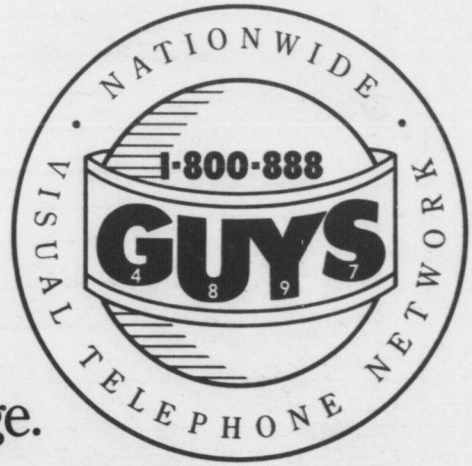


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PWA Wins \$150K In Eviction Case

Settlement First Test of Ordinance

by Dennis McMillan

A landmark \$150,000 settlement against a San Francisco landlord has been reached in a wrongful eviction and AIDS-based discrimination case. One of the largest of its kind in San Francisco, this case represents one of the first successful tests of AIDS bias legislation in the area of housing.

David Cole, employed with Charles Schwab as a computer analyst prior to an AIDS diagnosis in 1986, brought suit against his former landlords in San Francisco Superior Court. The owners of a Buena Vista Park area duplex apartment, Dr. Naz Maghzi, podiatrist, and his mother, Hourolain Maghzi, had given a notice of eviction to Cole in 1987 from his premises that he had leased since 1979.

Because of rent control, Cole was paying considerably less than other similar rents to lease his three-bedroom flat. In 1987 he was paying \$700 for an apartment renting elsewhere for \$1,400.

On two prior occasions in 1982 and 1985 the landlords had unsuccessfully attempted to evict Cole after he had complained to the city about code violations in

(Continued on page 2)



Attorney Paul Thurston (l.), David Cole (c.), and attorney Frederick Hertz. (Photo: Savage Photography)

Gay Caucus 'No' On Dukakis Vote

Fails to Endorse Candidate Who Treats Gay Vote as Expendable

by Rex Wockner

Despite five days of meetings aimed at peacemaking and compromise, the gay and lesbian caucus to the Democratic National Convention in Atlanta failed July 21 to issue an endorsement of Gov. Michael Dukakis, the Democratic party's nominee for President of the United States.

The 98 gay/lesbian delegates, alternates, whips and standing committee members—who arrived in Atlanta about evenly split between Dukakis and candidate Jesse Jackson—provided observers with hours of debate, speechmaking, bickering, and chaos before adjourning on Thursday afternoon short of their goal.

"I think there would have been some pluses to an endorsement, but I'm not completely disappointed," said Christine Riddiough, executive director of Gay & Lesbian Democrats of America. "I wasn't sure that the caucus would be able to make an endorsement. There were a lot of divisions and concerns."

"Believe me," said Pam David, national co-chair of Lesbians and Gays for Jackson, "everybody here wants to support a Democratic candidate in the election, but without some sign of welcome from the Dukakis campaign, I remain unable to make that move."

Earlier, David had said it was unacceptable for Dukakis to "treat gays and lesbians as expendable in order to make himself more palatable to rural Southern whites."

Dukakis supporter Jean O'Leary, executive director of National Gay Rights Advocates, spoke for many, however, when she said, "If we get four years of

Bush, more members of our community are going to die."

Delegates such as openly-gay U.S. Congressman Barney Frank and Boston activist Vin McCarthy also insisted that the bottom line was to defeat George Bush.

Jackson supporters disagreed. Their bottom line was visible commitment by Dukakis to the lesbian and gay community—something they feel he has not done. Some Jackson delegates merely wanted to hear the words "lesbian and gay" mentioned in Dukakis' acceptance speech. A resolution urging such mention—and four other pro-gay moves—passed the general delegations of several states after gay/lesbian delegates carried it to them.

After the meetings were all over, O'Leary told reporters that there had been enough votes to force a Dukakis endorsement through the gay/lesbian caucus, but that leaders had opted to hold off in hopes of future unity.

(Continued on page 4)

Legislature Faces 90 Bills In August Vote Session

Insurance, Testing Head List of AIDS Bills; Extremists Could Attach Floor Amendments

by Ray O'Loughlin

Insurance and HIV testing continue to dominate the minds of state legislators in Sacramento as the Senate and Assembly prepare to reconvene next week for one month of wrapping up business on the largest AIDS agenda ever seen. The total number of AIDS-related bills now being considered by the Legislature has dropped from 142 to 90, but some very controversial measures will face action in the near future.

According to Rand Martin, head of the Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality (LIFE), "A lot of the bad bills have been killed, dropped, or watered down, but the fear is that some of the extremists will attempt to attach last-minute amendments onto other bills."

Stan Hadden, aide to Sen. David Roberti, outlined seven major areas in which a number of state bills are pending. He said he "wasn't making any guesses" as to which bills would pass or fail.

The 90 bills pending were grouped by Hadden into public school education, HIV test result disclosure, insurance, nonconsensual HIV testing in jails, reporting HIV infection to health officers, funds for drug abuse and AIDS, and medical treatment for those with the disease.

According to Pat Christen, public policy director for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, "Some poor legislation will get through, especially considering the number of bills being considered." But, she said, "some decent legislation will go through, as well."

As examples of the latter, she mentioned Assemblyman Mike Roos' bill, A.B. 2950, which requires counseling be given with every HIV test. She also mentioned other measures requiring AIDS education in schools, outreach to drug users, and counseling for pregnant women.



Stan Hadden. (Photo: Savage Photography)

INSURANCE BILLS LINKED

At the top of the list of major bills is state Sen. Pat Johnston's (D-Stockton) A.B. 2900, which would allow insurance companies access to HIV test results for anyone applying for health insurance. Johnston has tied his bill to the passage of a companion measure, A.B. 600, that creates a special insurance risk pool for those HIV-positive. Without A.B. 600, thousands would be left with no health insurance coverage.

The chances of A.B. 2900 passing are rated great, while A.B. 600 is languishing. Even if passed by the Legislature, A.B. 600 would likely be vetoed by Gov. George Deukmejian. The battle now, said Martin, was over preventing the separation of the two bills.

"Johnston had pledged if A.B. 600 does not go through, he will drop his bill," said Hadden, "but we'll see if he does so."

There is much opposition to unlinking the two bills, said Martin, especially from the medical community, which fears patients being dumped on hospitals with no insurance.

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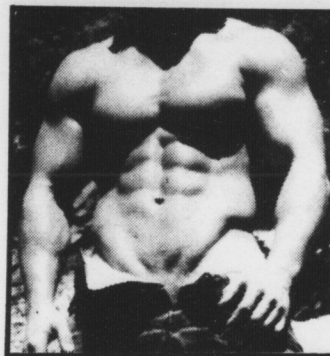
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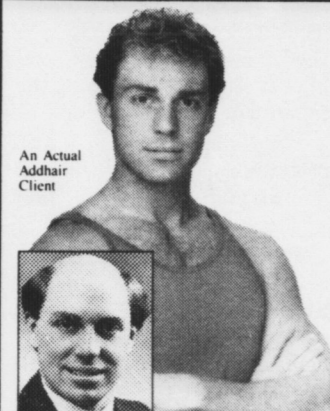
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Bills

(Continued from page 1)

Another threatening bill, S.B. 2788 by Sen. Ken Maddy, was defeated by being killed in committee. But Maddy may try to revive his bill. Maddy's bill would permit physicians to reveal HIV test results, without consent, to the sexual partners of people tested.

"There could be a floor fight in the Senate if it comes up for reconsideration," said Martin, "and it [would have] a good chance of passing."

On the positive side, Assemblyman John Vasconcellos' bill, A.B. 3795, which bans discrimination against people who are HIV-positive, stands a good chance of passing. "It's passed both houses before," said Martin, "and been vetoed by Deukmejian twice."

Some of the worst of Sen. John Doolittle's bills have been softened by amendments, according to Martin. "We've been fighting hard for the past year," he said, adding, "The impact of [Doolittle's] bills is now very narrow."

S.B. 1002 makes it a crime to donate blood if you're HIV-positive. But LIFE succeeded in amending the bill to limit criminal penalties only to those who "maliciously donate blood, knowing they're HIV-positive."

Another Doolittle bill, S.B. 1007, has been combined with S.B. 1004. It would permit courts to order testing for those convicted of sex crimes. Originally it had permitted testing of anyone arrested.

Eviction

(Continued from page 1)

his apartment. Each time Cole fought back.

In 1986 Cole told his landlord he had AIDS. A month later Maghzi served him with another eviction notice, which was two weeks prior to the vacancy of the nearly identical apartment below. The landlord claimed that his son needed the apartment, and refused to move into the unit below.

Cole was too sick that winter to once again fight the eviction, and agreed to move out May 30, 1987, for an agreed-upon payment of \$5,000 from the landlord.

In the process of Cole's moving out, two weeks before the negotiated date, Maghzi apparently got impatient, changing the locks, shutting off all utilities, and putting all Cole's belongings into garbage bags in the basement. He also allegedly refused to pay the promised \$5,000.

Several months later Cole had recovered from pneumonia and went to a rent board meeting where other people with AIDS were talking about housing problems. He got motivated to fight back, realizing that "this was not just happening to me. It was happening to others with AIDS."

Two pieces of legislation still moving through the process are A.B. 4438 by Assemblyman Terry Friedman of Los Angeles and A.B. 4475 by Speaker Willie Brown.

Friedman's bill failed to pass the Assembly this session, but is being reintroduced. It prohibits the denial of medical care on the basis of HIV infection. The California Medical Association opposes it.

Another measure by Johan Klehs, A.B. 3750, prohibits the discharge of AIDS patients without appropriate referral to another care facility. It would prevent patient-dumping.

Brown's bill provides for early treatment for HIV-infected individuals to try to keep them from developing AIDS. The \$4 million allotted for the program was cut from the budget by the governor, but Brown hopes to restore the funds. The bill passed the Assembly, 63 to 11, and goes now to the Senate Health Committee.

Senator Milton Marks' bill, S.B. 2855, is moving ahead, according to Martin, with bipartisan support. The bill would expedite discrimination complaints from people with terminal illnesses.

The Assembly has approved the idea of granting Californians a state tax credit for AIDS, but refused to allow those moneys to go into a separate fund outside the regular state budget. The plan now goes to the Senate, but will have to be amended.

AIDS education in the schools has stirred some controversy. Sen. Gary Hart's bill, S.B. 2840, is opposed by religious groups who want parents to have the final say on whether or not their

children in grades 7 through 12 should attend such classes.

The state Legislature is now getting into the bathroom squabble. Southern California Assemblyman Bill Bradley has authored legislation allowing health officers to close any business that permits sexual activity that could pose a threat to public health.

According to Martin, many of the 90 bills still active deal with minor subjects and are not controversial, such as A.B. 2936, which bans false advertising for products claiming to be AIDS treatments.

"Most of the really reactive bills have been substantially amended," said Hadden. "They aren't good bills, but also not as bad as they were."

Hadden said that he believed AIDS issues go well beyond the disease and extend to a number of issues in health care. "My gut feeling is that most of what we need to do is in planning health care delivery and financing," he said.

But the problem is, with 90 to 142 bills in the Legislature, "People are so damn busy taking care of themselves and their friends and raising funds on the local level that they're not focused on Sacramento," he said.

The Legislature reconvenes Aug. 1 for one month. "There'll be a flurry of activity," said Martin. "It's all going to happen very, very fast."

All policy committees must finish their work by Aug. 5. All fiscal committees must wrap it up by Aug. 12. The last two weeks of August are for final floor action on all remaining bills.

Cole then hired two attorneys, Frederick Hertz of the law firm of Timothy A. Tosta, noted for its expertise in real estate matters, and Paul Thurston.

The lawyers sued for wrongful eviction in violation of the city's rent ordinance, using the allegations of repeated withholding of services, past attempts to evict without just cause, and lack of adequate justification for the son's purported preference for the upper unit. They claimed the true motive for eviction was not to provide a home for the family member, but to remove Cole from his valuable rent-controlled apartment.

They also filed suit claiming violation of the city AIDS-antidiscrimination ordinance which "prohibits anyone from terminating possession of a rental unit in whole or in part as a result of the fact that a person has AIDS." They claimed that the landlords' behavior throughout the eviction process strongly suggested that Cole's medical condition was a key factor to proceed with eviction.

A third suit made emotional distress claims against the landlords. In the words of the plaintiff's settlement conference statement: "Dr. Maghzi and his family knew that Cole suffers from AIDS. They had an easy opportunity to provide Cole with the chance for a continued life in the building that had been his home for seven years, either by placing the son in the lower unit or allowing Cole to move downstairs."

The legal report went on to claim that the eviction "was done with the deliberate intent to cause [Cole] the maximum distress at his weakest moment, so he would not contest the eviction as he had done before."

Adding further negligence, the landlords claimed that they had

no duty to provide adequate heat to Cole's apartment, even after being cited by the city for violating heat requirements. The fact that the landlords failed to properly heat the flat knowing that their tenant suffered from AIDS, provided additional justification for emotional distress damages.

The probable amount of recoverable damages was between \$434,000 and \$856,000. Cole initially demanded a total of \$290,000 in settlement. The landlord's initial settlement offer was for \$50,000. The final \$150,000 settlement was reached in a court-supervised conference shortly before the trial was set to begin.

"Being forced out of my home was a terrible experience for me, and suing my landlords meant that the whole thing would drag on. I really wanted it to be over, but I also wanted this not to happen to other people," Cole commented.

His lawyers commended Cole's courage and determination, adding, "Despite his aggravated physical condition, David pursued this case because he believed it was important for others with AIDS and because it was simply the right thing to do."

While no legal precedent has been established by this case, having reached settlement before trial, nonetheless it will give landlords cause to ponder the potential financial liabilities of AIDS discrimination in housing, said Cole's attorneys.

"This settlement should put landlords on notice that they will face substantial penalties if they attempt to circumvent city laws," said Hertz.

Thurston added, "This settlement tells people with AIDS that if they are discriminated against, they can fight back and they can win."

Quilt Returns to S.F. From National Tour

Castro Welcome Planned for Monday

by Allen White

The Names Project Quilt completes its tour of the United States and arrives home in San Francisco Monday night, Aug. 1. The nine-member road crew and the quilt will be greeted with a community reception at the corner of 18th and Castro, starting at 7 p.m.

This week the tour takes the quilt to Seattle, and then to Portland, Oregon. Following the showing in Portland, the crew will drive south to San Francisco. They will cross the Bay Bridge, and then head for the Castro.

At 7 p.m., plans call for the truck carrying the panels and the mobile home carrying the road crew to arrive at the corner of 18th and Castro. They will be led by a group of runners from the FrontRunners and will have a motorcycle escort. Riding the bikes will be members of several men's and women's motorcycle clubs.

A stage will be erected in front of Hibernia Bank, and there will be a welcoming ceremony. The welcome is being planned by volunteers from the gay community, and they are encouraging the public to turn out to welcome the returning crew.

The last time the members of the road crew were in San Francisco was Monday, April 4, when they left on the national tour. The group first headed to Los Angeles, where there was a power failure on opening night at UCLA's Pauley Pavilion. The next day the display did open, and over 35,000 people attended the showing.

The money raised in every city was given back to AIDS service agencies in each area. Spokesman Dan Sauro explained that the money returned to the local areas came from money raised at benefit openings and from donations at the display. Buttons, shirts, and posters from the Names Project raise money to fund the national effort, which is based in San Francisco.

They then journeyed to San Diego and on to Phoenix, Arizona. In Phoenix, according to Sauro, "It was touch and go for a while, because there was so much focus on the impeachment of Gov. Meacham. It seemed in Phoenix that when I turned on the radio or the TV, it was all they talked about." Even so, he said that all the local television stations gave substantial coverage to the quilt. The display was there for only two days, yet over 5,000 people were in attendance, and they raised \$6,200.

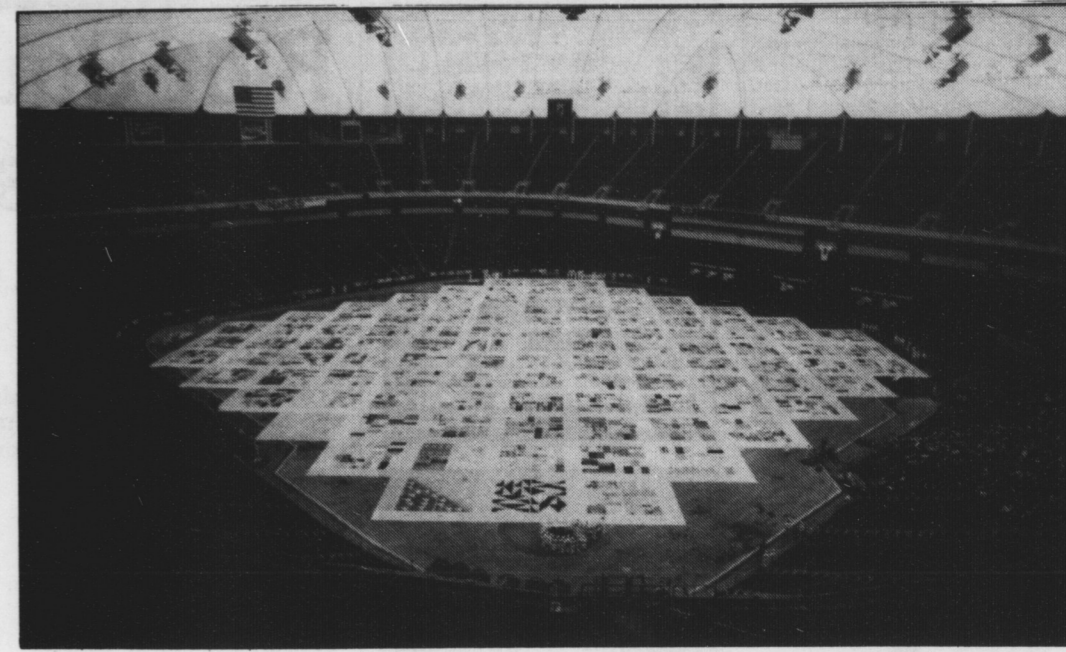
More than 8,000 people saw the panels in Kansas City, where \$9,800 was donated. The numbers exceeded 10,000 in St. Louis and in Dallas. In both cities, more than \$5,000 was raised for local organizations.

In each city, the local host committee assisted in the creation of panels. There were almost 200 new panels in Dallas. In Boston, over 300 local panels were added to the display.

BACK TO WASHINGTON

In Atlanta, 100 percent of the expenses were donated, so the entire amount of money raised went to local AIDS groups. The total raised exceeded \$25,000. The quilt was displayed in Atlanta at the World Congress Center over Memorial Day weekend.

In Houston, \$22,000 was raised when the quilt was displayed in the first part of May. Another \$10,000 was donated when the tour went to the Rivergate in New



3,488 panels were shown at the Minneapolis Metrodome July 16 for 22,000 visitors, who contributed a total of \$15,000.

Orleans. Following the display in Cleveland, the panels were shown at the Baltimore Museum of Art.

The quilt was displayed in mid-June at Pier 92 in New York City, and then moved to Detroit's Cobo Hall in mid-July.

The Minneapolis display, which began on July 15, was the largest since the unveiling last October in Washington, D.C. The huge Metrodome was the site, and all of the 3,500 panels were on display for three days.

The Names Project Quilt is now scheduled to return to Wash-

ington, D.C., to be displayed once again across the Capitol Mall Oct. 8-10, Columbus Day weekend. Sauro said, "We have applied for the permits for the entire mall from the United States Capitol to the Washington Monument, which is like five times what we had last year."

He noted that the cutoff date for panels to be received for the Washington display is Aug. 15.

It has also been announced that there will be a massive candlelight march in Washington,

D.C., on Saturday, Oct. 8. At dusk the procession will move slowly from the mall to the Lincoln Memorial. Leading the march will be representatives from various parents' groups from around the country.

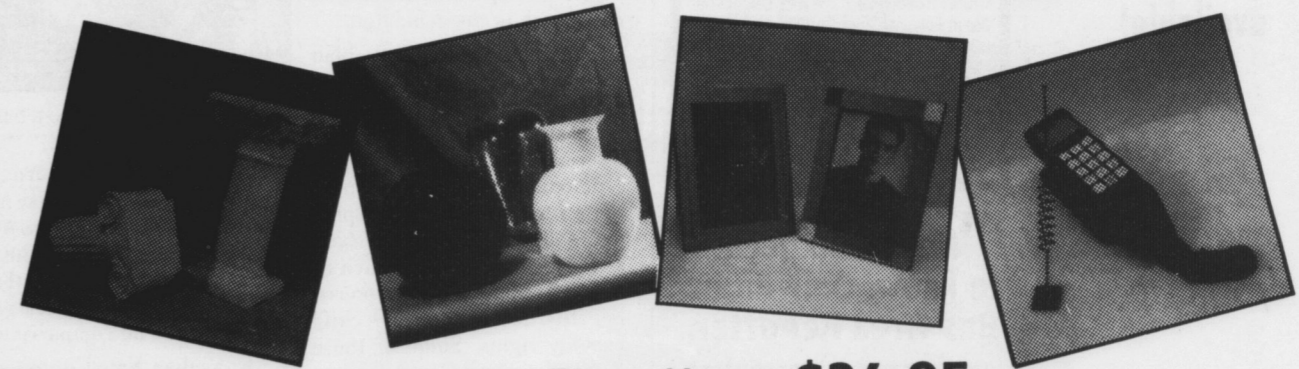
Following the display in Washington, the plans call for the quilt to again be displayed during December at Moscone Center in San Francisco.

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

From the Heart

It was a generic convention. For four days the Democrats fed us a steady flow of red, white, and blue cotton candy. The performance was so well stage-managed that not even a hair was out of place on any of the perfectly coiffed talking heads. If the music had been better, the lines a bit snappier, and some choreography added on, you could have taken it to Broadway.

So now it's the morning after, and what do we do? Cotton candy—especially the low-calorie version the Democrats were serving up—leaves a bad aftertaste. One has the feeling of swallowing without having eaten anything of substance. And "swallow" seemed to be the only word the party chieftains could say to us, the tribe of unsightly sexual, racial, and ethnic minorities—or "special interests," as they refer to most of the American population.

For four days we got the American Dream flaunted and flaunted again in our faces. I like dreams. I'm all in favor of dreaming. The problem is the best ones happen when you're asleep. When you wake up, you still have the same reality staring at you.

One candidate talked less of dreams, though he spoke of keeping hope alive as we deal with the American reality. You could tell how fast Jesse Jackson was sinking, in his effort to get something out of the power brokers, by the escalation of rhetoric. On Sunday he was a threat; on Monday he was a dissenter; on Wednesday he became a great American. The show was over.

Thank you, Jesse, for telling us and all America that we gay and lesbian seekers of justice are right to pursue our cause. Thank you for verbally embracing people with AIDS in your very moving, very personal address. It was a speech from the heart.

Jesse didn't win the prize. But he showed all who are paying attention that a candidate can deal with reality—the real, heartfelt concerns and true material circumstances of American lives—and achieve no small amount of success. Hold the dream talk, we have no problem dreaming up dreams. It's the barriers of reality that pose problems. Jesse Jackson talked about that and tried to overcome those barriers. He tried to create the last thing that the party honchos want to see—a populist coalition.

Michael Dukakis seems to have a gift, too—a gift for turning off people who desperately want to support him. Sure, we all want to prevent

George Bush from entering the White House as anything but a guest. No doubt about that. But neither can we accept just being taken for granted and give our votes for nothing. Dukakis is in no position to be snubbing any group of voters.

What we saw in Dukakis' snubbing of Jesse Jackson until the last minute and what we've seen in Dukakis' unwillingness to give even a nod to the gay cause is the narrowness and rigidity for which Dukakis is well known. He doesn't accommodate well, and that's just plain poor politics. He's asking us to trust him that he will somehow come through for us once he's got the keys to 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. I'm all for making a bargain, but isn't the time for bargaining now, not later? If we can't get candidate Dukakis' attention, will we ever get Pres. Dukakis' attention?

In fact, Dukakis seems to want to make it harder yet for us to support him, by naming Sen. Lloyd Bentsen as his running mate. Bentsen's record on gay issues is a disaster list. Just three weeks ago, he voted to gut the Washington, D.C., human rights law because that law was successful in bringing a church school to heel on the rights of gay students. Bentsen has also voted for mandatory HIV testing in a number of cases, and he joined Sen. Jesse Helms in trying to block federal money for AIDS education material for gays.

Should Dukakis win the presidency and anything were to happen to him, bringing Bentsen into the Oval Office, we'd immediately be plunged again into the darkness of the Reagan years.

There certainly are reasons to support Dukakis and overlook Bentsen. What choice do we really have, our backs to the wall? Some say it can only help our standing in the Democratic Party to go along this time. Dukakis seems to be a rational and cool manager, not a petty demagogue like Reagan. And Dukakis has the reputation for appointing decent judges. It's even been rumored that Lawrence Tribe, who has defended us a number of times before the U.S. Supreme Court, stands to get a Supreme Court appointment in a Dukakis administration.

But why isn't Michael Dukakis smart enough a politician to give us a reason to positively support him? On strictly gay issues, there is no basis for an endorsement. Dukakis is said to speak Greek, Spanish, and French. But he isn't talking to us in any language.

OPINION

Why I Am Supporting Mike Dukakis

by Vin McCarthy

As one of the team members of Mike Dukakis' outreach to the gay and lesbian community, I resolved many months ago the almost painful dilemma which many gays and lesbians face over the coming months—the difficulty of supporting Dukakis for president, though he has received substantial criticism from respected members of the gay and lesbian community because of his prioritizing relatives and traditional families for foster placement above single persons and unmarried couples. I have resolved the dilemma in favor of Mike Dukakis.

In endorsing Dukakis, Houston's gay paper, the Montrose Voice, stated, "At the present time, we are facing the most serious health crisis of the 20th century, our streets and shelters are being overrun by the homeless, our alliances with international thugs is alienating us from people who would normally believe in our American form of government. And we are \$3 trillion in debt."

It is absolutely essential that we elect a Democratic president who has the ability to manage the American economy so that there will be the money for human services and for the war on AIDS—matters we are all praying for. I have worked with Mike Dukakis since 1974 in addressing the needs of the homeless in Massachusetts and have worked with him politically on other matters since 1959.

I know what he is and where he stands on gay and lesbian issues. Notwithstanding the significant negative publicity which he has sustained because of his foster care policy, Mike has demonstrated a willingness to remain stable in his commitment to gay and lesbian civil rights and the war on AIDS.

He has appointed superb judges in Massachusetts who have consistently articulated a judicial policy supportive of gay and lesbian civil rights. I am convinced that his Supreme Court appointments and other federal judicial appointments will be outstanding. His commitment on feminist issues—pro-choice, women in government, and women judges—is extraordinary.

Even though I was one of the strongest critics of Dukakis' foster care policy and continue to criticize that policy, I have continued to work with Mike because there is much good about Mike Dukakis which needs

to be encouraged. The time has come for all Democrats to come together to defeat George Bush and end the economic, foreign policy, and human services nightmare which all caring people have sustained because of Ronald Reagan's policies.

On Jan. 19, Mike delivered his State of the State speech, televised into New Hampshire, and stated, "My friends, my parents came to this country 75 years ago seeking the American dream. And they found it—for themselves and for their sons."

"I'm a product of that dream. I believe it. And I want to help make it come true for every citizen in this commonwealth—no matter who they are, or where they came from, or what color of their skin, or what their sexual orientation. That is the promise of Massachusetts. And that is the promise of America."

In the basic campaign statement, Mike Dukakis states on the war on AIDS, "As president, I will provide the leadership to meet the AIDS crisis. I will commit the resources necessary to prevent the spread of the virus, find a cure, develop a vaccine, and care for people with AIDS and AIDS-related complex. We will have a national strategic plan to guide us in the war on AIDS, and we will have a president leading the charge."

Because he has committed to ending discrimination based on sexual orientation in this country—because he has committed to providing the presidential leadership to meet the AIDS crisis—because he has championed gay and lesbian civil rights for many years—because Mike Dukakis opposes the drug thugs who govern many of the countries to our south and who have had too many friends in the current administration—because Mike Dukakis opposes United States intervention in Central America in the strongest terms—because Mike Dukakis is a superb manager of the economy—because Mike Dukakis appoints talented and sensitive people to public office and to the judiciary—and because Mike Dukakis has demonstrated concern for the needs of the poor, the homeless, those in need of health care, and those ill with AIDS, I have forgiven Mike Dukakis his foster care policy and am enthusiastically asking each of my brothers and sisters to support him strongly in his quest for the presidency.

LETTERS

Here's A Hint

★ Quite by accident, I have stumbled across a hint as to the likely origin of the information about Michael Jackson and HIV-antibody testing, a subject that has so exercised letterwriters to the Bay Area Reporter in recent weeks, one of whom has demanded citation and documentation for what he claimed was nothing but an unsubstantiated rumor.

While browsing through back issues of Bay Windows, a Boston counterpart of B.A.R., at Los Angeles' A Different Light bookshop, I came upon the following item, which I quote in its entirety, in John Perry's regular column, "AIDS: Notes on an Epidemic," in the issue of June 2:

"From BAD to worse... Earlier this month [I presume Perry means sometime in May], the Chicago Sun-Times noted that a British tabloid alleges pop-rock megastar Michael Jackson required 480 stagehands hired for his 'Germany gig' to undergo HIV-antibody testing. Isn't this illegal?"

Let's put aside for the moment Perry's astonishing assumption that AIDS antidiscrimination laws, which have been enacted only with great difficulty in a few U.S. states and cities, should exist in European countries—and that they cover the infected as well as the diseased. More to the issue at hand, there is the notorious unreliability of Britain's gutter press [tabloids] to take into account. And, as written, Perry's item leaves much that is vague. Which tabloid? Did this hiring spree take place in Britain or Germany? Can even Michael Jackson require a crew of almost 500 for a concert tour? On what exact date did the Sun-Times publish its report?

Still, here's another clue for you all.

Stuart Byron
Los Angeles

Vote Them Out!

★ In a few short months, you will be asked to go to the polls to vote for a president, a congressman or woman, a senator, plus a host of issues relating to our community. You will be asked, but will you be able to go? Sadly, many of you who are reading this letter are not registered to vote.

This fall you will have a chance to toss an administration out of office that permitted an AIDS epidemic to take its deadly toll on our friends and loved ones. This fall you will have a chance to tell our senator that his homophobia may be popular in North Carolina, but it will cost him his job here.

This November, you can help defeat evil men like William Dannemeyer, who is trying to spend your tax dollars to harass, arrest, and imprison our friends stricken with AIDS.

You will have a chance to vote on all of this and more, but only if you take the five minutes or so to call your local election board office and ask for an application to register to vote.

You can, of course, do nothing. But that means putting up with four more years of Reagan clones. That means putting up with a government that is purposely underfunding the fight against AIDS because of their own homophobia.

Registering to vote costs nothing but a few moments of your time. We have the numbers. Anyone who attended the Freedom Day parade can see that. We can win if we simply choose to. Please register and please vote this November.

Patrick Tifer
Guernville

Motorcycles, Insurance, and the Parade

★ I am writing this letter to clarify, for the public, the policy governing the women's motorcycle contingent's participation in the parade. A letter appearing here last week, raised some questions and suggested some inaccuracies which may affect public safety and continued participation.

The registration fee for each motorcycle is \$5, certainly not the "lion's share" of income received by the Parade Committee. This fee is comparable to the fees charged by the Los Angeles Gay Freedom Day Parade, as well as other cities nationwide, and helps cover administrative costs and paperwork. Any rules imposed are for the purpose of safety, and complying with the rules and regulations of the City and County as well as the law. We were informed by the insurance underwriters of the parade that all motorcycles must be insured and that DMV requires all vehicles which operate on the streets to be licensed and have either liability insurance or post a bond with the State of California.

The Parade Committee requires names and addresses from all floats and contingents for the purpose of contact and information disbursement. In the case of the motorcycles, we establish the order of the parade by a random drawing, thus absolutely requiring the names of each registered motorcyclist. Further, our insurance underwriter requires that we

able to provide them with an assurance that we have checked to make sure that each bike and biker is insured. For these reasons—and no other—we maintain a list. As members of the lesbian and gay community, we are all well aware of the importance of keeping such lists confidential, and the Parade Committee does its utmost to maintain that confidentiality at all times.

Finally, it needs to be made clear that the women's motorcycle contingent is one contingent comprised of a large number of diverse clubs and individuals. Women are welcome to wear their colors or other devices to show that they are a member of a particular club, but the contingent is not separated into smaller groups. The Parade Committee works very hard each year to coordinate the flow of traffic with the police, and it is up to the Float/March Committee, assisted by the Safety Committee, to insure that this flow is maintained as much as possible. Imagine what would happen if each float or contingent chose to determine for itself when the time was right to stop and start! For any individual who is not in on the planning of the parade to take it upon herself to make such an on-the-spot determination is irresponsible at best, and likely to be very dangerous for everybody!

I am writing this letter for the information of the women's motorcycle contingent and the public at large because I feel these issues need to be addressed and clarified. Regarding the remainder of the allegations and insinuations made by Lynnalia Wilkes, they are so far off base that they do not deserve the dignity of a personal response.

Audrey Joseph
Women's Motorcycle Coordinator
LGFDPCC, 1988

Gay Pride, Gay Bashing

This letter was sent to Mayor Art Agnos:

★ I was not sure that I should write this letter since this incident happened a few weeks ago. But with the recent increase in gay bashing and homophobia around the country, this should be told.

I was in San Francisco for the Gay and Lesbian Pride celebration. And on June 24, my second night in your city, I was assaulted while I walked to my hotel from a South of Market bar. As I walked past two men and two women I was called "Faggot" and then asked "Faggot what are you doing here, faggot?"

Not more than 20 feet past them I was tackled from behind, shoved to the pavement, kicked and hit repeatedly by the two men. The only thing that stopped them from beating me more severely is that the two women pulled the men off of me. I was very fortunate to come away from that with only minor scrapes and bruises.

I reported this to the police when I reached a phone. It took 20 minutes for them to reach my location. I repeated what I told them over the phone. They told me that they would check to see if these men were harassing other people. And that was it. I was physically assaulted, kicked, and beaten by two men! Not just verbally harassed. It seemed to me as if the police did not take assaults on gay and lesbian citizens in your city to be a very serious matter. Why?

Russell J. Thorsen
Rochester, MN

Who Deserves Respect?

This letter was sent to the San Francisco Chronicle:

★ The recent story about the OCC investigation into allegations of misconduct by four San Francisco police officers leaves me frustrated and angry. As a member of the gay community, I know well that some officers are homophobic. Many, in fact most, are not.

I happen to know one of the four officers quite well. Officer William Kidd's wife is one of my co-workers. During social events sponsored by my employer, I have come to know and admire Bill Kidd as a career law enforcement officer who cares deeply about his job and the people he's served for many years. It is ironic that he should fall victim to such an injustice at the hands of a contingent for whom he has tried so hard to protect from just such an injustice.

Bill Paul speaks of severe punishment, demotion, and salary cuts for all four men. I encourage Chief Jordan to resist this course. Mr. Paul's actions do nothing to foster positive communication. Perhaps when he stops treating the entire San Francisco police force as undeserving of respect he will take time to reflect on why he has not earned theirs.

Lowell Sullivan
San Francisco

Ed. Note: It wasn't Bill Paul but the OCC who investigated and found inadequate the police handling of the Smoot case.



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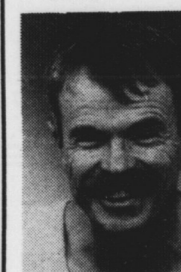
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 By growing up in a dysfunctional family, we inherited ineffective and destructive patterns which we continue to replay in our daily lives. Becoming aware of the influence of these embedded feelings and patterns of the past will enhance our ability to be successful and energetic about life and to feel good about ourselves and our relationships.
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 The Reverend James Mitulski, Pastor

LETTERS

An Inspiration

★ Just a message to you and your readers to announce that on July 7, 1988 an anniversary was observed by a very special man I've ever had the privilege to meet.
 This man is an overwhelming source of strength, inspiration and hope in an age when so many are experiencing sadness, fear, and pain.
 One year has passed since my friend George was given an AIDS diagnosis and subsequently "a maximum of four months to live." The prognosis was due to the extent of Kaposi's sarcoma (K.S.) in his stomach, intestinal tract, liver and spleen; and the damage it had caused. Imagine! Being dealt not one but two death sentences in one day and living a year (I hope many more) to tell about it.

His courage in dealing with AIDS personally, spiritually and publicly have enabled me to accept my own diagnosis. I received it just three short months ago and deal with it accordingly. He has given to me the umph! (that little extra push) I needed to—not survive, but live—with AIDS. In his words, "Don't fight it, damn it, you're not God! You can't change it, so accept it! Deal with it. Live! To deny it is to weaken your will to live."

I could go on and on telling you about my friend George, there is so much to say, but I've taken enough of your time.

In closing, I'll leave you with a few words that were printed in your "Letters to the Editor" column last November, quoted from George:

"We must stop thinking of those of us who have an AIDS diagnosis as having a death sentence. There is so much more life to live than the finality of death—that eventuality faces everyone. We must live life to its fullest extent. Then, and only then, can we say we have lived."

So true! So true! Congratulations George, you are my friend!

Paul E. Matthews
 San Francisco

Tim Rivers: DJ of the '70s

★ In reference to David Diebold's response to my letter regarding the book *Tribal Rites*. I saw the disgracefully small section on Tim Rivers. Two inches for the DJ of the 70s?

Nowhere in the I-Beam section, or the Stars Party is Tim mentioned. This is complete!! David was even directed to Tim for information, a step he did not take. Why not? Tim was the DJ for most of the Creative Power Foundation/Conceptual Entertainment events. Consequently, you have listed several parties in incorrect sequence.

As for Marcus' statement about "everyone" liking it—great. This is no excuse for trying to make me appear foolish for knowing what's missing. The facts speak for themselves—the information is missing and nothing Diebold or Marcus will ever say changes that fact. That Marcus is satisfied means no more than his acceptance of partial truths.

Those who cannot accept honest criticism are their own worst enemies. No harm is done to me; it's gay music history that suffers from the omissions. How foolish to attack the messenger; better that you listen to the message. You'd rather argue than acknowledge the validity of my statements.

Glen McLeod
 San Francisco

Warren Missed the Point

★ In reply to Mr. S. Warren's letter to the editor [14 July 88], he has apparently missed the point of my original letter [7 July 88]. When an identifying name of a group, e.g. lesbian/gay, is included in the title of an event, i.e. a parade or celebration, it is rightfully presumed that the event is relevant to that group and in some reasonable way representative of that group.

Inclusion of outside interests in our general activities can reasonably be construed to be an endorsement of that position. This danger does, for the most part, not exist for groups which are recognizable as a legitimate lesbian and/or gay group because it is expected that our general activities should include the various diversifications that exist within our community. Adding "Lesbians and Gay Men for" does not necessarily mean that that interest is a lesbian and/or gay interest.

The exclusion of a non-lesbian/gay interest from a general lesbian/gay activity because it is not relevant to the activity does not in any way pass judgement on its value or merit. The exclusion does, however, allow for the fact that opinion can vary widely within our community, and that we should not be making general endorsements of outside positions which are not representative of our community in general. Indeed, positions within our community on any outside issue are likely to range anywhere between two opposite extremes.

Doug Adams
 San Francisco

Of course we should take an interest in, and participate in, activities which are not lesbian/gay oriented. Indeed, sexual orientation is just a part of the whole person, and the whole person needs to address many different areas of concern. The point is that there are appropriate and inappropriate forums for such expression. The exclusion of a non-lesbian/gay interest from a general lesbian/gay activity because it is not relevant to us as a general group, does not in any way suggest that lesbians and gay men should not support the activity in question. It does mean, however, that support for these outside positions should not be forced upon those of us who do not agree with their position.

Admittedly the line can be difficult to draw. Perhaps a hypothetical example will illustrate the points made above. Suppose that a European country decided to phase out all its nuclear power plants within 20 years. Several issues would arise which would be of concern to many people all over the world. These could include jobs, economics, nuclear safety, environmental effects, etc. These issues are important and it is certainly proper for any and all of us to have interest in them, be concerned about them, take a position on them, and take appropriate action, e.g. petitioning their government, demonstrating in front of their consulate, etc. The nature of these issues is such that it is not appropriate to use the lesbian/gay parade and related celebration as a forum to put forth a position, even if "lesbians and gay men for" is added to its title, and such a position is not necessarily representative of our community in general. On the other hand, its inclusion in general activities with our implied endorsement could offend their ministers and members of their parliament who could be considering pro-gay legislation for their country. Endorsements of this kind have little or nothing to offer, but potentially a lot to lose.

Dr. Jane Anne Leyland
 San Francisco

Thank you, San Francisco!

★ How to say "thank you" to the many individuals who helped make my first visit to San Francisco a memorable one has been a question I have pondered many times in the past weeks.

I've considered the usual personal notes, but so many contributed to an enjoyable stay in the Bay City, and in many cases no addresses were exchanged, that I appreciate the opportunity to use your forum as my own.

Coming to San Francisco, specifically coming to the Castro, was like coming home. To walk its streets, visit its shops, eat in its restaurants, and know that in each case I was in the overwhelming majority in the company of my gay brothers and lesbian sisters made me want to jump and yell with joy.

No experience (save for falling love) comes close to the feelings I felt during my all-too-brief stay in San Francisco.

My joyous experience is in large part due to the many fine individuals I met. Although too numerous to mention specifically, to these in particular I extend my thanks and my love: to Dan and Jay of 24 Henry St. for a most enjoyable stay at their beautiful bed and breakfast; to John who offered me a seat at Cafe Flore and subsequently introduced me to his friends at the Midnight Sun; to Christopher who took me dancing at the Phoenix; to Kim who saw to my requests for a table at a window at the Sausage Factory; and to the other men and women, bartenders, waiters, and salespersons too numerous to mention who always greeted me with a smile (and interest when I mentioned I was from the east—east of Tahoe, that is) and never raised an eyebrow at my many questions (what's a tourist without questions?).

Returning to my comparatively simple life, which includes but a few gay bars and restaurants but lots of gay friends, all I can say is even though I missed the annual gay and lesbian pride parade by but a few days, we'll all be out next year!

Thank you San Francisco!

Jerry Vath
 Lancaster, PA

I Like Mike

★ I would like to express my appreciation for Mike Hippler's column. He is one of the finest columnists I have ever read. His courage to deal with the issues of the day is inspiring. Finally, his willingness to share his life and feelings with his readers is unique. I hope to be able to continue reading Mike for many years to come.

Doug Adams
 San Francisco

LETTERS

A Beautiful Article

★ Mike Hippler's column in the July 14 issue, "A Cry of Despair," was a beautiful and touching tribute, done with extreme care and feeling.

I think we all have, and will have similar times when we feel that this horrible nightmare called AIDS will never end and we will awake one day to an empty world. I know that I have had very similar feelings, like wanting to run away and try to forget that this is going on and that I am not a part of it, but I can't. So it is comforting to know that others feel the same way too, and we are never really alone. Someone cares.

Having just lost a friend to AIDS and finding that my "ex" has now tested positive brings me closer to all the others who have suffered. So, thanks for a beautiful article, Mike!

W. "Andy" Anderson
 San Francisco

Forty Pieces of Silver

This letter was sent to Sen. Pete Wilson:

★ You, Senator Wilson, are the kind of man I never want to be. Your lack of courage and your Machiavellian tactics are shameful. You say you are a person who cares for human rights, for equal civil rights for all. But for "forty pieces of silver" you betray those values and the real people who seek equality in this country.

Your nomination of Vaughn Walker to the Court of Appeals and your silence during the 1950s-style questioning by one of the McCarthys of the 1980s is shameful, to say the least. Furthermore, your vote to permit religious institutions in D.C. to discriminate against gay people (and Georgetown U. didn't even push for the legislation!) is a slap in the face. This is not a question of freedom of religion, it is a question of legalizing bigotry and discrimination. The Catholic Church can preach and believe whatever they want, but in a nation that is a guarantor of the rights of all its citizens, the separation of church and state is paramount to its survival. You have made yet another dent in the values upon which our nation is built. The decline and demise of this experiment we call "democracy" will happen at the hands of people like yourself. I look forward to voting for your defeat in November.

Derrick A. Tynan-Connolly
 San Francisco

A Decent Human Being

★ It was with much sadness that those of us who worked at KRJB-FM at the Russian River learned of the death this week of Leonard Matlovich.

Leonard was a very decent human being who viewed the struggle for gay rights in the 1980s in the same context as black people's struggles for emancipation in the 1960s.

We first met Leonard when he opened a restaurant in Guerneville. With the large influx of gays into our community, we at KRJB-FM sought to fulfill our obligations under the FCC's laws by covering issues of major importance and controversy. When a deaf homosexual was brutally beaten by a gang of thugs outside of a Guerneville resort, KRJB aired a very strong editorial indicating that such behavior toward any person was not tolerable in a civilized society. We also invited Leonard to produce a weekly evening talk show (which he did), and it was very successful.

Leonard was a very articulate man, a compassionate man, buoyant, alive, and a person deeply hurt by the ignorance and brutality of a handful of bigoted bureaucrats. I believe in the basic goodness of man and believe also that from even the worst hell a person goes through comes some benefit. In Leonard's case, he has left a legacy of compassion and understanding. He has also dispelled to a large extent the gay stereotype.

For Leonard and others like him, the Holocaust will never be over until our public officials become enlightened enough to adequately fund AIDS research and thereby save many lives, and until public officials prove themselves worthy of being called "leaders" by setting aside their unfounded fears, bigotry, and prejudices.

A person must be judged on his honesty, integrity, personal relationships, character, and qualities of a similar nature, not on the color of his skin, color of his/her eyes, or orientation. I am sad that Leonard never fully recognized that there are many people around who care for their fellow human beings. Perhaps the best lesson we can learn as human beings is that we are human and that it should not take a crisis to get Americans to care for other Americans. We are one people.

May Leonard know the love few were able to give him here on Earth. He will be much missed.

Mike Erickson and Family
 Former KRJB-FM Manager
 Guerneville

James Gibbons
 San Leandro

March on America

★ Why was the 1987 March on Washington so successful? Eight months after the event, we are still feeling its influence—a nationwide explosion in grassroots activity using civil disobedience, lobbying, rallies, and conferences to advance the lesbian and gay movement.

It gave us a goal, a date in the immediate future which we could work toward, and a true sense of momentum that helped sustain us through trying times. It allowed our diverse and, at times, divided community to unite behind a single banner and provided concrete evidence that we are everywhere, and we are many.

It provided an agenda that was broad and inclusive, but was not so expansive as to be vague or ponderous. It represented a true cross-section of the community, diverse in terms of region, race, sex, and economic status, and allowed us to meaningfully interact with one another.

As well as the successes, there were several ways in which the march failed.

So let's march again, improving on our strengths and avoiding 1987's failures. I suggest we organize an '89 march on America, in which we have a series of rallies in every state with a sodomy law, traveling on "peace" trains and buses from west to east, marching from state capitol to state capitol until we all converge on Washington, D.C., the second Monday in October 1989. The nationwide scope of the march would bring us to the country's heartland, would invigorate struggling local groups, and would give newspapers and television stations a local angle on the march.

This lesbian and gay journey through states where we are disenfranchised and made into criminals would provide a powerful analogy with the '60s civil rights marches through the Deep South. Marching through Mississippi, we could call on black ministers and white progressives to join us and reaffirm the dream of Martin Luther King Jr. We could invite liberal organizations to actually join us and send marching contingents. And, traveling through villages and towns, proudly sporting our T-shirts and buttons and pamphlets, we would be the first open gays and lesbians many straights and closet cases had ever seen.

This march on America would be a natural means of developing the lesbian and gay agenda for the '90s. Building on the successes of the 1987 march, we could work as a united community to bring about the goals we have been struggling to achieve as isolated activists, goals such as the growth of lesbian and gay groups into million-member organizations, the setting up of media-watch groups and PACs in every state, and the creation of a national federal of all organizations in the movement to facilitate the exchange of ideas and long-term cooperation.

Nineteen eighty-nine will be the 20th anniversary of the Stonewall riots. How fitting it would be to memorialize that great event with a march on America for lesbian and gay rights, taking Stonewall's message to every unfree state in this country. Please write me (March on America, c/o Drew Siegel, 2169 Hayes St., San Francisco, CA 94117) and tell me your thoughts on this idea.

Let's form a working committee to discuss the march and bring it to life. Remember, unless we have common goals, an agenda, and a mechanism to achieve them, we will never be free at last.

Drew Siegel
 San Francisco

For All

★ In her July 7 letter, Dr. Jane Anne Leyland of San Francisco calls for sexual orientation segregation for marchers in the San Francisco Bay Area's Gay Freedom Day Parade: Fags only need apply. She lays down the welcome mat only for bona-fide gay groups and bona-fide gay free speech and ideas.

On Gay Freedom Day 1988, I marched with Veterans CARE (Council for American Rights and Equality). I was privileged to be one of the escorts of honor for Perry Watkins, the gay veteran who is fighting his unjust discharge from the United States Army all the way to the United States Supreme Court.

Before the parade began, I was talking with a gay San Franciscan with the Lavender Veterans, and he told me non-gay veterans were marching with his contingent to show their support for gay veterans and for gay civil rights.

This inclusiveness of heterophile and homophile marchers and spectators is absolutely marvelous—a joyous affirmation that we are all simply human beings.

Gay Freedom Day anywhere is for everyone.

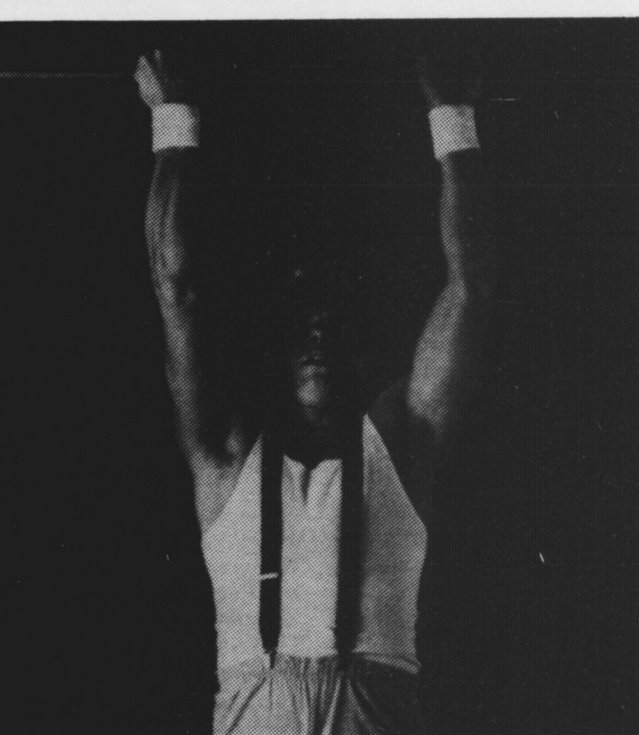
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BACK ATTACK?

 The high bar has always been my favorite event, but at last year's Gay Games II, I was working my routine with the precision of a laser when my back locked tighter than Fort Know. It was a "BACK ATTACK." I'd heard other gymnasts discuss this dreaded experience, but for me it was the first. My primal posture persisted for several days and finally my boyfriend recommended a visit to Cathedral Hill Chiropractic. After a series of visits over the course of a week, I'm feeling great. This "BACK ATTACK" thing is certainly a new twist, but at least the doctors at Cathedral Hill Chiropractic certainly know how to straighten it out.
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The Democratic Party's Party

The Democrats left Atlanta last week probably more united as a party than they have been in the past 20 years. In a convention that turned into a "battle of the speeches," Michael Dukakis went into last Thursday's acceptance speech as the underdog. The nominee surprised nearly everyone by not trying to outdo Jesse Jackson, Ted Kennedy, or Ann Richards by reaching for the laughs, coining the slogans as the three of them did.

He gave a speech of substance (though short on such items as foreign affairs and defense matters), a speech that gave the country a new look and a good feeling about the Democratic nominee.

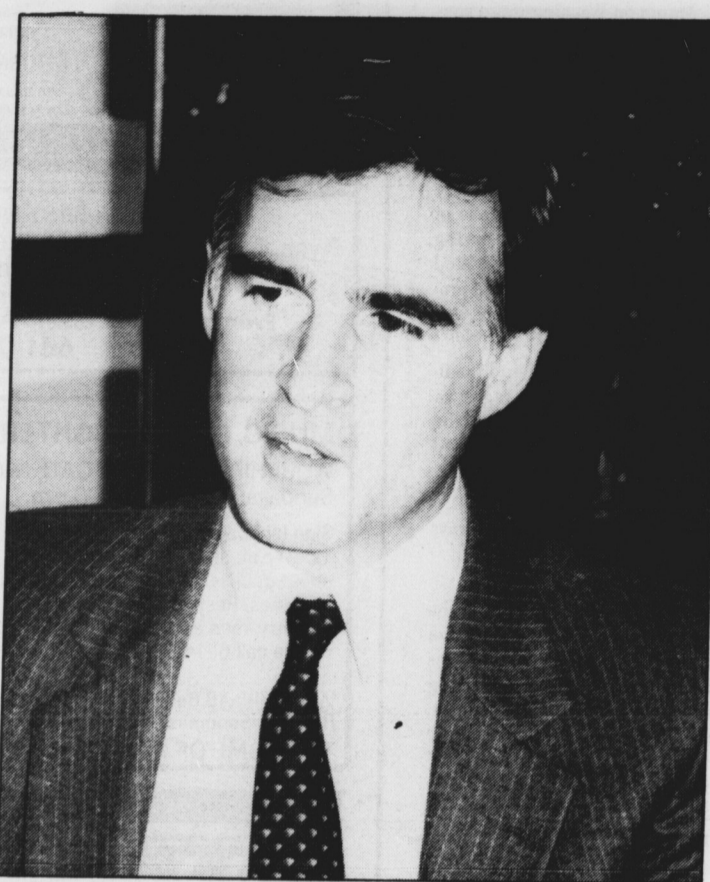
Yes, indeed, George Bush is in for a fight for his political life. Michael Dukakis looks presidential, sounds presidential, and hopefully, will become president. This country does not need the likes of George Bush in the White House for four years.

Convention outtakes: Republicans are already saying that Michael Dukakis came away from the Atlanta convention being the first nominee in history with two running mates. Even the most optimistic Democrat, observing the party lovefest from the Omni Center, should keep in mind that summer loves don't always last. There could very well, given Jesse Jackson's over-sized ego and all, be marital spat before the campaign is over.

San Francisco's top checkbook Democrat, Walter Shorenstein, gave what many say was the "party of the convention" at Carter Center last week. Anyone who is anyone or ever wanted to be in the Demo party was obligated to show at this party—Ted Kennedy, Lloyd Bentsen, Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter, Hollywood stars galore, and San Francisco Democrats lucky enough to be asked such as Speaker Willie Brown, Rep. Nancy Pelosi and her family, Carole Migden, and Mayor Art Agnos.

Controller Gray Davis, rumored to be Shorenstein's choice for governor (whether Dianne runs or not) was at Walter's party but declined to make his candidacy official. Indeed, the Shorenstein affair was a must for the Democratic "in" crowd and those San Franciscans not invited pretended they had something else to do.

The biggest loser at the Atlanta confab had to be Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton and the most glaring mistake of the week had to be asking Clinton to give the



Is Jerry Brown's star rising again?

Dukakis nominating speech. Clinton, who went to Atlanta considered a coming star in the party, gave the worst speech of the week ("The Speech that Ate Atlanta") and left town embarrassed.

Willie Brown, shoved aside by the Jackson forces through most of the convention, finally was given something face-saving to do. He was ushered at the last minute to the podium to make a motion to make the Dukakis nomination unanimous.

State Sen. Quentin Kopp, never missing a chance to get on the tube, went to Atlanta as a "commentator" for Channel 2's KTVU. (Are we sure there is only one Quentin Kopp?) Now, you tell me that Kopp isn't thinking of running for mayor next time around.

Walter Mondale told a newspaper that he never did read the 1984 Democratic platform (that he ran on for president), and "what's more," he added, "I've never met anyone else who's read it either!"

The biggest snub of the convention came when party leaders turned down a request by the Colorado delegation to have Gary Hart introduced from the podium. Denver Mayor Federico Pena was told that DNC chairman Paul Kirk "didn't even want Hart in the building

sition to Jesse Jackson's minority platform plank for a no-first-use-of-nukes policy.

One of the bright spots of the convention as far as Californians were concerned, was the re-emergence of Jerry Brown. The former governor, looking tan and fit, threw a party with his former-guv dad and sister Kathleen Brown, a candidate for state treasurer in 1990. Those attending said they had rarely seen Jerry in better spirits.

Brown, 50, stole the spotlight from his 83-year-old father, and when asked if he would run for office again, Jerry replied "You shouldn't un-expect it," adding it's possible he might run for the U.S. Senate in 1992 if Cranston does finally retire. My only regret is that he didn't run this year, since I don't like either Leo McCarthy or Pete Wilson.

The political guessing game now turns to the Republicans and with California looking more and more like an electoral battleground, don't be surprised if Gov. George Deukmejian ends up as Bush's running mate after all. Deukmejian's election as vice-president would turn the state over to the Democrats, but the GOP sees the White House as much more important than the State House and it is beginning to look like a Bush-Deukmejian ticket coming out of New Orleans.

San Francisco attorney Neil Eisenberg is picking up important endorsements in his bid to become the next state chair of the Democratic Party. State committee members will choose a new chairperson in January.

Assemblymember Jackie Speier became the first San Francisco legislator in memory to give birth while in office when son Jackson Kent Sierra was born last week.

Republican Harriet Ross officially announced her candidacy for Supervisor this week.

Chicago newspapers are predicting that Jesse Jackson will run for mayor of that city next year in an attempt to repair a party rift that threatens to destroy chances of keeping a Black mayor.

Sup. Bill Maher on former Sup. John Barbagelata: "An infinite political figure, a petty has-been politician."

S.F. County Demo Chair Carole Migden is a figure whose political star is on the rise,

as evidenced by the publicity she received from the Atlanta Convention.

Miriam Ben-Shalom, a lesbian who won an 11-year fight to serve in the U.S. Army, asked a federal judge in Milwaukee last week to permit her to reenlist. Sgt. Ben-Shalom's enlistment expires Aug. 11. "I don't want to just stand up, wave a banner and scream 'I'm gay,'" said Ben-Shalom. "All I want is to serve the country that I love and to be a good soldier."

Last year, an appeal court in Wisconsin reinstated Ben-Shalom, 40, ruling that the Army couldn't discharge her due to her homosexuality. A ruling is expected on her re-enlistment request before her discharge date.

In Daytona Beach, Florida, attempted murder charges were dismissed this week against AIDS patient Theresa Lattimore, who bit two Volusia County deputies last September. Reason: no evidence AIDS can be spread by a bite.

Gov. Deukmejian won't name his choice for state treasurer until he returns next month from a two-week trade trip to Australia and Asia. State Sen. Ken Madry is rumored to still be the Governor's choice for the job.

Los Angeles lesbian activist Jean O'Leary was appointed to the Democratic National Committee this week by Michael Dukakis, thereby joining San Francisco's Carole Migden as the two lesbians on the party's national 289-member governing committee.

A birthday greeting to attorney Mel Belli who turns 81 tomorrow, and thanks to his publisher (St. Martin's Press), for the copy of his new book *Disorning*, (and there is your plug).

From the Los Angeles Times: "In his acceptance speech, Michael Dukakis put a challenge to Americans such as John Kennedy did 28 years ago and as Ronald Reagan never has done: to work together for the good of the whole national community, the notion of shared responsibility and benefits. In return, Dukakis pledged honesty, truthfulness and excellence."

Who can ask for more in a leader? President Dukakis: it has a nice ring to it.

Bambi: The True Story

When I was a kid, Bambi was one of my favorite movies. No wonder. I was a good, sweet, innocent boy, and Bambi was a good, sweet, innocent movie—or so I thought for years. However, I am now a radical, leftist, atheist queer, and Bambi, as I recently discovered at a Sunday matinee, is anything but a simple, wholesome, family film. In fact, if truth be told, Bambi—both the movie and the title character—may be even more perverse than I.

When we first encounter Bambi, he is a newborn, referred to by the other creatures of the forest as "the young prince." But just what sort of prince is he, with a name like "Bambi"? Isn't this the kind of name usually reserved for princesses? Prince John, Prince Edward—these I can accept, but Prince Bambi? It's hardly very butch—not the kind of name to inspire confidence or awe.

Furthermore, if Bambi is a prince, then who's the king? Just who is Bambi's father, anyway? At his birth, we see the silhouette of a buck who is presumably Bambi's dad standing on a far-away cliff, but this sturdy figure plays no part in the fawn-rearing process, at least not during Bambi's formative months.

Later this same buck (if indeed it is the same) shows up to offer timely advice and help. But he is not the kind of dad I'd want to have, since he is more interested in running around the forest with the boys than in fulfilling family obligations.

Of Bambi's mother, the less said, the better. Not only is she a single parent, she is probably an unwed mother, as well. (I certainly saw no wedding ring upon her hoof.) She is also a certified victim of child molestation.

The proof? When Bambi's father appears for the first time, strutting through the meadow with all the pompous arrogance of a muscle queen in a gay bar, he casts a brief glance at young Bambi, but doesn't even deign to notice Bambi's mom, who is probably one of dozens of does he has wooed but not wed. Responding to Bambi's question concerning the Buck's identity, "Mrs." B replies, "He's the oldest, wisest deer in the forest. He's at least twice as old as the rest of us."

Incidentally, this is only moments after Bambi has learned for the first time that he is not the only "deer" in the forest. It must come as quite a revelation for someone who has always been classed as "different." And what a revelation! The first large group he encounters is Dad's buddies, who, it seems, are at least as interested in bonding as in bound-



(Art © 1988 Robert Triptow)

ing. Bambi can hardly wait to try both.

Which brings us to the subject of Bambi's own friends, surely a questionable lot. His two best friends are a rabbit and a skunk named Thumper and Flower (?). Thumper, like all rabbits, has certain uncontrollable twitches and urges, which may account for Bambi's interest in him. (Not to mention

his extremely large feet—and you know what they say about big feet. No, not big shoes. Thumper doesn't even wear shoes.)

As for Flower, he is forever casting coy glances full of love and admiration at Bambi. Regarding his unusual nickname, it is given to him by Bambi. When Thumper protests, Flower replies, "Oh, that's all right. He can call me 'Flower' if he wants

to." No doubt Bambi can do just about anything he wants with Flower, as far as the skunk is concerned, including—dare we say it?—have his way with him.

Eventually all the young animals forsake their friends for girlfriends—but only against their wills. They are victims of what the "wise" old owl (a curmudgeonly misogynist, if ever there was one) calls "twitterpat-

ing." This is a natural process, he implies, that happens when the female of the species decides to entrap the male by awakening his latent heterosexual urges. It is the story of Eve and the apple all over again—woman as temptress. As such, it is perhaps the most traditional, all-American part of the movie.

Bambi's particular girlfriend, Felina, is an annoying creature—a perverse tease with a grating giggle. Just why she is named after another species, rather than her own, is anybody's guess. Mine is that the filmmakers were subtly suggesting that Felina does not belong, either in Bambi's life or in his affections. Despite this, she manages to find a place there. She even produces an offspring and heir by movie's end, although both she and Bambi are mere babes in the woods themselves—only a year old.

Obviously, then, what appears to be a charming coming-of-age tale set in a sylvan paradise is in reality a sordid melange of effeminacy, abandonment, bastardy, child molestation, homosexuality, misogyny, bestiality, and child sexuality. And we haven't even begun to discuss the movie's violent aspects, including arson and murder.

If these things excite you, by all means, go to the theater. If, however, you want to protect your loved ones and yourself from the diabolical dabbings of Disney, heed this warning and raise the new battle cry: "Boycott Bambi!"

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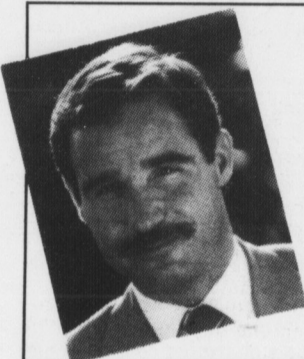
NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

Glasnost Comes Out of the Closet

MOSCOW—The Soviet Union may be about to repeal its prohibition against gay sex this year. According to the Soviet television show *Good Evening, Moscow*, the USSR's Communist Party assembly currently in session is planning to discuss a revision of the country's criminal code that would drop the ban on consensual gay sex.

Currently, same-gender sexual acts are punishable by up to five

years in jail. "A crime is an act which constitutes a threat to society. If two adult persons satisfy their sexual needs by free will the way they want, they will not harm society," Alexej Ignatov, a professor at the Moscow Institute of State and Law, told the Danish newspaper *Information*. He called the present Soviet law "completely wrong." —*The Advocate*



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Court Says Rights Law Covers HIV

LOS ANGELES—In a major, precedent-setting ruling, a federal district court in Los Angeles has ruled that a man, who was discharged from an inpatient alcohol treatment program because he tested positive for HIV antibodies, is covered by federal civil rights law that protects the handicapped from discrimination in all programs or activities receiving federal funds.

Although federal courts have ruled in the past that persons with AIDS are covered by the law, this ruling marks the first time that a federal court has definitively ruled that an HIV seropositive who has no clinical symptoms of disease is covered by the federal Rehabilitation Act when he or she is treated differently because of fear about HIV transmission.

The suit was brought by the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California and Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, on behalf of a man identified only as John Doe, against Centinela Hospital Medical Center. In January 1987, Doe checked into the hospital's inpatient alcohol and drug rehabilitation program. Upon admittance, he was asked to submit to an HIV antibody test. When he objected, he was assured that the test results would not be used against him. He reluctantly submitted to the test.

Doe successfully participated in the program for three days, until he was called into his psycholo-

gist's office and told that he had AIDS and would have to leave the program. Doe did not then have AIDS nor any clinical symptoms of HIV infection, and he remains healthy today.

Doe was discharged pursuant to the alcohol rehabilitation program's blanket policy of excluding all HIV seropositives.

"This ruling represents a major victory for the estimated two million HIV-seropositive Americans, because it says for the first time that discrimination based on fear of contagion will not be tolerated by federal courts," stated Paul Hoffman, ACLU's legal director.

"The federal courts are now recognizing what the World Health Organization, the President's Commission on AIDS, the Centers for Disease Control, and the American Medical Association have been recommending—that discrimination against HIV seropositives should be illegal because it harms the public health by driving underground those most in need of counseling and education about preventing HIV transmission," added Mickey J. Wheatley, Lambda's staff attorney for AIDS-related litigation.

A trial in the case will be held later this year to determine whether the unique environment of the hospital's inpatient alcohol rehabilitation program would render HIV seropositives unqualified for participation in that program.

Customs Releases French Gay Mag

PHILADELPHIA—U.S. Customs has released a dozen copies of the French gay magazine *Gai Pied*. The Customs Service had confiscated the gay weekly in January and February for depicting "homosexual activity" and "nude children."

Customs officials, however, would not tell representatives from Giovanni's Room bookstore what exactly was offensive in the issues seized. According to the American Civil Liberties Union, there has been a significant increase in such seizures in the Reagan administration.

—*The New York Native*



Marine Imprisoned For Lesbian Sex

PARRIS ISLAND, S.C.—A woman Marine corporal was convicted on charges of having sex with another woman and has been sentenced to a year in prison. Marine Cpl. Barbara Baum, 23, was convicted of sodomy, obstruction of justice, and committing indecent acts with women. She was sentenced on June 10 at the Parris Island Marine Corps Recruit Training Depot.

Baum's conviction is part of an ongoing investigation of lesbianism at the Parris Island facility, but she was the first woman to have been court-martialed on sex charges. Of the four other women investigated in the Marine Corps witchhunt against lesbian Marines, one has been discharged in lieu of court-martial, and three others have been discharged.

Major David Beck, the Marine prosecutor, had asked the jury to sentence Baum "for a large number of years" in order to send "a message, if you will, because a message is going to go out from your sentence to other Marines in similar situations... that as a Marine of any rank, such conduct will not be tolerated."

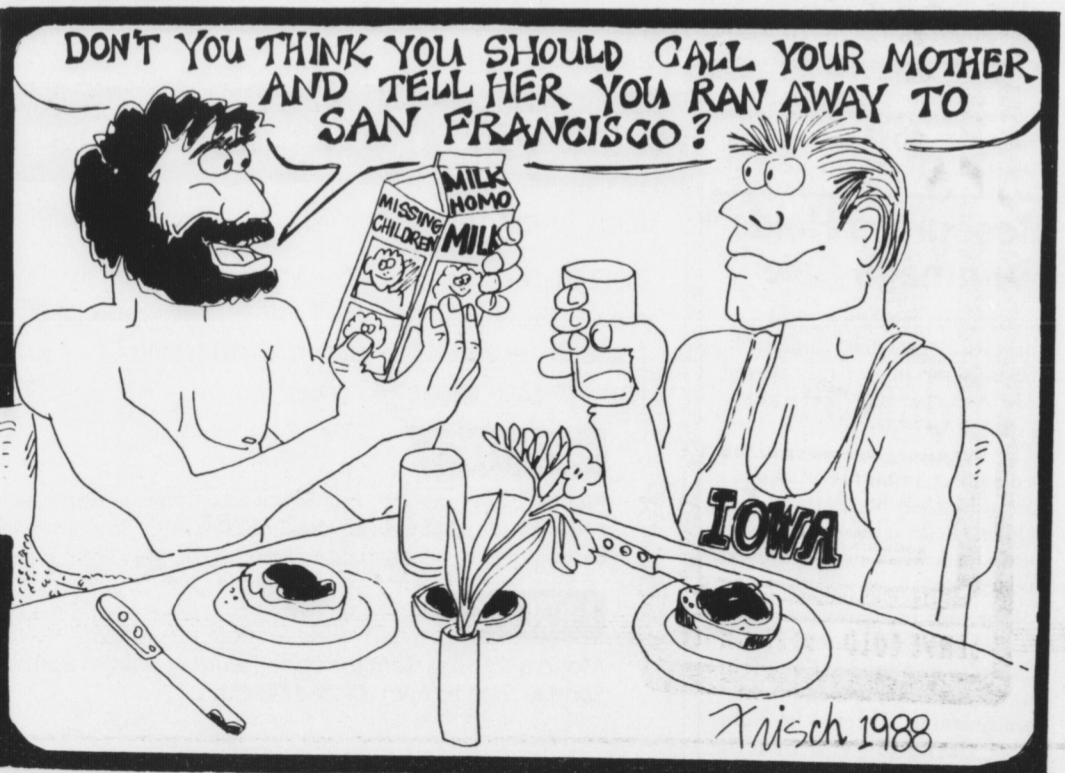
Student Group Wins Back Funds

FRESNO—The Gay and Lesbian Student Alliance at California State University in Fresno has won back the funds deleted from the student government appropriation earlier this year. Newly elected studentbody president Scott Vick ordered that the group receive the \$750 it had originally been promised.

Former studentbody president Mark Astone had vetoed the funds, saying that he found the organization immoral and "not worthy of public recognition." But after GLSA went to the American Civil Liberties Union, which in turn told university officials that the action was illegal, Dean William Corcoran told the student senate to restore the funds.

The California administrative code prohibits student organizations from discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation.

Frisch



Judge Reconsiders Child Visitation Ban

Chicago Case Sets No Legal Precedent for Future Rulings

by Dennis McMillan

National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) managed to convince a Chicago-area circuit judge to reconsider an earlier ruling which prevented a gay father from visiting his children. However, despite the fact that Cook County Judge Richard Kelly "vacated" his April ruling which banned visitation rights for an openly gay father who refused to take the AIDS antibody test, NGRA officials were worried that any similar, future cases wouldn't have the benefit of precedence.

The father, who was given the fictitious name "Leslie Roe" to protect his children from unnecessary exposure, refused to take the HIV test and shows no signs of AIDS or ARC. Subsequently, Kelly ruled against Roe's visitation rights.

NGRA and cooperating attorney Michael Cloven, professor of law at John Marshall Law School, managed to successfully vacate (or take back) the judge's order at the latest hearing. Although a victory for this particular case, the outcome was less advantageous than having the case reach appeal status, since an important precedent would likely have been established had the case been appealed and won.

By having the judge merely reconsider the verdict, the level of precedent is much lower and hence less efficacious in future, similar cases. NGRA feels that the court, having appointed a "guardian ad litem"—an attorney

designated by the court to represent the best interests of the children—was a big help in deciding for the father. The attorney ruled that the children should have contact with one of their parents, even if that parent had AIDS.

The difference between an AIDS employment discrimination case and AIDS discrimination in child custody and visitation rights is that the father is usually a clear-cut case—where once a precedent has been established, a formula is followed to the letter; whereas the latter is always based on individual facts specific to that particular situation and always leans toward the children's ultimate welfare.

According to Benjamin Schatz, director of NGRA's AIDS Civil Rights Project, "It was just an outrageous example of AIDS hysteria. And what is particularly outrageous is that we had to fight a very similar battle in the same



Ben Schatz (Photo: S. Martin)

city before."

SIMILAR CASE

Two years ago a comparable Chicago-based, AIDS-related, child visitation case, given the name *Doe v. Doe*, denied overnight privileges for a gay father with his children. The Chicago judge had ordered the father to undergo HIV testing. NGRA went to bat for the man, the judge withdrew his order, and the wife dropped the case.

Legal precedent was not established in *Doe v. Doe* either, because the case never reached the necessary appeal status.

Schatz sees the Roe suit as yet another case linking AIDS hysteria with homophobia. Simply because a man belongs to a high-risk group—such as the homosexual category—does not

(Continued on next page)

Woman Arrested In Check Forging

Charged With Using Bank Funds After Befriending Man With AIDS

by Allen White

A woman who had befriended and cared for a man with AIDS has been arrested by San Francisco police and charged with forging the name of the man on many checks over several months after his death. Cappi Patterson, 52, faces three counts of forgery and one count of grand theft. Her arrest came after a three-month investigation by the San Francisco district attorney's office.

According to Assistant D.A. Duane Hadley, the investigation began on May 2 when Ken Clark came into his office. Clark said that he had been prohibited from visiting his friend, Timothy Blackburn, in the AIDS ward at San Francisco General by Cappi Patterson. Blackburn died in September 1987 from pneumocystis pneumonia.

Clark told Hadley that a social worker assigned to Blackburn had called Patterson, then head of an organization called PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support), to have his cat removed from his apartment and cared for while he was hospitalized. Clark also said that Patterson had been given permission by Blackburn to move into his apartment.

Three days after Blackburn's death, checks drawn on his bank account started to appear at the Presidio Way Veterinary Clinic. According to court documents, seven months later, in April 1988, the clinic was still receiving

checks written on the dead man's bank account. In April the checks started bouncing.

The account, according to the D.A. investigator, was in the name of T.O. Blackburn. The investigator told the court in his declaration in support of the arrest warrant that he had learned that there were no written instructions regarding Blackburn's account and that Blackburn had been the sole signator on the account.

Hadley also learned that, during last March and April, Patterson was using a check cashing service to take \$2,725 from Blackburn's estate by forging checks.

This is the second time this year that Cappi Patterson has been involved with charges of misappropriating money. Earlier this year she was taken to small claims court by the PAWS corporation. Donn Leigh-Watt of PAWS said, "It was discovered in March

(Continued on next page)

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State Senate OKs \$10.5M for S.F. Research Facility

On-Again, Off-Again Battle for Construction At S.F. General Finally Gets the Go-Ahead

by Dennis McMillan

A \$10.5 million AIDS research facility has finally gotten the go-ahead from the California Senate for construction, having been in an on-again, off-again status in the state legislature. The money had been appropriated for study and architectural design, and recently got legislative approval for the construction phase of the two-story building at San Francisco General Hospital.

According to Jack Davis, legislative aide to State Sen. Quentin Kopp (Ind.-San Francisco), a communication lag between the San Francisco Department of Health in charge of the project and the state Department of Finance as well as the state Department of Health, had caused the project to fall behind schedule.

When the item came up in the Senate, the subcommittee chairman, Sen. Bill Green (D-Los Angeles), was aggravated because

the project was behind schedule. He questioned the \$5.7 million appropriation for construction being utilized in time. The policy of the legislature is to appropriate in a fiscal year only the amount of money that can actually be spent in that period.

Green removed \$2.2 million from the \$5.7 million appropriation and "kind of beat up on the people who were present that day for allowing this program to get behind schedule," according to Davis.



San Francisco General.

(Photo: M. Hicks)

Davis met with Mary Pittman Lindeman, the administrator at the Department of Health and Nancy Moss, the project director. Kopp spoke with Green, asking that the item be reconsidered on the calendar. The result was a rescheduling of the hearing concerning the research hospital, using the argument that the controller was requiring fifty percent of the appropriation to certify the

bid. A 2-1 vote, with Sen. Rebecca Morgan (R-Menlo Park), voting against (believing there should be no requirement to submit 50 percent), assured the \$2.2 million would be once again restored. The funding is in both the Senate and Assembly budget. However, Fred Silva, rules committee consultant, has found some language differences in the Sen-

ate version, asking the state to monitor the construction phases. The concern is over who will pay for this monitoring, and that the money should not come out of the construction funds, which are already rather strapped, according to Davis.

This will be the first of its kind, in terms of a state-constructed AIDS research center.

Visitation

(Continued from previous page)

automatically brand him seropositive, and even if he were AIDS-symptomatic, there is no medical justification to deny a PWA access to his children.

The father was never asked to take the HIV test and was being presumed infected until proven otherwise. The presumption went further in assuming that he is, therefore, a danger to his children.

"There was absolutely no legal basis for this decision, and we would have taken this case as high up as necessary," said Schatz.

The ramifications of requiring antibody tests for gay fathers could be further extrapolated to an eventual policy of forced testing for every parent who has ever had sex with a prostitute or other high-risk group. As Leslie Roe said, the line has to be drawn.

Patterson

(Continued from previous page)

of this year that Ms. Patterson had kept donated funds and property belonging to PAWS. The corporation secured a judgment against Ms. Patterson in the Small Claims Court of the City and County of San Francisco. The amount of the judgment was \$1,000.

The present organizers of PAWS completely disassociated the organization from Cappi Patterson. "What we want to emphasize is that Ms. Patterson resigned from this organization on Feb. 9, 1988," Leigh-Watt said.

Patterson had been a founder of PAWS in December 1986. In September 1987 the group became a tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation.

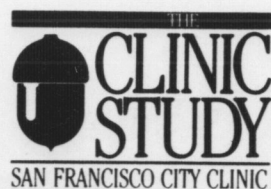
According to Leigh-Watt, Patterson started another pet organization after she was forced out of PAWS. He noted that it can be confusing, because she had been a member of the PAWS organization for such a long time. He said, "She formed her own organization called Pet Project. How she runs her operation is of no concern to us."

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Walk Raises \$1.2 M For AIDS Groups

8,000 Walkers Turn Out For Largest No. Calif. Fundraiser

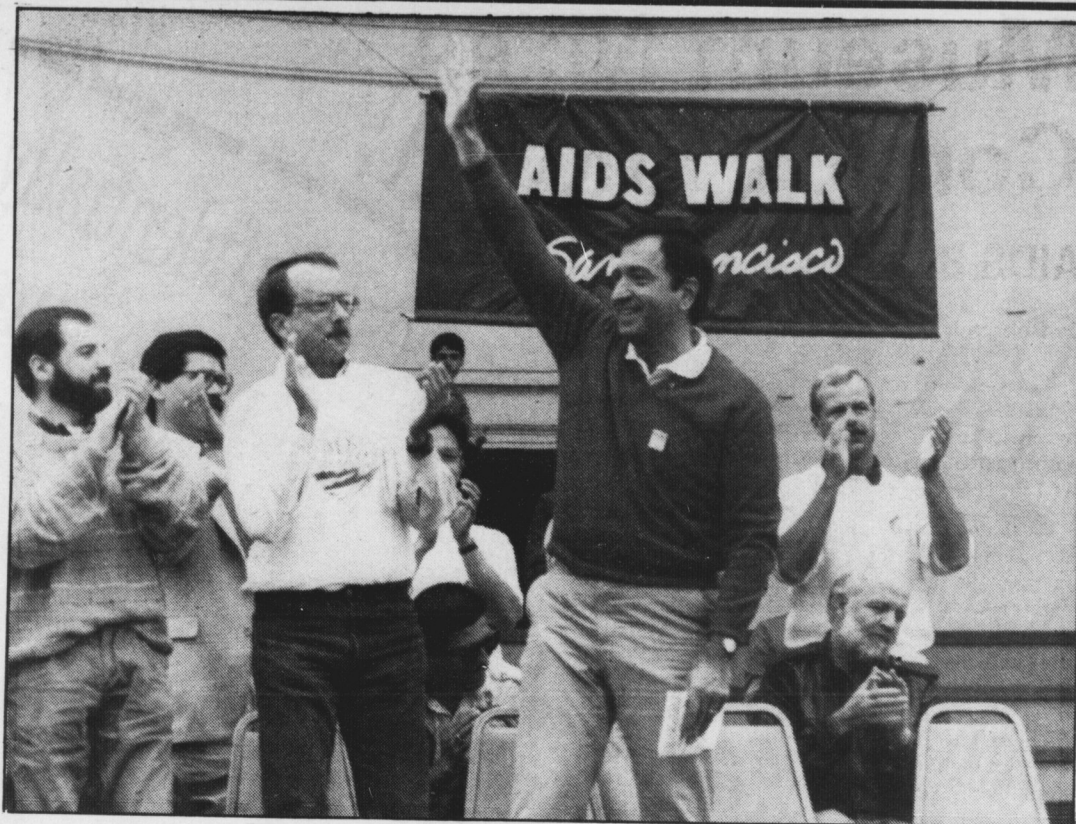
by Dennis McMillan

The second annual AIDS Walk San Francisco, benefitting ten Bay Area AIDS charities, raised a total of \$1,282,054 Sunday in Golden Gate Park. A spirit of love pervaded the 8,000 walkers backed by 80,000 contributors. The misty, overcast day provided perfect weather—not too hot or cold—for the three-hour, 10 kilometer walk.

The 10 organizations that benefitted from the walk are AIDS Emergency Fund, AIDS Health Project, American Indian AIDS Institute, Asian AIDS Task Force, Black Coalition on AIDS, Latino AIDS Project, Mobilization Against AIDS, San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Stop AIDS Resource Center, and Visiting Nurses and Hospice of San Francisco.

Walkers began arriving around 8:30 a.m., standing in one of 194 well-organized lines to register.

Among the big sponsors for the event was KPIX-TV, donating media coverage and celebrity walkers such as Ann Fraser and Ross McGowan of "People Are Talking" and Hank Plante of KPIX News. Anchorperson Wen-



Art Agnos got a cheer from the crowd after he spoke at the AIDS Walk. (Photo: Savage Photography)

dy Tokuda was scheduled to walk, but a bad bout of stomach flu prevented her from participating in all but a pre-walk pep talk.

David Landis, public relations director for KPIX, stated, "This is probably the biggest fundraiser for AIDS research, education, and prevention in Northern California, and KPIX has been involved in its AIDS Lifeline public service campaign for five years, so we were very committed to being a sponsor for this event."

Hank Plante, who did the walk after he passed out oranges for the first hour to the hungry hikers at rest station number one, said, "I really want to be a part of it all. There are some days when you just don't want to be a reporter; you want to be a participant."

Local politicians also put on their Reboks for the event. Said Sup. Harry Britt, "This is the place to be today. I don't know any other event in the city that brings out stronger feelings than the AIDS Walk."

Sup. Carol Ruth Silver added, "The ambiance and the people are just delightful, and the fact that we're here trying to help our brothers and sisters with AIDS is all the more exciting and wonderful."

Everyone had his or her own training regimen in preparation for the 6.2 mile marathon. Ann Fraser did aerobics six days a week, and felt in relatively good shape. She even planned to do a tap dance at the end, to cheer the troops on.

Plante walked up and down the stairs at home, and said he practiced passing out oranges to his dogs, working on his "orange arm."

Harry Britt's total training consisted of his walk (several blocks) from home to the park that morning. Carol Ruth Silver had a slight handicap with a sprained ankle but was nevertheless undaunted.

Hank Cook, president of the AIDS Emergency Fund, prepared for the walk by drinking two cups of coffee and eating a croissant.

A pre-walk rally hosted by radio personality Romn Owens of station KGO, also a sponsor of the event, inspired and entertained the audience.

Tristano Palermino, a man with AIDS who speaks to high school students about AIDS as part of the Wedge program, scolded the Reagan administration for its callous attitude toward the epidemic. "I am an AIDS

patient, because I have been waiting for five years for a spiritual awakening in the White House," he punned.

Dr. Tim Wolfred, director of San Francisco AIDS Foundation, called Congressman William Dannemeyer to task for his initiative requiring the reporting of every person testing positive for HIV (or even suspected of such), and urged the walkers to rally together to defeat "this very ugly initiative."

Ron Bansemmer, representative for Herth Realty, another sponsor of the Walkathon, gave acknowledgment to Jesse Jackson for openly recognizing gays, lesbians, and people with AIDS on national TV at the Democratic convention.

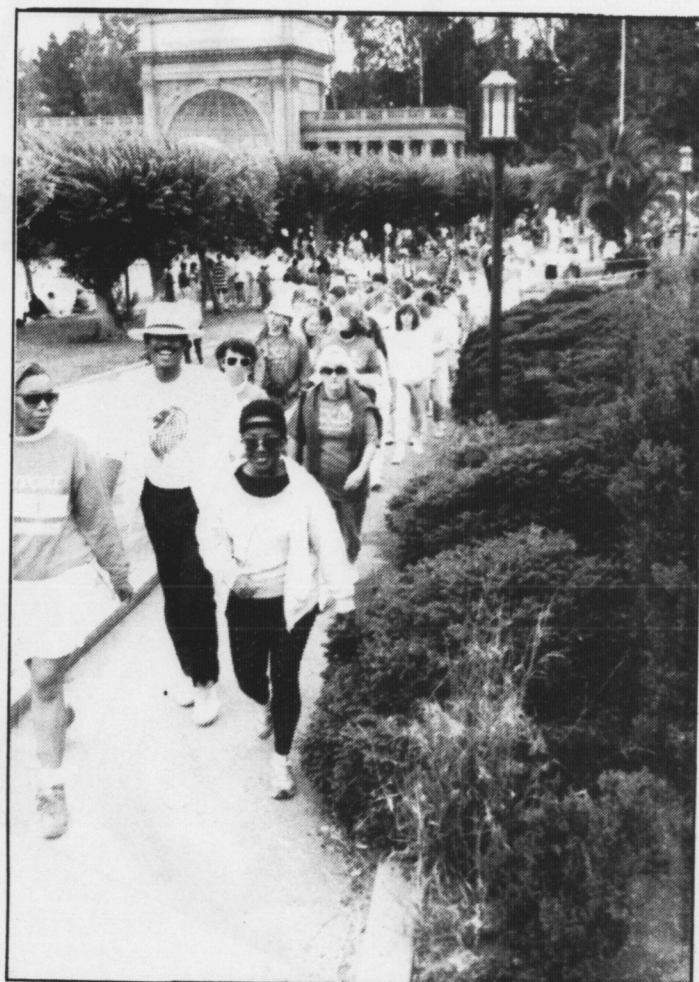
Mayor Art Agnos, Walkathon chairperson, delivered an uplifting message. "San Francisco is a family that cares about all its members. And no one in this city is going to be left to walk alone with only fear, hurt, and loneliness as companions. Today with your assembly here, you're proving that San Francisco knows how to pull together as a family," he said.

Michael Callen, from the People With AIDS Coalition, sang the piece he wrote with Peter Allen and Marsha Malamet, "Love Don't Need a Reason," with the very moving refrain, "love is all we have; what we don't have is time."

The fashions of the day were rather drab. But there were three exceptions: a man in a fuschia sequined mask, Lee press-on nails, and a mink-trimmed coat; a trio of roller skaters, two men and a woman, in matching hot pink and black bike pants, pink t-shirts, and black headbands with coordinated feathers (is it cheating to skate in a walk?); and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Inc. in—what else—black and white walking nun apparel.

Various large contingents walked wearing their particular color-coded t-shirt: AT&T in green, Pacific Bell in red, IBM in blue, and cast & crew members of the play *Nunsense* in white and black. In fact, its star Phyllis Diller helped sponsor them.

The walkers were not limited to the human species. Over 100 dogs, some registered as officially pledged participants, a brown and white rat, and a turquoise iguana also took part.



The beginning of the AIDS Walk. (Photo: Savage Photography)

Museum Nixes Comics Show

AIDS Benefit Called 'Too Narrow'

by Robert Triptow

The Cartoon Art Museum of San Francisco has rejected an exhibition of artwork from *Strip AIDS USA*, a book of comics by top cartoonists on the subject of AIDS. *Strip AIDS USA* is a nonprofit publication for the benefit of Shanti Project and will be released by Last Gasp Press in mid-August.

Co-editor Trina Robbins, a cartoonist well-known for her involvement in feminism and human rights causes, contacted the museum's chair Malcolm Whyte in May and, at first, encountered a welcoming response to the idea of displaying original art from *Strip AIDS USA*. Whyte assured her that the museum had space available in November 1988.

According to Robbins, negotiations proceeded until Whyte asked her, "What's in it for us?" Robbins informed him that the book was a nonprofit AIDS benefit that would include even the sale of the art. Whyte then said he needed a formal proposal to present to the museum's board of directors.

Robbins wrote up the proposal and also prepared a xerox copy of the planned book so board members could see the quality of the artwork.

Before Robbins could deliver the dummy copy to the board, however, Whyte telephoned her with news that the board had already rejected the idea of a *Strip AIDS USA* exhibit. The reason he gave Robbins then was that "it might not be good for our reputation."

The reaction from Robbins was disbelief. "In *San Francisco*?" Robbins asked. "But this would give them such a good reputation!"

BOARD HADN'T VOTED

Robbins insisted on more information, especially since no one on the board had yet seen any of the *Strip AIDS USA* art. While waiting for the museum's official response, she spoke with friends on the museum's board of directors to find out the reasoning behind the rejection.

None of the board members Robbins contacted knew anything of the rejection. They said that the matter had not yet come up for a vote, but offered to get more information at the next board meeting, according to Robbins.

But that meeting was when the official "no" decision was actually made, according to one board member who claimed the vote "split along generational lines." The only explanation offered for Whyte's premature notification of the show's rejection was "Malcolm jumped the gun."

The official reason for the rejection came in a letter to Robbins. It said that the *Strip AIDS USA* show "is too narrowly focused in subject matter and, as such, presents too great a departure from the aesthetic function of the Museum of Cartoon Art." Following that, the museum's newsletter also talked of "diverse opinion as to the appropriateness of exhibiting art with the narrow focus of a specific subject."

MUSEUM SEEKS FUNDS

Adding insult to injury, Whyte asked Robbins if she knew of any



claim about "objective focusing on the artistic aspects of cartooning."

"It should be noted that only two board members ever saw the dummy. In other words, this decision was made without the vast majority of the board even seeing the art," she said.

Some people associated with

the Cartoon Art Museum are supportive of the AIDS benefit book. Barry Gantt, the museum's public relations advisor, is devoting an upcoming Loonies meeting to *Strip AIDS USA*. The Loonies are an informal gathering of Bay Area cartoon fans and artists who meet monthly. The *Strip AIDS USA* evening will take place Aug. 29 at McClaren's, 19th Avenue at

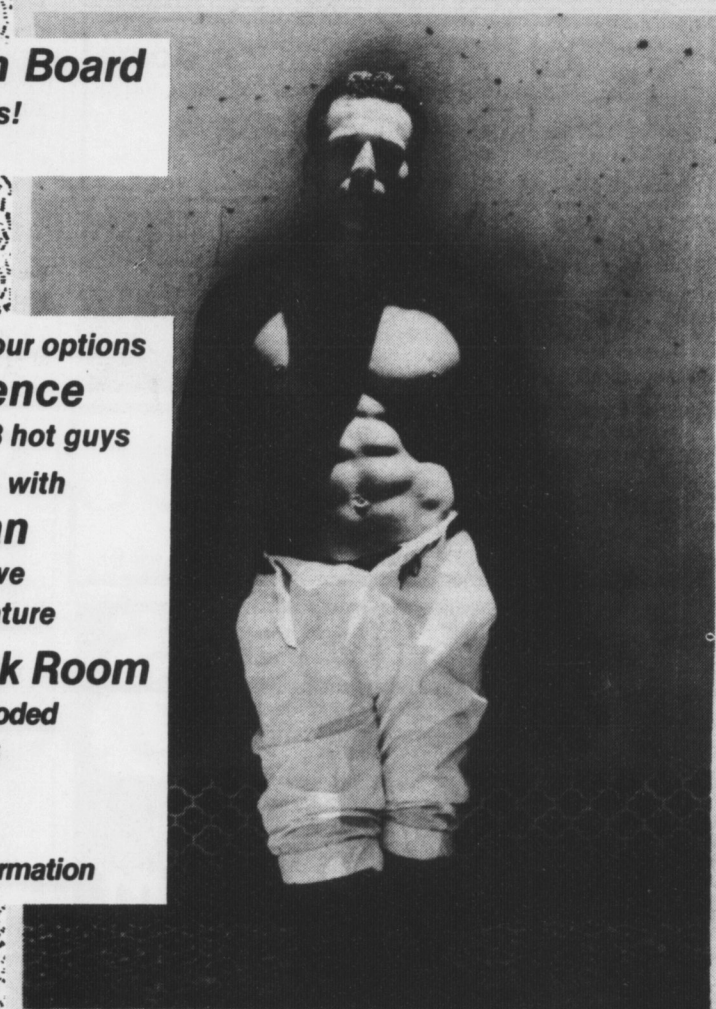
Lincoln Boulevard. *Strip AIDS USA* will be available at bookstores in August. A book signing is scheduled for Aug. 21 at Different Light Books on Castro Street. It will also be available from Last Gasp, 2180 Bryant St., San Francisco 94110. Robert Triptow is a co-editor of *Strip AIDS USA*.

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Future Shock

In the Future, Conventions Last 30 Minutes, But Rhetoric Goes On

by Dennis McMillan

I had a dream. With apologies to Martin Luther King Jr., my dream was induced by late-night pizza and beer, falling asleep trying to watch the Democratic National Convention. My dream opened with a futuristic commentary on a convention 12 years to come.

"Welcome, ladies and gentlemen, to the 43rd Technocratic Convention," said a video commentator who identified himself as Walter Jennings Brinkrather. "As you know," he said, "I was cloned from the very finest news anchormen way back in the late 1980s, when they used to have week-long Democratic and Republican conventions." This is what he had to say:

By now we have streamlined these tiresome events, which used to be unbelievably tedious and quite unnecessary, seeing as how they really already nominated their presidential candidates in the primaries. But we have managed to maintain some of their tradition, although conventions now last an absolute maximum of 30 minutes.

Nowadays we avoid the embarrassment they experienced in 1988, when the Omni Hall in Atlanta was overbooked, forcing many irate delegates to be kept outside because of fire laws. The whole event is now broadcast by satellite to each of the states in their local studios. Voting is handled by computers, although not the sloppy way they did at the old-fashioned Atlanta headquarters way back when.

Of course, politics have changed drastically since those days. Now we have the Technocrats—a high-tech group of conservative, white-collar, computer workers and hydroponic farmers—versus the Republikooks—the left-wing progressives who used to be part



And the band played on.

(Photo: Rink)

of the Grand Old Party, but got too wild and crazy after those post-Reagan years.

The convention began with the keynote address from the governor of Texas, that silver-haired, silver-tongued woman of wit and wisdom, Ann Richards. She has come a long way since her first fabulous speech at the '88 convention of Democrats as secretary of the Texas treasury, when she put down the Reagan administration with one fell swoop.

Everyone cheered her address to the delegates, clapping so heartily that the introduction of past U.S. Vice President John F. Kennedy Jr. was almost missed.

Former Pres. Ted Kennedy set the mood by insisting we "ask not what our country can do for us, but what we can do for our country." Apparently, long ago in

the 1960s, that theme emerged—no one can recall why or, for that matter, what it means exactly.

There had been much concern among delegates and media that the overtly homosexual presidential candidate Wesley Gayson might try to upstage frontrunner Michael Dokisscock. But after much counseling and duress, Wesley behaved and stayed pretty much in the closet, to the relief of the conventioners.

It was all right for Wesley to be gay, but certainly not president! That would have been overstepping his bounds. Isn't it enough that gays are allowed to vote, ride in the back of the bus without being called names, and are a lot better than second-class citizens in our society?

We now see homosexuals on TV portrayed as reasonably hap-

py, well-adjusted members of society, as witnessed by their presence in so many situation comedies and commercials. And we even allow them to be politicians. But president of the U.S.A.? Well, that would hardly do. After all, we must draw the line somewhere. They should be grateful for the progress they've made and not be so greedy for human rights.

And it was good, sound strategy of Dokisscock to embrace Wesley in his campaign, so as to be assured of clinching the important (and larger than ever) gay vote. They even allowed Wesley to give a stirring speech (well, after all, his kind are natural actors and performers).

Gayson gave his speech, urging unity and common ground among the Rainbow Coalition—

the rednecks, yellow bellies, blue bloods, greenhorns, lavender sissies and lesbos, and brown-noses. Something about our parents all coming over on ships, and so we're all in the same boat. Then he listed our options of either being ships that pass in the night, ships that collide, or ships that cruise—at which point the gay delegates waved their pink and lavender flags furiously.

Gayson seemed to have lost the majority of the delegates when he started his litany. "They work every day." He kept preaching, "They arrange your flowers; they do your hair; they wait your tables; they redecorate your rooms; they work every day."

The nominee for vice president, Ben Lloydsen, was a surprise to all. Most of the delegates forgot there even was a position of vice president to vote on, but everyone agreed that the nondescript Lloydsen would be a perfect counterpart to Dokisscock's rousing personality, enchanting charisma, and overall effervescence.

Dokisscock was nominated by acclamation, meaning there wouldn't be that tired roll-call of states, with speeches. "Madam Chairperson, the insignificant state of Maine, famous for crab cakes, slow drawing cretins, a general lack of humor, and insufferably cold weather, casts its paltry two votes for the next president of the United States, Mr. So-and-So."

With only 30 minutes for the entire convention, we never would have finished on scheduled with such old-time nomination methods.

I wish you all could be here today. The finale to the convention this year is utterly stunning. Not all that tedious John Philip Sousa marching music that just grated one's nerves during the '80s. This year is spectacular, with the Weather Girls singing "It's Raining Men" while thousands of red, white, and blue condoms filled with air drop onto the delegates below.

It certainly is a hard act to follow for Jennifer Holliday, singing "We're Your Dream Girls" as 500 leading Technocrats march up and down the runway in various drag. My favorite has to be elderly former Pres. Jimmy Carter in the peanut suit and his aged brother Billy in the giant beer can, tap-dancing away while Wesley Gayson shouts, "Dare to dream. Dare to scream. Some are hawks and some are doves, but none of these birds can dance worth a damn in heels. It's our common ground, so keep hope alive. Keep hope alive."

Now that's a convention! •

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Are you an ex-smoker who needs some extra support? The American Lung Association of San Francisco is now offering a monthly support group to help you stay quit.

The group meets the first Monday of every month at the American Lung Association office at 562 Mission Street. The next meeting will be on Aug. 1, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. To sign up for this free support group, call 543-4410. •

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

Peninsula Group Expands Social Support Services

New Assistant Director to Develop Nonmedical Services

by Marv. Shaw

Frequently, people with AIDS must have much help beyond the direct medical treatment for their illnesses. Depleted or even eliminated incomes have created problems with housing, transportation, legal services, and just getting enough food on the table. ELLIPSE Peninsula AIDS Services has expanded its operation to meet these needs. The person recently hired as assistant executive director to supervise these functions is John Grima.

Grima, 35, is a San Francisco native whose family moved to the peninsula when he was finishing grade school. He graduated from Woodside High School and got a B.A. in health sciences from San Francisco State. He then attained a master of health services administration degree from George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Just prior to moving to ELLIPSE, Grima was a management analyst at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Palo Alto. Asked why he wanted his present post, Grima's response was immediate and strong: "I wanted to get into an AIDS-related organization. I felt a personal commitment. It was very important to me."

A period as a telephone volunteer spurred him to apply when the assistant directorship opened. He finds his new role a stimulating challenge.

The bulk of Grima's duties comprise running the food bank, providing assistance with housing, and seeing to services for patients who can still live at home, but who are not always able to provide for themselves.

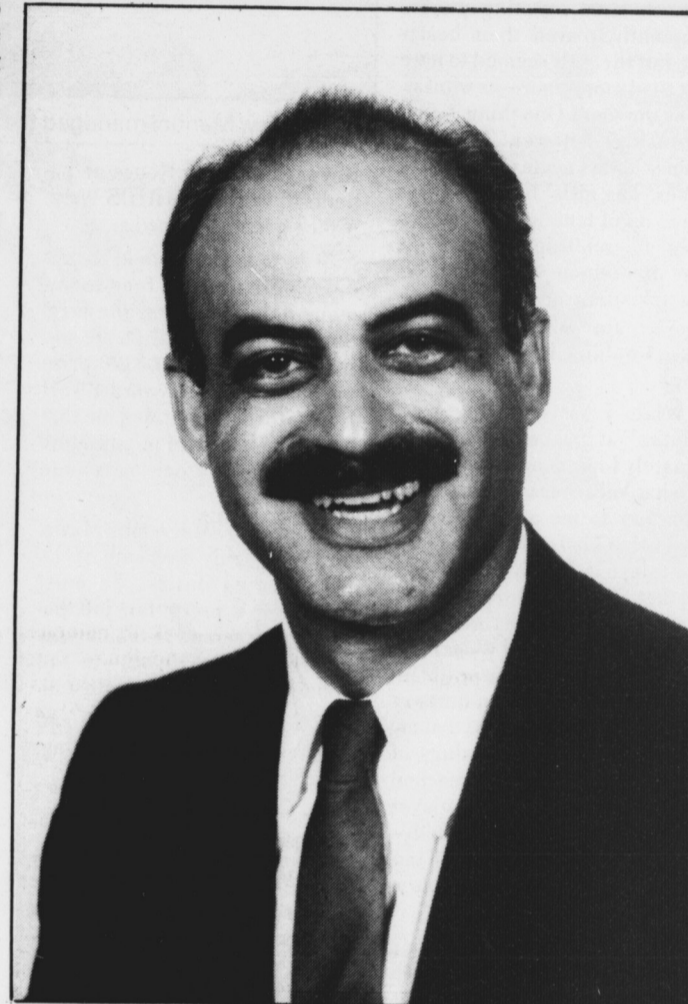
The food bank is a large responsibility which Grima is working to make better known and better stocked. Housed at ELLIPSE headquarters in Suite 505 of the Bay View Plaza Building at 2121 El Camino Real, San Mateo, the food bank still needs more metal shelving and, of course, a steady supply of nonperishable foods.

One particularly valuable item is Ensure Plus, a high-calory food supplement which is very nutritious, but also quite costly—\$28 per case.

BIG JOB AHEAD

Consultation with the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the East Bay AIDS Project gave Grima valuable guidelines for operating the food bank. The recently published ELLIPSE AIDSline newsletter prompted donations. Grima feels that greater public awareness is the key to getting more supplies. So far, the supermarket chains have not contributed, but Grima is planning to approach them.

Many AIDS patients get some money from the county for housing, but ELLIPSE must stand ready to meet emergency housing needs, Grima explained. The goal is either to lease an apartment house or buy a house for patients. Surprisingly, landlords and owners have approached ELLIPSE with offers of rent or



John J. Grima, assistant executive director of ELLIPSE: Peninsula AIDS Services.

sale, but the organization is not financed to do that yet.

The nonmedical client aid Grima supervises includes many kinds of services. The most frequently appearing one is simply money for personal needs, often for medication. But there are also meal preparation and home cleaning, transportation, and legal assistance, especially the preparation of wills.

As though the cluster of services described were not enough, Grima also supervises the ELLIPSE information and referral hotline, (415) 574-6978. Since the U.S. surgeon general's report was issued, he said, there have been many calls asking if taking the HIV test is advisable.

Beyond the hotline, an educational expansion Grima sees as vital is getting to the area's students. "They still have the feeling that they won't get it," he said with a sigh.

Grima sees his future with ELLIPSE as continuous service with an organization that is "unfortunately" growing. He quickly explains "unfortunately" as a way of characterizing the spread

of the AIDS crisis.

There are three objectives he wants especially to see accomplished in the near future: a much greater public awareness of ELLIPSE and what it is trying to do, a more developed food bank, and a stabilized housing situation for those with AIDS.

Grima and the ELLIPSE staff invite inquiries at (415) 572-9702. •

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Somehow, Manuel managed to stay cool at the softball game.

Wouldn't you know it! On the day of Val's Annual Softball Game, Oakland had its hottest day of the year. Spots in the shade—which were parching also—were at a premium. And, anyone out on the playing field was at the mercy of old Sol's blistering rays. Not even one little wisp of breeze appeared to alleviate the torture.

Taskmaster Val pushed the game to a full five innings, which the girls won 23 to 6. S.F. "Empire" Lily Street, behind home plate and complete with bullhorn, carried out her duties faithfully while her Emperor Steve relaxed(?) on the sidelines in a treasured bit of shade.

Each team, rotating players frequently, played their hearts out, but the girls seemed to have just a tad more vigor—as witnessed by the score. One thing is a bit confusing, however. The boys team is always made up strictly of males. The girls' team is always made up of females and guys in drag. To even things out a little, why don't some of the females get into drag and play on the boys' team? Maybe then the score wouldn't be quite so lopsided.

While I was performing my "duties" at first base—fairly and squarely I might add, regardless of what Val accuses—a little girl came up to me and wanted to know what kind of a game was being played! Mercy! What's a mother to do? I politely told her that it was a friendly game between some men and women, all being played for fun. She inquired whether I was handing out free soda pop. I explained that my job was to administer slugs of beer to each player that reached first base, and that a player couldn't proceed on to second—regardless of how far the ball was hit—until the beer was consumed.

She walked away scratching her head and her expression was one of complete bewilderment. Come to think of it, after the game I walked away scratching my head and my expression was one of complete bewilderment!

I was told that after the game, the traditional barbecue was late getting started and the bar's patio offered little if any relief from the intense torridity. Only those lucky enough to be privy to some form of air conditioning were spared the agonizing parching.

ESTIVAL NOEL REVISITED
 (A Tabulating Nose)

Immediately after the softball game, my spouse and I motored to the Spoiled Brat for Ed Paulson's annual Christmas in July auction. Thank goodness the air conditioning was working full bore, because the place was packed.

For more than four-and-a-half hours the items and bidding seemed to be nonstop, and at the end only a few objects were left (to be included in some future auction). An enormous \$9,138 was raised, with the proceeds being divided between East Bay Assistance Fund and AIDS Food Bank. Plaudits and kudos to all who participated in making this such a smashing success.

"Flower Lady" Sharon donated quite a few potted plants, and the majority of them were re-donated either for

Hayward's BASH House or patients in Fairmont's AIDS Ward. A nice gesture, indeed.

Several decorated food barrels did materialize, and four anonymous judges selected the creation of Turf Club's Michelle and spouse Sandy. Their \$100 prize was donated to Hayward BASH House, too. Ed informed me that next time he would increase the prize money in order to get more entries.

Kenny Sue, Marvelous Mavis, and yours truly took care of the bookkeeping duties. We must have done a pretty fair job, because after several re-tabulations we were only \$10 off—in the beneficiaries' favor, I might add.

It was a very successful and satisfying conclusion to a long, long hot day.

POTPOURRI
 (A Pisticcio Nose)

At the auction, Ed asked for and received consensus from the crowd to donate a sizable amount of the proceeds for sprucing up the AIDS Ward patios at Fairmont Hospital. He and "Flower Lady" Sharon have completed the task, and the patios should be in full bloom in time for the big "Barbecue" on Sunday, Aug. 7. Egads! That's only two weeks away!

Speaking of the big "Barbecue," B.J. informed me that a bartender from ("please don't mention its name") bar told him that he was going to be in their dunking booth. He asked, "What if I refuse?" "You can't," he was told. "We sold too many tickets already!" Hell, if I had been asked, the waiting line would have gone all the way down MacArthur Freeway to Hayward!

Speaking of ("please don't mention its name") bar, its conversation pit now contains var-

ious and sundry games and video machines, and a pool table. The reason B.J. didn't want me to mention the bar's name is because final OKs from the owners hadn't been received yet. They were, and Bench & Bar will sponsor the dunking booth.

Speaking of pits, the AIDS Food Bank will soon be moved from the troubled AIDS Project of the East Bay on 40th Street, to the Pacific Center on Telegraph. And guess who will be in charge of the action? Jeremy Landau, that's who! Workers from APEB are disgruntled because they might lose their jobs when the move is completed.

Me thinks this new venture and new director will see far less support from our gay community in the future—and, I think you know why. 'Tis a shame about that proverbial barrel of fruit with that one carious apple!

(Sorry, Miss Lyceum, but this next bit won't be to your interest!) Only immediates were privy to information about my spouse's by-pass operation. It was performed on Friday, July 22, and was a complete success. He should be home and recuperating by the time this issue is printed. It has, to say the least, been quite hectic. But it's smooth sailing from now on. Thanks to all who called expressing concern. Your involvements are lauded. The moral support I've received is really appreciated, too.

And now it's time for the "ahhhh" response. All members of both our families told me that as soon as I could, I had to give him a big hug and kiss for and from them. Talk about understanding and acceptance. That's really nice.

If I don't do all those things that are not worth doing, who will? I can smile at that. Love, Nez

E.B. Food Bank at New Location

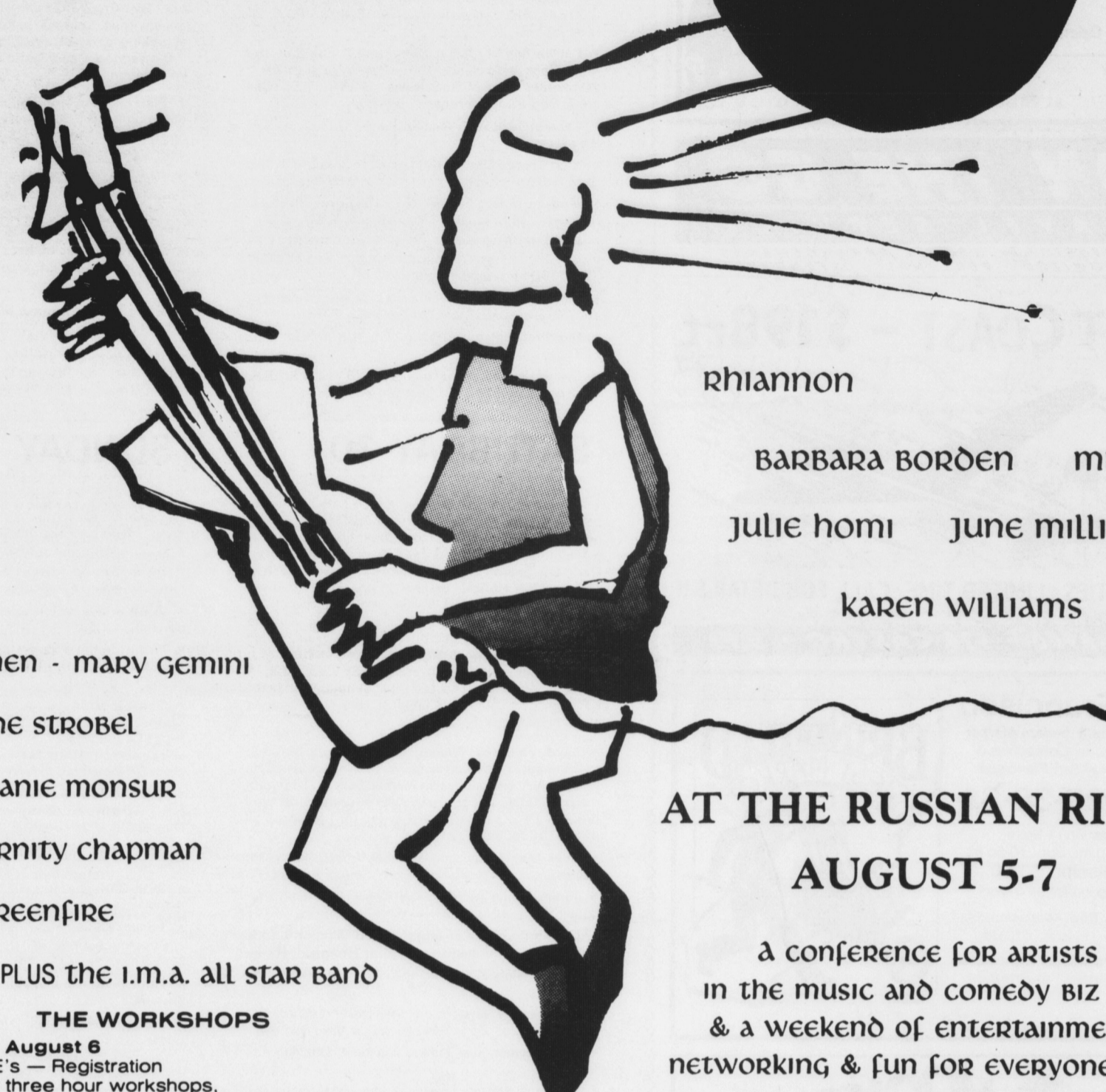
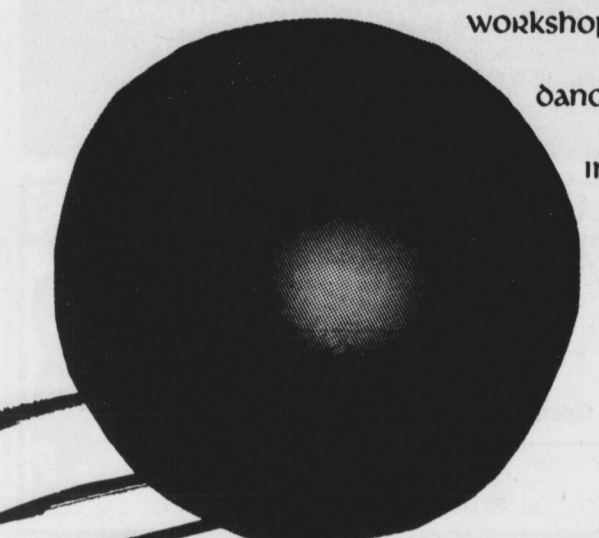
The AIDS Foodbank, which has been operated by the AIDS Project of the East Bay, will now be located downstairs at The Center, a drop-in center for people with AIDS/SARC, and their care-partners, located at the side entrance of 3421 Martin Luther King Jr. Way in Oakland.

The AIDS Foodbank closed at the AIDS Project of the East Bay at 12 noon on Monday, July 18, and opened downstairs at The

Center at 10 a.m., Tuesday, July 19. "We are pleased to be part of this much needed service," center director, Brother Jeremy Hollinger commented. "We look forward to continuing the tradition of providing food for people with AIDS, as the AIDS Project of the East Bay has done so well in the past."

The Pacific Center for Human Growth, the parent organization of the AIDS Foodbank, arranged this transfer.

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THE WORKSHOPS

Saturday - August 6
 9am — FIFE'S — Registration
 \$30 for three hour workshops,
 \$15 for hour and one half workshops.
 Exact location of each workshop TBA at the registration table.

10am - 1pm — FIFE'S/THE WOODS
 "Finding Your Voice" - RHIANNON
 "Drums and Bass in the Band" - BARBARA BORDEN
 "Building Your Solos with Complete Fretboard Awareness" - MIMI FOX

2pm - 5pm — FIFE'S/THE WOODS
 "Shooting Live Concerts" Video - ANGEL PRODUCTIONS
 Participants in this workshop will be led by members of the Angel Productions crew in a shoot of Sunday's concert.

2pm - 3:30pm — FIFE'S/THE WOODS
 "Comedy Workshop" - KAREN WILLIAMS
 "Business Management & Stage Presence" - DEBORAH MATTHEWS
 "Your Spiritual Path to Success" - CHARI DAVIDSON
 "Elements of Studio Recording" - JUNE MILLINGTON

6pm - 9pm — FIFE'S
 "Keyboards in the Band" - JULIE HOMI

9pm - 10:30pm — FIFE'S
 "Vocal & Instrumental Advanced Classes" — Students selected from the morning workshops will be led by faculty in preparation for their performance as THE I.M.A. ALL-STAR BAND at Sunday's concert.

THE ENTERTAINMENT

Friday - August 5
 10pm: THE WOODS — Disco - no cover

Saturday - August 6
 1pm-5pm: FIFE'S BANDSHELL (poolside)
 Live Music: Greenfire, Melanie Monsur, Mary Gemini, Lisa Cohen and Jeanine Strobel.
 Cover - \$7 Includes use of Fife's outdoors facilities.

8pm - FIFE'S MEADOW — Chanting/Circle 'til Sunset

10pm - THE WOODS — Live Music & Dancing - Special Guest TBA
 Cover TBA

10pm - FIFE'S — Mellow out with the music of Eternity Chapman
 No Cover

Sunday - August 7
 12pm - FIFE'S MEADOW — "A Synthesis of Sounds" in concert:
 RHIANNON, KAREN WILLIAMS (comedy) & the I.M.A. ALL-STAR BAND led by JUNE MILLINGTON MIMI FOX, BARBARA BORDEN and JULIE HOMI
 ALSO - Crafts, Food, Volleyball & a few surprises.
 Cover \$10

5pm - THE WOODS — Tea Dance - No Cover

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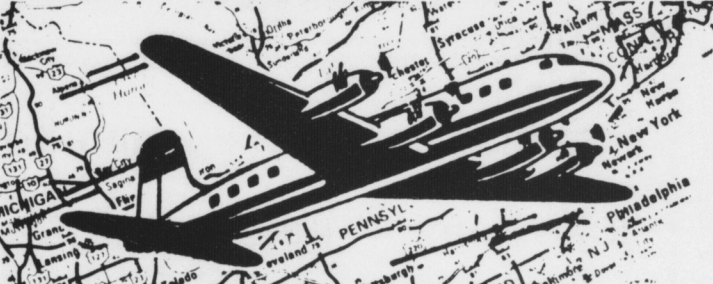
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Sat. - 9pm - 2am dj Mike Dianella \$4

Sun. - 6am - 2am No Cover djs: Randy Tyler, Damon, Mark Watkins

6TH at HARRISON

THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 29

- **Over Our Heads:** comedy, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m., \$8. Improvisational comedy at its best! Call 861-5079 for tickets.
- **Jerk:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 p.m., \$12. Call 861-5079 for tickets to see Robert Chesley's drama.
- **Puttin' on the Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 9:30 p.m., \$10, two-drink minimum. Call 788-8379 for reservations.
- **I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking It on the Road:** stage performance, Jenner Playhouse, Highway 1, 20 minutes west of Guerneville via 116, \$7.50. Call (707) 865-2905 for more information.
- **Cabaret Night With Viva:** Scandals, 162 Turk St., S.F., 9 p.m.
- **High-Energy Music:** dancing at the Endup, 401 6th St., S.F., 9 p.m.-2 a.m., \$2 cover. With DJ Mike Dianella.
- **Modern Music Friday:** with DJ Steve Masters, 8 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.
- **Sing-Along:** with Frank Banks on the piano, Belden 22, 22 Belden Place, S.F., 6-8 p.m.
- **Dick Fregulia:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.
- **Gay Basketball:** pickup games, 1525 Waller St., S.F., 8:30 p.m. Call 621-2710 for more information.

SATURDAY 30

- **Musicare:** concert to benefit AIDS/ARC patients, sponsored by KKH radio. St. Ignatius Church, Fulton and Parker streets, S.F., 8 a.m., donations accepted at the door. Featuring David Babbitt, Donna Bruno, Kathryn Cathcart, Sharon Davis, Evelyn De La Rosa, Vance George, Mark Haffner, Leslie Richards, Philip Skinner, James Starkey, Richard Walker, and members of the S.F. Symphony Chorus, the S.F. Bach Choir, and the St. Ignatius Church Choir singing operatic ensembles from *Tales of Hoffmann*, *Nabucco*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and other music by Bizet, Brahms, Strauss, Vaughn Williams, and Verdi. Proceeds will benefit Hospice of S.F., Family Link, and the AIDS/ARC Homeless Program of Catholic Social Services.
- **Bay Area Career Women:** summer picnic and golf tournament, Wildwood Acres Resort in the Lafayette Hills, \$12 general admission for members, \$22 for non-members (BBQ and golf extra). No refunds; no alcohol brought onto premises. An event for women; call 495-5393 for tickets.
- **Over Our Heads:** comedy (see Friday listing for details).
- **Jerk:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking It on the Road:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Cabaret Night With Viva:** Scandals, 162 Turk St., S.F., 9 p.m.
- **High-Energy Music:** dancing at the Endup, 401 6th St., S.F., 9 p.m.-2 a.m., \$4. With DJ Mike Dianella.
- **Mark Levine:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.
- **Club Infra-Red:** dancing (see Friday listing for details).

- **Puttin' on the Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, 7:30 and 9:30 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.
- **San Francisco Hiking Club:** Day hike around Phoenix Lake/Lake Lagunitas area in Marin. Meet at 9:30 a.m. under the big Safeway sign at Market and Dolores. Bring lunch and water; rain cancels.
- **EastBay FrontRunners:** Inspiration Point/Tilden Park run. Take Grizzly Peak to either South Park Drive or Shasta Road. Continue to Wildcat Canyon Road. Meet at parking lot on left side of road. Flat to slight incline; 3-8-mile loop. Call 939-3579 or 261-3246 for more information.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** fun run. Meet at 9 a.m. at the Stow Lake Boathouse in Golden Gate Park, S.F.; no-host brunch follows. Call 922-1435 or 821-3719 for more information.
- **Partners (Scotch Pool):** tournament, Overpass, 482-A Hayes St., S.F., 8 p.m., \$7 entry fee includes well drink, beer, or wine. S.F. Pool Association rules apply. Call 864-6672 for more information.
- **Fraternel Order of Gays:** game fest, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 p.m. Call 641-0999 for more information.
- **Glory Holes:** X-rated film, Gay Rescue Mission, 1080 Folsom St., S.F., 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.
- **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 31

- **Big Queer Disco Club:** with go-go boys (including Jim Moore) in a Wet Dream Revue, a drag show featuring Tatiana performing her Once a Year Birthday Show and Natasha & Co., and DJ Steve Fabus, Dreamland, 715 Harrison, S.F., doors open 6 p.m., free with Dreamland teadance pass, \$3 general admission.
- **Jerk:** stage performance \$10 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Puttin' on the Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30 p.m. (see Friday listing for details).
- **Seth Montfort:** piano concert, San Francisco MCC Chapel, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 3 p.m., \$8. Montfort performs Chopin, Liszt, Gershwin, and Montfort. High tea will be served at intermission. To benefit the San Francisco MCC pipe organ fund. Call 863-4434 for tickets.
- **Cynthia Bythell:** music, the Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 5:30 p.m., \$5. With special guest Mikio Hirata and Donald Eldon Wescoat on the piano.
- **Dall Madill and Mercy Oria:** music, the Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 8 p.m., \$8.
- **Ryth-O-Matic:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 p.m., \$5. Afro-ska and calypso.
- **Variety Show:** featuring singing, dancing, comedy, and impersonations, Bench and Bar, 120 11th St., Oakland, 9 p.m., cover. Call 444-2266 for more information.
- **Faith Winthrop and Gus Gustavson:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.
- **Jones Street Follies:** female impersonation, Black Rose, 335 Jones St., S.F., shows 10 and 11 p.m., \$2.
- **High-Energy Music:** dancing at the Endup, 401 6th St., S.F., 6 a.m.-2 a.m., no cover. With DJs Randy Tyler, Damon Johnson, and Mark Watkins.



Over Our Heads does comedy at Theatre Rhinoceros July 29 and 30.

- **Demonstration at the Governor's Mansion:** sponsored by ACT UP S.F. Rides leaving Safeway parking lot at Church and Market at 11 a.m. for 2 p.m. demonstration in Sacramento to protest Duke's \$29 million AIDS budget cuts. A simultaneous demonstration at the governor's house in Long Beach is sponsored by ACT UP L.A. and San Diego. Call 821-9087 for more information.
- **Fraternel Order of Gays:** post-Europe trip social/potluck, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 6:30 p.m. Call 641-0999 for more information.
- **Tsunami Masters Swim Team:** practice, King Pool, 3rd and Carroll streets, S.F., 10 a.m. Call 285-5659 for more information.
- **Men's Clinic:** free and confidential VD testing and treatment; counseling and referrals for men with AIDS/ARC concerns, Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 6-8 p.m. Call 644-0425 for more information.
- **Gay Rescue Mission:** AIDS/ARC dinner, 1080 Folsom St., S.F., 5 p.m., free.
- **AIDS Healing Alliance:** workshop, S.F., noon-4 p.m., bring a blanket or mat. James Higgy Lerner, RN, will talk about "Traditional Chinese Medicine, AIDS, and ARC." Call 864-7820 for more information.
- **Week of Prayer:** for persons with AIDS/ARC, HIV infection, their loved ones and families, Most Holy Redeemer Parish, 100 Diamond St., S.F., opening liturgy 10 a.m. Call 863-6259 for more information.
- **Diablo Valley MCC:** worship service, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord, 10 a.m. Call 827-2960 for more information.
- **Radiant Light Ministries:** service, Kabuki Theatre, 1881 Post St., S.F., 9 a.m. Call 861-1667 for more information.
- **New Life MCC:** worship service, 1823 9th St., Berkeley, 5 p.m. Call 843-9355 for more information.
- **Calvary MCC:** worship service, 2124 Brewster Ave., Redwood City, 5 p.m. Call 368-0188 for more information.
- **MCC of the Redwoods:** worship service, Olive and Throckmorton streets, Mill Valley, 10:45 a.m. Call 388-2315 for more information.
- **Golden Gate MCC:** worship service, 48 Belcher St., S.F., 12:30 and 7 p.m. Call 621-6300 for details.

WEDNESDAY 3

- **Boy Club:** dancing, I-Beam, 1748 Haight St., S.F. Call 668-6023 for more information.
- **Trocadero Transfer:** weekly dinner/dance, 520 4th St., S.F., dinner 6-9 p.m., \$5.95. Call 495-6620 for more information.
- **Puttin' on the Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, 9:30 and 11:30 p.m. (see Friday listing for details).
- **Dick Fregulia:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.
- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** picnic in the park. Meet at noon on the steps of the Academy of Science in Golden Gate Park, S.F. Bring lunch. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **San Francisco Hiking Club:** general meeting, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30-9:30 p.m. Slides of the bridge walk will be shown.
- **Week of Prayer:** for persons with AIDS/ARC, HIV infection, their loved ones and families, Most Holy Redeemer Parish, 100 Diamond St., S.F., evening retreat 7:30 p.m. Call 863-6259 for more information.

THURSDAY 4

- **Blazing Redheads:** music, Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 8:30 p.m., \$7. The Redheads are back from their national album release tour.
- **Jerk:** stage performance, \$10 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Puttin' on the Glitz:** with female impersonators and cabaret guys, 9:30 and 11:30 p.m. (see Friday listing for details).
- **I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking It on the Road:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Faith Winthrop and Gus Gustavson:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.
- **Community Action Network:** television on cable channel 6, 8:30 p.m. Retransmission of *The Killing of George Smoot*.
- **Square Dance Class:** for beginners, Live Oak School, 117 Diamond St., S.F., 7-9 p.m. Sponsored by Foggy City Dancers. Call 339-0537 or 586-2748 for more information.
- **Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group:** meeting, Palo Alto YMCA, 7:30-9 p.m. This week's topic is "Adult Children of Alcoholics," led by Roberta. Call 969-1260 for more information.
- **Men's Group:** meeting, Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 7:30-9 p.m.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** run. Meet at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park at 6:30 p.m. Call 922-1435 or 821-3719 for more information.

MONDAY 1

- **All-Day Vigil at the State Capitol:** to protest Deukmejian's \$29 million AIDS budget cuts. Call 821-9087 for more information.
- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** support group for older gay men (60+), Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7-9 p.m. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **Week of Prayer:** for persons with AIDS/ARC, HIV infection, their loved ones and families, Most Holy Redeemer Parish, 100 Diamond St., S.F., evening retreat 7:30 p.m. Call 863-6259 for more information.

TUESDAY 2

- **Monument and Memorial:** exhibition and forum on the place of the monument in today's culture, as part of the August SoMARTS Against AIDS benefit, New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom St., S.F., opening reception 6-8 p.m. Artists Rudy Lemke, Amalia Mesa-Bains, and Suzanne Lacy will present drawings, photo documentation, and maquettes for monuments both real and hypothetical. Call 626-5416 for more information.



The Blazing Redheads return to the Great American Music Hall Aug. 4. (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

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AD DESIGN: JIM PHILIPS/THAT'S IT! MEDIA SERVICES

Tonight's edition of **Electric City** features Renee Romanovsky & Phil-Hicks, and a visit to **EC's** Ego Reduction Clinic, 9 p.m. Viacom Channel 6.

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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

A Response to Commercial Pornography

'You're Alive, You're Erotic' by Nature

by Marv. Shaw

You're alive, so naturally you're erotic. AIDS and anti-sexual hysteria notwithstanding, your sexuality demands expression and will have it. That need and its right of fulfillment are met with great warmth and aesthetic intensity by David Steinberg and 61 contributors of words and graphics in *Erotic by Nature* (Shakti Press/Red Alder Books, \$35), a beautifully produced volume which got its first public presentation recently at Bookshop Santa Cruz.

"I wanted to produce a book that would explore the erotic/sexual realm without reservation or apology," Steinberg said. In his introduction, he characterizes erotica as "an aliveness, a perception with subtlety and depth." He says we deserve "a rich, imaginative erotic culture to be as taken for granted as classical music, baseball, fine wines..."

The editor also describes his work as "one person's response to commercial pornography," which he sees as proceeding "from underground in a narrow range of fantasy, trivializing men, women, and sex." A confirmed feminist, Steinberg decries sexual depiction in which men must be in control, which "separates sexual desire from tenderness and affection."

The graphics, mostly photos, Steinberg selected mainly from one criterion, a personal turn-on.



(Photo: R. Turner)

Consequently, each picture has an immediate sensuality, whether it is explicitly sexual or not. And of course the aesthetic quality of the picture itself is appreciated as enhancing that sensuality.

So in one photo by Jack Morris,

a naked young man kneels on a floor of complex patterns and holds his balls in one hand, masturbating with the other, while a look of simple, intense ecstasy lights his face. In another, Julie Ball's woodcut, a fancied flame

of orgasm suffuses the loins of a woman receiving cunilingus and the face of the woman performing it.

The poetry and prose involve the same qualities, plus the many other dimensions in the power of

words—especially the music of verse and the tension of narrative. In the story "The Girl Next Door" by H.M. Ruggieri, all the agony, wonder, and passion of the first sexual affair beat through the scenes, especially when the boy fears he is losing the girl. And James Broughton, our own impish minstrel, rollics off "Nipples and Cocks" with delightful rhythm and word play.

While many pieces are serious indeed, Steinberg excluded the dark and the tragic, explaining, "I wanted to create a celebratory work of the wonder and the positive side of sexuality." And, though Steinberg is most conscious of AIDS, he sees *Erotic by Nature* as combatting the resultant anti-sexual hysteria whipped up by the epidemic. The words and pictures remind us that our sexuality can be "wholesome, profound, holy."

Steinberg selected with no great thought to gay or straight reference. Only recently has he reviewed the contributors to discover that 16 out of 61 are gay. Similarly, the pictures themselves are often of ambiguous gender identification. And some of the sexiest studies of men—gay or straight?—are by women artists.

Two other selection points are important. Steinberg deliberately eschewed the glamor featured

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An 'Expected Evil' Caught Up With Robert Ferro

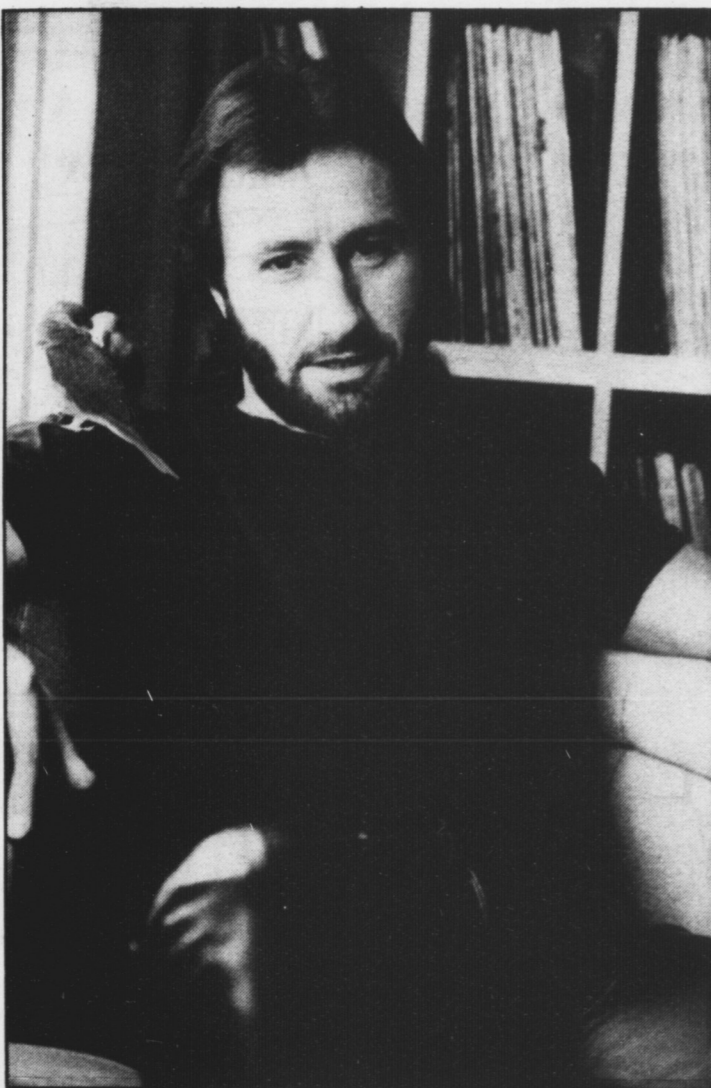
by David Lambie

The last time I saw Robert Ferro, he was full of life and enthusiasm for life.

He had a new publisher and a new novel and was very pleased with both. His job, teaching creative writing to Hofstra University undergraduates on Long Island, was satisfying. The commute from his Upper West Side Manhattan home was a bit of a bother, but surely the next year would find him at a school in the city.

He was looking forward to a March 31 reunion with an old friend, novelist Edmund White. White would be reading from his second "boy" book, *The Beautiful Room Is Empty*. Ferro from *Second Son*, which bore an admirable resemblance to his first successful novel, *The Family of Max Desir*. Both men would be basking in good mainstream reviews and acknowledgement, in a recent Newsweek article, as major forces in the emerging American gay literary movement.

It was the fulfillment of a decade-old dream, a dream shared at one point by seven men. They met once a month or so in crowded New York apartments. They listened to the progress each was making on novels about the new visible gay life. They met, also, to share a "really drop-dead dessert," the making of which was practically as important as writ-



The late Robert Ferro.

(Photo: R. Pruzan)

ing ability for membership in the Violet Quill. The books that emerged from the pens of the Quill, White's *A Boy's Own Story*, Andrew Holloran's *Nights in Aruba*, and Ferro's *The Family of Max Desir*, set out to flesh out the just-beginning-to-be-told story of the roles for "out" gay men in the scheme of their biological families.

It strikes me somewhat oddly, this now being slightly more than two weeks after the shocking and, for me, unexpected news of Robert Ferro's death, that so much of my two conversations with Ferro were dominated by an air of cheerful but relentless mortality, even morbidity.

At our first meeting, I even joked that the beautifully and tautly-written *Max Desir* novel read a bit like Ferro's own update for *The Book of the Dead*, dealing as it does with the death of Max's mother, Marie. Ferro admitted that the 17 months it takes Marie to succumb to a brain tumor makes hers one of the longest death scenes since Balzac.

In a related subplot, an uncle of Max's spends four years in a stroke-induced coma. In *Second Son*, while the mother is dead before the novel opens, Mark and lover Bill, although both are in an advanced state of AIDS, at

the end hold on for the cure or perhaps a space voyage to the gay planet "Spendora."

It surprised and saddened me that the creatures of Ferro's imagination had stronger wills to live than their creator. Ferro himself told me in 1984, "I do believe we allow ourselves to get sick. I think we give ourselves permission to sicken." Ferro was not quoting Louise Hay, who was not so much quoted in those days, but instead making a classic restatement of the will-to-live philosophy that many still and always lived by.

On the last day that I saw him, March 14, Ferro's will to live seemed very strong. I hadn't an inkling that his lover of 20 years, Michael Crumley, would be dead in six weeks, with Ferro himself gone in four months. With almost 4,000 names on the Names Project quilt and over 30,000 officially listed as dead in these "war years," how can the death of any gay man any longer surprise any of us? I'm just thankful that it still can and does.

Of course, the clues were there for me to see if I had had but the sense to perceive them. Toward the end of *Second Son*, Ferro describes the lesions that Mark has been cohabitating his body

(Continued on next page)

Ferro

(Continued from previous page)

with for two years. Ferro, as ever, writes from an insider's perspective:

He could still look in the mirror and pretend he was unaffected; but naked, with all these spots lighted up by the hot water and steam of his bath, his body was a map of disease. He knew from what he could feel, here and there beneath the surface, that it had gone all through and would not stop.

Ferro was quick to acknowledge the autobiographical origins of his work, confessing that he didn't share the embarrassment many writers feel when having to "own up to autobiography, as if there's something second-rate about remembering, as opposed to inventing. It is, however, very difficult to make autobiography into a novel. I think what makes it a novel is what you leave out, as opposed to what you put in."

Ferro was disgruntled when his most invented novel, *The Blue Star*, was rejected by many critics and readers. He argued that the book was attacked in 1985 for not being a novel about AIDS. Ferro admitted that his novel about AIDS, *Second Son*, was the most difficult of the quartet he wrote about gays and the family.

In *Second Son*, Mark is not only the second but the only gay son in the multi-generational Italian-American clan, the Valerians. As the book opens, Mark is pleading with his father and siblings not to sell the family's huge summer beach home, a house that Ferro makes clear is a barely-disguised and barely-tethered ship, a vessel capable not only of containing and echoing the voices from the past that are the family's collective memory, but also, perhaps, capable of being the instrument for a fabled trip to the gay planet.

Ferro confessed to being a very emotional person, a romantic nature that in *Second Son* is embodied in the last-chance relationship that Mark and Bill find, a relationship made possible by an irony: They are both stripped of their fear of disease by the fact that they are both infected when they meet. Ferro's account of the love and lovemaking that occur between Mark and Bill, and the will to sur-

vive each gives the other, was fueled by his knowledge of the many real-life examples. "In New York there are clubs and societies, support groups that have been formed from people who are ill, and many relationships like this have been started."

Like *The Family of Max Desir*, *Second Son* ends on a spiritual, even mystical note: Mark's belief that he just may be in touch with a group of gay space explorers. Ferro warns readers that "we don't know if this is his own imagination at work as a writer or whether there is such a group. It's a group in Texas which is sponsoring a drive... to colonize a planet, a gay planet, and this becomes a metaphor in the novel for hope... The whole point is whether Bill and Mark are going to... put their trust in what may be a cockamammy science-fiction illusion or whether they're going to put their faith in the possibility of an actual medical cure."

In the end, Ferro confessed he hoped they did both.

Robert Ferro may be best remembered for the lessons his books teach us about living a life that includes our biological as well as our adopted families. Ferro confessed to me that the inspiration for writing *Max Desir* had come not only from his suburban New Jersey, Italian-American boyhood, but the feeling that many of his gay friends had become untethered and rootless in their adult lives by the ruptures that had happened in their relationships with their families. "I come from New York, and most of my friends there have left their families. They either had been driven out or had discovered that the life with their families was not right for them. My family lived in New Jersey, and I loved the whole structure, the whole setup, and I didn't want to leave home."

On Monday, July 11, Robert Ferro died at the home of his father in Ho-Ho-Kus, New Jersey. He is survived not by his lover of 20 years, but by an extended family of uncles, aunts, siblings, and cousins.

His Manhattan address is still in my book. His books have an honored place in my library, and his words still linger in my mind: "The worst things are the expected evils. The unexpected evils, that's fate, the surprise of life. But when you know something bad is going to happen... when it does happen, it's weird."

formed his own with some friends. Out of that experience came *Doing Your Own School*, one of several previous books.

He has been involved for several years in leading men's groups on male roles, fathering, and kindred subjects. He is closely associated with the California Men's Gatherings, at one of which he and his conferees presented "A Celebration of Eros," a slide/music/readings show which was a forerunner to the book. Accompanying him was his son Dylan, now 17.

At the Bookshop Santa Cruz program, Steinberg read his own and others' poems, including one from the well-known Lenore Kandel. Also reading their own works were Deborah Abbot and Michael Hill, their expressive voices catching fascinating nuances in their words.

Steinberg realizes there will be some marketing problems for his book, which might be rejected by the more conservative stores. However, its identity as art could surmount that difficulty in some cases, he believes.

Steinberg has been preparing *Erotic by Nature* for five years. A native New Yorker, he came to the Santa Cruz area in 1972 after an education at Oberlin and Princeton. After teaching at a conventional junior high school, he

MOVIES

A Preposterous But Endearing Film

by Steve Warren

With a preposterous but endearing premise and a gay but not sexually active hero, *Around the World in 80 Days* is the kind of silliness that hasn't been seen since the *Carry On* series was carried off. The first feature by Australia's Stephen Maclean, it was shown at last year's Mill Valley Film Festival and is finally having a brief theatrical run at the Roxie.

When old Roly (Allan Penney) wants to follow his wife Mavis (Diana Davidson) on her trip around the world, his two sons connive to make him think he's traveling—being senile and 98 percent blind, he's not hard to fool. With an absent neighbor's large house serving as a generic Hilton, they use sound effects, costumes, props, and impersonations to persuade Roly he's in Honolulu, Las Vegas, Rome, and Tokyo.

Actually, their scheme gets so elaborate it would probably have been cheaper to take the real trip, but if you're going to be so analytical, you shouldn't be seeing a farce in the first place.

Philip Quast plays the gay son, Wally, and gets to do most of the drag—but not camp—while his father, not knowing he's around, makes homophobic cracks about him: "Have we got stewards or stewardesses?... These stewards can be very tutti-frutti, like Wally." "It's not him being so-called 'gay' I mind. I'm not a racist. It's



that—yaccch! With men, that disgusts me."

Wally doesn't get to do any yaccch! with men, but his brother Eddie (Kelly Dingwall) does yaccch! with women, specifically a nurse named (nudge, nudge, wink, wink) Ophelia Cox (Gosia Dobrowolska).

The finale, when Roly gets his faculties back and then some, in-

cludes a steal from *Cocoon*, but at least the whole thing's better than last year's spinoff, *Disorderlies*.

★★★
Around the World in 80 Days
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BOOKS

Dave Kopay: A Look Back at the All-American Athlete

The David Kopay Story
by David Kopay and Perry Deane Young; Primus, \$8.95

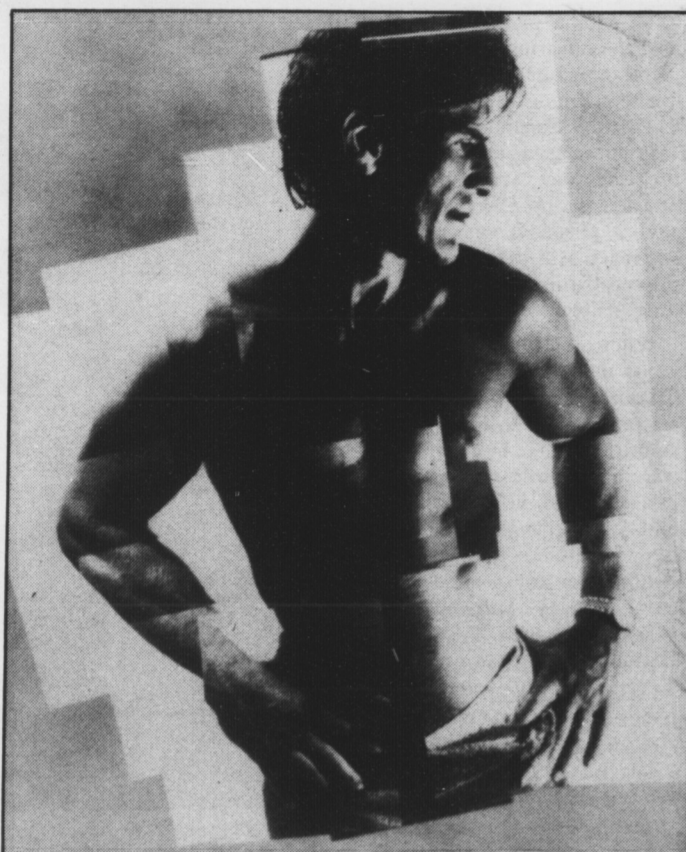
by Will Snyder

In 1977, David Kopay came out of his closet. When he did this, he became the grand misfit of America. Straights couldn't understand how such a rugged, gung-ho athlete could be gay. Kopay knew there were many gay people who would question why he would be interested in—

aargh, ugh, yuck, etc.—sports. Such was the dilemma for Kopay, a ten-year veteran of five National Football League teams (he started his career with the 49ers). When *The David Kopay Story* hit American bookshelves in 1977, many Americans read about a man caught in the middle.

They read about a man who captained bone-crunching special team units for demanding, militaristic football coaches such as Jim Owens and the legendary Vince Lombardi. They read about a man who played in the NFL for twice the number of years of the normal NFL vet.

They also read about a man who posed in wedding tuxedos in college and who looked the part of the All-American Boy while secretly longing for the affections of All-American Men. Kopay couldn't understand those desires then. All he knew was that when he made love to his college roommate or an All-Pro tight



David Kopay

(Photo: Z. Kalmic)

end, it was natural and it was good.

By 1977, Kopay told the world that his gayness was natural and good. His book caused a sensation in America. *The David Ko-*

pay Story made the New York Times best-seller list, and Kopay went on talk shows. He gave America a chance to see and understand a gay athlete.

For a while, Kopay hoped that

he could get into college or pro coaching. But his honesty probably cost him that chance. Eventually he left sports to run his family's linoleum business in Los Angeles. He insisted, however, that he doesn't have any regrets for his exit from the closet.

"The book was definitely the most important thing I have ever done," said Kopay. "It was much more important than playing in any big game like the Super Bowl. I still have people come up to me on the street and congratulate me about the book."

The literary style of *The David Kopay Story* will never win awards. It is written in a standard autobiographical style which sometimes switches quite erratically from Kopay's point of view to that of co-author Perry Deane Young.

But the message of the book is the most important thing. The biggest lesson of life that Kopay learns is that a man can be gay and can be a jock.

Some things have been added to this book since its initial release. With the AIDS-related death of former All-Pro tight end Jerry Smith, Kopay felt that he

could reveal that Smith was the man known in the original copy as "Bill Stiles." Also, the book contains a new forward by ABC-TV's Dick Schaap, the same excellent journalist who wrote a thoughtful, moving story about the late Dr. Tom Waddell last year in *Sports Illustrated*.

Schaap is a highly respected member of the mainstream press, and has been for a long time. After his article on Waddell appeared last year, *Sports Illustrated* received letters of protest from people demanding that the magazine not run articles again about those people.

It is significant, then, that this mainstream journalist has lent his name to another publication about those people.

That's a victory. Sports journalists generally are the most tradition-oriented in the press.

The re-issue of *The David Kopay Story* is important for gay people and sports-oriented people. There's always a new generation of Americans who need to be educated. And Kopay has an educational book for many Americans.

The Wild West Relived

Yellowthroat
by Penny Hayes
Naiad Press; \$8.95

by Dianne Gregory

The Wild West legend is peculiarly American. It has been expanded upon and glorified in print, film, and song much beyond its original dimensions. From the dime westerns of Zane Grey to *Wild, Wild West* on television, from Wyatt Earp to Wild Bill Hickock, the Wild West exemplifies the best and the worst about America. People all over the world get their only impression of the U.S. through spaghetti westerns and reruns of *Bonanza*.

And now Naiad Press has come out with Penny Hayes' lesbian version of the legend, complete with desperados and miners. It is set in New Mexico Territory during the gold-rush days, and the two heroines are Margarita Sanchez, a stage robber, and Julia Blake, who works in a drug store.

This unlikely pair meets unofficially when the gang Margarita rides with robs the stagecoach on which Julia is travelling—and officially when Margarita comes to town to get medical help for a member of her gang. This being the Wild West, Margarita kidnaps Julia in order to secure her services.

Of course they fall in love, but Julia doesn't like Margarita's line of work. They figure out a scheme to make a lot of money—enough for Margarita to get the ranch back that was taken from her before the beginning of the story.



And so goes another story of the Wild West. It's as good as any Zane Grey or Louis L'Amour you might care to mention, but no better than it should be. It does, however, avoid the major pitfall of Hayes' first novel, *The Long Trail* (Naiad, 1986), in which nearly every male character is not only evil, but out to get the two heroines. In *Yellowthroat*, the male characters are neither all bad nor all good. Most are either desperate or greedy or a combination of both.

But that is the essence of the Wild West legend. Desperation and greed are the motivating forces behind every bad guy in the genre. At least Hayes varies the level of those forces in her male characters so one can see them as human beings, rather than automatons of death and destruction. It makes the whole story more believable.

**WHAT'S THAT MR. MARCUS UP TO?
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BOOKS

Ken and Bobby or Catty Cathy?

Boys' Town
by Art Bosch, Alyson Publications, 151 pp., \$7.95
by William Francis

Buddy looked like a streetwalker from the Twilight Zone." An "incognito Bette Midler" in "Yoko Ono sunglasses," he "knew how Mildred Pierce felt." "Since Jennifer Jones picked up a faggot and saw the Madonna in *Song of Bernadette*," "his heart glowed like E.T." as "Shelley Winters' saliva glands" began "to gush like Niagara Falls." "The interior of the mansion was extreme opulence a la *Lifestyle of the Rich and Famous*." And "the kitchen smelled of sugar and spice and everything nice. Stop in the name of love," she cried.

Does any of this sound familiar? It should, even if you haven't read author Art Bosch's first novel, *Boys' Town*. The above is a smattering of the dialogue uttered by the paper-doll protagonists of this book.

Published in June of this year, Bosch's soap opera format of one- or two-page chapters enhances the characters and their relationships by popping in and out of living rooms, bedrooms, and kitchens. It could easily be subtitled "The Wrung and the Vacuum."

These Ken and Bobby dolls exude as much sparkle as facets scored into a pane of glass coated by a heavy layer of the yellowish haze which hovers relentlessly over the West Hollywood setting of this tale. In a vacuum, nothing moves.

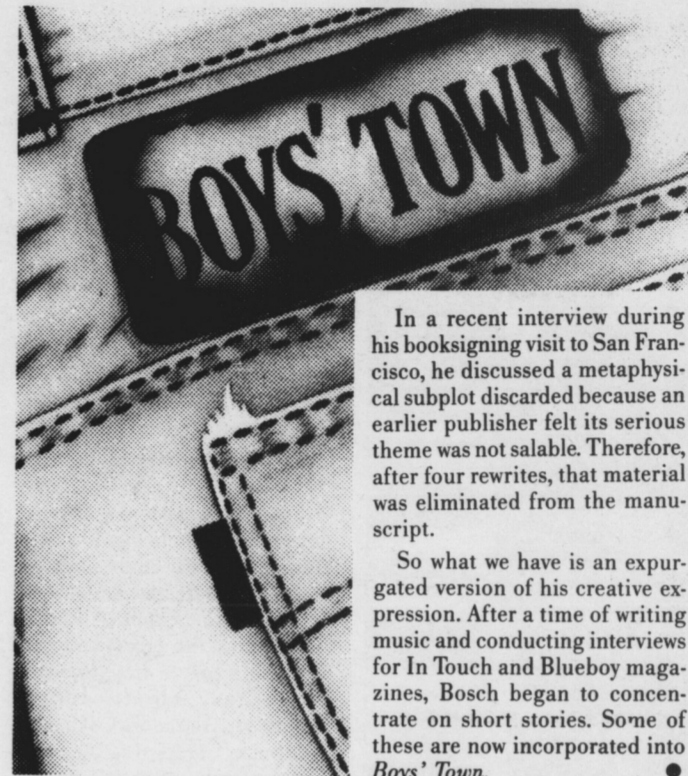
Page after page, the characters dutifully iterate enough gay clichés to fill a dictionary. For comic relief, they segue to analogies of everyone's favorites: Joan Crawford, Bette Davis, Tammy Wynette, Betty Crocker, Dr. Ruth, and Trigger.

It is hard to believe that real people could actually build relationships while remaining chained to a series of such well-flogged pillars of historic campdom.

We all anticipate something new when we pick up a new book by a new author. As it is written here, we see none of his own individuality. It comes across more like an outline than a completed novel. It's a perfect book to take to the beach. Each episode is brief enough to not interfere with observing the passing parade of beauties and gives one an alternative to just ogling.

Remaining faithful to his beliefs by creating through his own style of exposition, rather than relying on such obvious ploys, would be refreshing. And, good or bad, perhaps presenting some of the already threadbare platitudes in a brighter light. We soon discover here that there is nothing new under the smog. Unless one-dimensional hard bodies and soft minds are your criteria, there is no reason to care for any of the characters.

Bosch claims the book is not autobiographical in any way. His own romantic nature is thwarted for that very reason, as he seems to have remained too far removed from the milieu of *Boys' Town* (his own neighborhood) to have dredged up any inner depth. It is impossible that none exists. It could prove, however, to be a highly valuable read to anyone contemplating a visit to West Hollywood. If indeed the inhabitants are this shallow, it would be better to know in advance.



In a recent interview during his booksigning visit to San Francisco, he discussed a metaphysical subplot discarded because an earlier publisher felt its serious theme was not salable. Therefore, after four rewrites, that material was eliminated from the manuscript.

So what we have is an expurgated version of his creative expression. After a time of writing music and conducting interviews for *In Touch* and *Blueboy* magazines, Bosch began to concentrate on short stories. Some of these are now incorporated into *Boys' Town*.

Montfort in Benefit Recital

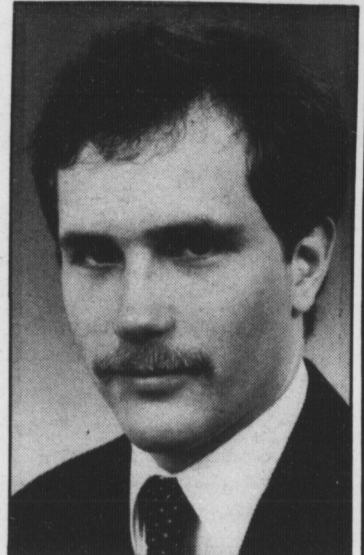
by Philip Campbell

Composer/pianist Seth Montfort will give a benefit concert Sunday, July 31, at 3 p.m. in the chapel at Metropolitan Community Church, San Francisco. The program will feature his own music and works by Chopin.

A Bay Area resident since the early '80s, Montfort has studied at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and numbers the late Bob Hagopian among his teachers. As a performing member of the Society of Gay and Lesbian Composers, he has premiered his own piano miniatures and further honed his technique with recitals of Bach, Mozart, Schubert, and Liszt.

The Sunday performance at MCC requests an \$8 donation to help finance the installation of the Newton pipe organ in the chapel. Built in 1987, the instrument's four ranks of pipes are fit into a single, unenclosed, free-standing oak case. The organ can be dismantled and reinstalled when the church moves into new facilities.

Anyone looking for a civilized afternoon of music, including a high tea during the intermission,



Seth Montfort.

(Photo: Savage Photography)

is invited to sample Seth Montfort's recital. On other Sundays in August, he will present 40-minute Chopin matinees, each with a suggested donation of \$4. On Friday evenings at 8 p.m., he will showcase other great composers, saving an entire concert for his own works Aug. 12.

Metropolitan Community Church is located at 150 Eureka St. near 18th.

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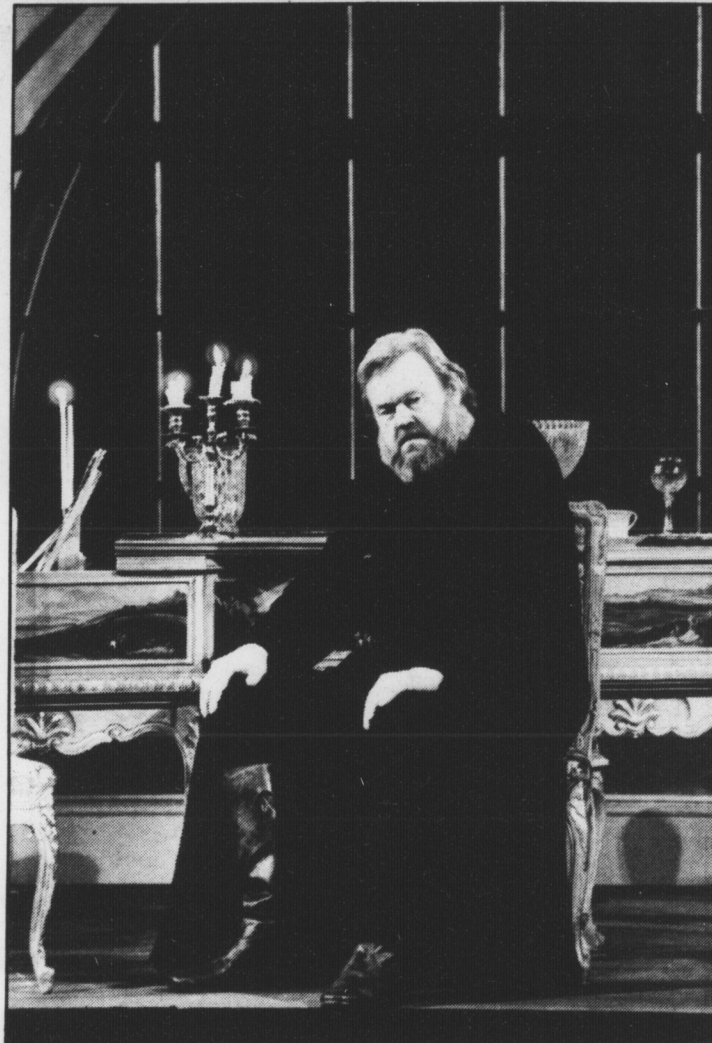
Trials of Fire and Water

In Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, the hero, Tamino, must undergo the trials and tribulations of passing through fire and water before he can be proclaimed worthy of Pamina's love. Often, it seems as if, when all else fails, these two mighty forces of nature are brought into play as the *deus ex machinas* that can most reliably bring the absurdities of any opera libretto to a roaring climax. One need only think of Wotan's tender farewell to his daughter at the end of *Die Walkure*, Brunnehilde's magnificent immolation scene at the end of *Götterdämmerung* or the final moments of Bellini's *Norma* to feel a burning desire to scream "Theatre!" in a crowded fire.

Water, although a bit more difficult to portray onstage, nevertheless makes its presence felt throughout the operatic repertoire. Beneath a flotilla of craft ranging from gondolas to ocean liners, water plays a crucial role in transporting characters from one place to another in Weber's *Oberon*, Rossini's *L'italiana In Algeri*, Donizetti's *Lucrezia Borgia*, Gershwin's *Porgy And Bess*, Offenbach's *Der Fliegende Holländer* and Britten's *Peter Grimes* and *Billy Budd*.

The first act of Wagner's *Das Rheingold* takes place in the murky waters of the Rhine. The entire audience drowns at the end of Wilhelm Dieter Seibert's audience-participation opera, *The Sinking Of The Titanic* and a new science fiction opera by Anthony Davis entitled *Under The Double Moon* (scheduled to receive its world premiere in St. Louis on June 10, 1989) takes place underwater! Of course, if you prefer your water in a frozen state, Aulis Sallinen's *The King Goes Forth To France* deals with the problems caused by an advancing glacier while Catalani's *La Wally* ends with an offstage avalanche.

In my 22 years of attending opera on a regular basis, I can think of only two instances in which fire and water have become



As Dosifei, Martti Tälvela debates the pros and cons of installing a sprinkler system in the Old Believers' temple during Act II of Mussorgsky's *Khovanshchina*.

a dominant part of any production. During the Seattle Opera's recent *Ring* cycle, the special effects created for Brunnehilde's Immolation Scene by one of Hollywood's best fire technicians had flames roaring across the stage while members of the audience nervously wiped beads of sweat from their brows. And, on the fateful evening when I supposedly went down on the *Titanic*, as I made my way past the wreckage and bodies strewn along the backstage corridors of UCLA's Royce Hall, I indulged myself in a few hot (and decidedly unmusical) fantasies about go-

ing down on certain members of the ship's crew.

planning to stage *Idomeneo* in Chicago's Shedd Aquarium, my perverse imagination began to run amok. Knowing that director Francesca Zambello (who once relocated Beethoven's *Fidelio* to a South American banana republic) would be staging City Musick's production only served to spark my curiosity further. What would the ever-inventive Zambello do this time? Would *Idomeneo's* audience become shark bait? Would Charlie the Tuna take a curtain call? Since there was only one way to find out, on my way home from Toronto last April I stopped off in the Windy City and headed for the fish tanks.

On a dark Sunday night, with the wind howling across Lake Michigan, I entered Shedd Aquarium ready to swallow City Musick's operatic bait. I can't say that the evening was a total bust for, under the baton of Elaine Scott Banks, the devoted ensemble (with a cast of singers headed by Paul Elliott, Judith Malafrente, Alexandra Coku, and Frederick Urrey) did the very best they could. However, it soon became obvious that the troupe was working under a severe handicap.

In order to accommodate Shedd Aquarium's usual tourist traffic, all sets and lighting equipment had to be torn down every night after rehearsals. Upon arriving at O'Hare for customs inspection, the costumes for *Idomeneo* (which had been so carefully designed and executed in Europe) were barred access to the United States. This particular incident caused a sudden run on nylon in Chicago's Fabric stores (accompanied by some desperate last-minute stitching).

While the aquarium's Grand Foyer might have seemed like an interesting performance space for chamber concerts (the room's acoustics are fairly reasonable and its decor quite delightful) the physical dimensions of this arena required City Musick's in-

strumentalists and stage platforms to occupy half the available floor space. Therefore, despite some good singing, as the evening wore on, the deadly effect of experiencing a gravely determined but decidedly less than magical performance (while seated on a rock-hard chair with spotlights glaring in my face) caused me to focus my attention on the giant sea tortoise and large thresher shark which kept swimming back and forth in the fish tank behind the stage. Because of these and several other physical problems, City Musick's *Idomeneo* became one of those noble experiments which, despite its lofty aspirations, was immediately sabotaged by the harsh realities of its performing environment.

BURN, BABY! BURN!

Fire effects are always a source of fun for latent pyromaniacs and, when the San Francisco Opera revives its production of *La Gioconda* this fall, audiences can expect to see lots of flames shooting up through the hold of Enzo Grimaldi's ship at the end of Act II. In Mussorgsky's *Khovanshchina*, however, the entire chorus gets burned to a crisp and chokes to death from smoke inhalation at the end of the opera.

If, when revived this spring at the Met, August Everding's massive production (with sets by Ming Cho Lee and costumes by John Conklin) seemed better than ever, it was primarily due to conductor James Conlon's surprisingly vibrant and sensitive approach to the score. Aage Haugland's frightfully evil portrayal of Ivan Khovansky, Martti Tälvela's restrained and dignified Dosifei and Wieslaw Ochman's impassioned Prince Vasily made a strong contribution to Mussorgsky's epic opera. Andrea Velis' pathetic scribe, Vladimir Popov's Prince Andrei and Donald McIntyre's Shaklovity added superbly etched cameos to the evening. Although Stefa Mineva's Marfa had dramatic strength, I'm sorry to report that Judith Haddon's overly ripe Emma stuck out like a sore thumb.

The Met persists in handing out little pamphlets with a plot synopsis to *Khovanshchina* in the hopes that such actions will stave off further criticism about James Levine's refusal to embrace surtitles. However, as I attend more and more performances sung in the original language with English titles projected overhead, I become further convinced that the advantages of synchronizing an audience's aural, visual and intellectual responses to an opera far outweigh any arguments against the use of surtitles. No matter who they come from.

'Musicare II' At St. Ignatius

KKHI Radio will sponsor the Second Annual 'Musicare II' concert on Saturday, July 30 at 8 p.m. at St. Ignatius Church, Fulton at Parker Streets. The concert is a benefit for Family Link, Hospice of San Francisco and the AIDSARC Residence Program of the Catholic Social Services.

The concert will feature arias, choruses and ensembles from the concert and operatic repertoire. For more information, call 986-2151.

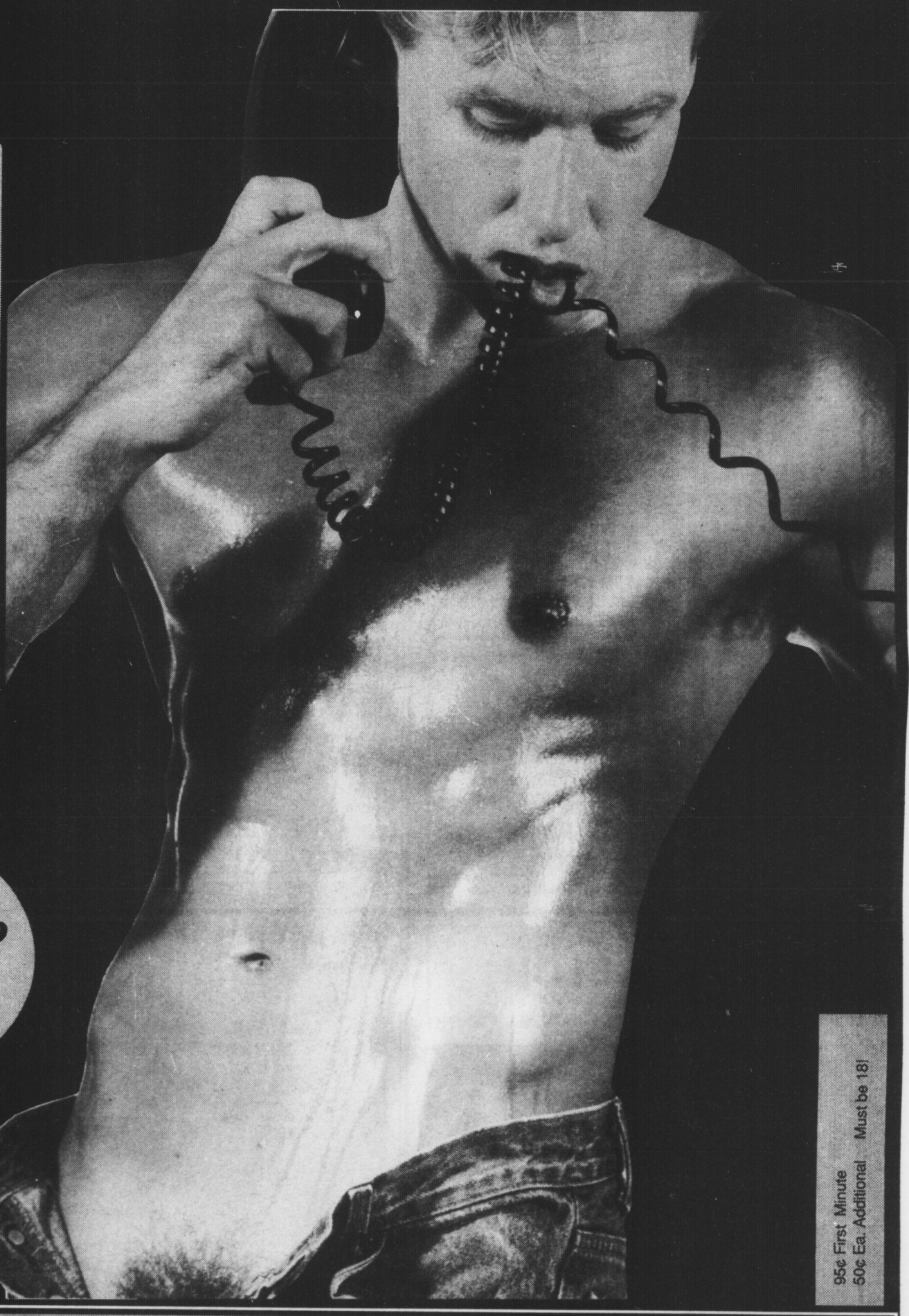
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Mr. Marcus

Strangers in Paradise

Right about now, Aubrey Joseph, Mistress Kathy, and Joy Schulenberg are basking in the glow of their triumphant Leather Weekend at the Russian River July 22-24. Guerneville and environs were inundated with leather, latex, tattoos, chains, whips, drill teams, singers, dancers, comedians, and comediennes; with not only an erotic fantasy costume ball, but a leather fashion show, a leather/crafts fair, an afternoon of comedy and music, a motorcycle run, a water sports and ball game, a uniform party, and scads and scads of bare skin, tattoos, beards, muscles, bulges, and a helluva good time had by all.

International Ms Leather Shan Carr and International Mr. Leather Mike Pereyra were the headliners in a celebration that was dedicated to the memory of Jim Ed Thompson and in honor of Alan Selby. It was a benefit for the Sonoma County AIDS agency Face to Face and for the International Ms Leather travel fund.

International Ms Leather I Judy Tallwing McCarthy was on hand, as was International Mr. Leather '83 Colt Thomas. Mr. Powerhouse Jose made an appearance, and Mr. S.F. Leather Stephen Mistle was enjoined with Ms. S.F. Leather Scooter. A host of leather celebrities were on hand (Pat Califa, for one), the Leather & Lace Women's M/C, members of the Janus Society, and an abundance of hot leather men and women.

The whole thing was well done, and new and old friendships were



'What a basket!' Aubrey Joseph exclaimed as she contributed to the International Ms Leather travel fund. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

made and renewed. The Woods Resort, Fife's, and Club Atlantis

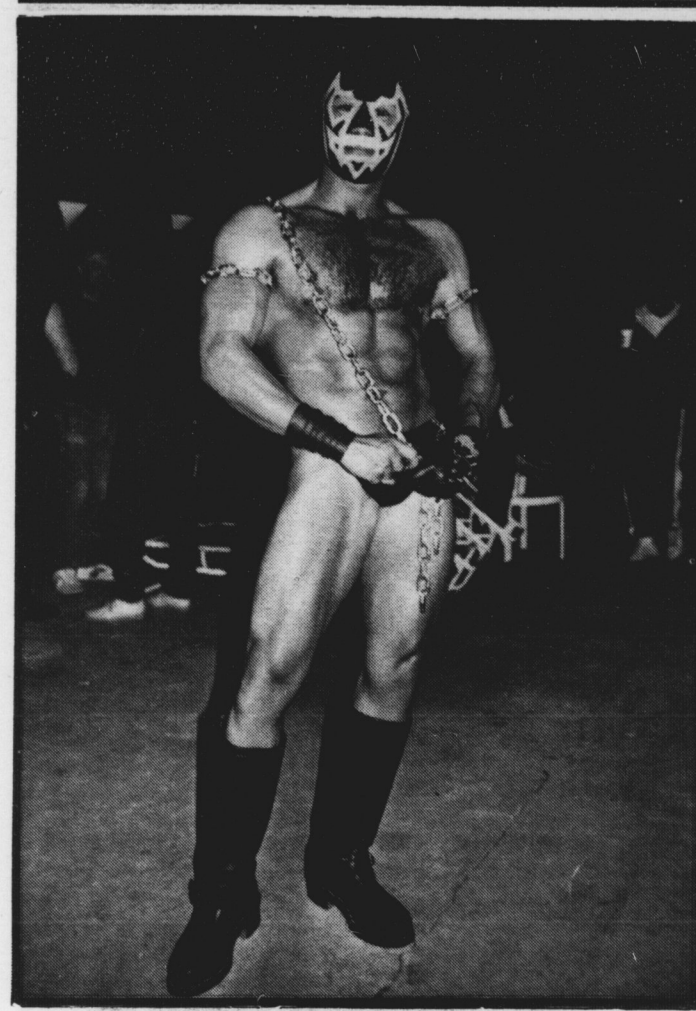
hosted all the events, and the newly opened Scott's Restaurant succeeded in keeping everyone fed, happy, and content. Scott's is Guerneville's newest eatery, and it was inundated with a lot of leathery visitors. Their excellent food and service made a lasting impression on all who were smart enough to check it out. You must try this one!

At my deadline, the total amount raised for the weekend was not available, but you can bet your boots it will be clearly looked upon as a labor of love. The weather cooperated beautifully, and the cool evenings made the leather-wearers look great.

Jeanie Tracy entertained a packed house at the Woods on Saturday night, and the S.F. Precision Whip Drill Team got a standing ovation. Needless to say, Danny Williams headlined an array of entertainers including Terry Foster, Karen Williams, Sue Murphy, and Shan Carr. The erotic leather fashion show brought a plethora of stunning leather outfits for both men and women, a lot of chain, latex, and boobs galore.

It was a real happening, and sorry if you missed it. Audrey, Kathy, and Joy can stand up and take a big bow. This event definitely deserves a nomination for a Cable Car come next February. Are you reading this, Hydie Downard?

Last week we got off to a great start. The action started and ended at the



International Mr. Leather Mike Pereyra at the masquerade ball. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Nina Hagen, every leather man's favorite rock star, plays the Club DV8 tonight. Doors open at 2100, and the big show is at 2145.

The Barbary Coasters M/C's 23rd annual Gold Rush Run takes off tomorrow night for their "Double Feature at the Drive In." Their show this year, *Elevator Girls in Bondage*, will stun everyone, from what I hear.

Saturday and Sunday, July 30 and 31, Resources is having a rummage and carnival (that's how their press release reads) in the Church Street Station parking lot, with lots of good bargains available.

Tomorrow night the sixth annual Leather Daddy Contest and beer bust take place at the S.F. Eagle, with International Mr. Leather Mike Pereyra judging. Gail Wilson will warble her heart out for you, and it's only \$6 at the door, beginning at 2100 hours. It's a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund, and you can still sign up to compete. Ask any bartender at the S.F. Eagle for an application.

The S.F. Bondage Club is having their party this month with the Knights Templar at the usual place on Saturday night at SM House on Folsom for only \$10, plus BYOB and BYO toys.

(Continued on next page)



'Ma, BC's doing it again!'—fashions by Jeremy at Mr. S. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

RushRiv. Tuesday the Bartenders Bash at the Woods drew a big crowd. General manager Eric Pariser had his hands full with the mob.

Thursday night the S.F. Eagle hosted their final Bare Chest Contest to pick Mr. December 1989 for the benefit calendar. Some 13 dudes made a last stab for the title, and judges Al Parker, Gail Wilson, James Buhler, and Dale of Hamburger Mary's were in a tizzy over who should win. At the end of the marathon, they deadlocked into a tie, and Peter Austin shared the honor with Franklin Lim, the first time this ever happened. Colt Thomas was the first runnerup for the final event.

The next competition will see who should be on the cover of the 1989 calendar, when all 12—or, I should say, all 13—winners will compete for it on Thursday, 11 Aug.

The December '89 Bare Chest Contest will be shown tonight, July 28, on Cable 6 at 2100 hours, including a segment on Romanovsky & Phillips.

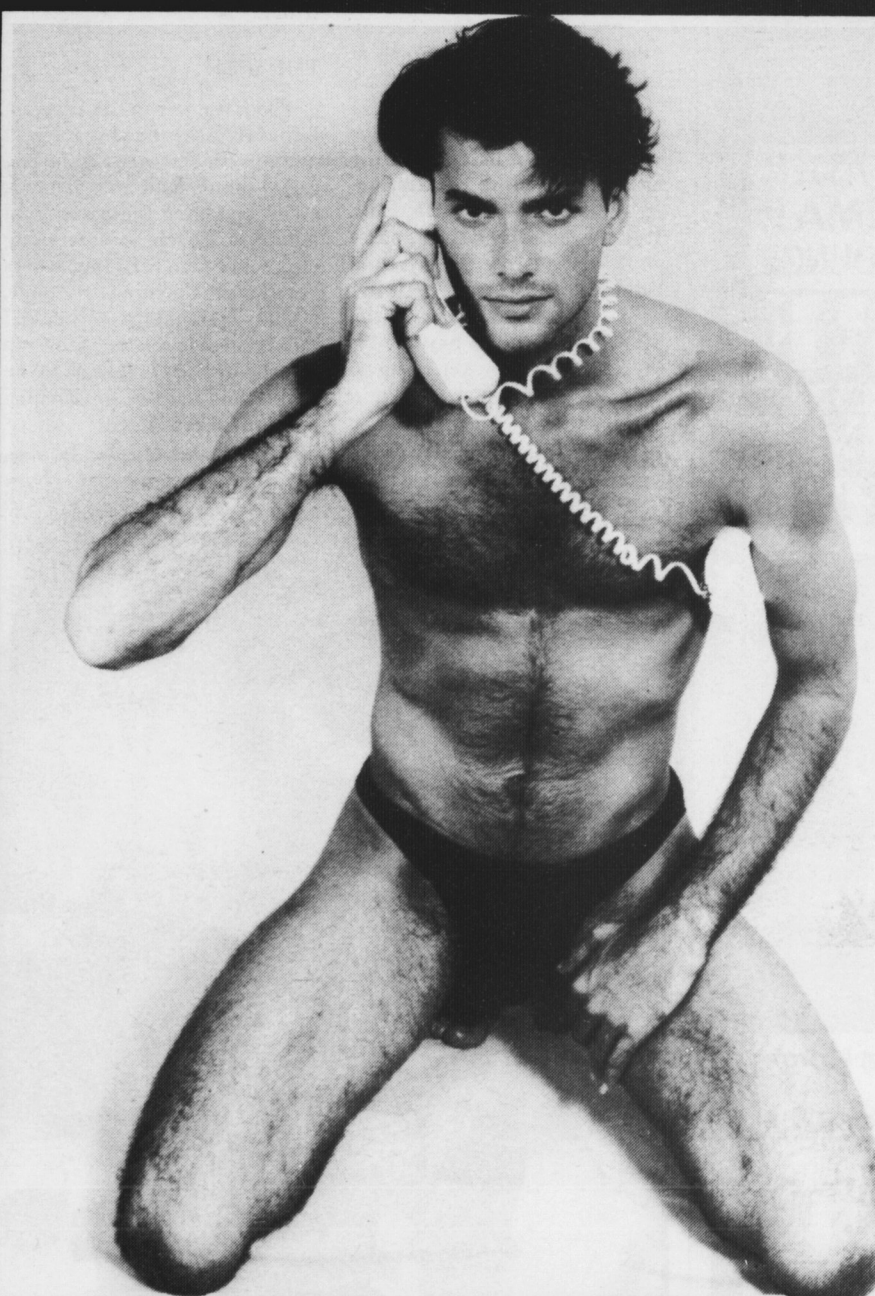
Friday night Phoebe Planters hosted a Witch's Christmas benefit at the Kokpit for Friends for Friends and drew out a healthy crowd for the psychic revelations, witches' brew, and costumes.

More tourists inundated Faghdad by the Bay, too: Two hot new dudes from San Jose were all over the place in the city and up at the RushRiv. Needless to say, Mr. S.F. Leather Stephen Mistle made them feel welcome and at home!

Monday and Tuesday, close on the heels of Leather Weekend, the S.F. Eagle staff and friends invaded the Triple R Resort up there for their annual retreat. They were joined by a host of RushRiv friends, including former Mr. Drummer Sonny Kline. The Triple R will never be the same; something they say every year.

How anyone can say this summer season is boring is beyond my comprehension. This weekend is packed with fun things to do. To wit: The AIDS Emergency Fund bike trek leaves for the great northwest today to Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, via Portland, Seattle, Vancouver, Banff, and Calgary. We're talking bicycles here.

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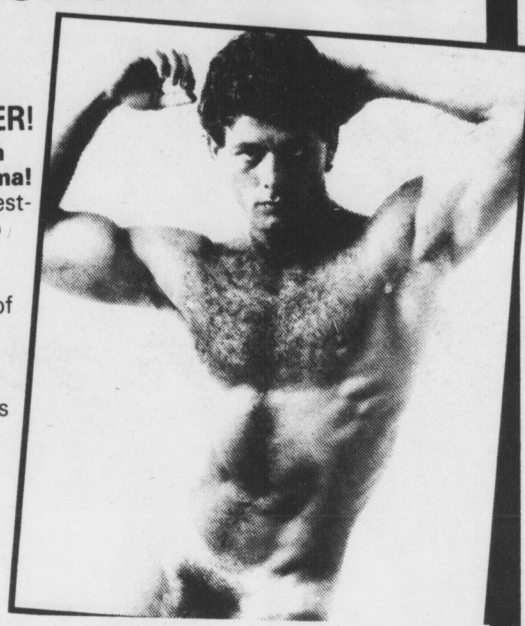
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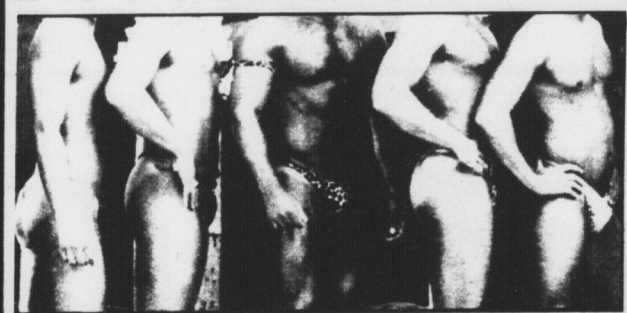
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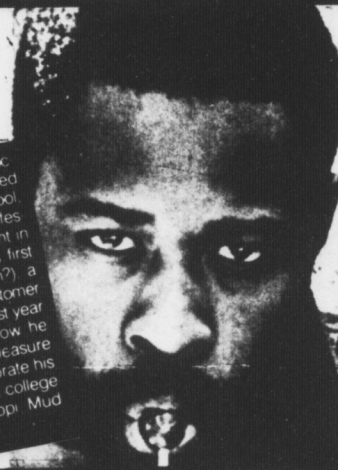
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Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

Sunday Ron Baer's Smart Alec Productions presents a Big Queer disco party at Dreamland, beginning at 1800, for only \$3, or free if you have a Dreamland teardance pass. That spunky little Jim Moore, our rep at the Hotlanta party in Georgia next month, will perform the Wet Dream Revue. Tatiana will have her once-a-year birthday show; all cha-cha queens are invited; hustlers and questionable characters are invited; leather queens are invited for the Tupperware party in the VIP (Very Important Perverts) Room. Don't miss this one!

The Blazing Redheads headline at the Great American Music Hall Aug. 4 (only \$7) at 2030 hours.

Larry Peterson and Chris Gloré are celebrating their fifth anniversary of uniformed/wedded bliss on 6 Aug.

At the Woods on the Rush Riv on Aug. 5-7, it's a "Midsummer Dyke's Dream" party all weekend. And Tatiana's one-year anniversary of First Saturday drag shows at Kim's will be on Aug. 5 and 6, with a hundred stars!

And coming even later: Dore Alley Fair (Aug. 7); deadline for IMsL Poster Contest Aug. 15 (call Sky at 863-1386 for details); the Miss California Continental Beauty Pageant Aug. 13; Jim Ward from L.A.'s Gauntlet will be here, piercing, Aug. 12-14 (call 621-6294 for an appointment), or meet him on Aug. 13 at Mr. S or Aug. 14 at Image Leathers. Constantines M/C bike run is the weekend of Aug. 19-21; Event '88 at the Eagle is Aug. 20; Tattoo Night at the Eagle Aug. 19; Dog Show is Aug. 28; Closet Ball Aug. 27; Club Mud's second anniversary party on Aug. 27 at the Rush Riv (hi, Bro Duke!); the Satyrs' M/C run Sept. 2-5 (L.A. club); and the rodeo in Hayward Sept. 9-10. More details as we get closer to these latter events. I just know you're dying to know:



Betty brought a surprised Coulter Thomas to his knees in a posturing collar by Hedonic Engineering at the erotic fashion show. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

THE DISH

The latest stir in the Disastro is that Hibernia Bank is about to merge with Security Pacific National Bank, and the panic is about changing the name from Hibernia Beach to something else. Since Dan Ferguson always pops for the Christmas tree there, a group is thinking there should be a contest to rename Hibernia Beach, with submissions to be judged and selected by Dan himself. Any takers?

Danny Rodrigues at the Powerhouse celebrated his 39th birthday last Tuesday, and he doesn't look a day over 29, they say. Billy Settles celebrated his 50th last Monday, July 18, too, and Muni actually let him take a day off for the celebration at his San Bruno Avenue digs.

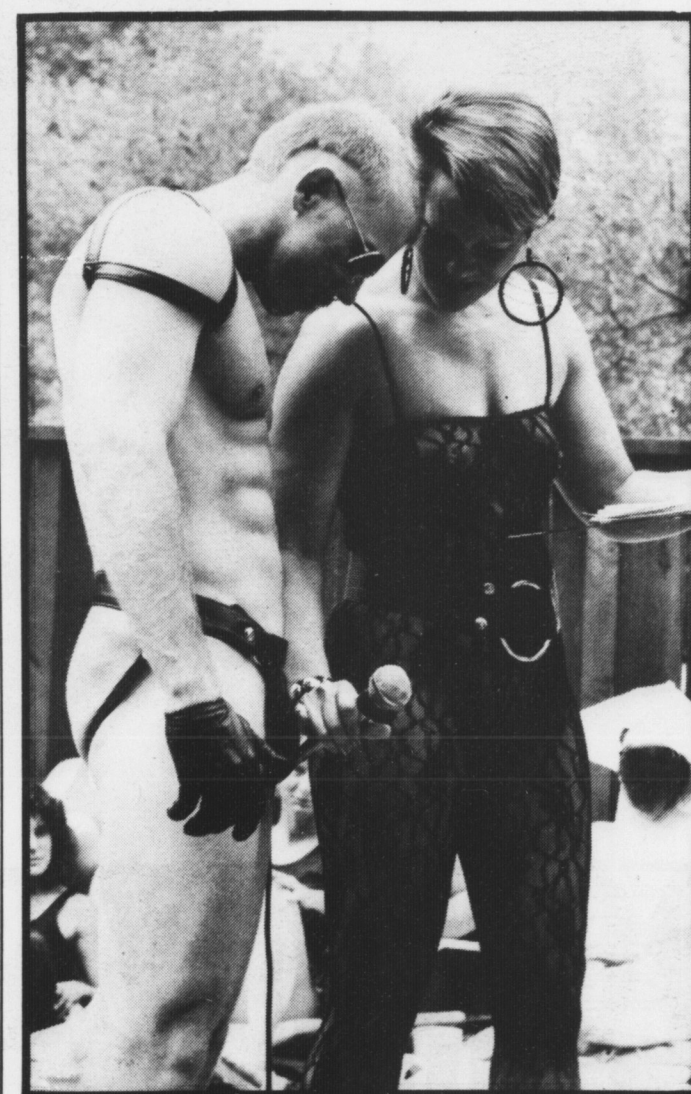
Did you catch S.F.'s own Kim Nelson on *Wheel of Fortune* last Monday morning? Kim won more than \$8,000 in prizes and wowed the audience. Kim's bright star is shining these days; he was just featured in the Advocate on his affiliation with the Barbary Coast Boat Club. Kim got a lot of suggestive phone calls after they saw that body!

Speaking of bodies, Al Parker's latest video, *Turbo Charge*, was just released, and the whole gay world is babbling insanely. With Al and a 16-inch dude getting it on in a van, it is almost obscene. The 2 1/4-inch penis pump in the video only makes it bigger and better. Available at your video store and definitely at the Stud Store on Folsom.

As the sun sets on Sonoma County, the S.F. Eagle staff is partying it up at the Triple R Resort until the wee hours Tuesday morning.

The last thing I saw before collapsing was someone leading a camel into the party/hospitality suite. David "Stella" Stoll was doing his magic ashtray act; Blair was managing the manager; Chuckles was begging Nick for Solarcaine; and the booze was flowing. Someone was fretting because they got stood up by Sonny Cline, and the regulars at the Rainbow Cattle Company were wondering, "Who are these people?"

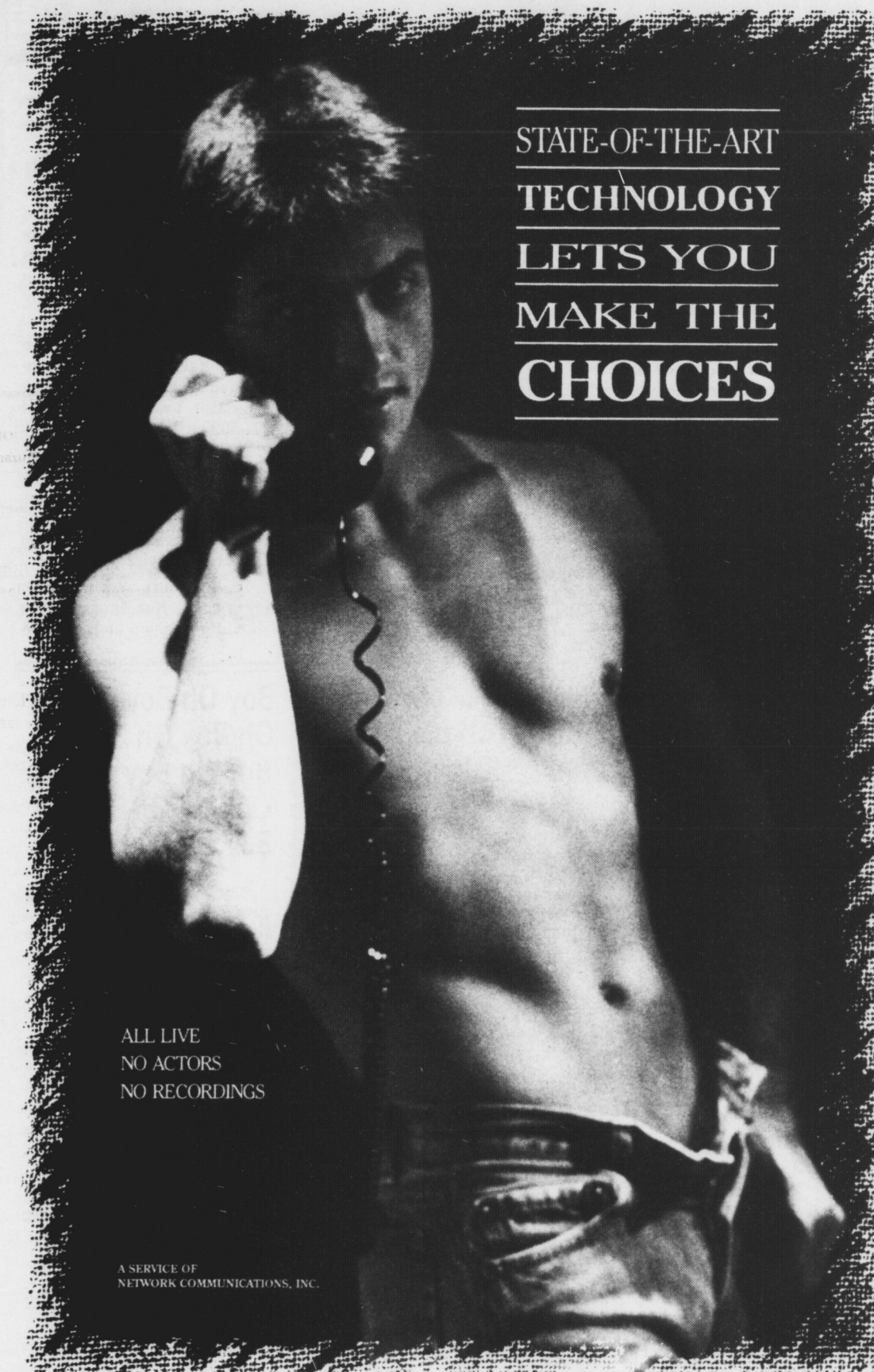
Stay healthy, support worthy causes, stay out of the bushes, keep your legs crossed, and when you visit the Rush Riv, be sure to check out Scott's. Right across from the Rainbow Cattle Company—the nifty place with a big, lit star on the roof!



Fashion show MC Mistress Kathy examines the quilted jockstrap by Mr. S, modeled by IML '83 Colt Thomas. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

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Mark Friese
It's All Just Too Exciting!

I shall try to make this an exciting column because another writer in town accused my last column is being dull as catshit, even though he knows some of his aren't the greatest journalistic efforts. At least in mine you can recognize a few of the names, sometimes even when I am writing about Florida.

And we're not coming by for brunch this weekend either.

This weekend Chuck Demmon is whisking me away to participate and cavort at the Barbary Coasters motorcycle run in some mysterious location far away. This will be my first run, and I have been assured by Spike that I will have a good time. Of course, Spike says a lot of things.

I'll give you a few details when I return. No, I'm not going to Florida.

For your dining pleasure, the Galleon is now featuring a new menu that has some of your old favorites still, and also some new additions that are quite delicious. The Galleon also donates, Monday through Friday, \$1 from every entree served to an AIDS charity. On Sunday it's Project Open Hand; Monday, AIDS Emergency Fund; Tuesday, Coming Home Hospice; Wednesday, AIDS Foundation Food Bank; and Friday, Shanti Project. Don't forget they have their Sunday cabaret, as well as Bob Sandner at the sing-along piano bar Wednesday through Sunday's at 8:30.

Resources and the Church Street Station are presenting Ron's Rummage No. 3 this Saturday and Sunday in the parking lot of the station. They assure me there will be lots of rummage as well as entertainments and amusements coordinated by Nova Lei. The sale starts on both days at 10 a.m. and goes until 4 p.m.

The Tavern Guild had its election, and the newly elected officers are as follows: president, Lee Thibidoux; vice president, Rhea Robertson; secretary, Chris Granger; treasurer, June Starling; and board director, Mark Friese. The change of officers will take place at the Guild's next meeting, which will be this Tuesday at the Pendulum starting at 1 p.m., right Mr. Prez?

Michael and the staff and volunteers out at the Deluxe had a very successful fundraiser for Coming Home Hospice last Sunday afternoon after the AIDS Walk, raising quite a sizable amount of money, what with the donations of meals and drinks from such businesses as Charpes, Piano Zinc, The Galleon, The Mint, Sutter's Mill, The Elephant Walk, Image Leather, Held Over, and the list goes on. Besides having all those goodies to bid on, they were serving a beer bust for \$7 that included a fried chicken dinner. The beer was O.K. but the dinner was to die for—just scrumptious.

I know the Trocadero is leased out most of the time during the weekends, but it sure would be nice if some of the good manners of the (regular) Troc door staff could be passed along to the amateurs they have working the door for the (lease) parties—end of rap.

The nifty late-breaking newsflash from my Wine Country source is that the newly elected vice-president of the Tavern Guild, Reba, will be taking the newly elected president,



The Emperor and Empress between takes.

Lee*Ona, to Dallas for a quiet drive by a book repository.

There is no doubt about it that Lily and Steve are popular monarchs. I can't recall receiving so many printable photos of any others. Here is the latest one to come across my desk, and it depicts Steve and Lily on the bus, on their way to work, after a busy weekend—even monarchs have to work!

Coming up, coming soon, or not coming at all are all things that this column, and my love life, have in common.

Under the heading of coming up is the one-year anniversary of Tatiana and Co.'s First Saturdays at Kimo's. They will celebrate this event by presenting "The Weekend of a Hundred Stars," which will be to honor Ruth Brinker and Project Open Hand. The dates for this weekend will

be Friday and Saturday, Aug. 5 and 6, starting at 9 p.m.

Am I becoming a Rawhide II regular? That question has been asked, and I might become a semi-regular because I certainly do like to have my cocktails poured by Robbie and the music is always great. Maybe I am becoming a Rawhide II regular.

Coming up real soon is the Closet Ball, so if you are interested in attending or in being a creator or contestant, call 771-5023.

Bar Wars will be on Polk Street Aug. 28. Tickets and publicity should be out by the end of next week, and the theme is Lip Sync Or Swim. It is a fundraiser for the Godfather Service Fund.

Wish me luck as I depart on my first M.C. Run. Or, maybe you should wish them luck.

'Free Kowalski' March on Aug. 7

The National Committee to Free Sharon Kowalski is sponsoring a march on Sunday, Aug. 7, at 7:30 p.m., which will start at Castro and Market and proceed to U.N. Plaza.

Sharon Kowalski was severely injured in an automobile accident in 1983. For two years her lover, Associate Professor Karen Thompson, worked with Sharon to rehabilitate her, and her condition was improving. When Sharon's parents found out that Sharon and Karen were lovers, they went to court to get legal custody and have refused to let Karen visit their daughter.

Since 1985 Sharon Kowalski has been unable to see Karen Thompson or any of her former friends. Sharon is not allowed to receive her mail. Even her congressman was not allowed to visit her.

Although she can now communicate with a typewriter, she was declared legally incompetent while still in a coma and has not been retested in three years.

Karen Thompson and the National Committee to Free Sharon Kowalski are working to have Sharon retested so that she will be allowed to receive mail and to make decisions about who visits her and what kind of medical treatment she will receive.

For more information, please contact Alison Mierzykowski at 893-6266.

Boy Oh Boy Oh Boy Oh Boy Oh Boy Oh Boy Oh Boy Oh Boy Oh Boy Oh Boy Oh . . .

Wanna see some hot, young, oiled go-go boys? Wanna see Jim Moore, San Francisco's representative to Mr. Hotlanta's Atlanta's National Gay Party Bash? Wanna see Tatiana, a drag queen that literally everyone looks up to?

These are just some of the highlights of Big Queer Disco Club, which will be presented on Sunday, July 31 at Dreamland. Doors open at 6 p.m. Admission is free with a Dreamland Tea Dance pass, \$3 for general admission.

Former Dreamgirl Stars in Tribute to Michael Bennett

Singer/actress Julia McGirt Nixon, who succeeded Jennifer Holiday in the role of Effie in *Dreamgirls*, will perform in *A Tribute to Michael Bennett* on Thursday, Aug. 11 at Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St. All of the proceeds will go towards the national tour of the Names Project Quilt.

Show time for the performance is 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased at the Great American Music Hall (885-0750) or through BASS ticket outlets.

WhoWhatWhenWhereWhyWhoWhatWhenWhereWhyWhoWhatWhenWhere



Their singing is music to our ears. And with music by Irving Berlin, Cole Porter, and George Gershwin, how can anything be unharmonious? Darlene Popovic joins with the Jesters (l. to r., A.C. Griffing, Scrumby Koldewyn, and James Matthew Campbell) in "The Official 100th Birthday Party, A Salute to Tin Pan Alley, Broadway, and the Best of Berlin." The John F. Karr-F. Allan Sawyer production opens at the Plush Room, 940 Sutter St., on Tuesday, Aug. 2. For ticket information, call 885-6800.

'A Midsummer Dyke'

On the weekend of Aug. 5-7, "A Midsummer Dyke's Dream" takes place at the Russian River. This is a weekend for women to enjoy the beautiful surroundings and pleasures offered by two river resorts, the Woods and Fife's, plus music, comedy, crafts, workshops, dancing, and fun in the sun.

There will be workshops throughout the weekend, led by such well-knowns as Rhiannon, Mimi Fox, Julie Homi, Angel Productions, Barbara Borden, June Millington, Deborah Matthews, Chari Davidson, and Karen Williams. For further information on workshops, contact IMA at (415) 261-0224.

On Friday, Aug. 5, there will be disco dancing at the Woods, starting at 10 p.m. On Saturday at the Fife's Bandshell at 1 p.m., enjoy the fabulous sounds of Greenfire, Melanie Monsur, Mary Gemini, Lisa Cohen, and Jeannie Strobel. Later that night, enjoy disco dancing at the Woods or mellow out with the music of Eternity Chapman at Fife's.

For room reservations or camping, call Fife's, (707) 869-0656, or the Woods Resort, (707) 869-0111.

A Midsummer Dyke's Dream is presented by Carmen Productions in association with the Institute for the Musical Arts and sponsored by the Woods and Fife's Resort.



The Fine Art of Scott Martin

An exhibition of selected paintings, drawings, lithographs, and photographs spanning the last 15 years in the artistic development of San Francisco artist Scott Martin will open Aug. 2 at My Place on Folsom Street in San Francisco. It will be on view through Aug. 15.

Before focusing his creative energies on photography two years ago, Scott Martin was best known for his surrealistic oil paintings, his meticulously rendered drawings, and finely produced prints.

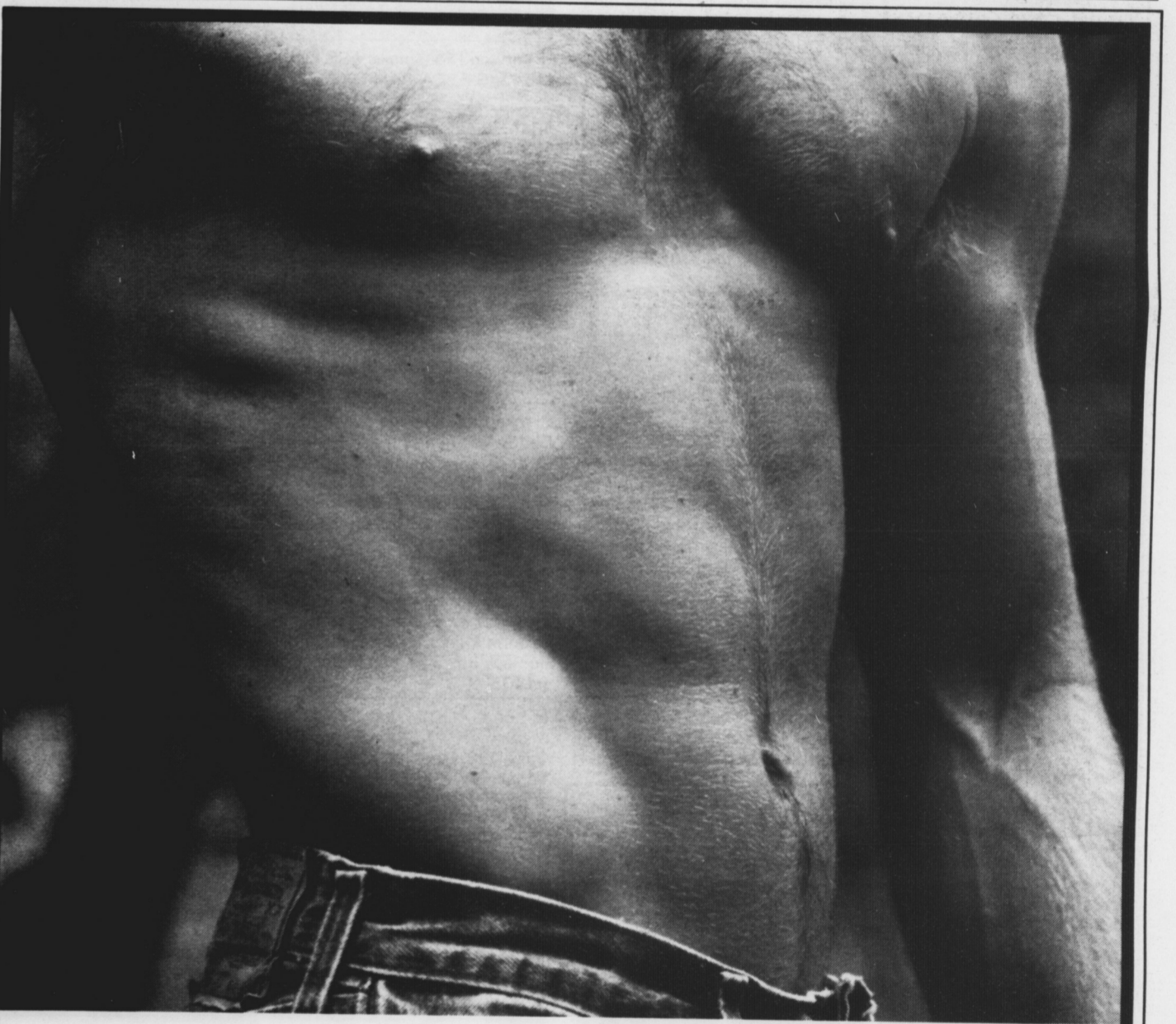
Martin lived for 15 years in New York as a fine artist. There, he enjoyed worldwide recognition for his images. Martin's first one-man show was held in Paris shortly before his 24th birthday. The images exhibited there were acclaimed by collectors and critics alike. His paintings of beautiful, boundless skies were perfect backgrounds for his use of familiar objects.

Upon his return from Europe to New York, Martin's painting career and reputation grew daily. In the early '80s, Martin mounted several one-man exhibits both in SoHo and on Madison Avenue. His paintings were also exhibited in Venezuela, Tokyo, Luxembourg, Switzerland, and Mexico. After a highly successful showing in San Diego in 1981, the government of Mexico sponsored a traveling one-man show for a year, which featured exhibitions at many of Mexico's finest museums.

From 1981 to 1985, Martin's works were represented by the Alan Stone Gallery on Madison Avenue in New York.

Scott Martin currently lives and works in the Haight-Ashbury district of San Francisco, where he receives much of his inspiration for his current projects. A collection of finely rendered landscape drawings is nearing completion, along with a significant number of hand-colored and altered photographs to be featured in a showing to be mounted around Christmas of this year.

A reception to celebrate the opening of the exhibition will be held at My Place, on Aug. 2, beginning at 6 p.m.



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POOL

Quack! Quack! Quack! Ducks Take Cue From Stars, Shine in Hollywood Like the Tinsel Under the Tinsel

by Lauren Ward

West Coast Challenge XVII, a state championship tournament for the top players from leagues in San Diego, Los Angeles, Long Beach, and San Francisco, was splendidly produced last weekend in Hollywood.

SF's individuals scored first and second in the open individuals' competition and first, second, third, and fifth in the women's contest. Our team champions, the DeLuxe Ducks, finished second.

Troupers' Hall, steps away from the "Walk of Fame" and Mann's Chinese Theater, was an ideal setting for the three-day event which drew participants, officials, and spectators from over 1,200 league members from the four cities.

AAA Billiards supplied five brand new seven-foot tables for the weekend and the lush, vibrant felt framed some amazing examples of the finest play exhibited at the tavern league level.

An entertaining highlight of the weekend was presented by "Machine Gun" Lou Butera, a World Champion professional who infused his exhibition of beautifully executed trick shots with humor and asides to the audience. His performance charmingly combined his amazing skill with an evening of intimate theater and drew a standing ovation from the enthralled crowd of enthusiasts, who will surely be



The happy players gather for one last shot around the table.

retelling anecdotes for years to come.

For the first time, a women's tournament was included as an official WCC event. It was no surprise that SF's four representatives nearly swept the four top spots.

For years, women have been a stronger presence here than in the other leagues, but events like this are helping to draw women's interest and energy into the other cities as well.

Toni Macante, Palace Billiards' co-owner, won her first league-associated event as she

Friday night and taken the team many picked as the favorite, San Diego, to an 8-8 tie on Saturday morning. The tie was largely a result of the Duck's Hugh Fountain's impressive 4-0 performance which earned him the Jim Sell Memorial WCC MVP Trophy. E.Z., Lauren Ward, and Ron Barulich then provided successive wins to sweep the race-to-three tiebreaker, which put the Ducks in the finals on Sunday. San Diego was subsequently eliminated by L.A.'s perennial City Champions from the Four Star, who would play the Ducks for the title.

L.A. had to beat the undefeated S.F. team twice on Sunday to claim the Team Championship and that's what they did, as the balls rolled in their favor all afternoon. It was L.A.'s fifth WCC Crown, tying them with San Diego. S.F. has won the other seven.

The culmination of the weekend was the finals of the open individuals' competition featuring two S.F. players, E.Z., who had lost his first round match and battled through as the losers' bracket survivor, and Kelvin Roberts, our No. 3 seed and the only remaining undefeated player.

It was to be a classic confrontation of opposite styles. E.Z.'s

grace and precision against Kelvin's master blaster wham 'n slam. E.Z. had the additional advantage of audience support which grew more obvious as the match progressed.

To the crowd's delight, E.Z. won the first match and the final tiebreaker was a race to four. The further Kelvin got behind, the harder he slammed the balls around, and it became obvious that his strokes were gestures of futility.

In the end it was all E.Z. and as he stroked in the final 8-ball for a 4-0 sweep he announced to the crowd, "I've been waiting nine years for this..." What a moment it was.

FALL SEASON STARTS SOON!

Pool players! Arise from your between-season hibernation! Sponsor fees for our Fall '88 Season are due Aug. 2, upstairs at Amelia's at 7:30 p.m. S.F. Hosts WCC XVIII in January, so don't miss out on your chance to be involved.

Next week I'll have Hi-Lo results and in coming weeks I plan more reflections on West Coast Challenge. As always, feedback is appreciated. Thank you for your support!

Dial JOE-POOL for SFPA information.

TRACK & FIELD

S.F. Track & Field Club Shines

Reliable Relayers Reign

by Rick Thoman

LOS ANGELES—The San Francisco Track & Field Club sent a mini-team to the Western Regional Championships in Los Angeles, July 16-17, and scored some major results. The quartet of Danny O'Connell, Frank Demby, Earl Bryant and Rick Thoman won two out of three relay events and ran the club's best time ever in the third.

The four thinclads found themselves struggling against not only the best runners on the West Coast, but also temperatures that climbed to over 100 degrees on the track, a first-stage smog alert, and a questionably conducted meet.

The team scored its first gold medal in their first event, the 4x100 relay. Frank Demby and Earl Bryant got the team off to a quick start as the squad sped past the rest of the competition for a season best time of 47.1 seconds. "I think we're capable of running under 47 seconds, easily," a determined O'Connell said after the race. "We were close to it today. Our baton exchanges just need some fine tuning."

San Francisco's second gold came later in the day as the sun-wilted team returned to the track for the 4x400 relay. The S.F. squad finished with a respectable time of 3:56 behind a team representing West Valley Track Club. Moments after the finish of the race, officials decided that West Valley had cut to the inside lane too early and disqualified the team, giving S.F. the gold for the event.

"We were in such a daze from the sun and the smog and all the other races we had run that day that we didn't really get too excited," explained Bryant about winning the gold by default. "There were so many odd things going on that it didn't surprise us." Those "odd things" included officials calling athletes for having feet too high in the starting blocks and having too many spikes in their shoes, and running the 4x400 relay with a 3-curve stagger instead of the usual 2-curves, as well as last minute entries that were supposedly not to be allowed.

Although San Francisco finished second in the final relay event, run on day two of the meet, it was perhaps its best effort of the meet. The team ran the club's fastest 4x200 relay time at 1:38 for second place, just behind the Los Angeles Patriots squad. San Francisco looked strong from start to finish with hard, driving legs from all four members. "It was a great team effort," said lead-off man Demby. "We were anxious to get this meet over with and get out of the sun, but we still managed to focus in on the race and come up with a great effort all around."

Individually, in the 200 meters, O'Connell took first in his age division with a strong, smooth glide, finishing in 25.0 seconds. For the 35-39 age group, Thoman edged out teammates Demby and Bryant by fractions of a second as they finished in a pack,

(Continued on page 45)



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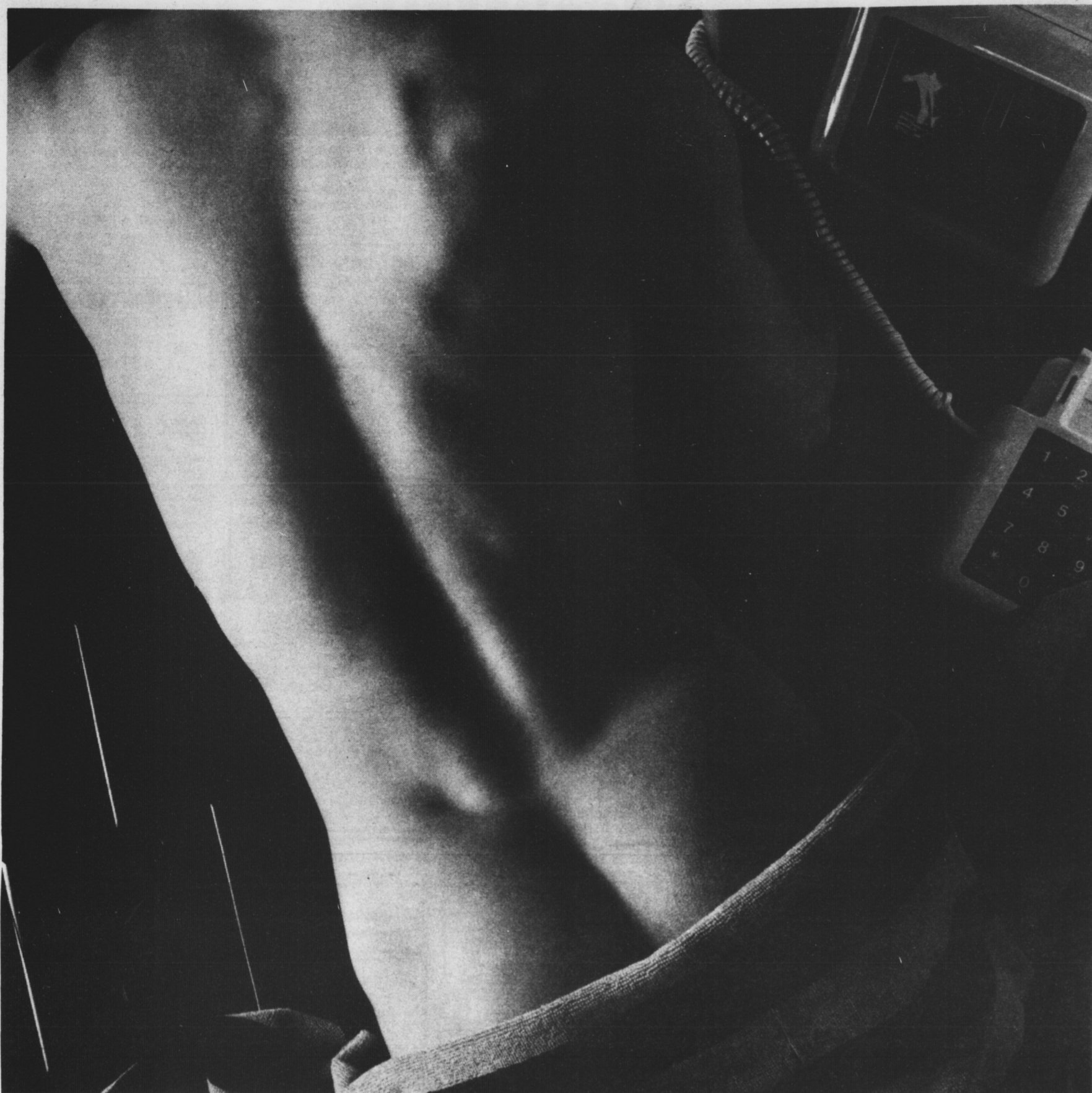
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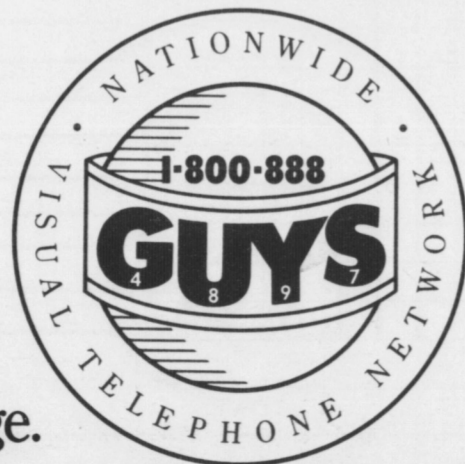
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Cancelling Blood Drive May Hurt PWA Access

SFGH Doctor Claims Castro Blood Tainted; Irwin Memorial Quickly Cancels Two Drives

by Ray O'Loughlin

Reacting to criticism from a San Francisco General Hospital physician, Irwin Memorial Blood Bank forced the relocation of a planned blood drive for people with AIDS out of its Castro neighborhood location with only three days notice. The last-minute change resulted in half the expected donors not showing up at Irwin's clinics. The blood bank also announced that no future blood drives would be held in the Castro area. According to blood drive organizers, that may sharply curtail the available supply of blood to AIDS sufferers requiring transfusions.

Arm in Arm, a group made up mostly of lesbians devoted to holding blood drives for AIDS, had scheduled a special day of donations for last Saturday, July

31, at Eureka Valley Recreation Center near Castro Street. Irwin Memorial had planned to send out a mobile crew for on-site blood collection.

But when Dr. Lorraine Day, an orthopedic surgeon at San Francisco General Hospital, wrote Irwin Memorial that she believed

(Continued on page 2)



Penni Kimmel helps load the van going from the Castro to Irwin Memorial Blood Bank (Photo: Rink)



Duke Crestfield (l.) and John Lum demonstrate how they were attacked by riders of a motorized cable car (Photo: Steve Savage)

Taking Action Epithets from Cable Car Provoke One Citizen to Act

by Ray O'Loughlin

When Duke Crestfield and some friends went out for a good time one Saturday night on Polk Street, they weren't expecting to have to enforce the law. But that is what they ended up doing. It wasn't fun.

According to Crestfield, he and three friends were walking down Polk Street Saturday, July 23, about 9:30 p.m., when a chartered, motorized cable car drove by. Passengers on board were shouting out insults to pedestrians on the street, said Crestfield. "They seemed to be a bunch of drunken frat-type boys and were yelling 'faggot,' 'city of faggots,' 'city of queers' at everybody on the street."

When the cable car went by a second time, Crestfield and friends decided they'd heard enough. "I thought the police should be called, that these guys were disturbing the peace."

So that is what one friend did while Crestfield and another of his buddies ran after the cable car and stopped it until police could get there.

"I got on and said that the police had been called and that, when they arrived, they would explain how they [cable car passengers] were violating the law. I told the driver to wait," he said.

But the passengers on board weren't very cooperative. "They started beating on me, ripped my shirt, and smashed my glasses," said Crestfield.

The driver, meanwhile, said Crestfield, did nothing. "I told him to wait for the police to arrive, but he gunned the engine and drove off!" Crestfield jumped off the cable car.

Police finally did arrive, picked up Crestfield, and tracked down the roving cable car in the Marina. They stopped it and ordered all passengers off. Crestfield identified the men who were shouting epithets on Polk Street. But the cops only admonished them and sent them on their way.

According to Neysa Ruby of Cable Car Charters, "Our passengers weren't harassing anyone." She said, "A couple of guys hopped onto a cable car on Polk Street and started harassing peo-

(Continued on page 2)

Memorial Garden Planned For Plaza

by Allen White

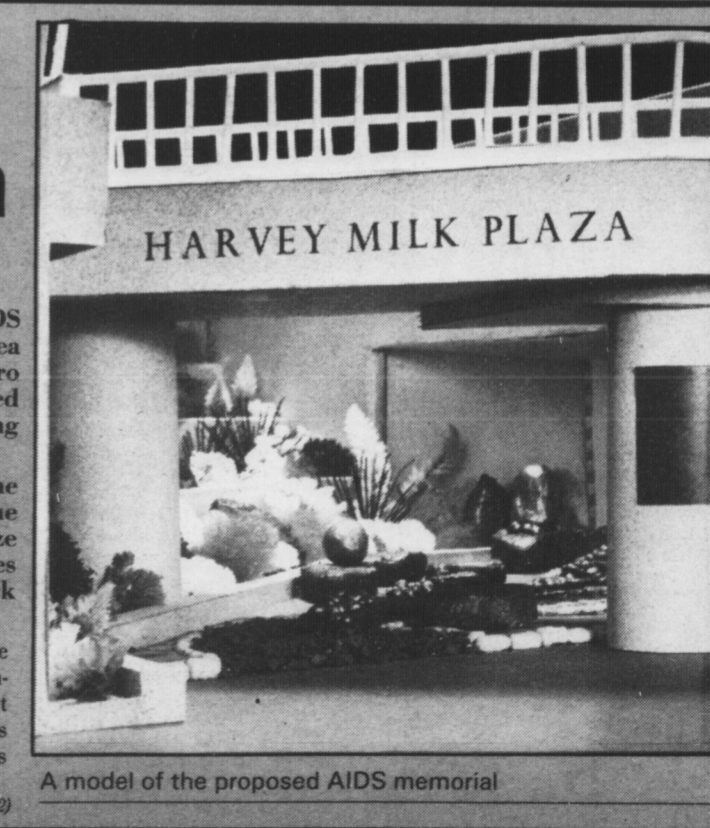
Plans were announced Tuesday, Aug. 2, for an AIDS memorial garden to be constructed in the unlandscaped area of the Harvey Milk Plaza, near the Castro Street Metro entrance. Sculptor Rudy Lemcke said the project is budgeted for \$250,000 and is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 1990.

The endeavor calls for the installation to integrate the existing terraced design of the exterior architecture of the Muni station with the main feature being a river of bronze stones. Large bronze boulders and hundreds of smaller stones will rest on an asymmetrical configuration of polished black granite bases.

The north wall of the area will be refaced with rose colored marble. The Walt Whitman quote, "Comrades mine and I in the midst, and their memory ever to keep," will be inscribed on the marble wall.

Lemcke said the source of the funding will come from arts foundations. He pointed out that these types of organizations restrict their financial donations to works of art.

(Continued on page 2)



A model of the proposed AIDS memorial

This Paper in Two Sections