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BAY AREA REPORTER

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Britt Unveils Action Plan For Congress

**Burton Coalition Shifts to Britt;
Sierra Club Endorses**

by Allen White

The 400,000-member national Sierra Club this week endorsed Sup. Harry Britt for Congress. That endorsement followed closely the announcement that Britt had received the largest number of votes in the San Francisco Labor Council, narrowly missing that group's endorsement. The news came as part of the support that hundreds of volunteers are receiving as they move across the city campaigning for Britt. Last Saturday morning, in the rain, over 200 people gathered at Britt headquarters to walk precincts in the 5th Congressional District.

They heard Harry Britt say that he has received the support from virtually all environmental groups. The endorsement by the Sierra Club is one of the most important endorsements that will be given in this race for Congress. To receive the endorsement, he had to win by a two-thirds majority on three levels within the club's organizational structure. The Sierra Club has 57 chapters across the country.

Britt noted that it was significant that support previously shown for Phil and Sala Burton was now shifting to him. He also noted that he received the largest number of votes from the city's Labor Council. With 34,000 votes, he received 3,000 more votes than his nearest competitor, Nancy Pelosi.

Britt followed up that achievement with announcing a legislative plan he will pursue in Congress to fight the AIDS epidemic. He released an 18-page Congressional legislative proposal.

At a press conference where the proposal was unveiled, Britt

(Continued on next page)



Congressional candidate Harry Britt, right, makes a comment about AIDS while Dr. Marcus Conant and Paul Boneberg listen. (Photo: Steve Savage)

Condom Makers Cash In But Don't Want Gay Market

**Industry Counts On Gay Sales
But Won't Support Gay Ads**

NEWS ANALYSIS

by Joe Di Sabato
Rivendell Marketing Company

Have you ever seen an ad from a major condom manufacturer in any gay publication? No? Neither have I. Most people wouldn't believe it, but in the years since AIDS was first diagnosed in the late 1970s, not one major condom manufacturer has seen fit to undertake an advertising outreach to the gay community in the gay media. Not Trojan (which controls 55 percent of the condom market and is the undisputed industry leader); not Schmid (owner of the Ramses and Shief brands which account for 39 percent of the condom market); not Ansell (makers of LifeStyles).

It was reported by Advertising Age in separate articles which ran in February and September of last year that the condom industry is now a \$100 million-a-year business and has been growing by 10 percent a year over the last few years after experiencing a stagnant period in the 1960s and 70s when the birth-control pill became popular.

(Continued on page 22)

French Announce Vaccine For AIDS

**U.S. Drug Maker
To Begin Trials**

by Brian Jones

French and African researchers reported initial success today in creating an AIDS vaccine. The vaccine prompted immune responses against the AIDS virus among people who had not previously been exposed to the virus. It is not yet known if the vaccine is successful in completely blocking infection by the virus.

The lead researcher, Daniel Zagury of the Curie Institute in

(Continued on page 13)



Prof. Nancy Shaw has a reason to smile. (Photo: Tony Plewik)

Gets Tenure, \$156K

Shaw Settles With UC-Santa Cruz

Prof. Nancy Stoller Shaw and her attorneys have just received formal notification of last week's decision by a panel of three persons comprised of current and recent senior University of California at Santa Cruz (UCSC) administrators. The panel, jointly chosen by Shaw and the University, wrote that "Based solely on the file submitted to us we have concluded that Prof. Shaw should have been promoted to tenure at UCSC." This decision is binding on all parties.

Shaw's reinstatement is retroactive to July 1, 1986. She can return to teaching as early as the Spring 1987 quarter. Further, her reinstatement includes promotion to Associate Professor, Step III, and approximately one year sabbatical at full pay. Shaw is the first openly gay faculty member at UCSC who has crossed the "tenure barrier."

Shaw will also receive a financial settlement of \$156,000 to compensate her for legal fees, loss of pay, emotional, reputational and punitive

damages. In return, she will withdraw her sex discrimination suit which is currently pending in Alameda Superior Court.

"My reinstatement shows that we can prevent a very large and elite institution from dismissing an employee arbitrarily and illegally," said Shaw. "This is a victory for feminists, for the gay community, and for socially conscious teachers and researchers."

Shaw, a politically active sociologist who is a lesbian, has specialized in research on women and health. She was originally recommended for tenure in 1981 by her department (the Community Studies Board), by numerous scholars and by all of the appropriate university review committees. Their recommendations were subsequently overruled by Chancellor Robert Sinsheimer of the Santa Cruz campus in 1982.

In a subsequent grievance hearing in 1983, the UC-Santa Cruz Committee on Privilege and Tenure ruled unanimously in Shaw's favor, finding that Sinsheimer had improperly discounted

(Continued on page 18)

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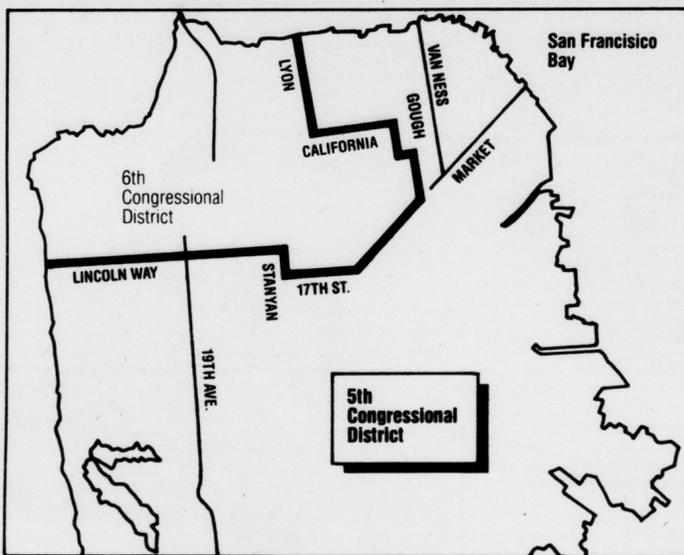
Bike-A-Thon Registration Drive Launched

Rider registration is now underway for the 1987 AIDS Bike-A-Thon, set to roll Saturday, May 9. This year organizers hope to see 1000 cyclists take to the streets to raise at least \$500,000 for eleven AIDS service providers throughout the Bay Area.

All funds collected go directly to the charities. Riders choose which beneficiary they wish to

support. Beneficiaries this year include the Shanti Project, AIDS Emergency Fund, Open Hand, 18th Street Services, East Bay AIDS Project, Project Ellipse in San Mateo County, the Marin AIDS Support Network, AIDS Hospice/Coming Home Hospice, San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Godfather Fund, and AIDS Health Project.

Strike a blow against the AIDS epidemic — and have a great time doing it.



5th Congressional District, site of the April 7 special election.

Britt Plan

(Continued from page 1)

said he will call for increased federal funding for research to develop a vaccine. Britt's plan includes a call for the Department of Defense to develop a purchase order for the vaccine for all combat ready members of the military as a protection and as an incentive for vaccine manufacturers.

The Britt plan also called for immediate access to Medicare coverage for people with AIDS, extended coverage for long-term health care for such needs as home health services and hospice care and expansion of catastrophic health care for people with AIDS.

"I am committed to a health care program which will guarantee essential medical services to all Americans regardless of their ability to pay," said Britt. "I will raise the issue of National Health Insurance which has been missing for too long from the halls of Congress and work to forge a consensus on this program with my colleagues in the House."

Britt also said he will introduce legislation banning discrimination against people with AIDS, encourage a more comprehensive national educational campaign to fight the disease and will emphasize the need to maximize the lobbying efforts which, he said, are now lacking at this critical stage of the epidemic.

Joining Britt was Dr. Marcus Conant, who also has endorsed his candidacy. Conant's endorsement has been carried forth in a letter which has been sent to voters in the district. "For more than a decade," Conant said, "Harry Britt has marched and mourned as a proud, openly gay man. In Congress, he'll make the fight against AIDS his first priority."

Conant noted that he has treated over 500 people with AIDS since 1981. He is a co-founder of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

"Time is precious," he continued. "We need money and we need action immediately. Men and women are dying every day, while the Reagan administration offers only meager funding to battle the most dangerous health crisis of our time. I believe a full-time AIDS activist as a Member of Congress will dramatically improve the federal government's response to AIDS."

Conant's support comes at a critical time in the campaign to send Harry Britt to Congress. A Teichner poll released Tuesday indicates that almost half of the voters, 44 percent, have still not decided who they will vote for in next month's election.

The foundation for Harry Britt's campaign is the hundreds of volunteers. Rich Hayes, field manager for the campaign, said the turnout has been "incredible." "I worked on the campaigns for Phil Burton and Sala Burton and the people are out here supporting Harry."

The small human touches are also appearing in the effort. Sharon Johnson, an aide in Britt's Supervisor office, spent Friday night with her children and other volunteers making dozens of sandwiches to serve on Saturday. Comic Tom Ammiano was also present Saturday morning giving his views of the political scene.

The political clubs have all given fundraisers for Britt in the last week. Sup. Richard Hongisto said last Thursday at the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club event, "Harry Britt can win and it's going to depend on the people's support. I think he will be a tremendous vote in the United States Congress."

Friday night hundreds of people met Harry Britt as he made his way through many of the city's gay bars. The evening began at the Alta Plaza on Fillmore with Vincent Freija as his tour guide. The group then went to J.J.'s and then to The Lion on Divisadero.

Britt then made his way to the Twin Peaks, the Special, the Pendulum and Badlands in the Castro. Sunday afternoon he was at the Eagle. Saturday afternoon he talked with many of the members of the Gay Softball League at Cafe Sn. Marcos.

The endorsements Britt is receiving are becoming very impressive. He noted that he has received all the endorsements from environmental organizations. He has the majority of labor supporting his campaign. Britt also has support from nuclear freeze groups in the city.

There is still a great need for volunteers. "There are only three weekends left until election day. This election will be decided in the streets," said Britt.

Britt continued, "We are very close to victory. I am asking everyone who has walked, phoned, or worked for me so far to turn out this coming Saturday, Mar. 21, in a show of strength to put us over the top."

Volunteers may join the "Half-Way to Victory Rally and Precinct Walk" next Saturday morning at the 25 Van Ness Britt headquarters at 9 a.m. Joining the rally will be Nancy Walker, president of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Berkeley Mayor Loni Hancock, and Santa Cruz City Council member John Laird.

Britt field manager Rich Hayes said, "We also need volunteers for the phone banks. People can call 864-6410 to sign up. We plan on 100 people calling every night."

Britt Backs Move For AIDS Center

Wants City to Acquire U.S. Hospital But Warns: Not for Quarantine

by Charles Lineberger

Sup. Harry Britt took time away from his busy Congressional campaign on Monday, Mar. 16, to join Sup. John Molinari in submitting a resolution to the Board of Supervisors calling on Mayor Dianne Feinstein and the Health Commission to establish a regional center to fight AIDS.

The resolution that Britt presented to the board urged "Her Honor the Mayor and the Health Commission to use all possible means to acquire the public health hospital in the Presidio for use as a regional AIDS treatment and research center."

Fear of the facility's possible use to quarantine people with AIDS were addressed in the resolution. "The policy of the city and county of San Francisco regarding this facility must include a clause that it is not to be used as a quarantine center for AIDS patients, and be it further resolved that all San Francisco hospitals must continue to assume their full responsibility for the care and treatment of AIDS patients."

Even before the supervisors moved to add their clout to the push to turn the former hospital, now used by the U.S. Department of Defense as a language school, into an AIDS center, the city had been looking at the idea.

Paul Barnes, a spokesperson for the city's Health Department, told Bay Area Reporter that the proposal to create a regional AIDS treatment and research center in the former hospital had first come up three years ago in 1984. The issue had then been raised by Dr. Marcus Conant of the University of California at San Francisco. The effort was shelved then, said Barnes, because "people didn't think things would get as bad as they have."

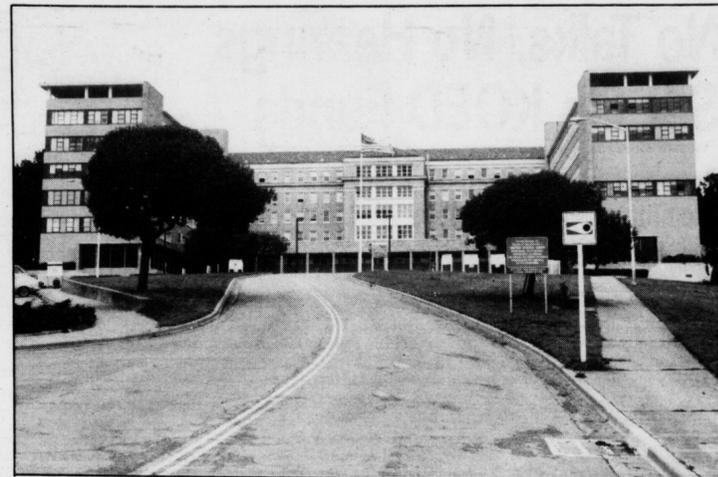
The issue was raised again at the end of 1986 and Dr. David Werdegar, San Francisco's public health director, began consulting with a "good friend," U.S. Senator Pete Wilson, on the feasibility of it, according to Barnes.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ BAPHR Candidates Night Mar. 22

The Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights announces a political panel night for their general meeting on March 22.

All candidates for the Congressional seat from the Fifth District have been invited to present their platform and indicate their intentions, if elected, regarding support of legislation on the civil rights of lesbians and gay men as well as means for combating the AIDS epidemic. Questions will also be posed from the floor. It is expected that most if not all the candidates will participate in this political panel.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m., March 22, at the Ralph K. Davies Medical Center second-floor auditorium. In addition to the 200 members of BAPHR, the gay-sensitive physicians' organization, the 450 members of the Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom (BALIF) have also been invited to attend.



The old public health service hospital, which is being proposed as a regular AIDS facility. (Photo: Steve Savage)

cause of federal budget cuts in 1981. Later it was turned over to the Defense Department.

The hospital is located almost directly behind Sup. Molinari's house, said his aide, Dennis Collins. Molinari, noting his proximity to the hospital, has said of it, "Living in this area I know firsthand that the use of the hospital facility as an AIDS treatment and research center will not negatively impact the surrounding neighborhood."

Wilson was brought into the effort, said Barnes, "because it's still a federal facility and the Department of Defense is involved. There is also the funding question. We would hope that the federal government would fund the start-up costs and staff the hospital."

Barnes noted that the vacant Public Health Service Hospital in the Richmond district has close to 300 beds compared to San Francisco General's 500 beds. "It's going to take a commensurate amount of money to staff it and run it," he noted.

The hospital was closed be-

San Francisco has had more than 3,000 diagnosed AIDS cases and there are another 800 in surrounding Bay Area counties. It is believed that in four years, by 1991, the city alone will have had over 20,000 cases.

The last time Headlines made any commentary in this space was to announce that we were discontinuing the sales of poppers and would sell condoms at cost. Now, we want to urge you to consider voting for Harry Britt in the coming special election on April 7th. Headlines proudly exists within the gay community of San Francisco, and we feel that it is extremely important that our special interests be represented in Congress the same way special farm problems are represented by a Congressional district in Kansas. We live in probably the most liberal Congressional district in the United States, and your votes are needed to make us heard.

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No Talks, No Hearings Set On KQED Funds

Drive to Change Station's Practices Appears Stalemated; Activists Take Wait and See Attitude

by Charles Linebarger

Talks between the gay community and KQED appear to have ended last week. Although one of the gay people involved said that the boycott was over, others said there would be future talks but they couldn't say when. Almost half of those involved in the earlier meetings missed the last one. Despite a protest held on Saturday, Mar. 14 against KQED's pledge drive and the attempt to get the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to hold hearings on KQED's problems with the gay community, the effort appeared to be at a standstill.

According to Sup. John Molinari's aide, Dennis Collins, Alice B. Toklas Club president, Robert Esteves, approached Molinari Mar. 15 asking him to further postpone hearings for another three months. Esteves told Bay Area Reporter that he and others involved in the meetings would watch KQED's actions on the points still in question.

"We've gotten some agreements and we're moving forward," said Esteves. He pointed to KQED's promise to put a gay on the station's board of directors during the next election period. He also said that the article on gay political power in the latest issue of KQED's Focus magazine was a sign of agreement between the station and the gay community.

"I'm working on the structure of a programming development task force," said Esteves. "I'll be talking directly with John Zorbas," a gay member of the station's 26-member Community Advisory Panel, "and anyone else with ideas on how it can be structured. Anyone interested in television production should contact us."

Rick Pacurar, of the Harvey Milk Club, said he agreed with Esteves on the three-month waiting period before calling again for hearings.

Pacurar added that he felt the extensive coverage given to the problems gays were having with KQED had sent a message out to the rest of the mainstream media not to "mess with the gay community."

On Saturday, Mar. 14 a protest demonstration was held at Harvey Milk Plaza to call for hearings on KQED's funding from the city. The demonstration began late but made up in energy for what it lacked in size. Perhaps a score of protesters listened as speakers talked about rampant homophobia in the media.

Bill Paul, a well-known gay activist, told the small crowd that KQED "had for a long time shown a biased attitude toward the gay community." He also complained about other signs of anti-gay bias in the mainstream media, including an article by Paul Shinoff in Friday's (March 13) Examiner.

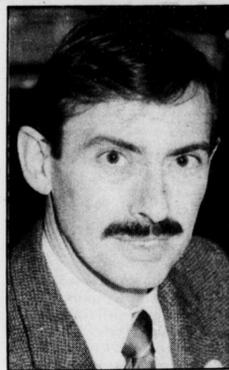
Sherrill Rosenthal, of Gay

Cable Network, explained how her group had recently been forced to end broadcasts for lack of funding. Showing a certificate of honor that Gay Cable Network had received from the Board of Supervisors, she said, "We would be glad to trade this for the \$150,000 in hotel tax money going to KQED this year."

Gilbert Baker, in a red gown and wearing a cardboard box painted to resemble a television on his head, was the darling of the crowd. "Let's put the public back into public TV," yelled Baker through the megaphone.

Henry Kroll, a former member of the KQED Board of Directors who also won half the votes in the station's last election without regaining a seat on the board, told the rally, "We're here to help redirect KQED. We don't want to fight them. We want to reclaim our public station. How do we do that? We start in the gay community and we reach out to other communities. We need to establish a partnership with KQED."

"We have power at the Board of Supervisors level," said Kroll



Roberto Estevez and Rick Pacurar.



(Photos: Rink)

to the audience, "and we need to move there. I hope the people at Eighth and Bryant Streets

(KQED headquarters) are beginning to wake up. We call for public hearings."

Survival Skills

Vanguard Public Foundation will offer a workshop entitled Organizational Survival Skills as part of its technical assistance series provided to social change organizations in Northern California. This workshop will be held on Saturday, Mar. 28, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Far West Labs, 1855 Folsom (at 15th Street) in San Francisco.

The workshop will feature presentations and workshops on choosing fundraising strategies, building a membership base, presenting your organization to the media, and planning and evaluation.

The workshop fee is \$7. Causation is encouraged during the lunch break, although lunch is not provided. Vanguard requests that anyone wishing to attend the

workshop pre-register by Thursday, Mar. 26, by calling the office, (415) 566-2882.

Health Boards Need Input

Do you care about the mental health of your neighborhood? Your local Community Advisory Board does! For more than ten years, people like yourself have joined the boards to help bring an important perspective, the community's perspective, to health care planners and governmental officials. San Franciscans have a unique opportunity to become involved! If you care about the mental health of your community, lend your voice! Become a member of the Community Advisory Boards. For more information, and an application form, please call Nancy Mathews at (415) 821-8413.

Release of Drugs May Be Setback

Recipients to Face Expenses; New Drugs Could Be Risky

by Charles Linebarger

The federal Food and Drug Administration may soon allow experimental drugs to be made available to people who are suffering from life threatening diseases, including AIDS. Specifically, the Bay Area Reporter has learned that AZT is expected to receive its final FDA approval this week so that it can be licensed for sale.

The FDA proposal to make experimental drugs available to those who need them applies only to drugs used to treat "immediately life-threatening diseases, for which no other treatment is available," according to FDA Commissioner Frank Young in published reports on Mar. 10.

Should the FDA's recommendation be accepted, it would mean that drugs would become available for sale during an early period of testing, after animals have been tested, but before many people have been exposed to the drug.

The FDA has allowed some experimental drugs to be made available for treatment in the past, notably AZT in the treatment of AIDS. But companies cannot charge for such drugs until they receive final FDA approval. Drugs released on experimental protocols are now provided free to volunteers in clinical trials.

Young was reported to have said that the proposed rule change would allow companies to charge for the drugs used in clinical trials. Currently, there are 4,000 Americans getting AZT at

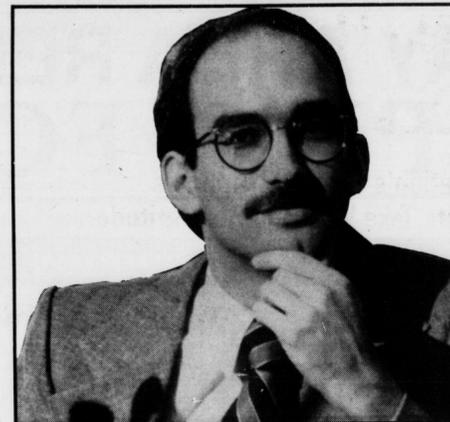
no cost because they are participating in a large on-going trial of the drug preceding its approval by the FDA. Representatives of the drug's manufacturer, Burroughs Wellcome Co., recently told the House Commerce Committee's subcommittee on health that they expect the annual cost of AZT for the typical AIDS patient to be between \$7,000 and \$10,000.

But not everybody welcomed the proposal as beneficial for people with AIDS.

"I think the FDA's recommendation won't affect the fundamental problem which is to provide affordable access to experimental drugs," said Jeff Levi of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force in Washington, D.C.

"Under the new plan the drug companies would not be obligated to give AZT, or any other drug, to anyone for free," he said.

In the course of hearings conducted by Congressman Henry Waxman (D-CA) on the cost of AZT, word was leaked out that the drug was due to be licensed by the FDA within a week, Levi told B.A.R.



Jeff Levi

"What that means," he explained, "is that any doctor who wants to, will be able to prescribe AZT."

When asked about the supply problems which Burroughs Wellcome has claimed as the cause for its limited production of AZT, Levi responded, "I expect that once patients are paying for the drug there will be no supply problems."

Licensing AZT will not only allow any doctor in the country to prescribe it for his patients, it will also mean that those now taking the drug, estimated to be around 4,000, will have to begin paying for it themselves. "They'll have to start paying for it within thirty days of licensing," said Levi.

In California, MediCal is expected to cover the cost of AZT for those patients who cannot pay for it themselves.

Levi saw other problems with the FDA's plan to release experimental drugs, for example,

difficulties in finding people willing to form the control group in future tests of promising AIDS drugs.

"How will we get people to participate in controlled studies if they know they can get the drug from their doctor. Controlled studies are necessary to determine the efficacy of these drugs," said Levi.

The consequences of early release of experimental drugs could also mean setbacks for some people.

"Under this plan any drug can be released after a phase 1 trial," said Levi. "Those of us who saw what happened with Suramin (an earlier AIDS drug which had severely toxic side-effects which led to the cancellation of trials) will have problems with that. The premature offering of some drugs can lead to early death. And we still don't know enough about these drugs to determine

(Continued on page 18)

Dignity Issues Guidelines

The board of directors of Dignity, Inc., the Roman Catholic organization of gay men and lesbian women and their friends, have issued guidelines in response to the recent action taken by several American bishops in denying the use of church facilities and/or the ministry of diocesan clergy to the organization's chapters.

When a chapter is affected by an aggressive movement or action of the local bishop, they should immediately communicate with regional leaders of the organization; organize peaceful public protests including picket lines, distribution of literature and organization of public prayer vigils outside Catholic churches during weekend services; contact all media to publicize the injustice by issuing press releases and holding press conferences; organize letter writing campaigns to local bishop, local clergy, diocesan and parish organizations, the Papal Nuncio in Washington, D.C. who represents the pope in America and the local newspapers; organize public withholding of contributions and funding to diocesan and parish collections, encourage other parishioners to cooperate as well, and channel, as much as possible, these funds to lesbian and gay supportive organizations; and seek support from other local gay and lesbian organizations.

As of mid-February, the following dioceses have taken action to deny the Dignity organization use of Catholic facilities and in some cases, the ministry of the diocesan clergy for services and the Sacraments. The five dioceses are Atlanta, GA, Brooklyn, NY, Buffalo, NY, Pensacola, FL, and Vancouver, Canada, in which the organization had six chapters.

Shelter Planned For Homeless PWAs

City To Designate Hotel For AIDS/ARC Services

by Gregory Douthwaite

The Folsom Street Hotel has been named San Francisco's first official residence for homeless people with AIDS. A joint agreement between the city and the state will allow the South-of-Market hotel to provide long-term accommodations and nursing care to homeless people with AIDS and AIDS-related conditions.

"It's a historic venture," said Jim Foster, a city health commissioner. "The program is much different from what was originally available for AIDS and ARC patients. It's a real attempt to solve a problem."

In the past, the state's program for the homeless had no special provisions for people with AIDS. They had to pick up a "chit" from the Department of Social Services, which allowed them to stay for a short term at one of the city's designated hotels for the homeless. Depending on the degree of their disability, after three to 13 days they were forced to move on.

On Tuesday, an agreement was signed by the city's Health Department and the state's Social Services Department, allowing the city to designate a hotel for the AIDS homeless. The state will pay the hotel bills, and the city will provide nursing care. Hospice care and drug abuse programs will also be provided.

The Folsom Street Hotel is only a temporary location for the AIDS hotel, Foster said. "We will be out of the Folsom Street Hotel and into a decent place as soon as we possibly can do it," he said. "It seems inhuman to ask a person with pneumocystis to climb four flights of stairs."

The ideal hotel would have an elevator, communal cooking facilities, and private bathrooms, Foster said. Although the program will probably begin at the Folsom Street Hotel this week, the city is considering four or five other hotels for the program.

About 35 or 40 beds are now needed for homeless people with AIDS and ARC, Foster said. The number of beds which could eventually be needed is "anybody's guess," he said.

If necessary, the city may designate other hotels where groups of six to 10 AIDS people could be sheltered alongside other homeless people, Foster said. (Continued on page 20)

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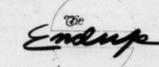
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EDITORIAL & OPINION

Vox Populi Voice of the People

The same wonderful folks who brought you Ronald Reagan for President now espouse Little Nancy Sunshine for Congress.

It has been interesting this week to watch the brand "X" paper set up its endorsement. There is no doubt in our minds that the morning rag will do the same. These editorial boards must be in a real bind over the current slate of candidates for Congress. All of the frontrunners are Democrats — and as such, unacceptable. We have four hard-working supervisors in the race. These four all have good track records, as far as the general public is concerned, since they have all been re-elected to office more than once.

Not one of the four supervisors has ever fully espoused the opinions and pet projects of these Republican-owned newspapers. Perhaps these candidates are more attuned to the citizens of San Francisco than these publications. To choose the only candidate without a public voting record is inexcusable. Perhaps, just because each of the other candidates has something not quite so perfect in their pasts, they are not acceptable to these boards.

We stand guilty of being an advocate for a gay candidate, Harry Britt — because that's what we are, an advocacy press. We have not, however, just endorsed candidates that happen to be gay if we felt that they were not qualified.

The fear of the Republican-owned media in this city is that we will elect an openly gay man to Congress — and we will. We have not witnessed such blatant homophobia in the daily press in years. The constant theme is to split the gay community, keep us from uniting behind a gay candidate and, heaven forbid, electing him.

While this paper has never presumed to speak for all the gay community, it has been heartening to receive the enormous amount of mail from the community in regard to our support for Harry Britt. We try to be impartial to all our brothers and sisters, and allow all to voice their opinions as space permits.

Back to the brand "X" rag: On Friday we got a commentary about gay power and how it has eroded (again, let's divide and conquer) and that politicians will soon learn we don't really exist, or have any clout. This same commentator then wrote the editorial in support of Little Nancy Sunshine. It was an editorial so full of suppositions that one would think it was an apology to the Republicans, hoping that this Pacific Heights matron is acceptable to them. The biggest joke of all is that these Republican publications can't even choose from several of the Republicans running for Congress.

Maybe it's time to be realistic and realize that we live in a major city, and that we don't have a responsible or decent daily press. It's a shame that when you want to know what's going on in San Francisco you subscribe to the San Jose Mercury News.

Bob Ross

OPINION

Britt Represents All San Francisco

by Sup. Richard D. Hongisto

During this special election campaign many people are having to make hard choices when it comes to voting for someone to represent them in Congress. I have been asked many times who I support because I have several friends whom I respect running for the seat. This campaign has no shortage of talented candidates. However, there is a shortage of candidates who strive to represent the impoverished and disenfranchised of our society. So, for me, the choice will be easy. I will support Harry Britt.

Harry Britt has always represented the interests of working and low-income people. He has spoken out for the downtrodden. He has consistently been a voice for civil liberty and humanitarian goals. He is industrious. He cares. He has worked hard to push his legislative agenda.

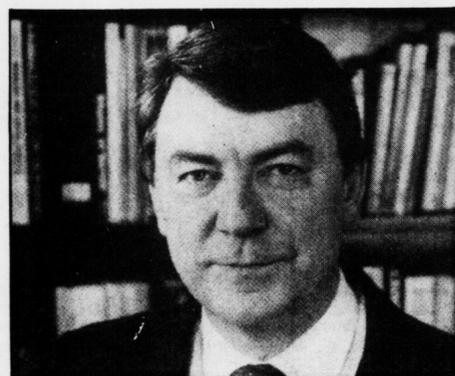
But Harry is not known for tooting his own horn. He is humble and self-effacing when it comes to his accomplishments. But as a colleague of Harry's for the last seven years, I have seen his intelligence when it comes to understanding the complex issues that face our city and through the priorities he sets in dealing with them.

His clear vision is seen in the direction of his work product. Harry is not a one-issue candidate. He has addressed a broad range of concerns in his work for good government. In my view, he is a man of greater intelligence than those who have questioned his. He has proven it by his track record on the Board of Supervisors.

It is a record tested by the voters of this city. He has shown that by getting into office and staying in office. His legislative record is impressive and enviable and compares favorably to other office holders. He is a person to be respected and admired for his dedication and bold leadership. This is a stark contrast to the remarks made by his detractors, which are untrue as well as unkind and unfair. Those who make them serve only to bring discredit to the gay and lesbian community in general. Harry's critics within the gay community clearly are overlooking the significance of electing a gay person to national public office. While symbolism itself is not important, it is more than symbolism. It is power to move a progressive agenda.

I think it is important for San Francisco to elect a gay representative to Congress. Just as it was important to elect the first woman mayor and a black supervisor and to appoint an Asian and a Hispanic supervisor. If San Francisco is going to be truly represented in Congress, we need someone who reflects the diversity that makes our city the most livable city in the country.

We need someone who has the sensitivities to represent minority groups as well as the mainstream. And, in these times of the AIDS crisis, we need someone in Congress who has been in the trenches in the fight against this disease, and whose passion for ending it will help to mobilize the nation in finding a cure. Harry Britt is that person.



Sup. Richard Hongisto (Photo: Rink)

More than any other public official in San Francisco, Harry has carried favor less with the elite and powerful. Instead, he has sought to do more to represent the impoverished and the disenfranchised. He has not accepted money from wealthy power brokers and used it to make slick media spots or to buy votes. He stands in sharp comparison to many on the political scene.

Harry Britt's brand of politics is marked with honesty, integrity and openness. It is community activism that brought Harry to public office and it is that same grassroots spirit that has directed his tenure in public office. As a candidate for the 5th Congressional District seat, Harry has taken his agenda to the people of San Francisco by campaigning the old-fashioned way — taking positions on the issues, talking of policy and educating the electorate.

Harry Britt has been an effective and strong representative for the residents of San Francisco. He has been there on the tough issues and taken the heat from the opposition. He has stood up to power so that the voices of San Franciscans can be heard. He has lived up to the challenge of representing us on the Board of Supervisors. He will meet the challenge again in Washington.

We need to elect Harry Britt to the United States House of Representatives.

LETTERS

Why Two Calendars?

I note a huge centerfold each week listing events around town for the next seven days. Then in the back, I see another listing entitled Karl's Calendar with a few events compiled by "Diedre" mainly drag and royalty things.

Why are there two calendars? Why not compile it all together?

Who is Karl and who is Diedre, and why are they entitled to their own special section? Your editorship is seriously questioned by other readers wondering the same thing. What's up?

Don Jacobi
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: We continue to use the headline *Karl's Calendar* in a tribute to Karl Stewart as requested by his lover Larry Hogue, a.k.a. Diedre, who continues to compile the calendar after Karl's death.

As to why Karl's Calendar exists separate from the "This Week" calendar, there are several reasons: people into Court events find it easier to find in a small calendar the events they are interested in rather than having to dig through the center spread; people into Court events find it easier to communicate through Diedre, one of their own, rather than through a sometimes intimidating lesbian editor; Karl's Calendar has been in the paper longer than the This Week centerfold, which is mainly professional entertainment events, church services, and AIDS support groups.

As to who Karl Stewart and his lover Diedre were/are, Karl was a columnist in this newspaper when I inherited the mantle of editorship. He continued to contribute to the newspaper through his calendar (then called Bazaar Calendar) until his death a few months ago from AIDS. Diedre, long his helpmate, continues the calendar after his death.

Dianne Gregory

How can I support another straight politician when I need real public leadership? Do I need to see the "San Francisco supervisor" in order to get a contrasting view on Nightline? How can I fund someone who would undermine the only Bay Area representative who may get heard in Utah? Am I to continue to live in false hope for that public, moral, and loving support that we so desperately need? Do you really understand my feelings of betrayal and anger because you and others in the Democratic party continue to perceive us, the lesbian/gay community, as inferior whipping boys? I regret that my response to your campaign request cannot be a contribution or best wishes, because I am heartsick that you might be San Francisco's representative in the United States Congress. I do not believe that you will really represent our community or our concerns. That will be a real disappointment and loss for someone who has had enough discouragement around here.

John Lorenzini
Salt Lake City, UT

ED. NOTE: The above letter was in response to "Nancy Pelosi for Congress" literature which was sent to Mr. Lorenzini's old San Francisco address.

Will Snyder

It's Our Chance

★ Cast away all of our differences.

This is it. United we stand. Divided we fall.

Vote for Harry Britt. This is our chance.

Al Kohner, Bud Smith
San Francisco

Both Sides Suffer

The recent controversy concerning the ARCAIDS Vigil and Art Agnos is probably just the first round of many divisive and nasty fights coming up in this year's mayoral campaign. Unfortunately both the Assemblyman and the Vigil suffer needlessly from this sort of situation. Certainly Mr. Agnos was probably attempting to gain political mileage by becoming the "advocate" for the Vigil. I find nothing particularly offensive in such efforts, after all the Vigil has long courted and been courted by John Molinari — each side hoping to gain something from the other. Those Vigil supporters who express such vindictiveness of the Agnos initiative are being hypocrites, especially since most of them are strong supporters of Molinari for mayor.

Within the first month of the Vigil, back in 1985, I talked with both John Molinari and Art Agnos during visits they made to the site of the Vigil. I got the impression that both were sincere in their support of the Vigil and that both had been strongly moved by this epidemic. To question the sincerity of either man about their commitment to seeing the Vigil demands met would be totally inappropriate. Perhaps, for the sake of the Vigil, both men should come to an agreement not to involve this expression of non-violent civil disobedience in their race for mayor. Some Vigil supporters might come to similar conclusions for themselves.

The Vigil must continue until all its demands have been met and the educational/social services it provides our city are available elsewhere. Perhaps our next mayor will wish to provide funding for many of the irreplaceable services that come from the U.N. Plaza encampment.

Keith Griffith
San Francisco

Laugh At Karel

I have an alternative suggestion for responding to the Pope's visit later this year. Since dialogue won't help (he's utterly closed-minded) and since yelling and screaming won't work (he conveniently lapses into his "passive suffering martyr" role), I suggest an attack at this ivory-tower crowd's most vulnerable spot — their pride.

The one thing this group can't stand is not to be taken seriously. So I suggest a "Laugh at Karel" day. Whenever he is within earshot, I suggest uproarious laughter. Massive convulsions of giggles during blessings. Peals of inappropriate laughter during "very serious and meaningful" speeches. Paroxysms of snickers, explosive guffaws, and fits of flatulence during Eucharistic consecration.

All this would be profoundly disrespectful. It would be less self-deprecatory for the gay community than some drag show, and it would be treating the old far as such, rather than dealing with him as if he were, or ever could be, worthy moral or intellectual competition.

Roy Ledbetter
San Francisco

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LETTERS

We Need Harry

★ I strongly urge the voters of the 5th District to
elect Sup. Harry Britt to Congress on April 7. Several
of the other candidates are friends of mine. Some I
have supported in other campaigns.

However, I believe Harry is the candidate best
qualified to represent us for these reasons:

• This is a historic time for the lesbian/gay/bisexual
community to elect one of our own. The special sensi-
tivity of being one of us is so valuable in repre-
senting us that it would be a tragic waste not to
recognize and use it in selecting Harry.

• Some have pointed to Harry's supposed weak-
nesses. I have had my own disagreements with him.
But as I look at his overall terms of service as super-
visor, I see a pattern of growth and learning. He was
thrusted into his position with no experience or train-
ing. He now has years of it. He is an effective
legislator. Effectiveness is measured not only in
crucial legislation offered and fought for, but also
in behind the scenes work with other political groups
and leaders. Harry has become an expert in the kind
of coalition building that results in programs moving
to fulfillment. The work of Congress moves by
such activity. Harry should succeed brilliantly for us.

• Harry is an articulate spokesperson for the needs
and rights of the lesbian/gay/bisexual community. It
is no accident he is asked to speak to diverse groups
all over the country. When someone is speaking for
me, I want them effectively outlining my special
needs. My son, Dean, fought passionately before his
death for funds, research, and better treatment for
people with AIDS/ARCS. I want that passion to echo
through the halls of Congress. Harry can do that for
us.

It is important for gay people to care deeply about
all oppressed people whether on the streets of our
cities or in the war zones of Central America. Harry
has been a courageous fighter for women, for the
poor, for the elderly, and for minorities. This govern-
ment for six years has shown little interest in the vast
majority of our people as it cuts "people" programs
to finance its military establishment. It is crucial to
change the focus of our government back to the people
by electing at every opportunity representatives with
the kind of "people" agenda represented by
Harry Britt.

Rev. James E. Sandmire
San Francisco

Don't Lose Our Faith In You

★ To my gay brothers and sisters in San Francisco:
I have just sent in my check to the Harry Britt Cam-
paign, even though he has nothing to do with my po-
litical district. Other than what I read about him in
B.A.R., I know little about the man, however, because
he too is a brother, he becomes #1 in my book.

I'm not supporting him JUST because he's gay
... that would be a mistake. But I've read little nega-
tivism about him and have no reason to believe the
isn't an honest politician. He obviously has experi-
ence and knows his way around and that also weighs
heavily in his favor.

What I sometimes gather from my friends in San
Francisco is that many of you take your city for
granted, just as many gays did here when we lost our
gay rights ordinance. There are things we in the
South Bay dislike about San Francisco, just as there
are things we dislike about our own city, but there
are more things we admire: your culture, your beau-
ty, your activism, your caring and in particular, your
ability to group-gather immediately for any neces-
sary cause.

Many of us consider San Francisco the "gay
capital of the U.S.A. if not the world" for these very
attributes. What causes many of us concern is when
you can't get yourselves together when it really
counts, such as having a gay candidate in Congress.
There is NO reason to NOT support and vote for
Harry Britt in my opinion. If ever we needed a gay
representative, it is now and anyone who can't see that
is blindly naive. If I can support the man with money
and words, then so can each of you.

Don't lose our faith in you San Francisco. We look
to you for guidance and expertise. We welcome you to
San Jose just as you have always welcomed us to the
City.

Britt for Congress must have top priority.

Dean Tomich
San Jose

A Taste Of Their Own Medicine

★ Today I witnessed something in Hot and Hunky
that I have waited for a long time to see. There were
a lot of teenagers on lunch break and they were stand-
ing in line to order and each one got an order of
fries. As they stood in line and waited they kept say-
ing nasty things about gay people and AIDS and were
trying their best to embarrass everyone in the place.
There were a few straight people there with their
children and there were about 10 gay people eating
their lunch.

The nasty remarks got louder and louder and more
obscene as they waited. There was a gay person
waiting in line who they decided to pick on and he
stood there smiling until he was ready to leave and
then they got behind him and pushed him in the
back. When he turned around, they called him a gay
ass and a queer and he called them smart mouth
punks and then he called them a nigger.

They waited until he got outside and then four or
five of them went after him. He stood up to them as
they taunted him and as they pushed him, he push-
ed them back. When he turned around to get into
his car, they went after him at the same time. He hit
two of them in the mouth and then drove off.

When they came back into the restaurant, they
were so pissed that someone could call them a nigger
and hit them in the mouth. I just laughed to
myself because it was all right for them to scream fag-
got and queer to everyone and call the sandwiches
AIDS-burgers and cum sandwiches. But when some-
one gay stood up to them, they were mad.

I know I should have stood up and helped the gay
man but I didn't have the courage and neither did
anyone else. I don't see how the management could
allow this group of punks to come into the restaurant
all the time and just order fries and cause all this
trouble. Every time I go there for lunch, there is a
disorder of some kind. I also decided to write a let-
ter to the principal of the Dolores school because that
is where they come from.

I know these things happen all the time, but you
usually read how the gay person was stabbed or
beaten and the straight punks got away. Well I am
glad that they finally got a taste of their own medi-
cine. I know violence in return for violence is not
always the answer, but this lunch time made me
proud of that gay guy.

David Michaelson
San Francisco

An Abundance of Slime

★ Mike Hippler's insightful summation of the life
of Liberace (B.A.R., Mar. 12), and his obviously
transparent closet life, captures the cowardly men-
dacity inherent in those who hide their sexual ori-
entation: "There is something slimy about a man
who would go to such great lengths to deny not only
the truth, but himself as well."

Nor should we forget that today, as throughout
history, the Roman Catholic Church through its
Popes, Cardinals, Bishops and Priests cultivates an
abundance of slime with which it contaminates
mankind.

Thomas M Edwards
San Francisco

I Am My Own Voice

★ We need unity in spirit, mind and body in the gay
community. We are a blessed body of humans. We
continue to survive in the face of seemingly unbeatable
adversity. Let's knock it off in relation
to KQED, the Pope, and straight society.

Let's live—and allow those to live—and make their
own choices and mistakes. We have so much to give
to each other, ourselves and the universe.

Let's celebrate life and positivity instead of the
negative aspects of society. We can ignore KQED
(boycott our dollars), and the Pope—(So what? He
doesn't speak for me!). I alone am my own voice.

Let's listen to our own voices: our mind and heart.
They are the only truths.

Charles R. Sears, II
Oakland

Costly AIDS Test

★ Just wanted to drop a note to advise my gay
brothers and sisters of what is going on. I was in-
terested in retaking the AIDS test and so, being too
lazy to look up the number in the phone book, I called
411. The operator gave me an 800 number. I called
the number and told the person who answered
"I'm interested in taking the AIDS test"

"Oh, if you will send me \$48.50, I will send you
the kit." Being poor I asked "Is that 48 dollars? I
was interested in the free test." To which this person
then replied, "Well, you'll have to contact your health
department about that." My first thought was how
they would conduct an AIDS test through the mail.
I looked up the number for the AIDS hot line and
called them to report the incident, but now I'm
wondering, how many persons are not taking the test
because of this? Why is this being done when AIDS
is such an epidemic?

I did finally get the number for the free test, and
thank you, AIDS hot line.

F. Vic Galvan
San Francisco

LETTERS

Time For Re-evaluation

★ As the current President of the Forum of San
Francisco, I would like to reply to the letter of Rich
Demarest in the March 12 issue. Yes, indeed, there
are many motorcycle-oriented events scheduled by
the clubs this year. What a great tribute that we can
sponsor so many events which encourage so much
interest in the South of Market motorcycle commu-
nity, while going very far towards maintaining a
feeling of brotherhood so vitally important in these
trying times.

I agree that attempting to attend all or most of
these functions can become a financial burden and
is extremely time-consuming for those of us who wish
to support as many of these events as possible. On
the other hand, the important thing is that the clubs
are working so hard to provide these various activities
for the benefit of the community at large.

Perhaps this is the time for the clubs, which make
up the Forum, to re-evaluate the purpose of the
Forum and of their membership in it.

Dan Jeansonne, President
Forum of San Francisco
Concord

How About the East Bay?

★ As a client of the AIDS Project of the East Bay,
I would like to express concern over the inattention
our Project receives. Every week I read of this bar
or that business having a benefit for the San Fran-
cisco AIDS Foundation. Without putting the SFAP
in a bad light, or laying blame on them, people seem
to forget that we have people suffering in the East
Bay area as well as in the city.

It is especially upsetting to see such a large busi-
ness as North Face throw so much effort towards San
Francisco when they are based in the East Bay. Many
of the patrons who help keep city bars, clubs,
restaurants, and assorted establishments open live
here, not in the city.

Many are dying here. It is time for some of these
concerned individuals and business owners to re-
cognize the part the AIDS Project of the East Bay is
playing in outreach and education for East Bay residents.
We do not have either the staff or the budget to solicit
help from the community in general, but this does
not excuse ignorance of our existence, or ignorance
of our needs, and our community needs. If anyone
out there would like to help, we won't say no.

David M. Rolland
San Francisco

Carte Blanche for KQED?

★ This letter was sent to the San Francisco
Chronicle

KQED's poor relations with the gay community
follows a continuing pattern that has alienated
significant sectors of the Bay Area's minority and
labor communities in addition to those concerned
with fairness and responsiveness in broadcasting.
Ironically, the Bay Area's commercial stations are
generally seen to be more creative, responsive and
innovative than our one-pioneering public broad-
caster, KQED.

Instead of visualizing the community as partici-
pating partners in our public communications
system, KQED it seems has satisfied itself with
replaying the same PBS network fare which is shown
for the most part on every other public television
station in California.

While depending on the public for funds, KQED's
distain was first articulated by then Station Manager
Bill Osterhaus who told the KQED membership in
1975 that "public broadcasting is only a marketing
name." Now KQED President Tony Tiano says his
"job is not to provide a station for them or any
group." Thus he justifies KQED unresponsiveness
to the gay concerns with fearfulness that his public
station should positively respond to other voices in
the KQED membership and public seeking greater
accountability and public participation in KQED's
governance.

During the last 12 years, we have seen KQED
managers provoke its union employees to strike for
four-and-a-half months. This was followed by
elimination of its award-winning local programs such
as *Newsroom*, *World Press*, and the *Open Studio*
format that fostered community access to the media.
And there was a public outcry when KQED courted
Coors Brewing Company for a unique sponsorship
of the KQED Auction. Little noticed during this
period has been the demise on KQED-FM of nearly
a dozen ethnic and community radio programs. To-
day only one weekly local hour remains. To their
credit, Sup. Britt and other supervisors protested
many of these KQED cutbacks at the time, while to-
day they are moving for a resolution of the immediate
issues facing the gay community and KQED.

Today, with a budget of nearly \$25 million, KQED
as one of the nation's richest public stations produces
less than one hour a week of regular local TV pro-

gramming and finds itself buying programs from a
producer who is unwilling to comply with San Fran-
cisco's human rights policy banning discrimination
in employment against gays and lesbians.

Fair and equitable employment policies should be
KQED's program suppliers. The public's need is far
more access to more viewpoints, not less. More
programs and more opportunities are needed not only
for the gay community, but for all people in our
culturally diverse and artistically rich Bay Area.

As a former member of KQED's Board of Direc-
tors, I believe it is time for KQED to stop spending
time and money on trendy magazines and other ven-
tures and get back to its business of programming
and once again become an effective public institu-
tion that all members of our population can be proud
of.

If KQED cannot deliver on that promise it is time
for San Francisco officials and others to call for hear-
ings, stop the carte blanche approach to funding and
put some effective strings on public contributions
to KQED.

Henry Kroll
former KQED Board member and
President, Committee to save KQED
San Francisco

Vote For Harry

★ It has been my experience that gay people seem
to be more hung up about voting for a candidate be-
cause they are gay than any minority group I know
of. Every group has a tendency to vote for their
own kind, yet gay people seem to have a guilt com-
plex about it.

You should vote for Harry Britt because he's
qualified to represent San Francisco in Congress. You
should also vote for Harry Britt because he's gay so
that we can have an opportunity to demonstrate to
people that a gay person can do the job just as well
as any heterosexual. Harry Britt is indeed very
qualified for the job of congressman. He has been
a supervisor since Dec. 1978 and has been elected
to that job on three different occasions by all the
voters. We know he's not a one-issue candidate be-
cause we know he's dealt with a variety of issues over
these past eight years and we need to get this message
across to all the San Francisco voters.

It's also no secret that the gay community is ex-
tremely diverse. The only thing that brings us
together is our sexuality. All similarity among us
stops at this point where we begin to represent every
race, creed, color, and socioeconomic level known to
humankind. It is impossible to take a stand on any
issue that will satisfy all gay people at all times. Any
person who thinks they could satisfy all the gay peo-
ple all the time would be one grand fool.

Harry Britt and I certainly have had our dif-
ferences over the years, but there are large areas
where we agree and I am not going to pass up this
opportunity to send him to Congress. In the gay com-
munity there are always an abundance of sideline
critics who grab the spotlight just long enough to
criticize but seldom stay around long enough to do
any work. Harry Britt's performance in office has not
been perfect but I readily admit that I doubt that I
could do a better job. I also know that if the gay com-
munity hangs tough and together on Harry Britt's
candidacy by going to the polls and voting for him
in large numbers, that this election will not be close
at all and that the gay community will surprise itself
at the margin of victory. However, Harry Britt can
easily lose this election if the gay community allows
itself to be divided and becomes involved in petty
squabbles.

Give the gay community the opportunity to move
one step forward, to empower itself and to have an
opportunity to participate in society. Wish Harry
Britt well and vote for him as I most certainly will.

George Collins
San Francisco

Line Up Behind Harry

★ In the upcoming election of April 7, gays and les-
bians should line up behind Harry Britt and vote for him
as our representative to Congress, 5th District.

With all due respect to Ms. Nancy Pelosi, I feel that
she does not have name-recognition or political
qualifications to put her in office.

It is important to remember that the gay and les-
bian community is a force to be reckoned with. All
politicians better realize that gays and lesbians,
across the country, and especially in San Francisco,
have come into political maturity, and we will not be
used as a political whipping post. So, dear Harry, it's
the man I want to marry!

Ed Dollak
San Francisco

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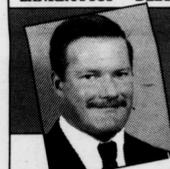
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Gay Demo Group Hits Pelosi for Misleading Ad

Demands Ad Be Dropped; Group Endorses Britt

by Allen White

The National Association of Gay & Lesbian Democratic Clubs has demanded that Nancy Pelosi withdraw a misleading campaign flyer and ad, and apologize for misuse of their name. This comes as attacks against the gay community have begun by people closely associated with Pelosi.

Last weekend the Pelosi campaign began distributing a flyer containing a two-year-old letter from the National Association of Gay & Lesbian Democratic Clubs. The appearance of the letter—dated 7 February 1985—was viewed by many as an endorsement by that organization.

That brief letter is from Tom Chorlton, former director of the association. It merely thanks Pelosi for attending a gay caucus meeting that month. There is no mention of an endorsement of any kind.

Christine Riddiough, current president of the association, said she was "outraged and concerned" by the misuse of the organization's name. Monday night (Mar. 16) she sent a letter by Federal Express to Nancy Pelosi demanding the questionable letter be withdrawn.

"I am writing on behalf of the National Association of Gay & Lesbian Democratic Clubs to express our outrage over the use of

our name in your campaign literature," reads Riddiough's letter.

"The implication of your flyer is that we have endorsed your candidacy for Congress. This is certainly not the case. We are, in fact, supporting Sup. Harry Britt. We have made a contribution to Sup. Britt's campaign and are working with him on other fund-raising activities. Local gay and lesbian Democratic clubs affiliated with the National Association are also supporting Sup. Britt."

Riddiough continued, "We believe that this campaign is important both to voters in San Francisco and for gay and lesbian voters in America as a whole. We have worked with Harry Britt in our lesbian and gay candidate project and hope to continue working with him as a member of Congress."

She concluded, "We demand that you withdraw the campaign flyer and seek your apologies for the misuse of our name on your

campaign literature."

Despite repeated requests from the Bay Area Reporter, Pelosi's press staffer refused to respond to questions regarding the campaign material.

Meanwhile, last Friday, the San Francisco Examiner began what many fear will be a series of homophobic attacks by people close to the Pelosi campaign. The commentary column by Paul Shinoff takes the position that gay political power is myth. "Gay power is declining," he said, citing a recent estimate in the decline in gay voting.

"The era of gay activism and changing social demographics brought San Francisco fine restaurants, culture, renovated neighborhoods and retail shops. Meanwhile, family oriented institutions, the schools, recreation facilities and parks, have declined as political attention has turned elsewhere," Shinoff wrote in the Examiner.

Criticism of Shinoff was quick. "I'm annoyed that someone of the daily press would write a column that is so poorly researched. City funding has never been higher," said Chuck Forrester, an aide to Mayor Dianne Feinstein.

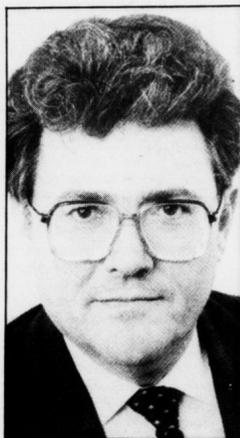
Ron Albers, an assistant public defender and co-chair of the Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom, said, "As a member of the Delinquency Prevention Commission, I have seen the terrible struggle for improved services for our youth. To attribute the problems of recreation and educational quality to increased awareness of homophobia is idiotic at best."

"It is to be expected," said Tim Wolfred of the Examiner story. "This kind of garbage will be thrown at us when they think

(Continued on page 19)

Wayne Friday Pelosi Tries to Split Community

Halfway through the special Congressional election campaign, certain of Nancy Pelosi's campaign strategies have become clear. Orchestrated by campaign manager Clint Reilly, the Pelosi forces have tried, first, to divide the lesbian and gay community, in order to tie up Britt forces, pick off a small number of votes for Pelosi, and give straight liberals the impression that gays aren't really supporting the Britt campaign. This strategy backfired, however, when lesbian and gay leaders recently united behind Harry Britt as never before for a political candidate. Second, Pelosi is trying to exploit homophobia to scare straight voters from supporting the Britt candidacy. Political observers, straight and gay, have expressed shock at the level of subtle homophobia which the Congressional race has stirred up.



Harry Britt

The S.F. Examiner, as part of their strategy to support their endorsed candidate, Pelosi, published, in a column last week by Paul Shinoff, the most anti-gay tract since Anita Bryant's days. This tactic, too, is sure to create resentment among both gay people and non-gay liberals.

Those closely following this campaign tell me we can look for the next Pelosi strategy to be one that will be pegging Harry Britt as a "one issue" candidate. A poll of San Francisco voters last weekend, believed to be conducted by Reilly's firm, pursued that line of

questioning. Besides again insulting gay people—many of whom are involved in a broad range of important issues—this strategy is not likely to sell either.

Harry Britt has a record that is unmatched on issues of housing, environmental protection, peace, health, and civil rights, and this record is reflected in the impressive endorsements his campaign is gathering.

This week, the Sierra Club and the California League of Conservation Voters endorsed Britt,

(Continued on page 19)

Nancy Pelosi's Record

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GAY & LESBIAN DEMOCRATIC CLUBS
 1742 Massachusetts Avenue, S.E. • Washington, D.C. 20003 • (202) 547-3104

7 February 1985

Nancy Pelosi
 San Francisco, CA 94115

Nancy -

Despite the outcome, I would like to congratulate you on a hard fought and impressive campaign.

I would also like to thank you for joining us at the Lesbian and Gay Caucus meeting on the 1st last week. As you will know, Lesbian and Gay Democratic leaders across the country value your advice and support.

We look forward to continuing to work together in meeting the challenges ahead.

Best wishes,
 Tom Chorlton
 Executive Director

cc: Jack Trujillo
 D Lynn Plettingly
 Rick Starbuck
 Stephen H. Smith

This communication is the property of Democratic Party efforts on the basis of the Party's right of access to its records. It is to be used only for the purposes stated herein and is not to be disseminated outside the Party's control.

Nancy Pelosi was a charter member of the Democratic Party's Gay/Lesbian Caucus. In 1984, she ran for National Party Chair against Paul Kirk. Each candidate for chair ran with a slate of 25 delegates. Pelosi was the only candidate that had a Gay person on her slate. When Pelosi realized she was not going to win Chair (because she was a "liberal woman from San Francisco," New York Times, January 1985), she attempted to break Paul Kirk's slate with the Gay person on her slate, because she believed it was important to have Gays represented on the National Committee. Paul Kirk won that election in February 1985, his entire slate was also elected, and shortly thereafter he dissolved the Gay/Lesbian Caucus.

Nancy Pelosi received the above letter from the National Association of Gay & Lesbian Democratic Clubs right after she lost the race for Party Chair. Would the Gay/Lesbian Caucus have welcomed Pelosi's presence at their meeting if she was working to stop them? Would Lesbian and Gay Democratic leaders across the country value Pelosi's advice and support if she were working against them in the Party? Would the Gay/Lesbian Caucus look forward to continuing to work together with Pelosi in meeting the challenges ahead if she opposed their presence in the Party?

"Nancy Pelosi will be our best voice in Congress"

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"We recognize that less than one out of ten families is now a traditional nuclear family. To protect the rights of every individual within these new realities of our culture, we propose opposing laws that discriminate against persons in employment, housing, credit, legal rights, education, and immigration, based on sexual preference."
 — As Chair of California State Democratic Party, Nancy Pelosi fought successfully to get these words into the 1982 party platform

Making A Name For Themselves

"I'm telling you, they are the same person," my friend Brian swears during the intermission of *Bent*. "I don't care what the program says. It's a gimmick." He is speaking of Liam and Sean O'Brien, the actors who portray Rudy and Horst respectively in the San Francisco Repertory production now playing in the Castro.

They do indeed look alike, but Brian is overlooking their appearance in the same scene together. He is also ignoring the obvious—the two are brothers.

The O'Briens, third generation Irish-Americans, grew up in San Jose. Although their father made a stab at acting in New York in the 1950s and their sister is currently studying drama, they do not consider their family unusually theatrical.

Nevertheless, Liam and Sean have been performing since they were "about 14." They began with children's musical theater in San Jose. High school and college productions followed. Later, they both studied at the Pacific Conservatory for the Performing Arts and the Drama School of London in Berkeley.

Although Liam's current resume is more impressive than that of his brother (he comes to the cast of *Bent* following roles in

three productions at the American Conservatory Theater and a role in the Magic Theater's *Sharon and Billy*; Sean is pursuing several careers at once. Besides acting, he also sings, plays lead guitar, and writes for a rock group called Denim TV. It is acting that comes first, however. "I've been an actor for a lot longer than I've been a musician," Sean explains, "and the guys in the band are very understanding of that."

Fortunately, there is no sibling rivalry between the two. For three years, they lived together in the Haight, and they still spend much of their time together. Says Sean, "I think we're sort of past that point. I love Liam and respect him. He's obviously talented, and it makes me proud to see him in a show."

Adds Liam, "The older you get, the easier it is to make a name for yourself. Besides, it's almost like we're not even in the same play now. We only have one scene together."

While Liam is used to performing in larger theaters, he is excited about taking part in *Bent* because "it's a really important play for the gay community and for the theater. It has great characters, and it's not been done [here]."

Sean is equally enthusiastic:

"It's a very exciting opportunity for any actor in the city." Especially appealing for Liam is the opportunity to play an adult for a change, rather than the teenage roles for which he has become known.

Although the brothers recognize the play's importance to the gay community, they do not feel it is wise of fair to describe *Bent* as a specifically gay play. According to Liam, "This is not gay theater. It's about what human beings do to other human beings." Adds Sean, "It's not so much about the Holocaust or the sexuality of the main character; it's about moral choices."

Liam is particularly annoyed by the attempt to compartmentalize the theater. "To be an actor in San Francisco, you're going to be playing gay characters, which is fine," he says. "I've worked at Theater Rhinoceros and had a great experience there. But I'm just sort of nauseous about the whole gay theater thing. It's absurd to think that a minority has any more insight into theater because they're a minority."

Sean is less emotional about the subject, but he agrees with his brother that this tendency to form theatrical special interest groups is harmful in the long run. "It is true of a lot

of theater in this town," he says. "There's the Asian-American group, the black group, the gay group, and others. All are groups that represent a political creed or a social statement. Sometimes the crucial elements of a play, get pushed back to a secondary role. I've seen a lot of bad theater cloaked under a political flag. The basics of what makes a good or bad production should transcend all of that."

Not surprisingly, then, because they feel this way, the brothers do not choose to discuss their own sexuality. "It's just not pertinent," claims Liam. "There is nothing inherently straight or gay about acting. If you can't act, you can't act."

Sean also feels that an actor's sexuality is unimportant on stage: "I have the sex scene with Max, which is supposedly very controversial, but I don't find it to be. When I do that, I think of somebody [else] I loved; I think of those feelings when I say the words. To me, it doesn't matter if a person is a man or a woman, a dog or a sheep."

"It's a beautiful love story," concludes Liam, "whether you're gay or straight. How anybody could not be moved by this..."

As far as the future is concerned, Liam is looking forward to his role in ACT's last production this season, *Faustus in Hell*. He may also go to New York with the cast of *Sharon and Billy*. Sean will continue to perform with Denim TV, and to look for other acting jobs. In the meantime, he'll wait for his hair, which was shorn for this role, to grow back.

The Art of Safe Sex

The Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights announces a competition for art works of all mediums depicting and promoting safe sex. This program is sponsored in conjunction with Artists for Community Life (ACL).

Artists in all mediums — painting, drawing, writing, video, etc. — are encouraged to submit works focusing on safe sex themes and practices (gay or straight) to ACL, who will oversee judging the submissions on artistic excellence. BAPHR will participate in judging from the standpoint of appropriateness and adherence to safe sex guidelines.

Works submitted will be showcased as possible by ACL at two galleries in June around the Gay Pride Festival. Proceeds from pieces indicated as available for sale will be donated to ACL to fund art workshops to encourage persons with AIDS/ARC in their artistic endeavors. Winning pieces will be considered for wider distribution.

The deadline for submissions of artistic works is April 15. For an entry form, write to Safe Sex Art Competition, ACL, 774 Fell St., #2, San Francisco 94117, and include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Hot Sex is Safe Sex.

Vaccine

(Continued from page 1)

Paris, inoculated himself with the trial vaccine. He and 11 other scientists from France and from Zaire — the Central African nation hard-hit by AIDS — reported on their findings today (March 19) in the British journal *Nature*.

Meanwhile, in the United States, the Bristol-Meyers drug company announced it will soon seek federal approval to begin human trials of an AIDS vaccine. Bristol-Meyers said it has developed a drug which shows promise as an AIDS vaccine, and that it is preparing a report for the federal Food and Drug Administration as the first step in securing approval to sell the vaccine.

The trial vaccine is made from a genetically altered strain of the actual AIDS virus. Parts of the viral chain, which are essential to causing infection, were removed. Enough of the viral chain remained so that the body would later identify the entire AIDS virus as an invader, and attack it.

In the past two years French and American researchers have shown that a key characteristic of the AIDS virus is that it disguises itself when it enters the body. Thus, the body does not identify the virus as being harmful until the virus has already infected host cells.

Last year, researchers demonstrated that the body does eventually create antibodies which are effective against the AIDS virus. The challenge in creating an AIDS vaccine was to find a way to "teach" the body to identify the AIDS virus quickly, before an infection occurs.

The French trial vaccine appears to accomplish that goal. The vaccine "programmed" the body to recognize the strain of the AIDS virus that was the parent of the vaccine. But the vaccine did more. It also prompted an immune response against a second strain of the AIDS virus, which was substantially different from the parent strain.

The report said that the study subjects had not been previously exposed to AIDS. There are three known human AIDS viruses at present: the one common in the United States and Western Europe; the one common in Central Africa; and a third, less lethal strain discovered in Central Africa.

Because of the variant strains of the virus — and because the virus appears to evolve rapidly — any effective vaccine must prompt the body to recognize wide differences among strains of the AIDS virus.

The French vaccine appeared to prompt two types of immune responses against the AIDS virus.

The first response involves white blood cells called "macrophages." Macrophages literally eat any material in the blood stream which is identified as foreign.

The AIDS virus "outsman" the macrophages, though, by surrounding itself with a sugary envelope. The virus is identified as a harmless sugar molecule — instead of a deadly invader.

The French vaccine appears to "teach" white blood cells to identify the virus even though it is disguised. This response is crucial, since the macrophages work very quickly and are the first line of defense against infection.

The French vaccine also prompted a response by the second type of human immune response, called cell-mediated immunity. Cell-mediated immunity creates specific antibodies to specific diseases, such as AIDS, and provides for long-term defense against reinfection.

The cell-mediated immune system is the target of the AIDS virus. The virus attacks the helper T-cell and disables the immune system. The challenge is to program the cell-mediated immune system to recognize and destroy the AIDS virus before the virus destroys the immune system.

The battle comes down to a race against time within the body. The body must recognize and destroy the AIDS virus before the virus targets and takes over the helper T-cells.

The French vaccine appears to be effective because it programs the body in advance to recognize the AIDS virus. Thus the body can act quickly enough in the event of an AIDS exposure to identify and kill the virus.

There is a race against time in creating the vaccine, too. There are 32,000 AIDS cases in the United States and it is believed that one to two million people are infected.

American researchers said in January that human trials of a vaccine will begin here by the end of the year. However, the U.S. researchers said no vaccine would be generally available until the early 1990s.

As has been the case throughout the epidemic, though, the French appeared to be one to two years ahead of their American counterparts.

NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

Gay Immigration Part of New Bill

WASHINGTON — A "hangover" from the McCarthy Era, a piece of legislation which would prohibit foreign gays from visiting or immigrating to the United States, has become a target of Rep. Barney Frank, D-MA.

The existing law, known as the McCarran-Walter Act, was passed in 1952, despite a veto from Pres. Harry Truman. The feisty chief executive said the McCarran-Walter Act appealed to hysteria because it believed reports that Communist sympathizers had infiltrated the State Dept. and other government agencies.

Frank told a Capitol Hill press conference that his bill, called the Immigration Exclusion and Deportation Amendments of 1987, would repeal the McCarran-Walter Act as well as offer

foreign visitors or applicants for immigration the same free speech rights already enjoyed by American citizens.

Frank was joined at the press conference by co-sponsors Rep. Ted Weiss, D-NY, and Rep. Steny Hoyer, D-MD. There were 44 other co-sponsors, all Democrats.

"In my opinion, the ideological exclusion clause of the McCarran-Walter Act not only contradicts the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act regarding travel, movement, human contacts and the free flow of information," said Hoyer, "it also contradicts our most cherished national principle of free speech, what we hold up with great pride to the rest of the world."

—The Washington Blade

Schultz Joins Gays In Saying To Nazis: 'Never Again!'

WASHINGTON — Gay activists came away from a three-day State Dept. conference about plans for the U.S. Holocaust Museum with high ratings. In particular, they said they were pleased that Secretary of State George Schultz included gays as

people who were persecuted by the Nazis during World War II.

Schultz welcomed about 200 Holocaust scholars and said the Nazi "reign" of terror "brought suffering and death to gypsies, Jehovah's Witnesses, the handicapped, homosexuals and political opponents of the National Socialist regime."

"The acts of unspeakable evil committed by Nazi Germany against non-Jewish people," added Schultz, "also deserve to be

studied, to be condemned, and above all to be remembered."

Barrett Brick, who attended the conference as a representative of the World Congress of Lesbian and Gay Jewish Congregations, said discussion of gays was not limited to Schultz at a specific gay workshop. "The inclusion of gays," according to Brick, "was not just token. It was very upfront."

—The Washington Blade

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

LIFE AT THE CLOSET DOOR

AGLA

LA-Based Group Watches Out For 'The 10 Percent Solution'

by Jay Newquist

The 10 Percent Solution: The folks at CBS recently asked a gay group to estimate the ideal number of homosexual characters that the network should include in its entertainment programming.

The reply from the Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Artists in the Entertainment Industry (AGLA) was 10 percent.

"They laughed, and we laughed," recalls Chris Uszler, but the AGLA executive director was totally serious that more gay men and lesbian women should frequent mass entertainment in the numbers they do in the real world.

The L.A.-based group also means business about its mission to monitor gay and lesbian content in the lively arts. Thanks to groups like AGLA, gays are no longer expected to kill themselves in the third act, nor are they depicted lurking around



Patty Duke

school yards during recess.

AGLA helps keep Hollywood

Theatre. A plaque from AGLA may not push Oscar off the mantle or send Emmy to the showers, but past winners like *Kate and Allie* and *St. Elsewhere* aren't complaining.

'AGLA also calmed the waters a few years ago when a straight male lead of a top-rated TV series complained that the set was becoming too swish. The show was ultimately cancelled by low ratings.'

The winners chosen are usually TV programs and broadcast movies, not individuals, and episodes of *Brothers*, *Hotel* and *Night Court* were feted last year.

Patty Duke, president of the SAG, Bea Arthur, Estelle Getty, Adrienne Barbeau and Charles Pierce are among the presenters of AGLA awards this year. The entertainment roster for the soiree is still incomplete, but AGLA expects to turn to undiscovered talent in the hope such exposure will propel their careers.

Ticket prices are \$100, \$75, \$50 or \$25 with a cocktail reception at 7:30 p.m. and an 8:30 p.m. curtain. For ticket information, call (213) 871-8088.

In the last six years AGLA has concentrated its main focus on TV programming, especially those vehicles that educate straight viewers about gay issues and concerns. *An Early Frost* was cited for its sensitivity about the AIDS crisis in 1985. *Consenting Adult* was also singled out for its low-key approach to coming out.

AGLA is not restricted to commenting on programs that are already completed and in the can. The group enters the creative process of a gay-orientated project from the initial concept when producers ask advice about content problems. AGLA also has plans to launch creative projects of its own.

AGLA's reach doesn't merely extend to West Hollywood and the entertainment business. It also monitors the treatment of gay and lesbian issues on TV news and public affairs broadcasts. KCBS News and *The Phil Donahue Show* have received AGLA awards and the group is eager to receive information about the treatment of the homosexual community by the media across the U.S.

The mailing address of AGLA is P.O. Box 69A18, West Hollywood, CA 90069.

producers on their toes to assure the portrayal of gays and lesbians in motion pictures, television and the theatre is fair and accurate.

AGLA was started in 1981 to support gay and lesbian actors and actresses who needed emotional support against discrimination in employment they found in Hollywood because of their sexual orientation.

A core of 400 current members has remained active in employment issues, but AGLA also helps educate the straight world about gays, and wants to play a role to promote gay material, especially on TV.

AGLA is a fixture of Hollywood. It is somewhat routinely consulted by writers and producers to render a verdict on gay and lesbian content. The group has been a sane voice in the AIDS-related controversy of the open mouth kissing policy of the Screen Actor's Guild.

AGLA also calmed the waters a few years ago when the straight male lead of a top-rated TV series complained that the set was becoming too swish. The show was ultimately cancelled by low ratings and happily the actor's career has become so slow he can't get a job opening super-markets.

AGLA campaigned hard against Prop. 64 and has firmed its ties to the aforementioned CBS Program Practices Department by giving advice on a School-break Special.

AGLA's most visible public role will take place on March 21 at its Sixth Annual Media Awards Show held at the Wilshire Edell

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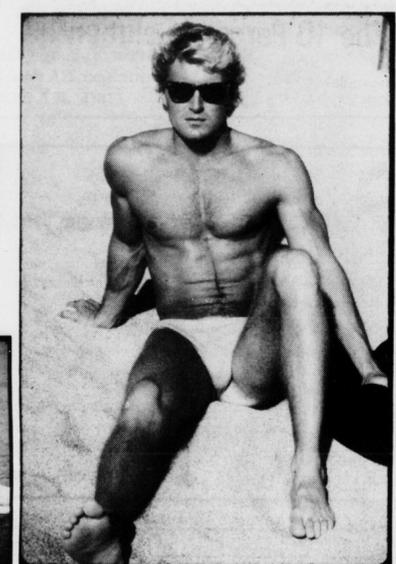
The fourth annual convention of the International Gay Travel Association (IGTA) will be held May 14-17 in New Orleans. Convention activities will include a travel trade show, workshops, a guesthouse and hotel familiarization tour, the annual business meeting, a banquet, and cocktail parties. Headquarters for the convention will be at the elegant Hotel de la Monnaie, conveniently located at the entrance to New Orleans' historic French Quarter.

Rates for the convention, including three nights hotel accommodations, are \$175 per person double occupancy, and \$250 single occupancy. A \$25 discount is offered for those registering prior to April 1. Registration for the convention only is \$100, non-discountable. The first 50 people to register will also receive a free IGTA convention T-shirt.

For registration materials, to reserve exhibit space, or for further information about the convention, call the International Gay Travel Association's new 24-hour message center in Denver at (303) 467-7117, or write IGTA, P.O. Box 18247, Denver, CO 80218.

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PSYCHOLOGY THERAPY GROUP:

EMOTIONS & HEALTH / EMOTIONS & DISEASE / EMOTIONS & AIDS / EMOTIONS & IMMUNITY

The purpose of this group is to convey to you what this psychologist has learned about emotional stress and its ability to forcefully impact body operations, thereby promoting health or encouraging disease. This is not a new idea. Physicians, psychologists, biologists, neurologists etc. have been studying "psychosomatics" for decades now. The idea has been discussed, intelligently, since the days of Athens. Medical researchers recently have gathered much information documenting the interplay between mind and body, between emotions and the immune system.

So, the first goal of the group is to provide you - in plain English - with the basics of psychosomatics. This information can be reassuring, offering hope that we are not at the helpless mercy of any disease, that we do not have to live in fear & apprehension of ill-health lurking around the corner; but instead can manage our psychological lives in a way designed to maintain strong resistance to disease.

The second goal of the group is to move beyond words and information and provide you with an eyes-closed, quasi-hypnotic, trance-induced, guided exploration of your internal psychological selves. The meetings are geared to be emotionally provocative and self-revealing, yet there is no requirement that any personal material be shared with the group. This emphasis on personal emotional experience is designed to create a direct confrontation with your hidden feelings, conflicts, and dreams. This plunge into emotional waters, while keeping one eye on internal body sensations, will allow you to understand and map your own unique patterns of interplay between emotion and body.

Self-therapy exercises will be presented to begin the process of resolution, of establishing emotional calm and confidence. Guidance will be provided on how to psychologically assist your body in maintaining good health & healing diseases.

About the Group Leader

Jeff Leiphart, Ph.D. is a clinical psychologist in private practice in San Francisco. Over the last 10 years he has seen in psychotherapy hundreds of gay men with a variety of health concerns including about 40 men with AIDS. He has published articles for the popular press on the psychology of chronic anal warts, and on the psycho-incubation of the AIDS virus.

Group Meeting Details

The group will meet each Saturday morning from 11 am to 1 pm for a total of 8 consecutive weeks. Each week will cover a different topic on the psychology of health. The meetings begin with a 30-minute information presentation by the group leader, followed by a 45-minute hour devoted to the guided trance explorations, followed by 30 minutes reserved for discussion among group members.

The fee for the therapy group is \$25 per session. Health insurance is accepted. For additional information please contact Dr. Leiphart at his office, 921-5282.

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Rob Birle, with some of his art work

(Photo: Scott Martin)

RESPECT

He Teaches It And Finds Students Eager to Learn

by Will Snyder

Different people find different ways of coming out. For Rob Birle, the determining factors were a "correct" ear lobe and a blabby high school student. As it turned out, both factors led to positive reinforcement, the kind that has made his first year as a high school teacher a splendid one.

Birle is a 30-year-old art teacher at Antioch High School, the only high school in Antioch in troubled Contra Costa County. Birle said that he had been "out" in other places long before last fall, but he added that he didn't initiate talk about his private life when he started teaching in Antioch.

"I was pretty much out by Halloween," he said. "I have a pierced right ear and the students noticed that."

According to the current code going around the high schools, even straight kids are wearing ear studs but only in the left ear.

"The students said that I had the wrong ear pierced," Birle continued. "It was at that time that I told them, 'No, it is the right ear for me.'"

"They just grinned," he added with a grin. "They knew. The reaction was very good."

As for the blabby high school student, this "coming out" incident happened because Birle had to discipline a student who continually used the word faggot on school grounds. "I would not allow the f-word to be used in my presence," he said.

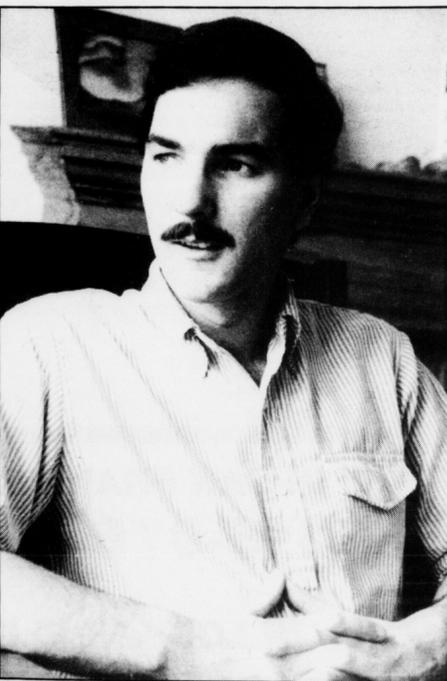
When the student commented that Birle seemed determined to defend gay people and that maybe he was gay, the teacher replied that he was gay. "Surprisingly, the student didn't seem to react negatively to that," said Birle, "but one of his friends went to the vice-principal with the information."

According to Birle, the vice-principal called him in because he was concerned about "rumors" about Birle. "I told him it wasn't a rumor," Birle said.

Since then, Birle said relations with students and the school faculty basically have been good.

There has been a little name-calling by students who are not in his classes, but when that has

(Continued on next page)



"Students must be taught to have respect for one another because that is one thing a school system should be teaching anyway. Impartial sex education would allow for the chance to teach respect for differing viewpoints, people, etc."

—Rob Birle

(Photo: Scott Martin)

"Some straight students have been great. A few of them . . . had a lesbian friend . . . (and) came to see me because they thought I could help . . . they just wanted to know how to tell her they respected her and supported her."

—Rob Birle

Birle

(Continued from previous page)
happened. "My students and straight faculty members have come to my defense."

The Antioch High scenarios are only a few of the reasons why Birle, who is one of the founders of a gay and lesbian educational group called Bay Area Network for Gay and Lesbian Educators (BANGLE), is so adamant in his support of a recent proposal by State School Supt. Bill Honig. Honig has proposed that homosexuality and heterosexuality should be taught on an impartial basis in California public schools. Honig's proposal brought a storm of protest from 32 legislators, most of them conservative Republicans. But last week, the proposal was adopted by the state.

"What those 32 legislators were proposing just perpetuates violence against the gay community," said Birle. "Students must be taught to have respect for one another because that is one thing a school system should be teaching anyway. Impartial sex education would allow for the chance to teach respect for differing viewpoints, people, etc."

"Some of those legislators don't want to believe we exist," he added.

Birle's own high school memories provided him with the impetus for his beliefs in Honig's proposal. He grew up in Philadelphia and says he knew he was gay, "but like a lot of people, I bought into the stereotypes about gay people." As a result, he said, he dated girls even though he knew deep down that he was not interested in pursuing heterosexual relationships.

"I kind of felt because of these experiences," he said, "that I had my youth taken away from me."

Even though he does not teach sex education classes, he said, he supports the impartial classes because "I don't want to see youth suffer because of doubt."

Birle bristled at a charge in a recent letter to the editor in Bay Area Reporter in which the letter writer asked, "Do you really believe that gay teachers in classrooms would not push their viewpoint on students in each and every opportunity if allowed to do so?" Birle said, instead, that students — both gay and straight — have approached him voluntarily for advice.

"That charge is offensive to gay teachers," Birle said. "The gay teacher, on the whole, probably takes greater pains not to take advantage of anyone. For example, I always keep my classroom door open because I don't want anyone to get the wrong idea when I'm talking to students."

Birle indicated that mixed signals have come from the students. "Some straight students have been great," he said. "A few of them came to me because they thought I could help. They said they had a lesbian friend. They knew she was a lesbian and they just wanted to know how to tell her they respected her and supported her."

And yet, he added, some of the gay students who have come out to him have told him that life in Antioch is tough for young gay people.

These signals indicate a lack of understanding between gay and straight students, but also an interest in each other. The impartial sex ed classes, Birle feels, are important because anti-gay teachings "are unfair to gay students who need a role model and

unfair to straight students who want to know the truth about gay people.

"And," he added, "these people (the 32 legislators) are unfair and unjust to me, a gay school teacher, because I have a right to live and work."

He said these are some of the topics that come up at BANGLE's monthly meetings. Group membership has grown in a few months to about 150 members, mostly high school, junior high and elementary teachers. "We raise issues and allow for advocacy and support," he said.

Support, then, is one of the key things Birle is pushing to and for his students and colleagues. It's all wrapped up in the American principle of freedom. "We have to say freedom is all right," he said, "as long as the rights of others are respected."

BANGLE Meets

Norm Nickens of the Human Rights Commission will be the featured speaker at the monthly meeting of Bay Area Network for Gay and Lesbian Educators (BANGLE) tonight. The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St., in San Francisco. For more information, call Rob Birle at 864-4099.



Gerry Parker, left, received a commendation for his long-time work for gay rights from the California Senate. Jack Davis, chief of staff for Sen. Quentin Kopp, I-SF, made the presentation on Thursday, March 12, at a meeting of a newly-formed lesbian and gay advisory committee which is being started by Kopp. (Photo: Scott Martin)

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Dennis Collins, left, and Sup. John Molinari. (Photo: Rink)

It's Official - Molinari Running For Mayor

by Allen White

Sup. John Molinari made it official last Thursday. He announced his candidacy for Mayor of San Francisco. Surrounded by his family in a house built by his grandfather in 1915, Molinari said he will seek the office to be vacated in January by Mayor Dianne Feinstein.

In his announcement, Molinari said he will continue to make the AIDS health crisis a priority. He said the epidemic is "draining the resources of the city" and that he would "fight for every dollar from the federal and state governments."

Molinari also said that as mayor he would sign into law "domestic partnership" legislation. When the law was passed in 1982, he fought strenuously with Dianne Feinstein who ultimately vetoed the legislation.

In the past several years, John Molinari has built a strong base of support in the gay community. Dennis Collins has been on his staff to make him aware of needs within the gay community.

Molinari has continually been at the forefront on legislation at the Board of Supervisors supportive of the gay community. He was one of the first public officials to visit the AIDS/ARC Vigil when it began and co-

authored a resolution giving the support of the city.

Sup. Molinari has also been active in working with the gay community to alleviate tensions that existed with the police. Through a series of meetings, Molinari was instrumental in achieving the relationship that now exists with the police department.

Possibly Molinari's greatest strength in the upcoming mayoral race is his accessibility. He has continually made himself available to the community to listen to concerns. He stated that he believes this will be a race with "a discussion of a broad range of issues."

Art Agnos, another candidate for mayor, is scheduled to announce next week. Roger Boas, former city chief administrative officer, and Cesar Ascarrunz, a nightclub owner, are also planning to run. City Attorney Louise Renne has stated she may also enter the race.

Shaw

(Continued from page 1)

favorable letters from scholars, whom he charged had acted only out of political conviction, and that he had introduced procedural errors into the review. During that same year, the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission also ruled against U.C., finding that Shaw's termination had resulted at least partly from sex discrimination. Shortly thereafter, Shaw filed suit.

The tenure denial sparked widespread protests, including marches, teach-ins, petitions, and a three day sit-in. The American Sociological Association took the highly unusual step of

Drugs Release

(Continued from page 5)

whether they will prolong or shorten life."

Levi said that both sound research and availability of promising experimental drugs to those who are terminally ill can be met through the funding of greatly expanded clinical trials. "There should be enough trials under way," Levi said, "so that every person with AIDS who wishes to can participate in the development of experimental drugs."

Once those drugs are proven effective, he urged that "the federal government provide the resources to assure that income does not become a measure for access to new treatments."

The FDA proposal is supposed to be allowed 90 days after it is issued in the federal Registrar for comment to be made by members of Congress. Since it has yet to be published in the Registrar, it will be months before the change can be finalized, said Levi.

Golden Gate M.C.C. To Honor Troy Perry

To celebrate their seventh birthday as a congregation, Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church is hosting a festive awards dinner with entertainment at 8 p.m. on Sunday, Mar. 29, at Ragg's restaurant, 22 4th Street, San Francisco.

The Reverend Elder James E. Sandmire, pastor of the church, announced that the founder of Metropolitan Community Churches, the Reverend Elder Troy D. Perry, will receive the first Golden Gate M.C.C. Humanitarian Award. According to Sandmire, "Troy Perry is not only a prophetic voice for lesbian, gay, and bisexual people in the church, he is one of the pioneer leaders in the struggle for equal treatment and social justice for our community and other oppressed people. We know many will want to join us in honoring him."

A suggested donation of \$25 is requested for the evening. After expenses, all proceeds will benefit a special project for people with AIDS. Reservations are required. For information call the church office at 474-4848. The church holds worship services at 12:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. at 48 Belcher Street between 14th Street and Duboce.

NGLTF Board Positions Open

The board of directors of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) invites interested persons to consider serving on the 24-member board. The NGLTF board is elected by all Task Force members during elections held in August and September of each year. Any member of the Task Force is eligible to serve on the board. Approximately eight seats will be open for election this year.

As set forth in NGLTF's by-laws, the board is committed to gender parity, racial diversity and geographic representation. All NGLTF board members make a commitment to raising \$2,500 a year for the organization. In addition, members are expected to attend quarterly board meetings held around the country, and to serve on board committees. The NGLTF board oversees the financial management of the

Task Force, and is actively involved in setting policy directions for the organization. All applicants should address their letters of interest to: Marlene Howell, Chair, Board Nominations Committee, NGLTF, 1517 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20009.

Give 'Em Hell, Harry!
Vote for Britt, April 7.

Friday

(Continued from page 10)

despite personal appeals from United States senators on behalf of Pelosi.

Earlier, the majority of the San Francisco Labor Council voted for Britt, turning aside similar pressure from political bigwigs. Other non-gay endorsements the Britt for Congress campaign has gained include the Affordable Housing Alliance, the Chinese-American Democratic Club, the Firefighters and about a dozen other labor unions, San Francisco Tomorrow, Campaign California and the Rainbow Coalition.

Significantly, these very groups were always key components of the Burton coalition. While Nancy Pelosi has the endorsement of John Burton and managed a death-bed endorsement of the late Sala Burton, it appears that Harry Britt has the support of the people who continually elected the Burtons.

In the wake of his narrow victory over Republican Ed Zschau, Sen. Alan Cranston is reportedly remaking his personal staff in a top to bottom shake-up, with some staffers seeing the handwriting and leaving voluntarily while others are being asked to leave.

In a USA Today story that featured Harry Britt's congressional race, other gay and lesbian political candidates included Bill Nelson, president of the Dallas Gay Alliance, who is given an even chance of winning a Dallas Council seat. It said gays and lesbians are openly thinking of running their own presidential candidate in 1988, with New York Virginia Apuzzo as the likely candidate. Quipped Apuzzo about running at the Demo convention: "We Italians from New York deny it all. We say only that we're looking at the situation."

And on the syndicated "Hour" magazine show this week, actor Burt Reynolds says that the continuing rumors that he has AIDS are part of a carefully orchestrated smear campaign. Reynolds said, "I think that there is no doubt that you can't keep that kind of thing (the AIDS rumors) going unless it is well-orchestrated—and somebody's doing a beautiful job of it!"

Reynolds questioned why the media, "who jumped on this rumor with a vengeance and couldn't wait to ask me if it was true," never once tried to investigate if it was false. He wondered why investigative reporters didn't try to find out "if it is Lyndon LaRouche or whoever. Why not nail them?"

Maryland's new U.S. Sen. Barbara Mikulski, was in San Francisco last week, speaking to a conference of women from 42 countries, bemoaning the problems of

Pelosi

(Continued from page 10)

we are getting any power." Wolfred, with Britt, are the two openly gay elected officials in San Francisco. Wolfred noted that Paul Shinoff wrote another homophobic column targeting the AIDS Foundation last September.

Shinoff is on the editorial board of the San Francisco Examiner. Two days after the Shinoff commentary, the Examiner endorsed Nancy Pelosi.

Chronicle reporter Randy Shilts called Shinoff's article "journalistic fag-bashing."

"In 1977, when it appeared that Harvey Milk was on the verge of winning, the old-time columnist types went crazy like



Virginia Apuzzo

a woman candidate: "We're criticized for our marital status, whatever it is. If you're a widow, you killed him; if you're divorced, you couldn't hold onto him; if you're married, you're neglecting him; and if you're single, well, you're a little funny." (Mikulski is single.)

Both the Los Angeles Times ("Special Interests a Large Source of Brown's Income") and the Chronicle ("The Speaker's Jackpot") did critical stories last week on Speaker Willie Brown's outside income. They said that the political reform law enacted in 1974 is too weak. The Chron said that "in what now seems to be an example of naivete, the framers of the political reform act based their decision on the premise that full disclosure would discourage politicians from having their hands out."

The L.A. Times reported that "Willie Brown received at least \$124,000 in income and gifts last year from special interests that had business before the Legislature."

San Jose for Britt

A Britt for Congress fundraiser will be held from 3-5 p.m. on Sunday, Mar. 29, at the Billy DeFrank Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 1040 Park Avenue, San Jose. The fundraiser for San Francisco Sup. Harry Britt is being jointly sponsored by High Tech Gays and BAYMEC, the Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee.

A donation of \$20 is requested. Tickets will be sold at the door and are also being sold at meetings of various gay and lesbian community organizations. To order a ticket by mail, call (408) 265-5275.

this," said Shilts, "because, in effect, they believed that it was all right for queers to be florists and interior decorators, but don't dare try to be supervisor."

"Now they're saying it's all right to be a city supervisor, but don't dare think about going to Congress," Shilts commented. "The rhetoric is the same, but, of course, the stakes for everyone have increased dramatically in the past decade."

Tom Ammiano, a former school teacher, said, "It's the worst kind of sleaze. It is reminiscent of Anita Bryant and Proposition 6. It's simplistic and we deserve better from the media."

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Shelter

Foster spoke of the plans for an AIDS hotel at a panel discussion on AIDS and the homeless, sponsored by Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, on Monday night.

Canon William Barcus, an Episcopalian clergyman who helped start an AIDS sanctuary, spoke eloquently on the need for compassion for the AIDS homeless.

"Imagine if you went home this evening and your home was not there. In view of federal cutbacks, there is not enough money to help you. You are on the streets. The next day you wake up in one of the city's shelters and discover a purple mark. So you take your wounded pride into Ward 86. After exhaustive tests they find you have AIDS. What does that do to you inside? What does it do to realize that you may

be dying? What of the friends who will leave you?

"To be homeless and to be ill and to be dying is to drink of the human condition very deeply," said Barcus.

Gary Harmon, a member of the AIDS/ARC Vigil, spoke from experience about what it is like to be a homeless person with ARC, struggling to survive on disability payments.

"You can't plan for the future anymore — You have to start closing down your life. It isn't easy."

Harmon stopped abruptly, too shaken to continue his tragic tale.

Resources for Gay Couples

Partners newsletter offers a free annotated list of Resources for Gay & Lesbian Couples. The list contains information on social, political and support groups around the country who

serve gay and lesbian couples. Books and audio-visual materials are also listed.

To receive a copy, send a self-addressed, stamped business envelope to: Partners, Box 9685, Seattle, WA 98109.

Partners: the Newsletter for Gay and Lesbian Couples is an eight-page monthly containing features, interviews, news, media reviews, and articles by readers and professionals. It is available by subscription only at \$36 per year.



DEPARTS

Art Brewer 8/19/18 - 3/8/87

With 68 years of accomplishment under his belt, Art paused briefly in illness, then left us. Though his achievements warranted a nod of satisfaction, he welcomed more.

The boy from Owosso, MI took degrees in Architecture and (under Saarinen at Cranbrook Academy) City Planning, with a WWII war stint in between, piloting dive bombers in the Pacific campaign. "Lieutenant Brewer" and his wife Deborah raised five children, who later gave him eight grandchildren.

His career lured him to California, where he became a City Manager (San Leandro, San Anselmo) and Redevelopment Planning Director (Los Angeles).
He led him to other places, other loves. His last years' devotion and embrace were shared with Ken. On mountains and beaches they danced under a rainbow, laughing, singing. They nursed each other in the illness that would dim but not stop the music.

"Retirement" freed his energy for service, at the Tenderloin Mental Health Clinic, North of Market Senior Center, and finally Hospice. Fittingly, a memorial will be held at the Coming Home Hospice, which Art helped to build, Sunday, March 22, at 7 p.m.

Then, and thereafter, we'll recall Art's seriousness and silliness, the scowl and the twinkle.

Remembrances are welcome to Coming Home Hospice.

Alan Dean Ellis

My beloved friend and companion of 12 years, Alan Ellis, passed away on the morning of Feb. 15. Born in 1953, Alan studied psychology at SUNY and NYU. After working as a counselor in New York, he traveled around the country, settling in San Francisco in 1982. Earning a living as a word processor, Alan studied for and obtained his MFC license. Alan was busy starting his practice when he was diagnosed with ARC in 1985 and AIDS in 1986. Alan loved music and sang with various choral groups in New York and San Francisco.

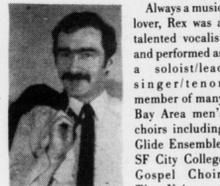
Alan remained active until the last few months of his life. Angry at this damned disease, Alan rarely despaired but tried different therapies in his struggle for health. Alan and I spent a peaceful, loving year-end holiday at home together. Then Alan was hospitalized with his first bout of pneumocystis and died ten days later, surrounded always by loving friends, volunteers, health care providers, and family.

Alan, you were a dear friend, and your spirit lives on in those of us who were fortunate to have known you. Peace and love until we meet again.

Edward

Rex Sheppard

Rex was born July 13, 1949 in Panama City, FL and had been a resident of San Francisco since 1976. He contracted AIDS and died March 12 after a painful, debilitating and rapid deterioration of his health.



Always a music lover, Rex was a talented vocalist and performed as a soloist/lead singer/tenor member of many Bay Area men's choirs including Glide Ensemble, SF City College Gospel Choir, The Voices of Christ, Vukani Mawethu African Freedom Chorus, and the Northern California Gospel Music Workshop. He was active in Black and White Men Together, and worked for several years as manager of "Over the Rainbow" rooming house above the Rainbow Cattle Co.

A memorial celebration and gathering for friends will be held at Glide Memorial Church on Sunday, March 29, at 2 p.m. Anyone wishing to make contributions may do so in his name to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.
Rex says "All debts are cancelled."

Wood Fox 6/1/57 - 3/15/87

Wood (Robert Pitcher) died peacefully at S.F. General Hospital on Sunday evening. He ended his seven-year long struggle with AIDS with dignity.

Wood was born in Nantucket and spent his last years in the two places he loved most in the world: Yelapa, Mexico, and San Francisco.

Services for his San Francisco friends will be held at the Quaker Meeting House, 2160 Lake St. (north end of 23rd Ave.) at 6 p.m. on Friday, March 20.
Contributions may be made in his name to the S.F. AIDS Foundation, 333 Valencia St., 4th floor, San Francisco, CA 94103.

David L. Ballinger

David L. Ballinger, 28, of San Francisco, died Jan. 31 at his parents' home in Atascadero, California after a 1½-year struggle with AIDS.

There will be a memorial service celebrating David's life on Saturday, March 28, at 12 noon at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco. Anyone who knew David and is interested in attending, please feel free.

His sparkling smile and sharp humor are sorely missed by many friends and loved ones.
We love you, baby boy.

Ron Meryehw

On Mar. 4, a gentle, laughing, cynical, raucous, uniquely individual spirit named Ron Meryehw made the transition from this plane of existence to the next.

This tall, sometimes loud and outspoken gentleman made a distinct impression on all who met and got to know him. Even now, I'm sure he is regaling his fellow spirits with his honest and cynically humorous tales of derring-do.

He will be sorely missed by his mother Shirley, brothers Tony, Don, and Russell and sister Madonna. His lover Eric, and his friends Debra, Bill, Gordon, David, Pearl, Lynne, Peter, Sandy, and Patrice, all feel the loss of a good, kind, and loving person in their lives.

Having fulfilled his mission on this plane, he has moved on to the peace and joy of his next mission.

We love and miss you, Ron.
The Family and Friends of Ron Meryehw

Scott Ladiser

Scott died at San Francisco General Hospital on Sunday, March 1, surrounded by loving family and friends, after a short brave fight with pneumocystis. He is missed by his father, two sisters and brother, as well as many in San Francisco.

Those who knew him during his vivid career at Duo or the Patio Cafe could not have escaped the echoing lyric: "I Had a Dream, Baby," that would seem to come from nowhere and always bring the house down. Sparkle and life such as Scott's are rarely found, but his high spirit remains as a cherished example within the hearts of all of his loved ones.

Larry D. Harrison

On Feb. 3, the spirit of Larry D. Harrison surrendered itself from this physical plane, to continue on its destined path throughout eternity. The many of us who shared in his love are deeply saddened by our loss. Yet his quick wit, endearing smile, unending love — all that contributed in creating his very essence — remains forever, a vital presence among each of us. In knowing his great love of music, we need

but listen carefully to hear that rich, beautiful baritone voice, once again bringing harmonious comfort to our lives.

Contributions made in his loving memory may be sent to Rita Rockett, who also has brought comfort to so many whom we've loved and lost. Money will go towards the 5-A Brunch Fund at S.F. General Hospital (info. 821-0835).

To our dear friend Larry, thank you. Through being a part of our lives, you've blessed us with a wealth far exceeding the value of any earthly-bound treasure.

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

So. Bay School Praised For 'Show of Support'

Compassionate Response to Teacher's Death Called a Model for Schools' Approach to AIDS

by Gerard Koskovich

AIDS educators, gay activists, and the local press are lining up to praise a South Bay elementary school for its compassionate response to a teacher's death from AIDS. Students and parents reacted to news of the loss with sorrow and a "show of support," school officials said.

"I hope this school's reaction will set a model for any situation like this that arises in the future," remarked Millicent Kellogg, education coordinator for the AIDS Project of the Santa Clara County Health Department.

James Buell, 47, died Mar. 1 of pneumonia and encephalitis brought on by AIDS, according to the Santa Clara County Coroner's Office. The fifth-grade teacher at Columbia Community School in Sunnyvale had been under doctors' care at O'Connor Hospital in San Jose since Jan. 19.

"Jim was an excellent teacher who cared greatly for children and worked to make learning fun," recalled Columbia School assistant principal Jim Rand.

Brougham Endorsed in Bid for College Board

On Thursday, March 5, the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club unanimously endorsed Tom Brougham, the club's past president, in his bid for election to the Peralta Community College Board of Trustees. If victorious in the April 21 election, Brougham will be the East Bay's first openly-gay elected public official.

Speaking at a candidates forum co-sponsored by EBL/GDC and the East Bay National Organization for Women PAC, Brougham stressed the importance of saving Berkeley's Vista College from the budget axe. "I'm deeply committed to Vista's special outreach to seniors and the disabled," he said. "In addition, Vista classes are profitable. It's short-sighted even to consider cutting them."

Vista College is located in Peralta Area 4, which Brougham seeks to represent, encompassing most of Berkeley, Emeryville, and part of North Oakland.

Brougham stressed the need for volunteers in his campaign, asking that those interested call 843-9316. He has been endorsed by Assemblymember Tom Bates, Berkeley Mayor Loni Hancock, and former mayor Gus Newport.

Other candidates appearing at the forum included Cliff Tilman, running in Peralta Area 2 (East Oakland), who also received the club's endorsement, and Oakland School Board candidates Sheila Jordan, Patricia Hirota, and Tay McArthur, vying for the open District 1 seat (North Oakland). Jordan edged out Hirota for the club's nod.

Marge Gibson, Cassie Lopez, and Annette Floydstrup, the three main contenders in the hotly-contested Oakland City Council race for District 1 (North Oakland) appeared. Each pledged, if elected, to introduce domestic partner legislation similar to that implemented last year in Berkeley. Incumbent Gibson, who sponsored Oakland's AIDS and lesbian/gay nondiscrimination ordinances, was rewarded with the club's endorsement.

ness, we have come to realize how important it is for all of us to become more knowledgeable about and understanding of this dread disease," Peregrin wrote in the letter.

"According to several reports by qualified people in this field, we are convinced there is nothing for us to fear regarding the transmission of this disease in the school," he continued.

"It is very important to explain to our children that although Mr. Buell died of this disease, the fact remains that he was a caring, conscientious teacher," Peregrin added.

Reaction to the letter was "very good," according to assistant principal Rand.

"We've had a real show of support from the parents," he said. "They've called and sent cards. We've done a lot to keep them informed and they've responded appropriately."

School officials arranged several programs to help students and parents address the feelings created by Buell's death. Students met Mar. 9 with representatives from the Center for Living With Dying, a grief counseling program based in Campbell. Parents and teachers will meet with public health experts from the County AIDS Project this Wednesday.

After the teacher's death, school officials met and decided to inform parents and teachers at Columbia about the cause. Principal Michael Peregrin made the announcement in a letter sent Mar. 4.

"In our efforts to respond to the news about Mr. Buell's illness, we have come to realize how important it is for all of us to become more knowledgeable about and understanding of this dread disease," Peregrin wrote in the letter.

"They may have some lingering questions about risk, what to do if a case like this comes up

again," AIDS Project representative Kellogg said of the session for teachers and parents. "We'll give them the information they need to allay any remaining concerns."

"Columbia School has set a positive precedent," said Ken Yeager, treasurer of the Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee (BayMEC) and chair of the Community AIDS Task Force appointed by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. "Their example will make it harder for other school districts in the county to react to an AIDS case in the hysterical fashion we've seen elsewhere."

According to Yeager, the events at Columbia School "demonstrate that even very young students are going to have to confront AIDS on a personal level as (the disease) becomes more widespread in Santa Clara County."

"As we lobby for education programs, we can turn to the reaction at Columbia Community School as evidence that parents and children can deal with AIDS reasonably and intelligently when they are given the facts," Yeager added.

The Times-Tribune of Palo Alto, a daily newspaper published in Santa Clara County, editorialized in similar terms. "There has been much debate recently over teaching grade-school students about sex education

(Continued on next page)

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ELOCUTIONIST'S DRAMATURGY (A Reciting Nose)

A summons is being made to all gay and bi men to announce the forming of a gay and bi men's Reader's Theater.

If you are interested in writing, performing, producing, or organizing for a Reader's Theater, you are urged to leave a message with Kaly, 420-1240 (in Oakland); or Peter, 775-2758 (in San Francisco).

FOURTH ESTATE PROMULGATION I (A Releasing Nose)

The Turf Club will sponsor an AIDS Awareness Night, this Sunday, March 22, from 5-7 p.m. This

event is in conjunction with the AIDS Project of the East Bay, Alameda County Drug & Alcohol Services, and Fairmont Hospital AIDS Clinic. Videos and free safer sex kits will all be part of the fun. Dancing will follow the presentation until 2 a.m.

The main focus from the speakers and the videos will be eroticizing safe sex and how to deal with the feelings. Such issues as "What problems a person encounters when it's time to put on a condom" will be discussed.

Speakers for AIDS Awareness Night include Jim Jensen; Dale Jensen, Health Educator for AIDS Project of the East Bay; and Don DeMorrow, Coordinator for AIDS Services at Fairmont Hospital.

FOURTH ESTATE PROMULGATION II (An Announcing Nose)

The Pacific Center has three recovery groups in its Drug and Alcohol Program.

ACA is for adults who grew up in a home in which one or both parents used/abused drugs or alcohol, and is designed to create a safe environment for a person to fully experience all they are!

Co-Dependency is for those who use drugs too much, and finds frustration in trying to rescue and take care of their friends.

Clean and Sober provides tools and support to begin and sustain a program for the recovering alcoholic/drug user.

Each group is led by experienced lesbian/gay chemical dependency counselors Karen Bourque and Ivan Meyer. Call 841-6224 for meeting dates and times.

FOURTH ESTATE PROMULGATION III (A Palaver Nose)

The Caucus for Ethnic Diversity and Pacific Center Third-World Programs presents Men of Color Conference '87, Saturday, April 25, in Berkeley. A \$5-\$15 donation is suggested to reserve space at this conference. For more information, call 548-0283.

SALIENT SUPERIORITY (A Proud Nose)

Once again the city of San Francisco has honored its sister city across the bay. The Cable Car Awards this year was outstanding because of plenty of room and good viewing of all the entertainment. Oakland, for the second year in a row, took the outstanding award for Best Out of City Float — The Gay 90's Express. Richard Haslett accepted the plaque for the Oakland Parade Contingent, and the city, with thanks to everyone who helped.

Not one, but two awards were presented to our side of the bay. Chuck Sheppard (aka "Mama Chuckles") and ACIE Emperor II/Empress VIII received the Board of Directors Award for Outstanding East Bay Activist for all the humanitarian work he has done. Congratulations!

OPC FLOATS AGAIN! (A Parade '87 Nose?)

After a rather sluggish start, the Oakland Parade Contingent organized its first meeting of the year, thanks to Paul M., and things got rolling for the 1987 Freedom Day Parade.

Paul will stay on as Flag and Banner director, Carlos is Marching and Music director, and Richard H. is float and art director. A "newcomer" this year, Charles C., will be the contingent coordinator. Tootsi has again agreed to put up with the headaches of secretary/treasurer.

It was decided that several fundraisers would be held to add to the remaining funds from last year. Mama Chuckles said that he would donate the music truck

this year, and scheduled a fundraiser for that purpose, on June 14 (your truly's birthday!) at Paradise.

The next OPC meeting will be this Tuesday, March 24, 7:30 at Paradise. All are welcome to attend to see the model of the 1987 float. The parade theme this year is Proud, Strong, United. Oakland's theme will be Love In The Wind. Come join the meeting and see what the two themes have in common. As always, your ideas and help are welcome.

LOLLAPALOOZA! (A Jubilant Nose!)

Yes, that was I in last Wednesday's issue of our hometown paper, in the Foods section! Somehow I managed to win third place in the paper's Creative Cooking Contest, salad category. Huh? Oh, the reason I appear so old is that the photographer used an old camera, plus he used bathteship linoleum as a filter!

A good plan today is better than a perfect plan tomorrow. I'm smiling! Love,

Nez •

Teacher

(Continued from previous page)

and, in particular, the danger of AIDS," the paper wrote in a lead editorial Mar. 6. "At Columbia, the students have been taught a traumatic but valuable first-hand lesson."

"We hope the reaction and discussion that results statewide about teachers who have AIDS will be just as enlightened—and just as considerate—as the district was in James Buell's case," the editorial summed up.

One of Buell's students added her feelings in an interview with the Times-Tribune. "I miss him a lot," said Emily Corral, 10. "We didn't get to have him too long."

Condoms

(Continued from page 1)

The Village Voice in New York did a major cover article on condoms in March of last year, indicating that condom distributors in New York and California (the states with the highest number of AIDS cases) report condom sales up anywhere from 25 to 50 percent.

The rise in condom sales is attributed to people's fear of sexually transmitted diseases. Moreover, Ad Age reports that the percentage of women buying condoms has increased. A decade ago almost no condoms were purchased by women; as of the September article, the estimate is that 40 percent are being purchased by women who fear STD's (and specifically AIDS). The Village Voice article mentions gay men prominently, while no mention is made in either Ad Age article of purchases by gay men—more evidence of homophobia in the advertising industry.

Now, of course, condom ads have been accepted by local TV stations, the ABC Network, and even by the New York Times. But during the last few years, when the general media would not even consider accepting condom ads, the gay media was begging condom companies for this advertising. We were—and still are—refused. While AIDS may be a "condom marketer's dream," it seems that this "dream" still does not include gays. Ansell's advertising agency was so appalled by this callous statement made by the company's president that they resigned the account.

Rivendell Marketing Company has for the past nine years been actively working on Madison Avenue getting major companies to advertise in the gay media. During this time you may have noticed ads from movie studios, liquor companies, and other national mainstream companies appearing in the pages of local gay newspapers. Most of these ads are secured through Rivendell Marketing on behalf of the local gay papers throughout the country.

AIDS is a "condom marketer's dream," says John Silverman, president of Ansell Americas, the sellers of LifeStyles condoms . . . —Time, Feb. 16, 1987

For almost five years now, Rivendell has argued that condom companies have both an economic interest and a moral responsibility (a pretty potent combination) to place educational condom advertising in gay media. These discussions have taken place over the years with Lewis Brenner (formerly in charge of marketing for Trojan, now at Ansell-Americas in charge of marketing for LifeStyles), Brent Guylick (brand manager for Ramses at Schmid), Scott Hoyt (brand manager for Trojan at Carter-Wallace), and Mark Klein (formerly marketing chief at Schmid, now VP of Marketing

(Continued on next page)

Condoms

(Continued from previous page)

for Trojan at Carter-Wallace). So far, in spite of all our efforts, there has been no gay advertising, and I have been flatly told that none will be forthcoming from any of these companies in the near future.

In my discussions of this problem with the editors and publishers of various gay newspapers, I have sensed a great deal of anger and frustration over this situation—anger and frustration which the recent appearance of condom advertising in women's magazines and on television has brought into focus.

While no one would condemn condom companies for trying to reach the widest audience with safe-sex messages, it is understandable that we as a community might feel that condom companies are using the deaths of thousands of gay men to promote their own economic growth, galvanizing popular and governmental support for airing condom ads on television while deliberately choosing to ignore those most effected by the disease—gay men. As recently as Feb. 20, my discussions with condom manufacturers and their advertising agencies were still producing no positive results. Our community has not been—and continues not to be—a priority for these people, despite the fact that we are certainly at the top of the priority list for contracting AIDS.

Below are excerpts from a letter I wrote to the vice-president in charge of the Trojan account at Ted Bates Advertising in New York. It was written Feb. 20, after being told again that Trojan has no immediate plans to address

Lewis Brenner, senior vice president of Ansell-Americas, says the company considers mass media "more efficient." He adds, "The danger, the threat, is in the heterosexual population. Very simply, there are more heterosexuals than homosexuals."

... Homosexuals account for 22,460 of the 31,036 reported cases of AIDS in the U.S. . . . More than 12,600 gays have died from AIDS. AIDS transmitted by heterosexual contact . . . accounts for only 1,164, or 4 percent.

—Adweek, March 2, 1987

the gay market and that "gays will see the ads on TV":

"With practically universal awareness among gay men of the need to use a condom when having sex, it is unbelievable that no condom manufacturer wishes to secure brand loyalty of many millions of condom purchasers. Granted, gay men will be seeing condom ads now in the general media, but it has been reported over and over again in demographic surveys of the readers of gay publications that between 75 and 85 percent of their readers make a conscious effort to purchase goods and services advertised in gay media.

"Advertising in gay media says to the reader—who is very conscious while reading a gay newspaper of being part of a group which is subject to prejudice, discrimination, hatred and violence because of its sexual orientation—that this company (the advertiser) values and respects him as a human being (and as a customer) as much as any other human being, advertising for his business as it would for anyone else's business. The psychological impact of an ad when seen by a

man in gay media is far greater than the impact of that same ad when seen in media aimed at the general population. And in advertising, as we all know, it's impact that counts, not merely exposure.

"Finally, the nature of advertising aimed at gay men in gay media can be markedly different from the advertising required by the mass media . . . Most gay AIDS organizations report that even though condom usage among gay men has increased dramatically over the last two years, usage of condoms would be even greater if they knew how to use them properly.

"There is great opportunity here for a condom manufacturer to both educate a receptive audience as to proper condom usage for safer sex and to capture the brand loyalty of many millions of consumers at the same time. As Surgeon General Koop suggested, the educational messages needed at this time should be both graphic and specific (while remaining tasteful), something which would never be allowed on television."

I then pointed out that I have been trying to get condom manufacturers to advertise in gay media for almost five years. Ted Bates Advertising has had the Trojan account for over a year-and-a-half and has been "studying" the gay market since we first met in October 1985, even though the marketing people at Trojan had been approached by Rivendell long before this new agency came into the picture.

"Five years later, everyone is still 'studying' the situation. As thousands die, the 'studying' continues, and you indicated to me today on the phone that there are presently no plans for Trojans to begin advertising in the gay market in the near future. Many in the gay community feel that, as the industry's leader, Trojan bears a special responsibility to lead the way. The justified anger rising in the gay community at the current situation should not be a surprise to any of you involved."

Trojan is the industry leader and should bear a special responsibility to take some of the dollars it is spending on advertising (Ad Age called it a "multi-million-dollar campaign") and put together some educational ads specifically directed at the people most in danger from AIDS—gay men. But the statements made to the press recently by both the president and the senior vice president of Ansell-Americas are particularly homophobic and distressing.

Perhaps both companies need some sort of proof that we are a large enough segment of the condom market to bother with. A boycott directed against any manufacturer certainly won't be effective due to the fact that condom sales are bound to go up even more because of the acceptance of condom ads by the general media. Any effects of an attempted "gay boycott" will be more than offset by these new sales. But if you are angry at this situation, you can make your anger felt.

The next time you buy a competing brand of condom, save the empty wrappers and send some to the vice-presidents of marketing for both Trojans at Carter-Wallace and LifeStyles at Ansell-Americas. Their names and addresses appear below. Include a note explaining that you are a gay man who is incensed at the refusal of this company to run educational messages about condom usage in gay media, and that this empty wrapper could have been a purchase of their product but was not, due to their company's lack of sensitivity, concern, and responsibility with respect to the gay community.

If enough of their competitors' empty wrappers reach their offices, perhaps these two companies might consider us important. If not, you may never see condom advertising in the gay press—no matter how many of us die.

Send your empty wrappers to:
Mr. Mark Klein, VP of Marketing
Carter-Wallace
767 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10153
Phone: (212) 758-4500

Mr. Lewis Brenner
Vice President, LifeStyles
Ansell-Americas
78 Apple Street
Tinton Falls, NJ 07724
Phone: (800) 345-1224
In NJ (201) 530-9500

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Men About Town welcome you to City Cabaret March 20 (Photo: Rink)

FRIDAY 20

- **Seduction: The Cruel Woman:** film, Castro Theater, 429 Castro St., S.F., 11:30 PM, \$7. The screening will be preceded by an on-stage preview of the contestants of the International Ms. Leather contest. Tickets at all Headlines, by calling 861-5245, or at the door.
- **Danny Williams and Teri Sands:** comedy cabaret, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8-10 PM, free.
- **Monica Grant:** music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4. Acoustic/original music performed with heart, subject to quick wit and other nonsense.
- **Rhiannon and Ruth Zaporah:** music/dance, Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, 8 PM, \$8. An evening of women's improvisational song, dance, humor, and theater.

Artemis Flowers, Tim Gnabaski, Alison Harlow, Prudence Priest, Starhawk, Luisa Teish, and Sally Roesch Wagner. Evening events include a ritual for women only with Z Budapest and a ritual for men only with Buffalo and Tim Gnabaski, and then a dance with the Sweetwater String Band at which all are welcome. Call 444-7724 for more information.

- **Interfaith Conference on AIDS and ARC:** for clergy and care givers, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1111 O'Farrell St., and St. Mary's Cathedral, 1111 Gough St., S.F., 8 AM to 6:30 PM, \$15 general admission, \$10 students, seniors, and people with AIDS and ARC. Workshops, lunch, general sessions, healing meditation, Bach Cantata Vespers. Call 864-7400, ext. 47 for more information.
- **BBQ-Raffle:** to benefit El Rio softball team, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 2-6 PM, \$4 in advance, \$5 at the door.
- **EastBay FrontRunners:** Lake Chabot run. Take I-580 South to Estudillo exit, turn left on Estudillo to Fairmont Dr., turn left to entrance (on left). Meet at entrance end of parking lot. Mostly flat. Call 526-7592 or 261-3246 for more information.
- **Box-Aerobics:** non-competitive, no-contact workout. Call 755-2348 for more information.
- **Diablo Valley MCC:** men's social group, 6:30 PM, Call 827-2960 or 825-9054 for more information.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Meet at Stow Lake Boathouse in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 9 AM. No-host brunch follows; beginners welcome. Call 673-7303 or 337-8704 for more information.

SUNDAY 22

- **Cabaret in Concert:** music/comedy, Old Fillmore, 1805 Geary Blvd., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$7.50-\$9.50. With City Swing featuring Gail Wilson, Bettie Blount, Sandy Van, Mikio Hirata, Samm Gray, and Joseph Tara. Tickets at BASS and at the box office.

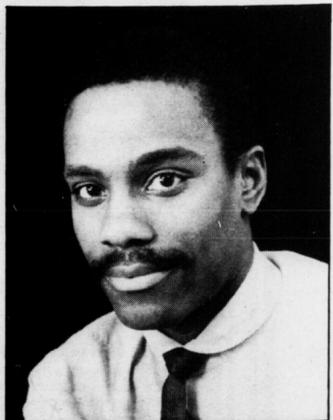
THIS WEEK

- **Men About Town:** music, City Cabaret, 401 Mason St., 10 PM, \$7 with two-drink minimum. Members of the SF Gay Men's Chorus present their first full-length performance, which will feature Broadway show tunes, jazz, and "High camp" classics. Tickets available at the door or by calling 441-RSVP.
- **Spookhouse:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$9-\$12. Harvey Fierstein's turbulent drama about an idealistic social worker who confronts a disintegrating family that lives above a carnival spookhouse. Call 861-5079 for tickets.
- **Harry Britt For Congress Campaign:** fundraiser, Bernal Heights Community Center, 515 Cortland Ave., S.F., 5:30-7:30 PM, \$15-\$25. Tom Ammanno will MC the show.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** game fest, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 PM. Call 641-0999 for more information.

SATURDAY 21

- **International Ms. Leather Contest:** Club DV8, 540 Howard St., S.F., doors open 7 PM, show begins 8 PM, \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Tickets at Headlines, Mr. S Leathers, or Sandmutopia Supply Co. Proceeds will benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund, Coming Home Hospice, AWARE, Women's AIDS Network, and the AIDS Alternative Healing Project.
- **Gold Mountain:** stage performance, Theatre on the Square, 450 Post St., S.F., 8 PM, \$17-\$19. A benefit performance of the musical drama about the Gold Rush era for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.
- **Revenge of the Disco Divas: Part II,** Trocadero Transfer, 520 4th St., S.F., 10 PM, \$10. An evening of disco classics with music by Robbie Leslie.
- **Rites of Spring:** dinner-dance, San Franciscan Hotel, 1231 Market St., S.F., no-host cocktails 6:30 PM, dinner 7:30 PM, \$50. To benefit Operation Concern. After-dinner remarks by Harry Britt. Dancing until midnight. Call 626-7000 for reservations and more information.
- **Rents:** stage performance, The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8. A hustler's life on the streets of Edinburgh in a gritty yet touching comedy receiving its American premiere.
- **Hunter Davis:** music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5-\$7 sliding scale. Heartwarming, humorous blend of women's music.
- **Sweet Honey in the Rock:** music, Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 7:30 and 10:30 PM, \$13. Plus dancer Halifu Osumare.
- **Sisterspirit:** informal coffeehouse, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 8 PM, \$1-\$3 sliding scale.
- **Rich Montes:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 10 PM to 1 AM, \$3. Pop and jazz.
- **Code Blue:** European-style nightclub for women, Lombard and Taylor, S.F., 9:30 PM to 2 AM, members \$6, non-members \$7.
- **Spookhouse:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **The Goddess is Alive!** goddess conference, Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, daytime workshops begin 9:30 AM, evening events begin 8 PM, daytime conference \$28, evening events \$7-\$13 sliding scale. Daytime workshops with Ruth "Rhiannon" Barrett, Z Budapest, Buffalo, the Etna St. Heretics, Felicity

- **Hunter Davis:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5:30-8:30 PM, \$5.
- **Tropical Breeze:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM, \$5. Brazilian, pop.
- **Rents:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Spookhouse:** stage performance, 3 (9-\$10) and 8 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Interfaith Conference on AIDS and ARC:** for clergy and care givers, Congregation Emanu-El, Arguello and Lake, S.F., noon to 6 PM, \$15 general admission, \$10 students, seniors, and people with AIDS/ARC. Panels, workshops, and closing liturgy. Call 864-7400, ext. 47 for more information. (See Saturday listing.)
- **AIDS Awareness Night:** Turf Club, 22517 Mission Blvd., Hayward, 5 PM to 2 AM. Dancing, videos, speakers, and free safer sex kits. Co-sponsored by the AIDS Project of the East Bay, Alameda Co. Drug and Alcohol Services, and the Fairmont Hospital AIDS Clinic. Call 420-8181 for more information.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Embarcadero Waterfront run. Meet at Justin Herman Plaza at 10 AM, 3-7/4 miles of level asphalt trail. Call 673-7303 or 337-8704 for more information.
- **San Francisco Hiking Club:** Montara Mountain Wildflower Walk. Meet under the big Safeway sign at Dolores and Market at 9:45 AM. Bring lunch and water.
- **GOA Travel of the '80s:** party on Sausalito houseboat for all former Great Outdoors Adventure members and alumni of Camp Never Never Land. Call 647-CAMP for more information.
- **Louise Hay:** shares her message, United Irish Cultural Center, 2700 45th Ave., S.F., 11 AM. Sponsored by Unity Christ Church.



Samm Gray, Mikio Hirata, Joseph Tara, Sandy Van, Bettie Blount, and City Swing featuring Gail Wilson will play the Old Fillmore March 22 for Cabaret in Concert (Photo: Savage Photogaphy)

- **New Life MCC:** worship and communion service, 1823 9th St., Berkeley, 5 PM. Call 843-9355 for more information.
- **Calvary MCC:** worship service, 5 PM. Call 368-0188 for more information.
- **MCC of the Redwoods:** worship and communion service, Olive and Throckmorton Sts., Mill Valley, 10:45 AM. Call 388-2315 for more information.
- **Latter-Day Sainis:** sacrament meeting for lesbians and gays and their friends, Sacramento Lambda Community Center, 1931 L St., Sacramento, 1 PM. Conducted by the Sacramento Family of the Restoration Church of Jesus Christ. Call (916) 447-5755 for more information.
- **MCC San Francisco:** worship and communion services, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 10:30 AM and 7 PM. Call 863-4434 for more information. Childcare and signing provided at morning service.
- **Church of the Secret Gospel:** 11 AM (see Friday for details).
- **St. Mark's Lutheran Church:** services, 111 O'Farrell (at Gough), S.F., communion at 8:30 AM and 11 AM. Call 928-7770 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.
- **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.
- **Holy Trinity Church:** meets at the Billy DeFrank Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 10 AM to noon.
- **Eastern Orthodox:** Holy Ascension Mission, liturgy at 10 AM, 1671 Golden Gate #2, S.F. Call 563-8514 for more information.

- **Gay Men's Sketch Class:** advanced drawing class, 7-10 PM in South-of-Market flat, \$10. Model Steve Stevens. Call 621-6294 for more information.
 - **Metaphysical AIDS Healing Service:** featuring a panel on nutrition and alternative healing methods, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St., S.F., 7 PM. Music by Alliance. Presented by the Metaphysical Alliance, co-sponsored by the AIDS Interfaith Network. Call 431-8708 or 928-HOPE for more information.
 - **Radical Women:** meeting, Valencia Hall, 523A Valencia St., S.F., dinner at 6:45 PM (\$4.50), meeting at 7:30 PM. Featuring a report on the Alison Thorne case. Call 864-1278 for more information.
 - **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.
- 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.

WEDNESDAY 25

- **Jim Bailey is Judy Garland:** concert, \$18-\$20 (see Tuesday listing for details).
- **Spookhouse:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Disabled Lesbians:** support group, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 6:45-8:15 PM. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **How Then Shall We Live?:** see Monday listing for details.
- **Wednesday Matinee With GLOE:** sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders and North of Market Senior Services, this weekly program will offer movies, games, and refreshments for gay men and lesbians over 60 at 333 Turk St., S.F., 2:15-4:30 PM. Call 626-7000 for more information.

THURSDAY 26

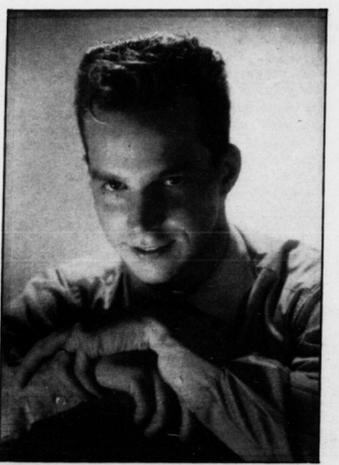
- **Jim Bailey is Judy Garland:** concert (see Tuesday listing for details). This performance only will be a benefit for Open Hand, a meal service for people with AIDS, \$30 includes champagne reception.
- **Spookhouse:** stage performance (see Saturday listing for details).
- **Artists For Community Life:** meeting to plan summer exhibits and performance events, potluck dinner at 7 PM. Call 652-4526 for more information.
- **Electric City:** television on cable channel 6, 9 PM. This month's program features lesbian stripper Rainbeau, gay DJ Dan Carlisle, and a look at the problems people with AIDS face obtaining Social Security, hosted by Drew Stephens.
- **Calvary MCC:** meeting, 2124 Brewster, Redwood City, 7:30 PM. Wiggys Sivertsen, vice president of BAYMEC, will speak about her experience teaching a class about gay lifestyles to the San Jose Police Department. Call 368-0188 for more information.
- **AIDS Project of the East Bay:** PWA/ARC support group, 2-4 PM. Call 420-8181 for more information.
- **Disabled Gay Men:** support group, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 6-7:30 PM. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **Bonnie Hayes:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 PM. Solo on piano.
- **Pat Wilder's R&B Jam:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 10 PM, \$2. All musicians welcome.

MONDAY 23

- **SF Jacks:** revisionistic fourth anniversary party, 890 Folsom St., S.F., doors open 7:30-8:30 PM, \$6 (no one turned away for lack of funds). Jacks anthem unveiled, guest onanist, valet undressers, orgone booth.
- **Buddy Connection:** safe sex workshop, MCC San Francisco, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7-10 PM. Call 863-AIDS for more information.
- **How Then Shall We Live?:** television on KCSM channel 60, 7 PM. Author Ram Dass discusses personal relationship and the compassionate heart.
- **AIDS Project of the East Bay:** parents and family support group, 6-8 PM. Call 420-8181 for more information.
- **AIDS Project of the East Bay:** grief support group. Call 420-8181 for more information.
- **Spirituality for Recovering Women:** support group, 3017 Geary Blvd., S.F., 7-8:30 PM, sliding scale. Call 239-4965 for more information.
- **Stress Reduction Workshop:** support group. Call 558-8454 for more information.
- **Emotional Support Group:** for people who have lost their lovers due to AIDS/ARC, 7:30 PM. Call Sean Martinfield at 626-4329 for more information.
- **Support Groups for PWA and those concerned about AIDS:** ongoing meeting, Kaiser Foundation Hospital, 2425 Geary Blvd., 3:30-4:45 PM. The meetings will be held in Conference Room B on the fifth floor. Call 929-4186 for details.

TUESDAY 24

- **Jim Bailey is Judy Garland:** concert, Theatre on the Square, 450 Post St., S.F., 8 PM, \$15. Master illusionist/singer Jim Bailey, backed by an 11-piece orchestra, creates an uncanny evening of Judy Garland in concert. Tickets at BASS, Ticketron, or by calling 433-9500.
- **Mistress S:** burlesque cabaret, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, \$6. Mistress S performs her cast of thousands in burlesque/cabaret direct from New York.



Drew Stephens hosts Electric City March 26 on cable channel 6 (Photo: M.A. Vieira)

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BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

Jim Does Judy

Jim Bailey is Back in Town With An All-Judy Garland Show

by Gordon Salter

Jim Bailey went to the Palace and the Metropolitan Opera in New York to see Judy Garland in concert when he was very young. His dream then was to become an opera singer, and the furthest thing from his mind would have been creating an illusion of Judy and presenting it years later on stage.

Fortunately for his fans, he went into opera training, without which he would never have been able to do vocally what he does now. As he became more involved in his singing, the direction changed toward musical comedy, and he discovered he had a talent that enabled him to listen to a voice, duplicate it, and sustain it.

This has become his own art form. No one does exactly what Jim is able to do, and a lot of people who come to see Judy bring their kids so they can see what Judy was like "in person." Despite the wealth of television and movie material available to us, there was never anything to match the magic of Garland with a live audience.

About a year ago, he decided to try a two-hour all-Judy show. San Francisco was chosen for the premiere and he has high hopes that the audiences here will enjoy it as much as he has enjoyed rehearsing and preparing it.

"If I had to make a choice of only one illusion, it would be

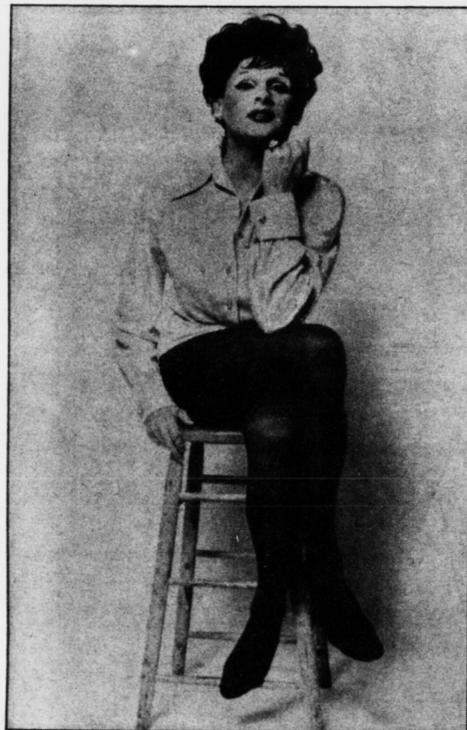
Judy," said Bailey in a recent interview. "Of all the ladies, she is the best, not just because of charisma but also all those wonderful songs and her survivor thing.

"An incredible thing happens when people see Judy," Bailey continued. "It is so close, the audience responds with so much love, and it's particularly wonderful when I can do it in concert in a theater such as this presentation will be.

"People want to see how long I can go on as Judy or Barbra and not break character and of course, I never do. I am a character actor, which is the entire basis for what I do, and the only difference is that I happen to be doing women instead of men — creating the look, the walk — it has to do with magic! All of my physical and mental being goes into this along with the lights, the orchestra, the costumes, which takes it far beyond just being a female impersonator."

I asked Jim if people ever confuse the illusion with reality and he related a very amusing incident that took place in Philadelphia. "These people arrived who had heard my album (as myself) on the radio and had missed in an interview the fact that I do these ladies, so they wanted to see Jim Bailey. So they arrived and when they got inside I was already on

(Continued on page 43)



Jim Bailey as Judy Garland

Is 'Lily' A Four-Letter Word?

Lily Tomlin Sparks Lawsuits Only Lawyers Can Win

by Steve Warren

With twin lawsuits pending regarding the documentary *Lily Tomlin* and the privacy of Tomlin and Jane Wagner closely guarded, there's not much to discuss for the record with filmmaker Joan Churchill.

She can talk about her own relationship, behind the camera and away from the camera, with her longtime collaborator Nicholas Broomfield, with whom she says she's "doing life together." Their son, born in England, is presently attending kindergarten in Santa Monica and receiving a bicultural upbringing.

But whenever the conversation drifts to Tomlin, it becomes interesting and unprintable at about the same time.

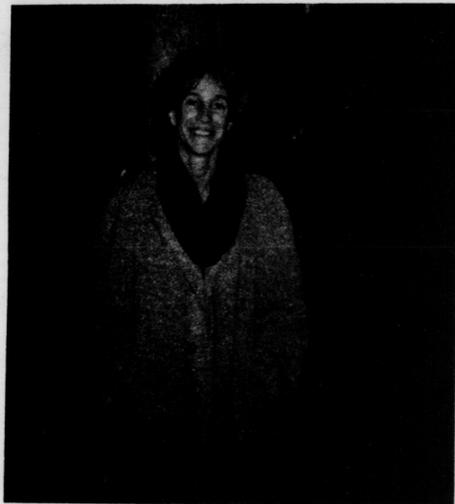
The story began in 1983. Churchill and Broomfield were looking for a new project. They had made five films together, including *Tattooed Tears* and *Soldier Girls*, since teaming up in England in 1974, and Broomfield took solo credit for *Chicken Ranch*, made while Churchill was pregnant.

"We were looking for a different kind of film to make," Churchill says. "We wanted to make a film about someone we really admired." Under questioning she admits there were financial considerations as well — "Ronnie isn't letting sources fund social and political films" — in choosing a commercial subject, but their concept of a documentary extends beyond the usual plant life of Botswana and equivalent subjects: "We insist that documentaries don't have to be boring."

They first approached Tomlin in March 1983, went on the road with her in September, and were allowed to film "on a trial basis" the following February in Austin, as Tomlin did the first official "work shows," testing Jane Wagner's material for what would become *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe*.

All went well, but official filming didn't start until July — we're still in 1984 — in San Diego. That's where a gay man came along while company manager Cheryl Swannack was leafletting — the primary method of publicizing Lily's work shows — on camera. He promised to come to the show as "Ernestine," and did — sans mustache — another event recorded for posterity.

They also filmed in Atlanta and Los Angeles, but Tomlin's Broadway opening was pushed back from September to Christmas and then to the following year, and her chroniclers ran out of money, if not patience. They pulled back to regroup, find more financing, and edit the 40 hours of film they'd already shot. Eventually they rejoined the show in Boston a month before the Broadway opening — and final night of shooting — Sept. 26, 1985.



Joan Churchill

(Photo: S. Warren)

Realizing they "couldn't possibly do justice to the final show," in which Tomlin plays all 13 characters, Churchill says they "concentrated on a couple of pieces: the feminist piece because it relates to the widest audience, and Agnus Angst because she was the character Lily had the most difficulty with." Agnus was introduced on a 1982 TV special as a punk rocker, but when she was given a context and a history for this show Tomlin was concerned with making her more specific. She's seen discussing the problem with writer-director Wagner and her drama teacher, Peggy Feury, who died in November 1985 and to whom the film is dedicated.

The "feminist piece" takes up about half of the second act. Lily plays three women — Lyn, Edie, and Marge — who meet in the early years of the women's movement and go off in different directions: an unsuccessful marriage to a "holistic capitalist," a fulfilling lesbian relationship that includes a "turkey baster child," and an alcoholic suicide. Viewers who get the idea that the end of this segment is the end of the play are in for a wonderful surprise when they see the real thing, which appears to be gearing up for an extensive tour.

Their previous films accustomed Churchill and Broomfield to working with non-performers who might be self-conscious or frightened in front of a camera. This time they had the opposite problem. "Lily would tend to either play directly to the camera," they report, "or would ask us what we wanted from the scene." They were forced to adjust their expectations and use a combination of material that was either highly entertaining or relatively candid.

Churchill confesses they could not show as much of the creative process as they had hoped to. "We had a running gag we thought of including. In every motel room we shot Jane's closed

door with the sound of her typing coming from behind it, and Lily lying on her bed memorizing. In their discussions they had their own shorthand and it sounded like gobbledygook, so we couldn't show those."

When she screws up during a work show Tomlin tells the audience, "My partner Jane Wagner writes this material. I hate to fail it because it's so much better than I am." Churchill confirms, "Jane wrote everything. Lily doesn't write," even though Tomlin creates the characters, or "culture-types," as she calls them. The direction Wagner is credited with is another story. "I don't know who directed that," Churchill says, adding, "I think Peggy Feury was really instrumental in shaping that show."

At the end of each work show, Cheryl Swannack solicited — and recorded — audience comments about which parts worked for them and which didn't. "(Lily) always listened to anything anybody said anywhere about anything," Swannack says, "and would consider it — for a moment."

This goes along with Churchill's observation that whoever Tomlin accepts input from, she always makes the final decision herself: "We knew Lily was used to having absolute control over every single aspect of her life." Because of this, she and Broomfield grew increasingly apprehensive as their work neared completion.

"Everything was very cordial" during the shooting, she insists. She had a rapport with Lily because she was a fan and knew all about her, the kind of thing that always appeals to a star's ego. Nick, on the other hand, got along better with Wagner. "Jane's very far out in her ideas of what she's trying to achieve, and Nick could talk to her on that level."

This seems in character with

(Continued on page 43)

STAGE

Wisdom That Never Comes

by Bernard Spunberg

Handsome, intelligent, a born showman, Tim Miller touches my most sensitive nerve—and then dances away.

Buddy Systems, a performance piece created and performed by Miller with "the kindly assistance" of Miller's lover, Douglas Sadowick, was presented last weekend at Theater Artaud as part of the American Inroads series. The press release for *Buddy Systems* promises a work in which "the maturing of Miller and Sadowick's relationship is unentirely scrutinized... they focus... on the politics of intimacy that transcend matters of sexual preference: infidelity, trust, communication, friendship, meeting halfway and sticking together. *Buddy Systems* is an account of one man's search for self-discovery and his eventual realization that it is in fact the buddy system that we live by."

Wonderful publicity. But though only Miller and Sadowick can testify to the quality of their private life together, their show suggests fewer reasons why they should stay together than break up.

When Miller deals with his relationship with himself, he achieves grandeur. His illumination of the adolescent moment when he discovered his artistic identity during a Hollywood Bowl concert exploits performance art's favorite media—projections, music, amplified speech. Yet with his poetic, extravagantly imaginative text, Miller soars over avant garde cliché to brilliantly convey an experience of epiphanic power.

But the epiphany is strictly personal, interior—which is neither a good nor bad thing. In the context of a work intended to reveal the dynamics of intimacy between two individuals, however, the glorification of such an intensely solitary moment is ironic. Further, the visual and aural spectacle in which Miller bathes himself indicates that he may be more stimulated by his relationship with himself than by any he shares with anyone else.

And where is lifemate Sadowick while Miller chews the scenery? On the sidelines, mainly. At the climax of Miller's description of his teenage forays into Hollywood in search of sex and adventure, Sadowick does suddenly step forward to puncture Miller's pretentiousness. Sadowick's homespun, man-on-the-street persona is a hackneyed avant garde device recently seen in George Coates' *Rare Area*. Even more disappointing than the predictability of Sadowick's intrusion is Miller's reaction to it: There isn't any. Sadowick bursts right into Miller's convoluted speech with a plea for simplicity; and Miller just stands there dripping sweat and staring off into space.

The contrast between earthbound Sadowick and transfigured Miller is comical, but nothing more. How does Miller feel about being so rudely interrupted by his lover? Is he angry? Amused? And when Sadowick interprets Miller's speech in his own folksy terms, is Miller frustrated? Secretly relieved? By withholding his response, Miller undercuts fulfillment of his work's stated purpose.

A quarrel between the men also functions as an excuse for easy laughs rather than analysis.

Instead of confronting one another, the lovers confront the audience for 15-second intervals during which they unload incoherent little pieces of their anger. The technique is cute onstage, but it softens the episode's emotional punch. Physical punch, too, is absent; Miller and Sadowick take swings at the air, but they never lay a finger on each other. And because they never really fight, they can never really make up. So where's the relationship?

When Sadowick complains of Miller's crankiness during recovery from a foot injury, his refreshing candor is justified by the evident commitment of his love. Sadowick expresses annoyance, but never does he seriously consider abandoning what he sees as his responsibility to nurse Miller during his disability. For his part, Miller comes to the episode empty-handed, offering no kiss, no loving glance, and no "thank you."

Sadowick is also ignored when he says that, though he's



Douglas Sadowick (l.) and Tim Miller in *Buddy Systems* (Photo: D. McAdams)

billed as Miller's "kindly assistant," he's really Miller's collaborator, but never mind... Never mind? Sadowick's speech is virtually thrown away, but it resonates with all the important questions that are hinted at but never asked, and certainly never answered. What, if any-

thing, draws Miller to Sadowick beyond his availability as an emotional and physical support? How does Sadowick reconcile his labors of love with Miller's dedication to art?

Miller and Sadowick do have a dialogue of sorts in a series of

taped answering machine messages that are simultaneously played over speakers and projected on a screen. Both men's messages are monumentally inarticulate and banal, as is Miller's "glob" theory of human sexual development as well as his "nut" theory of personal identity. The metaphorical parallels Miller draws between his relationship with dogs he's owned and past lovers are mercifully hazy; hopefully, the prospect of a guilty conscience is not all that would prevent Miller from even fantasizing about driving a boring former boyfriend to the doctor for a touch of euthanasia.

At the very end, Miller delivers the punch line of a story told in fragments throughout *Buddy Systems*. Miller is a child taking a swimming lesson. Each child is assigned a buddy—someone to guard and be guarded by in case of emergency: the buddy system. Suddenly, Miller feels as though he's lost control. He's drowning. His buddy has vanished. With a great surge of will power, Miller pushes against the water and saves himself. Does Miller believe he can count on only himself? The story would be heartwarm-

(Continued on page 43)

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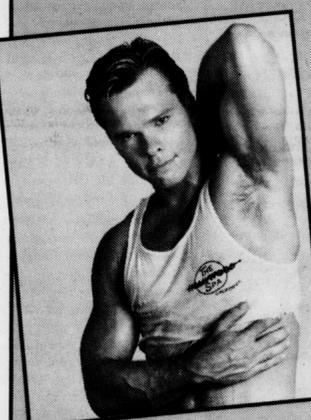
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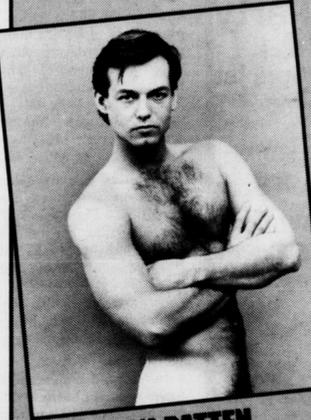
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BOOKS

Eros in the Art of Erotic Obsession

by Mark I. Chester

Sexual obsession may tell you where it feels good, but erotic obsession is a haunting whisper that won't leave you alone. In your dreams, on the job, while you are pissing in the john, it beats in thundering silence, waiting. Waiting for a glance, an odor, a passing memory to open the floodgates, take your breath away and leave you drowning in desire.

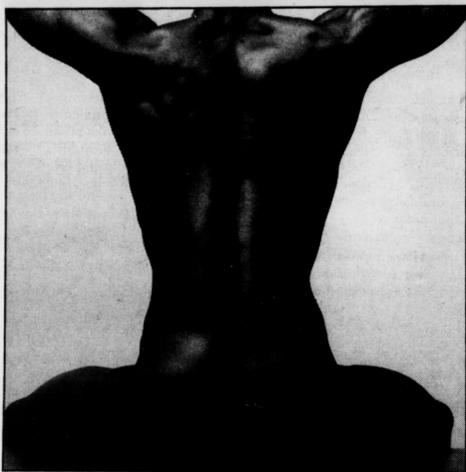
But when you reduce that obsession down to a two-dimensional photographic surface, and

share it with the world, the nature of that desire changes. It is no longer the object itself that carries the charge, but the artistic eros of the photographer to which we respond. Two recently published photography books by New York photographers Robert Mapplethorpe and Nan Goldin spring from the same source, yet they could hardly be more different.

With *Black Book* (hardback, St. Martin's Press, \$40) Robert Mapplethorpe has come full cir-

cle and created a homoerotic photographic masterpiece. This is his third major hardback photographic book in the last four years. *Lady Lisa Lyon* (studies of female athlete Lisa Lyon) and *Certain People* (a book of portraits) may have helped solidify Mapplethorpe's position and status as a photographer, but *Black Book* cuts right to the heart of his sexual obsession and haunts us with his desire.

In 95 nearly full-page photographs, Mapplethorpe puts forth



Clifton Taylor, 1981, by Robert Mapplethorpe

an expansive meditation on black men that covers 10 years, 1977-1986. His large-format black and white images expand the boundaries of male nude photography and the photographic imagery of black men as well. Viewers may find themselves coaxed, lulled, and soothed by Mapplethorpe's textural qualities, and at the same time challenged and confronted by his open, sexual, coolly formal (but always loving) homoerotic vision of black men.

Mapplethorpe frequently places his subjects in front of seamless background paper, without props or unusual perspectives, using only light and shadow to mold, highlight, and give sculptural volume to shapes that would otherwise appear two-dimensional and flat. With tonal values that are smooth and sensually soft, Mapplethorpe weaves contrasting hues back and forth so tantalizing that some images nearly demand to be licked.

There are faces and personas that fall outside of stereotypical historical and prejudicial images of black men. Some are laughing and friendly while others are tender and brimming with sexual tease, and a few are peacefully tender, yet sad. In a number of photographs, Mapplethorpe focuses on the head, creating a shiny, gleaming nobility that has the sense of bronze sculpture.

There are unanswerable questions when a well-to-do white photographer focuses on black men as sexual beings, and Mapplethorpe doesn't skirt the issue. He lays it on the line by including a photograph of a black man in a polyester suit, whose pendulous uncut tumescence hangs through his open zipper. His black man on a pedestal — raising the black man to the level of art — is a little heavy-handed, but the message gets through.

Despite the unavoidable inherent sexuality, there are no hard-dicked Mapplethorpe's in this collection. Even the introduction by poet Ntozake Shange rings strange. She talks about black man heterosexuality, as if the same-sex interaction between this photographer and his subjects was incidental or non-existent.

In 1979 and 1980, a gallery in Amsterdam published Robert Mapplethorpe's first two books; both had homoerotic images, and the 1980 book, called *Black Males*, obviously focused on black men. The books were soft covered, with small runs and limited distribution. It has taken Robert Mapplethorpe seven years and two other major photographic books to share his erotic

obsession with black man. It has been a long time coming, but it has been worth the wait. It is a book to treasure.

At the opposite end of the spectrum is an obsessive diary of erotic desire called *The Ballad of Sexual Dependency* (hardback, Aperture Press, \$39.95) by Nan Goldin. Goldin uses her 35mm (small format) camera to capture and record the ever-changing flow and flux of her life, and the life of her friends. And while this sounds a bit too personal, it is through the personal that Goldin perceives and comments on the universal.

Like some strange photographic theater of the absurd, Goldin catches the off moments, the breaths between the speeches. And in those silences, there is more rattled off at a deafening volume than all the partying or screaming to follow. We are intrigued by odd facial expressions and vague pursing of the lips or tilting of the head. We understand, but not quite, and that brings us back again.

Goldin works in color with a fascination for intense washes of color through her pictures that threaten to (and occasionally do) overcome the person pausing somewhere in the frame. Or somehow a girl in a bright green dress stands against a green wall, her dress and wall conflicting with a blue radio and red flowers. Long exposures or maybe incorrect film usage (such as daylight at night) give some pictures a bizarre tonal quality that rubs off on its bubbling emotional intensity.

These pictures are not particularly pretty, but then neither is day-to-day real life. They overflow, though, with a vibrancy and raw urgency that makes some of the images electric. And unlike studio work with a clean empty frame, Goldin's frames spill over with the useful refuse of life that sets a context and tells background stories against which Goldin's characters play their lives.

Goldin is not afraid of male/male energy. Bobby, a too-thin young man to be so densely covered with thick black hair, jerks off his hard dick, and Mark and Mark stand, bodies rubbing against one another after Mark has just been tattooed by his namesake. Goldin even has her face photographed after being abused severely (nearly blinding her) by her boyfriend.

It is this constant battle, back and forth, between erotic desire and inherent conflict, that moves

(Continued on page 43)

STAGE

Enchanting Comedy on a Stick

by Mark I. Chester

The *Fall and Rise of Roger Gump: A Trans-dimensional Comedy*, by writer/performers Lee Strucker and Nadine Caracciolo, playing at the Intersection, 766 Valencia, until April 4, is an engaging, enchanting popsicle of a comedy. It is consumed and forgotten all too quickly, but its cool sweet wetness sliding down your throat is a momentary panacea for whatever ails you.

Last seen in San Francisco in *Judy's Floating Head* in the spring of 1984, Strucker and Caracciolo, with able direction and additional writing by Mara Sabinson, provide a wonderfully wacky and zany nonstop fest of humor, illusion, confusion, and music. It overflows with quick-change costumes and personas, snappy dialogue and crackling jokes, and technologically simple yet extraordinarily effective stage illusions.

Surprisingly, the story that frames this fun is a bit dated. Roger and Vivian Gump are up-and-coming pre-puppies on the road to their first child. But there is trouble in suburbia. Roger Gump has changed from a fun-loving, alive guy to a beleaguered, harried, worry-wart-workaholic. When Vivian attempts to talk to him, Roger snaps, "I don't have time this

week." And when Vivian forces Roger to speak to the child growing in her, Roger, in a take-off on Mr. Rodgers, speaks through a tube to his unborn child and says, "Can you say, power of attorney?"

After Vivian stomps out to sleep alone, Roger is swallowed by his bed and transported to the eighth dimension. He meets a bevy of strange personalities, all played with vibrant sparkle by Caracciolo, and endures a lifetime of hardships in a frozen moment of time, before he learns his lesson. He is returned home with a new lease on life; intent on living and enjoying it.

But if the message and the lesson of *Roger Gump* lacks perspective insight and power, watching Strucker and Caracciolo's high-energy, joyous theatrical skill and performances is pure pleasure. Their work has an infectious quality only a grinch could ignore. Here are a few morsels:

A sassy cat (puppet) owned by the Gumps who tells the crowd that "I'm her (Vivian's) favorite pussy and she's mine." And later he bemoans his fixing, "I lost my manhood for the crime of spraying on his cheap seersucker suit. I miss those fuzzy little guys."

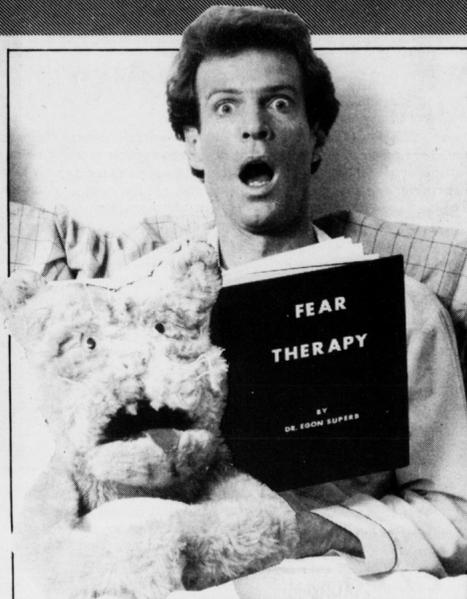
Alien creatures created by Strucker out of a metal grater and vegetable brush that come alive, imbued with personalities.

A wise-cracking, thigh-slapping Goddess, in Cleopatra-style silver sparkle wig and chiffon nightgown, who is the host of "Meet Your Maker" on K-GOD. "I'm God, this is heaven, and you're dead," she tells Roger. He deadpans, "There goes my career."

Add to this Strucker's flexible, putty-like body. On stage, Strucker shrinks his six-foot frame to less than half its size. And in the most amazing segment in the show for me, Strucker as Gump, captured for a lifetime in an alien zoo, puts on a mime show of a day in the life of an earthling. Capsulized and cut down to its skeleton, Strucker outlines, defines, and manages to satirize life, work, and love in less than three minutes.

Of very special note is the music, composed and played on the side of the stage by one-man band wizard Gene Openshaw. He not only manages to support and bind this show together with a surreal, comic, circus-styled music, but watching him play and artfully juggle multiple instruments at the same time is a show in and of itself. This music and musician are an integral and potent part of this show.

The only sour notes about *Roger Gump* are the vain attempts to use topical material in



Lee Strucker in *The Fall and Rise of Roger Gump* (Photo: F. Andrews)

the show. References to the sewage dumped in San Francisco Bay and Oliver North felt forced and almost in poor taste. But I must admit, they got me when the Goddess yells, "Prepare a bunk for Oral Roberts."

If you want a break from real life, a chance to hang your anxieties on the clothesline for an hour or two, and an opportunity to make sure that your laughing mechanism doesn't get rusty, take a chance and see *The Fall and Rise of Roger Gump*. That is, before you "blow a hole in the seat of your consciousness" and get sucked into the eighth dimension.

John Karr
Rub-a-Dub-Dub

You've probably never heard of Larry White. A dancer in Las Vegas and Los Angeles, he became a costume designer whose biggest job was the film *Body Double*. But you might know White under his other name, for he did some body doubling of his own. As Nick Rodgers he starred in numerous porno pics, most notably *Rough Cut*, *The Idol*, *Malibu Days* and *Big Bear Nights*, and Al Parker's *Rangers*. At the age of 33 he died last month of complications of AIDS.

I didn't know Nick. We never met. But we'd spent a lot of fantasy time together, and I was saddened by the death of this distant but close friend. It was a death which couldn't be mitigated by a letter which came shortly afterward and only made things bitterly ironic. The letter announced that members of the Gay Producers Association of America were advocating that erotic filmmakers commit themselves to producing safe sex porno. "Our only goal," it states, "is to save lives."

Well, as Violetta gasped in the face of salvation, "E tarde." The GPA decision, while commendable in every way, comes at least four years too late. I guess it's better that than not at all, however, and I'll soon report comments from members of the GPA as well as various erotic performers.

Meanwhile, there's a strange form of necrophilia going on at the Opera House, where honcho Terry McEwen has announced a zillion dollars will be spent for the Opera to commission a "new" work. What he's come up with is an idea whose time has

past: a Grand Opera, ballet and all, on a biblical theme. It's hard to see what should compel us to take much interest in the story of Esther, the commoner who saved the Jews from the wicked Haman and was made Queen. It's hard to see what should compel us to rejoice in this opera being composed by the respected but boring Hugo Weisgall. Has the Opera rushed to produce anything Weisgall's already written? Of course not.

What the Opera needs is work of contemporary impact, not another DOA work cast in an expired 19th-century mold. Especially when I fear McEwen friend Regine Crespin as the teenage Esther. Why not?

Why not an opera of *The Real Thing*, from a composer like Bill Bolcom? That might speak and sing to a contemporary audience. Poor Terry McE has his head stuck up his esclarmonde.

I was worried when I donated an interview in this column as a prize in a recent Theatre Rhinoceros raffle. What if a dork won and I had to make a clever article out of nothing?

Things came out right in more ways than one. A charming, articulate, and creative woman named Judith White won the interview, and she came to it with a full agenda. What did she want to discuss? Her involvement with Theatre Rhinoceros!

Judith is an all-round theater artist. She writes, acts, produces, publicizes, and cleans the lobby. In New York in 1973 she founded the Bank Street Players, an offshoot of the HB Studio. Their

(Continued on page 44)

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Keith White

What Great Dancing Is All About

A ballet based on Shakespeare had better be theatrically sound, whatever else it may be. Michael Smuin's 1976 production of *Romeo and Juliet* for the San Francisco Ballet is exceptionally good ballet theater, and among the locally performed versions set to Prokofiev, it is also the most musically responsive, building on the score's powerful dramatic suggestion. Whether or not Smuin's choreography is more distinguished than Cranko's or MacMillan's (the other two productions seen here last year) is debatable, though an admirable craftsmanship is evident throughout.

Smuin's ballet excels by virtue of its musicality, ingenuity, and economy. William Pitkin's costumes and scenery are comparatively light and airy, lacking the operatic grandeur of MacMillan's Georgiadis designs, but providing an excellent fluidity from scene to scene; the ballet's longest blackout, between the first two scenes, is a mere 20 seconds. Through judicious cutting of the score, Smuin's *Romeo* is about 25 minutes shorter than the other productions, yet because no time is wasted in empty mime or long black-outs, the drama maintains its thrust straight through the two intermissions. Three performances in a row of Smuin's *Romeo* left me feeling fresher than a single visit to either of the others.

With masterful timing and attention to dramatic detail, Smuin creates cohesiveness and novelty in exactly the places where other productions threaten to sag. Juliet's character is given an early enhancement in a mirror dance with her own reflection, during which she becomes aware of her growing maturity and the responsibilities of her imminent social debut. Later, where most productions strain credibility by requiring Juliet to fall in love with Romeo in, literally, a single glance, Smuin gives Romeo a solo dance in the ballroom scene (to music interpolated from Act III), thereby allowing Juliet a really good look at her paramour, an essential link in their growing attraction. Such wisdom abounds in Smuin's ballet. By way of a deftly staged pas de trois between Tybalt, Lady Capulet, and Lord Capulet, Smuin establishes an adulterous affair between aunt and nephew, justifying the outburst of grief Prokofiev has written for Lady Capulet after Tybalt is slain by Romeo. During the balcony pas de deux, Smuin ingeniously responds to a dynamic change in the music by having Juliet's nurse awaken the balcony lovers beneath the balcony, before concluding his spectacular love duet, the only one I've seen that truly matches the exalted swoon of the music.

In his debut as Romeo, Simon Dow gave a technically polished, dramatically perfect performance, an unqualified triumph in



Evelyn Cisneros as Juliet reaches down deep to bring up the courage to kill herself when she finds Romeo (Jim Sohm) has already done so in the last act of the San Francisco Ballet's production of *Romeo and Juliet* (Photo: J.L. Markowski)

which Wendy Van Dyck's pelucid dancing as Juliet was in rapturous harmony. Many more good performances were revealed among the three casts. Linda Montaner made a valiant effort in her performance as Juliet, but in partnership with Alexander Topciy, who looks as uncomfortable dancing Romeo now as he did five years ago, Montaner was working in a vacuum. Topciy was a highly credible Mercutio in another cast, and Timothy Fox, making his Mercutio debut on Friday night, was so good he will probably be remembered for it far into the future. Christopher Boatwright was a shockingly acerbic, powerful Tybalt, creating unforgettable chemistry with the marvelous Anita Paciotti (Lady Capulet). Antonio Lopez danced

Tybalt in another cast, once again revealing his fine, high elevation, wonderful pirouettes, and magnetic presence.

This kind of production also gives us the opportunity to notice new corps de ballet dancers, some of whom are so promising they make me eager to see the future: Shannon Lilly and Elizabeth Loscavio; quick, bright technicians in the Act II street dance; Peter Taylor, a very young, very aristocratic dancer with a matinee profile and an easy, luxuriant arabesque line; Eileen Gerdes, a quietly radiant, willowy blond who puts her whole heart into every moment she spends on stage. And I enjoyed watching a new apprentice, Lorin Johnson, who didn't have much dancing to

do but brimmed with enthusiasm during the street scenes. And he has the most beautiful legs I've seen in some time.

In company with so much that was so good, I wouldn't have thought it possible for Jim Sohm and Evelyn Cisneros to top it all, but in their Saturday evening appearance they did, with fully realized, star-quality performances rich in musicality and technical assurance. Sohm's Romeo is like a storybook prince, slightly out of place among his peers, who are nevertheless fond of him, a poetic dreamer who comes alive only after he finds his Juliet. Since the last time I saw Cisneros as Juliet, she seems to have thoroughly reconceived her role. (Continued on page 43)

Steve Warren

No More Mr. or Ms. Nice Guy

They're only movies, but most of those reviewed this week are not for the squeamish. Don't say we didn't warn you.

VENUS IN LEATHER

On the eve of the generic film festival, the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival reminds us of its existence as it gears up for number 11 three months hence — entry deadline April 15. The reminder comes as a Castro Theatre event tomorrow night at 11:30, a screening of *Seduction: The Cruel Woman* plus an appearance by contestants from Saturday's International Ms. Leather Contest.

I can't believe any local leather lesbians missed the film's premiere in the 1985 festival, but there hasn't been anything since to appeal to their specialized taste, so they may want another look — especially with the incentive of a live show.

Seduction... is not a purely lesbian film. Although the protagonist, Wanda (Mechthild Grossman), has a lesbian lover, her business is selling sexual fantasies, and she turns no one away. She runs an S/M "gallery" where clients can watch or live any fantasy for a price.

Udo Kier, star of *Mark of the Devil* and Warhol's *Frankenstein*, plays Wanda's husband and/or best customer — it's hard to tell fantasy from reality here, or even real fantasy from imaginary fantasy. The film emphasizes striking visuals, more aesthetic than erotic, over coherence.

The Sacher-Masoch novel *Venus in Furs* was one inspiration for this German film by Elfi Mikesch (photographer of Rosa Von Praunheim's *A Virus Knows No Morals*) and Monika Treut, but furs will be most inappropriate at the Castro tomorrow night.

EXTINCTION: THE CRUEL NAZIS

The S/M fantasies of today's Germans have nothing on the actual atrocities of their ancestors, nor on Soviet director Elem Klimov, who rubs our noses in *Come and See*.

The central character, barely in his teens, goes directly from playing soldier to being one, part of the ragtag partisan army trying to defend their Byelorussian home in 1943. His own family and village are destroyed, and he winds up in another village where the same thing happens. Only a few weeks or months pass, but he ages half a lifetime.

There are memorable anti-war images in this film, but Klimov doesn't believe in saying in one minute what he can say in 20. Long, slow, quiet scenes alternate with long, slow, noisy ones featuring the weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth of dozens of extras. These hysterical histrionics would put me off in any circumstances, but especially when emphasizing horror that speaks for itself.

"One person's meat..." as they say; but for me this meat is overdone. (Roxie)

MATES

A conscientious objector to a German-born wife, D.H. Lawrence was not happy in England during WWI. In 1922 the Lawrences went to Australia, as do their lightly fictionalized counterparts, Richard and Harriet Somers, in the film version of Lawrence's novel *Kangaroo*.

As played by Colin Friels and Judy Davis, this insufferable couple settles in quickly and tires of the country just as quickly. Once Richard escapes the class distinctions he detests, he develops an instant superiority complex.

Perhaps life moved more quickly in simpler times, when people judged each other by instinct rather than security checks, but an incredible amount happens in the space of six weeks. Richard's support is sought by both socialist union leaders and a fascist cult of veterans led by an ex-general known as "Kangaroo." Both sides reveal their revolutionary strategies to this strange foreigner.

Then there's sex. Although he writes erotic novels, Somers is rather prudish. He and his wife don't appreciate their lusty neighbors' public displays of affection and suggestions of swapping. Harriet wears the balls in the family and says she'd rather Richard have an affair with another woman than keep "searching for these David-and-Jonathan relationships with men." Kangaroo is Goliath trying to be Jonathan to a hundred Davids, stressing "love of comrades" in his organization and confiding that, though once married, "It seems I'm destined for the monastic life."

Kangaroo is an intellectual film. Even in a bloody riot the noise hardly rises above a hum, and most of the conversation takes the form of philosophical debate about politics and such — the sort of thing I have a low tolerance for if it doesn't concern me directly. (Clay)

BURT, WOMEN & WIMPS

Heat can't possibly be as bad as it looks. Many of the revered *films noirs* of yesteryear were dismissed in their day, and *Heat* may likewise find belated appreciation a generation or two hence. But for now...

Burt Reynolds co-stars with two women and two wimps, but he doesn't go to bed with any of them. Karen Young is an old friend who wants revenge on bad wimp Neil Barry for beating and raping her with the cock he calls "the envy of all mankind." We don't get to envy it, only his pretty face. Diana Scarwid is a black-jack dealer who flirts with Burt while he's giving butch lessons to good wimp Peter MacNicol.

William Goldman's script from his novel is episodic. Perhaps because of changing directors and other production problems, Burt plays one aspect of his character at a time, with just one or two co-stars in any sequence. Only his body links the diverse facets of Nick Escalante, called "Mex" in a couple of scenes to bring in some racist jokes which are labeled racist jokes. No label is required during the "designer killing" segment in which a black man is taken out with a spear.

Calculated to make you sorry to be alive in the '80s, *Heat* shows how low some guys will stoop for a trip to Venice. (Kabuki, Empire, Century Plaza)



Suzana Amaral's *Hour of the Star*

'MARTY' IN DRAG

When the heroine is as plain and unattractive as Macabea (Marcelia Cartaxo) in Suzana Amaral's *Hour of the Star* (*La Hora da Estrela*), either: A) she's going to blossom into a beauty within 30 minutes, or B) it's an art film.

"I'm a typist, a virgin, and I like Coca-Cola," Macabea says half an hour into the movie. She's fixed up to look her best, and we know it's an art film.

She gets into a dull, desperate relationship with her male counterpart, a metalworker who at least has ambition — he wants to be a congressman. No, his name's not Harry.

Macabea is a Brazilian female version of Ernest Borgnine's classic character, *Marty*, but without his support system of family and friends. She winds up visiting a fortune teller, who suggests, "You're too frail for men's brutality. Love between women is nicer," before setting up an almost magical ending I won't reveal.

Fernanda Montenegro's fortune teller has much in common with Carla Befera's in Harvey Fierstein's *Spookhouse* at Theatre Rhinoceros, except Montenegro's not on long enough to walk away with the show.

If you're tired of movies about the beautiful people, *Hour of the*

Star makes an interesting alternative. (York)

WHAT DO CRITICS KNOW?

Speaking of Rhino, you may want to cheer them on Monday night at the Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Awards, 7:30 p.m. at City Cabaret. They've got four nominations, two each for *Life of the Party* (Original Script and Director) and *Leviathan* (Supporting Actor and Set Design). Doug Holsclaw's *Party* script is up against at least one other by a gay playwright, Alan Bowne's *Sharon and Billy*. That Magic Theatre production has 11 nominations.

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George Heymont

Poppea's Popping Out All Over

Twenty years ago, when I first started going to the opera, I discovered that the scores written by some composers were infinitely more accessible than those written by others. Richard Strauss' operas were wonderfully noisy and perverse; Rossini's musical comedies bright and bubbly. If operas written by Gounod, Verdi, Puccini, and Donizetti were particularly easy to grasp it was, no doubt, because they were filled with so many easily recognizable tunes.

Ironically, during my early days of operagoing, it was Mozart and Wagner who posed the biggest obstacles to my appreciation of the art form. Why? Because it takes a lot more work to understand and appreciate their craftsmanship, insight, and genius. However, the rewards offered by these two giants fall into the category of "acquired tastes" and good things, as I eventually learned, are well worth waiting for.

Neophytes are not the only people who feel alienated from the operatic experience. Indeed, there are still some operas which I dread attending. On certain occasions the mere length of a work can be a turn-off; at other times its musical style may strike me as having been created for the sole purpose of putting an audience to sleep. My phobia does not result from a lack of hearing familiar arias for, as Stephen Sondheim explains, "Hummable

means familiar. It's simply a matter of how many times a person hears a piece of music before the music in question becomes hummable."

I can hum most of Sondheim's songs, all right. But I cannot and don't ever expect to hum any of the big moments from Berg's *Lulu*, Busoni's *Dr. Faustus*, or Shostakovich's *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*. Even though its score is chock full of melodious music, Monteverdi's *L'Incoronazione Di Poppea* — which was first performed in Venice in 1642 — usually leaves me cold. (This composer's music strikes me as being beautifully baroque and dreadfully dull.) With or without surtitles to help me, I have always found the dramatic action in *Poppea* to be frighteningly static and incomprehensible. Until recently.

SHOOTING THEM UP

Last month I attended a performance of Monteverdi's *The Coronation of Poppea* by the Washington Opera which not only proved to be one of the most exciting evenings of opera/musical theater I've seen in a long, long time, but which brought new life to this ancient work. This was hardly the kind of production in which a baroque opera is performed as a museum piece. Instead, director Christopher Alden's concept offered a no-holds-barred updating of Monteverdi's opera designed to accommodate the stereotypes of 20th-century mafioso. (Continued on page 44)

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Mr. Marcus

A Weekend For People Into Leather



Mr. March '88 on the Bare Chest calendar Jarvis Payne (r.) with the first runner-up (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Wednesday, 18 March, the first round in the competition for the coveted title Mr. Leather of San Francisco opened at the SF Eagle. Due to my Monday deadline, the results of the competition will not be made known until next week's column. There will be two more on Wednesdays, March 25 and April 1, with the finalists competing April 8 for the \$500 in cash, round trip air fare and hotel accommodations in Chicago, and the right to represent the San Francisco Eagle at the Intl. Mr. Leather Contest in Chicago on Memorial Day weekend. Get your leathers in shape and compete. This is the biggie.

This weekend will be chock-full of goodies for those with lots of leisure time to devote to the festivities. By tomorrow night, all the contestants for the Intl. Mr. Leather Contest will be on hand. They will make their first appearance at a party for the press early Friday evening, 20 March, and then they'll be feted by the SF Eagle softball team on the patio beginning at 2000 for a beer bust. Bill Bowers' photo show will be opening then too. The beer bust is only \$7. The contestants will make an appearance at Francine's in the Castro from 2230-2300, and then they'll be introduced onstage at the Castro Theatre just prior to the screening of Frameline's presentation of *Seduction* (Tickets are \$7 for non-members and \$6 for members).

Saturday night, more than a dozen candidates will go through the paces to win the sash of Intl. Mr. Leather at the Club DV8 beginning at 2000 hours. The doors open at 1900 and the tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door.

Saturday morning, the Cal Eagles M/C will sponsor a one-day run to Port Costa, leaving from the Watering Hole with a check-in at 9:30. Saturday night,

the Barbary Coasters M/C is throwing a big bash to celebrate its 21st Anniversary, and since I didn't get an invitation, I guess I'll opt for the Intl. Ms. Leather Contest. Immediately following the party, Ms. Piggie will celebrate her 45th birthday at the Galleon by invitation. I hope you survive all these shenanigans!

Sunday, you can either languish in bed or check out the beer bust at the SF Eagle's patio. If none of the above is your shtick, you can attend the Revenge of the Disco Divas at the Troc Sat. night from 2200 'til Dawn.

Miss S, from New York, will appear at the Intl. Ms. Leather in performance and will also be at the Baybrick Inn on Tuesday, 24 March, for a \$6 cover charge. If you miss her at the contest, she'll be there for a more intimate presentation. By the way, "The Dishes" will perform at the Eagle beer bust Friday night, so don't miss this unique group!

Dowager Empress Ginger celebrates a birthday Monday, 23 March, followed the next night by Dowager Empress Reba on the 24th. I have no idea how old they'll be, but they both look good!

Wednesday the 25th is the Second Round in the Mr. Leather of SF Contest, and The Achilles Heel on Haight will be celebrating its 6th anniversary. Owner Bill Sepatis is planning a huge celebration, and the Bouzouki Bros. will perform. Next Thursday, March 26, is the Bare Chest contest to find Mr. April '88 on the AIDS calendar too. If that's not enough for you, try Napa — it's reecele crazy there they say.

Last week was frenzied. Big crowd turned out for Harry Britt at the Hyatt

Regency on Wednesday, March 11. The crowds are really getting turned on by Mr. Britt — he's been thrust into a whirlwind of action and attending both gay and straight events. In answer to your many questions, yes, I will vote for Harry Britt for Congress next month. If you're still in doubt, I'll go into it further later on. I've been doing some research to find out some answers that have been bothering me, like: If Harry wins, who will replace him on the Board of Supervisors? While I am all in favor of having a gay San Franciscan in Congress, who's going to mind the home fires? Which of the gay political mavens will get the seat, if at all? Yeah, I haven't heard anybody talk about that aspect of this campaign. Will Dianne appoint a gay "leader" only the "establishment" would support? Think about it, my darlings!

Thursday night, in spite of the rain, another big turnout at the Bingo games for Coming Home Hospice. What a dedicated group of dudes! And it's very professionally done, with big jackpots and other diversions other than Bingo to get your bucks. But it's fun and you really ought to go out and support the effort. It's every Thursday night in the basement of the Most Holy Redeemer Church, and it'll cost you \$10 for 10 cards. Of course, they have other games too. How those dudes can play 10 or 20 cards and still cruise is beyond me! Check it out! You might win some dough, and it's not uncommon for winners to hand back a part of their jackpot winnings. Great!

The Cycle Runners had a good crowd for their Toga III party Saturday night but no one informed me who won the Caligula title yet. Sunday, the fun-loving GDI's held their Spring Equinox Beer Bust at the Eagle's patio. The weather contributed to the hu-

(Continued on next page)



Miss Kitty and the Cycle Soul Blues played the Harry Britt For Congress beer bust at the Eagle (Photo: J. Dusch)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

mongous crowd on hand. Over at Bradley's Corner, the benefit brunch was also deemed a big success — their last fundraiser before closing the doors forever.

Speaking of closing doors forever, the lease for the Stud has not been extended after all and they'll be moving in April, but not far away. Only three blocks east and one block south of their present location, if you can figure that one out! That space will be gay once again. And somebody tried to tell me Folsom was dead! Harumph! and Harumph! again!

Hey, the Constantines M/C will celebrate its 20th Anniversary too on Saturday, March 28. This one I got an invitation for, and I will definitely be there, unless Ken Fitzharris, formerly of the Boot Camp, decides to have a party with Miss Morgana as his hostess. Speaking of birthday parties, last Sunday... oh well, continued in...

THE DISH THAT WILL NOT DIE!

Yeah, Ms. Mark Austinetta celebrated his 35th last Sunday at Dicks at the Beach, that far-out gay bar at the end of the N-Judah line. I didn't know Austinetta liked banjo music, but then I didn't know Glen Terrio was divorced and now seeing Pete Pettine. I don't know how Michelle, Sir! keeps up with Pete. With Pettine and Sarathain married, they should weld their aluminum wedding dresses together.

Normal Heart at Harvard

Cambridge, Mass. — The Student Advisory Committee of the Institute of Politics will present Larry Kramer's off-Broadway play *The Normal Heart* Thursday, March 19 through Sunday, March 22. The play, produced by special arrangements with Samuel French, Inc., will take place in the Public Affairs Forum of the John F. Kennedy School of Government, 79 John F. Kennedy St., Cambridge.

The Institute's Student Advisory Committee is primarily composed of Harvard undergraduates. The students are actively involved in the sponsorship of many Institute programs. Tickets for the play will be \$4 and the proceeds will be given to a nonprofit organization to be named at a later date.

The wonderful world of video lives! Jocks Athletics Co. just came out with a 30-minute (it seems longer) video of safe sex called *Rock Hard* for \$19.50. It's fast-paced with some half-dozen beauties fantasizing while stroking it (including leather). It's available from Jocks Athletics Co., PO Box 6091, SF 94101 or call 481-7722 if you want to charge it. You out-of-staters can call (800) 227-3717. This one is not one of those interminable strokers where you finally lose interest in the whole thing.

The award-winning Male Entertainment Network released this week another Gay Games II presentation; it's the Wrestling Competition (even Frank Bellino's in it!), a 90-minute odyssey of all those who competed and won medals in that sport. Needless to say, it's beautifully done with great musical background and is only \$49.95 plus \$2 shipping and handling. Californians can add 6 1/2% sales tax. By mail, it's MEN, #1 United Nations Plaza, SF, CA 94102. You can charge by calling (415) 821-0222. And flash! You get a free video with this one! *Best of Men* comes free with your order for the Wrestling Competition. Hurry!

Questions Without Answers: Why is Ms. Piggie no longer a member of the Cheaters M/C? Who registered the titles Mr. SF Eagle Leather, Mr. Financial District, and several other titles and why? Whatever happened to Will Torgan? To Frank Hatfield? To Tim Mucker? To Brian Casey? To Phil Slatin?

Celebration of the Arts

A Celebration of the Arts to welcome Spring will be held in the Bandshell in Golden Gate Park March 21 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in a benefit for the San Francisco Food Bank (participants encouraged to bring a can of food).

The event will open with the sounding of a conch shell and a ritual for Spring led by the Beef Collective to be followed by the Muruga Experience, a dance and rhythm presentation with a background reaching back to the Woodstock festival.

This is the first in a series of events leading to the 20th anniversary of the Summer of Love Celebration to be held in the Polo Fields of Golden Gate Park. The events are produced by the Unity Foundation.

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Karl's Calendar

THURSDAY 3/19
Victory Party for Emperor Patrick and Empress Tina, Kokpit, 8 p.m.
Forum Meeting, Chez Mallet, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY 3/20
S.F. Eagle Softball Team Beer Bust, S.F. Eagle, 8-11 p.m., \$7, entertainment by The Dishes.

SATURDAY 3/21
California Eagles M/C One-Day Ride to Port Costa, check-in at Watering Hole, 9:30 a.m., non-bikers welcome subject to availability of seats on bikes.
Barbary Coasters M/C 21st Anniversary Party, New World (Folsom Street), 7-10 p.m., buffet and drink specials.
Pat Montclair Bazzaz '87 Show, Kim'o, showtimes 10 p.m. and 12 a.m., \$3.

SUNDAY 3/22
SFGDI M/C Equinox Beer Bash, S.F. Eagle, 3-6 p.m., \$7.

WEDNESDAY 3/25
Mr. Leather San Francisco Contest, S.F. Eagle, 8 p.m. ●

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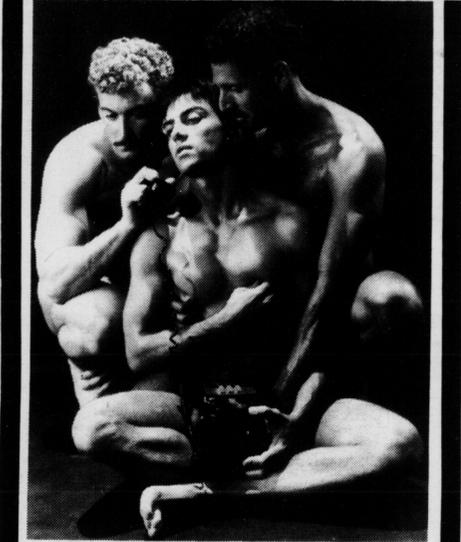
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Remy
My Isles Across The Sea

Aloha Ahihi from Hawaii, paradise of the Pacific. As you may have read in my last column, I was off to Hawaii for a short business trip. And it was just that — short! I left Sunday afternoon, the first of March, on an airline that is friendly, but notorious for not being on time. We left 45 minutes late and due to severe head winds (and as Bette Davis once said, "Fasten your seatbelts. It's going to be a bumpy night!"), we arrived an hour late in paradise. Monte Reddick and Roger Coca, formerly of Bay Area Typesetting, and Tommy Turner met me at the airport with leis of Aloha. After claiming my erstwhile luggage and having endured airline food, I wanted some "local" food, so we headed off to the Columbia Inn. This restaurant has been a favorite with the kama'ainas for many years. It was noted for its generous portions of food at inexpensive prices. You could have soup, salad, entree, dessert, and non-alcoholic refreshment for \$4.95! It was still the case back in 1984, my last visit to this place, but now the prices have gone up considerably. The place has lost some of its ambience, the food isn't as tasty, and I miss the waitresses that have been there for the last ten decades. However, just being there was a delight.

After dinner we sped off to Tommy Turner's home in Makiki Heights overlooking downtown Honolulu and Waikiki. We caught up on gossip, mainly about the recent election for Emperor and Empress, and reminisced about days gone by. After chatting for what seemed like hours, Monte, Roger, and myself left for their "casa" which is located at the foot of Diamond Head in an area of town called Kapahulu. Jet lag and the time change finally took its toll and I fell asleep gossiping. Hard to believe, but there are several people who can attest to this. Just ask a few of my close friends.

Monday morning dawned sunny with clear blue skies, and when I stood on the lanai looking towards Manoa Valley and St. Louis Heights, fond memories of my early years being an "island son" flooded my mind. We breakfasted on Portuguese malasadas, fresh guava juice, and Kona coffee. What a treat that was! I remember getting up early on Sunday mornings, running down to Leonard's Bakery, standing in line to get those hot malasadas, and trying to make it home while they were still hot, just to be able to dip them in hot coffee. It was just "da kind ono-licious."

I had a business luncheon that afternoon with one of the Hawaii banks and after that was done, I got home and we jumped in the car and headed for Sandy Beach to do some body surfing. I know what you're thinking. What wave could carry this junior jumbo petite body to shore without the use of a crane? Believe it or not, I used to be pretty good at body surfing, and not using a bogie board either. There was a little rain squall, which we sat out, and as we were preparing to head down the beach, a bunch of local boys were getting ready to tangle with each other, complete with machete, so we beat a quick retreat. Not being one who enjoys the sight of violence, I didn't want to get caught up in the melee by accident. Later that evening, I had dinner with my Aunt Mara and Uncle Sedanne. Over Korean food, we discussed what has been happening in my life and the rest of the tribe in Hawaii. I gave my shopping list to my aunt of things I wanted to bring back to San Francisco as I wouldn't have time to do the shopping. Kim chee, cuttle fish, shredded mango, macadamia nut candy, Portuguese sweetbread, and Portuguese sausage. Although you can get some of these here in the mainland, things like kim chee, sweetbread, and sausage are not the same.

The next two days were filled with business going from one bank to another, meeting people I have been talking with for more than a year on the telephone. Just about every bank I visited had bets going as to what I looked like. They knew I was from "home" and with a Korean last name, most of them thought I was shorter, thinner, darker, and more Asian looking than I really am. I do have slight oriental features, but when you mix that with Portuguese, Hawaiian, English, and German, you get someone who looks and has been mistaken on numerous occasions for Latino. The surprised looks on their faces were "just special." I venture to say that they're still haggling over who gets the money for being the closest!

I almost missed my flight back to San Francisco because my last business meeting went beyond the expected time limit. I had to return the car, have my luggage inspected by the agricultural department (it's a requirement), tape up my box of goodies, have it checked, and run to the gate just in time to board. The one time I was hoping the flight would be delayed, it left on time. We made it back to San Francisco in four hours and the plane was half empty, so I could stretch out and relax. The flight crew had an easy time, but they had to rush to do everything. I was glad to be back in the city. I could have used some extra time in Hawaii to get some rest and relaxation, but I had too many things going on at work to afford the extra time off. Besides, I missed my friends and it was nice to know they missed me as well. It's nice to be missed and appreciated, and the feeling is mutual, guys! Also, Monte, Roger, and Tommy send their "Aloha" to all here in the city, and ask when you will be coming over to visit them in "Paradise."

UP AND COMING

The Constantines of the Bay Area Motorcycle Club will host their 20th Anniversary this Friday, March 20, at the California Club, 1750 Clay St. (between Van Ness and Polk), from 8 to 11 p.m. Admittance is by invitation or club overlay. For more information, please contact any member of the Constantines.

The California Eagles Motorcycle Club will host a one-day ride to Port Costa Saturday, March 21. Check-in is 9:30 a.m. at the Watering Hole, 1145 Folsom St., with the ride leaving between 10 and 10:30 a.m. A no-host lunch will be at Port Costa, and the ride will return to the city around 3 p.m. Riders and buddies are encouraged to attend for a day of fun riding. For more information, please contact any member of the California Eagles.

(Continued on next page)

Leather in Springtime

The First Annual International Ms. Leather Contest Is Headed Your Way



Ms. San Francisco Leather Shadow Morton (Photo: Marcus)

by Joy Schulenburg

Like many successful projects that have evolved here in San Francisco, the First Annual International Ms. Leather competition is the child of many parents. Scheduled to take place on Saturday, March 21, the contest is a fundraiser for AIDS charities as well as being a first of its kind opportunity for women from around the world to come together in celebration of a variety of leather lifestyles. Organizers view it as a kind of alternative rite of spring with dramatic impact on a segment of the

er appreciation is growing rapidly. Last Saturday afternoon, Mr. S. Leathers on Seventh Street flowed with a steady stream of customers, many of them women, who came to buy tickets, t-shirts, and a wide variety of leather clothing and accouterments. Custom leather designers are doing a booming business and, in some circles, what to wear to the competition is as hot a topic as piloting out is in others. Most of

these women are neither contestants, judges, nor organizers. For many of them, their purchases and designs represent a first consideration of leather as something more than protective outerwear. For others it is a validation of longstanding personal taste and style. And there are those of us who are using this opportunity to bring our leather orientation out of the bedroom closet and into the wider world in which we move. This can be a heady process, as uncertain and fear-laden as coming out to our parents ever was.

Lesbian sexuality has long been poorly understood—even by lesbians themselves. Within the wider range of this misunderstanding, those of us who put an

erotic value on leather and what it symbolizes have had to grapple with fear and negative judgments—including our own conditioning. In the face of negativity, many of us chose to remain covert or to form low-profile organizations with names that are either obscure or, as in the example of The Outcasts, justified by experience. To witness the emergence of International Ms. Leather, with its celebration of all leather lifestyles, provides the kind of validation usually reserved for a first gay pride parade or rally—the opportunity to look around and say with wonder, "I'm not alone!"

At the center of organizational efforts to create and promote In-

(Continued on next page)

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Remy

(Continued from previous page)

Later that evening, Saturday, March 21, the Barbary Coasters Motorcycle Club will celebrate their 21st Anniversary. The club will announce their officers for 1987 and will make a very special announcement, so be there to hear the news. The anniversary will be held at the New World (formerly the Ramrod) from 7 to 10 p.m.

Sunday, March 22, the San Francisco G.D.I. Club will host their annual Spring Equinox Beer Bust at the San Francisco Eagle patio from 3 to 6 p.m. A donation of \$7 is requested at the door.

The Warlocks Motorcycle Club will host their open meeting Friday, April 3, at the San Francisco Eagle's patio at 8:30 p.m. A 50/50 charity raffle will be held with the funds being donated to Coming Home Hospice. The winner of the raffle will also receive a ticket to the Warlocks' Easter Run to be held April 19. The club would like to thank all of those who attended their March open meeting for their generosity of canned goods and monetary donations to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's Food Bank, and congratulations to Deena Jones for winning the raffle which entitles Deena to a free Easter Run ticket.

Their Most Imperial Majesties, the newly elected Emperor and Empress of San Francisco, Patrick McGonigle and Tina Tanner, and the Imperial Board of Trustees are pleased to announce the Investiture of the Imperial Court of the Golden Gate. It will be held at the Crystal Ballroom of the San Franciscan Hotel (Market at Eighth Street) Satur-

day, April 4. The affair starts promptly at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and \$15 (main floor) or \$10 (balcony) and all seats are reserved. Tickets are available at The Galleon or from Emperor Patrick, Empress Tina, or from members of the Imperial Board of Trustees.

DO DA DE

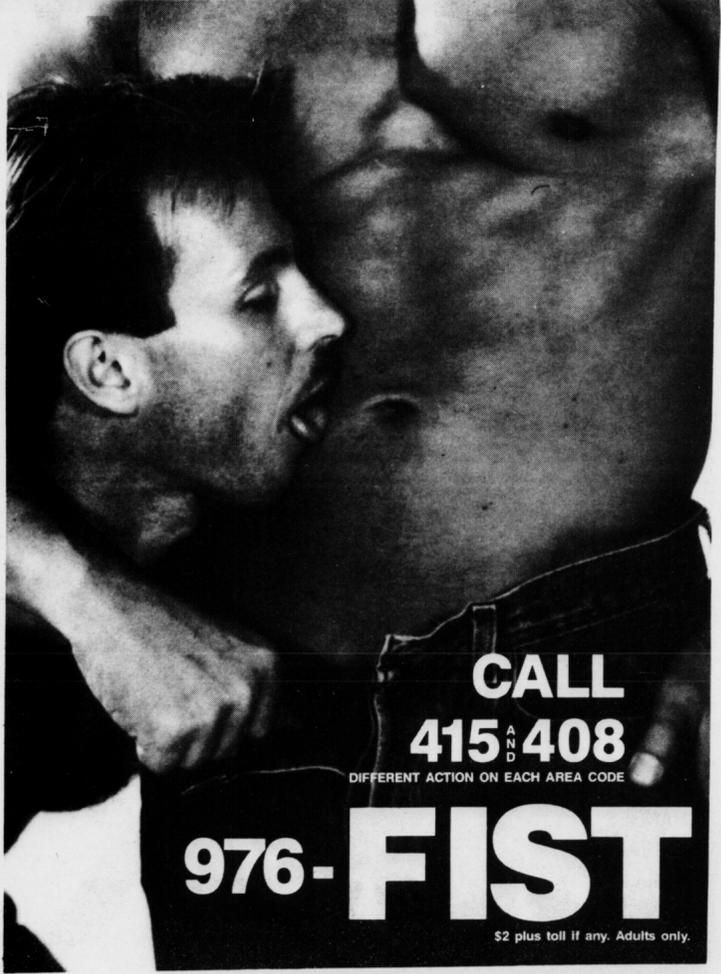
A special welcome to the newly appointed members to the Council of Empresses. These individuals were appointed by the outgoing Empress, Sable Clown, at Coronation 1987 for their outstanding support during her reign. They are: Michael Haas, Imperial Prince of Legends and Magic; Fern Way (Spike), Imperial Prince of Magic; Joey LoCoco, Imperial High Priestess; and Keith Osborne, Knight to the Council.

Also, special congratulations to Lily Street, who by virtue of her placement in voting from the recent election for Empress, is the newly appointed Princess Imperiale IV of San Francisco.

By the way, Phyllis, Jacqueline and I would like to know when we can get our \$2. We voted in the last election and I'm sure it was an oversight that you missed paying us off!

A very special get well to B.A.R. publisher Bob Ross, and hope you're feeling better. Also, to Joshua, it's great to hear that you're bouncing back and can't wait to chat with you! Both of you are strong people and minor illnesses are not going to keep you out of the swing of things for long.

That's it for now. Warm hugs to all of you, and it was reassuring that the city was still intact when I returned! Aloha Pume-hana!



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Ms. Leather

(Continued from previous page)

ternational Ms. Leather is Mistress Kathy, a striking and highly motivated woman with a background of activism in Sacramento's lesbian and gay community. She pulls no punches about her orientation. Mistress Kathy is more than a memorable stage name, it is a statement of her hard-earned personal and spiritual identity. She has chosen to devote her formidable strengths and talents to the competition and has been with the IML organization from its inception.

The germination of International Ms. Leather began in the summer of 1986 when two women visiting from Seattle were overheard discussing a Ms. Leather competition held in their hometown. In past years, several women had been awarded a San Francisco leather title, but those competitions took place within support groups and were events without much publicity or community participation. The more

the idea of a contest, open to all women, was kicked around, the better it sounded. In August, 1986, the first official meeting was held and groundwork laid, including the decision to make the competition an AIDS fundraiser. From that point on, history was in the making.

'From that point on history was in the making.'

Even before the seed of an idea was planted for the contest, Kathy had perceived the need for the women's community to become more involved with AIDS issues. As Ms. Leather grew from a good idea to a local competition to its present International status, the possibility of combining AIDS education, fundraising, and leather awareness became more and more inspiring.

"A small group from the Society of Janus was talking about the idea," she says, "but nobody had the time to organize the event. So . . . I decided to take it on. I had already determined to do some work around AIDS and so it was obviously the thing I was meant to do at this time." Her solid background in the leather community made it possible to bring together a large number of diverse resources.

The project has received tremendous support from the men's leather community. In addition to Mistress Kathy, Helen Ruvelas, Sky Renfro, and various members of The Society of Janus, initial organizers included several men. Mr. S Leathers owner Alan Selby, Jim Ed Thompson, and Patrick Toner have brought their expertise to bear, while Christian Heran has provided a vital link with the AIDS services network. The caliber and experience of this committee is responsible, in large part, for the growth of International Ms. Leather beyond the level of a local event.

The men's participation as well as the decision to open the competition to leatherwomen of all sexual orientations was not entirely without repercussions. There were some women who felt strongly that the event should be an exclusively lesbian one. At least one local contestant reported being uncomfortable with the strong male presence at the January contest, and other women withdrew their names in official support of the event. While this controversy has been largely resolved by now, the clash of vision and temper presented a challenge to the IML organiza-



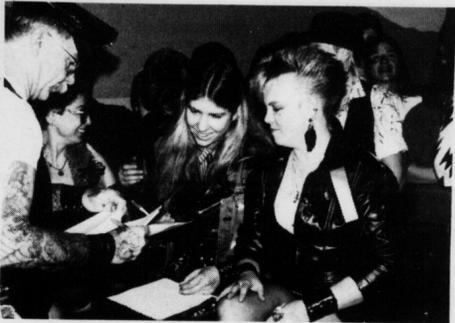
Tattoo Blue at the Ms. SF Leather contest (Photo: Marcus)

tion. Ideological conflicts are inevitably a trial by fire and a test of purpose and resolve for all involved. Ultimately, IML may be stronger for having had such a trial early on.

"There's a lot more to the leather community than we ever realized," affirms Mistress Kathy. "By including men in the planning and keeping the competition open to women of all sexualities, we're reaching segments of the population we never knew existed." This network of support and discovery may have lasting implications for the unity of the lesbian and gay communities, particularly as so many diverse sectors come together over AIDS issues and education.

The First Annual International Ms. Leather Contest will take place at Club DV8, 540 Howard St., San Francisco, on March 21. Women from as far away as Minnesota and Nebraska are ex-

pected to compete, as well as several from the Bay Area and other California locations. Sharon McNight will emcee, and entertainment will include the Blazing Redheads and Danny Williams. Tickets are \$20 in advance and are available at Headlines, Sandmutopia Supply, Mr. S. Leathers, Francines, and directly from International Ms. Leather, Inc., 1519 Mission St., S.F., 94103. Tickets at the door will be \$25 but, if the current level of enthusiasm is any indication, there may be precious few of them left by the night of the competition. Also, be sure to check the calendar for related events, including personal appearances and Frameline's special film presentation at the Castro Theatre of *Seduction: The Cruel Woman* scheduled for Friday night, March 20, which, by the way, is the vernal equinox. Leather is definitely where it's at for spring!



The judges at the Ms. SF Leather contest (Photo: Marcus)

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Here and Across the Bay

DICK WALTERS

Don't forget to vote April 7, and be sure to vote for #292 for our United States Representative. Remember that every vote counts, so please get out and cast your vote.

Watch for details for the Tenderloin Easter Parade and progressive brunch starting at the 222 Club Easter Morning at 9 a.m. and hitting all the bars in the Tenderloin and finishing at Ginger's Too on beautiful downtown 6th Street for a Hat and Easter Outfit contest. Watch for further details as to what, when, where, and for which charity.

Different Spokes Bicycle Club is again sponsoring the Bike-A-Thon, which will take place Saturday the 9th of May. This is one of the biggest and most fun fundraisers in the city, so please help sponsor a rider.

Curtis and Tom, you are doing fantastic brunches at your Lupann's Restaurant at 18th just off Castro on Sundays. So folks, do make reservations at 552-6655

if you wish to enjoy a great brunch in a very relaxing atmosphere.

The Twin Peaks on Castro and 17th is a very pleasant spot to people watch while having an Irish Coffee or any other drink on a nice sunny afternoon.

Tuesday the 31st the Tavern Guild meeting will be held at the popular Transfer Bar at 198 Church St., and it is also the birthday of Bouncing Baby Bette Bonko, who was born on 3-31-40; isn't that right, Mark from Coca-Cola fame? A party will be a must that day.

The Santa Rosa Inn's Face to Face auction and benefit raised, are you ready, more than \$17,000 for the Sonoma County AIDS Network. A great job, guys.

Monday the 23rd Dolly Dale of Polk Gulch fame will celebrate his 40th birthday, and he requests no gifts but just cash as he is going to Mexico for a vacation. Good thinking, Dolly.

Understand that Frumpy of the East Bay is going to work this season in the Russian River area at Atlantis.

Ginger's Too and Denny Perez present entertainment every Friday and Saturday night from 10 p.m. on, so come on down, have dinner, and enjoy some great Mexican entertainment. Yes, the one and only Tony is back on the planks at the Special on Castro Street. Craig Daley is doing guest spots at Sutter's Mill on the front bar Mondays and Tuesdays, so drop by and have a great drink with the old gal.

It was so quiet and peaceful at the Polk Gulch while Flame was on a forced vacation; right, Tony? Incidentally, Flame, I didn't see your column in the other paper last week.

Don't miss *Tango Argentina*, which is opening at the Golden Gate Theater for two weeks only. A great show.

Nice to see Bill Mackey of Portland here for his 50th high school reunion. You look great, Bill — get the message, Luigi?

Chet and Rick return from Milwaukee this September with The Ballgame's softball team for the Gay World Series, and it should be a blast so come on Ginger's Team, get in there and play ball.

Who is known as Sandra Spot of the Stallion? We found out at Teddy Bears; didn't we, Jay Noonan?

Alvin the Chipmunk is still looking for a job as a bartender, so if you have one contact Dolly Dale at the Polk Gulch.

Want to welcome my good friend Bob Huffman of Portland, who shall be here the last weekend of the month. He's a fantastic classical pianist, and I hope he'll play at Ginger's Too for brunch on Sunday the 29th.

Try Mueller's Deli on Castro Street for the finest in salads and sandwiches made by either Robert Tanguay or the one and only Duke Joyce. You remember them; don't you, Mike Dooley of the White Swallow?

Yes, Daddy Joe Roland is still on the planks mornings at the very popular Gangway Bar on Larkin just off Geary, so drop by some morning and have a cocktail with this nice gentleman. Did you know that we have Ms. Anchor Ass framed on the wall of Ginger's Too, Daddy Joe?

Nice to see Marlow from Bradley's Corner and Buddy from Oakland still do their Monday lunches here in the city — you both look great.

March AIDS Healing Service

Nutritionists Denise Buzbuzian, Tom O'Connor, and Misha Cohen will speak on the importance of nutrition and individual diet in relation to healing AIDS.

The service will be held at the First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St., San Francisco, on Tuesday, March 24, at 7 p.m. It is free and open to the public. Donations will be welcomed.

This event will be the 17th monthly healing service co-sponsored by the Metaphysical Alliance and the AIDS Interfaith Network.

WhoWhatWhenWhereWhyWhoWhatWhenWhereWhyWhoWhatWhenWhere

LGBA Natl. Conference

Phoenix — The 10th National Conference of the Lesbian and Gay Bands of America, hosted by Desert Overture of Phoenix, Arizona, has been scheduled for March 20 through 21. L.G.B.A. was formed to fill a multitude of needs. As a national organization it is able to provide a network for lesbian and gay band programs in all stages of development. A few of their key objectives include: helping to improve the artistic and organizational aspects of individual

bands, to encourage the composition of musical works for bands, stimulate public interest in the unique art of community band performance in American Culture, and promote music as a medium of communications between people.

These goals are being accomplished through regular bi-annual meetings, a monthly newsletter, lots of phone calls, traveling, and major performances.

L.G.B.A. is planning its fall conference in conjunction with the National Gay and Lesbian March on Washington, D.C. in October of this year. Another major concert is being planned for that time in the Daughters of the American Revolution Constitution Hall, which originally housed the Washington National Symphony Orchestra. This concert will help commemorate L.G.B.A.'s 5th anniversary as a vital and growing organization in our community.

Benefit Performance for Sonoma AIDS Network

Redwood Empire Ballet Director Antonio Mendez has given Face To Face/Sonoma County AIDS Network a wonderful gift for Spring.

Mendez has arranged to have his company do a benefit performance of *Coppelia*, the popular classical comedy of ballet, at the Luther Burbank Center

for the Arts on Sunday, March 22, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

Immediately following the ballet, Face To Face will host a reception in the Gold Room of the center where the audience will have a chance to meet Mendez and other members of the ballet. Refreshments will be served. The reception will cost an additional \$5.

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Chad, \$225 big ones are being given away tonight at the Endup. Let's go. Eric E12

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Tony, the Jockstrap Contest is tonight at 10pm. See you at the Endup. Dick E12

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Attention: Bridge Players March 21, 1987, 9:00am-3:30pm at The Galleon Bar Restaurant. Call 431-0253, ask for Geri E12

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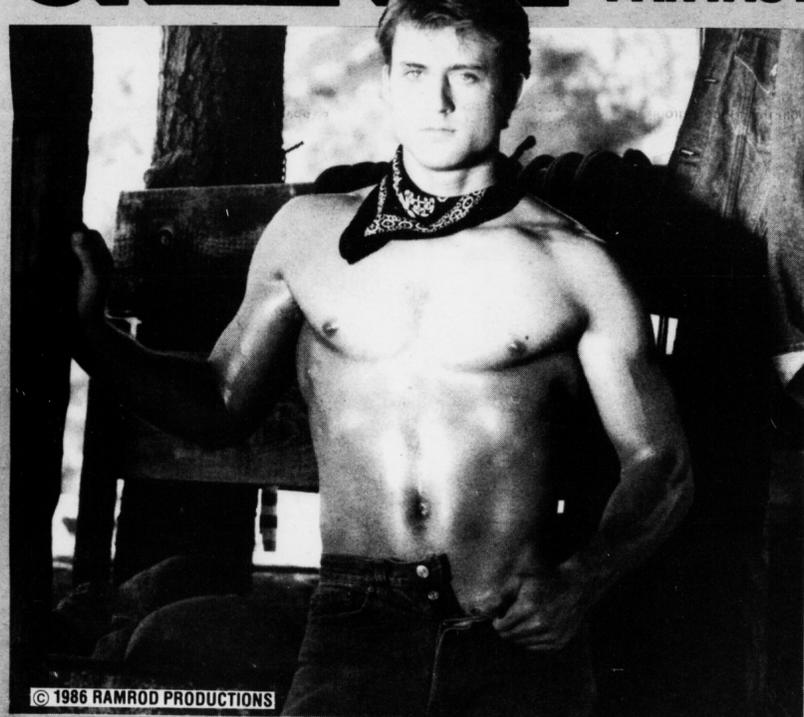
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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

SOFTBALL

GSL Opening-Day Dance Party at the End-Up

by Tom Vindeed

Which team will have the best-looking uniform in the Gay Softball League this year? Who will be the candidates for each team in this year's Mr./Ms. GSL contest?

Those burning questions will be answered Wednesday, March 25, at The End-Up (6th and Harrison) beginning at 7:30 p.m. when the GSL holds its Opening Day dance party.

Advance tickets are available at The Village, Stallion, Kokpit, Phone Booth, Amelia's, and The End-Up. The admission fee is a paltry \$2, and at the door \$3. All proceeds from the evening's activities will go to support the Gay World Series here in September.

Commissioner Rick Brattin has promised a fun-filled evening, and when Rick promises, you know what happens, right? Nothing. So "Rita" will promise a good time, and then you know it will be.

Local celebrities will judge the uniform contest, and they will be from outside the league. The winning team gets \$50.

It's all part of our 10th anniversary celebration, so come on down to The End-Up and enjoy and meet your fellow GSL members.

This Saturday, March 21, the El Rio Tortuga (Spanish for Turtles) will host a BBQ-affle at the bar. Tickets are \$4-\$5 and the good times begin at 2 p.m. El Rio is located at 3158 Mission St., past Army. Some of the raffle prizes are brunch for two at the Carnelian Room, headphones from Stereo Plus, and dinner at Houlihan's. Help support one of the GSL's four women's teams. If you don't, Jules will break your arm!

More than 90 members of the league attended the last meeting, and the vote to let the commissioner play won by much more than a majority but failed to garner the 66 percent needed to pass. How about a ticket of Bill Pielock, Tom Vindeed, Ken Stewart, and Denis Geoffrey next year? Sounds good to me. Here come those pens and buttons.

POOL

Measures of Success

by Lauren Ward

Most of the players in the S.F. Pool Association are drawn to the table like moths to a flame. We're fascinated by the endless variations presented by each game and each player. The league provides the opportunity to gather a group of friends together to share the experiences of team competition.

There are different ways to measure a team's success. The most obvious is statistical: those cold, hard, win/loss numbers. The most valuable measure is more subjective. It involves the amount of enjoyment, of sharing, of learning, and of caring the teammates experience. Striving for this can make any team successful.

The mechanism of the league relies on statistics, however, and with nine weeks to go in our Spring season the playoff contenders are becoming apparent. Only the top three teams in each of our four divisions will advance to post-season play to determine the eventual city champion.

In Division I the top three teams are only three games apart, but there's a 10-game gap between the third and fourth-

place teams. To remain playoff hopefuls the trailing teams will have to narrow that gap.

Division II is clustered behind the eight-game lead of the Badlands Badasses. Only six games separate second place from fifth. It's likely this group will stay clustered until the final weeks, which should make for a dramatic season finale.

The DeLuxe Ducks lead Division III by 16 games and have led the league from week one. The three-time city champions were recently surprised by a strong showing from the second-place Detour Destroyers, who handed

the Ducks seven losses, nearly half their season total. The third playoff team from this division will probably be either the Park Bowl Pockettes or the Watering Hole Buffaloes.

The Eagle Creek Chaos leads Division IV with the White Swallow's Back, a team many pick to go to the finals, trailing by six games. The White Swallow team is looking forward to a rematch after being swamped by the Eagle Creek, 14-2. Best chances for the third playoff team here go to either the DeLuxe Accommodations or the Castro Station Commanders.

Dial JOE-POOL for league and open tournament information.

BOWLING

JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES BOWLING

Team Standings Compiled by Jerry R. De Young

SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE (Week 22 of 30 - as of 3/8/87)	
1. Fishes And Crab	20 8
2. Dude Theatre	19 9
3. Strike Force	19 9
4. Alley Cats	19 5
5. Sassy	18 10
6. Strange Interlude	18 10
7. Diner Dogs	17½ 10½
8. Beauties And Beast	16 12
9. Mary's Boys	15 13
10. Imposters	15 13
11. Spare Us	14 14
12. Jerry's Kids	13 15
13. Hot Slots	13 15
14. Eastbay Bobcats	12½ 15½
15. Royalty & Versailles	12 16
16. PC Gutter Girls	12 16
17. Hard Rock	11 17
18. Tidy Bowlers	11 13
19. Hodge-Podge	9½ 18½
20. Boobs And Buns	8 20
21. Pilsner	4½ 19½

WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 19 of 30 - as of 3/4/87)	
1. Giraffe	12 4
2. Not Always Smart	12 4
3. The Wrappers	12 4
4. Vera's Vinyl	11 5
5. El Rio Tartarugas I	11 5
6. Male Image	11 5
7. Ali Katz	10 6
8. High Wired	10 6
9. E Z Pick Up	9 7
10. Epic Flyers	9 7
11. My Guys	9 7
12. Rolo's	8 8
13. Play With It, Ltd.	8 8
14. Brand X	8 8
15. Ginger-Snaps	8 8
16. Mother Nature	8 8
17. Mix-Ups	8 8
18. "Just Us Gurls"	8 8
19. Pockettes	8 8
20. Bow K	7 9
21. Starlettes	7 9
22. Kokpit Dynasty	6 10
23. Hob Nob & Company	6 6
24. Gutter Girls	6 6
25. Lois Laners	3 13
26. New Ballers	3 13
27. Plus Five	3 13
28. White Swallow	0 16

HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE (Week 38 of 40 - as of 3/6/87)	
1. The Eruptions	41 31
2. Wicked Wahines	41 27
3. Cookies N' Creme	38 34
4. Diamond Head	35 33
5. Lackanookie	34 34
6. Mane Islanders	30 30
7. Oahi Lei U	28 44
8. Capricorn I	27 41

MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 22 of 30 - as of 3/9/87)	
1. Play With It, Ltd.	21½ 6½
2. Rawhide	21 7
3. Alvin's	17 11
4. Foote Plumbing	17 11
5. Bowling Bags	16½ 11½
6. CS Low Hangers	16 12
7. Damaged Goods	15 13
8. Fore Strikes	15 13
9. After Everyone! DJ	14 14
10. El Rio Tartarugas	13 15
11. Liquid Experience	12 16
12. The Producers	12 16
13. Pacific Coast Glass	12 16
14. Damaged Goods Too	11 17
15. Good Time Keglers	11 17
16. Bow K	10 18
17. Ron's Hardwoods	10 18
18. Do We Care?	8 20

TUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 21 of 30 - as of 3/3/87)	
1. "Big Bang Theory"	17½ 6½
2. Lucky Strikes	15 9
3. S'rrity Girls From Hell	15 5
4. Kimo's Kows	14 10
5. Cheerleaders	13 11
6. Split Sisters	13 11
7. The 69 Club	13 11
8. Chez M'let Bowl'ettes	13 11
9. Pin Busters	12½ 11½
10. Lois Laners	12 12
11. Ball Busters	12 12
12. Hopeful Five	11½ 12½
13. Easy Marks	11 13

Correction

The name of the bowling team that won second place in the annual SFBA Citywide Bowling Tournament is The Pin Tweaks, not the Pin Tweekers, as mentioned in Jerry R. DeYoung's bowling column of 3/12. The Pin Tweaks are in the Tavern Guild Monday League, while The Pin Tweekers was formed specifically for the SFBA tournament.

Ballet

(Continued from page 30)

giving it many personal nuances the other Juliets did not use, investing her performance with a dramatic realism equal to the best I've ever seen. In their doublework, Cisneros and Sohm magnified their dancing in proportion to their own statuesque physicality, taking large risks with the strenuous partnering, giving every phrase its full musical measure, and never allowing their concentration to weaken by even a moment's lapse into self-consciousness. They reminded

me what great dancing is all about.

Those who question ballet's effectiveness in telling a story could not find better proof than this *Romeo and Juliet*. And in a season that has stressed pure dance over dramatic productions—and proven itself in the process—this was a very welcome revival of the best full-length ballet ever produced in the Bay Area.

★ ★ ★

The San Francisco Ballet will present its two final performances of *Romeo and Juliet* March 31 and April 1 at War Memorial Opera House. For tickets phone 621-3838.

Tomlin

(Continued from page 26)

Churchill's description of how she and Broomfield collaborate, beyond her doing the photography while he handles sound and editing: "I'm sort of the nuts-and-bolts person and he's the conceptualizer."

Although the filmmakers reportedly retained creative control within certain contractual limitations, they screened a rough cut for Tomlin, Wagner, and Swan-nack in March of last year. "They enjoyed what they saw," the filmmakers claim. "However, a few days later, Lily began to raise objections. She began to ask for changes."

'I don't think either side really wants it to come to that. Nobody wins in these cases (except the lawyers).'

Churchill says they "made numerous changes trying to forestall litigation," but suddenly nothing would satisfy Tomlin. Fifteen days after the first screening, Broomfield showed the trio the revised, final cut.

In June Tomlin filed suit to prevent the film from being exhibited, claiming \$6.75 million in damages. Among her charges are that so much of *The Search for Signs*... is shown, it impairs her ability to sell the show to cable TV; that the show itself is misrepresented; and her own privacy is invaded.

A judge denied her a preliminary injunction in August, allowing the film to be shown but leav-

ing the damage suit pending. Three weeks later the filmmakers filed a counter suit for \$11 million, charging breach of contract, defamation, unfair competition, and acting in bad faith.

Talk about schizophrenia! Imagine how Churchill feels after the woman she admired for a decade and worked with for three years has turned on her and put her through hell. Among other things, Broomfield and Churchill have had to enter the distribution business because they couldn't expect anyone else to get involved with a film that has a lawsuit against it.

If the suit comes to court, it won't be for "four or five years," Churchill says, "because of the backlog." She adds, "I don't think either side really wants it to come to that. Nobody wins in these cases (except the lawyers)."

It's more likely everyone will win, in a sense. When *Lily Tomlin* has a successful theatrical release and eventually airs on PBS, while *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe* continues playing to full houses in as many cities as Tomlin deigns to take it to and is inevitably sold to cable TV and maybe records, a videogame and media as yet undreamed of, the lawsuits will be quietly settled out of court.

Perhaps then Churchill and Tomlin, of whom she still speaks admiringly as an artist—"I have never in my life... This woman works so hard all the time. It's really extraordinary!"—will be able to meet as friends again. "I hope so," Churchill says.

Meanwhile, if you ask her whether in retrospect she would rather have tackled the Tomlin project or tried to make a film, as Maximilian Schell did—brilliantly, she agrees—about an uncooperative Marlene Dietrich, Churchill replies with what appears to be characteristic irony: "It might have been a tie."

Lily and Jane

As a 90-minute autograph session stretched toward the three-hour mark, Lily Tomlin and Jane Wagner were still smiling, signing, and chatting with fans. An Ernestine impersonator who had waited his turn came out smiling, "You'll love them. I warmed them up for you."

Lily is still the main attraction but Jane, as writer and director of *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe*, has begun to emerge from her shadow. The play continues selling out in L.A. and the book is on the best-seller list.

At the first of two scheduled Presidents Day book signings they politely answered many questions dozens of times and others, to be sure, not at all.

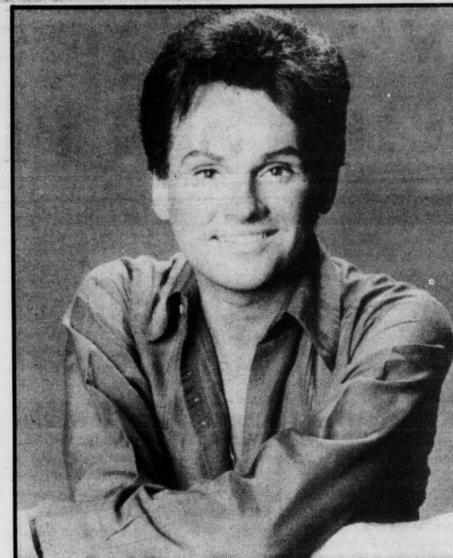
Some information gleaned: Lily missed four days of perform-

ances after pulling a calf muscle, but had gone back the day before. Future plans for the show are indefinite. Lily: "We'll bring it here. It's just a question of when. We're in Los Angeles through March 8 and then I may do a movie, but it's up in the air."

Is that the 9 to 5 reunion with Dolly Parton and Jane Fonda? Lily: "No, they're still trying to come up with a script for that." Jane: "She's doing the one with Bette Midler first." Are you writing it? "No, that one's done already. They'll play twins—two sets of identical twins."

As for their \$6.5 million suit against the makers of the documentary *Lily Tomlin*, "It's not mean-spirited," Jane assured. "They just used too much material (from the show)."

—Steve Warren



Jim Bailey

Jim/Judy

(Continued from page 26)

stage as Peggy Lee and what an argument with the owner of the club. "We wanted to see Jim Bailey and what is Peggy Lee doing here?" they demanded. When the owner insisted that I was Jim Bailey she said: "Sir, do you think I'm out of my mind? That is Peggy Lee and we don't like her! Why do you have his name out front and her on stage?" Nothing could convince them that I was Jim, so they stormed out! I've even heard people whisper during Judy: "Isn't she dead?"

Jim has his eye and ear on a new illusion, but is not yet ready to reveal who it will be. He promises a nice surprise when we find out in a year or so.

I asked Jim in closing what he would like to be doing in ten years and his answer was simple: "Alive, happy and healthy!"

Jim Bailey as Judy Garland Theatre on the Square Through April 12; 433-9500

Buddy

(Continued from page 27)

ing if it weren't so cynical.

Just because I need to see how men love each other, *Buddy Systems* kept me on the edge of my seat. Any minute now, I thought, some important bit of wisdom—a selfless and loving gesture, a moment of perfect communication—will be unveiled, if only for an instant. Hours later, I realized that, though I'd learned a lot about Miller's personal development and a little about how his relationship with Sadownick does not work, that bit of wisdom had never come along.

Obsession

(Continued from page 28)

and stimulates the lives in *The Ballad of Sexual Dependency*. If you look between the breaths, between the beats, you will find yourself here-somewhere.

And finally I found a gay calendar from Canada called *Gaydate 87* (paperback, Stubblejumper Press, \$12.95) at Walt Whitman that features the photography of

Gilbert Prioste. Even if you don't need another calendar, it is worth buying for the well-crafted erotic photography.

Prioste's photography runs the gamut from art, to portraiture, to hard dicks, to abstract body parts, to sharply lit intertwined bodies. While these pictures in and of themselves will not change the world, Prioste has created a set of distinct styles and purposes that are still held together by a solid creative approach to homoeroticism and photography.

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Judith White gives a massage (Photo: J.F. Karr)

patrons and donations. "I really feel the gay and lesbian community needs to support the Playwright's Workshop," she said. "It's a group committed to presenting gay issues in a well-crafted and entertaining way. Where else is this specific sensibility going to be nurtured?" she asked. "There's a lot of money in this community, and we need some of it. Writers can't work in a vacuum. I know I can't. Before the Workshop I was only able to write a little. With its support, my writing is starting to flow again."

With the group's criticism and dialogue, she's been able to put a rough draft of a play through two revisions. "It's now a different play, with action instead of talk. I thought I was a pretty cool playwright, but in the Workshop I've learned so much about the craft that I feel brand new."

"But if you don't get produced," she added, "it's only so much talk."

And production takes a little money. Hence the Brunch 'n Auction. Among the items to be auctioned are a hot tub for two from Oseto, a women's hot tub center, and a massage from Judith. When she's not writing, she does Bodywork, featuring Swedish massage and Polarity Therapy for basically women clientele.

"I specialize in working with women who are survivors of incest and rape," she said, "and I do very gentle work. I don't believe you have to hurt someone to make them better."

Judith is looking for clients (648-1287), and she's urging you to attend the Brunch 'n Auction. It's only \$3, an inexpensive and fun way to insure and promote future art of the gay and lesbian community.



Patricia Schuman and Warren Ellsworth got into some heavy petting during the Washington Opera's production of *The Coronation of Poppea*.

Heymont

(Continued from page 30)

With wonderfully witty sets by Donald Eastman and costumes by Gabriel Berry, this controversial production had received its American premiere at the Long Beach Opera before traveling to the nation's capital. In Alden's interpretation, Nero becomes a Mafia don; Drusilla a dizzy, sex-starved secretary. Poppea, who practically oozes sensuality (This production offered a graphic depiction of the joys of phone sex.) wastes no time in getting Nero's clothes off so she can make love to him in front of the audience.

Poppea's nurse, Arnalta, is portrayed as an elderly gay confidant, while Nero's henchmen are seen as a bunch of 1950s nerds. Seneca is a Mafia figure about to be bumped off; Lucan a muscular bodyguard who likes to strut around in black underwear while Nero and his towel-clad cronies grab ass in a steamroom filled with men. The Emperor's wife, Ottavia, is depicted as a pathetically ineffectual woman who is constantly being shot up on drugs by her abusive, overbearing nurse.

The combination of the Terrace Theatre's bright acoustics, Nicholas McGegan's exquisite musical direction, a superbly musical cast of young American artists, and the intimacy of a 500-seat auditorium made this production a rare treat. In fact, the next time Alden's production of *Poppea* is announced, I'd suggest you threaten to shove your credit card down the box office manager's throat until he sells you a ticket.

Warren Ellsworth's powerfully butch Nero, Patricia Schuman's sexy Poppea, and Will Roy's compassionate Seneca were exceptionally well-drawn and sung characterizations. Ken Remo's fey Arnalta, Wendy Hill's hilariously confused Drusilla, and Martha Jane Howe's sadistic nurse offered superb comic relief. As the three fates, Alina Kozinska-Plecha's Fortune, Evelyn Petros' Virtue, and young Zachary Shamoo's pop/rock treatment of Amor were a hit with the audience.

However, it was Emily Golden's phenomenal — and I do mean phenomenal — performance as the drugged out Ottavia which really knocked me off my feet. Singing the doomed Empress' music with rare passion while acting the pants off the

role, Miss Golden gave one of those legendary demonstrations of what the new breed of American artists can do when given half a chance. The intensity of her portrayal as well as the strength of her musicianship places this young mezzo-soprano on a level with such seasoned artists as Leonie Rysanek and Helga Dernesch (a compliment I don't give lightly). Keep an eye out for Ms. Golden — she's the real thing.

LEAVING THEM COLD

A sense of dramatic urgency can go a long way toward making a theatrical presentation effective. Reports of Jonathan Miller's new production of *Tosca* at the English National Opera claim that the principals sing "as if their lives depended upon it — which indeed they do." By contrast, if there is one crime which people in the theater should never commit, it is to bore an audience to death.

Only after seeing Christopher Alden's interpretation of *L'incoronazione Di Poppea* did I begin to realize what's missing from previous outings with this opera. And, in retrospect, I can now understand why last summer's production of Monteverdi's classic by the Santa Fe Opera — while imbued with a great sense of respect for the composer — was such a dismal experience for the audience.

One could hardly criticize Kenneth Montgomery's conducting or Allen Charles Klein's stylish sets and costumes. Nor could one find fault with Katherine Ciesinski's impressive Ottavia, countertenor Jeffrey Gall's Ottone, Judith Forst's Nerone, or Kevin Langan's Seneca, all of which were beautifully sung. A campy portrayal of Arnalta by Anthony Laciura in drag (This man is rapidly becoming one of America's finest comprimarios.) as well as some exquisite singing by Sylvia McNair as Drusilla and Carmen Balthrop as Poppea added to the evening's embarrassment of riches.

Unfortunately, as sung in Italian and staged by Bliss Hebert — without subtitles — the Santa Fe Opera's production of *Poppea* turned into an endless evening of baroque boredom. It may have looked very pretty and sounded magnificent, but it felt like it would never end. Thanks to Christopher Alden and the Washington Opera, I now know that Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione Di Poppea* does not need to be a crashing bore. And I am truly grateful for the news.

Karr

(Continued from page 29)

purpose was to produce original one acts by local playwrights. "We did people who couldn't get produced elsewhere," she told me, "and we did some very unusual theater."

In those aspects the Bank Street Players were much like the Theatre Rhinoceros Playwright's Workshop, where Judith is now polishing a new work. "And running the company in New York taught me how to scrounge," she added humorously. That talent has become as important as her ability to write, for the continuation of the Workshop is threatened.

Funding for the Workshop from the California Arts Council has dried up. But the group's members have decided to continue on their own. They're having a fundraiser Brunch 'n Auc-

tion Saturday, March 21, at 11 a.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka. Funds raised will bankroll a "Playwright's Stew" evening, the proceeds from which should enable a one-act festival.

Judith and her fellow playwrights scrounged items for the auction as well as donations of food for the brunch, which will include chile and two kinds of pasta. The food comes from the Rainbow Grocery, and the playwrights are prepping, cooking, waiting tables, and presenting the auction. "I'm going to play Vanna White," Judith said, "and smile vacuously while pointing at things."

This do-it-yourself sounds like Mickey and Judy Put on a Show, even to the point where Judith says the Workshop is looking for

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BAY AREA REPORTER

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NGRA attorney Ben Schatz (B.A.R. Photo: Brian Jones)

Doctors' Lobby Attacks Law on Confidentiality

California Medical Assn. Urges Wider Use of AIDS Test Results

by Brian Jones

The California Medical Association is attacking the state's AIDS Confidentiality Law. The medical association wants to remove restrictions which protect a person's AIDS test results from being released without the person's consent.

The medical association "urges that physicians be allowed to notify public health officers of AIDS virus carriers," stated an "AIDS White Paper" published by the group March 10. The white paper followed adoption of proposals dealing with AIDS by the groups House of Delegates on March 9.

Other measures called for physicians to be allowed to trace contacts of people with AIDS—or who are antibody positive—and inform the contacts of the patient's AIDS status. One provision indicated that AIDS should be subject to quarantine and isolation powers, although the word "quarantine" was not used.

'Turning doctors into police will not slow the spread of AIDS.'

—Ben Schatz

The California Medical Association is one of the state's most powerful and well-financed lobbies. It is comprised of doctors and other health professionals and annually ranks among the top ten lobbies in contributions to legislative candidates.

The group acknowledged that (Continued on page 2)

'Gay Olympics' Gets Day in High Court

U.S. Supreme Court Hears Arguments Over Use of the Word 'Olympic'

by Brian Jones

William Rehnquist talked baseball. Sandra Day O'Connor was interested in what it said on the backs of cereal boxes. And when it was over, lesbian attorney Mary Dunlap thought the U.S. Supreme Court had done its homework on the "Gay Olympics" case.

Today

Quarantine: Some of the most controversial provisions have been taken out but it's still on the agenda of some California health officials. Brian Jones has the details, page 17.

Mission Possible: SFPD cops in a tough district achieved the best record in police work, page 18.

Gayest Yet: The S.F. Intl. Film Festival offers a number of programs for gay and lesbian viewers. Steve Warren previews the movies, page 26.

Leather Ladies: The Intl. Ms. Leather contest has been called a landmark event. Mr. Marcus tells the winners, page 32, and Joy Schulenberg gives her view, page 35.

The high court heard oral arguments Tuesday afternoon, Mar. 24, in Washington on the five-year-old case. Congress in 1978 gave the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) exclusive right to the word "Olympic." In reality, many other groups used it, such as—the "Crab Cooking Olympics," "Diaper Olympics" and "Rat Olympics"—until gays and lesbians launched their "Gay Olympics" in 1982. When that happened, the Olympic committee sued.

Now, to the consternation of the USOC, the Supreme Court is considering the case. Gay athletes are arguing that the First Amendment freedom of speech guarantee gives them the right to call themselves "Olympians" if they choose to.

The justices heard argument on the case for a half hour Tuesday. Said Dunlap from Washington, immediately after leaving the courtroom, "I think it went superbly well. The court listened to our case carefully and they asked good questions, which revealed they had a good grasp of our case."

Sandra Day O'Connor quizzed the lawyer for the U.S. Olympic (Continued on page 2)

'This Is History'

His name is Michael Kelly. He once taught history at an Illinois college. Then he decided to move to San Francisco and became a gay activist.



Volunteers Mobilizing Votes For Britt

Personal Commitment Draws Campaigners to Politics

by Brian Jones

In 1982, Michael Kelly walked a precinct in Noe Valley for Phil Burton. On Saturday, he was back politicking door-to-door—for Harry Britt. It is not enough to say that the so-called Burton "machine" is falling apart in the special election for Congress. It is more accurate to say that the "machine," one cog at a time, is rolling into the Britt camp.

Cathy Edalgo walked a precinct for Alan Cranston last fall. Cranston has endorsed—what was her name?—Britt's leading

opponent. But on Saturday, Edalgo was knocking on doors for Harry Britt. If you wonder who's wild about

Harry, just ask some of the hundreds of volunteers who are the heart of the Britt campaign. (Continued on page 23)