

BAY AREA REPORTER

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California Democrats OK Pro-Gay Platform

Calls for Action on Rights, AIDS; National Party Battle Looming

by Ray O'Loughlin

The first steps toward placing lesbian and gay concerns in the national Democratic Party's platform for 1988 were taken recently when the California state party adopted a number of pro-gay planks. At a Dec. 19 meeting, the California group completed a draft platform that will go on to the national platform committee.

According to party activist Carole Migden, who chairs the San Francisco County Democratic Committee, the move challenges the party's national leadership. Paul Kirk, national party chair, has stated he'd like a brief, general party platform for candidates to run on in 1988.

The document passed by the California party includes statements urging support for equal protection for gay people's rights in housing and employment, support for domestic partner benefits, and the prevention of anti-gay violence.

The California platform also calls for the protection of the rights of people with AIDS and increased government spending for research, especially in developing and distributing medications for AIDS and ARC conditions. It also puts the Democrats on record opposing mandatory HIV testing, quarantine, and patient dumping. The document promotes health education as the best defense against the epidemic.

"I'm proud of it," said Migden, "it's a breakthrough document. As the country seems

to become more reactionary, it's important that California break out of that pattern." Migden is one of three gay people on the state party's platform committee. The other two are Rob Kramme and Dave Newall, both of Southern California.

SPECIAL INTERESTS

Although the draft document's final statements on lesbian and gay concerns were passed without opposition, Migden said the process was "more difficult this time than in past years."

Current leadership in the national party has stressed more conservative approaches to addressing the concerns of what Kirk has called "special interest groups." In 1985, Kirk outraged gay politicians by abolishing the Lesbian and Gay Caucus along with other minority caucuses in

an effort to make the Democrats look more like the party of Pres. Ronald Reagan. In the wake of the Reagan landslide, the Democrats were anxious to stop the flow of voters to the Republican Party.

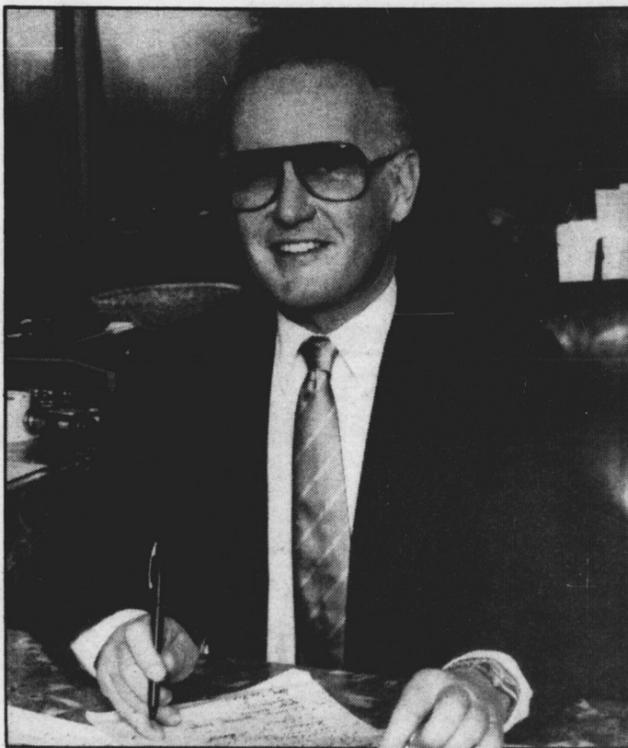
"They're afraid that references to lesbians and gays, especially on domestic partners, not sabotage Democratic candidates in the Midwest," said Migden.

"There's no question that that could be. But that's no reason not to proceed," she said.

"We're all good Democrats," added Migden, "and the purpose of our participation is to have the party stand firm in acknowledging the lesbian and gay community."

On the issue of support for do-

(Continued on page 2)



Sheldon Andelson

Andelson Mourned As Political Pioneer

by Jay Newquist

Sheldon W. Andelson, a titan of the gay political movement for over 30 years, died of AIDS on Dec. 29 at his West Los Angeles home. He was 56.

The UC Regent and leading gay luminary quietly withdrew from public life earlier last year. Family and friends were at his side at the time of death.

It was Andelson's wish that his staff make clear that he died of AIDS. He is the latest leader for gay civil rights of major prominence to be felled by the disease. (Continued on page 2)

1987 In Review

'For Love, Life' 500,000 March on Capital

by Jay Newquist, Will Snyder, Ray O'Loughlin

The second half of 1987 began with another setback in the U.S. Supreme Court. The case for the Gay Games' right to use the word "olympic" was finally settled and we lost. Shortly after that, Dr. Tom Waddell, Gay Games founder, died of AIDS. The remainder of the year was filled with some remarkable accomplishments and some equally remarkable battles. A Southern California judge awarded permanent custody of a gay man's son to his lover. Harvey Milk got a permanent public memorial in Duboce Park.

But on the dark side, more and more proposals surfaced for forced HIV testing, including one from San Francisco's own Mayor Dianne Feinstein. And a Republican planning group hatched a means of using AIDS to foment a backlash against Democrats.

But in the end, we basked in the comfort of each other's company as 500,000 to one million lesbians and gays gathered in Washington, D.C. to march for



Mary Dunlap gives a thumbs down to the U.S. Supreme Court (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

our rights. During that march, the first 2,000 panels of The Names Project quilt were unveiled and became national news.

JULY: GAMES PEOPLE PLAY

It's OK to have an Olympics for mudwrestlers, jumping frogs and beer-guzzling, but in its finite wisdom the U.S. Supreme Court nixed the use of 'Olympics' for Gay Games. This slap in the face to gays and lesbians proved once again that Supreme Court offers little hope for rights protection.

★ ★ ★

Joan Rivers, ousted from her talk-show perch at Fox Broadcasting, is the subject of resurrection by a group called "Joan Rivers Fans to the Rescue." Rivers' wide gay following and eclectic guest list like Sylvester proved too much for the network. What do they say about Hollywood? Beneath the tinsel lays the real tinsel.

★ ★ ★

Gay Pride Day was all it once

was and more as the number of lesbians participating has jumped to some 40 percent of the 200,000 celebrants. A unique cross-section between Mardi Gras and Halloween, partying and politics shared the spotlight. The contingent of Dykes on Bikes swelled to 400 and even Roger Boas carried a sign reading "AIDS Funding Now."

★ ★ ★

State Sen. John Doolittle reared his head with authorship of three repressive AIDS measures billed as public safety and health committee measures. Doolittle galvanized the gay and lesbian community against him as unwilling targets of his political lust, riding the AIDS bandwagon.

★ ★ ★

Mayoral candidates Art Agnos and John Molinari step up the hail of invective for and against the homeporting of the U.S.S. Missouri in San Francisco. Jobs versus discrimination against gays and lesbians makes for (Continued on page 12)

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Dems

(Continued from page 1)

mestic partners, Migden said that compromise language had been worked out to at least "get the concept in."

Calling the final draft a "strong and sensitive document," Migden said, "I think we gained in credibility in that process."

According to Migden, the political process behind the adoption of the pro-gray planks, especially those dealing with AIDS, was an education process for party workers. For many, it was the first introduction to AIDS issues.

Mark Cloutier, an aide to Rep. Barbara Boxer, drafted the section on AIDS issues. The draft document calls on the party to oppose all forms of mandatory testing for HIV and to support voluntary testing only in the context of education and counseling. The platform also urges AIDS education in all California schools from fifth grade through university.



Carole Migden

(Photo: Rink)

Also called for in the proposed platform was government support for out-of-hospital medical care, state-funded research into AIDS treatments, and a re-examination of MediCal payments for AIDS care.

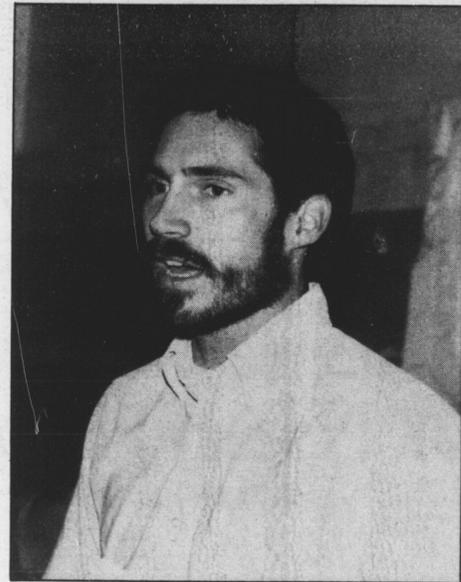
"California has led the nation in terms of money spent and proactive legislation on AIDS," said Cloutier. He attributed most of that to the Democrats in the state legislature.

"The Democrats should continue that leadership role," he said, "and that is what the platform draft is intended to do."

ON TO ATLANTA

The next step is to take the California party's statement to the national party. In preparation for their national convention in Atlanta this July, the Democrats will begin shaping their national party platform this month.

Meetings are scheduled this weekend, Jan. 8 and 9, to set up temporary working groups for the platform, rules and credentials committees. According to Migden, the temporary commit-



Mark Cloutier

(Photo: Rink)

tees do much of the work in setting the tone of the final platform. She hoped that out of the 45 members on the national committee, two or three would be gay.

Traditionally, she said, the "California platform has substantial influence on the national platform."

But "there will be stronger resistance than ever before," said Migden. "Kirk may make an ef-

fort to screen out any who might get rambunctious." She said Kirk wanted to see a brief, 50-paragraph party platform that would not ruffle any feathers.

But Migden, a veteran of political scraps, is determined not to let issues drop by the wayside. "We're taxpayers," she said, "lesbians and gays are entitled to equal protection under the law."

Andelson was principally a major decider of the gay experience before the world at large as well as a legal champion for gay civil rights, said longtime mentor Morris Kight.

"Sheldon was responsible for a fundamental change in general thinking in gay liberation in Los Angeles," said Kight, a founder of the Gay Liberation Front.

"He helped make us as powerful as we are."

In the 1950s, Kight recalled Andelson handled sometimes eight gay-related legal cases per day. He graduated from Stanford in 1952 and the University of Southern California School of Law in 1955.

"Shelly intervened in gay cases before the L.A. courts to arrange alternatives to jail," Kight recalled. "He was a thrilling, honest and exciting man. I am less a person today because he is dead."

Kight said Andelson's "political coming out" was his service on the board of directors of Gay and Lesbian Community Service Center in 1971.

"Sheldon was one of the pioneers who developed the dream of The Center during our earliest years," said Center director Eric Rofes. "For many people, Sheldon symbolized The Center and the importance of being open as a gay person. His vision of our local gay and lesbian community—and the embodiment of this vision in our Community Center—will continue to nourish and build our community for years to come."

"I am shattered," Kight said. "At the end, we shared dreams like the Pink Triangle Institute and the McCadden Place Collection of gay and lesbian art."

Andelson formed his own law firm in 1955 and at his death, he was chairman of the board of the Bank of Los Angeles as well as owner of the chic Trumps restaurant.

He was honored by a major award of the American Jewish Committee in 1984 when Sen. Edward Kennedy observed that Andelson was the "story of America at its best."

Andelson was also prominent in other causes besides gay rights. He was a founder of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles. He also served on the board of directors for the B'Nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League and served on Democratic Party standing committees.

He was born in Chicago in 1931. His family moved to Los Angeles the following year.

Gabriel Bustamonte, Mayor Tom Bradley's liaison to the gay community, said the gay political network had changed and expanded because of people like Andelson.

"There's less of a professional political group and more of an everyday, grass-roots thing," he said.

Kight reported that Andelson had orchestrated his own memorial service before his death. The celebration of his life will take place at UCLA's Royce Hall at 11 a.m., Sunday, Jan. 10.



Sheldon Andelson's bank

Budget Cuts Force Clinic Closing

Caseload Rising at Health Center; May Soon Stop Taking Patients

by Gregory Douthwaite

The city's District Health Center 1 in the Castro has dropped one of its general drop-in clinics. The cutback was initiated Jan. 1 despite the increasing number of sick people using the clinic. Most of those were needy people with AIDS or ARC.

"It's a real unfortunate situation," said Dr. Ken Dunnigan, director of Health Center 1. "We need more personnel to do what we're doing, but we can't get any additional support from the city."

The center, on 17th Street near Noe, is dropping its Monday afternoon clinic, leaving three drop-in clinics per week instead of four. The number of patient visits to the clinics will be reduced from 5,200 a year to about 4,000.

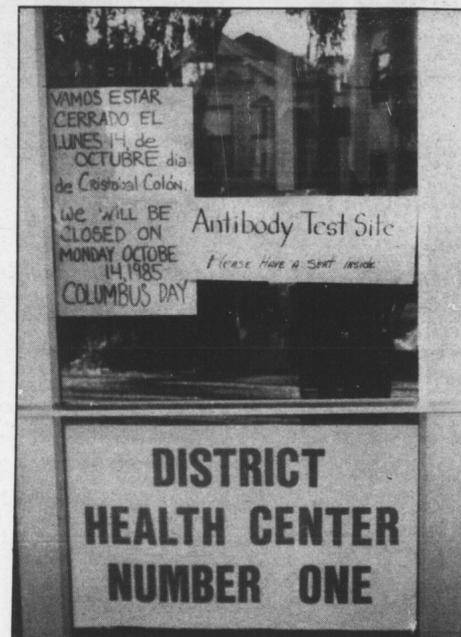
The drop-in clinics are invariably filled to capacity. With the cutback, signups for the 25 available spots in the remaining clinics will undoubtedly close even earlier.

The number of AIDS and ARC patients seen at the drop-in clinics has increased dramatically: from one-third of the

caseload a year ago to almost two-thirds of the total now.

"People don't know the extent to which we provide for AIDS patients," said Dunnigan. "Health Center 1 is the only public facility in the city other than Ward 86 (at San Francisco General Hospital) which treats people with AIDS and ARC."

Dunnigan said he has lobbied for additional funding for the center for over a year. He said the



The AIDS antibody test site at Health Center #1 (Photo: Rink)

facility needs three more staff members: a nurse, a secretary, and a medical records technician. But the mayor's hiring freeze has made the necessary expansion next to impossible.

Health Center #1 offers three clinics specifically for people with AIDS and ARC. Last year more than 400 patients made over 1100 visits to those clinics. However, there is a 7-week wait for an appointment in the AIDS clinics. They are so full that the health center will soon be forced to stop accepting new patients entirely.

Patients who cannot be seen there are referred to Ward 86. However, the hospital's clinic also suffers from overcrowding.

The center is an ideal facility to provide outpatient care for AIDS patients, Dunnigan said. "The location is great: it's in the neighborhood; we have incredibly good physicians, as knowledgeable as any in town; a friendly staff; it doesn't have an institutional feeling, and the cost is incredibly low (\$5 a visit)."

The community advisory board for the health center will hold a public meeting to increase awareness of the need for more funding. The meeting will be held at Health Center 1 on Jan. 20 at 6 p.m.

ONE, Inc. Gets \$12K Grant From Glazier Fund

LOS ANGELES—ONE, Inc. has announced that it has just been granted \$12,000 by the Glazier Fund of the New York Community Trust. The grant is for cataloguing ONE's library, named the Blanche Baker memorial Library and Archives. The professional consultant on the cataloguing project will be Dee Michel, a doctoral candidate in library science.

The library has been a project of ONE almost since its founding in 1952 and is now supported both by ONE and its affiliated foundation, the Institute for the Study of Human Resources. The Baker Library plays a major role in the educational work of the ONE Institute of Homophile Studies, which conducts collegiate and graduate-level courses, including a graduate school awarding master's and doctoral degrees in the field.

The library contains over 14,000 volumes, 200 significant runs of periodicals and newspapers, and more than 60 archival containers of miscellaneous materials. It is a research, rather than a circulating, library and is open to interested scholars year-round. For further information, call (213) 735-5252 during business hours.

Shelter for Women Needs Volunteers

Domestic violence is a crime. You can break the cycle of violence. Get involved! La Casa de las Madres, San Francisco's first shelter for battered women and their children, needs volunteers now.

La Casa de las Madres provides women with safe shelter, a 24-hour crisis line, counseling, support groups, child care and community education. Training begins Feb. 8. Help battered women help themselves. You can make a difference. Call 777-1808.

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I Resolve

Why Break Old Resolutions? Here Are Some New Ones

by Dennis McMillan

And now it's time to make your annual list. No, not the Christmas card list. That little list has been completed, thank God and the U.S. Postal Service. And, no, it isn't the list that you make, check twice, and find out who's naughty or nice. I speak of none other than the perennial New Year's Resolution List.

Every year, you write out the same, tired, old life-changing monumental decisions that deep in your heart you know you will never keep: "I promise to give up cigarettes, start drinking light beer only, and phone home more often." Oh, puh-leeceeee, Miss E.T. (Extremely Tired). How boring. It's no wonder you break your resolutions within the week. You need a real challenge.

And so, below I offer some new, creative resolves that you need not even write out; merely pen your name in the appropriate spot and store this list along with all your other vital documents—on your refrigerator with clever little magnetic plastic sushi replicas and happy faces.

The resolutions are broken down into three different categories, for ready reference.

NATURE LOVER

I resolve to spend less time, nature lover that I may be, going for midnight walks in Buena Vista Park in search of wildlife.

I resolve to stop being so sexually selfish, wearing my "ribbed-for-pleasure" condoms inside out.

I resolve to cut down drastically on my 976 phone sex line usage, and try calling a person and actually making a date to go out somewhere and relate.

I resolve to no longer engage in the post-coital phone-number-exchange mating ritual when I really have no intentions of calling the guy again, ever, ever, ever.

I resolve to curtail the number of times I circle the block cruising in my car at Collingwood Park after bar curfew, thereby helping out tremendously in doing my part to lower the national consumption of imported Arabian oil and staving off and imminent OPEC crisis.

I resolve to search out my "files" of trick numbers—the ones scrawled on bar napkins, matchbook covers, and that endless pile of dog-eared business cards—and, in an effort to restore the lines of communication, actually call at least (insert

the integer you are most comfortable with) phone numbers.

I resolve to at least make an attempt to read the articles in the Bay Area Reporter first, and then pore over the "Personals" section in the back for the latest hot-and-hairy daddy ad. Well, at least I'll make an attempt to read the headlines of the articles first.

I resolve to stop telling visitors to my apartment that I am an official birdwatching member of the Audubon Society and admit that the binoculars are for watching the members across the apartment complex.

I resolve to improve my cultural exposure by making sure at least one of the videos of the stack that I rent each time for my weekend viewing pleasure is a classic cinematic work of art and does not contain either the word, "hot," "hung," or "horny" in the title.

PERSONAL PROCLIVITIES

I resolve to pay off at least half my Macy's bill (substitute or include Saks, Neiman's, American Express, The Connector, etc.) by May, 1988, or when my outstanding balance is just under the national defense budget, whichever comes first.

I resolve to climb out of my rut and try a new bar, instead of hanging out at the same old saloon in the same old drag. Example: if you're a dyed-in-the-wool (or should I say, dyed-in-the-hide?) South of Market leatherman, experiment with not wearing the Crisco-encrusted chaps for just weekend and venture out into one of the chi-chi bars for a change. A variation on this theme is to go your usual hang-out, but change out of your usual costume into something that's more of a stretch for you. Take a fashion risk: don't wear the Joan Crawford-padded shoulders to your gender-bender bar.

I resolve to do something about my hair. Get a new "do," dye it, bleach it, send it out to the cleaners.

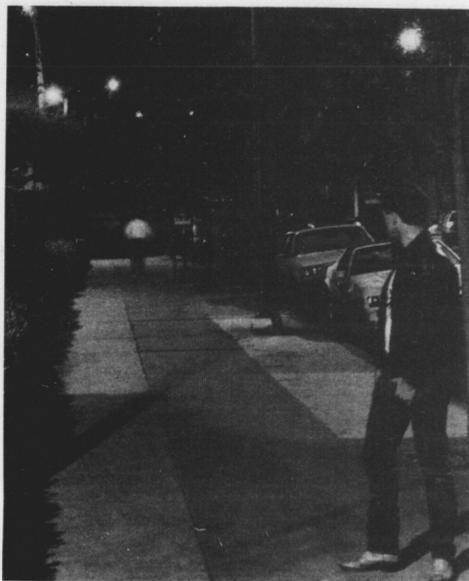
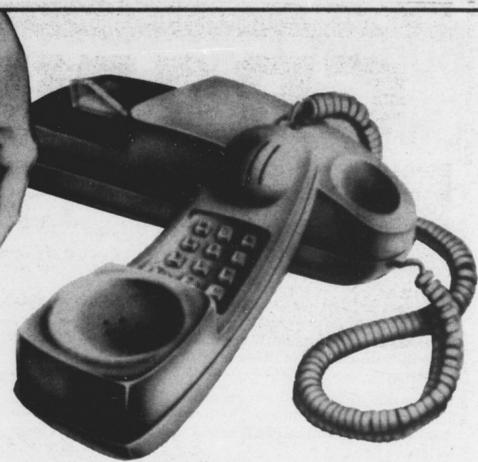
I resolve to finally get my car pierced and wear an earring to work (get real, Wanda, they all knew you were gay the first day you came into the office and hung the "Hunky Fireman" calendar above your desk).

I resolve to stop hiding the Honchos under the Architectural Digests whenever Aunt Susie comes to visit. Let's face it, no straight man, other than an actual, bona fide architect, keeps Architectural Digest around the house. You blew your cover long ago, honey.

And while I'm at it, resolve to come out to (insert name) as a (insert personal proclivity).

Oh yes, as long as we're in the closet, I resolve to clean out my closet, or at least arrange the drag into identifiable groups (this section for cowboy, this one for cowgirl, that one for financial district drag, etc.).

I resolve to spruce up my apartment. Those oh-so-utilitarian milk crates and cinder blocks with wooden boards stretched across made fabulous little



'I resolve not to go cruising in the park after the bars close' (Photo: S. Martin)



'I resolve to be nice to old ladies on the Muni' (Photo: BAR)

bookshelves in the Sixties Summer of Love. But here we are in the Eighties Winter of Our Discontent and it's time to upgrade. And please, please buy Levolors—the tie-dyed Indian bedspreads draped over your windows have got to go.

realize this may require me to move to Daly City or Kansas City.

I resolve to control my temper on the Muni bus every day on the way home from work, when several rude old ladies (carrying pink plastic see-through bags of heretofore unknown vegetables) manage to poke me with their umbrellas, and I sustain minor flesh wounds.

Well, there you have them. Ready-made resolutions that you most likely have not made before and therefore have not yet broken. Use 'em or lose 'em. Personally, I have only one resolution this year: "I, Dennis, resolve to be me the best I can, since nobody else does me as good as I do me."

Happy Eighty-eight!

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BAY AREA REPORTER OPEN FORUM

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

1988: A Year For Naming Names

Like thousands of Bay Area residents on the weekend of Dec. 18, I and friends trooped down to the Moscone Center to see The Names Project quilt commemorating victims of AIDS. It was an overwhelming experience. The silence was overwhelming.

When we got there the line ran all the way down Fourth Street and around the corner of Folsom. Faces of people coming or going were somber. Even on the street, the sense of expectation, of something extraordinary, was apparent.

Once inside the hall, I found myself completely unprepared for what I found. I felt disoriented for some reason at first despite the excellent organization and the brochure complete with map and guide. It was like visiting a cemetery, but there was something unusual about this cemetery.

Gradually, we found the panels for friends, saw some names of people we'd known but lost track of, and then just looked at all the different panels, as many of the 2100 there that we could.

What was different about this memorial, this cemetery of sorts, was that it was alive. Each of the panels was individual. Most carried some personal remembrance of the person memorialized—a tee-shirt, a saying, a line from a song, a baby blanket, a prize ribbon, a photograph. Cemeteries don't usually allow that. Cemeteries are monuments to death—dust unto dust, and all that. This was a tribute to living. Each panel was immediate, colorful, personal.

The crowd wandering through the quilt was something to see also. It was not Castro Street gone downtown. All ages and types were represented. There seemed to be a lot of families with grandparents and young children.

What an ingenious idea the quilt is. There has never been anything quite like it. Quilting is a uniquely American tradition. It is both an artistic expression and a means of joining a community together in a collective endeavor. The simple technique of listing the names of those who have died of AIDS is very moving. It brings an immediacy to the abstract

numbers, the reams of statistics that we see almost everyday on the course of this epidemic.

For most who have gone to the quilt, it is a way of grieving. Although no amount of grieving seems to end our sadness, we now have one very eloquent and public way of sharing the burden.

The love that once dared not speak its name now names all the names using the colors of the rainbow. We've made public and collective what some want to isolate and deny.

But the quilt really is and should be more than merely a vast act of grieving. Taken only as that, it may be accused of indulging grief too much. But this quilt goes beyond grief. It is, and should be, a catalyst for action. It is, and should be, a tool for organizing. Rather than take resources away from badly needed services for those battling AIDS, The Names Project hopes to bring new people and new resources into the struggle. The upcoming national tour of the quilt is designed to raise consciousness and funds for AIDS service organizations in two dozen cities across the U.S.

We will take the names of our dead to America. We will show America the people it so badly does not want to see. You can't escape it any longer, America. You can't escape the human side of this epidemic, both its tragedies and its triumphs. The story of AIDS is a story of people—gay and straight, black and white, young and old, men and women.

Enough of the blaming and the fear. Enough of the hysterical self-aggrandizing politicians trying to amass power from human suffering. Make 1988 the year of naming names, names emblazoned in sequins, ribbons, cloth and paint. Like the quilting bees of old, we can use this project to defeat the forces of ignorance and hysteria with compassionate recognition.

The Names Project quilt has been called our Viet Nam Memorial. But our war is still going on. With the quilt, we can bring the war home in a most gentle way.

—Ray O'Loughlin

OPINION

Sen. Simon and the Gay Community

Sen. Paul Simon (D-IL) has signed on as a co-sponsor of federal lesbian and gay civil rights legislation. This move by Simon is an important one—not only in and of itself, but as a marker of how both Simon and the gay and lesbian community have come to terms over the last several years.

It was in 1984, when he was running for the U.S. Senate opposite Republican incumbent Charles Percy, that Simon first reached out to connect with our community. The efforts were tentative, marked by some suspicion and even hostility, certainly on the gays' side. That was because of Simon's anti-gay voting record during his time as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

In 1980 and 1981, Simon—then representing the conservative downstate 22nd District—voted twice for the infamous McDonald Amendments to appropriations bills for the federal Legal Services Corp. Those amendments, sponsored by the late rightwing southern congressman Larry McDonald, sought to bar gay activists from having access to federally funded legal aid.

Simon's pro-McDonald votes were of particular concern because they contrasted so starkly with his generally progressive stances on civil rights. So, when Simon ran for the Democratic senatorial nomination in 1984, he faced strong and sometimes bitter opposition in the gay community. At one gay Democratic political forum, Simon's wife Jeanne represented her husband and faced blistering criticism from the floor.

When Simon won the Democratic nomination, his staff saw the need to overcome gay voters' distrust of their candidate. So a meeting was arranged between Simon himself and about 25 Chicago-area gay and lesbian activists from such groups as the Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Dignity, OPEN, the Independent Gay and Lesbian Caucus, and both Democratic and Republican gay organizations.

At that meeting, Simon argued that he thought his pro-McDonald votes were necessary compromises to preserve Legal Services funding. He was frank about his ignorance of gay and lesbian civil rights concerns, apologetic without sniveling, and he pledged his sincerity in rethinking past assumptions on these matters. His promise that he would "consider" supporting a national gay and lesbian rights bill impressed most of those in attendance as genuine in its very uncertainty. Simon, it was felt, needed to come to personal terms with matters that were largely new to him.



Sen. Paul Simon

(Photo: S. Savage)

As his political base has expanded—from downstate to all of Illinois and now, as a presidential contender, to the entire nation—Simon has shown greater willingness to support our community in areas of civil rights and civil liberties, as well as regarding health funding, always a strong suit of his.

It might be easy to dismiss his co-sponsorship of the gay Civil Rights Amendment Act of 1987 as a presidential candidate's purely political gesture—but it's a gesture that requires no little courage, more so now than in 1984. Simon has shown a willingness to grow, to change, that is worth watching in the months to come.

—Reprinted from Windy City Times, Chicago

LETTERS

Hell of a Nice Man

★ Yes, he's dead. The media reported it, thus it must be true. Yes, he's gone. Multimillionaire Sheldon Andelson bit the dust like so many fine human beings who, except for the purest of good fortune, contract AIDS.

Randy Shilts gave the death rattle in the Dec. 28 edition of the Chronicle a day or two before Sheldon died; the Advocate will say their nice piece, and the Bay Area Reporter will stack a column or two with Sheldon's doings.

But you know Sheldon was a hell of a nice man. Some funky-assed judge called him to the bench one day and inquired: "Shelly, you're on the stationery as a board of directors member of some organization which catered to gays. Is it true?" Mr. Andelson, I suspect, blushed and retreated for perhaps the last time in his life. That year was eons ago. It was the push he needed. Sheldon Andelson took to gay rights and human rights like Grant took Richmond: with fervor!

The media made hay out of the fact that Sheldon lived in an ultramodern Bel Air mansion, was richer than most and was a U.C. Regent. What they failed to report with any depth was that anyone wishing the power of elected office came to Sheldon's home. Sheldon's agenda was simple: I am gay; how will you address gay issues? If the answer was only moderately correct, any up-and-coming politico was assured of millions from Sheldon's famous "fundraisers."

We lost a real hero with Sheldon Andelson. A friend of mine just the other day was saying that when he was a doorman at a gay bar down L.A. way that Sheldon frequented, only Sheldon would curl some money into his hand, smile and give an encouraging pat on the back. The exchange of telephone numbers was never a requisite. That was beyond decent, if you only knew how gorgeous my friend is; now only a mere 25-year-old hunk.

Yep, Sheldon lived in an ultramodern Bel Air estate, which he used to defend lesbians and gays every goddamn day. Yep, he was wealthy beyond most. But he lavished those who said little more than you'll get a fair shake from me with desperately needed fundraising dollars. That was more than most did. Ask around, folks, if you don't believe me. As for me, I'll remember the love and the care and the eyeglasses that always seemed to need cleaning.

Sheldon, you made the life of old queens like me easier. Thank you, sir. And a "Buck" and a "Pound" and a "Mark" and a "Yen" make the "world go round!"

Dr. J. Davis Mannino, LCSW, MFCC, ED.D.
San Francisco

Angels

★ I want to publicly thank all the angels at Open Hand for their dedication, love and commitment in helping AIDS patients. I have had AIDS for several years and, although I'd known about it for some time, I just recently began their meal deliveries.

When I called them, it was only for information. I was unsure if I was ready to deal with it. The gentle man who answered had only two questions: Did I have AIDS, and what was my address? Before I could express doubts or ask questions, he had me enrolled. Later, when the first delivery came, I almost cried.

Since then, I've been getting two good meals daily and am starting to regain needed weight. New Year's Eve a special package came, with champagne, pate, and noisemakers, donated in part by local business.

I doubt anyone is turned away by Open Hand. Fortunately I can afford the modest donation, which was suggested only after I asked. But it hardly covers the actual cost or pays for the time, effort and dedication of the volunteers.

What more to say? I hope 1988 is a better year. I hope people with AIDS continue to fight. Heart-felt thanks, again, to everyone who gives so much at Open Hand.

Andy Franklin
San Francisco

Stop Misinformation

★ I am writing with regard to the article, "Church Wants Symbols Kept on Hospice Building" (B.A.R., Dec. 17, 1987). As part of the renovation of the building, it was agreed upon between Hospice, the Coming Home Organization, and the church that the cross and the lettering (saying it was a convent) would be painted out. Now the church wants these back.

The claim that the church was not notified of the painting is not true.

With regard to a "compromise," Hospice had already compromised. The building was painted the same colors as the other buildings in the "Most Holy Redeemer campus" along Diamond Street.

Fr. McGuire says the church valued its bonding with the Hospice. This is fine, there are people from

the parish who have helped as volunteers.

I am tired of all the misinformation the church has given out since March 1987.

1. The claim that they donated the building is not true. Hospice and the Coming Home Organization raised \$700,000 to renovate the building. Hospice pays monthly rent to the Archdiocese of San Francisco as part of a ten-year lease.

2. The claim that they have assigned a pastor to Coming Home Hospice is not true. The church asked Hospice to create a paid position for a pastoral person. Hospice said no. However, there are positions available for pastoral volunteers, which program is going on at present.

3. The claim that the Catholic church set up the first AIDS hospice in the U.S. is not true. The Coming Home Organization and Hospice of San Francisco set up the first hospice residence in the U.S. These organizations found an empty building and negotiated to lease it.

During my tenure at Coming Home Hospice, myself and the staff were asked many times by lovers, friends, parents, and patients themselves about any connection with the church. Mainly because of the marking on the building, many were very upset, thinking the church was running the private residence. One patient was worried if their rabbi could visit him.

Another time, parents of a patient arrived from Chicago and were very upset their son was in a "Catholic facility." I had to explain many, many times that Coming Home Hospice had no connection with the church, except that it was the landlord. I explained that the cross and the lettering were to be painted out when the building was painted.

The person who had the idea of a residence hospice, Dr. Claude DuBois, was very firm all along that there was to be no connection with any church. Claude and many other people in the community were worried this might happen if they rented a building from any church.

This private residence facility was started and is being run by staff from Hospice of San Francisco and many volunteers from throughout the Bay Area. All past, present, and future funds to run Coming Home Hospice come from the efforts of the Coming Home Organization, Hospice of San Francisco and the community of the San Francisco Bay Area.

"Whatever happens, we can live with it," says Fr. McGuire. Then, please, let it happen as planned.

Michael Reedy
Former Residence Manager
Coming Home Hospice

I Like St. Mary's

★ After the reading of the article, "Hospital Accused of DoubleTalk," by reporter Miranda Kolbe in the Dec. 24 issue of the Bay Area Reporter, I felt compelled to inform you and the readers of the B.A.R. of my positive experiences with the health-care system at St. Mary's Medical Center.

In January 1987 I was diagnosed with ARC. Unfortunately, I was uninsured and waiting for approval of my Medi-Cal and Social Security disability claim initially filed at the time of my diagnosis. In October of this year, I was formally diagnosed with AIDS (subacute encephalopathy). Prior to my AIDS diagnosis, I started attending an AIDS/ARC support group at St. Mary's. The co-facilitators of this group—Kevin Rist, M.D., a psychiatric intern, and Daniel Ostrow, a social worker—provided immediate and continuing support relative to my medical condition.

I related to Daniel Ostrow that I was unable to receive AZT due to protocol requirements and cost constraints at the medical institution at which I was an outpatient. I desperately felt that AZT could stabilize and possibly improve my medical condition. Psychologically, I was adversely affected by my inability to secure AZT, as evidenced by extreme stress and depression. Mr. Ostrow, in response to my concern, personally arranged for my registration as an outpatient at St. Mary's the following week. This process was completed within an hour, without the constraint of my financial status. I subsequently met with a staff physician within a week who prescribed AZT, again without consideration of the cost factor.

I am extremely indebted to the complete commitment of Daniel Ostrow, Dr. Rist, Dr. Leslie Launch, and the other health-care professionals at St. Mary's Medical Center relative to my health-care requirements.

Fortunately, my Medi-Cal benefits were approved this month. As such, this insurance will compensate, to a degree, the cost of providing medical care. Unfortunately, I am still waiting for the issuance of Social Security benefits.

I am totally convinced of the sincerity of the commitment of St. Mary's Medical Center to the health-care requirements of people with AIDS and ARC, as are other patient and members of the St. Mary's AIDS/ARC support group.

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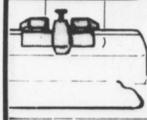
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LETTERS

God Bless Ms. Baez

★ Mr. Ricketts' sad review of Joan Baez and Friends (Dec. 24) is undeserving of any comments, but I find myself unable to remain silent. Just when the community needs the love and support of all humanity, Mr. Ricketts decides to destroy and divide. Bless Ms. Baez for her "clear" understanding that any stage is big enough to be shared by all who love and care for each other. She never suffered from Ricketts' self-imposed tunnel vision. I've always believed the way to eliminate bigotry is through mixing all people. Apparently Mr. Ricketts always feels a need to separate for social success.

If Mr. Ricketts would just open his eyes a little and look back, he'd see Deadheads were always accepting of all lifestyles, including the gay community. So one person sneered, "Faggots," translates into all Deadheads are gay-haters. Sounds like basic stereotyping bigotry to me. Oh, yes, Mr. Graham is without charm. Apparently Mr. Ricketts' short-sightedness consists only of his views and his feelings. Thank God most of the S.F. community doesn't suffer from this self-indulgent philosophy.

Well, enough of wasting positive time on negative material. God bless Ms. Baez and Friends for caring enough to give of themselves to raise thousands for such a needy cause.

John Borelli
San Francisco

Insensitive

★ I recently attended a seminar where a Ms. Catherine C. Oak spoke as an employee of March/Berry, a national consulting firm. She started her segment right after lunch, with a couple of little "jokes." She is recently moved from the Cleveland, Ohio area. The first was a little tasteless number about how she now introduces herself from San Francisco, "but no, I don't have AIDS!" She then proceeds to tell a demeaning joke about homosexuals. Over 150 people were held captive to listen to this woman try to be a hero. One could not easily stand up and ask for an apology or leave at that time, as one had to wait to receive a Certificate of Attendance after the seminar was ended, and it was useless to disrupt the seminar any further.

Why didn't she introduce herself from Chicago and say, "but I'm not of such-and-such racial minority," or, "I'm from Cleveland, but I don't have herpes." There were more than one gay or lesbian attendee, as I am sure there were people there who have homosexual relatives, friends or employees. If Ms. Oak plans to continue to work and acquire clients in the Bay Area, she had better realize that comments such as these are not acceptable behavior. I don't care what she does in her own home, but open bigotry is not an acceptable practice anywhere.

Hundreds of thousands have died or are afflicted with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. How can anyone laugh? Has she visited an AIDS hospice or hospital and watched a friend deteriorate before her eyes? Would Ms. Oak still be telling jokes if a son or daughter came to her with tears in their eyes and said, "Mom, I love you, but I want to tell you that I am gay!" Would she still be laughing if she went to the hospital to visit a friend, brother or sister, and they didn't recognize her because of AIDS-related meningitis or won't be able to speak to her because they had been so disabled by pneumocystis?

Ms. Oak owes the attendees of the seminar, the Bay Area, the gay community, and those who have died of AIDS a very large apology.

William A. Schuhmann
San Francisco

Why Attack St. Mary's?

★ It is not only sad but damaging to see the Bay Area Reporter used as a vehicle for an individual to purge his personal frustration with his ex-employer by trashing a significant effort by that institution to formalize a program of care for people with AIDS. I am referring to the extensive article by Miranda Kolbe about St. Mary's Hospital alleged mistreating a patient with AIDS (Dec. 24).

For those of us familiar with St. Mary's AIDS Services Program, the care given to patient Gregory Guerin was most laudible. The fact that he was in the Acute Care Ward for one month, and then in the Skilled Nursing Facility part of the hospital for two months, and then was one of the first patients placed at Coming Home Hospice speaks for itself. This obviously negates any allegation of "dumping" the patient. And, in all fairness, I credit much of this excellent care to Jim Edwards.

I have several other concerns. First, it would seem more responsible of the B.A.R. to present to the community what St. Mary's AIDS Services Program has to offer. This program was formalized more than a year ago. It is under the direction of a task force comprised of caregivers, administration and the Sisters of Mercy. Besides providing intensive educational

programs to all the Catholic schools (these are not covered under mandated programs for public schools), St. Mary's AIDS Services Program provides comprehensive medical and psychosocial care for people with HIV infection regardless of financial capability. This includes people without private insurance, Medicare or Medi-Cal. To my knowledge, the only other institution in the area to accept medically indigent patients is S.F. General Hospital.

Secondly, it is a shame to see Jim Edwards disparage a promising program that he has been credited with in the development. If he has a beef with his former employer, he should pursue whatever avenues to resolve those conflicts.

Thirdly, who is Miranda Kolbe? I don't see her listed on your editorial staff or as a contributor. I certainly wonder about her responsibility as a reporter when an individual's personal grudge is so thinly veiled as a programmatic issue.

Finally, I would rebut Ms. Savits' comment from St. Mary's Public Relations Office, "With the benefit of hindsight, things might have been done differently." Having been personally involved, things would not have been done differently, and we are proud of the care given to Mr. Guerin.

Kenneth J. Mills, M.D.
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: It is not the responsibility of this newspaper to serve as a publicity agent for St. Mary's Hospital, and I doubt we could do the job any more to your satisfaction than did Ms. Savits in St. Mary's public relations office.
Ray O'Loughlin

Cookbook Review in Bad Taste

★ As a Jewish person, I found George Heymont's book review of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's cookbook demeaning and patronizing. The most offensive parts are contained within the first paragraph: "Some might postulate that every Jewish child suffers from an oral fixation. Considering the stress placed on ingestion, digestion, and the importance of contributing to meaningful conversation in many Jewish households, it's no surprise that whatever goes in and comes out of one's mouth often grows into a source of controversy."

I was raised in a strong Jewish tradition. Our extended family got together at every opportunity—on the Sabbath, Jewish holidays, birthdays, bar mitzvahs, weddings and funerals—mostly in happiness, but also in sadness. Good Jewish cooking was an expected part of these occasions, but not the focus or reason for them. We ate with gusto, but not because we were "orally fixated." We laughed and sang together. We debated politics freely or discussed art and philosophy, not under stress or because we were expected to, but out of joy and the intellectual stimulation we received.

To portray Jewish people the way Mr. Heymont does fosters stereotypes of Jews within the gay community and belittles those of us proud to be Jewish and gay.

Robert M. Hass
San Francisco

Mr. Heymont responds: As someone who is Jewish, gay and proud, I would remind Mr. Hass that one of the assets of the Jewish community for centuries is its biting sense of humor. Where's yours? How about a little less matzoh meal in your morals?

Wayne's Seapegoats

★ In Wayne Friday's column of Dec. 17, in the course of unenthusiastic congratulations to mayor-elect Art Agnos, he launched a gratuitous attack on community activists Calvin Welch and Sue Hestor. Rather than biased condemnation with no stated reason, they deserve praise for over ten years of representing community interests against downtown money and the city administrations it has controlled.

They have worked hard for: limits on downtown expansion, district elections, low-rent housing and to make the planning process follow the law and become open to popular input. These positions are good for the city, for its lesbian and gay citizens, and are part of Art's program. Because of this, they have become the favorite scapegoats for those who oppose any progressive reforms. Wayne Friday is doing their dirty work.

Jim Handler
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: "Gratuitous" and "progressive" are two of the most common adjectives used in political discourse. Unfortunately, neither has any real meaning.
—Ray O'Loughlin

OPINIONS

B.A.R. Did It Again

★ As a long-time reader of your newspaper, I have long hoped and wished to see it develop as a responsible professional journalistic endeavor capable of reasonably informed objective analysis and properly researched reporting of events within the Bay Area. Unfortunately, I see you making little headway in that direction.

In recent weeks, several articles have appeared regarding Electric City's confrontation with Viacom Cablevision. As a founder of Electric City, I take great offense at the repeated statements you've published that Sandy Mack is the "creator" of the organization. This is simply not true—a fact that you can verify simply by referring to one of your own articles published in November of 1986 and articles published in The Sentinel and The Castro Times at about the same time.

The fact is that Electric City was originally formed by three partners, of whom Sandy Mack was one. In addition, there were and are several others who have been involved with Electric City from its inception, providing financial support, ideas and hard work. These people were critical to the "creation" of Electric City. Again, your newspaper reported on some of these people and the organization as a whole in an article that appeared mid-year 1987.

Agreed, the "creator" of Electric City is a trivial fact, but these inaccuracies imply that perhaps the articles are merely your reporter parroting the wolf-crying breast-beating statements of a highly subjective source. Such a source is clearly in need of attending an ego-reduction clinic.

As the original negotiator and signatory of Electric City's contact with Viacom, I found Viacom's staff extremely supportive and desirous in seeing gay-oriented programming on Cable Channel 6. Not only did they publicize our program in a feature article in their monthly cable magazine, they also approached us about working with them in producing safe-sex public service announcements and helping them locate a condom manufacturer interested in advertising condoms (this was before broadcast stations accepted such advertising).

They clearly laid out their rules and limitations of acceptable programming material from the outset. I warned Viacom from the start that Electric City's material would always walk the fine line between acceptable and unacceptable.

The fact that Electric City finally stepped over that line is not surprising and actually expected. The fact that Viacom did not preview the show for content was its error; one I'm sure they've now corrected. Electric City always delivered the show according to the requirements in the contract which provided Viacom sufficient time to review the program.

So the reality of the situation is that Electric City tested Viacom's limits and got called on it. Viacom did not follow its own rules to review programs prior to airing, and they got called on it. Both parties went into negotiation and resolved the situation. An adult and appropriate way of solving such conflicts.

However, the B.A.R. portrayed the entire series of events as some poor gay group was being trampled on—a typical stance on your part. Take the subjective point of view, proclaim discrimination, call a boycott, cry wolf and print unresearched inaccuracies seems to be your approach to publishing. When will you become journalists of objectivity and stop parroting the gossips and egotists?

Philip F. Tuggle
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: I think your idea for an ego-reduction clinic is an excellent one. Until you find one to enroll in, maybe you could just have your claws trimmed once in a while.
—Ray O'Loughlin

Allies, Not Adversaries

★ I am writing to correct some misunderstandings which may have been left in the minds of your readers from an article published in the Dec. 17 issue of the Bay Area Reporter, written by Jay Newquist. The article concerned the facade of Coming Home Hospice, as well as the relationship between the Visiting Nurses & Hospice of San Francisco and the Most Holy Redeemer Church.

Since 1985, when the use of the Most Holy Redeemer Convent as a residential hospice facility was conceived as an adjunct for hospice home-care services, Visiting Nurses & Hospice of San Francisco has worked cooperatively with the Most Holy Redeemer Church. The desire of both organizations was to provide for residential care for people with AIDS and other terminal illnesses who could no longer remain in their own homes. Toward this end, the Visiting Nurses & Hospice of San Francisco committed itself, as part of a lease, to renovate the convent building. Funds were raised with the help of the Coming Home organization and the Most Holy Redeemer Church, as well as other community groups and individuals. The common goal in this effort of cooperation between Visiting Nurses & Hospice of San

Steve Perkins
San Francisco

Francisco and the Most Holy Redeemer Church was then, and continues to be, dignity and respect for human life.

With a deep sense of community, the people of the Most Holy Redeemer Parish offered their support in raising funds and donating valuable skills and services, along with many, many others, in the renovation of the convent so that it could become a residential hospice facility. In so doing, this church affirmed its commitment to the hospice concept of compassionate care for people in the final stage of life. It also agreed that the residential hospice facility, now known as Coming Home Hospice, would be managed by the Visiting Nurses & Hospice of San Francisco.

Since they have a common goal, the relationship between Coming Home Hospice and the Most Holy Redeemer Church has been one of continuing cooperation. They are allies, not adversaries. However, a difference of opinion has developed concerning the treatment of the religious symbols, a cross and lettering spelling out "Most Holy Redeemer Convent," located on the facade of the building. Given that Coming Home Hospice, as a program of Visiting Nurses & Hospice of San Francisco, is part of a non-denominational, nonprofit health-care provider, its desire is to de-emphasize these symbols. The Most Holy Redeemer Church, feeling that the building is part of its parish in a special way, desires to make the symbols more visible.

With the participation of Coming Home organization, a variety of points of view are being currently expressed concerning this issue. As with all other issues which have come before on this project, this one will also be resolved within a context of cooperation, which symbolizes Coming Home Hospice.

Bill Haskell
Project Manager
Coming Home Hospice
San Francisco

KS and Penicillin

★ Do you have KS? Did you know that KS has been successfully treated with penicillin? Two foreign medical journals report specific cases (*Lyon Medical*, 1980, 24:17277-81; and *Revista Argentina de Dermatofiliologia* 1948, 32:1-25-14). Does your doctor know of these studies? Probably not (though it might be informative to ask why). Bring your doctor (and your friends) to the Town Meeting on the "AIDS-Syphilis Connections" at the MCC, 150 Eureka St., Jan. 12 at 7:30 p.m. There's more, much more.

Mike Smith
San Francisco

Pusky Relatives

★ In these days of AIDS, I often hear stories of how the families of our deceased friends step in at the last minute and take control, cut out or push aside those of us who have been so close to our loved ones so long. I recently received a copy of the last will and testament of a very close friend (my landlady) who I had been caring for for much of the last ten years.

I was rather slighted by the will, as it had been prepared under the influence of close relatives. And so I was left a meager amount. Others who had done nothing for my friend in her last years were left much more than I.

Having certain educational credentials myself (I am a retired Certified Public Accountant), I was interested to observe the whole process of the estate proceedings, etc. But it also came to my swift attention that there is a very broad area in these affairs where those of us who feel disenfranchised can file our claims. And it is interesting that all of these claims must be settled prior to the relatives being able to receive anything. The area is referred to as creditors' claims.

Now most of us who have spent lots of our time with dying friends and lovers do not think of ourselves as creditors. And it is just here that our minds are on wrong. The kind of love and emotional support that we give our friends and lovers is looked upon very highly by the judicial system of this country. And it is not for nothing that such relationships and their involvements are referred to as courtship.

The love, friendship and attention which we pay to our friends and lovers is fully qualified in legal terms to qualify as a creditors' claim. Such support is actually priceless, and so putting a value on it for such matters can be indicative of how much such support is worth. And usually, in comparison to the involvement of outside family, the financial value of our services is exemplary and should be valued as such.

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A New Mayor for S.F.

Assemblyman Art Agnos takes office tomorrow as San Francisco's 39th mayor. Though he is not expected to announce his major staff appointments until Monday, aides tell me that the new mayor plans to appoint a number of deputy mayors with each of them being in charge of certain programs and/or departments. **Claude Everhardt**, Agnos' staffperson from his Assembly office, is reportedly slated to become a deputy mayor in charge of the office staff. Some 19 or 20 new staff persons will reportedly come into City Hall with the new mayor.

Agnos will take his oath of office from Municipal Court Judge **Alex Saldamando**, a family friend, at noon ceremonies in the City Hall Rotunda. He will spend the afternoon celebrating with close friends and campaign aides, and then attend an inaugural celebration Friday evening at the Civic Auditorium which is expected to draw 10,000 supporters and well-wishers. The evening celebration is by invitation only and those attending will pay \$20, which is expected to go towards the cost of the inaugural party.

District Attorney **Arlo Smith**, re-elected to a third term in November, and Sheriff **Michael Hennessey**, also re-elected to a new term in November, will take their oaths of office tomorrow as well.

The Toklas Democratic club elects new officers next week and there is a lot of unhappiness among supporters of both sides in the recent mayoral campaign about the slate of candidates being offered. Agnos backers are slated to take control of the club, though one former president complained this week that "damn, with over 1,000 members we can't come up with anyone other than **Ron Braithwaite** for president?" Complaints on him range from "he talks too fast," is divisive and is already boasting of his "power" in the Agnos City Hall.



Arlo Smith will be sworn in as District Attorney Jan. 8



Mayor-elect Art Agnos will be sworn in Jan. 8

(Photo: S. Savage)

Examiner columnist **Warren Hinckle's** feature story in Sunday's *Image* magazine about the recent mayoral race has a few of the subjects upset. But I thought it was vintage Hinckle (that means good reading) and everyone has read it, though some came off looking pretty silly.

Under a plan approved by themselves last year, members of Congress will be considering a variety of AIDS-related laws during 1988. California State Sen. **Gary Hart** will try again to get the legislature to consider a bill requiring school districts to develop AIDS programs. The Kansas Legislature will consider premarital testing, tracing of past sex partners of people with AIDS, and HIV testing for sex offenders. West Virginia proposals would protect AIDS victims from discrimination and ensure the confidentiality of their medical record. A total of 33 states now have AIDS-related laws, with some of them considering making existing laws stronger.

San Francisco lawyer and Demo fundraiser **Duane Garrett**, currently presidential candidate **Bruce Babbitt's** finance chair said he recently called some 150 potential campaign donors since Gary Hart re-entered the race last month and said none of them had turned to Hart. "Half of them think he's crazy and half think he's subject to ridicule," Garrett said.

School Board member **Rosario Anaya's** name among the latest being mentioned as a supervisor candidate this year. **Dianne Feinstein**, in a recent interview, saying aloud what most Democrats are quietly thinking: **Jesse Jackson** is "un-electable."

Charges of backroom power-brokering surfacing over **John Burton's** Assembly candidacy. **Sup. Doris Ward**, once considered a sure candidate for the seat, says she "accepts" the premise that no "deals" were made to assure Burton clear sailing for the Democratic nomination. Ward says, "I don't know if I believe it, but I accept it."

Roberta Achtenberg, a respected lesbian lawyer, says that she was asked "not to run." But she will anyway. Despite claims by Mayor-elect Agnos and other Burton allies that it was "John's decision alone" to seek the seat, some see "machine politics" in Burton's sudden decision to re-enter the political arena.

British bookies have established **George Bush** as a clear favorite (at 13-8) to win the November presidential election and keep the GOP in power. The second favorite is another Republican, **Robert Dole** (at 2 to 1), with **Donna Rice's** favorite candidate at a distant 14-1 longshot. However, if **Mario Cuomo** were to enter the race he would become an immediate 3-1 choice to win, making him the Democrats' best choice by far.

Mass. Congressman **Barney Frank** told reporters this week that his decision to publicly disclose his homosexuality has not undermined his political career. Frank, who says he is confident he will win re-election this year (he won by 89 percent of the vote in 1986), said that "people were waiting to see whether the fact that I announced I was gay would affect my abilities, and that was a question that I had to answer in my own mind as well as in

others. The answer is that it has not."

In Los Angeles, former Gov. **Jerry Brown** is telling reporters that while he "is enjoying life immensely outside politics," he plans to run for office again after the 1988 elections. Brown, a 48-year-old bachelor, refused to discuss his personal life, but did say that marrying and raising a family "is in my mind... but it hasn't happened yet." The former governor and two-time presidential candidate refused to speculate as to what office he plans to seek or when, then promptly eliminated nearly everything except another presidential bid or a race for the U.S. Senate in the event **Sen. Alan Cranston** decides to retire in 1992.

To the reader who wrote telling me of his hopes for the New Year: I, too, have a number of wishes for 1988, but the one prayer I would like answered most is that this be the year a cure is found for AIDS, above all else, a cure and a vaccine.



Sheriff Michael Hennessey will also be sworn in Jan. 8

New Gay Group Born on a Tabletop In Tennessee

NASHVILLE—A new statewide gay and lesbian political action organization has formed in Tennessee. Naming itself the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the group's goals and structure were forged in a series of three meetings held in Nashville in November and December and facilitated by Sue Hyde and other staff members of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

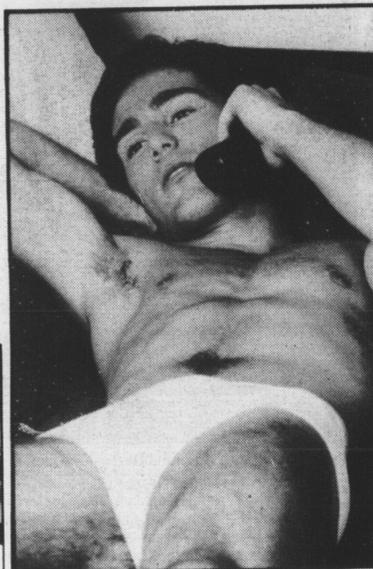
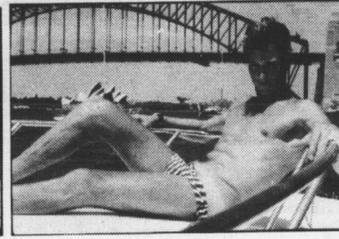
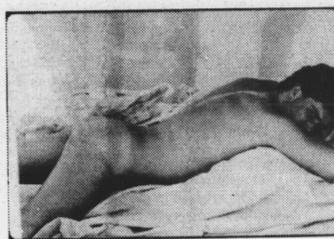
The meetings attracted activists from all parts of Tennessee. Many cited the March on Washington as having raised both their expectations of the political process as well as their enthusiasm to advocate for a commonly held agenda for the gay and lesbian community of Tennessee.

The Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Task Force (TGLTF) adopted a statement of purpose which defines a broad "mission... to advance and defend the rights of lesbians and gay men." The group will work in the state legislature to enact effective AIDS related measures and to repeal the state's crimes-against-nature law. The crimes-against-nature law has been used against hundreds of men in the past year in an entrapment campaign in Nashville's public parks. As well, TGLTF will conduct a survey/monitoring project to assess the extent of anti-gay/lesbian discrimination and violence in the state. Public education, direct action, and community organizing will be utilized to fulfill the group's goals.

A steering committee of 18 Tennesseans, half women and one-quarter people of color, is vested with decision-making responsibilities to determine the group's direction and priorities. An interim steering committee will serve until a general membership meeting in the fall of 1988, during which a permanent steering committee will be elected from regional caucuses.

Fisher, of Nashville, served on the local March on Washington Committee. Noting the importance of the March, he described the group in this way: "The Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Task Force exists to translate the euphoria and energy of the March on Washington into hometown, grassroots gay and lesbian political work to make our communities better, safer places for us. That's why we organized to fill three buses from Nashville; that's why we're organizing to work together to repeal the crimes-against-nature law, to obtain protections for our civil rights, and to end violence against us."

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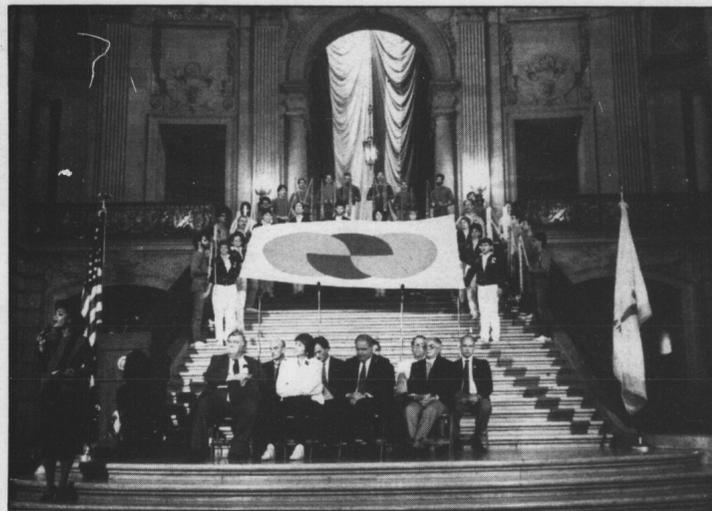
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LIFE AT THE CLOSET DOOR





Tom Waddell was memorialized in City Hall

(Photo: S. Savage)

Review

(Continued from page 1)

spirited fodder in letters to the editor as once again the community sees the judicial scales weigh pro and con arguments with the result possibly a moot point.

More than 4000 people came together for Living Sober '87 to celebrate the commitment of gay men and lesbian women to live free of alcohol and drugs. The full diversity of the community was evident from business executives to the unemployed, and participants filled the Civic Auditorium with a special bonding evidenced in high praise for an AA musical called "Sober Company."

A mural honoring the slain Harvey Milk was voted down by the City Parks and Planning Committee. The mural was set to be painted on the Duboce Park recreation center that bears Harvey's name. The decision was later reversed in Harvey's favor.

AIDS claimed Olympian for all seasons Dr. Tom Waddell, 49, and activist Gerry Parker, 38, founder and past president of the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club.

In a clear break with tradition, the staid New York Times decided to use the words "gay" and "lesbian," for the first time.

The U.S. Justice Department decided not to prosecute radio station KPFF in L.A. for obscenity in the broadcast of the graphic gay sex play *Jerker*.

The Center for Disease Control in Atlanta reported that widespread testing of people for HIV and contact tracing for sexual partners who are HIV infectable will soon be routine.

AUGUST: WE WIN ONE

More than 5000 people raised more than \$600,000 during the 10 kilometer walk in Golden Gate Park in the first AIDS Walk for San Francisco.

President Reagan no sooner named his highly-touted AIDS Commission than blistering attacks by Bay Area activists began to pick apart the bogus credentials of the nominees. The chairman admitted he was "no AIDS expert," while it became crystal clear to all involved that the Gipper was merely throwing a marshmallow at the AIDS epidemic.

The 11th Gay Softball World

Series hit the mound in San Francisco as 21 teams and 1500 players tested their bats and reached for the shinsplints.

The Gay Book of Lists reported that homosexuality was 'suspected' to be caused by: loud disco music; smoking marijuana; astrological influences; masturbation; vasectomy; too many female teachers; atavism; and eating the meat of uncircumcised pigs.

An extraordinary message of love is stitched into a massive AIDS quilt destined to be unfurled at the National March on Washington. The individual panels are a positive expression of grief to commemorate victims of the epidemic who passed our way once and will never be forgotten.

The Face of AIDS was the emotionally devastating cover of Newsweek whose inside story of 300 AIDS deaths of men, women and children were written in brief capsule form, not unlike an obituary. There wasn't a dry eye around nor a heart that wasn't savaged by the most evocative expression of AIDS trauma by a national publication.

The new reigning Duke and

Grand Duchesses are Tom Roller and Flame, respectively.

A judge gave custody of a 16-year-old boy to the lover of the teenager's late father. The ruling came in reaction to the boy's desire not to live with his fundamentalist Christian mother.

The Milk Club once again locked horns with the local postal system who hamper the mailing of safe sex brochures to Central and South America. At issue was the need to send the brochures in envelopes, said postal authorities. The Milk Club complained the so-called rule was arbitrary and was implemented simply because postal workers didn't want to transmit 'pornographic' material.

Jon Wright, a leader of the Castro Lions, died of AIDS. He was 44.

In a landmark ruling, a U.S. District Judge ordered the Defense Department to stop discrimination against gay people who seek security clearances. Judge Thelton Henderson ruled that sexual relationships among people of the same sex in no way "affects their trustworthiness to hold a security clearance."

SEPTEMBER: THE POPE MEETS US

Pope John Paul II came to San Francisco in the second-to-last leg of a North American tour in mid-September. The pope said Mass at Candlestick Park, toured the Mission District and met people with AIDS.

More than 5,000 of us were outside the Mission Basilica to protest the anti-gay attitudes of JPII and the Roman Catholic Church. Some of us took a Sept. 17 cover of Bay Area Reporter, cut out the red and white miter and wore it for the pope. The message read, "Gay Is Good."

Whether John Paul picked up the message will be a matter for individual interpretation. But we know he told Dan Turner, "I pray for you every day."

The spelling of the word will depend on future actions.

Thirty-two years ago, Richard DeVos turned the Amway Corporation into a multi-million dollar company. This kind of affluence helped him gain influence in the Republican Party. Using Reaganian logic, DeVos became one of the people Pres. Ronald Reagan just had to have on his new AIDS commission.

DeVos, in a Sept. 3 interview with B.A.R., said that he was tired of hearing certain people demand rights all the time. He said they should act more responsibly. When asked whether he met gay people, DeVos said yes and went on to explain that "if people have been acting responsibly, they have nothing to feel guilty about."

In another exclusive interview in the same issue of B.A.R., Presidential policy advisor Gary Bauer told B.A.R. that finding a cure for AIDS was not the reason Reagan created his AIDS commission.

The parents of three school children that tested positive to HIV have decided to leave their

Arcadia, Florida home after the house was mysteriously burned down. Clifford and Louise Ray had gone to federal court to get their sons admitted to DeSoto County public schools. The family had received numerous threats from people worried that the children could spread AIDS through classroom contact. None of the boys has developed AIDS.

Ah, but there is some good news to report, too. The Gay Softball World Series came to San Francisco in the first weekend of September. The city was filled with the colorful uniforms and smiling faces of softball stars from all over the United States and Canada.

Maybe in the future, the straight press ought to pay more attention to what happens in our World Series because we can provide a glimpse into the future. After Twin Cities of Minneapolis won our World Series, the Minnesota Twins used our champs as role models to win baseball's World Series seven weeks later.

Southern New England, with the peppiest fans of the Series, won the women's title.

There's more to Sylvester than just being one of the greatest entertainers ever to come out of the gay community. There's a real professional, too.

Sylvester was scheduled to entertain on the final night of the Gay World Series weekend. The night before, however, his lover, Rick Cramer, died of AIDS. But on Saturday, Sept. 5, Sylvester performed for a big crowd at #1 Market Plaza.

Sylvester sang many songs before telling the crowd that Rick had died the night before. Then, as he sang *You Are My Friend*, the audience stood in silent tribute while giving strength to a great performer.

It was revealed that Robert Bork, President Reagan's nominee for a seat on the United States Supreme Court, condoned open discrimination against gay men and lesbians. While he was a faculty member of the Yale University Law School, Bork objected to banning from the Yale campus employers who would not agree to an antidiscrimination pledge on the basis of sexual orientation.

Northwest Airlines capitulated to demands that it stop discriminating against people with AIDS. Northwest, the nation's fifth largest air carrier, announced in a Sept. 9 letter to National Gay Rights Advocates that it revoked its earlier policies which first banned all PWAs from NA flights, then required PWAs to produce a written certificate from a physician before they could buy a ticket.

It was called Doolittle's Revenge. AB-87, a bill to ban AIDS discrimination and create a state-wide commission to oversee policies to combat the epidemic, failed to get past the State Senate. The bill was authored by Assemblyman Art Agnos, who had played a major role in the defeat of anti-gay measures by Sen. John Doolittle, a Folsom Republican. Doolittle played a major role in the defeat of AB-87, which had been endorsed by U.S. Surgeon Gen. C. Everett Koop.

Bayard Rustin, who was the chief organizer of the mammoth 1963 civil rights march on Washington, died in a New York hospital. At the time of his death, the 75-year-old Rustin was co-chair of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, an educational and civil rights institution in New York. In recent years, he had also become an advocate for gay rights.

San Francisco's Hispanic Community came out with what many consider to be the best video yet on AIDS, *Ojos Que No Ven (Eyes That Do Not See)*. The plot talked unflinchingly of teenage sexuality, prostitution, homosexuality, closeted men in heterosexual marriages and IV drug use.

When the video premiered on Sept. 4 at the Mission Cultural Center, a packed crowd cheered the Spanish language video.

Scott Smith, the lover of the late Harvey Milk, accused mayoral candidate Art Agnos of "the most cynical form of political grave-robbing." A group of 11 Milk associates invoked Harvey's memory at a press conference and linked their friendship with him to their support of Agnos. Smith, who remembered bitter battles between Agnos and Milk when the two were prominent Democrats in the late 1970s, gritted his teeth when talking about San Francisco's eventual mayor.

An employee of Bank of America was miffed with the lesbian and gay community for its treatment of VISA cards. BofA's Betty Reiss said she respected the gay community's protesting the decision of the Supreme Court to restrict use of the word, "Olympic." But, she said, "We feel financial support of the U.S. Olympic team, which depends on private donations (such as portions of VISA purchases), is a good cause."

Well, that's one person's opinion. Snipped-up VISAs continued to pour into banks across the country.

Shasta General Hospital in Redding faced a lawsuit after forcing a Redding man to submit to a test for the HIV antibody without his consent or his knowledge. The man was seeking treatment for a hernia. The hospital improperly disclosed the results of his HIV test and refused to treat him because he tested positive. A lawsuit stated that the hospital altered the man's medical records to cover up its actions.

The U.S. 7th District Court of Appeals in Chicago ruled that Sgt. Miriam Ben-Shalom must be reinstated as a member of the U.S. Army Reserves even though she is openly lesbian. Ben-Shalom was discharged from the 84th Division in Milwaukee in 1976 when she told her commanding officer that she was a lesbian.

Maurice, an adaptation of E.M. Forster's suppressed 1914 novel about homosexuality in England, was brought to the screen by Ismail Merchant and James Ivory. Many critics across the country hailed *Maurice* as a masterpiece.

OCTOBER: MARCHING

An ax-wielding grandpa and a golfclub-swinging mom and dad were sued in San Mateo Superior Court for subjecting their gay son and his friends to a night of terror. When Dennis May went to help Michael Martini move out of Martini's grandparents' home, he said he was brutally attacked by Martini's grandfather and parents.

May invoked California's Ralph Act, which prohibits violence against individuals on the basis of sexual orientation. In addition, Martini's grandfather, Howard Sotherden, and parents Joseph and Patricia Martini face trial on criminal misdemeanor charges of assault with deadly weapon.

Question: Why are most Republican's minds like an elephant's trunk?

Answer: They're narrow.

The California Republican Party called for criminal prosecution of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and others who distribute explicit AIDS educational materials. Among the materials declared obscene by these prosecutors of morality are "Can We Talk," a bluntly worded, illustrated brochure; wallet-sized safe-sex cards which list safe, possibly safe and unsafe sexual activities; The Hot 'n' Healthy Times, a newsletter which describes safe sex as well as how to wear a condom and The Works, a comic book about drugs, sex and AIDS for IV drug users.

The California Supreme Court dealt a body blow to the hopes of gay and lesbian couples. Deukmejian's High Court denied the appeal of a man who sued for emotional distress after witnessing the beating of his lover. The court unanimously refused to review an appellate court ruling that same-sex relationships are "not sufficiently close to permit recovery [of damages] of one witnessing a wrongful injury to the other." The state High Court stated no reason for its action.

"There is just nothing quite like the Baybrick."
—Marga Gomez
"The two bars most essential to our community are the Baybrick and the Eagle."
—Danny Williams

After Oct. 3, the Baybrick Inn was no more. This South-of-Market lesbian bar was more than just a bar. It was a place where both women and men could see the very best in gay nightclub entertainment.

Co-owner Lauren Hewitt said dwindling economics and increased competition played big roles in the demise of the Baybrick.

A confidential memo leaked to Bay Area Reporter indicated that state and national Republicans planned to use an AIDS scare campaign as a strategy to unseat Democrats who they consider "soft on AIDS."

A San Francisco consulting firm, Charlton Research, was accused of helping to put together the Republicans' strategy against liberal Democrats. Charles Rund of Charlton called the story a fabrication.



The AIDS Walk raised a lot of money in '87

(Photo: S. Savage)

In 1986, we defeated the LaRouche quarantine initiative, Prop. 64, by a resounding 71-29 percent. But early in October, followers of Lyndon LaRouche were back with a new version of Prop. 64. By December, their new plan which would mandate the names of carriers of the HIV virus on a list of reportable diseases, had picked up enough signatures to qualify for the 1988 election ballot.

James Short struck a blow for gay rights when he walked out of a courtroom \$2.3 million richer. He didn't want to call it a palimony suit, but that's what it amounted to.

He and his ex-lover of 19 years, Charles Gale, had accumulated real estate worth over \$4 million. Gale worked as a real estate broker while Short worked as a hairdresser and then at a bank. The two men pooled their finances. Short claimed that the couple had an agreement to split everything if they parted, which they did in 1983.

We lost one of the bright lights of our community on Oct. 2. Zohn Artman, tireless benefit producer, public relations mentor and philanthropist, died of AIDS. The former lover of Gay Games founder Dr. Tom Waddell, Artman was 51.

California became the first state to create its own program for testing anti-AIDS drugs. Gov. George Deukmejian signed a bill

authored by the legislature's only physician, Assemblymember William Filante (R-Marin).

It was described as a sea of people. More than half a million gay and lesbian Americans and their friends marched on Washington for gay and lesbian rights. Washington hadn't seen anything like it since Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. led the Poor Peoples' March on Washington 24 years ago.

We brought with us a quilt with the names of men and women who have died of AIDS. Reagan tried to ignore us. Time and Newsweek deliberately ignored us.

But the truth is, no one could ignore us any more. We marched past the White House and shouted "Shame, shame, shame!" at the moralistic president who ignored AIDS funding as long as he could while his cronies were putting together Conragate.

Police arrested 840 gay rights demonstrators at the U.S. Supreme Court. The alleged Court of Last Resort was surrounded by 5,000 demonstrators who expressed their rage with recent anti-gay rulings by the ever-more conservative Court. Demonstrators also expressed their rage with Reagan's attempt to pack the Court with more conservatives.

Even the Democrats turned against us in mid-October. The U.S. House of Representatives

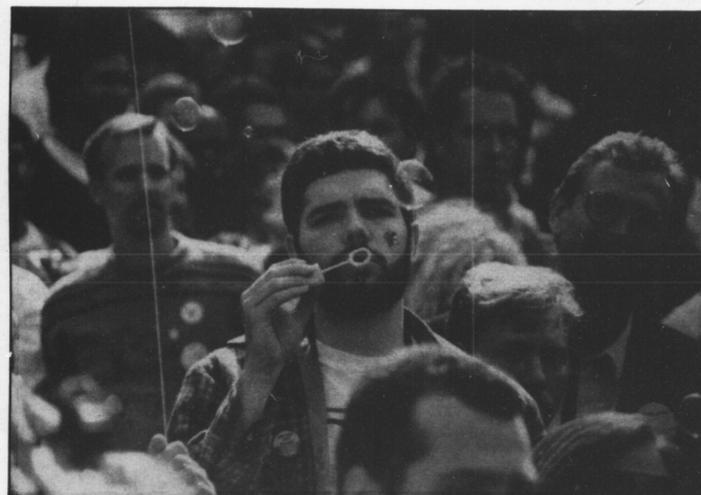
voted 368-47 to ban federal funds for gay-related safe sex education. The House action followed a 94-2 vote in the Senate the previous week. The measure, a budget amendment proposed by Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC), denied federal funds for groups which publish materials or engage in activities that "promote, encourage or condone homosexual sexual activities."

It would be easy to blame Helms, but a liberal like Cranston, who owes his seat in the Senate to California's gay and lesbian population, also voted for the measure.

San Francisco's lame bow mayor Dianne Feinstein, called for mandatory AIDS antibody testing of all inmates sentenced to city jail. But, whoa, that was against state law, so Dianne called, instead for a new program which really wasn't a new program: mandatory education of city jail inmates on AIDS prevention.

Researchers at UCLA said there is a new group in desperate need of immediate AIDS education: doctors. A random survey of 1,000 doctors found that many failed to recognize symptoms of HIV infection, failed to ask about a patient's sexual history or orientation, and were uncomfortable counseling patients who are gay.

The survey didn't indicate, (Continued on page 19)



Hundreds of thousands of gay people marched on Washington in October

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)



The Gay Softball World Series was a great success

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Nothing To Lose But Pride

Like countless other gay men (and not a few adolescent girls), I have a tendency to fall in love with actors, models and movie stars. However, unlike most others, who are content to pine away in hopeless frustration, I do something about my infatuations. I write fan letters.

They rarely do me any good. Take, for example, the letter I wrote to Patrick Swayze, the star of *Dirty Dancing*, several years ago. I got his address from my cousin, Mallory, who watched the North/South mini-series on TV with me in 1985. She recognized perfect husband material when she saw it.

Since Mallory had a boyfriend in L.A. who was a personal friend of Mr. Swayze, she was able to raid the boyfriend's Rolodex and send me my future lover's address as a Christmas present. (She kept Tom Selleck's address for herself.)

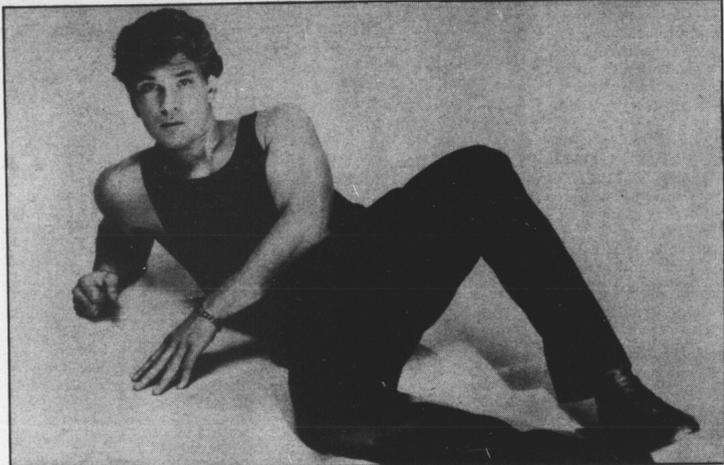
"Now, do you dare use it?" she asked. I did.

It helped that I had a legitimate reason to write him. "If ever you'd like to give a guy a cheap thrill," I wrote, "let me interview you for the Bay Area Reporter the next time you are in San Francisco. I am a columnist for that paper, which, I warn you, is Northern California's leading gay newspaper. Can you handle it?"

He couldn't. Despite my casual, tongue-in-cheek approach, I never heard a word from Mr. Swayze in reply. But I didn't mind. As I told a friend, "Maybe I'm a little old for this sort of thing, but I have nothing to lose except my pride, and that's easily expendable. Besides, even if it didn't work, it was a nice try."

When my friend pointed out that my request for an interview belied my true motives, I replied, "So what?"

Sometime later, following infatuations with William Hurt, Eric Roberts, Julian Sands, Dennis Quaid, and others,



Patrick Swayze in *Dirty Dancing*

I fell in love with James Carpenter, a little-known actor at the Berkeley Shakespeare Festival. This marked a significant development in my personal growth. James Carpenter was a flesh-and-blood actor, a man I could see and hear on the stage rather than simply admire in the dark. With any luck at all, I could get him to see and hear me as well. The possibilities after that were mind-boggling.

As the young Prince Hal in *Henry IV, Part I* and as a more mature Henry V, James (in my fantasies, we quickly became intimate) blew me away. I posted his picture on the wall of the waiter's room at work. I raved about him ceaselessly to friends at home. And at the festival, I even bribed a stagehand to give me backstage gossip—but he couldn't tell me what I needed to know.

By the end of the summer, when James appeared shirtless onstage following a tennis match in *Henry IV, Part II* (I swooned at

what the hell. If you think an interview would enhance rather than detract from your portfolio, give me a call. I have long admired your body . . . of work."

Fortunately (for the sake of the little pride I had left), I found out the lowdown on Mr. Carpenter the day before I mailed this letter. I ran into one of the other actors from the Berkeley Festival at the Castro Street Fair, and he told me that my hero was not gay at all but had been happily married for over ten years—to a woman. I was crushed but eventually recovered. Naturally, I scotched the idea of the interview after that. With my dreams dashed at my feet, there didn't seem to be any point.

Recently I fell for a real person—a writer, not an actor—and I resolved to abstain from writing fan letters to movie stars for a while. To help reinforce this decision, I posted the following lines from my journal, written after viewing *The Last Picture Show* in 1972, above my desk: "Timothy Bottoms is such a cool, sensitive person. I would really like to know him as my friend." It wasn't a fan letter, but nearly. It was certainly an embarrassment. And above all, it was proof that it was time to grow up.

That was fifteen years ago. Maybe someday it will happen. ●

the sight), I couldn't take it anymore. I had to ask him for an interview. There was one problem, however. I didn't know whether or not he was gay, and without a gay angle, I was dead in the water. True, I could have written about the play rather than James, but, unlike the North/South mini-series, there is nothing even remotely gay about Shakespeare's Lancastrian cycle.

I presented the dilemma to Mr. Carpenter. "God forbid that you should think I am prying into your personal affairs," I wrote, "but there are only two justifications for this kind of profile—a straight actor in a gay role and a gay actor in any role. Since Henry V wasn't gay, that leaves you."

"I suspect what I am really after is simply a chance to meet you," I continued slyly, "but

Pac Bell To Restrict Live '976' Calls

Callers May Get ID Numbers To Prevent Children's Access

by Allen White

A new type of "976" conference call is being introduced by Pacific Bell in anticipation of new rulings by government agencies regarding use of the controversial, often pornographic, services. The rulings will most likely result in the elimination of "976" conference numbers.

The phone lines will be replaced with a new type of personal identification number similar to an automated teller machine code. Ed West of Adwest Marketing in San Francisco explained the new system.

"The way the new system works," West said, "is that a person will first call a '976' number. The caller will then be given a personal identification number and a second number to call. The second number is a standard business line telephone number. The charge will come from the placement of the '976' number. The caller will then be connected to a conference call.

"This type of service will continue," he said. There had been some concern that these services would be discontinued. The government concern was generated by the ease with which children might have the opportunity to call this type of 976 number.

But there are some problems with the new system. A significant factor, according to West, is the cost. "What is going to happen is that companies that can afford to make the transition will remain in business. The transition costs are quite substantial. An elaborate computer system needs to be installed."

Pacific Bell had first issued a statement calling for the termination of the "976" conference

AIDS Groups Form Network

AIDS activist organizations are invited to send a representative to the first meeting of "The Federation," a statewide network of AIDS activists which will be meeting to coordinate strategy regarding civil disobedience, state legislation, federal issues, and upcoming initiatives in the State of California.

The meeting will take place on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 9-10 at the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street near Valencia in San Francisco. A registration fee of \$5 will be required to cover the costs of the meeting. All organizations are urged to send representatives and individual activists and members of the media are welcome to attend.

On Saturday, Jan. 9, the agenda will focus on the schedule of Federation meetings for 1988, working groups on civil disobedience, federal issues and state legislation. On Sunday the agenda will focus strictly on the initiatives, including LaRouche II, Gann/Dannemeyer, Block and ACA8. Meetings begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. on Sunday.

For information, contact Ken McPherson at (415) 441-7613, Paul Self at (213) 668-0916, or Eric Rofes at (213) 464-7400 ext. 251.

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Georgetown U., Thumbs Nose at D.C., Loses \$127 Million in Bond

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Georgetown University has decided to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court the ruling by a federal district court that the Roman Catholic university must grant access to gay student groups. The decision to appeal means that Georgetown will lose its chance to issue \$127 million in tax-free bonds that the District of Columbia has held up because the university refuses to comply with the local human-rights ordinance.

According to the Washington Blade, university Pres. Timothy Healy had planned to comply with the court order and the city's ordinance. Healy had issued a memo to university administrators instructing them to take the necessary steps as required by the court.

Gay student representatives were in the midst of negotiating the services that gay and lesbian organizations would have use of. To comply with the court ruling, the university was to provide such benefits as a mailbox, computer services, and the right to apply for student funds. Gay students met with administrators on Dec. 8.

Then, on Dec. 10, the school's board of directors apparently voted to appeal the ruling and not to comply with the order. On Dec. 11 Healy notified city officials that the board had decided that the

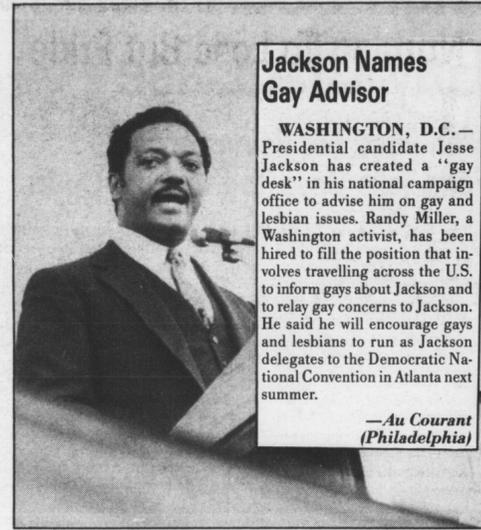
court order "violates Georgetown's religious convictions." Healy also rescinded his earlier memo to university staff and faculty.

University attorneys also requested the U.S. District Court to delay the court order requiring Georgetown to grant partial recognition to gay and lesbian student organizations. The court ruled that, while the university did not have to grant full recognition to the groups, it did have to provide "tangible benefits" provided to most student groups.

Georgetown had been eager to settle the dispute, reported the Blade, to be eligible for \$127 million in tax-exempt bonds through the city's government. The final deadline to qualify for those bonds was Dec. 26. Because of congressional action to cut federal spending, those funds will no longer be available.

Attorneys for the student groups promised to continue the fight. "We will fight back with both guns," said Richard Gross.

According to the Blade, this brings to three the number of gay-related cases to be brought before the U.S. Supreme Court in 1988. The other two concern security clearances. —Washington Blade



Rev. Jesse Jackson spoke at the March on Washington (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Jackson Names Gay Advisor

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Presidential candidate Jesse Jackson has created a "gay desk" in his national campaign office to advise him on gay and lesbian issues. Randy Miller, a Washington activist, has been hired to fill the position that involves traveling across the U.S. to inform gays about Jackson and to relay gay concerns to Jackson. He said he will encourage gays and lesbians to run as Jackson delegates to the Democratic National Convention in Atlanta next summer.

—Au Courant (Philadelphia)

Wisc. Republican Comes Out

MADISON, WI—Jim McFarland became only the second Republican elected official in the U.S. to come out as gay when he announced his sexual orientation after winning reelection to Madison's Common Council. The 22-year-old councilman made his announcement at a widely covered news conference to support his legislation on alternative families.

"The reaction's been relatively positive," said McFarland. "I've gotten a lot of letters in support, from gay people, straight people, from Republicans even. I got a few letters from people who were angry at me for supporting this legislation, but it didn't seem to matter whether I was out or not."

McFarland first made the news when he was elected in 1986 as a Republican in liberal, heavily Democratic Madison. The only other gay Republican official is town clerk Robert Ebersole in Lunenburg, Mass.

—The Advocate

MECLA Raps Cranston on Helms Vote

LOS ANGELES—The Municipal Elections Committee of Los Angeles has severely criticized Sen. Alan Cranston for voting for the amendment by Sen. Jesse Helms that cut off federal funds to groups using educational materials that depict gay safe-sex acts. According to the L.A. Times, the group's protest of Cranston's action prompted the cancellation of a Cranston fundraiser scheduled for Dec. 12.

MECLA termed Cranston's vote "deplorable." The group expressed "profound surprise and dismay that a longstanding friend who has enjoyed endorsements and contributions from MECLA could support an attack on the gay community by no less than Helms."

A Cranston aide told MECLA representatives that the senator "simply did not see the amendment coming."

That provoked Diane Himes of MECLA to say, "Clearly the Democratic leadership is not taking an active role on AIDS

NGLTF Hails Budget For AIDS, Fights Helms, Dannemeyer Moves

WASHINGTON—Two significant developments marked the closing of the 1987 congressional session: the Helms Amendment barring the use of federal funds for gay positive and gay-oriented educational material was modified; and the fiscal 1988 AIDS-related appropriations were nearly doubled from the 1987 levels. Both developments were contained in the omnibus spending bill approved by Congress last week.

The fiscal 1988 budget signed into law by Pres. Ronald Reagan contains the largest federal allocation yet given to the fight against AIDS. More than \$950 million was appropriated by Congress. Jeffrey Levi, Executive Director of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), said, "This level of funding will give the nation's scientists the resources needed to step up the fight against AIDS. We need to make sure this money is spent expeditiously and as Congress directed." NGLTF has already begun work on the fiscal 1989 budget proposals.

The Helms Amendment prohibited the use of federal AIDS education funds for any material which "promotes or encourages,

directly or indirectly, homosexual sexual activity." The amendment also required that all AIDS education materials encourage monogamy and abstinence from sex outside marriage. The amendment passed the Senate by a vote of 94-2 on Oct. 14. The House of Representatives instructed its conferees to accept the Helms Amendment on a motion by Congressman William Dannemeyer on Oct. 20.

The House-Senate Conference Committee added explanatory language to the amendment and deleted the word "indirectly," while leaving the balance of the original wording intact. The conference report states that the amendment shall not be construed "to prohibit descriptions

of methods to reduce the risk of HIV transmission," "to limit the eligibility for federal funds of a grantee or potential grantee because of its nonfederally funded activities," nor "to limit counseling or referrals to agencies that are not federally funded." The original language of the amendment regarding abstinence and monogamy is left unmodified.

Levi noted that it remains to be seen if the modifying language will be interpreted by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to allow grants to gay-identified service providers. NGLTF also expects that Helms-like amendments will be introduced in state legislatures in the upcoming January legislative session. ●

Bank Threatens PWA Residence

DALLAS—An apartment complex that has served as a home for 40 people with AIDS could face closure if First Texas Savings Association has its way. The savings bank believes that \$175,000 that paid for the facility and renovations came from embezzled funds that the bank wants returned.

First Texas alleged in a civil court action that an employee embezzled \$1.7 million from its Oak Cliff branch. That employee made a series of donations to the PWA Coalition that runs the facility. The bank is proposing that the Coalition assume up to four mortgages to pay back the sum.

But a PWA Coalition spokesperson said the group is too poor to afford an attorney. They fear they will lose the housing facility. The Texas Human Rights Foundation has also refused to get involved in the case.

"All we want to do is save the house," said Mike Meridian, coalition director. "It's important to Dallas. What he (the employee) did was wrong, but we had no knowledge and couldn't have done anything differently."

—Update of Southern California

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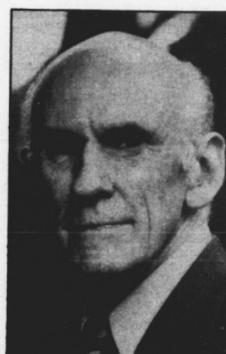
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Sen. Alan Cranston

issues, which by default allows a right-wing homophobe to set the agenda on national AIDS education policy."

—Update of Southern California

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High Court Hears Gay CIA Case

Man Fired For Being Gay; Feds Take Case To Supreme Court

The U.S. Supreme Court will hear arguments on Jan. 12 in the case of a gay Central Intelligence Agency employee, with an excellent employment record, who was fired after informing the CIA that he was gay. At issue in the case, *Webster v. Doe*, is whether the CIA can fire employees—for any reason—without having those firings subject to review by the courts if the employee asserts that a constitutional right was violated.

The government argues that any CIA firing should be immune from review by the courts, regardless of why the person is terminated, because judicial review threatens national security.

Because the government sought Supreme Court review on the scope of the CIA's power, the specific issue to be argued before the court now is not equal treatment for homosexuals, but the CIA's discretion to fire any employee without judicial review.

Presenting the argument on Doe's behalf will be ACLU cooperating attorney Mark Lynch, who has represented Doe since the lawsuit began in 1982.

The Women's Legal Defense Fund and the Employment Law Center filed a friend-of-the-court brief in *Webster v. Doe*. They argue that the rights of many workers in security-related jobs will be imperiled if the Supreme Court grants the CIA the power to fire people without review.

The plaintiff in the case is identified in court papers only by the fictitious name of John Doe because of CIA rules which require that employees not publicly disclose their work. An electronics technician, he has said his homosexuality does not embarrass him and was known to his family and friends, and did not subject him to blackmail or any other security threat. The CIA claimed his being gay did pose a security threat and dismissed him.

NOTHING TO HIDE

The government is challenging an earlier federal appeals court decision which ruled that Doe could sue the CIA based on his claim that the agency fired him solely because he is gay.

The appeals court found that CIA firings were subject to judicial review. The CIA could not, for example, legally "terminate black employees because they are black, female employees because they are female, or blond employees because they are blond," said the court.

The appeals court also remanded the case to the trial court because the previous court's record was unclear about why Doe was considered a security risk and whether he was terminated for that reason or simply because of his sexuality.

"The CIA's presumption that all gay men and lesbians are a security risk is irrational and unfounded," said Nan D. Hunter, director of the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project in New York. "When homosexuality is open and viewed as simply one aspect of an individual's personality and life, there is no basis for treating it as likely to lead to blackmail."

Under current federal regulations, gay men and lesbians are not disqualified from receiving security clearances.

A Defense Department regulation now states that individuals' openness about their homosexuality may demonstrate that their conduct "can no longer form the basis for vulnerability" to blackmail, coercion or pressure, and open homosexuals are granted security clearances.

In 1980, in an out-of-court settlement of a case brought by the ACLU in San Francisco, the Army agreed not to deny security clearances to civilian defense contract employees solely because of homosexuality.

"Although the system discriminates against gays by requiring them to be subjected to a more extensive investigation process than heterosexuals, the fact that the Defense Department does grant numerous clearances to gays demonstrates the irrationality of the argument that homosexuality can be an absolute bar," said Hunter.

"Security risk ought to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis," Hunter commented. "Many gay people have nothing to hide, and many straight people are prime blackmail targets."

PRO-GAY RULINGS

Though the outcome of *Webster v. Doe* could affect many groups subject to employment discrimination by the CIA, the present case is one in a series of legal cases reflecting a slowly changing policy toward gay men and lesbians in security positions.

In August 1987, a federal district court in San Francisco ruled that the policy under which gay men and lesbians applying for Defense Department security clearances were subjected to more intensive investigations than heterosexuals violated gay people's constitutional right to equal treatment.

That court declared: "The mere fact that gay people engage in consensual sexual relationships with people of their own sex in no way affects their trustworthiness to hold a security clearance."

The court added: "The Defense Department's unequal treatment of gay perpetuates the very types of archaic stereotypes that... the equal protection clause attempts to extinguish, e.g., that all lesbians and gay men are emotionally unstable, sexually perverted, and particularly prone to blackmail."

In another ACLU case, the Reagan Administration in February 1987 admitted it had discriminated against Killian Swift, an openly gay man who worked for the White House as a recorder and transcriber of the President's speeches.

Kovalich Wins Suit Settlement

Burden Now On Employees To Come Out Voluntarily

by Jay Newquist

A recent out-of-court settlement that favors a lesbian does not mean the government will automatically grant security clearances to gay people in its employ, according to the attorney in the case. Jean Kovalich settled her anti-gay discrimination case on Dec. 12 with the Defense Investigative Service (DIS). She had been demoted in 1985 when she disclosed that she was a lesbian and thereupon was deemed "unsuitable" for a supervisory position. DIS said Kovalich should have admitted she was a lesbian before she was asked.

Attorney Dick Gayer said the total capitulation of the government meant, nonetheless, that gay people had to be "on their toes."

"The government is out to get us," said the lawyer who also represented High Tech Gays. "Nobody is safe."

'NO LEGAL WAY'

Gayer said the government was testing the resolve of the gay community in the Kovalich case. "If you sue or put up a fight, there's no legal way to support what the government has done."

The gay and lesbian community just won't roll over the play dead, Gayer said.

In a statement Kovalich said she was relieved at the end of the litigation and "happy to remain a member of the agency family" despite her harsh treatment.

She did not, however, win the entire support of the gay community because in her post as supervisor of investigators she probed the private lives of DIS employees, including other lesbian women and gay men.

Kovalich received a magnanimous settlement after the two-year litigation:

- She will be reinstated to a post as supervisor when the first opening occurs;
- She will receive some \$3,000 in back pay in a lump sum as well as earn the wages of a supervisor;
- The record of her demotion will be expunged from her personnel file;
- The government will pay all court and attorney's fees, including \$24,000 for Gayer's services.

The dye was cast when Federal District Court Judge Legge strongly recommended late last year that the government accept an out-of-court agreement.

DIS interpreted the suggestion as a dire warning if the case ever went to trial. DIS has since passed a regulation that gay peo-



Jean Kovalich (Photo: S. Savage)

ple must come out to the government on their own initiative in order to receive a security clearance.

The regulation was not in effect when the Kovalich case was winding its way through the courts.

DON'T HESITATE

Gayer said gays should not now hesitate to admit their sexuality and must do so before being asked. He likened the DIS regulation to a "time bomb."

He warned the next step was a court challenge.

"Even if the next president is sympathetic to gay people, it doesn't change a thing," Gayer stipulated.

"The policy makers at the lower level who are responsible for the actual discrimination are never replaced."

Gayer said he saw no immediate challenge, but between the lines he indicated it was just a matter of time.

In an out-of-court settlement of Swift's suit, the White House admitted that his "sexual orientation was a factor in the decision to terminate (Swift's) White House access." But they assured him that he was not terminated as a security risk. The same letter also stated: "It is not the policy of the White House to base access decisions solely on an applicant's sexual orientation."

Beginning in 1969, federal courts have ruled that an employee covered by the civil service system could not be fired because of private homosexual conduct, even if criminal, unless such conduct were shown to have an effect on job performance.

Those court decisions formed

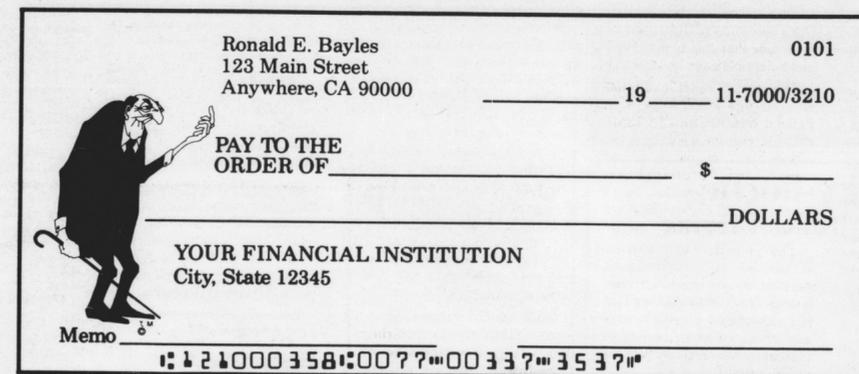
the basis for a civil service directive which says that a person may not be found unsuitable for federal employment "merely because that person is a homosexual or has engaged in homosexual acts."

Cases challenging CIA policy arose because CIA employees are exempted from the civil service system.

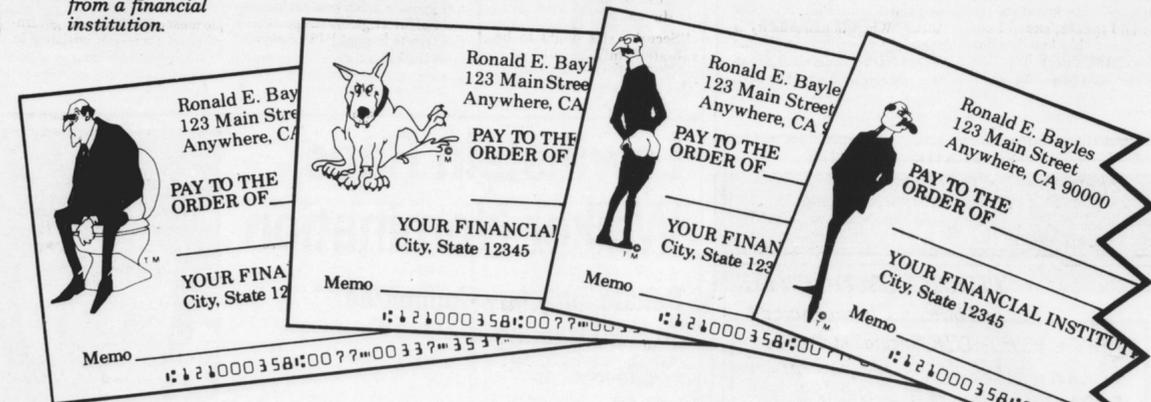
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DEATHS

Barry Stewart

Jan. 2, 1954-Dec. 29, 1987
Our friend, Barry Stewart, passed away on Dec. 29, 1987, after a brief bout with AIDS-related meningitis. Barry's gift of reaching out to those in need with love and compassion will be greatly missed.

Barry's chocolate souffle was unsurpassed. His culinary talents, dry sense of humor and love of bicycling brought him and his friends great joy.

At the time of his death, Barry was clean and sober for over three years. His participation in all aspects of recovery was an integral part of his life.

A celebration of Barry's life will be held on Saturday, Jan. 9, 1988 at 5 p.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St., San Francisco.

Robert N. Hunter

Robert passed into the other side early morning Dec. 14, his loving friend Kelly was at his side.

Robert moved to San Francisco several years after he was honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy and became involved in many endeavors. He was an accomplished carpenter and was involved in the building of several San Francisco bars, most notably the Midnight Sun first on Castro, then 18th Street. He was a past president and vice-president of the Eureka Valley Merchants Assoc. He was instrumental in the ongoing Market Street Trolley Festival. Robert worked closely with Tom Waddell and Zohn Artman in producing a video "Reach for the Stars" of the Gay Games I.

Robert was a man of tremendous talent and wit. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

The staff of the ELLIPSE Care Center and Paula Bender of the V.A. at Ft. Miles should be commended for their loving care and compassion. They were helpful

and kind to Robert, his family and friends.

Jonathan Powers Boutin

Jon died in Los Angeles early Dec. 21 in his home after 17 months' suffering with AIDS. He never gave up hope.

A native of Southern California (born Feb. 22, 1949), he moved to Santa Cruz to attend U.C. Santa Cruz, graduating in 1974-75. He then went on to the University of San Francisco School of Law, graduating in 1979. He practiced until a year before his death and was highly respected by his law partners at Hill, Schwartz, Stinson and Boutin. Gaining many friends throughout the city and the Bay Area, Jon moved to Southern California to be closer to his family.

Jon leaves behind his parents, Jerry and Shirley Boutin; sisters Lynn and Robin of Southern California; and Tim Hanson of San Francisco, who shared love, laughs and companionship for seven years.

Jon will always be remembered by his certain ways, his fondness for vegetation, and the blooming of spring flowers. A person who knew Jon would never forget him. Jon has been put to rest in Hillside Cemetery in Los Angeles.

For further information, and a special service, contact Tim Hanson at 864-1964.

Vincent Costanza

Vincent F. Costanza, 41, died peacefully in his sleep, Dec. 30, after a year-long battle with AIDS. A native of New York City, he fell in love with San Francisco when he arrived in 1972. The years saw many friends come and go. He was easy to meet but hard to love, though he was warm and generous to a fault.

Vince was a real news junkie, keeping up with world, national, and local events through TV, newspapers, and magazines. He was a fine amateur photographer with an eye for the unusual detail and form which eludes most. He chose his photographic subjects like he pursued his friendships, always elated to find a flower among the weeds.

As a supporter of causes his work on the No on 6 campaign against the Briggs Initiative cost him his job in 1978. In 1979, after being detained for posting campaign leaflets on Castro Street, Vince caused a newsworthy riot just 10 days before the infamous White Night Riot.

To the many he called "friend" he was more giving than demanding. He has crossed that last bridge and will surely be missed.

He is survived by his mother, Stephanie, his sister Stephanie, his aunts, Lillie, Tillie, and Wanda, and the rest of us.

Robert Turner

Aug. 7, 1955-Dec. 16, 1987

Robert (Bob) Turner was born in Winchester, Kentucky, and spent the early years of his life in Springfield, Missouri. Bob moved to San Francisco on May 30, 1980, and in a short period of time acquired a remarkable number of close friends who will sorely miss his humor, generosity, and joy for life. On Nov. 30 of that year he entered a relationship with Steve Smith, which would endure and grow for the balance of his life. He is survived by his lover Steve, father Richard, brothers Richard, Jr. and Randall, and his sister Rebecca, all of whom came to his side and valiantly and lovingly supported Bob during his final days. Bob was a valued employee of Norcal Mutual Insurance, and his friends and co-workers there share their grief with his lover and family. Bob was an eclectic man, with friends in the Financial District, South of Market, and on the Castro. In accordance with his wishes, cremation services were provided by the Neptune Society, and his ashes scattered in the bay of the city he loved so well.

A special memorial service and wake will be held for Bob on Tuesday, Jan. 12, 1988, in the lower level bar at Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., San Francisco. It will begin at 5 p.m., with remarks by friends at 6. His many friends will join together in this final tribute to a unique and loving man.

Daniel (Dan) Figgins

5/1/52-12/27/87

Dan passed away peacefully in his sleep at his home in Huntington Beach Sunday morning, Dec. 27, after a long struggle with AIDS. Dan lived a number of years in San Francisco. He will be missed by his family and friends. Memorial gifts in his remembrance should be made to the AIDS Foundation.

Larry Marrero

Private family services were held for Larry A. Marrero, aka Tito, age 30, who died Sunday Jan. 3, following a lengthy illness.

Larry is survived by his beloved mother, Olga Quiera-Marrero loving sister Alba N. Marrero, beloved partner Ronald Sears and loving friend John Benjamin.

The family wishes to thank all his friends for their loving care and kindness.

Marty Schwarz

"Planet" lived his life his way until Nov. 6, when his magic music ended. you are remembered and loved.

Lulu, Comet, Betty, Thomas, Hazel, John, Linda, Patrick, Debbie, Joe, Phil, Roland, Bonehead, and many more

Lewinstein Raps Walker Nomination

Senate Judiciary Committee To Hold Hearing

by Will Snyder

Sara Lewinstein paused for a second and then heaved a big, weary sigh. "Well," she said, "I'm disappointed, but nothing really surprises me."

Lewinstein was reacting to the announcement that Pres. Ronald Reagan had nominated Vaughn R. Walker to be a U.S. District Court Judge. Walker, an attorney with the San Francisco law firm of Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro, represented the United States Olympic Committee. USOC successfully kept the Gay Games from using the word, "Olympic" in its official title.

Reagan's nomination took on a personal meaning for Lewinstein. Along with Gay Games founder Dr. Tom Waddell, she participated in Gay Games and joined Waddell in parenting a child, four-and-one-half-year-old Jessica Lewinstein. When Gay Games lost its trademark infringement case in court to USOC and Walker, a lien was put on Waddell's home. The request for money from San Francisco Arts & Athletics was dropped after Waddell's death last July.

In 1982, Walker was quoted in the local media as saying USOC pursued its legal battle against the Gay Games because the Gay "Olympic" Games would confuse those who wanted to make

contributions to the International Olympic Games, which were to be held in Los Angeles in 1984. At the time, Gay Games spokespeople said that not only was there a difference in the years that the two events were held, but the philosophies were different as well. Lewinstein said Waddell and publicist Zohn Artman eventually tried to convince Walker of the differences.

"Tom and Zohn invited Mr. Walker over to their house," Lewinstein recalled. "This happened after the first Games. They showed him a tape of the first Games and tried to get him to understand that Gay Games did not share the "win" philosophy that the International Olympics had.



Sarah Lewinstein (Photo: Rink)

Review

(Continued from page 13)

however, whether the docs were uncomfortable about collecting their fees.

Sen. Paul Simon, who also wears bows (well, bow ties, anyway), told the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance that he would support a gay employment rights bill.

Bay Area Reporter and Leonard Matlovich cleared up a mystery. Someone noted that it was said that Harvey Milk's remains were buried in the Congressional Cemetery during the March of Washington.

This was a shock to some of the 50 people who had scattered Milk's ashes off the Golden Gate in early December, 1978 after the supervisor was slain. But Matlovich explained the situation. What was buried in Washington was "a lock of his [Harvey's] hair saved by his lover, Scott Smith," said Matlovich, who added that a gay-rights button and a photo were also buried."

A conservative public opinion survey began to reach thousands of American homes using scare tactics to urge approval of mandatory AIDS testing. The survey of the American Policy Institute (API), a think tank for Republican Party doctrine, complained that "civil liberties" and gay activist groups have pressured politicians to keep mandatory testing off the books. The survey was sponsored by U.S. Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-Orange County).

NOVEMBER: SOFTIES

Two federal agencies that regulate AIDS treatments were accused of colluding with drug manufacturers as National Gay Rights Advocates brought suit against the National Institutes of Health and the Food and Drug Administration, alleging that they granted an exclusive permit to Burroughs-Wellcome in exchange for a donation to a research program. NGRA also accused the NIH of delaying spending \$47 million on AIDS research.

Mayor Dianne Feinstein dumped city Human Rights Commission chair Esta Soler after Soler refused to go along

with the mayor on the homeporting of the U.S.S. Missouri. Soler agreed that Navy policies posed problems of discrimination against gays and lesbians and that should be part of any negotiations with the city.

Assemblyman Art Agnos captured a whopping two-thirds of the gay vote in S.F.'s mayoral election and almost won a majority in the first round. Rival Sup. John Molinari barely took second place for a run-off election in December.

San Mateo County supervisors approved an ordinance prohibiting discrimination on the basis of AIDS.

Sacramento federal Judge Anthony Kennedy was said to have lost the nod for a nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court because he once admitted that gay people may have some rights under the privacy doctrine. Sen. Jesse Helms reportedly campaigned against the more moderate Kennedy in favor of Judge Douglas Ginsberg who eventually withdrew his nomination because he admitted to smoking marijuana.

Kennedy finally did get nominated to the High Court. Among his decision are a number of anti-gay rulings, including a ruling against a gay sailor and one against an Australian seeking to remain in the U.S. with his lover for ten years.

The Bay Area Reporter made its debut in the House of Representatives as Rep. William Dannemeyer of Southern California complained bitterly about a memo B.A.R. exposed in October that mapped out a Republican plan to hit Democrats as soft on AIDS. In the memo, his fellow Republicans held up Dannemeyer as the wrong way to go on AIDS. The story was picked up by the New York Times, Washington Post, and Los Angeles Times.

A man with AIDS wandered away from an unattended Shanti residence and was found five days later in a ditch. He died soon after being found.

As many as 600 people with AIDS may be homeless and trying to survive in parks and shelters. Community activists and city health officials warned of an impending crisis that the city has been slow to respond to. They cited a badly run program



Art Agnos and John Molinari joined hands at the end of a bitter fight over the mayoralty of San Francisco (Photo: S. Savage)

of housing PWAs in shabby hotels.

Community United Against Violence director Diana Christensen resigned following the walk-out of most of the CUAV staff.

The California Democratic Council censured Sen. Alan Cranston for supporting Sen. Jesse Helms' amendment to cut off federal funds for educational materials that graphically portray gay sex acts as part of promoting safe sex and AIDS risk reduction. Cranston had earlier publicly promised to oppose Helms.

The United States Olympic Committee (USOC) finally agreed to drop its claim for \$280,000 in legal fees from Gay Games organizers ending the five year court battle over the use of

the word "olympic" by the gay group. Games promoters immediately announced plans to revise federal legislation granting exclusive rights to that word to the USOC.

The 9th. Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals ordered Southern California school district to reinstate a teacher with AIDS. Vincent Chalk won a landmark case for the job rights of people with AIDS as the court ruled that Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 applies to those with AIDS.

Mike Powell won election to the Student Senate at the University of California at Berkeley, placing third in a race for 15 open seats.

Two gay men in the Northern California town of Clear Lake charged that the local sheriff was harassing and threatening them

after someone called the cops because of an argument the two men had in their home.

Gay rights activists called Judge Anthony Kennedy "the same as Bork," following his nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court.

DECEMBER: A COLD MONTH

A Eureka school teacher charged that he was the victim of a witchhunt after he is charged with 19 felony counts of child molesting. Brian Silver, who said he had been openly gay in his job as an elementary school teacher for ten years, complained he was forced to leave the small North Coast town. Later, 17 of the 19 charges against him were dropped for lack of evidence.

Project Inform advised anyone who may be at risk for AIDS to

Thief Rips Off Pennies For AIDS

by Will Snyder

A thief stole an undetermined amount of pennies headed for people with AIDS from a Polk Street area restaurant on Saturday, Jan. 2. While a cashier's attention was diverted, the thief stole a penny jar from the Grubstake II restaurant on Pine St.

Tim Royal, assistant manager of the popular restaurant said the incident occurred in the morning while the cashier was tending to other business. "Our cash register was on the blink," said Royal, "and while he was trying to fix it, the person who was sitting at the counter, ran off with the money."

Fortunately, according to Royal, the jar had been emptied of its contents only the day before and was "only about an inch deep" with new coins and bills.

The jar is the property of the Every Penny Counts project of the AIDS Emergency Fund. Since the penny project started, the organization reportedly has collected for \$15,000-20,000.

"I try to ignore the mentality of a person who would stoop to doing something like this," said Royal, "especially since they know where this money is going."

Royal said that Saturday's theft marked the second time the Grubstake penny jar has been robbed.

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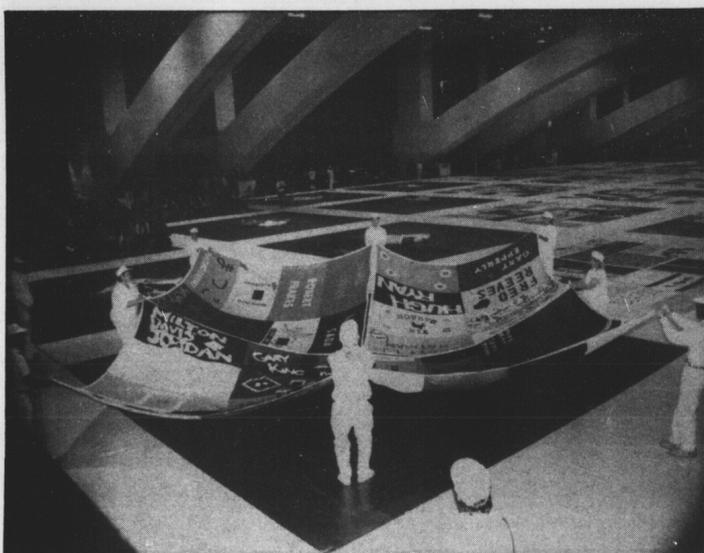
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The AIDS Quilt came to Moscone Center on its way to a world tour (Photo: Rink)

Review

(Continued from previous page)

take the HIV antibody test so that they can begin to treat the infection with a variety of experimental methods.

★ ★ ★

The federal Food and Drug Administration approved a possible AIDS vaccine for trials in human volunteers. The Bristol-Myers experimental vaccine is the second one approved by the FDA for tests.

★ ★ ★

At hearings before a special

Congressional panel, AIDS educators state that graphic sex education is a primary factor in slowing the spread of the disease. Health officials testified that Sen. Jesse Helms' bill to stop federal funds from supporting such materials ought to be defeated.

★ ★ ★

Members of San Jose State University's gay and lesbian community complained that the university has ignored the harassment of lesbian and gay staff members. SJSU officials rejected the grievance they filed.

★ ★ ★

Assemblyman Art Agnos swept into the mayor's office for San Francisco in a landslide election, winning by a 70-30 percent margin.

★ ★ ★

After a Tenderloin transsexual filed a complaint alleging police brutality, a San Francisco cop slapped her with a Small Claims lawsuit charging her with filing a "false and malicious complaint." He demanded \$200 from her in retribution. The ACLU, upon entering the case, said it was an example of tactics that police groups are advocating to intimidate people from filing complaints for police misconduct.

★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★

The spectre of Lyndon LaRouche once again made headlines as another state ballot initiative was certified for the June 1988 California ballot. The new measure, dubbed "Son of 64," is almost identical to Prop. 64 which called for the quarantine of people with AIDS. That measure was overwhelmingly defeated by California voters in November 1986.

A statewide coalition was immediately formed to oppose the initiative and to propose a "proactive measure on AIDS."

★ ★ ★

And once again federal officials in San Francisco's old Federal Building threaten to get rid of the two year old ARC/AIDS Vigil on their doorstep. The feds claimed that the Vigil is a haven for drug users and for public drunkenness. When city police refuse to get involved in clearing the site, which is mostly on city property, federal marshals begin arresting Vigilers who chain themselves to the doors of the Federal Building. Arrests go on daily for two weeks. But still the Vigil hangs on.

★ ★ ★

When Ed Patrick won an all-expenses paid vacation to Mexico, he and his lover were all set to enjoy it. But when the tour company found out they were gay, they cancelled the reservation. Patrick took his problem to National Gay Rights Advocates. They plan to take it to court.

★ ★ ★

Artie Wallace was granted custody of his nine-year-old son but his ex-wife absconded with the boy and no one seems to know where they are. Artie hopes to see his son again. Artie has AIDS.

★ ★ ★

After one year of broadcasting on cable Channel 6, Viacom Cablevision threatened to pull the plug on the gay TV show *Electric City*. Viacom officials claimed that the show's producers went over the line in showing an ad for male strippers at a local porn house. EC producers said they hadn't done anything offensive and charged that Viacom was censoring them because they were gay. In the end, an agreement was worked out that left the show on the air with a warning to be careful about nudity.

★ ★ ★

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) backed off on punishing radio station KPFK in Los Angeles. The feds ruled that broadcasters could use adult material after midnight. The previous time limit had been after 10 p.m. The genesis of the problem had been the Pacifica station's broadcasting of excerpts

of Robert Chesley's play *Jerker* about gay men having sex in the age of AIDS.

★ ★ ★

Mobil Oil Corporation apologized to a gay man who was threatened by a station attendant. Mobil said that the behavior in no way "reflects any policy or position of Mobil's and we share your concerns." The incident occurred when Todd Mangini pulled into Bob's Service in Lafayette. When Mangini couldn't find the release for the gas tank cap, the attendant became angry and told Mangini to "get out of here before I kick your faggot ass."

★ ★ ★

The Castro Christmas tree was decorated with the names of victims of AIDS. The traditional tree was again placed on Hibernia Beach at Castro and 18th Streets.

★ ★ ★

Gay activist and attorney for the SFPD Law Wilson was arrested in his home and charged with possession and sales of illegal drugs. Four other men were also arrested at the same time.

★ ★ ★

The Pacific School of Religion, a Berkeley seminary, was sued by a student with ARC who charged that the school discriminated against him because of his medical condition in refusing to allow him to live in student housing. He also accused the school of violating his confidentiality by telling other people of his condition.

★ ★ ★

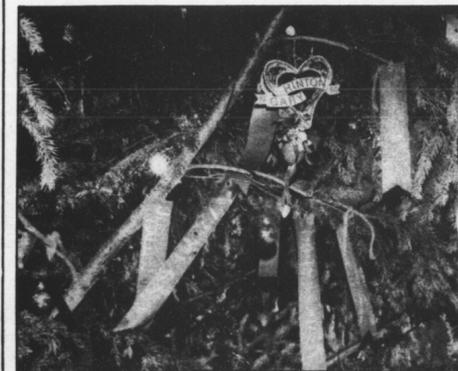
Pres. Ronald Reagan rewarded the attorney for the United States Olympic Committee by nominating him to the federal judiciary. Vaughn Walker, who led the USOC's fight against Gay Games, was named to the U.S. District Court for San Francisco on Dec. 18.

★ ★ ★

The Names Project quilt drew tens of thousands to Moscone Center to view the 2,100 panels devoted to the victims of AIDS. Some people brought flowers, and even a Christmas tree, for their loved ones.

★ ★ ★

A federal court ruled in Washington, D.C. that Jesuit Georgetown University had to grant partial recognition to gay students groups. While the court held that the university did not have to grant full recognition that might violate church teachings on morality, separation of church and state did not prohibit the government from intervening to see that gay students were allowed access to the same facilities as other students.



The names of those who have died of AIDS graced the Christmas tree on Castro Street this year (Photo: Rink)

Project Open Hand

Two Women Find Another Way of Sharing

by Mary Richards

Mary Starvus and Jean Sompayrac have shared ten years of love and life together. They are both creative, and live in a large apartment in a relatively stylish section of the Haight with their cats and dog Corky.

Twice a week, the two companions share another experience: they voluntarily go into the toughest section of the city to bring meals from Project Open Hand to people with AIDS and ARC.

Jean said she had seen some information in the B.A.R., about Project Open Hand. She spoke to the project's cook who said that Ruth Brinker, the director, was on her first vacation in five years. The group needed volunteers. "We really need somebody to drive tomorrow night," he said. "Could you do it?"

Unlike other AIDS organizations which are government funded and train their volunteers, Project Open Hand works on what Jean terms a more "loose" arrangement. "Nobody asked for our last names, nobody asked us for anything," she remembers. "They just gave us a [name/address] sheet, and a small route—and we did it!"

They finished that route, and before they knew it they were committed to delivering food three nights a week. Lately, they have reduced their commitment to twice a week, when they transport about 30 dinners per night. Although this is one of the largest routes in the project, nearly 20 dinners are delivered to PWAs in one hotel, so that makes the task a little easier.

Mary talked with respect about some of the people they have come in contact with. "None of the guys complain," she said, with a bit of wonder in her voice. "They say, 'we're fine.'"

THE TRUDY FUND

Jean remembered that one of the people they delivered to had asked Mary to correspond with a woman named Trudy, his relative in Switzerland. Trudy eventually gave them nearly \$100 as a donation to use in their work. Now, Mary said, it's called the Trudy Fund.

"Our friends heard about it, and people still give \$20 or so—it's never been empty," said Mary. "When it is, we just take up the slack. We use it to take people to the airport, or send them off on their plane with \$10 in their pocket. It's been super-wonderful. We carry this with us every night, and if something comes up, we have it."

In late 1985, Project Open Hand began delivering meals

Jean and Mary do not identify themselves as Project Open

Hand volunteers on their deliveries, because "common sense" tells them that PWAs need confidentiality. They also need people who care, and who have a tender touch.

THANKS AND HUGS

The van weaves in and out of traffic as the two women wind their way closer to the dilapidated buildings and hotels in the Tenderloin. Jean drives as Mary jumps out periodically with a computerized sheet listing the required number of dinners and lunches needed for that street.

Sometimes in the larger buildings, Jean says, "the elevators are out and you have to run up five or six flights. People will say 'thank you, it's really made a difference, or they want a hug.' Volunteering, she explains, "just makes me feel not so guilty for having a real, nice life."

The last stop is a huge, multi-room hotel where almost 20 clients live. Mary and Jean have made sure they are on friendly terms with the desk person, who makes a large shopping cart available to them.

As they make their way through the hall, people call out their names and come from their rooms to greet them. A woman with AIDS approaches, asks for her meal, and says "I saw the quilt today. It made me cry."

Project Open Hand is supported by donations from the community, and help and volunteers are always needed. The organization can be reached at 1668 Bush Street, San Francisco, CA 94109. Phone: (415) 771-9808. Contributions are tax-deductible.



Mary Starvus (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Chevron Grant Helps Open Hand Find Home

Project Open Hand, the first and only meal service in the nation for people with AIDS and ARC, will be able to purchase a permanent headquarters with kitchen facilities thanks to a gift from Chevron USA. "This contribution of \$125,000 will assure our ability to help those who cannot help themselves," said Ruth Brinker, Open Hand founder. "While we still need donations to purchase food and supplies, this grant gives us the stability to grow and serve more individuals."

Open Hand, which feeds almost 300 people daily, was in danger of being without kitchen facilities until Chevron contributed funds to purchase property with kitchen and office space.

"We hope there will be other donors who will add to Chevron's outstanding contribution," Brinker said.

"This is an important gift to a vital organization," said Bill Steele, Chevron's public affairs manager. "This money will allow Open Hand to find a real home and to expand its services."

"For some of the greatest gift at Christmas time is simply a hot meal," Steele added. "Chevron is pleased to be able to help fund a program that provides meals 365 days a year to people who are too weak to make their own."

Project Open Hand, based in the kitchen at Trinity Episcopal Church at Gough and Bush streets in San Francisco, must move at the beginning of 1988 because the church needs the space for its own uses, according to Brinker.

Open Hand has placed a bid on an undisclosed property. The group should know in the next few weeks if the bid will be accepted, Brinker said.

"Chevron has a history of contributing to health and health care related causes," Brinker noted. "Chevron was a pioneer in the 1920s in helping fight tuberculosis by funding innovative programs and establishing sanatoriums," she said.

Chevron's gift to Open Hand brings its total contributions to AIDS and AIDS-related projects to nearly \$250,000. Chevron's contributions to health care related issues and organizations totals \$4.8 million in 1987.

Founded by Brinker in late 1985, the nonprofit Project Open Hand is staffed by 60 volunteers who traverse San Francisco with deliveries of two hot meals to each client between 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. daily.

Brinker started the program after one of her friends died because he was too weak from AIDS to cook for himself. "I decided that no one should go through that," she recalled.

Brinker began Open Hand by cooking and delivering the food herself. As her client list increased she found she had to have paid help, such as a chef, two kitchen helpers and a sandwich-maker.

Since then, Open Hand's volunteer staff has grown to 60 people. Now, each evening, volunteer drivers arrive. Each is given six or more meals to deliver as quickly as possible.

Brinker and Project Open Hand have been honored with awards from the National AIDS Network, Americans Who Care, and KRON's Those Who Care Award.



Jean Sompayrac (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

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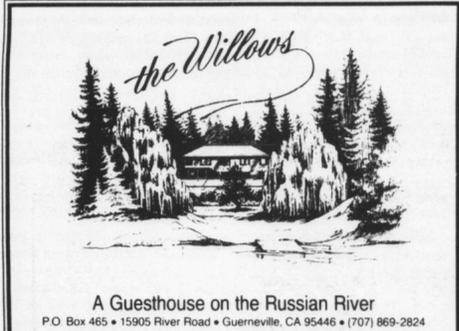
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Stanford Seeks Names For Memorial Services

STANFORD—A committee of staff, students, and faculty at Stanford University is seeking names from across the country for a commemoration of Stanford community members who have died of AIDS. The group is formulating plans for a University memorial service and a benefit concert to be held on campus Feb. 18-19.

"We are asking members of the Stanford community and their loved ones to share memories of the individuals that the University family has lost to this devastating epidemic," said senior Daniel Bao, director of the Stanford AIDS Education Project and a member of the AIDS Commemoration and Celebration Committee.

"We are particularly concerned that alumni and survivors of alumni—many of whom are scattered across the country—join us in this collective expression of love, support, and remembrance," he continued.

According to Bao, the committee is encouraging individuals to send photographs, letters, brief essays, or other creative efforts recalling the family, friends and colleagues they have lost to AIDS. Contributors may use full names or initials or may retain anonymity for themselves or the

person commemorated, but should indicate the individual's class year and major or other Stanford connection.

"These materials will be used for a publication and a display at the commemoration service," Bao explained. "After the service, we will deposit all the original documents in the Stanford University Archives."

The Commemoration service is scheduled for noon on Thursday, Feb. 18 in Memorial Auditorium. In addition to the service, the committee is planning a gala musical evening on Friday, Feb. 19, in Memorial Church, to benefit Stanford-area AIDS human services organizations. Volunteers are needed to assist with all of the events, Bao said.

To contribute memories for the Commemoration Service, to volunteer, and for information on tickets to the benefit gala, contact the Stanford AIDS Commemoration Committee in care of Michael Ramsey-Perez, Director of Student Organization Services, Tresidder Memorial Union, Stanford, CA 94305, or call (415) 723-3542.

Pacific Center Taps Allman as New Speaker's Chief

The Pacific Center for Human Growth in Berkeley announced that Stephen Allman has joined the staff as director of its Speaker's Bureau Program.

The Speaker's Bureau has provided the Bay Area with educational outreach since 1976. Allman says the program uses volunteer speakers who "share their humanity and connect with their audiences in a personal way, thereby dispelling the myths that society has perpetuated about homosexuality."

The Bureau has over the years been continually invited to speak at local churches, synagogues, colleges, schools and prisons. It has been requested as part of their training curriculum for health care providers, law enforcement officials, social service workers, mental health counselors, business staffs and other professionals.

Allman is a graduate of the University of Georgia, where he received a bachelor's degree in Telecommunications. He has done extensive gay/lesbian advocacy work in both Atlanta and the Bay Area. Locally, he has participated with Presbyterians for Gay/Lesbian Concerns, Community United Against Violence, the Gay/Lesbian Network, and the Pacific Center.

Allman plans to expand and enrich the outreach of the

Speaker's Bureau by developing a revised volunteer training program and doubling the amount of current speakers by February. "I'm especially encouraging participation from people of color," he says, "though anyone who identifies as gay, lesbian, TV/TS, or bisexual is invited to apply as a speaker."

Organizations interested in using the services of the Speaker's Bureau, or individuals interested in volunteering their time, should contact the Pacific Center Gay/Lesbian Switchboard at (415) 841-6224. The Pacific Center for Human Growth is located at 2712 Telegraph Ave. in Berkeley. ●

**Letters: The liveliest
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East Bay

AIDS Project Plans Training in February

A 40-hour training for AIDS Project of the East Bay peer counseling volunteers is scheduled for the second and third weekends of February.

According to Laurie Doyle, the Project's Volunteer Coordinator, "Our emotional-support volunteers offer a unique blend of peer counseling, companionship, and resource referral to persons currently grappling with AIDS/ARC and to their friends, family and lovers. As we are seeing an increasing number of new AIDS cases in Alameda County, we hope a similarly increasing number of people will be willing to help out."

The training includes in-depth information on both clinical and emotional aspects of the AIDS crisis. No special skills are required to become a volunteer—just a genuine willingness to help and an initial one-year commitment of an average 6-8 hours of volunteer work a week, including attending weekly group meetings with other counselors. The appli-

cation deadline for participating in the February training is January 25.

People of all backgrounds, skills and origins are welcome. Especially needed at present are black and Latino volunteers. "Statistics show that in Alameda County nearly one out of three people newly diagnosed with AIDS are black," Doyle explains. "Not surprisingly, many of our new clients are Third World."

"Our peer counselors play a very important role in helping people with AIDS and ARC maintain a good quality of life while they are dealing with the impact of their illness," Doyle adds. "Most volunteers end up telling me that they receive much more from the client than they give. For many, it is the most rewarding work they have ever done."

For an application or for information about other volunteer opportunities, please call the AIDS Project of the East Bay at (415) 420-8181. ●

AIDS Prevention Education

The San Mateo County AIDS Project is recruiting volunteers to provide HIV prevention education to the gay/bisexual community of San Mateo County. We need people to provide education directly in the community to help prevent the spread of AIDS. Prevention education is the key to stopping the AIDS epidemic.

If you want to volunteer to be part of the most important disease prevention efforts of our time and contribute to the well being of the gay/bisexual community in San Mateo County, we need you!

Gay and bisexual men are especially needed, but not a must. Think about volunteering a couple of hours a month to help teach people how to be safe from AIDS.

If you're interested call Jonathan, Ruth, or Denise at the San Mateo County AIDS Project, 573-2588, to get more details. Help prevent any more pain and suffering caused by AIDS! ●



**The Fight For Our Rights Goes On.
Stay Informed with the B.A.R.**

Nez Pas

Oh, No! Not Again!

GALLIMAUFREY
(A *Mish-Mash* Nose)

This Saturday, Jan. 9, is the day for two general meetings for all who are interested in helping BASH. The first is at Big Mama's, 10 a.m. The second is at Bench & Bar, 2 p.m. Let's hope both gatherings are packed to the rafters.

Don't forget the 8th Annual Chili Cook Off, Monday, Jan. 11, Town & Country, 7:30 p.m. Entry blanks are available from any bartender. All proceeds from this event will go directly to Alameda County Special Olympics.

On Thursday, Jan. 14, I.S.E. will sponsor a Casino Night at Turf Club, beginning at 7 p.m.

Oh, no! Not again! Prepare for a return of the *Ugliest*. The 11th Bi-Annual Miss \$1.98 Beauty Pageant will be held at Paradise on Saturday, Jan. 23. Check the flyers for time and guest stars.

On the other side of the coin, if you will, is the 1988 version of Mama's Boys Calendar. These chronograms are available for only \$2 each, with half the price going to East Bay Assistance Fund. (No, once again, I am not Miss June!)

I was told that there would indeed be a 3rd Annual Bitches In Black (date and location to be decided). David M. was interested in something else for a raffle besides the usual Bushel Of Booze. Little Mother and I have an idea that might raise a few bucks. Contact me, David.

**CORONA IN BUCCINATOR
VATICINATOR**
(A "Seeing" Nose?)

If all those psychics, pundits, and prognosticators in those supermarket tabloids can go out on limbs to make ridiculous and far-fetched predictions for each new year—and miss almost every mark by a hundred miles!—why can't the ol' Nez?

With "tongue in cheek," here are some really outlandish and silly predictions for this brand new year. Hm... Oh, probably my tongue in someone else's cheek!

In late May, Tootsi will astonish a sparse audience at some out-of-town coronation by singing a live country/western number... on key!

Bobby McManus will cut his hair in a Mohawk style, but will regret it immediately. He'll purchase a pair of glasses with a phony nose and mustache so people won't recognized him.

On April Fool's Day, Pam will "challenge" Larry, again! The joke will be on Pam. Larry will have had the sex change operation. Pam will be interested, only momentarily.

Michael of Big Mama's will overdose on Schnapps. Not by drinking it, of course, but by paying off his bar tab.

Marge will finally admit that her accent is really a put-on, not really from New Zealand at all. Actually, she'll confess it's a combination of Texan twang and New England "down East."

The Indian summer will find Paul M. inundated with sold, non-winning raffle tickets. His offer of half price will be put up for auction by Ed Paulson. They both will retire on the profits.

A time change will see B.J. working the graveyard shift and George the swing shift. B.J. will fix dinner six nights a week...

Domino's Pizza Hut, Round Table, Mama Mia, Mama Celeste, and Price Club's three-pack.

In a very few weeks, Raven will give up drag completely. She'll stick strictly with skirts and dresses from now on... tailored, of course, with sensible shoes.

Spoiled Brat's Jeff will finally get the latest joke. It will, however, be three weeks after it has made its rounds. He'll retell it anyway, but give the wrong punchline.

An alien spaceship will encounter Val Sousa. It will be a "Mexican standoff" until the space people realize it's SouSa, not SouZa. The ship will leave after entrusting Val with some important secrets about Fred C.

Mama Chuckles will quit bartending for good! He'll write a book about the trials and tribulations of being both an Emperor and Empress. Unfortunately, both pages will already have been colored... by Ralph B. (He won't stay in the lines, either!)

After much pressure, Marv will finally convince the United States government to declare Sam's belly a National Recreational Area. Orca will sell the campsites.

Joy will reveal that she is the surrogate mother of twins Ron and Ralph. She'll admit to trying retroactive abortion. The twins will deny everything while winking at each other.

Antonio will inherit several thousands of dollars from an ex-customer of the original Brat. The shock will prevent him from ever bidding at any auction for the next five years.

Terry will have a secret and illicit "affair" with her boss. It will be unrequited, though... she's her own boss! However, she will get a sizable raise out of it.

By the end of February, Steve and Paul will have a "heated discussion" about how long they

have been together. All will be peachy keen when they discover that there are 29 days in February this year.

Technology will catch up with Carlos. He'll put all the information from his "purse" into a computer. The system will be five times the size of his purse, but he'll take it everywhere anyway.

Carol H. will witness yet another of Little Mother's moonings. There will be no positive identification at the line-up because Carol won't be able to tell if Little Mother is coming or going!



Richard and Phil will take Jim Malone hostage, refusing to let him go until they are promised complete control over the Oakland float. Their demands will be ignored, and, as the June parade concludes, Jim will still be pounding "point of order" from the hidden, locked room. Richard and Phil will conveniently forget where the hell the room is.

Heather will resign from the Navy because it refuses to let her dress as a Wave. A movement will start within the ranks to have her "re-up" so she can be head cheerleader at the annual Army/Navy game.

Marlow and Lady Lennie will combine fortunes and buy Cabel's Reef, promising to put Jack through beauty college so he can lease a space from Big Chuck!

While perusing my chirographs at Big Mama's, Lee will verily discern four morphemes that he doesn't fathom. Those four etymons will be *undinism*, *deprecate*, *naology*, and *quake-buttock*. He will buy me four drinks for the definitions.

On the Fourth of July, Daddy David will actually find a new husband who hasn't been to bed with Eddie P. or Jose. The new

love will turn out to be an android interested in drag. Daddy David will purchase an entire wardrobe from Cookie. The romance will last as long as the battery does. Keith will be heard to say, "Can I have it when you're through?"

Early this year Cupcakes will decide he's had enough of world-wide travel. His monthly "weekly" vacation will consist of riding BART from Hayward to Concord and back again. In November he'll call Z. Jim, asking, "How do I get out of Richmond?"

On the first day of spring, K.C. will tell everyone that the Turf Club is indeed "world famous" because of a national ad campaign he watched on television. On closer inspection, it will be disclosed that the ads were for the "Smurf Club."

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Love, Nez

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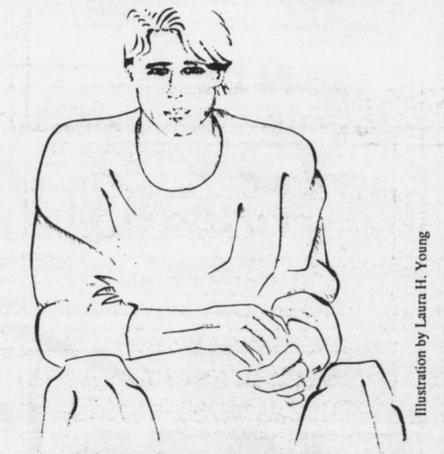


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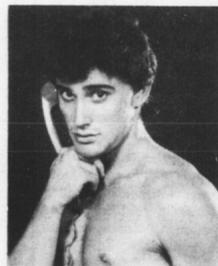
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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Gaying To The Movies Part I

We Were Everywhere In '87



James Wilby (l.) and Rupert Graves in *Maurice*

by Steve Warren

PART ONE

In the year Vito Russo issued a revised edition of his invaluable book *The Celluloid Closet*, movie screens presented enough lesbian and gay images to fill a second volume. We are everywhere and the film industry took giant strides toward recognizing it with gay themes, characters and references in a significant number of releases.

Now the bad news. Most of the positive gay images came from abroad while America gave us gay villains and outmoded stereotypes.

Our old enemy Eddie Murphy, who has as much right to call me a faggot as I have to call him a nigger, was one of the lesser offenders with one mild fag joke in *Beverly Hills Cop II* and a couple of minutes about us in his concert film *Eddie Murphy Raw*.

After his last tour, he said, "The faggots were mad. There's nothin' like havin' a nation of homosexuals lookin' for you... I can't go to San Francisco. They got a homo watch for me at the airport." As soon as he hits town, he speculated, cars would rush toward him: "'Wooo, wooo, wooo.' And there won't be no siren neither. It'll be fags sittin' on the roof and goin' 'Wooo, wooo, wooo.'"

Showing how we'll frisk him "for concealed weapons" he grabbed at his ass and genitals.

I guess we don't want to fuck him anymore, just grope him.

What hurt more for being totally unexpected was our treatment at the hands of our former friend Marek Kaniévka, who directed *Another Country*. In his *Less Than Zero*, homosexuality was shown as the lowest form of degradation on the road to drugy death, with Robert Downey, Jr. forced to suck cock to help pay off the money he owed dealer James Spader. And this in the adaptation of a book that had a casually bisexual hero, played as a straight arrow in the film by Andrew McCarthy.

If stereotypes still bother you, write 20th Century Fox about the year's flamingest queens, Meshach Taylor in *Mannequin* and Larry B. Scott in *Revenge of the Nerds II: Nerds in Paradise*. The former again starred Andrew McCarthy, who worked with Hollywood (Taylor) dressing department store windows. Although referred to as "the fairy" and "the little Mary," Hollywood was generally accepted by his co-workers. Likewise, Lamar (Scott) was equal to the other nerds, all of whom were outcasts by the neo-Nazi fraternity standards at their college. His fellow nerds at least looked at girls, while Lamar's only sign of libido was a limp "Find out if they've got a brother." The first *Nerds* film made a strong political statement about oppressed minorities banding together, while the sequel was just a series of silly hijinks.

Robert Townsend featured gay stereotypes in *Hollywood Shuffle*.



Gary Oldman (l.) as Joe Orton and Alfred Molina as Kenneth Halliwell in *Prick Up Your Ears*

le, his comic diatribe about how blacks are stereotyped in the movie industry.

No Way Out was a pretty terrific thriller, but principal villain Will Patton was gay, and there weren't any positive gay characters to offset him. *Fatal Beauty* had at least three minor gay characters, all on the wrong side of the law, and in Whoopi Goldberg's other 1987 release, *Burglar*, the revelation of the murderer involved a gay twist. Of course, it was set in San Francisco so *someone* had to be gay, but Bob Goldthwait played the heroine's best friend, a *straight* poodle groomer.

If you believe that I'll tell you how we can fuck safely without a condom. I know Whoopi doesn't write these things, but she has enough clout to exercise veto power over objectionable script elements if she wants to. Wake up, Whoopi.

This is beginning to depress me. We'll return to Hollywood,

but first let's go overseas for our health.

FREARS' 'EARS'

Whatever else you think of *Maurice* it's production values were as good as those of any of the year's films, and it was slavishly faithful to E.M. Forster's posthumously published gay novel. Maurice (James Wilby) came out through a platonic college relationship with Clive (Hugh Grant) and ultimately found both sex and love with working-class Alec Scudder (Rupert Graves) in pre-WWI England. The only scene added by director and co-writer James Ivory involved the entrapment of a fellow student, whose public humiliation scared Clive into the closet.

More modern, sleazy and to my mind delightful was Stephen Frears' *Prick Up Your Ears*, the tragic story of playwright Joe Orton (Gary Oldman) and his lover Kenneth Halliwell (Alfred Mo-

lina) told in black comic style and not neglecting Orton's voracious sexual appetite. The balletic cottage (tea room) scene was a classic.

The same director came back with *Sammy and Rosie Get Laid*, in which Rosie's best friends were all lesbians, including one couple who figured prominently in the plot, though not as prominently as three non-gay couples.

Otherwise, lesbians were less in evidence than gay men, as usual. The most significant examples came from a Brazilian man, a Canadian novice and American independents. *I've Heard the Mermaids Singing* treated its lesbian characters naturally but without denying them. Sheila McCarthy was unforgettable as Polly, who developed a platonic crush on her lesbian boss (Paule Baillargeon) before meeting the woman's more open lover (Ann-Marie McDonald). Writer-director

(Continued on next page)



Linda Hunt as Alice B. Toklas (l.) and Linda Bassett as Gertrude Stein in *Waiting For the Moon*

Second of Two Sections



The gang from *Revenge of the Nerds II: Nerds in Paradise*

(Continued from previous page)

Patricia Rozema brought it in for \$262,000, but it was worth its weight in gold.

Not widely distributed but slowly making its way around the country, *Ira* was Sergio Toledo's story of the difficulty of living up to macho standards, as experienced by 18-year-old Vera (Ana Beatriz Nogueira), who tried living as a man until she met and fell in love with a lesbian who told her she didn't want a man.

Jill Godmilow's much anticipated *Waiting for the Moon* disappointed many for its arbitrary distortions of the lives of Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas, and especially for avoiding any mention of the nature of their relationship. Godmilow intended it as a fantasy based on the women's personalities but her literary conceit proved frustrating to those of us who tire of looking between the frames for our role models. Andrew McCarthy was in this one too. Do I detect a pattern?

Speaking of "between the frames," we can't even mention in print why the documentary *Lily Tomlin* was of interest to lesbians. A scene of Tomlin, Jane Wagner and some of their crew forming a circle backstage before a performance and singing "We Are Family" was cut prior to the theatrical release and subsequent PBS telecast. Well, there was an apparent gay man in it who promised to come to a performance as "Ernestine" and later showed up in appropriate drag.

LAST 'EMPRESS'?

Perhaps the year's most significant closeted character was Pu Yi. *The Last Emperor* of Bernardo Bertolucci's monumental epic. His sexuality was suggested by the fact that he was raised by women, eunuchs and Peter O'Toole (whose character was more obvious, but still unstated). Pu Yi's wicked lesbian cousin, Eastern Jewel (Maggie Han), corrupted his wife by sucking her toes and turning her into an opium addict. As with Stein and Toklas we had to go to history books for the truth and bring it with us to the film.

Also in the evil lesbian category was Millie Perkins in *Slam Dance*, which had a plot too convoluted to explain. Jodie Foster played a benevolent bisexual in

the likewise complex *Siesta*, which also featured a stereotypical gay man, a gallery owner, who figured in several scenes without being important to the plot. In *Dogs in Space* a lesbian party agent charmed one of the residents of the Melbourne commune at the center of the story, and took her off to Sydney.

The lesbian overtones were never quite overt in *Black Widow*, but Debra Winger and Theresa Russell met giving each other mouth-to-mouth resuscitation in class and became great friends, even though one was stalking the other for murder.

Frida Kahlo's lesbianism wasn't mentioned until the latter moments of *Frida: Natureza Viva*, but then it wasn't softened. Lord Byron (Gabriel Byrne) was openly gay in Ken Russell's *Gothic*, ignoring his lover, Dr. Polidori, to pursue Percy Bysshe Shelley (Julian Sands); but just about everyone turned bisexual before the night was over. "Forget women," Byron told Shelley. "Poets are for each other."

It should be noted that many of the films we're discussing are or will be available on video. All had commercial showings somewhere in the U.S. in 1987, but some were limited to a single city and a couple of festivals.

John Malkovich had the dubious distinction of playing two near-gay characters at year-end. He was Tom, the Tennessee Williams surrogate in the semi-autobiographical *The Glass Menagerie*, anxious to leave his St. Louis home for the Merchant Marine; and Basie, the conniver who thrived in the Japanese prisoner-of-war camp in *Empire of the Sun*, and took an unusual but undefined interest in young Christian Bale. I'm told the character was gay in the original book, but the film was by Steven Spielberg, who almost straightened Celie out in *The Color Purple*.

Prison movies are usually good for a same-sex rape or two. Cheech Marin was attacked in jail in *Born in East L.A.* and rescued by Tony Plana, who got him to promise "anything" in return but disappeared before he could collect. In *Weeds* the action was stylized in a play plagiarized by convict Nick Nolte from Genet and set in France because "two



Meshach Taylor (r.) as Hollywood and Andrew McCarthy as Jonathan in *Mannequin*

guys fucking under a blanket" could never happen in America. In *Penitentiary III*, the latest in Jamaa Fanaka's series, midjet wrestler Kessler Raymond (a.k.a. The Haiti Kid) was sent by villain Anthony Geary to rape his enemies. Jim Bailey was on hand as a character named Cleopatra. Nuff said.

Speaking of drag, that's how T.K. Carter spent most of *He's My Girl*. There was nothing gay about it—it was just a way of accompanying his roommate (David Hallyday) on a trip he'd won. Nor was there gay significance to Isabelle Adjani's drag in *Ishtar* (but nothing in *Ishtar* had any significance), or Better Midler and Shelley Long's in *Outrageous Fortune*. Debra Winger's unbilled appearance as "Emmett" in *Made in Heaven* kept a lot of people guessing, but it was an asexual male role.



Sheila McCarthy in *I've Heard the Mermaids Singing*

Jane Rubes and Roddy McDowell were probably lovers in *Dead of Winter* but let's hope not, as they were also conniving murderers. McDowell turned up at the end of the year in *Overboard* as a rather obvious valet,

the same role Tom Courtenay played in *Leonard Part 6*. Neither was given a sex life, although Courtenay was posed next to a woman in a couple of scenes as if to imply something.



John Malkovich (l.) and Christian Bale in *Empire of the Sun*



Gene Hackman (l.) and Will Patton in *No Way Out*



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Le Jupon Rouge: Just One Part of 'On Screen 88'

by Dianne Gregory

Le Jupon Rouge (Manuela's Loves), part of On Screen: A celebration of Women in Film (Jan. 15-20) is a film about obsession and the perpetuation of a relationship through guilt.

You see, Manuela (Marie-Christine Barrault) is obsessed with her friend of 20 years, Bacha (Alida Valli), who is a Nazi concentration camp survivor, so much so that when she falls in love with Claude (Guillemette Grobon) and Bacha disapproves, she drops her, no questions asked, except, of course, by Claude.

But neither Claude nor the audience can grasp much more than Manuela's obsession because, other than a passing reference to "fascistes", Manuela's motivation remains a mystery in Genevieve Lefebvre's film.

But the film is very pretty to watch, and veteran French actress Alida Valli's portrayal of Bacha will interest fans of *The Third Man*. Marie-Christine Barrault (Manuela) comes from a French theater family of many generations (the Barrymores of France) and produces a performance worthy of her name. Guillemette Grobon (Claude) is new to me, but she is lovely to look at and her character's lust for Manuela is palpable. It will be screened Jan. 16 at 3 p.m. at the York Theater (2789 24th St.).

Although *Le Jupon Rouge* is the only lesbian-oriented film among the offerings



Alida Valli and Guillemette Grobon in *Le Jupon Rouge*

of the festival, other films included are *Francesca* by Verena Rudolph (Jan. 15 at 6 p.m./York), *Turnover* by Lana Gogoberidze (Jan. 15 at 8 p.m./York), *Fire From The Mountain* by Deborah Shaffer (Jan. 15 at 10:15 p.m./York), *The American Dream* by Kaethe Kratz (Jan. 16 at 5 p.m./York), *Father, Son and Holy Spirit* by Marie-Louise De Geer Bergenstrahle (Jan. 16 at 7 p.m./York), *The Snow Queen* by Paivi Hartzell (Jan. 17 at noon/York), *Reno's Kids: 87 Days + 11* by Whitney Blake (Jan. 17 at 2 p.m./York), *Diary For My Loves* by Marta Meszaros (Jan. 17 at 4 p.m./York), *For Ever and Ever* by Christel Buschmann (Jan. 17 at 7 p.m./York), *Sorceress* by Suzanne Schiffman (Jan. 17 at 9 p.m./York), and *John Huston*

and *the Dubliners* by Lilyan Sievernich (Jan. 20 at 9 p.m./York). The directors will be present at many of the screenings, including *Le Jupon Rouge*.

Saturday, Jan. 16, there will be an in-person tribute to Maureen O'Sullivan at the Castro Theater from 8 to 10:30 p.m. which will include film clips, on-stage interview, question and answer period, award presentation, and a screening of the 1939 *Let Us Live* by John Brahm.

There will also be showcases of contemporary German cinema (Sunday, Jan. 17, Goethe Institute, 530 Bush St., 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., free) and films directed by women of color focusing on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (Monday, Jan. 18, Grand Lake Theater, 2700 Grand Ave., Oak-

land, starting at noon). Tuesday, Jan. 19, there will be a Soviet retrospective beginning at 1 p.m. at the York Theater and continuing through Wednesday, Jan. 20.

Saturday, Jan. 16, a seminar will be held on Writing and Directing Your Own Films (12:30 - 2:30 p.m.) and Sunday, Jan. 17, there will be a seminar called The Silent Woman Speaks: Women in Early Cinema (11 a.m. - 1 p.m.). Both seminars will be held at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood

House, 950 deHaro St. and will cost \$7.50.

Most of the screenings cost \$4, \$1 for children 12 or under. The tribute to Maureen O'Sullivan will cost \$8, or \$20 for the tribute and a party afterwards. Passes are available for all York and Grand Lake films for \$30, and group discounts are available. For tickets and more information call 495-FILM. Tickets are also available through BASS and at the door.

STAGE

A New Play About Anne Sexton

Was There Lesbianism In Her Life?

by Joseph W. Bean

A one woman-show performed by Broadway veteran Salome Jens opens at Life on the Water Wednesday, Jan. 20. It's ... about Anne, about Anne Sexton.

Anne Sexton died in 1974. The world called her death suicide, but the record she made in her poems is testimony to the truth: Sexton was slaughtered by anti-woman bias. She was destroyed in little bits by a mother who undermined her faith in herself and a father who crushed her ambitions. She lived out the nightmare of being a brilliant, creative mind stuck in a housewife's life.

Some people say Sexton would have been happy if she had "discovered" her own lesbianism. Others argue that she'd have been a happy wife and mother if it were not for the psychological violence against women in general and intelligent women in particular which is part of the fabric of life in America.

Whatever the causes of her torment, Sexton lived and worked in pain, and became addicted first to alcohol then pills trying to relieve the pangs that would never stop. She wrote poetry, incredibly affecting, modern poetry that grew, line by line, from her

own experience.

Now, 13 years after her death, Sexton remains far too little known, far less celebrated than she should be. Despite a Pulitzer Prize, her poetry remains at the fringe of literary acceptance, and she stays always just out of the embrace of the women's movement. Perhaps the most unusual aspect of Sexton's failure to be highly-celebrated is the fact that gay men, lesbians, and other minorities have almost completely failed to recognize in her a kindred spirit.

Salome Jens, an actress who has found a way to have the stage career she wants on her own terms, would seem to be the very opposite of Anne Sexton. In fact, she says that when she first started working on the Sexton poetry seven years ago, she immediately felt "a similarity of life-force" between herself and the poet. For Jens, understanding Sexton is a matter of "being in the event" with her. Critics and audiences in New York and Los Angeles have felt that Jens brought them into the event, too.

... about Anne runs at Life on the Water through February 7. Call 776-8999 for tickets.



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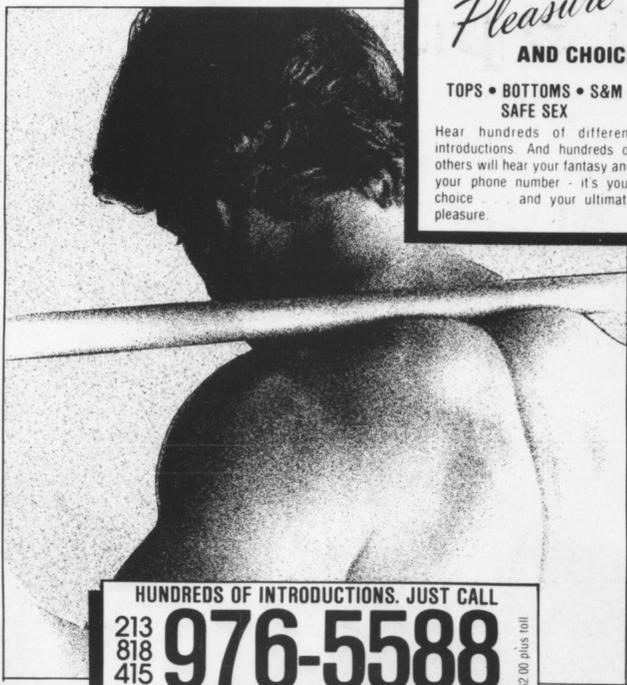
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New Year's Resolutions

Like most people, I dutifully draw an annual list of New Year's promises, only to forget or abandon them as soon as humanly possible. One resolution I do keep, however, is a thorough desk cleaning of accumulated scraps of opinion or information that deserve passing mention, but aren't worth an entire column.

Since the San Francisco Symphony's current season is now approximately half over, it's a good time to list some of the highs and lows thus far. Unlike other arts institutions (the S.F. Opera immediately springs to mind), Symphony patrons are seldom served anything less than accomplished musicianship. When the rare disaster occurs it is scarcely the fault of the orchestra. A rattled conductor, out of sorts guest artist, or the composition itself is more likely to blame.

Roger Reynolds' Symphony (Vertigo) for full orchestra and (heaven help us) computer-generated sound certainly qualified for last-place honors in writing for 1987. I'm less opposed to computer music than say, synthesizers or the use of artificial amplification in a Symphony setting. The computer does sort of qualify as a new instrument and the possibilities are intriguing. If only Reynolds had given us something truly adventurous instead of the half-baked hybrid that only enraged conservatives and underwhelmed the avant-garde.

At one point in the performance, Principal Cellist Michael Grebanier actually refused to



Members of the S.F. Gay Men's Chorus wait their cue

(Photo: J. Dusch)

play, holding his ears in apparent pain at the amplification! Such childish behavior—surely he could have dropped out during rehearsals—was echoed in the lusty boos of many audience members. That sort of response usually moves me to a bravely defiant ovation, regardless of my feelings towards the piece itself.

I'm a vehement supporter of the new and unusual in serious music, dreading the possibility of Symphony Hall becoming a mere museum. Still, I could only muster tepid applause for Vertigo. It is a reasonably argued

work and emphatically deserves its title, but it commits the unforgivable sin of being a bore.

Guest artists have proved variable in 1987. Michael Tilson Thomas—usually so vital and appealing—appeared somewhat sluggish with a competent Mahler 3rd., sans personal insight, and a lackluster premiere of Steve Reich's The Four Sections. The eager anticipation of violinist Pinchas Zukerman's and cellist Lynn Harrell's visit turned to disappointment when Zuckerman's curiously pedestrian playing fell out of synch with Har-

rell's inspired lyricism in Brahms' Double Concerto.

Many were taken by happy surprise, however, when violinist Ida Haendel proved, late in her estimable career, that she still has the right stuff for the daunting Sibelius Concerto. Trading former power for heightened introspection, her signature work sounded freshly minted, and her frail carriage increasing the poignancy of the autumn-tinged interpretation.

Music Director Herbert Blomstedt managed to temporarily disarm his growing band of critics with some revelatory concerts, all, coincidentally, committed to disc under the Symphony's new association with London/Decca Records. Ignored in recent years, composer Paul Hindemith

may well enjoy new acclaim due to these strong representations of his harmonically adventurous work.

Blomstedt is already known for his way with Anton Bruckner's majestic Symphony No. 7 from a highly praised recording with the Staatskapelle Dresden. The Maestro's San Francisco colleagues rose mightily to his standards of excellence with a comparably great performance, proving they can match the competition.

The annual holiday season Messiah was marred by conductor Eric Ericson's schizophrenic concessions to both modern and "authentic" performance practices. His quartet of soloists was, likewise, a mixed bag—providing some surprisingly witless ornamentation. Vance George's stalwart Symphony Chorus, reduced in size for the occasion but by no means diminished, was left to inject the necessary elan and sense of grandeur. The hapless orchestral players, relying on their own considerable resources, managed some stylish accompaniment.

Off the Symphony path, 1987 saw the S.F. Gay Men's Chorus in another year of constantly growing standards and beautifully realized concerts. I started with modest enthusiasm for Gregg Tallman's directorial abilities, but my admiration for his careful work has grown apace of his own artistic maturation.

A recent letter to the editor accused the Chorus of under-rehearsing, but my impression is the exact opposite. Their recent Christmas concert at Herbst Theatre seemed exceptionally well thought out, and the joyful feeling of camaraderie was supported by solid musical standards.

Gay Band Seeks New Conductor



English Class At CCSF Looks At Gay Writers

The San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps is seeking candidates for the position of conductor. Duties of this position include developing and maintaining the musical integrity of the Band, providing musical guidance and support to members, and developing artistic goals and plans for the achievement of those goals. A monthly stipend is available.

The successful applicant should have experience in band or orchestra conducting and will lead the Band into its second decade of community service as "Ambassadors of Joy."

The San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band & Twirling Corps perform dozens of times every year, at parades, formal concerts, pep band events, and a variety of civic functions in every performance venue imaginable. The Band is a unit of the San Francisco Band Foundation, a multi-talented non-profit arts organization with more than 200 members. The deadline for applications is Jan. 31.

A decision will be made by Feb. 29. Interested candidates should send a resume and request for further information to: Conductor Search, San Francisco Band Foundation, 1519 Mission Street, San Francisco CA 94103. Or, call (415) 621-5619 during business hours (10 am-6 pm).

English 56A, The International Scene, will be offered by City College of San Francisco at the Everett Middle School of its Castro/Valencia Complex. Everett is located on Church Street between 16th and 17th St. The class will meet on Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30, from Jan. 14 to May 19. It carries three units (transferable) and will be taught by Jack Collins. Register at CCSF or on the first night of class. Tuition is \$15.

The reading list includes fiction by lesbian and gay writers from England, Spain, Latin America, Japan, Norway, France, and Jamaica. E.M. Forster, Radclyffe Hall, Yukio Mishima, and Monique Wittig are among the writers represented. Films will also be screened to supplement the readings.

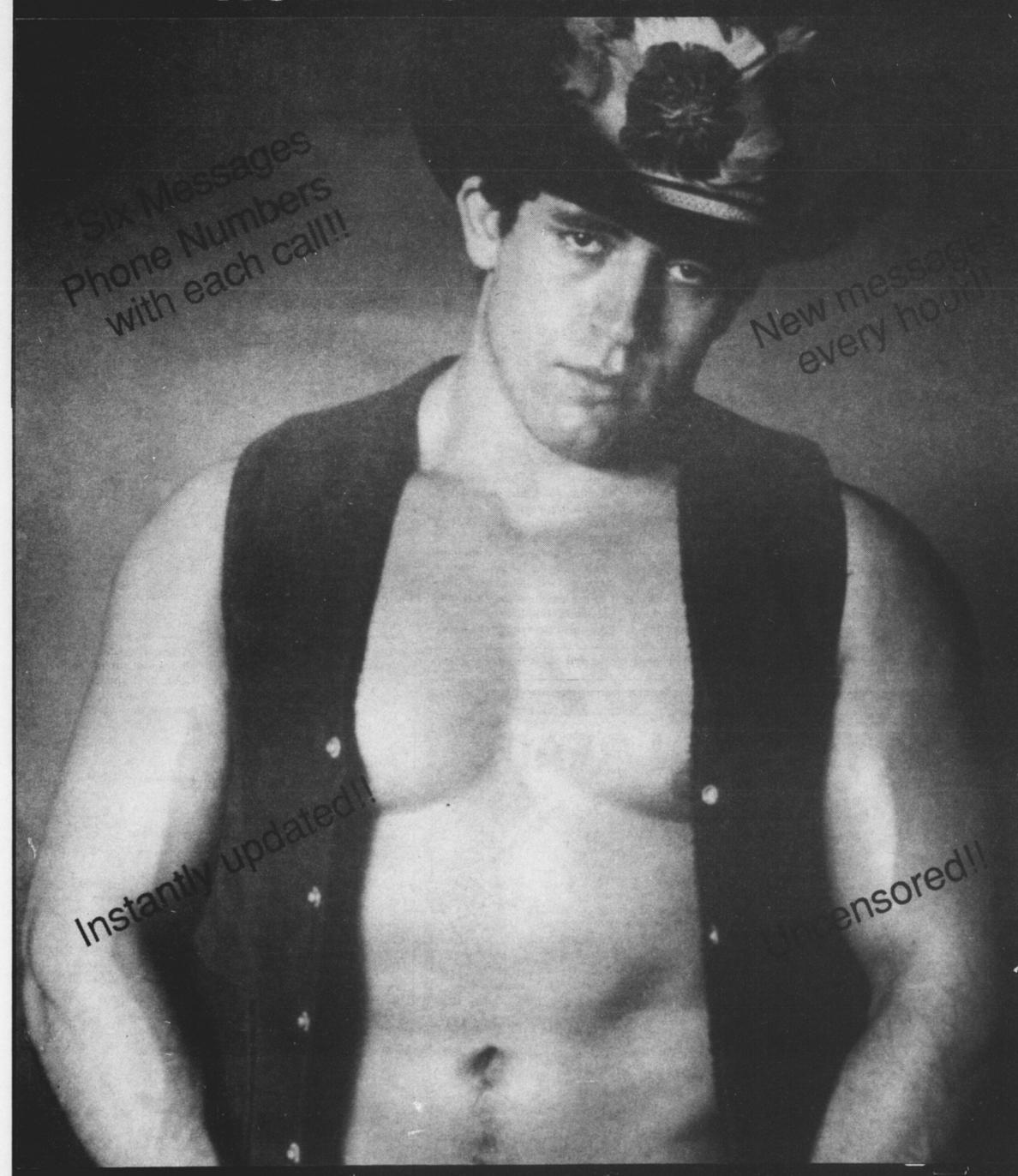
Books have been ordered at Old Wives' Tales and The Love That Dares, and are also available at Walt Whitman Bookshop, A Different Light, Mama Bears, A Woman's Place, and Modern Times.



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George Heymont

Taking Care of Business

Although the theme of 1987's Central Opera Conference was "Opera At The Crossroads," during the course of the meeting it became increasingly difficult to determine just which intersection was being discussed. Was it the problem of a changing repertoire in which opera must share the public's attention with musical comedy, performance art and other multi-media or avant garde forms of expression? Or was it the nagging question of survival, when more than a hundred opera companies are struggling to save their artistic and financial souls?

When I dined with Johanna Dordick (who founded Los Angeles Opera Theatre) I learned that Dordick is now working in New Jersey, where she has become a successful fundraiser for a respiratory health association. "Once I recovered from what happened to myself and my company in Los Angeles, I had to face the fact that, in the future, the money is *not* going to be in the arts. It's going to be in health care," she stressed.

And yet, convening just a few days after Wall Street's calamitous stock crash, the COS conference furthered the unfortunate image of many opera people as intensely passionate music lovers who, when the going gets rough, prefer to bury their heads in the sand. One person, who kept wanting to know if and when the Met's spring tour would be resurrected, obviously did not want to believe Bruce Crawford's claim that television now does a

much more effective job of reaching the nation's public than a poorly-produced tour to three or four cities. Another conference participant invoked God as a means of cushioning the opera world against future shock.

Alas, it seems as if many opera fans have developed a dangerous habit of isolating themselves from the present by seeking refuge in the past. Like closeted homosexuals who long to return to the period when they functioned in a secret society, opera's traditionalists wish their beloved art form would revert to the golden days before the jet plane and television forced it from its privileged cocoon. It can't and it won't. Whether they like it or not, America stands poised on the brink of a brave new operatic world.

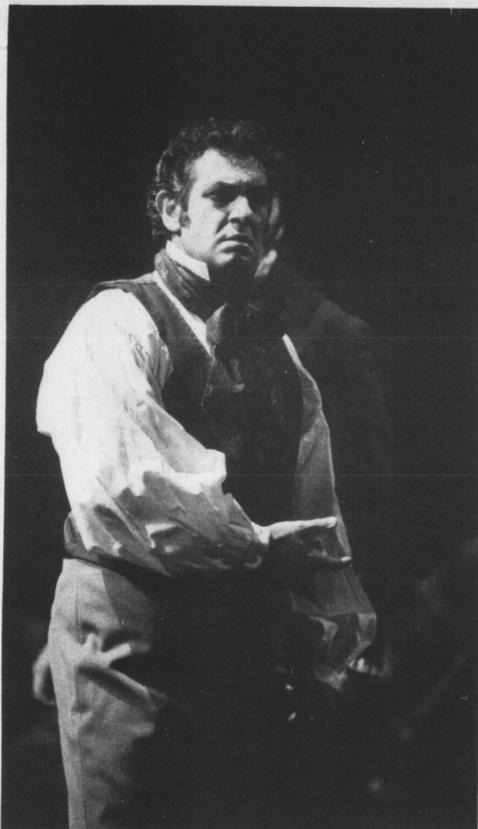
TOWARD THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN

Many years ago, when Glynn Ross was in charge of the Seattle Opera, he predicted that, as trade continued to develop and intensify along the Pacific Rim, the center of the nation's arts activities would slowly move from the East Coast to the West Coast. To a certain extent, Ross' prediction has come true. Some of the best opera in the United States is now produced in Chicago, St. Louis and Houston—cities which lie in the nation's heartland—and the decentralization of opera in America is a force which continues to gain momentum.

Previously-held blanket as-

sumptions that anything which happens in New York must be of national and international significance while events west of the Hudson River are merely "regional" no longer hold water. In fact, when told that the Houston Grand Opera would have to come up with something of greater than regional interest if it wanted to telecast more productions, HGO's publicist, Ava Jean Mears, didn't hesitate to remind a PBS spokesman that, to most of the nation, New York is not only considered regional but rather provincial in its tastes.

One of the most dramatic shifts on the domestic opera scene is visible in the changing strength of arts organizations from Seattle to San Diego. Opera Pacific—which opened for business in Orange County's brand new performing arts center—had an astounding level of subscription sales for its first two years. As the West Coast's financial center continues to move south (due to Los Angeles' growing trade with Far Eastern ports) the Oakland Symphony has gone bankrupt and the once-proud San Francisco Opera has been forced to cancel its summer seasons. Under Terry McEwen's dubious leadership, the San Francisco Opera has deteriorated to the level of a sadly provincial opera company while Peter Hemmings continues to steer a bold and exciting course for the newly-formed Los Angeles Music Center Opera Association (LAMCO) opened for business with the seventh largest budget of any



Plácido Domingo will star in Offenbach's *Les Contes D'Hoffman* during the Met's Japanese tour this spring

American opera company).

Because of the growing power of the Japanese yen (and the weakness of the American dollar) the Far East has recently become a major importer of both European and American opera companies. The New York City Opera's performances in Taiwan last month were part of the opening festivities for Taipei's new cultural arts center. In addition to the Met's upcoming Japanese tour this spring—which features performances of Offenbach's *Les Contes D'Hoffman*, Verdi's *Il Trovatore* and Mozart's *Le Nozze Di Figaro*—Opera Theatre of St. Louis will perform Minoru Miki's *Joruri* (an opera written by a Japanese composer on a Japanese theme which had its world premiere in St. Louis in 1985) in Tokyo next November. If all goes well, the San Francisco Opera hopes to bring its productions of Mozart's *The Magic Flute* and Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress* to Tokyo in 1989 or 1990 as part of a Japanese festival celebrating the art of David Hockney.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Speaking of the San Francisco Opera, suppose we take a look at what the future holds in store for local subscribers while keeping in mind that any predictions made in this column are purely speculative and, therefore, subject to change. The 1988 season is already a matter of public record and it should be noted that, in December, Opera America will hold its annual conference in San Francisco.

Although the 1989 season looms dimly in the crystal ball, opera fans can expect it to open with a revival of Jean-Pierre Ponnelle's production of Mozart's *Idomeneo* starring Ruth Ann Swenson as Ilia and Mary Jane Johnson as Elettra. Also in the works is a new production of

Richard Strauss' *Elektra* to be conducted by Christoph von Dohnanyi with Dame Gwyneth Jones singing the title role, Dohnanyi's wife, Anja Sija, as Chrysothemis and Brigitte Fassbender as Klytemnestra.

Ponnelle's delightful *Falstaff* production returns to town with Leo Nucci's Ford, Ruth Ann Swenson's Nanetta, Marilyn Horne as Dame Quickly and Kathryn Cowdrick as Meg Page. Puccini's *Il Trittico* (with Mirella Freni singing all three soprano roles) looks definite, along with a revival of Wagner's *Lohengrin* to be conducted by Charles Mackerras.

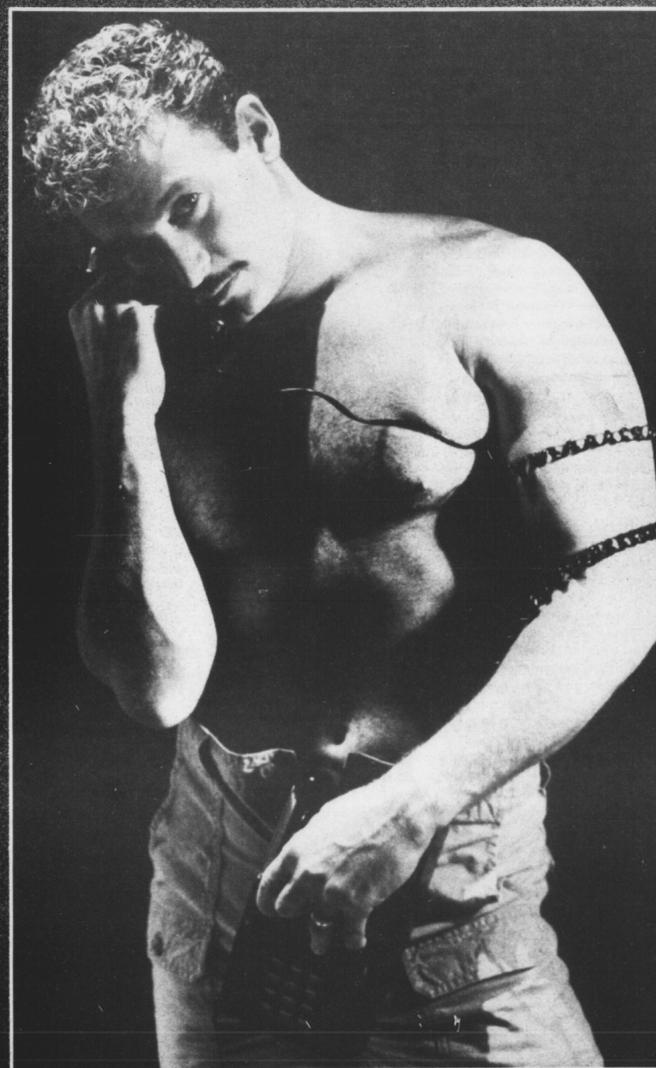
Ermanno Mauro returns to town as Verdi's Otello (probably opposite Cheryl Studer's Desdemona) and the beautiful Kathleen Kuhlmann stars in a new production of Vivaldi's rarely-performed *Orlando Furioso* (probably using the sets and costumes from Dallas Opera). Sticking to his policy of promoting Merola Program graduates to lead roles, Terry McEwen will revive Mussorgsky's *Khovanschina* with Dolores Zajic as Marfa and may also bring back Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* with Nikki Li Hartliep starring as Cio-Cio-San.

All that is known about 1990 so far is the identity of its three new productions. The season opens with a new *Rigoletto* featuring Ruth Ann Swenson as Gilda. 1990 includes a new production of Dvorak's *Rusalka* (probably a shared venture with the Washington Opera) that has Charles Mackerras on the podium and Gabriela Benackova in the title role. Baritone Stephen Dickson returns to town in a new production of Monteverdi's *Il Ritorno D'Ulisse In Patria*.

Stay tuned for further developments.

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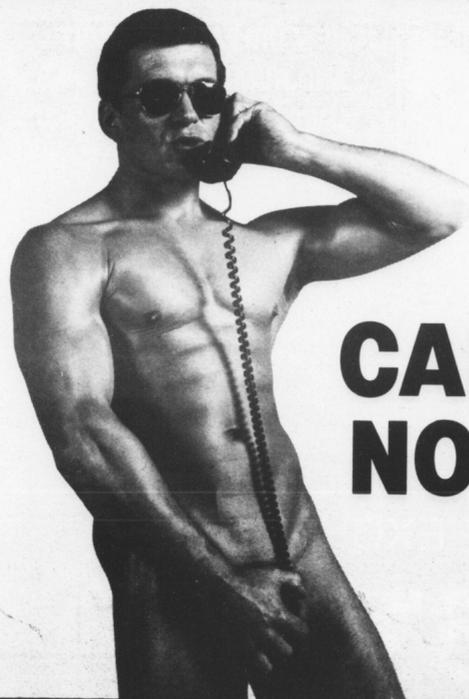
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SAVE THRU JANUARY 31, 1988

Mr. Marcus

Starting All Over Again

The year 1988 got off to a somewhat subdued start, at least in most areas I visited or heard about. The raucous "hell-bent for far-out action" attitude seemed to be replaced by a more sedate and muffled attitude.

Leathermen cruised in the demeanor of the old days. The SF-Eagle hosted a big leathery crowd with the annual fireworks display that was surprising to a few newcomers. Over at the Powerhouse, the heavy-duty leather dudes seemed more content to socialize with a strong undercurrent of cruising in evidence.

The Endup was jammed with the cha-cha mavens and Trocadero Transfer was festooned with delightful decorations, dazzling lights, and a good-looking crowd of dancing people with rhythm in their feet and in their lips, and in their thighs.

The So Many Men! annual dance party at the Giftcenter Pavilion was packed to the rafters while the revelers cha-cha'd the night away in spite of what many termed the "Company B" mediocre performance. Restaurants were jammed to capacity with long waits all over town for pre-partying vittles.

Over on Russian Hill, Rick Booth's soiree was an elegant gathering of the great and near-great both in and out of leather circles, the uniform of the 1st night of the year being coat and tie.

Hordes of dudes and dudettes eschewed the revelry and trekked to the snows for long-awaited skiing and private parties abounded. Two lesbian women decided to opt for the final hours of toplessness and visited the Condor over on Broadway. After fighting the maddened mobs in that area and viewing the last topless performance, one was quoted: "I've seen more action at the Eagle's bare chest contests; if I wanted to see bras, pantie girdles, and black lace, I could see it for free at Macy's."



'88 promised to be great at the Giftcenter (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Lots of hangovers the next day when some hearty ones viewed the Rose Bowl Parade through bleary eyes—after all it started at 0830 hours! Best news over the weekend was the Minnesota Vikings' victory over New Orleans! Super Bowl fever is mounting and rooters and boosters alike were gearing up for the coming playoffs.

By the time you read this, you should be recovered from the holiday madness and you'd win a bet if you said

there's more ahead. Virtually every weekend in February is booked solid what with the emperor/empress coronation, Men Behind Bars, Cable Car Awards, and the Motorcycle Awards—well, I know the coronation and MBB are on for sure, but I haven't heard a thing about the Barbary Coast M/C event and I'm supposed to be involved with the Cable Cars but I haven't heard a word from Bob Cramer since last February!

The SF-Eagle begins its quest for bare chests for the 1989 Calen-



Auld Lang Syne—Midnight brought a thousand New Year's kisses to the Giftcenter (Photo: R. Pruzan)

dar next Thursday night, Jan. 14, when Mr. January 1989 will be selected. This Sunday, Jan. 10, the California Gay Rodeo Assn. will present a beer bust at the SF-Eagle from 1500-1800 with food—they don't have a corresponding secretary or anyone with a phone so I can't give you all the details.

The Golden Dildeaux Awards have been postponed until February or March, so stay tuned for the details TBA in this column. Rehearsals are in full swing for Men Behind Bars bowing in February at the Victoria Theatre and their T-shirts and sweat shirts are on sale already, exclusively at Main Line Gifts on Castro. The tickets for the six performances are going like crazy, and lots of dudes got tickets in their Christmas stockings.

Theatre Rhino's first 1988 production takes to the boards opening Sat., Jan. 16, with Leland Moss' *Quisbies*. I don't know the details on the storyline/plot, but it runs until Feb. 20 on Wednesdays through Sundays with the ducats at \$10 for weeknights and \$12 on weekends.

In case you never heard of them, there are actually straight men who like to dress up in drag and there exists such a group here in Mecca. The group is called ETVC (Educational TV Channel) and they're having their annual Cotillion on Sat., Jan. 9, at the Slovenian Hall (2101 Mariposa) with tickets going for \$10 advance, \$12 at the door. You may have seen the ETVC's at the CMC Carnival coat check room last November—weren't they cute?

The SF GDI's will celebrate their 14th Anniv. and installation of, I presume, new officers on Sat., Jan. 23, at the Covered Wagon, with free hors d'oeuvres and a no-host bar. How time flies! The Cheaters M/C annual President's Convention takes place Sunday, Jan. 24, at 2929 18th St. (a hot new place!) from 1400-1700 to pick the Club President of the Year (1987, that is). The special award to the best Corresponding Secretary will also be presented. Right now, it's a tie between the Cal Eagles and the GDI's, but there's still time for the 3rd-running CMC.

The 2nd Annual Ms. Leather of SF contest takes place also on Saturday, Jan. 23, at Trocadero Transfer. Leatherwomen throughout the Bay Area are eligible for this one. The winner will represent this city at the International Ms. Leather contest to be held in March. Ms. SF Leather will begin at 2000 hours and the tickets are only \$7. For contest info, appli-



Brian Alvarez (r.) with his lover John are nominees for Best Performance in a Three-Way at the 1988 Golden Dildeaux Awards (Photo: Marcus)

cants should contact IMsL at PO Box 146504, SF (they didn't give me a ZIP) or call Joy at 863-9413. If Sky Renfrow answers, don't tell her you read it here. I don't know why Sky is on my case, but I'm sure she has her reason(s).

Sunday, Jan. 24, the SF Wrestling Club is supposed to be having a beer bust from 1500-1800 with Sharon McNight, but again, they never followed up with the details.

The San Mateo County AIDS Project is looking for some hot men to model leather gear at their Leather & Lace show at the Whiskey Gulch in Palo Alto taking place on Valentines Day (Feb. 14). Call Jonathan Mesinger at 573-2588 if you want to strut your stuff for a good cause. Jonathan didn't give me any other details either.

All of the above should keep you busy for a while at least. Any other activities can be looked up in Dieder's Dead Sea Scrolls.

DISHING WILL MAKE IT SO, SO DISH

It looks like the Los Angeles Police Department, in conjunction with the LA Fire Department, has a wicked hard-on for LA's leather bars. In the past few months, bars like the Detour, Gauntlet II, One-Way, and Cuffs have been harassed incessantly by both agencies; harassed overabundantly with stringent enforcement of capacity limits set by the LA Fire Department. Business is way off in all those bars and the owners of same appear to be powerless to do anything about it. Shades of the late '60s! It's no fun to go to your favorite bar and have to wait for hours to get in because of these stringent rules. Sounds like L.A. needs a tavern guild or a protest of some sort. And it looks like the politicians there aren't too eager to

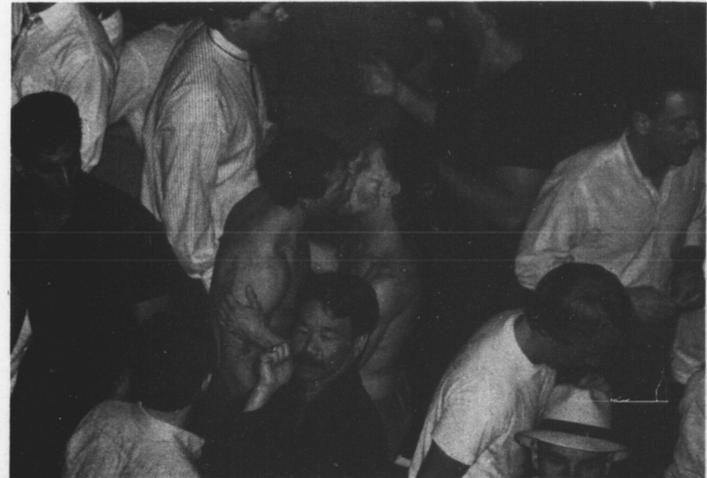
jump into the fray either. Promises. Promises. Only in L.A.

A lot of dudes are upset, too, with the hierarchy at the Women's Building. It seems as though one of the bike clubs booked an event there only to be told that we wouldn't feel comfortable with your group in our building" and therewith cancelled the event with only three days' notice. I can't tell you the exact figure, but at least half a dozen men have cancelled their monthly pledge of donations to the Women's Bldg., and who's to blame them? The last report I had, it will be taken up with the Human Rights Commission in the form of a complaint, and isn't that cute?

On the other hand, the macho financial district bar, Sutter's Mill, is putting on an all-male revue featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys? It's called "Puttin on the Titz" and it opens Feb. 5 for a limited engagement. Again, not ticket prices, or who's directing or anything else—just a flyer.

They tell me some four dudes are running for emperor and five dudes for empress. I hope they have some concrete plans for running the empire. Isn't South of Market part of the empire? Tina? Patrick? In an informal poll conducted last weekend, the major name recognition goes to Stanley Boyd, a well-liked man about town who has certainly done his share of fundraising. His introductory letter is cogent, well-written, and seems to have a goal in mind that was the original concept of the emperor title in the first place. As for the empress candidates, Deena Jones is leading the pack, and I hear his entrance will even make La Flame sit up and take notice! This is all contingent upon whether or not Stanley or Deena will be "ap-

(Continued on next page)



Oblivious—This couple brought its own entertainment to the Giftcenter on New Year's Eve (Photo: R. Pruzan)

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Balloon Burst — Guests reached for falling balloons at the Giftcenter on New Year's Eve (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page) proved" to run. Puhleeze, who would dare deny them the opportunity? Now did I say I was supporting anyone? It's just that none of the other candidates have made themselves known to me. Good luck to all of them, however!

Greetings from Patrick Toner (now working in a Mexican restaurant in Birmingham and going to school); Kym Whittington deep in work for Australia's big celebration all this year; and Miles Mitchell in Laguna Beach who vows he'll return to wreck a few more hearts before he meanders back to his hermit life; Mistress Kathy still living up at the RushRiv. Get well wishes to

George Burgess, David Cockman, and Herbella Hebron, all on the mend from various maladies but with good spirits! Did you all have a good time at Steve Lewis' New Year's party?

And lest I forget, kudos, bravo, thank you, muchas gracias, and dankeschoen to Phil F. Tuggle at Wells Fargo Bank who arranged for that bank to take all the pen-

nies you're donating and rolling them for the AIDS Emergency Fund. Phil is one of those "little people" who works so hard behind the scenes without any recognition and certainly deserves to be lauded and commended for his efforts? Thanks, Phil. Everyone appreciates your efforts!

That raps it up for this *dissue*, but before I close one of my readers wants to know if there is in existence, planning to be in existence, or anyone wanting to

start a club devoted to Nipple Play? He says there are S&M clubs, J/O, B&D, Feet, Foreskin, and drag clubs. If you hear about any nipple clubs, drop me a line care of this paper so my friendly reader can find his place in the sun!

Keep cool, stay generous, keep your legs crossed, stay out of the bushes, and see you 'round the campus or in the "funny" papers.

Karl's Calendar

THURSDAY 1/7

Desiree Revue, N'Touch, showtimes 10:30 p.m. and 12:15 a.m.

FRIDAY 1/8

A Broad, A Dame Plus Friends Comedy Revue, Kimo's, shows 10 and 11:30 p.m.

Constantine's Serving "Connie Dogs," SF-Eagle patio, Friday and Saturday nights, 11 p.m.-1 a.m., \$2 (large and juicy).

SATURDAY 1/9

Bridge Party, Chez Mollet, 10 a.m., host Chuck Demmon.

Samantha Love Stars Show, Kokpit, 9 p.m., raffle, benefit San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund.

A Broad, A Dame Plus Friends Comedy Revue, Kimo's, \$3 cover, shows 10 and 11:30 p.m., benefit Royal Court.

SUNDAY 1/10

Rodeo Association Beer Bust, SF-Eagle, 3-6 p.m., \$7.

Cabaret Night, Galleon, 5 p.m., \$5 cover, Bob and Maralee Marquette, 8 p.m., \$6 cover, Tom Ammiano.

A Broad, A Dame Plus Friends Comedy Revue, Kimo's shows 9 and 10:30 p.m.

TUESDAY 1/12

Capricorn Zodiac Party, Mint, 8 p.m., 50/50 raffle, benefit Godfather Service Fund.

Open Mike Night, Galleon, 9 p.m., host Mikio Hirata.

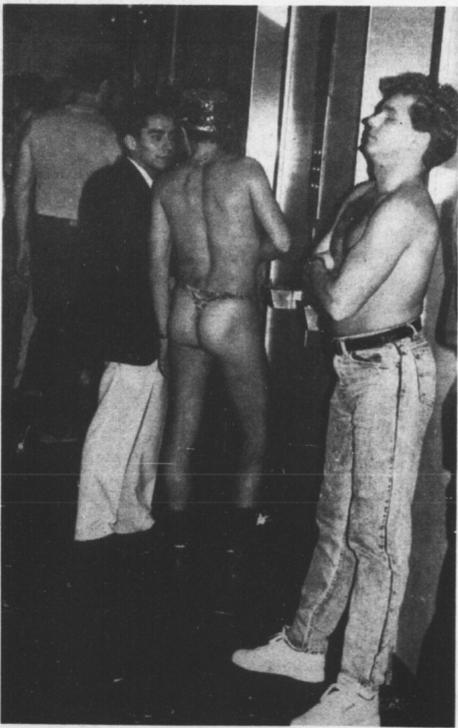
THURSDAY 1/14

Anything Goes Show, Kimo's, 9 p.m., hostess Patsy Recline.

January Bare Chest Contest, SF-Eagle, 10 p.m.

Desiree Revue, N'Touch, showtimes 10:30 p.m. and 12:15 a.m.

Compiled by Dierdre



Socks as Pockets—a minimal costume New Year's Eve at the Giftcenter (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Sweet Lips

Let the New Year Begin

Puttin On The Titz will open Friday the 5th of February and tickets are priced at \$8 and \$10. If you haven't made your reservations for tickets yet you better do it now. It has an initial run of about six weeks but might be extended, so call George Lowy at Sutter's Mill where the new showroom will be for more info. Just dial SUTTERS, yes, that is the new number. Incidentally, I saw one of the rehearsals of a number and it is spectacular. A Gala Preview Opening is planned for Saturday the 30th with yours truly as a hostess.

Hadda Brooks? At the Plush Room of the York Hotel this week. Golly, we do remember Hadda Brooks from the old 524 Union Club, don't we, Bob Ross?

Happy belated birthday greetings to the one and only Bob Golovich on Tuesday the 5th. Only 57 years young, Robert.

Mike Dooley recorded the first Corporate Sissy Fit at the White Swallow last week, but most of it has been forgotten. Incidentally, the White Swallow is still one of the most pleasant bars to have a good cocktail in with a great crowd of congenial customers.

Why is Double Rubber Duffy of the DeLux called that?

Wayne Friday has gotten as big as Greta Grass of the Kokpit so that his new red suspenders keep popping off.

Richard Deemer, formerly of Totie's bar, is now at Old Rick's Gold Room, so do drop by and have a cocktail with him. Hi, Rome.

Saturday the 16th at the California Club the presentation of All Candidates for Emperor and Empress will take place, and they do put on a presentation. Tickets are only \$7, and you can obtain them at Ginger's Too, the Galleon, and Kimo's, so don't miss this event.

Memo to Jesse of the Plk Gulch: Your employees better learn to get along with you. Right or wrong, you are the boss.

Ginger's Too will be the place to be on Tuesday the 26th for All Candidates Night starting at 8 p.m. with Emperor Bobby Pace

A.N. and Czarina Sweet Lips as hosts for the roasting, so come on down and meet these interesting people and join in the fun.

Chuck (Aunt Charlie's on Turk Street) is having a tough time working a full shift beginning at noon and having a great replacement come in at 4 p.m. Even Reba does better than that, Chuck.

Yes, Jim Doan is still at Reflections on Polk Street, and the bar is certainly looking great with a nice crowd of young people.

Goodbye to Totie's Bar and The Stallion, both to losses of leases. Don't know why landlords keep raising rents or refusing to renew leases because they don't want bars on their premises.

Never go out with Rotten Loraine or Anna Mae, especially to the Watering Hole.

An auction Dec. 20 at the Hob Nob for Coming Home Hospice raised more than \$1,000. The auctioneers were Champagne Jack, Jessie of the 222 Club, and Uncle Bert. The Hob Nob thanks all for helping.



Ms. Trixie, pianist extraordinaire, at a recent Ginger's Too function

DICK WALTERS

Incidentally, Friday and Saturday, the 22nd and 23rd, the Hob Nob will hold a two-day Twelfth Anniversary Party with prizes for costumes, food, and entertainment, so mark those days on your calendar. On the 30th of January, Vinnie will present a costume affair with more than \$600 in prizes at 240 Golden Gate Ave. for the AIDS Emergency Fund. It is titled Crystal Winter Ball.

Saturday the 23rd at the Covered Wagon the San Francisco GDI Club will hold its 14th Anniversary and installation of officers.

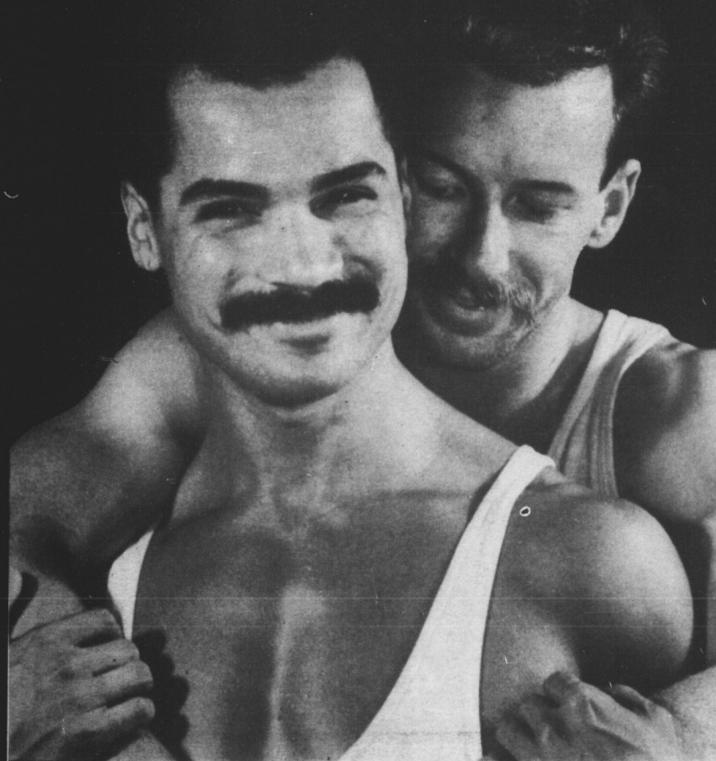
Annual Chili Cook Off on Monday the 11th at 7 p.m. at the Town and Country in Oakland. We'll be there in force, Nez Pas, for this great event.

The voting for Emperor and Empress de San Francisco is on Saturday the 13th at the San Franciscan Hotel, Carriage Entrance, and that same evening Ginger's Too on Sixth Street will hold a special Valentine's Day Dinner and Party and a "Sweet Lips Look-Alike Contest," so don't miss this fun event, right, Lilly Street?

Last Thursday I was really horny, so I dialed The Connector.

Jerry must have called about the same time...

This has been the best long weekend either of us can remember!



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Woolly's words of wisdom

CAST OF THOUSANDS

If you think he's the answer Then best to take warning. He's in love with whoever Is there in the morning.

GAMEPLAN

If we're going to play In a cooperative way Those games either anal or oral On this I insist. One rule must exist: Severe penalty for early withdrawal.

CARRY ON

As the image of macho gets bolder And the vision of faggy gets worse, A knapsack over one another Gets better results than a purse.

QUESTIONABLE

Do you think the venacular At last is responding? Now that two guys screwing Has become Male Bonding.

—by Woolly

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New Year's Rumors

I was between the proverbial rock and a hard place as the invitations were either pouring in, pouring out, or none of the above, which is why I hopped on the invitation to spend New Year's in Portland, Oregon, which was the scene of my last crime!

As the New Year rolls around I think it best to advise you as to which persons, of notable reputation, will be seeking the titles of Emperor and Empress for 1988.

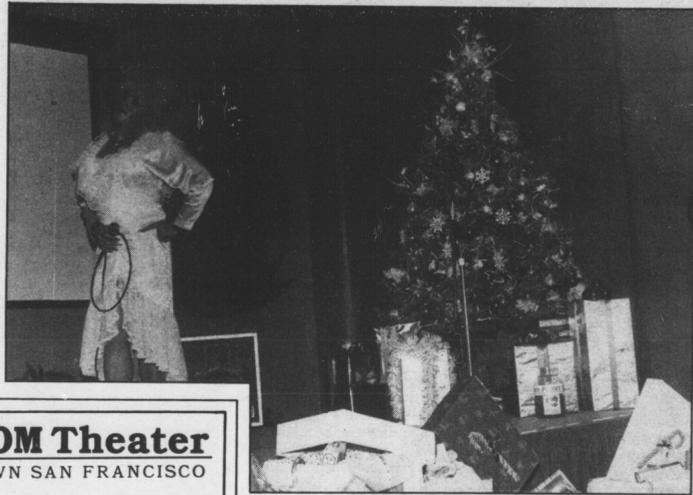
Ready kids... let's go!
Please note that these names are in alphabetical order.

Rumored for the title of Emperor: Billy, James, Lee, Stanley, and Steve.

Rumored for the title of Empress: Deena, Gaby, Lily, and Vinnie.

What a list of rules there are that accompany each application for these titles. I do hope all the applicants read them all thoroughly, or else heads might roll!

The review board will be closed this year, and the presentation of the candidates who are approved will take place on January 12th with more details to appear in this column. To all the persons



Dolly does the Mill for A Country Christmas

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

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who are seeking these titles I hope you do so with sincerity in your hearts, and most of all good will towards the other candidates!

The B.A.R. Christmas party was fun, even though I got my times mixed up, and Sweet Lips, Mary, Dick, and myself had ourselves a makeshift kitchen corner, which didn't take too much time for a few to catch on to. The Comstock Club was the perfect setting, and my thanks to Bob Ross and all for a nice evening.

Now I get to say Happy New Year to a whole bunch of people who helped me get through a year which might have put other people out for the count, but not me, thanks to them.

To all the many people at Kaiser who have helped me and many others through some pretty rough times, I wish only the best and I'm gonna try my hardest to only be a visitor in 1988. I don't think Jami, Peggy, Denny, Melissa, Peggy, or the gift shop ladies could take much more of my vacations there!

To Wayne, Micky, John, Bobby,

Stanley, Chuck, my friends at the Mint and New Bell, Larry and Bryce, Simeon & Co., Trixi, Ilene, Teddy, Dan and Rek and the Castro Station, Derek and my buddies at the SF Eagle, Bernie, Gentil, June, Gloria, Randy Johnson, Lucy and all my new acquaintances in Portland, The Bumps, Ruth Brinker and Open Hand, the entire Imperial family as well as The Grand Ducal family, Carrot Top, Bob Golovich, Mr. Marcus, Ron Huberman, Obie and Lonnie, La Kish, Mr. Lincoln, Sweet Lips, Kurt, Bucky, Fran, Joe Souza, Gaby and Jerry, Robert Reed, Chuck Lewis, Bob Sandner, The Galleon, Tony Treviso, Beau and Randy, Leo, Danny Williams, Allen White, Howard and Jerry, and so many more, I wish the best to all of you in 1988 because there is a light at the end of this tunnel for all of us!

P.S. No wisecracks from you Mr. Marcus, because we will be sharing the spotlight for yet another wild, zany, exhilarating Men Behind Bars coming soon to a Victoria Theatre near you! ●



Lily Street at Sutter's Mill's Country Christmas
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

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THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 8

- **TGIF:** sponsored by Bay Area Career Women, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 6-9 PM, members \$3, non-members \$7. Music, no-host bar. An event for women. Call 495-5393 for more information.
- **Bad Seed:** stage performance, The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$10. Tippi, Miss X, Doris Fish, Sandal Hebert, Jack Rikess, Phillip R. Ford, Lori Naslund, David Van Chaney, Larry Wilson, and Phil Mangano in the play by Maxwell Anderson. Call 861-5079 for tickets.
- **Kat 'N' Jo:** music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Folk-Rock, Blues, and C&W.
- **An Evening Cabaret of Women's Performances:** in conjunction with The West Coast Women and Theatre Conference, Potrero Hill Neighborhood House Theatre, 953 DeHaro St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5 conference participants, \$7 general admission. With the Dell'Arte Players Co., Eureka Theatre, Imani Harrington, Arina Isaacson, Rhodessa Jones, the Plutonium Players, Genny Lim, Mother tongue, Christa Victoria, and Ann Woodhead and Theresa Dickinson. Call 647-8098 or 647-5525 for tickets and more information.
- **Sisterspirit Coffeehouse:** movie night, Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, doors open 8 PM, film clips 8:15 PM, feature film (*Sylvia Scarlett*) 9:15 PM, \$3-\$7 sliding scale. Call 293-9372 for more information.
- **Walkup & Backup:** music with Cathi Walkup, Teddy Bears, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, no cover. Backup by Vince DiCiccio. Call 621-6766 for reservations.
- **Sing-A-Long:** with Frank Banks on the piano, Belden 22, 22 Belden Place, S.F., 6-8 PM.
- **Dick Fregulia:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.
- **The West Coast Women and Theatre Conference:** The Unitarian Center, 1187 Franklin St., S.F., through Jan. 10. With Adele Prandini, Joan Schirle, Jane Hill, Joy Carlin, Genny Lim, Anna Devere Smith, Rhodessa Jones, Ann Fajlan, Kate Mandeloff, Deborah Allen, Terry Baum, Julie Hebert, Noreen Barnes, Ellen Brooks, Michele Linfante, Ida Red, Donna Zavada, Jess Miller, Laura Bock, Joan Holden, Brenda Berlin, and Byomi Butts. Call 647-8098 or 647-5525 for more information and to register.
- **PAWS for PWAs:** first meeting of East Bay organization, 7 PM in Berkeley. Call 486-1869 for more information.
- **Black and White Men Together:** East Bay rap, 3135 Courtland, Oakland, 7:30 PM. This week's topic is "Black and White Pornography." Call 261-7922 for more information.
- **Chees Classes:** San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$5 per session, \$40 for ten-week course (bring a chessboard and pieces with your name on it), no smoking (breaks as needed), free coffee and cookies provided. Call Tadd Waggoner at 626-1049 or 546-8104 for more information.
- **Prayer Around the Cross:** a weekend of meditation, prayer, and healing. Most Holy Redeemer Parish, 100 Diamond St., S.F. Eucharist and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6 PM, prayer around the cross 8 PM, Sacrament of Reconciliation 9 PM. Call 863-6259 for more information.



The Plutonium Players will be part of An Evening Cabaret of Women's Performances Jan. 8 in conjunction with the West Coast Women's Theatre Conference

SATURDAY 9

- **Becoming Twenty One:** presented by Grand Duke Tom Roller and Grand Duchess Flame, Kimo's, 1351 Polk St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5. With Amy Nitrate and a special show, plus 50/50 raffle and hors d'oeuvres. To benefit the Independent Living Resource Center of San Francisco's AIDS Foundation.
- **Bad Seed:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Fiddlesynth:** music with Crystal Reeves and Libby McLaren, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5-\$7 sliding scale.



It is guaranteed that Tom Ammiano, Jeanine Strobel, Doug Holsclaw, Laurie Bushman, Suzy Berger, and Kelly Kittell will be unable to Keep a Straight Face Jan. 10 at The Galleon

- **Jenny Ferris:** music, Teddy Bears, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, no cover. Call 621-6766 for reservations.
- **Gus Gustavson:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.
- **Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center:** movie night, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 8 PM, \$3-\$7 sliding scale. With *Little Shop of Horrors* and *The Wizard of Oz* on an 8' screen in full stereo.
- **MCC Stockton:** roast beef dinner and Bingo, 2737 Pacific Ave., Stockton, dinner 4-7 PM, Bingo begins 8 PM, \$5 for dinner and one Bingo card. Call 957-3862 for more information.
- **EastBay FrontRunners:** Lake Chabot run. Take I-580 East to 150th Ave. and exit. Turn left at 2nd traffic light onto Fairmont Dr. and continue over hill. Lake Chabot Marina entrance on left (parking fee; free parking on street). Meet at entrance end of parking lot at 9:30 AM; mostly flat. Call 939-3579 or 261-3246 for more information.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Meet at Stow Lake Boathouse in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 9 AM. No-host brunch follows; beginners welcome. Call 647-3227 or 337-8704 for more information.
- **Different Spokes/San Francisco:** decide and ride. Meet at 1 PM at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park, S.F. to decide on a ride.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** game fest, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 PM, refreshments. Call 641-0999 for more information.
- **Mediterranean Lesbians and Gays:** potluck, 7 PM in San Francisco. Call 775-6143 for more information.
- **Girth and Mirth Club of Greater San Francisco:** first business meeting of 1988, 3744 16th St., S.F., 7:30 PM. The January Italian Dinner and other events will be discussed.
- **Men Seeking Relationships:** mixer/workshop, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30-10 PM, \$5. Sponsored by the Partners Institute. Call 343-8541 for more information.
- **The West Coast Women and Theatre Conference:** (see Friday listing for details).
- **Prayer Around the Cross:** morning prayer 8 AM, Rosary 9 AM, Mass of Anointing noon, Eucharist and closing benediction 5 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **HIV+ Social Club:** meeting. Call 863-2301 or 285-4942 for more information.

SUNDAY 10

- **Two Sets of Comedy:** with Tom Ammiano, Jeanine Strobel, Doug Holsclaw, Kelly Kittell, Laurie Bushman, and Suzy Berger, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 8 PM.
- **T Dance and Entertainment:** with Danny Williams and guests, Club St. John, 170 W. St. John St., San Jose, doors open 4 PM, \$2. Call (408) 947-1667 for more information.
- **Gay and Lesbian Dance:** at The Vortex, 260 California Ave., Palo Alto, 9 PM-2 AM, \$2 over 21, \$4 18-20. Call 324-1402 for more information.
- **Bad Seed:** stage performance, 2:30 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Chrysanthemum Ragtime Band:** music and dancing, Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 4-6 PM, \$5.
- **Sunday Afternoon Sketch Group:** drawing class for gay men, nude model provided, \$6. Call 421-0316 for more information.

MONDAY 11

- **G40+:** panel discussion, Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 8 PM.
- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** support group for older gay men, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7-8:30 PM. Call 626-7000 for more information.

TUESDAY 12

- **Immagine:** Victor Arimondi photography show, My Place, reception for the artist 6 PM.
- **AIDS-Syphilis Connection:** town meeting, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30-9:30 PM. With Joan McKenna, Peter H. Duesberg, and Michael Smith; presented by The Coalition of AIDS Healing Groups.
- **Bay Area Bisexual Network:** open meeting, San Francisco Federal Savings and Loan Community Room, 2000 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 7:30 PM. The topic of the meeting will be "Bisexuality and the Media." Call 522-5553 for more information.
- **National Organization for Women:** meeting, The Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Congresswoman Barbara Boxer will speak on "The Feminization of Politics"; question and answer period will follow. Call 861-8880 for more information.

WEDNESDAY 13

- **Quisbies:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10. A preview performance of *Leland Moss' Sometime Comedy*, directed by Barbara Daoust. Call 861-5079 for tickets.
- **Judy Hall:** open mike cabaret, Teddy Bears, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, no cover. Call 621-6766 for reservations.
- **Dick Fregulia:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.
- **Open Mike Cabaret:** with Katibelle Collins and Lauren Mayer, Belden 22, 22 Belden Place, S.F., 6-8 PM.
- **East Bay Lesbians and Gays for Jackson:** community meeting, Humanist Hall, 390 27th St., Oakland, 7:30 PM. Call 763-1824 for more information.
- **Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators:** East Bay chapter monthly meeting, 6512 Dover St., Oakland, 6:30 PM. Call 658-3421 for more information.
- **Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators:** South Bay chapter monthly meeting, Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 6:30 PM. Call (408) 737-0214 or (408) 978-5751 for more information.
- **Federal Lesbians and Gays:** meeting, Raffles, 1390 Market St., S.F., 6 PM, \$2; no-host cocktails, free buffet (bring a current magazine for people with AIDS). The guest speaker will be from Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom. Call 695-9174 for more information.
- **Night Workers Anonymous:** social and support group for gay men. Meet in the courtyard at 261 Fell St., S.F., at 11 AM. Call 357-0500 for more information.
- **Improving Self-Esteem:** workshop, 6 PM, \$10. Call 346-2399 for more information.

THURSDAY 14

- **Quisbies:** stage performance (see Wednesday listing for details).
 - **Tressa Armstrong-Lewis:** music, Teddy Bears, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, no cover. Call 621-6766 for reservations. Jazz, Blues, and standards with Eddie Da Costa at the piano.
 - **Gus Gustavson and Faith Winthrop:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.
 - **Black and White Men Together:** Martin Luther King, Jr. observance, 1350 Waller St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 931-BWMT for more information.
 - **Fraternal Order of Gays:** Indian vegetarian cooking class and meal, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 7 PM. With Lalit Dass. Call 641-0999 for more information.
 - **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** older gay men's friendship group (60+), Friendship Room, 711 Eddy St., S.F., 2-4:30 PM. Call 626-7000 for more information.
 - **San Francisco FrontRunners:** run. Meet at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park at 6:30 PM. Call 647-3227 or 337-8704 for more information.
 - **AIDS and HIV Testing:** panel discussion sponsored by the V.A. Social Work Service Education Series on AIDS, Building 7 Auditorium, 43rd and Clement St., S.F., 1-3 PM (coffee hour noon to 1 PM). With Ed Hilton, Henri Norris, George Rutherford, and Neil Seymour. Call 750-2044 for more information.
- The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays.

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A Fascinating Look At Oscar Wilde's London

Oscar Wilde's London: A Scrapbook of Vices & Virtues 1880-1900
by Wolf Von Eckardt, Sander Gilman and J. Edward Chamberlin
Doubleday, \$24.95

by Frank Howell

The Victorian era, despite the label of repression and upright attitudes, was quite an exhilarating period of discovery and artistic achievement. Freud would argue this as proof that sublimation of sexuality advances society, but there was a dark side to all these events, as we shall soon see.

Oscar Wilde marched at the center of this passing parade, dominating the arts with his quips and ironic observations. Wilde believed that beauty would elevate society beyond any pain or social problems that wracked the underside of London society.

The Arts and Crafts movement was the engine that propelled his vision. "A civilized society can be sustained only if art and good taste achieve control over machine production." Every item, from tea cups to skyscrapers was to be elevated by good taste.

Wilde led many artists in proclaiming that beauty was all and the practical be damned. His was the life of refinement and the non-masculine. Gilbert and Sullivan shot darts at Wilde and his disciples in their witty operetta *Patience*. (Wilde was represented by the lead character Bunthorn).

Oddly enough, in spite of his privileged position, the campy Irishman felt compassion for the

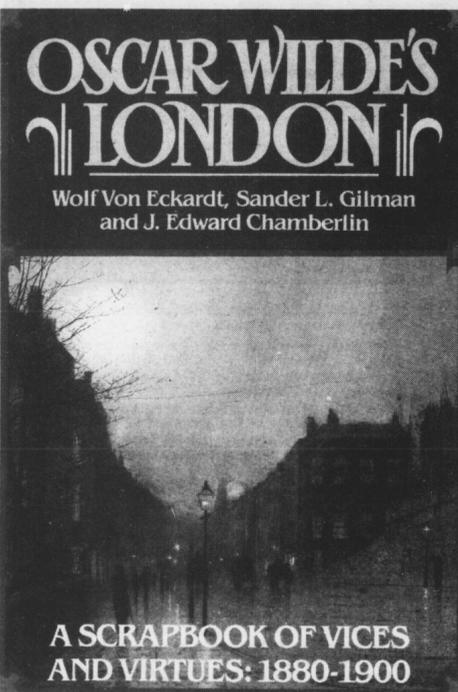
poor which he preached in *The Soul of Man Under Socialism*. As usual, his daft vision held sway when he remarked, "if the poor only had profiles there would be no difficulty in solving the problem of poverty."

Wilde was opposed by John Ruskin and the Pre-Raphaelites, who saw medieval art as the only proper form of expression.

Many of the attitudes and institutions we hold today can trace their roots to Victorian morality. The reverence for sports in our own time was widespread in London of the late 19th century.

Athletics and Christianity were often linked as a form of proper character development. Lytton Strachey, a daring gay activist of his time, noted that, "The worship of athletics and the worship of good form: Upon these two poles our public schools have turned so long that we have almost come to believe that such is their essential nature, that an English public schoolboy who wears the wrong clothes and takes no interest in football is a contradiction in terms."

Lord Baden Powell, founder of the revered Boy Scouts and reputed boy lover, condemned boys who were too nelly for words and who refused to participate in such butch affairs. He referred to



"thousands of boys and young men, pale, narrow-chested, hunched up, miserable specimens, smoking endless cigarettes."
Many in the older generation

tend to view the Victorian Era through a wildly distorted lens as though this was a time when traditional values were held high. But underneath this dignified layer of respectability, corruption and prostitution flourished. Drug use, which we treat as novel and unparalleled in our own time, was widespread. Hippie-like artists were not unknown.

The rich merely looked the other way as dear Oscar opined, "We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars."

In addition to Oscar's own curious downfall, there was the infamous Cleveland Street Scandal, documented by H. Montgomery Hyde in his 1976 book. This uproar actually involved more people than the Wilde case, but it is the latter that is remembered today.

Erotic fantasy in that day and age was just as wild and uninhibited as the nineteen sixties, as we see in an excerpt from *The Pearl, A Journal of Facetiae and Voluptuous Reading* (1879); the fantasy poster of one Frank Jones reads as follows:

Frank Jones
Who has the
HONOUR
to
SHOW HIS VIRILE MEMBER
to
HER MOST
GRACIOUS
MAJESTY,
QUEEN VICTORIA...

*No Girls admitted who have not yet commenced their Courses.
No Boys admitted who are incapable of being friggid.*

NOTICE
The profits of this Exhibition will be divided between the Society For the Encouragement of Incest and Sodomy throughout the World...

Oscar Wilde's London is a dazzling recreation of a surprising era. The book is literally overflowing with black and white photos of Victorians and Oscar himself at work and play. The connection between Wilde and his times is total. Give yourself a royal treat and stroll lovingly through the pages of this generous volume.

Double Revelation

My Father and Myself
by J.R. Ackerley, Poseidon Press \$7.95

by Marv. Shaw

Ordinarily, egocentrics aren't considered ideal autobiographers, given the human tendency to present only the best and conceal the worst of ourselves. J.R. Ackerley states outright that he was always self-centered, but because he also demonstrates repeatedly that he was brutally honest about himself, he joins the honorable company of St. Augustine and Rousseau. Additionally, by paralleling his life with his father's story, he creates a rich double portrait, with contrasts and similarities going in both directions.

Born the second son of a well-to-do fruit importer who became known as The Banana King, J.R. Ackerley grew up at a cool distance from his father, for whom suburban domesticity had little attraction. J.R., sometimes called Joe, was much closer to an older brother, who was little like him, and a charming but ditzzy mother, who quarreled continuously with J.R.'s sister. Ackerley sees this domestic beginning, crowded with even more confining women, as preparatory for his gayness, but he refuses to become Freudian about that.

His particular homosexuality was that of the masculine gay for younger, macho—often working class—males, some of whom were not homosexual themselves. Frequently, the object of his affection was a serviceman, a predilection well known to his friends. Even Lytton Strachey, a keen biographer himself but only a casual acquaintance of Ackerley's, concluded a letter to him with "Best regards to The Army, The Navy and The Police Force."

In his late teens and early twenties, Ackerley Sr. was a guardsman himself for two separate enlistments. And from the pictures of him at that time (1880's), he was a real stunner. In his father's life then, his biographer son discovered, were two older men who provided the young soldier with attention, money, and an informal education in the ways of the better classes. Lives, influences, and relationships, began, as the son's explorations of his father's early life proceeded, to seem intriguingly circular.

However, the senior Ackerley, in all the discoverable details

(Continued on next page)

Omission Is Distortion Is No Rose

The Third Rose: Gertrude Stein and Her World
by John Malcolm Brinnin
Addison Wesley \$14.95

by Marv. Shaw

Struck at an impressionable 15 by his first exposure to the startlingly different prose of Gertrude Stein, John Malcolm Brinnin, who was to become a poet, critic, and teacher, began a lifelong infatuation with this innovative, egocentric, contradictory woman. Now he has brought out this analytical, meticulously researched, beautifully written study of her formation, by both internal and external influences, and her significance in the radically shifting world of the first half of our century.

The "third rose" is of course part of her most famous reiteration. But in one vital sense, the bloom is lost. Praiseworthy on some counts, Brinnin's book is flawed badly by a glaring omission: no consideration whatsoever of Stein's lesbianism.

Gertrude Stein's psychological and artistic development is traced with careful attention to significant detail and tight cause-effect logic. Though the Steins were of both the European and American cultural worlds, Gertrude developed early an insular personality and became absorbed with the mechanics and effects of language. Her college studies with William James, while linking her to the frontier-bursting psychology of the late 19th century, served mainly to reinforce her drive to achieve an individualistic style.

However, it was not the psychology laboratory, even the so-called "automatic writing" experiments, that influenced her most. Rather, it was her understanding of what the emergent graphic artists were doing as they developed from Cezanne's revolutionary perceptions that moved art from mere imitative representation to gloriously separate independence. The Cubists, Picasso especially, inspired her literary equivalent of their non-objective art, wherein the mode of creation was the essential. She began doing with words what they did with the varying shapes of tabletop still lifes. The result was a baffling new prose.

In addition to this tracing of influence, Brinnin documents Stein's major life relationships. Originally powerful in her life, Gertrude's older brother Leo is seen as an increasingly neurotic presence which she must reject. Picasso, first to last, is the inspiring and loyal friend. Hemingway is first the adoring pupil, later the corrupted artist seduced and destroyed by his fame. Sherwood Anderson and Thornton Wilder are the supportive literary companions.

But what of Alice B. Toklas? From her entrance in 1906 until Gertrude's death 40 years later, Alice is merely the self-effaced companion who slavishly supports and looks on—nothing more. What are we to make of



Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas arrive in America

Brinnin's fastidious avoidance of exploring this closest of relationships?

In view of the author's interpretive, evaluative purpose, the reason might be a complete discounting of artistic influence from Alice. But can a conjugal relationship of four decades be so summarily dismissed?

It must be recognized that this book is part of the Radcliffe Biography Series, sponsored by the college. Could it be that the institution and/or Brinnin alone, apprehensive of stigma, decided on avoidance of homosexuality for a work which must take its place with the life stories of such outstanding women as Mary

Cassat and Margaret Bourke-White? Such sanitizing in this age of outspoken feminism is absurd.

Whatever the reason, the book suffers. It is most unfortunate that this sympathetic, insightful study should be crippled by implied homophobic exclusion. ●

Father

(Continued from previous page)

his life, was resolutely and indefatigably heterosexual, to the point of having a second entire family of a mistress and several children! His sex life was so vital to him that as he sank into various illnesses late in life, his main worry was that they and the applied treatments would keep him from getting his tool up. J.R.'s compulsive cruising was driving him at this same time—and for some time thereafter.

J.R. Ackerley's pursuit was for the Ideal Friend, a beautiful, athletic young man beside whom all other would fall short. The search would be over. Well into

his middle years, he realized that such a creature could never be attained. Abruptly, his devotion shifted to an Alsatian bitch he called Tulip! That affair lasted through the dog's 14 years, and Ackerley wrote a popular book about her.

Ackerley also had a most respectable public career, 29 years as literary editor of *The Listener*, the magazine of the BBC. A previous book of personal experience, *Hindoo Holiday*, was also a considerable success. But *My Father and Myself* is his real monument. First published in 1968, it certainly deserves to be re-presented. The author died in 1976. His life story should live as long as there are fathers and sons, especially gay ones. ●

COMING ATTRACTIONS

KPIX To Televis CBS AIDS Drama

CBS' final Schoolbreak Special of January, *An Enemy Among Us*, airs on Channel 5 on Friday, Jan. 29 from 3-4 p.m. The impact of exposure to AIDS on the patient, family and community is depicted in this drama starring Danny Nucci, Dee Wallace Stone, Stephen Macht and Gladys Knight.

Teenager Scott Fischer and his family are traumatized when they learn that he has developed antibodies to the HIV virus as a result of a blood transfusion after

a biking accident three years earlier. Although Scott has no symptoms of AIDS and only a 30 percent chance of developing it, his community reacts in fear and confusion, the school board insists that he be tutored at home and his girlfriend's parents refuse to let him see their daughter.

For further information regarding the CBS Schoolbreak Specials in January, please phone KPIX at (415) 765-8874. ●

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Art Exhibit Looks at Sexuality



'Mixed Metaphor,' mixed media on paper, 44" x 59", by Fran Murphy

SEATTLE—A solo exhibition of works by Fran Murphy, "Threshold," examines timeless vs. temporal qualities while representing paradox and dichotomy, historical precedence, sexuality, and personal signature.

In the larger than life-size drawings, there are usually two figures presented in an unapologetic nakedness and in an intentionally vacuous environment

that invites the viewer to define in terms that are not entirely self-evident.

The artist will, in conjunction with the show, present an informal gallery talk and slide presentation about the works and their implication on Jan. 28 from 6-7:30 p.m.

The exhibit opens on Thursday, Jan. 21, with a reception for the artist from 5-8 p.m. at the

Alonso/Sullivan Gallery, located at 207 Harvard Avenue East in Seattle. Murphy's works will be on display through Feb. 15. Regular gallery hours are 11 a.m.—6 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays except Thursdays until 8 p.m., and Sundays noon to 5 p.m. Parking is available and admission is free. For further information, contact the gallery at (206) 325-4186.

Seattle To Host 'Living In Leather'

The National Leather Association will hold its 1988 Conference, *Living In Leather 3*, in Seattle, Oct. 7-10. Chair of the Conference Committee is Jan Lyon, with Association Chairs Wayne Gloege and Dean Dunlap. Workshops will feature nationally-significant members of the gay and lesbian leather community who will present workshops on a variety of current political, social, and technical concerns.

The Committee is planning an extensive vendor/exhibitor area, featuring leather/latex craftsmen, tailors, and vendors. Their products will be introduced in a major fashion/apparel show. Also planned are several social events. Other leather/SM organizations from around the country are being invited to participate. Special provisions are being made for

disability and low-income access to the Conference.

On Friday Oct. 7, the conference will hold a meet-and-greet registration for attendees. On Saturday, there will be a fashion/apparel luncheon. Workshops will occupy the bulk of Saturday and Sunday. Additional events are being considered for Monday, Oct. 10.

The National Leather Association is a national political, social, and charitable organization of Gays and Lesbians of Leather. The Seattle Chapter of NLA is host group for this Conference, assisted by NLA/BC. NLA/Seattle has won recognition with its first two Living in Leather Conferences.

For more information, write to NLA, P.O.B. 17463, Seattle, WA 98107.

College Plans 60 Classes At Local Sites

City College will schedule 60 classes at the Castro/Valencia complex for Spring. Classes begin the week of Jan. 11.

The college will offer 40 credit courses at one of three sites: Everett Middle School, Mission High School, and Sanchez School. The Centers Division will offer 20 mini and non-credit classes at Everett.

The Castro/Valencia complex, now under the management of City College, began as an outreach to San Francisco's gay/lesbian community in 1980. Today it serves additionally as an outreach to the Noe Valley/Upper Market neighborhoods, and increasingly—as its reputation grows—to the entire city.

As in previous semesters the Castro/Valencia will offer a wide range of Spanish, French, and Hebrew courses. Italian debuts this semester at Mission High.

Of particular interest to the gay community are several specifically designed courses: Gay/Lesbian Literature—International, Lesbian Relationships, Psychology 30 (Personal and Social Adjustment), and for the first time a two-unit course entitled Sexually Transmitted Diseases.

The Centers Division has scheduled Gay Male Relationships (Mondays) and Lifestyles of Gay Men (Thursdays). The latter nine-week class will be given by Martin Stow, a psychologist.

Other well-received courses include two in Art History, four in Drama, and two in the Humanities. Moreover there will be several Business classes, Exercise classes (including Aerobics and Tai Chi), Creative Writing, and classes in History, Nutrition, and Sign Language.

City College credit courses are \$5 per unit with limited enrollment, while most of the Centers offerings are free. Registration will be on the first night of all classes, which begin at 6:30 p.m. Classes are held Monday through Thursday nights and all end before 9:30 p.m. All three sites are located between 17th and 18th Streets off Church Street.

More detailed information is available in the schedules put out by both divisions and is available on campus or at the various sites starting January 11.

Individual career counseling also is available on site or through two guidance courses that are planned.

'Jerker' in S.D. For February Run

The first leg of Michael Kearns' national tour will include dates in San Diego and Los Angeles.

David Stebbins will join Kearns in Robert Chesley's *Jerker* in San Diego at the Sushi Performance Gallery on Feb. 19-21 and subsequently in Los Angeles for a two-week run at the Fifth Estate Theatre, opening March 23. Ticket information for the San Diego performances: (619) 234-7944. In Los Angeles: (213) 666-0434.

Kearns will perform his *The*

Truth Is Bad Enough and James Carroll Pickett's *Dream Man* throughout the United States in 1988 with tentative bookings in Portland; Washington, D.C.; Minneapolis; and San Francisco.

After a decade of local theatrical activity as an actor/director/producer and an 18-month stint as Celebration Theatre's Artistic Director, Kearns is concentrating on reaching a national audience. During the past two years, the performer has played Atlanta twice, Des Moines three times, Albuquerque twice, Boston, New York, and Minneapolis.

Writer's Workshop At Trinity Church

Novelist David Panger will conduct a free writer's workshop, especially for persons with AIDS and their loved ones, at Trinity Church, 1668 Bush St. The classes will begin on Wednesday, Jan. 13. Classes last from 2:30-5:30 p.m.

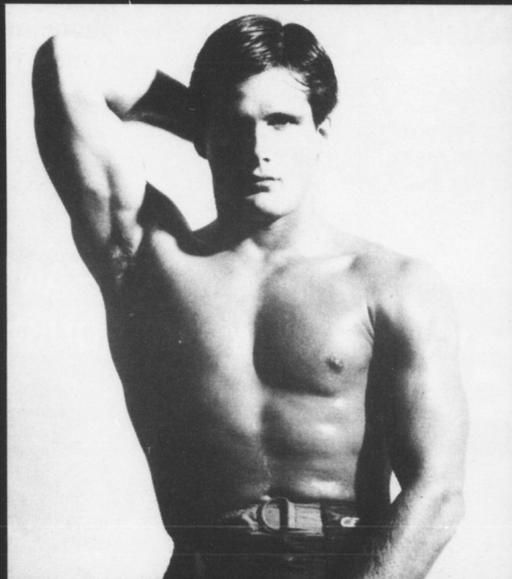
No previous experience as a writer is necessary, merely an interest in converting dread, anxiety and morbidity into verbal and written art. During the classes, Panger will direct exercises that

are designed to encourage "Sharing one's wisdom and internal beauty by means of writing."

For Panger, the purpose of the eight-week series is, "Seeking truth and understanding about the human condition by pursuing the pathway of the creative writer."

Panger has published eight novels, the most recent being *Joanna the P...* released in December.

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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

Celebration '90

Vancouver Announces Plans For Gay Games III

by Hal Herkenhoff

The official date has been set for Opening Ceremonies at Gay Games III to be held on Saturday, Aug. 4, 1990 in Vancouver, British Columbia with 5,500 athletes expected to participate in 23 sports, according to Richard Dopson, board member for the sponsoring Metropolitan Vancouver Athletic and Arts Association (MVAAA). Dopson was visiting San Francisco during the year-end holidays to provide information to local leaders of Team San Francisco and interested supporters about the world's largest amateur athletic and cultural festival, the quadrennial Gay Games.

The Canadian organizers are budgeting \$900,000 for their 1990 event, based largely on the S.F. Chamber of Commerce's estimate following the Gay Games in 1986 in San Francisco that the financial impact of GG II amounted to \$11.75 million for the local S.F. economy.

During his trip, Dopson met with many of the Games II organizers at a reception held at the Cafe San Marcos last week to discuss such issues as housing, sport venues, corporate sponsorship, and other operational areas, such as how to set up regular communication with the various MVAAA departments. Among those attending the reception were Gay Games II sports co-chairs Bob Puerzer (Marathon), Phyllis Manning (Golf), Bernard Turner (Track), Les Balmain (Tennis), and Robin Chambers (Wrestling), as well as department heads from Registration, Public Relations, Signing, Translations, Sports, Communications, and Opening/Closing Ceremonies.

Many of these leaders will provide advice and information during consultations with Vancouver's officials over the next few years leading up to Aug. 4, 1990.

In order to spread this information directly to gay/lesbian athletes, Vancouver recently hosted an international planning conference to focus on 1990, called "Three to Get Ready." Attending the conference were representatives from 13 cities, including Seattle, San Diego, Toronto, Chicago, and Washington, D.C. One representative even travelled from France.

During the conference, delegates discussed the operations of Gay Games II, toured the city of Vancouver to see some of the proposed facilities for the sports events, and assisted each other by sharing ideas or fundraising, both for the city teams and the Games itself.

In 1988, "Two for the Show" will be held in Vancouver and in 1989 the final planning conference will be called "One for the Money." For the moment, Dopson encouraged "anyone who would like to help with Gay Games III to take out a membership with MVAAA in order to



Celebration '90 purports to be as exciting as the 1986 Gay Games (Photo: M. Hicks)

keep in touch with new developments and announcements." He also stressed that as with Games II, participation in every aspect of Celebration '90 is open to all individuals. The cultural festival and the ceremonies will be designed to entertain the general population.

For membership, including newsletters, interested athletes and volunteers are encouraged to send a check for \$10 to MVAAA, 1170 Bute St., Vancouver Canada V6E 1Z6. The new Celebration '90 t-shirt is now on sale to raise funds, and can be ordered for \$12 plus a \$2 handling charge. The official shirt is white cotton with a raspberry and aqua design, and can also be ordered with long sleeves (\$20).

One of the central questions asked by the various sports leaders meeting with Dopson was to inquire about the list of sports planned for 1990. There are currently 23 sports on the list provided by Sports Director Mark Mees. "All rules are still pending," said Dopson, "for all of the sports." They include: Basketball, Billiards, Bowling, Cycling, Golf, Marathon, Physique, Powerlifting, Racquetball, Swimming and Diving, Soccer, Softball, Track and Field, Tennis, Triathlon, Volleyball, and Wrestling, plus Water Polo, Martial Arts, Badminton, Touch Football, Equestrian, and Squash. "It is likely that any regulations for these sports will not be announced until the first of 1989," he added.

Housing is another big issue facing the officials of Team San Francisco in their efforts to send the largest possible contingent of athletes from S.F. to Vancouver. Dopson assured them that every

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BOWLING

One Hot Bowler

Debbie Carmona: One of the Top Bowling Shows In San Francisco

by Richard McPherson

For some reason, the sport of bowling has never enjoyed the same prestige as other participation sports such as tennis and golf. The bowling world, though, does contain its champions who have endured in the sport and who deserve recognition as role models of true athletic achievement.

Debbie Carmona is one individual who has even transcended the imaginary boundaries of the gay/lesbian and "straight" bowling worlds to achieve excellence in both. Petite in stature and feminine in appearance, Carmona breaks the age-old image of the tough-looking woman competitor. But she can throw a hard-driving ball and smash the pins off the lanes with the best of them.

At 29, Debbie is a 22-year bowling veteran who continues to achieve excellence year after year. She is averaging 198 and 194 in two women's leagues. She had four 700 series in 1987. Debbie is one of the hottest women bowlers, lesbian or straight, in the Bay Area today. As the much deserved recipient of the 1987 S.F. Cable Award for "Sports-woman of the Year—Bowling," Carmona enjoyed her best year of bowling.

In last year's summer season, Debbie shot the second 700 three-game series of her life, a 715. On Oct. 11, she rolled her third, a 729 series on games of 246, 237 & 246, the highest series ever shot in Park Bowl's S.F. Women's Business League



Debbie Carmona (r.) talks it over with a friend (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

(SFWBL). In August she and her partner finished in first place in the mixed doubles division of the S.F. Gay Scratch Invitational. Debbie shot a 838 four-game series highlighted by a 215 and 256.

These past couple of months, though, she's been on a hot streak the likes of which have never been matched by any gay or lesbian bowler in San Francisco. In the SFWBL she shot a 233/604 on Dec. 6, followed a week later by a 245, 214/630.

Her past four weeks of shooting in the Ladies Classic Scratch, a straight women's league in San Jose, have been nothing short of phenomenal. The last two weeks of November she shot 658 and 657 three-game sets. The following week, Dec. 3, she shot 258, 184, 279 for a 721 series. Carmona approached the next week saying to herself, "What am I going to shoot tonight? Is this the week I'm going to crash?" After beginning the night with five strikes in a row another bowler asked her: "Are you going to shoot another 700 tonight?"

"Don't even say it!" Debbie quickly responded. "I knew if I thought about it I would mess up. Yeah, it is kind of difficult to

shoot back-to-back 700's [in a league]." But it was a feat she wanted to accomplish. She shot 225 and 258 her first two games, and needed a 217 her last game to reach her goal.

"My third game I needed to finish with four strikes in a row [for a 700 series], but I didn't know it," she recalled. And, coming through in true champion style, she did just that, finishing with a 226 game and a 709 series. Shooting back-to-back 700s is a rarity for any woman bowler anywhere in the country, even amongst professionals. She averaged an incredible 228 for 12 games of league play in that league for a four-week period.

Debbie's leagues are on a break for the holidays now, so she's giving herself a few weeks to recoup before starting the new year.

For Carmona it all began at the age of seven, when she picked up her first ball and began taking lessons at S.F.'s Castle Lanes. She averaged 72 her first season of bowling. Debbie quickly became skilled at the sport and her average continued to climb steadily into her teen years.

In the early 1970's, Debbie joined a group called the Castle Queens. The Queens were a handful of teenage girls based out of Castle Lanes. They were the best-of-the-best young bowlers in the area. This group would travel the country, and sometimes the world, as goodwill ambassadors, giving bowlers exhibitions as they toured. Debbie was a member of this select group from 1971-79, most of her teenage life.

In 1972-73, when Carmona was 14, she was averaging around 153. By the end of 1973 she was up to 166. The following year showed a major jump in ability and average. That year, at the age of 16, she passed the 180 average mark. "I had a boyfriend at that time," she recalls, "who had over a 200 average. His influence and coaching helped me a lot."

She said that the biggest improvement came after he helped her in getting fit with the right ball, with the right grip, weight distribution, etc. This was all she needed to give her ball more driving power to increase her scoring ability.

In 1974, she averaged 183 in a

Bay Area junior travel league, which included ten 600+ series over the course of the winter season. From that point on, she has never looked back. Debbie continued to excel as a junior bowling champion and was placed on the S.F. All City Team in 1975, 76, 78 and 79. During the same years, she was awarded a position on the Youth Bowling Assoc. (YBA) NorCal All State Team.

Her first major scoring achievement was ten years ago, when, at the age of 19, she shot her first 700 series in a junior travel league. She shot games of 225, 200, 278 for a 703 series. "I had been in a slump for a long time, and was hoping, after the second game, that I would get a 600 series." In the third game she had 11 out of 12 possible strikes.

The following year, her last in the junior ranks, her average went up to 194. In one league where bowlers shoot four games each league night, she shot 235, 233, 227 and 278 for a 973 series, a 243 average for four games. Later that same year, she shot a 279 at Castle Lanes. This was her third attempt at a perfect 300 game. It was marred by a spare in one frame.

Carmona's memories of those years were ones of good times and exciting scoring achievements. "It was always the social aspect which kept me coming back year after year," she said. "I was always a social butterfly, anyway." Lesbian feelings were not prevalent in her life during these teenage years. "We were all real naive about these things back then," she said.

As an adult bowler she averaged around 193 from 1980-83, the highest being a 197, during both the winter and summer seasons of 1982.

The 1986 Gay Games offered an exciting experience for Carmona, which she compared with her younger years. "The Games felt like the old days in the junior leagues... lots of camaraderie." Debbie's team captured the Gold Medal in the Games and she personally received the silver medal for her second place finish in the singles event. She averaged 202 for 16 games.

For several years as an adult bowler Carmona refrained from joining a lesbian league. She

(Continued on next page)



The four founders of the S.F. Women's Business League (l. to r.) Bernice Straub, Mona Tong, Mel Coyle, and Gayle Chun (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Ancient Heritage

Enemas: Gay Medicine

by Steve Perkins

From the dawn of time gay men have taken pride in their bodies and the understanding and knowledge to use them. Since gay men are fervently involved sexually with the rectum this pride has translated into a commitment to cleanliness which has placed gay men in the unique position of being the only cultural group in the world which takes active measures to ensure the regular cleanliness of the lower digestive tract. Because of their practice of internal hygiene, gay men have almost no incidence of cancers of the colon, rectum and prostate, while for the rest of modern society these maladies rank at the top as the most common major diseases.

Gay men's involvement with internal cleansing has also given them the freedom from such common ailments as flu, colds, skin problems, colitis and a host of other medical problems. Only recently have scientists and the medical profession come to the conclusion that a myriad of medical problems can be directly traced to the constant and continual accumulation of decaying fecal matter in the lower digestive tract. Unfortunately, even people with regular bowel movements still carry several days worth of decaying material in their colons at all times.

A recent article in the *San Francisco Chronicle* (3/21/85, p. 8) reported that 75,000 immune deficient hospital patients die each year and the sole cause are poisons produced in the fecal matter. Copies of this article are available by phoning 864-8597.

Today many unfortunate gay men lacking pride in their bodies and the common sense to ensure sanitary sexual relationships are learning through disease and death that shit and sex do not mix.

For the majority of gay men, however, gay hygiene (also called colon enemas or internal cleansing) incorporated into the daily hygiene regimen is a simple and practical method of ensuring good health and healthy sexuality. Using a hose attached to the sink or shower the cleansing process takes only a few minutes to perform. Daily cleansing also brings with it the awareness of and the most intimate and conscious understanding of the interior muscle structure which in turn ensures proper control and relaxation during anal sex. Daily cleansing keeps the fecal matter in a more liquid condition which is easily evacuated by the inflow of a few short jets of warm water.

Gay men who use less accredited means of cleansing (bags or syringes) and those who do not cleanse daily can find the cleansing ritual prolonged and uncomfortable. Infrequent cleansing allows the fecal matter to become solidified and therefore difficult to dislodge. Infrequent cleansing can easily exhaust the muscular structure of the anus and subsequently during anal sex the fatigued muscles cannot protect the exposed tissues from cuts and abrasions.

Enema bags and anal syringes likewise do not provide the water pressure necessary to penetrate beyond the second interior sphincter muscle cleansing the colon. Generally only the rectum is cleaned by these devices. Since the majority of fecal matter is in the colon, the interior muscle is naturally inhibited, tightly holding back the remaining feces. Such a situation prohibits the outer sphincter from working in unison with the inner muscle ring and causes harmful stress in the anal cavity which results in fissures, broken tissue and pinpoint sores. Improper cleansing pretty much ensures that these open sores will now become infected from the remaining fecal matter, causing internal gangrene and death within 24 hours.

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POOL

Victors To Get Spoils

by Lauren Ward

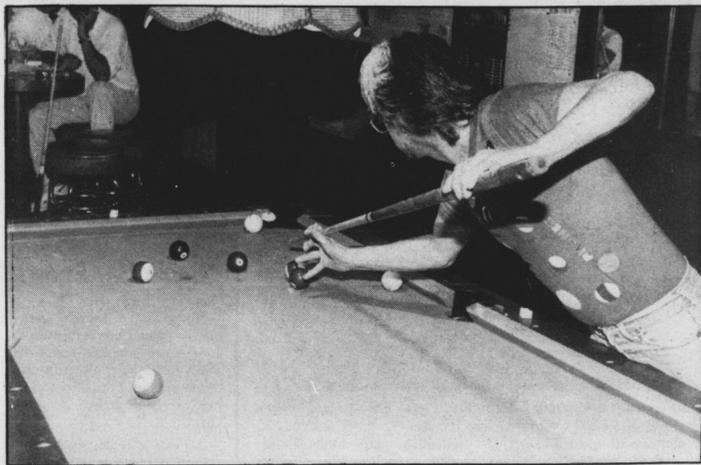
The triumphs and traumas of the S.F. Pool Association's Fall 1987 season were shared when we celebrated an awards party on Tuesday, Jan. 5. Food and beverages were provided and cash prizes and trophies were passed out to this season's winners upstairs at Amelia's.

The first tournament of the season was a get-acquainted affair called the Captain's Tournament. E.Z. of the DeLuxe Ducks won over a large field at the Cinch last August.

The trail to the finals of the league's 9-ball championship, sponsored by Bracco Distributing and Bud Lite, began on Oct. 1. Eight qualifying tournaments determined the 16 finalists, all guaranteed cash prizes with additional trophies to the top four. E.Z. again was the winner, followed by David Lee, Lisa Duncan and Rick Mariani.

On Nov. 14, we held our first women's tournament, a qualifier to select four representatives to the West Coast Challenge's first women's competition. Fran Herman won her first league competition, beating out Torri Connelly. Lisa Duncan again finished third while Lauren Ward was fourth.

Next up on the following Saturday was the Most Valuable Player tournament. Each team was eligible to send a representative to the tourney. Lauren Ward of the DeLuxe Ducks won her



Going for the corner

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

third MVP title, finishing ahead of Walter Moreira of the Vanna White Swallow, Toni Macante of the Watering Hole Too and Tom Williamson of The Other Deluxe.

The All-Star is the league's most prestigious tournament. The top 16 players compete to determine the four individuals who go on to compete at West Coast Challenge XVI. E.Z. won the championship for the second, Jim Russo third and Walter Moreira fourth.

The Rising Star features the best 16 entrants who did not qualify for the All-Star. The

Ducks' Tim Chitwood brought home his team's fifth individual contest and his second straight Rising Star title. "Pooh Bear" Davis was second, Toni Macante third and Ann Young fourth.

Team playoff trophies went to the Cafe San Marcos Marksmen, the Castro Station Cruisers, the Cinch Saddletramps and the Park Bowl Pockets. Quarterfinalists team trophies won by the Bear Thuggs, the Watering Hole Too, The Watering Hole IV Revenge and the Eagle Creek Chaos III.

First place: The Vanna White Swallow. Team members: Rick Mariani, Walter Moreira,

Jim Russo, Bill Kazee and Butch McAllister.

Second place: The DeLuxe Ducks. Team members: E.Z., Lisa Duncan, Lauren Ward, Tim Chitwood, Ron Bulich and Marquita Booth.

Third place: The Betty White Swallow. Team members: Colin Bradley, David Lee, Yutaka Moriyana, Jerry Peloquin, Ramon Rodriguez and T.J. Springer.

Fourth place: The Park Bowl Badasses. Team members: Lynn Westhove, Kelvin Roberts, Chuck Numbers, Hugh Fountain and Tom Davis.

The party was a sendoff for the S.F. contingent to WCC XVI, which will be held in Long Beach on Jan. 8-11.

The S.F.P.A. Board of Directors wishes to thank all the league members and sponsors for another successful season. Our spring season starts on Tuesday, Feb. 9.

Dial JOE-POOL for S.F.P.A. information.

GG III

(Continued from page 45)

posit \$12 million into the city's coffers.

Games III organizers are currently negotiating with two major Canadian corporations.

"Current Vancouver Mayor, Gordon Campbell, has already given us encouragement and assistance," Dopson pointed out.

The reality of the Gay Games' financial impact on a city has already been illustrated in 1986 at Gay Games II when S.F. Mayor Dianne Feinstein made a rare public appearance at a major gay event.

Two members of Canada's Parliament, Margaret Mitchell and Svend Robinson, have agreed to be Honorary Directors of 1990. Bruce Kidd, former Canadian Olympic skier, and Don Saxton, current captain of the Canadian National Volleyball team, are also Honorary Directors.

Dopson was also pleased to inform the local leaders that "a 1990 promotional video is now complete after a tremendous amount of volunteer work by Vancouver video producer Mary Ann McEwan, along with cooperation from S.F.'s Male Entertainment Network (MEN), Penguin Productions and Rogers Cable, Channel 4.

The 11-minute tape includes an interview with the late Dr. Tom Waddell, founder of Gay Games, and clips of 1986. Anyone wanting to borrow the tape for non-commercial use should contact MVA.A.

Dopson made a special announcement to the S.F. athletes and volunteers that Vancouver and Gay Games III will join San Francisco athletes in the 1988 Gay Freedom Gay parade, and welcomed all supporters to come to the Celebration '90 party to be

hosted by the Canadians on parade day.

Team San Francisco, organizers of the various athletes from San Francisco who plan to attend Games III, will hold its next general meeting open to the public Feb. 27 at 10 a.m. at Amelia's at 647 Valencia St. near 17th Street. For further information about the efforts and goals of Team San Francisco, call 626-1333.

"We are very pleased to see the unity and commitment of the San Francisco athletes and their leaders," Dopson observed, "and we are very excited to see this large community putting together a team to come to Celebration '90 in Vancouver."

Concurrently, the San Francisco leaders were also very excited to see the significant progress being made by the MVA.A. organizers. To help out, join the mailing list.

Carmona

(Continued from previous page)

worked for the IRS during that time and felt a little hesitant about being too visible in the gay and lesbian community. After leaving that position and accepting work with the U.S. Postal Service she felt more relaxed about her public life, and joined the S.F. Women's Business League.

In that league Debbie bowls on a team with three other women with whom she used to bowl a decade ago. "I joined a lesbian league to have a good time and bowl again with other former Castle Queens," she said.

Carmona is certainly a professional caliber athlete, but feels that turning pro is not part of her future plans. "I grew up around

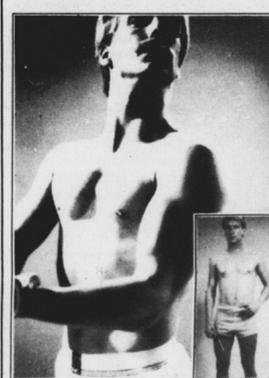
junior and women bowlers who are now pros, [a woman can qualify for professional status with a 180 average or higher] so becoming a professional has been on my mind from time to time," she said. "I never felt enough confidence that I could consistently bowl well. Also, I would have to practice a lot more, and get a coach. As an adult bowler, I just want to have fun."

Debbie doesn't see herself as a bowling coach, either. "I don't know how to teach," she said. "I'm an 'area' bowler [meaning she doesn't use the marks on the lanes or the pins to line up her shot]." She simply has a knack for throwing the ball in the right area, a difficult technique to teach.

She does offer advice, though, to up-and-coming bowlers: "If

you want to improve your game, get someone to help you to learn," she said. "You can't bowl consistently well on your own, unless, of course, you're good at mimicking others. If you want to be consistently good, you need to get someone to set you right from the beginning. I grew up around coaches, and even now I feel I need someone who can refine me and help me when I'm down [score-wise]. It's hard to see what you're doing wrong on your own."

After over two decades in bowling, Carmona has accomplished goals most bowlers only dream about. What's left for her? "There's still the 300 game I never had," she said. Debbie plans on testing herself out in local tournament conditions, and then, who knows?



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PHOTOGRAPHER: KIRK IRELAND

New Radio Mag Debuts in April

Inside Out, a new international-produced and distributed program series by, for, and about lesbians and gay men (and their friends) will make its debut on public radio stations coast-to-coast in the U.S. and Canada during the first week of April.

Producers of the half-hour magazine-style show received a grant from the Chicago Resource Center to underwrite the cost of 26 weekly feeds to the over 300 stations affiliated with the National Public Radio Satellite Service, and 13 weekly shipments of the series on tape to 21 additional stations which are not satellite-equipped.

Over 40 stations (in most major cities and such diverse locales as Lincoln, Nebraska; Yellow Springs, Ohio; Birmingham, Alabama; Salt Lake City, Utah; and Juneau, Alaska) have already expressed interest in receiving the series, and, through additional funding from Resist (in Somerville, Massachusetts), 200 cassette copies of a sample/demo program will be prepared for use in marketing *Inside Out* to other stations to promote the show in the press and in outreach to local community organizations. A third grant from the Funding Exchange/National Community Funds in New York City will provide partial support for promotional postage and shipping expenses and follow-up phone calls and will also help defray the costs of the long-distance phone calls necessary in coordinating production of the series.



Greg Gordon and Lucia Chappelle (Photo: B. Finney)

Coordinating Producer/Co-anchor Greg Gordon wants to hear from radio producers, print journalists, and others who can offer feature segments and/or news reports for the series and from gay and lesbian organizations who can help get public radio stations in their areas to carry *Inside Out*. "Sometimes a station program director or general manager needs to be reminded of the lesbian and gay constituency in their listening audience," said Gordon, "and local community groups can provide the pivotal in-person type of support for this series that promotional mailings and phone calls alone can't do." Gordon also hopes that individuals and organizations will support *Inside Out* financially with tax-

deductible contributions. A letter soliciting such support, offering on-air thanks and other incentives to major donors, will go out soon to over 400 community groups nationwide.

Over 50 gay and lesbian broadcasters in North America and Europe have already offered to submit material for the series thus far, all on a volunteer basis, although Gordon continues to seek grants to provide freelance payments to program contributors and news correspondents.

"Thanks to some very dedicated and talented broadcast journalists and to the Chicago Resource Center, Resist, and the Funding Exchange/National Community Funds, we can at least sustain a weekly program

for the first six months," said *Inside Out* co-anchor Lucia Chappelle. "We hope other progressive funding agencies, community organizations, and individuals will help us establish a secure, long-term financial footing for this most important outreach effort." Chappelle is the Program Director at Pacifica's KPFF-FM in Los Angeles, and

Gordon works as Commercial Operations Coordinator at a local television station; each has been donating time (and personal funds) developing this project since February 1986.

For more information, and to make a tax-deductible donation (payable to *Inside Out*), write to P.O. Box 38327, Los Angeles, CA 90038.

Cable Car Sports Nominations Open

If you have a favorite sportsman or woman, now is the time to send in your nomination for the 1988 Cable Car Awards and Show. This year the show will be held on Saturday, Feb. 27 at the Giftcenter.

In the men's category, nominations may be made in pool, tennis, softball, swimming and bowling. Women's nominees can be made in softball (A & B, C & D), swimming, pool and bowling.

If you are inclined to nominate a person who has made a major

contribution to sports, he or she may be nominated in the category of "Outstanding Contribution to Athletics."

Please send all men's nominations to Tom Vindeed, 620 Belvedere, San Francisco CA 94117. Send all women's nominations to Rikki Streicher, 20 Belgrave, San Francisco CA 94117.

All nominations must be submitted by Monday, Jan. 11. You may call 753-0740 for further information.

Gay Softball League Meeting

Gay Softball League commissioner Francis Medeiros has scheduled two meetings this month. The first one will be held at 12 Noon, on Saturday Jan. 9 at Amelia's. The other meeting will be held at 12 Noon on Saturday, Jan. 30 at the Village.

The meetings will focus on the 1988 schedule and the formation of divisions. A committee of ten CSL members has worked very hard to come up with a schedule that is fair to everyone. It behooves you to be there.

Financial Statement: Up Your Alley Fair '87

Permits and Licenses	\$125.00
Entertainment	950.00
Dunk Tank Rental	110.20
Insurance	515.50
Department of Public Health	50.00
Public Health Tax	50.00
Portable Toilet Rental	1,020.00
Artwork (Poster and T-shirts)	180.00
Printing of Posters	692.24
Storage Locker	229.00
Sales Tax	919.57
Beer and Soda	2,660.49
Parking Lot Rental	250.00
Dumpsters	240.00
Rental of Machines and Furniture	399.47
Bullhorns for Booths	240.00
Prizes for Games	246.13
Generators and Connectors	257.96
Stage	250.00
Pins	640.00
T-Shirts	2,506.50
Wine for Prizes	150.29
Game Booth Rental	1,405.00
Sound Equipment	500.00
Ice	390.00
Franchise Tax Board	26.29
Balloons	350.00
Truck Rental	500.72
Miscellaneous Expenses	50.78.
	\$15,854.56

RECEIPTS	\$14,746.98
EXPENSES	15,854.56
DEFICIT	(\$1,107.58)

Income Tax Class To Be Offered

A free six-week course covering Basic Income Tax Information is being offered through the Castro/Valencia site of the San Francisco Community College Centers. The class begins on Jan. 13 and will meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Included in the class will be discussion of small business taxes, allowable personal deductions, rental property expenses, and the new tax law. The instructor is Jan

Zobel, E.A., a tax practitioner in private practice who is registered to represent taxpayers in IRS related matters.

The income tax class is open to all interested San Francisco residents and registration will take place at the first class session. The Castro/Valencia site is located at Everett Middle School, 450 Church Street. For more information, call 648-5866 or 558-9987.

Town Meeting To Discuss HIV, AIDS

The Coalition of AIDS Healing Groups will hold a "Town Meeting" on Tuesday, Jan. 12, to examine the AIDS-Syphilis connection and whether or not HIV causes AIDS.

The evening will begin with a panel presentation to include Dr. Peter H. Duesberg, professor at UC Berkeley Department of Molecular Biology, an authority on animal viruses, who has stated that HIV does not cause AIDS; Joan McKenna, medical researcher, Berkeley, the first person in the United States to systematically investigate the connection between AIDS and syphilis; Kirby Stewart, M.D., a holistically-oriented family physician based in Palo Alto and an associate of Joan McKenna who has treated six PWAs with anti-syphilis therapy; and Michael Smith, founder of Black and White Men Together and a gay activist who is one of the 50 PWAs who has undergone extensive anti-syphilis therapy. Questions will follow the panel discussion.

New Group Meeting For Self-Cutters

A support group for women who are self-cutters has been formed. This group will provide a safe, supportive environment where feelings and experiences can be explored. Members will be encouraged to develop their ability to talk about the purpose and function of self-cutting in their lives.

Since the group will not be appropriate for women who are suicidal, all members will be required to have an already established, on-going individual psychotherapy relationship.

For more information about this group, call Joyce Smith or Peg Morris at 647-2547.

The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), 150 Eureka (between 18th and 19th streets) Call 776-1103 for further information. Donations will be accepted to cover the expense of this presentation.

New Support Groups From Shanti

The Shanti Project has created new support groups for women, couples, youth and children with AIDS and for their loved ones. All groups will be conducted at 525 Howard Street, San Francisco, 94105.

WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP

The women's support group will be open to any women diagnosed with AIDS. This group will be ongoing and will provide a positive environment for sharing difficult personal issues, that affect the lives of those facing AIDS.

COUPLES SUPPORT GROUP

The couples support group will be a time-limited eight-week group for support and affirmation. Either one or both partners may be diagnosed with AIDS in order to attend this group.

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S GROUPS

The youth and children's support groups will be divided into age categories: one for children between the ages of 7 and 11, and the other for youth ages 12 to 17. These will be ongoing support groups for those diagnosed with AIDS and for the children of people with AIDS.

EMOTIONAL AND PRACTICAL SUPPORT

Currently, Shanti Project has over 700 trained community volunteers, providing direct person-to-person emotional and practical support to persons with AIDS, their families and loved ones. These services are available to individual adults and families, including youth and children, who have AIDS or whose parent or sibling has AIDS.

RESIDENCE PROGRAM

The Shanti Residence Program provides housing for 47 men and women with AIDS, who are financially unable to maintain their own residence. This program is presently available to emancipated minors as well as adults. Shanti is presently working with other community agencies in collaboration with the Department of Public Health, to explore the possible creation of additional housing for families with AIDS or single parents with AIDS who have children living with them.

For any additional information regarding support groups, please contact Emotional Support Volunteer Coordinators at 777-CARE.

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'Friends For Life': 3-Hour Fitness Fight

Thousands of Aerobic and fitness enthusiasts from throughout California are expected to participate in "Friends for Life" a three-hour fitness workout against AIDS on Saturday, Jan. 23 in Pier 3 at Fort Mason Center.

Joanie Greggains, one of America's top experts on physical fitness, is Honorary Chairman of the event.

Many of the leading fitness experts in the nation will be on hand to lead participants in a variety of workouts incorporating their area of expertise. Those joining Greggains include Jack La Lanne, Candice Copeland, Gil Janclowicz, Tamilee Webb, Leora Myers, Ann Fraser, Kathy Smith, Chet Vienne, Carlos and Debbie Rosas.

Funds are raised by participants obtaining sponsors who make a contribution to the City of Hope to help in its fight against AIDS. Sponsors can be family members, relatives, friends, co-workers, businesses, etc.

'GET FIT, STAY FIT'

Greggains has proclaimed the event a celebration of health devoted to fitness and nutrition. "It's a great way to learn from the experts ways to get fit and stay fit and at the same time join in the fight against AIDS," Greggains said. The event is open to everyone regardless of age or fitness ability.

Participants raising the most money will be vying for an array of donated prizes including resort stays, exercise equipment and fitness wear. Everyone taking part Jan. 23 will get free mineral water, yogurt, health bars and will be able to pig-out at the "world's longest salad and fruit bar," which will be nearly 100 feet in length.

Proceeds from the event will benefit AIDS research at the City of Hope National Medical Center and Beckman Research Institute. The City of Hope recently received a three-year federal grant to research and develop new therapies that could lead to a cure for AIDS.

Dr. John Zaia who will direct the City of Hope effort said a cure for the acquired immune deficiency syndrome may come within five years.

Zaia and City of Hope researchers will use the \$2 million grant to study the use of "antisense agents" against the AIDS virus. Initial analysis has shown such substances suppressed the AIDS virus in infected cells without damaging other cells.

Sponsor forms for the event are available at most health and fitness clubs throughout California or by contacting the City of Hope at (415) 863-7677.

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BAY AREA REPORTER

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1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019

Senate Passes Agnos Bill

Faces Final Assembly Test; Deukmejian Non-Committal on AB 87

by Ray O'Loughlin

The California Senate passed by a bare majority Jan. 7, AB 87, the comprehensive AIDS bill authored by former Assemblyman Art Agnos. Agnos got his legislation through on its second try and the day before he left the legislature to become mayor of San Francisco. The final 21-13 vote was strictly along partisan lines with no Republicans voting to support the measure that in part upholds the civil rights of people with AIDS.

The bill now goes back to the Assembly for a concurring vote on minor changes and amendments. Assembly Speaker Willie Brown has taken up the legislation now that Agnos is no longer in the Assembly. Proponents of AB 87 expected a battle in the Assembly this week although they expected the bill to pass.

The bill has three main components:

- It creates a 15-member state commission on AIDS. The commission would include, by law, a gay representative. Members are to be appointed by the governor and the legislature. The panel will co-ordinate the activities of all state agencies on the AIDS epidemic.

- The bill declares the legislature's support for the California Fair Employment and Housing Commission's ruling last year that AIDS is a handicap and is therefore covered by state law prohibiting discrimination against the handicapped in housing and employment.

- The bill loosens the requirement on the confidentiality of some medical records regarding AIDS. A blanket consent form will now be sufficient for medical care givers to share the HIV test results of one person.

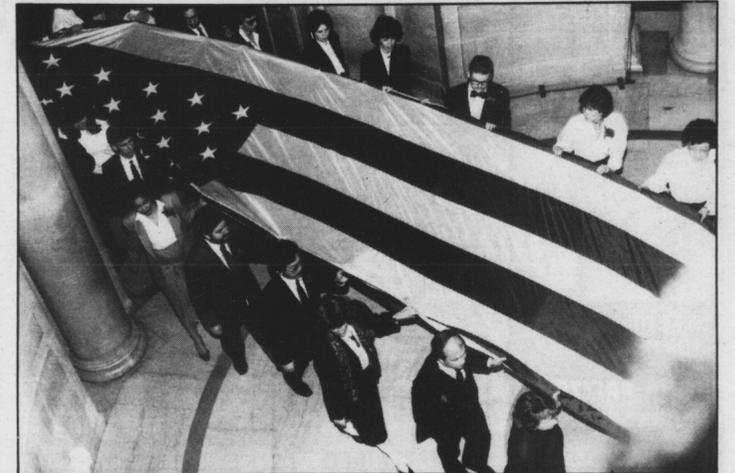
INFORMED CONSENT

The last segment of the bill has been seen by some as weakening California's strict confidentiality law on AIDS medical records and HIV test results.

But according to Agnos spokesperson Scott Shafer, AB 87 may in fact strengthen the law. "I don't think it weakens the protections for confidentiality," said Shafer. "The bill spells out what informed consent actually means, which has never been done before."

Stan Hadden, an aide to Sen. David Roberti of Los Angeles, agreed. "I don't feel it was that controversial," he said, regarding the revised confidentiality law. "It loosens up some strict

(Continued on page 2)



The Agnos inauguration featured the biggest flag west of Sacramento (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Today

Peace Treaty: The Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club has new officers and the three gay Demo political parties have signed a truce. See the stories on page 16.

Just Say No: Gay demonstrators converged on a local armed forces recruitment center to protest aid to the Contras. Dennis McMillan has the story on page 20.

State Plan Set To KO LaRouche

Organizing Pro-Active Ballot Measure; Not To Be As Costly As 'No On 64'

by Jay Newquist

More than 100 gay and lesbian activists from throughout California came out swinging last weekend to flatten the second LaRouche-inspired AIDS quarantine initiative. They urged support for a gay pro-active AIDS initiative of their own that may be destined for the November 1988 ballot.

The organizing conference began its work on the basis of five assumptions, most learned from the successful campaign against the first LaRouche Initiative in 1986.

- One statewide organization should be formed to conduct the entire campaign.

- Primary campaign responsibility should be at the local level with county-based organizations.

The statewide group should facilitate coordination and communication between county groups.

- Highest priority should be given to placing a pro-active measure on the June ballot through the legislature if possible, but through a signature campaign if necessary for the November ballot.

(Continued on page 2)

Call For Voluntary Testing Applauded By AIDS Activists

Concern for Confidentiality, Anonymity of HIV Test But Most Say There is Medical Value in Test

by Paul Reed

The days when the gay community and its leaders considered the AIDS-antibody test to be of suspect value now seem to be behind us. While stressing the importance of confidentiality, gay leaders are now speaking out in favor of taking the test—both as a result of their own beliefs and as a response to the recent call by Project Inform for voluntary testing.

All gay men and others at risk for AIDS have been urged to take the AIDS-antibody test voluntarily by Project Inform, the San Francisco-based AIDS organization which is an informational clearinghouse on AIDS treatment.

Local gay and lesbian community leaders are, for the most part, in agreement with Project Inform's position. Of the leaders contacted by Bay Area Reporter, all were fully aware of the urgent nature of AIDS infection as well as the medical and diagnostic value of the antibody test. Nearly all were equally vocal about protecting the anonymity and confidentiality of the test and

agreed it should be an individual decision, voluntarily made.

"Taking the test is an affirmation of responsibility for taking care of one's health," said San Francisco Sup. Harry Britt. "It's a wonderful thing when people can confront their seropositivity and move beyond it to dealing with their health," said Britt. "But for the person who's not

psychologically ready, I wouldn't urge them to take the test. If the fear is something you can't confront, I respect that."

Britt fundamentally agreed with Project Inform's position, saying, "Any important part of what Project Inform is saying is that taking the test, where confidentiality is assured, can be a step towards better health."

(Continued on page 15)



Jean Harris, Harry Britt, and Dick Pabich outside the second AIDS Initiative Conference (Photo: S. Savage)