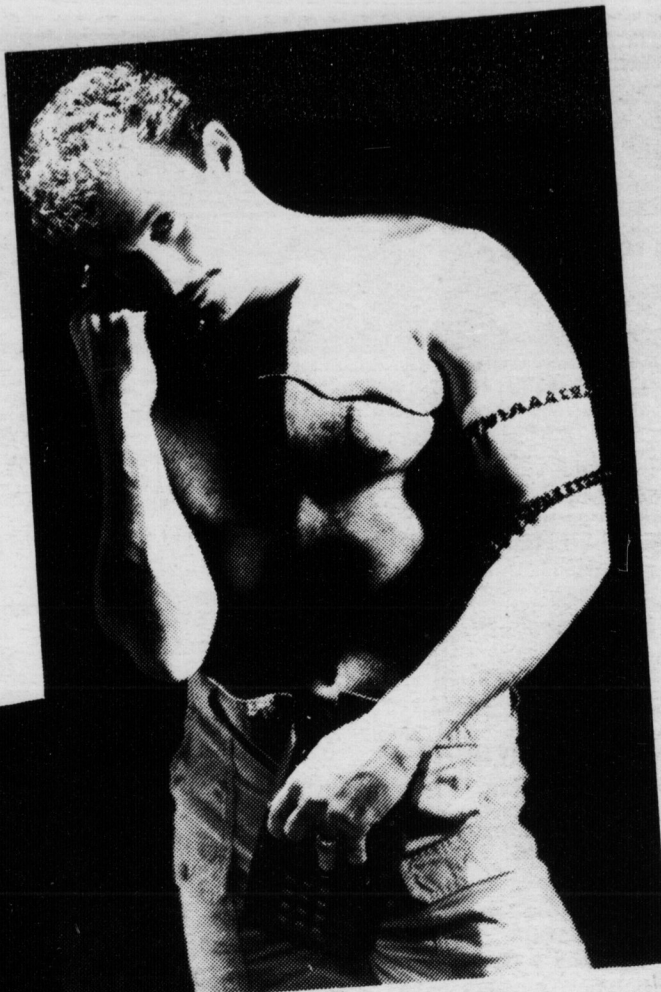


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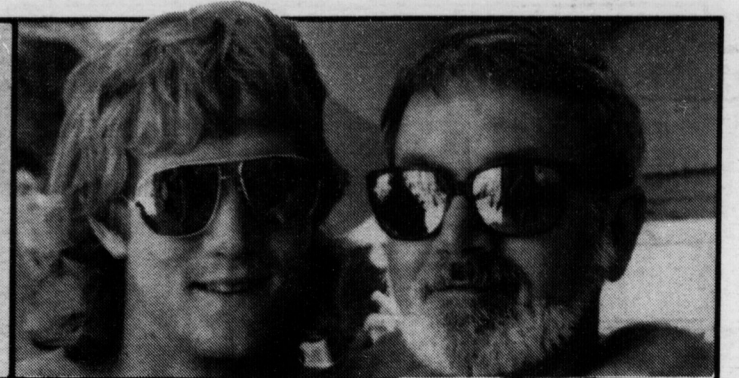
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Easter In S.F.

It was a glorious Easter in San Francisco. There was an Easter Bunny (p. 13) and plenty of wonderful costumes and bonnets (pp. 15-16 and pp. 31-34) to pick from on a great sunny day.



BAY AREA REPORTER

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It's A Landslide!! Brougham Sweeps East Bay College Board Race 59-41 Percent

by Charles Linebarger

On April 21, Tom Brougham became the first gay person to be elected to public office in the East Bay. Brougham defeated Peralta College Board president Marsha Corprew by a margin of 18 percent of the vote, winning 59-41 percent over Corprew. Brougham took the District 4 seat, representing Berkeley and North Oakland, with 3,817 votes. Corprew received 2,679 votes.

(Continued on page 2)



'My impression is that Tom (Brougham, left) not only held his own in the Oakland precincts, but may have carried them. We knew he would take Berkeley.'

—Bob Kegeles



The recent splash of sunshine brought out the best in all of us. This young man at 18th and Castro stripped his shirt and surveyed the scene. (Photo: Rink)

Court Upholds Privacy Law In San Diego Bite Case

D.A. Cannot Use Blood Test in Prosecution;
Barlow Still Faces Assault Charges

by Allen White

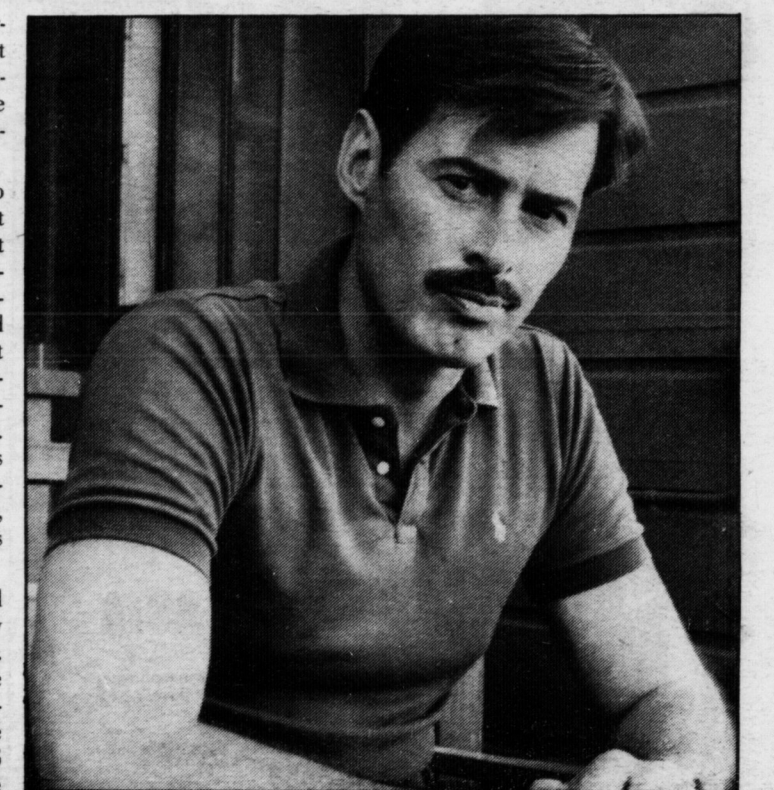
Brian Barlow, who stands accused of biting two San Diego police officers on duty at that city's Gay Pride Parade last year, won a major court victory when the California 4th District Court of Appeals unanimously held that the results of his AIDS antibody test could not be disclosed under any circumstances without his consent.

The case developed when Barlow was marching with the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band at last year's parade. Barlow allegedly was involved in a disturbance with fundamentalist religious hecklers. As Barlow was wrestled to the ground by San Diego police officers, he is said to have bitten two officers.

Authorities forcibly drew Barlow's blood and sought to test it for AIDS antibodies. Police officials said it was to determine if he should be charged with attempted murder.

"The prosecution's desire to test Brian Barlow was a product of prejudice, not logic. I doubt that they would have been so insistent if he were a 220 lb. ex-linebacker wrestled to the ground at a bank heist. The irony is that not all people at gay pride marches are gay, and only a small percentage of gay people have AIDS. Anyone can have AIDS and that's a reality we must all begin to accept," commented Jean O'Leary, National Gay Rights Advocates executive director.

In San Francisco, NGRA legal director Leonard Graff was very pleased with the court victory. "The broader significance of the court's ruling seems clear: hysteria is never an excuse to trample on individual rights — and AIDS hysteria is no exception. There



Brian Barlow wins a major victory.

(Photo: Rink)

FCC Jams Signal For Gay Radio

Slaps Broadcast as 'Indecent';
Urges Federal Prosecution

by Charles Linebarger

The Federal Communications Commission on April 16 asked the U.S. Justice Department to consider prosecution of Pacifica Foundation, Inc., which owns KPFA-FM in Berkeley, for presenting "indecent" programming on its Los Angeles station, KPFK. The "indecent" programming the FCC is complaining about was a talk show discussion on a gay radio program that broadcast excerpts from a new play, *Jerker* by Robert Chesley, that deals with sex in the age of AIDS.

(Continued on page 2)

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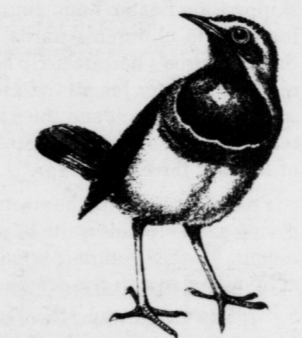


Ross Hunter, Wilkes Bashford and the AIDS Foundation's Steve Walters join in the fun at Paws For PWAs. (Photo: Scott Martin)

Noah's Ark
Rescued Pets Turn to Rescuing Humans

by Will Snyder

at UC-Davis. They all agreed that animals present absolutely no risk!"
 According to Jones, the SPCA's Pets Medical Care Fund



It wasn't your typical fashion show in any sense of the word. While it is true there were handsome men parading around in dazzling Wilkes Bashford fashions, that wasn't the main story behind the Paws For PWAs fashion show Tuesday at Club DV8. The real story was who benefited from the show.
 People with AIDS and ARC and their pets were the beneficiaries. A huge crowd donated at least \$25 per head to watch the show. Forty-five percent of the proceeds went to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation food bank with a like total going to the San Francisco Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) AIDS Pets Medical Care Fund. Ten percent went to the Clothing Depot of Trinity Church.

The main theme behind the scenes here is a new wrinkle in the struggle against AIDS. In this case, it's a bit of a heart-tugger.
 Some of the money going to the AIDS Foundation's food bank is going for pet food. The Kibbles and Bits or Kitty Stew means that Spot and Puff will keep up their own nourishment and thus provide a healthier, happier companion for a person with AIDS or ARC.
 "The PWAs are no different from anyone else," said Cary Norsworthy of the AIDS Foundation food bank. "They get attached to their animals. That's why this program is so important. Sometimes, these pets are the only living things these people live with."

it is concerned," Jones added, "people with AIDS have felt the loss of something physical in their lives. That's where an animal is so great because an animal can give a real big hug."
 "An animal becomes a buffer against loneliness."



Ken Jones, educational director for the SPCA, said there is both a mental and a physical need for the person/pet relationship.
 "We mustn't forget," said Jones, "that the person with AIDS or ARC becomes the person an animal needs. That person becomes an active provider for the animal."
 "As far as the physical side of

covers a broad range of activities. Not only are animals placed with AIDS/ARC patients, but they get medical care and are also brought out with volunteers on one-day visits. The patients get a chance to meet not only dogs and cats, but also such varied types as guinea pigs, chinchillas, roosters, parrots, lizards and snakes.
 "We even have an owl who lost a wing in an accident with a car and an opossum who lost an eye in a rat trap," he said.
 Not only do the patients get a



kick out of seeing a miniature version of Noah's Ark, but the animals love it, too. Jones said they are "self-possessed and quite proud of themselves. When they go into hospitals, they shine."
 The food bank has been providing approximately 200 bags of groceries each week for people with AIDS/ARC and their pets. One of the more interesting donations the organization received came from children in St. Elizabeth's Elementary School.
 "Not only did the kids contribute some needed groceries," said Norsworthy, "but they also received an early form of AIDS education."

"Because of that accusation, we did research," Jones said. "We talked to doctors at San Francisco General (Hospital) and



The Calla Lilies Were In Bloom Again!!

Lily St. Jammed For Easter Fun
 by Allen White

The Calla Lilies became the winners of the Lily Street Easter Bonnet Contest, Sutter's Mill entrant Marty McClelland was the 1987 Mr. Financial District and the spectre of religious activity ranged from the White Party to Mt. Davidson to a standing room only Dignity potluck dinner in the Castro.
 It was Easter in gay San Francisco.
 With the sun beaming down on the city, the Lily Street Easter Fair was the most successful ever. Hundreds of people managed to down 15 kegs of beer as they promenade up the spruced-up Western Addition alley. (Continued on next page)



(B.A.R. Photos: Brian Jones)

The Calla Lilies, above, won the Lily St. Easter Bonnet contest.

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(Photo: James Dusch)

Lily Street

(Continued from previous page)

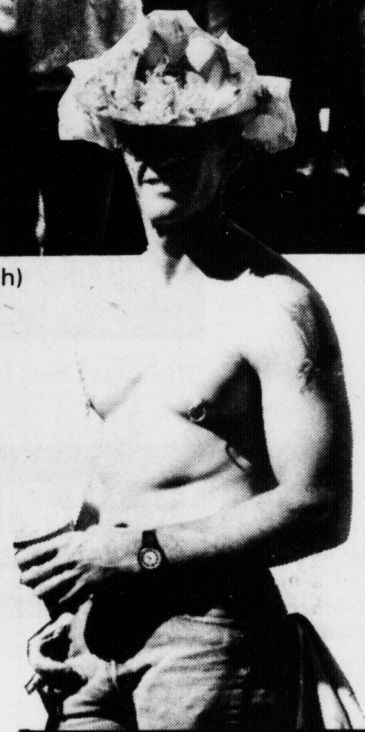
Keeping the afternoon officially together were Ms. Lily Street and comic Danny Williams. Raising money was the province of the Emperor and Empress of San Francisco who sold beer and gave the proceeds to the Metropolitan Community Church. The Duke and Duchess sold food and will give their profits to Coming Home Hospice.

A seemingly endless parade of contestants entered the Easter Bonnet Contest. There was a sweet pea, a June bride. There was the perennial Ms. Peckerhead and Diedre. They were all in their Easter finery.

When the voting was done the winners were Mark, Dean and Greg who participated as the Calla Lilies. The first runner-up was Patsy Cline who simply wore a hat depicting an airplane crash. Its creator, Mark Kliem, said the hat was in memory of March 5, 1963, the date Cline died in a plane crash.

The second runner-up prize went to Our Gang, a group of 14 assorted tributes to Easter. The third runner-up prize went to Tempest Storm, a contestant for whom Ms. Lily Street said, "Just when you thought it was safe to go out in your kitchen."

To the parade there was the somewhat delightful version of Lester Lanan's "Easter Parade." During the remainder of the day there was square dancing by some of the residents of the street who delight in this type of musical expression.



All photos, except top photo by Brian Jones.



The Patsy Cline hat, modeled by Mark Kliem.



What a hat!

The evening before, Concerned Republicans For Individual Rights held its Mr. Financial District contest. The winner and new Mr. Financial District is Mark McClelland from Sutter's Mill. The event raised over \$3,000 for the SF AIDS Emergency Fund. The evening was one of the most mellow evenings presented at Sutter's Mill in some time.

The same evening the Trocadero Transfer began its marathon White Party. Throughout the evening the emphasis was on non-stop dancing which continued until noon on Saturday.

Religious services began in the early morning with the Glide Ensemble and Rev. Cecil Williams atop Mt. Davidson for the 5:54 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service. The large participation by the gay community was a strong statement of civil rights and the extent the community has become a part of citywide events.

Throughout the day there was service emphasizing the participation of the lesbian and gay community. Rev. Robert Cromey at Trinity Episcopal took time to comment about his proposal of a new AIDS hospice.

At the Holy Redeemer Church in the Castro, the gay Catholic Dignity organization held its Easter vespers service. Following the service, over 250 people went to a dining hall for a lavish potluck dinner.

Following the Lily Street Easter event and the other celebrations, many in the city went to the San Francisco Eagle. Reports indicate the outer patio was about as jammed with people as could be possible. ●



Candidate Meets Candidate

Sup John Molinari (left), a candidate for mayor of San Francisco, meets Gary Hart, who wants the Democratic Party presidential nomination in 1988. Hart was in town last week for a fundraiser. (Photo: Tom Gibbons)

MCC—SF Hosts Series On Women's Spirituality

Five well-known feminists will celebrate women's culture and spirituality every Sunday evening in May at Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco, 150 Eureka Street.

The series, *The Spirit of Women Alive in the World*, will be highlighted by actress Pat Bond portraying writer Gertrude Stein on May 24. Other speakers will be Goddess worshipper Z Budapest, May 3; artist Mayumi Oda, May 10; author Robin Lakoff, May 17; and poet Judy Grahn, May 31.

Each speaker will appear in the context of a Christian worship service, open to all and starting at 7 p.m. Several hundred people are expected to attend every night.

A former child actress, Pat Bond has toured the country with her one-woman show, *Gerty, Gerty, Gerty Stein is Back, Back, Back*. Her own 62 years as a lesbian, including a stint in the Women's Army Corps during World War II, is her theme in the documentary film *Word Is Out* and in her monologues. She is currently developing a presentation on aging.

Z Budapest will speak on "The Goddess Movement as I Know It: Roots, Development, Future." Born in Budapest, she is a charismatic spokeswoman for feminist Wicca, an ancient women's religion. She lectures throughout the United States on comparative religion and mythologies.

Mayumi Oda will show slides and discuss her brilliantly colored prints of goddesses, which have been exhibited throughout the world. A native of Japan, Oda graduated from Tokyo University of Fine Arts in 1966 and moved to the United States soon after. She lives and works at the

Green Gulch Farm of the San Francisco Zen Center.

Robin Lakoff, linguistics professor at the University of California, Berkeley, will discuss her personal spiritual development. She wrote *Language and Women's Place* and, with co-author Raquel Scherr, *Face Value: The Politics of Beauty*.

The final presentation will be by Judy Grahn, one of America's foremost poets. Her most recent books are *The Queen of Wands* and a major nonfiction work, *Another Mother Tongue: Gay Words, Gay Worlds*, which was declared Gay Book of the Year by the American Library Association in 1985.

Part of a world-wide denomination, Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco is a progressive church serving primarily the lesbian and gay community. With *The Spirit of Women Alive in the World*, MCC-SF aims to provide a forum for discussing interconnections between women's and gay spirituality.

Admission is free and open to all. An offering will be taken. For more information, call MCC-SF, (415) 863-4434. ●

Charities To Benefit From Savings Bank's CD Plan

Three Bay Area charities will benefit from an innovative marketing program sponsored by one of the city's newest savings banks. The San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights and the American Cancer Society (San Francisco Unit) are all participating in a marketing and community relations program informing their members and supporters about a new certificate of deposit plan offered by Barbary Coast Savings Bank, F.S.B.

The new CD-plan combines high earning interest rates with a charitable contribution at no cost to the depositor. As an incentive, Barbary Coast makes a special contribution to the depositor's designated charity.

The program works this way: A depositor opens a CD in any amount between \$500 and \$100,000. In addition to paying the full interest earned, Barbary Coast will make an additional contribution to the designated

charity equal to 2 percent of the interest earned on the deposit. For example, a \$25,000 CD for one year at 6.5 percent APR, compounded daily and yielding 6.71 percent, would pay \$1,677.50 in interest at maturity. Additionally, upon deposit, Barbary Coast would pay \$33.55 to the designated charity. The charitable contribution does not come from interest earnings, it is a separate donation made by Barbary Coast Savings Bank, F.S.B.

In announcing the new program, Mr. Walter J. Hanna, president and chief executive officer of Barbary Coast Savings Bank, F.S.B., said, "The communities of the Bay Area have contributed to our great success. This contributions program is one way in which we will recognize the outstanding work done by these and other public service organizations."

Barbary Coast is a locally owned and operated federal savings bank specializing in the

mortgage and savings needs of the San Francisco Bay Area. For their first full year in operation ended Dec. 31, 1986, Barbary Coast reported after tax earnings of more than one-half million dollars; earning \$1.71 per share. ●

March

(Continued from page 4)

labor and the religious community who are working for the needs of women as well as other people, regardless of sexual orientation.

Wallace said the participation of the lesbian/gay community "is important because it is important for us to be out of the closet and visible. The campaign by Harry Britt proved to our community how important coalitions can be.

"It is important," he added, "that we educate others about the fact that gay men and lesbians are out in the forefront and that we are a visible coalition." ●

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BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

Teen AIDS Play (?)

New Conservatory Children's Theatre Airs the Issue with *The Inner Circle*

by Wendell Ricketts

When Ed Decker became ill enough to enter the hospital two Springs ago, his anxieties were not untypical of a man in his position. He had pneumonia; he'd been told it was pneumocystis; he presumed he must have AIDS. He lay abed for a week before his condition was properly diagnosed as a bacterial infection that was quickly reversed with antibiotics. For a man of the theater such as Decker, however, the simulated tragedy carried the weight of reality. He wasn't dying, but he'd been scared and he was angry. The remedy seemed to be action. He contacted the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and was trained for their speakers bureau. He became a telephone counselor on the AIDS Hotline.

But that wasn't enough for Decker. As Executive Director of the New Conservatory Children's Theatre and School, he was accustomed to thinking in terms of the contributions the New Conservatory could make to the population that is their special province. Over the years, the New Conservatory's commitment to producing socially relevant youth theater had given rise to programs on latch-key children, life in a school for the disabled, the Nicaraguan revolution, and a hugely successful piece on runaways that toured the state and would not close, even when the New Conservatory wanted it to. Despite preconceptions in the public mind about "children's" theater, Decker asserts, the New Conservatory has never been "cute little Punch 'n' Judy shows for kids."

So Decker set out to produce a piece about AIDS prevention and education for teenagers, a group that is poised on the brink of an AIDS epidemic that could ravage their population as it has decimated the gay community.

"Kids are sexually active a lot younger than I had even thought," Decker says. "As an adult, this alarms me just a little bit. But that judgment aside, they are having sex. They need to know. Now is the time to educate them before AIDS becomes a problem in their world."

The result of Decker's vision will be unveiled April 24 when *The Inner Circle*, an impressive collaboration with playwright Patricia Loughrey and the young artists of the New Conservatory School, premieres at the Zephyr Theatre Complex at 25 Van Ness.

The Inner Circle is the story of four friends, Sarah (Kris Bodertscher), Mark (Julian Brooks), Kat (Annamarie Houghtailing), and Danny (Patrick McCracken). Their rather prosaic world of video games, proms, cutting class, and first dates is shattered by the discovery that Mark has contracted AIDS through skin-popping, a form of IV drug use. Kat, Sarah, and Danny cope with the revelation as well as their misinformation, guilt, and confusion will let them, but their friendship is seriously threatened by the fear that AIDS has passed among them — both boys, the play reveals, have slept with both girls.



Patrick McCracken in the New Conservatory Children's Theatre production of *The Inner Circle*

'All of a sudden because (adults have) forgotten, it means kids don't have sex. And that concept doesn't have anything to do with reality.'

—Ed Decker



Patrick McCracken and Annmarie Houghtailing in *The Inner Circle*

Eventually, their circle is able to expand to include Mark's imminent death, their love for him, their shared grief, and the changes they realize they must make in their own lives. Crammed into the 34 brief scenes is a great deal of information about AIDS — how it is transmitted, how one can be protected from it, what it is when someone has it — but none of that overshadows the story of friendship, or of the expansiveness of the human spirit when confronted by tragedy. As playwright Loughrey explains it, "*The Inner Circle* is about the courage to be truly intimate — intimate with oneself and each other. It's about learning, by bumping into the walls, where the doors are that lead to some truth."

Perhaps it is significant, then, that Loughrey's play opens in the darkness of an abandoned building, the three surviving friends blundering about in the gloom with only the light of flashlights to guide them. The scene is the hideout where Mark, confused and frightened after his diagnosis, had run away to think. With them the three bring mementos of their friendships — a yearbook, a splinter from the telephone pole the boys struck the night they smashed up Mark's father's new car — to say their final goodbyes. Kid stuff? Schmalz?

Maybe. But the reactions of these three, as they grope for some appropriate response to the death of a friend, from a disease they never imagined had anything to do with them, is poignant in its self-consciousness. No one teaches us how to grieve the death of a loved one — nor how to go on living afterward — and whatever we come up with is essentially improv. Loughrey has captured a moment between the innocence of childhood and the "cool" of young adulthood and let her characters linger there. If they seem raw in their discomfort, clumsy in their friendships, unsophisticated in their mourning, it may only be because we've repudiated our own emotional ontology.

Friendship, then, is at the heart of *The Inner Circle*. But the play is also specifically designed to raise teenagers' awareness that they belong to a group at serious risk for AIDS. Thus, *The Inner Circle* includes discussions of safe sex; responsible and irresponsible sexual behavior; the AIDS-antibody test; means of contracting AIDS, including unprotected heterosexual and homosexual sex and shared IV drug apparatus; and the use of condoms. Each of these subjects might be controversial enough on its own, but many of the groups and individuals Decker approached about the project didn't need to hear that much detail before their feet got cold. Just knowing that *The Inner Circle* dealt with teenage sexuality and AIDS was enough to make them plenty squeamish.

(Continued on next page)

Inner Circle

(Continued from previous page)

Granted, when Decker conceived the idea that eventually became *The Inner Circle*, he suspected the play would stir up its share of controversy. What he never expected was the lukewarm response the project has gotten from school officials, local politicians, and the gay press. Further, not a single local funding source has been willing to back the play. Most frustrating of all, perhaps, since Decker's goal is to take *The Inner Circle* on tour in high schools "where teenagers can see it and it will do the most good," he has been unable to get the endorsement of San Francisco public schools.

"The schools' main concern," Decker notes ironically, "is 'Do you say "penis," "vagina," and "asshole" in your play?' Well, we don't. Neither are we telling the kids they should go out and have sex. We're saying that if they do, they need to be responsible about it — just as any sexually active person, young or old, should be."

The reticence of school officials and board members, however, does not reflect the behavior or concerns of teenagers. Says Decker, "It's amazing to me that people hit 25 and forget they were sexually active as a teenager. All of a sudden because they've forgotten, it means kids don't have sex. And that concept doesn't have anything to do with reality. We've had 11-year-olds (in our school) come up and say, 'We hear you're doing this AIDS play and we have some questions for you.' We had to include a special agenda item at our staff meeting about how the faculty should deal with all the questions they were getting from the students about AIDS and sexuality."

Loughrey, who is a substitute teacher in Los Angeles County junior high and high schools, concurs.

"I hear kids joking and talking about AIDS all the time," she says. "It's become a disease buzzword. I try to give them accurate information as often as I can, and my experience is that they're hungry to know. All the joking is out of ignorance and fear."

Given the masses of information now available about AIDS, *The Inner Circle* couldn't hope to provide audiences with all the relevant facts. Fortunately, Decker and Loughrey's intention is something quite different. Says Loughrey, "It's not necessary that everyone come away from the play knowing everything they need to know to protect themselves (from AIDS). What we wanted to open up emotionally was the sense, 'I need to know this. I'm going to find out.' The information is out there; it's becoming more and more accessible. But to trigger the need to seek the information — that's what the play is for. Really, the only distance we hope to cover is that kids begin to realize that AIDS is not a joke. It could happen to them. I don't think they know that."

The gay community, perhaps alone among communities, understands deeply the long and painful process by which the reality of "it could happen to me" is assimilated. But lesbians and gay men also know more profoundly than anyone that AIDS education is prevention. And we are intimately familiar with the enormous impact peer and community pressure can have in encouraging individuals to change high-risk sexual behavior. Those insights are immensely beneficial to teenagers confronting AIDS, and they are finely woven into the fabric of *The Inner Circle*.

As opening night approaches, there is the sense around the New Conservatory that nothing could shake the commitment of the four young actors, all of whom seem to have taken the message of the play with utter seriousness. As Houghtailing commented in her recent interview on NBC's *Live at 5*, "Teenagers think AIDS has nothing to do with us and that's just not the case. (*The Inner Circle*) says that it can touch you."

That's precisely the kind of statement that gives Decker confidence. "The magic of this play," he says, "is that it's for teenagers talking about their lives, and about the AIDS crisis as it applies to them and to other kids — which means that teenagers will listen. It's not adults lecturing about the dangers of AIDS."

Indeed, there is nothing remotely moralistic about *The Inner Circle*, a condition adults should find relieving and teenagers may consider essential. Teenage sexuality is accepted as a given, but abstinence is presented as one possible reaction to the threat of AIDS. Discussions about sex are tasteful, but not coy. Most happily, AIDS "punishes" no one — not for using drugs and not for being sexual. Nowadays, that's a welcome addition.

But there is also the sense at New Conservatory that *The Inner Circle* could draw both pickets and plaudits. In the back of everyone's mind is the school tour that Decker, Loughrey, and the cast feel is so essential. Can *The Inner Circle* garner enough support among concerned parents, teachers, and teenagers to overcome the schools' timidity and the resistance of many adults to AIDS education for young people? The coming weeks will tell.

In the meantime, Loughrey's firm stance is as articulate a statement of the issues as one is likely to hear: "When you seriously present teenagers with this information, it dignifies them — that you acknowledge they have a right to know about something that could kill them. I think it's criminal to hold back information that could save someone's life, and to presume it's for the best for them."

The Inner Circle
Zephyr Theatre
through May 16; 861-4915

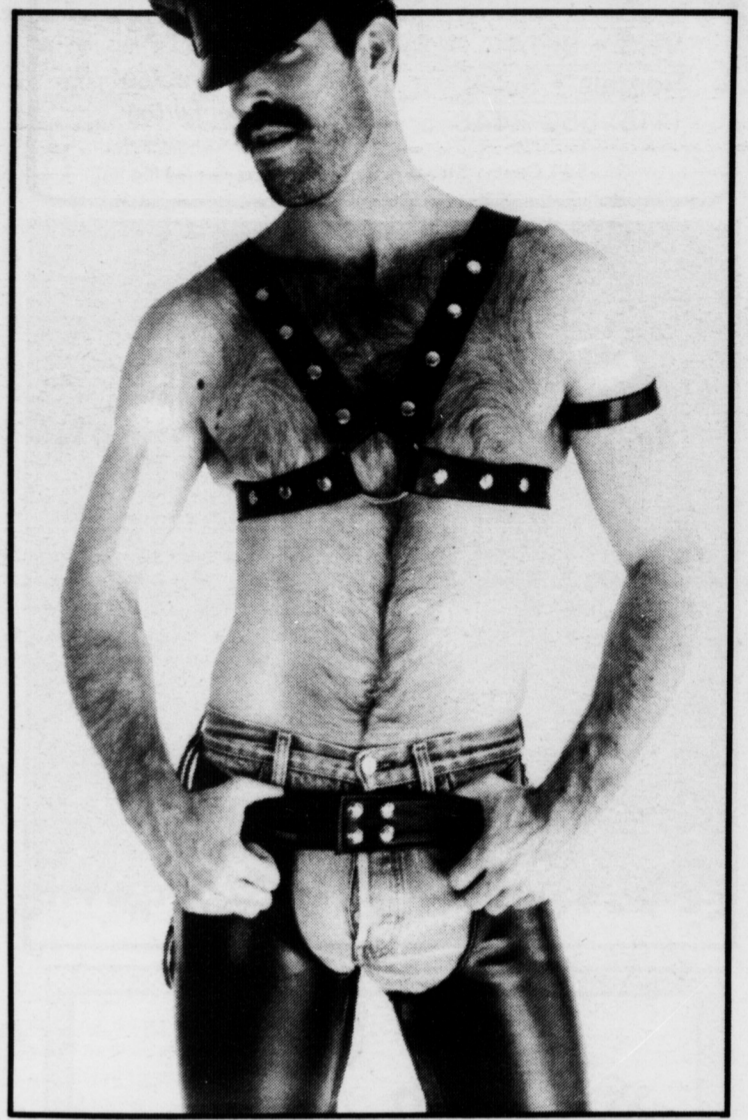
King of the Crystal Palace To Open in LA May 2

The Southern California premiere of C.D. Arnold's *King of the Crystal Palace* opens on Saturday, May 2, for a limited engagement at the Richmond Shepard Theatre in Hollywood. This elegiac and deeply moving drama is the second Los Angeles offering by Kaliyuga Arts, producer of last year's award-winning musical *In Circles*.

In its original Bay Area production, the play was hailed for its serious and multi-layered treatment of gay themes. It takes place during the fall of 1980 in a run-down San Francisco Victorian where five people are trying to pull their lives together while what we now know as the AIDS crisis is just beginning.

Featured in the cast are Steve Patterson, recreating his Drama-Logue Award-winning performance from the original Theatre Rhinoceros production, William Hayes, author of the book *Midnight Express*, Susan Burke, Ken Harris, and Vic Trevino. John Sowle directs and designs.

King of the Crystal Palace runs until June 7, Thursday through Sunday evenings at 8 p.m. The Richmond Shepard Theatre is located at 6476 Santa Monica Blvd., four blocks west of Vine. Tickets are \$10, with one dollar from every ticket sold being donated to Aid for AIDS. For further information, please call (213) 666-9121.



Steve Patterson as Rob in *King of the Crystal Palace*
(Photo: K. Laird-Johnson)

Dick Kramer Chorales To Sing Lost Mass

The *Mass for Male Chorus and Organ* by Roy Harris will be given its West Coast premiere in May by the Temescal Gay Men's Chorus with the Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale as guest artists.

This major work by a major American composer is a unique enigma. It has never been published and no reference is made of it in Catholic books or journals.

The world premiere was at the

Columbia University Music Festival in New York on May 13, 1948. It was originally intended for performances at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York, but was canceled by Cathedral officials after an interview with Harris appeared in The New York Times implying the work was written for cash.

Also on the concert is the Brahms *Rhapsodie* with Nan Gravelle as soloist, and music by Bruckner and Britten.

Performance dates and locations are:

Friday, May 8, Park Presidio Methodist Church, 4301 Geary Blvd., San Francisco, 8 p.m. (benefit for the S.F. Methodist Urban Fund).

Saturday, May 9, Trinity Methodist Chapel, 2320 Dana, Berkeley, 8 p.m.

Sunday, May 10, First Unitarian Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington, 3 p.m.

"What a civilized delight 'Waiting for the Moon' is. It has the tang of fine language, the breadth of its subject matter, the beauty of its settings, photography and music and a rare maturity in its outlook. The magnificent last scene, a muted drama of reconciliation and optimism, can bring you to tears. What an oasis for the parched adult." — Sheila Benson, LOS ANGELES TIMES

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Good Father Gets Cold Steel From Fatal Beauty; Film at 11

The movie industry's best-kept secret is that sequels aren't just a matter of box-office insurance, but a way of covering up the fact that there aren't enough original titles to go around. Don't confuse *The Good Father* (reviewed below) with the recent *The Good Wife*. Also on this year's schedule are: *The Big Town* and *The Big Easy* (both from Columbia in August); *38 and '68: Cold Steel and Steele Justice: Street Smart, Pretty Smart and Prettykill*. Glenn Close has finished *Fatal Attraction* while Whoopi Goldberg is shooting *Fatal Beauty*.

One title that shouldn't be confused with any other is *Lenya*, which has finally been officially announced as a vehicle for Bette Midler. It's the one producer Craig Zadan, author of *Sondheim & Co.*, told us will win Bette her Oscar. Based in part on Donald Spoto's biography, it will star Miss M as Lotte Lenya, Kurt Weill's wife and the foremost interpreter of his songs (including "Surabaya Johnny," which Bette sang on her self-titled 1973 album). Those who only know Lenya as Rosa Klegg of the really pointed-toe shoes in *From Russia With Love* are in for a few surprises. The bad news is that it won't start shooting until at least late next year, so put it on your list for Christmas 1989.

To give equal time to a Mexican screen goddess, Maria Felix is making a comeback in a new film by gay director Jaime Humberto Hermosillo (*Doña Herlinda and Her Son*). They're currently



Anthony Hopkins (as Bill Hooper, I) helps Jim Broadbent (as Roger Miles) take custody away from his lesbian wife in *The Good Father*

in Paris making *The Eternal Splendor*, about — what else? — an aging actress. The cinematographer is the legendary Gabriel Figueroa, and the international nature of the production may bring it to U.S. screens faster than the average Mexican film.

HE'S GOTTA HAVE CUSTODY

Anthony Hopkins, the sweet, dull bookstore clerk of *84 Charing Cross Road*, shows his other side in *The Good Father*, a drama

about how rotten people can be until they all turn decent for an ending that's at least content, if not happy.

Hopkins entered into an open marriage at an early age, but left his wife and young son because "We gave each other total freedom and we hated each other for taking advantage of it." When she found a new lover before he did he turned from a feminist into a misogynist ("They really piss me off — women").

His chance for revenge against

the female race comes in when Jim Broadbent is left by his wife for another woman. Hopkins urges Broadbent to sue for custody. Slimy barrister Simon Calow finds a homophobic judge — "Some of the big-city judges are starting to give custody to lesbians. Kirby Smith would rather have the child taken out and shot" — and proceeds to fight dirtier than necessary.

While the subject matter would classify *The Good Father* as a "woman's picture," women are definitely not the film's major characters. Hopkins' wife and new womanfriend each have a few scenes. Broadbent's wife barely gets to open her mouth, and her lover is hardly seen at all.

Director Mike Newell (*Dance with a Stranger*) has done the difficult things well, with the help of a deceptively simple screenplay by Christopher Hampton, but he's messed up some easy things. At 90 minutes the film still seems padded, with fantasies, flashbacks, forwards or somethings, and scenes of the leather-clad Hopkins riding endlessly on his motorcycle. There are too many crying scenes — one would be too many in a film with so much potential for oversentimentality, which is not what this one is about.

Great acting, fine writing, good direction, and sympathetic treatment of a hot issue should keep *The Good Father* running 'til Father's Day. (Kabuki)

SHARON UND WILHELM

The hills are alive with the sound of heavy breathing in *Alpine Fire*, a beautiful film by Fredi M. Murer.

In a remote Swiss mountain community the houses are so far apart that "neighbors" communicate by mail and signal flags.

Here deaf-mute Thomas Nock grows to adolescence with no formal education and no instruction about sexuality. Rock-splitting and wall-building are the socially acceptable ways for a young man to work off his frustrations, sexual and otherwise. His family treats Thomas as if he were retarded, referring to him only as "the boy." They say "He works like a man and plays like a child," but when natural urges make him want to play like a man he has only his older sister (Johanna Lier) to turn to.

If you can slow down with Murer to the rhythm of the seasons, you'll be rewarded with a moving experience that leaves you with a sense of humanity truly being a part of nature. This is exceptional filmmaking, as good as anything you'll see this year.

Alpine Fire was my favorite film of the 1986 San Francisco International Film Festival. (Lumiere)

GEORGIA ON MY EAR

If a rock concert film is in focus and reasonably well recorded, the determining factor is whether you like the band or bands involved. *Athens, Ga.—Inside/Out* adds sociology to the mix. The sound and picture are okay, shot in or blown up to 16mm and recorded separately in at least a couple of cases. The lineup includes the briefly successful B-52's, the verge-of-breakthrough R.E.M., the defunct Pylon, the super-sounding Dreams So Real, plus six typical bar bands you might find anywhere.

The special thing about *Athens, Ga.* is how director Tony Gayton captures the flavor of the small Southern college town that has produced all these groups, plus various artists who get almost equal time with the bands: a poet, a barbecue chef, an artist who paints abstracts but shoots videos of barechested young men, a minister who speaks incomprehensibly but sings a pure folk gospel with his wife, and a man called Ort whose function is never explained.

But the real star is the Rev. Howard Finster, who comes on like a loony with his garden of junk sculpture and the story of how he became a painter after seeing the face of Jesus on his paint-dipped finger, but proves to be a noted folk artist with a Talking Heads album cover to his credit, and does a creditable jam on "When the Saints Go Marching In."

The ratio of talk to music gets dangerously high, and there's a much better hour-long film lost in this 82-minute one, but you'll remember *Athens, Ga.—Inside/Out* for more than music. Best of all, nobody ever mentions "Bull-dogs." (York)

'X' HITS THE SPOT

When they picked on Virgil, they picked on the wrong chimp! That's *Project X* in a nutshell. Matthew Broderick is a young airman who wants to be Tom Cruise but can't get away with as much shit, probably because he looks too much like an actor in an Air Force uniform. He's grounded and sent to play nursemaid to some chimpanzees in a top-secret experimental program that exposes the chimps to radiation to see how long a pilot could fly after a nuclear blast.

Virgil was trained in sign language by Helen Hunt and picked up by the Air Force when her grant wasn't renewed. Broderick becomes attached to Virgil and, learning he's marked for nuclear extinction, rebels and joins Hunt to help the chimps break out.

If *Project X* can sensitize the kids it's aimed at to the issue of nuking lab animals, they may make the leap to understanding it's wrong to nuke each other. Unfortunately, it won't convince the *Top Gun* crowd that peace is as sexy as war. (Alexandria, Stonestown, Grand Lake) ●

VIDEO

Before Stonewall: The Way We Were

by David-Alex Nahmod

Our Castro community is still young. Most of us can still remember not having a place where we could hold hands on the street, or go to the movies and see films the caliber of *Parting Glances* or *Desert Hearts*.

A scant 20 years ago we were being ignored by filmmakers. Whenever gays appeared in films, we were presented as comic relief, the butt of the director's homophobic sense of humor. Heaven forbid a gay character be shown as a healthy, happy member of the community.

A case in point is the recent video release, *Lost Horizon* (1937). Frank Capra's film is, for the most part, a lush and romantic tale of one man's search for utopia. But a supporting character, played by Edward Everett Horton, is presented as a meek, whining queen. This obviously gay character is even referred to as "dearie" and "sister" by the film's more "manly" characters. Since these scenes do nothing to advance the plot of *Lost Horizon*, they become needless padding to an otherwise lovely film. But this is what we had to put up with for many years.

In the '60s it suddenly became fashionable to talk about homosexuals. Hollywood, always ready to jump on the latest trendy bandwagon, set out to make "gay" films. But this was right before Stonewall, before straights had any opportunities to learn about us. And so, with their misconceptions firmly in tow, Tinseltown set out to educate America about the gay lifestyle. There are three films from this period.

These films are available at Superstar Video (18th Street, between Castro and Noe) and Captain Video (Market, off Castro) among other outlets.

THE KILLING OF SISTER GEORGE (1968)

Directed by Robert Aldrich

The Killing of Sister George was the first x-rated film to be released by a major studio. It had little sex or nudity, but was about a still-taboo subject, lesbians. The film's subject matter alone was considered reason enough for the X rating. Nowadays the film can be shown nearly uncut on broadcast TV. My, how times have changed.

Like most films of the period, *The Killing of Sister George* is hardly an accurate portrayal of the way we were. It's a highly melodramatic, hysterically acted portrayal of London lesbians who seem to enjoy insulting each other, *All About Eve* style.

Sister George (Beryl Reid) is the most popular character on a top-rated soap opera. The actress who plays her (also Reid) is so identified with the character that she is called George even in her private life. George has a love/hate relationship with her much younger lover (a ravishing Susanah York), and the film consists mainly of George at home, screaming at her lover, and George at work, screaming at her director. Most of the lines are actually rather witty, but after awhile the film becomes a tad overbearing. Robert Aldrich

directed as though he was still working on *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?* *Killing* was, in fact, supposed to be the final entry in the Aldrich/Bette Davis trilogy, but Davis refused to play a lesbian. (The second film was *Hush, Hush...* *Sweet Charlotte*.)

Eighteen years after its release, *The Killing of Sister George* is a humorous look back at Hollywood's misconceptions about lesbians. But in 1968, the film did more harm than good. Warner Brothers had touted the film as a "breakthrough, the first realistic look at lesbian life." Surely they jest.

THE GAY DECEIVERS (1968)

Directed by Bruce Kessler

This awful film is a prime example of how far we've come. A cheaply produced, poorly written and directed farce, *The Gay Deceivers* makes us the butt of some truly tasteless jokes.

A simple story of two cute straights who masquerade as gays in order to avoid the draft, the film goes out of its way to present every negative gay stereotype imaginable. The straights (Larry Casey and Kevin Coughlin) are repulsed by their pretend lifestyle, and their attitude only adds insult to injury. The presence of famed and popular gay comedian/activist Michael Greer as their queenie landlord is mystifying.

The biggest mystery of all, is just who is *The Gay Deceivers* intended for? It's offensive to gays, and surely wouldn't interest straights. Just who were the producers trying to reach?

Some mysteries aren't worth solving.

MYRA BRECKENRIDGE (1970)

Directed by Michael Sarne

Based on Gore Vidal's best-selling novel, *Myra Breckenridge* is one of Hollywood's most infamous films. Upon its release it was clobbered by the critics and disappeared rather quickly. It has rarely been shown since. Even as a home video release it remains hard to find. To my knowledge, the only store in town that carries it is Captain Video, and only in Beta.

Myra Breckenridge begins as effeminate Myron (Rex Reed) is being wheeled into an operating room for a sex change operation. Myra (Raquel Welch) is the result of the doctor's work. Myra then goes to her uncle's acting school posing as her own widow, and wreaks havoc. Among the film's many oddities are 77-year-old Mae West seducing 23-year-old Tom Selleck, Raquel brandishing a dildo and screwing a grateful cowboy, and Raquel again, in bed with Farrah Fawcett, who has since denied she was even in this film.

Myra Breckenridge is little more than a series of dirty jokes and gay double entendres. It is plotless, crude, rude, and very funny. Like *Plan 9 From Outer Space*, it's so bad it's good, and it grows on you each time you see it.

And you haven't lived until you've seen Rex Reed screaming "My tits! Where are my tits?" ●

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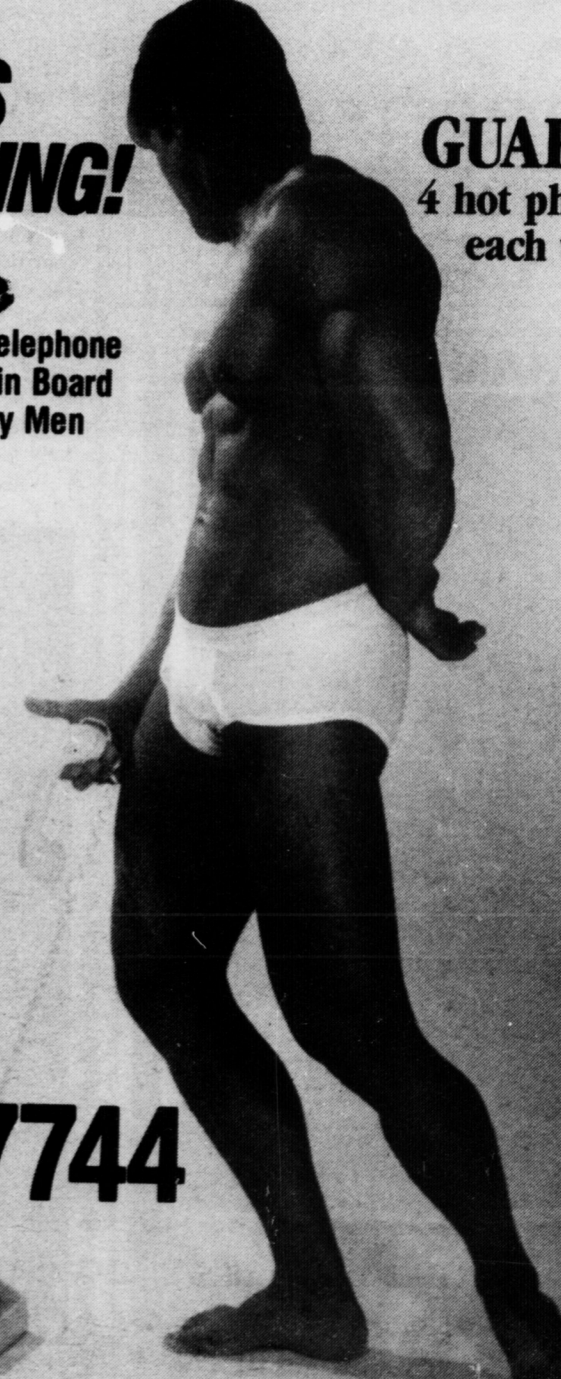
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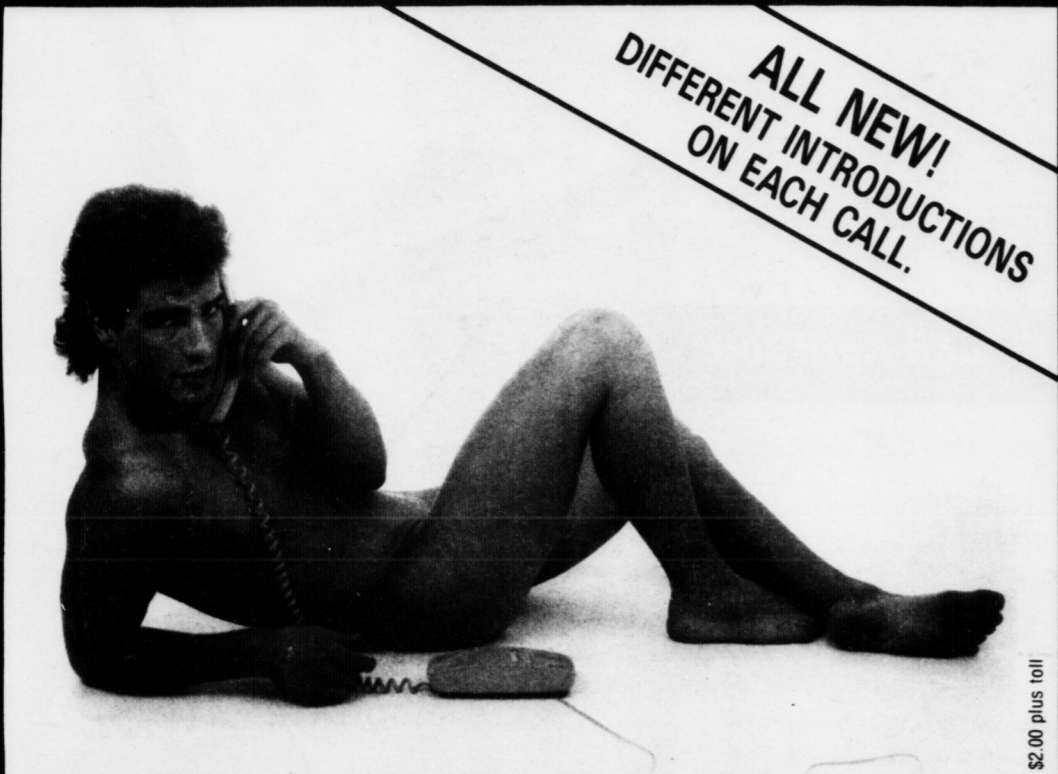
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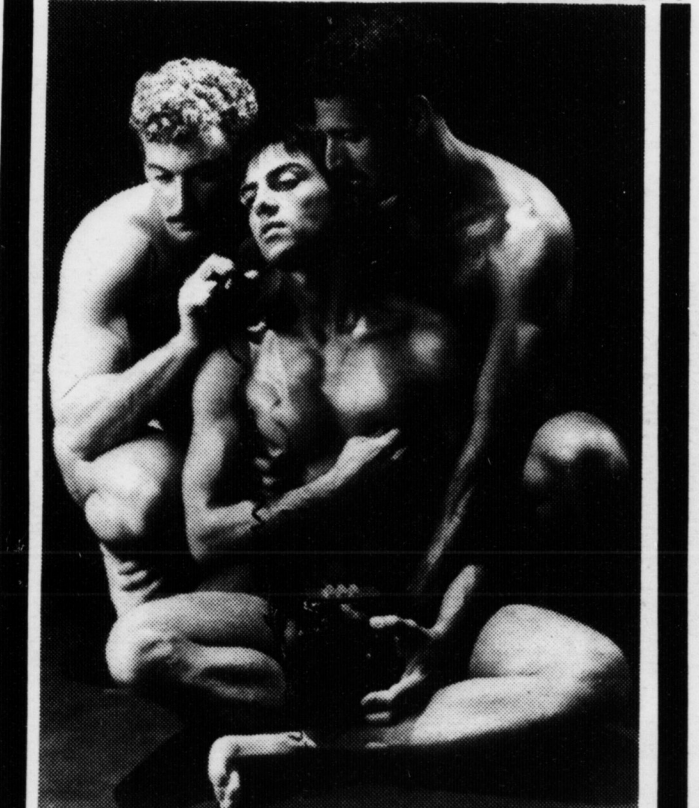


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Keith McElheney Wins Mr. Rawhide Contest

Rick Brattin of the Gay Softball League had his hands full as the M.C. last Thursday, April 16, as some seven cowboy types vied for the Mr. Rawhide II title. A big crowd was on hand for Ray Chalker's big party to name Brian Cornell's successor. Brian held the title for two years, and gave a warm and uplifting farewell speech as he handed his title over to Keith McElheney.

The three-week search pitted each weekly winner against the others, and different judges each week picked the finalists. It was a packed house with lots of dosey-doing and loud and appreciative applause for each contestant. The winner got \$500 in cash, among other prizes, and all the contestants got cash and other prizes.

Keith has lived in San Francisco some eight years and does custom upholstery for a living. His experience in woodworking, cabinetry, and refinishing were honed in his native Richland, Washington, and his friendly demeanor no doubt captured the imaginations of the judges. The other contestants were: second runner-up Michael Strain, first runner-up Patrick London, Joel Payne, Chuck Yeo, and Tod Briggs.

Over at Sutter's Mill Saturday night Marty McClelland pitted his financial district prowess against four other contestants to capture the Mr. Financial District title. Supervisor and Mrs. John Molinari again wowed the crowd as auctioneers followed by Emperor Patrick McGonigle and Empress Tina Tanner. Some \$3,000 was raised, and the new title holder stands at some 6 ft., 1 in. with dashing good looks.

Wednesday night some \$8,000



Mr. Rawhide Keith McElheney receives his crown
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

was distributed to many AIDS charities, the proceeds from the Intl. Ms. Leather Contest held last month. Another nice crowd on hand at the Club DV8.

Sunday the Warlocks M/C had its in-town run and convened at the SF-Eagle afterward for a beer bust and lots of shenanigans with Easter bonnets.

The Special drew a big crowd for its benefit bonnet competition, and over at Lily Street there was mad galore. Fairies were all over town showing off their chapeaux, and a good time was had by all who stayed in town for the festivities.

★ ★ ★

(Continued on next page)



The latest Endup Jockstrap contest winners (l. to r.) Doug, third place; Jesus Idiaquez, first place; and Steve Miller, second place
(Photo: J.D. Dusch)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

Friday, April 24, drop in to the Troc for Dancing Cheek to Cheek around 1830 with the wondrous big band sound of City Swing featuring the fabulous Gail Wilson. It'll only cost you \$6 with the doors opening at 1730 hours. They'll be featuring body builders at the SF-Eagle from 2000-2300 at the beer bust for only \$7.

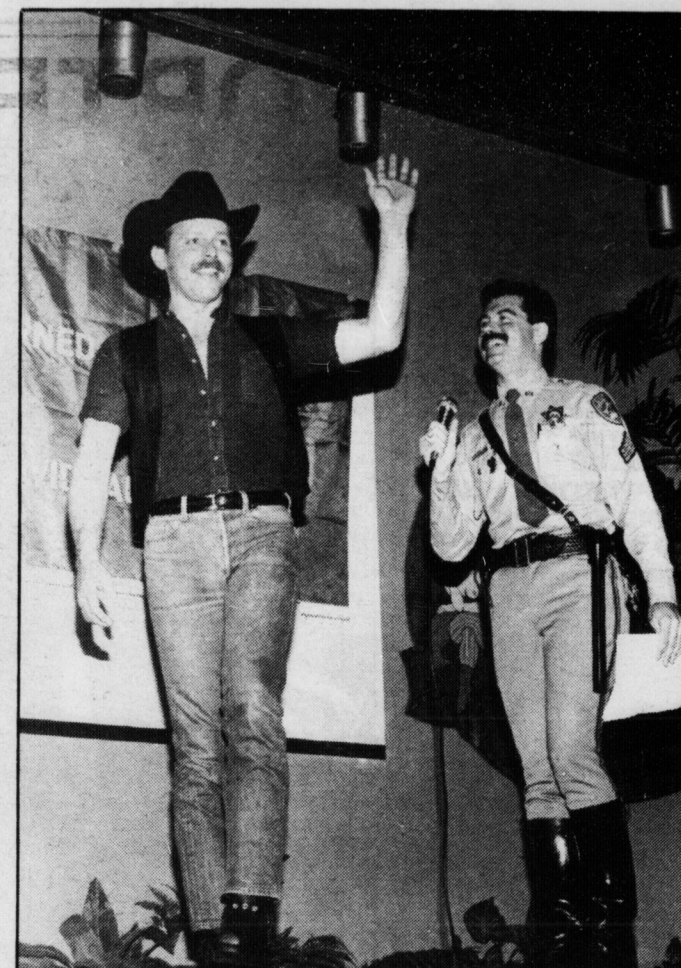
Saturday morning, April 25, the Constantines M/C is holding its Third Annual 500 Mile Ride to Cambria (just outside Morro Bay) returning Sunday. The \$40 fee includes lodging, dinner on the Tiger's Folly II, and lots of good riding. You'll get a beautiful commemorative pin for your participation. Call (415) 922-8960 for details, but I can tell you they're leaving at 0900 from the Watering Hole after checking in. Saturday evening, Steven Bloom is directing *What's A Mother To Do?* at Theatre Rhino through May 30 with performances Wednesday through Sunday; make your reservations now by calling 861-5079.

Monday, April 27, a landmark South of Market institution, Hamburger Mary's, will celebrate its 15th Anniversary with partying galore (by invitation) from 1930 to 0100. Manager Rose has assured me they'll pull out all the stops. Mary's has done so many wonderful things for its anniversaries of the past, it's hard to figure out what surprises will be in store for the fun makers. A salute to Mary's and the Maryettes, who have always given their best for their customers, and in the process have become a landmark institution in San Francisco!

While all this is going on, Richard Cohart's photos (unedited) are on display at Express Photo (2370 Market) with parade shots from as far back as 1978 on sale and proceeds going to the SF AIDS Alternate Healing Project. Check their schedule for the dates that various parade photos will be on display or call 474-0132 for more details.

One of the nation's most celebrated artists, Rex (hot T-shirts on sale all over the place), has 31 drawings that will be on display beginning May 1 at West Graphics Studio, 576 Natoma, by invitation. A reception for the artist will be held that evening, and the show is called Rex Verboten. Hope you get a chance to see this man's work. It's the hottest thing going.

If none of the above fires up your imagination, you can get away from it all at the RushRiv,



Mr. Financial District contest winner Marty McClelland (l.) in his leisure wear
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

where the weather got ahead of the "season" up there; this weekend, Patrick Toner's little army has gotten The Atlantis open for business (formerly Drums). When asked what inspired the name Atlantis, Toner responded:

'And waiters around the Castro are really fed up with this one dude who comes in at all hours ordering "de-capitated" coffee.'

"It's been under water for so long, why not?" There'll be lots of activities up there this season with lots of go-go dancing (male and female), Leather Weekend, and a lot of other surprises as some of your favorite bartenders will be there to serve your every need. Allan Peters, your better stay home; life in the fast lane has made a fart out of you.

WHEN DISH TURNS TO SHOVEL

Looks like David Sarathain will be going to Chicago after all to compete in the Intl. Mr. Leather contest. Having lost out in the competition at the SF-Eagle, David can be sponsored by a bona fide club, and since he's in the CMC I understand that body will sponsor him. I also hear Dean Gibson is so pumped up he looks like a bantam rooster in perpetual heat, and will make a try for the title in Chicago too unless some of his many "pending" deals turn out to be movie contracts; you know, "Shall we Lunch?" and yeah, on whose casting couch?

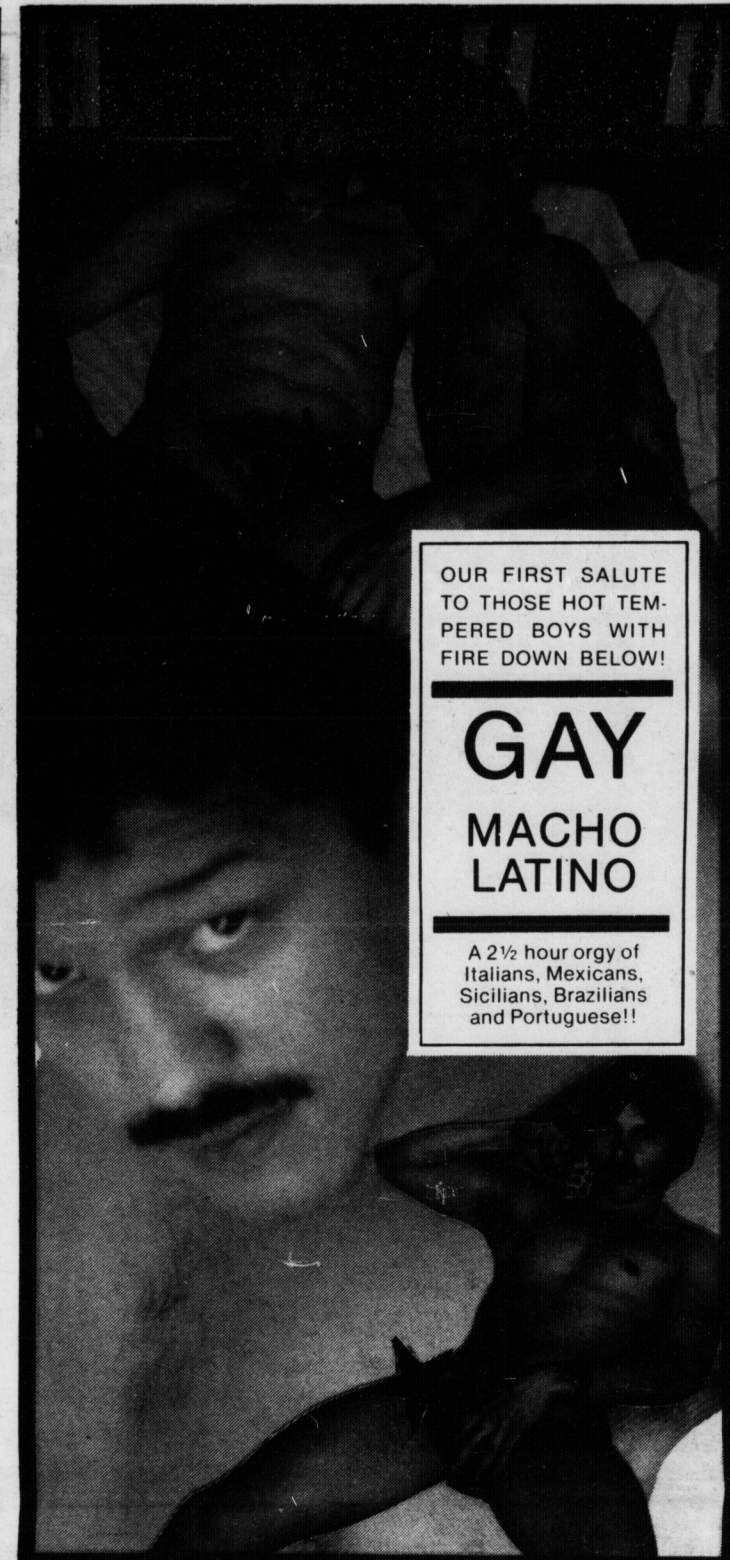
One customer cracked up Danny Rodriguez of the Powerhouse last Saturday night when he reported that in Mexico when people ask for Bartels & James, they say: "Dos Oakies, por favor!" And waiters around the Castro are really fed up with this one dude who comes in at all hours ordering "de-capitated" coffee they're ready to wash dishes anywhere!

Last week this dude fell on the ground in front of the Badlands and cut up his face in several places he was so high. After sobering up, and with the help of some close-by friends, he stated:

(Continued on next page)



The scene at the Lily Street Fair
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)



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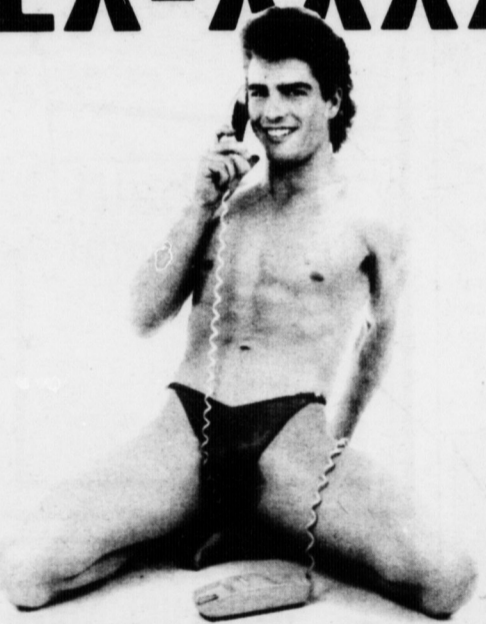
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Leather and spandex at the Lily Street Fair
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

"This is a case of good news and bad news. I learned my HTLV test was negative yesterday and I was so happy about it, I had a few cocktails here, a few cocktails there, and before I knew it, I woke up with this ambulance!"

Will Bolger of the Cycle Runners M/C is traipsing around London where he scored tickets to every hit in town, including *Phantom of the Opera*. Will reports that Le Gourmet is the best gay restaurant in town. He also got a chance to chat with Felix Jones, who had a successful fundraiser there last week for AIDS. Can you remember when Felix made his first visit to the US and ended up at the Boot Camp with British flags flying, pale ale, chips and cheese, and a hot time for 10 days with somebody Ken Misso introduced him to? That was in '72, my dears. Hi, Ken and Tony.

Well, boys and girls (you too, Allan Peters), time to cut this up for the bottom of your bird cage

and get on with life. I love Sweet Lips, but his innuendoes about my moving have nothing to do with bad checks.

Live it up, have fun, don't stay in and mold.

'Til next week, donate to your favorite charities, be kind to your roommate, and keep your legs crossed. Remember: Scorned queens don't get mad, they get even. Effectively, most subtly, and when you least suspect it.

PS: At my deadline it was learned that Richard Hennigh, the second runner-up in the Intl. Mr. Leather contest in 1985 (when Patrick Toner won), died Monday, April 20, of complications with AIDS. Richard was Mr. Washington State Leather that year and did an outstanding job with his title. His contributions for his brothers with AIDS is considered outstanding in the State of Washington. Funeral and/or memorial services were pending at my deadline.



A wonderful pair at Carnival '87 at the Cafe San Marcos
Easter Sunday (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Mark Friese

I Don't Know If I Can Take It!



A June bride at the Lily Street Fair
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

It was wonderful, wild, and exciting, and somehow I managed to make it through the Easter weekend in San Francisco. Please, let's not invent too many more to celebrate. I don't know if I can take it!

I don't think I got too carried away for this year's White Party at the Trocadero, but needless to say I was the typical Born to Shop Queen, last week racking up a sizable amount of outfits for the party. In fact, some sales people on Castro were outside their shops just waiting to lure me inside with promises of bargains in white to thrill and tempt me. It does seem a shame that this year's party had quite a few people there who couldn't make the attempt to come up with at least one white outfit for the evening.

Troc was a blast and I don't think they could have come up with too many more fun things for the festive crowd to enjoy. Then again, Dick C. and his talented staff always keep a few surprises up their sleeves for future events, and they are certainly being planned!

Of course the traditional stop at the Endup was the order of the morning for most of the partygoers for a brace of eye openers and more cha cha. The Balloon Girls were conspicuously absent, but that could be due to the fact that they are having a minor problem similar to the one the Sisters are experiencing. Without any sunglasses, and a pre-Lily Street party planned at my abode, I forced myself to move on at around 12:30, give or take a half hour.

A few libations with the girls, quick shower, new outfit, and new fresh outlook, and it was off to Lily Street, which was as usual a fun-filled block party in the true sense of the word. I mean just everyone was there to help them consume the 15 kegs of beer and the loads of fun that is the Lily Street Fair. Rumor has it that they are going to have 20 kegs of beer for next year's event, a sure sign that I will once again attend even though Carl Heimann and his handsome other half beat me to playing tilt-a-whirl with one of the porta-pottys—such is life.



The Cala Lilies won the bonnet contest at the Lily Street Fair
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

How I spent the rest of my Easter is not for publication, as I save one secret for myself each week. To recover from all this wild activity I was pleased to receive a phone call from my sister to tell me that her friend was cancelling out on their trip to Florida, where they will be visiting my mother, dad, and grandma, and could I be ready to go this Saturday? Just say free ticket and I start packing, and of course you all know you will once again, for the umpteenth time, be lavished with my exciting tales of glamor in St. Petersburg.

I thought I would take some space to remind you of a few

'Carl Heimann and his handsome other half beat me to playing tilt-a-whirl with one of the porta-pottys.'

events that are coming up soon so you can mark them down on your things to do list.

The Mint will once again present the 16th edition of the Great Tricycle Race, and the information on that should be out this weekend, and you can also get more details by calling Stanley at the Mint, 626-4726.

The Courts of San Francisco will present Reno, A Weekend of Elegance and Sleaze, which is the same weekend as the Reno Coronation; \$90 includes bus, booze, hotel, and the whole shebang. There will also be a separate package for those who wish to at-

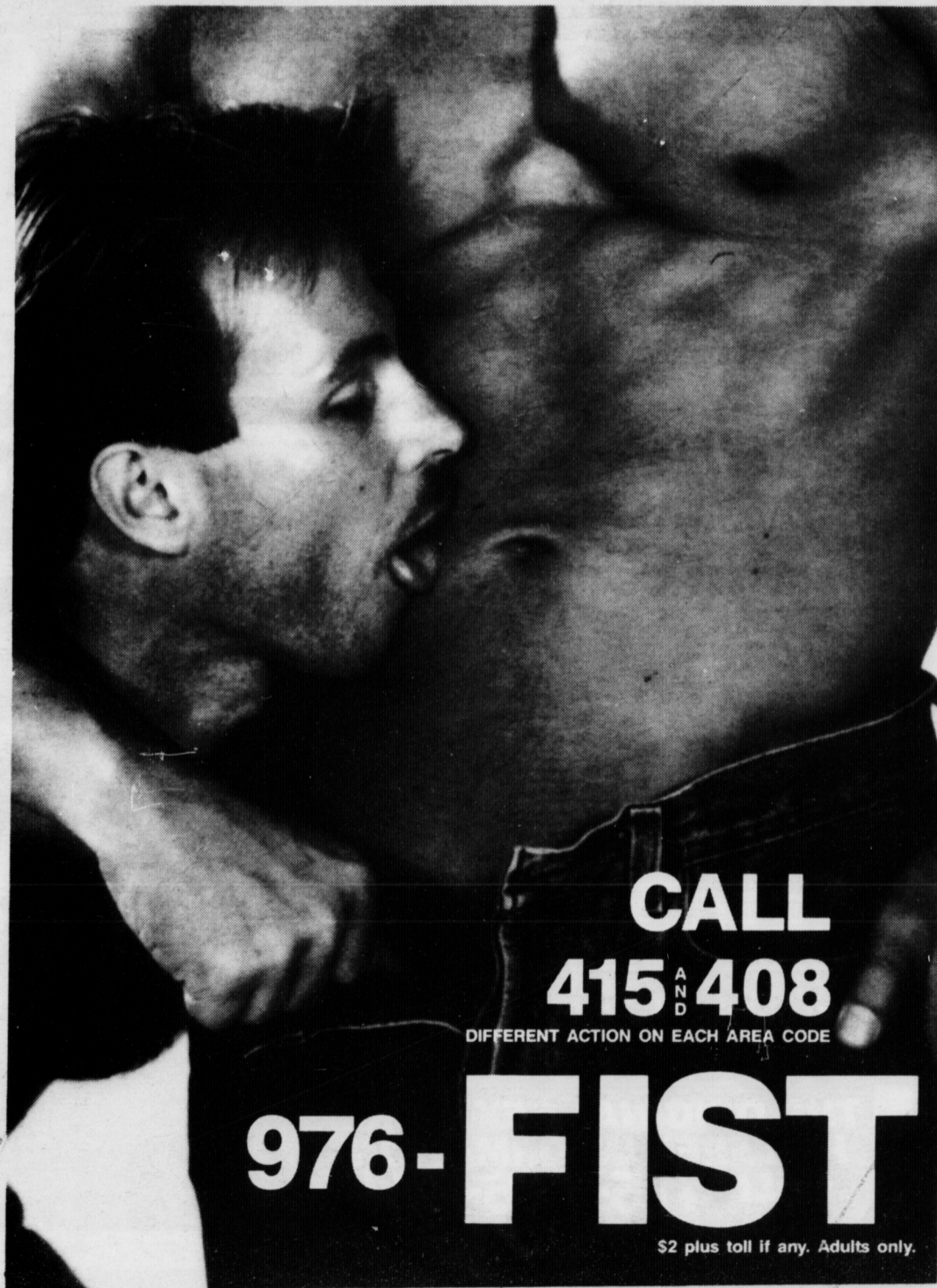
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"We'll be alone in the steamroom."



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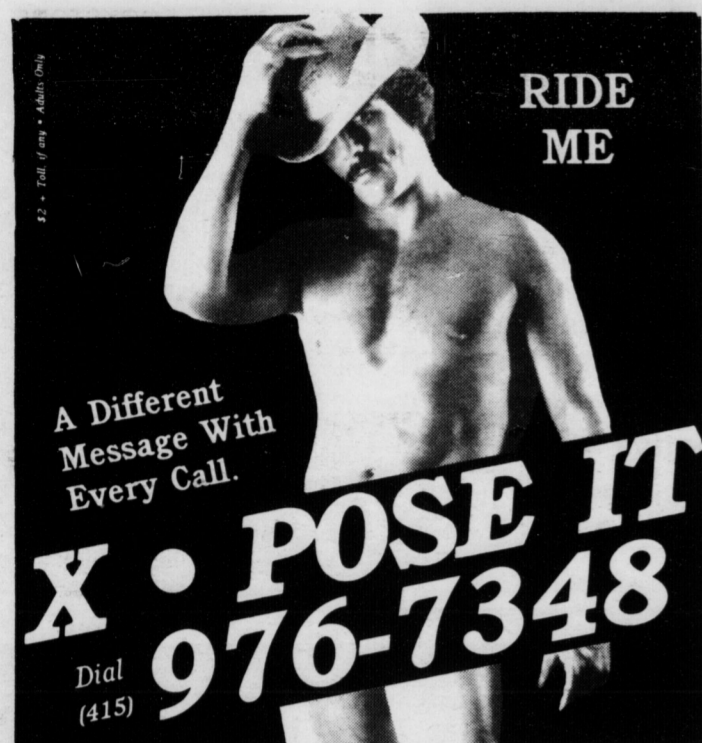


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The thing to do (for insomnia) is to get an opera score and read *that*. That will bore you to death.

—Marilyn Horne, 1959

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Friese

(Continued from previous page)

tend the coronation. The weekend is June 5-7, and the trip does fill up quickly! More info by calling Bruce or Michael at 621-7841.

Also in June the San Francisco Opera will present *Porgy and Bess* from the 24th through July 5, and the opening night will be a benefit for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation with tickets ranging from \$25 to \$1,000. You can get further information by calling 864-3330. It should be a flawless evening!

For those of you who like to travel to Palm Springs, I can tell you that the Hotel Versailles, 228 Camino Monte Vista, (619) 320-2888, has been getting rave reviews. I plan to check it out as soon as I tire of the wonders of Florida.

The next Tavern Guild meeting will be this Tuesday at the Turf Club in Hayward at 1 p.m., and as usual they will have some great surprises planned for everyone.

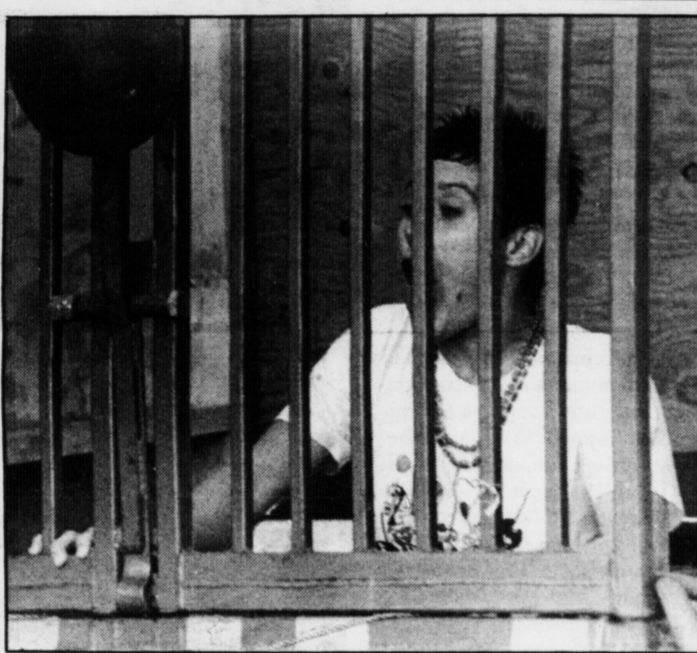
Welcome home to Perry and Al, the poor guys had to spend three weeks in Hawaii, and most likely hated every minute of it.

My thanks to Michael at the Rawhide who made my evening extra nice.

Until I regale you with stories of Florida, I'll just mosey along.



He arose (He arose) He arose (He arose) Hallelujah... (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)



Dunk a... at Carnival '87 at the Cafe San Marcos Easter Sunday (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Karl's Calendar

THURSDAY 4/23
Bare Chest Contest, S.F. Eagle, 10 p.m.

FRIDAY 4/24
Dancing Cheek To Cheek, Trocadero Transfer, 6:30-9:30 p.m., \$6 admission, doors open 5:30 p.m., featuring City Swing with Gail Wilson and San Francisco Tap Troupe.

Welcome New Bartender Michael Bowman, party, Kimo's, 8 p.m.-2 a.m.

Physique '87 Team Beer Bust, S.F. Eagle, 8-11 p.m., \$7.

SATURDAY 4/25
Bloody Mary Party, Pilsner Inn, 6 a.m.-2 p.m., every Saturday and Sunday, \$2.50, hosts Ron and Olin.

Constantine MC 500 Mile Ride, depart Watering Hole 9 a.m., return Sunday afternoon, \$40 donation includes lodging and dinner cruise.

Muff's Morning Movie, Men's Room, 10:30 a.m., host Mark.

Candi del Rey Bazzaz '87 Show, Kimo's, showtimes 10 p.m. and 12 a.m., \$3.

SUNDAY 4/26
Memorial Social for Bill Wallace (Juanita), The Special, 12-2 p.m.

Force 5 Palo Alto Benefit Beer Bust, S.F. Eagle, 3-6 p.m., \$7. Compiled by Dieder

Opera AIDS Benefit

The San Francisco Opera Company will hold an opening-night gala benefit for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation June 24. The opera will be *Porgy and Bess*, and tickets range from \$25 (rear balcony) to \$125 (preferred orchestra) to \$200 (box seat) to \$1,000 (sponsor box seat). Tickets are available now at the Opera box office, BASS, STBS, and all leading agencies. You can charge by phone (Visa, MasterCard Mon-Sat. 10-6) by calling 864-3330.

WhoWhatWhenWhereWhyWho

1987 Gay Pride Concert

The Ninth Annual Gay Musical Celebration will be produced by the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco.

The concert's single performance will take place at 8 p.m. on Friday, June 26, at the First Congregational Church on Post and Mason streets in San Francisco. In keeping with the traditional celebratory spirit of the event, a variety of local musical groups will be showcased.

This year marks the first time that the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco will host the concert. New Musical Director Pat Parr and the members of the LGCSF are eagerly looking forward to the most exciting Gay Pride concert ever.

The LGCSF is holding a contest for concert poster, program and set design. For information call 861-3509.

Ed. Note: This corrects an erroneous item about the concert in the issue of 4/9/87.

Arab Outreach

Mediterranean Lesbians and Gays welcomes people with roots in any of the countries bordering the region but especially those of Algerian, Egyptian, Jordanian, Lebanese, Libyan, Moroccan, Palestinian, Syrian or Tunisian ancestry to explore and celebrate the rich cultural heritage of the Mediterranean region and to promote peace and understanding among its diverse peoples. For more information write MLC, Box 14051, San Francisco, CA 94114 or call Nikos at 775-6143 between 11 a.m. and 11 p.m.

Fill the Stage!

Open auditions are being held for performers to fill the stage at the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Celebration. Auditions will be on May 2 from noon to 4 p.m. at Ollie's (4130 Telegraph Ave., Oakland) and May 3 from noon to 4 p.m. at the Baybrick Inn (1190 Folsom, at 8th, S.F.).

All performers in our community are encouraged to prepare approximately seven-minutes worth of material, to bring a tape of their work, a photo, a resume, and a statement of their motivation for wanting to perform at the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Celebrations.

Our goal this year is to have strong representation of our community's diverse talent on stage as well as in the streets. So bring your music, laughs, talent, and routines to the auditions and let the show begin!

For more information or to inform us of your intent to audition, call 548-3703 or write to Celebration, Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade, 584 Castro #513, San Francisco, CA 94114.

KQED on Single Gender Spaces

Interviews and audience feedback on the issue of single gender spaces and businesses will be the focus on KQED (channel 9) April 29 at 8 p.m. The discussion will center on the lawsuit against The Women's Training Center in San Francisco, and several leading feminists will be featured, and men's rights advocates in the audience will include Fred Hayward, Jed Diamond, Sheppard Bliss, and John Morrison.

Karr

(Continued from page 26)

his deftly personal poems or the sharp observations of his Sentinel column. He's got a playful little chapbook out — little in length, not in content or style. Called *Lives of The Poets*, it's a brightly chipper who's who of poets.

This sometimes sardonic, sometimes sassy, and always soothing look at the woes of an artist's life originated as an anecdote. Abbott explains it succinctly in the book's second paragraph.

"I read biographies. The woes of geniuses and stars cheer me up... A few pages and X moves from agony to greatness; then death, how neatly it ties things up."

It's not that simple, however. "Tiny, unexpected details appeal most," Abbott admits.

In those tiny details, so generously collected in *Lives of The Poets*, Abbott sees what he calls Essential Gestures of a person. In them may be the sum of a person. With wit, concision, and an eye for the odd and revealing juxtaposition, he piles up these erratic and juicy moments of Essential Gesture with the thumbnail bios of — how many? It seems like hundreds of famous lives.

And not just poets. The book opens with a description of a poet of music, Elvis ("He bought wild clothes on the Black side of town for his first concert... He adores mom... He denied he was a drug addict because others shot him up..."). Next to Villon, Genet, HD and Apollinaire, you'll find poet of music Charlie Parker, poet of life Colette, poet of film Charlie Chaplin, and poet of

fashion Frank, a friend of Abbott's who coaxed his grandmother into dyeing her hair blue.

This codex of artistic aspirations, miseries, and deaths is quite as beneficial as Abbott hoped.

"There's nothing like another person's miseries to make you feel good," he told me. He'd been experiencing writer's block and at least had something to do in charting other people's difficulties. When the descriptions proved interesting, he continued.

"In a sense, I'm paying homage to these writers, linking up with artists who have influenced me."

There's also a question he was answering: Is there a moral to a writer's life? Can his work sum up his character? In looking at this, Abbott tries to find those Essential Gestures of a poet's life which may speak of the polarities between himself and the life he was chronicling.

"Writers tend to think of themselves as unique," he said. "We drive ourselves crazy with our uniqueness. But when you put them all together, nobody is that unique."

That's why he includes portions of his daily life and of his friends. "I wanted to look at the whole spectrum," he said.

The sum of this wide-ranging spectrum is a many layered work, which can be read as an elegant People Magazine of the Poor and Woebegone, or as a more serious work in which you can meditate on the juxtapositions of life and incident. You can make it serious, or you don't have to. I didn't, and had a swell time reading it. This ultimate in name dropping, written in an artfully simple and neat style, is \$5 at local bookstores.

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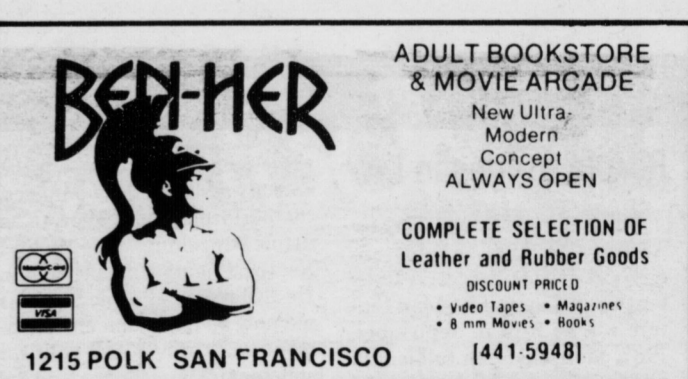
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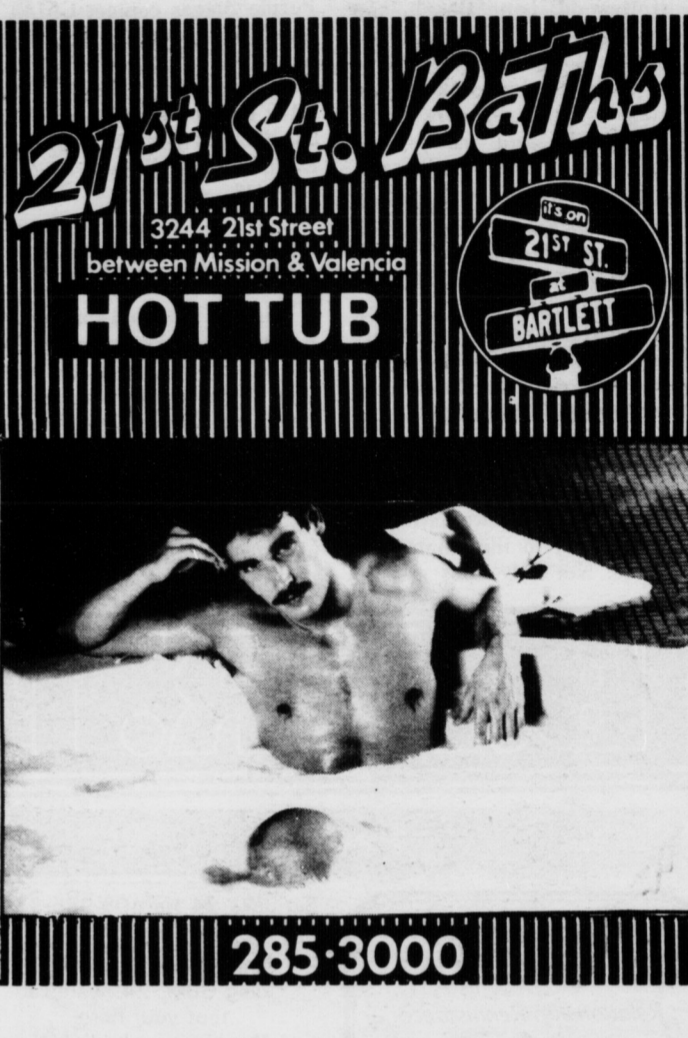
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BAY AREA REPORTER

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Baths Owners Face Jail, Fines

City Sends Private Eyes to Baths; Claims Violation of Court Order

by Allen White and Ray O'Loughlin

Owners of the 21st Street Baths, the last remaining gay bathhouse open in San Francisco, have been ordered to appear before Superior Court Judge Roy Wonder on May 4 to answer charges that they have violated a 1984 court order prohibiting certain sexual acts in their bathhouse. John Acmoody, William Estep and David Anderson face a possible 70 days in jail and \$14,000 in fines if they are found in contempt of court.

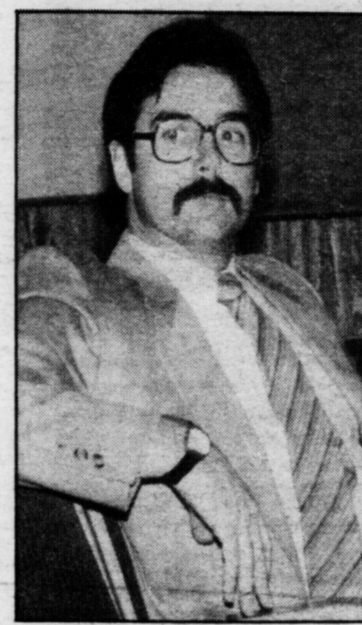
The charges stem from Judge Wonder's 1984 court order specifying the rules under which bathhouses must operate to curtail certain sexual acts contributing to the spread of AIDS. The 21st Street Baths has been accused of not monitoring the behavior of patrons, allowing some to commit high risk sex acts on the premises.

According to court records, the city of San Francisco once again relied on private investigators — the same firm used in the original case — to find evidence of unsafe sex going on in the bathhouse.

Tom Steel, attorney for the bathhouse owners, branded the allegations as "outrageous," "a distortion of the facts," and "gross exaggerations."

The two investigators, Kevin Aiken and Pierre Merkl, came from the Lipset Agency. They visited 21st Street Baths a number of times over a six-month period. Their reports on activities they claim to have witnessed taking place in the bathhouse are filled with lurid detail, extraneous descriptions, and dicey innuendo. They state that at no time did they see any employee of

(Continued on page 2)



'We need to discuss if there should be changes and what kind of changes should be made. Possibly, more monitors are needed. Possibly, a better job should be done of informing people.'

—Attorney Tom Steel
(Photo: Rink)



Peace, Jobs and Justice was the theme of a massive march against U.S. policy in Central America last Saturday. Many gay men and lesbians were among 50,000 marchers. For more details, turn to p. 14. (Photo: Steve Savage)



Only in The Castro. Ken Russell's "uncut boyfriend" solicited chuckles from Herb Caen to Castro clones. (Photo: Scott Martin)

Pope Report: FBI Questions Cromey; Protest Ban Feared

by Charles Linebarger

A minister involved in the preparations for the papal visit protests in September has been questioned by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The Rev. Robert Warren Cromey, rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, told Bay Area Reporter that the FBI recently quizzed him about potential protests which may come up when Pope John Paul II visits San Francisco this fall.

(Continued on page 2)

Bobby Reynolds He Humanized the Politics of AIDS

by Allen White

Bobby Reynolds, a symbol of courage, hope and survival in the AIDS crisis, died Monday morning, April 27, in his San Francisco home. Diagnosed with AIDS in March 1982, he was one of a group of people who chose to publicly fight to bring attention to the disease. He demanded respect with the often repeated phrase "people with AIDS are not victims."

Reynolds' first involvement as an AIDS activist came in June 1982 when he spoke to a group of volunteers at a then relatively unknown group called Shanti. At the time the group met at St. Luke's Hospital and was headquartered in Berkeley.

Shanti executive director Jim Geary remembers, "He was dazed, scattered but oh, so vulnerable. He

wanted so much to serve, teach and help. He sat seemingly naked in a room full of strangers and bared his heart for all to see. He made himself and AIDS real for each of us to learn from and he didn't know what a gift he was giving and how beautifully he shone."

Andrew Lewallen, a Shanti volunteer and a person with AIDS, remembers how Reynolds joined with about 20 other people with AIDS for the first AIDS candlelight march in May 1983. With Gary Walsh and Bobbi Campbell, Reynolds began the very personal crusade exemplified by the banner leading the march which stated "Fighting For Our Lives."

When they began, Lewallen remembers, "We (Continued on page 23)



Bobby Reynolds
(Photo: Rink)

Today

Fantasy: What if a million people show up next September to give their respect for papal bull? Jerry Althoff imagines, page 13.

High Steppin': The S.F.G.F.D.M.B. & T.C. along with other groups head for Broadway musically next weekend. See page 19.

Daddy: Adult adoption is legal and easy in California and stops meddling relatives, says attorney Evander Smith, page 15.