

BAY AREA REPORTER

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Lesbian pride at the Freedom Day parade, June 29. (Photo: Rink)

Poll Shows SF Opposes LaRouche

by George Mendenhall

A majority of San Franciscans already oppose the LaRouche AIDS Initiative even though the opposition campaign is barely underway. According to pollster David Binder, young, professional, white, high income liberals in San Francisco overwhelmingly disapprove of the LaRouche measure. Those who least opposed the measure were conservative, retired senior citizens and non-whites.

Although this first local poll on the initiative may not indicate how people will vote in November, it will assist activists in evaluating which segments of the community are to be targeted in the campaign. San Francisco CAN, the grassroots group leading up the anti-LaRouche campaign, has said it suspects there will be more people favoring the initiative outside the city. Its educational outreach will extend to surrounding Bay Area counties.

Binder told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he did not use the name "LaRouche" when asking questions. His telephone callers asked 416 San Franciscans, "This initiative would require reporting of people who have been exposed to the AIDS virus and suggests that they should be quarantined. If this initiative were on the ballot, would you strongly favor, somewhat favor, or strongly oppose it?"

The survey, conducted by Binder's newly organized San Fran-

cisco Poll, was taken in June before the initiative qualified for the ballot. The name "LaRouche" was not mentioned by those making calls because it might prejudice the voters on the issue. Opponents of the initiative are expected to make wide use of his name in the campaign, since it is believed to be a negative factor.

Those strongly opposed to the measure were professionals (83 percent) those under 40 (80 percent) liberals (83 percent) and whites (73 percent). No grouping gave over 38 percent approval but the highest segments favoring the initiative were those over 65 (38 percent), conservatives (36 percent) and retired (34 percent).

The sections of the city most opposed were the north (73 percent) and east (71 percent) with the least in the south (53 percent) and west (64 percent). Party affiliation was insignificant with opposition from Democrats (68 percent) and Republicans (65 percent). There was a major division by race with fewer whites favoring the measure (17 percent) than non-whites (37 percent). ●

Games II Fields 3400 Athletes

More Participants in Gay Games Then in International Goodwill Games

by Allen White

Over 3,400 athletes will march into Kezar Stadium when Gay Games II opens next month in San Francisco. The participants will come from 38 states, the District of Columbia, 16 countries and two U.S. territories. Men and women athletes will represent world capitals such as London, Paris, Rome, Athens and Tokyo as well as Scarborough, Canada, Christchurch, New Zealand and Jabiru, Australia.

Earlier this year a controversy erupted over accepting entrants from South Africa. Their participation became a non-issue when no application was received from the country by the June 1 deadline for registration.

Shawn Kelly, executive director of the games, said they were forced to hold to the June 1 deadline. Since that date, he said more than 500 participants have had to be turned away.

With the announcement of the number of athletes comes details which illuminate the scope of Gay Games II. Participants will include 2,112 men and 1,370 women competing in 17 sports.

Event organizers announced that 30,000 seats will be on sale for the ceremonies at Kezar Stadium. The Opening Ceremonies will be presented Aug. 9 and will be highlighted by the grand procession of the athletes into the stadium. The closing on Aug. 17 will feature Ruth Hastings, Jae Ross, Sharon McNight and will star Jennifer Holliday.

Over half the athletic competitions will be free to attend. The

remainder are priced at \$5 with the exception of the physique competition.

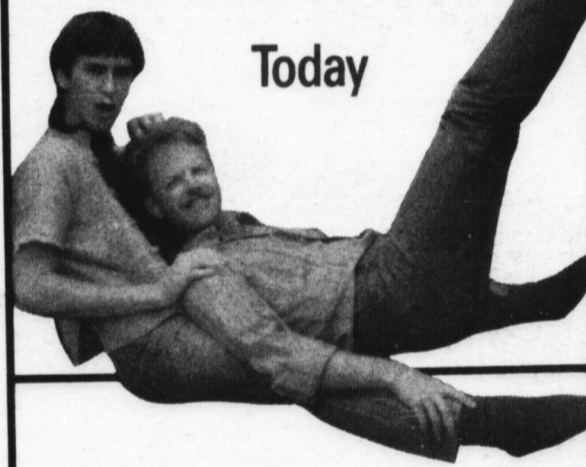
There will be 88 athletes, both men and women, competing in the physique category. The event will be presented in the 9,000 seat Civic Auditorium. Price for tickets will be \$10 for general admission and \$15 for reserved seats. Advance tickets are on sale for the physique competition at BASS outlets.

Gay Games II will also present over two weeks of cultural events. The inaugural concert will be presented Aug. 1 at First Unitarian Church. The San Francisco Lesbian & Gay Chorus will premiere six works by the Society of Lesbian & Gay Composers and a Benjamin Britten cantata.

The most spectacular cultural event should be *With The Greatest of East* set for Aug. 12. Over 400 musicians in lesbian and gay bands from across America will perform. The event was originally scheduled for Collingwood Park, but because of anticipated ticket demand, the concert has been

(Continued on page 18)

Troubadors for the Price of Fun are S.F.'s popular singing duet Romanovsky & Phillips, specializing in political satire with a gay beat. See page 22.



(Photo: S. Warren)

No privacy for Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor who will make an appearance in the city, July 17. For details and a sample of the reaction to the Court's move into the bedroom, turn to page 3.

Cycle for Life reached the halfway point in the cross-country ride for charity. The Bay Area contingent reflects on their experiences, page 4.

Career Women are banding together for mutual support despite the need to protect confidentiality. See page 13.

Liberty and Justice for who, asks Mr. Marcus as he reports on July 4 goings-on, page 27.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Gay Teen Faces Life In Prison For Killing Tormentor

Exposed for Secret Trysts, Fear and Isolation Push Him to Violence After Family Rejection

by George Mendenhall

The depth of fear and isolation experienced by a closeted gay teenager was again realized on July 7 in Los Angeles. Robert Rosenkrantz, 19, received the maximum sentence—17 years to life in prison for the second degree murder of Stephen Redmond, 17. Superior Court Judge James A. Albracht recommended that he be incarcerated at the San Luis Obispo Men's Colony.

Both youths were the victims of society's fear of homosexuality with Stephen now dead and Robert being pulled out of the closet by the news media.

The complicated story began last summer in Calabasas, a wealthy Los Angeles suburb. Rosenkrantz told the jury that he had just graduated from high school and "felt better than I ever felt in my entire life." That was to change quickly.

(Continued on next page)

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A GUARDED LIFE

"This was more tragic than a Shakespearean play," attorney Plotin told *Bay Area Reporter*. "Both families have suffered so much over the last year. When I first saw Robert he was a psychological basket case. I am not gay myself but I now realize the degree of fear that a young man or woman can feel in being gay in our society and not being able to reveal it. I can see what a horrible thing that is."

Plotin said, "Robert was different, so he had to cloak that from other teenagers and his parents because of their attitudes. He had to live a lie and play charades with people. He was lonely, isolated, and not understood. I have come to understand the magnitude of what Robert was going through. But it was very difficult to impress that on the minds of straight jurors. They never understood the pressures."

NO SUPPORT

Robert convinced Joey to recant his revelation to their father, but Redmond repeated it with embellishments. That night, when Robert came home, his father listened from another room as Robert told his mother what a vicious lie it all was. The father became angry and demanded to know the names and addresses of all of Robert's sex partners. Robert refused. His father said, "If I do not get those names in the morning, you are going to have to leave."

Depressed and frustrated, Robert realized that when it came to his gayness, he had no support system, no one to turn to for help. He climbed out of a window and slept in his car. He told jurors, "I wanted to kill myself." That morning he unsuccessfully tried to rent a hand gun for that purpose.

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Violently shaking, Rosenkrantz left the scene. Needing time to think, he went to Stockton and stayed with relatives. Three weeks later he called his father and gave himself up. Rosenkrantz's father hired a prestigious Van Nuys attorney, Robert Plotin, to defend him.

During his late teens, Rosenkrantz had occasionally gone to the "boy's town" gay section of West Hollywood. He met people but he was totally unrelated to the "gay community." His phone and street encounters were anonymous. Even when he found himself launquishing in a jail cell he was still fearful of being identified as gay.

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Kruks said, "The father was not the villain in this. Society and homophobia were. And the gay community itself is to blame because, although it is rightfully proud of what it has done to help people with AIDS, it has done almost nothing about the homeless and frustrated gay youth who are suicidal and isolated. We do a poor job in helping people like Robert."

Rosenkrantz told the *Los Angeles Times*, "It seems like every gay kid I talk with goes through exactly the same thing. I was unable to say 'I am gay' for so long. I now know that what gay teenagers go through is common, the self-hatred, worries, fears."

"People now know about my being gay. I don't have anything to lose, really, where I am now. I wouldn't say that I feel good, but it's acceptance. It was a major worry for so many years, and now it is gone."

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way because it would have been a hung jury. A third said it was his understanding that the jurors could not consider the mental state of the accused which, Plotin said, "was actually what the trial was all about."

Jury foreman Peter Kavaloski said the jurors took seriously the testimony that Rosenkrantz said he was going to "kill him." But juror David Schaeffer, a retired executive, told reporters that Rosenkrantz had been "emotionally raped. It was like somebody invading my house and robbing me. But I knew I could not change the other jurors' minds."

Well-known lesbian activists will address the crowd outside the Hilton about how they feel about the woman speaking inside the Hilton. They will include Paula Lichtenberg, National Organization for Women, attorneys Mary Dunlap and Roberta Achenberg, and lesbian activists Pat Norman and Phyllis Lyon. They will be joined by Paul Boneberg, Mobilization Against AIDS, and attorney John Wahl, San Francisco Council of Churches.

"We are going to show America," Wahl stressed, "that we have just begun to fight. We are going to escalate our tactics to whatever it takes to get full equality and equal recognition in every area of life. It is either that or accept second-class citizenship. We are not going back into the closet. We will never do that."

The defense attorney said that, on the witness stand, Rosenkrantz was reserved and matter-of-fact as he related what had happened. This work against him. "They wanted him to weep and to say he was sorry. But he could not turn his emotions on and off like that. He had led a guarded life of concealing so much for so long. He came off as a cold person when what they wanted was remorse. They wanted him to cry."

Plotin believes the jury erred—that it was manslaughter, not murder. "The killing involved a sudden quarrel in the heat of passion, which is manslaughter," he said that he will appeal the verdict.

One juror told the *Los Angeles Times* that five of them favored manslaughter, but they went with the majority because "we knew we couldn't convince them of our position." Another said he is still convinced that it was a crime of passion, but he did not vote that

Richard Rosenkrantz testifies at his trial in Los Angeles.
(Photo: Kent Garvey)

Protest Planned July 17

No Privacy For Justice O'Connor

by George Mendenhall

A picket line and demonstration is set for Thursday, July 17 at 6 p.m. at the Hilton hotel to greet Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor who is to speak to the Bay Area Council, a public policy research group. O'Connor voted with the majority (5-4) in the Hardwick case.

"We want to demonstrate to the nation," Atty. Ben Schatz said, "that there is a new spirit in our community. There is anger but there is also pride. A lot of people have felt anger over the Supreme Court decision."

The National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) attorney added, "This is like a second Stonewall—out of our oppression we shall become stronger than ever. It is important that we let people know that we are not going to be quiet about our basic rights when they are taken away."

The event is sponsored by the Coalition of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Citizens. MC's will be bisexual activist and sexologist Dr. Maggie Rubenstein and NGRA director Jean O'Leary.

Sexologist Maggie Rubenstein said she is urging every lesbian, gay, and bisexual person in the Bay Area to be at the Hilton. "This is the time to physically make a presence. We must let the world know that we are united against fascism."

An informally planned lesbian and gay rights rally protesting the court decision drew 2,000 to New York's Greenwich Village on July 4. Police allowed the demonstration and directed traffic as

the crowd closed Avenue of the Americas although parade permits had not been obtained. After the noon rally, marchers began to move toward Battery Park to make their protest known before the newly unveiled Statue of Liberty. However, they were halted by a phalanx of helmeted police officers and barricades. A few hundred moved down side streets and briefly met at Battery.

Earlier the crowd had called out "shame, shame, shame" as fists were raised toward the Federal Court House in Foley Square. A person with AIDS, Max Navarre, told the assembled, "I love this country and I love the principles on which this country is founded. Principles which state that we are all equal. We are entitled to all the rights and privileges enjoyed by all people in this country."

Drop-in Group

A drop-in support group for individuals testing positive for the HTLV-3/LAV antibody will be co-sponsored by the UCSF-AIDS Health Project and Operation Concern beginning Thursday, July 17 from 6 to 8 p.m.

The focus of the group will be to assist individuals in exploring concerns around positive test results while supporting development of coping skills.

The group will meet weekly at Operation Concern, 1853 Market Street at Guerrero and will begin promptly at 6 p.m. No advance registration is necessary. For more information, call the AIDS Health Project at 626-6637.

Clarification

Due to poor printing of the map in last week's edition, those states that still have anti-sodomy statutes on the books were not indicated. The 24 states are: Montana, Idaho, Nevada, Arizona, Minnesota, Michigan, Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Virginia, Maryland, Rhode Island, Texas, Tennessee, and Utah. The District of Columbia also still prohibits sodomy.

Media Pans Peeping Court

by George Mendenhall

There was immediate reaction this week to the U.S. Supreme Court's decision that endorsed Georgia's power to criminalize sodomy. Most newspapers opposed the decision. These are excerpts from four of the editorial reactions.

NEW YORK TIMES

"Though many states and cities have lost interest in searching bedrooms, all are again free to pry into the private lives not only of homosexuals, as in the case at court, but also of heterosexual partners and even married couples. This was a gratuitous and petty ruling, an offense to American society's maturing standard of individual dignity.

"All Americans should hope for a Court that will reconsider and conclude that legislating for the bedroom poses a far greater threat to constitutional values than tolerance of nonconformity could ever do."

LOS ANGELES TIMES

"Justice Byron R. White, for the majority, citing historical precedent and the reluctance of the court to get into yet another controversy, blandly asserted that homosexual conduct bore no 'resemblance' to the other rights of privacy secured by the court.

"The rigid and hostile attitude woven through his opinion will discourage those not inclined to sit in righteous judgement of others, but they can hope, with Justice Harry Blackmun, that the court soon will reconsider its analysis..."

(Continued on page 10)

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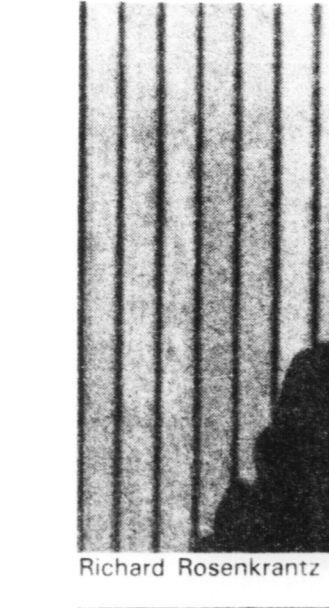
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A picket line and demonstration is set for Thursday, July 17 at 6 pm at the Hilton hotel to greet Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor who is to speak to the Bay Area Council, a public policy research group. O'Connor voted with the majority (5-4) in the Hardwick case.

"We want to demonstrate to the nation," Atty. Ben Schatz said, "that there is a new spirit in our community. There is anger but there is also pride. A lot of people have felt anger over the Supreme Court decision."

The National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) attorney added, "This is like a second Stonewall—out of our oppression we shall become stronger than ever. It is important that we let people know that we are not going to be quiet about our basic rights when they are taken away."

The event is sponsored by the Coalition of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Citizens. MC's will be bisexual activist and sexologist Dr. Maggie Rubenstein and NGRA director Jean O'Leary.

Sexologist Maggie Rubenstein said she is urging every lesbian, gay, and bisexual person in the Bay Area to be at the Hilton. "This is the time to physically make a presence. We must let the world know that we are united against fascism."

An informally planned lesbian and gay rights rally protesting the court decision drew 2,000 to New York's Greenwich Village on July 4. Police allowed the demonstration and directed traffic as

Well-known lesbian activists will address the crowd outside the Hilton about how they feel about the woman speaking inside the Hilton. They will include Paula Lichtenberg, National Organization for Women, attorneys Mary Dunlap and Roberta Achenberg, and lesbian activists Pat Norman and Phyllis Lyon. They will be joined by Paul Boneberg, Mobilization Against AIDS, and attorney John Wahl, San Francisco Council of Churches.

"We are going to show America," Wahl stressed, "that we have just begun to fight. We are going to escalate our tactics to whatever it takes to get full equality and equal recognition in every area of life. It is either that or accept second-class citizenship. We are not going back into the closet. We will never do that."

Drop-in Group

A drop-in support group for individuals testing positive for the HTLV-3 LAV antibody will be co-sponsored by the UCSF-AIDS Health Project and Operation Concern beginning Thursday, July 17 from 6 to 8 p.m.

The focus of the group will be to assist individuals in exploring concerns around positive test results while supporting development of coping skills.

The group will meet weekly at Operation Concern, 1853 Market Street at Guerrero and will begin promptly at 6 p.m. No advance registration is necessary. For more information, call the AIDS Health Project at 626-6637.

Clarification

Due to poor printing of the map in last week's edition, those states that still have anti-sodomy statutes on the books were not indicated. The 24 states are: Montana, Idaho, Nevada, Arizona, Minnesota, Michigan, Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Virginia, Maryland, Rhode Island, Texas, Tennessee, and Utah. The District of Columbia also still prohibits sodomy.

'The question is not whether there is a right to engage in sodomy, it is whether a citizen has the right to be left alone.'

—San Jose Mercury News

Media Pans Peeping Court

by George Mendenhall

There was immediate reaction this week to the U.S. Supreme Court's decision that endorsed Georgia's power to criminalize sodomy. Most newspapers opposed the decision. These are excerpts from four of the editorial reactions.

NEW YORK TIMES

"Though many states and cities have lost interest in searching bedrooms, all are again free to pry into the private lives not only of homosexuals, as in the case at court, but also of heterosexual partners and even married couples. This was a gratuitous and petty ruling, an offense to American society's maturing standard of individual dignity.

"All Americans should hope for a Court that will reconsider and conclude that legislating for the bedroom poses a far greater threat to constitutional values than tolerance of nonconformity could ever do."

LOS ANGELES TIMES

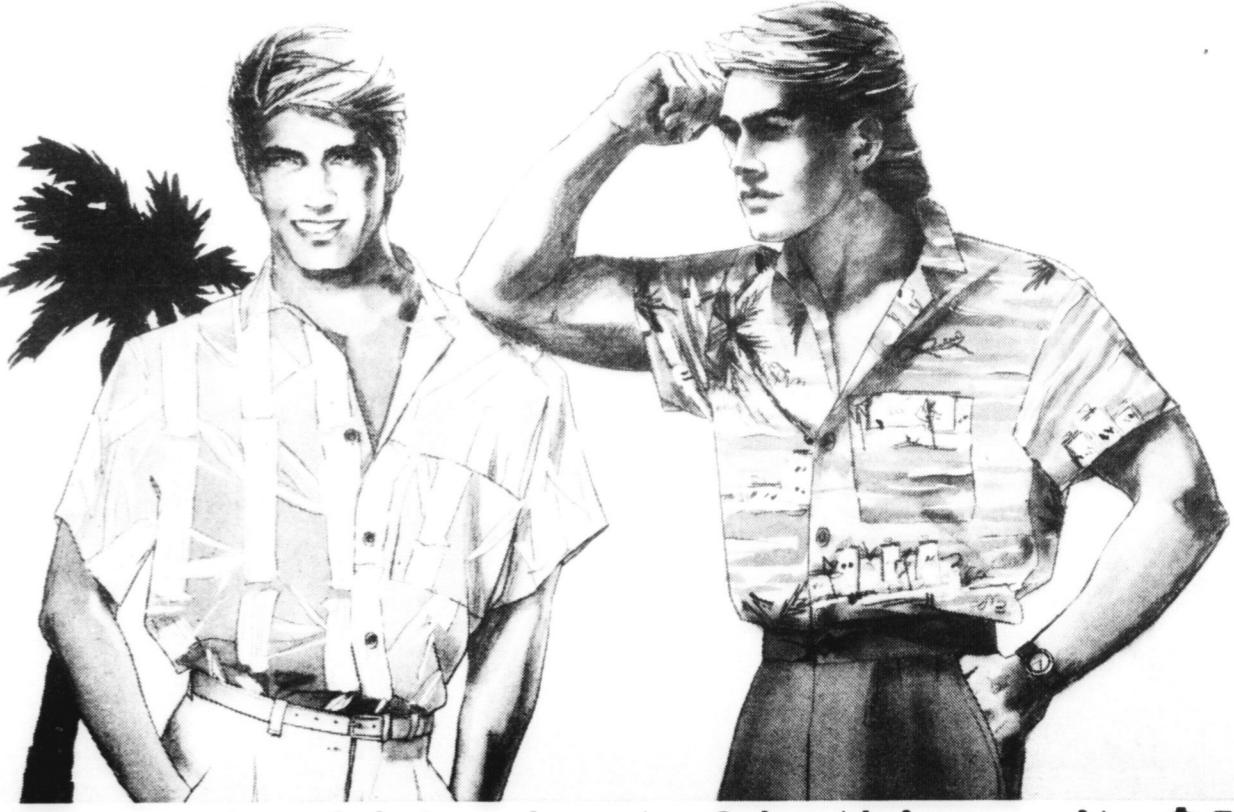
"Justice Byron R. White, for the majority, citing historical precedent and the reluctance of the court to get into yet another controversy, blandly asserted that homosexual conduct bore no 'resemblance' to the other rights of privacy secured by the court.

"The rigid and hostile attitude woven through his opinion will discourage those not inclined to sit in righteous judgement of others, but they can hope, with Justice Harry Blackmun, that the court soon will reconsider its analysis..."

(Continued on page 10)

YOU CAN'T FIGHT CITY HALL!!!

Headlines is experiencing construction delays, which means extra inventory—this week, Headlines is marking everything extra low...
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No Leads In Shooting Death

Body of Transvestite Found in Bay; Police Have No Clues in Killing

by Charles Linebarger

Police still have no leads in the killing of a gay man who had been shot in the head and found in San Francisco Bay near the shipyards at Hunter's Point in late June. The dead man, 22-year-old Tracy Walker, was a former student at Santa Rosa Junior College and had been a track and field star in high school.

According to San Francisco police inspector Napoleon Hendrix, Walker's body had been in the bay over a week. He told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the police department is waiting for the coroner's report to determine the date of Walker's death.

Walker's body was found still partially clothed. He had been wearing pantyhose, briefs, hot pants and a bra. He was also wearing earrings and a wedding band on his left hand.

"We're still in the process of finding out about him," said Hendrix. "He moved from hotel to hotel in the Tenderloin and Polk Gulch. He was a person who worked the streets at night. And what we need to do to crack this case is to talk to other people in the same line of work." According to Hendrix, Walker last lived at Charlie's Hotel on Geary Street.

San Francisco Coroner, Dr. Boyd Stephens, said that his office has not yet determined when the gay man was murdered. "A homicide work-up usually takes 2-3 weeks," said Stephens. "When they're complicated it's open-ended. And this one is complicated by decomposition."

Duncan Gwynn, a newstand owner on 24th Street, had known Walker for the past four years. Gwynn described Walker as, "very bright and intelligent. A young man who was determined and very strong-willed."

Gwynn told the *B.A.R.* that he met Walker when the young man applied for a job with him. "He was 18 then and very presentable. But recently he had changed. He had gotten into drugs and he was mixing with a real bad crowd," said Gwynn.

"But he had his good points," he added. "If someone wanted to borrow a quarter and he had only one quarter in his pocket, he would give it to them."

According to Gwynn, Walker had been taking hormone shots for the last two years. "He had small breasts and he wanted to have a sex change operation, but I don't think he really knew how

much was involved in a sex change operation. I think he thought taking shots and getting breasts would make him into a man."

Gwynn said he last saw Walker on Mar. 25. "Tracy hung out on O'Farrell and Eddy," said Gwynn. "He was working the streets as a woman and not as a man."

Walker's parents live in Petaluma. His mother told the *B.A.R.* that her son had been "an outgoing person. He was friendly. He was happy-go-lucky. He was interested in movies and dancing and he loved doing hair."

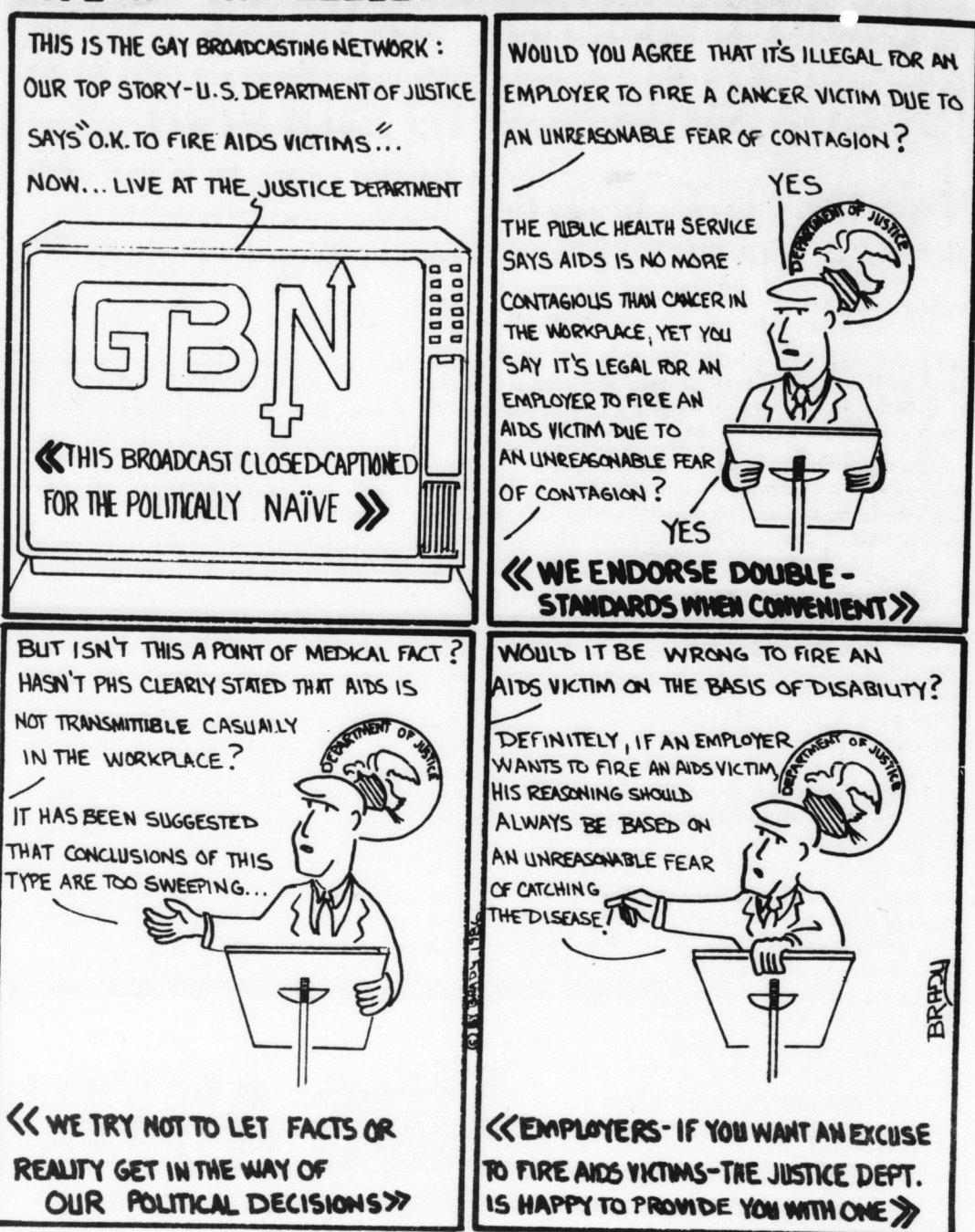
She explained that Walker had been a track and field star in high school and had won trophies. She said that she hadn't noticed any changes in him during recent months.

"I hope they catch who did it," she said, "he had a right to live."

Inspector Hendrix said that it is not at all unusual to find murder victims the way Tracy Walker was found. "It's a very chancey way of life out there at night," he added. "This could have been personal or it could have been a chance meeting. But you've got to burn some shoe leather to talk to these guys on the street if you're ever going to find out what happened."

But according to a Hall of Justice source, many investigations are languishing. "There seem to be a lot of investigations that lead nowhere, because they're not actively pursued," he told *B.A.R.*, "and that's because of budget restrictions—Prop. 13. We've had very good success in the past. We'd walk the streets at night for six weeks and we'd find out what happened and who did it. But today we just don't have the money to do investigations the way they should be done."

LIFE AT THE CLOSET DOOR



Judge Cancels Order for HTLV Test In Visitation Case

by Gregory Douthwaite

A court order requiring a gay father to take an HTLV-3 antibody test before his children could visit him has been thrown out by a Chicago judge. The court order had been the first in the country to require the test to determine parental visiting rights.

The new judge in the case, which is being heard in family court in Chicago, ruled that there was insufficient evidence to support the ex-wife's claim that the test was necessary to protect the children's health.

A new hearing will be held in August, at which both sides will be allowed to present evidence and expert witnesses as to the need for the blood test. The case, known as *Doe vs. Doe*, has attracted national attention.

difficult for them to find credible medical experts to testify on their behalf," said Schatz.

Several doctors will testify that the test is not necessary, because AIDS is not spread by casual contact, Schatz said. But the ex-wife's attorney hopes to produce witnesses who will testify that the deadly virus might be spread casually, he said.

NGRA director Jean O'Leary commented that the antibody test cannot say whether a person has AIDS. "Even if the father did have AIDS, he would present absolutely no danger to his children because AIDS is not casually transmissible," she said.

As a legal precedent, NGRA will make note of a case in New Jersey last April, *Jordan vs. Jordan*, in which a father with AIDS was granted visitation rights.

The gay father known as John Doe does not have AIDS. He was hoping to have his two daughters visit him in San Francisco this summer. Because of the lengthy court proceedings, he is now hoping the girls, ages 9 and 11, can visit him at Christmas.

MCC Welcomes Pastor

The installation of Rev. Jim Mitulski as pastor of the Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco will be celebrated in ceremonies on July 12.

Mitulski, former associate pastor of Metropolitan Community Church of New York, has become the pastor of the second oldest Metropolitan Community Church in the world. Established over 16 years ago, MCC-San Francisco is one of 220 MCC's in a dozen nations. The Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, a denomina-

tion with outreach to gays and lesbians, has 30,000 members and is considered the largest gay organization in the world. Mitulski is a graduate of Columbia University.

Rev. Steve Carson, pastor of MCC-Boston will be guest speaker for the installation service, which will be held at 5 p.m. on July 12 at MCC-San Francisco, 150 Eureka Street.

The public is invited to the installation service as well as a reception to be held at the church immediately following the installation.

FORWARD TOGETHER NO TURNING BACK!

Tribute to Bill Kraus

No Change Unless We Make It Happen

by Sup. Harry Britt

The triumphs and tragedies of the gay and lesbian movement are best understood through the lives of some very special people. They have given form and expression to the ideas that guide us and have designed and carried out the plans for our most important achievements. The Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration provides us with a time to stop and consider our history and the lessons of its leaders.

Bill Kraus was a gay man whose life represents the accomplishments of the movement for gay freedom and political power and indicates the potential of our movement. He was also a dear friend and advisor of mine.

Bill was the son of a German Catholic family in Ohio. Like so many of us, he cut his teeth in political movements other than our own. In the '60s, when the civil rights and peace movements were the progressive political causes of the day, the movement for gay liberation was almost entirely underground. Most gay people who were politically active were marching alongside black and antiwar activists, and they were learning from those movements and leaders.

In the early years, many of us had a remote consciousness about the real feelings that drove us politically. Most of us were just starting to come out. As gay people, we were crying out for government and society to respond to the lives of people we felt were being abused. But it took several years before we felt comfortable exposing our anger at the treatment gay people suffer. We recognized that change would not occur for us unless we took power to make it occur.

Harvey Milk recognized Bill's insights and political talents. Along with Gwen Craig, Bill was made a leader of the Northern

California effort to defeat Proposition 6, John Briggs' attempt to prevent gay people from teaching in our schools.

Both Bill and Gwen excelled. What we feared would be a losing campaign became a major victory for our movement. Bill's sense about how this campaign should be run succeeded. Rather than rely on recognized straight leaders to urge the public to be reasonable, gay people took to the streets and appeared in the media. Voters were impressed by what they saw from the thousands of earnest gay men and lesbians who appealed to them to understand their lives. Our power over our own lives became established.

One of the proudest moments in gay history occurred in 1980 at the Democratic National Convention. Having successfully engineered a gay rights plank into the party's platform for the first time, Bill spoke before the convention. Nominating Mel Boozer, a gay man, for vice-president, Bill spoke before the entire leadership of the party to provide them with an understanding of the quality of the lives and experience of gay Americans. He set out the reasons that the Democratic party had a responsibility to advocate for our rightful place in this society.

Bill also saw that it was important for lesbians and gay men to take an active role working with all issues of social and economic justice. Central American issues were particularly important to him. In 1982, he was selected to travel with three others to El Salvador to secure the release of

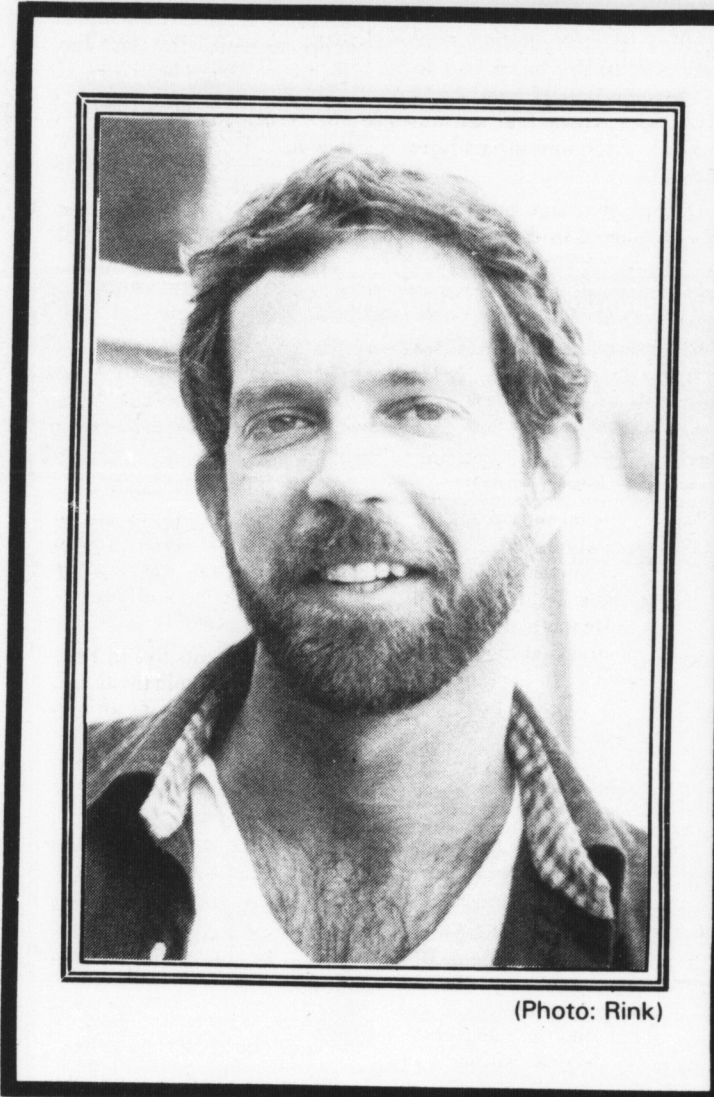
Ricardo Calderon, president of El Salvador's University, who had been imprisoned and faced death for his opposition to the government. It was a lengthy and dangerous mission, but Bill met the challenge, and returned to the United States with Calderon.

Bill was diagnosed with AIDS in October of 1984. It was during my re-election campaign. Things were looking very optimistic for us, and Bill's illness was a cruel slap in the face. The irony was great, because Bill had been one of the first to see the necessity for a massive response that AIDS demanded from our community and government.

Bill fought hard both to find successful therapy for himself and to lead city, state, and federal governments to do all they should to stop AIDS. He lost his personal battle in January of this year.

Bill Kraus was deeply offended by the AIDS crisis, and he saw little good in it. But he had no fear that if we continued to project the experiences of lesbians and gay men during this terrible time in our history, the people of this country would have to respond fully and compassionately.

This struggle is not over. But I owe it to Bill Kraus, and we each owe it to our friends lost to AIDS, to use this time to continue pressing for our fullest rights.



(Photo: Rink)

City Park to be Named for Kraus

by Allen White

A meadow and path in Corona Heights Park will be named in honor of gay leader Bill Kraus. The San Francisco Park and Recreation Commission approved the designation Thursday, June 19. The meadow is located at the corner of Roosevelt and Museum Way. Its location is on a bluff which overlooks the Castro and gives a majestic view of the city. It is a popular spot for sunbathers.

Kraus, who died in January of AIDS, was a respected gay activist for many years. He was a former president of the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, an aide to Sup. Harry Britt and worked as a legislative aide to Congresswoman Sala Burton. Working for Burton, he pushed for recognition of the

dimension of the health crisis. He is credited with successfully lobbying Congress to appropriate the first federal funds to fight AIDS.

In 1984, he was involved in the fight for the adoption of almost all the pro-gay language that appeared in the platform of the Democratic National Convention. He was also responsible for significant victories for gay people at the 1980 Democratic Convention and was a key organizer

in the 1978 campaign to stop the anti-gay Proposition 6 (the Briggs Initiative).

A close personal friend of Kraus, Ron Huberman was especially pleased that this site had been chosen. He said that many times Kraus went to that spot to contemplate his political strategies. Huberman also commented that the location overlooks the Castro, an area that represented the essence of what Kraus worked for.

Mike Housh was one of the people who was responsible for getting the area renamed. He said there were four people who played key roles for turning the idea into reality. Al Schaaf acted as a liaison to the Park and Recreation Commission. Additional help came from Sharon Johnson, aide to Sup. Harry Britt, Kevin Shelley in Rep. Sala Burton's office and Betty Landis who is on the city's Open Space Committee.

Housh said that \$78,000 has been earmarked for improvements in the Corona Heights area, a portion of which will be used for the Bill Kraus Meadow and Path.

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Steve Simonson

Meant As A Compliment

MAGNANIMOUS TERTIARY! (A "Ballyhoing Nose"?)

It's really difficult to believe that the Town & Country celebrated only its (no apostrophe, Sam!) third anniversary last weekend. It seems that the T&C has been part and parcel of Oakland's gay scene for a long longer—and that is meant as a compliment!

Last weekend's three day festivities certainly cannot be equated with a "wham, bam, thank you mam!" It was much like a slow, methodic drum roll, culminating with a nerve-shattering clash of cymbals. And, Little Mother's stint on the planks for two hours certainly added to the crescendo! (Squelch the rumor about LM buying into any bar. Tisn't so!)

Sam certainly kept the T&C kitchen humming, what with all the goodies provided throughout the 4th of July holidays. "Dollie," Don, and Suzie had little time to rest making sure no one went without "slake-quenchers."

Little mother out did herself when she prepared a fantastic Filipino feast for Saturday night. (Does anyone know why Filipino is F and Philippines is PH?)

The grand prizes of the affair were a portable TV and a spa. Raffle tickets were sold for two-bits each (proceeds going to EBAF), and the lucky winners were: TV—Little Mother; spa—Frank. Friday night's door prize was won by Jean, as in "Mikki and." Saturday's door prize, a Sony walkman, was won by Lady Lennie.

Be forewarned, the "pull-tabs" are back; and they are habit forming, to say the least! But, as Miss Lips & Hips stated: "It's a party, we're supposed to have fun, so I'm having FUN, goddamit!" as she purchased several more.

Congratulations to Sam and Marv for making the Town & Country such a viable part of our

habitation. Me thinks, however, there are mixed emotions regarding that inevitable wrecking ball.

HOI POLLIO ALFRESCO JUNKET II (An Up-Dating Nose)

As announced in last week's column, "Barbecue: of the people, by the people, for the people," will be held on Sunday, Aug. 3. Reservations are really preferred (early as possible) so that enough food can be provided. The telephone number for reservations is 632-0325. Yep, it's an answering machine, but with the deluge of calls expected, there was no other way to handle the situation.

And remember the underlying slogan when approached for assistance: YOU CAN HELP! YOU CAN HELP!

HALBERDERS EX POST FACTO (A "Bygone" Nose?)

A long-time, well-known watering hole in the East Bay, Lancers in Oakland, is no more. For well over 30 years—and at least five different ownerships—the name Lancers had always remained as one of the most popular gay bars in the area. Put that name in your box of memorabilia!

As of Monday, July 7, 11 am, the name has been changed to "5th Amendment." Owner Myra Gaudet and manager Richard Novak are eager to bring this "newest" of establishments back into the fold, if you will. They are keen on the idea of working together with all the other gay bars in Oakland, and what a refreshing idea!

They definitely want the opportunity to be involved. I think we all should give them a chance (including Little Mother).

PROFFERS SUPPLICATED! (A Beseeching Nose?)

Practical support volunteers are needed to assist with functional needs of persons with AIDS and loved ones. Volunteers attend to tasks such as shopping, laundry, cleaning and cooking.

The next training session will be Thursday, July 17, from 6:30 to 10 pm, at Fairmont Hospital, 15400 Foothill Boulevard, San Leandro. If you are interested in becoming such a volunteer, or if you wish additional information, contact either Frances Blasque or Don DeMorrow at 667-3219.

If I may borrow from another group: It'll be the hardest job you'll ever love.

EMBARKATION AND SALUTATIONS (A Placard Nose?)

After three years with the AIDS Project of Pacific Center, project coordinator Jeremy Landau will be leaving to assume the position of executive director of the Hemophilia Council of California in Sacramento.

The new AIDS Project director will be Noreen McKeon. She has had extensive experience with Pacific Center over the past five years, and comes to the AIDS Project with both AIDS and management expertise, as well as sensitivity to the many and diverse populations served by the Pacific Center.

Also new to the staff is Ernest Andrews, clinical coordinator. He comes to the PC AIDS Project from the UCSF AIDS Health Project, where his masters in counselling allowed him to develop and implement many varied model programs.

ROSEN TUTELAR'S SPOLORES (An Attending Nose?)

Reighn is back, and Big Mama's has got him! David Reighn will return to the Bay Area for one performance only, at Big Mama's, this Thursday, July 10, at 8 pm. There will be no cover charge for this fine evening of entertainment, so it is highly recommended that you arrive early for the best viewing and listening positions. David has many loyal fans in the East Bay, so I'm sure that this evening will demand that most, if not all, will be on hand to welcome him "home," even if it is just for the one night!

Sunday, July 13, is the annual Bastille Day Party at the Turf Club, hosted by Dean Snow. This event is always fun packed, and full of high spirits. Festivities begin at 4 pm, music will be provided by the fantastic Bravo Band, and a buffet will be served at 8 pm. All of you with "Bravo Caps" be sure to don them that afternoon!

ENUCLEATION LACKING (A Confused Nosed?)

A recent note from HMIM Empress VII Johnny, states that her and Emperor VII Paul's A Night of Stars raised over \$781, which will be divided between East Bay Assistance Fund and Fairmont Hospital AIDS Ward.

Bravo! that \$318.50 will be donated to EBAF. My concern is the \$318.50 to Fairmont Hospital AIDS Ward. Fairmont Hospital and all its wards is county supported, paid for by all tax payers in Alameda County. It's perplexing why monies should be given to an agency already provided for from civic funding. Perhaps the bewilderment arises from confusing Fairmont Hospital AIDS Ward with Fairmont Hospital Canteen Fund. The latter is an independent entity, depending upon donations from the private sector for its functioning. Hope-



Little Mother look-alikes at T & C's third anniversary.

fully, the confusion will be cleared soon.

OMNIUM—GATHERUM (A Blending Nose)

Don't forget the 8th Bi-Annual Miss \$1.98 Beauty Pageant at the Lake Lounge, on Saturday, July 19, 2pm. Only those who can appear repulsive, repellent, and repugnant need apply for entries. See Mama Chuckles for full details.

Closet Ball '86 will be held Saturday, July 19, 7 pm, at the Fickle Fox in San Leandro. The \$3 admission fee will go to Coronation '86. This year's closet ball is being presented by Empress VII Johnny and Prince Royale David Montoya. Contact either for entry information and details.

The Annual Baseball Game between the Guys and the Gals

will take place on Sunday, July 27, 1 pm at Berkhalter Field. A barbecue will be held afterward at Paradise, with the \$5 admission going to the In Memory Fund.

Barbecue: otp, btp, ftp, will be Sunday, Aug. 3, on the grounds of Fairmont Hospital, San Leandro. Call 632-0325 for reservations.

Revol's 12th Anniversary will be celebrated on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 9 and 10. This year it will be a Remember When? contest. See posters and in-house advertising for all details.

When the going gets tough, the tough leave to go shopping! Ahh, I can finally smile! Love,

Youth Resources

The Gay Youth Community Coalition has taken on the task to produce a publication called "We Are Here." This guide contains over 200 Northern California listings covering resources for young lesbians/gays (13-25). The guide is broken down into categories such as: survival resources, national resources, and social listings for young lesbians/gays under 25. Plus much more information young lesbians and gays need access to today.

This guide will be a valuable tool for both youth, service providers, and supporters of youth. For those interested in receiving a copy, send a first class stamped self-addressed business size envelope, enclosing a statement stating your age is 25 or under; sign at the bottom. Or, enclose a check for \$2 made payable to Gay Youth Community Coalition. Send all correspondence to GYCC, P.O. Box 846, San Francisco, CA 94101.

Gay Games

(Continued from page one)

moved to Davies Symphony Hall.

Gay Games organizers noted that entrants for Games II are nearly tripled that of the first games. About 1,300 participated in Gay Games I in 1982. The 3,482 athletes in the Games II is more than the number competing this week in the Goodwill Games in Moscow.

Organizers say there is no minimum level of ability required to participate in the Gay Games. The only limitation on participation, they said, is a numerical limit in some events due to the facilities' capacity.

Rather than recruiting the best athletes, Gay Games organizers have made an effort to attract participants from all segments of the gay and lesbian community. Non-gays also have participated in Gay Games though it is not known how many will be competing in Games II.

Organizers of the games also disclosed that they will appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court for their right to use the word "olympic". They said they are currently working with the American Civil Liberties Union to complete the petition and will file it before the conclusion of Gay Games II.

Acknowledging the Supreme Court's anti-gay decisions in the last two weeks, they believe they have a strong case. A spokesman for the games said theirs is a free speech issue in contrast with the recent rulings which they said related to rights of privacy.

Tickets for the opening and closing ceremonies as well as the physique competition are on sale at all BASS outlets. Tickets for the cultural events are on sale at the STBS Box Office in Union Square. Tickets for all presentations are also on sale at the Gay Games II office, 526 Castro, near 18th Street.

The ticket hotline number is 861-5686 where information is available for all events.

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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

PROFILE

Troubadors for the Price of Fun

Here's the Naked Truth About Romanovsky and Phillips

by Steve Warren

There are three ways to get to know singer-songwriters Romanovsky and Phillips. Whether you talk to them or listen to their music, in concert or on record, you'll get a fairly consistent picture of two gay men who love each other and share a political commitment which they express through their songs.

I made their acquaintance a third way, the road least traveled by:

I don't remember many of the people I met in bathhouses. (Of course some of you don't remember bathhouses, but that's another story.) I've forgotten dozens (okay, hundreds) of men I had sex with in those pleasure palaces of a bygone era, but one case of coitus interruptus has stayed with me as an example of the nice, nonorgasmic things that could happen at the baths.

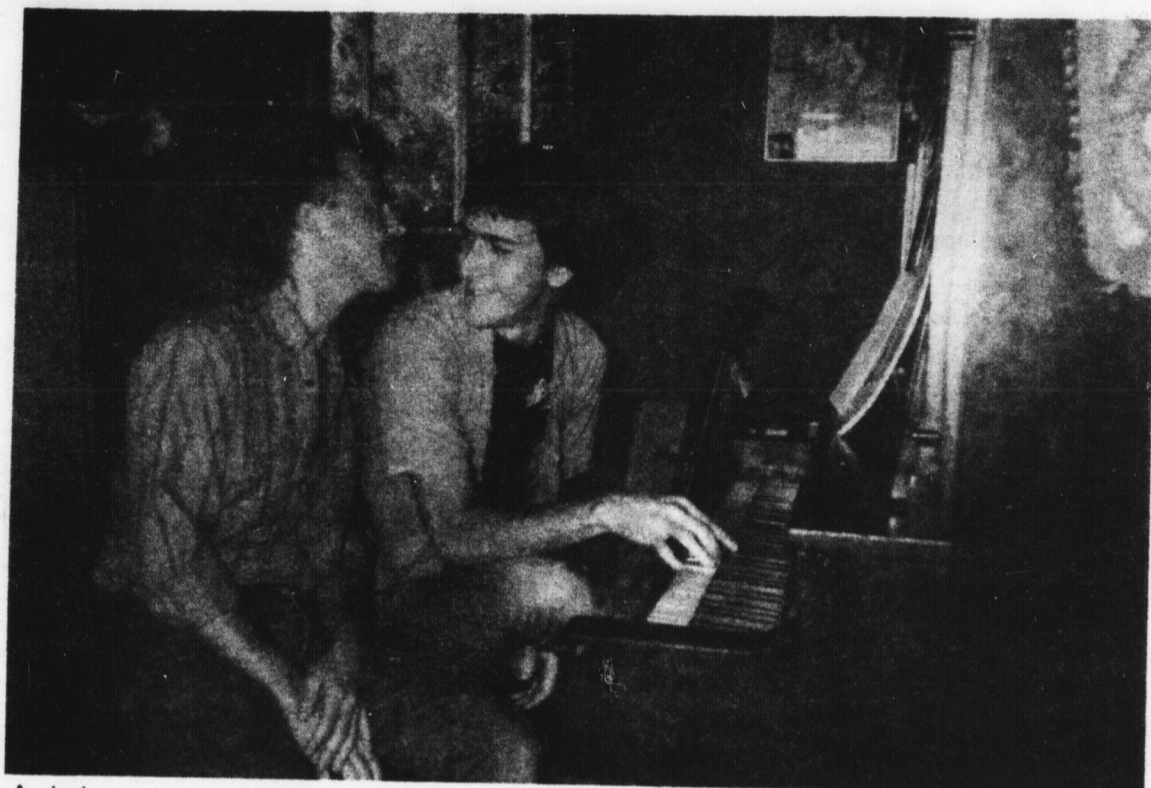
It was a Monday ("buck-a-fuck") night at the Bulldog in 1982, shortly before I became health-conscious and stopped going. I was into some heavy foreplay with an adorable young couple when I noticed that one of them was showing far less enthusiasm than his lover and myself. It turned out that it was Ron's first time at the baths and he wasn't quite ready for it, so we stopped what we were doing.

Instead of dashing off to find someone more willing I played big brother for a few minutes, comforting and cuddling and telling them they were right to put their relationship first. It was a touching encounter in every sense.

Now I've heard stories of what some entertainers will do to get in the papers (where are they?), but I was surprised to get a call four years later from the two young men who hadn't given their all that night but now wanted me to write about them. In the years between I had, without realizing who they were, been aware of their growing popularity as openly gay entertainers; they released two albums and appeared in over 50 cities around the country.

Our second meeting was strictly business. Oh, I'm sure they were lusty after me and regretted having passed up their golden opportunity, but they hid it well as they pretended to be interested only in hyping their new album, *Trouble in Paradise*, and their July 15 concert at the Great American Music Hall.

Ron Romanovsky has dark hair and a personality to match. He writes most of the songs, while sunny blond Paul Phillips sometimes assists on the melodies or by "send(ing) him back to the drawing board." Paul's one solo composition in their repertoire, the ballad "To Myself" (included on the new album) was written years ago "after my first really big heart throb," but it's a perfect description of my last major relationship.



An intimate moment at the keyboard for Romanovsky & Phillips. (Photo: S. Warren)

GAY EVERYMEN?

That's why Romanovsky and Phillips are so popular. Almost anyone can relate to their lyrics, and their pastiche music, in a variety of styles, is highly accessible. "We're not coming from a place that we're a gay Everyman," Paul says, "but we've discovered a commonality. Relationships are universal. That's why even heterosexuals relate to our music, once they've gotten over the 'gay thing.'"

Even if his fears are groundless they inhibit and frustrate Ron. "I sometimes feel resentful," he laments, "that I can't write really personal songs." What could be more personal than "Womb Envy" or "He Wasn't Talking to Me"? "Outfield Blues" isn't an anthem for the Gay Games, but it expresses perfectly the hell we nonathletes went through when we had to do sports as children.

Some of the funny songs such as "The Prince Charming Tango," "Cat and Mouse" and "What Kind of Self-Respecting Faggot Am I?" are no less intimate for laughing at our foibles. "Wimp" is totally autobiographical in how I deal with life," Ron says of yet another example.

"Homophobia" and "Living in the Nuclear Age" are outright political songs, the sort Ron expected to do when he began. "When I was 18, just starting to come out and write folk songs, I wanted to be the Bob Dylan or the Phil Ochs of the gay movement."

Before they became lovers five years ago this month and singing partners six months later, both men had been heavily influenced by the women's movement in general and women's music in particular. "I came out from reading feminist literature, from *The Female Eunuch* to *Lesbian Nation*," Paul says. "I think because I'm an effeminate man I've suffered a lot of the same oppression women have, even within the gay male community."

"We have a love-hate relationship with women's music... love from understanding the politics behind it and hate because it's disheartening to find it going further into the closet... Women come up to us when we perform and say, 'You use the word lesbian more than Cris Williamson does.'"

Ron cites Holly Near as an early inspiration on his career. "She was using 'the L word' a lot at the time. I realized I was afraid of performing because I was

(Continued on next page)

Troubadors

(Continued from previous page)

gay, so maybe I wouldn't be so afraid if I performed for gay audiences.

"Women's (record) labels were created," he explains, "not just to give women their own material, but to give them access to the industry, which was dominated by men."

Romanovsky and Phillips couldn't pass the physical at Olivia or Redwood, so they started their own label, Fresh Fruit Records, with album FF101, *I Thought You'd Be Taller*. That's just one aspect of their groundbreaking work in gay entertainment that may ultimately have more impact than their music.

After three years of national tours they're beginning to know what they're doing, to develop a circuit of clubs and responsible concert producers. "Anybody we would hire to do our booking," Paul says, "we know ten times more than they do." They've played clubs and colleges, churches and theaters, conferences and rallies, bars and benefits in 31 states.

They're not looking for other acts—handling themselves is a full-time job—but they're happy to advise other entertainers. As Paul puts it, "We're big on the idea of networking with other performers and sharing contacts."

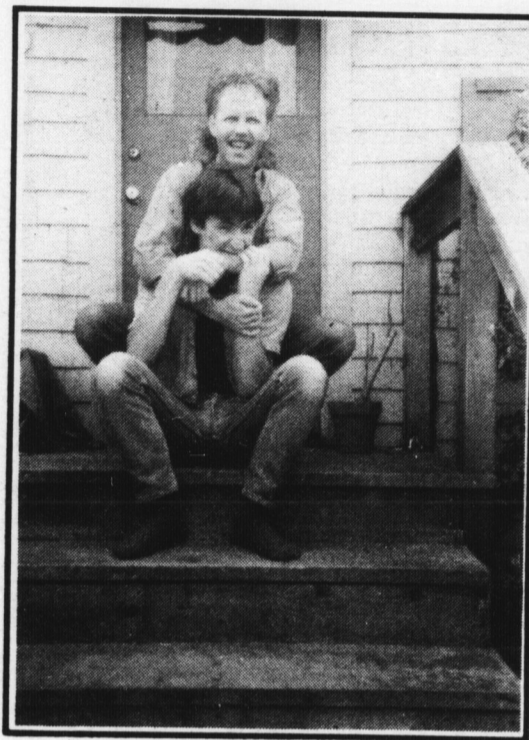
The Great American Music Hall date is another form of trailblazing, as that venue has not been terribly receptive to openly gay entertainers. Despite the current gay media blitz they're not assured of a sellout. "Gay people in this town don't follow the gay press as much as the straight press," Paul says, citing Gay Comedy Night at the late, lamented Valencia Rose. It struggled along for months attracting maybe half a house, until the Sunday "pink section" did a feature about it and they sold out every week for a year and a half. As the R & P song says, "Sounds suspiciously like homophobia to me."

AIDS POSITIVE

The July 15 audience may witness the premiere of a new song, "Living with AIDS," if it's finished in time. People have been after the duo for years to write a song about AIDS, but they haven't "for several reasons," Paul says. "One was we hadn't had a personal encounter with AIDS."

"When I was 18, just starting to come out and write folk songs, I wanted to be the Bob Dylan or the Phil Ochs of the gay movement."

—Ron Romanovsky



"We have a love hate relationship with woman's music... love from understanding the politics behind it and hate because it's disheartening to find it going further into the closet... Women come up when we perform and say, 'You use the word lesbian more than Cris Williamson does.'"

—Paul Phillips

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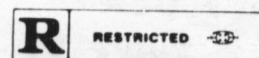
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'Cats' Comes On Big Feet

The Purr-fect Musical Opens at Golden Gate Theater

by Steve Warren

The recent death of a company member from AIDS and the nightly demands of what may be the most physically difficult and dangerous show ever, make the people in *Cats* especially sensitive to the causes profiting from Friday night's benefit performance. Coming Home Hospice and Gay Games II are expected to receive \$10,000 each from what should be a sold-out show sponsored by the Cable Car Awards.

AIDS awareness in the company has risen tremendously since the diagnosis a few months ago of Robert Meadows, who died on May 17. They dedicated their final Chicago performance to him before moving on to Denver while the larger Chicago set was transported to San Francisco for installation in the Golden Gate Theatre.

Paul Mack, one of several people Meadows had understudied in the show,

says the young man—29 at his death—had been "a perfect physical specimen" six months before.

Mack praised the Shubert Organization for its compassion and generosity toward Meadows, two characteristics not generally associated with theatrical producers. They took up a collection in the four North American companies of *Cats* and matched it dollar for dollar. "If that hadn't been enough they said as long as he's alive he'll be taken care of." Because Meadows went so quickly there was a surplus, which is being held in a fund named for him to assist other performers who contract AIDS.

"It brought the company closer together and changed people's attitudes," Mack says. He was amazed to see technicians, who are not traditionally close to actors, donating thousands of dollars to

Meadows' fund. Even heterosexuals in the company have become more aware of sexual risks, Mack adds, and some who are in relationships have cut out any "screwing around" they were doing.

The actor—"I studied dance extensively, but only as an adjunct to my acting and singing... I consider myself an actor who does musicals"—estimates that gay men in the show currently outnumber nongays by about two to one. That's not something theaterpeople think about a lot, and Mack says that because of the "unisexual quality" of *Cats*, "even the male-female line is blurred somewhat, so the heterosexual-homosexual really doesn't matter."

Most of the spectacular musical's characters have a similar way of conveying what T.S. Eliot called "the mystical divinity of

(Continued on page 30)



Some of the cast of *Cats*.

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Marcus

(Continued from page 27)

of Fagdad because he lifted some \$30 from his gracious host while here for the parade! Tsk-Tsk. Will he remain persona non grata forever? Only Herbella Hebron can foretell such things!

I also thought you ought to know about the new line of note cards from Randy West's fabulous studios. They're of Ms. Piggie and really a riot. Only the cards of Divine come close to their cleverness! Ms. Piggie, you truly are a pig! And not even a title behind your name—yet! And while I'm at it, you ought to know that another new uniform club will soon be on the scene. They'll make their first public appearance on the Barbary Coasters M/C run later this month and I'm sure many a dude will be purple with gay envy! Too bad Johnny moved away—the Golden Gate Troopers were such an inspiration to aspiring young uniform dudes!

And lastly, because the Latino community feels they're being slighted by the gay media, they've started their own newspaper called "La Boca Abierta" (the Open Mouth). According to Jesus Barregan, it's juicier than Leticia's guacamole and spicier than Lee Hartgrave—if you can read it! My dears, you haven't read "plato" (dish) like this one! Nice going Tony!

Well boys and girls, get this ready for the bottom of your bird cages until next week. Have fun in the sun (but don't overdo it!) and until our swords, er, paths meet again, keep your legs crossed and remember: For a man to achieve all that is demanded of him, he must regard himself as greater than he is.



Fireworks & Flags at the S.F. Eagle Over the 4th of July Weekend. (Photo: Marcus)

Vision

(Continued from page 24)

to equally repetitive music, in this case Steve Reich's *Six Pianos*. We no longer look for expressiveness or virtuosity; what most impresses us here is the element of concentration required and what we perceive as a difficult exercise in counting for the dancers. Finally, if we can accept the protracted rate of change in Dean's patterns, there is a shift in our experience of watching movement, the most interesting part of the process.

The first week premieres marked the local debut for Canadian choreographer James Kudelka, who will create a new work for the San Francisco Ballet during the coming season. With works in the repertoires of Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, his resident company, and the National Ballet of Canada, Kudelka has already been touted as the most promising ballet choreographer in the Western hemisphere. Based on the two works shown by the Joffrey last week, the ballet world's hope is not unfounded.

Passage, the earlier work, uses a very unusual score: Thomas Tallis's "Spem in alium" for eight choirs. That the choreography also deals with religious significances is obvious, but Kudelka's style employs the subtlest of dramatics so that one is left with more mood than narrative. The male soloist, whose loin-clothed body is made up white, interacts with three women and two men in duets that are neither romantic nor fraternal; the white figure seemed to become a kind of spirit guide for each of the other five dancers. But this cool, inventive, somewhat detached partnering strategy seems to be basic to Kudelka's overall style, reappearing in his newer work, *The Heart of the Matter*.

Set for 20 dancers, *The Heart of the Matter* uses Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 2 in G minor, an exceedingly demanding score—and most of the ballet's problems are rooted in sections of music that are nearly undanceable. Yet for the most part, Kudelka meets the

challenges. Here again he embraces an abstract philosophical proposition: the desperation, tenousness and lack of empathy in male-female romantic relationships. A program note from Dorothy Parker is more cynical than the ballet (which is more clinical), but it may well have started Kudelka on his thematic course.

Ten men and ten women occupy separate groups in the world of this ballet, sexual microcosms defined by totally different movement behaviors. Dressed in Santo Loquasto's dapper shirts and pleated trousers, the men, in unison, move with a bold and easy swagger, a movement motif that will characterize their gender throughout the ballet. The women, in white-tinted camisoles and chemises, also move in unison, but they are far more formal and rigid. These groups move in clusters rather than the geometric patterns we normally see in ballet. Like cells under a microscope, the clusters expand and contract in seemingly random patterns while an overall order prevails. The stage brims with activity.

From these two groups a pair of dancers eventually comes together and dances, though at first we cannot discern the nature of the union. There are group dances for the men, then for the women, including several striking solos, before the lead couple returns for its final pas de deux, a study in detached longing. Their union is short-lived, and the ballet ends abruptly.

Kudelka's style is not so completely foreign as to challenge the audience unduly, but several aspects of it are extremely unusual. His emotional response to music and his success in translating it into ballet-identified dramatic movement is reminiscent of Antony Tudor, while his daring, asymmetrical ensemble style is not unlike parts of Jiri Kylian's work. Once can easily see how the sensitivity of a dance like *Passage* could have established Kudelka's promise when it was made for the ABT workshop in 1981. *The Heart of the Matter*, with its greater nuance and complexity, seems to fully justify the tremendous faith the ballet world seems to be placing in this fascinating young choreographer. ●

Remy

Duck Season Opens

The Grand Ducal Council met on Wednesday, July 2 to review the applicants for the offices of Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of San Francisco at the Stallion. The public was invited to attend and each candidate was asked to make a statement outlining of what they would do should they be elected. After the public review, members of the Council voted to accept all five applicants for those offices. The candidates for Grand Duck are: Mary (Mike D. Dyke) Ford, Tony Gonzalez and Bruce Harrelson. Grand Duchess candidates are: Lola Lust and Ms. Piggie. The official introduction of the candidates will take place at the Green Room on Sunday, July 13, in conjunction with the Gay Community Awards. Doors open at 6 p.m. with the show/awards starting at 7 p.m.. Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door, and are available at the Village, Galileo, Kokpit, Men's Room, Trax, Kimo's, Amelias, Francine's and the S.F. Eagle. Themed "Tropical Nights," attendees are encouraged to wear their most tropical attire, fog not-with-standing.

THE COMIX RUN — 1986

The San Francisco G.D.I. Club held their annual motorcycle run during the weekend of June 20-22 at Lake Edson above Auburn. Approximately 125 people attended the run and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Winners of the various events (Rider, Buddy, People, and Miss G.D.I.) are as follows. Rider Lightweight: 2nd place, Ryder Crystal; 1st place, Jerry Albert. Rider Medium-weight: 2nd place, Frank Rauch (Warlocks); 1st place, Yoshi Masuda. Rider Heavyweight: 2nd place, Ron Strouse; 1st place, Mike Walker. Buddy Events: 3rd place, Chuck Eargle (Barbary Coasters); 2nd Place, Frank Sudek; 1st place, Bobby LeRoy (Warlocks). President's Award/Sweepstakes went to Jim Haltom of the Warlocks and Miss G.D.I. was won by Miguel, who is an Independent. People Event winners (all members of the 42nd Street Gang) were: 3rd place, Ernie Smith; 2nd place, Warren Cave; 1st place, Jerry Albert. The campsite award also went to the 42nd Street Gang. Congratulations to the members of the S.F.G.D.I. Club and to all of the winners of the various events.

UP AND COMING

The first deadline for run applications for the Barbary Coasters' "Class of '66" is rapidly approaching. Tuesday, July 15 is when those applications need to be postmarked if you want to take advantage of the \$66 price. After that date and up to post-mark date of July 21, the price is \$76. Hand delivered applications after July 21, but prior to the run date will cost you \$86. Road Captain, Chuck Eargle, stressed the importance of getting your applications in early to avoid paying the extra cost and reserving your spot, as the run is limited to 200 guests. This year's run sight is at a new location, but in the general

area of previous years. Mother Nature has a way of limiting man's usage of her domain, therefore she has seen fit to move the gang to another beautiful spot. As usual, the Barbary Coasters Run is one of the major and well attended weekend runs of the season. If tradition holds, and I'm sure it will, this will be one run you will not want to miss.

It's not too early to plan, however, the Constantines of the Bay Area will be hosting their annual run during the weekend of August 15-17 at Pioneer Trail in the Stanislaus Forest. This year's run theme is "Magic Kingdom" which opens up a lot of the imagination for campsite and guest night show. Applicants will be (Continued on page 30)

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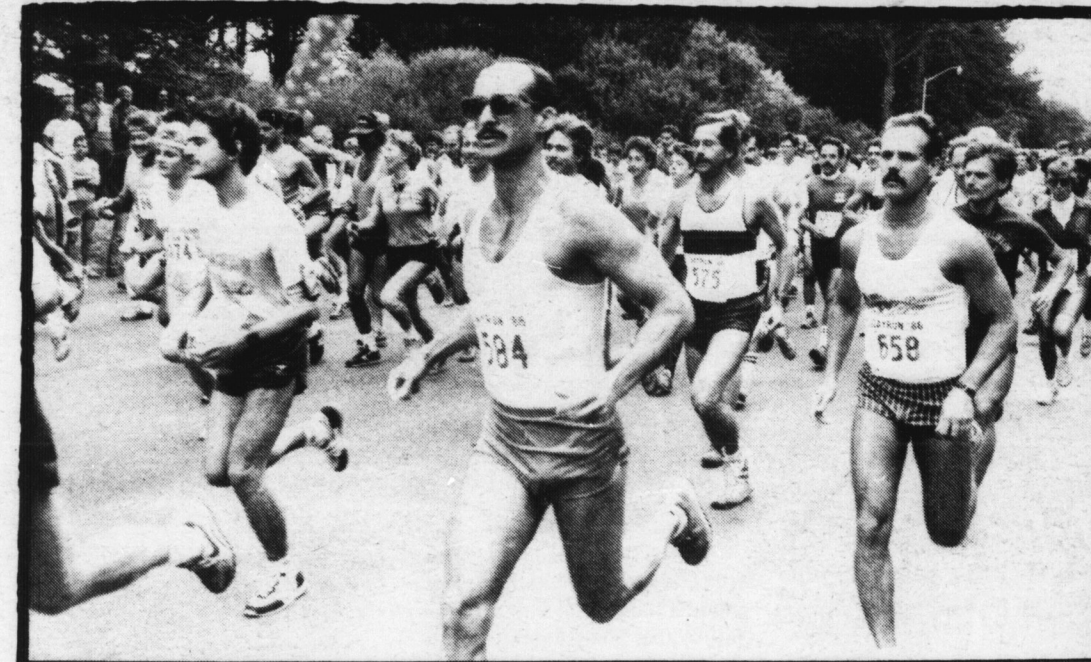
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The 10K starting line at last Sunday's Gay Run 1986 (Photo: Savage Photography)

Feds Put Atlas Out of Business

Sold Out From Under Gay Owners; Deposits OK; Stockholders Take a Bath

by Ray O'Loughlin

Atlas Savings and Loan is no more. Barely five years old, the formerly gay-owned and operated financial institution was swallowed up by a Buffalo, NY conglomerate, Empire of America, at the behest of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board and only hours before federal law would have forbidden such mergers.

Within 24 hours after bank examiners locked Atlas's doors, Monday, July 14, Empire Savings—the Big E—opened for business on Castro Street.

When federal agents suddenly appeared Monday afternoon, it was a complete surprise to bank directors, employees, and customers. Empire's interest in Atlas was completely unknown outside the FHLBB and the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp. (FSLIC) who engineered the takeover and approved it earlier Monday morning. The government's intervention also preempted a Tuesday meeting of independent investors who had planned to present a proposal to the FHLBB to salvage Atlas as a gay identified S&L.

Empire of America Federal Savings Bank, with a national total of \$8.7 billion in assets, has absorbed Atlas's \$76 million in assets. Empire is to recapitalize the financially troubled Atlas. It will do so with an \$11.2 million assist from the FSLIC. Empire operates 135 branches in five states, including Pacific Thrift & Loan in Southern California.

The new savings bank is to be headquartered in Woodland Hills, near Los Angeles. But Empire officials were quick to say that they hoped to retain all present Atlas employees. "We don't anticipate any changes in the level of staff," Peter Carr, of Empire, told *Bay Area Reporter*. He said that Atlas's Castro Street headquarters—opened only last year—would serve as a Northern California regional headquarters.

"We're sensitive to the gay community's interests," said Carr. "We plan to provide everything that Atlas has provided in services to the community. We can serve the gay community better with our larger resources."

But Carr declined to discuss specifics. He would make no promises as to the number of staff ultimately to be kept. Nor was he enthused about naming a gay or lesbian director to the new
(Continued on page 2)

Porn Report May Turn Out Embarrassing for Reagan

Porn Popular in U.S.A.; Report Denounced by Experts, Civil Libertarians, National Media

by George Mendenhall

The report of U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese's Commission on Pornography may be a colossal embarrassment to Pres. Ronald Reagan, who requested a porn study in 1985. All the nationally known researchers in the field of pornography, and some members of the commission itself, have attacked the report as shoddy. Even the study itself—which contains numerous examples of explicit sex—may be X-rated at government bookstores.

No consideration is given in the report to the constitutional issues involved in its recommendations. It calls for restrictions on obscene materials portraying sexual violence such as rape or sado-masochism as "a matter of special urgency." It urges stricter enforcement and stiffer sentences in obscenity cases and stronger controls over the distribution of pornography. The commission concludes that pornography is dangerous and must be severely restricted.

The \$500,000 appropriated by Congress allowed commission members to travel to six cities to analyze pornography. Possible objectivity of the study was tainted when former District Attorney Henry Hudson was appointed its chair and staff members were selected from law enforcement sources. Most of the appointed commissioners had reputations as anti-porn crusaders.

Pres. Reagan originally requested the study because he thought a 1970 federal study was wrong in saying there was no link between sex and violence. That study also called for government

to take all anti-porn laws off the books. Meese said a new report was needed because there was a concern "about how a healthy society entertains itself."

Numerous problems have surfaced for Meese since the report was leaked to the press in June.

The major criticism of the report is its conclusion that exposure to most pornography "bears some causal relationship to the level of sexual violence, sexual coercion, or unwanted sexual aggression." This claim that there is a documented link between violence and sex was refuted in the 1970 federal study and has been debunked by all of

the current researchers in that field. Chair Hudson has responded that the interviews the commission conducted proved that there is a link.

Playboy magazine sued the commission because it lost 12,000 retail outlets after its chair, Henry Hudson, wrote major retail firms. Hudson threatened to expose the major retail chains if they did not explain why they carried *Playboy*, *Penthouse*, and *Forum* magazines. A U.S. District judge ordered Meese to drop the list of 23 retail "pornographic" outlets from its report. (The report, however, still contains a list of 2,325 magazines, 725 books, and 2,370 film titles that it believes are pornographic.)

The report itself may be ruled obscene. Sex acts and the words used by people while they perform the acts are explicitly spelled out in the document. Copies could be X-rated at federal publication stores across the country. Political cartoonists have had fun with this. One cartoon depicts a man asking a salesman, "Do you have the Porn Report on video cassette yet?" and another shows Meese's eyes popping out as he pulls out a centerfold from the report.

(Continued on page 2)



Pornography causes sexual violence, claims new U.S. government study (Photo: Rink)



Federal official Mariana Rexroth tells customers that Atlas is closed (Photo: Rink)

U.S. Agency Fires Man with AIDS

by Ray O'Loughlin

A Concord man with AIDS has been fired from his job by the Federal Bureau of Prisons after he refused a reassignment to what he called a "degrading" job. Jason Swinney, 32, had been a guard at the Federal Correctional Institution in Pleasanton until April when he was briefly hospitalized with pneumocystis pneumonia. The facility is maintained by the U.S. Department of Justice which recently ruled that firing people associated with AIDS did not violate U.S. civil rights law.
(Continued on page 21)