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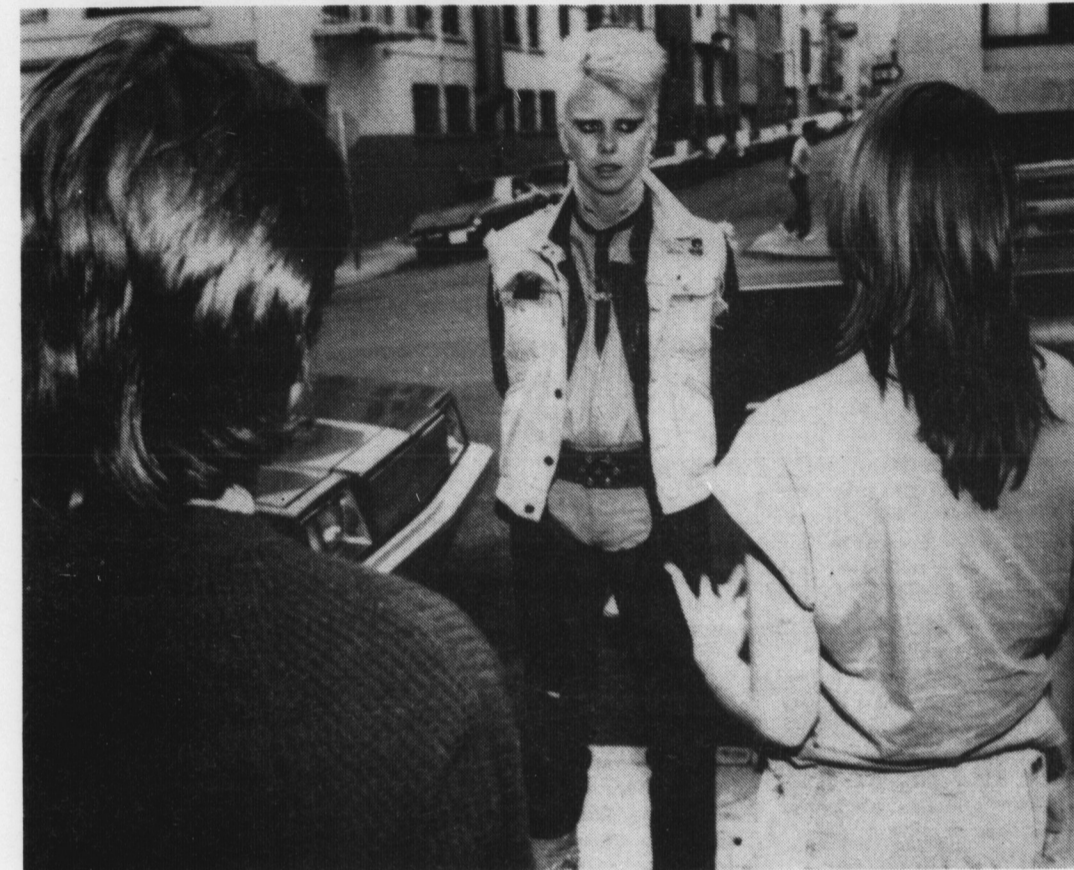


SAVE OUR GAY CHILDREN

Youth Worker Scouts the Street To Save the Kids

Runaways—and Throwaways—Struggle for Survival

by Charles Linebarger



Mily Trabling (c.) talks with two teenagers on Polk Street, where she and other counselors try to help homeless kids. (Photo: Rink)

Mily Trabling is a 23-year-old outreach worker at the Larkin Youth Center. And along with the two other outreach workers at Larkin, Vic Okamoto and Dan Ford, she spends her work days, or nights, walking the streets to reach the kids who live on the streets. I walked Polk Street with Trabling on Monday—admittedly a slow night—to see her in action.

Trabling, who readily talks about her own past experience living on the streets and with drugs, and alcohol, is an attractive blond with a penchant for blue streaks in her hair and black leather chaps. The same qualities which draw looks of amused condescension from the gay and straight couples sitting at Peppino's sidewalk tables also attract the kids she wants to talk to.

Whether the headline is of a morbid San Francisco murder case or a New York "gay school," the problems of gay youth are in the news this summer. Inside, we look at what San Francisco is (or isn't) doing in its schools. And we examine, in-depth, the New York approach to Saving Our Gay Children.

Five pages of coverage begin on page 11.

The outreach project Trabling works with is not geared toward all the young hustlers on Polk or the other areas of town she and her two cohorts cover. It is aimed specifically at the young kids, under the age of 18. It is from this age group that two murder victims hit the front pages of the B.A.R. earlier this year. One 15-year-old boy had been picked up on Polk Street and stabbed to death in the Sunset. The other, an older youth, had been mutilated and murdered and then buried at Land's End. These are the kind of kids Trabling is trying to help.

TAKE IT IN STRIDE

As we walked down the street on Monday about 6 p.m. there were few of the young kids, and other hustlers, out. And there was one man I recognized from my gym—standing in front of a Polk Street shop without a shirt, methodically rubbing his large arm muscles while looking back and forth down the sidewalk.

"He's out of our target age group," Trabling said. Instead we

approached two kids sitting on a car parked at the curb.

"Approached" is the wrong word. Trabling and I were stopped in our tracks when one of the kids called out, "where did you get that blue hair?"

We walked back to the kids and Trabling turned on her natural charm. She smiled and said she liked blue hair. The kid, who said he was 16 and had shoulder-length hair, then insulted the make-up Trabling uses around her eyes.

Trabling took it all in stride and handed out her card to the two boys. The other said he was 18 but looked younger. He seemed more innocent than the first

(Continued on page 11)

IN THIS ISSUE

MICKEY MOUSE lawsuit continues at Disneyland. Disneytypes have lifted their 28-year ban on same-sex dancing, but they're still in court fighting a gay activist. George Mendenhall reports from the Tragic Kingdom on page 3.

RED INK on parade as the Freedom Day Parade Committee faces an \$8,000 deficit. Meanwhile, the L.A. parade people expect to net more than \$100,000. Charles Linebarger looks at the differences on page 4.

GRIM TREND is revealed as local coroner reports on AIDS-related suicides. At least two cases involved men who though they had the disease, but didn't. Details on page 5.

LEAVE 'EM to die seems to be the message from Sacramento's sheriff. He says deputies should avoid giving CPR to gays—because of AIDS epidemic. George Mendenhall reports on page 16.

LOS ANGELES passes a law prohibiting discrimination against people with AIDS. It's a national first. Page 18.

Big Bucks Boost for Gay Parade, Arts

City's Hotel Tax Fund Serves Bigger Slice of the Pie

by Allen White

San Francisco's gay community cashed in with the allocation of the 1985-86 Hotel Tax Fund. Organizations all over the city will receive tens of thousands of dollars to assist in their operation.

The San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Committee will receive a whopping \$32,000. It is now second only to the Chinese New Year Festival in the parade and special event category. The money is given primarily because the gay parade is now the largest annual tourist event in San Francisco. The new allocation is a one-third increase from the previous year's allocation of \$20,700.

Theatre Rhinoceros, one of the leading lesbian and gay theater centers in America, had its allocation raised from \$18,000 last year to \$27,000 this

year. Golden Gate Performing Arts, which is the corporate organization for the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, will receive \$10,000, up from \$7,000. The San Francisco Band Foundation, which includes the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and the San Francisco Tap Troupe, is set to receive \$5,000.

Frameline, which produces the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, will receive \$8,000.

With other grants, the San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund will

(Continued on page 4)

'If I had to kiss a co-star I'd want assurances he doesn't have AIDS.'

Joan Rivers

Joan Rivers Diagnosed With Foot-in-Mouth Disease

by Allen White

The motives and facts behind Joan Rivers' comments as presented in a Hollywood gossip column last week were strongly criticized this week by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and by eminent AIDS physician Dr. Marcus Conant. Rivers condemned Rock Hudson and his conduct since he has been diagnosed with AIDS.

(Continued on page 2)



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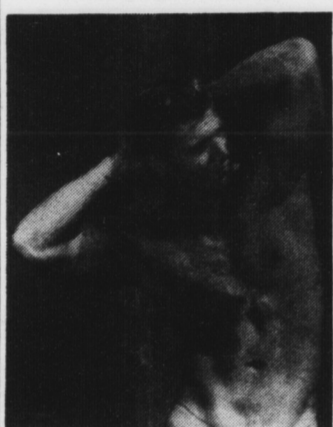
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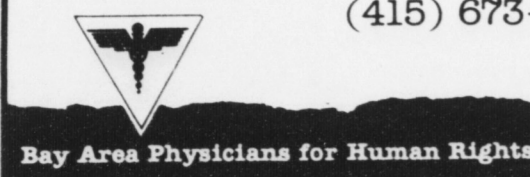
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Rivers of Misinformation

(Continued from page 1)

Last Thursday in Marilyn Beck's syndicated column, which appears locally in the *San Francisco Examiner*, Rivers said, "I think the way that the situation was handled was horrendous. His (Hudson's) people knew the truth all along and should have just come out and acknowledged it was AIDS. Instead, there were all those lies and deceit until it was impossible to hide the truth."

Rivers further stated, "If I had to kiss a co-star — any co-star, because the disease is crossing over into the straight world — I'd want assurance he doesn't have AIDS. You have to protect yourself. I have friends with AIDS. I love them, I see them; they need a support system. But I can tell you, there's no kissing, no touching. I'm a doctor's daughter and I'm careful."

"INFLAMMATORY"

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation through spokesperson Holly Smith said Rivers' remarks were "incredibly inflammatory and rekindled the hysteria about AIDS." Smith said Rivers' remarks about kissing and touching have no basis in fact.

"There is not one case of over 12,000 reported nationally that can be traced to transmission of the disease through saliva or kissing. There is not one case in over 12,000 that can be traced to touching."

Smith pointed out that the San Francisco AIDS Foundation encourages people to show compassion by hugging and touching people with AIDS. Regarding Joan Rivers' remarks about how the public became aware of Hudson's having AIDS, Holly Smith said she was shocked by her lack of compassion and understanding.

Dr. Marcus Conant was equally as critical of Joan Rivers. "Just because she is a doctor's daughter gives her no special knowledge of AIDS, or any other health problem," he said. "She could check out her facts," said Conant. He repeated the same statistical information supplied by the AIDS Foundation.

Both Holly Smith and Dr. Conant questioned whether Joan Rivers quite understood that Rock Hudson is facing a life threatening disease. Both noted the tremendous process a person must face when told that they have AIDS and statistically that they are going to die in a short period of time. Both commended Hudson for his courage, noting the added burden he faces given his stature as an international celebrity.

Dr. Marcus Conant noted that Joan Rivers and many popular entertainers "have an uncanny sense of knowing what people want to hear." Conant suspects that Rivers may be stating these remarks because the remarks are not what people should hear but what people want to hear.

NO MISTAKE

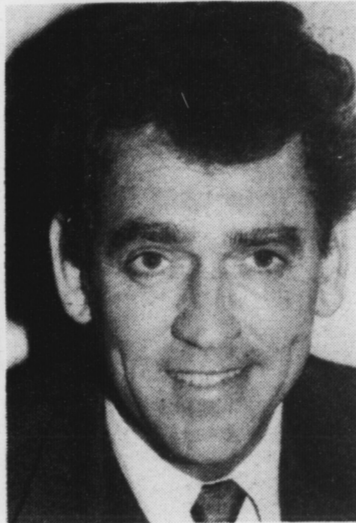
"Joan Rivers may see a real change in what people want to hear about gay people and AIDS," Conant said. He noted that people like Joan Rivers don't just make these types of statements, they are deliberate. "People like Joan Rivers don't make mistakes" when it comes to their public statements Conant said.

In the Marilyn Beck column, Rivers was also quoted as saying, "Frankly, if I were Linda Evans, who worked romantically with Rock on *Dynasty*, I would be crazed now." In the *Los Angeles Times*, Linda Evans — respond-



'There is not one case that can be traced to kissing.'
Holly Smith

(Photo: Rink)



'Just because she's a doctor's daughter gives her no special knowledge.'
Marcus Conant

(Photo: Rink)

ing to a similar charge — said, "I am not sick and I'm not frightened of anything. Where do these stories get started?"

Richard Grant, Joan Rivers' publicity agent, said his client stands by her statements 100 percent. "She is entitled to her opinion and she stated it. You never know where you might catch AIDS," he said. "Did you read in the paper where they have now found the virus in tears?"

Regarding the comments by Joan Rivers about Rock Hudson, Hudson's publicist, Dale Olson, said neither he nor Hudson would dignify her remarks with a comment.

Following an interview with Richard Grant last Friday, the *Bay Area Reporter* received a call

stating that Joan Rivers personally wanted to comment. On Monday, Grant said Joan Rivers was extremely upset by the negative reaction to her comments. He said that Joan Rivers had been one of the first people two years ago to give her talent for AIDS benefits.

"When she did her first AIDS benefit two years ago," said Grant, "the only people that would perform with her were two drag queens." The show was at Studio One in West Hollywood.

Grant implied that if this article were printed it would indicate that the gay community was turning against Joan Rivers, and she might stop doing AIDS benefits.

A. White

Reynolds Goes on TV To Deny He Has AIDS

by Allen White

Actor Burt Reynolds appeared Friday night in an interview with Rona Barrett and denied he has AIDS. The interview on the *Entertainment Tonight* program was an effort to confront the public and stop ongoing rumors that he is dying of AIDS.

In San Francisco rumors have been spreading for almost a year that Reynolds has been in several San Francisco hospitals. The rumors have usually been directed to newspapers or television stations by people who claim to have information that Reynolds had checked into one or another hospital. In several instances reporters have been on the scene of the hospital within minutes after the report and the rumor couldn't be confirmed.

Rona Barrett asked Burt Reynolds two direct questions. "Are you suffering from cancer?" The answer was "no." "Are you suffering from AIDS?" Again the answer was "no."

The only explanation that Reynolds said he could give for the rumors was that "someone is bound and determined to nail me." He acknowledged that he had suffered an injury which made it hard to focus and moved his bite.

To watch Burt Reynolds being interviewed and being forced into defending his health adds another dimension to the tragedy of the AIDS health crisis. Several doctors have commented that the health of any person, including a personality, is their own private business. That is possibly the greatest asset to the concept of doctor-patient confidentiality. ■



Burt Reynolds denies it all.

Mickey Mouse Lawsuit Remains Despite Disney Dancing Decree

Anaheim Park Says OK to Same-Sex Dancing But Continues Appeal of Gay-Rights Case

by George Mendenhall

Disneyland unexpectedly lifted its 28-year ban prohibiting same-sex dancing last week, but the gay man who challenged the rule in 1980 is still in the courts. Disney officials are attempting to get a reversal of the May 1984 ruling by Superior Court Judge James Ross that Exler and his friend, Shawn Elliott, could dance together at the Anaheim amusement park. A jury had decided 11-1 in their favor. However, the judge said the order applied only to the two men.

Disney continued its "no same-sex dancing" policy after the court ruling but a Disney spokesperson, Al Flores, said last week that the park quietly dropped its long-time ban last week after repeated requests "from teen-age girls who asked us if they could dance together."

Flores insisted that the decision had no relationship to its appeal of the earlier ruling by Judge Ross. Last Saturday, some teenage girls and a few boys were involved in same-sex dancing at the park.

FANTASYLAND

"Well, they finally dropped their Fantasyland thinking," Los Angeles gay activist Morris Knight said in response to the Disney reversal. "They had lived in a dream world, thinking the whole world is heterosexual, that boys and girls are made of sugar and spice — that is the fantasy they have been selling. The Disney people are finally growing up."

Exler, who was 17 when he challenged the policy, is convinced that the approval of same-sex dancing "had something to do with our case. They have spent over \$100,000 defending that policy with all the corporate lawyers they have working on our case."

The Hollywood hospital administrator recalls that he heard about the ban against same-sex dancing from a lesbian friend in 1980. He talked his friend, Elliott, into going to the park on Sept. 13 and start dancing at a park disco. Startled security guards stopped them and radioed for help.

A guard said, "This is a family park. There is no room for alternative lifestyles here." Another said, "This is a private park and we make our own rules." The men were escorted in a single line and not permitted to talk to each other. A security supervisor demanded to see their drivers licenses and they were ordered out of the park. Exler says, "They were playing cops. It was like the Dukes of Hazzard TV show."

The two filed a lawsuit, claiming that they could not be denied dancing rights under the state's Unruh Civil Rights Act. After the trial, Disney official Don Roth said, "We have no plans to end that rule. We are not going to permit people of the same sex, be they heterosexual or homosexual, to dance together."

The Disney attorney, William Bitting, said "I do not think you will see same-sex dancing at Disneyland until we exhaust all

Anti-Porno Panel

Feminists Against Censorship: A Panel on Pornography will explore the concerns of the newly formed Bay Area Feminist Anti-Censorship Taskforce (BA/FACT) Sunday, Aug. 25 at 7 p.m. at the San Francisco Women's Building, 3543 19th St., near Valencia. The public is invited, and a donation will be requested. ■



Exler

of our legal remedies."

APPEAL CONTINUES

Exler said his attorney, Ronald Talmo, is optimistic about the Disney appeal in the 4th District Court of Appeals, since the original 11-1 jury decision was in Orange County, considered one of the most conservative areas of the state. The appeal court is also in that county.

The first challenge to the Disneyland policy was in 1970 when the Los Angeles Gay Liberation Front protested the policy. In 1974 a group called SPREE held a demonstration at the park with activists exposing t-shirts in the park that read, "Minnie Mouse Is a Lesbian."

Scott Forbes, owners of the Studio One disco, took over Disneyland for a Gay Night in 1977 with over 25,000 in attendance. However, the dance floors were closed down and park officials would not schedule another night. Recently, the University of Southern California had a Trojan Night at the park and two U.S.C. women were halted from dancing together.

"What I would really like to see," Exler pleads, "is an end to all of Disneyland's restrictions."

The Disney facilities has a long history of denying entrance to anyone it considers unusual in dress or manner. A mother and her daughter recently filed their lawsuit against the park when their hair styles were questioned and they were ejected from the facility.

Disneyland has a large security detail and people with long or "punk" hair designs or who wear unconventional clothes are either denied admission or are asked to leave.

Disneyland has asked for numerous details in its appeal of the Exler and Elliott victory. Park officials have "no comment" but Exler believes the park will not drop the appeal, even though it has changed the policy. "The corporate attorneys have filed a 30-page appeal brief and they appear to be serious about continuing," Exler said. ■

Humanist Party Gathers Food for People With AIDS

Aug. 12, members of the international Humanist political party set up shop in front of the Safeway at 2020 Market Street collecting food for needy AIDS patients. Members of the Humanist Party, armed with signs, information flyers, and a tiered produce box, asked Safeway shoppers to buy one extra item while in the store and donate it to the cause on their way out. The organization collected approximately \$300 worth of non-perishable goods which will, in turn, deliver to the AIDS Food Bank of San Francisco.

The Humanist Party, forming from the Humanist Movement into political organizations around the world, is dedicated to non-violence, total equality, and cooperativism incorporated into a platform which places the human being above all other considerations. They are currently campaigning to register 80,000 California voters in order to add their party to the California ballot.

Humanist Party members will continue to participate in the AIDS food drives weekly at grocery stores around the city. ■

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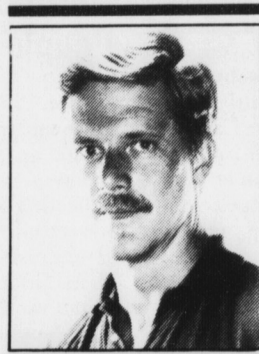
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The 1985 Freedom Day Parade attracted a quarter million people. Now, only the red ink remains. (Photo: Rink)

Parade's Big Budget Ends in Big Deficit

by Charles Linebarger

The income of this year's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade was expected to be close to \$200,000—but almost two months after the parade event the parade committee is still between \$6,000 and \$8,000 in the red. A \$35,000 grant from the City Hotel Tax Fund still needs to be computed in and will clear up the present debt. But still, the biggest gay and lesbian parade in the world will be doing hardly better than breaking even—while many similar events make money.

Preliminary figures on the parade and celebration will once again turn a profit of well over \$100,000.

According to a staff person at Christopher Street West, the organization that runs the L.A. parade, they annually donate about \$50,000 to gay and lesbian groups and causes in the Los Angeles area. They also salt away \$100,000 a year for future expenses and a long-range plan of opening a gay and lesbian retirement home. The L.A. group charges admission to the post-parade celebration.

Gilbert Baker, a volunteer for the local parade for 10 years and a past member of its board of directors, said the parade organizers "know a lot about politics but nothing about entertainment. The parade committee is notorious first of all for burning out artists and businessmen."

Baker said it is not what the parade committee is doing that is at fault, it's what they are not doing. He cited the pre-parade concert that had been planned this year for the Civic Center Auditorium. The hall had been booked, according to Baker, and the city had agreed to accept payment after the event. Miller Beer had agreed to donate \$8,000 to the event.

"What happened was that Barbara Cameron (co-director

community there. That is why they're able to charge people to come to their celebration," Harlan said.

According to the staffer at Christopher Street West in L.A., about 100,000 people paid either \$7 for one day or \$10 for a two-day pass to attend the celebration in the parking lot at the Pacific Design Center. The San Francisco Celebration, following the parade, is held in the Civic Center Plaza and is free.

But Harlan also had problems with the way our parade and celebration are presently being run. "I'm one of the people who think it should change. I think it should be more entertaining, more fun. If you went to the celebration 3 to 4 years ago it was 90 percent political harangues, often having nothing to do with being gay. The parade committee is moving. They've seen the writing on the walls. They deserve a lot of credit for changing, but it can get better."

A source within the parade committee said that there had been major financial mistakes this year. Our source acknowledged that neither the parade program nor its fundraisers were successful money raisers this year.

"There was mismanagement," the source said. "Instead of overseeing the finances, the board of directors and our officers were busy putting on the parade. And the people who were the co-chairs have been in too long. Instead of experience we got burn-out. They also had to do the fundraising work as well as their own jobs and that was difficult."

But no one thought that San Francisco should follow the example of L.A. and turn the celebration after the parade into a private party. "That keeps a lot of women and children out," our source said. "But there are major changes in the works here in the way we run everything because we're not making any money."



Gilbert Baker (Photo: Rink)

of the parade) cancelled the concert without telling anyone. They didn't want to risk the money. I felt we could have raised \$30,000."

Jonna Harlan, who has been a volunteer with the parade for five years and is currently sitting on its board of directors for her second year, said that the L.A. parade and San Francisco's could not be compared fairly. "They have a less politicized

City Gives More \$ to Gay Events

(Continued from page 1)

give almost \$5 million to 115 of the city's non-profit arts and cultural organizations. It is the largest single allocation, benefiting the most groups, in the fund's history. A primary reason for the increase is a change in the method the hotel tax fund is allocated. This will add almost \$1 million to support San Francisco's arts organizations. The change was made earlier this year by the Board of Supervisors.

In addition to the funds to support the 115 arts organiza-

tions, the fund took action to help solve some serious problems facing non-profit theaters. In March, City Administrator Roger Boas announced the Arts Spaces Initiative, funding program which in 1985 will provide \$1 million in grants and loans for groups to purchase theaters and other performing spaces, bring existing spaces up to code, increase seating capacity, and pay for improvements in comfort and safety.

These funds are urgently needed since many groups have

been threatened with closure or have had to relocate due to non-compliance with fire and building codes. Theatre Rhinoceros is one of six theaters to receive funds under this program.

The San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund is money generated by a tax which is imposed by hotels and motels against room rates. The fund is administered by Roger Boas, Chief Administrative Officer of San Francisco, who works with a Citizen Advisory Committee.

A. White

Grim New Trend: 'AIDS Suicides'

Coroner, Counselors Confront Epidemic's Secondary Effects

by Charles Linebarger

The forthcoming annual report from the San Francisco coroner's office will include a new and disturbing category: AIDS-related suicides. Coroner Boyd Stephens said there have been at least a half dozen AIDS-related suicides in the past year—including two men who thought they had the disease but didn't.

The problem has focused attention on counselling services for those who are recently diagnosed with AIDS or who fear they may have the disease. But Gov. George Deukmejian last month vetoed a line-item in the state AIDS budget which would have paid for a program to provide such counselling to people diagnosed with AIDS.

Stephens, the San Francisco Coroner, said there has been an increase in the number of Gay suicides as a result of the AIDS epidemic. "We've had more suicides in which people had been diagnosed with AIDS or thought they had AIDS, including a couple turned out not to have it."

Half a dozen Gay men have committed suicide over the last year either because they had been diagnosed with AIDS or else because they mistakenly believed they had the disease, Stephens said. The ages of these men ranged from young men in their twenties to those in their fifties. And the method of suicide, according to the coroner, was also wide-ranging; "Any way from hanging to pills," Stephens said.

SOCIAL STIGMA

The tragedy, according to Stephens, was the number of men who took their lives because they mistakenly believed they had AIDS.

"The key thing," according to the coroner, "for anyone who thinks they have AIDS is to be very sure. A few people who were afraid of a mole, a bump, or a few lumps have made very unfortunate decisions."

Marj Plumb, who works with San Francisco Suicide Prevention, noted that there has been a definite increase in AIDS-related calls over the last year or two. Plumb believes that the problem of contagion and the stigma associated with AIDS have led to increased thoughts of suicide among those diagnosed with the disease.

"People are very afraid of saying, 'I have AIDS,'" said Plumb, "and this becomes an isolating factor. And isolation is a big factor in suicide. On top of that is the depression that comes from dealing with the whole issue of death. These are the big two factors in suicide."

Plumb believes that statistics on suicides are too low because of the shame associated with suicide. "A lot of suicides are masked as accidents," Plumb said. "An overdose of drugs can either be an accident or suicide—so that even if we have statistics, this problem is under-reported."

Patrick Arbore, who has been counseling call-ins at Suicide Prevention since 1973, said that Gay men tend to self-diagnose themselves for AIDS rather than seeing a Gay physician. "People get scared," Arbore said, "and this fear snowballs though often they don't even have it (AIDS)."

TRYING TO COPE

Arbore said there is a myth that people who commit suicide

are crazy. He doesn't buy it. He believes that people who commit suicide are trying to cope with extremely stressful situations in the best way they can at the moment.

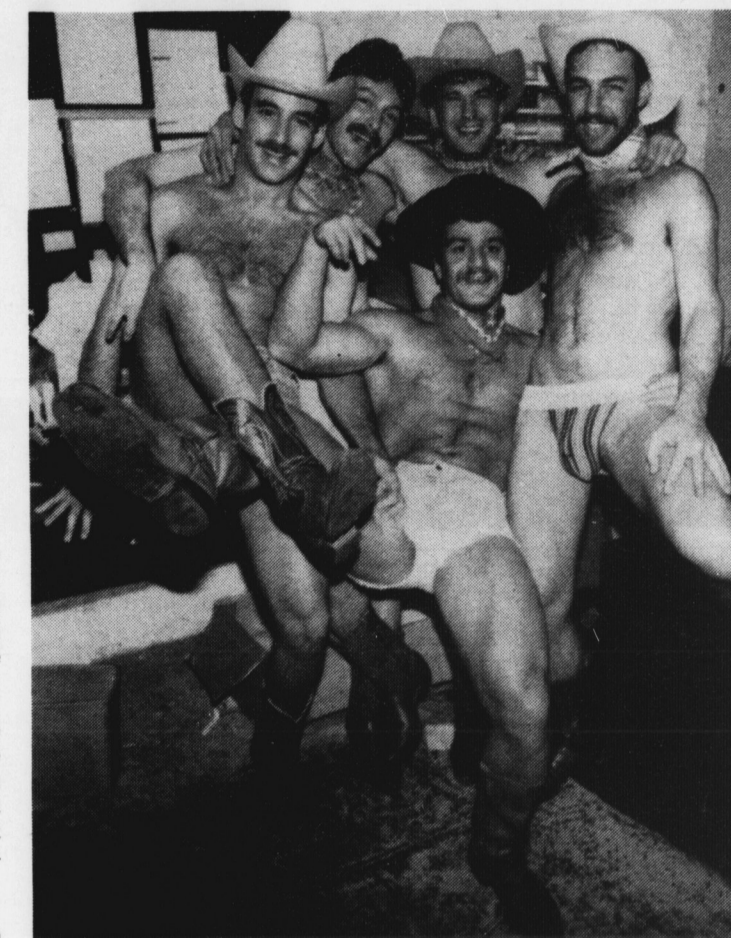
"Life and death problems are rarely talked about," Arbore said. "We don't often sit down with our friends and talk about what you'd do if you found out you were going to die prematurely."

Judy Macks works at San Francisco General's Ward 86, the out-patient AIDS ward, where she does crisis intervention work. For people who have AIDS or are afraid of being diagnosed with it, Macks reported, it is very common to think about suicide.

"But they are probably more concerned about events they project in the future like 'what if I become homebound' or 'what if I get lesions on my face.' But usually by the time this happens, if it does, they feel very differently about killing themselves," Macks said.

All of the counsellors pointed out that it is very important not to desert a friend who has been diagnosed with AIDS or ARCs, and according to Plumb, "They need you more than ever."

"You're not crazy to feel suicidal," Arbore pointed out, "especially around issues like AIDS. Headlines like 'Hudson Has AIDS' probably affect many people adversely, particularly Gay men who might worry about being treated like this. There's a lot of pressure right now. Society views this adversely and this affects us."



Patrick Toner (c.) and the guys will be stepping out Sunday. (Photo: Rink)

It's Up Your Alley: Ringold Party Sun.

The Time Is Right For Dancing in the Street

by Allen White

"You'll never recognize the alley," said Patrick Toner as he addressed several dozen volunteers last Monday night at a planning session for "Up Your Alley," Sunday from Noon until 7 p.m., Ringold Alley, one of San Francisco's most notorious byways, will be closed for a block party and a tea dance.

There is no admission charge and the street will be filled with booths, games, food and part of the street will be used for a tea dance. According to Toner and his partner, Jerry Vallaire, the concept is to have fun and also to raise money for charity. To make the event possible, the sponsors were able to get virtually every resident in the block to sign a petition to close the street.

For the event, Toner and Vallaire have gathered quite a unique group of people to work together. Decorations are coming from the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Committee. Entertainment will range from Skip Barrett and the Foggy City Ramblers to Sister Boom Boom and an exhibition by the Golden Gate Wrestling Club. The Men Behind Bars group

will have a booth where you can "dunk a hunk or drown a drag." There will be a drag kissing booth operated by Sable The Clown, Empress Sissy Spaceout and Empress Remy. If you can't bear to kiss them, they will take your money and you can dance with them.

There will be a booth operated by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. One of those selling items will be Sister Amazing Grace Cathedral. There will be a pie throwing contest directed by the Balloon Girls. The new Duke and Duchess will preside over a booth selling nachos, watermelon and hot dogs.

Throughout the afternoon there will be dancing. The music is planned to range from Country & Western to disco. The net proceeds from the event will be split between the San Francisco AIDS Fund, Gay Games II and the Community United Against Violence.

Gay Lobby Establishes Goodstein Fund

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The gay community was grieved to hear of the untimely death of David B. Goodstein, most noted as the publisher of *The Advocate*. At the recommendation of one of its members, Gay Rights National Lobby has established the David Goodstein Memorial Fund.

"Mr. Goodstein was instrumental in the Lobby's creation in 1976," says Nancy Roth, GRNL's executive director. "In addition to being the founding force behind this organization, David played a significant and influential role throughout its history."

The David Goodstein Memorial Fund provides individuals with the opportunity to make a lasting gift in memory of a man who was a major contributor to the gay movement. Those interested in making donations to the fund may write Gay Rights National Lobby, P.O. Box 1892, Washington, D.C. 20013, or call the lobby's Development Director, Ron Wudarsky, at (202) 546-1801.

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VIEWPOINT

In Confidence

Banking is baffling. When a bank gives you a loan, it gets an asset. When a bank takes in your savings, it posts a liability. And when a bank gives out more money than it takes in, it grows and prospers—sometimes.

This image from through the looking glass of finance was made clear in the early days of Atlas Savings & Loan. The nation's first gay bank took in lots of money and was successful in giving out even more. There were growing deposits to underpin lots of loans, so loans—and the bank's assets—soared. In percentage terms, Atlas may have been the nation's fastest-growing savings and loan in 1983.

But, believe it or not, it is hard to give away money. Banks push loans like Levi's pushes jeans. And so Atlas had to push hard to expand its loan portfolio. In retrospect, we know that Atlas pushed too hard, and in the wrong place.

One place to put lots of loan money fast is a big real estate development. It's easier to place money in one big chunk than to build a portfolio one home loan at a time—though it is riskier.

Atlas jumped head-first into a Southern California real estate deal, along with many other banks. That deal has now gone sour. And with it, the asset Atlas carries from that loan—a promise that the money will be repaid—is suddenly questionable. So that asset comes off the books, Atlas posts a big drop in assets, and the result is written in red.

What does this mean for the average depositor? Little or nothing. Deposits are insured. Atlas is a federally insured bank, unlike the state-chartered thrift institutions in Maryland which closed their doors this week. Atlas depositors are covered no matter what.

What does this mean for the Atlas shareholder? Good news, or bad. If the bank overcomes this big, bad deal, stock will increase in value again. If the bank fails, stock value will fall. That's why they call it "risk capital."

What does this mean for Atlas? Failure, or success. If the bank can overcome this goof, it will emerge stronger and wiser. If not, it could be ordered to merge or sell out to another bank. The feds don't think that will happen, and neither do we.

So what is the solution? Atlas must loan more money, of course. Remember: This is banking. And to underpin those new loans, Atlas needs some new seed money: investments from sale of new stock, or investment from other private investors.

And here we bare the brutal truth about banking. Banking does not trade in dollars. It trades in confidence. It invests confidence when it loans money. And it accepts confidence when it accepts your savings. It solicits confidence from stockholders. The whole machine runs on the promise that people will follow through.

Atlas' problem, in a phrase, was misplaced confidence. The current leadership at Atlas has been refreshingly candid about that. The bank's loan strategy already is changing.

Atlas seems now to realize that it should place its confidence—its loans—within our community. We see this as a strategy that cannot fail, in the long run.

And we believe our community will continue to invest its confidence in Atlas. In the long run, Atlas is probably a better investment today than it was the day it opened.

Certainly, our community needs its own bank. The investment of gay money into gay needs is vital for the growth of a solid gay community. So too is it important for us to invest confidence in each other.

That's the best bet we know of.

Brian Jones

LETTERS

A Discourse on Grammar

I surely approve of preventing what Henry Higgins lamented as "the cold-blooded murder of the English tongue," but I also want to stamp out pedantry. The rules of grammar were formulated in the eighteenth century, and they can get nifty. There is something offensive about dwelling on them. The error that shocks one grammarian may not shock the next, and pointing out mistakes may often be in bad taste—revealing more about the critic than the wrongdoer. Yes, we need a set of rules to communicate with, and Mr. Ross is correct in noting that the form of the verb is wrong in the phrase "the terror and fame has passed" (see his letter of 8/8/85). Nonetheless, the mistake doesn't sound so awful because the ear can adjust the incorrect singular verb to the separate, singular nouns.

But what is worse is that Mr. Ross sets himself up for his own mistakes once he decides to commit his critical pen to paper. (And we are all vulnerable at the hands of the typesetter.) You see, Mr. Ross wrote, "Joyce Hunter . . . construes media correct by." There are three mistakes there: The adjective "correct" should be the adverb "correctly"; "media" should be in quotes or in italics, which is the rule when one refers to a word as a word; and the colon after "by" is wrong; there should either be a comma or the word "by" should be eliminated. The rule is that a colon is only used when it is preceded by an independent clause.

The moral for this English teacher is that once a mistake that most reasonable people would consider trivial has been made, we would do best to let it pass lest we only see the nits on the page.

Roger Silver
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Aren't you sweet. We do strive for grammatical accuracy though at times you can't tell.

Grammar snobs imagine that at some day in history—Oct. 28, 1938 has been suggested—the English language quit growing and changing and was cast in concrete. These are prescriptive grammarians: they believe the role of the grammarian is to prescribe to others how to write.

I prefer to see grammar as descriptive, not prescriptive. It should describe our language as currently in use. The primary aim is to be clear. One must strive to maintain standards while being useful. Who is served when a sentence meets the approval of Edwin Newman, but is not understood by the audience to whom it is addressed?

And lest we be accused of debasing the language, let us state the obvious: this is not literature. We are vulgar, of course, because journalism is the chronicle of everyday life. "Media," like "the press," takes a singular verb these days because people think of it as a singular force.

There are those whose lot in life is to pick nits. I think we should let the grammar snobs be right once in a while. It is so important to them, and so trivial to us.

Brian Jones

Mace 'Em

The best way to protect oneself from physical attack is to be licensed to carry mace. A license is easy to get, and gay men in particular should check this out. Contact the S.F. Police Department for details. The class is \$35 (including mace) and is approximately 2 hours long. That's all.

I carry Mace and you should too.

Charlie Marsteller
San Francisco

Psychotherapy Is Effective

I want to correct the false and irresponsible statements about psychotherapy made by Frank Howell in his book review on page 34 of the 8/1 B.A.R. Mr. Howell wrote that there is little scientific evidence that psychotherapy is effective. He claims that research shows that many people improve whether or not they have therapy. These comments demonstrate the most appalling ignorance of the research literature.

In 1977, Smith and Glass ("Meta-analysis of Psychotherapy Outcome Studies," in the *American Psychologist*, vol. 32, pages 752-760) compared 375 studies of psychotherapy comparing 25,000 people in therapy with 25,000 people who had problems, but were not in therapy. Eighty-eight percent of these studies, or 330 separate research projects, showed that psychotherapy produced significantly greater improvement than no treatment at all. Their data analysis led them to conclude that "the average person who undergoes psychotherapy is better off than 75 percent of those who do not receive such treatment." In Gary Vandenbos' book, *Psychotherapy, Practice, and Research Policy*, Beverly Hills: Sage, 1980), the chapter reviewing research on the results of psychotherapy concludes that by 1980 there is no longer any reasonable scientific doubt that psychotherapy is a very effective form of treatment for psychological problems.

At a time when our community is experiencing extreme stress due to the current plague, and given the possibility that psychological factors may well be involved in the development of AIDS (see Dr. Jeff Leiphart's article in the B.A.R., #39, vol. 13, 9/29/83; and the Aug. 1985 issue of *Psychology Today*), it is extraordinarily important that people know they can expect real help when they consult a psychotherapist.

Greg Dubis,
San Francisco

Camp It Up

I wanted to send a letter along to tell you that I think many of the people in the community have underestimated Aryae Levy's Camp Never-Never Land in Mendocino. I had the luck to go to a four-day trip in July and came back more relaxed than ever from a weekend at the "River." Somehow I thought it might be just an account of the absence of the looks and money crowd, but upon reflection I realized that there were a great many sensible discussions about problems we are all facing, and it was among a truly diverse group of men and women. It was all ages and opinions in an isolated but comfortable and beautiful environment.

I consider it to have been a rewarding experience and would encourage all to try it. I think that Aryae has something here that could be of immense value to the community.

Terry Peterson
San Francisco

Letter Policy

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

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

LETTERS

"Gay" Is Going Down

★ Congratulations to B.A.R., upon joining most of the rest of the world in abandoning the capitalization of "gay!"

My last letter to the editor of B.A.R. was on this same subject years ago, and it was published together with a queenish putdown by Editor Paul Lorch. I am glad that such putdowns have been abandoned by Brian Jones.

Burt Gerrits
Oakland

ED. NOTE: You must have missed a few issues.

Brian Jones

Rednecks in the Castro

★ At approximately 1:30 p.m. Aug. 14, two trucks pulled up and occupied the bus stop on the Castro Street side of Twin Peaks Tavern. The drivers and their passengers proceeded to unload and then to erect scaffolding. Within minutes a man who had been walking past popped in the door to complain to the bartender that the workers were making entirely gratuitous, homophobic remarks to passers-by.

Not long after, despite the specific request of a friend of the tavern's owner that they exercise due care in order not to damage the neon sign over the door, they had managed to break it. The owner's friend called the scaffolding company to report this, and when one of the workers subsequently came inside to discuss the matter with his boss I overheard him saying something like, "These queers keep bothering us."

Although the trucks were unmarked, I was told that they belonged to Safety Service Scaffolding at 1963 McAllister. If the B.A.R. can verify this, I hope that they will publish this letter, along with the strong suggestion that "SS Scaffolding"—how fitting!—not be hired by gay people, nor by persons, gay or straight, owning buildings whose revenues largely depend upon gay patronage.

Homophobic rednecks are not welcome in the Castro: it is particularly intolerable for them to come into our neighborhood and to make money while they taunt and insult us.

C. W. Morrison, M.D.
San Francisco

Try Harder

★ De-fense! De-fense! I thought only the 49ers had claim to being number one in that category. It looks like the Parade Committee is trying to take that title away.

Doesn't success speak for itself? The committee is sure working hard to dispell that notion. It's clear the committee doesn't have the blessing of the gay community as a whole. Not this year anyway.

The parade is an established event and I doubt very seriously if it matters who the figureheads are. We'd have a parade regardless.

Have this past years co-chairs considered going into the car rental business? At least they try harder.

Michael J. Thomas
San Francisco

Own Worst Enemy

★ The following is a response to K. Kaufmann's letter (B.A.R. 8/8):

Outside the walls of the "Women's Building" is a richly diverse world within which is a political process with the passion of love" (guess which side wins). But anyone who wants to participate in that process can. Sometimes results can be effective.

Meanwhile, as to your need for "autonomy"—it is no one's responsibility to define that for you. You need to define that in terms of who you are first, regardless of who or what else is around you. If "women only space" is still your desire, then don't hold separatist events on taxpayer supported property; particularly, if "equality" is really a goal. If mere proximity to another human being offends you, then there is indeed a horrible problem—a problem of yours because rejection is antithetical to equality.

As to your original question: If you want to know what any man is doing anywhere, walk up to any man and ask. Until you are willing to take direct responsibility for your need to reject and prejudice, you are your own worst enemy.

Finally, when in fact, you are your subject, please write in first person.

Sharon Gatt
San Francisco

Rock and Brickbat

★ I know who Rock Hudson is. As an actor, Rock Hudson was never a Lawrence Olivier. He never had to be, at least for me.

During the fiery, stormy years of my youth, Rock Hudson kept me silent company in many of the art deco motion picture palaces of our nation. Alone, naive and afraid of a, then, unnamed passion raging within me, I often found myself retreating into some picture show,

exploring a fantasy I would later be able to call by name, or learn a lesson I would one day be facing in my own real life.

Rock Hudson's character stood up to and fought the demons of hate and ignorance and bigotry which possessed his own kind, in the movie *Giant*.

Now it is time for me to repeat this lesson I watched on a big silver screen in a Loews theater in Washington, D.C. one hot, muggy summer's night so many years ago. In the years since I have heard many rumors that Rock Hudson was gay or whatever in particular the man "got off" on. It never mattered to me. I had my own fantasies of Rock and all he privately taught me about image and style and humor and truth when I was alone and in need of a friend those many years ago.

Now then, who is Steve Warren? First, he can't write all that well, poor dear. Beyond that, he is a scum-bag parasite who attacks a man when he is helpless.

Good night Rock . . . sleep well. Thanks for the memories.

Gene H. Peterson
San Francisco

Sisterly Advice

★ After being in San Francisco in March and then called back again Aug. 2 because my precious brother, Chuck Henning was dying with AIDS at the young age of 45 years, I felt I must write and express my desire to tell these wonderful boys to please tell their parents and family they are gay.

I worried so for 15 years about my brother not having friends, maybe shooting up drugs or hiding from the law all the time, to find out he was just gay. What a relief for me!

I didn't care. I loved him no matter what. They know anyway; they raised you for 18 or more years remember? I was so impressed and overhelmed with my brother's devoted friends, doctor and fifth floor nurses at SFGH, knowing, when I had to return home the first time, he was in the best of caring hands.

I really don't know what I would have done without them and especially his lover Michael Thek. Wow! What a man! These boys are new brothers to me.

Also to the parents, sisters and brothers out there that know or suspect their loved one is gay: Give them a call and tell them you love them—they need you and your loving support before it's too late for you or him. Boys, remember: God loves you and so do I.

This is for your "Chuckie Baby." You will always be in my heart.

Cara Nihals
Kentucky

Verbal Abuse

★ I am generally pleased, but a little puzzled, by John Karr's review of my novel *Slaves of the Empire* in your Aug. 15 edition. His words on the quality of the prose and pacing are of course appreciated, but I'm disappointed that he uses the occasion to mount his "high horse" and begin yet another denunciation of SM—not only in practice, but in writing or imagination. Karr writes: "You are what you do, advise the existentialists. I'll go a step further. You are what you fantasize." This is not a step further, but in the opposite direction—away from recognizing choice as an individual responsibility, and imagination, unrestrained and free of guilt or consequence, as a vital function of art. By Karr's dictum, Agatha Christie might be judged a murderer and Anne Rice a vampire.

"To get off on tales of cruelty, of cruelty-as-sex, is disturbing," Karr says. I don't believe that *Slaves of the Empire* is primarily about sex-as-cruelty; as Karr himself notes, it "contrasts the stupor of blind hedonism with the passion of love" (guess which side wins). But I would agree that the darker elements in the book are disturbing. They are intended to be. The villains are meant to be as alluring as they are monstrous. For all its "unabashed melodrama," *Slaves of the Empire* is not the innocent morality tale Karr might have preferred.

Most surprising—after reading Karr's description of the sex scenes as "satisfying, original, and leading surely to the hair-raising last chapter"—is this: "To enjoy a good portion of the sex in *Slaves of the Empire*, while calling it only a fantasy, is to be a fascist in training."

Now, this is name-calling, pure and simple, a symptom of those same "aggressive tendencies" Karr bemoans in his review. SMers call it VA (verbal abuse), in this case nonconsensual, and I'm surprised to catch Karr indulging in it.

Aaron Travis
San Francisco

I Spy

★ It's easy to figure out why there are so many spies in the service. The services are spending so much time and money on witch hunts into people's private sex and love lives, both gay and straight, that they are blind to the real threat to our nation's security.

Ed Dollak
San Francisco

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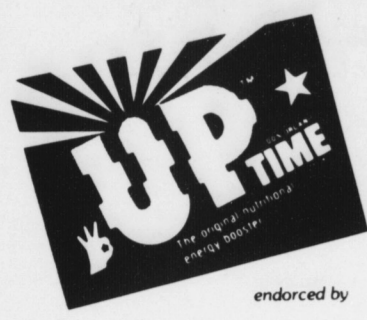
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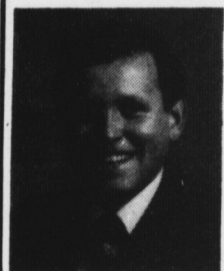
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LETTERS

Animal Instincts

★ Using the guise of "medical evidence and ancient tradition" to purport his unproven theory that colon enemas will prevent AIDS, Mr. Steve Perkins continues to tarnish the advertising integrity of the B.A.R. Mr. Perkins' purported expertise and advertised related sexual services may be in fact misleading and harming uninformed "clients" who respond to his advertisements, and possibly promoting the spread of AIDS.

While almost every page in B.A.R. is committed to promoting safe sex, Mr. Perkins advertises that "During anal sexuality, oral secretions produced in the anal cavity produce a medium in which the electro-magnetic environment of the two people can be transmitted, intermingled, and exchanged." (from a recent advertisement on Pot, Sex, and Disease.) The bottom of the ad states that Mr. Perkins teaches the basics and the sophisticated requirements of healthy sexuality in sessions for which he charges \$50. All medical experts, and certainly members of the gay community could not be convinced that the intermingling, and exchanging of anal and oral secretions could possibly even be considered as an act of healthy sexuality.

It is my opinion that Steve Perkins is either seriously misinformed, or is using this AIDS crisis as an opportunity to indulge his enema fantasy. His advertisements are clearly dangerous and in poor taste, and Mr. Perkins leaves himself open to legal recourse from "clients" who have possibly been harmed by his misinforming, so-called professional counsel.

R. Reyson
San Francisco

"Kissy Cop" Revisited

★ What is C.W. Morrison M.D. trying to prove by writing the idiotic letter which was published in your issue dated Aug. 15, 1985?

Is he assuming that the male police officer who he reportedly saw kissing a woman in the Twin Peaks Bar, was nongay? Is he trying to put this perceived straight man through the same censorship that was brought upon Paul Seidler? Or is he just trying to stir up unnecessary trouble because he has nothing better to do?

I would rather have this type of officer patrolling my neighborhood than the type we saw running out of control into the Elephant Walk a few years ago. I would rather see this type of officer who takes the time to get to know the people on his beat instead of isolating himself behind the wheel of his cruiser. I would rather see this type of officer who feels at ease in the community which he serves instead of a nongay man who may be defensive of his masculinity when called to deal with us.

In fact, I would rather deal with this type of officer than to have to deal with a medical doctor who is still sitting in a bar at 12:27 a.m., and who is in such a physically or mentally unstable position that, by his own admission, "Damned near fell off the window ledge upon which I was seated," when seeing such an everyday thing as a simple kiss.

Come on C.W., give the men in blue a break. They have a hard enough task without your kind of negativity working against them.

Mack Lyon
San Francisco

Softball

★ In response to Joe Arila's letter regarding support of the winning Gay Softball League team, I would like to know what other organization gives their winning team \$2,000 to go to the championship?

It is clearly stated in the constitution of the GSL that going to the Gay Softball World Series is at the expense of the winning team and that is made clear at more than one league meeting each season.

Now that the Pendulum has won the league championship, I would expect that Joe will be the first person in line to make a donation to the new league champions.

Tom Vindeed
San Francisco

Mad Scientist

★ A couple of things have been bothering me.

One, about the AIDS antibody test. I think that those who want to take it for their own peace of mind, or for whatever reason, should do so. However, as one who still believes quietly to myself that the AIDS virus may have been introduced to our community by some mad scientist with connections to the federal or local government, or even by some agent in a bottle of poppers given away free on Christopher Street some Sunday afternoon in our past — (and from the same source) — I refuse to have a nurse from yet another public health agency stick yet another needle in my arm. I've had enough of those moments in my life already. Who knows what's going in before the blood comes out?

Second, a few weeks ago in an issue which appeared a week before the Parade, the B.A.R., on its front page requested letters or contributions from those people who love and are grateful for San Francisco and its specialness, to be featured in a "We Like It Here" section. I looked in vain for any response to that, feeling as I do about my life here, which may well have saved me from a bleak future in Bee Branch, Arkansas, where I grew up. Not one letter appeared. A year and a half

ago, in its Feb. 2, 1984 edition, the B.A.R. printed a letter of mine which the editor titled "A City Love Affair." In it I tried to convey my appreciation and love for a bright, vibrant city and the people who live here. There was again no published response! These days there is so much death around us, and so many afraid, angry letters appearing in these pages. Not much ever appears about the wonderful things in our lives here, the secret stairways and flowers, the small unexpected smiles on the street corners, the strange and amazing light at summer sunset, the hugs from friends, the moody fog over Suto tower. Come on, guys, doesn't anyone else "like it here"?

John Kessinger
San Francisco

Invasade South Africa

★ If we can send money and "advisors" to aid the Contras, and we can invade Grenada, we should consider a lightning invasion of the biggest blight on the human race since Nazi Germany: South Africa.

True, we need South Africa's strategic minerals, but we can make a quick capture of the mines one of our priorities. Then, we could hand the country over to recognized black leaders such as Nelson Mandela and Bishop Tutu until truly democratic elections can be held.

Thus, when the eventual overthrow of the white minority government occurs, we'll not only be on the morally right side, but the winning side too. We'd likely get a good deal on those strategic minerals too, in contrast with our folly in Iran and our continuing follies in the Philippines, Cuba, Chile, Nicaragua, etc. *ad nauseum.*

Hagbard Celine
San Francisco

Live Aid

★ After watching the Live Aid Famine Relief concert on television last week, I wondered why a Live Aid People with AIDS relief concert program couldn't be organized. Considering the percentage of gay men and lesbian women in the entertainment and broadcasting industries, and the potential and exponential life and death situation threatening them, the entertainment industry cannot sit back and ignore the situation.

In light of the recent confirmation of one of Hollywood's own, Rock Hudson, having AIDS, one would think that the entertainment industry would respond.

I urge all you letter writers to pick up the pen. Send letters to the Screen Actors Guild, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the writers of Dynasty, and anyone else who might pull this together. Maybe we can plant the seed for the entertainment industry to help.

David Marandola
San Francisco

What's in a Community?

★ I would like to comment on two well-written articles in your latest issue by Allen White concerning the Grand Duke and Duchess and their influence on the City and County of San Francisco.

First, I congratulate both Tony Trevizo and Deena Jones! I'm sure they will be a vital force among their peers. I do agree that a great deal of money has been raised over the years for worthy charities by both the Imperial Court and the Ducal Court.

But to suggest that they will have a major influence in the gay community of San Francisco is a bit absurd. And to mention them in the same breath as Harry Britt and Tim Wolfred is ludicrous. Both Mr. Britt and Dr. Wolfred were elected to their positions by a majority of the population of San Francisco.

A few statistics for those of you less informed: (1) the total population of San Francisco is approximately 700,000 people. (2) conservative estimates put the gay population at 25 percent of the total, which equals approximately 175,000 lesbians and gay men. Mr. White comments that 900 people voted for their choice for Duke and Duchess. Utilizing rudimentary mathematics, one can readily see that we are not talking about a sizeable portion of the gay population of San Francisco.

A few of us — several thousand, I would guess — are actively involved in the gay social life of San Francisco that is public, i.e. bars, runs, coronations, beer busts, etc. But the vast majority prefer to remain at home and entertain close friends. These people are seldom visible in public gay establishments.

I think it's great that there are some people who are socially active and participate in the "court" system or the "club" scene. These organizations are vital to those involved in these activities. After all, San Francisco is considered by most the gay capital of the world. We should have organizations catering to every lifestyle in the gay community.

Rich Demarest
San Francisco

POLITICS AND POKER



We've Seen This Poll Before

WAYNE FRIDAY



State Sen. Ed Davis and Mayor Dianne Feinstein at related gay events on Friday. (Photo: Rink)

I don't know how many of you saw the California Poll released last week that showed Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley leading Gov. George Deukmejian by 6 percentage points, but I would be the first to remind you that it is 15 months before the 1986 gubernatorial election. Also remember that exactly 15 months before the 1982 election, the same California Poll, conducted by the same pollster—Mervyn Field—had Mayor Bradley leading then-Attorney General Deukmejian by a whopping 24 points. I don't have to remind you what happened in that election.

Rather than count Gov. Deukmejian out, I would point out that as an incumbent, the Republican Governor is much more powerful now than he was when he had just completed a bruising GOP primary in 1982 to then go on and defeat the veteran Los Angeles mayor.

Rather than give the recent poll much importance, I would do as many top strategists in both parties are doing, and basically discount the Field finds. While the 6 percent difference clearly would make the upcoming contest a horse race, the campaign itself has not even started and, as Bradley's probable Democratic opponent, State Senator John Garamendi, says, "the poll is irrelevant." Garamendi in the poll trails Bradley in a Democratic primary by a 72-16 percent margin.

Garamendi, who recently hired two Washington firms to handle research and communications for his expected bid, commented that the wide margin didn't bother him, saying that "I'm surprised I'm doing that well; the campaign hasn't even started yet." Garamendi, a 40-year-old legislator from the Sacramento Delta, took a swipe at Mayor Bradley last week by saying that "while I have a lot of respect for Mayor Bradley and what he has accomplished, the problem for the Democrats is the future of our party and our state. Tom Bradley represents the best of our party and that is gone. Even today will be gone in a few hours. We must address the future." Garamendi says that "people are looking for a new, clear articulation of the agenda of today" and left no doubt that he thinks Mayor Bradley can no longer offer that agenda.

Garamendi, while losing the nomination to Bradley, won 25 percent of the vote when he ran in the 1982 Democratic primary. Bradley eventually lost to Deukmejian by only 52,295 votes out of more than 7.5 million cast, in the state's closest ever gubernatorial election.

But to suggest that they will have a major influence in the gay community of San Francisco is a bit absurd. And to mention them in the same breath as Harry Britt and Tim Wolfred is ludicrous. Both Mr. Britt and Dr. Wolfred were elected to their positions by a majority of the population of San Francisco.

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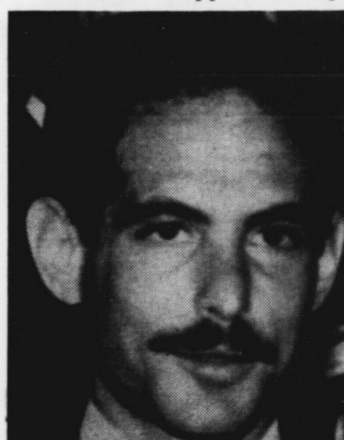
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Tickets are \$12 at the door. Telephone (408) 998-2277 or (415) 762-2277 for info. . . . Execution of Justice, the Emily Mann play about the Dan White trial, has definitely been signed for a Broadway run, though a theater hasn't been named yet. Rehearsals start in January 1986 with a February opening planned. . . . A recent benefit on Fire Island where singer Peter Allen, Dorothy Loudon, and comedienne Anne Meara entertained, raised over \$200,000 for New York's AIDS Medical Foundation.

While claiming that the change was not in response to a May 1984 Orange County Superior Court ruling in favor of a gay couple who had been evicted for dancing together, Disneyland administrators quietly reversed a 28-year old policy last week that had prohibited partners of the same sex from dancing together in the amusement park's "Magic Kingdom" . . . Ron Smith, one of the most respected political consultants in the state the managed John Molinari's successful bid to become Board President last year will manage peninsula Congressman Ed Zschau's bid to win the GOP nomination for U.S. Senate. . . . and if you were planning on attending the Sept. 11 luncheon meeting of the Commonwealth Club where veep George Bush is speaking, forget it; the event is sold out and was limited to only members anyway.

The legal community in the city is still buzzing over Quentin Kopp's recent legal problems with U.S. District Judge William Schwarzer. One of the best known attorney's in the city told us that attorney Kopp's problems are "more serious than Quentin would like to let on." Judge Schwarzer ruled last week that Kopp could continue practicing law in Northern California federal courts, but said he will decide later whether to suspend Kopp until he receives and reviews more documents in a case he has called "vindictive" and "frivolous." Kopp, in an ap-



Paul Wotman (Photo: Rink)

pearance before the judge last week, apologized for filing the "vindictive" lawsuit.

In New Hampshire, a Dartmouth College sorority is on social probation for failing to stop harassment of several gay students who danced together at a party. Alpha Chi Omega billed the August 2nd party as "Live AIDS—A Tribute to Rock Hudson" . . . It figures that Right-Wing, anti-gay Congressman William Dannemeyer (R-Fullerton) would dig to the bottom of the barrel by hiring anti-gay psychologist Paul Cameron—who has been expelled from the American Psychological Association and repudiated by his homestate Nebraska Psychological Association—as an advisor on the subject of homosexuality and AIDS. Cameron and Congressman Dannemeyer have made a career of being homophobes . . . and in West Hollywood, where the city leaders thrive on controversy (and publicity), they have outdone themselves by cancelling Christmas. When the city council was informed by the City Attorney last week that the city's attempt to make Yom Kippur a city holiday in fact violated constitutional protections against the separation of church and state, the gay-dominated council then voted to eliminate any city holidays with religious overtones. Employees will be able to choose when to take off 4 1/2 "floating" holiday days. The city government will operate not only on the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur, but Christmas day as well.

The Young Democrats of America (remember them?) have elected the first female president in its history. Maria Prezioso of Charleston, W. Va. was elected this week to a two-year term . . . and the California District Attorney Association, which had previously joined the campaign to oust state Supreme Court Chief Justice Rose Bird and two colleagues, quickly withdrew from the anti-Bird campaign because its participation may endanger its tax-exempt status . . . most reading: Armistead Maupin's interview in the Sunday *Chron* with Christopher Isherwood and Don Bachardy and Monday's *Examiner* column by Stephanie Salter in which she lets us know what she thinks of Bo and John Derek.

Friends of attorney Paul Wotman say he is serious about running for a seat on the Community College Board next year. . . . Mayor Dianne Feinstein will be the guest speaker at the breakfast meeting tomorrow (Friday, the 23rd) of the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance at the Hyatt Regency (8 a.m.; \$15; 552-5600 or 392-2800 for info and reservations).



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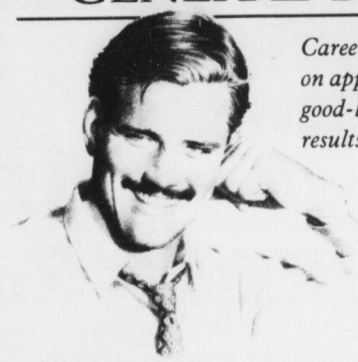
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NATIONAL NEWS

Woman Denied Visit To Comatose Lover

A Minnesota judge has issued an order allowing the father of a comatose woman to deny visits from the woman's lesbian lover. The July 23 ruling was the latest in a long and bitter dispute involving Sharon Kowalski, injured in an auto accident almost two years ago.

An earlier court ruling gave the woman's lover, Karen Thompson, equal access to Sharon Kowalski, along with the injured woman's father and mother. This decision was bitterly fought by

the father. On appeal, a Sherburne County, Minnesota District Court Judge granted exclusive custody of Sharon Kowalski to her father—who quickly denied the lover visitation rights.

The injured woman was moved to a different nursing home and staff there threatened to arrest Karen Thompson when she appeared in an attempt to visit her lover. Thompson has appealed the ruling. *GayLife, Chicago*

Blood Banks and the Military Eye Compromise on Blood Test

A tentative agreement between civilian blood banks and the Dept. of Defense may resolve a conflict over the test for antibodies to the AIDS-related virus.

Under the agreement, military donors would be required to sign a consent form allowing results of the antibody blood test to be released to the military. However, military personnel who objected to giving consent could elect not to give their blood, with no questions asked.

All blood donated to U.S. blood banks now is tested for the presence of the AIDS-related antibodies. The results of this test are usually kept confidential. In California, state law requires the results to be kept confidential.

The agreement would take effect on Sept. 1 but has not been accepted by blood banking officials.

The Pentagon angered blood banks and worried gay leaders earlier this summer when it announced it would require blood test results on all military personnel. Since the armed services actively discriminate against gays and lesbians, and since many see the blood test as a marker for AIDS, the military policy concerned gay leaders.

Many blood banks—including Irwin Memorial Blood Bank in San Francisco—said they would refuse to comply with the military directive. At Irwin, about 25 percent of blood is donated by military personnel.

Meanwhile, Military Ponders Its Own Test—Gays Object

The Armed Forces Epidemiological Board, in an Aug. 9 meeting, considered the military's use of HTLV-3 antibody test in screening the military's blood supply and uniformed personnel.

During a presentation to the civilian advisory panel, National Gay Task Force Director of Governmental and Political Affairs Jeffrey Levi expressed fears that "individuals may be singled out as homosexuals or I.V. drug users based solely on this test results." He argued against blanket screening beyond the blood banking setting.

Levi argued that broader use of the test would violate the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's labeling of the test, which states that "it is inappropriate to use this test as a screen for AIDS or as a screen for members of groups at increased risk for AIDS in the

general population."

Levi went on to ask, "even if one accepted, for the sake of argument, that this test definitively and accurately measures exposure to the HTLV-3 virus, what additional uses might be justified in a military context? What health danger is involved if someone exposed to the HTLV-3 virus is in military service? Based on what we know about transmission of the HTLV-3 virus, even the presence of someone infectious in the ranks of the military should not be a concern since routine, close living and working relationships do not pose a medical risk."

Fears that test results might be used as the basis for nonmedical discharges were founded, Levi said, on experience with the military's handling of several cases of AIDS.

From a press release provided by National Gay Task Force.

Separate Surveys Show Pattern of Anti-Gay Violence

In a recent comparison of seven independent anti-gay violence surveys, the results of the surveys had a high degree of correlation with one another. The similarity of results between the 1983 Violence Project Survey by National Gay Task Force (NGTF) and six other separate surveys underscores the validity of the methodologies used for all seven projects.

The NGTF Violence Project Survey found that 20 percent of gay men and 10 percent of lesbians have been physically abused because of their sexual preference. Over 90 percent of the

respondents reported having experienced some type of homophobia-motivated victimization.

Results from the NGTF survey were used to gain support for a California bill (AB-848) protecting lesbians and gay men from bias-motivated violence and harassment. The bill was signed into law last year.

The NGTF Violence Project Survey was compared with independent surveys conducted in Philadelphia, Wisconsin, Maine, New Jersey, New York and Richmond, Virginia.

New Drug Acts Against AIDS In Test Tube

A Beverly Hills pharmaceutical manufacturer is testing a drug which, it says, is effective in killing the AIDS-related virus. The drug effectively blocks multiplication of the virus, while leaving the infected immune cells which host the virus unharmed. So far the drug has only been tested in the test tube. Frequently, drugs which work under test-tube conditions are not effective in the human system.

Praxis Pharmaceuticals and the National Institutes of Health will jointly report on trials of the unnamed drug in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Dr. Robert Gallo, considered the top AIDS researcher in the United States, said trials of the drug are "at a preliminary stage but the results are encouraging."

Several drugs are currently being tested for treating AIDS. They include Isoprinosine; HPA-23; suramin; interferon; and interleukin-2.

From a press release provided by Praxis Pharmaceuticals.

Campaign Fund To Help Candidates Active on AIDS

The Human Rights Campaign Fund Board is establishing an AIDS Campaign Trust (ACT) to elect candidates to the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate who are committed to full funding for the AIDS-related needs of the nation.

Those interested in supporting ACT may contact the AIDS Campaign Trust, Post Office Box 1396, Washington, D.C. 20013.

From a press release provided by Human Rights Campaign Fund.

Wichita State Sets Gay Orientation

We're not in Kansas anymore but some gay people are and for them, Wichita State University is holding—yes, this is true—Gay Freshman Orientation.

The Gay and Lesbian Resource Association, in a press release, said it will offer orientation the week of Aug. 26 to "gay and sympathetic to gay students."

Dorothy, phone home.

Benefit Raises \$200,000 for NY AIDS Fund

The AIDS Medical Foundation, New York, is the beneficiary of \$200,000 raised by the Fire Island Pines Benefit Committee at its "From the Pines . . . With Love" cabaret evening July 27.

Guests were entertained by singer Peter Allen, Ellen Foley, Broadway's Dorothy Loudon, Gotham, and comedienne Anne Meara, all of whom donated their talents to the event. "Everybody has to do something," said Peter Allen.

The funds will be used in New York City to support a major, private research institution in establishing a comprehensive treatment and diagnostic facility for studying viruses related to AIDS.

SAVE OUR GAY CHILDREN

On the Street

(Continued from page 1)

boy, less used to the streets perhaps—or maybe just more shy.

"I knew about this place before you ever went to work there," the first boy told Trabling. "I used to work at Huckleberry House." Trabling smiled and said she'd been with Larkin Youth Center for a year—and if he wanted any help sometime or a place to stay to give her a call or drop by. Then we were on our way again. "They are not usually that rude," Trabling said.

We stopped in a small cafe for coffee after passing a spot where assignations—or sales—are made. Trabling doesn't go up to kids when they are obviously in the act of talking to a john about a possible sale or job. "We don't want to ruin their survival business," she said.

THROWAWAYS

Over coffee Trabling talked about herself. "I ran away from home at 16 because I was gay," she said. "If a gay kid is going to run away they are going to come to San Francisco if they can make it. They think they are going to find this great gay community that is going to take them under its wings. It just isn't that way."

"Most of the kids we see have a history of sexual abuse. A lot of them are throwaways, which is different from run aways. A lot of parents don't want a queer kid," Trabling said.

Trabling said that she had been on drugs when she ran away from home. "I got real strung out on drugs and alcohol. And a lot of these kids need to realize that drugs may not bring them to the streets but it will keep them there."

Two boys came in while we were talking. One dark, perhaps Hispanic and one pale with a hint of lipstick on his handsome lips. They smiled and said "hi" to Trabling. She asked them how they were and they said they were "fine." Soon the small cafe was full of street kids and older men.

Trabling and her two co-workers, Okamoto and Ford, talked to me at Larkin after our walk. They explained that Polk is only one of the areas they visit. Haight, Powell and Market, Broadway, and Turk and Taylor are all places where kids try to make a living on the streets.

They talk to girls as well as boys, straights as well as gays. They try to assist the kids in getting off the streets and protecting themselves in the meantime—from AIDS, and from the dangers of street life.

It isn't easy. The Mayor herself estimates that there are 2,000 homeless kids on the city streets on any one night. And according to Trabling and the other outreach workers, a disproportionate number of them are gay and lesbian youth.

C. Lineberger



'We need to expand to other classes to deal with violence.' Diana Christensen (Photo: Rink)

Invisible Issue, Invisible Kids: Gays in the Classroom in S.F.

by Charles Lineberger

Since 1980 New York has had a comprehensive plan offering special services to gay and lesbian students in the city's schools. There are gay sensitive counselors, gay-sensitivity training sessions for the staff, and a small high school, Harvey Milk High, for those who have been harassed out of the regular schools. San Francisco, meanwhile, offers no gay-oriented assistance to its gay and lesbian youth. And the Speaker's Bureau which sends gay and lesbian speakers into the city's high schools appears to be stagnating.

Figures provided by Diana Christensen at Community United Against Violence, the office administering the speaker's project, show that 4,000 high school students were reached this year, as against 1,000 last year and 2,000 the year before.

But according to a handout from the Speaker's Bureau, the number of students for this year is only 2,600. Whatever the numbers are, the program has not reached into all the schools or even all the students at the schools participating.

BEYOND SEX ED

"Sex Education should be mandatory," Christensen said,

"and we should be included in all the classes. But we need to expand out of the area of sex education and into other classes such as sociology, history and psychology to deal with homophobia and anti-gay violence."

Christensen's sentiments were backed by Hank Wilson, a former teacher who has been active in the Speaker's Bureau for years. Wilson wondered why the bureau reaches only a handful of students at some schools, if that, but speaks to crowds at other schools. Wilson also believes that gay and lesbian speakers should be mandatory in all the city's sex education classes.

Talking about Demystifying

Homosexuality: A Teacher's Guide About Lesbians and Gay Men, Wilson said. "We asked them (the Board of Education) to approve the teacher's resource guide over a year ago. They referred it to staff. But staff has never reported back. They think it's going to stir up controversy."

"There already is controversy," Wilson said. "We don't want more parents to grow up to kick their gay kids out on the streets. We've been patient. We gave them the opportunity to be quiet and supportive. But if they aren't we'll go to the board and raise these issues."

Wilson said that he believes the school board should deal

(Continued on next page)

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SAVE OUR GAY CHILDREN

Gays in the Classroom

(Continued from page 4)

comprehensively with the problems of gay and lesbian youth. Hunter Morey, the consultant on homosexuality at the Institute of Human Sexuality who wrote *Demystifying Homosexuality*, agreed that homosexuality is not being dealt with properly in the schools.

Morey said the school board should mandate that every family life (sex education) class have at least one gay and lesbian speaking event. He also believes that gay sensitivity training should be provided for the staff of the school system, and that there should be an acknowledgment that sexual minority students are a minority group like any other and worthy of special services. He said these services should include a specifically gay and lesbian high school for students who have been sexually harassed out of the classroom.

SCHOOL BOARD

Libby Denebeim, a member of the school board and a supporter in the past of gay issues, responded to some of the charges and demands made by the Speaker's Bureau and other critics. "The school board has been for many years supportive of gay issues," Denebeim said.

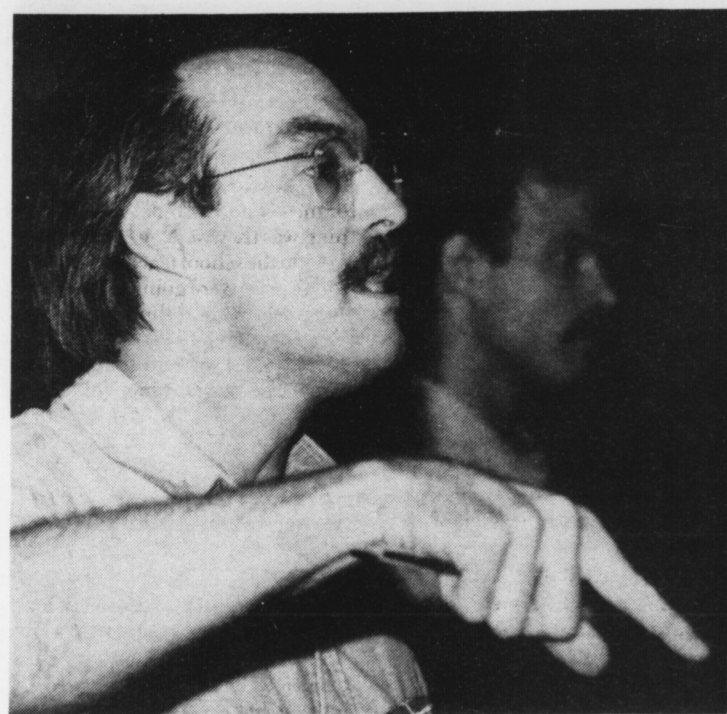
"But rather than head-on confrontation we've worked for gradual change."

Avoiding a head-on confrontation, Denebeim said, meant that she was opposed as of now to mandating speaking engagements from the speaker's bureau in all the city's family life classes. It also meant that she was unwilling to approve the teacher's resource guide on homosexuality. "We've never done that with teacher's curriculum materials before, but maybe we should look at that policy," she said.

And as for a comprehensive plan on behalf of the city's gay and lesbian students," Denebeim said "We haven't discussed it at all. No one has asked us to do it. My own personal feeling is that I don't like to see people segregated for any reason but if someone brought it to our attention I'd be glad to discuss it. We're pretty open to these ideas."

Greg Day, a member of the Mayor's Council on Children, Youth and Family, called for a major overhaul of the way gay and lesbian issues are dealt with in the schools.

"The point is," Day said, "that information about lesbians and gay men in all areas of education—literature, history,



'We've been patient. We gave them the opportunity to be quiet and supportive.'
Hank Wilson

(Photo: Rink)



'We've worked for gradual change.'
School Board Member
Libby Denebeim

(Photo: Rink)

science, and art—is missing from the curriculum of students in the Unified School District. The result is the continuation of ignorance and prejudice against us, and a continuation of the

tradition of anti-gay and lesbian violence."

Day said that the members of the school board have been supportive of the lesbian and gay

community in the past but it has been a low key and indirect support because "they are afraid to address this issue openly."

C. Lineberger

'Gay School' Is Just One Part Of Meeting the Needs of Youth

Youth Counselor and NY Lesbian Educator Examine the Complex Problems of Growing Up Gay

by R. Hunter Morey

EDITOR'S NOTE: News of the new "Gay High School" in New York City has prompted talk of beginning such a program here. But as the following interview shows, Harvey Milk High is just one part of a larger solution to a complex problem: meeting the needs of gay youth.

In the following interview, local youth counselor R. Hunter Morey—primary author of *Demystifying Homosexuality: A Teaching Guide*—interviews Joyce Hunter, education director of the program which oversees Harvey Milk High.

Morey: Your social services agency in New York has started the world's first gay high school. What is it all about? What is the Institute for the Protection of Lesbian and Gay Youth and the Harvey Milk High School?

Hunter: The Institute for the Protection of Lesbian and Gay Youth is a social services agency for sexual minority youth. They aren't all gay. They include straight kids prostituting, transvestites, transsexuals, etc. We do crisis intervention, case management, family, group and individual therapy. We also train professionals to work with this population.

The Institute was founded in 1980 for kids in various agencies, mostly emergency shelters. We heard lots of stories of kids not getting treatment, or being dropped from services because they were gay. So we started providing an education program and sensitivity training for youth-serving agencies, including how to do clinical work with sexual minority youth.

In February 1982 we put on a national conference at New York University dealing with problems and issues in service delivery to lesbian and gay adolescents.

250 professionals who work with lesbian and gay youth attended. The needs survey they filled out for us told us that we really needed to start our own agency if these youth were going to get quality services. The youth workers said that they and their peers had not been professionally trained to work with the sexual minority youth population. Because of religious and cultural



Joyce Hunter (Photo: Rink)

biases, many professionals did not want to work with gay youth.

The youth workers also felt that gay youth were an invisible population. Many youth workers said that their agencies had no gay clients. How does one identify whether a client is gay? We have no such problems. All the youngsters coming to the Insti-

tute are self-identified lesbian or gay adolescents, or they have been known to be gay or came out to somebody else and were referred to us.

We took the information from the survey at the conference, obtained seed money to start the agency from an anonymous donor, and got a matching grant from the New York City Youth Bureau, and then we got some money from the state. We had about \$100,000 annual budget. We had three paid staff and lots of volunteers.

How do you handle bisexuality in that regard?

We stay where the client is. Many come in saying that they are bisexual and we say that that is OK. Human sexuality is a continuum, and you have heterosexuality on one side and homosexuality on the other, and sometimes you are floating somewhere in between. That's OK. It's also OK to be confused. We just let them go with the flow.

We also have many young kids who say that they are gay but they don't want to be gay. We let them process those feelings and find out where they are. We tell them that they will eventually find out who and where they are. That's a hard one. We try to be very supportive.

Some kids don't want to be gay
(Continued on next page)

SAVE OUR GAY CHILDREN

'Gay School'

(Continued from previous page)

because they are afraid of being rejected by their families, by their peers, and many times by teachers they consider their favorite teacher—somebody who is really going to help them.

So there are all these fears, and the whole fear of being found out, which causes other problems. These are the youngsters who will try to make sexual contact with the opposite sex, hoping to experiment. We have a young gay man and a young lesbian who are parents of a child because they experimented and didn't understand they should have used birth control while they were experimenting.

So one of the things we're going to look into we've already discussed this, is sex education, birth control and everything for lesbian and gay adolescents. We're finding so many problems that we hadn't even thought about. I mean, who thought that when we opened a gay agency we'd have to do sex education, including birth control, abortion, or going full term with a pregnancy if that's what they want to do?

So it runs the gamut. They're just like any other kids. One of the things we feel extremely good about is hoping to change some of the dating behavior of the young guys. Not only do we need to talk about safe sex but also helping guys learn that they can develop relationships and friendships in a non-erotic atmosphere. When they do have sex, it can be something meaningful, even playful, and at least safe sex.

Some teenagers really think they are immortal. They can't comprehend that someone can die. Some youngsters 19 to 21 are in a real panic about AIDS. There's a lot of questions for them about whether or not they can develop relationships.

What are the Institute's major programs outside of the Harvey Milk School?

We do family counseling, which has increased since the Harvey Milk School got all this publicity. We do case management, individual counseling and therapy. It's really a clinical program.

Our educational program is a major component. We average two or three trainings a week. We go into youth serving agencies and we train the staff. We discuss clinical issues, but we start out with sensitivity training: what is oppression, what is a minority person, what is gay, what is straight.

I feel that this theoretical stuff is important, but the most important thing to them is the practical stuff. Most of these people really are in need of knowing: What do I do when a kid comes in and says he's not sure? What do I do when a kid comes in and says he's gay and doesn't want to be gay?

We also go any place in the country. We've done a two-day training in Oklahoma for juvenile justice workers, for example.

So you have the educational component, and the therapy component. Anything else?

Yes, we have rap groups every night. We have two lesbian rap groups Monday and Tuesday night. Wednesday we have the mixed group. On Thursday and Friday we have the boys' group. The older boys' group is on Friday. Every other Saturday we have a tea dance. On Sundays we have a socialization and cultural program. All of these programs are for young people.

We have 900 contacts per month. We have over 500 individual clients on our caseload per year. This does not include our phone contacts.

We also do advocacy. In one case a kid was in a diagnostic center for two and a half years. Gay kids, particularly if they are effeminate and are black or hispanic, tend to be put in diagnostic centers in lieu of foster care.

What staff do you have?

Our staff includes ten volunteer counselors: psychologists, social workers, and psychiatrists who do psychiatric evaluations of children.

We also have six paid staff. We include straight people on our board and staff. However, I do feel very strongly that only gays should lead the rap groups. The rap groups are really to promote growth and self esteem. We feel it is very important for gays and lesbians to have role models.

So the Harvey Milk gay high school came out of the Institute For The Protection of Lesbian and Gay Youth?

Right. We opened the Institute in November 1983 and we opened the school about a year and one half later in April 1985. But we recognized the problem much earlier. In 1984 we started approaching the school board.

What was the problem that the Harvey Milk School was defined as solving?

A substantial number of lesbian and gay young people were not attending school. They had been humiliated within the school system, not just by their peers but by teachers as well. Some of these kids had been physically abused by their peers in school. A lot of them just did not have the coping mechanisms to deal with the traditional school system. A lot of the youngsters are kids of color who are getting dumped on twice. Not only as lesbian and gay adolescents, but also as blacks, hispanics, Asian and other minorities.

There were many kids living at home who had dropped out of school, but we also had kids living at home who were chronic truants, whose parents thought they were going to school. Some were street kids, some were living in foster care.

The street kids have other problems in addition, such as basic survival. Once we help them get their living situation stable, then the choice was, do we send this kid out to get a job, do we try to help this kid get on public assistance, or do we get him an education where he won't be stuck on public assistance.

There also is a law in New York State that anyone up to 21 is entitled to an education. We have tried to get these kids into other alternative high school programs. But a lot of our kids just didn't fit into any other programs. And the counselors were not ready to deal with our kids either. We also did a training program for all the high school counselors for the Borough of Manhattan, who then referred kids to the Institute.

So that all happened before the Harvey Milk School got organized?

They all knew that this problem existed. But there was nobody advocating for these youngsters in a constructive way with a support system to deal with it. With us they had an agency that was interested in these kids who were not attending school. It took about a year. Every step of the way there was

somebody who didn't want to make the decision to say we can go ahead. We were the only group that has sought an alternative school that was given a hassle in getting approval.

Why was it finally approved, given so much opposition?

Number one, we had a complete backup and support system for these young people. The other thing was they were only going to provide the school teacher and we said that we were going to pay for the space. We had the support of a lot of counselors in the existing schools. And we were going to be doing the counseling for the school ourselves. All the kids in the Harvey Milk School are in counseling at the Institute.

Can any gay kid go, or can any school teacher just show supposedly gay students into the school?

Absolutely not. This school is specifically for those youngsters who couldn't function in the traditional high schools. They have to come through the Institute and they are screened by us. We get their transcripts and input from their former school counselors, and then make our own assessment. All of the students must first be counseling clients of the Institute.

Is there a danger that the regular system might dump all the gay kids onto your school and it would be like a ghetto?

That is something that we really considered and this will not happen at this school, absolutely not. We've had to turn kids away and we will turn kids away. We've got to be very, very careful and I think anybody even thinking of having a gay high school better really consider what that could possibly mean. We're talking about a complete program, not a high school per se. We do not want to ghettoize these kids. This is a transitional program and we hope to mainstream them.

What is your philosophy of mainstreaming?

We hope that at some point the kids will feel good enough and feel strong enough and have the coping mechanisms to go back into the traditional high schools.

One of our youngsters went back to his old school for the summer program so that he could graduate in January.

Do you provide educational programs for the regular high school teachers and counselors?

That's a major part of what we do. Legislation is very important, but you can't legislate attitudes. The training has to be ongoing. I don't think going in once will do it.

How many students do you have?

We have 20 youngsters enrolled in the program now and we expect an increase in September. It could go up to 35 or 40 kids eventually. New York has about 8 million total population, and easily thousands of gay kids.

What are some of the essentials of the Harvey Milk School that we haven't mentioned so far?

These youngsters are at high risk for drugs, and for juvenile prostitution. The idea is to mainstream these students into being a functioning part of society, hopefully not on welfare, and to get them so that they could go on to careers or to decent jobs.

There is also frequent suicide ideation among lesbian and gay adolescents. 20 percent of the clients at the institute now come in with suicide ideation or attempts.

That is very interesting because I am sexuality consultant for San Francisco Suicide Prevention, and I don't think most people realize what high a percent of sexual minority youth in general have depression and have been suicidal.

A lot of the kids come in very depressed. 20 percent are homeless and runaway youth. Out of the homeless population, a lot of them are throwaways. But then you have the other 80 percent who are working class, middle class, upper class, kids living at home extremely isolated.

The major issue for them is social isolation. We find kids coming in extremely depressed because they are lonely. They have no one to talk to, and so you'll see them depressed for the first week or couple of weeks.

Then they start to fit in with the other kids, and it goes away. It's not because we had an ultimate cure. These kids had no real pathology, they were just lonely and that was it.

You mean they're normal kids?

Normal kids. Let me tell you a funny story. One day it was very quiet in our drop-in center, which we have every day after 2:30 p.m. Steve went back there to look, and said, "You aren't going to believe what's going on back there. I don't have the heart to stop it. You go back there."

So I go back there and see all these kids. These gay kids were playing spin the bottle. I really got choked up for a minute. I never thought that in my life time I would see enough gay kids in one room to be able to play a game that heterosexuals play all the time.

I said to them, "Look, Steve couldn't say no to you guys, but we do have rules and regulations. But I think this is just marvelous. When I was a kid I didn't know other gay people and I wish that I could have done it. But this is not the appropriate place and ya gotta stop." They all giggled and laughed and said, "OK."

This is one of my favorite issues. How can youth workers and programs facilitate youth sexuality, which I think is part of our responsibility, but society doesn't? How can we help provide privacy so that kids can be sexual, affectionate, or sensual in some kind of safe place?

I don't know. I don't have an answer for that. But we recognize that they need to socialize, they need to date, and of course they're sexual. I think that we need to recognize young people's sexuality. We try to create atmospheres like the tea dances where the kids will get off some of that sexual energy by dancing.

We're seeing kids who formerly were very dependent on their counselors, turning to each other now, because there's trust developing, and friendships developing.

Do you discuss with kids stuff like how they can manage

(Continued on next page)

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'Gay School'

(Continued from previous page)

their sexuality, how do you find partners, how do you find places, how do you find privacy?

That's done in group and in individual counseling. We find, particularly among the boys, that they tend to go out and make a sexual contact in order to develop friendships. And we're saying to them that that's not necessary. You can make that friendship, develop that relationship, and then have sex. Which will probably be a whole lot safer than having anonymous sex.

But it's also the way they relate to each other. There's no trust. They grow up without developing a sense of trust.

Are there some other main points about the school?

The Board of Education pays for the teacher. It also sets up the curriculum, so that they are learning what other youngsters learn in all the other high schools around the city.

Also, gay issues are brought up in the school. If they are talking about a famous writer, Walt Whitman for example, we mention that he is gay, because role modeling is so important. These youngsters need to know that they can be other things than the stereotypical jobs.

A lot of these kids internalize a lot of what they see on the screen. On Sundays we show and discuss films. The first was *The Boys In The Band*. I think it is a classic film. It brings up so many issues about self hate, bitchiness, and how we internalize all this homophobia.

We have a summer program now. They go on trips to

museums and to various adventure parks.

Some other places, like San Francisco, are talking about having a gay high school. What do you think are the main issues they should be concerned about?

They need to be very careful about the issue of ghettoization. Who is going to screen these youngsters going into this school?

As a lesbian activist, I have worked in the movement for many years. We have fought for equal rights, for freedom to be able to go anywhere, to any school, to any college, and to live anywhere. We don't want to teach these kids the lesson that because they're gay they have to be in a separate place.

You are really going to have to pay attention to the fact that many if not most of these youngsters are not going to want to come out. That's realistic given the way society is today, with all these homophobic attitudes.

There are counselors who will try to shove gay kids out of really good programs that they should stay in. Some homophobic counselors will probably say, "Oh no, we don't want that gay kid in our school, we'll send them over to Gay High."

You have to be very, very careful about that because there is a tendency to want to dump gay youngsters and to push them out of mainstream things. Our idea is to mainstream them.

While I think that a program like we have in New York would be good here in San Francisco and in L.A., I feel that it has to be really focused. We've learned



Joyce Hunter is a counselor who works with New York City's "gay high school," Harvey Milk High. (Photo: Rink)

that you can't be grandiose about this. You've got to start out small. You're really got to know the population you want to serve and the population that is the most needy.

And that's what the institute did. Our program was developed out of need, not something we just thought about. We recognized the needs for our entire program. We didn't say we wanted a separate high school.

It's a sad commentary on the mental health profession and the social work profession that the Institute has to exist, as a separate group to serve this population.

For cities that want to start their own programs, do you

think it's best to start with providing counseling and social services to the needy population and then have education grow out of that, or what?

Yes. I also think that if this city wants to do it they need to hook up with an agency that would be willing to do those backup support services. You'd then have a central place where the screening can be done and that will protect you against ghettoizing. You want the population that is in need of this program rather than just taking all lesbian and gay adolescents and putting them into one high school.

What we need is to get more lesbian and gay adolescent going to the proms in their neighborhood high schools. That's the goal that I would like to see. And that would be very healthy for those youngsters.

In San Francisco there has been some focus on street youth and their needs, versus the non-street youth. What percent of Harvey Milk students are street youth?

A little less than half.

Do they have different needs?

Yes, real survival issues. They go from one shelter to another. We're trying to help them get a place to stay, a job, and counsel them to get their situation stable before we put them into the school. If they're worrying about where they're going to sleep tonight, they're not going to be able to concentrate.

Some people might be surprised that any of the street youth would have ended up in any kind of high school. The fact that half of your kids do, shows that you must be doing a good job with counseling and social services.

It's been very difficult with the street population. The kids who are doing the best are those kids who were living at home. We have a few of the kids who are in foster care coming in and doing well.

Do you think the fact that your program has dances, socializing, films, outings and all these other services, provides a framework for them to be in a family community atmosphere, and that helps them stay in the school?

Yes. But it has been extremely difficult with the street kids.

What about parents? Have they been supportive?

The parents are very supportive of the Harvey Milk School. All the media has also helped

bring in more parents for family counseling.

What other gems of wisdom do you have for us?

Go slow. Make sure you have the support of people within the Board of Education. Do it individually. Do it without publicity. That's how we did it. Maybe here it is different. The gay community has a lot of clout. But you are going to have to have a lot of questions thrown at you and you are going to have to show the need and the population you want to serve.

What about the fact that there are in San Francisco several different agencies that each have little bits and pieces of the total service delivery system you offer in New York? Like one agency deals with street youth, another does this and another does that. And then the school part looks like it was started by a whole different group?

I know. It looks like you are going to have to do some coalition building here. I think you're going to have to work with a counseling agency in order for it to work.

I don't see how you're going to be able to screen these youngsters and at the same time not ghettoize them if you don't have somebody or a central location or a central agency that's going to do this work. And somebody who can really be trusted to work in the best interest of the youngster rather than what the adult's needs are.

A lot of us do have the coping mechanisms to deal with all the garbage that is thrown, and we're stronger for it. I think that lesbian and gay people are real survivors, and I think we are the only minority group that's had to do so much in silence and in hiding. And as Damien Martin puts it, we've been socialized to hide. We've had to expend so much energy on hiding, and yet so many of us are so successful.

The creation of the Harvey Milk High School makes many of us want one here. What model does it provide for us?

The major problem is social isolation. So the institute provides a daily drop-in center after school, rap groups every night, biweek tea dances, movies and discussions each Sunday, field trips, and a summer program.

The most impressive aspect of the New York model, to me, is its comprehensiveness. One

(Continued on page 19)

DEATHS

Theodore Springer II

Theodore M. Springer II of Santa Clara died Aug. 10 in a Santa Clara hospital. He is survived by his lover, parents, sister, and many loving friends. Ted worked for Control Data Corp. for the past 7 years. Funeral services were held Aug. 13 at Mission City Memorial Park in Santa Clara under the direction of Tom Simpson Funeral Counselor with the Rev. Carl Bivens officiating. Donations may be made to your favorite charity. ■

George Manierre

George M. Manierre of San Francisco died Thursday Aug. 15 in a local hospital. He was 37. George is survived by his lover Kenneth M. Koehn; parents Gloria and George Manierre; sister, Annie Kendall; and many loving friends in San Francisco. He was a member of Bonsai Society, Western Bird Breeder Society, American Federation of Aviculture, and Oragani Society. He worked for the city in the Dept. of Social Services for the past 10 years.

Funeral services were held Saturday Aug. 17 under the direction of Tom Simpson Funeral Counselor. Donations may be made in George's memory to the S.F. AIDS Foundation, 333 Valencia St., S.F. ■

Robert J. Donovan

Robert "Bob" Donovan passed away Aug. 14 at S.F. General from a sudden heart attack.

Bob was very active for years in various campaigns, projects and fund-raising programs in the community.

A native San Franciscan, he is survived by his mother, aunt and niece of Woodside, Ca., and numerous friends in the city. He will be lovingly remembered.

Donations may be made to the American Heart Association in his memory.

Memorial services will be held at the Evergreen Funeral Home at 4545 Geary Street (9th and Geary) at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 22. ■

Joe Robertson

Joe Robertson died of cancer at his home on Aug. 12, in the company of his family of friends and relatives, and his partner in business and life, Tom Edmondson.

Joe was born May 10, 1942 in Dallas, Texas. He received a degree in economics from Texas University and worked as a hospital administrator for nine years at Children's Hospital in San Francisco. He then started his own wall upholstery and custom fabric installation business. Joe was especially proud of his opportunity to be part of the custom fabric installation on various exhibitions at the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.

The tone and texture of Joe's life were shaped by his deep compassion for being human and his passion for life and love. He was president of the board of Baker Places for eight years and was elected president emeritus at the annual meeting in March of this year. Joe's dedication kept Baker Places alive through desperate times, and on June 20 one of the Baker Places at 921 Lincoln Way was named Robertson Place in his honor.

It was Joe's wish that all donations in his name be made to S.F.G.H. Patient Care Fund, Hospice of San Francisco, 225 30th St., San Francisco, CA, or Comprehensive Community Home Health and Hospice, 50 Florence St., Daly City, CA. ■

Lee A. Schroyer

Lee (Jewelry Lee) died Aug. 16 at the age of 37 years, 13 days old.

Close friends John Voyles, Carol Strachan and Bob Field; his father Adam; and sister Judy, both of Pennsylvania, survive.

Lee's most gratifying success was his active participation in Alcoholics Anonymous for the past 4 1/2 years. His wonderful spirit of surprise, the dry sense of humor and the greatest facial expressions shall remain with us for a long time.

All friends are invited to attend a memorial and celebration at his home on Sunday, Aug. 25, beginning at 4 p.m., at 3265 Harrison.

Donations to San Francisco AIDS Hospice preferred. ■

Joe Alderham

Joe Alderham died of a heart attack Aug. 12 at age 59 at the V.A. Hospital in San Francisco.

Joe was one of our flower children. He was a walking troubadour and poet who loved and touched many lives. He leaves many friends to miss him; also, his sister Betty, brothers Bob and John, and special friends

Richard Strange, Peter Fiske, Mel Frankel, and Andre Adams. He always gave more than he got. Donations to Senior Writers Group c/o George Birnisa, (Gay 40+ group) which he enjoyed and supported. ■

Kerry Caldwell

Kerry Scott Caldwell, 27, died quietly of AIDS-related conditions on Aug. 16. Kerry is survived by his mother, Dorothy; father Mancel; sister, Christie; and best friends Harold Moitosa, Todd Jakeman, Jon McCroan, Robert Castro, and Dean Conklin.

Kerry moved to San Francisco from Missouri in 1979 with his best friend Dean Conklin. Kerry worked as a typesetter for a local printing company. Kerry's love for life, San Francisco, and sharing his life and love with his friends can't be measured.

Memorial services will be held this Saturday at 5:30 p.m. at Kerry's home at 377 Roosevelt Way. Donations in Kerry's memory may be made to the S.F. AIDS Foundation 333 Valencia St., S.F. For additional information contact Harold Moitosa at 626-3182 or Tom Simpson Funeral Counselor at 626-3340. ■

Seniors Present August Festival

Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE) is proud to announce the August Moon Festival. This gala event celebrates the lives of older gay men of the San Francisco Bay Area. The August Moon Festival will take place at Francis of Assisi at 145 Guerrero Street (1 1/2 blocks from Market Street) Sunday, Aug. 25 from 2 to 6 p.m. There will be dancing and plenty of food.

The entertainment features well-known comedian Tom Amiano, the Western Star Dancers, and singer Elliot Pilshaw of the hit musical *10% Revue*. There will be a drawing for the many fabulous prizes which have been generously donated by the merchants of Polk Street and the Castro.

Suggested donation is only \$2, which includes food, refreshments, and a drawing ticket. Please tell all of your friends—old and young—to join in celebrating with our senior community. Everyone is invited. If you need transportation or can supply a ride, please call Danny at 864-3282.

Attendance is limited to 200 people (but we'll gladly make room for you), so if you want to attend, call George at 431-6254 for your advance ticket or for more information.

GLOE, a project of Operation Concern, is a social and support group for older lesbians and gay men living in the San Francisco area. GLOE offers a social environment for lesbian and gay seniors through social and cultural activities, including dances, educational workshops, in-home visits, parties, volunteer services, counseling, and support services. ■

Speaker's Bureau Training

The community United Against Violence needs volunteers to participate in the very critical work of educating youth about the reality of gay life. The involvement of youth in anti-gay violence is a documented fact. CUAV's Speaker's Bureau program seeks to offer high school-age youth an opportunity to confront their fears and myths before those fears translate into violence on the streets.

Training for speakers will take place Saturday, Sept. 7, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Pride Center, 890 Hayes, near Fillmore. Bring a bag lunch. For information and registration, call Carmen or Midgett at 864-3112. ■

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G BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

OAKLAND

Persistent Pommels

Digital Hypate
(A Reminding Nose)

Dell Madill and Mercy Oria, a unique mother/son singing team, who were such a success at Big Mama's last June, are eagerly awaiting their encore performance at those environs this Thursday, Aug. 22, with showtime at 8 p.m.

The year's annual Turf Club Carnival will be celebrated this weekend, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Aug. 23, 24, and 25. Jim anticipates its being bigger than ever before, what with predictions of not only the patio being utilized, but the adjoining parking lot as well! Jack, Jim, and Daniel welcome all for a fun-filled weekend.

The "lovely" Little Mother presents an Auction for Pierre at Paradise on Sunday, Aug. 25. It will start at 4 p.m. and donations are needed. Call Little Mother at 430-1343, or bring saleable merchandise early the day of the auction.

Bill's The Eagle is the site this year for Rick Woolley's Hat and Sunglasses soiree. He intends it to be strictly for "good time fun," so he's presenting a barbecue, raffles, and a \$50 prize for best portrayal of the theme. Those in costume will be admitted for \$1.50; those without, \$3. Proceeds from the event will go toward Emperor and Empress pins for Coronation '85.

Speaking of which, Coronation '85 will be held Saturday, Sept. 21, at Oakland Convention Center (George P. Scotlan Memorial), 550 Tenth St., Oakland. The theme for this year is "Feathers & Flash — Flesh & Fantasies," with ticket prices of \$12 prior to Sept. 12, \$15 thereafter, at the door. The out-of-town show will be held at the Turf Club Friday, Sept. 20, at 8 p.m.; the victory brunch and awards

will be held Sunday, Sept. 22, at Paradise, starting at 11 a.m.

CONCOURS PAS DU TOUT
(A "where's-the-choice?" Nose)

The aforementioned Coronation won't be any kind of a contest this year if my sources are correct!

What with the deadline for applications being of a two-week's vintage, a like number of intrepid personae were the only aspirants vying for hegemony of ACIE's hepta-incumbency.

If I remember correctly, and at my age that's sometimes difficult, a recent coronation down Long Beach way had only one candidate for Emperor. In keeping with the dictates of proper voting procedures, the ballot had "yes elect/no elect" as the choices. The "no elect" won! You don't suppose that very same syndrome could occur here, do you?

I'm positive Paul V. and Lady Johnny are sincere in their desires to run for the titles; but the "no competition" should speak volumes, not only to them, but the entire county as well. The same six to ten people just cannot support a court; especially when ebbing advergence is so evident. Isn't an empire entitled to "death with dignity" just as people are? Or is it the condition of the greater cost (in all its meanings) of putting an idea into operation, the less chance there is of deep sixing the idea?

SEPTET BACCHANALIA
(A Wool & Copper Nose?)

Last Saturday marked the seventh anniversary of the Lake Lounge, and quite an afternoon and evening it was! Starting at 2 p.m. there were drawings every

hour (on the hour, as regular as well, clock work!) with such offerings as multi-varieties of potted plants, bottles of Schnapps and champagne, dinners and brunches. Somehow, none of my tickets contained any of the lucky numbers, but a respective amount of customers walked away with their fortuitous offerings.

A continuous hors d'oeuvres table supplied nibbles throughout the celebration, and thanks are hereby rendered to all who

participated in their preparation. I was informed that the spectacular buffet would contain a barbecued goat; but previous commitments wouldn't allow my staying for that fantastic repast.

The first of the two shows was delayed, not because of tardiness of the participants — Cherree and Tootsi — but because of cunctation of their music. Well, that's what happens when you depend upon someone else to deliver the goods. All they could do was stand around looking

pretty, waiting for the "arrival of the excuses."

An unexpected preview, if you will, was presented by Bill D., who just happened to have cassette handy, and makeup and drag on. His rendition of Cheery Beery Bin brought diverse reactions from the assemblage. Billy Bahr's chortles were, indeed, contagious.

Remember, the bigger they are, the more persistently they pommel. Who can smile? Love.

■ Nez



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Death Valley Rose Finishes Trek

There were scorpions, a sandstorm, and mostly just the 120-degree heat, but none of it stopped Death Valley Rose from completing her fund-raising walk to fight AIDS.

Patty Rose, 30, is an Oakland nurse who is straight and who thinks more attention and support should be given to the AIDS crisis. A military reservist, Rose previously crossed the desert in 1979 to raise money for cancer research—riding a bicycle.

This time, Death Valley Rose walked. On Friday she walked 30 miles and on Saturday did another 35. But a sandstorm with winds up to 40 knots kept her to just 15 miles. She made up for lost time and completed the route Tuesday at Jubilee Pass.

Rose walked alone but was preceded by a support van. The walkathon crew and Rose rested between shifts at a motel midway along the route.

The walk was a fund-raiser for Mobilization Against AIDS. A welcome home party for Rose is set for 7:30 to 9 p.m. Friday at the Baybrick Inn in San Francisco.

(Photo: Mick Hicks)

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Sacto Sheriff: No CPR for Gays

Health Authorities, Gay Leaders Question Lawman's 'AIDS Bulletin'

by George Mendenhall

"I think it's crazy," Gary Miller responded. "Are they saying they are not going to save a person's life because he may have AIDS?" Miller, a gay man who is chair of the Sacramento Democratic Central Committee, was expressing his surprise at a bulletin issued last week to deputies by Sheriff Robbie Waters.

The bulletin cautioned that when deciding to give mouth-to-mouth resuscitation (CPR), a deputy's decision "should be carefully weighed as to the potential consequences" if the person is a male homosexual or drug user.

Miller, former president of the local Toklas Democratic Club, said, "Sheriff Waters has been a friend so we are surprised. He is acting out of paranoia and misinformation—just like the average American is. He has a police mentality background plus a macho image of law enforcement. I don't think deputies like the idea of putting their mouths on the mouths of gay men. Period."

Sacramento gay activist Boyce Hinman, who serves on a sheriff's advisory committee, responded "Well, maybe giving CPR is a risk. But isn't taking risks part of their job? They take risks all the time—such as when they use guns."

Gay activists were asking how the deputies could determine if a person who is unconscious is gay. Police departments general-

it. However, both Garten and Miller said the sheriff acted quickly to stop homophobia in his own department on two occasions.

Waters may be issuing a statement about his directive after meeting with local gay community leaders next Monday. ■

Troy Perry to Visit MCC San Jose

Metropolitan Community Church founder Rev. Troy Perry will speak at MCC San Jose the weekend of Aug. 23-25. He will preach at a Friday evening worship service at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 7 p.m., and Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Grace Baptist Church building, 484 E. San Fernando Street on the corner of 10th Street in San Jose. In addition, Rev. Perry will present the San Jose premiere of the MCC's documentary film, *God, Gays and the Gospel: This is Our Story*, Saturday evening. ■

Chorus Audition

The Redwood Empire Glee Club, Sonoma County's gay chorus, will audition new members for the 1985-1986 season in early September, with weekly rehearsals beginning shortly thereafter. While prior vocal experience is a plus, it is not required. All interested gay men and lesbians in the Sonoma County/North Marin area are invited to contact the director, Jane Ballou, (707) 575-7107 (evenings), for more information. ■

Gay Evangelicals Sponsor Four-Day Conference

Evangelicals Concerned, a national organization of lesbian and gay Christians of evangelical tradition, their families, friends, and those involved in ministry to the gay and lesbian community, announces its 5th annual Western Connection conference to be held Aug. 30 to Sept. 2 at the Saint Francis Retreat Center, San Juan Bautista, California.

The four-day conference will offer an anticipated 150 registrants a variety of small-group workshops, addresses, opportunities for worship and ministry, as well as recreation and social activities. The focus of the Labor Day weekend will be centered on the theme "With Eyes Wide Open To The Mercies of God." Keynote speakers will include

Ralph Blair, founder of Evangelicals Concerned and practicing psychotherapist in New York City; Letha Scanzoni, writer, lecturer and co-author of *Is The Homosexual My Neighbor?*; and John Alexander, contributing editor to *The Other Side* magazine.

Casting itself as a "ministry of reconciliation between gay and lesbian Christians and concerned evangelicals," the organization sponsors three such conferences each summer, bringing together Christian gay and lesbian people for fellowship, encouragement, and nurture in discipleship. Inquiries should be addressed to E.C. Conference Registration, P.O. Box 1124, Pasadena, Ca., 94102. ■

Sonoma Group Seeks Volunteers

Face to Face, the Sonoma County AIDS Network is seeking persons interested in part-time volunteer positions as office manager, information and referral service coordinator, volunteer coordinator, and volunteer program coordinator.

The agency seeks persons sensitive to Gays, Lesbians, and AIDS issues. Persons 55 years old and above may be entitled to work under Title V federal regulations. If interested, please call (707) 869-2526, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. ■

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L.A. Law Bans Discrimination Based on AIDS

City Council Unanimous; Britt Proposes S.F. Law

by George Mendenhall

Los Angeles last week became the first city in the nation to adopt a law banning discrimination against people with AIDS. San Francisco Supervisor Harry Britt introduced similar legislation this week although how close it will resemble L.A. legislation has not been determined. The new anti-discrimination ordinance would include amending the current city anti-discrimination ordinance to include employers with five or fewer workers.

The local Human Rights Commission is currently investigating 13 cases in which gay men were fired after it was learned that they had been diagnosed with AIDS. One man was fired after it was learned that his lover had the disease.

Britt told a press conference, "There is no valid reason for people with AIDS or AIDS-related conditions to be thrown out of their jobs, houses or local businesses." He said that he is pleased that Supervisors Doris Ward, Bill Maher, Nancy Walker, Carol Ruth Silver, and Richard Honigisto had joined him in introducing the legislation. Britt is hopeful that it will be passed by the Board within the next month.

L.A. ORDINANCE

The Los Angeles ordinance, which took effect immediately, was signed into law on Friday by Mayor Tom Bradley. While it does not have criminal sanctions for violators (such as an ordinance later passed by West Hollywood) and is educational in nature, it is far-reaching in its scope. The ordinance passed by the city council unanimously.

The new law, introduced by Councilman Joel Wachs, makes it illegal to discriminate against a person with AIDS. It will affect dentists, doctors, and other medical workers as well as employers, landlords, restaurants, and public schools. Blood



Joel Wachs (Photo: Rink)

and sperm banks are exempt from compliance.

The ordinance bars employers from requiring gay employees to take tests to prove that they do not have AIDS.

Bradley told a press conference, "I think what we must attempt to make clear here is that misinformation, public apprehension, and hysteria are the enemies—not the AIDS victims."

Dr. Shirley Fannin, the L.A. county communicable disease control director, helped draft the ordinance. She said, "The law seeks to reassure people that the disease cannot be transmitted through casual contact but only through a significant exchange of

blood and blood products and through sexual activity." The wording of the ordinance includes that explanation.

Wachs said he was disturbed that one television station crew was reluctant to cover the council meeting where the measure was passed unanimously when it learned that AIDS patients would be present.

Wachs said, "That is the kind of ludicrous, unreasonable fear that we are going to stop. A society which should be showing compassion to people who are ill is often shunning them like lepers." The longtime gay rights advocate added that 30 cities have requested copies of the new law.

The councilman fought to retain criminal sanctions in his legislation but he was defeated in a council committee. City attorneys had argued that it would be difficult to obtain criminal convictions and might unnecessarily complicate the ordinance.

Under the adopted ordinance, the city attorney's office is to mediate with those charged with discriminating. If that fails, the city could file a temporary restraining order and file a lawsuit asking for punitive or actual monetary damages.

L.A. County Tops 1,000 AIDS Cases

The Los Angeles County Department of Health Services reports 1,060 confirmed cases of AIDS as of July 31, an increase of 67 cases since June.

The mortality percentage is 52 percent, manifested by 547 deaths out of the 1,060 cases reported at this time, an increase of 37 reported fatalities due to AIDS since May.

At present in Los Angeles County, 90 preliminary reports are pending further investigation and confirmation by the Center for Disease Control.

EDITORIAL SUPPORT

Major newspapers continue with an exhilarated barrage of articles about AIDS research and such side issues as whether actors should now kiss actresses. The extensive coverage began with the revelation that actor Rock Hudson had the disease. This Sunday, Aug. 18, both the Los Angeles Times and the New York Times editorialized on AIDS.

The Los Angeles Times congratulated the city council for its passage of the AIDS bias ordin-

ance while chiding the county Board of Supervisors for its inaction. "The supervisors need to get their heads out of the sand and recognize the menace that AIDS presents," the L.A. Times said.

In an Aug. 13 editorial, the Times called for a halt to hysteria: "People are justifiably frightened by AIDS, but no one is helped by misinformation and myth" and said that a vaccine and cure is needed but these efforts are "not helped by uninformed reactions that do more harm than good."

The Sunday New York Times editorial discussed how AIDS is passed and urged that the public not overreact by discriminating against AIDS patients.

The New York Times concluded, "Caution seems advisable, despite clear epidemiological evidence that the disease spreads only through intimate contact. While the disease rages, education and compassion are the only weapons immediately at hand."

W. Hollywood Says No More Christmas

Attempt to Equalize Holidays Leads to Innovative 'Float' Days

by George Mendenhall

The West Hollywood City Council, with its 3-2 gay majority, continues to plunge into innovation and controversy. Last week the council abolished Christmas as an official city holiday.

In fairness, the council abolished official Yom Kippur status as well. It was reacting to a national legal precedent that says Jewish Holidays are religious—but Christmas is not.

The what-to-do-about Christmas controversy began this spring when the council added Yom Kippur to its official list of city holidays. West Hollywood has a large Jewish population.

City Attorney Michael Jenkins informed the city council last week that when it passed an ordinance in March authorizing the Jewish Holiday Yom Kippur as a city holiday, it had violated the constitutional protections against the separation of church and state.

The U.S. Supreme Court has determined that Christmas is a secular holiday and the council, he urged, cannot establish a religious holiday. Yom Kippur is the Jewish "Day of Atonement," a holiday when observant Jews are expected to pray for forgiveness for past sins.

The solution? City workers now will be granted 4½ "floating" days as holidays. They can select for themselves to observe Christmas, Yom Kippur, or some other religious or secular holiday with the "floating" time.

The council also unanimously elected John Heilman as its mayor, without incident. Council member Helen Albert told

B.A.R., "It went smoothly and everyone was complimentary to each other."

Earlier this month, friends of outgoing Mayor Valerie Terrigno solicited 3,500 signatures in an attempt to persuade the council to retain her in office. However, Albert reported no petitions were submitted at the Aug. 16 meeting. Heilman will serve the second mayoral 8-month term, as originally agreed to by the council when it took office earlier this year.

Mounting discrimination against people with AIDS was also a council consideration. The body passed an emergency ordinance which prohibits discrimination against people with AIDS in housing, employment, medical care facilities, educational institutions and businesses.

The Aug. 16 council meeting ran smoothly with a minimum of conflict. Earlier this month, the council members spent a weekend in Santa Barbara with a psychologist in an attempt to resolve their personality differences and to determine how members might better work together.

'Gay School'

(Continued from page 14)

gay agency provides all these social opportunities for youth, plus: crisis intervention, suicide prevention, case management, sex and "safe sex" education, high school education, social skill development counseling; family, group, and individual therapy; and psychiatric evaluations and advocacy for gay youth who are clients of other programs.

The program provides more than all the gay youth programs in San Francisco combined. What makes it so successful? Possibly it is that they started with providing direct services to sexual minority youth and then adding an education component only after establishing credibility. Any group wishing to organize such a program should probably start with:

• **NEEDS ASSESSMENT**—What are the sexual minority youth population figures and their special service needs here?

• **ANALYSIS OF EXISTING SERVICES**—What services

are provided this population, or planned for, and what are the gaps?

• **COORDINATION WITH PROFESSIONALS**—What do the people think who already work with this population?

• **IDENTIFICATION OF GOALS**—To improve education for gay youth, maybe a tutoring and counseling program is needed. To reduce homophobic harassment, let's expand the Demystifying Homosexuality program of the Lesbian and Gay Speakers Bureau. To help street youth, let's strengthen Larkin Street and the Hospitality House programs.

• **LEADERSHIP**—Success requires leadership that is expert and experienced with providing these services to this population, and has the respect of the community.

• **COMMUNITY SUPPORT**—Do the programs in this field and the lesbian/gay/bi organizations support this new project?

R. H. Morey

Thrift Store Gives \$13,000; Seeks Larger Headquarters

The Community Thrift Store will distribute \$13,457.55 to lesbians, gay and other organizations, according to its most recent financial report. This money is from the quarter ending March 31, 1985. The distribution is subject to routine review by the directors of the San Francisco Tavern Guild Foundation.

The biggest beneficiaries are shown below (AIDS oriented groups are show in bold type).

• San Francisco AIDS Foundation	\$2,501.36
• Shanti Project	6,131.33
• Metropolitan Community Church - SF	106.00
• Women's Building, Inc.	332.00
• Women, Inc.	140.14
• Metropolitan Community Church - GG	179.28
• Suicide Prevention	128.77
• Casa De Las Madres	156.63
• Alcoholics Anonymous	112.14
• Ward 5 Fund	243.78
• AIDS Emergency Fund	623.48
• Hartford Street Zen Center	186.78
• Hospice of San Francisco, AIDS Unit	331.37
• Larkin Street Youth Center	156.81
• Student League of San Francisco	178.86

Since opening in September 1982, the Thrift Store has distributed over \$91,000 to lesbian, gay and other groups. It is an impressive harvest from an \$8,000 seed-loan.

Manager Don Meisen said he regrets that their profit distribution is less than the quarter preceding, even though total income continues to rise. "We're pushing more and more donations through the same space and our labor costs have risen disproportionately. We're selling bulky items like refrigerators, sofas, stoves, desks and hideabeds for half what other thrift stores charge. And really nice stuff."

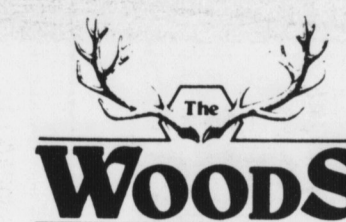
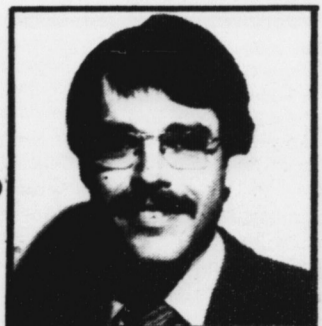
"The Answer is to get more space, or open a branch to take off the pressure and to let us get closer to market prices on the big items," Meisen said.

Volunteers are a big part of the store's success. People who could donate one or more 4-hour shifts per week should call 861-4910 or go by the store at 625 Valencia, between 17th and 18th Streets. Help is needed in cashiering, stock work, clean-up, drivers and warehouse work. The store is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. every day.

Community Thrift Store
625 Valencia Street
Quarter Ending March 31, 1985

Income	\$61,262.02
Expenses	41,714.80
Profit	\$19,547.22
To Reserve	\$ 6,089.67
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Real Life
 Deadly Lies
 by John Preston
 Alyson Publications, \$4.95
 by Paul Reed

With this third volume in the Alex Kane series, John Preston establishes a firm commitment to this newest of Gay genres, the Gay male action novel. Last fall the series—called "The Mission of Alex Kane"—began with *Sweet Dreams* and was quickly followed by *Golden Years*.

This third installment re-introduces us to Gay avenger Alex Kane, a handsome hulk of a man whose mission in life is to avenge the homophobic murder of his lover by attacking anti-Gay activities wherever they occur. Alex Kane's new lover, young Danny Fortelli (who we first met in *Sweet Dreams*), joins forces with Kane, and we learn, in this book, that Danny becomes empowered by his own mission of vengeance—to avenge the death of his best friend Sy, murdered at the hands of teenage punks who toss him, unable to swim, into Boston's Charles River. The parallel to the drowning of Charles Howard in Maine last summer is not accidental.

Together, the two lovers embark on a mission to uncover a series of anti-Gay set-ups in Minneapolis, and the premise of this plot is captivating. What appears to be a series of corrupt activities occurring within the Minneapolis Gay community are actually "dirty tricks" set up by power-hungry straight politicians who know how to milk the public's innate fear of homosexuality.

While maintaining a high level of suspense throughout, *Deadly Lies* contains more violence than the earlier Kane books. I had some trouble with this, for the flavor of murder, mayhem, hired guns, arson, and torture do not always settle well as entertainment, especially now; I look around us at all the violence and ask myself if more violence is an answer.

Do we profit by entertaining vengeful, violent fantasies, such as this book? Or ought we not try to respond in some other way, out of love, education, sharing?

The rejoinder to my own questions is that while violence may be (rightfully) repugnant, the fact is that we are surrounded by it. And while we must always keep other options foremost in our minds, to turn away from the depiction of violence in a novel because it makes one uncomfortable is akin to burying one's head in the sand.

I don't have to like it, but it's there. What a fictional (!) character like Alex Kane does is mete out justice for acts which ought to be brought to justice. As entertainment—as fantasy—this discharges pent-up frustrations and anger over the real madness of prejudice that seems to go unavenged in real life: continued anti-Gay violence on the MUNI and on the streets; the insane and indefensible Pontius Pilate-like stance of a governor and president who wash their hands of crisis and slash AIDS funding, knowing full well what they're doing, who they're letting die; the constant and unnecessary harangue of extreme Right Wing terrorists like Jerry Falwell and his Moral Majority who would visit a new Middle Ages upon us.

But a novel is not real life, nor is it even necessarily a reflection of real life. The real lesson of something like an Alex Kane action story is to remind us that something has got to be done. To this end, John Preston provides us with entertainment which carries not example but the germ of positive activism, an enraging and sometimes disturbing reminder that there is no Alex Kane in real life, no Santa Claus to make things right. We have to read an Alex Kane book for its entertainment value and its moral—that to sit by and do nothing is tantamount to approval. Alex Kane recognizes that we are engaged in battle, and where in fantasy he wages the war with physical action, in real life we can take our heroes' and myth-makers' advice and get going to fight for a little justice. ■

Phallocracy Shafted
 The Reign of the Phallus: Sexual Politics in Ancient Athens
 by Eva C. Keuls
 Harper and Row, \$27.50
 by Marv. Shaw

For many decades now, Gay men have pointed with pride to the socially institutionalized homosexuality in the prime model of Western civilization. Ancient Greece. But here we have Professor Keuls pointing out that such social acceptance was much more limited and heavily qualified than John Addington Symonds and the Gay oriented extollers since either knew or were willing to recognize.

But even more important than that, Keuls shows in voluminous, graphic, convincing detail that the phallus was the omnipresent symbol of the absolute dominance of the male throughout the entire culture. The result was an oppression of women so thorough and crushing that our usual bright picture of a democratic, humanistic early state must be heavily shadowed.

Most people with any acquaintance with the history of Western civilization understand that slavery was an accepted part of the Athenian social system, just as it was in almost all early cultures. The more sophisticated student also realizes that Athenian citizenship was not a penny candy prize; there were numerous strict requirements. But because the mythology has involved such glamorous figures as Aphrodite, Hera, Demeter, and Athena, we have unthinkingly drifted into the assumption that the Greek female was the equal of the male.

Keuls demonstrates that nothing could be farther from the truth. In a methodical fashion she shows how the Athenian female was imprisoned, exploited, thwarted, and denigrated during that classical period of the Fifth and Fourth Centuries B.C., when the state itself was at the supposed height of its glory.

The author's investigation reaches into many areas relevant to the lives of women of the period: domestic position, sexual function, ritual roles, presence in art—and more. In each of these explorations, Keuls shows that most women led lives that were severely circumscribed. They were heavily disciplined servants confined to areas of the home separated from the men's. If they were not wives, they were most likely whores. Their ceremonial role was almost exclusively mourning. Naturally, they had no part whatsoever in the governance of the state.

Keuls exploits Attic ceramic painting for the greater part of her data. Combining art and handicraft, these objects of daily use present us with anecdotal material strongly illustrative of the author's thesis, that the women were subjugated by the men, with actual penises and symbolic phalluses recurring ad nauseum to show that was so. Keul's search was worldwide, even unto Toledo, Ohio, would you believe?

Classicist Keuls uses a certain mysterious event in Athenian history as a dramatic focal point in her presentation: the overnight mutilation of the herms in front of the homes and many of the other buildings of the city. The "herms" were statues with the head, neck, and sometimes the shoulders of the god Hermes mounted on a plain shaft, which still had a penis projecting at the proper height. The penises had been lopped off.

The city went into shock. Charges of villainy flew. What would have been considered horrendous desecration at any time seemed even more despicable at that point in history, when

Athens was facing defeat in its prolonged and vitiating war with Sparta. In addition, Athens had just finished a hideous conquest of Miletos, in which the men had all been slaughtered, and the women and children enslaved. Also, the Athenians, inflamed by that unscrupulous macho scapegrace Alcibiades, were mounting a massive invasion of Sicily. Military phallicism was rampant.

The women, Keuls suggests, could very well have been responsible for this event, partly because they were stimulated by one of the very few festivals of their very own, the Adonia. The other motivation might very well be expressed by a transposition of a principle from physics: Every action has an equal and opposite reaction.

Finally, what of that vaunted Greek Gayness? Keuls suggests that it was nothing more than an odd adaptation the Athenians institutionalized as a socially convenient means of education. Because his own son was basically too much of a competitor, the Athenian father became a lover of some other man's son and became also mentor to the maturing youth. This "beloved" was trained in the manly arts and copulated with intercrurally, that is between the thighs. Traditionally, the lad was supposed to dislike that. But in the face of a stronger power, what could he do? He was as used as his mother or the whores his lover also patronized.

Affairs between men of equal status were socially disapproved. After all, in such a democratic situation, who would have been clearly the dominant and the submissive? ■

FILM CLIPS
 REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

The Return of the Living Dead
The Bride
 Dead People Are So Boring

Orion Pictures cleverly tried to pawn this turkey off as a spoof. I guess they figured it was so bad, we would laugh at it, so why not sell it that way. Close, but no cigar, fellows, because *Return of the Living Dead* is neither funny nor particularly scary. It is a flimsy excuse for nudity (female), gore, and gross-out, unspecial effects.

The Army has produced a gas that brings corpses alive. They have buried the chemical in canisters, which have been mistakenly shipped to a medical supply warehouse where they are erroneously opened like the proverbial can of worms. What starts as preposterous just gets dumber and dumber, with a bunch of deadhead actors, including Clu Gallagher, who sound like rejects from *The Gong Show*.

With lots of punk music and yelling and screaming, the ghouls come out, crying "Brains, brains!" as they dig in to any live ones they can find.

Brains, by the way, are like chicken. It is polite to eat them with your fingers.

But *The Return of the Living Dead* is a classic compared to the remake of *The Bride of Frankenstein*.

The Bride has Sting, as Dr. Frankenstein, bring the corpse of Jennifer Beals to life. Therein lies the fatal flaw of the film directed gravely by Frank Roddam. Beals brings no life to her back-from-the-dead role.

Of course, she has no help from Sting, who as an actor is a good lead singer for a rock group. He and the film could have used his group, The Police, here, because at least then there might be something arresting.

The film is stillborn. After a rousing beginning when Beals is born again, the original monster, Clancy Brown, runs off and is enlisted by midget David Rappaport to join the circus in Budapest, where everyone speaks with a Cockney accent. More time is spent following these two around a lushly photographed, costumed, and set Europe than with Sting and Beals. Wise choice, but not enough to save the plotless film.

When Beals starts sounding like Gloria Steinem, I would say the film really goes downhill, but then again, you can't fall off the floor, can you?

Wasted are Geraldine Page and Quentin Crisp, and two hours, count them (and you will, of your time. Divorce yourself from this one. ■

(Dead: *Galaxy - Bride*: Cinema 21)
 M. Lasky



A group of ghouls in *Return of the Living Dead*

Year of the Dragon
 ... Breath

In a film that is certain to insult just about everyone except gays and Jews, Michael Cimino makes his return to the screen after his mega-disaster, *Heaven's Gate*. *Year of the Dragon* makes that bomb look like a masterpiece as it hits you over the head, slaps you in the face, and gives you whiplash with its furious, violent pacing and its vindictive, monotone slam at Chinese gangs in New York's Chinatown.

'Cimino directs each scene as if from the frontline of a war zone, figuring, I guess, that stimuli overload will make the audience overlook the rotten script.'

Mickey Rourke, with the addition of some 15-year aging hair coloring, plays an obsessive cop assigned to clean up gang warfare in Chinatown. But coming on like Rambo, he is antisocial, anti-hero, anti-everything, giving us no "good guy" to identify with.

The Chinese godfather, played flatly by John Lone, comes across as a master menace who wants to control all of New York's crime, yet he works out of the back of a Chinese restaurant. Complicating the story is an Oriental newscaster portrayed with all the passion of lemon Jello by Ariane, who gets involved with Rourke.

Cimino directs each scene as if from the frontline of a war zone, figuring, I guess, that stimuli overload will make the audience overlook the rotten script.

Year of the Dragon is like a Chinese menu. One from column A—awful, one from column B—bad. ■

(Northpoint)
 M. Lasky

Volunteers
 Thai Schtick

The only unpredictable thing about *Volunteers* is that it was directed by Nicholas Meyer, who probably needed to do a comedy following *The Day After*.

He carries us quickly back to 1962 with shots of JFK, the twist, Speedy Alka-Seltzer, 23.9-cent gas and Rock Hudson with Doris Day, among others. Tom Hanks, sounding like an Ivy League Cary Grant, is graduating from Yale, but first he runs up a \$28,000 gambling debt he can't pay, even though "The family owns the state of Maine ... We consider Washington our general store."

To save his ass Hanks trades places with a classmate who's joined the Peace Corps, and the next thing he knows he's landing in a field of poppies—not in Oz but Thailand. He doesn't even spend one night in Bangkok, but goes directly to the village where he, hyperzealous John Candy, and Jewish princess Rita Wilson, a debuting actress in the Jane Fonda/Sigourney Weaver mold, are supposed to direct the building of a

22 on the Red

"22 on the Red" a night of gaming, dancing, entertainment, and pure fun, will be held at the Galleria Design Center, 1 Henry Adams St., Saturday, Sept. 21.

This annual event, sponsored by the Golden Gate Business Association Foundation, will be full of surprises, including featured guest stars, special prize drawings, and lots more.

Music for dancing will be provided by City Swing, the city's newest band group, and will also

feature entertainment by the Popular San Francisco Tap Troupe.

The theme will be the look of the '20s, and "speakeasy" attire is encouraged, along with the usual formal wear with touches of red.

Tickets for "22 on the Red" are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door, and are available at Headlines, All American Boy, Ticketron, Downtown Center Box Office, or charge by phone by calling 956-8677. ■

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Congratulations Death Valley Rose

You Did It!!!

Patty Rose has succeeded in walking 134 miles across Death Valley in only 5 days, enduring an enormous amount of physical pain, and braving temperatures which exceeded 120 degrees Fahrenheit. She courageously defied the worst nature had to offer, including winds pushing her in the opposite direction, dust devils, scorpions, and a sand storm. In doing so, Patty has given her "Personal Best" to spotlight the AIDS issue and raise money for the Mobilization Against AIDS. And now, Patty has challenged ALL Americans to do their "Personal Best" to defeat AIDS. Specifically, she has challenged President Reagan to personally and publicly discuss AIDS for the first time by saying, "If I can walk through Death Valley in the middle of the summer, the least the President can do is say the word AIDS." She has also raised thousands of dollars for the Mobilization Against AIDS, the non-partisan AIDS political organization. Donations to the Mobilization may still be sent in support of Patty's walk.

PATTY'S SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS IN DEATH VALLEY WERE:

Dean Sandmire, Mark Jones,
Richard Rector, Michael Arsenault,
Ric Severtson, Mick Hicks

Official Sponsors of the Patty Rose Death Valley Walk Were:

INDIVIDUALS:

- ★ Honorable Art Agnos - Assemblyman
- ★ Jerome Berbiar
- ★ Honorable Harry Britt - Supervisor
- ★ Honorable Dianne Feinstein - Mayor
- ★ Honorable Michael Hennessey - Sheriff
- ★ Tom Lloyd
- ★ Honorable John Molinari - President S.F. Board of Supervisors
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Special thanks to Now, Voyager Travel for providing Patty's official van.

Mobilization Against AIDS is a non-partisan political organization which was formed to secure an adequate response to AIDS from government, on a local, state, and federal level.

Among MAA's credits are the highly successful Memorial Day Candlelight Vigils in support of people with AIDS in 40 cities on four continents. We've sent a delegation to Washington, D.C. to confront Congress and the Administration. In July, due to MAA's urging, the House of Representatives held Congressional Hearings in San Francisco to question the adequacy of current Federal AIDS funding. MAA insisted that the California State Legislature GUARANTEE anonymity in its Alternative Testing Sites and we won. We're conducting a nationwide petition drive demanding substantial increases in AIDS funding, and to stop the use of AIDS as an excuse to violate people's civil rights.

Future activities include lobbying the California State Legislature to restore State AIDS funding recently cut by the Governor, fighting the irresponsible inaction on AIDS by the Federal Government, and calling for a National Day of Accounting on AIDS Sept. 30, 1985.

Welcome Home Party

Congratulate Patty Rose in Person and her Support Team

Friday August 23,
7:30-9:30 PM
at the Baybrick Inn
1190 Folsom Street

No admission - All invited to attend
(Pledges may be paid at party if desired)

Yes! I'll send a check in support of Patty's walk and the Mobilization Against AIDS!

Enclosed is \$ _____.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone: (____) _____ - _____

Donations of food for People With AIDS may be given to the Food Banks of the AIDS Foundation and the AIDS Interfaith Network.

Mobilization Against AIDS,
335 Noe Street
San Francisco, California 94114
(415) 431-4660

BAY AREA REPORTER

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Insurers Want Test For AIDS Antibodies

They Lobby to Repeal Law Which Protects Confidentiality of Blood Test Results

by Ray O'Loughlin

California life and health insurance companies have begun efforts to repeal portions of A.B. 403, the state law guaranteeing the confidentiality of HTLV-3 antibody test results. The insurers are seeking the power to order those tests themselves on prospective insurance buyers. They want to use the results, plus other screening devices, to prevent people at risk of contracting AIDS from obtaining insurance.

A group called the Association of California Life Insurance Companies has been privately circulating a position paper among state legislators outlining the industry's concerns regarding AIDS.

Citing high medical costs and the early median age of death for people with AIDS, the position paper states, "AIDS represents a potentially catastrophic situation for the life and health insurance business."

'Insurance companies should be allowed to order their own tests.'
Lobbying Memo

The paper also identifies AIDS as a "sexually transmissible disease" that "tends to be highly prevalent in those metropolitan areas that have large 'gay' communities." Although intravenous drug users and hemophiliacs are also identified as high risk populations, the report states "having multiple sex partners (heterosexual or homosexual) at high risk" for AIDS.

(Continued on next page)



Mary Morgan, Benji Alexander and Roberta Achtenberg: Bringing up baby is a family affair. (Photo: Rink)

Bringing Up Baby

Lesbian Judge, Lesbian Lawyer Give Birth to Dream Child

by George Mendenhall

"There are a lot of things that have happened in my life in which I was making a statement. This is not one of them," Municipal Judge Mary Morgan says. "This involved Roberta and I and is a personal, private matter. If there is any point that we wish to make it is that a lot of people in our community are having children and adopting them—that it is possible."

Benjamin Alexander Morgan Achtenberg was born July 26 at Children's Hospital. The baby weighed 6 pounds, 12 ounces at birth. "Such a little guy to have four names," Roberta Achtenberg quips.

The equal and sharing parents are Morgan and lesbian civil rights attorney Roberta Achtenberg, who have been loving companions for three years. Although somewhat exhausted from a lack of sleep, they are thrilled from their first four weeks of raising Benji in their Castro area flat.

There have been many cards and telephone calls of congratulations. Morgan is delighted that

"There is a genuine feeling from some people who would never have children themselves, who are congratulating us. Some are saying, 'It is nice to have some kids in our community and we are rooting for you.'"

The support has not just been from the lesbian and gay community. Achtenberg and Morgan look forward to October when Morgan's parents visit from Arlington, Va. Morgan says they are thrilled and excited over the new baby.

PRIVATE AFFAIR

The couple did not want sensational media coverage of what they consider a private matter. They have refused interviews. Three months ago they agreed to discuss their experience in *Bay Area Reporter* when they felt the time was right.

Achtenberg stresses, "We were taking a big step in our lives so we would not be public about it. While this is a private matter, we also have a desire to give as much legitimacy as we can to things that we believe in. We are people with families—whether we have children or not. We happen to have chosen to have a child. This interview now gives us an oppor-

(Continued on page 11)

IN THIS ISSUE

PRAYERS were added to the fight against AIDS this past weekend. Catholic Archbishop John Quinn highlighted a 40-hour devotion—a ritual dating to the medieval Black Plague. Some said the church was doing too little too late. **Page 3.**

AND A LAW may be added to the fight against AIDS. Sup. Harry Britt proposed an AIDS anti-discrimination measure. It was similar to, but stronger than, a bill passed in L.A. the week before. **Page 10.**

POLK ST. — Like the weather, everybody talks about the problem, but what is being done? A forum examined the services for homeless youth. The conclusion: Little improvement unless the climate changes. **Page 14.**

GAYS KEEP their piece of the action in the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee. A bill to change the panel make-up has been withdrawn by East Bay members of the Assembly. Charlie Linebarger on **page 17.**

Mayor Says She Is 'Not Avoiding' Gays

1st Gay Appearance in 18 Months Is Forum for 'State of City'

by Brian Jones

Mayor Dianne Feinstein last week made her first public appearance in the gay community in a year and a half. But the Mayor said little on gay issues—except to deny she was avoiding the gay community.

The event was a breakfast fundraiser for the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance, a political action group described by one of its organizers, attorney Paul Wotman, as "supporting candidates who support human rights—particularly, lesbian and gay rights."

Feinstein delivered what she called a "mini state of the city address," a 25-minute talk centered on city finances, the Downtown plan, and housing. Along the way she addressed comparable worth and the battleship Missouri. She answered questions for 20 minutes.

The Mayor was asked why it had been so long since she last appeared at a gay event. Feinstein's last public appearance at a gay event was in February 1984 when she accepted a plaque from the Cable Car Awards.

"I'm not avoiding anybody," the Mayor said. "I work almost seven days a week. This is a very hard city—I try to touch constituencies all of the time. There is no truth to this—there is just the push of a very heavy workload."

Feinstein said she was "amazed" by male politicians, such as Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, who could "go into a room, shake some hands, stay



Mayor Feinstein (Photo: Rink)

for 10 minutes and leave and everybody says, 'Hey, that's great.' But if I don't stay, they say, 'Why did you leave early?'"

There was an embarrassing pause as Feinstein introduced her gay liaison, but momentarily forgot his name: Chuck Forester.

In answer to another question, Feinstein said she would "probably" sign proposed legislation to prohibit AIDS-related

(Continued on page 10)