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BAY AREA REPORTER

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Secret Deal For Free Rent At Papal Mass

Candlestick to Get Canvas, Not Cash for Pope's Visit

by Brian Jones

The city of San Francisco is set to buy the ground covering the pope walks on. In return, the city will let Pope John Paul II slide on the rent.

The city Recreation and Park Commission, at its meeting today (Aug. 20), is expected to waive cash rent of \$70,000 for the papal mass on Sept. 18 at Candlestick Park. In return, the Archdiocese of San Francisco is offering to donate the canvas tarp being specially produced to cover the playing field while the pope performs mass.

Details of the contract were kept secret until yesterday — one day before the vote. Park officials refused to discuss the specifics of the trade this week, even though the Park Commission's finance committee reached "general agreement" on the deal at its Aug. 7 meeting.

Official minutes of the Park Commission's finance committee state only that "a discussion was held" about the pope's rent during the Aug. 7 meeting.

However, Park and Rec. Finance Director Ernest Prindle said in an interview, "They discussed it at the Finance Committee and reached general agreement" on the deal.

"We're hoping to have the final contract approved and to the commission on Thursday," Prindle said. "They can act on it at one meeting—it's not like the Board of Supervisors."

(Continued on page 17)

Today

First Class: Duboce Park may be the site for a major memorial to Harvey Milk if a gay architect has his way. Mary Richards has the story, page 3.

Podemos Hablar?: Rain and snow can't stop the U.S. mail but a little sex talk will cancel your stamp. Jay Newquist tells of the latest battle with the P.O., page 14.

For Artie's Sake: David Lamble gives a personal review of the films of the late Artie Bressan, page 27.



John Belskus of Citizens For Medical Justice speaks out against the Doolittle bills at a rally at Castro and Market on Friday, Aug. 14. (Photo: S. Martin)

Doolittle Bills Hit Snags In Assembly Committees

Package Split; Confidentiality Guarantees Saved; 'Sugar Pill' Measures Passed for Anxious Poles

by Ray O'Loughlin

A package of AIDS legislation authored by state Sen. John Doolittle (R-Folsom) ran into some serious road blocks in Assembly committees Tuesday, Aug. 18. The Health Committee sent two bills, including the most threatening measure, to "interim study" and passed a third bill after substantially modifying it. The Public Safety and Judiciary Committees also put off action on other Doolittle bills, probably postponing them until 1988.

(Continued on page 2)

Roger Boas First in a series of interviews with San Francisco mayoral candidates

Playing It Fair and Straight, He's No Mr. Nice Guy

Boas Styles Himself As Tough Manager, Not Politician

by Ray O'Loughlin

Suit coat off, shirt sleeves rolled up, a slight scowl on his face — that's how Roger Boas aims to win friends and influence voters. In an era of easy going, gladhanding politicians, Boas is basing his run for San Francisco mayor on his appeal as no Mr. Nice Guy. "The last thing this city needs is a nice-guy mayor," says the Boas ad that proclaims him "tough enough to keep this city great."

He's impatient with incompetence, hates laziness, despises inactivity and makes waves, according to his promotional literature. His campaign would have voters picture Boas delivering deft karate chops to budgets and even personnel to get the job done on time and under budget.

According to his critics, on the other hand, during his ten years as the city's chief administrative officer (CAO) Roger Boas presided over a massive loss of 30,000 jobs in San Francisco, a decline in its public health services, and the deterioration of the city's infrastructure. Bay Area Reporter

interviewed Boas to see what he believes he has to offer gay and lesbian voters.

FAIR AND STRAIGHT

A third generation San Franciscan, Boas was sworn in as CAO on Jan. 3, 1977 by Mayor George Moscone. Prior to that, he had

served on the Board of Supervisors from 1961 to 1973 and ran unsuccessfully for the 6th. Congressional District seat in 1972.

As CAO, he was in charge of running ten city departments employing 2300 people. His immediate duties included supervising

(Continued on page 23)



"I think the business community realizes that gays bring a lot to the city."

—Roger Boas
(Photo: Steve Savage)

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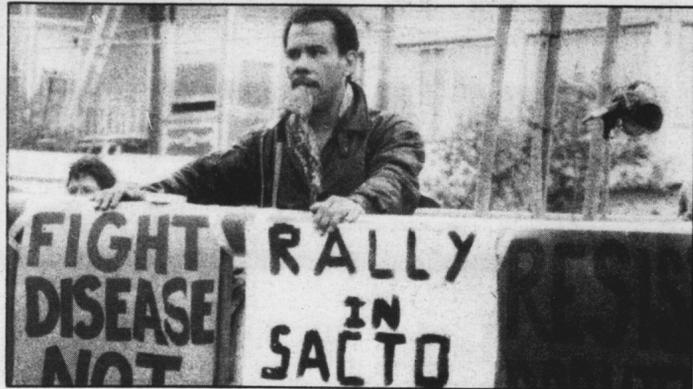
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Gary Harmon of the AIDS/ARC Vigil demanded "mandatory education, not mandatory testing." Harmon spoke at an anti-Sen. Doolittle rally at Castro and Market on Aug. 14. (Photo: Scott Martin)

Doolittle

(Continued from page 1)

The Health Committee voted to pass two measures, S.B. 1001 and S.B. 1008. They now go to the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, possibly next week, and then to the Assembly floor later for final debate and voting. S.B. 1001 provides for HIV testing of marriage license applicants; S.B. 1008 allows for blood donors to designate recipients of their blood.

Both of those bills were rated by Assemblyman Art Agnos, who sits on the Health Committee, as "sugar pills for politicians worried about the next election." He said neither measure would have any "negative effect."

Two other bills — S.B. 1000 and S.B. 1006 — were referred to interim study by the committee which leaves them in legislative limbo. S.B. 1000 "would have wiped out the confidentiality provisions guaranteed by A.B. 403," according to Larry Bush, aide to Agnos, who authored A.B. 403.

Doolittle's legislation would have permitted "routine" HIV testing without consent and required disclosure of test results to public health officials. Only committee action can now revive the bill.

Emotions ran high at one point as one legislator berated a public health officer for testifying that Doolittle's testing proposal was contrary to public health goals. But under intense questioning by Agnos, the inconsistencies of the legislation were brought out. Agnos characterized S.B. 1000 as "destructive to the public health of Californians." He apologized for the remarks of his colleague.

The fourth bill heard by the Health Committee — S.B. 1006 — would have required the testing for HIV among involuntarily committed mental patients. It too was sent to interim study.

The Public Safety Committee, meanwhile, never took up three other Doolittle measures. Those bills would have made it a felony for anyone with AIDS or testing positive to HIV to donate blood (S.B. 1002); would have required the HIV testing of prostitutes (S.B. 1007); and would have added time to prison sentences for sex-related crimes for those who test HIV positive (S.B. 1004).

According to Bush, those three bills are now dead although there is a slight chance that Doolittle can bring them up at a special Public Safety Committee meeting next week.

Another bill, S.B. 1005, which would require the testing of all inmates in state and county jails, was to be heard by the Judiciary

Committee. It was postponed, putting that bill over until the Legislature's next session beginning in January.

Though Doolittle's package has been broken up and substantial opposition came out against his proposals, Agnos said the battle was far from over.

"Clearly, Doolittle is building for the next fight," said the Assemblyman who voted against all of Doolittle's proposals.

Noting that votes on most of the bills were strictly along party lines, Agnos said, "The Democrats showed they were unwilling to be steamrolled by Doolittle. At least for this round, public health arguments won."

He wasn't so sure about the future. "Next time, we may not be able to win," he said.

S.B. 1001, the marriage license bill, was substantially amended to simply state that HIV testing was "offered" to marriage license applicants. The original version had "recommended" testing. The final bill states that anonymous testing is available for those who want it. The bill also guarantees confidentiality of medical records for test results.

S.B. 1008 will permit donor designated blood donations in California. Though part of Doolittle's package, Bush characterized the measure as "not really an AIDS bill."

FDA Approves Vaccine Tests

Limited Trial Starts This Fall

by Allen White

The federal Food and Drug Administration announced Aug. 17 that it has approved the testing of an AIDS vaccine on humans. The vaccine is called VaxSyn and is being developed by MicroGeneSys, a small West Haven, Conn., biopharmaceutical firm. The test program will take more than two years to determine if the vaccine is effective in repelling the AIDS virus.

Tests will begin this October at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, MD, under the supervision of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease. The first group will include 60 gay volunteers who do not carry the AIDS virus. There will also be three heterosexuals. Placebos will be given to 15 gay men and three straight men.

The first year of study will determine only whether the vaccine is safe and whether it produces an antibody response in various doses. A second phase, also lasting a year, will use up to two hundred volunteers and would further test the efficacy

and safety of the vaccine.

The final phase would test whether a specific dose of the vaccine was safe. Possibly several hundred people from across the country would participate in this part of the study.

The vaccine is made up of proteins from the outer coating of the AIDS virus. Though the vaccine cannot cause the disease, people receiving the vaccine will test positive for the HIV virus. Volunteers for the study will be receiving explanatory letters and notarized statements of their falsely positive HIV test.

Word of the need for volun-

teers was quietly spread through the Washington, D.C. gay community before the news was made public on Monday.

Jeff Levi, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force was cautious, yet optimistic about the testing. He told reporters that most gay people have not been infected with the AIDS virus and applauded this first step.

Though several firms have requested approval to begin vaccine testing on humans, the action this week is the first in the United States. Chiron Corporation of Emeryville and Genentech, Inc. of South San Francisco both hope to have approval to begin their own testing before the end of the year. Oncogen, a division of Bristol-Myers Company and George Washington University have also applied for permission to begin human testing.

Locally, many researchers were very cautious. The components of the AIDS virus are such that how a vaccine will work with the body's immune system is simply, according to doctors, unknown at this time.

It has been continually pointed out that there is still no cure for AIDS. "The best vaccine against AIDS continues to be education," one researcher said this week.

New Milk Monument Proposed for Duboce Park

by Mary Richards

A gay architect and a gay sculptor have proposed an alternative tribute to slain Sup. Harvey Milk for Duboce Park. Instead of the controversial mural proposed by artist Johanna Poethig, the two plan to submit a proposal for a sculpture garden area in the park. In part, they say, they were motivated to suggest an alternative by the response given Poethig's mural.

Steven Gray, an architect with Phillip Gordon Gietzen and Assoc., says that Milk deserves better than a mural on a hidden wall of the park recreation center.

Gray described the tribute to Milk that he and sculptor Roger Arvid Anderson are proposing for Duboce Park: "There is a wonderful high hillside, and the idea is to cut into the hillside with three slices lined with stone. The slices would come together and form an equilateral triangle 24-feet on a side. The retaining walls and floor would be flagstone. This would allow a person to go into the hillside and create this place where you could look out from the protection of the hill and be sheltered, and contemplate the figures of Milk."

Three bronze and metal figures by Anderson would be prominently displayed inside the flagstone area. "Roger thought of doing a series of three dedicated to Milk," Gray indicated. "His original idea, one that still holds now, is to do a Pierrot/harlequin-style figure abstract—certainly Milk was known for being in that type of costume at various times. The second would be a fallen warrior with a spear through his heart, representing his politics and his death in City Hall; and the third would be a more realistic version of Milk."

We thought about having the sculptures lit at night so they would sit on the crest of the hill and be aglow.

Anderson's work is currently on display at the Miller Brown Gallery. According to Gray, Anderson has agreed to produce the sculptures at cost if their joint plan is implemented.

THINK FIRST-CLASS

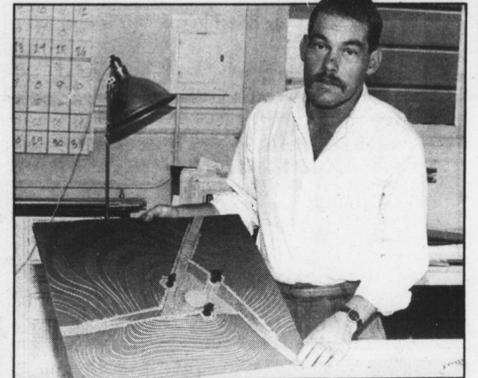
Gray believes that the relocation of the proposed mural to the south side of the Recreation Center further disenfranchises the intent of the tribute to Harvey Milk.

"The original mural was to be on a four-story high wall near a basketball court on the east side of the building. There was enough protest from residents on the north side of the park that the Park board asked that it be moved around to the south side of the buildings which is behind a row of trees and has no seating area. It also may alter the size of the original proposed mural," said Gray.

The mural location was "really chosen so as not to offend anyone," he said. "It begins to anger several of us that they would have this proposed art that has to be shuffled around, and finally put on the worst side of the building. It seems like a silly way to pay tribute to somebody as important as Harvey Milk."

Gerald Adams, a 17-year resident of the Duboce Park area, agrees. Adams points out that, "Now we have this very exciting proposal for sculptures and nobody has had a chance to look at that, weigh that and see the possibilities for creating a really wonderful, lasting memorial to Harvey Milk, which would be in my opinion far more appropriate to a park setting than the mural."

Adams elaborated on his feelings about the sculpture pro-



Architect Steven Gray. (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)



The proposed site for a sculpture of Harvey Milk.

posal. "We're talking a major figure here, a person who's nationally famous, and someone who is really deserving of a permanent memorial. I don't know where you get off thinking that

this person ought to be just given a tribute in the form of some mural that looks as lightweight as this. Why don't we think first-class?"

Steven Gray is adamant in his

feelings about the complexity of the issues which are involved if the proposed mural receives approval. "I want to stress that although I don't personally like the style of the mural, there were other trigger points about this process which has happened that bother me and several other people," said Gray. "One is that this mural has been shuffled around because nobody really wants it, especially the residents around the park."

Gray didn't think that had any-

thing to do with the subject material of the mural. "I think it's the style of the mural that's creating this controversy. The other thing is I've never been aware that the idea of doing a tribute to Milk was put out to the public forum, especially the gay artistic forum, to solicit other ideas, if indeed a tribute was going to be made."

The San Francisco Art Commission was scheduled to evaluate both Poethig's and Gray's proposals at its Aug. 19 meeting.

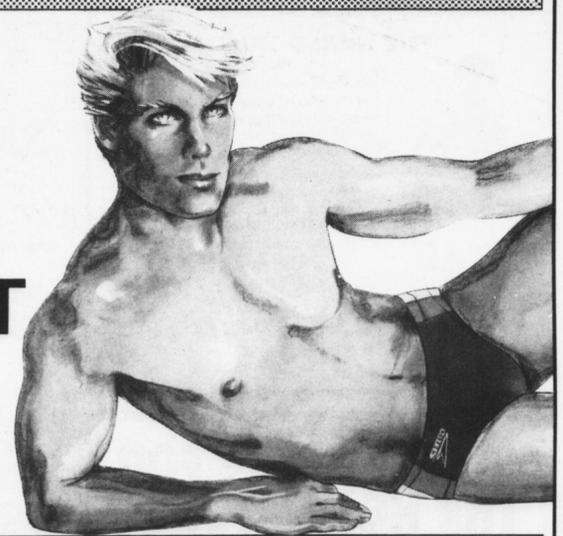
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Mayor Guides Porting Plan Through Choppy Waters

Britt Rejects Maher Compromise on Rights; Admiral Apologizes For Angry Remarks

by Tim Taylor

By a razor thin 6-to-5 vote the Board of Supervisors last Monday (Aug. 17) narrowly approved an agreement between the city of San Francisco and the U.S. Navy that moves one step closer toward making San Francisco the permanent home of the USS Missouri. During weeks of heavy political maneuvering leading up to the vote, the Navy was compelled to agree to language setting forth standards of nondiscrimination in civilian hirings. But Sup. Harry Britt condemned the final wording as wholly inadequate in protecting the civil rights of lesbians, gay men and people who show signs of infection with the AIDS virus.

Voting to approve the berthing of the USS Missouri were Supervisors Jim Gonzalez, Tom Hsieh, Willie Kennedy, Bill Maher, John Molinari and Wendy Nelder.

Opposing the USS Missouri were Supervisors Harry Britt, Richard Hongisto, Carol Ruth Silver, Doris Ward and Nancy Walker.

Emotions were running high during the homeporting debate and some supervisors were heckled by the standing-room-only crowd. Mayor Dianne Feinstein illustrated her personal stake in the outcome by invoking a rarely used privilege of sitting as a nonvoting member of the board and joining the deliberations.

The mayor was determined to avoid a repeat of the board's decision at the previous meeting (Aug. 3), to postpone consideration of the agreement until a stronger antidiscrimination policy could be agreed upon.

During the two weeks following that delay, numerous discussions were held to craft language that the Navy would approve. With the mayor's approval, Maher submitted an amendment stating "The Navy and the City and County of San Francisco expressly intend to provide equal civil rights for all citizens and oppose all discrimination not directly related to job ability or job performance."

He further added that employees with AIDS, AIDS-related Conditions (ARC) or HIV infection would have their diagnosis treated solely as a "medical condition."

SABOTAGE BY MAYOR?

Britt rejected Maher's wording outright, saying that it left habits of lesbians and gay men and conduct background investigations far in excess of those done for straight employees.

Britt also likened the treatment of people with AIDS as a "medical condition" as legally meaningless. He recalled that the LaRouche quarantine amendment used a similar rationale.

Moreover, at a press briefing three days before the vote, Britt charged that negotiations he was conducting with the Navy, together with civil rights attorney Matthew Coles, were on the verge of winning unprecedented concessions when his talks with high Pentagon officials were sabotaged by the mayor.

According to Britt, the decision two weeks ago to delay consideration of the agreement until stronger protections could be developed had given the Board of Supervisors an unprecedented opportunity to force the Navy to accept a standard of legal conduct more in line with city ordinances.

Such voluntary compliance by the Navy to local ordinances was legal according to deputy city at-



Sup. Harry Britt, arguing against the U.S. Missouri's homeporting in the Bay Area. (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

orney Mark Kertz, since it would not violate existing federal laws. Kertz noted that in the absence of federal prohibitions, the Navy had wide-ranging powers in negotiating local contracts and the agreement voted on by the supervisors included a section to give local police jurisdiction within the military reservation. Such local oversight of a federal military compound was such an illustration of the Navy's discretion, Kurtz said.

IN THE BAG

The Navy's high level of interest in the docking facilities at Hunter's Point, coupled with the get-tough stance of the supervisors two weeks ago gave Britt the opportunity he was seeking.

With Coles as his representative, Britt used the hiatus to talk with military officials and, "in a quiet, nonpolitical way use the leverage to get the Navy to take some steps protecting the rights of lesbians and gay men."

According to Coles and Britt, the pressure on the Navy was yielding concessions and that "we were hearing things from the Navy we never heard before." But, he said, the "efforts came to a halt when somebody somewhere said that six votes were present" to approve the agreement with Maher's weaker language.

Britt's not-too-subtle reference was to the mayor and Maher, both of whom Britt charged had assured the Navy that further concessions to the gay supervisor were unnecessary since the votes were in the bag.

Hongisto was moved by Britt's remarks to offer a further amendment that stated "gay and lesbian people will not be treated any differently from any other group," but his motion was defeated by the same 6-5 vote that later approved the overall agreement.

SODOM AND GOMORRAH

During the last two weeks, Navy Rear Admiral Robert Toney took a high-profile public relations campaign into the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhoods, openly appealing to the predominantly black community to support the expanded naval facility. His efforts were later endorsed by officials of the NAACP and former Sup. Tony Francois.

In a weekend interview with the Oakland Tribune, Toney called Missouri opponents on the board "petty supervisors who have nothing but their own petty interests in mind." He further said that a rejection of the Missouri would be "the beginning of the great decline of America, the beginning of Sodom and Gomorrah right here in San Francisco, led by Harry Britt."

Toney the next day offered a letter of apology to the board for his "off-the-cuff" remarks that had been printed. Without retracting the content of his comments, Toney explained, "My remarks may best be understood in the context of my frustration at the seemingly endless debate over the homeporting of the Missouri in San Francisco." He said

(Continued on page 18)

Airline To Demand Medical Statement From Passengers

People With AIDS Must Have Doctor's Note To Prove They're Able To Travel

by Allen White

Investigations are currently being made against Northwest Orient airlines by the San Francisco District Attorney and National Gay Rights Advocates for discrimination against people with AIDS. The airline has denied that it has a policy of discrimination, but it is now being challenged on its latest procedure for handling people with AIDS.

According to Redmond Tyler, a spokesperson for Northwest Orient airlines, "The determination of whether a person with AIDS will be allowed to fly will be made at the time they depart." He said that employees have been instructed only to be concerned with the ability of the passenger to make the trip safely.

"I don't believe a person walks up to a ticket counter and says, 'I have AIDS,' but 'I want to buy a ticket,'" commented Tyler.

Last week the airline's policy was challenged by Leonard Matlovich, 43, who was diagnosed with AIDS last September. He tried to buy an airline ticket at the San Francisco Airport but was refused by a Northwest ticket seller.

Their directive not to sell Matlovich a ticket came in an employee memo dated Aug. 5. It said the airline would not "transport a passenger who is known to have a contagious disease." The memo continued, "Northwest Orient has been advised that AIDS is a contagious disease, and therefore, will not knowingly transport an AIDS sufferer."

Matlovich had earlier been refused a ticket on the airline for his flight to the March On Washington in October. He is now suing.

"I am not going to comment on Leonard Matlovich," said Tyler. "He can do what he wants to do and let him litigate it in the courts."

Ken McPherson, a leader in Mobilization Against AIDS, told the Northwest ticket seller that he was gay, placing him in a high risk group, and could possibly have AIDS. He was also refused a ticket on the airline.

The new policy which was quickly adopted last Friday states that the airline requires a person with AIDS to provide a doctor's statement "that certifies the customer is medically fit to undertake the journey and does not pose a health risk to other passengers."

NOT GOOD ENOUGH

A call to a Northwest Orient airline ticket seller by the Bay Area Reporter determined that they expect people with AIDS to volunteer the information regarding their diagnosis. The ticket seller said that if a person has AIDS they must tell the airlines and they must get a doctor's statement. The person acknowledged that they could do nothing if the person doesn't state that they have the disease.

That response is not good enough for Leonard Matlovich, and many other gay activists. Matlovich notes that many people with AIDS may, in fact, be able to fly without detection. "What about a person who has visible lesions? They cannot transmit the disease and yet they are being discriminated against," Matlovich said.



Ken McPherson (Photo: Rink)

Benjamin Schatz, an attorney with the National Gay Rights Advocates is also critical of the policy. "They're treating AIDS as equivalent to other communicable diseases, which it is not. It is an outrageous violation of a person's privacy to get a note from a doctor stating the medical obvious."

It may also be a violation of the laws of San Francisco. Last Monday, Sup. John Molinari introduced a resolution before the Board of Supervisors asking District Attorney Arlo Smith to investigate the airline for violation of the laws in San Francisco which pro-



Leonard Matlovich (Photo: Rink)

hibit discrimination against people who have AIDS. The airline has two ticket offices in San Francisco and leases space at the San Francisco Airport.

The National Gay Rights Advocates confirmed that they are now researching the merits of a case against Northwest Orient. NGRA is considering representing Matlovich.

The incident last week with Matlovich is not the first time

Northwest has refused a person with AIDS.

Last month, the airline refused to fly an AIDS patient from China to his home in Columbus, Ohio. He was finally brought home on an Air Force plane after many delays and died a week later. The trip cost his family \$40,000.

Dr. Thomas Peters, associate director of San Francisco's Public Health Department, is also critical of the airline policy. "We don't need our airlines to be medical directors," he said. "Refusing AIDS patients or requiring them to present special documentation is just a disaster. It represents a misunderstanding of what the risk is."

"These are people in the final days of their lives. They are dealing with fundamental issues. They are going home, going to friends and seeing things for the last time. To use that moment to embarrass them or make them feel even more distant from other passengers, is inappropriate and unnecessary," said Peters. He again stressed that AIDS is not spread through casual contact.

A disgusted Leonard Matlovich said, "We must make sure no other transporter will try the same thing. We have to fight this in its infancy."

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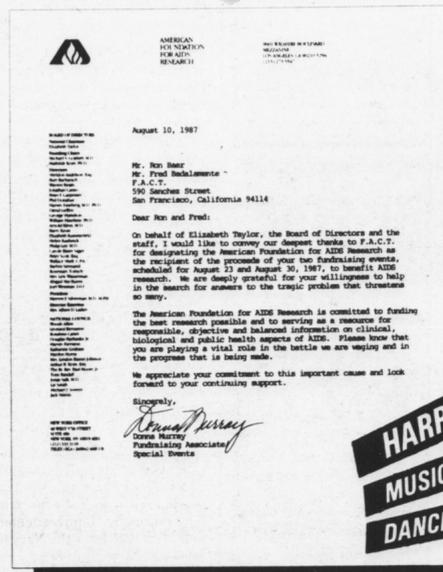
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1528 15th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
TELEPHONES
(415) 861-5019/861-7230

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NEWS EDITOR
Ray O'Loughlin
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Steve Savage
CARTOONIST
David Brady
AUDITOR/ACCOUNTANT
Robert J. Derr, C.P.A.

CONTRIBUTORS

Kim Anno, Les Balmain, Philip Campbell, Mark I. Chester, Jerry R. De Young, Gregory Douthwaite, Wayne Friday, Mark Friese, Hal Herkenhoff, George Heymont, Michael Hippler, Frank J. Howell, John Karr, Larry Kim, Gerard Koskovich, Mister Marcus, David-Alex Nahmod, Jay Newquist, Nez Pas, Ed Power, Paul Reed, Mary Richards, Joy Schulenburg, Marv. Shaw, Tim Taylor, Rick Thoman, Paul Trefzger, Tom Vindeed, Dick Walters, Lauren Ward, Steve Warren, Allen White, Keith White, Bob Woolhouse

CCU

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

Blow the Whistle on Violence

It's summertime and the livin' is easy. Well, that's how the song goes, anyway. Summer is the time to slow down, kick back, enjoy sunny days at the beach — or foggy days at the beach, as the case may be. But, of course, it ain't necessarily so. For the lesbian and gay community, summertime too often means a rise in street assaults, a time to be extra careful.

This summer seems hotter than most out there on the street. That seems to be the case not only here in San Francisco but across the nation as well. Los Angeles has seen a rise in reports of violent street attacks and the National Lesbian and Gay Task Force, which monitors violence, says it's happening in cities all over the U.S.

During the three months between mid-April and mid-July, the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center of Los Angeles recorded 51 incidents of anti-lesbian and anti-gay assault. A number of them included beatings and the use of weapons.

In San Francisco, Community United Against Violence (CUAV) reports that violent incidents are on the rise, increasing by 38 percent during 1987 compared to the first half of 1986. Moreover, their figures show an increase in the severity of attacks. Three times as many victims required extensive medical attention. Not only are we facing more street assaults, but the vehemence of our attackers is also on the rise.

It is not a case of just more of the same. We're seeing a qualitative shift in the kind of violence, with more armed attacks, and in the deliberate determination of assailants to do serious physical damage. It's not just hassles on the street we're talking about. It's life threatening, brutal assault.

Why this escalation in the war against gay people? In part there has been an escalation of violence throughout the U.S. recently as exemplified in the much publicized freeway shootings in Los Angeles. Americans have also long been known as a violent people preferring to solve their problems with a punch in the face to more rational or complicated methods.

Certainly, Ronald Reagan's glib, simple-minded approach to issues has encouraged that style of "problem solving." Rambo, Oliver North,



(Photo: Rink)

freeway shootings, beat up the queers — it all begins to make sense when you see the pattern. And of course, Reagan and his Right wing pals haven't encouraged any sympathy or support for gays and lesbians. There is a logic to this mayhem.

If you see the use of violence as a pervasive factor in American life, then the burden of countering this problem falls squarely on such institutions as schools and churches. Both are an intimate part of the problem. They could and should be part of the solution.

With the churches, there is not much we can do. They've chosen to preach hate and bigotry instead of peace and understanding. They've fortified their closed minds with hard hearts.

But the situation with the public schools is different. We call upon the schools to deal with violence against us as part of combating the totality of our violent society. Since many of the perpetrators of the attacks on gay people come from the schools, that would seem the logical place to begin to challenge this mentality of violence. The San Francisco public schools have pioneered a program of gay and lesbian speakers in the classrooms. That needs to be expanded and beefed up.

In the meantime, follow CUAV's advice to be wary; carry and use your whistle to ward off attackers; respond when you hear a whistle; and report all incidents to the police. Fully documenting the record is our best weapon to use to get action on our concerns.

Ray O'Loughlin

OPINION

AIDS Is Not a Crime

An open letter to State Sen. John Doolittle
by Terry Beswick and Carol Leigh, Citizens for Medical Justice

Senator John T. Doolittle, you have thus far won some major victories with your colleagues in the California Senate chambers. You have succeeded in passing a series of bills through the Senate which you have presented as part of the struggle against the deadly AIDS virus.

These bills would basically (1) repeal the confidentiality of AIDS antibody testing; (2) require mandatory testing of certain groups; and (3) penalize people with AIDS with criminal prosecution.

At face value, each bill must seem, to the lay person, like practical measures to stop the spread of AIDS. However, all of the bills are simply negative bills which do little or nothing to curb the spread of AIDS. Rather, they persecute individuals who have no voice with which to defend themselves. None of these bills show compassion or humanity for people who have been infected with AIDS.

Compare your bills with AB87, by Assemblymember Art Agnos. AB87 incorporates recommendations made by the U.S. Surgeon General, the National Academy of Sciences, and other experts in the field. Agnos has presented a constructive and positive bill, which the Senate will be voting on soon.

Your entire package of legislation appeals to the hysterical inclinations of an ignorant reactionary, ignores recommendations of trained health professionals, seeks to politicize the deaths of innocent people, and persecutes individuals who have already suffered and people who will already be punished for any "crimes" they have committed by an unjust penal system.

We are asking our legislators to consider the following additional aspects of each "Doolittle bill":

SB 1000 (Repeal of confidentiality): This bill is entirely inconsiderate of the recommendations of health experts. It would prove simply unenforceable as it drives people with AIDS away from treatment and strips them of their civil rights. People would rise up in mass opposition.

SB 1001 (Criminalizing knowingly donating possibly AIDS-tainted blood): All blood is currently screened for AIDS antibodies. This virtually eliminates the chance of infection through transfusions. But the real issue is: Why does this bill not address the cause of this potential problem? Why would a person who knows they are infected go in to donate blood? The answer is: They are not donating blood; they are

selling it. They are desperate for money to pay for food, shelter and medical care in a society that does not provide for their sick and their rejected. The bill is an inflammatory attempt to portray people with AIDS as would-be murderers. It represents a hidden agenda by Doolittle, and is simply counter-productive.

SB 1004 (Penalizing convicted sex offenders infected with AIDS): Willful transmissions are already punishable crimes. No one has the right to endanger anyone's life. Rape is a terrible crime. Criminal laws already exist to cover these. But the sex crimes covered in this bill could include victimless crimes and activities that involve no contact. Adding three years to a penalty would not be helpful to any party. Anti-rape activists stress the need for prevention and reform, not punishment. This bill represents more hysteria.

SB 1005 (Mandatory testing of State prisoners): Education, condoms and bleach are desperately needed in prisons and county jails. Bleach is no longer even allowed in prison laundries for fear prisoners might clean their needles to inject drugs smuggled in by guards, thus preventing the spread of AIDS. This bill would legitimize the current system of testing and quarantine in which those with no legal recourse are deprived of their rights. Is this an attempt to cut down on the surplus prison population by allowing them to die?

SB 1006 (Testing and quarantine of mental patients with AIDS): Laws already exist to restrict dangerous patients. However, most patients who are infected pose no danger to other patients and should not be restricted based on antibody status. In addition, current treatments and confinement within the mental health system are applied in a discriminatory manner against poor people, people of color, and women.

SB 1007 (Mandatory testing and penalization of prostitutes): Prostitutes have been a consistent target of legislative scape-goating, criminalizing consensual adult behavior and infringing on the civil rights of prostitutes and their customers. Research done by the Association for Women and AIDS Research and other groups indicates that an overwhelming majority of prostitutes engage in safe practices with their clients. Education must be the answer, particularly when dealing with a profession which is currently not legal and thus not subject to licensing and regulation, as it is in some other countries.

These bills are destructive and punitive. These bills are evidence of an inherently vicious desire to use the epidemic to further your political agenda, which was very much in evidence well before AIDS ever provided you with a stage. Senator Doolittle, do less. AIDS is not a crime. We do hope that we are able to stop these bills through reason. We fear that public protest may be the only way left open to us to draw attention to the irresponsibility of your efforts.

LETTERS

Exit VISA

★ With my latest VISA statement, I received a copy of the newsletter, Independence One News, v. 1, no. III (copy enclosed). The opening article reports that my VISA company will be making a donation to the U.S. Olympic Committee for each VISA transaction during two specified six-month periods, July-Dec. 1987 and April-Sept. 1988. I was appalled at this decision, particularly because I had already made a purchase in July and has thus inadvertently contributed to the U.S. Olympic Committee.

I have written to my VISA Customer Service Center (copy of letter enclosed) and protested their making automatic donations to the USOC, based on my VISA transactions. I am bringing this activity to the attention of other Bay Area residents, gay or otherwise, who might not be aware that their own VISA purchases might be used to help make donations to the USOC. Others may also be moved to enquire whether their particular VISA company is supporting this activity and to take appropriate action if it turns out to be the case.

Ed Glazier
Stanford

Shocking And Distasteful

★ The following letter was sent to the Director of the Blood Bank of the Redwoods in Santa Rosa following their refusal to draw blood from lesbian biker groups in Guerneville:

Ms. Cathy Bryan, Director
Blood Bank of the Redwoods
2324 Bethards Drive
Santa Rosa, CA

Your decision to deny lesbians the opportunity to donate blood during their event in Guerneville, as reported by the Marin Independent Journal of Aug. 13, is shocking and most distasteful to any physician and especially to the lesbian and gay community. We wish to express this indignation in the strongest possible terms.

As a blood banker of many years and one who has studied the epidemiology of AIDS since its inception, I find your action to be outrageously homophobic and unrealistic. You should know that lesbian women constitute perhaps the lowest risk group of all for AIDS transmission. You should also realize that precautions concerning blood drawing in "high risk" areas were promulgated because of the possibility of false negative reactions in blood drawn from high risk groups, including gay men (not women). Because of the high prevalence of AIDS in gay men, lesbians have attempted to compensate for the lack of their blood previously generously donated to blood banks. This is a highly commendable goal and should be encouraged. In any event, their blood will be screened for HIV as are all donations. For you to refuse to accept their blood donations as a service to mankind is perhaps the most damaging, homophobic reaction I have observed in any medical activity.

I sincerely hope that wiser heads will prevail and you will reconsider this ill-advised decision.

W. L. Warner, M.D.
President, Bay Area Physicians
for Human Rights
San Francisco

Setting Chester Straight

★ I came across Mark I. Chester's review in the Bay Area Reporter of Gay Comix #9 and #10, in the July 9 issue. I was grateful that someone finally reviewed my own "Poppers" since it has not been reviewed once to my knowledge in the gay media since its release some months ago. While it is less than a glowing review, at the risk of understatement, Mr. Chester is welcome to his opinions.

However, I feel I should set Mr. Chester straight on some points regarding "Poppers" which he seems misguided about, and sadly, set to print. One point involves what seems to be an incomplete sentence "But it is Mills' during the 1970s that makes Poppers work, not to mention funny." I don't know what this sentence was meant to say as it is unreadable, but Poppers was never drawn in the 1970s, nor is it set in this era. I started the strip in 1982, and the gay lifestyle prevalent in the 1970s was still quite in evidence at this time (as decades never end and dried). I appreciate the compliment on my humor, however.

As for the character Andre de Lafayette, his black accent is no invention of any innate bigotry on my behalf which Chester seems to interpret. Andre is based on an actual person that I know who talks with these inflections. He, by the way, is quite amused with my portrayal, and I find he, and Andre, to be both wise and loving gentlemen. Strange, too, that Chester finds Gay Comix to be "white-bread," yet when some comic character acts black, Chester finds offense.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.
Timothy R. Wolfred
Executive Director
S.F. AIDS Foundation
(and)
Erik Nielsen (for)
Dick Collier, Jr., Owner,
Troadero Transfer
San Francisco

cannot be tackled without walking a fine line between bad taste and aversion. Yet I surely had to tackle the subject as Billy was originated as a promiscuous character, or else be found irresponsible.

Contrary to what Chester sees from me as being an "underlying" message that Billy can no longer be sexually crazy and free in this era of AIDS, I fully intend to keep Billy a sexually active person, but of course, using safe techniques. Nor do I intend to marry Billy off as an answer to responsible sex in the 1980s, because it does not serve my plot devices at this time. Contrary to my having "thought and internalized straight society's homophobia and moralizing on AIDS," quite the opposite is true. I truly believe that having sexual freedom and choice is one of gay liberation's finest and most important victories, among others, and I'll be damned if I will let morality and guilt over one of nature's unbiased assaults influence my observed beliefs about mankind—that belief being, temporary impasses aside, we will always need to celebrate and laugh, and seek sexual unions, as the same unbiased nature impels us to do. That AIDS is spread through that very sexual union is an unfortunate irony that illustrates nature's ambivalence. I, in one strip, have Andre say something to this extent about life weighing larger than death, and this, Mr. Chester, is closer to my true underlying message.

Finally, in defense of Gay Comix in general, the editorial is striving to represent and address many factions, political as well as sexual, which, no doubt will always please some and alienate others. Even the "bombshell" Chester would rather see would find someone to offend. Hell, we overworked cartoonists just want to make people laugh, not move words—that can only be a happy by-product!

Jerry Mills
North Hollywood

Real Macho

★ This letter was sent to The San Francisco Chronicle:

It walks! It talks! It itails! It moans! The fagbaiting NFL linebacker that screams when they call him a fag. What's the matter, Cousineau? Dish it out, but you can't take it? I've got news for you, buddy: Those of us who like ourselves don't care about your sex life. Just play football and shut up. You made this bed. Now lie in it. With anyone you choose.

Incidentally — you can take it from a real faggot: You'll get used to the taunts in time. You just have to learn to take them like a man.

John Dibelco
San Francisco

Misunderstanding At The Troc

★ Last Sunday, Aug. 9, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation hosted a thank you party for participants in the AIDS Walk. The event took place at the Trocadero Transfer.

The confusion at the end of the otherwise successful event was due to an unfortunate misunderstanding between the Foundation and Trocadero regarding hours of the party.

To remain economically viable, the Trocadero is available for rental to private parties on nights it would otherwise be closed. There is no discrimination in rental practices; it would be illegal to do so.

When the Foundation rented the Trocadero on the night in question, they were aware of the fact that another event had been booked from 9 p.m. on, and all bids and contracts reflected this restriction. Subsequent conversations indicated that guests at the Walk party would probably be allowed to remain after 9 p.m. Trocadero's understanding was that the matter was still to be decided.

The invitations that were sent stating that the party would continue past 9 p.m. were printed by the Foundation, and Trocadero was not aware of the discrepancy until the night of the event. Both the Foundation and Trocadero deeply regret the unfortunate occurrence at the end of the event when a number of accusations and threats were made against Trocadero and its management.

The fact that this incident occurred during a recognition event for the participants in one of the most successful AIDS fundraisers of the decade makes it doubly regrettable. It was clearly the intention of the Trocadero to have this party reinforce the spectacular achievement of the participants of the AIDS Walk.

It is especially important during this difficult times to maintain support for our mutual and individual efforts to fight AIDS and serve the community; the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and Trocadero Transfer remain united in this endeavor.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Timothy R. Wolfred
Executive Director
S.F. AIDS Foundation
(and)
Erik Nielsen (for)
Dick Collier, Jr., Owner,
Troadero Transfer
San Francisco

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LETTERS

The Reagan Legacy

★ This letter was sent to Pres. Ronald Reagan:

Dear Mr. Reagan:

I am a home care volunteer for Most Holy Redeemer Support Group in San Francisco, California. During the past five months I have volunteered two mornings a week to take care of people with AIDS. I have become immersed in their loss, their pain, their shock, and eventually their deaths. I have met their families who are equally in pain.

Besides my clients I have come to know the following people: Al Vorse, Ernie MacDonald, Dutch Garcia, Fred Nowakowski, David McManus, Daniel Bova, John Brinson, Tom Castro, and many others through various community groups too numerous to mention, but there is a need to mention them. Some have been my lovers and some have been close friends, all have died within the last six years.

The time has come that I can no longer be silent about their deaths. You must know of their lives; their families and friends, who are left behind without a clue as to why? You have stated that "the buck stops here." Well, what are you doing for the rest of the people still alive, who are suffering from AIDS and AIDS-Related Complex? It's too late for those who have died—30,000 of them—DEAD! Are you still going to pretend they don't exist or matter?

The record will show your inaction ten years from now. Each President leaves his own legacy—What will be yours?

You have the opportunity to get the wheels turning. A direct command from you will cut red tape to smithereens! Release the experimental drugs for those inflicted! Spend the millions of dollars which are already allocated within the NIH! Shake up the bureaucracy! You have stated that your advisors should not keep the President in the dark—come out of the darkness yourself! Put down the shade of morality and righteousness you wear and let your light as a fellow human being shine!

We are not Republican, nor Democrat, nor Christian, nor Muslim, nor rich, nor poor, nor straight, nor gay. We, the universal "we" are human beings, first and foremost.

Let's put down the fight for right and wrong. Let's unite in the battle to save lives, prevent disease and heal the planet! Oh, what a legacy that would be in the history books. Let Iran and the Contras be. Let the Persian Gulf be. Let nuclear war be. Find a more universal calling deep within your heart. Do the right thing. Don't let another brother or sister die alone, unloved and in fear. Stop the buck!

John Polozzo, Jr.
San Francisco

Not With My Money, You Won't!

★ This letter was sent to Wells Fargo Bank, Bank Card Division:

To Whom It May Concern:

Recently an advertising campaign has stated that each time a Visa card is used, a donation will be made to the "Olympics."

Due to recent Supreme Court decisions, and because of the biased and discriminatory practices of the USOC toward the gay and lesbian community, I cannot knowingly participate in this "fund-raising" drive. I am therefore requesting that no financial aid based on the use of my Visa card be made to the "Olympics."

Should Visa decide to donate money on my behalf, I would prefer that such monies be directed to the Gay Games Committee, or any one of many AIDS-related organizations.

Roger Mollett
San Francisco

NAMBLA-sted

★ In a recent B.A.R. (8/13) you featured Hubert Kennedy's response to my response to his response, etc. Once again it appears that he has chosen to attack the personality and intelligence of a critic rather than address the issue of the unpopularity of organizations like North American Man/Boy Love Association, the group that Mr. Kennedy insists is only "supporting the rights of boys to love and be loved." Mr. Kennedy would rather smilingly explain away an opposing view as simply "muddle-headedness" instead of presenting his own point of view with logic and reason.

Kennedy doesn't seem willing to recognize that many gay people don't identify with those folks as part of the community. Most people simply look away and hope that everyone else will, too.

Scrutiny is important when it comes to identifying ourselves to the public. Most of the gay community would like to show the world that as theatrical and exotic as we may seem on the outside, we are just regular people, consenting adults, hurting no one, with the same rights as anyone.

Perhaps our society has generated false ideals based on youth as sexy, equating years and experience with being spent. It could be that some would like to vicariously savor the innocence of youth by engaging in relations with children. Whatever the reason, adults must not presume to monopolize the emotional foundations of children under the guise of simply "advocating children's rights." We all want our rights respected and we must also respect the rights of children and their—our—families. Standardizing sex with children sounds dangerous for any society, gay or straight. It's true that parts of Scandinavia have a very low age of consent, along with the highest alcoholism rate and suicide rate.

Although NAMBLA's representation is usually minimal, they generally leave a strong impression. I personally would rather see them marching in the national Pederasty-Pride Day parade. But of course, there isn't one.

So, if Mr. K. would stop telling me what a jerk I am (am I being NAMBLA-sted?), and try to show how child-sex obsession is a gay interest and not a self-serving expression of power manifesting in the sexual domination of children, he might stimulate debate. Who knows, maybe some understanding on some level would be achieved. Or would he also rather look the other way and hope that everyone else does too?

Steven F. Stevens
San Francisco

Ten Wasted Years

★ Now that Mayor Feinstein has wasted ten years of her Mayoralty with a do-nothing administration, she is now trying to depict herself as a strong administrator in her last few months in office. But look at the record:

• Ball Park: Going from China Basin, 2nd & Beale Sts; 3rd & Mission, Redwood City, etc., etc., in the last several months of her administration, it is now 7th & Townsend sts. No financial plan is stated, no particulars, no engineering studies, no cost studies, no estimate of the subsidy—just a hollow suggestion on her political death bed. We have had ten years of this nonsense.

• And now, another hollow last minute plan to redevelop Fisherman's Wharf. Again, no plans, no studies of costs—just political last minute rhetoric. These have been ten wasted Feinstein years, and we hope the next mayor will try to stop the exodus of payrolls, and put San Francisco back on the right track, without traveling to the Orient every six months under the guise "trade missions," none of which have produced anything.

John W. Delaney
San Francisco

Kindness

★ I'd like to publicly thank the staff at Uncle Gaylord's for their kindness.

I am an AIDS patient, who like many, need all the kindness we can get. It is truly appreciated.

Special thanks to Hiram!

Joseph Gatti
San Francisco

Thanks, Paul

★ This letter was sent to Mr. Frank Jordan, Chief of Police, 850 Bryant St., San Francisco, CA 94103.

Dear Mr. Jordan:

We, the members of the Inter-Club Fund, wish to express our appreciation for the many years of service that Officer Paul Siedler has given as the Liaison Officer for the Police Department.

Paul has given much more than just time. He was a major inspiration and work force behind the Godfather Fund and its many functions. The patients of San Francisco General Hospital and other hospitals have benefitted from the care packages.

The informational services that Paul has initiated and to which he contributed are invaluable to the Gay and Lesbian communities:

Again we wish to say thanks for the years of services.

- MEMBERS OF THE ICF**
- Barbary Coasters
 - California Eagles
 - Cheaters
 - CMC
 - Constantines
 - Cycle Runners MC
 - Force Five
 - Golden Gate Guards
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 - Phoenix Uniform Club
 - San Franciscans
 - S.F.G.D.I.
 - Warlocks
 - Independents

LETTERS

Here's Hoping . . .

★ Ray O'Loughlin's Aug. 6 editorial on Pres. Ronald Reagan's AIDS Commission might turn out to be an accurate prediction.

Nevertheless, his thoughts seem to be lacking any connection to the virtue of hope. Life is not possible without hope. We gay men and gay women need to cultivate our social responsibility to continue to be witnesses for hope. We must hope for a more humane world for ourselves and others, within both church and state. Reagan's AIDS Commission will certainly fail if gay persons and their hosts of friends boycott it.

We need to hope that many of its members will squarely address the social, medical, cultural, sexual, political, and above all, humane dimensions of the AIDS crisis on persons' lives and on the national and international communities.

One Irishman, Ray O'Loughlin, ignores another Irishman, John Cardinal O'Connor, by failing to recognize that the Archdiocese of New York is being led by O'Connor to try to meet the medical, social, and human needs of persons with AIDS or with ARC.

I have eternal hope that an Irishman (or Irishwoman) will in the end rise to the occasion. As a member of the AIDS Commission, Cardinal O'Connor will be forced to face the multi-dimensions of the AIDS crisis.

He will probably follow the recent example of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Glasgow in Scotland who has endorsed Britain's educational program concerning safe sex on the philosophy that condoms are a lesser social evil than the AIDS virus.

We need to face honestly the fact that one conservative, Surgeon Gen. C. Everett Koop, pragmatically faced the reality of AIDS. His intellectual honesty and courage give hope that a majority of the seemingly-conservative men and women on Reagan's AIDS Commission will likewise face the reality of AIDS.

To rise adequately to the AIDS crisis as a national people, an originally seemingly-conservative and broadly-representative commission will have to acquaint themselves with the crisis. They will have to see the national policy.

There is a hope this commission will do just that.

James F. Gibbons
San Leandro

ED NOTE: All this blather about hope in a pretty hopeless situation, does get my Irish up—especially when a Scotsman is cited as the best example.

Ray O'Loughlin

An Olympian Effort

★ This letter was sent to the Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., 802 Delaware Ave., P.O. Box 15008, Wilmington, DE 19850-5008:

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to protest the donations to be given to the United States Olympic Committee (U.S.O.C.) whenever I use my Chase Visa card. As a member of the gay community, I cannot and will not take any action which supports discrimination against members of my community. As you may know, the recent Supreme Court ruling against the use of the word "Olympic" in reference to the Gay [Olympic] Games is objectionable to the gay community. Therefore unless there is a way to stop the donations to the USOC, I simply will not use my Chase Visa card until the end of the donation period. I will also urge friends who have a Chase Visa card to do likewise.

In that I am also a merchant in the Bay Area who accepts charge cards, I intend to call this item (as information only) to the attention of other merchants and my card carrying clientele whenever appropriate.

Thank you for your attention.

Gary L. Johnson
Oakland

Snip Your Plastic

★ I was furious yesterday to pick up a magazine and read a full-page ad stating that every time I use my Visa card between now and Dec. 31, Visa will make a donation to the 1988 U.S. Olympic Team.

Many B.A.R. readers probably already know that the U.S. Olympic Committee has a notoriously anti-gay history. In 1982, it sued organizers of what was then called the Gay Olympics, on the grounds that Congress had granted the USOC exclusive rights to use the word "Olympics." Dozens of other groups, ranging from the Armenian Olympics and the Police Olympics to the Rat Olympics and the Crab-Cooking Olympics, had used the term; the USOC had never seemed to mind. But the Gay Olympics got hit with an expensive lawsuit.

Ultimately, the USOC forced the Gay Olympics to change their name to the Gay Games. As a gay man,

I refuse to make a purchase that results in a contribution going to the U.S. Olympic Team.

I urge readers who feel the same way to do what I'm doing: Cut your Visa card in half, and send one half to Jan Soderstrom, Visa Marketing Dept., Olympic Program, P.O. Box 8999, San Francisco, CA 94128. Enclose a note explaining why you will not use your card again.

Then send the other half to me: Sasha Alyson, Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton St., Boston, MA 02118. I think I can find an artist who likes working creatively with unusual materials, and who can use these half-cards to sculpt a memorial to Tom Waddell, the Gay Games founder who recently died of AIDS. Do it now, and we can have the memorial in time for the October March on Washington.

Sasha Alyson
Boston, MA

Honoring the "yaG scipmyIO"

★ In your Aug. 6 issue you published a letter, "Honoring Tom Waddell," suggesting his name be used in place of the word "Gay" in the title of the so-called "games" to be legally protected from the absurd decision that the International Olympic Committee can discriminate against minorities.

Did Tom Waddell want it to be called "The Tom Waddell Olympics"?

No. He wanted it called the "yaG scipmyIO" (or vice versa).

Maybe we should stick to his cause, not putting up with anybody's prejudices.

John F. Boyer
San Francisco

Castro's Kingfish

★ Until I phoned Sup. Harry Britt's office (Monday, Aug. 10) to register both my lover's and my opposition to his dangerously irresponsible stand re the Missouri, I was unaware of the depths to which this creation of radical pacifists, environmentalists and other miscontents would stoop.

A lady (later ascertained to be Jean Harris), speaking for Britt, who upon being told of the reason for my call, asked: "How do you feel about his (Harry's) stand on 'gay rights'?" I indicated that though being gay (and I left our names) I phoned only to address "the issue of the Missouri." Her rejoinder: "Yes, but, we have to go through 'gay rights' before we can discuss the Missouri." After restating our position I ended the conversation.

One must assume this member of his staff reflected not only his position, but spoke with his approbation from which the conclusion logically follows that any issue—domestic or foreign; initiate or remedial; economic or political; and/or local or regional—will be manipulated by Britt into one of "gay rights."

Were this not so absurd, and an abusive trivialization of the legislative responsibilities of a member of San Francisco's less than distinguished Board, it would be unworthy of note.

For all his shortcomings, Harvey Milk respected his office and the intelligence of both his constituency and opposition!

Thomas M Edwards
San Francisco

Don't Discriminate

★ The following is an open letter to Mr. McCrossen, President, Citibank Visa, International Unit, P.O. Box 6061, Sioux Falls, SD 57117:

Dear M. McCrossen:

When I choose in the future to charge, I will not be using my Citibank Visa card; also, any cards Citibank sends me will be promptly returned.

The reason for this action is Citibank's ill-advised support of the U.S. Olympic Committee, as evidenced by the front-page article of your Citibank Card-member Newsletter. The recent shoddy lawsuit by the Olympic Committee before the Supreme Court, which succeeded in denying the gay community the use of the term Gay Olympics, was a slap in the face of 10 percent of the nation's population (and, I suspect, a rather larger percentage of your cardholders).

It is ironic that your Newsletter also offers a commemorative edition of the U.S. Constitution, for one of its chief principles is that of "equality under the law," which has been blatantly and shamefully abused by the Supreme Court in its decision. It appears that the handicapped, Armenians, police dogs and crab cooks all have the right to use freely the word "Olympic," but gay people do not.

Until Citibank publicly apologizes to its gay customers for its support of the U.S. Olympic Committee and dissociates itself from the Committee's homophobic stance, I will not patronize your firm and will urge everyone I know to do likewise. Enclosed are the pieces of my credit card.

Tadd Waggoner
San Francisco

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NATIONAL/WORLD NEWS

Studds' Mailout Gets Big Support

BOSTON—With very few exceptions, U.S. Rep. Gerry Studds received tremendous support for his recent mailing of copies of the Surgeon General's Report on AIDS to his constituents. Studds, an openly gay Democrat from Massachusetts, said mail ran 10-1 in favor of his action.

The homophobic responses, few as they were, were still predictable. One constituent, wailing about the use of her tax dollars, wrote to say that the "class of people who are responsible for this sexual and abnormally induced disease (should) raise the money to care for themselves." Another voter urged Studds to "publicly renounce (his) homosexual lifestyle."

But Studds said these letters were definitely in the minority. He shared many of them—pro and con—in his weekly newsletter.



Gerry Studds (Photo: Rink)

ball League, need all the help they can get. Becker's offer was one the Bills simply didn't want any part of, however.

Becker wrote a letter to Bills' officials, offering a trade. But this wasn't an offensive tackle for a draft choice. Becker was desperate for season tickets to 1987 Bills games (talk about desperate!) and offered his sexual services to the team in return for the chance to cheer on his heroes in the friendly confines of Rich Stadium.

But the Bills, the team U.S. Rep. Jack Kemp once played for, refused to bite. Becker was arrested a few days later in a Fredonia motel. He was charged with aggravated harassment and promoting prostitution.

Some observers said they felt jail may have been a better alternative to watching the Bills.

—United Press International

Law And Order-- Missouri Style

UNION, MO—Missouri is known as the "Show Me State." That's just the attitude of a three-judge Court of Appeals panel which recently ruled that a lesbian in this town was unfit to have custody of her four children.

The court declared that while homosexuality cannot be cited as the sole basis for denying child custody, the woman in question was unsuitable because she was living in an openly gay relationship with another woman, slept in the same bed with the woman and showed affection toward the woman in front of the children.

The panel said this kind of atmosphere created "an unhealthy environment for minor children." The woman's lawyer planned to appeal the ruling.

—United Press International

Law And Order-- Mississippi Style

MERIDIEN, MS—Charles Graham, the owner of the only gay bar in this Magnolia-fragranced community, found out recently that owning his type of business is no bed of roses.

Graham and two others were assaulted by thugs armed with baseball bats outside of Graham's bar, Poppers. The response of the local law authorities was to charge one assailant with simple assault and release him on \$522 bond.

Police Chief Walter Tucker had a novel solution to Graham's problems. He suggested that Graham close down Poppers and move out of town. Graham did close the bar, but he plans on opening another one just outside the city limits.

Meanwhile, Tucker and the rest of the Law and Order Types in Meriden are happier than hogs in slop. "The whole neighborhood is already feeling a sigh of relief," said the gendarme. "Several of the residents have called to tell me how happy they are."

—United Press International

Your Community Bulletin Board.
Bay Area Reporter.

Man Throws A Pass But He Won't Fill The Bills

BUFFALO—Give Edward Becker credit. He's got guts. He's also got a date in court in his future, all because he wanted to help the Buffalo Bills football team.

The Bills, traditional doormats that they are in the National Foot-

VA Series on AIDS

The Veterans Administration Social Work Service Education Series on AIDS presents AIDS & Caregivers, a panel discussion Friday, Aug. 28, 1-3 p.m., coffee-hour noon to 1 p.m., Auditorium, Bldg. 7.

This presentation is open to all staff at VAMC and to the community without charge. VA San Francisco is located at 43rd Avenue and Clement. For further information, call Kay Ellyard, 750-2044.

UNQUOTE

'Are you trying to encourage homosexual behavior? This article does not belong in a sports magazine.'
—Reader EDWARD COSTIGAN of St. Louis, castigating Sport Illustrated for running Dick Schaap's article about TOM WADDELL. (Sports Illustrated)

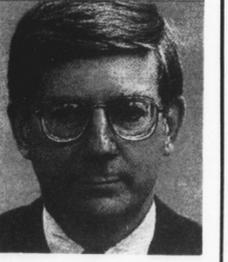
'Journalism seems reluctant to clarify that the primary reason for the AIDS epidemic is that the rectum, with its delicate and absorptive lining, is not suited to homosexual uses. The nation needs unsparing journalism (to make this widely known).'

'Time and energy are being wasted on the political project of spreading the false message that the AIDS epidemic is not assignable to particular minorities.'

—Columnist GEORGE WILL (New York Daily News)

'Those who believe that AIDS is God's way of punishing sinners must be hard to explain the deaths of so many babies who contracted disease in the wombs of their infected mothers or of the innocent people who got it from blood transfusions. The people who think AIDS is retribution must be puzzled, too, by the disproportionate amount of talent we have lost with people who have died of AIDS. Homosexual males seem to have contributed more than their share to our culture. Frequently, the homosexual's talent is great, unique and inexplicable.'

—CBS' ANDY ROONEY, in his syndicated newspaper column. (The Advocate)



Mike Hippler
Deadheads

The boy at the party — the host's latest discovery — was wearing Earth shoes, and an appleseed necklace beneath his fuzzy, unkempt beard. "I'm a Deadhead," he said. "Yeah, I'm gay. Don't you know about the Gay Dead?"

No, I didn't. I knew the Grateful Dead still had a loyal following after 20-plus years, but I had no idea that a sizeable number of fans were gay or that so many were as young as this boy — younger than the group itself. Intrigued by the phenomenon, I decided to investigate.

A few weeks later, on an impulse I bought tickets to my first Dead concert ever, at Oakland Coliseum on July 24. My guide was my friend Jeff, a "marginal" Deadhead, who introduced me to his friend, Sophia, a "confirmed" Deadhead.

Unlike Jeff and myself, Sophia is not exactly gay — simply a "human being" — but she knows a lot about the Gay Dead scene as well as the entire Grateful Dead phenomenon. She tried to explain all this in the parking lot before the show.

"The whole thing is about keeping the '60s alive," said Sophia, who has been going to Dead concerts since she was 14, and who plans to enter law school at age 27 this fall.

"The point is that we are all one. That's why so many gay people are Deadheads. No one cares here. Everyone believes in harmony."

Everyone also believes in tie-dyed T-shirts, multi-colored headbands, baggy cotton pants, and hats made of palm leaves by the Maya-Quiche Indians of Guatemala. The parking lot outside the Coliseum was a major consumer scene for "alternative," "counter-culture," and "New Age" products.

As we threaded our way toward the entrance, Sophia mentioned Bob Weir and the "Zulu boys."

"If you're gay, band member Bob Weir is very important," she explained. "For one thing, he's very pretty. Supposedly, he had this boyfriend named Zulu who wore feathers in his hair and danced at all the concerts."

"So now all these gay boys dress like Zulu and dance at the foot of the stage trying to catch Bob Weir's attention. Of course, I've never seen one," Sophia added after a moment, "but that doesn't mean they don't exist."

Inside the Coliseum at last, we smoked the obligatory joint and



"And you'll go straight to that right place above if you're good boys and girls and buy more bingo cards." Sister Mary Hubert, aka Sharon McNight was the celebrity-in-residence at a recent Bingo Night for Coming Home Hospice. (Photo: Scott Martin)

jockeyed for position on the playing field. There we ran into another of Jeff's friends, Steve, a veteran of Watkin's Glen '73, which he claimed was "the largest rock concert ever."

Like gay boys everywhere, Steve was wearing jeans and Reeboks, but he also sported a God's eye earring, a crystal around his neck, and an Indian print scarf in his back pocket.

When the music started (with so little fanfare that I wasn't even aware of it), Steve began to dance. He never stopped throughout the entire show.

Deadhead dancing, I quickly learned, is a unique art form. Deadheads call it "natural." Mostly it consists of bouncing and hopping. Almost no one dances with a partner; Deadheads certainly march to the beat of their own particular drum.

Taking notes, as I was, can be a dangerous experience at a Dead concert. It places the notetaker outside the stream of universal consciousness.

I learned this the hard way when a huge beach ball fell from the sky and knocked me on the head. The entire stadium erupted in a collective groan.

Later, my group was assaulted by a brutal barrage of beach balls. "Are you sure gay people are welcome here?" a friend asked. "I think they know we're here and are trying to get us."

By way of answering, Steve pointed to a huge banner hanging from the second tier proclaiming, "We Are Everywhere."

"By 'we' they mean Deadheads, not gay people," Steve articulated. "But it's all the same. Still, it might be nice to identify ourselves further. I've been thinking about printing Gay Deadhead T-shirts. That way we'd find out for sure who's gay at these concerts."

"You could also come in drag," I suggested. "Now that would be a statement."

Just then a barefoot man with shoulder-length hair wearing a dashiki, a peasant skirt, and pearls danced by.

After the first set, I took a break to survey the crowd. Although I'd heard a lot about old hippies at these events, most of the fans were young, and, for what it's worth, most of these were attractive.

Suddenly I realized a major difference between this concert and those of the '60s. At a '60s

event, nearly everyone was older than me, and I was in awe. At this concert, nearly everyone was younger, and I felt bemused and apart.

There were other differences, such as the giant video screen (with it, I felt like I was watching MTV; without it, I wouldn't have seen a thing) and the electric scoreboard (where I learned that this was the Dead's 1,656th show).

At this concert no one passed around bottles of Boone's Farm

wine, and no one made anti-war speeches between sets.

But these differences didn't seem to matter much to the crowd. Many in the audience, who were reinventing the '60s as much as keeping the spirit alive, weren't even aware of the differences.

As for me, well, I tend to romanticize the '60s and forget that in many ways life is better now. Being gay in the '60s was an experiment, exciting but unsettling. Now it's an established life-

style with a thousand subtle variations. At a '60s concert we were there but invisible. Now we have (or soon will have) Gay Deadhead T-shirts.

Following another set by the Dead, Bob Dylan came onstage. By this time, I was too stoned and tired to take notes. Besides, this was a crowd of Deadheads, not Dylan fans, and no wonder.

Would you put feathers in your hair and dance near the stage for this man?

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Of Polls and Rhetoric

If the polls are correct, the race for mayor will probably end in a December run-off between **Sup. John Molinari** and **Assemblymember Art Agnos**. A telephone poll taken on Aug. 10 and 11 and released this week by Pollster **Joe Shumate** shows Molinari leading with 39 percent, a slight increase. Agnos followed in second spot with 20 percent, indicating a slight drop for him. Former chief administrative officer **Roger Boas** and **City Attorney Louise Renne** trailed poorly with 12 percent and 8 percent, respectively.

Of the 250 registered voters, 17 percent said they were "undecided."

While rumors continued this week that **Louise Renne** is thinking of withdrawing from the race, some political observers saw her highly-touted press conference last week, where she attacked the media—particularly the Examiner and Chronicle colum-

nist Herb Caen—as some kind of signal that, unless she can soon find some big campaign bucks, she might indeed be finished.

Others in the race were quick to point out that "when your campaign goes sour, blame the press" seems to be the call of the day in the mayoral race—particularly with Renne and Agnos. When Agnos' controversial land development deals were first made public, Agnos promptly accused the Chronicle of "not wanting me to be mayor."

When some technical problems developed with Louise Renne's bank loan to her campaign, the Examiner rushed to print all that it could find, and Renne promptly accused that paper of trying to "crucify" her in print.

In the lead from the start of the campaign, Molinari seems to have support from a number of points on the political spectrum. Observers say that although Ag-



Louise Renne (Photo: Steve Savage)

nos can probably rely on getting the far-left, liberal vote, it is not thought that he would be able to pick up enough of the moderate or conservative voters to win a run-off.

A number of things could happen between now and the November election, but unless there is a dramatic change in the polls, Molinari and Agnos will likely end up in the December run-off.

Campaigns are getting costlier all the while. The special state Senate election in the 33rd district (Los Angeles and Orange counties) held last May showed the two major parties spending nearly \$3 million — or \$36.50 per vote, making it the most expensive legislative race in the state's history.

Before too many "politically-correct" gays make predictions of what the supervisors' vote on the USS Missouri means to gay support for certain local politics, they might be interested in knowing that this writer asked 50 gays on Castro and Polk streets Saturday about bringing the "Mo" to San Francisco, 27 favored bringing it here, 13 opposed it, and 10 said they couldn't care less.

Now that Roger Boas has lost his second campaign manager, City Hall observers are saying that most of the day-to-day decisions in his lagging mayoral campaign are being made by the candidate himself and his son John.

Former Gov. **Jerry Brown**, speaking to the American Bar Assn. in San Francisco last week, says too many people are worrying unnecessarily that religion is intruding into government. Despite the intrusion of clergy people like **Pat Robertson** into politics, Brown says not to worry and urged that those who are worried about the mix of religion and politics take a historical look. He added, "When **Ronald Reagan** talks to the evangelicals, his religious rhetoric is no less than that of Abraham Lincoln in the second inaugural when he called for a day of prayer and fasting and a national confession of sin."

Brown, who attended a major Buddhist-Christian conference in Berkeley last week that drew a number of Christian theologians as well as many Buddhist teachers from East Asia, said, "The problem is not so much what government has to fear from religions, but what religion has to fear from government and politics." (And if that is what Jerry Brown says, who are we to disagree?)

New York state's Superintendent of Insurance issued a regulation last week that will bar insurers from requiring health-insurance applications to be tested for the AIDS virus, thereby making it only the second state, along with California, to prohibit an AIDS blood test for health insurance.

In Houston, **Mayor Kathy Whitmire**, who won her previous elections with heavy gay and lesbian support, had her announcement for another term picketed Saturday by gays who blame her for that city's low funding for AIDS services and education.

I don't know who really cares, but San Jose's Congressman **Norm Mineta** sent me a press release announcing that he was supporting **Rep. Richard Gephardt** of Missouri for the presidential nomination.

The Black community newspaper, The Sun Reporter, reporting on the POA endorsement of mayoral candidate Art Agnos:

(Continued on page 17)

At Odds

Wilson Said to Favor 'Considerable' Testing; Cranston Opposes Disclosure to Insurers

by Tim Taylor

California's two U.S. Senators, Alan Cranston and Pete Wilson, have taken opposing views on keeping AIDS tests confidential. The differences between Democrat Cranston and Republican Wilson are reflected in the types of legislation they favor in Washington, D.C.

An aide to Wilson, **Bruce Millis**, said Wilson believes "there needs to be a considerable amount of testing" and supports measures to make testing mandatory for immigrants and for applicants for marriage licenses.

Millis added that Wilson voted to overturn a law enacted by Washington's city council to bar insurance companies from obtaining access to medical records detailing the antibody status of people applying for health and life insurance. Municipal ordinances in the nation's capital are subject to congressional review.

Wilson is also reviewing whether to permit testing of patients who are about to undergo surgery, a proposal made by some operating room personnel who have expressed concern about their risk of infection. Millis did agree with assertions made by San Francisco Health Commissioner **Philip Lee** that no risk exists to health care workers if proper infection control procedures are used, but added that in-hospital testing may be appropriate, nonetheless.

Wilson's position on disclosure is coupled with his support for legislation that bans discrimination against people who show indications of infection with the AIDS virus. He is co-sponsoring legislation to guard against bias in housing, employment, public accommodations and government services.

Aides to Cranston said the Democratic lawmaker opposes any disclosure of test results except in cases of blood and organ donations. He does not, they said, support efforts by the insurance industry to gain access to information detailing a person's antibody status.

'CONCEPTS, NOT POLITICS'

When Pres. Ronald Reagan announced that hospitals run by the Veterans Administration would begin routine testing patients for AIDS antibodies, Cranston held a four-hour public hearing last June on the medical validity of such a measure. In an opening statement, Cranston said, "Sound public health concepts—not ideology or partisan politics—must guide our decisions and policies regarding AIDS."

Cranston opposed Reagan's testing program in VA hospitals, citing the prohibitive costs and the likelihood that confidentiality guidelines would be breached. Cranston is also supporting sweeping protections against discrimination.

Two bills sponsored by Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA) and



Sen. Pete Wilson (Photo: Rink)

supported by Cranston and Wilson are currently working their way through the Senate.

The first is the AIDS Research and Information Act which beefs up the staffs of Centers for Disease Control, the National Institutes for Health and the Food & Drug Administration to expand and expedite AIDS prevention and research efforts. The legislation sets up an information-sharing network between the federal government and state authorities on the most recent developments in AIDS research and requires more stringent reporting by the federal government to Congress on measures

taken to combat the epidemic.

The bill is likely to be voted on during the next few months, and Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Los Angeles) is expected to carry the bill in the House of Representatives.

NO DISCLOSURE

The second bill, the Federal AIDS Policy Act, is a comprehensive counseling and testing bill that encourages states to provide facilities where people can receive services anonymously. The bill provides \$400 million per year for each of the next three years to assist local governments.

The bill also requires that people who test for the presence of infection must be protected from unauthorized disclosure, although the bill does provide limited exceptions where a spouse or sexual partner of the person tested could be informed of results. A state public health officer also could sue in court to find out test results.

The bill for the first time sets forth federal regulations against discrimination on the basis of antibody status or AIDS diagnosis and establishes civil penalties whereby a person could sue for damages in the event bias occurs.

The Federal AIDS Policy Act was hailed by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, a lobby

(Continued on page 19)



Sen. Alan Cranston (Photo: Rink)

Cranston Seeks Funds For AIDS Projects

by Tim Taylor

US Sen. Alan Cranston has introduced a measure that will set aside \$10 million for demonstration projects for long-term sub-acute care of AIDS patients. Aides to Cranston said that up to \$4 million may be available for programs in San Francisco, and could provide badly needed funds to help operate the former Public Health Service hospital if the facility near the Presidio is released to the city.

City officials have said that the annual operating budget of the facility could run up to \$27 million a year. When proposals first surfaced to transfer the building to the city as an AIDS-dedicated hospital, Mayor **Dianne Feinstein** complained that the city would be unable to provide the operational funds. According to the mayor, the current \$17.2 million city AIDS budget is already straining city resources and she has urged the state and federal governments to provide more financial assistance.

Cranston's proposal is an amendment to the AIDS Research and Information Act, introduced by Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA), which is scheduled to be voted upon soon.

Under the amendment, three demonstration projects are to be established nationwide in urban centers hardest hit by the epidemic.

The transfer of the hospital, meanwhile, is bogged down in congressional squabbles. The transfer is an incidental part of legislation establishing funding levels for the Department of Defense. The bill also includes other policy objectives, including some measures pertaining to arms control. The Democratic initiatives have been resisted by Senate Republicans who are filibustering the bill.

If that impasse is not resolved, aides to Cranston said it was possible that a stripped-down bill limited to defense department spending would be presented. ●

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Illustration by Laura H. Young



Postal Workers Stamp Out Safe Sex Mail to So. America

Milk Club Again Boxes P.O. Over 'Can We Talk?'; May Take a Court Order to Get Mail Through

by Jay Newquist

It may take a federal case just to get the mail out. The Milk Democratic Club is preparing to sue the U.S. Postal Service, to force it to deliver a Spanish edition of its anti-AIDS brochure to Central and South America. The Postal Service rejected hundreds of the brochures last month—and cancelled the 44 cents postage affixed to each.

The controversy is reminiscent of an incident two years ago. The Postal Service declared that the English version of the "Can We Talk?" brochure was pornographic, and rejected its mailing.

This time, postal authorities are claiming the problem is procedural: the brochures need an envelope. Nonsense, the brochure publishers respond—pointing out that hundreds of the bro-

chures were accepted into the mails even while hundreds more were rejected.

National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) is expected to seek a court order soon to force the Postal Service to accept the brochures. NGRA will undertake the suit on behalf of the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club and also ask for compensatory damages for lost postage.

PODEMOS HABLAR?

The brochure, entitled "Podemos hablar?" ("Can We Talk?"), is a Spanish street-language primer about AIDS, its spread, and principles of safe sex.

David Lewis, director of the Harvey Milk AIDS Education Fund, said the brochures were properly addressed and fully post-paid. He said the pamphlets were returned because postal workers found the AIDS information "distasteful."

The Postal Service says the brochures were returned because they were improperly mailed. Alan Wald, a Postal Service spokesperson, said it was ludicrous to claim that postal workers refused to process the brochures because they objected to their graphic content.

"This is obviously a controversial subject," Wald said, "but no, absolutely not, there's been no tampering here. Frankly, we wish the brochures were mailed. We want these people to mail them."

Lewis would have none of this explanation.

"This is just the latest example of a long history of the post office tampering with our mail and abusing Postal Service policies," he said.

"We have had years of problems with them," Lewis said, referring to the skirmish two years ago when the Postal Service ruled that "Can We Talk?" was pornographic.

In this latest battle, Lewis said that hundreds of AIDS brochures were posted at the Air Mail rate with 44 cents postage affixed (ex-

(Continued on page 22)

Quinn Gives Singer Sounds of Silence

Perry George Wants Gay Men's Chorus For Funeral; Cleric Won't Comment

by Allen White

A singer in the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus has asked San Francisco Roman Catholic Archbishop John Quinn for assurance that he won't stop the group from singing at his funeral. Perry George is still waiting for an answer to a letter he sent to Quinn last month.

George was diagnosed on March 6, 1986 with AIDS. "I was told to get my affairs in order," he said, "and planning my funeral is part of that."

George has been a member of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus since its first rehearsal in October, 1978. Since that time, he has participated in all Chorus activities. He sang at the group's first public appearance on the steps of City Hall the day Harvey Milk and George Moscone were assassinated. He went on the national chorus tour in 1981.

George has also been around when Quinn refused to allow the chorus to sing at St. Ignatius Church because it was "a gay chorus." George also cited the time when Quinn prohibited the Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorus from singing at St. Boniface Church.

George was quick to point out that in each case the church was forced by local courts to pay damages from breaking written contracts.

George said he "wanted to know if the AIDS crisis has mellowed his (Quinn's) resistance."

George added that he told Quinn that if he couldn't have the chorus sing in a Catholic church, he would find "a suitable Protestant church."

By Aug. 5, George said he had received no reply from Quinn. To make sure the letter wasn't lost, he hand delivered a second copy to the office of the Archdiocese.

"I decided to trap him on his own ground," George said. He claims the Archbishop is showing a "phony concern" for gay peo-



Archbishop Quinn (Photo: Rink)

ple now that the Pope is coming to town. "If he was motivated by true Christian values, it would be no problem."

The singer noted that the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus has sung at a Catholic Church for a funeral. The funeral was a few months ago at the Most Holy Redeemer Church. "It was very publicized. They had to slip us in and slip us out."

George said he is proud of the Gay Men's Chorus and doesn't want the church to "slip them in and slip them out" of his funeral.

George sings regularly in a Catholic church choir on the Peninsula. He also attends a weekly meeting at Most Holy Redeemer Church with a group of people with AIDS. He also continues to sing with the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus.

Officials for the Archdiocese could not track down George's letters. They offered no comment about his allegations.

Pledge Run Nets \$23,000 for Charity

by Jay Newquist

A total of \$23,740 has been donated to various AIDS charities this month following a 30-day AIDS Pledge Run held in June by the San Francisco FrontRunners club.

The principal recipients by choice of the volunteer runners were the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Shanti Project, and the AIDS Hospice.

"We're really happy with the results, it's only our first year," said organizer Bob Puerzer. "We want to make the pledge run a tradition, and we're already getting the word out for 1988."

Puerzer said the amount of money raised was not the whole point. The feeling that participants "were making a difference" in the fight against AIDS was important too, he said.

All the more than 100 pledge runners were given certificates of achievement. Medals were also awarded based on the total pledge miles run per day during June.

The recipients of gold medals for the contribution of \$1,000 or more were: Teng Bae, Dave Studach, Richard Delle Fave, Art Tomaszewski, Doug Farson, Jeffrey Frankel, Bob Puerzer and Nick Koras.

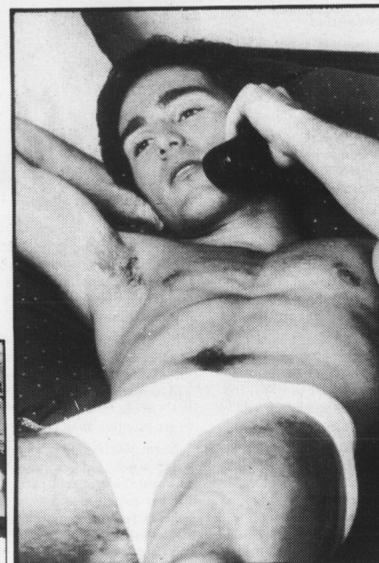
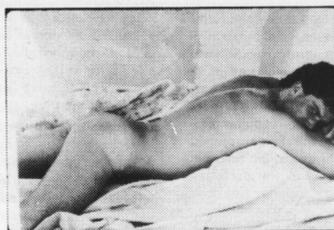
Koras was the top money raiser, bringing in \$3,981.

Silver medals for \$500 or more were Chris Charette, Tina Toona, Don Sango and Alan Davis.

Those awarded bronze medals for \$250 or more were Richard Hermann, Tom McKenney, Cherie Milojevich, Herk Wingfield, Paul Cyr, William Coe, Wendy Cosin, Shari Pabst, Terry Baransy, Kenneth Trari and Richard Rogles.

Contact the club at 1550 California St., Suite 6L200, San Francisco, CA 94109.

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213-976-C-I-T-A

*This call is only \$2 in most of the 415, 213 and 619 area code. Matching is random and you may not hear another caller and yet still be charged. Call at peak night times to avoid unwanted charges. Additional toll charges may apply in some areas.

Social Security Speeds Process For Disability

by Jay Newquist

More people with AIDS will receive benefits faster thanks to a last-minute flip flop by the Social Security Administration.

The SSA bowed to pressure from two Congresswomen from San Francisco, among others to extend presumptive disability benefits to include AIDS-related dementia and wasting syndrome.

The new criteria, which goes into effect Sept. 1, mean a broader definition of AIDS has been adopted following the lead of the Federal Center for Disease Control.

The extended scope will increase the number of recorded AIDS cases by 20 percent and result in faster receipt of AIDS-related benefits.

Representatives Barbara Boxer (D-Marin) and Nancy Pelosi (D-San Francisco) threatened public hearings to target the SSA's original decision to exclude people with AIDS-related dementia and wasting syndrome from presumptive disability.



Rep. Nancy Pelosi
(Photo: Rink)

Reps. Boxer and Pelosi said in a letter that these excluded AIDS patients were not physically or mentally able to endure a long or difficult disability determination process.

The new SSA guidelines mean these categories of AIDS patients will receive benefits in from four to six weeks instead of from three to six months, as in the past.

Steve Morin, Pelosi's aide on AIDS issues, said the SSA wanted to avoid the embarrassment of a formal hearing and therefore quickly acknowledged a broader definition of AIDS precisely one day before the hearing was scheduled to begin.

S.F. Grand Jury To Monitor Taxpayer's AIDS Dollars

Civil Group Says No Hint of Wrong-Doing

by Tim Taylor

A San Francisco civil grand jury has started an inquiry into how city agencies involved in the AIDS crisis are spending taxpayers' money. Agencies targeted for review are the Department of Public Health, the Department of Social Services, the Police Department, the Public Guardian and the Coroner's Office.

The civil grand jury functions as a citizen watchdog panel, and an investigation does not imply wrong-doing or impropriety by city officials. Under California law, the advisory body sits for one year and is charged with reviewing the efficiency of government services.

News of the investigation surfaced at the last meeting of the San Francisco Health Commission. Department officials welcomed the review. According to Dr. Tom Peters of the health department there has never been a centralized accounting of the costs of the AIDS epidemic done on a citywide basis.

Peters added that such an accounting of city funds may be difficult to achieve, since services for people with AIDS are frequently integrated in program areas that are not AIDS-specific. He cited the general assistance program as an example.

Michael Tamony, the consultant for the grand jury, said the 19-member panel has broad discretion in choosing what areas of city government to examine. The panel was appointed on July 1 and will issue a list of recommendations on improving services sometime before the end of its term on June 30, 1988. The report, which is advisory and does not contain enforcement measures, is given to the mayor, department heads, the Board of Supervisors and the presiding judge of the Superior Court.

Hank Cook, the president of the AIDS Emergency Fund, also

welcomed the formation of the panel. He urged the panel to look into procedures for expediting public assistance for destitute AIDS patients. Noting that it takes several weeks before applicants for General Assistance (GA) get onto the rolls, Cook asked, "What is it we can do to get the process to move faster?"

The AIDS Emergency Fund was created to fill the resulting void by helping people with AIDS meet vital expenses such as rent, food and medical bills. Cook cited recent studies detailing the pervasive impoverishment of AIDS patients as evidence of a seriously neglected crisis. He said the grand jury should examine procedures used by the Department of Social Services (DSS) and recommend alternatives that give people with AIDS priority treatment when they apply for assistance. "[DSS caseworkers] should be required to make a turn-around time in five days," Cook said.



Parade to Revise Committee Bylaws

The San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration has formed a Bylaw Task Force for the purpose of review and any necessary updating of its current bylaws.

Any persons wishing to attend these meetings are welcome, and we look forward to your attendance. The next meeting is to take place Tuesday, Aug. 25 at 7 p.m. at Church Street Station, 2100 Market Street, in San Francisco. The meetings are wheelchair accessible.

Supermarkets Help Food Bank

Support the Food Bank of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation by shopping for extra groceries at participating supermarkets. Volunteers will be soliciting food for people with AIDS on Saturday mornings in front of the following stores:

- August 22—Petrini's, Fulton and Masonic
- August 29—Cala Foods, Haight and Stanyan
- September 5—Cala Foods, 18th and Collingwood

The groceries are being distributed to 350 men and women who depend on the San Francisco AIDS Foundation—and you—for supplemental food. Call 864-5855 for more information about the food drives or other ways to donate to this worthwhile program.

Secret Deal

(Continued from page 1)

CANVAS AND PLYWOOD

Bay Area Reporter learned of the deal from a source close to the Park and Rec. Finance Committee. This week, Park and Rec. Chair Eugene Friend, who also heads the finance panel, confirmed that a deal is in the works.

The archdiocese "is buying two tarps worth tens of thousands of dollars apiece, and enough plywood to cover the entire field," Friend said. "We sure could use that tarp, but I don't know about the plywood."

What the tarp is to be used for is one of several unanswered questions. The San Francisco Giants already own a tarp to cover the Candlestick infield during rain. And nobody covers a football field, even in stormy weather.

"There is no need for the city to have a tarp to cover Candlestick because the Giants already have one," said attorney John Wahl, member of the Papal Visit Task Force.

"This is a blatant sweetheart deal which certainly would not be given to any gay, lesbian or bisexual group which wanted to rent Candlestick Park," Wahl said.

The proposed deal represents spending public funds to support a particular religion, Wahl said. "This is an act of favoritism toward the Catholic pontiff which is in direct violation of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution," he said. The First Amendment prohibits governmental establishment of religion.

Wahl said the Papal Visit Task Force will examine the contract to see if grounds exist to sue the city for spending public funds for a religious purpose.

Even if that challenge isn't possible, Wahl said, it is "just plain poor public administration to rent out Candlestick for a couple of used canvas rugs when we're trying to find money to run the Muni."

SLIPPING IT BY

It appears the Park Commission sought to approve the deal quickly and quietly, to avoid controversy. Nowhere in official documents were any details of the deal recorded.

In fact, the Park Commission's counsel, Asst. City Atty. Mara Rosales, pulled the item off of the commission's regular agenda over concerns that the commissioners might be violating the

state public meetings law, the Brown Act.

"The item which they calendared was for 'discussion' and that would not include approval, consistent with the requirements of the Brown Act," Rosales said.

But the commission still intends to vote on approving the deal today. A special meeting was set for 4:30 p.m. today, immediately following the commission's regular monthly session. A public notice was posted Tuesday at City Hall stating that the Park Commission would consider "approval" of the contract for the papal mass.

The special meeting takes place at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park, at the corner of Fell and Stanyan Streets.

Even after posting notice for the special meeting, copies of the proposed contract were not available for public inspection until Wednesday, the day before the vote. (The text of the contract was not available as this issue of the Bay Area Reporter went to press.)

Copies of the proposed contract were to have been available to the public today at McLaren Lodge. Persons wishing to speak at the special meeting may call 558-4773.

Commission Chairman Friend defended the rush. "We have to get it done at this meeting because time is short—we're looking at a Sept. 18 event," he said.

Even if the Park Commission gave the rent away free, the deal would pale in comparison to other costs attending Pope John Paul II's U.S. tour of nine cities in ten days.

The biggest ticket item: safety and crowd control. The S.F. police tab alone will run well into six figures, though an exact budget has not been released. The San Francisco Archdiocese has budgeted \$4,820 of its own for security.

Nationally, the federal Secret Service requested a special appropriation of \$5.7 million for the papal tour.

Gay taxpayers may feel especially affronted by public expenses for this religious revival. In October, the pope signed a pastoral letter stating that homosexuality is "an intrinsic moral evil" and an "objective disorder."

The letter blamed gay people for AIDS and said gays bring violence onto themselves: "When civil legislation is introduced to protect behavior to which no one has any conceivable right," people should not be surprised when "irrational and violent reactions increase," the statement said.

Friday

(Continued from page 12)

"Agnes won the endorsement of the S.F. Police Officers Association—for the most part, the POA gives their endorsement to candidates who share their usually conservative views." (Agnes conservative?)

Sup. Harry Britt getting a big hand when he was introduced to the overflow Sunday afternoon crowd at the Eagle.

Britt, incidentally, along with all the other elected and appointed Bay Area gay and lesbian officials, will join the gay Democratic clubs tonight (Aug. 20) in hosting a reception/fundraiser to benefit the National March on Washington and the National Association of Gay & Lesbian Demo Clubs at their office (2362 Market Street), \$25 from 6-8 p.m. (861-5536 for info).

Sheriff Mike Hennessey, a nationally recognized authority on AIDS in the criminal justice system, spoke on AIDS education for prisoners and staff at last week's American Bar Association meeting. He then flew to Washington to film a training video designed to teach jail administrators how to deal with prisoners who have the disease. The film is being produced by the National Sheriff's Assn. and will feature Hennessey discussing the impact of AIDS on jail management with health professionals and jail officials.

Lesbian and Gay San Franciscans for Molinari are holding a reception for their mayoral candidate at the Conservatory of Flowers in Golden Gate Park Sept. 3, 6-8 p.m.; entertainment, wine, hors d'oeuvres (\$100 per person - 621-6164 for info).

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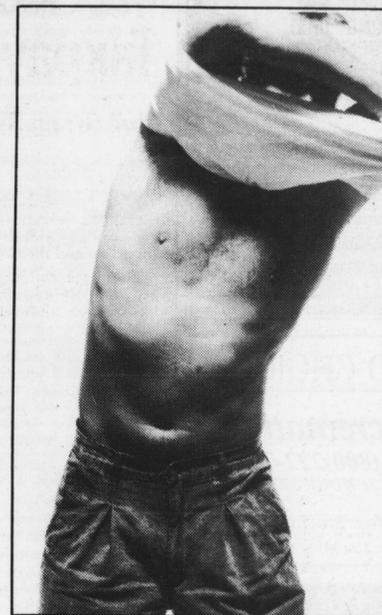
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DEATHS

Gale A. Hudson

Gale passed away in New York City on Saturday, Aug. 15, of complications from AIDS. He was 36.

Gale was a native of California and a loving resident of San Francisco for over 15 years. During the last eight of these 15 years he was my lover, friend and "Adeen".

Apart from his love of San Francisco, his heart was often drawn to Hana, Hawaii, where he would let his spirit soar amidst the tropical jungles. He had a passion for photography and his combination of intensity and sass have created photographic gems which his friends, family and I shall continue to treasure.



Above all else Gale was a friend in the purest sense of the word. No one knows this better than Tim with whom Gale shared years of joy, sorrow, beauty and changes. His friendship came through to all of us whether on a cabin weekend, during city walks, or dishing at "Perkos".

While my life will never be the same without Gale, he has enriched me to such a degree that he is always a part of me.

In loving memory — to Gale, from Salim.

Contributions should be made to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Shanti Project. Our men and women must stop dying!

Al Adami

Alvin Keith Adami was born on March 8, 1951 in San Francisco and died on July 2 in Sacramento.

Al survived by his biological family. His nuclear family included his lover, companion, best friend and caregiver, Joe Heller; his Maine coon cats, Ogunquit and Matinicus; Elizabeth Harrison and Anna Harrison.

Al loved to dance, touch, hug, cuddle, cook and bake (he was a perfectionist at this). He also enjoyed shopping at Macy's, bright and wild colors and camping at Fife's. He had a special ability to care for people who were physically challenged long before his own illness and throughout it.

The chronology of Al's professional and personal involvement with AIDS, should give some idea of his strength, determination, compassion and caring. In April, 1983, he trained with the first Sacramento AIDS Foundation Hand to Hand Volunteer group. He stayed active with that group, even after he was diagnosed with AIDS. On July 1, 1985, he was diagnosed with his first occurrence of Pneumocystis Pneumonia.

Al's last public appearance was the Memorial Day weekend AIDS Vigil, at which time he received a public ovation. Mass was held for Al at St. Francis Church on July 17.

We will miss Al. We loved him and he loved us. He was a very special, very strong and very giving man.

William Solley

7/28/37 - 8/9/87

Our good friend Bill passed away on Sunday morning Aug. 9 at San Francisco General Hospital. He had bravely battled an AIDS-related illness for several months, taking full responsibility for his own care as long as it was possible, and even at the end not wanting to be a burden on others.

A graduate of the University of Akron, Ohio, Bill lived in San Francisco for many years, working at PG&E and Crocker Bank.

He will long be remembered for his caring and tender affection, his dry but gentle humor and his ready listening ear for friends who needed to talk. A good man, Uncle Billy will be greatly missed by his San Francisco family: John, Dan, Keith, Reatha, Deborah and Gus.

A celebration of Bill's life will be held in his home at 167 Monterey Boulevard, San Francisco on August 23, 1987.

Jac Wall

Jac passed away quietly on Aug. 14, after a gallant, nine-month battle with AIDS. He was born and raised in Alexandria, LA and received both his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees at Louisiana State University. He went on to do further graduate work at the University of South Florida, where he later taught language. His teaching career continued at a private school in Switzerland and at Clemson University in South Carolina.

Jac moved to the Bay Area in the mid-1970s to enjoy the freedom to live his life as a gay man. He worked in Real Estate in Half Moon Bay and as an Employee Relations Specialist in the Health and Human Services Department of the Federal Government in San Francisco. In 1984, Jac co-founded "Federal Lesbians and Gays" (FLAG) and served on the initial steering committee and as treasurer of the first Board of Directors. He remained an active member until his death.

He is survived by David Kemmeries, his lover of four years, his sister Margaret Augustat and the many friends who were touched by his life.

In appreciation of the logistical and practical support Jac received from Shanti, which made his last months more comfortable, it is requested that any donations be made to Shanti in his memory.

Toby R. O'Neill

11/29/57 - 6/29/87

Toby passed away after a short illness, at age 29. Born and raised in Fresno, he attended the College of Sequoias in Visalia, where he studied art.

He moved to San Francisco in the early 1980s and was manager of The Matinee on Polk St.

Toby returned to Fresno during the last months of his life, and was surrounded by tremendous love and support from his parents, Bill and Verlee, and his sister Peggy. Hundreds of friends joined Toby's family and his cousin, Father Craig O'Neill in a celebration of his life at St. Anthony's Church. His mother said "As painful as it is to have lost Toby, we know he's okay — at peace at last."

A Special Message to Toby: We are grateful to you for teaching us how to be graceful and courageous in the face of a fatal illness. We appreciate the opportunity to learn from you and to grow in our own spirituality. For all the people whose lives you have enriched, we thank you.

Joe, Ed, Jim Jack, Steve and Rob

Eugene V. Watkins, Jr.

9/8/44 - 8/4/87

Deb died peacefully on Tuesday, Aug. 4, supported in his final passage by several friends and the devoted nursing of his mother. Diagnosed with an AIDS condition almost exactly a year earlier and increasingly physically challenged by his illness, Deb maintained throughout his ordeal a sweetness of spirit, unpredictable wit and great sense of personal dignity.

He was born in Whitmore, S.C. and spent the first 32 years of his life in the Carolinas, whose accent and laid back customs were important parts of his personality. He joined the mass migration of gay men to San Francisco in the mid-1970s and quickly decided that he had found his home. He successfully established a large circle of friends and a career at Pacific Telephone, continuing later at AT&T.

Deb was a social animal who had a special gift for putting people at their ease. He was an astonishingly rich source for the cultural trivia of the Baby Boom generation. He was happiest plunging into the center of a large, diverse San Francisco party, coquetting kindness from strangers.

A memorial gathering will be held at his apartment, Saturday, August 22, from 4-6 p.m. For more details, contact Ronnie, 621-5072, or Bob, 531-4942.

Stephen R. Gidos

Stephen R. Gidos was born June 26, 1940. He died on Aug. 11. A proud, independent man, Steve fought as hard as he could to live.

He is survived by his immediate family, parents Margaret and Steve Gidos of Sultan, WA, and his sister Carol and her husband Andy Meyers of Kirkland, WA. Their loyalty and love was very important to him.

He knew he had a family who stood behind him. He also had a family of many friends who tried to make his life as comfortable as possible. Stephen worked at the Elephant Walk for three years after coming from New York and working many years at the One Potato.

There will be a memorial service at Comiskey-Roche Funeral Home at 16th and Dolores, on Aug. 22 at 11 a.m. Afterwards, there will be a coming together of Stephen's family and friends at the home of Tom Ritzenthaler and Victor "Rod" Rodriguez at 475 Dolores #1 (626-9921) from noon till ???

Correction

In the Aug. 8 issue, Bay Area Reporter listed the time for a Aug. 9 memorial service for Edward Mayberry as 7 p.m. It should have read 1 p.m. Bay Area Reporter regrets the error.

Obituary Policy

Due to an unfortunately large number of obituaries, Bay Area Reporter has been forced to change its obituary policy.

We must restrict obits to 200 words. We prefer double-spaced, typewritten obituaries, but will accept hand-written ones as long as they are legible and are double-spaced. And, please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity and taste.

Porting

(Continued from page 4)

his remarks "were not meant to reflect unfavorably on either the City of San Francisco or the Board of Supervisors."

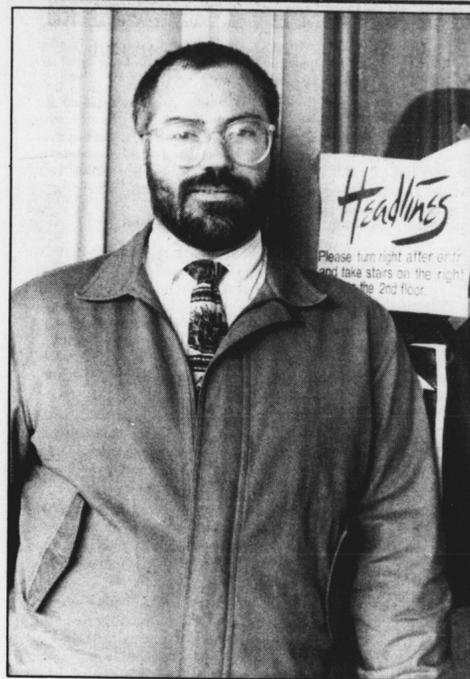
The squabble over the USS Missouri is far from over. The agreement with the Navy cannot be binding because important environmental reviews have not yet been concluded. The agreement's most important value is as a public relations tool to persuade the United States Congress to appropriate the funds to allow the dispersal of the naval fleet to ports throughout the country.

With the mushrooming federal deficit, uncertainty over who will sit in the Oval Office in 14 months, and criticism coming even from military stalwarts like Barry Goldwater, the homeporting of the USS Missouri still has many storms to survive before it finds safe harbor.

Veterans to March On Washington

There will be a meeting of Gay & Lesbian Military Veterans for the Bay Area Veteran Planning for the October March on Washington, at Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), 150 Eureka St., San Francisco, on Saturday, Aug. 22, 1:30 p.m.

For further information contact Michael Job (415) 386-7364 or call the March on Washington office, 861-5536.



Michael Drennon (Photo: Steve Savage)

Guess Who's Going To Dinner — Free

by Will Snyder

Michael Drennon was deep in thought. What should he serve to a dinner party for eight folks?

It was a nice problem for Michael, because the possibilities of what to serve were endless. One nice thing, though, is that he didn't have to lay down one red cent for whatever buffet he decided on. Headlines, the department store with locations in the Castro, Polkstrasse and Market St., was footing the bill for Michael and his gourmet friends.

Drennon was the winner of a catered dinner for eight. That was just one of \$2,000 worth of prizes he won from Headlines, which is celebrating its tenth anniversary in business. Michael also won free rent and utilities for one month, a gift certificate, PG&E payment for one month and Muni fast passes for one year.

"I'm going over the menus right now," said Drennon. "I haven't decided yet, but I know it will be quite the meal!"

Like Pat Piccolo, last month's winner, Drennon wasn't one with a good track record for winning anything, let alone contests. "I've never won a contest in my

life," he said, "not even something like Publishers' Clearing House."

Drennon said, however, that one quirk in his personality worked in his favor. He's a friendly sort who likes to lend his name to different things. "I'm the kind of person who likes to sign things," he said, "petitions, contests, you name it. I guess this time my luck was pretty good."

Someone else's luck will be pretty good this month, too. Headlines' giveaway for August will be airfare and accommodations in Acapulco, plus \$500 in cash and a \$250 gift certificate.

Reception For National March

On Thursday, Aug. 20 a group of Lesbian and Gay officials including Harry Britt, Jerry Berg and Todd Dickinson will host a reception for the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

The reception will take place at the newly acquired office for

the San Francisco/East Bay March on Washington Committee and the Names Project. The office is located at 2362 Market (Market at Castro). It will be held from 6-8 p.m., with a \$25 entry fee. Proceeds will go to the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs and the National March on Washington.

For further information call (415) 486-0269.

Demo Domo Kirk Wants 'Mainstream'

ATLANTA—Democratic National Committee Chairman Paul Kirk promised Southern Democrats that his party will be looking for more mainstream voters in the future. In a July 20 speech here, Kirk talked of forging a "new partnership" between voters in the South and

Democratic candidates.

"We can do so," said Kirk, "by responding to and reaffirming, first and always foremost, those visions and values of our national character we all share, wherever we may live, whatever our age, heritage or religion, whether we are sons or daughters, whatever the color of our collar, or the color of our skin." Kirk did not mention sexual orientation.

—The Advocate

Castro Lions' Leader Jon Wright, Dies

He Led Fight For Acceptance

by Jay Newquist

Jonathan Wright, 44, past president of the Castro Lions Club, died on Aug. 16 after a valiant one-year fight against AIDS. His body was cremated and his ashes scattered at sea off Bodega Bay.

A real estate broker who was better known for his passion for orchids, Jon arrived in San Francisco 15 years ago from New York City.

He took the reins of the fledgling Castro Lions Club in 1985 and he was a critical force for acceptance of the gay chapter by the straight Lions International membership.

"Jon was there as our first president at a critical time," recalled his roommate, Mike Newell, "and he explained what the Castro Lions were, and the importance of the hospice concept."

Wright was also a potent fundraiser, especially for Coming Home Hospice. He raised \$10,000 for the hospice while serving as President of the Lions. He entered the hospice one week ago to die among loving and caring people. His friends Steve Ernst and Robert Griese were in attendance at this death.

Wright was born in upstate New York on May 4, 1943. His friends in the Bay Area remember him as apolitical, not a joiner to just any cause, but an activist who concentrated his energies toward the Castro Lions and the Orchid Society.

"He didn't like work, but he was always gregarious, and he was everyone's friend," said Newell, who described their house in the Haight as full of friends and conversation.

Wright leaves his San Francisco family as well as Margaret and Stan Wright, his mother and father of Tampa, FL; two brothers, Phillip, of Rochester, NY and Jim of Gilroy; and nieces and nephews. There is no official memorial service, but his friends will gather informally at a later date.



Jon Wright

A contribution to Coming Home Hospice, Hospice of San Francisco or the Castro Lions will gratefully be accepted in Jon's memory.

At Odds

(Continued from page 13)

group, and the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a political action committee that donates to pro-gay candidates for federal of-

"Gaining federal protections against discrimination would remove one of the greatest barriers to successful prevention efforts," said Jeff Levi, NGLTF's executive director. "It took some time—and far too many deaths—for a consensus to build in Congress on this issue. But I am hopeful that given the heightened concern about AIDS in the na-

tion today, that this legislation can move quickly."

Vic Basile of HRCF said it is "shameful" that people who want to be tested are subjected to long delays before the test can be scheduled and added, "anyone who has made the decision to be tested should have immediate access to confidential testing and professional counseling."

MAKE DINNER MAKE FRIENDS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

AIDS is a hard fact of life for many of us in San Francisco, but we don't have to be helpless in the face of it. Since 1983, volunteers of the Shanti Practical Support Program have been making a difference. As a Practical Support Volunteer your gift of time means cooked meals, clean laundry and a clean place to live for someone with AIDS. It also means making friends and knowing how much you matter.

Tip the scales.
Be a Shanti Practical Support Volunteer.

777-CARE



SHANTI PROJECT



San Quentin Prison.

(Photo: Rink)

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Arriola said that prisoners "must sign up to see a dentist a year in advance," and that patients in the AIDS ward see a doctor only once a week, rarely for more than 15 minutes.

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Nez Pas

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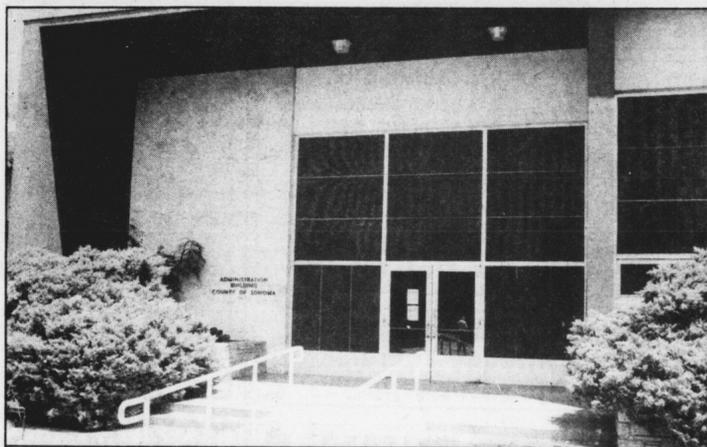
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(Continued on next page)



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by Ray O'Loughlin

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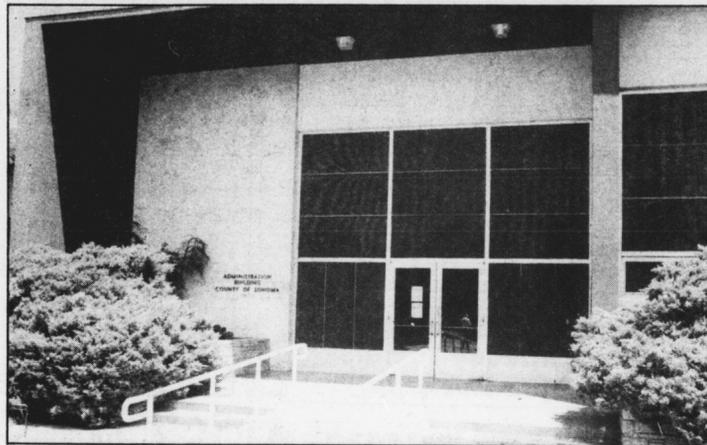
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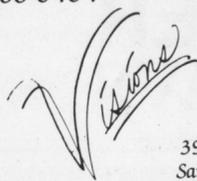
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Oakland Nurse Patty Rose squirts herself with water with Death Valley's magnificent desert in the background. Patty recently walked across Death Valley to raise money for AIDS projects. (Photo: Mick Hicks)

Postal Service

(Continued from page 14)

cept for those destined for Mexico. Each brochure was stapled closed and had the rubber stamp imprint of "Air Mail."

PILING UP

Undelivered brochures are piling up in the Milk Club's mailbox, Lewis said. These materials were stamped "unmailable" because the Postal Service said they were printed matter, and therefore must be mailed in an envelope.

Wald said the entire matter was quite straightforward. The Milk Club brochure was printed matter, not Air Mail, and required an envelope.

Lewis countered that the brochure was legitimately Air Mail. He said that mail is classified by the amount of postage, not by what it looks like.

Many brochures were being

delivered to their proper destinations, Lewis said, which proves that postal employees were either quite confused about postal regulations, or else they selected or rejected the brochure on an individual basis.

The Milk Club wants its money back for lost postage as well as for the ruined brochures which were defaced when they were returned. The monetary loss is several thousand dollars thus far as the marred brochures fall through the system.

In a face-to-face meeting with postal representatives, Lewis said the Milk Club's complaint was treated as a joke. The postal people then claimed the brochures violated Air Mail regulations as well.

'PANTS DOWN'

"The post office has once again been caught with their pants down," Lewis said. "They are scrambling like crazy to

locate some obscure regulatory justification for having ripped us off and refusing to forward our vitally important mail."

The AIDS brochure is cheaper to send by Air Mail rates (44 cents) than by placing it in an envelope (88 cents). The latter cost is further raised by 3 cents per envelope.

Most recently the Milk Club battled the post office in 1986 when it delayed a bulk mailing of political slate cards. They were delivered the day after the election.

"There are obviously a lot of homophobic people in the Postal Service," Lewis said. "They know they can get away with discriminatory behavior and postal management will do nothing to retaliate against these illegal acts."

"We have overwhelming evidence on our side, and we're just going to have to go to court," Lewis said.

Nez

(Continued from previous page)

How could L.M. get away from Rick long enough to make a phone call?

Just as the confusion about the T.G. Picnic and the Gay Rodeo being held the same day settled flyers were distributed by — who else? — Little Mother, announcing her next auction at the Town & Country. The date? You guessed it, the same Sunday as the Picnic and rodeo! She couldn't have it the following Sunday (Sept. 27) because that would conflict with

the Coronation.

New flyers will be out soon with the corrected date of Sunday, Oct. 18. Disregard all current flyers. (The flyer states that L.M. will don her apron and serve the filet mignon dinners. You can count on her to get someone else to do the serving. Hmmm? Oh, "Sammy" is doing the cooking.)

Most heartfelt get well wishes to Ed Paulson. He had a severe asthma attack which resulted in an emergency trip to the hospital.

A reported \$3100 was raised at the Casino Party at Paradise, but the "source" didn't want to be quoted. Proceeds will go to ISE,

Inc., BASH, Inc., and In Memory Foundation, Inc.

Hayward welcomes everyone to the Gay Rodeo Finals, Sept. 18, 19, 20. There will be free rides to and from the rodeo. There's live C/W music at the Turf Club, a patio bar, plus male strippers; Big screen video, plus cabaret, at Big Mama's Disco and all-night dancing at the Spoiled Brat — something for everyone!

A pipe gives a wise man time to think and a fool something to stick in his mouth. I smile!

Love, Nez

KPFA Changing Programs, Surveying Listeners

by Ken Bergeson

In the wake of the cancellation of Traffic Jam, an afternoon radio program of music and comedy with substantial gay content, Berkeley radio station KPFA-FM is conducting a listener survey to determine audience reaction. Traffic Jam has been replaced in the same time slot with a program called Rhythm Drive, a music show with no gay content.

Traffic Jam was targeted at afternoon commuter audiences. Although not specifically gay in content, three of its five hosts were gay or lesbian. An abundance of gay interests were covered, from AIDS reports to interviews with gay and lesbian authors, to reviews and live performances of local productions.

Traffic Jam gave air play to gay musicians such as Romanofsky and Phillips, whose albums are not often heard on other radio stations. Live music from local bands, including Leopard Set and Group Sax, was also frequently featured.

KPFA's listener survey is avail-

able in the August-September issue of Folio, the magazine for subscribers of KPFA. You can also pick up or request a copy of Folio at KPFA, 2207 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, CA 94704.

RECYCLE

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SF RECYCLING PROGRAM

Boas

(Continued from page 1)

ing construction of the new convention hall — later named for Moscone — and the city's huge sewer construction project to help clean up the bay.

Boas styles himself as a manager first, politician second. "The time has come to deal with real problems and to put politics behind us," says his campaign literature. It's time, he says, "for someone outside the old political alliances to lead the city."

For a man seriously campaigning for the highest office in City Hall, Boas strangely brags about the connections he does not have. Asked about who he works with in the gay and lesbian community, Boas candidly said, "I'm not very well connected to the gay community or to any other community, for that matter. I play it fair and straight."

As to who he consults with on gay issues, Boas said, "I've always listened to people I've respected, people who are objective." He paused, then named Tom Horn, Jerry Berg and Al SchAAF as three gay men he has consulted in the past on issues.

FISCAL CONCERN

The guiding principle to a Boas Administration would be red ink. On the issue of domestic partner benefits for gay and lesbian couples, for example, Boas was not opposed to the idea but cautious about endorsing any plan.

"I don't know a lot about it," he said. "I would want to review it. If it throws the city into the red, I'd oppose it. But if it doesn't, I'd be in favor of it."



"The time has come to deal with real problems and to put politics behind us. [It's time] for someone outside the old political alliances to lead the city." — Roger Boas (Photo: Steve Savage)

Would he as mayor introduce legislation for a plan that meets his criteria?

"No," said Boas. "Let Harry Britt who knows the issue introduce it."

But his fiscal sense of issues leads Boas to declare "I do better on AIDS than any of the other three," referring to rival candidates Art Agnos, John Molinari and Louise Renne. "The city is doing OK now," said Boas, "but pretty soon we're going to be spending \$100 million to \$250 million a year on AIDS and we're going to have to come up with a production curve" to evaluate the cost effectiveness of programs.

"I'd move very fast to get long term federal AIDS funds into the city. We need a new facility, more personnel, education efforts in the schools, and to revamp insurance and hospice care," he said.

Boas claims that criticism of him for failing to adequately manage the city Public Health

Department is a "bum rap." He said that the move to take the health department away from the CAO and place it under a mayor-appointed Health Commission, which a 1984 ballot initiative did, was politically motivated.

Part of the impetus behind that ballot measure was problems at San Francisco General Hospital that almost cost it loss of accreditation in some departments.

When highly critical state reports became known, "I went in there, removed some people, hired new people, and had the hospital turned around in eight months by October," said Boas in his defense. "I spent my time correcting the problems instead of fighting the ballot initiative. And it passed in November."

He praised the people on the city's Health Commission but not the idea. "It's not a good idea because it can't move fast enough" to address problems such as AIDS.

GET THINGS DONE

While Boas admitted to being uninformed on some gay issues, he was forceful in stating, "I'll get things done for the city and that includes the gay community."

"I'll introduce legislation to bring jobs back to the city," said Boas.

Asked why didn't he as CAO stop the flight of jobs from San Francisco in the first place, Boas responded, "As CAO, I didn't have a thing to do with jobs. That was the responsibility of the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor. They were the ones who passed all this Mickey Mouse legislation that's created this hostile (to business) atmosphere. I criticized them for the loss of jobs."

Proposition M, a 1986 ballot measure that placed strict limits on downtown development, was not supported by Boas. "Prop. M sent the wrong message to business," he said.

Boas favors use of zoning ordinances and comprehensive city planning to preserve the character of San Francisco's neighborhoods. "Our planning process is lousy. It's a rubber stamp that's allowed the wrong kind of development to take place," he commented, adding, "The City Planning Department needs to be entirely re-organized."

"If a development is job intensive, I'd help them," said Boas. "We can't afford to not have jobs come into the city."

AN OPEN DOOR

As for rent control, Boas favors the existing city ordinance as it is with no controls on vacant apartments. He said that only if it were shown that landlords were

substantially abusing the vacancy decontrol provision would he favor expanding the ordinance to prohibit unlimited raises in rent on empty residences.

For small businesses, Boas said he hoped that zoning controls banning chain stores and franchises from neighborhoods would "take the pressure off" local shop owners. If that failed, then he would favor commercial rent control.

One of the achievements of his tenure as CAO, said Boas, was the expansion of grants from the Hotel Tax Fund to more community arts groups. During Boas' term, a number of gay and lesbian organizations received their first public funds. Theatre Rhinoceros began in 1980 with a \$2500 grant. This year they will receive \$38,000. The Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade first got \$6700 in city funds in 1979; this year they received \$45,000.

"When we first funded the Gay Parade, there were some objections," said Boas, "but not anymore. I think the business community realizes that gays bring a lot to the city."

Roger Boas approaches City Hall as if it were the corporate headquarters for a business venture with a \$2 billion annual budget. "If I get to be mayor, I'll serve you well and fairly," he said. "I'm more competent and more experienced than the others," he added confidently.

He promised an open door to the mayor's office. "Anytime you disagree with me, come in and see me. I'll give you good value whether it's repairing the city or taking care of AIDS or cleaning up the environment."

And occasionally, he said, "I'll even smile."

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Day Phone _____ Evening _____

Please make checks payable to:
San Francisco Band Foundation

Mail to:
1519 Mission Street, San Francisco, California 94103

THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 21

- **Dancing Cheek to Cheek:** dancing and entertainment. Tocado Transfer, 520 4th St., S.F., dance class taught by Cynthia Glinka at 5:30 PM, \$3, live sets beginning at 6:30 PM, \$7. Featuring City Swing with Gail Wilson, the Ritz Dancers, and the San Francisco Tap Troupe. Call 621-5619 for more information.
- **Keegan and Lloyd:** stage performance. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10. New York performance artists Tom Keegan and Davidson Lloyd return to Theatre Rhino in two new works: "Crawling Off-Broadway" and "Passing on the Right and Other Accidents of Life."
- **American Fish:** stage performance. The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$5. The Playwright's Workshop at Theatre Rhinoceros presents Demece Garepis' comedy/drama exploring a young woman's passionate bonds with her stormy family.
- **Axis:** stage performance. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$7. A new, full-length play by San Francisco writer David Alphin.
- **Ladies Against Women:** stage performance. Julia Morgan Theater, College and Derby, Berkeley, 8:30 PM, \$9 at the door, \$7 in advance. The Plutonium Players in an evening of consciousness lowering to commemorate their first ten years of political satire.
- **Purple Stages:** opens with *Pursuit of Happiness*, a multimedia docudrama about the gay experience in Los Angeles during the last 20 years. Celebration Theatre, Silverlake, 8 PM. Call (213) 876-4257 for more information.
- **The Angel Drake Show:** with Linda Hill, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8-10 PM, free.
- **Sachiko:** music. Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Folk-punk singer/songwriter.
- **Sisterspirit Coffeehouse:** local rock band, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 8:30 PM, \$5-\$8 sliding scale.

- **Ladies Against Women:** (see Friday listing for details).
- **Purple Stages:** opens with *Pursuit of Happiness*, a multimedia docudrama about the gay experience in Los Angeles during the last 20 years (see Friday listing for details).
- **Inga Hoogerhuis:** music. Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. With Tracy Stark on piano.
- **Gift of Blood:** summer blood run to Club Atlantis. Blood donations begin at Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St., S.F., starting at 8:30 AM, departure from Most Holy Redeemer at 10:30 AM, meet up with other riders at River Rd. and Hwy 101 (Fulton Processing Plant) at noon, and on to Club Atlantis. Come by bike, bus, car, truck, or whatever, \$10 donors, \$12 non-donors. All participants will receive a run pin, full use of Club Atlantis facilities (pool, hot tub, basketball, volleyball, and tennis courts), beer/soda bust, beef and chicken BBQ, and reduced admission for Saturday night entertainment. Overnight camping available. (Call (707) 869-0671 for reservations.) Proceeds will benefit International Ms. Leather, Inc. and the InterClub Fund.
- **Fiesta Italiano Night:** AIDS benefit dinner. Cruiser Lounge, 2651 El Camino Real, Redwood City, 7 and 8:30 PM, \$20; door prize. Call 366-2437 for tickets; then call 336-4955 for seating reservations. No-host bar.
- **Team San Francisco:** meeting. Amelia's, 647 Valencia St., S.F., 10 AM to noon. Anyone interested in Gay Games III in Seattle in 1990 is invited to an exploratory meeting for the formation of Team San Francisco.
- **Yard Sale:** sponsored by friends of Operation Recovery and Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F. 9 AM-4 PM. Clothing, books, tools, games, toys, etc. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **East Bay FrontRunners:** Lake Merritt run. Meet at the corner of 14th St. and Oak near the Cameron Stanford House. Flat 3-mile loop. Call 261-3246 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 647-3227 or 337-8704 for more information.
- **Blazing Redheads:** music. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 9 PM, \$5.

SATURDAY 22

- **Arthur J. Bressan, Jr.:** film tribute. Castro Theater, 429 Castro St., S.F., midnight. *Gay USA-The Politics of Celebration* will be shown.
- **Event '87:** 12th Street Fair, 12th St. between Harrison and Folsom, noon to 6 PM. Entertainment featuring The Blazing Redheads. The S.F. Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, Danny Williams, Sandy Van, and Karen Ripley; celebrity guests including Sharon McNight, Gail Wilson, and Patrick Toner; raffle, game booths, food, and beverages. To benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund and Gay World Series XI.
- **Keegan and Lloyd:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **American Fish:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Axis:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Arthur J. Bressan, Jr.:** film tribute. Castro Theater, 429 Castro St., S.F., midnight. *Gay USA-The Politics of Celebration* will be shown.
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- **Keegan and Lloyd:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **American Fish:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Axis:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Girth and Mirth Club:** game night, 3744 16th St., No. 3, S.F. Call 820-2597 or 552-1143 for more information.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** lesbian game night, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Call 641-0999 for more information.
- **Finding the Right Man:** one-day workshop, \$25. Sponsored by the Partners Institute. Call 343-8541 for more information.
- **Casino Night:** to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund, the Gay Softball World Series, the No-Tap bowling tournaments, and the Cafe San Marcos softball teams, Cafe San Marcos, 2367 Market St., S.F., 8 PM-2 AM. Blackjack, Roulette, and Poker; prizes.
- **Modern Greek Conversation:** informal evening, home of Glenn Schmol, 8 PM. Call 681-0717 for more information.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** game fest, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 PM. Call 641-0999 for more information.



It will be You & The Night & The Music at the Venetian Room Aug. 24



Gay USA will be shown at midnight Aug. 22 at the Castro Theatre as a tribute to the late Artie Bressan

SUNDAY 23

- **Find A Cure!** dance party, 3rd and Harrison, 5 PM to midnight, \$10. All net door proceeds to benefit AM-FAR (American Foundation for AIDS Research). Entertainment by Sean Hayden performing the dance hits "Party Boy" and "Love Shock." Music by Steve Smith. No-host bar. Tickets at Ali American Boy, G.W. Finley, Headlines, and New York Man.
- **Bop Against AIDS:** with the Blazing Redheads, Oasis, 11th and Folsom, S.F., 3-7:30 PM, \$10. With MC Scarlet Harlot and door prizes. Proceeds to benefit the MidCity Consortium. Tickets at BASS. Call 751-4221 for more information.
- **Different Daughters: A Book By Mothers of Lesbians:** reading and signing by editor Louise Rafkin and some of the mothers who contributed to the book, Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St., S.F., 7 PM, \$3.
- **Who's Afraid of Box Office Poison?:** stage performance. Lipp's, 201 9th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$5. Starring Miss X, Phillip R. Ford, Tippi, Phil Mangano, Alexis A-Go-Go, Spider, and Doris Fish. Includes The Incredible Two-Headed Martha in "The Bit," Miss X Sings, and Phillip R. Ford's Hello Graceland Hello.
- **Keegan and Lloyd:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Purple Stages:** opens with *Pursuit of Happiness*, a multimedia docudrama about the gay experience in Los Angeles during the last 20 years (see Friday listing for details).
- **Lady Bianca:** music. Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8-11 PM, \$5.
- **Conjunto Nuevo:** music. El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM, \$5. Salsa.
- **Mikio and Friends:** music. Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 5 PM, \$5. Variety show.
- **Morgen Aiken:** music. Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Potrero Hill run. Meet at McKinley Park, 20th and Vermont, S.F., at 10 AM. 2 1/2 hilly miles including the "2nd crookedest street in the world" and panoramic views of the city. Call 647-3227 or 337-8704 for more information.
- **San Francisco Hiking Club:** Angel Island hike. Meet at Pier 43 1/2 at 10:30 AM to catch the ferry. Bring sweater or jacket, lunch, and canteen.
- **G40+:** Angel Island picnic. The ferry leaves from Pier 43 1/2 at 10:50 AM and costs \$6.20 round trip. Bring comestibles and comfortable shoes.
- **Slightly Older Lesbians:** social/discussion/potluck, 6:30 PM. Call 647-0413 for more information.

MONDAY 24

- **You & The Night & The Music:** entertainment extravaganza to benefit the San Francisco Band Foundation, Venetian Room, Fairmont Hotel, S.F., 8 PM, \$25. With host Michael Greer, featuring Pamela Brooks, Joseph Denney, The Flips, Cindy Herron, Mikio Hirata, Ron Lema, Dell Madill, Terry Mahaffey, Menage, Jae Ross, S.F. Gay Freedom Day Band, Samantha Samuels, Alma Sayles, Sandy Van, Vocal Minority, and Danny Williams. Tickets at Headlines. Call 621-5619 for more information.

- **Cris and Cosy:** music. I-Beam, 1748 Haight St., S.F., doors open 9 PM, show starts 10:30 PM, cover. With Spk.
- **S.F. Jacks:** gravy night, 890 Folsom St., S.F., doors open between 7:30 and 8:30 PM, \$6.
- **Leatherman's/SM Support Group:** meeting. Room 21, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 931-6160 for more information.

TUESDAY 25

- **Casual Italians:** music. Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 10 PM, \$2.
- **Low-Impact Aerobics:** Amelia's, 647 Valencia St., S.F., 6-7 PM, \$4.
- **Evening Group Orientation:** for people with AIDS or ARC. San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 333 Valencia St., 4th floor, S.F., free. Assistance in interpreting financial benefit systems, applying for government assistance programs, and information on social service agencies and discounts available. Call 864-4376 to reserve a space.
- **Comedy Plus:** open stage. Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, \$2. MC Sandy Van with special guests.
- **Marga Gomez:** comedy. The Other Cafe, 100 Carl St., S.F., 9 PM, cover. With Linda Hill, Paul Kozlowski, and Dan Spencer.
- **Ballroom Dance:** beginning instruction for lesbians and gay men, 3435 Army St., Studio 204, S.F., 8-9 PM, \$1. Call 587-0844 for more information.

WEDNESDAY 26

- **Comedy Plus:** open stage. Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, \$2. MC Sandy Van with special guests.
- **Marga Gomez:** comedy. The Other Cafe, 100 Carl St., S.F., 9 PM, cover. With Linda Hill, Paul Kozlowski, and Dan Spencer.
- **Ballroom Dance:** beginning instruction for lesbians and gay men, 3435 Army St., Studio 204, S.F., 8-9 PM, \$1. Call 587-0844 for more information.

THURSDAY 27

- **Barry Brady, Doug Holsclaw, Tom Ammiano, and Danny Williams:** comedy. Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, free.
- **Marga Gomez:** comedy (see Wednesday listing for details).
- **Barbary Coast Cloggers:** part of the entertainment schedule on the Civic Stage for the S.F. Fair and International Exposition, 7:45 PM, free.
- **Keegan and Lloyd:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Axis:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Tuffy Eldridge:** music. Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM, free.
- **Electric City:** television on S.F. cable channel 6, 9 PM. Footage of a March on Washington committee meeting, the Up Your Alley street fair, and an inspirational message from the Rev. Harry Feiwel. Screenings at Maud's, Peg's Place, and the Village.
- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** older gay men's friendship group (60+), Friendship Room, 711 Eddy St., S.F., 2:45 PM. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **Bay Area Bisexual Network:** meeting, third floor meeting room, Strawberry Recreation District, 118 E. Strawberry Dr., Mill Valley, 7:30 PM. Lorain Phippeny will lead a discussion on bisexuality in the '80s. Call 865-4927 for more information.

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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Who's That Grin?

Why, It's the Mona Lisa's Own Michael Greer!

by Joseph W. Bean

Michael Greer, who is scheduled to host this year's Band Foundation fundraiser Aug. 24 at the Venetian Room, is surely the most out of the closet, most outrageous comic-singer-writer ever to play the big time on stage, screen, and the cabaret circuit. The audience for the event, called "You and the Night and the Music," will be treated to a major sampling of local stage and cabaret talent, and two sets of Greer's widely celebrated comic and musical material.

When I first saw him, as one of a team called Jack and the Giants in the late 1960s, I knew he was onto something hot. While the almost unvarying fare in gay clubs of the time was lip-synch drag, Greer was doing his crazy, comic impressions live, and without costume. And everyone was saying, "If he'd do straighter material, he'd make it big."

The Mona Lisa was born in the Giants act. Any gay man, in fact, any person of any sort who has never seen this routine, is a deprived individual. Not to know Greer as the famous da Vinci painting is the cultural equivalent of not knowing what a gay "bath house" was really for.

The other Giants have made names for themselves, too. They were Roy Helland and Jim Bailey, who realized he had outgrown the lip-synch when Judy Garland came down to the Redwood Room in Los Angeles and sang with him. The illusions — costumes and make-up — for the show were Helland's art. Since the days with the Giants, he has gone on to create images for Meryl Streep, Linda Ronstadt, and others.

Greer's career, like Bailey's and Helland's, has been a steady upward spiral, with a few major leaps to special prominence, and a few years taken off and spent on himself. His first film, *What Am I Bid?* was not much of a rocket to stardom. It was a major step at that point in his growth, though. He was still "just" a queen in a gay bar act when he was hired to work with Chris Nelson (Ricky's wife, Mark Harmon's sister). From there, he went on, keeping the bar act alive while doing stage work and films.

Fortune and Men's Eyes with Don Johnson, directed by Sal Mineo, was an early dose of special visibility. As Queenie, Greer fairly owned the live show. Johnson was just pretty to look at. Okay, he was also doing a good job with the acting, but it didn't hurt that he was a sweet young thing either.

Then there was the film *The Gay Deceivers*, in which Greer got to shout out from a second-floor window. "I may not know my flowers, but I know a bitch when I see one." The line became standard English in certain circles, and Greer became the Great Gay Icon he has remained.

Films after that were bigger and bigger: *The Rose* with Bette



Michael Greer reveals his true identity.

Midler. *The Magic Garden of Stanley Sweetheart* with Don Johnson. *Loneley Guy* with Steve Martin, and of course, the film of *Fortune and Men's Eyes*. And, on stage, Greer's credits include a revival of *The Ritz* with Holly Woodlawn and Cal "Casey Donovan" Culver. *Of The Ritz*, Greer says, "If we had just previewed forever and never opened, we'd still be running." But, alas, the show goes down in history as one of the zillion that closed on opening night (after ten weeks of successful previews, in this case).

Recent triumphs in Greer's career include a two-week booking in Washington, D.C. that ended up being a 32-week run of his cabaret act, and a very successful stint playing both Theseus (Duke of Athens) and Oberon (King of the Fairies, of course) in Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, with Rita Moreno in Virginia Beach.

Also of relatively recent origin is Greer's role as lover and life-mate. He and his partner have now been together — fanfare please — four years! "Which is a miracle," Greer says, "because I didn't know anything about monogamy. I thought it was an old Diana Ross movie."

The happy couple, still honeymooning it seems, moved to Los Angeles this year, which is something of a homecoming for Greer. Shortly after they arrived in The Big Orange, Greer says, "I was stopped by the West Hollywood police. They read me my Miranda rights. 'You have the right to wear platform shoes, and pile fruit on your head...' No, but seriously folks..."

You ain't heard nothing yet. Among the current Greer material are such future classics as "K-

tel Presents. Billie Holiday Singing the Beatles" and "The Mona Lisa's Own Cabaret Act." That one worried me a bit. I wanted Mona to be just the way I saw her, even just the way I first saw her. "That's a Catch-22," Greer said. "If I do the old material, I'm condemned in print. They say, 'He hasn't changed a thing. And, if I don't do it, they say, 'Where are the classics?'"

I needed more reassurance. Mona can do something new, be a cabaret performer in her own right if she has to, but wouldn't Toulouse-Lautrec still have his nose in her business? "Well," Greer said, "yes." At my age, things like that are reassuring: What was, is.

For those of you who don't know Michael Greer, I may be painting an inaccurate picture. Besides the comic routines, he does a tremendous job with songs, his own compositions. Some of them are funny ("I Used To Be Shirley MacLaine") and some are quite serious ("The Ones Who Aren't Here," for those who have been taken by AIDS).

Straight, gay, or striped, there just aren't a lot of performers who have anything like Greer's range, talent, or charisma, or his remarkable ability to feel and respond to an audience. It's all there, going full-tilt no matter what kind of club or theater he's working, no matter what kind of material he's doing.

Greer loves San Francisco, and says some of the best times of his life have been spent here. In 1976 he went into a period of "Hollywood burnout," and, as he says, "I just temporarily lost my sense of humor." After nearly three years off, it was here, at Chez Jac-

Dancing The Interview Tango

Robert Is Not Bobby, And It's Not Poetry, Not A Play . . .

by Joseph W. Bean

Robert Goldstein, author of *Bobby*, is a strange and maybe wonderful creature. Talking to him is neither interview nor conversation. It is—well, you decide. Here's a sample of our . . .

After telling me he couldn't imagine why he was being interviewed since he is, in his own estimation, so unknown, Goldstein just sat still for a moment. Looking at him is more than a little bit pleasant, so I sat still too. Then I asked, "Is *Bobby* the first thing you've ever written?"

"No. *Bobby* isn't the first thing that I've written. Uhm. But I think it's close to being one of the first things I've written."

"What did you write before?" "Before? I wrote poetry. When I wrote *Bobby*, I thought I was writing a poem, and it turns out that *Bobby* is a series of stories.

"Is it in verse form then?" "No. No, I don't think they're in verse form. Hmm? No. It's not in verse form."

"And what is Tom Redalia (the scheduled performer) going to do with *Bobby*?"

"He's basically going to tell these stories."

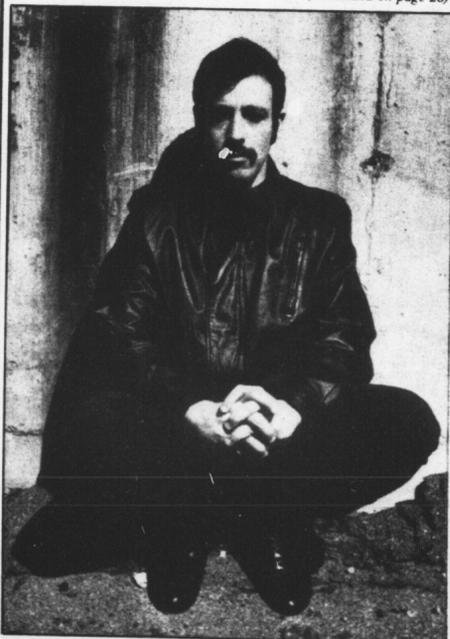
"So, it's more story telling than acting."

"No, he's going to be acting, but it's sort of southern story telling."

It took a while for me to catch the rhythm of what was happening, and to understand how to go on. Any facts I would get were going to be deductions more than communications. The process was intriguing, making Goldstein more impressively mysterious by the second.

Nonetheless, some hard facts were eventually verbalized, mostly after I said I thought I had "the information I need."

Goldstein is 5'11" tall, has dark hair which looks brown but which he likes to think of as black. He is, in his own words, "a 34-year-old, uhm, person, I guess." Furthermore, he has grey in his hair (which only he can see) and grey in his close-cropped beard (which is the reason he grew the beard, to enjoy the grey). But, it would amuse him or not bother him, or even be good, if (Continued on page 28)



Robert Goldstein

(Photo: N. Glaser)

ques in 1979, that he brought his career back to life. When he touches down at the Venetian Room Monday night, we'll get to see what has had critics raving

from coast to coast. And Greer will get another infusion of the special energy this city and its people always give him. ●

Art for Artie's Sake A Personal View of The Films Of Arthur J. Bressan Jr.

by David Lamble

"Artie, are you supposed to cry at a porno movie?" This rather telling remark by a friend and patron before the lights came up at the San Francisco premiere of *Forbidden Letters* hints at a continuing theme and paradox that runs through the cruelly truncated body of film art left us by Arthur J. Bressan, Jr.

In life, the bigger than life Mr. Bressan liked to please his friends: often giving impromptu one-man acappella concerts of opera and show tunes under the marquee of the Castro Theatre, his favorite movie palace. Artie, the filmmaker, made his audiences work for the pleasures to be found in his nine feature-length films.

Artie was certainly the most rigorously eclectic of modern gay movie artists. His oeuvre had an astonishing as well as intellectually and emotionally punishing range from gay documentary (*Gay USA*, the 1977 "Triumph of the Gay Will" against Anita Bryantism, as well as a parade film to end all parade films) to straight documentary (*Thank You, Mr. President*, the Public Broadcasting System-aided memorial tribute to John Fitzgerald Kennedy's virtual invention of the modern televised presidential press conference, and the only Artie film I could easily show my family) to full length gay docudrama (*Abuse*, "My battered child movie") to gay male pornography (*Passing Strangers*, *Forbidden Letters*, two erotic, nostalgic, almost documentary-like portraits of love among improper strangers in '70s San Francisco, as well as *Pleasure Beach*, *Daddy Dearest*, and *Juice*, "sexy, feel-good gay movies") to the final Bressan AIDS drama (*Buddies*, a film of the "plague years" written, shot and acted in a catharsis of laughter and tears).

As fascinating and frustrating as the body of work conceived and completed by Artie Bressan was, there is still another sunken continent of films imagined, scripted, but sadly never filmed. Every film writer to fall under the phrase-spinning spell of Artie Bressan has his or her prized collection of Artie quotes about still-born film "children." I still long to see what Artie would have done with *Inside Norma Garland*, "a projected regular mainstream comedy combining Norma Desmond and Judy Garland in a burlesque of the porno industry."

One of the reasons Artie never made his "mainstream comedy," which I'm sure would have been hilariously funny but anything but "mainstream," was that his films and his ideas for films would usually offend and scare the bejesus out of most of the gay and straight sources of serious money for large-scale independent filmmaking. Artie was not only boldly out and uncompromisingly gay in his film dreams, but he was also quite comfortable in rejecting and confounding the middle of the road gay community's conventional wisdom about what was politically viable on the screen.

Artie told me once that he could probably have raised significantly more than the \$27,000 it took to shoot *Abuse* if he had been willing to blue pencil the bold intergenerational love theme that helps to raise the picture above the ranks of television movies of the week. Artie gave



Artie Bressan (l.) with Richard Locke, strolling by the marquee advertising *Daddy Dearest*.

Canadian writer Robin Hardy of *The Advocate* his theory about why *Abuse*, his most critically acclaimed feature, failed to play with audiences as well as it had with critics. "Abuse puts forward two ideas through the fusion of conventional techniques and radical material: first, that child abuse comes from love; and second, that kids are much more truly human than we give them credit for. The first is a blockbuster of an idea. The second is an incendiary bomb. Either in a film is good enough to decommercialize it."

Artie also confided to me that despite *Abuse's* *Casablanca*-like ending it was still not most couple's, homo or hetero, idea of a Saturday night date flick. "Unless it's a big vehicle with a big star that can protect them from some of the heaviness, like Meryl Streep in *Sophie's Choice*, most folks don't go to the movies to be 'entertained' by heavy issues. I learned a hard lesson from those friends who never saw *Abuse*.

But Artie Bressan was the kind

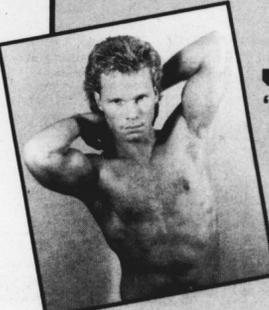
of man who needed more than one hard lesson to keep him from trying to make the kind of movies he needed to make. Artie's final feature, *Buddies*, was not only the first full-length film about AIDS, but also the first to tell the story uncompromisingly through the eyes of a '70s gay activist turned '80s AIDS patient, rather than from the point of view of homophobic parents, or sympathetic grandparents, or from a more middle-of-the-road gay or guppie mind set.

Had he lived a few decades beyond his 44th birthday, Artie Bressan undoubtedly would have continued to grow as a film maker, and maybe someday his creative grasp would not have exceeded his financial reach. Artie had longstanding dreams to film Christopher Isherwood's gayest and greatest novel, *A Single Man*, with, he told Edward Guthmann in a 1979 interview, Isherwood co-writing the screenplay "and Jason Robards playing the single man. I'd also film Rolf Hoch-

(Continued on next page)

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David Schacter (l.) and Geoff Edholm in *Buddies*.

Bressan

(Continued from previous page)

huth's *The Deputy*. It's about the silence of the Vatican in World War Two. It would have to be a large budget — you'd have to reproduce Europe."

Artie's final work was a (as yet) unfiled screenplay (written with Jerry Douglas) about the gay son of the president of the United States and what happens when the young man is diagnosed with AIDS. *South By Southeast* reads and might play like a very entertaining but melodramatically harrowing slice of the evening news. As a 1987 film it could be a timely mind-blowing statement.

But then Artie Bressan was never afraid of mindblowing or closet-burning movies. In his 1983 interview with Robin Hardy, Artie had this exit line about coming out. "When you've finally told the world you're gay, you set about trying to explain yourself. Only after opening the closet door, dismantling it, and burning the remains as firewood to keep warm, do you set off on the future journey to share yourself with everybody. It's very challenging, but when it works, you really feel connected to everything. There's an eerie form of exhilaration in dropping the safety net."

Bobby

(Continued from page 26)

I'd describe him here as 6' tall with blond hair.

He and his story character, Bobby, are both from Charleston, South Carolina, but *Bobby* is not to be taken as autobiography. They seem to have a number of other times and places in common. The difference is that Bobby's story is no secret while Robert's is, if not secret, at least not to be shared with strangers. I was (am?) a stranger.

Things grew "curiouser and curiouser," or I did anyway. And, even though my curiosity about the writer's life and art was otherwise unsatisfied, I can report some very heady "connections" for this "unknown" writer.

Goldstein says that he is a "writer-in-training," and that Harold Norse is his teacher. Who wouldn't like to claim one of the world's most published and respected poets as his teacher? But, you can believe it. Norse and Goldstein live together, and have a loving, non-sexual relationship.

The inspiration for staging *Bobby* as a performance piece—not play, not dramatic reading, not performance art, etc.—is none other than Robert Chesley. Of course, Chesley (author of *Night Sweat and Jerker*) is an

The Politics of Celebration

In the tradition of his many San Francisco premieres, Arthur J. Bressan Jr.'s friends are presenting his powerful 1977 documentary, *Gay USA*, at the landmark Castro Theater, scene of its S.R.O. opening exactly a decade ago. The film tribute will begin at midnight, Saturday, Aug. 22.

Bressan asked that his films be allowed to speak for him. In the turbulent summer of 1977, he rushed *Gay USA* to the screen in ten weeks to rally the community against the forces of bigotry then on the march. *Gay USA* documents a nationwide struggle to speak out against that oppression. It has been a cry heard around the world. *Gay USA* has gone on to play to foot-stomping audiences from Maui to Berlin.

All Bressan's films mirror his life. They are love stories, and *Gay USA* tells the story of his love for the men and women, old and

young, who made up his world. Contrasting the grim horror of pink triangles and concentration camps with the sunny celebration of lesbians from Kansas and Jewish boys in New York, the film reminds us how precious human freedom is — and how precarious.

At the end of Bressan's 1985 AIDS film *Buddies* (filmed before his own illness), one lone figure parades in front of the White House, picketing for the release of all the monies to fight AIDS. *Gay USA* magnifies that solitary voice of gay and lesbian people fighting back.

Stuart Loomis, Bressan's long-time friend and a backer of his films, says the special midnight showing of *Gay USA* provides an opportunity for the community. "We can look back and remember the spirit of '77 and rekindle that spirit for the struggle that faces us now."

inspiration to many people. But, in this case, Chesley and director Kelly Hill actually collaborated with the writer in creating the stage version of the work.

Later, Chesley told me he thinks *Bobby* is "a remarkable work." And, after saying that it's a bit hard to describe, he was perfectly happy to have me think of it as "a play, at this point." You have my permission to think the same way.

Meantime, by which I mean as I was leaving, I also discovered that this unknown writer's work has been published locally, that he has a reading scheduled in Los Angeles, and that *Bobby* will be performed in Los Angeles as part of the Purple Stages Festival.

So much for unknown! Whenever the mystery of Goldstein fogged the room, he cleared the air in a way only an artist can: He pulled out his work, and let me see for myself what he wasn't talking about. He read me two sections from *Bobby*, after blushing disclaimers about not being an actor. I only hope Tom Redalia is "not an actor" to a similar degree.

Smiles, reflections, memories, and some heart-pangs passed over me as he read. I laughed a few times, but that seemed to bother him so I tried not to do it. Later he said he had hoped people would laugh more at *Bobby*.

First Play's First Night

by Joseph W. Bean

Axis is a naturalistic story about the ways we use and abuse one another. Just as children get their way by crying, these adults get their way with each other. Of course, as adults, they have also become skilled at more subtle manipulations, but it comes down to the same thing.

The play is directed by David Alphin, a respected member of the local theater community. Actors who have worked under his direction are eager to praise his abilities. The critics have liked him, too. Now, daring success to follow, he is striking out in a new direction: he also wrote *Axis*.

The script is an experiment in language, closely related to the cubist experimental writings of Gertrude Stein and her imitators. But, this is not a work of imitation. The psychology of the characters and their bent lives are exposed in a completely traditional form, making the play accessible in ways that cubist writing never is. And still, the artful echoing and repeating of phrases is there, beating time for the developing story.

The gist of the play's tale is relatively simple. A woman (played by Ellen Brook Davis of *AIDS Show* fame) is stuck in a dying town where she and her paralyzed father are the last living residents. Her gay, illegitimate son (Eric Newton of *Salome*) comes home to meet over his things, and is met there by his foreign lover who is going to take him away to San Francisco. The lover (Ron Lanza of *The Enclave*, etc.) wants to marry so he can become an American citizen, and finds the desperate mother a convenient "mate."

From that point forward, the story is all consequences. It is hardly likely that anyone will get what he or she wants and happiness by the extortion involved here.

Mary Milton and Nick Martin play the church lady and the minister. Their seams are the sort we are used to in such characters, sort of Jim and Tammy Faye on a beer-bottle budget. The paralyzed "Gramps" is played by Ben Gardiner, aka Oola, the Radical Faerie. He looks so perfect in the role all else can be excused, even if his performance never quite comes to life.

By now it must be completely apparent I am not commenting on the performances, and I'm not going to either. I left the theater on opening night furious. The play was nowhere near ready for public performance, much less critical attention. The ensemble was under-rehearsed. The blocking was not always in synch with the lighting. The set was causing trouble for some of the action and movement. The whole thing seemed horribly and stupidly jumbled. And, most disappointing of all, the performance of every member of the cast seemed to be running along at a level somewhere between an early reading and a late rehearsal.

Since then I have discovered that a last-minute cast change had to be made, and I have found out that the play was only run twice on the New Performance Gallery stage. I have noticed that there were no preview performances, and I have talked to several people connected with the show about the problems.

What time could not repair is already very good. The set, by Barbara Butler, is excellent. It is organized, colored, and lit beautifully. The lighting, by Chris Collins, plays on the set with a well-ordered, mood-shifting flow.

What it comes down to is that I should not have been there for *Axis* on the night called the opening of the play. That should have been a rehearsal. It should have been followed by one or two pre-

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by Joseph W. Bean

Crawling Across Gay America

Tom Keegan and Davidson Lloyd's two-piece suite is better than I will be able to tell you, and better than your friends say, too. In fact, it's a no-holds-barred explosion of language, light, memory, hope and emotion.

The two pieces are very different. The first is relatively light fare, a bit of post-modern vaudeville. Or, as you will hear from the stage, "the avant garde with a sense of nostalgia." It sparkles with sophisticated wit, makes no concessions to glib hipness, and twinkles with fairy dust. And, it's called *Crawling Off Broadway*.

You don't have to be a performing artist to know that success is scary. Oprah and Phil have coaxed that out of a lot of stars. But in *Crawling*, Keegan and Lloyd make stage fright, fear of success, and love-o-phobia into exhibition games. Fortunately, you don't have to play, just watch.

On the other hand, when you laugh, a part of your heart will say, "aren't we funny creatures? We are. Keegan and Lloyd aren't just exposing themselves to us. They don't stop at inviting us to look—and laugh—at ourselves. They frankly prove we're all ridiculous, one way or another. Then they leave us laughing, which might be good medicine or just great fun.

I'm used to watching audiences flee during intermission when the performance is non-traditional, highly personal or emotionally sophisticated. *Crawling* is all of the above, but I don't believe a single member of the audience left at the break.



Davidson Lloyd (l.) and Tom Keegan

(Photo: J. Moore)

The second piece is slightly more traditional in the sense that it conveys an order of events over a period of time. Still, you can't call the through-line of *Passing on the Right and Other Accidents of Life* a story.

The surface of the piece is two lovers making a car trip from New York City to California. It hits all the bumps at full speed. It connects.

Beneath the veil of "driving across the country" are endless

levels of self-questioning, love testing, inner conflict, and fear. This would be more than enough material for three full-length Broadway hits and a ballet, or one Wagnerian opera. But alongside all that, there is also a patchy history of the Gay Soul searching for its place in American history.

The high points in *Passing* come when all the levels and degrees of meaning meet on a single note. Inner and outer

worlds collide or coincide at these moments, giving a few words the power to comment simultaneously on gay history, the relationship of the two characters, the development of human consciousness, and the cross-country drive.

Art being the matter of experience that it is in the hands of true adepts like Keegan and Lloyd, citing an example is probably foolhardy. Nonetheless, fool that I am, I will.

At a time when their relationship is fizzling, becoming more a barrier than a bond, the guys stop at the Grand Canyon or some such place. Read chiasm for canyon, and you already have a superficial hint of how the layers intertwine. At this point, the lovers are split along philosophical lines, too. Keegan's gone Kundalini crazy, while Lloyd is a red-blooded American. "I wouldn't be a bit surprised," Lloyd says, "if this whole area was once covered in ten feet of ice." It's an off-hand remark about glaciers, and the rest is up to you.

You're right. It was worse than foolish for me to quote words when mood, build-up, tone, gesture, posture, and music are essential to understanding. You'll just have to go see for yourself.

While you're there, you'll also be treated to a brief but remarkable ballet of erotic and romantic love. How it could move so gracefully, so unselfconsciously while skirting the brink of gushy sentiment, I don't know. Again, you'll have to see for yourself.

Actually, there's a ballet in *Crawling*, too. It will remind you of the Feiffer cartoon dances. You know the ones. The gaunt modern dancer says, "This is my dance to Ollie North's heroic pose of honesty," or something of the kind.

Keegan and Lloyd, along with director Dan McKereghan, have created an evening of theater as moving and satisfying as anything we've been offered this year.

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Keith White

The Allure of the French

It was windy and cold last Thursday night at the Concord Pavilion, where a near-capacity crowd showed up for what will surely be the last Bay Area performance of ballet superstar Rudolph Nureyev. It must have been the weather and the hard stage floor that caused so many problems for the dancers in *Nureyev and Friends*, an impressive group of past and present members of the Paris Opera Ballet, where Nureyev is currently artistic director. Gislaïne Thesmar and Serge Lavoire missed two out of the three pirouette-to-fish-dive combinations that come, one after another, at the end of the adagio in the *Sleeping Beauty* grand pas de deux. Later, midway through her solo variation in the *Napoli* pas de six, Clothilde Vayer injured herself too seriously to continue, limping offstage and lying in the first wing until the end of the ballet when a blackout allowed personnel to carry her backstage.

But it was a treat to see these dancers under any circumstances. The Paris Opera is the only major company of recent years to play the East but not the West Coast. The Opera's ballet school is the oldest in the world and, some theorists believe, the purest, due to its insularity over the years. Until recently, the company itself had rarely traveled in English-speaking countries (though Gislaïne Thesmar has appeared as a guest artist with the New York City Ballet on several occasions). Nureyev's directorship has extended the company's venues and hastened the promotion of young talent, a process

that used to be delayed by a complex bureaucracy and ranking system of eight levels through which any dancer had to pass before being given principal roles to perform.

Marie Christine Mouis, a former Paris Opera dancer who has recently been associated with the Boston Ballet, appeared here last November in Cynthia Gregory's Celebration Tour company, but she was shown to better advantage by Nureyev, setting the audience on its ear in the *Don Quixote* pas de deux with Eric Vu-An. Vu-An, a young Paris Opera étoile (that company's designation for particularly celebrated principal dancers), moves with a brash exuberance that doesn't camouflage his unpolished edges, but he has undeniable star quality.

Another young male dancer, Serge Lavoire, is the quintessential *dansur noble*, with a magnificent physique and the earthy elegance of a country lord. It would have been quite a feat for Nureyev to maintain his status in such company, but his is the name that draws. Nureyev opened the program in Balanchine's *Apollo*, a thin, stringy spectre of his former self. He looked better in two male duets, Bejart's *Songs of a Wayfarer*, with Vu-An, and David Parsons' *Two Brothers*, with Lavoire. In both ballets the style is freer and less formal than Balanchine's neoclassicism, and in both duets the erotic element is almost nonexistent, so the relationships recalled Nureyev's actual relationship as mentor to these young male dancers.

(Continued on page 44)

The Pop Tarts of Opera

One of the classic rules of journalism is that, when given testimony which bears a decidedly biased slant, one should always consider the source. Although Colonel Oliver North's recent performance before a Congressional investigating committee may have out-tear-jerked *Days of Our Lives*, one must nevertheless be careful to note the difference between North's skillful manipulation of the public's emotions and the gross arrogance which allows men like "Fix-It Ollie" to subvert their government's system of checks and balances.

Was Fawn Hall merely doing her administrative duty by shredding documents or was she instead, as one of my friends prefers to believe, "just following orders like a good little Nazi"?

All I ask is that you consider the source.

"Haven't you heard?" hissed one of the Muscle System's prima donnas the other day (a man who should know better than to throw barbells in glass gymnasiums). "That tired slut's hole is so wide her friends have tried to install a traffic feeder lane like the one you see on the Hollywood Freeway!"

Methought the lady did protest too much.

"We only have \$38,000 left to our names. Why, the stress has been so bad I've even broken my nails," cried Tammy Faye Bakker.

"I've raised the dead on several occasions but, I'm, telling you, if I don't receive that \$8 million, God will call me back," chimed in Oral Roberts.

If you believe that crap, there's a bridge I'd like to sell you.

Better yet, how about an opera? How about one of those operas that's guaranteed to succeed? Unfortunately, in this era of recorded music (where everything is locked into perfection) even the most tried and true operatic works can suffer a bad night. Artistic compromises whose ramifications were grossly underestimated can suddenly balloon into major debacles which shock an audience. It isn't often that one sees this happen but, when one does, the results stick out like a sore thumb. And this summer, despite some misguided standing ovations, sore thumbs were cropping up in the most unlikely places.

WHY DON'T YOU HOP ON MY HABANERA?

Although it is one of the most popular works in the operatic literature, Bizet's *Carmen* has always been one of the most difficult works to stage effectively. As more than one critic has noted, in a work as taut and vital as this opera, the dramatic pacing and subtle musical relationships which exist both within and between each musical number can easily be sabotaged by a director's unfortunate whims.

A disaster on its opening night in 1875, *Carmen* has often imploded under its own weight when producers wrongfully assumed that this opera—by sheer dint of its popularity—could either propel itself to success or survive bizarrely inspired casting mistakes. Not so.

No matter how you approach Bizet's score, *Carmen* remains a big show which needs room to breathe. By no stretch of the imagination should it be thought of as an intimate chamber opera



Emily Golden's fiery gypsy girl was unable to have its full effect in the Opera Theatre of St. Louis' clumsily conceived production of Bizet's *Carmen*.

and, despite the directorial conceits of highly respected theater people like Peter Brook and Colin Graham, it should not be crammed into a tiny theatrical space on the absurd premise that, when experienced close up, its dramatic impact will overpower an audience.

This year, the Opera Theatre of St. Louis tried to stage *Carmen* in its tiny Loretto-Hilton Theatre and, despite the best of intentions, Colin Graham's ideas backfired disastrously. Forced by the size of the theater's pit to use a scaled-down orchestra, conductor Richard Buckley could not produce the huge, exciting sounds demanded by Bizet's score. When restricted to the confines of a stage which resembles a postage stamp, Prosper Merimee's characters found themselves with no room in which to assert themselves.

While I admired Emily Golden's smoldering gypsy girl and Kallen Esperian's Micaela, Peter Puzzo's Don Jose was so painfully off pitch for most of the performance that it became genuinely embarrassing. Lee Velta's butchly handsome Escamillo made a much stronger impression on the eyes than on the ears. Placing the chorus on the theater's catwalks did little to alter the claustrophobic monotony of John Conklin's unit set and, although Graham paced the show to prevent any audience applause from interrupting the dramatic action, his concept did not work.

The audience, of course, applauded wildly because they knew they were hearing some of opera's most popular tunes. But the sad truth is that, despite the cast's bravest efforts, this staging of *Carmen* was little more than a bad idea gone wrong.

SUCK ON MY SEGUIDILLA!

Although it was not a total dramatic success, the English National Opera's new production of *Carmen* was at least blessed with some fresh and fascinating ideas.

Although double cast, the *Porgy and Bess* company had been working as an ensemble for nearly six months under the batons of Roger Cantrell and John Demain. Having received tumultuous ovations in more than a dozen cities, the cast was eagerly anticipating a major triumph in San Francisco. What went wrong? According to inside sources, the San Francisco Opera had insisted on Richard Bradshaw conducting *Porgy and Bess* as a stipulation of its participation in the co-production with nearly a dozen other opera companies. Bradshaw (who although he may be conducting *Borgy and Bess* at Glyndebourne this summer, conducted his San Francisco performances like a civil servant in a rush to get home from work) only had one technical rehearsal with only one of the sets of principals. An additional complication came from how the lights had to be hung in San Francisco—a geographical scenic factor which not only forced the cast to perform further upstage than usual but wreaked havoc on the production's sound system.

The musical mishmash which resulted was an appalling disaster which transformed an extremely tight ensemble effort into a pathetic mess which was professionally embarrassing to the cast, crew, orchestra and opera company. At the performance on Friday night, June 26, one could sense the unease of the performers as Bradshaw plodded through the score, completely oblivious to their discomfort as well as the music's poetry. That weekend, following intense criticism from both the press and the cast, Bradshaw was replaced.

By the final performance on Sunday evening, July 5, Roger Cantrell's leadership had restored the musical balances in the orchestra, allowed the score to breathe, and once again made this *Porgy and Bess* the wonderfully musical spectacle audiences had enjoyed in so many other cities.

Douglas Schmidt's sets and Nancy Potts' costumes (which were seen here in 1978) continued to exert their charm. Although the cast's diction could have been better, Gershwin's score still stands as a vitally exciting contribution to the operatic literature. If I have one major criticism of this production, it is that Gershwin's opera contains so much exposition that, when performed in two acts instead of three, the audience tends to become emotionally exhausted and dramatically confused. Thus, although Jack O'Brien's staging remains crisp and efficient, there is simply too much to digest without any pause for relief.

In addition to the excellent black chorus which traveled with this production, I particularly enjoyed Marjorie Wharton's feisty Maria, Jubilant Sykes' handsome Jake, Rita McKinley's exquisite Clara, and Denise Woods' sublime Strawberry Woman. Terry Cook and Henrietta Davis sang the leads in the first cast I saw, with Gregg Baker's mightily muscled Crown and Larry Marshall's wonderfully slimy Sportin' Life lending sturdy support. Alas, Patricia Miller's Serena was straight out of the semaphore school of acting and, with everyone nervously eyeing Bradshaw on the podium, the evening's musical and dramatic tension was

(Continued on page 44)

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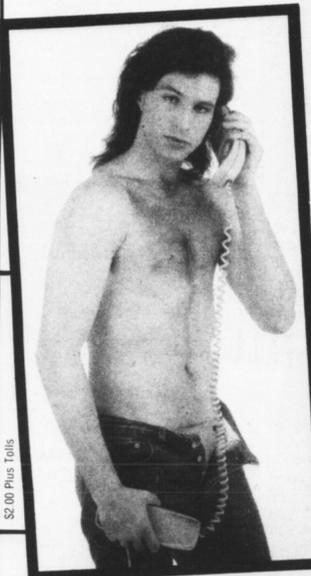
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Mr. Marcus

Time To Tangle On Twelfth Street

Do you suppose you can put away or delay your laundry, bill-paying, shopping, haircuts, and the various other boring things you do on Saturday afternoons and come South of Market to party from Noon to 1900 hours? It's Event '87, a street fair on 12th Street between Folsom and Harrison with booths, booze, food, games, and lots of cruising!

On top of all that, the entertainment beginning at 1300 on two, repeat, two, stages will include Danny Williams, Tom Amiano, Sharon "Nonsense" McNight, and the Blazing Redheads! And it's all free! In the end you'll pay, and your fins, 10-spots, 20s, half Cs and C-notes will all benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund and the GSL World Series. It's being put on by the SF-Eagle softball team (not just one or two as you may have been led to believe), and who knows, you may meet the man you're going to divorce next Spring! Erik Nielsen has taken the time out of his latest project (Gay Day at Marine World/Africa USA) to help the team put this extravaganza on the concrete for all of you.

So drop in before you do your chores and live it up a little; who cares if you don't get your chores done, bills paid, attend that "I didn't want to go to that dinner-party anyway"? It'll be a lot of fun, so be there or beware!

Of course, before that there's a ton of stuff to do. Thurs., 20 Aug., they're bringing together all the Bare Chest Contest winners who will be on the '88 calendar (to be photographed by Robert Pruzan and Victor Arimondi) to compete for the spot on the cover. The fun starts at 2200 hours. The Misterys of Each Month will be auctioned off for a dinner date to the highest bidders, and there'll be surprise judges and a lot of crazy shenanigans. See you there?

Friday, 21 Aug., My Place,



The Blazing Redheads will be part of the entertainment at Event '87 Aug. 22 (Photo: Marcus)

'Who cares if you don't get your chores done, bills paid . . . It'll be a lot of fun, so be there or beware!'

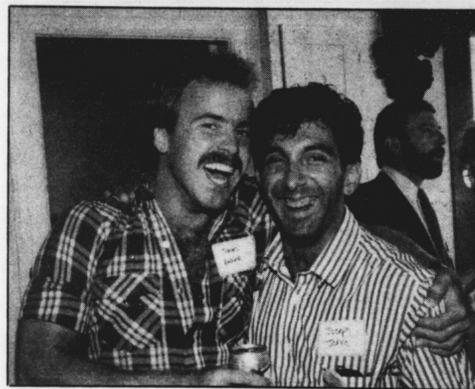
1225 Folsom, formerly the Ramrod, has their grand opening according to "CB," the manager, with lots of fun and surprises of course.

If you're one of those dudes aspiring to become one of the Pigs in Paradise (read: a San Francisco Police Officer) and you've applied for the positions now open, the Golden State Police Officers Ass'n. is having a class for those of you taking the tests required of all applicants. The first class is Friday evening, Aug. 21, beginning promptly at 1930 Hours at MCC Church, 150 Eureka. This is something all of

(Continued on next page)



Sharon McNight (r.) hosted a party for mayoral candidate John Molinari last Monday, here with Laurie McBride (Photo: Marcus)



Leather Daddy's Boy James Buhler (l.) and Joe 'Ms. Peckerhead' Johns sample the wine at the Molinari for Mayor party. (Photo: Marcus)

from 1800-2000 on Thursday, Sept. 3. I love you John, but it's either my phone being disconnected or your campaign, so I'd rather use my phone to get out the vote on election day. Besides, I don't like wine!

Don't forget in the further future: Leather Daddy's Boy Contest, Sept. 6; Folsom St. Fair, Sept. 20; Castro St. Fair, Oct. 4; Gay Night at Africa USA, Sept. 26; Gay Rodeo Sept. 18-20; Patsy Cline Party Sept. 15; Golden Dildeaux Awards (TBA).

Also, no thanks to Dick Ferris who's putting the event on, the 5th Annual 1987 SF Bodybuilding Championships are at the Palace of Arts on Sat., Sept. 12. Gary Staydom will be a guest poster and watch this space next week for his photo!

LeSalon and Falcon are both coming out with some hot new



Louise Molinari congratulates Patrick Batt of Mercury Mail Order after presenting him with a Certificate of Honor from the Supes (Photo: Marcus)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

you should attend if you want to become a legit uniform wearer!

The Constantines 20th Anniversary weekend run is this weekend, and with space limited to 150 guests it may already be sold out. And don't try to get in at the gate because no apps will be accepted. The theme is "Our Town" and I don't know if that's the movie or the song, but you'll find out when you get there. Sorry, I don't have a phone number for you to call.

If you're feeling flush, you can buy a \$100 ticket to the Molinari for Mayor reception at the Conservatory of Flowers (in GG Park)

tainer of the Year he didn't know it would lead to his appearances at all those lovely places like the SF-Eagle, Powerhouse, Folsom, Dore, Castro, Haight, Polk Street fairs, and now the Venetian Room at the Fairmont!?! Love that sweet smell of success huh, honey?

If you're feeling flush, you can buy a \$100 ticket to the Molinari for Mayor reception at the Conservatory of Flowers (in GG Park)

'I don't know who won, but from what I hear it was a marathon of drag entertainment . . . !'

videos, so keep on the backs of you fave video store for them. Terry Photo has a whole library of muscle videos available for rent so call 285-3838 for where and cost!

So many people were under the weather with the latest strain of flu, it was dull everywhere except at the Ms. Gay Intl. competition and the Troc's Bartenders Bash. Jim "Felicia" Flint of the world-famous Baton

in Chicago flew in to co-MC the event with the divine 1st Empress of Los Angeles (when it was fun), LaRey. I don't know who won, but from what I hear it was a marathon of drag entertainment and even Janet Corey was exhausted!

Over at the Troc (sorry, Dick), some one thousand two hundred men who claimed to be friends of the great SF bartenders we have gyrated 'til 0900 Sunday mor-

(Continued on next page)

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Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

ning for the Bartender's Bash with Sean Heyden and Napata Mero onstage. Pierre Madeau, the cutest trapeze artist since the gods only know when, performed his act and had the "girls" swooning all over the place. Great party, and the cha-cha mavens continued over at the Endup and more than 3/4ths of them never made it out until last night! Dick Collier really knows how to throw a party. I can't wait to see what

he's got planned for a certain Mr. DeLuca who works for Tim Wolfred! Which brings me to...

DISH DISH MY LOVE, ONE BIG DISH DISH WILL DO

Unbeknownst to probably most of the current members of the Warlocks M/C, one of their most popular members way back when it was really fun to be a bike club member, Bill Donovan, was

in town (visiting from his new domicile, Washington, D.C.). Looking fit, tan, and handsome as ever, Bill was wandering

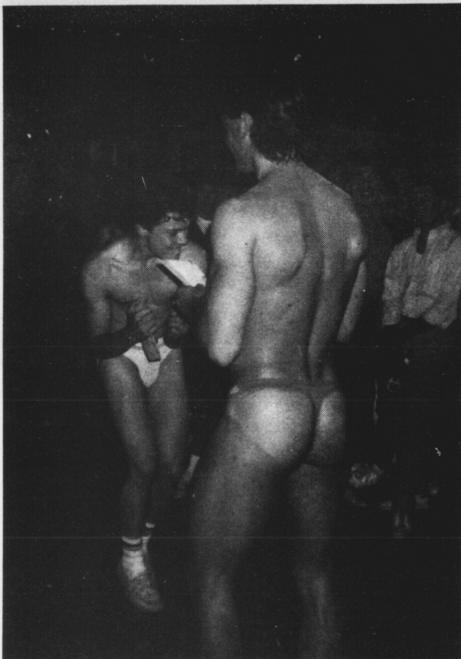
'Remember the Warlocks M/C Auxiliary? Those were the days . . .'

around South of Market looking for old pals and of course, Ms. Myra. Remember the Warlocks M/C Auxiliary? Those were the days . . .

Another rare face (at the SF-Eagle beer bust last Sunday), Supervisor Harry Britt was out and about, greeting the troops. Harry really gave 'em hell at Shitty Hall over the porting of the Big Mo'. The only good thing I can see in it all is that there will be a lot of seafood around once the troops get here.

We are now at the Asian Museum where a very heterosexual supervisor spotted a lesbian patting the buns of some of her fel-

This young man won a spot on the Endup Buns calendar, but then declined the offer (Photo: Marcus)



Remy

From One Title to Another



Grand Duchess Flame

As most of you have read, the results of the recent campaign and election for Grand Duke and Duchess was presented at the Grand Ducal Ball Saturday, Aug. 8. Unfortunately I was unable to attend due to work commitments.

I had predicted that the race between the Grand Duchess candidates would be close and that the pivotal candidate would be Gaby. It was just that. During the campaign she was able to impress a lot of people. Although there were two seasoned opponents who most saw as where the battle would be, Gaby became a serious

campaign managers. One committee used beepers to martial transportation to certain areas and check on the number of voters being transported to the polls. All of this showed how crucial election-day activities are.

I must admit that Pat Montclair's remake of Miss Piggy was phenomenal. The change even included a positive personality change which impressed a lot of people. Keep it up Piggy. It can only get better.

Congratulations to all of the candidates, their supporters, and committees for an exciting campaign and election. To the newly

elected Grand Duke, Tom Roller, and Grand Duchess, Flame, congratulations and good luck during your reign. Show the community that your election to these offices was the right choice. I hope now that the election is over all of you will unite behind the new Grand Duke and Duchess, putting aside any dislikes or prejudices.

HAVE WHISTLE, WILL TRAVEL

Ever since the Community United Against Violence came out with its recommendation that every person carry a whistle to

warn and/or call for assistance, I have heeded that advice. There have been only two occasions in the last seven years that I've tried to use it, and both times it saved lives and prevented violence against people who were minding their own business.

The first time I used my whistle was in January of 1983. I had just dropped off Trixie Turner, aka Tommy Turner, at the Mint so he could prepare for the Coronation. We had just finished a hectic day of campaigning to get out the vote for Trixie's candidacy for Empress. I pulled up outside my apartment just as six Latino

(Continued on next page)

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Ms. Continental California 1987 (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)



It was dancin' in the streets time at the Dore Alley street fair (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

low gay male co-workers. When the lesbian was summoned to the office, she was accused of sexual harassment and reprimanded as well as being told to knock it off. After thinking about it overnight, the lesbian went back to the straight hag and stated bluntly: "I'm a lesbian and those guys are gay; they don't mind it and neither do I when they do it to me. There's a lot of camaraderie among us — among other things!" Right on, woman! The names have been deleted to save the heterosexual from blatant discrimination.

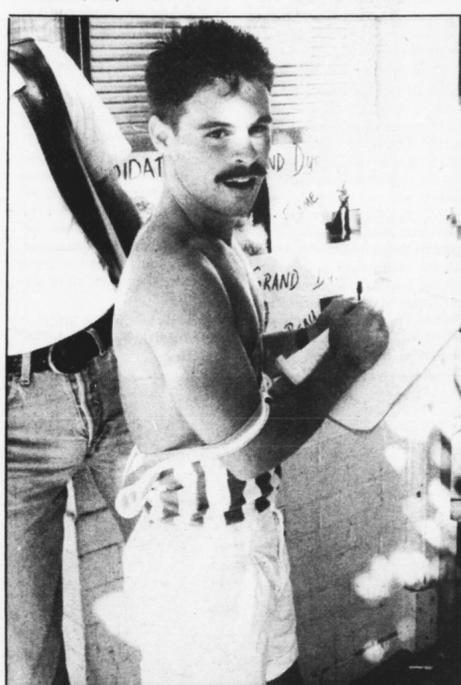
Did you see the long face on Jeff the bar-back at the SF-Eagle all last weekend? He couldn't help showing how hurt he was that Keith Google of Detroit didn't make it here as planned. Instead he sent Michael "Martha" Mitchell, whose 10-days were ruined by Bob Koelzow, who drug him up to Reno and helped him lose close to \$2,000. Bob, who has yet to get over his stand-in appearance in a "straight" porno movie, just can't get over Tommy Yip Yap, so takes it out on the dealers in Reno and Tahoe.

When I have to write about Koelzow, you know I'm out of "dish," so line your bird's cage. See you at Event '87 and the beheading of Mr. DeLuca! •

"We'll be alone in the steamroom."

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Organization was the key to everything on election day in the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess race (Photo: J. Dusch)

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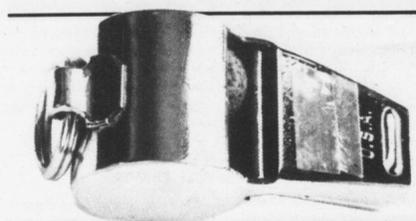
Remy

(Continued from previous page)

youths were trying to raz a lone individual who was walking towards the Castro. I jumped out of my car and started blowing my whistle and the six youths scattered like cockroaches. Fortunately for the gentleman, he wasn't injured and didn't lose any money to the thugs.

The second time was last Saturday night. Several friends and I had just left the Men's Room and were walking up Noe Street towards 17th. There were three guys sitting on the stairs in front of a house, drinking. As we passed along across the street one of them threw a bottle, barely missing us. We continued walking and had decided to call the police.

The group then started to throw bottles at other pedestrians. When this happened I started to blow my whistle to attract attention and warn people in the vicinity of impending trouble.

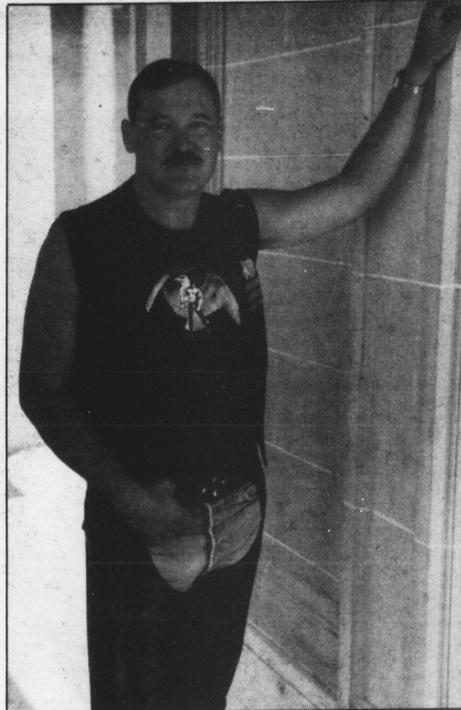
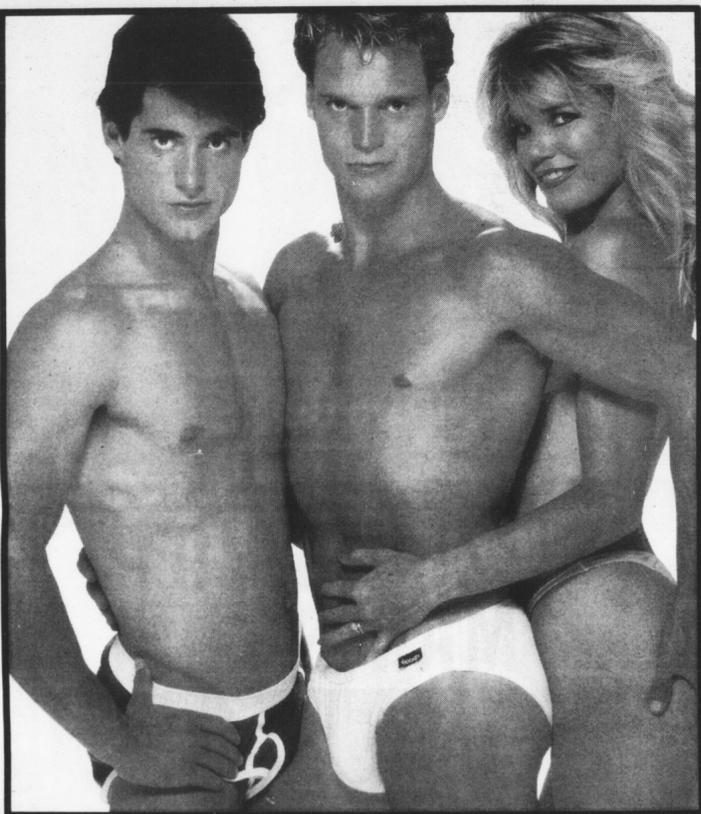


Those guys really wanted to start something and had started yelling anti-gay slurs. At one point they passed in front of us wanting to know who was blowing the

whistle. We said nothing but started to follow them at a safe distance so we could point the police in the right direction. Fortunately, two of the three were caught and the rest of this is

pending judicial results.

My warning to all! Don't be lax. Carry your whistle in your hand when walking, especially at



Grand Duke Tom Roller

night, in any neighborhood. Make it a practice to have it out when leaving your home, bar, or getting out of your car. Whistles were meant to do one thing, warn of danger, and when you hear one either stay clear of the general area or run to assist. It's your choice, but carry that whistle. It's not meant as a decoration. It has a specific use.

UP AND COMING

The kickoff for the Mr. and Ms. Tavern Guild election campaign will be held Friday, Aug. 21, at Kimo's. The party starts at 8 p.m. with a show at 9 p.m. presented by the current Ms. Tavern Guild, Pat Montclair. This is also the application deadline, in case any of you want to enter at the last moment. Votes are four for \$1 and the candidate who raises the most money wins the title. The winners will be announced at the Tavern Guild Picnic in late September.

The Court of the Golden Gate will host an evening of "Family Feud" Friday, Aug. 28, at Kimo's. The Grand Ducal Court will feud with the Imperial Court, and it all starts at 8 p.m. Emceeding the battle royale will be Joanna Caron and she will carry her violin case just in case anyone gets out of hand. Proceeds will go towards the purchase of material for the quilt panels to be made for the friends and members of the Court System as part of the Names Project. The panels will be added to the quilt to be presented at the National March

Oct. 11. A minimum donation of \$2 is requested at the Family Feud. Sounds like fun.

Tatiana and company will present the monthly "First Saturday" fundraiser Sept. 5 at Kimo's beginning at 9 p.m. This month's charity is the Open Hand meals project. The guest performers will be Deena Jones, Janine, Phoebe Planters, and a host of others. A donation of \$5 is requested. Last month "First Saturday" raised \$600 for the Shanti Project. Good work Tat and Co. Keep up the great job.

The gang who brought you "Dreamland '87" will host two successive Sundays of "Find A Cure" at the old Dreamland Aug. 23 and 30. Proceeds will go to AMFAR. Appearing live to perform the dance hits "Party Boys" and "Love Shock" will be Sean Heyden. A donation of \$10 is requested, and tickets are available at All American Boy, G.W. Finley Headlines, and New York Man. Dancing starts at 5 p.m. and it lasts until midnight.

The Warlocks MC will host a beer bust at the patio of the S.F. Eagle Sunday, Aug. 23, from 3 to 6 p.m. Hamburgers and hotdogs with all the trimmings will be provided along with all the beer or soft drinks you can consume. A donation of \$7 is requested at the door. Jungle and I will see you there, along with all of the Warlocks!

Aloha for now. Happy Birthday Bill Morris. Welcome home Rockett.



Big busts at Dore Alley — but are they for real (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Sweet Lips

Memos, Parties, and Embarrassing Moments

A little memo to the staff of the Deluxe out on Haight Street: No Stan, J.B., and Timmy, Duffy did not have to sleep with me to get in this column. He is just a nice, sweet, chubby person.

Sorry I missed wishing you a Happy Birthday on the 15th Greta Grass, so I hope this makes up for it.

Grand Opening of My Place, formerly the Ramrod, on the 22nd, and you can also find that hunk Rex Bustillos on the planks there from 11 till 7 on weekends, so do drop by and see the new decor and have a drink with Rex.

A victory party will take place Tuesday, the 25th, from 7 to 10 p.m. at Ginger's Too for Grand Duke Tom and Grand Duchess Flame with hostess Czarina de 6th Street, Sweetlips. So don't miss this event as you never know what surprises Don Rogers has in store for people.

When in Portland be sure to visit the Dirty Duck, a beer and wine bar owned by the beautiful Gail, daughter of the late Mama Bernice and, of course, on Sundays you'll have the madcap of mirth and madness on the planks courtesy of David Hamilton aka Mame, and he is doing a great job.

Can you imagine sitting at a bar and you are on closed circuit TV. with the sound going to the office of the establishment? I wouldn't like to be the owner and hear all that was being said, and isn't it illegal unless posted?

Big Bird of Ginger's on Eddy Street is still on vacation, and Rotten Lorraine, aka Marty, is packing in the crowds, and of course Mark on Tuesday and Wednesday nights is also doing a great job.

Happy belated birthday greetings to two nice people as of the 19th, to Eddie Chan and Large Marge.

Drop into the Ramshead some evening and have a drink with their very personable bartender, John, a great guy.



Paul Ruehl of Gilmore's in his younger days

'Can you imagine sitting at a bar and you are on closed circuit T.V. with the sound going to the office of the establishment?'

Embarrassing moments: Art York had an accident at the plush Sutter's Mill at luncheon the other Tuesday when he split out the seat of his pants, but that didn't deter him from having a good time as he wrapped a coat about his waist—good thinking Art.

Don't forget the Tavern Guild Picnic coming up on the 20th of September. Lots of your favorite Tavern Guild bars have buses, so check with them. It is at Fife's on



Could this be Rita, the ashtray queen of the DeLuxe? Ask Duffy

the Russian River.

Bruce of the Watering Hole and his mother celebrated their birthdays last Sunday at Ginger's Too with a sumptuous brunch cooked by the one-and-only Beverly. Hope you liked the cake, Bruce.

It seems as if Attilio and his Gus are sharing shifts between the Sausalito Inn and the popular Yacht Club on Polk Street. Thanks for the fun day, guys.

The great Danny Marsh, aka Mitzie, is doing the Saturday night shifts at Gilmore's on California Street. Thank you Paul Ruehl for luncheon in Tiburon at Sam's, but did we have to go all the way over there just to have your new German car serviced?

There will be an Aloha Party at Ginger's at Eddy and Mason for the Mame Stover Twins, Poochie and Rhonda Mae, Saturday the 23rd from 6 p.m. on with poo poos and Hula dancing by Dee Dee Love, Bari, Lou, and of course our own Empress Reba, so don't miss in the fun.

Welcome home to Jim and Debbie Stillman from your Hawaiian vacation, and thanks for the lei, honey.

Mark Freise is back at the Mint after a brief vacation in Tampa and he certainly is looking great. Don't let Stanley get the best of you, dear.

Do you know who is who, Harry Azevedo of Sutter's Mill? Ginger Trois, Ginger Quatre, and of course Ginger Cinco waiting in the wings—so get off your ass,

honey, and make some dates soon as last-minute invites are not accepted, right, Don?

Remember the Alaska Coronation is coming up Sept. 4-7, so contact Char at the Kokpit 775-3260 for more info as this Coronation is one of the best to attend. Hi Pepe.

On the 30th of this month the S.F. Eagle will host a Golden Gate Guards beer bust, so don't miss it as it promises to be a lot of fun, right Chuckles?

Congrats to the new owners of the White Swallow: Mike, Gary, Tom, and Jerry. Tom and Jerry sounds a little funny, but seriously, we all wish you great guys a lot of luck.

Get your tickets early for 22 On The Red, a benefit for the CGBA Foundation which takes place Saturday the 26th of September with a Grand Prize of a nine-day Mexican Riviera cruise.

Hear Luigi, Don Cavallo, and Grandma are going to Mexico for a needed vacation, or is it for another "lift" for Mildred? Anyway, have a nice time, guys.

The Village out on 18th Street is still one of the nicest and friendliest bars in the Castro area, so if you are out that way do stop in and partake in the hospitality.



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BOOKS
A Matter of Life and Death

Sex Care: The Complete Guide To Safe And Healthy Sex
by Dr. Timothy Covington
Pocket Books, \$8.95

by Frank Howell

It has long been a fact that man is his own worst enemy. Science and religion battle each other constantly.

When I was a junior college student and active in our local church youth group, I was asked to present a program of my choosing for the group on a particular Sunday night. I proceeded to give an informative and provocative talk on sex education. This was done against the advice of all concerned. My modest little program was fairly conservative by today's standards. But after the program three girls were not allowed to attend church again. The American middle class had spoken. A little knowledge was not only dangerous but also striking too close to home.

I was once informed by the local postmaster in our one-horse

town that any magazines that featured articles about sex should be illegal. If people wanted such information they should see their family doctor, he said.

Times have changed, but not nearly enough. Phyllis Schafley insists human biology belongs strictly in the home. But we know it rarely takes place there.

Sex Care is down to earth and refreshing. Covington simply tells us what we need to know. His credentials include a degree in clinical pharmacology.

The three sections cover contraception, sexually transmitted diseases, and a parting shot on "special considerations in sexual health."

The discussion on contraception that concerns us is condoms. We learn that Japan is the coun-

try which has the highest rate of condom use (75% in Japan vs. less than 10% in the U.S.). The Japanese employ "condom ladies" who ply their trade door to door. Abortion is also widely practiced there. Covington mentions that 40% of these devices are purchased by women in the United States.

Here we find a challenging survey of the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of each disease and the types of drugs used.

In gonorrhea, for example, we learn that 85% of those afflicted are under the age of 30. So much for dirty old men!

Syphilis, genital herpes, AIDS, and some lesser-known afflictions are also surveyed.

The final section covers sexual myths of all sorts regarding masturbation, aphrodisiacs, menstruation, and pregnancy.

The author has also included special information on drugs and diseases that affect sex.

The primary focus of Sex Care is heterosexual, but there is still much basic information found here that is valuable. These days, sex education is literally a matter of life and death.

B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

<p>People</p> <p>A Better Way To Meet M.E.N. Men's Electronic Network (415) 664-4MEN or 567-5905 E34</p> <p>HUNK SEARCH! Att, successful G.W.M., 36. Too busy to date, go to bars, etc. Looking for a fun, healthy, very gdkg G.W.M. 18-40 to be my escort to dinner, theater, vacations, & other fun events & basic overnight companionship at your place. Safe sex only! I can make your finances a lot easier & your life itself a lot more fun. If you qualify respond with photo & phone (a must, returnable) to Steve, 584 Castro St., Suite 434, San Francisco, CA 94114-2588. E34</p> <p>Looking For Men? (415) 664-4MEN Men's Electronic Network E34</p> <p>"Electric City" Aug 27 9 PM, Cable 6, S.F. Best Gay Television Ever! E34</p> <p>HANDBALL Give and take. Hot BL/BL guy looking for slim buddy for long sessions. Call only if serious. 415-863-1230. 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In/Out E34</p> <p>FULLBODY MASSAGE by grad student 285-0450 E35</p> <p>Caring blk masseur Mr. G hung, uncut, sensuous, \$30 hr 6 ft., 180, 41, 621-3319, top, after 5pm weekdays, all Sat & Sun Top E35</p> <p>Certified Asian Masseur Relaxing \$40/\$50 441-2149 E34</p> <p>Asian Masseur, Handsome, 23 Young & Discreet 921-0870 E34</p> <p>EVENING / WEEKEND MASSAGE Completely calming and stress releasing massage is what you deserve by a handsome, careful, understanding masseur! Evening / Weekends by Appointment Only. \$40 In / \$50 Out - 70 min. Call Now for Greg 928-6473</p> <p>BLONDE CANADIAN Photo by Reno A professional full massage \$40/in \$50/out RON 775-7057 Muscular Adonis gives full body massage 282-1943 E34</p> <p>Touch... loving, sensual massage. Dave, 861-1362, anytime. 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People

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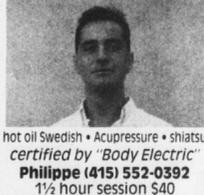
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SOFTBALL

Endup and Superstar GSL Champions

by Tom Vindeed

POOL

— They're Off And Running —

by Lauren Ward

The S.F. Pool Association's 19th season got off to a roaring start last Tuesday as the teams jockeyed for position within their respective divisions.

In Division I it was the Cinch Saddletamps off to a strong start with a 13-3 result over the Badlands I. Division II suffered from first-night score reporting problems and the 8-8 tie between the Castro Station Cruisers and the Pilsner Pluggers was the only score called in.

Division III's Deluxe Ducks jumped out with a 14-2 score over the Park Bowl Pockets to take the league lead—something that seems to be a habit.



The S.F.P.A. contingent to WCC XV

Division IV, loaded up with five of last season's playoff teams, had its lead taken by the Park Bowl Badasses, hoping to duplicate last season's Division Champion finish.

Individuals who chalked up that lead-off 4-0 were (alphabetically) Jack Dunbar, Lisa Duncan, Kelvin Roberts, Cody Stevens, Lauren Ward, Billy West, and E.Z.

E.Z. followed his Hi-Lo Partners victory by marching undefeated through the 28-player field at the Captain's Tournament. Good work Duckie!

Good luck to all as we enjoy another season. Dial JOE-POOL for S.F.P.A. information.

TENNIS

Community Rentals Captures Crown

by Les Balmain

Community Rentals won the 1987 Team Tennis Championship of the Gay Tennis Federation by downing Zephyr Realty 53-52 Sunday, Aug. 9, at the grandstand courts at Golden Gate Park. Congratulations go to Tom Kelly and Bob Viereck of Community Rentals, who are both sponsors and team players, on this, their second championship! They also won in 1982.

In the semi-final matches, Community Rentals (the No. 1 team) narrowly edged Lupann's Restaurant (the No. 4 team) by a score of 58-57; and Zephyr Realty (the No. 3 team) defeated the Galleon Bar & Restaurant (the No. 2 team) by a score of 55-50. In the final matches, the winners played for the championship and the losers played for third and fourth place. Trophies are presented to all playoff teams at the annual banquet.

In the final match for the championship, the results of the singles are as follows (note: the Community Rentals players listed first, then the Zephyr Realty players): A1 Keith Hansen lost to Bobby Docena 4-8; A2 Craig Davis defeated Bill Davis 8-2; B1 Tom Kelly lost to Abigail Jeung 7-8; B2 Roger Greene lost to Dub Johnson 4-8; C1 Richard Gibson lost to Raul Gonzalez 0-8; and C2 Bob Viereck defeated Michael Berman 8-1.

After the singles matches were completed, Zephyr was leading 35-31, and thinking very seriously about a big upset. But the Community Rentals players made a big comeback in the

doubles competition, winning the "A" doubles 8-3, and the "B" doubles 8-6, which put them back into the lead by a score of 47-44.

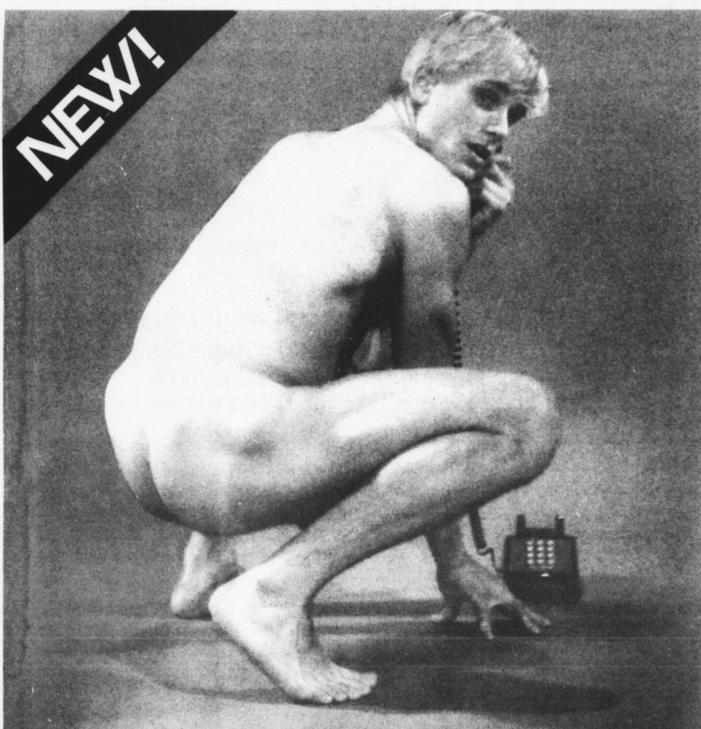
Now all Community's "C" doubles team had to do was win six games to put them over the winning margin. As Gibson and Viereck won game for game against Zephyr's Gonzalez and Berman, the stands roared and cheered with each point for both sides.

Finally, the steadiness and strength of Gibson and Viereck proved too much for Gonzalez and Berman, and they won the sixth game to go 6 all, which gave them the winning total of 53 games. Community Rentals then retired with the victory in hand, forfeiting the last two games to Zephyr, and ending with the final doubles score of 6-8.

Lupann's took third place by defeating the Galleon by a score of 58-54.

"For these playoffs," smiled Chris Walkey, president of the G.T.F., "all 24 finalists raised the level of their play to that of tournament calibre, which made for many exciting and hard-fought matches throughout the day."

"There were many 'firsts' this year," commented Ken Najour, Team Tennis chairman, "that made for a great year of competition! It's the first time we've had the playoffs at Golden Gate Park, the first time for a repeat champion. Community Rentals now has two, and the first time a team has gone all year undefeated!"



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BOWLING

SFNTIT & The Scratch: Update

by Richard McPherson

We're another month closer to the SF No Tap Invitational Tournament (SFNTIT) and the monthly No Tap tournaments seem to be coming in rapid succession. Forty-two doubles teams competed in the July 25 event at Castle Lanes and Ernie Wilson and David Andreas emerged as the \$100 first-place winners with a 1519 hdep. score. Other money winners and scores:

Bill Andrews & Hunter Bauman	\$80	1494
Russell Willis & Martin McDonald	\$50	1428
Dave Yarbrough & Jerry DeYoung		1401
Stan Wickham & Bill Gail		1400
Devon Ballard & David Bailey		1394

Hunter Bauman had a high individual game with a perfect no-pap 300 game.

August's No Tap will have a Scotch Doubles format, meaning: bowling partners alternate every ball (i.e. if you don't get a strike, your partner has to pick up the spare). The date is Sat., Aug. 22, at Castle Lanes. At noon, on the same day and location, is a SFNTIT committee meeting.

Entries are starting to pour in from around the U.S. for the big November No Tap (SFNTIT), so you better start putting your teams together and get your entries in soon—don't be left out. This is one of the biggest annual bowling events of the year!

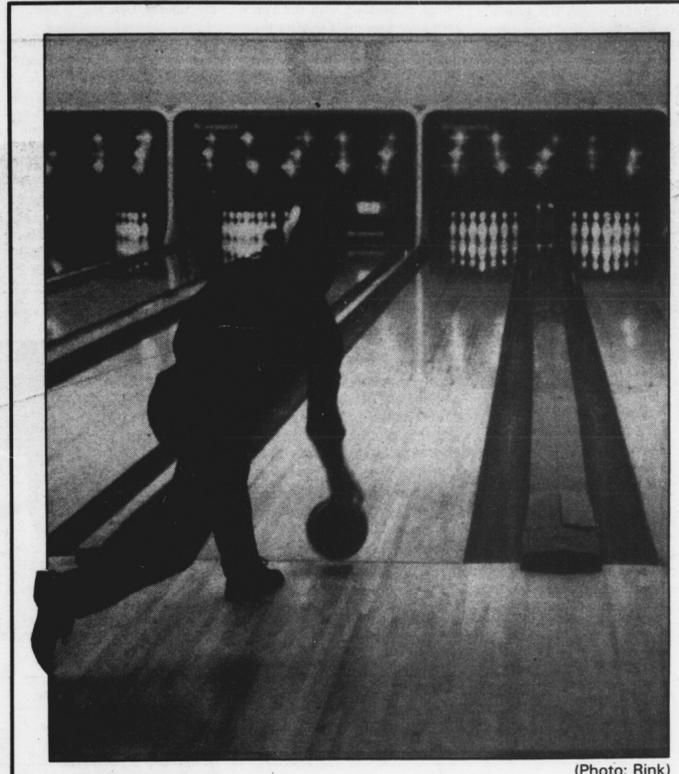
Big fun is coming to Cafe San Marcos this Friday, Aug. 21. Casino Nite, from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. is a fundraiser for SFNTIT '87, the AIDS Emergency Fund, San Marcos' softball team, and the Gay Softball World Series. Play Blackjack, Roulette, Twenty-One, Craps, and party hardy. No cover charge. Those present will have a chance to win many prizes, including "a ride in the sky," a hot air balloon ride over the Napa Valley for two.

The Scratch (S.F. Gay Scratch Invitational Tournament) is finally upon us, that is, Friday-Sunday, Aug. 28-30. Get your entries in if you want to participate in any of the team, mixed doubles, or singles events. This is a first-of-its-kind event, drawing bowlers from faraway places. Good luck to all participants!

July 18 saw The Challenge event between 20 bowlers and 20 softball players at Park Bowl. All participants had collected thousands of dollars in pledges for various causes. All in all the day was a real giggle, with Mother's Sluts emerging as the winning team with a scratch score of 2,678. Introducing the Sluts: Mike Wheeler, Mal Garcia (Mother), Eddie Carmick, J.C. Halstead, and Hugh Smith. The team was assisted to the winning mark by Eddie Carmick, 171 Ave., who shot a beautiful 647 series on games of 213, 191, and 243. If anything, this day proved that softball players make good bowlers. But is the reverse true? As a follow-up, I'm hoping we'll see a match game between bowlers and softball players on the softball field!

In the Community Leagues at Japantown Bowl, Takeshi Hirano, 173, had high game for the past two weeks with a fine 258, a great feat for those tough lanes. Other impressive games over 220:

Bob Sulewski (168 ave.)	245
J.R. Mangilaya (166)	235
David Peterson (164)	234
Jesse Vargas (164)	231
Lowell Hills (164)	226
Jim Mackey (150)	223
Billy Wood (166)	222
Hunter Bauman (183)	221



(Photo: Rink)

Kevin Stern, 129 ave., had a great night with 214/574. Larry Fuller, with a 144 ave., shot a 210 game, and Larry Stiffler, 135 ave., had a 215.

At Park Bowl in the Tavern Guild Leagues, high scores abounded; Russell Beck, 188 ave., lead the pack for the past two weeks with a 207, 210, 229 for a 646. A glut of 600s:

Jeff Hettmansperger	229	195	205	629
Arne Prince	222	202	200	624
Hugh Smith	205	210	200	615
Don Gambell	246			612

Kevin Ahart 227, 611
Dick Canane 213, 225, 610
Adrian Stenson 227, 210, 609
Keith Ray 202, 227, 607
Allen Price 226, 203, 606
Bob Wissell 209, 235, 604
Jim Barnes 200, 212, 603

Tim Verardo, 126 ave., had the greatest thrill of his bowling career in the Wed. league when he bowled his first 200 game, a flawless 247. Max Cane, who has been toying with his first 200 for a long while now, finally had it on Wed., a 218. Individual games of 220+:

George Noak (164 ave.)	246
John Perry (173)	235
Bob Bates (157)	226
John Games (173)	224
Peter Beresford (157)	224
John Parry (176)	223
Roy Thorson (182)	222
Tim Mulvenon (178)	222
Doug Litwin (168)	220

Bill Beirsdorfer, 137 ave., had a real thrill himself with a great 225 game. Also, Michael Barnett, 146 ave., had a 208, and Richard Bee, 150 ave., a 201.

I was saddened to hear that

David Peterson, a Japantown bowler, was the victim of a gay bashing incident at Japantown Bowl a couple of weeks ago. We wish David a speedy recovery from his ankle injury and hope he is back on the lanes soon. It appears as if he wasn't meant to bowl his way through the Harmonic Convergence celebration last weekend.

A sight to behold one Wed.: Jim Cvitanich unable to speak (throat surgery) but still able to express himself quite well!

I hear tell a certain bowler, J., has been playing with a big somebody in the leather community (of the int'l variety). Basement antics abound—truly a fantasy made in heaven!

Tom Sipple, in the Wed. Park Bowl league, was noticeably embarrassed by a singing telegram birthday surprise, presented by a hefty and full-bosomed soprano. (She was obviously real, although it confused me when I saw her disappear into the men's room.) Tom threatened not to show if it were to be a male stripper. Too bad for us!

A bowler suggested to me that he would be interested in hearing about some of the personalities behind the bowling scores. I like the idea of periodically featuring a bowler-in-the-news, or just a colorful character. Write to me c/o the B.A.R. and let me know who you are interested in reading about, or any other story ideas you might have, for that matter.

Prospective women bowlers take note: This winter on Sunday evenings at 6:30 p.m. will be the annual return of a lesbian league at Park Bowl, probably the largest of its kind anywhere, where you can see women for days. Last year there were 18 teams, and I'm sure there is room for more bowlers, but don't wait too long. Call Velda Gouden within the next month or so at 534-3426 for info.

"Hot Tips for Safe Sex on the Lanes" is preempted on account of I ran out of space.

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The CONNECTER

Art For Project Ahead

Fifty-five works of art have been donated to raise funds for Project Ahead, an AIDS organization in Long Beach. The works will be on display at The Center, 2017 E. 4th St. in Long Beach, through Aug. 30. The Center is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Find A Cure I

Sunday, Aug. 23, there will be a fundraiser for the American Foundation For AIDS Research (AMFAR) on the corner of Third and Harrison in San Francisco from 5 p.m. to midnight. A \$10 minimum donation is requested.

Sean Hayden will perform the dance hits "Party Boy" and "Love Shock," and there will be dancing to the music of DJ Steve Smith. There will be a no-host bar.

Tickets are at All American Boy, G.W. Finley, Headlines, and New York Man.

Celebration '90

Now is the time to become a part of Celebration '90, the Gay Games III cultural festival to be held in Vancouver in 1990.

Vancouver plans a cultural festival to run parallel to the athletic events. Visual arts, dance, theater, writing, and many forms of music will be part of the 10-day festival planned for August 1990.

You can sign up as an official 1990 celebrant. For \$10 a year you can add your name to the official mailing list and receive

regular newsletters and information updates.

Write to the Metropolitan Vancouver Athletics and Arts Association, 1170 Bute St., Vancouver, Canada V6E 1Z6.

Help Battered Women Help Themselves

Domestic violence is a crime! With your help battered women can overcome the violence in their lives. Become a volunteer with Woman, Inc. Woman, Inc. is a San Francisco battered women's agency offering a 24-hour crisis line, support groups, counseling, walk-in center, legal clinics, information, and referrals. Volunteer training begins Sept. 21. Learn counseling and crisis intervention skills. Call Woman, Inc. at 684-4777 for more information.

Hot Summer Evening

City Swing dance band, vocalist Gail Wilson, The San Francisco Tap Troupe, and the Ritz Dancers have returned after a month-long break, ready to put you in the summer dance mood with their special form of teadance entertainment. Promising new twists to get your feet moving, the band and dancers are anxious to hit the boards again with what has grown to be a very popular monthly event. Mark your calendars, Friday, Aug. 21, for an evening you will not want to miss.

Trocadero Transfer, in an effort to offer something new and different to local and visiting dance lovers, is working with the Performance Ensemble to offer the perfect environment for these dances, reminiscent of the Big Band Era. The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with an hour-long dance class for those a little rusty on their swing, tango, or rumba. Cynthia Glinka, a wonderful teacher and fabulous performer, offers this class at a mere \$3. City Swing tears into live music at 6:30 p.m. and continues 'til 9:30 p.m. Throughout the evening Gail Wilson, The S.F. Tap Troupe, and the Ritz Dancers will throw in a number of surprises proving their month off was spent working on new ways to keep us all hopping.

The cost of this exciting and popular evening is \$7 general admission at the door the evening of the event. Dust off your shoes and that special '40s drag and join us all on the dance floor Dancing Cheek to Cheek!

For more information call 821-5619.



Tickets Going Fast

Lesbian and Gay Bands of America is producing a gala benefit concert in Washington, D.C. Saturday, Oct. 10. The concert will be the night before the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. The concert, "Let Freedom Ring,"

will be held in historic D.A.R. Constitution Hall. The bands will also participate in the march and rally Sunday, Oct. 11.

In addition to more than 300 musicians from 13 gay/lesbian bands, the concert will also feature the highly acclaimed Denver Women's Chorus and the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington. The concert will benefit the National Association of People with AIDS, the National AIDS Network, the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the Fund for Human Dignity, the Whitman-Walker Clinic AIDS Foundation (Washington D.C.), the National March on Washington, and LGBA.

Early response to ticket sales

has been quite high. LGBA expects the concert to sellout well in advance and encourages early orders. Ticket prices are: \$35 (box seats), \$25, \$20 (orchestra), \$15, \$12.50 (side tier) and \$12.50, \$7.50 (rear tier).

Mail orders must be received by Sept. 25. Checks should be made payable to LGBA Productions and mailed to LGBA, P.O. Box 57099, Washington, DC 20037. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Donations are urgently needed to help defray concert expenses. Tax-deductible contributions of \$25 or more received prior to Sept. 15 will be acknowledged in the concert program. LGBA is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization.



Rudolf Nureyev receives the accolades of a smitten audience

White

(Continued from page 30)

The French women are exceedingly refined dancers, particularly the statuesque and graciously reserved Ghislaine Thesmar, whose smooth, buttery technique is unlike anyone's dancing I've ever seen. Clothilde Vayer, a sujet at the Opera (roughly the equivalent of a first soloist), has the wide-awake charm of a super-soubrette and a steady, reliable technique; she was a touchingly nascent Terpsichore in *Apollo*. The announced intermission was deleted and *The Dying Swan* solo announced, to the murmured delight of many a matron present — but Evelyne Desutter was disap-

pointing in it, despite her fabulously arched feet. (She may have simply been chilled beyond her power to articulate.) Yet based even on this brief and disadvantaged exposure, I'm inclined to think the style of the Paris Opera Ballet is one I could stand to see a lot more of.

Why Nureyev continues to perform is a mystery. He is capable of isolated virtuosity, so his inner dialogue must go something like this: "Well, I can still do three or four pirouettes; I can still do double air turns and sauts de basques; I don't have to retire yet." But his preparations are uncertain and his recoveries feeble, his line spoiled by strain and weakness. He should stop now and rest on the laurels.

Heymont

(Continued from page 31)

dangerously out of whack.

On closing night, however, the cast was up for a grand night of singing. Although Carmen Balthrop's voice is rather small in size, she possesses an extremely well-focused and beautiful instrument. Balthrop's Bess offered a superb characterization which served as a strong foil to Krista St. Hill's lithe and sexual Sportin' Life. (This exceptionally talented black man is one of Sweden's

more exciting artists.) Although some excellent singing came from Priscilla Baskerville's Serena and Mic Bell's Porgy, the true hero of the evening was the conductor, Roger Cantrell, who had been flown out from Houston to replace Richard Bradshaw during the final week of performances.

From the hugs and kisses at the final curtain call (as well as the quality of this last performance) it was obvious that the cast felt much more comfortable with Cantrell on the podium. So, for that matter, did I.

Summer Sounds

A double billing featuring the Barbary Coast Cloggers and The Grant Street Band featuring vocalist and fiddler, Laurie Lewis, will be presented on Friday, Aug. 28, at the weekly free concert series Summer Sounds at Snow Park, produced by Oakland Festival of the Arts. Snow Park is located at 19th

and Harrison streets. The concert begins at 11:45 a.m. and ends at 1:15 p.m., and is sponsored by Gerald D. Hines Interests. Summer Sounds at Snow Park runs each Friday, June through September.

For more information, call 444-5588.



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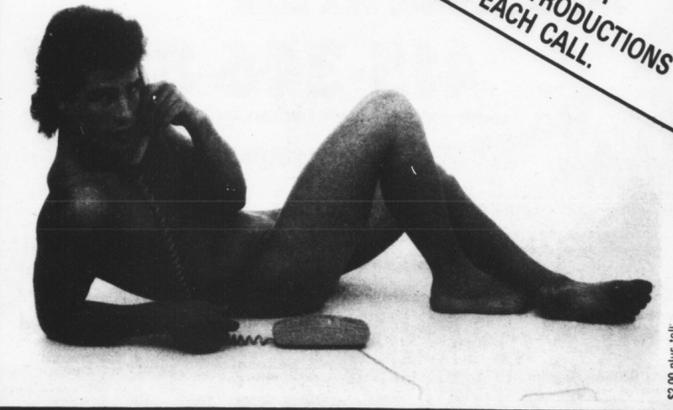
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There'll be lots of action on and off the field during the Gay World Series, Sept. 1-5 (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

Who's On First?

World Series Fever Hits SF As Softballers Slide Into Town

by Will Snyder

When the San Francisco Giants recently moved into first place in the National League's Western Division, many Bay Area sports fans began dreaming of the World Series coming to San Francisco. What they didn't know was that no matter what manager Roger Craig's team does, the World Series starts in San Francisco on Tuesday, Sept. 1. (Continued on page 4)

Judge Blasts Pentagon On Clearance Delays

No Evidence to Justify Special Investigations; Ruling Sets National Precedent for Clearances

by Brian Jones

A federal judge last week ordered the Defense Department to stop discrimination against gay people who seek security clearances. U.S. District Judge Thelton Henderson called the anti-gay policy "irrational" in a stinging, 46-page ruling handed down Aug. 19. The court order has nationwide effect.

"The mere fact that gay people engage in consensual sexual relationships with people of their own sex in no way affects their trustworthiness to hold a security clearance," Henderson said.

It was a landmark ruling. It applies to all lesbians and gays who work for private defense contractors who require security clearances. Defense Department policy is to give all applications for security clearances from gay people special handling. That discriminatory process adds months to the time it takes to get a clearance—or results in outright denial.

The policy results in gay people losing their jobs, or being reassigned, at defense-related companies. Without a clearance, the employees cannot do the work.

The Defense Department's 'treatment of lesbians and gay men reflects irrational prejudice and outmoded stereotypes and notions about lesbians and gay men, not rational considerations,' the judge ruled.

"It was a courageous decision," said attorney Richard Gayer. Gayer has been fighting the Pentagon over security clearances since he was denied one in 1969.

Gayer estimated that 1,000 people nationwide, each year, would be covered by the order —

with perhaps 100 a year in the Bay Area, which has a high number of defense-related industries.

"These clearances are the criteria by which employees are judged," Gayer said. "If you can't get one, the employer sees you as a liability. You are seen as undesirable." (Continued on page 20)

Today

MAYOR BALKS: S.F. Supes pass a bill opposing Doolittle, but Feinstein blocks it. Tim Taylor reports on page 3.

MURAL OK'D: Work will begin soon on the Harvey Milk mural at Duboce Park after arts panel OK. Mary Richards on page 5.

GAY-RIGHTS OUT: City Atty. Louise Renne pulled a non-discrimination clause out of the deal for the Pope's Rent. Page 7.

A TRICKLE: Women's biker blood drive nets just 10 units after blood-bank snafus hamper project. Joy Schulenburg in Greater Bay, page 22.

GAY SPIRIT: A landmark book examines the spiritual basis of being gay as seen through faeries' eyes. Wendell Ricketts reviews in Entertainment, page 26.

Renne Invokes JFK In Race For Mayor

City Attorney Cites Career Working in Civil Rights Law



Louise Renne (Photo: S. Savage)

by Ray O'Loughlin

If she gets to be mayor, Louise Renne says she would like to have an administration in the style of John F. Kennedy — open and dynamic, run by the best and the brightest, and out to insure the basic civil rights of all. Renne worked for the Kennedy Administration in the early 1960s in the civil rights division of the U.S. Department of Justice before moving to San Francisco 23 years ago. (Continued on page 6)

B.A.R. OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY — MONDAY, SEPT. 7 AD DEADLINE IS FRI., SEPT. 4