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BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XVI NO. 36 SEPTEMBER 4, 1986

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MCC Wins Right To Prison Ministry

U.S. Court Orders Feds to Admit MCC as 'Bona Fide Church'

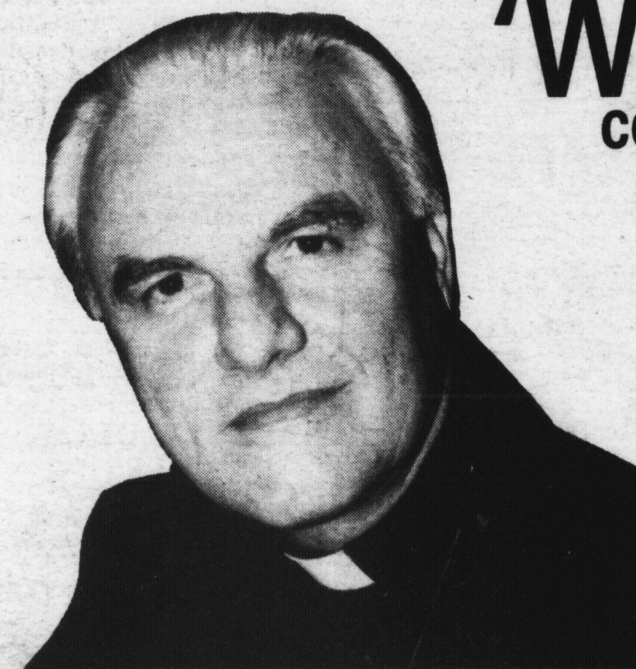
by Ray O'Loughlin

The U.S. Department of Justice has been ordered by Northern California Federal District Judge Charles A. Legge to admit the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC) into all federal prisons to hold religious services for prisoners. The UFMCC had been banned because the church ministers predominantly to gay and lesbian inmates.

Legge's Aug. 26 order states that the Los Angeles-based UFMCC "and each local congregation thereof, is, and shall be considered by the defendants, to be a bona fide church."

The court further ordered that prisoners in lower security facilities "shall have the same access to congregate worship services [of UFMCC] as such prisoners have to worship ser-

(Continued on page 2)



(Photo: Rink)

'We have been in correspondence with hundreds of prisoners. . . We're now available and . . . they can request services.'

—Rev. Elder James Sandmire

L.A. Judge Kills Baths Sex Ban

Closing Baths Could Spread AIDS; Praises Safe Sex Promotions

by George Mendenhall

County regulations to restrict sexual activity in Los Angeles bathhouses were virtually voided on Aug. 28 when a Superior Court judge ruled that the regulations could promote the spread of AIDS if sex occurred in less healthy environments. While the judge did not technically throw out the regulations, he said his refusal to require compliance should send "a message" to health officials who had filed a compliance lawsuit.

Judge John L. Cole ruled that the county "falls woefully short" on proving that its regulations will check the spread of AIDS. He said the bathhouse owners demonstrated that they provided a "relatively safe, physically safe

atmosphere in which people who desire to can meet and engage in these activities." Cole added that even county health officials disagree as to what is "unsafe sex."

Los Angeles bathhouse owners
(Continued on page 19)



And this was just the audience. These two guys were part of the crowd at the Eagle's Leather Daddy Boy contest last Sunday. For more info. and pix, turn to Mr. Marcus' column on page 32. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Today

Mark Sigers died last week but his family wants to pursue his lawsuit against Delta Airlines which threw another man with AIDS off a flight. Greg Douthwaite reports, page 3.

No laughing matter is the plight of gay comics who have yet to find a permanent venue to display their talents. Amelia's may finally be that place, says Charlie Linebarger, page 19.

Taking to the outdoors is Steve Warren who spent a weekend roughing it in Oregon at the Ashland Shakespeare Festival. The play's the thing. See page 26.

Suit Dismissed But Wrangle Over Nude Beach Continues

San Gregorio Neighbors Still Kicking Up Sand; Claim Children Can See Sex on Beach

by Gerard Koskovich

A San Mateo County Superior Court judge has dismissed the primary complaints in a lawsuit filed last January against two gay men who run the popular San Gregorio nude beach. A third complaint still stands, as does a separate suit filed in July.

Neighboring property owners have sought to restrain the nude beach operation at San Gregorio, approximately 40 miles south of San Francisco, charging that it encourages homosexual activity and trespassers on their land.

According to David Gellman, attorney for defendants Ben Hernandez and Ronald Sturgeon, the court accepted his motion for demurrer on Aug. 18. Judge Harlan Veal found that the defendants' operation of a parking lot and beach access route did not constitute a public or private nuisance.

Louis Licht, attorney for the seven plaintiffs, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that "the judge, in my opinion, was not correct in his

consideration and should hear from the judge pretty soon."

The third complaint in the

January lawsuit, asking that Hernandez and Sturgeon be restrained from harassing the plaintiffs, their families, and

"The plaintiffs expect my clients to act as a private police force for the plaintiffs' property."

—Attorney David Gellman

guests, was not included in the motion of demurrer. A hearing date for this complaint has not been set.

Klaus and Ilse Koch, two of the plaintiffs in the January lawsuit, have filed a second suit against Hernandez and Sturgeon, asking that they be held responsible for an incident in which two men allegedly had sex in front of the Koch's eleven-year-old daughter.

According to both Gellman and Licht, the incident took place on the Koch's beach-front property. The identity of the men involved is unknown.

"The basis for the liability is that the defendants knew this

(Continued on page 19)

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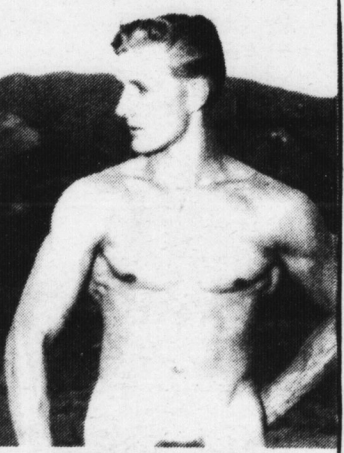
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MCC

(Continued from page 1)

oners have to worship services of any church." The order also sets up a procedure to be followed by federal officials at higher security institutions so that prisoners there can "present a written petition to the warden... stating that they desire access to worship services [of UFMCC]."

All prisoners in custody in any federal prison now also have the right to obtain any material "produced or sent by" UFMCC ministers. Church representatives said that their religious literature has frequently been returned to them by prison officials without allowing prisoners use of it.

Even if group worship is not allowed, prisoners will have the right to "religious visitation, ministers, and prison ministry personnel" of the UFMCC on a one-to-one basis.

Rev. Elder James Sandmire, pastor of Golden Gate MCC, said

that the church plans to move quickly to set up prison ministries in federal institutions. "We have been in correspondence with hundreds of prisoners all across the U.S.," said Sandmire, who added, "We will let them know that we're now available and that they can request services."

He said he was "gratified" by the court ruling. "We had to fight to get into prisons, first, on the state level and now on the federal level." MCC won the right to minister directly to inmates of California state prisons in 1975.

He said that MCC prison ministries would bring "expertise in ministering to prisoners who have AIDS and special spiritual problems and special needs" of gay prisoners.

The case originated in 1977 when Sammie Jackson, an inmate in Leavenworth, Kansas, Federal Correctional Institute, requested and was denied MCC religious services. A chaplain at Leavenworth at the time said he would never allow MCC in the prison because he felt the Bible prohibited such a church.

The Federal Bureau of Prisons then issued a memorandum to all federal institutions denying permission to MCC to hold services.

"The court ruling is a victory in a long, long struggle," said attorney John Eshelman Wahl who had filed the suit nine years ago. He called it a victory for "equal treatment for a church that ministers primarily to gay, lesbian, and bisexual people."

Wahl said that the court order resolved the "contradiction between federal bureaucratic policy and the decisions of some local wardens" who did allow MCC services. "There is now a uniform federal policy," he said, for all 47 federal prisons.

"We will never, ever, accept status as second-rate human beings," said Wahl. "Whenever we have to fight, in or out of the courts, we will fight. And our nine-year struggle shows that we shall win, no matter how long it takes."

Founded in 1968, the UFMCC has 32,000 members worldwide and over 200 congregations in the U.S. alone.

Sex Ban

(Continued from page 1)

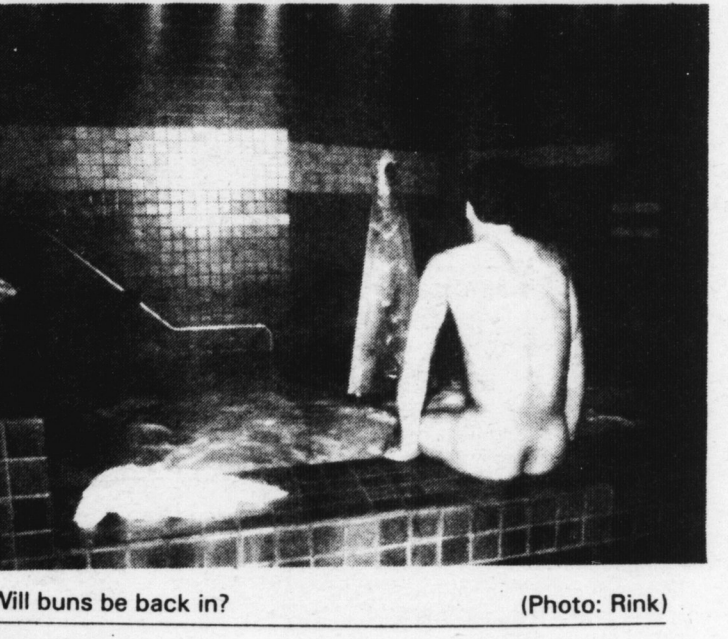
estimate that their business is down 20-50 percent since the beginning of the AIDS era due to the concern about sex practices and the legal pressures from local government officials. Three of the 17 L.A. bathhouses have closed.

The regulations would have required the elimination of doors on private rooms, self-policing by managers, and a ban on high-risk sexual activity. These were the same regulations imposed by San Francisco Superior Court Judge Roy Wonder on Nov. 28, 1984, culminating in the closure of all but one San Francisco bathhouse. Several L.A. bathhouses adopted the new regulations rather than face the expensive court actions. However, three defied the county — Midtown Spa, Melrose Baths, and the Meatrack.

The former owner of the L.A. Health Works bathhouse, Steve Downard, told *Bay Area Reporter*. "We were advised by our attorney that it would cost us \$50,000 to go to court. We figured the county had the money to close us down but we could not afford to fight back." He chose to close his business and move to San Francisco. Downard, who now owns the local Campus Theatre (formerly Savages), said that L.A. bathhouse owner Marty Benson spent over \$40,000 in legal fees to fight the county regulations.

Los Angeles county officials told Judge Cole that the bathhouses that refused to comply with its regulations were unsafe "AIDS factories." Bathhouse owners countered that their businesses provided a healthy "safe sex" alternative to restrooms and public parks. They said oral and anal sex were safe if condoms are used and that they distribute condoms to guests who request them.

The judge said he was impressed by the owners' distribution of "safe sex" literature and condoms. He said it was possible that outside this environment people could be practicing dangerous sex elsewhere. (This was also an argument here by owners before Wonder made his ruling.)



there has been a dramatic change in the type of sexual activity performed in the gay community. He said, "All of these changes are at least partially attributable to the fact that people have re-evaluated what makes sense or doesn't make sense in the light of AIDS."

Tim Brace, president of the local Committee to Preserve Our Sexual and Civil Liberties, praised Cole's ruling. "It basically says what we have said all along. Precautions are necessary whenever you have sex. Much of the bathhouse activities had already become safe. People are informed and they make decisions as to what risks they want to take. The places I used to go to — just to relax — do not exist anymore. They closed gay social establishments," said Brace.

San Francisco now has one gay-related bathhouse open — the 21st Street Baths — which adheres to the strict "safe sex" regulations. New York City's Plato's Retreat and St. Marks have been closed by court order and other New York bathhouses have closed voluntarily. The Georgia state legislature recently banned all bathhouses after police closed Atlanta's two bathhouses, the Club and the Locker Room.

Why do gay people still go to bathhouses? A UCLA survey of 500 Los Angeles bathhouse patrons completed last month is revealing. Dr. Gary Richwald said he discovered that 69 percent went to such businesses to "have sex" while 49 percent said they went primarily to use the steam or pool. "I go to meet friends, without necessarily having sex," was the response of 40 percent.

When Sigers finally managed to get a flight home, he retained gay rights attorney Carl Wolf to represent him. Wolf planned to sue Delta for the humiliation Sigers suffered. Wolf is currently out of town, but his partner, Vivian Hammill, said Sigers' claim to emotional distress damages died when he did.

A lawsuit on the behalf of Sigers' estate could only ask for actual damages: the price of his airline ticket, the cost of the oxygen tank he had to have available, and the cost of replacing medicine which was in checked baggage, Hammill said.

On his deathbed, Sigers asked Hammill to "make sure it doesn't happen to someone else," Hammill said. The attorneys will work to see the facts of the case aired, following Sigers' and his family's wishes, she said.

Sen. Pete Wilson and Congresswoman Barbara Boxer are considering Congressional hearings on the incident. Wilson aide Kevin Elliot said the senator is investigating a possible human rights violation. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is also investigating the incident, he said.

The Human Rights Commission of San Francisco has been

Attorneys to Pursue Suit Despite Sigers' Death

Airline Again Removes Man with AIDS from Flight; FAA Investigating; Congressional Hearings Possible

by Gregory Douthwaite

Mark Sigers, who showed the nation the plight of AIDS sufferers last month when he was kicked off a Delta airliner in Atlanta, died Friday, Aug. 29. A memorial tribute will be held at Harvey Milk Plaza on Saturday, Sept. 6, at 8 p.m.

A notice of Sigers' death is posted on the railing outside Hibernia Bank at 18th and Castro Streets. Admirers and friends have left bouquets of flowers behind the railing, and someone left a triangular formation of candles burning. The bank said they will allow the flowers to remain all week.

Sigers, 31, was not a gay rights activist. He was manager of a trendy South of Market restaurant called Canary Island. He had been diagnosed with Kaposi's sarcoma a year and a half ago, and had been in Atlanta for a farewell reunion with his family.

Sigers was angry at being abruptly ordered to get off the airplane, which he had already boarded for the flight back to San Francisco. He called his nurse to say he would be delayed, and was put into contact with Mobilization Against AIDS. Sigers gave the group permission to publicize his case as an example of AIDS discrimination.

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Muscle System Gyms, in cooperation with Friends for Life, present a benefit, Sunday, Sept. 14. Light buffet and beverages at the Hayes Street Gym, 4:30 to 8:30 p.m., 364 Hayes Street; dancing at Trocadero Transfer, 8 p.m., 520 Fourth Street.

All proceeds go to benefit AIDS Emergency Fund and Coming Home Hospice. Tickets are available at Muscle System Gyms; \$20 in advance, \$25 day of the event. Checks can be made payable to either charity.

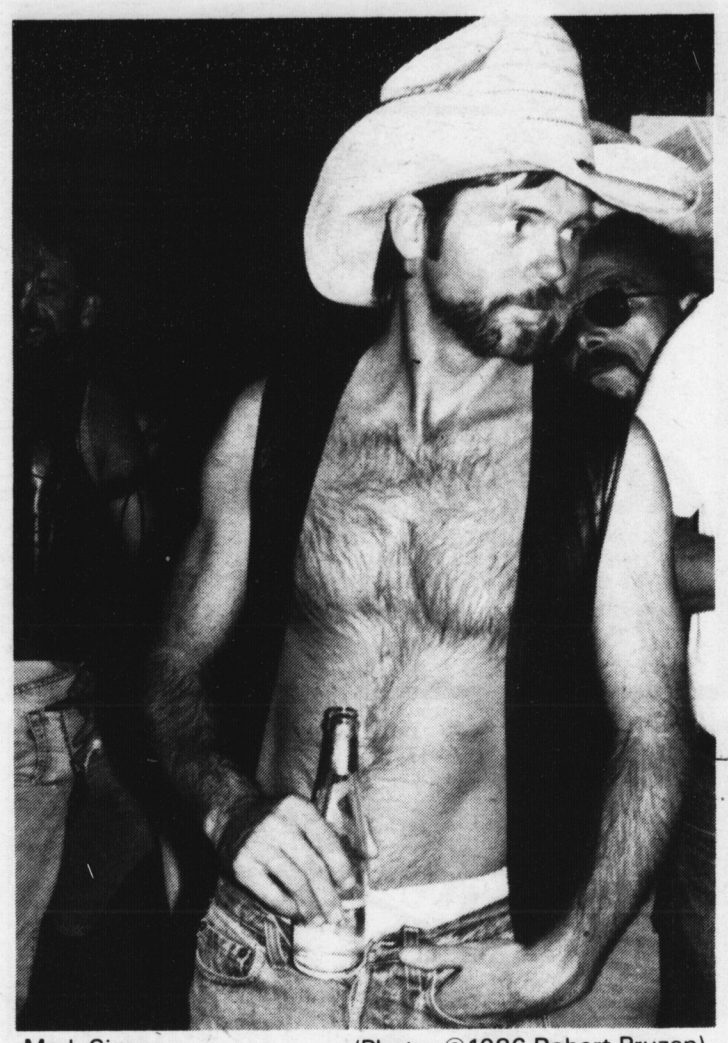
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contacted about a possible violation of the local AIDS discrimination ordinance. However, AIDS discrimination representative Norm Nickens said it "not clear" whether San Francisco would have jurisdiction over the incident because it occurred in Atlanta.

Following the outcry over the incident, Delta promised to distribute an educational packet on AIDS to their employees, and they made a statement saying they regularly transport people with AIDS. However, another passenger with AIDS has since

been thrown off a Delta flight. The airline apologized immediately, and said the incident was caused by a misinformed clerk. Mobilization Against AIDS co-director Ken McPherson commented, "I hope they get the packet out with due dispatch—they're obviously in great need of it."

Delta has been deluged with phone calls complaining about the incident, and hundreds have cancelled reservations on the airline, McPherson said. "The people of America are outraged," he said.



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Shanti Project resident Brad Wright (background) and his lover, Jean Marc, on his bed.
(Photo: Rink)

Shanti May Evict Man With AIDS

Complaints of Loud Partying Bring Counter-Complaints of Arrogance

by Charles Linebarger

The Shanti Project is considered a model across the country for its work in counseling people with AIDS, their families and friends. Shanti is also an example with its housing program for people with AIDS. But today Shanti's housing program is being accused of arrogance in its treatment of a man with AIDS who has lived in Shanti housing for three and a half years. He was given a one week's eviction notice in August; the deadline has been extended to the middle of September.

"It's not often we ask someone to leave," said George Voight, assistant director of the Shanti Project. "It's usually after complaints from other residents in the house. We first try mediation by one of the residence staff. The residence advocate tries to mediate. In any residence program there are ongoing complaints."

But Bradford Wright, who is being evicted from the program, said that the former residence advocate at his house was part of the problem. He was backed up on this charge by his fellow housemate, Andrew Sisto. Said Sisto, "We had a straight man as a house advocate until two weeks ago when I blew up. He was abusive, nasty, and militant."

Voight told the *Bay Area Reporter* that Wright's neighbors had complained about loud parties and late night visitors in his room over the past few months.

According to Voight, the house advocate involved came from a background of counseling alcoholics. "No one has to take special courses to work with us, we have a stringent interviewing process," Voight acknowledged that out of the eight employees in Shanti's housing program, none are gay men, though all forty men living in Shanti residences are gay. "We look for the most qualified," said Voight. The Shanti Housing Program has racial and ethnic quotas to fill, but is apparently not required to hire gay men.

One of the charges against Bradford is that he was found to have alcohol on his breath several times, according to Elly Cousineau, recently hired director of the Shanti Housing Program.

"He's pretty inconsiderate as a roommate," one of Bradford's

"We had a straight man as a house advocate until two weeks ago when I blew up. He was abusive, nasty, and militant."

—Andrew Sisto,
Bradford Wright's
housemate



Andrew Sisto (Photo: Rink)

housemates told the *B.A.R.* anonymously. "He has guests over late at night. His place is right above mine and they stay up till two or three in the morning. It's pretty difficult to have to go up two or three times to complain."

The other housemate who has complained, and also asked to remain unnamed, told the *B.A.R.*, "This has been going on since he's been living here."

Wright lives in a loft apartment at a Shanti house, in a room decorated, as he calls it, in "baroque Cockette." (The Cockettes were a famous group of transvestite performers in the early 1970s.) He shares a kitchen down the hall with Sisto. Wright, his lover Jean, friend Karen Black who is a former Shanti counselor, and Sisto talked about Wright's imminent eviction.

"I would look like a lunatic to talk to anyone down at Shanti," said Sisto. "I went down there to

complain about our house advocate and was told he was the only person I could complain to." Sisto said he was almost evicted when he stopped going to house meetings in protest.

Black said that Wright was one of the earliest residents to move into a Shanti house and was one of their best success stories. He had survived with AIDS for over three and a half years. He had even been featured in *Life* magazine's 1984 Year In Review issue. Wright had been shown in the Shanti Housing Program.

But Wright's AIDS has taken a turn for the worse in the last few months as his problems with his former house advocate and with Shanti worsened. His Kaposi's sarcoma, which had been in remission, has returned now and he worries where he will be living after the middle of September when he is supposed to be out of the Shanti program.

(Continued on page 17)

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BAY AREA REPORTER OPEN FORUM

VOL. XVI NO. 36 SEPTEMBER 4, 1986

NEXT ISSUE OUT: SEPTEMBER 11

NEXT DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 12

B.A.R.

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

The Summer of Our Discontent

Labor Day traditionally marks the end of summer holidays. And we here in the Bay Area honor tradition even though our summer—if we're to have one—is yet to begin. This summer, however, is one I am glad to be rid of.

Let's face it: this summer was the pits even though it began with an enthusiastic Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade and was topped off with the Gay Games. We needed those mammoth events just to cope, just to tread water and get through the bashings we took.

A brief reprise (in case you've forgotten). First, there was the federal Department of Justice memorandum sanctifying bigotry against anyone thought to be associated with AIDS. That action put the government stamp of approval on misinformation and hysteria.

Then, we learned that over 600,000 Californians had signed petitions to put an initiative on this November's ballot that would make quarantine state law. Polls so far show confusing feelings on the issue. Voters do not like the LaRouche types who cooked up this scheme and do favor compassion and fairness for people with AIDS. At the same time, they favor some sort of quarantine. We have a massive education job on our hands.

The U.S. Supreme Court got into the act and indulged in a bit of legalistic queer-bashing. They ruled against Georgian Michael Hardwick's—and everybody else's—right to privacy. In an unbelievably vitriolic opinion, the Court discarded legal reasoning in favor of heaping contempt upon gay and lesbian people and our civil rights. It was the third worst-case scenario to be dropped on us in one month.

But things didn't get any better in July when the feds stealthily took over Atlas Savings and Loan and handed it over to a gigantic financial conglomerate who promptly eradicated any signs of Atlas' existence. Apparently, they want our lives and our money.

Finally, in August, Gov. George Deukmejian astonished everyone by vetoing a bill that would have added some protection against discrimination for people with AIDS. The Duke claimed that there was no need for such protections because existing state law covered the situation. Two weeks later, an administrative law judge said he could not find such a

law and ruled against a man with AIDS, Deukmejian, by the way, took an editorial pasting across the state for his cowardly veto.

Fall is also a traditional time for starting new projects. After the summer doldrums, energy levels rise. Time to begin again.

This fall, we have a big project ahead of us. The campaign against Prop. 64, the LaRouche AIDS Quarantine Initiative, is now organized and ready to go into high gear. On top of all the struggles we face and all the demands on our resources, we have yet another fight to fight. Even though, of course, Prop. 64, should it ever get into law, would affect people other than us, we will have to carry the ball this time.

It's possible we'll win. But just winning isn't enough. We have to win big enough to smash the demented dreams of Lyndon LaRouche everywhere. Remembering this summer's setbacks, join the No on 64 campaign and fight back. We won't win unless we fight for it. ●

Congratulations

The appointment of Sup. Louise Renne by Mayor Dianne Feinstein to the San Francisco City Attorney's job is a welcome one. She will bring badly needed new leadership to a crucial position in city government. As the first woman in that office, Renne is making history.

Renne's appointment will restore integrity to an office that has increasingly come under attack for poor service to the city's residents. From outmoded practices such as refusing to settle claims against the city out of court—which only drove up the final cost of settlement—to ending the bickering with the Board of Supervisors over legalities, changes are long overdue in the City Attorney's office.

We expect she will bring the same hardworking intelligence to the City Attorney's office that she displayed on the Supervisors' Finance Committee. Likely, there will be no more moves embarrassing for City Hall, such as the late George Agnost's asinine attempt to have the local gay rights ordinance ruled unconstitutional.

We wish her well. —Ray O'Loughlin ●

OPINION

A Republican for Bradley

by Kevin Wadsworth

Certain decisions are very difficult. With a long history of involvement with and loyalty to the Republican Party, my decision to support and vote for Tom Bradley for governor was not easy. Whether and how to communicate this decision to friends, acquaintances and business and political associates took the better part of a foggy and quiet San Francisco Saturday.

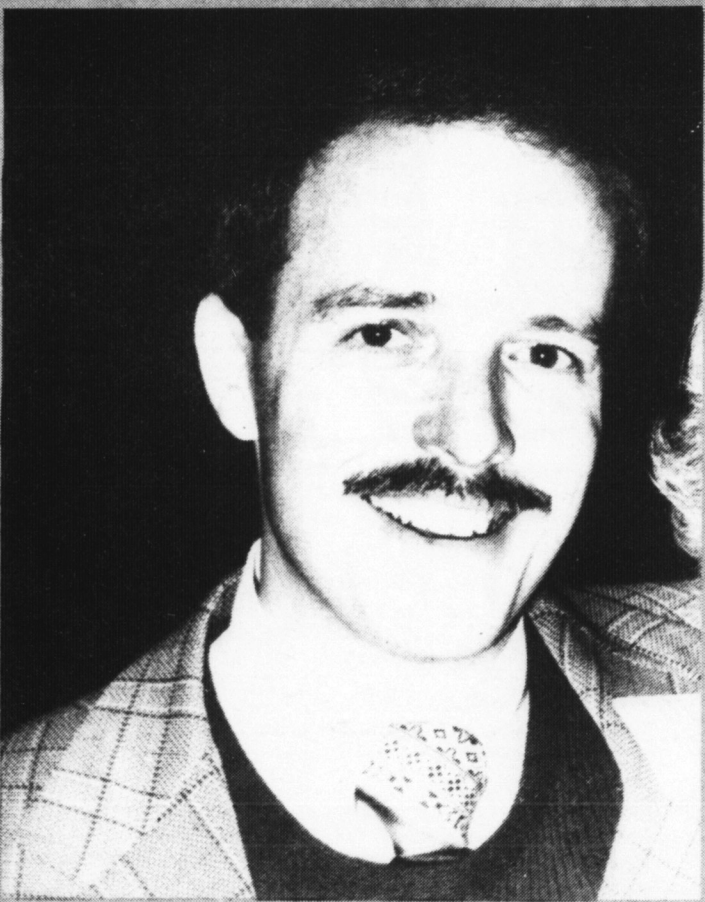
Gov. George Deukmejian's recent veto of legislation which would have prohibited AIDS discrimination is the cause for my decision. For the governor to claim that too few people are affected by such discrimination is just as ridiculous as the claim by certain Turkish officials that few Armenians were affected by "alleged" genocidal atrocities earlier in this century.

His veto message notes that only twenty complaints of AIDS discrimination have been filed. As a member of the Employment Committee of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, I know that some 86 complaints have been filed in San Francisco alone. Whether the number of discrimination victims is one or one thousand, is not our governmental heritage based upon protecting minority and majority rights from being oppressed by the other?

His veto message further claims that AIDS discrimination legislation is redundant given the protection afforded under present California housing and employment law. This claim became moot when an administrative law judge ruled that no such protection exists under current California law. Informed of this decision, the governor has no comment but to say he stands by his veto. Republican Sen. H. L. Richardson praises the governor's veto, stating it is the Christian thing to do.

As an individual who happens to be gay, being an activist member of the Republican Party for over twenty years has not been always a pleasant experience. It has had its rewards, however. I am proud to have been the first "up-front gay person" to receive the official endorsement of either major political party. In 1979, during my District Five Supervisorial race, the San Francisco Republican County Central Committee made history for their endorsement of my candidacy. The State and National Republican Party followed with a major donation and a letter of endorsement from Bill Brock, chairman of the National Republican Party.

As president of Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, I built the first politically powerful Republican volunteer club in which gay individuals were prominent. In my two tries for supervisor, I became



Kevin Wadsworth (Photo: Rink)

the first gay candidate to receive the endorsement of the San Francisco Examiner and Republican county central committees. I mention these events only to show that my involvement and commitment to the Republican Party and its principles has not been brief or without effort. I continue to be loyal to the founding principles of the Republican Party. Unfortunately, I simply cannot and will not support the candidacy of Gov. George Deukmejian.

On Tuesday, Nov. 4, I ask that you vote for Tom Bradley. Were he not qualified, I would have simply asked that you not vote. Mayor Bradley is qualified. And, judging from recent polls, he does have a chance to become governor. ●

DEBATE

Self-Respect

★ I'm sorry that Matthew Inge thinks that an arts story does not deserve front page status; personally, I found it rather refreshing that a newspaper editor found the story about Doug Holsclaw's and my struggle with Actors' Equity worthy of such prominent coverage. The Chronicle, which covered the Mime Troupe's similar problems quite extensively, has ignored our fight.

As for his arguments, I'd like to say that were I performing in, say, *Our Town* for subunion wages I'd have to agree with his accusation that I have no self-respect. Considering the situation, however, all I can say is that my self-respect has only been considerably bolstered by my appearing in *The AIDS Show*.

Considering Mr. Inge's other points, I'd rather let some other people speak for me. Enclosed are two of the many letters I've received from all over the country in support of my position. The editors may not wish to print them in their entirety, so I've highlighted the sections that are particularly relevant to Mr. Inge's letter. The first was written by Richard Dreyfuss, long-time member of the union; the second by Robin Bartlett, who is not only a working actor but also a member of the union's national Council.

To all the people who have written to the union on Doug's and my behalf, many thanks. You should know that, contrary to what I was originally told, the union did not hear our appeal on Aug. 19. Instead, lawyers recommended that the Council form a subcommittee to investigate the matter, read all the letters and phone messages received, and then recommend a procedure to the Council at a later date. I don't have a clue as to their sympathies, but the woman I've been speaking with in New York (Judith Weston) has been quite friendly and concerned. The letters people wrote seem to have made some kind of impact; again, thanks.

Leland Moss
San Francisco

Biased! Give Me A Break

★ First of all, the fact that union officials would suggest to you not only that you leave your union, but that you kick back money to a producer while these same officials wave principle in your face is outrageous. I don't know if you want to go this far, but it seems to me grounds for charges.

This event points up two things. First, that the union leadership, particularly in L.A., is corrupt. Secondly, that the union does not concern itself with organizing, either on the level of expanding membership and educating actors, but even in trying to urge management to come under AEA jurisdiction in a realistic manner.

Robin Bartlett
New York

★ It has been said by those in authority in this matter that "rules are rules." That is foolishness and is emphatically not the case. I am all for the rules but I am not crazy.

I am asking that this matter be heard with a much more specific ear. I don't think that rules should be applied like a neutron bomb that kills all the people and leaves the rules standing.

Richard Dreyfuss
Los Angeles

Evasion

★ Californians need to be aware that insurance companies are using a new method of evading the California law that prohibits requiring the AIDS antibody test for the issuance of insurance.

Recently an agent of New York Life Insurance Company suggested to me that he could provide life insurance coverage equivalent to my current coverage at lower cost. I agreed to allow a medical doctor employed by the insurance company to examine me. Some time after the examination, I was contacted by a representative of Healthmasters in San Rafael, CA, to schedule another meeting with their doctor to obtain a blood sample.

I asked the Healthmasters representative specifically what tests would be performed on this blood sample. The representative then read a list of about 25 tests that would be performed. The representative also stated that I would have to sign a form allowing several other tests to be performed in addition to the 25 listed. I asked what tests would be additional. The representative of Healthmasters then stated that the form would allow the HTLV test (the AIDS antibody test) as well as drug profile and Cocaine profile.

I told the Healthmasters representative that I believed it to be a violation of California law to require the AIDS antibody test for the issuance of insurance. I have since verified that this is the case.

The Healthmasters representative then said that the New York Life Insurance Company underwriter in New York wanted this test performed, and that al-

though the blood sample would be taken in California, the actual tests would be performed in Kansas, thus avoiding the prohibition of the California law.

Since the HTLV test is designed solely for the purpose of screening blood donations, and the HTLV test is not accurate enough for diagnostic purposes, California law prohibits the use of the test for insurance screening purposes.

New York Life Insurance Co., and Healthmasters of San Rafael (the agent of New York Life) are clearly attempting to evade the intent of the California law by performing the actual analysis outside California on California applicants.

I believe action is required to stop this practice. The California law should be amended to prohibit out of state HTLV (AIDS antibody) analysis of blood drawn in California from California insurance applicants. Californians should write or call their State Assembly representatives and State Senators demanding this needed amendment to the law.

Applicants for health or life insurance should also very carefully question what tests will be performed on blood samples taken for insurance application purposes. If the HTLV test is requested, refuse to allow that test to be performed. Also submit a complaint to the State Department of Consumer Affairs group that monitors insurance companies. And let your legislative representatives know that the California law is being evaded. Notify the American Civil Liberties Union office nearest you. We Californians must make it clear to the insurance companies that we will not tolerate evasion of our laws and invasion of our privacy.

James E. Candlin
Los Altos, CA

Somebody's Lying

★ Someone is not telling the truth and it looks like Delta Air Lines.

After reading the B.A.R. that a gay man with AIDS had been denied passage on a flight from Atlanta, I wrote Delta for an explanation. Their response stated that "contrary to the impression you apparently received, transportation was denied because Mr. Sigers was traveling alone." (Delta's full response is attached if you would like to print it.)

Then in Rob Morse's column in the Aug. 28 *Examiner* I read that another gay man with AIDS attempted to fly Delta and was told that Delta makes it a policy not to fly AIDS patients.

Wise up, folks, and fly the friendlier skies of United, American, or Eastern and boycott the airline that isn't ready when we are.

J. Walker
San Francisco

Energy, Warmth and Love

★ A hearty thank you to everyone associated with Gay Games II for helping San Francisco to proudly raise its head again.

It was so refreshing to once again feel the energy, warmth, and love our community is known for. The past eight days go a long way towards reminding us all that there is life in spite of AIDS. Now, let's all work to restore that energy to our lives.

Christopher Smith
San Francisco

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Read this through and then call me.
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LETTERS

A Successful Drive

★ On behalf of the Lesbian Caucus of the Harvey Milk Lesbian & Gay Democratic Club we wish to extend our deep appreciation to all those who participated in the success of our second annual Women's Day Blood Drive to benefit persons with AIDS/ARC. This was genuinely a community effort and the blood fund which was established last year was given a major boost due to the blood donations received on Saturday, Aug. 23, at Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church.

Special thanks go to the over 100 women in our community who again responded to our urgent appeal for blood, to Irwin Memorial Blood Bank of San Francisco for their continuing support of this event and the staff of Most Holy Redeemer for their consistent help in AIDS-related projects. The combined efforts of everyone has helped Irwin Memorial Blood Bank meet its public need for blood in a time of critical shortage and has mobilized the lesbian and gay community to fight a most serious threat to our health. The most positive aspect to come out of this epidemic has been the outpouring of humanitarian concern we have witnessed.

There are many mobile blood drives which operate to maintain our Bay Area's blood supply. This one, thanks to your generous support, continues to meet the additional needs of persons with AIDS or ARC. Its use as a blood fund is therefore more than the occasional one of most other group accounts. We encourage all women eligible to donate blood to make an appointment with Irwin Memorial Blood Bank, 567-6400, and credit their blood to the Harvey Milk Lesbian & Gay Democratic Club. For information on receiving blood credits, a savings of \$20 per unit transfused, please call 863-6761.

Lenore Chinn,
Blood Drive Coordinator
Harvey Milk Lesbian & Gay
Democratic Club
San Francisco

Get In Touch

★ I wish to thank Kim Anno for including a review of my exhibit in the Aug. 14 column "Art And Athletics, Or Off The Beaten Path." Despite a major gender change within the review I was honored that she encouraged people to go see the show.

I wanted to do something to help and decided that an exhibit where people dealing with AIDS took an active part by saying something that they felt the public should hear would help. I am by no means done with this work and would like to take this opportunity to urge anyone who wishes to participate in the exhibit to get in touch with me: Gypsy P. Ray, 523 Darwin Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95062.

Gypsy Ray
Santa Cruz

Cursing

★ Dear Ronald T. Parnell, your letter reminded me of an old Irish poem. It sort of went, "May the sunrise greet your face and may the wind be always at your back, and pray the devil forever be off your back."

I am 46. When I was a youth, gay people were castrated by the Courts as a standard procedure, where our identity was confirmed. Electric shock treatment was "diversion therapy," because the Bible clearly explained we deserved no less.

Oklahoma was a place where gays died every weekend, bludgeoned to death in alleys. Again, we deserved no less. Lawyers, doctors, and clergy understood, we deserved no less. Armistead and my generation was the scourge, rather than the wretched, of the earth. Today, because of hatred of AIDS, it's back.

Whatever God isn't or is, Associate Chief Justice Byron White decided it for us, didn't he. Therefore, curse Satan's hell and pray for heaven someday.

Your Buddhist Brother,

Gene Moxey
San Francisco

All Or Nothing

★ Since the only source Christian Homophobes have to justify their denial of basic human rights to lesbians and gays is the Bible, shouldn't that source (the Bible) be tested? What if the Bible is just another book, not inspired by God?

One of the great weaknesses of the Bible lies in the fact that it contains tangible mechanisms by which to refute its truthfulness. Within its pages are verses which can be used to test the book's validity.

They can generally be grouped under two broad headings—those involving tremendous powers given to believers and those involving powers attendant to prayer and requests.

The most prominent verses within the first category are Mark 16:17-18 which say, "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them: they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

Many true believers have handled deadly snakes and drunk deadly poisons only to find the Bible is both erroneous and dangerous. Courts in Illinois, Tennessee, and elsewhere have repeatedly stopped practices of this nature because of the threat to life. Ask believers to drink poison or handle deadly snakes and one will quickly realize the extent to which even they do not take the Book seriously. Mark 16: 17-18 clearly states what they can do if they believe. Put them to the test, however, and you will witness a lot of rationalizing.

If these Biblical apologists don't believe this verse why do they believe so strongly in the verses they use to discriminate against gay and lesbian people. If the Bible is the inerrant word of God, then all of it is true. If Mark 16: 17-18 is not true, then the Bible is not the inerrant word of God, and all the anti-gay verses are someone's opinions.

You just have to read the Bible to discover it could not possibly be written by God. And it is time to start fighting back, these Christians who are unwilling to leave others alone, on their own turf, the Bible.

Alan G. Hanson
Sonoma

Write To Channel 44

★ I recall reading an important letter from one of your readers recently in this same column regarding Channel 44's showing of Jerry Falwell. I had never seen the creep before and decided, finally, to watch for myself.

What I observed was a not-very-attractive, over-weight, middle-aged man who had a great speaking voice and terrific salesmanship. But he didn't impress me as being intellectual or charismatic but then I'm biased because I hate his guts for having the ability to take advantage of the dulled emotions and low IQ's of his ardent followers. He is a dangerous man and obviously powerful.

And then I remember one of his many tactics against gays... boycott! It certainly worked for us against Anita Bryant and Florida Orange Juice. It can work again. Therefore, I am writing to the owners of Channel 44 (KBHK) to express my outrage that they should allow Falwell on their station.

I hope you'll do it too. But don't wait until later. Do it now while your memory is fresh. I'll even supply the address for you: KBHK-Channel 44, 420 Taylor St., San Francisco, CA 94102.

And even more importantly, write to the sponsors who appear on Channel 44 (at any time) and express the same outrage and threaten to boycott their product until Jerry Dingleberry is no longer merry (Mary?).

Do it now.

Dean Tomich
San Jose

A Misunderstanding

★ David-Alex Nahmod, in his 8/7 letter ("Boycott TV44") shows a couple of obvious areas of misunderstanding. The top is that he is an obvious new viewer of TV44, as Jerry Falwell has been on that station for a few years.

Falwell is absolutely "infamous" in our community for his ridiculous anti-gay remarks (so what on earth is new about that?).

More important is the fact that Mr. Nahmod neglects the fact that KBHK is a commercial (money-making) station and KQED is a non-profit educational station.

Also, in this country we have something called freedom of speech, which inevitably (as with Mr. Falwell) results in prejudicial garbage being aired. So what? On the subject of right and wrong, make up your own mind, Mr. Nahmod.

Herb Levy
San Francisco

MEMBERS

AFSCME

★ Your recent coverage of AFSCME's position on AIDS discrimination prompts me to share the following. At its convention in Philadelphia in June, the Newspaper Guild (representing locals in the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico) adopted a position urging locals "to ensure that there be no discrimination in the workplace against victims of AIDS and ARC and that they suffer no discrimination in hiring or employment, including, by way of example without limitation, in job security, sick leave and health-and-welfare benefits."

This position was largely at the urging of officers of the Northern California Newspaper Guild with headquarters here in San Francisco, representing, among others, the editorial, clerical and sales forces of the *S.F. Examiner*, *S.F. Chronicle* and the San Francisco Newspaper Agency. This local has made AIDS and ARC an aspect of its Human Rights Committee's agenda.

J. Jansen
San Francisco

Malnutrition

★ This letter was sent to the San Francisco Examiner:

Your front page article on AIDS among the poor was long overdue. The fact is, AIDS has always been a disease which disproportionately affects those who are too poor to afford to eat regularly.

Between 35 and 45 percent of the city's homeless are homosexuals, according to a February 1984 survey by United Way of the Bay Area. They suffer more from malnutrition than homeless women, couples, families, etc., because many of the food programs (including the two largest: Council of Churches Emergency Food Box and Salvation Army) exclude single men. And they suffer more malnutrition than single straight men because all of the private food programs are operated by rescue missions, churches and religious organizations, and most of them object to homosexuality for religious reasons, and discrimination.

Malnutrition is a co-factor in all viral diseases, and the fact that gay men suffer from malnutrition more than others might have quite a bit to do with AIDS.

Rev. Donald Jackson,
Superintendent
Gay Rescue Mission
San Francisco

Garet Stark Is Great

★ An Open Letter to the Community:

Many people gave of their time, money, talents, and energy to make the Gay Games a success. We would like to draw attention to and thank Garet Stark, the coordinator of interpreters, for his strenuous work to help make the Games and cultural events accessible to hearing impaired people.

He and a dedicated group of interpreters worked long and sometimes inconvenient hours for free! We especially want to thank Dan for interpreting the volunteers' meeting and Nina and Kevin for interpreting *The Last AIDS Show*. We appreciate the Games committee and the various cultural performers for being aware of and welcoming their hearing impaired audience.

We hope that funds will be available to pay the coordinator and interpreters for the Games in 1990; these people are invaluable.

Richard Allegra
Stan Potrude
San Francisco

Shape Up's OK

★ A lot of bad publicity has surrounded the recent closing of Shape Up on Market Street. There are a lot of mad members out there bad-mouthing the management. I want to take this time to acknowledge that management and to publicly thank them for all the help that they gave to me at a time when I needed it the most.

As a charter member (Marcia fed me so much champagne at the opening that she convinced me that even I could join a gym) I enjoyed the co-ed atmosphere very much. It was my one chance to meet gay women on a one-to-one level and it made me feel good to see all of us working out together. The staff at that time was absolutely wonderful, especially Anne, who helped me realize exercise helps build a good body (not always bigger — but always better). Thanks.

Then along about two months after I had renewed my yearly membership for the second time, I faced a personal crisis that required medical attention and prevented me from working out at the gym for an

unknown length of time. The management team reached out to help and encourage me. (Jim even refunded my membership fee and offered both professional and personal encouragement.)

I don't know much about the recent problems of Shape Up, but I do know that a lot of love and caring went in and came out of that little gym — and for me that will remain in my memory. Thanks, Shape Up, you were great.

Joe Vesely
San Francisco

Separatism

★ In this age of AIDS, Falwell and LaRouche, I am shocked that we still have separatists in the community. Don't these jerks realize that separatism weakens our fight against our enemies. Grow up, boys and girls.

Mature men take credit for their own successes, accept responsibility for their own failures, and do not run up and down Castro screaming that women are taking over.

Likewise, mature women also take credit for their own successes and failures, and do not complain that they are capable of making mistakes because men happen to exist.

If the road to political correctness is paved with these foolish people, then I am proud to be a politically incorrect non-separatist. Thank God I'm one of many.

I think I'll send separatists I know a box of Pampers for their birthdays.

Gary Stewart
San Francisco

Welcome Home

★ Not many of us really stop to think about the front-runners of gay sports. Those people who gave of themselves selflessly to improve the lot of the gay community itself and to improve our standards of life.

I beamed with pride as our gay brothers and sisters stood together at the opening ceremonies of Gay Games II. I scanned the crowd and saw one of those familiar faces. He was by himself and enjoying everything that was taking place. Compulsion overcame me and I had to walk over and say hello and thank you for helping to bring us to an event such as Gay Games II.

His name is Fred Howell, a founder of the New York Softball League and co-founder, with Jack McGowan (Irene), of the Gay Softball World Series, which started here in San Francisco.

Fred has returned to San Francisco after a 12-year stay in New York, where (with Chuck Dima) he began to build the New York softball program.

He said he was overwhelmed with the success of the Softball World Series and its national growth. Now we have sports for everyone on every level. Leave it to San Francisco to create something as tremendous as Gay Games II.

As the crowd joined hands I held his and felt the static electricity of true pride running through those hands of his, as Softball was the largest contingent of the Games.

I only want to say thank you, Fred, for your efforts and welcome back to San Francisco.

Lyle Switzer
San Francisco

Great Show

★ For those of you who missed "With the Greatest of Ease" at Davies Symphony Hall, you missed one hell of a show. My congratulations to Bob Golovich, his staff and the Band Foundation for a beautiful evening.

Robbie Robinson
San Francisco

Change the Name

★ Do you realize the Gay Freedom Day Parade is only ten months away? Is it not time to editorialize that this parade in justice needs to be renamed "The San Francisco Bay Area Gay Freedom Day Parade"?

This only recognizes what is, and always has been, reality. There is only one gay men and women's community here and it is *Bay Area*, not San Francisco.

James Gibbons
San Leandro

SEX.

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BAY AREA REPORTER SEPTEMBER 4, 1986 PAGE 9

Wayne Friday

The Rush Is On

With this week's traditional Labor Day parades and speeches, the political season officially gets under way and the control for the U.S. Senate promises to take center stage. To take control from the Republicans this November, the Democrats need a net gain of four seats.

There are 22 GOP seats and 12 Democratic seats at stake. Of the 22 Republican seats up this time, Democrats are thought to have excellent chances in six of them and a fair chance in another three. On the other hand, if the Republicans are to retain control of the upper chamber, they need to take some of the current Democratic seats. But in only four of those seats are they

thought to have a chance.

Reagan's party is eyeing four Democratic seats in particular—California, Louisiana, Missouri, and Colorado. If the GOP picks up three of the four (polls show them leading in two, and tied in one), the Democrats would then need to pick up no less than seven Republican seats to gain control of the Senate. This, in any year, is a tall order.

The Republican National Committee is slating heavy spending and heavy campaigning by Pres. Reagan for GOP candidates Christopher Bond in Missouri, Kenneth Kramer in Colorado (where Gary Hart is retiring), Henson Moore in Louisiana, and Ed Zschau in California. Reagan is, in fact, attending

a dinner this week in Los Angeles where Republicans are expected to raise nearly \$2 million for Zschau's campaign against Democrat Sen. Alan Cranston.

Republican strategists are losing faith in the Zschau campaign. But even some highly placed Democrats fear that, though the Zschau campaign has stumbled since June, the national party and Ronald Reagan want to win the California seat badly enough to spend whatever it takes. Reagan himself is reportedly committed to spending as much time with the Republican candidate as necessary to help Zschau against Cranston.

The best three chances the Democrats have of picking up GOP seats seems to be in Florida,



Leo McCarthy (Photo: Rink)

Maryland, and South Dakota. The Democrats, in order to take control of the Senate, will need all the money they can get and the Republicans have them very badly outpaced in that department. Reagan and George Bush alone have raised almost \$50 million in the last year for their party and the latest Federal Election Commission reports show the Grand Old Party has amassed \$186.1 million for its candidates during the past 18 months, compared with only \$35.1 million by the Democratic Party. Now holding a 53-47 margin, the Republican party says it will spend whatever it takes to put on "an all-out effort" to retain control of the U.S. Senate, and the Democrats clearly have their work cut out if they want to prevent Ronald Reagan's party from doing that.

Friends of Board of Supervisors Pres. John Molinari are holding a \$250 fundraiser to honor the popular supervisor on his 51st birthday at Trader Vic's on Sept. 18 (cocktails, etc. 5:30-7:30; 956-5221 for information).

While the rush is on in Sacramento to pass bills before adjourning, highjinks by our supposedly dignified legislators took center stage last week while Assemblymembers reportedly shot spitwads at each other, tossed paper airplanes around the chamber, and general silliness ensued during the final hours of what most members thought was the last day of the session before they were to learn the session had been extended for a couple of weeks. Reporter Laura McCarty of the *Sand Jose Mercury News* tells us that our own Assemblymember Art Agnos got the most acclaim for his antics. Agnos, according to reporter McCarty, "relishes even bad publicity." He supposedly "posed and preened for the cameras in a tacky polyester plaid jacket, unmatched plaid pants and a bright yellow flower," which prompted Assemblyman Tom Hayden to quip that "He's [Agnos] the first recipient of the state's new homeless and mentally ill policies." Our hero was then seen rushing to the State Senate section to get reaction from the upper house, but it was said no one seemed to notice. Who says Art has no sense of humor? Why, the guy's a real card.

Are't those Democrats who are talking up a McCarthy for S.F. mayor campaign doing a disservice to the Lt. Gov.? Have they conceded that race to Mike Curb? One local campaign wizard, with a number of campaign losses himself under his belt, would have us believe that "if Leo were to lose, he'd be mayor by acclamation!" (Where has this "expert" been and what is he smoking?)

Another highly placed local Democratic party official had lunch with a gay newspaperman last week and talked up a McCarthy for mayor race. Bad politics no matter how you put it. First, these people are undercutting McCarthy's current campaign. Secondly, since when has the office of Mayor of San Francisco become a consolation prize for losing statewide candidates?

Leo McCarthy has been an excellent lieutenant governor and deserves to be reelected. Those who have apparently given up on him doing so are not helping him at all.

School Board candidate Greg Day was endorsed last week by the Toklas Democratic Club and Sup. John Molinari.

The John Birch Society, the right-wing group that has crusaded for nearly 30 years against a supposed "world Communist conspiracy" has come upon hard times and filed reports in Massachusetts claiming liabilities of over \$9 million, with assets of less than \$30,000. The group, with headquarters in Weston, Mass., claims membership of 50,000, and once accused former Pres. Dwight D. Eisenhower of being "a dedicated conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy."

There are still some seats left to tonight's big No on 64/Stop LaRouche gala at the Hyatt Regency. Comedian Robin Williams and singer Sharon McNight will entertain, and the dinner chairperson is Speaker Willie Brown (cocktails at 6:30, dinner at 7:30, \$200 donation, 861-8295 for information).

Don't forget that the New Bell Saloon on Polk Street will be holding a plant auction to help the No on 64 effort this Sunday (Sept. 7, beginning at 2 p.m., with guest auctioneers). Hope to see you there.

Commercial Rent Control Hearing

The Small Business Advisory Commission will hold a public hearing on commercial rents and leasing and its effects on small business on Monday, Sept. 8, in room 282 of City Hall, beginning at 5 p.m.

"We have been asked by the Board of Supervisors and the

mayor to look at the various proposals that have been proposed as solutions to this growing problem," stated Bruce Lillenthal, president of the Small Business Advisory Commission. "We have established a commercial leasing task force to help us develop recommendations on this important issue."

Mike Hippler

Puttin' on the Lavender Ritz

They tell me there are some wealthy homosexuals in this town. I wouldn't know, for I've never met any—none that have shown me the color of their money, at any rate. Of course, I haven't tried very hard to make contact. But even if I had, I wouldn't have known how, for I don't know where they hang out (if such a term can be applied to the leisure activities of the rich).

Until recently, that is, when a friend told me about the Comstock, a private club for members of San Francisco's gay "professional" community. My friend didn't say professional what, but I assume he meant rich queens—or anyone rich enough to afford club dues.

The Comstock, housed in a gorgeous yellow Victorian mansion on Sutter Street, is modeled, appropriately enough, along the lines of a Victorian English gentleman's club. Unlike clubs of that era, however, the Comstock is open to both men and women. If the truth be known, they don't even have to be gay, as long as they enjoy the company of gay people.

The idea for the Comstock originated with a group of investors headed by John Schmidt, formerly chairman of the board for Atlas Savings and loan. Three years of feasibility studies, demographic surveys, and the like preceded the purchase of the building on Sutter Street in October 1984. Another year and a half was spent remodeling from the ground up. Financial backing for the \$2 million renovation was acquired from a prominent general contractor in Sonoma County and from various financial institutions (excluding Atlas). Only in June 1986, did the club management begin to sell memberships to prospective buyers.

What the club offers, according to Schmidt, is a relaxed place for members to meet after a hard day at work, as well as superb dining facilities in a series of striking, elegant rooms. Although the club offers no overnight accommodations (it's no escape from wearisome mates), it does have an arrangement with the Majestic Hotel nearby to provide this service at preferential rates.

Before long, the club will open a gym on the premises, as well as a banquet hall, complete with stage (for stag parties enlivened by go go boys and girls?). Because members also have special privileges at the Woods, a gay resort on the Russian River owned by the same management corporation, the Comstock has been dubbed the Gay Bohemian Club by certain local wags.

Ammiano Appears At S.F. Fair

Samantha Samuels, award-winning vocalist, and Tom Ammiano, the mother of gay comedy, will entertain on the Cabaret By The Bay stage at the San Francisco Fair scheduled for Sept. 4-7 at Fort Mason. The Cabaret will feature three continuous hours of music and comedy on Friday and Saturday night, during the Urban Fair.

Samantha Samuels, appearing Friday night, has won many prestigious awards, including the Best Musical Actress Award given by *Texas Magazine* and the 1983

The late Billy Gaylord was responsible for the interior design of the building, which was once the home of a silver heiress and later a Chinese YWCA, then an antique shop, and finally a real estate office. The main floor reception hall is resplendent with antique Oriental carpets, a fifteenth century Flemish tapestry, and leather couches.

A grand piano, trademark window seats, and a beautiful fireplace grace the drawing room. A buffet brought from Santa Rosa was transformed into the main bar; Hessian soldier andirons guard the nearby Regiment Bar. If all this isn't enough, members are also free to utilize the game room and solarium.

Upstairs, there are four separate dining rooms—the Gallery Room, the Tristan Room, the Poker Room, and the Main Room. The Main Room seat 40 at mahogany chairs with leather upholstery. Tables are set with Rosenthal china and Oneida silverplate. Twenty-five employees wait on guests' every need.

And in the kitchen, chef Frank Waugh prepares exquisite, sometimes exotic, lunches and dinners, such as salade d'homard tied aux truffes (warm Maine lobster salad with truffles, to you Philistines).

Yeah, I could while away quite a few hours here, I decided when I toured the place. But how much would all this cost me? Memberships currently sell for \$1,500, plus \$55 monthly dues. (Prices are expected to rise when the gym and banquet hall are completed.)

According to Schmidt, the club has sold approximately 100 memberships so far. To become self-sufficient, the club needs 1,000 members.

Until the transfer of the private club license is completed sometime in September, the Comstock's dining rooms are open to the public from Tuesday to Saturday, 11 to 11 (coat and tie required). Although Schmidt does not anticipate failure, if enough memberships are not sold, dues will be refunded, and the Comstock will operate as a public restaurant on a permanent basis.

I could envision a worse fate for the place. If the rich girls don't sign up en masse, then the place will be open to the rest of us. For Schmidt's sake, of course, I hope he succeeds. But if he doesn't, there may be a way to meet those wealthy homos (and homoettes) at last.

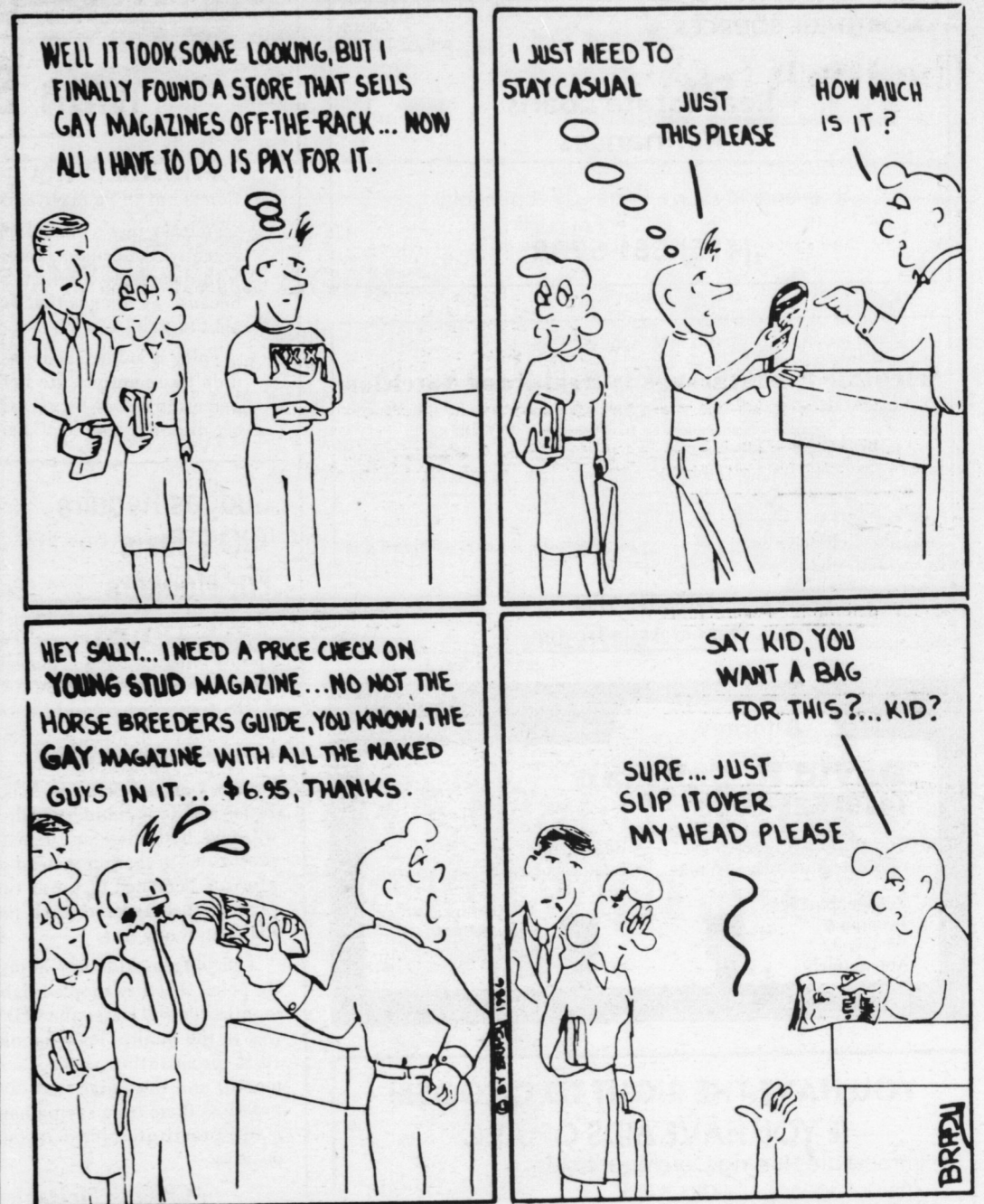
So, if you're interested, get those suits pressed. In the meantime, get on down to the Comstock while you can.

Cabaret Gold Award for female vocalist. *The Philadelphia Enquirer* called her "one of the best entertainers you'll ever see!"

Tom Ammiano, with his quick mind and storehouse of zingers, will be appearing Saturday night. Ammiano is better than gay, he's funny and transcends gayness with crossover cleverness. He contorts reality, reshapes it into something better, then makes the revision seem credible and hilarious.

The Cabaret By The Bay stage will host a variety of performers. For more information call the San Francisco Fair Office at 557-8758.

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Opening remarks by Armistead Maupin.

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NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

Man Sues Cop In Kiss Case

PHILADELPHIA — Apparently, affection is out in Pennsylvania.

At least, that's what Michael Foley found out recently. Policeman James Sands cited Foley with disorderly conduct. Sands was offended because he alleges that Foley kissed another man in public.

Foley is suing Sands because he claims he didn't kiss anyone. He believes Sands simply perceived him to be gay, and knew that no act of "disorderly conduct" had occurred. Further-

more, Foley charged, Sands knowingly "acted to harass the plaintiff," and that he is aware that kissing another male in public does not constitute disorderly conduct.

Foley's attorney is seeking a declaratory judgment, compensatory and punitive damages and attorney's fees. Darby Township dismissed the citation against Foley in April, hoping to avoid a legal situation.

-The Weekly News of Miami

Judges Require AIDS Tests For Hookers

SAN ANTONIO — Two county judges are requiring convicted prostitutes to submit to AIDS testing as a condition of probation in an attempt to slow the spread of the disease.

Court-at-law Judges Mike Peden and Tony Jimenez say they will give both male and female prostitutes probation instead of a prison sentence of up to two years if they agree to take the AIDS antibody test.

The judges said they hoped the policy that they adopted eight months ago will lessen the AIDS risk to the public. They handle 10-15 prostitution cases each month, and the judges say law prohibits them from saying how many prostitutes have tested positive.

-Craig C. McDaniel

Dallas Gay Leader Dies of AIDS

DALLAS — Hundreds of mourners packed a church sanctuary at a recent memorial service for Howie Daire, a popular gay leader in Dallas who died of AIDS July 17 at age 38.

The disease was the focus of much of Daire's work in the community. He was behind many Dallas programs to inform and counsel homosexuals about AIDS and once testified before Congress seeking increased research funding.

"Howie was aggressive in his advocacy for people more than for causes. He was always more individual-oriented than social-movement oriented," according to Dallas Gay Alliance President Bill Nelson.

So many people attended the MCC service that many were seated in an adjacent hall at the church to watch the service on closed-circuit television.

-Craig C. McDaniel

Christian Voice Expands to Texas

AUSTIN, TX—The Washington-based lobby, Christian Voice, which rates voting records of members of Congress on "moral and spiritual issues," announced July 26 that it will expand operations to Texas.

Christain Voice-Texas will rate statewide office holders and members of the Legislature according to their stands.

"In 1980, the Christian Voice distributed report cards in districts of 32 liberal Congressmen, and 23 of them were defeated," said Robert Grant, chairman of the group. "We had great success in Texas and North Carolina in 1984 and anticipate even greater

effort and more accomplishments in 1986."

-Craig C. McDaniel

Scientists Hope For AIDS Vaccine By 1990

WASHINGTON — There still isn't any good news to report as far as an AIDS vaccine is concerned. According to a recent conference at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the earliest possible date for an AIDS vaccine, even on a trial basis, is 1990. And, unfortunately, many scientists think that prognosis is an optimistic one.

NIH members came to this conclusion during a recent conference. Over 150 experts gathered to assess progress on an AIDS vaccine, as well as to report discoveries on vaccines for both AIDS and hepatitis B.

According to Gerard Robey of the National Cancer Institute, one of the biggest difficulties with finding an effective vaccine is keeping up with the ever-changing nature of the AIDS virus. Robey said that a vaccine tested against animals was successful against only one strain of the virus and thus useless for preventing the disease.

-The Philadelphia Gay News

Minnesotan Charged With Sodomy

SHOREWOOD, MN — A resident of this small town became the first resident of Minnesota to be charged with sodomy since the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of sodomy laws. Richard Gordon Gray, 44, was accused of having oral sex with a 16-year-old boy several times this past April and May.

The boy and an unidentified adult were charged with theft of Gray's boat in May. When authorities questioned the boy, he told them about the alleged sexual acts with Gray. Gray is on probation after pleading guilty two years ago to criminal sexual conduct involving a boy he met through the Big Brothers volunteer program, police said.

Shorewood officials said the arrest was tied directly to the Supreme Court's June 30 decision of Bowers v. Hardwick, which upheld Georgia's sodomy law.

-Equal Time of Minneapolis

Scientist Doubts Insect Bites Transmit AIDS

A leading French researcher has reported that although he found the HTLV-3 virus in African insects from Zaire, he doubted that insect bites presented a means of transmission for the virus to humans. Jean-Claude Chermann of the Pasteur Institute in Paris said that epidemiological evidence indicated that insect bites could infect humans.

The San Francisco Examiner quoted Dr. Bruce Francy of the federal Centers for Disease Control as saying that insects would not be able to transmit the disease to human beings. He said that the amount of blood drawn by an insect bite was far too small to transmit a virus. He rated the chances of infection from that route as "virtually nil."

Francy said that the differences in African insect feeding habits might account for their HTLV infection. The tse-tse fly draws more blood in its bite.

American researchers, however, have been unable to infect insects with the AIDS virus even when fed blood known to be carrying the virus.

Correction

The date for the Alliance dinner honoring Mayor Dianne Feinstein, Bob Cramer and Wayne Friday is Friday, Sept. 19.

-The Weekly News of Miami

7 AIDS Bills Await Governor's Action

by George Mendenhall

Rand Martin, the gay community's legislative lobbyist in Sacramento, has put out a legislative alert. He is urging that the concerned citizens telephone Gov. George Deukmejian's office (557-3326) urging him to sign AB 3407 and SB 1327 into law.

AB 3407 is a slightly altered version of the bill recently vetoed by the governor, AB 3667. The new measure by Assemblyman Art Agnos (D-S.F.) eases some medical records confidentiality with specified illnesses but makes it illegal to discriminate against persons with AIDS. Deukmejian received extensive criticism for his earlier veto.

The earlier bill has been expanded to include not only AIDS but people who have polio, cancer, tuberculosis, and other illnesses because the governor had commented that he did not understand why only people with AIDS were specified in the earlier legislation. However, the new bill still includes a non-discrimination clause that Deukmejian had said met "no compelling need."

Another bill by Sen. Milton Marks (D-S.F.), SB 1327, would restore \$24 million in AIDS funding cut from the budget by Deukmejian that would be used for patient care and education. Deukmejian has refused to dip into his \$1 billion "rainy day" surplus for this and other funding requests on his desk.

The legislation has not yet reached the governor's desk and

is being reconsidered in the Assembly after a 50-29 defeat. It is perceived as a veto override measure by Republicans and so is opposed by them. However, Martin is urging people to pressure the governor. He is hopeful that through negotiations some of the necessary funds will be found.

Deukmejian has several AIDS-related bills on his desk. Martin is confident that the governor will sign two bills that encourage the development of an AIDS vaccine — AB 4250 by Assemblyman John Vasconcellos (D-San Jose) and AB 1404 by Assemblyman Bill Filante (R-Greenbrae).

The governor is also considering AB 31237 from Vasconcellos that would authorize the Department of Corrections to contract with agencies to provide housing and treatment of inmates who have ARC or AIDS; AB 3323 from Assemblywoman Maxine Waters (D-L.A.) that would require that federally approved drugs be immediately available through MediCal; and AB 4249 from Vasconcellos and Agnos that would enable Medicare-certified hospice service to be covered as a MediCal benefit to the extent that no additional net program costs are incurred.

Bartender Shot in Polk St. Robbery

by Will Snyder

A San Francisco bartender was shot during an armed robbery early Monday morning, Sept. 1. Scott Cruse, a 22-year-old bartender at the N'Touch, 1548 Polk St., was shot in his right side and left thumb while two masked robbers shook down the popular dance bar of \$1,417 as well as some spare change from a packed bar at the time of last call.

Cruse is listed in stable condition at Mission Emergency Hospital following surgery.

Michael Maier, the N'Touch owner, said he was disgruntled with what he termed as a lack of speed on the part of the police in arriving on the scene.

"This woman at the police department asked me for a play-by-play description of the incident," Maier said. "I told her, 'Look, I can answer any questions you want, just get the cops here right now.'"

Maier said it took police at least seven minutes before they arrived and when they did, "Ten of them just materialized at once."

"Had they not wasted so much time," Maier added, "Mr. Cruse might not be in the hospital today."

Maier said the police treated the incident as a "major inconvenience" for them. He added that only Police Inspector Robert McEachern and a "gay policeman named Joe" seemed to treat the incident with any level of professionalism.

"If we had been the Hard Rock Cafe, they probably would have been here right away," Maier said.

Maier said he plans on taking a complaint about the police to

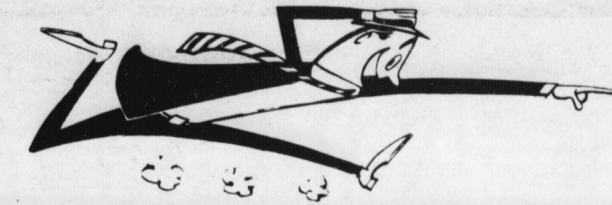
Mayor Dianne Feinstein's office.

The suspects are either a white or Latin male, 5'6" and 150 pounds, and a black male, 6' and with a skinny build. One of the N'Touch bartenders thought he recognized one of the suspects as someone he had seen months before in Buzzy's, another Polk Street dance bar.

"We just don't have much to go on at this point," said Inspector McEachern. "It is possible they could have been two disgruntled customers, but we don't know."

McEachern indicated that the robbers seemed to pick the right time to rob the bar. "Everyone was pretty mellow," he said, "there was loud music. The place was pretty dark."

McEachern said one of the thieves jumped the bar and demanded all of the change in the cash registers. While the other robber was working the customers for spare change, Cruse attempted to kick the gun out of the hand of the thief. To the horror of the estimated crowd of 200 patrons, the gun went off, injuring the young bartender. After that, the two robbers fled the building and went south on Polk St. to California St., where they got into a cream-colored Mazda and fled.

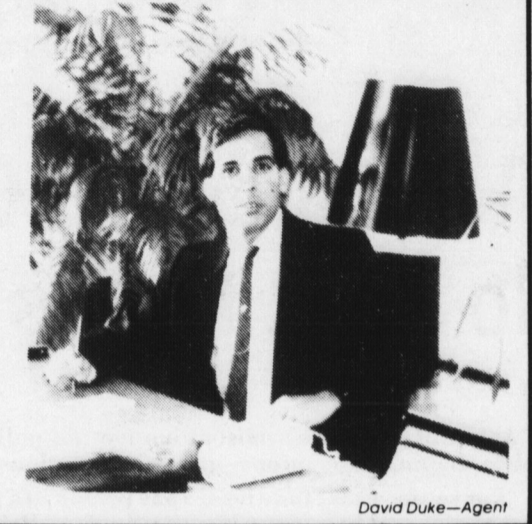


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Harry Britt

A Private Man Goes Public To Fight for His Rights

by Marc Slavin

As one of the nation's most prominent gay politicians, Sup. Harry Britt is an educator whose job is shaping perceptions—public perceptions and gay perceptions—of who gay people are. "For seven years I have been a gay person in a position of power and I have had to learn what that means and how to use it with integrity," Britt said. "Gay people are not taught how to use power. When I grew up in Texas, I was taught to hide from power, to protect myself from people who had it. And I did that very well."

In 1979, Britt succeeded slain Sup. Harvey Milk on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Milk, who said of himself that he stood for more than just a candidate, embodied a brand of activism that forged gay anger into gay power. Britt sees himself as the heir to that crusade.

"What Harvey Milk did for me," Britt said, "was to challenge me as he did other people to build a politics that's not just a gay politics, but to take the anger we felt and the pride we felt as lesbians and gay men, and to use that to build a presence for our community in the mainstream. We had been there before, of course, as weak people on someone else's terms."

"In my own life there has been a movement from loneliness and isolation to political effectiveness."

Britt, 48, came to San Francisco after the breakup of his marriage in the early 1970s. He moved here not to come out, but to explore the human potential movement.

A Methodist minister, he has long been a student of philosophy, religion, and metaphysics. "I did the whole thing, Gestalt, Esalen, transactional this and transcendental that. I didn't find a guru, but I did end up feeling better about myself," he said.

"It was a very liberating part of my life to meet people with the same history who wanted to build a community together and protect one another."

Britt's political consciousness had been shaped by the civil rights movement. He marched to Montgomery, Alabama, with Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1964, and said that while he was not

there as a gay person at the time, the efforts of black America to "overcome centuries of second-class citizenship touched something in me as a gay man."

Britt believes the political movement he helped Harvey Milk launch was uniquely possible in San Francisco because of the tradition of grassroots networking encouraged here by George Moscone, Phil Burton, and Alan Cranston.

When the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club declined to endorse him for public office, Milk asked Britt to build another gay political club, the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, that would support his brand of politics.

Milk was able to bring together people who agreed on a lot of issues beyond gay rights. The proving ground was the cam-



Sup. Harry Britt (Photo: Rink)

campaign against Prop. 13 which established his coalition as an effective partner with other groups.

"The network of people who believed in Harvey Milk has held together and expanded many times," Britt said. "We have affected San Francisco politics in a wonderful way."

The gay political community is "the strongest link" in San Francisco's progressive political network, said Britt. In the course of achieving that strength, Harry Britt has become a public person.

"It's not something I wanted to do," he says. "But it is something I am able to do. Gay people are always playing roles."

Britt's office in City Hall serves as a trouble shooting center for lesbian and gay concerns as well as progressive causes across the board, but perhaps the greatest measure of his effectiveness has been his presence in a lot of arenas where gay people have not been known before.

"My job has given me contact with a lot of political people locally, nationally, and internationally who need that kind of contact, not just as someone asking for help, but as someone who has helped them," he said.

"I like my job at those moments when I can use the relationships I have to influence peo-

(Continued on page 22)

Steven Rascher

Getting Down To (Small) Business

by Jay Newquist

Steven Rascher, a former St. Louis school teacher, left it all behind him when he moved to San Francisco 18 months ago. Already he's made his mark as a gay activist.

A theater arts instructor for 17 years, he is now executive director of the Golden Gate Business Association. He has also come to the attention of Mayor Dianne Feinstein, who earlier this year appointed him to the Small Business Advisory Commission.

This city commission was founded last January to bring together small business owners and representatives from major interest groups. It is the only urban commission in the U.S. to address the needs and concerns of small business.

Rascher is one of 11 commissioners appointed to a four-year term. He heads a subcommittee studying for commercial lease control. The larger commission is concerned with matters dear to the wallets of many people, such as insurance.

Rascher said recently there were instances of unjust rent increases, but he indicated that rent control wasn't the answer because it didn't work. "Landlords are also small business owners," he said.

The situation for liability insurance, Rascher said, "was completely out of control" with increases ranging from 50 percent to 3000 percent. He said some

businesses can't get coverage even when they are willing to pay through the nose for it.

Rascher said the commission clearly had its work cut out for it and he felt the mayor was quite receptive to its advice. The group was created in the wake of a recently failed ballot initiative that would have established a Small Business Commission similar to the Police Commission.

In his work to face the problems of the commercial lease question, Rascher recently brought together a group of landlords and tenants to hash it out. "It was a very explosive session," he said, indicating the commission is a catalyst for change.

Rascher said the commission is also developing a data base keyed to the needs of the small business community.

The crux of the commission's work is its mediation on behalf of



Steven Rascher (c.) was appointed to the Small Business Advisory Committee by Mayor Dianne Feinstein. (Photo: M. Hicks)

diverse groups that approach it to present their cases for endorsement.

Rascher said the most pressing concern was the search for alternate ways to address the problem of escalating rents. "Perhaps we'll eventually have a system that could be a win-win situation for all sides," he said.

He also singled out the South of Market Plan and while he said he supported a 50-foot height limit to buildings, he had fears that small gay businesses will be impacted by other aspects of the plan.

The restructure of night enter-

tainment must include gay businesses, he said, "or else they'll be wiped out. They'll either have to move or they won't be able to expand."

In his teaching in St. Louis, Rascher taught the performing arts on the secondary and college levels, including theater and stagecraft. He also owned a small business of his own for seven years — a theater supply house.

A year's sabbatical convinced Rascher that he needed a change, especially a change that would involve him in the gay rights movement. "I guess I came here for the gay mecca like a lot of people

and I was new and fresh and didn't know much about the community," he said.

He said he was openly gay as a teacher and it posed no career problems, but he confessed he was low-key about it. He helped raise the three children of his former lover.

Rascher came here from Missouri to work for the GGBA, a career experience he likened to teaching. "It's not like work at all, every day is different. There's a lot of freedom and flexibility."

He said he was a goal-oriented person who tended to get restless

(Continued on page 22)



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Cop Biting Used by LaRouche Forces

Barlow Could Face Charges For Attempted Murder

by Allen White

A skirmish at the San Diego Gay Pride Day Parade last June escalated to a challenge of blood testing confidentiality legislation, a possible charge of attempted murder, and ammunition for the LaRouche forces.

The incident involved Brian Barlow who was marching with the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band on June 6. During the Gay Pride Day event the band was the subject of harassment by local Christian fundamentalist groups. Barlow was jumped by several police officers in a brawl that developed. In the scuffle, it is alleged, he bit two police officers.

Meanwhile, the LaRouche forces behind the Prop. 64 quarantine initiative are using the San Diego case as a device to heighten hysteria surrounding AIDS. A flyer in the form of a press release was distributed last Friday in the financial district.

According to their release, a person working as an organizer for the pro-LaRouche forces was attacked and bitten in a fight in San Lorenzo. The flyer uses the San Lorenzo incident for the opportunity to quote extensively from the judge's decision in San Diego. Local authorities in San Lorenzo said there was not enough evidence to prosecute the case.

Barlow was forced by San Diego police to give blood the day of the incident. The police had intended to have the blood tested for possible AIDS virus antibodies. Local health authorities refused to test the blood because it is illegal to test a person's blood for the suspected AIDS virus without their permission.

A court order followed which ordered Barlow to have a sample of his blood taken. His lawyers are fighting to keep the blood

from being tested. The sample of blood is now being stored and has not been tested. Last month a court ruled that the blood could be tested for the AIDS virus.

The San Diego District Attorney also plans to raise the charges from battery against a police officer to assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill. To be able to try Barlow for attempted murder, the District Attorney has to prove that Barlow knew he had the AIDS virus and came down from San Francisco with the purpose of murdering a policeman.

It is the opinion of the court in San Diego that "individual's rights are not as important as the people's rights" in this case.

Assemblyman Art Agnos' office is aware that this court case could be the challenge of the constitutionality of the law he authored. Agnos aide Mike Housch said their office has filed a legal brief in the case. Housch said it is their belief that the law is very specific in not allowing for testing of people for AIDS antibodies. The case could be appealed all the way to the United States Supreme Court.



Brian Barlow (Photo: Rink)

The costs of such a process are astronomical. To date Barlow's legal bills are above \$10,000. He said that he has been advised that the cost to appeal the case to the U.S. Supreme Court could be as high as \$150,000. Local fundraising events are being planned to help Barlow with his legal costs.

If Brian Barlow's blood is tested it could result in his trial for attempted murder. In a similar case, however, another man was found not guilty of attempted murder in Florida. In Fort Lauderdale, a San Francisco man, Kelly Dobbins, who tested positive for HTLV3 antibody and allegedly knew he could transmit the disease, bit a deputy sheriff's finger hard enough to draw blood. Though Dobbins was found not guilty, the deputy will take a blood test every three months for the next five years.

Vote No on 64

Judge Refuses to Drop Insurance Suit

by Will Snyder

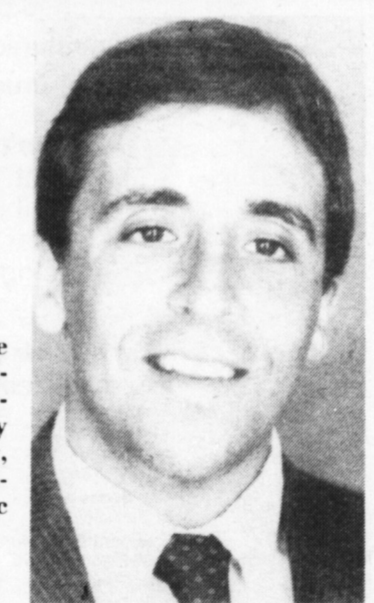
San Francisco Superior Court Judge Lucy Kelly McCabe has rejected the claim of Great Republic Life Insurance Company that California's Unruh Civil Rights Act and San Francisco's gay rights ordinance do not prohibit anti-gay discrimination by insurance companies. The Aug. 29 ruling, in *National Gay Rights Advocates v. Great Republic Life Insurance Co.*, was in response to a motion by Great Republic to have the case dismissed as a matter of law.

NGRA attorneys hailed McCabe's decision as a landmark in law for gay men.

"This is not just a victory against Great Republic," said Benjamin Schatz, director of NGRA's Civil Rights Project. "This ruling sends a strong message to all insurance companies that they cannot scapegoat the gay community in response to AIDS and get away with it."

Chris Redburn, an attorney with the Employment Law Center and co-counsel in the case, added that "This is the first time that a court has ruled that California's civil rights laws and insurance regulations prohibit anti-gay discrimination by insurance companies. It is also the first time that a local gay rights ordinance has been ruled to forbid such discrimination."

Schatz said that he could not predict when a court case against



Benjamin Schatz

past six months?

- Have you been tested or advised to be tested for any sexually transmitted diseases?

"If you say yes to any of the three questions," said Schatz, "you are automatically declined by Great Republic for insurance. I don't think you could find any unmarried man who wouldn't have difficulty with one of these questions, but yet these questions were specifically aimed at gay men."

- "The first one about the weight loss or gain is unusual," Schatz added, "because it's the first time that I can remember something about AIDS concerned with a weight gain."

- Have you experienced any symptom or complaint or other deviation from good health in the

We Are Family

Gay Fathers Join with Lesbian Mothers To Expand Fight for Parenting Rights

The Gay Fathers Coalition International has ceased to exist and representatives of the 2,000-member organization couldn't be happier. By an overwhelming majority, delegates representing the United States and Canada, attending the group's 7th annual World Conference in Chicago, cast their ballots in favor of changing the name to Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International, thereby recognizing that lesbian mothers can be served by and add strength to the movement for equal rights for gay and lesbian parents.

More than 200 men and women, gay and lesbian parents and professionals in family law and counseling, attended a three-day conference of speeches and workshops designed to focus on the issues of gay and lesbian parenting.

Don Harrelson, 38, a Los Angeles gay man with two adopted teenage sons, was reelected to his second term as president of the group, founded in Washington, D.C., in 1979.

It was obvious from the beginning that the proposal to recognize lesbian mothers in the heretofore male-oriented coalition was destined to be approved by the voting members in Chicago. The push to include women and change the name got its start at last year's conference held in Los Angeles, where Julie Valloni of Chicago was elected executive vice-president, the first woman to hold office in the Gay Fathers Coalition International.

"The feeling was very strong that, as gay parents, we share a commonality of concerns about the direction of the family law and justice system as it relates to custody for gay men and lesbians," said Harrelson. "If there is one thing we have learned in the gay community, it is the need to stand together. Our strength is in numbers and in our ability to relay our influence and thoughts to the judicial system and the general public at large."

A number of awards were given during formal dinners on Friday and Saturday nights. Chicago-area talk host, Dr. Phyllis Levy, a supporter of gay parenting, received the local Image in Media award, given to persons who have helped further a positive image of gay parenting through the media. Boston attorney Kevin Cathcart, executive director of Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders (GLAD) and Joy Schulenberg, a lesbian mother and author of *Gay Parenting*, both received GLPC's national Image in Media award. Past recipients have been columnist Abigail Van Buren and TV talk show host Phil Donahue.

Considered a "minority within a minority," gay fathers and lesbian mothers often face prejudice from within as well as outside the homosexual community. The majority of the members have been involved in traditional heterosexual relationships, while others have adopted as single gay parents.

Reelected to her second term as executive vice-president, Julie Valloni says the issues of gay parenting are complex and diverse, requiring the newly-named coalition to set new goals and refocus on others in the coming year. "Men gay men and lesbians are exploring alternative routes to raising children, including adoption, artificial insemination, foster care, and surrogate parenting." Workshops at the conference featured guest speakers and authorities on many of those subjects.

A high point of the Chicago GLPC conference was an announcement by President Harrelson that communication had been opened by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the oldest and most influential association of judges who preside over child custody cases. "It's taken us a year to establish a dialogue with the council," explained Harrelson, "and they are giving us an opportunity to make a presentation to their national meeting next July in Rhode Island."

Other news from the 7th annual World Conference on Gay and Lesbian Parenting included the election of several new members to the executive board. Jerry Hutton of Washington, D.C., who served as treasurer for the past two years, was named secretary; Michael Waterman, president of the Denver GLPC chapter, will take over as treasurer; Jerry Travis of Long Beach, California, is the new VP of Group Development; a Columbus, Ohio woman, Sammi Doering, now heads the nomination committee; Rick Karlin of Chicago is the director of media relations for the coalition.

Expanding international activities, Harrelson announced that Michael Dorman of Toronto, Canada, will act as international group coordinator. Already, groups have been established in Europe and Japan. A new position, that of developing funds for the GLPC, was given to Gary Zensmeyer of Poughkeepsie, New York.



Gay daddies and kids march (Photo: Rink)



Two kids drive home a point. (Photo: Rink)

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Gay Press Urged to 'Move Forward'

by Steve Warren

If the Gay and Lesbian Press Association didn't look exactly phoenix-like in attempting to rise from its own ashes at its sixth national convention, July 25-27 in Miami Beach, the spirit of most members present and the comments of invited guests from other national organizations indicated that GLPA is no dodo bird either.

"These are the times we really need the gay papers to inspire, to inform our community," declared keynote speaker Abby Rubinfeld, legal director of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, at the end of a talk that gave background and new insights into the recent Justice Department and Supreme Court setbacks.

Urvashi Vaid, who becomes public information director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force in September, said relations are much better than they used to be between "our community's national organizations, (who now) are in close contact and work well together. There's a lot of mutual understanding and support." She urged gay publications to publish at least annually a Who's Who of gay organizations to keep readers clear on who's doing what.

Vaid, Rubinfeld and the latter's lover were the only women present at the convention, and

Vaid the only member of a racial minority. Several white male members repeatedly expressed concern about his in the course of the weekend, leaving newly elected board members a clear mandate to seek out women and minorities for unfilled seats.

Despite claims that GLPA's membership is at an all-time high, convention attendance hit rock bottom—barely over 20, including only three of the 16 members of the outgoing board.

Competition was light for GLPA's fourth annual awards, with none given in four of 22 categories because none of the sub-



Elected to the 1986-87 Board of Directors of the Gay and Lesbian Press Association were (l.-r.): Bottom: Don Hawkins, *Gayly Oklahoman*, South Central Region; Jim Thomas, *St. Louis Gay News-Telegraph*, Past President; Bob Harris, *First Hand*, Northeast Region. Middle: Ron Shaffer, *Gayly Oklahoman*, South Central Region; J.B. Morris, Jr., various publications, Los Angeles, Treasurer; Don Volk, *Frontiers*, Los Angeles, President; R.J. Curry, *Frontiers*, Vice-President. Top: Mike Labance, *Au Courant*, Philadelphia, Mid-Atlantic; John Robbins, freelance, Los Angeles, Secretary; George Bakan, *Seattle Gay News*, Northwest; Mike McNamara, *Seattle Gay News*, Production Caucus. (Photo: S. Warren)

missions was deemed worthy. Of the awards to publications, San Francisco's *Coming Up!* and the *Philadelphia Gay News* (PGN) each received four, including two ties. Neither was represented at the convention, but they also dominated the awards to individuals, five of which went for work by various writers appearing in *Coming Up!* and three to Victoria Brownworth for her writing in *PGN*.

To facilitate administration of the organization it was decided to elect officers from a single geographic area so they can meet frequently. With Los Angeles having even more representatives than the host city there was little doubt as to where that should be. The new GLPA executive committee consists of: Don Volk, president; R. J. Curry, vice-president; Jon Robbins, secretary; and J. B. Morris, Jr.,

treasurer.

After redistricting the country into eight rather than four regions, regional directors were elected from six of them: Bob Harris, Northeast; Michael Labance, Mid-Atlantic; Joseph McQuay, Southeast; Kurt Erichsen, Midwest; Ron Shaffer and Don Hawkins, South Central; and George Bakan, Northwest. Mike McNamara was elected to represent the production workers' caucus and past-president Jim Thomas automatically remains on the board for another year.

The convention was charged with deciding whether GLPA should continue and, if so, what it should be doing differently. The first question was obviously answered in the affirmative. The response to the second was almost as obvious for a group of people in the communications industry: communicate. Members indicated they wanted more information in the form of newsletters and for the association to assume a higher profile in gay and nongay media as a voice for the gay and lesbian press.

Aggressive membership recruitment was deemed a priority, with regional directors to make a grassroots effort in their respective areas, and to generate local and regional activities for members who can't attend national conventions.

The back-to-the-grassroots cry was echoed by Rubinfeld and Vaid in response to the Supreme Court decision. Vaid said NGLTF is gearing up to fight for the repeal of sodomy laws on a state-by-state basis. Rubinfeld announced that after a period of concentrating on federal courts, "a reassessment has begun," which will deploy Lambda's energy in areas of state court litigation, state legislation and a "massive education program" to help in both areas.

In her keynote address, "The State of Gay Rights," the civil rights lawyer discussed the way various sodomy laws still in effect are enforced, with penalties of "30 days to 20 years in prison and \$50 to \$50,000 fines." They're mostly used for harassment, "to control the behavior" of gay men, and against lesbians to paint them as felons in divorce and custody cases. There is one positive application, however, which Rubinfeld has ambivalent feelings about. In some cases where a rape can't be proven, convictions have been obtained on a lesser charge of "consensual sodomy," so at least some punishment is meted out.

Public opinion has been overwhelmingly opposed to the Supreme Court decision. Rubinfeld cautioned against confusing their support of an individual's right to privacy with support for gay rights, but said we should take advantage of that support while we have it. She said consideration is being given to a "National Sexual Privacy Day" on which "millions of people will turn themselves in" to police, confessing to violating sodomy laws.

Touching on Prop. 64, the La Rouché Initiative, Rubinfeld said the danger, aside from its immediate impact in California, is in what it could lead to in the rest of the country if it passes. She urged people to fight it, and to keep the media from depicting civil rights and public health concerns as incompatible. "There's no conflict. No one is more concerned about public health than we are. We're the ones who are dying," she said.

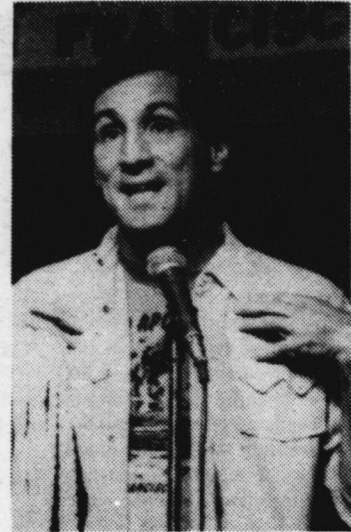
"We can't just be reactive these days," Rubinfeld warned. "We need to move forward, to be proactive." •

S. Warren

Gay Comedy Finds A Home at Amelia's

by Charles Lineberger

San Francisco's gay comics have been looking for a home since Valencia Rose closed last fall. Apparently part of their search is now at an end. They have found a space down the street from the old Rose at Amelia's bar (647 Valencia) where they have begun to do open mike comedy, to give new comics a chance, on Wednesday nights.



Tom Ammiano (Photo: Rink)

Talking about the upstairs bar at Amelia's where she will be hosting the open mike nights, comedian Susy Berger said: "It's nice and comfortable, and they are very accommodating. I think they want to see it happen too."

The other host for Amelia's open mike nights is Tom Ammiano. Ammiano believes there is a market for what gay comics offer. "We saw it [the audience for gay comedy] at the Theatre Rhino event which was part of the Gay Games cultural week. And we saw it at our comedy extravaganza at the Castro Theater the night before the parade."

But both Berger and Ammiano, who will be rotating the emcee job at Amelia's with other gay comics after the first month, were still anxious to find a location to do what they called Saturday Comedy Night at the Rose.

"Our hope is," explained Ammiano, "if this can get going well, then we can find a night, preferably on the weekend, when we can showcase three established gay comics. I hope at Amelia's, but I can't say. I want to see what the response to this is."

Berger recalled a highly successful comedy revue, *Hissy Fits*, that played at the Rose in 1984. She agreed with Ammiano that comics need a venue where special revues and shows could be played. "Who knows if we can do more things like *Hissy Fits*. The creative energy is still going but we have to find a place to do it," she said.

"If we can make Wednesday successful," Berger continued, "maybe we can persuade Amelia's to give us a couple of hours on the weekend."

PROMISES

When Intersection for the Arts took over Valencia Rose at the end of last year, promises were made to the gay community that the experimental North Beach theater group would continue to provide a space for gay and lesbian entertainers at the Valencia Street location. But according to Catherine

Millar, executive director of Intersection, Tom Ammiano is the only gay entertainer who has been booked at the theater since it changed ownership. He did a one-man comedy routine called *Wrists* in one of the Intersection's performance spaces.

Ammiano remembers what it was like performing at Intersection. "I found them to be cool," he said. "I don't need a place where I have to provide box office, lighting, and I have to pay a fee besides."

Millar said that Intersection has plans to renovate the theater in January and put lights into the smaller performing area where gay comics would probably have to perform if they decided to return to the former Rose. But she added that the comics would still have to run their own box office and pay a fee as well.

"A place like Amelia's offers much more," said Ammiano. "It's more psychologically supportive. And we don't have to pay \$75 whether we get three people [in the audience] or not."

Ammiano also noted that Intersection has just been awarded \$32,000 from the city's Hotel Tax Fund grants for the arts program. In checking into grants given to Intersection, the *Bay Area Reporter* has learned that Intersection got quite a bit more than \$32,000 from the city in the last twelve months.

According to Millar, the city gave Intersection a special \$100,000 loan to bring the building up to code. This came from a fund to "aid organizations that lose their homes," said Millar. And this loan was matched by a special grant from the Hotel Tax Fund of \$50,000, which was made in addition to the \$28,000 the Tax Fund gave the theater last year and the \$32,000

this year. In total, that makes a package of city grants and loans to Intersection of \$210,000 in the last year.

Though the Valencia Rose, unlike Intersection, was not a non-profit corporation, the Rose's former co-owner Hank Wilson did comment, "We could have done a lot of things with that kind of money."

AIDS Prayer Vigil At SF Churches

Two churches serving San Francisco's lesbian and gay community plan a weekend Prayer Vigil for people with AIDS and people affected by AIDS. Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church and Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco will begin the weekend with a worship service at 150 Eureka Street (MCC/SF) on Friday, Sept. 5, at 7 p.m. The church will remain open throughout the night on both Friday and Saturday evenings for silent prayer and meditation. Additional prayer services will take place on Saturday, Sept. 6, at 9 a.m., 12 noon, and 7 p.m., and on Sunday, Sept. 7, at 9 a.m.

The regular Sunday morning services of the two sponsoring churches will be special celebrations of AIDS and spirituality. At 10:30 a.m. at 150 Eureka Street, Rev. Jim Mitsuiki, pastor of MCC/SF will preach. At 12:30 p.m. at 48 Belcher Street, Rev. Jim Sandmire, pastor of GGMCC will preach.

Holy Communion will be offered at both services. After the service at GGMCC, the vigil will continue at 48 Belcher Street, concluding with an AIDS Healing Service at 7 p.m.

Nude Beach

(Continued from page 1)

might happen (as a result of their nude beach operation)," Licht said.

Gellman responded that the second suit "is the same kind of nonsense as the first. We will likely file a demurrer to that complaint, as well," he said.

"The plaintiffs expect my clients to act as a private police force for the plaintiffs' property. That's something they can't do and have no duty under law to do," he added.

Both cases involve a complicated series of charges, countercharges, and adversarial behavior both in and out of court.

According to Gellman, the initial suit against his clients represented a punitive action by the Koches.

The Koches had attempted to build a road from a house they were constructing on the bluff to the beach below on their property, Gellman said.

"Mr. Sturgeon observed it and stopped it physically by standing in front of the bulldozer. He blew the whistle on them, and the county came in and said, 'You cannot bulldoze a road down to the beach,'" he continued. "That's precisely when the lawsuit emerged."

Licht countered that he doesn't "agree with (Gellman's interpretation) at all. This is a large piece of land. The Koches owned it, but lived in L.A. The only time the (nude beach) became an issue was when they moved onto the property."

Licht also insisted that the case did not involve any issue of gay rights.

"This is not a matter involving homosexuality or gay rights at all. The sexual acts happen to be one type, but it would be just as objectionable if it were heterosexual," he said.

According to Licht, he asked Leonard Graff, legal director of National Gay Rights Advocates, to help mediate the case in its early stages. Graff verified the

statement.

"It seemed to me that the dispute was one that could be resolved if the people could be brought together. But there had been a lot of emotion already, a lot of adversarial posturing," Graff recalled.

According to Graff, he felt that the plaintiffs' complaints "were really more a matter for police action, since they involve trespass and public sex. I don't know that the owners of the parking lot can be held accountable for the actions of their patrons."

Licht agreed with Graff on at least one point. "Both parties seem to want to scrap, as bad neighbors sometimes do. That's what we're witnessing down there," he said.

Gellman summed up the position of Hernandez and Sturgeon, saying, "My clients are spending everything they've got defending themselves. They are very much seeking the emotional and financial support of the community."

AIDS ANTIBODY TESTING

Free, Anonymous Test Program Continues in San Francisco

New funding will extend the anonymous AIDS antibody testing program offered by the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

Without revealing your name or identity, you can make an appointment to learn more about the test by telephoning 621-4858. T-Th. 5-9 p.m.; F. 12-5 p.m.; Sat. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. MAKING AN APPOINTMENT DOES NOT COMMIT YOU TO TAKING THE TEST. After hearing a brief presentation at the test site you will have a chance to ask questions. You may then leave or stay to take the test.

The AIDS antibody test detects the presence of antibodies to the AIDS virus by using a simple blood test. **This is not a test for AIDS.** The test does NOT show if you have AIDS or an AIDS Related Condition (ARC), nor can it tell if you will develop AIDS or ARC in the future. **THE TEST DOES SHOW IF YOU HAVE BEEN INFECTED WITH THE VIRUS WHICH CAN CAUSE AIDS.**

Although the test is available at other locations, your anonymity is guaranteed if you take the test at an Alternative Test Site. You will receive your test results at the San Francisco Alternative Test Sites without revealing your identity or losing your privacy. Post-test consulting and referrals are available.

Your decision whether or not to take the test is a difficult one. The San Francisco AIDS Foundation is not recommending that you either take or not take the test. **YOU MUST DECIDE FOR YOURSELF.** We want to provide you with information that will help you make the decision that is right for you.

If you want general information about AIDS or the AIDS antibody test, telephone the San Francisco AIDS Foundation HOTLINE (865-AIDS, 9-9 M-F, 11-5 S-Su). If you want to make an appointment at an Alternative Test Site for education or testing, call 621-4858 T-Th. 5-9 p.m.; F. 12-5 p.m.; Sat. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.



TDD: 621-5106

Funding for this message provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

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Vote No on 64

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621-7177

The STOP AIDS PROJECT is funded in part by the San Francisco Department of Public Health and the California Department of Health Services.

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DEATHS

Rocco V. Cartwright

Rocco was taken from us at 11:30 a.m. on Aug. 22 at Franklin Hospital, a mere five days after discovering he was another AIDS victim at age 34.

During his final days he was surrounded by his entire loving family, sisters Melissa, Regina, his mother Adele and his father Robert, as well as his step-mother Bernie and new brother-in-law Jackson. Rocco was conscious until the end and fought valiantly to hold onto life which he loved, appreciated, and cherished. Among Rocco's last words were, "I love life so much."



Rocco had many friends and was generously loved and will be truly missed both within the gay community and the straight community. The family feels strongly that this plague, known as AIDS, must be stopped and a cure found before the world is robbed of more young and productive men. We would like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to support the AIDS Research Fund located at 535 Parnassus Ave., S.F.

We would like to express our deep gratitude to Dr. Patrick McGraw of Franklin Hospital for his dedicated attempt to save Rocco's life.

Rocco, go with God. We love you. Goodbye.

Rev. W. Carl Bivens, Jr.

Carl passed into God's everlasting arms on Aug. 18 at 3:30 a.m. at Kaiser Hospital in Oakland. Cause of death was aspiration pneumonia secondary to Multiple Sclerosis.



Carl was a giver of love, light, faith, friendship, devotion, joy, laughter, and thoughtfulness. He was a licensed minister in the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches since July, 1985, and had just graduated from the Pacific School of Religion in May. Previous to going to the seminary, Carl was a music teacher for the Sunnyside School District in Tucson, AZ. He was also an instructor of sign language in Tucson and had spent a year as an interpreter and sign language teacher at UCSF Center of Deafness.

Memorial services were held in Tucson, AZ at St. Francis in the Foothills and at the Pacific School of Religion chapel in Berkeley on Aug. 20 and 21 respectively. Carl had written his own eulogy as part of a Hospice class he had taken in seminary. This was read as part of both services so that his friends and family might know how Carl viewed himself and his own death.

Carl is survived by his parents Wendell and Laura, his daughter Jaymi, sisters Barbe and Carol, brothers George and Frosty, his loving partner Larry and their Maltese, Nichole.

Although Carl's gentle presence will be missed by many, his memory will live on forever in the minds and hearts of those whose life he touched.

Kevin Johnson

Kevin Johnson died in Sacramento on Aug. 21, after a two-year battle with AIDS. He was 27. As he requested, he was buried next to his father in Yuba City.

Kevin loved life and had incredible spirit. He touched so many different people with his love, his humor, and his zest for life. He loved to laugh, dance, gossip, and wear outrageous jewelry.

He is survived by his family in Yuba City, Candice, Al, Debbie, and Mandy; by his close friends in San Francisco, Kim, Joe, John, Stan, Jon, and Joe; and by his extended family at Shanti and Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church. Donations in Kevin's memory can be sent to Seventh Avenue Church and they will be evenly divided between Shanti, Seventh Avenue, and Network Ministries.

Kevin once summed it all up in one sentence: Don't cry for me, Yuba City. It has been a joy to know him. •

Anthony C. Simbulan

Tony died Aug. 18 at home ending a four-month struggle with AIDS. He was born in Kalamazoo, MI, and raised in San Jose.

Many of Tony's friends gathered to celebrate his life at a memorial service held Aug. 26 at the New Community of Faith Church in San Jose.

Tony, age 29, had been employed primarily as a waiter, working until his illness at Ivys in S.F. Using fans he had made Tony loved to fan dance and perform rituals.

Tony was preceded in death by an older brother, Danny. He is survived by his parents, Rachel Simbulan and Vincent Simbulan, by two brothers Gary and Scott Simbulan, and by his lover Roger Pielact.

Memorial donations or time contributions may be made to Hospice, AIDS Home Care, 225 30th St., S.F. 94131. For information contact Roger at 647-5103.

Richard (Andy) Andrews

Known as Andy to many, Richard to many others, Andy died in San Francisco Kaiser on Aug. 27. He had struggled bravely with AIDS for 10 months.

Although he had worked at the Bank of America in recent years, many will remember him as a night shift waiter at the Grubstake, dispensing hamburgers, bossy orders, and good cheer. He loved life, mashed potatoes, and the Boston Red Sox, not necessarily in that order.

Andy will be sorely missed by his ex-lover and roommate, Dave Myhre, his large family in Boston, and countless friends. Contributions or volunteer service to Shanti or any AIDS agency would be deeply appreciated.

Robert W. Durkin

After a long and courageous struggle against the devastating disease of AIDS, on Aug. 19, two days short of his 40th birthday, our good friend Robert passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by many of his longtime friends.

A native of Scranton, PA, Robert moved to San Francisco in 1972, where his home on Oak Street, better known as the "Hotel Oak" became a gathering place for his many friends and house guests. He will long be remembered for his generosity and his candor in helping others through their tough times. Because during his short lifetime he deserted no one, during his illness his many friends found joy in taking care of his needs, supporting and encouraging him through his battle with AIDS.

Diagnosed two years ago, Robert never complained about his condition; while some may have retreated from the outside world, he continued to work as a mana-

ger for Pacific Bell until June of this year. With his many talents and vital energy he contributed to the organizing and participated in the Neighborhood Support Group at Most Holy Redeemer Parish.

Robert is survived by his mother, Elizabeth, and his sister Patti, both of whom he loved very much, and his many friends both here and in New York—far too numerous to mention. We will all miss him very much.

A memorial service was held on Aug. 22 at Most Holy Redeemer Church. Respecting his wishes, Robert was cremated and his ashes scattered over the San Francisco Bay. Thanks to the wonderful 24-hour Hospice care that he received, donations may be directed in Robert's memory to AIDS Homecare and Hospice, 225 30th Street, San Francisco, CA 94131.

For further information, please contact Tom Simpson Funeral Counselor at 626-3340.

Roy Ourso, Jr.

Roy Ourso was born in Baton Rouge, LA on Dec. 2, 1952 and passed away peacefully on the evening of Aug. 30, 1986 in the city he loved, San Francisco.

Roy was a man of salt and honey wit, who played his part in life with gusto. His temperament was sunny and he departed at the end of this season surrounded by the people he had entertained so well. On those rare moments when his spirits were low, he liked to say he was pensive. All of us who knew and loved Roy are pensive now that he's gone.

Vern Arvin

In loving memory of Verna Mae (my, my, my) who passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 27 of a heart attack at the Pendulum, where he worked for the past five years.

Verna Mae will be sorely missed by the Castro community, his Breakfast Club family and those whose lives he so generously touched.

A patron of many community causes (Toys for Tots, St. Anthony's Dining Room, Lighthouse for the Blind, senior citizens, etc.), Verna Mae is still warmly remembered.

A wake was held on Thursday, Aug. 28. Rod, Wally, and Royal would like to thank all of you who attended.

Submitted by a friend who Verna Mae helped with fundraisers. Thank you, Vern, Leona.

Obituary Policy

Bay Area Reporter prints obituaries as a public service to the Bay Area's lesbian and gay community. Deadline for copy and photos is each Monday at 5 p.m.

We suggest all obituary writers restrict the copy length to four to six paragraphs. We reserve the right to edit copy for space considerations or clarity.

We recommend that all photos be black and white. Color photographs will be used, but only with light backgrounds. If you wish to get the photo back, please attach a self-addressed stamped envelope, or stop by the office to pick up the photo. All photos will be available anytime after 4 p.m. every Wednesday. We will hold the photos for one month.

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

Mystery Ad Termed Inflammatory

Says Blood Transfusions Not Safe Because of AIDS Contamination

by Gerard Koskovich

A Peninsula newspaper is under fire for accepting advertisements from a shadowy organization that claims the transmission of AIDS by blood transfusion has created an "emergency." Critics from blood banks, Bay Area AIDS groups, and the local press condemned the ad as "deceptive" and "inflammatory."

The Mountain View Weekly Almanac published the two column-inch display ad on Aug. 6 and 13. The text reads: "Attention! This is an emergency. AIDS is a deadly epidemic! Blood tests are not effective in eliminating AIDS-contaminated blood from transfusions. You can be infected with AIDS from blood transfusion. There are no cures for AIDS."

The advertisement closes with an offer of "free, life-saving information" from "Blood Donor Alert." The group lists a post office box in Red Bluff, a town north of Chico in Tehama County, but provides no other identifying information or details on its services.

The health claims in the advertisement drew critical reaction from Rhoda Burns, director of donor recruitment at the Stanford University Blood Bank. The Stanford facility was the first in the nation to institute routine AIDS screening of donated blood.

"I definitely find the ad inflammatory and unreasonable," Burns told the Bay Area Reporter. "It's highly unlikely that anyone would get AIDS from a blood transfusion now."

"We're finding that people who are in high-risk groups aren't donating; they're being very responsible," Burns continued. "And we in the blood banking industry are very confident about our testing; we've been extremely responsive [to health concerns] in this area."

Prayer Vigil At Diablo MCC

Rev. Larry Whitsell, pastor of the Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church, announced that his congregation will sponsor a "Vigil of Prayer" to call the Contra Costa County religious community's attention to the problems of AIDS during the first weekend in September.

During the entire weekend the church's sanctuary will be open continuously for silent prayer, meditation or reflection. Any member of the Contra Costa County community is invited to participate in the vigil. "You don't have to be religious or gay to be involved in this weekend," says Whitsell. "This weekend will emphasize both the spiritual support of the community and be informative at the same time."

During special worship services which take place in the sanctuary on Friday at 7 p.m., Saturday at 8 a.m., 3:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 7 p.m., participants are encouraged to donate to Diablo Valley MCC's

Gay community organizers involved in AIDS activism had equally sharp responses.

"I can't figure out exactly what these people are hawking, but I doubt that it's a sincere interest in public health," said Tedd Siegel, a Mountain View resident and founder of Peninsula No on 64, a local group fighting the AIDS quarantine proposal that will appear on the November ballot.

"We have to work so hard in suburban areas just to combat garden-variety ignorance," Siegel said. "But I'm not really that surprised by the ad. It's the small town equivalent of what we're fighting statewide with the LaRouche Initiative."

Representatives of the local press likewise criticized the advertisement and rapped the Weekly Almanac for publishing it.

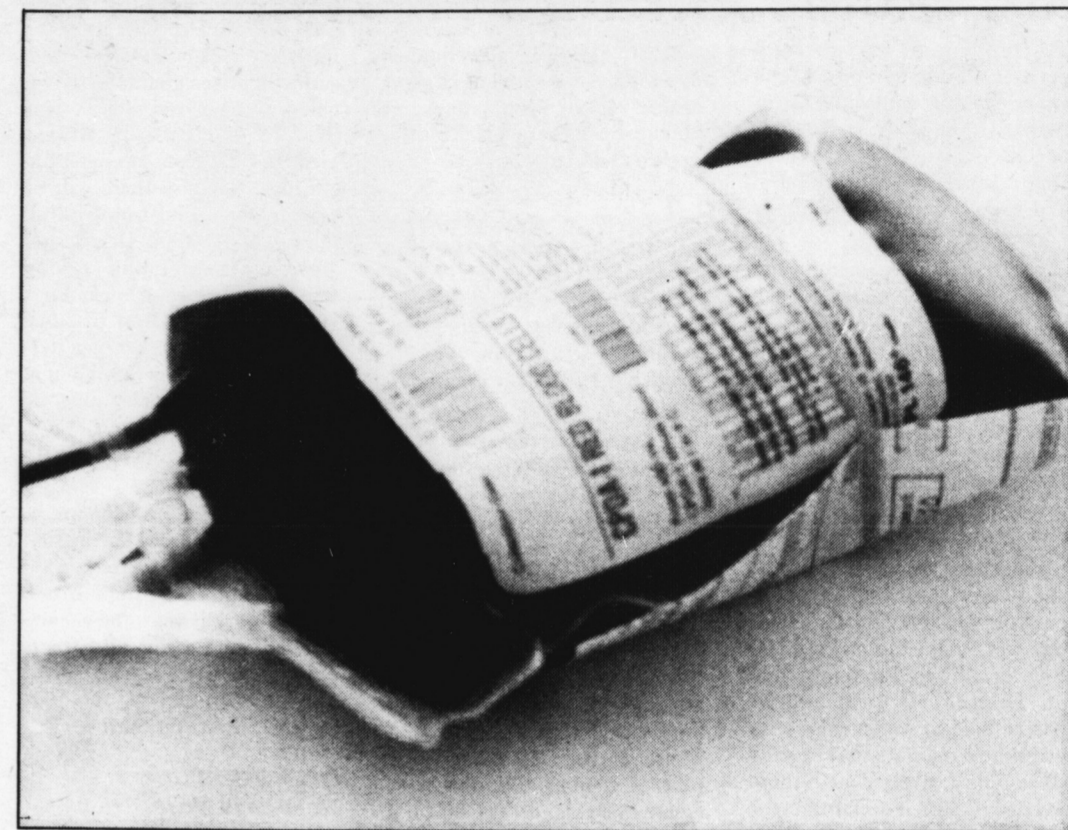
According to Bill Johnson, publisher and interim editor of the Palo Alto Weekly, "It sounds like [the ad] gives the appearance of an official notice of some sort. Assuming that it isn't an official notice—and I doubt that it is—

AIDS Ministry Fund in place of a church offering. These funds will go to assist the various organizations which offer support to AIDS patients and their loved ones in Contra Costa County.

Santa Rosa MCC Joins Vigil

The Metropolitan Community Church of Santa Rosa will observe the AIDS Vigil of Prayer. M.C.C. Santa Rosa will hold the vigil on Sunday, Sept. 7, from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m., three hours, at the church sanctuary located at 515 Orchard Street in Santa Rosa.

Rev. John I. Torres, pastor of M.C.C. Santa Rosa, is coordinating the three-hour AIDS Vigil which will include special music and inspiring messages. Guest speakers will include Carol Owens of the Sonoma County AIDS Network, Face to Face, and Steve Parker of the Sonoma County AIDS Project, and Richard Timmerman, a Lay Minister of Russian River M.C.C. Special



This kind of transfusion is under fire in the Peninsula.

(Photo: Rink)

the ad is deceptive in my judgment.

"There's also the matter of publisher's discretion as to what kind of ad we want to be associated with," Johnson continued. "In general, I think First Amendment principles should apply to advertising as well as editorial content, so we reject ads very reluctantly."

"In this instance we wouldn't accept it. It's dealing with an emotional issue in a way that doesn't further informed public debate. It's inflammatory. I'd probably turn it over to the editorial department and ask them to do a story on who was trying to place the ad," Johnson said.

Lew Alexander, retail advertising manager for the San Jose Mercury News, said: "I suspect that to people who are homophobic, the ad would be in good

music will be offered by Lenny Moors, who has composed a song dedicated to persons with AIDS, and Chuck Vickers, a popular Bay Area gospel soloist. •

Russian River No on 64

Two groups in Sonoma County, one in Santa Rosa, the other in Guerneville, have organized to fight the LaRouche Initiative. The Russian River-Guerneville group, Stop LaRouche — C.A.N. 64 has been meeting since early July and has had fundraisers, media contacts, voter registration, and recently sponsored a rap with the County Health Department and Face to Face (a local AIDS group). The group meets Thursdays at Face to Face in Guerneville at 7 p.m.

The Santa Rosa group, recently formed, is S.C.R.A.P. 64 and meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at Unitarian Church, Todd and Stony Point Roads, Santa Rosa. For more information call (707) 869-0571 or 887-7535. •

taste. To people who don't have that particular problem, I'm sure it's very distasteful."

Representatives of the Mountain View Weekly Almanac said that they had received no complaints about the Blood Donor Alert advertisement.

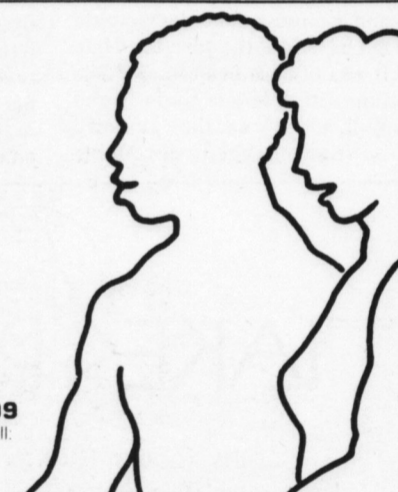
"I really don't know anything about the ad," said Iver Davidson, publisher and editor. "We certainly wouldn't want to run anything fraudulent, but let me emphasize that I don't know if this ad involves anything fraudulent."

Henry Husted, display advertising manager for the paper, added: "I really haven't noticed the ad. But if it had been brought to my attention, I definitely would have checked" on the service offered by Blood Donor Alert.

According to Husted, the Weekly Almanac is one of five Santa Clara County community newspapers owned by Terry Donnelly. He did not know if the Blood Donor Alert ad had appeared in the other papers, which include the Cupertino Courier and the Los Altos Town Crier. •

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Stakes Are High

DICE A LA BARON VON MUNCHHAUSEN (A "Popping" Nose?)

After much hair-pulling, pencil-chewing, nail-biting, and an occasional embroilment (or twenty!) amongst my spouse and me, the logistics for the Liar's Dice competition between Revol and Town & Country have finally been established.

For this fall tournament — yes, there just may be more! — each bar will have ten members to start the eliminations. Rosters are expected to fill rapidly, so it is recommended that if you are interested, sign up quickly (either at Town & Country or Revol — not at both!). There is a \$5 entry fee, and prizes are: 1st, \$50; 2nd, \$30; 3rd, \$20.

On the first three rounds, simultaneous play will be at both bars on Tuesday, Oct. 7, Thursday, Oct. 9, and Tuesday, Oct. 14. The location for the finals, held on Thursday, Oct. 16, will be determined by who is represented in the remaining four players. (It wouldn't surprise me if there were some sort of mini-buffet for the finals, no matter which bar hosts it!)

If interest exceeds the ten-player limitation, one could expect that the "winter games" would consist of 20 players from each bar. Perhaps other establishments would be interested in competing. It could turn into a round-robin elimination all over the East Bay (with much higher stakes, of course, and someone else figuring out the logistics!).

MODIFICATIONS AND ALTERATIONS (A "Learning" Nose?)

The things one gleans "doing lunch"! A while back it was disclosed that the "kick-off" campaign for the lone Emperor and Empress candidates would not be held at the advertised bar. It was to have been in conjunction with a Monte Carlo Night. Well, not only was the "kick-off" location changed, the Monte

Carlo Night was moved along with it. The new location was Bill's The Eagle, and it was held on the original date of Saturday, Aug. 30. Even with the changes and lack of advertising, a good crowd was in attendance and aplenty bucks were raised for the designated charity.

Also, the "Out of Town" show was moved from the advertised bar. It will now be held at the Paradise on Friday, Sept. 19. The "In Town" show still remains at the Turf Club, Thursday, Sept. 18. As of this writing, the Victory Brunch is still at Revol, Sunday, Sept. 21.

It's a bit unconventional, at least to yours truly, that the Coronation is only two weeks away and there has been no advertising campaign: no posters, no flyers, no final push! Since there is one contender for each title, I can understand the lack of campaign posters, but shouldn't there be some sort of promotion about the Coronation itself? It is Saturday, Sept. 20, The Gold Ballroom, Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center, 10th Street at Fallon in Oakland. (Yes, B.J., it's spelled E-M-P-R-E-S-S, as in "iron my shirt;" not to be confused with i-m-p-r-e-s-s, which is an entirely different story, eh?)

Also chanced upon, this tidbit: The 8th Anniversary of the Lake Lounge was rescheduled from August to September, Sunday, Sept. 14, to be exact, "unless he changes it... again!"

APPROACHING ANTICIPATIONS (A Pending Nose?)

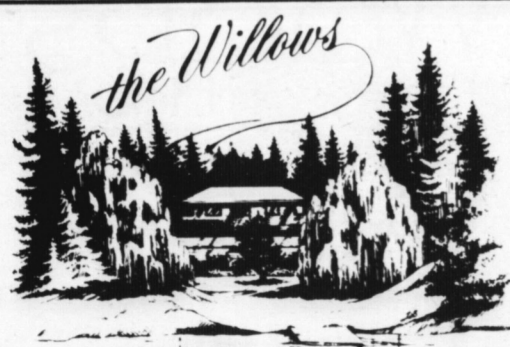
Two biggies to look forward to in December are in the works. One is a Bartenders Bash. And, how's this for oneupmanship? The location has already been donated, free! The DJ and music have been donated, free! And, the light show has been donated, free! Invitations will be out soon to see what the response from the bartenders is. Hopefully, all bars in the East Bay will be represented in this "neutral turf" soiree.

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Give LaRouche and his followers 2.54 cm, and they'll take 1.61 km! I can't smile! Love,

Nez

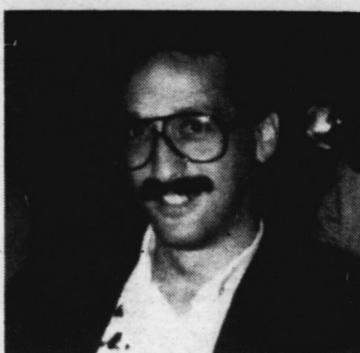
☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Vote No on 64

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Activist Bliefeld Dies in L.A.

Attorney, community activist and political supporter Marc A. Bliefeld, 33, died Aug. 25 at Santa Monica Hospital of pneumocystic pneumonia. He had been diagnosed with AIDS-related Complex 18 months ago, but had been hospitalized only six weeks before he was felled by the disease.



Marc Bliefeld (BAR Photo)

An overflow crowd of mourners attended funeral services at Mt. Sinai Chapel in Burbank on Aug. 27, and he was laid to rest in Mt. Sinai Cemetery. Carole Migden, president of the San Francisco Democratic Central Committee and executive director of Operation Concern, delivered the remembrance.

The Los Angeles City Council, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and the California State Assembly in Sacramento all suspended regular business for a moment of silence in his memory on that day.

Bliefeld's many friends remembered him as a unique and conscientious leader, with a quiet style and many accomplishments. A graduate of Loyola Law School, he had been associated for eight years with the law firm of Arthur Sherman in Beverly Hills, handling personal injury cases.

But operating behind the scenes was more his style. Friends said he had no interest in running for office himself. Instead, he was one of the founding members of the Southern California Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, was a two-term co-chair of the Gay and Lesbian

Caucus of the California Democratic Party and, in 1984, was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco. In this capacity he helped write the platform planks dealing with gay rights and AIDS issues.

Bliefeld's activity in Southern California politics was wide-ranging. He was a member of Tom Hayden's Campaign for Economic Democracy and was heavily involved in the West Hollywood cityhood movement when their residents were struggling to create the new city. Once it was born, he was an active member on the Council for Economic Survival and a strong rent control advocate.

Marc Bliefeld is survived by his mother, a sister and step-sister, and many, many friends in the gay and political community. Donations to AIDS Project/Los Angeles in his memory are suggested.

—Reprinted with permission of Southern California Update

Campaign Calendar

EAST BAY

Californians Against the LaRouche Measure (C.A.L.M.), 1915 Bonita Street, Berkeley, CA 94703, (415) 549-2256. Volunteer orientation every Sunday, 1125 University Ave., 2-4 p.m.

Voter registration table every Saturday and Sunday, 3122 Shattuck Ave., meet 9:30 a.m.

South Alameda County Campaign Kick-off, Sept. 15, McCollum Hall, St. Clemens Church, 7-9 p.m., 738 Calhoun, Hayward (Mission between Harder and Tenneson). For info call CALM, 549-2256.

SOUTH BAY

B.A.M.E.C. Campaign Kick-off, Sept. 7, Billy De Frank Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 2-4 p.m., \$10 donation, info: (408) 292-0370.

Rascher

(Continued from page 14)

when there isn't a challenge. He urged more gays and lesbians to become more committed and not cede their civil rights by inactivity.

Rascher said he had formed a certain viewpoint about the gay community in his brief time here. "I may be all wet on this, but to me sexual preference is not a question in city politics. It's not a great issue."

Still, he was careful to stress the trouble for gays on the national level. "The temperament in the U.S. now is bleak. We're facing issues gays haven't faced in years or have never faced at all."

"It's very important that whatever level or perspective you're on, you should work for those concerns important to you." ●

NORTH COUNTIES

Every Thursday: Open meeting, 7 p.m., Stop LaRouche — CAN 64!, Face to Face Building, Church Street, Guerneville. Info: (707) 869-3972 or 869-0571.

Sistah Boom! performance with speakers, Sept. 13, Adam Richmond, Stop LaRouche — CAN 64, Guerneville, Georgia Presscott, S.C.R.A.P. 64. Refreshments, donation \$10, 7-10 p.m., Santa Rosa Veterans Building, Route 12 and Maple. Info: (707) 869-3972.

Stop LaRouche — NO ON 64 Cocktail Party, Sept. 17, The Woods Resort Private Clubhouse, 5:30-8:30 p.m., \$5 donation, hors d'oeuvres, no host bar. Speakers: Ernie Carpenter, Board of Supervisors, Carol Owens, Face to Face. Light jazz by Laurie Moore, Susie Jungfrau and Sarah Anna. Proceeds to Stop LaRouche — CAN 64!, P.O. Box 1054, Guerneville, CA 95446; (707) 869-3972.

Britt

(Continued from page 14)

ple's perceptions of what lesbian and gay America is all about and give them an opportunity to meet with a gay power figure.

"The difficulties we have in being gay in this culture stem from the trouble we have presenting ourselves to the world. It's hard to shake the mothballs from our closets, but the least effective among us are those who try to pretend that being gay doesn't matter," said Britt.

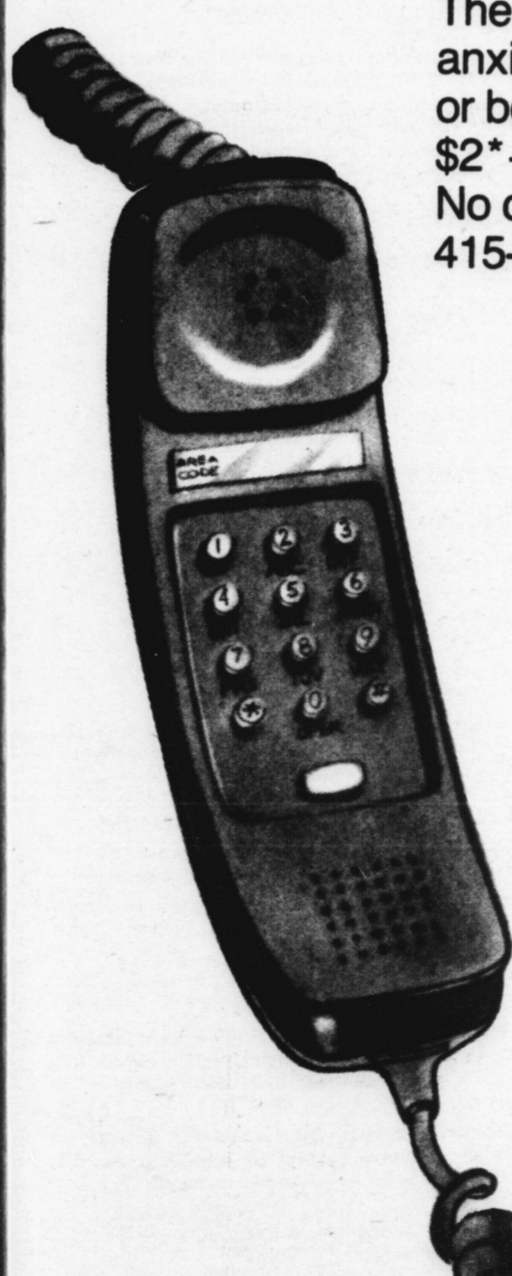
"The people who have put our movement forward have demanded a lot, and earned people's respect, not just their tolerance." ●



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THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 5

- Bohemian Grove:** docu/fantasy, Capp St. Playhouse, 362 Capp St., S.F. 8:30 PM, \$7. Reservations: 641-4454.
- Blues Sisters:** R&B, soul and funk dance music, Ollies, 4130 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 9 PM, \$5. Clean & Sober Night. No alcoholic beverages will be served or allowed on the premises.
- The Divanatics with Miss Kitty:** music and dancing, Nine, 399 9th St. (at Harrison), S.F. Call 863-3291 for more information.
- Chase Away the Birds:** stage presentation, the Zephyr III Theater, 25 Van Ness Ave., lower level, S.F., 8 PM, \$7.
- Sandy Van & Karen Ripley:** comedy cabaret, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8-10 PM, \$6 cover after 8 PM, \$5 after 10 PM; cover includes after-hours DJ dance.
- Melanie De More:** blues, jazz, and gospel, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5.
- Men Meeting Men:** food, music, drinks, and sit-down games. A homey atmosphere. An alternative to the bars. 8 PM—midnight. Call 864-0875 for details.
- AIDS Vigil of Prayer, Worship Services:** Diablo Valley MCC, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord, 7 PM. Call 827-2960 for details.
- Fall Seasons:** stage presentation, Phoenix Theater, 301 8th St. (at Folsom), S.F., 8 PM. When three men discover the bonds of love. Call 431-6777 for more details.
- Edmond:** stage presentation, Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8 (call 641-0480 for reservations). A play by David Mamet (*Sexual Perversity in Chicago, The Verdict*) about racism, homophobia, and sexism.
- The Cellar Supper Club and Cabaret:** cabaret, The Cellar at Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 8 PM. For cocktail or dinner reservations, call 788-8377. Singer Jackie Taylor headlines a variety of entertainers.
- Gay Men's Group:** giving and receiving kindred spirits, Spiritmenders Community Center, 2141 Mission St., #203 (between 17th and 18th Sts.), 5-7 PM. A whole range of subjects of interest to the gay or bisexual male, or one who is exploring his thoughts and feelings in these areas is welcome. Call 552-4910 for details.
- Imperial AIDS Foundation:** rap group, Home Federal Savings Meeting room, 480 S. Mathilda (corner of Olive and S. Mathilda), Sunnyvale, 7-10 PM. Call 968-8976 or 965-1189 for details.
- Women's Drop-in Space:** conversation and caring, 1615 Polk St., upstairs, S.F., 7-9 PM, every Friday.

SATURDAY 6

- Bohemian Grove:** docu/fantasy, Capp St. Playhouse, 362 Capp St., S.F. 8:30 PM, \$7. Reservations: 641-4454.
- Blues Sisters:** R&B, soul and funk dance music, Ollies', 4130 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 9 PM, \$5.
- Chase Away the Birds:** stage presentation, the Zephyr III Theater, 25 Van Ness Ave., lower level, S.F., 8 PM, \$7.
- Cafe Megalomania with Bambi:** music, Club 181, 181 Eddy St. (between Mason and Taylor Sts.), S.F., 11 PM, \$5.
- Melanie Monsur:** folk and blues music, Artemis cafe, 23rd & Valencia Sts., S.F., 8 PM, \$3-5.
- Russian River Jazz Festival:** jazz at its best, Midway Beach, midway between Rio Nido and Guerneville, along the Russian River, 11 AM-7 PM, \$36 for both days and \$20 for one day (advance prices), \$40 and \$22 at the gate. Saturday's lineup: Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers; Al DiMeola with Larry Coryell; David Friesen/Amber Skies featuring David Friesen, Airto, Paul Horn, Paul McCandless, Paul Motion, and Ralph Turner; Johnny Copeland Blues Band; Brazilian Beat with Chalo Eduardo and vocalist Claudia Gomez and the Escola Nova do Samba Dancers. For more information, call (707) 887-7720.
- Swingshift:** music, La Pena, 3105 Shattuck, Berkeley, 9 PM. Call 652-2942 for details.
- Fraternal Order of Gays:** game fest, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 PM. Come and play Gay Monopoly, Risk, Scrabble, Trivial Pursuit, or another exciting board game of your choice. refreshments served. Call 641-0999 for details.
- AIDS Vigil of Prayer, Worship Services:** Diablo Valley MCC, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord, 9 AM, 3:30 PM, 7:30 PM. Workshops and seminars from 11 AM to 3:30 PM, 5:30-7:30 PM. Call 827-2960 for details.
- Nika and Friends:** Brazilian and popular music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 10 PM-1 AM, cover.
- East Bay FrontRunners:** Sequoia-Bayview Trail run, 9:30 AM. Call 526-3506 or 261-3246 for details.
- Fall Seasons:** stage presentation (See Friday for details).
- Edmond:** stage presentation (See Friday for details).
- Different Spokes:** decide-and-ride, meet at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park, 1 PM.
- The Cellar Supper Club and Cabaret:** cabaret (see Friday for details).



The Blues Sisters play Ollie's Radcliff Hall in Oakland Sept. 5 and 6 and the Baybrick Inn in San Francisco Sept. 7

SUNDAY 7

- Chase Away the Birds:** stage presentation, the Zephyr III Theater, 25 Van Ness Ave., lower level, S.F., 8 PM, \$7.
- Russian River Jazz festival:** jazz at its best, Midway Beach, midway between Rio Nido and Guerneville, along the Russian River, 11 AM-7 PM, \$20 in advance, \$22 at the gate. Sunday's lineup: the Crusaders with Joe Sample and Wilton Felder; Flora Purim and Airto; Dianne Schuur; James Newton Quartet; and Montreux featuring Darol Anger, Barbara Higbie, Michael Manning, and Mike Marshall. For more information, call (707) 887-7720.
- Fraternal Order of Gays:** Marine World by boat. Meet at Pier 41 between 10:45-11 AM, \$27-28 (advance reservations required). We'll take a 55-minute boat ride to Marine World, see all the wonderful animals and exhibits, and arrive back in S.F. by 7:20 PM. Call 641-0999 for details and reservations.
- Blues Sisters:** R&B, soul and funk dance band, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5:30 PM, \$5.
- S.F. Gay Men's Chorus:** beer bust benefit for the Golden Gate Performing Arts, S.F. Eagle, 398 12th St., S.F., 3-6 PM, \$6. What a deal! Those attractive available members of the chorus will serve you beer and food and sing for you, too. They'll be joined by another chorus group, Men About Town, exotic dancer Peter Stevenson, and other surprise guests.
- Mikko:** concert, Cats Nightclub, 48 Peter Yorke Way (corner of Geary and Gough), S.F., 8 PM, \$5.
- COYOTE:** annual potluck picnic, Lake Temescal, Call 474-0123, 232-7762, or 453-0339 for details.
- AIDS Vigil of Prayer, Workshop Services:** Diablo Valley MCC, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord, 10 AM, 7 PM. Workshops and seminars from noon-6 PM. Call 827-2960 for details.
- Viva Brasil:** Brazilian music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM, cover.
- San Francisco FrontRunners:** South of Market run, 11th and Folsom Sts., 10 AM.
- G40 Plus Club:** meeting and discussion, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin (at Geary), S.F., 2-4 PM. Attorney Rick L. Manning talks about legal matters concerned with death or other health crises for older gay men and lesbians. And, don't forget our raffle. Call 552-1997 for details.
- Edmond:** stage presentation, 1021 Sanchez St., S.F., 8 PM (see Friday for details).
- Integrity/San Francisco Bay Area:** Eucharist for the Community, 5:30 PM, St. John's Church, 1661 15th St. (between Mission & Valencia Sts.), S.F. Take 16th St. BART, 14 Mission, 33 Ashbury, 49 Van Ness bus. For gay Episcopalians and friends. Call 431-5859 for details.
- Diablo Valley MCC:** worship celebration, 2253 Concord Blvd., 10 AM. Call 827-2960 for details.
- Affirmation-Gay and Lesbian Mormons:** meeting and services. Call 641-4554 for recorded message which details the meetings and socials.
- LeJazz Hot:** cabaret, Black Rose, 335 Jones St., S.F., 9 PM, 11 PM, \$2.
- Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco:** worship and communion service, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 10:30 AM. Childcare provided. Call 863-4434 for details.
- Golden Gate MCC:** Sunday worship services, 48 Belcher St. (between 14th St. and Duboce), S.F., 12:30 PM, 7 PM. Call 474-4848 for details.
- Dignity:** Sunday Mass, St. Boniface Church, 133 Golden Gate (near Civic Center), 5:30 PM. Call 584-1714 for details.

MONDAY 8

- Support Group for Older Gay Men (60+):** sponsored by the Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders, 208 Dolores St. (at Dolores St. Baptist Church), 7-8:30 PM. Call 626-7000 for details.
- Pat Wilder and Rita Lackey:** R&B jam, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8-10 PM.
- Gay Men's Group:** giving and receiving kindred spirits, Spiritmenders Community Center, 2141 Mission St., #203 (between 17th and 18th Sts.), 7-9 PM. A whole range of subjects of interest to the gay or bisexual male, or one who is exploring his thoughts and feelings in these areas is welcome. Call 552-4910 for details.
- Slightly Older Lesbians:** meeting, Billy De Frank Lesbian/Gay Community Center of Santa Clara County, 86 Keyes St., San Jose, 7-9 PM. Call (408) 265-0416 for details.
- 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.

TUESDAY 9

- Gay Cable Network:** gay television on Cable 6, 9-10 PM (screening at Maud's, Alamo Square Saloon, and the Village). Pride and Progress features news and views from San Francisco and New York, plus Sally Gearhart's weekly commentary. The Right Stuff features an interview with Joan Armatradung and a discussion with actor Robert Coffman on his revival of Peaches, Queen of Larkin Street, the character he played in *The AIDS Show*.
- Operation Concern:** educational forum, 1853 Market St., S.F., 1-2:30 PM. Legal Assistance for the Elderly will present information on its services and also "How to Prepare Your Own Will." Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call 626-7000 for details.
- Radical Women:** dinner and meeting, 523-A Valencia St. (near 16th St.), S.F., dinner at 6:45 PM (donation requested), meeting at 7:30 PM. Charma Klein's book, *The Gay Community Counsels itself*, will be the topic of this meeting. Klein, a lesbian/gay activist for 20 years, will discuss the history, facts, and ramifications of the lesbian/gay mental health movement in the United States. Call 864-1278 for details.
- Bereavement Support Group:** for friends and lovers of people who have died of AIDS/ARC, 100 Diamond St. (at 18th St.), S.F., 7-9 PM. Call 864-7400 for details.
- Simply Healthy:** a celebration of health. Call 285-2096 for details.
- Gwen Avery:** R&B music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM.
- Pacific Center AIDS Project:** People with AIDS/ARC Support Group and *Friends and Family of People with AIDS/ARC*, 6-8 PM. Call 420-8181 for details.
- Meditation and Healing Circle:** meeting, Haight-Ashbury Community Center, Park Branch Library, 1833 Page St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 864-5483 for details.
- 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 details.
- 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.

WEDNESDAY 10

- Fraternal Order of Gays:** discussion about FOG's seven-day cruise to the Mexican Riviera in 1987. Call 641-0999 for details.
- Seismograph Publications:** book reading and party, Cody's Books, 2454 Telegraph (at Haste), Berkeley, 8 PM, \$5. Judy Gahn, Michael McClure, Janice Mirikitani, and Juan Felipe Herrera discuss their work in *Practising Angels: A Contemporary Anthology of San Francisco Bay Area Poetry*.
- Federal Lesbians and Gays:** buffet and meeting, Rooney's, 22 9th St., S.F., 6 PM, \$2. No-host cocktails. All welcome, especially gay and lesbian federal employees. Call 239-6105 for details.
- Making Friends with Anger:** a class for men and women who want to feel more comfortable feeling and expressing anger. Led by Scott Eaton, MA. Call 821-4788 for details.
- Tuffy Eldridge:** acoustic folk rock, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM.
- The Outsiders:** humor/politico-pop vocals, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5.
- Nine:** Cruikshank presents Tainted Club with same sex dancing encouraged, Nine, 399 Ninth St. (at Harrison), S.F. Call 863-3291 for details.
- Squel of Fortune:** gay comedy open mike with Suzy Berger and Tom Ammannio, Amelia's, 647 Valencia St. (between 17th and 18th Sts.), 8:30 PM, \$3. Performer sign-up at 8 PM.
- Yoga Classes for PWA's:** 6-7:30 PM in the Mission, \$5 fee (unless you cannot afford it). Call 863-7212 in the mornings for details. This weekly meeting will emphasize strength and alignment as well as balance and flexibility. Geared to the needs of people with AIDS and ARC. Have fun, get strong, feel good about your body. You aren't your disease.
- Diablo Valley MCC:** Bible Study and Prayer & Praise Workshop, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord, Bible Study at 7 PM, Prayer & Praise Workshop at 8:15 PM. Call 827-2960 for details.
- Western Star Dancers:** square dance for experienced mainstream level dancers, Central YMCA, 220 Golden Gate Ave., 2nd floor theater. Both males and females welcome. Every Wednesday. Call 621-5631 or 621-3990 for details.
- 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 11

- Like Nothing You've Ever Seen:** benefit for Pat Norman, Amelia's, 647 Valencia St. (at 17th St.), S.F., 7 PM, \$5. Performers include Deena Jones, Robert Coffman, and Joanna Caron (as Bette Midler). Call 864-3721 for details.
- Son of Songs and Laughter: The Sequel:** cabaret, Cats Nightclub, 48 Peter Yorke Way (corner of Geary and Gough), S.F., 8 PM. Call 771-3332 for reservations. Featured guests are Sandy Van, Dion Collins, Shari Oret, Joseph Taro, and Marcie Castella. Special guest: Mikko. Host: Danny Williams.
- Southern Boys Party:** benefit dinner for Greg Day for Board of Education, 7 PM, \$10. Just imagine sinking your teeth into some fried chicken, mashed potatoes, blackeyed peas, collard greens, and corn bread. All proceeds to benefit Greg Day for Board of Education. For location and more information, call 621-7051.
- Cocaine Anonymous/Gay/Lesbian:** meeting, MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 552-0108 for details.
- Lucie Blue Tremblay:** music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6.
- Simply Healthy:** stress reduction workshop. Call 285-2096 for reservations and information.
- Older Gay Men's Friendship Group:** 60+, Friendship Room, 711 Eddy St., S.F., 2:45 PM. Led by George Birnisa. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- Coming Home Hospice Bingo:** Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St., S.F., 6:30 PM, \$10 minimum buy-in. Come on over and join the fun... even if you've never played bingo before. An alcohol-free space. Snacks and non-alcoholic beverages sold. Smoking and non-smoking areas. Early Bird specials. Door prizes and cash prizes for each game.
- Fall Seasons:** stage presentation (See Friday for details).
- Bonnie Hayes:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 PM, free.

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.

WINTER GAY BOWLING LEAGUES

Monday Community League—The most established Gay Bowling League in San Francisco. This league has been bowling for over 20 years. League starts on October 13, bowls at 8:45 p.m., costs \$8.50 per week and is 80% handicap. 5 bowlers to a team.

Las Vegas Holiday League—Something new—Everyone in the league will go on a 3 day, 2 night Las Vegas Holiday at Season's End. Las Vegas trip is in June. League starts October 6th, bowls Mondays at 8:45 p.m., costs \$12.00 per week (includes trip to Las Vegas), 90% handicap, 5 bowlers to a team.

Tuesday Community League—Perhaps the most fun league in the city. This league is more for the bowler who wants to meet new friends and have a fun night out at a low cost. League starts on October 14, bowls at 8:45 p.m., costs \$8.50 per week and is 90% handicap.

Wednesday Community League—This is the largest Gay League at Japantown Bowl, presently 20 teams. This league fills up fast, so don't delay. League starts on October 15, bowls at 8:45 p.m., costs \$8.00 per week, and is 80% handicap. 5 bowlers to a team.

Thursday Community League—Great league for bartenders and other night workers. This is the only weekday afternoon Gay league in the City. League starts on October 9, bowls at 1:00 p.m., costs \$6.00 per week and is 90% handicap. 3 bowlers to a team.

Sunday Reno League—Everyone in this league will go to Reno for a weekend at the end of the season. The trips are always loads of fun. League starts on October 12, bowls at 6:00 p.m., costs \$10.00 per week and is 90% handicap. 4 bowlers to a team.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE AN EXPERIENCED BOWLER TO JOIN ONE OF THESE LEAGUES—THE EMPHASIS IS ON FUN!

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Terry Kaplan at JAPANTOWN BOWL 921-6200

BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

STAGE

Ashland Indoor/Outdoor

by Steve Warren

My idea of outdoor work is reviewing outdoor theater and drive-in movies. A recent weekend at the Oregon Shakespearean Festival in Ashland gave me two chances at the former, plus matinees in each of the Festival's indoor stages. There were two great productions and one good one out of four — not bad for a weekend's work.

Making her Ashland debut, director Anne-Denise Ford turns *As You Like It* into Shakespeare as I like it. Even the heavy Tudor background can't weigh down this happy, lightweight comedy with its typical plot of young love, cross-dressing, and fortunes and dukedoms temporarily in the wrong hands.

The girlish love of cousins Rosalind (Linda Alper) and Celia (Nancy Carlin) is hardly diminished when the former falls in love with Orlando (Marco Barricelli) through a cute twist in the semi-hot wrestling scene.

Everyone runs off to the Forest of Arden to grow up and work things out, in the best Shakespearean production I've seen at Ashland in years. The direction is inventive and casting precise, right down to the smallest roles.

Shakespeare's rarely performed *Titus Andronicus* is the stuff of grand opera and Monty Python sketches: dismemberment, filicide, rape, decapitation, torture, and the Oedipal cannibalism of a mother eating her sons baked in a pie. It's not easy to play all this straight, but under Pat Patton's direction a good cast keeps it from getting out of hand. Joan Stuart-Morris is campy but not quite over the top as Tamora, queen of the Goths. Peter Temple tries to match her as co-villain Aaron the Moor, but doesn't carry it off as well. Henry Woronicz is better than passable in the title role, a precursor of *Lear* but not so well written.



Henchpersons—Steve Martin-Beck (top) and Richard Elmore pore over the reviews of their boss' latest murder in *Broadway*

The blood is stylized with red ribbons, flags, smoke, and stumps. It's an acceptable compromise in a decent production of a play I would have thought impossible to stage.

'BROADWAY' NOT OFF

At 99, writer-director-producer George Abbott is still working. Judging from *Broadway*, which he wrote 60 years ago with Philip Dunning, it's not a matter of doing it until he gets it right. *Broadway* was probably good enough in its day, but an added layer of campy nostalgia makes it irresistible.

It's *42nd Street* with most of the musical numbers offstage, combined with a touch of *Scarface*. Backstage at the Paradise Club a young hooper (Brian Tyrrell) and a major bootlegger (John Castellanos) are fighting over Billie (Terri McMahon), the only virgin in the frowzy chorus line, while a "square dick" — honest cop — investigates a murder. The show must and does go on, in a succession of outrageous costumes by Michael Olich, set designer of Berkeley Rep's *The Normal Heart*. Each set of tacky outfits earns an ovation.

In the end love, justice, and the Festival triumph with three hours of sheer fun, also directed by Pat Patton.

Ronald Ribman's *Cold Storage*, on the other hand, left me cold. It was successful in New York because it combined the pre-AIDS "death play" fad (*Da, Tribute*, etc.) with that perennial theater party pleaser, the Holocaust.

Two men meet on the roof of a hospital. Parmigian, an Armenian with terminal cancer, is desperate for company. Landau, a younger Jew in for exploratory surgery, is desperate for privacy. The garrulous old man goes into the unplea-

sant — but supposedly endearing from our standpoint — rap which has driven everyone else away from him. Almost an hour later he's still at it, and Landau says, "I do not believe I have gotten involved in a conversation like this."

Neither do I, which is the trouble with this production of *Cold Storage*, if not the play itself. As played by Michael Kevin, Landau is a man who would walk out on Wayne Ballantyne's Parmigian within five minutes. Instead he comes back after intermission so we can find out that, contrary to first act impressions, Parmigian has a will to live while Landau is dead inside from guilt over his boyhood escape from Europe, where his family perished.

Under Denis Arndt's direction the actors never really connect; the chemistry doesn't work. Add to this Ballantyne's inconsistent accent, a supposed Latina nurse who looks as if she's never eaten a taco, and a set that's as interesting as a real hospital, and you have one of OSF's rare bad shows.

The Shakespearean productions, including the unreviewed *Measure for Measure*, are on the outdoor Elizabethan Stage, which closes Oct. 5. The other plays are among the indoor repertory which continues through Nov. 1.

Everything sells out, so reserve ahead: Oregon Shakespearean Festival, Box 158, Ashland, OR 97520; (503) 482-4331.



'Never two ladies loved as they do.' Rosalind (Linda Alper, l.) and Celia (Nancy Carlin) are kissing cousins, even after Rosalind falls in love with Orlando (Marco Barricelli, r.) and starts dressing as a man in *As You Like It* at Ashland. Orlando is described by his brother as "... an envious emulator of every man's good parts ... gentle ... full of noble device, of all sorts enchantingly beloved," which may explain why he's acting this way toward Rosalind when she's in drag.

The Sublime To The Ridiculous

by Stephen Drewes

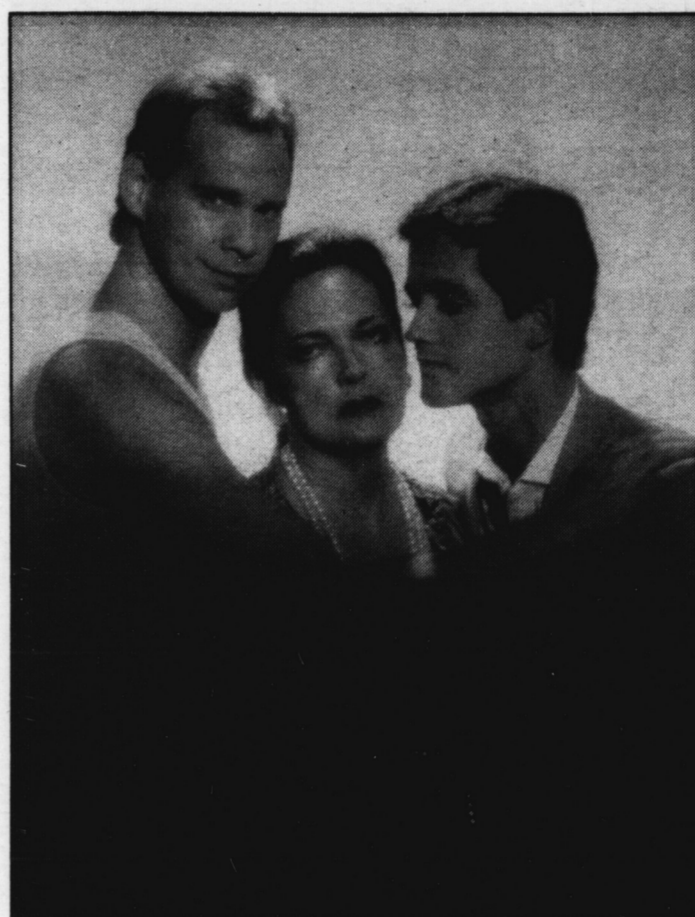
Arthur Schnitzler's *La Ronde*, written and set in fin-de-siècle Vienna, is an erotic valentine to sex and seduction. Cheerfully amoral, the play chronicles the romantic escapades of ten characters who are, presumably, more or less typical of their time. Structurally, *La Ronde* is a perfect circle, hence its title. A prostitute encounters a soldier who seduces a chambermaid who is seduced by a young gentleman who is having an affair with a young wife who is bored by her elderly husband who lures a sweet young thing to a private dining room in an inn, and on and on we go. *La Ronde*'s exuberance, wit, and sexy chic have made it a favorite among the cognoscenti for years but, sadly enough, it hasn't received the commercial success of, say, the work of Schnitzler's French counterpart Georges Feydeau. As usual, the villain has been the translator, but I'm delighted to report that the Royal Shakespeare Company's John Barton has finally provided the waiting world with an English version that does justice to the original, and that the San Francisco Actors Theatre is presenting it at the Zephyr Theatre on Van Ness Avenue in a production that gives the play a good run for its money.

In spirit, SFAT's production of *La Ronde* is everything a shoe-string production ought to be. The emphasis is placed on crisp direction and strong performances, rather than elaborate production values, and the result is a happy excursion into high-style comedy that ACT would be wise to study. Director Will Dunne has done his homework well. In an era when directors have taken the maxim "less is more" far too much to heart, it's encouraging to encounter one whose thoughtful conception of the script is clearly evident in the acting and staging throughout. *La Ronde* is riddled with good performances, particularly from Eric Shugar, Elizabeth Awbrey, Regina Saisi, Robert Sahatjian, and Michael Vincent. The triumph of the evening, and I use the word advisedly, belongs to a diminutive actress named Ellen Idelson, who plays the Sweet Girl with a mastery of comic technique that reduced the audience to helpless laughter. Idelson is a Major Discovery, and were she performing in Schnitzler's day her carriage would be unhorsed and drawn through the streets by a crowd of cheering students. The only disappointments of the evening are Malcolm Wood, who plays the husband listlessly, but, not surpris-

ingly, improves in his scene with Idelson, and hunky, blond Richard Lindstrom, who appears as the Count and is one of the few actors who does not remove most of his clothes. He should.

The costumes are only approximations of turn-of-the-century apparel, of course, but costumers Shannon Roler and Anne Wolf have largely succeeded in providing consistently sensible and attractive outfits for all. The lighting design, by Michael Smith, tries to do too much, but does no serious damage. Scenic designer Stephen Sowash has provided the required revolving stage, but hasn't been able to figure out how to revolve it efficiently. This may be understandable, considering the tiny theater, but what is inexplicable is the color scheme. Sowash has chosen to paint his creation an uncompromising mustard yellow, with daubings of green and pink, and flat brown trim. The result is as hideous as it sounds, but only serves to prove once again that in the theater it is superior performances that matter, and those *La Ronde* has in abundance.

Across the lobby, as it were on the dark side of the moon, G.P.E. Productions (Continued on next page)



Timothy Flanagan (l.), Phoebe Random, and Mark Hannan in William Martin's *Chase Away the Birds* playing this weekend at the Zephyr (Photo: M. Viera)

Sublime

(Continued from previous page)

is presenting something called *Chase Away the Birds*, by a playwright named William Martin. Martin describes the long genesis of his work thusly: "During the time I was turning out draft after draft of my problem child (sic), I busied myself running the Playwright's Center at Fort Mason, doing staged readings of my ... plays, designing sets for ... the Valencia Rose, and participating in the Playwright's unit at Theatre Rhinoceros." Well, no wonder I've never been privy to Martin's work. During that time, I was perfecting my brain transplant technique, working on my translation of *Mourning Becomes Electra* into Medieval French, and finishing my needlepoint rendering of the Bayeux Tapestry. What burdensome lives we renaissance men lead.

'What burdensome lives we Renaissance men lead.'

Seriously, folks, it's a pity Martin didn't lavish a little more of his valuable time on this script, because the result of all this effort is a work whose pretensions and incomprehensibility boggle the imagination. What I could glean of plot from this play's derivative imagery and self-conscious symbolism concerns a rich kid named Miles whose father is a generous senator and who spent a part of his boyhood with needles in his legs. Could he have suffered from very bad aim? He picks up a desiccated lady named Nedra and whisks her off to Venice, which is the setting, on his Dad's money. For some unspecified reason, it is vitally important to him that Nedra, who is an hysteric, resume her interrupted career as a painter. This she does, producing canvases that look like mud. Miles encounters a hustler called Derek, who originally arrived in Italy to attend "a Humanities program in Padua." I'm not making this up. Derek is your basic sullen sensualist who carries his weight on his hips, his arms too far in front

of his body, and who doesn't seem to be able to entirely close his mouth. They have a roll in the hay, or rather under a bridge. The experience butches Miles up considerably, which he indicates by changing into a heavy black sweater and work boots. He leaves Nedra, who goes completely to pieces, crouches decorously on the floor, and fantasizes birds descending to do her damage. ("Suddenly Last Summer," I muttered to my companion of the evening. "The Tippi Hedren Memorial Monologue," she muttered back. It was the high point of the experience.) To make an all-too-long story short, Derek rejects Miles and gets together with Nedra, versatile lad that he is. She is much bucked up, and together they plan to wreak vengeance on Miles for having too much money. Miles' punishment turns out to be internment in a *menage a trois* on a Greek island. Finally exhibiting some glimmering of intelligence, he submits to this gruesome fate. And that, my friends, is that.

It would be unkind to dwell too long on the perpetrators of this production. The playwright directed, which is almost always a mistake, and the parts were essayed by Mark Hannan, who looks like a young Robert Walker, Phoebe Random, and Timothy Flanagan. Flanagan appeared to be among the living; the others did not. The gloomy setting was by Steve McGowan, and the wildly inaccurate lighting by Paul Katzer.

'Seriously folks, it's a pity Martin didn't lavish a little more of his valuable time on this script.'

Actually, there were a few moments in *Chase Away the Birds* which I enjoyed. Every now and then the theater would be plunged into complete darkness and the audience treated to some rather nice classical music. It was very restful.

La Ronde
San Francisco Actors Theatre
Chase Away the Birds
G.P.E. Productions
Zephyr Theatre

MUSIC

Big Promises from Sue Fink

by David-Alex Nahmod

Big Promise is a tribute to Sue Fink's talent. Besides writing and singing all the songs on the album (backed up in part by the Los Angeles Women's Community Chorus), she is also her own keyboard player. All of the album's nine cuts have a driving rock beat that is exciting to listen to. She is also self-distributing her album, and I love the name of her record company, Ladyslipper Records.

Sue is, in her own words, a techno-pop, rock and rolling, certified outrageous, canonized saint in her own lifetime. I'll just call her one hell of a performer. Leaping lesbians, she's hot!

The album opens with a whiz-bang number called "Boys Are Thugs," an ode to straight, sexist dorks. It's an absolute scream. "Love Won't Let Go" is a ballad about unrequited love that transcends sex or sexual preference. It's a sad story we've all experienced from time to time, and Sue performs it beautifully.

You should be able to find *Big Promise* at most Bay Area women's bookstores, but if you can't, order it by mail. Write to Ivyknot Booking, Pam McCarthy, 2801B Ocean Park Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405. You can also send Sue fan mail and book her for personal appearances at that address.

Speaking of personal appearances, I caught Sue's act *Upstairs* as *Amelia*'s Aug. 13, and she's pretty damn good onstage.



Sue Fink

In between songs she delivered hilarious comic monologues about her sainthood and her fan club. "This is my new album," she told the audience, holding up a copy of *Big Promise*. She tossed it as though it were a frisbee. "Goodness, how clumsy of me!" But when the music started, I saw where her real talent lay, in her voice, and in her nimble keyboard playing.

The best song I heard at the concert is not even on the album, but Sue assured everyone it would be recorded in the future.

"Letters to Marie" is about a lonely, neglected housewife corresponding with a woman in prison. The song's lyrics consist of letters written between the two women, and it's a tearjerker you won't forget.

She also sang "Boys Are Thugs" and so help me, she winked at me during the song, bless her.

Sue Fink's music is definitely lesbian themed. Womanly, yes; but I liked it too. She'll have no problem finding a crossover audience.

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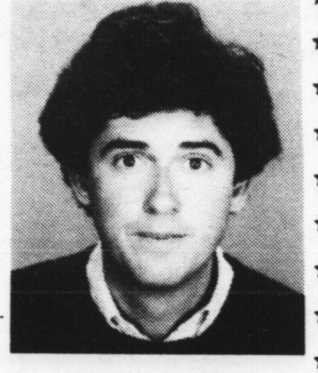
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John Karr

Body Parts

Am I going to be entertaining this week, or what? The Labor Day weekend just past offered ample diversion—let's see what I found.

Only the most radiant reports came from the newly opened Campus Theatre on Jones Street, where a Live Performance policy has produced the Jensen Brothers. The pair has been disarming everybody—including one straight man I know as well as several women (yes, the club will admit them!) with their nude performances. They are enthused, friendly, non-ageist, and they delight in their work; in short, they appear to be everything the typical sullen JO star isn't. Let's hope they'll be held over. There's joy on Jones Street when they're on stage.

Then there was the launching of the movie destined to be a cult classic, *Reform School Girls*. In the hoopla, few may have noticed who wrote and directed it: veteran gay filmmaker Tom DeSimone (*The Idol, Wet Shorts*). It's at the Strand. It's loud, vulgar, excessive, crude, and sexist. Which to many will be a good review. Hoot at it and with it.

And with the opera season starting, it's time for high foolishness—and I found some from both Doris Fish and Herb Caen, although not together.

Herb reported with a perfectly straight face that opera director Terry McEwen recharged before the season by going to Hawaii with 12 books. "I'll only read one," admitted McEwen to Caen, "the rest of the time I'll spend with the most seductive bartendress." Doing what, for Goddess' sake? Watching her read the other 11 books?

It's art because I say it is!" claimed Doris Fish midway through the extravagant labors of her Labor Day special show. And art it must have been, as Doris and co-star Tippi recreated on the stage of the 181 Club first *Dynasty* and then all of *The Valley of the Dolls*. Tippi played Neely O'Hara and Doris, with her usual unflustered drollery, played Everyone Else. But why such high—and hysterical—drama? The stars were simply proving they weren't "just bimbo drag queens, but take-me-seriously-dramatical actresses!"

This they did, for the Fish-Tippi pairing is perfect. Tippi, compensating for her tiny voice and matchstick body with a frenzied eagerness to please, is a pleasingly appalling star who proves that talent can be superfluous in the attainment of stardom. Her hysteria makes her the perfect straightman to the economy of gesture of the imperious Fish, who cracks calm calmamy over her co-star's head like George Burns over Gracie Allen. It's a droll routine, smoothly delivered by La Fish, and lacking nothing of Burns' wisecrack and timing, except a cigar—and that may only be in deference to the combustibility of Fish's Dynel headgear.

So the girls proved, unto their own fashion and into their own fashions (of which there were many), that they can act. This is an innovative thing for a drag queen to do, and I'm sure future historians and academicians will take note. But Ms. Fish, a trends-



The line-up of would-be Reform School Girls at the Troc (Photo: S. Warren)

vestite always several high kicks ahead of the common queen, is hardly content with a single conquest per evening. It wasn't enough for her to rearrange history; she's currently into rearranging her body. I've never seen such an array of hip, rump, and attachable body parts applied to a queen before. While this was quite seemly on Doris (although stressful on her seams), the trend to rubber rearrangement proved dangerous on Tippi, whose unusual lack of physique demanded a lot more stick'em tabs to keep her new hips in place. Her derriere kept slipping out from under her bathing suit. There are a million naked stories in the big city, and this might be one that should have left its clothes on. Still, as Doris commented, "better latex than never."

'It's art because I say it is.'
—Doris Fish

If drag queens are expected to parade a lack of body truths, the reverse might apply to the rest of us. I've become an habitual reader of obits, especially in publications like *Time* magazine, *Variety*, the *Chronicle*, and the *New York Times*, where the truths about gay men are as unjustly buried as those who have died. I grieve not only the deaths of gay men, but for the evasions these papers make in the causes of death. Here's a short list from the last couple of weeks:

- Charles Ward, 33-year-old American Ballet Theater dancer, who appeared on Broadway in *Fosse's Dancin'*; "cancer."
- Ken Duncan, 56, photographer whose sexy style built *After Dark* magazine; "toxoplasmosis."

- Perry Ellis, 46, fashion designer; "encephalitis."
- Gordon Lusk, who I'm not sure was gay, but was costume designer for the San Diego Gilbert and Sullivan Company; "complications from a respiratory ailment."
- Philip-Dmitri Galas, 32, gay playwright; "kidney failure."

'These men are my family tree, and I want the world to know the truth about my family.'

Why do I tell you this? In each case the cause of death listed is true—but only partially. Gay readers can easily see the truths of AIDS and ARC which lie behind the listed cause of death. But can straight readers? Will they ever start taking the threat of AIDS to themselves seriously, and before their own ranks are as brutally decimated as ours were, without warning, unless our deaths are correctly reported?

But there's a reason closer to home that I tell you this. These men are my family tree, and I want the world to know the truth about my family.

"For centuries," writes Markley Morris in his recently premiered play, *Peaches Goes to Jail*, "people like us have lived on necessary lies." Hiding in ghettos, passing for straight. Yes, and we must make those lies unnecessary now. If we are to claim our rights, our lives—especially in the face of a LaRouche—we must claim the tragedy of our deaths. The straight press publishes unnecessary lies, and we cannot collude. Only the truth can be a fitting memorial to those we've lost.

George Heymont

The Golden Years

By the time a singer reaches 50, most of the challenges of a performing career have been met head-on. An opera singer's reserves of stamina have been firmly established and, as an artist, his professional security rests on a solid foundation of achievement. Now in his 60s, basso Jerome Hines remains on the Metropolitan Opera's roster after nearly 35 years as a soloist with that company. Although Birgit Nilsson recently announced her retirement at the age of 68, Magda Olivero kept performing until well into her 70s.

Age, at least for some, is accompanied by a certain amount of hard-won maturity. For the singer who has (1) survived the stress of entering the job market and developing his artistic skills while struggling to climb the professional ladder, (2) managed to remain on the professional treadmill while jeopardizing any and all personal relationships by spending most of each year on the road, and (3) become secure enough to enjoy the fruits of his labor as his voice blossoms into its full magnificence, the cumulative impact of years of study and thousands of insights into the fragility of the human condition give the mature singer an exceptional measure of artistry and craft. Therefore, to be able to see mature opera singers performing well—and enjoy the work of artists who have kept their voices in such superb shape that they can easily handle any repertoire they choose to sing—becomes a rare and wonderful privilege.

'Therefore, to be able to see mature opera singers performing well... becomes a rare and wonderful privilege.'

Two recent productions reinforced my heartfelt admiration for those artists who have stuck it out through thick and thin, singing long enough to enjoy the full blessings of maturation. Both evenings also confirmed my suspicion that better opera is currently being produced on a regular basis in the Midwest than in either New York or San Francisco.

SILVER ROSES FOR A GREAT LADY

While most of the musical press flocked to Des Moines, Iowa, for the world premiere of Lee Hoiby's new opera, *The Tempest*, I chose to head in the other direction. The Cincinnati Opera was mounting a production of Richard Strauss' *Der Rosenkavalier* with an intriguing cast. Not only was I interested in hearing Eric Mills' Sophie, an opera queen's nagging hunch told me Johanna Meier's Marschallin would be an extra-special treat. My hunch was correct.

Fifteen years ago, I remember watching this soprano leave such roles as Rosalinda in *Die Fledermaus* behind her to tackle meatier repertoire: Sieglinde in *Die Walkure*, Marguerite in *Mefistofele* Elsa in *Lohengrin*, and—although I have yet to experience it—Wagner's Isolde. An artist who has never run a major publicity campaign or enjoyed much



'Why, that two-timing bastard!' Anna (Dame Joan Sutherland) and Giovanna Seymour (Susanne Mentzer) share their problems with Henry VIII in Donizetti's *Anna Bolena*

of a recording career, Meier has nonetheless continued to deliver solid performances all along the way. Occasionally, her voice may get a bit wobbly; on some nights the soprano doesn't quite project the full charisma needed for certain roles.

Yet, more than I could ever have anticipated, the role of Strauss's Marschallin fits the 48-year-old Meier's talents like a glove. At the performance I attended in Cincinnati, the soprano was in glorious voice, looked ravishing, and was able to fully capture and communicate to the audience the bittersweet wisdom with which the Marschallin relinquishes her claim on Octavian and sends him off to marry Sophie. Watching her performance offered the kind of quietly thrilling, yet totally fulfilling satisfaction one so rarely experiences in an opera house these days. The sophistication and depth of Meier's characterization were a solid monument to this lady's years of hard work and accumulated artistry.

Thanks to Julius Rudel's solid conducting and Julian Hoppe's astute direction, the rest of the cast offered equally commendable performances. Susan Quittmeyer's Octavian continues to develop while, in his mid-60s, tenor John Alexander still knows how to impress an audience in his brief appearance as the Italian singer. Eric Mills' Sophie confirmed my feelings that this rising singer can do much more than just comic ingenue roles. Indeed, the evening's only disappointment was Marius Rintzler's stodgy and mechanical Baron Ochs, which somehow resembled Richard Nixon desperately trying to succeed on the Broadway stage.

ST. JOAN AT THE STAKE

In October 1984, when the San Francisco Opera mounted Donizetti's *Anna Bolena*, the opening-night performance was a sorry disappointment. Livia Budai (who was released from her contract after the first performance) pigged up the evening, Dame Joan Sutherland was suffering from a bad cold, and things were obviously not going well onstage. However, with Sutherland nearing 60, I decided it might be worth my while to see the *Anna Bolena* tour's last stand. Therefore, in June I flew to Texas for the opening-night performance by the Houston Grand Opera.

I'm glad I did, for this performance was an artistic triumph. Richard Bonynge later

commented that, of all the cities in which he and his wife had performed *Anna Bolena*, this engagement had been the best cast and best produced. Sutherland was in grand voice, sailing through Donizetti's extremely demanding score like a veteran of numerous bel canto wars. Susanne Mentzer's Giovanna Seymour was a knockout—smoothly sung and passionately acted—while Jane Bunnell's meaty mezzo lent plenty of oomph to the role of Smeton. Nicola Ghiuselev's Henry VIII was solid in both voice and body and, with the exception of one or two high notes, Jerry Hadley's Percy was a masterpiece of bel canto singing.

'Mind you, it's not the singing I object to. That part's easy. It's wearing all those heavy costumes that exhausts me!'

—Joan Sutherland

The same basic production team was at work in Houston as in Toronto, Chicago, and San Francisco (Richard Bonynge conducted and Lotfi Mansouri directed). But, in a peculiar way, John Pascoe's darkly foreboding sets seemed to fit better onto the stage of Jones Hall than they did in San Francisco's War Memorial Opera House. Michael Stennett's costumes remain a stunning achievement in historical grandeur and, with a happier cast than on previous occasions, the total artistic package was a noticeable improvement over what had been seen in San Francisco two years ago.

Backstage, after opening night, a fan asked Dame Joan (who now has two grandchildren) about her plans for the future. Confessing that she yearned to retire from the stage, Sutherland laughed. "Mind you, it's not the singing I object to. That part's easy. It's wearing all those heavy costumes that exhausts me!"

Spoken like a trouper.



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BOOKS

Matrix for Acceptance

Lesbian Letters
by Christine Stockton
Heron Press, \$8.95
by Joy Schulenburg

"Dear Mom and Dad... I'm a lesbian..."

How many of us have sat down to write a version of the above message to our own parents? How many of us have waited in agony for the reply ("We're shocked," "It's your life," "What did we do wrong?") or for a reply that never came?

Lesbian Letters evolved out of the coming out letter author Christine Stockton wrote to her parents. Although they were no longer living at the time, the process of identifying herself to them was cathartic for Stockton. "I went through all the same emotions and fears about their response that I would have had if they were still alive," she said in a recent interview.

Stockton then took the process a step further. She wrote what she believed their response would have been—a mixture of love, concern, and confused acceptance, more positive than one might expect from a basically conservative family in Cleveland, Ohio.

Lesbian Letters is not an autobiography, though it has its origins in personal material. Stockton has taken a format of letters—between families, lovers, and friends—and wove them into a comprehensive dialogue about issues that affect lesbians, gay men, and all those who care about them. Beginning with the giddy first crush of one adoles-

cent on another, through growth and the dissolution of mature relationships, the author's fictitious correspondents air their views, their loves, and their concerns about such diverse topics as AIDS, having children, aging, and religion.

The sections dealing with parenting and religion ring particularly true. While the letters dealing strictly with sexual orientation and love tend to evoke an almost idealistic level of good sense and acceptance, strong emotions triggered by children and the church are powerfully expressed. The fears and criticisms offered as the perspective of the women's straight friends and relatives accurately reflect the misinformation and bigotry that lesbians and gays face in the world today.

Christine Stockton wants to reach Middle America. "Gay people already know a lot of what this book talks about," she says. "It's our parents and straight friends who need the education." Through her book and through radio and TV appearances, Stockton hopes to impress upon the straight world the commonality of human characteristics of love, fear, and hope. "Many people don't think they know anyone who's gay. All they know are the stereotypes. If they can see what's really there, the myths disappear."

Stockton herself challenges stereotypes, even within the lesbian community. The book jacket describes her as an investor, musician, world traveler, and a

former debutante descended from two signers of the Declaration of Independence.

"Those things don't really define who I am," she asserts, then stops and adds, "except the world traveler part. That's very important to me." Her candid eyes light up as she describes the broader perspective her travels have given her. "But I put that information on the jacket to show that lesbians come from all kinds of backgrounds, including privileged ones." She grins ruefully. "Actually, being a debutante was one of the worst experiences of my life."

For Stockton, shattering stereotypes has a very practical basis. As it is with many women, the stereotype of lesbians as "mannish" kept her from recognizing her own lesbianism for a long time. She couldn't relate to the image, therefore, she couldn't be one of them. "We need to provide all kinds of role models for lesbians," she affirms.

Stockton is doing just that. By being visible in the media, her combination of strength, grace, and intelligence provides an alternative model for other women in the process of coming out. And, through her writing, she has given family and friends of lesbians and gays an understandable and sympathetic matrix for acceptance. If you haven't written that letter to your parents yet, *Lesbian Letters* might just be the impetus you need. In fact, while you're at it, send them a copy—it could make a lot of difference in their understanding.

Shattered Myths

The Sacred Hoop: Recovering the Feminine in American Indian Traditions
by Paula Gunn Allen
Beacon Press, \$24.95
by Joy Schulenburg

The *Sacred Hoop* is going to annoy some people. It is going to upset some cherished notions about American Indians and American Indian women most specifically. If you have progressed beyond B-movie stereotypes to the "noble savage" imagery, or to viewing Native Americans as the oppressed victims of white domination, Paula Gunn Allen's book is going to upset you because she doesn't particularly care about your guilt or want your apologies. She has written a book, not about victims, but about survival and power.

"For hundreds of years white people were told that Indian men abused their women," Allen says. Her well-documented research shows that nothing could be further from the truth. Rather, many, if not most, of the native peoples of this continent were gynocratic or woman-centered. Until the coming of the Europeans, Indian women were perceived as inherently powerful and held both status and authority. Years of patriarchal suppression have obscured this fact, and Allen's task is to patiently and incisively recover the evidence of feminine power.

Her task is complicated by the very definition of power itself. We are used to thinking of it in terms of political clout, material goods, and influence. Although American Indian women often possessed all of these things, greater value was placed on spiritual power. Spiritual awareness, along with a pantheistic, harmonic relationship to nature, is the cornerstone of tribal reality. And women, through whom life comes, are inherently attuned to the cycles of earth and sky, hence, inherently powerful.

Allen, herself of Laguna Keres descent, clearly shows the ways in which feminine power has been usurped and occulted over the centuries until it is scarcely visible. She is well-suited to picking her way through this thorny path, for her people are one of the few tribes that have kept their matri-focal structure intact despite colonization. Her interpretation of myth and legend, therefore, is neither that of the white male translators who have been the primary ethnographers, nor is it wholly feminist. In fact, she points out that her viewpoint is likely to infuriate those feminists who believe that "no woman anywhere has ever had that kind of power [over our lives]."

It is this element of perception that will cause the most upset in her readers. Allen challenges not only the older, negative stereotypes of Indians, but some of the

more modern, politically correct ones as well. And she does not request empowerment, she affirms it unequivocally.

'And she does not request empowerment, she affirms it unequivocally.'

If the high status of Indian women was hidden by white historians, the mere existence of lesbians (and to a lesser extent, gay men) has been all but obliterated from records of the past. Based on the scanty information available, Allen extrapolates on the probable role that lesbians played in the mundane and ceremonial lives of tribal people. Her theories are well-reasoned and confirm that women-identified women were accepted and respected within American Indian cultures.

One of the most important aspects of this book is the author's ability to explain the difference between the European-based vision of reality and the tribal world view. Western thought is linear; we conceptualize events on a line from "then" to "now" and put ourselves in the foreground of importance. Allen's "Indian" approach is wholistic, circular, able to contain concepts of autonomy and multiplicity without engendering paradox. Within the sacred hoop, all that is and all that occurs does so in direct and significant relationship to everything else. Thus, one's individual actions have a real impact on the condition of the society, and the security of society is essential to the well-being of the individual. Considering the state of affairs in the world today, such a perspective, with the level of personal integrity it naturally inspires, offers hope for our continued survival on this planet.

The Sacred Hoop is a book that should be read by everyone who seeks to understand the relationship between humankind and the universe we share. It is, at times, a profoundly unsettling book, shaking the reader out of complacency and presumption. At the very least, it will smash some stereotypes. Ultimately, however, it offers a model for a way of living in harmony, a way that served well for generations of tribal peoples and endures today in the strong hearts of their daughters.

Steve Warren

From Sluts to Noir

SLUTS IN STIR

Most women's prison movies border on self-parody anyway, so it's a short step over the edge for *Reform School Girls*.

Pat Ast, who acts like Divine and is almost as womanly, plays the head matron — "My name's Edna but some of the girls call me Eddie, when they get to know me better." Her pet inmate is Charlie — "Ain't many fish would fuck with Chuck" — played by rocker Wendy O. Williams. Charlie and Edna have an understanding: "Charlie's under and Edna's standing." On top of it all is warden Sybil Danning ("Edna) is the Control! And I am the Power!"

New to the powder keg they're sitting on are sweet but tough Linda Carol, timid and frail Sherri Stoner, and lovers Laurie Schwartz and Robin Watkins. Any characters who aren't hardcore lesbians at the outset are initiated in the course of the movie, and their bodies are amply displayed.

Writer-director Tom DeSimone, who grew up loving "girls in prison" pictures and "anything with Bette Davis" (any questions?), made a couple of serious ones before this spoof. Besides being a hoot — the kind that needs audience reaction to make it work — it's more effective as a sleazy action movie than most of the real ones. (area theaters)

JAPANESE FAMILY CLICKS

Big Joys, Little Sorrows promotes the Japanese art of picture-taking directly as well as being a shining example of the craft and giving us a tour of the island nation's lighthouses, temples, and other scenic beauty.

The context is a lightweight saga of lighthouse keeper Go Kato, his family and friends, who collaborated on the sentimental romantic comedy *Touch and Go*, which is better than all of the above and has only just been released.

Hockey star Keaton gets mugged by three teenagers who use 11-year-old Ajay Naidu as a shield. That sets up the boy-meets-girl, as Alonso is Naidu's mother. It takes an hour or so to work out their individual and collective problems, but the outcome is never in doubt.

TRIPPING QUEEN

A violent historical epic that's a martial arts film at heart, *The Queen of Tibet* offers romance and spectacle that may thrill Chinese audiences but often looks like camp to Western eyes.

It's the story of the supposed 25,000-mile (isn't that the circumference of the earth?) wedding journey of Princess Wencheng to marry Prince Song-zan some 1,400 years ago, an important political alliance. In this version the prince secretly accompanies the bridal party, which is beset by treachery at every turn.

DISARMING AND HARMLESS

So are the pidgin English subtitles, which could hardly be funnier if Woody Allen had done them. They identify one man as "the sister-in-law of the emperor" — which may have been true but is hardly relevant to the plot. The Chinese soundtrack, including exaggerated sound effects, is



General mayhem erupts in *Reform School Girls*

out of synch with the handsome photography, which includes a scene of a man being garrotted until his eyes literally pop out.

I suppose if they told us Kurosawa had made *The Queen of Tibet* we'd fall all over ourselves praising it, but Wu Fa Shen is the director and I fell over laughing at it. (World)

WHEN GROWING GETS TOUGH

Before Robert Mandel directed *F/X*, Michael Keaton starred in *Gung Ho* and Maria Conchita Alonso got stuck in *A Fine Mess*, they collaborated on the sentimental romantic comedy *Touch and Go*, which is better than all of the above and has only just been released.

This is the closest thing to a dramatic role Keaton has had in films. He pulls off the personal and romantic scenes, but when he's supposed to act tough he's less convincing than Naidu, who we know is bluffing.

There's a contrived action climax because no movie so formulaic could omit such a trite element, but *Touch and Go* is ingratiating enough overall to suck us in and carry us along. (Galaxy, Serramonte, Tanforan)

OUT OF FOCUS

Several Bay Area film critics are asked to name their "guilty pleasures" in this month's *San Francisco Focus*, the KQED magazine and program guide. By a strange coincidence, no writers for gay publications are included. But are we bitter? My *Focus* subscription runs out with this issue, and that's one "guilty pleasure" I'll be doing without from now on.

DISARMING AND HARMLESS

After the total failures of Blake Edwards and Gene Wilder to replicate old formulas in *A Fine Mess* and *Haunted Honeymoon*, Mark L. Lester's moderate success makes *Armed and Dangerous* look like a masterpiece. If, on

the other hand, you compare it to *Ruthless People* and *Back to School*, it looks pretty lame. It could pass for one of the better *Police Academics*.

John Candy and Eugene Levy play an ex-cop and an ex-lawyer, respectively, who become minimum-wage security guards. They stumble onto a racket headed by union boss Robert Loggia and smash it, along with most of the cars on the Hollywood Freeway. The chase takes them to a bisexual bookstore where they emerge as a cross-dressed Candy and leather Levy. The corpulent Candy gives a dignified reading of the year's corniest speech while in drag—quite an achievement.

I don't know if I actually laughed aloud, except when Judy Landers said "If I'd known it was going to be this kind of party I would have worn underwear"—the sort of line that made Marilyn Monroe a star—but *Armed and Dangerous* is a well-crafted comedy for the more easily amused. (Northpoint, Century Plaza, Geneva)

NOIR ENCORE

Isabelle Huppert is a real *femme fatale* in *Sincerely Charlotte*. She may not have murdered her lover in Paris, but she's a good bet to wreck the suburban home of her ex, Niels Arstrup, to whom she flees in desperation. It's been four years since she left him, but the feelings are still there on both sides.

In classic *film noir* tradition he gets in deeper and deeper and acts stupider and stupider. Life may have been dull in the suburbs, but Niels doesn't need all the excitement Mlle. Trouble provides. The romantic in me resents movies like this because it knows I could be just as idiotic for someone I loved, and regrets not having the opportunity.

Directed by her sister, Caroline Huppert, Isabelle overacts in some early scenes but settles into a good performance. Arstrup is all surface, but it's a surface many will find attractive.

Having seen some of the old *films noir* at the York and Pacific Archive recently and been turned on to the genre again, it's disconcerting to find the '80s version allows for the possibility of a happy ending. Otherwise *Sincerely Charlotte* fits nicely into the pattern. (Lumiere)

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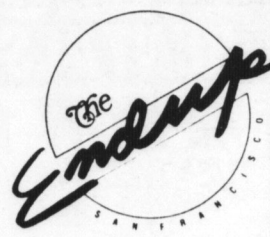
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		



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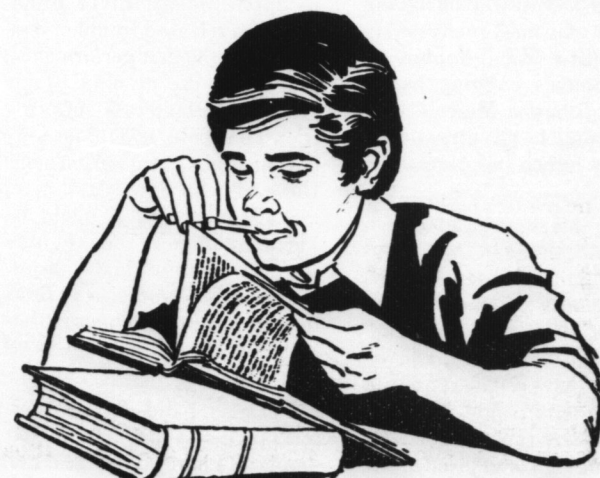
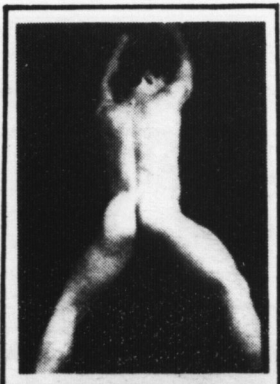
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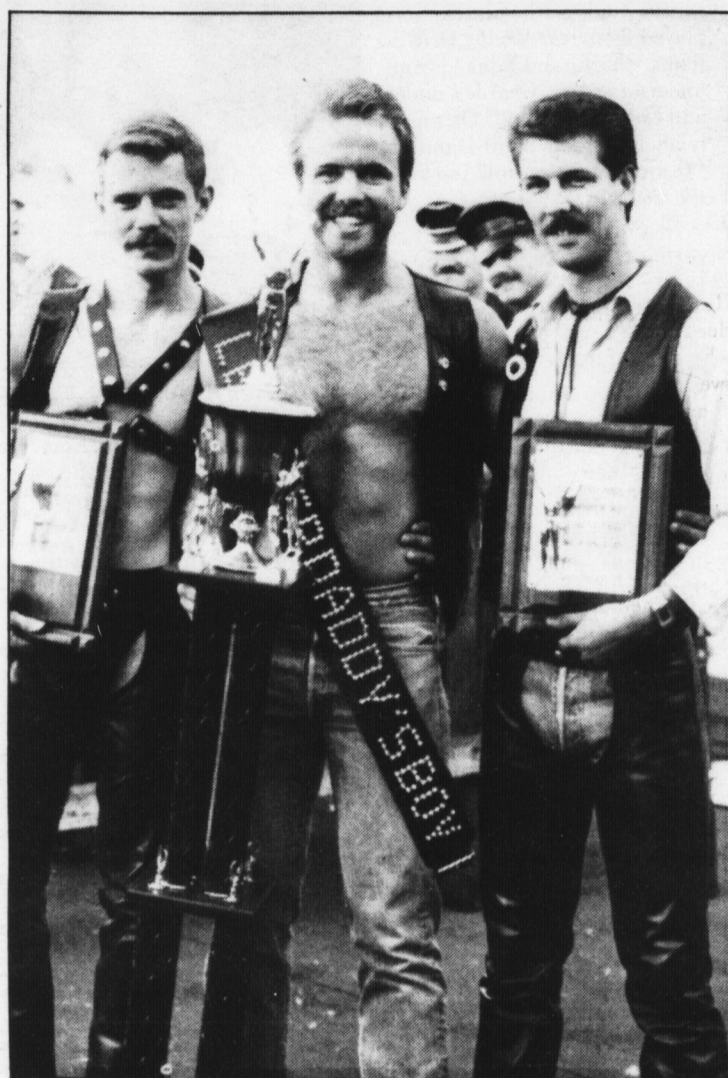
Jim Buhler Wins Leather Daddy's Boy IV Contest

More than \$6,000 was raised last Sunday, 31 Aug. for the AIDS Emergency Fund at the 4th annual Leather Daddy's Boy contest, the premiere event of the weekend in this town. Some 19 men entered the competition that was played out before a jam-packed crowd consisting of natives and tourists alike, who oohed and aahed the leather and skin that paraded before their hungry eyes.

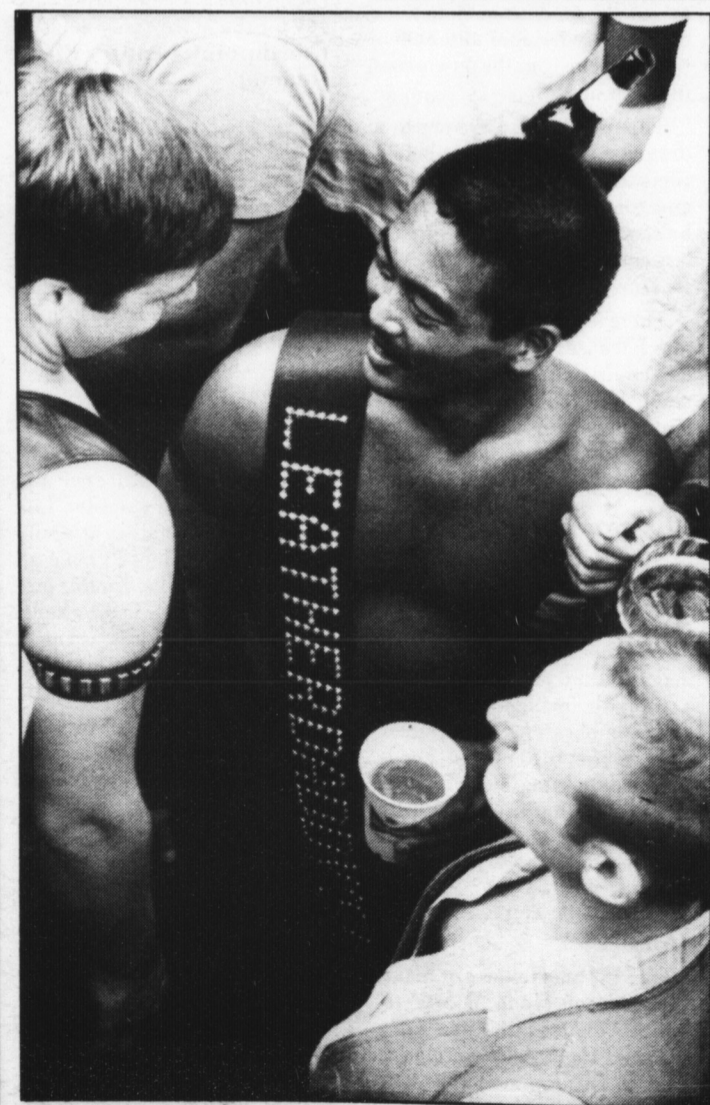
Mark Friese, a north of Market personality, teamed up with former Leather Daddy Christian Heran to auction off several items while the contestants circulated through the crowd with their buckets to solicit the \$1 vote/raffle tickets. Former Mr. Drummer Steve Reising of Seattle kept the action moving while a distinguished panel of judges heard each "boy" speak of his hobbies, aspirations, and reasons for wanting to capture the title.

The contestants were judged in three categories including physique, leather image, and their ability to express their views—the key to winning any contest of this type. If you're to be a star and/or spokesman for gay men and especially the leather community, your ability to express yourself in an intelligent manner is paramount.

While he didn't capture a spot in the winning lane, Christopher Smith managed to collect the most money from the eager crowd (nearly \$300). In the end,



Leather Daddy's Boy '86 James Buhler (c.) with first runner-up Rich Moser (l.) and second runner-up Grant Minik (r.)
(Photo: R. Pruzan)



Leather Daddy's Boy '85 Steve Kajikawa (Photo: R. Pruzan)

21-year-old college student and U.S. Navy veteran James Buhler captured the title, a decision that appeared to be popular with the huge crowd. A native of North Carolina, Jim has already enlisted the support of several noteworthy leather men for a fundraising reign that is expected to set a trend for all future Leather Daddy's Boys. The idea of being cute or hot or hunky is no longer enough in this day and age when so many worthwhile agencies are screaming for financial support to sustain their needed programs.

First runner-up Rich Moser, formerly of Phoenix, and Grant Minik, an Irish immigrant, the second runner-up, have stated their willingness to work with Jim in an unprecedented and impressive schedule of future fundraisers. Their first public appearance working together as a team will take place this Sunday, 7 Sept., as they volunteered to serve as cocktail waiters in the S.F. Eagle patio for the Let's Do Brunch benefit from 1100 to 1400 hours.

This is a benefit for the Conference '86 Project and will cost you \$7.95 with your choice of steak or porkchop with eggs to order and all the trimmings. Call 621-7051 for reservations or details.

Immediately following the brunch, the S.F. Gay Men's Chorus will host the benefit beer
(Continued on next page)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

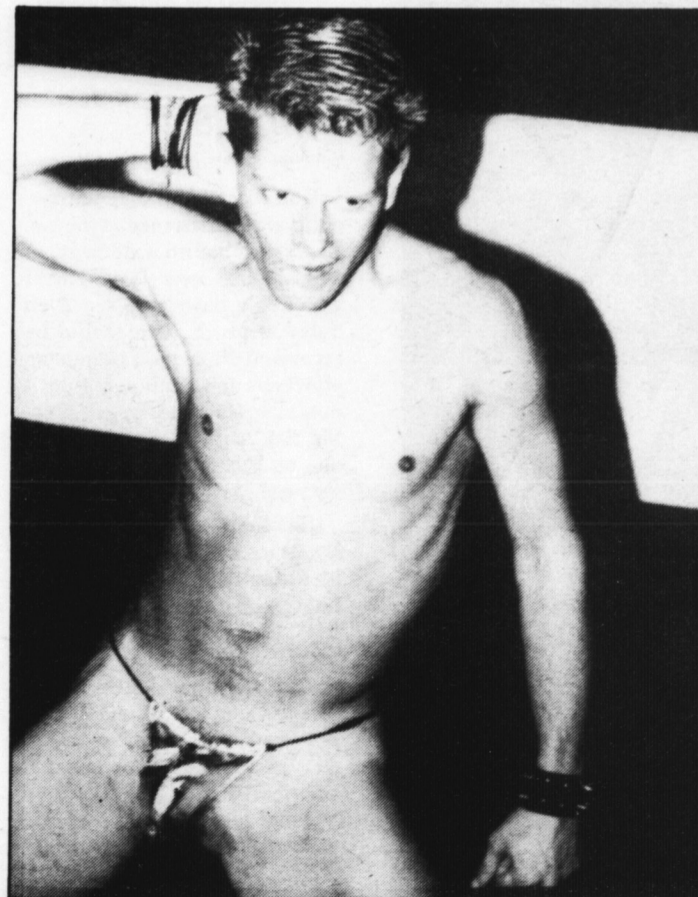
bust with the Men About Town performing and lots of surprises for the usual \$6; if you keep your eyes peeled you might see Gary Garrison doing his usual wooing routine with one of the new baritones in the chorus. Funny how Gary always goes for the baritones, isn't it?

So you've elected three new leather personalities. Let's hope you'll support the benefits they have planned for you. I know you'll come through.

It was a busy week for everyone. Hordes of people deserted the Bay Area for treks to exotic places. The biker set traveled to Badger Flats for the Satyrs M/C annual run. I understand the Rainbow M/C was there in full force and created some scenes that are better left unprinted although you can bet your boots it was exotic! A lot of other people went to the Cycle Runners M/C bike run, but at my deadline there were no reports of what went on at the four-day event.

Thursday night, the Special on Castro hosted a throng of well-wishers for their 15th anniversary party; Gail Wilson had the crowd enraptured as usual and the gold and marbled statuettes by Christopher were a big hit (are you cleaned up yet, Ray Perea?). Over at the Pilsner Inn, Jim Cvitanich celebrated his 35th birthday, not his 39th as I erroneously reported last week. Jim had to explain that away more than once even though some people refused to believe him.

Over at the Powerhouse, Jane Dornacker faced an unruly crowd as she appeared there as a benefit for Board of Education candidate Greg Day. It was a long and busy weekend with lots of tourists in town including Artie Haber, the legendary and popular patriarch of Interchain, the leather fraternity. Artie was feted at a cocktail reception on Russian Hill Saturday night and was mobbed by new friends and old as he served as a judge for the Daddy's Boy contest—a definitely warm reception for a very warm, sincere leather brother from New York.



Mr. Gay Maine cuts loose at the End-Up Jockstrap contest (Photo: Rink)

So summer's officially over. The Folsom Street Fair looms ahead (Sunday, 21 Sept.) with lots of fun things included. Besides Jo-Lo in person, fair director Michael Valerio is scheduling the Zasu Pitts Memorial Orchestra, Blazing Redheads, Spanish Elvis, Linda Imperial, and Dexter Devoe of *Beach Blanket Babylon* fame. Monica Palacios, Marga Gomez, and Danny Williams will keep you in stitches and so will Tom Ammiano, who never fails to tickle your funnybones. Rapmaster Ronnie will attend, as well as the Leatherspace section. I can tell you now that we almost had the legendary Cher as a special guest, but due to filming in Maine with Jack Nicholson, she sent instead an autographed copy of the movie script for *Mask*. How this will be auctioned off is still under discussion.

Earlier on, like tonight, the first of 12 Fun Buns contests will take place at the Endup for the 1988 calendar. A star-studded panel of judges will help pick Mr. January 1988 with hundreds of cash prizes for the winner. Sign up as you enter the premises.

They'll be having another slave auction at the Watering Hole to benefit the Gay Rescue Mission Saturday, 20 Sept., from 1600 to 1900. Contact Master Miesen at 863-2079 if you want to be auctioned off as a slave, among other things.

Bobby Pace celebrates his 50th this weekend with a party at the California Club tomorrow night beginning at 1900; all this was preceded by benefits all this week, and we wish the former emperor many more years of productivity.

If none of the foregoing strikes your fancy, computer owners will be glad to avail themselves of a new home computer game called *Leather Goddesses of Phobos*. The object of the game is that characters get transported to Mars and have to prevent the leather goddesses from taking over Earth and making it into their own sexual paradise. It includes 3-D glasses and a 3-D comic book for the story line and sells for approximately \$35 and will be available in your favorite computer store. Sounds real bizarre!

If you want to make someone feel reeal tacky, you might pick up some of those new Imelda

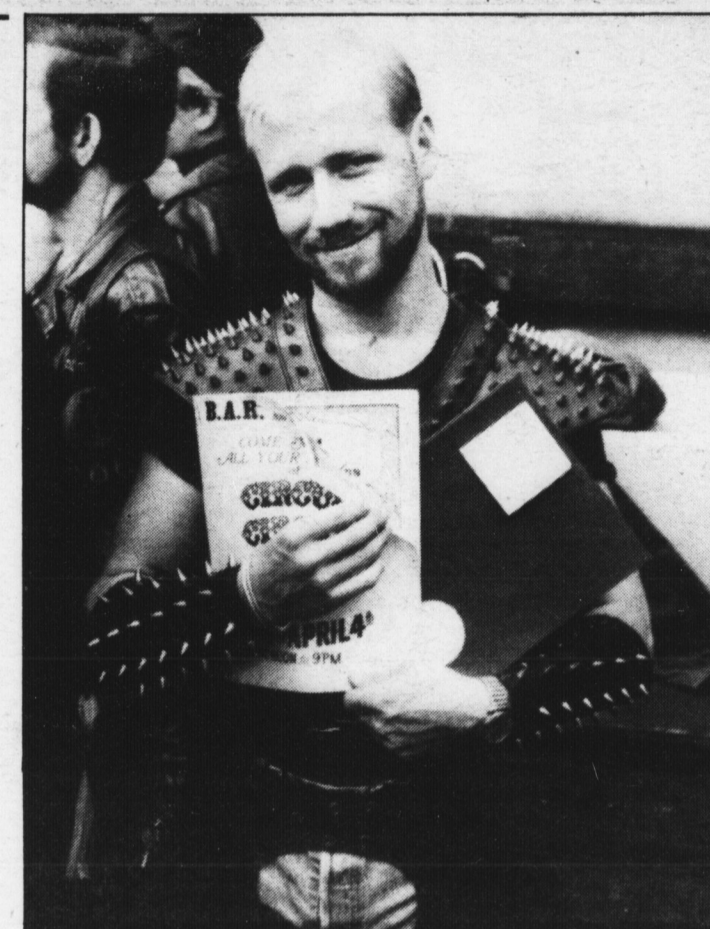
Marcos cards which feature the "Legend in Her Own Mind" empress forever Nicole of San Diego. The new line of cards will be on sale nationwide sometime this month in card shops, so check with SoHo on Church Street and other card shops here.

DISH-GUSTING DEVELOPMENTS

In the former continuing, but now dead-for-sure saga about the L.A. leather title holder who ripped off a South of Market bar manager for \$30, the entire amount was repaid over the weekend by Anthony Bruno who came up to be a judge at the Daddy's Boy Contest. Empress candidate of L.A., Suzy Parker, made the payment to what was owed with the admission to "be careful in the future about who you drag home no matter what title they hold." Are you reading this, Mattilda?

And with so much hanging on the Stop LaRouche campaign, it is indeed inspiring to know Ken Snowberger at Renegades in San Jose is holding voter registration in the bar while he is on duty so all you Santa Clara duds and women get in there between 1500 and 1900 hours on Saturdays and Sundays all this month to register, and don't forget to vote! Nice going, Ken, and kudos to Renegades owner Darryl Seawright for allowing you to do it! Nothing like having a cool cocktail while doing your civic duty, is there?

Hey, remember Paul Hogan, the Australian dude who does commercials for the Australian Tourist Board? Well, he's producing, directing, and starring in a new movie called *Crocodile Dundee* coming soon to your local cracker box. The film outgassed *E.T.* in two months Down Under.



Will paid \$20 for the Bay Area Reporter's premiere issue at the Eagle beer bust (Photo: Rink)

And needless to say, everyone was drooling over Steve Reising, who MCed on Sunday at the S.F. Eagle, including several of the contestants, and whether anyone "got to him" is open to conjecture since Steve is a married man. I lost his trail after he had dinner with Tony DeBlase, this town's newest star (new publisher of *Drummer*) but there was lots of jockeying for position all weekend, with a prominent Reno type leading the pack.

This group up north going by the name of MSC is having the

newest safe-sex twist the weekend of Sept. 27-28 and billed as two big days of Mud. Mud? They are gracious enough to provide plenty of hot water and soap afterward. Contact MSC, P.O. Box 277, Rio Nido, CA 95471 for details on a real earthy weekend.

Also be sure to watch *Evening Magazine* (Channel 5) Monday, 22 Sept., where you will see several titled S.F. leathermen dancing in the streets as part of *Evening's* coverage of the whole community.
(Continued on next page)

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Sweet Lips

Walking the Planks

Don't forget tonight (Sept. 4) is the Pat Montclair Show honoring Bobby Pace at the showroom of Kimo's. The \$5 donation goes to St. Anthony's Dining Room. Last week saw celebrations all over town celebrating Bobby Pace's 50th.

A benefit for Tosh & Jorden at the De Ja-Vu (formerly Logan's) is at 8:30 Saturday the 13th with M.C.'s Lola Lust and Mike D'Dyke with an auction. These two are quite ill and do need some help, so do try to make it.

Yes, it is true Dingy Don is celebrating his second year working at the popular 222 Club from 6 till noon, and last Tuesday Francine had a birthday party but won't divulge the true age.

Overheard at the Polk Gulch: How much does it cost to have the chain link marks erased from a new Continental? Right, Dolly Dale?

Overheard at the Kokpit: Reba asked Pat Montclair where he had been lately because he hadn't seen him. Pat Montclair answered, "Oh, I've been working my ass off," and Reba replied, "But you have two more shows to do."

Billy, Duffy's doorman at the DeLuxe, has been gaining a lot of weight lately; however, he is still working three shifts — Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 2 till 8 — and does look hot.

Yes, Marlowe of Club Dori fame is still at Bradley's Corner and doing a great job; it was nice to see you with Buddy from the East Bay last Monday, Marlowe, and won't it be nice when Buddy moves to Mexico so that we have a place to stay?

Jiggs and Richard wish to thank Dirty Edna's in New York City for such a fabulous time and for opening such a nice new club.

Billy Lynch and Clint of the Peter Pan on Turk Street are holding the crowds. I guess Gil hires the heavies! Maybe you could get a job there, Greta Grass. Only kidding, honey.

Did you hear about the Church Street area bar owner who is so vain he stops to fold his clothes when he undresses for sex?

Starting this Sunday the Gate at Pine and Jones will again be serving brunch from 11 a.m. on with Chef Paul in the kitchen, so do give them a try.

Yes, Daddy Joe Roland is still on the planks mornings at the very popular Gangway, so do drop in and have a drink with this very personable guy.

Had a great dinner and cocktails at the new Comstock, a private club, with Bob Ross and some of the staff and writers of the B.A.R. and I must say the service and food were delicious. Thank you, Bob. You never looked lovelier, Mr. Marcus.

Hal Call's popular Circle J Private Club seems to be doing a land office business and Lonnie says there are some really hunky dudes at night time, so give them a try.

Start planning for the first weekend in October for the White Swallow's annual Octoberfest. It is always a three-day affair with lots of prizes and food, so don't miss it and start planning your costumes now, right Jim Anderson?

Like late night fun? Try the Trocadero Transfer at 520 Fourth St. It is open from 10 p.m. till ??? with great dancing, video and lights.

Headlines has opened another new store at 838 Market which is



Greta Grass is eating again!

right across from the Emporium, so now you don't have to go to Polk Street or to Castro for your goodies from Headlines and you can have a drink at Ginger's Too on 6th St.

Tuesday the 16th is the next Tavern Guild meeting at the very spacious New Bell Saloon, and you know how Boo likes to do it up just right, so this is one meeting you all shouldn't miss.

Yes, Empress Maxine is still on the planks days at the Hob Nob on Geary Street, and she does attract a nice and pleasant crowd of people.

Bazaar Calendar

THURSDAY 9/4

Pat Honors Bobby's 50th, at Kimo's, 8 p.m., \$5 donation for St. Anthony's Dining Room. Your hostess for this event will be Diedre.

All Candidate Party, Cowboy/Cowgirl, Kimo's, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY 9/5

Bobby Pace celebrates his 50th Birthday, California Club, 7 p.m., no cover, celebrate with country music and guest.

Warlocks Open Meeting, Powerhouse, 8:30 p.m.

Farewell Party, for Jon, Casa Loma, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY 9/6

Constantines One-Day Run, to the Delta, check in at Watering Hole, 10 a.m., end at S.F. Eagle, 4 p.m.

Vote, Cowboy/Cowgirl, Polk Gulch Saloon, noon to 4 p.m.

Cowboy/Cowgirl Pageant, High Chaparral, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY 9/7

Conference '86, Let's Do Brunch, S.F. Eagle, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Steak or BBQ pork chops, \$7.95.

Gay Men's Chorus, Beer Bust, S.F. Eagle, 3 to 6 p.m., \$6.

Compiled by Karl Stewart and Diedre

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

Don't leave your bike unnam-ed! Have it christened at the S.F. Eagle next Saturday, 13 Sept., at 1400 hours—wear latex, and if you don't have any, see Alan Selby at Mr. S, who should be recovered from his fundraising efforts by now, until next time. I don't know how he does it, running that store at the Eagle, the one on 7th St., and the one in Denver!

Jim Cvitanich decided to go home to San Pedro for a quiet birthday celebration with his family and one night went to the L.A. Detour because Gabriel Starr (not his real name) who worked there previously recommended Jim do so and say "I sent you!" When Jim announced to the Detour bartenders that Gabriel sent him, they asked him to kindly leave! How rude! Are you reading this, John Bailey?

Be good, boys and girls. Be kind to your birds by putting this on the bottom of the bird cage.

Remy

Computered Out—Again!

Jacqueline: Olga asked me to tell everyone about the computer bulletin boards that she, Hilary, and Louella belong to. Secondly, everyone wants to know, Who are you?

There are numerous "boards" that can be accessed, if you need a personal computer with a dial-up modem. Then you need to have someone "introduce you" to the various boards. You also need a password and "log-on," and most of all an alias so as not to identify yourself directly. Some boards are "strictly business," e.g., how to get data information or processing other boards.



The Royal Court car wash to benefit Hospice (Photo: Rink)

The boards Olga belongs to are message oriented, whereby you can send public or private messages. One of the boards is geared toward, or should I say, the users have taken the names of the characters of *The Women*. My dear, and they do dish; even I would blush. It can get rather catty and even downright vicious. Jungle Red! I suspect everyone wears that nail polish on their talons. Oh, don't get me wrong, a lot of it is pure camp, a lot of innuendoes, and some secrets. Members of this board have gotten together at the Eagle to check each other out, yet trying not to reveal their true identity. Others have divulged themselves and have had subsequent gatherings with much success. I hope I did Olga justice in trying to explain about bulletin boards.

By the way, your identity will be kept a secret. After all, it wouldn't be any more fun if everyone knew who you were!

LABOR DAY FUN

Would you believe three quarters of this year have gone by already? Time does fly. The days seem to scream by; sometimes you wonder where they went. One day at a time, I always say.

The weather last weekend was fabulous. Warm, sunny days and cool nights. It seems a lot of people stayed in town over the long weekend to avoid the holiday traffic jams. The bars were festive and generally everyone was having a good time.

The Cycle Runners hosted their annual run at Big Basin over the weekend. I'll have the results of the rider, buddy, and people events in my next column.

IN TRIBUTE

The Constantines of the Bay Area lost a very valuable and hardworking club member Friday, Aug. 22. Al Jutzi lost his battle against AIDS and passed quietly among friends and family to that great motorcycle clubhouse in the sky. Al's love for motorcycling and enthusiasm for his club's involvement in South of Market will certainly be missed. His asset as a club member was multi-faceted, from the kitchen to stage lighting and sound. We will all miss him and his ready smile.

The Imperial Dove Court of Fresno lost its seventh elected emperor. His Imperial Majesty Emperor VII Will Rochelle pass-

ed away after a brief illness with cancer. Sometimes referred to as the "renegade emperor," Will always encouraged members of Fresno's court to think and work in the present. His involvement in Fresno's court was untiring and his love for his city was expressed in his dedication to it. I always

UP AND COMING

The Warlocks MC will host the Open Meeting also this Friday at the Powerhouse starting at 8:30 p.m. It's getting close to the Warlocks' run, which is scheduled for the weekend of Sept. 19-20 at Lake San Antonio. Applications for the Debutramps Ball will be available at the Open Meeting and at selected bars throughout the city.

'Will has now taken his rightful position on a throne alongside of the other monarchs who have ascended to that Imperial Palace in the clouds.'

DO DA DE

Empress Ten Pin and friends have been bowling their hearts out lately. Michaels one and two, along with DTA, Bob, and Karen are battling those wooden pylons at Japantown Bowl late at night. The results are pending a Supreme Court review.

Well, Jacqueline, off to bowling and things. Take care all, and hi to Duane in Phoenix. Aloha. ●



Everybody had a good time at the Special's anniversary (Photo: Rink)



Natasha (l.), Tawny Gold, and Camille Duncan sing their hearts out at the 'N Touch (Photo: Rink)

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Tax Fund Allocations

The San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund awarded \$104,500 to organizations associated with the San Francisco gay community out of a total outlay of \$5.5 million in grants to arts organizations.

Frameline, the nonprofit organization that puts together the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film and Video Festival each June, received \$10,000. Golden Gate Performing Arts, the umbrella organization for the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, received \$12,000. Theatre Rhinoceros received \$34,000, the San Francisco Band Foundation, another musical umbrella organization for the gay community, received \$8,500, and the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration received \$40,000.

The organizations receiving the big money are: The Exploratorium (\$320,000), the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (\$369,000), the San Francisco Symphony (\$616,000), the San Francisco Opera (\$726,000), the San Francisco Ballet (\$369,000), and the American Conservatory Theatre (\$330,000). The \$5.5 million total is the largest allocation in the Fund's history.

Parsonage Friday Social Hour

The Parsonage is pleased to announce that its Friday evening social hours, from 7 to 9 p.m., are once again being scheduled on a regular basis.

If you want to meet people from The Parsonage or simply would like to stop by for some munchies and cider, please join them.

The Parsonage is a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese in the midst of the gay and lesbian communities. It seeks to reconcile spiritual growth with the embodiment of sexuality within gay people, the church and the community.

If you have questions, please call the Parsonage at 552-2909. The social hours take place at the Victorian cottage at 555A Castro St., next to Headlines. Look for the sandwich board outside!

Correction

A photograph of the White Trash Debutantes on page 24 of the Aug. 28 issue of the *Bay Area Reporter* was erroneously credited to Rink. The photographer is Rico.

Frameline Needs Directors

Frameline, a nonprofit lesbian and gay media organization, is seeking candidates to fill vacancies on the organization's Board of Directors. Frameline produces the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film and Video Festival held each June, as well as other media events held throughout the year. Interested parties should have some experience or interest in the fields of film, video, or photography and be able to commit at least ten hours per month to working with the organization. Anyone interested in becoming a Frameline board member should send a letter of interest and resume to Frameline, P.O. Box 14792, San Francisco, CA 94114.

Call for Men's Voices

The Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale is looking for a few more men's voices for its forthcoming concert in November. Call 863-0342 for more information. The Chorale practices every Tuesday at 7:15 p.m.

Art at the Ambush

Albert Cardile's oils, pastels, and finished drawings are on the walls of the Ambush, 1351 Harrison St., through Sept. 15. His work ranges from the structure of anatomy to the freedom and order of still life. Call 863-3617 for more information.



SCWU Seeks Nominees

Southern California Women for Understanding is seeking nominations for qualified organizations and/or individuals to receive the 1987 Lesbian Rights Award for outstanding service to the community. Nominees must be lesbians and must have shown outstanding support for lesbian rights, causes, and issues of concern to lesbians.

Past recipients include: activists Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, attorneys Diane Abbott and Roberta Bennett, poet Elsa Gidlow, and SCWU founder Myra Riddell.

In addition, five Community Service awards will be presented. Nominees need not be lesbians, but must have shown outstanding support for the lesbian community. Past recipients include Lauren Jardine and Adel Martinez, founders of CONNEX-XUS, artist/writer Terry Wolverton, publishers Jeanne Cordova and Jinx Beers, community activist Deborah Johnson, and civil rights attorney Susan McGreivy.

Contact your local SCWU chapter chair with your nominations. Chapters are located in Ventura, LA/Valley, Beach Cities (Los Angeles County), Southern (Long Beach and Orange County), San Gabriel Valley, North San Diego County, and San Bernardino (or call 213/274-1086). To mail in nominations, send to: Nominations, SCWU, 9054 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069.

The Lesbian Rights Awards Dinner will be held at the Sheraton Universal on Saturday, March 7, 1987.

Affirmation Holds Fall Meeting

"Building Our Family" will be the theme of the annual fall meeting of Affirmation, United Methodists for Lesbian/Gay Concerns, to be held Sept. 19-21 in Washington, D.C. In addition to business sessions, participants will consider through dialogue and community-building activities what it means to be family in a lesbian/gay context, especially in cases where the institutional church is neither sensitive nor supportive.

Affirmation is a nationwide, inclusive community of persons affirming the presence of lesbians and gay men in the United Methodist Church and in Christianity in general. Both lay persons and clergy are among its members. Affirmation serves both as a personal support network for lesbian and gay United Methodists and as a center for advocacy and information within the United Methodist Church.

All persons sharing Affirmation's concerns are invited to attend the Washington, D.C., meeting. Further information, including registration materials, can be obtained by writing Affirmation at P.O. Box 1021, Evanston, IL 60204, or by calling it in Washington, D.C., at (202) 232-1386.

Local Affirmation groups exist in the Bay Area and in Sacramento. For further information about Affirmation's Bay Area presence, contact Fritz Schultz at (415) 753-1354. The Sacramento group meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 2391 St. Mark's Way, in Sacramento.

Gay Cruises on the Horizon

Gay people will have the opportunity to participate in three all-gay luxury cruises in 1987. RSVP Travel Productions, which produced last February's "Cruise to Remember," will repeat its smashing success with two cruises on the S.S. Bermuda Star in February and March. And New York's venerable Islanders Club, which has produced nine gay cruises exclusively for its members over the past 12 years, will offer a Caribbean cruise in March to all interested gay men and women.

Each of the two RSVP cruises will bring together 750 gay men and women for a week of sun, socializing, sightseeing, swimming, fine dining, dancing, and relaxing. Both cruises will depart from New Orleans and stop overnight in Key West. The February cruise makes an additional stop at Grand Cayman, while the March cruise features Cozumel as a port of call. In keeping with the high standards established this year, RSVP will tailor the entertainment and activities to please gay sensibilities.

The Islanders Club has chartered the 280-passenger, yacht-like "Stella Oceanis" for a seven-day cruise departing San Juan March 13. This cruise will feature several ports of call, including St. Barts, Barbados, St. Thomas, and St. Lucia. Entertainment will be provided by Jerry Herman (*Hello, Dolly* and *La Cage Aux Folles*) among others, and some of New York's top DJ's will provide disco on deck. More intimate and expensive than the RSVP offerings, this cruise provides the opportunity to visit a number of fascinating islands while mingling with a high-energy New York crowd.

Now, Voyager Travel, experts in special travel opportunities for gay men and women, will show video highlights of this year's RSVP "Cruise to Remember" Thursday, Aug. 21, from 8 to 10 p.m., at Moby Dick's on 18th Street at Hartford in San Francisco. Information will be available on 1987 gay cruises, door prizes will be awarded, and all attendees will be able to register for a drawing to win a free RSVP cruise. For more information, call or visit Now, Voyager Travel, 4406 18th St., San Francisco, 626-1169.

Gays in World Cinema

Procession of the Arts, the cultural event of Gay Games II, will feature a three-day film series produced by Frameline, the nonprofit lesbian and gay media organization which produces the annual San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. The series will be screened at the Roxie Cinema and will include seven feature films representing the U.S.A., West Germany, and France.

Thursday, Aug. 14, *Taxi Zum Klo* (1980) and *Parting Glances* (1986) will be screened. Both films were important turning points in gay cinema at the times they were released. Friday, Aug. 15, will feature two highly acclaimed lesbian features, Alexandra von Grote's *Novembermoon* and Donna Dietch's *Desert Hearts*. Saturday, Aug. 16, will be a day of muscle with *Pumping Iron* and *Pumping Iron II*, along with Philippe Vallois' *Rainbow Serpent*.

Tickets are \$5 (\$4 for Frameline members) and are available at STBS on Union Square and at the Roxie the day of the screening. The Roxie Cinema is located at 3117 16th St. at Valencia in San Francisco.

I Magnin Sponsors AIDS Fundraiser

I. Magnin will team up with modeling agencies, production companies, and caterers Sept. 11 for Raise the Roof, a fashion fundraiser for people with AIDS. In a giant tent on the rooftop of I. Magnin Union Square, a fashion show will be staged featuring 30 of the industry's top runway models. Every aspect of the show is being donated to benefit San Francisco General Hospital's Ward 86. I. Magnin will run a page-three *San Francisco Chronicle* ad Sept. 4 to publicize the event.

Fashions will include the best of I. Magnin for women and men during this special evening presentation. Donations are \$30 per person, and reservations can be made by calling 362-2100, ext. 2980.

Counseling Our Own

Who cares about lending a helping hand to lesbians, gay men, and other sexual minorities? Lesbian/gay counseling services arose to meet the need for positive mental health services not being met by the established mental health system. The first such service began in 1969 in Seattle, followed by others around the country. A similar process spawned women's and minority services.

Counseling Our Own by Charna Klein is the first and only book on the lesbian/gay counseling, mental health movement. It chronicles the who, what, where, when, how, and why of the services and clients. Gay counseling services are the alternative lesbian/gay subculture mental health institutions to the community mental health center. They are viewed within a context of cultural homophobia, labeling, and cause/cure theories of homosexuality on the one hand, and lesbian/gay subcultural viewpoints and movement on the other.

Who is this book for? Mental health/mental planners, administrators, therapists, students, and academicians will find light shed on lesbian/gay realities, needs and issues, with recommendations and suggested actions. Lesbian/gay, women and ethnic/racial minority activists and community members will find a record of their history, reality, and struggle for positive services and equitable treatment.

Psychological/medical anthropologist and activist for more than 20 years, Klein is well qualified to write about the lesbian/gay mental health movement and subculture. She worked at the Seattle Counseling Service for Sexual Minorities for seven years, and is currently a writer, teacher, and consultant. She provides training in ethnotherapy and ethnomedicine—how to sensitively work with provider-client sexual, cultural, and racial differences.

Counseling Our Own can be purchased directly from the publisher, Consultant Services Northwest, Inc. at 839 N.E. 96th Street, Seattle, Washington 98115.

Video on Homosexuality

A video presentation on homosexuality featuring writer and lecturer Brian McNaught has been released by TRB Productions of Boston. Designed as an educational tool for teachers, counselors, and ministers, the two-part, 80-minute presentation is also highly recommended for families and friends of gay men and women, as well as for gay people.

Titled *A Conversation with Brian McNaught on Being Gay*, the video seeks to "replace the myths about homosexuality with the facts about being gay." In Part One, McNaught underscores the unique experience of being gay by leading the viewer through an unusual and highly effective role reversal fantasy. He then presents the common misconceptions about homosexuality and dispels them with information based on current research findings. This includes myths about transsexualism, transvestism, pederasty, promiscuity, sexual expression, and what is "natural." He concludes Part One, as he does Part Two, with a strong challenge to each viewer to grow to his or her full potential.

In Part Two, McNaught continues to explain what it is like growing up gay by relating details of his own story. The middle child of seven Irish Catholics in Detroit, Brian aspired to be a saint, spent 16 years in Catholic schools, and then became a popular columnist and talk show host for the Archdiocese of Detroit. When he affirmed his homosexuality, he was fired. From 1982 to 1984 he served as the mayor of Boston's liaison to the gay and lesbian community. Following his personal story, McNaught then presents all of the traditionally quoted biblical passages and cogently suggests that current scriptural analysis fails to condemn homosexuality.

McNaught is a syndicated columnist in the gay press and a popular lecturer for professional and university students across North America. His book, *A Disturbed Peace—Selected Writings of an Irish Catholic Homosexual*, was published by Dignity, Inc.

A Conversation with Brian McNaught on Being Gay is available in VHS or Beta for \$39.85 plus \$3 for postage and handling from TRB Productions; P.O. Box 2362; Boston, MA 02107.

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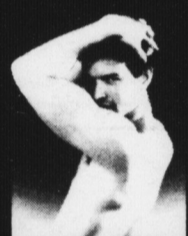
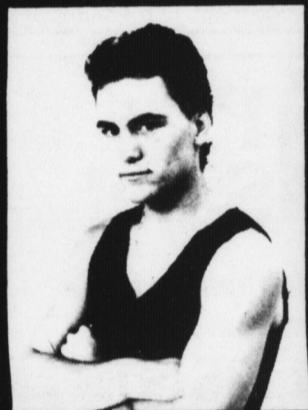
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BOOKS

Forced Marriage

The President's Son
by Krandal Kraus
Alyson Publications; \$7.95

by Bob Thompson

Krandal Kraus' political suspense novel, *The President's Son*, is loosely based on events you've read about in your daily papers: a conservative president whose rise to political power followed a successful media career; a first lady who keeps a tiny pistol in her bedside drawer; a presidential son who belongs to an actors troupe and is forced to marry to conceal his homosexuality; an Egyptian president who is slain by his own soldiers while watching a military parade.

Donald Marshall, Jr. (D.J.) is the only son of President Marshall and First Lady Claudia Marshall. He is married to his best friend, Elaine, but that's just to pacify his father's critics and the media. He's really in love with Terry, with whom he's just spent a year in France, shunted there by his father's chief of staff, Thaddeus Billings, so that he and Terry don't become an "item" during the president's term.

However, having returned to the U.S. because his father's political advisers believe he could be of assistance during the campaign, D.J. and Terry are told they must curtail their meetings until after the election, and that, for appearances, D.J. must live with his "wife," Elaine. This is a problem for Terry, who slides into depression and drugs and begins to cause worries for the cam-

paign, what with a loose mouth and a penchant for embarrassing scenes.

Terry and D.J. are drawn into a political rivalry between Billings and the campaign manager and former head of the CIA, Carl Stone. To further complicate things, Billings is married to Stone's sister, Rachael, who has a severe drinking problem.

Stone and Billings are at odds regarding how to handle the hot potato that is Terry and D.J.'s

'And while the book is unsatisfying, the ending is doubly so.'

relationship. Another problem they have is the president's plan to sell a military system to the Sudan—a plan that is in trouble on Capitol Hill, and could spell political disaster if it fails. Stone, a totally unbelievable character who, for someone who has risen to such political heights, has no visible morals and no political acumen, decides to launch Operation Thunder, i.e., kill the Egyptian president so as to convince wavering senators that the Sudan must be a line of defense against Arab extremists and the Soviets.

Oh, not to be forgotten is the fact that Claudia Marshall, Billings, and Stone are involved in

illegal and clandestine purchases of stocks of a company that will profit greatly from the Sudanese project. All of this, however, is lost on the president—a good guy, oblivious to the shenanigans of his closest friends and advisers, not to mention his wife.

To a certain extent, in reading a political novel, a reader must be willing to suspend disbelief, but Kraus simply asks for too much. Many events and chance sightings are contrived, many just too farfetched. Is a reader really expected to believe characters, top political advisers at that, who constantly act in ways contrary to their own, their president's, and their country's best interests?

This book is no more successful as a gay novel. The reader never gets to see what makes the relationship between Terry and D.J. click. We know they have great sex and are told they are in love, but that love isn't portrayed in enough depth to be convincing. And Terry's whining and overindulgence don't make him a very sympathetic character.

And while the book is unsatisfying, the ending is doubly so, to the point of being abrupt. Perhaps if Kraus had written either a gay novel or a political novel he may have succeeded. As it is, however, his attempt to wed the two just doesn't work.

The Genie Won't Go Back

Virtue Under Fire: How World War II Changed Our Social and Sexual Attitudes
by John Costello,
Little Brown

by Frank Howell

Life before the great conflict was indeed different from what came after. Americans of impressionable age led a life sheltered from Old World cynicism and the shock of functioning in a wider world. The war shattered the egg shell and the morality of the GI was altered forever. The transitory environment opened the door to a wider sexual experimentation.

Gays were no less free to experiment in certain environments. At first masturbation was viewed as the only practical solution. As one barracks poem expressed the sentiment:

*Masturbation is the fashion
For your unrequited passion
If the girls can do it,
Why can't we?
But out here in the Pacific,
Purely as a soporific,
Nothing equals simple self abuse!*

The South Pacific was a tolerant area for erotic practices. In Europe the military was strict and unyielding. Some commanders, especially the British, tended to look the other way.

The manpower needs made it necessary to adopt a more flexible position at times. In the South Pacific one serviceman describes one approach to physical relief.

(One) nighttime outlet was an army transport truck shuttle to

the Seabees, down the stretch from Naha, to see a film. If you wanted to get blown you tried to set on the side benches of the canvas covered truck. Depending on how horny you were and how badly you wanted to see Betty Grable, you could ride the trucks until you were satisfied. Daytime sexual relief could be obtained at a spot on the seashore marked by three reddish rocks soaring up like phallic symbols at the beach where many units went bare-ass bathing.

Throughout history gay lovers made excellent soldiers, but British and American authorities were never impressed. In spite of their opposition, World War II made possible much gay liberation as we know it today. Americans learned as much about themselves as they did about the foreign terrain. The GIs felt their own sexual ambiguity and potential. In the following decade their impulses would find fuller expression.

John Costello, author of *The Pacific War* and a veteran producer with the BBC, writes with verve and a full awareness of the role of historical events and their influence on long-term social trends.

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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

Gay Games Triathlon

by Rick Thoman

Australian Ian Nash won the first-ever Gay Games triathlon competition, holding off a duo of competitors from San Diego who followed close on his heels throughout the three-stage event.

Almost 100 competitors took part in the triathlon, which consisted of a half-mile swim, followed by a 20-mile bicycle race, and finished with a six-mile run.

The event got off to a chilly start as competitors entered fog-shrouded Lake Anza in Tilden Park in the Oakland-Berkeley hills. Joe Weaver from San Diego emerged from the water first and Debra Erdy of Danville was the first woman to complete the swimming portion. Athletes completing the swim shivered their way to their bicycles to begin the tough, hilly ride along Wildcat Canyon Road.

San Diego's Bart Hopple came the leaders during the bicycle leg, riding into the Inspiration Point drop-off zone first to begin the six-mile run. Ian Nash also overtook swim leader Joe Weaver, finishing the bike portion in second, followed closely by a tiring Weaver in third place. Carol Wildman took over the lead in the women's division as she sped into the bike drop-off and jumped out on the running trail anxious to keep her slim lead over Debra Erdy and Char Levitt.

The running portion of the triathlon took the athletes along a rolling course known as Nimitz Way. The 10-kilometer course stretched out along the San Pablo Ridge and afforded the runners a scenic view of San Francisco Bay on one side and San Pablo Reservoir and the rolling East Bay hills on the other. But the runners were more busy keeping their competition in view as the lead changed once again in the men's race. Australia's Ian Nash moved on Bart Hopple early in the run, passing him before the half-way point turn-around, and although Hopple kept Nash in view, he couldn't make up the distance, and Nash eventually crossed the finish line first.

Hopple was second, followed by Weaver. Both Hopple and Weaver are from San Diego, which also garnered a silver medal in the triathlon's 40-49 age division due to the efforts of Steve Nottle.

The women's division was won by Wildman of Taos, New Mexico, followed by Char Levitt of St. Croix, Virgin Islands, who overtook Debra Erdy on the running portion, placing Erdy in third. In the age divisions, Levitt actually won the gold for the 18-29 age division, followed by Erdy with the silver, and Sheila Wagner of San Francisco captured the bronze. Besides being the overall women's winner, Wildman got the gold in the 30-39 age group, followed by Amy Ecclesine of San Francisco, and Wendy Howley, bronze medalist from Honolulu, Hawaii.

The triathlon relay teams, with different individuals performing the different segments of the event, included a gold for the Durango, Colorado men's team, followed by Sacramento and San Francisco, and it was a Bay Area affair for the women's relay teams as the gold went to Oakland, followed by San Francisco and Santa Cruz.

All in all, there was a tremendous turnout of both competitors and spectators for the first-ever Gay Games triathlon, with special thanks to co-chairs Roxanne Fiscella and Doug Vanden Bos, and the medical and course volunteers who helped make the event an exciting success!

Spotlight on GG II Volleyball

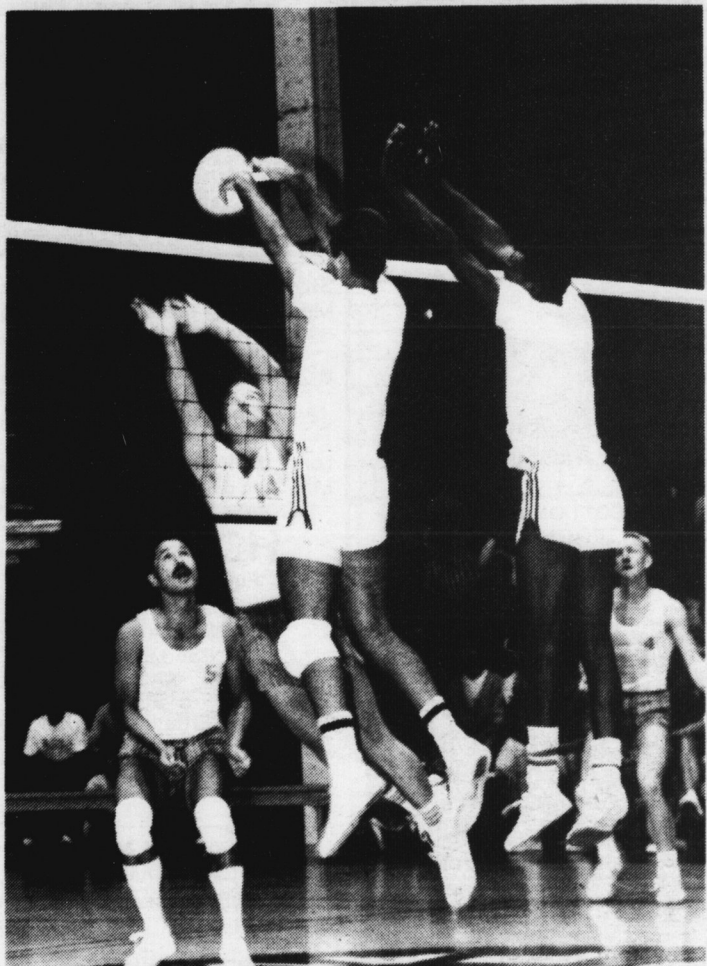
by Rick Thoman

The Gay Games II volleyball competition was one of the most popular and most populated sports, with 44 teams participating in three divisions. In addition to the teams that came from all over the United States, there was an international representation of five teams from Canada, and single squads from Paris and Sydney.

Perhaps more than any other sport in the Games, participants in volleyball received plenty of playing time. The tournament started with three days of round-robin or "pool" play, providing each team the opportunity to play most of the other teams in their division. The teams played a minimum of eight games before entering into the elimination tournament Thursday. As Gay Games volleyball co-chair Mike Bulawit explained, "We received a lot of favorable responses from the teams due to the fact that we provided everyone with lots of playing time. We wanted to make sure that those people who traveled some distance to get here wouldn't be out of the tournament after just a few games."

Tournament play in the women's division saw the teams of Vancouver, Paris, Chicago, Denver, San Francisco, Seattle, Berkeley, Oakland, Vallejo, and Sacramento work down to a final battle between Vancouver, Berkeley, and Seattle for the medals. The final match for the gold was between Vancouver and Berkeley as they battled for three full sets, pitting Berkeley's all-around team-play against the outstanding leadership of Vancouver team captain Betty Baxter. In the end, Baxter's defensive moves, along with teammate Judy Szepes's outside hitting won the gold for Vancouver. Berkeley settled for the silver medal, and Seattle wound up with the bronze.

Out of the 20 teams in the men's "B" division, the top seeds for the finals were San Diego, Chicago, Toronto, Washington, D.C., Seattle, and San Francisco. Toronto, which had placed second in the Gay Volleyball National tournament



Gay Games II volleyball action (Photo: Savage Photography)

earlier this year, came out strong from the beginning and put away San Diego (second place, silver medal) and Seattle (third place, bronze medal) to win the gold.

In the men's "A" division, the final top seeds included Miami, Seattle, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, Vancouver, Phoenix, and West Hollywood. The Los Angeles team, which had won the "A" division Nationals at this year, took Vancouver and San Francisco out of the running as it marched to the final matches for the medals. Unfortunately for LA, Seattle's heavy-hitting Al Castor and team put a halt to LA at the bronze medal mark, as Seattle stalked tournament leader Miami for the gold. Miami appeared to be unstoppable throughout the Gay Games tournament, due primarily to the outstanding offensive and defensive work of Pedro Delgado and

Hector Martinez. In the final match for the gold, Seattle couldn't overcome the consistently strong play of the Miami players, who put away Seattle 15-9 and 15-10 to win the gold and place Seattle with the silver medal in the final standings.

The volleyball competition was well received throughout Gay Games week as the tournament ran for almost 12 hours daily at the San Francisco City College Gymnasium. This was due in large part to the tireless efforts of co-chairs Michael Bulawit and Marcia Veale, and their committee of Deary Duffie, Steve Moore, Dan Gellerman, and Kathy Olberts. Bulawit also mentioned with gratitude the help of the USVBA officials and the Gay Games volunteers, including medical and massage personnel, which made the volleyball competition a real success.

Pocket Billiards at Gay Games II

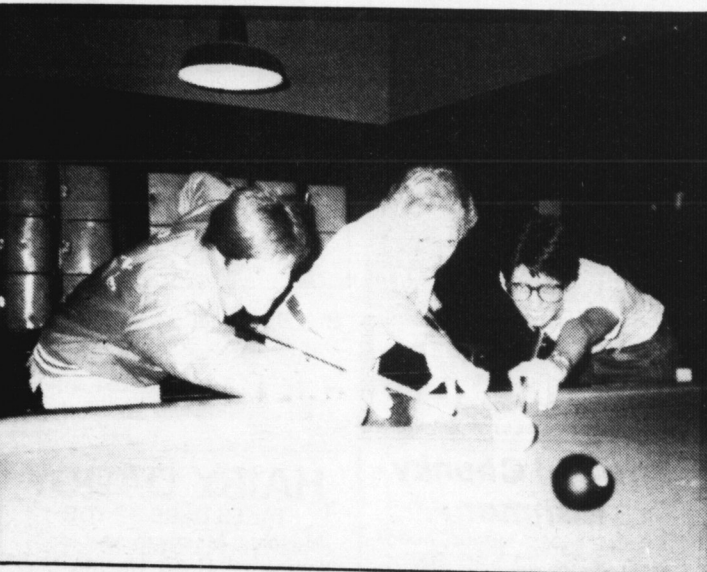
A Triumph of Spirit

by Lauren Ward

The dancing of hearts and minds is what we shared at Park Bowl the week of Gay Games II. One hundred strong, we shared our skill and knowledge through seven events mixed and matched over seven days. What a lucky combination it became.

After the initial sniffing and probing one plain fact emerged: we all love the game. As the hours passed and the dramas unfolded we came to care and then to truly love each other in the cramped playing area which was our home for a week. Never shall I pass near Park Bowl again without that warmth engulfing me.

Sure, there were medals awarded and hopes dashed, but everyone who played won an unforgettable experience.



The three women's individual 8-ball champions

San Francisco Pool Association Standings

August 27, 1986
Week 2 of 11

Division I		Division III	
Watering Hole Bullfrogs	21-11 .656	Park Bowl Party Lines	25-7 .781
Park Bowl III	18-14 .562	DeLuxe Ducks	23-9 .718
Pilsner Independents	17-15 .531	El Rio Players	16-16 .500
Stallion Stampede	16-16 .500	Badlands Survivors	13-19 .406
Bear Bottoms	13-19 .406	Inside Out	10-22 .312
Special Give Me A Break	11-21 .343	Maud's	9-23 .281

Division II		Division IV	
Bear T.H.U.G.G.S.	22-10 .687	Park Bowl Badasses	22-10 .687
Pilsner Emperors	18-14 .562	DeLuxe, Too *	10-6 .625
Detour 3 Ds	17-15 .531	Maud's Squad	15-17 .486
A Special Breed	17-15 .531	El Rio Turtles	14-18 .437
Stallion Shooters	12-20 .375	Pendulum 8 Ballers	7-9 .437
Watering Hole Bisons	10-22 .312	Badlands Lushes	12-20 .375

* Match to be made up

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TENNIS

Tournament Honors Jim Holloran

by Les Balmain

The 7th Annual Membership Tournament of the Gay Tennis Federation of San Francisco, scheduled this weekend, Sept. 6 and 7, at the Channing Tennis Courts of the University of California at Berkeley, has been renamed "The Jim Holloran Annual Tennis Classic." Jim Holloran, a charter member of the G.T.F., joining in 1980, contributed greatly to the formation of the beginning policies of the club through the first years by serving as treasurer, vice president, tournament director, team tennis sponsor, and as one of the most talented, active playing competitors on the tennis ladder. Jim passed away last February after a valiant fight against AIDS for the previous two years. It is in honor of his memory that this tournament has been dedicated.

The tournament is composed of three divisions, "A," "B," and "C," with the first and second place prizes given to the cham-

ionship and consolation brackets in all three divisions.

The 1985 champions who will be defending their titles are: Class "A" - Championship - Chris Van Deine; Consolation - Lupe Vasquez; Class "B" - Championship - Gary Belcher; Consolation - Don Trisdale; Class "C" - Championship - Bob Viereck; Consolation - Doug Hall.

Spectators, new members, fans, and loved ones are encouraged to pack a picnic basket and drive over to the tennis courts for two days of sun and fun, playing and watching some great tennis! (Directions to the Courts: From the Bay Bridge take Highway 80 North, take Ashby Exit and go about two miles east on Ashby. Make a left on Telegraph Avenue and proceed for about one mile, then make a left on Channing Avenue. Go about two blocks, courts on the left.)

SOFTBALL

Gay Softball League

LA Wins Series; Pirates Place Third

by Tom Vindeed

Los Angeles won its fifth Gay World Series title by going undefeated in the 10th annual event held in New York's Central Park.

After being upset by D.C., the Pendulum Pirates, representing San Francisco, swept five straight games before bowing to Dallas 5-4 to take third place.

This edition of the Pendulum team has to receive high marks for the way it played in New York. Missing Rick Cunningham, Gus Nino, Mike Dolan, and Tag Wilson was bad enough, but Mike Gray, Glen Burke, and Wes Jackson had to play hurt. I think the team's third-place finish rivals

the title it won in '82. Great job, Arthur and team.

The Amelia's team didn't fare so well and was eliminated in two games. The San Diego women won it all again. That team will be hard to dethrone in the coming years.

This Saturday at 6 p.m. at the Cathedral Hill Hotel, Van Ness at Post, is the Gay Softball League's annual banquet. It's free to GSL members, \$20 at the door and to non-league members.
Editor's Note: a complete wrap-up of the World Series will appear in the next issue.

PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD BOWLING LEAGUES TEAM STANDINGS

TAVERN GUILD MONDAY LEAGUE (Week 17 of 20 - as of 8/18/86)		THURSDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE (Week 15 of 21 - as of 8/21/86)	
1. Pilsner Powder Puffs	41 27	11. Jerry's Kids	35 33
2. C.C. Riders	39 29	12. Play With It Always	34 34
3. Pilsner Pugs	38 30	13. Gutter Girls	28½ 39½
4. Frantic Finishers	38 30	14. On the Road Again	28 40
5. Park Bowl	38 30	15. Pilsner Pointless Sisters	28 36
6. Capricorn Coffees	37 31	16. David Kelsey's	26 42
7. Pilsner Pointless Sisters	36 32	17. Unmentionables	25 39
8. Twin Peaks Tavern	36 32	18. Opus I	24 44
9. Foul Play	32½ 35½	19. Pin Pricks	17½ 50½
10. Studstore	32 36		
11. Welcome Home	32 32		
12. Pecker Heads	30½ 37½		
13. Pendulum Crowd	27½ 36½		
14. The Unknown Bowlers	18½ 49½		

TAVERN GUILD WEDNESDAY LEAGUE	
1. Play With It, Ltd.	46½ 21½
2. Pilsner Pin Guins	45 23
3. Dicks At The Beach	44 24
4. Park Bowl	43 25
5. Pilsner Potlickers	43 25
6. The Leftovers	40 28
7. Pilsner I	39 29
8. Ram's Head Bar	39 29
9. Pendulum Pandas	36½ 31½
10. Hunks	36 32

Compiled by Jerry R. De Young

Gay Football

The San Francisco Trojans flag football club will have its first practice Saturday, Sept. 6 at 10 a.m. and Sunday, Sept. 7 at 10 a.m. at the field adjoining Kezar Stadium, immediately behind (to the West of) it.

Anyone interested in playing is encouraged to come. Cleats are appropriate footwear. Kezar Stadium is located at Frederick and Stanyan in Golden Gate Park. Phone Ron Herzog at 431-8521 for details.

BOWLING

Young TGTBL Says 'Make Room Sisters!'

by Jerry R. De Young

All three Tavern Guild Bowling Leagues are heading into the home stretch with a mere 3½ games average separating the first five teams on each league. It's obvious a three-league, first-place free-for-all is in the offing. It will certainly be a sight worth seeing! Maybe even matching the exciting GGII playoffs.

The TGTBL, youngest of the three Tavern Guild Leagues, has over the past several seasons firmly established itself as a gay bowling institution. Why, the TGTBL's Michael Wheeler of Ron's Records even holds the second highest scratch series of the three leagues with his astonishing 650. (TCMBL = 647, TG-WBL = 677) While, for a time there, during its initial firming-up period, some considered the TGTBL as somewhat of a minor bowling league, it is now turning out some of the finest bowlers of any league, and somehow, simultaneously, managing to keep the emphasis on fun.

Undoubtedly, a large portion of the credit for TGTBL's steady improvement can be attributed to Ron Squires, its League Secretary. Ron accepted the TGTBL secretarial position shortly after the league was created and has since been a constant force in guiding it to ever-higher levels of achievement. Ron, by the way, was recently appointed an ABC House Director, and is now aptly serving his peers in this prestigious position also. Many thanks, Ron, for your past and continuing service to your league and community.

Another positive occurrence at Park Bowl is that there are now hanging above the lanes three 4x4 foot posters advertising the establishments and services of three team sponsors: The Pilsner Inn, The Ram's Head Bar, and On The Road Again Travel. Play With It, Ltd., The Pendulum, The Eagle, Capricorn Coffees, Twin Peaks, Welcome Home, David Kelsey, Cock-A-Doodle-Do, where are you? The remaining 4x4 foot spaces are available free to Park Bowl team sponsors, and any enterprise would be less than sage not to take advantage of this gratis space so graciously offered by Park Bowl management, especially when the first ten or so posters to be turned in will be posted in the premium intervals between the scoring machines.

Now, for a couple up-notes followed by a down-note. Doug Litwin of last winter season's Contour Gals on the Wednesday Community League and Bill Wood of this season's Gangway team on the Thursday Community League both bowled perfect 300 games. However, after all these months, neither of these two Community League high achievers has his picture hanging among the many portrait shots of 299 and 300 bowlers of other leagues. The question is: how long will it be before our two Community League perfect game bowlers enjoy equal honors members of other leagues at Japantown?

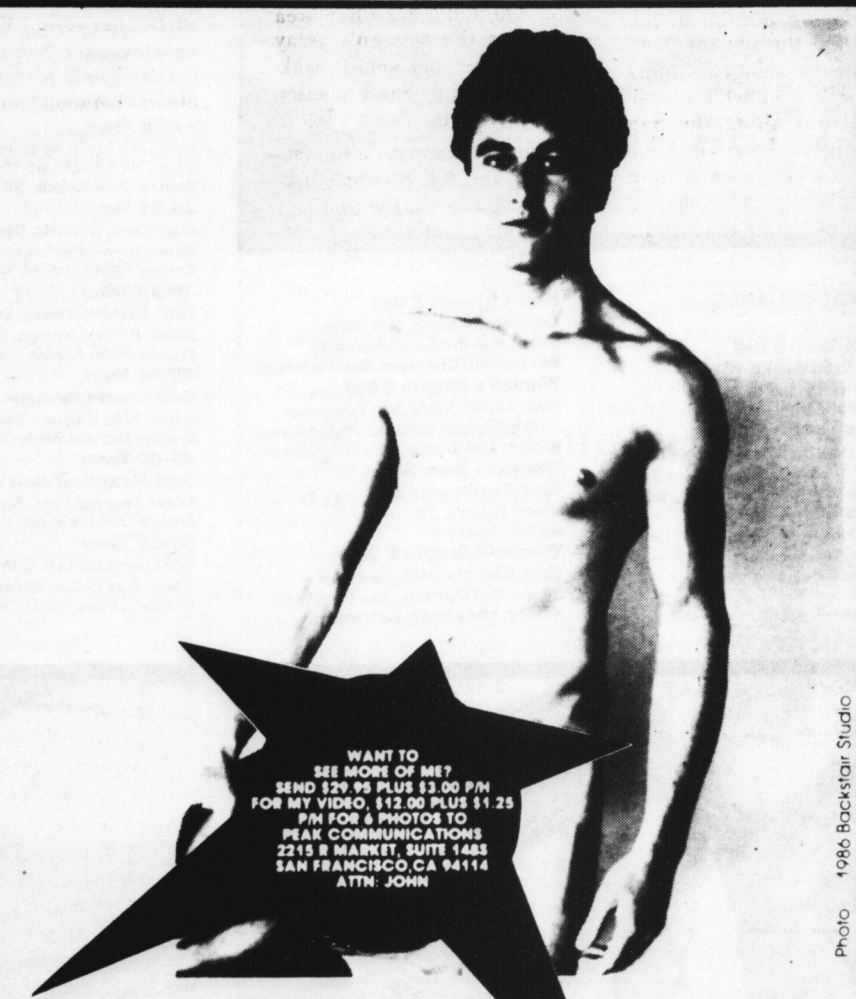
TG Bowling Winter Season

With the fun-filled '86 Summer Season swiftly approaching an exciting finale, the time is now to start considering a 1986-87 Winter Season activity itinerary. Therefore, here are some league particulars that will prove to be invaluable information when formulating your 1986-87 Winter Season activity schedule.

Tavern Guild Monday League Winter Season starts Oct. 6. The pre-season meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. that evening on the 2nd floor of Park Bowl. There will be voting on officers and bylaws and accepting of new teams and bowlers. Bowling will commence at 8:30 p.m. Teams are 5-person teams with a sixth sub-bowler optional. Price will be determined at the pre-season meeting.

The Tavern Guild Wednesday League Winter Season begins Oct. 1. Remaining information is same as above but scheduled for Oct. 1.

Tavern Guild Thursday League Winter Season starts Oct. 2. The pre-season meeting on the 2nd floor of Park Bowl begins at 8:00 p.m. There will be voting on officers and bylaws and accepting of new teams and bowlers. Bowling begins at 9:00 p.m. Teams are 4-person teams with a fifth sub-bowler optional. Price will be determined at the pre-season meeting.



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- P 1 I'm your all American boy, ready for action
- R 2 It's you and me in the gym, hot and sweaty
- E 3 for Daddy fantasies - he's waiting to punish you
- S 4 we'll head for the toilet for sleazy sex games
- S 5 I'm on top, you're definitely on the bottom

A \$2.00 service charge plus toll (if any) will appear on your bill as 976-7637. You must be over 18 to make this call.

Gay Games II Medal Winners

(Second of Three Parts)

SOFTBALL

Women
Gold: San Francisco
Silver: Guerneville
Bronze: Redwood City

Men
Gold: San Francisco
Silver: Boston
Bronze: Seattle

BASKETBALL

Women
Gold: San Francisco
Silver: Los Angeles
Bronze: Denver

Men
Gold: San Diego
Silver: San Francisco
Bronze: Los Angeles

GOLF

Men
Low Net
Gold: Rodney Bush, Sidney, AUS
Silver: Charlie Hall, Boston
Bronze: Tie: Nal Fernandez, Sacramento
Norman Frohwein, Sacramento
Terry Farnen, Boston

Low Gross
Gold: Terry Smith, Norfolk, VA
Silver: Chris Canine, Sacramento
Bronze: Dale Beattie, Laguna Beach

Women
Low Net
Gold: Anna Harrison, Sacramento
Silver: Barbara Olson, San Francisco
Bronze: Karen Mullik, Fremont

Low Gross
Gold: Margo Dutton, Palo Alto
Silver: JoAnn Smith, Belchertown, MA
Bronze: Jan Tepper, Santa Cruz



MARATHON

Overall
Women
Gold: Debbie Chaddock, San Diego
Silver: Sue Ellis, La Jolla
Bronze: Twyla Willie, Greenbrae

Men
Gold: Jeff Mello, Boston
Silver: Michael Graves, San Francisco
Bronze: Gary Williams, Des Moines

Women
18-29 Years
Gold: Debbie Chaddock, San Diego
Silver: Cecilia Smith, San Francisco
Bronze: Linda Ruth Clem, Daly City

30-34 Years
Gold: Sue Ellis, La Jolla
Silver: Twyla Willie, Greenbrae
Bronze: Laurie McGillis, Los Angeles

35-39 Years
Gold: Pam Crockett, Long Beach
Silver: Penny O'Neill, Surrey, B.C.
Bronze: Elizabeth Ashmead, San Diego

45-49 Years
Gold: Mig Hunter, San Diego

50-59 Years
Gold: Jane Dods, North Hollywood

Men
18-29 Years
Gold: Jeff Mello, Boston
Silver: Rick Buckhert, New York
Bronze: John Kaskie, St. Paul

30-34 Years
Gold: Gary Williams, Des Moines
Silver: Bernie Piotrowski, San Diego
Bronze: David Ludlow, New Zealand

35-39 Years
Gold: Michael Graves, San Francisco
Silver: Richard Nelson, Newport Beach
Bronze: Brian Kimble, Denver

40-44 Years
Gold: Charles Farrington, Boston
Silver: Fred Hulsizer, San Francisco
Bronze: Richard Baron, Boston

45-49 Years
Gold: Marty King, New York
Silver: Leonard Lenz, San Diego
Bronze: Jim Gambrell, Portland

50-59 Years
Gold: John Lockart, San Diego
Silver: Bud Lackie, Santa Monica
Bronze: Carlos Flores, San Diego

SOCCER

Women
Gold: San Francisco
Silver: Vancouver
Bronze: Berkeley

Men
Gold: San Francisco
Silver: New York
Bronze: Phoenix



VOLLEYBALL

Women
Gold: Vancouver
Silver: Berkeley
Bronze: Seattle

Men

A Team
Gold: Miami
Silver: Seattle
Bronze: Los Angeles

B Team
Gold: Toronto
Silver: San Diego
Bronze: Seattle

BOWLING

Men's Singles
Gold: Steve Janusz, Chicago
Silver: Eric Geiger, Sacramento
Bronze: Mike Sorte, Seattle

Women's Singles
Gold: Ren Whitman, San Diego
Silver: Debbie Carmona, Nicasio, CA
Bronze: Dee Hopkins, San Jose

Men's Team
Gold: Atlanta
Silver: West Hollywood
Bronze: Chicago

Women's Team
Gold: Nicasio, CA
Silver: San Jose
Bronze: San Francisco



POCKET BILLIARDS

Men's Team 9 Ball
Gold: Sacramento
Silver: Houston
Bronze: Boston

Men's Singles 9 Ball
Gold: Rick Bradford, Traverse City, MI
Silver: Dee Wahburn, Redwood City
Bronze: Steve Murrell, Springfield, IL

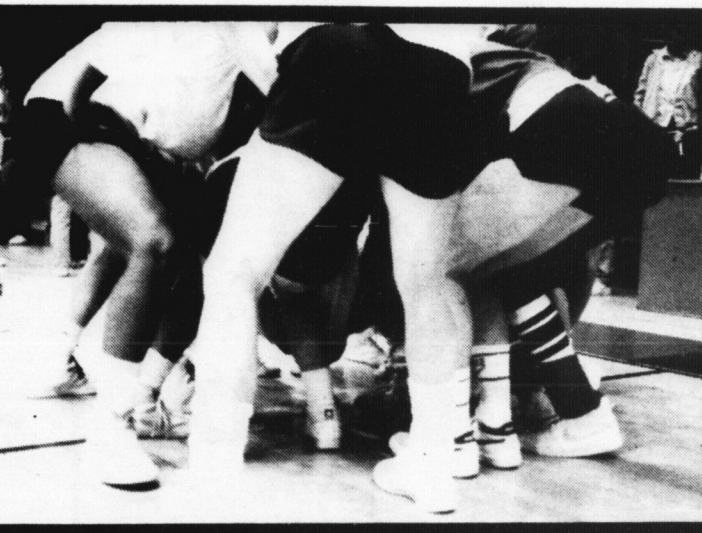
Men's Team 8 Ball
Gold: Houston
Silver: Sacramento
Bronze: Cloverdale

Men's Singles 8 Ball
Gold: Brad Hasper, San Diego
Silver: Ken Brown, Sacramento
Bronze: Tim Chitwood, San Francisco

Women's Singles 9 Ball
Gold: Lauren Ward, San Francisco
Silver: Rachael Williams, Philadelphia
Bronze: Lisa Duncan, San Francisco

Women's Team 8 Ball
Gold: San Francisco
Silver: Bellaire, TX
Bronze: Brisbane

Women's Singles 8 Ball
Gold: Gina Martinez, New York
Silver: Toni Macante, San Francisco
Bronze: Holly Reed, Sacramento



(All Photos this Page: R. Pruzan)



BOOKS

A Matter of Principle

The Little Death
by Michael Nava
Alison Publications, \$6.95
by James K. Graham

The murder mystery is a difficult genre, one that has almost become an automatic self-parody. It takes an exceptional writer to avoid the common traps of cardboard characters, hackneyed writing and stock situations. Michael Nava, whose novel *The Little Death* has just been published by Alyson, is an exceptional writer.

The protagonist of *The Little Death* is Henry Rios, a gay Mexican-American attorney who was graduated from the law school of a prestigious private university on the San Francisco peninsula and has worked as a public defender. In this he is not unlike his creator. But this is not to say that *The Little Death* is an autobiographical novel; rather, it is to say that Nava, as does any good author, draws upon his life experience and transmutes it to create a character who becomes believable, recognizable, and likeable.

As the novel goes on, we see Henry Rios at his best—pursuing the elusive and ruthless killer of the man he loved—and at his worst, jumping to conclusions that place him and his cause in extreme danger. We feel with him the passion for justice and feel for him when he is hurt and

frustrated.

Nava makes Henry Rios the narrator of his story. This accomplishes several things: it makes us closer to Henry, because we see things through his eyes and share his thoughts; it makes the story move faster, because we have only one set of perceptions and descriptions to deal with; and it involves us deeply in the plot, because we, like Henry, are trying to figure out what is going on.

It has a further effect for gay readers. Henry's narration makes us feel closer to him because he notices things we would notice, and describes them as we would describe them.

But Henry Rios is not the only believable character in this novel, though he is the most fully developed. Others become real with only a few apt descriptive phrases or in a few scenes, such as Hugh Paris, whose murder gives the novel its title; Katherine Paris, his mother; and John Henry Howard, the aged retired law professor who speaks in a "voice thickened with the sediment of alcohol and age."

The lucidity of Nava's prose shines not only in such descriptions but also in the scenes he

sets: "I realized that I was about to be the recipient of the drunken confidences of an old, depressed woman. Common decency almost got me out of the bar, but not quite."

And in the reflections, the inner thoughts of Henry Rios: "There was so much money that it had acquired an air of fable as though it were stored not in banks, trust companies, and investment management firms, but hidden away in caves as if it were pirate treasure."

There is something in the words of which *The Little Death* is constructed that goes beyond competence and craftsmanship. Michael Nava has managed to infuse Henry Rios's narration with clarity, with the idiomatic ring of reality, and with the unique blend of penetration, wry humor, and sensitivity that we can call a "gay sensibility."

I think it is this achievement, this encapsulation of an ethos, that also protects *The Little Death* from the banality of murder mystery plots: the remote mansions, beautiful dead blondes, hard-bitten detectives, and so on. The transportation of the murder mystery onto gay turf makes it impossible to take anything for granted—even the beautiful dead blond.

And the fact that the protagonist is an attorney takes us even further from the world of the wise guy detective or the talented amateur sleuth. The plot here hinges on an obscure legal prin-

Again, the Classic Male Pair

Dance on My Grave
by Aidan Chambers
Harper and Row, \$5.95
by Marv Shaw

They come along every so often, the young males who find they are psychological Gemini: David and Jonathan, Huck and Tom, Spud and Lydie (in William Maxwell's unfairly neglected *The Folded Leaf*). The splendid difference Chambers advances is to make their sexual relationship explicit—and without porning it up.

Amateur sailor Hal capsizes a friend's little boat in the chill Thames estuary and is rescued by the older Barry. Reluctant at first, though obviously dazzled, Hal soon slips into a romantic fixation in which the tides of passion become stronger and far

more destructive than the sea's. Both boys have a bisexual side, and when the Norwegian au pair girl Kari enters the story, drastic complications ensue. Barry's emotional shortcomings disrupt the affair, but Hal's love persists.

The luridly grotesque title makes complete sense in the context. So too does the expressionistic style of telling, with Hal/Chambers laying it out in the vernacular of a contemporary British youth who is also intellectually acute. Even the intercut bits from newspapers and social workers' reports are appropriate.

In addition, there are action, humor, and intriguing characterizations. Hal and Barry tangle with skin-head louts. Hal gets into drag for a visit to a morgue. Barry's ebullient mother, and Osborne, Hal's demanding teacher, are only two who live on the page as strongly as the principals.

Chambers has shown us the universal theme of flawed but overwhelming male love in completely believable modern terms—and without the cliché villain of a disapproving society. The psychological pattern is familiar and realistic, but the treatment is fresh and absorbing. Get this one.

BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

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<h3>POCKET BILLIARDS</h3> <p>Men's Team 9 Ball Gold: Sacramento Silver: Houston Bronze: Boston</p> <p>Men's Singles 9 Ball Gold: Rick Bradford, Traverse City, MI Silver: Dee Wahburn, Redwood City Bronze: Steve Murrell, Springfield, IL</p> <p>Men's Team 8 Ball Gold: Houston Silver: Sacramento Bronze: Cloverdale</p> <p>Men's Singles 8 Ball Gold: Brad Hasper, San Diego Silver: Ken Brown, Sacramento Bronze: Tim Chitwood, San Francisco</p> <p>Women's Singles 9 Ball Gold: Lauren Ward, San Francisco Silver: Rachael Williams, Philadelphia Bronze: Lisa Duncan, San Francisco</p> <p>Women's Team 8 Ball Gold: San Francisco Silver: Bellaire, TX Bronze: Brisbane</p> <p>Women's Singles 8 Ball Gold: Gina Martinez, New York Silver: Toni Macante, San Francisco Bronze: Holly Reed, Sacramento</p>	<h3>VOLEYBALL</h3> <p>Women Gold: Vancouver Silver: Berkeley Bronze: Seattle</p> <p>Men A Team Gold: Miami Silver: Seattle Bronze: Los Angeles</p> <p>B Team Gold: Toronto Silver: San Diego Bronze: Seattle</p>	<h3>BOWLING</h3> <p>Men's Singles Gold: Steve Janusz, Chicago Silver: Eric Geiger, Sacramento Bronze: Mike Sorte, Seattle</p> <p>Women's Singles Gold: Ren Whitman, San Diego Silver: Debbie Carmona, Nicasio, CA Bronze: Dee Hopkins, San Jose</p> <p>Men's Team Gold: Atlanta Silver: West Hollywood Bronze: Chicago</p> <p>Women's Team Gold: Nicasio, CA Silver: San Jose Bronze: San Francisco</p>	<h3>CASTRO - newly remod furnished rooms, \$135/wk. 861-5300 E37</h3>
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BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XVI NO. 37 SEPTEMBER 11, 1986 1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103 TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019

Gay Rights Support Rises, Poll Shows

Public Supports Job, Housing Rights Despite Confusion, Ignorance on AIDS

by Will Snyder

There's some good news and some bad news about the way Californians feel about gay people and AIDS. That's what researchers from the University of California at Berkeley and Stanford University said during the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association in Washington on Thursday, Aug. 28.

The researchers pointed out that public support for gay men and lesbians has "significantly strengthened" in the last eight years despite the AIDS crisis. However, the researchers also noted that two-thirds of the 1,000 people polled by the Field Institute believe that people who cook for schools or restaurants should be required to take blood tests to show they have not been exposed to AIDS.

Members of the research team included Prof. Paul Sniderman, a Stanford political scientist currently working for the UC-Berkeley Survey Research Center; Barbara Wolfinger of Berkeley Productions, Inc.; Diana C. Mutz of Stanford; and James A. Wile of the UC-Berkeley Survey Research Center.

According to the researchers, rights for gay men and lesbians (Continued on page 2)



**Applause!
Applause!**

They came out in big numbers to fight Lyndon LaRouche last Thursday night. The event was a fundraising dinner for No on Prop. 64 with the proceeds going to buy ad space to defeat the potential quarantine initiative. Among the dignitaries at the main table were Rev. and Mrs. Cecil Williams, Rep. Barbara Boxer, Mayor Dianne Feinstein, comedian Robin Williams and *San Francisco Chronicle* columnist Herb Caen. Shown above are most of them listening to Assembly Speaker Willie Brown. For more on the dinner and other Prop. 64 information, please turn to p. 3. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

City Awards Federal Funds to Gay Agencies

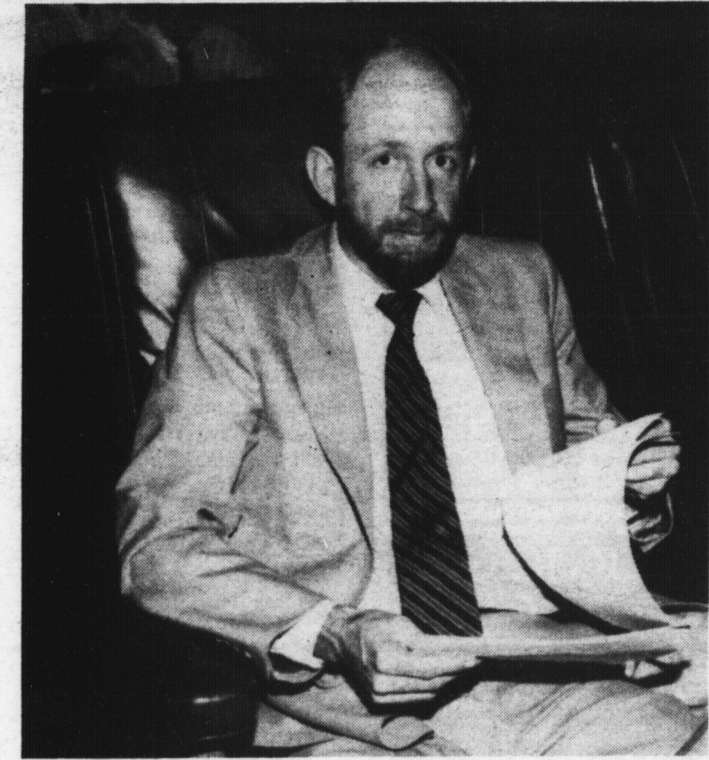
Coming Home May Get \$100K; Lyon-Martin Set for \$74K

by Charles Linebarger

The Citizen's Committee on Community Development has recommended that approximately \$467,000 of the city's federal block grant money be awarded to gay agencies this coming year. Of that amount, Coming Home Hospice is slated to receive \$100,000 and the Jon Sims Center, home of the Gay Freedom Day Band Foundation, will get \$60,000. The figures are from the mayor's preliminary plan for federal block grants.

Other agencies recommended for federal block grant money in 1987 are the Hospitality House Youth Employment Project which serves many gay and lesbian youth, according to Greg

Day, chair of the Community Development Committee. Hospitality House is to get \$50,000. The Lyon-Martin Clinic is recommended for \$74,000, Operation Concern for \$53,000, the



Greg Day

(Photo: Rink)

Women's Building for \$80,000 and City Celebration, which includes Theatre Rhinoceros

among 18 different arts groups, is slated for \$50,000. Coming Home Hospice, on

'Since I've been on the Citizens' Advisory Committee, every gay and lesbian applicant has been recommended by the committee for funding. We just don't have a whole lot of gay applicants.'

—Greg Day

Diamond Street, is being created in a former convent of the Church of the Most Holy Redeemer. Use of the property is being donated for the hospice by the Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco. The hospice is planned to house people with AIDS as well as the parish's elderly cancer patients.

The Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts was named after the gay band's founder who died of AIDS in 1985. It houses sixteen different performing arts groups including the band itself. The San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade offices are also located at the Center. The Center is administered by the Band Foundation. The Sims Center will use its funds for further renovations of the building.

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Is Oral Sex Unsafe?

Three Studies Indicate Low Risk of Transmission; But Researchers Advise Caution, Results Limited

by George Mendenhall

From the very first warnings about unsafe sex practices, oral sex has been placed in the unsafe category. Since the fatal disease AIDS is transmitted by body fluids such as semen, it is believed that any exchange of semen is risky. But three recent studies on male sex practices have concluded there is no correlation between ingesting semen and testing positive on the HIV (formerly HTLV-3) antibody blood test.

Researchers, however, are quick to point out that the studies have been very limited in scope. They caution that it is better to err on the side of safety than to take needless risks.

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Today

Gaysian City is what S.F. is headed for if gays and Asians become the majority of the city's population. *Focus* magazine recently looked at the Asian side of the equation but ignored the gay side. See page 17.

AIDS in minority communities is increasing and services are being developed to meet the problem. Marcy Rein reports on this new facet of the epidemic, page 4.

Preaching to Elephants??? To find out how she does it, see Steve Warren's report on MCC's international minister, page 14.