

# TESTING HIV POSITIVE COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE.

**H**aving your worst fears confirmed may not sound like good news but maybe it really is. Why? Because many physicians who have worked with the AIDS virus now believe that early detection and treatment to prevent the deterioration of the immune system (T-4 Helper Cells) is the best course of action to slow or stop the progression to AIDS or ARC.

Research indicates that **left untreated**, over 70% of those infected with the HIV virus will eventually develop AIDS or ARC.

The sooner you know if you are HIV Positive the sooner you can start taking positive action that could save your life.

## GET TESTED

Testing is now widely available. The San Francisco Department of Public Health has several neighborhood sites that offer **confidential, free, anonymous**, testing and counseling. For information and appointment schedules telephone 415-621-4858.

If your test shows that you are not infected be sure to get retested periodically. Sometimes the HIV antibody doesn't show up for three years after infection. It's important to keep checking so that if you do contract the HIV virus you can combat the infection in its early stages.

## GET TREATED

If you do test positive there are many resources available to help you with the medical and the psychological impact of HIV infection. For example, the community group, Project Inform, offers a free hotline service which can help provide you with the information you need to plan a course of action. Call 558-9051 in S.F. or use the toll free lines 1-800-822-7422 (National) or 1-800-334-7422 in California.

Positive Action HealthCare, the nation's largest clinic dealing with HIV immune disorders, is one of the resources you should consider. The Positive Action HealthCare clinic is now serving hundreds of HIV Positive patients with a program of preventive medicine devoted to maintaining the health of their immune systems at a level that may be sufficient to ward off the onset of infections associated with AIDS and ARC.

Each patient's individualized program is developed with his Positive Action HealthCare physician based on the initial examination and is reevaluated on a regular basis.

Potential new therapies are closely monitored by Positive Action HealthCare and as they show evidence of effectiveness they will be added to the treatment depending upon each patient's needs.

The Positive Action HealthCare treatment is not a cure for AIDS. This treatment is intended primarily for patients who are HIV Positive and who have not yet developed serious symptoms of AIDS or ARC.

The Positive Action HealthCare medical group is headed by Alan S. Levin, M.D., assisted by a staff of scientists and physicians who are specialists in the treatment of problems of the immune system and have published numerous medical and scientific documents in this field. Dr. Levin has served as Adjunct Associate Professor of Immunology at the University of California, San Francisco Medical Center. In private practice in San Francisco since 1981, he established Positive Action HealthCare in 1987 to deal specifically with immune disorders related to the HIV virus.

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# BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XVIII NO. 41 OCTOBER 13, 1988

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## Smithsonian to Display Part of Names Quilt 150,000 Visit Quilt in Capital; 40,000 Join in Candlelight March



A panoramic view of the quilt and its visitors on the Ellipse in Washington, D.C., last weekend.

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

by Allen White

The Names Project quilt returned to Washington, D.C., last weekend. For two days, the 8,288 panels were on display for an estimated 150,000 people on the Ellipse, just yards from the White House. Saturday night a crowd estimated by some at over 40,000 marched by candlelight from the White House to the Lincoln Memorial. Just before the weekend, it was announced that several of the panels would be displayed permanently in the Smithsonian Institute.

Early Friday morning, a small

army of volunteers began preparing the Ellipse for the panels. President Ronald Reagan flew overhead as he departed the White House by helicopter. He was able to see the outline of the quilt, formed by the five miles of walkway below him.

At 4:30 Saturday morning, the volunteers began to arrive. They came by the hundreds from all over the United States. Coordinators sat at desks with flashlights, checking off names and making assignments. The workers, all dressed in white, began to unload the boxes which had been packed in the Names Project workshop on Market Street in San Francisco.

Names Project executive director Cleve Jones stepped to the microphone at 7:15, and the unfolding began. As he began to read the names, the volunteers unfolded the many 24-by-24-foot squares.

Jones read the name of his friend Marvin Feldman. Feldman's parents, Sid and Esther of Providence, Rhode Island, read a group of names. "I'm overwhelmed," Esther Feldman said. "It's a tremendous way to remember. When I was up there reading the names, I was thinking Marvin was looking down and saying, 'Go to it, gal.'"

With tears welling in his eyes, Michael Smith, general manager

of the Names Project, seemed to almost struggle to say the names. "This has been so unbelievably important. I had such a hard time reading the names, and that didn't happen last year. It was a combination of pain and this overwhelming feeling of gratitude," he said.

"I got here at 4:30 this morning, and there were already over 1,000 people who had checked in. Everybody was ready to go. It is people I did not know a year ago from all over the country. I think I choked over that more than the names I was reading."

Of the many volunteers spread across the Ellipse, he commented, "I think everyone is here for

a personal reason. I think every single volunteer is doing it in memory of someone in some way. They are here because they lost someone, and that someone is calling them to do this."

Others stepped to the podium and began to read the names. They would continue, hour after hour, throughout the day.

Steve Williams began by reading the names of members of the Western Star Dancers who are memorialized in the quilt. He is a Shanti staff counselor at the AIDS ward at San Francisco General Hospital and observed, "It was beautiful to remember my friend and the others I have

(Continued on page 2)

## AIDS Legislation 'Held Hostage' By Jesse Helms

Filibuster Could Kill Waxman Bill

by Ray O'Loughlin

The first comprehensive federal legislation on the AIDS epidemic may be completely killed this week through parliamentary maneuvers by Republican Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina. The Federal AIDS Policy Act of 1988, which was passed overwhelmingly by the House of Representatives in late September after nearly a year of work, has been "stymied," in the words of one lobbyist, in procedural wrangling.

The sweeping legislation must face action by a conference committee to reconcile differences with a related Senate bill by Sen. Edward Kennedy. But Helms has threatened to filibuster the measure until Congress adjourns this Friday.

"He can filibuster naming of conferees, the conference report or both," said Jeff Levi, director

(Continued on page 20)

## Today

**Wedding Bells Ring at City Hall:** 150 Bay Area gay couples were joined in a ceremony Sunday. See page 3.

**Sheriff Michael Hennessey Opposes Prop. 96:** Recruits gay and lesbian deputies. See page 13.

**English Leather:** Alan Selby has kept his accent for 10 years as a San Franciscan. See page 16.

**'In Memory of Friends' Is a Smash Hit on Nearly Every Level:** Allen White has the story on page 26.

**'It's Only a Play':** Playwright Terrence McNally has had a busy year. See page 27.

## Senate Rejects Walker Nomination

USOC Attorney Named by Wilson  
Will Not Be U.S. District Judge

by Dennis McMillan

The nomination of attorney Vaughn Walker as a federal judge for the Northern California U.S. District Court was rejected Oct. 6 by the Senate Judiciary committee. Opponents to Walker's nomination were quick to claim victory, saying that Walker lost because of his controversial, homophobic actions, especially against Tom Waddell and the Gay Games.

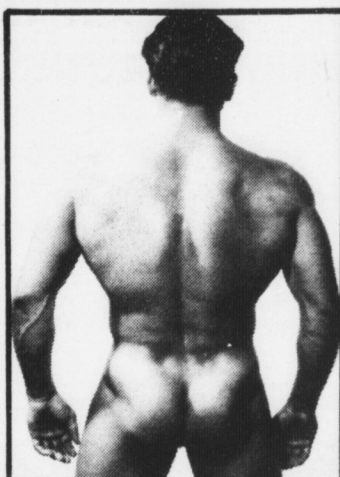
Substantial opposition to Walker's nomination came from the gay and lesbian community, because of what critics called his unethical conduct in handling the Gay Games case.

"His treatment of Tom Waddell, the chief defendant in the U.S. Olympics case, was so unconscionable as to make it ab-

solutely unfitting [for Walker] to hold any public trust of any sort, particularly a lifetime judicial appointment which yields extraordinary power," said T.J. Anthony, chair of the Judiciary Project which fought to defeat Walker.

When Walker presented his case before the Senate Judiciary

(Continued on page 20)



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### Important News for People Who are HIV-Seropositive

ViRx, Inc., a private clinical research center, wants you to know about two drug studies for the treatment of oral candidiasis (thrush), a common opportunistic infection in HIV-seropositive patients.

Persons eligible for first study must be HIV-seropositive with a T-helper cell count of less than 650. Persons eligible for the second study must be HIV-seropositive and have oral candidiasis (thrush). The symptoms of thrush may include white patches in the mouth or throat, a white coating on the tongue, or a persistent sore throat.

Study participants will receive:

- \$100 cash stipend (\$25 initially and \$75 upon study completion)
- Free laboratory tests and monitoring of HIV infection including monthly T-helper cell counts during the 20 week study
- Physician consultation associated with the study at ViRx Medical Group, Inc. for 20 weeks

If you are interested in these trials, or future clinical drug trials, please call ViRx Medical Group, Inc. at 415-474-2233. There are still limited openings for the first thrush study. Enrollment for the second study begins October 10, 1988.



**ViRx Medical Group, Inc.**  
 655 Sutter Street  
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 San Francisco, California 94102  
 415-474-2233

### ATTENTION PERSONS WITH AIDS/ARC Learn BARGELLO!

A variation of needlepoint. Bargello is much easier than traditional needlepoint but still offers endless beautiful, decorative possibilities. PWA is offering free classes to persons with AIDS/ARC in the basement of the Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond, on Wednesday afternoons, 1-3 PM, on the following dates: Oct 19, Oct 26, Nov 2, Nov 9, Nov 16. Call 467-6179 for information. Bring reading glasses if you use them.

**Gay people make a gay paper. Bay Area Reporter.**

(Continued from page 1)

known and worked with at the hospital and cared for."

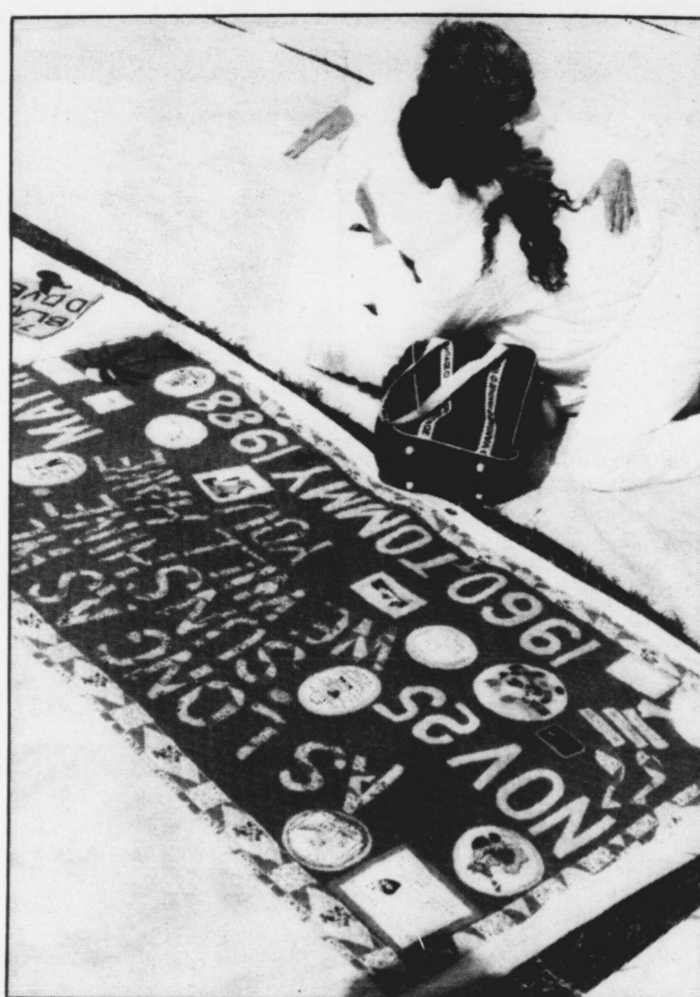
At about 7:45, the quilt was completely unfolded. Hundreds of volunteers, all in white, stood holding hands and forming a circle around the quilt. As playwright Harvey Fierstein read more names, people slowly began to walk out onto the quilt.

Throughout the day, about 15 people every half hour would read a group of names. The people came from all over the country, many well-known. From the entertainment community there was Shirley MacLaine, Elizabeth McGovern, Richard Gere, Joe Bologna, Edward Duke, John Schlesinger, Sigourney Weaver, and many from the cast of *Les Miserables*.

Actress Susan Sarandon said, "It is an extraordinary thing. It allows people to understand that they are not alone. To see other people walking across this massive quilt is a catharsis, but it is a tremendous visual aid to show people what that means. The only other thing you could do is to get people to lie down in those spaces to give people an idea of the body count here."

The positioning of the quilt near the home of the President stirred many reactions. Sarandon said, "Ronald Reagan is a president who doesn't care about any minority. I hold him to blame in terms of neglect on this issue. If this had happened to an affluent, heterosexual section of our society, they wouldn't have been so slow to get off the stick, and the red tape would disappear."

Michael Smith noted, "You don't really have to talk about it, it just sort of hovers over you as you read the names. I can't imagine being in the White House today and hearing a 12-hour litany of names and not have it sink in."



(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

Suzanne Gautier from San Francisco said, "I think the people are making a much bigger statement today than the monuments that surround it."

Lyndon Chubin used to live in San Francisco. "Part of what I think is anger as I look at the White House. It is a shame that the Reagans left without seeing the quilt."

Ray Luglian is a member of ACT UP from New York. Looking at the quilt, he said, "This is more important than the White House, and it will be, as long as AIDS is incurable."

Many politicians and people in public service participated. Lucie McKinney, the widow of Congressman Stewart McKinney, who died of AIDS, read several names. Congressman Les Aucoin of Oregon and Sander Levin from Michigan also participated. Massachusetts gay Congressmen Gerry Studts and Barney Frank were at the site.

One reason the quilt was in Washington was to make a statement one month before the presidential election.

Asked if the quilt would have any impact on the presidential campaign, Frank observed, "I think the presidential campaign is very clear. Michael Dukakis is much better on the issues, and at this point there is not much more that will be said. Presidential campaigns don't get into subtleties. You see, I think the purpose of the presidential campaign is to elect the better candidate. So if you think this should become an educational effort on AIDS at the expense of maximizing Michael Dukakis' chance of winning, I guess I would say no."

As the afternoon began to darken into evening, the reading of the names concluded when many parents of people who had died of AIDS stepped to the microphone, stating the names of their sons or daughters.

When they had concluded, a candlelight march began from the Ellipse to the Lincoln Memorial. The people gathered by the thousands.

They walked around the White House. As they passed by, they raised their candles and chanted, "Shame, shame, shame." Sometimes the words would change to "Guilty, guilty." For almost an hour and a half, the marchers passed in front of the White House, repeating the words.

As the march approached the Lincoln Memorial, the people slowly filled the huge area. They stood ten abreast on both sides of the reflecting pond, extending far back from the Lincoln Memorial almost to the Washington Monument.

The U.S. Park Service, notorious for low estimates, gave a crowd estimate of 23,600 at the march. Others believed there may have been twice as many people.

His eyes becoming moist, Mike Shepard from San Francisco said, "I see people, a lot of people who love people who have died of AIDS. They love them a lot to care enough to carry a candle on a cold night in Washington, D.C. They are not forgotten."

There was a big banner from Chicago, another from Cleveland. The people from Dallas carried huge candle-filled lanterns. People from Washington, D.C., lit sparklers.

Cleve Jones then told the crowd, "Today we have borne in our arms and on our shoulders a new monument to our nation's capital. Our monument was sewn of soft fabric and thread, and it was created in homes across America wherever friends and families gathered together to remember their loved ones lost to AIDS."

"History will record that in the last quarter of the 20th century, a new and deadly virus emerged, and that the one nation on Earth with the resources, knowledge, and institutions to respond to the new epidemic failed to do so," said Jones.

As the speeches concluded, the members of ACT UP began to chant. Their voices became thousands as they stood in the night air, yelling, "40,000 dead from AIDS—where was George?" and "Reagan, Bush, you can't hide—we charge you with genocide."

The quilt will be returning to San Francisco in December. "We want to pay back the San Francisco lesbian and gay community in December," said Cleve Jones. "We are going to be doing that with a massive display in Moscone Center. We have reserved the entire center for it, and it will be a six-day display—and the money raised will be divided up among service providers in the San Francisco Bay Area, and we hope that will let the city know our gratitude."

## Here Come the Brides

### Gay and Lesbian Couples Pledge Their Troth on City Hall Steps

by Dennis McMillan

Wedding bells rang out at San Francisco City Hall Sunday afternoon as 150 Bay Area couples of all persuasions—mostly same-sex—celebrated their perfect partnerships. As a local kickoff to National Coming Out Day and as a public plea for domestic partnership legislation, the wedding was held on the first anniversary of the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights and the national wedding ceremony.

Cal Domingue, co-producer of the event, called it "an opportunity for couples to reaffirm their commitment to each other and for single people to stand up and say they are worthy of whatever relationship they want."

It was also the chance to proclaim that all personal, domestic relationships deserve legal recognition.

Supervisor Harry Britt attended as a "bridesmaid, rather than a bride." As he mused, "I think there's always the hope when you go to a wedding that somebody will show up and scoop you up to the altar."

On the serious side, Britt spoke of his domestic-partner rights bill. "It is very clear that, in the next few months, San Francisco will finally put into law some recognition of nontraditional relationships—not just for gay men and lesbians, but for other couples who, for reasons of their own, are not legally married."

Supervisory candidate Pat Norman affirmed Britt's prediction. "It's time for domestic-partner legislation, and I think that we can pull it off if we can modify it so that all of us are covered privately, as well as on a municipal level."

Reverend Matt Garrigan of Radiant Light Ministries, and the officiator of the wedding vows, commented to the Bay Area Reporter along similar lines. "Hopefully, next year we'll be able to get married inside City Hall in a legalized ceremony that acknowledges the union of anyone who chooses to embrace another," said Garrigan.

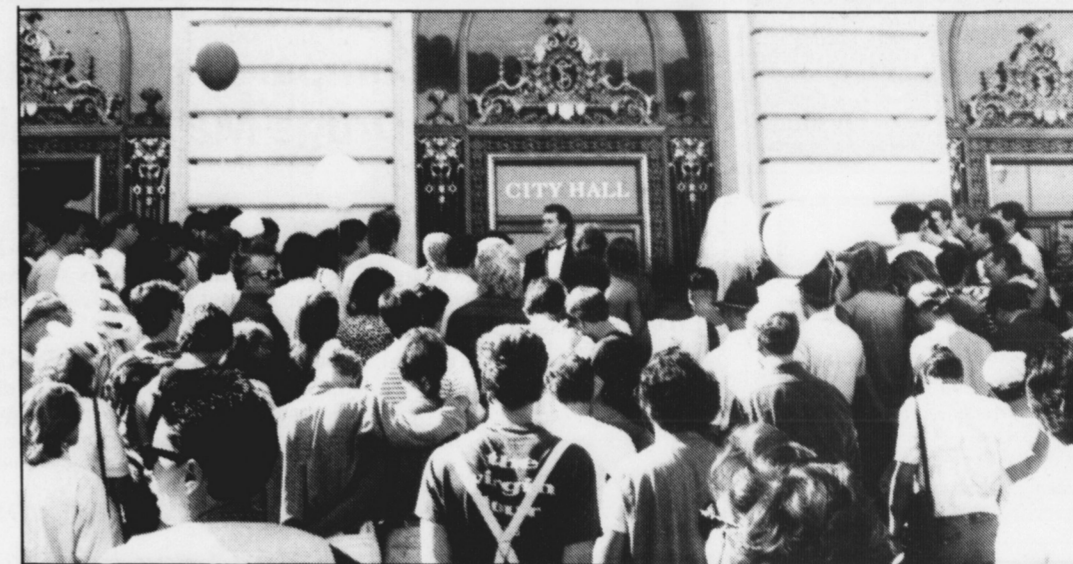
On a spiritual level, the gay reverend spoke in Biblical terms. "We're all children of God, and the union of any two or more gathered together is held in sanctity in God's eyes."

Domingue opened the festivities with a strong political statement: "We're here to say that, as gay and lesbian people, we are sick and tired of having our basic human rights ignored."

Karen Sullivan, co-director of the mass wedding, explained that coming out is a daily, ongoing, lifelong process for every gay person. She encouraged all there to take the same "out and proud" spirit with them after the ritual into their everyday lives.

The theme of NCOD is "Take Your Next Step," and approximately 300 people took theirs, up the cement steps of City Hall into public acknowledgement.

Under a pink and purple balloon archway, attended by a little flower girl, stood the blushing brides in white satin gowns and dashing grooms in dapper tuxedos. But it's up to your imagination as to which ones were women and which were men. The veils



Rev. Matt Garrigan performed the ceremony for 150 couples.

(Photo: Steve Savage)

ranged from traditional lace to studded leather to gold lamé. One bride wore several balloons twisted and tied into the shape of a giraffe on her head.

Reverend Garrigan addressed the crowd, "A wedding at City Hall! Did you ever think you'd be

doing it?" and then gave a short sermon on the power and glory of being out.

He made a rather sobering statement that "maybe someday soon we can have our family and our friends at our weddings and

not just at our funerals."

After a moment of silent meditation, he asked the traditional wedding query with a slight twist: "Is there anyone here whose own thoughts can give reason that these vows should not be taken by themselves?"

The vows, inscribed on a lavender marriage certificate, stated: "We hereby commit ourselves to sharing our lives and love with one another and joyfully proclaim ourselves a couple. We will venture forth into the sunshine and rainstorms, the lightning and rainbows, in the years ahead with kindness, commitment, compassion, and a sense of humor."

As Meg Christian's song "Darshan" played and her words asked, "How could anyone be so beautiful as you?", the couples gazed tenderly into each other's eyes.

Suddenly the air was thick with rice and the glad sounds of being gay.

A lesbian couple in matching white tuxedos and red cummerbunds and ties, Cynthia Pierce and Valerie Michaud, said, "It feels wonderful to be married!"

Finally, with the playing of some stirring Aaron Copland recessional music, all the happy couples went on to honeymoon.



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## FDA Expected to Announce New Drug Approval Rules

### Critics Fear Campaign Public Relations Ploy, Say No New Drugs May Actually Be Released

by Miranda Kolbe

Changes in the federal Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) guidelines which would expedite approval of drugs to treat life-threatening illnesses are expected to be announced in the near future. The announcement is predicted to come from either Vice Pres. George Bush or FDA Commissioner Frank Young.

The 16-page FDA proposal, obtained by the Human Rights Campaign Fund, seeks to speed the process for obtaining FDA approval through early consultation between the FDA and drug sponsors. A key element of the proposal is weighing the risks and benefits of new drugs against the severity of the illnesses at which they are aimed.

The plan has already received sharp criticism from AIDS activists, in part because of the anticipated timing of its announcement. Coming around the time of ACT UP's planned Oct. 11 demonstration at the FDA and toward the end of Bush's election campaign, many activists view the proposal as a public relations ploy.

"I don't like ACT UP's efforts being used as a pawn in George Bush's campaign strategy," commented Terry Beswick, spokesperson for the AIDS organization. "What are we supposed to do? Call off the [Oct. 11] protest and go over to Bush headquarters and sign up?"

Steve Smith, legislative counsel for the Human Rights Campaign Fund, said such timing was typical of Commissioner Young's actions. For example, Young's announcement of changes in policy for dextran sulphate was made during the Lesbian and Gay Health Conference in Boston several months ago.

However, the proposal's timing is not the only reason for skepticism. "I don't think any new drugs will be released now because of this proposal, and it's conceivable there never will be," Smith said. "What this proposal is saying is that if phase two studies show as much information as we would expect from phase three studies, then we can avoid phase three. That's as it should be anyway."

In order for a drug to be licensed by the FDA, it must go through three phases of clinical trials. The first phase involves testing the treatment for possible adverse reactions on both animals and on people. The second phase aims at gauging the effectiveness of the drug. This generally takes much longer than the first phase—often two or more years—and involves between 50 to 200 participants.

If the drug passes through the second-stage requirements, it will go on to a third stage, where it will be tested on an even larger group of people for both safety and effectiveness.

The anticipated policy change at the FDA would seek to streamline the passage through phase one and two studies and possibly avoid the phase three studies altogether. On a few occasions, such as with AZT, drugs have managed to pass out of phase three because, according to the FDA, their phase two studies were so good there was no necessity for phase three and because the severity of the illness warranted the treatment whether or not there were as-yet-unrevealed side-effects.

The first part of the proposal speaks of early consultation with drug manufacturers as a crucial component of a faster FDA process.

*"Without more labs and more people, I don't see how this proposal's going to make any difference."*

—Steve Smith, HRCF

In the past, the FDA has met with drug sponsors after completion of phase two studies. The new proposal suggests that FDA representatives meet with sponsors after completion of phase one and perhaps even before phase one studies begin. They believe early consultation will help inexperienced sponsors organize more successful trials.

The second part of the proposal also promises to be most beneficial to small companies. While in the past the FDA has placed the responsibility for completing trials solely upon the drug sponsor, this proposal suggests there may be times when the FDA would need to step in and assist in researching a product.

Beswick faults the plan for not going far enough to deregulate new treatments. "We at ACT UP are seeking availability [of drugs] after phase one studies for all life-threatening illnesses. At that point an individual can weigh the risks and benefits with their doctors."

However, Smith believes that the proposal does indicate that the FDA is "at least aware of the problem." But he noted the proposal includes no mention of more money going into the FDA to implement the plan.

"Without more labs and more people, I don't see how this proposal's going to make any difference," he said.

## Justice Dept. Issues Policy on AIDS Bias

### Reverses Earlier Approval of Bias; Government Complies with Courts

by Ray O'Loughlin

The U.S. Justice Department has formally reversed its policy on discrimination against people who have AIDS or are carrying the AIDS virus. The department issued a new policy Oct. 6 that states that employees of the federal government affected by AIDS are covered by legislation banning discrimination against the handicapped.

The current policy reverses a controversial July 1986 opinion by Justice Department officials that those with the disease or infected with HIV were not covered by federal law protecting the civil rights of the handicapped. At that time, the federal department under then Attorney General Edwin Meese held that employers could legally dismiss people who they feared would spread a contagious illness.

The new ruling brings the Justice Department into line with recent court rulings and legislative acts.

According to Carlton Lee of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, "This ruling means that the Justice Department has turned around in its policy on the federal handicapped laws. They're responding to the courts, to Congressional signals and to the Presidential AIDS Commission."

Lee speculated that there "could be some political aspects to it" as well. Being released at

the height of the presidential election campaign, the move could be an effort by the Reagan administration to boost the image of Vice-President George Bush as being more moderate on AIDS.

The ruling by the department's office of Legal Counsel applies to all federal employees and becomes the legal basis for the federal Office of Personnel Management guidelines. Although the policy includes the military, it does not apply to most private sector employers. It does, however, cover employees of federal contractors such as colleges, hospitals and other recipients of federal funds.

Recent court decisions have upheld the civil rights of the handicapped and even extended those protections to people with diseases such as AIDS and tuberculosis. The U.S. Supreme Court agreed with lower court rulings that applied the 1973 Federal Rehabilitation Act to people with AIDS.

## Governor Vetoes Two Marks Bills

### Legislation Would Have Banned HIV Bias, Expedited Complaints

by Jay Newquist

Gov. George Deukmejian has vetoed a flurry of AIDS-related bills passed this session by the Legislature. Vetoes bills included help for the terminally ill to file expedited discrimination complaints.

SB 2855, which would have quickened processing of discrimination complaints, was authored by Sen. Milton Marks (D-S.F.). The measure gave priority to people with AIDS to speed up discrimination complaints through the Department of Fair Employment and Housing.

The bill would have specified the timeframe that the department must follow, which was 150 days at its longest. It would have required that terminal patients be given priority and access to some remedy before they are too ill to benefit or have died.

Marks also suffered another veto in companion legislation that would have permitted San Francisco to develop a local AIDS plan and to distribute state AIDS funds through a consolidated AIDS Fund.

"I am deeply disturbed that the governor has vetoed bills which would expedite discrimination claims and streamline AIDS funding mechanisms," said Marks. "Once again, the governor is placing AIDS on a political merry-go-round while the epidemic continues to rage and take valuable human lives."

Other vetoed bills are:

- AB 4306 (Access to Care) This bill would have carried protections to ensure that people with AIDS or ARC or who are HIV infected would not be abandoned. A health care provider would not have been allowed to deny or discontinue service.

- AB 2950 (Counseling) This bill would have assured that proper counseling is provided each time an HIV test is given. Face-to-face contact with a counselor would have been provided when test results were given.

- AB 3795 (Discrimination) This bill would have prohibited discrimination against an HIV positive asymptomatic person.

Charles Klein, aide to Sen. Marks, said the vetoes of the senator's two bills made no sense because under existing policies a PWA would die before his discrimination complaint is heard at the Department of Fair Employment and Housing.

"There were 25 cases in 1988 from people with AIDS and only two were given priority," Klein said, indicating the process could take years to wind its way through the department.

"The governor has a policy about (what he calls) unnecessary legislation, but the problem is how the existing rules are implemented. You never know how long an AIDS patient will be alive," said Klein.

"The governor claims that this legislation is already department policy, but the actual experience of persons filing DFEH claims has demonstrated that the Department has not been sufficiently prompt in processing these claims," said Marks.

Klein said there was not yet a decision to reintroduce the bill. He thought it was possible to increase the budget of the depart-



## Alliance Contributes \$7,500 to Prop. 102 Effort

The Bay Area Non-Partisan Political Alliance has made a contribution of \$7,500 to Californians Against Prop. 102 to assist it in purchasing radio time to defeat the Dannemeyer AIDS initiative. This contribution represents a portion of the political action funds raised by the alliance at its successful Oct. 1 dinner.

Pictured (l. to r.) in a photograph taken when the alliance presented the check to the campaign on Friday, Oct. 7, are Dick Pabich, Margaret Hoag, and Dana Van Gorder of the No on 102 staff; Richard Zee, alliance treasurer; and Todd Dickinson, alliance co-chair.

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Two-Minute Debate

# Sup. Contenders Spar In Brief Encounters

by Jay Newquist

The gathering of 17-count 'em—candidates for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors at the Galleria last week looked like a dog and pony show. The logistical nightmare was moderated by KOFY TV owner James Gabbert as both incumbent and newcomer sought to break from the pack and electrify the 200 spectators with as much eloquence as they could pack into the two-minute response periods.

Gabbert generally didn't ask the same question twice, except for opinions on the homeporting of the U.S.S. *Missouri* and the Olympics in San Francisco. In most cases, a cross-section of comment on the same issue wasn't available.

The result was a gin fizz with no carbonation. You could almost hear your hair grow as the candidates themselves visibly chafed at the forum's format and

consistently extended their replies past the time limit.

There was not one utterance worth the ambrosia of immortality. But a few worthies and unworthies managed to carry the evening off with a general command of political posturing:

**Pat Norman**—A bit subdued and fatigued, Norman said before the event that the forum's organizers tried to exclude her.

She looked uncomfortable for some reason, but had a commanding control over the issues, throwing the *Missouri* and the Olympics in their faces. She was the only one expressing concern for the homeless.



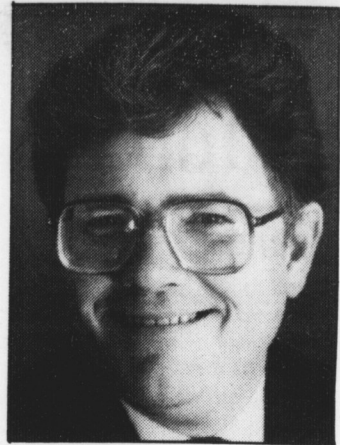
Angela Alioto. (Photo: Rink)

**Angela Alioto**—A feisty supporter of a downtown stadium and denigrator of the *Missouri* and the Olympics, Alioto was the fighter of the evening. She is blunt, likable, and probably electable, and she showed the principal spunk, as a host of other candidates played it safe, avoiding any comment capable of containing the kernel of an idea.

**Harriet Ross**—Ross has run for every office except U.N. secretary general, but, as a public defender for 20 years, she has obviously learned how to close an argument. She was generally not specific. She said, "Stamp out drugs," and "Fight AIDS," but in her two minutes she didn't say how. There's got to be some office for this woman.

**Mike Hardeman**—Hardeman portrayed himself as the shirtsleeve politician, the beer-and-pretzel Joe Sixpack, the labor candidate who knows how to mix it up with the other side. Iron Mike lost the audience, however, when he said San Francisco must change its image from a "bunch of kooks" in order to attract new business.

**Bruce Lilienthal**—He said the private sector must do its share against AIDS and the federal and state governments must kick in big bucks to keep San Francisco on the cutting edge of the epidemic. The self-proclaimed voice of the neighborhoods, Lilienthal was positively the award-winner for sheer poise, class, and content.



Harry Britt. (Photo: M. Hicks)

**Harry Britt**—Britt arrived late, but in time to give a closing statement that people are frustrated with government because it doesn't meet practical concerns. He said we need to get a handle on the bureaucracy and shake up city planning.

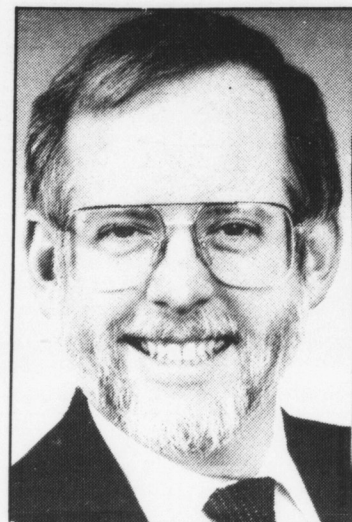
**Carol Ruth Silver**—Silver, bless her heart, got feisty with Gabbert when she complained he wasn't giving enough time to adequately address the questions. Gabbert then let them run long.

You know you're in trouble and should leave to water the lawn when the candidates list their accomplishments in their closing two-minute speeches. It was just too much, after two hours of self-promotion.

An informal poll of the spectators concluded that the Bentsen-Quayle debate at the same time was much more edifying, since there was a TV set propped on the bar before the forum began.

How would Dan Quayle advise the supervisory hopefuls?

"First, I'd say a prayer." •



Bruce Lilienthal.

**Mark Buell**—He confessed he went to Vietnam while Dan Quayle didn't, and Buell may be it if the voters are looking for some of those goodlooking Kennedyesque genes. He said delays in the permit process in city planning need to be simplified; he wants to reform the civil service; and he said he would attack the \$180 million deficit. So who wouldn't? Looks may be deceiving, but Buell looked bored, sensing this wasn't the place to win votes.



Carol Ruth Silver. (Photo: Rink)

## Frisch



# Sheriff Hennessey Opposes Prop. 96

## Calls Ballot Initiative 'Disaster'; Recruits Gay, Lesbian Deputies

by Allen White

San Francisco Sheriff Michael Hennessey is actively recruiting gay men and lesbians to be sheriff's department deputies. At the same time, he is speaking out against Prop. 96 on the November ballot.

On Prop. 96, he said, "What this means is that there will be AIDS lists in California that could be freely distributed to the 63,000 peace officers across the state. It would be a nightmare for anyone in the jail or health business."

"Early on, it was decided that all the attention should go to Prop. 102, because 96 seemed like it was going to pass, and I don't think people have read it closely. I think it will also be a disaster," he said.

"There is no question that Prop. 102 is much worse, but that will not give you solace when your name turns up in a computer file in Los Angeles when you are stopped for a traffic ticket and they treat you like a Martian or something."

The sheriff said the bill "presumes that peace officers need to know if a person has AIDS to do their jobs. Well, they don't know now, and they are doing their job perfectly fine. It presumes that peace officers need to know for their own safety, yet no peace officer has ever been infected. What happens when you break down the confidentiality, discrimination follows."

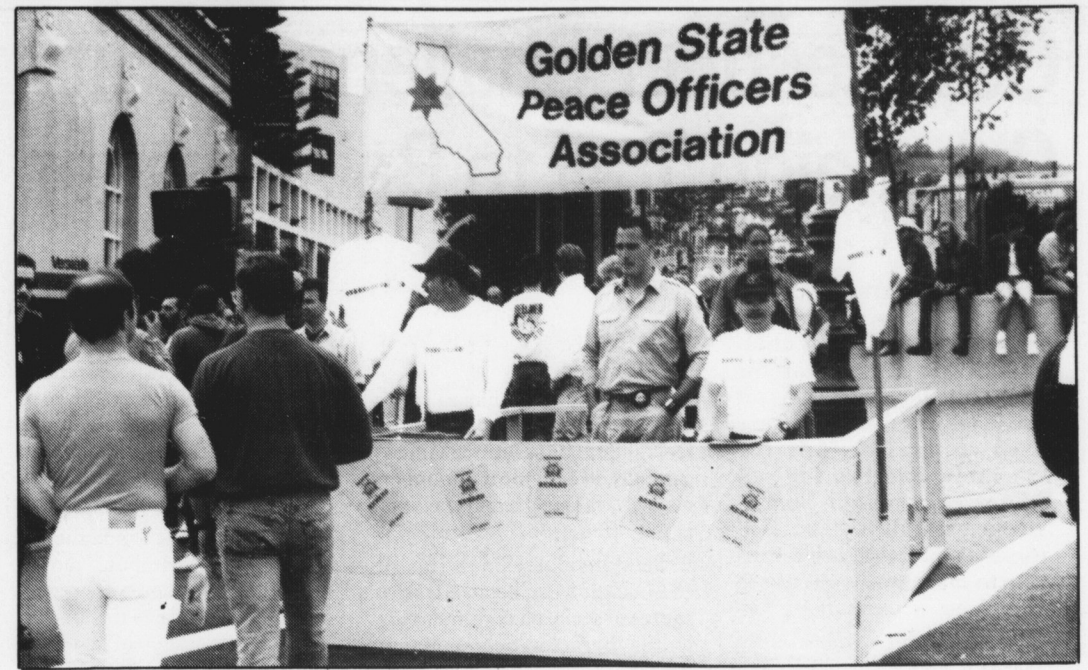
He said there must now be a greater emphasis on training. "Public safety officers," Hennessey said, "must learn how to cope with the epidemic. Unfortunately, the focus in the state over the last year has been on identifying people who are HIV-positive or who have AIDS. But that doesn't protect a peace officer."

What is important is that there be mandatory training, he said. "That is a reason I am opposing Prop. 96, which I believe was sold to a lot of peace officers as a protection for them, but it is not a protection. What it does is give them false information, and it is going to backfire unless it is defeated."

Explaining Prop. 96, he noted that the measure "would require testing by the courts in certain criminal cases, whether or not the person is convicted, purely on accusation of certain offenses. What is so alarming, since I run jails, is that it does away completely with medical confidentiality for AIDS or any other communicable disease. It would be a state law that requires medical personnel, on any level, to tell a facility head, a jail commander, who has what disease."

"And then the commander is required to tell everyone who works in the jails who has AIDS, who is HIV-positive, or who has any other communicable disease. That is not required, and it will lead to discrimination in the way jails are run and, in my opinion, will lead to a lack of appropriate services; and, further, it allows for the information to be freely distributed to any other peace officer."

In the San Francisco jails, the sheriff said, "We are fortunate that we are able to preserve the confidentiality of people in jail. The only way we know if a person has AIDS is if they voluntarily tell us or if their medical condition is so severe [that] they need to be



The Sheriff's Department recruitment booth at the Castro Street Fair. (Photo: Steve Savage)

hospitalized. Many hundreds come through our system who are HIV-positive or who are in the early stages of AIDS. Our custody staff do not know about these people and do not need to know about their status to provide adequate safety in the jails."

The department is now actively recruiting people from minority communities. "Gay men and lesbians should feel welcome, invited into this department," Hennessey said. "I have gone out

to the community to meet with gay individuals. We have worked to attract people who might otherwise feel they are not welcome in law enforcement."

Last Sunday, members of the Sheriff's Department were out recruiting at the Castro Street Fair. They note that the starting salary is \$30,511, plus fringe benefits which include 14 paid holidays, a health plan, and a

retirement program. The requirements are that a person be 20 years or older, have a high school diploma or G.E.D., a valid California driver's license, and no felony convictions. San Francisco residency is not required.

There is a lesbian/gay recruitment hotline telephone number (921-9350) and an official Sheriff's Department recruitment number (554-7000) where information is available. The Golden State Peace Officers, a group of gay peace officers, is planning an "outreach workshop" on Oct. 17 at 7 p.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church at 150 Eureka St.

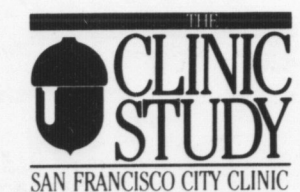
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# Gay, Lesbian Challengers Hit Campaign Trail to Raise Issues

by Jay Newquist

Four lesbian and gay challengers will carry rainbow colors into local elections on Nov. 8, with one for San Francisco supervisor, one for Assembly, and two for San Francisco's school board. All face uphill battles. Two openly state they are running to make points, if not to win.

Tom Ammiano, a former school teacher, is running on two planks: He wants district elections for school board, and he urges a school to be named after Harvey Milk.

Ammiano is hardly coy, because he doesn't expect to win. He hasn't raised a campaign war chest, he says, and he has no signs and hasn't sought endorsements.

"I didn't want to go through the endorsement procedure," he said. "Gay clubs tend to back people who will win even if they

don't like them. I want to break the cycle."

Ammiano would like to crack open the school board, which he feels should be scrutinized more carefully, like the Board of Supervisors. "If there's hanky-panky, it is not often seen," he said.

The candidate said the Board of Education can be an effective source of social change, referring to the Berkeley School Board that endorsed a domestic partners policy a few years ago.

"It's an example of what a school board can do," Ammiano said, indicating that other issues include the gay agenda items of gay and lesbian parents whose needs aren't addressed.

Gay students typically have no special place to go in school, he added.

Ammiano said, win or lose, he was having a good time, especially at recent fundraisers where he gave to the AIDS Emergency

Fund and Friends of the Library.

Robert Barnes faces Ammiano in the same race for the Board of Education. He emphasized there has never been a gay member of the school board.

Barnes would like to repair the wretched image of San Francisco schools. "The dropout rate is awful, and test scores are poor," he said. "We have to do our part to renew confidence in public education, to turn it around."

A recent poll quoted that 80 percent of the electorate, said Barnes, was unaware of the candidates running for school board. Barnes said the race was wide open in November.

Barnes wants gay visibility on the board once and for all, because they "need to be part of a collective society." He said gays and lesbians can only prompt social change if they are in positions of representation and power.



School board candidate Tom Ammiano. (Photo: Steve Savage)

An employment counselor, Barnes is running as an independent to avoid the divisive nature of the existing board. He favors, among other things, AIDS education at an earlier age, as well as reform in what is actually taught to minors about AIDS.

The empowerment principle of gay people is a thread that runs through various races, including the run for the State Assembly by Republican Brian Mavrogeorge.

Mavrogeorge doesn't see victory in the cards, but he hopes that a strong showing would enable the appointment of more like-minded Republicans at the state level.

He said his district, now represented by John Burton, had Republican voter registration of 14 percent, which doesn't bode well in a sea of liberal Democrats.

"Barring an act of God, it's unlikely I'd win, but it's an op-

portunity to make an impact at the state level," he said.

Mavrogeorge is a critic of the progressive machine for having declined to support gay candidates. He said they ask for money and volunteers, but there is eventually no gay empowerment.

He said an example was the removal of gay Democrats from the state Central Committee by Burton.

Mavrogeorge said the only answer in party politics was to work hard in the party in which you feel the most comfortable. He added that the upcoming election was an opportunity to help gay Republicans have more impact.

In the race for San Francisco supervisor, Pat Norman is making her third try for that office. She was not available for comment.

## Bush Bait's Dukakis

by Rex Wockner

Presidential candidate George Bush's statewide Texas Victory '88 campaign in Austin has "gay-baited" candidate Michael Dukakis in a 300,000-piece direct-mailing that went to rural and small-town Texans in mid-September.

The four-page, glossy brochure, attacking Dukakis for his positions on the Pledge of Allegiance, school prayer, abortion, the death penalty, weekend furloughs for prisoners, and gun control, states, "[Dukakis] wants to give gays and lesbians special privileges under the Civil Rights Act."

In a photocopied insert, the Bush campaign also charges that Dukakis "supports the right of homosexuals to be foster parents and vetoed a bill that would have banned it."

"These aren't the conservative values of Texas and Texans," the brochure says. "These are the values of a Massachusetts liberal."

The cover of the mailing features a photo of Dukakis above

the words, "Here are the words Dukakis doesn't want your child to have to say..." Inside, two schoolchildren are shown with their hands over their hearts. "I pledge allegiance to the flag..." reads an accompanying box.

"It's important," the brochure states, "a president encourage love of country, patriotism, and respect for America's flag and history, especially among young people."

"Dukakis admits he is a liberal Democrat and a card-carrying member of the American Civil Liberties Union," states the brochure. After the claim that Dukakis opposes voluntary prayer in schools, the pamphlet gives a laundry list of complaints about Dukakis.

According to the Chicago Tribune, the Bush mailing was the "first salvo in the direct-mail [portion of the presidential] campaign."

"Our choice," the brochure concluded, "is between a northeastern liberal in Michael Dukakis or a Texas conservative in George Bush." ●

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# English Leather

## Ten Years in California Haven't Dulled His Properly British Accent

by Mary Richards

Few people may know it, but the mayor of San Francisco declared June 21, 1988, "Alan Selby Day." Not many may know who Alan Selby is. He was born in London and arrived in this city in 1979. Since then, he has set up a thriving leather business, has been the driving force behind many of the special events held in the lesbian and gay community, and has developed into a major fundraising activist in the fight against AIDS.

He hasn't lost his British accent, which seems to complement his full leather costume, rather than detract from it. Although he resists divulging his true age, it's obvious he has passed through the fearful 40s and is well on his own, rather unusual way, to more mature years. Alan and mid-life crisis just don't mix, and at a time when some people are beginning to settle down to sort themselves out, he's going full-speed ahead. There is no time to sit and ponder when the stage of life beckons him to perform.

He did actually work in the theater once, but then again, he has also been in the nursing profession. "A lot of people say 'why did you come to America?'" Alan remarks, "I felt there was a need for me here that there didn't seem to be in England."

The need was realized by Walter Mellon, the founder and first president of the AIDS Emergency Fund. In 1982 he was part of the audience at Chaps, where Alan was doing a fundraiser for Shanti. Based on the success of that event, he invited Alan to be a member of the Emergency Fund's board and chair their fundraising committee.

When speaking about the Emergency Fund, Alan always makes sure that past president and board member George Burgess is mentioned. "I got friendly with George, and we used to go over to his house and chew the fat and come up with new ideas for fundraisers. We built up a reputation for giving value for money, and having interesting and fun events. As such, we got wonderful support from the community. There were times when you couldn't have gotten another person on the patio of the Eagle. The place was jammed, which was wonderful."

Fundraising is no easy task, especially when the details are the responsibility of a few people. "I'll be thinking," Alan says, "where on earth am I going to get prizes for the auction? And like magic, the next day someone will come in the door, or the phone will ring, and the most incredible things appear. One day I'll have nothing, and the next day I'll have so many things that I can't get them all in the shop."

He's still on the Fund's fundraising committee, but no longer on its board of directors. Now, time is spent making Every Penny Count at the seven or so South of Market bars he collects money from for that special project. Alan guesses that about \$86,000 has been raised to date, which will go toward immediate relief for people with AIDS.

When his responsibilities lightened at the Emergency Fund, Alan turned his thoughts to more direct contact with people who were fighting for their lives. "I really wanted to be a volunteer on Ward 5A," he admits. "It's become a very important part of my life. It's somewhere I feel I'm needed, and I'm the kind of person who really needs to be needed. It has brought an extra



Alan Selby auctions off an original Wari drawing at the Daddy's Boy contest. (Photo: Scott Martin)

dimension into my life that was definitely missing.

"My lover passed away a year ago, and it's something you really never get over. The only way you can sort of get through it is by helping other people who have been through what you've been through, or helping PWAs."

Soon after Alan settled in San Francisco, he set about becoming part of the community at large. Since 1982 he has taught a human sexuality class as part of the psychology program at San Francisco State University. He describes his talks as "basically safe sex practices with a little light S/M thrown in. I try to make it interesting, but at the same time not too heavy, so that they will take the safe sex side of it seriously. I guess I'm doing something right," he laughs, "the teacher tells me she learns a little more every time I come to class."

Leather and "light S/M" are an integral part of Alan's life, and it can have its amusing aspects. He says he is sometimes called "the Ann Landers of the leather world." Letters and phone calls come his way at Mr. S. Leathers from both straight and gay people who have sexual problems.

Inspired once again by George Burgess, Alan developed and organized some of the more exciting leather events in the community: International Ms Leather, Leather Daddy and Daddy's Boy contests, and the recent evening of Fetish and Fantasy.

The second International Ms Leather was held earlier this year, and Alan says he developed the concept because "I wanted some kind of a fundraising event that the women could identify with." He was the only man on the board of directors and thoroughly enjoyed himself. "It was quite

a learning experience," he says with a smile, "Those women are incredible!"

The Sixth Leather Daddy contest was held this year and raised \$6,400 for the AIDS Emergency Fund. The Daddy's Boy event topped that amount, and commanded even bigger crowds.

Alan feels that, "If you're going to have a contest with a titleholder, you need to have a person who's going to do something for the community with the title. This is why I'm so pleased, generally speaking, that our titleholders have really pulled their weight in the community. They've been auctioneers, judges, emcees, they've marched in the Parade, they've worn their banners. It makes it all feel more worthwhile."

Alan has received his own honors for worthwhile service from the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. One certificate is for fundraising, signed by Sup. John Molinari. The other is signed by Sup. Richard Hongisto. Perhaps his proudest accomplishment was his nomination for Those Who Care, sponsored by KRON-TV.

Although it took five years for Alan to get his green card to work in America, there is no choice about where he wants to live. "I could not do in England what I do here," he states. "Here there is a sense of community. The love and the care and the support is incredible, and I guess for that we should be very thankful."

"I feel I've made some real special friends. The volunteers on the ward and the board members of the AIDS Emergency Fund are the salt of the earth-type people that I never had access to before I got involved. It's like stepping into another world, in a way. It's wonderful, and I love it!"

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## A Salvo Missed Its Target and Injured the Innocent

**UNEQUIVOCAL, VERA-CIOUS EXCULPATION**  
(A 'Salvo Missed Its Target and Injured the Innocent' Nose)

I knew what I meant by what I wrote last week. My most ardent and avid critic (my spouse) also knew what I meant by what I wrote last week. Those at whom the cannonade was aimed obviously didn't know what I meant—at least I haven't had any scorching letters or irate phone calls.

Unfortunately, I failed to make myself totally clear to those to whom all the credit must be given. Before I dissect last week's column to justify my statements, let it be known that the staff and customers of Spoiled Brat did indeed bust their balls (and whatever the equivalent is for females!) during the Hayward Zucchini Festival—a total of 279 person-hours—which raised nearly \$14,000 for charity.

Praises, extolment, and laudations to each and every one of them for their tireless efforts. All my intents were honest, but obvious apprehension resulted from lack of public visibility and accountability by certain organizations.

And now the dissection. The operative words, I thought, were

at the very beginning of the column, "... sad commentary about the times in which we are living." By this I meant that the unaccountability of "certain charitable organizations" in the East Bay to their constituents prompted the article.

"How sad that some feel EBAF has to be policeman over other's accounting books." By this I meant how sad, indeed, that because some organizations aren't public enough with the income and outgo, a group of fundraisers thought enough of EBAF to make the finalizing decision. This is an orchid to them and an onion to the other organizations.

"How sad that some feel EBAF is the final say as to when a program is successful or not." By this I meant: Has it really come to this type of a situation? Are other organizations so untenable that a group of fundraisers must seek out one irrefutable organization to make sure the funds are used for the purpose for which they were raised? This in no way belittles the fundraisers. To me, it's a black eye for the other organizations!

"How sad that EBAF might have been placed in this predicament—sort of pitting one organization against another." I admit

that this is a little touchy, but what I should have made more clear is the fact that if EBAF had made the decision, it would have been totally irregular and against its bylaws and the rules of the State of California governing nonprofit organizations.

Again, I meant no affront to the fundraisers. Had I been in their situation, I would have done the same thing. Again, how sad that the charity for whom the funds were originally intended is in such a state of flux that it was opted to let EBAF make the final decision. Would that EBAF could!

"How sad that all 'fundraising' organizations don't make their financial statements available to the general public—or at least to those who are the contributors to said organizations." I can see some misunderstanding here. I should have written, "organizations that depend upon fundraisers for their existence..." Sorry, Hayward, I take the blame for that one.

The rest of the article I stand behind unashamedly. To wit: "How sad that EBAF was the only organization deemed 'honest' enough to have made those decisions." This in no way discredits anyone who worked to

raise money. It most certainly derides other organizations.

"How sad that a worthwhile venture might cease and desist because there aren't enough people willing to keep it going." How could this possibly upset anyone in Hayward associated with the Zucchini Festival? This indicated that, the general public notwithstanding, neither city nor county officials want to get involved with city or county money to keep BASH going. Now that's a god-damned shame!

"How sad that I truly understand the premise behind the request of the note containing the check. How sad that the requests even had to have been made." If that was taken as disdain against anyone associated with the Zucchini Festival, I am totally disconcerted. Reread it. It's a discredit to some organizations in the East Bay.

"... it's a sad commentary about the times in which we live. When will those who are responsible start being responsible?" The "those" to whom I referred as not being responsible means those in other organizations that should, by sheer conscience and public accountability, report all income and outgo. To me, that was so obvious I can't possibly

see how anyone—except those who aren't responsible—could take offense.

Perhaps if those in Hayward who were upset by last week's column would reread it from start to finish, it would be a little more clear as to what I really meant to say. (I anticipate that the bird didn't do too much damage to it at the bottom of its cage or that the bones and coffee grinds can be scraped of enough from my page to allow further perusal.) Hopefully this explanation will suffice to cool a few heated tempers and placate the disgruntled.

I should hope that in the future, if any fundraisers have doubts or questions, they should demand accountability from those organizations directly or refuse to do fundraisers for those organizations.

How could I possibly "assault" Hayward? Some of my favorite people are "Hayward"! Collectively, I suspect, Hayward has raised more money for charities than any other group in Alameda County.

**SUPERANNUATED APPRISING**  
(A 'Grapevine' Nose)

It can't be called a "quotable quote," because I got it second-hand: A member of the board of ISE said that three on the board wanted him to stay and three wanted him to resign. If that weren't dilemma enough, this same individual was heard to utter something about having a job offer as a bartender in a San Francisco bar, but couldn't take it if he remained a member of ISE's board. Talk about your basic, everyday impasse!

This same individual was feeling "festive/feisty" and said that he was ready for another interview. He may be, but I don't think the community is. I know I'm certainly not.

This same individual kept referring to "that" letter. Well, J.M., I still have that letter. Rather than bemoaning the fact that there will be no interview, why don't you write an exposé? You're so good at writing letters!

This same individual gets extremely upset and vocal at the mere mention of a name—Sam. Sam! Sam! Sam! Sam! Sam!

**OMNIUM-GATHERUM**  
(A Melange Nose)

It's just an observation, but are you one who purchased a 1988 calendar from an East Bay bar that promised half of the selling price (\$1) would go to EBAF? I am, and, as of this writing (in October 1988 yet!), not one penny has been turned over to EBAF. As I said, it's just an observation and, anticipatingly, not a sign of the times in which we are living.

God's hooks! Terry and Marge 86ed from their local pub? A phone call with a few well-chosen expletives to the owner cleared up that particular predicament!

I understand that Suzie is between engagements, as it were.

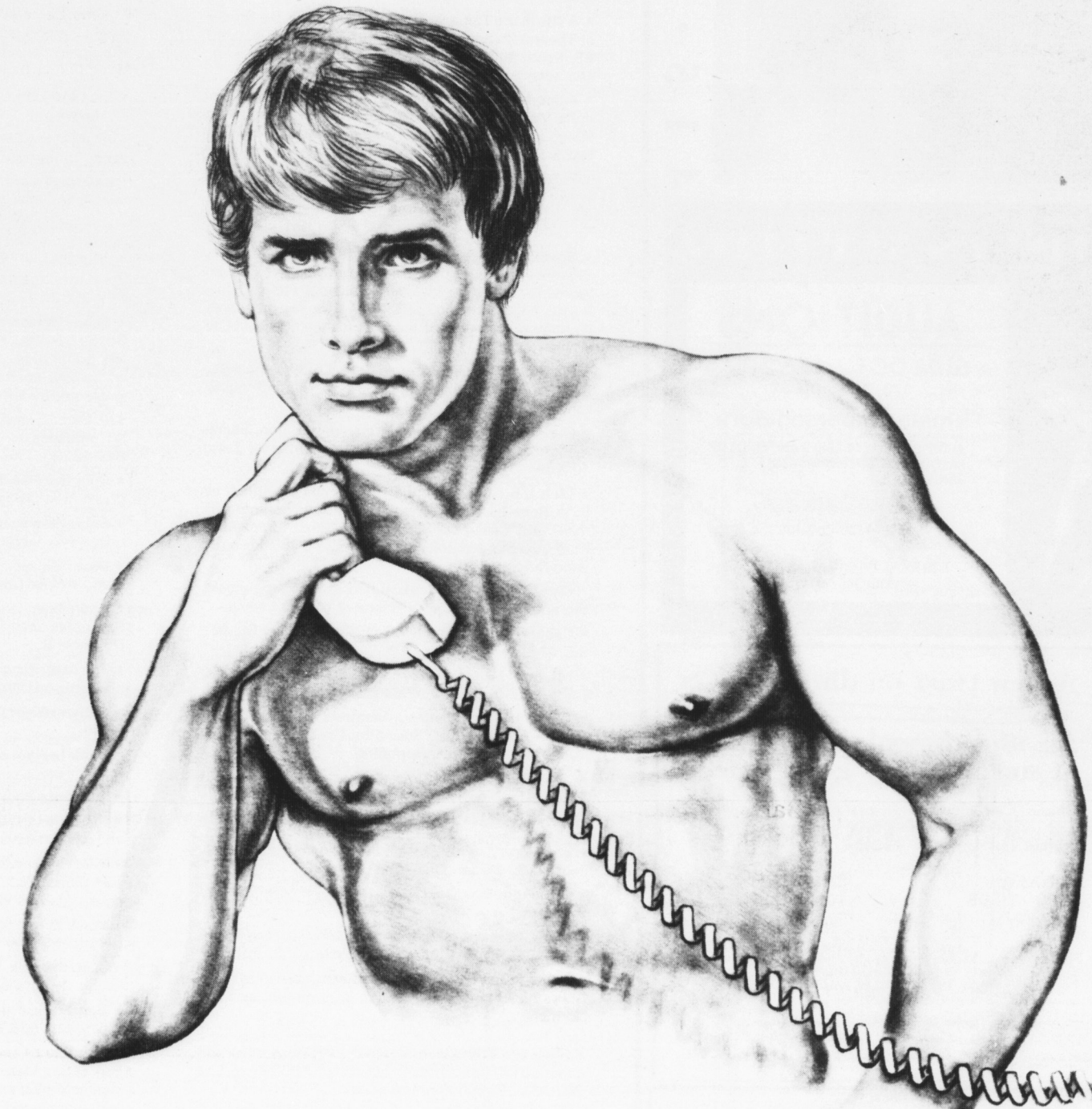
Without my permission or consent, my "love affair" with Ashby Avenue has been revived. By the time this column goes to press, I sincerely hope that my spouse is home for good! We're both sick and tired of hospitals, no matter how good they are.

It's been so long since I have made love, I really can't remember which one of us gets tied up! I'll try to smile at that!

—Love, Nez

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BAY AREA REPORTER OCTOBER 13, 1988 PAGE 23



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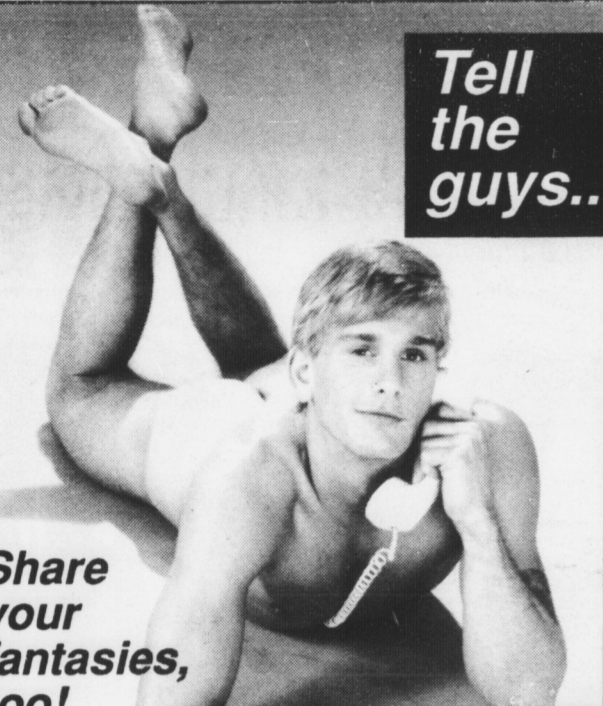


Illustration by Laura H. Young





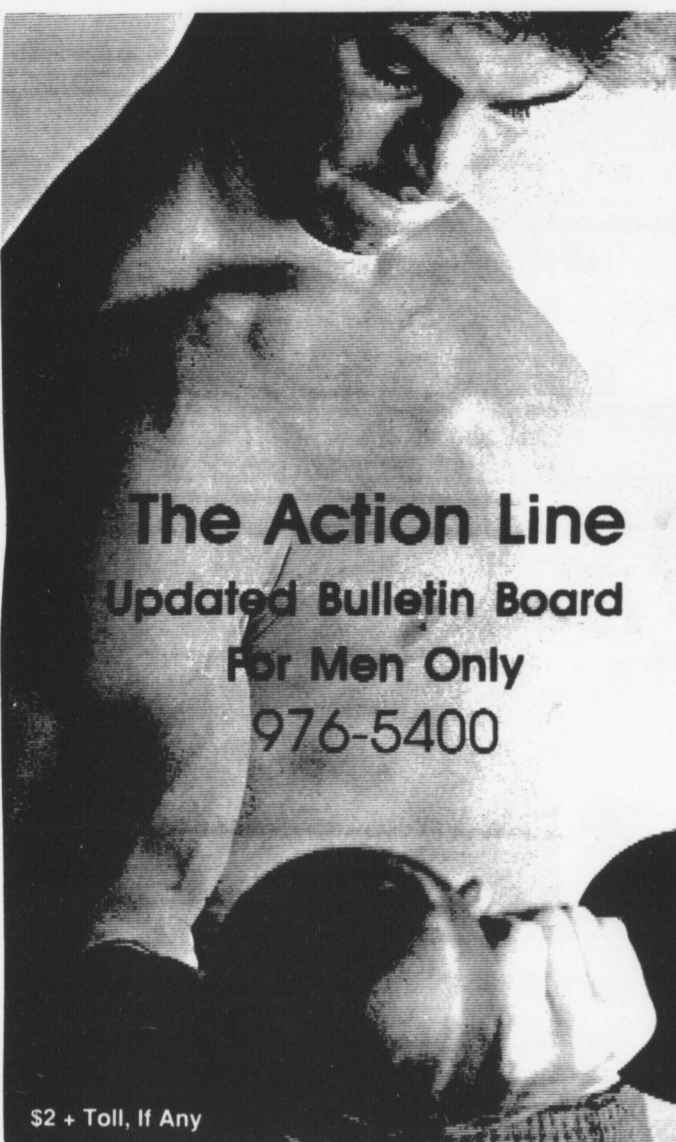
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**VIDEO**

**'Intimate Contact' and 'Empire State'**

**2 Different Approaches to Social Ills**

by Steve Warren

Two recent video releases from England couldn't be more different in their approach to contemporary social problems. *Intimate Contact* is a movie for television about AIDS, while *Empire State* is a theatrical film about crime and corruption.

Both feature prominent gay characters, but *Intimate Contact* was designed largely as an educational vehicle about AIDS, so writer Alma Cullen consigns the PWAs to high-risk groups to supporting roles. The focus is on a family who thought the disease could never touch them.

Clive (Daniel Massey) is hospitalized after a sudden collapse. He hesitates before breaking the news to his wife, Ruth (Claire Bloom). "Whatever it is, we'll face it together," she says. That proves true to a large extent, and it's one of the few things they have shared in a marriage that's been held together by separation. It was on one of his frequent business trips—to America, wouldn't you know?—that the Englishman contracted AIDS from a (female) prostitute during an orgy.

Clive's company doctor violates confidentiality out of a sense of duty, which he later has the decency to regret, and Clive is out of a job. ("It's not about how it is, it's about how it looks.") He and Ruth soon find themselves moving in different circles.

Clive helps and is helped by Lizzy McInerney, a suicidal, 18-year-old, drug addict in his ward. Ruth overcomes her initial revulsion and becomes close to a gay couple, Scott (Daniel Webb) and Maurie (Neil Pearson). "It's terrible, isn't it?—loving," says Scott, who has kept his afflicted lover alive through exercise and alternative therapies. Ruth's other new friend is a Scot whose young son has hemophilia and got AIDS from tainted blood.

The only old friend who sticks by Ruth is Becca (Maggie Steed), an alcoholic fighting for custody of her son. The message of solidarity among social outcasts comes through loud and clear, as does the show business axiom that akies and junkies have the juiciest roles.

Misdirected by Waris Hussein, (Continued on page 35)



*Empire State* director Ron Peck in his London studio. (Photo: S. Warren)

**MUSIC**

**Says Dixie Carter**

**Producer's Personal Experience Led to Famous AIDS Episode**

by Steve Warren

"I look at myself on screen and think there are snakes in my face," says Dixie Carter's severest critic, Dixie Carter. She's aware that her stage training taught her to exaggerate and feels much of what she does as Julia Sugarbaker on *Designing Women* is still "too much for television. . . I wish I could reduce it to something more natural."

The most popular episode for gay viewers was one in which an associate of the Sugarbakers announced he was dying of AIDS and asked the firm to design his funeral. At the same time, a child with AIDS was fighting expulsion from the school attended by the children of Mary Jo (Annie Potts), and she had to take a stand at the PTA meeting.

The show was a consciousness-raiser for non-gay audiences, not to mention its cast, and drew "very little" negative reaction from the public, Carter says.

The story's genesis came from the personal experience of the show's writer/producer, Linda Bloodworth-Thomason, Carter reveals. "Linda's mother died of AIDS, which she contracted through a blood transfusion in a Memphis hospital. Because of her age and the fact she wasn't gay, she wasn't eligible for some treatments. . . and she experienced the discrimination of nurses not wanting to touch her."

Planting a seed with Carter could lead to more gay visibility on *Designing Women*, which featured not only the famous AIDS episode, but another one with Charles Pierce. The stars "do suggest story ideas" to the writer, she says. "Sometimes she picks them right up and zooms with them. Our favorite thing is to tell her anecdotes from home," which often find their way into

the show's leisurely opening scene.

In the tradition of Norman Lear, *Designing Women* is an issue-oriented situation comedy. It plays up Atlanta's "New South" image and takes stands that are sometimes surprisingly liberal.

Carter's roots are from the "Old South." She was raised in a small Tennessee town. But her desires were for bigger things, and her stage experience in college helped her land a role two weeks after arriving in New York in Joseph Papp's production of *A Winter's Tale*.

Other experiences included working with Lily Tomlin and Madeline Kahn in a mid-'60s musical revue, as well as working on television in *The Edge of Night* and *Filthy Rich*. She also has performed in cabaret in places which include the Plush Room in San Francisco (1985), Freddy's in New York, and the Gardenia in Los Angeles.

San Francisco gets another chance to hear Carter sing this Sunday afternoon in Herbst Theatre with a two-part concert. "The first half will be mostly folk songs and a few legitimate recital pieces," she previews. The second half will be a shortened version of her cabaret act, about two-thirds of which has changed since she performed her last.

"Like my heroine, Mabel Mercer," she says, "I hope to be able to go on singing the rest of my life."

There's a lot more to "Julia Sugarbaker" than her sweet surface.

Dixie Carter: A Program of Songs Herbst Theatre, Oct. 16, 3 p.m. \$12-\$15; 552-3656 or BASS

**MOVIES**

**Irons Brilliant in a Kinky Movie**

**Cronenberg's 'Dead Ringers' a Jarring, One-of-a-Kind Movie**

by Ron Larsen

Whether or not you like *Dead Ringers*, a macabre psychological drama starring Jeremy Irons as identical twin brothers, will probably depend as much on your mood and expectations going into the movie as on the actual film itself. For *Ringers* is a jarring, one-of-a-kind movie that really is in a class by itself (despite the nearly identical titles, it bears very little resemblance to 1964's *Dead Ringer*, a Bette Davis vehicle about twin sisters).

In a shameless bit of deceptive advertising, this quirky, offbeat film is being promoted as yet another blood-and-gore extravaganza from famed Canadian horror director David Cronenberg, known for such cult classics as *They Came From Within*, *Rabid*, *The Brood*, *Scanners*, *The Dead Zone* (the best film adaptation of a Stephen King novel to date), and 1986's critically acclaimed remake of *The Fly*, which many felt was unfairly overlooked in the Oscar race. But make no mistake about it: *Dead Ringers* may be shocking, horrific, and bizarre, but it is most definitely not a horror movie in the conventional sense.

Rather than a slice-and-dicer like *Friday the 13th* (pick any part) or a creepy crawler like *The Blob* (either version), Cronenberg's *Ringers* is a complex psychological thriller that explores the intricate love-hate relationship between two emotionally disturbed twin doctors who become involved with the same troubled patient. As played by the aging but ever-watchable Genevieve Bujold, the *femme fatale* who becomes the object of the twins' affections is a neurotic, drug-addicted actress with a deformed uterus (it is a "trifurcate," or three-chambered, organ straight out of Cronenberg's imagination) and a penchant for kinky sex (she's a sadomasochist who's heavily into bondage, replete with whips and chains). This twisted, tortured threesome makes for what is perhaps the most malignant *ménage à trois* in movie history.

Although technically a work of fiction, Cronenberg's screenplay about Elliot and Beverly Mantle, a pair of brilliant but deranged twin gynecologists, closely resembles the sensational real-life case of Cyril and Stewart Marcus, twin doctors whose double suicide made headlines in 1975. There is a homosexual undercurrent in the brothers' love/hate relationship, but theirs is a closeness that transcends sexuality, a merging of body and soul that perhaps only identical twins can experience so intensely and completely. And it is this very closeness which, in the end, destroys them, for, while they try to pull apart from each other and so establish their individual identities, their very at-oneness precludes them from being separated—they can't live together, and they can't live apart.

The addition of a woman into this equation only complicates matters, hastening the twins' mutual self-destruction as it forces them to examine their warped, interdependent relationship. The third member of the triangle, a weathered, world-weary actress named Claire Niveau (played by



Jeremy Irons, Genevieve Bujold, and Jeremy Irons in *Dead Ringers*.

Bujold), enters the twins' fertility clinic because she desperately wants children but is unable to

conceive. When her gynecological exam leads to the bedroom and she becomes sexually in-

volved with the brothers, she is at first unaware that she is making love with two different men on

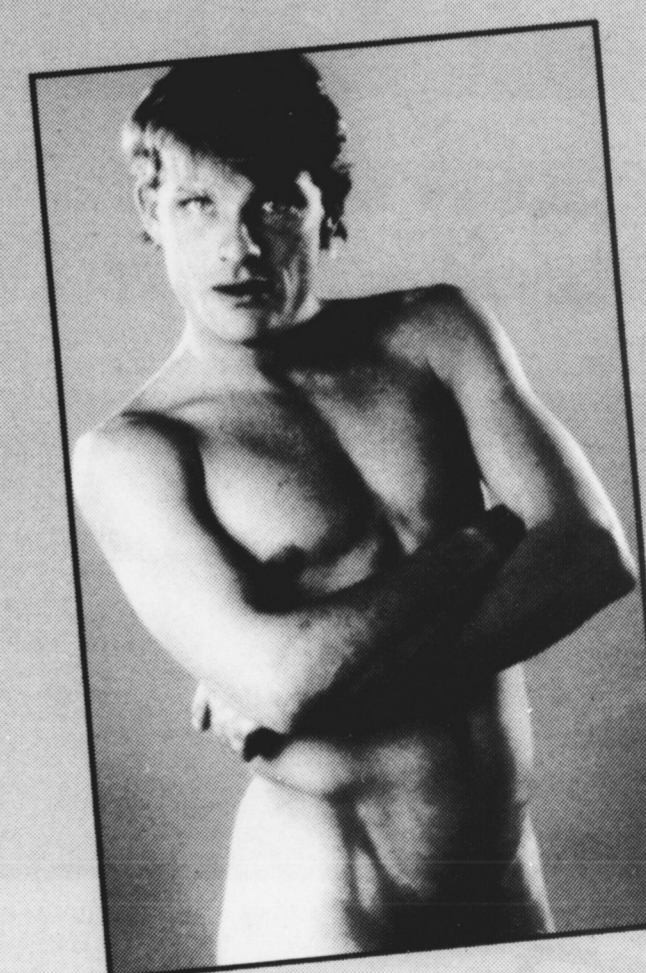
alternate days and nights. This cruel game of deception is devised by Elliot as a means of initiating his shy, introverted brother, Beverly, into the joys of heterosexual sex. But the plan backfires when Beverly actually falls in love with Claire, who in turn lashes out at both the brothers when she discovers their perverse masquerade.

Not a pretty picture, to be sure, and this tangled web is woven within the first 30 minutes of the film! Elliot is, on the surface, the more self-contained and well-adjusted of the twins, but beneath his slick veneer is a sick psyche, an obsessive and possessive man who is more in love with his own brother than he can ever be with any woman. When the high-strung, love-crazed Beverly tries to escape reality by making a nightmarish descent into drug addiction and insanity, Elliot feels compelled to follow, for he believes that only by being completely in synch with his other half can he hope to save his brother and himself.

(Continued on page 45)

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## Passionate Communion

In the world of contemporary choreographers, Lar Lubovitch might be called a retro-modernist. His 12 member company dances on bare feet in simple, practice-clothes costumes on undecorated stages. But the dances Lubovitch makes for them are often set to large, romantic orchestral scores that inspire formally structured ensemble patterns of sweeping expansiveness.

The Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, based in New York, opened its Cal Performances engagement at Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall with the Bay Area premiere of *Musette*, to Poulenc's "Concerto for Two Pianos," a work that seemed to sum up the choreographer's charm, craftsmanship and musicality. From the opening movement, during which couples rush toward each other from opposite sides of the stage, connect briefly and dash off again, Lubovitch consolidates the company into a welded ensemble whose heroic partnering devices mirror the concerto's symphonic swells. The company often looked European, especial-

(Continued on page 36)



Nancy Colahan and Rob Besserer in Lar Lubovitch's *A Brahms Symphony*. (Photo: J. Mitchell)

Philip Campbell

## Symphony Shoots Wide

After their recent triumph with an adventurous all-Carl Nielsen concert, it was shocking to hear the San Francisco Symphony and director Herbert Blomstedt floundering in what should have been another major success. The *Symphony No. 1* of Gustav Mahler, sometimes called the "Titan," has become increasingly popular since the 1950s, and more than one conductor has made a name with it. Unfortunately, like Edo de Waart before him, Blomstedt is more inhibited than passionate in this exciting music.

Blomstedt's grasp of large-scale form would seem to insure satisfaction, but insights to Beethoven and Bruckner are not enough for the jarring contrasts of the "Titan." Mahler sought to embrace the world in all its diversity: Blomstedt seeks to control what he does not feel. Even so, he couldn't command his forces to a truly disciplined performance—much of their playing was downright sloppy.

Modern ears seem ready for the mixture of sublime and vulgar moments in the *First*. Profound

beauty, pain, and confusion are represented with gorgeous melodies and ingenious scoring. The progression from the misty, ominous beginning to the exalted climax is clear, but rarely simple. Everyone likes a big finish, and Blomstedt got his ovation, but it was really Mahler's victory. A poor rendition can't spoil his inspired theatrics.

I might have chalked it up to lack of rehearsal (the orchestra spent the prior Sunday and Monday recording Nielsen) had I not remembered the *First* was performed off the regular subscription series in preparation for the Asian tour. What must the foreign audiences have thought of the ragged horn-playing and thin violin tone? Much the same as our own enthusiastic crowd, I'll wager.

The first half of the concert also aimed high and fell short. Michael Grebanier, 12-year veteran of the Philip S. Boone principal cellist seat, played over, under, and around the notes of Hayden's *Cello Concerto in C Major*, but rarely hit the target. Much of his performance was adequate, even pleasing—it was simply an off night. Hayden's sunny score didn't suffer unduly from the imperfect tuning and attack—the program just amounted to a promising rehearsal.

The following week, Andrew Massey took the podium for another ambitious bill that went off course. Massey's problem was plainly in biting off more than he, or anyone else, could chew. An obscure *Overture* by Berlioz preceded a low-key rendition of Chopin's *Piano Concerto No. 1* by the legendary Jorge Bolet. Even he is capable of a few botched notes and muddled runs, but at least he presents a cohesive interpretation, and the slow movement alone was well worth the price of admission.

The second half primarily featured modern visionary Olivier Messiaen. John Balka, organist of St. Mary's, blazed through a brilliant five-minute excerpt from *L'Ascension* for solo organ. It was too quick a glimpse for real involvement, but the playing was assured, and it is always a thrill hearing the great Ruffatti in use.

*Chronochromie* for full orchestra serves as a useful introduction to Messiaen's interest in bird calls and mathematical progressions. It is dense music and a little wearing after a time, but never dull or merely gimmicky. The audience did not share my enthusiasm—they left in droves at every opportunity. The lengthy concert should have ended there.

Instead, Massey tacked on a good but unremarkable *La Valse* by Ravel. As program music and sonic blockbuster, it has always been a personal favorite, far superior to the more popular *Bolero*. Still, I couldn't help remember the more exciting performance in 1983 with Michael Tilson Thomas and the amazing sonorities elicited by Lorin Maazel before that.

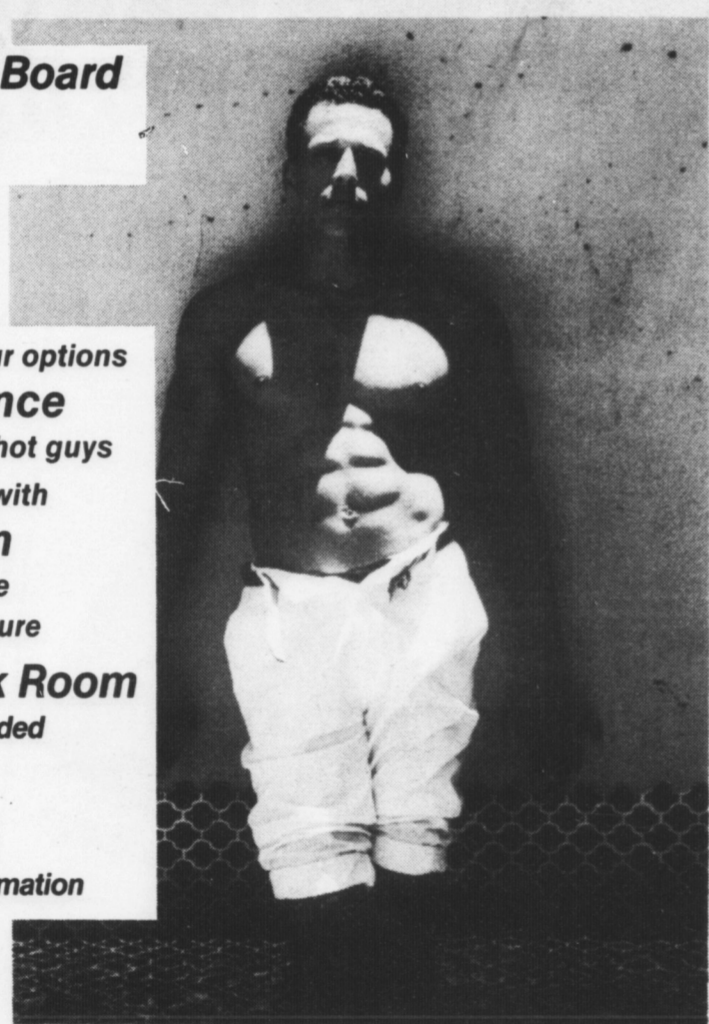
The valiant who struggled through to the end responded positively. The past weeks made me think of an archer who shoots, and then runs to paint a bullseye around the point of contact. This week, American choral and orchestral giant Robert Shaw is leading the Symphony Chorus in *Durufle and Verdi*. It sounds very promising—I hope it produces a genuine hit.

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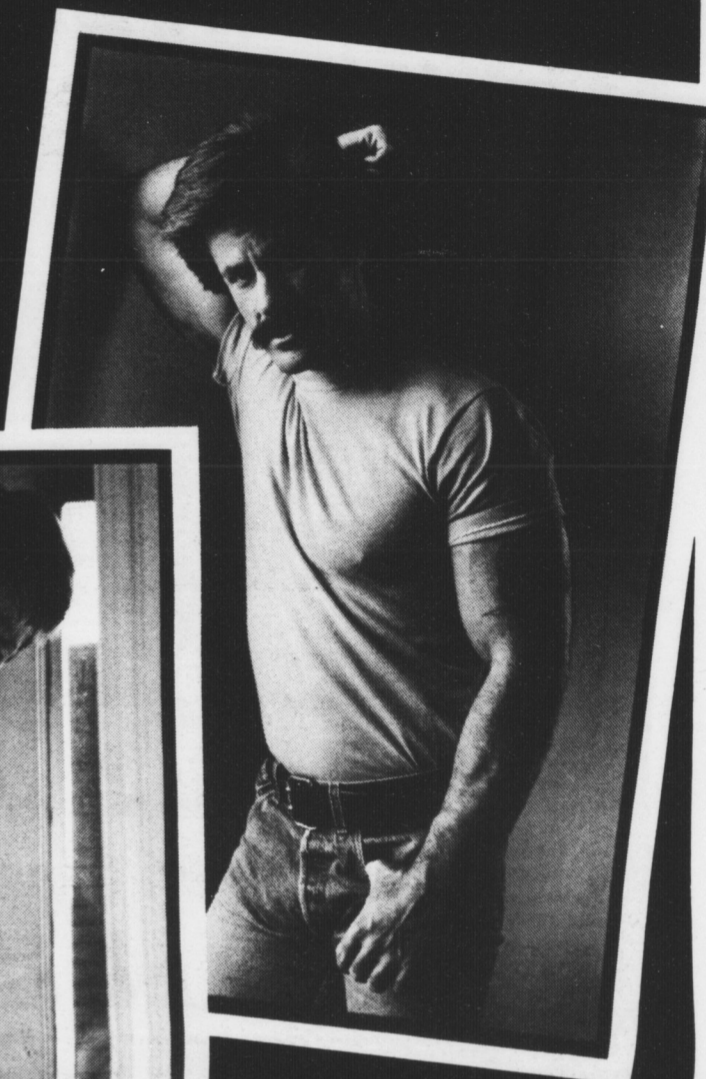
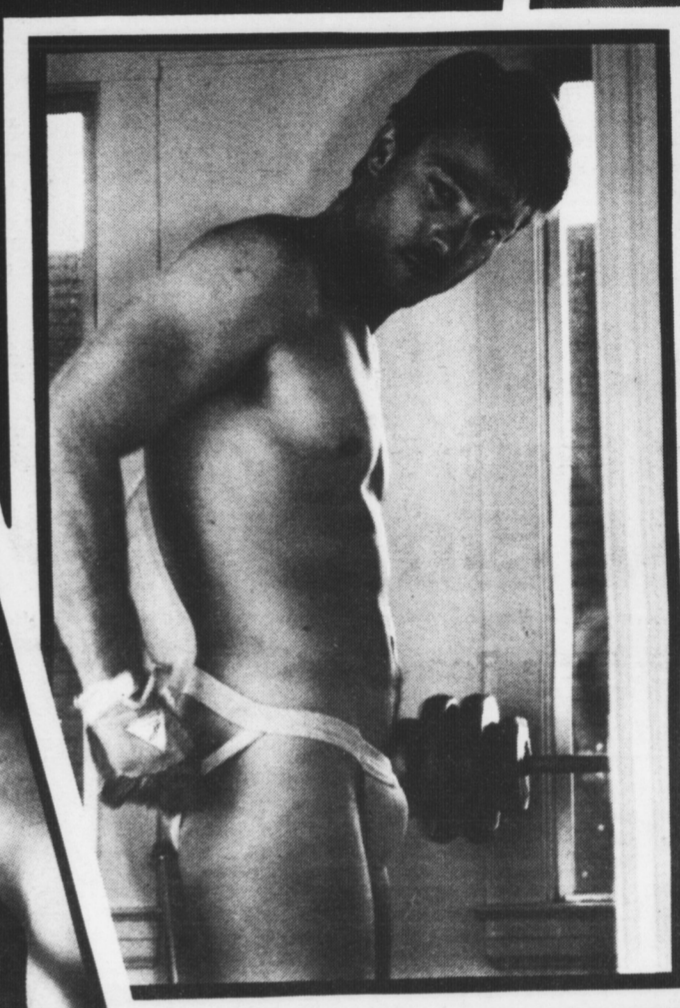
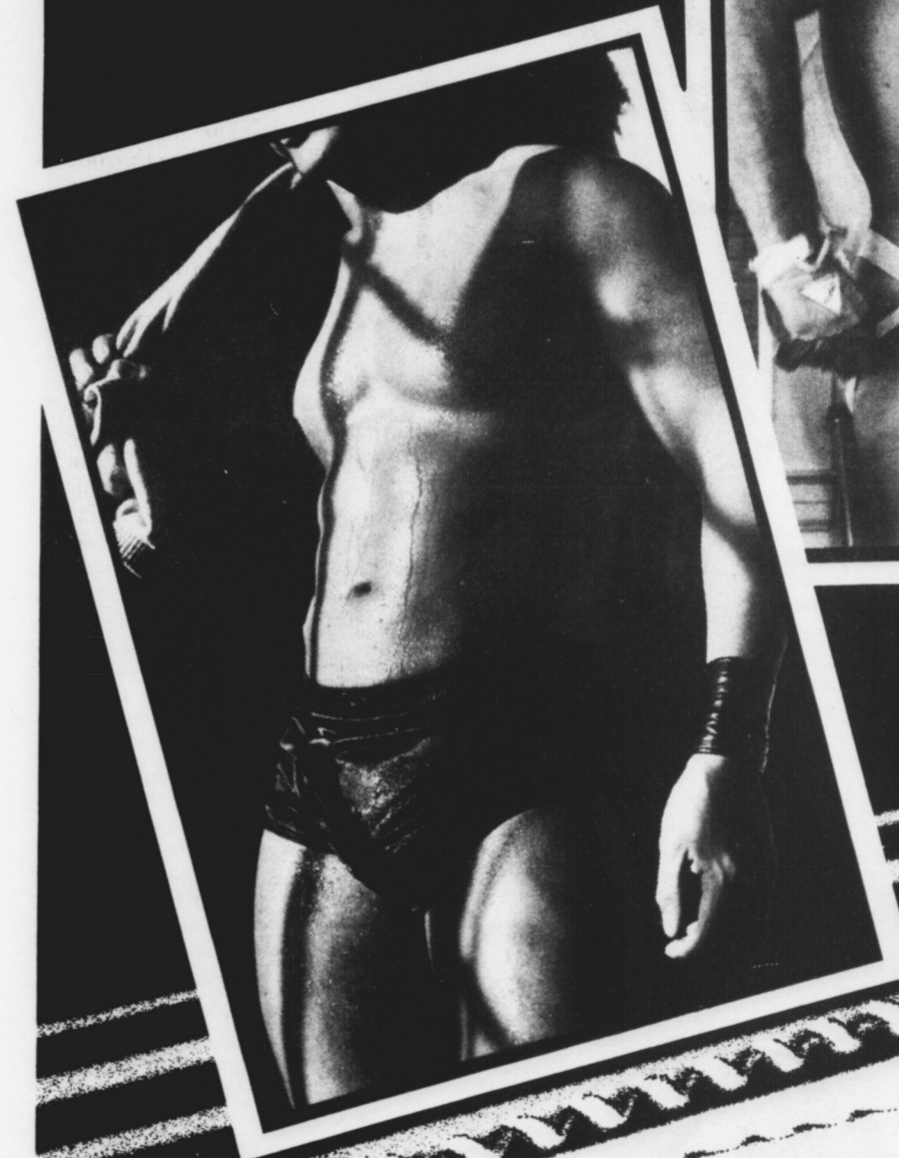
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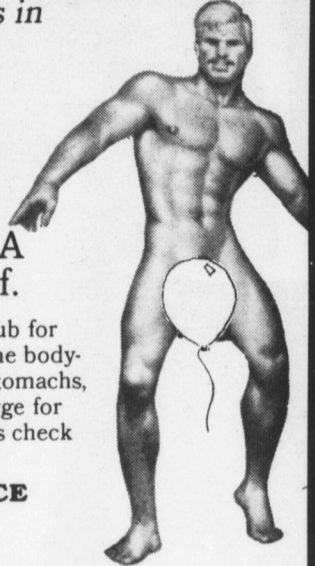
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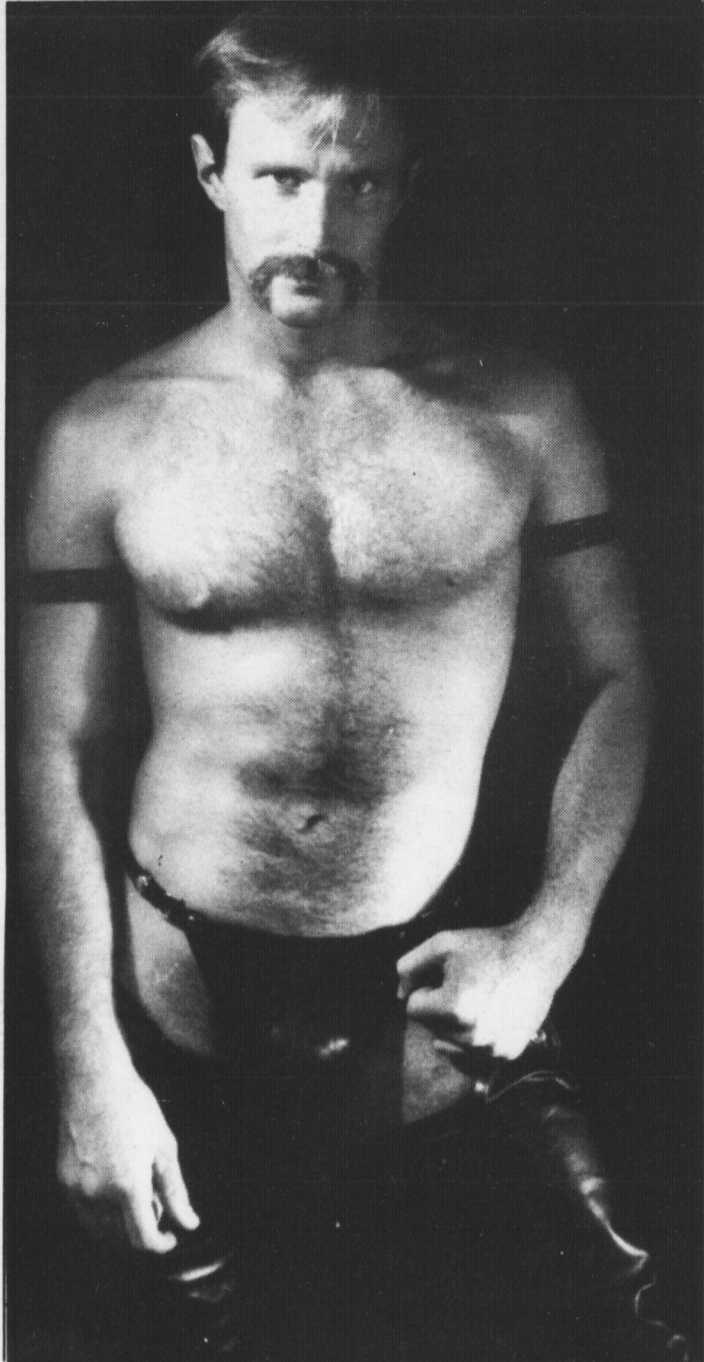
Mr. Marcus

## Bobby Viteritti Returns To the Troc for Halloween

What could be finer for the Troc's 10th Annual Black Party (always held on Halloween) than to have the "master" of discography, the standard by which all DJs are measured, the legendary Bobby Viteritti? The debut of San Francisco's finest DJ will be on Saturday night, Oct. 29, for Troc's "Leather, Lace and Dragon Fire" celebration. Naturally a runway will be provided so you can show off your costume(s), and the action will go from 2100 to 1000 the next morning! Not only that, Bobby will spin again on Halloween night, Oct. 31! Robbie Leslie will alternate with the Big V, so get your tickets early because these two will pack the house!

To correct erroneous info given to me last week, the guys who brought you the Bow-Wow Beauty Pageant last month at the Castro will be having their Halloween thang at the Giftcenter Pavilion, not, repeat not, at the Galleria. And Erik Nielsen is not associated with this party; he's at the Troc getting things ready for "The Great One" (Bobby V). It will be a great weekend.

The S.F. Eagle Leather and Feathers party is on Halloween Night too, so get your skins and fluff ready for the cash prizes to be given out. If anyone else is having any festivities they haven't let me know yet! The Galleria, in case you're interested, has been rented out for a hetero function that night. More Halloween news as it filters in.



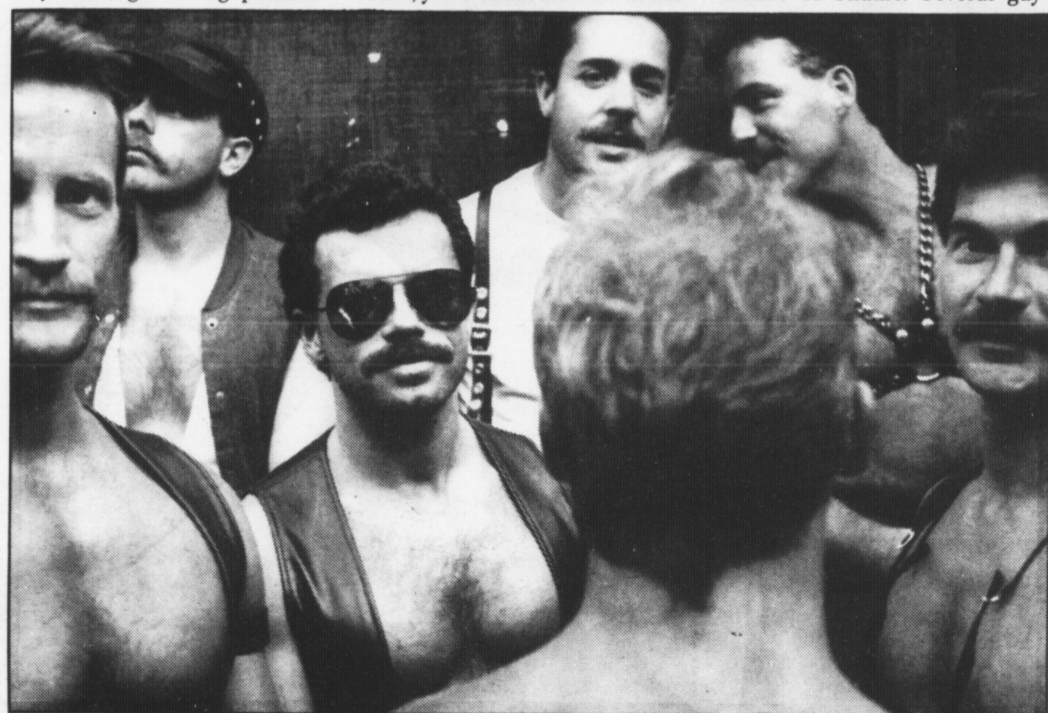
Peter Austin will grace the cover of the 1989 Bare Chest Calendar. (Photo: Scott Martin)

\*\*\*  
Last weekend was festive. The Oakland A's snatched the pennant away from the Beantowners with a four-game sweep. The 49ers lost a real heart-breaker to the Denver Broncos, and it was all blamed on the wind at Candlestick.

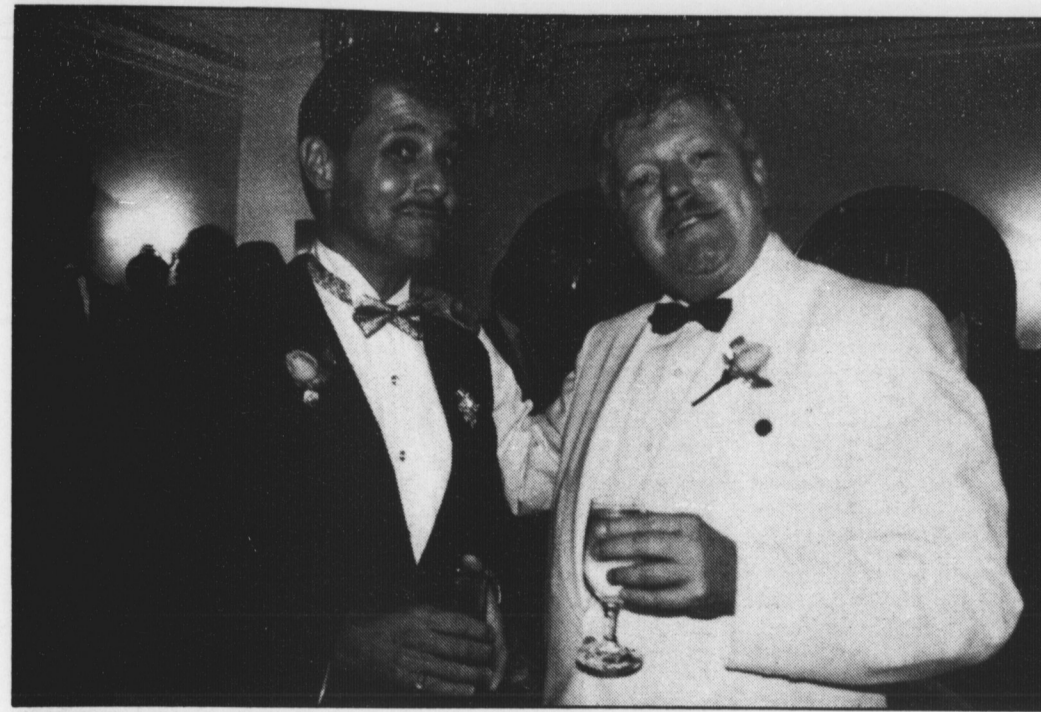
More than 100 couples got married on the steps in front of City Hall, garnering positive

coverage in the straight press. In Washington, D.C. the Names Project quilt was unfolded one more time; you'd think the Prez would

get the hint with the multi-hued memorial a scant 1,000 yards from the front door of the White House of Shame. Several gay



Some of the 'chests' that will be auctioned at the Eagle Oct. 15 to present the 1989 Bare Chest Calendar. (Photo: Scott Martin)



Jerry Colletti and Gary Menger at the sponsors' dinner held before 'In Memory of Friends.' (Photo: R. Pruzan)

celebrities read the names aloud throughout the presentation. B.A.R.'s Allen White interviewed a lot of different people there for their reaction. You can read his analysis elsewhere in this issue.

Sunday night, a very nice crowd turned out for the "In Memory of Friends" benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund.

So what's on the agenda for the coming days? It's election time again, and you know what that means! Harry Britt will be visiting South of Market again, that's what! This time, Tom Ammiano (he's got my vote!), running for the School Board, will be there as well as supervisory candidate Pat Nor-

man. Tim Wolfred wants to be re-elected to the College Board, so he'll be there too. This all happens tomorrow night, Friday, Oct. 14, at the S.F. Eagle. Believe it or not (but you better believe it)—leathermen do vote! It's a "Community in Unity" beer bust beginning at 2000, and it'll cost

(Continued on next page)



José didn't miss a pearl in 'In Memory of Friends.' (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Straights and gays mingled amiably at the Palace of Fine Arts. Needless to say there was a lot of politicking going on. Supervisorial candidate Angela Alioto hosted a swank soiree before the event. The show itself was superb. The vast bank of talent in our community never ceases to amaze me. There was camp and seriousness in this year's presentation—a play with lots of messages of hope, compassion, and brotherhood/sisterhood in both the dialogue and in the music. Plus, José remembered all his lines—or almost all of them. I never knew knitting needles could carry so well with body mikes! Great show!

If you ran out to the Powerhouse last night for Emperor Steve's Boys Night Out party, unfortunately it was postponed. His royalsness changed jobs and couldn't juggle the schedule to be there. Watch for a re-match. Of course, it would have been nice of Powerhouse manager Ed Gabet to let his staff know about this before he left for his vacation. Gary Ross is in charge for a week—let the good times roll! Thanks to the Castro Station for providing the food and booze at Angela's party!

At my deadline, I didn't get any news from those who attended the Living in Leather Conference III in Seattle. If it was anything like the first conference, they should have had a lot of fun!

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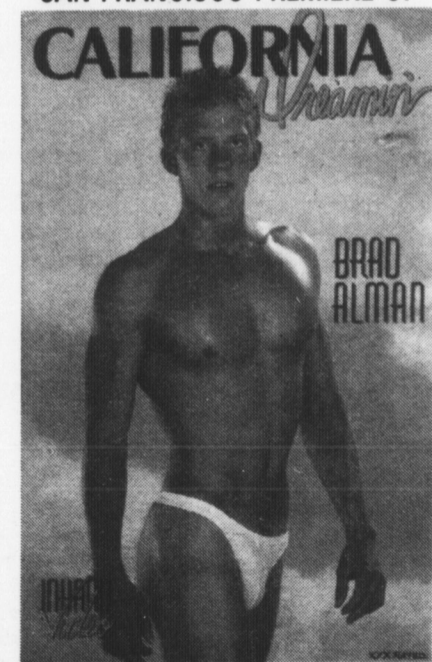
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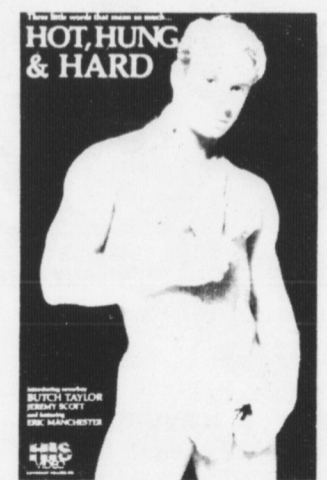
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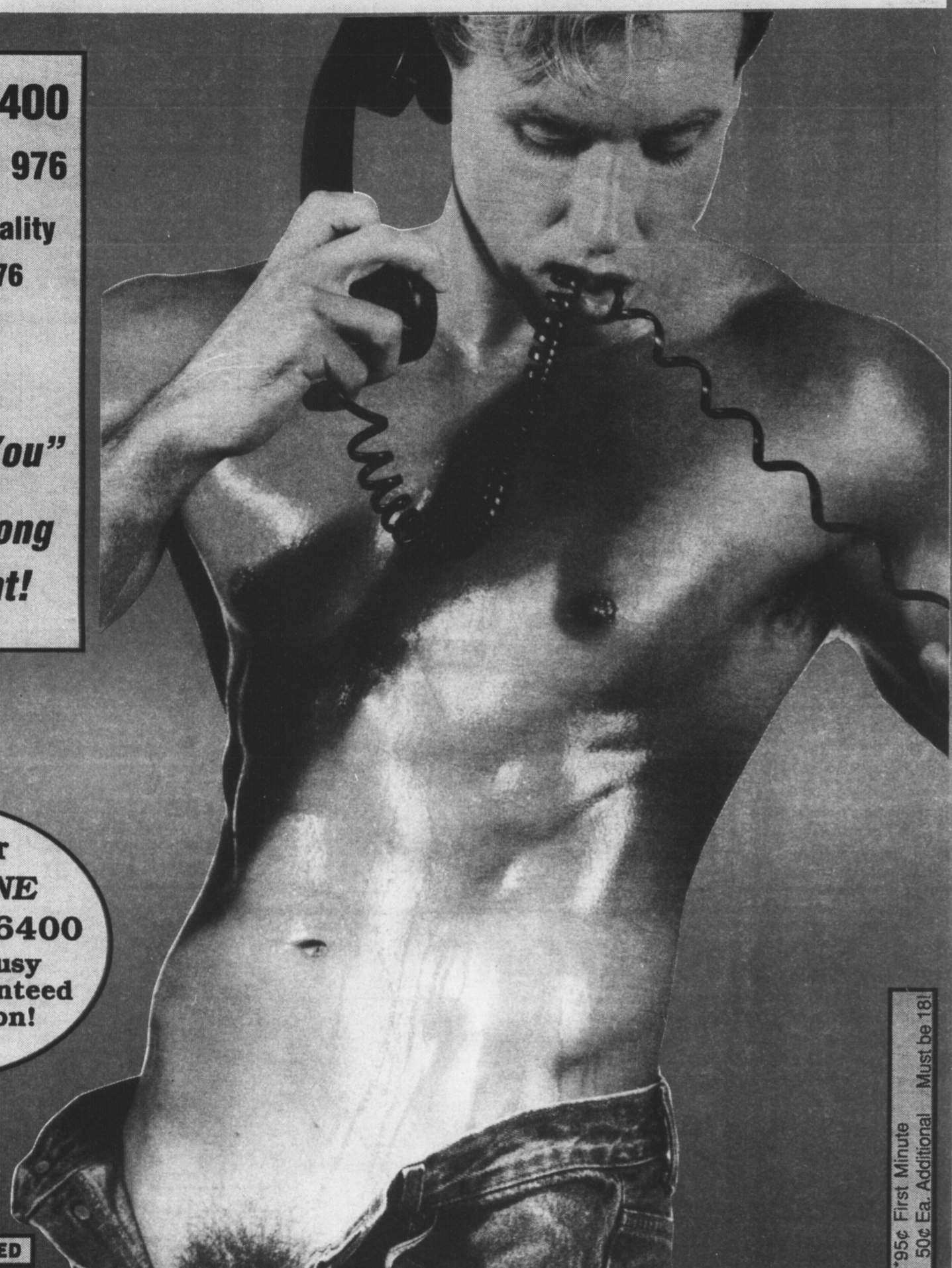
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## Congress Rescues Massive AIDS Bill

Confidentiality Guarantee Cut Out;  
Research Effort Expedited

by Ray O'Loughlin

The U.S. Congress managed to salvage most of the provisions of a comprehensive AIDS package when it passed the Omnibus Health Amendment Act on Oct. 13. Included in the sweeping new bill is the Federal AIDS Policy Act. But Sen. Jesse Helms succeeded in cutting out all mention of confidentiality guarantees.

The final version provides for \$100 million over the next two years to continue funds for anonymous test centers. Rep. Henry Waxman's original legislation had gone further by guaranteeing confidentiality at all test centers.

to the impending adjournment of Congress.

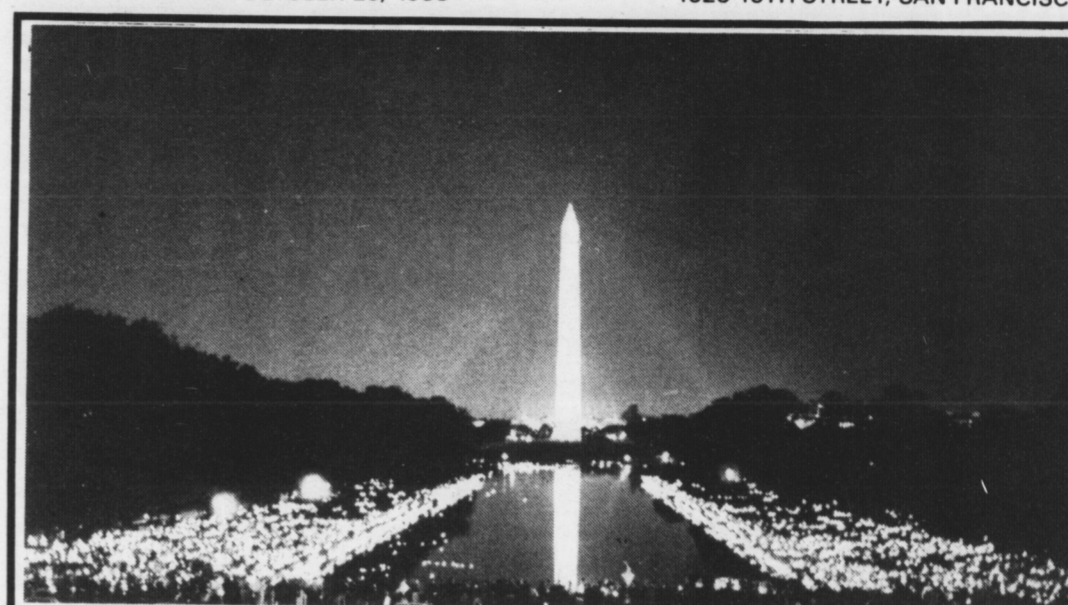
He said he was surprised that the final language on education remained the same as in the Kennedy-Hatch bill that Waxman's legislation was paired with.

Chai Feldblum, legislative counsel for the ACLU's AIDS Project, noted that time pressures made it impossible to get the testing, counseling and confidentiality protections passed as part of the package. "There was generally overwhelming support in both the House and the Senate for including those provisions," said Feldblum.

Unfortunately, Sen. Jesse Helms was able to use the threat of a filibuster to stop the Senate from even considering these provisions," she said.

One senator who did not hesitate to criticize Helms was Sen. Lowell Weicker (R-CT). "At the tail end of the session, a man like Helms can exert more pressure than he deserves," Weicker was quoted as saying.

The final legislation contains a number of provisions for ex-



## A Thousand Points of Light

The Candlelight March in Washington, D.C., last week was not what George Bush meant in his GOP convention speech. For more on the protests in the Washington area by AIDS activists, see page 12.

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

## OCC Sustains New Complaint Against Smoot Investigator

Says Officer Harassed Man Who Filed Complaint;  
Homicide Insp. McCoy Faces Disciplinary Action

by Ray O'Loughlin

The Office of Citizen Complaints has sustained a second set of charges against homicide Inspector Frank McCoy stemming from the November 1987 investigation of the killing of George Smoot. The OCC announced on Oct. 17 that it had upheld complaints from activist Bill Paul and Bay Area Reporter writer Jay Newquist alleging that McCoy had interfered with an OCC inquiry of the police investigation of the Smoot case. Paul contended that McCoy had attempted to harass him because of his complaint regarding the Smoot killing.

Paul registered a formal complaint in April against four San Francisco police inspectors. In his complaint he accused the four of improper conduct while investigating Smoot's murder.

According to Paul, McCoy phoned him after his original complaint was filed to inquire about his allegations. Paul refused to discuss the matter with him.

McCoy then called B.A.R. reporter Jay Newquist who had written the story on Paul's complaint which appeared in the May

(Continued on page 23)

## Judges Quiz Army in Watkins Case

Sympathetic Questions Leave Attorneys Cautiously Optimistic

by Dennis McMillan

The federal Ninth District Appeals Court convened last Wednesday, Oct. 12, to again hear from the U.S. Army as to why Sergeant Perry Watkins should not be a soldier. Earlier this year the same court had ruled that the Army could not discharge Watkins just because he was openly homosexual.

Watkins had served fourteen years in the Army, attaining the rank of sergeant while fighting the double prejudice of being black and gay. Superiors had rated his service "with distinction despite his open homosexuality." He scored 85 out of a possible 85 points on his latest evaluation.

But in 1984 he was kicked out, six years short of retirement and therefore ineligible for a pension.



Perry Watkins met with reporters after the hearing.

(Photo: Steve Savage)

One of the attorneys for the Army's case, E. Roy Hawken, said it was the Army's contention that homosexuals were a threat to morale and security. They were disruptive to military service, he said.

When Hawken mentioned that heterosexual soldiers felt uncomfortable confined in close quarters with homosexual military personnel, the audience hissed. Several judges commented that if such were the case, Watkins would never have been accepted for re-enlistment three times.

The military also cited an alleged act of sodomy committed by Watkins (but not witnessed) while in the service as grounds for dismissal.

The tone of the questions and comments by the eleven-judge panel seemed to indicate many

(Continued on page 23)