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# BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XIX NO. 32 AUGUST 10, 1989

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## Police Question Report Of Attack on Minister

### Griffis May Face Charges on False Report; Second Attack May Have Been Fabricated

by Ray O'Loughlin

Former MCC assistant pastor Lynn Griffis may face charges herself if San Francisco police determine that she falsified reports of assaults. Police Chief Frank Jordan said that if investigators determined that Griffis had fabricated either of the two attacks she claimed to be the victim of, then he would consider with the district attorney charging Griffis with filing a false police report.

Jordan's statement came as police announced Aug. 4 that they had uncovered a number of inconsistencies in Griffis's story and were "re-evaluating the evidence."

Griffis, meanwhile, has resigned her post at Metropolitan Community Church on Eureka Street and hurriedly left the city Aug. 4. Her exact whereabouts were unknown but it was believed she has returned to her native Nebraska.

Jordan told reporters that police investigators were pursuing additional evidence in the case. He described an Aug. 3 meeting with prominent gay and lesbian figures, investigators, representatives from the mayor's office and Griffis. "After consulting with the mayor, investigators and others, we have determined that more clarification is needed. Inconsistencies need to be reviewed," said Jordan.

He said that Griffis had offered additional information, claiming that she had been sexually assaulted. That claim is being investigated by the SFPD sexual crimes unit. County Medical Examiner Boyd Stephens was also called in to look at evidence, said Jordan.

Police doubts focused on Griffis's reported second attack, July 27, in which she claimed two "skinheads" abducted and assaulted her. Police now suspect that Griffis may have made up the story and even inflicted wounds on herself.

According to Jordan, the first attack on Griffis, July 12, appeared to be legitimate. "There is no reason at this time to believe that report was not valid," he said.

Jordan would not specify what the inconsistencies were in Griffis's story though he did allude to there being "no attack as first reported" and to "many unanswered questions." He said that people in the area of the alleged attack reported seeing nothing unusual going on at the time.

But he said, "We want to check out the evidence very carefully, look at it in a neutral position."

He said the police had a duty to Griffis to insure due process to the investigation of her claims.

The FBI has been asked to

continue its assistance in the investigation. According to Jordan, Griffis is fully co-operating with the police.

MCC Pastor Rev. Jim Mitulski said that the church's board of directors had accepted Griffis's resignation promptly though he would not elaborate on details as to why. He said that the church extended "its compassion for Lynn." He praised her for the work she did for the congregation.

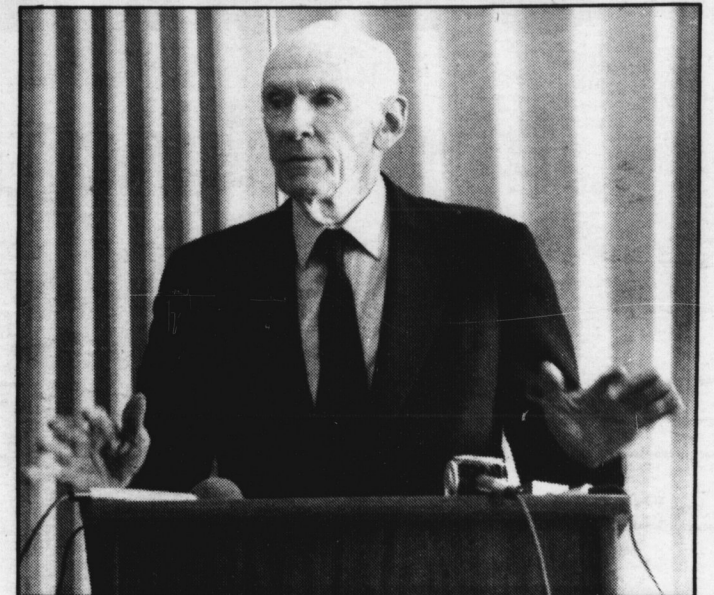
As to what happened and why, Mitulski said, "Only Lynn can speak for Lynn."

He said that he and the board of directors of MCC have pledged to fully co-operate with authorities.

Mitulski said he wanted to tell the gay community, "I believe that violence against gay and lesbian people continues to happen and it needs to be taken seriously. We need to be willing to believe people when they tell stories like this. I apologize the ways in which Lynn's association with us has compromised us in meeting our larger community and I ask for them to continue to have compassion for Lynn and to continue to support us in our work which preceded her and which will continue after."

Mitulski and others also praised the SFPD for its handling of

(Continued on page 4)



Sen. Alan Cranston has again blocked the Walker nomination. (Photo: S. Savage)

## Senate Again Nixes Walker Nomination

### Cranston Again Blocks Nomination; Should End Effort for Fed. Judgeship

by Dennis McMillan

The nomination of attorney Vaughn Walker for federal judge in the Northern California U.S. District Court has again been defeated and returned to the White House by the Senate. Sen. Alan Cranston is credited with again blocking the Walker nomination.

Prior to adjourning, the Senate voted to keep all 120 nominations pending until it reconvenes in September. Three exceptions were made—an ambassadorial candidate for Luxembourg who

has been implicated in the HUD ethics scandal, an assistant secretary nominee for the Department of Energy who supposedly has no work experience or competence for the position, and Walker.

"This grouping of three is basically the most controversial and problematic governmental and judicial nominations pending before the Senate, raising serious questions about the capabilities of the three to per-

(Continued on page 12)

## Senate Committee OKs AIDS Bias Bill

### Bush Promises to Sign Law; Part of Ban on Disabilities Discrimination

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON—The Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee on Aug. 2 granted approval to a landmark bill banning discrimination on the basis of disabilities—including AIDS and HIV infection. The committee sent it on to the Senate floor by a unanimous 16-0 vote. Backers of the bill are now predicting it will be passed into law by the end of the year.

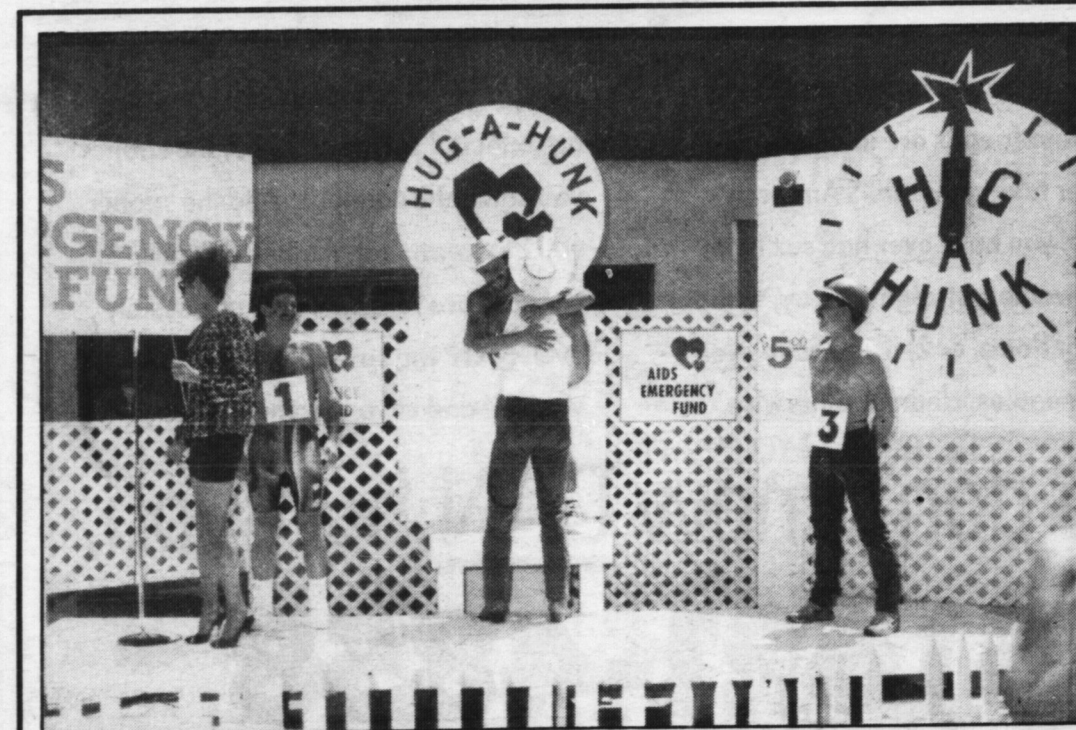
The Americans with Disabilities Act (S.933) would extend the anti-discrimination protections of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 in the areas of employment, public

accommodations and phone systems to people with disabilities. The bill would answer the repeated recommendations of virtually every commission in the U.S. appointed to address AIDS and HIV discrimination in the private sector nationwide.

Currently, such discrimination is prohibited only in areas of housing and federal employment and elsewhere under a handful of state and local laws.

"By acting on this legislation today, we are taking an enormous

(Continued on page 19)



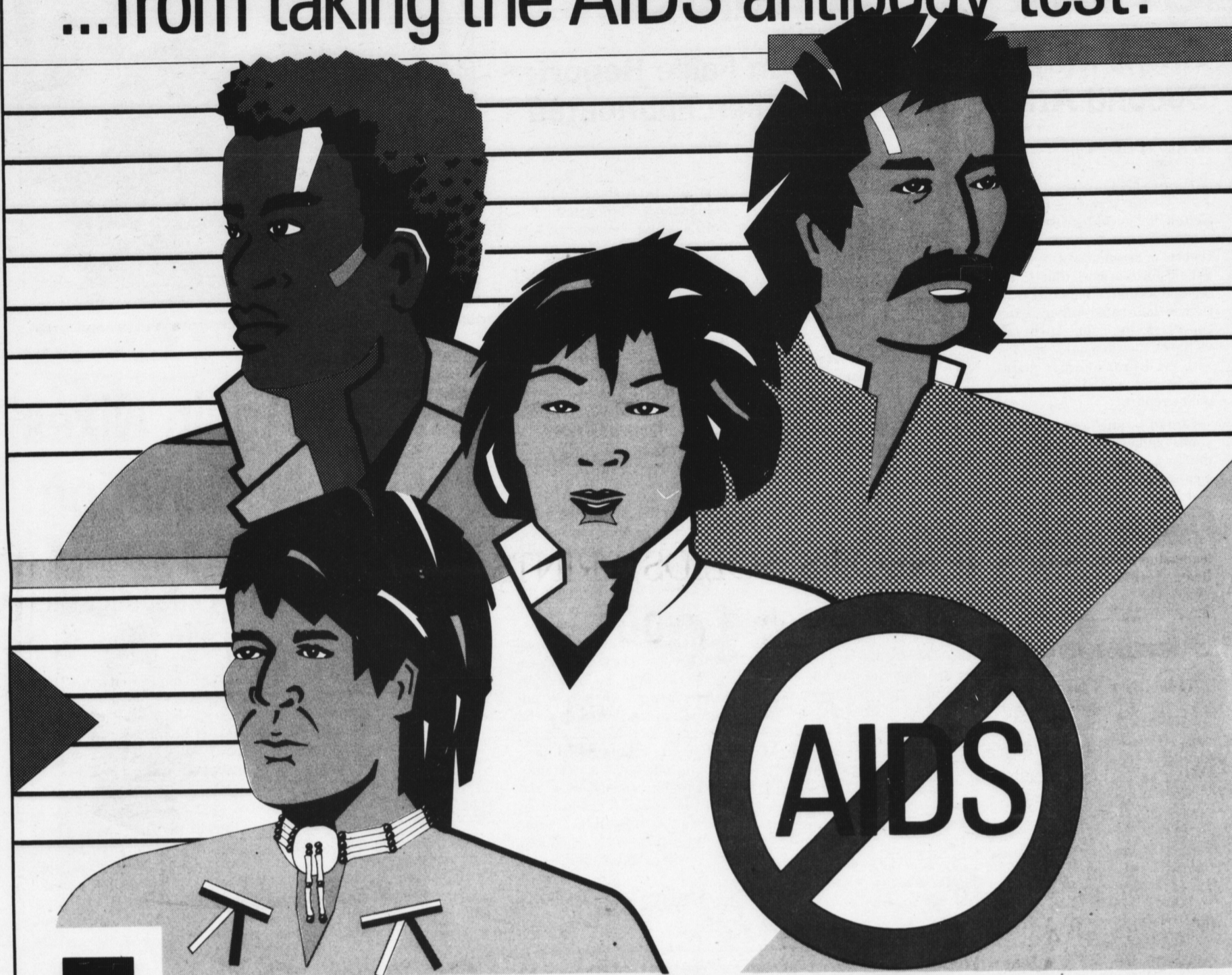
### Safe Sex

The AIDS Emergency Fund found a new and exciting way to raise funds at its booth at the Dore Alley Fair. (Photo: S. Savage)

THIS PAPER IN TWO SECTIONS

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A MESSAGE FROM THE MULTICULTURAL TRAINING RESOURCE CENTER. FUNDED BY THE S.F. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, AIDS OFFICE.

## Lesbian Fire Fighter Gets Promotion to Lieutenant

by Dennis McMillan

An openly lesbian fire fighter has been promoted to lieutenant, the first ever in San Francisco. Anne Young accepted her honors from the city's Fire Commission Aug. 8 at the new Police Academy building in Diamond Heights along with five other women graduating.

Deputy Chief of Operations Mike Farrell said the number of men in the SFFD is currently 1,298 compared to 12 women in the department. He said that Young was among a group of the first women to apply for a fire fighter position in SFFD, a little over two years ago.

San Francisco is the last major city in the country to hire women in its fire department. The new policy was brought about by a court order. The first woman in the country to be a fire fighter was hired in 1974. Presently there are about 2,000 American women who are professional fire fighters.

"There were a lot of unfounded fears before the women came in, but we went around to other cities' fire departments to see how they handled the situation," said Farrell. "It has worked out quite well and the women have done a very good job."

"Anne took the test, passed well, and I am confident in her abilities," he said.

"Anne is very capable and qualified with tremendous leadership ability," said Sharon Bretz, lesbian Fire Commissioner, who herself is the first gay

woman appointed to that position. "Her promotion has nothing to do with her sexual preference or gender, but this will be a symbol for other women to look to and realize this is no longer a dream but a reality."

She added, "I think every time you see a gay person promoted, it helps to remove stigma."

"It's a lot to take on, and it's a very important job, but I feel really good about it," said Young.

Young had been a fire fighter in Daly City several years prior. As a fire fighter in the past she worked with her crew in fire suppression, medical calls for people in crisis, business inspections, and public relations work such as visits to school classes. As a lieutenant, Young will remain a working part of her crew and also supervise the members. She will additionally take on new administrative duties such as per-

sonnel work, trouble shooting, report writing and documentation.

"I will have to separate myself somewhat from the crew, and that isn't being aloof, it's just what the job requires," Young said.

Life as a fire fighter means Young spends many consecutive days and nights on the job with up to 12 men. "I'm not going to say I didn't encounter hostility and apprehension from some of the men, but I realized that was a cultural hang-up, and for the most part they acted professionally with me," she said.

"It is a matter of adjustment for them, but necessary if your crew is going to work well as a team and rely on one another for their very lives."

She said she is most appreciative of the pressure that the fire chief must have taken for going through with this big trans-



SFFD Lieutenant Anne Young.

(Photo: Barbara J. Maggiani)

formation in the department. "I'm a real advocate for change when I think there's a need for it," Young said.

Although Young did not dream as a child of becoming a fire fighter, she said she always wanted to be in a helping profession. The first inkling she had of

wanting to do rescue work was at age 16 working in a San Jose gas station at a very busy intersection. Having witnessed many bad car crashes there, she learned to handle emergency situations.

Young is not assigned to any station but will float among all the stations in the city. ▼

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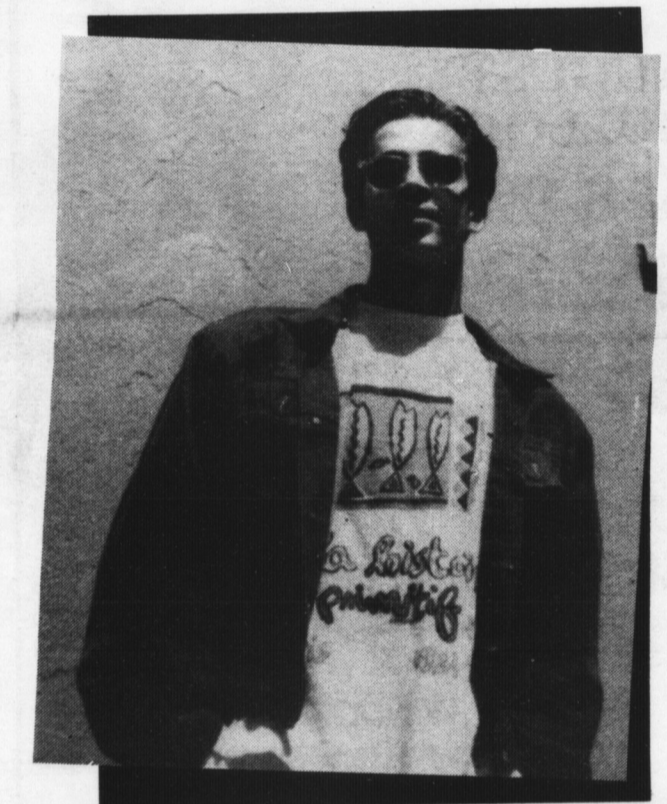
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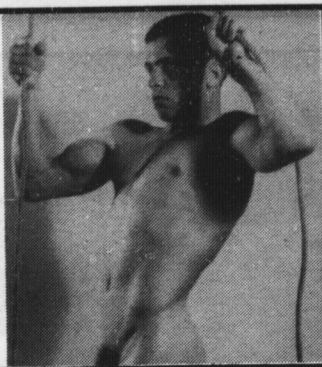
"We felt it was important that the public know that all of the money raised by the walkers went to AIDS charities," explained spokesman David Berni.

Checks will be handed out to all of the groups at a brief public ceremony in the Patio Room of the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Sacramento on Aug. 17. Next year's AIDS Walk is already scheduled for May 20, 1990. ▼

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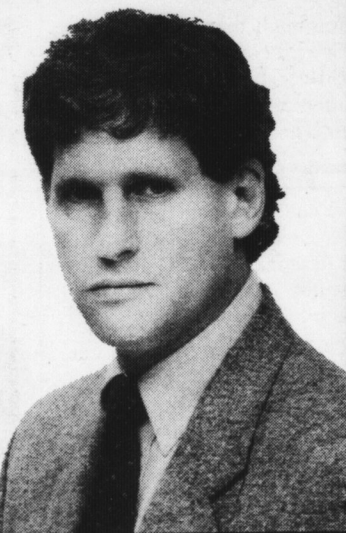
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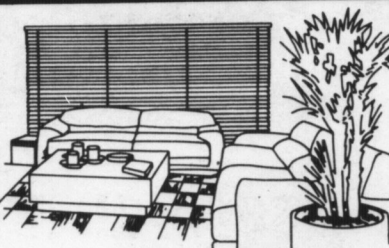
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Police Chief Frank Jordan, Rev. Jim Mitulski and Melinda Paras of CUAV. (Photo: Rink)

## Minister

(Continued from page 1)

the case. Newly appointed Police  
Commissioner Glenn Craig said,  
"I am impressed with the  
thoroughness and sensitivity  
with which the police depart-  
ment has carried out this investi-  
gation."

Community United Against  
Violence issued a prepared state-  
ment saying, "At this point, only  
Lynn Griffis knows the full truth  
of what has happened. Whatever  
the truth is, we have a great con-  
cern for Lynn and for what she's  
been through. We have full con-

fidence in the San Francisco  
Police Department and believe  
their investigation in this case, as  
in others we have been involved  
with, to be thorough and profes-  
sional."

CUAV displayed a stack of files  
on cases of assaults against les-  
bians and gays. "We want to em-  
phasize that hate violence is a  
very real issue for lesbian and gay  
people. Each year we receive be-  
tween 200 and 250 legitimate  
reports of such incidents, and  
surveys show that 86 percent of  
all lesbians and gays have been  
assaulted, threatened or harass-  
ed," said CUAV.

Chief Jordan pledged the

SFPD to fully investigate hate  
crimes in the future. "This in no  
way diminishes our commitment  
to dealing with hate crimes," he  
said. "We'll continue to give a  
high priority to prejudicial  
crimes."

Mayor Art Agnos released a  
statement saying that despite ap-  
parent inconsistencies in Griffis's  
story, violence directed at  
gays and lesbians is very real in  
San Francisco.

"Whatever the outcome of this  
investigation, we will maintain  
our vigilance in protecting all  
San Franciscans from hate  
crimes and pursuing their  
assaults," said Agnos.

## Griffis Not MCC Minister, Says Pastor



Inconsistencies have emerged in Lynn Griffis's story. (Photo: Barbara J. Maggiani)

by Allen White

Lynn Griffis is not a minister  
and may have misrepresented  
herself to Pastor Jim Mitulski  
about her standing as an intern  
in the Metropolitan Community  
Church. The information  
becomes one more bizarre revela-  
tion in the unwinding saga of a  
woman who twice has claimed  
she was beaten.

Don Eastman, who with Troy  
Perry is on the senior executive  
staff of the United Fellowship of  
the Metropolitan Community  
Church in Los Angeles, said,  
"Lynn Griffis was never creden-  
tialled in the Metropolitan Com-

munity Church. I know that she  
would not have the right from the  
Metropolitan Community  
Church to use the title reverend."

When asked Tuesday if she was  
a minister, San Francisco Rev.  
Mitulski said, "No, she was not  
a minister."

He added, "She was supposed  
to have been in the process of be-  
ing student clergy in the Metro-  
politan Community Church. Only  
in the last several days has  
it come out that she had never  
done paper work and registration  
work which she assured me and

others on numerous occasions  
had been done."

He said her failure to register  
as an intern with the MCC  
Church would have become ap-  
parent, even without the revela-  
tions of the last few days, by the  
end of the year.

Mitulski said, "She came to  
the church with very impeccable  
credentials." Griffis had supplied  
references which showed she had  
a masters degree in pastoral care  
and counseling from Lutheran  
Northwestern Seminary in St.  
Paul, Minnesota. When she joined  
MCC San Francisco she pur-  
sued a masters of divinity degree  
at the Pacific School of Religion  
in Berkeley. Both of these are  
very respected mainline  
seminaries. Mitulski said the  
references provided from both  
schools were very good.

The *Examiner* also reported  
Tuesday that she also had told  
friends in San Francisco that she  
was attacked while jogging at the  
St. Paul seminary. But that story  
too is being questioned since the  
seminary and Twin Cities authori-  
ties state there is no record of  
such an attack.

In the last few days, the two  
daily newspapers have been play-  
ing a cat and mouse game across  
the country with Lynn Griffis.  
The *Examiner* confirmed that  
two of their reporters have been  
fined to Nebraska, where her  
mother lives. They were unable to  
find Griffis.

Several sources state the San  
Francisco *Chronicle* also has at  
least one reporter on the trail of  
Griffis.

Though she was supposed to  
be headed to Nebraska, reports  
continue to surface which in-  
dicate Griffis has a new lover and  
the two have driven to Denver,  
Colorado and may or may not be  
headed to Nebraska.

## Quinn Statement on Violence Seen as Hollow Gesture

**Archbishop Goes To Castro To Condemn Anti-Gay Assaults;  
Critics Say Opposition to Rights Shows Hypocrisy**



Archbishop John R. Quinn. (Photo: Rink)

by Allen White

The ability of Archbishop  
John R. Quinn to be a moral  
leader in San Francisco has clearly  
become clouded as he thrusts  
himself into the political arena in  
the fight to repeal the domestic  
partners ordinance. His state-  
ments rebuking anti-gay violence  
made last Sunday at the Holy  
Redeemer Church in the Castro  
were quickly and strongly  
criticized.

Jean Harris, an aide to Super-  
visor Harry Britt, said, "I think  
he is trying to use the gay com-  
munity to get some good p.r. for  
his own reputation."

"You can't on one hand say, 'I  
will not recognize loving, caring  
relationships and families of les-  
bians and gay people,' which  
basically says we are not normal  
human beings. Then, on the  
other hand, say, 'but don't go  
beat them up.' It is hypocritical,"  
said Harris.

"I think he is trying not to  
look like a bigot. I look at it as a  
lot of political opportunism,"  
said Randy Schell. For many  
years, Schell served as a  
counselor at Community United  
Against Violence for victims of  
anti-gay assaults. He was also one

of the first openly gay persons ap-  
pointed by Archbishop Quinn to  
a church commission.

During that time Schell ob-  
served Quinn's actions. "For  
years, the only statement he ever  
made on anti-gay violence was a  
letter to the deans in his diocese.  
He would never come out and say  
something about anti-gay violence  
to the general public."

"That he is doing it now, I  
believe is suspicious. I think he  
had been under a great deal of  
pressure because of all the work  
that has been done in the side-  
lines of the church against  
domestic partners," Schell con-  
tinued. "It is easier for him to  
come out decrying anti-gay violence  
so he doesn't look like a  
bigot."

"I think it a little too late,"  
said Bob Barnes, the political ac-  
tion chair of the Alice B. Toklas  
Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club.  
"I don't think it can be denied  
that the Catholic Church has  
played a major role and will con-  
tinue to play a major role attempt-  
ing to defeat domestic part-  
ners."

Barnes added, "I think it is  
kind of hypocritical based on re-

come to the Castro to make a  
statement on anti-gay violence  
was also questioned. Dickinson  
observed, "I think he should  
target his message out to all of  
the churches throughout his  
diocese like he has apparently  
done with domestic partners  
messages. If he is only preaching  
his message of anti-gay violence  
in the Castro, he has to go a lot  
wider."

Schell pointed out the prob-  
lems created for Quinn when he  
preaches an anti-gay violence  
message outside the Castro. "It  
is very safe in the Castro. If he  
says it in the Castro, he is  
preaching to the people who are  
already converted. To say those  
words in other areas of the city  
and outlying areas the archdi-  
ocese has control over, I think  
would be wonderful. But it is too  
risky. He would come off as two-  
faced. He would be saying he sup-  
ports the rights of gay people to  
live without fear of violent  
assaults but the second part of it  
is to do everything you can in the  
background to dismantle any  
provisions to name who their own  
family is."

Archbishop Quinn had been  
scheduled to speak to the Holy  
Redeemer Church congregation  
for several weeks. His remarks  
were made to close special devo-  
tions at the church.

His motives began to be ques-  
tioned Friday afternoon. Follow-  
ing a 2 p.m. press conference with  
Police Chief Frank Jordan and  
MCC Pastor Jim Mitulski, the  
archdiocese was issuing their own  
press information.

At 4:17 p.m., information was  
being transmitted by local press  
wire services stating Quinn  
would appear on Sunday to make  
a statement about anti-gay  
violence.

He also made a telephone call  
to MCC Pastor Jim Mitulski. "He  
called to say he was praying for  
our community and then he said  
he would make a strong state-  
ment in his sermon on Sunday."

Mitulski added, "One thing I  
have learned from this last week  
is, you have to acknowledge when  
people do the right thing. I  
believe he thinks violence against  
gays is wrong and I think it is ap-  
propriate for him to say that. I  
wish he would support the  
domestic partners legislation  
and I don't think he will."

Randy Schell agreed, "I'm  
glad he made the statement. It's  
about time. It only took him nine  
years to do."

"If he is sincere, the words he  
said at Holy Redeemer would be  
put out to all the churches in the  
archdiocese," Schell said. "We  
had asked for a statement years  
ago which could be read in all the  
churches. That still hasn't been  
done. If he wants his words to  
have weight, let his words be read  
from every church in the city of  
San Francisco, not just one  
church in the Castro."

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On Saturday, August 19 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, a mobile blood donation unit will visit the Castro to serve women participating in the Women's Day Blood Drive. For your convenience, and to save time, we ask you to call now to schedule a specific appointment and receive additional information.

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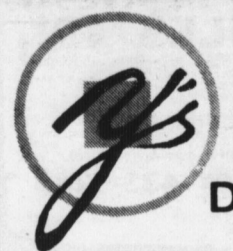
A project of the Lesbian Caucus of the Harvey Milk Lesbian & Gay Democratic Club, in conjunction with the Irwin Memorial Blood Bank of San Francisco and Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church.







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**Van de Kamp Beats Feinstein In Polls**



Attorney General John Van de Kamp.

(Photo: Rink)

L.A. D.A. Ira Reiner in the Democratic race for attorney general. But Smith enjoys a higher "favorable" rating among those who have heard of both candidates than does Reiner, suggesting that getting his name better known is the key to success.

In the race for lieutenant governor, incumbent Democrat Leo McCarthy, as expected, leads both of his potential Republican opponents, while incumbent State Treasurer Tom Hayes, a Republican, leads both his GOP primary opponent and his expected Democratic opponent, Kathleen Brown.

In another statewide race expected to draw big names and a high profile campaign, incumbent Insurance Commissioner Roxani Gillespie, a Republican, faces a strong challenge from Democrat Assemblyman Tom Hayden, who has as yet not announced his candidacy, but is expected to do so.

While Hayden leads the field of potential Democratic candidates, he also has the dubious honor of being the candidate with the highest name identification. But Hayden is also the most disliked, according to the California Poll. The poll found Hayden is known by 72 percent of those polled statewide, nearly twice the

(Continued on page 23)

With the 1990 state elections already in high gear and with less than a year before the June primary, figures this week announced by the California Poll, show that Attorney General John Van de Kamp has, for the first time, pulled ahead of former San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein in the Democratic gubernatorial campaign—both in voter choice and in campaign finances raised.

Based mostly on the strength of solid support in his native Southern California, Van de Kamp, according to the new California Poll, leads Feinstein statewide by a 44-37 margin, and tops Feinstein in fundraising by a three-to-one margin. As of June 30, Van de Kamp had raised \$1.9 million to Feinstein's \$566,821.

Both Democratic candidates, however, trail Sen. Pete Wilson, the expected GOP nominee for governor, by huge margins in both voter appeal and campaign fundraising.

Mervin Field, who conducts California Poll, attributed Feinstein's drop in the polls, in which she previously led, to the fact that she is currently not holding public office.

In other polls conducted by Field, San Francisco District Attorney Arlo Smith trails

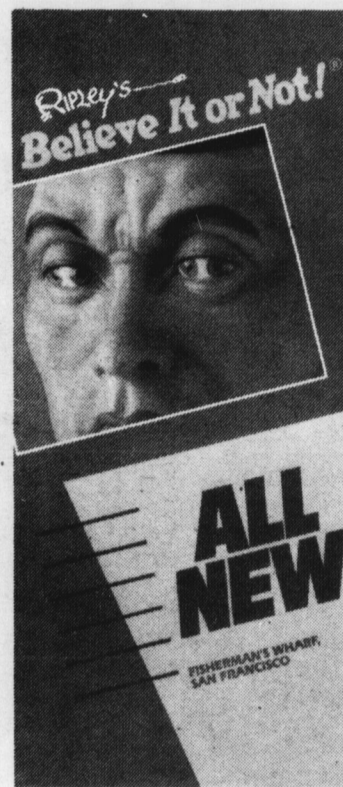


Gubernatorial hopeful Dianne Feinstein.

(Photo: M. Hicks)

**Mike Hippler**

**Believe It or Not**



It was the kind of place I should have visited with a friend. But I couldn't convince any of my friends that a visit there would be worthwhile.

"You've got to be kidding," they said. "You really want to visit the Ripley's Museum?"

"Believe it or not," I replied, "I do."

"But why?"

"Free tickets. Besides, there might be an article in it, even for a gay newspaper primarily devoted to politics and penises."

I'm not sure what I expected to find. Certainly I knew I wouldn't see an exhibit labeled "The Man With the World's Largest Cock." But it has long been my contention that every story has a gay angle. If so, I'll find it. If not, I'll make one up.

Consequently, ignoring the ridicule of friends, I took advantage of a promotional offer to explore "the amazing world of Robert L. Ripley, the world's most famous collector of the unusual and the bizarre," located across the street from Fisherman's Wharf.

"The unusual and the bizarre." Did that mean tit piercing, fist fucking, disco dancing and lip-synching? No, the first things I saw after entering were a guitar made from a French bidet, a cable car made of matchsticks, and a pieta made of paper bags (inspired by an exhibition of Michelangelo's famous sculpture at the New York World's Fair in 1964). Of course, these were nothing compared to the grain of rice imprinted with the Lord's Prayer.

Alas, none of these things were even remotely gay. Then I saw it. On a reproduction of a "Believe It or Not" column dated May 26, 1940, I read, "James Schwabe graduated from a school for girls! Receiving an A.A. degree from Christian College, he is the only man ever enrolled at this institution."

I couldn't believe it. A man at an all-girls' school? He must have been queer! At last, I had found what I was looking for.

Unfortunately, that was it for a while. On another column reproduction I read, "Chauncey L. Kiser, Ardmore, Okla., drinks kerosene! It takes the swelling out of his feet and reduces high blood pressure."

"So big deal," I thought. "Believe it or not, Chauncey, I eat AZT! It causes my legs to cramp and destroys my white blood cell count, but it postpones K.S., pneumocystis and toxoplasmosis. Isn't that great?"

Other items were even more mundane than the Chauncey L. Kiser bit. One, dated 1940, claimed, "Mrs. Vivia Meara commutes 184 miles daily. She lives in Sacramento and works in San Francisco, Calif."

"So?" I wondered. "This is supposed to be unbelievable? People must have been easily impressed in those days."

Getting restless, I dropped a quarter in a "Sex Tester" machine, something the museum provides to keep the customers awake and to bring in a little extra cash. Lights flashed and swirled, moved across the face of the machine, and eventually illuminating the box marked "Tender." Satisfied, I wandered on. It was better than being

Skeleton Dude' did not gain a pound for 62 years!"

Call me humorless if you like, but I did not find this pathetic tale the least bit amusing. Nor did I enjoy the pictures of people impaled by pipes, swords and pieces of machinery—and "lived to tell the tale!"

Even more gruesome were the videos of the man rotating his head 180 degrees, the man smoking with his eyes, the man driving 6-inch spikes into his nostrils, and the man pulling a loaded cart by means of a cable attached to his lower eyelids. The only things this particular exhibit lacked were the barf bags.

Further along, I passed through a mock graveyard featuring "humorous" epitaphs from around the world. ("Here lies an atheist. All dressed up and no place to go.") Perhaps it's just my point of view, situated as I am at the heart of a devastating epidemic, but all this was beginning to seem a little morbid to me. The final blow was the hologram providing a view from the bottom of a grave. It was a view I could well do without.

Years ago I realized that when my only response to a given situation was cynicism or disgust, it was time to move on. So move on I did—rapidly—past the natural disaster exhibit featuring volcanoes, earthquakes, tidal waves and the like.

As I left, wondering why on earth people are intrigued by these kinds of things, I heard an adolescent girl shout to her companion, "Ooh, Tiffany, come here. You've got to see this. It's too gross."

"What? What have I missed?" I asked myself. "Has she found it? The Man With the World's Largest Cock?"

Turning around, I retraced my steps, but only for a moment. Thinking better of it, I exited the museum in a hurry, without checking to see what the fuss was about. After all, some things, even big dicks, are best left to the imagination—believe it or not. ▼

labelled "Lonely," "Conceited," "Corrupt," "Unfaithful," or—worst of all—"Mama's Boy."

Near the two-headed lamb exhibit I noticed the group of articles found in the stomach of cows. It was nothing compared with the articles found in the assholes of some of my friends.

Nor was I impressed by the claim to fame of one Alfred F. Decker of Norfolk, Va., who (in 1937) wore "a jockey cap day and night—even while sleeping." Hell, I've had friends who have worn jockstraps day and night—even when fucking.

Backtracking a bit, I discovered a photograph of "The Skeleton Dude." According to the museum literature, "Edward Hagner (1892-1962), who toured circuses billed as 'The World's Thinnest Man,' grew to 5'7" tall, but weighed only 48 pounds! Stricken at age 8 with Simmond's disease, a form of malnutrition caused by a ruptured pituitary gland, 'The

**Harvey Milk Club to Sponsor 5th Annual Women's Blood Drive**

On Saturday, Aug. 19, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club will sponsor its Fifth Annual Women's Day Blood Drive at Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in the Castro.

Recognized for its contribution to the alleviation of transfusion costs to persons with AIDS, the AIDS/ARC Blood Fund was established in 1985 by women in the community. The urgent appeal for blood that year generated an outpouring of support from women of the Bay Area and today, thanks to their continued support, a successful group account for those who must meet the rising costs of a blood transfusion has been maintained.

With an increase in the use of AZT therapy in the treatment of AIDS, an escalation in the number of transfusions has been seen. Since 1985 nearly 700

blood credits have been issued, saving much needed monies for people with AIDS and ARC.

As a special service to the lesbian and gay community a mobile unit from Irwin Memorial Blood Bank of the San Francisco Medical Society will set up donor tables in the cafeteria of Most Holy Redeemer Church. Women interested in donating can call 863-6761 for an appointment so we can plan for adequate staffing and minimize waiting periods.

For those unable to participate on that day, appointments may be made for donations to our account in the name of the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club at Irwin Memorial Blood Bank directly.

For more information on The Women's Day Blood Drive or about how the AIDS/ARC Blood Fund operates call Lenore Chinn, coordinator. ▼

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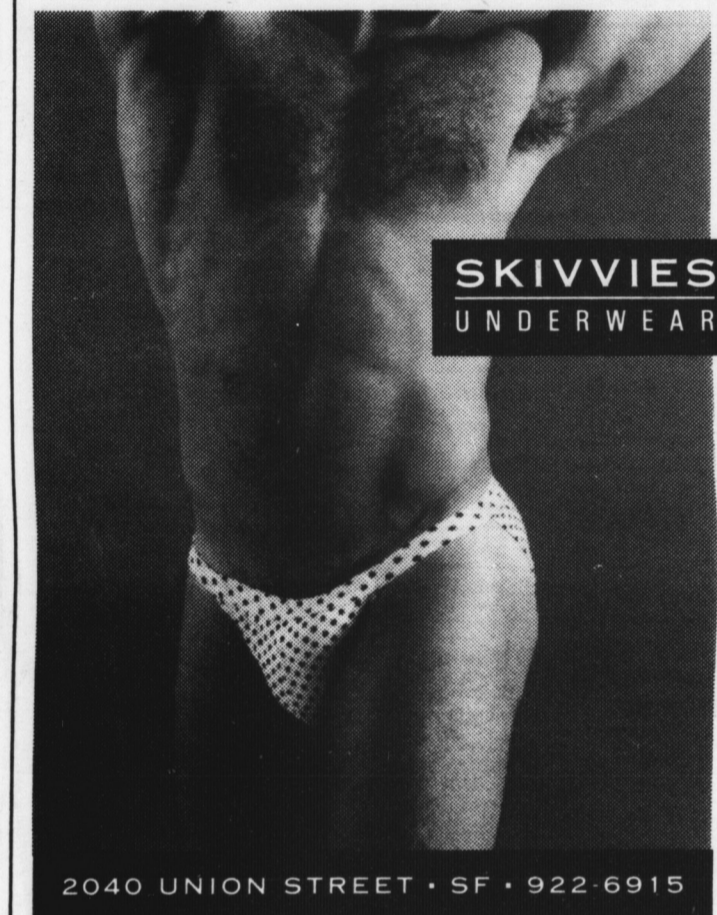
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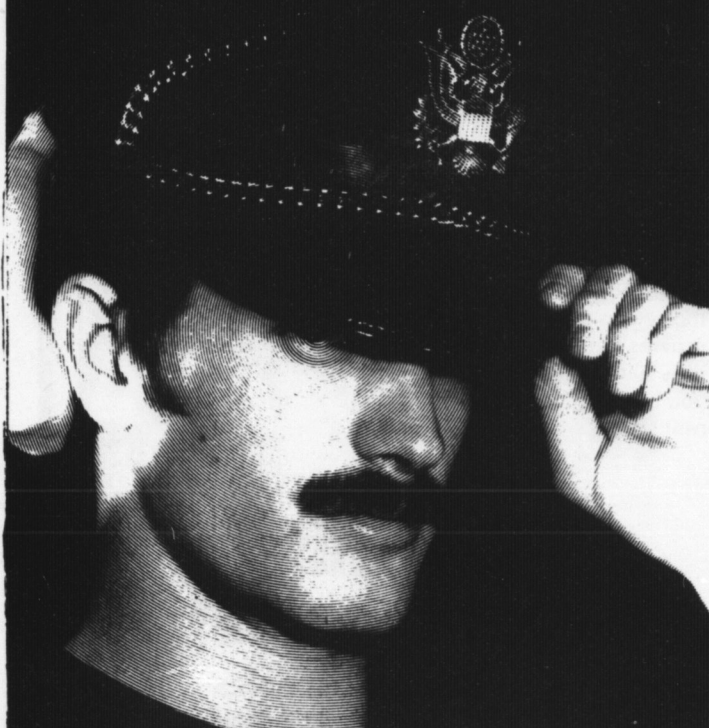
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## Connie O'Connor: Classroom to Courtroom

When Connie O'Connor received her B.A. degree and teaching credential from San Francisco State University, the last place she expected to end up working was the San Francisco Sheriff's Department. Yet, for the past 14 years, she has been Deputy Sheriff Connie O'Connor, rising through the uniformed ranks to her current position as a lieutenant and commander of the Court Services Division.

Following college, Connie taught first and second grade for four years in a small San Francisco private school. Frustrated by a constantly shrinking salary and a lack of future stability, she decided to see what was available in her field.

Faced with the choice of being a "meter maid" or a sheriff's deputy, O'Connor thought, "Well, why not give the Sheriff's Department a try?" It paid twice as much as teaching and it was unconventional to boot.

"I hated the job at first," she said. "Going into the jail was culture shock; it was a depressing place to be." It brought back unpleasant memories of her personal encounters with the juvenile justice system, where she spent time in juvenile hall and attended a school for girls for three years.

Lt. O'Connor has seen a lot of changes during her tenure in the department. When she started, the women were told to "go out and buy a blue skirt and white blouse and just show up for work."

She added, "There was no training whatsoever. A gun was supplied for my use. I had never handled a gun before in my life."

For women, promotional opportunities were few and far between. Women deputies were assigned only to the women's jails; men and women deputies were hired from different civil service lists.

Connie is enthusiastic about the changes Sheriff Mike Hennessey has instituted throughout the department in general, and for women in particular. New deputies undergo three weeks of rigorous training, in areas such as jail security, firearm safety and AIDS education. Uniforms are a standard issue in the department, with a \$400 per year uniform allowance.

More than 60 percent of the deputies in the department are women and minorities. Women are on an equal footing with men for promotions and key assignments. Indeed, in addition to O'Connor, there are women in such key non-traditional positions as facility commander, budget officer and training officer.

Lt. O'Connor can lay claim to many "firsts" in the Sheriff's Department. After a year at the Hall of Justice and three months at the Police Academy, she became the first woman deputy to work in administration. This was followed by serving as the liaison to the lesbian and gay community for then-Sheriff Richard Hongisto, the first position of its kind.

It was a positive learning experience. "I found a total difference between the (gay) men's and lesbian communities," says Connie. She was introduced to the "courts," the gay bars and the activist community.

"People were very receptive. They were glad to see the Sheriff's Department reaching out," she said.

This experience led her to involvement with the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay democratic Club, which she served as president for two years in the early 1980s.

Connie continues a family tradition of political involvement. Her mother, a dedicated volunteer in campaigns for Democrats including Adlai Stevenson, John Kennedy and Robert Kennedy, was an active unionist and the administrative aide to the legendary Longshoreman's Union leader Harry Bridges.

As Connie recalls, "I was always involved with political campaigns. Bobby Kennedy's was the first campaign where I was finally old enough to vote for the candidate!"

Another first for Connie was being the first sergeant to support Mike Hennessey in his race for sheriff in the 1979 election. Concerned about the lack of a work furlough program for women, she was supportive of Hennessey's commitment to implementing the program.

After Hennessey became sheriff, he selected O'Connor to direct the first women's work furlough program in San Francisco.



Lieutenant Connie O'Connor.

co history. She took on added responsibility as the first director of the entire work furlough facility.

In her current position as commander of the Courts Division, Lt. O'Connor supervises 65 uniformed deputies, 14 of whom are women. They are responsible for the security of the 45 courts in the Hall of Justice, City Hall and the Youth Guidance Center and the transportation of custodies under psychiatric care.

The first lesbian in the position, O'Connor follows in the footsteps of other successful women Sheriff's Department commanders. She credits the support of these women as being instrumental in her success.

O'Connor's concern for her troops and for those they protect is evident. As commander of the Courts Division, she instituted an in-house training program for the bailiffs, with bailiffs acting as training officers during the four-week training course.

Connie's activism extends to the community. She is in her fourth term on the Democratic County Central Committee and last September, Mayor Art Agnos appointed her as a Recreation and Park Commissioner.

Her initial trepidations long past, Lt. Connie O'Connor never regrets making the transition from school teacher to deputy sheriff. She will continue to be a trailblazer in the San Francisco Sheriff's Department!

### TWA Opens Up Ticket Plan

NEW YORK CITY—Trans World Airlines has announced that it has changed its policy as of July to allow frequent flyers to give their free tickets to any companion who is flying with them. The new policy is in part the result of a lawsuit filed by a gay man who was prohibited from getting a free ticket for his lover last year.

In a letter to a Boston gay activist, TWA vice-president for marketing Stephen Daniels stated, "We are aware of the non-traditional lifestyles prevalent in our society and our sole interest is in the promotion of travel, not social commentary."

Under the new policy, a customer may give a free ticket to anyone as long as that person uses the free ticket on a flight with a paying customer.

A spokesperson for the airline said that the company had changed its policy in response to complaints not only from gay people but from many others who had wanted to use their frequent flyer credits for someone other than a legal spouse.

In late May, William Johnson had filed a lawsuit against TWA for denying him the use of his credit points to get a ticket for his lover.

That suit was under negotiation for settlement when the announcement of the new policy came. Johnson's attorneys are still negotiating the reimbursement of the \$2,983 he paid for his lover's ticket.

Among major airlines, only Pan American restricts its frequent flyer programs to legally married couples.

—Washington Blade

### 18th Street Svcs Director to Resign

18th Street Services, a San Francisco non-profit substance abuse counseling agency for gay men, announced that its executive director, Jerry De Jong, has resigned effective Aug. 18, to take the newly created post as coordinator of HIV Asymptomatic Services for the Department of Public Health AIDS Activities Office.

De Jong has been executive director of 18th Street Services since May 1986. During his three-year tenure, the agency's annual budget has quadrupled from about \$101,000 to \$405,000, the staff of the agency has grown from three to 15 members, the agency moved to larger space at 217 Church St. (at Market), and it began street outreach and counseling to Tenderloin residents and homeless youth in the Polk Street area.

## Coast Guard Panel Wants Admin. Discharge for Gay Petty Officer Hopes To Take Issue to Court

by John McCloud

A three-member hearing board of the Maintenance and Logistics Command of the U.S. Coast Guard issued a recommendation July 26 that Petty Officer Ricardo Huertas be separated from the service in response to his own admission of being gay. Once a report and transcripts of the hearing are complete, the recommendation will be forwarded to the Coast Guard Commandant in Washington for final action.

Although the commandant has authority to ignore the board's recommendation, according to Chief Hearing Officer Lt. Cmdr. Robert W. Brach, the likelihood is the commandant will acquiesce and issue Huertas an honorable discharge.

The Coast Guard maintains three classifications relating to homosexuality. Class I deals with cases that involve coercion or assault. Class II covers cases of consensual sex while on active duty. Class III, under which Huertas was charged, covers acknowledgement or discovery of homosexual tendencies but without engagement in sexual activities.

Huertas, a 27-year-old radarman third class who served three years in the Army, one year in the Army ROTC and one year in the Army National Guard prior to his enlistment in the Coast Guard, has vehemently protested the board's decision. He threatens to sue the Coast Guard whether or not he is allowed to remain in the service.

His basic intention, he says, is to complete his current tour of duty and then attend medical school to become an Army doctor. He plans to sue for \$1 million.

Unfortunately, legal observers say that given the current judiciary climate his chances for a successful suit are slim. As Brach explained at the hearing, regardless of Huertas' performance in his duties, Coast Guard regulations specifically mandate either exclusion or discharge of known homosexuals.

"If the conclusion [that Huertas is homosexual] is reached," he said, "the policy of the Coast Guard is clearly set forth, in that homosexuals will be separated from the service."

Although the Coast Guard operates under the Department of Transportation rather than the Department of Defense, its regulations effectively parallel those of other branches of the armed services, all of which ban gays.

Leonard Graff, legal director of National Gay Rights Advocates, concurred with Brach's legal view, commenting, "Military law is clear: gays are not allowed to serve, period."

The case stems from Huertas' own action on Jan. 25 when he informed his executive officer aboard the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Rush that he is homosexual. He said that, after 90 days of being on ship, he could no longer perform his duties in an atmosphere that included constant anti-gay comments from some of his shipmates. The comments

were not directed against Huertas personally but were part of standard shipboard talk.

Huertas was immediately relieved of duty and reassigned to a position issuing tools at the support center in Alameda pending official action.

No action was taken until early this summer when the command informed Huertas that a hearing of his case was scheduled for July 12. The petty officer says he requested and was granted an extension until September in order to give him time to round up testimony from former shipmates in support of his character.

But on only two days' notice the Coast Guard abruptly moved the date up to July 26.

Huertas, who went public with his story, claims the sudden rever-

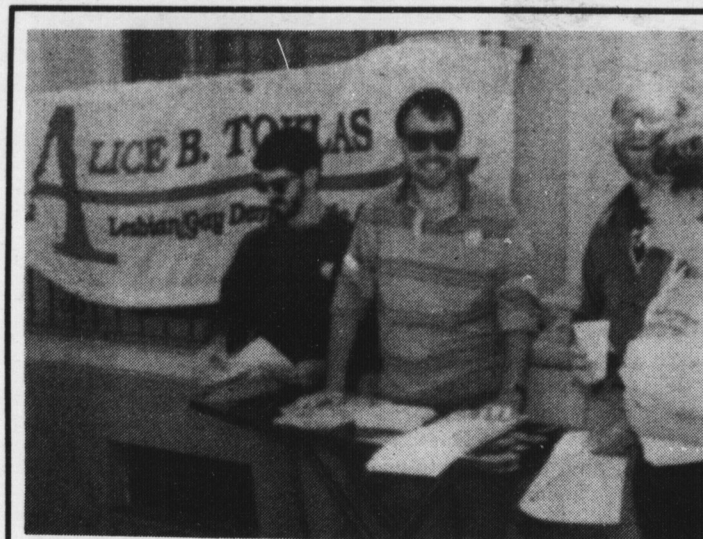
sal was a response to his getting stories in the Alameda Star-Bulletin and Oakland Tribune.

"I embarrassed them, and they wanted to get rid of me as fast as they could," he said. "They know what they are doing is wrong, and they don't want to face up to it."

The Coast Guard, however, contends that it had never set a specific date for the rescheduled hearing and had made the final scheduling based on docket availability.

Huertas, a divorced father with a 5-year-old son, says he is very angry, at the gay community as well as the Coast Guard.

"I didn't get support from anyone," he says. "I tried everything except the ACLU. The gays just gave me the name of a



### Takin' It To The Street

Members of the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club were out on Castro Street drumming up support for the domestic partners ordinance.

(Photo: Rink)

private lawyer, but I don't have the \$120 he wanted just to talk to me."

In support of NGRA's handling of the case, Graff pointed out that his organization is not a legal clinic and cannot take on every case that comes along.

"The military charges about 1400 gay men and lesbians every year," he said. "We try to select test cases that will set a new

precedent. We don't have the resources to take it all on. We referred Mr. Huertas to the Gay Legal Referral Service."

Since the petty officer has acknowledged being gay, the only grounds for winning a suit would be by demonstrating the Coast Guard's policy to be unconstitutional.

In regard to this, Graff added,

(Continued on page 23)

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# Handicapped Center Agrees on Pool Use

by Allen White

The Recreation Center for the Handicapped, which earlier had barred handicapped people with AIDS the right to use their swimming pools and therapeutic facilities, has completely reversed its position and embarked on a model program of AIDS education.

They have also begun scheduling groups from the Peter Claver Community Center and Coming Home Hospice to use their pool. They have submitted a corrective action plan, which was demanded by the city's Social Services Commission, that calls for training of the center's staff, clients and parents on AIDS, homophobia and sensitivity to ethnic minority communities.

"This represents a complete reversal of the posture taken by the center's board and directors three months ago, and a lesson to other government contractors that HIV-related discrimination will not be tolerated," Social Services Commissioner David Neely said. The center receives a \$1.2 million annual contract from the city.

The Peter Claver Community Center began using the pool on June 14 and will continue using it on a regular basis. Programs for Coming Home Hospice are expected to begin soon, and the Recreation Center for the Handicapped is cooperating to provide transportation.

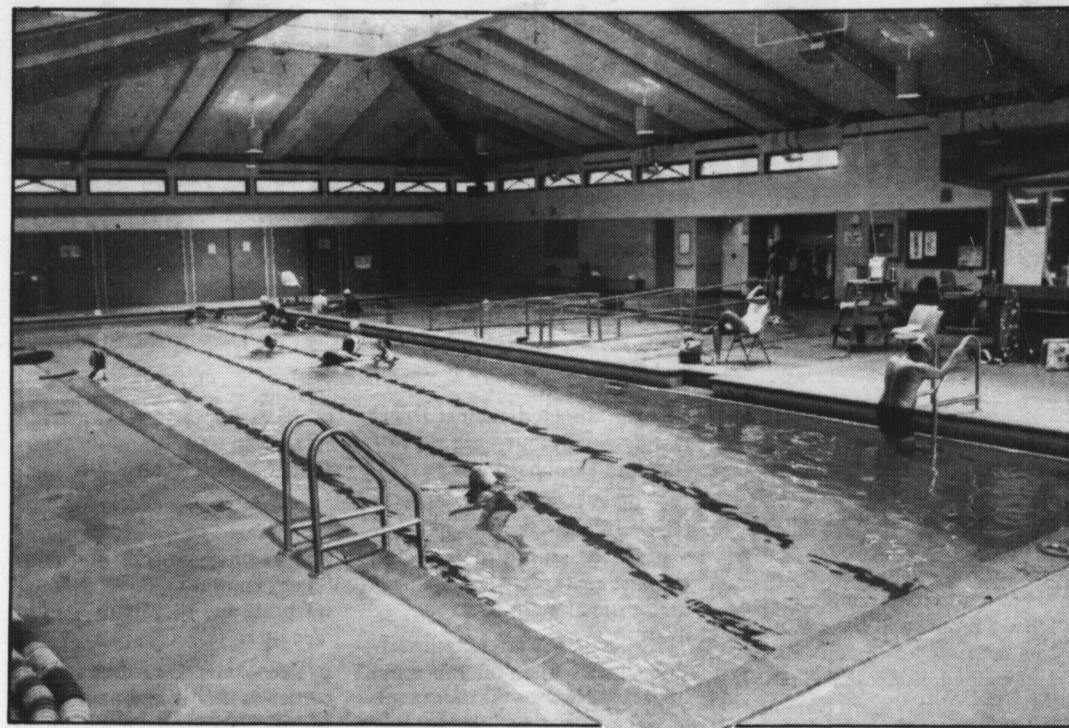
In March the center's board rejected a request by the Claver Community residents for use of the pool, pending further study of whether other clients might catch AIDS from swimming in the same pool.

At the time, they chose to consult with a person they believed to be an expert. The expert they chose, according to Rick Ruvalo, an aide to Supervisor Harry Britt, was San Francisco General Hospital's Dr. Lorraine Day.

"Dr. Day generates these problems all over the city, and we have to live with them," he said.

Day was the subject of controversy last year when she forced the Irwin Memorial Blood Bank to move a blood drive out of the Castro because she claimed AIDS would be spread if blood was given at Holy Redeemer Church.

The drive was to encourage lesbians to give blood, the lowest risk group in terms of getting AIDS. The blood raised at these drives were to be used to help people with AIDS. Day received considerable media attention before she was stopped, and her attacks did seriously hurt the effectiveness of the annual blood drive.



Recreation center pool for the handicapped.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Rick Ruvalo said the problem at the Recreation Center for the Handicapped was "exacerbated when they brought in Lorraine Day to advise them on the possibility of transmitting AIDS in the pool. When they called Dr. Day I do not know, but we have practically everyone else at San Francisco General available to them."

With the problem apparently resolved Ruvalo said, "I was, of course, pleased with the report. Rarely is such a serious problem resolved so quickly. We will continue to monitor Recreation Center progress, but we are confident that people with AIDS or HIV-positives will have access to all center programs."

## Star Chefs Present 'Symphony of Tastes'

Hundreds of the city's food lovers and people watchers will gather under the stars at the War Memorial Opera House on Thursday evening, Aug. 17 at 7:30 p.m. for the first annual "Symphony of Tastes," presented by chefs Jeremiah Tower, Bradley Ogden and Jan Birnbaum to benefit Meals on Wheels of San Francisco.

Louise K. Molinari and Patricia W. Klitgaard will chair the black tie gala, which will introduce San Francisco to the symphony and variations produced by 24 chefs and 20 wineries that will be tasting and sampling concert.

Thanks to the patronage of honorary chairman, Sam Bronfman II and the sponsorship of Seagram Classics Wine Company, House of Seagram, and Safeway Stores, Inc. every dollar raised will go directly to provide meals for the homebound elderly of San Francisco.

Members of the benefit committee expected to accept the gustatory challenge and attend are: Herb Caen, Russ Coughlin, Lily and Joseph Cuneo, Belva Davis, Dianne Feinstein and Richard Blum, Ann and Gordon Getty, Denise Hale, Tom Horn, Bob Ross, Gail and Albert Schlesinger, Lynne Newhouse Segal, Phyllis and Walter Shorestein, Charlotte and Mel Swig, Roselyne and Richard Swig, among others.

Wine committee chairman Anthony Dias Blue has invited 20 wineries to pour their best wines at the gala. Participants include Sharffenberger Cellars, Iron Horse Vineyards, Domaine Mumm, Buena Vista Winery, Carmel Vineyard, Lyeth Winery Ltd., Chateau St. Jean, Fetzer Vineyards, Wente Bros., Simi Winery, Beringer Vineyards, Cakebread Cellars, Silverado Vineyards, Cuvaison, Inc., Robert Mondavi Winery, Bandiera Winery, Mirassou Vineyards, Charles Krug, The Monterey Vineyard and Sterling Vineyards.

Tickets are priced at \$150 each and include cocktails, dining and dancing to Swing Fever. Further information about the gala and ticket availability may be obtained from Mary Ann Ghiglieri at Meals on Wheels of San Francisco, 495-3333.

# Dannemeyer Loses—Again; House Ignores Amendment

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON—The U.S. House of Representatives on Aug. 2 successfully scuttled an effort by Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-Fullerton, Calif.) to ban the federal funding of schools with gay and lesbian youth outreach and counseling programs by a 279-134 vote on a tactical maneuver.

Early in floor debate on the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1990, Dannemeyer expressed his intention to introduce an amendment which would ban the use of any federal funds under the bill to "promote" homosexuality or "instruct" children about the "activities of homosexuals." But he was defeated when it was not allowed to be introduced on the House floor.

Decrying the fact that the Labor HHS Appropriations Bill this year offers a 9 percent increase over last year's spending, Dannemeyer added, "If all appropriations bills in the House have growth in them over what was spent last year, we'll never balance the budget of the United States."

Dannemeyer then stated that his amendment would seek to address "an issue of growing importance in America, namely, whether or not our society will accept and equate homosexuality on a par with the heterosexual lifestyle."

Immediately, Dannemeyer went on to discuss Project 10, a Los Angeles School Board program geared at counseling gay and lesbian youth, as seeking to "instruct children in that school district in the activities of homosexuality." He denounced the fact that the program indirectly receives federal funding through the local school board.

After Dannemeyer sought to discredit the program by quoting from "a homosexual newspaper" which called the program a "leading" institute addressing issues of concern to gay and lesbian youth, openly gay Rep. Barney Frank, (D-Mass.) took a verbal jab at the California Republican.

Making reference to Dannemeyer's June 26 insertion of a lengthy and explicit discussion of the gay and lesbian political movement and what he described as "activities peculiar to homosexuals"—which included the insertion of "certain vegetables" and "lightbulbs" in each others' rectums—Frank asked Dannemeyer a rhetorical question.

"I just wonder," asked a smiling Frank, "having read the material the gentleman from California put in the Congressional Record of June 26, whether the material he put in the Record would be illegal under his own amendment?"

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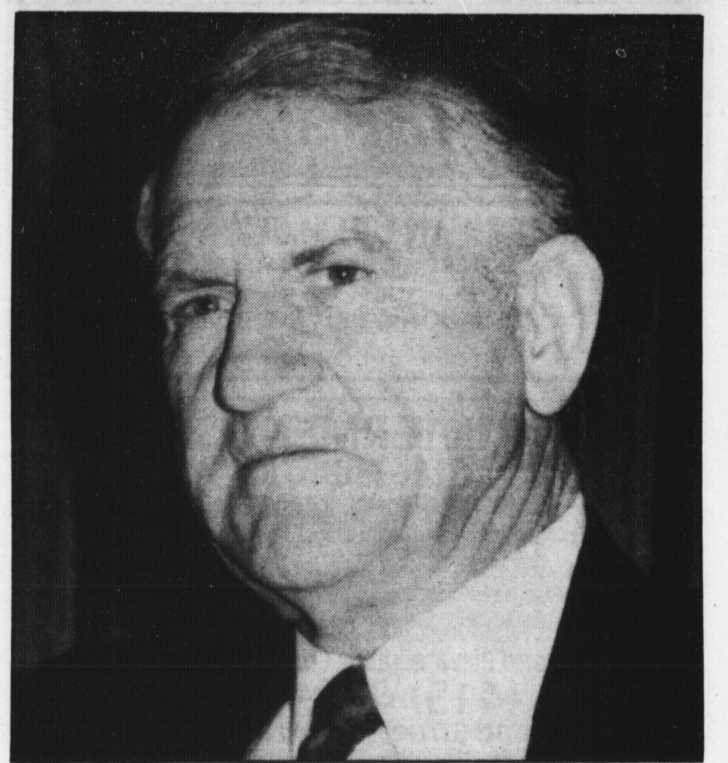
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# Handicapped Center Agrees on Pool Use

by Allen White

The Recreation Center for the Handicapped, which earlier had barred handicapped people with AIDS the right to use their swimming pools and therapeutic facilities, has completely reversed its position and embarked on a model program of AIDS education.

They have also begun scheduling groups from the Peter Claver Community Center and Coming Home Hospice to use their pool. They have submitted a corrective action plan, which was demanded by the city's Social Services Commission, that calls for training of the center's board, staff, clients and parents on AIDS, homophobia and sensitivity to ethnic minority communities.

"This represents a complete reversal of the posture taken by the center's board and directors three months ago, and a lesson to other government contractors that HIV-related discrimination will not be tolerated," Social Services Commissioner David Neely said. The center receives a \$1.2 million annual contract from the city.

The Peter Claver Community Center began using the pool on June 14 and will continue using it on a regular basis. Programs for Coming Home Hospice are expected to begin soon, and the Recreation Center for the Handicapped is cooperating to provide transportation.

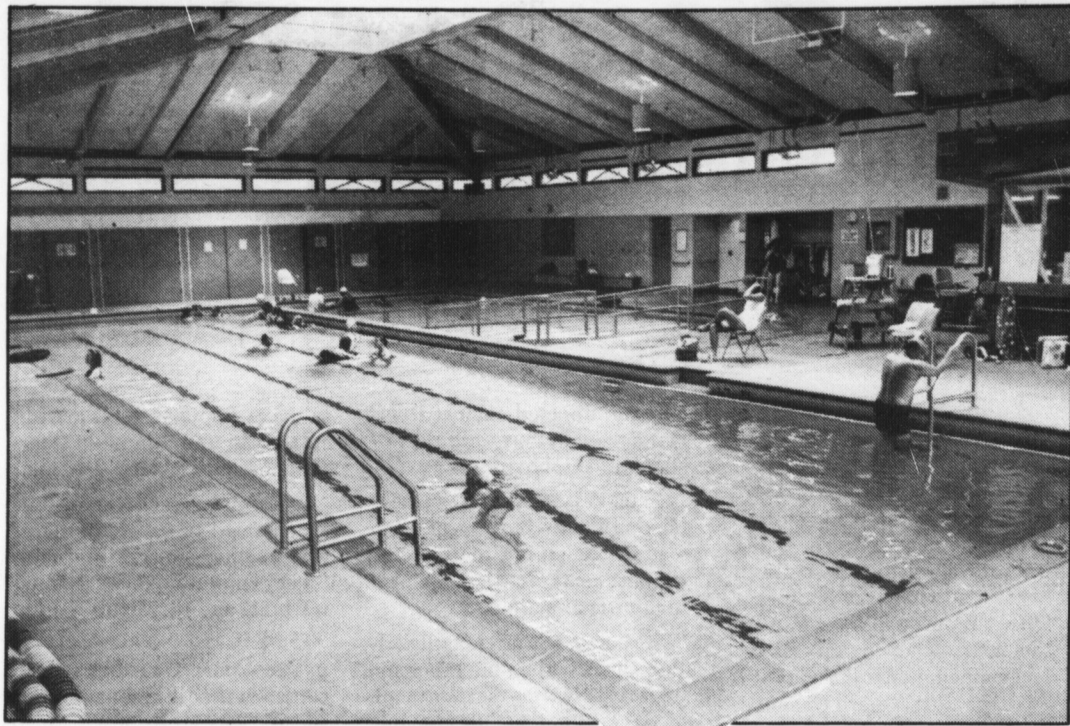
In March the center's board rejected a request by the Claver Community residents for use of the pool, pending further study of whether other clients might catch AIDS from swimming in the same pool.

At the time, they chose to consult with a person they believed to be an expert. The expert they chose, according to Rick Ruvalo, an aide to Supervisor Harry Britt, was San Francisco General Hospital's Dr. Lorraine Day.

"Dr. Day generates these problems all over the city, and we have to live with them," he said.

Day was the subject of controversy last year when she forced the Irwin Memorial Blood Bank to move a blood drive out of the Castro because she claimed AIDS would be spread if blood was given at Holy Redeemer Church.

The drive was to encourage lesbians to give blood, the lowest risk group in terms of getting AIDS. The blood raised at these drives were to be used to help people with AIDS. Day received considerable media attention before she was stopped, and her attacks did seriously hurt the effectiveness of the annual blood drive.



Recreation center pool for the handicapped.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Rick Ruvalo said the problem at the Recreation Center for the Handicapped was "exacerbated when they brought in Lorraine Day to advise them on the possibility of transmitting AIDS in the pool. When they called Dr. Day I do not know, but we have practically everyone else at San Francisco General available to them."

With the problem apparently resolved Ruvalo said, "I was, of course, pleased with the report. Rarely is such a serious problem resolved so quickly. We will continue to monitor Recreation Center progress, but we are confident that people with AIDS or HIV-positives will have access to all center programs."

# Dannemeyer Loses—Again; House Ignores Amendment

by Cliff O'Neil

WASHINGTON—The U.S. House of Representatives on Aug. 2 successfully scuttled an effort by Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-Fullerton, Calif.) to ban the federal funding of schools with gay and lesbian youth outreach and counseling programs by a 279-134 vote on a tactical maneuver.

Early in floor debate on the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1990, Dannemeyer expressed his intention to introduce an amendment which would ban the use of any federal funds under the bill to "promote" homosexuality or "instruct" children about the "activities of homosexuals." But he was defeated when it was not allowed to be introduced on the House floor.

Decrying the fact that the Labor HHS Appropriations Bill this year offers a 9 percent increase over last year's spending, Dannemeyer added, "If all appropriations bills in the House have growth in them over what was spent last year, we'll never balance the budget of the United States."

Dannemeyer then stated that his amendment would seek to address "an issue of growing importance in America, namely, whether or not our society will accept and equate homosexuality on a par with the heterosexual lifestyle."

Immediately, Dannemeyer went on to discuss Project 10, a Los Angeles School Board program geared at counseling gay and lesbian youth, as seeking to "instruct children in that school district in the activities of homosexuality." He denounced the fact that the program indirectly receives federal funding through the local school board.

After Dannemeyer sought to discredit the program by quoting from "a homosexual newspaper" which called the program a "leading" institute addressing issues of concern to gay and lesbian youth, openly gay Rep. Barney Frank, (D-Mass.) took a verbal jab at the California Republican.

Making reference to Dannemeyer's June 26 insertion of a lengthy and explicit discussion of the gay and lesbian political movement and what he described as "activities peculiar to homosexuals"—which included the insertion of "certain vegetables" and "lightbulbs" in each others' rectums—Frank asked Dannemeyer a rhetorical question.

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Another issue in the bill of concern to AIDS activists—the bill's ban on funds to a federal survey of sexual behavior—was not addressed at any point in the floor debate.

## Star Chefs Present 'Symphony of Tastes'

Hundreds of the city's food lovers and people watchers will gather under the stars at the War Memorial Opera House on Thursday evening, Aug. 17 at 7:30 p.m. for the first annual "Symphony of Tastes," presented by chefs Jeremiah Tower, Bradley Ogden and Jan Birnbaum to benefit Meals on Wheels of San Francisco.

Louise K. Molinari and Patricia W. Klitgaard will chair the black tie gala, which will introduce San Francisco to the symphony and variations produced by 24 chefs and 20 wineries that will be tasting and sampling concert.

Thanks to the patronage of honorary chairman, Sam Bronfman II and the sponsorship of Seagram Classics Wine Company, House of Seagram, and Safeway Stores, Inc. every dollar raised will go directly to provide meals for the homebound elderly of San Francisco.

Members of the benefit committee expected to accept the gustatory challenge and attend are: Herb Caen, Russ Coughlin, Lily and Joseph Cuneo, Belva

Davis, Dianne Feinstein and Richard Blum, Ann and Gordon Getty, Denise Hale, Tom Horn, Bob Ross, Gail and Albert Schlesinger, Lynne Newhouse Segal, Phyllis and Walter Shorestein, Charlotte and Mel Swig, Rose-lyne and Richard Swig, among others.

Wine committee chairman Anthony Dias Blue has invited 20 wineries to pour their best wines at the gala. Participants include Sharffenberger Cellars, Iron Horse Vineyards, Domaine Mumm, Buena Vista Winery, Carment Vineyard, Lyeth Winery Ltd., Chateau St. Jean, Fetzer Vineyards, Wente Bros., Simi Winery, Beringer Vineyards, Cakebread Cellars, Silverado Vineyards, Cuvaision, Inc., Robert Mondavi Winery, Bandiera Winery, Mirassou Vineyards, Charles Krug, The Monterey Vineyard and Sterling Vineyards.

Tickets are priced at \$150 each and include cocktails, dining and dancing to Swing Fever. Further information about the gala and ticket availability may be obtained from Mary Ann Ghiglieri at Meals on Wheels of San Francisco, 495-3333.

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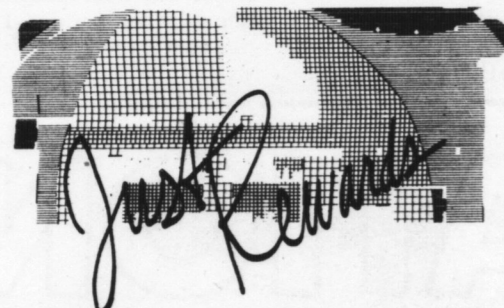
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## Queen of the Queens

### Karina of L.A. Is Miss California Continental

by Allen White

It was quite a Saturday night at the Holiday Inn as Karina from Los Angeles became Miss California Continental 1989-90. Tourists moving through the hotel got quite an eyeful as the dozens of elegant drag queens grandly moved through the hotel lobby.

In the world of drag there are very few events that can measure up to the Miss Continental Beauty Pageant. They are franchised across the country and Chicago's Jim Flint heads up the operation.

Flint who is to drag what Colonel Sanders is to fried chicken, said, "We just sold three more franchises for next year. We're picking up New Hampshire, Missouri and Seattle. It is encouraging. When it started 10 years ago I never thought it would get this big. It's getting bigger and bigger."

Just like Miss America, these contestants gather for their local competition. There is a talent competition. Then there is the evening gown competition and, of course, what would a beauty pageant be without a swimsuit competition.

This is one contest where the phrase "everyone is a winner" certainly applies. The contestants are not simply "drag queens." They are serious female impersonators.

Lola Lust, a former Grand Duchess, rates the contestants as sort of the top of the line drag queens. "These are the showcases," Miss Lust noted that people worked hard to compete in the competitions. Many of the contestants have entered the contest for several years running.

"This is what they prepare for," she said. "These are not the entertainers or the community workers of our society who raise

money. They still do this but they dedicate their lives to competition."

Their presentations are fabulous. Jim Flint accurately observed, "This is like the Miss America of drag although the gowns are much more beautiful than anything you will see there."

Looking back over the last few years, Flint said, "I think San Francisco has grown up. There are so many contestants here to compete on a national level that I think they are going to break through."

Flint said the best female impersonators in past years have come from the South. "I think California is starting to move in the same direction. Unfortunately for California, there's not that many bars that have female impersonation five nights a week that cater to our community."

The winner gets \$500 and goes to Chicago for the Labor Day competition to become Miss Continental USA.

Knowing a good thing when he sees it, Flint said he is working on creating a Mr. Continental USA contest. He said, "We're looking for a city to host. I haven't decided whether it will be San Francisco, Miami or Los Angeles."

Flint rated San Francisco as "one of the better preliminaries."

The Miss California Continental Beauty Pageant is the work of Janet Cory. Cory seems to know every nook and cranny in the state where a competitor can be found. "There was such a high level of contestants and it was such a joy to see Miss Continental California escalate to such a high level of entries. They say the third is a charm and this was the third year."

One of those places was the Paradise Bar and Grill in Oakland. "Janet Cory called over and asked if we had any contestants and we all said 'Timmy,'" said George Hoffman. Hoffman is a waiter at the Paradise and he worked backstage to help his contestant compete. Timmy Ryan didn't win but he was one of the several contestants who gave it everything and possibly is looking forward to next year.

As the evening moved to the semi-finals, it looked like a dramatic looking Tatum would be the winner. She won for best swim suit, best talent and, just like the Miss America event, managed to snare the Miss Congeniality prize.

Tatum is from Cuba and has been in the United States for 10 years. Tatum has appeared twice as a contestant in this event and also competed in the Miss Gay West Coast contest.

The winner for the night was Karina from Los Angeles. Lisa, a non-competing female impersonator, was Karina's sponsor. "We decided to give her all the support we could and she won," Lisa exclaimed as a table of Southern California people went hysterical when the winner was announced. Following the announcement, the reigning queen, as it were, placed the crown on the head of the new winner for her first walk.

As Holiday Inn bartenders looked on in stunned amazement, the new Miss California Continental made her walk down the ramp. Lola Lust casually watched the winner and observed, "They are just the everyday Joe, looking for the same thing we all are—companionship and safe sex. I wish there was more like them."

## Friday

(Continued from page 10)

number who could identify Gillespie, the probable GOP candidate (38 percent), but a whopping 39 percent rated Hayden unfavorably, suggesting they would not vote for him.

Gillespie will be challenged in the GOP primary by State Sen. John Doolittle, the anti-gay conservative from Sacramento.



Sen. Pete Wilson. (Photo: Rink)

Sen. Pete Wilson, meanwhile, continues to lead everybody in everything. Wilson has raised \$5 million in his campaign to succeed George Deukmejian in the governor's office. In voter preference polls he leads Van de Kamp by a 47-39 margin, and leads Feinstein by a comfortable 53-38 margin.

Representatives from the camps of Van de Kamp, Feinstein, Arlo Smith, and even Pete Wilson, pointed out this week that this latest California Poll is still an early one and all agreed that while it points out current voter preferences, the poll could be obsolete within weeks and the candidate leading now could very well be trailing when the next poll is announced.

The primary races, particularly the Feinstein-Van de Kamp and the Smith-Reiner contests, should prove very interesting in the coming months. Stay tuned.

The Board of Supervisors have put a pay raise for themselves on the November ballot that amounts to a 70 percent increase in salary (from \$23,924 annually to \$41,122). The four supes who voted against the idea were Harry Britt, Richard Hongisto, Wendy Nelder and Tom Hsieh.

And Wendy Nelder, incidentally, is being credited with the "Supervisorial Temper-Tantrum of the Week," allegedly purposely missing an important meeting of the board's Land

## Discharge

(Continued from page 15)

"It's not really a question of grounds but of likelihood of success. You can claim that the Coast Guard requirements are unconstitutional, but your chances of winning are very slim, especially with a conservative court."

In the meantime, he remains on active duty in Alameda awaiting a final decision from Washington. The local command has until Aug. 6 to send the case to the commandant, which will then have 60 days in which to act.

Use Committee, resulting in the lack of a quorum, meaning no meeting was held.

As rumor has it, Nelder was miffed at fellow Sup. Harry Britt. Of course, Ms. Nelder's aide quickly took the blame, claiming a "scheduling error." Nelder, who changes City Hall aides more often than some people change their underwear, apparently has staff persons for just these occasions.

And who can forget another distinguished city "leader" (the undisputed winner of last month's "Supervisorial Temper-Tantrum") who, after being outmaneuvered by a fellow supe, angrily tore up some Certificates of Honor and threw them at his aide?

Damn, give these people that raise they want, and then maybe they will take their jobs as seriously as they do themselves!

Gay and lesbian leaders in Oakland are reportedly jumping on the Elihu Harris for mayor bandwagon in droves. Harris is opposing incumbent Mayor Lionel Wilson, who some gay activists tell me pretty much ignores the fact that there are gays in Oakland.

Sex in Washington? The House Ethics Committee announced an investigation this week into the sexual activities of no less than three members: Reps. Bates (D-CA); Savage (D-IL); and Lukens (R-OH).

In Chicago this week, Cook County Circuit Judge Patrick Morse struck down a state law requiring those convicted of sex-related crimes to be tested for AIDS, saying that the law violates constitutional bans on unwarranted search and seizure.

In a contest that only weeks ago rated a toss-up between the GOP and the Democrats, Assemblyman Gary Condit is now said to be leading comfortably in the race to win the special congressional election Sept. 12 in California's 15th District to replace Democrat Tony Coelho, who resigned to avoid an ethics investigation.

Olympic swimming star Greg Louganis, who has many friends in San Francisco, and is now an actor (currently appearing in the Long Beach Civic Light Opera's production of Cinderella) has reached an out-of-court settlement with his former friend and long-time manager James Babbitt.

According to my sources, Louganis reached a settlement of a lawsuit he filed last March charging that Babbitt had misappropriated funds and threatened physical harm and the revelation of "confidential and private facts." What facts? Louganis will only say, "No comment."

President George Bush's popularity is, according to a New York Times-CBS News poll, the highest since he took office: 67 percent of the American people

approve of his job performance. Now, if we could just get this administration to give a little more priority to the AIDS epidemic and a little less to building bombers.

Gubernatorial candidate John Van de Kamp still taking heat from fellow Democrats over his plan to limit state officeholders to 12 years in office. Powerful San Jose Assemblyman John Vasconcellos the latest to attack the Van de Kamp scheme, saying, "I can't support him [for governor] with capers like this. The 12 year limit is stupid." Vasconcellos has been in the legislature for 23 years.

So, Rev. Jesse Jackson has finally moved to Washington and will run for mayor though he still plays the silly guessing game (it keeps him in the news that way). But does anyone really care?

Jesse, who crisscrosses the country, running from headline to headline should feel right at home in the nation's capital with all that media based there. Jesse as mayor? Probably. Jackson as president? Probably never.

Meanwhile, another would-be president, Michael Dukakis attended the national governor's conference in Chicago last week and had to sit in the audience

listening to George Bush. As Bush spoke, two Democratic governors mentioned as possible 1992 presidential candidates were on hand—Mario Cuomo of New York and Bill Clinton of Arkansas. When the meeting broke up and the President had left, reporters swarmed around Cuomo and Clinton. Dukakis quietly left the room alone.

A lot of gay and lesbian activists I know in this town feeling more than a little betrayed by the Lynn Griffis fiasco, with one well-known lesbian telling me, "The smartest thing she did was leave town."



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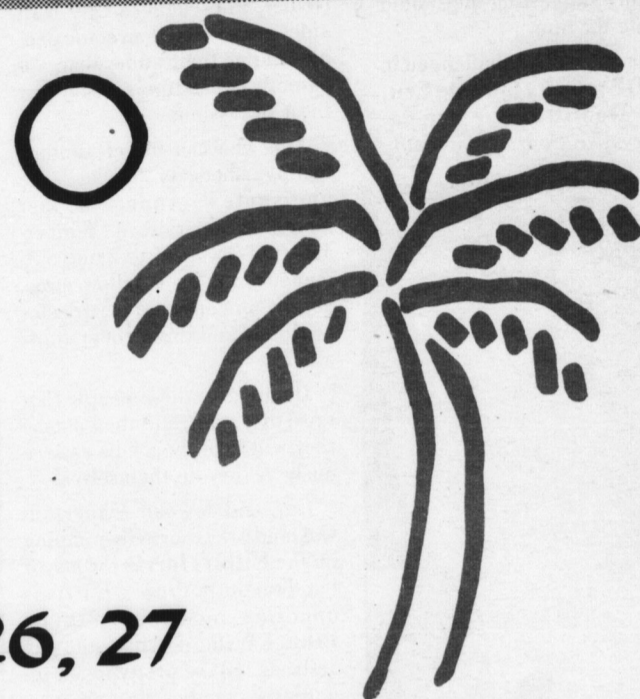
## Honoring Human Rights

The July 27 reception in the City Hall Rotunda celebrating the 25th anniversary of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission drew 600 people. Sponsored by the Friends of the HRC, the event honored those who took the lead in 1964 in focusing public attention on discrimination and in establishing the Human Rights Commission. Among those honored was Del Martin, co-founder of the Daughters of Bilitis in 1955 and co-founder of the Council on Religion and the Homosexual in 1964. Attending the party were (left to right): HRC commissioners Lenore Chinn and Leonard Graff; former HRC Commission chair Phyllis Lyon; Del Martin; and Peter M. Jamero, HRC director.

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## BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

### Dragged Out Odd Couple Breaks a Heel

by David Perry

Drag can be its own unique theatrical experience. It also can be a political or societal statement. Neil Simon's revised female version of *The Odd Couple* as produced by Andrew Black and John David Wilson with an all-male cast at the Theatre Rhinoceros Studio is neither. It's just bad.

There may be worse ideas than doing a drag version of this play, but I sure hope they never occur to anybody.

Theatre Rhinoceros has been distancing itself from this production for some time, making sure that all involved parties are aware that this is *not* a Theatre Rhinoceros presentation. Their instincts were right. Two days before the opening, Samuel French Inc., the licensor of the play, called to cancel the group's production contract. To quote a program note: "[Samuel French] felt that staging the play with an all-male cast was in direct contradiction to the playwright's intent."

Producers Andrew L. Black and John David Wilson managed to contact Neil Simon directly, who acquiesced with a "why not" sort of attitude. Lucky him, he didn't have to see it. For the audience, the question to be asked is "why?"

Non-traditional casting has been a source of backstage angst

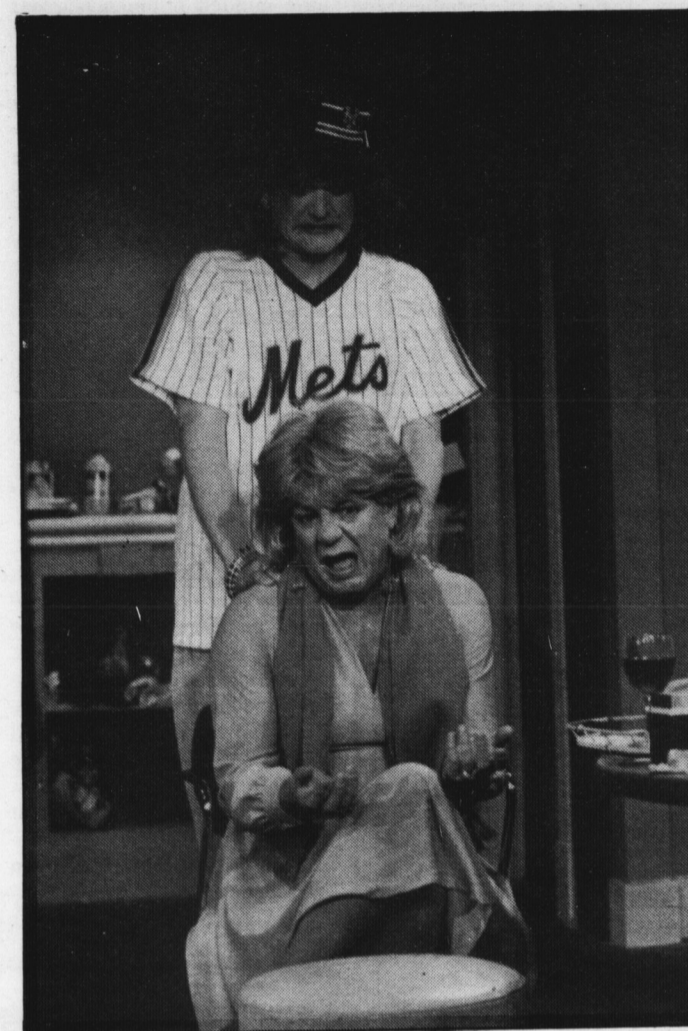
since some radical post-Elizabethan suggested using women to play the part of Shakespeare's heroines, instead of young boys. Now of course, the non-traditionally cast Bard is all we get.

However, it can be argued that women playing women's characters do not divert attention away from the meaning of the text; that in fact, such casting serves to further illuminate the script and involve the audience more deeply in the inherent and newly revealed truths of the playwright's art.

Drag queens portraying women in a mediocre rewrite by Neil Simon illuminate nothing. All that is revealed is the inherent weakness of Simon's script and the lack of stagecraft on the part of these actors and director.

The original *Odd Couple* was one of Neil Simon's biggest hits. The idea of two divorced heterosexual men, one compulsively neat, the other a slob, trying to live together, is ripe with comic situations. After a boffo Broadway run in 1966 came the boffo movie with Walter Matthau and Jack Lemmon. And then, the still popular television series with Jack Klugman and Tony Randall.

When Simon rewrote the play for women in 1985, Rita Moreno and Sally Struthers took it to Broadway in a tepidly received mounting. What was once funny was now just dated. To audiences



Lily Street, top, and Stephanie Miller in the revised female version of *The Odd Couple*. (Photo: Steve Sutton)

of 20 years ago, and surely some still today, two men assuming classically male and female stereotypes while still being heterosexual men is pretty hysterical fare. This has always been such stuff as farce is made of.

If, as producers Black and Wilson contend in their notes, there were any "homocentric ideas" lurking between the lines of Simon's original premise, they

were effectively washed out, along with much of the humor, by the 1985 version. Let's face it, homo or het, two women living together has never raised to the heterosexual mainstream the bonding issues of two males living together. Having male actors assume the female roles doesn't add to the spice—it dilutes it. This well was dry when Simon

(Continued on page 40)

### The Play That Almost Didn't

by Noreen C. Barnes

How much control should a playwright have over the production of his/her work, particularly when the play is established, has had numerous productions, and producers have an interpretation of the script that may be very different from the writer's original conception?

That is a crucial question in regard to Andrew Black and John David Wilson's current production of Neil Simon's *The Odd Couple* at Theatre Rhinoceros.

Black said that when the idea initially arose to do the female version of the play with a male cast, it was thought there would be no problem in securing rights for the production.

Even the staging of the female version—with women—at the Mason Street Theatre earlier this year posed no threat, particularly because it was a failure.

The only stipulation in regard to production that Black recalled from Samuel French's, the publisher and licensing agent for the play, contract was that the playwright's "intent" be respected.

Black noted that the *real* intent of *The Odd Couple* was fulfilled by the "male energy behind the female roles" and that his and Wilson's production was actually truer to the original version of the play.

When they requested permission from Samuel French to do

(Continued on page 26)

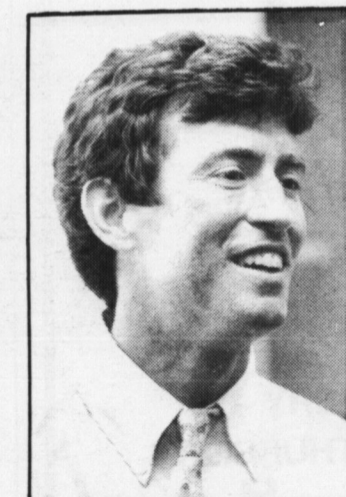
### An Inspiring Memorial For 'The Good Soldier'

**Matlovich: The Good Soldier**  
by Mike Hippler; Alyson Publications; \$8.95.

by Marv. Shaw

The absolutely right title comes along rarely, but Hippler really hit the dead center of the bullseye with this one. Soldiering is what Matlovich did best, whether it was in his varying roles in the U.S. Air Force or in the service of gay causes. Hippler carefully sticks to that characterization in this biography, using the facts of Matlovich's life, his subject's testimony, and the evidence from his associates. Altogether, the book is a solid account of a unique, dedicated man. That it doesn't explain quite enough may or may not be the biographer's fault.

It's sharply clear from the start that Matlovich came by soldiering naturally, being born into an Air Force family that was Catholic, close-knit, dedicated to national service and well disciplined. Like most service families, the Matlovichs lived in many different locales in the United States and abroad. Unlike many



Author Mike Hippler.

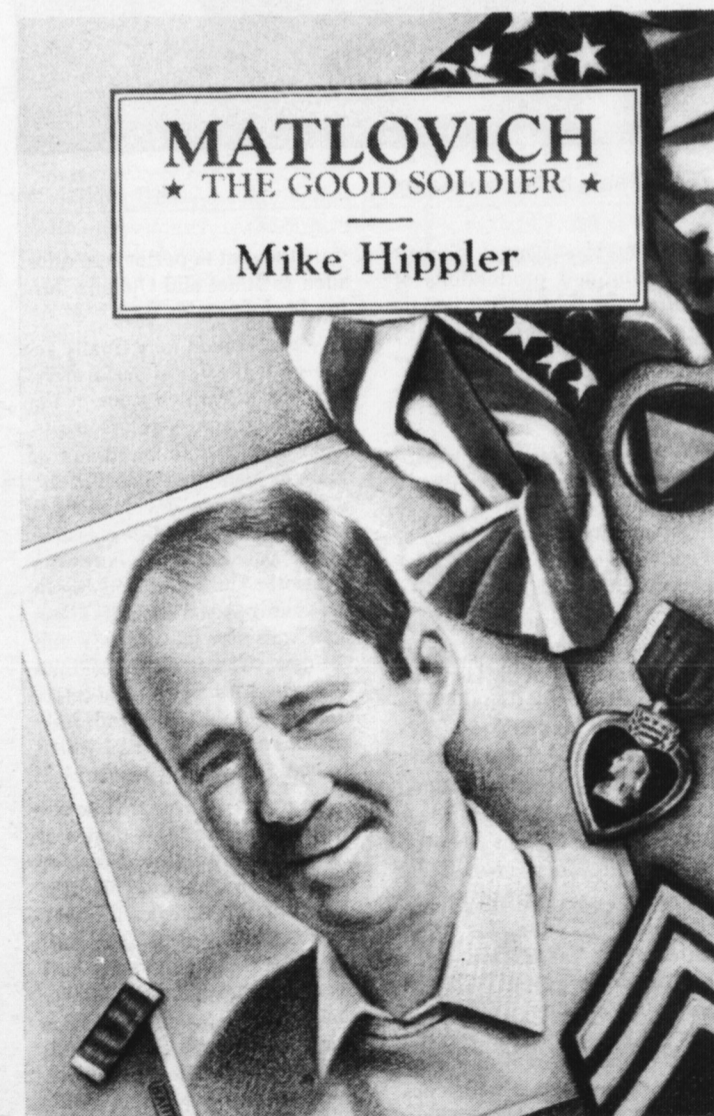
service kids, young Leonard suffered no ill effects from the bounces. So it was no surprise that he enlisted in the Air Force at 19.

He toughed out three tours of duty in Vietnam, including win-

ning a Bronze Star and being awarded a Purple Heart after a mine blew up at his feet. Returned to the states, he cast about for a new service role and found it in counseling alcohol and drug abusers. He soon added the job of facilitator of groups developing inter-racial acceptance in the integrated Air Force.

The big changes started then. Matlovich had to overcome his own racial prejudices. But ironically, at the same time, he was deeply involved with his newly adopted faith, Mormonism. Of course, his most troublesome involvement was with his own secret, repressed gayness. He had been aware of it since his early teens but now had to recognize it more as he became infatuated with one buddy after another. One such affair finally did result in two fulfilling sexual experiences, and Matlovich was on his way out of the closet.

(Continued on page 28)



SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS



# A Variation on Pillow Talk

by John F. Karr

**V**ariations on a Sexual Theme, which has begun an open-ended (though probably short lived) run at the Zephyr Theatre, is this year's version of that perennial breed: the hopelessly perky, hopefully sophisticated and hopefully risqué musical revue in which sexual conventions of the day provide a racy, thoughtful and above all, tuneful evening. *Oh, Calcutta* was the longest-running version of this show; *Let My People*

Come the most notorious, and now, *Variations* is perhaps the most bland.

I can't see what interest a gay audience might have in this show; it is too homogenized in nearly all of its content, but specifically in its gay aspects, to make much of an impression. When my companion noted that the first presentation of a gay character was hardly positive—it's a gay man who brings home a girl to mask his mother's knowledge of

his sexuality—I noted I wouldn't have minded if the music was tuneful, the lyric fresh and the staging clever.

Not that *Variations* is without any of those qualities—particularly in the second act where several songs attain some punch. But the general tone of the evening is very *Pillow Talk*; recommended if your parents or aunts are in town and need to see a show—but I don't know what adult gay men or women can find herein to make them sit up and take note.

I was aggravated by the overly busy staging, the distraction of the constantly billowing streamers that make up the backdrop, and the rather impersonal attitudes director Bill Starr has imposed on his cast. Some of these are at least agreeable people, specifically the personally engaging Todd Menard, the distinctive Amy Dondy, and non-plussed Kate Doyle, who is forced to share a fine torch song, inexplicably, with some dancing walls. Credit also goes to the pointed accompaniment of Donald Eldon Wescoat.

The show is kind of "The



Grant Thompson, Stephen Frugoli, Todd Menard and Lorraine Dale in *Variations on a Sexual Theme*.

Young Americans Sing About Sex." And I'll tell you, when you're dealing with sex, it's not good enough to be fresh young kids. *Variations* as presented here is just not hands on and sharp enough to make me feel like a

fresh young kid myself, or a ruefully knowing adult.

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Lily Street makes a mess while Stephanie Miller cleans up.

(Photo: Steve Sutton)

## Barnes

(Continued from page 25)

the female version of *The Odd Couple*, they did not mention that men would be performing the roles. It wasn't until the publishing company found out about this drag interpretation of "Lily Street" and "Stephanie" Miller, from the *San Francisco Chronicle* that problems for the producers began.

French attempted to have the production aborted, and Black said he had to "play every note in my orchestra" to appeal to them to let the show go on. He asked to discuss the matter with Simon's agent, but instead received a response from the playwright's attorney.

Simon communicated his disapproval of the production, but because it was so far into production, he did not want to stand in its way. And, he warned, "just don't try it with *Broadway Bound*."

Some playwrights have restricted alternative interpretations of their work by others.

Most notably, Samuel Beckett has prohibited productions of *Waiting for Godot* with female actors in any of the roles (although they have been done without his knowledge or sanction).

Doug Holsclaw of Theatre Rhinoceros cited Edward Albee's vehement opposition to a gay male version of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*

Theatre Rhino's own practice of cross-gender casting has been very attractive, particularly in the last year, in productions of Genet's *The Balcony* and Mamet's *A Life in the Theatre*. (Genet, at least, probably would have approved.)

Black also noted that Clare Booth Luce would not permit a male cast in *The Women*.

Cross-gender performance, however, has been a long-standing tradition—one employed frequently out of necessity, as women were not allowed on the stage during much of the history of the theatre. Thus, the original *Medea* was played by a man, and young boys

were the first to perform in roles such as Juliet and Ophelia during Shakespeare's time.

When women were finally accepted as theatrical performers, they too attempted roles of the opposite gender—quite a legitimate response to hundreds of years of male dominance of the stage. A vogue developed for women in leading male classical roles, and actresses such as Charlotte Cushman and Sarah Bernhardt played Hamlet. These portrayals were often critical and popular successes, rather than mere novelties. Some male actors complained that such undertakings were perversions in which women "unsexed" themselves.

In contemporary theatre, women have used this device of non-traditional casting as feminist commentary, while that of men in female roles is a convention employed primarily for camp effect, although there have been examples of it being used as social critique, such as the late Charles Ludlam's performance as Hedda Gabler, and the gender-bending in Caryl Churchill's *Cloud 9*.

# Torturous Seduction

**S**ado-masochism, machismo, and torture—what more alluring promises for an entertaining evening could you dangle before a gay man? Whether it be your everyday queer with a preoccupation with what is manly, or your South of Market type who ritualizes and stages his fantasies in quest of manly titles, these are subjects and images that captivate and snare the gay imagination. And these are the images of *Dangerous Games*, a new show playing at the Curran Theatre through Sept. 3, in which director/choreographer Graciela Daniele has used the hypnotic music and bewitching sensuality of the tango to seduce audiences into a confrontation with the dark side of their sexuality.

"The tango is the sexiest dance ever invented," Daniele told me in a recent telephone conversation. "It is a whole language of dance based on the embrace. But it is scary," Daniele said—scary because in our bewitched and passive acceptance of tango's power to seduce, Daniele sees a tolerance for evil and the onset of fascism.

*Dangerous Games* is subtitled "Two Tango Pieces," and is comprised of two loosely related one-act dance shows. The first piece, *Tango*, is a wordless series of set pieces that explore tango as a dance. Set in a bordello during the 1930s heyday of the tango, it offers a smoking set of encounters between the girls and their clientele, which illustrates every permutation of female submission and preening male dominance. It culminates in an intense dance in which two brothers compete nearly unto their death over a woman—yet it is more an expression of their close relationship, expressed in the only way "real" men can love: a fight.

The second half of the evening, *Orfeo*, brings contemporary allusions, examining the suffering we endure after being snared by sexual fantasy. In a retelling of the Orfeo myth, Daniele pays homage to *The Disappeared Ones* of her native land, Argentina, by exploring the empowerment of fascism. The connection between the two acts, Sylvie Drake of the *Los Angeles Times* wrote, is that both the customers of the brothel and the inhabitants of the country, "are irresistibly and dangerously attracted to the beautiful but deadly footwork of ruthless conquerors." We are wooed and violated by men and their power.

*Dangerous Games* has aroused controversy at previous performances at the Spoleto Festival and at the La Jolla Playhouse. People have been fascinated and aroused by the content and the message—although political awareness is hardly necessary to enjoyment of the piece. All you need, Drake wrote, is "eyes, ears, and a healthy set of genes (for this) smoldering, savagely sensual dance theatre piece."

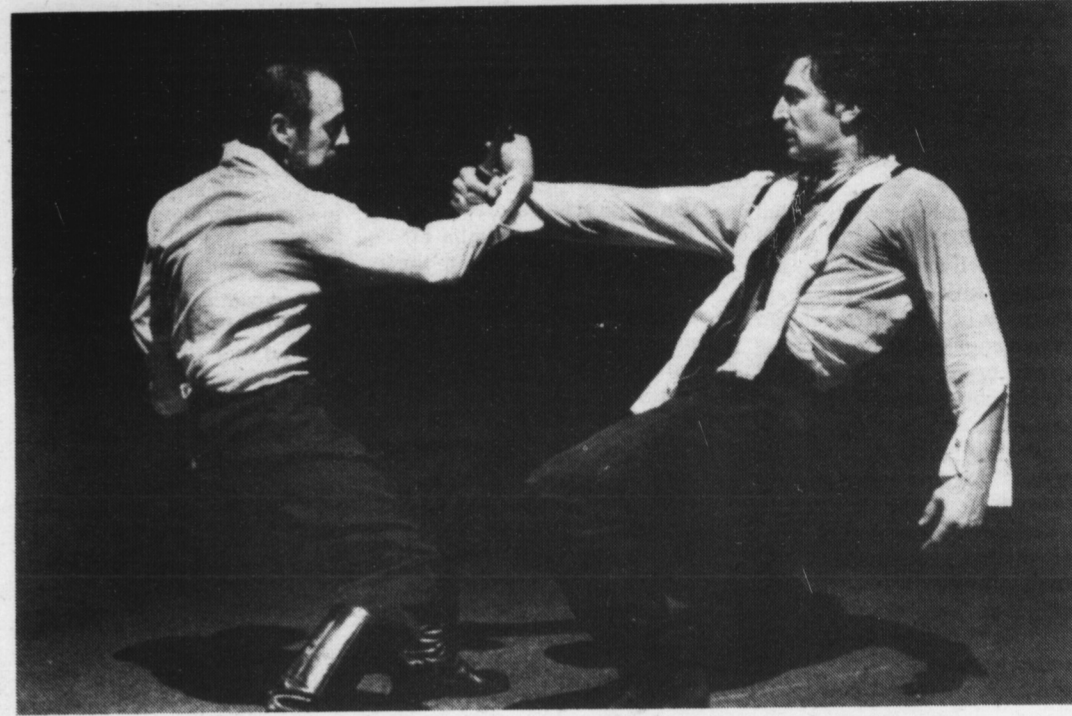
The show, just like the tango, is already highly charged with sexual politics. It is a show whose sexual iconography is as irresistible yet as potentially dangerously misleading as much of the gay iconography of uniforms and leather. Following the orgasmic excitement of the first act's sexual contests, the second act begs a re-examination of values. In doing, it has made an activist of

Daniele, although that's a role she firmly resists.

"There is violence in the sexual connotation of *tango* and the fascist connotation of *Orfeo*. These are strong pieces because I was painting a picture of this culture and violence is a part of that picture. I wanted to say 'Watch it!' Because it is attractive. Any culture that accepts this cold macho world could become a fascist culture. The problem is that it is seductive.

"But it sounds very funny to say that I am a political activist. I am a very un-political person. Whenever I act, it is just impulse. I was not trying to make a political or sexual statement. It was so much more innocent than that.

"I had been a choreographer of other director's Broadway shows for many years, and began to feel that something was missing—that was the chance to make a statement of my own. And then I was offered a chance to do an idea of my own. Well, it wasn't even very clear to me what I wanted to do—except that I



John Mineo and Gregory Mitchell in *Dangerous Games*.

wanted to work with Astor Piazzola. I have been a fan of his for 40 years, since I was a child. And he composes tango, of course, so that led me to doing some work about Argentina. I had gotten sick to my stomach when I read

about *The Disappeared Ones*, and I felt guilty I couldn't do anything about it except make a contribution to Amnesty International. I mean, how can you make a musical about torture? But that's when the idea developed of

doing a myth and through the myth to talk a little bit about fascism.

"So they gave me an empty canvas, with just Astor's incredible music and an idea, and all of

(Continued on page 48)

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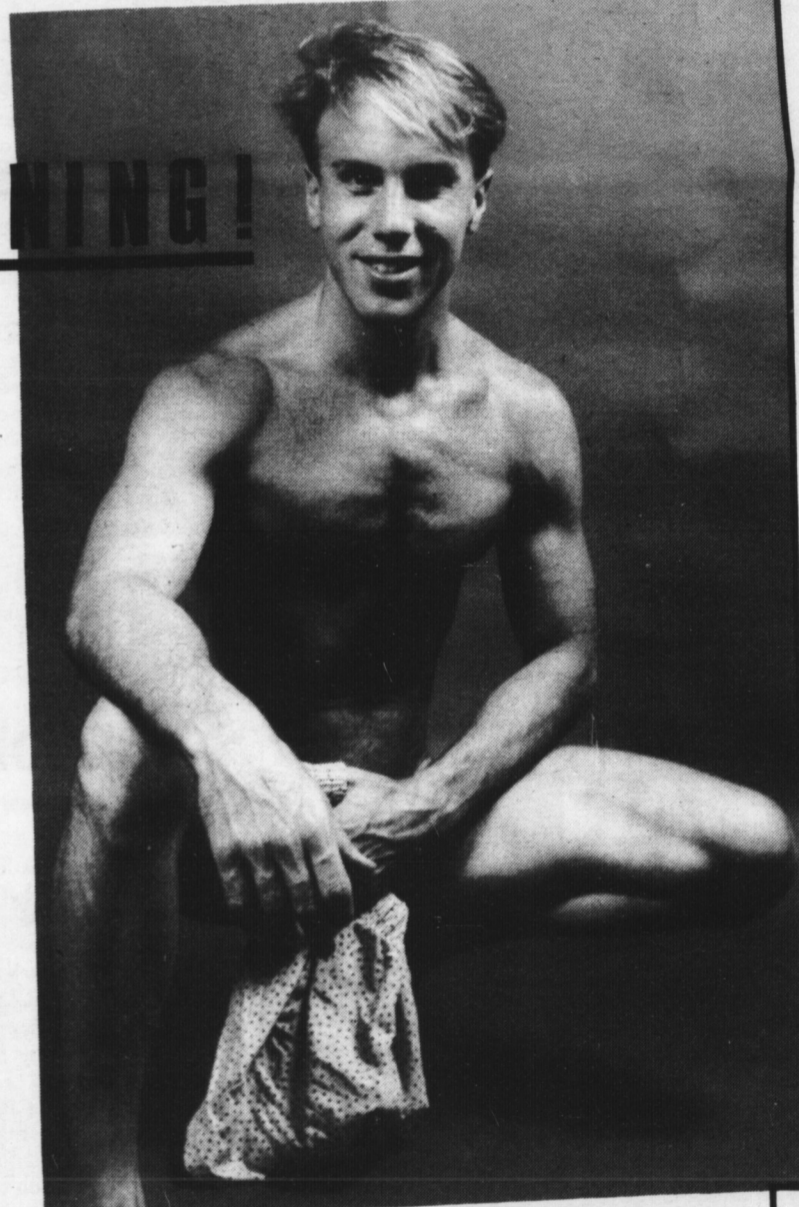
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Sophisticated Ladies

# Ella and Cleo Swing the POPS

The San Francisco Symphony POPS season got a much needed shot of adrenaline with the emotional appearance of Ella Fitzgerald on closing night. Mel Torme was reported to be in fine form, and Cleo Laine was witnessed at a new and satisfying turn in an impressive career, but it was the great Ella who moved a jam-packed arena into something resembling an all-out love feast. Affection from the crowd was real enough to touch, and it helped erase any doubt about the diminished power of a beloved singer's voice—the lion in winter still gives a mighty roar.

For those of us who have spent a lifetime listening to Ella Fitzgerald, the drop-out on the legendary scat interludes, missed notes and mangled lyrics were painful at first. Her physical frailty, after many health problems, has taken its toll on what was, most certainly, the best voice in the business.

Still, when she cooks, the flaws are quickly forgotten and Ella is only competing with her former self. Most singers wouldn't dream of taking her confident liberties with the standards, and I doubt anyone, save Billie Holiday herself, could forge a better "God Bless the Child"; and that, in spite of memory lapses!

The sound system at Civic Auditorium has been mediocre throughout the POPS series, and an overly strident microphone did nothing to gloss the raw quality of some song endings, but Ella Fitzgerald couldn't hold back if she tried, and our ears made allowances. When she launched into a rollicking "The Lady is a Tramp," the years fell away, and it wouldn't have mattered if she belted through a megaphone.

Cleo Laine has never enjoyed the sort of continued success accorded La Fitzgerald. Her checkered career has been a study in artistic development, embracing everything from the classics to low down blues, brittle cabaret ballads and critically acclaimed appearances in stage vehicles. She has excelled in all, but the public has never been able to really pin her down and so her core following has a more "cult star" label.

Laine's husband, conductor John Dankworth, has obviously influenced her big band approach to many numbers, but the wild octave leaps, death-defying trills and throaty histrionics could only come from her own soul. Calling her a song stylist is, for once, justified for she willingly submerges her own ego into the life of each selection. Old standards become contemporary art songs, each receiving meticulous care in preserving the integrity of the lyric.

Laine puts a personal stamp on every note, but never ignores the message of the composer. It is heartening, therefore, that she has decided to record a new album devoted entirely to the works of women writers. Her knock-out set included many of the soon to be released numbers and, based on the evidence, it should be a rousing hit.

Like Ella Fitzgerald (and everyone else), Cleo Laine is not getting any younger, still, she has never looked better and if her amazing instrument is



Ella Fitzgerald boosted the symphony's POPS season.

also showing certain signs of wear, she has developed a way of using it to her advantage. The trademark Sondheim tunes have acquired a wonderful patina; the bold wit of the words and haunting tunes pack an incredible punch. It is San Francisco's inestimable loss that she departed the international touring company of *Into the Woods* before it opened here.

The POPS, this year, have been marred by largely indifferent playing by orchestra members. Some onstage behavior by certain players has bordered on flippancy. Conductor Andrew Massey could not elicit the undivided attention or respect that John Williams receives in Boston with the grand daddy of the promenade orchestras. The material may be light at these concerts and the crew may be feeling a summertime frivolity, but the proper Bostonians know that only disciplined playing can fully convey the intended fun.

What happened during one

selection at the "From Russia With Love" evening would hardly be acceptable at a high school recital, let alone the stylish and elegant San Francisco series.

Whatever the shortcomings of orchestral support, the sophisticated ladies, Ella and Cleo, emerged triumphant. Though, in all fairness, it was obvious the musicians were every bit as enthused as audience members during Ella Fitzgerald's appearance. The two singers are marvelous survivors, and it gave special power to Laine's electrifying rendition of "I'm Still Here."

One woman was overheard remarking that she never wanted to see Fitzgerald onstage again—preferring to remember her the way she was. Well, excuse the grand old dame for daring to act her age! How many of us could ever swing this well in the flower of youth? As for me, I'm convinced—if the Statue of Liberty could open her mouth to sing, she would sound exactly like Ella Fitzgerald today.

Nevertheless, *Matlovich: The Good Soldier* will stand as a splendid and inspiring memorial to one of our own who stood with chin up, shoulders back, and chest out as one of our greatest warriors.

Whether Matlovich's hard core conservatism was a flaw or not is certainly debatable. However, it does seem extraordinary that this gay man could not only become the nation's prime example of a proud homosexual but also conquer his racial prejudices and reject organized religion for its rejection of him—and still cling to right wing Republicanism. It is this apparently sociopolitical schizophrenia that is inadequately treated here. The assumption that this political loyalty was just a maintenance of a lifelong faith is simplistic and lame. In treating such an important element so superficially, Hippler limits his book.

More of the analytical, explanatory, interpretive aspects of the subject. Matlovich himself contributed a lot, but so did Kameny, Adlestone, close friend Michael Bedwell, NGLTF President Bruce Voeller, the MCC's Troy Perry and others. There is ample endorsement of Matlovich's courage and overall resourcefulness, but there is also an unblinking recognition of his faults, one of the most persistent being his inclination to fall in love with unsuitable men.

## Upcoming Events at A Different Light

The writing and the life of Geoff Mains will be honored Saturday, Aug. 12, at 3 p.m., with a memorial reading at A Different Light.

Robert Chesley, Mark Thompson and Joseph Beam will read selections from *Gentle Warriors*, a novel from Knights Press, which Mains saw in print just a week before his death.

Mains was also the author of *Urban Aborigines*, a landmark study in the field of S/M theory and practice.

For information call 431-0891.

The Beat

# Megatone Coming On Strong

by David Taylor-Wilson

At the height of the disco/dance craze, when you thought of hot dance music, you thought of San Francisco and mega-stars like Sylvester and Patrick Cowley. You also identified those stars and others with the City-based label Megatone Records.

In earlier days, Megatone Records was known as a dance music powerhouse. There isn't a nightclub DJ in the world that doesn't have something in his collection on Megatone Records.

Now, after a much too long period of near absence, The Beat is being informed that the troops at Megatone Records have regrouped and are ready to reclaim the title of dance music domination, and rightfully so.

Label owner Marty Bleeman has just appointed David Diebold as general manager. David tells me that along with the return of Megatone Records in the Hi-NRG field, the label has also created an off-shoot label known as Megatone House Records, which will deal with the other forms of contemporary dance music.

The label has also purchased the rights to the book *Tribal Rites*, which chronicles the San Francisco dance music scene. This book will be distributed nationwide via Megatone.

If you're interested in purchasing the book, you can get more information by calling Megatone Records at 621-7475 here in the City. Good luck guys, and welcome back!

The Other Coast

Hi-NRG Dance Music has always been skated around when it comes to passing out awards at the Grammys, or the American Music Awards—especially gay dance music. This past July 15, the First Annual Hi-NRG Dance Music Awards were held in New York City at The Monster nightclub. An impressive roster of attendees and nominees were represented there.

Locally, San Francisco brought home quite a few well-deserved trophies: Best Hi-NRG Album: Sylvester "12 x 12"; Best U.S. Label for Hi-NRG Product: Megatone Records; Best Hi-NRG Retail Outlet: The Record Rack; Best Hi-NRG Club: Dreamland; Best Edit of a Hi-NRG Song: Steve Bourassa of Hot Tracks for the Pet Shop Boys "Always On My Mind." Let me add that Dreamland was up against the Probe in Los Angeles, and The Bar in Lexington. This is pretty stiff competition. The Record Rack was pitted against three retail record outlets in New York City and one from Washington, D.C., again, very stiff competition. This proves that San Francisco can still hold its own, and hold it better than the rest. Congratulations to all of you.

Other winning categories included: "Always On My Mind," Pet Shop Boys for Best Hi-NRG Single, Best Hi-NRG Remake, and Best Hi-NRG Group; "Savin' Myself," Eria Fachin for Best Remix of a Hi-



Sylvester—one of Megatone's giants. Dolly Parton is back with a No. 1 Country single.

Believe It or Not

Each decade can be defined with a type of music and a handful of stand-out artists. Can you name the most successful female in the music industry for the '80s? Give up? Debbie Gibson.

Singer, songwriter, performer, director and producer, she even remixed her own music. No other female artist in the '80s has racked up more success in so many fields as Gibson. Just getting underway is her concert tour. (Continued on next page)



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sex, lies, and videotape

# Sexual Ethics: Straight & Crooked

by Henry Mach

I didn't want to like *sex, lies, and videotape*, winner of the Palme d'Or at this year's Cannes Film Festival. Aside from my mistrust of European film festivals, I am also wary of first features by 26-year-old filmmakers and movies whose titles are all lower-case.

But *sl&v* is an exception to a great many rules. A work of exceptional craftsmanship that manages to be brightly witty while illuminating truths about human foibles, this movie deserves the praise and advance hype it's received.

It tells the story of Ann (Andie McDowell), a non-organic young lawyer's wife. She moans to her therapist about the world garbage crisis while at the same time her obnoxiously yuppie husband (Peter Gallagher) is screwing her sister (Laura San Giacomo).

Into this outwardly placid setting comes the husband's old college roommate, Graham (James Spader), reappearing after nine years, a drifter with completely different values and a very different lifestyle.

Graham freely admits that he's sexually impotent—or, as he explains it, he "can't get an erection if anyone else is present."

His pleasure comes from watching his videotaped interviews with women talking about their sex lives.

While the characters and situations are decidedly heterosexual, there is a post-sexual revolution tone to the movie that will be of interest to gay people.

The filmmaker raises the subject of female masturbation more than once, not as something smarmy for the sake of a snicker, but as a fact of life. It's this attitude of frankness that saves the movie from any traces of snide sophistication. The humor comes from Ann's discomfort when her therapist asks whether she's ever masturbated.

Likewise, there is nothing condescending in the portrayal of Graham. And when was the last time you remember an American movie dealing intelligently with a man whose sex life revolves around his VCR?

The movie is very simply the interaction between four characters—Ann, John, Cynthia and Graham. That simplicity is its strength.

There's no gratuitous party scene, no scene out at a nightclub. Only about a half dozen locations are seen, with a



Andie McDowell and James Spader in *sex, lies, and videotape*.

handful of cameo roles were needed. Director Steve Soderbergh trusted his words and the skill of the four leading actors to convey his ideas.

This trust was not misplaced. I've seen more than my share of low-budget movies in which four characters talk to each other. The plot device of a quiet stranger stirring up trouble and changing everyone's life is hardly new. It's simply that in the case of *sl&v* it's all so well-done.

After seeing the movie, as I was trying to decide whether it was about sexual needs, relationships, or values,

the woman who had attended the screening with me said: "This is a movie about sisters."

She went on to talk about the interaction between Ann and her more bohemian sister, Cynthia, how different they were from each other and how much value she had placed on the resolution of their story.

The strength of *sl&v* is that a dozen different people could each see something different in this simple tale.

I've never been a proponent of gays looking for reflections of our lives in straight stories, but I have to say that there is much here that gay people will find relevant.

This is a movie about how sisters relate to each other. It's also a movie about how we tell lies in relationships, how we lie to ourselves, how we compromise

our needs, how we try to meet our needs, and ultimately how we make choices in life.

This is a thought-provoking movie. Seeing *sl&v* prompted me to think about the fact that we each need to create a realistic and ethical code of sexual behavior. That issue is surely with all of us no matter our choice of bed partners—but is especially valid in our community today.

Director Soderbergh has succeeded where so many others have failed because he filled his script with ideas. This is a movie of ideas, none packaged with easy answers.

Add to these ideas the director's obvious skill—especially his ability to make us laugh without resorting to cheap gags—and you might well end up joining the choruses of praise for *sex, lies, and videotape*.

# Midsummer Marriages

When it comes to musical theatre, it seems as if everyone wants to live happily ever after. However, in order to get certain romantic leads to the point where they're even willing to smile at each other, difficult dramatic hurdles must often be overcome. In the language of opera and operetta, this means that someone must be exonerated of a petty indiscretion, a law must be repealed, or some technical obstacle in societal rules of behavior must be changed.

My favorite example of this type of dramatic illogic comes at the end of Gilbert & Sullivan's *Iolanthe*. Throughout this operetta, the plot has revolved around the separation of Peers and Peris according to strict fairy law. But it seems that, while the Queen of the Fairies has been licking her lips at the sight of butch old Private Willis's basket, the rest of the fairies have wasted no time in finding themselves tasty little mortals. "You have all incurred death, but I can't slaughter the whole company!" sighs the despondent Queen. "And yet the law is clear—every fairy must die who marries a mortal!"

"Allow me, as an old Equity draftsman, to make a suggestion," interrupts the Lord Chancellor, in a last-minute attempt to bring down the curtain on a happy ending. "The subtleties of the legal mind are equal to the emergency. The thing is really quite simple—the insertion of a single word will do it. Let it stand that every fairy shall die who *doesn't* marry a mortal and there you are, out of your difficulty at once!"

That makes sense to everyone and so, without missing a beat, the chorus joins hands and sings:

"Soon as we may, off and away,  
We'll commence our journey airy,  
Happy are we, as you can see,  
Every one is now a fairy!  
Every, every, every!  
Every one is now a fairy!"

## Drag Delicacies

The strength and bite of Sir William Gilbert's wit was in full evidence during the San Francisco Lamplighters' recent production of *Princess Ida*. This rarely performed operetta (which proves that the war between the sexes never really lets up) is quite an endearing little jewel. At curtain's rise, the Princess Ida has holed herself up in a women's university where all mention of man is strictly taboo. She has entered a strict sisterhood where, instead of cocks crowing to signal dawn over Castle Adamant, talented hens serve as alarm clocks!

In order to claim his childhood bride (to whom he was betrothed when twice her age) Prince Hilarion infiltrates Castle Adamant, disguises himself in women's clothing and camps it up in drag as a means of convincing the female students of his basic femininity. What happens after that is pure Savoyard delight, with the chorus of "girl graduates" and "Daughters of the Plough" adding to the general merriment.

Under Barbara Heroux's deliciously droll direction, Rick Williams made hay out of Old King Gama's nastiness. His three idiotically macho sons Arac, Guron and Scynthus (played by William Neil, Behrend J. Eilers

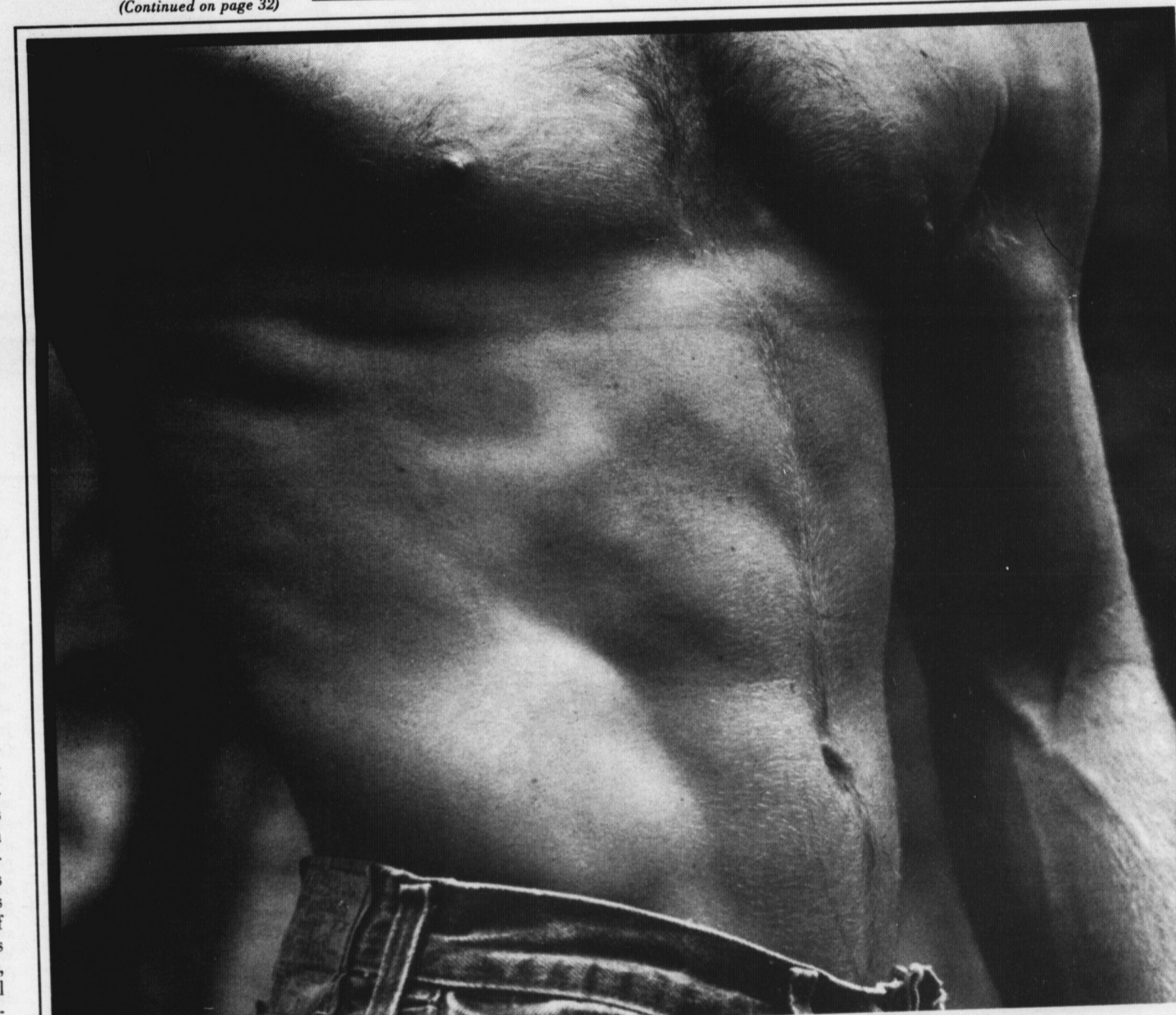
and Lawrence Ewing) did a splendid job of lampooning stupid, butch men whose only purposes in life are to grunt, fart and do battle. I particularly enjoyed Marie Goff Clyde's performance as the frustrated and power-hungry Lady Blanche (Professor of Abstract Science) and William Neely's stalwart portrayal of a medieval picture book King Hildebrand. Dan Gensemer's winning characterization of Prince Hilarion (both in and out of drag) received strong support from Kenneth Pound's horny Cyril and Martin Lewis's winsome Florian. Appealing in her armor, soprano Susan Narucki did credit to Princess Ida's turn-of-the-century feminist tendencies.

The appealing sets and costumes for this production were designed by John C. Gilkerson. Baker Peebles conducted the Lamplighters' orchestra with a strong sense of Savoyard style and a good time was had by all.

(Continued on page 32)



Valencienne (Stella Zambalis) and her Grisettes take over the Pontevedrian embassy in *The Merry Widow*.



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## Music

(Continued from previous page)

Meanwhile, she will find time to write and produce three songs for Ana, a new CBS Records artist, and will work on *Skirts* a musical film set in New York City in 1964. She will not only star in the film, but will also write the music for it. All this from a lady only 17 years old.

Patti LaBelle is back and in fine form. Her new album "Be Yourself" is chocked full of gems. "If You Asked Me To" is featured in the James Bond 007 flick *Licence to Kill*. Prince appears on the LP as writer and player of a nice cut entitled "Love 89." If you're a LaBelle fan you won't be disappointed.

Paul Shaffer of the *Late Night with David Letterman* team has a surprisingly good debut single called "When the Radio Is On." This is from his forthcoming LP "Coast to Coast" and features Carole King, Dion, Ellie Greenwich, Ecstasy (from the group Whodini), and rapper The Fresh Prince. Now that's what I call a melting pot!

It's no big secret that my wish is to be reincarnated as a great jazz singer. Recently the Jazz-Blues-Gospel Hall of Fame announced its first group of inductees, and what a group it is. Honored were Ella Fitzgerald, Muddy Waters, Louis Armstrong, Mahalia Jackson, Thomas Dorsey and Willie Dixon.

## Loose Talk

When Boy George was asked recently what he'd like to be reincarnated as, he replied, "Matt Dillon's underwear." I guess the Boy and I have a different set of goals in life.

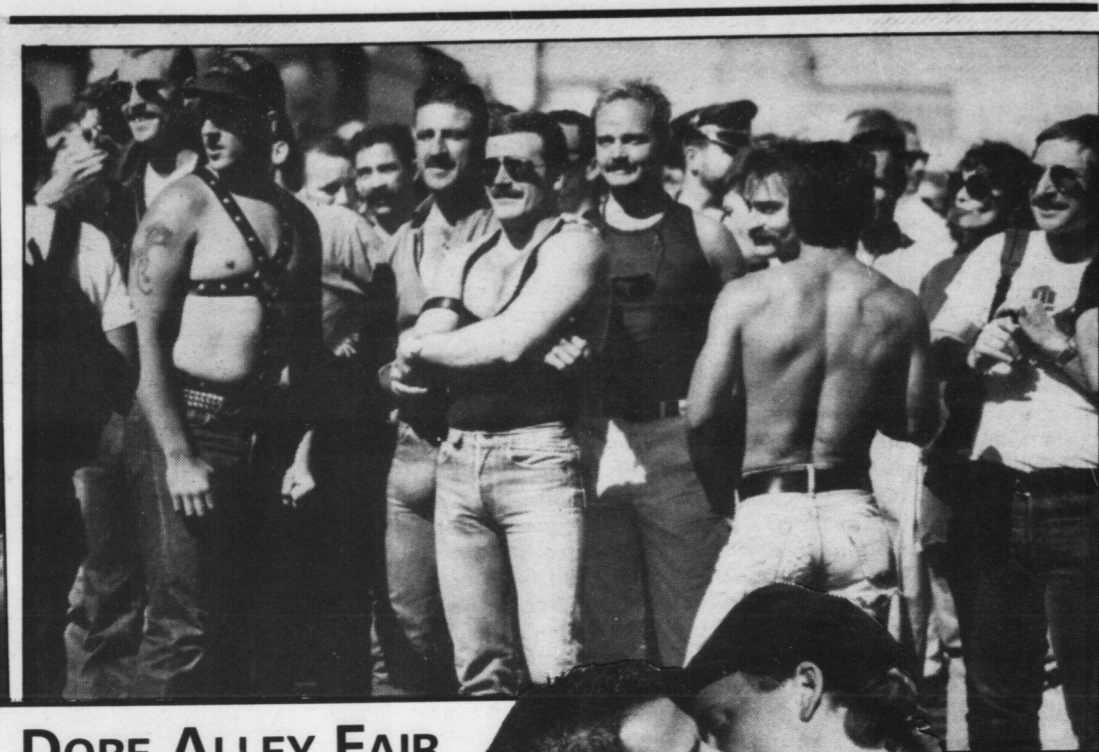
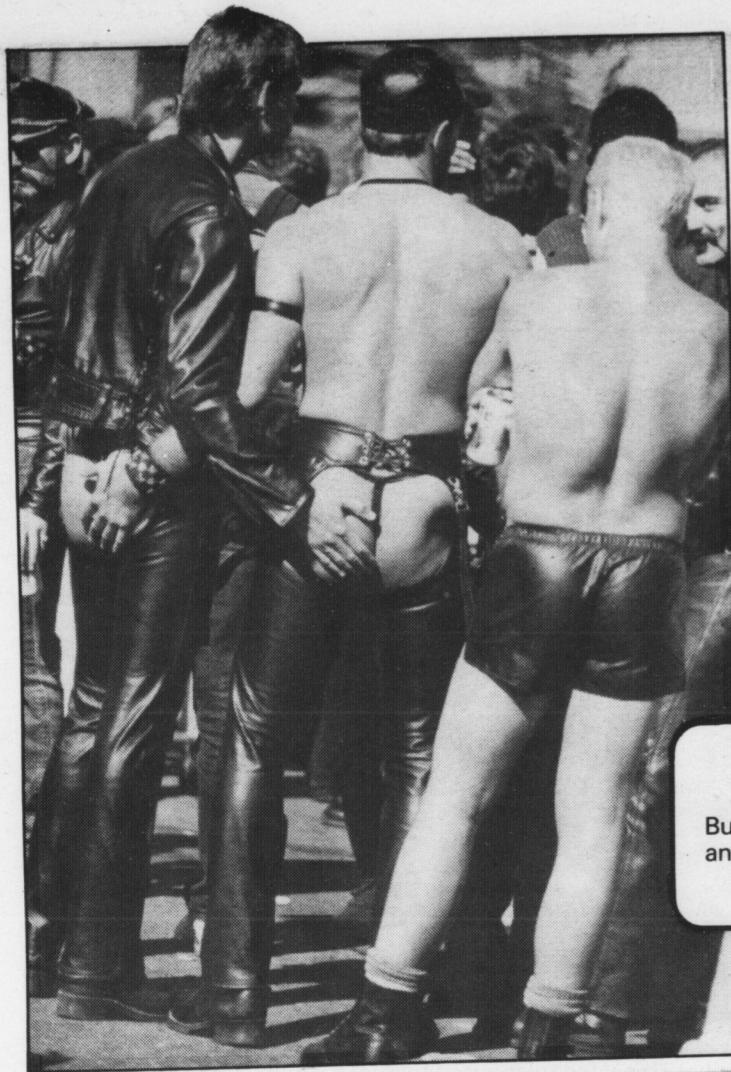
Meanwhile, Bette Midler made this statement about her close relationships with women and gay men: "Straight men don't have the time to spend with you, because they have to get laid, they have to work, and if they're married, they have to keep their marriages together." Are you guys taking notes?

Dolly Parton lands her first #1 Country single in three years with "Why'd You Come in Here Dressed Like That?" and when asked about her overwhelming popularity in Japan, she retorted, "I guess they like short blond women with big boobs!"

The Bee Gees have announced a series of 25 concert dates in Europe and the U.K. Each one of them is already sold out! They'll be in the Bay Area Sept. 2, appearing at the Shoreline Amphitheatre in Mountain View.

10 Years Ago This Week: Donna Summer held fast to the #1 position again with "Bad Girls" ... 20 Years Ago: Zager & Evans jumped back into the #1 spot with "In The Year 2525."

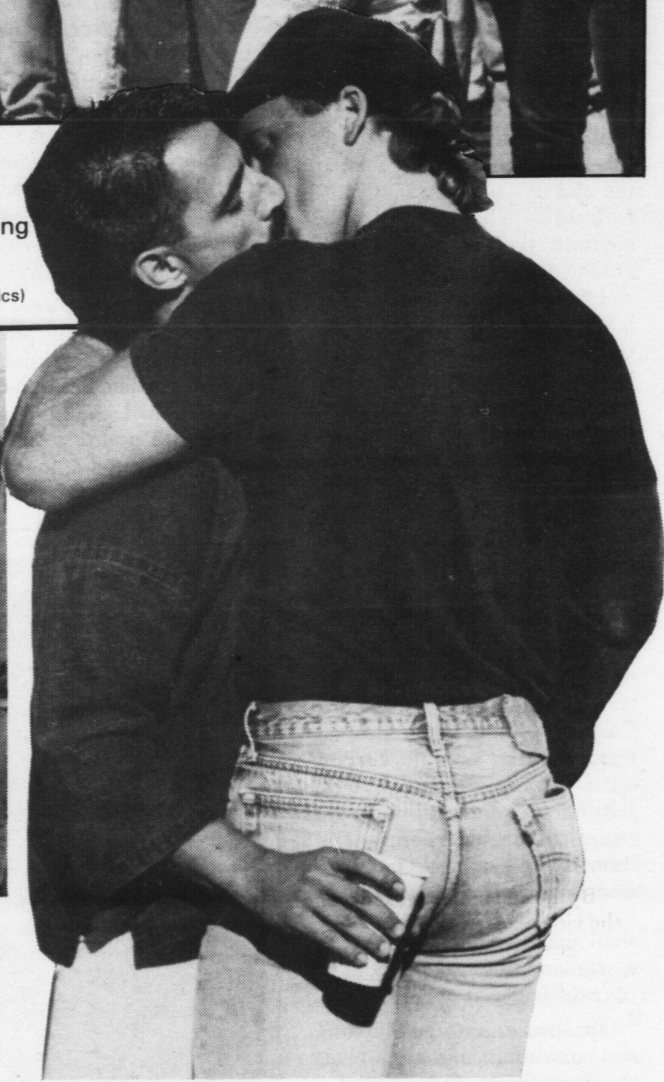
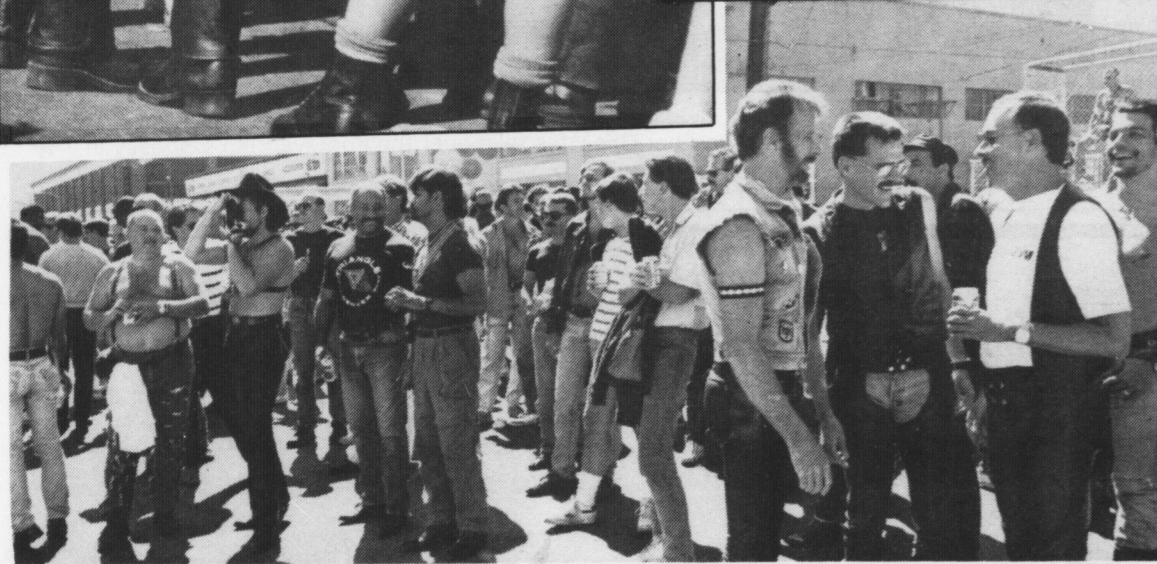
Next Week Coming Attractions: The Beat looks at new releases.



## DORE ALLEY FAIR

Butt-grabbing, smooching, people-watching and whistle-wetting ruled the day.

(Photos: Pruzan, except lower left: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)



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## Heymont

(Continued from page 31)

### Money Can't Buy Love

After seeing the Lamplighters perform *Princess Ida*, I found myself wishing that more companies would give audiences a taste of this rare Gilbert & Sullivan treat instead of depending on the familiarity of *The Merry Widow's* tunes and tired old shtick to sell tickets to their opera seasons. I say this because recent productions of *The Merry Widow* have done precious little to tickle my artistic fancy. I'll try to get a hard-on when all those men in tuxedos line up across the stage as Hanna Glawari makes a Dolly Levi-like entrance down the grand staircase of the Pontevedrian embassy. But the burning question of who gets to marry some rich widow gotten up to look like a drag queen really doesn't capture my imagination.

Here's why: Once you excise "Vilja," "Girls, Girls, Girls" and "The Merry Widow Waltz" from Lehar's operetta, there isn't much to keep people awake. And, after sitting through two more dreary performances of this rapid vehicle, I've decided not to cross paths with Madame Glawari for several seasons. Why? Because, when it comes to being given dramatic substance on the operatic stage, I'm compelled to repeat Oliver Twist's plaintive words: "Please, sir, I want some more!"

Although, with Hal France on the podium, the musicians from the St. Louis Symphony did their best to help matters, the Opera Theatre of St. Louis's new production of *The Merry Widow* left a lot to be desired. Lehar's operetta can only succeed if cast with extremely strong personalities in the principal roles. It was on this precarious reef that OTSL's production floundered.

Try as she might to please the audience, soprano Carole Gale was almost a non-entity as Hanna Glawari. Louis Otey's Count Danilo, while tall and handsome, did little to excite me. While Roger Havranek scored strongly as Baron Zeta, Stella Zambalis's Valencienne and John LaPierre's Camille de Rosillon reeked of dinner theatre ham. The only character onstage with any dignity was actor Brendan Burke's Nyegus.

If asked that familiar question ("Class, what's wrong with this picture?") I'd have to lay much of the blame for this production's failure on stage director Richard Cottrell and the frightfully tepid English translation by Edmund Tracy (along with lyrics by Christopher Hassall) which he used. John Conklin's stunning sets and David Collis's elaborate costumes proved to be the strongest assets in this production.

Don't get me wrong: I love beautiful sets and costumes as much as the person sitting next to me. I just hate having to whistle thru when I leave the theater.

## VIDEO

# There's More on Tape Than Steamy Action

by Steve Dambach

One of the convenient things about home video is how much of a fair replacement it can be for being there. In privacy, you can visit performances and experiences you can't or wouldn't get to any other way. Such is the case with two recent videos.

The first, *Finding Our Way, Men Talk About Their Sexuality*, takes us into the intimate group dynamics of a seminar weekend where 12 gay, straight and bi men gathered to speak openly with each other about sex and sexuality in their lives. Although it is a discussion I'd like to have participated in, the video at least lets us look at what happened for them.

As sometimes all one needs to do to get them going is talk with someone or to listen to what they have to say, *Finding Our Way* is an excellent primer for rich discussion. The group leaders didn't have to work much to get these men to talk because it seems as if everyone had a lot to say and wanted to learn, which is a good indication of how it is for us now.

The age of the men involved ranges from 27 to 71, but no agism is evident. The young and the old talk with each other, confront their differences with respect and push some extra emotional baggage aside.

By the end of the weekend, and the video, one of the men admits he was uncomfortable hearing what he heard and saying what he said with other men. He is, however, glad to have gone on with the process.

Another man left after the first night. His reasoning was recorded as part of the video and the weekend went on without him.

If you want to hear about how sex is for these other men, or if you want a glimpse of the interaction going on between these men, both are here.

This tape is short: only forty to-the-point minutes. But *Finding Our Way* applies in the classroom as well as the bedroom. You'll want to talk about what goes on and share your experience after you've watched and listened. *Finding Our Way* is available for the amazing price of \$295 or for rental for \$60 from New Day Films, 853 Broadway, #1210, New York, NY 10003.

And, as sometimes all one needs is to be adored, another video available now presents recent Miss Gay Universe and Mr. Asia-Pacific contests coupled together as a double event at San Francisco's Palace of Fine Arts that featured Asian men and men performing as women, competing for their separate titles in the same evening. All in all, it is a good balance of smooth flesh.

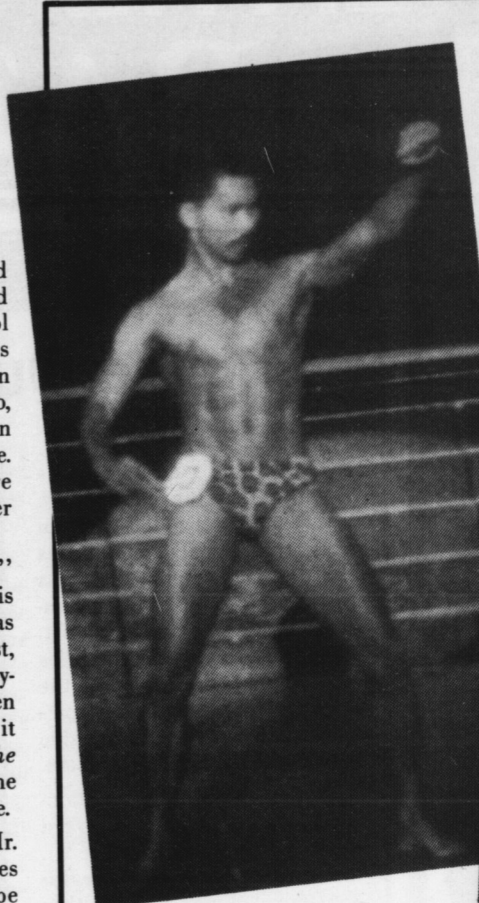
High fashion was the name of the game for the ladies who represented many nations in "native" attire, including a Rambo-esque Israeli gown, a swimsuit event featuring basic black, and an evening wear contest that outdid mainstream pageants by a glittered mile for a night of genderfuck voguing.

The contestants, except for maybe "Eva Peron," weren't in it for the camp but to explore and glorify feminine beauty queen

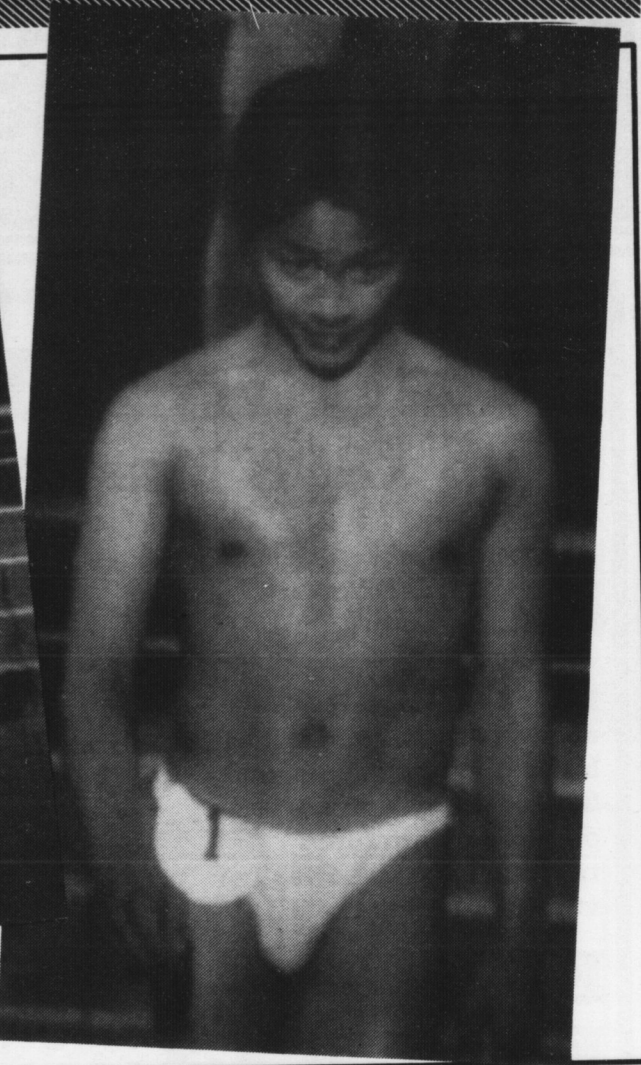
features not usually associated with drag-poise, charm and model-like smiles. Their control was offset by campy hostess Desiree, but their presentation made this event, at least on video, as real as any Bert Parks-a-thon in Atlantic City could hope to be. In other words, they were believable and, yes, the winner was shocked.

The only unfortunate "drag" element visible in the tape is technical. The video sound was off for the first half of the contest, making it seem as though everybody was lip-synching, even when they were talking. Word has it that there was a *Valley of the Dolls* wig pulling session at the event, but it is not on the tape.

The men competing for Mr. Asia-Pacific flashed sexy smiles and hard bodies it would be tough to come up against, further making this a fun one to rent or buy. It is available at A Different Light.

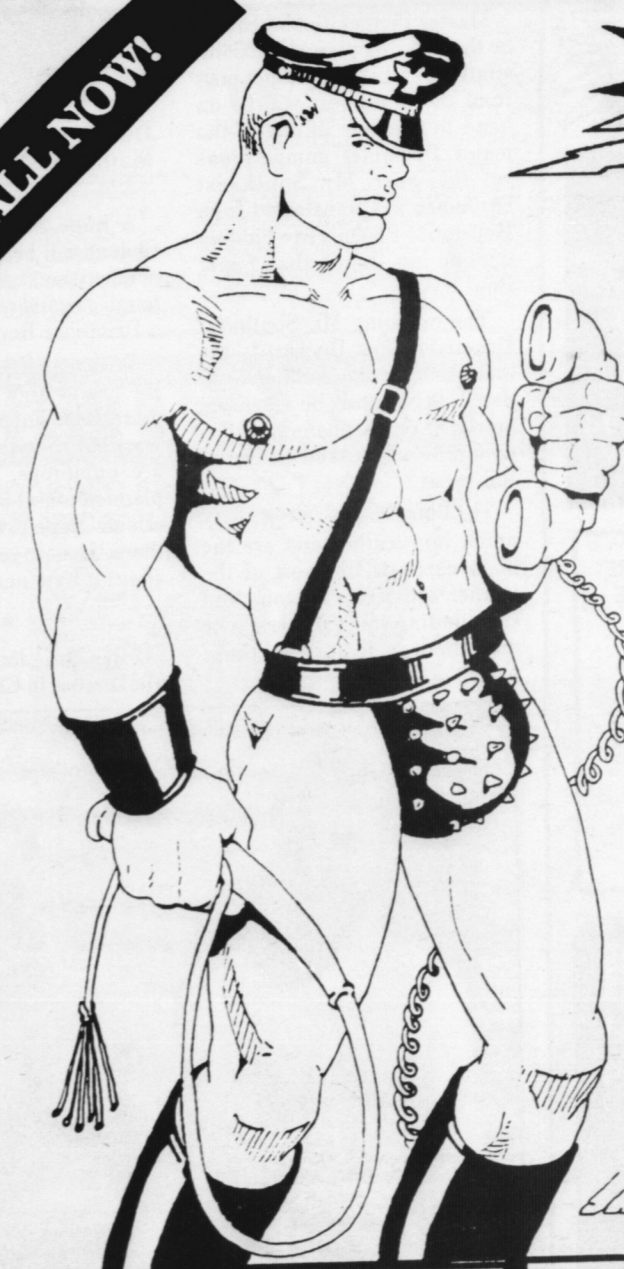


Mr. Asia-Pacific contestants.



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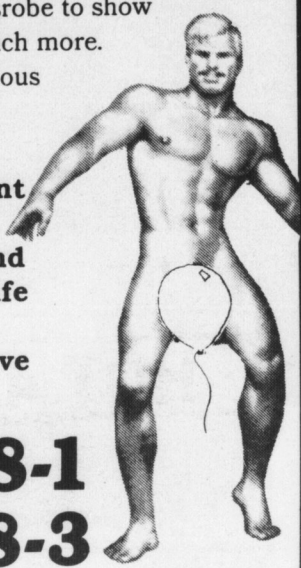
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### Mr. Marcus

## Tripping Out in the Leather World

**L**eather communities around the country are making a noble effort to show their local communities that the leather crowd is not a bunch of sick, perverted men intent on mayhem and pure lust. With the advent of leather titles around the world, most of the men elected to lead their communities have done an admirable job during their one-year tenure.

Not long after the International Mr. Leather title is bestowed upon a deserving man, the Mr. Drummer competition begins for the fall climax of the leather world.

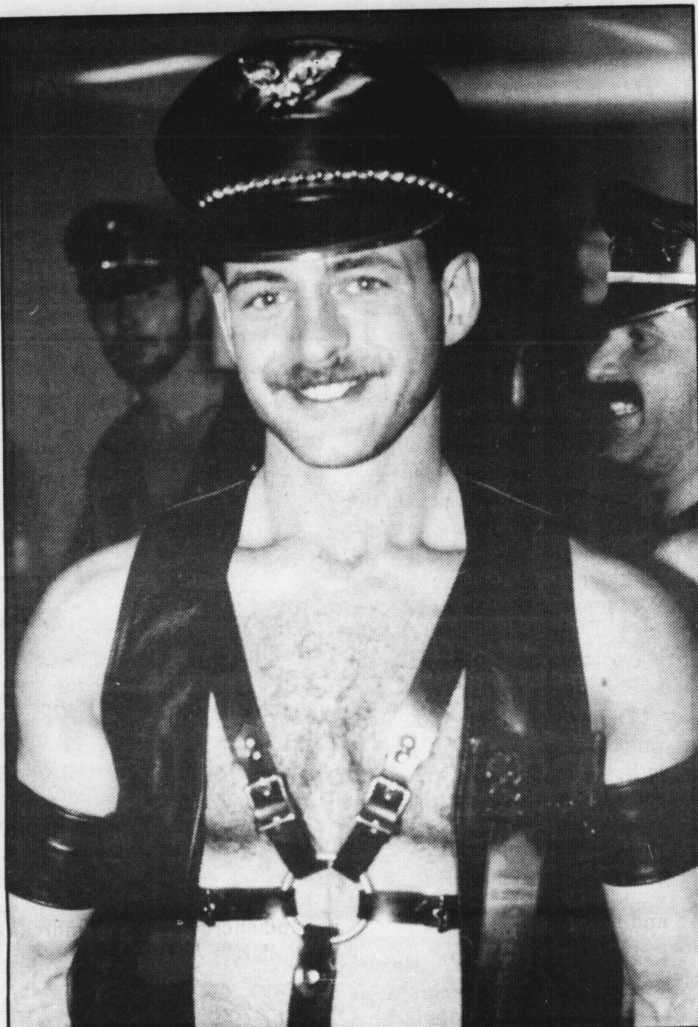
This weekend, practically every major name in the leather community will converge at Arizona's main leather bar, the Bum Steer, for the Mr. Southwest Drummer contest.

No less a personage than Drummer patriarch Tony DeBlase himself will be on hand along with IML '83 Coulter Thomas, IML '88 Michael Pereyra, Mr. Southwest Drummer '88 Wes Decker, and Mr. San Diego Leather Mark Klein (also a runner-up in Mr. Drummer '88).

Master Piercer Jim Ward will be there giving piercing demonstrations and all the leather men from the Southwest will be on hand to compete in one of the major Drummer competitions yet this year. Mr. Southwest Drummer was transferred from Houston to Phoenix in a bidding duel no less frantic than Super Bowl trysts.

The outgoing Mr. Southwest Drummer, Wes Decker, is the main host for the event and our own Alan Selby will be a featured emcee at one of the events. I'm honored to be asked to emcee this event.

The Bum Steer owners are very much into leather and are the main catalysts for most of the leather activity in Arizona and surrounding states. Believe it or not, there is leather in those parts.



Dustin Logan, Mr. Leather of Omaha, Neb., will host a big leather bash Aug. 18-20 in Omaha. (Photo: Marcus)

A huge San Francisco contingent will be on hand for the competition that also includes a tough customer competition and a Drummer Boy contest.

With temperatures ranging in the low to high 100s, it will be more than hot in Phoenix this weekend. Needless to say, there are numerous "play" parties planned for whoever chooses to attend. Hope to see some of you there. If not, you can read all about it here next week.

I was quite impressed at Intl. Mr. Leather in Chicago this past

May, when a stunning leather man was in the competition from, of all places, Omaha, Nebr. This year was the first time a leather man emerged from the Cornhusker State to compete in the Windy City. His name is Dustin Logan and he has mobilized whatever leather community exists in Omaha and Lincoln (the capital) as well as from Council Bluffs, Des Moines, Cedar Rapids and Davenport in neighboring Iowa.

I know what you're thinking. But when you see those husky, naturally athletic farm boys decked out in leather gear, you think



Jim, Bruce and Patrick helped the Dore Alley Fair with their flawless chests in attendance. (Photo: Marcus)

you've died and gone to "Leaven" (Leather Heaven).

The weekend of Aug. 18-20, another big array of leather people will gather in Omaha for Fantasy '89—the first time this has ever been done in Omaha, home of the College World Series and the only other place in the world where mock royalty is crowned annually at the Ak-Sar-Ben coronation (that's Nebraska spelled backward).

IML Guy Baldwin and IML Susie Shepherd are only two of the leather luminaries that will be there, again including Drummer's Tony DeBlase, Alan Selby, Mr. NY Leather Bill Murray, and RushRiv Leather Daddy John Ferari, to name just a few. I've been asked to emcee some of the events in the city on the Missouri River.

Dustin Logan is Mr. Leather of Omaha, the former Mr. Gay Nebraska, and a member of the Two Wheelers of Omaha (TWO), the only MC in the state. He has managed to snag some of the leather world's biggest names for the Fantasy '89 in Omaha. If you're interested in exploring this "first" call (402) 558-0474. With all that Dustin's got going already, it should be a very interesting experience. There's more coming your way, too, but why spring the surprises so early?

For an event that was poorly publicized (half the leather people I know didn't even know about it), the annual Dore Alley Fair by Up Your Alley Productions managed to get a decent crowd for their block party Sunday, Aug. 6. It was tits and ass galore under balmky skies from about noon to 1900 and the usual assortment of attention grabbers were there to see and be seen.

The biggest crowd pleaser was the Hug-A-Hunk platform where Doris Fish (in drag, naturally) managed to drag a few dudes up so you could pay \$5 to hug one or all of them for no longer than one whole minute. It was all for the AIDS Emergency Fund, of course.

Across the way, the Dunk-A-Hunk booth saw some pitching arms dump the hunks in ice cold water.

The Men Behind Bars crew managed to create a bushy atmosphere with plants and palms while their blenders pushed out gallons of Margaritas that were definitely full of tequila.

Empress Pat Montclair was outfitted in a stunningly studded red leather gown that looked like it was painted on—escorted by (no, not the Emperor!) a hunky looking David, who gets better and better looking the older he gets!

And people didn't leave their pets at home (like they should!), and there was a small contingent of pups, kittens and one exotic man with two snakes entwined around his body!

The entertainment was great too, although the wind didn't help much blowing the sounds hither and yon. Miss Joan Eva Duarte Peckerhead flew in from LAX to team up with Mr. S.F. Leather Peter Austin emceeing the show portions. Marga Gomez, Irene Solderberg and the rock group got a lot of applause. I didn't see Ken "Glitter" Wright, but he was probably counting all the money so he can give the community a full report on how much they made and how much will be contributed to the community, right?

While all this was going on, Patrick Toner, the originator of

Up Your Alley Productions, was in Columbia, S.C., emceeing the Mid-Atlantic Mr. Drummer competition. Patrick says he'll never do that one again—only four contestants, half the judges didn't show up, two leather men got assaulted by rednecks during the weekend, young punks drove around the decaying host motel all night screaming "Go home, faggots!" and the Drummer Boy contest was cancelled due to lack of interest (and participation, I guess). With all due respects to the producer of that particular contest, a very very reliable source said that the only thing Southerners hate more than blacks are gays! Now you know why they call this town Mecca. Thank God for ACT UP and CUAV. We at least have a fighting chance here!

Over at the Eagle, the S.F. Trojans football team enjoyed the spillover from the Dore Alley Fair for their beer bust. By the time I got there, not a pigskin dude was in sight—well, after all those Margaritas, even James Buhler's eyes were on d-i-m! Thanks, "Bubbles" and Mr. Tis—Candi del Rey doesn't realize how close she came to chaffering us home! Thank God for Luxor!

*The Odd Couple* (female version) played by two Drag Queens (in this case it is popular to capitalize that nomenclature, Lily Street and Stephanie Miller, opened over this past weekend and everyone's raving about it. It plays through Aug. 27 (on Wednesdays through Sunday) in the Studio at the Rhino—you really should see it!

And capping off the weekend, big crowd(s) turned out for the \$10 AIDS Emergency Fund dinner Sunday night at the Cove on Castro; they had a wide variety of entrees to choose from and the whole staff donated their time and energy to raise hundreds of dollars! Good show (every penny counts!) and kudos to Solange and Mordecia for their community spirit and gracious gesture!

Coming up for your consideration in the coming days:

Saturday afternoon, Robert Chesley, Mark Thompson and Joseph Beam will read selections

from *Gentle Warriors*. Geoff Mains' novel, which came out in print just a week before he departed. It takes place at A Different Light Bookstore on Castro beginning at 1500 hours. Mains' first book, *Urban Aborigines*, was a landmark in the field of S/M theory and practice and his second tome is equally enlightening. I'll be in Phoenix so must miss it, but I urge you to attend this function.

Tonight, Aug. 10, the Bondage Buddies are having another little tie-in from 2000 to 2200 for only \$5. Call 621-6294 for location.

Also, who said consenting adults were being suppressed? Dick's Double Header is this Friday and Saturday night Aug. 11 and 12—you know where. Service begins at 2200; no one admitted after midnight. Presented by Dr. Richard Feast and the Brothers of the Sextine Chapel, of course! It's \$10 for members and \$12 for guests.

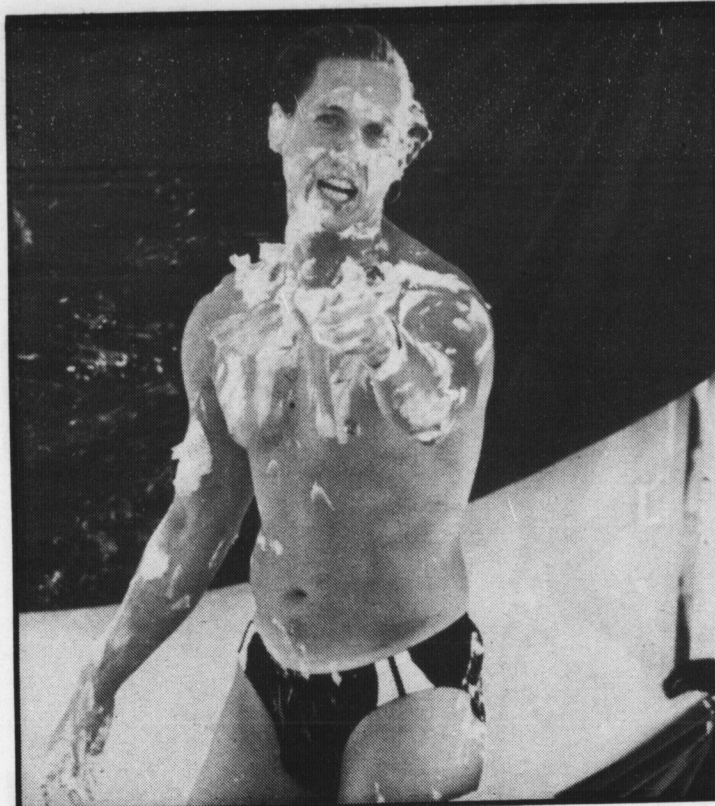
The Rest Stop support Center is having a garage sale at 457 Duboce on Saturday, so bring cash for some good bargains. Their flyer didn't state what time!

Sunday, the SFGIDs take over the Eagle for the Midsummer Madness Beer Bust (\$7) from 1500 to 1800, proceeds to the AIDS Emergency Fund. If Pushy Phyllis gets pushy, push her back!

And don't forget the Constantines of the Bay Area run Aug. 18-20. It'll cost you \$90 for the weekend but you do get a 72-hour bar, bike and buddy events, people events, campsite awards, etc. This is one of the runs where several bike categories compete with lots of prizes for everyone. Send your \$90 to P.O. Box 4964, San Francisco, CA 94101, but do it today! There's more coming your way later!

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Whoever said: "If you've got it, flaunt it; but if you flaunt it, you can expect to have it trashed!" certainly is an astute person. That's why I have to really hand it to the Eagle's man-about-trash, Jeff Hettmsmasherperger. He appears in *(Continued on next page)*



A target of the sisters' pie throwing booth baits the crowd. (Photo: Pruzan)

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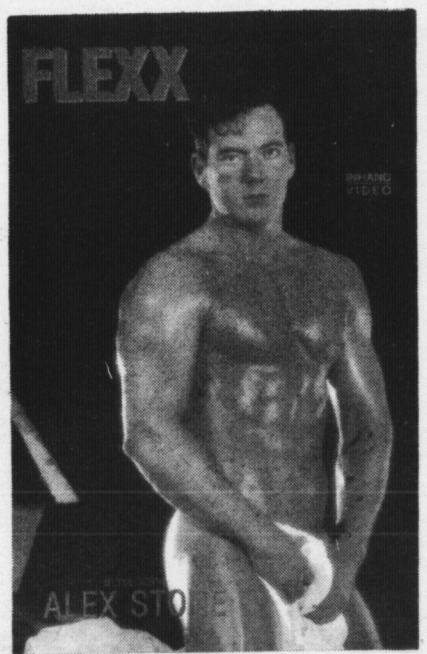
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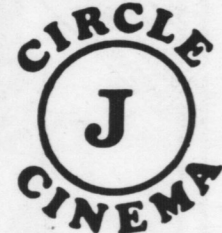
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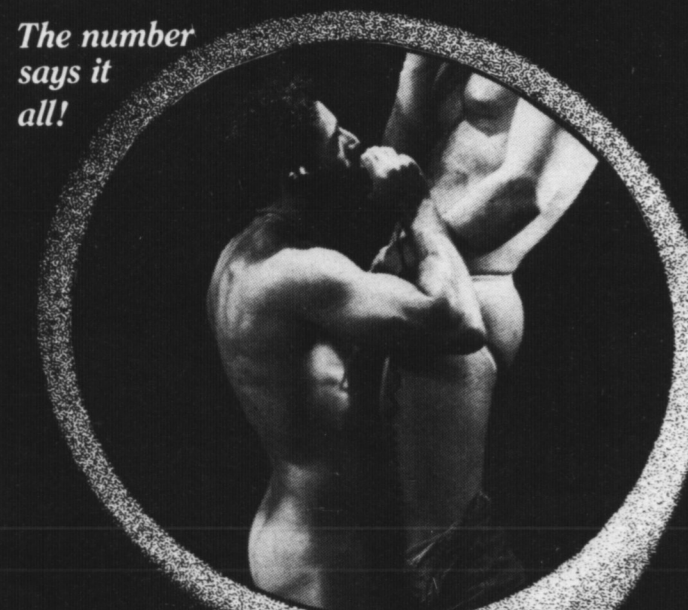
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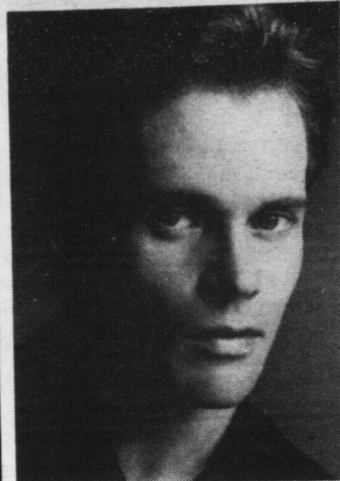
(Continued from previous page)

the latest edition of Stormy Leather's catalog. While some of you men may not be familiar with Stormy Leather, it's one of the state's biggest leather suppliers for lesbians and other people into latex and leather garb. Jeff appears in several latex outfits and looks quite comfortable in that setting. Besides all that, Jeff also recently bowled a perfect 300 game in the local bowling league. I don't think Jeff will have to worry about being trashed for his latest accomplishments, do you?

And speaking of the Eagle, another vicious rumor going around with absolutely no bit of truth to it. No, repeat, no, the S.F. Eagle has not been sold! Who starts these vicious rumors anyway? And the Blessing of the Bikes usually held in August has been postponed until September. Adequate notice will be given beforehand.

Apparently T. Joseph Lynch is not amused that the Imperial Board of Trustees has scheduled the Mr./Ms. Gay S.F. Contest on the same night as the Golden Gate Guards' weekend bike run and the Oakland Star Empire Coronation. That would be Sept. 30. That same night, Team San Francisco is having a big bash too. If you're into royalty here and abroad, non-royal titles, jock affairs and bike runs, it looks like you're S.O.L., doesn't it? I don't think these things were planned to compete, it's just the way things happen. T. Joseph, darrrring, let them all kill each other!

Hey, hang in there; do your duty; give what you can; Live, love, laugh! Just be sure you do it in leather. ▼



## Video Star Johnny Dawes Dies of AIDS

Brian Lee, also known as Johnny Dawes, star of numerous all-male adult movies, died at age 36 of AIDS complications on July 25 at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles.

The actor was known for his boy-next-door handsomeness, beneath which lay a complex personality of multiple talents and interests. In addition to his work in adult films, he was also a noted photographer, filmmaker and writer.

Lee attended high school in Akron, Ohio, and graduated in 1971. Soon after, his love for movies prompted him to move to Hollywood where he remained for the rest of his life.

There, Lee performed as a dancer in Southern California's first aboveground all-male erotic revue, *A Walk On The Wild Side*, which was presented at the Beverly Cinema in 1973. He also danc-

ed on stage at Troopers Hall in shows produced by Pat Rocco.

Lee's stint as an erotic dancer led to his acting work in all-male adult movies. In 1985, at the height of his career as a porn star, he was named "Best Actor" by the Gay Producers Association of America for his performance in the film *Pleasure Beach*. Lee's irreverent sense of humor was evident in his acceptance speech for the award. In it, he thanked his mother for not having an abortion and quipped that if his late father were alive, the award would have killed him.

His first role in adult movies was in the film *Bad, Bad Boys* (1979). In the decade that followed, he appeared in two dozen other productions, including *Skin Deep*, *Doing It*, *Private Pleasures of John Holmes*, *Revenge of the Nighthawk*, *Valley Boys*, *Games*, *Trick Time*, *Hot Stuff*, *Big Business* and *Soap Studs*.

He performed in the stage plays *Amadeus* at the Weather-vane Theater in Akron, Ohio, in 1985 and the *Frank and Doc Show* at the Hannah Theater in Cleveland in 1987.

He appeared in his most noted stage role in 1985 for the Los Angeles premiere of *Night Sweats*, a gay-themed play opening at the Fifth Estate Theater. His performance of Richard, the male lead role, won widespread acclaim from audiences and critics alike.

In the year before his death, he made his first non-adult film appearance as a Russian spy in the soon-to-be-released independent KM International feature film, *The Domino Principle*, and was scheduled to be in Orion Picture's film *Silent Night, Deadly Night, Part III*. ▼

## Stephen Frederick Darrow

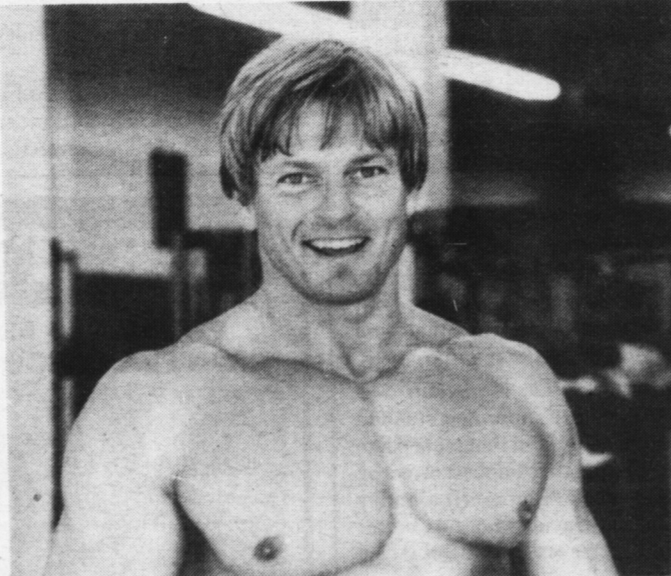
May 6, 1951-July 26, 1989

Long-time Bay Area resident Stephen Frederick Darrow lay the last three hours of his life in the arms of his lover, Michael Pereyra, the morning of July 26, 1989. Stephen was born in Niskayuna, N.Y., but lived most of his life in the South Bay here in Northern California.

Darrow attended Leland High School in San Jose where he was the captain of the water polo and swim teams. He was the president of his graduating class in 1969. He later attended the University of California, Berkeley, and graduated with a B.A. in architecture. As an avid cross-country skier, he was the first person to cross the S. Elias Range in Alaska and landed on the cover of *Wilderness Magazine* for this accomplishment. He also taught cross-country skiing at Yosemite National Park.

In 1979, Steve moved to New York where he became a major fashion model for Bill Connors and traveled extensively in Europe and other foreign countries. In 1982, Steve won the Mr. San Francisco Body Building Contest and under the magnificent lens of famed photographer Jim French, became one of Colt Studios' most outstanding models.

In 1985, Steve Darrow made a permanent home in Fallbrook, Calif., north of San Diego, with his love, Michael Pereyra. Their seven-acre ranch was used extensively to grow vegetables for the AIDS Buddy System Food Bank of San Diego. As a member of the California Nurserymen's Association, this project became one of



the major suppliers of fresh vegetables for AIDS/ARC patients in the San Diego area.

Among his many many interests, Stephen at one time was the head bartender in New York's Studio 54. His many friends across the nation join Michael Pereyra in mourning the loss of a dedicated and sincere man. Stephen was a much admired and much sought after model for many legitimate advertising campaigns and modeling agencies. He was well known in political and athletic circles as well as in the leather community. He was the light of Michael's life. Michael's grueling schedule as International Mr. Leather 1988 is a shining example of the love and devotion they had for each other. Stephen's pride in the accomplishments of Michael as

IML was ever-present; he encouraged Michael to travel and make his title honorable, which he did.

Friends across the state and the nation are invited to attend a memorial gathering on Sunday, Aug. 20 at the ranch in Fallbrook, Calif., at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the AIDS Assistance Fund, San Diego, in the name of Stephen F. Darrow.

Friends of Michael and Stephen are saddened once more at the loss of a true friend and supporter of the many causes we all face. Stephen left us knowing he had, through sharing his Michael with the world, indeed left a living legacy behind; no, not forever, but to meet again on the other side. Our prayers are with you today and always, Stephen and Michael. ▼

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# Act Up Against Sen. Helms

The ravages of the Vietnam War as televised in the late '60s and early '70s changed forever the way that Americans preview the world, and no doubt drove many from their TV table encampments around the newhour show back to the kitchen for a more appetizing dinner environment. In that tightly composed television frame the networks extended our vision overseas, over time, over the battle strewn bodies bloodied beyond recognition by bombs and bullets and failed foreign policies.

To many viewers, these images were obscene (read: deeply offensive to morality or decency; esp. designed to incite to lust or depravity). Murder, massacre and rape, the side effects of war, seeped into our lives between the lines of reporters' commentaries, and through the lines on the faces of soldiers torn apart by the experiences of torture and death, now returning to a country torn apart by opinions on morality and patriotism.

While dozens of books have been written that explore hundreds of facts and a myriad of theories about the U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War, one fact remains certain: it is still our essential right to pick and choose the chapters of history that we want to read, or view, or hear, or believe. This is not China, and the Vietnam War did not happen in Tienanmen Square.

Yet, a major battle is being fought right here to preserve our freedom of expression and our democratic right to pursue truth and knowledge of our history through art.

Last week Sen. Jesse Helms, a Republican from North Carolina, is trying to prevent us from exercising our rights. Incited/excited by a traveling exhibit of homoerotic photographs by the late Robert Mapplethorpe that was organized by Philadelphia's Institute of Contemporary Art, Helms found out that the institute received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for \$30,000 in 1988.

A photograph by Andres Serrano that depicts a plastic crucifix submerged in the artist's urine also brought on an attack by Helms when it was disclosed that Serrano had received a \$15,000 grant from the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art in Winston-Salem, N.C., which is a recipient of funds from the NEA.

In retaliation, Helms tacked on an amendment to an \$11 billion Interior appropriations bill that would cut the NEA's budget next year by \$45,000 and went on to forbid the NEA from awarding any grants to the Philadelphia Art Institute or the Southeastern Center for the next five years.

Although Helms refused to get specific about the artist's work, the Examiner reported that he

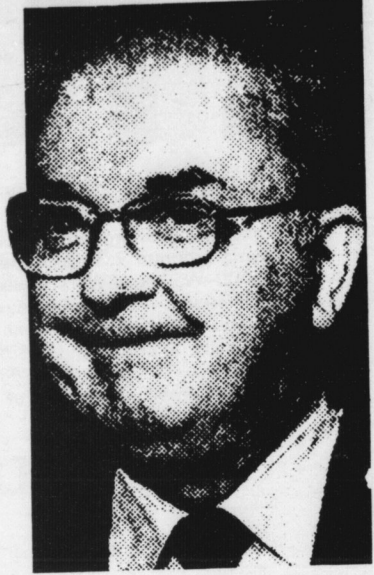
was seen on the Senate floor flipping through a catalog from the Mapplethorpe exhibit with Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Robert Byrd.

Was Helms thinking, "The end is in sight!" as he leafed through the catalog. Bad pun. Our end may be in sight and then out of sight for good if we allow these self-righteous lawmakers to censor our art and consequently our history on an angry whim.

The Helms amendment states that federal funds cannot be used to "promote, disseminate or produce obscene or indecent materials, including but not limited to depictions of sadomasochism, homoeroticism, the exploitation of children, or individuals engaged in sex acts; or material that denigrates the objects or beliefs of the adherents of a particular religion or non-religion."

While some legislators say they doubt that the amendment will become a law, let's not permit Sen. Jesse to "take the helm" on the matter of funding for the arts. Please write to your members of Congress and ask them to resoundingly defeat this amendment for freedom's sake.

Coming up this month: Don't forget the Women's Day Blood Drive on Aug. 19, Saturday, at Most Holy Redeemer Church in the Castro from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Women interested in donating are asked to call 863-6761 to make an appointment.



Reactionary Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.)

On Sunday, Aug. 20, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation will have their general membership meeting at the MCC, 150 Eureka St., San Francisco, at 7:30 p.m. Women and people of color are especially encouraged to attend. Call 861-4588 for more information about this important group.

Psychotherapist Lindy McNight begins teaching another semester of the popular City College course, Issues in Lesbian Relationships, on Monday nights from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Everett Middle School, 450 Church St., San Francisco. Tuition is a mere \$15, and you can register by attending one of the first two classes.

## Odd Couple

(Continued from page 25) rewrote it. Wilson and Black are licking a cistern of dust.

As to a gay audience? This production still has nothing to say. As a curiosity, it is mildly amusing. If the performers ever learned their lines fully, or were directed at something approaching cruising speed, it might actually be funny. As it is, we sit tensely, praying that the actors will get through each bit of dialogue; that somehow Simon's witty repartee will shine through. Black ignores most of Simon's subtle humor, and certainly doesn't find any new laugh lines. An example is the Act I scene where Olive says repeated goodbyes to her group of Trivial Pursuit partners. It's painfully long. They merely say goodbye, one by one, while Olive looks annoyed. Can no one see that there is some action called for here?

As the slovenly sports writer Olive Madison, Richard Wellner (Lily Street) does his best with a bad concept. This production was meant to be a showcase for his/her talents. Sad to say, Lily is no actress. Although played "straight" as a woman, Wellner/Street cannot shake the singular persona of the drag queen he is known as. You never believe Olive's a slab.

Likewise, Stephen/Stephanie Miller's neatfreak Florence Unger is not consistently neat. She's just whiney and loud. They're not that different. When Olive arranges a dinner with her two Latino neighbors, both "women" deck themselves out a la ultra-feminine. Strangely, Olive is the more successful, wearing a beautiful but overdesigned costume more suitable to, well, a drag queen than a sports writer. We should get Linda Ellerbee. Instead, we get Diane Sawyer. A ludicrous feather attached to Olive's shoulder is of little use—hitting her date in the face once, supposedly for comic effect, and ever after being ignored.

The one totally successful ef-

fort is Joseph Hernandez's set, a realistic and workable apartment piece, which should be held onto for future use in the usually claustrophobic Rhino Studio.

The supporting cast of Olive and Florence's Trivial Pursuit-playing friends is a mixed bag. According to director Black's concept, they abandoned the stock tricks of the drag queen trade, and opted for a more "realistic" style. The resulting look is hurried drag queen. The only two to bring some dimension to the cast of cardboard characterizations are Joe Lo-Coco/Velvetta Mozzarella as Mickey the cop, and Warren Page/Sister Woman as the over-rugged and polyestered Vera. For the play's final moment, Black directs the cast in a gratuitous hug followed by a pseudo-serious tableau that bespeaks how tightly knit this little band is. God, it seems to say, how misunderstood and rough is the life of a drag queen.

That last may be true. Unfortunately, this play isn't the vehicle for such thoughts. Perhaps a truly homosexually conceptualized version of *The Odd Couple* might be interesting, or insightful. Even one that committed fully to the artifice of drag might be kind of fun. But this half-baked effort is neither. As a script, it lacks the intent or depth to hold up as a universal statement on sexual and gender roles; as a production, it lacks the talent to be appreciated as camp. Many in the cast are members and aficionados of San Francisco's Imperial Court, a drag network that has done much for AIDS-related charities around town. As such, former Empress Lily Street and her cohorts are to be saluted. If they are smart, they will beat their high heels a hasty retreat from the forum of the legitimate stage.

**\* The Odd Couple** through Aug. 27 Theatre Rhinoceros Studio 2926 16th St. Wed.-Sun., 8:30 p.m.; \$10-\$12; 861-5079

## Cash Awards Open To Native Photogs

San Francisco Camerawork is seeking artist entries for the James D. Phelan Art Award in Photography. Established by the trust of James D. Phelan

(1861-1930), former San Francisco mayor, U.S. senator and arts supporter, the James D. Phelan Art Award recognizes and rewards the achievements of California-born artists in a variety of disciplines.

The 1989 James D. Phelan Art Award in Photography will be given to three California-born artists. Each will receive a \$2,500 cash award and will be included in an exhibition at S.F. Camerawork, Feb. 1-March 3, 1990.

Participants may submit no more than 10 pieces that utilize photographic processes. Slides

will be accepted only for oversized and three-dimensional work. There is no entry fee.

Jurors will be Diana Dupont, assistant curator of photography, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and Mark Johnstone, photographer, writer, curator.

Deadline is Oct. 7.

Application for the 1989 award is open to any California-born artist. California residency is not required. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for prospectus and entry form to S.F. Camerawork, 70 12th St., San Francisco, CA 94103.

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Chubbies/Chasers, GWM, 47yr. 6'1", 350lbs. seeks hot safe daytime sex. Vers. WS. Suite 120, 2966 Diamond, SF 94131. Any size, age, race!!!

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GWM, 41, Big Hairy Bear seeks same or similar for summer frolic. Write: 584 Castro St., Box 247, SF CA 94114.

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**POOL**

## Curtain Coming Up On Autumn Season

The San Francisco Pool Association kicks off its 23rd season Tuesday with 30 teams eyeing the prize at December's finish line—the coveted City Championship.

The first 14 weeks of play in the four randomly drawn divisions decide which 116 teams advance to the playoffs, and that represents the immediate goal for most teams. For a select few, anything short of the ultimate victory is considered a failure.

Besides the team title, players can dream of seeing their names honored as individual champions in a number of late season single's contests. The "majors" are considered to include the '89 9-Ball Championship, the MVP Tournament, the Women's WCC Qualifier and the All-Star.

Any list of early favorites to go the distance would have to include last season's champs, the Deluxe Ducks. This season they've migrated to a new home and have been renamed the San Marcos Cafe Quackers. They've also welcomed West Coast Challenge Women's Champion Torri Connelly into their flock. Their primary Division II rivals are likely to be the Specialtease, beefed up with the addition of seasoned veteran Barry White.

Division IV has two obvious contenders in the White Swallow International and the Overpassers. Four members of the fall '88 City Champions have

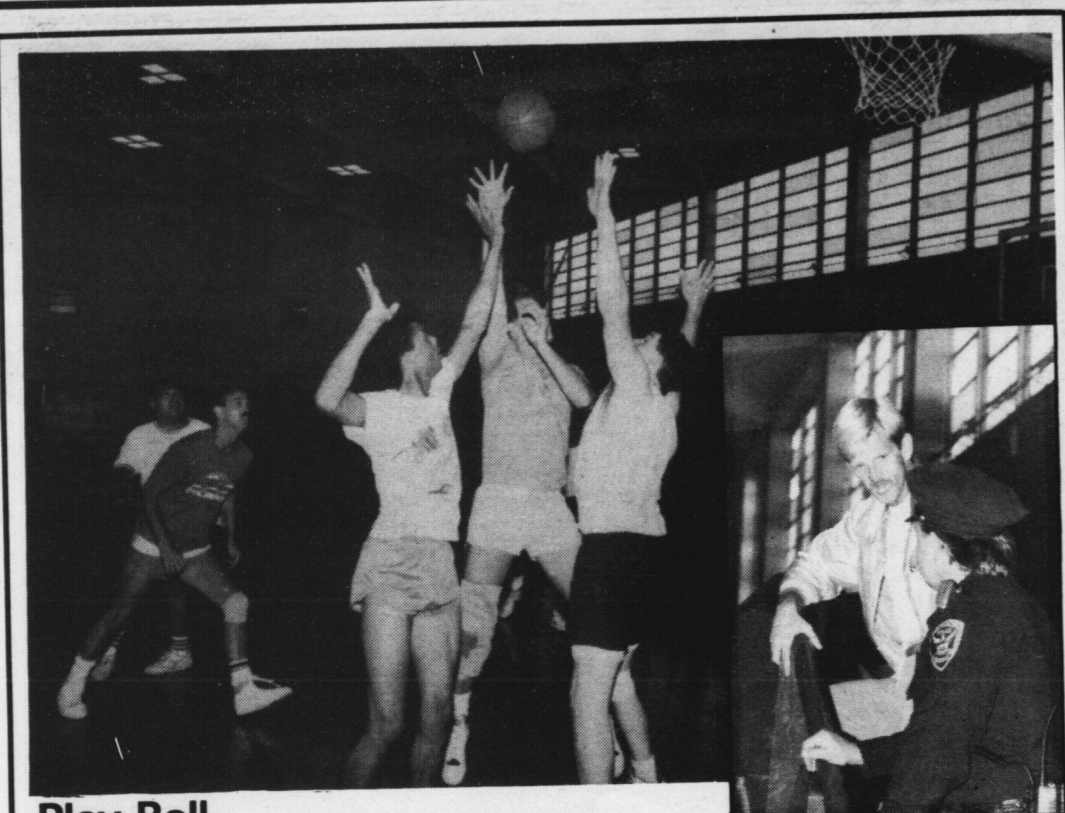
reunited on the latter team and are joined by Butch McAllister and Jack Dunbar. We're talking deck here.

Antonio Rios has staked an early claim on Division III with his Cinch Shooting Stars. He's also served notice that he's importing a "hot shooter from Berkeley" who intends to make his presence known. Not to be overlooked are the six other teams that plan to offer more than token resistance.

Division I offers the prognosticator few clues, and it seems prudent to sit back and let nature and the Divine Billiard Forces take their course in this opportunistic field.

Once again the scheduling committee took all conceivable factors into account and decided to pattern this season after last season's model. Some players have bemoaned the task of facing equally ranked teams for six consecutive weeks in the schedule's latter half, but the fact remains that this is the fairest plan to allow all teams an equal shot at making the playoffs, as well as offering even the weakest teams a chance to win a few matches.

A few teams still have roster positions available. Prospective players should note that a full range of skill levels participate in the league and there are individual competitive opportunities for all members. Dial JOE-POOL for SFPA information.



**Play Ball**

The Hotshots took the floor as Gay Basketball began at Eureka Valley Recreation Center on Collingwood last weekend. At right, a security officer looks on. The facility has been the center of controversy between the gay league and the city regarding security costs.

(Photo: Rink)

## Softball

(Continued from page 45)

climactic. The 'Roos couldn't find any reserve in the tank. The Galleon easily defeated them to earn their title.

As the games ended and champagne popped, the league convened at the California Club to fete the champions at the league banquet. The surprise of the evening occurred when Mayor Art Agnos appeared to pass out the championship trophies. The mayor ad-

ressed the group on two big November issues—domestic partners and the desperate need for a new baseball park in downtown.

However, the highlight of his presentation was his announcement of a bet with Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young on who would win the opening game of the world series in the Rec Division between the Galleon and the Rec Division champion from Atlanta.

The league also had other honorees to pass out hardware to at the banquet. Each team honored their "Most Valuable Players" for their contributions both on and off the field.

The league for the first time established an award for fans as Ed and Gene, who have supported the league for many years, were honored.

The Rookie of the Year Award, which goes to the outstanding newcomer to the league, went to Sue Klages of Amelias.

Honored for their work with the Godfather Service Fund were Bobby Colon and Allen Winkle, who won the league's Humanitarian Award.

The board also exchanged gifts after having to put up with one another for the past year.

Also receiving thanks for his statistical work was Bill Pielock. (Sorry, Pielock, no razor blade!)

Taking home the league's most prestigious award was the Corral, which won the league's True Spirit Award as voted on by the league.

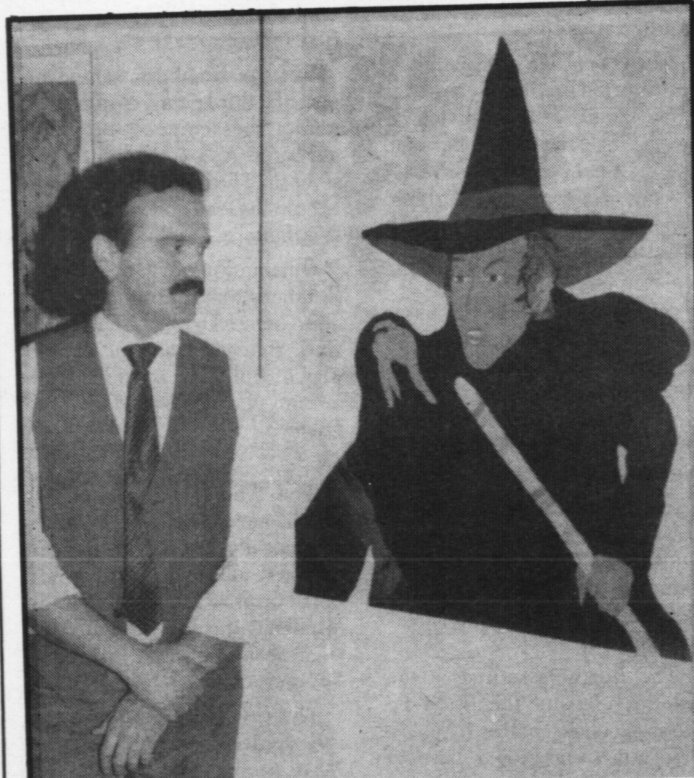
Now it's off to Atlanta for Series '89. Good luck to the three teams. Do San Francisco and the GSL proud.

The Open Division champs, Bombers, start play against the champions of the Steel City Softball League of Pittsburgh.

Amelia's, Women's Division Champ, faces a stiff test when they meet the champion of Chicago's Metropolitan Sports Association, who have finished second the past two years.

The Rec Division Winners, Galleon, will play opening night against the host city of Atlanta's Rec Team.

I will have a full report on Atlanta upon our return.



**Art Benefit**

Rudy Lemcke and his painting "Wicked Witch," part of "Art and Self-Healing: Living Well with the Epidemic." The show, at New Langston Arts, 1246 Folsom, runs through Aug. 12. Proceeds will benefit the art and recreation program at Peter Claver Community. For more information, call 626-3368.

(Photo: Rink)

**BOWLING**

**Japantown**

## Bowlers Lend Hand To Ill Colleagues

One of the heartwarming stories of the past year has been the development of BEAR (Bowlers Emergency Aid Relief), an organization designed to create funds for bowlers who have terminal illnesses. In the original concept, many bowlers decided to include 25 cents extra in their weekly bowling fees for BEAR.

But Japantown bowlers did the idea one better. Many of them decided to make the contribution voluntary, speculating that some people might give more than a quarter. Thus, each week in the summer leagues, JTown bowlers have been digging into their jeans for loose change or dollar bills.

The results have been outstanding. Wednesday Community League President and BEAR board member Carol Hull says that more than \$800 has been collected in the summer leagues. Just another example of the ingenuity of the gay and lesbian community in San Francisco, because there would have been far less money collected had every-one pitched in two bits.

\*\*\*

One of the questions inexperienced bowlers always seem to ask is, "Gee, I'd like to bowl, but would I ever have a chance? I'm not good at all."

The first thing the prospective bowler has to clear from his or her mind is that "there is no chance of winning." The reason boils down to one word: handicap.

For those unfamiliar with this word in a bowling context, here's a quick explanation. When two teams play each other, they add up their averages and subtract the lesser average. This will establish a handicap, depending on what percentage has been decided as the norm for a particular league.

For this reason, an inexperienced team usually picks up anywhere from 50 to 150 pins extra for its score each game, depending on the quality of its opponent.

A perfect example of this system is the team known as Friends of Dorothy in the Wednesday Community League. Team Captain Kris Neal says that he and his teammates had never bowled in league competition before and were extremely inexperienced. And yet, the Friends of Dorothy are in second place with a chance of following their own yellow brick road to a trophy if they can keep improving their scores. The handicaps they have been getting frequently have helped them to gain confidence, and not only have they been winning games, but actually improving their scores.

Another thing about the Friends of Dorothy. Their enthusiasm has been one of the highlights of the league, which brings back one of the strong points of emphasis for a bowling center: have fun.

\*\*\*

And now, here are the top bowling scores for the last two weeks:

Monday Community League, July 24: Charles Daniels (149 average) 220; Bill Celis (134) 206; David Young (161) 214 and 206; Peter Baga (139) 204; and Beth Clark (141) 210.

Tuesday Community League, July 25: Bob Damron (187) 210; Tim Kneis (192) 210; Clarence Nora (152) 200; John Pulsipher (144) 204; Bob Dos Santos (156) 201; Danny Hagy (147) 204; and Chuck Adkins (186) 216 and 202 for a 601 series.

Wednesday Community League, July 26: Michael Seibel (167) 213; Bob Bryan (172) 221; Phil Whitaker (184) 256; and Gary Baker (134) 204.



Japantown Bowl's Names Project team in this year's Gay Parade.

(Photo: Tony Molina)

Thursday Community League, July 27: Lew Gilmore (155) 212; Vince Di Cola (153) 204 and 201; David Williams (157) 202.

Friday Community League, July 28: David Arnold (185) 235; Roger Queen (171) 209.

Sunday Reno League, July 29: Derek Teruya (162) 214 and Bob Dean (158) 208.

Monday Community League, July 31: Jim Greblowski (162) 209 and Aryae Levy (164) 203.

Tuesday Community League,

Aug. 1: Bill Gallagher (160) 205; Russell Palmer (165) 205; Don George (179) 212; and Tim Kneis (192) 222.

Wednesday Community League, Aug. 2: Alex Noftte (133) 205; John Wood (142) 204; Rick Marchu (162) 207; and Todd Brooks (165) 200 and 222.

Thursday Community League, Aug. 3: Richard Harry (170) 210  
Friday Community League, Aug. 4: Frank Rauch (172) 220 and 222; David Arnold (187) 236 and 210, as well as a 622 series;

Michael Siczek (159) 202 and David Cohen (145) 211.

Sunday Reno League, Aug. 6: Ron Smola (175) 207; Bob Dean (160) 209; Charles Daniels (152) 203; Larry Fuller (151) 200; Ken Kalani (171) 211 & 201.

And, two we missed from the previous column, both on July 14: Roger Queen 236 and Tarrie Mitchell 216. Sorry for missing that, and way to bowl, Roger and Tarrie!

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## Gay Tennis Tournament This Weekend in East Bay

by Les Balmain

The Jim Holloran Classic, the 10th annual membership tournament of the Gay Tennis Federation of San Francisco, is scheduled for this weekend, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 12 and 13, at the Channing Avenue Tennis Courts at the University of California, Berkeley.

"There will be three divisions, Class A, Class B and Class C," announced Carlos Terra, tournament director, "with a draw of 16 entries in each. Many new members loaded with talent have entered this year, which should make for some exciting matches and possible upsets!"

The tournament will consist of singles play only, with single elimination and consolation brackets in all three divisions. First- and second-place trophies will be awarded in both championship and consolation brackets.

The 1988 champions who will be defending their titles are: Class A, championship, Wade Gillam, consolation, Tom Neville; Class B, championship, Curt Tibbits, consolation, Charles Woods; Class C, championship, Jim Walker, consolation, Randy Glick.

Members, fans and loved ones are encouraged to pack a picnic basket and drive over to the courts for two days of fun in the sun. Directions to the courts: From the Bay Bridge take Highway 80 North, take Ashby Exit and go about two miles east-on Ashby. (Don't speed above city speed limits—lots of local radar traffic cops on duty.) Make a left on Telegraph Avenue and proceed for about one mile, then make a left on Channing Avenue. Go about two blocks. The courts are on the left. Parking available under courts, but buy parking tickets. Parking officers will ticket cars.

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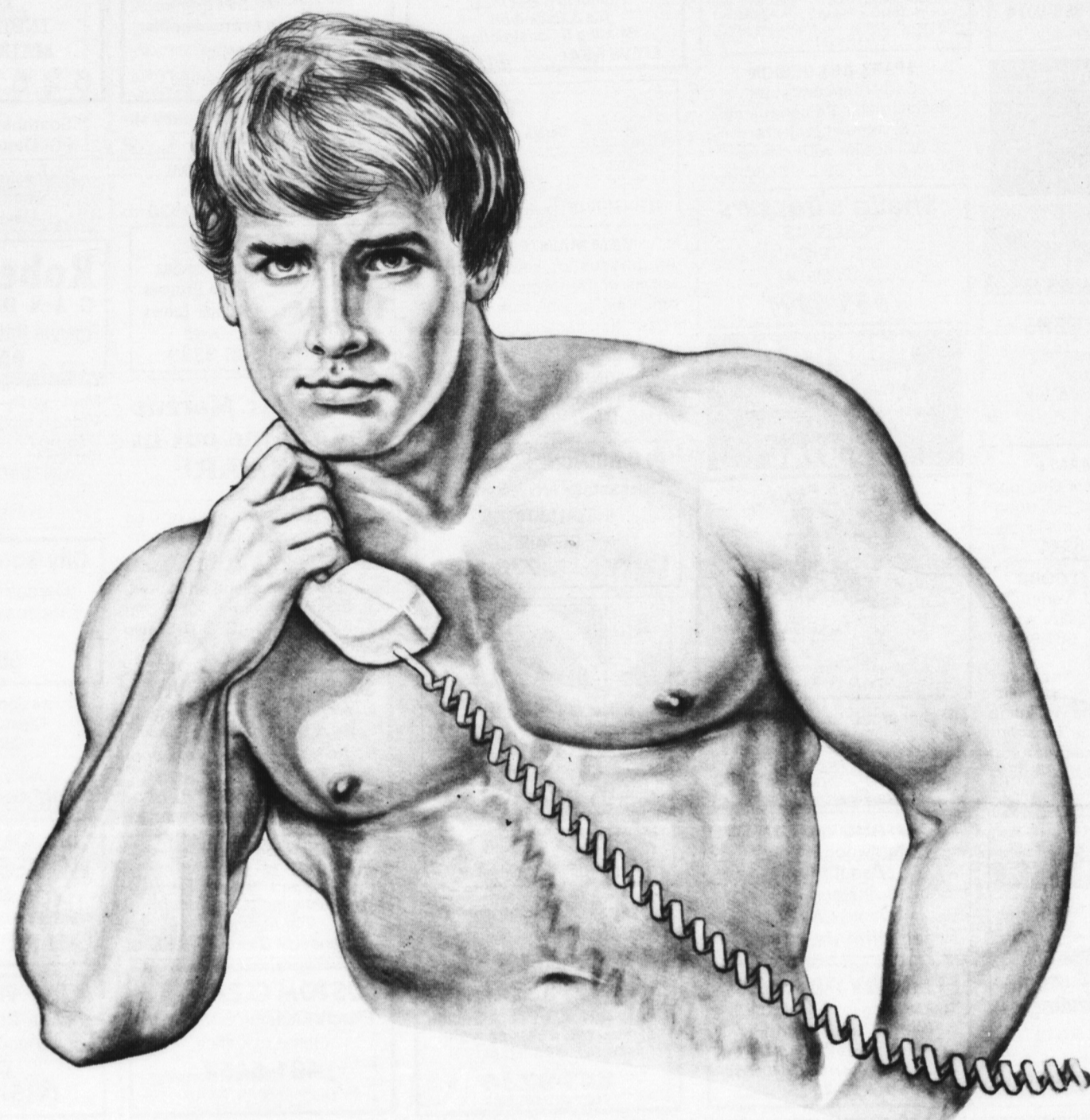
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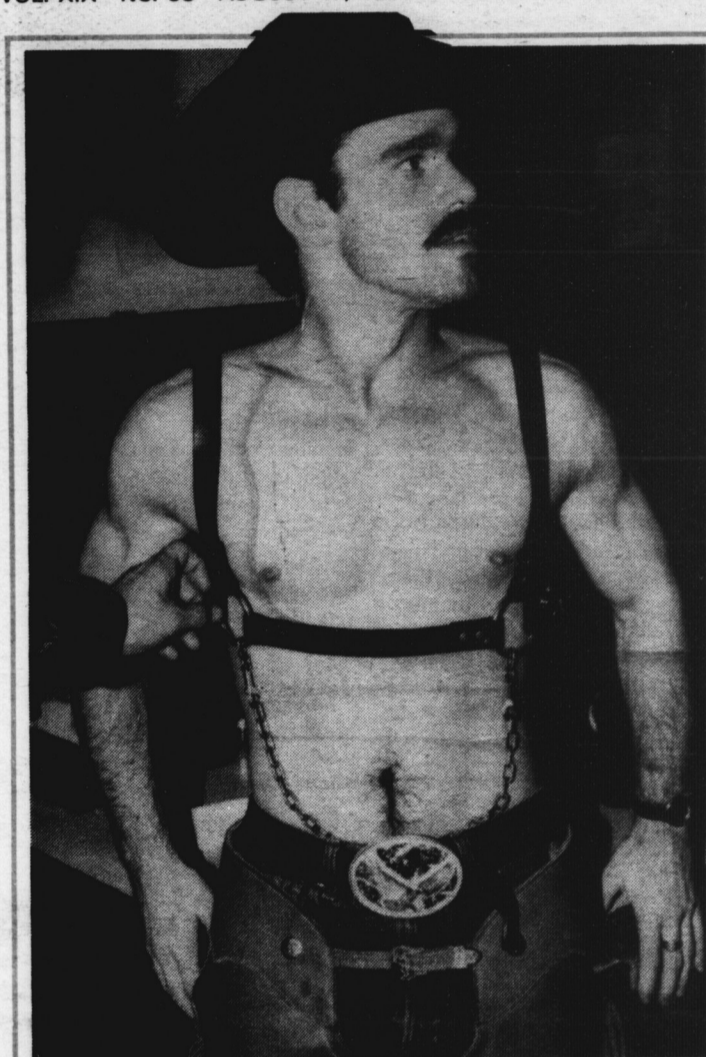
\* This call is only \$2 per call in most of the 213, 415, and 619 area codes. Matching is random and you may not hear another caller and yet still be charged. Call at peak night times to avoid unwanted charges. Additional toll charges may apply in some areas.

# BAY AREA REPORTER

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Another friendly face at the Eagle.

(Photo: Rink)

## AIDS Foundation Defends Large Consultants' Fee

Walk-a-Thon Contract, '88 Audit Released

by Allen White

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation is justifying its payment of nearly \$100,000 in fees to two AIDS Walk consultants because the organization's leaders believe they "have no other options." The statements were made this week as the foundation, responding to repeated requests by the *Bay Area Reporter*, released a summary of the costs for the 1988 AIDS Walk as well as the 1989 contract between the foundation and producers Craig Miller and Richard Zeichik.

Pat Christen, acting executive director of the foundation, said, "I would say we have no options in terms of the amount of money we have to raise in order to keep this agency open."

She continued, "The AIDS Foundation has not received a single additional dollar from this city in four years. We can't get any help from our own government. In relationship to the AIDS

Foundation, I do not believe the City of San Francisco has played its full and responsible role."

Figures were not released until this week for last year's event. The final accounting shows that Miller and Zeichik received a \$95,000 fee. As in 1987, the producers follow the AIDS Foundation (which received \$437,500) as the second-largest beneficiary of the AIDS Walk.

The summary shows that the Hospice of San Francisco and the San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund follow with a donation of \$88,749 each. Five other agencies received \$44,999, the Asian AIDS Task Force received \$21,875, the American Indian AIDS Institute was given \$13,125 and the Californians Against Proposition 102 received \$10,000.

The accountants who prepared the summary also note that \$32,848 "was not distributed to

participating agencies, as it will be used to pay for certain upfront costs of the AIDS Walk 1989, principally advance consulting fees of \$25,000."

The report also shows the 1988 AIDS Walk took in gross revenues of \$1,261,253.

Expenses in 1988 totaled \$292,162, of which the consultants received \$95,000, or just under a third of the cost of presenting the AIDS Walk.

The summary also shows the cost of an AIDS Walk "thank you" event. That event, similar to a party held last weekend at the Gift Center, cost \$14,242 in 1988.

This party is a condition of the agreement between the AIDS Foundation and consultants Miller and Zeichik. It calls on the AIDS Foundation to produce and mail tickets to walkers who participate in the AIDS Walk. The contract also specifically states,

(Continued on page 4)

## Live 105 Hires Controversial DJ

Perry Stone Was Fired in San Jose For Insulting Brownies on Air

by Allen White

Perry Stone, the controversial disc jockey who was thrown off the air in San Jose following an encounter with some Girl Scout Brownies, returned to the San Francisco air waves Tuesday morning.

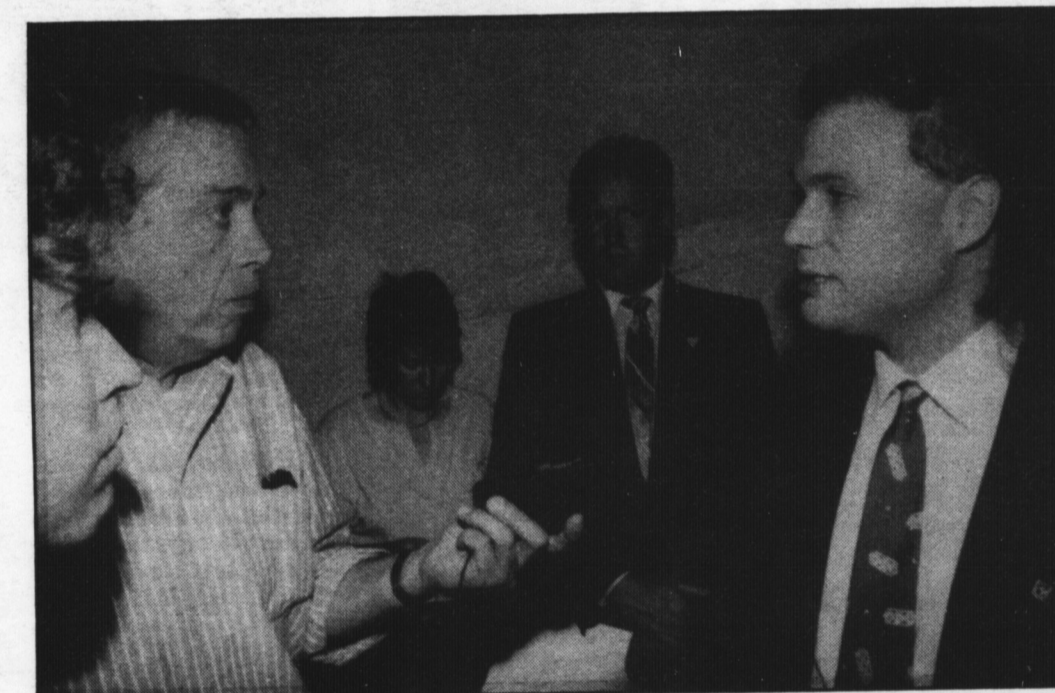
At a news conference Monday, Stone blamed his former bosses at KSJO in San Jose for urging him to be offensive.

"I think my former employer should take responsibility. They

gave me bonus checks when the ratings were great. The point of the show was to do what you can, get ratings and save this radio station. I was doing my job."

Asked why he hired Stone, KITS-FM General Manager Ed Krampf said, "You have to go back to why he is a symbol. On-air personalities are like actors. They are asked to play certain roles by management. Apparently

(Continued on page 2)



Disc jockey Perry Stone being interviewed by reporter Allen White at a KITS press conference promoting his return to San Francisco airwaves. Ken McPherson of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation is at rear.

(Photo: Rink)

## Skirmish Stopped at B-Ball Game; Extra Security Charge Dropped

by Dennis McMillan

A minor skirmish and potential violence was avoided by the gay men's basketball team during a game Sunday night, Aug. 13, at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center in Collingwood Park.

A group of 10 Latino men aged 16-20 who attempted to disrupt the game were ushered out by the team who then locked the gymnasium doors and continued

playing inside without incident. The basketball team had an excellent turnout of 16 men with an average height of over 6 feet 2 inches tall.

Attempts to charge an additional \$40 security guard fee on top of their \$64 fee for night use of the gym were foiled, according to Tony Jasinski of the gay basketball league. He said he

considered it discriminatory on the part of recreation center officials for demanding the team be charged for extra security when they were already paying for one security person.

According to superintendent of recreation Joel Robinson, the need for beefed-up security was brought on by a recent incident in which an incendiary device

was allegedly tossed at a person with AIDS in the gym.

The team satisfied recreation center officials' demands for security by appointing two team members as official security guards.

Jasinski told the *Bay Area Reporter* of an ongoing complaint, that Park and Rec facilitates only

two gay events a week—the basketball league games and a Saturday morning volleyball group—in the middle of a gay community.

"Being right smack in the Castro, it seems that the gay community has been kept out on purpose," Jasinski said.

He said that none of the staff at

(Continued on page 5)