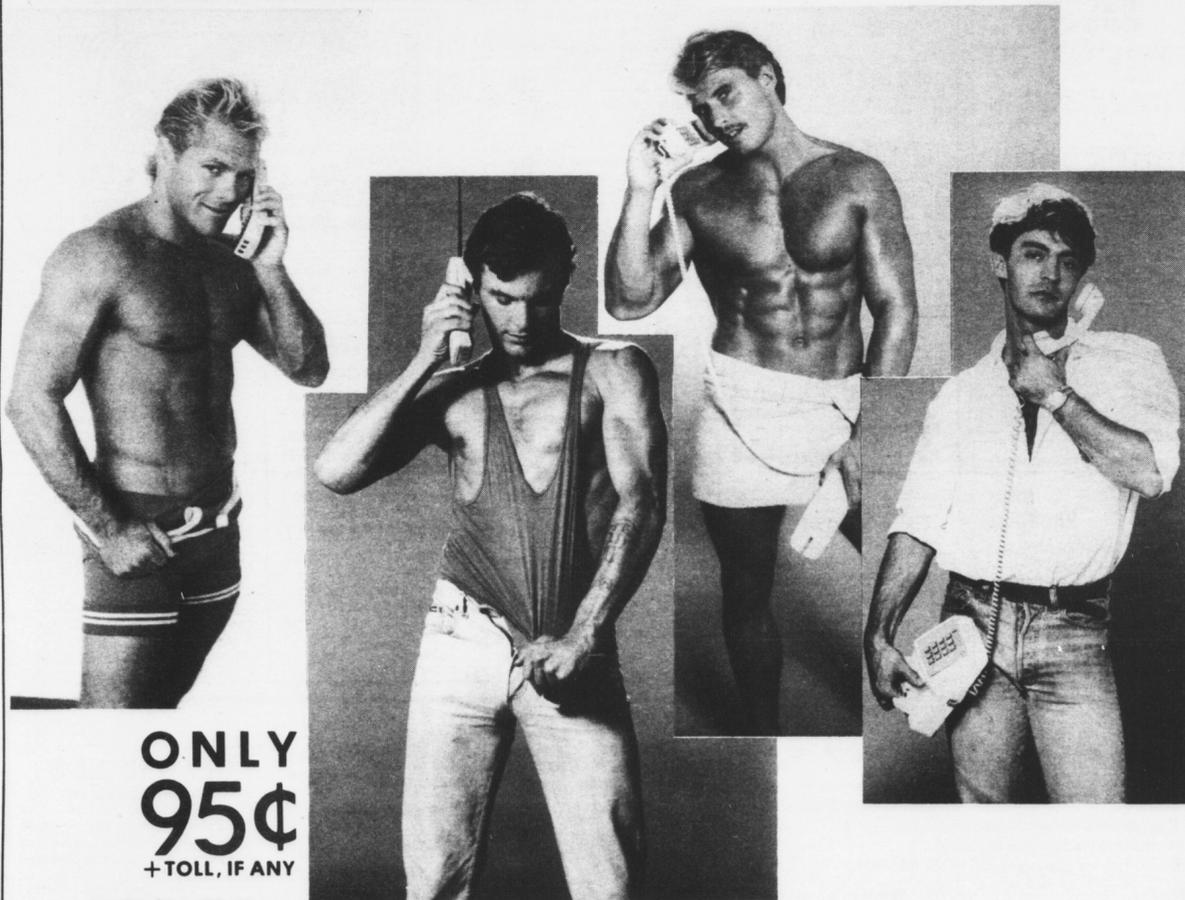


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Commission Member Blasts Reagan on AIDS Policies

Lilly Calls Reagan's Response 'Totally Inadequate';
Commission Urged to Make Strong Report

by Allen White

President Ronald Reagan was personally blamed last Friday for the deaths of many people with AIDS by Dr. Frank Lilly, a member of the President's AIDS Commission. When asked by the Bay Area Reporter if Pres. Reagan were personally responsible for the deaths of people with AIDS, Lilly said, "Yes, of course. I think the Administration has been a long time with its head in the sand. I think it's only recently that it has taken any leadership whatsoever, and that is totally inadequate."

Commenting further, Lilly said, "The Administration went for many years without showing the slightest enthusiasm for AIDS. That's a simple fact. I think he just hopes it will go away. He's very far removed from it. I don't know how aware he is beyond the statistics. Statistically, people are dying."

Lilly's comments came after public hearings in San Francisco last week. The presidential commission heard from West Coast health officials, mayors and AIDS activists and visited a few of the AIDS service organizations during a two-day stay in San Francisco.

Meanwhile, outside the hearings, a small group of protesters made their case for increased attention to the epidemic.

San Francisco health director Dr. David Werdegar agreed with Lilly when asked about Reagan's responsibility. "The question is a straight-out, blunt one, and I would have to answer it, 'Of course.' Because the policies on the national level have been very slow to support the preventive activities, which are health and education," said Werdegar. "Funds have been in short supply, and the attitudes about the use of educational material have inhibited our best efforts. I also believe the clinical drug trials have been slow. I feel the current mechanism of the cooperative drug trial is very cumbersome, very slow. They do it in 20 or 30 different cities. It is a very scientific approach, but there are other processes that can hasten the whole process, and I suggested that we be allowed to do drug trials right here in the Bay Area and to do them quickly," said Werdegar.

Werdegar blasted the Reagan Administration, saying, "At the federal level, the support of the effort against AIDS has always been a day late and a dollar short."

The comments of Werdegar and Lilly came just moments after San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos made equally strong comments to the President. "What threatens to overwhelm San Francisco is not the increased caseload of AIDS, but the continued lack of leadership from the federal government."

The mayor told the commis-



Presidential AIDS Commission member Frank Lilly.
(Photo: S. Savage)

Dukakis Refuses To Back Order Banning Bias

Would Support Rights Law;
Promises Leadership on AIDS

by Allen White

Governor Michael Dukakis is now the only remaining Democratic candidate for President who has said that he will not sign an executive order banning discrimination in the federal government on the basis of sexual orientation. Dukakis stated his position and his stand on several other gay rights issues at a press conference last week in San Francisco.

Asked by the Bay Area Reporter if he would sign such an executive order, he said, "No, I think we need a law."

Dukakis explained, "I think the courts have now said to us that discrimination in public service on account of sexual orientation is unconstitutional, and obviously I would enforce that decision. I think we need a law which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. I have worked very hard to get that law through my Legislature. We were successful this past year getting it through the House, but it failed in the Senate. I am going to try again to do it at the state level. I think we need a law which guarantees civil rights to all people."

Dukakis is the only Democratic candidate to take this position. Albert Gore, Jesse Jackson and Paul Simon have all said they would sign an executive order banning discrimination because of sexual orientation. On the Republican side, Vice President George Bush has told the Human Rights Campaign Fund that he simply does not support gay and lesbian civil rights because he sees them as special rights.

When asked if he could give any positive reasons why gay men and lesbians should support his candidacy, Dukakis said, "I'm

(Continued on page 2)

Drug Maker Hit On Pricing, Quality

FDA Warns Pentamidine Maker;
Congressional Inquiry Requested

by Dennis McMillan

National Gay Rights Advocates has requested that two Congressional committees investigate the pricing of a drug which has been found beneficial in the treatment of AIDS-related pneumonia. Lyphomed, Inc., manufacturer of pentamidine, is also under examination by the FDA for poor production standards of a number of pharmaceuticals. As B.A.R. went to press, Lyphomed was unavailable for comment on the charges.

According to NGRA, sources closely associated with Lyphomed have revealed that production costs for pentamidine have decreased considerably since it was first made.

But while costs have dropped, the charge for a vial of the drug has quadrupled from \$25 to \$100.

"While drug manufacturers need to make a reasonable profit, they should not be permitted to use government-granted monopolies as a license for profiteering," said Benjamin Schatz, director of NGRA's AIDS Civil Rights Project. Lyphomed holds a seven-year exclusive license on pentamidine.

An Oct. 31, 1987 report in the Los Angeles Times revealed that

the drug's original supplier sold bulk pentamidine for approximately \$6 per vial, with significant discounts for large orders.

Furthermore, May and Baker, the British pharmaceutical company which actually synthesized the drug, currently sells it overseas for \$18 a vial.

There is also evidence that Lyphomed has circumvented quality control standards at its plant in McRose Park, Illinois. In a Nov. 1987 letter to Lyphomed's chief executive officer, Dr. John Kapoor, Raymond Mlecko, district director of the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA), admonished the drug manufacturer for "deficiencies identified

(Continued on page 2)

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Dukakis
(Continued from page one)
somebody who believes in genuine opportunity for all people. I am strongly opposed to discrimination against people on account of race, color or creed or sexual orientation, and I always will be. And that's the way I believe that country should conduct itself. I will do everything I can as President to make sure that happens."
Gov. Dukakis has been under severe criticism for his position on gay rights issues. No one is more aware of this than Dukakis himself. When asked of his problems in the gay community, he said, "Well, there is some legitimate disagreement on the subject of foster care."
"I respect the right of people to disagree, but we have adopted a policy in my state which says that, in placing youngsters in foster homes, we will first look for relatives of those youngsters. I think that is the right policy, but we don't bar the placement of children in gay households. When my Legislature gave me a bill that did that, I vetoed it," stated Dukakis.
At his press conference last week at the St. Francis Hotel, he came face-to-face with some gay hostility. Keith Griffith identified himself as a person with AIDS and asked Dukakis, "Why have you failed to take a leadership role in the state of Massachusetts?" Griffith charged, "As late as 1986, in your initial state recommendations for the budget, you failed to allocate [funds] for AIDS."
Dukakis said, "I am sorry, but you are sorely misinformed. My state—and, I am proud to say, with my leadership—way back in 1983 and 1984 was doing more at the state level to put state funds into research and for three years to provide comprehensive education prevention. We spend more per case of AIDS on treatment than any state in the country."



Presidential hopeful Michael Dukakis was mobbed after a San Francisco press conference. (Photo: S. Martin)

Dukakis said he was proud of his action in Massachusetts. "I hope as President of the United States that I can provide a whole lot more leadership on the subject than this Administration. I was the lead governor on the subject, and I had a great deal to do with the AIDS Task Force of the National Governors Association, and obviously I feel very strongly about it," he said.
Two local politicians, San Mateo County Sup. Tom Nolan and San Francisco Parking Commissioner Todd Dickinson, have also investigated Dukakis' stand on gay issues and thrown their support to Sen. Albert Gore.
"Dukakis is terrible on gay rights issues," Todd Dickinson said.
Tom Nolan had similar remarks. "We had a brief flirtation with Dukakis. We received a package here from people in Boston, and it was pretty devastating stuff. Dukakis is not acceptable to me."

Mayor Agnos also noted that "In Massachusetts we have a model AIDS program on a statewide basis that I think we need on a federal level. I think Gov. Dukakis will bring that kind of enlightenment to the White House that we haven't had in the past eight years, nor would we get under Vice President Bush."

FDA
(Continued from page 1)
by this inspection... demonstrating an inadequacy of your quality control unit's ability to assure that procedures and specifications, which may impact on the identity, strength, quality, and purity of drug products." He called for more investigation and correction of the problems.
The FDA letter went on to say that the drug manufacturer's product may be "adulterated in that you have failed to maintain methods, facilities, and controls for the manufacture, processing, packing, or holding of drugs in conformance with current good manufacturing practices."
Complaints were made by the investigator of open vials susceptible to contamination, and manufacturing areas that had not been inspected and approved by the FDA.
In addition, the letter informed Kapoor that pentamidine has "been distributed into interstate commerce without prior approval" under the New Drug Applications Act.
An extensive, detailed, nine-page report of the pharmaceutical manufacturer's violations of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act was attached to Mlecko's letter.
These deficiencies were not restricted to pentamidine, but also applied to a recall of 40,000 vials of amphotericin B, another AIDS-related drug, after the FDA complained about illnesses caus-

ed by contaminated raw materials.
DILEMMA
Schatz said he feels caught between the proverbial rock and a hard place. "We want to make sure pentamidine gets out to people, and we don't want to cripple the company that is producing it," stated Schatz. "On the other hand, if pricing is so outrageous that people can't get it, then it's accessible only to the rich," added Schatz.
Schatz pointed out the parallels between two manufacturers of AIDS drugs, Burroughs-Wellcome and Lyphomex, both under scrutiny for their pricing policies. Both companies have been granted special licenses by the federal government.
The Orphan Drug Act allows a monetary incentive to a manufacturer who will produce a drug that the company did not invent and that already exists for diseases that affect fewer than 200,000 people.
On the positive side, the act encourages manufacturers to produce needed drugs that would not otherwise be profitable, and gives a seven year exclusive right to market the drugs. But the act also does not allow any price limits to be set.
Asked as to why he thought the drug was so expensive, Schatz replied, "I think they intend to make as much money as they can, and they know there is a desperate population out there."
He said that if such drug

monopolies continue, it will result in a division among patients of those few who can afford to pay for the drugs versus the majority who cannot pay. This will force more and more patients to reply heavily upon Medicare and Medicaid, he said. As it is now, insurance companies are balking at having to pay for these expensive drugs. Eventually the burden falls on local and state government, said Schatz.
For this reason, NGRA has called upon two Congressional committees, the House Subcommittee on Human Resources and Intergovernmental Relations, and the House Health and Environment Subcommittee, to conduct extensive investigations on the matter. The committees are chaired by New York Rep. Ted Weiss and California Rep. Henry Waxman, respectively. Both are authors of several AIDS and gay rights bills, and seen as friends of the gay community.
Schatz encourages people with AIDS and others to keep vigilant about drug pricing and to raise questions about it. He urged patients to ask questions: Is your doctor overcharging? Are the drug stores making large price mark-ups on the drugs prescribed to you? Are people making tremendous profits from the AIDS crisis at the expense of AIDS patients?
As Leonard Graff, legal director of NGRA, said, "People are dying, and drug companies are looking at this as a golden opportunity to make a fortune. We do not want this to become a trend."

Chicago Mayor Backs Gay Rights Bill

Sawyer 'Strongly in Favor' of Ordinance

by Rex Wockner

CHICAGO—Although he voted against it two years ago as a city alderman, Chicago Mayor Eugene Sawyer has come out in favor of the new Chicago Human Rights Ordinance which has been written and pushed by the Gay and Lesbian Town Meeting (GLTM).

Sawyer announced his support on March 4 in a meeting with the Mayor's Committee on Gay and Lesbian Issues, which was established by Sawyer's predecessor, Harold Washington, who died in November. Sawyer also told activists that he favors their time line for introducing the ordinance into the city council the third week in March, immediately after the Illinois presidential primary. Activists expect a vote by the council near the end of April.

At its March 6 meeting, GLTM co-chair Jonathan Katz told members, "The mayor is very strongly in favor not of just any draft (of the Human Rights Ordinance), but of the draft that our community voted on and approved through the Town Meeting. It

will certainly help that the mayor is behind us, both in terms of time line and in terms of the actual draft."
Between now and the city council vote, activists are planning to keep a low profile, having learned their lesson in 1986, they say, when mainstream media saturation led to Catholic Archbishop Joseph Cardinal Bernardin's public opposition to the ordinance. Statements by Bernardin the day before the city council vote were widely credited with having changed the minds of key aldermen.

"We'll keep the issue in high visibility before our community," said GLTM member Rick Garcia, "but very subtle and very low-key

MAILGRAMS
Among projects aimed at eliciting support from the gay and lesbian community is a special Illinois Fairness Fund telephone arrangement for sending mailgrams to city council members. The messages are pre-written and create a \$4.50 charge on one's phone bill. GLTM activists are also arranging for gay men and lesbians to present "testimonials" to the city council, relating personal stories of discrimination and harassment. The Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force is involved in lining up big-name endorsements for the ordinance.

Activists are planning a massive rally the third week in April at the Daley Center Plaza—the center of city government. According to Katz, a rally is preferable to a vigil because "the community has been fucked over once, and we're not going to be quiet about it this time. This is going to be very much of an activist event," he said.

In other business, it was announced that two of Chicago's biggest clergymen have been found to be Pat Robertson delegates. Both Erwin Lutzer, the head of the Moody Bible Institute, and Hiram Crawford, a powerful black radio preacher, appeared on the ballot for Robertson in the March 15 Illinois primary. According to Katz, Lutzer has stepped in to fill the human rights ordinance opposition leadership shoes "in the absence of the archdiocese serving as the focus for the 'anti' position this year."

Lutzer has held two press conferences. Last fall he bused over 1,000 suburban fundamentalists to a rally downtown. He coordinates anti-gay activism through Chicago's 24-hour religious television station, channel 38. "Moody Bible Institute," Katz says, "is an organization with resources that far outstrip ours and with long and entrenched communication channels. They are a formidable enemy, and we are quite concerned about them. One of the reasons we're being quiet is because we do not want them to think they need to move now."

GLOE Holds Women's Social

Celebrate spring by coming to the new Women's Social for Older Lesbians (60-plus) and friends, sponsored by Operation Concern's Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE).

This monthly event will be held on the last Sunday of each month, beginning Sunday, March 27, from 2 to 5 p.m. at Francis of Assisi Community, 145 Guerrero, San Francisco.
For more information, please call GLOE at 626-7000.

New Director for CUAV



Beverly Mesch (Photo: S. Martin)

Beverly Mesch, former director of a battered women's shelter on Maui, has been named executive director of Community United Against Violence. Mesch has worked for a number of grassroots human services and arts programs in Hawaii and has been a leader in the domestic violence movement there for the past 12 years.

Ken Alexander, president of CUAV's board of directors, said, "The board and staff are pleased to have found an executive director with Beverly Mesch's experience, energy and skills."

CUAV provides services for victims of anti-lesbian and anti-gay violence and works towards prevention through community organizing, education, safety monitoring, victim advocacy and a gay men's domestic violence project.

Gay Community Easter

The Empress Tenderloin Tescie Holiday Dinner Committee will present a free dinner on Easter Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. at Saint Paulus Lutheran Church, Eddy and Gough Streets. Use the Gough Street entrance.

Saint Paulus donates the use of its parish hall. The committee is always in need of volunteers and money. For further information call Empress Phyllis at 621-2531 or the Gay Rescue Mission at 863-4882.

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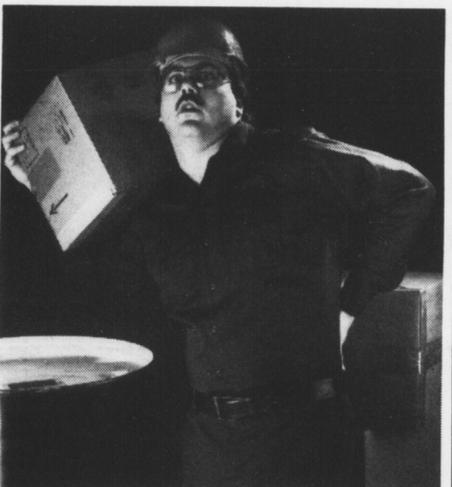
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AIDS Fund, City Launch Transit Service for PWAs

by Ray O'Loughlin

Getting to appointments will be a little bit easier for people with AIDS, thanks to a new transportation program subsidized by the AIDS Emergency Fund and coordinated through San Francisco's Municipal Railway. Effective immediately, people with AIDS are eligible for taxi vouchers that will enable them to keep medical appointments without having to deal with the hassles of Muni buses and trains.



Buses no more. (Photo: Rink)

Christian Haren, a man who has AIDS, praised the new program. "Without this service, people would get sicker than they are," he said. "For someone with AIDS, getting to a ten-minute doctor's appointment can be an all-day task."

In introducing the plan, Sup. Harry Britt said, "Part of why San Francisco is a model around the country is that we have helped people with AIDS remain independent, stay in their own homes, and take care of their own needs." Britt's office was instrumental in bringing together Muni and the AIDS Emergency Fund.

According to the new plan, the AIDS Fund will give \$1,000 each month to Muni's Program for Handicapped Persons. Muni, in turn, will provide funds to its paratransit broker, U.S. Human Resources Corp., to supply vouchers for people with AIDS to use on taxis. The program has been under negotiation since November 1987 and is set to run for at least one year.

"We're very excited about this program," said Hank Cook, president of the AIDS Emergency Fund. "We're looking at all forms of direct services to do anything to relieve the stress on people."

USED LIKE CASH

According to Virginia Cerenio of U.S. Human Resources, "There is no use having extensive medical services if people have no way to get to them."

Cerenio explained that people with AIDS or ARC will now be placed in the high-priority category for services.

A person with AIDS—and one escort, if he or she wishes—then directly contacts one of four cab companies when they need transportation. The tickets are used like cash.

"People are on their own," said Cerenio. "No one has to know they're going to a medical appointment." Since no one is identified as a person with AIDS, confidentiality is protected.

To apply for the program, call 552-7908. Applicants must provide a physician's statement certifying that they have AIDS or ARC. They must also provide proof of income. The plan calls for a two-tiered price scale for the service. People on Social Security Disability can expect to pay \$9 for their monthly allotment of tickets, about 10 percent of the total cost of the service. The tickets will pay for five cab rides per week for each client.

According to Cerenio, the plan now serves over 100 people with AIDS and has a waiting list of near 70. The AIDS Emergency Fund grant will enable the service for people with AIDS to expand.

Citywide, Muni supplies special transportation services for 6,000 disabled and elderly clients.

One problem that his new program will ease, said Christian Haren, is the fear of assault among people with AIDS.

"If you look like you have AIDS and you're standing, waiting for a bus or a Metro train, you're not always treated with kindness," he said. "I would rather miss an appointment than take buses."

The AIDS Emergency Fund was founded in 1982. It now provides grants of up to \$1,000 annually for those with AIDS to help pay rent, utilities and for other necessities. Last year the fund operated on a budget of \$462,000 and helped 700 people with AIDS throughout the nine-county Bay Area. For information on the fund, call 441-6407.

Smoot Killer Sent To Youth Authority

by Jay Newquist

The 17-year-old convicted killer of George Smoot was ordered to the California Youth Authority in Sacramento on March 25 for 90 days of psychiatric observation. Judge Daniel Weinstein delivered the ruling following the manslaughter conviction earlier this month of the McAteer High School student who stabbed Smoot in the chest on Nov. 28, 1987.

The case became a major cause celebre of the gay and lesbian community who objected that the late Lockheed engineer's character was put "on trial" because he may have made a sexual pass at the young man.

The unidentified youth was himself the object of widespread sympathy as the victim of a gruesome hazing ritual by teammates with a broomstick that seriously damaged his scrotum.

The Smoot case also touched other bases, including charges of judicial misconduct, and biased and inadequate investigation by police. A law was also reached when KGO-TV broadcast excerpts from Smoot's personal diary.

A town meeting was held on March 17 at Collingwood Recreation Center to pressure City Hall to intervene and spearhead the police and judicial investigation. "We were never after revenge," said Bill Paul of the Stonewall Democratic Club, which originated the charges against the court and the police.

"We simply wanted to express concern for George Smoot's civil rights."

NGRA Charges Fla. Health Plan Is Discriminatory

Company Gives PWA Lower Benefits

by Dennis McMillan

A formal complaint has been filed against a Florida employer for adopting a health plan that specifies lower benefits for treatment of AIDS. The health insurance plan guarantees up to \$1 million for such illnesses as cancer or diabetes or heart disease, but only \$15,000 for AIDS.

The Arvida Corporation, a Florida housing development company, is being investigated by the Florida Commission on Human Relations. Arvida, a company with nearly 300 workers, discovered that one of its employees, Joel Starkey, had contracted AIDS and switched him to a health plan considered discriminatory by National Gay Rights Advocates.

The legal action will be complicated, because the health plan is not one involved with an insurance company, but is, instead, "self-insured" and, therefore, not governed by state insurance laws.

At least 18 states, including Florida, presently will not allow insurance companies to exclude or limit coverage for AIDS in their policies. There is no strict legislation when the company is self-insured under a special trust fund, as is the case with Arvida Corporation. Instead, the self-insured plan is subject to a more lax federal legislation.

Leonard Graf of NGRA said that about half the employees in the United States who work for the government or are insured under their companies' health insurance are covered by this self-insured plan, governed by ERISA (Employees Retired Income Security Act). Graf related that most people who are handled by this plan assume they are covered by regular insurance. These people are technically and legally not covered by insurance. Graf said that much of NGRA's efforts in trying to attain equitable, nondiscriminatory insurance may not apply in these self-insured trusts.

ERISA is a federal legislation that applies to all self-insured employers. The employers, rather than putting all their money into premiums for an insurance company, let a broker invest the money in professionally handled trust funds (in this case, Florida Food and Benefit Trust) which manage the money and make it grow. Any claims for medical losses made against employers by employees are paid out from the trust fund.

if they engage in such blatant discrimination against employees with AIDS, they are going to be subject to litigation," warned Schatz.

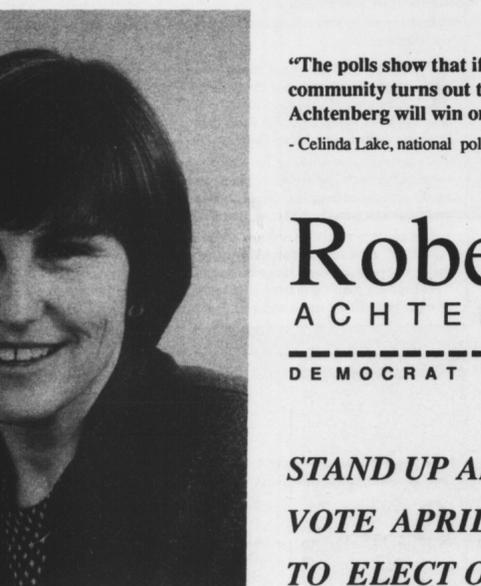
The first step will be this formal complaint registered with the Florida Human Relations Commission, which will inevitably be followed by a precedent-establishing lawsuit.

ROUNDABOUT PLAN

Since NGRA cannot challenge the Arvida Corporation with AIDS discrimination, they must



Leonard Graf (Photo: S. Martin)



(Photo: S. Savage)

go through roundabout ways, such as calling the policy gender-discrimination (the overwhelming majority of people afflicted with AIDS are male and, therefore, discriminated against). Also, NGRA said it can challenge the policy as discrimination against the handicapped (because AIDS is officially recognized by Florida law as a personal handicap).

Tacked onto the formal complaint was an Attachment to Charge of Discrimination listing, among other offenses: "At the time this plan was put into effect for some employees, another insurance plan with no limitations was put into effect for other employees."

Concerning job appraisal, the attachment claimed: "giving negative performance evaluations, overriding the very good evaluation given me by my immediate supervisor."

Starkey charged further discrimination, "by refusing to permit me to return to work for a period of time after I was diagnosed as having AIDS; by changing my job duties; by changing my status from that of salaried employee to that of an hourly employee, with attendant loss of and diminution in benefits; by failing or refusing to give me a cost-of-living increase which was granted to other employees."

"The polls show that if the lesbian and gay community turns out to vote, Roberta Achtenberg will win on April 12."

- Celinda Lake, national pollster, the Analysis Group.

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EXECUTIVE & EDITORIAL OFFICES:
1528 15th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

TELEPHONE:
(415) 861-5019/861-7230

PUBLISHER:
Bob Ross

NEWS EDITOR:
Ray O'Loughlin

FEATURES EDITOR:
Will Snyder

FINE ARTS EDITOR:
George Heymont

POLITICAL EDITOR:
Wayne Friday

OFFICE MANAGER:
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PRODUCTION DIRECTOR:
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CAMERA:
Michael Jay Goldberg

PRODUCTION ARTIST:
Richard Burt

TYPESETTING:
Robert Triptow, Chal Cochran

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS:
James Dusch, Scott Martin,
Photo Graphics/Darlene,
Robert Pruzan, Rink,
Steve Savage

CARTOONISTS:
David Brady, Frisch

AUDITOR/ACCOUNTANT:
Robert J. Dern, C.P.A.

CONTRIBUTORS:

Joseph Bean, Philip Campbell,
Gregory Douthwaite, Wayne
Friday, Mark Friese, Hal Herk-
enhoff, Wayne Herriford, George
Heymont, Michael Hippler, Larry
Hogue, Frank J. Howell, John
Karr, Miranda Kolbe, Mister
Marcus, Dennis McMillan, Rich-
ard McPherson, Jay Newquist,
Nez Pas, David Perry, Paul Reed,
Mary Richards, Marv. Shaw,
Rick Thoman, Tom Vindeed,
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White, Bob Woolhouse

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

Democracy Inaction

It now looks as though Republican Sen. Pete Wilson and Democrat Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy will cakewalk through their respective party primaries this June. Both have cleared the path to run unopposed for their nominations to the U.S. Senate. All challengers have dropped from the race. California voters, unfortunately, will have no real say in who is to represent them for six years in Washington.

For an office as powerful as the Senate and for a state as large and varied as California, backroom party haggling should not force feed us candidates.

With no primary campaigns to wage, Wilson and McCarthy will be able to start their fall campaigns that much earlier. That means that they will have more and more time to say less and less, more time to snuff out issues before they can be made. The bandwagon will become the steamroller. The real losers will be we, the people.

Another example is here in San Francisco, where we face an April 12 election in the 16th Assembly District. Once again, party power brokers and big money are attempting to dictate the results. John Burton has made himself all but invisible to voters. He wants only his name to be visible. If we have no access to the candidate before the election, what makes anyone so presumptuous as to think we will have any access after the election?

Former candidate Bill Press had to call off his run for the Democratic nomination for the Senate because he ran out of money. A number of other promising candidates for other offices have also had their campaigns cut short due to money problems. It seems big money gets to vote before the rest of us—and much more effectively.

Democracy—or what we have of it—has been short-circuited. Instead of the lively debate that is badly needed on issues and concerns, we get prolonged displays of hype. Instead of substantive stands on the problems our society faces, we get a lot of empty posturing.

The new buzz word in politics today is "positioning." Candidates "position" themselves to avoid any unseemly commitment on an issue that could provoke voters into realizing that their interests lie elsewhere. "Positioning" isn't a matter of specifying what you believe and why or what you will act upon and why. It is a vague process carried on by

the mystical forces of public relations con men. It creates an image to avoid an identity. It's the same as selling cars or sausages.

The results: Pres. Reagan tosses off concerns with glib remarks and a silly grin; John Burton remains aloof, hiding from voters to avoid being identified and possibly making a mistake; and Leo McCarthy disposes of his only serious opponent, capturing the nomination with a flick of the wrist. As the saying goes, the hand is quicker than the eye.

There is a lot at stake in our electoral contests. McCarthy has a lot at stake—he counts it in the millions of dollars needed for a Senate campaign. But we have a lot at stake, too—our lives, our well-being, our basic rights. Can't we design a better system of electioneering, one that is a bit more (small "d") democratic?

One suggestion is to shorten campaign times. The 16th Assembly District has been unrepresented since January, and the seat may not be filled until June. This is absurd and unreasonable. No wonder voters lose interest in elections as the campaigns drone on. With the frequency of elections, it's hard to tell when one stops and the next begins. Presidential races are now continual—the 1988 campaign began in November 1984.

Tinkering with the structure, however, seems to produce minimal results. The real solution is to demand honest, courageous candidates and to shun those who hide, those who manipulate, those who disregard voters and issues.

Instead of a cap on contributions, maybe we should have a limit on campaign spending or a ban on political advertising. Some equitable and practical mechanism has to be found to restrain the tyranny of money.

Big money has driven good candidates from running and forced others to kow-tow to special interests. I'm not referring to the normal political give-and-take of fundraising and bargaining. I'm talking about some sectors, such as the cash-rich Right Wing, dominating the entire political spectrum. The entire system has been skewed by one side's ability to throw money around. Because one group can up the price of a campaign and buy dominance, nobody else gets heard.

It's time to put politics back into politics.

OPINION

American Indians Neglected

by Randy Burns, President
Gay American Indians, Inc.

On March 11, 1987, I was confirmed to speak before the President's Commission on AIDS. On March 21 I was informed that my name was replaced by another speaker. With much disappointment, I submit my written testimony to be included in this important hearing.

Let me begin by saying it came to me as no surprise—lesbian and gay people are often left out of major decision-making processes that ultimately will affect their lives. I firmly believe that the gay Indian community can adequately speak for itself on AIDS, since we fall under the high-risk category.

Five years ago AIDS hit the San Francisco Indian community. Local agencies and individuals panicked and were afraid of contracting AIDS through casual contact. Today the Indian community still sees AIDS as a "white disease," and a majority of gay Indian men are still living in fear and denial over AIDS. To compound the situation, American Indians are not using services provided by non-Indian AIDS agencies. Currently there is no tribally or culturally sensitive AIDS literature available to our community by organizations such as Shanti and the AIDS Foundation, who receive the bulk of private, state and city funding. Today our media still report "little white boys" with AIDS, and local news programs always interview non-Indian PWA's. Resources need to be available to our community.

When members come to our office and ask whether they should take the AIDS antibody test, we spend hours with them before and after testing. Just waiting for the results is traumatic, not to mention that, when they go to the alternative test site, they are given a questionnaire which mentions every race except American Indian.

Currently we are still considered "other/unknown" by the CDC and the State of California. I believe some serious steps or legislation is needed to identify American Indians as an ethnic entity. So many times we are told by funding agencies that our community needs are not important, because we do not have a significant number of AIDS cases as blacks or Hispanics do.

In five years AIDS has claimed 9 Indian lives, and we are currently working with 11 PWA's and several PW/ARC cases, and the S.F. Public Health Dept. does not accurately reflect our statistics on the local

level. Being a gay organization, we know first-hand the number of cases that are not being reported.

Currently the Indian AIDS Project has 15 volunteers trained in AIDS and emotional support for our PWA's. The most difficult part in working with PWA's is that many Indian parents who live on reservations may not know their sons or daughters are gay. It's hard to explain to the parents about their deceased child's lifestyle or why he or she committed suicide.

Also, if the person dies, the "family only" rule allows the family to claim the body and send it home, creating financial burdens for GAI because most Indian PWA's have no medical or burial insurance. Their families are generally poor, and we have had to pay traveling expenses for the family and shipping expenses for the body in some cases. We manage to hold memorials to our fallen warriors. This is one of many ways we support each other in time of mourning.

The work we're doing for our people and in getting AIDS information out to the American Indian community is extraordinary, considering we're doing the service without paid staff and without federal and state money earmarked for our community.

We know what needs to be done to provide AIDS education to our Indian community. All we request is that the federal government and agencies such as PHS, IHS and BIA act more responsibly to American Indians living on and off the reservations. The experiences I cited today are happening all over the country.

I recommend the following: Hold a special AIDS hearing for American Indians to include persons with AIDS, community leaders, and community-based organizations; increase funding for tribally and culturally sensitive AIDS literature to be disseminated on and off reservations; promote funding for a national American Indian AIDS baseline survey geared to men who have sex with other men and to IV drug-abuse populations; keep PWA case management strictly confidential at all levels, especially with Indian Health Service; increase funding for substance-abuse programs. Alcohol and drug use is often the prelude to high-risk behavior patterns.

I thank you for your consideration of this important testimony on how AIDS affects the often neglected and misunderstood population of American Indians.

LETTERS

Fund a Cure for AIDS

★ We call on your progressive readers to contact the coordinating committee of the April 30 Mobilization for Peace, Jobs, and Justice. It is time for a fifth major demand to be added: "Fund a cure for AIDS—National Health Care Now!"

We congratulate the coalition in highlighting the need for a crash program to find an AIDS cure, in its various brochures. However, as progressives, we cannot ignore the stark fact that 50,000 people will die in 1991 unless something is done quickly. The Bay Area will account for a large percentage of these fatalities of Reagan-Bush indifference/calculated murder. How can a major progressive demonstration in San Francisco not have "Cure AIDS" as a major demand?

We urge everyone to march on April 30, but make your views known: Call 626-8053 or write The Mobilization, 255 Ninth St., San Francisco, CA 94103. We may be too late for 1988, but the progressive mobilization of 1989 must address AIDS as a major issue, because it already is!

Maudel Shirek
Berkeley City Council

John Iversen,
Vocalist, The Stickers

Director, New Light Senior Center

John Belskus
Demo Coordinator, ARC/AIDS Vigil

V.P., Stonewall Gay Democratic Club

Mike Berkowitz, Local 21
Past Mobilization Treasurer

A Symbolic Monument

★ Thank goodness, judging by the number of letters in the local gay papers concerning the subject, the interest in rectifying the discrimination practiced by the USOC in denying the SFAA use of the word "Olympics" is not subsiding. For that matter, it would be interesting to learn how much attention this subject is receiving in other cities like Washington, Houston, Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, and other municipalities in which there are identifiable gay populations.

When one stops to consider that Gay Games I and II encompassed proud and talented participants from a majority of U.S. states and many foreign countries, it becomes quite clear that the shocking effects of the discriminatory legal confrontation instigated by the USOC was not even limited to the shores of our nation.

How many athletes from abroad returned to their native lands confused and disillusioned by the ambiguity of the USOC contesting use of the word "Olympics" by an honorable gay organization, while permitting its use by other organizations?

Holland has raised and dedicated a monument honoring the more than 50,000 men who were found guilty of homosexuality and executed by the Nazis and to celebrate the continuing lesbian and gay struggle for freedom and justice. Let us also dedicate our united intolerance of discrimination against gays in America as a symbolic monument to our past and present heroes.

Jerry R. DeYoung
San Francisco

Anybody Out There?

★ Are there any support groups out there in San Francisco for the lovers who are giving care to their dying lovers? I have made countless phone calls to every group I could think of and have found none. Yet everyone I've spoken to has said, "Wow, we've been asked that a lot, but we have nothing like that."

If you know of one, or if you are in a similar situation and would like to start such a group, please give me a call during the day at 788-2200 and leave a message. Thanks.

Ken Wolff
San Francisco

Mentor, Not Molester

★ Every time I read the words "child molester" in the newspapers, my blood boils. It could well be inciting mob violence and even lynching.

I personally have every reason in the world to retain my self-respect and to be very proud of the direction of my love, calling myself a "boy-lover." I could cite hundreds of expert authors to confirm this to be the most beneficial, unselfish, loving, and gratifying form of pair-bonding that exists.

However, I will quote from only one article, by William A. Percy, published in November 1987: "In Athens, and eventually the other Greek cities, every elite youth was expected to adopt a pubescent boy as a beloved and student. It was this intense one-to-one relationship, molding character and intellect,

that caused the Greek miracle... and it was the Christians, opposed to reason as well as to nature, who ended what was left of it after the calamities of the mid-3rd Century destroyed the basis of classical civilization."

And then came the burning of the books of learning and the Dark Ages. The Greeks knew the world was round and even measured it by means of astronomy and geometry. But Galileo, 1,600 years later, was threatened by the church with death for daring to again say the world was not flat.

I am in prison, yes, a prisoner of conscience, vilified and castigated almost daily, mostly by people who never knew a Greek ever did anything but run a lunch counter, when they were the originators of our art, architecture, geometry, astronomy, theater, and philosophy. Although a boy-lover, I have never "molested" a boy, pressed my attentions where not wanted, in my life. I have never touched a boy I did not first love and give him the security of my home if he needed it.

When you go to church and repeat that "God is love," do you have your tongue in cheek, meaning only your love is godly, and not mine? Bull!

Do you say that my love, which originated as a feeling of intense and moving compassion for the homeless child, is an immature expression? Then why is it our boy-loving predecessors like Leonardo da Vinci, Peter Tchaikovsky, Henry Thoreau, Oscar Wilde, and Horatio Alger are regarded as geniuses in their creative fields?

Are you saying, when there are millions of homeless children in the world, that they do not need the love of those motivated by nature to care? We do not want your kids. We want those who want and need us first, so, if you want to blame someone, if blame is appropriate, blame the ones responsible for the boy looking to someone else for attention to his needs and security. You'll find it at home. We only want to fill the gaps you create.

Let us come out of the closet, and we will show you a modern miracle, similar in intensity to what happened 2,600 years ago. Give us a chance to earn your respect, and we will do a lot toward cleaning up street crime—for every young mugger, dope-user, and burglar was first a young boy who felt no one cared about him. Show us that the dark ages of bigotry and prejudice are finally over. The sex you fear is only nature showing its extreme power not to be frustrated.

Raymond R. Latham
Baltimore, MD

ED NOTE: I don't think you would really have found ancient Greece much more hospitable than the present day U.S. True, Greek men took younger men under their tutelage, and part of that involved sexual contact. But it was far from "boy love," and it's far fetched to call it the basis for classical civilization. To say that "boy love" would solve both the problems of homeless children and crime in the streets is a nice fantasy.

Ray O'Loughlin

Graffiti in the Castro

★ As a Castro Street merchant, I am appalled by the foolishness of the person or persons unknown who seem to think that the spraying of anti-war slogans on the facade of the Hibernia Bank is necessary in their fervor against the Central American turmoil.

I'm certain that the fact that "Hibernia Beach" has long been a rallying point for all manner of fundraising, petition-signing, and other cases is not lost on the gay community at large.

I would hate to see Hibernia Bank take a hard-line approach to the use of their walls and sidewalk as a result of these asinine, boorish, and juvenile behavior tactics on the part of questionably motivated individuals.

Patrick Batt
San Francisco

Number One Issue

The following was sent to Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy:

★ Again you ask for help. Again you ask for money.

Again you fail to address the #1 issue plaguing (the pun, unfortunately, accurate) America, particularly California—AIDS.

Even Wilson the wimp is claiming a battlefield against the disease in his TV spots. What's got you so scared? You can't catch it by saying it.

I cannot nor will not forgive Pete Wilson for his voting record as a member of the Senate (Bork, Contra funding, etc.). So it looks like you by default.

You'll have my ballot, but not my bucks. They'll continue to go to help battling you-know-what.

David Reid
Los Angeles

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LETTERS

Rip-Off
 ★ B.A.R. entertainment columnist Allen White couldn't have sat through the same show I saw last Friday night (March 18) at the Campus Theatre. I was there for the 7 p.m. evening show and at no time did Jeff Stryker dance or take off his shirt during that performance. After a few minutes on stage introducing himself, he invited the audience to the downstairs lounge for an autographing session. And, for a price, you could have your picture taken with him. It was announced later on in the evening that he would be autographing again at the 11 p.m. show.
 I left. On my way out, I overheard several persons air their complaints about what a rip-off this was. If, indeed, as an afterthought they had Jeff dance and take his shirt off at the later show, then I feel cheated. It was my loss I didn't stay for the last show. And it was their loss, too, because I had informed a few of my friends the next day to save their \$10.

Paul Chin
 Brisbane

Thank You
 ★ As you may recall, in the fall of 1987 we asked your readers to send their tax rebate checks to the schools in order to show San Francisco that public education had the support and was a priority of the lesbian and gay community. The following letter was received from Ramon Cortines as a result of that effort:
 Joan Haskin has shared with me seven rebate checks that were sent to the school district by members of your organization. I want to express my appreciation to you and members of your organization for your support in this particular effort.
 I am personally writing to each one of them and letting them know of our appreciation.
 Thank you for your efforts on behalf of the youth in this community.

Ramon C. Cortines
 Superintendent of Schools
 CUA and the Lesbian/Gay Speaker's Bureau would also like to thank those members of the community who signed over their rebate checks to the schools. We are proud of the fact that lesbians and gay men care about the quality of education in San Francisco.

Jill R. Tregor
 Program Coordinator
 Community United Against Violence
 Sex plays a central role in people's lives, and to the extent that we do not confront it, we do not understand ourselves. Your approach was well-designed to avoid upsetting uninformed and misinformed viewers, but it reduced your treatment to the level of pictures of orphaned puppies and kittens—appealingly cute, appallingly endangered, and totally out of any meaningful context.

Make Room for Us
 This letter was sent to Assemblyman Willie Brown:
 ★ I do not approve of the fact that you are supporting John Burton for the 16th District race. I do not approve of the fact that you have contributed \$42,000 to Burton's campaign.

I want to know what you're going to do about the fact that gay people feel locked out of the political system. What are you going to do about the fact that we would like the opportunity to speak for ourselves and not have to rely on others speaking for us? Why is it that every time the gay community offers a qualified candidate for office, the establishment offers a heterosexual candidate to oppose the gay candidate, always arguing that the heterosexual candidate is more qualified? What would you do if you were gay and part of the gay community and faced this same situation? Would you just lie down and play dead and always agree that the heterosexual candidate is always better?

I'm originally from Chicago, which is where I received my earliest political training, fighting the Daley Machine, so I feel I know what rough politics is. I do what I know how to do best—go door-to-door for Roberta Achtenberg while working a full-time job at the same time. Meanwhile, I want you to know that I cannot vote for you any longer, because I feel locked out from the system and because I don't perceive you moving over to make room at the table for me.

George Collins
 San Francisco
Not Children Anymore
 This letter was sent to Andrew Hayward, executive producer of 48 Hours:
 ★ Forty-Eight Hours began with a choice of words that seems to me to falsify and distort most discussions of young people in the popular media. You had Dan Rather pointedly and emphatically referring to the subject of your program as "children on the streets." Right there you became part of the problem.
 What you showed was not children, but sexually mature young people who, in most times in history and in many places in the world today, would be beginning their life's work and establishing families.

Appreciation
 ★ The entire staff of 18th Street Services would like to express our appreciation for our Cable Car Award for Outstanding Contribution to Community Well Being.
 We feel that we provide a valuable service to our community by helping gay men overcome their drug and alcohol problems, but it is so nice to be recognized and thanked by means of such a prestigious award. We shall do our best to continue to merit your confidence.
 Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Jerry De Jong
 Executive Director
 18th Street Services
 San Francisco

Wayne Friday

Democrats Go To Hardball

Jesse Jackson's impressive victory in Saturday's Michigan caucuses has many leaders of the Democratic party wringing their hands and wondering how they can agree on another Democrat as their nominee without making it appear as a "stop Jackson" effort. The popular Jackson keeps winning delegates and the Democratic kingmakers are now wondering what to do with the charismatic Black leader.
 Political wisdom tells me that Jesse Jackson could probably win most of the remaining primaries and still be denied the presidential nomination. Democrats like Paul Kirk are trying not to publicly show their concern. But most of the party bosses are certain that a Jackson nomination would assure a Republican victory not only in the White House, but could possibly mean heavy losses in both the Senate and House of Representatives as well.

The Jackson campaign has definitely caught on and while the Republicans are no doubt pleased at the "Jackson dilemma," the Democratic leaders are quietly wondering how they can prevent the Jackson bandwagon from going to Atlanta and possibly taking control of the convention itself. By losing badly to Jackson in Michigan Saturday, Michael Dukakis has failed to show that he can win outside his New England area, particularly in the big industrial states.
 It might not be a pleasant thought, but the Democrats are not about to let Jesse Jackson, who has never held political office, have no government experience, and above all, is Black, take the nomination. There is too much at stake and not only will Jackson be denied the nomination, he will not be offered the vice-presidential nomination either, no matter how many delegates he takes to Atlanta.

Party leaders want to keep Jackson's many followers happy because they will need them in the November showdown against George Bush. Sometime between the present and the Atlanta confab, Paul Kirk and other brokers within the national party are going to have to sit down with Jackson and find out just what his price really is. Whatever happens, Jackson has changed the face of the national Democratic party forever. The man has an agenda that the party will now have to listen to—and will probably be forced to accept.

Meanwhile, don't invite Democratic chair Paul Kirk and Jackson national chairperson Willie Brown to the same smoke-filled room anytime soon. The California Assembly leader told listeners last week that "I think Paul Kirk is a jerk."
 The problem this time? Well, you see there are still nearly 700 "uncommitted" delegates to the July convention to be chosen before the national confab starts. Jackson supporters want them to be chosen in proportion to the number of popular votes each candidate receives (Jackson currently leads the Demo field in popular votes while Dukakis still leads in delegate count. Kirk wants all of the uncommitted delegates to automatically get behind the party favorite (i.e. Michael Dukakis) before the convention. Jackson's man, Willie Brown thinks the Kirk idea smells.
 Colorado Rep. Pat Schroeder, who took herself out of the presidential race last year, has accused presidential candidates of "ignoring women" in their bids for the White House and said all of them are afraid to say the "W" word. "They (Democrats) think they are going to get the good ol' boys back (by ignoring women)," Schroeder said during a Washington news conference.
 Here he goes again—Quentin Kopp, commenting to USA Today about last week's demonstrations here against sending U.S. troops in Honduras, and complaining of the political posture of the city, "It's becoming more liberal every day," says Kopp, (who calls himself the city's last surviving conservative). "Just look at those 5,000 protesters burning flags, urinating on the streets, throwing cups at police; and look at the mayor who shares their beliefs, a far-left mayor emblematic of a far-left city."

Meanwhile, in Sacramento, they are saying that every politician has his price. Sen. Kopp was appointed chair of the Senate's Transportation Committee as a reward for his last-minute change of heart

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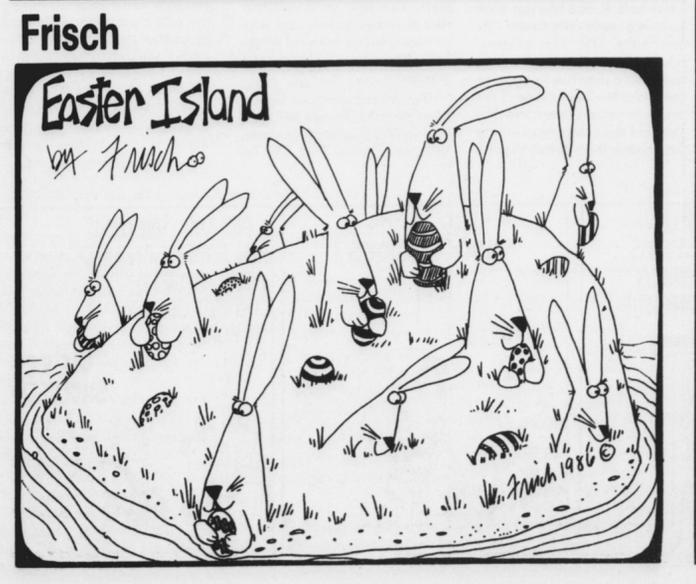
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Mike Hippler

Rockin' and Rollin'

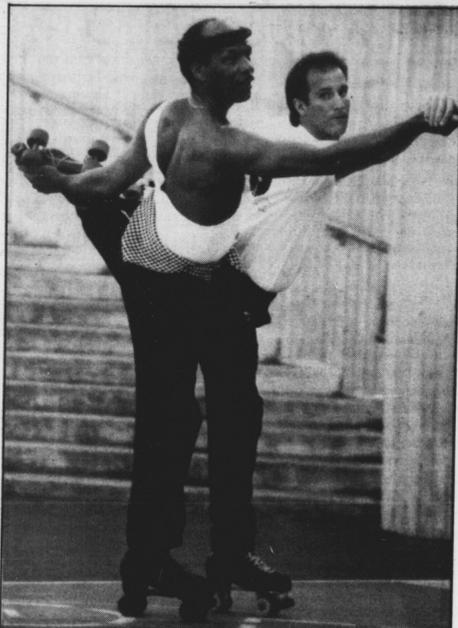
B lame it on the "Hokey-Pokey." ("You put your right foot in, you put your right foot out...") I never could stand that song. That's why, when my friend Tom asked me to join a group for Gay Night at the rollerskating rink, I was somewhat less than ecstatic. I hadn't been skating in years and didn't want to make a fool of myself.

Fortunately, Tom assured me that no one in the group was a dedicated rollerskating queen.

"We'll be more concerned with staying upright than with serious dips and twirls," he said.

That understood, I piled in the back of a van with nine other gay men and two women one recent Tuesday night and headed for San Leandro.

Thirty minutes later, amid a flurry of fanny fluffs and poodle skirts, we unloaded at Saare's (formerly Roller Garden) in the middle of one of San Leandro's



Roosevelt and Kerry on skates. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

and Randy of the gay rollerskating world, Jimmy had just gotten back from Japan, and Joel had recently returned from Florida. As Joel lifted the diminutive Jimmy above his head in a pose from *Swan Lake* (it had to be), the rest of my group felt more than a little intimidated.

But intimidation isn't the name of the game at Saare's. ("That's French for 'party,'" explained Renee. "It isn't how you spell it, but it's how you pronounce it.") Enjoyment is. At least, that's what my friends told me when we returned to San Francisco several hours later.

"Well, I certainly had a good time," chirped the group's Pollyanna as he adjusted the pom-poms on his boots. "How about you?"

Bypassing my chance at the Miss Congeniality Award, I merely grimaced and hobbled home as fast as my blisters allowed.

My consolation? No "Hokey-Pokey." No hanky-panky, either, but that's okay. I'm a happily married man. And he, thank God, doesn't like to rollerskate either.

rougher neighborhoods. "No hats, no gang symbols, and no sleeveless shirts," we read as we paid our \$5 to enter.

"If there's a booth selling guns and switchblades, I'm not going in," said one of the more timid members of the group. We were relieved to find no such booth. In fact, we hardly found any other people. Everyone else, it seems was running on Gay Time—fashionably late.

Soon, however, a fellow San Franciscan named Kerry McQuaid showed up. Gay Night used to be a big thing, he explained, until last August, when the rink closed. In December it reopened under new ownership, and Kerry did his best to spread the word. He posted flyers in bars and shops around the Bay Area, and he placed calendar listings in gay newspapers.

When Gay Night officially resumed in January, alas, only six or seven people showed up. Later, however, the crowds have grown to 40 or 50. Gay Night at Saare's is finally back on track.

According to Kerry, the new owners, a black couple named Larry and Renee Murray, have been extremely cooperative. "At first they were sort of overwhelmed by us, but they've done everything they can to make us feel welcome. They changed the music to suit our tastes, and they even got their employees to stop bringing in their friends to gawk

at us. Consequently, we've never had a problem here. It's great."

Although Gay Night seems to be working out well for them, Renee and Larry are having other problems with the business. Although they are trying to operate the rink as a "Kleen Teen" club with dances on Friday and Saturday nights (no drugs or alcohol allowed), the Sheriff's Department keeps trying to shut them down. They've been raided three times and cited once.

Police cars jam the parking lot in an attempt to intimidate the patrons—a tactic reminiscent of the pre-Stonewall days at gay bars—and it works. The kids are often afraid to enter.

Renee and Larry admit that the place used to have a terrible reputation. It has been the site of numerous shootings and killings. But no more. They see the official harassment as a "racial thing," and they have filed suit with the help of the NAACP.

If the gay boys and girls flying by on wheels the night I was there had any knowledge of this or were concerned by it, they didn't show it. They were interested only in having a good time. This they most certainly did. As Tom promised, some were as ungainly and awkward as myself. Others, however, were quite profresh.

One young couple, Jimmy from Pleasant Hill and Joel from Redwood City, were professional in name as well as deed. The Tai

Homophobia/Homophilia

New Survey Indicates Society Accepting Gays

by Dennis McMillan

A recent survey by a team of sociologists and psychiatrists has revealed some surprising trends soon to become evident in the late 1980s. Apparently many fascinating changes towards a more homophobic society have been occurring, both within and outside the gay community. Even more positive transformations are expected in the future, according to this new data.

Television, the survey shows, is beginning to air more and more programming portraying gay people in happy, healthy, fulfilling relationships. For example, producers have announced an episode next season on the long-running nighttime soap *Dynasty* where sometimes gay/sometimes straight character Steven Carrington finally meets a man and has a wonderful romance. The writers promise a very steamy bathtub scene between the two lovers, as well as some erotic shots in bed.

This time father Blake Carrington will wholeheartedly approve of his son's relationship, even throwing him an elaborate wedding ceremony to top any previously held at Carrington mansion.

As a result of such approval, Adam will come out of the closet and stop womanizing every female character in the series, and his sister Fallon will begin to question her inability to commit to a man, pondering her latent lesbian tendencies. This future episode should prove to be a real show-stopper, ratings-climber, and shot in the arm for gays everywhere.

Also in the planning stage is a new video venture, a spinoff from MTV. Its tentative title is GTV, with an all-gay format of overtly homosexual lyrics set to music and acted out in video. The first project will be a video of the early '80s classics "Cruising the Streets" and "It's Raining Men." The video jockey hosts will be openly gay celebrities.

The news media is also set to report on gay people, not just as sufferers of disease and protesters of societal ills, but as viable,

positive forces who have contributed creative genius and spiritual insight to the world. Documentaries are planned giving credit to great homosexual leaders and artists and scientists of the past.

MUSCLE MILLS GOING

Because of the new public acceptance and accolades of gay-dom, the survey indicates, gay people themselves will have a new, improved self-image. Muscle-bound gyms and ray-happy tanning salons will find it harder to stay in business, because men no longer feel the driving need to be approved of for their physical appearance.

New-age gay churches are now buying up muscle mills and tanning stores, replacing the accent on the physical with the spiritual. These homosexual houses of worship will be places to celebrate the new tenets of unconditional androphilia and gynephilia that are to sweep the nation.

Statistics on nicotine, alcohol and drug addiction are showing that fewer and fewer gays rely on cigarettes, booze and chemicals to give them a sense of self-esteem. There is virtually no abuse in the gay community, and only occasional drug, alcohol and tobacco use among gays.

For this reason, we are noting the gradual disappearance of drug counselors and psychotherapists in the gay community.

Violence is also on the wane. Community United Against Violence, for example, is in the planning stages of converting into a library—a gay Smithsonian museum—chronicling the terrible age of violence from which we have evolved. CUAUV will display photographs and videos of the

gays we were: bashings that resulted from mass homosexual panic that once plagued the community. In addition, gay domestic violence will be recorded on film and still photos for museum visitors to reflect upon and examine.

There will even be a section entitled "Graffiti of the Past," showing how our society used to feel the need to spray-paint ugly expressions of violence and hate on public buildings and vehicles of transportation.

BIG, BRIGHT SMILES

According to the data, gay men's commitments are now seen as much stronger. Even one-night stands are turning into ongoing dates. When tricks exchange phone numbers, they actually follow up and return phone calls. And dates are blossoming into long-term relationships.

The need to "give attitude" has all but disappeared. Since it was discovered that attitude was just a cover for fear of rejection and low self-image, gays are now open and loving. Everywhere you go, you see gay men and women smiling, full of unconditional love. It is not uncommon to see men cruising Collingwood Park with big, bright smiles on their faces.

These days it would seem more



Here Comes Peter Cottontail

Hopping down the bunny trail. Hippy, hoppy, Peter's on his way. Okay, so this isn't the rabbit of the legend, but the sentiment is the same—happy Easter! (Photo: S. Martin)

and more old churches and stores are being bought up and refurbished by bathhouses and J/O clubs. A healthy new attitude towards male sexuality appears to be responsible for this upsurge of sex establishments.

Incidentally, an amazing phenomenon has accompanied these changes. The fixation with hard-ons has been replaced with heart-ons. The current status symbol shows how loving, warm and car-

ing a person is. Gay men have taken to wearing handkerchiefs with red hearts sewn on them.

Sporting a heart-hankie in the right back pocket indicates one is into getting love; left hankie pocket means you're into giving love. Oddly enough, everyone seems to be wearing the hankie in both pockets.

Oh, by the way, happy April Fool's Day.

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REPUBLICAN ANTI-ROBERTSON COALITION

REPUBLICAN ANTI-ROBERTSON COALITION

Friday

(Continued from previous page)

Research Tax Credit Initiative? Send a check now to: AIDS Initiative Committee, 10 United Nations Plaza, Suite 400, S.F., CA 94102. Prop. 69 on the June ballot is the same proposition which California voters rejected in 1986.

Sponsored again by Lyndon LaRouche groups, Prop. 69 could result in mass testing for AIDS and the public reporting and quarantine of any persons who test positive.

The AIDS Research Tax Credit Initiative will appear on the November ballot if enough signatures are collected in the next two months. This proposition is a positive alternative to the LaRouche Initiative and two other repressive AIDS initiatives which may also be on the November ballot.

The AIDS Research Tax Credit Initiative would raise an estimated \$180 million for AIDS research and education during the next three years. California taxpayers could receive a tax credit for contributions to a special trust fund, to be administered by a board of AIDS experts. Again, money is badly needed—please mail a check today.

Bike-a-Thon IV Off to Fast Start



The Different Spokes Bicycle Club was out in force.

A svelte crowd of Spandex-clad bicyclists gathered at 18th and Castro Streets last Saturday afternoon to mark the registration kickoff of the 1988 AIDS Bike-a-Thon IV, scheduled to roll Saturday, May 14. First-week registrations topped the numbers for previous years.

Over the last three years, the all-volunteer AIDS Bike-a-Thon has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for direct services for people with AIDS.

This year's goal is to collect at least \$500,000 for 15 beneficiaries located in seven Bay Area counties. This is the only fund-raising event of its kind for AIDS

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- City Nights Parties

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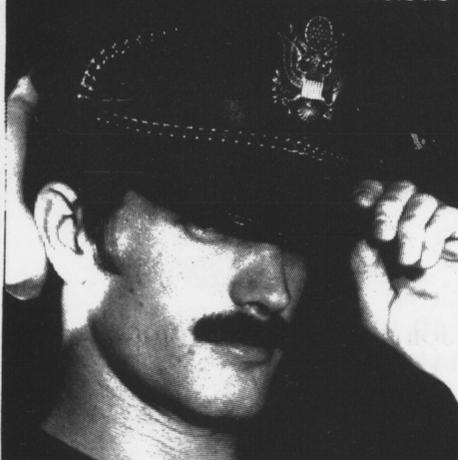
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NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

Veto Override May Strengthen Bias Law

WASHINGTON, DC—Last week's Congressional override of Pres. Ronald Reagan's veto of the Civil Rights Restoration Act may strengthen existing federal law that protects people with AIDS from discrimination, reports the Washington Blade.

The new law may remove potential obstacles in the enforcement of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which bars discrimination against people with handicaps. Recent court rulings have extended those protections to people with contagious diseases, including AIDS.

But legal observers feared that the court victories were in doubt because of limitations stemming from another U.S. Supreme Court ruling in the *Grove City* case.

In *Grove City College v. Bell*, the court held that only certain portions of an institution found guilty of discrimination could be penalized, and not the entire institution. According to that ruling, federal funds could be withheld only from specific departments found to have discriminated.

The Civil Rights Restoration Act reversed that

court ruling and made it law that an entire institution can be held liable for any discrimination that takes place in one of its departments.

Virginia attorney Kenneth Labowitz told the Blade that the *Grove City* ruling could have possibly allowed courts to rule in favor of hospitals refusing to treat people with AIDS. A court might, he said, allow such discrimination if it determined that the hospital's federal funds went only to programs not involved in AIDS treatment.

The Civil Rights Restoration Act specifies that the Rehabilitation Act, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the U.S. Education Act and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 apply to an entire institution or firm accused of discrimination, and not just to the component receiving federal funds.

An amendment that had been introduced and that would have removed contagious diseases from protection was replaced by a weaker amendment that is not expected to pose any problems in the fight to protect the rights of those with AIDS.

—Washington Blade

AIDS Bill Stalled By Religious Group

COLUMBUS, OH—Legislation to ban discrimination against people with AIDS and to provide for health education and medical care has been bottled up in committee in the Ohio Senate by a group calling itself Christian Broadcast Radio. Members of the group reportedly stormed a hearing on the bill, claiming it was a "gay rights bill." The group said that, if the bill were to pass, it would mean that the State of Ohio would be condoning homosexuality.

The legislation, introduced by Republican Sen. David Hobson, would forbid discrimination against people with AIDS in housing, insurance and employment. It would provide \$4.6 million for community AIDS organizations, support groups, and "community alternative homes" for those with the disease. It would also guarantee confidentiality of HIV test results and forbid any mandatory testing.

—Gay People's Chronicle

Gays Now Legal In Israel

TEL AVIV—Reuters news service reports that the Israeli parliament, the Knesset, has legalized gay sex acts between men over the age of 18. The move was part of a general reform of Israeli laws on sex.

Although civil law in Israel now carries no penalties for sex with consenting adults, Jewish religious law still upholds the Biblical ban on gay sexual relations as interpreted from the famous passage in Leviticus calling homosexuality an "abomination."
—Reuters

Vermont Senate Passes Rights Bill

MONTPELIER, VT—The Vermont Senate gave final approval to a gay rights bill March 4 by a 17 to 12 vote. The legislation now goes to the House, where it faces more opposition.

Proponents of the measure were caught by surprise with their victory. "To pass the Senate on the first try is a major accomplishment," said Susan Aranoff of the Vermont Coalition of Lesbians and Gay Men. "We were expecting something more along the lines of a 15-15 tie."

The bill would ban discrimination in employment, public accommodations, housing, credit and insurance.

Aranoff said that while the bill faces an "uphill battle" in the House, the coalition promoting the measure was hopeful about passage. She said that House Speaker Ralph Wright and Gov. Madeleine Kunin, both Democrats, have endorsed the bill.

The state's largest newspaper has also endorsed the idea. "If the Vermont bill passes, it would make the state the second in the country," editorialized the Burlington Free Press, "to enact statewide gay rights legislation."

In the Senate vote, Sen. William Hunter said, "What impressed me was the number of people who wrote and said, 'I hope this bill passes, but I don't dare sign my name.' I think it's a shame that some people don't dare sign for fear of losing their jobs."

The Advocate

Canada Parliament Gets First Gay

VANCOUVER, B.C.—The first member of the Canadian House of Commons publicly came out of the closet and declared that he is gay Feb. 29. Svend Robinson, 35, announced his sexual orientation in his home district in Vancouver.

Robinson has been a member of the House for nine years and is in the New Democratic Party. In the past, Robinson has been a strong supporter of gay rights issues in Parliament. The Toronto Star newspaper called Robinson's move a "milestone in Canadian politics."

—Washington Blade

No Gay Tourism, Thank You

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL—Local government officials have balked at the idea of a gay business group promoting this south Florida city as a vacation spot for lesbians and gays. The Gay Business Association, only two months old, announced recently that it planned to launch a national advertising campaign through the gay media to lure gay tourists to Fort Lauderdale.

When local media contacted city officials about the plan, many had objections. Said Mayor Robert Cox, "I don't think we want to have the image of a gay resort any more than we want to have the image of a vomiting college student resort or the image of any other group which is clearly not part of the family orientation that Fort Lauderdale fully and clearly said it wants."

Another official said that "AIDS is on everybody's mind."

Local gay political leaders were critical of Cox's remarks, which came in the midst of an election campaign. "Cox belongs in 1922, along with Calvin Coolidge. That's where his thinking is, because he doesn't deal with reality," said Karl Clark, of the Dolphin Democratic Club. The club has been supporting Cox's opponent.

According to the business association's president, Jim Rakvica, Cox's remarks may have backfired. Commenting on the national news media picking up the story, Rakvica said, "We couldn't have gotten all this (free advertising) if we had spent every nickel we got for the next three years."

"We're just trying to keep a positive image," said Rakvica.

—The Weekly News (Miami)

Gay Booth a Hit at Florida State Fair

by Nancy Valmus

TAMPA, FL—"Do you have AIDS yet? Well, I hope you get it so we can get rid of you!" declared the middle-aged man, interrupting the group gathered at the Gay and Lesbian Exhibit at the Florida State Fair. Barry Brinson, activist who promoted the fair booth idea, had no time to respond. Four women visiting the booth were joined by nearby vendors in voicing overwhelming disdain of the man's inhumane comments.

The fair has gone and the dust settled, but those who participated in the exhibit, sponsored by the Tampa Bay Business Guild, say they will never be the same. "If we could make it there, we can make it anywhere" was the chant.

Richard Lewis, staff coordinator for the booth, provided a shuttle for some who worked. Filled with the excitement of success, he said, "Many were apprehensive when I dropped them off, but when I returned to pick them up they were different people. Most found the experience so empowering, they asked to remain longer or volunteered for another shift."

Most booth staffers agreed with University of South Florida student Peter Pavich. "The women from our community were really great. Almost everyone who looked slightly interested stopped by, chatted and congratulated us for being there. It was really disappointing that men we all knew looked away and acted as if we didn't exist. I mean men we know, gay men, they just ignored us," said Pavich.

Kate Goode and her husband sold pressure cookers in the space directly across the aisle. "I live in Reno," said Kate, "and I always had this stereotyped idea of what gays and lesbians were like. This experience has certainly changed all that. We once considered moving to Tampa, and if we knew all the people here as wonderful as the people who have worked in this booth, we'd move

tomorrow." Kate has requested an adjacent space against next year.

Tony Delgado, building exhibit director for the Florida State Fair, said, "I must admit we always worry about any display that is out of the ordinary. The state fair has to look at what our patrons will conceive as in good taste. When the application came in, I was in favor of the booth as long as it complied with guidelines which are nonpolitical, educational and tasteful. The board agreed."

"Done in a similar manner again, we would welcome Tampa Bay Business Guild next year. We found the information very educational, and I believe it helped portray gays and lesbians in a very positive light to a lot of people. In fact, I even learned a lot. The most noteworthy things was nothing happened. I would have heard if there had been a lot of negative reaction," he said.

The booth itself was a tasteful mauve and gray in color. A large sign across the back of the exhibit read, "Tampa Bay Business Guild. One in 10. Someone you know is gay."

Below were two television screens continuously running videos. One showed still photos of entertainers, artists, athletes, politicians, writers and other celebrities who were openly gay or lesbian. The other ran films from the National Marches on Washington of 1979 and 1987. Literature was available for those who wanted it. Patrons of the

London Tickets Available for Cheap Price

See 'The Phantom' and Help AIDS Emergency Fund

by Will Snyder

Perhaps the most unavailable theater tickets in the world have been for *The Phantom of the Opera*. Andrew Lloyd Webber's smash hit which has been captivating audiences in both New York and London. Reports indicate that scalpers are getting \$500 per ticket.

But if you expect to be in London, you can get up to four tickets for a performance. All you have to do is contribute \$50 or more to the San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund. That's the deal San Francisco stockbroker and theater aficionado Bernard Pechter is offering to the public.

Pechter, who has a financial interest in *Phantom*, was able to obtain four tickets for each of the eight weekly performances of the show. And, as Pechter points out, these duets are rarely available these days.

"You can't get a ticket until November," said Pechter, "and these tickets are in rows 10 through 13, the best seats in the

house."

The thing that's interesting about Pechter's offer is that there isn't any time limit. He says the tickets are available for an undetermined amount of time, thanks to the cooperation of *Phantom* producer Harold Prince.

Pechter also thinks that Prince may not be the only prince he has talked to because of the show. "I have an inside number at the office that handles the tickets," said Pechter, "and I know that Prince Edward is working there."

"Every time I call and a man answers the phone, I ask him who he is. He always answers, 'Edward!'"

Pechter said that anyone interested in London tickets to *Phantom* should call him at Van Kasper & Co. at 391-5600.

But remember, there's more to this deal than just having a great time with a great play. The AIDS Emergency Fund will thank you. ●

TAMPA BAY BUSINESS GUILD



Brinson, Valmus, and Pavich staff the exhibit.

exhibit were able to solicit information to be sent by mail from various gay and lesbian organizations.

As program director for the Tampa Bay Business Guild, Barry Brinson proposed the idea of a gay and lesbian exhibit for the 1987 state fair and was met with many objections by the guild board. To test the waters, Brinson wrote to the fair authorities requesting a space application, which was returned with a statement that no space was available.

In late 1987 Brinson once again brought the subject of the exhibit for 1988 before the guild's board. Charged by the emotion and courage of a successful year that included the Washington march, the board voted their support.

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RDS Raises Funds For Education

First Project for Deaf on AIDS

by Mary Richards

The first fundraiser in the country for gay deaf people with AIDS and ARC was held on March 27 at the San Francisco Hearing Society. The Rainbow Deaf Society (RDS) collected \$1,000 to provide education and support for the deaf throughout the city.

Sup. Carol Ruth Silver made a guest appearance and was welcomed by supporters of RDS. "The Rainbow Deaf Society," she said, "is one more of a large number of community agencies which was created for the purpose of dealing with AIDS, but which is reaching out to take a responsibility for this major crisis in our society." During her speech, her remarks were interrupted by applause and laughter when she asked her interpreter, Garett Stark, to show her how to sign the word "condoms."

Angelo Rosado, RDS president, said, "Since the AIDS epidemic, many of our loved ones, our hearing friends, our deaf gay friends and non-gay friends have passed away. Now we want to set

up our deaf AIDS project to provide services to the deaf gay community the best way we can. We want to share our warmth, our feeling, and we look for your support."

Interpreters mingled with guests and speakers to translate remarks from the hearing to the non-hearing so that communication between everyone was possible.

Jay Wilson, RDS media liaison, was interpreting for a speaker who presented a surprise award to him in appreciation for his dedication and work in promoting RDS and its services.

The premiere production of a film about deaf people and the epidemic, entitled "It's Not Just Hearing AIDS," was shown.



Members of the Rainbow Deaf Society closed their AIDS fundraiser at the Hearing Society with a song. (Photo: Photo/GraphicsDarlene)

Don Bangs, vice president of the Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf, wrote and directed the film, which will be distributed to deaf groups and schools throughout the country.

He described the three purposes for doing it: "to provide

information that the deaf are not getting because TV shows are not captioned and brochures are written in language levels deaf people do not understand; to put the AIDS situation in a deaf culture context—it's the first time we're showing deaf people resolving their problems with AIDS; and to encourage active solu-

tions, instead of settling back passively."

John Darby, executive director of the San Francisco Hearing Society, praised RDS as being "one [group] that has been very important in the deaf community."

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Legislators Offer 82 New AIDS Bills

Doolittle Is Quiet, But LIFE Is Wary

by Jay Newquist

The politics of AIDS has proliferated in early 1988 as 36 lawmakers have introduced a staggering 82 new AIDS-related bills in the State Legislature. These bills, both good and bad, typify the general public's demand that Sacramento react to control the epidemic.

The Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality (LIFE), has waded through the minefield of AIDS bills. LIFE's Rand Martin said his group sponsors the following bills:

- AB 2950 (Assemblyman Mike Roos, D-Los Angeles), requires counseling whenever an HIV antibody test is administered and specifies the content of that counseling;

- AB 4438 (Assemblyman Terry Friedman, D-Tarzana), prohibits the denial of medical services based on a patient's HIV status by relaxing disclosure to avoid patient dumping.

- SB 2855 (Sen. Milton Marks, D-San Francisco), requires the Department of Fair Employment and Housing to expedite discrimination complaints for people with terminal illnesses;

- AB 3795 (Assemblyman John Vasconcellos, D-San Jose), and AB 4302 (Assemblyman Friedman), prohibit discrimination in employment and housing on the basis of a person's HIV status.

Other new bills that carry a high priority are:

- AB 3505 (Assemblyman Bill Bradley, R-Escondido), would allow county health officers to close businesses that permit or encourage sexual activity if there is a danger of spreading a disease;

- SB 2840 (Sen. Gary Hart, D-Los Angeles), would require AIDS education in public schools for all students in grades 7-12;

- SB 2842 (Sen. John Seymour, R-Orange), would increase the number of drug treatment slots available.

- AB 2900 (Assemblyman Pat Johnson, Rep.), would permit testing for life and health insurance eligibility, provided that AB 600, a health insurance program for the medically uninsurable, also becomes law.

LIFE admits that AB 2900 is "good, responsible legislation," but opposes it for its expense and its lack of definition of coverage limits.

Martin said it was unclear if it will cover AIDS and ARC patients and he wondered if the program would cover HIV positive people who are asymptomatic but still need routine medical care.

A SINCERE EFFORT

Above all Martin was guardedly pleased that the bumper crop of new AIDS bills represented in most cases a sincere effort to fight AIDS.

"We're not facing the kind of hysteria in these new AIDS bills that we faced last year," he said. "There isn't the demand for mandatory testing or contact tracing. I see genuine concern in much of this new legislation."

Roos, for example, weighed in with a seven-bill package to address AIDS education, research, and accurate, anonymous testing.

A sampling of his bills other than AB 2950 include:

- AB 3031, authorizes California State University student health facilities to provide on campus or contract out for anonymous HIV testing for their students;

- AB 3032, establishes six AIDS education pilot projects at community colleges throughout



Rand Martin (Photo: D. Biggs)

the state;

- AB 3033, requires every California employer with 50 or more employees to implement an AIDS education program, including guidelines relating to confidentiality of medical information and the right of an employee to continue working as long as the employee is able to perform in a satisfactory manner and presents no health or safety threat;

- AB 3034, adds AIDS education to existing continuing education requirements for physicians and surgeons.

"My goal is to move toward a coordinated, statewide policy that recognizes that the disease, rather than its victims, is the real enemy," Roos said.

Martin said a major surprise in early 1988 was the lack of visibility of Sen. John Doolittle, who introduced three bills that didn't carry the degree of controversy that his infamous "Gang of Ten" did in 1987.

But several of the Doolittle measures are still alive, according to Martin.

He speculated that Doolittle is "probably frustrated" with his lack of success in the legislature and has chosen instead to qualify and pass a proposed Gann initiative that may appear on the November ballot.

He made no predictions about the ultimate passage of any AIDS bills, but that bills not obviously related to AIDS continue to surface and will push the bill load higher.

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All The Elements of Nature

Doctor Pioneering New Approach to Treatment

by Dennis McMillan

Dr. Emanuel Revici, scientific director of The Institute of Applied Biology in New York City, has developed a unique treatment for AIDS utilizing a safe, non-toxic chemotherapy and nutritional supplementation. His approach has brought about many remissions and recoveries from the usually fatal disease.

Out of his 274 AIDS and ARC patients who have been treated during the past six years, only 22 have died, and most have experienced measurable, positive change.

Revici, a 91-year-old theorist, biochemist, and physician, and founder of The Institute of Applied Biology for research and treatment of degenerative diseases, is a pioneer in this field. He has created a completely new system of medicine, diagnostics, and pharmacology by going back over 5,000 years into Oriental philosophy and medicine, and combining this yin-yang approach with the quantum physics of Albert Einstein. Moving away from today's Newtonian approach of cause and effect in medicine, Revici's method does not deal with treatment of the disease, but rather a holistic approach re-establishing balance within one's system and enabling it to heal itself.

Einstein's physics and yin-yang Oriental philosophy both involve a dualistic universe where two opposites complement and oppose each other, and ultimately maintain balance. This is the basis of Revici's medicine.

Revici uses the terms "anabolic" and "catabolic" to describe the processes the human system goes through. When in an anabolic state, the body is in a building-up stage, utilizing synthesis and repair, positively charged; when in catabolic state, the body is breaking down, using energy production and digestion, and in negative charge. The state of health is one in which a balance of anabolic and catabolic is maintained; conversely, a state of disease exists when either anabolic or catabolic is exaggerated.

Revici has discovered that most Kaposi's sarcoma comes from anabolic imbalance, and most other opportunistic diseases are catabolic. Revici has found that non-toxic agents can be administered to restore balance in a diseased system. Anabolic imbalance can be treated with lipid acids and sulfur, selenium, magnesium, and lipid-copper compounds. To balance catabolic dominance, lipid alcohols and lithium, zinc, and iron compounds are prescribed.

Revici has made the discovery that all the elements of nature as found in the Periodic Table of Elements correspond with either anabolic or catabolic activity. The heavier metals have been found to be the most effective in treatment.

The AIDS treatment program has four phases. First the patient is injected with antiviral agents to treat the primary viral infection. Then the immune deficiency is treated with refractory (disease-fighting) lipids. Next, the secondary opportunistic disease (most commonly KS or pneumocystis) is medicated with antibiotics, antimicrobial, or antifungal agents. Finally, the anabolic/catabolic state resulting from exaggerated imbalance in the immune system (caused by the secondary disease) is diagnosed and treated.

Revici has created several medications using lipids bonded to the heavier elements. Like most alternative medications, the non-toxic lipidic medicine has

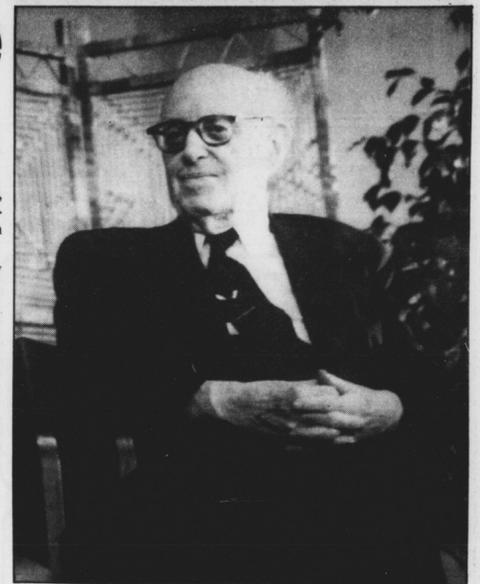
not yet been FDA approved, but a New York law (under whose jurisdiction the Institute resides) does allow any licensed physician to prepare non-toxic formulas.

Many conventionally trained physicians are amazed at the multiple pathological imbalances that can be treated by a single medication of Revici's. Since the body is limited in the number and types of symptoms it can express, one lipidic medicine may apply to several seemingly unrelated diseases. The doctor cited five examples: migraine, sunburn, shock, hemorrhage, and pneumonia—all medicated with the same non-toxic formula.

Part of the unpopularity of this new medicine among established medical associations is that this is individually guided non-toxic chemotherapy, where the substances and dosages vary for each patient, and may have to change as often as day to day if imbalance so indicates.

Regular monitoring and frequent analysis is required. The patient takes a great deal of responsibility in his monitoring process. He must measure and chart the changes in his PH several times a day, as well as take tests for specific gravity, surface tension, and chloride levels.

This personal monitoring gives the patient a sense of taking back his power in an unusually victim-oriented situation. But this necessitates discipline, which an AIDS sufferer will not always want to follow. Some patients find a sort of comfort in completely



Dr. Emanuel Revici

(Photo: Rink)

handing over their care to the medical team. Still other patients do not have the patience to stick with one treatment approach, often haphazardly switching from one "cure" to another, and finally resorting to taking possibly toxic medicines such as AZT and harmful chemotherapy.

According to Revici's AIDS program coordinator, Douglas Murphey, the doctor will not treat patients who are currently taking AZT, which Murphey claimed "is extremely toxic. AZT will totally destroy the lipids," he explained.

Impressive results are said to be obtained when refractory medicines are administered to AIDS patients. "In pneumocystis pneumonia and other opportunistic infections, manifest favorable changes are often obtained in less than 24 hours," claimed Dr. Revici. Antiviral treatments and refractory lipids "have kept patients entirely without any symptoms for years," he

added.

One of 15 available testimonies includes that of a 38-year-old male who claims his KS skin lesions were treated in February 1984, and by October 1984 almost all had disappeared. The patient stopped treatment for a few weeks and the lesions reappeared. He returned to the program and by August 1985, all lesions were gone. Reports that his T-cell count rose from 370 to 564.

"I believe that this method represents the future of medicine," claimed Revici.

The doctor lives off his Social Security benefits alone. "I don't receive one dollar from patients. All goes to the Institute for Research," he explained.

Presently Revici and his 29 West Coast patients want to train doctors and set up protocols in California to carry on the study and administering of treatment.

Disco Diva II Postponed

The Disco Diva II dance/event sponsored by BAWNS (Black and White and Nationality Supporters) on March 26, was postponed until April 30.

Disco Diva II was scheduled for March 26 at the Warehouse Cabaret on the corner of 18th and San Pablo in downtown Oakland. It was postponed because BAWNS didn't want to disappoint the people who had assured they would attend. The assured crowd was 150. The expected crowd was 500 or more. Advance tickets sold were 80.

Disco Diva II advance tickets are now on sale until April 20. To purchase tickets, please contact Robert Jefferson at 923-9389. Tickets at the door will be \$15. BAWNS will honor all March 26 tickets and invitations on April 30.

BAWNS is still giving away free memberships (which expire Dec. 31, 1988), before May 1. After May 1, memberships will be \$25 every six months. BAWNS has signed up more than 275 members already, and hopes for 1,000 or more. BAWNS' events take place once a month to benefit other organizations.

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Friday, April 1st Good Friday
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 7:30 pm - The Reading of the Passion with Choir and Hymns

Saturday, April 2nd Holy Saturday
 10:30 pm - The Great Vigil of Easter

Sunday, April 3rd Easter Sunday
 8:30 am - (New service time!) Morning services are identical
 10:30 am - The Reverend Jim Mitulski
 7:00 pm - Easter Vespers

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DEATHS

John Buonacore
 Oct. 26, 1945—March 13, 1988

John was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., but made San Francisco his home in 1979 with his lover of nearly ten years, Albert Gonzalez.

John's sudden passing of a heart attack was a shock to all who knew and loved him. We can only take comfort in the knowledge that John lived each day to the fullest and in fond, warm remembrances of his charm, humor, and wit, his love of life, family, friends, and opera.

John is survived by sisters Phyllis, Linda, Geraldine, and Debbie, brother Rollie, and his loving lover and friend forever.

Memorial services were held last Thursday at Most Holy Redeemer, but anyone wishing to acknowledge their affection can make a contribution in John's memory to Open Hand or Coming Home Hospice.

Until we meet again, dear John, we shall remember and miss you.

Henning Hansen

Henning was born Aug. 14, 1940 and was given the name Tod Moore. He always devoted himself to seeking out the best in life. He was inspired by his grandmother, Moi Moi, and his grandfather, Ejnor Hansen, whose paintings surrounded him all of his life.

Henning grew up in Southern California and loved being on the beach. He had a very deep relationship with his mother and cared for her while she was dying of cancer. In the early '70s he had a supportive and caring relationship with Steven for seven years. Henning aspired to continue his family's artistic tradition through his poetry and short stories. When necessary, he worked as a legal secretary.

Henning moved to San Francisco in the late 1970s. His spirit melded well with this city. He loved the erotic and expressed this wonderfully and lightheartedly in his writings. His poetry reflected his various relationships and resulted in a book of poetry, *Gay Persimmon*, published in 1981. Henning was an excellent conversationalist and was a joy to spend time with.

Henning became ill with AIDS in early 1986. At the time he was a Shanti volunteer and received much caring from his support group. Through the course of his illness his closest friend, Bill, spent many hours sharing this special time. Towards the end of his life many friends and volunteers came forth to help Henning fulfill his wish to die at home. These people are wonderful and include Olivia, Meredith, Carl, Dale, Dolores, Earl, Joan

Rodney Graves

During the early evening of Saturday, Feb. 27, Rodney Graves peacefully passed away. He is survived by his parents, Barbara and Arthur Graves of West Springfield, Mass., his sisters Patricia Smith of Brunswick, Maine, and Kathy Iversley of Andover, Mass., and his lover Michael John of San Francisco. Services were held aboard the Naia in San Francisco Bay, and at the base of North Bowl in Squaw Valley.

Richard Santoyo
 June 3, 1941—March 1, 1988

Richard left us on March 1, 1988, of AIDS, at St. Francis Memorial Hospital, where he worked for the past 16 years as Assistant Director of Respiratory Care Services.

Originally from Kansas City, Kansas, Richard moved to New York City after serving six years in the U.S. Navy in Respiratory Care, and finally settled in San Francisco in 1972.

A very devoted and caring individual, he is survived by his mother, Lorraine, and seven brothers and sisters, all of Kansas City, Kansas and Missouri; and a loving and devoted friend of 17 years, Tom Painchaud, and many, many friends who want to thank you, Richard, for sharing your life.

You are special and we will never forget your kindness and terrific smile. Richard reminded me once, "Tom, remember, we are loaned to each other."

Gifts of love and friendship for a plaque at St. Francis Memorial Hospital, can be made to the Saint Francis Foundation in Richard's name.

Carl L. Hammond

Carl Hammond, 44, died March 21, 1988, at home in San Francisco. He is survived by his sister, Martha Hammond of Atlanta, Georgia, and his best friends Jim Lansdowne and David Lewis. Carl was a Supervisor of Customer Service Operations for ASK Computer Systems, Los Altos.

Carl was an avid square dancer and was a member of the Western Star Dancers and the Midnight Squares. He also loved lacemaking and was a gifted sketch artist. Carl was a moving force in gay and non-gay politics in Cleveland before relocating to San Francisco in 1981. He is former editor of Ohio's gay newspaper, High GEAR. In San Francisco he was an active member of the Harvey Milk Lesbian & Gay Democratic Club since 1981.

Born and raised in St. Clairsville, Ohio, he was laid to rest there on March 25, 1988. At Carl's request, donations may be made to Harvey Milk AIDS Education Fund, P.O. Box 14368, San Francisco, CA 94114.

An afternoon of "Celebrating Carl" will be held April 2 from 1 to 3 p.m. at 2080 Castro St. (off Duncan). Please call Jim or David at 826-1888 for details.

Ken R. Leetzow

Ken Leetzow was born Jan. 25, 1945 at Lodi, CA, raised in Palo Alto, CA and moved to San Francisco in 1970. He was active in the community and won several titles: Mr. Cowboy, Mr. Gay Calif. II, and Mr. CMC '75.

He worked at the Wild Goose, the Boot Camp, Trench, and Trax.

By his side when he died at 5:30 p.m. March 25, 1988 were his mother, Charlotte Polly; brother, Duane Polly; lover John Martindale, and lover Richard Novak.

He was survived by his brother Max of Denver and sister Kathy Leetzow Edwards of Oakhurst, CA.

Easter Services at MCC-SF

Maundy Thursday, March 31, at 7:30 p.m. a special communion service commemorating the Last Supper will take place at San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St. The service will conclude with Tenebrae, the ancient service of lights and readings. This service will feature readings by Anne Frank, James Baldwin, Radclyffe Hall, Martin Luther King, Jr., Harvey Milk, Audre Lorde, Adrienne Rich, and people with AIDS in place of the traditional scripture readings. It is a service in solidarity with all people who suffer, and whose suffering is not forgotten.

There will be two services on Good Friday, at noon and at 7:30 p.m., which include a choral reading of the Passion story. Special music will be featured at both services. The evening service will also feature a dance performed by Kevin Fing, to a duet from *Godspell*.

Holy Saturday, the Great Vigil of Easter will take place at 10:30 p.m., featuring candlelight, readings, and holy communion.

There will be three services Easter Sunday, at 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 7 a.m. The choir will perform special music, including the Hallelujah chorus from Handel's *Messiah*. The Sunday School will have an Easter Egg hunt during the 10:30 a.m. service. Rev. Jim Mitulski will preach at all three services.

To receive a printed schedule, or for information about child care and Sunday School, call the church office at 863-4434.

Resources Expands

As a result of a continuing need for the services that Resources provides for people with AIDS, the group has expanded operations. Since Resources opened its doors on Dec. 1, 1987, it has grown at a rapid pace.

Beginning Feb. 29, the operational office at 597 Hayes Street will become totally devoted to four basic services: a food pantry, clothing closet, video library and housing referrals. Connected to 597 Hayes Street, will be the administrative office which is located at 534 Laguna Street. The telephone number for the 597 Hayes Street address will remain at 626-3560. The new telephone number for the administrative office will be 255-0595.

All donations of food, clothing, video and tax-deductible contributions can still be directed to 597 Hayes Street.

Food Bank Opens New Location Saturday

by Wendell Ricketts

The success of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Food Bank can be measured in several ways—by height, weight, and numbers. When it opened four years ago, for example, the Food Bank gave out only ten bags of groceries per week. Today that figure has skyrocketed to over 250 bags per week. Director Cary Norsworthy recently gave away the Food Bank's 20,000th bag of groceries.

For long-time supporters Lisa Heft and Paul Hill, finding new ways to stock the Food Bank's shelves has constantly challenged their creativity and vision. When the Food Bank's worn-out refrigerator needed replacing, for example, Heft and Hill hit upon the idea of a "One-Hour Benefit."

Exactly one hour after the event began, dozens of alarm clocks buzzed and clanged from their places around the perimeter of the room. The benefit was over—and the Food Bank had raised enough not only to buy the new refrigerator, but to put a substantial down payment on a freezer, as well.

Today more than 450 men and women with AIDS or ARC receive supplemental food from the Food Bank. "For many of our clients," says Norsworthy, "this service literally means the difference between eating and going hungry."

Commission

(Continued from page one)

sion that San Francisco "already has lost more young men to AIDS than all the San Franciscans who died in World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam combined and doubled. By the end of this year, one out of ten gay men in our city will have been diagnosed with full AIDS or died of AIDS."

Agnos said, "I am still dismayed that Dr. [C. Everett] Koop has not been invited to fully brief the President of the United States on our nation's most serious health crisis, nor has he been invited to play the lead role in setting our nation's policy."

"I think the President was the victim of the political wrangling and the political overtones that have surrounded this disease, when the Secretary of Education, William Bennett, was telling us to do one thing based on his political perspective rather than the health perspective that Dr. Koop was proposing."

COMMISSION TOO LATE?

As the mayor spoke, many were wondering if the commission would have any significant effect on Administration policy. One of those was commission member Frank Lilly. "We are dreadfully late," he said. "I worry that the purpose of this commission may have been to delay things for another year. It is very late, but better late than postponing it again for the next administration."

Lilly said Pres. Reagan may look at the report and say, "This is bullshit" and throw it in the wastebasket, but he is legally required to make a response."

Mayor Agnos said of the commission, "I am cautiously optimistic that they will come out with the kind of recommendations that can help us with this very difficult problem."

Dr. Werdegard feared the commission's action would be lost. "I think the Administration has largely ignored the epidemic over



Food Bank volunteer Robert Bramberry (l.) gives away the 20,000th bag

"If people don't feel they can give food," notes Norsworthy, "they can bring a roll of toilet paper."

Celebrity baggers will be on hand to help revelers fill the Food Bank's new shelves, including Sups. Richard Hongisto and Jim Gonzalez; *Greater Tuna's* Larry Randolph and Dan Hiatt; Project Open Hand's Ruth Brinker; comedians Marga Gomez and Danny Williams.

As the Food Bank settles into its new headquarters, the need for certain foods is especially critical. Juice, canned fruit, meat and protein items, macaroni and cheese, tuna, and soup are in great demand.

disaffection of potentially millions of people.

"We have been bullied by individuals and groups—principally from the far right—who have made the illogical and malicious charge that homosexuality is the cause of AIDS and/or that AIDS is God's punishment for being the way we are made," said Wahl.

He quickly added, "These individuals or groups then call for quarantine or internment of us, or at least those of us who may test positive for the presence of the HIV antibody."

Turning his attention to safe-sex education, Wahl noted, "This commission should not for one minute shrink from its responsibility to promote safe-sex education. Those who obstruct safe-sex education can fairly be said to be responsible for any disease and death which results from lack of safe-sex knowledge."

Apr. 2/Holy Saturday: 10:30 pm Easter Vigil/The Festival of Lights/
 The First Eucharist of Easter

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The next Practical Support Training begins Friday, April 6th. The next Emotional Support Training begins Friday, April 13th.

BAY AREA REPORTER MARCH 31, 1988 PAGE 19

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

New Church Launched On Ecumenical Appeal

by Marv Shaw

Religious pluralism is being demonstrated by a new congregation of the Holy Trinity Community Church, which meets every Sunday at 5 p.m. in the social room of the San Carlos Community United Church of Christ on Arroyo St. Since Jan. 25, this new group, an offshoot of the San Jose church, has been finding its way through its organizational stages under the leadership of Rev. Robert Wheatly.

Wheatly, a retired Baptist minister with more than 30 years' experience in the pulpit, talked with the Bay Area Reporter recently about Holy Trinity.

The major emphasis of Holy Trinity is that it is a Christian church for all people, Wheatly explained. While most of the San Carlos group is gay and probably 75 percent of the San Jose congregation is, non-gays are more than welcome. Members' vocations range from business to clinical psychology. The binding factor is a desire to worship together as a family, a concept that is highlighted in the church's brochure.

By "family," the church means a group of disparate people gathering together to form an independent association based on ecumenical principles and meeting common needs. Those needs might be both spiritual and social. Wheatly believes that a

major reason for joining by some gays is a desire to worship alongside straights and still be openly who they are.

The ecumenical factor is being shown at this organizational stage by working out of modes of worship. The input for this establishment of rituals is coming from the differing backgrounds of members: Roman Catholic, Pentecostal, Baptist, Lutheran, and more. Wheatly believes that the result might indeed be an interesting amalgam.

The family concept also illustrates an important factor of the HTCC as a whole, Wheatly added. In contrast with the Metropolitan Community Church, which Wheatly sees as more politically organized from the top down, his church keeps control within each group, with the minimal national organization exercising little direct influence on individual congregations.

However, each church family wants to stay involved closely with its community, Wheatly said. It is the accepted custom that, each quarter, 10 percent of the community church's gathered funds be given to a designated group in need. In the case of the San Carlos church, that agency could very well be the Ellipse AIDS Care Facility in Redwood City.

The need to start the San Carlos church was recognized when the distractions for some San Jose members became too much. Some were travelling from as far as Marin County. So Wheatly and Randy Hill, the San Jose pastor, searched until they found acceptance by the Community United Church of Christ in San Carlos. Its pastor and governing board have understood from the start that gay people would be coming to the HTCC.

Wheatly would like to see some joint services with his San Carlos landlords and also with the Calvary MCC in Redwood City. He sees these get-togethers as potentially useful for exchanging information and getting onto a warm social footing.

Wheatly's hopes for the future are based on a desire for an increased congregation—and eventually a building of their own—which would permit him to move to San Carlos.

April Fool's Bartenders Bash

April 1st and 2nd
Beginning Friday at 8pm
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E.B. Groups Gear Up For AIDS Services

Planning Session Maps Concerns for County

by Miranda Kolbe

AIDS Action Alameda, a working conference, was held over the weekend of March 18-19 at Lancy College in Oakland. The conference's aim, according to one of its organizers, Karen Hardison, was to demonstrate to the county health officials that there is a large group of people concerned with Alameda County's response to the AIDS epidemic.

Participants were excited by the work they had accomplished over the weekend. According to Hardison, "We unified the AIDS community in Alameda, which will enable us to be more effective in terms of reaching funding sources and getting the job done."

There was a wide variety of groups represented at the conference. "Everything from New Life Metropolitan Church to the Drug and Alcohol Program of the Health Department to a Baptist church's task force was there," said Brian Coors, AIDS coordinator of Alameda County Health Services.

Coors added, "This disease forces us to cooperate or not get the job done. We need to have not only the mainline organizations and the minority-based organizations, but also the gay and lesbian-based organizations working in concert, so we can figure out how to provide services. For example, if there's a Latino who's married, who doesn't think he is at risk for AIDS, but thinks his boyfriend is at risk because he is straight but his boyfriend is gay, how do you provide services for him in a humane way that represents his dignity?"

The conference resulted in the Alameda AIDS groups establishing an agenda for upcoming work. The groups will hold a followup meeting on April 4 to set out plans for meeting those goals.

One idea which met with great enthusiasm was to establish a clearinghouse where people could be directed to the proper services. Coors said this would be a priority for his organization in the coming months. However, he said that there were still kinks which needed to be ironed out in the plan.

"It might be done here, or it might be done independently," said Coors. "In any case, the critical question is how do we define access. How many languages would the hotline handle? Where would it be located? If there was only one location, for example, here in Oakland, what would that mean for someone who lives in Pleasanton or Fremont? It would mean zip."

Hardison also spoke of looking to the private sector for funds, something most of the AIDS groups in Alameda County have not done as yet. A grant-writing workshop was held over the weekend in order to teach participants how to effectively locate a grant-writing source and apply for funding.

The followup meeting will be held at 1900 Fruitvale St. in Oakland at 6:30 p.m. on April 4.

**STAY IN TUNE
WITH THE LATEST IN
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

Slow Suicide ACA Discovers The Lesbian/Gay Community, Fears Addictive Behavior, Low Self-Esteem

by Mary Richards

Guilt and anger, loneliness and lying: this is part of the heritage of 28 million Americans who have at least one parent who is an alcoholic. They come from all parts of the country and are not separated by barriers of race or sexuality. Because there are so many of them, a national organization was formed to identify the one thing they all have in common. It is called Adult Children of Alcoholics.

On Feb. 14-17, the 4th Annual National Convention on Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACAs) was held in San Francisco. It brought together professionals and people who are personally involved in the syndrome which researchers have only just begun to identify in the last few years.

An added dimension to this year's convention was the addition of three workshops dedicated to the particular problems that lesbians and gay men face as ACAs. Doug Braun of Los Angeles spoke about "Families out of the Closet: ACAs and Gay Lifestyle Issues"; Ed Ellis from New Jersey led a workshop called "Stepping to a Different Drummer: Addictions and Recovery for Gays and Lesbians"; and Mimi Goodwin of San Francisco spoke on "Recovery: Issues and Strategies for Lesbians and Gay Men."

According to Janet Woitz, author of the best-selling book "Adult Children of Alcoholics" (Health Communications, 1983), there are 13 traits that are experienced by most ACAs in some form or another. They make interesting reading to someone who may have shunned the reality of their life experience as a member of a dysfunctional family. They include: judging yourself without mercy; having difficulty with intimate relationships; over-

reacting to changes over which you have no control; constantly seeking approval and affirmation; feeling that you are different from other people; being super-responsible or super-irresponsible.

ACAs, of course, were once younger. As children, the sad fact of their lives is that they get to experience so many manifestations of the disease of alcohol firsthand. They endure the broken promises and unpredictability of parents who make them feel humiliation, fear, guilt and anger. Frequently, and tragically, statistics show that as they mature they have a good chance of becoming an alcoholic or chemically dependent personality, carrying on the family tradition.

CO-DEPENDENCY

At the heart of the ACA movement is the recognition of co-dependency. Workshop leader Ed Ellis, who has been practicing since 1985 and now works in Red Bank, New Jersey, describes the symptoms of this relatively new phenomena.

"Co-dependency," Ellis says, "is a kind of way of leading your life that only leads you to bump your head against the wall. You're feeling bad, you're hurting yourself, you're smoking cigarettes, overworking, taking care of five stray people in your life, doing volunteer work 25 hours a week. That's co-dependency. And you're feeling empty and lonely and sad inside and you don't know who you are."

In terms of the ACA movement, he says, "you have the black ACA family, you've got the lesbian ACA, you've got the gay male ACA. You've got a little bit more recognition that this condition is affecting a whole bunch of people."

"I think that every gay man and lesbian is co-dependent in a homophobic society. A society that takes a portion of their identity, labels it, stamps it, values it, throws it outside and says, 'we control it.' And by definition, recovery from this societal co-dependency is coming out. Coming out in a positive way, where you don't just come out and tell your family and your friends, but you get involved in the gay community. And you own your community—you're part of your community."

Ellis maintains that gay men and lesbians who were raised in an alcoholic home are four times at greater risk to become chemically dependent than the general population. And the motivation for addictive behavior, low self-esteem, must be looked at by the gay community "because," he says, "these addictions are killing them. It's a slow suicide, a journey to self-destruction. We've got to turn that around."

Mimi Goodwin has been doing counseling work in San Francisco for ten years, some of its focus specifically for lesbians and gay men.

Of the movement she says, "We're talking about health and choosing health. You can't choose anything when you come from an alcoholic home or a home where there's child abuse. You don't learn about choices, you learn about survival. In terms of lesbians and gay men and bisexuals, we learn guilt and shame from homophobia and biphobia that's all around us. So the two play off each other and both magnify each other."

"One of the things we learned growing up," she says, "both in terms of being gay men and lesbians, and growing up in alcoholic or abusive families, is that you end up being alone. So we need to come out and be able to talk to friends and make a choice to get help with a professional, to go to workshops, to read books, to spend time with yourself. They're all choices."

Goodwin describes the insidious progression of alcohol and drugs on a personality. "Alcohol and drugs may seem to work for awhile," she claims. "It makes me feel a little less afraid, it makes me feel a little more comfortable, it makes me 'able to'—all the illusions, all the reasons to drink. And as lesbians and gay men we might have a few more reasons to drink. It works for awhile, but that begins to be our primary relationship, with our substance."

GET INVOLVED

Therapy is one way of altering the course of chemical dependency and its related problems. Another, Ellis contends, is to become involved in the many self-help groups which are gay-affirmative. "If they aren't in your gay community," Ellis says, "bring them to your community. Share them. It's in community and it's in sharing that we get healthier. The more we add and give to the gay community, the stronger we become, and the safer a community it becomes. Now, that's not self-destructive. That's the message!"

Mimi Goodwin is currently doing research and a survey centered on chemical dependency and child sexual abuse, and needs male and female volunteers. She can be reached for further information relative to ACAs or to be part of the survey at: 415-626-0179.

PWA Support Group

Support groups for people living with AIDS and people living with ARC are being started in a private-practice setting led by a psychologist living with AIDS. New members are accepted on a regular basis.

For more information or referrals, please contact Vincent Sofia, Ph.D., 25 Van Ness, Suite 554, San Francisco, CA 94102, (415) 621-2962.

Oscar Helps Open Hand

Friends of Oscar announces the annual gathering of the Academy Awards "Oscar" Party, Monday evening, April 11, at the new and luxurious Hotel Nikko, located in downtown San Francisco. This is a black tie event, where guests are invited to enjoy sumptuous buffets while viewing the Academy Awards telecast on three separate levels of the hotel.

Friends of Oscar is a nonprofit, California public benefit corporation committed to producing fundraising events to benefit AIDS-related charities.

This year's charity beneficiary is Ruth Brinker's Project Open Hand, a meal service for people with AIDS. Open Hand serves its clients two meals daily, delivered by volunteers, citywide.

The money raised at the 1988 Friends of Oscar event will be earmarked for the installation of a new kitchen facility, equipped to handle the growing needs of the community.

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It Was a Grand Open House

HEARTY INAUGURAL
(A Visiting Nose)

BASH House #1 had its Grand Open House last Sunday under skies that were crystal clear, surrounded by

a warm spring morning that made you feel good and at peace with the world. A slight breeze tugged at the colorful balloons that identified this first example of love and devotion from a once-

divided community. A rainbow arch swung to and fro as whiffets teased each helium-filled sphere. It was a halcyon day personified.

Docents in their red and white T-shirts escorted the curious and the interested from room to room and floor to floor. A lavish repast was spread, eagerly awaiting for someone to make the "first" selection—people are always leery to destroy the creations of a culinary artist.

They arrived singly, in pairs, and in groups, stopping to admire the exterior before entering the home that love, sweat, and tears created. No one was disappointed. And no one was really eager to leave the tranquil scene with its ambience of fellowship, understanding, and amicability.

Anyone who had anything to do with the completion of BASH #1 just had to have felt proud, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant they may have thought their part to have been. All was equal, and no one person's efforts dominated anyone else's.

This first hospice is fully occupied, and, as if some divine being did the selecting, all six people are compatible beyond belief. They even have regularly scheduled meetings to discuss such pressing matters as: What will we have for dinner that every one of us will like?

I was informed that it isn't their house, it isn't my house, it isn't your house; it's our house. Somehow that made the perfect warm, spring, breezy, sunny Sunday just a hell of a lot better.

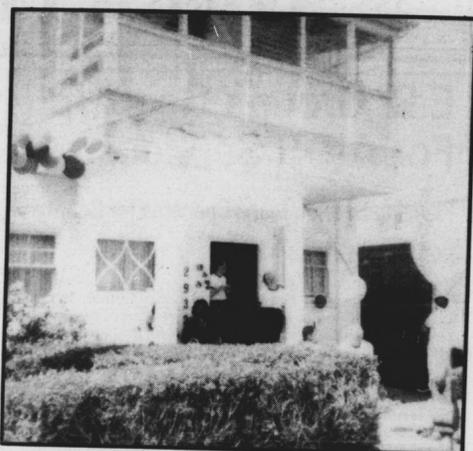
Some clarification regarding last week's item about BASH not being responsible for the fire damage. The responsibility to which I referred was to the damage to the actual structure. All items stored within the house—and subsequently destroyed—are the responsibility of BASH and will have to be replaced. If you have any extra tools, household furnishings, building materials, etc., you don't need, contact Mama Chuckles. They will be put to good use! Some people were bringing donations of tools, heavy-duty extension cords, etc., the day of the open house.

Plans are already on the move to start work on three more houses facing Telegraph directly behind BASH House #1. One of the houses has a storefront and would be an ideal location for the proposed BASH Thrift Shop. (Or should it be called "BASH Bargain Basement"?)

UNBESEECHE SUBSISTENCE (An Indemnity Nose)

One can't really appreciate governmental bureaucracy until one has experienced it. And then it is often difficult to actually appreciate it. But one has to work "within the system" if one wants the desired results.

Case in point: A member of the board of East Bay Assistance Fund, working through her governmental agency, was told by an associate that Alameda County had received some funds from the state, and the funds had to go to charitable organizations specializing in assisting PWAIDS/PWARC with rent and food. EBAF is just such an organization. The county, however, cannot release any funds until the principle signers of the checks for EBAF have \$1 million worth of liability insurance, with the



Some of the visitors to BASH #1 spilled out onto the front stoop to enjoy the sunshine.

county as "additional assured."

Since the available funds were quite substantial, those principle signers of EBAF checks immediately started the ball rolling with their individual insurance carriers. The least expensive "going rate" was quoted at \$650 annual premium. And now, more bureaucracy: The premium can't be paid for out of the promised funds. EBAF's bylaws prevent the organization from paying the premium. The principle check signers feel a \$325 fee is an obligation above and beyond the call of duty. Such a puzzle!

Sam and the staff and customers of Town & Country have decided to hold a series of raffles in order to cover the premium cost. They want it made perfectly clear that the money raised from the raffle tickets will not go to the assistance part of EB Assistance Fund, but will go to pay the insurance premium so that additional funds can be made available from the county.

Just so there will be no misunderstanding, let me reiterate: Special raffles held at Town & Country will be for money to pay insurance premiums, not for the general fund of EBAF.

And even more bureaucracy: Liability insurance on what? EBAF doesn't have an office. EBAF doesn't come in direct contact with its requestors. EBAF doesn't have an automobile. EBAF doesn't have property on which a person could insure him/herself. EBAF as an entity doesn't exist, really, except on paper. One million dollars insurance for a paper cut? Now that's bureaucracy!

But believe me, the anticipated funds will be well worth the effort.

DECA-SOIREE RECONFIBULATED (An Addendum Nose)

Save it, save it, save it is the cardinal rule of word processing. Alas, sometimes the cardinal rule is the first to be forgotten! What I thought I had included in my piece about Big Mama's 10th anniversary party wasn't saved! The only thing one can do is reconstruct...

For those of you who didn't get down to the Big 10 at Big Mama's, you missed out on one of the finest bits of decoration witnessed in many a moon. Rick (ex-Mumbles!) and a crew of three or four spent literally hours blowing up balloons that covered an en-

tire wall and half of the ceiling. The wall was transformed into a huge "gay rainbow" of balloons, with the darker purple at the top of the wall merging with multi-colored spheres with dangling glitterations to tantalize the patrons. It was quite a sight to behold. In addition, all the bartenders were dressed in tuxedos, as was the cocktail waiter.

It was a grand three-day celebration which found Z. Jim H. frequently on the microphone, thanking all those who made the ten years so memorable.

There will be a going-away party for "Zephyr" Jim at Big Mama's on Saturday, April 9. I'm sure all who know him will want to attend and wish him all the best.

OMNIUM-GATHERUM (A Melange Nose)

I know you can name the four states that begin and end with the same letter—Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, and Ohio—but there are four states that end with the letter "O." Aside from Ohio, can you name the other three in less than two minutes? (Answers at end of column.)

Sienna Productions' "Apollo West" played to SRO crowds at the Bella Napoli last Saturday night. It was a fun show, enjoyed as much by the performers as by the packed audience. The special effect smoke did, however, get a little out of hand, blocking the view of the stage from the audience. All in all, it was a great presentation, with the proceeds going to In Memory Foundation.

Friday, April 1, is "April Flossies Day" at Town & Country. It's a "knock 'em up, drag 'em out" tip match to raise funds for EBAF, starring (?) the T&C Dollies (Marvelous Mavis, Captivating Cleo, Alluring Alexis, and The Rose) and the Revolettes (Stunning Stella, Fetching Felicia, Darling Dottie, and Peerless Penelope). Guest personalities include Dickie Vader and Estella. It starts at 9 p.m. and lasts until they drop! (How come the Dollies didn't start rehearsing until six days before show time?)

The following Saturday at Town & Country, ISE and Empress IX Toots will present an Easter Basket/Bonnet Contest and Auction starting at 8 p.m. Proceeds from the auction will go to ISE, and the Easter baskets will go to PWAIDS/PWARC in local hospitals. Results from the

(Continued on next page)

'Having A Wonderful Time ...'

No Hassles For Gays In Tijuana



Some of the guests at the Grupo Y Que! party in Tijuana (Photo: S. Warren)

by Steve Warren

How does a San Francisco journalist wind up in a Tijuana sofa with his arm around Mr. Gay Mexico? A series of serendipitous coincidences landed me in the middle of a party with several of the movers and shakers of Tijuana's gay and lesbian community during a recent visit to that border town.

The party is an annual event of the socio-political-journalistic-theatrical—well, all purpose—organization Grupo Y Que! which publishes the monthly newsletter, Y Que! (So what!) They also have business meetings on the last Sunday of each month at 3:30 p.m. at Restaurant La Luna, Av. Madero 1246, which is otherwise closed Sundays.

Grupo Y Que! has been active in varying degrees since 1984. A member said they were the only

gay group in the country outside of Mexico City and Guadalajara, but there was a meeting the same evening of Frente Internacional por las Garantías Humanas (FIGHT), which I took to be another faction of the Tijuana gay community. Unfortunately, any city large enough to have a gay organization is large enough to have factions opposing each other when they should be working together. That's a fact of gay life the world over.

There's also a gay and lesbian youth group in Tijuana, Grupo Polen, Apdo. Postal 3589, Tijuana, B.C., Mexico.

The only two women present at the party have been trying to form a lesbian group in Tijuana, while maintaining contact with the gay male community as well. The talk at the party—mostly in Spanish unless someone was

making a special effort to include me; my Spanish is too limited to follow along at conversational speed—seemed about equally divided between business and pleasure. After 20 years in the movement, most of the discussion had a familiar ring, even when I couldn't make out all the words.

Everyone made me and another visitor from the States feel welcome, even though we were technically crashing their party. They wanted advice on establishing a gay center and making people in the U.S. aware of their ex-

istence. I wanted most of them, but maintained my professional demeanor.

It was my first time getting beyond Tijuana's tourist facade, and I learned a lot—assuming most of what was told me was true. Gays are not hassled by the police in Tijuana, and haven't been for years. Gay bar owners, like their nongay counterparts, pay the police for protection and receive it. Tourists need not be afraid to visit the gay bars (Los Equipales, Noa-Noa, El Torino) there. The last outbreak of police harassment in Baja California was about three years ago in Mexicali.

Tijuana ranks third (behind Mexico City and Guadalupe) in the number of AIDS cases, with 28. The first diagnosed cases were among men who had lived for a time in the U.S., which put a strain on international (sexual) relations until safe sex consciousness became widespread. Grupo Y Que! is affiliated with Proyecto SIDA Tijuana (AIDS Project Tijuana).

For information about the group, their activities and subscriptions to their newsletter, write Y Que!, Apdo. Postal No. 904, Oficina Central, Tijuana, B.C., Mexico. Maybe I'll see you at next year's party.

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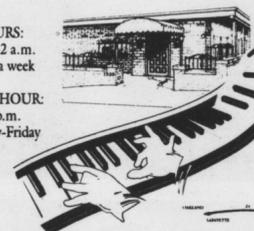
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Nez Pas

(Continued from previous page)

"Guess Who?" baby picture contest will be announced that night.

Big Mama's April Cabaret on Sundays offers: Katibelle Collins and Aldo Antonio Belle "together at last!" April 10. The scheduled performance on April 24 will be postponed so a Casino Royale can be held there to benefit In Memory Foundation. Watch for Danny Williams and Marga Gomez at some later date.

The Spoiled Brat presents its April Fool's Bartenders Bash April 1 and 2, beginning Friday at 8 p.m. Magda will star at 10 p.m. There will be a free barbecue at noon Saturday, and you can disco all night Friday and Saturday. Included in the festivities will be an ISE raffle for a VCR.

Hmmmmmm? Oh, the other three states are Colorado, Idaho, and New Mexico. (Usually everybody forgets about New Mexico!)

If I kept my ear to the ground, shoulder to the wheel, nose to the grindstone, eye on the prize, while toeing the line with a stiff upper lip, I would certainly be a spectacle in the Easter parade! But I can smile at it anyway.

CONUNDRUM OF PERPLEXITY (A "Knotty" Nose?)

I met with Mama Chuckles one afternoon last week at his request. He was hurt and disap-

pointed and was curious for some answers—answers which I could not provide.

He expressed his confusion as to why gay papers in San Francisco would not send a reporter and photographer to Oakland to cover the story of the burning of BASH House #2. "Had it happened over there, it would have been on the front pages," lamented Mama Chuckles.

"A lot of the material and equipment that was lost was purchased in part from monies raised over there, so it's not as if San Francisco is completely divorced from this project. I just don't understand how events from other communities can get on the front page, but something so devastating happening right across the bay doesn't count," he said.

Since I don't have the authority to play devil's advocate, I'm requesting my editor to respond to Mama Chuckles' concerns.

Love, Nez

Editor's response: May I lament along with you? Yes, I would like to improve our coverage of news stories in the East Bay. There are a number of problems. First, we need tips on stories. The first I heard about the BASH house fire was in this column. Second, we need reporters from Oakland, Berkeley, south Alameda County, and Contra Costa to get those stories. Working together, I'm sure we can boost our coverage.

Love, Ray

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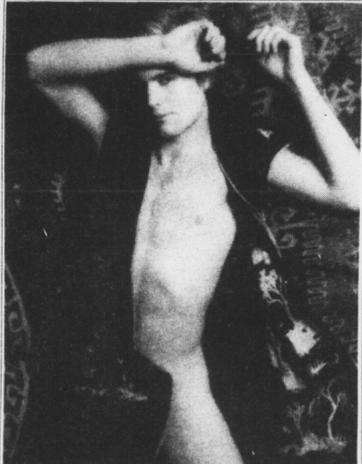


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THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 1

- **Fools in Love:** benefit performance. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St., S.F., 7:30 PM. \$10. Broadway and jazz standards with Deborah Del Maestro and Robert Wendell Hitchborn to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund. Call 621-6225 for tickets.
- **Going to Seed:** stage performance. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$12. Three generations of women in a black family find the ties that bind unraveling in this comedy about family life, traditional values, and coming out; written by Eve Powell, directed by Kenneth R. Dixon.
- **Puttin' on the Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys (see Friday listing for details).
- **A Portrait of Oscar Wilde:** stage performance, 2 and 8 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Gus Gustavson:** music. La Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 9:30 PM.
- **Easterama:** with Mr. Lee-ona and Hal, Kokpit, 301 Turk St., S.F., 9 AM to noon. \$1 for Godfather Service Fund. Egg Coloring Contest; Biggest Basket Contest. Special brunch.
- **Easterama II:** with Mr. Lee-ona and Hal, Kokpit, 301 Turk St., S.F., 9 AM to noon. \$1 for Godfather Service Fund. Egg Coloring Contest; Biggest Basket Contest. Special brunch.
- **EastBay FrontRunners:** Alameda Shoreline run. Take 23rd Ave. exit off Hwy. 17 to Kennedy St. Continue on Kennedy, turning right onto Park St. Cross Park St. bridge into Alameda and continue to end. Meet at the intersection of Park St. and Shoreline Dr. for flat 3- to 5-mile loop. Call 939-3579 or 261-3246 for more information.
- **Pool Tournament:** The Overpass, 482-A Hayes St., S.F., 4 PM. \$4 entry fee includes wet drink, beer, or wine. S.F. Pool Association 8-Rule rules apply; call 864-6672 for more information.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Meet at Stowe Lake Boat House in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 9 AM. No-fee brunch follows; beginners welcome. Call 922-1435 or 821-3719 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.
- **Dignity/SF:** Easter service, Rose Court, 2507 Pine St., S.F., 7:30 PM. The celebration will include lighting of the Easter fire and candle, scripture readings and songs, reception of new members and renewal of baptismal promises, and an informal Eucharist; potluck to follow (bring hot dish, salad, or dessert). This service takes the place of the usual Sunday, 5:30 PM, Eucharist at St. Boniface; there will be no mass on Sunday. Call 584-1714 for more information.
- **San Francisco MCC:** Easter vigil, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 10:30 PM. Featuring candlelight, readings, and holy communion.
- **Church of the Secret Gospel:** phallic fellowship, 746 Clementine St., Apt. 2, S.F., 8 PM-1 AM. Call 621-1887 for more information.
- **Church of the Secret Gospel:** social, 746 Clementine St., Apt. 2, S.F., 9 PM to midnight. Call 621-1887 for more information.
- **Parlez-vous Français?:** Si oui, venez a nos reunions amicales le premier Vendredi soir de chaque mois a 8h. La bienvenue a tout niveau! La fete du 1 Avril sera chez Patrick. Pour de plus amples renseignements, appelez-le au 550-64-38.
- **Church of the Secret Gospel:** social, 746 Clementine St., Apt. 2, S.F., 9 PM to midnight. Call 621-1887 for more information.

- **Puttin' on the Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys (see Friday listing for details).
- **A Portrait of Oscar Wilde:** stage performance, 2 and 8 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Gus Gustavson:** music. La Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 9:30 PM.
- **Easterama:** with Mr. Lee-ona and Hal, Kokpit, 301 Turk St., S.F., 9 AM to noon. \$1 for Godfather Service Fund. Egg Coloring Contest; Biggest Basket Contest. Special brunch.
- **Easterama II:** with Mr. Lee-ona and Hal, Kokpit, 301 Turk St., S.F., 9 AM to noon. \$1 for Godfather Service Fund. Egg Coloring Contest; Biggest Basket Contest. Special brunch.
- **EastBay FrontRunners:** Alameda Shoreline run. Take 23rd Ave. exit off Hwy. 17 to Kennedy St. Continue on Kennedy, turning right onto Park St. Cross Park St. bridge into Alameda and continue to end. Meet at the intersection of Park St. and Shoreline Dr. for flat 3- to 5-mile loop. Call 939-3579 or 261-3246 for more information.
- **Pool Tournament:** The Overpass, 482-A Hayes St., S.F., 4 PM. \$4 entry fee includes wet drink, beer, or wine. S.F. Pool Association 8-Rule rules apply; call 864-6672 for more information.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Meet at Stowe Lake Boat House in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 9 AM. No-fee brunch follows; beginners welcome. Call 922-1435 or 821-3719 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.
- **Dignity/SF:** Easter service, Rose Court, 2507 Pine St., S.F., 7:30 PM. The celebration will include lighting of the Easter fire and candle, scripture readings and songs, reception of new members and renewal of baptismal promises, and an informal Eucharist; potluck to follow (bring hot dish, salad, or dessert). This service takes the place of the usual Sunday, 5:30 PM, Eucharist at St. Boniface; there will be no mass on Sunday. Call 584-1714 for more information.
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The Easter Bonnet Contest will be one of the highlights of the Lily Street Fair April 3 (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

SUNDAY 3

- **Lily Street Fair:** seventh annual, Lily St. between Laguna and Buchanan, S.F., noon to 5 PM. Easter Egg hunt, 2 PM; Easter parade and bonnet judging, 3 PM. Empress Lily Street will MC; Western Star Dancers will entertain. Wear a bonnet and sensible shoes; rain or shine.
- **Easter Hat Parade and Contest:** along the Silver Strip, 11 AM-3 PM. Contestants must present themselves at all six Silver Strip bars for judging (Pilsner, Church St. Station, Galileo, Transfer, Mint, and Eagle Creek); check in with bartender at first bar to get a packet of ballots; \$250 prize for most original and most outrageous; winners will be posted in all bars by 9 PM (winners receive prize money at their check-in bar).
- **Going to Seed:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Puttin' on the Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, 8 PM, \$8 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Portrait of Oscar Wilde:** stage performance, 2 and 7 PM, \$18 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Conjunto Cespedes:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM, \$5. Afro-Cuban music.
- **Bonnets and Bunnies:** contest, Bench and Bar, 120 11th St., Oakland, contestants sign up before 9 PM, contest begins 10 PM, no cover, \$100 prize for best bonnet. Call 444-2266 for more information.
- **Jones Street Follies:** female impersonation, Black Rose, 335 Jones St., S.F., shows 10 and 11 PM, \$2.
- **Faith Winthrop and Gus Gustavson:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.
- **Electric City:** television on Oakland cable channel 35, 10 PM. Featuring health tips by Marcie Frazier, an interview with Art Agnos and Harry Britt on domestic partners legislation. On The Street with Dan Darlino, a reprise of the Cable Car Awards and Show with interviews by Cheryl Crane, Mary Dunlap, Sandy Van, Ernestine and the Ego Reduction Clinic, and the Taunant swim team.
- **Different Spokes:** ride up the south side and down the far side of Mt. Tam. Meet at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 10 AM; hilly, moderately fast pace, 55 miles. Helmets strongly recommended; bring/ buy lunch, rain cancels.
- **S.F. FrontRunners:** Easter run to the top of Mt. Davidson. Meet at Isola Way and Rockdale Dr. at 10 AM. (Don't forget to set your clock forward!) Call 922-1435 or 821-3719 for more information.
- **SAGA North:** general meeting, St. John's Church hall, 5th and Irving, S.F., 7 PM. Call 928-1736 for more information.
- **South Bay Lesbian and Gay Volleyball:** open gym, \$2. Call (408) 732-2306 for more information.
- **Gay Volleyball:** Petro Jr. High, 19th and DeHaro, 11 AM.
- **Different Spokes/San Francisco:** decide and ride. Meet at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 10 AM.
- **Taunant Masters Swim Team:** practice, King Pool, 3rd and Carroll Sts., S.F., 10 AM. Call 285-5659 for more information.
- **G40+:** meeting, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St., S.F., 2 PM. Burt Gernis will reveal the mysteries of the Far East Bay; plus Romeo's raffle.
- **Bay Area Gay Fathers:** monthly potluck, Congregation Shear, Zahav, 220 Danvers St., S.F., social hour 5-7 PM, discussion and small-group meetings 7-8:30 PM. Attorney Dave Wharton will give an update on legal developments affecting gay parents in California. Call 841-0306 for more information.
- **Rainbow Deaf Society:** Easter party, The Hearing Society, 20 10th St., S.F., noon to 8 PM, \$2 members, \$4 non-members; potluck.
- **San Francisco MCC:** Easter Sunday services with Rev. Jim Mitulski, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7, 8:30, and 10:30 AM. The choir will sing the "Hallelujah Chorus"; the Sunday School will hunt for Easter Eggs during the 10:30 service.
- **Diablo Valley MCC:** worship service, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord, 10 AM. Call 827-2860 for more information.
- **Radiant Light Ministries:** service, Swedish American Hall, 2174 Market St., S.F., 10 AM. Call 861-1887 for more information.
- **New Life MCC:** worship service, 1823 9th St., Berkeley, 5 PM. Call 843-9355 for more information.
- **Calvary MCC:** worship service, 2124 Brewster Ave., Redwood City, 5 PM. Call 368-0188 for more information.
- **MCC of the Redwoods:** worship service, Olive and Throckmorton Sts., Mill Valley, 10:45 AM. Call 388-2315 for more information.
- **Golden Gate MCC:** worship service, 48 Belcher St. between 14th St. and Duboce, S.F., 12:30 PM, 7 PM. Call 474-4848 for details.

SATURDAY 2

- **Rally 'Round the Quilt:** to benefit the AIDS Quilt national tour, Kozze Pavilion, S.F., 8 PM, \$6 in advance, \$8 at the door. Starring the S.F. Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, the Hayward Raw Rats, Deena Jones, Sister Power-Hungry Bitch, and Sara Lewinstein; plus the Slammers vs. the Hot Shots. Tickets at Headlines.
- **Spring Singles:** women's dance, Sisterspirit Coffeehouse, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, doors open 8 PM, \$3-7 sliding scale.
- **Marga Gomez:** comedy, The Mint, 1942 Market St., S.F., 10 PM.
- **Club Infra-Red:** dancing (see Friday listing for details).
- **Going to Seed:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

- **Puttin' on the Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, 8 PM, \$8 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Portrait of Oscar Wilde:** stage performance, 2 and 7 PM, \$18 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Conjunto Cespedes:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM, \$5. Afro-Cuban music.
- **Bonnets and Bunnies:** contest, Bench and Bar, 120 11th St., Oakland, contestants sign up before 9 PM, contest begins 10 PM, no cover, \$100 prize for best bonnet. Call 444-2266 for more information.
- **Jones Street Follies:** female impersonation, Black Rose, 335 Jones St., S.F., shows 10 and 11 PM, \$2.
- **Faith Winthrop and Gus Gustavson:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.
- **Electric City:** television on Oakland cable channel 35, 10 PM. Featuring health tips by Marcie Frazier, an interview with Art Agnos and Harry Britt on domestic partners legislation. On The Street with Dan Darlino, a reprise of the Cable Car Awards and Show with interviews by Cheryl Crane, Mary Dunlap, Sandy Van, Ernestine and the Ego Reduction Clinic, and the Taunant swim team.
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- **S.F. FrontRunners:** Easter run to the top of Mt. Davidson. Meet at Isola Way and Rockdale Dr. at 10 AM. (Don't forget to set your clock forward!) Call 922-1435 or 821-3719 for more information.
- **A Tribute to Robert Duncan:** a gathering in memory of the poet, The Conference Hall, Bldg. A, Ft. Mason, S.F., 7:30 PM, \$5. Screening of USA Poetry, a PBS documentary on Duncan from 1965-66. Call 532-3737 for more information.
- **Monday Night Talk Show:** comedy with Danny Williams, Holy City Zoo, 408 Clement St., S.F., 9 PM. Call 386-4242 for more information.
- **Open Mike Variety Showcase:** with Scott Johnston, MC, and Donald Eldon Vescoat on the piano, The Galileo, 719 14th St., S.F., 9 PM. Call 431-0253 for more information.
- **Cable Car Awards and Show:** Male Entertainment Network video on cable channel 6, 9 PM.
- **Lesbians and Gays Against Intervention:** discussion of recent protests, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., S.F., 7:15 PM. Call 821-9087 or 348-0647 for more information.
- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** support group for older gay men (60+), Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7-8:30 PM. Call 826-7000 for more information.

TUESDAY 5

- **976-DIVA:** music and comedy marathon to benefit the Shanti Project, Cafe San Marcos, 2267 Market St., 7:30 PM until 7, \$6.50. With Joseph Taro, Ted Pinkston, Bob Danielson, Dan Fludd, Cynthia Bythell, Danny Williams, Darlene Popovic, Tom Anderson, Stacey Shulman, Steve Fivoli, Tatiana, Kaml Herron, Cindy Herron, Sandy Van, Dell Madill, Merycia Oria, Menage, Deena Jones, Scott Johnston, Flute Exchange, Richard McHenry, Bettie Bloom, Nancy Bradshaw, Erin-Kate Whitcomb, Hector Avilan, Solomon Rose, Hurricane Sam, Samm Gray, Caylla Chalkin, Lauren Mayer, Bay Area Gay and Lesbian Band, and cast members from It's Fascination and the Kander and Ebb Revue. Call 861-3846 for more information.
- **In the Spotlight:** show, B Street, 236 S. B St., San Mateo, 9:30 PM-12:30 AM. The bar provides musical backing tracks and words to all the songs, and you supply the voice to receive a free cassette recording of your performance.
- **A Portrait of Oscar Wilde:** stage performance, \$18 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Samba Pagode:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 9 PM-midnight, no cover. Samba; plus videos from Rio.
- **Black and White Men Together:** AIDS awareness meeting, 3135 Courtland, Oakland, 7:30 PM. Call 261-7922 for more information.
- **S.F. Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration Committee:** Booths Subcommittee meeting, 1519 Mission St., 6:30 PM. Call 864-FREE for more information.
- **Metaphysical Alliance:** meeting, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 6:45 PM. Swami Divyananda of the Integral Yoga Institute will speak.

WEDNESDAY 6

- **Blazing Redheads:** album release party and dance, Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 8 PM, \$8. Tickets at GAMH box office and BASS ticket outlets. Call 885-0750 for more information.
- **Comedy Showcase:** with Josh Kornbuth, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 8-10 PM, \$4.
- **Going to Seed:** stage performance, \$10 (see Friday listing for details).
- **A Portrait of Oscar Wilde:** stage performance, \$18 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Dick Fragula:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.
- **Open Mike Cabaret:** with Katiella Collins and Lauren Mayer, Belden 22, 22 Belden Place, S.F., 8-8 PM.
- **Electric City:** television on PCTV cable network, 8:30 PM (see Sunday listing for details).
- **S.F. Hiding Club:** general club meeting, Eureka Valley Recreation Center, Collingwood and 18th Sts., S.F., 7:30 PM. Peter Dramer will talk about the upcoming Nevada trip.

THURSDAY 7

- **Frankline Presents:** television on cable channel 25, S.F., 8 PM. Women in Love: Bonding Strategies of Black Lesbians will be shown.
- **Feathers and Flesh:** show, N' Touch, 1548 Polk St., S.F., 9 PM, cover.
- **Open Mike Comedy:** hosted by Gloria North, Belden 22, 22 Belden Place, S.F., 8 PM, no cover.
- **Going to Seed:** stage performance, \$10 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Puttin' on the Glitz:** with female impersonators and cabaret guys, 9 PM, \$8 (see Friday listing for details).
- **A Portrait of Oscar Wilde:** stage performance, \$18 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Gus Gustavson and Faith Winthrop:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.
- **Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators:** Contra Costa Co. Chapter monthly meeting, Mt. Diablo MCC, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord, 7:30 PM. Call 864-4099 for more information.
- **Black and White Men Together:** rap, 1350 Waller St., S.F., 7:30 PM. This week's topic is "Black Contributions to Culture." Call 931-BWMT for more information.

MONDAY 4

Cendrillon
FRENCH CUISINE

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TONIGHT!!
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Presented on
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Tonight's edition
Cable Car Awards;
- Mayor Agnos

El Rio
Live Music
SUNDAYS
8-11 PM

4-8:30 PM
Conjunto Cespedes
Afro-Cuban

4-10:30 PM
Grupo Sinigual
Tribal/Salsational

4-17:30 PM
Cool Breeze
New Orleans, Caribbe, Atirque

4-24:30 PM
Black Orpheus
Brazilian Music

282-3325
3158 Mission

Bar and Patio
Neon to 2 am
Comedy
Night
Wednesdays 8-10pm

April 6
Josh Kornbuth
Comedy Showcase

April 13
Tom Ammiano
Teresa Holcomb
Mark McMahon

April 20
Cathy Sorbo
Bill Burnett
Gene Rasmussen

April 27
Marga Gomez
Danny Williams
Renee Hicks

SHANTI PROJECT

JOSEPH TARO
presents
A Benefit for
THE SHANTI PROJECT

976-DIVA
(An Outrageous Music & Comedy Marathon)

MC for the evening - JOSEPH TARO • Piano - TED PINKSTON • Drums - BOB DANIELSON

SINGERS / COMEDIANS

Dan Field
Cynthia Bartlett
Danny Williams
Darlene Popovic
Tom Anderson
Stacey Shulman
Steve Fivoli
Tatiana
Kam Herron
Cindy Herron
Sandy Van
Dell Madill
Merycia Oria
Menage
Deena Jones

CHORUSES / BANDS

Scott Johnson
The Flute Exchange
Richard McHenry
Bette Brown
Nancy Bradshaw
Erin-Kate Whitcomb
Hector Avilan
Solomon Rose
Hurricane Sam
Sam Gray
Caylla Chalkin
Lauren Mayer
Bay Area Gay & Lesbian Band
It's Fascination
Bar Area Gay & Lesbian Band
(THE BAGL BAND)

Tuesday, April 5th
7:30 p.m. till 7 - Cover Charge \$6.50
The Cafe San Marcos
(2267 Market Street - off Castro)
for information: 861-3846

If you can't make the concert,
please send all donations to
Shanti Project • 525 Howard
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Attention: 976-DIVA

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THURS. 10PM MARCH 31

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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Respect and Homage

'The Sanctified Church' Honors Zora Neale Hurston

by Wendell Ricketts

As done been in sorrow's kitchen, and Ah done licked out all de pots.' So reflects Lucy Pearson as she lies dying in *Jonah's Gourd Vine*, Zora Neale Hurston's first novel, published in 1934. A Barnard and Columbia University-trained anthropologist, folklorist, critic, and storyteller, Hurston was one of the country's leading black scholars and writers of the 1930s and 1940s. When Hurston died in the St. Lucie County, Florida, Welfare Home in 1960, however—penniless, her creative powers faded, her work largely neglected—sorrow's kitchen may have seemed the appropriate metaphor for her life.

But when author Alice Walker went searching for Hurston's grave in 1973, she had an entirely different epitaph in mind. After a long drive through east central Florida, Walker discovered that Hurston lay in an unmarked plot somewhere in an abandoned "colored" cemetery in Fort Pierce, an undifferentiated acre gone to weeds and ruin.

Nevertheless determined to honor the woman she had come to think of as her aunt, Walker bought a tombstone and had it placed, among the high grass and snakes, on the spot that intuition told her was Hurston's likely resting place. The site is dedicated to "Zora Neale Hurston—A Genius of the South."

But a lonely gravestone was an insufficient monument, and in 1979 Walker brought out a Pulitzer Prize-winning anthology of Hurston's writings, a book whose title came from Hurston herself. Commenting on a series of photographs Carl Van Vechten had taken of her in the '30s, Hurston wrote to him, "I love myself when I am laughing. And then again when I am looking mean and impressive."

It is this Zora, the southern genius, the Zora who loved herself, who is honored in *The Sanctified Church*, Ellen Sebastian's labor of respect and homage, opening April 5 at Life on the Water Theatre.

TALL TALES

Sanctified Church takes its title from the book of the same name, a collection of tall tales, spiritual beliefs, and sermons that Hurston collected in research throughout rural Florida and Louisiana. Fascinated by the influence of African religion on southern Christianity, Hurston became an avid student and practitioner of voodoo. She saw an analogy between the spiritual possession common in African-based ancestor rituals and the custom in "sanctified" black Baptist churches of "tearing" or "shouting"—a practice most whites know of as "holy rolling" or "speaking on tongues." Having grown up in such a tradition (her father was a Baptist preacher) and having spent several years in the West Indies studying vo-



Luisah Teish

doun, Hurston was in a position to make the comparison.

The occasion of Sebastian's *Sanctified Church* is the 1937 meeting between Hurston and the young white anthropologist (played by Ken Watt) who recorded Hurston's reminiscences for the Library of Congress. As Hurston speaks, she evokes scenes of her childhood in the deep South, of gospel song and almighty oratory from the sanctified church, and of vodoun rites from her travels in Haiti and Jamaica.

Life on the Water's \$90,000 production will include a gospel choir, Afro-Haitian dances choreographed by San Francisco master teacher Blanche Brown, a series of stunning visual and technical effects—and the expertise of Luisah Teish, a vodoun priestess who Sebastian cast to play Zora Neale.

Recalls Sebastian, "I knew of Teish from her book, *Jambalaya*, in which she talks about her connection to Zora. So I called her up and told her that I was auditioning for the part of Zora. And Teish said, 'Don't audition anybody else. I am Zora Neale Hurston.' She was that intense about it."

Although Teish is not an actress by profession, Sebastian notes, "she brings a presence to the stage that no one else could. The technique of acting can be learned in six to ten weeks, but that kind of phenomenal personality comes only from a lifetime."

Teish's and Sebastian's fascination with Hurston is by no means curious, for the details of

Florida and Louisiana, a revelation of their capacity to survive. That was not enough for her sometimes vicious detractors.

At the same time, Hurston was profoundly affected by her interactions with a white world that often saw her as a caricature, a "happy ducky," an Aunt Jemima; yet she was not averse to cultivating those misconceptions when they resulted in the fellowships and benefactions that were essential to the continuation of her work.

Late in life she considered an essay, never completed, entitled "Do Colored People Like Colored People?" After years of being accused by many blacks of being a "white folks' nigger" who played the shuckin' and singin' minstrel for their entertainment, Hurston might well have answered the question in the negative.

Hurston rode in the crest tide of the Harlem Renaissance, one of the era's "New Negroes." But years later, when black was no longer fashionable, she found it impossible to support herself with her writing. Near the end of her life, broke and ailing, Hurston was forced to take a job as a household maid in Miami. Her "true" identity came to light, briefly, when her employer discovered one of Zora's stories published in the *Saturday Evening Post*.

As Alice Walker reflected, in a society in which it is common for artists to "live poor and die broke," and where neither black artists nor women artists are likely to receive their due, black women artists often come out at the bottom of the heap.

But a triumphant Hurston also emerged in her work—a Hurston, for example, who transcended the tragedy of her mother's early death, an experience she fictionalized in both *Jonah's Gourd Vine* and in the novel many consider her masterpiece, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. She was a woman of a fine and agile mind, an artist who pursued her craft with an awesome sense of purpose and an enviable experience of fulfillment.

In short, Zora Neale Hurston was buffeted by the same vicissitudes of fate from which we each must carve an identity. Some abandon that task as too difficult and spend their lives feeling they've been fate's plaything, but that was no choice for Hurston. Instead, she sharpened up her oyster knife and got down to the task of whittling. What she made of herself didn't please everyone. For someone of Hurston's mettle, however, the only course was to let the splinters fall where they may.

The Sanctified Church
Life on the Water Theatre, Fort Mason Center
April 5—May 15
Box Office: 776-8999

Cabaret Marathon to Benefit Shanti

by Joseph W. Bean

Come to the cabaret! At least this one more time—Tuesday, April 5—it will be *Cabaret San Marcos*, and the show is literally a parade of show-stoppers. From 7:30 p.m. until at 12:15 a.m. or later, the cabaret folks will be lined up, one after another, to entertain you. And, yes, it is a benefit. This five hour, no-intermission, go-for-broke cabaret free-for-all is all for the benefit of Shanti Project.

Come to the cabaret when you can, stay as long as you like, and give. Tickets are only \$6.50, but you can pitch in as many additional dollars as you like. The San Marcos people, the entertainers, and producer Joseph Taro will see that 100 percent of every penny gets into the Shanti coffers.

Here's the lineup, more or less in the order of their intended appearance: Taro and Dan Fludd open the show, and if you have never heard them sing their duet set, get there before 7:30 so you won't miss it; Cynthia Bythell, you'll remember her from *The Galleon*, not too long ago; Danny he-needs-no-introduction Williams; Stacey Shulman; Steve Frivol; Dan Fludd (maybe he'll do his "mascara" number!); Tatiana, reviving her *Men Behind Bars* hit as Cher to Joseph Taro's Sonny; Kami Herron, proof that Cindy doesn't have all the Herron sisters' talent; the cast of the new *Kander and Ebb Revue*; Sandy Van of *Dinosaurs Surviving the Crunch* fame; Dell Madill; Mercy Oria; Menage, proof that stuffy words like octet and ensemble can be fun; Deena Jones, the lady who would be king; Cindy Herron, proof that Kami doesn't have all the Herron sisters' talent; the BAGL Band; Scott the well-tempered-vocal-instrument Johnston; the flute exchange; Tatiana... oooops!

But, yes, Tatiana will be back with Taro again, somewhere around 10 p.m. This time they're doing Jeannette and Nelson. A few other early birds will also be on stage again, but among the entertainers not already mentioned are all of the following: Bettie Blount, Nancy Endy, Nancy Bradshaw, Erin-Kate Whitcomb, Hector Avian, Solomon Rose, Samm-n-m-m Gray, Hurricane Sam's Piano Madness, and a superstar final hour.

In that hour you'll hear Caylia Chaiken who knows naughty backward and forward, but can't get too far from nice; Katibelle Collins, Aldo Antonio Bell, Amy Dondy, and Lauren Mayer.

It's true. This is definitely too much of a good thing. Still, it is bearable, even irresistible. Why not go the whole hog, as the saying goes, including the postage. Hang out for five or six hours and sleep in Wednesday. Don't call in sick, call in and tell your boss you're taking a mental health day.

VIDEO

Wanted: A Gay Bar In Wyoming

Now The Nation Is Ready For Men Behind Bars



A fantasy in the Sultry Club Fagdad in MBBIV

(Photo: R. Pruzan)

by Allen White

Men Behind Bars IV, the video, is now complete and shipments have started to people and bars across the country. If *Men Behind Bars III* is any indication, more people will see the newly released video than were able to see the actual show which recently played at the Victoria Theatre.

Preparation for the video actually began last summer. Chuck Cyberski, with Male Entertainment Network (M.E.N.), which produced and marketed the video, said the first decision was financial. Additional equipment was purchased to assure the technical ability of capturing the show.

The staff of M.E.N. then went to the theatre to scout locations for cameras. For the video, cameras were ultimately placed at the rear of the theatre, in the front near the stage and a third camera was located about half-way back on the right side of the Victoria.

About a month before the show opened shooting began for the video opening of the production. Each previous video has had a prepared tape incorporating Miss Peckerhead at the box office. For the 1988 show, it was decided to actually use a video screen to set up the show.

What people will see on the video is, in many ways, a different concept than what is presented at the Victoria Theatre. Cyberski said, "Television is a close-up medium." Viewers of the video will be much more aware of the many facial expressions of the performers.

Cvitanich added that "Peckerhead works great when you see her face all scrunched." Video watchers will also see the "I Remember It Well" number with a much more intimate feeling. "That number was singled out by more people than any in the show with people coming up and saying 'thank you,'" Cvitanich said.

In the production Dixon, one of San Francisco's most enduring bartenders, sings the nostalgic song from *Gigi* with Nella Carlini. Mark Abrahamson, who co-produces *Men Behind Bars*, redid some of the lyrics to in-

clude such memorable San Francisco habitats as the Black Cat and the Gilded Cage. Television takes the number and eliminates all extraneous activity and focuses solely on the two performers.

One major change in the video is the placement of the overture by City Swing at the end of the performance. It was done because, as the producers explained, it is important to set the tone of the video in the first minute. Because this year's production has a storyline, rather than a variety show format, the overture was placed at the close of the show.

Television also becomes the opportunity to monitor the sound in some of the production

numbers. When Gail Wilson cuts loose as Connie Francis, the excellent sound quality comes driving through. The overture comes through with amazing dynamics on the video.

The production numbers take on a different perspective as the camera zooms in on close-up of the semi-clad muscular dancers and quickly pulls back to reveal the spectacle of the moment.

Men Behind Bars is also a social statement. "I certainly hope it represents one aspect of our sense of humor," said Cvitanich. "One thing I find so thrilling about this show is that we poked fun at just about everybody. I don't know that could be done in any other show. One



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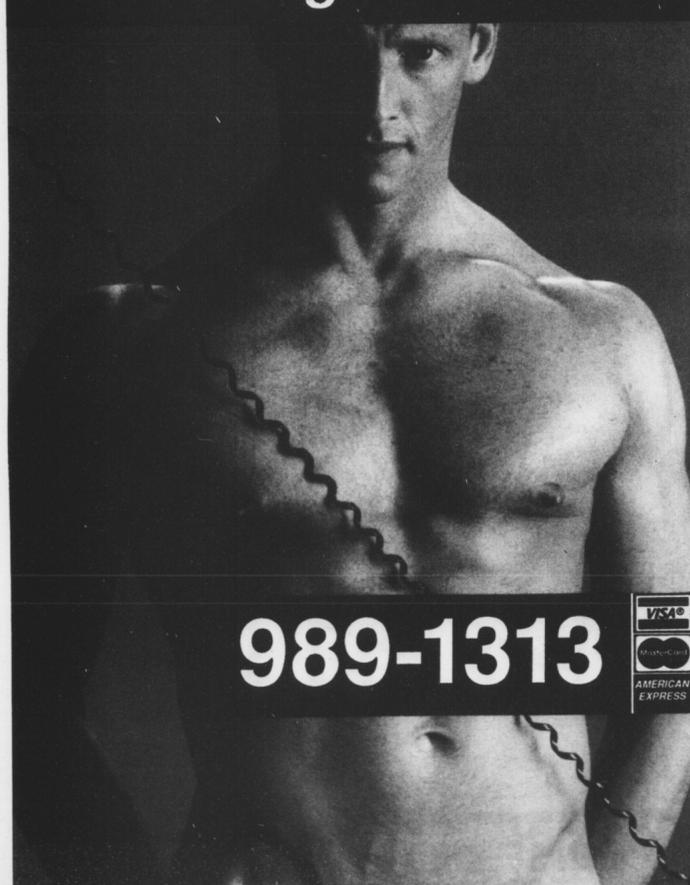
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SF/LA Gay Men's Chorus

Take Two: Not in the Hollywood Tradition

by Philip Campbell

The Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles and the veteran San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus joined forces last Saturday night at Mission High for a massive concert called Take Two. The theme was movie-making, sort of, and if the whole somehow didn't equal the sum of its parts, it wasn't from lack of ambition.

The logistics of moving 100 or more people to San Francisco for a weekend seem staggering, but the Southerners showed no visible signs of strain, and their performance was marked by exceptional control and seamless harmony.

San Francisco—still powerful and proud despite 20 fewer voices—easily matched the Angelenos in entertainment value, though their technique seemed less sure. Director Gregg Tallman's choice of material was also more apt.

A unifying concept is necessary with shows this size. Getting crowds on and off stage gracefully has always been a hallmark of San Francisco productions. Take Two lacked one of those clever, workable schemes. Should we have expected an evening of movie tunes, or was the title just a play on words? The vague framework offered no obvious answer.

Apparently we were watching the imaginary filming of the concert itself. A "director" played on one note by Harrison Pierce, and his silent assistant, a droll Edward Brener, served as a flimsy glue between numbers. The shtick was cute at first, but soon grew tiresome as the three-hour show continued.

A hearty opening, sung while "extras" found their marks and the set was "built," led to the San Francisco Chorus's showcase appearance. A brief madrigal by Orazio Vecchi—good, but belonging somewhere else—seemed a strange beginning. Tamalpais Chorus director Charles Baker's delightful Disney fantasy was more appropriate, and it was delivered with sparkle and finesse. Gregg Tallman's medley of Noel Coward theater songs was less successful—again because it didn't fit the movie motif. The wit and bittersweet loveliness of Coward's inspiration was enough to make me forget the concept and just enjoy the music. I enjoyed myself immensely from that point on.

Company L.A. or CoLA—Lotusland's answer to the Men About Town—could well remind their northern counterparts of what made them such a hit to begin with: providing campy comedy relief when a serious program needs it. CoLA's tribute to Alexander Graham Bell started slow with a shaky "Telephone Hour" from *Bye, Bye Birdie*, but they quickly recovered with funny, sharp stagings of "Call Me," "Bells Are Ringing," and "It Must Be Him." The best was a minstrel-show romp through "Operator (Get Me Jesus on the Line)." Director Bob Daggett and choreographer Mark Chung deftly moved their 15 men with Busby Berkeley precision, and a simple bit using white gloves as props was brilliant.

It's too bad the Men About Town seem to be abandoning

their old humorous style. There have been personnel changes, and the singing is improved, but the former hilarity has been replaced by a Manhattan Transfer slickness that sounds good but looks listless. Cabaret singer Samantha Samuels, a special guest for the concert, appeared with the men for a hot "Can't Help Lovin' That Man," but the guys immediately sabotaged their momentum with a seemingly endless rendition of "Birdland."

La Samuels had her own solo spot at the top of the second half. It seemed unnecessarily generous in a show that was already too long, though I wouldn't have cared to miss her distinctive stylings of material borrowed only from the very best. Tackling the repertoire of the legendary Edith Piaf might seem foolhardy, but Samuels wisely avoids imitation (even if her debt to Lena Horne is clear), and she gives the songs her kind of quirky appeal. She was horribly overmiked throughout, but her intelligence and grace shined through, and her dress was to die for—a gold-spangled sheath attached at the hips by a flounce monster.

Under director Jon Bailey, the Los Angeles Gay Men's Chorus gave Leonard Bernstein a welcome exposure with dynamic, highly musical readings, slightly marred by a curiously juxtaposed sequence. "A Simple Song" from *Mass* went directly into a gutsy "New York, New York," and the exquisite second movement from *Chichester Psalms*, while beautifully sung with a wonderful countertenor solo, seemed as lost on this bill as San Francisco's Italian madrigal. It would be churlish to fault the performance for the patchwork arrangement, however. The L.A. Chorus was dazzling.

The concert closed with an extended finale dedicated to Gilbert and Sullivan. Being a closet Savoyard myself, I was pleased to see them on the program. I was a little confused by the selections. Didn't Tallman or Bailey examine the content of the lyrics beforehand? As grand as Sullivan's tunes sounded, thundering from two mighty choruses, the chosen words of Gilbert had precious little to do with the show at hand.

The encore was a repeat of the opening number—called "Opening Number," incidentally. The audience was tired and happy and satisfied—they didn't seem to mind. I felt the same way, but I would offer a suggestion, if L.A. should return the hospitality. Find a concept and stand by your guns. A three-hour show about moviemaking that doesn't include a film editor is not in the Hollywood tradition.



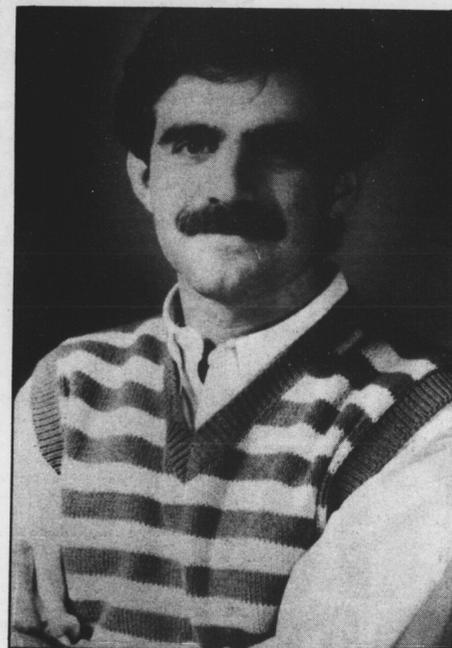
John Karr

Marriage—With And Without Music

The first thing you should know about Eric Marcus is that he's cuter than his photograph. Now that's a typically gay and frivolous piece of information. But on reflection, it may not be as gratuitous as it seems. Marcus is the author of *The Male Couple's Guide to Living Together*, and his very attractiveness may have some bearing on his authority on matters concerning coupling.

Marcus is both attractive and young. He's now 29, and was a mere tot of 26 when he began writing this authoritative tome. These are qualities that usually get one married...and married and married and married. Being cuter than his photograph tells us Marcus could have been a gadfly. It reassures us that his interest in relationships is genuine and experienced.

That became obvious to me when he talked several weeks ago. We were two opposites. Me, a bachelor; he, firmly married. Me, a seasoned liberationist with a knee-jerk reaction to any and everything as complacently middle class as Marcus' guide to the duplication of heterosexual values, and Marcus—a calm and well-spoken member of a generation which is gay in easier ways. It's a generation which did not need to make a public statement of its sexuality, and which lives, if not assimilated by straight society, then at least comfortably (yet with continual discretion) within it.



Eric Marcus

(Photo: S. Gibson)

I dumped my challenge in Marcus' lap. I told him his book had at first upset me with its sanity and safety, its pleadings that we live as discreetly and homog-

enized as possible, camouflaging our differences so that straights can tolerate us so that we could live quiet suburban lives that were as manicured as our

neighbors' front lawns.

He agreed, and with the same eloquent sense, the same reasoning and voice of experience which makes his book disarming to knee-jerks like me and so valuable to the community at large, he talked about just these issues.

"I wrote about the life I knew," he confided. "When I read the book after I wrote it, I thought, 'this is a very 1950s book, it's very retro.' And yet, I was only reacting to my times."

Marcus came of age in the period of liberation and turmoil which concluded the 1970s. "Gay liberation was something I grew up with," he said. "I questioned it just as people questioned the 50s. Yet I didn't think about politics when I wrote the book. I wrote from experience. And so the book reflects the world I grew up in, my way of life."

That life included parents whom Marcus describes as "50s radicals," who didn't have a great marriage. Their political activities precluded a stability Marcus came to desire. "I'm no radical," he told me. "I'm old fashioned. I want a home life. I always knew I wanted a marriage."

"I wrote the book from my experience. I certainly had my doubts about writing such a book, given my age. But I was in the third year of a relationship. So I felt I had experience. And I don't pretend that I know a lot. When I needed experts, I found them.

"The book is middle class. In some ways the people I talked to lead very ordinary lives. They grew up in a middle class society and continue to lead those lives. They didn't care to rock the boat."

If your homosexuality is a catalyst for change, you'll challenge this book, as I did. But if you want to recreate the safety and stolidity of the traditional family structure, Marcus' book is the perfect—and only—resource. And there are topics here that will be helpful to everyone. These include discussions of legal issues, insurance, parenting, monogamy, acceptance by family and relatives, and even clear-eyed looks at breaking up, aging and death. It's an admirable and useful book, written with caring and much research. It quickly won me over, despite my playing the devil's advocate. There's great practical advice, much of it delivered in the first hand experiences of the just-plain guys who shared their lives with Marcus.

The reasoned approach to life which Marcus manifests in his "Guide" can be seen surrounding the book as well. "I wanted a mainstream publisher," said the author of his Harper and Row imprint. "I wanted wide distribution and I also wanted approval. The name of such an established firm helps people see the book as legitimate subject matter. And it's being marketed to parents, so

(Continued on page 37)

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Pleasing the Audience

requently, when I listen to opera fans discuss the productions they have attended in various theaters, I notice that the one factor which they constantly fail to mention is the audience. Singers, directors, designers and conductors are routinely subjected to critical keelhaulings, but, as any production is discussed, dissected and diagnosed, the right of the audience to be entertained is one factor which is completely ignored.

Therefore, perhaps we should go back to basics. Opera is by def-

inition an interactive art form. It is a style of musical theater written to be performed before a live audience. I keep stressing this fact because a dramatically involved audience is the key to keeping opera alive as a dynamic art form which can stimulate, challenge and, last but certainly not least, entertain those who choose to show some interest in it.

In January I had the peculiar experience of visiting three of the nation's leading opera companies and observing how their

audiences differed. For three consecutive nights at the Metropolitan Opera, I watched a disinterested and dramatically uninvolved audience nodding out and walking out on a regular basis. At the Washington and Houston Grand Operas, I witnessed audiences that were involved, enthusiastic and seemed to be genuinely enjoying themselves.

Much of the reason for their alert behavior (as opposed to the somnolence of those attending the Met) can be directly attributed to the use of Supertitles. However,



Isabella (Mimi Lerner) uses her feminine wiles on Mustafa (Francois Loup) in the Washington Opera's production of Rossini's *L'italiana in Algeri*.

I also think that the managements of these two regional opera companies are acutely aware of the fact that, if they take their audience for granted, their audience might not come back.

Alas, not everyone shares my enthusiasm for live performances. Recordings enable millions of music lovers to enjoy the operatic literature in the comfort of their own homes. Videotapes of live performances are now allowing more and more people to become acquainted with the operatic art form with the help of their VCR machines. Although recent advances in technology have allowed for major breakthroughs in the quality of recorded sound, what worries me is that—even as opera succeeds in reaching new audiences—the rampant consumerism which has been spurred by the demands of the electronic home entertainment center is slowly but surely discouraging people from attending live performances.

Part of the problem is that people like to go shopping for tangible goods (it often seems as if the compact disc revolution is causing people to find new excuses to stay at home, instead of attending live performances). In recent months, many of my friends have spoken so eloquently about the joys of their new compact disc collections that I've begun to wonder if someone shouldn't start a group called "CD's Anonymous." Who knows? There could even be a special subchapter for those who spend their weekly paychecks at Tower Records!

BASTA, PASTA!

In 1985, when I attended the Washington Opera's delightful production of *L'italiana in Algeri*, it was presented in the Kennedy Center's 500-seat Terrace Theatre (an arena whose intimacy is its greatest asset). This year the company moved its "Terrace Theatre" season downstairs to the 1,100-seat Eisenhower Theatre, where, thanks to the addition of Supertitles, Rossini's comic opera scored an even greater success with the

audience. Many of the people involved in the 1985 production (designer Zack Brown, director Leon Major, conductor Joseph Rescigno and two crucial lead singers) repeated their assignments for this revival. With the addition of Sonya Friedman's English-language Supertitles, the happy result was that a vintage production blossomed and became even better than before!

As the shrewd and feisty Isabella, Mimi Lerner's rock-solid coloratura technique proved to be a definite asset to her performance. There must have been some visual trick at play involving the color or style of her hair, which made me feel as if this stocky mezzo-soprano had somehow taken on Ethel Merman's body language. I honestly can't tell whether or not the Merm is coaching her from the grave, but that peculiar style of butch femininity with which Lerner now holds center stage gives her a special type of theatrical authority which is reserved for very few artists.

Thanks to the presence of Supertitles, both Lerner and her rubber-faced Mustafa, Francois Loup (who continues to resemble Bert Lahr as he grows older) had the audience eating out of their hands. Their comic routines were delivered with great gusto, brilliant timing and, due to Leon Major's astute stage direction, scored strongly with an audience that was "with" them all the way through the performance.

New additions to the cast included an appealing young tenor named Marcus Haddock as Lindoro, soprano Pamela South as Elvira and mezzo-soprano Gloria Parker as Zulma. A major contribution to the proceedings came from baritone Jan Opalach's Taddeo. Opalach is not just a stunning technician; his artistic skills allow him to develop a completely new character—and a completely new style of *walking*—for each role I see him perform. This handsome young artist continues to amaze me with his dramatic and vocal prowess. There is a major career in this man's future.

(Continued on page 37)

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Mr. Marcus

Shan Carr of Portland Is IMsL 1988-89



IMsL II Shan Carr at her moment of triumph.

(Photo: Marcus)

Sky Renfro and the Board of Directors of International Ms Leather can sit smugly back and bask in triumph. IMsL II, held at the Giftcenter Pavilion last Saturday night, March 26, skyrocketed into the realm of sweet, sweet success as the second edition of the now-established paean to leather women unfolded before a huge audience. With some 12 contestants vying for the coveted title of female leatherdom, the show was a scant 12 minutes late getting started, but from there on it zoomed into a non-stop extravaganza of very delightful surprises.

The sound was perfect, the lighting superb and flattering, and the Seattle-based Sluts from Hell did a great job MC'ing, kibitzing, ad libbing, and singing a capella. A little bit of finesse and raunch comprised their repertoire. The opening fan dancer was a sexy delight for all the women in the audience. And what a group! As two young women from Cleveland told me later: "God, there are so many good-

looking women in San Francisco! We have nothing like this back home." And some of the most outrageous costumes were in the audience as well as on the stage.

Deena Jones literally sizzled with up-tempo and balladic interludes as her repertoire revealed a little bit of jazz and scat singing reminiscent of a young Sassy Sarah! I got my first opportunity to see Joseph Taro work, and he is absolutely sensational and quite a prolific showman, indeed.

There were a dozen contestants, and in the pre-judging earlier Saturday afternoon in the Eagle patio the judges were obliged to eliminate five of them, leaving seven semi-finalists. What stole the show were the fantasies, and I'm glad there were some representatives from Drummer Magazine on hand for some of the outrageous presentations. Some were funny, some were hot, at least one was absolutely shocking, and the more sedate ladies in the audience were wrecked.

As in all competitions of this type, a hush fell on the vast center; Joy was probably the most nervous in the room, and she

clashed Sky as the envelope was opened. The five remaining contestants clasped their sweaty hands together as the moment of truth descended on the whole affair. And there it was—23-year-old Shan Carr, Ms Portland Leather Woman, 1st Lady to the Defenders of Mithra and Imperial Dancer to the Portland Rose Court, was in a daze. The squealing and shrieks from the audience were the first time absolute femininity a la Miss America was evident. Shan's 5'6", 155-lb. body was absolutely imbued with shock. She gasped, tears almost escaped her eyes, she gasped, she jumped up and down, she squealed, she twirled her leather-studded strap skirt

around and around, and finally realized she was International Ms Leather II. With that title, La Carr will now be able to flirt shamelessly with women (one of her hobbies!).

All in all, Intl. Ms Leather II rates four full bright stars in only the second year of its existence. Mistress Kathy, who was one of the main catalysts behind the whole concept, was on hand; and to a huge ovation. After all, her baby is practically all grown up now—and what a beauty!



The contestants for IMsL '88

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)



IMsL '88 Shan Carr does her fantasy tango. (Photo: S. Martin)

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The few days before IMsL were not without merit. Last Thursday, leather women in San Francisco broke



The fantasy segment that stopped the show (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

another barrier. Yeah, former Ms Leather of SF, Shadow Morton, swooped right into the SF Eagle and grabbed the June '89 spot on the Bare Chest calendar! Some four men were up against the little dynamo, but in the end she prevailed. As it turned out, Shadow knows when and when not to stir it, and she graciously bowed out from appearing on the calendar and donated the \$100 cash prize to the AIDS Emergency Fund. The 1st runner-up, Bob Reed—he with the magnificent body—will be on the calendar. Stella Stoll is intact with his job, and all is well in Faghdad By The Bay.

Friday night, the Bay Area Brigade of the AUA was spiffy in uniforms at the Eagle with a nice

crowd of uniforms surrounding them. You're all welcome to check out membership requirements. They aren't that stringent, ya hear?

Sunday afternoon, Joe Vanness got his people together for a beer bust at the SF Eagle, with portions of The Quilt on hand. Tom Ammanno came down for this one, and Mr. South of Market Chad Siebold made the first of many appearances along with Intl Mr. Leather '83 Colt Thomas. The monumental task of transporting the quilt and setting it up in several cities is not easy, nor is it cheap. Your contributions for this road show would be greatly appreciated.

The absolutely great weather we're having was a great help

with the SF Trojans Football Team vs. the LA Sun Devils Saturday; Sunday, the CSL opened its season at Rossi Field (I couldn't get any scores by my deadline) and all around the town, everyone was doing their thing, enjoying the weather, and generally taking in Spring.

Last night, Wednesday, Empress VII Jonni was the guest in the Eagle patio for his surprise 50th birthday at Le Domino. It seems like everyone is turning 50 these days, including Dick Man-

(Continued on next page)

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IMSL '87 Judy Tallwing-McCarthy (r.) thanks Sky Renfro for an exciting year. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

ning of the Imperial Guards celebrating any day now!

Friday, April 1, the COITS are having an auction of plants, bonnets, and baskets at The Mint from 1930 to 2130 to benefit the Godfather Service Fund; Saturday, Tatiana's First Saturday show at Kimo's will feature Brooke, Cher, Joey Dayton, Erotica, and Miss Kim with Danny Williams too for only \$5 for Open Hand.

Saturday, April 2, beginning at 1100 hours, the SF AIDS Foundation's Food Bank opens its new quarters at the Hickory St. entrance with several celebrities shelving your food donations. It's located right off Van Ness/Market on Hickory.



Another fetish fantasy at the IMSL contest. (Photo: S. Martin)

At 2000 hours at Kezar Pavilion the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence will present the women basketballers (The Slammers) vs. the Hot Shots (men) for the Quilt Tour with the SF Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, Hayward Raw Raahs, Deena Jones, with the MCs being Sister Vicious Power Hungry Bitch and Sarah Lewinstein. Ducats are \$6 in advance, \$8 at the door.

Early Saturday morning the Constantines M/C is having a one-day ride, leaving from the Watering Hole at 10:30 for San Rafael and south along the coast. No fee; no run pin; just riding fun. They'll leave at 10:30 sharp!

Sunday, it's Easter. The Lily Street Fair begins at noon with the parade and bonnet judging scheduled for 1500; the egg hunt begins at 1400 and will feature 50 dozen eggs. The Western Star Dancers will entertain, so wear a bonnet and sensible pumps.

Also on Sunday, the Silver Strip bars sponsor the Easter Hat

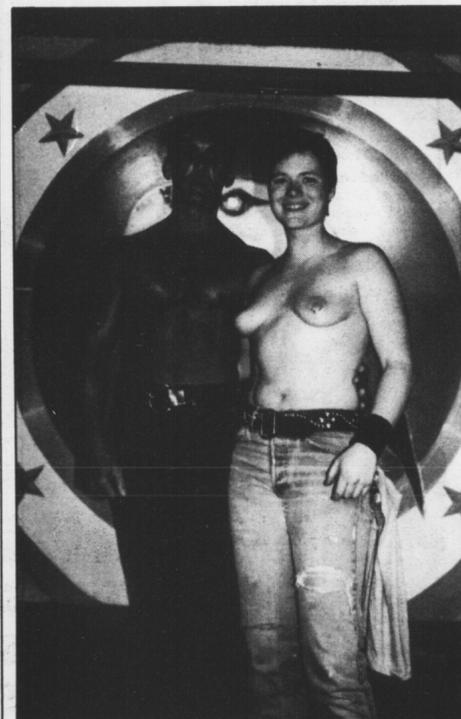
Parade and Contest at the Galleon, Transfer, Mint, Eagle Creek, Church St. Station and the Pilsner Inn from 1100 to 1500 with some \$500 in prizes for Most Original and Most Outrageous hats.

The Empress Tessie Tenderloin Dinner Program will serve a free Easter dinner for gays and seniors at 1400 at St. Paulus Church (Gough and Eddy), sponsored by dowager Empress Phyllis and former Emperor Bobby Pace. The US Missions senior citizens and homeless dinner is at MacCaulley Park from 1400-1700.

I think there's a hat contest at the SF Eagle, but couldn't get confirmation at my deadline.

Monday, April 4, the Cable Car Awards by MEN Video will be screened on Cable 6 Viacom at 2100 hours. Don't miss it!

Joseph Taro and a gang of entertainers will be at the Cafe San Marcos Tuesday, April 5, for



Shadow Morton (r.) was the surprise winner of the Bare Chest contest last week. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Shanti from 1930 for only \$6.50, and Jim Leff's "Classical Trash" exhibition of oil paintings opens at My Place with a reception beginning at 1800 hours. It will hang until April 19, so don't miss it!

Vote for Roberta Achtenberg for Assembly and meet her from 1800-2000 hours at the Galleon Tuesday, April 5, too! The fabulous Menage group will perform with Danny Williams MC'ing.

Wednesday, April 6, the 1st heat of the Mr. Leather of SF contest begins at the SF Eagle. The winner gets \$200 in cash and round trip to Chicago to represent SF at the Intl. Mr. Leather

Contest. Check it out!

Success! We like success! The Blazing Redheads have recorded their first album and will make a debut of it at the Great American Music Hall also on Wednesday, April 6, at 2000 hours. The admission is only \$5 and don't miss this one. The Redheads impose a striking drive and rhythm to their melodic first effort. The album (the cuts I've heard) is absolutely superb! It will be available on CDs, cassettes, and discs—you've got to own this one! Susan Roth is ecstatic, as are all the Redheads, about this Reference Recordings first! Hope to see you all there! I told you the Redheads would make it, didn't I?

Hey the Gay Community Awards are coming up April 9.

Empress Lily and Emperor Steve will be invested at Japantown Bowl Sunday, April 10, and the Pilsner's Beard Contest is Sunday, April 10, too! Are you growing one? Get busy!

Karl's Calendar

THURSDAY 3/31

Feathers 'N Flesh Show, N' Touch, showtimes 10:30 p.m. and 12:15 a.m.

FRIDAY 4/1

COITS Easter Plant Auction, Mint, 7:30-9 p.m., guest entertainer Stephanie Miller.

SATURDAY 4/2

Voting for 1987/88 Gay Community Awards, Hibernia Bank, 18th and Castro, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Constantine's One-Day Run, check-in Watering Hole 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Easterama II Basket Contest, Kokpit, 2-5 p.m., prizes, benefit Godfather Service Fund.

Tatiana and Company Present 1st Saturday, Kimo's, show 9 p.m., \$5 donation, benefit Open Hand.

Comedian Marga Gomez, Mint, two shows beginning 10 p.m.

SUNDAY 4/3

Silver Strip Easter Hat Contest, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Galleon, Eagle Creek, Mint, Pilsner Inn, Church Street Station, Transfer, cash prizes.

Lily Street Easter Party, Noon-5:30 p.m.

Empress Tenderloin Tessie's Easter Dinner, St. Paulus Church, 2 p.m., meals donated and prepared by members of the gay community.

All Club Presidents' Beer Bust, S.F. Eagle, 3-6 p.m., \$7.

Grand Duchess Flame Salute to Empress Lily Street and Emperor Steven Rascher, Kimo's, 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.

MONDAY 4/4

Open Mike Night, Galleon, 9 p.m., host Scott Johnston.

TUESDAY 4/5

Fundraiser For Roberta, Galleon, 6-8 p.m., \$25, hors d'oeuvres.

Leather Drawings, S.F. Eagle, five drawings starting at 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 4/6

Class Acts Contest, Sutter's Mill, 8 p.m., \$1 cover, benefit Friends For Friends.

Mr. San Francisco Leather Contest, 1st night, S.F. Eagle, 10 p.m.

THURSDAY 4/7

Feathers 'N Flesh Show, N' Touch, showtimes 10:30 p.m. and 12:15 a.m.

Compiled by Dieder

THE WORLD ACCORDING TO GARPUS—UH, MARCUS

Hey, the world-famous Saint in New York is closing down for good! In a letter from owner, Bruce Mailman, the Saint will



Tom Ammiano at the beer bust to benefit the Quilt Tour. (Photo: Marcus)

see its last big party Saturday, April 30. The building will be torn down, the parties there will end, and Bruce stated: "It was unacceptable to see new owners ruin it, or to watch the club diminish until the excitement was forgotten." No tears, no wailing, no chastisement for anyone. The Saint is over and thanks for the memories. I'm sure the ending will be as exciting as the beginning.

Flash! Suzy Parker, the dish columnist in LA's Compass is over 50 and has a 25-year-old smoothie. Queried Mike Polansky when informed: "How much is this costing you dear?" and "Keep him away from Ms. Reece at the Rafters!" Haarrumph!

Did you ever wonder why you don't get invited to board of directors meetings of the agencies you support? So are a lot of other people!

Have you got your application in for Intl. Mr. Leather in Chicago in May? The weekend festivities will cost you \$60 for this 10th Annual party, and you can get the forms free at Mercury Mail Order (4084-18th St.); also, the 27 April deadline for the package deal to Chicago is fast approaching. Call Navigator Travel (864-0401) for all the details. Don't delay! Don't be left out!

Is it true Bobby Vitteritti will return to spin the magic music somewhere here in Faghdad by the Bay? Are other deejays getting real nervous? Steve Fabus is thinking of relocating here too, but nothing definite yet!

Yes, yes, yes! In answer to your many inquiries, I will be a judge in Chicago this year!

☆☆☆

Did you see Mr. Leather of SF Bill Johansen and his leather lady friend at IMSL and later at the Eagle? Did you catch those three-inch-high heels Sky Renfro was wearing at IMSL? Did you see Roberta Achtenberg at IMSL? Did you catch that spiffy group at SF Leather Daddy Zack Long's table at IMSL? Did you catch Mark Ferrari and his "latest" Dain at the Cafe Majestic last Sunday night? I did! See 'ya next week!

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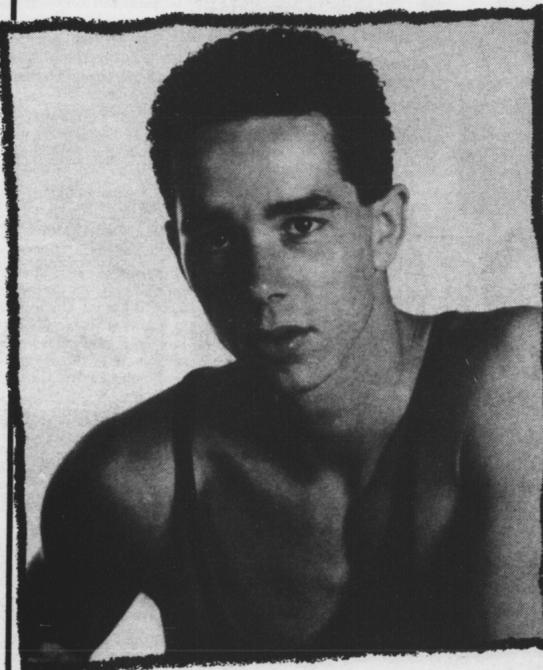
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Have a Happy Easter

Another milestone has come. Linda's Phone Booth will celebrate its 14th anniversary Friday and Saturday, the 1st and 2nd, from 7 p.m. on, with food, surprises, etc. Do try to attend this event, right, Dennis?

Vote: The Gay Community Awards from 9 until 4, Saturday the 2nd, at the Hibernia Bank at 18th and Castro.

Marlow, formerly of the Club Dori and Bradley's Corner, is now on the planks from 6 a.m. 'til noon, Monday through Thursday at the all-new Uncle Bert's out there on 18th just off Castro, so drop by for a drink with him and enjoy the new, pleasant bar—good luck, Tommy.

Which favorite Watering Hole manager needed an escort to his car because he was afraid the bartender where he had dinner was going to mug him?

If you missed the Tavern Guild meeting at Ginger's Too last Tuesday, you missed a great one, what with D.A. Arlo Smith as a guest speaker and all of the fun

afterwards. Remember, the next Tavern Guild meeting is Tuesday the 12th at the Hob Nob on Geary and Leavenworth, so be sure to be there.

Tatiana and company present a very special show Saturday, April 2 and 9, starring (from Fresno) Brooke, Cher, Jerry Dayton, Erotica, Miss Kim, and Mr. Danny Williams for a \$5 donation which goes to Open Hand, a great organization.

Notice to all Rotten Lorraine lovers: She is on the planks Tuesday and Wednesday days at Ginger's Too.

There will be an Easter hat contest and dance Sunday the 3rd, from 6 p.m. on, at the Trocadero Transfer, put on by the Encore City Players, with \$400 in prizes.

Alvin's at Geary and Leavenworth is having a bonnet, basket, and book party Sunday the 3rd. There will be a 10-cent paperback book sale and an Easter basket auction for AIDS, with prizes for the best Easter bonnet, so try to make this event.



Emperor Steve Rascher and Empress Lily Street made a Palm Sunday appearance at the Eagle. (Photo: S. Martin)

Scoop: What were Charlotte (co-owner of Charpes) and Betty Ryan doing having a cozy dinner at the Gate dining room together last week?

Ginger's Too will be having a very special Beverly Easter Brunch from 11 'til 3 Easter Sunday, so do come down and join us. For reservations, call 543-3622.

Tony Lasagna is now cocktail waiter (amongst other jobs) at the New Bell Saloon, Friday through Sunday nights, and of course Wayne Friday is on the planks there Saturday night, so join these two in fun, fun.

Advance notice is hereby given that Coronation '88 in Portland is Saturday, October 22, at the Masonic Temple, with the theme of "Shipwrecked: The Lost City of Atlantis." Of course the Embers/Avenue and Ray's Ordinary Bar and Grill will be two of the many host bars to entertain and feed you, so start making your plans early.

Reopening this week is the very popular Nob Hill Cafe at 1152 Taylor St., featuring exceptionally great food with Christian in the kitchen.

The COITS at the Mint will be having an Easter plant auction from 7:30 on, and, following this, Steve Miller will be doing two shows. If you haven't seen Stephanie lately, do go.

Don't forget the Lily St. Easter Faire—a blast.

There will be a pre-vestiture cocktail party on the 9th from 5:30 'til 7 at the Kokpit, hosted by Emperor Steve and Empress Lily, and it promises to be sensational, so do go. Sunday the 10th, the Bowling for Titles investiture

will be from 1 'til 3 at Japantown Bowl for \$10; free bowling shoes and food, fun, and surprises. See, I told you these two would be camp. Please vote Tuesday the 12th for Roberta Achtenberg for the 16th District Assembly seat; a great candidate.

Kimo's penthouse showroom seems to have something going on all the time, so don't miss some of the fun events they have.

Reflections on Polk Street seems to never finish remodeling, and now they have installed some great new lighting—looks good, guys.

The White Swallow on Polk St. is still a great spot for a good drink and some interesting conversation, what with Tom, Jerry, Mike, and of course Gary on the planks, so drop by and say hi. My Place, formerly the Ramrod, is a great SOMA bar with a lot of interesting people, and fun seems to be had by all.

Yes, Aunt Charlie's on Turk St. is still packing them in, and everyone seems to make out, all except for Reba, who has been on the wagon for a month, or so she says.

And up the street on Turk, you'll find the lovely, vivacious Greta Grass doing her and everyone else's thing, when she can.

Have a nice and happy Easter. P.S. Don't forget Puttin' On The Glitz, Wednesday through Sunday at the new showroom of Sutter's Mill; a superb show that shouldn't be missed.



More than 100 people honored the noted and notorious Mr. Marcus at his 50th birthday last Sunday by gathering at the Cafe Majestic. A superb dinner was prepared by Stanley Eichelbaum, topped off with Queen Mother chocolate cake. At least \$6,000 was collected, with proceeds to go to the AIDS Emergency Fund. (Photo: R. Pruzan)



The cavorting sailors of the HMS Pinafore (Photo: D. Cooper)

Karr

(Continued from page 29) they'll have the opportunity to read something by a gay person and get inside gay relationships in a way they can relate to."

When I told Marcus that much of the book, which asks us to descend and downplay our gayness, made me want to say, "oh, fuck straight people." He laughed, and calmed me down.

"You have to be understanding," Marcus advised. "It's unfortunately the job we've been given now, to show them we can be loving, responsible and committed."

I feel this is a time in which we should be strongly inner directed, developing and guarding our homosexualities. But Marcus did point out, "Most people don't want to challenge the world. They just want to live comfortably."

Heymont

(Continued from page 30)

Under Joseph Rescigno's baton, the cast delivered a performance that was distinguished by its solid ensemble work, superb stagecraft and the singers' willingness to reach out and please the audience without ever sacrificing the production's artistic standards. What impressed me most about this production was its unity of spirit and style. Who could ask for anything more?

Sometimes we need to remind ourselves that pleasing the audience is not a crime (especially if you want them to come back for more). Originally designed by Ralph Funicello for the New York City Opera, the Houston Grand Opera's production of *La Rondine* was a faithful recreation of the performance seen several years ago as part of PBS' *Live From Lincoln Center* series.

Under Lotfi Mansouri's direction, the principals and chorus moved well, neatly underscoring the dramatic thrust of Puccini's tender, sentimental score.

A strongly musical and visually appealing quartet of protagonists helped transform this production of *La Rondine* into a tremendous audience-pleaser. I say this because conductor John DeMain's tempos occasionally seemed a bit too clinical for my tastes. The big Act II ensemble needed more breadth, and there were moments during the opening night performance when DeMain seemed to be taking a curiously unemotional approach to the music. At the second performance, he loosened up a bit, allowing Houston's chorus and principals to sink their teeth into the music and sing the pants off of Puccini's music.

As Magda de Civry, soprano Frances Ginsberg revealed a voice whose timbre was surprisingly lush and pleasing. Franco Farina's handsome Ruggero was not only solid, youthful and very

delight! Biggest wonder is the choreographic direction of Brian Macdonald, who has this show up on its toes and cavorting. The songs fly with buoyantly clever choreography. And what attractive singer/dancers we have—as if they'd been picked for us San Francisco boys. There's a blond with a beard and one without, there's a brunet with curls, and one with a beard, and one clean-shaven...you get the idea. Their morning bathing and dressing routine, which opens the show, is a mischievous addition to the original. Too bad they've not added a nighttime scene.

"Pinafore" is a satire of social position: the lowly sailor cannot wed the captain's daughter. I need hardly tell you that everything works out fine. The plot's not the thing. The telling of it is, and although the paths possible in W.S. Gilbert's script is slighted a bit, there has been no sparing of his melodramatic thrust or rapier jests. And Sullivan's music swells out in full glory. What rhythmic sorcery and melodic

much in love; the tenor had the words "matinee idol" written all over him. In addition to David Eisler's familiar characterization of Prunier, I was especially pleased with Jeanine Thames' spunky performance as Lisette. Baritone Richard Paul Fink brought an extra measure of dignity to Magda's aging lover, Rambaldo.

Not to be taken lightly was the fact that Houston's audience had itself a damned good time during *La Rondine*. The show they attended looked good, sounded good and left them feeling good. That phenomenon is more important than we often realize.

MBB IV

(Continued from page 27)

thing people across the country can do is take a sense of gay pride in gay talent with its lighter moments."

If there is one certain quality of the video, it is its permanence. Abrahamson and Cvitanich know very well that the show is being produced in a health crisis. The show is, in of itself, a chronicle of a community in 1988.

The first performance of this year's show was before an audience of people who had AIDS. Last Saturday Abrahamson and Cvitanich presented a check for \$5,000 to Coming Home Hospice. It is but one of many checks which will be presented to the community to fight AIDS as a result of funds raised by the production.

The show also captures the performances of people who have died of AIDS. Ed Stark, the incredible ballerina in all the *Men Behind Bars* shows died recently. He was one of many people who have appeared in the shows who have died of the disease. "I

would love to do the show just once and not have it as an AIDS fundraiser," said Cvitanich. "Hopefully, there will be a day when we can put this behind us."

Men Behind Bars will now be marketed to bars across the country. The 1986 production was seen in over 175 bars in 49 of the 50 states. "We're still looking for a gay bar in Wyoming," Cyberski said.

That show was the largest seller in the five-year history of the Male Entertainment Network and was an award winner in the Frameline Film Festival which presents and honors lesbian/gay film and video.

Those who were lucky enough to have seats for the sold out shows at the Victoria Theatre are going to again be entertained by the show. Sonny & Cher, Deena Jones, the Corps de Ballet with their pizzas and the Creams, they and everyone else are all in the show.

Cyberski said the one truly unique difference between the theatre production and the video comes with the mail orders. "You would be surprised," he said, "how many people think *Men Behind Bars* is a porn tape." ●



Deena and Gail strutted their stuff in MBB IV (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

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B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

SOFTBALL

Amelia's Upsets Superstar; Roos Clip SF Eagle

by Tom Vindeed

In one of the most glorious opening days ever, over 1,000 fans saw Amelia's surprise everyone with a 14-11 extra-inning victory over Superstar Video, the defending women's San Francisco Gay Softball League champions.

Paced by the booming bats of Adrian Lewis and Claire Monfort, the Aviators have now given notice that they are the team to beat for the women's title.

The second game was another surprise as the upstart Rainbow Roos shocked the vastly improved S.F. Eagle, 7-4. Led by Rich Schwartzberger's three-run homer, the Roos hopped on the

Commissioner Francis Meideiros was very pleased with the day, especially from a financial aspect. The league donated \$500 to the Godfathers' Service Fund. Due to the generosity of the S.F. Eagle softball team, the S.F. Food Bank was the recipient of over 1,000 food and paper products.

In all, it was a super day.

There are no games Easter Sunday. A full slate of games will start Sunday, April 10, at Lang Field. The schedule will appear in next week's B.A.R. along with my predictions and final GSL column.



A member of the Rainbow Roos slides while an Eagle player defends (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

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The Superstar Video Beaches are close on the field and off (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

GSL OPENING DAY

Eagle early and never looked back. Bob Smith pitched a fine game holding the Eagle hitless in several key situations.

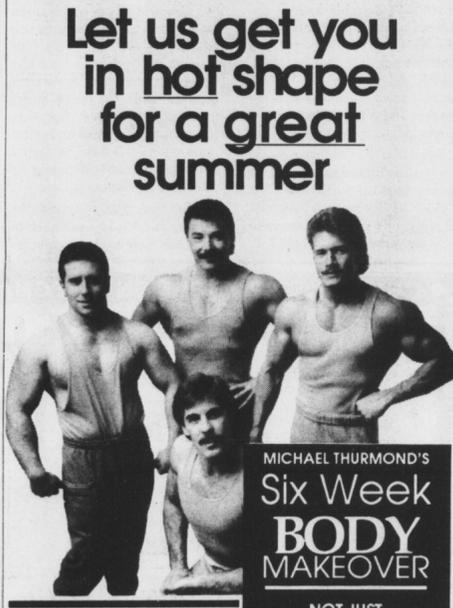
Overall, the day was a huge success for the community as the crowd enjoyed the delicious refreshments served by the Pendulum. As usual, Deena Jones and Tony Trevizo, along with a great group of volunteers from the Godfather Fund, kept everyone's spirits high with good music and hundreds of colorful balloons. The packaging store once again donated all the paper products.

Bert Farber sang a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem, while Post 448 proudly displayed the colors.

After the games, it was off to Dreamland for dancing and revelry as Len Broberg kept us entertained 'til the wee hours of the morning. Once again Deena Jones knocked everyone out with her singing and the new Hayward Raw Raws were better than ever.



A Rainbow Roo on base waits for the pitch (Photo: Photographics/Darlene)



Results are evident in three weeks. I've lost 20 lbs. and am building a body I didn't think I could have....Sam K.

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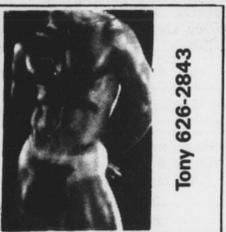
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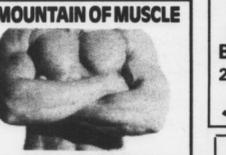


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SWIMMING & DIVING

Tsunamis Win National Swim Title!

by Hal Herkenhoff

SAN DIEGO—San Francisco's gay/lesbian Tsunami Masters swim team matched West Hollywood's larger 45-member swim team in a stroke-for-stroke, relay-for-relay battle which resulted in a thrilling team victory at the second annual International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics (IGLA) championships at San Diego's Allied Gardens outdoor pool on a sizzling, sunny weekend.

San Francisco's Tsunamis, 41 members strong including eight women and 33 men, led from the beginning by the narrowest of margins over a field of teams from West Hollywood, Seattle, San Diego, Vancouver, and Washington, DC. Only a double check of the team scoring by the hard-working host, San Diego's Different Strokes swim team, showed that the fledgling Tsunami had held onto their lead and won their first IGLA team championship.

With the big city teams dominating the scoring, it was expected that there would be a three-way scramble among the defending champion San Diego, the West Hollywood Swim Club, and the new S.F. Tsunami club, which had taken a very distant third-place last year at this same pool in IGLA's first year.

Final team scores clearly showed that the California teams are getting larger quickly. Races were scored for six places on a 7-5-4-3-2-1 basis, and it took a lot of effort by a lot of swimmers to rack up these totals:



The 1988 IGLA champion Tsunamis. (Photo: M. Kliem)

- 1. S.F. Tsunami 686 points
- 2. West Hollywood 656 points
- 3. San Diego 449 points
- 4. Seattle 226 points
- 5. Washington, DC 74 points

With the team trophy moving from city to city, team chair Andrew Alder and Coach Maria Pease now will have the privilege of defending their title in March 1989 in Vancouver, Canada, the site of Gay Games III in 1990.

The world of gay and lesbian swimming has been growing steadily since the 1986 Gay Games, and IGLA has been the group to keep that movement growing. With the teams building and their workouts improving the quality of swimming performances, there is a bright future in the gay/lesbian community for the sport of swimming.

With that future in mind, the various IGLA teams will need to heighten their level of communi-

cation, and to do that they have scheduled a conference in San Francisco in May to review their plans for next year's meet in Vancouver and to discuss the many aspects of the much-anticipated competitions at Gay Games III in 1990, currently being formulated in Vancouver.

Many Tsunami swimmers established personal best times at San Diego and will now turn their attention to the Northern California Masters championships at UC-Berkeley on April 15-17. This meet attracts nearly 600 non-gay and gay swimmers from all of the Masters teams from Reno to San Francisco to San Luis Obispo. In July the Tsunamis will once again enter a gay-sponsored meet at Seattle's Northwest Gay/Lesbian Sports Festival.

Congratulations to all who participated. We're proud of you!

Hot Shots, Slammers Play For The Quilt

by Will Snyder

A gay men's basketball team called The Hot Shots will meet a lesbian basketball team called The Slammers, but this game won't be about winning and losing. That's because everyone—the teams, the fans and especially The Names Project—will win.

The game will take place on Saturday, April 2 at 8 p.m. at the Kezar Pavilion, next to Kezar Stadium. The proceeds will benefit expenses for the Names Project, which is about to send its Names Quilt on a national tour. The theme for the game "Rally Round The Quilt."

This will be the second time the Slammers and Hot Shots will have played for The Names Quilt. Last fall, the two teams raised over \$1,100 for the Quilt. This year, their goal is a cool ten grand.

"Our goal is \$10,000," said Hot Shots coach Tony Jasinski. "We'll be charging \$6 for tickets (go to Headlines for those duets) and \$8 at the door. Playing at Kezar will give us a lot of seats to fill and we hope the community will turn out in big numbers."

The two teams staged a spirited battle last fall before the Hot Shots hung on for a 53-47 win. But Jasinski says that even the addition of three new players will make things easier. That's because Slammers' coach Nancy Warren's team is so good.

"The Slammers will be tougher than the last game," said Jasinski. "I think their rebounding will be tougher than the last time, which means we'll have to hustle."

There will be two changes in format from the last game. Instead of playing two halves, the Slammers and the Hot Shots will play four quarters. Also, a regulation NCAA women's basketball will be used in the second half rather than using just a men's basketball. The women's ball is slightly smaller than the men's ball.

The Hot Shots will dedicate this game to the memory of former teammate Terry Taylor, who died last month. They will wear purple armbands instead of the traditional black armbands because purple was Taylor's favorite color.



It'll be the Hot Shots vs. the Slammers once again April 2 at Kezar Pavilion. (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

NAGAAA Plans for '88 Series

DALLAS—The North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA) held its annual spring meeting in Dallas, host of World Series XII, Feb. 11-15. Officers and council members gathered together to discuss matters of importance, which included finalizing the 1988 budget, election of officers and plans for the 1988 World Series.

Elected to two-year terms each in the Open Division were Fred Bastido as assistant commissioner and Paul Caruso as secretary. Council members of the Women's Division elected Linda Adams as assistant commissioner, Judy Thompson to the post of secretary and Karen Jensen as treasurer. As in the Open Division, each of these women will serve two-year terms.

In recognition of the large number of recreational teams that are members of NAGAAA, the World Series is being expanded to include a Recreational Tournament. While NAGAAA is establishing the guidelines under which the tournament will be played, this year's tournament will be directed by the Oakland Softball Association of Dallas. Nineteen recreational teams are expected to participate this year.

In an effort to promote awareness and growth of NAGAAA's

Women's Division, a consolation tournament will be held in conjunction with the World Series. In addition to those teams eliminated early from regular World Series play, two additional Texas teams currently unaffiliated with NAGAAA are being invited to participate.

NAGAAA's rapid growth over the past several years has increased the financial responsibility of hosting the World Series. In response, NAGAAA's Open Division has elected to alleviate a portion of this by assuming the cost for umpires, scorekeepers, softballs and field permits, effective 1990.

In keeping with tradition, officers and council members of both divisions took an afternoon to tour the softball facilities to be utilized during the World Series. All those in attendance were favorably impressed, noting the availability of six fields, thus allowing the simultaneous play of both the Open and Women's Divisions as well as the planned Recreational Tournament.

For additional information regarding NAGAAA and membership, please contact NAGAAA publicity chair Nancy Pribich, 606 N. Negley Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15206.

BOWLING

Keep Those Balls Hot For The Summer Season

by Richard McPherson

Dick Cavaneewowed the bowlers in the Monday Tavern Guild Trios league at Park Bowl during the last night of the Winter league season, shooting 247,233, 239 for a 719 series. This career-high series for Cavaneew, a 178 average bowler, was sufficient to take over the season's high individual scratch series by 22 pins. Congratulations, Dick, on a tremendous night of shooting.

Arne Prince (190 avg.) also tried to make a play for high series the last night of the Wednesday Tavern Guild League by shooting 225, 218, 260 for a great 703 series, missing the 723 season-high series by 20 pins. Good try Arne, and a great series! This is Prince's second 700+ since the Summer '87 season when he shot an incredible 751 series in the same league.

His team, The Leftovers, joined him during his third-game 260 striking spree, shooting a 1,019 team game. Don Gambell helped out with a 211 and Bob Bates with a 210.

Nine other bowlers topped the 600 series mark in the final week of league bowling in the TGL

leagues at Park Bowl the week of March 14-17. They include: Jim Hahn (186 avg.) 223, 233/645; J.C. Halstead (172) 236, 208/632; Jeff Hettmansperger (189) 211, 217/622; Ljubo Sliskovic (181) 224, 225/613; Angelo Maggio (184) 213, 201/611; R. McPherson (195) 204, 232/610; David Arnold (193) 223/606; and Doug Litwin (185) 211, 235/601.

Special congratulations to Terry Van Sciver, 159 average, who joined this list by shooting 215, 197, 195 for a 607.

Bowlers shooting 215+ games: Whirl Gray (163 avg.) 247, Doug Litwin (178) 237, Mark Schultz (166) 224, Eugene Gales (169) 223, Pat Conlon (174) 222, Buddy Hunt (171) 221, Angelo Maggio (179) 221, Roger Spencer (169) 221, and Larry Kramer (175) 220.

Honorable Mention (160 and under averages): Kevin Keefer (158 avg.) topped this category with a fine 237 game on Monday and a 209 later in the week. He was followed by Dave Gooding (153) 234, John Glynn (155) 224, Jeff Hines (153) 213, Steven Sams (146) 200. Worth a special men-

(Continued on next page)

PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD LEAGUES

Team Standings

S.F. WOMEN'S BUSINESS LEAGUE (Final)		W L	
1. Mona Tong Realty	60	24	
2. Bowldykes	51	33	
3. Maud's Squad	49	35	
4. Cafe Commons	48½	35½	
5. Better Natural	47	37	
6. Geraldine's Caterers	45	39	
7. Park Bowl	44	40	
8. Express Comp. Sup.	43	41	
9. Faenza/White	43	41	
10. Awards by Chris	42½	41½	
11. Olive Oil's	42	42	
12. Artemis	40	44	
13. Amelias	35½	48½	
14. Sidney's Pinheads	37	47	
15. About Paper Plus	35½	48½	
16. Cassidy's Cabinettes	34	50	
17. Brite Shine Janit	30	54	
18. Francois Coffee Hse	29	55	

13. Castro Station	40	48
14. Twisted Pins	39	49
15. Rawhide II Too!	39	49
16. Welcome Home	38½	49½
17. Pendulum	38	50
18. Bar Breakers	37	51
19. C. C. Cotillion	36	52
20. Jack Trux	35½	52½
21. Trax Stars	35	53
22. Pendulum II	24	64

WEDNESDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE (Final)

W L	
1. Pilsner Pinguins	63 25
2. Leftovers	60 28
3. Pendulum Pandas	60 28
4. Pendulum Pieces	55½ 32½
5. Bow-K	53 35
6. Pilsner Quackers	52½ 35½
7. Rams Head Bar	49 39
8. All American Bowlers	49 39
9. Pilsnerds	47 41
10. Park Bowl	45 43
11. Gutter Girls	44 40
12. Play With It, LTD	43½ 40½
13. Pilsner Easy Pickup	42 46
14. Rams and Ewe	41½ 46½
15. Pilsner I	39½ 48½
16. S.F. Eagle	36 52
17. Pilsner Patis Sisters	36 52
18. Schmidt & Schmidt	35 53
19. Gallieson	33½ 54½
20. 9 Eyes Only	33 55
21. DK's Unmentables	30 58
22. Bedrockers	5 83

THURSDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE (Final)

W L	
1. Play With It Ltd	56 28
2. Belden 22	56 28
3. Pilsner 4 Play	53 31
4. Trax Trash	50 34
5. Styles & Stamen	50 34
6. Strike Force	47 37
7. S.F. Eagle	46 38
8. Still Just Trax	45½ 38½
9. Park Bowl	45 39
10. Woo Wooo	44 40
11. Trixie's Tricks	43 41
12. Team Eight	41½ 42½
13. Confused Ones	39 45
14. R A C Rodies	39 45
15. Wild Balls	38½ 45½
16. American Pie	37 47
17. Honeyooners	33½ 50½
18. Paradise Lounge	19 65

MONDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE (Final)

W L	
1. Pilsner Pinguins	66½ 21½
2. Park Bowl	58 30
3. Stayin Alive	58 30
4. Rolo's	54½ 33½
5. Frantic Finishers	53 35
6. Pilsner Powerpuffs	48 40
7. Rawhide II	47 41
8. Kokpit Pacers	44 44
9. Pet Shop Cocktails	44 44
10. Is It Over Yet	44 44
11. Play With It LTD	43 45
12. Lambda Capital	43 45

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BOWLING

(Continued from previous page)

tion is Ron Fields' (136 avg.) 213 game March 14.

Bowlers shooting two 200s in their three-game set are: Larry McBroom (175) 203, 201, and J.C. Halstead (180) 222, 208.

In the S.F. Women's Business League, league secretary Virginia Brusco (164) was the big shooter with a 212, 223/630. Women shooting 200+ games were: Patti Oates (177) 228, Evelyn Oltman (143) 215, Lynn Wood (137) 209, and Mel Colye (181) 200.

Most of the Community Leagues at Japantown Bowl have about two months left in their Winter season, so we'll continue to keep you posted about J'Town scoring achievements while Park Bowl prepares for its Summer season.

D. Phillips, a 169 average in the Wednesday Community League for Mother's Lode, shattered the pins March 16, shooting a 659 series on games of 238, 203, and 218. This American Bowling Congress award-winning series is 152 pins over his average. Congrats D. on a super set at J'Town.

Ron Smola (166) was the only other 600 achiever, shooting 223, 177, 200 for an even 600.

Bowlers shooting 210+ games the week of March 11-18: Darrell Thomas (169) 234, Hunter Bauman (174) 233/599, and 224 in the Hawaii League, Bob Sulewski (168) 227, Art White (174) 222/599, Dan Burley (168) 215, Ed Egenias (157) 214, and Bill Phillips (170) 214.

Honorable Mention (160 and under average): Keal Ausbrooks (147) 234, J.R. Mangilaya (154)



Slapping hands (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

224, Bob Bryan (153) 222, Jeff Brandt (140) 212, Lew Gilmore (158) 212, Peter Czech (135) 206, Scott Miller (148) 203, Chris Boyd (132) 203, and Bert Magnus (144) 202. Lynn Morrison, a 126 average, shot 74 pins over her average when she shot a 200 game.

The Summer league season begins for most Tavern Guild Leagues at Park Bowl, so now is your chance to sign up if you haven't already. You can submit a whole team or just yourself. No previous league experience is necessary.

The Park Bowl leagues and their starting dates and times: Monday Tavern Guild (TC) Trios, 4/4, 6:30 p.m.; Monday TG League, 4/25, 8:30 p.m.; Wednesday TG League, 4/6, 8:30 p.m.; Thursday TG League, 4/7, 9 p.m. Info: Mal Garcia 752-2366.

Join in on the fun of gay league bowling, our community's favorite indoor sport. (Am I right?) J'Town's roster of Summer leagues will appear next week.

Don't forget the next monthly Mini No Tap Tournament, which is slated for Saturday, April 9, at Park Bowl. This is a doubles event costing \$13 per person. If you didn't get a flyer in your league call Jackie Weil at 861-1857 or Jeff Ingels at 553-8856 for info.

Listed somewhere in this section are the final league standings for the Tavern Guild Leagues at Park Bowl. Next week we will feature the individual first-place team members, the individual season-high shooters, and the leagues best bowlers, average-wise.

In the meantime get out and practice, and keep those balls hot for the Summer season.

JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES BOWLING

SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE			WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE		
	W	L		W	L
1. Remember Us?	19	9	1. Mother's Lode	26	6
2. Tidy Bowlers	19	5	2. Kingpin Honey's	21	11
3. Sassy	18	10	3. Play With It Ltd	19	13
4. Phabulax 4	17	11	4. Rawlid Balls 'n Hand	19	13
5. Beef Strokinoffs	17	11	5. SF Band & Tea Corp	19	13
6. Bouncing Balls	17	11	6. Parakeet Lounge	19	13
7. Firebird Sweets	16	12	7. Ball Doctors	18	14
8. 4 Many Reasons	16	12	8. E Z Pick Up	17	15
9. 5 Pin-Anybody?	15	13	9. 14 Karat Jewels	17	15
10. Bob's Big Boys	13	15	10. Lois Laners	14	18
11. Pin Us Down	13	15	11. Helen Beds	11½	16½
12. Dinner Dogs	13	15	12. AEF Maulers	10	22
13. Jackpot	13	11	13. Pilsner Tux 'n' Tails	8½	19½
14. Alley Cats	12	16	14. More Hits than Misses	0	32
15. Great Balls of Fire	11	17			
16. Natalie Deadwoods	9	19			
17. Strike Force	9	18			
18. Bad Lucky Boys	0	28			

MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE			THURSDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE		
	W	L		W	L
1. Brand X	27½	8½	1. Hot 'n' Hunky	15	1
2. No Shows	21	15	2. Castro ettes	10	6
3. Five Easy Pieces	20½	15½	3. SF Sentinel	8	8
4. Missing Persons	20	16	4. Odd Balls	8	8
5. Stationaires	20	16	5. Old Ricks	8	8
6. Split Sisters	18	18	6. Wooden Horse	7	9
7. Rumlbers	17	19	7. Pendulum Bombers	7	9
8. Bench and Bar	16	20	8. Galleon	7	9
9. SF Band Foundation	15½	20½	9. Pendulum #1	6	10
10. Loft In Space	15	21	10. Liquor Express	4	12
11. Barb's Team	14	22			
12. Debutantes	10½	25½			

HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE		
	W	L
1. Double Trouble	21½	6½
2. Urasis Dragon	18	19
3. Eruptions	18	10
4. Moby Dick Waiters	16	12
5. Hand Times	15	13
6. Bulldogettes	14	14
7. Bowl 'R Brains	14	14
8. Tropical Teezers	13	15
9. Haleakala Hookers	13	11
10. Hi Bound	12	16
11. Earth Mothers	12	16
12. Lois' Lane	11½	12½
13. Easy Leis	10	18
14. Ball Busters	8	20

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San Francisco beat Los Angeles again in football, but no, it wasn't the 'Niners over the Rams or Raiders. San Francisco's gay flag-football team, the Trojans, defeated the Los Angeles SunDevils, 12-2, at McAtreer High last Saturday. Above, S.F.'s Clay Parks (23) breaks for the open field for a 60-yard touchdown after taking in a Eugene Broadnax pass. Below, L.A. quarterback Jeff Green searches in vain for an open man while running away from S.F.'s defensive captain, Clay Maxwell (dark jersey). Scotty Smith also scored a touchdown for the local lads, galloping 50 yards to paydirt. (Photo: S. Savage)

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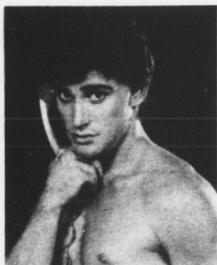
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Revolt Against Brown Helps Right Wing Bills

AB 87 Stalled; Harsh Measures Could Pass;
Gays Asked for Blank Check on 142 AIDS Bills

by Ray O'Loughlin

The battle to save Willie Brown's powerful position as Speaker of the California Assembly has spilled over into the debate on the AIDS epidemic. With a record number of bills before the Legislature, statehouse politicking has replaced debate over the state's AIDS policy. Facing 142 separate bills, the Democratic Party leadership in the Assembly and a group of rebellious, conservative Democrats have turned the battle on AIDS into a test of Brown's political power.

"Actions are not being based on the merits of the bills," said Rand Martin of the Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality (LIFE). "They're based on politics."

Martin was especially concerned about some crucial votes coming up on important legislation in middle to late April. He said that Brown can no longer guarantee the necessary majority—41 votes—to pass or to block legislation.

He pointed out the recent passage of a bill allowing HIV testing of prostitutes and the upcoming vote on AB 2900, which would allow HIV testing for life insurance, as signs of Brown's weakening power.

"He's under a lot of pressure to let some things through," said Martin about Brown's recent compromises. "If he were to dig in his heels, he could lose."

The Assembly Democratic caucus, charged Martin, "had no choice but to accept the prostitute-testing bill in order to protect the Speaker of the Assembly." That bill, he predicted, will "coast to certain passage in the Legislature."

The gay community is finding itself pulled into the middle of this tug of war. Some activists urge full support for Brown to stave off conservative challenges on issues such as confidentiality. Others say that the AIDS agenda in Sacramento would do just as well or better without Speaker Brown.

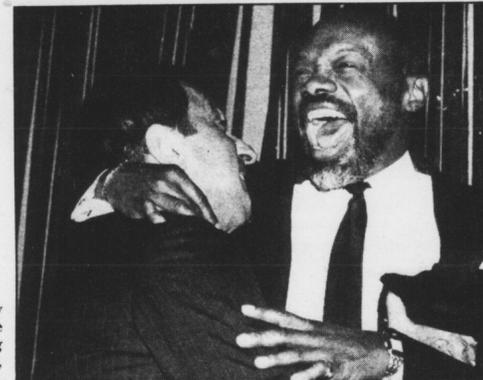
MANEUVERING

Brown's troubles began when five conservative Democrat Assembly members, the so-called "Gang of Five," defied him through a series of parliamentary maneuvers.

The dissidents have turned to certain AIDS measures to use as a wedge against Brown. "The Gang of Five are looking for ways to advance their own agenda," said Martin. "They're looking for ways to gain visibility." Bills promoting HIV testing, for example, are popular conservative issues that attract media coverage.

That political maneuvering, combined with Assembly members' fears of being called soft on AIDS, has produced an atmosphere in Sacramento that is very receptive to what Martin called repressive measures.

"There is a strong perception that constituents want some concrete actions taken to fight the epidemic," said Martin. Testing is popular because the Legislature "can act on it quickly, enact it immediately, and it looks like they're doing something," he said. (Continued on page 2)



Who's Laughing Now?—Colleagues Art Agnos and Willie Brown clowning around at the Moscone Dinner in 1985, but now Brown is in trouble, and so is the AIDS bill (AB 87) that Agnos left behind. (Photo: Rink)

Rights Group Urged To Include Gays

US Contingent Pushing Amnesty
To Represent Gay Prisoners

by Jay Newquist

Amnesty International is expected to officially extend its advocacy coverage in 1989 to protect gays and lesbians as "prisoners of conscience" who are jailed for their sexuality. AI maintains a global network advocating human rights and protesting human rights violations. (Continued on page 2)

Colorful Tribute to a Colorful Man

Harvey Milk Mural To Be Unveiled in May

by Mary Richards

It's Saturday afternoon in Duboce Park. Sunbathers and their dogs lounge on the grass. Two basketball games are in progress, at one end teenagers hold court. Next to them, a ball cludes younger children as they squeal with excitement. There is the smell of barbecue in the air, and disco music hlares from a nearby radio.

For years, the south wall of the Harvey Milk Recreation Center was painted one dull color. Now it glows in the sun of the early afternoon, giant splashes of orange, yellow and blue bringing attention to its symbol and its subject.

A smiling Harvey Milk, holding a bouquet of flowers as if to salute us, sits atop the shoulders of a clown in checkerboard black and white. Whether it makes you

feel sad or glad, it's hard not to look at that face.

The mural which was just an idea in August of last year is now nearing completion. After months of work, artist Johanna

Poethig is ready to plan an unveiling celebration to coincide with Harvey Milk's birthday in May.

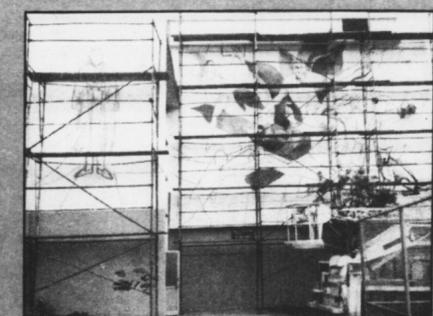
The mural has associations with the past and the future. Harvey's pose astride the clown is taken from a photograph of him at the 1978 Gay Freedom Day Parade. He wore the costume of a clown in another photo taken while riding a cable car.

"When I researched Harvey

and talked to Scott Smith (his lover), the Harvey Milk Archives and other people who knew Harvey, a lot of them mentioned him being a clown and wanting to see him portrayed in that role," says Johanna.

She chose a dahlia for the background because, she explains, "the color and the shape of the petals have the feeling of

(Continued on page 17)



Photographer Rink has been documenting the progress of the Harvey Milk mural for months