate on-

stage. Timothy Noble's Germont has to be one of the finest I've encountered in many a year—a solidly sung, forcefully acted portrayal of Alfredo's father. Noble not only makes clear dramatic sense in the role, his rich, virile, and well-focused sound thrills the listener beyond belief.

The Violettas could not have been more disparate. Hailed by some as a major bel canto talent, Greek soprano Jenny Drivala struck me as more of an operatic wind-up doll than a great artist. Drivala has lots of vocal potential, plenty of power, and will, no doubt, please those opera queens who are nothing more than canary fanciers. Young and extremely pretty, she knows how to flutter her eyelids, strut her high notes for effect, and perform old-fashioned operatic shtick by waving her arms like a sailor giving semaphore signals. Alas, her Violetta left me stone cold.

By contrast, Josephine Barstow proved to be an artist of stunning craftsmanship who works hard to get under the skin of the woman she portrays. Although initially I wasn't expecting any great shakes from attending these performances in Houston, the English soprano's Violetta—which bears an uncanny resemblance to Carol Burnett in period drag—was a genuine revelation. An incredibly deft actress capable of communicating a wealth of text to an audience while peeling away layer after layer of characterization, Barstow delivered one of the most gut-wrenching portrayals of Violetta I have ever encountered.

Many opera queens claim that, as a rule, the soprano who can't sing the first act of Verdi's opera can usually act the pants off the remainder of the evening. Therein lies Barstow's strength and salvation because, while Act I's coloratura is obviously beyond her musical reach, the artist's innate sensitivity and staggering theatrical talent allow her to color phrases with remarkable insight and make the most of her dramatic silences. Experiencing Acts II and III of *La Traviata* through the magic



'If they want these tits, they can pay for them,' vows Lulu (Julia Migenes-Johnson).

of Barstow's interpretative powers is like seeing the bones and marrow of Violetta's tragedy unveiled for the very first time. She brings the rare depth to what often passes for mere stage business.

LITTLE LULU DISCOVERS LESBIANS

There are those occasions when the Metropolitan Opera House feels more like a sleazy bordello than a temple of art. But this season's opening-night performance of *Lulu* turned out to be a very special event for me.

Indeed, it was an evening which made me feel as if I had finally conquered a major hurdle in music appreciation. Thanks to the magic of James Levine's baton, I was finally able to grasp the poignant, heart-rending sounds in Berg's score—sound which had previously eluded me.

In Berg's *Lulu*, the whores make no bones about who or what they are. John Dexter's production remains tightly conceived and intensely theatrical. In the title role, Julia Migenes-

Johnson was both sexually fascinating and musically secure—a rare achievement for many opera singers. Franz Mazura (who appeared as Dr. Schon, the Animal Tamer, and Jack the Ripper) performed with frightening intensity; Andrew Foldi's quirky portrayal of Schigolch has now gone beyond legend. As the Lesbian Countess, Geschwitz Evelyn Lear acted sympathetically, but sounded far below her usual standards. Kenneth Riegel's Alwa was loudly sung and full of bluster.

There's no question that when the Met puts its muscle where its mouth is, that company can do a fine job with contemporary opera. *Lulu* reeked with a firm artistic commitment to producing a first-class performance. On previous occasions, this opera has done nothing but grate against my nerves, often making me want to flee the theater. More than impressed by what I experienced at the Met this season, I can now at least begin to appreciate the beauty others claim to have found in Berg's atonal tale of total corruption.

BACK TO BATON

After the Ball

PHILIP CAMPBELL

At a point early in the evening of this year's Black and White Ball, my partner and I were happily strolling from the ersatz Vienna created in the rotunda of City Hall to the salsa palace presided over by Tito Puente in the foyer of the Veterans Building, when reality reared its ugly head in the guise of a #47 Muni bus heading up Van Ness.

The passengers, naturally curious at all the hoopla outside, stared wonderingly at the cordoned streets, the klieg lights, the breathless crush of media mavens, the pretty and tinselly decorations and—the most glamorous sight of all—the highly coiffed men and women able to bear the high tariff allowing entrance to the most glittering event of the social season.

One rider looked up in irritation at the delay, realized what was happening and returned to his book with a disdainful grimace. I may be wrong, but I'd

swear his expression was scarcely concealed hurt. This was not the only time I was to feel a twinge of guilt before the frankly wonderful party was over.

Could be my background on the tortured campuses of the Viet Nam era or, simply, my wholehearted belief in a humanistic socialism that triggers these attacks of social conscience during obviously "elitist" events. But I can't help seeing myself as a reveler at the court of Czar Nicholas when I stuff myself with chocolate truffles and then encounter a street person who probably hasn't had a decent meal in weeks.

Some would undoubtedly call it "knee jerk" liberalism. Brand me a wet blanket for recalling Sixties' sentiment during the heyday of Yuppies, Reagan and the Eighties. I don't want to turn into Herb Caen on one of his morose Sundays, moistening at memories and whining about the present. It's just that I feel

vaguely uncomfortable wearing tails in the presence of someone in rags—even if the poor are always with us.

One fact about the Black and White Ball is undisputed—it's one helluva good party. The proceeds go to the San Francisco Symphony and, outside of my I.R.A., they remain my favorite local institution. The crowd also gets their money's worth to be sure.

The cost in mounting the ball must be monumental. It's the tremendous turnout that insures the event's success and yields a very handsome return to the Symphony. Would that something like this could be launched in support of AIDS related organizations.

The entertainment all night was nonstop and, with the exception of mediocre "rawk and roll," truly first rate. Everything from Cabaret to Mariachi and symphonic waltzes regaled the hap-

(Continued on page 34)

STAGE

'Festival of the Rose' At Valencia Rose

A special month-long celebration of June as National Gay Freedom Month will offer a total of 80 performances June 1 through 29 at the Valencia Rose Cabaret, 766 Valencia Street, San Francisco.

Titled *The Festival of the Rose*, it will include comedy, music, drama, poetry and Gay history events, along with benefits, parties and a reunion. All events will take place in the Valencia Rose's three performance spaces—the Cabaret Showroom, Club Paradiso and intimate new Theatre Upstairs.

Kicking off the 29-day entertainment marathon is the West Coast premiere engagement of the hit Boston musical show, *Ten Percent Revenue*, an exploration and celebration of the Lesbian and Gay experience in the words and music of Tom Wilson Weinberg. Joining Weinberg in the critically praised revue are Laurie Bushman, Ruth Jovel, Elliot Pilshaw and Michael Polakof. *Ten Percent Revue* plays now through June 29, with 8 p.m. performances on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, and an extra Saturday evening show at 10 p.m.

The Festival will also mark the world premiere of *I Wish I Had Never Met You and I Was Meeting You Now*, a new play that looks at the relationship of two Gay men with honesty and

humor, by the Emmy Award-winning playwright Patrick Mulcahey. Beginning June 13, Mulcahey's play will be presented Thursday and Friday at 8 p.m., and Saturday at 8 and 10 p.m. Directed by Richard Peterson, it will continue through June 29.

Throughout the month, the Gay Community Art Collective will be on display in the Valencia Rose gallery areas, presented by the Pink Triangle Connection. The Valencia Rose opens at 5 p.m. on weekdays and 10 a.m. on weekends. There is no admission charge to view the collection.

Lea DeLaria and Jeanine Strobel return to the Rose from their hit New York engagement for four midnight explosions of comedy and music on Friday and Saturday, June 21 and 22, and 28 and 29. Comics Marga Gomez and Monica Palacios will offer their own *Comedy Fiesta* June 20, 21 and 22 at 8 p.m., with Bob Bendorff at the piano. Tom Ammiano will appear in a new one-man show created especially for the Festival of the Rose. *The Tom Ammiano Special* will be seen once only, Friday, June 14, at 10 p.m. Ammiano will also join comic Doug Holsclaw for a final performance of their long-running hit comedy revue, *Two Queens in Search of a Motif* Friday, June 7, at 10 p.m.

The month's other comedy

highlights include the comedy and improvisation of *Over Our Heads*, June 14 at 10 p.m. On June 29, the night before Gay Freedom Day, the Valencia Rose will present a special *Gay Comedy Extravaganza*, starring 11 top comics. It will be presented twice, at 8 and 10 p.m.

On the dramatic side, Mother-tongue, the acclaimed women's theatre, will offer three of its most popular readers' theater-style productions, *Loving Women*, *Did You Come or Fake It?*, and *Women and Peace*, on June 13, 14 and 15, respectively. Donna Pecora will return to the Rose to do one performance only of *The Belle of Amherst*, William Luce's absorbing one-woman play about the poet Emily Dickinson, on Thursday, June 20. Two performances are scheduled on June 26 and 27 for Ronda Slater's widely praised one-woman show about a mother's heartbreaking search for the daughter she gave up for adoption 20 years earlier, *A Name You Never Got*. Ken Ford's trailblazing Street Angels will offer their unusual *Modern Cabaret* June 13 at 9 p.m.

The Valencia Rose Gay Poetry Series will present readings from the work of outstanding Gay literary artists every Tuesday in June at 8 p.m. Among the poets who will read are Assunta Femia, Merle Woo, Bernard Branner and John Selby. Pat Bond will perform her popular one-woman evocation of the great Gertrude Stein, *is Back Back Back*, June 27 at 8 p.m.

The Festival's musical highlights encompass the one-



Marga Gomez and Monica Palacios invite you to a Comedy Fiesta this month at the rose.

and-only Chrysanthemum Ragtime Band in Concert (Sunday, June 9, at 4 p.m.), Bill Folk in Concert (June 12 at 8 p.m.), Group Sax, featuring Roxstar and guest star Madeleine (June 19 at 8 p.m.), The Vocal Minority and the San Francisco Tap

Troupe (June 21 at 10 p.m.), The Noh Oratorio Society in *Chaucer's The Parlement of Foules* (June 25 at 8 p.m.), and Charlie Murphy and Jami Sieber in Concert (June 26 at 8 p.m.). Phone reservations are taken daily at (415) 863-3863.

Making Real Connections

by Terry Baum

Lilith, the women's theater, will be opening a new show June 8 at Dolores Park. *Breeding Grounds* is a radical departure from Lilith's earlier work. It is a large-scale outdoor performance piece. This "Celebration of the life cycle and supporting a woman's right to choose" is a participatory theatrical production that has involved theater artists, dancers, medical rights workers, community activists—and will ultimately involve the audience in the actual performance. Lilith's artistic director, Harriet Schiffer, who conceived and directed *Breeding Grounds*, speaks of the process she has used to develop the piece and the significance of involving community activists in the creative process.

TJB: Why don't you tell me a little bit about how you conceived this project?

HS: Two years ago Lilith made a commitment to devoting the next few years of work to women's reproductive rights issues. We saw this as an issue that was under great attack on the national level. It wasn't to the level that it is now. But we saw the direction. I had also been working with a poet, Jane Underwood. She had written a serial poem on documented contraceptive history from tribal times to the industrial revolution. That was real inspiring to me and I always thought of wedding that to the kind of personal stories that we put into our work with Lilith. An evening of monologs (*Fetal Positions*) was the first step in exploring the issue. But after *Fetal Positions*, which took us inward, we saw a component that might be missing between it and the poetry. And that was the absolute direct contact to the people who were doing work on women's reproductive rights.

TJB: What made you decide to involve the community?

HS: I learned that the Catholic church has only opposed abortion for the last 125 years. TJB: What do you see as the

political function of *Breeding Grounds*?

HS: It's so much easier to build a movement for something that you want to happen than to build a movement to defend what you already have. Women are sitting back and saying, "Abortion, that's legal. It's cool." But it's so much easier for Falwell to get people to a rally to stop it than to get people to a rally to defend it. And I think we need new ways to reach people, instead of going, "Oh, another rally." So it really became clear to us that we want a different theater experience and a different political experience.

TJB: You're combining a play and a rally?

HS: We want this to be an event. This is an event. We want to give a good show because we're performers and we're professional and we want to then involve people in their own fun at that event. Anybody can participate. And it's just been a gift, working with these community activists. I have the sense that there are people who want to get involved, that we're not as apathetic and individualistic as we think. There's just gotta be access. These people in the choice movement are real amazing. They just keep going. They keep doing it and doing it. I'm an artist, and I'm kind of product-oriented, so I work myself to this pitch and I see clear results. I see something tangible. But these women will go on and on with their work, and what I feel good about is that I think the connection between them and Lilith will last.

TJB: Like what?

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BAY AREA REPORTER JUNE 13, 1985 PAGE 30

BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

FITNESS EIGHTIES

Chip Winkoff

Gay Hero Talks About the Army, Life After Discharge, and Exercise

by Paul Trefzger

Chip Winkoff, you may recall, was nearly booted unceremoniously out of the U.S. Army just as he was being lauded in the military press for defending the virtue of two women on a #7 Haight bus in San Francisco last April. Despite an exemplary record, the Army began discharge proceedings when he told his superior officer he is Gay. He was given an honorable discharge the day after a story of his plight appeared in the Bay Area Reporter.

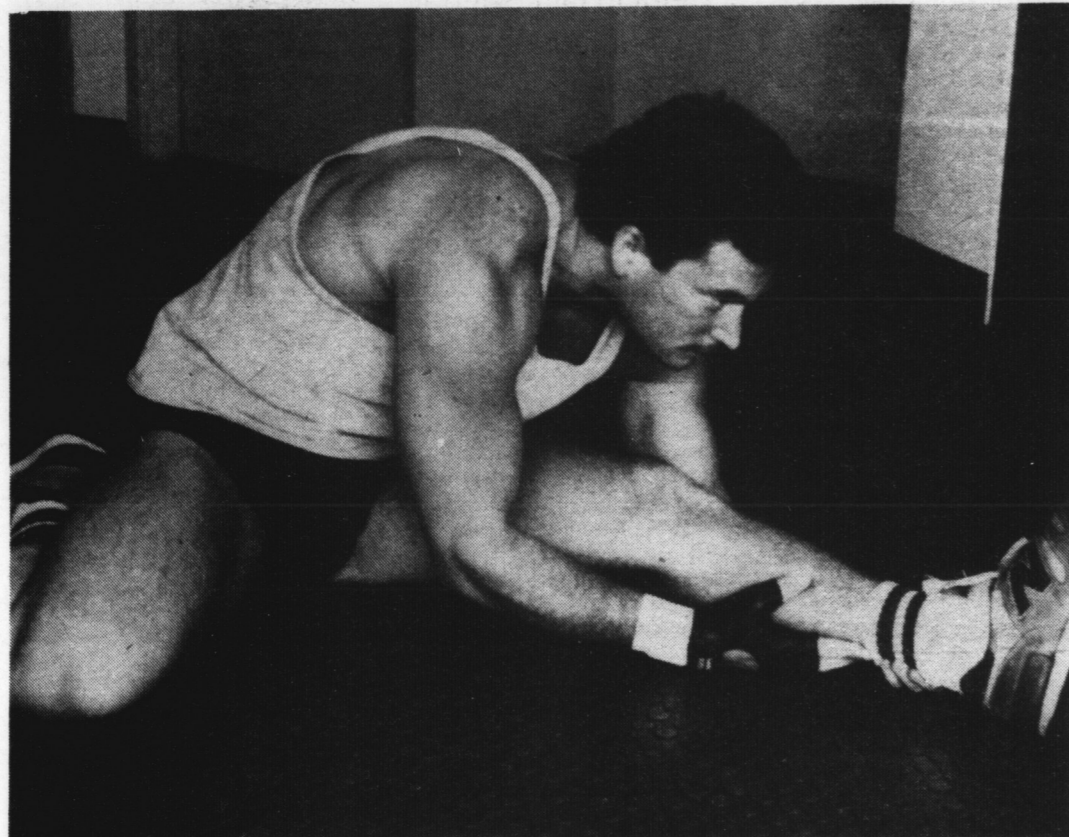
Although he was working at the Shape Up gym at the time of his discharge, he is now doing some bartending and modeling instead. He still plans to compete in the decathlon in Gay Games II, but has yet to work out with the team.

I asked Winkoff to talk about the events that lead to his notoriety.

"These three guys were molesting these two girls and I put myself between the girls and them," Winkoff said. "The girls got off the bus and I got off at the following stop, then the four guys surrounded me and we fought for awhile." I asked if he handled himself well. "Yeah," he told me matter of factly. "I got cut by one of them. Some pedestrians and people in vehicles came to help. I wound up with seven stitches." Chip went to the police.

"Three were caught," Winkoff said. "It hasn't been to court yet. That was the day before Thanksgiving. A lot has been happening since then. The Washington Blade in D.C. wrote an article. I was in an ad on the back of The Advocate for a pendant to benefit the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. I volunteered." I asked about his separation from the military.

"About January, I just walked in and told my commanding officer that I was Gay," he said. "I didn't want to hide it anymore. I was tired of leading a double life, the personal pressure—making excuses for where I'd been, hiding where I'd been going. At first it was



Chip Winkoff stretches out before running

(Photo: Rink)

debate about what type of discharge I'd get, but then because of my record, no way they could give me other than honorable. Toward the end, I got very fed up with the red tape and the games, like the time I was put on 'house arrest' for missing an inspection. My discharge came through the day after the article appeared in B.A.R."

What's currently going on with Winkoff?
"Right now, it's working out," he said. "I'm gearing for the decathlon. But I'm not sure at this point if that would be my peak performance event. I just went from 205 to 190 pounds. 180 would be better for the decathlon—pole vaulting and high jumping."

Chip is 5'10". "I'd probably excel at upper body events like shot put and javelin. I'm doing this on my own now. I think by August I'll get together with Bernard Turner (SF Track and Field). I'm getting my body in shape through aerobics and weight training now." I asked if his work-out schedule would be appropriate for readers.

"For someone in a fairly good shape I think they'd benefit," he

said. "I do approximately one and a half hours of aerobics per day. One part is 45 minutes to an hour on the stationary bicycle doing 'integral training.' That's increasing and decreasing resistance, i.e. three minutes low, then three high, increasing the resistance on the high. I also run a day all over the city, on flat areas when I'm trying to time myself." He smiled.

"I used to like running through the Presidio, but for some reason I avoid that area now. Until April of this year I ran ten miles a day, but I suffered some knee injuries which were the result of going downhill on steep streets. By August, I may decrease to two to three miles. That's probably the most beneficial distance to run consistently. My current five miles is to lose weight."

"The balance of the aerobics is my own aerobic jazz dancing. I have a background of training in jazz dancing. Primarily, my work-out is a mixture of Nautilus and free weights. I've been going to Muscle System on a daily basis. I'll probably become a member. Also, I work out six days a week, and that means I work half of my body every other day, and then four of the six days I'm doing lighter weights with increased repetitions. The other two days I work out with heavy weights, doing fewer reps and increasing the weights." I was curious, since Chip has such a great body, how much iron he pumps. "I guess I bench press no higher than 245. I don't want to go higher."

"I do squats, on the leg-press machine, 270 to 300 pounds," Winkoff continued. "Curls, I do 75 to 80 pounds" to exhaustion. On other exercises the reps vary. We talked about mood affecting a work-out.

"I consider myself a body builder, as opposed to a muscle builder," Winkoff said. "By that I mean my main objective is not size, but primarily health, tone, and strength. My size is more genetic. I get size without even trying for it. As I work out, I'm more conscious of how my muscles feel as opposed to striving for a 'pumped-up' look." Regarding looks, I had to ask about the reaction he's received since gaining "hero" status.

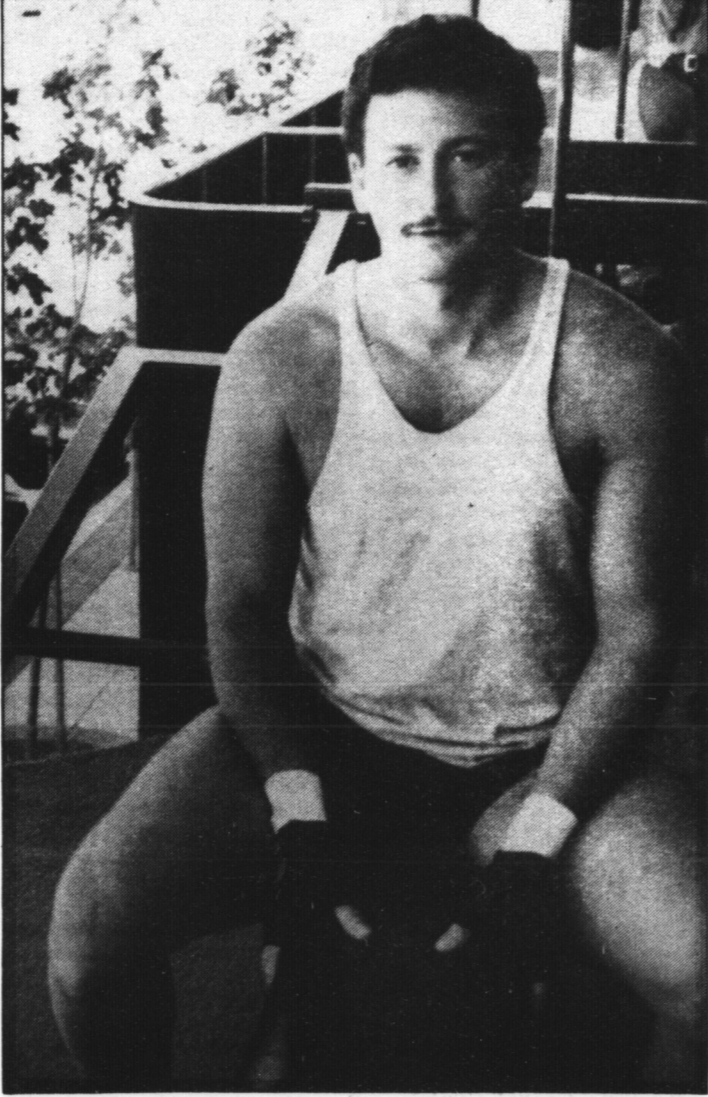
"I've had phone calls, letters, offers to be kept, you name it," Winkoff said. "One guy offered to pay my rent, utilities, etc. and

have one of his Mercedes and to go on a trip with him to Greece." I looked at him quizzically. Chip said, "He left a week ago by himself."

Winkoff was born in Mineola, New York on April 23, 1959. I asked him about the part athletics played in his youth.

"Basically, football, gymnastics, and track," he said, and that he played halfback and always first string. "I held my own. In gym it was floor exercises, parallel bars, and rings. In track, I did shot put, hurdles, and the 440." He attended the

(Continued on next page)



Chip Winkoff

(Photo: Rink)

G.S.L. UPDATE

TOM VINDEED

Village Comeback Shocks Pendulum

Playing like they were sleep-walking for five innings, the members of the Village softball team ripped 11 hits—seven in a row in the sixth inning—to come back from an 8-2 deficit and go on to post an 11-8 win over the Pendulum. That victory puts the Village alone at the top of its division with an 8-0 record, while the pirates dropped its first game of the season in league play.

Cafe San Marcos jumped out to an early, 10-4 lead over the Rawhide II only to have the Broncos creep within one at 10-9 before breaking the game open in the seventh inning. The Cafe won 19-9.

Many league members are buzzing over the Vagabond's forfeit win over Chaps after five innings. Rules are rules, and that's that.

Trax and Ginger's tangled last Sunday in their long-awaited

'Trax and Ginger's tangled last Sunday in their long-awaited game.'

game, and when the dust had cleared, Trax had fashioned a comfortable victory. Festus rolled over the Rookies 23-3, and the Producers downed the Phone Booth and the Rawhide to continue its winning ways. Amelia's put on a great dance, but its game with the Kokpit wasn't—they lost.

I would venture a guess that about 200 people came to the Amelia's dance at Olive Oil's, and it was terrific. Many teams were represented, and we were trying to raise money to send

COMM. SOFTBALL LEAGUE

RODGER SOTO

C.S.L. Wins Trike Race Again

The 14th Annual Tricycle Race was run again on Memorial Day and when the dust had cleared the Community Softball League of San Francisco was again the champs. Scott Kendrick, who has ridden and won the race for the past four years, was joined by a new partner, hunky Jay Bartlett. Scott and Jay ran the race in 47 minutes, with Roger and Stan of Febe's coming in second place, and Carla Montoya and Carlos Vargas from the Paradise Lounge placing third. This fun, profitable fundraiser has probably raised more money for charity than any other in San Francisco. Hats off to Metz, Tim, and Harry, owners of the Mint, as well as Tommy Turner and Monte Reddick for another successful event for the AIDS Foundation.

EMPIRE SALES STAND ALONE

After a June 2 rainout, the C.S.L. resumed play with the Empire Sales gang having an easy time of it with the Purple Haze Gang. Mark Gordon's team now stands alone with five victories and no losses. Everett's, the only other undefeated team, fell twice, with the Bunkhouse defeating the team 13-9 and Nap's clipping it 7-5.

It was a big day for both the Bunkhouse and Nap's Investigators, with both teams taking double headers. Nap's which has been having it's problems in the first few weeks, showed its stuff with an easy win over the Ramshead and playing the best defensive game of the day against Everett's. The Bunkhouse, which has also had its problems in the first few weeks, seems to have everyone playing the right position. The Bunkies, which is missing two all-star players this year, Tommy Africa and Pat Wolfe, is looking like a contender.

In the George Zepp Division, the Rockin' Robins continues to win, showing a lot of good defensive ball as well as being able to come back and win. The team came from behind twice in its contest with the Rainbow Cattle Co. In the bottom of the seventh inning Robins was able to score four runs and stop the Cattle Co. with an 11-10 victory. The key player to give the Robins its big

win was veteran player Dave Glass, who slammed a triple against the fence at Lang Two, giving the team two important RBIs. The winning hit, a single, was by Ian Reyes.

Paul Sabzar, in his debut in the C.S.L., went three for three and looks like an excellent addition to the league. The other big winner of the day was Heinbaugh Legal, which ran over the top of the Cinch with no trouble.

The overall picture of the league is all teams seem to be settling down, and it is anybody's guess who is going to end up the champs. Even our two new rookie teams, Purple Haze Gang and Ramshead, are showing improvement each game.

Congratulations to Rita of the Ramshead, who has been elected the Queen of Hearts of San Francisco. This title raises monies for the seniors lunch program, and Rita will do a good job for this important cause.

C.S.L. STANDINGS

Team	W	L
George Zepp Jr. Divn.	4	1
Rockin' Robins	4	1
Bunkhouse	4	2
Heinbaugh Legal	3	2
Overflo/Slow Rush	3	2
Ramshead	1	6
Purple Haze Gang	0	6
Jack McGowan Divn.	W	L
Empire Sales	5	0
Everett's of SF	4	2
Nap's Investigators	4	2
Beake Bros. Electric	2	3
Cinch	2	3
Rainbow Cattle Co.	1	3

Game Scores June 9

Empire Sales 27, Purple Haze 0
Overflo 7, Beake Bros. 5
Heinbaugh 21, Cinch 4
Rockin' Robins 11, Rainbow Cattle Co. 10
Bunkhouse 13, Everett's 9
Nap's 23, Ramshead 2
Bunkhouse 20, Ramshead 1
Nap's 7, Everett's 5
Games at Balboa Park, June 16
Nap's v. Robins, 10:30 a.m.
Cinch v. Bunkhouse, 10:30 a.m.
Beake Bros. v. Rainbow, noon
Haze v. Legal, noon
Everett's v. Overflo, 1:30 p.m.
Ramshead v. Empire, 1:30 p.m.
Everett's v. Empire, 3 p.m.
Ramshead v. Overflo, 3 p.m.



Members of Ginger's softball team manage to smile while visiting Trax last Sunday, the team they lost to (Photo: Rink)

(Continued from previous page)

University of Miami, Florida, and majored in theater and psychiatry.

"Prior to going to college, I had studied acting and jazz dancing in New York," he said. "I was with two studios, Phil Black and Alvin Ailey. Then in college I was in musicals."

Winkoff joined the Army, and as luck would have it, was sent to San Francisco in September of '84. "I was psyched when I learned I'd be stationed here," he said. "I was dating an officer and we split up when he was stationed someplace else."


"After my discharge, I worked at Shape Up for three

months. I particularly enjoyed working with the members and fellow employees, but for financial stability, I needed to look elsewhere. At the present, I'm doorman at the Phoenix and will soon be behind the bar." I asked Chip if he had any plans for the future.

"In a couple of weeks I'm going to Sonoma County and will be looking for 40 acres and a cabin to buy, to get married, settle down, and live happily ever after—to find a husband—does that sound better? Or a wife. As the case may be."

Why do I know he won't have any trouble?

P. Trefzger



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SCOREBOARD

JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES BOWLING

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

SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE (Week 1 of 15 - as of 06/02/85)		TUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 2 of 17 - as of 06/04/85)	
1. Team #10	4 0	1. Whirlwinds	7 1
2. Play With It, Ltd.	3 1	2. Team #4	6 2
3. Team #7	3 1	3. 5 Big Balls	5 3
4. Strange Interlude	3 1	4. Team #1	5 3
5. Gone With The Pins	2 2	5. Team #10	4 1/2 3 1/2
6. Alley Cats	2 2	6. Team #6	3 5
7. Cocktails	1 3	7. Team #5	2 1/2 5 1/2
8. Team #8	1 3	8. Mizie's Men	2 6
9. Oh, Well!	1 3	9. Team #8	1 3
10. Team #9	0 4	10. Deadwoods	0 4

HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE (Week 37 of 37 - as of 05/31/85)		WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 1 of 17 - as of 05/29/85)	
1. Phuo's	52 24	1. Team #5	4 0
2. Scottie's Alley-Oops	48 1/2 27 1/2	2. Team #4	4 0
3. The Handy-Caps	42 1/2 33 1/2	3. Taco Tyecons	3 1
4. Play With It, Ltd.	38 38	4. Stud City	3 1
5. Main Islanders	36 40	5. High Gear	3 1
6. El Rio	34 1/2 41 1/2	6. Team #11	3 1
7. Menehuae's	34 42	7. Brunswick Beauties	3 1
8. Lady & The Tramps	33 1/2 42 1/2	8. Team #16	3 1
9. Twinsplit	32 44	9. Team #1	1 3
10. Golden State Ducks	28 48	10. White Swallow	1 3

HIGH SCRATCH GAME		HIGH SCRATCH SERIES	
Jim Wright	268	Jim Wright	633
Jim Barnes	258	Jim Barnes	626
Keith Smith	242	Tom Sipple	615

MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 1 of 16 - as of 06/03/85)		THUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 1 of 16 - as of 05/30/85)	
1. Team #1	4 0	1. Teddy Bears	4 0
2. Vagabond	4 0	2. Team #3	4 0
3. Team #9	4 0	3. Pendulum #1	3 1
4. Team #3	3 1	4. Hunks	3 1
5. Team #11	3 1	5. Pendulum #2	1 3
6. Damaged Goods	2 2	6. Old Kick's	1 3
7. Team #8	2 2	7. Team #7	0 4
8. Team #6	2 2	8. Team #4	0 4
9. Team #5	2 2	9. Team #9	0 0
10. Team #4	1 3	10. Team #10	0 0
11. Team #12	1 3		
12. Bow-K	0 4		
13. Team #14	0 4		
14. Team #10	0 4		

Compiled by Jerry R. De Young



Happy Faces at the Black and White Ball

Baton

(Continued from page 30)

pily punch-drunk party goers.

This year's ball saw a marked increase in same sex couples (at last some high profile Lesbians) and a healthy mingling of all age groups. A few drag queens decorously shrieked through the night and some Gay guys took black and white to mean leather with a dress shirt. Blacks were, mostly, conspicuous in their absence.

There were more than a few amusing reminders that this was a bash that could only happen in San Francisco. When the line for the Ladies became unbearably long at the rock dance hall in Civic Auditorium, the women simply headed for the Men's. A few eyebrows were raised, but you really can't get too dainty

about it when a drag queen is using the adjoining urinal.

The only negative remarks overheard by me concerned the impossibility of being everywhere all at once. Everything at the Black and White is an "E" coupon and, as long as your shoes are comfortable, worth experiencing.

A local newscaster said the ball was for the rich and famous. Perhaps so, but I saw few recognizable faces and certainly encountered many who can hardly be called rich. What the evening affords above all is a chance to feel rich and famous. Plunk down the hefty entry fee (\$150 per person) and you're entitled to be as glamorous or snobbish as you wish. The knowledge that the take goes to a valuable cause should ease most troubled con-

P. Campbell

Fifth Position

(Continued from page 29)

Luna, Price is a very appealing tap dancer who, in spite of a too-slippery floor, looked good at the close range of this tiny studio theater. Cruz Luna later complained that he couldn't hear his guitarist, yet he too performed his marvelous Flamenco up to the standard we are accustomed to. Rodney Price came back to do a barefooted Southern Indian dance called a "Jatiswaram," and it fell a little flat. The transition from Tin Pan Alley to Calcutta is just too great a leap; tap is the form in which Price looks best.

Closing the program, Brynar Mehl's "Diapason," for Kendall Sparks, was most notable for its integrity in aligning music and movement around a particular beautiful body. Sparks has the smooth, golden physique of a gymnast, the kind of body that, undressed to this degree and seen at this proximity, would eclipse most narrative or philosophical choreographic statements. Mehl chose a large and somewhat heroic modern score, making the solo sculptural and weighty in reference to the dancer's physicality. The result was impressive, and after a number of unsettling, enigmatic works, its straightforwardness was very refreshing.

K. White

N.Y. Gay Playwriting Contest

The Meridian Theatre Playwrights and Directors Group is pleased to announce its 1985 International Gay Playwriting Contest, designed to encourage the writing of new Lesbian and Gay plays. The sixth annual contest was renamed last year to honor the late Jane Chambers for her notable contributions to Gay theater.

To qualify for the competition, a play may be either full length or one act, must have a major Gay character or theme, and must not have been previously produced in the New York metropolitan area. Plays submitted must be in the English language, typed, with a cast breakdown on a separate page, and bound in a folder with the author's name, address and telephone number on the title page. All entries must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return of

the script (for acknowledgment of receipt of script, include a self-addressed, stamped postcard as well). Musicals must be accompanied by a cassette tape of the score. Scripts submitted to the contest in previous years are not eligible unless extensively revised.

Deadline for the receipt of entries is October 1. Winning plays will receive a staged reading in Meridian Theatre's Playwrights and Directors Series in spring 1986 in New York City. Winners will be announced by February 1, 1986.

Playwrights should send their entries to Meridian Theatre Playwrights and Directors Group, c/o Shandol Theatre, 137 West 22nd Street, New York, NY 10011. For a copy of the contest rules, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the same address.

BAY AREA REPORTER B.A.R. BAZAAR



MR. MARCUS

Let's Hear It For The Daddies In The Crowd

Summer is just around the corner and all the razzmatazz that goes with it is lurking in the wings. Last week, yet another drama involving the Dan White murders opened at the Berkeley Rep on Addison in Berkeley; entitled "Execution of Justice," the outstanding cast once again trods the tiresome repeat of courtroom transcripts without historical and political perspective. One of these days someone will write a script that tells it like it is—pure homophobia against Harvey Milk, hate in the hearts of homophobes for George Moscone, and Dan White's fear of the Gay population and its economic, cultural, and political clout, all of which he saw in his own mind as the cause for his political ineptitude and frustration. It's worth seeing if only for observing yet another viewpoint from playwright Emily Mann, at the Berkeley Rep through July 7. It then moves to the San Jose Repertory, July 11 through 28.

The S.F. Eagle held its Bare Chest contest last Thursday to a packed house but only three contestants. I can't understand why all these hot men lay around the city parks and beaches to get a tan on their tits and torsos and then only gawk at those with balls enough to show their stuff. Anyway, in the end, Jim Buhler, a 22-year-old Marine Biology type from the East Bay, took the Mr. July title, along with \$100 in cash, and left with the new Intl. Mr. Leather as an added bonus. The Poster Man contest at Chaps to pick Mr. May and Mr. June is Friday, June 21. The competition to name Mr. Bare Chest for August 1986 will take place at the S.F. Eagle Thursday, June 20.

Last Sunday the Gay Men's Chorus performed at the Eagle before a turned-on crowd for a benefit beer bust and auction. Marga Gomez really got the crowd riled with her zany interpretations of Barbie Doll Comics, and other contemporary subjects. Tim Garner and the Rev. Mother auctioned off

all sorts of great prizes, and the chicken shish-kebob was quite elegant for an al fresco dining experience. In the boob-tube department, everyone was discussing the Moldavian massacre on Dynasty the week before, and in case you haven't heard, the Moldavian guerrillas would have been blind in the cliff-hanger. When the Dynasty bitch sessions get going again next fall, only three of the characters will not get up from the royal carpets, including Steven's lover Luke, Lady Ashley Mitchell (Ali McGraw), and King Galen. 'Tis also rumored Steven will go for a sex change—I said rumor.

Over at the 2140 Club (formerly Alfie's), the management did a remake job and replaced its manager with two pros, Danny Alfieri and Ted Boate as co-managers, while Roy Rodriguez returned to the S.F. Eagle staff. Sonny Cline announced that shortly after his stepping down from that magazine title he'll be heading east to live in Chicago to re-marry the first love of his life—a shrink, no less. I hope Law Wilson makes it to dinner with Sonny soon—he bid high enough on that date at Pete Pettine's Dinner on Daddy benefit—they'll be high as kites as they dine at the Carnelian Room this Friday night.

In Cleveland last weekend the iconoclasts roared with the Mr. Patent Leather Contest held at one of the non-leather bars there—they say it was a riot and most outrageous. That's Cleveland for you.

A gang of our royal queens went to Reno for the coronation, where they were quite righteous in their presentations and quite glum about their luck at the gaming tables. While all this was going on, some of the best political planners and strategists were putting the finishing touches on the campaign that will sweep none other than Pat Montclair to the throne as the next Empress. It's time for some high-class glamor in that office, and if anyone has high-class glamor, it's Pat Montclair. I understand

her 27th dress for the campaign was just completed on Sunday.

You will not have to be bored in the coming weeks. This Friday, if you're the outdoors type, you can plan on the GDI's 11th annual run, the theme being Liberty—The Melting Pot; the fee is \$65, which includes all the amenities expected (food, booze, show, bike competition, and people events).

Friday night, they're trying the Hot Nuts & Bolts party at Chaps again, beginning at 10 p.m. It proved so popular the last time, this will be a repeat.

On the 21st, Karl Stewart and Diedre are tying the knot, while across Castro at the Men's Room Miss Gay SF, Parkay, will have a farewell party and In-Town awards beginning at 2000.

Marga Gomez and Monica Palacios team up for a Comedy Fiesta at the Valencia Rose Thu. through Sat. at 2000 for only six pesos.

The nation's first and only Gay American Legion Post (attention veterans) celebrates the granting (finally) of its charter from Natl. Hq., and will celebrate that fact this Friday night at 1930 in the Green Room. Our next mayor, Sup. John Molinari, will be there for the ceremony, and you're all invited.

This being Father's Day weekend, Tony Trevizo teams up with the S.F. Eagle for "Godfather's Day," a beer bust on the Eagle patio from 1500 to 1900 hours in the second annual fundraiser for the Godfather Service Fund for the AIDS Ward at SF General. It'll cost you \$10 for all the beer you can drink and a hefty buffet (with seconds and thirds) and Bob Ross, Empress Remy, Mark Friese, and Patrick Toner will auction off numerous items of merchandise and services which have been donated by generous merchants and business people. They raised \$4,300 last year and hope to surpass that amount this year. With your help, it can be done. All of the

foregoing should keep you busy, busy, busy—and broke!

The 9th Annual SF Int'l. Lesbian and Gay Film Festival opens June 21 too with a very diverse and wonderful line-up of films you will not want to miss. Leathermen and women will be attracted to "The Leather Boys"

with Rita Tushingham (Mon., June 24, 10 p.m. at the Castro) and "Seduction: The Cruel Woman" (Sun., June 23, 7 p.m., Castro). Those people at Frameline are to be commended for the wonderful schedule they've put together this year—get your

(Continued on next page)

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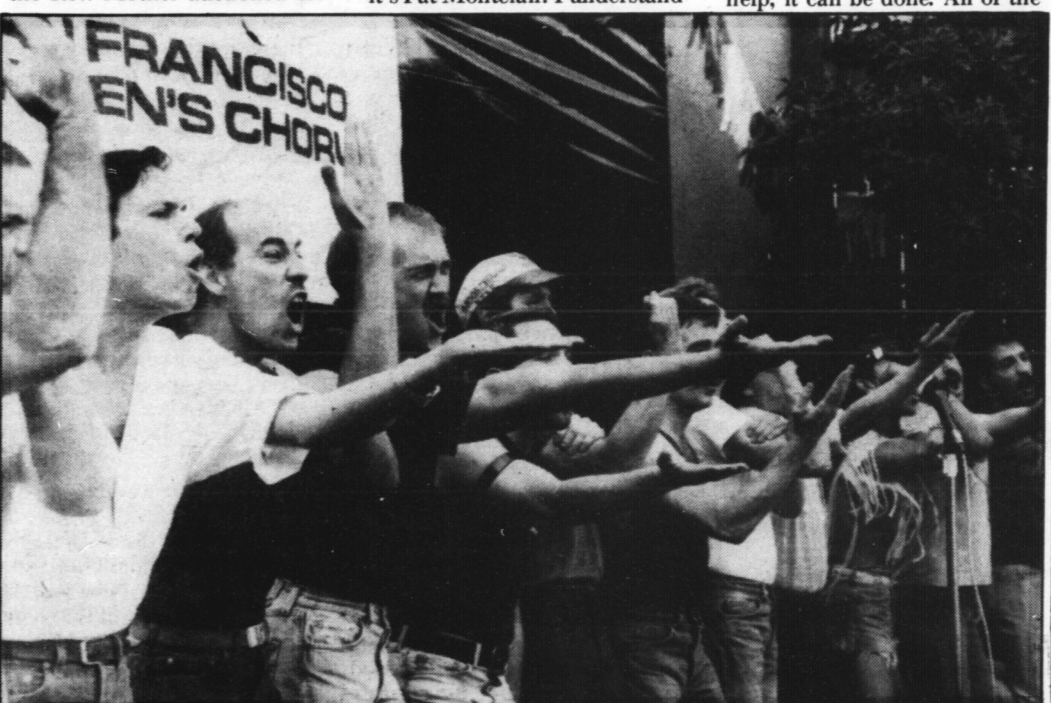
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Members of the S.F. Gay Men's Chorus performed the 'Officer Krupke' number from West Side Story last Sunday at a beer bust in their honor at the Eagle (Photo: Marcus)

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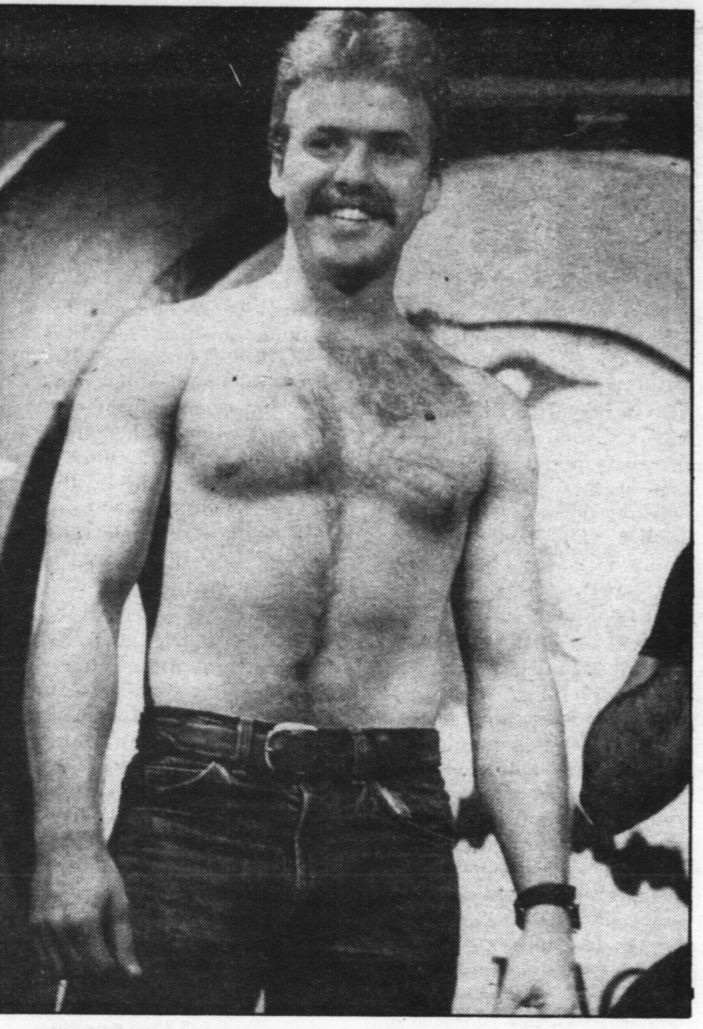


Marcus

(Continued from previous page) tickets now.

Gay bashing is on the rise. Last week two Gay men were leaving the Safeway on Market at noon when they were approached by young Latin types who wanted to repair dents in the Gay men's car. When the two replied they didn't think so, a tirade of anti-Gay remarks ensued, whereupon the Latinos tried to sideswipe the car, followed the two men home, and raised hell in the neighborhood until the cops came. At 2:10 a.m. last Friday, while two Gay men were talking near the phone booth at 18th and Castro, a dark car sped by and fired a shot at the two, and then vanished amidst a gale of laughter and anti-Gay remarks.

Meanwhile, the yuppies are still giving the impression that South of Market is now their turf, and still no amiable meeting with the "powers that be" in the straight clubs. I always thought "breeders" meant heterosexual couples. In the Folsom area, "breeders" means one straight nightclub success breeds another—practically every month. As usual, nobody will do or say anything until something tragic happens.



James Buhler, the latest Bare Chest winner in the Eagle's ongoing saga. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

THE LONE RANGER AND TAUNT-O

South of Market's only real royalty, Count Reynaldo del Fino, was jetting back to SFO when engine trouble forced his plane down in Tripoli, where the hottest action going was the Lesbianese edict that only women could work on women's hair, throwing several male Lesbianese hair burners out of work. Islamic fundamentalists bombed four salons where male hair burners had been working. Reynaldo seized upon the situation and is presently sponsoring a dozen stylists for visas to come here and work—doesn't it make your blood curl?

He isn't running for anything, but Sen. Milton Marks is the only public official who sent a congratulatory message to Patrick Toner at the victory celebration held at Chaps last Friday night. The message was read aloud and the Senator was applauded wildly, as usual.

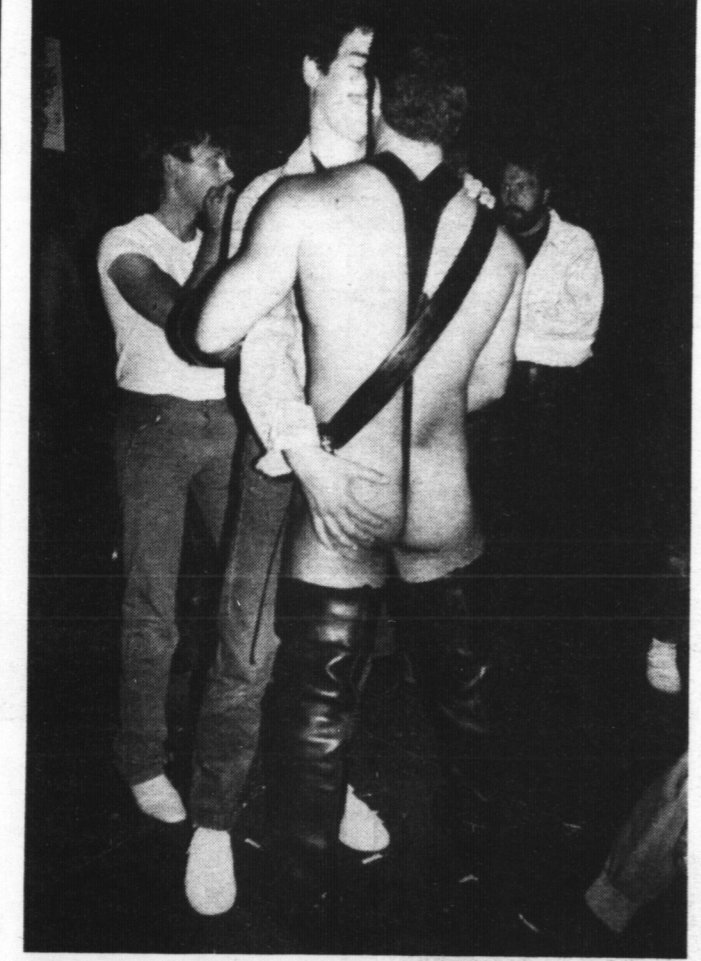
Norman Beasley, that landmark bartender at the Ambush, has declared he will divest his name of the absurd "Abnormal" and "Normal" nomenclatures, and henceforth wishes to be known as Uncle Norman. Does Uncle Norman know his favorite nephew, Patrick Simpson, has married again to Roger Hawkins? The cute couple have

Since San Jose's Gay community is not having a parade this year, they've decided on a Gay Pride celebration instead. It will take place in downtown San Jose's St. James Park Sunday, June 23, from noon to 1800 hrs. with Thelma Houston, Julie Brown, and the S.F. Gay Marching Band in person, including the new Intl. Mr.

'Can't let the award-winning Puttin' On The Ritz dance pass by this year if you're an informed Lesbian.'

adopted "Stormy Weather" as their favorite love song.

Who would ever believe that a resident of the Haight/Ashbury would call the DEA (Drug Enforcement Admin.) on a neighbor for growing a few innocent Opium poppies? And a Lesbian neighbor at that, giving pure agida to a Gay man? The times they are a'changing.



International Mr. Leather, Patrick Toner, seen here being greeted by one of his friends at Chaps Victory Party last week. We'll be seeing a lot more of him. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Leather Patrick Toner. It's free too, but they'll be vending beer, wine, booze, food, crafts, and other attractions. St. James Park is only three blocks off Highway 280; get off at the Julian St. exit and turn right for the party. Jon Snell knows what he's doing—hope to see all of you there.

You've seen countless hot photographs by Robert Pruzan in the pages of B.A.R. He manages to capture "just the right scene" whether in public or private. A collection of his black and white images go up on the walls of the Ambush Friday, June 21, with a reception for the artist at 6:30 p.m. You will not want to miss this one.

Can't let the award-winning Puttin' On The Ritz dance for women only pass by this year if you're an informed lesbian. The big shindig is Saturday night, June 29, at the SF Hilton with a \$16 price tag and featuring Alberta Jackson in person. This hot event was attended by more than 2,000 women last year and won a Cable Car Award for being the Outstanding Women's Event. Tickets available from BACW, 55 New Montgomery St., Suite 274, SF, CA 94105. If you need more info, call 495-5393. Tickets will be \$20 at the door. Hi, Alayne, Babeee!

That's it for this week, boys and girls. Hope to see you all at the fundraisers for AIDS agencies, Gay Games II, CUA, the Gay Parade, and everything else sponsored to make things better for our less fortunate brothers and sisters. Until next time, then, remember: You cannot shake hands with a clenched fist. See you 'round the campus. ■

Marcus

COURTLY CHATTER

Big Girls Just Wanna Have Fun

amazonian that is... The Hungarian Center on Geary was the setting for the 2nd Annual "Amazon Girl Contest" held Saturday June 1. Phoebe Planters (who happens to be a rumored candidate for Grand Duchess) and friends, presented an evening that was thoroughly enjoyable. The foot-stomping and uproarious audience inspired each of the seven contestants to doing their very best in each of the three categories.

The qualifications for being a contestant are that you must either weight 200 pounds and/or be over 6 feet tall, minus the heels. There are three categories that the contestants must compete in: casual wear, what someone might see you in, i.e., serving a dinner party or just lounging around; talent; and evening wear. Each contestant had a sponsor and went all out to present themselves in the best possible attire, and rehearsed their talent numbers to a "T."

The five judges were hard-pressed in many instances because each contestant utilized every trick in the book to garner enough points in each of the three segments. The audience also had an opportunity to choose, as they were allowed to vote at the end of the third segment for their favorite contestant. The judges' votes counted towards 45 percent and the audience vote was 55 percent. As in every contest, you can guess by the audience reaction and by how the contestants present themselves as to who will probably place and win.

Each contestant is to be congratulated for doing an outstanding job. Of course, as in any contest, there can only be one winner (unfortunately, each of these contestants were winners), and that was ANNA-CONDA. First runner-up was Darlene, and second runner-up was Tigre. Anna-conda also won the congeniality, talent, and costume prizes—in other words, a clean sweep. Her sponsor was the Casa Loma/Alamo Square Saloon.

The winner merchandise prizes and the monetary prize is donated to the charity of his/her choice. Anna-conda's charity is the Golden Gate MCC Church.

The team that "brought home the bacon" was the Village Islanders for their "authentic" Hawaiian hula. Maybe we should enter them in the Merrie Monarch Hula Festival next year in Hilo. This festival is considered the olympics of hula competition, as groups from throughout the islands and the mainland compete for the honor of being the best. Who knows, with enough practice, anything can happen. Nonetheless, GSL, you have outdone yourselves once again. Keep it up and congrats to all!

Sunday, June 2, the Band Foundation held a beer bust at the S.F. Eagle Patio, which benefited the Foundation. As the

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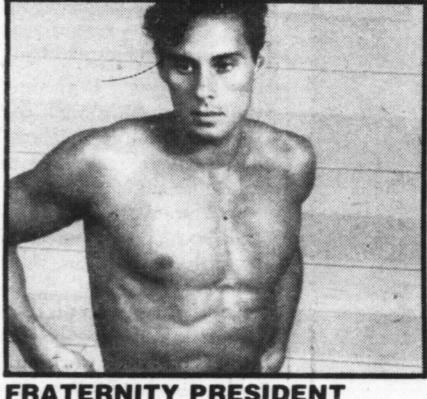
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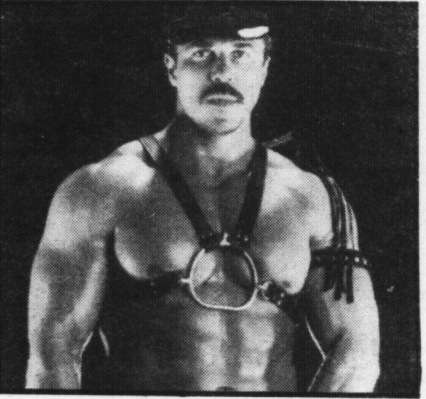


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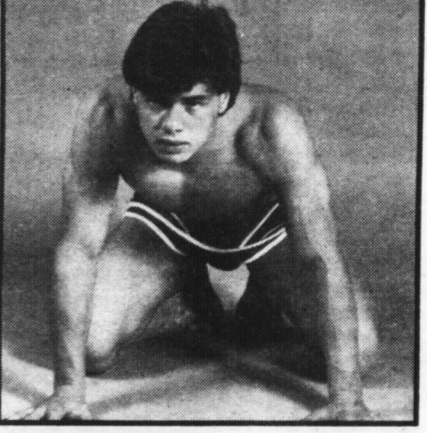
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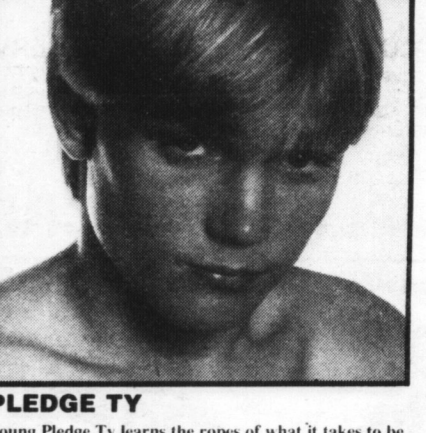
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Chris is the quarterback of the university football team and heads the Frat House Jocks' duties. Take it all in as this all-pro jock strips down to his full, naked manhood and jerks on his cock while you heat-off; shooting your fuckjizz over the phone.



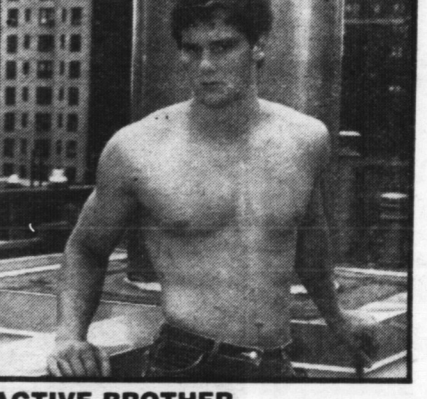
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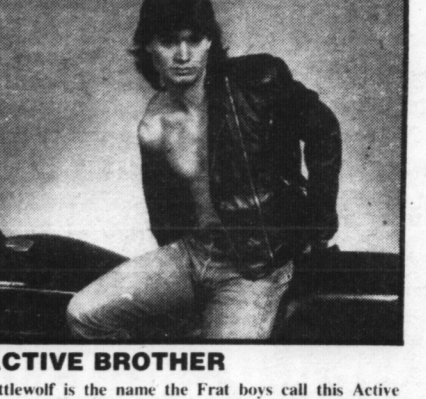
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Call Pledge Tony and let him crawl out of his wrestler's uniform and pin you to the mat; ramming his fat, 9" uncut rod up your ass; deeper and harder than you've ever had it.



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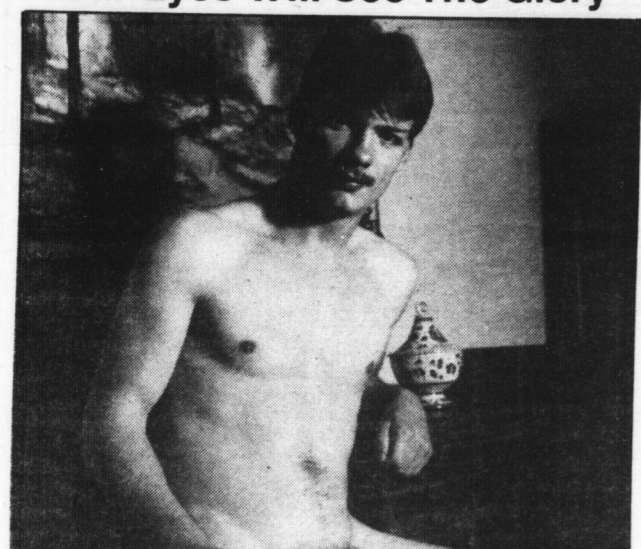
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'Amazon Girl contest winner Anna-conda (Photo: Rink)

(Continued from previous page)

Earlier that day, the Grand Duke & Duchess, Michael Bowman and Trixie Trash, along with Their Majesties, the Emperor & Empress, Ken Wright and Sissy Spaceout, held an auction for their joint project, "Under One Flag." This project is to help fund their float in the upcoming Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade June 30. The main thrust of the project is to sell the "Gay" flag to as many people as possible in order that they may express their pride in being a Gay/Lesbian person.

If you have ever been to bar auctions, almost anything and everything can be purchased. Sometimes you wonder who your friends really are, for they will buy you the strangest things just to show how much they like you or hate you. Anyway, the auction raised over \$800 and a fun time was had by all.

By the way, members of both courts will be on Castro Street in front of Hibernia Beach selling the flags, or you can contact Ken, Sissy, Michael or Trixie for more details. Also, the flags come in various sizes and prices. Order yours TODAY!!!

SILVER DOLLAR CORONATION

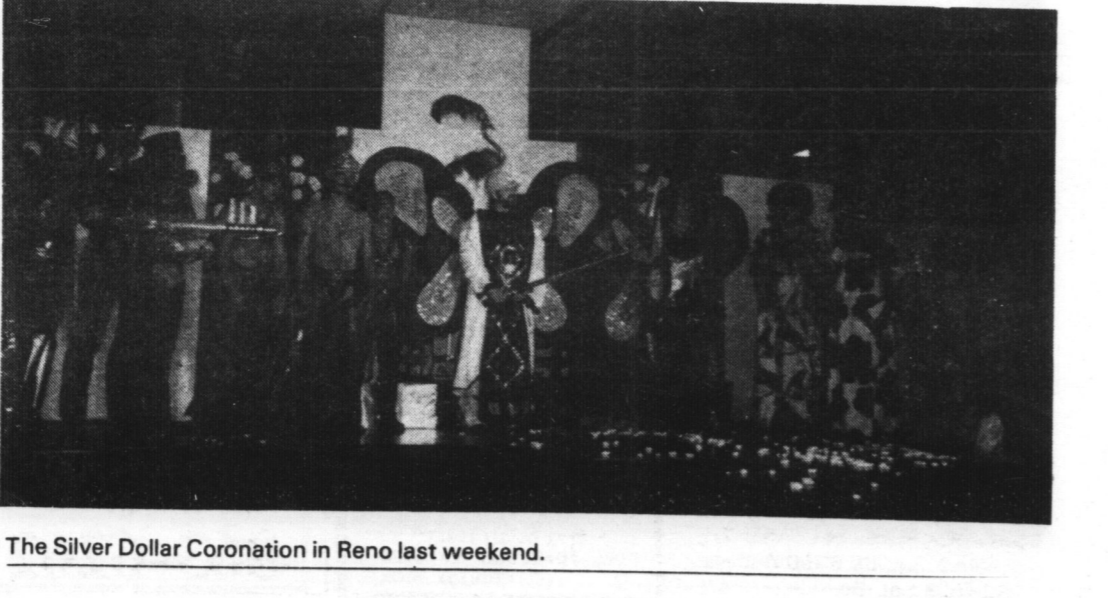
During the weekend of June 8, 50 members of San Francisco's courts traveled to Reno, Nevada, to attend the Tenth Coronation of the Silver Dollar Court of the Comstock Empire. Emperor IX Bananas & Empress IX Terry Taylor, along with members of their court and Reno's Royal Family, had painstakingly planned a spectacular evening.

There were four candidates for the offices of Emperor & Empress X. Brandi and former Empress V Jack-E were candidates for Empress, with Jerry Mott and former Emperor VI Larry Masterpiero as the candidates for Emperor. Speculation was running high as to who the new monarchs would be, but no one

was willing to call the election, for it was too close. Each candidate displayed excellent sportsmanship and expressed his desire to become the new titleholder. Jack-E & Larry ran as a team, with Brandi and Jerry running separately.

The Centennial Coliseum was the site for Coronation X, "A Tribute to Erte," on Saturday. As visiting court members and residents of Reno filled the hall. Their Majesties were putting the finishing touches on their costumes for the first segment. There were 31 courts and organizations that were presented to Their Majesties. Interspersed were four command performances by Stephanie Roberts, Empress VIII Natalie of Reno, Empress VI Marilyn Starr of San Diego, and Emperor III & IX Ms. Jo of Santa Monica. Also, cast members of MGM Grand's "Hello Hollywood Hello" performed to a standing ovation. The candidates' entrances were very enjoyable and fun. When the courts from in-town and out-of-town were being presented, judging was taking place for various theme awards. The winners of the theme awards went to: Out-of-Town theme, Los Angeles; Female Theme (out-of-town), Empress Lola of Los Angeles; Male Theme (out-of-town), Emperor Doug of Alameda; and Theme (in-town), Stephanie Roberts.

Now the moment had arrived when the Royal Family of Reno was called forth and the results of the election were shown to those assembled on stage. Emperor IX Bananas brought forth the newly elected Emperor, Larry Masterpiero, and Empress IX Terry Taylor presented the newly elected Empress, Jack-E. The entire ballroom erupted with cheers and jubilation as the two monarchs were crowned. After the ball, everyone adjourned to the 1099 Club for a late-night buffet and celebration. The following morning, Terry and Bananas held their Out-of-Town Awards and Victory



The Silver Dollar Coronation in Reno last weekend.

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Bazaar Calendar

Thursday 6/13: Empress XIII Night, Kokpit, 8 p.m., raffie, honoring newly elected Emperor/Empress of the Americas Bobby Pace and Char, the naming of their camp followers (household).

Friday 6/14: Liberty, Melting Pot of the World, SFGDI 11th Annual Run, \$65. Includes three days (and nights) of food, 24-hour open bar, bike, buddy and people events, guest night, and run shows, Miss GDI Contest. App'l's: Febe's and Men's Room.

Saturday 6/15: All Candidates' Party, "Just for Fun—The Sixties," Casa Loma, 8 to 11 p.m., benefit for Shanti and Lesbian and Gay Men's Chorus, featuring Pearl Heart, Age of Aquarius, buffet, 8 p.m., show, 9 p.m.

Sunday 6/16: Godfather Fund Benefit, SF Eagle, 3 to 6 p.m., \$6 beer bust, auction.

Monday 6/17: A Party for Parkay, Men's Room, 7 p.m., Hostess: Dorothy Duster.

Wednesday 6/19: All Candidates' Night, Kimo's, 8 p.m., Mr./Miss Gay Candidates. Compiled by Karl Stewart

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June 30, 1985
Needs Volunteer Medical Monitors
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Attn: Mike, Shari or Robert
Come to these meetings
Tuesday, June 18, 1985
6:30 p.m.
At the Parade Office
Final Mandatory Pre-Parade Meeting
Thursday, June 27, 1985
6:30 p.m.
At the Women's Bldg.
CPR Recertification Will Be Offered

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Well hung (9" minimum) performer sought by video production group to participate in an oral-tactile instructional videotaping. Call Robin at 665-4754 E24

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I am looking for a healthy, goodlooking, hunky type, G.W.M., 18-40 who is interested in a financial arrangement. I am an att. 35 yr old G.W.M. business exec. who is to busy to go to the bars or play the games. I enjoy safe sex, dining out, theatre and travel. So can you! Respond with photo & phone to Kevin 584 Castro St., Suite 446, SF 94114-2588. E24

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Financially stable person (female or male) to help unique, serious bi-sexual in metamorphosis. Age, looks, & race unimportant. Griffin, 74 Turk St., #49, S.F., Calif. 94102 E25

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This can be the opportunity of a lifetime for one or two special boys who are intellectually and emotionally geared to thrill in this type of lifestyle. (But it could be a nightmare experience for many other young men who are not attuned to the above-described lifestyle).
If you sincerely believe yourself to be the person(s), whom I seek, telephone me, collect, at (212) 601-1288
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Weekdays: 7AM - 8 AM
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You may, as well, send a self-descriptive letter with two recent photos and your address and/or telephone number to: P.O. Box 537, New York 10462
Thank You.
Good Luck. E24

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Very sexy Portuguese male 570-5216 - (in) \$30 day - \$40 even. E24

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This is a very serious attempt to find one or two very special boys, 18 or 19 years of age (birth certificate required) who are willing to give of themselves in many ways in order to obtain their education, to be cared for, and to be trained properly.

REQUIREMENTS:
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2. Short - 5'8" or (preferably) shorter.
3. Very thin - 130 lbs. or (preferably) thinner.
4. Appear significantly younger than your chronologic age.
5. Extremely (boyishly) handsome.
6. Very smooth (beardless) facial skin.
7. Little or (preferably) no body hair.
Emotional and Intellectual:
1. Be Gay.
2. Have need to be emotionally and sexually dominated and disciplined by a mature man.
3. Have need to be guided, sponsored, loved and trained by a mature man.
4. Have need to dedicate self to fulfilling and satisfying all the needs of a mature man.
5. Possess I.Q. over 120 and/or a special artistic talent.
6. Have strong desire to advance yourself through education (at academic college or arts school in Metropolitan New York City Area).
7. Possess the willingness to work quite hard to attain your goals; —
a. School work - maintain a 3.0 or higher average.
b. Domestic duties - maintain my large home.
c. Personal duties - satisfy my needs as a sexual "slave" and social "nephew."
8. Enjoy being a boy.
9. Be totally honest and trustworthy (references required).
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13. Desire living without drugs, cigarettes, soap-opera T.V., promiscuity and the Gay bar scene.
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EX-NAVY
All American Handsome Masseur 1 hr. nude, skillful & sensual massage. Movies, 27, boyish jock. 6', 185, hung, Pvt. Appl., 474-7243 TIM \$30

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5'11", 170#, Blk hair, blue eyes. Gdлк, BB, \$45 massage. Call Jim 431-1609. E27

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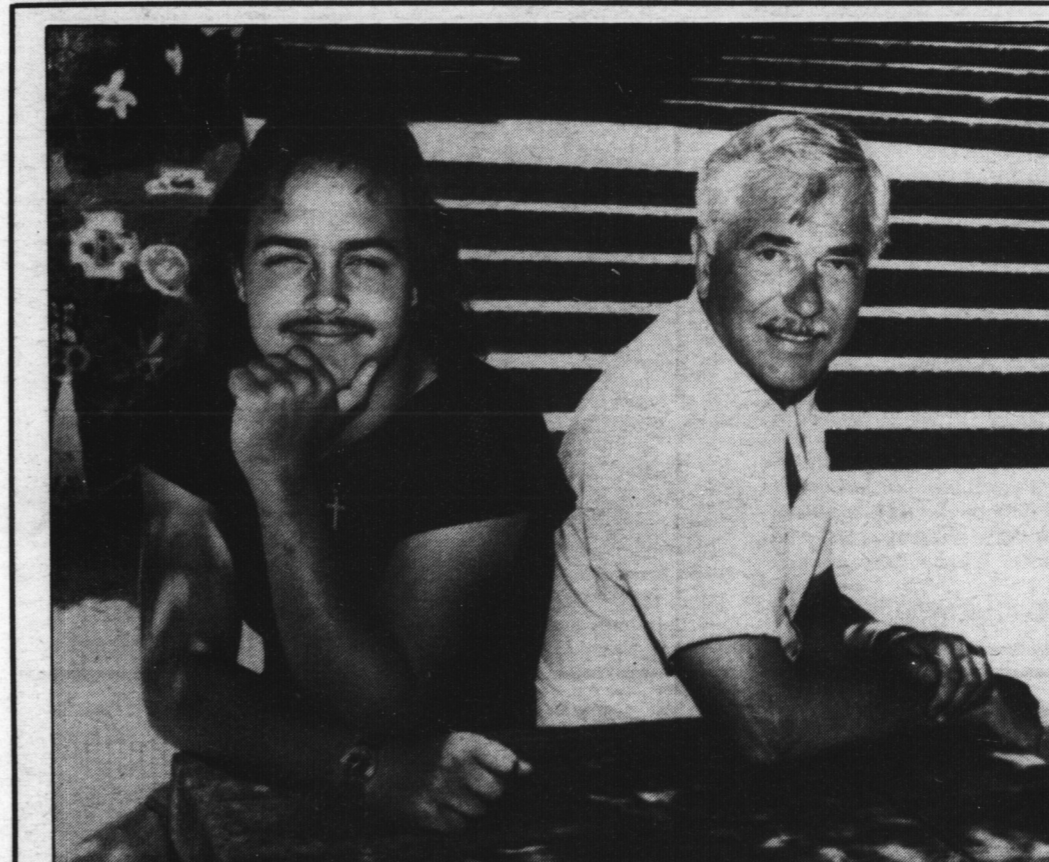
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BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XV NO. 25 JUNE 20, 1985

1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019



Straight son, Gay Dad: It's all in the family for Aaron and Bill Jones, a "non-traditional" family since 1969. (Photo: Rink)

Father's Day For a Gay Dad

When He Adopted in 1969, He Didn't Know It Was History

by Will Snyder

Father's Day on Sunday was a day of happiness for many happily married straight men in the United States. There were also a large number of Gay fathers who celebrated the special day with their families. One historic Gay dad is Bill Jones.

For Jones, Father's Day is a time for him and his son, Aaron, to reflect on their father-son relationship. They think of what they had to go through to get it

started. They also think of what they have done to make it the relationship it is.

The 56-year-old Jones was the

first single male in the United States to adopt a child. That happened in 1969 when Jones got over a case of cold feet and

(Continued on page 14)

Davies Hospital Rejects Clause For Gay Staff

Castro's Largest Employer Resists Equal Job Rights

by George Mendenhall

Non-discrimination in employment based on sexual orientation and marital status has been rejected by the Castro area's only hospital and biggest employer, Ralph K. Davies Medical Center. Current negotiations are at an impasse at the hospital as 160 union employees demand to receive a written contract guarantee.

One possible reason for Davies' position is AIDS-phobia. Gay unionists close to the negotiations say Davies is concerned about being linked to Gay employees and AIDS patients—a phenomenon perceived as a threat to business for the private hospital.

"I am shocked," Supervisor Harry Britt wrote to Davies President George Monardo, this week, "that a hospital with significant support from the surrounding Gay neighborhood, and employing a large number of Gay people, could take such an offensive and backward position."

Workers at Davies, also known as Franklin Hospital, are protected under a city non-discrimination ordinance passed in 1978, but to use that ordinance, they must sue for their rights. The workers are seeking to add "sexual orientation" to a section

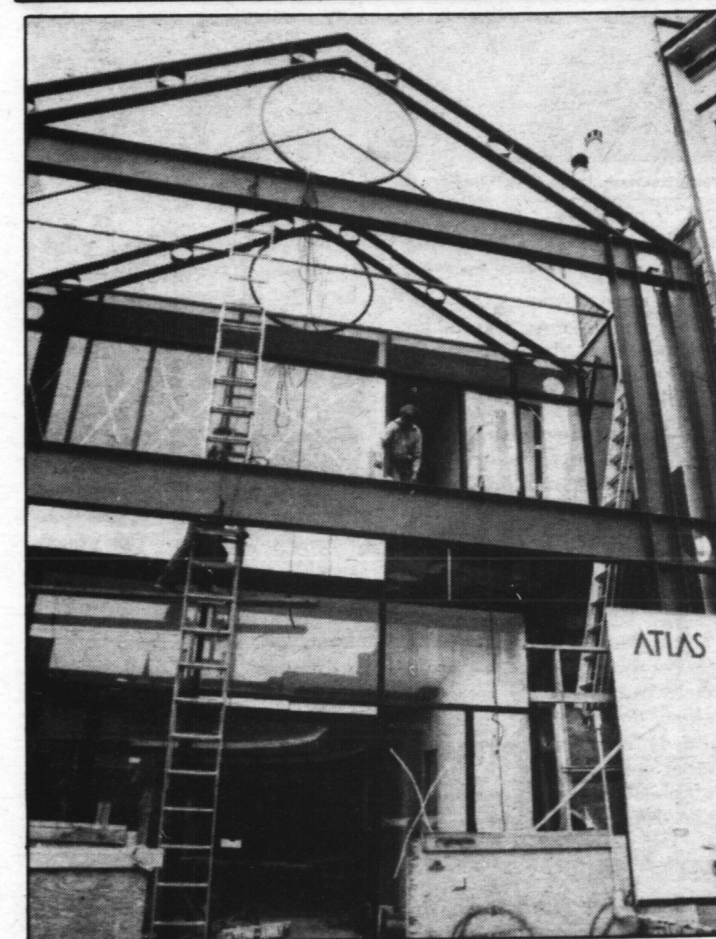
of the existing contract so that the grievance procedure may be used to resolve conflicts.

Major San Francisco hospitals now have Gay non-discrimination clauses. They include Pacific and Presbyterian Medical Centers, Mt. Zion, St. Francis, Children's, Marshal Hale and St. Mary's.

Workers are also asking for bereavement pay for Gay people: time off to attend the funeral and to grieve after a loved one dies. Bereavement pay is now permitted only for married employees.

'GAY HOSPITAL'

Why would the hospital administration refuse the request for the anti-bias clause? Management does not give a specific reply. Kent Jonas, hospital attorney, replied, "I cannot comment while negotiations are underway." (Continued on page 2)



Atlas' new building is in the heart of the community—but its bad loans weren't. (Photo: Rink)

Bad Loans Spill Red Ink at Atlas

\$1 Million Loss in 1st Half; Bank Readies Plan for Feds

by Ray O'Loughlin

Shareholders in Atlas Savings & Loan received disturbing news this week. The wonder kid of the banking world was expecting to report a loss "in the range of \$1.0 to \$1.2 million for the first half of 1985."

In a June 17 letter, the Gay S&L board of directors announced that due to bad loans "the amount of money we have had to put into the reserve for loan losses for 1984 has eroded our net worth to a point lower than required by the regulatory agencies." Atlas will soon file a comprehensive business plan required by federal banking regulators detailing how it hopes to solve the problem.

In that plan will be a set of measures which the bank's management is taking to turn around its finances. Those moves range from establishing a new management team more experienced in making loans to

cutting costs—and, possibly seeking new investors by issuing more stock.

What will the effect be on Atlas depositors? According to Bank President Jim Bowersox, likely nothing. "This is not at all like the situation with Western Community Money Center," Bowersox told the *Bay Area Reporter*. Western Community stunned Castro area depositors by abruptly closing its doors last year, tying up customers' funds for months.

'TROUBLE SPOT'

Unlike Atlas, said Bowersox, Western was insured by a private (Continued on page 2)

IN THIS ISSUE

BLOOD TEST for antibody to the AIDS virus goes public July 1. What does the test show? Should you take it? Questions and Answers on page 12.

HIGHLAND HOSPITAL in the East Bay is accused of dumping two AIDS patients. A medical worker and a Gay activist detail the charges as Charles Linebarger reports on page 17.

GAY DAY ARRIVES in the East Bay this weekend. The title this year is "Lesbian Gay Celebration" and we've got the schedule on page 19.