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0 BAY AREA REPORTER MARCH 6, 1986 PAGE 2 E BOAS BEEL & HORMAN RETROUGH ASEA YAG

861-5153

HTLV

Continued from page 1)

The change was proposed quietly and will not require any action by Congress. The rule involves the label which must accompany every unit of the blood test kit. The label lists appropriate uses for the blood test. Currently, the label prohibits using the test as a diagnostic tool for AIDS

"FDA is in the process of revising the package insert which instructs laboratories about the appropriate use and interpretation of the HTLV-3 antibody test," stated the FDA's Scarlett. Scarlett explained the proposed rule in a letter responding to an inquiry from California Assemblymember Art Agnos (D-SF).

"It is clear that health care authorities, including those at the Centers for Disease Control and others in the Public Health Service, consider the test of value in certain groups other than blood donors," Scarlett said.

"The test's labelling will be revised to reflect the manner in which it may appropriately be used for broadened applications based on data obtained since in-

dealing with discrimination

complaints from those suffering

from AIDS or ARC. While all

other complaints are handled at

local bureaus of the Civil Rights

Office, those from people with

AIDS or ARC are required to be

sent on to Washington, D.C. for

In his letter of resignation,

Freeman wrote, "I am concern-

ed that the decision to move

'cautiously' is politically

motivated and stems, in part,

from prejudice towards gay peo-

ple and the concomitant er-

roneous assumption that AIDS

is a gay disease." He said that

federal officials had told him

that AIDS discrimination com-

plaints were "not a priority"

and "should not command our

Freeman said that his agency

had a statutory obligation to pro-

tect the rights of any handicap-

ped person. "The law has been

applied to leprosy or Hansen's disease, staph infections, (and)

basically the law covers anyone

with any physical impairment which substantially impairs a

major life activity," said Freeman. "A temporarily sprain-

ed ankle would be considered a

Freeman explained his deci-

sion to leave his post as director

by saying, "I would feel the

same if they were doing this to

blacks or women, but I am gay,

openly gay. I've known a lot of

people who have come down

with AIDS, particularly an at-

torney who worked in our office

who died of AIDS a year ago. I

could see that this office was go-ing to be requiring me to take action to avoid dealing properly with AIDS cases. That would in

effect desecrate his memory."

In a memo sent to all the

regional offices, Betty Lou Dot-

son, acting deputy director for civil rights at HHS, explained

the reasons behind her decision

to single out AIDS and ARC

cases, "Due to the sensitivity of

this issue," she said, "ad-

ministrative control of such

cases will be assumed at the

headquarters level."

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handicap," he added.

resources at HHS."

investigation.

(Continued from page 1)

itial licensure of the tests." Scarlett said.

When first released in the spring of 1985, the diagnostic accuracy of the test was in doubt. The test was designed to detect tainted blood donations at blood banks, not to diagnose people. The meaning of a positive-or a negative-test result from a living person was not clear.

Experience with the antibody test has convinced federal health authorities of two things. First, they now believe that the antibody test is a diagnostic tool for AIDS, when combined with other medical examinations. And second, they believe that individuals testing positive are able to infect others with AIDS-even if the person tested remains outwardly healthy.

The first change came in June 1985. At that time, the Centers for Disease Control formally incorporated the antibody test as a "key element" in any AIDS diagnosis.

Later, in September 1985, the Public Health Service stated, in its official prevention plan on AIDS, that "a person with a repeatedly reactive HTLV-3 antibody test is infected with HTLV-3 and able to transmit the virus to others."

The FDA's Scarlett said,

Rights Chief Freeman, however, offered another explanation for Dotson's decision. According to Freeman, Dotson told a group of subordinates in Washington that, "I The controversial rule that don't want to lend an aura of Freeman felt was homophobic dignity to these (AIDS) cases." required a special procedure in

Dotson's spokesperson, Patricia Mackey, told the San Francisco Chronicle, "We simply want copies of all complaints to keep abreast of the problem to assure a coordinated approach." However, the rule as laid out in Dotson's memo to the regional offices required that an "investigative plan" be sent along with each of the AIDS complaints.

Freeman said that his resignation has caused some criticism by people who felt he should have stayed within the department and fought against the rules he felt to be discriminatory. But he noted that, "this will bring pressure on the department to forumulate a more reasonable AIDS policy. The public exposure makes it more difficult to do the footdragging. They know there is scrutiny now," he said. "But basically I did this for myself. I knew I couldn't live with myself

Wisconsin Upholds **Gay Rights Law**

The Wisconsin Assembly today defeated an attempt to weaken the state's anti-discrimination protections for lesbians and gay men. On a vote of 55-44, the Assembly killed an exemption for religious groups from provisions of the law that prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in contracts with government agencies.

"I am heartened that once again the Wisconsin legislature has gone on record in support of gay rights," said State Rep. David Clarenbach. "There is no justification for denying any person the right to make a living, a place to live or the use of a public place or service because of his or her sexual preference."

Clarenbach is Speaker Pro Tem of the Assembly and authored Wisconsin's first-in-thenation gay rights law that observed its fourth anniversary on March 2.

"This is not the first-nor will it be the last-attempt to undermine our gay rights law. As

"The science surrounding AIDS has been changing quite rapidly. Fixed and rigid regulation in the face of rapidly changing scientific knowledge presents substantial problems for the Food and Drug Administration. "The FDA is guided funda-

mentally by the best interest of the public health," Scarlett said. In the attorney's four-page, single-spaced letter to Agnos, he did not mention the possible effect of the rule change on discrimination based on AIDS antibody status.

Such discrimination has been partially blocked by the restrictions on the antibody test. Once those restrictions are lifted, employers, insurance companies and schools could legally require wide-scale screening for possible development of AIDS.

Some states-including California-prohibit such screening However, those laws were based on the old assumption that the antibody test was useful only for blood banks.

Now that federal health authorities appear convinced that the antibody test is useful in diagnosing AIDS, the state laws may also be on shaky ground.

B. Jones

and carry out their policy."

Several Congressional committees have contacted Freeman, indicating that they may be holding hearings into the opera-tions of HHS's Civil Rights Of-

"One message I would like to get out," added Freeman, "is that those who have AIDS or ARC should not be discouraged from filing complaints with this office. There are some very dedicated and competent staff people who would be assigned to work on complaints in this office. Moreover, it will help put pressure on headquarters to respond to complaints from people who have AIDS and ARC. Also people who are treated as if they have AIDS, though they don't, should file complaints."

To file a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights in the Department of Health and Human Services, call 556-3505, or send a complaint letter to, Office for Civil Rights, Department of Health and Human Services, 50 United Nations Plaza, San Francisco, CA 94102.

C. Linebarger

level.

education funds.

palling," said van Gorder.

long as prejudice and bigotry exist, we will have to be vigilant in our efforts to guarantee all

> said Clarenbach. The attempt to amend Wisconsin's gay rights law was in-troduced by Rep. Wayne Wood at the request of Rawhide Boys Ranch, a private home and treatment center for delinquent boys with a religious affiliation. State and local governments are cur-rently prohibited from contracting with Rawhide Ranch since it refuses to comply with the nondiscrimination provisions of state law.

citizens basic human rights,"

by Ray O'Loughlin

at \$213 million.

Collins

with AIDS.

would be eliminated.

In addition, another \$10 million (4.3 percent) would be slashed from all programs in across-the-board cuts to satisfy the Gramm-Rudman deficit reduction plan. The \$51 million in cuts repre-

Lobby Campaign **Hits Budget Cuts**

National Representatives Converge On **Capital to Protest Slashing AIDS Funds**

On Feb. 5, Pres. Ronald Reagan recommended sweeping cuts in federal spending for AIDS in this and the next fiscal year. Reagan proposed cutting \$51 million for the current year and another \$31 million next year. The proposal would limit the budget for AIDS to \$193 million for fiscal year 1986 although \$244 million has been appropriated by Congress. Next year's budget would be held

In response to the proposed massive cuts in AIDS spending, a nationally coordinated lobby ing effort is underway this week in Washington, D.C. Representatives from across the U.S. are meeting in the capital to impress upon legislators the need for continued federal spending on AIDS research and services. The San Francisco contingent in-

cluded Board of Supervisors Pres. John Molinari, Sup. Harry Britt, AIDS Foundation director Dr. Tim Wolfred, publisher Bob Ross and Molinari aide Dennis

Molinari will also carry the message and the demands of the ARC/AIDS Vigil, now in its fifth month. He will also present federal officials with the resolution passed by the Board of Supervisors last year urging that people with ARC be eligible for all services available to people

The lobbying effort is being coordinated by the AIDS Action Council, a consortium of AIDS service organizations, and the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs.

Planned cuts in the current budget call for \$15 million to be taken from health care demonstration projects; \$14 million less in treatment therapy research; and \$10 million cut from alternative test sites for HTLV-3 antibody testing. The national AIDS telephone hotline (\$2 million)

sent a 20 percent reduction in AIDS spending at the national

According to Britt aide, Dana van Gorder, "The proposed cuts are not so much in research They're taking money away from patient services and education." He said that the federal government cannot be relied upon for

"When the only means you have of controlling this disease is education and you don't fund it because you're embarrassed by a few dirty words, that's ap-

According to the AIDS Action Council, "In 1987, prospects are far worse. Basic research is likely to suffer severe cutbacks, particularly in the case of necessary long-term projects requiring substantial start-up funding." Risk reduction programs and Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement will also be slashed. This week a series of highlevel meetings with Congres-sional and Administration representatives will attempt to impact the appropriations process in its early stages and forestall the cuts. Among those who will meet

'When the only means you have of controlling this disease is education and you don't fund because you're embarrassed by a few dirty words, that's appalling."

-Dana van Gorder

with the San Francisco contingent are Rep. William Natcher (D-KY), head of the House



Four men who went to Washington to lobby for more AIDS funding are, left to right, Sup. Harry Britt, Dr. Tim Wolfred, Dennis Collins and Sup. John Molinari. Joining them was B.A.R. publisher Bob Ross. (Photo: Rink)

Subcommittee on Health & Human Services, Rep. Tony Coelho (D-CA) of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, House Speaker Tip O'Neill (D-MA), and Donald McDonald, Asst. Secretary for the Dept. of Health and Human Services, who oversees AIDS work. Sen. Lowell Weicker (R-CT), who has pledged support

for AIDS research efforts, and also chairs the Senate Subcommittee on Health & Human Services, will also meet with the group.

"One of the problems," said van Gorder on federal AIDS appropriations, "is that money winds up never being spent. One thing these meetings will do is

press for an accounting of what the cash flow is and find out why they're not spending it."

The meetings are also intended to convey to legislators the impact of further cuts on U.S. cities. "Gramm-Rudman cutbacks are certain to devastate many vitally important social and health programs that have already taken the brunt of previous federal budget cuts," according to a planning memo from the AIDS Action Council.

"The President's budget won't be approved, I don't think," said Mark Cloutier, aide to Rep. Barbara Boxer. "My sense is that Congress realizes that the President's budget won't work. There is enough of a consensus in Congress about the severity of AIDS that they know they need to increase funding for AIDS research," said Cloutier

Cloutier also explained that the process by which the federal government will make its eventual allocation for AIDS research and education for 1987 is going to be long and complex. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate will be making their own recommendations on AIDS spending as well as on all other aspects of the budget. The final Congressional budget will be voted on in September.

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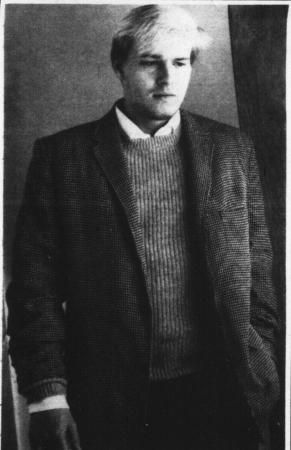
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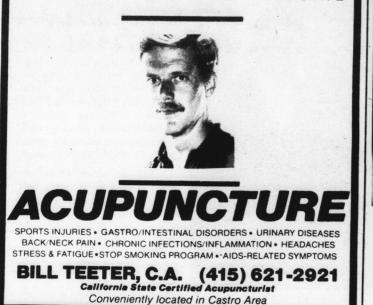
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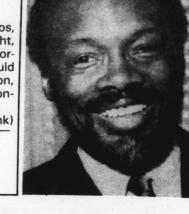
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Assemblymen Art Agnos, eft, and Willie Brown, right, vere legislators who authored major bills that could assist with AIDS education, reatment, testing and conidentiality. (Photo: Rink)



Legislature Ponders 36 AIDS-Related Bills

Includes Bills from Sensible to Hysterical **On Broad Range of Issues**

by George Mendenhall

The state legislature approved one AIDS-related bill in 1983 by Sen. David Roberti (D-LA) establishing the state's AIDS Advisory Committee. In 1982 there was a second bill by Roberti which would have required the state Department of Health Services (DHS) to study and develop a 3-year AIDS health plan. Opposed by Gov. George Deukmejian, the measure failed.

In 1985, numerous bills were introduced-some were an attempt to deal with the AIDS crisis effectively while a few were the attempt of some legislators to use the AIDS crisis to legislate their homophobia. One legislator, Sen. John Doolittle (R-Roseville), introduced four bills that appeared to protect heterosexuals rather an addressing the AIDS crisis.

There are 34 bills before the current legislature. Two died in committees earlier in the session. One would have provided full disability retirement for certain categories of Los Angeles County employees who contracted AIDS. The second would have prohibited discriminatory practices for disability insurance and health care. (Continued on page 13)

ABC News Looks At Gay-Bashing

Network Show Features Segment On Petrini Assault, Rise in Violence

by Charles Linebarger

In the two months since the gay-bashing of David Johnson and Matthew Holloway in Petrini's parking lot, no suspects have been found despite a stake out of the building believed to house the attackers. In the meantime Johnson and Holloway have been interviewed by the ABC news program 20/20 for a soon to be aired segment on AIDS and anti-gay violence.

The community controversy that flared around Petrini's role in the initial attack has led to agreements between CUAV (Community United Against Violence) and the supermarket owners. And the role of the police in all this has come under increasing scrutiny.

"Those people (the assailants) have never showed again," said Police Inspector Armand Gordon. "I feel the initial report of it (the story was covered by the

two days after the incident but they disappeared after the story appeared.'

According to Randy Schell of CUAV, ABC news is doing a segthem off. They were in Petrini's ment on AIDS and the rise in

anti-gay violence. In the last two months, producer Kathy Mc-Mannis has interviewed Schell, as well as others at CUAV, and Johnson and Holloway.

"I feel like the media is coming out of its closet," said Schell. "We know as gay people that this problem exists all over. I don't know why it's never been looked at before."

Matthew Holloway, whose lover David Johnson was assaulted at Petrini's on Dec. 21, recalled his interviews with McMannis. "We were interviewed three times and she (McMannis) was fantastic. She was really fun to work with," he said. The 20/20 segment on anti-

gay violence is tentatively set for broadcast early in March.

SLOW RECOVERY

Carmen Vazquez, community organizer at CUAV, told B.A.R. about the agreement which has been worked out between Petrini's and CUAV. "They've agreed in writing," said Vazquez, "to make the hiring of a security guard in the parking lot, from

(Continued on page 14)

Huge Jump In **February AIDS Cases**

The San Francisco Department of Public Health reported 101 new cases of AIDS and 47 deaths from AIDS during the month of February. The number of new cases is the highest ever recorded during a one month period since records began being kept in July, 1981.

of Communicable Disease Control for the department, said the jump in new cases may not represent a significant change in a plateau of new cases that had been reached during the past 13 months. During that time new cases averaged 65 per month.

"In any epidemic you have to expect a certain amount of month-to-month variation,"

Dr. Dean Echenberg, director Echenberg said. "We always look for long-term trends. The number of new cases in February is obviously an increase. But what it means in future trends is unknown."

> Echenberg said the pattern of high risk groups developing AIDS has not changed significantly, even with February's increase. Ninety-six of the 101 cases occurred in homosexual/

bisexual men, seven of whom also used intravenous drugs. Three of the 101 were solely drug related, one of whom was a woman. One case was a recipient of a blood transfusion that occurred prior to 1983 and one case is still under investigation.

Echenberg also analyzed the 101 cases for county of residence, reporting facility, and diagnostic group. All were essentially the same proportions as reported in previous months. About 10 of the new cases represent late reporting.

The incubation period for AIDS can range from five to six years and Echenberg stressed these new 101 cases are most likely the result of infections acquired years ago through sexual contact or drug use.

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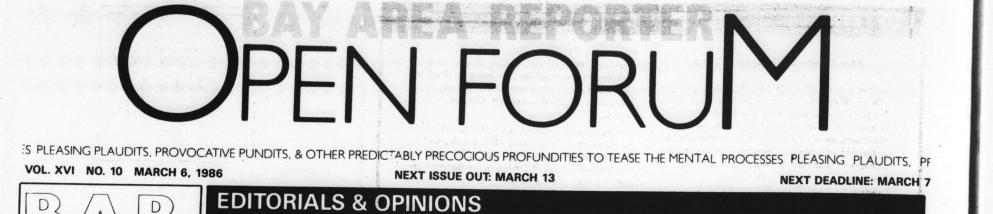
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We Are A National Community

exas wants to quarantine certain people with AIDS. A Min-nesota lesbian fights a legal battle to see and care for her disabled lover held captive by her family. Massachusetts bans gay foster parents and other states move in the same direction. New York City joins a growing list of cities closing its bathhouses. A court case contesting a state law against sodomy in Georgia goes before the U.S. Supreme Court.

You've seen those reports in the pages of the Bay Area Reporter. If you've kept track of gay and lesbian news recently, you've noticed that more and more of it comes from places other than the two coasts. Not only are gay communities away from the coastal hubs growing, but increasingly the issues that each community faces, whether here in San Francisco or in St. Cloud, Minnesota, are national issues.

The actions of the U.S. Supreme Court in the Georgia sodomy case would end such draconian laws for the entire U.S. Or it could set us all back a decade or two in terms of legal harassment. A variety of laws prohibiting what straight men regard as unorthodox sex have been used to stop gay civil rights and even education efforts regarding safe sex.

ow we face a struggle to maintain federal appropriations for AIDS research, treatment and education. The Reagan Administration is following its favorite course of taking from the needy, like homeless people with AIDS, to feed the fat, such as defense contractors. The Administration has proposed a 20 percent cut in AIDS funds although the Gramm-Rudman Act calls for a 4 percent reduction in spending to reduce the federal deficit.

The gay and lesbian movement has in the past been a collection of autonomous local communities. Local organizations rose

In the Pink

LETTERS

★ I'll do almost anything to help Gay Games II happen in San Francisco August 9-17, 1986. To prove that statement, I have agreed to undergo a complete feminine transformation (yes Blanch complete) if \$5,000 is raised by Saturday, March 15.

The Games, like this transformation: "Chris Puccinelli in a Pink Dress with Pumps," will only take place with the help of the entire community.

San Francisco Arts and Athletics, sponsors of Gay Games II, has lost the legal right to use the word "olympic" in Gay Games II, but that shouldn't stop us as a community in financially supporting this celebration of health and well-being. I will appear at a well-publicized community event in evening gown, pumps and tasteful make-up, if, and only if we can raise \$5,000 for the Games by March 15. The monies which are raised will go towards facilities deposits which must be paid now in order to secure all the facilities needed for later this year.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteer effort which has gone towards making the Games a reality in 1986. Now, as we are just

six months away from the event, I hope there will be a stronger outpouring of support financially from our community also. Here's to one of the biggest and most positive

celebrations of 1986, Gay Games II!!!

Chris Puccinelli **Owner**, Awards by Chris Member, Board of Directors, SFAA San Francisco

Monitoring the Monitor

This letter was sent to C. Alan Cranford, Manager of Circulation Service Department for the Christian Science Monitor:

* In your request for renewal of my subscription

to the Christian Science Monitor, you mention a

questionnaire that was included to inquire into my

reasons for not renewing. There was no question-

naire enclosed, but I thought I would take the time

to give you my thoughts on the subject anyway.

Science Monitor, and for me the Monitor was re-

On two occasions I subscribed to the Christian

to deal with local issues and local circumstances. At best, individual organizations from separate communities were loosely

strung together-mostly, via conferences calling for national unity. But times have changed. The issues we now face require

nationwide solutions. What happens in Georgia affects what happens in Texas-and in New York, and in California.

he first concern to come to mind is, of course, AIDS. The disease and its social fall-out have long passed any local boundaries. Not only is federal action necessary to support research and develop treatments, but even in local issues, such as bathhouse closures, we see a national pattern in the actions of local jurisdictions.

Other issues remain on the agenda as well-street violence, civil rights, for example-all have become national issues beyond local concerns

The logical response to this situation is to develop national organizations to act on national issues. We need a national political presence now more than ever.

Presently, we have the basis for such a movement. The Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) and the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) have been around for years. It is time to use them.

With the old squabble between NGLTF and the now defunct Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL) over, hopefully our national representatives can concentrate on developing national political leadership. We cannot let our movement be led by the medical doctors, as sociologist Dennis Altman says has become the case.

It is time to re-think the role of national groups as contributing to-not competing with-the development of local communities. For that to happen, national gay organizations must end their turf wars to deliver the goods that local communities so desperately need.

AIDS Confab Set For March on TV

WASHINGTON-The first national teleconference on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) in the Workplace, co-sponsored by The Bureau of National Affairs, Inc. (BNA) and Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), will be transmitted March 26 to more than 100 sites nationwide.

The teleconference will be transmitted live from 1 to 4 p.m. EST from the studios of WETACOM, a subsidiary of WETA-TV (Channel 26) in Washington, D.C.

The teleconference will provide a forum for a comprehen sive investigation and discussion of the legal and medical issues, public policy implications, and employer/employee concerns of AIDS in the workplace. The seminar will bring together top public health officials, attorneys, policymakers, insurance representatives, corporate and union officials, and gay rights advocates. More than 2,000 people are expected to attend.

Among the issues that will be discussed are:

• Can employers test and screen workers and applicants for AIDS?

• What privacy rights do employees have?

• What are the legal rights of persons with AIDS (PWAs) under EEO and handicap statutes? How and why are they being successful in legal chal-lenges?

BAY AREA REPORTER MARCH 6, 1986 PAGE 6

promised your journalistic ethics by letting your prejudices get in the way of objective coverage of the story. This is, indeed, a shame. It has also come to my attention that the Christian Science Monitor will not hire gay people for its staff. This is certainly your loss. Perhaps that helps explain your unbalanced coverage of news. Your policy of not addressing the current events that

quired reading each evening. As an environmental

scientist, I looked to the Monitor for comment on

both the political and social aspects of my field.

This last year, however, it dawned on me that there

were subjects and events that the Monitor was

ignoring or to which it was deigning to give only

minimal attention. These subjects are the AIDS

epidemic and its effect on the gay community. This

coverage was almost nonexistent, and what was

given was certainly out of proportion with the scope

The small articles that did appear would in some

way indicate disapproval of the gay lifestyle, as if

one chose these things like an entree. Of course,

this is not the case, but that is not the object of

my letter. What is the point is that you have com-

of this problem.

involve this large segment of the world's population in this time of crisis and growth is as inexcusable as it is unprofessional

> Paul La Courreve San Francisco

Amen, Amen, Amen!!! ★ "AIDS is God's punishment for homosexuals"

sayeth the leaders of the Southern Baptists and other assorted Bible-wavers and messengers of homophobia and hatred. I assume that these zealots really believe their own bilge and just keep on spewing forth their vomit at whatever targets they may be aiming at. However, gays have been around for thousands and thousands of years. But AIDS is recent.

To the fact that innocent children and spouses of AIDS victims are also afflicted, I suppose one should respond that the Lord indeed works in mysterious ways. Amen!

> **Ed Dollack** San Francisco

LETTERS

The Church Lumbers Along

* The conference on AIDS put on by the Episcopal Church, March 4-7 at Grace Cathedral is a hoax. It's the church's attempt to deceive people about homosexuality. By focusing on the illness, AIDS, the church avoids the issues of homosexuality, the ordination of openly homosexual persons to the Priesthood and the blessing and marriage of homosexual persons to each other.

AIDS is such a popular cause now it is used to sell soap on TV. All the networks, newspapers and magazines have carried sympathetic stories about AIDS and the tragic consequences to those with the disease. The Congress and even our pie in the sky President are willing to help. Glory be, even the medical profession cares.

Now the church comes lumbering after the rest of the nation offering aid to AIDS patients. The leaders of this conference brag that we Episcopalians are the first major denomination to sponsor such an event. We church people should hang our heads in shame that it has taken so long.

The conference is a hoax because it misleads gay/lesbian people into thinking church leaders have real concern for homosexuals as people. The fact is they are only concerned if they are ill.

The church continues to patronize homosexual people by offering help only to the sick, and not supporting the life style of the well. The church scampers and hides when gay/lesbian people want to be treated as equal to straight people in all ways. We continually duck the issue in facing the ordination of openly homosexual persons and the marriage of gay/lesbian couples.

I called on the Bishop of California to sponsor a conference on homosexuality to teach church people about gays and lesbians as persons. Instead he allowed a conference on AIDS.

Don't get me wrong. I want us in the church to minister to people with AIDS. At Trinity where I am Rector we have:

• an altar with perpetual light signifying our prayers for people with AIDS,

• a program of feeding AIDS patients in their homes when they cannot feed themselves,

• a living room called Our Place for AIDS patients to gather, to read, play games, watch TV and rest in the afternoons.

• healing services Wednesdays and Sundays for anyone sick, but especially for people with AIDS. In addition, I am on the conference Advisory Board of this very National Episcopal Conference on AIDS Crisis.

But it is still a cruel hoax pretending to care for homosexuals while not working at all toward the alleviation of sex prejudice against gay/lesbian people in our society and church. This conference is another example of the church retreating from the basic issue of full equality for homosexual people.

> **Robert Warren Cromey Rector, Trinity Episcopal Church** San Francisco

An Open Letter to San Francisco Congresswoman Barbara Boxer

* As you are aware, the Mobilization Against AIDS is asking citizens in the counties of San Francisco and Marin to call or write you regarding increasing funding to fight AIDS to \$500 million next year. We are writing this open letter to formally articulate our reasons for this action. Our reasons are three

• We must have massive increases in AIDS funding. Millions of Americans are already exposed to AIDS. and thousands more are being exposed every day. Preventive education programs are not in place around the country, research funding is inadequate, and treatment programs are so insufficient that tens of thousands of Americans are fleeing the nation to seek treatment. A "moon-shot" effort to stop AIDS by the Federal government is the only hope to save the lives of hundreds of thousands of Americans. Because of this, we cannot compromise on this point.

• You have held Congressional Hearings on AIDS, in San Francisco last year, and participated in many hearings on AIDS in Washington because of your role in the Sub-Committee on Intergovernmental Relations. Because of this and your willingness to devote the time of your staff to AIDS, you are certainly one of the most expert members of Congress on the AIDS issue.

• You are on the Congressional Budget Committee which is the committee which authorizes all federal spending and can increase AIDS funding. As you know, this is a committee controlled by Democrats and is the best hope of getting massive increases in AIDS funding. The Chair of the Committee and many of its members are strong supporters of adequate health care in America. Further, at least five Democrats and one Republican committee members consider themselves to be friends of the lesbian/gay

community. The Chair of the Budget Committee, Rep. Gray, serves on the Steering Committee of the Philadelphia Lesbian/Gay Task Force. In short, the votes are there-what is needed is leadership in the committee. Leadership you are uniquely able to provide.

Congresswoman Boxer, you understand both the enormous need for increased AIDS funding and the mechanisms of government. This AIDS expertise coupled with your membership in the Budget Committee makes you the single most obvious leader to fight for increased AIDS funding in the House of Representatives.

We believe that you are willing to fight for Mobilization Against AIDS' call for increasing AIDS funding to \$500 million if you thought it was a politically feasible goal which your constituents support. To that end we have begun contacting AIDS activists across the nation to obtain the support of other members of the Budget Committee.

We have also asked your constituents to call your offices and let you know that they would support you in such an action. We hope many voters follow our suggestion

Congresswoman, in six weeks the Budget Committee will issue its recommendations. We urge you to lead the fight to insure that their proposal calls for increasing AIDS funding next year to \$500 million.

Paul Boneberg. **Coordinator, Mobilization Against AIDS** San Francisco



Dianne the Comedienne

The following letter was sent to Herb Caen:

* Saturday, Feb. 22, at Raggs Restaurant on Fourth St. Dignity/San Francisco held its 13th anniversary dinner and awards. First one, to Mayor Feinstein. Because of other engagements that evening, she accepted it at the maitre d's desk. During her acceptance speech, the phone rang; she proved a real comedienne by answering it, to cheers and applause from the group. During a lull, Jack Abraham shouted: "It's Herb Caen" which really broke up the mayor.

As she was leaving, Earl Thomas shouted: "Three cheers for San Francisco's own Lady Di." After that applause died away, he continued: "Our next Vice-President," to more acclaim. Later, Supervisor Molinari, the main speaker, delivered a warm and moving address. Supervisor Louise Renne was there, as was State Sen. Milton Marks. But, too bad Supervisor Harry Britt could not show. Our only gay Supervisor, and this was a celebration of gay Catholics!

> **Jack Abraham** San Francisco

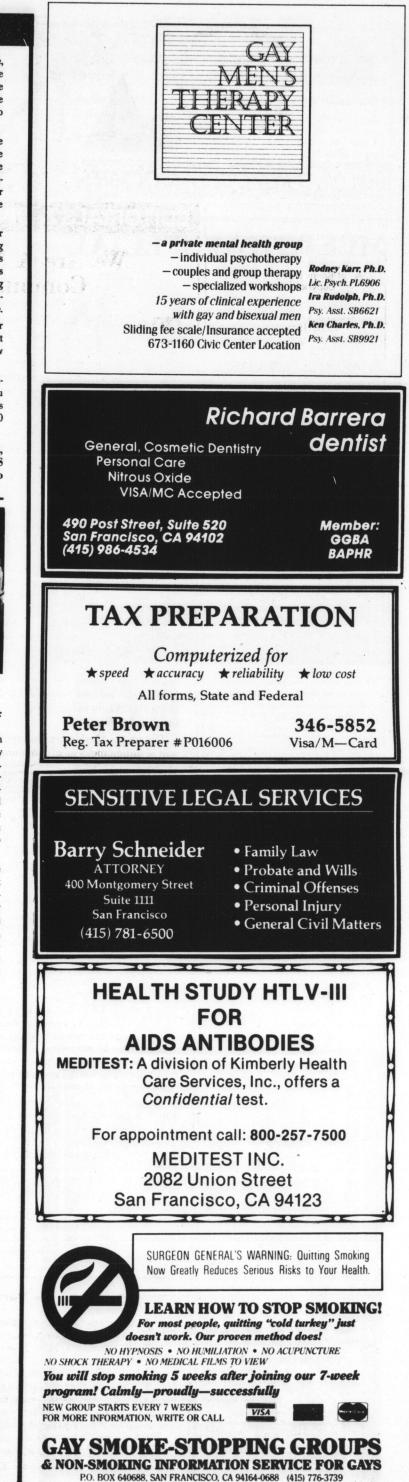
There He Goes Again!

* Well, there you go again, Mr. Youngblood! Not only did you miss the basic premise of my letter to the Editor, Jan. 16, but you also dare to ASS-U-ME that I should waste my valuable time and energy to personally attack you. When I had read your previous letter (one of many). I was inspired to address the issue of bathhouse closure. To offer my point of view, based on a short synopsis of my own gay political background. And this was open for liscussion with the community as a whole. I must commend the Editor for the intelligence of understanding the true point of my letter, by using the title. The Era Is NOT Over.

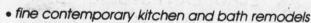
Certainly, I used your letter as the basis for my response, but you were in no way expected to take personal affront to my letter. Yet, you see yourself as "only a gay man"; a gadfly, "caught up" in the darkness of your own negative nightmare. The Webster's New World Dictionary defines a gadfly as, "one who annoys others." You continually manipulate the truths, hide the facts, and dwell on the negative; while the community lives, grows and strives for a better tomorrow. The issues are there, the discussions are taking place and the support is growing as the community takes charge as a whole

So take charge of your life, join us and contribute something beautiful to those lives not vet lost. Then maybe, when it is your time, it will not be all in vain.

> Robert C. Ratliff, Jr. San Francisco



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BAY AREA REPORTER MARCH 6, 1986 PAGE 8

LETTERS

Gay Aunt Jemimas

* For the past few weeks, I have been following the development of the "KQED scandal." I agree that it is the responsibility of the entire gay community to demand positive, professional coverage of gay-related topics and events. In these times of panic and homophobic misinformation, it is extremely important that we stand together as a community to protect our image of awareness, responsibility, and professionalism

However, I think we should clean out our own closets before we start making demands of the straight community networks. I refer to the programs being aired on the Gay Cable Network. These programs are a classic example of the gay communiy proving to be its own worst enemy! Having Doris Fish and Muffy reporting the news of the gay community is akin to having Aunt Jemima anchor the news of the black community! This type of programming undermines all of our efforts and merely strengthens every negative image held against us by the straight community.

I realize that much of this programming is done in the spirit of levity, but there is a time and a place for everything. In these trying times, when so much hatred is being channeled toward the gay community, we can't afford to calmly sit back and go for the big laughs!

In case you haven't noticed, Doris . . . we aren't laughing!

> **Dennis Kovach** San Francisco

Get on KQED's Board

* KOED is run by a Board of Directors who are elected by the station's members. Gay people should join KQED and vote in directors who will be sympathetic to gay concerns. The B.A.R. could help by suggesting candidates to vote for.

Call 864-1100 and join now. Your vote will count. John Lambert

San Francisco

Bravo, Rawhide II!!

* Shanti Project would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Ray Chalker and the staff of the Rawhide II for the wonderful benefit, the Oil Baron's Ball on February 9. Over \$6,000 was raised with staff donating much of their tips. Outside of a roomful of beautiful people, resplendent in tuxedos and cowboy boots, the Rawhide Saddletramps did some outrageous dancing and the place was ful of laughter and positive feeling. Ray was determined to make it a success ... and a success it was!

It isn't often that our work brings laughter and real fun into the lives of so many people at the same time-when it happens, it stimulates our motivation to touch even more lives with the excellence of service for which Shanti is known.

The gift from all those who participated given to people with AIDS to Shanti volunteers and staff will not be forgotten. You are Shanti.

Take That!

* You are certainly within your rights, Mr. Mitchell-

craft, to criticize the Gay Cable Network. Everyone

important point. You are confusing "gay pride"

We have all been brought up with the best tele-

vision in the world. It costs millions of dollars to

make it "look" credible, and move more and more

quickly, so that we will not be bored. However it

The GCN is in fact produced with one 3-tube

camera and one 3/4-inch studio deck. The many

wonderful, talented, and incredibly consistent peo-

ple I work with, (at least 20 per week) are all

volunteers. There is a reason for this as they are

l suppose these volunteers suffer from a lack of

Beyond your confusion, I think you fail to see

potential. We would all agree that the GCN is an

idea whose time has come. It is important to have

a time-slot, and to exchange visual information with

the other cities in the network (there are five), but

these things take time, and most of all advertising

So rather than see it as a beginning, would you

throw the baby out with the bath water? We are well

aware of our presentation problems, and our viewers

devoted to and believe strongly in this idea.

wited to do so. However you are co

does not serve our community.

gay pride, Mr. Mitchellcraft?

dollars

with "money."

Bea Roman **Director of Development** Shanti Project San Francisco very near future. However, do not confuse pride with presentation. I hope that all community-minded beople feel they can participate in some way. We need news writers

And as for humor, Mr. Mitchellcraft, there are many people who would disagree with you. Do you think you could take another look and perhaps see some of the good points of the network. Every show is different. On a more personal note, as someone who has no preference in drag or non-drag humor, I think everyone should be reminded that transvestism in theater is high art everywhere in the world except the good old USA.

I might add, I take what is generously offered to me. If you don't like Doris Fish, Phillip R. Ford, Patsy Cline, Suzi Berger, Monica Palacios, Tom Ammiano, "Tippi" Miss X, Danny Williams, and the rest of my friends, who the hell are you anyway, you tired bitch!

For those of you who do not have Cable, you can catch the show on Tuesday night between 9:00 and 10:00 p.m. at the Village, located at 4086 18th St. and Castro, or at Amelia's located at 647 Valencia St. Thanks, and please respond to our urgent requests for mail and criticism

John Canalli, General Manager **Gay Cable Network** San Francisco

Overcoming Fear

* My usual response to the writings of Brian Jones is apathy, but his February 13th article "The Man That Got Away" is so excellent that I am compelled to comment on it.

There will probably be a furor against the position Mr. Jones has taken, but I see it as the epitome of a healthy mental attitude towards not only AIDS but homophobic attitudes.

Ironically enough, I had an encounter here in Salt Lake City in May of 1985 just after having moved here from San Francisco that was very similar to the one Brian described. It was night and I was walking with a new gay "friend" down an unlighted street toward the Sun Tavern (one of four gay bars in Utah) when a carload of straight boys passed us very slowly. The guy in the front seat passenger position stuck his head out the window and said, "Hey faggot, you got AIDS?" My spontaneous reply was, 'Get out and I'll fuck your ass, then you'll know!' The car slowed down to a stop and my "friend" hurried on past it, making for the safety of the tavern door. I continued walking at my normal pace. When I was beside the car the young man who had insulted me said, "You don't look like a faggot." My response was, "Well, I am." They drove away,

It was. I believe, my lack of fear that caused them to disengage. It is sad that so few gay men are able to confront hostility with assurance and confidence. The realization that Brian came to and shared with B.A.R. readers is based on having overcome fear. In this case it was due to having successfully encountered the existential death threat of AIDS.

As a Vietnam veteran, I have already had the opportunity to confront the threat of death, so I come to the issue of AIDS with some background belief that passing through fear produces personal freedom. Most people 40 and younger have not had a personal encounter with death, so they imagine they cannot encounter this fear, pass through it, and grow from it. But we can. Thank you, Brian, for having the courage to say so.

> Michael E. Mallett Murray, Utah

Welcome, Francine's

★ I would like to extend a "welcome" to the new women's bar that just opened in the Castro area. Francine's which is located on 18th across from Cala Market. It feels good to see that finally the men and women can unite together in the Castro area. Welcome women!! And may there be more to

> C. Rodger Morales San Francisco

Heed My Words

* Heed my words and others. What Reagan/The Right Wing and Gramm-Rudman bill will mean for the coming years to this country. You will start really seeing the effects at the end of this year, and it will get worse. AIDS funding will be cut in half-social services, aid to the unemployed, elderly and poor, housing and the list will go on and on.

Where are the stupid people in the country? Are they crying out. No, they are sleep-walking (as long as they are not affected, but in time they will be).

Shel Myman Oakland

Barbara Boxer.

hopeful Tom Bradley.



ing major cutbacks in all "discretionary" programs and one of the big losers appears surely to be AIDS. The Reagan Administration is calling for a 10 percent reduction and many observers believe that we will be doing well if we can simply block cutbacks in AIDS funding.

One of the better ideas that I have heard to combat the planned meat-axe cuts by Reagan & Company seems to be coming from the Mobilization Against AIDS, San Francisco's homegrown AIDS pressure group. Mobilization is pushing a different strategy, calling for doubling AIDS funding next

year to \$500 million dollars. Whether this is politically feasible in the current political climate remains to be seen, but the critical part of the struggle will soon be decided in the House Budget Committee. This committee contains many friends of our community and is chaired by Rep. William Gray (D-PA) who sits on the board of the Philadelphia Lesbian and Gay Task Force. Other friendly members include Tom Downey (D) from Long Island, Vic Fazio (D) from Sacramento, George Miller (D) of Contra Costa County. Mike Lowry (D) of Seattle, and San Francisco Congresswoman

The Budget Committee is just the beginning of a long process to obtain AIDS funding. Even if they propose large increases, there's no guarantee that we will eventually get them. But, if they do not propose such increases, then we've lost the battle for 1987 AIDS funding because the Budget Committee sets the fund levels for each later subcommittee to introduce a resolution calling for massive increases in AIDS funding—and I like the call for doubling it to \$500 million. I fully support Mobiliza-tion's plan, and I would urge all of you to call Congressional offices and tell them you want them to push for doubling the funding for AIDS. Congressmembers listen to phone calls from their constituents.

Of course, this will be a tough political struggle-but if we don't fight, we surely can't win. Rep. Boxer (San Francisco & Marin) can be reached at (415) 626-6943 or (202) 225-5161; Rep. Miller's (Contra Costa County) phone is 687-3260; and Rep. Fazio (of Sacramento) can be reached at (916) 484-4174. Call today and ask your Representative to support raising the budget for AIDS to \$500

onpartisan politics: Jerry Weintraub, the L. A. producer-record mogul, held fundraiser last month that raised several hundred thou for George Bush, then last week gave a \$2,500-a-head party for Democratic gubernatorial



Tom Bradley (Photo: Rink)

Friends of Board President John Molinari holding \$250 cocktail fundraiser for their man on Mar. 12 at Henri's in the San Francisco Hilton (5:30-7:30; 956-5221 for info).

A state Constitutional amendment which prohibits political parties from endorsing, supporting or opposing a candidate for nonpartisan office, will appear on the June ballot, placed there the state legislature. San Francisco's two state Senators took opposite positions (Foran for the amendment; Marks against).

Now that Eldridge Cleaver, the former fiery Black Panther leader, who is now a Moral Majority convert, has announced for the GOP U.S. Senate nomination, can an endorsement pilgrimage by Jerry Falwell be behind?

Our Carmel spies are telling us that Clint Eastwood is a shooin to become that resort city's next mayor. Eastwood says he is running because the current city fathers (mothers?) lack the "spirit of friendliness and camaraderie and esprit de corps that was once there." It should be pointed out, of course, that Dirty Harry has an expensive suit pending against the nonfriendly current Carmel city leaders because they turned down his proposal last year for a new (and presumably friendly) retail-office complex.

Attorney General John Van de Kamp has got to be one smiling politician. The AG filed for reelection again last week and as of the moment no one, Democrat or Republican, plans to run against him. Van de Kamp can save his political war chest for a gubernatorial race four years hence.

om Bradley's City Hall ralley announcing his campaign here last week brought fewer than 200 despite names like Feinstein and Molinari. It seems the Bradley people never bothered to notify anyone here of their rally plans until a couple of days before the event. Advance signs of yet another mis-handled Bradley campaign?

The State Republican Conven tion takes place this weekend at the Marriott Hotel in Santa Clara. Illinois Gov. James Thompson will be the GOP keynote speaker, followed by speeches from Sen. Pete Wilson and Gov. George Deukemejian ((818) 841-5210 for info on the Republican confab].

Republicans, incidentally, are trying to get tax crusader Paul Gann to challenge incumbent Board of Equalization Board member William Bennett this November. There is talk that John Shimmon, long a deputy to former BOE member George Reilly (and a recent convert to the GOP) will take on Board member Conway Collis. This could spell political problems for both Bennett and Collis since the Republicans have obviously targeted the two.

Smart political timing: Rep. Ed Zschau, candidate for the GOP Senate nomination, is holding a \$500/person fundraiser tonight (Mar 6.) at the Marriott Hotel, the same hotel that the GOP is holding their state gathering, beginning tomorrow

Gay and lesbian political activists in San Diego split over the June 3 mayoral run-off that features a showndown between Councilman Bill Cleator and former Councilmember Maureen O'Connor. Cleator, a Republican, reportedly has the edge with the influential gay/ lesbian vote.

AIDS claimed the life of New York's Peter Vogel last week. One of the most respected and influential gay activists in the country, Vogel served as the first chair of the New York State Gay Task Force, was the vice-chair of Gov. Mario Cuomo's state task force on AIDS, and was a past co-chair, with San Francisco's Gwenn Craig, of the National Association of Gay & Lesbian Democratic Clubs. Peter Vogel, who leaves a lover of 20 years, Don Castellanos, died at the age

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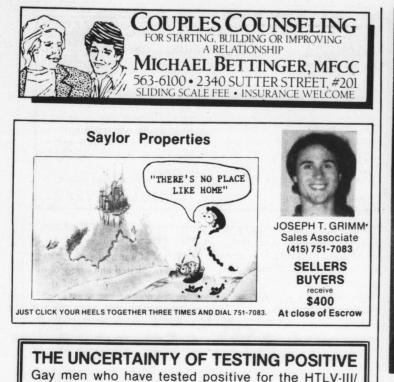
346-5852 Beforewarned. On March 17th, others may discover what you've always known about.

It's St. Patrick's Day-and everybody's Irish. They wear green. Do jigs. Sing Danny Boy off-key. They might even discover what you've always known, and, perish the thought, drink all the Bushmills.

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Main Street in Guerneville

Mike Hippler ON THE OFF BEAT

Digging Out at the River

This I gotta see," I said to

We arrived at the Rainbow Cattle Company to find one of the co-owners, Jim Jolly, drinking at the bar. Outside on Main Street, people were busily hosing down storefronts, shovelling mud, and loading pickup trucks and dumpsters with wet mattresses, carpets, and ruined stock. But inside the bar, all was fairly calm.

Explained Jolly, "We had very little damage actually-nothing compared to Fife's. A lot of mess, maybe, but it was more of a pain in the tush than anything." Because of its location on a slight rise on Main Street, the Rainbow Cattle Company suffered floodwaters only two feet high. The owners lost a cooler compressor and a bit of stock, but there was no damage to the machinery, walls, or structure of the building. "Knock on wood," said Jolly.

True, bartenders were serving drinks in plastic cups and using imported ice and bottled water. But that was due to the Health Department's concern about the drinking water and not to damaged or inadequate plumbing. 'At least the toilets are operating," added Jolly.

For less than a week, the bar was closed-three days due to the flood and two days due to cleanup. It was open for business again on Saturday, just five days after the river rose to a record level of almost 50 feet above flood stage. As one of the first businesses in Guerneville to reopen, the bar was able to serve as an information and assistance

y nature I am not a center for people in need of help-and also for those simply in need of company and good cheer.

> here was no lack of good cheer. Across the road at the Mountain Lodge, owner Jerry Davis offered free carpet samples, a guided tour of the flood damage to his place, and an unending supply of flood iokes. One of his employees modeled a "Russian River 86" T-shirt imprinted with a waterlevel marker. The shirt was blue above the 50-foot mark and mud-brown below it.

As Davis said, "What are you gonna do? You can laugh or cry. The damage is already done. I'll laugh." Davis may be crying if FEMA, the federal disaster assistance agency, turns down his request for \$200,000 in lowinterest loans to fix up the place. But come hell or, God forbid. more high water, he is determined to reopen by Easter.

The people at Fife's have the same goal in mind-an Easter opening-but a hell of a lot more work to do in the meantime. Fife's was the hardest hit of area resorts-a major disaster zone, and the flood couldn't come at a worse time. The owners, having sunk a good deal

of money into remodeling parts of the main lodge, had planned a big opening for Valentine's/ Presidents' Day weekend when the flood hit. "Oh, the opening was a great

success," said Mike Vassie, "for one day only." The sign advertising the opening, in fact, was still up the day of my visit, but it was hanging lopsided from the front gate by a broken chain and superimposed by another sign reading, "Closed."

A tour of Fife's was disheartening, to say the least. Since the floodwaters completely inundated every one of the cabins, the contents of each cabin were totally destroyed. The awnings and porches of most cabins were ripped off; several cabins were torn from their foundations. In the campground area, the creek separating the campsites from the cabins had become a canyon. A few campsites were washed away entirely. The pool was filled with mud, and nearby, parts of the stage floor and deck had caved in.

In the main lodge, all the furniture was destroyed, including -the saddest sight of all to me-the grand piano, which was found upside-down and filled with mud. "At least she died

(Continued on next page)



Fife's had to change its plans (Photo: Jerry Davis)





(Continued from previous page)

said one employee.

the sun to dry.

nishing."

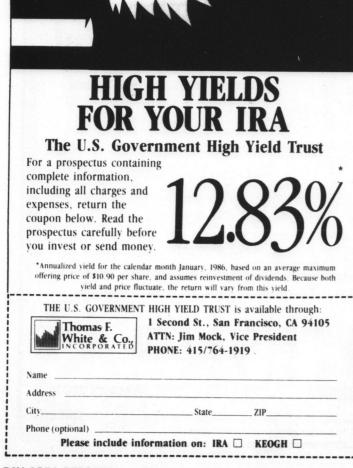
days ahead."

Ironically, the one picture left hanging on the walls is a composit of snapshots taken during the last big flood in 1981-a reminder that adversity can and must be overcome.

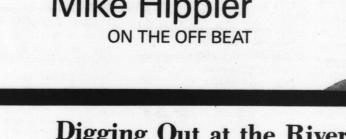
Before leaving Guerneville Juan and I stopped by the mobile home where his brother lives-or lived-on the grounds of the Creekside Inn across river from Fife's. Unfortunately Juan's brother wasn't home, but his friend Lynn, owner of the inn, showed us around instead. There we saw more of the same-rooms filled with mud and piles of ruined possessions. While Lynn told us about the flood, friends scrubbed an upstairs bathroom, one of Lynn's sons attempted to revive a waterlogged truck, and another turned a heavy-duty industrial heater on the walls downstairs.

Juan was so moved that he to be missed.

"Yeah, well, I think I can miss it," said Lynn. "I've seen enough mud to last me a lifetime. Besides, even if I hadn't, who's got a T.V. to watch?"



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B y nature 1 am no. gawker. Disaster does not excite me. I do not like to witness other people's distress. But when I heard about the recent flooding of the Russian River, the scale was so grand that even I was intrigued. myself. The river is one of my favorite summer playgrounds and I had to see if there was any place left to play. So I grabbed my friend Juan and drove to Guerneville a week after the floodwaters receded and only two days after the area was reopened to the public.

Brian Jones



... We Shall Fight Them In The Streets"

Good evening, this is the BBC in London. The Nazi bombardment of London continues tonight. Sections of West Islington are burning at this hour. Bombers of the German Luftwaffe dropped incendiary devices throughout the area just past 8 p.m. Near Ken-sington Station . . .

nd so it continues, day after day, hour after hour, random in its horror, horrible in its persistence. We draw

Mike Hippler

happy, with her legs in the air,"

ooks, pictures, mattresses, video games, TV. sets, cash registers, stereo speakers, kitchen appliances, vou name it-all were ruined. About the only things salvageable were dishes, pots and pans. and a few wooden or metal chairs, which were all sitting in

Despite the extent of the damage, the management at Fife's remains optimistic. It will take a minimum of a quarter of a million dollars to get back in the swing of things, they say-"and that is just for reconstruction, not for cleanup or refur-

With some insurance money and some federal disaster aid, they hope to have the main lodge and a row of cabins ready for guests by Easter. A blackboard in the makeshift office reads, "Thought for today: The sun is shining and we have new

promised to come back later in the week to help clean up. In the meantime, we had to get back to the city to see Dynasty. Krystle and Alexis, he explained, were having a mudfight that was not

M. Hippler

our shades and dim our lights but still the bombs come.

In a nearby district a home has been hit and a friend there is dying. This morning on our own block is the burned out shell of a home where last week lived our neighbors. And always we wonder: Are we next?

AIDS: We are a city under siege. Some of us try to ignore it. And then in the night a bomb drops and it is our home or the home next door

We are at war. We are the people of London in the year 1940. We are at war. We would like to wish this madness away, ignore it utterly, paint out the ugly black headlines on the front pages. But we cannot, and we must not, hide. We are at war and before it is over every one of us can, and will, make a difference.

'Our own government is leading the assault . . .

t is a war on many fronts. The disease is just the L beginning.

Elsewhere today is news from the front: the federal government soon will allow use of the AIDS antibody test for screening people. This is the most profoundly dangerous widening of the war since it began.

Last winter and spring, gay civil rights leaders were successful in limiting the uses of the

blood test. The limitations came on the label which accompanies the test. The label prohibited use of the test for diagnosing people.

But now, your employer, your insurance company-even the states-will be allowed to use this test to screen whole popula-

In the past year, the threat of outright quarantine has faded. As soon as this ugly issue was ex-posed to the light it began to wither.

But social, economic and political isolation-by blood testis the new possibility. It is more subtle and therefore more dangerous.

Our own government is leading the assault. The armed forces have proven that widescale blood screening is possible. By their actions they have implied that it is desirable.

Don't expect any help from anti-discrimination agencies. The head of the western region of the federal Office for Civil Rights has resigned. Hal Free-

man says it seems clear the federal government has a policy to allow discrimination based on AIDS, or the perception that someone has been exposed to AIDS.

his is numbing news. It is unpleasant to read. I feel like nothing quite so much as a war correspondent chronicling the evacuation at Dunkirk, the bombing of London, the fall of Paris.

We would give you good news if we had it but the news we have is bad and you do need to know. And prepare.

We are at war and at this hour we are dispirited and many of us are close to surrender. Yet it is only just now that we must begin to fight.

We must never, ever allow ourselves to be tested against our will or against our judgment. Not for a job. Not for an insurance policy. Not for the state. We must be willing to go to jail if necessary to stop the testing of our own blood against our will

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BAY AREA REPORTER MARCH 6, 1986

PAGE 11

New HHS Honcho Wants 'The Test' for Immigrants

WASHINGTON-The early word on Dr. Otis Bowen, Pres. Ronald Reagan's latest choice as Secretary of Health and Human Services, was hopeful. Most folks thought anything was better than Margaret Heckler. Heckler may seem like a fond memory soon,

Bowen, the down-home doctor and former governor of Indiana, recently approved a pro-posed policy that would require those apply-ing for permanent immigration to the United States to be screened for antibodies to HTLV3, the alleged AIDS virus. Gay leaders and politi-cians who empathize with gay people voiced the obvious objections, but reports out of Washington indicate some government work-ers and officials are not happy with Bowen's pronouncement, either. ent, either

The Public Health Service, a subdivision of HHS, would not comment on Bowen's pronouncement. However, stories are making the rounds in Washington that PHS is definitely against making potential immigrants take the

Rep. Henry Waxman, (D-CA), chair of the

House Subcommittee on Health and the Environment, alluded to the fact in a letter to Bowen. "I understand that the Public Health Services does not support implementation of these regulations," Waxman wrote to Bowen on Feb. 3. Waxman went on to ask for a copy of the proposed policy, a list of PHS' alleged objections and an explanation of why these ob-jections, if they exist, have been ignored by HHS and Bowen.

Rep. Barney Frank, (D-MA), referred to Bowen's potential policy as "a big mistake. Some people are frightened, but giving the HTLV-3 test is ineffective because it is not a good test."

Jeff Levi, Governmental and Political Affairs Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, thinks Bowen is overlooking the foreign policy implications of his policy. "It's sort of arrogant since this country has the most AIDS cases," said Levi. "It's another attempt by the government to give false assurance that by restricting individual freedom, you can conisease"

-New York Native

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NATIONAL/WORLD NEWS

Closure of Baths In Philadelphia on **Committee Agenda**

PHILADELPHIA-Philadelphia's gay community is speculating just about every day now over one question: will the city's two bathhouses be closed or not?

The legal committee of Mayor Wilson Goode will make a recommendation within days on the question. One of the biggest factors with the Committee is over the responsibility of the baths. In other words, have they instituted safe sex educational practices?

Also under consideration the legal aspect of the law. The Committee has to decide whether it would be legally possible under current law to close the baths in Philadelphia.

Goode's committee will also deal with two other topics of interest to gay people. One of the other reports will deal with discrimination against persons with AIDS and AIDS-related conditions in employment, housing, business establishments and places of public accommodations.

A third report will concern testing for HTLV-3 antibodies at blood banks, prisons, places of employment and alternate testing sites.

> -The Philadelphia Gay News

San Diego Told Not to Pursue **AIDS Protection Bill**

SAN DIEGO-The city of San Diego has been advised not to pursue a bill which would protect people with AIDS against discrimination

In a report to a City Council committee, Deputy City Manager John Fowler recommended "at this time that a city ordinance regarding AIDS discrimination not be pursued."

Fowler seemed to think existing state privacy and job discrimination laws covered people with AIDS. However, local law professor Scott Ehrlich disagreed. Ehrlich felt a city ordinance banning discrimination against people with AIDS was needed so that when there is a violation of the ordinance, the plaintiff can go directly into court.

Ehrlich said the time factor was the important thing here. He said if a person with AIDS had to go through the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing, the person would be dead before the case would ever be heard.

—Update of Southern California

AIDS The Theme-Judge Thwarts Attempt to Move Trial

WASHINGTON-A judge's fear of AIDS may have led to an attempt to move a trial from a court room into a prison. into a prison.

According to Maryland State Attorney Andrew Sonner, Montgomery County (Md.) District Court Judge Edwin Collier may have attempted to move a trial of a defendant who tested positive with antibodies to the county prison. Collier, among

FSLIC

others seems to be "worried about the safety of court personnel and spectators," according to Sonner, who went on to say that "we'll try the defendants anywhere they want to be tried."

court) brief was filed in December, prior to a court trial of the defendant who tested positive in the antibody test. ACLU attorneys Elizabeth Symonds and Arthur Spitzer said, the attempts of some public officials to shield themselves from an imagined-and in fact nonexistent risk of exposure to AIDS are at the expense of the constitutional rights of those accused of committing a crime."

court's administrative judge, Thomas Lohn, overturned Colprisoner's trial for a public cour-

But the battle isn't over, yet. Circuit Court Judge Peter Messitte called a meeting of the state's prosecuting attorneys and public defense attorneys to plan "test case" of a person who has tested antibody positive, according to two lawyers who say they were asked to attend the meeting.

fag a day to chase the AIDS away.'

capital city. Murders are up in San Juan and a report just released about a series of deaths last September indicates that gay people had their share.

24-hour period during Sept. 24-25. "The bloodiest day in the history of Puerto Rico," according to one source, "had homosexual links" in the case of three murders. One such victim was Edgardo Casines, an Argentine photographer and publicist.

Casines was murdered late in the evening of Sept. 21 or early the next morning. Neighbors reported strange behavior on the part of Casines, normally an outgoing man. The victim had promised to help a neighbor in his apartment complex to hang a painting, but he only stuck his head out of a small crack in the door and said the job could be done "tomorrow or the next day." That was the last time anyone saw him alive. Casines' mother also became suspicious when he didn't call her that weekend. He had made it a habit of calling her every weekend for vears.

also stole over \$5,000 worth of electronic equipment.

Two other victims who had "homosexual links" included a 12-year-old boy and a retired ousinessman. The 12-year-old boy had his genitals slashed with a broken bottle after being "sodomized" by three men. The boy was allegedly strangled after he was beaten over the head and stabbed in the back. The nude body of retired businessman Hugh Williams was found in his apartment. He had been stabbed

An amicus (friend of the

After this ACLU protest, the lier's decision and reset the

-The Washington Blade

3 Gays Murdered In Puerto Rico

SAN JUAN, P.R.-"Kill a

That's the popular phrase these days in the Puerto Rican

Twelve bodies were found in a

The murderer or murderers not only killed Casines, but they

with a butcher knife. -New York Native

Legislature

(Continued from page 4)

The deadline for submitting new legislation for this session was February 28.

A handful of the legislators authored the major bills that could assist with AIDS education, treatment, testing and confidentiality. In addition to Sen. Roberti, they are Sen. Milton Marks (D-SF), Assemblymen Art Agnos and Willie Brown (D-SF), and Assemblyman John Vasconcellos (D-San Jose).

Although there is a crisis, the legislative process is slow. There are currently 36 AIDS-related bills in various committeswhere they could be amended, changed, or defeated. A discussion of the most important bills and the problems involved in moving them through the legislature will be discussed later in Bay Area Reporter.

This is a brief review of all 36 bills that will be considered this year in the legislature:

Organization: This Roberti legislation would establish a state AIDS Institute to coordinate all aspects of the AIDS crisis-education, treatment, and care-by local and state governments, the private sector and community agencies.

Medi-Cal: Sen. Marks has three bills that would mandate a study into the feasibility of the state picking up insurance premiums of individuals with private health coverage who become unemployed due to a catastrophic illness. Other bills call for the state to consider the impact of special services required by AIDS patients when negotiating for in-patient Medi-Cal care (Petris), allow federally approved drugs for AIDS treatment to be used under Medi-Cal (M. Waters), and would raise the income ceiling required by the state from \$504 to \$800 before

Medi-Cal begins (W. Brown). Training: One bill provides \$550,000 for AIDS education and hospital worker training; requires reporting to the state on number of people with AIDS and ARC, requires DHS to define "severe ARC" (Watson); a separate bill requires school districts to train employees about students with AIDS or ARC (Rosenthal).

Vaccine: A proposal is in the works to limit the liability of AIDS vaccine developers; it sets up \$20 million for future purchase of a federally approved

vaccine.

ARC: A Marks bill would give "severe ARC" cases the same disability status as AIDS. designating them both as "presumptive" diseases.

Prisoners: One bill requires the state to develop a policy of identifying and treating state prisoners with AIDS (Floyd); another authorizes the state prison system to contract for house care and treatment of inmates with AIDS (Vasconcellos). Hospice: DHS would be reguired to establish a state training program for in-home services and sets a \$4.75 per hour minimum wage for health attendants (W. Brown). DHS would also be required to develop community AIDS treatment centers and report on the success of its inclusion of hospice care as a Medi-Cal benefit (Vasconcellos). Antibody Testing: Marriage license applicants and all prisoners held over three days would be required to take the antibody tests (Doolittle); another bill would allow a judge to order the tests to a person placed on

probation (Lockyer); a third would add 3-years to a jail sentence if a person tested positive after being convicted of a sex crime (Doolittle).

Other legislation would allow medical officers in a state prison or camp to mandate tests (Seastrand); require at least four test centers in Los Angeles (Roos); and would require the DHS to reimburse counties for shortterm preventive education and counseling at test sites (Roos).

ARC patients in employment, housing, medical services and public accommodations plus clarifies an earlier bill on confidentiality of those who take AIDS antibody tests. A separate bill clarifies confidentiality statutes for health professionals (Neilson).

MANAMAMAMAMAN

Blood: Doolittle's bills would make it a felony for a person with AIDS or who tests positive to give blood, and would allow parents to make blood donations

'A (Sen. Milton) Marks bill would give "severe ARC" cases the same disability status as AIDS."

Insurance: A Roberti bill sets up a state AIDS "reinsurance" pool to maintain stability of employer group premiums (Roberti). Other bills establish a state agency to provide health insurance to those not able to obtain it (McAlister), require the state to examine health premium alternatives for elderly and disabled patients (Bronzan), require that three state departments determine how many residents have health insurance.

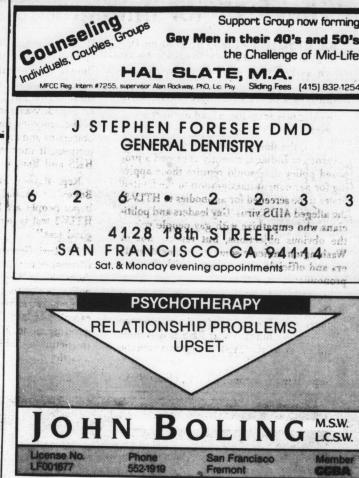
Confidentiality: One provides confidentiality in health records (Marks). An Agnos measure requires enforcement of nondiscrimination for AIDS and

for transfusions only to their children.

Contacts: One bill requires that specified professions (firefighters, lifeguards, etc.) be notified if they come in contact with a person with AIDS (Royce). Another prohibits hospitals from restricting employees from using masks or special clothing in caring for those with infectious diseases (Felando).

Property: A bill by Roberti establishes that knowledge of a person having AIDS cannot be considered in the transfer of property.

G. Mendenhall



Support Group now forming

A SPECIAL APPEAL MEN OF COLOR

Some people have the mistaken notion that AIDS is mainly a "white man's disease"-that People of Color aren't much at risk for AIDS.

The statistics prove otherwise. In the United States, roughly four out of every ten People with AIDS are nonwhite. Twenty-five percent of Americans with AIDS are Black. Nearly 15 percent are Hispanic.

The AIDS virus does not discriminate on the basis of race. or age. or gender. or sexual orientation.

AIDS can strike anyone who engages in the activities that can spread AIDS-Unsafe Sex or the sharing of IV drug needles.

In San Francisco, compared to the rest of the country, we've so far had relatively fewer cases of AIDS among Third World and People of Color. Let's keep it prevention. that way. Here in San Francisco, Hispanics account for 5.5 per-

UNSAFE SEX PRACTICES Anal Intercourse

Without Condom Rimming Fisting **Blood Contact** Sharing Sex Toys or Needles Semen or Urine in Mouth Vaginal Intercourse Without Condom

Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights

cent of local AIDS cases. Blacks account for 5 percent. One percent of local PWAs are Asian. Let's work together to see that no one else in San Francisco is infected with this virus. Together, we can do it.

The only way we have of limiting this epidemic is through

If we as a community are going to survive this epidemic,

all of us need to eliminate Unsafe Sex and needle-sharing from our gay male lifestyles until a cure or vaccine for AIDS is available.

No one has ever died from the frustration of giving up a few Unsafe Sex practices. Far too many have died of AIDS.

Together, we can stop the spread of this disease.



THE SAN FRANCISCO AIDS FOUNDATION 333 Valencia St. 4th Floor San Francisco, CA 94103 415-863-AIDS Toll free in Northern California: 800-FOR-AIDS TDD: 415-864-6606

Major funding for the educational programs of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation is provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

PAGE 13

Churches Rapped on Lack of AIDS Care

Episcopal Diocese Opens First National Confab on Church's Role in Health Crisis by Allen White

Dr. Mathilde Krim opened the National Episcopal Church Conference on the AIDS Crisis with some highly critical remarks about the lack of involvement by religious denominations in the health crisis. Although she praised the Episcopal church for its contributions, Krim told reporters that most of the U.S. religious figures had done little to help those afflicted with the disease. Krim is a well-known cancer researcher in New York City. in New York City.

Nearly 300 people from 41 states, England and Australia, representing ten religious denominations have gathered at Grace Cathedral for an unprécedented conference on AIDS organized in part by the local Castro Street ministry, The Parsonage. The conference began Tuesday night (Mar. 4) with a keynote address by Dr. Krim and will continue through Friday.

Bill Lorton, conference cochair warned those registered that many would go back to their home towns and be accused of being "gay-lovers." He was forceful as he warned those participating in the conference that they would be subjected to the same stigma that currently is suffered by people with AIDS, AIDS-Related Conditions and by gay men and lesbians. "You will be the targets of mean-spirited people. You will be accused of being anti-family, anti-American and anti-God," said Lorton.

His remarks were delivered to almost 1,000 people who filled Grace Cathedral for the first meeting of the conference. They came to hear the outspoken scientist, Dr. Mathilde Krim give the keynote address.

Dr. Krim began her remarks by giving a comprehensive overview of AIDS. She then told how the AIDS epidemic varied from the great flu epidemic of 1918 that killed over 20 million people. "It caused untold terror and suffering and it disappeared within two years," she said.

"It is interesting to compare the flu epidemic to the epidemic of AIDS. They have certain characteristics in common: both are caused by viruses, and both infections can kill," said Krim. "There are, however, also very significant differences between them. The killer flu virus was transmitted by casual contact, the AIDS virus is not. Unlike the flu, infection by the AIDS virus can be altogether prevented by simply avoiding very particular circumstances-blood to blood. and blood to semen contact-

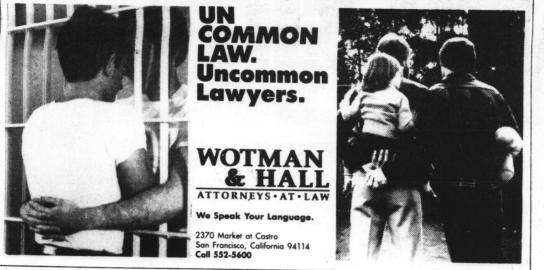
under which it is transmitted." She then emphasized, "The AIDS epidemic, as serious as it is, does not, therefore, justify measures for the isolation or quarantine of infected people, whether they have clinical symptoms or not. It certainly does not in any way, justify reactions of panic and hysteria."

Dr. Krim described the staggering proportions of the disease and its impact on people. "In assessing the size of the problem of AIDS in the coming years, we have, therefore, to think of a patient population of several hundred thousand or more, unless the spread of the infection can soon be controlled effectively through educational programs.

Dr. Krim stated, "There is no question that the challenge to science and medicine posed by AIDS is one of staggering proportions. It is also an enormous challenge to the rest of society. This is so in part because AIDS has appeared first among the politically disenfranchised among us: drug addicts lost to compulsory self-destructive behavior (and) gay men often still denied equal protection under the law and ostracized by the self-righteous."

Referring to the social issue of AIDS, Krim said, "Had a devilish mind wanted to conceive of the worst scourge for our society, it could not have come up with something more evil than AIDS."

Krim singled out gay men in New York who care for abandoned babies with AIDS and lesbians in San Francisco who have given blood when gay men were told not to. "Maybe the day will come when we can bring ourselves to say 'thank you, brother and sister," she said.



"I thought Shanti would increase my fear of AIDS"

It's not easy to feel safe and happy when you see so clearly what's happening in our community - when first-hand experience has taught you how painful and debilitating the disease can be.

Recently my best friend was diagnosed. It

was devastating. A few days later I saw a Shanti training video of an interview of a person with AIDS who knew he had only a few weeks to live. He talked about being at peace. About how the only thing that matters is our love for each

with this wonderful city, with our incredible community. I've learned a John Fulton lot about living with an

Shanti Board of Directors

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BAY AREA REPORTER MARCH 6, 1986 PAGE 14

NY Rights Advocate Peter Vogel Dies

by George Mendenhall

Peter Vogel, former co-chair of the National Association of Lesbian and Gay Democratic Clubs, died Feb. 24 in New York City. He was instrumental in obtaining Democratic Party support for gay rights at the 1980 convention. Since 1984 he had served on Gov. Mario Cuomo's Gay Concerns Task Force and was employed as an executive in the state's Workers' Compensation department.

Vogel, 41, who had been diagnosed with AIDS, was also vice chair of the N.Y. State AIDS Advisory Council. He was a founder



Myra Sheehan

(Photo: Mick Hicks)

system used the comment as

evidence that there was too

much hostility for reinstatement.

'Regardless of what the jury

determined, S.F. State does not

want to reinstate Myra Shee-

han," said deputy attorney

Sheehan's attorney, Alan

Davis, admitted that there would

be hostility, but said Sheehan

had no alternative. "She wants

to work in her profession, and

she has not been able to find

Superior Court Judge Daniel

Hanlon is expected to issue a

ruling soon on whether Sheehan

rammed in his face so bad that

The San Francisco Police have

also been under some scrutiny

since the story broke. "I don't

communicate with him," said

Holloway of Inspector Gordon.

"The last time I called him all

I got was a lecture on my going

to the media. But I told him that

until I went to the media, no one

Holloway has claimed that the

police failed to assign anyone to

investigate the case until ten

days after the assault, during

which time the first media

stories of the assault appeared.

B.A.R. that, "CUAV will be go-

ing through the administrative

channels of the police depart-

ment because the victims need

information as to the status of

their case. If, in fact, the admin-

Randy Schell of CUAV told

was assigned to the case."

general Robert Murphy.

another job," he said.

should be reinstated.

now he has an overbite."

SF State Doesn't Want Cop Reinstated

by Gregory Douthwaite

A lesbian campus police sergeant who was fired from San Francisco State University told a reporter that if she is reinstated she will ask for a "cease and desist" order to stop the police chief from harassing her.

Myra Sheehan, 31, made the comment to a reporter from the S.F. State Phoenix after a jury ruled that her dismissal in March 1983 was discriminatory. The jury awarded her \$208,250, including \$7,500 in punitive damages from campus police chief Jon Schorle.

In a hearing last week, the attorney for the state university

ABC News

(Continued from page 4)

5-9 p.m. everyday, permanent. They've informed employees and management to call the police in any emergency situation and they are going to have a Petrini safety awareness week." The date for Petrini's safety

awareness week has not been agreed upon yet, but according to Vazquez 10,000 whistles will be given away, along with information on their use.

David Johnson's braces came out last Friday but he will be going back to the hospital for more work on his teeth and jaw. "I'm going to have to have my jaw realigned and my teeth realigned," said Johnson, "because they are no where near where they used to be." During the attack on Johnson on Dec. 21, he was beaten on the face and body with a skateboard. According to Johnson's lover Holloway, "They

of the Lambda Democratic Club in Brooklyn and was a director of the Manhattan-based Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center.

Cuomo visited Vogel shortly before his death. He issued a statement, saying he was "deepsaddened," adding, "Peter's edication and persistence in addressing difficult issues contributed significantly to this state's policy on AIDS and civil rights.

He is survived by his father, Adolph, and his companion of

20 years, Don Castellanos.

on safe sex.

work together.

high," he said.

outreach work.

street scene."

cases so far."

istrative channels prove insufficient we will go to the chief." C. Linebarger

Drug Services To Target Teens

Outreach, Service Programs Launched For Teen IV Users at Risk of AIDS

by Gregory Douthwaite

The first drug treatment program in San Francisco designed specifically for youth is scheduled to begin next month. The counseling program to be offered by a con-sortium of agencies, including the Larkin Street Youth Center, is to help fight AIDS among drug users under 18. Hundreds of San Francisco teenagers use needle drugs, such as speed, heroin and cocaine, said Les Pappas, vicechair of the board of Eighteenth Street Services, another drug treatment agency. These youth increase their risk for AIDS, he said, by sharing needles, by damaging their immune systems, and by impairing their decision-making

Pappas was speaking at a panel discussion on youth, drugs and AIDS last Thursday. The panel was sponsored by Polk Street Town Hall, which administers Larkin Street.

The youth drug abuse program will be funded in part by a \$400,000 state grant to fight AIDS among the city's IV drug using population. Eighteenth Street Services expects to receive \$101,000 in grant money for their programs which are geared to gay men. The Mid-City Consortium will receive \$57,000 to conduct its program of outreach to young people. Eighteenth Street and the Consortium will

Getting the needle-using population to participate in counseling programs always presents tremendous difficulties. said Pappas, and convincing youth to seek treatment is expected to be especially difficult. "I don't think kids will be as motivated (as adults) to make an ongoing commitment," he said. "They're still going through experimentation, and we'll have to make adjustments for that."

Many juvenile drug abusers have other problems: some are homeless or runaways, some have been forced into prostitution, and many have other health problems, Pappas said. "When you have all those problems, it's easy to say, 'Fuck it, I'll just get

The outpatient drug abuse program for youth will rely heavily on residential programs to urge young drug users to come in for treatment. The Larkin Street Youth Center already has plans to hire a substance abuse counselor to do

Drug abuse is an addiction. and the risk of contracting AIDS through IV drug use will continue unless the addiction is treated, said Gabriel Garcia, former director of Eighteenth Street Services. Outpatient treatment is unrealistic if the addict is living on the street, he said. "They need to get away from the

All the panelists agreed that youth are at risk for AIDS. Dr. Janet Shalwitz, director of the Youth Guidance Center Health Clinic, said, "There is high risk behavior in the entire teen population, although there are few

Seventy-five teenagers have already been diagnosed with AIDS nationwide, including four in San Francisco, Shalwitz said. A group of youths is also ill with AIDS-related conditions, she

Statistics on the presence of HTLV-3 antibodies among youth are not available, since the Youth Guidance Center does not do the screening, Shalwitz said. "For youth, more than adults, the consequences of test results are very grave. I don't want anyone to get that information if they don't need it."

A group of angry teenagers left the meeting early, after telling panelists that inadequate social services, and not lack of education, were causing them to engage in high risk activities.



Some members of the Larkin Street Youth Center.

"You're portraying kids as stupid," said one teenager. "We know what AIDS is and what safe sex is."

Several teens protested the Larkin Street Youth Center's policy of not allowing anyone over 18. "Who wants to be with a bunch of winos when you turn

AND/

18?", one young man asked. A 19-year-old Latino was in

(Photo: Rink)

tears as he told of his hard life. "I am a hustler," he said in broken English. "It's very difficult to go with one man and make sex with him when you really don't want to do it."



Gay Bands to Meet

On March 7, representatives of fifteen gay bands will gather in San Francisco for the semiannual meeting of the Lesbian and Gay Bands of America. The three-day event will include a business meeting and seminars on fund raising, conducting, and image development. The highlight of the weekend will be an appearance of the National Lesbian and Gay Marching Band at the Chinese New Year Parade.

Currently there are fifteen ands located in ten states across the country. Several cities are currently forming bands of their own.

Late registrations are still being accepted for the conference. One does not have to belong to a member band to attend the conference.

For more information on the group or how to form a band in your area, please contact Lesbian and Gay Bands of America, P.O. Box 57099, Washington, D.C. 20037.



After four years of studying thousands of cases of AIDS, the evidence is becoming increasingly clear: anal sex is the number one cause of AIDS transmission in America.

Several epidemiological studies conducted independently in several different cities, involving thousands of gay and bisexual men. have produced essentially the same finding-the principal difference between gay men who get AIDS, and gay men who don't get AIDS, is the amount and kind of Unsafe anal sex they have engaged in.

Unsafe anal sex includes anal intercourse without a condom, rimming, scat. fisting and fingering, and the sharing of dildoes and other insertive sex toys.

So our message is very simple-if we as a community are to survive this epidemic, unprotected anal

UNSAFE SEX PRACTICES Anal Intercourse Without Condom Rimming Fisting Blood Contact Sharing Sex Toys or Needles Semen or Urine in Mouth Vaginal Intercourse without Condom © Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights

sex has to cease to be a part of our gay male lifestyles until a medical solution for AIDS is available. The risks are just too great for both tops and bottoms.

Condoms can help. They are capable of stopping the AIDS virus. Anal intercourse with a condom is still considered "possibly safe" because of the risk of condom breakage through misuse. (The major causes of condom breakage are air inside the condom, not enough lubrication, old or

mistreated condoms, or the use of oil-based lubricants.)

It takes practice to use condoms correctly. However, condoms are readily available, inexpensive, and when used properly, are good protection. Learn to use them. If you insist on anal sex, insist on condoms.

Let's protect one another. Let's end Unsafe Sex in San Francisco until this epidemic is over.



THE SAN FRANCISCO AIDS FOUNDATION 333 Valencia St. 4th Floor San Francisco, CA 94103 415-863-AIDS Toll free in Northern California: 800-FOR-AIDS TTD: 415-864-6606 Major funding for the educational programs of The San Francisco AIDS Foundation is provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health.



"At work I used to rise to places like assistant office manager, then something stop-

ped me. I always thought it was because I was black, of course. And gay," he said. "It took me years to figure what was happening. I'd go home, have drinks before the

With the clerical skills he had

bars, maybe eat and maybe not. I was out till bar closing every night almost, had a lot of affairs, one or two real ones that lasted. But I was always unhappy when alone, always frustrated at work.

worker, made friends too, rose to management jobs in rehabilitation programs.

His quick intelligence picked up easily on the ideas behind substance abuse, the mix of emotional and physical realities that ensnare a user to become an abuser. He saw, too, through the resistance-"denial", in the jargon of recovery-that substance abusers go through in seeing the situations in their lives clearly.

Chester said of this, "I just couldn't think of myself as sick.

'I didn't see I could put that (drinking) behind me, still be me and live as well or better.' -Chester M.

But that's all I was. I had trouble with the idea that mental and physical pain were the same. And the truth behind that?] really just wanted to go on with my old life, above all, to drink. I didn't see I could put that behind me, still be me, and live as well or better. I just didn't believe it until I did it, very slow-

This story ends on a sweet/ sour note. After five years of successful rehabilitation Chester contracted lung cancer in his mid-40s. At one point, he said, 'My mother asked me, 'After all this work you must be angry to have to face what you're now facing.' I told her, 'No, it's the last five years that have swung me around. It's made the rest worth

Stories are many among gays in the city. The daughter of a prominent movie actor, after vears in la dolce vita, today operates a hair styling parlor with friends.

An ex-Moonie who has wandered with his Irish, emotional nature through the headtrips of alcohol, light drugs, and compulsive sex plus flirtations with a score of therapies, now finds himself in a good clerical job still close to an ex-lover. Minor "insane" things have begun to shed, "important" steady ones take hold outstandingly, he says. An ex-seminarian for the

labor union official, buried his lover who may or may not have died accidentally while drunk/ stoned in the bathtub. Today this ex-drinker of six years delights in service, in helping others from tight places in their lives.

Catholic priesthood, today a

A handsome East Texan who had worked for years living lightly, with a good-money job, quit drinking, quit his job, went into ambulance driving to make his ife more real. He's back now at his old job, saying, "If I hadn't done the ambulance work, I'd have never forgiven myself." Today, after close exposure to the deaths of a number of friends from AIDS, he traces the strength he feels in an even, strong life to come from substance abuse recovery and service to the ill.

An ex-waiter, ex-security guard, eventually so stoned/ gassed his days were spent in front of the test pattern of a blank TV set or, if he could get credit at his neighborhood bar, often on the floor in public with alcoholic convulsions. He spent a year in a halfway house, more years counseling alcoholics professionally. Today he works helping senior citizens as a counselor and has an ardent hobby in ceramics.

(Continued on page 17)



of Steve?

FBI Seeks Bank Robber

Each summer, usually around substance abusers) members To some it may seem trendy

(Continued from page 16) the Fourth of July, a weekend convention happens in San Francisco which has been called the largest gay assembly in the Bay Area. Some two thousand-plus gay A.A./Alanon (co-dependents meet in the Civic Auditorium. that so many gays suddenly discover they have substance abuse problems. But should one experience the energy of some of the workshops and convocations of this group-named Liv-ing Sober-the notion that these are people involved in the light-ly fashionable disappears. Such shared energies are em-

life is.

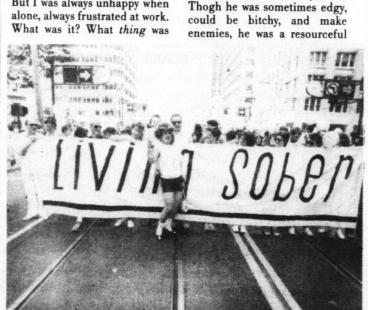
In Part II, service available for recovery will be looked at.

Polk St. Soup Line

The Gay Rescue Mission presents a new-fangled soup line at the northeast corner of Polk and Fern Streets (between Sutter & Bush) every Saturday and Sunday from 4 to 6 p.m.

end evenings.

We feed most indigent men who are in high risk of a lethal disease in which malnutrition is a critical co-factor. Despite fears of disease and arrest, many are driven to prostitution.



Part I of Two Parts

Alcoholism and drug usage have long been

the past revolved around bars, but health offi-

cials warn of increased drinking and drug use

Drinking has damaged and ruined many

Chester M. had served two complete enlist-

One day, he said, "It dawned on me, after

missing, not planning for, not

Friends led Chester into con-

tact with A.A. (Alcoholics

Anonymous), which at first he

didn't like. He was uncomfort-

able in a group experience he

didn't feel a part of. He really

wanted, anyhow, just to learn to

drink again and mix with peo-

ple, find work, keep a job and

Finally-broke-he went

through a month-long Veterans

hospital alcohol and drug abuse

program, moved afterward to a

halfway house in the city, and

got work from the social welfare

group that sponsored the

halfway house. A part of his

recovery was the discovery of gay

A.A. meetings where people

much like himself gathered to

talk their problems out and be

in touch with each other. He

found the close social support

that he needed on a regular

Chester flourished. His

natural social skills were wide,

and his job experience appropri-

ate to addiction recovery work.

discovering?'

maybe a lover.

Members of AA in the Gay Day Parade. (Photo: Rink) BAY AREA REPORTER ORMARCH STASSER APAGE AS



The 3 Faces

The FBI is seeking public assistance in identifying a person responsible for 12 bank and savings and loan robberies since Nov., 1985. Over \$10,000 has been taken so far. A substantial reward has been offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person responsible.

beries.

The robber is described as a

white male, 35 to 40 years of age,

5'6" to 5'8" tall, weighing ap-

proximately 150 pounds. He

wears metal rimmed glasses and

has black hair with a receding

hairline. He wears various hats

and jackets during these rob-

The robber (shown here) will

enter a bank, stand in line

waiting his turn. He will ap-

Alcoholism

bodiments of what has made the gay movement strong in the past 15 years, taking advantage of the disasters of individual experiences in an effort to turn these disasters around, individually and together. One discovers, makes, a world where

L. Ellingham

Stringent eligibility requirements for welfare and food stamps, discrimination by private welfare agencies, and the fact that Glide Church and other on-site feeding programs close weekend evenings has resulted in hundreds going hungry on week-



The men above are all the same man. He is seen robbing three banks in the Bay Area between late January and late February. FBI officials say they have reason to believe he'll be hanging around gay neighborhood banks. (Photos: FBI)

proach the teller carrying a merchant's-type deposit bag. He opens the bag, shows the teller a gun that is inside the bag, and demands money.

Anyone with any information regarding this individual is re quested to contact the FBI at (415) 553-7400 or the robbery units of the San Francisco police department at (415) 553-0123 or Oakland police department, (415) 273-3268.

Parade!

(Continued from page 1)

Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade was not included because "they had indicated that they had their own insurer."

The gay parade co-chair, Autumn Courtney, said the Parade Committee would most likely accept the offer to be included in new negotiations. She said, "It would be nice if the city would pick up the difference if we have to pay \$26,000. Getting insurance this year has been one of our major problems."

Boas said he would include the gay parade and two other events requesting help (the Juneteenth Festival and the Japanese Cherry Festival) when he reopens negotiations. He appeared to be optimistic.

INTO THE STREETS

"I guess it would be a Bring Your Own Bottle affair," parade co-chair Patrick Toner mused, "if we had to cancel."

Courtney agreed that lesbians and gay men would move on Market Street on June 29 and congregate in the Civic Center if the parade committee had to

withdraw its sponsorship. She said, "They would celebrate anyway. Many would march anyway-as they have for 17 years. However, the committee would not have city permits and would have to disclaim the event.

The annual Chinese Day Parade will be held on Saturday, March 8. In recent years, the lesbian and gay parade has outdrawn that parade, with estimates ranging around 300,000 viewers. Courtney estimated that 100,000 gay people might take to the street if the Freedom Day event was officially cancelled.

Sup. Louise Renne has called for a public hearing to explore the problems that many local events are having in getting insurance. She said the city's Moscone Center has had to recently pay \$422,000 for its coverage.

Boas said that Fireman's Fund, which insured the Democratic National Convention here, now refuses to insure parades. He said high insurance rates and the refusal of the companies to insure some events may cause cancellation of the 1987 Rose Bowl Parade, Mardi Gras in New Orleans, and the Indianapolis 500 Race.

G. Mendenhall

IS IT SAFE TO HAVE UNSAFE SEX WITH YOUR LOVER?

Many men have the mistaken idea that Unsafe Sex with a lover is safe, especially if the relationship is monogamous.

That is rarely true. For most of us, there is no safe way to have Unsafe Sex during the AIDS epidemic.

Nearly all of the publicity about AIDS has focused on avoiding Unsafe Sex with multiple partners. That is because from an epidemiological point of view, Unsafe Sex with multiple partners spreads AIDS far more widely than Unsafe Sex with a single partner.

Monogamous relationships do cut down on the spread of AIDS, but they don't guarantee the safety of the men in the relationships.

No one knows for certain just how much re-exposure to the virus is required for the disease to result. The body's defenses may be able to resist some quantity of the virus, but at some point, if you continue to be exposed (even to viruses from the same person), your body's defenses may be overcome.

It is not safe to have Unsafe Sex with your lover (or anyone else), UNLESS:

- 1. You have BOTH been in an **EXCLUSIVELY** monogamous relationship with each other for at least five years AND neither of you has shared IV needles, had transfusions, or used other blood products; OR
- 2. You have both been tested for HTLV-3 antibodies twice over a six-month period and have both received negative test results and haven't since been exposed.

Hardly anyone qualifies! Caring about your partner these days means protecting one another from re-exposure to the virus. Try new and safer ways of sexual expression. Use condoms if you have anal sex. Avoid Unsafe Sex.

Take care of one another. Take care of the community. There is nothing you can do about the past. There is a great deal you can do about the future.

If you would like more information or assistance, help is available. The STOP AIDS

Project, 621-7177, offers oneevening discussion groups about the AIDS epidemic. The AIDS Health Project, 626-6637, provides eight-week support groups focused on issues of social support, health promotion, and AIDS. And of course. the Foundation's AIDS HOT-LINE, 863-AIDS, can provide the latest information on AIDSrisk and AIDS-prevention, as well as other referrals.



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SWEET LIPS SEZ . .



Join the Fun

on Roger's entourage had a fantastic two-day grand opening of Ginger's Too on beautiful downtown Sixth Street, Friday and Saturday last, and it was done in a very tasteful manner. Thank you Kewpie Doll, and I haven't seen so many ladies as I did on Saturday night. They do come out on your openings, don't they Don. And Beverly, whoever did your catering did a fantastic job and should be recommended to a lot of people for future parties. You looked nice on the door in your tux, Joe.

This Saturday Googie's is having a little get together for Portland's top hair stylist, Dennis Gartner of The Hair Directors, from 5 till 7 with Jay Noonan of Kimos doing his famous liver pate, so come on down and meet Dennis, a great guy.

Also in Portland the Embers/ Avenue still has the one and only Jeanne Hill on the planks days, Monday through Friday, doing a nice job with all of the special drinks they serve. Of course on Sundays, Tony, aka Ms. Pigg, is doing a marvelous Sunday brunch with great omelets, etc., at a very nominal price. If you live in Portland and don't make it to the Embers/Avenue brunches you are missing a great time, and great food.

The White Swallow has Gary Robinson, the hunk, on the

The Time Is Now

treatment is now.

gency Department.

Don't wait until the critical

moments of an emergency to think

And if you live in the southern part

of San Francisco, Twin Peaks, Glen

Park, Noe Valley, Mission, Castro,

or Bernal Heights areas, the place

to think about is St. Luke's Emer-

about where to go for help. The

time to think about emergency

The Place Is St. Luke's

planks on Wednesdays and Thursdays on the day shift, so be sure to drop in and have a drink with this likeable guy in the nice relaxing atmosphere of the White Swallow,

On Sunday the 16th Ginger's Too will serve the traditional Irish Corned Beef and Cabbage, so don't miss this great event. They also have a spaghetti feed Wednesday evenings for only \$3. Isn't that right, Kewpie Doll?

If you are planning to go to Expo '86 in Vancouver this year my next column will tell you where to go to drink and dance in Vancouver, and also some of the things not to do.

Easter Sunday the 23rd Googie's on Geary will hold an Easter Egg Coloring Contest. We supply the eggs and you do the decorating from 10 a.m. till noon. Prizes will be given for the most original, funniest, and worst egg, so do come down and join in the fun. You won't believe who the judges will be.

Also it is wise to start ordering your Easter plants and flowers early from Bella's on Castro Street, and of course Mueller's Deli in conjunction with Bella's Flowers has great and delicious delicacies for you to serve on that day, so check them out.

The Magazine at 731 Larkin St. is the place to go for your reading needs. See Trent or Robert and they'll give you all

DICK WALTERS

most spectacular one that has

ever been done, and that will

Grand Mamere Jose is hostess

at the Galleon-must be awful

to have to work at that age.

Guess you are not moving to

Fort Lauderdale, are you dear?

Congratulations to Emperor

Matt Brown and Empress Sable.

I hope you have a great reign,

and do your thing the way you

Tuesday the 18th of March at

1 p.m. will be the next meeting

of the Tavern Guild at Gilmore's

at Hyde and California, so let's

turn out and pack the place. If

you are not a member yet come

and join at this meeting and

help support a worthwhile or-

ganization. Isn't that right, Jim

Sweet Lips

take some doing.

want to

onko?

the help you need-a great shop. A great Tavern Guild meeting was held at the Galleon on Tuesday last and Mr. Jerry Colletti did a great job on the food. Rumor has it, Jerry, that you are a contestant in this year's fabulous Closet Ball that Carl Berry and George Lowy are helping to put together. One should not miss this year's Closet Ball Gay attorney Paul Wotman is flanked by Julie Tang and because it is rumored to be the

Ben Tom at a recent dinner sponsored by the Association of Lesbian and Gay Asians (ALGA). Tang and Tom endorsed Wotman, who is running for a position on the Community College Board. (Photo: Rink)

Gay Unitarians Meet in San Diego

Over 100 gay Unitarians con-vened in San Diego on the Presidents Day weekend to request the continental office of the Unitarian-Universalist Association in Boston fund a full time coordinator for gay affairs. At present, the Office of Lesbian and Gay Concerns has only a half-time coordinator.

U.U.A. president Bill Schulz pledged support for the office but stated that he couldn't support the request for a full-time

In another resolution, the

DEATHS

Bruce Armitage

Bruce died peacefully, in his sleep, on Sunday early in the quiet morning (Feb. 23) after contracting pneumocystis pneumonia for the third time.



tle guy with big blue eyes who did such things as help a stranger on a bus and then made best friends with her; grew beautiful be-

gonias, and corn in the hills of Massachusetts with rows of Mary Jane in between; liked the spontaneous quality of life and would suddenly decide to make nutmeg doughnuts at 2:30 a.m.; made adventures out of his life; made friends out of his acquaintances: made friends decide to love him.

Bruce had an amazing wit, but inelligence too. Sometimes he could make mincemeat out of a foolish person even before he had finished a sentence! And he was a great appreciator of a kind heart.

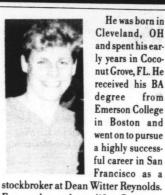
Bruce had a long marriage to Jimmy in Ashfield, Mass. and it was at their house that so many friends would be drawn to pilgrimage. That was the place for fun and carousing and natural beauty trips. And after the move to California, and the consequent time on Guam he retained this respect for nature and the beauty of it. Bruce had a special outlook that made him the person he was. How can we say he's gone-when he's so much an indellible part of us.

Greg Tinnerman

Greg Tinnerman, 28, died peacefully in his home on Feb. 21. Survived by his lover and dear friend, Jim Starek, brother George Tinnerman III, niece Kate, nephews George, Mark and Mike. His ashes were scattered in a beautiful and touching ceremony near Angel Island on Feb.

assembled Unitarian-Universalists for Lesbian and Gay Concerns requested a ministry be established for AIDS patients. and their loved ones.

The convention was the second annual gathering for the group. Bay Area participants active in the proceedings included Bill Bateman, Orloff Miller. and Tom Walsh of San Francisco, Rev. Mark Belletini of Hayward; David Fanning of Lafayette, and Marvin Shaw of San Carlos.

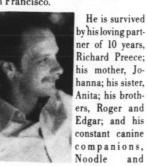


For such a short life, Greg accomplished more than most people do in a lifetime. Greg was pursuing an MBA degree in Financial Planning at Golden Gate University when diagnosed with Kaposi's sarcoma in the spring of '85. He also just recently obtained a membership to MENSA and was also a volunteer on the AIDS hotline

He fought a courageous battle and never wanted to give up. He was an inspiration to many, including the Hospice workers who cared for him in his last few months. Greg will be greatly missed by all who knew and him. Donations are preferred to San Francisco Hospice

Gerd Wagener

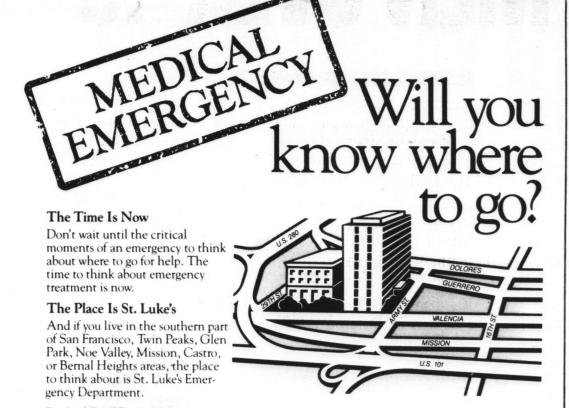
Gerd, 35, was a Belgian who lived for the last nine years in Hawaii and San Francisco



Zippe Gerd, your many friends will deeply miss you breadth of knowledge, your depth of kindness, your exquisite

our hearts forever.

cooking and the beauty you brought to all you touched. You will remain in



Backed By The Full Resources Of St. Luke's Hospital

Last year alone, we treated more than 21,000 San Franciscans for everything from cuts and bruises to life threatening injury and illness. Unlike minor emergency clinics, St. Luke's Emergency Department is staffed by a highly experienced team of physicians and nurses backed by the full resources of St. Luke's Hospital-one of the Bay Area's finest medical centers.

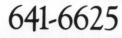
Immediate, Personal Service

Today, St. Luke's is one of the three busiest 24-hour emergency treatment centers in the City. And to better serve those who depend on us, we have recently redesigned and expanded our facilities to make sure every patient receives the most prompt, technically advanced emergency medical attention possible. Not a lengthy admission form and a seat in the waiting room.

Remember!

Don't wait until the critical moments of a medical emergency to think about where to go for help. The time to think is now. And the place to think about is St. Luke's.

- 24-hour physician staffed emergency care
- affiliated with all major health plans
- major credit cards accepted



BAY AREA REPORTER MARCH 6, 1986 PAGE 18

St. Luke's Hospital Emergency Services 3555 Army St., San Francisco, CA 94110 DEATHS

He was past president of the Poverty Rights Action Committee, cofounder of the San Joaquin AIDS Group, a member of the training staff for the Hand-to-Hand Program for people with AIDS and was founder of gay rights celebrations and concerts n Stockton.

Rev. Scott was a founding member of Campus Christian Center at the University of Utah and deacon of the MCC in Salt Lake City. He was pastor in past years of the denomination's churches in Ventura and Anaheim. A native of Midvale, Utah, he was a graduate of Samaritan Bible Institute in Los Angeles.

37th birthday



fices.

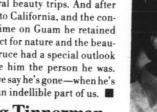
Project.

ous battle with AIDS.



San Francisco, a division of the Zale Corporation

Tom was well loved and will be missed greatly. Donations can be made to Hospice



Rev. Virgil Scott

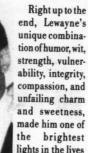
Over 450 persons attended memorial services on Feb. 22 for the Rev. Virgil F. Scott, a prominent and well respected minister, leader and activist for San Joaquin County's gay and lesbian community who was found slain Monday, Feb. 17.

Rev. Scott was pastor of MCC. Stockton for the last five years and has been in the church ministry 111/2 years. He was a member of the Metropolitan Community Churches Bay Clergy Association and the Stockton Downtown Clergy Associa-

Memorial contributions may be sent to the San Joaquin County AIDS Group, P.O. Box 9116, Stockton, 95208. Any information about his death can be sent to the Stockton Police Department, (209) 944-8323.

Lewayne Matthews

Lewayne Matthews died peacefully of AIDS at home Sunday morning, March 2, just a few weeks after his



and sweetness made him one o the brightest lights in the lives of the many of us who loved him. Lewayne was some-

thing rare even to the thousands of claimants he helped for ten years at state disability and unemployment of-

In the past two months, as his illness got worse, Lewayne enriched the lives of the friends who cared for him: Jed and Gary, Vincent, Robert and Bob, Jack, Craig and Dom, Judy and Chris, Ron, Gerry, Al, Daniel, Graig, and Ian-who was with Lewayne when he died and who did so much to make Lewayne's death easier for all of

Lewayne wanted no memorial service, but contributions in his memory may be made to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation or to the Shanti

Thomas E. Shortell

Thomas E. Shortell died the evening of March 3 in the company of friends and loved ones after a long courage-

> Born Oct. 2, 1945, Greenfield, Massachusetts. Tom lived life with a very special energy and will.

He came to San Francisco in 1976 o work for Shreve & Co., upon completing resident studies at the Gemological In-

stitute of America in Los Angeles. Tom achieved the respect and trust of all those he worked with and became an appraiser of fine jewelry in 1982 for Granat Brothers Jewelers,

AIDS Homecare, 225 30th Street, San rancisco, California 94131

An open house will be held at Tom Shortell's residence, Saturday, March 8 from 2-5 p.m., 145 Corbett Avenue, San Francisco.

Everett Hedrick

Everett was murdered at his home Oceanside, CA on Feb. 20. A suspect is in custody. A 20 year resi dent of San Francisco, Everett located here after service in the Navy.

> Former president of the local Barber's Union. he owned shops in San Francisco, stonestown and Guerneville, and was the original owner of the Village bar in the Castro. A longtime sports en-

sponsored five championship CSL teams, organized gay basketball fundraisers and was a sponsor of the Gay Games.

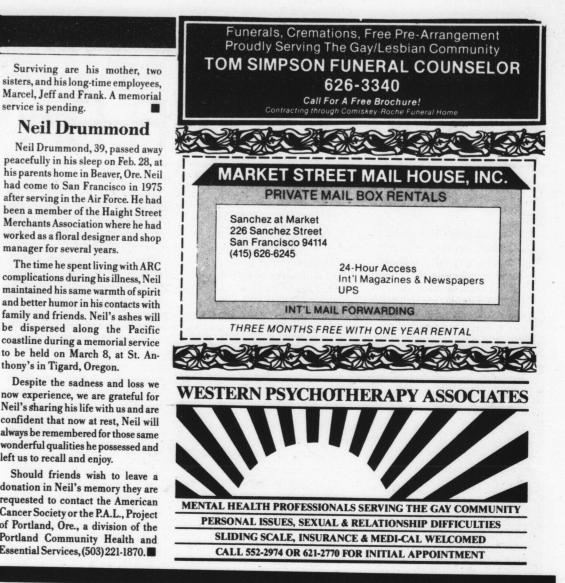
Other community involvement included Tavern Guild, charter membership in Atlas S&L, his annual Thanksgiving Day dinner for seniors and friends, and participation as sponsor and contestant in the Closet

thony's in Tigard, Oregon. Despite the sadness and loss we now experience, we are grateful for thusiast, Everett Neil's sharing his life with us and are confident that now at rest, Neil will always be remembered for those same wonderful qualities he possessed and

left us to recall and enjoy. Should friends wish to leave a donation in Neil's memory they are requested to contact the American Cancer Society or the P.A.L., Project of Portland, Ore., a division of the Portland Community Health and Essential Services, (503) 221-1870.

service is pending.

manager for several years.



A SPECIAL APPEAL TO MEN OVER 45

Some people have the mistaken notion that AIDS is a young man's diseasethat older men aren't at great risk of contracting AIDS.

The statistics indicate otherwise. There are cases of AIDS among newborn babies and cases of AIDS among gay men in their eighties. AIDS does not discriminate on the basis of age (or race, gender, or sexual orientation).

In San Francisco, 35 per cent of men with AIDS are over 40. Nearly ten per cent of San Francisco AIDS cases are found in men 50 and older. By contrast, only 15 per cent of people with AIDS here are in their twenties.

Studies conducted for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation by a professional research firm indicate that men over 45 in San Francisco.

compared to any other demographic group in the local gay or bisexual male population, tend to be less knowledgeable about AIDSprevention, and more likely to engage in anonymous Unsafe Sex than their younger counterparts.

We urge men over 45 to reassess their risk of contracting AIDS and to help spread the word to their contemporaries: Men over 45 are definitely at risk for AIDS.

Help is available. The STOP AIDS project, 621-7177, offers one-evening discussion groups about the AIDS epidemic for men of all ages; older men are especially welcome. The AIDS Health Project, 626-6637, provides eight-week support groups focused on issues of social support, health promotion, and AIDS. And, of course. the Foundation's AIDS HOT-

LINE, 863-AIDS, can provide the latest information on AIDS-risk and AIDS-prevention, as well as other referrals.

Remember, with AIDS, it's the sexual activity you engage in that counts, not how old you are. Please protect yourself and your partners from AIDS.



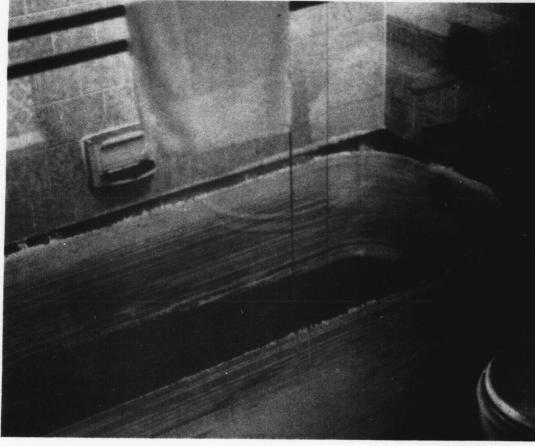
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GREATER BAY NEWS



Soot ruined this Russian River resort bathtub

Russian River Update

Cleaning up after the floods, the following businesses are

Rainbow Cattle Co. The Bayou (formerly The Mine)

The Woods Resort



ou can enjoy walks along the ocean, a warr

fireplace, and a variety of local activities Located near the village of Mendocino 32980 Gibney Ln., Fort Bragg, CA 95437.

Trate 9

ino coast. Alone, or with a frien

Highlands Resort. **Opening on Friday March 7:** The Willows Molly Brown's Saloon

CLOSED AS OF MARCH 6

FIFES

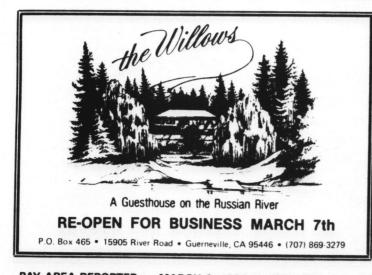
Fifes has sustained an incredible amount of damage. The clean up crews have already started. All the cabins had water up to their ceilings and some suffered structural damage as well. All the campsites have been inundated with mud and require extensive clean-up. Water damage to the bar and restaurant will require several weeks to clean and repair. They hope to have the bar and restaurant open by Easter and the resort in full

Dehaven Valley Farm Westport, California

as different and special as you (707)964-5252 - Feb.14 SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY - Hour D OUT that someone special?

- Feb.21 HOUSE PARTY Would you like to find a lover? A fun-filled weekend of exploration with fifteen single men who are seriously
- seeking an enduring relationship. John Armstrong, MFCC, facilitator - Feb.28 FIRST HONEYMOON - for lovers only, champagne hayride. - Mar.16 REDISCOVER YOUR LOVER - A weekend to enhance your relationship with your lover, bringing it new life, vitality and joy. John Armstrong, MFCC

Double room with breakfast for two, from \$55



BAY AREA REPORTER MARCH 6, 1986 PAGE 20 IS BOAR STREE & PORAM

operation by May. CAMELOT

The water level rose to over 16 feet in this resort. All 18 units

(Photo: Jerry Davis)

were affected. They will try to open a couple of units at a time and plan on getting into opera-tion about the end of March. PARADISE COVE

One of the newest resorts on Armstrong Woods Road. This resort had just been completely remodeled with a new pool and decks. All the cabins featured handmade furnishings as well as wet bars.

TRIPLE R RESORT

They have a full crew cleaning up and hope to re-open in late April to early May.

MOUNTAIN LODGE

Eight units completely ruined by the flood waters. The pool and hot tub was also damaged. They hope to re-open in about five to six weeks.

VILLAGE INN

Water went up to two feet in the second floor lobby. Many antiques were damaged as well as some staircases. Clean up has started and they hope to re-open in mid-April.

T.J.'S RESORT

Some damage, clean up has started and they hope to open also in mid-April.

RUSTY NAIL

They took over 5 feet of water in the bar. They literally lost everything. Clean up is underway and they hope to re-open in about 6 weeks.

The following seem to be unsure about re-opening:

River Village Resort Burdons Restaurant Little Bavaria Restaurant

Lee Case Still **Unsolved in Concord**

Neighbors Report Hearing Screams; But Gay Life Very Quiet

by Jon Sugar

Timothy Lee hung on a fig tree near the Concord BART station. He was black, gay and dead at 23. Maybe he was in the wrong place at the wrong time. Rumors abound about the Klan hanging him. How does Concord feel about this? Do they know about Timothy Lee, the Klan, gay people?

Well, I like a challenge and love traveling to exotic places, so I grabbed my tape recorder and notebook, cut two holes in my bedsheet, and got on the BART train to Concord, population 109,000.

Concord is 35 miles from San Francisco. It takes about 45 minutes by BART. I left SF in the late afternoon and by the time I got to Concord it was dark. None of my friends would go with me, "I just don't like Concord," they'd say.

At the Concord BART station, started my interviews with a BART policeman. "As far as I know it was a suicide," he said, "They said he hung himself on a fig tree with his own belt. You should call the Concord PD if you want more than that." BART has not increased its protection at that station since the incident, he said.

I called Capt. Novinger at the Concord Police Dept. "We have no new information on the Timothy Lee case," he said.

The next day Inspector Al Jordan from the Concord PD detective bureau returned my call, saying, "There was a party on that night with a few people dressed in sheets. We're trying to find them. They are avoiding

Two letters reprinted here below raise questions about Timothy Lee's suicide. The NAACP and the FBI have copies of these letters which are signed affidavits from neighbors near the Concord BART station.

One affidavit says, "In the early morning hours of Nov. 2, 1985, I was awake at about 2:10 a.m. At that time I heard three or four screams which had a rising pitch and ended suddenly, a hoot or whooping sound. About half a minute after that I heard people moving, a voice saying something brief that I did not understand, followed by the sound of what I thought to be about three or four people running on Oakland Avenue."

A second affidavit says, "Around 1 or 2 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 2, 1985, I heard loud, piercing screams that appeared to be coming from the Concord BART lot or just beyond. There were many repeated screams so I got up to call the police. I started to dial and stopped because I thought I would have to give them a more specific destination. By this time, however, the screaming had stopped.

"About fifteen minutes or a half hour later the screams started again. This time there were five or maybe seven screams a few seconds apart. After the screaming stopped I heard a voice but could not hear

the words clearly. I heard a car door slam and then a group of people came running. It seemed they came from the BART

DOING CONCORD

What to do in Concord! (If you're gay!)

My friend Jupiter lives in Concord and met me at the BART station, promising to show me the hot spots. After treating me to blintzes at the International House of Pancakes, he took me to what the local gays call Toto's Park, located in old downtown Concord. It's a clean, dimly lit small town park, a pretonewall affair.

"It's called Toto's Park because Judy's search in the night for their Totos," says Jupiter. "People come all the way from Antioch to cruise this park," says Jupiter. Picture me running around in a small town homosexual cruise park with my notebook and tape recorder.

I interviewed a man sitting in his big American car. He asked me not to use his name, so, since we're in Toto's Park, let's call him Auntie Emm. He said, "I've lived in Concord for many years. People are cliquish and closeted here. It took me a long time to make the few friends I have."

"I've heard people say that it's easier to keep a lover in a small town than in SF because men in the city act like big boys in a candy store," I said, "Is that a fact or sweeping generalization?

"Oh, it's true! I know lots of gay couples here that have been together more than four years," he said.

"Do you know any black gay people?" I asked.

"I think I know one. There aren't that many black people in Concord.

"How about homophobia in Concord?"

"Well, me and a bunch of gay people were at a pool party and the apartment manager asked us to get out of the pool because straight tenants complained we'd infested the pool with AIDS," he said, laughing.

I approached a man with dyed blond hair and realized I knew

When I asked him how gays are treated here, he said, "I stay to myself except for the people I meet at the MCC church. I

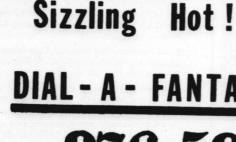
(Continued on next page)

East Bay Tax Free FOSTREAGE BURSARY (An Announcing Nose!)

At the last meeting of the East Bay Assistance Fund on Monday, Feb. 24, several requests for funds were reviewed and voted for approval. An update on the condition of its own tax-free status was presented, with the good news that the letter from the California Franchise Tax Board, in the hands of the committee, would be sufficient information to open a LOCAL account in the East Bay.

What this means, dear reader, is that within the next few weeks. checks can be written almost immediately, without the heretofore delay. A request has been made of the San Francisco Tavern Guild Foundation for transfer of the East Bay's funds as soon as the account is established.

Just in case you might be wondering about the name change from AIDS Fund to Assistance Fund-oh, you didn't even notice?-it was decided upon because some recipients of the requested funds were a tad uneasy about the term AIDS. It



EAST BAY MY WAY

Also on the agenda was a request from the Pacific Center for assistance in paying part of its taxi voucher system. It was agreed that the bylaws of the committee (corporation in process) prevented them from granting such a request. After much discussion, it was decided that to calm some waters, reaffirm some sort of polite camaraderie with Pacific Center, and to express concern for the importance of this type of voucher, a minimum assistance would be sent directly to the taxi company operating with said vouchers.

A new member (a Person with AIDS) has been added to the committee, and a welcome mem-ber indeed! Now once a month Doug Bohrer will be giving his insight and opinions on the decisions of the committee. For those of you who may not be familiar with Mr. Bohrer, does the name "Starr" ring a bell? One and the same, hon!

Although letters of "gramercy" have been written, I feel it necessary to publicly thank Rick Nathan and Gary Yates for the pick up and delivery of the TVs for Fairmont's AIDS Ward. A special "hug and kiss" to Gary for contributing the difference between the original price-for which the check was writtenand the corrected higher price, due to increased costs.

Lee

NEZ PAS

was strictly an expeditious deci-

sion, and has no effect on the

RAFF-ZAPETERO CENATORY

Because Big Mama's will be

celebrating its 8th Anniversary

(joined by Ruth Hastings and

Company at 3 p.m.!) on Sunday,

March 23-the original date of

Mr. Lumbrjack's spaghetti feed

for the Oakland Parade Con-

tingent at Revol-George has

rescheduled the repast for Mon-

day evening, March 31, the day

after Easter. If you're sick and

tired of ham and hard-cooked

hen fruit, spaghetti should be

I have it on good authority

that the "T&C Dollies" will

make their first on the road

cover just so much girth!

(An Olla-Podride Nose?)

HOTCHPOTCH-PASTICCIO

Parade Contingent, will be this

knight, a chicken(!), or want to

be fed, the festivities are from

Saturday, March 15, presents

two choices-if you time it right,

you can make it to both. Ala-

meda County Special Olympics will have its annual bowling

tournament at Mel's Bowl in

* * *

If you find that living your life

is a difficult task, remember: it's

never been attempted before!

Nez

I'm smiling. Love,

noon to 8 p.m.

right down your alley.

purpose of the committee

VICISSITUDE

(A Reporting Nose)

(Continued from previous page) haven't had any problems and I've lived here all my life. But,

like I said, I stay to myself." "What have you heard about the hanging of Timothy Lee?" I asked

"There's a bar on Monument Avenue where people with less than liberal attitudes hang out. Ku Klux Klan types hang out there. Maybe it was them," he said

Concord's shopping mall is well known for tea room activities. While yuppies stroll in the mall, married, bisexual and gay men act out their fantasies with pubescent homosexuals in the toilets. The toilets are under a surveillance, of sorts, by the shopping mall security and Concord police.

More openly gay people men-tioned going to the Diablo Valley College for gay raps, the MCC church and The Hub, a gay bar in Walnut Creek.

Harry is 28 and openly gay.

He's a guard at a mall across from Toto's Park. When asked about Timothy Lee, he said, 'The Contra Costa Times reported screaming. That doesn't sound like suicide to

Timothy Lee misspelled names of family members in a note left behind causing people to think that perhaps he was forced to write it.

How are gay people treated in Concord?

Harry: "Concord is pretty cool, actually. The first day worked here I met gay people.'

Are Concordians aware of gay people

Harry: "The Contra Costa Times stated there are 108 cases of AIDS in Contra Costa county and that is expected to double."

Where do gay people in Concord go for kicks? Harry says the adult bookstore on Monument Blvd. "Most of the gay people I've met have been at the adult bookstore. The place is open until 5 a.m.," he said.

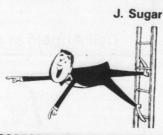
I asked a gay man in a Baskin-

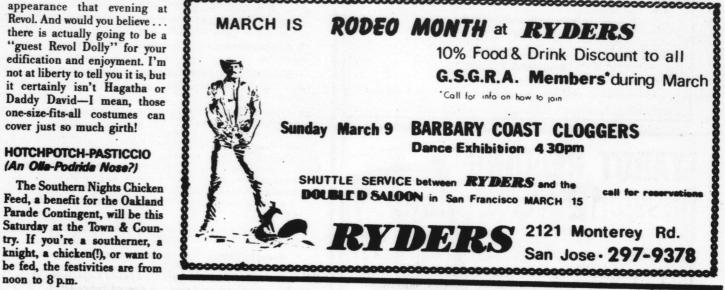
Robbins ice cream store if cruising the mall, the park, the MCC church, and DVC rap groups constituted a full life. "Concord isn't exactly a week at the beach," he said.

If all else fails, I guess you could go to Macy's for the fire sale

One final note. Uhuru House, a black people's freedom organization, was contacted by a gay youth organizing a rally in Concord to raise consciousness about the death of Timothy Lee. A spokesperson for Uhuru House said they wouldn't support the rally because he was gay. He did not represent black people, they said

The struggle continues and the case of Timothy Lee is far from closed.





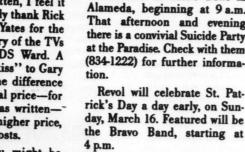






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charges will be added to your phone bill.

NO CREDIT CARD NECESSARY !





• The Blazing Redheads: music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5:30-8:30 PM, \$5 cover. · Faith Winthrop: cabaret, 1177 Club, 1177 Califor-

 Julie Wilder: cabaret, Buckley's, 131 Gough St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$6 cover, show only; \$4 dinner guest cover. San Francisco Hiking Club: overnight excursion (see

• Grupo-Sinigual: music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F.,

· Sunday Comedy Night: cabaret, N' Touch, 1548 Polk St., 8:30 PM, \$1. Featuring Doug Holsclaw, San-

 Robert Coffman: book reading, Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St., S.F., 8 PM, call 861-3078 for reservations. Coffman reads from Truman Capote's

 Great Outdoors/San Francisco: horseback riding at Half Moon Bay. Call 864-3426 for details · San Francisco FrontRunners: 1-5 mile run,

Sausalito Bridgeway, 10 AM, Main and 2nd Sts.,

munity Center, Campbell Ave. and Winchester Blvd., Campbell; women at 6 PM, everyone at 6:30 PM. · Affirmation (Gay and Lesbian Mormons): meeting, 7'PM. Call 641-0791 for details and directions. A talk

· Crossing Borders: stage performance by the S.F.

· Different Spokes: Decide-and-Ride, meets in the Neiman Marcus parking lot of the Stanford Center in Palo Alto at 10 AM. Call (408) 288-6513 for details. · Affirmation, Gay and Lesbian Mormons: meeting, every Sunday evening, 7 PM. Call 641-4554 for details. Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco: worship and communion service, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 10:30 AM. Childcare provided. Call 863-4434 for

· Santa Rosa MCC: worship services, 7 PM. Call

De Frank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 86

• Diablo Valley MCC: worship celebration, 2247 Concord Blvd., Concord, 10 AM. Call 827-2960 for more

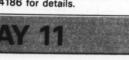
 Gay Volleyball: pick-up games, Potrero Hill Jr. High School, 19th and Deharo, S.F., 11 AM to 2 PM.

St., S.F., 9 & 11 PM, \$1. Join MC's Consuelo del Rio and Tommi Rose every Sunday for a classy show featuring S.F.'s finest female impersonators.

· Men's Clinic: free and confidential VD testing and treatment for gonorrhea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, venereal warts, etc. Counseling and referrals for men with AIDS/ARC concerns, open to all Bay Area gay men, sponsored by the Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 7-9 PM. Call 644-0425

meeting, lectures and support groups, Pacific-Presbyterian Hospital 2333 Buchanan St., S.F., 1st floor, Merrill Room, 7-9 PM. Call 434-7978 for details. Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders: men's support

Support Groups for PWA and those concerned about AIDS: ongoing meeting, Kaiser Foundation Hospital, 2425 Geary Blvd., 3:30-4:45 PM. The



 Gay International Folk Dancing: for lesbians and gay men, Eureka Valley Recreation Center, Collingwood Park, S.F., teaching 7:30-8 PM, request dancing, 8-9:30 PM, \$2.50. Call 585-9784 or 552-8413 for

 San Francisco Intergenerational Program: prose and play-writing workshop for beginners and advanced

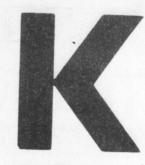
Aldo Antonio Bell: cabaret, N' Touch, 1548 Polk St.,

Asian Gay and Bisexual Men: meeting, Pacific

· Mad Dog: art show, Ambush, 1351 Harrison St.,

and Mission, S.F. Interested? Call the Bandfone,

Slightly Older Lesbians: meeting, Billy De Frank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 86 Keyes St., San



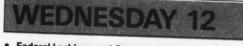
Jose, 7 PM

• Gay-Nite: Rollergarden, 15721 East 14th St., San Leandro, 7:30 PM-Midnight.

• The Temescal Gay Men's Chorus: rehearsal, Trinity Hall, 2320 Dana (at Durant), Berkeley, 7 PM. For details, call 465-7388 or 655-3825.

 Meditation and Healing Circle: meeting, Haight-Ashbury Community Center, Park Branch Library, 1833 Page, S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 864-5438 for details.

• Gay and Lesbian Diabetes Support Group: Libertarian Bookstore, 1800 Market St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 864-2398 for details.



Federal Lesbians and Gays: meeting, Rooney's, 22 9th St., S.F., 6 PM. Guest speaker: Leonard Graff of the National Gay Rights Advocates. Special tribute to Hal Freeman, the former regional director of the Office of Civil Rights. No-host cocktails, free buffet. Call 239-6105 for more details.

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays: meeting, 26 Kensington Court, San Anselmo, 7:30 PM, call 479-3535 for more details.

Steve and Ellen Seskin: music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 PM.

 Sandy Van: cabaret, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St. S.F., 9 PM, \$5



Doug Holsclaw joins Suzy Berger and Mario Mondelli at Theatre Rhino Friday. (Photo: Rink)

 San Francisco Hiking Club: meeting. Call 861-7988 for details.

 Common Concerns: black lesbian outreach 25 and under discussion and support group, 7-8:45 PM. Call Nanoshka at 864-0876 for more information.

Men's Wart Clinic: removal of penile and external and internal anal venereal warts, Oakland Feminist Women's Health Center, Oakland, sliding scale. Staff physician is Dr. Fred Strauss of the Gay Men's Health Collective. Call 444-5676 for more information.

• S.F. Lesbian/Gay Chorus: "Together In Harmony" rehearsals at All-Saints Episcopal Church, 1350 Waller St. (near Masonic), 7:30-10 PM. Call 334-6542 for details.

· Fruit Punch: gay radio, KPFA, 94.1 FM, 10 PM.

THURSDAY 13

· Great Outdoors/San Francisco: business and planning meeting, Castro Country Club, 4058 18th St., S.F., 7 PM

 Crossing Borders: stage performance by the S.F. Mime Troupe (see Friday for details).

· Men's Support Group: meeting, Billy De Frank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 86 Keyes St., San Jose, 7 PM.

Men's Rap Group: led by George Birmisa, 711 Eddy St., S.F., 2:45 PM.

 Bonnie Hayes: music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 PM.

· Western Star Dancers: beginners square dance class, YWCA, 620 Sutter St., S.F., 7:15 PM. Call 864-6134 for details.

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



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMEN

In July, the Council produced

a benefit for the SF AIDS Fund

called A Modest Vaudeville star-

ing members of the company of

42nd Street, and in November a

marathon performance by al-

most 50 acts at the Club Fugazi

called Come To The Cabaret. In

December, the Council provided

seven hours of entertainment at

the lighting of the Christmas

trees in Union Square, and on

April 10 it will produce a splashy

benefit for the SF Conservatory

of Music, The School of Arts

Foundation, and itself. Starry

Night, City Lights: A Celebra-

tion of San Francisco's Rising

Stars will mark the opening of

California Center, and looks to

be a very elegant affair indeed.

The SFCE will also present A

Comedy Showcase at which

young comedians will audition

for a scholarship the Council

awards in memory of comedian

The nominees and the even-

tual winners of the Cabaret Gold

Awards are selected by the 200

members of the Council, who are

sent nomination ballots a few

months before the event. This

year the number of nominations

in each category has been reduc-

ed from three to two in an effort

to shorten the show, at which all

(Continued on page 36)

Don McClean.

CABARET



The After Dark cast received a special Hands Across the Sea award at last year's Cabaret Gold Awards. (Photo: Rink)

One Helluva Show!

The Cabaret Gold Awards Will Knock Your Socks Off

by Stephen Drewes

arch 10 at 7:30 p.m. the San Francisco Cabaret Gold Awards will be presented during "A Gala Evening of Cabaret, Comedy, and Jazz" at the GiftCenter Pavilion on Brannan Street. Comedian Pat Paulsen, a former Gold Award winner, will emcee. The best of both prominent and newly arrived night club artists will perform. More than 20 awards for excellence in the cabaret field will be bestowed with grace and largesses and received with becoming humility. The losers will bravely insist they never wanted the damn thing anyway. Drinks will be drunk and food consumed and, if reports of last year's ceremony are to be believed, a splended time will be had by all. There will probably even be a surprise or two. Performers such as Bea Arthur, Steve Ross, Marty Allen, and Lainie Kazan have been known to pop up unexpectedly at the awards in the past. Just another pretty awards ceremony? Close, but read on.

In fact, the San Francisco Cabaret Gold Awards show is unique. It is the only public event at which nightclub performers of all kinds are honored by their peers. Efforts have been made by the Manhattan Association of Cabaret Performers to duplicate it in New York City, but, thus far, without success.

The Gold Awards are the creation of an organization called the San Francisco Council on Entertainment. The SFCE was founded in 1978 by a group of club owners, performers, journalists, and cabaret enthusiasts as a service organization to support nightclub artists and the clubs in which they perform. The original group included the late and beloved critic John L. Wasserman (in whose name an award is given for "work transcending performing excellence"), Kirk Frederick, Jack Essex (who, at the time, owned Chez Jacques, one of the city's most popular clubs), Gene Price, Lee Hargrave, and critic Phil Elwood. The organization came into being at about the same time the Bay Area Critics Circle announced its first annual awards and, some feel, was a direct result of that event. "After all," remembers singer Weslia Whitfield, "if the theater peo-

BAY AREA REPORTER MARCH 6, 1986 PAGE 24

ple could do it, why couldn't

Ironically, according to Chron critic Bernard Weiner, quoted in an article by Walter Blum, the BACC awards themselves arose out of enthusiasm created by a benefit for Whitfield, recently the victim of a tragic shooting. Whitfield went on to win two Golds, and is again nominated this year for Outstanding Female Vocalist. The BACC appears to be defunct, the victim of internicine squabbles and, in my opinion, the group's insistence on presenting multiple awards in single categories, thereby weakening their significance. But the SF Council is thriving and, in fact, going on to bigger and better things.

"When the organization was first founded, it existed primarily as the production agency for the awards show," said Ed West, president of the Board of Directors and former owner of the Olympus, a North Beach club which was Beach Blanket Babylon's first home. "But recently we've widened our scope. We would like to provide the same sort of external support structure for cabaret that already exists here for the opera, symphony, and ballet."

Toujours GAI

Bill Sherwood's Parting Glances Is a Miracle in Many Ways

by Steve Warren

FILM

or all the problems he encountered, Bill Sherwood realizes he had it easier than most in getting his first feature, Parting Glances, into commercial release. It took "just under two year's from the time he wrote it until he could watch people lining up around the block to see it. He completed it last October, two days before its unveiling at the Independent Feature Market, and a week later Cinecom International signed a distribution contract.

That's fast work for a GAI filmmaker. The acronym stands for Gay American Independent, what Sherwood might call a "triple whammy" working against him.

While he felt like "chief cook and bottle-washer" on Parting Glances, Sherwood had good people working with him to lighten the burden of fundraising and other production

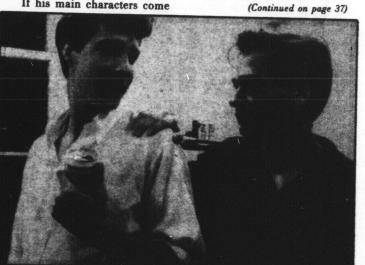
He estimates his budget-"by the time everyone is paid, all the deferrals"-at \$330,000. Agents from L.A. don't understand this kind of economy, laughs the New York-based filmmaker. "I tell them \$300,000 and they say 'You mean \$3 million,' and we go through that two or three times."

Pinching pennies wasn't always easy. "It's pretty much torture," he illustrates, "to have to say 'Don't use too much gaffer's tape. If we run out we won't have any more'

Unlike some filmmakers in comparable situations, Sherwood didn't use his tight budget as a copout. "I tried very hard to make it as good-looking as possible," he says, "but I didn't set out to make it glamorous and Hollywoody." Now the finished product has been criticized as "too glossy. Some people want American independent films to look funky and scrungy."

Parting Glances is about 24 hours in the lives of two lovers, Michael (Richard Ganoung) and Robert (John Bolger), after which Robert is to be transferred to Africa. Between rounds of parties and preparations, loving and bickering with Robert, Michael is caring for his best friend Nick (Steve Buscemi), an the question while being afraid acid-tongued musician who has to ask it. AIDS.

If his main characters come



'Let me see what I'm missing' - Aggressive Peter (Adam Nathan, r.) pursues Michael (Richard Ganoung) all the way to the bathroom in Parting Glances

across as wealthier than Sherwood intended, the low budget, paradoxically, is one of the reasons. "We should have made (Michael and Robert's apartment) a little messier and down to earth," he admits. Surprisingly, their foofy digs were part of the same large apartment that served as the set for Nick's funky, new wave quarters.

Many New York gays, Sherwood believes, live rather well in rent controlled apartments they've occupied for a long time. "Maybe Michael found this place for \$400 when he was in school and held on to it."

Originally the filmmaker planned to write about lower middle class people "because they express themselves more interestingly," but looking at the types he wanted to portray he found "the vast majority is mid-dle class and a little bit boring."

Contrary to our politically correct self portrait of an oppress-ed minority, Sherwood finds that many gays have a good bit of money. "We've pulled ourselves up by our own bootstraps. You just say, fuck it, there's no way you're not gonna succeed somehow. If you meet a black investment banker in New York he's probably gay, having had a doule whammy to overcome."

Sherwood makes no issue of being gay. "If anyone has asked I tell them," he says, adding that he's been amused by some interviewers who have hinted at

The reactions of some critics

EVEN IN BABYLON

Profound Frivolity



suer."

morals.

oody Allen, who in many ways is the Noel Coward of his set, could have been describing the haunted scramble for passion that propels Elyot and Amanda in Coward's Private Lives when he spoke to a P.E.N. benefit last December. "The heart." said Allen, "is not just a lonely hunter, it is a deranged pur-

That deranged pursuit is richly and howlingly portrayed in the current ACT revival of the play (through March 22; 673-6440). Elyot and Amanda are the voracious lovers who cannot live with each other but also cannot live apart. Five years after divorcing, while honeymooning with their new spouses, they discover each other in adjacent suites. They also rediscover their mutual passion, and flee together to a den of iniquity in Paris where they resume, much to our delight and their consternation, the quickly alternating course of their highstrung love: joyfully reckless fights and lovemaking. When respectability-proper behavior, manners, and adjustment to "the system"-beckons, they preach their gospel, the dire necessity that rules out the world. Combined, these qualities upend convention, manners, and

Yet these unwanted traits sneak back in when their new spouses turn up, and Amanda and Elyot confront them, each in their own way: Elyot with droll flippancy that either hides or excuses any real concern for what he actually ought to do, and Amanda with a steely show of bravado in the form of excess manners as she just ignores the problem. Or else she flaunts her sexual freedom, thinking perhaps Convention will flee in horror from her, tail between its legs. Amanda and Elvot end up slipping out the door, running from responsibility again.

It's all very entertaining, and written in the highest of gay style, almost defining the sensibility; what one can get away with if one does it with style! In his brilliant study of Coward's plays, Coward the Playwright. critic John Lahr writes, Private Lives uses a heterosexual relationship to dramatize a camp sensibility." Most amazing about the play is that although it would be impossible to play it with an all-male cast, it is utterly, invincibly, incredibly homosexual. Which of course heightens the joke. That wasn't so obvious in 1930, vet the play brought a homosexual ethos to the unsuspecting heterosexual, strongly influencing straight thinking and behavior. Coward needed a heterosexual mask to survive, yet he wore it and presented his life with such style that the very public who forced him to don the mask swallowed his preachings whole, thereby becoming the butt of the joke themselves. And what is this frivolity that is preached so strongly in Private Lives? Lahr explains: "Frivolity is a serious strategy for avoiding the stalemate of conventional manners. To dethrone the serious, to neutralize moral indignation, to promote playfulness, to show irony in action, is what ... high camp wants to accomplish." It's simply the goal of every drag queen,

Sister of Indulgence, radical faery, and anybody else who understands what the station of being gay means. They're agents of change, rejuvenation. The stalemate which is the end result of conventional manners needs the freedom from convention which gay people possess to keep from becoming totally moribund. Straight people will ape and adapt our behavior and make it conventional, while we, like Elyot and Amanda, slip out the door to something that is still just a bit beyond the pale.

'Coward knew everybody, saw everything and comments in confidentiality to his diary on them

Meanwhile, we're back at ACT, where the husband and wife team of Rick Hamilton and Freddi Olster are two cats in a hot sin spoof. Hamilton is all nonchalant ease, drolly seducing and brawling. It would be very easy for a boy to get a crush on Hamilton; he had a hammer lock on me all evening. Olster plays her role in all shades of histrionics, from timorous to tornado, as if this were a musical with only one song. She's as brazen as Channing and as charming as Martin, and her first-entrance impersonation of a drag queen impersonating Tammy Grimes is classic. Olster has a theatrical voice, ranging over scales huskily, but saving her deepest baritonal Bankhead growls for the drop-dead lines. Together, the pair easily captures the quicksilver mood changes that are necessary to make the characters believable,

JOHN F. KARR

and their prowess gives this Private Lives the jagged sophistication Coward envisioned

Sabin Epstein's direction is admirably uncluttered, and adds delicious tango and some musical in-jokes. He's let down in this stylish romp by Ken Watt, who is over his head despite a handsome face as Victor. Nike Doukas carries Sibyl well. Scenery by Jesse Hollis, costumes by Fritha Knudsen, sound by Christopher Moore; all are and somely done.

Perhaps it's a testament to the strengths of this production that the ultimate star is the play tself. No one element can (or should) overshadow it. And how shameless Coward can be in it. All is for effect. If he wants the emotional manipulation of cheap music, he introduces it not once or twice, but again, with a bald line so that the play can hurtle forward. And hurtle it does. Coward does pause momentarily for what sounds like a jibe, but is actually his core: All the futile moralists must be stood on their heads. ignored-no, challenged.

But such a stance exacts its price, and Elyot and Amanda pay it, as did Coward; their philosophical detachment from the mainstream causing an indifference that can become an emotional under-involvement. It's an area explored fully by John Lahr in his book as he wisely examines Coward's plays as sign posts of Coward's life.

Lahr's book (available as an Avon paperback) ties the plays to the man, the fiction to the reality, and offers in its slimness more of Coward's essence than the other full biographies. The "definitive" biography, Sheridan Morley's A Talent to Amuse

(Little Brown and Co., \$24.95), was recently reissued with a new prologue and epilogue written after Coward's death. The book itself is unrevised, so it does not deal with any homosexual aspects of Coward's life. Although it covers everything else in lively and well-written fashion, this lack is crucial and damaging. So the book must be supplemented by Lahr's exciting study, and by Cole Lesley's Remembered Laughter. Lesley was a life-long companion of Coward, and his book reveals the inside story. It's never vulgar, but it's the truth. Morley tells where and when a line was written. Lahr tells why the line was written and what impact it had, and Lesley reveals which lines were ad-libbed in performance and who was slept with afterward.

Coward knew everybody, saw everything, and comments in

confidentiality to his diary on them all. There's so much browsing delight here, and also long glimpses of Coward behind the mask. For all the facts and fun of Morley, Lesley, and Coward himself though, it is John Lahr whose understanding and acknowledgement of homosexuality brings Coward most daringly and fully to life with his critical analysis of The Master's life and plays.

THIS. TOO

Pocket Opera returns Sunday, March 16, at 4 p.m. in the Marines Memorial Theatre (398-2220) with a premiere of Rossini's light-hearted Count Ory, which finds a group of men in drag as nuns, hiding in a nunnery. The season also promises a premiere of another Offenbach gem. The Princess of Trebizonde. Call to request

schedules.

"AN ENERGETIC ROMP ... Spirited, open, frequently funny...a technical miracle. New York Daily News "A LIVELY STYLE and handsome look. feeling of its own." in. New York Times "HUMOR, INTELLIGENCE ... The between Klaus Kinski and Keith Carradine...scathing, sardonic." -Joseph Gelmis, Newsda LANDMARK...As emotionally precise applause it gets." -Ed Sikov, New York Native "BREAKS NEW GROUND ... Sherwood A FILM BY BILL SHERWOOD CINECOM PRODUCTIONS FILM "PARTING GLANCES" astounding." -David Edelstein, Village Voice RICHARD GANDUNG, JOHN BOLGER, STEVE BUSCEMI Photography JACEK LASKUS Function Producer PAUL A. KAPLAN Produced by YORAM MANDEL, ARTHUR SILVERMAN Weiters and Director by BILL SHERWOOD Cinecom LUMIERE BARG. MATS. \$3.00 DAILY TIL 1:45 Exclusive No. Cal. Engagement - Starts Friday! California at Polk /885-3200 Discount Parking Holiday Inn DAILY 1:45, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:45

the latter particularly impressive in a lowbudget, independent project...Mr. Buscemi has a powerfully anarchic presence...and he makes a memorable impression... 'Parting Glances' has a party

supporting characters are sympathetic, human...ruefully funny. Wiry and frenetic. Buscemi looks like a cross

as anything to come out of Hollywood in the last ten years...It deserves all the

turns gay and straight stereotypes on their heads...[He] makes us-whatever our orientation-see this strange new world through the eyes of its denizens. The movie has a rich, upscale look that's

BAY AREA REPORTER MARCH 6, 1986 PAGE 25

Former spouses Amanda (Fredi Olster) and Elvot (Rick Hamilton) pledge their undying love in Private Lives. (Photo: L. Merkle)



STAGE

What Turns You On?

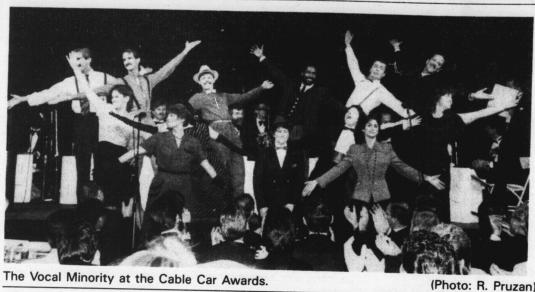
by Bernard Spunberg

elightful as ever, the Vocal Minority is now presenting The VM Goes RPM, a revue of classic pop tunes, at the Nova Theater. With their current show, Minority director Bill Ganz and his singing, dancing ensemble deliver yet another dose of the secret ingredient that has sustained their success for years. Of course, the Minority performs with loads of energy and infectious charm. Technically, too, they are fine, if perhaps lacking that last bit of slickness. That secret ingredient, however, that invisible quality that makes picky criticisms irrelevant, is present in abundance.

It's a matter of identity. Long ago, the Minority decided to sing exclusively pop music, and that's what it does. You'll never hear them place Sibelius cheek by jowl with Sondheim-in fact, you'll never hear them sing Sibelius at all. But the Minority

is more than an ensemble specializing in pop tunes; it is a gay ensemble specializing in pop tunes. Changing the gender of pronouns is easy enough. The Minority goes a little further. While avoiding campinessmakeup, rhinestones, and feather boas-for its own sake, they project a sense of humor and mature self-acceptance that allows them to express a gay sensibility that is proud but not vain. The Vocal Minority has settled the question of how gay a gay community music ensemble should be. It has also figured out how to give its audiences one hell of a good time.

Skillfully directed by Jae Ross, the Minority's new show includes sizzling Manhattan Transfer and sock hop medleys. 'Squeeze Me'' is performed with plenty of vocal skill and lesbian consciousness by Eve Benton, Beth Bricker, and Fran Sehnert. Michelle Rutherford



gives her solo passages in the tribute to Elvis real guts and oomph. A little more gay male vibes would be welcome, although Dwayne Crowell, Mar-Kohler, Jack Mahan, and Mark Benjamin find lots of sexy pages in "The Book of Love."

The generous program also includes songs by Gershwin, Fats Waller, as well as a medley of Supremes tunes, which may be

the one miscalculation on the program. Women have just as much right to adore the Supremes as men do. Still, are the Supremes as much a part of lesbian culture as gay men's? Why not have three men in tight t-shirts and Levis sing "Stop in the Name of Love"? We've all sung it in front of our mirrors. Let's get it out of the bathroom and onto the stage.

If only machine-perfect singing and dancing excite you, go to Vegas. If you're turned on by real people whose delighted, contagious self-knowledge spreads a warm glow, the Vocal Minority is for you.

The VM Goes RPM Nova Theater Sundays through March 30; 621-5619

Director's Show

by Bernard Spunberg

7 earning for knowledge, wealth, and love filtered through an ironic lens fuels the tales told in Paul Sills' Story Theater. Currently produced at the Lab by Spectrum and Reflex Action Theaters, Sills' script incorporates both narration and dramatization in retelling nine stories from Grimms' Fairy Tales, Aesop's Fables, the Arabian Nights, and English and American folklore. The material has certainly stood the test of time. Director Marcus Stern updates the stories with a sprinkling of contemporary archetypes and a tuneful, rollicking rock/soul/jazz score played live by composer Hadley Louden and five other musicians.

Director Stern revealed great gifts with prior productions of a program of short plays collectively entitled Three Acts for a Deaf Yak and Caryl Churchill's Traps. Stern's direction of Story Theater is also-if perhaps not equally-successful, suggesting he is a director incapable of a dull moment. Stern drives home all the points of Story Theater with simplicity, energy, and invention. He generates delicious comedy when villagers, foiled in their attempts to steal a golden goose, turn into a modified rumba line. He achieves poetry when

a fisherman and his wife cast their line into the sea in an effort to recapture opportunity wasted and forever lost. By freely casting women as men and men as women, he even disarms objections to the stories' apparent sexism. In Stern's interpretation, male and female are reduced to the essentially human.

'(Marcus) Stern is a gifted artist."

Playwrights have little to worry about in Stern's hands; he may have a powerfully independent vision, but that vision does not distort. The actors, on the other hand, may be either swallowed up or ignored. Because the forces of human nature and destiny lie close to the surface of Story Theater, the characters may be justifiably played as stereotypes. When stereotypes descend to the level of cliche, however, the stories lose their resonance. One woman is allowed to rely on the same macho shtick to characterize both a nasty big brother and a king. The characterizations of four animals who dig a well are weakly tacked on, and a freeloading rabbit

is played just like Bugs Bunnynot exactly an inspiration.

Some of the actors do make strong impressions. John Balma tugs the heartstrings with portrayals of an ingenuous simpleton and a resigned, dignified fish condemned to grant the wishes of fools. Geoff Shields characterizes a scary devil without resorting to leers and lends ambiguity to a fisherman weakened not by spinelessness but by love and loyalty. Ellen Idelson sometimes lapses into caricature. Her characterization of the fisherman's wife, however, avoids the shrewishness that defeats audience identification while emphasizing the narcotic effect of power.

The rest of the ensemble, the sets, lighting, and costumes by Adam Scher, Maurice Vercoutere, and Barbara Blair, are all fine, but no one of their contributions really shines. That's probably inevitable, given the force of director Stern's personality. But that's all right. Stern is a gifted artist. He has ideas and is willing to take risks. He's worth watching.

Confronting Death

by Mark I. Chester

imes change. Just six years ago, many of the theater pieces I saw dealt with issues of sex and sexuality. Today, most of the theater pieces I see focus on issues of death and dying. Terry Baum, Robert Chesley, Nina Wise, Paul Cacciotti, C.D. Arnold, Adele Prandini, Jane Chambers, Larry Kramer, John O'Keefe, David Schein, the multiple authors of The AIDS Show, and many others have written theater pieces confronting death. Tony Pellegrino, and his play Deer Rose, are recent additions to that

Deer Rose, which had its premiere last spring to sold-out ouses at the Gumption Theater, takes a big leap to its current incarnation at Theater Artaud. Based on the author's experiences, the play explores the relationship between Billy, a 30-yearold artist living in San Francisco, his mother Rose, who is dying of cancer, and his return to Cleveland to take care of her.

The action of the play cuts back and forth between Billy caring for Rose and intense flashback scenes that detail a negative, aggressively unhappy relationship between mother and child. This transmutes into scenes of Rose in the hospital.

her dying, and Billy coming to terms with her death. While the meat of the play is fairly standard material, it is Pellegrino's approach and intriguing artistic vision that gives this play its power.

Pellegrino has his actors perform entirely in masks, with dialogue either pre-recorded or spoken by actors standing on one side of the stage. His masks are powerful conceptions, expertly (and almost too wisely) revealing the inner state of minds of the characters that wear them. The true art of mask making is that, opposed to concealing the face of the wearer, the mask with every turn and movement of the head exposes another facet and expression of that character.

In flashbacks of Billy's youth, Pellegrino puts actors on stilts and creates giant masks and sets that reflect a child's perception of the adult giants and giant objects that fill his world. As Billy grows older, this size differential grows smaller. At each juncture Pellegrino has created masks for Billy and his mother that capture the essence of that time of life; alive with a wonderfully wry sense of humor.

(Continued on page 32)

Story Theater The Lab Through March 15; 931-3485



When four make eight, or what is known as Fratelli Balogna.

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Baloney Sandwich by Stephen Drewes

never read reviews of productions I intend to see. L It's not that I'm one whit worried my impression of the event will be even subliminally colored by another writer's opinion-no indeed! It's just that it seems to me that theatrical criticism rightly belongs in the Groves of Academe, where professorial minds have been happily worrying over such knotty problems as "What Is Theater?" time out of mind. Which ought to give you a pretty good idea of why I didn't pursue my Doctorate. That and my tendency in literary efforts to go off on tangents . . . Where was I? Oh yes! My problem is that so many of our local reviewers have taken to supplying their readers with lovingly

detailed plot precis which deftly remove any suprises the production might have had in store for the uninitiated. This is known as the Pauline Kael School, an example of which might read: "The richly symbolic chiaroscuro of Mario's death scene, after which Tosca flings herself off the parapet of the Castel Sant' Angelo, ...'' I mean, thanks a lot! With that in mind, I'm sure

you can imagine my dismay on finding myself two-thirds of the way through the Chron's review of Fratelli Bologna's new production, currently at the Studio Eremos, before realizing that Over Our Heads was already on my calendar. With a ladylike shudder of distaste, I immediate-

(Continued on page 37)

TALES OF TESSI TURA

Sing Out, America

lthough many opera queens will instantly embrace the absurdities of librettos centered around obscure moments in Italian history and German mythology, the majority are shocked to learn how many works have actually been written about life in these United States. During the past 75 years, the history, folklore, and popular culture of our nation have all been portrayed on stage in a wide variety of operatic styles ranging from the verismo of Puccini's The Girl of the Golden West to the pulsating rock beat of the Who's Tommy, which received its professionally staged premiere from the Seattle Opera in 1971 with the up-and-coming Bette Midler in the cast. The wealth of operas

which reflect important moments in American history-as well as those works which depict the heroes and heroines of American folklore-now offers solid evidence that an exciting literature of operatic Americana has become an integral part of our legacy of 20th-century music

Embodied by long-legged lumbermen, axe-wielding psychotics, rural virgins, colonial witches, and dewy-eyed golddiggers, America's folk heroes have been brought to operatic life in such wildly diverse works as Benjamin Britten's Paul Bunyan, Jack Beeson's Lizzie Borden, Carlisle Floyd's Susannah, Robert Ward's The Crucible, and Douglas Moore's The Ballad of Baby Doe. Hawaiian composer Jerre Tanner's two one-act operas, Pupu-Kani-Oe ("The

KEITH WHITE

FROM FIFTH POSITION

Signs of The Times

he final week of American Ballet Theatre's engagement began with a whimper, mitigated somewhat by the successful world premiere of David Gordon's new comic work, Murder. Two other premieres had to be judged in terms of the degrees of their failure, while Murder was a complete triumph on its own limited terms. That American Ballet Theatre should have two failed premieres in one season is not, in itself, so unusual. (Remember Estuary and Follow the Feet three years ago?) But in the context of a limited repertory and the absence of more popular dancers, each offering was-crucial to the company's tarnishing image.

Some people liked Sir Kenneth MacMillan's Requiem. which had Andrew Lloyd Weber's self-imitative musical setting and the team of Barvshnikov and Alessandra Ferri to add to its appeal. Also, for those who read the program note, a suggested conflict from a story concerning a tragedy in Cambodia-reflected in Yolanda Sonnabend's ruddy camouflage scrims and spattered unitardselicited sympathetic responses. Yet the bulk of MacMillan's choreography is a surfeit of sculptural duets in a style seemingly at odds with both the Requiem and the subplot; as in much of MacMillan's work, the women are overpartnered to the point of manipulation. Susan Jaffe and Kevin McKenzie performed their duet with enough sexy sensitivity to work in isolation from its context, but most of the ballet strikes an insincere note. Ferri looked dazed.

Baryshnikov's single solo (to the "Hosanna") was wholely unimpressive, relying for interest on a few jazzy kinks derivative of other solos in his repertoire. He wore an expression of somber detachment throughout, maintaining it even when he took his mandatory curtain calls. Was he merely embarrassed to accept an ovation for what he knew was the weakest role of his career?

In John Taras' Francesca da Rimini, Cynthia Gregory found her most thankless creation since John McFall made Inter-

ludes for her in 1983, but to her credit, she appeared not to care -the best posture to assume when one is trapped in a failure. In the ballet she's trapped with Patrick Bissell in what looks like an everlasting Carnival at Rio: Rouben Ter-Arutunian's florid rendering of the Inferno. This ballet may well be shelved before the company's next New York season; it certainly won't ever be seen in San Francisco again after the unanimous critical beating it took here.

This brings us to Murder, an entirely original and deliciously campy spoof of murder mysteries by David Gordon, who doesn't like to refer to himself as a choreographer. Truly, the term "staging" is more appropriate to this slapstick farce, for though every gesture is a masterstroke, the small amount of actual dancing in Murder renders it more nearly a play than a ballet. Edward Gorey's ingenious black and gray cartoon designs are in zany complicity with Gordon's conception, and even Berlioz' Symphonie Funebre et Triomphale (first movement) seems in sympathy. In a season flawed with two nearly perfect bombs, Murder enjoyed an uneasy success, but Gordon made a real gift to Baryshnikov in giving him a comic tour d force that placed so little strain on his ailing body. Baryshnikov's own comment? Smiles over the curtain calls. No guilt. He'd been funny.

Several large repertory works during the week revealed a corps de ballet dispirited by fatigue and, perhaps, poor rehearsals; in the 2nd acts of Swan Lake and La Bavadere, lapses in unison symmetry were as obvious as mismatched silver. The company's strongest showings were in the intricately composed Balanchine ballets, Theme and Variations and Symphonie Concertante. In the later work, Susan Jaffe looked more like a star than any dancer I saw all season. As invincibly glamorous as Joan Collins, voluptuous even in allegro, Jaffe's self-satisfaction originates in performance, as though the act of dancing itself endows her with strength and beauty.

GEORGE HEYMONT

Legend of the Singing Snails") and Ka Lei No Kane ("A Lei For Kane"), proudly incorporate the folklore and cultural mores of America's 50th state. Even to the casual and uniformed observer. it must seem clear that as part of this nation's artistic and cultural maturation we have amassed a fascinating legacy of American operas.

A core group of such works continues to strengthen its presence in the repertoire. Last fall, Carlisle Floyd's Willie Stark was performed in Charlotte. North Carolina and Shreveport, Louisiana. In early February, the Baton Rouge Opera mounted a production of Marc Blitzstein's Regina, based on Lillian Hellman's play The Little Foxes. At this very moment, Floyd's Of Mice and Men is being rehearsed by the Greater Miami Opera Association while the Dallas Opera begins pre-production work on the Virgil Thomas/Gertrude Stein opera written about Susan B. Anthony, The Mother of Us All. In June, the Opera Theatre of St. Louis will resurrect Willian Mayer's exquisite treatment of James Agee's A Death In The Family while the San Francisco Opera stages Gian-Carlo Menotti's' The Medium.

From coast to coast, American opera companies are producing American operas in which American artists enact various aspects of the American experience before American audiences. If that statement sounds overly nationalistic to someand redundant to others-it is nevertheless cause for genuine celebration. "There is a great sense of artistic chauvinism in the United States today," notes America's first operatic super-



George Gershwin's Bess (Roberta Alexander) struts her stuff in the Metropolitan Opera's production of Porgy & Bess.

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STEVE WARREN

Still, they're nice folks to spend 90 minutes with. You're sure to find one of them to relate to and probably several to lust after, in a movie that makes you feel good about being gay. It's the first film to put everyday gay lives in an intelligent, entertain ing dramatic context. The first time I saw Parting Glances I admired it as a critic, the second time I fell in love with it. (Lumiere)

PRETTY IN PINK

The new auteurs don't always write and direct their own films. but you can smell the Spielberg influence a mile away on any project he's involved with. John Hughes moves into the same category with Pretty in Pink, which he wrote and executive produced but didn't direct. A natural follow-up to Hughes' serious teenage comedies Sixteen Candles and The Breakfast Club, it features their star, Molly Ringwald, as Andie, a poor girl in a high school where the important classes are the ones students are born into, not the ones they attend.

Andie is a brilliant student, works after school in a record store, and makes her own Madonnaesque clothes. Rich-boy Andrew McCarthy appreciates her sterling qualities and comes on to her in a cute scene of seduction by computer; but his friends, notably assholier-thanthou James Spader, try to dissuade him

If you think it sounds like the plot of Valley Girl in reverse, you're right. Other than a larger budget, the main difference is an excellent supporting cast playing well-written characters. Jon Cryer is "Duckie" (not unlike the "Geek" in Sixteen Candles), Andie's boyhood friend who's really in love with her but masks his hurt with humor. He dresses like Madonna, too. Harry Dean Stanton, in the least weird role of his career. is Andie's father, and Annie Potts her older but hardly wiser confidante

Pretty in Pink isn't as original or as intense as The Breakfast Club, but it's just as entertaining-which makes it one of the better teenage movies. (Regency 1, Plaza)

0

he glamour! The glamour! Saturday night will be Apuckerlips Now at the Castro Theatre when Joan Collins, the number one gay fave of the '80s, appears for an inerson tribute A benefit for the Cable Car

Awards and Bay Area Crisis Nursery, the event begins with an hour of clips from La Collin's films. Considering the possibil-ities—Land of the Pharoahs, The Wayward Bus, Can heironymous Merkin Ever Forget Mercy Humppe and Find True Happiness? The Adventures of Sadie, Three in the Cellar, Empire of the Ants and The Devil Within Her, to name a few-this portion should be a masochist's delight. No wonder she called her autobiography Past Imperfect.

At 8:30 the star will take to the stage to be interviewed by Lia Belli and the audience.

Tickets are pricey-\$10 and \$25 general admission, \$50 for reserved seats if you want to be close enough to read the label on her gown. A donation of \$100 or more gets you into a reception at the Belli's. For \$250 you're at a private supper with the guest of honor and for \$500 you can sit at her table. Then for \$1,000 you can spend the night with

Just kidding. She's a respectable, happily married woman now. That price has gone up to \$10.000.

Were you wondering if I'd get through this without mentioning Dynasty? I almost made it.

PARTING GLANCES

For years I've been toughsome have said too tough-on gay movies because I believe they should be expected to meet the same standards as any other

Parting Glances proves my point, that a gay man with an dea but no money can create a work of art that's as good as Stranger than Paradise or El Norte or any other American independent film you care to name. Thus Parting is sweet sorrow for gay filmmakers, the yardstick against which their work will be measured for quite some

dealt a heavy hand that includes a crisis in a gay relationship and an impending death from AIDS; but without sacrificing dramatic impact, director Bill Sherwood has maintained a buoyancy that never lets his audience sink into despair. I could name a dozen major directors who have failed a similar balancing act in the past year alone.

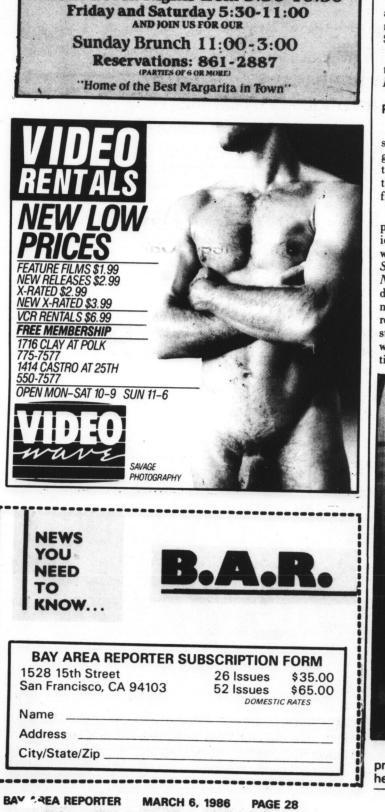
Michael (Richard Ganoung) and Robert (John Bolger) are Guppies. They've been together six years. Robert has accepted a transfer to Kenya in his job with the World Health Organization. The story is set in the 24 hours before his departure, a time of partying and leave-taking and intense lovemaking, the last left mostly to our imagination.

Writer Bill Sherwood has

'Were you wondering if I'd get through this without mentioning Dynasty?'

Both men are attractive. An 18-year-old twinkie (Adam Nathan) is after Michael, making him feel "like a widower in Miami Beach." Robert "looks like a fuckin' Ken doll," according to Michael's best friend Nick (Steve Buscemi), a musician with AIDS who has been abandoned by most of the old crowd. The depth of Michael's love for Nick gradually unfolds in the course of the film. He says they're "two sides of the same coin," but this only really comes across in a Fire Island sequence near the end. There's a lot of talk about how "mean" Michael is becoming, but he doesn't have any really bitchy dialogue to back it up. Nick has all the good lines, especially a speech about "the difference between straight guys and gay guys." He's bitter, but was apparently that way before he was diagnosed.

If you complained about the characters in Making Love, Consenting Adult, and An Early Frost being too middle class. you'll have the same problem here. Not only does everyone have money and dress well, but they're beautiful people in every respect and ever so trendy. can't wait to work the word 'foofy" into a conversation.



It ain't easy being a B-52-Annie Potts' wig wardrobe in Pretty in Pink ranges from '50s prom queen to Patti La Belle. She's the older and wiser friend Molly Ringwald (r.) turns to for help with her romantic problems.

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Chasing the Ducks

With three weeks of the 14week season behind us, it's time to drag out the old crystal ball and see how things will shape up May 21 after all teams have faced six divisional rivals twice. The crystal ball has been notoriously accurate in the past, although last season's forecast for city champ picked the division winners correctly but missed picking the league champ by one

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hadn't fit into years.

ny body in 6 weeks

VIKKI FRIEDMAN: Amazing!

game - the DeLuxe H.U.N.T. E.R.S. were defeated by the DeLuxe D.U.C.K.S. in suddendeath overtime

This season's hottest battle will be in Division One, where most of the strength seems to have settled after the random draw. Whichever team eventually wins will do so by a slim margin. However, Lauren Ward's Ducks DeLuxe should prevail over Rick Mariani's Traveler's De-Duck-Tions-in spite of the implications of its clever name-for the top spot.

Top rung in Division Two is presently occupied by the SF Eagle Eagle's Eye and the Park Bowl Party Lines, but in a couple of weeks Ron McKay's Watering Hole Geysers will pull into first place and remain there, with Park Bowl, Maud's, or the SF Eagle in second at playoff

In Division Three the battle will be for second place. John

SFPA Standings

Division I Traveler's De-Duck-Tions

I Traveler's De-Duck-Hons	35-13.729	Maud's Squ
Ducks DeLuxe	23-9.718	Park Bowl S
Bear Bottoms	21-11 .656	Bear Hugs
Transfer Troubleshooters	23-25.479	Rainbow Ra
Watering Hole Bisons	19-28.404	Traveler's H
Pilsner Spheniscidae	16-31.340	muterer 5 m
Badlands Lushes	6-26.187	
Division II		1 E. Z.
		2 Edward H
Park Bowl Party Lines	21-11 .656	3 Gino Smi
S.F. Eagles Eagle's Eye	21-11 .656	4 Charles I
Pendulum Pirates	8-8.500	Dennis H
Maud's	22-26.458	6 Hugh For
Watering Hole Geysers	14-18.437	7 Dave Chu
Badlands Survivors	13-19.406	8 Kim Floy
El Rio Players	13-19.406	9 Ron Chev
a second second second second		Hopkins, Rie
Division III		David Reed,
Transfer Stop	38-10.791	tiago, John S

19-13.593

lustlers TOP TEN

8-0 1.000 Howard 10-1.909 7-1.875 6-1.857 Healy 6-1.857 ountain 10-2.833 8-2.800 9-3.750 vrette, Gene ick Mariani, , Ozzie Sar

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Schou's El Rio Turtles, former-
y of Eagle Creek, have two new,
inproven players. Depending on
heir contribution, El Rio could
give Grant Ramer's Park Bowl
strokers a real battle for the slot.
first place in that division,
owever, will be held by Billy
West's Transfer Stop all the way,
rimarily due to the addition of
d Howard, a first-season player
urrently breezing along at 10-1.

GENE MILLER

Of course, winning a division is part of the challenge, but that coveted July trip to West Holly wood is the primary focus. The crystal ball sees a very close contest between the Transfer Stop and the reigning league Champion Ducks DeLuxe, giving the edge to the Ducks.

The league was saddened by the passing of Russ Glenn Feb. 15. Although he hadn't sponsored White Swallow teams for three seasons, he did play a major role in earlier seasons as the league's most active and involved sponsor.

16-16.500

22-26.458

13-19.406

19-29.395

17-31.354

6-2.750

JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES BOWLING

Team Standings and Personal Achievements Unavailable

(The	Leagu	e Avera	
SUNDAY RENO	LEAC	JUE	
(Week 16 of 28 - as	of 2/2	23/86)	
1. Sassy	7	i	
2. Lucky Strikes	7	1	1.
3. Alley Cats	7	1	2.
4. Split City Rollers	5	3	3.
5. Deadwoods II	5	3	4.
6. Vagabond	4	4	5.
7. Rocky's Boys	4	4	6.
8. S.G.F.H. & Biff	4	4	7.
9. High Rollers	4	4	8.
0. Spikers	4	4	9.
. Pin Pistols	3	5	10.
2. Strange Interlude	3	5	11.
B. Miss-Splits	2	6	12.
. Not Again	2	6	
. Four-In-A-Row	2	6	13.
. 300 and Won	ĩ	7	
			14.
HAWAII VACATION	LEA	GUE	15. 9
(Week 34 of 40 - as	of 2/21	/86)	1
. Capricorn IV	43	13	16. 1
. Versatiles	39	17	W
. The Eruptions	34	22	Anna and
. Hawaii Bound	261	2 291/2	(
Yacht Club I Wonder Women Wacky Keystones Maui Wowies		2 301/2	1. 1
Wonder Women	23	33	1. n 2. T
Wacky Keystones	181	2 331/2	3. L
Maui Wowies		\$ 471/2	
			4. B
MONDAY COMM	UNIT	Y	5. T
LEAGUE			6. B
(Week 19 of 32 - as o	of 2/17	/86)	7. P
Play With It, Ltd.	10	2	8. P
Bow-K	10	2	9. T
The Poppers	9	3	10. M
Agency Rent A Car	7	5	11. Pe
Foote Plumbing	7	5	12. G
Damaged Goods	7	5	13. M
Vagabond	6	6	14. Co
Pacific Coast Glass	6	6	15. Al
Belew Meanies	5	7	16. St
One's Still Up	5	7	17. Ge
Powerhouse	5	7	18. Pi
Bench & Bar	4	8	19. Th
Tina's Weenies	4	8	20. Do
Kimo's	4	8	1.5.8.3
Diner Dogs	4	8	
Pin Pals	2	10	TI
	0.70		
COMMUNITY BON	ANZ	A	1 01

LEAGUE (Week 22 of 32 - as of 2/17/86)

7. Gangw

8. P.S. - One Mo

PG Gutter Girls	18	6
5 Not So Ezy Pcs	14	10
El Rio Tartarugas	13	11
Oh! So Close!	13	11
Spare Me!!!	12	12
The Smooth Operators	0	24
Team #2	0	0

8. Tramps R Us	4	.4	
9. Housewives From Hel		4	
10. Number Won	4	4	
11. 5 Inner Pieces	4	4	
12. Bottoms Up	3	5	
13. Strikes 'N' Spares			
Fore	0	8	
14. The DP's	0	8	
15. Strangers In The			
Night	0	8	
16. Team #16	0	8	
WEDNESDAY COM LEAGUE			
(Week 18 of 32 - as of	2/18	(86)	
1. Mother Nature	7	i	
2. Thing II	6	2	
3. Urasis Dragon	6	2	
4. Brunswick Beauties	5	3	
5. Taco Tycoons	5	3	
6. Blackouts	5	3	
7. Play With It, Ltd.	4	4	
8. Puhio's	4	4	
9. Team #18	4	4	
10. Male Image	4	4	
11. Peaches & Creams	4	4	
12. Gutter Girls	4	0	
13. Mix Ups	3	5	
14. Contours Gals	3	5	
15. Alley Oops	3	1	
16. Stud City	2	6	
17. Geri's Kids	2	6	
18. Pinheads	2	6	
19. The Fisherman	2	6	
20. Double D Dixie Do			
Dahs	1	7	
THURSDAY COMMU LEAGUE	NIT	Y	
(Week 19 of 32 - 2/20	/86)		
1 011 0:11	11	1	
2. Penguins	11	1	
3. Hunks	8	4	
4. Twin Peaks 9ers	8	4	
5. Pendulum	4	8	
6. Vagabond	3	9	
7.0	24.6	-	

TUESDAY COMMUNITY

LEAGUE

(Week 18 of 32 - as of 2/18/86)

71

Guvs N Doll

Five Big Balls

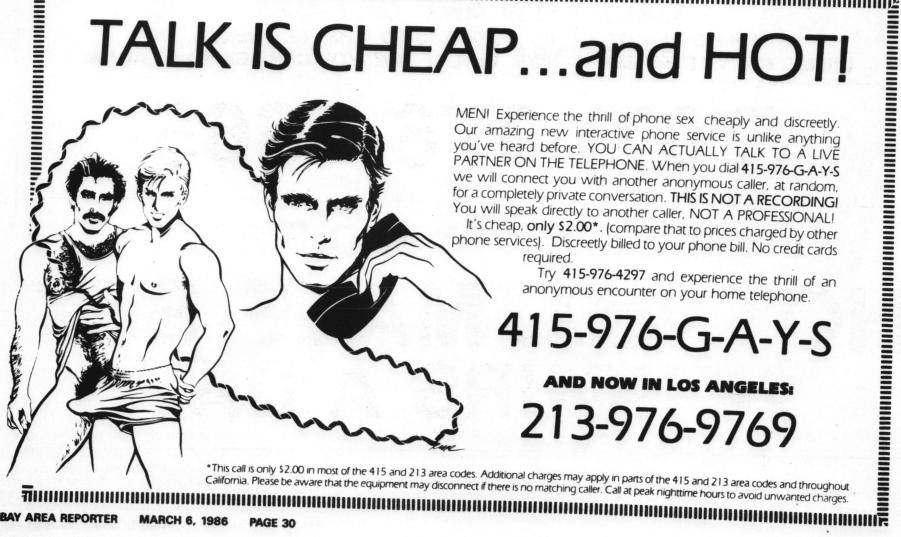
Sorority Bitches

La Cage Ah Balls!

Steering Committee

The "69" Club

Feddy Bears

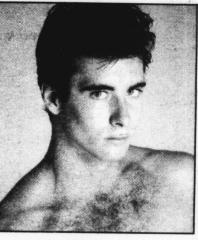


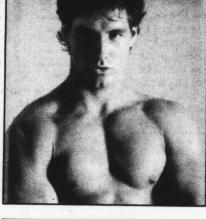
FREE CENTERFOLD SEX

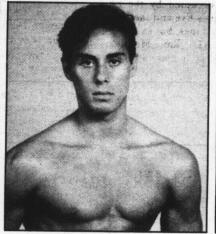
TALK DIRTY WITH THE MEN WHO SPREAD THEMSELVES OUT IN THE NATION'S LARGEST SELLING SKIN BOOKS

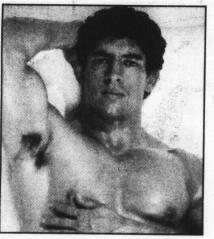
LISTEN AS THE HOTTEST MEN IN THE WORLD LET IT ALL HANG OUT AND TELL YOU HOW IT IS. WHAT IT FEELS LIKE. GRAPHICALLY DETAIL-ING THEIR HOT SEXUAL NEEDS, FANTASIES AND EXPERIENCES.

YOU'LL BE THERE WITH THEM. TAKING IT ALL IN. JUST THE WAY YOU LIKE IT. AGAIN AND AGAIN. OVER AND OVER. AS HARD AS YOU CAN TAKE IT. AS OFTEN AS YOU CAN HANDLE IT.

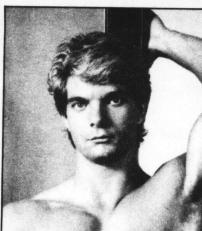














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Deer Rose

(Continued from page 26)

The action shifts between the stage, from behind a giant scrim (that helps fill Artaud's cavernous theater space), and backlit shadow plays on screens. These changes help illuminate shifts in time, and keep the viewer interest high. The set, props, costume and sound designers all have special touches that match Pellegrino's. Only the lighting design fails to surpass the ordinary. A light, jazzy piano keeps the scenes moving, and sung dialogue helps mundane exchanges glow with an inner light.

In the end the antagonism between mother and child dissipates, and each seems willing to at least acknowledge the other and say they love each other. Rose visited by death in the form of the spirit of a reindeer, in a haunting segment puts a death mask over her face mask. In the unusual scenes that follow, Rose's hospital bed converts into a coffin, and Billy is visited by the spirits of his younger selves. And in a beautifully eerie ending, Billy confronts the reindeer spirit while images of his mother float in the background. His final

dance overcomes grief, but there are no answers. That is just the way life is; one accepts it and moves on. Pellegrino has put a lot of

himself, his heart, and tears into this show. The applause was loud, and on leaving I saw a number of teary eyes. But life in-trudes on art. Having received a notice informing me of the death of a friend that day, I enjoyed Deer Rose and was intrigued by it, but I was not deeply touched in a heart-felt mannei

Pellegrino's portrait of Rose is terribly ugly and angry. She is a chain smoking, pill popping, nasty bitch who always wants to go out dancing and is willing to drive her husband to physical abuse in order to get attention. By 60 she is lonely, bed-ridden, and has added junk food and television addictions to her chain smoking and pill popping. While we tend to remember the very good and very bad that happens to us, Rose is given no good side in the eyes of Billy.

There is a revelatory moment when Rose begins to talk about the past and how she hurt her husband and Billy, but Pellegrino immediately squashes it. Up until Rose is in the hospital. there is no physical affection or kiss between them. When Rose is near death they come to an

understanding, but not because of anything that happens. It just occurs. That is a long time, and late in the game, to be able to touch your mother and say, "I love you.'

Also I wonder about Billy. Having left home at 20, he is an artist, 30 years old, living in San Francisco, and is portrayed as having longish hair, jeans, and black leather sneakers. No mention is made of a girlfrield or relationship, even by Rose as she lies bed-ridden. Billy is a sensitive, creative, "different" sort of boy and man. I find Billy's ambiguous sexuality unsettling. Gay or not, Billy's description and lifestyle come too close to. life to be just art.

Other problems need to be fixed. Some shadow images don't coincide correctly. Some hand and body movements don't coincide with recorded dialogue. Some problems can't be fixed without re-writing. Parents dominate and harass children around eating and bathing. When parents get old, children harass them about the same things. The role reversal is neither new nor worth the effort Pellegrino invests in it.

M. I. Chester

Deer Rose Theater Artaud Through March 16: 621-7797

lessi

(Continued from page 27)

star, Beverly Sills. "And you can bet money I think it's long over-

AT LONG LAST LEGITIMATE

Although the distance from West 52nd Street-where Porgy and Bess premiered at the Alvin Theatre in September 1935-to the Metropolitan Opera House in Lincoln Center is less than 15 city blocks, it took half a century before George Gershwin's epic score about life on Catfish Row could receive the Met's official seal of approval. In 1976, the Houston Grand Opera began touring its highly acclaimed opera house version" of Porgy and Bess throughout the United States and Europe. HGO's Music Director, John DeMain, subsequently won both a Grammy Award and France's prestigious Grand Prix Du Disque for his full-length recording of the score. Feb. 8, Gershwin's opera was televised on Live From The Met while impresarios from a dozen opera companies flexed their entrepreneurial muscles to co-produce Porgy and Bess in cities across America during the next few years.

A second look at the Met's production last fall revealed that, largely thanks to James Levine's sensitive conducting, Gershwin's opera is in good hands. Simon Estes' Porgy remains a tower of vocal and dramatic strength, while Roberta Alexander's Bess continues to captivate audiences with its sinuous sexuality. In her scenes opposite Gregg Baker's nonstrously muscular Crown, Alexander really sizzles, although Baker isn't exactly what one would call chopped liver. Jay Aubrey Jones' Crabman and Mervyn Wallace's honey salesman still offer delightful cameos although, at the performance I attended, Isola Jones' Strawberry Woman fell far short of the mark. While Myra Merritt's "Summertime" lacked the ethereal beauty Marvis Martin brought to the role of Clara, Veronica Tyler's Serena and Barbara Conrad's Maria are as rock-solid as ever.

The Met's massive production (designed by Robert O'Hearn, directed by Nathaniel Merrill, and choreographed by Arthur Mitchell) offers audiences more than enough visual spectacle for one evening. However, throughout the course of these four long hours spent with the residents of Charleston, South Carolina, I became increasingly aware that the chorus and Gershwin's choral writing are what dominate that evening. The storm scene at the end of Act II is a mammoth piece of music which makes me wonder how anyone could ever have doubted that Gershwin had created a full-scale opera.

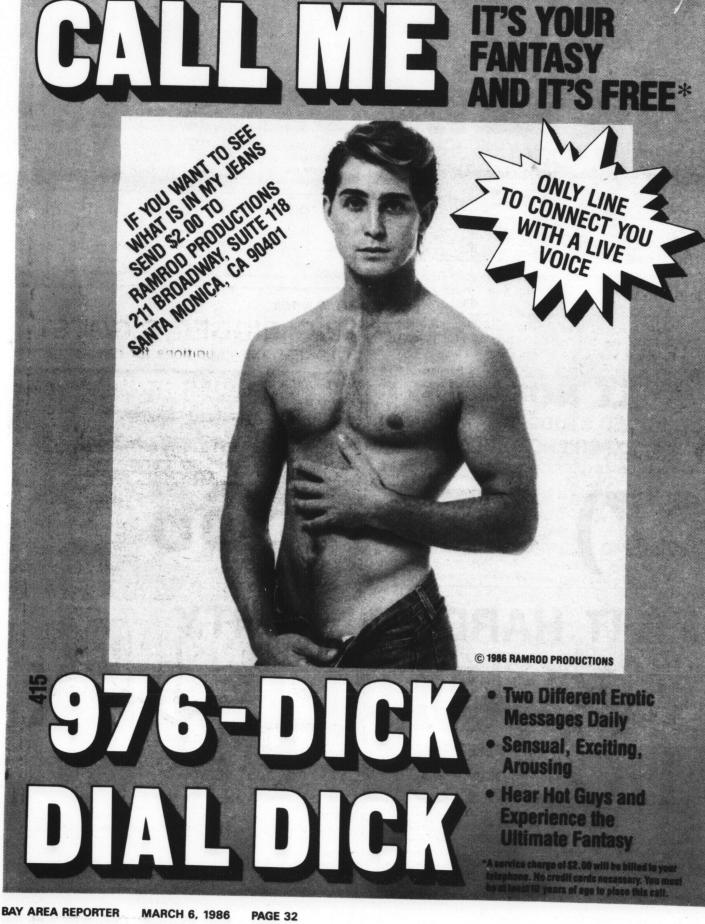
UP A LAZY RIVER

Though hardly operatic in its sound, Big River musicalizes another classic of American folklore, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. Originally staged by the American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge, Massachusetts and the La Jolla Playhouse in Southern California before moving to Broadway. this show works so hard to make audiences like it my initial reaction was to wonder if I wasn't watching an industrial revue based on a Mississippi River theme.

While Heidi Landesman's ingenious sets do a fascinating job of simulating life on a flatbottomed river raft, I often found Des McAnuff's direction annoyingly cute. Although I greatly enjoyed Bob Gunter's King, Brent Spiner's Duke, and their attempts to perform The Royal Nonesuch, at various moments in the evening other characters, as they rose out of the orchestra pit atop concealed elevators, bore an uncanny resemblance to Walt Disney's Country Bear Jamboree. The tall, and very adult Daniel Jenkins couldn't make me suspend my disbelief long enough to accept him as an adolescent Huck Finn.

Although I enjoy country western music, I found something strangely anachronistic, and perhaps a bit too souped up electronically, in Roger Miller's score to make the entire experience seem believable. I'm obviously in the minority here. because the audience surrounding me seemed to be having themselves a high old time. However, the show's big gospel number, "How Blest We Are." which was excitingly sung by Jennifer Leigh Warren, seemed extremely calculating. And, although I can't pinpoint why, for much of the evening I had the uncomfortable feeling Big River was pandering to its audience.

G. Heymont





Men Behind Bars The Video: Another Triumph

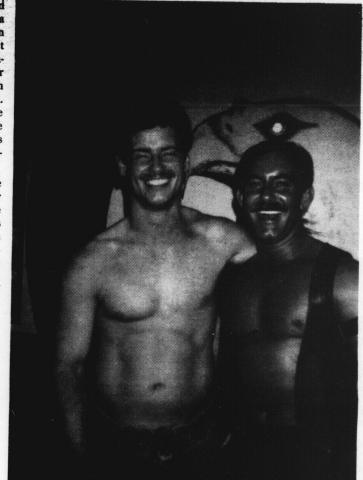
t'll cost you \$39.95 (tax and shipping included) to get a copy of the hottest video in town and yes, I'm talking about Men Behind Bars III, the fantastically outstanding two-hour video just rushed to completion by Male Entertainment Network. They summoned up every ounce of their electronic talent to make an entertainment tape that rates five stars in the minds of everyone who has seen it already.

Last Wednesday, the entire cast showed up at Amelia's for a little party and viewing of the tape that is so professional, it's hard to believe the show was an amateur production. Last Thursday night, MBB III: The Video made its first public appearance at the SF-Eagle with a \$6 tariff and a beer bust.

If you saw the show "live," here's a stunning array of video gymnastics that gives you closeups, fade-ins, fade-outs, splitscreen, quad-screen, and every trick in the video spectrum and some that haven't even been heard of until now. Thanks to the brilliant sound and lighting by Randy Schiller Productions, MBB III comes across as a topnotch extravaganza with everyone in the cast represented, including the exciting dancing of the SF Tap Troupe and the magical musical moments by City Swing.

The next benefit showing will take place at the Special bar on Castro next Thursday night, March 13. If you want a preview before buying it (available in VHS and Beta), now's your chance. I got a phone call from Gstaad, Switzerland last week at the unGodly hour of 4 a.m. where the Men Behind Bars video was being shown for a large gathering of gay men and women courtesy of Law Wilson. The cheering and applause on the phone by those overseas brothers and sisters who were viewing San Francisco at its best was so gratifying I couldn't get back to sleep. It also convinced me that the Men Behind Bars video is something to own or give as a gift and made me realize that the long hours of rehearsing and hard work everyone in the cast endured was well worth the effort. Male Entertainment Network is to be congratulated on a job exceptionally well done. I think they should get a nomination at next year's Cable Car Awards. Have you got

your copy yet? After the video presentation last Friday, checks totaling \$8,000 were distributed to the beneficiaries: SF Band Foundation (\$5,000); Coming Home Hospice Convent Project (\$1,500); Gay Games II (\$1,000); Rita Rocket Sunday Brunches for Ward 5-B (\$500); and Dorthy Duster (\$50) because she lost that much in wages by being at rehearsals for the show. Men Behind Bars The Video is sche-



John K. Brown (I.) is Mr. February in the 1987 Bare Chest calendar, here with 1st runner-up Kim Whittington. (Photo: Marcus)

duled to be shown at the Pilsner Inn April 1 and the DeLuxe bar on Haight as well as the Desperadoes bar in San Jose. Watch this space for the dates.

* * *

o what's coming your way S to keep your head in a spin and your wallet thin? This weekend looks interesting. Tonight, they'll be picking Mr. March for the 1987 Calendar at the SF-Eagle's Bare Chest Contest

Parties too numerous to mention as a salute for the victory of Emperor Matthew and Empress Sable are going on all over the place.

Timothy Mason's delightfully scintillating Levitation opens Saturday, March 8, at Theatre Rhino. The comedy, written in a lyrical realism reminiscent of Lanford Wilson, has been praised by the critics in New York, as has much of Mason's writing. Through April 12.

While I'm talking about Thespians, Samm Gray, who thrilled audiences in the recent Circle of The Serpent production at the Ambush as the hilarious CC, does a one-night gig at the 1177 Club on Nob Hill Sunday, March 9, accompanied by Ted Pinkston at 2030 hours. This is another one of those "actors always want to be singers and singers always want to be actors" things which promises to be a stunning evening. Ducats are only \$7, so don't miss Samm

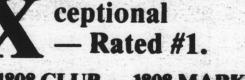
with the shakey brown eyes. Call 776-2100 for reservations, but don't wait too long.

The Cycle Runners M/C is having its annual Toga Party at the California Club (Van Ness and Clay) Friday, March 14, beginning at 1930 hours for a \$5 donation and a chance to compete with your toga, muumuu, duster, cape, or gown in The Living Statue Contest and the election of Caesar Tiberius Non-Marcus (reeeeal cute!). Cocktails are only \$1.25 and if you have questions (and 1 do!) cal Kirk at 621-0304.

The first heat in the competition at the Powerhouse to find a man to send to the International Mr. Leather contest in Chicago in May got underway last night and the next one is Wednesday, March 12 and 19, with the winners competing on the 26th for the big prizes. SF-Eagle commences its competition during April. Watch for the dates. 'Nuff to keep you busy?

* * *

It is my sad duty to report that the celebrated and award-winning artist, Robert Uvvari, formerly of Our Town, is gravely ill and hospitalized at this writing. I'm sure his many friends here would like to drop him a few encouraging words or a card; send your words to: Robert Uyvari, Room 776, Milwaukee County Medical Complex, 8700 W. Wisconsin Ave., (Continued on next page)



1808 CLUB - 1808 MARKET ... YOUR BEST CHOICE

Beyond the old unchanged front lies a new comfortably lighted, well-heated arena for the exhibitionist and the body-conscious man. Several large plate glass mirrors and bench tops have been placed for your pleasure. The slick shiney floors are kept spotless daily. These are a couple reasons that our patrons have chosen 1808 to demonstrate safe sexual behavior and have won positive political acceptance at this location (1808 Market).



BAY AREA REPORTER MARCH 6, 1986

Marcus

(Continued from previous page) Milwaukee, WI 53225. At my deadline, it was unclear if he could receive phone calls. I'm sure Robert would love to know you're thinking of him.

DISH-ANNA DISH-ANNA-DANA

The most eligible bachelor in town as of two weeks ago is Tod Briggs, formerly enamored of one of our local royalty. Tod says he feels he could soar like an eagle now that he broke the chains that "possessed" him in a tight grip for so many months, and he was doing just that at the SF-Eagle last Sunday afternoon while the Gay Parade Committee was having a beer bust and auction with the 1st Intl. Mr. Leather David Kloss (now oil rigging it off the coast of Sicily) with his new true love, David, Mr. Gay Texas.

Speaking of former title holders, Sonny Cline decided the term "size queen" is too, too gauche and instead seeks out (and usually finds) men not generously endowed, but rather, "men with a powerfully good blood pressure count"—I like that

GRAB YOUR DICK

While members of the CMC (California Motor Club) were happily celebrating their new roster of officers, a disgruntled group is ready to take the club to Small Claims Court because they haven't yet received the CMC Carnival t-shirts they ordered and paid for in advance last November! A spokesman for the CMC regretfully stated that "the t-shirt people lost the silk screen and rather than pay \$100 for a new screen, we are refunding everyone's money." Stated one of the disgruntled ones: "It took them four whole months to tell us that?"

Mark Abramson and Jim Cvi-



Pete King and Posey in their rainwear at the Flood '86 Party at Amelia's last week. (Photo: Rink)

tanich stated bluntly that their next production will not be a movie, but a spoof-type play to be entitled Fiasco. I repeat, I hope Fiasco doesn't turn into one. As far as a lot of people are a spectacular evening of theater, concerned, there never will be a suitable replacement for Men Behind Bars and I daresay, I second that motion!

Mike Krawczuk, one of Folsom's most popular bartenders in the early '70s, had such a penchant for parks and bushes he's gone into the nursery business; while I don't get the connection, he's the proud proprietor of Airborne Nursery in Geyserville, so if you Geyservillianos need some orchids, plants, or other exotica, check it out.

Another Folsom institution about to go the way of the Arena, Boot Camp, and Chaps? My spies in the very large gay real estate circle leaked last week that Febe's is on the "for sale" list and some yuppie entrepreneurs are just lapping their chops and sharpening their claws to grab that space for yet another freak-out site. Woe! I hope not.

The Hollywood Court of Royalty is in such a snit, they're planning to sue the SF Tavern Guild and the Council of Empresses and the Emperors for not being allowed to walk at the last coronation; it would behoove Emperor Matthew and Empress Sable to calm the ruffled feathers of all concerned and try to get this whole mess straightened out. I'm sure Empress Nicole of an Diego can help out in the dispute and can help resolve the very, very sticky situation.

That hunky Joe Cappetta takes another quantum leap in directing when his Tennessee Williams show opens March 14 at Theatre Rhino and plays

Int'l. Mr. Leather

CHICAGO-The Eighth Annual International Mr. Leather Contest and Show has been scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend in Chicago. The contest itself will take place at the posh Park West, Sunday, May 25, with parties and special events planned on Friday, Saturday, and (Memorial Day) Monday. The contest and show draws more than 1,000 members of the leather community from around the world.

This year, a weekend package

Fridays and Saturdays until March 29. With that brilliant playwright C.D. Arnold assisting with Randy Turoff and a cast of seven, the three one-acts promise so make your reservations now!

I don't know if it's true or not, but that group of neglected lovers/wives in Foster City are starting to experience agida (aggrivation with nausea) because of the irrational fear that their husbands are playing around with "other women" in San Francisco and their households are on the brink of a shambles: they're declaring war on those guilty of alienating affections. With so many lawyers involved in the scandal, this could be reeeal juicy, if you know what I mean! How'd you like to be the judge on the bench for this supposedly "class action" suit? No wonder they're experiencing agida

And while we're on the subject of judges and courts of law, those nasty queens who get in trouble and go before gay and/or lesbian judges thinking they'll get leniency got another guess coming. Last week, one of our most respected gay judges slammed a cannon-mouthed queen in the cooler for 10 days for contempt when "she" started acting like a real queen by making tacky remarks to bailiffs and jailers. Oh gross!

* * *

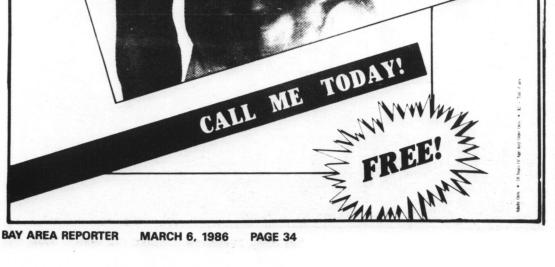
That ends it for this week, guys and gals. Spring is just around the corner, so enjoy. Keep your legs crossed and until next week, remember: Those who bite the hand that feeds them usually lick the boots that kick them.

Mister Marcus

is being offered for \$50. The package includes a reserved seat at the contest and show; private bar parties at Chicago's leading leather establishments; an official International Mr. Leather poster and T-shirt designed by Etienne; discounts at Chicago's leading leather shops, bars, and businesses; and much more.

Both entry forms and weekend package reservations are available from International Mr. Leather, Inc., 5025 N. Clark St., Chicago, Illinois 60640, or by calling (312) 878-6360. The public is encouraged to order early as the 1985 contest sold out.

AND DIAL (415)976-LOAD A Hot New Fantasy 3 Times Daily \$2.00 Plus Any Toll Charge 18. Only CALL (415) **R-POSE** (4) (8) (0) (7) (6) \cdot (7) (3)



BAY AREA REPORTER MARCH 6, 1986 PAGE 34

COURTLY CHATTER



A Glittering Finale

oronation 1986, "Space Station Nashville," will be long remembered as one of the most spectacular events produced by the Imperial Court of San Francisco. From beginning to end, the entire evening sparkled with innovative, high-tech, and entertaining presentations. Rhinestones, sequins, mylar, and feathers filled the Galleria, rivalling the more splashy Hollywood affairs.

Emperor Ken Wright and Empress Sissy Spaceout, along with their production staff, which included John Scott, Brad Wells, Mark & Marvin of M & M Productions, Cameron Tanner, Empress XIV Ginger, Empress I de Chicago Joanna Caron, and a host of others, are to be congratulated for putting on a fabulous coronation. The participation from the community was great, and each of the candidate's entrances showed that a lot of thought and energy was used to create and express their particular persona.

The final walk of Their Most Imperial Majesties, Emperor Ken and Empress Sissy, reaf-

firmed the unity of the titles of Emperor and Empress. In previous coronations, the Emperor and Empress do their final walks separately. Ken and Sissy's joint walk was viewed as their statement, that despite whatever differences they may have had, they were united in their respect and admiration for each other. I was very impressed with the entire evening, and with this show of unity, I could not have been prouder.

The anticipation of the audience was evident when, after Ken and Sissy's walk, the Imperial Privy Council was announced and the calling for the voting results was made. Supporters of each of the candidates were calling out their candidate's name in hopes the results were in their favor. Empress XIV Ginger was sent back stage to bring out the newly elected Emperor, with Emperor VII Bob Ross and myself to bring out the newly elected Empress. Before we asked the newly elected monarchs to join us, Bob congratulated all of the candidates for having put on one of

REMY

the best campaigns in recent times. It is a difficult task to bring out just one winner for each title, as you know each of them deserve to win. It makes it even harder when five out of the seven were on your campaign committee just a couple of years earlier. Just for that reason, I did not publicly endorse any of the candidates. They are all my friends and If I had my way, they would have all been brought out as the winners. My congratulations to Matthew Brown and Sable Clown as the newly elected monarchs of San Francisco. I am certain the both of you will bring continued excitement to the offices of Emperor and Empress. To the unsuccessful aspirants, I applaud you for your dedication to the court system and encourage your continued participation working with the elected monarchs.

Following are the official voting results of the elections. For the officer of Emperor there were 879 votes cast out of 890 people voting: Matthew Brown 345 (39.25%); Tom Turner, 324 (35.86%); Rick Manring, 210 (23.89%). For the office of Empress, there were 885 votes cast out of 890 people voting: Sable Clown, 441 (49.83%); Dorothy



The Empress of Vancouver entertained at the Coronation, accompanied by her Emperor. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Duster, 286 (32.32%); Tatiana, 115 (12.99%); Diedre, 43 (4.86%). Under the Council of Empresses rules, the first runner-up becomes Princess Imperial and thus Dorothy Duster is Princess Imperiale III. The newly elected Emperor has the

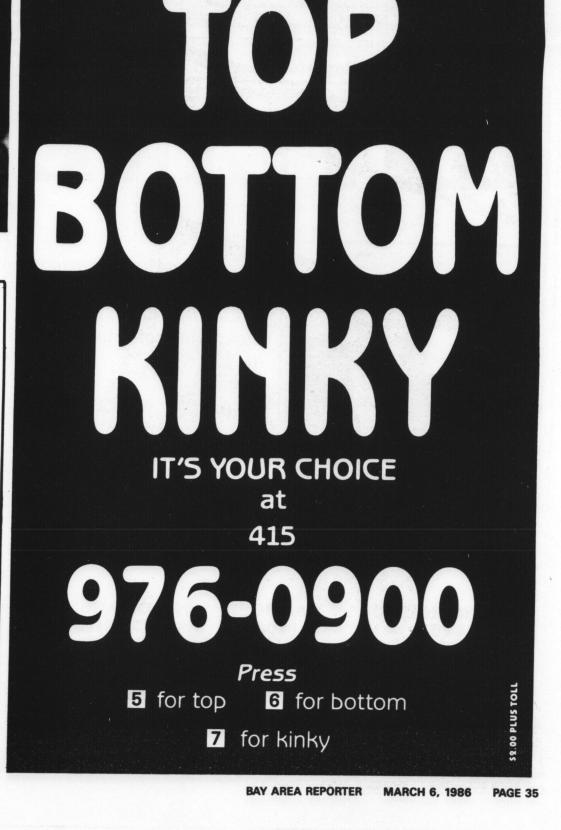
perrogative of appointing the first runner-up as his Prince Imperial. However, he is not obligated to do so.

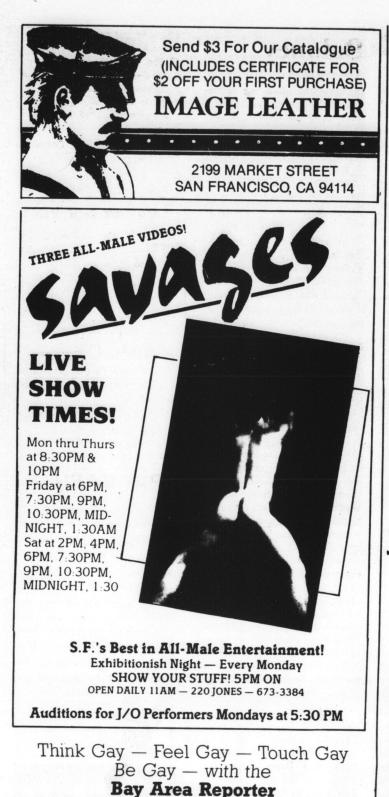
In final summation, this past year has been a very successful (Continued on next page)



Sissy Spaceout welcomes John Molinari to the Coronation. (Photo: Rink)









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-0%

Gold

(Continued from page 24) the nominees are invited to perform. Another change is the elimination of the Entertainer of the Year nomination. The recipient of this award, probably the most coveted, will be chosen by the audience at the awards ceremony itself. Thirty percent of the membership of the Council resides outside the city and, in order to represent them and to create a wider circuit for cabaret performers, awards for outstanding clubs in the Greater Bay Area have been added to the proceedings.

The past recipients of the Cabaret Gold awards are a stellar bunch: Sharon McNight, who's won three times, Lynda Bergren, Jane Dornaker, Val Diamond. Bob Bendorff, Joan Edgar, and David Kelsey, among others, and this year's nominees are no less impressive. Bob Bauer and James Followell, of Tune The Grand Up, are for Outstanding Music Director/Accompanist, and Jae Ross, who's won two Golds, and Reginald McDonald are vying for Outstanding Male Vocalist. In some cases, the reduction in the number of nominees is making the choice of a winner extraordinarily dif-

Chatter

(Continued from previous page) year for the entire court system in San Francisco. The working together of all the various elected titles was very evident. which has encouraged more participation from various segments of our community. People who have not been involved for years are starting to get re-involved. A lot of new "blood" is also being introduced, and a new excitement is being generated. I have great hopes this will continue during this year. With combined energies and focus on pur-

ficult. Weslia Whitfield, for example, is in competition with newcomer Cindy Herron for Outstanding Female Vocalist. Whitfield is probably our finest jazz singer, but their material and styles are so different they shouldn't even be compared. Council members face a similar problem in trying to choose the Outstanding Piano Entertainer of the Year. Bill De Lisle and Peter Mintun are two wonderful musicians who are as unalike as

'There are still too few clubs, and too many talented performers are working for too little money.'

two pianists could possibly be. Were I a member, I would find it nearly impossible to choose between Aldo Bell's A Whole Lot of Bessie In Me and Tune The Grand Up. Ah well, the tension mounts.

In the long run, just how effective is the Council, and how much of an impact does a Cabaret Gold Award make on a performer's career?

pose, we will all be successful in all we may do.

UP & COMING

If you haven't made your reservations yet and if space is still available, you may want to join the Coits of San Franisco on their annual "Skidazzle" trip to South Lake Tahoe over the March 7, 8, and 9 weekend. The cost is \$99, which includes round trip bus transportation, hotel accommodations, and beverage and meal service while in transit to/from Lake Tahoe. Also Saturday night is the annual "Queen of South Shore and Protectress of the Statelines" contest. This contest is like no other. as seriousness and decorum count against you and beauty is not an asset. High camp (and ow) is strictly recommended. Contact any Coit member or call 863-6559 for more information. Sunday, March 9, is the

Golden Jubilee Celebration of "Queen Mother of all" Larry "Larrise" Parson. This gala event will be held at the Transfer, Church, 14th, and Market intersection, starting at 2:45 p.m. Larrise is authoress of the Butch Guide-the only guide you'll ever need. Hosts will be Randy Johnson and Miss Parkay. Entertainment will be by "The Golden Girls" and a mouth-watering buffet is planned. So stop by and wish Larrise a Happy 50th. After all, as Larrise says, "You're only 50 once."

Jae Ross, who is currently booking a national tour, has found his two Golds helpful primarily in finding work out of town. But the general consensus of opinion seems to be that the Council has not made much of a dent on the cabaret world in San Francisco. There are still too few clubs, and too many talented performers are working for too little money.

But there may be light on the horizon. In January, the Council organized its first seminar on producing nightclub entertainment, "Selling Your Act," and this year achieved tax exempt status, which will greatly assist the group's fundraising efforts.

Considering this wholly volunteer organization's energy and commitment, they may very well achieve their goals: to develope and educate new audiences, to encourage quality in cabaret, and to support nightclub performers in such a fashion that they can continue to work on their material and eventually support themselves through their art. Regarding the awards ceremony, Ross added, "If they did nothing else, they put on one hell of a show!"

S. Drewes

Friday, March 14, the Cycle Runners M/C hosts its second annual Toga Party, themed "... And Toga Too." It will be held at the California Club, 1750 Clay St., between Polk and Van Ness. Admission is \$5 and doors open at 7:30 p.m. There will be exhibition wrestling by the Gay Games II Wrestling Team, along with the living statue contest and the election of "Caesar Tiberius Non-Marcus." There will be a clothes check for those of you not wanting to parade around town in a toga. No host bar is available and for more information call Kirk Caldwell at 621-0304 (evenings) or 442-2056 (davs)

Other things coming up in the not too distant future are the Closet Ball, May 10 at the Galleria. Ticket order forms have been mailed out and this promises to be just as spectacular as in previous years. Also, the Investiture of the new Emperor and Empress is being planned now. As the date and other information become available, it will be in this column.

That's it for now. Life is not a joke no matter how insignificant it may seem to others. Enjoy it while it lasts and when a friend errs, tell them then, not three years after the fact. How can anyone rectify an error in time otherwise? Aloha to all and special thanks to the "guys" for your support.

Remy

Bazaar Calendar

Thursday 3/6: Bare Chest Contest, SF Eagle, 10 p.m., Mr. March.

Friday 3/7: Skidazzle '86, Coit's Tahoe ski trip (thru Sunday 3/9), \$99. Includes everything, departure 6 p.m., The Mint, featuring 6th annual Queen of South Shore Contest.

First Victory Party, for Empress Sable and Emperor Matt, Kimo's, 8 p.m., hosts Sissy and Ken, show, hors d'oeuvres.

Warlock MC Open Meeting, Febe's, 8:30 p.m.

Inner City Funk Party, Casa Loma, 9 p.m. (also Saturday 3/8).

Saturday 3/8: Joan Collins

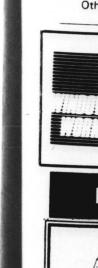
Film Tribute, Castro Theater, 7:30 p.m. film, 8:30 p.m. on-stage interview, tickets \$10, \$25 and \$50, info 626-9081.

Sunday 3/9: Larrice's 50th Birthday, The Transfer, 2:45 p.m.

SF Wrestler's Beer Bust, SF Eagle, 3-6 p.m., \$6.

Wednesday 3/12: Powerhouse Mr. Leather Contest, 9 p.m., winner of series goes to Chicago's International Mr. Leather Contest.

Open Comedy Mike Night, Casa Loma, 10 p.m., MC/Host Danny Williams. Compiled by Karl Stewart



Glances (Continued from page 24)

and the mechanics of being reviewed have been a source of wonderment to the young filmmaker.

"Some papers have gay critics and won't let them review the film. They'll assign a heterosexual man instead." This puzzles him: "Who could be more aesthetically inclined and ferociously critical than gays?"

Although some nongay critics "wonder why 'the problem of homosexuality' isn't explored more" in his picture, Sherwood points out that one of them, Tom McCarthy, gave it a rave in Variety. "I happened to meet him afterward. He's just a young, 30s, hip guy."

So is Sherwood, who was born in Washington, D.C. and raised in Michigan. He studied music

Classes at Castro/Valencia

Spring mini-classes at the Castro/Valencia Community College site begin the first week of March. Six short-term classes are being offered for the second half of spring semester 1986.

The six-week to two-months' classes open Monday, March 10, with a new course, Landscape Design and Construction. The class meets once a week for $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours; it is non-credit and free.

On Tuesday, March 11, the popular Home Repair and Maintenance returns for a nine-week run. Small Business and the Computer (Computer Literacy and Applications) starts up March 6 and runs for nine weeks.

On Tuesday, March 18, Options for Men Over 40 begins a nine-week run ending May 27. On Thursday, March 20, Dr. Ed Morales will once again present his MidLife: Career in Crisis.

FOR SALE

for most of his first 20 years. Later an introductory film course got him hooked and he earned his degree in film.

Music is still important to him and he was very particular about the score for *Parting Glances*, which includes selections by Brahms, Mozart, and Bronski Beat. Getting the rights to songs by England's premier gay group, he says, "Was expensive and very difficult and took about six months."

Has Sherwood considered combining his two loves by making a film musical? The question takes him by surprise but the concept appeals to him. "I never really thought of doing a musical," he replies. "It's an idea maybe doing an opera on film or reviving an old form of Hollywood musical but with rock music."

Although Parting Glances

Another new offering, Practical Bookkeeping, starts Wednesday, April 9. This seven-week class is designed for beginners and small business people who want to know something about how to keep their books.

The Castro/Valencia program of the San Francisco Community College District is a special outreach to the gay and lesbian community. All the short classes offered by the college centers are free. All are held at Everett Middle School, 450 Church St., and begin at 6:30 p.m.

For more information call 558-9987 (nights only).

Closet Ball

Robert Michael Productions is pleased to announce that Closet Ball 1986 will take place at the Galleria Design Center May 10. To receive a contestant application call 621-3967 for instructions. Only the first 15 paid applications will be accepted. shows mostly gay people from a gay perspective, there's enough of a mix to suggest Sherwood's attitude, "The world is a vast and complicated place where you find all kinds of people, including gays." His next film, a comedy set in New York with a few scenes in Rome, will develop that further.

"It's still in the writing stage," he says. "I'd like to shoot it this fall." He revealed the frustration of a GAI filmmaker coming to the fore. "I'd like to start shooting it tomorrow! My job should be to make the film, not calling the film lab to make sure they sent a print to Chicago."

He calms down quickly, reminding himself of the controls studios exert over most people who just make films. "I guess that's the price I have to pay if I want to control my own destiny."

Public Concert

The Society of Gay and Lesbian Composers will present its second public concert Sunday, March 23, at 4 p.m., at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez, San Francisco. A \$7 donation will be requested at the door.

Highlighting the program will be Seattle composer Karen P. Thomas' "Four Delineations of Curtmantle" for solo trombone, performed by Monique Buzzarte, and the second part of Matthew McQueen's Beverly Sills Cop Trilogy, entitled "One Punk to a Bunk."

Valerie Tisdel will be the featured violinist in Stephen Damonte's "Sonata" and Jon O'Bergh's "Timescape 2." Both pieces will be accompanied by their respective composers on piano.

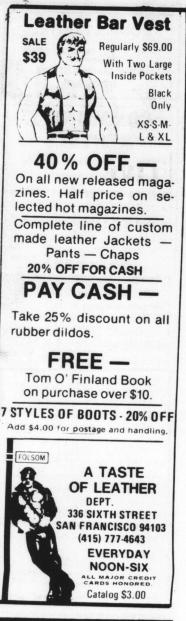
Baloney (Continued from page 26)

ly flung the offending article from me, but not, alas, before a good three paragraphs of plot description had insidiously burrowed their way into my consciousness. So I started off my experience of Over Our Heads with a mark against me and, despite the efforts of four truly inspired performers, things didn't get a whole lot better.

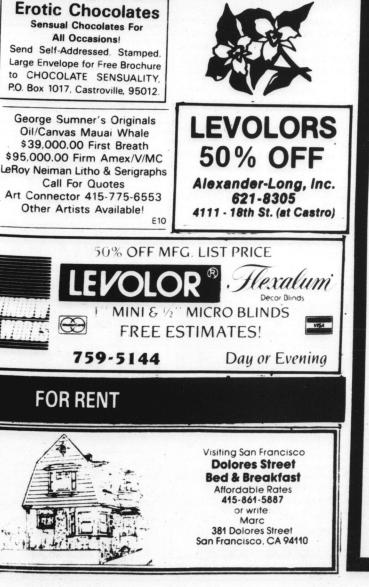
Over Our Heads concerns the making of a post-apocalyptic Italian Live-For-TV soap opera based roughly on Chekhov's The Three Sisters. Post-apocalyptic? Italian? Chekhov? Any one of these conceits would have sufficed and, in trying to do too many things simultaneously, Over Our Heads quickly achieves incoherence. While the situation in the play is actually very funny, the lines, more often than not, simply aren't. Too much of their material is derivative for my taste, and the play is further marred by what my companion of the evening referred to as the Awful Agony of Enforced Audience Participation, during which hapless victims are made to look like TV game show contestants principally because they aren't asked to do anything that would tax the ingenuity of an autistic child. I steadfastly refuse to supply missing words, sing along, stand up, sit down, or in any way assist the efforts of those who are presumably trained, and occasionally even paid to entertain me. I know, I know. If it were up to old grouches like me Tinker Bell wouldn't last the night. Sorry.

Luckily the day is pretty much saved by the performances. Fratelli Bologna: Richard Dupell, William Hall, John X. Hart, and Drew Letchworth, under the clever direction of Sylvia Tucker, are energetic, imaginative and accomplished performers. They also provide some of the funniest drag performances I've seen in ages. They are a tremendously likeable bunch, and they almost manage to make this baloney sandwich taste like Fettucini Alfredo.

S. Drewes Over Our Heads Fratelli Bologna Studio Eremos; 285-2727









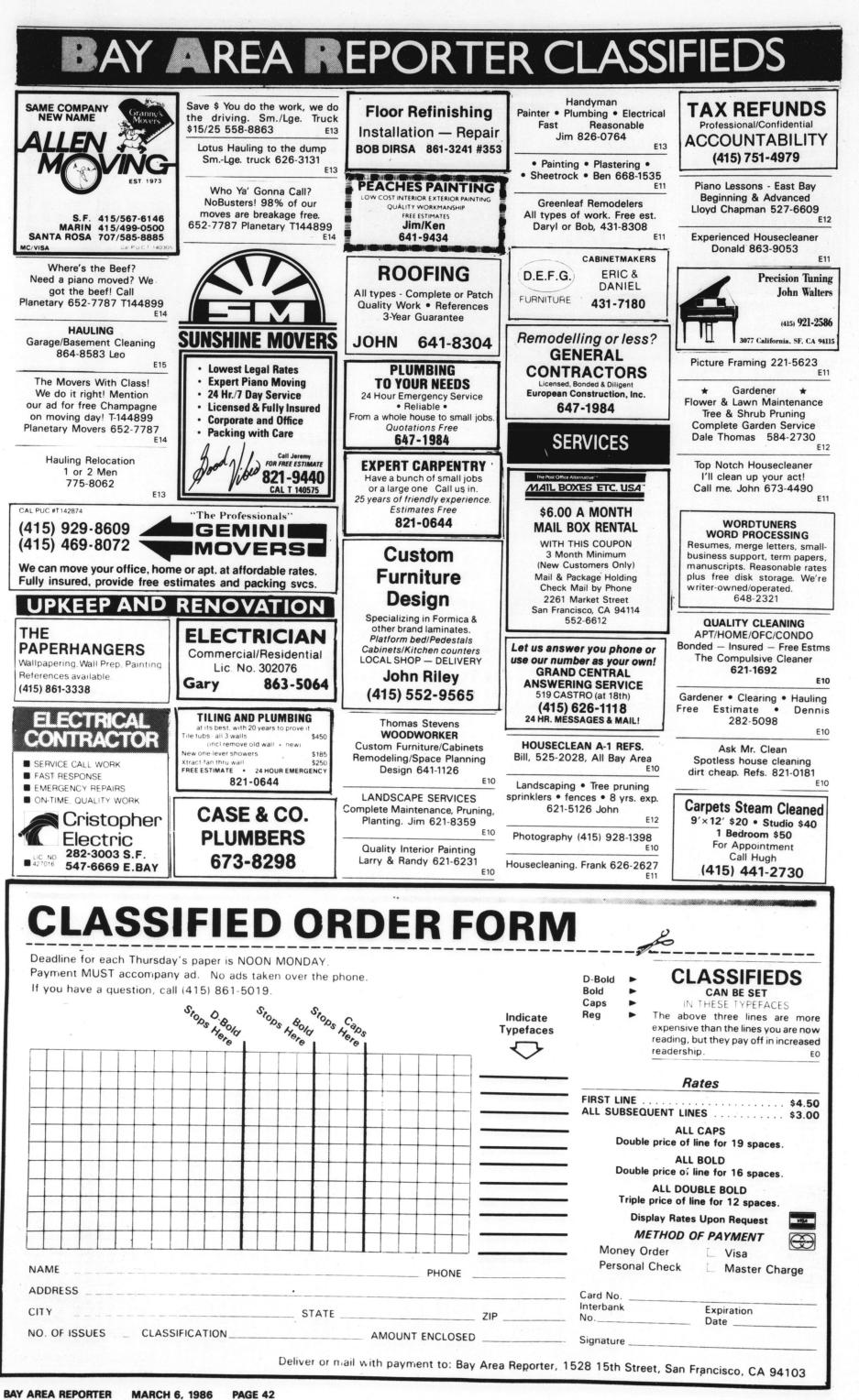
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Someone said something amusing to Joan Collins. Were both Blake and Krystle sent into exile to Moldavia? Collins was deep in the heart of Castroland Saturday night at the Castro Theatre. There was a film tribute to the *Dynasty* star, featuring some of her memorable and forgettable films. The night also served as a benefit for the Bay Area Crisis Nursery and the Cable Car Awards. Above, Joan offers a peek into her life to the theater audience. For Steve Warren's Peek at the tribute, turn to page 24. (Phono: R. Pruzan)

Insurers Sued On Bias Charges

Two \$5 Million Lawsuits Initiated; Discrimination Complaints Filed on Redlining

by Gregory Douthwaite

Efforts by insurance companies to exclude gays because of AIDS treatment costs have spawned a rash of formal complaints and lawsuits, the *Bay Area Reporter* has learned. Attorneys from National Gay Rights Advocates and Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom have taken actions including:

• two \$5 million lawsuits against companies that refused to pay medical claims for two San Francisco men.

• a formal complaint that health insurance was denied a single male applicant for no apparent reason.

• a formal complaint that one insurance company has issued discriminatory guidelines screening out certain applicants by lifestyle. (Continued on page 2)

CBS to Air New Segment on Gays

Hit Piece or Objective? Tune In to '60 Minutes'

by Allen White

CBS-TV News will air a segment on the San Francisco gay community Sunday night on 60 Minutes. The segment is produced by Grace Diekhaus, who co-produced the 1980 hit piece, Gay Power, Gay Politics, for CBS with George Crile. Channel 5 will televise the show at 7 pm.

Reliable sources indicate that barring any dramatic news development, the segment which was filmed in San Francisco in the last six months—will air this week. Mike Wallace is the narrator.

The show reportedly will deal with AIDS and its impact on San Francisco's gay community. People in producer Diekhaus' office who asked not to be named, said that footage from the 1980 show will be used. As was the case in 1980, Diekhaus has selected former Art Agnos staffer Cleve Jones as the primary spokesperson for the San Francisco gay community. Footage from his 1979 and his 1985 Milk/Moscone candlelight march speeches are scheduled to be used as will a one-on-one interview between Mike Wallace and Jones. According to sources, there will be interviews with Dr. Paul Volberding, Mayor Dianne (Continued on page 19)

Today

Bike-a-Thon to raise funds for AIDS services is set to roll May 3. For registration details, see page 11.

Alcohol recovery services available in San Francisco are looked at in Part II of Lew Ellingham's series on substance abuse in the gay community, page 14.

Molinari and Company went to Washington, D.C. and got assurances from Congressional representatives that cuts in AIDS funds would meet stiff opposition, **page 15**.

Male imagery — two books of drawings by Philip Core and Michael Leonard are reviewed by Mark I. Chester, page 26.

Mandatory Blood Tests Proposed in Colorado Bill

Health Officials Could Order Tests, Quarantine; Minnesota Moves on Contact Tracing if Positive

by Brian Jones

Gay lobbyists in Washington said last week that more widespread use of the AIDS antibody test seems to be a certainty. Meanwhile, Colorado is considering an AIDS quarantine bill which includes antibody-positive persons as AIDS carriers. And Minnesota mandated "contact tracing" to identify the sexual partners of those who test positive for AIDS antibodies.

On the federal level, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has proposed lifting most of the restrictions on use of the AIDS antibody test. Currently, the test is only officially approved for screening blood supplies at blood banks.