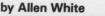


TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019



# **Ten Arrested in Protest Of 'Caller' AIDS Episode**

**Demonstration More Dramatic Than TV Show** 





Outside the KRON-TV studios.

Ten people were arrested as demonstrators crashed through the doors of San Francisco NBC affiliate **KRON-TV** just hours before the airing of the controversial Midnight Caller show on the AIDS crisis. The show ran last Tuesday evening, Dec. 13, and was roundly criticized as a show with minimal entertainment value and an incredible amount of errors.

The protest began quietly at 5 p.m. in front of the Van Ness studios of KRON-TV. It seemed to be almost mild by the standards of the organizers, ACT UP/San Francisco. With the exception of Entertainment Tonight, there seemed to be little interest by other media organizations in the

Tom Ammiano told the Enterainment Tonight cameras, "This is not Three's Company. This is eal life

At five minutes before 6 p.m. and the primetime news, the quiet turned to direct confrontation as ACT UP/S.F. made their move.

One person casually opened a door to the KRON-TV offices. Then it happened.

Almost 75 people pushed through the doors, entering the lobby of the building. Whistles blowing and yelling chants, they quickly occupied the lobby of the television station. Demonstrators slammed on the huge windows, which buckled and almost broke.

For almost an hour, there was no yielding by the demonstrators. Across Van Ness Avenue, the police department tactical squad prepared a strategy. At 6:45 the police quickly moved most of the nonstrators out of the building. The demonstrators then moved into Van Ness Avenue and closed the busy thoroughfare for several more tense minutes.

Four hours after the demonstration, at about 9 p.m., police moved into the KRON lobby and arrested ten people who had remained inside

During the several hours, there had been negotiations to attempt to get KRON to put disclaimers at each commercial break in the

show. The station refused, stating that a disclaimer would be placed at the beginning of the show. In fact, the comment at the start of the show was simply a comment on San Francisco as a leader in the AIDS crisis. The station never stated they were concerned about the show's content, nor did they ever say the show was making factual errors.

ute program at 11:30 p.m. which was called a "response" to the Midnight Caller show. What the response show chose not to discuss was the anger being generated by the series. There was never a focus on the anger that was exhibited by the demonstrators.

Tristano Palermino, a person with AIDS, expressed the feelings of many about the episode. In a letter issued last week, Palermino said that, after viewing the show, he was "angry and appalled." Watching the show, he said, 'Within minutes, my blood was boiling. The script was worse

(Photo: Rink)

The station presented a 30-min-

than my wildest nightmare.

(Continued on page 20)

(Photo: Rink



Just before the protesters overwhelmed security guards.

Pierce.

dulgence, Inc.

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Art Agnos.

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pin

their bows as well.

BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988 PAGE 2

# 'Torch Song' Premiere Raises Funds for AIDS Services

### by Dennis McMillan

The San Francisco premiere screening of Torch Song Trilogy benefiting the Visiting Nurses and Hospice of San Francisco and three support networks for PWAs in the arts was held Monday evening at Kabuki Cinema. Among the principal performers of the film on hand to greet the audience were author/actor Harvey Fierstein and actor Charles

Surprisingly enough, at a movie premiere centering around the life and times of a drag queen, not one of the species was seen in the audience or at the reception, with the exception of the Sisters of Perpetual In-

The event was hosted by Friends of Oscar, a nonprofit charity founded eight years ago as an Academy Awards night party/fundraiser. The organization's purpose is to produce black-tie events and raise funds for AIDS causes. Last April, Friends was able to donate over \$35,000 to

Members of the Friends ushered those ticket holders with bunny rabbits on their passes into the best seats in the house, these patrons having donated \$100. The reason for the rabbit insignia became clear once the film began, with practically every scene featuring the main character's favorite fetish, the hare. He even wore bunny slippers at a parent-teacher conference at one

The hosts of Channel 7's "Good Morning Bay Area," Susan Sikora and Dan Sanchez, opened the show and introduced the celebrities, including Mayor

The mayor had proclaimed that Monday was Harvey Fierstein Day and presented the star with his own key to the city, "so that he can let himself in whenever he

The Sisters presented Fierstein with an official document of sainthood, placing him in company with another Saint Harvey, assassinated gay San Francisco Supervisor Milk. Fierstein's comment on his new status was, "I can't wait to tell my rabbi!"

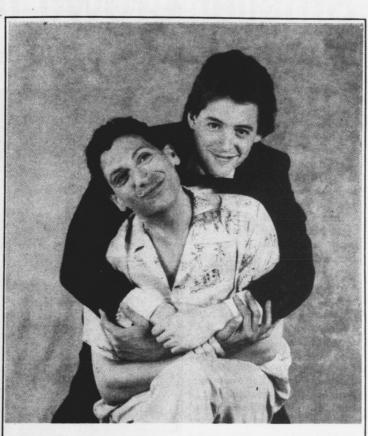
Agnos reminded the audience that the coming year would celebrate two decades since the Stonewall Riots. This historic event had been initiated by none other than a band of drag queens not unlike Mr. Fierstein and his screen character Arnold Beckhoff (a.k.a. Virginia Hamn, torch singer/female impersonator ex-

The very handsome Brian Kerwin, who plays the bisexual lover of Beckhoff, took the stage and the hearts of many a man in the audience. Eddie Castrodad, perfect name for this clone cutie, who portrayed the adopted son and Harriett Lieder as the Maitre d' of the drag nightclub greeted

Charles Pierce, who played the outrageously camp character Bertha Van Nation, appeared in "boy drag," all tuxxed out with red silk scarf, matching pocket hankie, and a huge rhinestone

Director Paul Bogart, of All In The Family fame, and producer Howard Gottfried, who gave us Network and Altered States, took

The audience then rose to its



Harvey Fierstein and Matthew Broderick.

feet in thunderous applause for Fierstein, who returned the compliment with his sexy growling voice, calling San Francisco a 'very strong, loving, gentle community and incredible example to the rest of the world."

Although the storyline of the film is pre-AIDS, Bogart made sure the imprint of the epidemic remained in the viewer's mind by opening with a shot panning across a Brooklyn graveyard and ending with a dedication "to all those people struggling against AIDS.

The elegant post-screening reception at luxurious Hotel Nikko allowed patrons to hobnob with many of the Torch Song players. Unfortunately Matthew Broderick, who gave an extremey convincing performance as Beckhoff's young lover, and Anne Bancroft as the nagging Jewish mother, were both unable to appear

Kerwin called the film "one of the best works I've ever done." He remarked on the absence of drag queens at the event, saying that there were none at the Los Angeles premiere and only 75 at the New York opening.

He plans to begin work on a new film in January-"just a regular, old, straight drama," he

Castrodad commented on the joys of working with Broderick, and wondered what the reaction to Matthew's hot, on-screen gay kissing scene would be from his teenage fans. "I think it's a wonderful film, but will America stay for the last reel?" he questioned. "If they do, and open their minds, they will have a wonderful experience."

Castrodad is not worried about being typecast in the future. "I work in a very open-minded industry," he said.

Lieder auctioned off a movie poster autographed by all the stars and raised an additional \$400 for AIDS organizations. She then did some first-rate torch singing of her own with her jazz trio Bewitched.

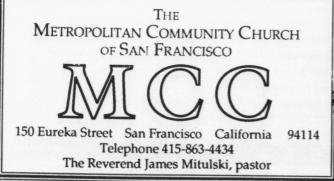
She spoke of the warm, family feeling that Fierstein inspired in the cast and crew while working on the set. "What Torch Song is all about is an evoking of memories of days gone by, and for gay people to remember when (Continued on page 20)





10:30 pm - Silent Meditation 11:00 pm - Watchnight Service of Hymns and Holy Communion

NEW YEAR'S DAY, Sunday, January 1st, 1989 Worship at 8:30 am, 10:30 am, and 7:00 pm



PAGE 4

BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988

# **Moscone Display Draws Smaller Crowd to Quilt**

## 30,000 People View 6,000 Bay Area Panels

by Allen White

Only 30,000 people visited the Names Project Quilt last weekend at Moscone Center as many were examining the focus and the direction of the project. The death of Sylvester and the collapse in London of Jack Caster, the Names Project tour manager, were high in the minds and emotions of many of the visitors to the Quilt, as well as to the volunteers and staff.

It was becoming increasingly clear to many that the primary focus of the Quilt, at least in San Francisco, was not the size, but the individual panels. Names Project general manager Michael Smith said, "The display is obviously important, but where we have had the biggest impact, I think, is in helping individuals walk through their grief on a very personal level. On a large scale, it is important in terms of education and fundraising, but the effect and the purpose of the Quilt is always on making that individual panel."

Smith continued, "Looking at the guestbook pages, we can see there were a tremendous number of people from out of state and from Sacramento, Modesto, and Los Angeles. You can walk through the room, and you can see that certain panels have potted plants and flowers, and you know that this was a memorial for these individuals and that somebody came and sat with that panel for a while and left those flowers as their way of staying in touch with somebody.'

Smith acknowledged that there may be a shift in the public's perception of the Quilt. "Maybe that's true for San Francisco, but I don't know if that's true outside of here. You have to remember how different San Francisco is from the rest of the country, how far along we are in the epidemic and in our understanding and our support systems for dealing with grief.

"I think San Francisco is much further along in developing coping mechanisms and ways for the community to deal with AIDS than other parts of the country, so the shift we may see here may not reflect what would happen if we went out across the



Moscone Center, Dec. 18, 1988. rest of the country."

The presentation of the Quilt at Moscone Center was one of the its largest presentations ever. To give the otherwise barren hall some warmth, panels were placed on the walls as well as on the floor for viewing. As large as the presentation was at Moscone, hundreds of panels remained at the Names Project workshop. Moscone Center is not large enough to contain all the panels in the Ouil

The Moscone Center presentation was also a fundraiser for many local AIDS service agencies. Money has been raised not only at the exhibition, but also at a concert by the San Francisco Symphony and an extended series of fundraising appeals in the San Francisco Examiner.

The volunteers who staff the Quilt now number over 3,000 people in the San Francisco area.

(Photo: Scott Martin) Throughout the five days, they

worked to staff this major AIDS event

Last Tuesday evening, there was a reception sponsored by Pacific Telesis to honor the volun teers of Bay Area AIDS service agencies. That served as the opening of the Quilt at Moscone. Cleve Jones announced then that Jack Caster had been hospitalized in London

Caster is one of several Names Project staff who visited several cities around the world earlier this month for World AIDS Day The World Health Organization sponsored the event and underwrote the cost for the Names Project staffers.

Caster is the tour manager for the Names Project. He and Scott Lago jointly coordinated all of the displays of the Quilt in this year's tour of the United States. (Continued on page 20)

The Faces of AIDS display at Moscone.

(Photo: Scott Martin)

The Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), the nation's largest gay and lesbian political action committee (PAC) and lobbying organization, contributed more than \$400,000 in cash and in-kind gifts to Republican and Democratic candidates and progressive groups during the 1987-88 election cycle. That's 60 percent more than 1985-86 contributions. But who takes gay money, and why? And is it politically risky for candidates to take such contribu-

tions?

tions.

Of special note is the fact that HRCF contributed to twice as many Republicans this time, thus building a bipartisan power base for gay and lesbian issues in the next Congress.

Political analysts believe the increased number of politicians willing to take gay money and to support what some perceive as controversial issues points to the progress gays and lesbians have made in mainstream American politics.

"In the past, some candidates considered it a liability to publicly stand up for us and take our money," said Vic Basile, HRCF executive director, "and some still do. But the fact that 81 percent of the candidates we supported won-some by landslide margins-is a sound argument that gay money is an enhancement, not a hindrance."

reelection

from the Midwest.

# **Checkbook Activism Comes Into Its Own**

## Gay PAC Donations Are Sought After; **Record Amount Given to Candidates**

Now that the dust has settled on the recent election battles. one thing has become crytal-clear about the 1988 congression-al campaign: More candidates than ever took record-breaking contributions of gay and lesbian PAC money-powerful political greenbacks that helped most of them win their races.

HRCF gave more than \$300,000 to 111 candidates running for U.S. Congress from 29 states in 1987-88. The PAC also gave to three politicians who did not run this year or who withdrew from the race. In the 1986 cycle, only 98 candidates received contribu-

Basile also noted that, with the exception of Sen. Lowell Weicker (R-CT), no co-sponsor of the gay and lesbian civil rights bill in the House or Senate lost his or her

HRCF contributed to 12 candidates running for U.S. Senate and 99 for the House. Ninety-one were winners, while 20 lost. Other facts about who took les-

bian and gay dollars: • Thirteen Republican can-

didates received 20 percent of HRCF's total contributions.

• Eighty-three of the total number of candidates were incumbents, while 15 were challengers, and 13 vied for open seats.

· Thirty-eight of the candidates were from the West, 17 from New England, 26 from the mid-Atlantic, 9 from the South, and 21

· Thirty-four women candidates received HRCF funds, as did 18 black candidates.

Congresswoman Connie Morella (R-MD), the only Republican woman and one of only four Republicans to co-sponsor the gay and lesbian civil rights bill, won her reelection bid for Congress by a sizable margin. HRCF contributed \$6,000 to her campaign. Nita Lowey (D-NY) won an

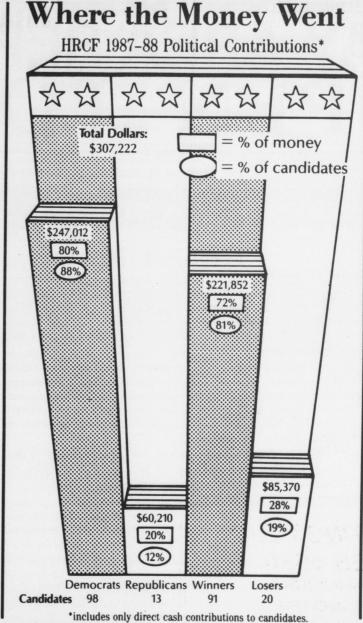
upset victory over Republican incumbent Joseph DioGuardi. Lowey has pledged to co-sponsor the gay and lesbian civil rights bill, as has Jolene Unsoeld (D-WA), who won a closely contested race.

HRCF criteria for contributing to candidates include their voting records or positions on gay and lesbian issues such as federal AIDS legislation, hate crimes. immigration, the gay and lesbiar civil rights bill, and others.

By law, PACs are allowed to contribute up to \$5,000 for the primary, \$5,000 for the general election, and \$5,000 for a runoff to any one political candidate in an election cycle.

Last spring the Federal Elections Commission ranked HRCF the ninth-largest independent PAC in the U.S. and the 24thlargest PAC overall (out of more than 4,000). Rankings are based on the total amount raised by the PAC in the election cycle.

"A strong gay PAC is our calling card in Washington," said



Basile. "There is power behind lesbian and gay money. It provides us with a tangible way of helping people who are our polit-ical allies and friends."

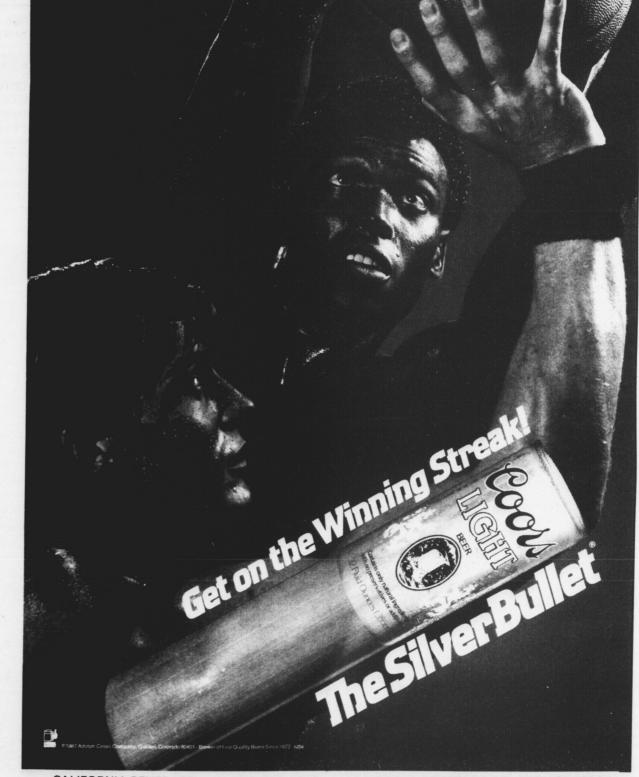
HRCF gave \$10,000 to key Republican Sen. Lowell Weicker, long an advocate of AZT subsidies and other AIDS issues. Weicker's loss is considered irreplaceable to the gay and lesbian community and a serious blow to responsible AIDS legislation.

On the victorious side, many HRCF candidates trounced their opponents. Congressmen Barney Frank (D-MA) and Gerry Studds (D-MA) both won their reelection bids by near-landslides for the first and third times, respectively, as openly gay candidates.

And then there's the enemy. Fighting notoriously homophobic Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) took a big chunk of gay PAC money. With an eye to his 1990 Senate race, HRCF spent about \$66,000 in advertising and lobbying that helped overturn or weaken numerous "killer" amendments Helms tried to attach to federal AIDS legislation.

Furious, the senator fired off a letter to HRCF saying he "was obliged to observe that if I were asked to choose the one organization in America which I would most prefer to attack me, the Human Rights Campaign Fund would win in a walk.

All told, direct and in-kind contributions to candidates, independent expenditures (including anti-Helms costs), and support to other PACs topped \$400,000.



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# **BAY AREA REPORTER OPEN FORUM**

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## Give a Gift

**7** esterday, Dec. 21, was the winter solstice. It was the shortest day of the year and the longest night for the northern hemisphere. This time of year has long been regarded as special by many cultures and as sacred by many religions. It is a time of celebration when celebration seems the least likely

The season is cold, dark, and stormy (or should be). It is a time to stay inside and to be with friends. The Christmas season is a social time. It is known for its music, with groups caroling, and for sending cards to wish joy and glad tidings. The days may be dark, but we light lights to add color and brightness. In the dark of winter, we remind ourselves that better times are possible.

What makes this time special is that we decide to celebrate when things look darkest. We brighten our days with our own lights. The strings of colorful lights are only symbols for our lively spirits.

Christmas is a time for eating. Parties, banquets, special foods, sweets fill these weeks. It may not be the most nourishing food, but this is no time to worry about diets. These are days for indulgence. Indulgence, too, is a form of nourishment.

Christmas is a time of rebirth, a time to end one year and look forward to starting a new one. The Christmas story is one version of the sacred birth myth that's common to many cultures around the world. The divine birth of one symbolizes the life of us all, each with our own divinity. Christmas is a social time. There is no way to celebrate this holiday

on a mountaintop all alone. It's a feast for this world, not the next. Its roots and most of its expressions come from the here and now.

o, in this time of giving gifts, wishing glad tidings, sharing abundance, and lighting lights, remember your community. Give a gift to support the gay and lesbian community throughout the year. N Write a check to help support services to those with AIDS and ARC. You choose-there is a variety of worthy services supplying food, clothing, emergency financial aid, transportation, emotional support, housecleaning, grocery shopping, and other services. Then there are organizations carrying on community education, political activism for research funds and treatments, community-based research, and coun- for a moment to make a positive statement of who we are. Just as we selling for the "worried well" and all those affected by the health crisis. The list could go on to address every facet of this crisis.

Money helps, but it isn't everything. Get involved. Give the gift of your presence — we'd like to see you. We need your help to keep all the above services and other projects up and running. Give some of your time and energy to delivering meals, helping out in an office a few hours a month, lending a hand to a club or service in whatever needs doing.



And AIDS is not the only area where your help is wanted. Join a community organization-there are hundreds of them-and help build our community. Sports activities, religious groups, social clubs, professional organizations, political action groups, the arts are some of the areas that the lesbian and gay community is organized and visible. We are everywhere. Take advantage of it. Help yourself, help your brothers and sisters, have some fun doing it.

o matter what area you choose, you're helping advance our search for justice. You're contributing to the effort to demonstrate that gay people are caring, compassionate, active, strong, and as varied in our accomplishments as the rest of the human race. We face a lot of battles and a lot of negativism. Let's put all that aside decide to make the darkest time of the year the brightest, we can decide to carry on our positive efforts in the face of adversity. Christmas and New Year's are a time for renewal, a time to look forward. It is the season

to make good resolutions and launch new projects. Make sure that the community from which we all benefit in many different ways is on your list for gifts. Come on out, we'd like to see you. Merry Christmas.

## **ADL Should Change Its Policy**

by Larry Martin Chair, San Francisco Human Rights Commission

(This letter was directed to Ron Berman, president of the Anti-

he Human Rights Commission of San Francisco is deeply concerned regarding the Anti-Defamation League's ongoing program, A World of Difference (AWOD). Although we strongly support the concept of a comprehensive anti-prejudice education project, we are disturbed that your program is specifically exclusionary in nature. Representatives from Community United Against Violence (CUAV) have been meeting with Anti-Defamation League staff for several months regarding the exclusions and are working with members of Bay Area United.

Although the sponsors of the campaign agreed to include them, the ADL has left out sexual orientation, gender, and disability from the local campaign. CUAV brought their concerns to the Lesbian/Gay Advisory Committee of the Human Rights Commission and ultimately to the full commission.

The Anti-Defamation League is missing an extremely opportune time to really address discrimination in the diverse Bay Area. As Hillel said, 'If not now, when?" In particular, the exclusion of any discussion in the AWOD teacher study guide regarding prejudice on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, and disability lends credence to the sharp particular groups. discrimination these people face.

7 e understand that community groups are ready and able to aid you in a sensitive discussion of these issues, but that the Anti-Defamation League staff has specifically decided to leave out these people.

As a group of people committed to the cause of human rights, the Defamation League Board of Directors for the Central Pacific Region.) Human Rights Commission members are acutely aware that the most dangerous, and painful, type of discrimination is that of invisibility. By claiming to produce an "anti-prejudice" program while actively ignoring severe types of prejudice, the AWOD program actually condones and promulgates discrimination. By leaving out certain classes, you give a message that only some prejudice is not okay, while other forms are okay.

As ADL states in the draft of its AWOD study guide, "Remaining silent in the face of evil makes each of us guilty of complicity."

he Human Rights Commission, through its work fighting to end prejudice, hatred, and discrimination, knows full well that prejudice must be dealt with in its broadest sense so that its many insidious forms are ameliorated; otherwise prejudice, and the violence that goes along with it, continues to be perpetrated.

We, therefore, urge the ADL's Central Pacific Regional Board to take an unequivocal stand in support of full inclusion in the AWOD program and the draft of the study guide be halted until such inclusion is made.

We ask that you communicate such a request directly to the National ADL Board, asking them to overturn the staff decision to exclude

Finally, we ask you to instruct the Central Pacific Regional Director and staff to specifically advocate on a national level for full inclusion of gender, sexual orientation, and disability issues in all AWOD activities.

The Human Rights Commission looks forward to working with you as we pursue action to change this policy.

KRON TV:

group.

to be.

BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988

## 

### **Campbell's Tirade Off Key**

\* Regarding Philip Campbell's counter-counterrevolutionary S.F. Symphony tirade:

Isn't it possible that the objections voiced to symphony programming have been against not modern music, not difficult music, but bad music? The initially unsuccessful great works Mr. Campbell cites (Carmen, The Rite of Spring) were all well-received within a few years—often within weeks or days—of the premiere. The music of Messiaen has no more enthusiastic supporters today than when it was written.

Dear me. I should think that gay people at least would recognize what nonsense it is to be harassed for liking what one likes and not liking what one does not like

> **Charles Baker** San Francisco

### **Back of the Bus**

★ Regarding the current controversy with Dignity being forced out of St. Boniface by Archbishop Quinn, I find myself wondering if the term "gay Catholic' might not be an oxymoron. Why an outof-the-closet gay person would want to cling to a patriarchal, sexist religion that has been historically homophobic and intolerant, in spite of having a closet full of queer priests and popes, is a mystery I cannot begin to fathom

This space hardly allows for a complete chronicle of the church's record on gay people-interested parties might want to peruse Arthur Evans' Witchcraft and the Gay Counterculture for a thorough exploration of the topic. I personally find Christianity in general, and the Catholic Church in particular. quite incompatible with faggotry and have opted for a higher form of spirituality which celebrates my sexuality, rather than one that tells me I suffer from an inherent moral disorder. Earlier religions revered homosexuals-we were the shamans, the high priests and priestesses, the witch doctors, the healers, the seers and psychics.

I think it far more appropriate that we reclaim our real heritage, rather than content ourselves with sitting in the back of the bus of a religion that has burned us as witches, tortured us through inquisitions, and now tells gay people they have no place in a decent, God-fearing community. I have no sympathy for gay Catholics-they are self-oppressed and are anathema to all forms of true gay liberation.

I keep a Bible in my home, but only so I'll have the codebook of the enemy always at hand for a useful quote or reference. The utter uselessness and hypocrisy of mainstream Christianity is something we all ought to outgrow and learn to denounce for the shameful and useless institution of oppression it is and always has been

> John Connolly San Francisco

### **Pleasure Auction**

★ We would like to thank all those individuals who helped to make the Pleasure Auction at Amelia's on Sunday, Dec. 4, a huge success. A special thanks to all who volunteered their time, all those who donated items and services, those individuals who were our guest auctioneers, and the staff and management of Amelia's. And, of course, you, the community.

> Kathleen Gage **Audrey Joseph Producers**, Pleasure Auction '88

### **Public Lie of Sexual Choice**

The following was sent to Geraldo Rivera in care of

\* On the Geraldo show aired Dec. 12, you smirked at and insulted a silhouetted former prostitute because she said that homosexual and bisexual behavior is genetically determined. Although crudely worded, her statement is basically correct. To wrongly characterize homosexuality or bisexuality as a choice, you thereby legitimize and inflame homophobic bigotry-by inferring that these people brought social abuse on themselves.

As an influential public figure hosting a national forum and as a member of an irrationally discriminated-against minority group, you have a moral responsibility to not inflame public bigotry against any other irrationally discriminated-against minority

If you had done any serious research on the subject, you would know that there is a definite genetic predisposition toward either heterosexual, bisexual, or homosexual behavior. For some, at least, this predisposition is determinative: No amount of environmental influence will alter this predisposition, and the person will become what he was predisposed

For all others, there is probably some room for environmental influence on the eventual sexual identity of the individual. The extent to which environmental influences can modify that person's genetic predisposition is determined by the strength of that particular person's genetic predisposition.

A person's sexual identity begins to form at the earliest environmental influences. As the person ages, the person's sexual identity becomes more and more rigidly defined. For those born with some flexibility as to what their eventual sexual identity will be, the older a person gets, the more sophisticated and intrusive any intervention must be in order to modify what would otherwise be that person's sexual identity. At some point in this person's life, no amount of intervention will modify that person's eventual sexual identity.

For some, this point occurs shortly after conception. For others, it occurs at some other point in childhood. But for all, it occurs well before the onset of puberty-where the hormones activate strong, sexual arousal and tortuously merge it with the alreadyformed sexual identity. There is no known or proven intervention which will prevent this merging of hormone-induced sexual arousal with the preformed sexual identity

After this merging has occurred, there is also no known or proven intervention which will separate and then reattach hormone-based sexual arousal to anything else-except the sexual object(s) that was predetermined by this preformed sexual identity.

In other words, once a homosexual, always a homosexual. Once a bisexual, always a bisexual. Once a heterosexual, always a heterosexual. For a homosexual male to have sex with a female, he would have to fantasize about having sex with a man. For a heterosexual male to have sex with another male, he would have to fantasize about having sex with a woman.

Rather than listening to objective scientific researchers and rational thought, the homophobic general public listens to groups (like many religious groups with a history of homophobic bigotry) which have found it profitable to victimize and scapegoat a permanent and vulnerable minority. If you follow the so-called "heterosexuals" who have been "converted" (they claim) from being homosexuals or bisexuals, they all continue to be sexually attracted to members of the same gender.

But you will see in their self-justifying literature that even though a person remains sexually attracted to the same sex, he is not a homosexual or bisexual if he (1) is celibate from homosexual acts with others (or repents quickly after occasional indiscretions), (2) professes a belief in the "truth" of that particular group, (3) professes that it is wrong to engage in homosexual acts, and (4) denies that he is a homosexual.

Since these converts to heterosexuality are fully aware that the public and scientific community de fine a homosexual (and a bisexual) as a person involuntarily and reflexively sexually aroused by persons of the same gender, their private re-definition of the term (in order to call themselves "heterosexuals") is a public lie; the motive of which is to attain the social benefits of being classed as heterosexuals and to avoid the severe social disadvantages of being

classified as homosexuals.

Stuart A. McDonald San Francisco

### **Our Duty Is to Challenge**

\* Shanti Project is incorrect in its contention that public challenges to its conduct should stop because they threaten the services it provides. The latest example of this tired whine appears in Tim Teeter's letter (Dec. 8). Teeter warns that Shanti's services may be "jeopardized" if the press is not nice to it.

Disregard for the moment how much that sounds like extortion and consider this: As donors and taxpayers, we want the best possible use of resources for our friends with AIDS. It is, therefore, our duty to scrutinize the actions of any organization that lays claim to those resources. It is also our duty to be enraged at any waste of those resources or at any hint of nonaccountability.

Finally, Teeter's admonishment is not new and hasn't aged well. Indeed, by his own account of the DPH's findings (paragraph five of his letter), Shanti's services have not suffered at all.

I suggest that the Shanti board establish clear, frugal procedures aimed at preventing a repeat of the \$70,000 bailout we have just witnessed. I suggest they do this immediately, for, in the final analysis, it is horrors like the Geary payoff-not chiding from newspaper columnists-that will eventually topple Shanti if precautions are not forthcoming.

We are being asked to swallow a lot, and someday we may indeed dismiss the whole episode as unavoidable. Until then, since it is Shanti who is asking for redemption, I think snotty attitudes like Teeter's are inappropriate.

> Paul M. Gonzalez San Francisco





BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988 PAGE 8

## N X X X X X

### No Mistake

\* Regarding John Mortimer's letter in the Dec. 15 B.A.R.

The Dec. 1 B.A.R. published my letter resenting the fact that J. Craig Canada called the security the fact that J. Craig Canada called the security guard at Safeway "nigger" after the guard referred to some customers as "fags" and "queers." I equally Your letter labelled my reaction against Canada's bigotry an "insidious evil." You claim my first "fallacy" is not recognizing that "fag" and "queer" were "fighting words" entitling Mr. Canada to "punch the name-caller in the face instead of merely defending himself in kind."

Punching someone in the face does not carry with it the racial bias of what you fallaciously call "merely defending himself in kind." Racial epithets are no defense; they are as provocative an offense as homophobic ones.

You say, "The second fallacy is far more dangerous. Mr. De Pillis' reasoning (for lack of a better term) intimates that a defense justifies the attack which precedes the defense; i.e., that a defense justifies the attack. How could this be if the attack occurred before the defense?" Reading this, it becomes clear that "a better term" is not all that you lack. Try an intelligible, unaffected way of writing, for one thing. Now, Mr. Canada's letter (Nov. 17 B.A.R.) makes it clear that he was physically attacked after he called the security guard "nigger." He was not defending against a physical attack-if that is the distortion you wish to convey in your rather pompous and murky paragraph.

To call someone "nigger" cannot be mistaken for anything but racism. And neither can your letter, Mr. Mortimer.

> **Robert De Pillis** San Francisco

### **Diluting the Connection**

facts.

\* Cleve Jones and Mike Smith of the Names Project have a convenient sense of history. Their recent open letter to the community is institutional doublespeak and empty rhetoric. Let's review the

At its inception, the Names Project was formally organized by a group of white gay men. In addition to their vision of a remarkable quilt, they also sewed within the project the same seeds of racism, sexism, classism, and internationlized homophobia that afflict many of our community's organizations, particularly those now firmly entrenched within the "AIDS industry."

During preparations for the inaugural display of the quilt in 1987, these same organizers had to be begged, threatened and cajoled into expanding their vision of the quilt's constituency to include women, blacks, Asians, Hispanics, and others. At a time when project organizers were soliciting "readers" from among Hollywood stars and Washington politicians, it was volunteers-not project staff- who advocated for the inclusion of people of color, families of PWAs, lesbian and gay "celebrities" and others in the roster of those who would read the names as the quilt was opened for the first time

At that point, the response of Jones, Smith, and other project leaders to these inclusive efforts was this: The AIDS epidemic primarily affects white gay men-so why put so much energy into other communities? Now Jones and Smith have revised that history, and want us to believe that the project has always been fueled by only the most pluralistic of motives. Unfortunately, it just isn't so.

From the beginning, the Names Project has been sent itself as a collective or as a grass-roots organization, but it has never been either of those things. Inherent in the middle-class corporate style is the desire for "respectability." This means, among other things, that the leadership of the Names Project doesn't want the project's corporate sponsors to suffer the embarrassment of being associated with a "gay" organization, or of being identified with those nasty words (such as 'IV drug use'') that have a tendency to crop up when AIDS is discussed.

Jones has not, however, missed any opportunity to soak the gay and lesbian community for cash in order to cover the salaries of project staff members, its astronomical phone bills and office expenses, and the cost of a national tour that was, perhaps, somewhat grandiose in conception. While San Francisco funded the quilt tour-whose purpose was purportedly to raise money for direct AIDS services in the host communities-money for those same services was diverted from San Francisco. Meanwhile, the community has yet to see an accounting of the tour.

In short, the Names Project leadership has been pleased to associate itself with the gay and lesbian community when it has benefited the project (e.g., at the 1987 National March, or when they pass the hat annually at San Francisco's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade), and has tried to dilute that connection whenever the project has needed another

computer from the Apple Corporation or a plug from KPIX.

In their open letter, Jones and Smith actually atempt to argue that the insistence on naming our diversity "reduces the epidemic to categories and statistics." On the contrary, in their mania for the mainstream, Jones and Smith endanger the individuality of every man and woman whose life is remembered in panels of the quilt. As the project relentlessly converts itself into a colorless amalgam, individual differences will simply become invisible. Assimilation, like silence, equals death.

How dare Jones and Smith imply, for instance, that 'labels'' (such as lesbian, gay, black, and Hispanic) "strip away the individuality of each life"? How dare they assert that to describe the diversity of those affected by AIDS is to "cause great harm" or to create an "artificial boundary"? For many of the people whom the Quilt commemorates and their loved ones, being gay (or black, or Hispanic, or a woman) was an essential aspect of their lives.

The leadership of the Names Project has forgotten -- if it ever knew--how much visibility means to people who have traditionally been invisible. As white, middle-class men, they have never really had to think about it.

> **Albert Llewden** San Francisco

### Mainstream

★ I am writing in response to Philip Campbell's recent article on "Symphony Conservatives." I would like to restate, for what I hope is the final time, the substance of my recently published letter to the S.F. Chronicle on this theme. I also have a couple of comments for Mr. Campbell.

Neither in my letter, nor in other letters on the same subject, did anyone infer that experimental or unusual music should not be performed. On the contrary, I feel it must be performed if we are to encourage the growth and evolution of serious music. My point is that such music should not be performed as part of the regular subscription series of the S.F. Symphony. The symphony sponsors a program aptly called New and Unusual Music that is the appropriate venue for the performance of alternative and experimental music.

Following publication of my letter in the Chronicle, I received a number of unsolicited telephone calls from symphony patrons who supported my position without exception. I was, of course, happy to find myself in agreement with Mark Volkert, associate concert master of the San Francisco Symphony. He said that many musicians were unhappy with having to perform unintelligible and inaccessible music. They certainly have my sympathy.

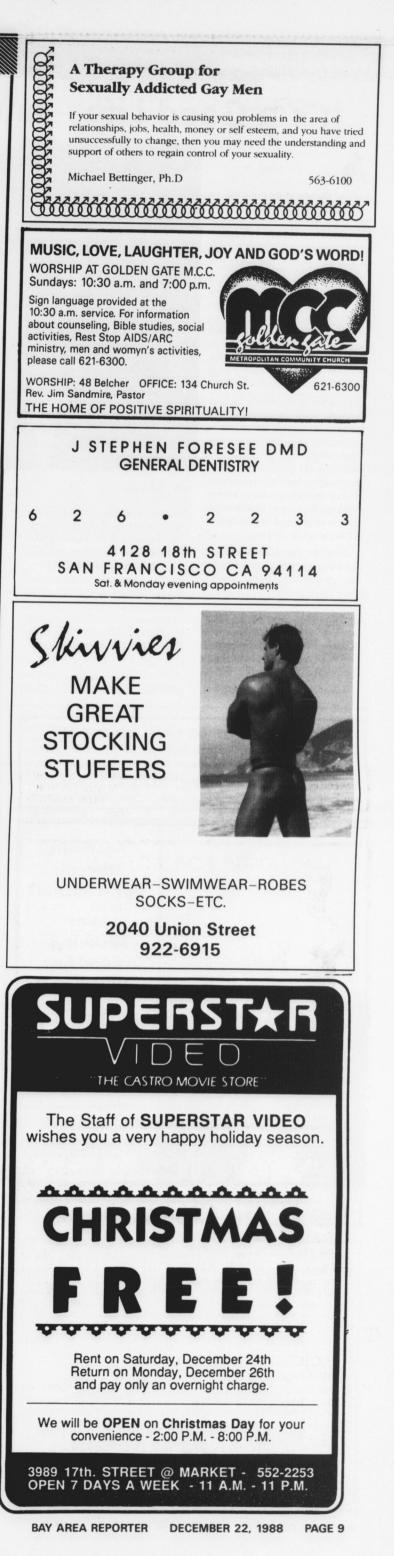
In his article, Campbell suggests that we traditonalists "choose future concert series with more care." Hogwash! Campbell's suggestion is condescending and inappropriate. I chose my series with great care, attempting to avoid composers and selections that I know from experience will either bore or annoy me. This year I will sit through selections I don't wish to hear at virtually every concert I will attend, even though I exercised the greatest care possible in series selection. However, I will continue to attend symphony concerts because I want the incomparable experience of hearing live performances of serious music by outstanding musicians, superbly directed in a pleasing environment.

On the contrary, Mr. Campbell, I assert that S.F. Symphony management has a responsibility to those of us who buy their product to schedule music in their regular subscription series that satisfies the mainstream taste of their patrons. Judging by the response I have had in this exchange of letters and ments I hear at Davies Hall, the majority of us want to hear music that permits us to decide whether or not we have experienced a communication of ideas or emotions, and to judge how well that communication was performed. I believe most of us feel that communication is unlikely, if not impossible, with Messrs. Carter, Berg, Sessions, Messiaen,

However, contrary to Campbell's snide assertion, it does not rule out everything written after 1900. My own wish is that music have a discernable form and structure that enables me to follow the composer's ideas and intent; music that forms a bridge between me and the composer for the passage of emotional or intellectual stimulation.

Finally, Campbell's parting shot at Mark Volkert was really gratuitous. I'm sure Mr. Volkert is entirely capable of defending himself, if indeed defense is necessary from an obvious lightweight. I raise the point because that sort of petulance is typical of the responses I have heard from the "musical left" on this question. Campbell gave a good deal of advice in his column. Let me give you one piece of my own, Mr. Campbell: subscribe to and attend the New and Unusual Music Series of the S.F. Symphony. I'm sorry, but I don't wish to join you.

> Albert B. Potter San Francisco



## Wayne Friday

# It's a Good Life - and Getting Better All the Time

presidential commission recommended recently that the salaries of members of Congress be raised from the current \$89,500 to \$135,000 annually. With the expected approval of Pres. Ronald Reagan, the 50 percent hike in salary for House and Senate members will take effect in February.

For years, congressmembers have complained that they can hardly get by, what with keeping the necessary homes in both the home state and Washington on the pitiful salary they now make. What to do? Vote yourself a huge pay raise, of course.

Even when the new raise goes through, some members are already complaining that the provision that they become exempt from accepting speaking fees from special interest groups is really unfair. Under current rules, House members may accept speaking fees equal to 30 percent of their salary, and the maximum for senators is 40 percent.

However, there is no limit on the amount of money lobbyists may spend to entertain (influence?) congressional families at posh resorts around the country or to spend on them during "factfinding" trips to vacation spots. In many cases, campaign contributions can also be converted to some limited personal uses.

Taxpayers also currently pay

(Photo: Rink)

for business-related travel in the home district. The amount of trips between the nation's capital and the home district are unlimited, since those whose districts are far from Washington have proportionately larger travel accounts than those who live nearby, so it is no more expensive for Barbara Boxer or Nancy Pelosi than it is for a congressperson from Maryland.

Jerry Brown.

One of the most attractive parts of being a member of Congress is the lucrative pension they receive after a few years service. Do our representatives in Washington need the 50 percent pay raise? Some do, probably, but in financial statements filed last May, nearly a third of the 100 senators disclosed that they were millionaires, and nearly all House members reported annual incomes exceeding \$100,000.

In addition to an already handsome salary, congressmembers receive free medical care, free meals, newspapers, parking, franking privileges (mailings), telephone calls by the thousands, gym privileges, and a tax deduction of up to \$3,000 a year for unreimbursed expenses in Washington.

Clearly, the congressional salary is only the tip of the financial iceberg for members of Congress, and it is clear to see why few retire before they are entitled to their pensions. There are numerous similar cases, but one such person who took advantage of the attractive pension is retired Sen. Albert Gore Sr. of Tennesse, who left the Senate in 1970 and receives a federal pension of \$81,347 a year.

I'm not saying that some members don't earn it, but don't feel too sorry for that struggling congressperson or senator. It's a good life - and getting better all the time

ormer Gov. Jerry Brown, a leading candidate for chairperson of the state Democratic Party, told an overflow crowd of 17th Assembly District Democrats Sunday that "this one Democrat that doesn't apologize for being a liberalgive me a liberal or give me

In Rockford, Illinois, sweatshirts with a design of male anatomy has sparked an uproar at Rockford College, where gay support groups contend that the shirt okays gay-bashing. This one could be decided in a courtroom.

Meanwhile, some crazy homophobe in Dallas, a district judge by the name of Jack Hampton boasted that he gave a lighter sentence to a cold-blooded killer because the two men he gunned down were "queers" who the judge said were probably "cruising the streets, picking up teenage boys.'

This is the same jurist who was part of a group in 1982 that posted signs in heavily black areas, warning that they could go to jail if they didn't obey election laws. Critics called that action (barred later by court order) racist and said it was intended to intimidate black voters.

Indeed, this homophobic racist should trade his black robe in for a white one, and if gay and lesbian groups in Texas can't figure out a way to get the son of a bitch off the bench, they, too, should get out of business.

However, there is some sensible news out of Washington. Federal law requiring that city (D.C.) to let religious organizations discriminate against gays is unconstitutional, U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth ruled. Congress had threatened to freeze that city's \$3.2 billion budget on Jan. 1 if the city council failed to change its human rights code.

The hottest local political rumor has Dianne Feinstein cancelling plans to seek statewide office. Seems some big names in the city have promised her support if she agrees to take on Mayor Art Agnos for her old job next time around. (Now that would be a bloodbath.)

A Christmas gift from Gov. George Deukmejian: The governor this week appointed two fine local Municipal Court judges, Lenard Louie and Douglas Munson, to seats on the Superior Court. These are two of the Duke's better appointments.

nother holiday season is A here, and I want to wish the best of the holidays here, and I want to wish and a healthy 1989 to some people who have made the column what it has been for the past year.

Cheers and the very best to Sup. Harry Britt; Arlo and Helen Smith; Bill Maher; Tom Horn; Randy Shilts; John Robertson; Mayor Art; Carol Ruth Silver; Jeff Brown; Jane Howell; Randy Al. are free of charge. To reserve a fred; Ron Huberman; Angela space please call the on-duty Alioto; Dick and Elizabeth Hongisto; Connie O'Connor; Dianne

Feinstein; Bob Sandner; Karyn Hunt; Allen White; Dennis Collins; Richmond Young; Jack and Louise Molinari; Sharon Mc-Night; Cecil Williams and Jan: Mark Friese; Kevin Shelley; Jim Bonko; Herb Caen.

Mike Hennessey; Paul Wotman; the gang at the New Bell Saloon; Warren Hinckle; Dick Pabich; Carole Migden: Ken Cady and David; Nancy Walker; Sam and Betty Duca; Ace Smith and Laura Talmus; Steve Cox: everyone at Mueller's Deli; Kevin Wadsworth and Paul Johnson; Scott Shafer; Anthony Garrett and Carol Klinger; Dana Van Gorder; Jim Rivaldo; Mark Luko; Michael O'Malley; Dixon; Chuck Haines; George Burgess.

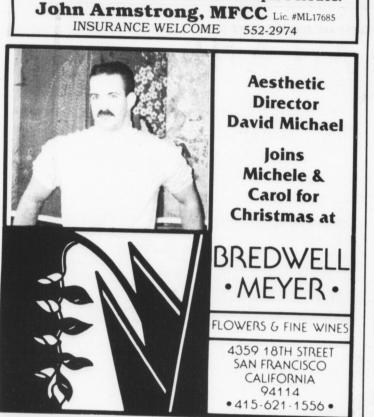
Larry Hughes; Gardner, Ed. and Hector; Russ Alley; Greta Grass; Lia Belli; Mr. Lincoln and Scott; Col. John Maloney; Bill Paul; Totie and Russell; Gina Moscone; Ron Albers; Ray Ben-son; Ted Hirshfield; Morris Kight; Claire Pilcher; Jack Davis; Jack Fricks and Robert Hines; Paul Walliker; Mary Morgan; Roberta Achtenberg; Ken Maley; Linda Post; Pauline Beltron; Neil and Sue Eisenberg; Larry Bush; June Starling; Bird and Mark.

Rev. Jim Sandmire; John Van Huesden; Doris Ward; Randy Winbigler; Ellen Chaitain and V. Roy Lefcourt; Larry Eppinette; Bob Cramer; Mick Ridolfi; the crowd at Aunt Charley's: Dick Walters; Milton and Carolene Marks; Don Rogers; Tim Wolfred: Arlo Hale Smith; Bob Golovich and Stern; Jo Daly; Cheryl Crane: Roger Hall; Bobby Gates; Joe Roland: Kathy Stephenson; George and June Banda; Hadley and Suzie Roff; everyone at the Bay Area Reporter; and so many more that I probably should have men-

A healthy, happy, loving holiday season and an even better new year.

### Learn About AIDS **Service Agencies At Free Orientation**

The client services department of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation is now holding two weekly orientations on AIDS service organizations in San Francisco. The orientation is a good way to learn about the different services available to persons with AIDS or ARC. The orientations are held weekly and social worker at 864-5855.



Do you want to talk about it?

Depression, Loss, Relationships. HIV, AIDS, ARC.

Sexuality, Other Personal and Couple's Issues.

## Life at the Closet Door



knowledge.

into it.

he insisted. "Yeats, listen," I said. "Boys and girls don't have to be boyfriends and girlfriends. They can be just good friends."



to understand."

My sister replied that the real reason she wanted to wait is that

## **Rest Stop Offers Art Workshops**

The California Arts Council is sponsoring Bay Area artist Sharon Siskin to start an arts program at San Francisco's Rest Stop Support Center and The Center in Oakland. All arts workshops offered in this program are free of charge to persons living with HIV concerns and many Bay Area art supply stores have donated the supplies for these classes.

prints this spring.

## 

# How Do You Explain Boyfriends and Girlfriends to a Kid?

raditionally, the holidays are all about families. And supposedly, families are all about sharing. So this year, while celebrating an early Christmas with my family in Washington, D.C., I decided to tell my nephew Yeats, who is eight, that I am gay.

Ideally, I should never have had to make an issue of my sexuality. He should have grown up knowing, just as he grew up knowing that stoves are hot and ducks go quack. But during my brief family visits, since I never appeared with a boyfriend, there was never an opportunity for my nephew to absorb this kind of

Oh, sure, we discussed gay issues in front of Yeats, but he screened them out as so much adult talk that didn't concern him. And because there are two other single adults in the family besides myself, he never questioned my being single. I was simply Mike. Being gay didn't enter

A year and a half ago, however, Yeats finally gave me an opening to explain things in greater detail. A friend of mine from college, Alice, came to visit, and Yeats pounced.

"Who's this, Mike?" he asked. "Your girlfriend?"

"No, Alice is a good friend of mine. She's not my girlfriend. I don't have a girlfriend."

"I bet she's your girlfriend,"

It didn't sink in. Yeats persisted until I was ready to shout, "Look, you little pest, I'm queer! O-U-E-E-R! Do you know what that means?" But I couldn't, because I wasn't sure how my sister felt about my telling him. Until I cleared it with her, my options

had happened and asked for permission to set hen I told my sister what murred. She didn't want me telling him until he was "old enough

"But that only means until he is old enough to become prejudiced," I protested. "By then it will be too late. The damage will have been done. Besides, what do I do in the meantime?'



Gay dads and their children.

she had to figure out a way to tell him that it was okay for me to be gay, but not for him.

"We want him to know that we love you anyway, but we prefer him to be straight. We think he'll be happier that way."

Stunned, I hesitated before replying. I had no idea my sister felt that way.

What could one say to such a warped (albeit well-intentioned) philosophy, anyway? That neither she nor Yeats has any control over his sexual orientation? That even if they did, why should anyone be happier if he were straight? I hardly knew where to begin. Under the circumstances, I decided the best thing to do was to let the matter rest for a while.

Yeats didn't ask me about girlfriends again until this month, when, on the first night of my visit, he asked, "Mike, when are you getting married?"

Reluctantly, I put him off with some excuse or another, but he asked the same question the next night and again the next. Desperate, I fled to my sister again and said, "Look, he clearly wants to know what's up. You've got to let me tell him. It's not fair to either of us to keep him in the dark any longer. I promise to break it gently, to keep it low-key."

urprisingly, both my sister and her husband agreed, so the next time Yeats asked, I said, "Okay, I'll tell you, but it's kind of complicated. People get married because they love each other, right? Well, some people fall in love with boys, and some people fall in love with girls. And boys can't marry boys, although they can live together and make commitments to each otherwhich is almost the same thing.,"

Yeats cut through my confusing, long-winded, and evasive explanation with the question, "So you love boys?"

Immediately I wished I had used the words "men" and 'women'' rather than "boys" and "girls," but I let that pass. Instead, I simply answered, 'Yes," as I felt this irrational, gut-level fear take control for a moment. The question was so direct, so elemental, that it called forth reservoirs of guilt and shame that I had thought no longer existed. Suddenly I had to confront, for the first time in years, my own homophobia. I

(Photo: Rink)

hated myself for allowing the past to haunt me so.

I attempted to get back on track and to make things clearer for Yeats by explaining that I, too, have a mate, just like my sister has her husband. I reminded Yeats that he ate dinner with my boyfriend a few months ago, but I wasn't there, so Yeats wasn't able to make the connectionand he didn't really remember, anyway. I decided to call it a day by asking, "So does any of this make sense to you, Yeats?"

"Not really," he answered. "Well, someday it will," I

assured him, relieved to have broached the subject at last.

"Yeah, sure," he replied. Then he asked what I was giving him for Christmas.

It would be nice to conclude that the battle has been fought and won, but I know this is only the beginning. Assuming Yeats remembers this conversation, there will certainly be more quesions in the future.

Unfortunately, there will also be conflicts. What happens when he tells his friends about boys loving boys, for instance? Or worse yet, tells the nuns at the parochial school he attends? What happens when he hears the word 'fag'' or learns that, according to some people, homosexuality is a sin? Will my sister explain things for him the way I would like for her to do?

I don't know. All I know is that, at last, we have made a first step. And that's better than no step at all.

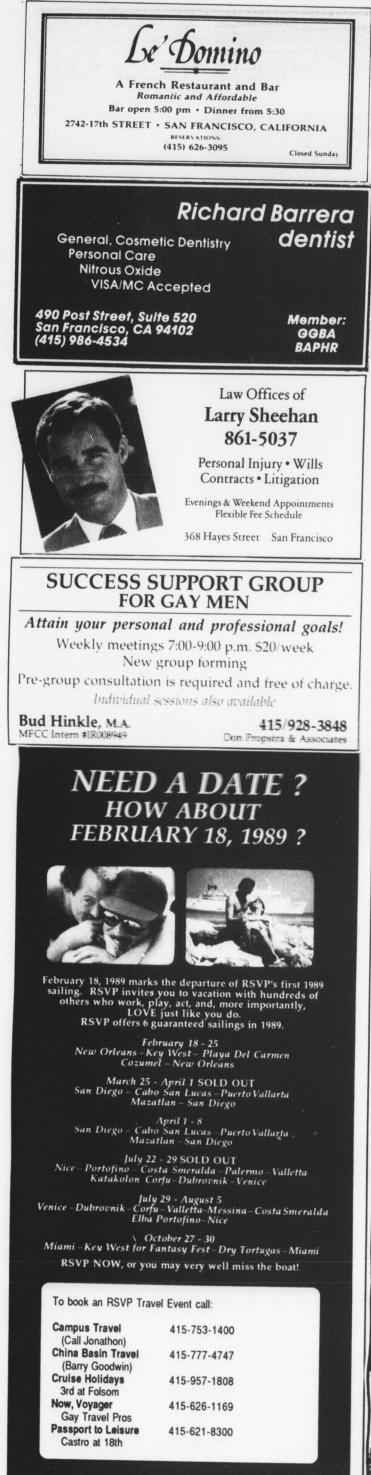


The first of these classes have focused on masks and seasonal decorations. Future classes will include but are not limited to drawing, painting, sculpture and printmaking. Many visiting artists will offer workshops in their area of expertise. Bay Area painter and printmaker, Bob Brokl will lead a class in woodcut

In addition to attending classes, working artists with AIDS/ ARC and HIV positive concerns are encouraged to take advantage of any of the additional services offered through this program, such as organizing exhibittions of artwork, sale of work, photographing etc.

For details, call Sharon at Rest Stop or The Center. These classes are open to new ideas and are here to support and meet the needs of people living with HIV concerns. Donations of money or art supplies are always welcome.

Classes meet at Rest Stop Support Center, 134 Church Street, San Francisco 621-REST on Saturdays from 11-2 and on Wednesdays at The Center, 3421 Martin Luther King Way, Oakland, 655-3435.



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## NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

### Milk Memorial Sits Neglected, Unpaid

WASHINGTON, DC-Although thousands fondly remember Harvey Milk and many commemorated the tenth anniversary of his assassination Nov. 27, a cemetery plot that was to be a permanent memorial to the slain supervisor lies neglected and unpaid for in the nation's capital

According to the Washington Blade, only half of the \$1,200 for the gravesite in Congressional Cemetery has been paid.

A group called Never Forget launched the memorial plan in early 1988. But its leader, Leonard Matlovich, died in June. Since then, nothing has happened with the idea. The cemetery has maintained the two plots originally purchased, even though almost a year has passed since a payment was made.

Meanwhile, an urn that contains Harvey Milk memorabilia sits gathering dust in the cemetery office.

-Washington Blade

### Fed Judge Rules **Armstrong Bill** Unconstitutional

WASHINGTON, DC-A federal judge ruled Dec. 13 that the U.S. Congress could not cut off funds to the District of Columbia because of a local ordinance. U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth ruled that the so-called Armstrong Amendment was unconstitutional.

That amendment, authored by Colorado Sen. William Armstrong (R), stipulated that unless Washington's city council rescinded a portion of its human rights ordinance, it would lose federal appropriations. The ordinance bans discrimination in the use of public facilities by gays. It was invoked last year by a gay and lesbian student group at Georgetown University.

When the Roman Catholic university denied recognition to the gay group, claiming religious freedom, the students sued under the city's ordinance. A federal court upheld their claim and or-

## Frisch

dered the university to grant partial recognition to the group. Armstrong's amendment demanded that the city repeal any provisions that could apply to private religious institutions. It

would have explicitly allowed such groups to discriminate against homosexual organiza-Lamberth ruled that Armstrong's measure violated the

First Amendment of the Constitution by abridging the freespeech rights of the district's city council members who had passed the human rights law.

The city would have lost much of its federal funding-\$3.2 billion-if it had not complied with the amendment.

-United Press International

### **MCI Settlement** In Bias Lawsuit

NEW YORK-Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc. and MCI Communications Corporation have announced a settlement of a sexual-orientation discrimination complaint filed by David Gatten with the New York City Human Rights Commission.

In his complaint against MCI and one of its branch managers, Gatten alleged that MCI fired him in January 1988 from his management-level job because of his sexual orientation, despite his excellent job performance. Sexual orientation discrimination is prohibited by New York City law.

MCI said it has always had a strong corporate policy against discrimination of any kind. In reaching a settlement with both Lambda and Gatten, MCI said it will broaden the wording of its existing policy to specifically prohibit sexual orientation discrimination. MCI's anti-discrimination policy will cover employment decisions for all employees throughout the country. MCI emphasized that its willingness to settle did not signify its admission of any of Gatten's allegations.

"Everyone is quite happy with the resolution of this case," stated Paula Ettelbrick, the Lambda attorney who represented Gatten. "MCI responded responsibly not only to the claim that it violated New York City law, but also to the written requests of lesbians and gay men throughout the country

to adopt a company policy prohibiting sexual orientation discrimination. Today MCI joins the ranks of many other national corporations which protect their lesbian and gay employees from discrimina In addition to the change in

policy, MCI made a financial settlement with Gatten. The parties have agreed to keep other details of the settlement confidential. Lambda, Gatten, and MCI expressed agreement that the matter was settled amicably.

### **City Launches Public Education Campaign**

CHICAGO—Mayor Eugene Sawyer has kicked off one of the nation's strongest municipal campaigns to fight AIDS. The centerpiece of the campaign will be the promotion of condoms through the media and on billboards, transit platforms, and buses. The theme is "AIDS Is Everybody's Problem.'

Chicago is the nation's first major city to launch a campaign of this magnitude, using the promotion of condoms to fight AIDS. "I am not promoting casual sexual behavior," the mayor said. "However, I am a realist. It's better to be safe than sorry. This campaign is aimed at preventing a deadly disease, not promoting the use of contraceptives.

Sawyer acknowledged that this year-long campaign, urging citizens to use condoms, will be controversial. Nonetheless, he favored a hardhitting and forthright campaign attacking AIDS head-on through a sophisticated advertising strategy. "Chicago now ranks eighth of all American cities in the number of [AIDS] cases," he noted

The city launched the campaign to coincide with the designation of Dec. 1 as World AIDS Day. In announcing the campaign, Sawyer was flanked by samples of the billboard, media, and transit advertisements.

The ads, Sawyer said, "are designed to educate our people and to encourage them to be more responsible about fighting an uphill battle. We all face this challenge, and it's our responsibility to learn as much as we can to deter the spread of this disease.'



bian.

I am."

sional races.

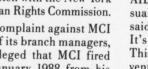
support our issues."

Basile says the Washingtonbased staffers not only contributed valuable professional skills to the campaigns, but helped increase gay and lesbian political visibility in communities around the country.

The Empress Tenderloin Tessie Holiday Dinner Committee will present a Gay Community Christmas dinner Dec. 25 from 2 to 4 p.m. at St. Paulus Lutheran Church, Eddy and Gough streets.

The Gay Rescue Mission will present a free Christmas Eve celebration, Dec. 24 from 6 to 11 p.m. A buffet will be provided. In the back room they will show a film featuring the choir of St. Edmund's Cathedral and the Christmas images of the art collection of the Metropolitan Museum, followed by a film of the Moscow Bolshoi Ballet production of The Nutcracker.

how many to plan for.



# **HRCF Puts Money, Staff** In Important Campaigns

## Gay, Lesbian Activists Took to Campaign Trails

Sheryl Harris could hardly believe her ears when Esther, a Jewish retiree from New Jersey, popped the question: "Honey, are you the 'L' word?" Harris, operations director for the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), was "on loan" to the congressional campaign of Harry Johnston in Palm Beach, Fla. She was working with local volunteers-most of them white, heterosexual, and retired, like Esther and her husband, Sid.

"It's not too often a black lesbian activist from the nation's capital visits the conservative Florida Gold Coast to help get out the vote," said Harris. "Before I arrived the volunteers had been briefed that gays and lesbians were coming which created a stir among some of them. So the first thing that went through my mind when Esther asked the "L' question was ... oh, oh, here it comes ... Les-

Harris said she took a deep breath, pushed back her shoulders and answered, "Yes, ma'am,

To which Esther leaned over and surreptitiously replied. "That's okay, dear, so am I. And so's my husband, Sid."

Confusing liberals with lesbians was just one of the many tales from the political hinterlands told by HRCF staff members recently back from working on key political campaigns around the country. HRCF, the nation's largest lesbian and gay political action committee (PAC) and lobbying group, contributed more than \$400,000 in money and staff time in 1987-88 to progay candidates for U.S. Congress and progressive groups.

This year, in addition to direct contributions, the PAC tried a different strategy by sending its professional employees on the road to work in several congres-

"You could say we put our man and womanpower where our money is," said Vic Basile, HRCF executive director. "By loaning some of our top staff we took another important step in demonstrating the wide and deep range of support lesbians and gays can give candidates who

### **Gay Rescue Mission Plans Holiday Meal**

Donations of food, including party leftovers are needed. Everyone is welcome, but please sign up in advance at the Mission or RSVP to 863-4882, so they know

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Vic Basille. (Photo: L. Mosley)

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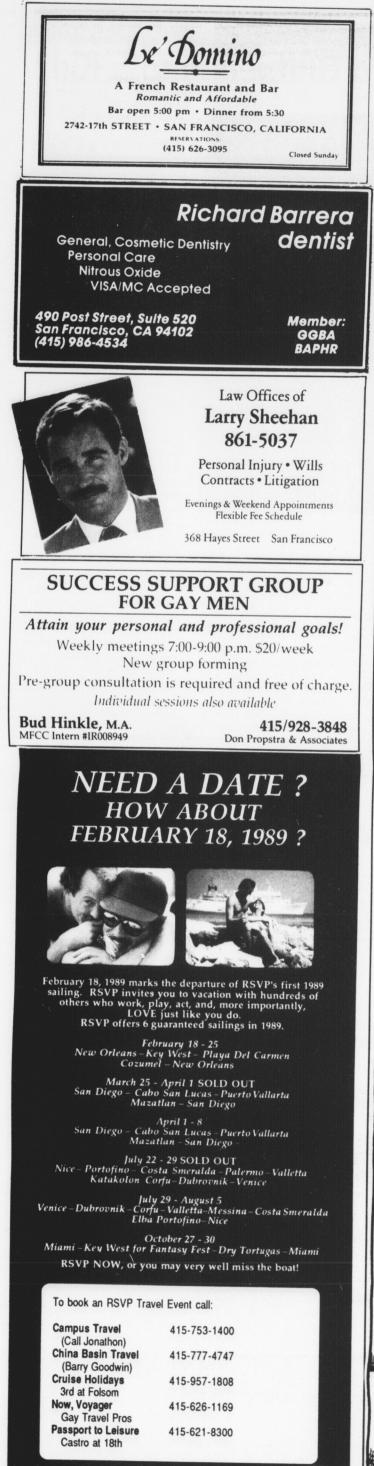
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BAY AREA REPORTER

### **DECEMBER 22, 1988** PAGE 12

## NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

## **Milk Memorial Sits** Neglected, Unpaid

WASHINGTON, DC-Although thousands fondly remember Harvey Milk and many commemorated the tenth anniversary of his assassination Nov. 27, a cemetery plot that was to be a permanent memorial to the slain supervisor lies neglected and unpaid for in the nation's capital.

According to the Washington Blade, only half of the \$1,200 for the gravesite in Congressional Cemetery has been paid.

A group called Never Forget launched the memorial plan in early 1988. But its leader, Leonard Matlovich, died in June. Since then, nothing has happened with the idea. The cemetery has maintained the two plots originally purchased, even though almost a year has passed since a payment was made.

Meanwhile, an urn that contains Harvey Milk memorabilia sits gathering dust in the cemetery office.

-Washington Blade

### Fed Judge Rules **Armstrong Bill** Unconstitutional

WASHINGTON, DC-A federal judge ruled Dec. 13 that the U.S. Congress could not cut off funds to the District of Columbia because of a local ordinance. U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth ruled that the so-called Armstrong Amendment was unconstitutional.

That amendment, authored by Colorado Sen. William Armstrong (R), stipulated that unless Washington's city council rescinded a portion of its human rights ordinance, it would lose federal appropriations. The ordinance bans discrimination in the use of public facilities by gays. It was invoked last year by a gay and lesbian student group at Georgetown University

When the Roman Catholic university denied recognition to the gay group, claiming religious freedom, the students sued under the city's ordinance. A federal court upheld their claim and or-

## Frisch

dered the university to grant partial recognition to the group.

Armstrong's amendment demanded that the city repeal any provisions that could apply to private religious institutions. It would have explicitly allowed such groups to discriminate against homosexual organiza-

Lamberth ruled that Armstrong's measure violated the First Amendment of the Constitution by abridging the freespeech rights of the district's city council members who had passed the human rights law.

The city would have lost much of its federal funding-\$3.2 billion-if it had not complied with the amendment.

-United Press International

### **MCI Settlement** In Bias Lawsuit

NEW YORK-Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc. and MCI Communications Corporation have announced a settlement of a sexual-orientation discrimination complaint filed by David Gatten with the New York City Human Rights Commission.

In his complaint against MCI and one of its branch managers, Gatten alleged that MCI fired him in January 1988 from his management-level job because of his sexual orientation, despite his excellent job performance. Sexual orientation discrimination is prohibited by New York City law.

MCI said it has always had a strong corporate policy against discrimination of any kind. In reaching a settlement with both Lambda and Gatten, MCI said it will broaden the wording of its existing policy to specifically prohibit sexual orientation discrimination. MCI's anti-discrimination policy will cover employment decisions for all employees throughout the country. MCI emphasized that its willingness to settle did not signify its admission of any of Gatten's allegations.

"Everyone is quite happy with the resolution of this case," stated Paula Ettelbrick, the Lambda attorney who represented Gatten. "MCI responded responsibly not only to the claim that it violated New York City law, but also to the written requests of lesbians and gay men throughout the country

to adopt a company policy prohib-iting sexual orientation discrimination. Today MCI joins the ranks of many other national corporations which protect their lesbian and gay employees from discrim-In addition to the change in

policy, MCI made a financial settlement with Gatten. The parties have agreed to keep other details of the settlement confidential. Lambda, Gatten, and MCI expressed agreement that the matter was settled amicably.

### **City Launches Public Education Campaign**

CHICAGO—Mayor Eugene Sawyer has kicked off one of the nation's strongest municipal campaigns to fight AIDS. The centerpiece of the campaign will be the promotion of condoms through the media and on billboards, transit platforms, and buses. The theme is "AIDS Is Everybody's Problem."

Chicago is the nation's first major city to launch a campaign of this magnitude, using the promotion of condoms to fight AIDS. "I am not promoting casual sexual behavior," the mayor said. "However, I am a realist. It's better to be safe than sorry. This campaign is aimed at preventing a deadly disease, not promoting the use of contracep-

Sawyer acknowledged that this year-long campaign, urging citizens to use condoms, will be controversial. Nonetheless, he favored a hardhitting and forthright campaign attacking AIDS head-on through a sophisticated advertising strategy. "Chicago now ranks eighth of all American cities in the number of [AIDS] cases," he noted.

The city launched the campaign to coincide with the designation of Dec. 1 as World AIDS Day. In announcing the campaign, Sawyer was flanked by samples of the billboard, media, and transit advertisements.

The ads, Sawyer said, "are designed to educate our people and to encourage them to be more responsible about fighting an uphill battle. We all face this challenge, and it's our responsibility to learn as much as we can to deter the spread of this disease.'



hian

I am."

Confusing liberals with lesbians was just one of the many tales from the political hinterlands told by HRCF staff members recently back from working on key political campaigns around the country. HRCF, the nation's largest lesbian and gay political action committee (PAC) and lobbying group, contributed more than \$400,000 in money and staff time in 1987-88 to progay candidates for U.S. Congress and progressive groups. This year, in addition to direct

sional races.

Basile says the Washingtonbased staffers not only contributed valuable professional skills to the campaigns, but helped increase gay and lesbian political visibility in communities around the country.

Gough streets.

tion of The Nutcracker.

Donations of food, including party leftovers are needed. Everyone is welcome, but please sign up in advance at the Mission or RSVP to 863-4882, so they know how many to plan for.

# **HRCF Puts Money, Staff** In Important Campaigns

## Gay, Lesbian Activists Took to Campaign Trails

Sheryl Harris could hardly believe her ears when Esther, a Jewish retiree from New Jersey, popped the question: "Honey, are you the 'L' word?" Harris, operations director for the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), was "on loan" to the congressional campaign of Harry Johnston in Palm Beach, Fla. She was working with local volunteers-most of them white, heterosexual, and retired, like Esther and her husband, Sid.

"It's not too often a black lesbian activist from the nation's capital visits the conservative Florida Gold Coast to help get out the vote," said Harris. "Before I arrived the volunteers had been briefed that gays and lesbians were coming which created a stir among some of them. So the first thing that went through my mind when Esther asked the "L' question was . . . oh, oh, here it comes ... Les-

Harris said she took a deep breath, pushed back her shoulders and answered, "Yes, ma'am,

To which Esther leaned over and surreptitiously replied, "That's okay, dear, so am I. And so's my husband, Sid.'

contributions, the PAC tried a different strategy by sending its professional employees on the road to work in several congres-

"You could say we put our man and womanpower where our money is," said Vic Basile, HRCF executive director. "By loaning some of our top staff we took another important step in demonstrating the wide and deep range of support lesbians and gays can give candidates who support our issues."

Gav Rescue Mission **Plans Holiday Meal** 

The Empress Tenderloin Tessie Holiday Dinner Committee will present a Gay Community Christmas dinner Dec. 25 from 2 to 4 p.m. at St. Paulus Lutheran Church, Eddy and

The Gay Rescue Mission will present a free Christmas Eve celebration, Dec. 24 from 6 to 11 p.m. A buffet will be provided. In the back room they will show a film featuring the choir of St. Edmund's Cathedral and the Christmas images of the art collection of the Metropolitan Museum, followed by a film of the Moscow Bolshoi Ballet produc-

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THE GAY

(D-Calif.).

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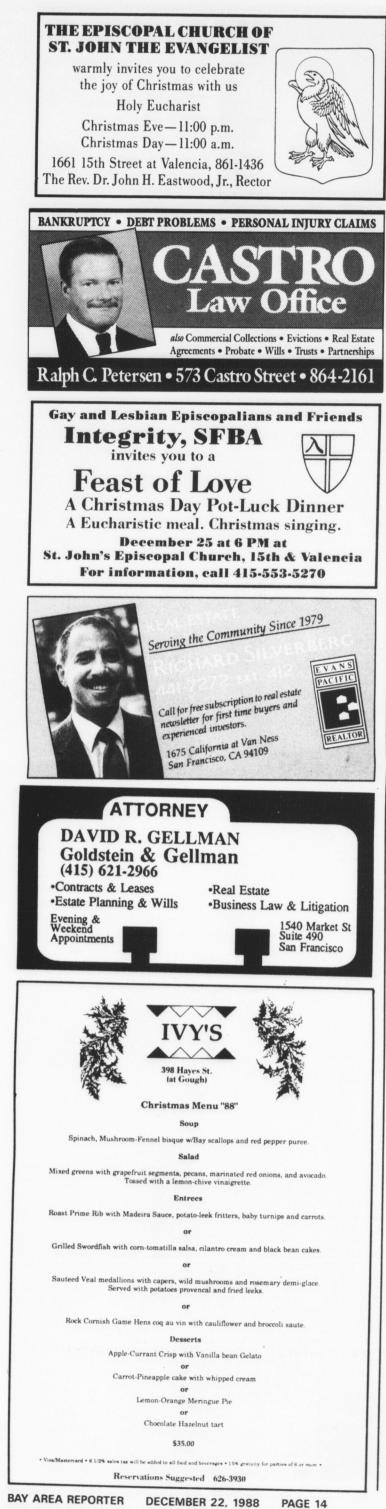
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Gay Internat'l Drops Name; **Complains of Discrimination** 

Now Called Merit Diversified International; No Insurance Available If 'Gay' Is in Name

### by Dennis McMillan

Gay International, Inc. has been forced to change its name, claiming its local headquarters has been vic- published last April. timized by a rash of anti-gay vandalism, according to Alfred Cassidy, head of the company. The corporation selling its stock over the counter throughout the U.S. has legally changed to notso-openly named Merit **Diversified International**,

In business since 1983 with over 1,500 stockholders in more than 250 cities nationwide, Canada and Australia, the company has allegedly suffered vandalism since it moved its offices to 18th Street and Castro.

The building's awning with its gay title and logo was repeatedly sprayed with anti-gay grafitti and has been recently repainted to avoid such trouble in the future, said Cassidy.

In addition, the company has had problems obtaining insurance from most firms because of their name. Cassidy said that when they used the name of their real estate company, Partin Real Estate and Mortgage Corporation, they got insurance with no difficulty.

"It is hoped that being opengay but dropping the word 'gay'' from our name will help to eliminate the large amount of discrimination the corporation has had," said Cassidy.

Asked as to his certainty that the property defacers were antigay vandals and not disgruntled stockholders from past dealings with the company, Cassidy said, "I don't know one hundred percent. But I believe it is people who don't want us to be openly gay.'

At its zenith in 1983, Gay International was involved in numerous businesses. It published the Gay Areas Directory for cities across the U.S. It owned a number of real estate properties in California, Hawaii, and Utah. And it planned to develop gay oriented resorts and services.

The company's stock was marketed largely to gay buyers. In six months, the stock had shot from 20 cents to \$3.25 a share with over 4,000 stockholders owning 24 million shares. The federal Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) was forced to interfere, putting a halt to further trading with formal charges of stock fraud and manipulation.

The company says it has since complied with SEC regulatons and settled the problems early this year.

In April of 1986, Conceptual Economics Network, owners of the Gay Book, also a gay telephone directory, brought suit against Gay International, charging unfair business practices.

The latter then turned around and counter-sued the former for bringing about bad publicity Since that time both suits have been put on hold though not formally dropped. Gay Internation al is no longer in the phone direc tory business

They have also dropped interest in newspaper publishing with their final issue of Gay Times

Boasting assets of over \$5.5 million with laibilities of approximately \$400,000, Merit, a Utah corporation with headquarters based in San Francisco, is now involved in the boat manufacturing business with offices in Los Angeles and Stockton.

The company plans to enter the gourmet food business in Oakland. They are also concerned with real estate and loans, said Cassidy

According to Cassidy, the corporation does not know whether the majority of its stockholders are gay. But he said that for the

most part the board of directors is composed of lesbians and gay

Members of the board say that they have encountered flack from gay people as well, objecting to ing so brazen."

"You can be gay but you can't openly use that name without getting into trouble," Cassidy said. "It irks them and rubs them the wrong way."

Cassidy anticipates no further damage to the exterior of the Castro area building and hopes in the near future to paint the new name on the front. The company will also use their gay lambda logo a little more cautiously from now on, he said.



## **Chainsaw Wielder** Is Taken to Court Assaulted FDA Demonstrators In D.C.

by Rex Wockner

Two activists who were threatened with a chainsaw by an employee of the Acme Tree Service during the day-long demonstration in October at the Food and Drug Administration in Rockville, Maryland, have filed assault charges against the man who wielded the device. The first hearing in the matter was scheduled for Dec. 12.

The incident, which received heavy play on TV news programs, occurred late in the afternoon when Acme's Louis Kola became angry that an automobile attempting to circumvent activist pickets crossed a curb onto the company's property.

According to complainant Steve Martelli of ACT UP/Chicago, "He [Kola] came out from the tree service and started going after protestors with a chainsaw. I was a peacekeeper and got between Kola and the protesters and tried to explain nonviolent civil disobedience to him while he continued to rev his saw."

When police appeared, Kola reportedly shut down the chainsaw. Martelli and John Ryan of Washington, D.C. asked police to arrest Kola. But police refused saying they had not seen him threaten anyone.

Martelli and Ryan then went to Montgomery County Police headquarters and filed a report. Kola was subsequently charged with assault by the state's attorney.

Martelli feels that the police refusal to arrest Kola on the spot and the subsequent charge of simple assault reflect police prejudice in the matter. "If activists had pulled a stunt like that, deadly force probably would have been used against us," he said.

Martelli also says that police tried to talk him and Ryan into filing a joint complaint against Kola, which would have necessitated their both being present at hearings. "I think they were plotting that if one of us didn't make it, then the matter could be dropped," he said.

Even though Martelli and Ryan filed separate complaints to thwart that possibility, Martelli was planning to travel to Maryland from Chicago for the Dec. 12 hearing.

Lawyers connected with Oppression Under Target (OUT), Washington, D.C.'s direct action and civil disobed ence AIDS group, were instrumental, Martelli said, "in getting the Montgomery County state's attorney to file any charges at all against Kola.'

Martelli believes activists had extra leverage "by virtue of Montgomery County having a gay rights law on the books."

One hundred seventy-six persons were arrested in the Oct. 11 demonstration at the FDA. Activists demanded the release of promising AIDS drugs, which they believe are purposely caught up in FDA bureaucracy. More than 1,500 people took part in the 10-hour action, heavily defacing the FDA building and twice breaking into it.

The FDA maintains its drug release policies are appropriate and protect the American public from drugs that don't work.

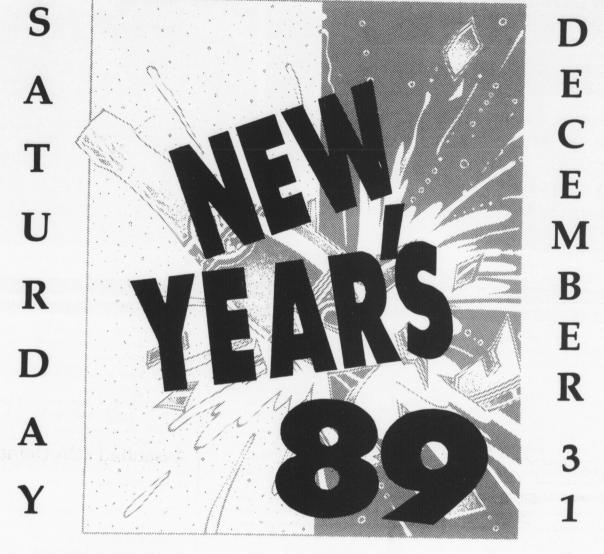








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## **Sylvester**

(Continued from page 1)

of how one of his songs became so important in their lives. It came through - joy, hope, love, fun, it all came through in his music.'

McKenna, who has directed most of Sylvester's professional career, also commented, "I've

just one person in my lifetime, it would be Sylvester." Also sitting in the packed church was Tip Wirrick. He had collaborated on most of the records featuring Sylvester. It was Tip Wirrick who, with Sylvester, wrote "You Make Me Feel Mighty Real" and "Dance (Disco Heat)."

said it before: If I had to know

It was Wirrick who was with him in every recording studio or live performance.

Sitting next to Tip Wirrick was Marty Blecman. Blecman was a disc jockey at '70s disco dance palaces like the City and Alfie's when he first began to know Sylvester. Blecman went on to produce some of his greatest records and, with the late Patrick Cowley, founded Megatone Records.

There were many in the church who were a part of Sylvester's remarkable career, such as Fuqua, his producer at Fantasy Records,

and Eric Nielsen, one of those responsible for making the Opera House concert a reality.

And there were his fans. Some gay, others straight, together they participated in a Pentecostal service that was remarkable for its absence of being judgmental. Rev. Hawkins strongly declared, "Tragedy is not a punishment from God." To rousing applause, he made clear to all that "AIDS is not God's punishment."

During the final moments, the lid on the casket was opened. Lying in a red kimono, Sylvester was being seen for the last time. Sitting nearby as the hundreds filed by was Letha Hurd. Hurd was Sylvester's mother, and she had been praised through the entire evening for her concern, not only for her son, but for his many friends.

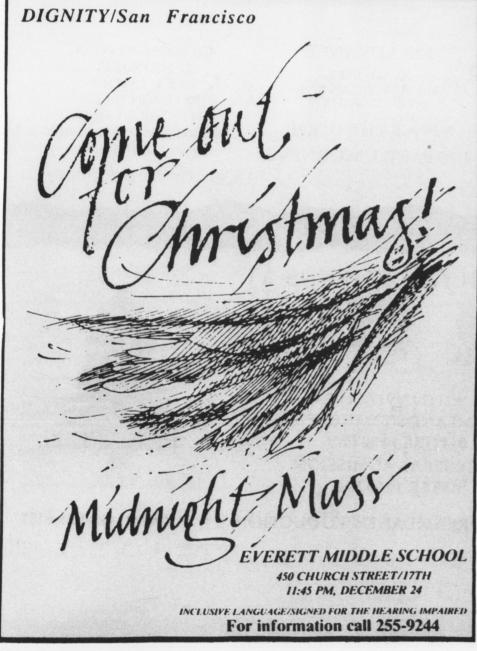
The primarily black congrega-tion was joined by members of ACT UP/San Francisco, the reigning queens from the Tenderloin, porn stars, and entertainers perience. They came to remember and to honor an entertainment

legend and a truly historical person in the gay rights movement. Sylvester and Sup. Harvey

Milk are possibly the two most recognized figures to emerge from the gay movement that had its foundations in San Francisco and particularly in the Castro. Sylvester had always been completely open and straightforward about his sexuality and had become an unofficial ambassador for the gay community around the world.

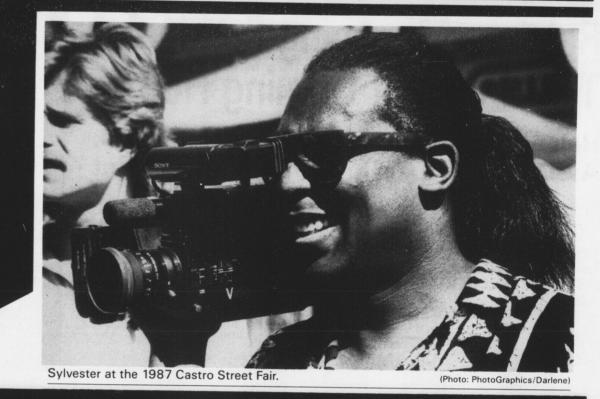
His views on bigotry in a community dealing with prejudice and unity were well known. The singer lost one of his major recording offers because of his refusal to hide the fact that he was gay. He once stopped a concert when he learned there was a racist door policy.

The entertainer has given many performances for San Francisco's gay community. Last year he gave a fundraising benefit for Harry Britt in his run for Confrom the full gamut of the gay ex- gress. He appeared at the San Francisco Band Foundation's annual "You and the Night and



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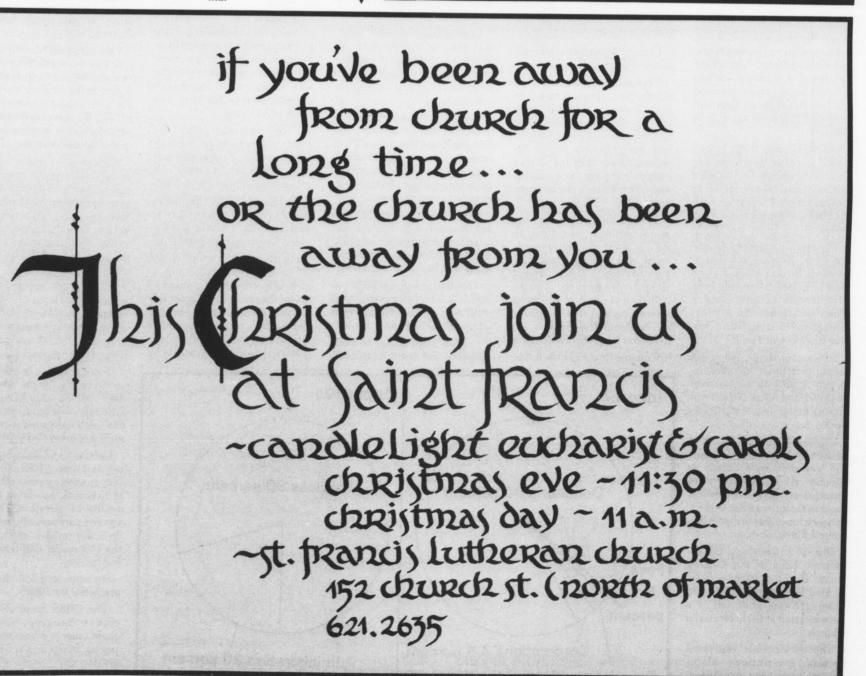
the Music' presentations at the Fairmont Hotel. For the last several years, he appeared at AIDS fundraisers across the United States, Europe, and in Australia.

One of his last performances in San Francisco was in September for the Gay Softball World Series dance. The night before, his lover, Rick Kramner, had died. The same weekend, he performed for a birthday party in his honor at the I-Beam.

Sylvester was first admitted to the hospital last December. The reason given at the time was that he had infected sinuses. He had just returned to San Francisco from Philadelphia, where he had performed for an AIDS benefit. He would never perform again.

Sylvester was buried Wednesday, Dec. 21, in Inglewood Park Cemetery in Inglewood, California

Sylvester at the 1984 Democratic convention.



# **Raising, Managing Funds Are Two Goals of Coming Home**

## Helped to Establish and Maintain Hospice; **Assists Individuals in Money Management**

### by Jay Newquist

The Coming Home Organization is unlike other AIDS-related agencies because it operates behind the scenes. Coming Home has been excluded from the limelight at the front lines of the epidemic even though it is and always has been a lead player.



### Coming Home Hospice.

The confusion is further compounded in the public eye since Coming Home was founded in 1981 before the advent of AIDS, and it only entered the field of direct services when Coming Home Support Services was created in 1988

Coming Home is also quite easily confused with the Coming Home Hospice, which it is not, but helped build. Coming Home and Visiting Nurses Association and Hospice of San Francisco (VN&H) helped create the fund and first AIDS Home Care and Hospice Program in the U.S. in 1984

In 1985 Coming Home helped VN&H and Most Holy Redeemer Church establish California's first residential hospice facility to provide services to persons with AIDS/ARC and other terminal illnesses

The facility was named Coming Home Hospice in honor of Coming Home, which helped raise \$750,000 in four months in 1985 for the hospice. Coming Home continues its support through the Coming Home Hospice Endowment Fund.

So Coming Home, the power behind a few thrones, existed until July 1988 with no staff, no overhead, and where 100 percent of every dollar went to client ser-

1. ng

Coming Home has a succinct mission to assure that lesbians and gay men have access to essential and sensitive health and financial services at those critical times in their lives when they experience losses due to aging, lifelimited illness or death.

Donald J. Castalano, the unsalaried head of the Coming Home board of directors, recreated the stage in 1980 when Coming Home arose out of a town meeting at Glide Memorial Church.

The participants expressed certain frustrations about mainstream care providers, specifically that lovers of patients

BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988 PAGE 18

were not included in health care decisions, could not go into intensive care units, and who had no rights at their spouse's death.

Coming Home agreed in 1983 to provide in-service education for the staff of Hospice of San Francisco about gay and lesbian issues as well as perform outreach and recruitment of gay and esbian volunteers and staff.

Coming Home also achieved a policy change at Hospice.

"It was the rule that only people who have a primary caregiver

in the home could have Hospice service," Catalano recalled. "You had to have a spouse or lover who was pretty much there. We argued successfully that it may exclude many gays and lesbians who may not have a primary partner

Today Coming Home has two main adjuncts: the Coming Home Hospice Endowment Fund; and Coming Home Support Services (CHSS). Coming me rents a small space on the 20th floor of One Sansome Street where Catalano said they made an excellent deal h tower was relatively unoccupied.

Coming Home has itself rais-

.5

(Photo: Steve Savag

ed \$115,000 since April 1987 for the Fund. The interest from the principal is used to pay for patient care at Coming Home Hospice and other operating expenses. Coming Home raises about \$4,000 a month for Coming Home Hospice, which itself operates at a deficite per month f from \$6,000 to \$7,000.

Coming Home receives no federal, state or city funding. All money is raised by its 14-member board, who, like David Jonson, program director, are all unpaid lunteers.

According to Coming Home's Treasurer Bruce Hansen, the Coming Home Endowment Fund receives 93 percent of its funding from individuals; four percent from foundations; and three percent from corporations.

The second phalanx of Coming Home is CHSS which has been in operation since July 1988 and serves residents of San Francisco and San Mateo Counties.

Its budget for 1988 was \$37,500. The figure will leap to \$107,375 in 1989. CHSS raises about \$3,000 a month

"I feel there should be a mix of public and institutional fundComing Home Support Services' David Janson and Don Cat-

alano (Photo: Steve Savage)

### **Coming Home Support Services** Budget:..... 1988, \$37,500; 1989, \$107.375 Staff: ..... None paid. Clients:..... 1988, 15; 1989, 120 Volunteers:..... 2 full-time; 20 part-time. Foundations:.....5 percent Corporations:.....4.5 percent Fees:.....5 percent Services: Financial management (banking, insurance claims, bill paying, budgeting and tax preparation) for people with AIDS, ARC, other limiting conditions and/or advanced age.

ing," Catalano said. "It certainly calls on all the gay and lesbian community's creativity to keep up with fundraising activity events that will spark interest.

"I will say that the Coming Home Hospice capital campaign where you actually have a physical building seems to make a tremendous difference in terms of success of a fundraising activity. Programs like Coming Home Support Services where services are provided are not as popular with donors when there isn't something tangible they can point to," he said.

"It's a little more difficult for newer programs to get funding. My impression is the community isn't tapped out, but there's increased competition for income."

To this end CHSS has distributed some 5,000 brochures to announce its existance and services, and despite its present infancy the caseload is expected to increase dramatically.

CHSS receives 90 percent of percent in fees. CHSS is supported virtually in its entirety by

the gay and lesbian community. About 80 percent goes into direct client services and the remaining 20 percent for administration

"The gay and lesbian community is maybe more circumspect about giving over money until there is an adequate accountability about those funds," Catalano said.

"We want people to come in to look how we're handling it, and we make the same argument with regard to the relationship of the gay and lesbian community to PPMC. We think we should be a part of a look at how funds come in and how they're spent."

Catalano, a licensed clinical social worker and gerontologist, said his personal push in the last year was toward joint planning with the city's aging services network to show that it makes sense to have some integrated services for people with AIDS as well as older people

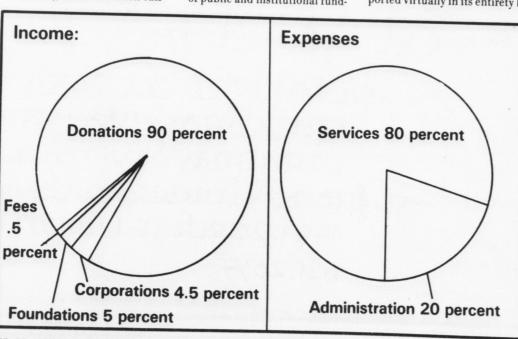
"There are some definite similarities. I want to avoid the etition between AIDS and aging. If we do some good planning now, I think we can maximize these resources."

Coming Home Support Services assists people who have AIDS, ARC or other limiting conditions (and/or advanced age) to deal with daily money management and other financial affairs.

Catalano and Jonson are the two full-time CHSS volunteers who presently go into the homes of 15 clients thus far in the first months of operation. There are also five part-time volunteers who do intake and data entry, leaving the 14-member CHSS board for fundraising.

An estimated 120 clients are predicted for 1989.

The CHSS menu of help includes banking, insurance claims, money management, bill paying, budgeting and tax preparation for people who have AIDS. (Continued on page 20)



The receipt of cash donations and corporate grants amount to 37 percent of total 1988 income. Resources has about 300 clients each week. "They pick what they want so nothing goes to waste," said Bill Baker, the agen-

funding.

enterprise.

its funding from individuals; five percent from foundations; 4.5 percent from corporations; and .5

# **Resources Offers Food Bank**, **Other Services in One Place**

## Clothing Bank, Video Library Made Available; **Volunteer Staff Serves 300 and More Clients**

### by Jay Newquist

A grocery shopping bag holds the key to Resources, a food depot behind the sedate window curtains at 597 Hayes. People with AIDS or ARC can collect one sack of food per week. The shelves that fill up and empty, like the tides, hold pastries, bread, canned soups, coffee, sugar, mayonnaise, toilet paper, and, thanks to a tobacco company, packs of cigarettes.



Sorting donations.

Resources is not only a food bank, but the agency also houses a clothing closet (for men's, women's and children's attire), a video and reading library, and housing referrals.

"We decided to put this organization together by keeping track of the idea that people with AIDS and ARC don't have a lot of energy, so we put five services under one roof," explained Resources controller Keith Ray.

About 68 percent of Resources income is channeled into direct services, principally to buy food (\$31,770 spent in 1988), while 32 percent goes for rent, telephone, insurance and utilities.

Ray said Resources purchased food generally only when they were really running short, adding that 63 percent of their income comes from fundraising by bowling and softball challenges, rummages sales, raffles, special events and liquor or beer sales.

cy administrator. He added that Resources neither wants nor receives any federal, state or city

"We don't want it because they tell you how to spend it, what area you have to spend it on, and if we did get funding we couldn't give away things like cigarettes."

Resources opened its doors in late November 1987, and they have apparently survived the first tenuous year of existence, that important benchmark of any

"Many food donors have come through in the past few weeks and we're at the point where we have to find a warehouse to store it all," Baker said.

He expects the number of clients to double to 600 (at four visits a month) in 1989 when the budget is pegged at \$106,050. It is expected to climb to \$134,900 in 1990.

Resources has five full-time and 20 part-time volunteers-but no one receives a salary. "We felt this was something we wanted to do," said Bill Kane, the agency director.

"We never know who's going to be next (to get AIDS). It may be one of us."

Resources plans a mass mailing for Christmas, which is its principal appeal for support during the entire year. The contributions that are hoped to flow are expected to be 20 percent cash and 80 percent food and clothing.

A mass mailing was done last April with desultory results. 'The failure could have had something to do with not working it right, maybe we weren't professional enough," Kane said.

"None of us has training in running a social service agency. At this time of year I see a feed-

(Photo: Steve Savage

back from April that people have decided to contribute now."

A client must have AIDS or ARC and have less than \$700 a month in income per month to use Resources. "There are a few exceptions to that rule," Kane said, "if someone can show us that they have bills and they are paying those bills."

Keith Ray said Resources tried to keep well-balanced nutritional foods on the shelves, while offering something extra. "We try to purchase things like laundry soap, razor blades and toothpaste, things that clients can't buy if they have food stamps."

Some 60 percent of their clients are gay men. The remaining 40 percent that are straight include men (12 percent), women (25 percent) and children (3 per-

is increasing rapidly, estimating that 80 percent of the new clients in the last two months were straight, many who had just been released from prison or were being treated at methadone clinics.



The Resource Center staff.

(Photo: Steve Savage

### Resourcess

	Budget: 1988, \$74,400
	Staff: None paid.
I	Clients: 1988, 300 per week; 1989, 600 per week
I	Volunteers:
	Income: Raffles/Fundraisers:
	Services: Food Bank, clothing, video and reading library and housing referrals for people with AIDS or ARC.

Resources expects 25 new clients each week in 1989.

"It really hits you when you see a 2-year-old or 12-year-old with AIDS," Ray said. "It's difficult. It's bad enough when you see adults with it, but when you see a child it's even worse.'

Resources may have been confused with the S.F. AIDS Foundation's Food Bank, but the staff feels Resources is now well established as an entity of its

"People have asked us before why we're duplicating a service of the AIDS Foundation, but we maintain we don't," Ray said. 'We feel we're just an additional service, but not only do we have a food service, but we have the four additional services that people with AIDS or ARC can also

"We have food plus-it's one stop shopping.

"We're in a rather fortunate

position that we don't have to worry too much (about the future)," Ray said, "but then again it's happening too often that the rent is due and we need so many hundred dollars from each of us, and what it reminds us is we'd like to keep a full grocery store here

actual food on those shelves.'

"We can't be in all locations, and neither can the AIDS Foundation. If I'm sick and live on Potrero Hill, it's quite a trek to get here. If I'm not feeling fine, why should I have to travel way across town just to get services?

"We feel there should be more is around so that people don't have to travel far and they can get as many services as they possibly

Resources has not been negatively affected by a decline in community support with the backlash that impacted Shanti.

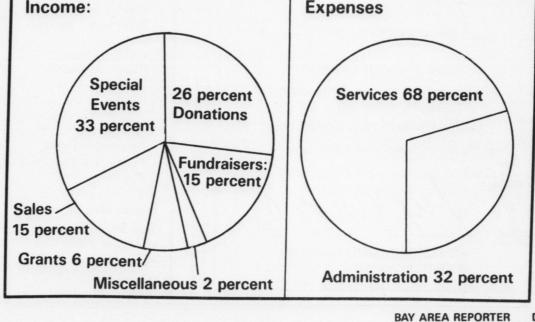
"I don't know, but the Shanti fallout may be helping us," Bill Baker said. "A lot of people don't want to donate to places that have a high overhead and staff salaries

"It's been stated to me by donors that they used to give to Shanti or the AIDS Foundation, but after they found out about the high salaries and all the negative things said, they decided to give to us because we are all volunteers and no one is on paid staff

"I hear this at least once a day from donors who come in."

Resources, like many AIDS or-(Continued on page 20)

DECEMBER 22, 1988 PAGE 19



The number of straight clients

"Our main problem is to keep

Bill Kane said there should be at least 10 more agencies exactly like Resources throughout San

Francisco.

can (in one place)."

## Quilt

(Continued from page 4)

He has been with the Names Project since its inception.

"He was one of those six people who sat on the floor in an empty warehouse, trying to get this thing going," said Smith. "He just about lived at the Names Project. He had probably more to do with getting this project off the ground than anybody in terms of blood, sweat, and tears."

Smith explained that Caster went over to London for World AIDS Day to display some panels and to talk with people who are beginning a British quilt project. He collapsed with streptococcus meningitis and is in the hospital in Britain. He is not doing very well.

"We hoped to have him home next week, but he is sick again, so he will not be home until after the holidays," said Smith.

The importance of Sylvester to those visiting the Quilt was clearly demonstrated following the announcement of his death. People began bringing flowers, and one person brought down a picture to be displayed. A 24-by-24-foot panel which is laid out for signatures was covered with messages honoring Sylvester.

### \*

Sunday evening the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus participated in the closing ceremonies. At the conclusion, all of the people still in the building joined hands and formed a huge circle on the floor of Moscone Center. After a moment of silence, there was the music of Sylvester. People then broke out into sustained applause. V

## 'Caller'

(Continued from page 2)

"As I watched, I wondered how many Americans still do not know a person with this disease," he said

He condemned the program for showing a person in San Francisco with AIDS who is left to die alone. "It would be a rare feat that [he] could be so isolated. Thousands of volunteers, gay and straight, young and old, serve people with AIDS throughout our city.'

He noted that "Safe sex is never mentioned. By anyone. Mutual responsibility is never addressed as an effective protection against contracting the virus. Instead, to further the dramatic interests of

### **Torch Song** (Continued from page 3)

an evening's entertainment meant going to see a fabulous drag show," she said. "It's about the human condition, and people growing up to find out who they are. It's the love and light at the end of the tunnel that keeps us all alive.'

Asked as to how middle America would take his film, Fierstein

Resources

(Continued from page 19) ganizations, has conceived fanciful but effective ways to raise money and food-like the softball challenge that took in \$400 and 37 bags of groceries.

People had to present a bag of groceries or make a donation to get into the event. "We had a eam of ladies who had to wear heels running around the bases,

the show, an untruth is created that suggests that it is solely the responsibility of infected people to prevent the spread of the dis-

Palermino said, "I was horrified to see even a 'villain' like Michael being thrown across the room by an angry Jack [the show's lead character], who is taking the law into his own hands. I am left wondering about the teenagers I often speak to on the subject of AIDS in San Francisco's high schools. What will they think about tonight's show?"

Friday, Dec. 9, before airing of the show, AIDS activists and gay community leaders met with representatives of KRON-TV. Station manager Amy Combs suggested that these activists save their complaints for a conference of NBC station managers next spring.

loving than most of the media thinks. Small town America doesn't have as much of a problem with gayness as the media

Asked as to how autobiographical and true-to-life the script was, he clowned, "All the characters are real, but I changed their names to protect the imbeciles." He denied the concept that

Many in the crowd began almost immediately to consider the plans for a welcome.

Prior to the show, ACT UP/S.F. had taken a position opposing the airing of the show. Mobilization Against AIDS said they wanted the show aired so that people could see how bad it was. The San Francisco AIDS Foundation stated the station would have to live with the negative response the show would generate.

All three organizations had worked with the producrs in an attempt to gain changes. None were pleased with the final product.

The marks of the protest remained for hours after the action. Those driving down Van Ness were able to read huge banners ridiculing the station's publicservice slogan. The signs read, "Is that what friends are for?" V

tive gay stereotypes. "Drag queens are not trying to be women. They are taking on the mystical powers of the opposite sex. It is a celebration of our difference, in my mind."

He wittily added, "I am never more butch than when I'm in a

The author/actor cringed at the idea of a future Touch Song II exclaiming, "I think I shall go on with my life."

straight people who bring us

"We are of the feeling that the gay community is tapped out on AIDS. I'm sorry, they can't afford to keep this or that charity going. Our whole pretense is to go to the straight community.

"Let's face it, we have a lot of straight clients. We have never believed AIDS to be a gay disease, but we feel the rest of the community at large needs to start paying for it, too. The straight population has perhaps been a ot more generous than the gay community. To them we're just another AIDS agency.

'We are hitting straight people by saying it can happen to you. We have this many women and this many straight men. We have to say this isn't a gay disease. People are starving, people are dying."

**Coming Home** 

(Continued from page 18)

These services are particulary valuable if clients don't live locally, or if they don't feel prepared to fully assume such financial and legal responsibilities.

"We discovered that a number of people with life-threatening illnesses were not paying their bills on a timely basis, were not depositing checks they might have received, and who were from a financial standpoint quite a mess," Hansen said.

"The people who went into their homes were walking into a situation where there were unopened bills."

Clients are referred to Coming Home Support Services from other care-giving agencies whose existing services aren't duplicated. The goal is to permit clients to maintain independence and control of their financial affairs.

"Our function is essentially banking, insurance claims and budgeting, but it can include durable powers of attorney, conservatorships and social security and state disability," Hansen

Clients pay a minimum hourly fee based on their ability to pay, but more than 70 percent were actually unable to pay anything. "We're consequently relying much more on fundraising and grant applications than ever before in order to continue what has become an expanded service to the community."

CHSS has some \$8,000 to \$9,000 in the bank, not a princely figure, but Hansen and Catalano each rebuff a question asking if the five-month enterprise is in peril or even broke.

Hansen reported that of 11 recently written grant proposals two were granted, four were declined, and five were pending.

Many of the smaller AIDS organizations enter the future on no more than a wing and a prayer, and Coming Home appears able to spread a few loaves and fishes among the multitudes.

### **In Memory of Friends**

in Memory of Friend	9
Income	\$50,113.00
Corporate Sponsors	21,500.00
Individual Sponsors	14,900.00
General Donations	895.00
Program Ad Sales	2,030.00
Ticket Sales	10,788.00
Expenses	
Sponsors Party	926.00
Palace of Fine Arts	2,037.50
Insurance	500.00
Union Stage Crew	3,373.21
Brochure/Invitation	674.86
Postage	964.87
Graphics	374.90
Display Advertising	64.00
Performers' Stipends	1,400.00
Set	2,254.83
Lighting/Sound	1,643.93
PR/Press Materials	114.59
Tickets	153.35
Posters	319.36
Window Display	200.00
Street Banner	319.50
Program Printing	508.75
Production Staff Stipends	500.00
Miscellaneous	1,676.23
Net Revenue	32.107.12
Outstanding Income*	2.470.00
Total funds presented to the S.F. AIDS Emerger on Dec. 2, 1988	nov Fund
*To be presented upon receipt to the S.F. AIL gency Fund.	S Emer-

BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988 PAGE 20

# drag queens only reinforce nega-

which was fun," Kane recalled.

A Resources client is also allowed to sign out videos that contain three movies on each tape.

Resources also frequently stages rummage sales in the parking lot of Church Street Station, which brought in \$10,000 in 1988.

The brunt of Resources support, according to Kane, comes from the straight, not the gay community. "We were very shocked by the amount of

Christmas Day & New Year's Eve
appetizer
A Pate Assortment
pork terrine, duck liver mousse, hazlenut pate
soup
consomme with herbs and dumplings

or salad

mixed greens with a lemon tarragon vinaigrette

Filet of Beef with horseradish sauce and potato strudel

> Grilled Salmon with saffron-almond butter

Roast Rack of Lamb with sauce creolaise and roasted red potatoes

Grilled Marinated Squab white and wild rice and spiced pears

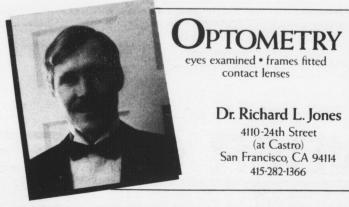
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BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988 PAGE 22

# 'Have a Mary Christmas' **School Kids Send Good Wishes to PWAs**

### by Mary Richards

Snowmen with carrot noses and sticks for arms brave the cold; airborne creatures of indeterminate origin float on snowflakes; and celestial spirits with pixie wings hover hopefully in the sky as the hero of the season -none other than Mr. Claus himself-gleefully goes about the business of giving.

The images are portrayed on cards by elementary school children, and they are unique in the free expression of their design. But their message is the same: to bring the warmth, love, and joy of Christmas into the lives of people with AIDS.

Once again, as they did last vear, the children of San Francisco have sketched and scribbled to forward words of hope to a young man in the city who will distribute them to AIDS patients in local hospitals.

In 1987 Robert Meslinsky decided to do something which would show "that one person can make a difference." He wrote down the priorities for his project and came up with some basic guidelines.

"The first thing," he said, "is that I wanted it to be something that I could orchestrate on my own that wouldn't have to involve anyone else. I wanted it to be something where I wouldn't have to be on the phone, since I'm not a phone person, particularly. And I wanted it to be something for people with AIDS that they could just receive without any obliga-

He thought about having children write love letters to AIDS patients or perhaps a Valentine, but that didn't sound quite right. It was then, he declared, that 'out of the blue I thought of Christmas cards, and it seemed perfect.'

"I wrote a draft letter 'to children of all ages,' and it remained pretty much intact as the letter I sent out. I went to the telephone book and looked up elementary schools, and there were maybe 75 or 80 of them. Then I went to the post office and got all the zipcodes, because I wanted to be sure they got there. I also went to gay sources like the Gay Book and got addresses for parents' groups

Last year Robert sent out 115 letters to schools in the Bay Area. He received responses from ten schools and was able to distribute 375 Christmas cards.

It was the first time he had ever attempted such a project. "I was kind of shy about it last year," he recalled, "and this year I thought, 'I'm going to take a deep breath, and I'm going to go all-out." "He sent his letter of introduction to the schools and also mailed to local TV and radio stations a press release and poster depicting last year's cards.

The cards will be delivered by Robert on Dec. 23 to San Francisco General Hospital, Coming Home Hospice on Diamond Street, and the in-home hospice on Duboce and Church.

A videotape was made showing all the cards sent last year, and their art and the poetry of their words is touching, honest, and often funny. A large lady with a big, bright red lips and long eyelashes says, "I don't want you to be in the hospital!"



Robert Meslinsky with the Christmas cards for PWAs.

As one might suspect, misspellings abound, and the true intent of the message has to be investigated a bit closer: "Dear friend, hope you do better in the housepillow and have a mary Christmas. Ho ho ho Marry Christmas."

A delicious-looking fried egg peeks up from one card with some good advice: "Keep your unny side up!"

The cards come in all colors, shapes, and sizes. Last year one teacher sent 20 teabags along with the cards from her 20 pupils. Robert received instructions to attach a teabag to each card, which contained the message: 'Find yourself a quiet moment and make yourself a cup of tea. Let the season warm your spirit. Let the silence give you peace. Let the doors of your heart be open, and let Christmas enter in."

Robert hopes that 1988 will be the last time he will have to reach out to the children of San Francisco for people with AIDS. "I told myself this will be the last year," he stated. "To me, it's my affirmation that AIDS is going to be healed before next Christmas, so this is my last year."

He believes that making the cards allows children to learn about AIDS. "Some of them are perhaps kept from that," he said. In this way, he feels "they can keep their nonjudgment, their their humor about AIDS. They arms to you?"

### **CUAV** Project Wins State Funds

At the urging of San Francisco Assemblyman John Burton and Executive Director Beverly Mesch of the Community United Against Violence, the California Council of Criminal Justice has granted final approval of \$31,175 to help fund CUAV's Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project.

The project is the first of its kind not only in the state, but in the nation. It is hoped that it will serve as a model for the nation in dealing with this urgent and largely ignored problem.

may even go home and teach their parents a thing or two, and I think that's a lovely thought."

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene

When all the cards are received. Robert sits down and sorts them out. Then they are packaged together with a bright red or green ribbon so that each patient receives four or five messages. Last year his friend Roger assisted Robert in delivering the Christmas cards. In April Roger died of AIDS, and now Phil, Robert's lover, will take over the job of surrogate Santa.

Robert began to weep as he remembered the joy Roger experienced by being a part of the project. Then he recovered and quietly described what the children's cards mean to him.

"I want to let everyone know that they're not forgotten," he said, "and I think the children's cards are a great way of expressing that

Talking about people with AIDS, he feels that "their families don't want to know, and their friends sometimes don't want to know, and they lose their apartment, and they don't have food. And when they can open the door or look up from their bed and see these children's cards and know that someone cares, I think that' a real special moment, especially during the holiday season.

"What greater expression of compassion, and in many cases love than having kids open their

> In support of funding this project, Assemblyman Burton stated, "Domestic violence is a serious social problem which has affected various strata of our society, and has resulted in severe emotional as well as physical trauma in gay relationships, occasionally even death. Traditionally, the stigma attached to gay relationships in the first place has served to dissuade victims from seeking assistance. Untold misery and guilt have been the result."

Anyone wishing further information about the Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project should contact Randy Schell of CUAV at 864-3112.

# An 'X'-mas Carol **Ghosts of Past, Present, Future** Pay a Visit to Mr. Screwge

by Dennis McMillan

able viewers were deprived of seeing a recent gay adult male Christmas special on Channel 69 due to severe wind cutting off transmission power. But the station has thoughtfully provided a synopsis of its script, "A Dickens of a Gay Christmas Carol," starring Richard Locke, Al Parker, Jeff Stryker, and a cast of "old" William Higgins stars.

Scene one opens in a Castro hair salon where miserly ol' Bunsqueezer Screwge is complaining to his employee, hairburner Bob Crotchit, for not booking appointments on Christmas Day. "But Mr. Screwge, on Christmas Eve I have 12 perms, 16 cellophanes, 20 cuts, and a nipple piercing. Doesn't that more than make up for Christmas Day?" asked Crotchit.

"Besides, I want to spend some quality holiday time with my lover, Tiny Tim."

"Bah, humjob," says Screwge. "Holidays are just like any other time, except we can charge extra for those special dos all the queens will simply have to have for their chichi parties."

But the stingy old salon owner relents at last, giving Crotchit the next day off. Screwge refuses an invitation, however, to join Crotchit and Tiny the following day at their modest flat in Baja Pacific Heights for holiday cheer and a four-way.

Later that day while Screwge is diluting the peroxide solutions for the fifth time in an effort to save expenses, he suddenly sees an image in the mirror of his former deceased business partner, Gnarly.

Says Gnarly, "Okay, so like, Screwge, you are totally boofoo, dude, and if you don't cool it, you'll end up like I did, when I dropped dead trying to schedule too many cuts and highlights at once. I mean, man, when I went to meet my Maker my daytimer was packed with appointments but my book of good deeds was like zip, nada, zero. And now I am forced to wear these really tacky chains, okay, and they're not even gold filled. I am just sure!"

Screwge falls to the floor in fear. "What am I to do to avoid ending up a brainless, faggy phantom like you, Gnarly?'

'Okay, so like you'll be visited by three ghosts tonight, right? Can you, like, get behind that? Totally awesome.'

And with those last valley boy words, he disappears in a cloud of stale Chanel #5.

Later that evening the gay ghost of Christmas past visits Screwge and shows how happy he was as a child, hanging up fishnet

The 13,000 members of the

National Gay & Lesbian Task

Force (NGLTF) elected eight per-

sons to its 24-member national

board of directors. NGLTF is the

only national gay/lesbian organ-

ization whose board is elected by

its membership, and is bound by

its by-laws to reflect gender pari-

ty, geographic diversity and at least 20 percent representation

**NGLTF Elects New Board Members** 

by people of color.

(Atlanta, GA).

stockings on the mantle with care in hopes that Daddy Claus would soon be there filling them with lots of toys and lube and kiddie porn magazines.

"I was such a a happy little Daddy's boy, then," he laments. And the X-rated Xmas past ghost vanishes in a slick of Crisco.

Then the gay ghost of Christmas present gives a vision to Screwge of Crotchit and Tiny Tim calling 976-SLUT and finding a third for their holiday orgy-a gorgeous GQ hunk of a guy.

"I could have come to their party and met that stud," he whines, as the ghost takes off leaving the faint sound of a busy signal behind.

The gay ghost of Christmas future appears and shows Screwge desperately filling out personal ads. "Mature, hot top with swimmer's build seeks ripe, young flesh for another in a series of empty, meaningless affairs," he writes, as he shrieks in

Looking in the mirror Screwge sees his reflection-as far as the mature part is concerned, he is wrinkled and aged to the point where total immersion in Oil of Olay and Porcelana Liver-spot cream couldn't help.

"What can I do to avoid becoming such a pathetic loser?" he begs.

Unfortunately the gay ghost of Christmas future is extremely shallow and superficial. He suggests, "Join a gym, moisturize, get a hair weave, have your colors done, do liposuction, buy a Mercedes, get your hair salon interior redecorated, go for track lighting, aluminum Levolors, Italian leather furniture ... ?

Suddenly Screwge awakens, realizing it was all a nightmare.

"It's not too late," he exclaims. Grabbing his charge cards he dashes off to Nordstrom's, Nieman's, Wilkes, and Mr. Ell's House of Leather and Toys. "Wrap it up and charge it," he shouts gleefully to all the sales clerks.

The final scene shows Screwge at the home of Crotchit and Tiny Tim, lavishing them with pres-

The newly elected board mem-

bers are all seasoned activists

from six different states. They are

Susan Allee (New York City),

Elizabeth Birch (San Francisco);

John D'Emilio (Greensboro, NC);

Abby Rubenfeld (Nashville,

TN);Robert Flores Saenz (New

York City); and Cathy Woolard

"And the best gift of all," he says, "is that I'm paying for that

badly needed operation for Tim. I'm sending him to the finest sexual cosmetic surgeon for implants and extenders. He won't be tiny anymore!"

-

"Bless us all," screams Crotchit, ripping off their clothes and promising them a Christmas goose they'll never forget.

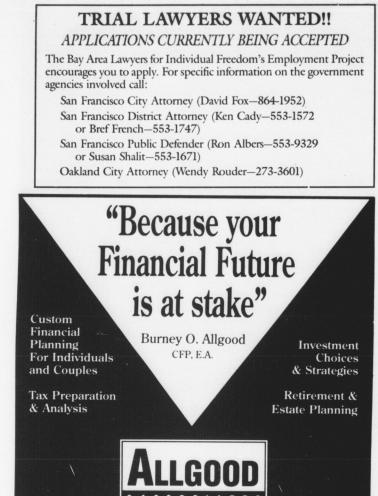
And be sure to watch these same stations for Falcon-Pak's hot, new, Xmas special-"T'was the Hot and Horny Night before Christmas.'



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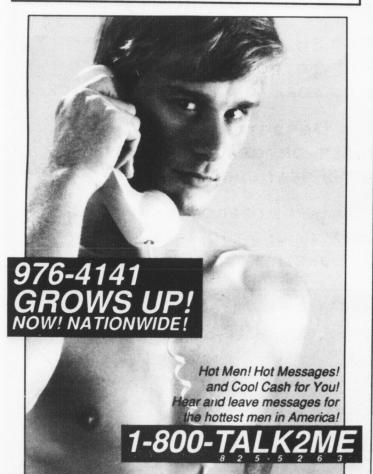
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at 11:00 pm

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BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988 PAGE 24

# **Prophet or Dreamer?**

## Interview: Philosopher/Politician David Scondras

by Rex Wockner

penly gay Boston City Councillor David Scondras is no ordinary interview subject. Whatever the opposite of "pulling teeth" is, that's how the interview feels. Each question gets his full attention and a 15-minute, seriously considered response.

Critics have suggested Scondras sometimes gets lost in the clouds. Maybe it just seems that way because most of our politicians are overly down-to-earth. Scondras is a bit of a philosopher, but not in a way that's going to go over anyone's head.

Unlike most of the 26 openly gay and lesbian elected officials n the U.S., Scondras has carved out for himself a national reputation. As much as anything, it is the tone and style of his public remarks that have gotten him noticed.

Rex Wockner: Most openly gay local politicians don't have the national name recognition that you do. What got you there?

David Scondras: I think everyone has different styles, and events lead them in different directions. From the beginning -long before gay and lesbian issues surfaced in my life-there were issues around arson that got me on national TV.

I think, though, that you can't be a good local leader in the long run unless you are working on a state and national level, too. So I don't just deal with finding an elderly person a place to live. I also go to Washington to pressure the federal government for an adequate supply of housing for the elderly. You have to go to Washington and tell people there that they are misspending your constituents' tax dollars.

It also seemed natural for me to go to Washington and work on AIDS funding and natural for me to get arrested at the White House-not only because of my outrage at the insensitivity toward human beings and their needs, but also at the pissing away of our very hard-earned tax dollars in such irrational ways.

People don't realize how little life is divisible into local, state, federal, and international. Life is one thing, and I would feel remiss if I didn't take the time-besides working on local issues-to say to the federal government that it is causing my constituents to suffer. I have a philosophy of government that, when they're using my money, they can't tell me to mind my own business.

Now in many ways, the gay and lesbian community has within it all the elements of the dream of America-the idea of a place where people who are very different see each other as a family who are willing to fight for each other and willing to say that life is a celebration and willing to remove the obstacles to enjoying this extraordinary place and this extraordinary thing called being alive.

The gay community is male and female, black and white, Hispanic, Jewish, bisexual. It has an extraordinary diversity. It's the only community that contains within it every other community and every other community's issues. We have the potential of dealing with issues like racism and sexism in an effective way because we have to. If we're anti-Semitic, we lose our Jewish constituents. If we're racist, we lose people of color.

So the gay and lesbian comnunity has an opportunity to do something America has not



Boston City Councillor David Scondras.

achieved yet - which is to create a family that is multi-linguistic, multi-religious, and multi-colored. We can provide a model and a seed. We can be the catalyst for the dream that we talk about. It's much bigger than we think. It's not just about gay rights.

The gay and lesbian community has the chance to provide the leadership that this society has needed for a very long time-to provide a vision of America that has always been promised, but never actualized. We're the last best hope.

If we do not succeed, then my prediction is that America will not succeed either. It'll be down the tubes, because, in the last analysis, the only hope for society -for saving the whales, for saving the fish so the children can go fishing again, for dealing with the planet's ecological imbalance, for dealing with world population, nuclear holocaust-the only chance for any of those things really happening is from people who are not invested in maintaining the rituals, behavior, and direction of the past.

Well, who's not invested? There's only one significant set of people left-the ones who have been historically left out.

Now maybe the initial impetus is "We want into what you've got; we want a piece of the pie," but the point is that none of those

tary-industrial complex because they don't benefit from it. Gay and lesbian people don't really feel at home here because we're not at home here. We're hated, no matter how much we try to kid ourselves and surround ourselves with a gilded ghetto. We know in our heart of hearts that there's a possibility of Dachau for us, too.

What I'm getting at is that there's a real chance to say, "We want a new society." And where does it come from? From the gay people who never vote, the black people who are disenchanted, the Chinese and Laotians and Cambodians who feel left out. Sure. maybe what they initially want is to join, but I guarantee you that -with the appropriate leadership-they will lead instead of

So to get back to your question: The city of Boston is a place where a lot of people live who have dreams that go beyond the city of Boston. The struggle and ideas of those people should echo across the country. That's what I try to do.

RW: I've written in opinion columns that the experience of being gay in this society gifts us with a radical vision, and I've complained about those who ignore this gift. On a practical level, the majority of gay people are (Continued on next page)

(Photo: B. Krame people are married to the mili-



David Scondras with Mayor Ray Flynn in 1984.

### Scondras (Continued from previous page)

passing, day in and day out, as heterosexuals. How do we include these people in your dream?

DS: Too many of us are concerned about converting people to our religion-whatever that religion is. We don't need to do that. What we need to do is offer people love and caring in concrete ways. Love and caring for a lot of closeted people amounts to nothing more than a gay and lesbian book store or a day that a lot of gay people are going to be on TV-a constant reassurance that

they are not alone.

You will notice that, every year, our coming out day-gay pride -gets bigger. There are objectively more people. Whatever we did between 1950 and 1980 effectively caused hundreds of thousands of people to come out of the closet. We have succeeded in getting millions of people to be

less closeted than they were. Now what is it that we did? We did some very specific things. What we did mostly was stick up for ourselves in very small ways. I assure you that dancing with whoever you want to dance with, wherever you want to dance, and allowing people to have to deal with the fact that they're watching gay people dance will bring more people out of the closet than you can imagine.

Having a gay rights march through a city creates a compelling kind of urgency in the minds and hearts of people who are gay and lesbian across the city. They want to be there. One day, finally, someone says, "I'm gonna march for myself." You have to remember that coming out is not for the movement-although it happens to succeed in being politically powerful-it's for ourselves.

Let's look at this very concretely. A person has got to come out for themself first or they can't even look for a partner. Obviously they have to come out to somebody else or they'll never have sex. Nature has already deemed that, on some level, people are going to have to acknowledge who they are or they can't get a goodie.

I have no question that people are pushed in that direction. I do not support the notion of getting angry at people who are not out. None of us has ever done something because someone was piss-

Season s

Greetings

ed off at us. What does matter is for people to see that you feel good-to have hotlines, to have a gay radio program, to have literature.

The other piece of this puzzle is that if you look at the folks who are coming out, more and more of them are younger and younger. There are over 400 campus organizations across the country. So if one wants people to come out, rather than getting selfrighteous about it, why don't you give a donation to the gay and lesbian group at the college you went to?

The best way to help other people come out is to take action ourselves on our own behalf and acknowledge that there are already mechanisms in place that have been very successful. What they need is our money for the gay radio station, support and encouragement to the newspapers and bookstores.

RW: On a pragmatic, practical, nonphilosophical level, what do you see as accomplishable in the next five years?

DS: Maybe we could get a guarantee from the Democrats that there will not be an agenda that doesn't include a \$20 billion, NASA-style war against AIDS. Also, a commitment to sponsoring and supporting civil rights for gay men and lesbians.

The other thing we can do over the next five years is, state by state, get antidiscrimination laws for people with AIDS. We can win the provision of adequate resources to take care of people who have AIDS-related medical needs

Several states may go further and find an alternative to the FDA for intrastate utilization of drugs and drug therapies-competition between the federal gov ernment and state governments over the development of a cure to AIDS.

Other things that are accomplishable: We can teach our children to practice safer sex. We are going to pass a variety of local gay rights bills. In five years we should see four states with gay rights. That's achievable.

Instead of 26 openly gay and lesbian elected officials in the United States, we might be closer to 100. That's both wonderful and not-so-wonderful. The black caucus is upset that they only had 5,000 new officials in 1985. For a population that may be as high as

(Photo: Mitzel)

25 million people, we ought to have in the tens of thousands.

Speaking of categories: There will be more universities with some kind of gay studies. The first textbooks on gay and lesbian history and gay and lesbian sociology will be emerging over the next few years.

Some more states will repeal sodomy laws, and the Supreme Court will reverse itself on the Hardwicke decision within five years. That decision is truly offensive to most judges and is just bad law.

RW: There are some good things that are going to come from AIDS, too.

DS: There's the discovery of something very strong-that we all die sooner or later. We have the opportunity to understand now-because of the profound realization of our mortality, that

most people don't know aboutthat the only thing in life of any importance is that you live the life you have in freedom or fear.

Will you do what you need to do to celebrate what you have, or will you live frightened that you have to live up to someone else's definition? You see, most of us live our lives hoping that someday we'll have enough money, enough power, enough personal freedom to be able to do what we'd always dreamed we wanted to do. The real question you have when you approach deathwhether you're 20 or 80-is "How did you live?" Do you feel like you got cheated, or do you feel satisfied? Do you feel like you got fed, or are you still hungry?

The issue for us is to learn how to get fed-psychologically, materially, emotionally.



BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988 PAGE 25

### DWARKS

### **Jim Barley**

Jim passed away in Atlanta on Nov. 21. He left this world peacefully to join his beloved Kenneth Pleickhardt, who preceded him in

adventure in July. The everchanging

In October they arrived in Washington,

D.C. There they delivered the panel they

had created for Ken in time for the

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BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988 PAGE 26

scenery and Cheri's devoted care reliev

ed lim of most of his worries.



very thankful that the Names Project has provided such an extraordinary way to orialize our loved ones. Even as his illness progressed, Jim kept

his warm sense of humor and charm. He shamelessly continued to intercept every compliment uttered within 50 feet. His rness and consideration earned him the love of many friends.

display of the quilt on the Ellipse. Jim was

Jim worked in the business side of ospitals, first as a purchasing agent for Alameda County and then for UCSF. His last job was as the assistant project direc tor for the new Lucile Packard Children's Iospital at Stanford. Jim was a tireless advocate for the needs and comforts of the children who will use the hospital. Jim was very proud of his accomplishments. at Stanford and felt that they would endure for many years.

Jim wanted to thank the lesbian community for taking on this health crisis as

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Steve at 626-7858.

Financial Dis-He is survived by a family in Connec ticut and hundreds of friends in San

Francisco.

their own, as well as the many AIDS

organizations that extended his life for

the past year, particularly Shanti and Pro-

Jim requested that all his friends at-

tend a celebration of his life. Details will

be forthcoming. To make sure you are

contacted, please leave a message for

**Bernard Michael** 

Hollywood Community Hospital on Nov

22. He was 33. Bernard had been living

in L.A. for the

Bernard Michael passed away at

### **Thomas J. Altieri** July 26, 1939-Nov. 27, 1988

Our dear, sweet Tom died of AIDS comlications, with his lover by his side, on



nieces, nephews, cousins, and riends, all of whom loved him dearly. Memorial contributions may be made to Shanti

We take consolation, Tom, in knowing that you are now at peace, having a grand eunion with your dad in heaven. We can magine your big, beautiful, brown eyes pened wide with wonder as you see the eavenly version of the rainbows, hun mingbirds, and butterflies that delighted you here on Earth. Tom, you were an inspiration to us all as you read for the blind and volunteered for Shanti, continuing your work even after you became very ill yourself. You taught us that it is he simple things of God's creation that really matter.

Dearest Tom-my lover, my best friend, my buddy-thank you for the 81/2 won derful years we shared. You will always occupy a very beautiful place in my heart. So long, my little cuddlebumpkin. I miss you terribly and I love you so.

**John Daniel Manley** 



Lucille and caring friend and ommate Will Gallo, relinquishng him forever rom his long and hard-fought bat le with AIDS.

-Paul

Food For Thoughts," an AIDS food program for persons living in Sonoma County, is a small part of the legacy John leaves. The "Food For Thought" AIDS food bank, to be located n Guerneville, will be dedicated to John's

As John wishes, his ashes were taken o the ocean's edge at Goat Rock and scattered at sunset by his loving sister Susan, other Lucille, and dearest friends.

John is survived by his father John, other Lucille, sister Susan, and brothers Mike and Steve.

Donations in John's memory should be sent to: "Food For Thought," P.O. Box 1357, Guerneville, CA 95446.

We love you, John, and we shall carry

### **David Backstrom** Dec. 9, 1946-Nov. 30, 1988

David died in Amsterdam, Holland after a 11/2-year struggle with AIDS. Amsterdam became his chosen home, where he lived with his Dutch lover. Henk Budding, for the past two years.

Originally from the Michigan upper peninsula, David came to San Francisco by way of New York and Los Angeles in he late '60s. His background was in stage design and lighting. In San Francisco, he became the handyman at the Ambush and was largely responsible for the remodeling of the building and the creation of the Ambush look. David also curated the art shows at the Ambush for several

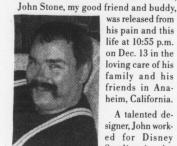
He moved to Amsterdam in the fall of 1986 to open a bar there with Tony Da Rosa, a former Ambush bartender. The Spijker opened in April 1987, and David was diagnosed shortly thereafter.

The normal bureaucratic problems faced by PWAs were complicated and nded for David by living abroad. He fought the disease and finessed his way through two government bureaucracies in his struggle to live the life he wanted, in the country he wanted to be in, with the man he had chosen to be his life part

Rest in peace, gentle friend. Your brav ery and irreverent sense of humor remain an inspiration to those of us still here struggling.

### John H. Stone

Jan. 22, 1952-Dec. 13, 1988 Diagnosed with AIDS-related abdom inal cancer less than two months earlier



riends in Ananeim. California. A talented deigner, John workd for Disney studios in the creation of Epcot Center in Florida Ultimately his special passions and independent spirit drew him to pursue his

nore personal visions. This led to the ormation of Dragongate Productions, which will be continued by his collabor ator, Michael Parda, and ventures into theatrical productions, playwriting, and acting in the last year. Through these adventures and over the years, John made numerous friends in San Francisco Los Angeles, and New York, and enlarged the lives of many with whom he communi

John was deeply touched by the outpouring of love and concern he received in his final months, all of which eased his suffering.

Those friends wishing to contribute to a Names Project Quilt panel in John's emory can call Lynn at 554-0514. Donations in his memory may be made to your favorite AIDS charity

**Robert E. Schneider** Oct. 25, 1946-Nov. 28, 1988

Robbie passed on to a higher existence on Monday, Nov. 28, while sleeping com-

fortably at home	e with his mate. He had
	been a valiant fighter of the
	AIDS virus for the past three
	years and sur- vived some infec-
	tions that amazed us all. Now we say
	goodbye to our little red-headed
	trooper.

Born in Columbus. Ohio, youngest of three, in a ng town, he stayed on the farm until he went away to college and seminary. He became a United Methodist minister and worked in the church for 14 years. Upon leaving the church, he came to San Francisco to express his freedom of sexuality. As "Madame of the House" of Animals, he found that expression.

Robbie is survived by his mother. brother and sister, and their families.

Robbie, we miss you terribly. Be at peace.

### **Robert E. Davenport**

Rob Davenport died at home in the windstorm of Dec. 15, cared for by family and friends. A member of the Phi Beta

Kappa Society. Rob earned a BA and Master of Architecture degree at Washington University in S Louis. His interest in filmmaking led him to coound Southside Films in St. Louis

after college. In 1975 Rob began an exciting, frightfrightening, ultimately healthy coming out process which brought him to San Francisco in December 1978. Rob was general manager and vice president of Super Sky West, Inc., a skylight manufacturing firm he established in 1983.

Rob celebrated his 5th year of sobriety in March 1988, remarking that it was the only consistent thing he'd done for five years in his whole life. He became an active Shanti volunteer/facilitator and left after several years for reasons which lead him to become an outspoken critic of its administration. He was a member of the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club. What can we say? Rob broke a number of hearts along the way, and they all came back to care for him Robbie, we love you.

A memorial Service is pending. Please call 552-7388 for information.

### **Donald Francis** Binder

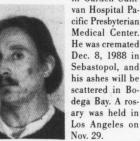
Nov. 9, 1927-Dec. 10, 1988 Don died at Coming Home Hospice after an 18-month struggle with AIDS. He was a young 61 years old. A memorial mass was held for him at the Newman Center in Berkeley on Dec. 13.

He was a sweet man who had struggled with alcoholism, bankruptcy, divorce, and estrangement from his family in the pro cess of coming out as a gay man, only to be cut down by AIDS. He died peaceful ly, surrounded by his family, which rallied around him in the end.

He served in the Marines at the end of World War II and was a former member of Dignity, Gay Fathers, and gay Front Runners. He is survived by his former wife, four children, mother, sisters brother, and volunteer caretakers. His spirit can be found in Yosemite Valley,

### Paolo Guido

Paolo Guido of San Francisco was born in Los Angeles on Dec. 7, 1940. He died of lymphoma at 9:10 a.m. on Nov. 16, 1988 in Garden Sulli



He is survived by his mother. Mrs Emma Kinder of Whittier, and three halfprothers: Michael of L.A.; Leonard (Lennie) of North Hollywood; and Christopher

Paolo became ill 15 months ago, but he was an avid runner and for a year ran a mile every day in San Francisco, which he so dearly loved for 26 years. He attended L.A. State, UCLA, Monterey Institute of Foreign Studies, San Francisco State and UC-Berkeley. He was a resident of one of the Shanti homes in S.F. He was a sculptor of lifesize wooden heads, made wooden furniture, and also was a painter. Two of his eight-foot paintings have been donated by his mother to the Shanti Project, 525 Howard St., where she was a

He loved and spoke fluent French, having worked for many months at a hospital n Surennes which is on the outskirts of Paris. He also had tremendous energy as shown by his more recent and intense in terest in studying and learning how to read and speak Russian and Greek. He often practiced playing on his mandolin and he was recently starting to learn Braille

The table set up at Shanti with the candle and beautiful fresh flowers by other Shanti volunteers and friends was a most touching memorial. He would have wish ed a huge thank you to everyone for everything done to help him, especially during the last three months. He dearly loved life and will be sorely missed. His goal in life was to be the universal man.

For more information, feel free to telephone 282-8142

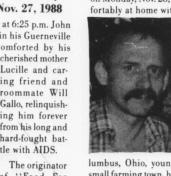
### C. Mark Delaney May 31, 1947-Dec. 17, 1988

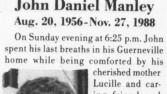
Mark Delaney, architect and resident of San Francisco, passed away on Dec. 17 at Pacific Presbyterian Hospital after a brief illness. He had lapsed into a coma a week earlier and died peacefully and painlessly without regaining con-

Mark was an intellectual man with a deep social conscience and strong desire to help those less fortunate than himself. Upon graduation from Boston University, he served as a Peace Corps volunteer

party!

cosmetologist.





At a time of grief, the care of a loved one should be placed in Pacific Interment Service

## DMANK

for three years in Dahomey, West Africa, where he taught English and agriculture.

As an architect, his dream was to design housing for the economically disadvantaged. His other interests included hiking with the Sierra Club, attending art exhibits, meeting with his literary club, speaking French, and country western dancing.

In addition to his friends in the Bay Area, he is survived by his parents, Henry and Frances Delaney of 90 Raymond St. Cambridge, MA; his sister, Lily Driver and her children, Gareth, Ellen, and Megan, also of Cambridge; and his brother, Sean Delaney, and his wife, Joanne, who reside in China.

His body will be creamated in San Francisco, and a memorial service will be conducted at St. Peter's Church in Cam bridge. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the American Cancer Society.

### Michael Stanzione, Jr. Aug. 31, 1934-Dec. 13, 1988

Our friend Mike Stanzione passed away at 6 p.m. on Dec. 13, 1988, at Letterman Army Medical Center.

> Mike is best remembered as o-owner of the Galleon Bar and Restaurant from 1982 through 1985.

Mike is survived by his brothers Joe and Charlie of Los Angeles, his mother Rose

sister Ida, and brother Nick of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida; also, his special friends Al, Dick, Hank, and Morie.

Services were held on Dec. 15, and interment was on Monday, Dec. 19, in the cemetery at the Presidio of San Francisco, with military honors.

The family has requested that any donations in his memory be made to the Godfather Service Fund or Coming Home Hospice.

Goodbye, dear friend. It was a great

### **Dennis C. Gale**

Apr. 25, 1951-Dec. 12, 1988 Dennis died gracefully and peaceful ly after midnight at the beginning of Dec.



ner of eigh ars, David, and udy, who had isted him in ansition int nt. Dennis had ght an inspir ttle again nce 1986 he midst o ainful illness.

In his spiritual triumph, Dennis always expressed deep gratitude for his friends in Alcoholics Anonymous, who loved him as actively as he loved them to the moment of his passing. Along his spiritual path, Dennis, with joy, chose to be received into the Episcopal Church by Bishop William Swing. Thanksgiving for his life was offered Dec. 17 in Grace Cathedral.

where his ashes have been placed. Born in Washington, D.C., Dennis grew rea, coming to San Francisco in 1969. His irrepressible and generous nature gave him a well-loved place in our gay community through the '70s. With David he moved to Sonoma County in 1982 and to Half Moon Bay in 1985, practicing his considerable skills as a

He asked me to say "Thank you!" to everyone, doctors, nurses and friends in

### San Francisco and Half Moon Bay. **Tracee Dunn** July 29, 1944 - Nov. 19, 1988

Our dear friend Tracee Dunn has died after struggling with AIDS for four months. She died peacefully on Nov. 19 at 10:20 p.m. at St. Luke's Hospital. She was very much a part of the Tenderloinits bars, people, and streets. From drag shows to helping a friend win an important title, she was the life of the party, enjoying good times, partying, and dress ing up like she was the Queen of England.

Tracee was full of life and always ready to lend a helping hand to her many friends, when needed. As she would say, she was the Dolly, and no one could compare. Tracee was very much loved and will be greatly missed by her dear friends and by her family in Colorado.

A special thanks to the tenth-floor nursing staff at St. Luke's for their support

and loving care on behalf of Tracee; and to Trent, a good friend and caregiver, who was with Tracee throughout her illnes The family has requested that donations in her memory be made to the Sar Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund.

Sis, we love you forever. -Trent, Don, Felito, and Flame

### James Allen Rideout, Jr.



gay erotic films under the name Kur Marshall, died in Los Angeles on Oct. 10 of kidney failure related to the abuse o cocaine. He was 22 years old. Rideout's films included Sizing Up, Splash Shots, and Night Flight II.

### Charles E. King

Feb. 20, 1956-Dec. 3, 1988 Charles passed from this life after onth-long battle with pneumocvs Charles was attended to by his friends

Charles. Services were held at Comisky Roche Abby F neral Home

Anyone wishing to make donation may do so to the AIDS charity of their choice. We will miss you, dear friend. Rest In Peace.

### John J. Sanchez

Aug. 21, 1935-Dec. 19, 1988 John died peacefully, after a two-year battle with KS, at his father's home, surrounded by family members.

John will be best remembered for his quick wit and generosity to those he A memorial service will be held in

John's honor in his hometown of Blue Island, Illinois. For more information, please contact

Rick at 861-9200.

### **Richard E. Vollan** Richard Eugene Vollan passed away or

Dec. 11, 1988 after a courageous battle with AIDS.

in in boi	
	He is survived
<b>A</b> .	by his mother
	Frances Vollar
	and sister Caro
6.2	Vollan of Sacra-
Constant States	mento and by his
Las	many friends.
	Rick was employ-
	ed by the Bank of
	America for the
	last ten years and
	was an active
A Case of the second	Shanti volunteer.
ank you, Michael,	Chuck, and Mark

for your special care. A memorial service will be held on Jan.

21, 1988, at Bethany United Methodist Church, 1268 Sanchez at 1 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Projec Open Hand.

## **Obituary Policy**

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

We must now restrict obits to 200 words. And please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste. Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

# Porn Stars Guest-to Talk-**On Phil Donahue TV Show**

## **Answer Questions From a Hostile Audience**

### by Rex Wockner

Phil Donahue refused to show clips from the films mentioned, but did spend an hour interviewing gay male porn stars on his Nov. 21 show. Al Parker, Tom Ross, Tim Kramer, Brian Adams, and Justin Cade fended off questions from Christians, homophobes, anti-porn crusaders, pro-gay liberals, amused valley girls, and appreciative capitalists.

"I figure that if I can keep them at home fantasizing about my films instead of going out and catching something else, I'm doing something good," Adams said.

Parker was the most articulate of the crew, insisting that the primary role of gay porn in the late '80s is a vehicle for safe sex messages. "What we are doing for our people is what the government would not do for us-showing in graphic ways what you can and cannot do to protect yourself." Parker said.

"In all my films, everything that we are doing is safe sex. It's a deadly serious business now. The only reason I am doing this is I had a lover of 14 years who died of AIDS two years ago."

Parker-who showed up at the October anniversary display of the Names Project quilt in Washington wearing a "Silence = Death" t-shirt-said he travels the country constantly, donating his time and money to AIDSrelated causes.

Porn star Justin Cade told Fox network viewers that he "felt a responsibility to contribute something to the gay society." Cadewho was once a born-again Christian rejected by the seminaryconsiders himself bisexual and thinks he'll be 'very happy' when he finds the right woman. But, he added, "If it's real love, it doesn't matter if its a man or woman.'

According to Parker, about 50



Al Parker (c.) at the 1988 Intl. Mr. Leather contest.

men work in the gay male porn industry at any given time. "It's a close, small family," he said, where everybody knows each other'

The group deflected numerous questions suggesting that porn stars are "airheads." Parkerwho admitted to fooling around with little boys after school as a child-finally retorted, "Look, it's not something we do exclusively. We do have jobs. We have brains. We think. Anybody who is driven to do this work has got to be an interesting person."

Many audience members wanted to discuss the stars' "decision" to be gay. Parker put the lid on those questions by

stating, "Women have attraction to other women, men have attraction to other men, the difference is that we are willing to express

Donahue seemed amusedly supportive of the men's chosen professions, reminding audience members that "in the age of AIDS, you've got a lot of people saying, 'I'm going home with my

Tim Kramer had the final word on gays and AIDS, insisting that f the disease "had started in the black or Mexican community, we wouldn't be as far along as we are today. We are where we are," he said, "because it started in the gay community.'

## Give something priceless to someone with AIDS...

## Yourself.

Giving a little of your time, a little of your heart to help someone living with AIDS, can be the most priceless of gifts. Are you willing to become a Shanti Project emotional or practical support volunteer? It's that simple. It's that important!

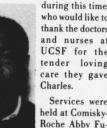


### CALL 777-CARE

The next Practical Support Training begins January 27. The next Emotional Support Training begins February 17.

VOLUNTEER AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE







front of St. Mary's, Kevin Cal-

egari took a large Christmas

wreath with a pink triangle an-

chored in its center. He slowly

moved past the police and walked

to the front steps of the cathedral.

wreath high in the air. He said a

short prayer and laid the wreath

on the steps at the door of St.

Standing alone, he lifted the

The Dignity protest at St. Mary's.

### Dignity Continued from page 1

everybody knows he is not listening," said Cota.

He said they will now begin to move within the political arena. "I cannot fathom why Art Agnos appointed Catholic priests to the Human Rights Commission when the Catholic Church is so antihuman rights, anti-gay rights, and so anti-the city charter," said Cota.

He added, "They clearly discriminate. Are they to be given city money and city contracts? We are going to start investigating and take them to court."

The hundreds of worshipers left St. Boniface and slowly moved toward St. Mary's Cathedral. As they moved, they alternated Christmas carols with songs of protest.

When they arrived at St. Mary's, they passed out bread as a symbol of communion. The church was roped off by police, and members of Dignity were not allowed to get close to the build-

As the service concluded in

Mary's Cathedral.

(Photo: Steve Savage)

Dignity will hold its annual Christmas Eve mass starting at midnight at Everett Middle School. The school auditorium is located on Church Street near 17th. It is directly across the street from the office of Archbishop John Ouinn.

### **Christmas Services Planned at HTCC**

**SHOULD YOU TAKE THE** 

Holy Trinity Community Christmas Eve service will be Church of the Bay Area, Inc.-San held in the chapel. This is a Jose Family, is pleased to an- special time with a special theme nounce its Christmas Eve Worof "Come Home For Christship Service Schedule for the en- mas!" All are invited to share this tire community.

At 8 p.m., a Christmas Eve potluck dinner will be held at the Fireside Room of the First Day service will be held at United Methodist Church at 24 N. 5th Avenue. After the dinner, place. a special carol sing with Rodney Shearer, the new minister of music will be held.

At 11 p.m., the 4th Annual

10 a.m. in the regular meeting For further information con-

time together. Holy Communior

Our regular Sunday Christmas

will be offered as in the past.

cerning the HTCC schedules or the church, please call Rev. F. Randy Hill at (408) 292-3071.▼

# **Positively Positive**

## **New Group Helps HIV-Positives Sort Out Their Difficult Choices**

### by Jay Newquist

There is life after testing HIV positive. That is the conclusion that was reached during an open panel discussion called Living with HIV held last week by the AIDS Health Project at the MCC Church on Eureka St.

"We thought the evening went well enough to do a series of panels on living with HIV," said Pierre Ludington, who coordinates the program Positives Being Positive at the AIDS Health Project.

"I think it accomplished for the 185 people in the room that you can live with HIV, that you're not dying. The range and great diversity about confronting what consider chronic illness proves you can live with this," he said.

Ludington said it was important to see that each person who tests positive deals with it in his or her own way and the forum empowered them to do that.

"We're the captain of our ship, we always expect the doctor to do it, but the perception is it's 100 percent fatal. It's hard to live with that perception in our commu-

The panel members, including men and women, gay and straight, and from ethnic minorities, replied to a variety of questions from a moderator. At the close they answered questions from the audience.

Ludington said an important result of the two-hour discussion was the creation of solid role models and the realization that no one "had to deal with being HIV positive on his own."

He said we had to avoid negative input from whatever source, and added he had heard about a new bar opening in the Castro just for seropositives. "It bog-gled my mind, my skin crawled."

Ludington interpreted a few conclusions of the panel, including the perception that some had lived more than five years since they tested positive.

"A lot of it is luck like chicken pox for some kid on the block, or polio. Some of it has to be the lucky draw of life," he said.

A panelist named Jeff said he was never extraordinarily careful about his health and led an excessive life at some points. Now he said he was more moderate and toned down.

Ludington said one had to face the fact that a lot of what one brings to HIV has been carried for a long time. The result of testing positive "makes you put your cards on the table" and deal with lack of immortality.

He added that one has to move beyond the stock information that he is going to die from HIV. "The changes are you'll get killed by an insane Muni driver rather than stricken with pneumocvstis.'

Another panelist named Ken said he had been rejected in a relationship for his seropositive status.

Ludington recalled what may be a frequent fear that a relationship might be about to get intimate until someone's AZT buzzer goes off and the friend decides he has something better to do.

The evening, however, was decidedly upbeat, and Ludington raised other points that evolved from the discussion

• "You have to take time to educate yourself and be aware of the resources out there. It's hard work. If it's hard for you to do this homework, then ask for help:

• "It's very important to be methodical about how you disclose (your HIV status). It's difficult and dangerous to disclose to the wrong person. You have to ask yourself why you're telling."

• "Disclosure often brings more problems, including the disclosure of your sexual status, and at work people may think they can be infected by you."

Positives Being Positive was started at the AIDS Health Project last February. There are now 12 support groups for seropositives that meet once a week and one group for seronegatives.

Ludington said these services are crucial because there are not enough counselors around-or money-for regular caregiving to the estimated 300,000 gay men in San Francisco who are seropositive.

To inquire about joining a Positives Being Positive support group, call Ludington at 476-3902.

Don't Forget! You Can Donate **Food And** Nonperishables At All Headlines

• Some people wrongly believe that a negative test result means they are immune to AIDS

- creases in anxiety and depression
- dential or anonymous, some people may risk job and insurance discrimination.
- Antibody Testing, call the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Hotline at 863-AIDS.

Toll-free in Northern CA: (800) FOR-AIDS TDD: (415) 864-6606

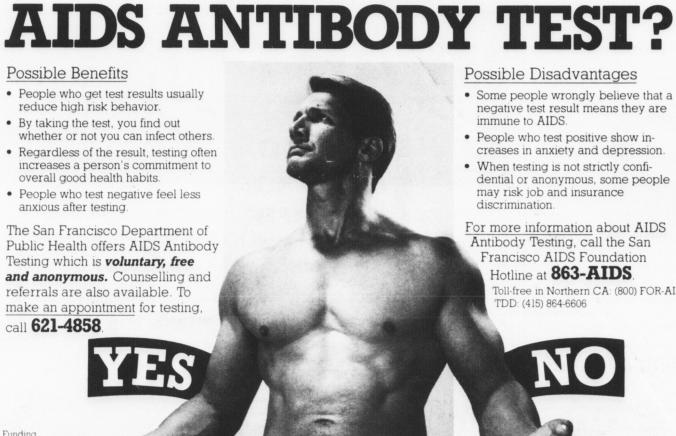
GET THE FACTS.

### BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988 PAGE 28

for this

**CONSIDER YOUR FEELINGS.** 

## THEN DECIDE.



# **BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS**

# 'Wings' Funds For **Women With AIDS**

### by Jay Newquist

Shanti Project will use special funding from the recent Wings of Shelter benefit held on Dec. 6 to prepare a residence for women with AIDS. Shanti was one of three Bay Area agencies to benefit from the recent special event at the Great American Music Hall that featured entertainment by Cris Williamson with Tret Fure, Betsy Rose, Marga Gomez, the Dance Brigade, and Maria Cora.

Shanti will receive 40 percent of the monies raised at the Wings of Shelter event. The exact amount has not yet been disclosed.

The two other recipients of funding are the Oakland-based Spiritual Resource Center and the AIDS Minority Health Initia-

Oakland Mayor Lionel Wilson also declared Dec. 6 Wings of Shelter Day.

Shanti's residence program has 12 independent, cooperative-living homes in San Francisco for 99 people with AIDS and disabling ARC. A residence solely for women with AIDS is now being readied by Shanti as part of its effort to expand its focus to women and minorities.

Ellie Cousineau, director of Shanti's residence program, said the benefit was the first of its kind aimed at groups providing support services for women with AIDS

"We expect more women to be diagnosed with AIDS in San Francisco in the future," she said. "Since some women would prefer to live with other AIDS-diagnosed women, we want to provide this option in addition to our coed homes.

"We see our women's residential home providing essentially the same type of home support as our established program, but providing a safe environment option for women facing AIDS to support each other," Cousineau said.

Shanti is also discussing the establishment of a new family housing program for adults liv-ing with AIDS who have dependent children.

The organizers of the Wings of Shelter benefit are a diverse group of Bay Area men and women who want to provide compassionate, quality residential services for women living with AIDS.

Wings of Shelter reported that omen with AIDS in the East Bay represented a greater proportion than in San Francisco. Some 100 women have been diagnosed with AIDS in the Bay Area, and



Maria Cora and Toshi Reagon sing at the Wings of Shelter benefit. (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene

ten times that number are estimated to have ARC, the agency said

Wings of Shelter counted unnumbered thousands of women who may have been exposed to the AIDS virus. "The primary exposure risks for women include IV drug use, sexual contact with infected men, and transfusionrelated infection," said Wings' Arthur O'Donnell.

The Spiritual Resource Center will use its Wings funding to expand its discretionary funding program for women with AIDS and ARC to help meet pressing financial needs like emergency housing deposit assistance.

The AIDS Minority Initiative will also provide emergency assistance and childcare.



## Spend New Year's With Pacific Friends

Pacific Friends-South Bay will be holding their annual New Year's Eve party on Saturday, Dec. 31, at 8 p.m. at the DeFrank Community Center. The Center is located at 1040 Park Avenue in San Jose, between Lincoln and Montgomery streets.

This year's party will include hors d'oeuvres, a raffle, dancing, several surprises and a midnight toast. The cost is only \$5 and drinks will be 50 cents. The food and the midnight toast will be free. So come celebrate New Year's Eve with a group of friendevent also commemorates the third anniversary of Pacific

Friends-South Bay.

Pacific Friends is a social organization of Asian and non-Asian men who wish to meet in a friendly atmosphere. The group also sponsors potlucks, picnics, camping trips, and other outings. There is no formal membership, only a \$6 yearly subscription fee for the monthly newsletter. All decisions are reached by group consensus at monthly potluck meetings.

If you are interested in receiving more information about the ly people and join the party. This at P.O. Box 8262, San Jose 95155 or call Chris at (408) 729-5648.

## **Report Violence to National Project**

The Anti-Violence Project of result of this program, we fully in-Force (NGLTF) calls upon all community groups to help monitor and report harassment and Berrill. violence that may occur as a result of a prime time television program airing on Dec. 13 on NBC affiliates.

Viewers are urged to contact NGLTF if you observe any of the following: Increased anti-gay harassment or violence; incidents of harassment or violence against persons with AIDS, ARC or HIV: incidents involving verbal reference to AIDS or disease; and increases in harassing calls.

"If even one incident of harassment or violence occurs as a

the National Gay & Lesbian Task tend to hold NBC and Lorimar accountable," said NGLTF Anti-Violence Project Director Kevin

To report incidents, please call NGLTF (202) 332-6483 or write to NGLTF at 1517 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20009. V



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placidity.

to come.



member is Joe Tom Easley, New York City. Easley, former co-chair of the board of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, is president of the Triangle Institute, a nonprofit gay and les-

bian political think tank.

### 

# There's So Much To Do – But Don't Overdo It!

### CATALYSMIC, STUPEFYING RELIQUARY (A Woebegone Nose)

The Names Project quilt was totally more than I had expected. Point of fact, I really didn't know just what to expect. I had seen pictures, read newspaper accounts, and listened to first-hand observers, but nothing could have prepared me for what was on display at San Francisco's Moscone Center all last week.

Invitations had been sent out to 18 Bay Area organizations that deal directly with AIDS/ARC clients, and on Tuesday, Dec. 13, four of us ventured across the bridge. None of us dared anticipate what lay ahead, primarily because there was nothing with which to compare it. I dare say there will never be anything with which to compare it, lest it be the acres and acres of glistening white tombstones at Flanders Field in France.

Across the street from Moscone Center, we could observe that several portions of the quilt were displayed in windows easily viewed by pedestrians. As we neared the entrances, it was obvious that many more portions were hung in the main vestibule. But it wasn't until the slow ride down the escalator that the full impact started to happen.

Everywhere one looked there were more and more portions of the Names Project quilt. Every possible nook and cranny contained portions. The entire floor was covered with sections of the quilt. One was literally surrounded with the loving remembrances for so many fallen brothers and sisters: gay and straight; young and old; from every state and many foreign countries; representing every nationality, creed, religion, and race that graces this earth of ours.

It may be difficult to imagine, but there were more than 500 people in attendance, and the silence was deafening. Only the shuffling of shoes on the floor dared interrupt the reverent

The effect was just too overwhelming to fully register. It made one feel so helpless, so alone, and yet at the same time so loved. It was an experience quite like none other. There are more than 8.000 persons remembered in the quilt. It is a stirring memorial, to say the least, which will dwell in my memory for years



The winning Christmas tree was decorated by Emperor and Empress X, Tina and Fina.

### SELLING, FILLING, AND DECORATING (A Gerund Nose?)

ISE held its annual baked goods auction, stocking stuffing, and Christmas tree decorating contest at Town & Country last Sunday, Dec. 18.

A packed bar bought tickets (three for \$1) to vote for the favored Christmas tree. Prices were: first \$50; second \$25; and third \$10. They were won by Empress X and Emperor X Tina and Tim; Terry; and Lady Timmi, respectively. All three donated their cash prizes back, so the total amount raised was \$170.

The hot and heavy bidding for the various and sundry baked goods brought in \$493. The most spirited bidding was for Val's wine cake and Ralph B's chocolate-run-chestnut Christmas log.

All the "stuffed" stockings were distributed to AIDS wards of East Bay hospitals on Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 19 and 20. All fabric for the stockings was donated by New York Fabrics. A tip of Nez's nose for their generosity. Seasonal fruits, candies, nuts, novelties, and a stuffed animal filled each stocking.

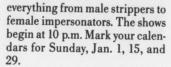
Many special large stuffed animals (and the extra "stuffed" stockings) will be taken directly to PWAs at Fairmont Hospital. The Christmas trees will be distributed to those hospitals that will accept them.

All monies raised, \$663, will go to ISE's charity account fund. Monies in this account will be distributed every quarter.

Congrats to ISE and all who participated in this worthwhile fundraiser.

### SALMAGUNDI A Motley Nose)

Every other Sunday the Bench & Bar presents a variety show, with the benefits going to various AIDS Organizations. I understand that the shows include



Speaking of AIDS organizations, Tiffany was telling me that Sienna Productions has contacted several of them about being the beneficiary for that group's next presentation (probably in April or May, and possibly at Bjornson Hall). "When they don't even bother to return our calls, we cross them off our list. If they aren't interested in the money we raise, we'll just give it to an organization that is interested. Looks like it will be EBAF again!"

Many feel that the only way to ring in the New Year is at their favorite watering hole. Others feel that private parties are the way to go. Still others prefer to stay home, open one eye at midnight, hug and kiss, and fall back to sleep. Whatever your wont, do it with gusto and pride, just don't overdo it! There's a lot waiting for all of us in 1989.

This time of year, the two biggest sellers in any bookstore are the cookbooks and the diet books. One tells you how to prepare it and the other tells you how not to eat it! I guess I can smile at that. Happiness on your Holidays. Love, Nez.

-





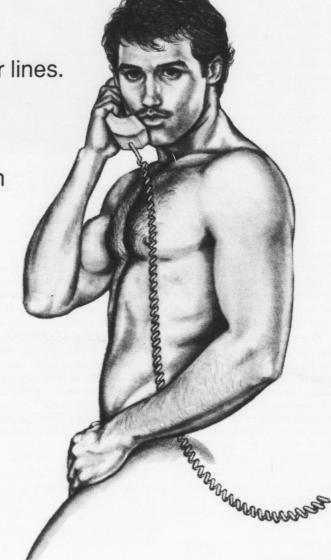
The busy line of stocking stuffers at the ISE's annual affair

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# **BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

# **Back From the Grave**

## Peter Stack Brings His Outrageous 'Dead Marilyn' to S.F.

### by Dennis McMillar

multi-media, shock/schlock opera, caustic musical commentary entitled "Say Goodbye to the President" arrives in San Francisco soon. Starring Dead Marilyn (Monroe), the controversial act has raised evebrows and spirits around the world, much the way the wind from that subway grating raises Monroe's skirts in The Seven-Year Itch.

Born several years ago as a Halloween costume in S.F., Dead Marilyn emerged from the creative loins of makeup artist Peter Stack (Not the Chronicle film critic), rebellious son of a Northwest rodeo star. With the encouragement and inspiration of the outrageous drag comedy group Cockettes, gradually Dead Marilyn (DM) grew into a bizarre piece of theatre in New York and began touring the nation.

Schizophrenically speaking, Marilyn and Peter are not often separate. During the performance, the audience can tell when Marilyn Monroe is actually present for fleeting moments and when "you are left with a monster, that's me, Dead Marilyn," says Stack. "Dead Marilyn is not a drag queen. She's a zombie-monster portrayal," he hastens to explain.

Full of anger and wanting to release it, Dead Marilyn periodically takes over Stack, sometimes in private life and always on stage, something like a channel or medium. But Stack says DM has never been Shirley MacLaine and vice versa.



Peter Stack

of her suicide/murder, that she still feels alive and now wants the real story told. Stack does not dwell on the mystical white-light-at-the-endof-a-long-tunnel afterlife, beforedeath part. As Stack sees it, the combination of MM's allegedly forced ad-

According to Stack, Marilyn

herself does not remember much

of the dying process. He feels that

MM blacked out for five minutes

diction to drugs by the studio, her unfulfilled longing to be loved, and the precarious position she held as a security risk to the nation (those messy Kennedy affairs) were enough to kill anyone. And she's back now to name names.

And sing songs. Although diamonds are a girl's best friend, DM can musically attest with her decomposing flesh that "we all ose our charms in the end."

But not our rage. Audience members will be surprised and shocked to discover that DM is not the sweet, innocent Sugar character she played with Jack Lemmon and Tony Curtis in Some Like It Hot, that marvelous movie manual for would-be transvestites. When this Marilyn sings, it is with the voice of a stool pigeon, a canary who sings the whole truth and nothin' but the truth (in her opinion anyway) about Jackie O, JFK, and J. Edgar Hoover covering up her affairs with nothing less than conspiracy.

"Jackie has a photo, but she won't tell/ She and Jack weren't

doing well/ Jackie has a pill-box on her head/ didn't want a scandal but wanted me dead," go the toetapping lyrics of one little ditty.

n the serious side. Stack wants to erect a monumen tal shrine worthy of the former screen idol, not the present day forgotten grave which has become buried under a parking lot despite ex-hubby Joe DiMaggio's best efforts.

"Her estate has done nothing to preserve her memory," Stack fumes. Instead, according to Stack, they have licensed people to use and abuse her image in such degrading venues as cheap Tom McAn shoes and Sears dresses.

The estate, in the hands of executor Roger Richman, is attempting to slap a cease-and-desist order and copyright infringement complaint on DM and Stack. But DM is undaunted and flames on (Some Like It Hot).

Stack is challenging her estate representatives (who supposedly take 35 percent for themselves) and her old studio, Twentieth Century Fox, to match monies in a giant fundraising effort toward purchasing a fitting resting place for her.

DM is asking her loyal fans in the gay community to write Mr. Richman and bitch like hell. As DM points out, what kind of agent is this? After all, he hasn't gotten Marilyn a gig for 26 years.

(Continued on next page

# Fierstein Terrific as Arnold 'Torch Song' a Motion Picture Milestone for Gays

(Photo: R. Pruzan)

### by Ron Larsen

arvey Fierstein's awardwinning comedy/drama Torch Song Trilogy may not burn as brightly on the screen as it did on the stage, but the miracle is that it got on the screen at all. In its powerful depiction of gays as real people, as threedimensional, flesh-and-blood characters not so very different from their straight counterparts, Torch Song emerges as a motion picture milestone, a breakthrough movie for homosexuals that is sure to win a wide audience among gays and straights alike.

As the title implies, Torch Song is a trio of interwoven plays about the life and loves of a Jewish, Brooklyn-born drag queen named Arnold Beckoff, who is known as "Oueen of the Torch Songs" because of his passion for sad, lump-in-the-throat love songs. In the first part of the film, Arnold meets, falls in love with, and loses a handsome, boyishly charming bisexual named Ed Reiss. Although Ed cares a great deal for Arnold, he longs for the stability and respectability of a "normal" relationship, replete with family and white picket

sitive "real woman" named Laurel.

The movie's second segment finds Arnold and his new love. a ravishing young hustler named Alan, visiting Ed and Laurel at their rustic place in the country. What starts out as a cozy, "civilized" weekend with two exlovers and their new mates rapidly deteriorates into a full-blown fiasco, with far-reaching implications for all concerned. In the film's final act, Arnold is visited by his feisty, shoot-from-the-hip mother, who is horrified to learn that her degenerate son is in the process of adopting a 15-year-old boy. Fireworks ensue.

In Adapting Torch Song for the screen, playwright/screenwriter Fierstein has altered the play considerably, with mixed results. He has "opened up" the action to good advantage, expanding the narrative, adding many new scenes, and fleshing out the role of Mrs. Beckoff. To accommodate this new material. he has restructured, streamlined, Matthew Broderick in Torch Song Trilogy. or eliminated some of the old

fence, and so he leaves drag scenes, diluting the dramatic queen Arnold for a plain but sen- conflict between Arnold and Laurel and whittling down the characters of Laurel and Alan to the bone.

While purists will lament the cuts, most filmgoers will applaud the new scenes-a telling flashback to Arnold as a young boy, dressed in his mother's clothes;

a hilarious scene showing a group of drag queens shopping off the racks in a dress shop run by an uptight saleslady; a sexy (Continued on next page



DEAD MARILYN



(Continued from previous page)

Stack reverently calls MM the best female impersonator in the world. "She knew that she wasn't real," he says. That overweight redhead became a brassy, buxom blonde for the sake of the studio execs and movie moguls, but in the end she was really Norma Jean, just a candle in the wind. She might have been a beacon in the darkness, were it not for her untimely demise.

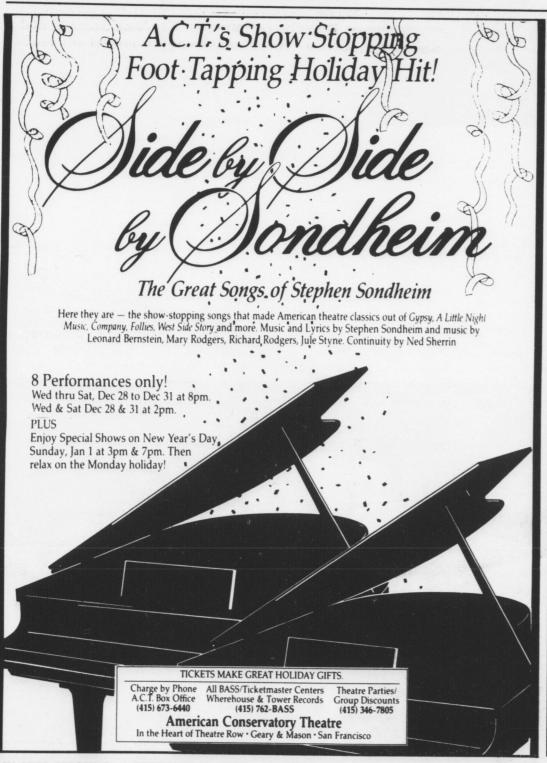
"If she had lived, I feel she

would have gone on to be a producer, as well as act in serious roles. In the end, she hated being taken for a joke," Stack says in her defense.

He protracts La Monroe, had she not been cut down in her prime, as a political activist and consciousness-raiser in the late 1960s through 1970s, and would not have been surprised to see her alongside Elizabeth Taylor in AIDS fundraising and education.

As a one-time slam to the women's liberation movement, DM says MM eventually would have said her act was just an act, a put-on, a parody. Take that, Gloria

Stack also wants to squelch the vicious rumors in the National Inquirer-like tabloid, Sunday Sport London, and emphatically state that Marilyn is in fact not a nanny in



BAY AREA REPORTER



heaven attending her aborted babies

DM does worry that since her acclaim to dead fame, perhaps there will be a rash of stars reappearing from the grave-dead Judy, dead Jayne, dead Inger Stevens, although she knows that Stack himself will not be portraying these personas of the past.

His future will be very much tied up with Marilyn hosting an upcoming 10-part BBC program called "Night of a Thousand Dead Stars," with such controversial corpses as John Wayne and Elvis Presley being interviewed (although only their feet will be seen on camera). Boots and blue suede

## **Torch Song** Trilogy

shoes.

(Continued from previous page) seduction scene in the barn between Ed and Alan; a chilling enactment of fag-bashing involving one of the central characters; a memorable bit of schtick that has Arnold entering his son's inner-city high school in a housecoat and a pair of bunny slippers; and, most effective of all, a blistering exchange between mother and son at the cemetery where Arnold's father is buried in close proximity to his

Torch Song is Fierstein's baby. and his performance as the tragicomic, bigger-than-life Arnold Beckoff is a tour de force. Pulling out all the stops as he laughs, cries, shouts, and sings his way through nearly two hours of film, he makes a stunning screen debut similar to that of Barbra Streisand in Funny Girl.

In yet another stellar performance, Oscar-winner Anne Bancroft is alternately funny, hateful, and poignant as Mrs. Beckoff, the quintessential Jewish mother who loves her son but who cannot understand, much less accept, his 'unorthodox'' lifestyle. The hunky Brian Kerwin is outstanding in the difficult role of Ed, a bisexual stud on the fence, and Karen Young makes the most of what's left of her pared-down role as Laurel. Matthew Broderick, however, is sadly miscast as Alan. Broderick is more the cute, wholesome boy next door than the streetwise, drop-dead-gorge-

Anne Bancroft in Torch Song Trilogy.

Stack eventually wants to do a one-man musical about Jack the Ripper. Be sure to bring the kid-

But for now, catch DM in all her graveyard mud and blood (and eight-count 'em-classic gowns) at Theatre Artaud on Dec. 29 and 30, with a special New Year's Eve performance and gala after-party celebration. Ten dollar tickets are available at the box office and STBS Ticket Office at Union Square, as well as all Rolo and Daleets clothing stores.

Wear your blonde wig and most voluptuous dress, and remember to keep your underwear in the freezer. Ooo-ooo-ooooh!

ous hustler called for in the movie, and he looks uncomfortable and out of place throughout. (Rob Lowe might have been a far more convincing choice for Alan.)

Entertainer Charles Pierce gets to strut his stuff as female mpersonator Bertha Venation. threatening to perform the "dance of the virgin completely from memory." Paul Bogart's crisp direction keeps the plot moving at a brisk pace, and Peter Matz' musical direction serves the story well, with a host of vintage torch songs ("Body and Soul," "As Time Goes By," "But Not for Me") underscoring the action

The movie is not the play; nor is it an unqualified success. But it stands on its own merits as a powerful and moving film that has much to say about the needs, drives, feelings, and values that bind us all together, whether we happen to be gay or straight or somewhere in between. In pointing out our similarities without denying, much less apologizing for, our differences, Torch Song Trilogy helps bridge the gap and open up the channels of communication between segments of society that have all too often been at odds with one another. Hats off to Harvey Fierstein and company for bringing this message to the screen, and for entertaining us in the process.

**Torch Song Trilogy** Kabuki 8 Theatre Post at Fillmore Information: 931-9800

\* \* \* 1/2



guess I did the play Torch Song Trilogy about six years ago," says 26-year-old Matthew Broderick, running a hand across his unshaven chin. "It was my first big break-and it was Harvey's, also. So it's been kind of fun for us to meet up again after all that has happened to us. And it certainly is great to be working with old friends

again."

ick's ninth. The following is a questionand-answer session recently con-

people?

to everybody.

thing like that.

ty of roles.

fore?

## **Matthew Broderick On 'Torch Song'**

### by James A. Baggett

Looking like he just rolled out of bed, Broderick is seated in the Mayflower Hotel's Conservatory Restaurant on the southwest corner of Manhattan's Central Park. He's wearing a navy-blue dress shirt and black jeans and is eager to discuss both his stage role (the wisecracking, adopted, gay son, David) and his upcoming screen role (the younger lover, Alan, a male model who gets murdered by a gang of fag-bashers) in *Torch* Song Trilogy. The film is Broder-

ducted with Broderick: Do you think that a movie such

as Torch Song will help change straight people's opinion of gay

Well, it would be nice, but that's a lot to hope for. I mean, if you look at how long gay people have not been accepted, it's hard to say that this movie will really change anything. But that's the dismal way of looking at it. It certainly changed my attitude to some degree. And that can be translated to anybody. The people in the movie are gay, but it's not really about that. It's about love and families and love affairs and infidelities-which happen

Were you at all reluctant to take on the role of a gay person? No, not really. I have a lot of trouble sometimes finding parts that I really want to do. I read a lot of scripts, and I have an awful time...I mean, I take months and months to find projects that I like. So getting this [film] and liking it was funny to me. There was no way I was going to say I

I don't think you can predict that, anyway. There has been screen], and it seems possible for with? actors to do that as well as other should be. I'm not going to let

that stop me from playing a varie-

Alan that you didn't know be-I guess I learned about the sort of desperation that Alan has. In

the beginning, it's clear that he has no family, no place to hang his hat. So his story is largely about trying to find some sort of security, which is what I think Arnold represents to him-somebody who is stable and proud of being gay and who is not hiding. That's a real hold for him. And I guess that's very important to a lot of people. It makes you realize how awful it must be to not be able to go home and be who you

Did you do anything in particular to prepare for your role as a victim of gay-bashing?

Well, I read the script a lot, and I thought about it a lot. I certainly have been around a lot of gaybashing, and it's something that

I'm aware of. Also, I'm not unfamiliar with that kind of lifestyle. I work in the theater. It's not like I'm from some small town in Seven Meadows or Hicksville.

I remember shooting the scene where I get bashed. It was in a little park in Soho about five blocks from where I grew up. It's a park where I used to play paddleball. And I get beaten up by a gang that is a lot like the gangs you see there now. I mean it was frighteningly real. But you read about it in the papers, and it's like, gosh, that must be awful. There was something about actually blocking [the scene] out-with the yelling and the people really swinging and the fake bloodhere was something about really experiencing it that was very powerful.

Did you feel like a victim while you were filming that scene?

The feeling-when I did itwas not really about being gay. It was about the violence that peo-ple do to other people. I'm halflewish, and my ancestors have had violent acts committed against them. Gays have had it, you know, everybody has. When you're getting hit with a bat, it's not about being gay. It's about violence that men do to other men. It's just horrible.

Do you want to talk about the impact that AIDS has had on you personally?

It's very hard to put into words. 've lost several very close friends. It's really, really real to me. Two of the people who I knew very well from [the stage production of] Torch Song are dead. And I just found out my singing teacher. . It's like it seems to just keep growing. Sometimes I think it's like a magic trick. You say "presto," and that one is gone.

But then, every once in a while, I start to go through my mind how many friends I have lost. My sister works in a hospital, and she was once showing me from the outside that all the windows with the red blinds were AIDS patients. And they were endless. I think about it all the time. I can't don't like the part because it think of any day when there isn't might hurt my career or some- some meal where somebody doesn't bring it up. It's on my mind quite a lot.

Have you ever been intimidat other material about gays [on ed by anyone you've ever worked

Not as much as maybe I should parts. I believe that's how it have been or could have been. I get more intimidated now. Like when I was first starting up, for some reason I was, like, "Fuck Did you learn anything about everybody, I'll do what I want.' Chris Walken [his co-star in Biloxi Blues] intimidated me a little bit. And Mike Nichols was a

\*\*\*

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Matthew Broderick.

little intimidating at first, but eventually he became the most comfortable director I've ever worked with.

whose careers you draw inspira- career. I worked with Jason on

tion from? Sure. Jason Robards-other than that little drinking thing. which I would like to avoid. But Are there actors or actresses I think he has had a wonderful

Max Dugan Returns, and he was sort of a great inspiration to me. I've admired his whole life a lot. Mike Nichols inspired me a great deal. And so has Harvey.



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### NY K (M)

## Forget About the Mormons... Here's the Unique Karen Mason

### by David Perry

f you were fortunate enough o be around the Improv Theater a week ago Monday you would have been treated to one of the more singular vocal instruments heard on area stages in quite some time, Karen Mason, and an equally unique comic, Emmett Foster. That's not the order of the billing, but it should

have been. Although Foster's autobiographical Emmett: A One Mormon Show was the evening's featured act, Mason quickly took center stage in her portion of the casual cabaret/standup comedy performance.

The raison d'etre for all this was a benefit for the AIDS **Emergency Fund and Equity** Fights AIDS, sponsored by our best-dressed AIDS charity, Friends of Oscar. Judging from the capacity crowd, the evening was a success. Producer Marilyn Rosenberg should be wellpleased and proud of herself.

Foster, more a monologuist



### Emmett in A One-Mormon Show.

"Happy Days Are Here Again" are in the best tradition of torch mixed with Broadway. And when she belts-hold onto your glasses and anything else not nailed down. Yes, she can be a bit hokey sometimes between songs, but that can be endearing at times. And even her overly sentimental rendition of "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" can be excused. It is, after all, the holiday season. Little treacle moments like that are more than balanced by offerings like "I Made A New Friend," written especially for her by her arranger/composer/pianist, Brian Lasser. Mason and Lassersounds like a team, Lasser, himself an off-Broadway composer of

some note, has found a perfect mouthpiece in Mason; Mason, a perfect source in Lasser.

Foster's angst over his homosexuality barring his way to the Mormon heaven where families are "joined together for all eternity" makes for great comedyon paper. At least as presented at the Improv on Dec. 12, it appears very much a work in progress. One can only hope he continues to hone his unique comedic insight and return with it-and bring Karen Mason with him! V

Emmett . . . A One-Mormon Show Improv

## Stan Rowe **Artist Studies Addiction**

Stan Rowe has been living and pact of what the viewer sees (in working in the Bay Area for the "Crucifiction," for example) the ast ten years. Born in Conne the fine arts at Silvermine College of Art, New Canaan, Conincetown, Massachusetts.

He began his career as an abstract expressionist relying on color as form to produce large geometric images of glowing intensity. Five years ago he began drawing and painting the human figure. He was drawn to the esthetics of addiction, the tarnished luster of the Tenderloin, the humanity and dignity that is all our heritage, from the lowly addict to god figure. Themes of his work range from the gay male substance-abuser, Jesus Christ, incest, and masturbation.

hand, is a master of the

Color is his primary vehicle for expressing feeling. His line is tight and classical. But is the im-

exploding form and color or the ticut, he received his training in fact that Rowe's Christ is black and in ecstasy? Although embarrassingly explicit at times. Rowe's necticut; the Instituto Allende, figure confronts the viewer with San Miguel, Mexico; and the a classical detachment and poise, Princetown Art Workshop, Prov- but they are unmistakably people we have all seen somewhere or other.

> His recenty completed 28-foot mural, "Recovery," on the wall of the Ozanam Center (a San Francisco street institution on Howard Street) reflects Rowe's deep understanding and firsthand knowledge of substance abuse and the plight of the homeless. Rowe is a recovering alcoholic.

Stan Rowe's first one-man show in San Francisco is at the 509 Gallery at 509 Ellis St. It will open on Saturday afternoon, Jan. , and last through the month. For additional information, call 346-1308.



KRON-TV.



### TRADEWISION

## 'Midnight Caller' Turns **Peacock Into Goony-Bird**

### by Robert Frank

ast week the once-proud peacock of a national television network, NBC, dumped a goony-bird of a TV episode onto the airwaves. This erratic albatross was the bisexual-AIDS-carrier episode of the new series Midnight Caller and was hung around the neck of San Francisco, the gay community in general, AIDS sufferers in particular, and NBC's local affiliate,

As for the contents of the drama itself, it was not all bad, but neither was it as good or fair as it should have been. The main character is a San Francisco radio midnight-talk-show host and former cop, Jack Killian, played well enough by attractive actor Gary Cole (Fatal Vision), whose former paramour and now still-good-friend (movingly played by Kay Lenz) has tested positive for HIV and is also pregnant, all as a result of an affair, or just a liaison, with a charmer (to some people) named Mike Barnes, who happens to be bisexual.

Killian becomes involved in the search for Barnes, visiting dark, furtive, gay bars (with emphasis on leather) and more brightly lit, more festive (more normal?), straight nightspots. A gay bar tender in one of these scenes utters some of the more positive lines in this drama: "We '86' irresponsible cruisers like Mike Barnes. Barnes is an exception, an aberrant-he's not like the rest of us." There's a line in one of the bar scenes that Barnes "bragged about cruising leather bars in the Castro." What leather bars in the Castro?

Killian, in his hunt for "killer" Barnes, makes use of the airwaves ("Tonight's show is about responsibility") to try to stop him: "I want him off the streets." Since he believes-emphasizing it more than once-that the police and health departments are powerless to do anything ("What da hell ever happened tuh dis town?"), then he should be stopped by any means. This contributes to an attempted murder of Barnes by another infected woman, a beauty named Kelly (played by Julia Montgomery), whom Killian prevents from committing the act. The origial script had her murdering Barnes.

mong the more positive notes was the portraval o The woman producer of Killian's talk show, who upbraided him, telling him she had been planning to do a program on AIDS with facts and experts and "not to feed hysteria."

In spite of some good dialogue, ("AIDS is not a gay disease.

AIDS is a litmus test for all of us," etc.), the strongest images in this visually slick production were probably Killian's violence toward Barnes, Kelly's attempt to kill Barnes with its dramatic confrontation at gunpoint, and the contrast of the dark, gay bars with the brighter, straight bars. There is a feeling to this show that is like a cat who alternately scratches malevolently, then retracts its claws and strokes gently with its velvety paws.

There is no image of an AIDS victim taking positive control of his life. There is no image of an AIDS victim getting any assistance at all. In fact, Barnes' gay lover is abandoned by him and

seems to have no other aid and comfort. ("He left me to die alone... I didn't deserve this.") One touching scene, beautifully acted, did prove to be something more than its surface appearance: the tenderness between Killian and his girlfriend underlining the acceptability, the safety, and the rightness of hugging and kissing a person with AIDS, expressing compassion and love to that person who needs it so much at this time. In this case, it was between two heterosexuals, but one can hope the message got across to millions of viewers.

The attitude or position taken by this drama is, for the most part, an affront to the city of San Francisco, where so much is being done to counsel and support AIDS sufferers. The city is a leader in AIDS compassion, instructions, and prevention, but one would never know it from this exploitive drama.

## 

## **Choruses With Hearts Aglow**

### by Dennis McMillan

ast Friday, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus presented Now Sing With Hearts Aglow, and they did, and we did. Their holiday show was a visual as well as audio treat, allowing the audience to sing along at the end, proving once again that this city knows how to celebrate a gay Christmas.

Entering from both sides of the balconies and the ground-floor entrances, the red-and-greenvested GMC marched in singing, completely surrounding the audience in sound, then choreographing into small clusters and, finally, a giant W onstage. The already sterling tones of the GMC were in this way covered in fine gold.

In fact, whatever piece they performed had the Midas touch. from the old standby "Hallelujah Chorus" to the newly commissioned "Chanticleer's Carol."

When selected members stepped out to form a holiday ensemble, the cream of the chorus rose to the top in such standout numbers as "The Bells at Speyer," imitating the pleasing pealing of bells in brilliant counterpoint.

The chorus rendition of "I Wonder as I Wander," an old carol of poor Appalachian descent, was far from improverished, especially with the rich baritone solo of David Held.

The premiere of talented chorus member/composer Robert Seeley's "Jubilant Gloria" was just that-glorious! Reminiscent of John Williams' uplifting, accelerating, joyful, and otional movie scores, the piece was perfectly accompanied by the ebullient San Francisco Conservatory Brass Ensemble.

he special appearance of the Lesbian/Gay Chorus provided that peppy, snappy, light side of singing we've come to expect from them, illustrated in their delightfully sarcastic view of "Twelve Days Left" of shopping, overextending credit cards, and fighting the crazed, holidazed crowds.

Not to say L/GC is merely "lite music'' (tastes good/less filling).

Their expert execution of Bernstein's "Chichester Psalms," with its extremely difficult phrasing and odd harmonies, proved their ability to highbrow it with the best of the longhairs.

The final set featured the GMC as adorable, scruffy little kids in short pants and suspenders, huddled together in a cosy, warm, evergreen-bough-decorated home. It was The Little Rascals with mustaches and rouge!

With a sudden switch from cute kiddie caps to smart, white yarmulkes (don we now our Yiddish apparel), the chorus presented a gorgeous Chanukkah medlev

Then it was back to "Babes [in Beards] in Toyland" with a sweet but slightly mischievous Vienna Boys Choir sound.

The stunning finale was a highly unusual presentation of a literal "Silent Night," what with the entire chorus simultaneously singing and signing. The last chorus was "sung" without a sound, every hand synchronized to spell out the lyrics.



**DECEMBER 22, 1988** BAY AREA REPORTER

### **Comedienne and Emcee**

### Talented Karen Williams Puts on a Whale of a Show by Henry Mach

aren Williams is a bright talent with a lively, fun act. At her best when spontaneously interacting with the audience, I watched in amazethe room for over an hour and a pealing mix of comedienne and emcee

There were no big yucks from prefab punchlines, no gags or funny voices. Her repertoire of routines was built around her own experiences as an East Bay ment as she held the stage and black lesbian single parent. Poking fun at herself and the world half. Her energy and likable per- in which she lives, she expressed sona made her an odd and ap- a desire for a "co-parent" to share her life, even while pointing to the absurdity of our vocabulary. She endeared herself as she confessed her preference for spiked heels over Birkenstocks, admitted to hiding a rabbit-fur jacket hidden in her closet because her animal-activist neighbors made her feel guilty, and told the tofu fans in the audience, "It must be a class thing. I'm trying to eat steak as often as pos-

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She sometimes relied too heavily on her audience being in the know. Knowing nothing about astrological signs, I zoned out as she rambled overlong about what kind of people were born under which signs of the zodiac.

But her act really took on a life of its own when she stepped off the stage and started conversing with the audience. Granted, asking how many couples were present, how long they've been together, and where they're from is one of the oldest shticks from the Catskills, but Karen Williams adapted it with professionalism and panache.

here were no audience insults, just lots of goodnatured ribbing-the bigat Karen herself. When two liams.

# Tasteful 'Condom-Mints' Promote Safe Sex, **Not Safe Waistlines**

this holiday season, the one that everyone will be talking about. It's being sold exclusively in San Francisco as a fundraiser by one of the city's best-loved, nonprofit, performing arts organizations, the San Francisco Band Foundation. It's "the tasteful way to make your point" and "the responsible adult treat for the 980s."

What is it? Is is Condommints, a delicious chocolate mint that comes in a silver foil packet. A Condom-mint looks just like, well, a condom. Twelve silverdollar-sized mints come in each heart-covered box, which contains clever "warnings" such as 'application to body surfaces will result in a sticky mess" and "for best results, serve at body temperature in low light."

Each box also contains an insert with a serious health message and seven tips for avoiding sexually transmitted diseases and unintended pregnancy, one of which is to 'regularly use condoms.'' A box of 12 Condom-mints sells for a suggested \$6.

tle. The idea was born out of a sad rent-a-tutu booth; and a complete AIDS. A group of us organized so for sale in the theater lobby for a nice experience. And it pointed as Dec. 10 at a special perforout to us how important it is to mance for people with AIDS. communicate about safe sex." The problem of how to broach such a sensitive subject with com- co Band Foundation's annual panions and lovers was solved when Brown conceived the idea for the humorous mint candies budget in excess of \$350,000 and "Condom-mints."

dation chose Condom-mints to on considerable support from the be part of its annual "Keep local community. Retailers inter-Music Alive" fundraising cam- ested in carrying Condom-mints paign due to its success in other or shoppers looking for that foundation vice president Nancy contact the band foundation.

Karen's question about how they'd stayed together so long by telling her they worked at it, she announced, "No wonder I don't have a relationship. I don't want to work. I just want to fuck."

women at a front table answered

It wasn't until after the fact that I realized this talented woman had kept us most entertained without a script. She played the audience with craftspersonlike skill, knowing just how far to take each encounter, keeping up a lively pace, and even milking laughs from silences.

Karen Williams turned her act into a party, and she managed to turn an audience of strangers into people who were celebrating together. The next time you have on occasion to celebrate or would gest chunk of which was directed like to have one, see Karen Wil-

It's sure to be the hit gift of Johnsen, "Condom-mints have been sold with good results by nonprofit groups such as Plann-

ed Parenthood groups in such places as North Carolina; Kansas; Washington, D.C.; and Arizona. We got terrific cooperation from Becky Brown, who fully supports our efforts to get a box of Condom-mints in every adult's Christmas stocking in San Francisco."

Johnsen said the foundation expects to get Condom-mints in distribution in gift shops, florists, restaurants, hotels, and possibly doctors' offices and clinics.

Condom-Mints will make their local debut on Sunday, Dec. 11, at the San Francisco Band Foundation's fourth annual Christmas Gala and Dance-Along Nutcracker at Theater Artaud, 450 Florida at 17th Street. The 6 p.m. event will feature all the units of the band foundation: the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps, San Francisco Flag Corps, San Francisco Tap Troupe, City Swing, and Vocal Minority.

The highlights of the evening will include a hilarious musica The idea for Condom-mints is spoof of I Love Lucy; the "Dance-1987 braindchild of Becky Along Nutcracker," featuring Brown and her husband in Seat- audience participation and a event. Says Brown, "About a year dance set by City Swing and Gail ago, we had a friend who died of Wilson. Condom-mints will be that he could die at home. It was a \$6 donation on Dec. 11, as well

Proceeds from Condom-mints sales will benefit the San Francis-"Keep the Music Alive" fundraising drive. With an annual and chose the lighthearted name the expense of operating the Jon Sims Center for the Performing The San Francisco Band Foun- Arts, the band foundation relies parts of the country. According to special holiday gift are urged to

ride is the subway."

to showy pieces.

needed.



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screen-3 features; 2nd-All Hot Jackoffs, Grand Prix and Halcyon film exclusives; 3rd-Classic Film Loops of the '60s-'70s. Plus J/O Room with monitor screens. Our J/O audience does its own live show every day! Adm. \$6. Circle J is HOT, CLEAN and SAFE!

### MOVIES

# **Bette and Barbara: Friends Forever in 'Beaches'**

### by Robert Frank

Bette Midler, after forsakng New York's cabarets and its famous Continental Baths, where she was "discovered," won a Grammy Award as best new artist for an album called The Divine Miss M, which included a song called "Friends." ("Ya've got ta have frie-ends...")

That song, which she sang on the soundtrack of a 1974 film, The Last of Sheila, would be even more appropriate as the signature song for the Divine Miss M's latest film, Beaches.

This time she is not just an emphatic voice punctuating a soundtrack at the very end of a film in which she did not appear. This time she is producer and star and actress of emphatic presence, visual and aural, punctuating the whole film.

The signature song of this film is "The Glory of Love," which is performed near the beginning of the story and again at the end. The film is about friendship and love, but the kind of love that exists between lifelong friends. Lovers and maybe spouses come and go, but friends are forever, if you work at it and "give a little, take a little ... " Two little girls of very different personalities and background meet at the boardwalk in Atlantic City in the summer of 1957, still in the era of elephantine hotels like the Marlborough-Blenheim.

Poor, lost, little rich girl WASP Hillary Whitney is assisted in finding her hotel by brash, effusive, egocentric, redhaired Jewish girl Cecilia Bloom, aka "CC," who was smoking cigarettes under the boardwalk. As if to emphasize further the gulf between them that should make any friendship improbable, if not impossible. Hillary lives in affluent Atherton, California, and lower-middleclass CC hails from the Bronx. The friendship is preserved through years of correspondence. Hillary writes of horseback riding in Atherton; CC says, "All I

The two are face-to-face again in 1968, when the politically idealistic Hillary comes to New York and decides to stay with CC in the East Village, where it was all "happening" then. Rejecting her rich father's lifestyle ("The world's falling apart while he plays golf"), she becomes involved in protests and demonstrations for the various causes of that era and starts to work for the ACLU. At the same time, the selfabsorbed, ambitious, energetic CC is pushing hard to get some attention and be a success in show business, from small parts

Fate separates them again. Hillary becomes an ACLU lawyer in San Francisco, marries rich, subordinates her career to his, has a child, and then divorces. CC is a huge stage and recording success, has trouble with Hollywood films and a marriage and a strained relationship with her mother (well played by Lainie Kazan), who tells her she craves too much attention and wears everyone out trying to get it.

By the time of their next meeting, the gap between the two women has widened. Each dislikes what the other has become. Nevertheless, the friendship eventually survives, and the love proves to be strongest when most

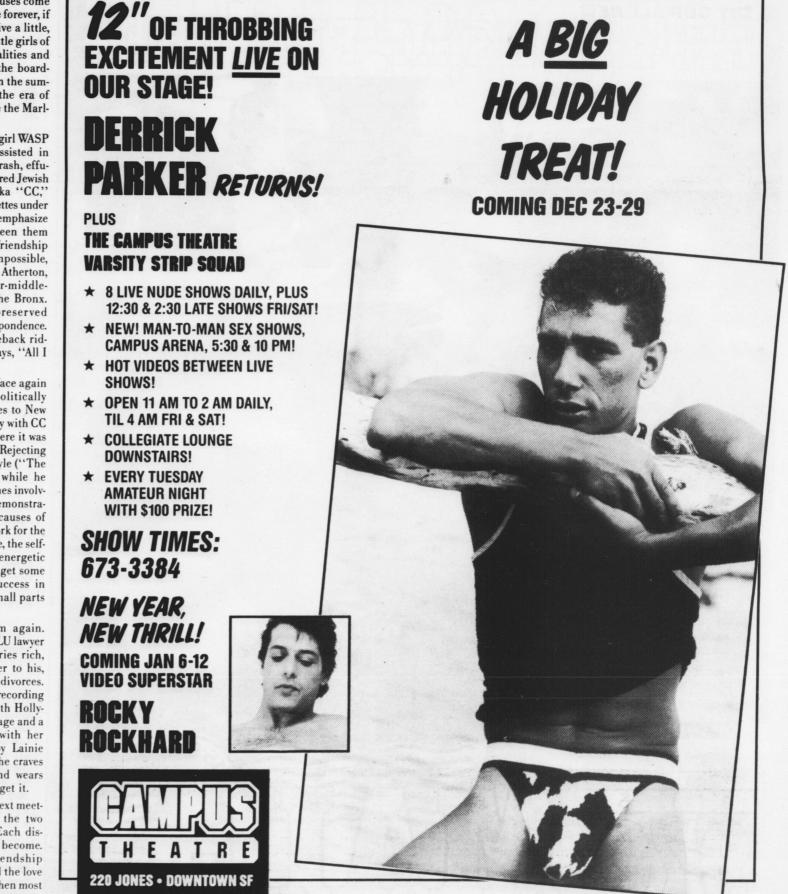
he latter part of the film strikes one as a metaphor for what the gay community is experiencing today and has been for the last few years. If some segments of American society cannot emphathize with our grief, maybe (hopefully) this film will hit some national nerve. The tragedy is presented in what might be called "more universal" terms or, some might say, "more normal" terms, since the two women love each other as friends, not as lovers, and the support and the closeness derive from that kind of love, not sexual nor spousal. The life-threatening, irreversible illness is a heart condition caused by a virus, which is emphasized more than once in the film. The relatively young victim fades away over a period of months the way many with AIDS have, and there is no cure.

Midler has been a friend of gays and a champion of gay

rights over the years since those (Continued on page 57)



Barbara Hershey (I.) and Bette Midler in Beaches.



### MOVIES

## 'The Magic Toyshop' Is a Schizophrenic Fairy Tale for Adults

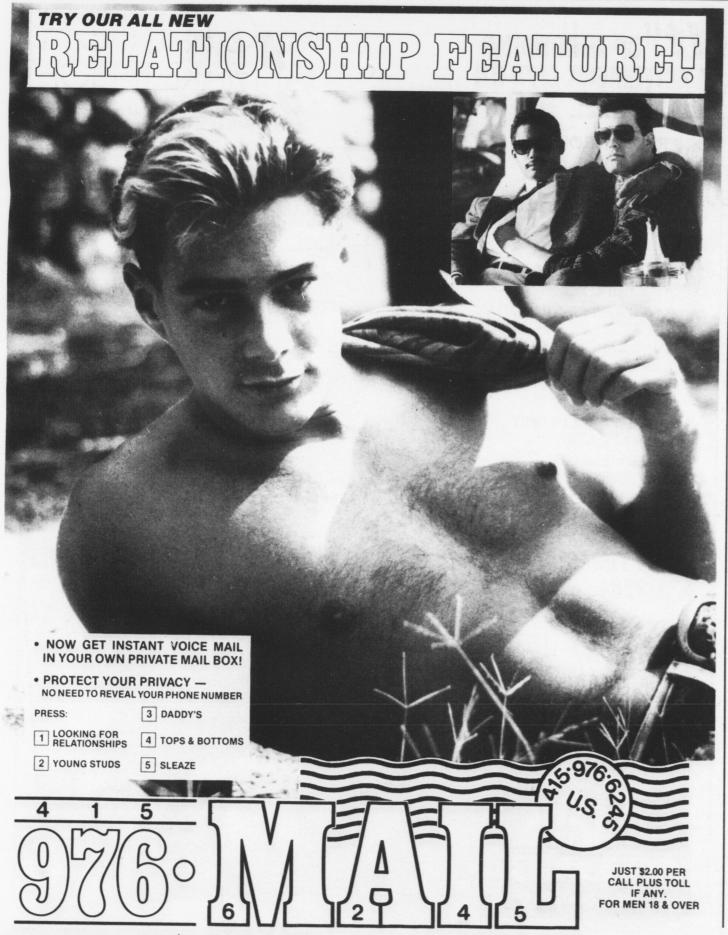
### by Ron Larsen

is the season to be jolly, but you'd hardly know it from some of the joyless and disturbing films that have been released of late-The Chocolate War, The Good Mother, A Cry in the Dark, etc. Add to this list The Magic Toyshop, a schizophrenic fairy tale for adults that mixes fantasy, legend, mythology, Freudian psychology, and even elements of Mary Shelley's Frankenstein in its haunting depiction of sexual awakening, lost innocence, creativity gone awry, and a family's violent revolt against a sadistic tyrant.

Making its American film debut at the Roxie Cinema, this award-winning film from Britain is somber in mood and theme, but it has much to recommend it. A feast for the eyes and mind, Toyshop is a beautifully crafted, visually stunning little gem of a movie with a surrealistic plot designed to keep viewers reeling as it moves effortlessly from illusion to reality. The line between



Tom Bell as Uncle Phillip in The Magic Toyshop.



these two worlds is often blurred, but the images are spellbinding.

Toyshop's protagonist is a dreamy-eyed, 15-year-old beauty named Melanie (Caroline Mil moe) who is struggling with the difficult transition from puberty to sexual maturation. When her parents are killed in a plane crash, she and her younger brother and sister are sent to live with their nefarious Uncle Philip (Tom Bell), proprietor of a quaint, oldfashioned toyshop in a suburb of London. As Melanie soon discovers, her uncle is a cruel and dispassionate taskmaster who controls and manipulates every member of his extended family as if they were unthinking puppets, much as he pulls the strings on the lifesized marionettes he directs each night in the bizarre little dramas staged in his toyshop's basement.

When one of the leading female puppets is accidentally damaged by Uncle Philip's brother-in-law and assistant puppeteer, a brash young Irishman named Finn (Kilian McKenna), the sinister stage manager recruits Melanie as the broken puppet's reluctant stand-in. He forces her to star in a series of erotic fantasies in full view of Philip's captive family audience.

rom the outset, the puppets seem more real and lifelike than some of the hapless people in this quirky psychodrama. This is particularly true of the enigmatic Aunt Margaret (Patricia Kerrigan), an ironcollared love slave struck dumb the day she married her Svengalilike master. Talk about your archetypal "disfunctional family"this one is really sick!

The action turns from kinky to violent after young Melanie is symbolically raped by a monstrous puppet swan in Uncle Philip's production of Leda and the Swan. Motivated by his growing attraction to Melanie and his long-simmering hatred of Philip, Finn enlists the aid of his brother Francie (Lorcan Cranitch), a brooding and mysterious loner whose chief function has been to play the fiddle at Philip's command. The power struggle between the two brothers and their emasculating keeper is resolved, in part, through a shocking scene of incest.

The movie's screenplay was written by British novelist Angela Carter (The Company of Wolves), who adapted it from her critically acclaimed 1967 novel of the same name. If her sexually charged story doesn't grab you, the images on the screen will grab your attention.

Under David Wheatley's direction, Bell gives a brilliant, understated performance as the totally mirthless, curiously prissy autocrat, a control freak who insists on absolute obedience from all the puppets, whether they're made of wood and paint or flesh and blood. Bell doesn't occupy that much time on the screen, but his malevolent presence is felt throughout the picture. For those who like their villans rotten to the core, Bell's Uncle Philip will be a joy to behold, if not quite quite a "joy to the world."

\*\*\* The Magic Toyshop Roxie Cinema; 3117 16th St. Information: 863-1087



come a madam.

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## George Heymont

# **Proper Care for Aging Hookers**

ne of the basic problems with the flesh trade is that, unless a courtesan plans carefully for her future, she can find herself in pretty desperate straits. As her initial beauty fades, her looks become a fleeting commodity. Even the personality which lies beneath the woman's once proud exterior cannot save her soul from the cruel pressures of the skin trade. Why not? Because the sad but hard truth is that fresh meat is always available to those who can afford to buy it. How, then, does a courtesan deal with the ravages of old age and misfortune? One way is to move over to the management side of things and be-

The other tried and true method is to die in an opera.

In recent years, as impresarios have continued to hire younger and prettier sopranos to impersonate the prize whores of the operatic literature, mature artists have found it difficult to protect the musical turf which they perceive to be their rightful inheritance. Although the success of Verdi's Violetta depends on the role being sung by an artist who has tremendous reserves of vocal stamina, years of theatrical craft and the emotional maturity which comes from a wealth of life experiences, by the time a soprano reaches her late forties or early fifties, she is often perceived by management as be-ing "too old" to sing the role.

Is one ever too old to impersonate a fading whore whose physical assets can be seen deteriorating in the mirror? Or does a mature voice sometimes sound too old to capture a character's lost youth? It's an unpleasant enigma which plagues many a soprano and the peculiar challenges which confront aging artists become painfully obvious in two of this fall's productions.

### ATTENTION MUST BE PAID

hat's what Verdi's Violetta claims in the last act of La Traviata and she's right. Attention must be paid to singers who have spent years working at their art in the hopes of becoming master craftsmen. That's precisely why, when the Lyric Opera of Chicago staged Pier Luigi Pizzi's production of La Traviata for one of its favorite divas, it was obvious that this fall's revival had been shaped very carefully and lovingly around Anna Tomowa-Sintow's understated approach to the role. Throughout the evening, the famed Polish soprano received sturdy support from Jerry Hadley's Alfredo and Juan Pons' Germont. With Giulio Chazalettes directing and Bruno Bartoletti conducting, Tomowa-Sintown gave audiences a profoundly moving demonstration of the price one pays by surviving the opera business long enough to evolve into a mature artist.

Tomowa-Sintow is no spring chicken anymore and her voice now lacks the flexibility required to effortlessly sail through the demonic coloratura passages of Violetta's Act I "Sempre Libra" with sufficient dramatic abandon. What the lady has in spades, however, (and what so many younger sopranos sorely lack) is the physical stamina and dramatic dimension with which to do a superior job of singing the last three acts of Verdi's opera.

If Tomowa-Sintow's Violetta did not cut the most electrifying

figure onstage, her portrayal of Verdi's heroine was nevertheless backed by many years of acquired craft. Despite an occasional pitch problem, the woman's work demanded and received the total respect of Chicago's audience. During Act IV, the Polish soprano delivered the goods with a cautiously crafted, yet beautifullyetched death scene and I sincerely admire her for that.

### C'MON, MANON! LET'S GO!

wish I could be as kind in describing the San Francisco Opera's revival of Manon Lescaut. When last performed here, with Ermanno Mauro and Mirella Freni in the leads, Puccini's adaptation of the Abbe Provost's novel became the surprise hit of the season. This time around, it hit the stage of the War Memorial Opera House with the impact of a lead balloon. The real problem with Manon Lescaut is that there is much less to this opera than meets the eye or ear. Although stage director Grischa Asagaroff did what he could with the singers he inherited from

Terry McEwen, most of the re-sponsibility for the production's failure ultimately rests on the shoulders of its conductor. Sir John Pritchard rarely looked up from the podium and insisted on drowning out his singers throughout the course of the evening. His interpretation of Puccini's score offered little in the way of subtlety or musicianship. To be frighteningly honest, it did not offer audiences very much satisfaction at

To their credit, tenor Peter Dvorsky worked ahrd to deliver a passionate portrayal of the Cavaliere des Greux, while Renato Capecchi gave a singularly charming performance as Geronte (the foolish old man who attempts to keep Manon like a bird in a gilded cage). Although Douglas Wunsch's Edmondo and Marcel Vanaud's Lescaut lent sturdy support to the proceedings, what one experienced during this revival was a black hole at the center of the opera which its conductor attempted to cover over with too much noise from the pit.

(Continued on page 57)



Soprano Pilar Lorengar was too far past her prime to ignite the San Francisco Opera's revival of Puccini's Manon Lescaut.

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# **BAY AREA REPORTER B.A.R. BAZAAR**



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## Here's to a Cool Yule And a Frantic First

he town was swinging last week. All over the A, B, C, D and E gays and lesbians were having their little private parties to usher in the coming holidays. Dick Ferris, Vern Stewart and Joanna Walner were among the joy givers. Dirk Dehner brought Tom O'Finland (no his last name is not Finland), the world-renowned artist of leather and uniform dudes to sign his new portfolio book at A Different Light bookstore on Sat-

Had the bookstore told me about this in advance, I wouldn't be having to answer all those irate phone calls from a lot of people who would have bought the book and welcomed the opportunity to meet Tom. Anyway, Saturday night, the leather glitterati converged on the Russian Hill digs of Rick Booth to meet and greet the "legend" at a posh recep-

All weekend, the Names Project had their pride and joy, the Quilt on display at Moscone Center. Hordes of people were there to witness once again the brainchild of Cleve Jones and the thousands of volunteers and contributors. Jim Wigler's stunning photographic tableau, "The Faces of AIDS" was on display where thousands more got to see another memorial.

Friday night, Dec. 16, the Lights for Life campaign got underway at the S.F. Eagle to raise funds for the Godfather Service group. A disappointing turnout, but the bucks are rolling in to do what they're earmarked

Saturday night, Brit Hahn's new Hero opened on the site of the building that Dick Collier still owns. In case you don't know who Mr. Hahn is, he's that hotlooking straight dude who owns Dreamland and now leases the Troc so Ron Baer can stage disco parties for gays and lesbians, raise money for worthy charities and give disc jockeys space to spin their records

Merry Christmas from Mr. Marcus' kids! (Photo: Marcus

Of course, it goes without saying that Jimbo the world's greatest doorman is still there at the portals to check your ID and to see if you've rated high enough to be on the "guest list." Hero is open now so get on down there and quit complaining about no place to cha-cha 'til the wee hours on Saturday nights! Thanks Brit-you are really a

While all this was going on, Bobby Moske was in New York for the Saint's "At Large" party at the old Club 54. Don't ask me where Bill Camillo was.

doll

Sunday was laid-back-more parties, more food, more booze, more cruising, more dishing! Thank God, Dick Ferris lives only a block from Vern Stewart, so people were passing each other on upper Fell all afternoon, checking out who had the best booze or best food. I didn't take a poll, so I don't know either.

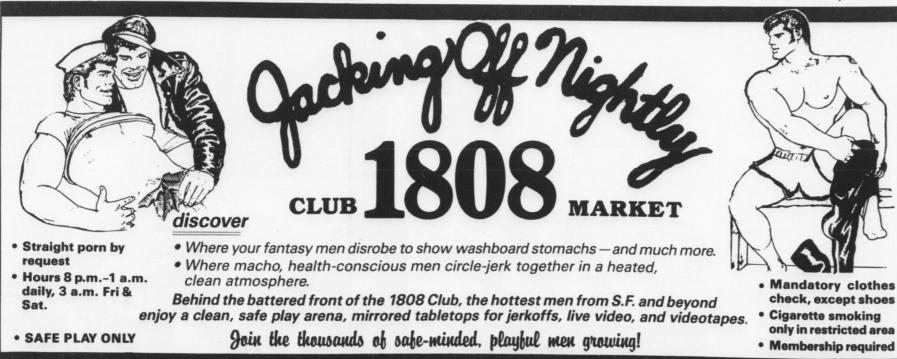
Monday, this gay and lesbian community showed Sharon hours, David Kelsey and the

McNight that they love her immensely. Her one-woman, nonbirthday show at the Great American Music Hall was sold out completely. You'd have thought it was a gay nightclub except for a modestly large contingent of straight fans. Sharon belted them out non-stop to an appreciative audience.

Thanks Sharon, you've been a doll not only during 1988 but ever since we've known you. Thanks for a good show and thanks for a great turnout from all your friends.

\* \* \*

If you're not on everyone's guest list for the orgy of food and cocktails being dispensed all over the Bay Area, there's a lot going on if you despise that sort of thing. Tonight, Dec. 22, the S.F. Eagle presents their annual fabulous Christmas Party beginning at 2000 hours (always an abundant array) and at 2100



Geraldo Rivera!

tick(et) you off.

"green paper."

service.

Christmas Eve will be festive at the Esta Noche and on the 25th they'll have their Christmas Show with the Ballsy Lola Lust MC'ing.

pass and only \$7 after 2230.

then, New Year's!!



From the Leatherwomen '89 calendar.

Keyboard Express will entertain you until you drop. The Eagle's Xmas party is always great, so drop in ... unless ...

Were you one of the lucky invitees to Allen White's 50th Birthday Party at the Venetian Room? From what I understand the place will be jumping with a wide spectrum of people both gay and straight. Happy 50th, Allen, and no, you do not look like Tomorrow night, hit all the

parties you can and get all your grifts wrapped or finish your shopping. Drive carefully because the dicks will be out to

There's a lot of activity going on in your favorite bar-why not drop in with a carton of cigs or a bottle of booze for your favorite bartender on Christmas Eve? They'd appreciate it unless you'd rather shell out some of that

And hey, look, all you Dignity Catholics are welcome to join your gay brothers and sisters for services at MCC at 1900 and 2230. Get there early as this one is always a full house. The next day, two Holy Communion services will take place at 0830 and again at 1030 with a Christmas potluck dinner after the 1030

Christmas Day at St. Paulus Tessie Dinner for seniors and gays at 1400 hours. Christmas Eve is also the AIDS Christmas Dinner at the Green Room and they still need volunteers for that

Hero is having a Christmas Eve party called "A Family of Friends" which is free until 2230 with your Dreamland T-Dance

There's a Christmas Night T-Dance at Dreamland too on Dec. 25. They didn't tell me what time so call the hot line at (415) 824-6151. On Monday, Dec. 26. they're having a "cheap" beer bust at the Eagle for only \$5 from 1500-1800 with no frills! And

\* \* \* Everybody's favorite DJ,

Joshua Persky, will share the turntables with Paul Weinhold from Minneapolis's Grand Fianle when the big "San Francisco Under Glass" New Year's Eve

party gets underway at One Market Plaza beginning at 2100 for the affordable price of only \$19.89 advance and at the door!

And get this: The Weather Girls will perform that night as well. Honey, when Benjamin Rubenstein formerly of Dreamland and 12th St. West gets together with his gang, it sizzles. The ticket price includes a buffet and a champagne toast at midnight! What more could you ask for?

The place will be decorated by Gilbert Baker (you've seen what he's done at the Civic Center for Gay Days haven't you?). And more: it's a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund and Open Hand! Everyone involved is volunteering for this one.

Where's 1 Market Plaza? Right across the street from the Hyatt Regency of course! Be there or be-dished! Unless somebody notifies me before my next deadline, the parties on New Year's Eve will be more or less private-or at your favorite bar! Hats, noise-makers, champagne -it will all be there if you look for it. If any late-breaking parties come my way, you can read about it here next week. Since the straights booked the Galleria and Giftcenter for those nights, One Market Plaza is the only place to

### SAY DISH, SAY DISH

If you saw the Folsom Follies Show a few weeks ago and/or if you were in the show, you'll get a Church will be the Empress chance to see the finally edited video on Thursday night, 29 Nov. at 2000 hours at the Transfer, north of Market's leather/levi/ biker bar. The clips I saw of the video are gret, so get on down and enjoy a reprise of Warren Cave's triumph. See the video producer about getting copies that night.

> Jack "Irene" McGowan dropped by my office while I was at lunch the other day and left this note: "I see you're still stirring shit, dear heart." Yes, Jack, somebody had to take your place when you left us to live in Chicago! Yes, Irene is back and the proverbial sh-- is hitting the fan already.

I haven't asked Jack what he thinks about the GSL these days, with a woman being the commissioner, etc. Can you all remember the days when Jack vehemently tried to get the league to allow "straight" players on the teams? Can you remember the rejection of that proposal? Hydie Downard does, or has it been that long

The approximation of the second t

(Photo: J.C. Collins)

ago? Welcome home, Irene, dear heart. Shall we resume???

Jim Ward, the high priest of piercing is now a resident of our town and has enslaved himself of one Drew Nicholas, the Mr. Drummer photographer. Tongues were wagging all over town when Mr. Ward appeared onstage at the Eagle with a slave collar on his neck and a chain attached to the palms of Mr. Nicholas. Their bonding ritual and play party will take place in Febraury. I wouldn't miss this for all the earrings in the world.

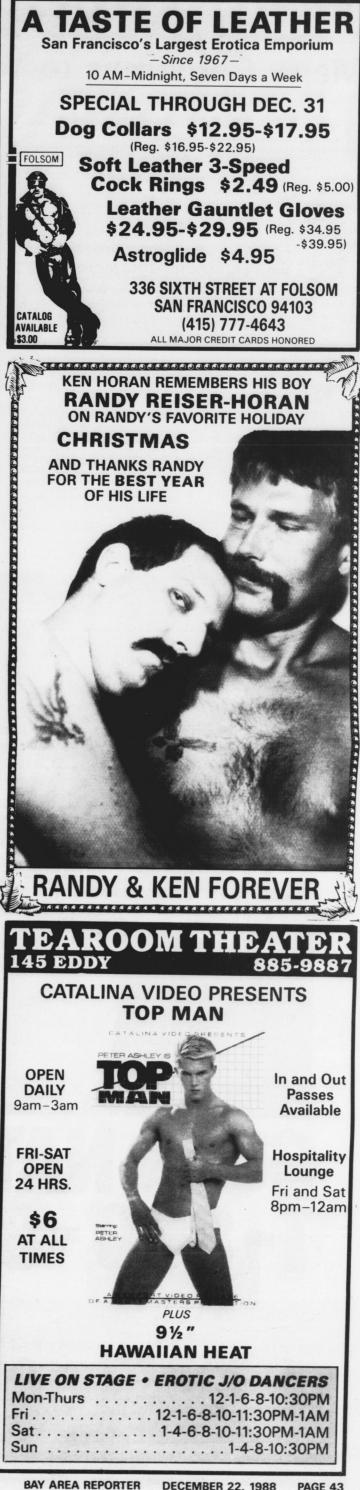
Cliff Rogers of El Cerrito is hopelessly enamored of Dennis Patterson in the December issue of Drummer. If there's a December issue or any monthly issue of Drummer, I'd like to see it. Drummer has issue numbers only like a lot of other gay magazines. No month has ever appeared on the cover of a Drummer Magazine to my knowledge. Of course, I could be wrong, but all it takes is a call to them or to the former publisher, John Embry who is now a country gent up at the RushRiv.

While I myself have vet to enter the portals on 5th Street of what used to be the Hot House which is now a jazz club called Milestones, I guess Saturday, Jan 14 will be my first visit. That's when Deena Jones will appear for a one-night engagement with comedian Renee Hicks.

Knowing how well Deena can boom out, I hope none of the dried Crisco drops out of the ceiling. The performance will be sans chains rattling or slings creaking. Stay tuned for the time and admission cost.

The weekend of Jan. 13-15, the Centaur MC of Washington, DC present their 5th Annual Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leatherman Contest to be held at Tracks. A whole leather weekend is planned with a lot of the local "talent" on hand for the judging and other events. The weekend package is only \$15 and you can get the info from them by writing to Centaur MC, c/o J. Rocco, 2210 N Pickett St., Apt. T-2, Alexandria, VA 22304-1065. This is always a popular event and draws hundreds of East Coast leather men as well as others from around the country. Patrick Toner will be there as a judge among several others. Plan now-time is short!

Well, dudes and dudettes, chacha queens, leather mavens, drag queens, and others, here's wishing you all a great Christ-(Continued on page 48)



BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988

### Sweet Lips

## **Merry Christmas to You All**

must apologize for a goof in my last column. Now that Robbie, aka Helen Trent, is no longer at the Kokpit, the one and only Ms. Greta Grass will be on the planks, besides regular times, on Sundays from noon 'til 7 p.m. starting on the 25th of December. Merry Christmas, Greta.

Flash: The ever popular form-erly Polk Street Sally, known as Dixon, will be on the planks on New Year's Eve at the very popular Mint. According to the great Stanley Boyd, he will be doing relief shifts there. Welcome back home to the Mint, Dixon.

I understand that Charpes on Gough Street has catered a lot of Christmas parties this season, and everyone has enjoyed the food and atmosphere of Charpes, so do give them a try for lunch or dinner in the near future.

Michael stars at 1 a.m. at My Place on Folsom Street on Saturday nights, so don't miss him.

Cory Productions is presenting the Miss Gay West Coast USA Pageant 1989 on Saturday the

14th of January. For ticket info contact Cory Productions at 928-5988. This should be a truly interesting event that shouldn't be missed. Yes, I am one of the MCs.

The ever popular and still lookin' great Bill Wales was in town the other A.M. looking for his good drinking buddy, Shep.

La Mere Dusquene is open for Christmas dinner from 4 p.m. on, and reservations are a must. If you haven't been there, the food is super and the service just great. Ask for Laurier or Glenn and you won't be disappointed.

Totie of New Belle Saloon fame had a surprise birthday party for her Russell, and it was a smash with a great prime rib dinner held at the Gate Restaurant on Pine and Jones. And of course Tinkerbelle was there and sat on Russ's lap-ugh.

Notice: Glen Seaholm, please contact Rome at the Gold Room on Geary Street. It involves an inheritance.

John (Donnie-Marie), formerly of the Mother Lode, is now on the planks at the Wooden Horse on Lower Polk Street mornings, Friday through Tuesdays, so drop by and have a cocktail with him.

The Court of The Shaky Quake Empire is offering a 1976 Toll Saver Activity Pack for the cororonation events that will be coming up, so for info contact Dennis Kaump at 798-2807 or any member of the cabinet. Their highnesses have a spectacular coronation planned, and lots of interesting events leading up to it. Your nerwsletters are great, Phoebe Planters, and you never looked as lovely as you did in your Ms. Claus outfit, Empress Lily.

Ginger's Too will be closed on Christmas day, but will be serving a great brunch on Monday the 26th from 11 a.m. 'til 3 p.m., so when you are downtown or exchanging gifts or whatever, do drop by, and, yes, I'll be on the planks being as kind and loveable as usual

The Corral, a new and interesting western bar at 2140 Market St.has Mr. Cowboy, The Saint, on the planks on Tuesday nights.



Suzie Wong and Frau Schneider at the Ducal Court Christmas dinner Dec. 14. (Photo: Jenifer)

The Corral is open and doing great

On Friday the 23rd the Kokpit will present Stephanie Miller and the Hand Maidens in A Christmas Show! with show times at 9 and 11 p.m. with no cover charge, so come join in the fun.

Flash: Billy, the better half of the former "3," is now working the planks at the very popular Special on Castro Street and doing a great job of it, so don't miss this great and hunky guy.

Have you seen Mueller's Deli windows on Castro? Yes, Bella has outdone herself again, and I don't know how she finds time to start all of the things that she does.

Congrats to Jesse, Eddie, Felix, and Oscar on having their first tree. Sorry I can't make the party, Jesse, but I will be there in spirit. The Polk Gulch Saloon does look fabulous and should be nominated for a Cable Car award.

Don't forget Ginger's Too on Sixth Street is having a great gala New Year's Eve dinner and party. Reservations are a must, so call now (543-3622). It promises to be bigger and better than last year's, if that is possible, so see you then.

Since this is my last column for the year I want to wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and a A special greeting to all my wonderful friends in Portland, especially Steve, Dennis, Lucy, and of course the wonderful Mame.

Happy 50th birthday today, the 22nd, to our own Allen White.▼

### New Logo For Int'l Ms Leather

Shadow Morton has produced the logo which will appear on posters, T-shirts, and other promotional material for the third annual International Ms Leather contest. The contest is scheduled to be held March 25 at the San Franciscan Hotel, 1231 Market

T-shirts printed with the 1989 logo are available from IMsL, Inc., P.O. Box 460504, San Francisco, CA 94146 for \$10. All proceeds will be donated to AIDS service organizations and other charities.

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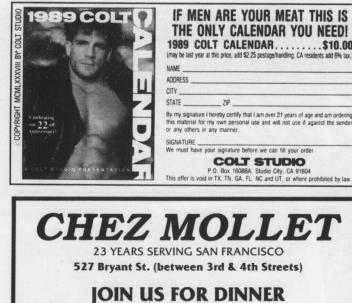
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## **CHRISTMAS DAY & NEW YEAR'S EVE**

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BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988 PAGE 46 THIS WEEK

## FRIDAY 23

• Emperor Steve Rascher and Empress Lily Street: join Jerry Coletti and Pat Montclaire in presenting a traveling caroling group which will begin at the Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., at 7:30 p.m.

• Puttin' on the Glitz: featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, Splatters, 3rd Floor, 571 Mission St., S.F., 9:30 p.m., \$10, two-drink minimum. Call 541-0633 for reservations.

• Intimate Friends: a musical celebration of the gay and lesbian lifestyle, Buriel Clay Theatre, Western Addit Cultural Center, 762 Fulton St., S.F., 8 p.m., \$15. Call WE-1-4444 for tickets.

• Lesbian Soap Opera: five one-hour videotape epi-sodes of Two in Twenty, Harvey Milk Branch of the S.F. Public Library, 3555 16th St., S.F., 4 p.m.

• Stephen Givens: DJ dance music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover.

· Club U.K.: the gay import presented by British by Birth, Rebel by Choice (Caroline Clone and Sanford Kellman), 931 Larkin St., S.F., 9 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5 includes Club U.K. pin. No polyester. Call 752-2697 for more

• Club Dub: featuring urban R&B/funk dance music, 6th and Harrison streets, 8 p.m.-2 a.m., \$3 cover.

• Modern Music Friday: with DJ Steve Masters, B Street, 236 B St., San Mateo, 9 p.m., cover,

· Club Infra-Red: dancing, Scooters, 22 4th St., S.F., 9 p.m.-2 a.m., cover. Sound by Randy Schiller. Call 777-0880 for more information.

· Just Rewards: features the hottest DJ in Walnut Creek, 2520 Camino Diablo, Walnut Creek, 9 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5 cover. Call 256-1200 for more information

• David Kelsey: music, D.J.'s, 1535 Olympic Blvd., Walnut Creek, 9 p.m. Call 930-0300 for more information.

 Sing-Along: with Frank Banks on the plano, Charpe's Grill, 131 Gough St., Thursday-Sunday, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

• Wally Kum: your sing-along host on the plano at the Mint, 1942 Market St., S.F., 9:30 p.m., 1:30 a.m.

• Dick Hindman: music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8 p.m. Call 431-5266 for more information • Second to Nun: an evening of dance, performance, storytelling, and installation art featuring Rosio Fuentes,

Lex Lonehood, High Risk Group, Keith Hennessy, Dana Smith, and Debbie Reischl, Studio 4, 440 Potrero, S.F. 8:30 p.m., \$3 (no one turned away for lack of funds). Black and White Men Together: East Bay rap, 7:30-10 p.m., "Dating Game in the '80s." Call 261-7922 for more informatio

 Ballroom and Latin Dancing for Lesbians and Gay Men. Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission St., S.F., beginners 7:30-8:30 p.m., intermediates 8:30-9:30 p.m. Call 995-4962 for more information. · Church of the Secret Gospel: fetish night, 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2, S.F., 9 p.m. Call 621-1887 for more information

· Living Well With AIDS/ARC: attitudinal healing support group, Rest Stop, 134 Church St., S.F., 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 621-REST for more information.

## **SATURDAY 24**

• Now Sing With Hearts Aglow: featuring the S.F. Gay Men's Chorus and the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of S.F., First Congregational Church, Post and Mason, S.F., 7 p.m., \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Call 863-8326 or 552-3656 for tickets.

· Come Out for Christmasl: Dignity/S.F. midnight mass, Everett Middle School Auditorium, 450 Church St., S.F., 11:45 p.m.

Christmas at MCC: two candlelight communion services, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7 and 10:30 p.m.

· MCC Santa Rosa: carols, candlelight, and communion, 515 Orchard St., S.F., 11 p.m.

• Family of Friends: Christmas Eve party, Hero, 4th and Bryant, S.F., doors open 9:30 p.m., free admission with Dreamland T-dance pass until 10:30 n.m. \$7 after 10:30 p.m. Music by Steve Fabus; visuals by Greg Fleming; buffet.

· Christmas Party: featuring Sharon Jackson, Scandals, 162 Turk St., S.F., 8 p.m., no cover.

• Intimate Friends: a musical celebration of the gay and lesbian lifestyle, \$18 (see Friday listing for details).

• Dance Party: at the club for gay men and women, the Box, 628 Divisadero St., S.F., 9 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5-\$6. All funk and soul.

· Code Blue: dance club, Metropolis, 1484 Market St., S.F., doors open 9 p.m., members \$6, guests \$7. With DJ Annie B.

• The Beat: dancing to the freshest mix of MTV/Top 40 hits, 6th and Harrison streets, 8 p.m.-2 a.m., \$4 cover. · David Kelsey: music (see Friday listing for details).

• Cabaret Night With Viva: Scandals, 162 Turk St., S.F., 9 p.m.

• Dick Hindman: music (see Friday listing for details). Club Infra-Red: dancing (see Friday listing for details).



### Celebrate the holidays by seeing Puttin' on the Glitz. (Photo: Rink)

Puttin' on the Glitz: featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, 8 p.m. (see Friday listing for details).
 Wild Fire Band: country/western music and dancing, Turf Club, 22517 Mission Blvd., Hayward, 9 p.m., no music Alex Sunday at Same

Sunday at 6 p.m. Wally Kum: your sing-along host on the piano at the

Mint (see Friday listing for details). Just Rewards: hottest DJ in Walnut Creek (see Friday

listing for details).

• Frank Banks: sing-along plano, Charpes Grill, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 p.m. • Fraternal Order of Gays: Christmas Eve potluck and social, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 7 p.m. Call 641-0999 for more information.

• EastBay FrontRunners: run, in Berkeley's Aquatic Park. Take I-880 north to University Avenue and go east to first light, then turn right (Sixth Street). Go one block and turn right on Addison; take Addison to Aquatic Park. Flat 2.5-mile loop. Call 939-3579 or 261-3246 for more

Church of the Secret Gospel: Christmas fellowship, 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2, S.F., 8 p.m.- 6 a.m. (doors open until 2 a.m.) Call 621-1887 for more information.

• Alanon: meeting for people with AIDS/ARC/HIV-positive concerns, Rest Stop, 134 Church St., S.F., 4:30-6 p.m. Call 621-REST for more information. · Game Night: for persons living with AIDS/ARC and

HIV+, Rest Stop Support Center, 134 Church St., S.F. 7 p.m., free. Call 621-REST for more information.

**SUNDAY 25** 

C)

· Christmas at MCC: two services of holy communion, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Christmas potluck to follow. AIDS healing service at 7 p.m.

· Christmas Night T-Dance: Dreamland, 715 Harrison St., S.F., free with T-dance pass or \$3 without. Music by Kurt Lawson; visuals by Jeri Alper.

• Puttin' on the Glitz: featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys (see Friday listing for details). Intimate Friends: a musical celebration of the gay and

lesbian lifestyle, 7 p.m., \$12 (see Friday listing for details).

 Code Blue 2: dance club, 16th and DeHaro streets, S.F., 8:30 p.m.-2 a.m., members \$3, guests \$4. Call 979-5557 for more information

· High Tea: high-energy music on the dance floor; complimentary suntan oil on the patio. 6th and Harrison streets, S.F., noon-8 p.m., no cover.

· Crotch Grotto: new music on the sleazy side, 6th and Harrison streets, S.F., 8 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover.

· Frank Banks: sing-along piano, Charpes Grill, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 p.m.

• Electric City: television on S.F. cable channel 35 at 7 p.m. Featuring Desiree, Rita Rockett, Pat Bond, Harvey Fierstein, and Tallulah Bankhead Goes MAD.

· San Francisco FrontRunners: run in Stern Grove. Meet at the intersection of Sloat Boulevard and 19th Avenue, S.F., at 10 a.m. for 1.95 miles of pure pleasure. Call 922-1435 or 821-3719 for more information.

· Gay Softball League: winter softball, Christopher Field, Diamond Heights Shopping Center, S.F., 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 285-7419 for more information.

• Tsunami Masters Swim Team: practice, King Pool, 3rd and Carroll streets, S.F., 10 a.m. Call 572-9690 for more information.

· Church of the Secret Gospel: 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2, S.F., 8 p.m. Call 621-1887 for more information.



at El Rio Dec. 28.

 San Francisco MCC: worship services, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. (with childcare and signing for the hearing-impaired) and 7 p.m. Call 863-4434 for

• New Life MCC: worship service, 1823 9th St., Berkeley, 5 p.m. Call 843-9355 for more information. · Golden Gate MCC: worship service, 48 Belcher St.,

S.F., 12:30 and 7 p.m. Call 621-6300 for details. • MCC Santa Rosa: worship service, 515 Orchard St., 11 a.m. Call (707) 526-HOPE for more information.

## **MONDAY 26**

more information

no cover

mation.

· Hot Strippers: with host and singer Lucy Manhattan, Club St. John, 170 W. St. John St., S.F., show 10 p.m.,

• Wally Kum: your sing-along host on the piano at the Mint (see Friday listing for details). Church of the Secret Gospel: buddy night, 746 Clem-entina St., Apt. 2, S.F., 8-11 p.m. Call 621-1887 for more

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 Alanon: meeting for people with AIDS/ARC/HIV-positive concerns, Rest Stop, 134 Church St., S.F., 7:30-9 p.m. Call 621-REST for more information. • Emergence/San Francisco: gay Christian Scientist group meets at 7:50 p.m. Call 221-HOME fore more

• Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders: support group for older gay men (60+), Operation Concern, 1853 Mar-ket St., S.F., 7-9 p.m. Call 626-7000 for more informa-

• S.F. Spikes: soccer practice, West Sunset Soccer Fields, Sunset Blvd., Noriega and 39th streets, S.F., 6 p.m. Call 821-4248 for more information. Country and Western Dance Lessons: Turf Club, 22517 Mission Blvd., Hayward, 7:30-9:30 p.m., free.

Also Tuesday and Thursday.

• Spiritual Support Groups for HIV-Positive Individuals: sponsored by the United Methodist AIDS Project, Beth-any United Methodist Church, 1268 Sanchez, S.F. 7-9 p.m. Call 647-6051 or 752-3222 for more infor-• Emotional Support Group: for people who have lost their lovers due to AIDS/ARC, 7:30 p.m. Call Sean Martinfield at 626-4329 for more information.

Support Groups for PWA and Those Concerned About AIDS: ongoing meeting, Kaiser Foundation pital, 2425 Geary Blvd., 3:30-4:45 p.m. The meet ting, Kaiser Foundation H will be held in Conference Room B on the fifth floor. Cal 929-4186 for details.

**TUESDAY 27** 

 David Kelsey: music (see Friday listing for details). · Wally Kum: your sing-along host on the piano at the Mint (see Friday listing for details).

· Faith Winthrop and Gus Gustavson: music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.

(Photo: R. Pruzan)

· Slightly Older Lesbians: small-group discussion, Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 7-9 p.m.

• Gay Roller Skating: Club Saare, 15721 E. 14th St., San Leandro, 8 p.m.-midnight, cover. Call 278-2095 for more information.

· Richmond Youth Rap: lesbian/gay youth group, 3654 Balboa, S.F., 6-7:30 p.m. Call 668-5955 for more

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· Co-Dependency Group: for caregivers, Kairos House, 114 Douglass St., S.F., 7-8:30 p.m. Led by Joe Tolson.

• Master Your Mind: support group for people with AIDS and the worried, led by Mary Richards, 4th floor, 333 Valencia St., S.F., noon-2 p.m. Focus on meditation, visualization, empowerment, and health: not affiliated with the S.F. AIDS Foundation. Call 945-0941 for more information

 Homopolo: gay and lesbian Waterpolo team workout, Oakland High School pool, 1055 McArthur Blvd., Oakland, 7:15-9 p.m. All levels of swimmers encouraged. Call 824-4848 for more information.

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• 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.

Community United Against Violence: support group for battered gay men, 514 Castro St., S.F., 7:30-9:30 p.m., free. Call 864-3112 for more information. • Temescal Gay Men's Chorus: rehearsal, Trinity Hall, 2320 Dana, Berkeley, 7:30 p.m. Call 843-1439 for more

• AIDS Interfaith Network: support group, Parsonage, 555-A Castro St., S.F., 7 p.m., free. Call 864-7462 for nore information.

Healing Institute: meeting/workshop, MCC San Francisco, Room 21, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30-10 p.m. Call 861-0702 for more information

· Gay International Folk Dancing: for lesbians and gay men, Eureka Valley Recreation Center, Collingwood Park, S.F., teaching 7:30-8 p.m., request dancing 8-9:30 p.m., \$2.50. Call 585-9784 or 285-5634 for

## WEDNESDAY 28

Marga Gomez and Josh Kornbluth: comedy, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 8-10 p.m.

· Lesbian Soap Opera: five one-hour videotape episodes of Two in Twenty, Harvey Milk Branch of the S.F. Public Library, 3555 16th St., S.F., 7:30 p.m.

· Female Trouble: weekly rock music club for women, 1821 Haight St., S.F., 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Music by the Bloodlox; with special guest Diviana.

• Puttin' on the Glitz: featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys (see Friday listing for details).

## **THURSDAY 29**

· Wet Jockey Shorts Contest: with host Danny Williams, Endup, 6th and Harrison, S.F., doors open 8 p.m., show 10 p.m., no cover before 9 p.m., \$4 after 9 p.m. Puttin' on the Glitz: with female impersonators and

cabaret guys (see Friday listing for details). Dance Party: for gay men and women, the Box,

628 Divisadero St., S.F., 9 p.m.-2 a.m., \$3-\$4. All funk and soul.

• Frank Banks: sing-along piano, Charpes Grill, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 p.m.

• Faith Winthrop and Gus Gustavson: music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m. • Grand Duke Jim Johner: birthday celebration, the

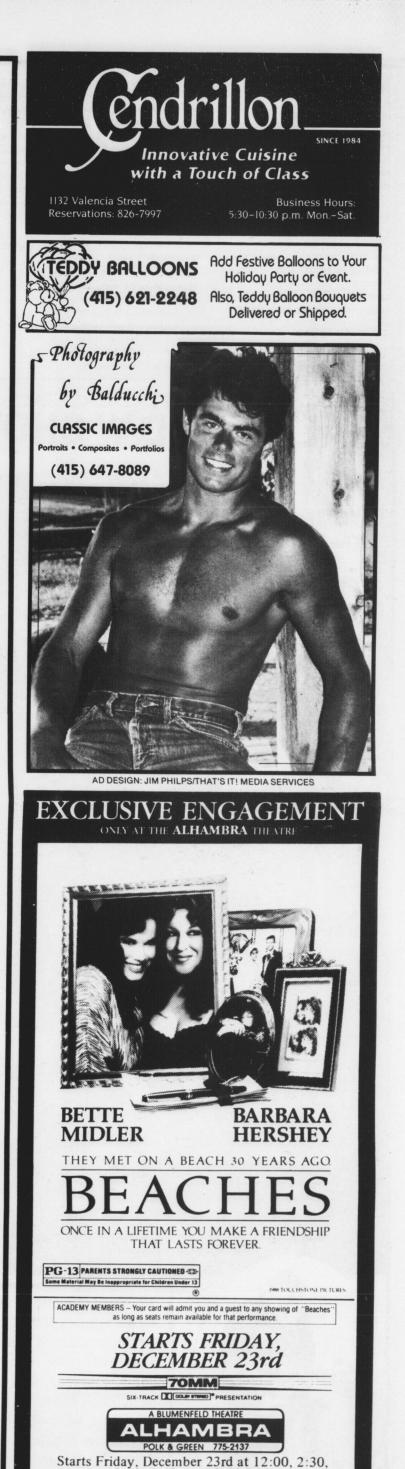
Mint, 1942 Market St., S.F., 8-10 p.m. Featuring Grand Duchess Suzie Wong, Grand Duchess X Kitty, and Inga. • ETVC: TV/TS and friends social group Winter Carnival, S.F., 8 p.m. Call 664-1499 for more information.

• Frameline Presents: television on S.F. cable channel 25 at 8 p.m. A one-hour documentary about the 1987 March on Washington, For Love and for Life, will be shown.

· Community Action News: televion on Mountain View cable channel 30 at 7:30 p.m. A look back at Gay Pride Day '88.

• Black and White Men Together: S.F. rap, 1350 Waller St., S.F., 7:30-10 p.m. Call 931-BWMT for more informa-

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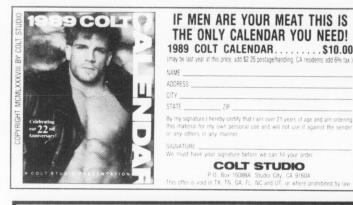


BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988 PAGE 47

5:00, 7:45 and 10:20 P.M.

**EXCLUSIVE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA** 

ENGAGEMENT





....\$10.00

**JOIN US FOR DINNER** 

### **CHRISTMAS DAY & NEW YEAR'S EVE**

Soup & Salad, Entree, Dessert & Coffee

Christmas Day from \$12.95 New Year's Eve From \$18.00

### **Reservations Recommended:** (415) 495-4527

Banquet Room Available for Up to 100 SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO BIRTHDAY PARTIES



BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988 PAGE 46

## FRIDAY 23

• Emperor Steve Rascher and Empress Lily Street: join Jerry Coletti and Pat Montclaire in presenting a traveling caroling group which will begin at the Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., at 7:30 p.m

• Puttin' on the Glitz: featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, Splatters, 3rd Floor, 571 Mission St., S.F., 9:30 p.m., \$10, two-drink minimum. Call 541-0633 for reservations.

• Intimate Friends: a musical celebration of the gay and esbian lifestyle, Buriel Clay Theatre, Western Addition Cultural Center, 762 Fulton St., S.F., 8 p.m., \$15. Call WE-1-4444 for tickets.

· Lesbian Soap Opera: five one-hour videotape episodes of Two in Twenty, Harvey Milk Branch of the S.F. Public Library, 3555 16th St., S.F., 4 p.m.

• Stephen Givens: DJ dance music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover.

• Club U.K.: the gay import presented by British by Birth, Rebel by Choice (Caroline Clone and Sanford Kellman), 931 Larkin St., S.F., 9 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5 includes Club U.K. pin. No polyester. Call 752-2697 for more

• Club Dub: featuring urban R&B/funk dance music, 6th and Harrison streets, 8 p.m.-2 a.m., \$3 cover.

• Modern Music Friday: with DJ Steve Masters, B Street, 236 B St., San Mateo, 9 p.m., cover.

• Club Infra-Red: dancing, Scooters, 22 4th St., S.F. 9 p.m.-2 a.m., cover. Sound by Randy Schiller. Call 777-0880 for more information.

• Just Rewards: features the hottest DJ in Walnut Creek, 2520 Camino Diablo, Walnut Creek, 9 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5 cover. Call 256-1200 for more information. • David Kelsey: music, D.J.'s, 1535 Olympic Blvd., Walnut Creek, 9 p.m. Call 930-0300 for more information.

• Sing-Along: with Frank Banks on the piano, Charpe's Grill, 131 Gough St., Thursday-Sunday, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. • Wally Kum: your sing-along host on the piano at the

Mint, 1942 Market St., S.F., 9:30 p.m., 1:30 a.m. • Dick Hindman: music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8 p.m. Call 431-5266 for more information.

· Second to Nun: an evening of dance, performance, storytelling, and installation art featuring Rosio Fuentes, Lex Lonehood, High Risk Group, Keith Hennessy, Dana Smith, and Debbie Reischl, Studio 4, 440 Potrero, S.F. 8:30 p.m., \$3 (no one turned away for lack of funds).

• Black and White Men Together: East Bay rap, 7:30-10 p.m., "Dating Game in the '80s." Call 261-7922 for more information · Ballroom and Latin Dancing for Lesbians and Gay Men:

Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission St., S.F., beginners 7:30-8:30 p.m., intermediates 8:30-9:30 p.m. Call 995-4962 for more information.

· Church of the Secret Gospel: fetish night, 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2, S.F., 9 p.m. Call 621-1887 for more informa

· Living Well With AIDS/ARC: attitudinal healing support group, Rest Stop, 134 Church St., S.F., 11 a.m. 1 p.m. Call 621-REST for more information.

## **SATURDAY 24**

 Now Sing With Hearts Aglow: featuring the S.F. Gay Men's Chorus and the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of S.F., First Congregational Church, Post and Mason, S.F., 7 p.m., \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Call 863-8326 or 552-3656 for tickets

• Come Out for Christmas!: Dignity/S.F. midnight mass, Everett Middle School Auditorium, 450 Church St., S.F., 11:45 p.m.

 Christmas at MCC: two candlelight communion services, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7 and 10:30 p.m.

• MCC Santa Rosa: carols, candlelight, and commu-

nion, 515 Orchard St., S.F., 11 p.m. • Family of Friends: Christmas Eve party, Hero, 4th and

Bryant, S.F., doors open 9:30 p.m., free admission with Dreamland T-dance pass until 10:30 p.m., \$7 after 10:30 p.m. Music by Steve Fabus; visuals by Greg Fleming; buffet.

· Christmas Party: featuring Sharon Jackson, Scandals, 162 Turk St., S.F., 8 p.m., no cove

• Intimate Friends: a musical celebration of the gay and lesbian lifestyle, \$18 (see Friday listing for details). • Dance Party: at the club for gay men and women, the

Box, 628 Divisadero St., S.F., 9 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5-\$6. All funk and soul.

• Code Blue: dance club, Metropolis, 1484 Market St., S.F., doors open 9 p.m., members \$6, guests \$7. With DJ Annie B.

• The Beat: dancing to the freshest mix of MTV/Top 40 hits, 6th and Harrison streets, 8 p.m.-2 a.m., \$4 cover. David Kelsey: music (see Friday listing for details).

• Cabaret Night With Viva: Scandals, 162 Turk St., S.F., 9 p.m. • Dick Hindman: music (see Friday listing for details).

• Club Infra-Red: dancing (see Friday listing for details).



Celebrate the holidays by seeing Puttin' on the Glitz. (Photo: Rink

· Puttin' on the Glitz: featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, 8 p.m. (see Friday listing for details) • Wild Fire Band: country/western music and dancing, Turf Club, 22517 Mission Blvd., Hayward, 9 p.m., no cover. Also Sunday at 6 p.m.

· Wally Kum: your sing-along host on the piano at the Mint (see Friday listing for details).

• Just Rewards: hottest DJ in Walnut Creek (see Friday listing for details).

• Frank Banks: sing-along piano, Charpes Grill.

131 Gough St., S.F., 9 p.m. · Fraternal Order of Gays: Christmas Eve potluck and social, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 7 p.m. Cal 641-0999 for more information.

• EastBay FrontRunners: run in Berkeley's Aquation Park. Take I-880 north to University Avenue and go eas to first light, then turn right (Sixth Street). Go one block and turn right on Addison; take Addison to Aquatic Park. Flat 2.5-mile loop. Call 939-3579 or 261-3246 for more

· Church of the Secret Gospel: Christmas fellowship, 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2, S.F., 8 p.m.-6 a.m. (doors open until 2 a.m.) Call 621-1887 for more information. · Alanon: meeting for people with AIDS/ARC/HIVpositive concerns, Rest Stop, 134 Church St., S.F., 4:30-6 p.m. Call 621-REST for more information.

· Game Night: for persons living with AIDS/ARC and HIV+, Rest Stop Support Center, 134 Church St., S.F.

7 p.m., free. Call 621-REST for more information



 Christmas at MCC: two services of holy communion San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Christmas potluck to follow. AIDS healing

 Christmas Night T-Dance: Dreamland, 715 Harrison St., S.F., free with T-dance pass or \$3 without. Music

• Puttin' on the Glitz: featuring female impersonators

Intimate Friends: a musical celebration of the gay and lesbian lifestyle, 7 p.m., \$12 (see Friday listing for

• Code Blue 2: dance club, 16th and DeHaro streets, S.F., 8:30 p.m.-2 a.m., members \$3, guests \$4. Call

streets, S.F., noon-8 p.m., no cover.

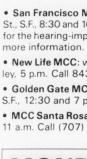
Harrison streets, S.F., 8 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover.

• San Francisco FrontRunners: run in Stern Grove. Meet at the intersection of Sloat Boulevard and 19th Av-

· Gay Softball League: winter softball, Christopher Field, Diamond Heights Shopping Center, S.F., 10 a.m.-

• Tsunami Masters Swim Team: practice, King Pool, 3rd and Carroll streets, S.F., 10 a.m. Call 572-9690 for more

· Church of the Secret Gospel: 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2, S.F., 8 p.m. Call 621-1887 for more information



## **MONDAY 26**

no cover.

Mint (see Friday listing for details). information

 Hypnotherapy: taught by David Ricard for caregivers Kairos House, 114 Douglass St., S.F., 7-8:30 p.m. Call 861-0877 for more information

• HIV+ Spiritual Support Group: meeting, San Fran-cisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F. Call 863-4434 for more information.

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· Country and Western Dance Lessons: Turf Club, 22517 Mission Blvd., Hayward, 7:30-9:30 p.m., free. Also Tuesday and Thursday. Spiritual Support Groups for HIV-Positive Individuals: sponsored by the United Methodist AIDS Project, Beth-

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**TUESDAY 27** 

Mint (see Friday listing for details) · Faith Winthrop and Gus Gustavson: music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.

at El Rio Dec. 28.

service at 7 p.m.

by Kurt Lawson; visuals by Jeri Alper. and cabaret guys (see Friday listing for details).

details).

979-5557 for more information. • High Tea: high-energy music on the dance floor; complimentary suntan oil on the patio, 6th and Harrison

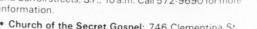
• Crotch Grotto: new music on the sleazy side, 6th and

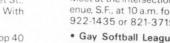
• Frank Banks: sing-along piano, Charpes Grill, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 p.m.

• Electric City: television on S.F. cable channel 35 at 7 p.m. Featuring Desiree, Rita Rockett, Pat Bond, Harvey Fierstein, and Tallulah Bankhead Goes MAD.

enue, S.F., at 10 a.m. for 1.95 miles of pure pleasure. Call 922-1435 or 821-3719 for more information.

1 p.m. Call 285-7419 for more information.





information





 San Francisco MCC: worship services, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. (with childcare and signing for the hearing-impaired) and 7 p.m. Call 863-4434 for

• New Life MCC: worship service, 1823 9th St., Berkeley, 5 p.m. Call 843-9355 for more information.

 Golden Gate MCC: worship service, 48 Belcher St. S.F., 12:30 and 7 p.m. Call 621-6300 for details.

• MCC Santa Rosa: worship service, 515 Orchard St. 11 a.m. Call (707) 526-HOPE for more information.

• Hot Strippers: with host and singer Lucy Manhattan, Club St. John, 170 W. St. John St., S.F., show 10 p.m.,

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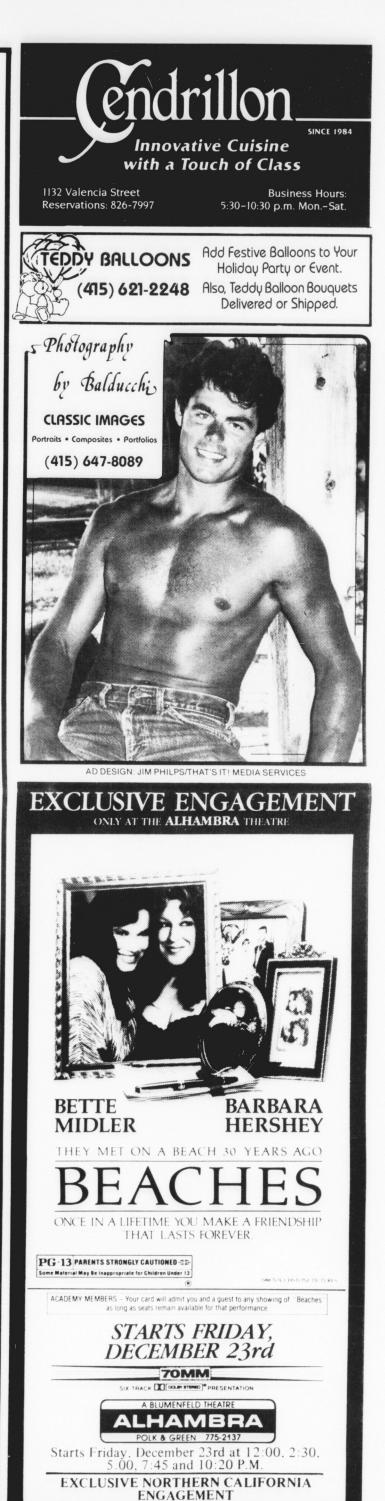
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### Marcus (Continued from page 43)

mas. And once again, let me express my thanks on behalf of all the charities we have, for your contributions throughout this past year.

Thanks to all of you who clean up the mess afterwards; who set it up to look just right; to those of you who get the word out, draw and letter the posters; pay for the printing of tickets and buy program ads; for those generous merchants all over town and bar/ restaurant owners who donate auctionable items, dinners, drinks, etc.

And thanks to all the little guys and girls who are behind the

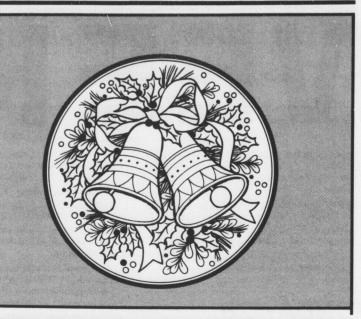
scenes and never get any recognition. We love you all for your kindness, patience, generosity, talent and perseverance. Without all of you unnamed angels, nothing would be accomplished. Yes, we all have our differences in one way or another, but we do pull together when it's necessary and you know it's necessary in these dark times. Maybe it took the death of a lover or a close friend to get you out and doing things-good!

Some of the "war horses" in town are getting very fatigued and over-imposed-upon these days. Your fresh blood, strength, ideas and talent are very much welcome so get in there and volunteer-you'll feel so great about yourself afterward.

And whether yhou get any recognition of any great magnitude, it doesn't matter, does it? After all, you answer only to yourself and you'll know deep down you didn't let the opportunity go by to show how thankful you are to be living in the greatest gay city in the world. And it got that way by your contribution and ef-

Have a Wonderful Christmas -you deserve it!





GALA HOLIDAY SHOW! CALL 781-9468 FOR DETAILS! STAGE **Now We Have** IN **Your Attention** PERSON **The Biggest Longhorn** Leo \* **Of Them All!** Kyle \* TOM Dan WORLD STEELE PREMIERE CINEMA I Jeff **\*** Mike ★ Ben \* Tim **\*** Carl \* Voe \* Pat \* MALE ZASIR. MEN ON EDAILY 10 CINEMA I \* \* CINEMA II \* LOUNGE TODAY & DAILY TODAY & DAILY 12:30, 5:30, 3, 7 & 9 PM 8 & 10 PM - SAT & SUN FRI, SAT & SUN 2, 5:30, 8 & 10 PM | 3, 7, 9 & 11:30 PM The management, staff, THE MALE ENTERTAINMENT CENTER and performers of the Nob Hill Cinema would like to wish everyone, everywhere, the very best for the holiday season. At the same time, we would like to thank our thousands of patrons for the privilege of CINEMA letting us entertain them 729 Bush St. at Powell Open daily 11:45 am 'til Midnight throughout the year. 781-9468

BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988 PAGE 48

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and Bob Ross.

I think of you often and highly. High kicks to Fred Fudd, Sissy Spaceout, and good Greta Grass. Mazel tov to Mr. Lips, Mrs. Dennis, and Billy Fogelman.

Also to Nick and Eddy, hope your new year's a gas. Rum toddies to Tim and John, plus Draggy and Ed. Please, Santa, send Dixie Peach to Alex and Jimmie. Raunchy Rita-say, are my reindeer all fed?

Seasonal glows to Charlotte and Peg, Mary Ellen, et al. Silver bells to cute Paulie, Mike Winnings—wow, there's a ball. Darling Mame, good Dennis, Roxy Darcelle, not too many red noses.

Not for a moment to forget Max and Ali, sly Lucy, Sussy, and Jan 'Cause if I forgot anyone up there, you know what hits the fan. Buon natale to good Mabel, Big Mike, and Jerry of the White Swallow.

Seasonal hi's to Mr. Marcus, Chez Lenny Mollet, and Paul B. Are these hard acts to follow? Please, Santa, tell Art, San Francisco needs and wants the Missouri. And let's wish, for the Giants, a stadium with the help of

Bob Lurie. God rest ye, dear Craigy and (Ruth) Craig, too. Bon mots, Harold St. T, Tammy and Ronny, drink your fill of the brew.

4 wassel cup full of cheer for Kimo and Russell, "Proust" Rosa and Randy, Randy and Richard, Randy's Johnson "Der" Humphreys amid this holiday bustle. Get going, Roberta, shy Kenny, tell Paul M. and Janus

to fill your stockings with hay, and then take a vow To share it with Alan and Eddy and Scott and good Candi Cow. Merry bells, dear Chet, Mr. Jed Lick, keep the hot brandy near For a toast to Garrett Poret, Scott Taylor, and my love Michael Greer

To Wilma, Ms. Caswell, Mr. Frieda, "Call me Bob Frank!" A wreath of good wishes, my Modesto, Ann Francine— also called Frank. Happy holly to Ratch and Jack B., Rule La Linsk, and Dick P.,

and Molly. by golly.

Applications are being accepted now. Interested contestants should send an SASE to IMsL, Inc., P.O. Box 460504, San Francisco, CA 94146. They will be sent

## สมสมมันสมสมสมมันสมมันสม **A Holiday Card**

### by Jay (Ethyl) Noonan

he calendar tells me it's the time of year to wish good cheer with word and, hopefully, in rhyme.

A sleighful of toys for sweet Kenny A; Char and John a festive salad do toss. Mistletoe for Reba, Luscious (Paul Bentley), J. Randolph.

Cheery regards to June and George, John and Mr. Bill Reilly. Tra-la's to Miss Minnie and Rome, Miss P, to Patterson and Jerry.

Noels to Mikey at Royals, the Belles Totie and his Russ. Salud to big Bette B and for Wayne Friday, plus platinum cuffs. Merry bells to Jesse and the Tonys, one, two, and three. Skoal to Marlena and Jim, plus Mother and Charles, a star for your tree.

On Delmar, on Cookie, on Durwood and Doug,

Keep Christmas love bottled up in a jug.

Aloha to pat and Duane, pretty Dee and Greg, and Sandra Dee in the city of roses.

To the gang at Charpe's, Twin Peaks, and Gilmore's; okay, Char, that's all three.

Happy channukah lights to Fern, good Patrick, and his Jim Cohen Parker.

The same for Tony and Tim, Mr. Doris and Cheetah, Gary D. in a cozy, warm rocker.

Jingles and rhymes to Mr. Mitch, dear Joy-cee, Eddie, Bell P.,

Snowflakes and warm wishes to Stacy and Tracy and Maggi,

So at the end of this rhyme are my friends David and Art and the gang at the Stake.

And for all of you who this missive your name did not make, And for those who are gone from our house-

especially sweet Jorge, our Joinita, and of course Miss Mouseyou are in our thoughts with love out there afar.

Good night and love, Mama Noonan, I know where you are.

Merry Christmas, good friends, so long for a time.

Loads of luck and good wishes in 1989. นนนนนนนนนนนนนนนนนนนนนนน

## Third Int'l Ms Leather Contest

On Saturday, March 25, the third annual International Ms Leather contest will be held in San Francisco at the San Franciscan Hotel, 1231 Market St. The winner of this competition will represent leatherwomen at events worldwide and assist in the promotion of a positive image of women in leather and the fundraising for AIDS service organizations and other charities which is the basic purpose of IMsL, Inc.

an information packet and applications. To assist in planning this event, please apply as early as possible.

In 1988, 12 contestants from five of the United States and from Canada appeared onstage. This year's contest is expected to be even bigger. IMsL strives to provide a venue where every aspect of the leather lifestyle can be represented, and women from each part of our community are encouraged to participate.

Volunteers with energy and enthusiasm are needed. For more information, write to the address above or call Sky Renfro at 552-0616.

MAST

CARD

## Legal Eagles Eye **Copyright Laws**

California Lawyers for the Arts, a nonprofit organization providing legal information and education to artists, will present a workshop entitled "An Overview of Copyright." It will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 11, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Fort Mason Center, Building B, Room 300.

Marc Paisin, an experienced copyright attorney, will discuss copyright basics for artists of all disciplines. The cost of the workshop is \$5 for members, \$15 general. For more information. please call California Lawyers for the Arts at 775-7200.

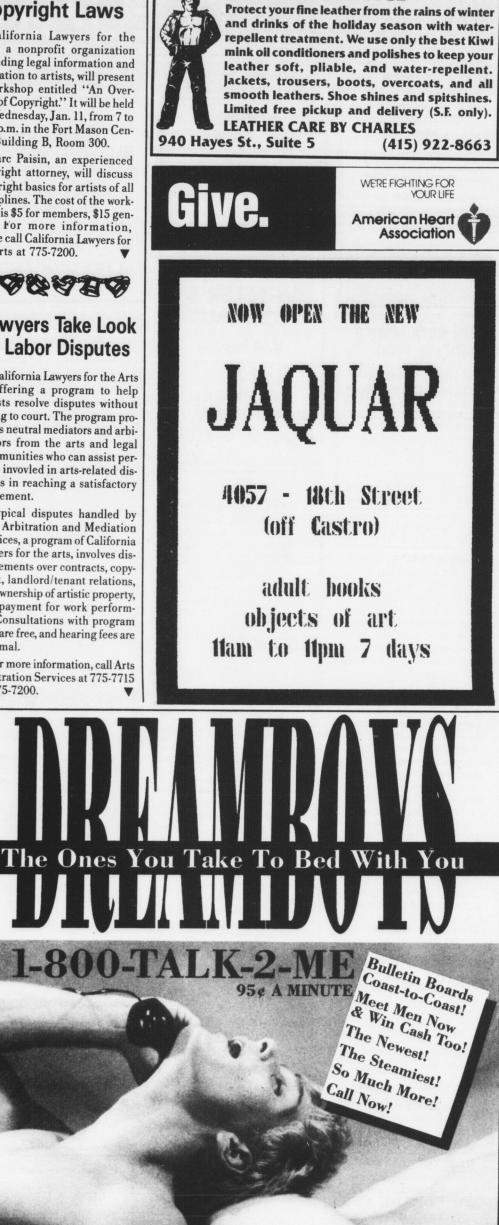


### Lawyers Take Look **At Labor Disputes**

California Lawyers for the Arts is offering a program to help artists resolve disputes without going to court. The program provides neutral mediators and arbitrators from the arts and legal communities who can assist persons invovled in arts-related disputes in reaching a satisfactory agreement.

Typical disputes handled by Arts Arbitration and Mediation Services, a program of California lawyers for the arts, involves disagreements over contracts, copyright, landlord/tenant relations, the ownership of artistic property, and payment for work performed. Consultations with program staff are free, and hearing fees are minimal.

For more information, call Arts Arbitration Services at 775-7715 or 775-7200.



**LEATHER SERVICE** 

BILLED AS COMMODORE TELEPHONE BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 22, 1988 PAGE 49





Then came Gay Games II, and the development of citywide sports federations that could network information to other cities regarding their local sports organizations. It was through the blanket sports organization, Team San Francisco, that the Trojans setup their first game with West Hollywood earlier this year. "Now we're using Team SF to spread the word to other cities outside of California that we've organized several gay flag football teams," said Trojan player and spokesman Bernard Turner.

# **BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS**

## Trojans See Expanded '89 Schedule

**Gay Football Is Here to Stay** 



The S.F. Trojans vs. the Hollywood Sun Devils.

### by Rick Thoman

Add another sport to the roster of the gay community of San Francisco. Following in the tradition of such well-established sports as softball, pool, bowling and tennis, and the newly emerging sports of volleyball, track, swimming and wrestling, comes flag football

The recently completed 1988 series of games between San Francisco Trojans and the West Hollywood Sun Devils has created a new rivalry as well as cementing the sport of flag football in the gay community. And its added another opportunity for gay athletes to defy the stereotypes of society at large.

Flag football started in San Francisco over three years ago, but besides a solo charity game against the Sheriff's Department, the loosely-associated group of athletes had no other games and no other opponents to prepare for. The paucity of games led to a lack of sustained interest in the sport, except for a handful of individuals who managed to hold the team (such as it was) together from year to

Already the number of gay teams has grown beyond San Francisco and West Hollywood to San Diego, Seattle and two teams in Long Beach. The Trojans are now in the preliminary stages of setting up a flag football tournament to be held in San Francisco in December 1989 involving

all the teams mentioned above. Turner envisions the tournament becoming an annual event, perhaps to be hosted in a different city each year, with round-robin play on the first day and the championship games played the following day.

Beyond that, the Trojans will definitely have another series of games with the West Hollywood Sun Devils in 1989. San Francisco plans to open its 1989 season in early September in West Hollywood, followed by its second season of league play in the Danville (straight) Recreation League. The Trojans will finish with a home game against West Hollywood. The two games with the Sun Devils combined with a ninegame series in the Danville League will ensure that the Trojans see plenty of playing time in 1989.

Turner said the team is really gearing up for the 1990 gay games when football will be one of the new sports added to the Gay Games roster (flag football or men and touch football for women). Again, Turner worked through Team SF to petition for the inclusion of flag football in Gay Games III. After meeting with Barry McDowell, head sports chairperson for the Vancouver Games, in September,

Turner was notified that football would be one of the new sports to be included in 1990.

"We were thrilled to get the sport included in the Gay Games III lineup," said Turner. "Each time a new sport is added, it opens a whole new area for participation in our community. Someone who may not feel coordinated enough to play basketball or softball, may feel at ease in some other sport. We want to provide the gay community in San Francisco and all over the country with the opportunities to get involved in healthy activities like sports."

The Trojans will start practicing again sometime in July. Turner said the team can always use new players, due to injuries and with so many people on the team playing in other sports, "it's hard to keep a healthy squad of players available for every game." The Trojans are particularly interested in adding a couple of big linemen to their team roster.

For more information about the team, contact Turner at 824-7048. For more information about the other sports activities available in the San Francisco gay community, contact Team SF at 626-1333.

### 'Midnight Ramble' at BMT Theater

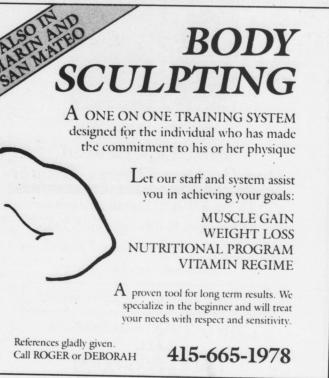
Blues singer Mechelle La Chaux and the Erotic Blues Revue will play a "Midnight Ramble" at Emervville's new BMT Theater (3629 San Pablo Ave. at 37th Street) at midnight on Friday, Dec. 16.

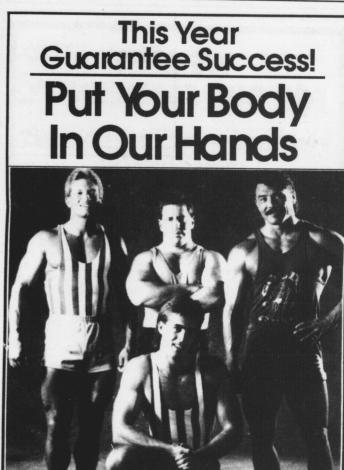
Featured in the Erotic Blues Revue are James Lewis (bass,) Kash Killian (cello), India Cook (violin), and Glenn Pearson (piano). Jonal Woodward will do staging, and Zerita Dotson will handle settings and lights.

Mechelle La Chaux co-wrote

"Speaking of Bessie," a show about the life of blues legend Bessie Smith which played at Oakland's Everbody's Creative Arts Center. She has co-created "Blue Jazz Cabaret" with Deborah Asante and Crystal V. Rhodes, which played throughout the Bay Area. La Chaux has been singing since the age of five, first in the Bay Area, then doing engagements in Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and at Lake Tahoe.

For further information, contact Ed Bullins at the BMT: 654-6172.





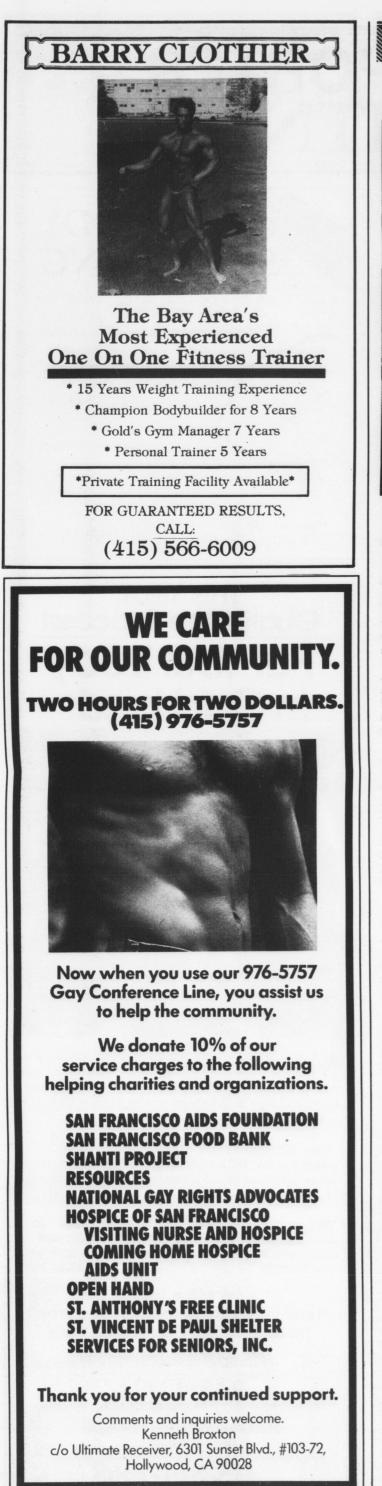
Make 1989 the year you get in shape and stay in shape. In just six weeks, you'll know the right way to work out, the right way to eat, the right way to get and stay in the shape you've always wanted to be in.

"After six weeks I was wearing size 32 jeans instead of 36. My weight dropped from 185 to160. What will I look like in a year with this much change in just six weeks? Thanks Mike" Don Delee

"Not everyone is overweight. Thanks to Mike I've gained 20lbs. In just 2 months, changed my self image and learned the fundamentals of a satisfying new lifestyle." Jonathan Hill



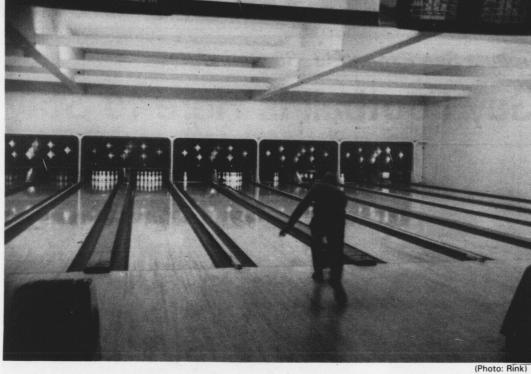
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**Leagues Break for the Holidays** 

IRONVI SINCE



### by Richard McPherson

Jerry DeYoung, the former B.A.R. bowling columnist, put his talents to work on the lanes in the Wednesday Tavern Guild League with a dynamite 655 series on Games of 234, 176, 245. In that series, bowling for the Pendulum Pandas on Dec. 7, DeYoung, a 170 average, shot 145 pins over his average. No one else could top him that week. (I bet he'll be skating up a storm this week after this bowling high.)

Next in line was Tim Mulvenon, 184 average, who shot a 645 in the Thursday TGL. Bowling for Play With It, Ltd., Mulvenon's set was highlighted by a 246 and 215. J.C. Halstead (177 average) had a fine week of scoring (at least on the lanes) with a 225, 211/618 in the Monday TGL and 227, 201/619 in the Thursday Hawaii league.

Bowlers shooting 215 + games at Park Bowl in the TGL's the week of Dec. 5 to 8: R. McPherson (202 average) 238; Tim Benton (180) 227; Lew Watson (167) 225; Jeff Hettmansperger (105) 222; and Pat Conlon (174) 222,

Honorable mention (160 average and under): John Glynn (157) 211; Drew Hynes (145) 207; Jackie Weil (147) 206; and Kevin Keefer (160) 203.

Special congratulations are due Ray Sasso, a 136 average in the Thursday TGL, for shooting a 231 game, 95 pins over his verage. Martin Burzinski (148) also had a great over-average achievement with a 222 in the Thursday Hawaii league. If I remember correctly, he started that game out with six strikes in a row; he had us all going there for a minute.

In the S.F. Women's Business League Lynn Wood, a 138 average, was the only 200+ shooter with a 203.

At Japantown Bowl in the **Community Leagues teammates** David Arnold (197 average) and Phil Payton (151) of the Gamblin Wrecks in the Sunday Reno league had a happy night of bowling. Arnold started the night out with a 246, finishing with a 614 series. Meanwhile, Payton came back the third game with an incredible 244! I'm almost sure that represents a lifetime high for Phil

Bowlers shooting 210+ games at JTown in the Community

Leagues the week of Dec. 6 to 11: Cliff Welch (153) 235; William Andrews (159) 214; Tim Kneis (171) 214; Ken Gray (178) 212; and Bruce Gresham (179) 212. Honorable mention (160

average and under): Nate Ell-

ington (144) 209; Jerome Lofton (156) 204; and J. Badilla-Dawal (159) 204. Great bowling Thadius Singson (great name, too!) on a 202 game from a 126 average bowler

(Continued on page 56)

### PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD LEAGUES **Team Standings**

### MONDAY TAVERN GUILD TRIOS

MONDAY TAVERN GU	ILDT	RIOS				
	W	L	14.	Godfather Serv. Fund	201/2	231/2
1. Golden Girls	261/2	91/2		Evans Pacific	20	24
2. Cave Men	23	13		9 Eyes Only	18	26
3. No Name So Far	211/2	141/2		Gutter Girls	18	26
4. Play With It, Ltd	21	15		Unbearable Bottoms	141/2	
5. JJ's Immortals	21	15		Bear Tops	14	30
6. Inches	20	16		Pendulum Pandas	13	31
7. Park Bowl	19	17		Helen Beds	3	33
8. Uncle Bert's Place	19	17		Team #22	0	36
9. Main Course	181/2	171/2			-	
10. Capricorn Coffees	18	18		THURSDAY HAV	VAII	
11. Zona Rosa	18	18		TAVERN GUII		
12. Beck's Bed Bugs	18	18				
13. Contourettes	171/2	181/2			W	L
14. Pin-Curls	17	19		Hangin' Loose	34	18
15. Powler Types	17	19		Birds of Paradise	34	18
16. Funcuts	17	19		Throw Mother/Lane	30	22
17. Pilsner Pin Pals	16	20	4.	Gekko Girls	29	33
18. Pilsner Pinguins	16	20		Castaways	28	24
19. S.F. Eagle	15	21	6.	Moo Moos	27	25
20. All American	15	21		Roommaters	21	31
21. Bosco's Brigade	13	23	8.	Team #8	0	52
22. 3 Blind Dykes	12	24	1.1.1			
			Т	HURSDAY TAVERN	GUI	LD
MONDAY TAVERN	GUIL	D			w	L
	***		1	Play With It Ltd.	271/2	81/2
1 D'1 D' '	W	L		Trax	2172	072 9
1. Pilsner Pinnguinns	331/2	101/2				
2. Puhio Rolo's	33	11		Park Bowl	24 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> 23	111½ 13
3. Welcome Home	33	11		S.F. Eagle		
4. Bassett Hounds	30	14		Mint Condition	23	13
5. All American Trophy	27	17		Hot Trax	19	17
6. Frantic Finishers		191/2		Super Star Video	19	17
7. Rolo's	241/2	191/2		Together Again	19	17
8. Urasis Dragon	24	20		501 Blues	18	18
9. S.F. Gay Band	231/2	201/2		Rendezvous Too	18	18
10. Park Bowl	23	21		Ma's Kids	17	19
11. Rawhide II	22	22		DustBusterz	17	19
12. Barking Lot	22	11		Wild Balls	17	19
13. Pet Stop Cockatails	22	22		Polk Rendezvous Ones	161/2	191/2
14. Tom Clark Painting	22	22		Sassy	141/2	211/2
15. Castro Station	21	23		Inches	141/2	211/2
16. Always Tan	191/2			Bears Boys	14	22
17. Pend. White Trash	19	25		Bert's Screwballs	14	22
18. Allgood & Asso.	17	27		Stars & Strikes	111/2	241/2
19. Sheela Wood HFC	16	28	20.	Team #20	0	36
20. Pendulum	151/2	281/2		O D BIOMPAN	~	
21. Spare-Us	8	36		S.F. WOMEN'S		
22. Team #22	0	44		BOWLING LEAG	UL	
WEDNESDAV TAUED	NOU				W	L.
WEDNESDAY TAVER	NGU	ILD	1.	Ink Blots	21	11
	W	L		Berkeley Women's	201/2	111/2
1. Bow-K	32	12		Park Bowl	19	13
2. Pendulum	30	14		Express Comp. Sup.	18	14
3. Park Bowl	29	15		Just Enough	18	14
4. Leftovers	28	16		Maud's Squad	171/2	141/2
5. Pilsner I	28 .	16		Cassidy's Cabinettes	17	15
6. Play With It Again	26	18		Olive Oil's	161/2	151/2
a Di Di Lin	-			Bad Girls	16/2	16
(, Pilsner Pick-line	26	18			10	10
7. Pilsner Pick-Ups 8. Pilsner Men/Balls	26 26	18	10	Sidney's Pinheads		1616
8. Pilsner Men/Balls	26	18		Sidney's Pinheads Bowldykes	151/2	16½ 17
8. Pilsner Men/Balls 9. Pilsner Quackers	26 25	18 19	11.	Bowldykes -	15½ 15	17
8. Pilsner Men/Balls 9. Pilsner Quackers 10. Play With It Ltd.	26 25 25	18 19 19	11. 12.	Bowldykes - Artemis	15½ 15 14	17 18
<ol> <li>8. Pilsner Men/Balls</li> <li>9. Pilsner Quackers</li> <li>10. Play With It Ltd.</li> <li>11. Galleon Sharks</li> </ol>	26 25 25 24 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	18 19 19 19 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	11. 12. 13.	Bowldykes Artemis Awards by Chris	15½ 15 14 14	17 18 18
8. Pilsner Men/Balls 9. Pilsner Quackers 10. Play With It Ltd.	26 25 25	18 19 19	11. 12. 13. 14.	Bowldykes - Artemis	15½ 15 14	17 18

Publishers."

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# S.F. Pool Championship: Top Teams in Title Tangle

With their city championship hopes hanging on every shot, the top two seeds of the S.F. Pool Association's fall season are stroking up a storm in their quest to be the best.

They've gotten this far by successfully shooting their way through more than 300 games of 8-ball and an original field of 32 teams. Now, just nine more wins stand between either team and the title crown.

### Indian Women's **Art Show Set** For 2-Month Run

"As in Her Vision," an exhibition of multimedia work by contemporary Native American women artists, will be presented at American Indian Contempo-rary Arts (AICA) from Jan. 11 through March 11.

The exhibition will bring together for the first time some of the leading and emerging Native American women artists of this generation. Among the 15 artists exhibited will be printmaker Sharol Graves; paper sculptor Tanis Hinsley; printmaker Jean LaMarr; painter Linda Lomahaftewa; ceramicists Manuelita Lovato, Lilian Pitt, and Verna Solomon; sculptor Rosanda Suetopka-Thayer; and weaver Gail Tremblay

"As in Her Vision" provides an opportunity to view Native American art from the unique and remarkable perspective of the contemporary native women's vision. Their innovative work,

together and individually, represents a powerful statement that defies the conventional stereotypes of women's art imposed by Indian culture and of Native American art imposed by mainstream society. By presenting nontraditional materials in traditional ways, by using traditional materials in innovative ways, or by working in media traditionally considered the exclusive domain of men, each of the artists in the show projects an inner vision that transcends cultural and sexual boundaries.

An opening night reception will take place on Friday, Jan. 13, from 5 to 7 p.m., followed by artists' slide presentations. Further information on the exhibit may be obtained by calling 395-7600.

### **Battling Barristers** To Offer Literacy **Tips For Scriveners**

California Lawyers for the Arts presents an all-day conference entitlted "The Writers Seminar" on Saturday, Jan. 28, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Fort Mason Center. The seminar will focus on "Getting Published" and will feature speakers ranging from lawyers and literary agents to authors and publishers.

A panel of professionals will address "Publishing Options," and other topics will include 'Writers' Rights," "Literary Agents," and "Contracts With

For more information, please call California Lawyers for the Arts at 775-7200.

Elliot Zalta, Lisa Duncan, Lauren Ward, Tim Chitwood, and Hugh Fountain comprise the Deluxe Ducks, a team which earned its seventh consecutive No. 1 seeding for the best regular season record.

The Ducks narrowly averted elimination in their first playoff match with a 9-7 comeback win over Maud's Makeshifts. In the semifinal round they defeated the powerful Paradise Palace team with twin 9-6, 9-6 victories, which opened the door to the final series.

Rick Mariani, Jim Russo, Colin Bradley, Yutaka Moriyama, and newcomers Lynn Westhoven and Chuck Numbers fill the White Swallow Wave's roster.

Seeded No. 2, they demolished the Detour Deforce, 9-2, in their first playoff match and squeaked out 9-8, 9-7 victories in their series with the Eagle Creek Chaos.

The Ducks and the Wave met twice during the regular season, with the Ducks riding to 10-6

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and 9-7 wins. But, as it is with closely matched teams in any sport, either team is eminently capable of defeating the other, as their playoff series has thus far demonstrated.

It began Dec. 13 at Deluxe where the Ducks were off and waddling to win the first three games and soon lead, 5-1, with table runs by Ward and E.Z.

A win by Westhoven and a Chuck Numbers 8-ball break closed the gap to 5-3 at the half.

The Ducks came back with three in a row, punctuated by E.Z.'s second table run for an 8-3 Duck lead.

The Wave proved that quality teams don't fold under pressure and rolled back into the match with a three-game streak to tighten the score at 8-6.

E.Z. then put the match away for the Ducks and chalked up a perfect 4/0 for the evening.

The two teams met again Dec. 15 at the White Swallow, where the Ducks could win it all with another victory.

The Wave had another scenario in mind. They were back at full strength with the return of Colin Bradley, one of the league's veteran champions who had relocated to Palm Springs earlier this season.

The Ducks, jumping out to a 4-1 lead, seemed destined to sweep the series until Bradley's win over E.Z. sparked a six-game streak for the home team. Hugh Fountain finally broke the string with a win for the Ducks and a 7-5 Wave lead after three quarters

The Wave's flashiest player is Jim Russo. His stunning cueball ontrol is the product of years of 9-ball competition and it showed as he delivered a crucial table run for his team's 8-5 lead.

Ducks captain, E.Z., matched Russo's effort with his own table run, keeping his team hanging on at 8-6. Hugh Fountain then capped a runout with a long, difficult 8-ball cut to down Bradley and pull the Ducks closer still. Lauren Ward broke in the game the Ducks needed to force a tie-

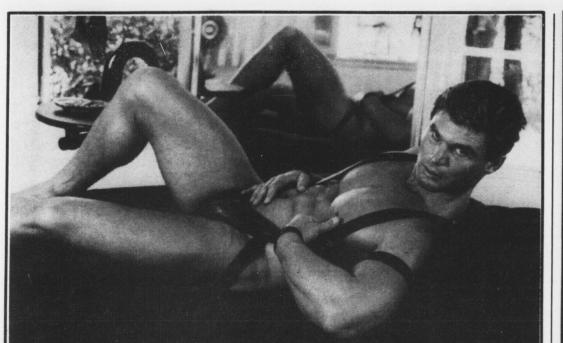
breaker. Methodically running the rack and getting a key breakout on her last ball, she seemed on the verge of delivering a table run. An unkind roll of the balls left the cueball's path to the 8-ball blocked, and after an exchange of several safeties, Westhoven delivered the runout which won the match for the Wave, 9-7.

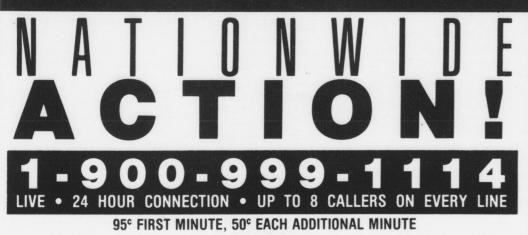
Now the full season of competitive effort boils down to that crucial race to nine, scheduled at Deluxe on Tuesday, where neither team will be satisfied with second place. Besides claiming the city title, the victors will represent S.F. at West Coast Challenge XVIII, which the SFPA will host Jan. 13-15.

Congratulations to the other playoff teams and particularly to the Paradise Palace and Eagle Creek Chaos, which round out the top four. In their consolation match, which determined final placement, the Paradise discombobulated the Chaos by a 9-3 margin.

Dial JOE-POOL for SFPA information.







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The SAGA North Ski Club took a trip to Kirkwood Dec. 9-11. The group's next scheduled meeting is Jan. 14. Call 673-9340 for more information.

### Bowling (Continued from page 54)

In the Sunday Reno league, Bob Sulewski (176) had a 209 and 202.

A few weeks ago you'll remember I wrote a column entitled "Bowlers Apathy or What?" a commentary on the apparent lack of gay bowlers' support for bowling events/fundraisers. I am told by a few JTown bowlers that what may be assumed to be disinterest on their part may actually be a lack of publicity. Community league bowlers received no info on the Team S.F. Bowl-A-Thon or the S.F. No Tap Invitational Tournament (outside of this column, that is).

Tournament and fundraising organizers take note: include Japantown in your publicity campaign because they are really feeling left out. Terry Kaplan, JTown league organizer, would be happy to help get the word/ flyers out to Community league bowlers [Tel. 921-6200] (Geppetto, please show Carol the above.) If you want ideas on how to get flyers/word out to our eleven gay and lesbian leagues (that's a lot of ground to cover) ask me.

A big thank you to the Instruments of Destruction, aka S.F. Gay Band bowling team, for inviting me to their Christmas Gala & Dance-Along Nutcracker on Dec. 10 at Theatre Artaud. What impressed me most about the band's performance was their lovely orchstral rather than "marching band" should. It was beautiful.

Some of the band members donned Xmas accessories for the Nutcracker segment; none, however, outdid Doug Litwin, who wore a door with a wreath surrounding his face. It was like seeing a folded door playing a clarinet (you had to have been there).

About a dozen bowlers went south for W.H.O.M.'s Thanksgiving tournament in L.A. and came back with an enthusiastic response. I'm told that the tournament was well run and had a scratch format attached to it that added to the excitement. In addition to the usual team, doubles, and singles events, in this International Gay Bowling Organization-sponsored event the top eight bowlers went head to head in match play, T.V. format (and I don't mean they bowled in drag). Don Gambell came close to qualifying for the scratch event, placing 10th in the preliminaries. He did, however, place eighth in singles with a 682 score (594+ 108 handicap). He and partner Peter Bassford came in sixth in doubles, shooting handicap scores of 691 and 630 respectively, a 1,321 total.

Michael Wheeler (162 average) was surprised and delighted to find out that he won high handicap game for the tournament with a 282 (236+46).

Christmas is in a couple of days, and most leagues are taking a rest for the holidays. Have a good time, and don't let your balls collect too much dust; put them to use!



## Heymont

(Continued from page 41)

Why, one might ask, was there such a gaping void in the middle of this revival of Manon Lescaut? The answer is quite simple. In one of his more severely misguided attacks of operatic sentimentality and diva-itis, Terry McEwen made the mistake of casting his old friend, Pilar Lorengar, in the title role of Puccini's opera. My overwhelming reaction to the Spanish diva's performance was to wonder exactly which words could be used to translate the meaning of "Day Old Wonder Bread" into the

soprano's native tongue. Like Tomowa-Sintow, Lorengar is no spring chicken (her rather

## **Beaches** (Continued from page 39)

halcyon days of New York in the 1970s. Beaches may be her way of giving us a film with an AIDS message of perhaps more univer-

sal appeal. In any case, the Divine Miss M has a winner of a film in Beaches. It is often very hilarous, but it also has definite emotional impact. Bette seems to be having fun, energetically flouncing through the 1960s and 1970s in comic scenes and production numbers. Even in the delivery room, she manages to upstage

her friend, who's in labor. But

matronly presence made one think that Manon's mother had stepped in for the girl while Manon was away at school). Nor does she have the kind of glowing charisma which has allowed sopranos like Mirella Freni, Dorothy Kirsten and Renata Scotto to do something very special with this role. To make matters worse, her singing-the crucial element in any Puccini tearjerker-was far from inspir-

The end result of miscasting Lorengar in a role which she should have had the good sense to decline was that the San Francisco Opera gave its audience the kind of utterly mediocre production which has precious little excitement, less than exemplary music-making and, as a dramatic

she is equally effective in the dramatic scenes. It is her best performance since The Rose.

Barbara Hershey, who does not look like herself with those overipsticked lips, turns in a believable performance as the quieter, more refined woman.

Director Garry Marshall, whose previous credits include The Flamingo Kid and Nothing in Common, has created another good, human comedy/drama, this time better paced and both more comic and more dramatic. Much of the credit must also go to screenwriter Mary Agnes Donoghue, who adapted the screenplay from a novel by Iris Rainer Dart.

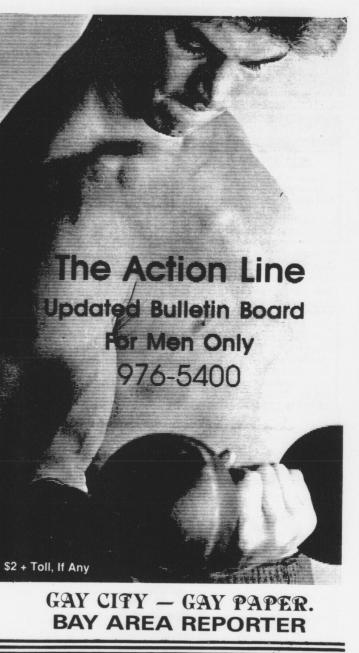
package, is far from convincing. Performances such as this Manon Lescaut only serve to reinforce my feeling that Lotfi Mansouri, when he takes full charge of the San Francisco Opera in January, must carefully examine the company's artistic standards, ask some hard questions of its staff and, when the topic of maintaining the San Francisco Opera's artistic integrity arises, force everyone employed y the company to do some real soul-searching about the relative strengths and weaknesses of the San Francisco Opera's artistic product.

As they say, you can fool some of the people some of the time. And there are even some that you can fool all of the time. But you can't fool your audience all of the

The title refers to the places where the relationship of the two women begins and ends, a beach on the East Coast and a beach on the West Coast.

One other note: The next-tolast song Midler sings in this ilm, "You Are the Wind Beneath My Wings," is an affecting song, perfectly in keeping with the film, and should be remembered at Oscar time.

\* \* \* 1/2 Beaches Alhambra Theater Polk and Union; 979-8899



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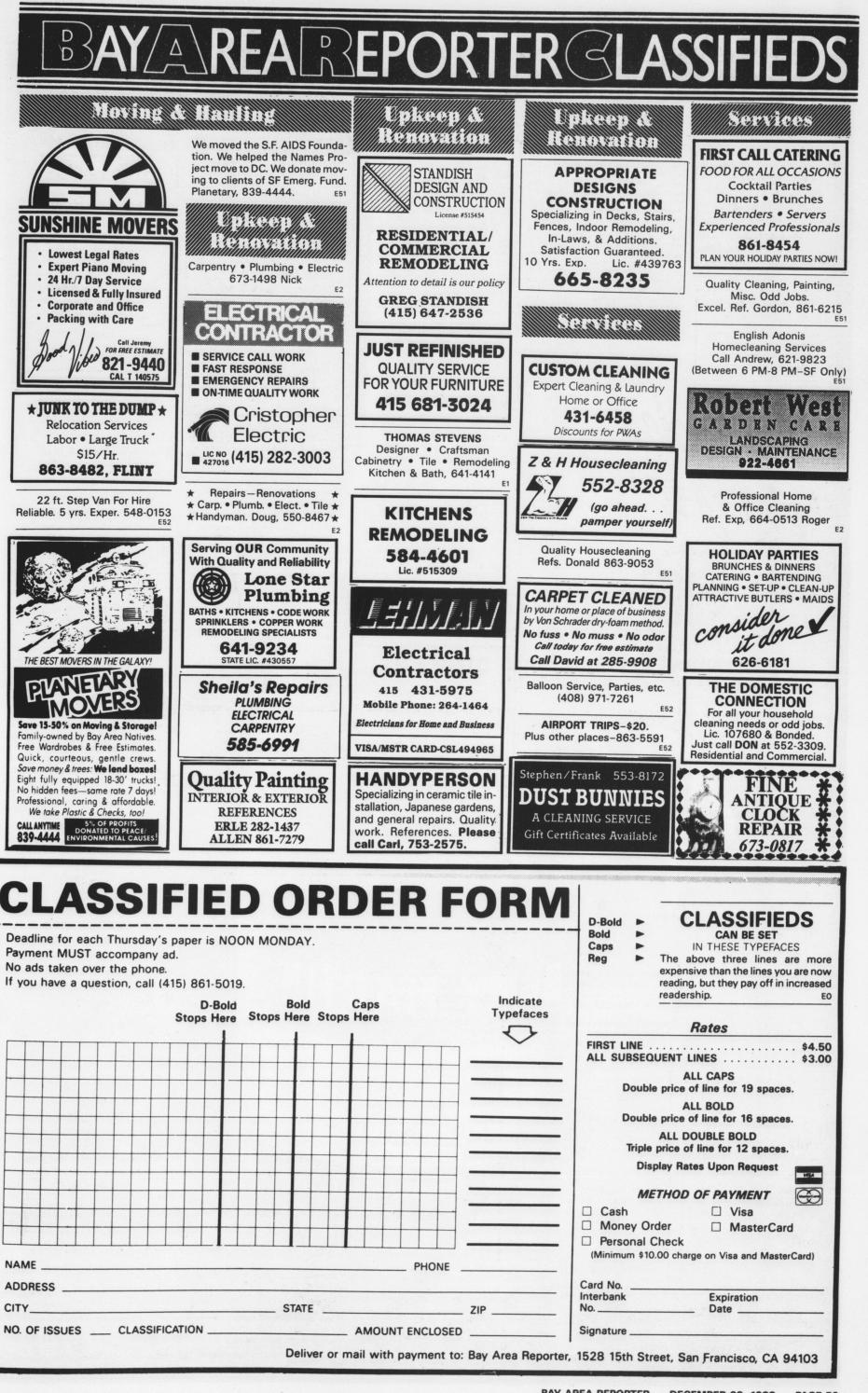
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