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## BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XV NO. 44 OCTOBER 31, 1985

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### A Divine Time For All



'If I loved you, words wouldn't come in an easy way,' may not be what Godzilla, a.k.a. Jim Beale, was saying to Divine (above), but Beale did walk away from Halloween festivities at the Giftcenter as the designated Groom of the Bride of Frankenstein. At right, Divine also admires a costume in which the costumed person's head is not where it appears to be.

(Top photo: Mick Hicks)  
 (Bottom photo: R. Pruzan)



## Venue Move Denied In O'Connell Trial

Public Defender Commissions New Survey, Claims SF Too Pro-Gay for Fair Trial

by Gregory Douthwaite

After hearing three days of testimony, Superior Court Judge Edward Stern denied a motion to move the trial of four Vallejo men accused of killing John O'Connell from San Francisco. "I believe we can get a fair jury here in San Francisco," he said, "but the court is always ready to change venue if further facts reveal it is necessary."

The four Vallejo men are on trial for the murder of O'Connell near Polk Street in July, 1984. O'Connell, 40, was walking with a friend, who said they were attacked by "these guys calling us motherfucking queers and faggots and all that stuff." They hit O'Connell hard in the face, his friend said, and he fell into the gutter, hitting his head on the concrete curb. Witnesses said the youths fled, laughing. O'Connell never regained consciousness, and four days later died of brain injuries suffered in the fall.

The four defendants, David ("Stretch") Rogers, 20, Douglas

(Continued on page 2)

## Shooting on Polk Follows Gay Slurs

Challenge to Verbal Harassment Leads to Shots Fired into Crowd; Man Hospitalized

by Charles Linebarger

A verbal exchange turned into a violent gay bashing on Saturday night as a gun was fired into a crowd on a Polk Street corner by a man hurling anti-gay epithets at passers-by. In the aftermath, one man lies in the hospital in serious condition and two men are being sought by police.

Craig Bondy is a 21-year-old, self-employed mechanic. He was on Polk Street celebrating Halloween on Saturday night with friends. Today he is in San Francisco General Hospital with a gunshot wound in his stomach. He is still in serious condition.

At 10:40 p.m. "an Oriental

man" apparently in his mid-twenties was walking down Polk between Hemlock and Sutter screaming "faggot" and "queer" at passers-by. Bondy unfortunately was one of those passers-by.

"There was this guy who most

(Continued on page 3)

## NY State Adopts SF-Style Sex Ban

One Year Later, Baths Battle Spreads to Other U.S. Cities

First of Two Parts

by Brian Jones

They closed the baths in San Francisco one year ago. Just last week, some of the longer range repercussions were surfacing elsewhere—even as the baths and sex clubs here have reopened.

New York Governor Mario Cuomo on Friday ordered a sex ban to be imposed on gay baths and sex clubs throughout the state. The Public Health Council—a commission of lay members, most with no medical training—quickly outlawed all fellatio and all anal intercourse, with or without a condom, throughout New York State.

(Continued on page 16)

### IN THIS ISSUE

Officer Kippie Locati was honored as My Favorite Cop for her work on the Castro beat, see page 3.

Men's Gathering explored new ways for men, gay and straight, to be men. Marv. Shaw reports, page 12.

Valerie Terrigno, first lesbian mayor in the U.S., was indicted in Los Angeles last week, see page 15.

Gay Cable TV, already a success in New York City, is coming to Frisco, page 24.

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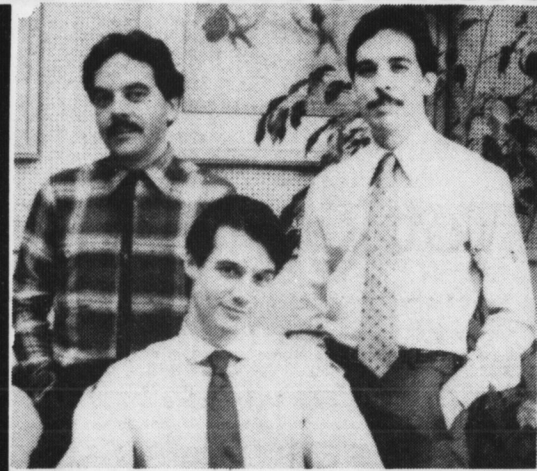
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## AIDS Bias Bill Sent to Sups.

**Britt Measure Approved by Committee; Commission Cites Rise in Discrimination**

by Charles Linebarger

Sup. Harry Britt has placed an ordinance before the San Francisco Board of Supervisors that would outlaw discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodation against people with AIDS or an AIDS-related illness.

On Oct. 24, the Human Services Committee of the Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to recommend that the full board approve Britt's ordinance barring discrimination against people with AIDS or ARC. In explaining the ordinance to the three supervisors on the committee, Willie Kennedy, Bill Maher and Quentin Kopp, Britt said, "This is just one more effort on the part of this board to respond to the AIDS crisis.

"We have felt enormously frustrated at this crisis that has continued to grow in our community," Britt continued. "One thing we can do is prevent discrimination against people with AIDS. People all over the country are looking to San Francisco as the model for legislation in this area. I believe this can provide that model. Passage of this legislation will be a major help to people all over this country in fighting demographic fears." Los Angeles recently passed similar legislation.

Dr. David Werdegar, the director of the city's health department, told the committee that his department supports the ordinance. "I've reviewed it carefully and so has the city attorney," said Werdegar. "The Health Commission has given it unanimous support. We feel that the ordinance is fair and protects public health."

Sup. Kopp directed a stream of questions at the health director on the possibility of casual transmission, the presence of the AIDS virus in tears, and whether tuberculosis and other

contagious diseases shouldn't also be included in the ordinance.

Werdegar insisted that no case of AIDS can be traced to either saliva or tears, and that no incidence of casual transmission of the disease has been recorded. On the question of including other contagious diseases within the proposed ordinance, Werdegar reminded the supervisor that people suffering from tuberculosis and other diseases are not presently being discriminated against.

When Phyllis Lyon, of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, told the committee that her commission had voted unanimously to support the ordinance because of the rising tide of discrimination against gay people due to the epidemic, Kopp asked what she was referring to.

In answer to Kopp, Eileen Gillis, staff person with the lesbian-gay unit at the Human Rights Commission, told the committee that the number of AIDS related cases of discrimination is increasing quickly.

"We've started putting people on a waiting list," Gillis explained later. "We're not going to be able to deal with all these cases without the help of a new, full-time staff person working on this caseload."

"Between July 1983 and June 1984 we had eight cases of discrimination against people with AIDS, or those perceived to have it," said Gillis. "In the following twelve months, we had 20 cases," she said. "But in just



Sup. Harry Britt (Photo: Rink)

the last three months alone we've had another 20 cases. There is also an increasing severity in these cases. People being fired out-of-hand with a sense of impunity, by employers who should know better. Somebody goes out sick for a couple of days and when he comes back someone starts a rumor that he's gay and maybe has AIDS. That guy is out so fast."

At the end of two hours of testimony before a crowded committee room, the three supervisors on the committee voted unanimously to approve the ordinance for the full Board of Supervisors. The matter is set to be heard on Nov. 4.

Britt's ordinance applies to forced testing for the AIDS virus and it also allows a civil penalty of three times the actual damages suffered by any individual discriminated against. It also creates a criminal liability for the discrimination against anyone suffering from AIDS or ARC.

Sup. Bill Maher has also introduced an ordinance, which was not acted on at last Thursday's committee meeting. Maher's proposal would outlaw forced testing of employees for the presence of illegal drugs. This would also, in effect, make testing for AIDS by employers illegal.

C. Linebarger

## Molinari Demands Hotze Apologize

President of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors John L. Molinari announced Oct. 28 that he will introduce a resolution demanding an apology from Dr. Steven Hotze, leader of the Houston anti-gay crusade, for his statements slandering San Francisco and Mayor Dianne Feinstein.

Dr. Hotze, who is heading up the effort to oust Houston's City Council and mayor because of their "pro-homosexual politics," was first quoted in Thursday's *Chronicle* calling San Francisco a "cesspool of homosexuality."

On KGO television, Hotze again attacked the city and Feinstein for "pandering to

gays."

Molinari stated, "I believe that Dr. Hotze owes San Francisco an apology. His smears and fearmongering tactics smack of the cheapest form of demagoguery. It is particularly despicable that he has chosen to politicize the AIDS crisis for own his political gain."

Molinari concluded, "One of the things that makes San Francisco great is that people of all different backgrounds and lifestyles can live and work together. San Francisco is a success story no matter what the hatemongers say or do."

## NCBG Meets Black Press Reps.

Responding to the need for expanded and correct information about the black lesbian and gay community in the black press, the National Coalition of Black Gays (NCBG) met on Oct. 17 with Susan Taylor, editor-in-chief of *Essence* magazine and Cheryl Greene, special projects editor of the magazine.

The editors of *Essence*, a New York based magazine for and about black women has a national circulation of 800,000. NCBG representatives attended the meeting characterized the event as extremely positive and productive.

Barbara Smith, a board member of NCBG and the editor of *Homegirls: A Black Feminist Anthology*, led the NCBG side of the presentation by carefully reviewing past articles published in *Essence* dealing with the lesbian and gay community. Smith indicated that "the meeting was

an important first step in getting information about the black lesbians and gay movement to a wider audience." Gil Gerald, NCBG's executive director, attended the meeting along with Betty Powell, administrative coordinator of Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press and a board member of NCBG.

Gerald and Powell agreed with Smith's assessment that the editors of *Essence* have now been provided with an expanded understanding of the resources available to them in covering the black lesbian and gay commu-

nity. Powell felt it was a "historic moment that will begin to change the way our lives are presented to our families and communities."

Gerald noted that the meeting with *Essence* was sought because it was clearly a good place to start.

NCBG is the only national lesbian/gay political, educational and service organization whose focus is to promote the healthy development of the black lesbian and gay community through programs for public education and programs for organizing the black lesbian and gay community on the local and national level. For more information about NCBG, or the conference call (202) 737-5276, or write to NCBG, Suite 514, 930 F St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004.

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# Men's Gathering Explores New Ways To Be Men

by Marv. Shaw

"Risking for Change" was the challenge that brought over 300 straight, gay and bisexual men to Camp Swig in the Santa Cruz Mountains northwest of Saratoga Oct. 11-14 for the Eighth Annual California Men's Gathering.

They were drawn by the invitation "to celebrate new ways of being in a safe place. We are taking risks to break out of old patterns, and the more we risk, the more we stand to gain."

Large and small workshops alternated, for a total of 68 separate convocations. It was made clear that each participant had complete freedom of choice and degree of participation. But all were urged to risk by going into situations they have feared, thought unswerving, or avoided as too difficult. Both the eager and the apprehensive were drawn into workshops on homophobia, unlearning racism, men nurturing men, becoming allies in men's and women's lib, and death as an advisor.

The variety was extensive; the daring was invigorating.

Jim Mann, registration chairperson, reported that this Gathering was the largest yet, with participants from all the West Coast states and from as far away as Connecticut. Fifteen women attended, the largest female contingent to date.

It was Mann's observation that the repeaters came back each year to change more in an atmosphere that encouraged such development. He felt that while the content of the programs stayed largely the same, the greatest changes took place in the people who became regulars.

The warm days in the sylvan setting, with the large, L-shaped pool and the "clothing optional" areas and times encouraged a sense of freedom and great relaxation for our bodies.

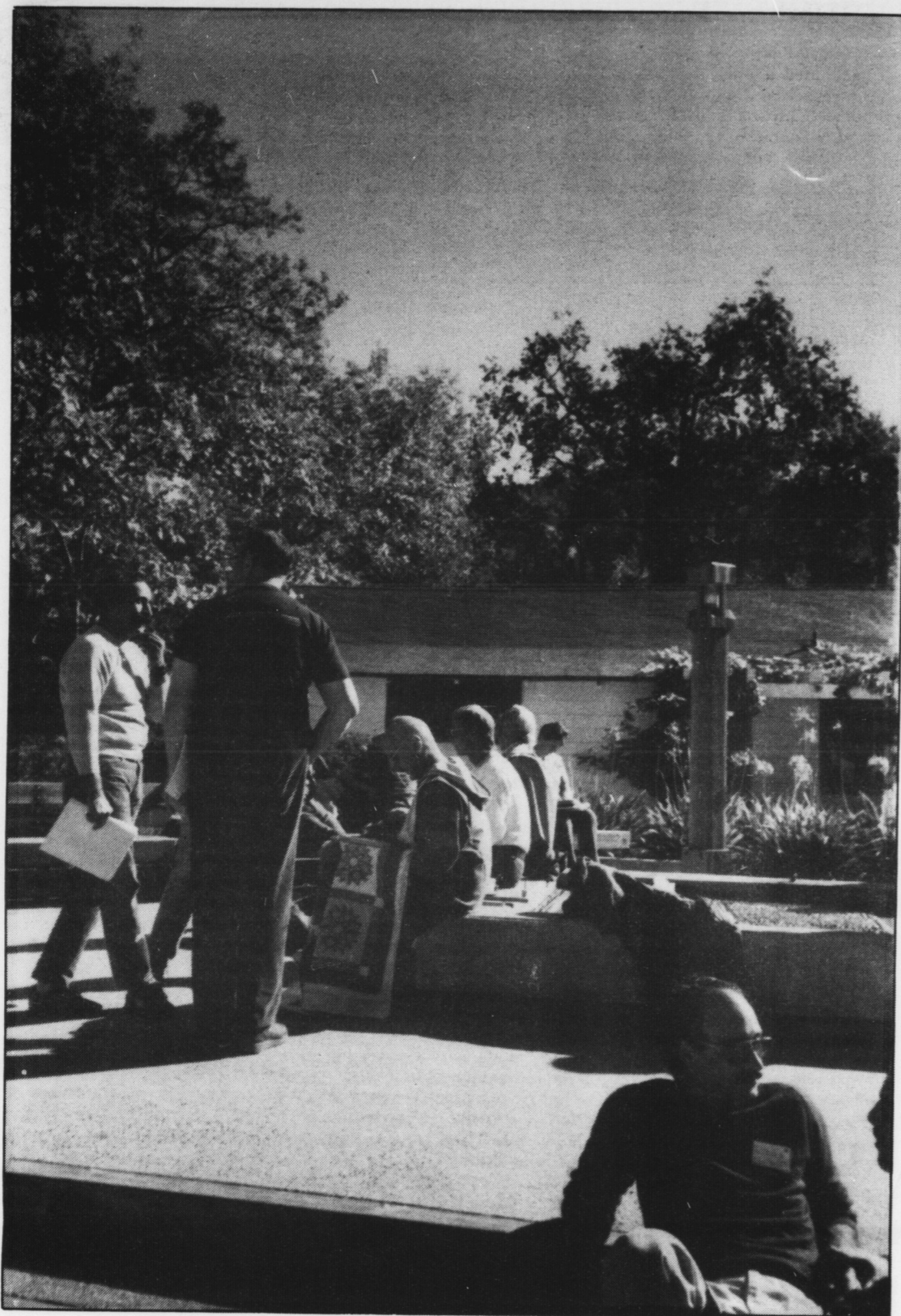
One workshop which built on that atmosphere was "Reclaiming Innocent Adolescent Sexuali-

ty," facilitated by Jim Brogan. In two sessions, 30 men of all sexual orientations first shared experiences from late childhood and early adolescence dealing with the discovery of their own sensuality and the taboos against enjoying it.

The second session took us into the woods to a leafy clearing in dappled shade, where we took off our clothes, sat and lay looking at each other, while we stroked ourselves and enjoyed nature and our own emancipation. Some men became sexually aroused, but all refrained from getting it on. The recapture of innocent, sensual sexuality was enough, as we found when we dressed and talked it over later.

What would you do in a situation in which the boss of your unit barged up to the gang at the coffee machine and said, "Hey, I heard Leon is gay"? In "Bringing It All Home," a large workshop, a band of actors simulated this situation and two others: the telling of a racist joke at a party and a couple fighting in a parked car. Each actor had a different reaction to the given situation, illustrating what would be real-life responses.

We were encouraged to "bring it home" by employing in our everyday lives the caring challenge, not avoiding the matter. It was emphasized that what we do as individuals makes what we are collectively. In this case, the risk really lies ahead, but we learned how and why to take it.



A peaceful atmosphere at the Men's Gathering.

(Photo: Marv. Shaw)

Homophobia workshops all too often attract gays only, with the sessions turning into shared misery converting to helplessness. But the one that Dean Tomich and Dave Steward conducted at the Gathering was far different.

For one thing, the personnel were different, with one third gay,

one third straight, and the rest identifying only as "sexual." For another, the facilitators led the group so that a complete exploration was made, and positive feelings came forward after the ugliness had been confronted.

One early observation was that both gays and straights are disturbed by gay men who are

open about their femininity and by lesbians who are masculine. It soon became clear that homophobia is basically discrimination against the butch dyke and the nelly fag. There is also political homophobia, the idea that the feminine is second rate and that gay men have sold out to femininity.

The non-white members of the workshop gave a view of how strong the cultural pressures are against gays in the black and Chicano communities. Family demands are often much stronger than most whites feel. Consequently, Third World homophobia is often based on accusations of betrayal of family.

The gay ghetto's reversal was cited as bitterly ironic but equally destructive: heterophobia. Calling straights "hets" and "breeders" was seen to be as vicious as saying "fags."

It was generally accepted that coping alone — for example, passing off hostility with jokes — was not enough. Much better would be to be consistently outward and open about your gayness and use non-hostile reason in meeting homophobic attitudes. For straights who realize that they have some measure of homophobia and would like to get rid of it, just be around gays more, noticing the positive characteristics rather than just the things that turn one off. Tomich emphasized that the Men's Gathering was just the place to do that.

Can we attain romantic highs in non-sexual friendships? Because Jim Brogan thinks so, he

(Continued on next page)

## Men

(Continued from previous page) facilitated a workshop on the subject. First, recognizing that almost any relationship is to some degree sexual, Brogan clarified that he meant a relationship that was non-genital.

A working definition of "romantic" evolved: positive, intense, shared experience and feeling. It was pointed out that

ed Sunday evening into an energized, rollicking time of sensual sexuality in verse, prose, projected images, and music. David Steinberg, Terri Jewell, and Iljana Asara performed a collection of erotic material, most of it in frank vernacular and explicit photography. The trio recognized that there is pain and sorrow in sexuality too, but their intent was to show how sexual experience and expression can be a joy.

'Dale . . . pointed out that every time a man touched his own genitals, he was a homosexual.'

therefore, male bonding could be a romantic high, and the often experienced team euphoria was seen as a prime example. Romantic couplings were seen as crossing other boundaries as well — age, for instance.

"A Celebration of Eros" turn-

I asked Steinberg later about the proportion of gay to straight material in the collection. He admitted that only about 15 percent is gay, with even less being lesbian. Steinberg asserted that they had found at first that gay male photos were hard to get, while



The togetherness of the Men's Gathering

(Photo: Marv. Shaw)

those of females abounded. However, now that better sources have been discovered, the collection is changing. Too, he emphasized that in many of the print selections, the partners could be either the same or the

opposite sex.

"Natur-sexual" is Stan Dale's new term for the sexually enlightened human being. Dale, with a 28-year career in broadcasting, transactional analysis, and sexology, conducted the closing workshop, and defined his new term simply as "naturally sexual." He means it to include the whole spectrum of sex acts, at least those that are done with sensuality and love — not rape or other violence.

Dale introduced his workshop with various humorous and insightful observations. For example, he pointed out that every time a man touched his own genitals, he was homosexual.

He then outlined his own philosophical context for his sexology, that we are all created by the life force of the universe and that whatever human beings desire for their sexual fulfillment is a legitimate expression of that force — so long as the desire is not destructive.

We all then chose a partner, sat on the floor with one person's legs across and partly behind his partner, and embraced. At

Dale's direction, we studied each other, caressed, described each to the other, and lightly kissed each other all over the face and neck.

The follow-up of questions and exchanged views was enthusiastic but not without rebuttal. Dale had pointed out earlier that homophobia has been exacerbated by AIDS and described a poster from a far right religious group that said "Thank God for AIDS." A participant objected to the insertion of such material on the grounds that spreading such information gave power to the opposition.

In his closing remarks, Dale emphasized that if we go into sex acts with trust, respect, understanding, and dignity, no sex act can be wrong. A final observation was both humorous and thought provoking: what a chance for world peace if Reagan and Gorbachev would do the process we had just finished!

The Ninth California Men's Gathering will be held next year, place and time to be worked out in the ensuing months.

Marv. Shaw

## Tackling Race, AIDS Discrimination in France

by Jay Newquist

"Hands Off My Buddy" is not meant as a double entendre.

"It's the slogan found on a lapel pin showing an upright hand for a French group known as SOS Racism, an international anti-discrimination organization whose leaders arrived in San Francisco this week to spread the faith.

"We're strong, we're fed up, and we want a new society," said Harlem Desir, a 25-year-old Frenchman who appeared here Monday at the Mobilization Against AIDS rally.

Desir is engaged in a whistle-stop tour of the Bay Area before he heads to Montreal and then returns to Paris.

Desir is quick to express — alternately in English and French — that the group he founded is against discrimination in all forms. This commitment includes the battle against the oppression of gay men and lesbian women.

Over coffee at Uncle Gaylord's Desir said that his swing through the Bay Area was principally meant to support homosexuals in their struggle against AIDS and the discrimination felt by its victims.

"The AIDS monster is still so new," he said. "Everyone is scared."

Desir identified a certain paradox. He explained that AIDS treatment in France was conducted with compassion and sensitivity, but there is nonetheless discrimination against gays in housing and employment.

An added irony is the fact that there also exists a nationwide anti-discrimination statute for sexual preference in France.

The answer to these dichotomies, according to Desir, is the difference in outlooks between the larger cities and the rural constituencies.

"We lead the way (in gay liberation) in one respect because France has led the world in AIDS research and a lot of Americans have traveled there for treatment," Desir said.

"You have to sensitize your government in the struggle to support AIDS research," he added, alluding that money for Ronald Reagan's Star Wars toys might be better spent finding a cure.

Desir said his country had decided to "handle AIDS" with diligence as the disease has begun to progress from high risk groups to other targets.

Meanwhile, SOS Racism has recently managed to create an international stir and continue its

work through the aid of sympathetic financial backers and the sale of some four million "buddy" buttons sold at 50 cents each.

A cross-section of support from the literati and glitterati has come from the late Simone Signoret, Yves Montand, Costa-Gavras, Swedish Prime Minister Olaf Palme and other political movers and shakers.

The circle of leaders in SOS Racism have themselves emerged from the ethnic melting pot that France has become. Among their number most prominently are Arabs and blacks, but Jews and Asians are also included.

"A black friend was on the Paris Metro once when there was a disturbance," Desir recounted. "When the gendarmes arrived they automatically thought he was responsible because he was the only minority on the train."

A group that is definitely engaged in the tradition of Sartre, SOS Racism once paid to send the body of a murdered Algerian back to his homeland.

In another instance, the group arranged one minute of silence across France to protest the bombing of the theater where a Jewish film festival was held.

Desir is a philosophy student at the University of Paris. His father comes from Martinique and his mother from Alsace.

His exotic lineage makes him an obvious spokesman against what he calls France's cultural drift toward a society of white mandarins.

SOS Racism isn't napping these days and they have two answers to such elitism:

- Anti-racism caravans are now criss-crossing France on motorcoasters to bring the message of equality to the provinces whose people Desir said weren't as tolerant of minorities as city folk. Two similar road trips are also underway in Rome and Stockholm.

- All four caravans will meet in the Place de la Concorde in Paris on Dec. 14 for a mass rally and

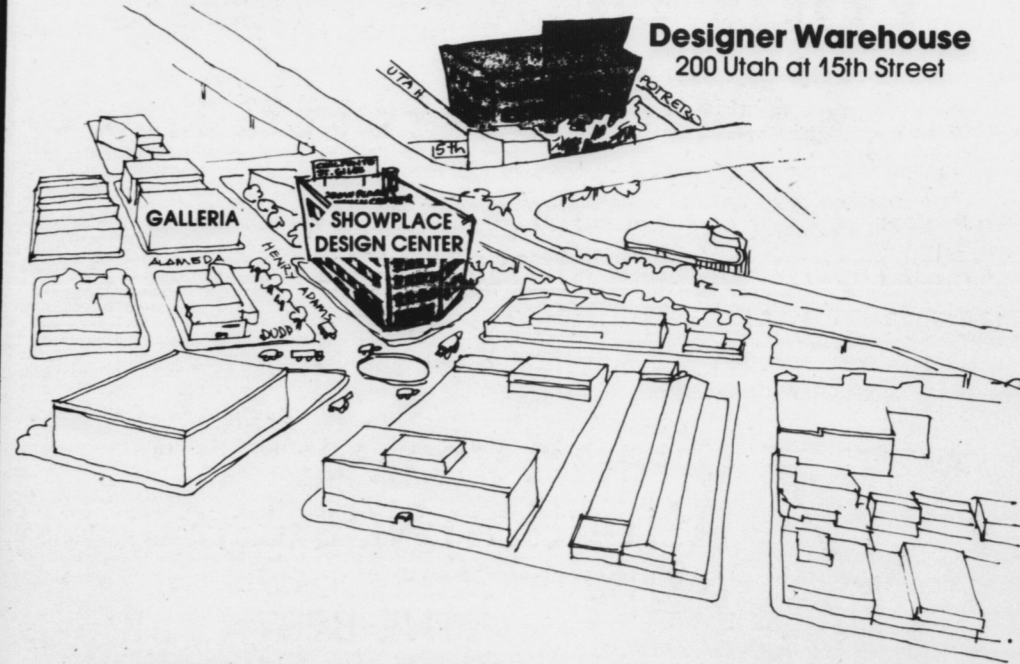
concert against racism of all kinds. A similar gathering in the same locale drew 300,000 people

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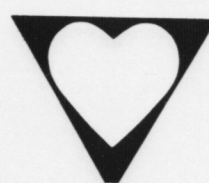
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## CHIROPRACTIC OUTLOOK



By DR. RICK PETTIT

FENDER BENDER

Your car is struck from behind. A sudden lurching forward snaps your head backwards. If you apply screaming brakes, if you strike the car ahead, your head is now snapped forward. The injury may be limited to muscles, joints, ligaments and soft neck tissues, but frequently, a vertebra is fractured. Prompt chiropractic examination is a good idea after an auto accident. A spine-nerve-muscular test may reveal shock pressure on your spine or impingement of nerve supply, or the more serious vertebra displacement. Often, whiplash symptoms are not felt until months later when the impingement becomes more severe because of neglect.

Presented as a service to the community by

**Dr. Rick Pettit**  
470 Castro, Suite 205  
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# BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

B.A.R. INTERVIEW

## We're Gonna Be on TV!

Gay Cable Network, Already a Success In New York City, is Coming to San Francisco

by Jon Sugar

The Gay Cable Network, with three successful years of programming from New York City, is adding San Francisco to its distribution as a key market and local origination base. San Francisco producer John Canalli plans to broadcast two Gay Cable Network shows on a weekly basis. *Pride and Progress*, the network news program and the first gay television news show to cover both the Republican and Democratic 1984 National Conventions, will be complimented by locally produced segments. Joining reports on health issues, national, international, and sports events originating from Los Angeles, Dallas, and New York, these San Francisco spots, produced in "talking heads" documentary style, will incorporate our community's viewpoint, enabling *Pride and Progress* to reflect a national gay perspective. Immediately following *Pride and Progress* will be *The Right Stuff*, an entertainment feature showcasing established and emerging gay talent, their past, present, and future endeavors. Also produced in "talking heads" and remote format, *The Right Stuff* promises to be both entertaining and noteworthy, and will provide important national exposure for Bay Area gay artists.

Canalli hopes to present this weekly hour of gay programming Tuesdays or Thursdays, from 9 to 10 p.m. on Viacom, Channel 6. Because Viacom is a commercial outlet, commercial time is actively being solicited. This opportunity for gay businesses to reach the gay television audience is unprecedented in the Bay Area, and, given our community's creative resources, the advertising should become an entertaining factor in and of itself.

The Bay Area gay community can expect an infusion of energy and excitement with the advent of this much-needed service — the first nationally televised voice of the gay perspective. An interview with the man who's going to put it together follows.

**Jon Sugar:** Why is the show called *The Right Stuff* instead of *Celebrity Bitch Fight* or *What is She Wearing*?

**John Canalli:** We're making an attempt to serve a whole community with the network. Perhaps there will be some compromises necessary, but integrity of information, spiced with snappy commentary, will be our goal.

**J.S.:** What can we expect from *Gay News Network*?

**J.C.:** We're looking at seven minutes of news commentary, (five minutes of local issues and

... without community business support, the Gay Cable Network cannot happen.

— John Canalli

two minutes of sports) for *Pride and Progress*. We'll also be responsible for generating five to eight minutes of entertainment news, some talking heads entertainment information, with some field news gathering for *The Right Stuff*.

**J.S.:** Who will host the shows?

**J.C.:** In an effort to have a wider variety and better perspective of the San Francisco scene, it will be important to alternate commentary and personalities. For *Pride and Progress* we have Cleve Jones and you, Jon Sugar. For *The Right Stuff* we will begin with David Lambie and Doris Fish, although she doesn't know it yet.

**J.S.:** What do you plan to get out of it?

**J.C.:** Well, eventually a living wage. All the money will be coming from ad sales and the production of commercials. I have to stress that the commercial effort will be one of the more important aspects of the show, because without community business support the Gay Cable Network



John Canalli

**J.C.:** I have four years experience directing The San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Video Festival with Frameline, as well as four years programming experience with Public Access Channel 25, on my weekly Monday night show at 9:30, *The Gay Video Festival*. I've known Lou Maletta, Mr. Gay TV, for three years now, and we've been discussing bringing the Gay Cable Network to San Francisco for the last two. I wanted to ensure the success of the video festival before facing this new challenge. I'm confident now that the video festival will continue, and I'm ready for the Gay Cable Network. San Francisco is ready for the Gay Cable Network!

**J.S.:** When will the show air?

**J.C.:** I'm expecting to get on Cable 6 the first week of January, a Grand Opening in 1986! However, I will be previewing *Pride and Progress* on Channel 25 at 9:30, every Monday night in December to generate interest among the business community.

**J.S.:** Are you attempting to speak for all gay people?

**J.C.:** I would like to emphasize that we are attempting to broadcast a national gay perspective. However, realistically we're presenting an East Coast/West Coast point of view, unintentionally eliminating the entire

middle-American land mass. It's unfortunate, but at this time, unavoidable. San Francisco will be the ninth city on the network. When we get 12, we can go satellite. Since each city will be a local origination point, we will then begin to get a true grasp of what a national perspective is. Hopefully, this will happen in 1988. You have to start somewhere. We also plan a very strong lesbian identity for the locally originated material.

**J.S.:** What do you think the response will be to your program?

**J.C.:** It's a fast show with very relevant information. My real concern involves response from the business community. We will have to develop a level of trust with small businesses not used to paying for television advertising. When these businesses see the incredible difference this network can make to their profits, when they see the focus this network will bring to the community, and has been bringing for three years to other communities, they will make the financial commitment.

**J.S.:** So how can business and/or aspiring talent get in contact with you?

**J.C.:** I can be reached at: John Canalli, 182-B Castro St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Or call me at 861-0843 between 5 and 8 p.m. or before noon.

### FILM

## Alexandra the Grote

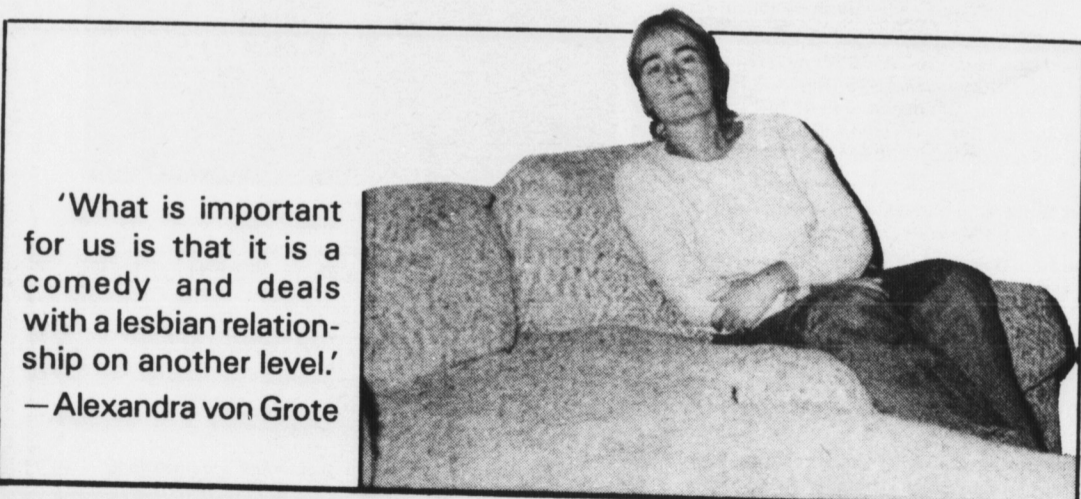
Lesbian Filmmaker Goes Mainstream, Seeks Investors

by Steve Warren

With hundreds of American independent filmmakers scrounging for dollars, it takes nerve for a German to come here looking for investors for a movie she's going to make in Berlin. However, it should be said at the outset that Alexandra von Grote has a few points in her favor: she's making a commercial mystery-comedy, not an esoteric documentary; her total budget is \$900,000, less than one-tenth the cost of the average Hollywood production; she can get 80 percent of that money from government-backed film foundations in West Germany if she raises the remainder in cash; she's already made two dramatic features, *Depart to Arrive* and *Novembermoon*, both lesbian love stories, but otherwise quite different from each other.

Von Grote visited San Francisco recently to drum up support for the "limited partnership" that will produce her next film, *As Life Goes On*. The legal details, she said, are being worked out by lawyers in both Germany and California.

If the money can be raised by the first of March, shooting will begin at the end of August for release in the spring of 1987. The leading role has been offered to a major British actress, and if she



(Photo: S. Warren)

'What is important for us is that it is a comedy and deals with a lesbian relationship on another level.'

— Alexandra von Grote

accepts, the picture will be made in English. Filming will still take place in Berlin, mostly on studio sets, because that city's film foundation requires 50 percent of the budget to be spent in Berlin.

The director wouldn't reveal, even off the record, the identity of the actress being sought, but said

her age is "in the 40s." That rules out Joan Collins, who could make the character of Lena West a marvelous bitch. Lena is an actress who fakes her own death to get revenge on four men and one woman who have wronged her at some point in her life and are all down on their luck at the time of the story. She also has an affair

with the wife of one of the men. "What is important for us," von Grote said, "is that it is a comedy and deals with a lesbian relationship on another level." She considers *As Life Goes On* her first "mainstream" film, which means to her "that we can

(Continued on page 33)

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# BAY AREA REPORTER B.A.R. BAZAAR

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(Mandatory clothes check each Mon. and Thurs.)

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Thur.—JACK OFF PARTY 8-12PM

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Fri.—BUSY AND INTERESTING

Sat.—BUSY AND INTERESTING

Sun.—OPEN AT 6PM

Body Builders — Busy like Friday and Saturday.

NOTE: 1808 is a private club for J/O artists and includes the body-conscious man. Washboard stomachs, masculine looks, etc. We have a full clothes check system (Mon. & Thur. mandatory.) BYOBeer/VIDEO/and friendly!

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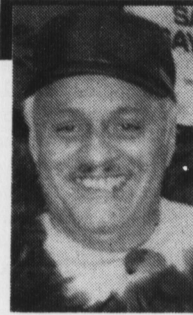
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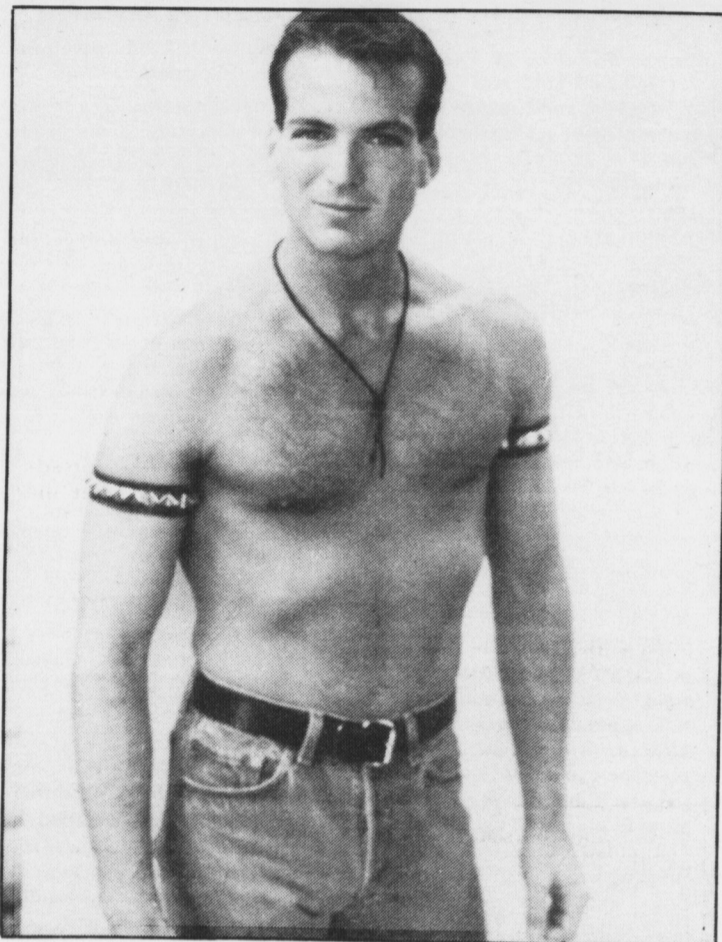
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## MR. MARCUS



### The Chic is in The Male



David Barrett, Mr. December (Photo: Rink)

Tonight may be Halloween, but last Saturday night the city was deluged with leathers, feathers, sequins, gowns, and outrageous costumes as the community put its best foot forward whether it was in brazen boots or pompous pumps! The Giftcenter Pavilion, the Galleria, Trocadero Transfer, and all around town the guys and gals really went all out to make this one of the most exciting Halloween celebrations in these parts in many a year.

There was the group of eight Road Warriors causing heads to turn at every step; there was the guy in the Flamingo outfit but not Flamingo legs; there was the upright dude who looked like he was walking on his hands, and thousands of variations on a theme, including the dude dressed like Dan White, hose and all. All around the town there was frivolity and hedonism with everyone hell-bent on having a good time as if they had had enough of budgets and Star Wars rhetoric; tired of hostage crises and hijacks, starvation in countries they've never heard of; tired of political shenanigans here and abroad. Most of the parties donated part of their profits to AIDS agencies and thus alleviated the burden of guilt some may have felt at having a good time while their brothers, lovers, relatives, and friends are suffering and waiting hopefully for a cure that will end the nightmare none of us can forget.

Steroid stallions, lavish gowns, feathers, and fantasy costumes will take off on a flight of frivolity again tonight, the action centering at the SF-Eagle for Leather & Feathers and at the Trocadero Transfer where the tariff is only \$5 tonight. Have fun, but exercise extreme caution wherever your travels take you. I hope your boss is gay because above everyone else, he should

understand your lethargic posture tomorrow. As for straight bosses, if they haven't experienced Halloween in San Francisco yet, what better time to tell it like it is?

Last Monday, the Watering Hole celebrated its 8th anniversary with lots of regular customers and friends joining in the celebration. Marvin the DJ was in his element, and Bryan Todd and his staff were shining it on with lots of shenanigans that kept the crowd on hand 'til closing time. Later on in the week, they were having a St. Pauli Girl look-alike contest at the Kokpit and the Lady Diedre won it hands down.

Kym Whittington hosted a (Continued on next page)

## Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

farewell buffet dinner for George, the November '85 chest on the Arena calendar, and Bernard Jay, Divine's manager, was trying to brunch it up with old friends at the Cafe Sn. Marcus before scooting off to LAX to talk to producers of one of the biggest TV soaps to arrange for a Divine appearance and feeling smug and content that Fred Badelante was so eloquent when he observed: "I really know how to get stars to appear in SF that can really vibrate with the populace!" It was a fun week, and I hope you were part of it. Everyone's costume was just exquisite!

If you want to get into Hillbilly drag, they're having a Sadie Hawkins lookalike contest at the ASS (Alamo Sq. Saloon) Saturday night. All that should keep you busy for the week before the CMC Carnival and Pier Pressure Nov. 9 and 10, respectively. If not, consult the Yellow Pages or the classified ads in this here paper!

I know what the above subtitle says, but there's a shortage of dots on our computers, so please overlook the lack thereof. If I've heard it once, I've heard it a dozen times: Believe it or not, in San Diego the reputation is concrete, but the word is spreading in all directions that the Boardwalk Restaurant in that town is the ONLY place to dine when you're visiting Nicole-ville.

You were right if you saw Lucille Ball in the Tenderloin last Friday night!

You were right if you saw Lucille Ball in the Tenderloin last Friday night. She was attending My One and Only to see how her little girl was making out with Tommy Tune. Peter Moment spotted her and got an autographed photo as she stepped out of her stretch limo!

I hope you get an invitation to the "unveiling" at the Powerhouse bar Tuesday, Nov. 12—and don't miss the Halloween decor there too. Thousands of branches and webby spider webs with a lighting scheme that had to be someone's fantasy! Next Greasy Jock Strap Contest is slated for Sunday, Nov. 17, so Get Greasy! and win \$100 in the process.

Squeaky voice on the patio of the Eagle last Sunday giving advice to a newcomer from Denver: "My dear (accent on the dear), if you're a sissy, you have every right to demand a Top!"—oh really? Get well wishes to Richard Ruggiero of the Powerhouse, who like so many other is down with the flu.



The Watering Hole staff hosted its 8th Anniversary last Monday (Photo: Marcus)

## Let's Go Navy

To our friends and supporters, Thank you all very much for making Let's Go Navy such a success. We appreciate your support and the support you have given our brothers on Ward 5-B. You're enabling Rita Rockett to continue the great work she is doing.

Below, please find our financial statement for Let's Go Navy.

Lots of Love,	
Patrick Toner Jerry Vallaire Christian Anders	
Gross Income (donations)	\$1,800
Expenses	
Buffet	218.00
Decorations	136.00
Posters	50.00
Allan Lozito	450.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	45.10
Net Profit	
For Brunches Ward 5-B	\$900.

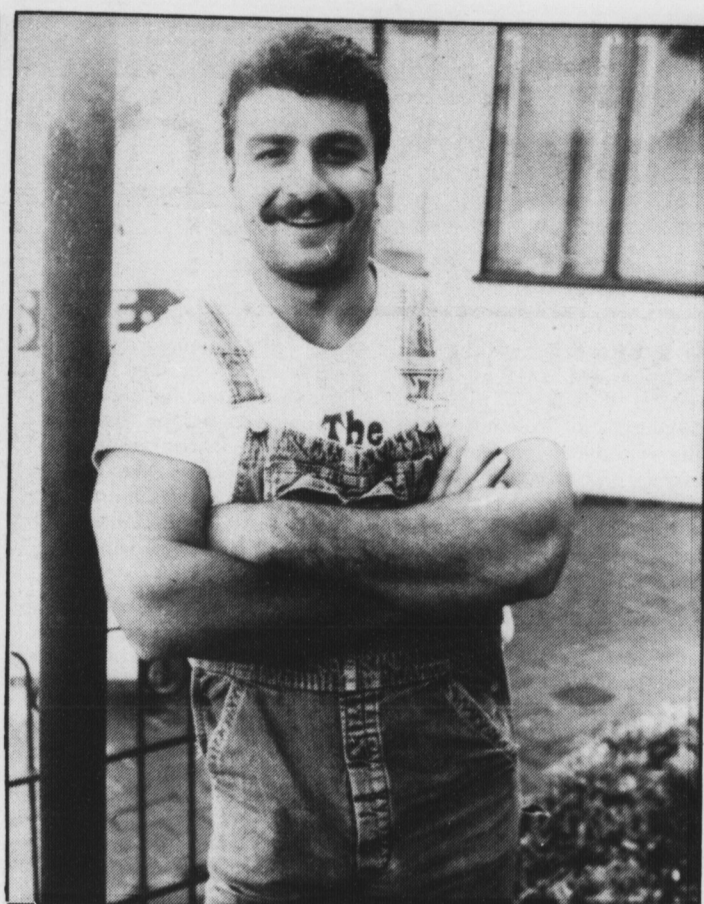
Team has changed its name to the Gay Trojans (in honor of safe sex with condoms?) and will be playing a game against the SF Sheriff's Dept. Sunday, Dec. 8, as a benefit for Gay Games II, Meals on Wheels, and the SF AIDS Fund—but that's not the item. The 1-item is that they'll be crowning a Homecoming Queen and King which anyone can enter and the tickets are \$5, so plan now. McAteer High School (site of the big game) will never be the same!

Are you staying away from the Windmills in GG Park? Reece Dollarhide of Rafters in LAX was in town two weeks ago and she headed straight for the site, but there were so many cops around with walkie talkies she went back to LAX, and she was very hungry!

So far there are a dozen candidates for Mr. CMC Carnival and David Sarathain is ecstatic; it's the first time a CMC president has had 12 apostles, er, candidates. Big Jimmy, Tinseltown's premier drag entertainer, was the first Mr. CMC some 20 years ago and will appear this year. You can meet all the candidates at the SF-Eagle at their first-ever Friday Night Beer Bust next Friday, Nov. 8, at 2100 hrs for a \$6 donation 'til Midnight, proceeds going to the contestants' charities—don't miss it!

So long for awhile, boys and girls. See you tonight at the Eagle for Leather and Feathers and until next week, remember: Big boys need big cockings. See you 'round the campus.

Mister Marcus



Patrick Toner relaxes after the Let's Go Navy benefit beer bust at the Eagle (Photo: Rink)

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High Energy Dancing, 8pm-2am — D.J. "Stewart"  
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The Road Warrior gang, including porn star Chris Burns, won the group award at the Galleria Party (Photo: Rink)

## COURTLY CHATTER

### Trick or Treat



It's finally here, the day we all have been waiting for, Halloween!!! If all holds true, it will be a night to remember, not to mention the bills from the charge card companies. Last Saturday night saw three of the annual Halloween Balls back to back. The Tavern Guild Foundation's Beaux Arts Ball was held at One Market Plaza. Although it was not well attended, those who were there had a great time watching 34 contestants vie for \$3,000 in prize money in four categories. Each category had an Honorable Mention, 2nd Place (worth \$250), and 1st Place (worth \$500). The theme for the ball was "Return to the B-Movies" and the winners were: General, Honorable Mention, Alan Hall as "Pennies From Heaven"; 2nd Place, Chris Sandoval as "Coco Chanel"; 1st Place, Kim Nelson as "Carmen Miranda." Horror, Honorable Mention, Dennis McCauley as "The Tower of London Executioner"; 2nd Place, Richard Pomeroy and Danny Espinosa from "The Bride of Frankenstein"; 1st Place, Mary Liz Curtin as "Nightgown of the Living Dead." Western, Honorable Mention, David Lowe for "The Last Shootout"; 2nd Place, Al Simpson as "Hopalong Cassidy"; 1st Place,

Michael Loeb and Amanda Reinhard as Divine from "Lust In The Dust." Science Fiction, Honorable Mention (tie), Rich Urbitzondo as the Birdman from *Road Warrior* and John Scott as a "Teenage Nerd Blob"; 2nd Place, Ed Luckin and Ric Tringali as "Phyllis Diller and the Blob"; 1st Place, Jim Beale as "Godzilla."

The Masters of Ceremonies were Randy Johnson, Gladys Bumps, Tom Amiano, and Marga Gomez, all of whom moved the evening with style and camp. Also Tom and Marga were the featured entertainment (both are comedians) and kept the audience continually laughing.

Congratulations to all who participated, to the winners, and especially to the organizers, as the entire evening was well planned and enjoyable.

The Bride of Frankenstein Party at the Giftcenter Pavilion was packed when Divine appeared at 2:30 a.m. BDST (Before Daylight Savings Time change). The third was the Carnival Party at the Galleria, and it too was jumping. Both of these parties boogied until dawn. Unfortunately, I do not have the results of their costume judging, but I understand the winners were fantastic.

With all that was going on, Castro Street looked like Halloween night. The sidewalks and bars were packed with onlookers and costumed people making the rounds. Everyone was having fun, and many of the parties were very creative in both makeup and costumes. As I had mentioned in my previous column, this is the time of year when fabric houses, wig stores, and makeup counters do a land office business. It seems there are more people in drag this year than in years previous. Could we be having a renaissance? We'll have to wait and see!

Although it is Halloween, please be extremely careful and I can't say this any louder, "be aware of who is around you at all times, especially in the streets." Hold on to beau, boa, and purse, and have a happy Halloween.

#### PICNIC IN THE PARK

The Barbary Coasters M/C held their annual One-Day Run last Sunday the 27th. Sign-in was at the Watering Hole from where those participating in the Rider and Buddy Events proceeded to Spear and Folsom Streets. Approximately 14 riders and 18 buddies were put through their paces during the field events. From there everyone journeyed across town to Pine Lake, which is located behind Stern Grove, for lunch and People Events.



Miss X and Ginger Quest at Doris Fish's party at the 181 Club (Photo: Rink)

ing events: Buddy, 2nd Place, Allan Hemming (Imperial Guards); 1st Place, Jack Coates (Constantines). Rider, 2nd Place, Jim Howell (Warlocks), 1st Place, Frank Rauch (Warlocks). Single People Event, 3rd Place, Kurt Caldwell; 2nd Place, Tony Trevizo; 1st Place, Cleve Zee (all Independents). Couple People Event, 3rd Place, A. L. Allen and Rich Demarest (Forum First Lady, South/CMC); 2nd Place, Elmar Linz and Cleve

fundraiser for the Coming Home Hospice Building Fund and raised more than \$800. Some of us who could not be there to add to the festivities sent donations. We understand everyone there had a great time zeroing in on Ginger, but they paid in the end, so to speak. Congratulations Ginger, you have always been there to help a worthy cause, and keep up the good work!

Last Sunday, the 27th, friends and co-workers of Rick Cosgriff hosted a fundraiser at the Hayes Street Grill. More than 100 people packed the restaurant, paying \$25 for an evening of dinner and dancing. Everything for this evening was donated, from the use of the facilities, food, raffle prizes, and volunteer help. The entire evening was a very up event, and everyone there had a great time. The food was fabulous, the conversation lively, and there was good dancing music.

Many times we attend fundraisers such as this without really knowing the individual who benefits. But because we know their friends and we trust their judgment and commitment to helping, we attend and are very grateful we did. Fundraising is difficult in itself. However, if we can put together a fun evening, as 'this one was, it's worth the time and money spent knowing its going to a good cause. Not all fundraisers are AIDS related. Sometimes that is all we seem to be doing is raising money for AIDS causes. It is nice to attend fundraisers for different causes. As Horace Van Der Gelder once said, "Money is like manure, spread it around to encourage little things to grow." And so it should be. AIDS is our number one priority, but when others need help we should be there as well.

I would like to congratulate the organizers, volunteers, and donors who helped make this evening one that Rick will long remember. I understand Rick is on the road to recovery. Hang in there guy, there are a lot of people who love you and know you are a real trooper!

#### UP & COMING

Sunday, Nov. 3, the Constantines of the Bay Area will present their annual "Fall Field Meet." Check-in will be at the Double D. Saloon (formerly the Stables) at 11 a.m. This will be followed by Bike, Buddy, and People Events. After the events everyone will adjourn to the S.F. Eagle Patio for a Beer Bust. The cost is

(Continued on next page)

## Chatter

(Continued from previous page)

\$6, which includes food and all the beer you can drink. See you there!

Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 9 and 10, Men Behind Bars Productions and the California Motor Club (CMC) will again host a weekend at Pier 45, Shed C. Saturday night will be "Pier Pressure" which will start at 9 p.m. This year, MBB is hoping to "carnivalize" the evening by adding a Tilt-A-World ride, subject of course, to Port approval. Pier Pressure attempts to create a dance entertainment with the most popular music and the best of the golden disco hits. It's a wonderful night to enjoy dancing again. Also, the party helps to seed the ever-popular Men Behind Bars show held in February. This is definitely a must do, and I hope to see you there!

On Sunday, the CMC takes over and presents their annual Carnival. It will be from Noon until 8 p.m. As in the past, the Carnival is a fun event and is one of the best-attended events sponsored by a fraternal/leather organization.

Both events are sponsoring free shuttle bus service from Kimo's, The Village, Pilsner Inn, the Powerhouse, Casa Loma, and S.F. Eagle. Check the flyers for exact pickup locations for each day, because they vary slightly. The cost for Pier Pressure is \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. CMC Carnival is \$10 in advance. Advance tickets for Pier Pressure can be purchased at Headlines, All American Boy, New York Man, Denevi Cameras (Castro Village Mall), or by Charge Card by calling (415) 621-6476. Advance tickets for CMC Carnival are available at Headlines, Mr. S Leather, All American Boy, New York Man, or at your favorite bar. For further information, call the Hotline 821-3637.

Well that's it for now... hugs to all... Aloha!!!

Remy

## Bazaar Calendar

Thursday 10/31: A Non-Costume Party, Chaps, 8 p.m. Leather and Feathers, SF Eagle, 8 p.m., cash prizes.

Halloween at Faat Albert's, 8 p.m., benefit for Empress Tessie, prizes, show.

Festus Halloween, Festus, 8 p.m., cash prizes at 11 p.m., featuring Hallelujah Singers.

An Old-Fashioned Halloween, Kokpit, 8 p.m., prizes for costumes and pumpkin carving.

Halloween Party, Casa Loma, 9 p.m., prizes.

The Great Pumpkin Patch, Febe's, 10 p.m., featuring the witches brew.

Halloween Party, Trax, costume judging at 10 p.m., cash prizes.

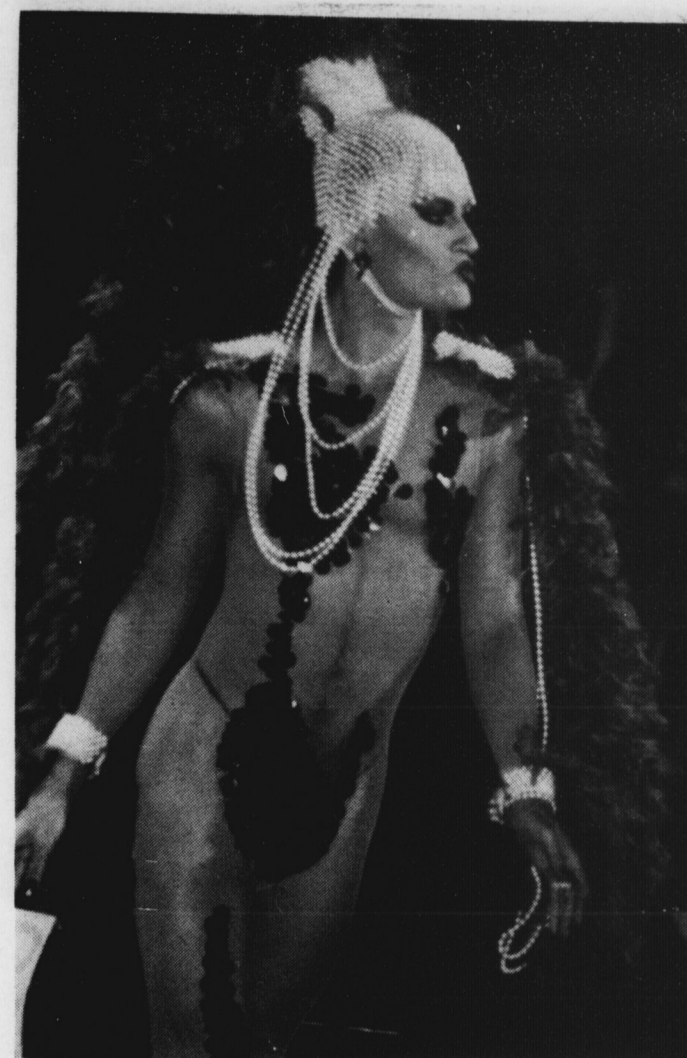
Friday 11/1: Mama Leana's Birthday Party, Casa Loma, 9 p.m., buffet.

Sunday 11/3: Constantine's MC Field Meet, check-in Double D Saloon, 11 a.m., \$6, beer bust at SF Eagle, 3 to 6 p.m. (included).

Jac Ross and Bob Bauer, in concert, Big Mama's (22615 Mission, Hayward), 3 p.m., no cover, 881-9310.

Wednesday 11/6: Dynner and Dynasty, 9 p.m. SF Eagle, \$7. Also shown at your favorite pub.

Compiled by Karl Stewart



Halloween at the Giftcenter (Photo: R. Pruzan)

## Winter Arts Fair

On Dec. 7, 8, 14, and 15, the San Francisco Women's Building will celebrate its Sixth Annual Winter Women's Arts and Crafts Fair. Thousands of people will flock to the Building's Mission Street location to witness its phenomenal transformation into a festive holiday fair as the four floors of this thriving community and cultural center become an impressive emporium of beautiful, handmade arts and crafts.

Women artisans and fine artists from all over the United States, though principally from the Bay Area, will congregate to show and sell their wares. From their studios and their homes, with loving care and expertise, they'll bring ceramics, woodwork, textiles, toys, glass work, jewelry, musical instruments,

photography, and much more.

Besides exhibitions, the fair also offers the best in cabaret-style entertainments. Featured performers, from music, theater, and comedy, will be scheduled 'round-the-clock for adults and children, alike. Roving minstrels will carol throughout the halls of the building to spread holiday cheer. Food vendors, serving a menu of international treats, will accompany them.

For families with children, we will provide free, quality childcare. Those who would like to learn more about the Women's Building and other local community organizations, can visit the mezzanine, where information booths will be located.

The fair will be located at 3543 18th St. and will run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

For more information, please call 431-1180.



The diva who upstaged Divine at the Giftcenter party (Photo: R. Pruzan)



'I've seen the dress before, dahling. It's the moustache that looks so gay!' (Photo: R. Pruzan)



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More than 100 people paid \$10 for this full day of fun and friendship. The BCs will be donating all of the net proceeds from this event to the Coming Home Hospice Building Fund. The final figures are not in yet, but I suspect that close to a \$1,000 will be donated to this worthy charity. The Barbary Coasters wish to thank all who participated on their run and extend congratulations to the winners in the follow-

Zee (Cycle Runners/Independent); 1st Place Jonni Valle and Bil Chapman (S.F.G.D.I./Independent). Thanks again everyone, it was fun!

#### FUN FUNDRAISING

Last Thursday the 24th, Empress XIV Ginger "graciously" allowed herself to be the subject of a roasting at the Stallion on Polk Street. Ginger did this as a



Chinese opera costume that once belonged to Sylvester shown off at the Galleria Party (Photo: Rink)







20th ANNUAL

# CMC CARNIVAL '85

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10 NOVEMBER  
NOON - 8 P.M.

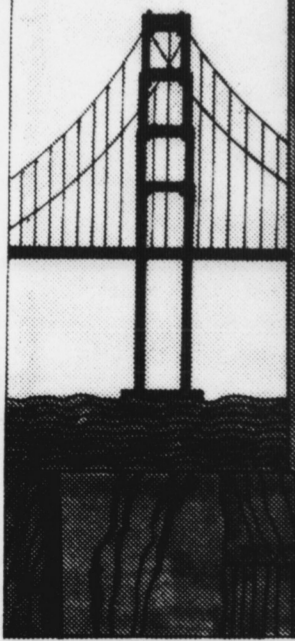
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# BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XV NO. 45 NOVEMBER 7, 1985

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TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019



Protesters are relying on more protection after last week's attack (Photo: Rink)

## Protesters Attacked At Federal Bldg. AIDS Vigil

by Allen White

San Francisco Police have arrested two men in conjunction with an attack and beating Sunday morning on a group of people who were conducting a protest vigil at the old Federal Building. Three of the protesters, some of whom have AIDS-Related Complex and had chained themselves to the building's doors, required hospitalization.

Charged with two counts each of battery are Timothy King, 22, and Ken Meador, 31. Both are from San Francisco. They are not being held in custody.

(Continued on page 4)

## AIDS Bias Bill Passes SF Board

Prohibits Mandatory HLTV Testing by Employers; Mayor Likely to Sign Bill into Law

by Charles Linebarger

On Tuesday Nov. 5, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to outlaw discrimination against people with AIDS, or AIDS-Related Conditions (ARC). The ordinance, sponsored by Sup. Harry Britt, was approved by the board without discussion. It had previously been the subject of two hours of testimony before the Board's Human Services Committee on Oct. 24 where it had also been approved unanimously.

After a second vote by the board next Monday, the bill goes to Mayor Dianne Feinstein who has indicated she will sign it into law.

When Britt introduced his ordinance, he said, "We have felt enormously frustrated at this crisis that has continued to grow in our community. One thing we can do is prevent discrimination against people with AIDS. People all over the country are looking to San Francisco as the model for legislation in this area. I believe this can provide that model. Passage of this legislation will be a major help to people all over this country in fighting demographic fears."

One change was made to the (Continued on page 4)



Harry Britt

(Photo: Rink)

## 'Straight Slate' Loses But New Battles Seen

by Brian Jones

### A NEWS ANALYSIS

Houston's "Straight Slate" failed at the polls Tuesday. But the real battles may just be beginning for besieged gays in Texas, where fear of AIDS and the Christian right-wing are stoking a vicious anti-gay backlash.

In Houston, the nation's fourth-largest city, voters rejected Louie "Shoot the Queers" Welch, a five-term former mayor who made opposition to gay rights and AIDS the key points of his election platform. Pro-gay, two-

term incumbent Kathy Whitmire bested Welch 59 to 41 percent.

Meanwhile, the "Straight Slate" of right-wing fundamentalists seeking the 14 seats on Houston City Council failed to win any races. Two Straight Slaters forced a runoff with incumbents in races with more than two candidates. One of the incumbents forced into a runoff was Council Member Anthony Hall, author of last year's equal

job rights bill for gays which was repealed in January in a referendum landslide.

"My only hope is that Houston is ready to put aside the hate and divisiveness of this campaign and become more like San Francisco—a city with a heart," said Sue Lovell, head of Houston's Gay Political Caucus.

But Lovell and others said that isn't likely. Instead, they are steeling themselves for a sustain-

ed barrage from the Straight Slate—which includes many of the same principals who forced the gay-rights referendum repeal in January.

"The Straight Slate has threatened another referendum," Lovell said in a telephone interview. This time, the issue will be health cards for food handlers. The policy would require mandatory testing for the HTLV-3 antibody among food industry workers.

City Council effectively delayed the measure, billed as an

"anti-AIDS" tactic, until after the election. But now the council must consider the issue within the next month—or face another special referendum at the hands of the Straight Slate.

"The Straight Slate is just using this election as a platform to achieve other things," Lovell said. "It's political blackmail."

Nowhere in the nation has the political fallout of the AIDS crisis so threatened gay citizens as in Texas. Former Mayor Welch made AIDS fears the corner-

(Continued on page 3)

### IN THIS ISSUE

**Cala Foods** will take part in future drives for the AIDS Food Bank and kick in some big donations. Charlie Linebarger reports, page 3.

**Atlas not insolvent**, says Pres. Jim Bowersox, who called recent media reports a "hatchet job," see page 5.

**Fear of sex** is what state officials want to promote to stem AIDS. Ron Baker explains, page 17.

**Castro: The Video** takes the TV soaps to the street, Michael Lasky writes on page 24.

## Bathhouse Battle: What Was Gained?

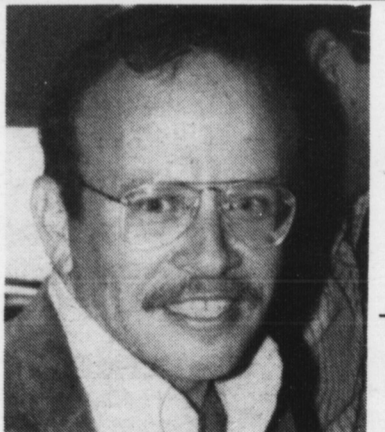
It Was Full of Sound and Fury, But Nothing Really Changed

Second of Two Parts

by Brian Jones

One day in January of this year—during the four-month period when gay baths and sex clubs were closed—Dr. Dean Echenberg, the city's top AIDS official, was talking about his daily trips past Eighth and Howard baths.

"I drive by there every day on my way home from work," said Echenberg, who is chief of the Bureau of Communicable diseases at the Department of Health. "And every evening I used to see all those cars in the parking lot and I would be very concerned about that."



"Today I drive by Eighth and Howard and the parking lot is empty and I say, 'Well, there's that many people who aren't exposing themselves—or each other—to AIDS today.'"

Counting cars in a parking lot doesn't appear to be a very scientific way to measure the effectiveness of an AIDS prevention

"AIDS was everywhere I looked. I felt a strong need to change my own personal involvement, to slow down and get out of the fast lane."  
—Hal Slate

campaign. That a medical doctor, who is the city's top AIDS expert, would do so underscores the central point in San Francisco's battle for the baths.

Rightly or wrongly, the bathhouses and sex clubs became a concrete symbol for an intangible and elusive force: the AIDS epidemic. For a city frustrated, even panicked, by its powerlessness over the spread of AIDS, striking out against the baths held an irresistible allure. But did it do anything to solve the AIDS problem? (Continued on page 21)