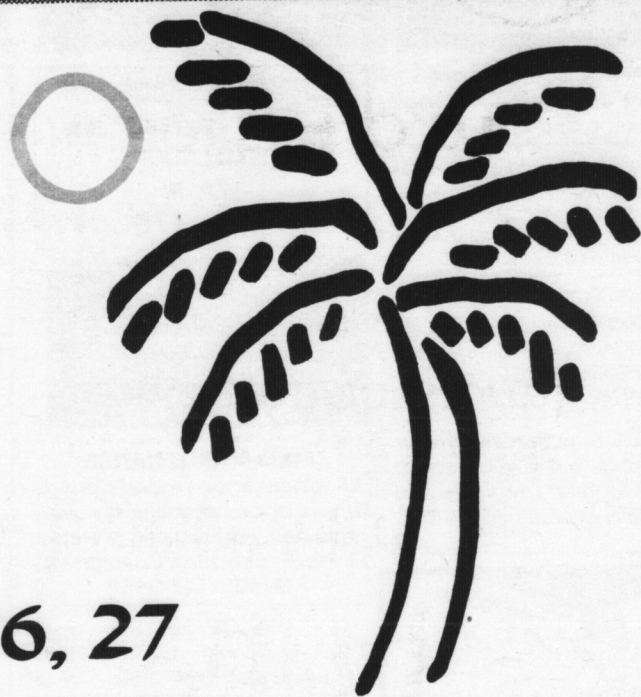


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August 25, 26, 27



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**Saturday** **Polynesian Luau**  
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**Saturday Night** **Hurricane Party**  
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# BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XIX NO. 34 AUGUST 24, 1989

395 NINTH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103-3831

TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019

## AZT Study Raises Hopes

Drug Can Delay Onset of AIDS;  
New Push Seen for Early Treatment

by David Smyth

Last week's announcement of a study showing that AZT can delay the development of AIDS ignited renewed interest in the drug, according to several agencies and physicians in San Francisco. But the high cost of the drug raised the possibility that the treatment will remain beyond the reach of many people who need it.

Volunteers at Project Inform's hotline noted a large increase in the number of calls related to AZT. The callers were mostly people who share many of the characteristics of the subjects of the study: they have 200 to 500 T4 immune cells, but they are otherwise relatively healthy.

J.B. Molaghan, the chief nurse practitioner at the AIDS Clinic at San Francisco General Hospital, said that, in the wake of the announcement, "there is a lot more interest in AZT. The questions [put by clients] are mostly about accessibility and should they take it." He added that the findings are "more empowering for people in the 300 to 500 T4 cell range" who previously had no federally sanctioned treatments for the infection.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation has received "a steady increase in calls" but "no overwhelming response" about the drug, according to Steven Petrow, a spokesperson for the



The Project Inform contingent marching in this year's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade behind a banner promoting early HIV testing and treatment. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

foundation. "Our position is that people should get as much information as possible about their medical condition. On April 19 we began a new ad campaign for people to reconsider their deci-

sion not to take the HIV antibody test. We think it's time for people at risk to seriously consider the test. It's an individual choice requiring the person to weigh the medical advantages against

possible discrimination," Petrow added.

"We're delighted they released this news. It validates a crucial part of Project Inform's philoso-

(Continued on page 2)

## Study Indicates Gays Relapsing into Unsafe Sex

by Drew Blakeman

Nearly one in five gay men in San Francisco still do not employ safe sexual practices on a consistent basis, according to a study presented in June at the Fifth International Conference on AIDS in Montreal.

The preliminary results of this study, and of a second showing the number of gays in the city who are not regularly practicing safe sex to be only one in 20, were presented by Dr. Maria L. Ekstrand, a research psychologist

with UCSF's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies.

Both studies are still incomplete and will not be published formally for another several months, according to Ekstrand, though the preliminary data have been finalized. The researchers considered only unprotected anal sex in their definition of risky sex and "did not look at oral sex at all," she said.

The two behavioral studies were presented jointly at the

Montreal conference under the title "Risky Sex Relapse: The Next Challenge for AIDS Prevention," and were included in a symposium on relapse on which Ekstrand was a panelist.

While the two San Francisco studies show significant statistical differences in the rate of relapse, they also confirm that the "vast majority" of gays in the city have maintained an unwavering commitment to safe sex. "We have never seen health behavior

changes like this before," Ekstrand said.

The study showing the higher incidence of unsafe sex relapse, conducted by the AIDS Behavioral Research Project (ABRP), involved self-report questionnaires mailed once a year to 473 men who were initially contacted in bars and bathhouses within the city. The second, the San Francisco Men's Health Study (SFMS), involved door-to-door interviews at six-month intervals

with 554 men living in the Castro.

The difference in results between the two studies may depend on their different survey methods, Ekstrand said, but added that this was "only speculation." The ABRP study specifically targeted men perceived as being at higher risk, while the SFMS study was a more random sampling, she said.

The higher rate of relapse shown in the ABRP study may

(Continued on page 13)

## OCC Probe of Officer Nearing Conclusion

by Dennis Conkin

An investigation by the Office of Citizens' Complaints into an anonymous complaint filed against Sgt. Francis Williams is close to being concluded, the Bay Area Reporter has learned.

The complaint was lodged after a photograph appeared in the Bay Area Reporter showing Williams, SFPD Badge #601, wearing rubber gloves as he readied to shake the proffered hand of a demonstrator.

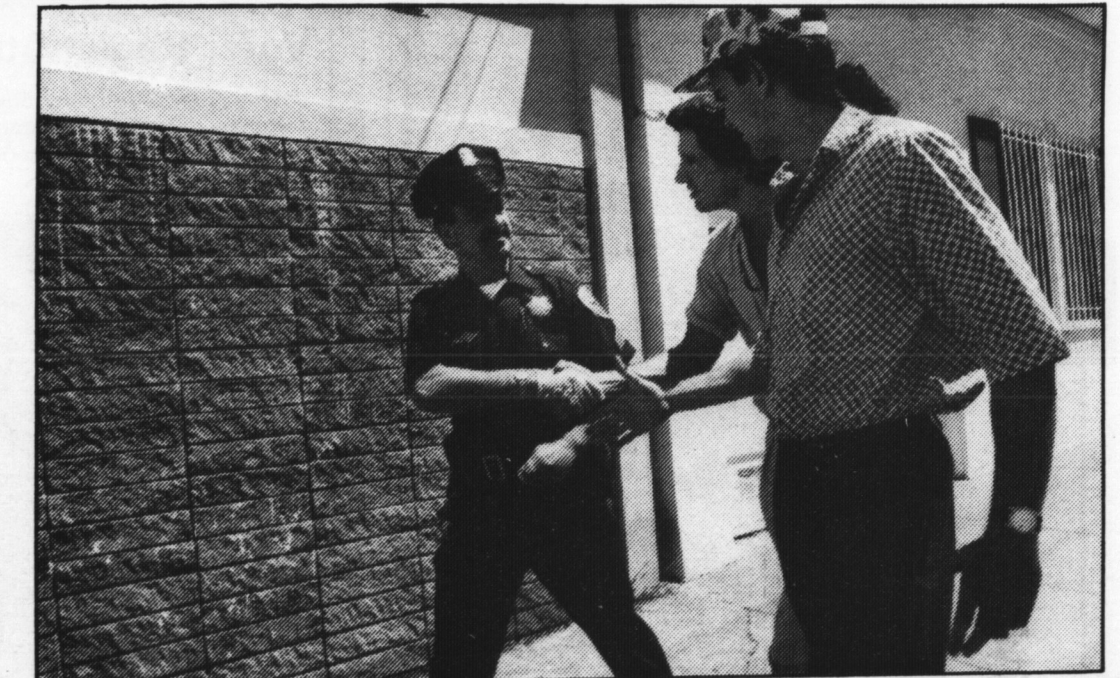
The complaint, charging "conduct discrediting an officer," was filed shortly after a July protest by gay activists at the First Orthodox Presbyterian Church in the Sunset district.

The Rev. Charles McIlhenny, pastor of the conservative denomination and an opponent of domestic partners legislation, spearheaded the drive to put the legislation on the November ballot.

"Once a complaint is filed," says Larry Shockey, an OCC investigator, "we begin to track down the facts. They can range from a very simple, perfunctory investigation to an extremely detailed investigation."

According to Shockey, following the investigation, the case goes to a supervisor and then the OCC director for review. If charges are sustained, the com-

(Continued on page 2)

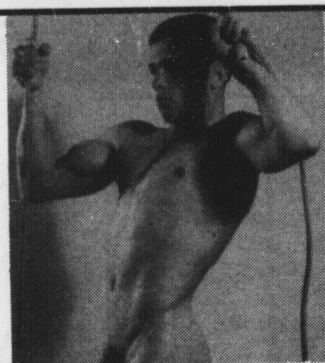


San Francisco Police Sgt. Francis Williams, left, who is under investigation by the Office of Citizens Complaints for donning rubber gloves before shaking hands with James and Derrick Tynan-Kennedy, gay protesters in favor of the domestic partnership law. The incident took place on Sunday, July 16. (Photo: Barbara J. Maggiani)

THIS PAPER IN TWO SECTIONS

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## AZT

(Continued from page 1)  
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General order D-19 was issued  
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education classes.

"If the officer was wearing

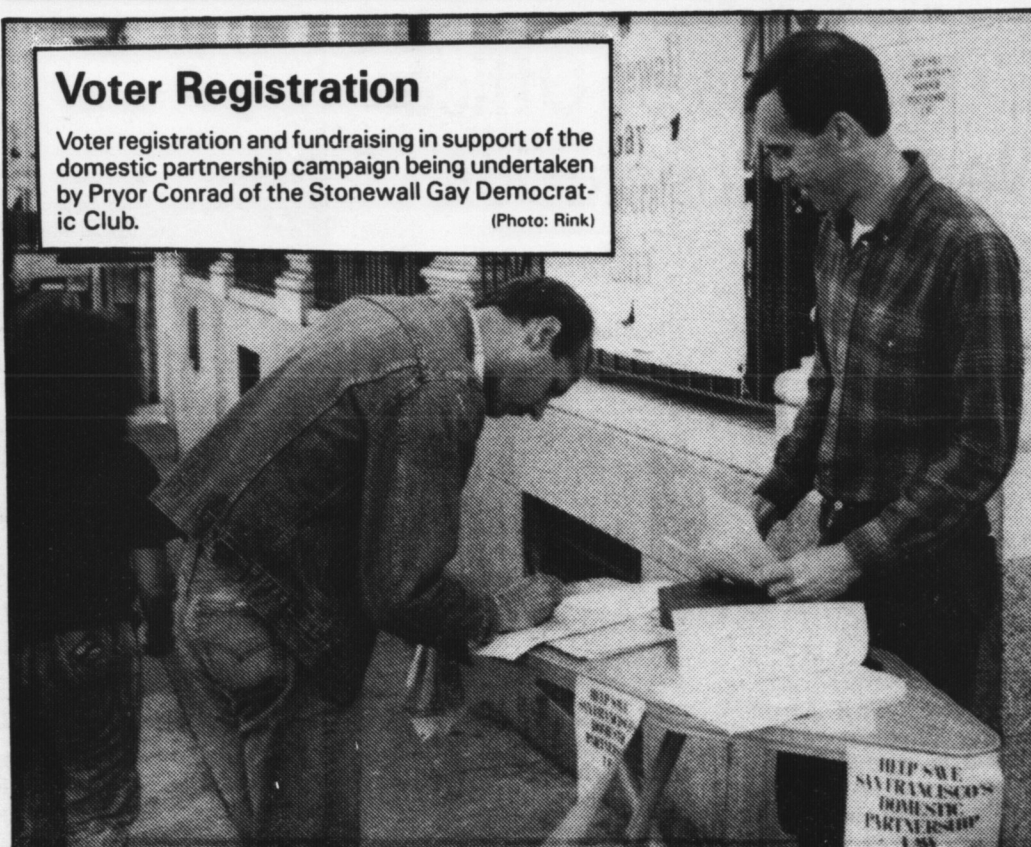
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"It's not acceptable."

According to sources, the offi-  
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measure because of cuts to his  
own hands.

Disciplinary action on sustain-  
ed charges by the Office of  
Citizens' Complaints can range  
from reprimand, counseling and  
training to dismissal from the  
force.

## Voter Registration

Voter registration and fundraising in support of the  
domestic partnership campaign being undertaken  
by Pryor Conrad of the Stonewall Gay Democrat-  
ic Club. (Photo: Rink)



## Kopp Criticizes California's Disability Insurance Policy

by Dennis Conkin

People with AIDS and other  
suffering permanent disabilities  
are forced to scramble when the  
rent every 10 weeks when their  
State Disability Insurance  
payments are interrupted. They  
must prove that they are still  
disabled to have the insurance  
benefits resume.

SDI premiums are automati-  
cally deducted from every Cali-  
fornia worker's paycheck.

Calling the recertification  
regulation of the Employment  
Development Department that  
administers the Disability In-  
surance payments program  
"deeply troubling and callous,"  
state Sen. Quentin Kopp recent-  
ly lambasted the EDD policy on  
behalf of a constituent with  
AIDS.

"As a result of your depart-  
ment's policy, he will be forced to  
endure numerous hardships in  
addition to the recurrent stress of  
obtaining certification of his con-  
dition from his physician. More-  
over, he and others will be sub-  
jected to interrupted payments,  
and therefore are forced to look  
to others to help them pay the  
rent, utilities and other basic  
necessities of life," Kopp stated  
in a letter to Kay Kiddoo, director  
of the Employment Development  
Department.

## Agnos Appoints New Rec-Park Commissioner

Mayor Art Agnos has ap-  
pointed Trent William Orr, foun-  
ding board member and secre-  
tary of the San Francisco League  
of Conservation Voters, to a seat  
on the Recreation and Park Com-  
mission.

He replaces Jeffrey K. Mori,  
whose term expired last month.  
Orr's term will run through  
1993.

Orr, 37, is a 1977 cum laude  
graduate of Harvard Law School.  
From 1978 through 1985 he was  
employed as staff attorney for  
Natural Resources Defense  
Council, the nation's largest non-  
profit environmental law firm. He  
is a self-employed writer and en-  
vironmental attorney.

The mayor pointed to Orr as  
another example of the new  
generation of leadership he is  
bringing into city government.

"Parks and recreation areas  
are essential oases in our crowd-  
ed environment, and their care  
and preservation should be en-  
trusted to people who have a  
deep commitment to protecting  
our open space," Agnos said.

"Trent Orr has been working  
in support of environmental  
causes for all of his adult life, and  
I have no doubt that his commit-  
ment, expertise and energy will  
contribute greatly to accom-  
plishing the work of the Rec  
Park commission," the mayor  
said.

Orr is an active member of the  
Sierra Club and a founding mem-  
ber of the Gay/Lesbian Sierrans  
section of the club's Bay Chapter.  
He is also vice president of the  
board of directors of the Califor-  
nia Wilderness Coalition and is  
active with the Harvey Milk Les-  
bian and Gay Democratic Club.

In the case of a recipient who  
is part of a large health maine-  
tance organization such as Kaiser,  
the payee must also track down  
his physician in the cumbersome  
bureaucratic maze, make ar-  
rangements to have the recer-  
tification form filled out and  
returned to the EDD.

"A lot can happen in two  
months. We find a number of  
clients, AIDS patients included,  
do return to work, which could af-  
fect their benefits," Kiddoo  
replied to Kopp. "Some change  
physicians, some pass away, and  
some move. We do need to con-  
trol the flow of payments to en-  
sure that they are appropriate."

State Disability Insurance  
payments are calculated on a  
quarterly basis during an  
18-month work period. Reci-  
pients are paid a weekly sum,  
based on the highest quarterly  
earnings, to a maximum weekly  
benefit of \$275. During the recer-  
tification process, which requires  
the submission by a physician of

a form with the diagnosis and its  
expected duration, benefits are  
temporarily suspended.

Upon receipt of the recer-  
tification, benefits resume and are  
paid through the date of recer-  
tification. The lag time means  
that a disability recipient depen-  
ding on the meager income is  
strapped for cash and must  
either borrow money or wait un-  
til the checks resume before rent  
can be paid or groceries pur-  
chased.

"I feel strongly that controls  
are necessary in the administra-  
tion of our program. We are a  
mail operation and do not re-  
quire in-person visits to our of-  
fices. I further feel that asking  
clients for a status report at the  
end of 10 weeks is certainly rea-  
sonable," Kiddoo told Kopp.

Although Kiddoo acknowl-  
edges that Kopp's constituent is  
permanently disabled, he said,  
"We have again placed in claim  
an automatic payment cycle—  
and he will receive another status



State Senator Quentin Kopp

(Photo: Rink)

request in 10 weeks."

As EDD director, Kiddoo was  
responsible for changing the  
recertification process from a bi-  
weekly to the current every  
10-week cycle. He has the authori-  
ty to change the regulation to  
allow people with AIDS and  
other permanent disabilities to  
receive benefits without interrup-  
tion.

"There must be a more hu-  
mane method of assuring pay-  
ments at regular intervals to the  
permanently disabled. Perhaps  
another administrative remedy is

available," Kopp suggests.

"Perhaps such persons could  
be required to certify under  
penalty of perjury that they will  
notify EDD in the unlikely event  
their disability ceases to be per-  
manent and they do return to  
work," Kopp told Kiddoo.

According to Kopp aide Joan  
Rummelsburg, Kopp is "really  
upset" about the EDD regula-  
tion. "In addition to having the  
stress of AIDS, our constituent  
now has to deal with the burden  
that the EDD is not responsive to  
his needs." ▼

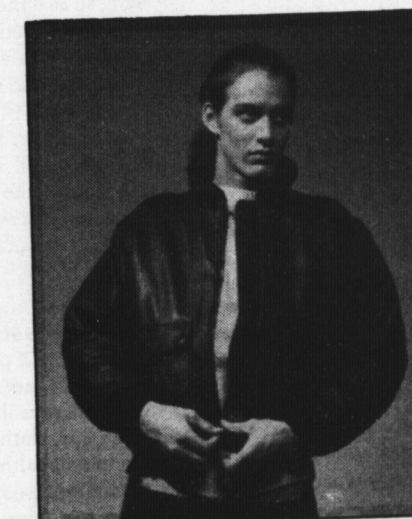


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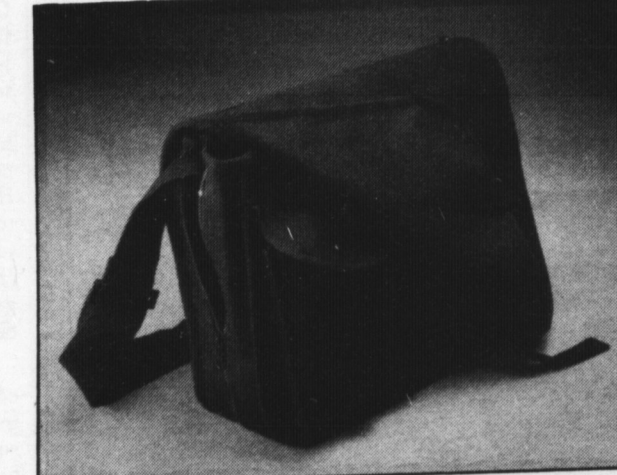
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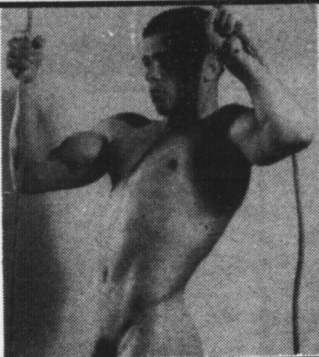
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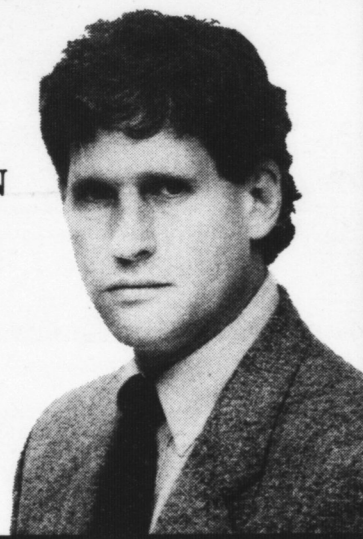
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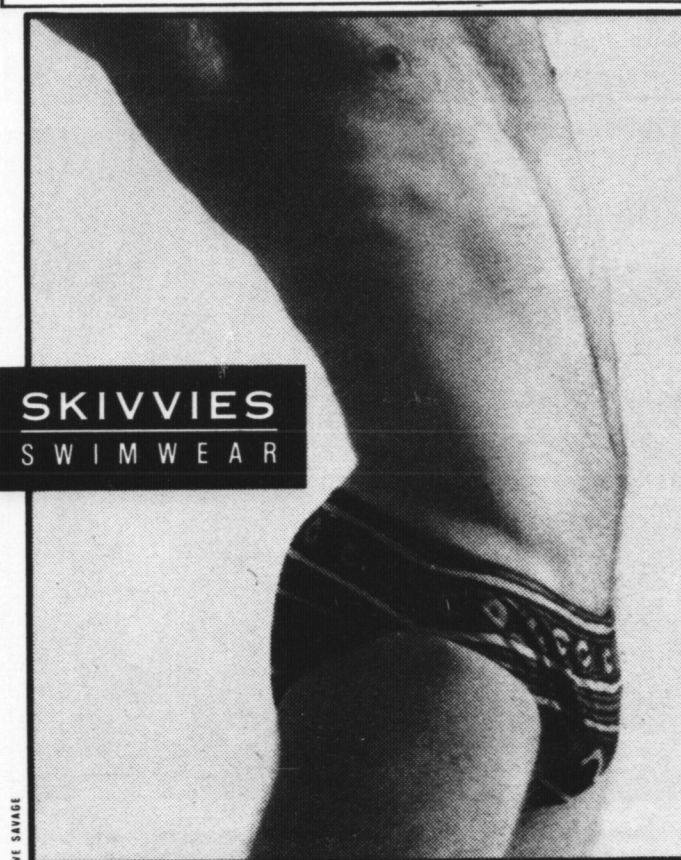


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General order D-19 was issued in February 1988. An accompanying five-page training bulletin is also mandatory reading for all police officers. In addition, the police academy conducts AIDS education classes.

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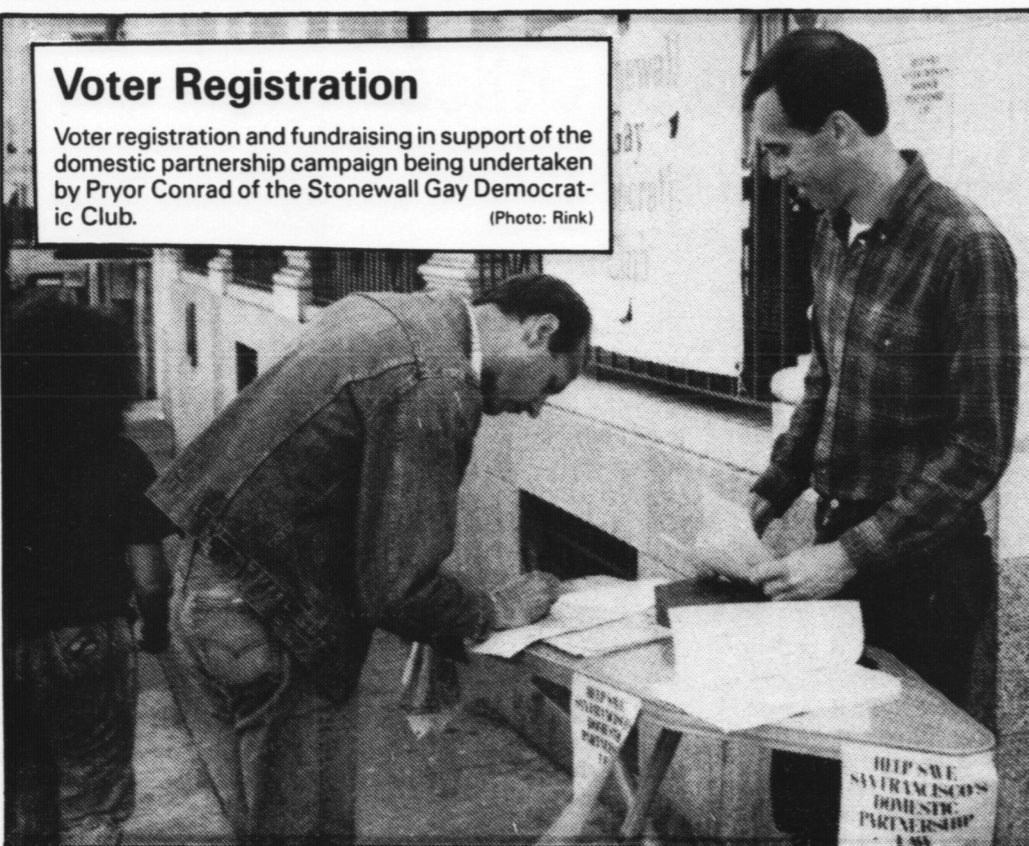
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He replaces Jeffrey K. Mori, whose term expired last month. Orr's term will run through 1993.

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"Parks and recreation areas are essential oases in our crowded environment, and their care and preservation should be entrusted to people who have a deep commitment to protecting our open space," Agnes said.

"Trent Orr has been working in support of environmental causes for all of his adult life, and I have no doubt that his commitment, expertise and energy will contribute greatly to accomplishing the work of the Rec Park commission," the mayor said.

Orr is an active member of the Sierra Club and a founding member of the Gay/Lesbian Sierrans section of the club's Bay Chapter. He is also vice president of the board of directors of the California Wilderness Coalition and is active with the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club.

In the case of a recipient who is part of a large health maintenance organization such as Kaiser, the payee must also track down his physician in the cumbersome bureaucratic maze, make arrangements to have the recertification form filled out and returned to the EDD.

"A lot can happen in two months. We find a number of clients, AIDS patients included, do return to work, which could affect their benefits," Kiddoo replied to Kopp. "Some change physicians, some pass away, and some move. We do need to control the flow of payments to ensure that they are appropriate."

State Disability Insurance payments are calculated on a quarterly basis during an 18-month work period. Recipients are paid a weekly sum, based on the highest quarterly earnings, to a maximum weekly benefit of \$275. During the recertification process, which requires the submission by a physician of

a form with the diagnosis and its expected duration, benefits are temporarily suspended.

Upon receipt of the recertification, benefits resume and are paid through the date of recertification. The lag time means that a disability recipient depending on the meager income is strapped for cash and must either borrow money or wait until the checks resume before rent can be paid or groceries purchased.

"I feel strongly that controls are necessary in the administration of our program. We are a mail operation and do not require in-person visits to our offices. I further feel that asking clients for a status report at the end of 10 weeks is certainly reasonable," Kiddoo told Kopp.

Although Kiddoo acknowledges that Kopp's constituent is permanently disabled, he said, "We have again placed in claim an automatic payment cycle—and he will receive another status



State Senator Quentin Kopp

(Photo: Rink)

request in 10 weeks."

As EDD director, Kiddoo was responsible for changing the recertification process from a bi-weekly to the current every 10-week cycle. He has the authority to change the regulation to allow people with AIDS and other permanent disabilities to receive benefits without interruption.

"There must be a more humane method of assuring payments at regular intervals to the permanently disabled. Perhaps another administrative remedy is

available," Kopp suggests.

"Perhaps such persons could be required to certify under penalty of perjury that they will notify EDD in the unlikely event their disability ceases to be permanent and they do return to work," Kopp told Kiddoo.

According to Kopp aide Joan Rummelsburg, Kopp is "really upset" about the EDD regulation. "In addition to having the stress of AIDS, our constituent now has to deal with the burden that the EDD is not responsive to his needs."

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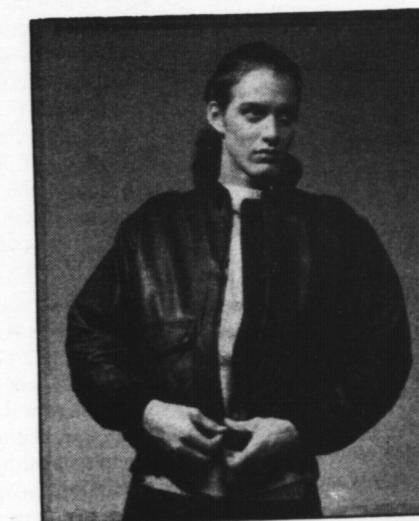
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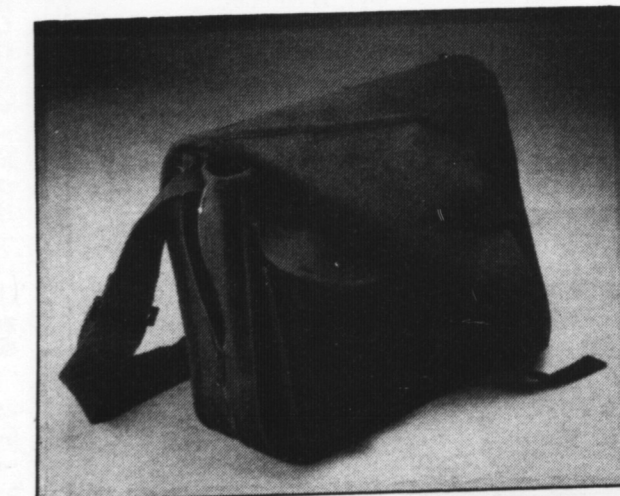


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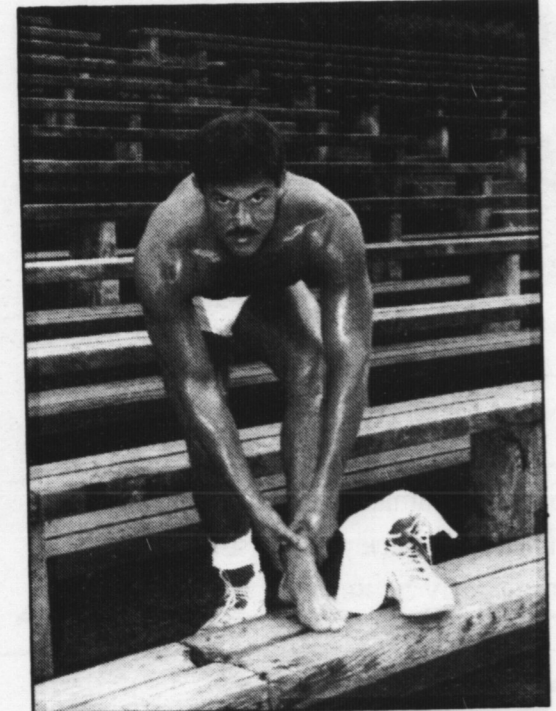
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# Acting and Activism

## Life Becomes Political Theater For One Lesbian Couple



Sydney Erskine, left, and Cindy Bologna, who filed a suit challenging the domestic partnership recall. (Photo: Barbara J. Maggiani)

by Noreen C. Barnes

Cindy Bologna and Sydney Erskine will celebrate their fourth year together and their second year in San Francisco this fall. Perhaps most recognizable as the couple pictured on the front page of the *San Francisco Examiner* several months ago, under the heading "More than a Piece of Paper," after the Board of Supervisors approved the domestic partners bill, they filed suit against the city in an attempt to reinstate the partnership law. Their motion, however, was denied last Friday, Aug. 18, and they will now file a similar suit with the state Court of Appeals.

Cindy, who is the coordinator for the volunteers at the National Gay Rights Advocates, which is filing the suit on their behalf, has found the domestic partners bill to be her latest "cause," and is working on the campaign. She believes it is very important to be public, to be able to go to City Hall to register their relationship, to let people know "that we are taxpayers, we live in Bernal Heights, have vegetables in our garden, and are part of San Francisco, and of society."

For the couple, life "has opened up" and "things have fallen into place" for them, both personally and professionally since being in San Francisco. Cindy's first political work was on Roberta Achtenberg's assembly campaign. A position at NGRA soon followed, and in that work she has had to use a great deal of compassion. She attributes the learning of the compassion from Sydney, who works as a massage therapist, to support her acting career (as most actors have to do). She has had leading roles in New Works Theatre's *Last Supper*, and in *Healin' Dirt Diner*, which recently ran at the Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros. She has found massage therapy work to be an extension of caring, and to come close to how she feels when she is acting: "It is giving, but in doing so, you get so much back."

In a written commitment they drew up together in September 1986, they pledged to "love, honor and respect each other, and to share intimately our separateness."

And it is that separateness that feeds their relationship, allows them to give of themselves fully to the relationship, support and listen to each other, and to be involved in what the other one does.

Sydney equates Cindy's excitement for politics with her own love for theatre, and says that they have similar goals and "ways of looking at the world." Their work carries a message, whether it is Sydney's portrayal of a character or Cindy's political activism.

This diversity in interests makes each of them continue to be interesting to the other. Cindy sees the point of their relationship being that of nurturing each of them so that they can continue their different activities. At times their schedules are so full that they have to make dates with each other to insure that they will be able to spend a few hours alone with each other. And they have finally found the equality that they wanted in a relationship but didn't believe—until now—was possible.

The concept of compromise is also an important one for them. They view it as a positive letting go of control, not a loss of self. Sydney also says she "learned to argue in this relationship—it can be a helpful, healthy thing." They found that they could have their separate opinions, and that it is vital to know what each other's views are, whether it is something that they see on the evening news, or the social implications of a play in which Sydney is performing.

Cindy says she has not been "overwhelmed by Sydney, by her big, stage personality." She found it to be quite a contrast to the real-life Sydney, who is actually a little shy. What Sydney discovered in this relationship was that "I didn't have to perform for Cindy. It was safe enough not to, and I didn't even want to."

She spoke of the discovery of a spiritual and emotional bond, and a vulnerability between them, and also a growth—rather than a diminishing—of their sexual relationship. Almost in unison, they laugh, "No 'lesbian bed-death' here." Sydney uses a

fire metaphor to describe it: "Symbolically, they are the initial sparks in a relationship. But at the heart of the fire are the embers, that burn a long time. It is those very hot coals that keep the fire going. We still want to make love. It's deeper, different. It's a miracle." She calls their relationship "a gift—and I want to keep giving the gift back."

They spoke of this as the first relationship in which each brings 100 percent of themselves to it, and where there is an element of trust, which they always desired but never really experienced before.

Suddenly, they break from what has been a rather straightforward discussion, and launch into an animated exchange, playing Gertie and Daphne, two women in their 90s, lovers who have been together for 69 years. These persons are alter egos that frequently help Sydney and Cindy when things are tense, or when a serious moment or argument (or, as Sydney prefers, "vivid discussion") needs to be defused. They have found a sense of humor and play to be essential to the growth of their relationship.

The couple is fortunate to have families that have been supportive when they came out to them, and who continue to genuinely care about their partner. And they, in turn, care about their partner's family. It was Cindy, because of her experience working with the elderly in nursing homes in New York, who filed a complaint on behalf of Sydney's mother when she was moved to another wing of a home against her will. They won, and it once again illustrated how important it is, no matter who you are, "to know what your rights are and where to go for information."

Finally, Cindy states that she still fears "the myopic religious views of some becoming the laws of many. I want to register my relationship with City Hall."

Sydney refers to an Indian expression about not judging others until you have walked in their moccasins. "Well," she says, "they can come walk in my moccasins."

# Barney Frank to Kick Off "Yes on S" Partners Campaign

## Fundraising Set to Begin; Budget is \$240,000

by Allen White

Congressman Barney Frank will be in San Francisco to help launch the effort to save San Francisco's domestic partnership law. The Yes on S campaign will have its official kickoff party Monday evening, August 28, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Cafe San Marcos on Market Street near Castro.

Contributors will spend from \$35 to \$1,000 to help finance a pro-partners campaign which is now budgeted at \$240,000.

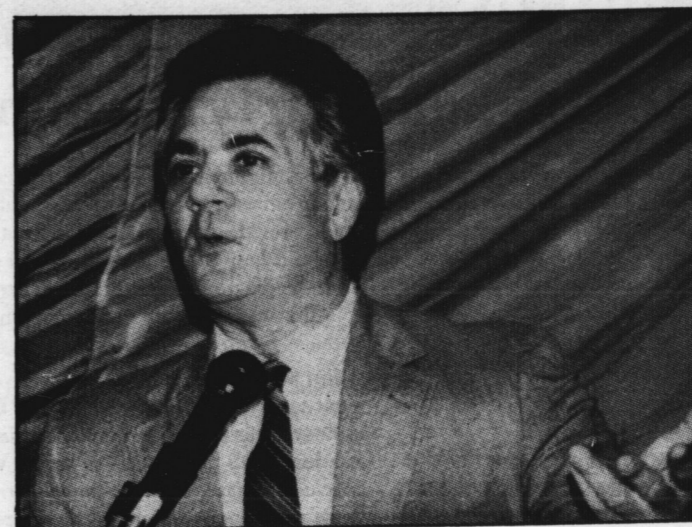
Campaign director Dick Pabich said, "\$250,000 is about what one spends to run for supervisor. It's one-eighth what someone spends to run for mayor, and it is nothing near what we raised here in San Francisco for No on 102. It is nothing compared to what will be spent on the ballpark or the rent control measures. It seems like a lot of money to those who don't know what campaigns cost, but it is really not out of the ballpark at all."

In preparing the budget for the campaign, Pabich said, "The reason it is expensive is the polling data indicates we have a big problem of turnout of supporters. That requires us to put together a very extensive field effort, which means a very large staff."

According to sources, the \$240,000 budget includes \$83,000 for staff; \$17,000 for consultants; \$15,000 for office rent; \$15,000 for direct mail; \$15,000 for printing; \$12,000 for field expenses; and \$20,000 for fundraising, excluding the salary of the campaign's fundraising coordinator.

The campaign headquarters will be a storefront location at the corner of Franklin and Market streets. Pabich said the occupancy of the offices has been delayed by the Pacific Bell telephone strike, which delayed installation of the telephones.

The official opening of the campaign headquarters will be Saturday morning, September 9, at 10 a.m. There will be buttons, signs and other campaign material available.



Congressman Barney Frank. (Photo: Rick)

An example of the battle facing the domestic partners campaign comes tonight with the endorsement meeting of the Republican County Central Committee. Current indications show that domestic partners will not be endorsed by the group. Among those who now state they will be voting against the measure are committee members Harriet Ross, Carol Marshall and Lee Dolson. The three have all asked for and received money from the Log Cabin Club, the local gay Republican club which, until recently, was known as the Concerned

Republicans for Individual Rights.

During her campaign as the Republican nominee against Milton Marks for the State Senate, Marshall continually spoke of being sympathetic to gay issues and received money from the local gay Republican club. Brian Mavrogeorge, former president of the gay Republican club, said the club's forces now believe the best they can do will be a "no endorsement" position from the county Republican committee. Sixty percent is needed for endorsement.

### Clarification

An article in the Aug. 17 issue of the *Bay Area Reporter* incorrectly reported that Michelle Roland of ACT UPSF had been invited by U.S. Public Health Service officials to consult with a Food and Drug Administration task force on parallel track testing of AIDS drugs.

Roland was invited by USPHS officials to consult with health officials on a variety of AIDS-related concerns, and her trip coincided with the FDS committee meeting at which Roland testified. But she was not there as a consultant for the FDA committee.

### AIDS Foundation Seeks New Director

"The San Francisco AIDS Foundation is seeking qualified candidates for the position of executive director," said William Glen, president of the Foundation's Board of Directors. "Korn/Ferry International has been engaged by the Foundation to conduct a nationwide executive search."

Interested candidates are encouraged to send a current resume and cover letter by Sept. 5 to:


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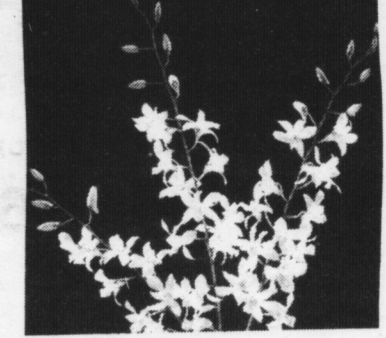
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# BAY AREA REPORTER OPEN FORUM

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## EDITORIAL & OPINION

### HIV Testing and Early Treatment

The federal government released the results of a scientific study last week that removes the last lingering doubts about the wisdom of HIV testing. The study, conducted under the auspices of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, found that carriers of the human immunodeficiency virus who were taking the drug AZT progressed to full-blown AIDS at half the rate of those who were taking an inert placebo. With the finding that proper medical treatment can delay the onset of AIDS, it becomes imperative that those at risk of contracting the disease monitor their health with every valid means at their disposal.

While the study was inconclusive for HIV-seropositives whose immune systems have not yet been compromised, it demonstrated beyond the shadow of a doubt that early treatment with AZT helps those whose T4 "helper" cells have fallen below 500 but who otherwise remain outwardly healthy. Further, it showed that patients were helped by taking as little as 500 milligrams of AZT a day. (Full dose is considered 1200 milligrams per day.) "This is a true breakthrough," said Dr. Samuel Broder, director of the National Cancer Institute. "And I don't use those words often."

Now the federal government must take a number of steps. First, it must pass and stringently enforce legislation prohibiting all forms of discrimination against those who are HIV-positive. The Americans with Disabilities Act, which has the support of Congress and of President Bush, is a good starting point, but it will not cover those who are in the early stages of HIV disease, only those who are in its late stage, the condition that heretofore has been known as "AIDS." Perhaps it is time for the Centers for Disease Control to officially redefine AIDS as the late stage of a spectrum illness that starts with HIV positivity but, with proper treatment, need no longer progress inexorably. Or perhaps the Americans with Disabilities Act, which is intended to stop discrimination in its most unreasoning forms, should be broadened to include all people with HIV infection.

Second, the government must make immediate and adequate provision for those tens of thousands of Americans who will need early treatment for HIV infection but who will be unable to afford it. According to the *New York Times*, "A substantial number of AIDS patients do not have health insurance and are not eligible for the government's Medicaid and Medicare benefits." The cost of early treatment is high: \$7,000 to \$8,000 per patient per year for a full dose of AZT; several hundred dollars for doctors' visits and medical monitoring; several hundred dollars for medical testing. The minimum the government can do now is to renew its AIDS drug assistance program, which is scheduled to expire in September.

Finally, it is time to do something better than the usual stopgap, patchwork solutions. It is time to plan and establish a national health care plan for all Americans. It is time for our government to wipe out, once and for all, the health care gap between rich and poor, urban and rural, white and black. It is time for the government to live up to the ideals of the founding fathers.

The framers of the Constitution conceived the new American system

in the Enlightenment model: a government was to be a social contract among citizens. In return for taxes and popular support, the government would provide essential services—notably, defense against invading armies and help in the face of natural disasters. The AIDS epidemic is a natural disaster as devastating as earthquake, flood, and typhoon, and it is the responsibility of the government to respond to it in a fully humane manner.

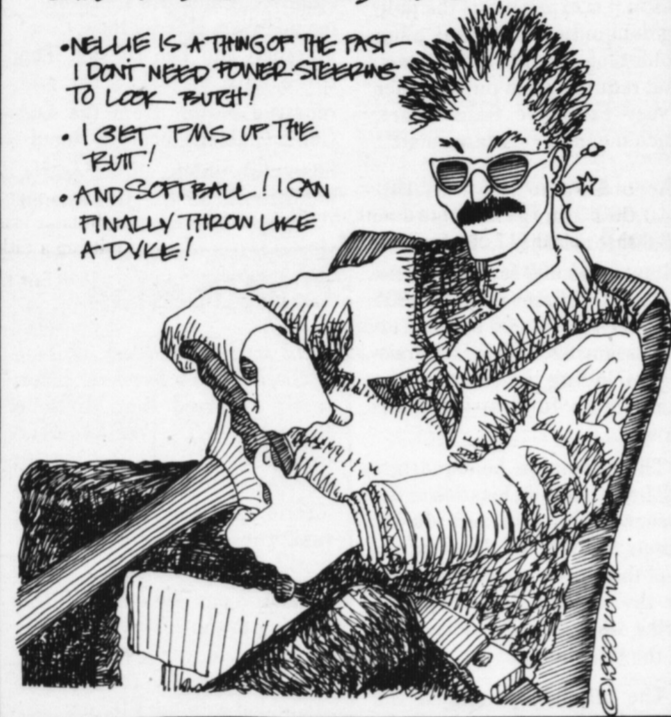
But we as individuals also have responsibilities. Insofar as we can, we must take care of our own health. Given the most recent scientific evidence, this means that it is essential for anyone who is at risk of contracting AIDS to know his or her HIV status. *Counseling, however, is crucial.* We have heard too many stories of rash steps, even suicides, by those who were psychologically unprepared to be told they were HIV-positive.

The most important aspect of the AZT study is that it provides hard, scientific proof that, finally, with the proper medical treatment, HIV disease is no longer a death sentence. For that news we are truly grateful. ▼

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## GUEST OPINION

### An Open Letter to President Bush

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to you out of a sense of my own integrity, my love of country, and the embarrassment I am experiencing at not being validated by my country.

I write as a human being, a man, and a combat decorated Vietnam veteran of the United States Marine Corps. I speak specifically about myself, and yet know that there are many thousands like me.

My service to our great country in the Marine Corps extended from 1967 to 1971. During those four years, I received five promotions, received two air strike medals for helicopter combat duty, and was awarded a secret security clearance assisting a Marine Corps two-star general in secret debriefings. In that capacity I was commonly recommended for meritorious promotions for exceeding the expectations for a Marine of my rank and tour of service. In addition, I enjoyed the respect and friendship of both officers and enlisted men alike.

All of this was achieved by me—a gay man who fulfilled the expectations of the Marine Corps and my country for anyone serving our country in the military. And there are tens of thousands of men and women just like me.

The current policies and procedures of our government make it unacceptable for gay men and women to serve our great country. But thousands do serve in spite of disgraceful legal and archaic social penalties which attempt to exclude them by reason of their sexual orientation from being fully functional American citizens.

I find it unjustifiable, incomprehensible that because of my God-given nature that I could have suffered a fate such as imprisonment,

less than honorable discharge and legal status designed to prevent my achieving career goals outside the military service, in spite of my college education and career preparation.

I strongly and respectfully recommend that not only is it truly time to stop squandering human beings of great potential, but that you yourself are in a strategically unique position to influence our government's policies which would not hold in contempt, nor disregard, nor disaffirm the nature of sexual orientation and the gifts which each of us can give to our country.

I felt treated as a second-class military man over our country's sad division regarding Vietnam, and now much acceptance and healing has occurred in that area; but not for gays and lesbians. Now create an acceptance of our gay men and lesbian women in the military.

America is founded on the precept of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, the Bill of Rights for all people. I implore you to truly extend these inalienable rights without exception to gay and lesbian people in the military service.

I sincerely trust in God that you will take the time and give true consideration to my thoughts and feelings and those like me, who have donated at great legal risks and with much bravery, their time, energy and lives in the military defense of our free nation.

Recognize my legitimate existence and honorable contribution to my country from a justifiably proud gay man.

Sincerely,  
Dean Lyle  
Santa Clara

## OPINIONS

### About Cartooning

★ The reason I drew the cartoon of Lynn Griffis was because I was mad, obviously, at her, not all women, but at her for leaving behind a trail of deceptions and especially for leaving. Dolores Huerta didn't split town when things turned ugly for her. And that's what I want from leaders in the community: not to leave when the heat's on.

It doesn't matter if she suffered an abused child hood—that's never been an excuse for cowardice. Abused children show incredible strength and don't necessarily grow up to do irresponsible things. I thought it was thoughtless of Griffis to leave us with a mess like this because there has always been homophobic violence. It doesn't need to be invented. Nobody's believed us much or cared. And perhaps now, that's true more than ever. I would hate to be the next queer who has to hobble into a precinct bloody from a hate crime, and face the mounting recriminations this case has opened up. Years of gay rights work has been brought into question. And this pisses me off.

What we know about Lynn is that she told some lies: she wasn't a clergy person, as she said. She may have been telling the truth about some parts of her story, but when a person's truthfulness is in question, their lies and inconsistencies are very relevant. That's why it is so important to face it and not run. It all started reminding me of lyrics from a Dylan song: "The only thing we knew for sure about Henry Porter was that his name was not Henry Porter."

About cartooning: obviously people weren't ready to see this one. It's rough to see a sister criticized, but I felt she did the same kind of damage that guys like Morton Downey, Jr. and Perry Stone do: she acted out publicly what they say about us. That is, that we cannot be trusted. When Morton Downey, Jr. claimed to have been beaten up by skinheads and later it was revealed that he did it himself, everybody just kind of laughed and said "What An Asshole! And we felt he discredited the entire homophobic right. Nobody, not one of us, stood up and said, 'Let's not judge him too harshly. No, we said, good-riddance! I was equally angry over the Lynn Griffis affair, and I'd rather be seen as politically incorrect than hypocritical. But that's cartooning. Do you want things nice and low-brained? Because I can do that, too, but don't you want more from advocacy journalism? Don't you want to see people take chances? Maybe I'm wrong and unfair, and she's innocent of all this and the police are just homophobic authoritarians, but she did tell some lies and leave town, and the police are homophobic authoritarians—it's just that now they feel more justified.

I was ruminating about this at breakfast and suddenly I realized that it's OK if not every Rice Krispie pops, the whole bowlful still has a nice poppy feeling; but if Snap Krackle and Pop suddenly decide to take qualuals and split, you wanna say, Hey, wait a minute. This ain't right!

Kris Kovick  
San Francisco

### Disservice

★ Frank Howell's review of Sheppard Kominars' book *Accepting Ourselves* (Aug. 3) was a disservice to an important book. All that comes across in this "review" is that Howell (1) knows nothing about 12-step philosophy, (2) finds the whole subject of addictions too distasteful to treat seriously, and (3) did not read the book.

He is too ignorant of the field of addiction recovery to know a landmark publishing event when he sees it. *Accepting Ourselves* is a commentary on the 12 steps for gays and lesbians in recovery. The first book of its kind, it is already being used by one counseling agency as a standard text in its aftercare program. I have read this book and found it cogent and wise. I have recommended it to my psychotherapy clients who are in recovery, and all have found it helpful. Kominars' book is destined to affect many lives.

Addiction affects 30 percent of our community. The problem is very serious, and Howell's breezy banalities are not an adequate treatment. I suggest that the *Bay Area Reporter* try again. Surely there must be someone on your staff with the intelligence to treat an important publication seriously.

Tom Moon, MFCC  
San Francisco

### Accountability

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I do not believe anyone questions the kinds of service or the dedication of the foundation staff in providing the best quality of service, but who is kidding

whom? Regardless of the rationale given by the foundation executive staff, by anyone's standard or calculation, \$95,000 is a lot of consultant bucks to pay for this one-day event. And there are surely other options in any fundraising process!

As the primary contributor, the lesbian and gay community is already stretched in terms of donations to any number of worthwhile causes. Moreover, when it is the same community, individually and collectively, going to begin demanding of organizations and their boards of directors responsibility and accountability regarding its fiscal policies and operations?

Robert J. Becker, L.C.S.W.  
San Francisco

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We should use the Old Testament when it comes to our enemies: "An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth." That's the only thing fag-bashers understand.

I was raised in the Catholic Church, and it's full of hate and hypocrisy. It is racist, sexist, and homophobic to this day. Quinn and the Pope are PR types pure and simple. Tax the church properties—they want a theocracy, not a democracy.

Look at the *Hardwick* decision—gays have no privacy rights. Now the cowardly religious Supreme Court throws the abortion issue back at the states when this issue was settled in 1973. It doesn't matter if you're gay or straight, black or white, Republican or Democrat, people's lives are on the line, and our so-called leadership gives us PR and political rhetoric, not real leadership. Power to the people, the American public is way ahead of Bush, Quinn, Pope, you name it.

Dennis Patterson  
San Francisco

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★ The review of Mike Hippler's book *Matlovich: The Good Soldier* by Marv. Shaw points to Matlovich's "apparent socio-political schizophrenia."

In Leonard's case, the inconsistencies are attributable to a lack of intellectual sophistication permitting a rather self-serving selection of creeds.

To be fair, this flaw is common in conservative ideologies; take, for instance, the large number of Republican women who favor abortion, or perhaps closeted homosexuals in the financial district who come out in their leisure hours to enjoy freedoms won in San Francisco by gay activists.

I suppose it makes sense that in America the *Time* cover portrayal of a gay hero (trained to kill in a pointless war) was beneficial to the gay image.

Mike Mason  
San Francisco

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★ I am writing in response to an article which ran in the August 3 issue, concerning the alleged hit-and-run death of a gay man in Guerneville.

While I did not know the victim, Al Martinez, I do know the individual charged, Poul-Kevin Beauford.

Facts are presented, though rather sloppily. There is a great deal more evident supporting Poul-Kevin's innocence than Mr. McMillan stated, evidence which is public record. Also, I counted at least three discrepancies in the facts as chronicled by Mr. McMillan. Not to mention the fact he consistently misspelled Poul-Kevin's name throughout the piece. This is a poor example of investigative reporting.

Poul-Kevin is a compassionate man. If he can help you, he will, no question. The sad fact of this case is that he's become the other victim, simply by reason of his good nature.

I feel this case, with the exception of Poul-Kevin's exoneration, to be far from over. And we, as the gay community, must pay closer attention to happenings like this in sleepy Sonoma County.

It's not all BBQs and tea dances.

Jody Keister  
San Francisco

### Trademark Infringement

★ I've finally seen the famous fuzzy Rob Lowe workout video. I don't think it is His Prettiness Mr. Lowe. On the tape he doesn't make his trademark funny gasping cry near the end.

Love,  
Strange de Jim  
San Francisco



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# BAY AREA REPORTER OPEN FORUM

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## EDITORIAL & OPINION

### HIV Testing and Early Treatment

The federal government released the results of a scientific study last week that removes the last lingering doubts about the wisdom of HIV testing. The study, conducted under the auspices of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, found that carriers of the human immunodeficiency virus who were taking the drug AZT progressed to full-blown AIDS at half the rate of those who were taking an inert placebo. With the finding that proper medical treatment can delay the onset of AIDS, it becomes imperative that those at risk of contracting the disease monitor their health with every valid means at their disposal.

While the study was inconclusive for HIV-seropositives whose immune systems have not yet been compromised, it demonstrated beyond the shadow of a doubt that early treatment with AZT helps those whose T4 "helper" cells have fallen below 500 but who otherwise remain outwardly healthy. Further, it showed that patients were helped by taking as little as 500 milligrams of AZT a day. (Full dose is considered 1200 milligrams per day.) "This is a true breakthrough," said Dr. Samuel Broder, director of the National Cancer Institute. "And I don't use those words often."

Now the federal government must take a number of steps. First, it must pass and stringently enforce legislation prohibiting all forms of discrimination against those who are HIV-positive. The Americans with Disabilities Act, which has the support of Congress and of President Bush, is a good starting point, but it will not cover those who are in the early stages of HIV disease, only those who are in its late stage, the condition that heretofore has been known as "AIDS." Perhaps it is time for the Centers for Disease Control to officially redefine AIDS as the late stage of a spectrum illness that starts with HIV positivity but, with proper treatment, need no longer progress inexorably. Or perhaps the Americans with Disabilities Act, which is intended to stop discrimination in its most unreasoning forms, should be broadened to include all people with HIV infection.

Second, the government must make immediate and adequate provision for those tens of thousands of Americans who will need early treatment for HIV infection but who will be unable to afford it. According to the *New York Times*, "A substantial number of AIDS patients do not have health insurance and are not eligible for the government's Medicaid and Medicare benefits." The cost of early treatment is high: \$7,000 to \$8,000 per patient per year for a full dose of AZT; several hundred dollars for doctors' visits and medical monitoring; several hundred dollars for medical testing. The *minimum* the government can do now is to renew its AIDS drug assistance program, which is scheduled to expire in September.

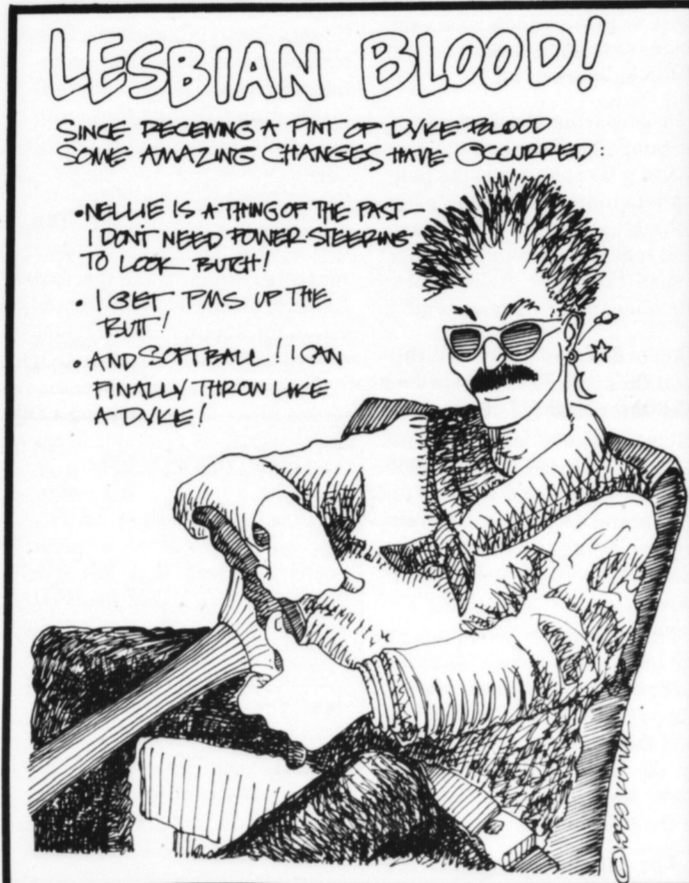
Finally, it is time to do something better than the usual stopgap, patchwork solutions. It is time to plan and establish a national health care plan for all Americans. It is time for our government to wipe out, once and for all, the health care gap between rich and poor, urban and rural, white and black. It is time for the government to live up to the ideals of the founding fathers.

The framers of the Constitution conceived the new American system

in the Enlightenment model: a government was to be a social contract among citizens. In return for taxes and popular support, the government would provide essential services—notably, defense against invading armies and help in the face of natural disasters. The AIDS epidemic is a natural disaster as devastating as earthquake, flood, and typhoon, and it is the responsibility of the government to respond to it in a fully humane manner.

But we as individuals also have responsibilities. Insofar as we can, we must take care of our own health. Given the most recent scientific evidence, this means that it is essential for anyone who is at risk of contracting AIDS to know his or her HIV status. *Counseling, however, is crucial.* We have heard too many stories of rash steps, even suicides, by those who were psychologically unprepared to be told they were HIV-positive.

The most important aspect of the AZT study is that it provides hard, scientific proof that, finally, with the proper medical treatment, HIV disease is no longer a death sentence. For that news we are truly grateful. ▼



## GUEST OPINION

### An Open Letter to President Bush

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to you out of a sense of my own integrity, my love of country, and the embarrassment I am experiencing at not being validated by my country.

I write as a human being, a man, and a combat decorated Vietnam veteran of the United States Marine Corps. I speak specifically about myself, and yet know that there are many thousands like me.

My service to our great country in the Marine Corps extended from 1967 to 1971. During those four years, I received five promotions, received two air strike medals for helicopter combat duty, and was awarded a secret security clearance assisting a Marine Corps two-star general in secret debriefings. In that capacity I was commonly recommended for meritorious promotions for exceeding the expectations for a Marine of my rank and tour of service. In addition, I enjoyed the respect and friendship of both officers and enlisted men alike.

All of this was achieved by me—a gay man who fulfilled the expectations of the Marine Corps and my country for anyone serving our country in the military. And there are tens of thousands of men and women just like me.

The current policies and procedures of our government make it unacceptable for gay men and women to serve our great country. But thousands do serve in spite of disgraceful legal and archaic social penalties which attempt to exclude them by reason of their sexual orientation from being fully functional American citizens.

I find it unjustifiable, incomprehensible that because of my God-given nature that I could have suffered a fate such as imprisonment,

less than honorable discharge and legal status designed to prevent my achieving career goals outside the military service, in spite of my college education and career preparation.

I strongly and respectfully recommend that not only is it truly time to stop squandering human beings of great potential, but that you yourself are in a strategically unique position to influence our government's policies which would not hold in contempt, nor disregard, nor disaffirm the nature of sexual orientation and the gifts which each of us can give to our country.

I felt treated as a second-class military man over our country's sad division regarding Vietnam, and now much acceptance and healing has occurred in that area; but not for gays and lesbians. Now create an acceptance of our gay men and lesbian women in the military.

America is founded on the precept of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, the Bill of Rights for all people. I implore you to truly extend these inalienable rights without exception to gay and lesbian people in the military service.

I sincerely trust in God that you will take the time and give true consideration to my thoughts and feelings and those like me, who have donated at great legal risks and with much bravery, their time, energy and lives in the military defense of our free nation.

Recognize my legitimate existence and honorable contribution to my country from a justifiably proud gay man.

Sincerely,  
Dean Lyle  
Santa Clara

## OPINIONS

### About Cartooning

★ The reason I drew the cartoon of Lynn Griffis was because I was mad, obviously, at her, not all women, but at her for leaving behind a trail of deceptions and especially for leaving. Dolores Huerta didn't split town when things turned ugly for her. And that's what I want from leaders in the community: not to leave when the heat's on.

It doesn't matter if she suffered an abused childhood—that's never been an excuse for cowardice. Abused children show incredible strength and don't necessarily grow up to do irresponsible things. I thought it was thoughtless of Griffis to leave us with a mess like this because there has always been homophobic violence. It doesn't need to be invented. Nobody's believed us much or cared. And perhaps now, that's true more than ever. I would hate to be the next queer who has to hobble into a precinct bloody from a hate crime, and face the mounting recriminations this case has opened up. Years of gay rights work has been brought into question. And this pisses me off.

What we know about Lynn is that she told some lies; she wasn't a clergy person, as she said. She may have been telling the truth about some parts of her story, but when a person's truthfulness is in question, their lies and inconsistencies are very relevant. That's why it is so important to face it and not run. It all started reminding me of lyrics from a Dylan song: "The only thing we knew for sure about Henry Porter was that his name was not Henry Porter."

About cartooning: obviously people weren't ready to see this one. It's rough to see a sister criticized, but I felt she did the same kind of damage that guys like Morton Downey, Jr. and Perry Stone do: she acted out publicly what they say about us. That is, that we cannot be trusted. When Morton Downey, Jr. claimed to have been beaten up by skinheads and later it was revealed that he did it himself, everybody just kind of laughed and said "What An Asshole!" And we felt he discredited the entire homophobic right. Nobody, not one of us, stood up and said, "Let's not judge him too harshly. No, we said, good-riddance! I was equally angry over the Lynn Griffis affair, and I'd rather be seen as politically incorrect than hypocritical. But that's cartooning. Do you want things nice and low-brained? Because I can do that, too, but don't you want more from advocacy journalism? Don't you want to see people take chances? Maybe I'm wrong and unfair, and she's innocent of all this and the police are just homophobic authoritarians, but she *did* tell some lies and leave town, and the police are homophobic authoritarians—it's just that now they feel more justified.

I was ruminating about this at breakfast and suddenly I realized that it's OK if not every Rice Krispie pops, the whole bowlful still has a nice poppy feeling; but if Snap Krackle and Pop suddenly decide to take quaaludes and split, you wanna say, Hey, wait a minute. This ain't right!

Kris Kovick  
San Francisco

### Disservice

★ Frank Howell's review of Sheppard Kominars' book *Accepting Ourselves* (Aug. 3) was a disservice to an important book. All that comes across in this "review" is that Howell (1) knows nothing about 12-step philosophy, (2) finds the whole subject of addictions too distasteful to treat seriously, and (3) did not read the book.

He is too ignorant of the field of addiction recovery to know a landmark publishing event when he sees it. *Accepting Ourselves* is a commentary on the 12 steps for gays and lesbians in recovery. The first book of its kind, it is already being used by one counseling agency as a standard text in its aftercare program. I have read this book and found it cogent and wise. I have recommended it to my psychotherapy clients who are in recovery, and all have found it helpful. Kominars' book is destined to affect many lives.

Addiction affects 30 percent of our community. The problem is very serious, and Howell's breezy banalities are not an adequate treatment. I suggest that the *Bay Area Reporter* try again. Surely there must be someone on your staff with the intelligence to treat an important publication seriously.

Tom Moon, MFCC  
San Francisco

### Accountability

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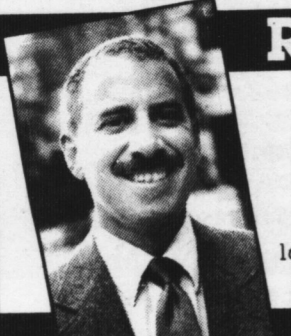
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**OPINIONS**

**Moral Charity for Everyone**

★ In reply to Francis Gibbons' letter in the Aug. 3 issue of the *Bay Area Reporter*, he needs a history and religion course. To begin with, there is no Calvinist "tradition" of western Christianity. The tradition of western Christianity is Latin and Roman Catholic. Calvinism was one of many efforts (including Lutheranism and Anglicanism) which attempted to reform western Christianity.

Also, the bishop of Rome (the Pope, which simply means father) is an autocrat who dictatorially decides what his followers are to believe and how they are to behave. And bishops like Archbishop John R. Quinn of San Francisco are his lackies—let one of them just try to defy John Paul II's will and see how long he retains his authority.

Concerning Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger's letter on "The Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons," it is a miracle this Neanderthal even refers to us as persons. This man was elevated to the high office of Cardinal by John Paul II, precisely because his views mirrored those of the current bishop of Rome.

Now as far as all of this thin-skinned anti-Catholic bullshit being spouted by Mr. Gibbons, as a former Roman Catholic who went to a Catholic school in Georgia, I find it offensive. Never once have I heard a Catholic nun, priest or bishop apologize for the Dominican or Spanish (Jesuit) Inquisitions, or the massacre of Native Americans by the Roman Catholic French, Spanish and Portuguese. I also find it amusing that Roman Catholics act like some oppressed minority within Christianity, when the number of Roman Catholics vastly outnumbers all other Christian sects put together (there are somewhere between 700,000,000-900,000,000 Catholics and 300,000,000 Protestants in the world). Even in the "Puritan-founded" United States (the framers of the Constitution were Quakers, Unitarians, Episcopalians, Catholics, and atheists) the Roman Catholic Church is by far the largest religious denomination, numbering about 78,000,000, and wields a tremendous cultural and political influence. Certainly a visit by the Archbishop of Canterbury does not generate the same excitement that the Pope does when he visits the U.S.

In the end, the Roman Catholic Church is denying the human dignity of all "homosexual persons" by its institutional rejection of us, and I will remind Mr. Gibbons that every Christian, regardless of his or her anything, knows that ultimately the followers of Jesus of the Gospels must live a life which reflects social and moral charity for everyone as a brother or sister, period, not just in Christ—and the Roman Church has yet to learn that message of love and tolerance which Jesus of Nazareth taught us, or else it would not be producing men like Carol Wojtilla and Joseph Ratzinger as its leaders.

Edwin Williams  
San Francisco

**They're Not Stars**

★ The gay bar owners are griping consistently and en masse about the falling off of business, blaming it on everything—AIDS, the homeless lying in the entry-ways of the bars, the meeting of "wrong" people in the bars that might result in gay bashing.

On and on ad nauseum. The real problem rests with the bartenders—all over San Francisco—who are the most indifferent, lackadaisical, snippy, sarcastic and greedy servants to the public anywhere in the United States. Confirmed by recent travels throughout this country.

Chicago, San Antonio, New Orleans, Washington, D.C., and yes, even the Seat of Hostility, New York, all have bartenders who are far friendly. And God forbid that your tip in San Francisco is not heavy; black looks.

I have owned bars and I know exactly what I would do first off if I owned one here—take the bartenders aside, give them some sorely needed smile lessons, and remind them they are publicans—not stars—yet.

My observations have been echoed strongly by a horde of recent visitors—not malcontents, just people who want to have a good time in a friendly bar with happy bartenders. They are almost non-existent here. Sad—and totally different in the '50s and '60s.

Randy Griffiths  
San Francisco

**Wilson's Support**

★ In Wayne Friday's always interesting column (Aug. 10), a brief comment was made about the election for mayor of Oakland. While I would be delighted to see Assembly representative Elihu Harris become the next mayor of Oakland, I think that the gay public should be aware of some pertinent information:

When the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club campaigned energetically for the Oakland gay rights ordinance, Mayor Wilson's unequivocal support was responsible for the ordinance's unanimous support, even among the conservative council members. He even speeded up its adoption that joyous evening at

City Hall.

He sought EBLGDC's help in recommendations for city commission members. Unfortunately, there were very few volunteers.

When he last ran for re-election, he chose to appear at only one of Oakland's several Democratic clubs, the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, held at Claremont Junior High School in north Oakland. He delivered and eloquent and deep concern for the hurt and injustice felt by both gays and blacks from discrimination.

Armand Boulay  
Berkeley

**Gay Pride Day**

★ Please think very long and hard before you make the mistake of changing the date for the Gay Pride Parade. What will we do in the future if San Diego or Sacramento or San Jose wants to be able to have their parade on one date, and then join with another city on another date?

I can't celebrate Christmas, July 4, Thanksgiving, my birthday, or any other important anniversary in two different geographic locations (well, not without a great deal of advance planning and a fast jet); so I am also willing to have to make a choice as to where I will celebrate Gay Pride Day. And no matter where I decide to do my celebrating, it will be done on the last weekend in June.

Frank C. Jackson  
San Francisco

**Strength from Diversity**

★ After seeing the listings for a video magazine titled *Outlook* for several months, I finally was able to sit down one evening and watch this program. As I turned to the station listed in the calendar section, I kept thinking that I had the wrong channel. The show that I found on the channel seemed to be a take off from the Donna Reed Show or Father Knows Best. What I saw was a straight couple being just too cute as they laughed, frowned and then finally hugged.

As I watched further, the message became stronger: gays and lesbians are white, middle-class and just like everyone else in America. A very clear image was presented in this program, an image that brings us back in time, not forward.

How many times does it have to be said? In the Bay Area, more than half the population are people of color—Latinos, Asians and blacks. And the gay community does reflect these figures. The gay community consists of the poor, the rich, the old and the young. We are church goers, punk rockers, VPs, handshakers, gold medal winners and AIDS patients fighting for our lives. We are also rich with our own history and culture. Unfortunately, I would not know this by watching the show *Outlook*.

In using one of the most powerful mediums in our society, *Outlook* needs to take more serious its responsibility to accurately represent our community. We don't need to be ashamed of our great diversity. Rather we should see it as a source of strength and pride.

Leroy Marks  
Oakland

**Brilliant Humor**

★ The one review of *Eighty-Sixed* in your last issue (Aug. 10) was stupid beyond belief. I read the book and thought it was quite good. All the reviewer did was take quotes out of context from the book and say how they weren't politically correct. It actually reminded me of book reports I wrote in the sixth grade.

*Eighty-Sixed* was a work of fiction, but it was based in reality. If the reviewer had ever been to New York City in the late '70s or early '80s, he would realize not everyone's reaction to the epidemic has been sane, especially in the hardcore Big Apple, where everything in the book takes place. Yes, it might be surprising, but the hysteria and paranoia about AIDS hasn't been just straight people, even some gay men have reacted at first with those emotions.

Safe sex is a relatively recent discovery, and the book *Eighty-Sixed* wasn't about educating people about safe sex. It was about the beginning of a horrifying decade of death and disease and how some people manage to keep their sense of humor and humanity while others have just freaked out and resigned themselves to negativity.

I would recommend *Eighty-Sixed* highly, and I think in the years to come if people want an idea of what it was like to be living in an harsh urban environment during the early days of the AIDS era, the book does the job with brilliant touches of humor.

Paul Constandino  
Hayward

**OPINIONS**

**Who Does He Think He Is?**

★ As the director of the production *The Odd Couple* which recently opened at the Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, I feel I must protest the treatment accorded the play by your reviewer, David Perry (Aug. 10).

While I do not feel that we deserve any special treatment because this production was by and for members of the gay community (although it might have been nice), it seems that David Perry bent over backward to be unkind.

To contend that he cannot think of a single theatrical idea worse than an all-male staging of Neil Simon's rewrite is ridiculous. He must not have thought very hard. Come on, David, lighten up!

The reviews we received in the *Chronicle* and the *Examiner* were admittedly generous to our production. They undoubtedly took our relative lack of experience in theatrical matters into consideration. At least Rosenberg of the *Examiner* noted the "wildly enthusiastic audience," and Weiner of the *Chronicle* called our show "gender-bending fun."

It is therefore a bitter pill to swallow that the worst treatment by a media organ would come from our own community newspaper. I am admittedly no Mike Nichols, but to refer to my staging as reflective of an "inherent lack of directorial impulses" seems a bit severe.

As far as I know, David Perry has no personal vendetta with anyone involved in our production, which makes the review all the more mysterious. Who does David Perry think he is? Better yet, who is he trying to be?

Andrew Black, Director  
*The Odd Couple*

**Why the Whip?**

★ My dear friend Mr. Marcus asked why I bought the whip at the Leather Daddies contest at the S.F. Eagle.

The answers:

Because the proceeds from the auction benefitted the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Because Mr. Marcus was the auctioneer.

Because, because, because, because of all the wonderful things it does.

Hugs to Mr. Marcus. Crack.

T.J. Anthony  
San Francisco

**Homophobic Co-Chairs**

The following was sent to members of the executive committee, Republican County Central Committee of San Francisco.

★ The Board of Directors and officers of the Log Cabin Club of San Francisco/CRIR wishes to express its dismay and disappointment over the selection of Senator John Doolittle and former Congressman Ernie Konnyu to serve as co-hosts for the Nicaro Relief Fund fundraiser sponsored by the San Francisco Republican Party. We will not attend the event because of the selection of these co-chairs.

Senator John Doolittle has made a career of gay-baiting and homophobia. He authored Proposition 102 along with Congressman Dannemeyer. Most health experts in the state believe it would have set back the battle against AIDS by a decade. It was resoundingly defeated by voters in every county of the state.

Doolittle has done everything within his power to persecute gays and make them appear as second-class citizens. He led the effort against AB-1 (which prohibited employment discrimination based on sexual orientation) and AB-3667 (which provided civil rights protections for persons who are HIV positive). It should be noted President Bush just negotiated with Congress recent legislation on disabilities to provide similar protections for HIV-positive persons at the federal level.

Senator Doolittle has been an unrelenting foe of every positive piece of legislation and funding to combat the AIDS epidemic. He has also led the battle statewide to decharter gay Republican clubs.

Former Congressman Konnyu was opposed in his first re-election race by Tom Ford, David Packard, and the Lincoln Club and was defeated by Tom Campbell in the June 1988 primary. He is a notorious womanizer whose actions precipitated complaints by female staffers and lobbyists alike. His selection is an affront to women everywhere and a continuing embarrassment to Republicans. He was also Terrence Faulkner's keynote speaker for the 1988 Lincoln Birthday dinner which attracted only 40 attendees.

We feel that regardless of Doolittle's or Konnyu's positions vis a vis the contras, they do not project the image of an inclusive and compassionate Republican Party that we are trying to build in San Francisco. They are an embarrassment to the GOP.

We hope that future events will be reviewed more carefully by the Executive Committee. We believe

that speakers should reflect the views of the County Central Committee and bring credit to all.

We look forward to working with you more closely in the future.

Ronald G. Kershaw  
President  
Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights  
San Francisco

**Inviting the 'Deviates'**

The following was sent to the San Francisco Republican Party.

★ Dear Fellow Republicans:

We are concerned at receiving an invitation co-hosted by Senator John Doolittle. We do not believe it appropriate that invitations be sent to those whom the Honorable Mr. Doolittle publicly belittles and considers "deviates"—among the nicer terms he uses to describe homosexuals or others not of his like.

I am sure you would not send invitations to black Republicans listing, as a co-host, the ex-Klan grand poo-bah Republican legislator from Louisiana.

Paul E. Johnson  
Kevin W. Wadsworth  
San Francisco

**Welcome News**

★ The news that Project Open Hand is now helping in Oakland is welcome news. My son died of AIDS four years ago and his friend just two years ago. I have been a volunteer at The Center in Oakland for over a year and know from first-hand experience the extreme care and love given every person who enters the door. For this reason, I am unable to understand Mr. Saxon's "fear" about The Center.

In the year I have been at The Center, I have never experienced any questions about religion of any person. We are not affiliated with the Catholic Church but exist to offer myriad services to all persons testing HIV-positive.

It may interest your readers to know that we have a world-mix of people, both serving people and, in turn, being served by the people who enter the open door at The Center. Young men and women, older men and women, mothers, little children, all are part of our family. I believe our challenge, each of us concerned about the AIDS crisis is to move beyond our own prejudices and rejoice when we can join forces to confront the burden which AIDS places on us all. I would like to invite Mr. Saxon to come visit and see our home. If he comes on Friday I will be in the kitchen preparing lunch!

Roce Marciano Lucey  
Oakland

**Uncalled For**

★ As a writer of gay novels, I must comment on Mike Hippler's attack on *Eighty-Sixed* by David Feinberg (Aug. 3). Personally, I thought the book was a *tour de force*—well-written, funny, terrifying and ultimately tragic. If Mr. Hippler does not consider this reaction to be the proper one, so be it. I don't care that he disliked the book; I don't even care that his oft-mentioned lover dismisses most gay writing as a waste of time. But I do care that someone who airs his opinions in public should make the mistake of identifying a novel's narrator with its author. Novelists use first-person narrative for a number of reasons; it is often the best way to get inside a character's head. While there is probably a little of the author in all his or her characters, the narrator of a novel is as much a fictional creation as anyone else in it. I would hate for readers to think that Joe in my book *Joe and the Show Queen* is really me or that I share all his opinions (though I do wish I looked like him). Whatever his reservations about *Eighty-Sixed*, Hippler's ad hominem attacks on Mr. Feinberg were uncalled for and inappropriate.

Larry Howard  
Reno, Nevada

**Words of Wisdom**

★ Why not some ARCAIDS commentary on reading? It's one source of supportive thoughts, perhaps as from Seneca: "You will die not because you are sick but because you are alive." Or perhaps Van Gogh: "One must never trust the occasion when one is without difficulties."

Besides, less noises "As still are wont t' annoy the walled town, / Might there be heard; but careless Quiet lies/ Wrapt in eternal silence farre from enemies."

James Sponagle  
San Francisco

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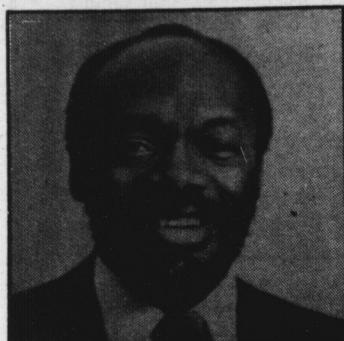
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City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health

## Cranston's Growing Political Troubles

Some of Senator Alan Cranston's political allies are worried that the senator is so obsessed with raising campaign funds and getting re-elected in 1992 that his choice of friendships and fundraising activities may be clouding his image as an effective legislator. Recent stories linking Cranston to indicted junk-bond king

Michael Milken, and the senator's admission that he accepted no less than \$850,000 for "voter registration projects" from officials of the bankrupt Lincoln Savings & Loan Association after having defended the ailing S&L group with federal regulators, has put the 75-year-old senator's political career in jeopardy.



Speaker Willie Brown.

Cranston, never known as a politician who was reluctant to ask anyone he met for campaign funds, is said by some of his friends to be so worried about his own re-election in 1992 that he is spending much of his time nervously building a war chest for what he expects to be a tough race against the Republicans.

In 1986, Cranston won a tough campaign against Republican Ed Zschau, and some of his friends say that campaign put a fear in the senator that has never been overcome. While Cranston seems to be worried that Zschau or another Republican can take him in 1992, the recent series of events that threaten to tarnish the senator's long career has made his seat look appealing even to a number of Democrats. Party insiders are saying that at least six well-known Democrats are privately considering a run against Cranston in the Democratic primary when he comes up for re-election.

One Democratic congressman from the state complained recently that Cranston rarely seems to be interested anymore in what was long his first love—foreign policy—or pending domestic legislation. Instead, the congressman, a longtime Cranston friend, said, "Whenever we get together... he's always talking about his political organizations, voter drives and fundraisers."

Mervin Field, the respected California pollster, observing the Cranston dilemma, said last week that this image of the senator will hurt him if it becomes the overriding perception of voters. "The insiders [in both parties] smell blood," Field says. "Because of his age and the fact that he won so narrowly in 1986, the Republicans were going to target him anyway. But now, they will think he's even more vulnerable and they will have an even greater zeal. And on the Democratic side, there is now a greater chance he will be challenged in a primary."

Cranston, who has consistently criticized Republicans for sleazy ethical standards, is now being scrutinized by the press and others for troubles that started when it was revealed that he had interceded on behalf of the troubled Lincoln Savings &

Loan Association of Irvine, California. Cranston and the other senators went to bat for Lincoln at the request of Lincoln's Charles Keating, who had made large political contributions to all four. After the 1987 meetings, Keating then donated \$850,000 to three foundations affiliated with or controlled by Cranston.

While it cannot be proved that the intervention on behalf of Cranston and the others was the reason the Lincoln S&L was allowed to remain in business for another two years, political observers predict that Cranston's opponents will probably suggest such a connection.

Newspapers around the state were pointing out Cranston's image troubles this week, with both the *Los Angeles Times* and the *San Jose Mercury News* running feature articles on the senior senator's political problems. Speaking specifically about Alan Cranston's dubious connections with the Lincoln Savings & Loan people, another member of congress from northern California told the *Mercury News* that Cranston "just doesn't see how this stuff looks—that was Jim Wright's and Tony Coelho's downfall, too."

Alan Cranston's political career is in big trouble, and though the next senate election in California is still two and a half years away, opponents of the long-time senator are already lining up. Republicans see the Cranston seat as one that they can take, and Democrats are beginning to wonder aloud whether the aging incumbent is the guy who can keep it for them.

The Committee to Save San Francisco's Domestic Partnership Law will kick off its efforts at a Yes on 'S' fundraiser/rally next Monday (Aug. 28) at Cafe San Marcos; 5:30-7:30; \$35 donation asked.

Seldom have I read or heard anything as bigoted, homophobic and racist as the remarks being attributed to Perry Stone, the so-called "shock jock" who was recently hired by KITS-FM. I mean, is this guy a slime-ball or what? Little can be said for the ratings-minded whores who hired him, either. They are as disgusting as he is.

A recent California Poll of 754 registered voters shows that 61 percent of the state's voters strongly support the idea of an earlier primary election date, which presumably would give California a bigger say in who becomes president. The proposed plan would move the primary date up from June to either February or March.

Sorry to disappoint that political columnist (?) from the other

weekly who recently asked readers to send campaign checks to former North Carolina Governor Jim Hunt, who he predicted would be running against Senator Jesse Helms next year, but Governor Hunt announced last week he wouldn't be a candidate. This is the same writer, incidentally, who announced a bit too early that Pat Norman was being appointed to the Police Commission. (That crystal ball will do you in every time, fella.)

Don't tell this to Speaker Willie Brown, but the state of Texas has no less than 14 airplanes for the use of their governor and other elected officials. Brown, you see, got his appointments fouled up recently in San Diego and now wants the state to hire a jet for use by him and other California officials.



Rep. William Dannemeyer.

(Photo: Rink)

Just when the U.S. Senate finished approving a bill sponsored by Senator Jesse Helms that calls for cutting off public funding for artworks considered obscene, including those depicting homoeroticism, it turns out that the June 29 *Congressional Record*, the official log of Congress, contains a section, inserted by the notoriously anti-gay Rep.

(Continued on page 19)



State Senator John Doolittle.

## Cruisin' the Castro

Quickly now: How many people does the Castro Theater seat? In what year did Harvey Milk open his camera shop, and exactly where was it located? What was architecturally significant about the Elephant Walk bar before it burned late last year, and what happened there in May, 1989?

If you can't answer these questions, fear not—there is someone who can answer them for you. Her name is Trevor Hailey, and, as far as she knows, she is the first and only tour guide specializing in gay community tours in San Francisco. Her focus, of course, is the Castro, and the name of the tour, which she offers by appointment only, is *Cruisin' the Castro*.

A nurse by profession, Hailey returned to school at San Francisco State after a long hiatus and earned a masters degree in recreation and leisure earlier this year. It was her desire to become involved with tourism and, at the same time, to work with the gay community.

"At first," she explains, "I thought about giving groups of gay people tours of San Francisco. Then a woman came to one of my classes who does a walking tour of Chinatown, and that's when the idea hit me. I could do a walking tour of my own community. We have a sizeable history, which too few of us know very much about. I thought I could impart an appreciation for that history in an informal, entertaining manner.

"Too many people think that the Castro has always been the way it is today. They aren't aware that it developed over the course of time, that it was hard-won. Many older gay people were too busy trying to protect themselves at the time to take part in the struggle or learn much about it. And many younger people simply assume that the Castro sprang full-bloom from a rock."

To prepare her tour, Hailey did a good deal of research. She started with Randy Shilts's book, *The Mayor of Castro Street*. She continued with the films *Before Stonewall* and *The Life and Times of Harvey Milk*. Then she visited the San Francisco Bay Area Gay and Lesbian Historical Society and made extensive use of their archives.

Meanwhile, Hailey modified her original idea somewhat. She still planned to give her tour to gay people, but she decided to reach out to straight people as well. "I really do feel like there is a market for it in the straight population," she notes. "Be-

cause of AIDS, unfortunately, there is more of an interest in the gay community than ever before. But that isn't necessarily a bad thing. We can use it to our advantage.

"I see those Gray Line Tours going through the Castro, and I'm sure there are a number of people on those buses whose curiosity goes beyond gawking and staring through smoked gray windows, who would like to get off and look around. When I was planning my tour, I thought if only I could reach those people, perhaps they might learn something."

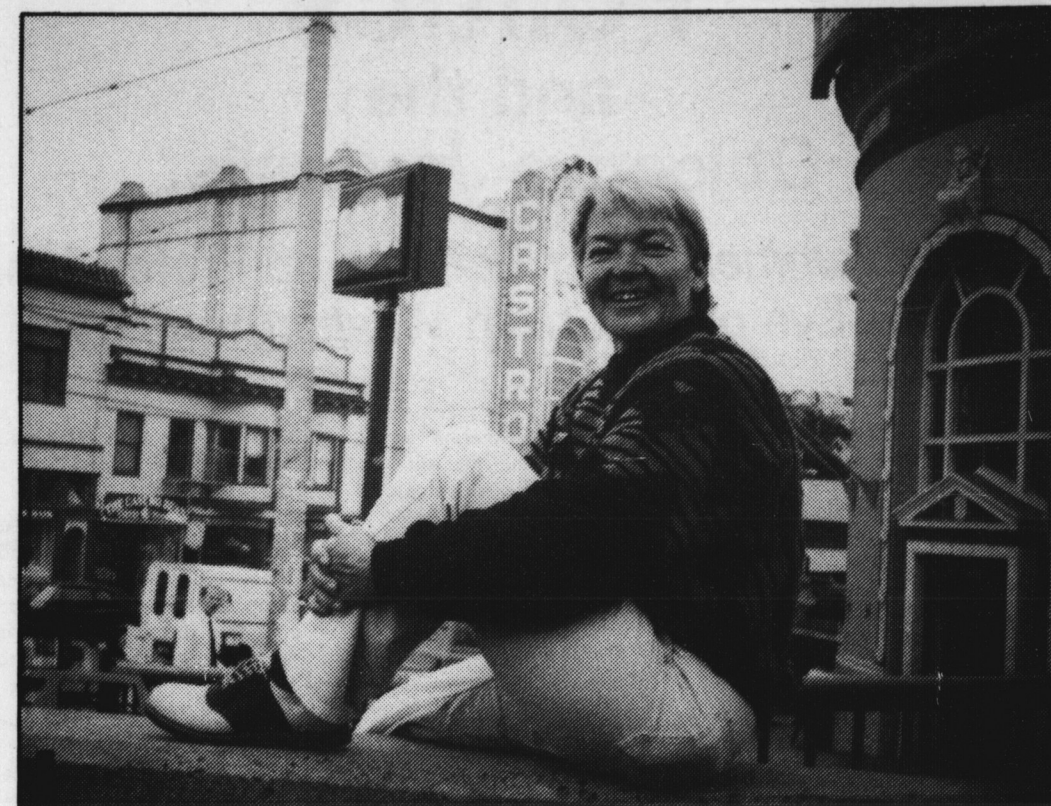
While still a graduate student at State, Hailey began to do the hard work necessary to make her dream a reality. After graduation, she intensified her efforts. First, she developed a brochure and distributed it to hotels, travel agencies, and visitors' information centers. Then she joined the San Francisco Convention and Visitors Bureau and the International Gay Travel Association to promote the project through their publications. She even recruited friends, both here and across the country, to spread the word.

Devoting her two-week vacation in June to the project, Hailey extended her vacation until the end of July, when she realized that two weeks was hardly enough time to get started. The next step was to change her status from a full-time to a per-diem nurse to establish a flexible schedule.

"I knew I would have to give it my full commitment if I was going to make it a success, and that's what I've done," she says. "I feel really good about it. It has felt like a solid idea from the beginning. True, it has taken a lot longer than I thought, but I'm willing to learn as I go."

Finally, in July, Hailey began giving tours. She has been giving them steadily ever since. The tour is offered daily, any morning of the week, and is approximately three hours long. Included is a visit to the home of the Names Project, lunch at the Patio Cafe, and plenty of time for shopping and browsing. Tours range in size from one to 12 people, and may be tailored to fit individual or group needs.

A natural story-teller, perhaps as a consequence of her Mississippi upbringing, Hailey is an accomplished entertainer, disdaining dry fact for lively anecdote. Her manner is casual and gregarious; the interest she takes in her clients is sincere. For those taking the tour, the rapport they establish with her is as important



Trevor Hailey of Cruisin' the Castro.

as the information she imparts. The feeling is mutual. Hailey recalls with particular fondness one middle-aged woman on a business trip who took the tour because she wanted to do something interesting and unique.

"The tour was such a positive experience for her," reports Hailey, "that even though she

was straight, she wanted to get involved, to help out somehow. When we visited the Names Project, she pulled out her checkbook and wrote a check. Then she copied their wish list to see what she could contribute when she returned home.

"I felt real good about that. I felt like, in our own small way, by

connecting, we had done something to bridge the gap that so often exists between various segments of our society. Both of us benefitted from the experience. I learned as much as she did. It's something I didn't really expect when I learned how many people the Castro Theater seats."

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**MURPHY'S MANOR**

by Kurt Erichsen

Panel 1: "I don't need sex anymore."  
Panel 2: "I've given up bars. I don't call phone sex lines. I no longer run classified ads with descriptions of my pubic hair."  
Panel 3: "It's simply that I've risen above the animal urges. I've ascended to a higher level of existence."  
Panel 4: "Now I do crossword puzzles." (Let's see... an eight letter word for "oral copulation".)

### "Healing from AIDS" Lecture in Orinda

On Friday, August 25, at 7 p.m., George Melton and Wil Garcia, authors of *Beyond AIDS*, will speak in the Oak Room of Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church. Melton and Garcia will tell how they have survived AIDS; they say they have restored their health through natural and spiritual means. The event is sponsored by the Contra Costa County AIDS Task Force and the Healing Circle of Contra Costa.

The AIDS Task Force provides public education and direct support to people living with AIDS, AIDS Related Complex and their families. The Healing Circle meets weekly to offer spiritual support and information on alter-

native therapies.

Melton and Garcia say they were diagnosed with AIDS and ARC in 1985. Both men say they have been free from all symptoms and have taken no medications since July 1986.

Melton explains, "A lot of people are dying from AIDS because they believe they have to. We thought the most important thing we could do would be to change that one idea... You don't necessarily have to die because of AIDS."

A donation of \$10 is suggested but not required. For information, call the Contra Costa AIDS Task Force at 689-1077.

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# Politics and the Objective Journalist

## Gay Examiner Editor Reflects on Profession On the Eve of Return to Washington Post

by Allen White

Greg Brock, assistant managing editor for news of the *San Francisco Examiner*, has resigned and is returning to the *Washington Post* to become assistant news editor. Brock, who spearheaded the recent "Gay in America" series, is one of the only openly gay journalists in the country to have reached a senior management level position at a major daily newspaper.

At the *Post* he will be working on all the paper's special multi-part series and will also be working on the news desk. Brock said, "I am going home to the *Washington Post* to settle down. This will be long-term."

Brock has been with the *Examiner* for just over two years. He came to San Francisco from the *Washington Post*, where he served as a news editor and later as a night city editor. Earlier, he worked as a news editor at the *Charlotte Observer*.

The presence of a gay senior editor at the *Examiner* has led to many changes, some internal and others that are apparent to readers of the afternoon daily paper. His most significant contribution

was the "Gay in America" series. He proposed the idea and presented *Examiner* management with two project drafts before it was accepted. "I would never say the series would not have happened if Greg Brock were not here," Brock said. In fact, though, the chances are slim that such a commitment would have been made without a strong in-house gay voice.

Brock believes Managing Editor Frank McCulloch "realized it needed to be done and the *Examiner* was the paper to do it." He said the biggest problem encountered during the project was deciding how to winnow through the vast amount of material collected for the series. "We were literally drowning in information," Brock said. "The amount of space it would take to put it in the paper—it really knocked some people off balance."

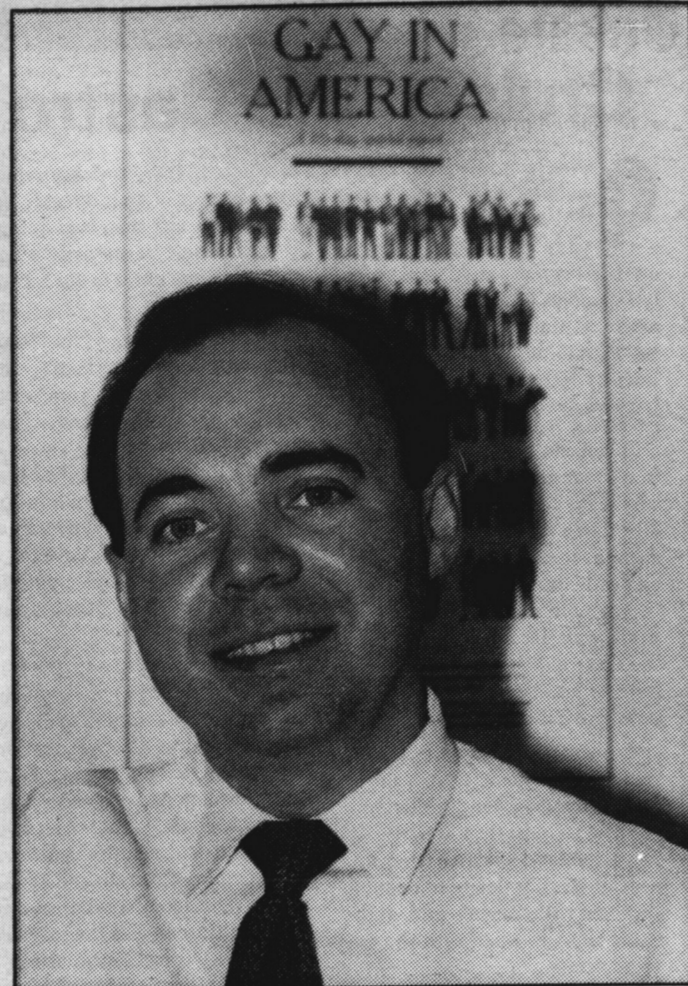
The series appeared to have changed perceptions within the *Examiner*. "If the series did anything," he said, "the series proved to a bunch of cynical journalists there was plenty to write about the gay community that

did not have the word AIDS in it. I think that is a major breakthrough."

By way of contrast, he recalled the day he interviewed for the job in May 1987. "The *Examiner* had seven stories on AIDS in the paper that day. That was their 'gay coverage.' Same for the *Chronicle*."

For Brock, an immediate issue was whether he would become the "gay" editor or a professional editor who happened to be gay. "Not only can you get [pressure] externally from the gay community, but there has really been heavy pressure in the newsroom," he said. "Very quickly I became the gay editor, whether I wanted to be or not."

He recalled what Milton Coleman, the assistant managing editor at the *Post*, told him when he left that paper to come to the *Examiner*. "Coleman said, 'Are you ready to go to a city that is that gay and be the gay editor?'" Coleman, the first black assistant managing editor at the *Post*, was the reporter who quoted Jesse Jackson's "hymietown" remark during the 1984



Greg Brock, outgoing openly gay assistant managing editor/news for the *San Francisco Examiner*.

(Photo: Barbara J. Maggiani)

presidential campaign and came to be viewed as a turncoat by segments of the black community. "I found myself bending over backwards to be fair, to be a journalist. To not be a gay journalist, to be a journalist who was gay," said Brock.

"Sometimes I wanted to speak up as a journalist. I had a very definite opinion, and I found myself catching myself. I didn't know if the other editors might think I had an agenda, or that I had a stake in something."

He praised McCulloch, who, he says, "has a great sense of that fine line you have to walk. Everybody here is a human being and they all have a life out there and they all have biases. So we're not objective, I don't care what anybody says."

The striving to be objective is a high-profile issue now in Washington, and it was an issue for Brock at the *Examiner*. In Washington, a question is being raised because a group of women journalists participated in a pro-choice rally. "I would fire a reporter outright who went to a pro-choice rally," Brock said.

He continued, "I have never marched in a gay parade and I won't ever. I just don't think I can. You can go to it, but then I go to the Cinco de Mayo parade."

The fine line of objectivity became an issue this year when Brock was invited to be an emcee at the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Celebration in Civic Center. "I did the emcee thing, but I really debated it. I went to Frank McCulloch about it. I didn't know what to do about that, but I was there for professional reasons to talk about the 'Gay in America' series."

He notes he was pressured to attend political fundraisers. "I really got heavy lobbying to come to fundraisers and give them \$50. Well, we just don't do things like that. We give charitable contributions. I would do the AIDS Walk, but then I would do the March of Dimes march too."

He acknowledged that being openly gay is itself making a political statement. "You make a political statement when you say you are gay, but it is also a per-

sonal statement. I am openly gay and I think that is really important. I think that is why I was wanted. But you don't have a hell of a lot of people, particularly in this profession, running around the United States, running around being openly gay."

"In fact, I happen to know, in the issue of my going back to the *Washington Post*, the issue was raised by an editor there: 'Is Greg going to come back as a professional gay here?' Probably a legitimate question. The answer is no. I wasn't when I was there the first time."

"When I go back I will be just as gay as a goose," he added. "I am going to live my life as a gay person. I am going to take my gay friends to the office parties, and I guess that is a political statement."

It is this attitude of being open that, he believes, may be more important at the *San Francisco Examiner* than his contributions as a journalist. "Living my life as an openly gay person has probably raised the consciousness, and you can't beat that," he said.

"I like to think it would help if you raise the consciousness of your bank teller and they say, 'oh, he's not such a bad person,' if they've never known someone who was gay. But when you start raising the consciousness, and changing the perceptions and opening the minds of the people who day in and day out are the gatekeepers of the news, that has an effect."

As he prepares to leave San Francisco, he has more than a few things to say about San Francisco's gay press. "I think the gay papers have really kicked ass a lot. On a lot of levels, if the gay papers aren't doing it, it isn't going to get done," he said.

One area he wishes the gay press would assign a higher priority is investigative journalism. "I think the gay press would gain a whole lot more respect, not only among gays, but among mainstream types, through more investigative reporting," he said. "If I have one regret here, for at least a year and

(Continued on next page)

## Unsafe Sex

(Continued from page 1)

also be related to the anonymity provided by mailing in survey responses, rather than giving them in interviews conducted in person, as was done in the SFMHS study, Ekstrand said. "These are very sensitive behaviors, which are difficult to admit to. It is more difficult to admit them face-to-face."

"All the proportions were the same" in both studies despite their different relapse rates, she said, and both can be used to support the conclusion that "relapse is the most common reason" San Francisco gays engage in risky sex today.

More than half the men in the ABRP study and more than two-thirds of those in the SFMHS study reported maintaining low-risk sexual behavior from the time researchers began to collect data in 1984. More than one quarter of the men in each study reported changing from high-risk to low-risk behavior at some point, and then maintaining it throughout the study.

Five percent of the SFMHS study group reported they had at least one high-risk sexual encounter after adopting safer sex practices, or else had maintained high-risk behavior throughout the study period. Nearly 20 percent of the men in the ABRP study reported this had been true.

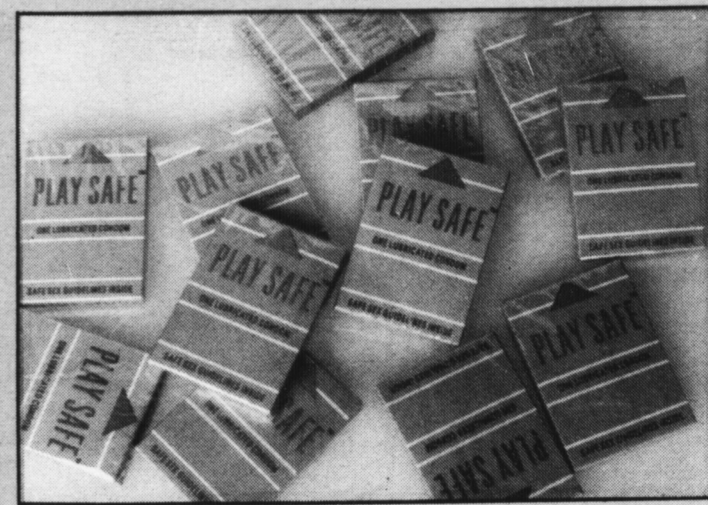
In both studies, gay men who practiced risky sex at least occasionally were much more likely to have done so because of a relapse than if they had never adopted safe-sex practices in the first place. "We wanted to discover who these people are, and what is making it hard for them to continue practicing safe sex," Ekstrand said.

"Switching to safe sex is a pretty hard behavior to change," she said, "not unlike quitting smoking or drinking alcohol." She noted that although there are parallels between a relapse into risky sex and a resumption of a smoking or overeating habit, "You aren't going to die from taking one puff on a cigarette."

Ekstrand said the gay community has made "drastic behavior changes" in response to the disease. "In the short term, people think they can do something," she said, which is why it was easy for most gays to make these changes in their behavior initially. After a while, however, "people start relapsing," even though "it makes a lot of sense not to."

At first, Ekstrand said, "People didn't think they'd have to make these changes for the rest of their lives," but then some people "started to get tired of safe sex" and didn't "look at what happens in the long haul."

In the ABRP study, which indicated a relapse rate of almost 20 percent among San Francisco



Like the instructions say, "Play Safe." (Photo: Mick Hicks)

gays, more than half of those who said they engaged in at least one incidence of unsafe sex during the study period did so because they were "sexually turned on" by their partner.

About two in five men who admitted relapse did so because their partner "wanted them to," while more than one-third resumed risky sex with their partners because they "had the same antibody status."

Nearly one in five men who relapsed said their reason for doing so was that they were "in love" with their partner, with approximately the same percentage stating they did so because "there was no condom available."

This section of the ABRP study adds up to more than 100 percent because respondents were allowed to pick more than one reason for relapse. Similar data could not be compiled for the SFMHS study, which indicated only a 5 percent relapse rate, because of the smaller num-

ber of men admitting relapse.

Most men in the San Francisco studies who relapse are affected by the "heat of the moment" and "passion" of their sexual encounters, Ekstrand said. "Things having to do with relationships" also contribute to relapse, she added, but noted that someone "must be very sure" of his partner's monogamy to eliminate the need for taking precautionary action.

Ekstrand said she wanted to dispel a number of misconceptions regarding HIV transmission. "People think that 'as long as I don't come' or 'as long as I'm a top I'm OK,' but it just isn't so," she said, also noting that many people still believe AIDS is "exclusively a gay, white, male disease."

Ekstrand mentioned an Australian study presented at her symposium that indicated many gay men incorrectly believe they can discern another person's HIV status just by casual observation. "They think, 'He looks so

nice and healthy,' or 'He seems so intelligent, he wouldn't have sex with me if he wasn't safe,'" she said.

Other studies presented at the symposium included those from Norway, Michigan and Chicago, and all indicate that relapse among gay men is a worldwide problem, according to Ekstrand. The relapse rate in San Francisco is much lower than in other areas, where it reaches up to 70 percent, she said.

"San Francisco has led the way the entire time on behavior changes," she said, noting that the highly visible and well-organized local gay community does not have many counterparts elsewhere. "This may be why we're not seeing the same changes" in other communities, she added.

"If, as we believe, social support from peers is important" in changing group behavior, Ekstrand said, "we need to set up support groups" to encourage gay men to maintain their resolve to practice safe sex. "Something peer-led, in a group format, in a relaxed setting."

"It is important to feel you have social support. If your friends are involved with safe sex, you are most likely to continue low-risk behavior yourself," she said, noting the effect that peer pressure has in maintaining group behavior patterns.

"Support groups reduce relapse rates," Ekstrand said, adding that being told by their peers about the more erotic aspects of safe sex is the best way for gay men as a group to effect the desired behavioral change. "The one ray of hope is how the gay community has responded" to the crisis, she said.

## HEADLINES IS OPENING A NEW STORE ON CASTRO STREET

Next month, Headlines is reopening its original store on Castro Street. It will serve as a closeout store for the month of September, where all the slightly damaged or older merchandise from Headlines will be sold for pennies on the dollar. You'll find sculpture for as little as \$10, clothing for as little as \$1.

In October, the store will get a facelift and reopen as a women's store. We have been asked for years to carry more clothing, jewelry and accessories for women and we will devote this new store solely for that purpose.

Headlines is recruiting people to manage, supervise and work in both stores. We are proud to be active participants in the gay community and realize that many of us enjoy each others' company and support, beyond simple social interaction. If you feel a desire to work and grow close to others, in a professional rather than social orientation, we invite you to apply in person or by mail to:

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Headlines Manager  
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## A Letter to the Community from CHARPE'S GRILL

There seems to be some question in the minds of the community whether CHARPE'S GRILL was established for the gay or lesbian population of our fair city. The answer, of course, is both! Now more than ever, brothers need sisters and sisters need brothers. The owners, Charlotte and Peggy, have been affiliated with men's bars for the past 30 years and are deeply grateful for their support. For those of you who are too young to remember, we'll give you a brief history of ourselves.

"Twin Peaks Tavern" Castro bar that was the first gay bar with open windows, 1972-present  
"Gilmore's" Nob Hill neighborhood bar, 1977-present.

"Trapp" and "Blue and Gold" Tenderloin bars catering to blacks, drag-queens, and the "upper echelon" when they secretly wanted to have a "good time" 1976-1982

"The Mint" restaurant and bar catering to everyone, 1967-1974

"The Golden Cask" restaurant and bar in the Haight-Ashbury in the days of the flower children, 1961-1968.

"The Front" woman's beer and wine bar in the old produce district, 1958-1961.

As you can see, we've been around a few years and one thing we learned is that everyone loves good and plentiful food at reasonable prices when it is served in a pleasant atmosphere.

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## Britt Aide Blasts School Board for Slighting Harvey Milk

by Allen White

Jean Harris, an aide to Supervisor Harry Britt and the co-chair of the Lesbian/Gay Caucus of the California State Democratic Party, lashed out at the San Francisco Board of Education for naming, what she claims, is an insignificant building after Harvey Milk.

Earlier this month the school board voted to name a new children's center on Ellis Street for Milk. Proponents say the building is significant because it formerly was the Northern Police Station and was the place where Dan White surrendered. White assassinated the gay supervisor and Mayor George Moscone on Nov. 27, 1978.

"Oh, rubbish," Harris said. "I am sitting in the office where Dan White shot Harvey Milk. Do they want to name this office Harvey Milk. Sorry, it doesn't work."

"I am extremely unhappy to continually endorse candidates for public office, specifically the school board, and then they don't come across on our issues. We get lip service year after year after year. We have specifically told the board we want a major school named after Harvey Milk. We don't want an insignificant small school named after Harvey Milk."

"There is a reason to name an institution after him. It is for the education, for the awareness. He does not need awards to make

him a great person. He is a great person."

Harris claims the board members will now attempt to exploit the situation.

"They are going to go out and campaign and say they have named a school for Harvey Milk, and that is a damn lie," she said.

Harris said she would work to block future endorsements of the board and work to have them voted out of office.

"If we have to we are going to go out and create a new slate to name a school for Harvey Milk. We will do that, and I will take an active role in that."

John Stubbins, a San Francisco schoolteacher for nine years, said, "We want more than a children's center. I think it is important that a school be named for Harvey Milk. I think Ramon Cortines believed it would allay controversy. This happened very quickly. We were not informed ahead of time or consulted."

Libby Denebeim, president of the San Francisco Board of Education, responded to the critical remarks: "We have had a policy that school names come from the school site and work their way up. In no way are school names imposed from the top down. The only exception is when there is a new building or new facility. All of us believe you don't inflict it from above."



The former Northern Police Station on Ellis Street, where Dan White surrendered, now a children's center to be named after Harvey Milk. (Photo: Barbara J. Maggiani)

"When it got to the point that the parents were not going to ask for changing the Douglas School, we really looked around for a new building. The only new building we have, and are likely to have, is the old Northern Police Station."

Denebeim said this was a beginning and that they might, in the future, institute programs like they have at the Harvey Milk School in New York City. She noted that this was a program, not a school building.

Harris was also critical of the school board for not funding the Speaker's Bureau of the Community United Against Violence. "The school board has, to my knowledge, never spent a dime on the Speaker's Bureau," she charged.

Denebeim responded, "We are working for funding for the CUAV Speaker's Bureau. I have met with Barbara Cameron, head of the Community United Against Violence, about this."

She did acknowledge that funds have never been allocated for the bureau. She also said she was hopeful money would be allocated in the next few months.

### Forum to Feature Achtenberg, Fulani

The New Alliance Party will be holding a forum entitled: "Which Way for Lesbian and Gay Empowerment?" on Friday, August 25, at 7:30 p.m. at the Quan Yin Center, 1748 Market Street.

Speakers at the forum will include NAP's chair and 1988 presidential candidate, Dr. Lenora Fulani; lesbian rights at-

torney and 1988 candidate for California State Assembly Roberta Achtenberg; and Oakland City Councilman Wilson Riles, Jr.

The forum will deal with issues of anti-gay violence, civil rights and AIDS. It will center on the issues of which political road the lesbian and gay community needs to take in order to gain political leverage.

## Dignity Convention Coming to City

Dignity/USA, the Roman Catholic organization of lesbians, gays and their friends, will hold its Ninth Biennial Convention in San Francisco from Aug. 27 through Sept. 3. The convention, centered at the Cathedral Hill Hotel, will also mark the organization's 20th year of service and ministry.

The convention, held every two years, brings together members of the more than 100 chapters in cities across America, as well as people who support ministry to homosexuals, and priests, brothers and sisters who work in this area. Preceding the general convention will be five days of meetings of the national officers and board of directors, who will review the past two years and will plan for the future, and a House of Delegates elected by local chapters as representatives. The delegates meet to look at the educational, religious and social outreaches of the organization as well as to elect national officers for the next two years. Observers from affiliated groups in Canada, Australia and Great Britain will also be present.

The theme of this convention is "20 Years of Dignity—A Pilgrimage of Hope." The convention will begin with an "Opening Night Party to be Remembered" during which, in song, prayer and presentations the members will give thanks for the past pilgrimage. For the last year, chapters at the local level have been gathering memorabilia remembering their past. The traditional Parade of Banners of each chapter will precede a

reception featuring the wines and waters of local California vineyards and the cuisines of San Francisco.

As those attending the convention continue their journey, they will be led by Dr. Evelyn Eaton Whitehead and Dr. James D. Whitehead, internationally known facilitators of group process and authors of many books and articles on Christian growth, maturity and human sexuality. As a married couple, they bring a unique perspective into the general conferences. Workshops on various aspects will be given by Father Robert Nugent, SDS, Dr. Mary Hunt, Rev. John McNeill, Sister Jeannine Gramick, SSND and the others. The convention will also be occasion for the release of a completed document, six years in the planning and writing, on Sexual Ethics.

A highlight of the convention will be the report of the outgoing president, James Bussen of Chicago, who has served for two terms. He will share his experience of the past four years and will report on the House of Delegates meetings held prior to the convention.

During the convention, a special exhibit room, containing many aspects of the group's 20 years of history and ministry, will be open. It will include a special video presentation compiled from material collected from members across America.

For further information on the convention, please contact Dignity Convention '89, 586 Castro St., Suite 474, San Francisco, CA 94114; 531-6852.

## South African Activist To Be Honored by City

Aug. 24 is 'Simon Nkoli Day'

by Keith Clark

Anti-apartheid and gay rights activist Simon Nkoli arrived here Wednesday, Aug. 23, on the first leg of an AIDS-fundraising tour of the United States and was welcomed with the news that acting Mayor Dick Hongisto has proclaimed today, Aug. 24, "Simon Nkoli Day" in the city.

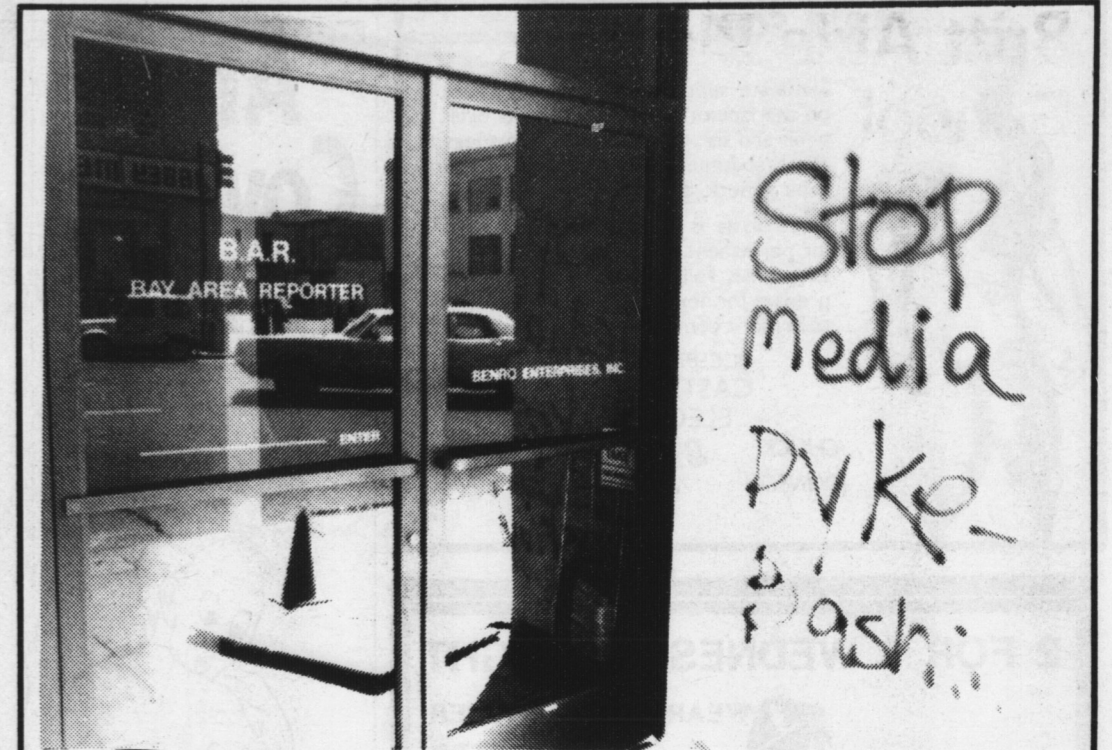
Nkoli was one of the "Vaal 22" tried in the Delmas treason trials that stretched from 1984 through November 1988 during which he spent four years in detention while awaiting trial. Nkoli and nine other Vaal 22 defendants were finally acquitted of all charges.

Nkoli, who has never before been outside the Republic of South Africa, began his tour in July as a guest of the International Gay Association convention in Vienna and continued on through Canada before coming to San Francisco.

The San Francisco chapter of Black & White Men Together is sponsoring Nkoli's visit to the city, and the BWMT national association is co-ordinating the U.S. tour. While he is in the Bay Area, Nkoli will be speaking Thursday, Aug. 24, at the Urban Life Center of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, and Friday at the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Berkeley.

Funds raised from Nkoli's North American tour will go to the Zulu AIDS Project, which is providing AIDS education and prevention materials in the main languages spoken by black South Africans. The South African government makes no AIDS information available in any non-white languages there, and one of Nkoli's main projects now is making information and prevention materials available to the country's black population.

For further information phone 826-4618.



### Media-Bashing

The front of the Bay Area Reporter office as it appeared Saturday morning, August 19. The building was spray-painted with slogans apparently protesting a recent editorial cartoon on the Rev. Lynn Griffis. Police are investigating the incident. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Letters: The liveliest community forum. Every week in Bay Area Reporter.

## Achtenberg Receives Gay Fathers' Award

Gay Fathers/San Francisco Bay Area presented its annual "Pappie" Award to Roberta Achtenberg, mother and executive director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, on Aug. 20, at Don Ramon's restaurant.

The award is acknowledgment of the individual that has displayed a positive image of the gay community, as well as gay parenting.

This is the third presentation of the annual award of excellence. Previous recipients were the late Dr. Tom Waddell, father and founder of Gay Games, and Dr. Don Clark, father and noted author and psychologist.

Gay Fathers is proud to present this award to Roberta Achtenberg. Achtenberg has been a noted civil rights attorney and political activist for the last 14 years.

Achtenberg is the editor of the milestone work *Sexual Orientation and the Law*, a definitive lawyers' treatise on the representation of lesbian and gay clients and persons with AIDS or ARC. She was instrumental in the custody suit involving Artie Wallace, a person with AIDS, who has recently died of complications from AIDS.

Gay Fathers also announced its first annual scholarship recipients at the banquet. Six scholarships were presented to children of gay fathers.

The scholarships are made possible through a gift from the late Joe Towner, a former member of Gay Fathers, who died of complications from AIDS. Gay Fathers meets the first Sunday of each month from 6 to 9 p.m. at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers St. (at Caselli).

Interested people are always welcome to drop in at a meeting or contact the group at 584 Castro, #611, San Francisco, CA 94111, or by calling 821-9241.

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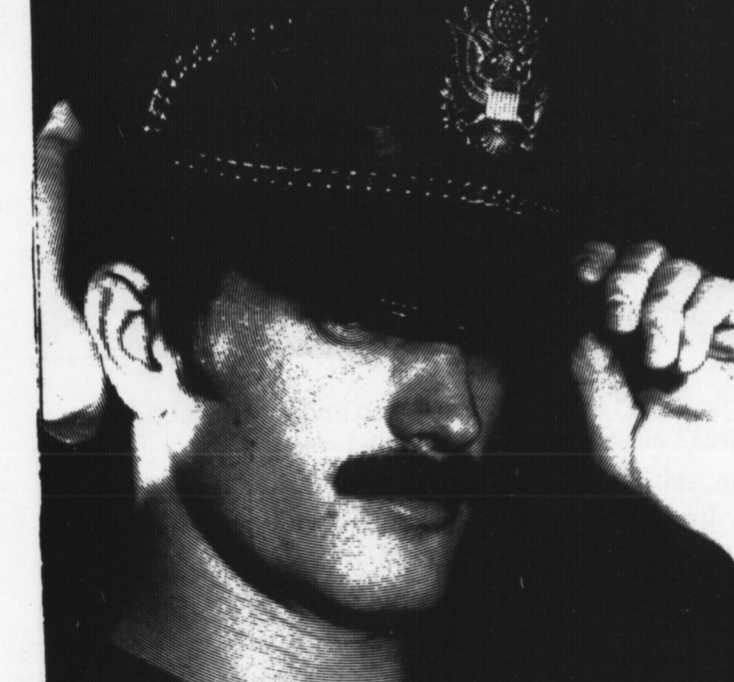
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**NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS**

**Doctor Demands HIV Test,  
Denies Surgery**

SYDNEY, Australia—A gay man denied surgery at Sydney hospital has filed a complaint with the Equal Opportunity Tribunal, a local civil rights agency. Simon Ferguson was scheduled for elective surgery in August 1985. But at the last minute—at the door of the operating room—a physician refused to perform the operation without knowing Ferguson's HIV status.

Ferguson's sexual orientation came out in the course of an admitting interview in the hospital. A nurse asked if he had a girlfriend to take care of him. He said he lived with another man who would.

Later, as Ferguson waited outside the operating room prepared for the surgery, Dr. Richard West demanded to know what his HIV status was. Ferguson has never been tested for HIV.

"He stood in a corner of the room, the furthest distance from me," said Ferguson of the doctor. "He appeared very uncomfortable."

Dr. West cancelled the operation when Ferguson refused to be tested, saying, "It's my decision."

Ferguson said that Dr. West told him that he needed to know about Ferguson's HIV status to decide whether or not to take precautions. But when he asked the doctor what precautions he would take, Ferguson said that West only "shrugged his shoulders and grunted."

Attorneys for the doctor have offered to settle the case for \$120 but Ferguson has refused the settlement offer.

—Sydney Star Observer

**Maine Poll Supports Gay Rights**

LEWISTON, Maine—A poll conducted by the Lewiston Daily Sun showed that an overwhelming majority of the town's residents supported a ban on discrimination against gays and lesbians. The poll asked readers if they supported an extension of the Maine Human Rights Commission's jurisdiction to prohibit discrimination in employment, credit, housing and public accommodations on the basis of sexual orientation.

Only 15.6 percent opposed the idea while 77.3 percent said they supported the plan. Another 7.1 percent couldn't make up their minds.

All sides expressed surprise at the results. Jasper Wyman, head of the Main Christian Civic League, said he believed that the poll did not reflect prevailing attitudes toward gay people. Dale McCormick, lesbian/gay rights activist, said, "I would think it would quell some of the reservations that lawmakers have had that their constituents do not support this kind of issue."

McCormick said that the poll "shows that Mainers can separate the issues of discrimination from other issues."

—Washington Blade

**Man Gets 5 Years for Oral Sex**

ATLANTA—Along with murderers, rapists and other hardened criminals in a Georgia state prison sits James Moseley who is serving a five-year term for the crime of oral sex—with his wife. So serious is Moseley's crime that the parole board has refused to review his case for at least two years. Normally, he would have been out in 3-4 months. The state of Georgia is under federal orders to grant early release to 3000 prisoners to relieve severe jail overcrowding. But the state says it cannot consider releasing Moseley even under those conditions.

Moseley was charged with assault and rape against his estranged wife in 1988. A jury failed to convict him of those charges. But during the trial, he admitted on the witness stand that he had had oral sex with his wife during their marriage. Neither defense attorneys nor the prosecutor took notice at the time, but the judge later told the jury during instructions that oral sex was a felony in Georgia. Moseley was convicted and handed a severe sentence by a judge known for harsh sentencing.

Moseley was convicted under that statute that the U.S. Supreme Court upheld in 1986 in the *Hardwick v. Bowers* ruling.

—San Jose Mercury News

**Short Takes . . .**

The city council of **Bologna, Italy**, has voted to construct a monument in the city's center in memory of gay people persecuted by Italian fascists and the Nazis during World War II. The pink triangular monument is due to be unveiled in April 1990. (*Equal Times*)

The mayor of **Muscatine, Iowa**, has vetoed a July 19 ordinance that would have banned discrimination against gay people. The ordinance had passed the town council without debate after the local Human Rights Commission proposed it. (*Gay Community News*)

John Bonelli, a long-time gay activist in **Hartford, Conn.**, has announced his candidacy for the city council in November. He is the first openly gay candidate to run in the city. (*Gay Community News*)

A group of gay and lesbian alumni of the University of **Nebraska** has asked for formal recognition as a university alumni group. An alumni publication had earlier refused to run an announcement for the group. (*Miami Weekly News*)

A **Philadelphia** man who is suing General Electric and the U.S. Department of Defense over delays in processing his security clearance application has been offered his job back by GE. James Wood, however, is continuing his lawsuit even though he is back at work.

—Au Courant

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**DEATHS**

**John J. "Jack" Campbell**

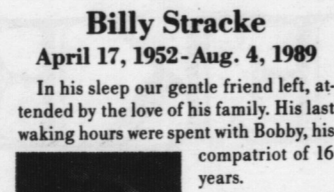
Jack Campbell died at Coming Home Hospice Monday morning, Aug. 21. He was a member of the Gay Men's Chorus and served on the board of Coming Home Hospice. Funeral to be held this Friday at First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin, 7:30 p.m. Public reception to follow. Contributions can be made to Open Hand or Coming Home Hospice.

**Michael E. (Smirky) LeBrun**

Michael E. "Smirky" LeBrun, 41, died on Thursday, Aug. 17, at his home in Antioch after a long illness. A native of Lodi, Calif., he had lived in Antioch since 1977. He had worked at the German Oaks Restaurant in San Francisco for four years and at the Partners Lounge, also in San Francisco, for two years. He was last employed by Spanky's

**Billy Stracke**

In his sleep our gentle friend left, attended by the love of his family. His last waking hours were spent with Bobby, his comrade of 16 years. Billy's many community involvements were mirrored in his friendships. His encouragement, horse sense, and practical assistance shaped us all. His humility allowed him to walk in the halls of power invisibly.



Producing Bobby Kent twice in the Gay Freedom Day celebration was a labor of love that led to the formation of Fusion, the first gay record production company. With the world-wide success of Patrick Cowley's *Mengery/I Want To Take You Home*, Billy's ethical concerns once again singled him out—with typical aplomb, he donated his royalties to the Gay Men's Health Collective.

After living in Germany, Billy and Bobby returned to San Francisco. Billy, conscious of illness, proceeded to wrap up loose ends before returning to his family in the Midwest.

He is survived by his parents, two brothers and their families, Bobby Kent, and more friends that we could count. For further info, call (707) 984-6415.

**Don Crawford**

Don passed away in the early hours of Aug. 17, after a four-year struggle with ARC and then AIDS. He died peacefully at home with his lover, Allen Scettrini, at his side.

Don is survived by his parents, Len and Audrey Crawford of Oakland, N.J., his brother Drew Crawford of Cro-dova, Alaska, his sister Jill Barra of Speculator, N.J., his brother Jeff Crawford of Germany, several nieces and nephews, and Allen.

Don is best remembered for his work in the Shanti Project as an emotional support counselor and as creator of the Heal AIDS With Love centipede in the Bay to Breakers.

A memorial celebration for Don's life was held on Aug. 20 at his home. Donations in his memory may be made to the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Good-Bye and Hail, My Fancy.

**William L. Kurth**

Aug. 20, 1943-Aug. 14, 1989

In flickering candlelight, in a room filled with flowers, music and love, Bill left us to go on to his next adventure. His many friends in the Bay Area will miss him, his warm smile and his hugs. Boy, did Bill like to give hugs. No one was safe from them.

Bill was always one to give of himself, and when he had to stop working at Kaiser Hospital, he became a volunteer for the San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund and the Marin AIDS Support Network. He stayed with them as long as his health permitted.

I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to all the staff and volunteers at Coming Home Hospice for all the love and support they gave to Bill.

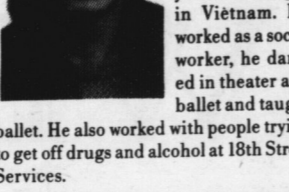
Donations, in Bill's name, may be made to Coming Home Hospice or the Marin AIDS Support Network.

Farewell, my friend, until we meet again.

**Ronald E. Peterson**

Ron passed from this life into the next on Friday, Aug. 11, at the V.A. Hospital in San Francisco.

Ron was a warm, loving, special soul. He touched many people in his life. What a full life he lived in his 36 years. He fought in Vietnam. He worked as a social worker, he danced in theater and ballet and taught ballet. He also worked with people trying to get off drugs and alcohol at 18th Street Services.



Even during his three and a half year struggle with AIDS, Ron was aglow with life. He gave many hours as an AIDS volunteer and led training sessions to teach others to become AIDS volunteers.

We will miss our special friend, buddy, mentor, confidant. Ron, you will always be with us in our hearts and we will remember you always.

Ron is survived by his sister Lucia, his mother, Lee, and two brothers, Donnie and David, and also by his friends Brenda, Urico, Janis and Steve.

A memorial service for Ron will be held at Hamilton Methodist Church, 6:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 25, 1525 Waller St. Please make donations for Ron to Shanti Project. For more information you may call Steve at 731-4258.

**Vincent Michael Juliano**

Sept. 28, 1949-Aug. 14, 1989

Vince Juliano died on Aug. 14 in San Francisco of AIDS.

Born in Price, Utah, of Italian immigrant parents, son of a coal miner, Vince was high school valedictorian and first prize winner of a Utah state drama competition. Equally at home with mathematics and the liberal arts, Vince chose to obtain a BA in French from the University of Utah.

He worked at various times as a ski instructor, dancer, teacher, waiter and secretary. He was also a skilled pianist, lyricist, composer and singer. While residing in San Francisco for the past 10 years, Vince organized for the Lesbian and Gay Labor Alliance, was an active union member of SEIU 790, contributed his musical talents to the Freedom Song Network, and was a member of the Communist Party, USA.

Vince will be missed by his family and friends in the United States and Italy. As Vince loved to proclaim: *Avanti Popolo! Viva La Bandiera Rossa!*

**Paul A. Crawford**

May 3, 1941-Aug. 6, 1989

On the morning of Aug. 6 at 4:20 a.m., with his friends Jan and Jim at his side, Paul went on to a greater plain.

He leaves us with a legacy of his poetry for all to reflect upon. Dear friend, you will be truly missed.

Many thanks to the staff and volunteers at Garden Sullivan for the care and support during Paul's last days.

Paul's ashes will be scattered at Yosemite. Donations should be made to the charity of your choice.

Memorial services pending. Contact Jan at 751-7477 or Jim at 621-8653.

**Richard John Hills**

A tree dedication ceremony will be held Sept. 4 at 3:30 p.m. in Golden Gate Park in memory of Richard John Hills who died one year ago on that date.

The ceremony will take place in front of Middle Lake near the intersection of Chain of Lakes Drive and John F. Kennedy Drive.

Hills was a former brother with the Society of St. Francis and a member of Integrity in San Francisco. He was also a member of the Congregation Ahavat Shalom.

Brother Dereck of the Society of St. Francis will officiate. Hills leaves a sister, Eileen D'Angelo of Union, N.J.

For more information, call Jeffrey at 563-6446.

**Nicholas E. Talone**

Nicholas Talone, 38, died Thursday, Aug. 10, in the company of friends, family, the second floor nursing staff of Davies Medical Center and his lover, Michael Ewin. He is survived by his father, Francis N. Talone, seven sisters and brothers and a multitude of friends.

It was 10 years ago this month that Nick moved to San Francisco from Philadelphia. He was vice president of professional services at Marshall Hale Hospital from 1982 until he retired in the winter of 1988. He then served on the city's Committee for Non-Acute Services for Persons with AIDS.

Throughout his two and a half years living with AIDS and in the years before, Nick was a compassionate, loving individual. He will be remembered for his awareness, appreciation and determination.

In whatever he did, flower arranging, caring for a sick friend or planning a picnic, he did it with care, a sense of humor and just a bit of compulsivity. These qualities and many more will endear him to us, wherever he be, through the rest of our lives.

Nick was interred with his mother Aug. 17 in Ardmore, Pa. Friends are invited to attend a memorial tribute on Sunday, Aug. 27 at 5:30 p.m. at First Unitarian Church, O'Farrell and Franklin streets. Donations to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Project Open Hand or your preferred AIDS service program.

**Carl M. McMillin**

Carl's battle with AIDS ended June 21 at the home of his mother, Olive, and grandmother, "Memo," in Dallas.

In his 42 years he earned a law degree, spent time in Italy and the Army, and gathered a huge circle of loving friends. A trip to a Mexican gold mine inspired the beginnings of a novel, *Leaches and Gold Dust*.

Ernie's love and kindness will be missed by all of us whose lives he touched. His friends and colleagues at I. Magnin and Glemby Salons will miss his humor, his generosity, and his skills. We all love him very much.

A memorial for Ernie will be held Wednesday, Aug. 23, 7 p.m., at Trinity Episcopal Church, 1666 Bush and Gough streets. Family has requested that in lieu of flowers a donation in Ernie's name be made to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. Services in his native Louisiana are pending.

During his many years in San Francisco he held court at "Clones," his huge Haight Street flat. His home was a reflection of his resourcefulness. Treasures from dumpsters and street corners cheered his many visitors.

A co-founder of Community United Against Violence (CUAV), Carl served our community on the streets and in meetings with the mayor.

He will be remembered as a ferociously loyal friend, dedicated activist, sharp wit, passionate supporter of the arts, ethereal philosopher, seeker of enlightenment, and for his generosity and creativity. He is sorely missed by friends and family in San Francisco, Dallas, Galveston, New York, Brazil, Mexico and elsewhere.

**Jack Magro**

Feb. 12, 1959-Aug. 16, 1989

Jack died peacefully early in the morning of Aug. 16 from AIDS-related complications. He was 30 years old.

After graduation from Patrick Henry High School in San Diego in 1977, Jack moved to San Francisco to pursue his interest in the performing arts; he loved this city, and never considered living elsewhere. From 1979 to 1982 Jack studied music at San Francisco State while working at Church Street Station. For the next four years he was a computer operator at Bechtel while taking course work in biology and chemistry at City College. Jack hoped eventually to pursue graduate work in natural sciences and mathematics, but his diagnosis in 1986 and subsequent health crises thwarted his long-range plans.

Francisco State while working at Church Street Station. For the next four years he was a computer operator at Bechtel while taking course work in biology and chemistry at City College. Jack hoped eventually to pursue graduate work in natural sciences and mathematics, but his diagnosis in 1986 and subsequent health crises thwarted his long-range plans.

Seriously ill workers typically

**DEATHS**

(Continued from previous page)

Throughout his long struggle against AIDS, Jack remained optimistic and never relinquished his dignity. His interest in science made him especially proud of his contributions to AIDS research, including a pioneering trial study of Fosarnet. His stubborn determination rescued him repeatedly from the brink, as he rallied to the amazement of his friends. A lovable perfectionist, Jack loved Puccini, the Moonlight Sonata, and raising animals, including a family of ducks now residing at Stow Lake.

Jack's love of his close friends saw him safely to the end; in compliance with his wishes, we celebrated his life on Aug. 19 with the same joy that he brought to our lives. His ashes will be scattered in the bay near the Golden Gate Bridge.

**Erni DeVall**

July 27, 1950-Aug. 15, 1989

AIDS has taken our wonderful friend and the son of Florence and Ernest DeVall. Erni peacefully passed from this life Aug. 15. With Erni continually were his loving parents and family. Sharing the vigil was his special friend Kevin Sims.

Ernest spent his childhood in Big Lake, La., near Lake Charles. He served in the Air Force in Vietnam and America's Midwest. For a brief time he worked as a hairdresser in Louisiana, then in 1977 Erni moved to San Francisco. He quickly developed a clientele ranging from television personalities to heads of business. For 12 years, he was known for his incomparable skills. It was Erni's style to be equally modest about his handsome looks, his talents and his easy-going Southern charm.

Nick was interred with his mother Aug. 17 in Ardmore, Pa. Friends are invited to attend a memorial tribute on Sunday, Aug. 27 at 5:30 p.m. at First Unitarian Church, O'Farrell and Franklin streets. Donations to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Project Open Hand or your preferred AIDS service program.

Ernie's love and kindness will be missed by all of us whose lives he touched. His friends and colleagues at I. Magnin and Glemby Salons will miss his humor, his generosity, and his skills. We all love him very much.

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**Supervisors OK Wording Of Ballot Propositions**

by Dennis Conkin

At its Aug. 21 meeting the Board of Supervisors approved the language of the official ballot arguments in favor of 21 local propositions that will be decided by voters in the November election.

Propositions H and I, sponsored by Supervisor Richard Hongisto, would allow city employees to transfer accrued but unused sick leave and vacation benefits to other city employees who suffer from catastrophic illnesses.

Proposition H would allow city workers who have used up their sick leave to continue to receive a paycheck until the sick time donated by fellow employees is exhausted.

According to the proposition, "This amendment gives workers the freedom to choose how to make use of sick time earned. They may use it personally, transfer some or all of it to a catastrophically ill co-worker or lose it."

Proposition I is a "companion amendment" to H and would allow city workers to transfer unused vacation time to a co-worker suffering from a catastrophic illness.

Seriously ill workers typically

**Physicians to Hold Symposium on AIDS**

The American Association of Physicians for Human Rights and the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights will hold a symposium Aug. 24-26 at the Cathedral Hill Hotel in San Francisco.

The symposium, which will provide an update on current critical gay and lesbian health problems, is designed to increase the knowledge and skills of physicians in areas of gay/lesbian health care. It will provide practicing physicians and health care workers increased knowledge of the most recent medical, psychological and sociological developments related to human immunodeficiency virus.

The content of the symposium will stress the diagnosis and management of gay and lesbian health issues and focus on the direction of future education and research.

The symposium will concentrate on important issues facing the gay/lesbian community, including such things as alternative conception, how a physician can help in the grieving process and the problems facing an HIV-infected physician.

Continuing medical education credit is available for attending.

The dates of the symposium coincide with the annual meeting of the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights, which is being held Aug. 23.

Arrangements may be made for significant others to participate in group activities outside the symposium.

**HIV Negatives Needed for Study**

Healthy homosexual or bisexual males HIV negative are needed for paid UCSF study to test new formulations of AZT. Call 476-5352 for information.

**Friday**

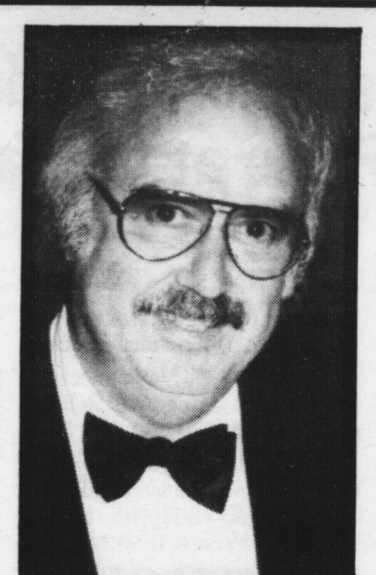
(Continued from page 10)

William Dannemeyer, Republican of Orange County, graphically describing the sex acts of gay males.

The Dannemeyer statement, which is causing a ruckus on Capitol Hill, was never delivered in remarks on the House floor but rather inserted into the *Record* later, and is titled "What Homosexuals Do." Rep. Dannemeyer said he put it in the *Record* because descriptions of homosexual acts are "essential to public policy debate as the House considers encouraging or promoting homosexual lifestyle through various legislative vehicles." Maybe Senator Helms should think about banning the *Congressional Record*?

The Seattle, Wash. City Council last week approved expanded funeral and sick leave benefits for city workers to include spouses and live-in partners.

Hats off to the predominantly gay Log Cabin Club of San Francisco/CRIR for raising hell with the San Francisco Republican County Central Committee for inviting the likes of Senator John Doolittle and former Rep. Ernie Konnyu to serve as co-hosts of the GOP-sponsored Nicaragua Relief Fund fundraiser. Calling Doolittle and Konnyu "an embarrassment to the GOP."



Assemblyman John Burton.

the Log Cabin Republicans suggested that the county GOP review the background of their speakers a bit more closely in the future. Ron Kershaw and his group gets credit for educating the city GOP leaders on this; I hope they do as well enlightening their party on Prop. 'S'.

The battle for the proposed Downtown Ballpark (Prop. 'P') on the November ballot has set off a bitch fight between newspaper columnists for the San Jose and city dailies. When Giants owner Bob Lurie opted for a San Francisco ballpark over one offered by Santa Clara (San Jose), the decision left some bad feelings, and though mayors Art Agnos and

Tom McEnery have managed to at least stay friendly, some writers have taken the childish route, engaging in what has been termed journalistic jock-snapping, an analogy that started when Assemblyman John Burton, upon learning earlier this year that San Jose had actually surpassed San Francisco in population, snapped that "San Jose can't carry San Francisco's jock." One writer for the *San Jose Mercury News* is so bitter he is asking his readers to send campaign funds to the group here fighting approval of the proposed new stadium.

Just when we thought that Quentin Kopp had retired former Assemblyman Lou Papan from elective politics for good, we learn that he (Papan) is looking for support for a run for the state Board of Equalization against incumbent Conway Collis next time. And some big-name movers and shakers in the city are reported to have already asked Dianne Feinstein to run for her old job against Mayor Art the next time around if she fails to gain the governor's job.

Governor Deukmejian has named a woman attorney, Fern Laethem of Carmichael, as the new state public defender. Some of those supposedly close to Senator Quentin Kopp tell me he will announce shortly that he is opposed to the new downtown ballpark plan.

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BAY AREA REPORTER AUGUST 24, 1989 PAGE 18

# AIDS Commissioner Belinda Mason: PWAs Get a Place at the Table

by Cliff O'Neill

At first glance, "survivor" is not a word one would use to describe Belinda Mason. This frail woman with strawberry blond hair and a disarming Southern twang is hardly what most people would imagine when they picture a person with AIDS, much less a national AIDS activist.

But this married mother of two from Owensboro, a small western Kentucky town on the Ohio River, has in the past month been thrust into the national spotlight for a new role she has assumed, that of President Bush's direct appointment to the newly formed National Commission on AIDS.

"If you call me a homemaker, I'll never be your friend," she mutters smiling, drawing the last word out into two syllables and munching on a handful of popcorn.

What does she prefer to be called? "Self-styled AIDS activist," she says.

But how does a... self-styled AIDS activist from a town of 55,000 in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains go from raising her two kids and watching Oprah in the afternoons to a panel appointment to a national addressing a global epidemic?

It wasn't easy, she says.

In January 1987, while well-mobilized AIDS activists nationwide were waiting for then-

President Reagan to finally utter the word "AIDS" publicly, Belinda Mason was in a Madisonboro, Ky., hospital giving birth to her second child.

Then, AIDS was just that disease that Rock Hudson had.

But during childbirth, there were complications. Lots of them. And in between a heart attack, a stroke and a coma, Mason was given several blood transfusions.

Although by that time hospitals were routinely screening donated blood for HIV, the virus believed to cause AIDS, at this hospital, they weren't.

Three days after giving her the tainted transfusion, the hospital discovered their fatal error.

And after coming back from the near brink of death, Mason was given the news: Her blood had tested HIV positive.

"They thought I would die," Mason says. "[They thought] they'd never have to tell me [and] nobody would ever find out what they'd done. But, you know, I kind of screwed up everything and lived, so..."

In the midst of learning to walk and eat and dress herself again, while trying to learn to type again (a skill she still hasn't regained), she had to learn about the mysterious virus she would have to deal with for the rest of her life.

Two years later she received an out-of-court settlement from the hospital. But the knowledge she

would win in court didn't help matters early on. Neither did her physician who, with little knowledge about AIDS, told her that an HIV-infected only had a 20 percent chance of ever coming down with full-blown AIDS.

"I thought, 'Hey, this is not so bad. That's pretty good odds,'" Mason remembers. "But I got on the phone and started trying to find out about it, and found out pretty quick that he didn't know much about it."

With no AIDS hotlines in her area, no public-health clinics offering HIV counseling and no AIDS support or education projects nearby, her quest for knowledge was not an easy one.

Somewhere in between trying to find a specialist who could treat her (she finally found one 180 miles away in Cincinnati), learning about AZT and T-cell counts and being diagnosed with AIDS-related complex, she stumbled across the phone number of the National Association of People with AIDS.

"I thought, 'Hell, these people ought to know,'" she recalls. "They ought to know what I can do. What a good idea, a national association of people with AIDS!"

She called and soon she was asked to join. They needed women. They needed heterosexual members. They needed people from rural areas. They needed board members.

"It's really easy to [get on the



Belinda Mason.

(Photo: Jane Rosett)

board]," she says. "This is a board of sick people; there's always vacancies... [There's a] big turnover [at] NAPWA. [It's a] high-risk occupation."

Her relationship with the gay community isn't distant.

In fact, after her election to the NAPWA presidency in April, the most common question she is asked is if the gay community accepts her.

"All I can say to that is, I was elected as president of the National Association of People with AIDS, which has 12,000 members. I would say 70 (percent) to 75 percent of our membership, maybe more, are gay men. And a room full of gay men elected me to this office. A room full of gay men. There were probably just three or four straight people in the room, so I don't know."

It was from this low-profile position as president of NAPWA that she was plucked to speak for the concerns of all people living with AIDS and HIV infection on the commission.

But like her quest for knowledge about AIDS, her appointment to the panel was three parts determination, one part dumb luck.

"We were just so new and naive and so green about Washington and politics and all this stuff and it kind of accidentally occurred to us," she adds. "We sort of accidentally found out that they were making a new commission on AIDS, and we found out at the same time that there wasn't any person with AIDS or HIV infection even on the commission. But when we approached people about it, it was sort of a novel idea.

"People told us that it couldn't be done. [These were] people that supposedly know about how these political appointments work... People said, 'Well, you don't want to be a loser, [and,] 'It'll be very bad if you lose.' But, we figured we didn't have anything, so if we lost we didn't have anything to lose. What could we lose? We didn't have anything."

And so, NAPWA and its executive director, Mike Merdian, embarked on a quiet, nationwide letter-writing campaign, culling names from every mailing list they could find, including those of rural Bible Belt churches at which Mason had spoken. NAPWA asked them to write letters to Bush in support of Mason's nomination.

And write they did. Hundreds of letters poured in from all corners of the nation and all segments of American society.

"So many different kinds of people wrote letters. It seemed

like it took something in people. It was so easy to get behind [my nomination] because it seemed moral to have someone with AIDS on the commission, and so immoral not to, that a lot of people made the effort to respond that wouldn't, like, write a letter for a while."

And after a lengthy security check, she learned the news. Of the hundreds of applicants who had lined up for the administration's two commission seats, she had one of them.

"People have said the reason that it went was because I was somebody that was 'palatable' to the administration, and all that that implies," she whispers. "That's sort of a disgusting term in a way, 'cause it's like: What's going to happen when I'm not palatable? Are they going to, like, spew me out?"

It's a question that she asks freely, considering that the president that appointed her has still not met with her, and that the White House spokesperson responsible for her appointment—Dr. Burton Lee III, Bush's personal physician and ex-presidential HIV commission member—has told her to do as she pleases.

"[Dr. Lee told me], 'Frankly, I don't give a damn what you do. You're not going to have any marching orders from the Bush administration.' He said, 'I don't give a damn what you do. Just be yourself.' So, that was pretty neat."

And now—in the broadcast media, at least—her appointment has become one of the biggest AIDS stories of the year.

"That says something to you about this epidemic and the way we approach it, doesn't it?" she asks. "To me, it's a pretty trivial thing to focus on. It just shows we're a lot more into form than substance. Why isn't the biggest AIDS story that we're going to [receive ddl,] a better drug than the shitty AZT that we've all been poisoning ourselves with for two years? Why isn't that the biggest story?"

It's the work of AIDS activists that hold Mason's attention and earns her respect. Her appointment, she calls "easy."

It's hands-on work that's hard, she says, singling out ACT UP (the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) as an example.

"If ACT UP wasn't in the streets, I couldn't be at the table," Mason says. "In all movements like our movement there's always a place for people to holler and yell. They open the door for the other people to sit at

(Continued on page 23)

# BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

## Concord Minister Addresses Gay Politics Class at College

by Allen White

Comparing gays to drug abusers, wife beaters and alcoholics, the Rev. Lloyd Mashore, the moving force behind a referendum on the Concord AIDS anti-discrimination ordinance, said his church accepted gays "where they are."

That was just one remark made at a meeting of a gay politics class of the Peralta Community College District, where he was invited to be the guest speaker.

Another comment by Mashore, pastor of the Concord Christian Center, resulted in an angry response from Woody White, a person with AIDS, who heads the Diablo Valley AIDS Center in Concord. During a question and answer session Mashore said AIDS was "the most tragic epidemic we have ever faced."

He was then asked what he had personally done regarding AIDS. Stopped from giving a general response, he was asked to name a specific individual with whom he had cared.

Mashore said, "Specifically, the person I have a contact with is Woody White who lives in our community. He is the one who is training our people because he is the one who is not only an AIDS victim but also has taken a responsibility to reach out to the victims as well as to those involved to provide a friendly environment where they could be brought together."

When told later of the remark, Woody White, who heads the Diablo Valley AIDS Center in Concord, responded, "I am hurt, I have gotten over being angry. I have a problem with people who lie to make themselves look better. I refuse to be anybody's poster child. He has never been at my bedside. He has not fixed me lunch. He has not taken me to the store, and he hasn't given me money when I needed it to meet my rent."

Asked if Mashore had ever shown compassion to him, White said, "Not to me. If that is compassion, then I don't want it from anybody."

"What I consider to be compassionate is someone who deals with a person who has AIDS by taking them places they need to go, fixing them lunch if they are home sick, changing their diapers when they can't go to the bathroom. Making sure that the animals are taken care of or making sure the house is clean or that I have groceries in my cupboard. Or we sit down because I have been suicidal."

"None of that has ever happened," White said. "I don't even think he realizes he can do these things, I really don't."

"I have an idea of what a Christian is and I try to walk my talk and I think he should do the same thing."

Directing his comments to Mashore, White said, "Don't use me to make you look good."

White said the Concord Christian Center had inquired about beginning and AIDS program.

"What they want is to start providing some kind of services to people with AIDS," he said. "Music, cleaning their house or grocery shopping. I said to do that you need to go through an educational program."

Of the proposed relationship, White said, "I have a feeling we are going to run into a problem. I feel they are going to tell me that to deal with people with AIDS they are going to say they have to denounce their sexuality. I can't agree to that for anybody. I can't tell a person that comes to the Diablo Valley AIDS Center they have to turn gay, and I don't tell people that come in here they have to turn straight."

"We are here to deal with AIDS. That is what our mission is

here. The fundamentalists are real good at putting AIDS and gay into the same sentence, and I don't do that," White said.

To back up White's contention, he had to look no farther than the July 13 edition of the Oakland Tribune. The Tribune reported Mashore saying, "If the homosexual community and other sexually promiscuous people, along with intravenous drug users, would stop their high-risk behavior, 90 percent of the problem with AIDS would instantly disappear."

Mashore was invited to speak before a class at Laney College with the agenda being "Sexual Politics: The Gay Movement." He spoke to several dozen college students at the session, which was presented on the Berkeley University of California campus on July 26.

The class provided a unique opportunity to challenge a person who, in the past few years, has been on the forefront of attacking gay men and lesbians. In addition to the furor over the AIDS ordinance, a few years ago members of the Concord Christian Church fought to keep Concord from enacting a Human Rights Commission resolution that would have established a week to honor gay men and lesbians.

Mashore told the class he did not believe he was "homophobic."

"I feel that one of the great things about this country is you can choose whatever lifestyle that is legal, and that is your right, and I will die for that right, and I will not deny anyone their right to their lifestyle, absolutely not. Not in any way, shape or form. Now if a person is involved in an illegal activity, then I cannot underwrite that. In California that is legal conduct, so I support anyone's right to engage in that conduct

because that is their right in this country and particularly as a resident of the state of California. I support that right.

"I have worked with, counseled and ministered to people in my church on a private level who have confided to me that area of sexual orientation. So, I have had a relationship and a friendship

and interaction with those people and have never taken a stand of opposition to housing or employment or restaurant or clubs in any shape or form."

Asked if he had ever taken a stand in favor of gay people, he said, "probably not."

Mashore responded to the

(Continued on page 23)

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### Blood Drive

Long-time donors Isabelle Melese-D'Hospital and Dove C. Hotz reading a copy of Bay Area Reporter while donating blood at the Women's Day Blood Drive for People with AIDS Saturday at Most Holy Redeemer Church.

(Photo: Barbara J. Maggiani)

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flight and obtain a boarding pass. I cannot get on the plane until I have checked in at the main counter. This wouldn't be too bad if all other passengers had done their preparation far in advance as I. However, it always boils down to hurry up and wait: wait in the back of traffic at the terminal; wait to unload the luggage from the trunk; wait in line for the first available attendant; wait, wait, wait!

Invariably, there is always at least two or three people with seemingly unsurmountable problems, and those people are always in line ahead of me! In reality it may only take a few minutes, but when I'm standing behind them it seems as if each particular dilemma takes hours of precious time ticking away on the clock towards takeoff hour.

And, when I finally get through checking in, the gate for my flight is always the farthest one away, directly through a terminal teeming with weary and/or eager travelers (always with lots of running-wild children). After I finally reach the last obstacle (final check-in counter) there are yet more lines of people going through exactly the same thing they had gone through at the very first flight counter!

Once boarding is announced, no one pays any attention to the order that was called. Everyone jams together, merging 20 people abreast into a single formation line down the corridor and into the body of the plane. Once inside and seated, it was a relief just to sit and relax for a little while.

Before boarding there was an announcement that the plane had been overbooked and the airline company was looking for volunteers to give up their seats for \$300 in travel vouchers plus a guaranteed flight on another airline within the next two hours. I "toyed" with the idea just briefly. Then the offer went to \$400, and the crowd was talking out loud about whether they should or not. By the time the plane was fully loaded, the offer had been raised to \$750. I was sorely tempted, but the four needed spots were vacated within the next two minutes. I could actually see \$\$\$\$ in their eyes.

We left home at 6:15 a.m., taxied out at 8:15 a.m., and actually took off from SFO at 8:35 a.m. On this flight, the safety instructions aren't demonstrated by an attendant. Instead, it is shown on a screen, and it's even "signed" for the hearing impaired. Just as they don't watch the "live" instructions, neither did they watch the video presentation.

My seatmate (on the aisle) was a true "True Grit." He was wearing an eyepatch on his right eye. He had no peripheral vision on that side, and paid absolutely no attention to me. He kept his one eye glued to his book.

I don't fly too often, but when I do I go first class, and it still amazes me that people have become so dulled to the thrill of flying. I love it, even though I didn't get the anticipated cute and available steward! There was Cherie, however, and she was very nice.

We flew directly over Cal Berkeley and on up towards Sacramento, going quite near Rancho Seco, and then over Lake Tahoe. A brief moment of barren scenery and then the cloud cover obscured all viewing, and we encountered some turbulence over



No, it's not Ray Bolger, Liberace, and Tiny Tim. It's really Marv, Daryl Wagner and Sam discussing Marv's birthday.

the Rockies. It was just as well there was nothing to see, because we were asked to lower our window shades when the movie *Major League* started.

About half way through the movie, "True Grit" put on his head phones, watched for a few minutes and then asked me, "I've seen this movie before but I can't remember why the lady owner wants her team to lose all its games."

I was a bit startled that TG actually spoke, but I managed to respond, "Because if her team came in dead last in the league, it would invalidate her contract with Cleveland, and she could move the team to Florida and hire all new players." TG nodded a remembering acknowledgment, closed his eye, and went back to sleep.

This was the last leg of an international flight, and when we landed and deplaned at Kennedy International, there was an additional waiting in line for some kind of customs rigamarole. It was hot, muggy, and raining, and once I started to sweat I couldn't stop, and was very eager to get into the main terminal for some cooler air.

When customs was finally finished, and I found my way to the main terminal it was a hot house to say the least, and the sweat continued to pour. Somehow I managed to find the smaller carrier for my last leg to Poughkeepsie, checked in, and headed for the nearest bar to wait out the three-hour layover. However, at \$3.75 a pop for Scotch and water, I knew I had to practice the art of nursing as well as people watching. Here I was with three hours in the Big Apple and I couldn't even sniff a seed!

I did have a bit of interesting chit chat with a guy at the bar. I couldn't help but notice that he was scrutinizing one of our more common coins and he asked me how much it was worth. You know, there isn't any monetary evaluation on the heads side, and the "quarter dollar" on the tails side doesn't give much of a clue to a foreign traveler. We chatted for an hour or so before his flight to D.C. was called. He couldn't believe that his simple beer cost \$3.25. "Welcome to the airports of the U.S.," I grinned, and answered a negative when he asked me about tipping a bartender in an airport. If they have balls enough to collect that outrageous amount, they have balls enough to be stiffed!

The terminals were full of people—lots of foreign travelers—and all seats and benches

were full with weary arrivals waiting for the next one out, and trying to sleep as best they could. Almost everyone's anti-perspirants were giving up, tempers were at the breaking point, and the closer it got for my takeoff time the slower the clock moved.



(To be continued, but maybe not the way you might think.)

**OLLA-PODRIA**  
(A "Motley" Nose)

It was a great turn-out for Marv's 60 birthday party at T&C. Rose Bud band just seems to get better and better. Daddy David and Gaylord did fantastic on the buffet, and the "rolled-back-to-1960 prices" were really appreciated. But, reality had to reappear and around 8 p.m. all returned to normal. Congratulations to Marv... and to Sam too. Hell, why not? He'll be 60 in the not too distant future!

★ ★ ★

Don't forget that fabulous picnic on the grounds of Fairmont Hospital. It's called "Barbecue: Of the People, By the People, For the People," and all the food is free. The only charges are for games/booths and liquid refreshments. I understand that it is being done under the auspices of ISE. The date is Sunday, Aug. 27, 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

★ ★ ★

The B&B now offers special dinner entrees. On Wednesdays it's meatloaf for \$3.50; Thursdays, lasagna, \$2.50; Fridays, barbecued chicken, \$3.50; and Saturdays, Salisbury steak, \$3.50. Give 'em a try. The food is good and you certainly can't beat the prices.

★ ★ ★

Plan to attend Morgan's "New Attitude" at the T&C. There will be a show, a buffet, and 50/50 raffles. "Have a good time 'cus Morgan loves a good time." I believe the date for this one is Saturday, Aug. 26, starting at 9 p.m.

★ ★ ★

One thing is for certain: people may always doubt what you say, but they have to believe what you do. If it wouldn't hurt somebody's feelings, I'd laugh right out loud in his face on that one. Love, Nez.

**Minister**

(Continued from page 21)

question of how he would treat a member of his congregation who was gay by saying they are "no different than if they would confide in us they were a drug user or a heterosexual or a wife beater or an alcoholic."

Mashore told the class of his viewpoints on the deficiencies of the anti-AIDS discrimination ordinance passed earlier this year by the Concord City Council. He said he told the council members that he wanted a town hall meeting to create a dialogue about the ordinance.

"I saw some potential problem areas that our community, in all probability, was going to have difficulty in accepting."

He said the City Council turned down his plea and passed the bill unanimously.

After the meeting he said he went to the members of the Council and asked them why they "were opposed to the dialogue." Their response, he said, "was they were concerned that if given time to consider the ordinance, the Christian community would object to the homosexual community's lobbying, supporting and promoting the ordinance; and that they were advised by their legal counsel to move forward quickly to minimize the emotional impact on our community. And so that action, which they intended to be a calming effect on the community, in fact, had the opposite effect. And it was as though they had set off a snowball effect that began to escalate and gain momentum almost overnight."

"So I met with interested members of the community, probably 100 people. They were

overwhelmingly in favor of sending a referendum to the City Council. I was told that in the 84-year history of the city charter of Concord, the Concord City Council had never been overturned by referendum. So we made our intentions known to the community to see what their pleasure was. The end result was that in 30 days we gathered 10,750 signatures of citizens who basically said, for a variety of reasons, that the City Council was not sensitive to the pulse of the whole community but were rather to a particular group within the community and moved forward to recommend a new law for our city that the community at large did not feel had an opportunity to examine."

He also told the students, "This effort in Concord was not fundamentally a church effort. I know in the press it has been depicted as the born-again Christians against the gay movement. I really feel that has been a characterization that has been favorable to the press. In the supporters of the ordinance there is a diversity of people that goes well beyond the gay community. And in the opposition of the ordinance, those that oppose it have great diversity as well, and it goes well beyond a church or a religious perspective."

One reason he is against the ordinance is because he claims there is no AIDS discrimination in Concord. He said the Concord chief of police told him "not one single case of discrimination has been reported. It seems that there is a desire to legislate an ordinance before there is documented need for the ordinance."

He also told the class, "Here is my gut feeling. Our government has not determined that a person who has AIDS is a representative group that is qualified as a minority." ▼

**Mason**

(Continued from page 20)

the table... Look at the work they've done. They maneuvered; they manipulated; they orchestrated [several recent victories]. We sure as hell didn't do it."

And at the first meeting of the National AIDS Commission (held Aug. 3 in Washington), ACT UP was again present and visible, though noticeably quiet this time.

"I was glad to see that they were there, but I have to tell you that a part of me was kind of nervous," she admits. "[It's] because I'm sorry I'm not a gay man. But I'm just not. I'm just a woman. That's it," she says, again turning her last word into a two-syllable tune.

"I hope that [people] don't get it in their heads that I'm not good for the issue because I'm not gay. You know? [Attitudes] like, 'Where do I get off speaking for the issue, when so many thousands and thousands of gay people have died and all the response that's been mounted to the epidemic has been by gay people.' That is the fact. [But.] I'm real

sensitive. And so, in the back of my mind, I was thinking, 'Gosh, if they stand up and start hollering at me, I'm just going to cry.'

"I thought, 'I hope to God that they don't turn on me. What if they think I should be a gay man? What if they think I'm just a pawn of the administration? What if they think I sold the farm to get this seat?' If they thought any of it, they would certainly say it. And publicly. And in a very loud way. So I was really nervous."

As for the future, Mason is committed to bringing the concerns of all people with AIDS and HIV infection to the AIDS.

"I've got to figure out what people with AIDS and HIV who are not me need and want and have to have to live decently," she states with conviction and sincerity. "I want to hear from them. I want to go places where people with AIDS and HIV are together or alone and ask them, 'What do you need? How do you get by? How can I help? What do you want me to tell 'em?'"

"That's certainly the reason I'm sitting there: to bring the concerns of people with AIDS and HIV to the table." ▼

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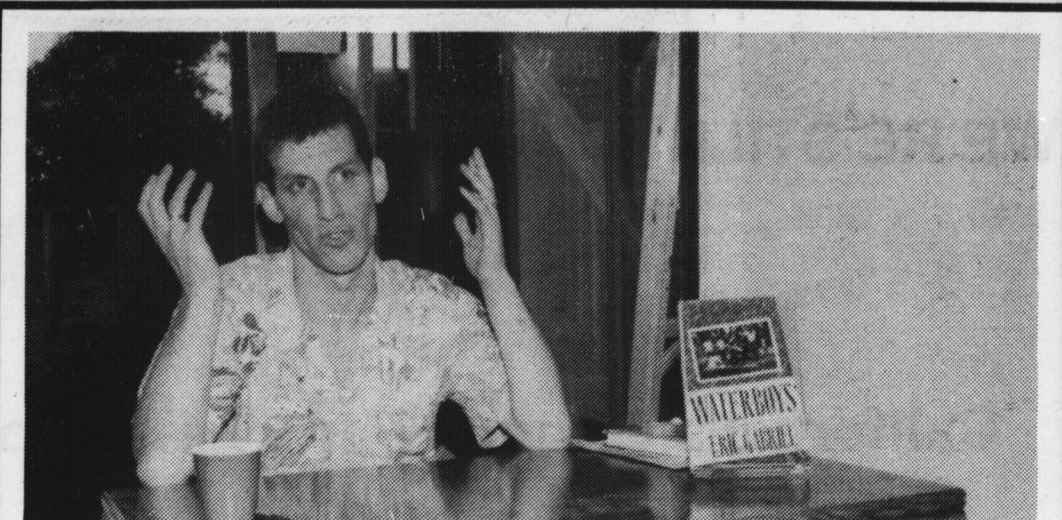
El Camino Reelers, a gay and lesbian square dance club from the South Bay and Mid-Peninsula, is forming a new beginning square dance class.

New beginning square dance classes will be held on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 13 at St. Andrew's United Methodist Church, 4111 Alma (Central Ex-

pressway) in Palo Alto, just north of San Antonio Road.

The first two nights of class are introductory and free. The first 10 weeks (comprising the basic dance program) costs \$35. Everyone is welcome—singles and couples, gays, lesbians and their friends.

For more information contact Andy at (415) 961-7504 or Julie at (408) 986-9312. ▼



Reading  
Eric Gabriel, author of *Waterboys*, reading and answering questions at A Different Light bookstore on Castro Street.  
(Photo: Rink)

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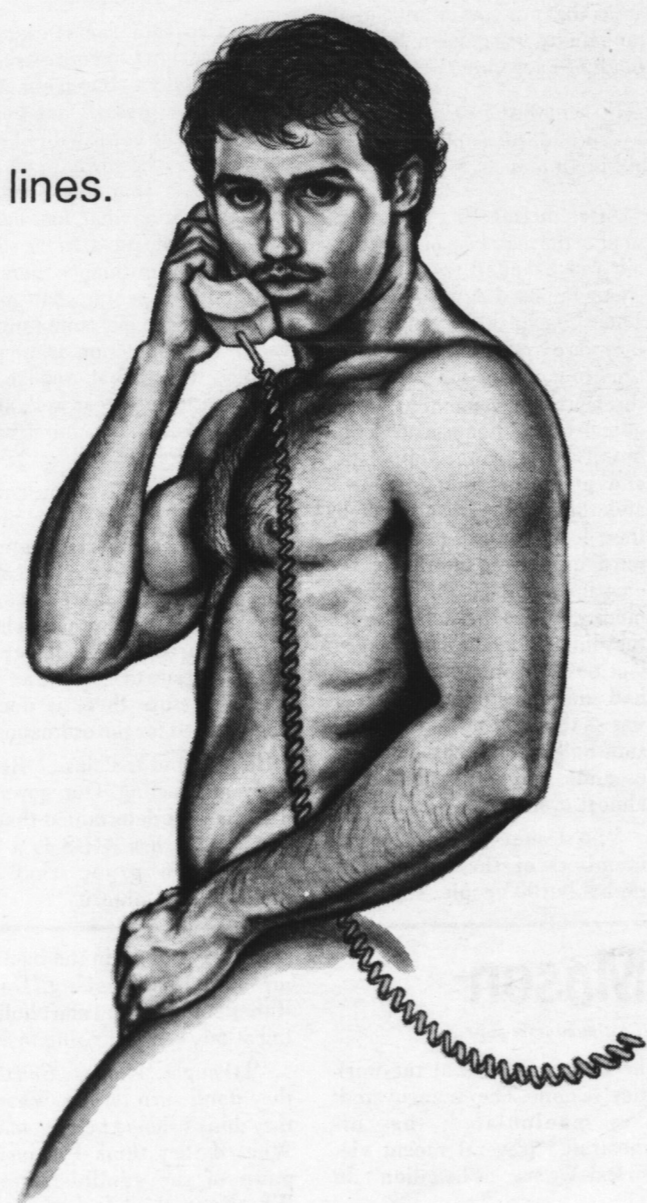
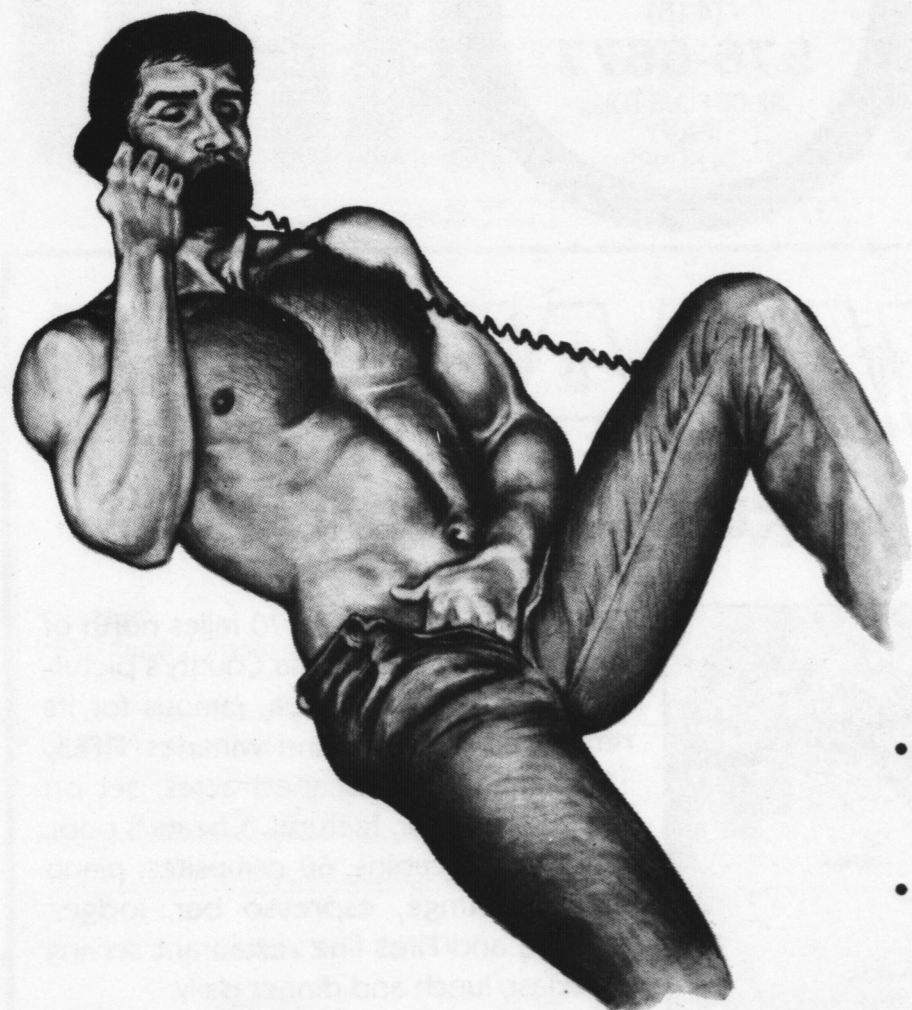
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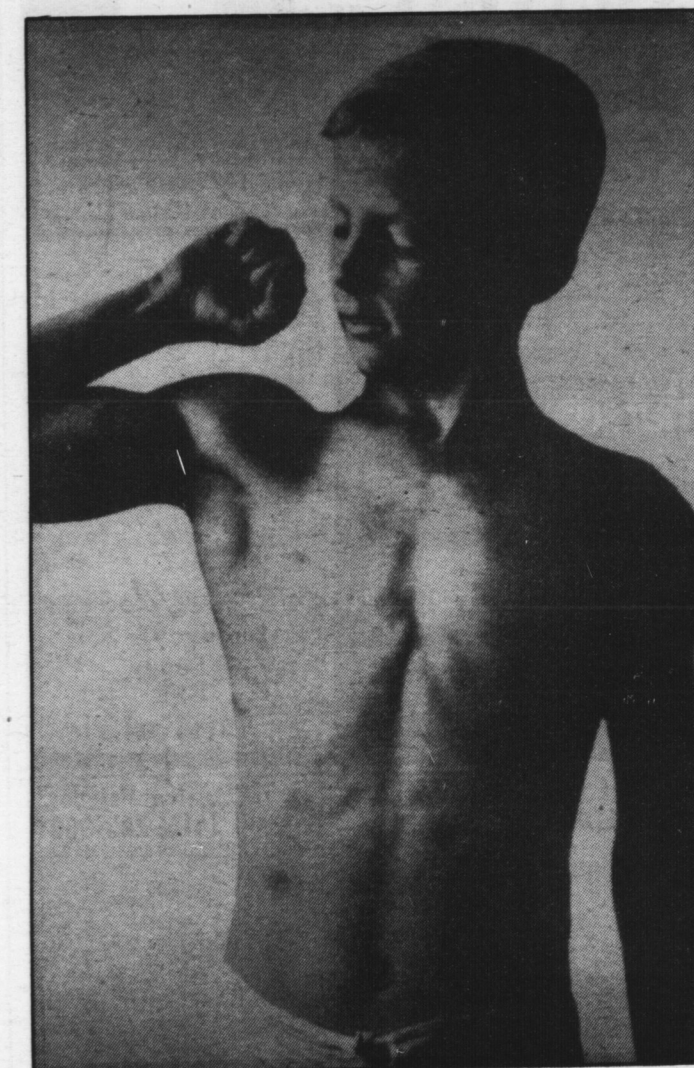
## BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

### Helms vs. Art— In Our Back Yard



Wildfires Die Down but Official Voices Fears

An acrylic by Millie Wilson, part of a not-so controversial exhibit, *The Body You Want*, now showing at Southern Exposure Gallery.



Doug Ischar's "Handshake."

by Steve Dambach

**T**he *Body You Want*, a new show at Southern Exposure Gallery, coincidentally up during Sen. Jesse Helms' latest crusade, has brought the battle line between art and censorship to our doorsteps.

The clamor began when Helms, R-N.C., sounded the

alarm through the Senate that the National Endowment for the Arts was funding what he and his wife found to be morally reprehensible and anti-patriotic works like Robert Mapplethorpe's retrospective and Andres Serrano's picture of a crucifix in a jar of urine titled "Piss Christ."

Helms, it is said, circulated a plain manila envelope of Mapplethorpe photos and collected signatures for a letter that was sent to the acting NEA chairman, Hugh Southern, that was signed by 106 members of Congress, including U.S. Rep. William Danemeyer, R-Calif.

The letter called Mapplethorpe's work "morally repugnant," and went on to state, "There is a very clear and unambiguous line that exists between what can be classified as art and what must be called morally reprehensible trash."

Not satisfied, Helms went on to push for a measure limiting the NEA's use of funds for such works. While that measure, HR2788, works its way through Congress, the art world is calling for help.

Already, local activists have zapped back in the name of art and an array of Bay Area museums and institutes have spoken up to applaud the past 24 years of service from the NEA while condemning censorship.

Now, with neat timing, *The Body You Want* is here at a gallery that receives partial funding from the NEA. The show is a collection of three representations of sexual differences by Tony Greene, Doug Ischar and Millie Wilson.

Mild compared with Mapplethorpe's blunt photography these are three none-the-less public statements challenging sex and

gender roles. Two of the presentations are up front and homoerotic enough to meet the very vague criteria of the Senate measure.

In other words, Project Artaud could, if the measure passes, lose all NEA funding unless they stop presenting this stuff they call art.

(Project Artaud's Southern Exposure Gallery was also host to the urinal art show *Excavations* earlier this summer.)

In this case what they call art includes these juxtaposed artists' points of view along with a lecture on "Seductive Strategies & (Continued on page 48)

### The 2nd Animation Celebration: The Movie

## More Than Cartoons— Creativity at its Best

by Henry Mach

**W**ith all the pizzazz, imagination and meticulous craft on screen, you'd think they could come up with a snappier title than *The 2nd Animation Celebration: The Movie!* Don't let the dry title keep you away; this is as entertaining an evening at the movies as you're likely to find.

*Animation Celebration*, at the Castro Theatre Aug. 25-Sept. 7, is a 105-minute compilation of the best short works from the 1,500 entered in the Second and Third Los Angeles International Animation Celebrations.

There's some familiar material: Sequences with "The Simpsons," Matt Groening's creation for *The Tracey Ullman Show*, as well as MTV commercials presented here as part of a salute to the innovative Olive Jar Animation Studios. Commercials or not, these are visually exciting works by gifted artists.

This movie offers a smorgasbord of spectacle, from the amusing to the poetic.

You're likely to be most dazzled by the computer-age creations in the short film *Beat Dedication* as well as in the Oscar-winning *Tin Toy*, by the Northern California-based Pixar Animation Group.

For me, however, the best visual moments are in the exquisite simplicity of both *Pencil Dance* and *The Marathon*—an unexpectedly beautiful little tribute to Mickey Mouse, produced by film students in the Soviet Union.

The two high points of this collection are both science-fiction pieces about incredible worlds—the kinds of places best seen through an illustrator's art.

The British-produced *Rarg* is a lighthearted fantasy about a world whose residents discover they exist only in someone's dream—and that an alarm clock is about to wake the dreamer.

*Lazar*, by Minnesotan Gavriolo Gnatovich, is a compelling 11 minutes of grotesque visuals that



A scene from *Lazar*, featured in *The Second Animation Celebration: The Movie*.

tell the story of a social outcast who challenges the wall that supposedly protects his society from the outside world. It's packed with surprises, edited with razor-sharp pacing, and has a conclusion worthy of Rod Serling himself.

Watching *Lazar* I found myself wondering how it was financed. Not a usual question for a film-

goer, but worth asking in this instance. What hope did Gnatovich have of making back any investment in the film? *Lazar* has all the elements necessary to appeal to a cult audience. But, what market exists for 11-minute animated short films?

The press kit explained that Gnatovich worked on *Lazar* for 5½ years, investing \$65,000 of

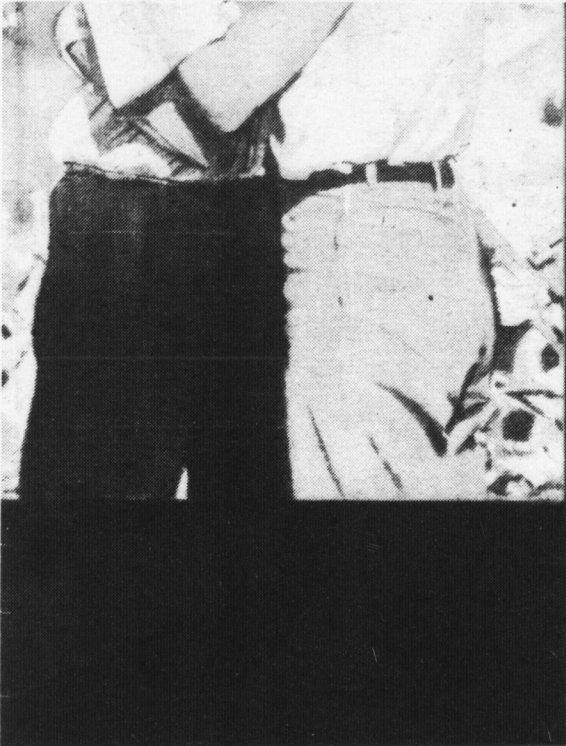
his own money while he worked the graveyard shift at a bakery.

When you see this work of uncompromising craftsmanship—always viewing the subjects from the most difficult and most dramatic angles—you might well wonder, as I did, how much more Gnatovich might have produced in the last few years if he hadn't (Continued on page 28)

# BAY AREA REPORTER

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

### Helms vs. Art— In Our Back Yard



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Los Angeles Times  
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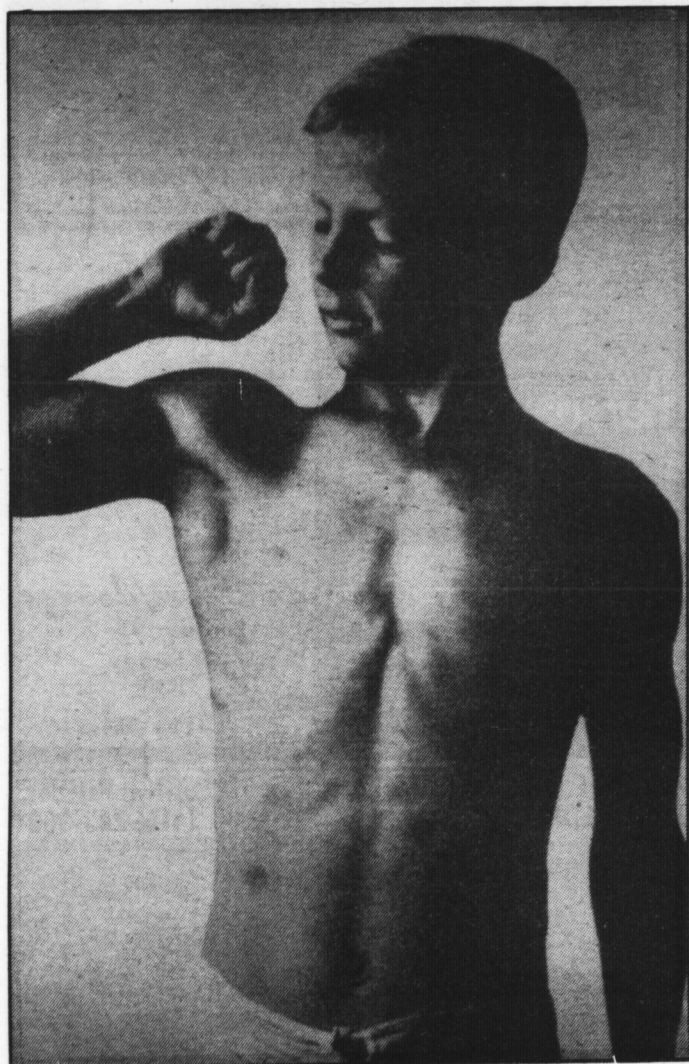
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In other words, Project Artaud could, if the measure passes, lose all NEA funding unless they stop presenting this stuff they call art.

(Project Artaud's Southern Exposure Gallery was also host to the urinal art show *Excavations* earlier this summer.)

In this case what they call art includes these juxtaposed artists' points of view along with a lecture on "Seductive Strategies & (Continued on page 48)

### The 2nd Animation Celebration: The Movie

## More Than Cartoons— Creativity at its Best

by Henry Mach

**W**ith all the pizzazz, imagination and meticulous craft on screen, you'd think they could come up with a snappier title than *The 2nd Animation Celebration: The Movie!* Don't let the dry title keep you away; this is as entertaining an evening at the movies as you're likely to find.

*Animation Celebration*, at the Castro Theatre Aug. 25-Sept. 7, is a 105-minute compilation of the best short works from the 1,500 entered in the Second and Third Los Angeles International Animation Celebrations.

There's some familiar material: Sequences with "The Simpsons," Matt Groening's creation for *The Tracey Ullman Show*, as well as MTV commercials presented here as part of a salute to the innovative Olive Jar Animation Studios. Commercials or not, these are visually exciting works by gifted artists.

This movie offers a smorgasbord of spectacle, from the amusing to the poetic.

You're likely to be most dazzled by the computer-age creations in the short film *Beat Dedication* as well as in the Oscar-winning *Tin Toy*, by the Northern California-based Pixar Animation Group.

For me, however, the best visual moments are in the exquisite simplicity of both *Pencil Dance* and *The Marathon*—an unexpectedly beautiful little tribute to Mickey Mouse, produced by film students in the Soviet Union.

The two high points of this collection are both science-fiction pieces about incredible worlds—the kinds of places best seen through an illustrator's art.

The British-produced *Rarg* is a lighthearted fantasy about a world whose residents discover they exist only in someone's dream—and that an alarm clock is about to wake the dreamer.

*Lazar*, by Minnesotan Gavrilo Gnatovich, is a compelling 11 minutes of grotesque visuals that



A scene from *Lazar*, featured in *The Second Animation Celebration: The Movie*.

tell the story of a social outcast who challenges the wall that supposedly protects his society from the outside world. It's packed with surprises, edited with razor-sharp pacing, and has a conclusion worthy of Rod Serling himself.

Watching *Lazar* I found myself wondering how it was financed. Not a usual question for a film-

goer, but worth asking in this instance. What hope did Gnatovich have of making back any investment in the film? *Lazar* has all the elements necessary to appeal to a cult audience. But, what market exists for 11-minute animated short films?

The press kit explained that Gnatovich worked on *Lazar* for 5½ years, investing \$65,000 of

his own money while he worked the graveyard shift at a bakery.

When you see this work of uncompromising craftsmanship—always viewing the subjects from the most difficult and most dramatic angles—you might well wonder, as I did, how much more Gnatovich might have produced in the last few years if he hadn't

(Continued on page 28)



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John Karr

## Going Down Into 'The Zombie Pit'

Sam D'Allesandro. A magical name for the many who knew him. Young, desirable, full of desire, full of life. And an unusually talented writer. Sam died of AIDS last year at age 31, and his friend and editor Steve Abbott has collected his eleven short stories in a brief, arresting book, *The Zombie Pit* (Crossing Press, paper, \$6.95).

It's not hard to find what makes D'Allesandro's work so immediate.

"He's one of the most accessible New Narrative writers," editor Abbott told me recently.

This style of writing, developed by a younger generation of California writers, mostly gay, is marked by its direct, colloquial voice, and its contemporary allusions.

"Sam takes it as close to daily speech as anyone," Abbott said. "Kevin Killian and Robert Cluck require some literary sophistication. Kevin is more stylized, and Robert starts in daily speech but moves on. Sam is always there—he brings it much closer to experience."

In their immediacy, the stories resist intellectualization. Above anything else, Sam intended his stories to be felt—assimilated not by eye and brain, but by nerve endings, mucous membranes, desire, blood and feeling. He doesn't want us to analyze, and succeeds brilliantly. His prose slides as simply, as mysteriously into our minds as a glistening cock revealed when a Speedo is pulled down: it's there, it's warm, and it's alive.

Simple as that. Along with his artful artlessness, Sam's accessibility is most readily accounted for by his being perhaps the most openly sexual writer in his style. Kevin Killian calls the book a "phallic model of writing," and comments that the stories are actuated by Sam's desire—or lack of it. The mechanics and motivations of sex are Sam's chief tools for exploration. This is arousing to most readers, but has disturbed others who criticize Sam's promiscuity.

"We're in a kind of post-AIDS non-sexual period," Abbott said, "but although *The Zombie Pit* was published well into the AIDS era, it was written in an earlier time. It captures a period of the late '70s and early '80s, and is a document of sensuality and humanity, of values that shouldn't be lost."

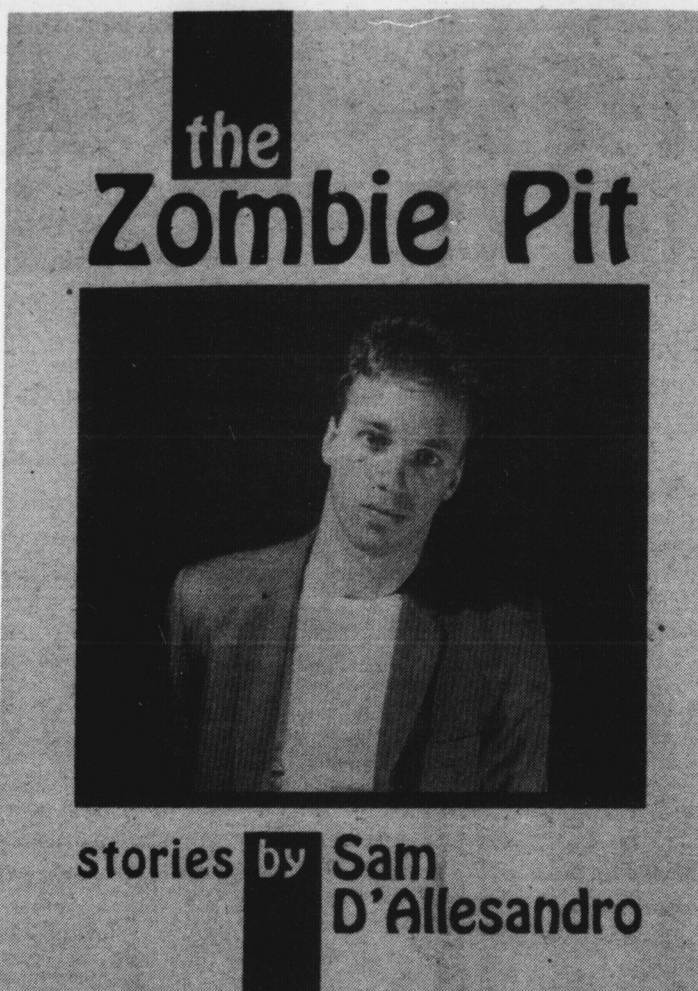
If sex is the means of the book, it is not its end. Sam is concerned with forging an identity, and most particularly a gay identity.

"It's the constructivist idea of a gay identity," Abbott told me. "Sam examined the constructed quality of our lives, the commodification of our interior lives, and the price we pay for that."

Feeling dehumanized and hollow was a price too great for Sam to pay.

"I become... a walking zombie pit where anything can fall into me," he wrote. "I wish I could sink into my dreams and find a way to live there."

He is desperate to forge an identity, and is as eager to cast off his own ego as he's ready, in his predatory, lustful search, to take on anything he encounters. He tries on lovers for the escape, the absolutism and rebirth they offer.



stories by Sam D'Allesandro

In the title story, for instance, Sam hallucinates while having sex with his lover. "I move on top of him, pressing my body so close that it melds with his. A rupture opens in the long torso. I pour into it—sinking in until I disappear."

This is not simply escapism on Sam's part, for in the sexual merger he sees his lover and himself "helping each other thrash a temporary identity out of the miasma we'd been born into."

"Sam saw how our dreams interweave with reality," Abbott told me. "He makes daily life an hallucination. Like David Lynch in films, ordinary things are altered to a new state. Sam examined those spaces we take for granted, and we see how fragile our lives are constructed."

One Lynch-like examination is the scary story, "Giovanni's Apartment," in which Sam moves into the home of a stranger who has followed him on the street, and loses himself, surrenders, in the surreal emptiness of the man's apartment. Sam is so lost in Giovanni that he does not notice the world—he never goes out, the telephone is cut off, he doesn't think about the job he has certainly lost. He is so disconnected he must grasp for even the most basic: "Once in a while, I

would whisper his name, just to make sure I still had it."

And why would Sam surrender so much?

"I was looking for a set of instructions... Giovanni was giving me the life I'd never had." And every night, having sex, "He kills me and revives me three times."

He is killed and revived three times. He is created again by the stranger, who uses sex to make Sam become exactly what he needed to be: someone new, someone else. Someone who realizes, and can write with casual ease, in the story "Walking to the Ocean This Morning," "The truth of the matter is I like to be beaten and then fucked like a dog. I don't just mean on my hands and knees, I mean hard and carelessly... I love it when my tits or my cock or my asshole would destroy my own ego with their needs."

Candor, insight, narrative that accosts. Impressive. As he delves into the exhilarating complexity of gay identity in a style at once cool yet hot, Sam makes daily life an hallucination, a dream he explores and reshapes into a landscape both otherworldly and yet immediately recognizable. This is innovative writing and insightful thinking. *The Zombie Pit* is fascinating work.

## Celebrator Summerfest To Aid Project Inform

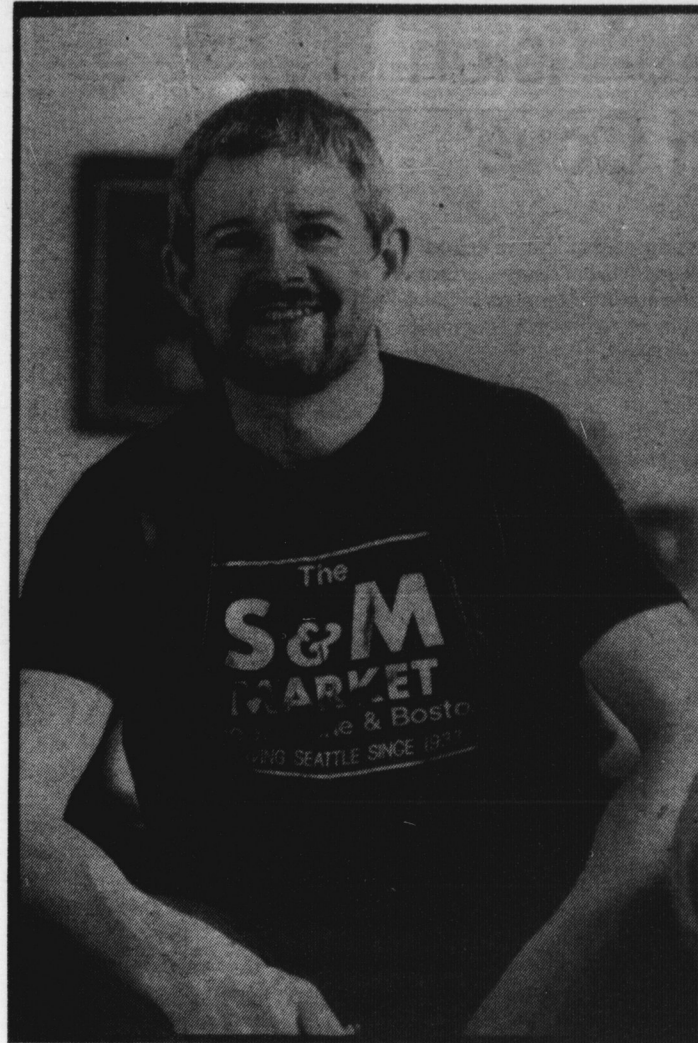
The Celebrator Summerfest: A Gourmet Food & Beer Celebration will present food and beer sampling from the best of local, national and international brewers and the Bay Area's top restaurateurs on Saturday, Aug. 26, 1-6 p.m., at Fort Mason, Pier 2.

The Celebrator Summerfest is a benefit for Project Inform, a non-profit organization that assesses and distributes information on promising AIDS treatments.

The event, sponsored by *The Celebrator*, California's premier beer publication with a circulation of 35,000, will feature beers from more than 60 breweries, such as Anchor and Samuel Adams, as well as the U.S. debut of several Belgian beers.

Tickets are \$22.50 in advance through BASS/Ticketmaster, 762-BASS, or \$27.50 at the door. Call 435-7451 for more information.

BOOKS



Author Geoff Mains.

(Photo: Robert Puzan)

## A Fitting Tribute To a Fallen Warrior

by Marv. Shaw

What more fitting memorial for a fallen warrior than his own words on the matters of life and love, which meant the most to him? In response to that question/challenge, three of Geoff Mains' gay brothers—*Advocate* arts and entertainment editor Mark Thompson, critic Joseph Bean and poet Robert Chesley—read those passages from Mains' novel, *Gentle Warriors*, which they felt expressed most eloquently the nature and deepest beliefs of their departed friend.

The reading took place recently before a hushed intent audience at A Different Light Bookstore. Richard Labonte introduced. A letter was read from Elizabeth Gershman, whose Knight's Press published *Gentle Warriors*.

Though the publisher had never met Mains, she felt that she had come to understand and appreciate him very well, stating that his was "a useless death but not a wasted life." Mains received the finished book just hours before his death in June. In addition to being a gay activist, the author was a biochemist much involved in environmental improvement.

Recognizing that the book is a political thriller, the three readers chose those portions whose depictions of a contemporary gay man's odyssey best reflected the author's own experiences and feelings without giving away the plot. The novel is set in the early 1990s, when a neofascist president is ruthlessly using his power to stifle dissent and wipe out such differences as gay culture.

Thompson's chosen section had Mark, the novel's protagonist, on a South of Market rooftop, from which he had a 360

degree view. As he sees armed guards patrolling the streets, the memory "men fucked up here" keeps returning to him like a refrain as his recollections of a freer time are interspersed with the breaking of a great storm over the city. He knows that, meanwhile, in the Castro 1,000 men, women and children are sitting in a silent, peaceful vigil around a tank.

Bean selected a conversation between Mark and Bill in *The Ambush* in 1990 about the changed city and the improbability of ever again "coming back" to a San Francisco that meant what it did a decade earlier.

Later, Mark walks up Corbett Street to the home he shared with Alan and Gregg. Looking around at the male erotica on the walls, he becomes aroused and jacks off as the memories of their three-way sex are interspersed with his present visions. It is his loving farewell to Gregg, who has died of AIDS.

Chesley prefaced his reading with remarks about Mains' first book, *Urban Aborigines*, a study of leather communities worldwide. From *Gentle Warriors* he read a passage in which Gregg fisted Tony, who at the same time was remembering being his Chicago lover's slave and drifting through ecstasy and tears—all this in spite of AIDS.

In conclusion, Chesley read a Mains poem, originally intended for the novel but cut out for some reason. It is called "Funerary Poem for Dead Warriors" and is about moving through a great forest and remembering pride and love, a wish dispatched to the soul of the departed.

Chesley also said that a third volume of Mains' work is probable, a collection of his occasional pieces.

## A Trip Into Bay Area A la 1990s

*Gentle Warriors*  
by Geoff Mains, Knight Press, paperback, \$9.50

by Frank Howell

"Certainly, some people had come to mourn, to shed grief. All had come to show shock and outrage. Many waved placards that carried the names of the dead. Others brandished messages that were more pointed. CIA KILLS FAGGOTS. CIA MURDERERS."

Ever since 1984, George Orwell's nightmarish masterpiece, inflamed the public imagination, a number of contemporary writers have developed the urge to play social prophet and forecast future cataclysms. Some of these attempts have been less than inspiring. Others have provided much food for editorial commentary.

Many readers have wondered, how would the psychic landscape of our fair country be shaped if fundamentalist rednecks did get their way. Would we all end up in concentration camps? Would all AIDS patients be put to death?

Geoff Mains, who recently died of AIDS, took a noble stab at this risky theme in his final novel, *Gentle Warriors*. Mains had also written *Urban Aborigines* and *The Oxygen Revolution*. He held a doctorate in biochemistry and had produced short stories for several gay publications.

Mains has projected us into the Bay Area of the 1990s. The ultra-conservative element is riding high and a quarantine of all HIV-positive people is threatened. In the midst of all this, it is revealed that the CIA deliberately created the AIDS virus and spread it among the gay population. The scandal is referred to as the "AID Gate Scandal."

This ambitious tale swirls around four gay friends, Gregg, Allan, Brian and Sam, who are determined to exact some type of revenge on the United States government. Their scheme brims with diabolic cleverness. They will assassinate the president by zapping him with a solution containing the deadly AIDS virus. Gregg, a former Vietnam veteran, will carry out the dark deed when the VIP visits the city by the bay for a major speech. Gregg is dying of AIDS so he has little to lose.

Allan is a local gay politician who is running for district attorney against homophobic William Harrison. The election is only a few days away.

*Gentle Warriors* is compressed into four suspense-filled days as preparations are made for the big hit. Along the way the reader is given a rhapsodic hymn to the joys of sadomasochistic lovemaking and fisting. This may not be to all readers' tastes, but it certainly makes the blood race at a high temperature. If you are into this sort of erotic play, Mains will make your leather jacket sweat.

*Warriors* is gripping and tightly plotted, but when the final epic

moment erupts, the story evaporates into thin air. The reader is left holding an empty sackful of characters with no place to go. We are not even told how the election turns out. We begin to wonder if the long, tortuous climb was worth the bother. The hero abruptly loses his nerve.

This is all such a pity. *Gentle Warriors* possessed such potential as a novel of prophetic realism. Now Mains will have no chance to further stretch his imagination. The loss will be felt by all of us.

What we now require is a less grim tale that paints a happier world in which a cure is found for AIDS.

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## A Special Re-Vision Of 'Bluefish Cove'

by Noreen C. Barnes

Director Gemma Whelan has re-mounted a production of Jane Chambers' *Last Summer at Bluefish Cove*, which runs at Theatre Rhinoceros through Aug. 27. She first directed the play in 1987 at Ohlone College, and has re-cast three actors in this version—Lara Wheless as Lil, Sharon McDonald as Kitty, and Carolyn Cox as Annie. The other five actors were cast at heavily attended San Francisco auditions.

Whelan noted that she could have assembled several casts from the talent that turned out for roles in this popular play.

Whelan is founder of GemArt Productions, which will be expanding to include film and video in the near future. She is also a freelance directing and acting teacher who has taught at A.C.T., UC Berkeley (where she did graduate work), and privately. Her perspective on theatrical training is the result of her own unique background and experience.

Born and raised in Ireland, and educated at Dublin's Trinity College, Whelan's early performance work includes plays by John Millington Synge. Her training in the so-called British technique of acting combined with that of the American "method" when she came to this country in the mid-'70s. Her own work, which she calls "organic," blends elements of the two approaches to acting and relies heavily upon improvisation. This is quite evident in *Bluefish Cove*, in the subtle underplay and non-verbal communication that the actors often use as a backdrop for central action.

Whelan calls the "essence" of *Bluefish Cove* the "sense of family," by which she means "chosen" family—often that which, for many lesbians and gay men, replaces the biological one.

Of the debate about whether lesbian actors should be the only ones to portray lesbian characters, Whelan finds such a concept "against the spirit of what an actor is," and something that then "calls into mind what acting is all about."

Her cast is a mixture of lesbian and straight actors, and she believes she has simply selected those who were the best for the roles, regardless of sexuality.

The play's issue of death and dying is a universal one, as well as the central concern of the character of Lil (which was that of the playwright's as well)—to "pass something on, to leave behind a legacy of sorts." Ultimately, it is the quality of life that is paramount.

As Annie says to Lil in a quiet scene on the beach, "You don't know yet what you could offer her—it's not the quantity of time, Lil, it's the quality—and you've got lots of quality, my friend." ▼

Gemma Whelan.

**THE SECOND ANIMATION CELEBRATION**

(Continued from page 25)

had to start baking croissants at 2:30 a.m.

Animation is an art form. The talent, vision and dedication of the artists represented here is at least equal to that in the finest American art galleries or concert halls. To those artsy types who still think of all animation as *The Flintstones*: Get over it! Seeing this movie would be a good start.

There are plenty of excellent reasons for you to attend *The 2nd Animation Celebration: The Movie!* The most pressing reason to attend is if, like me, you hope to see more work by the likes of Gavril Gnatovich without having to wait another 3½ years. Because I have little faith in the future of the National Endowment for the Arts or Mr. Bush's "1,000 points of light," I know that only a good turn-out for this movie will guarantee a third, fourth and fifth *Animation Celebration*.

THE SIMPSONS by MATT GROEDING

### 'Park to Park' Campaign Benefits Golden Gate Park

Fifty thousand spring bulbs and redwood trees will be donated to San Francisco's Golden Gate Park as part of "Timotei Park to Park," a major new effort to preserve and beautify parks in California. Highlights of the first "Timotei Park to Park" event were announced by Timotei Shampoo and Conditioner, the program's sponsor.

Hundreds of Bay Area environmentalists, walkers and park goers are expected to participate in "Timotei Park to Park," a festival of outdoor events, which kicks off in Golden Gate Park's Redwood Memorial Grove (adjacent to the Rose Garden at 14th Avenue East and John F. Kennedy Drive) on Saturday, Aug. 26, at 11 a.m.

To encourage San Franciscans' involvement in park preservation efforts, Timotei will donate a flower or tree to Golden Gate Park for every person who joins the walks. In addition, all attendees will be treated to refreshment, music and gifts.

A series of specially designed nature walks will be led by nature enthusiast Claire Yarlett, better known as "Bliss Colby" from television's nighttime drama, *The Colbys*, and guides from Friends of San Francisco Recreation and Parks, co-sponsor of the event.

At the suggestion of Golden Gate Park officials, Timotei has chosen masses of tulips, irises, daffodils and redwood trees as its contribution. ▼

**MUSIC**

## The Beat Odds, Ends In the Record Biz

by David Taylor-Wilson

Riddle me this, Column-Man: The classic single "Hotel California" by The Eagles has resurfaced all over Europe in its original form and is showing up on just about everyone's charts—haven't the slightest idea what's going on there...

Remember the television series *Knight Rider*? It featured a talking car named KIT, and starred David Hasselhoff. Riding the top of the pop charts in West Germany is Hasselhoff's single "Is Everybody Happy?" What's going on here?

Polygram Records has just acquired Island Records for \$300 million.

**The Gift of Song**

Anita Baker recently penned a new tune entitled "Fairy Tales" and presented it to the legendary Nancy Wilson as a gift.

While in New York recently working on her new album, Wilson insisted that Baker sing with her and create a duet. The new LP is due out in late September, and I can't wait.

Billy Joel's first album in more than three years has been tentatively titled "Storm Front" and is due this fall.

I've been hearing the new Janet Jackson single being played on Bay Area radio lately. This is being done against direct orders from A&M Records not to air the single until the remaining loose ends (such as commercial availability) can be wrapped up.

I understand the fierce competition that all radio stations undergo; and the wanton desire to be first in the field; but the immediate problem that occurs when trigger-happy radio stations jump the gun is overkill. By the time the single becomes officially released, and the remaining stations are serviced with the new product, the single is already stale; mainly because the station that jumped the gun originally overplayed the single. This ultimately hurts everyone. Especially the artist, because now the fans are less likely to spend money to purchase a single that is now passe.

I expect A&M Record's legal department will be in contact with a few Bay Area radio stations soon.

Dance faves *The Cover Girls* have been signed by Capitol Records. Their debut single is "My Heart Skips a Beat"; the accompanying album is due soon.

Probably one of the hottest dance groups this year is the group *Inner City*. This group's music induces you to enjoy the night and have a good time. The simplistic appeal to enjoy the "Good Life" and have some "Big Fun" is reminiscent of the late '70s disco group *Chic*. Though both groups are quite unique in style, they both emulated infectious rhythms and positive lyrics. The new single "Do You Love What You Feel?" continues the groove and is destined to be another club favorite.

Inner City, one of the hottest dance groups of the year.

I was surprised to see that the duet by Aretha Franklin and Whitney Houston, "It Isn't, It Wasn't, It Ain't Never Gonna Be" has not done so well. You would think that the teaming of such a powerhouse duo would ensure a #1 hit. I know that the dance clubs have been slow to pick up on it because it was a couple months after the single was released to radio that it was serviced to the clubs in a remix. It'll be interesting to see whether sales of the single will not take an about face.

Richard Marx, former backup singer with the *Miami Sound Machine*, has found himself on top of the charts once again with his latest single "Right Here Waiting." This makes three #1 pop singles in a row for Marx.

**The Boob Tube**

The sparkling performance of the *Divine Miss M*, Bette Midler, in *Beaches* is due out on home video this week. As we reported before, this movie spawned the single "Wind Beneath My Wings," which became her most successful single to date. The follow-up single, "Under the Boardwalk," is still receiving good airplay.

Warner Home Video has been hinting that they may release *Batman* on home video in time for Christmas! This would be an unprecedented move that would undoubtedly generate megamillions of dollars, but would probably hurt ticket sales at the box office; the movie is still going strong.

Further rumors are going around that *Madonna* has been approached to play a major role in the sequel *Batman II*.

Industry insiders say don't be surprised if *Batman II* hits the theatres as early as next year; and if *Batman III* is out the year after. With the massive sound stages presently intact in England, Warner Brothers Pictures is anxious to get their money's worth and to a whole lot more.

**New Product**

Cheryl Lynn is back in fine form with her debut release on Virgin Records entitled "Everytime I Try to Say Goodbye."

The Cure's latest LP, "Disintegration," is an across-

(Continued on page 33)

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## Unofficial Joe Bob Briggs of the Operatic Press

Part of the exhilaration to be found while investigating the operatic repertoire involves the excitement of encountering new sounds, new sights, new thoughts and new sensations. While the headiness and intoxication that accompany a major discovery are often paralleled by the disappointments that result from taking the "other" path at the fork in the road, as the old saying goes: Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

In order to assure a stronger percentage of positive experiences, most people rely on word of mouth before venturing down roads they have never taken. Rather than jump headlong into a new artistic experience, they wait for a piece of art to receive a critic's endorsement (the media's equivalent of the Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval).

Others rely on specialists in the field whose knowledge of the operatic repertoire reflects a better-informed and broader palette or a sharper sense of artistic acuity.

One person whose judgment I have always respected is Colin Graham. Formerly director of productions for the English National Opera, Graham now serves as artistic director for Opera

Theatre of St. Louis. As a stage director, his work is always crystal clear and cleanly communicated to the audience without any additional baggage.

His career has been marked by such stunning artistic triumphs as the American premiere of the three-act version of Berg's *Lulu* at the Santa Fe Opera, ENO's epic production of Prokofiev's *War and Peace*, and OTSL's productions of Rossini's *The Voyage to Reims*, Berlioz's *Beatrice and Benedict* and Minoru Miki's *An Actor's Revenge*.

When serving as a combination of librettist and stage director, Graham has been responsible for a great deal of the dramatic bite in such operas as Minoru Miki's *Joruri* and Stephen Paulus's *The Postman Always Rings Twice*. Most recently he has had an important impact on the American opera scene by staging certain works that have lost their place in the popular repertoire.

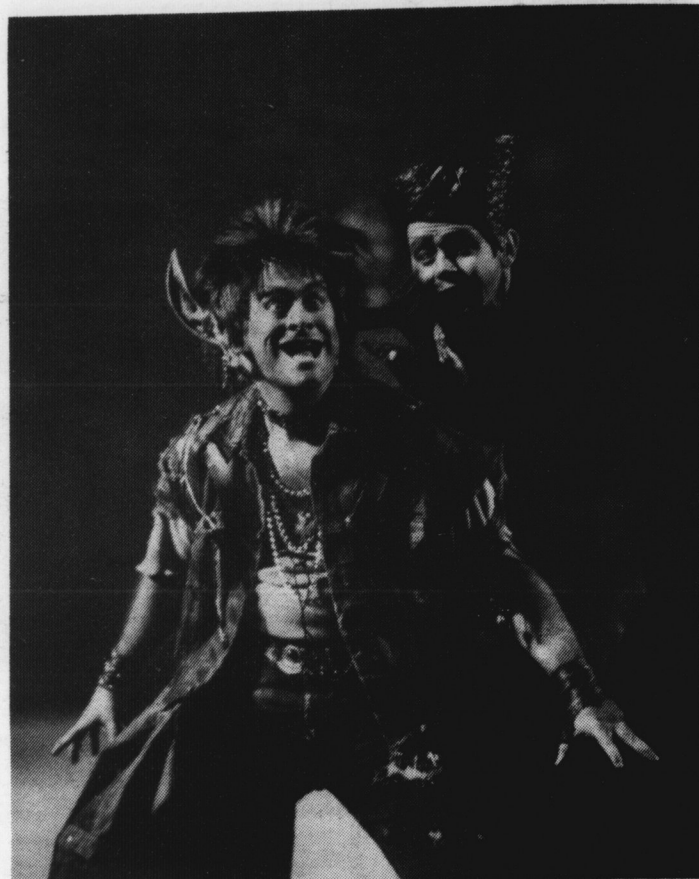
Last summer Graham did a splendid job of directing a less than magnificent opera, Weber's *Oberon*, for Opera Theatre of St. Louis. This year he set his sights on Purcell's *King Arthur*, which was first performed in London in 1691.

### Punkers in Camelot

During the 20th century few productions of *King Arthur* have been staged prior to the version of the score Graham (at the urging of his friend, Benjamin Britten) reorganized, adapted and mounted in Norwich, England, in 1970. It was this adaptation of Purcell's opera that was brought to St. Louis in June, where it was staged with mixed success.

While Purcell's music contains some beautiful moments, much of *King Arthur* (which was originally written in the style of a Stuart masque) seems to have to do with mythological crowd control. Revolving around the medieval legend of King Arthur and Guinevere, its story structure is complicated by the subplot, which involves a professional rivalry between magicians Merlin and Guillamar, representing the forces of good and bad.

Rife with elements of fantasy and make-believe, evil and virtue, *King Arthur* was primarily staged as an entertainment during which Graham hauled out an impressive arsenal of theatrical tricks in his attempt to make the piece work. Despite many moments when Purcell's score failed to keep the audience on the edge of its seats, most people



Kurt Link (left) and Gordon Holleman in Colin Graham's edition of *King Arthur*.

were roundly entertained.

With Stephen Lord on the podium, the cast was headed by Sylvia McNair's sweetly-sung Queen Emmeline, and Kurt Ollmann's handsome King Arthur. Mark S. Doss's Merlin and Elisabeth Comeaux's Philadel brought a touch of fantasy to the proceedings while Carl Halvorson's King Oswald of Saxony and Gordon Holleman's Guillamar displayed appropriate amounts of villainy.

However, it was Kurt Link's bravura performance as the earthy spirit Grimbald that entertained audiences the most. Dressed as a punk mascot with bulldog tendencies (and abetted by a troupe of punked-out devilkins) Link's characterization was the catalyst for most of the show's dramatic success. As usual, Graham's direction was deft and immaculate. OTSL's production of *King Arthur* was aided immensely by Kimberly Mackin's choreography and John Carver Sullivan's costumes.

Considering how rarely one has a chance to see or hear any performances of this work, it's surprising to note the dissension that Graham's reorganization of the score has provoked among musicologists. As I exited toward the lobby during intermission, I bumped into one such detail Nazi. When, high as a kite from the thrill of experiencing a solid hour of good musical theatre, I innocently exclaimed, "Wasn't that fun!" the sour old opera queen turned around and hissed, "No, it was not. This performance is an abomination, and Mr. Graham has no business messing with the score like that!"

As the unofficial Joe Bob Briggs of the operatic press, my response was a clearly articulated, "Fuck you, Mary!"

### America the Dutiful

Back in 1984, when Graham staged the American professional premiere of Benjamin Britten's *Paul Bunyan* for Opera Theatre of St. Louis, I was particularly taken with the charm of W.H.

Auden's libretto and the fact that two Brits had conspired to create one of the most endearing pieces of operatic Americana ever to hit the stage.

San Francisco's City Summer Opera recently staged *Paul Bunyan* at City College under the direction of Stephen Drewes. Once again, the work's musical and dramatic strengths were glaringly evident. While the physical production could not match the one staged in St. Louis, the ensemble worked hard to give a sense of true Americana from the opening lumberjack chorus to the poignant farewell to Paul Bunyan's native wilderness as America's virgin forests are cleared, the land overdeveloped and our society left prey to the influence of mass transportation, technology, alcoholism and social unrest.

I was particularly impressed by Robert Wendell's performance as the soup-making cook, Sam Sharkey, and by Chris Fritzsche, who did double duty as a wide-eyed, stammering Western Union boy and the opera's charming, guitar-strumming narrator. Douglas Wright scored strongly as the bookkeeper Johnny Inklinger while Richard Fremstad's performance as the painfully insecure Hel Helson showed strong dramatic potential. Minor, but endearing contributions came from Diana Fir as the dog, Fido, and from Ann Mia Sadovsky and Nance Wilson as the two cats, Moppet and Poppet. The disembodied voice of Paul Bunyan was supplied by Fred Martin.

Michael Shahani did a superb job of conducting this "choral operetta," and the entire cast of students deserves kudos for their work. Donald Cate's simple unit set worked well on City College Theatre's steeply raked stage, and Jose Luis Leiva's costumes added a rugged sense of frontier Americana to the evening. On second viewing, *Paul Bunyan* remains an extremely engaging piece of musical theatre with a strong message for environmentalists. One only wishes it were performed more often.

## MOVIES

# 'The Abyss'—The Titanic of Deep-Sea Thrillers

by Ron Larsen

The three most recent underwater adventures to surface on the big screen have ranged from the abysmal (*Deepstar Six*), to the monstrous (*Leviathan*), to the deeply disappointing, an apt description for *The Abyss*, a \$50 million epic from 20th Century Fox that opened last week.

This deep-sea thriller/sci-fi adventure, set against a love story, represents the most ambitious work yet of writer/director James Cameron, who scored box-office bull's-eyes first with *The Terminator* and then again with *Aliens*. This time out, he misses the mark by about 20,000 leagues. While *The Abyss* is not exactly the pits, neither is it the "summer's most original adventure," as the hype would have us believe, for it borrows much from the fantasy films of Steven Spielberg.

Overblown, overlong, overwrought, and over the edge, *The Abyss* is the Titanic of oceanic adventures. It fails on a much grander scale than any of its predecessors partly because it is so much bigger, longer and more expensive, and partly because it aspires to be so much better.

In some ways, it succeeds. Compared with *Deepstar Six* and *Leviathan*, waterlogged sagas that sank at the box office, *The Abyss* is certainly the catch of the season. Its dramatic shortcomings notwithstanding, the film emerges as a staggering technical and logistical achievement that is sure to lure millions of retread-weary viewers back into theaters and reel in a net full of Oscar nominations come next winter.

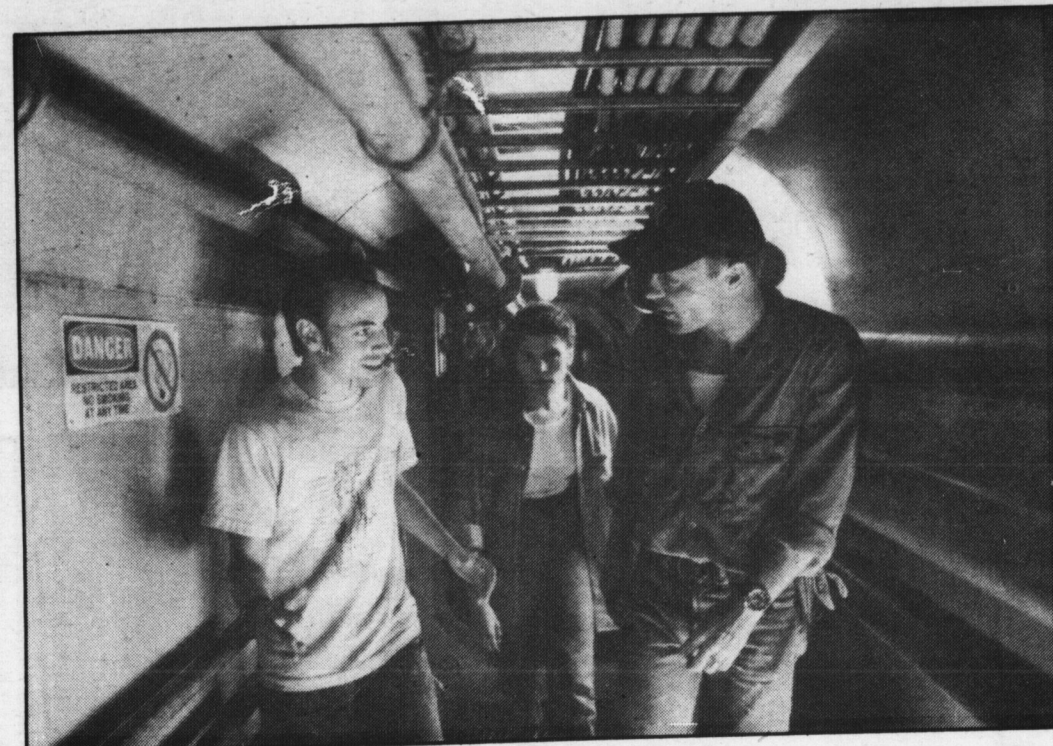
Filed by deep-sea photographer Al Giddings in an abandoned nuclear power plant filled with 7.5 million gallons of water, *The Abyss* features the largest underwater set ever constructed, and the most grueling and extended underwater shoot in movie history. Nearly half of the film was lensed underwater, in the power plant's enormous tank; the shoot took more than four months and so traumatized some of the actors that they refused to discuss the experience.

From a technical standpoint at least, all the time, trouble and money was worth it, for *The Abyss* is a dazzling cinematic achievement. Besides the fantastic deep-sea sets and cinematography, it boasts state-of-the-art special effects, high-tech hardware, beautifully eerie art direction, and heart-stopping action sequences that will take your breath away even as you're holding it. One scene, which has a panic-stricken white rat being forced to "breathe" liquid oxygen, is scarier than anything in *Friday the 13th* or *Nightmare on Elm Street*, but with none of the blood and gore.

The pity is that the movie's muddled and disjointed screenplay falls so short of its top-flight production. Based on a short story written by Cameron when he was in high school, *The Abyss* chronicles the efforts of a team of underwater oil drillers, led by foreman Ed Harris, to investigate the mysterious sinking of an American nuclear submarine some 2,000 feet below the ocean's surface, perched on the ledge of a "droppoff to a bottomless pit," the so-called abyss of the movie's title.

Dropping down to help Harris is his estranged wife and hard-as-nails boss, Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio, known to the crew as the "queen bitch of the universe." A tense situation becomes tenser still when the Navy decides to send down a team of SEAL (Sea, Air and Land) commandoes headed by macho-man Michael Biehn, who clashes with Mastrantonio and cracks under the pressure, a victim of HPNS (High-Pressure Nervous Syndrome).

The unflappable Harris, his "cast-iron bitch" of a wife, and their increasingly psychotic commander eventually discover that there's a lot more at the bottom of the sea than the sunken sub, all of whose inhabitants have gone to a watery grave. The "Something Wonderful" that they discover on their aborted rescue mission is some sort of laser-beamed alien craft resembling an atomic jellyfish, which they dub an NTI, or Nonterrestrial Intelligence. (Continued on page 41)



*The Abyss* is a dazzling cinematic achievement—but it has problems.



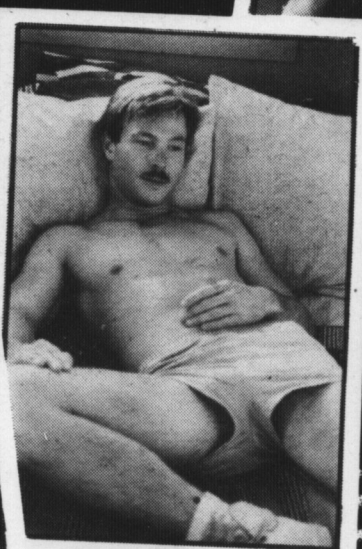
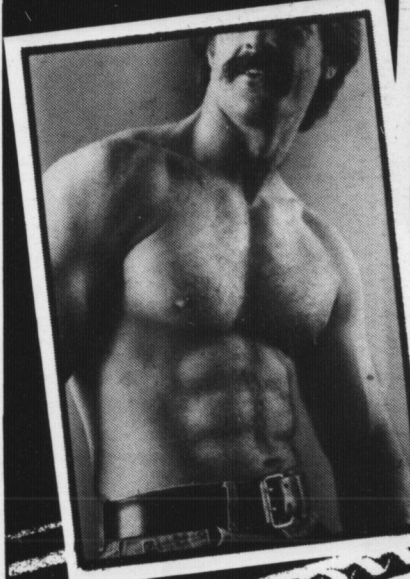
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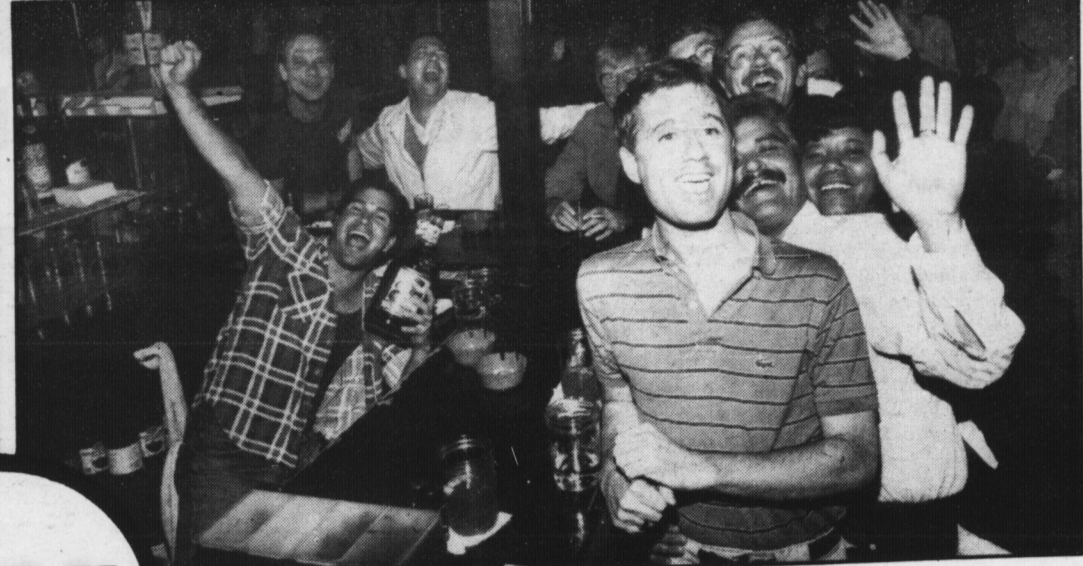
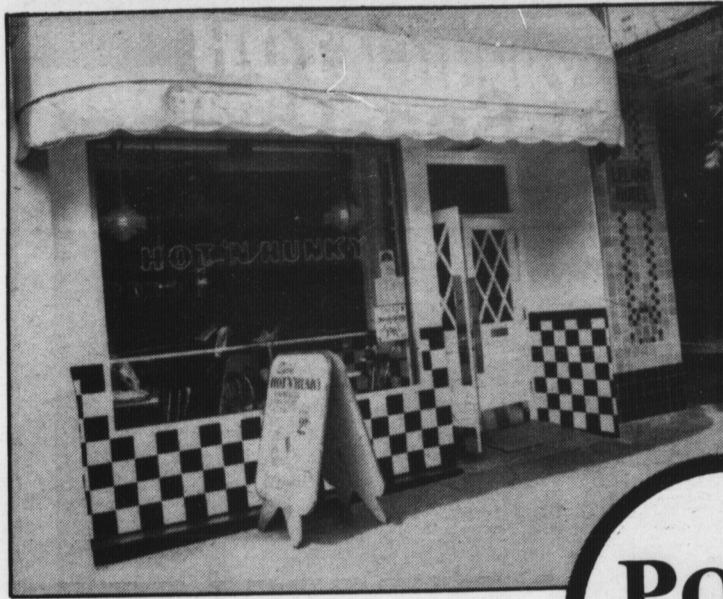
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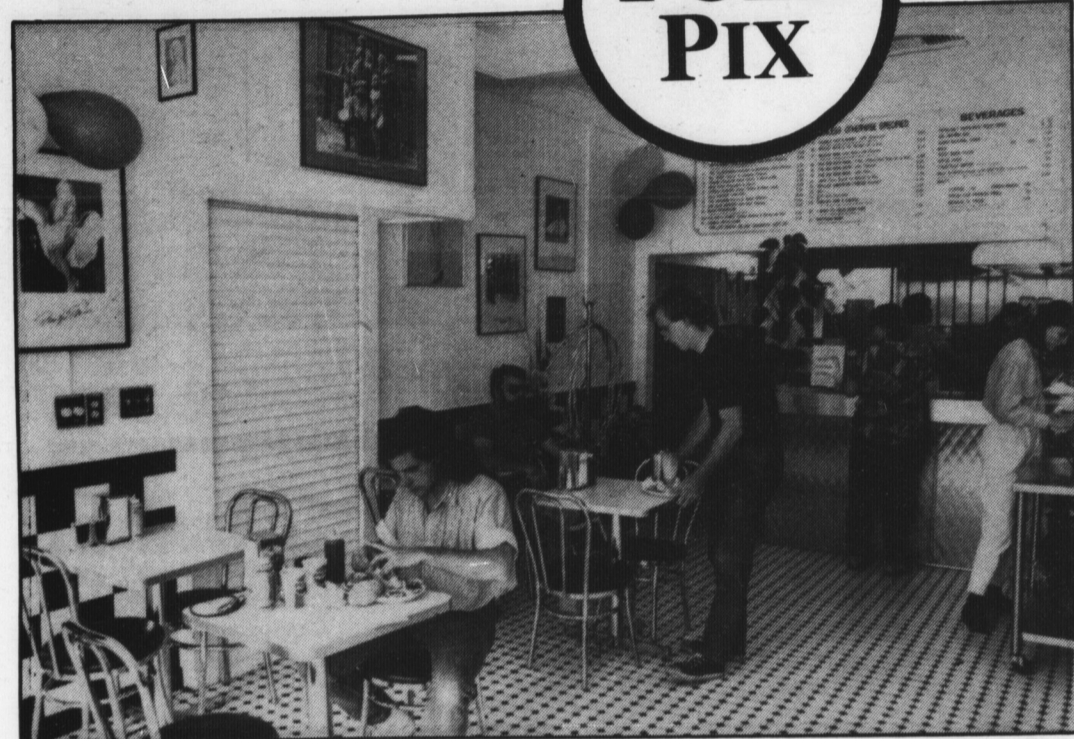
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The latest in the ever-growing "chain" of Hot 'n' Hunky cafes opened a couple of weeks ago in the Polk district 1300 block. Straight-owned but gay-run and mostly gay-staffed, the theme of the '50s diner couldn't be anything but Marilyn Monroe movies.

H 'n' H's clientele is as varied as the Polk is—a cross section of gay/straight, young/old, business suits/jeans, leathermen/drag queens—all chowing down on what is touted as "possibly the best hamburger in the world."

Plans are in the making to host various AIDS and community fundraisers.

"Come on in and try us," says Jason, the night manager, to prospective clientele. "Our old customers are quite pleased with our new Polk location, having been regulars at the Silver Strip and Castro area cafes. And we really appreciate how this neighborhood has been extremely supportive, sending us plants and flowers for our opening."

The Polk Street Hot 'n' Hunky adjoins the Polk Rendezvous bar, so customers can buy drinks to go with their meals.

The Cinch, owned by two gay men, Richard Pearson and Mario Enriquez, took over the old bar of the same name in December last year. Pearson had worked

under the old management since 1984.

In the '70s the Cinch was one of the most popular bars in the city.

The bar is predominantly gay, with an even mixture of gay men and lesbians.

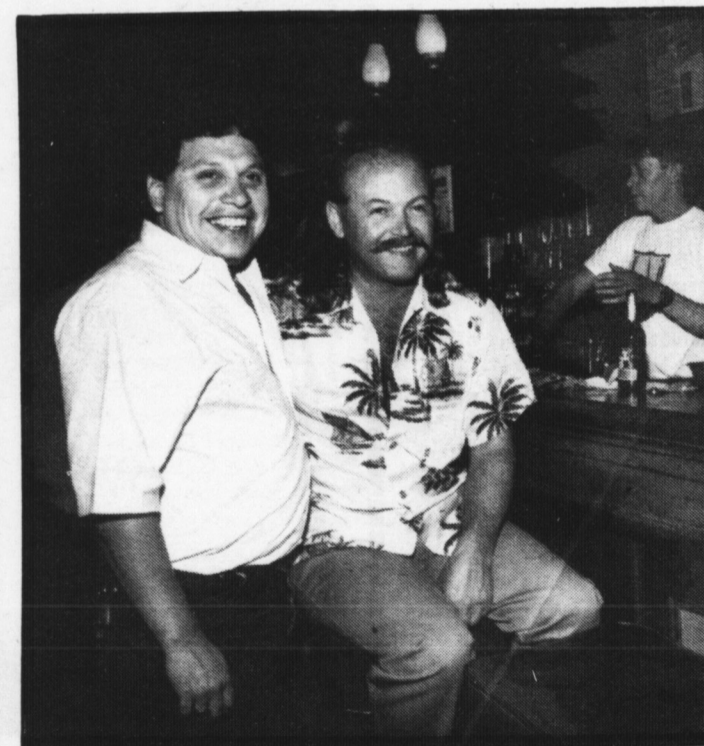
Richard and Mario have spruced up the old Cinch and given it some decorator highlights, including a western facade of an old country building at the front of the bar, a three-dimensional, multi-backlit sign of a cowboy on horse with cactuses, and a cigar store Indian statue in front. While the atmosphere is country, the music is not; it's mostly oldies or contemporary music.

The specialties of the house are iced teas (the Long Island variety in big mason jars) and root beer floats for adults. Every Sunday there is a three-dollar BBQ in the garden patio.

The Cinch co-sponsors the San Francisco flag football team and sponsors three pool teams, two bowling teams, a tennis team and will begin a baseball team next April.

The owners are open to suggestions for AIDS fundraisers, and are planning a name-the-chief contest for their Indian statue.

The Cinch is located at Polk and Clay streets. ▼



Clockwise from top left: The front of Hot 'n' Hunky's new Polk Street eatery; a festive bunch at the Cinch; inside Hot 'n' Hunky. Above: Cinch owners Mario and Richard.

(Photos by: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

**From The Silly To The Serious  
You Choose Every Week In  
Bay Area Reporter**

## 'Cirque du Soleil' Circus: A 'Jewel Box' of a Show

by Jay Hoffman

You've heard about the Cirque du Soleil. You haven't? Where have you been, Bakersfield? Now, come on, don't you remember last year when you procrastinated? You waited too long, and you couldn't get tickets for love or money. Well, they're back again.

Although standing ovations at the theater, these days, are as commonplace as the ubiquitous BMWs that clog the city's streets, the opening night audience at the Cirque du Soleil gave this incredibly talented and attractive group of performers the recognition they richly deserved.

The Cirque du Soleil is a circus like you've never seen before. This is a circus without animals, which is really much more than just a collection of individual acts, much like the TV variety shows of the '50s and '60s. It's a uniquely charming and elegant "jewel box" of a show that's all about magic and transformations. And talent.

The show opens with some of the cast members wandering through and sitting on some of the audience. They're dressed as urban bumpkins: in sensible shoes and nearly sensible clothing, and they are up for a "night out on the town" with the rest of us. They talk to and at us, and they yell and carry on with each other.

The laughter of recognition ripples through the audience as

we recognize ourselves (or the people sitting next to us) mirrored through this gentle satiric elbow in our ribs.

As the company wanders toward the smoke-filled stage, the transformations begin. Like a thread weaving throughout, this troupe of multi-talented performers takes on different roles and masques throughout the show. In one incarnation, they become Businessperson Penguins with suitcases on teeter boards. We've seen teeter board acts before, only these folks make it seem new and fresh all over again.

Balthazar, one of the irreverent and brilliant clowns, is a lion tamer who jumps through a fiery hoop, and who gets caught in spider webs of his own creation. And the Ringmaster/Clown James Keyton escapes from an imaginary "glass box" with help from Balthazar's chainsaw. And that's only part of the magic and the fun.

Four incredibly agile teenagers from China perform a not-to-be-believed balancing act, at the center of which is a young man who, himself, is balanced on a board on a cylinder while he flips bowls from the board onto his head. And in the high reaches of the big top, while the audience holds its collective breath, an all-star French trapeze team dazzles us with its rippling muscles and grace.



Cirque du Soleil runs under the big top through Sept. 10.

There are also aerobic dancers who do things with hoops and streamers you might not have thought possible, and that you want to run home to try. And then there are the remarkable acrobats, jugglers, and a pyramid of 13 or 14 (depending how fast you can count) precariously balanced on a bicycle, circling the ring.

The costumes and special effects throughout the show are equally flashy, and the original music is delightful. One of the remarkable elements about the show is that there are no bad acts or "fillers," so to speak. Each act is "big stuff" and remarkable in itself, and the segues between each of the bits and pieces unite the entirety, while the seamless set changes keep the show moving very quickly.

This is a show that you can take your lovers, parents, nephews and nieces to, as well as your conservative relatives from Orange County.

Cirque du Soleil performs in the big blue and yellow big top at Fourth and King streets, in China Basin. The show has been extended through Sept. 10, and performances are Tuesdays through Thursdays at 8:30 p.m., Friday and Saturdays, 4:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., Sundays 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Tickets range from \$15.50 to \$31.50 (adults) and \$7.50 to \$16.50 (children 2-12). Tickets are also at all BASS/Ticketmaster outlets, including the Warehouse and Tower Records, or charge by phone at 762-2277. For more information, call 546-6030. ▼

## Music

(Continued from page 29)

the-board smash. "Love Song" is the new release.

The all-female trio **Expose** is still riding high with "What You Don't Know." The next single slated for release will be the ballad "When I Looked at Him."

A video documentary on Country legend **Patsy Cline** is due out any day now. The biography will detail the star's rise to fame and include performances of "I Fall To Pieces," "Sweet Dreams" and "Crazy." A must-have for fans of classic Country music.

As long as we're talking music video... it's interesting to note that the two best-selling videos on the market are music videos: **Pink Floyd's Delicate Sound of Thunder** and **Michael Jackson's The Legend Continues**. Also selling like crazy are **Michael Jackson's Moonwalker**; **Metallica 2 Of One**; **U2's Rattle and Hum**; **Rush's A Show of Hands**; and **Anthrax's Ovidnikufesin N.E.V.**

It's easy to see that the majority of these videos comprise the Heavy Metal field, which doesn't really explain anything more to this columnist other than perhaps Heavy Metal fans spend a lot of time at home relating to their VCR.

More music videos are on the way, including **Gloria Estefan and Miami Sound Machine Homecoming Concert**; the recently disbanded and now re-grouped **Public Enemy Fight the Power—Live**; **Kids on the Block Hangin' Tough**; and **INXS In Search of Excellence**.

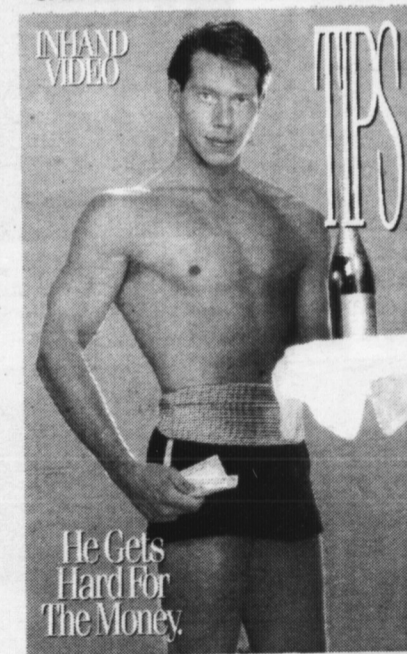
Ten years ago this week: **Chic** stayed at #1 with "Good Times"; and twenty years ago it was still



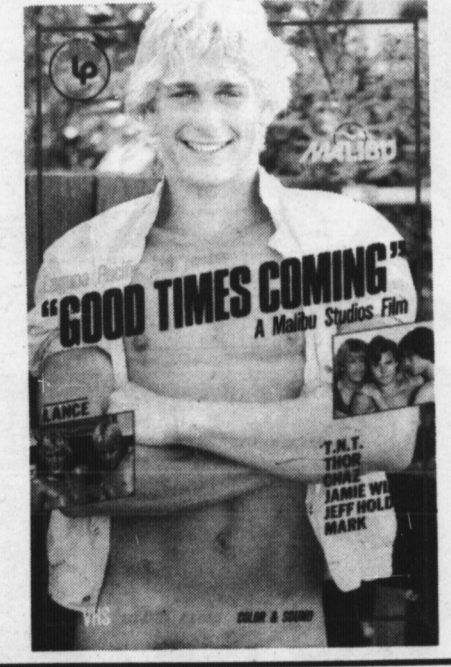
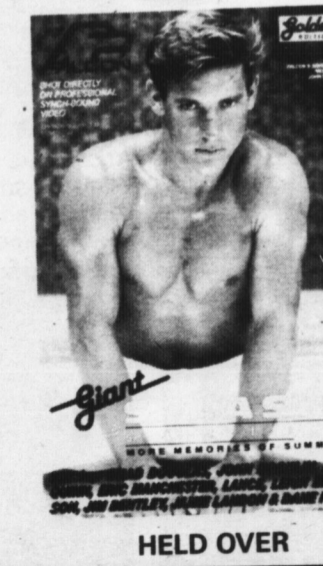
"Crystal Blue Persuasion" by **Tommy James & The Shondells** at #1. ▼

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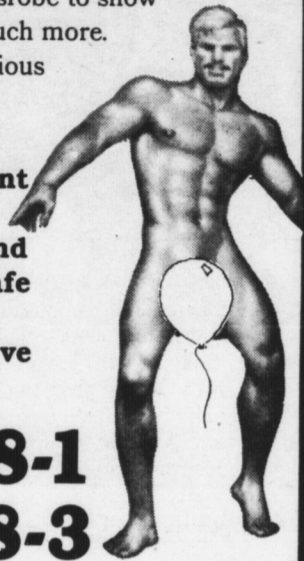
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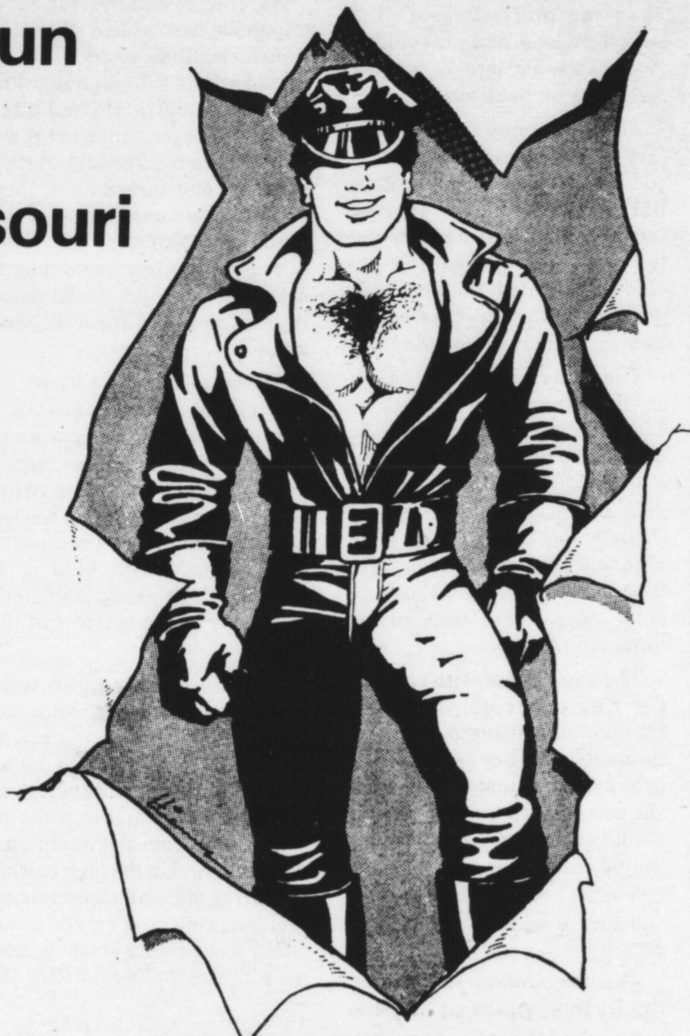
Mr. Marcus

## Logan's Run on The Wide Missouri

Dustin Logan, Mr. Gay Nebraska '88 and the leather person who represented Omaha at Intl. Mr. Leather in Chicago last May, scored a tremendously successful event last weekend, Aug. 18 and 19, with his Leather Fantasy '89 fundraiser in Nebraska's biggest city.

With the help and support of Nebraska's only fraternal organization, the Two Wheelers (TWO), Inc., and countless volunteers, Mr. Logan staged a two-day leather extravaganza that raised a few thousand dollars for the local AIDS project and brought the gamut of knowledge about leather to a shocked but nonetheless accepting gay community. If there was any mystery about the leather lifestyle in anyone's mind in Omaha, those mysteries were forever dispelled after last weekend.

Consider the presence in this Republican stronghold city of *Drummer Magazine* Publisher Tony DeBlase, Intl. Mr. Leather Guy Baldwin, Intl. Ms. Leather Susie Shepherd with toupee tape holding leather and chrome

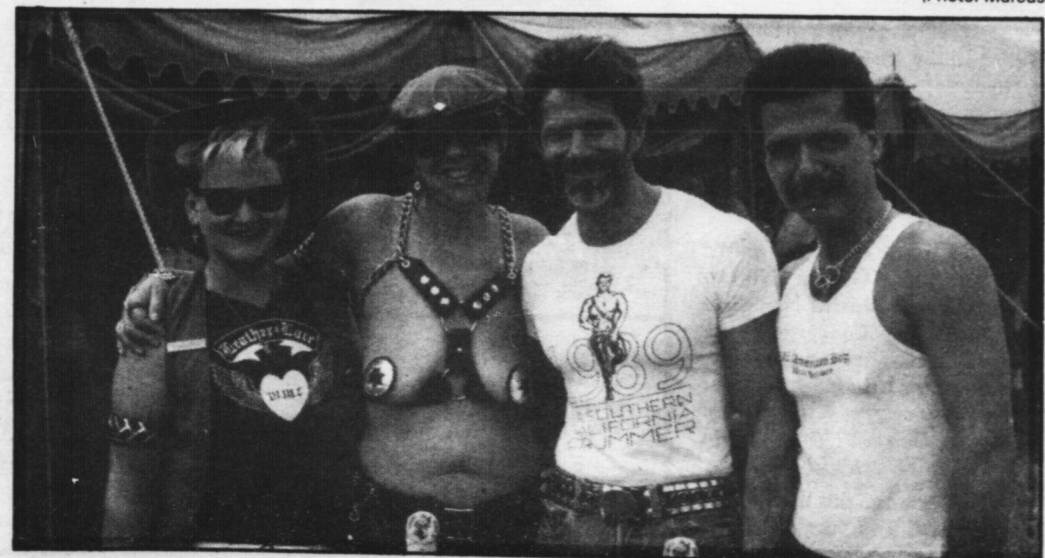


## Fantasy '89

An Experience in Leather



Above, International Mr. Leather Guy Baldwin (left), Mr. Gay Nebraska Dustin Logan and Tom Winfield, an officer of the Two-Wheels of Omaha Motorcycle Club at Fantasy '89. Below, Ms. Leather Sacramento Jolanne; International Ms. Leather Susie Shepherd; Mr. Southern California Drummer Brian, and Mr. Leather Long Beach Jeff.



An overflow crowd jammed the Eagle patio Sunday for the Bartender of the Year beer bust.

(Photo: Darlene/Photographics)

pasties on her boobs, the legendary Gold Coast founder Chuck Renslow, world-renowned leather artist Etienne, Mr. Leather of Chicago Kevin Ware, Mr. Leather of Missouri Walter Thompson, Mr. So. California Drummer Brian Dawson, Ms. Leather of Sacramento Jolanne Tierney, Mr. Arkansas Leather Chuck Higgins, Russian River Leather Daddy John Ferrari and Ms. Southwest Leather Linda Vickery to mention only a few of the out-towners and some local leather drag entertainers.

The two major bars, the Diamond and the Max, saw most of the action. The leather women got their share of adulation at the Chesterfield Bar. After the registration and introduction of guests at the Diamond, everyone ran to the Max, one of the most beautiful bars in the country.

The Max has at least four bars, a dance floor, two stages, a cruise lounge, a pool room with every imaginable pinball game known, and a piano bar. Its spacious interior is air conditioned, of course, and it is the center of Omaha's gay life with something for everyone.

Saturday, on an eight-acre farm in Trainer, Iowa, some 25 miles east of Omaha, the committee staged a gigantic picnic surrounded by ripening corn fields, gigantic grasshoppers and a huge circus tent where Tony DeBlase and Guy Baldwin expounded on rope tying (bondage), mummification and safety tips on bondage and discipline as well as many other aspects of the S&M style.

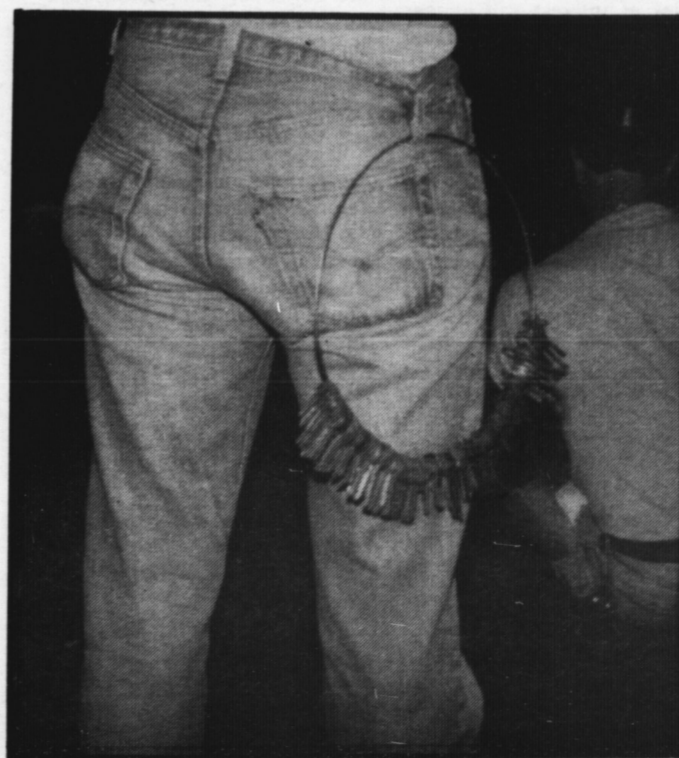
The locals were awe struck but interested. Many of them that I talked to were most appreciative of the opportunity to learn about gay life's least understood subculture.

Saturday night, on both stages of the Max, all of the aforementioned title holders and local people enjoined to enact some 22 fantasies of every description. While I emceed in one room, Alan Selby of Mister S held forth on the other stage. Virtually every aspect of S&M was presented in an intelligent (and in some cases humorous) manner, including the electrical trips which seemed to be the most fascinating for the audiences.

Running up to give tips to the performers was strictly regulated throughout—a giant glass bowl was on each stage so that all the tips were placed therein. By the time the evening was over, both bowls were chock full of bills ranging from ones to 20s.

When 11 fantasies were completed in one room, the entire group moved over to the other stage for the other audience. And it went like clockwork.

Awards were presented to various workers and most of the guests and Logan's Run concluded with a brunch on Sunday morning. Leather and the leather lifestyle is no longer a mystery to at least 75 percent of Omaha's gay community. Money was raised for a worthy cause and all the title holders from all over the country again fulfilled their roles—helping the gay community understand their particular lifestyle—and with class!



The ultimate bottom.

(Photo: Marcus)

As he approaches the end of his reign as Mr. Gay Nebraska (who just happens to be into leather as opposed to just being "in" leather) Dustin has completed a year that will long be remembered on his turf as well as in the leather community at large.

I join with the gay communities of Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas and the Midwest in commending Mr. Logan for his outstanding leadership and dedication and wish him luck in the Mr. Great Plains Drummer contest in St. Louis this weekend. Good show! Leather is alive and well in the provinces!

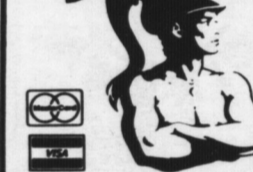
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So I missed a lot of the action around the campus for the past two weeks. The Barbary Coasters M/C are more than slightly miffed that their "Cowabunga" run wasn't mentioned here. I would assume a club would elect a corresponding

secretary who could get the word out on who won what, who did who, etc., etc. But no, just dish Marcus to fill! If I had a magic crystal ball that sees all, it would be flawless; alas, only corresponding secretaries. And I don't

(Continued on next page)

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**Marcus**

(Continued from previous page)

think they really know what their job description(s) are. Too bad the *Leather Journal* only comes out every other month—I'm sure Wally Sherwood has all the results of all the runs, bless his little coeur de cuir!

They had the chaps and cheeks contest at the Eagle while I was away and somebody named Philip won it. Philip (and cheeks) was seen the same weekend at South Bay Leather Daddy's Boy Rick Bernard's Black and Blue Ball on Sunday in San Jose. I was told by more than one person that it was a very flawless affair and that SLUG members and Rick really outdid themselves Sunday night.

The anniversary party at My Place Friday was jam-packed with well wishers. They say the buffet was flawless, Norman and Rey were flawless, the entertainment was flawless and many good wishes for continued success.

The GDIs were aided and abetted by the weather for a successful annual beer bust at the S.F. Eagle on Sunday and nobody pushed Pushy Phyllis around too much because she likes it too much! My traveling days are over for a few weeks, so onward to the San Francisco madness!

Tonight, there's a benefit for the Gay and Lesbian Chorus at the Corral. Besides the groups I mentioned earlier, a last-minute surprise: members of the cast of *La Cage Aux Folles* will do some new material when they get there between 11:30 and midnight sometime. My informant wasn't clear but members of the chorus will probably perform. Add *Menage* and *Fiddletix* and the evening sounds like it will zoom!

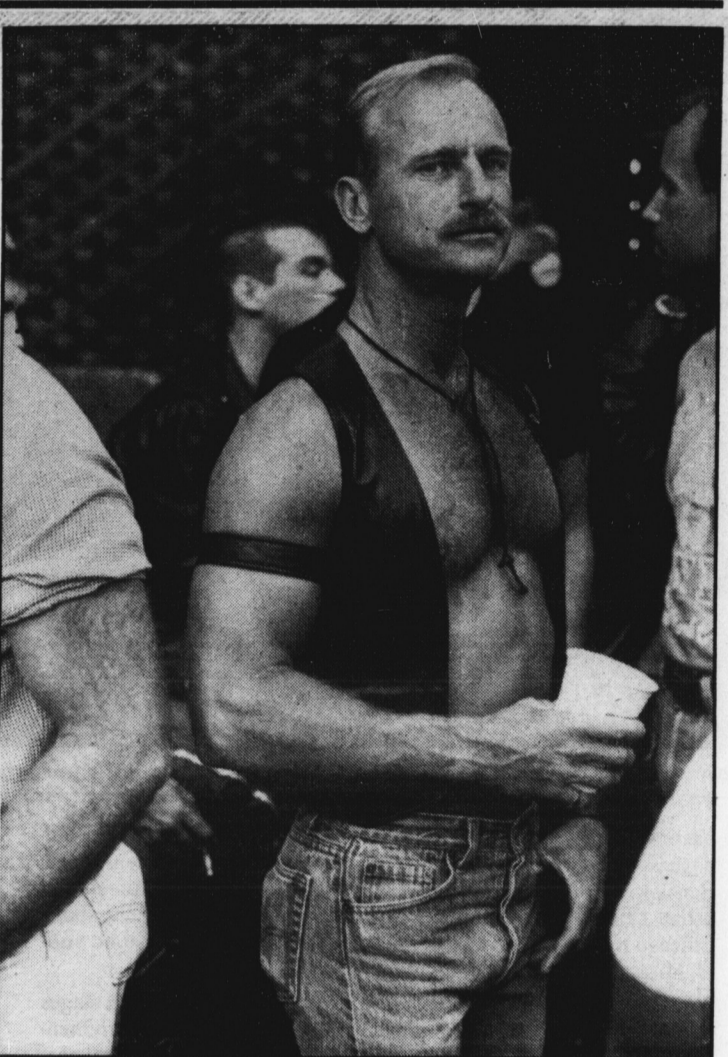
Tomorrow night, Desmondus Inc. (*Drummer Magazine* to you) will celebrate its third anniversary at an invitation-only soiree in the outer reaches of Fulton Street from 1700 to 2000. Congratulations! Many more years of success to Tony and Andy and all those great guys at *Drummer* and the Sandmutopia Supply Co. By the way, Issue #132 of *Drummer* will be out any day now with all the news of the IML contest and some stunning photographs of a lot of the contestants. Don't miss this one!

Tonight, too, Inter Club Fund has bought out the house for *The Odd Couple*. Ducats are \$20 for the 50-seat capacity Studio at the Rhino; if there are any left for this special performance, Sky Renfro would know. Call 863-1386 and try. Party with the cast afterwards at the Transfer!

Tomorrow night, Friday, Aug. 25, the Cycle Runners are having their open meeting at the Eagle patio beginning at 2000. This item is submitted so that their corresponding secretary will not suffer at the hands of his fellow members. Hi Ray! Speak louder and more clearly when leaving messages on my answering machine!

If you can spare \$150 to see the people who make outstanding contributions to San Francisco in a benefit for the Shanti Project, the shindig is at the Flood Mansion at 2222 Broadway with dinner at 1930; dessert and awards at 2030. Wanna bet Eric Rofes will not be wearing his leather chaps to this one?

When it comes to corresponding secretaries, the Golden Gate Guards are way ahead of every club as of this day. They're having a beer bust and one-day run this Sunday, Aug. 27. Check in at the Watering Hole between 11 and noon; depart for bike, buddy



Where is that damn beer pitcher? (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

and people events; come back to will beer at the Eagle from 1500 to 1800—all only \$7 and you get food too. The Guards are always a fun group and they do good press releases.

If you've been nominated for a Crack and Glo Award by the Empire of Stanislaus, pay your \$10 to that affair on Saturday, Sept. 7 at the Knights of Columbus at the corner of Bangs and Dale, North of the Mall. The action is at 1900 hours but their jigsaw-puzzle-like flyer didn't say in what city this is taking place. [Ed. note: *The city is Modesto.*] It only says dinner, drinks, camp and fun *galore* (heavy underline for *galore*). I've been nominated for Best Publication, Single Article Male along with Nez Pas, the East Bay shit disturber.

Have you signed up for the Leather Daddy's Boy contest yet at the S.F. Eagle on Sunday, Sept. 3. See Alan Selby at Mister S or any bartender at the Eagle. More on this one next week.

I don't know if there's any room left for the Satyr's M/C Badger Flats run on Labor Day weekend, but I know for sure Kenny Ferguson of My Place and almost all the Rainbow M/C will be in attendance. Any more activities of interest will appear here for your consideration and there's lots coming!

Think hard: Will the guy who was Hunk #2 at the Dore Alley Fair AIDS Emergency Fund Hug-a-Hunk stage please get in touch with me? I've got a hot little letter for you from someone you hugged at approximately 1400 hours that day. You promised you'd meet him at the I-Beam and you told him, "We should pay you for this." Ain't it just grand? This could herald a "wedding" at the Folsom Street Fair on Sept. 24, no? By the way, Bud, Doris Fish doesn't know his name either! She doesn't even know her own name.

I think there's a Grand Duke/Duchess election coming up, but the only one I know who is running is someone named "Bruce"—I got this ton of flyers for parties all over town from Aug. 22 through Sept. 8. If there are any other candidates, does anybody know? And who's running for Duchess? Sounds like a dull campaign.

Hang in there, have fun, donate generously, support your favorite candidate(s) for whatever. Go Niners! (Hi, Jerry!) If you're really living and really laughing and really loving, remember, you should be doing it in leather! ▼

**Signals of Distress**

Leather dudes all over the country are guffawing like crazy about an ad that appeared in *Next*, a Boston gay rag. The ad is by Innovations in Leather, a show dealing in leather gear. And I quote: "We are ren-

and medical communities' response to AIDS, as well as the disease's socio-economic impact. Discrimination and legal rights and AIDS activism also are part of the course.

Enroll now through Sept. 8 at Vista Community College, 2020 Milvia St., between University and Addison, or at the first class session.

Call 841-8431 for more information. ▼

**UC Berkeley Class Focuses on AIDS**

An examination and analysis of the AIDS epidemic from social, political and cultural perspectives is presented in "Society, Politics and AIDS" starting Monday, Aug. 28, 6-9 p.m., 106 Moffitt Hall, on the U.C. Berkeley campus.

Sponsored by Berkeley's Vista Community College, the class covers such topics as the influence of AIDS on sexual attitudes, identity and political ideology; stereotypical religious

**M.J. Murphy**

**Gay Progress Hits Snag; Get Involved Politically**

Has anyone else noticed how gay rights progress has been slam dunked during the last couple of months? After a fabulous month of June with all the Stonewall 20 commemorations and celebrations and the *Examiner's* "Gay in America" 16-part series, it seems as if we've entered the "Summer of Hate."

Now, I'm not trying to alarm anyone here, but consider this: the censorship of Robert Mapplethorpe's exhibit at the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, the religious and Catholic archdiocese force a November vote after the Board of Supervisors unanimously passes the domestic partnership ordinance, the openly gay school board president in Fremont is facing a recall vote, Lynn Griffiths' alleged gay bashing and then disappearance out of state, discrimination against people with AIDS in Contra Costa County, and the list continues to grow.

I even got a cranky piece of hate mail that "muff divers" have no right to be parents, and that we (gays) are all "pathetic creatures... no different than streetwalkers."

While I have nothing against streetwalkers, I do get more than a bit peeved when someone tries to tell me that I'm less than a first-class citizen, and unworthy to be a parent, and when so-called "shock radio" jocks continue to use gays as the brunt of their ignorant, weak jokes. It can be discouraging at times, especially when we note homophobic behavior on the radio or television.

There are many ways to channel these feelings of helplessness and/or outrage into direct action through a number of political or activist groups. But one group that deals directly with the media is the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation.

This dedicated group of media watchers has targeted a number of Bay Area media outlets in recent weeks including the *Contra Costa Times* for their prejudicial policy for covering gay events and issues, radio station KITS-FM DJ Alex Bennett's recent on-air promotions for homophobic "comedian" Sam Kinison's concerts, and GLAAD has submitted a formal request to Pacific Bell for the establishment of a "Gay/Lesbian Service and Social Organizations" category to be included in the Yellow Pages.

GLAAD has been named by the *San Francisco Examiner's Image Magazine* as one of the 10 best gay organizations in the Bay Area, striving to "make this a kinder, gentler nation for all."

Even Ann Landers is not beyond reproach according to the GLAAD newsletter. In her column on July 3 she concluded a piece entitled "Setting the Record Straight on Gays" by writing, "I believe that because of the way society views homosexuals, most would, if they had a chance, be straight."

You can write to Ann Landers to let her know you're proud to be gay at P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, Ill. 60611. And become a member of GLAAD by calling 864-0794.

We can make a difference by being gay and GLAAD of it!

"Ask Ann Landers" will also be the topic at this week's meeting of Black and White Men Together in the East Bay. The group will meet at the Pacific Center in Berkeley on Friday evening, Aug. 25. For more information about the group call 931-BWMT, or you may call Lee at 261-7922.

Project Inform is a concerned group of people who have responded to the need for AIDS treatment education in a big way. They provide AIDS patients the latest information on advances made in research and drug technology so that they may be made informed, up-to-the-minute decisions with their doctors and care givers about specific treatments.

Last month Project Inform received national attention when they went public with information about their ongoing experiments with Compound-Q that so far have proven to be more expedient and more cost-effective than the FDA's own experiments.

This worthy group needs



Ann Landers.

financial assistance to continue their projects, so please mark your calendars for the Celebrator Summerfest on Saturday, Aug. 26. Billed as a "Gourmet Food and Beer Celebration," top local and international brewers and chefs will present fine foods and beer tastings for your enjoyment and to benefit Project Inform. The event will be held at the Fort Mason Center, Pier 2 in San Francisco, from 1-6 p.m. Tickets are \$27.50 at the door. Please call 435-7451 for info.

And if it's music and comedy that tickles your fancy, you've got two events to choose from on Saturday night, Aug. 26. Singer/songwriter/comic Monica Grant will celebrate the release of her first tape, *Harbor Girl*, with a concert at ClairLight Women's Books, 1110 Petaluma Hill Road in Santa Rosa at 7:30 p.m. If you happen to be in Our Town you can catch The Welfare Cheats for an evening of music and satire at the Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St. in San Francisco. The show begins at 8 p.m.

OK all you k.d. lang fans! Attention! Get out \$3 and get over to the Kennel Club at 628 Divisadero St., S.F. from 4-9 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 27 for a k.d. lang Video Party and Tea Dance. Lots of great raffle prizes, including tickets to k.d.'s San Francisco performance, and the new k.d. lang video will be shown. Call Jacquie at 530-6604 or Becky at 471-3497 for more details.

What to do on a Monday night? There's a weeknight partying group for lesbians in their 40s. I'm not sure how they do age checks at these events, but week-

night parties are usually the best. Interested? Call Nancy at 239-5692 for the latest times and location.

On Tuesday, Aug. 29, the Slightly Older Lesbians of the South Bay will show a video of Gloria Steinem's address at the Ms Foundation celebration on the state of feminism in the United States today.

A discussion led by Sue Lampson will follow the video presentation. Newcomers are encouraged to attend this gathering! 7-9 p.m. at the DeFrank Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose.

And, as always, there's one last thing. Yes on 'S', the Domestic Partnership Campaign, is in need of volunteers to do community outreach and voter registration. Hours are available to fit your schedule including an 11 p.m.-1 a.m. group shift that will be registering voters outside of the clubs and bars on weekend nights. This is a great way to meet new people and contribute to a very important cause, Yes on 'S'! For more information or to schedule your time call John Wilhite at 558-8465. ▼

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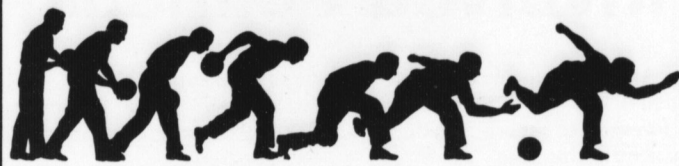
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# JAPANTOWN BOWL



## SATURDAY GAY GAMES III LEAGUE

For Those Who Can't Bowl During The Week



Q.: We work the night shift during the week, but we want to bowl, too! Is there a bowling league we can join?

A.: Yes!! Not only is there a league for you, but it's a league that helps plan your vacation for next year: the new Saturday Night Gay Games III Vacation League.

Starting on Saturday, Sept. 16, you'll be able to bowl your way to Vancouver, British Columbia, the site of the 1990 Gay Games next August. Every Saturday at 6:15 p.m. for 42 weeks, Japantown Bowl will have a Gay Games III vacation league.

This league is similar to our Monday Gay Games III league, but it has been specifically designed for folks who either work a night shift during the week or who find a weeknight league difficult. Now, you folks have a league of your own!!

And, while you're bowling and making new friends, you'll have the reassurance of knowing that Japantown Bowl is going to work for you. Most of your \$22.50 weekly fee will go toward paying for your airfare, hotel accommodations and tickets for the Opening and Closing ceremonies of Gay Games III. You don't have to call an airline or a hotel. Our travel agent will do it for you.

Four bowlers to a team. \$22.50 per bowler per week for 42 weeks. Gay Games III will be THE gay and lesbian sporting event of 1990! Save for YOUR vacation while you have fun and make new friends in a non-competitive atmosphere. Remember, you can be an experienced or an inexperienced bowler. It doesn't matter. FUN is the key word for bowlers at Japantown Bowl. And, when a fun-filled GGIII vacation league is over, you'll be ready for a fun-filled vacation to Vancouver.

For more information on either Gay Games vacation league or any of our six other gay and lesbian bowling leagues, call Will Snyder at Japantown Bowl at 921-6200



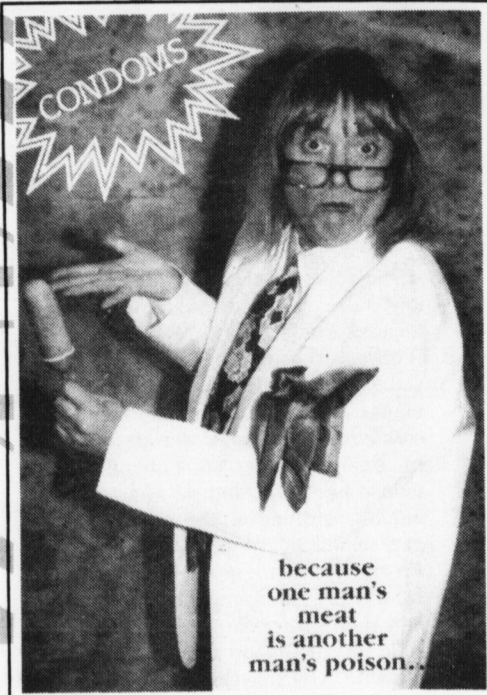
# THIS WEEK

## FRIDAY 25

- **Turf Club:** "Wild Fire Band." 9 p.m.-1 a.m. No cover. 22517 Mission Blvd., Hayward. 881-9877.
- **Carousel:** By Rodgers & Hammerstein at Cal State Hayward Theatre. Aug 18, 19, 25, 26 at 8 p.m.; Aug 24 at 6 p.m.; Aug 27 at 2 p.m. \$5-7. Call 881-4299 for info.
- **The Long Long Trailer:** Desi Arnaz and Lucille Ball buy a trailer for their honeymoon—and they wish they hadn't! Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. 465-6400.
- **Gala Comedy Benefit:** For the CareGivers Project featuring comics Tom Armianno & Karen Williams. 9 p.m. The Mart Bar & Grill, 32 9th St/Market. \$15 donation. Call 882-2411.
- **Black & White Men Together:** East Bay Rap, Pacific Cntr. Ask Ann Landers. Call Lee, 261-7922 or 931-BWMT.
- **Writing Personal Ads: Will The Real You Please Stand Up:** MCC - SF Men Together rap night. Fun & conversation. 7:30 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka. Call Martin, 563-5106.
- **Women's Tie-Dye Workshop:** Bring 100 percent cotton t-shirts or buy silk scarves on the spot. 7:30 p.m. MCC Women's Program. 150 Eureka. Call 863-4434.
- **Which Way For Lesbian & Gay Empowerment?:** Panel discussion forum sponsored by the New Alliance Party. Dr. Lanora Fulani, Roberta Achtenberg, Larry Paradis, Wilson Ryles, Jr., Karen Steimberg, Cesar Cadabes. 7:30 p.m. Quan Yin Acupuncture & Herb Cntr, 1748 Market. 558-0442 or 824-2651.
- **Shanti PWAs Go To Wildwood Resort:** Aug 25-27. Always a popular weekend retreat for people living with AIDS. Advanced registration necessary. Some scholarships available. Joe Lane, 777-2273.
- **Gay Men's Support Group:** Begins tonight. 7:30-9 p.m. This will be a closed group of 8-10 and will meet weekly for 10 weeks. Co-ordinated by Mike Hertz, recent graduate of San Francisco Theological Seminary. Call Mike at 653-2134 or Ministry of Light offices at 457-1115.
- **Lesbian Women's Support Group:** Begins tonight. 7:30-9 p.m. This will be a closed group of 8-10 and will meet every other week until Thanksgiving. We will share experiences related to our personal and professional lives. Facilitated by Sara Taylor, Director of Pastoral Care at the Ministry of Light. Call Sara at 457-0854 or 457-1115.
- **SF Hotshots Men's Gay Basketball:** All levels welcome. 1525 Waller St. 6:30-9 p.m. Tony Jasinski, 621-2710.
- **Outlook:** Lesbian/gay video plays the 2nd & 4th Fridays. 7:30 p.m. Cable 30 Cupertino, Los Altos.
- **Electric City:** South Bay, KCAT, every Friday 7:30 p.m.
- **Fetish night:** 7:35 Tehama, 9 p.m.-6 a.m. Exhibit the fetish of your choice. Males 18+. Info: 621-1887.
- **Living Well With AIDS/ARC:** Attitudinal healing support group. Rest Stop, 134 Church St., S.F., 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 621-REST for more information.

## SATURDAY 26

- **All-Star All-Day Performance Art Marathon to Benefit Theatre Artaud:** 12 hours of continuous entertainment, visual art, installations, 45 artists. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. \$5 with in & out privileges. 450 Florida. Call 621-7797.
- **The Celebrator Summerfest: A Gourmet Food & Beer Celebration:** 1-6 p.m. Fort Mason, Pier 2. \$22.50 advance, \$27.50 at door. Benefits Project Inform. 435-7451.
- **SF Wrestling Club:** Workouts every other Saturday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. All forms, styles of wrestling; all ages, weights, levels welcome. Call 538-8490 or 821-9721.
- **Bi Friendly SF Mexicali Potluck Dinner:** Berkeley location. 6 p.m. Free (bring food to pass). Suzanne, 845-6855.
- **Bi Friendly SF Arts Fair Roadtrip:** Palo Alto Arts & Wine Festival. Meet at noon at SF location to carpool to festival. Pierre, 753-0687.
- **Husband Hunters:** A playful workshop for gay men seeking quality relationships. A fun way to improve social skills and increase opportunities to connect with other men. Lecture and group interaction: Flirting & Chatting—How to do it & how to enjoy it! MCC, 150 Eureka. 7:30-10 p.m. \$10. 346-2399.
- **Girth & Mirth Club SF:** Take a trip to the Russian River and dinner in Occidental. Bring swim suit, picnic lunch, friends. Call 820-2597 for directions & details.
- **Gospel Music AIDS Benefit Concert:** MCC - SF & Double Rock Baptist's second joint concert. 5 p.m. Double Rock Baptist Church, 1598 Shafter Ave. 863-4434 or 822-4566.
- **GSGRA-BAC Rodeo:** Bay Area Career Women Country & Western Dance at the Franciscan Hotel.
- **Turf Club:** Live music. Wild Fire Band. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. No cover. 22517 Mission Blvd., Hayward. 881-9877.
- **Gay Rescue Mission:** Golden Age of S&M. X-films from the '50s & '60s. Free 7:30-8 p.m.; \$5. 8 p.m.-1 a.m. 1080 Folsom. 863-4882.



• **Dr. Farkle's How To Pick Up Babes:** Aired on Thursday night, 24 Aug., on SF cable channel 25.

## SUNDAY 27

- **Electric City:** Sundays, SF cable 35, 10 p.m. Morgaine Wildek, Dr. Maggi Rubenstein, Joseph Bean the leather sex fairy.
- **Oakland Municipal Band:** Family Funfest—Music for all ages. FREE. 2:30-4:30 p.m. Edoff Memorial Bandstand, Lakeside Park, Oakland.
- **A Different Light Bookstore:** Social Studies Series: Monica Kehoe, *Lesbians Over 60*, reading/book signing. 3 p.m. Community Space Series: Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE), readings. 7 p.m. 489 Castro. 431-0891.
- **Poetry Reading to Benefit AIDS Emergency Fund:** Poets Thom Gunn, August Kleinzahler and Steve Silverman. 7:30 p.m. \$5 donation. Hayes Street Grill, 320 Hayes St., SF.
- **Bench & Bar:** Sunday variety show—singing, dancing, comedy, strippers, impersonators. 10 p.m. C&W dancing 7 p.m. Free hot dogs & chili. 120 11th St., Oakland. 444-2266.
- **Absolute k.d. lang:** Join the k.d. lang fan club for a pre-concert video party. 2-6 p.m. Kennel Club, 628 Divisadero. \$3 cover includes raffle, chance to win concert tix. Door prizes, dancing, posters. Call Jacquie, 530-6604.
- **Dancer's Stage:** Seth Montfort, pianist, performs Chopin & others. 60 Brady, near Gough & Market. 5-6 p.m. \$5.
- **Religious Science Church of SF:** John McCormick. "Physical Healing, What's the Cause?" Healing is a creative process, a re-creation. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Van Ness/Market.
- **MCC - SF Men's Together Dance at Dreamland:** Following evening service. Free passes available. 9 p.m. midnight. Meet at MCC, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.
- **AIDS Healing Service:** We are the body of Christ and we have AIDS. 7 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.
- **AIDS Interfaith of Marin:** Monthly service. 4 p.m. Redwoods Presbyterian Church, 110 Magnolia, Larkspur. Call 457-1129.
- **Gay & Lesbian Vegetarians:** Summer potluck in San Jose. 5-7 p.m. Bring dish to share. Rick Haze, 408/336-3255.
- **Bisexual Feminist Women's Support Group:** SF location, 4-6 p.m. FREE. Dierdra, 626-3910.
- **Bisexual Men's Support Group:** SF location, 7:30-9:30 p.m. FREE. Andrew, 626-3910.
- **SF Hotshots Men's Gay Basketball Team:** Collingwood gym, 18th St. & Collingwood. 6-8 p.m. All levels welcome. Showers available. Tony Jasinski, 621-2710.
- **Community Spirit Healing Circle:** doors at 7 p.m.; arrive by 7:15 p.m.; Circle at 7:30 p.m. sharp. Zen Cntr Guest House, 273 Page/Octavia.
- **Men's Clinic:** free/confidential VD testing and treatment for gonorrhoea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, venereal warts, etc. AIDS/ARC counselling and referrals. Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave. 6-8 p.m. Call 644-0425.
- **Dignity:** Liturgy for gay/lesbian Catholics and friends at 5:30 p.m. at Dolores St. Community Cntr, 15th and Dolores. Call 255-9244.
- **Integrity:** Eucharist for the gathering community 5:30 p.m. St. John's Episcopal Church, 1661 15th St./Valencia. 552-5270.
- **Golden Gate MCC:** 10:30 and 7 p.m. at 48 Belcher St., San Francisco. Call 474-4848.
- **Marin MCC:** MCC of the Redwoods has services at 6 p.m., 8 Olive St., Mill Valley. Call 388-2315.

## MONDAY 28

- **Religious Science Church of SF:** People are healing from AIDS. Wil Garcia & George Melton, share insights on the self-healing process. 7 p.m. 25 Van Ness/Market. \$10 donations, no turned away for lack of funds.
- **SF Arts Democratic Club:** Tom Horn, President of the SF War Memorial & Performing Arts Cntr. "The War Memorial Board: Who are they & what do they do?" 7 p.m. New College Valencia Cntr, 777 Valencia/19th St. Call 995-ARTS.
- **Bi Friendly South Bay:** Palo Alto location. 7 p.m. FREE. Steve, 415/968-5902, or Kristine, 408/267-5551.
- **Women Bending Christian Tradition:** MCC's monthly women's gathering. Anne Bourdon & Rev. Kit Cherry talk about journal writing. 7:30 p.m. 150 Eureka. 863-4434.
- **Outlook:** lesbian/gay video. 10:30 p.m. on Sacramento at 47. Christian Haren, lesbian weddings.
- **Support Group for Older Gay Men (60+):** Operation Concern, 1853 Market. FREE. 7-9 p.m. Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE). 626-7000.
- **D.J.'s in Walnut Creek:** 1535 Olympic Blvd. Attitude adjustment hour prices all night. 4 p.m.-2 a.m. Play pool & darts. 930-0300.
- **Frank Banks at the Piano Bar:** Mon & Tue, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. New Belle Saloon, 1203 Polk. 775-6905.
- **Springboard Diving Class & Training:** beginner thru advanced. Info/reg: Bob Murphy, 552-0820, or Leslie King, 666-6820. Mon & Wed. 7 p.m.; Tues & Thu. 3:30 p.m.

## TUESDAY 29

- **Square Dance Classes for Beginners:** Tuesdays 7-9 p.m. New classes begin Aug 29 & Sept 5 at Live Oak School, 117 Diamond/18th St. Info: Foggy City Dancers. Call Cathy, 339-0537, or Tom, 454-7275.
- **Turf Club:** Free C&W dance lessons. 7:30 p.m. 22517 Mission Blvd., Hayward. 881-9877. Also on Wednesday nights at 7:30 p.m.
- **Electric City:** Lesbian/gay video. Tuesdays, 10 p.m., cable 30 in Mountain View, Los Altos, Cupertino.
- **Town Meeting Toward A Lesbian/Gay Community Cntr For SF:** 7-9 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka/18th & 19th.
- **Bi Friendly East Bay:** La Pena, 3105 Shattuck, Berkeley. 7 p.m., Dinner/conversation. Susan, 524-0574.
- **Bi Friendly SF Bi Night Out:** Castro neighborhood restaurant. 7 p.m., Karla, 863-5961, or Pierre, 753-0687.
- **Gay Men & Our Addictions:** Rap group with 18th St. Services counselor Chuck McNeil. 3:30-4:30 p.m. Tenderloin Self-Help Cntr, 191 Golden Gate Ave. 554-0518.
- **Shanti Project PWAs Go To Santa Cruz Boardwalk:** All day outing for PWAs & guests. Transportation leaves Shanti (1525 Howard) at 9 a.m. Call Joe, 777-2273, to reserve seats.
- **Ballroom Dancing for Gay & Lesbians:** Salsa—Mambo! 50 Oak, 4th floor, at Van Ness. 7-8 p.m. beginners; 8-9 p.m. intermediate. \$7/class; \$12/both. 995-4962.
- **Lesbian Psychotherapy Group:** ongoing, Tue evenings. 5:30-7 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF 94103. Call 626-7000 for info & intake appointment.

## WEDNESDAY 6

- **SFSU Lesbian/Gay Alumni Association:** In the beginning stages and need input concerning future. Current students encouraged to participate. Tony Travers, 4040 17th St., SF, CA 94114.
- **Gay & Lesbian Older Writers (50+):** Meets every Wednesday, 6-8 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. Sponsored by Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders: 626-7000.
- **SFSU Lesbian/Gay Alumni Association:** In the beginning stages and need input concerning future. Current students encouraged to participate. Tony Travers, 4040 17th St., SF, 94114.
- **SF Choral Society Auditions:** Auditions thru Sept 5 for SF Choral Society Community Chorus and the Women's Chorus of SF. Call 566-8096.
- **Care Partners Support Group:** For those caring for people with AIDS & other life threatening illnesses. 7:30-9 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.
- **Trans-gender Support Group:** Wednesdays 4:30-6:30 p.m. with Counseling Supervisor Christine Tayleur. Open to all people dealing with trans-gender issues. Tenderloin Self-Help Center, 191 Golden Gate Ave., SF. 554-0518.
- **AIDS Interfaith Network:** Support group. Parsonage, 555-A Castro St., S.F., 7 p.m., free. Call: 864-7462.
- **Asian Gay Men's Support Group:** The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 6:30-8 p.m. Call: 548-8283.
- **Co-Dependency Group:** For caregivers, Kairos House, 114 Douglas St., S.F., 7:30-8:30 p.m. Led by Steve Graham.
- **Gay Male Drop-In Group for Alcohol/Substance Abuse and HIV Concerns:** individual and group process available. 7-9 p.m. at Operation Concern/Recovery, 1853 Market. For intake appointment call 626-7000.
- **Community United Against Violence:** Support group for battered gay men, 514 Castro St., S.F., 7:30-9:30 p.m., free. Call: 864-3112.

## THURSDAY 31

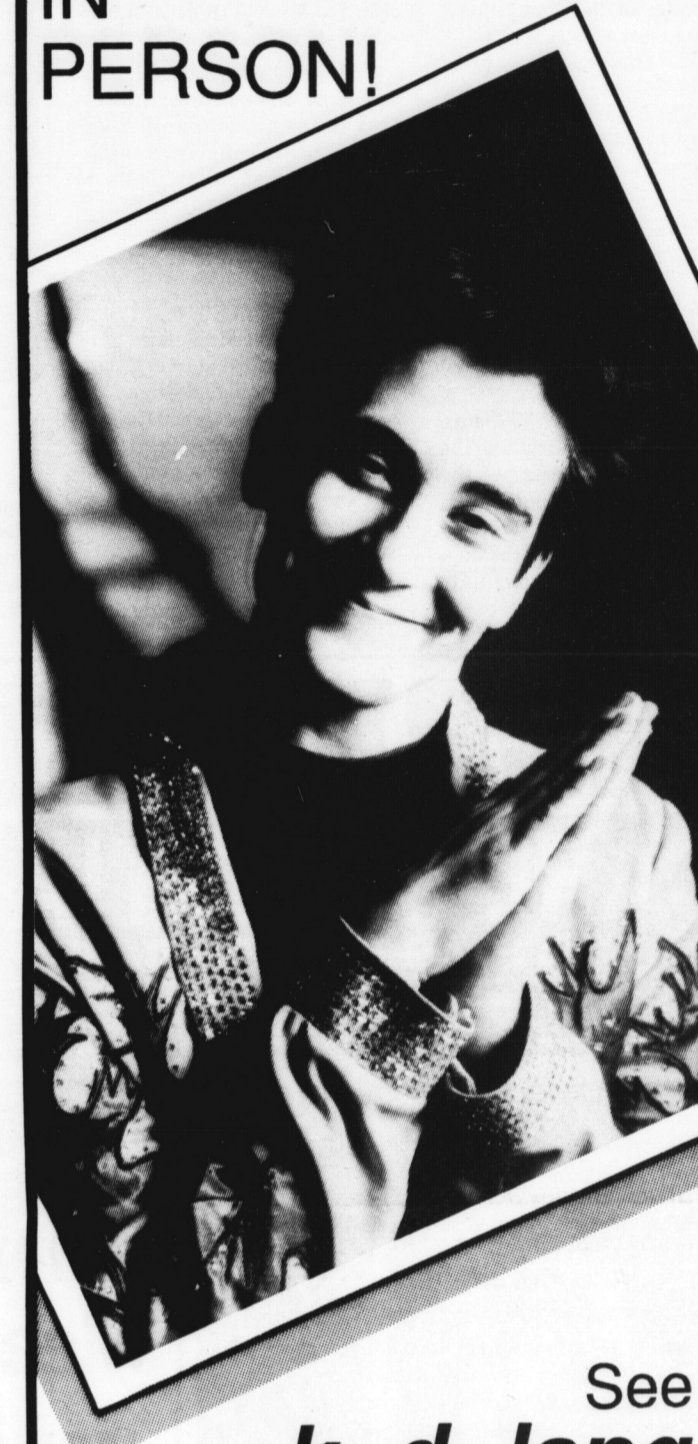
- **Ballroom & Lath Dancing for Gays & Lesbians:** Cha-cha workshop. 7-8 p.m. \$10/class. 50 Oakst., 4th floor at Van Ness. 995-4962.
- **A Different Light Bookstore:** Photos of the SF Freedom Day Parade & Celebration by Biron. Last day! 489 Castro.
- **ETVC:** The TV/TS and friends social group presents "Summer Luau/Hawaiian Legs." Strictly summer wear. 8 p.m. SF location. Call 763-3959.
- **Old Wives' Tales Bookstore:** 7:30 p.m. Diane Mariechild, *Mother Wit, A Guide to Healing and Psychic Development*, with Shuli Goodman. Everyone welcome. 1009 Valencia. 821-4875.
- **Gay Rescue Mission:** Transvestite orgy, x-film. Free 7:30-8 p.m.; \$5. 8 p.m.-1 a.m. 1080 Folsom. 863-4882.
- **Outlook:** Gay/lesbian video. Every Thursday at 8:30 p.m. on Mountain View cable 30.
- **Older Gay Men's Friendship Group (60+):** Meets at 2:45 p.m. at the Friendship Room, 711 Eddy, SF. FREE. Lively discussions & outings. Call GLOE at 626-7000.
- **Trans-gender Addictions Groups:** With Counseling Supervisor Christine Tayleur. Thursdays 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tenderloin Self-Help Cntr, 191 Golden Gate Ave. 554-0518.
- **ARC Drop-in Group for People with AIDS-Related Conditions:** Support, information, stress. Health Cntr 1, Rm. 206 (3850 17th St. btwn Noe & Sanchez). 6-8 p.m. Call 626-7000 for details.
- **HIV+ Drop-in Group for Men & Women Testing Positive:** Operation Concern, 1853 Market St. 6-8 p.m. Call 626-7000 for details.
- **Bob Sandner at the Piano Bar:** Thur-Sat, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.; Sun, 6-10 p.m. New Belle Saloon, 1203 Polk. 775-6905.
- **Grief Support Group:** Begins Aug 10 for 8 weeks. Closed beginning Sept 14. Led by Anne Grant, PhD, in cooperation with Hospice Bay The Bay. 7-9 p.m. Kairos House, 114 Douglas. 861-0877.
- **Youth Rap & Therapy Group:** for gay/lesbian/bis under 22. 4-5:30 p.m. Center for Special Problems, 1700 Jackson. Info: Rik or Holly, 558-4801.
- **Grief Recovery:** weekly support group 6 p.m.-8 p.m. at Hospice Bay The Bay, 1550 Sutter. Call 673-2020.
- **Support Group:** Michael Luke leads group for caregivers. 7-8:30 p.m. Kairos House, 114 Douglas. 861-0877.
- **S.F. Water Polo:** Practices. 8-9 p.m., in Berkeley. Men and women of all ability levels welcomed. Call John at 621-0783 or Laurie at 255-9091.
- **Asian/Pacific Island HIV:** Support group for bisexual and gay men. Rest Stop, 134 Church St., S.F., 8-9:30 p.m. Call 621-REST.
- **Positive Opportunities for Wellness:** Support group for men with HIV+, ARC, or AIDS. 7:30-9:30 p.m., free. Facilitated by Julian Baird. Refreshments. Call 285-3561.



• **Two Artists in Search of One Palette:** Color photographs of Michael Gretch by JB Higgins. Thru Aug. 31. Miby Dick, 4049 18th St. M-F, 2 p.m.-2 a.m.; S-S, 1 p.m.-2 a.m.

## TOWER RECORDS | VIDEO

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**BERKELEY** 2310 Broadway, San Francisco, CA 94115

# Bartender of Year Named; \$21,000 Raised for AEF

by Dennis McMillan

It was the first annual Bartender of the Year contest and truly a cause for "Celebration of Life," raising a total of \$21,000 for AIDS Emergency Fund. The combination cookout/show/beer bust packed the Eagle Sunday with celebrants anxiously awaiting the announcement of the winner of the contest—Becca Frey, formerly of Fives at the Russian River.

David Kelsey then treated the crowd to his repertoire of trashy piano stylings.

Followed by four classic stars rolled in one—Fenemia Black took the stage along with Bette Davis, Carol Channing (ye-e-esh, she wash, it'sh true), Tallulah Bankhead (Dahhhling!), and Katharine Hepburn (the loons are lovely on the lake, you old poop).

Second place winner was Tommy Randall from the Pendulum; third place was Chuck Demmon of the Mint.

Emcee comic Danny Williams, with a cast of many (including the cast on his arm) entertained the masses with mirth and music. Williams sarcastically thanked the government for all the support it has given the community during the epidemic.

Empress Pat Montclair gave a rare live performance of "Daddy, I Want a Diamond Ring..." as sung to Emperor Jerry Coletti. (No one missed the joke.) It was the consensus of the Eagle that she should throw away her tapes and do it live from now on. Sensational!

Fiddlestix country quartet sang from *Pumpboys and Dinets*.



Bartender of the Year contestants represented the Mint, the Pendulum and Fives, among others. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

tes about how they were lookin' for a big fat tip. Well, who isn't? Then in tribute to songstress Morgen Aiken, who is moving to Sanford, Fla., soloist David Thompson did Morgen's

signature tune, "Celie's Blues" from *The Color Purple*, changing the sister to mister.

Aiken then stepped out with Samm Gray to do a gender-bender number, "Sue Me," with Gray decked out in a fierce little turban.

Solomon Rose sweetened the stage with his "When I Take My Sugar To Tea," and joined Aiken for a riveting "Take Me To The World."

For her very last number in the city by the bay, Aiken gave us her comic/tragic confession "If There's a Wrong Way." As she so aptly sang, "nobody does it like me." So true. We will all miss Morgen.

Coletti announced that the Bartender of the Year contest would be an annual fundraiser sponsored by the Court of the Lion and the Lady. "God willing, we won't have to raise the money for AIDS next time," Coletti said.

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**RAWHEAD**... **MAN IN A SLING**... 1:30 PM, 9:30 PM

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Bartender of the Year, Becca Frey (left), with her lover, Robin. (Photo: Rink)



Empress Pat Montclair sings "Daddy" to Emperor Jerry Coletti at the Eagle Sunday. (Photo: Rink)

## Marathon To Benefit Theater Artaud

A cavalcade of Bay Area talent will be showcased in the 1st Annual Theater Artaud Performance Marathon, Saturday, Aug. 26, at the Theater located at 450 Florida St.

Joe Goode, Laura Farabough, Keith Terry, Deborah Slater and Vaudeville Nouveau are among

some 45 dancers, musicians, actors and visual artists who will be part of 12 hours of entertainment 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Audiences will be admitted on a continuous basis for a ticket price of only \$5. Tickets are available at the Theater Artaud box office on the day of the marathon.

All proceeds from the event will benefit Theater Artaud's operating fund.

For more information call a recorded message at 621-7797.

## THE ABYSS

(Continued from page 31)

Later, after taking the form of a serpentine water creature with the ability to mirror the faces and gestures of its beholders, the NTI turns out to be a bona-fide ET, or so it would seem. But is it friendly? That's the million-dollar question on which the plot rises and falls.

There's enough far-fetched action here to propel several pictures, but much of it is so slow moving and protracted that it dilutes the suspense to the point where the viewer wants to scream, "Enough, already!" At 143 minutes, *The Abyss* is far too

long; at least 23 minutes of excess footage could have been cut to good advantage.

Moreover, Cameron makes the antsy viewers of his slow-motion thriller wait for more than an hour before letting them see what's inside the alien jellyfish—another serious miscalculation. Maybe not, though, because the "payoff" turns out to be the film's biggest disappointment, blowing it right out of the water.

With the film's ludicrous conclusion, Cameron goes off the deep end as he both rips off and pays homage to Steven Spielberg's vastly superior *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. In *The Abyss*, the close encounters are of the silliest and most in-

credible kind.

Cameron's grand finale lacks the magic and awe-inspiring majesty of the Spielberg original, and it doesn't even fit very well with the rest of the picture, changing the tone from one of gripping realism to one of goofy sentimentality. As for the creatures, they look like mutant rejects from *E.T.*, *Close Encounters*, and *Mac and Me*.

If nothing else, *The Abyss* tries to end on an upbeat note. You can't keep a good man down, it seems, especially when you've got a whole fleet of angelic aliens waiting at the bottom of the sea, ready to save the day for almost everyone involved (alas, the freaked-out macho-man ends up in deep shit).

So... should you take the plunge and head down to *The Abyss*? That all depends. If you suffer from claustrophobia, are easily bored, or have a fear of drowning, you'll probably find this film to be a bad trip. On the other hand, if you're fishing for something different to see in this sequel-laden summer, you might find the trip diverting.

On the whole, *The Abyss* is a seriously flawed but eye-filling oceanic voyage worth catching at a bargain matinee sometime when you have nothing better to do. But plan an entire evening around it and sink \$7 into seeing it? You're likely to end up in the hole if you do. As always, though, the choice is yours.

★★ The Abyss The Galaxy, Stonestown, and Century Plaza 8

## Catholic Charities Seeks Volunteers

People who are sensitive to those touched by AIDS, and have three hours during a normal work week, are needed to answer phones and do intake for people seeking assistance from the AIDS/ARC Program of Catholic Charities. Good phone skills, and some clerical skills helpful.

For further information, contact Bob Nelson: 864-7400.

# B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

## People

**MUSCULAR, HAIRY, HUNG** Beard, Bald, Br. Br WM 5'8", 155, 40, 8", Top seeks Young to 30, Trim, Smooth WM. Safe Hot. Ltr/Photo exch. to: JL, 1800 Market #7, SF, CA 94102. E34

Work Wanted P/T. PWA care by Private RN. Transportation, 24 hr. call. Also have truck for rent, light moving/hauling. 586-2742. E34

21yo. GWM new to SF seeks Friends 20-40 for Fun & Safe Sex. AM, 1455 A Market St. #329, SF 94103. Write soon. E34

Asian? Slim/young? I'm WM, 31, 6', 160# & gdlkg. 267-3128. E34  
Wanted young white ass to suck, 474-9564 PM. E34

WM, 45, blows exotic masc. men under 30. 282-8274, Jim E34

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Seek Friend—So. Bay Only PPO 6'2", 215# bld/bl drug-free topman in 40's seeks super nice HIV- guy 28-38 w/fresh butt for weekly pumpings. No B.S. must leave # on tape. (415) 461-4611. E34

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Butch, non-Caucasian guy wanted for sex and more by gdlkg wm 46. Ralph 821-6388. E34

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Bob Whitman  
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Gldk WM, 5'11", well built, vers. hry, 8", wants same. 776-7472. E34

Looking for Permanent Guy who's HIV+. I'm 42yr. Prof. Versatile Attractive will be in SF in Sept. Bob (619) 283-1628, collect's OK. E34

Hot J.O./Blow Buddy! Masculine, bearded, gdlkg WM, 34: earthy, uninhibited, wildly affectionate & versatile seeks same (25-45) for frndshp/more. No phone sex. 626-7108, 7-11 pm. E34

Asian Leather Guy  
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Man 46, 6ft., 160lbs, HIV-neg. Seeks Monogamous Sex with same 243-0261 E34

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Glory Hole Hotline, 621-1887. E32

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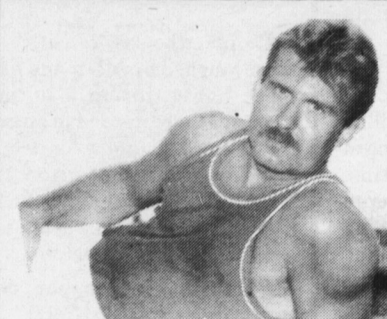
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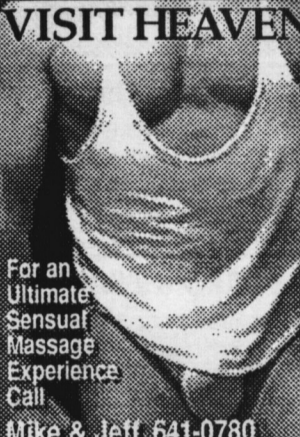
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Hung big and thick, built tough, muscular, tattooed, will demonstrate stud maneuvers. \$100 & up. "Mike" 861-7379. E34

**TOO BIG FOR MOST**  
Page #739-7527

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Hot, Young College Jock. 24. Healthy Boyish Good Looks. Swimmer. David at 563-5637 E38

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Big Butt Tall Hairy Blue-Eyed Daddy. Chad 861-7014. E38

8 1/2" X-thick inches of manhood needs spit-shine. \$50. Hank. 861-7379. E34

6'4", 195#, hairy, ex-Army Sgt. Chuck 431-1579 E37

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175 lbs., 5'8 1/2", 46" C, 29" W  
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Grow and submit.  
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Your Nice Hardware Served Also. Sexy, Muscular, Friendly. Hot. 6ft. 160lbs., 30yrs. Hung. THIK 8". Visa/MC. Major Hotels. Checks OK.  
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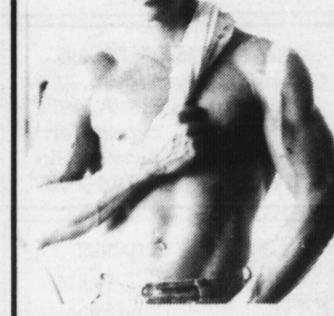
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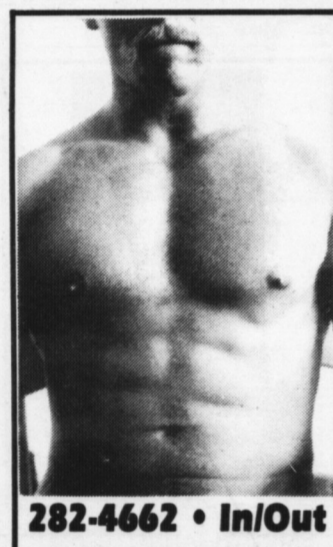
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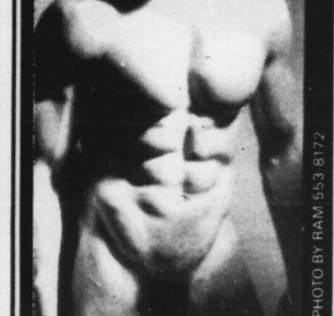
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Goodlooking 6'4", 185 strong, slender, gym-toned lbs., 34, well-hung top. Discreet, hot, safe, fun. Daytimes best. call Marshall 995-4746. out only. E34



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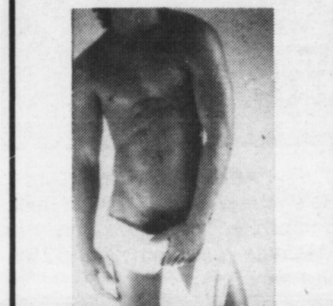
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YOUNG SMOOTH TOP  
23-yr-old, 6ft, 170lb, well-built, masculine master will train.  
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**HOT MUSCLE**  
Competitive BB — 935lbs.  
54" Chest, 20" Arms,  
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Safe • IN/OUT  
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Good looking, friendly stud  
Extra thick—Extra hung!!!  
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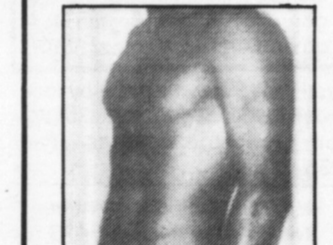
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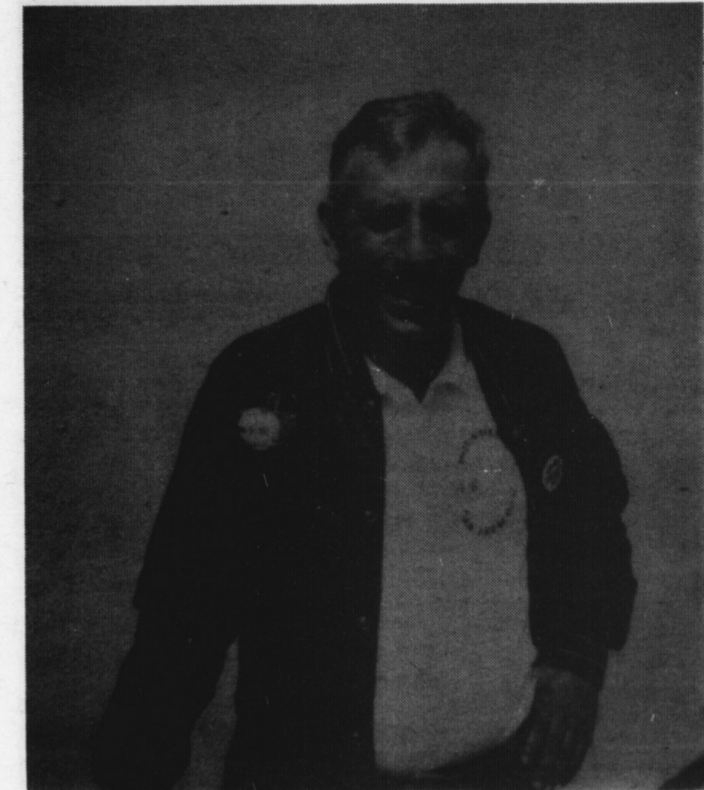


# BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

## BOWLING

### Japantown

## What You Don't Use You Don't Always Lose



Bowler Dennis Hale is organizing a skybox scheme for Giants games at Candlestick. (Photo: Terry Kaplan)

by Will Snyder

Todd Brooks' performance this summer season in the Wednesday Community League at Japantown Bowl should serve as a lesson for people who would like to bowl, but have been away from a bowling center for a long time. No payoff can prevent you from being on top of your game.

That certainly is the case with Brooks, who experienced a layoff of three years shortly before he joined the Sewing Bees team in the Wednesday league. This season he has been jockeying with Phil Whitaker (182) for high average in the mid-week league. Brooks' average is one pin from the top, and he has the most 500-plus series of any Japantown bowler (12) this summer.

But then, bowling has always been part of Todd Brooks' life even when he spent time away from the game. His grandmother, the late Emma "Skip" Wood, was a member of the Bowlers' Hall of Fame. When the 22-year-old Brooks was 12 years old, his mother, Cheri Worsham, entered herself and Todd in a Family Ties tournament in Hawaii. The results were spectacular.

"I had a 90 average when the tournament started," he remembered, "but I was fortunate to average 190 for the tournament. We won the local tournament, won the state and went to the finals in Washington."

Cheri and Todd weren't quite as successful in the national tourney, but they still finished a respectable 22nd among 50 entries. Not bad at all for a guy who didn't even average in triple

digits when the tournament season began.

"After I turned 16, however, I laid off the game for three years," Brooks said. "Now, I'm back at it and am starting to get the feel for the game again."

On Aug. 9, Brooks came up with his best individual game score of the summer, 247. That night, he also tossed in a solid 213. However, he just missed out on his first 600 series of the summer, coming up five pins short.

So, 600 becomes his next goal. The way he's been burning up the lanes at Japantown, the goal looks attainable.

Phil Whitaker, incidentally, has been a paragon of consistency. Phil not only holds the lead for the high game scoring average in the Wednesday league, but his 617 is the top series score in the league. He's accomplished that twice, most recently on Aug. 16. In addition, Whitaker has added seven 500-plus series this summer and has chipped in with eight 200 games.

We all know the stereotypes. Gay people are supposed to be interested only in certain things: opera, *The Wizard of Oz*, etc. They are not supposed to be interested in something so "straight" as baseball. Well, there's nothing wrong with either opera or the *Wizard*, but there are some gay folks who like something such as baseball and prove that stereotypes are ridiculously naive.

One such person is Dennis Hale, an excellent bowler in both the Wednesday and Thursday Community leagues. Dennis can almost always be found in his black and orange Giants jacket with a large assembly of pins featuring people such as the ever-handsome Will Clark. Dennis is also a member of the Coits, a gay social group that has braved the cold at Candlestick on many occasions this season. Most recently, on Aug. 11, the Coits went to the 'Stick to see the local lads demolish the downtrodden Dodgers, 10-1. That was the night Matt Williams slugged a pair of homers and major-league home-run leader Kevin Mitchell chipped in with one.

Now, according to Dennis, the Coits are thinking of purchasing a skybox for the 1990 season. Since those things run pretty expensive, Hale says the group is looking for other Giants fanatics who would like to buy in for certain games.

"It wouldn't be cheap," Dennis says, "but it would be worth it. You'd have the Giants to root for in luxury surroundings."

Dennis says those who wish further information about joining the Skybox Set should call 626-1805.

Here are the 200 or better scores for Japantown Bowl Community leagues between Aug. 7-20:

Monday Community League, Aug. 7: Jerry Koehler (114 average) 201; Edgar Allam (151) 247.

Tuesday Community League, Aug. 8: Len Broberg (161) 202; Ken Gary (185) 201; Bill Pierson (170) 221, 212 and a 619 series; Kenneth Conklin (146) 225 and Bob Damron (186) 255.

Wednesday Community League, Aug. 9: Steve Humphries (148) 223; Todd Brooks (181) 247 and 213; Doug Lucas (149) 201.

Thursday Community League, Aug. 10: David Williams (159) 208.

Friday Community League, Aug. 11: Efen Mendieta (149) 204; Doug Doescher (147) 201 and David Arnold (189) 224, 201 and 224 for a 649 series.

Sunday Reno League, Aug. 13: Ron Smola (179) 236, 232 and 642 series.

Monday Community League, Aug. 14: Charles Daniels (152) 201.

Tuesday Community League, Aug. 15: Tim Kneis (190) 202, 233 and a 602 series; Chuck Adkins (189) 215; Bob Damron (188) 223; Jay Cohen (118) 205; Michael Huang (146) 204; Len Broberg (161) 204 and Don George (180) 204.

Wednesday Community League, Aug. 16: Phil Whitaker (180) 225, 210 and a 617 series; Jeff Hackenberg (160) 200; Michael Smith (163) 211, 220; Gary Davis (158) 211 and Dennis Hale (174) 225.

Thursday Community League, Aug. 17: Jim Magdaleno (157) 200; Dennis Hale (171) 223; Lew Gilmore (159) 215 and Ken Gray (177) 228 and 225.



Todd Brooks has come back after a three-year hiatus. (Photo: Will Snyder)

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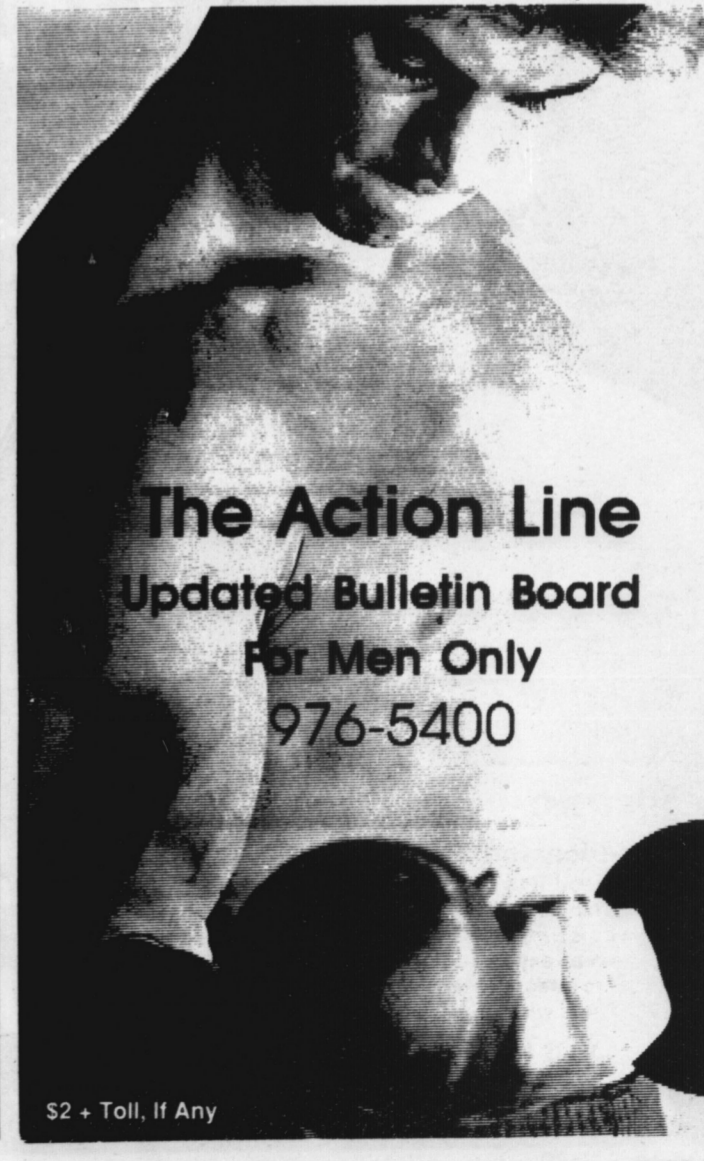
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Updated Bulletin Board  
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## Reaching for the Golden Ring

by Richard McPherson

There is a moment every bowler dreams about... a moment every bowler lives for. One Tavern Guild Bowler realized his dream, another didn't.

Tension and excitement mounted at Park Bowl, until the release of thunderous applause after the 12th strike on Aug. 2, when Jeff Hettmansperger realized his dream. A 300.

The following evening in the Thursday TGL, J.C. Halstead's dream was thwarted, a 299.

This is one of those rare occasions when a writer has a strong emotional response to his story. I was at home at 10:25 p.m. that evening when the phone rang. My roommate was on the other end, sounding kind of funny.

"Richard," he said, "I'm shaking so bad."

I held my breath. "He's really sick and needs some help," I thought.

"I'm really shaking," he said, and then there was a pause. "I just bowled a fucking 300!"

I sighed in relief, it was good news! I went numb and got very excited. I asked for details. Jeff had to get back on the lanes, he had one more game to bowl in the Wednesday Tavern Guild League.

I hung up the phone.

"This is too exciting," I thought, "I've got to go congratulate him right now."

I raced out of the house. On the way to Park Bowl I stopped at Don Manning's place (a close

friend and teammate on another night.) I rang his bell.

"Did Jeff call you?"

"Yes!"

"I'm going to Park Bowl to congratulate him, do you want to come?"

We arrived as Jeff was in the fourth frame of the third game. He had already bowled a 230 his first game and only needed a 170 game for his last for a 700 series. He had never shot over a 692 in league.

Jeff seemed very calm and relaxed. We talked about the 300 and didn't pay much attention to the third game. Jeff continued at strike and spare pace; between frames he was kept busy filling out a 300-game sanction and award form.

If the American Bowling Congress approves the lane conditions, he will receive a diamond and silver ring.

"You're damn right I'll wear it!" he said.

Jeff finished out his third game with four strikes in a row.

"The last game I was just relieved the pressure was off me, so I was relaxed and ended with a 227." His 757 puts him in the ranks of only a handful who have reached the 750+ mark in the Tavern Guild Leagues, though no one recalls a 300 ever being shot in these Park Bowl leagues. (In the Community Leagues at Japantown Bowl, Doug Litwin and Bill Wood have posted 300s.)

I walked by the control desk at Park Bowl and remarked to deskman Mike Wheeler that I was disappointed that I missed it.

"How was it?" I asked. "It must have been terribly exciting."

"I wouldn't watch," he said quickly. "I'm a terrible jinx. After the ninth strike I turned my back to the lanes when he got up to bowl. When I heard everyone clap, I clapped."

In the fourth frame of the 300 game, fellow bowler Randy Peterson walked up to Jeff and asked what his high game was. "278" was the response.

"I thought you had a 300 game in Sacramento (Jeff's former home)."

"No," Hettmansperger said, "I've never had one."

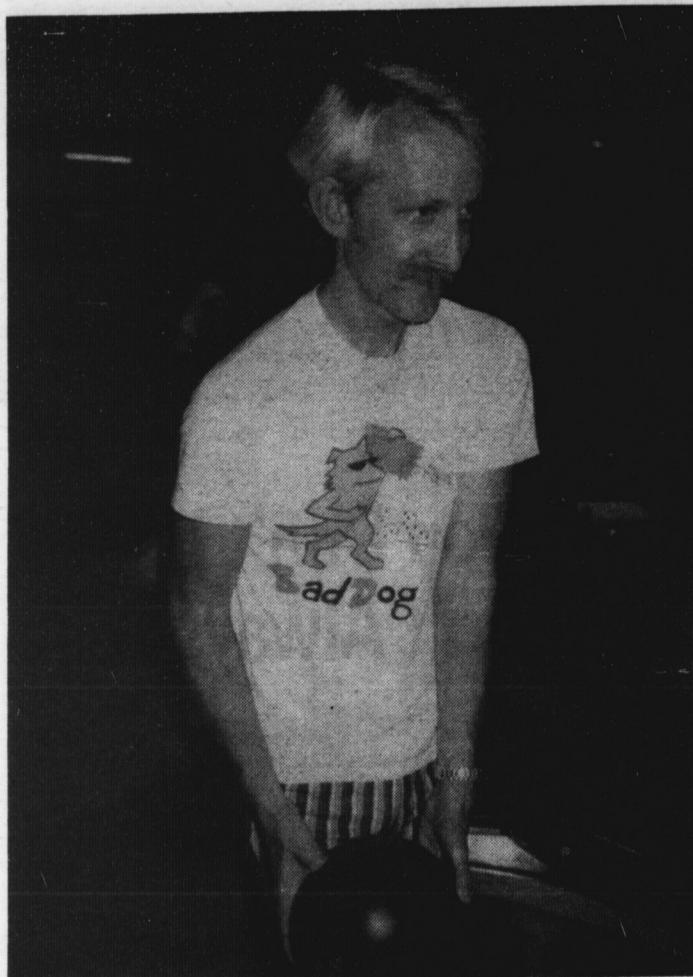
Jeff said that after Randy's comment he looked up at his score and, feeling he was throwing a good ball, thought, "Maybe I have a chance at it."

When Jeff got home at around midnight he called his parents in Saipan.

"No," I heard him say, "This is good news." His mom was on her way to her league in a couple of hours and couldn't wait to tell everyone.

Few moments can compare with the emotional intensity of approaching the 12th frame as one is facing a first 300 game.

"On the 12th ball I was so ner-



J.C. Halstead missed a perfect 300 game by one pin.

(Photo: Richard McPherson)

vous," Jeff recalls. "I just got up, without thinking and threw the ball. I didn't stand on the approach as long as I usually do before walking to the foul line because I didn't want people to see my knees shaking."

Every ball he threw, he said, was in the pocket. All league bowling had stopped at Park Bowl as he was approaching strike 11. Everyone wanted to see 12 in a row.

"My 11th ball was in the pocket but I saw the 7-10 split standing, then, one by one they fell down. After his 12th strike Jeff felt carried away by the applause and congratulations. Even now, almost two weeks later, Hettmansperger feels a rush every time he recalls that evening.

"Whenever I feel a little down, all I have to do is think of the 300 and it picks me right up... for 10 minutes," he said laughing.

Jeff, 28, who has 14 years of bowling behind him, averaged 200+ in the junior ranks in his late teens. He took six years off from the sport and averaged in the 170s when he began again several years ago. Two seasons ago he booked a 190, and last winter he finished with a 199 average. He is now one of only a few Tavern Guild League Bowlers to be in the 200+ average range.

Hettmansperger attributes his improved scores to concentrating more on watching his ball roll over his mark on the lane.

"I've always been scared of throwing the ball in the gutter, so I was never able to hit my mark on the four board," he said. "Last year when I began telling myself, 'I've only thrown the ball in the gutter once in my life (on the first ball), I lost the fear.' Now he can hit his mark on the lanes with greater accuracy.

"My current bowling ambition is to be on Channel 3, 6:30 Wednesday nights (ESPN's Professional Bowling program)," he laughed.

"I've always wanted to be a pro bowler, but as the years go by I figure my chances are getting slimmer of achieving that goal. Although, I don't think I've reached my peak yet as a bowler."

J.C. Halstead is having a tremendous season of bowling. He recently was featured in this column for his 289/751 league score. In that interview he remarked that his new lifetime goal was to shoot a 300 game.

"He feels," the interview stated, "that a 300 is a definite possibility because he can now put together a long string of strikes with increasing ease."

Only 24 hours after Hettmansperger's 300, Halstead came as close to realizing his dream as humanly possible by stringing together 11 strikes before sticking a stubborn 10 pin for a 299 game.

"It was an excellent game until the 10th frame," J.C. recalls. "My thumb stuck in the ball in the 10th frame. I thought it was a fluke so I didn't put powder on my thumb. It stuck again in the 11th frame. In the 12th frame I was squeezing my thumb to get it down. I didn't think it would stick." It did.

He said the ball went way out on the lane and when it hit the pocket it didn't carry its usual intensity.

Five days later in a league at Serra Bowl, J.C. shot a 267 game, which also contained 11 strikes, though there was a missed spare in the middle. That game, in fact, Halstead feels, was technically superior to the 299.

stars Tom Ammiano, Karen Williams, Steve Carey, Tessie Chua, Alex Reid, Jovanka Steele, Charles Fonseca and will be hosted by Derrick Leonard and Mike Welch. These Bay Area comedians are generously donating their time and talent.

Tickets are \$15, and all proceeds go to the CareGivers.

If you have any questions about the CareGivers or want additional information, please call us at 882-2411.

### Comedy Show To Benefit CareGivers

On Aug. 25 at 9 p.m. there will be the first ever benefit held for the CareGivers Project at the Mart Bar and Grill, which is on 9th Street at the corner of Market.

This is a comedy show, which

## AIDS Bike-A-Thon Founder Robert Humason Dies

Robert A. Humason, an organizer and coordinator of the AIDS Bike-A-Thon for the past five years, died of AIDS related causes at his home in San Francisco on Sunday, Aug. 20.

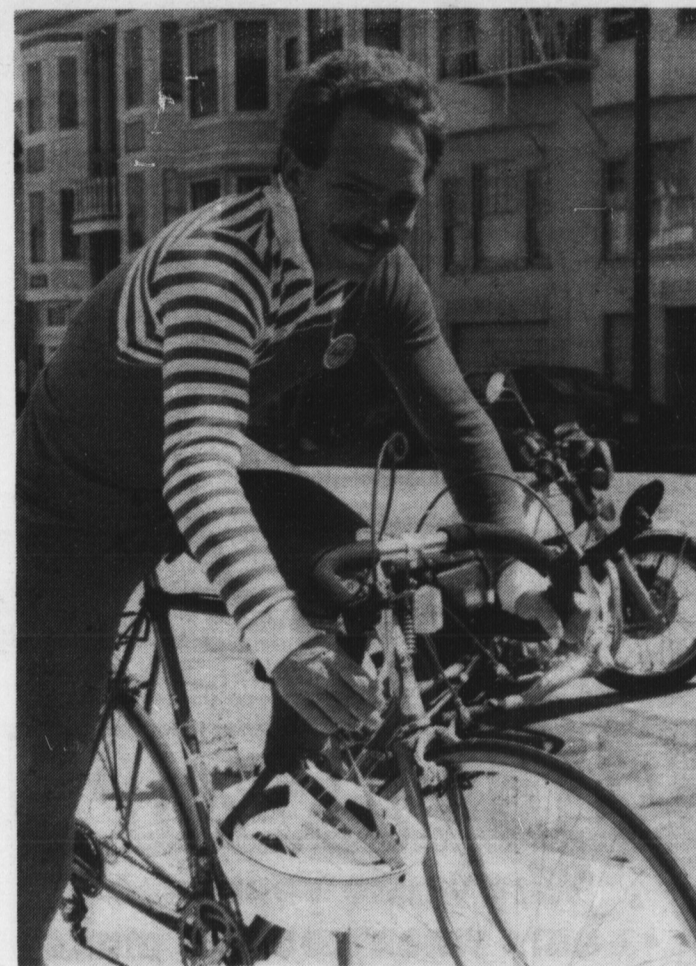
Surrounded by family and friends in the last hours, he left the arms of his loving mother as dawn was breaking to journey beyond the boundaries of the universe into spiritual freedom. The few days before his death, Bob finalized his affairs, said his farewells and invited those close to him to assist in his release.

Born in Whittier on Feb. 7, 1956, Bob followed the path of his own choosing to live an extraordinarily successful life. Always concerned about the health and welfare of others, Bob had a career in nursing highlighted by his work with children with leukemia, in perinatal care and with infants suffering from the effects of abuse. He remained in health care, working at Blue Shield as national accounts coordinator.

A man of eclectic tastes and interests, he was a self-taught musician and successfully mastered piano, violin, viola and flute. His love of the universe as well as the mysteries of science and life inspired his lifelong fascination with astronomy, science fiction and psychic phenomena. A teacher and a student, he inspired all he touched to reach just a little further than thought possible.

Bob discovered his gayness at an early age and was blessed with a family who supported and encouraged his acceptance of himself. During his illness his family opened their hearts to include all of his friends including Tom, Mike, Jim, Karry, Michael, Chris and a host of others. His love of life and the love within his family allowed him to heal and nurture all those around him.

He leaves his mother and father, Harry and Jean, his very special baby sister, Linda "Yinner" and his Godmother, Patricia Price all of the San Diego area as well as his brother and sister-in-law Stephen and



Robert Humason.

Deborah, niece Lisa, and nephew Mathew, of Fair Oaks.

While his proudest community achievement was the nurturing of five successive AIDS Bike-A-Thons, which have raised \$1.2 million for AIDS services, Bob was also an activist in Different Spokes Bicycling Club. He was president of the club in 1985 and 1986, vice president in 1984. He also was involved in the Gay Games in 1982 and was Cycling Co-Chair for the Gay Games in 1986. Other activities included membership on City and State Commissions on bicycling and alternative transportation.

In 1988 he was awarded the APEX Award for Accomplishment in the Gay Community and a personal Cable Car Award in 1985 for his leadership in the first AIDS Bike-A-Thon. An accomplished swimmer, he won numerous badges and awards for his skill in that sport.

Please call 863-3155 for information regarding the upcoming celebration of his life. Contributions in his memory may be made to support the production costs of the AIDS Bike-A-Thon, P.O. Box 14711, San Francisco 94114. Checks should be made out to AIDS Bike-A-Thon/Horizons Foundation and noted "in memory of Bob Humason." ▼

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## POOL 9 Players Chalk Up Perfect 4/0s

It usually takes many weeks for the recreational tavern pool player to make the adjustments required to play well in "serious" league competition. Mary Armentrout, one such player who was recently invited to join Dick Glass's Special Effects, has apparently adapted quite well. She headed the list of just nine players who posted perfect 4/0 performances in the second week of play in the San Francisco Pool Association's fall season.

Nearly 175 players step to the tables each Tuesday night, and the immediate goal for each is to achieve that elusive undefeated outing that can be key to their team's victory in the 16-game matches.

Many players take great pride in cultivating excellent personal records, which are also important qualifications for several late season individuals' tournaments.

Joining Mary on last week's list were Ron Barulich, Jeffrey Brown, Torri Connelly, Jim Dreer, Antonio Rios, Lauren Ward and Shirley Wentworth. Attesting to the value of the 4/0, all the aforementioned players' teams were also victorious.

Table runs and 8-ball breaks are also memorable occurrences and last week Ching Ng got his season off to a roaring start with back to back table runs for his newly adopted Park Bowl team.

Liz Norko stopped an 11-game onslaught by the Quackers when she executed her first league table run on her home table at the Cinch.

The Quackers' Torri Connelly had led off the match with her second league 8-ball break.

Rod Cohan also snapped in a black ball on the break to chalk up a win for his Powerhouse team.

(Continued on page 48)

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# Art

(Continued from page 25)

Virtual Revisions 1" called "The Body in Context" tonight, Aug. 24 at 8 p.m.; and a reading of gay and lesbian writing read by Dorothy Allison, Robert Gluck, Kevin Killian and Camille Roy, "which explores lesbian/gay desire in a variety of culture and social contexts," on Sept. 8 at 8 p.m.

Helms has provided a new context for these events.

*The Body You Want* local artist Doug Ischar, who is also presenting intelligent gay art in England in a show titled *Partners in Crime*, despite their own censorship measure, Clause 28, is reasonably pensive about the situation.

"There is still plenty of homophobia in the art world. It's difficult to get gay work shown. A very few people have made big names for themselves and, not surprising, most of them are men. As for work that's actively asking serious questions about the placement of gay people in American society, the problems of sexism, misogyny, AIDS, all those things sort of mixed up together, that work is not particularly welcome. "...This [measure] would make a real difference in the ability of gay artists to survive as artists, to continue to make art. You can't make art like this and put it under your living room table. It's not for that. It's about communicating, it's about having a gay voice alive and present in the art world, and in the world. If it can't serve that function, then I don't think people are going to

be working away in secrecy in their basements making gay work for posterity. That's a fantasy," Ischar said.

"This isn't the first time this has happened. Jesse Helms is just the most egregious, stupid, visible sign of something that actually has been going on for a while," he said, referring to subtle and not-so-subtle power plays several years back involving the NEA peer review system. "It's time to fight back."

Every issue is important to the people it affects most, but this issue is basic enough of a limitation of freedom to affect us all. On one hand, Congress has decided they are art critics and, of course, they are. We just never thought they would take it upon themselves to use that part of their power. They have every right to do whatever they think is

in our own best interest, even with our money. We voted them that, and after eight years of political back-seat driving, they, like the president and the San Francisco police for that matter seem ready to flex their moral muscles at abstract issues in place of tackling real problems. Bush bullying didn't end with the election, it just trickled down.

On the other hand, we have the collective might, if we use it, to tell them that they wouldn't know art from a crack in the wall and that, like we the people said to another George two hundred years ago, we want to decide everything for ourselves—and that includes taking off the "see no evil" blinders it was the king's privilege to install. Because the Mapplethorpe show was not on billboards but was something you had to want to see, the issue boils down to telling us that we're not smart enough to decide for ourselves and that information and ideas powerfully transmitted by representatives can be dangerous.

Last year I and three others went to see the Mapplethorpe show in New York. We dressed in

leather more for comfort than statement and joined the Sunday art crowd.

We watched the reactions of the crowd. One classic little-old-patroness of the arts came in head down, a friend on either arm directing her to just what pictures she wanted to see, blocking out the rest.

"Just the flowers," she said. "I only want to see the flowers."

Got it, Jesse? You see what you want.

Admiring my favorite, the tryptich piss swallowing scene, I saw a rough-around-the-edges straight guy shake his head and say, "No way, man. No way. That's not for anybody."

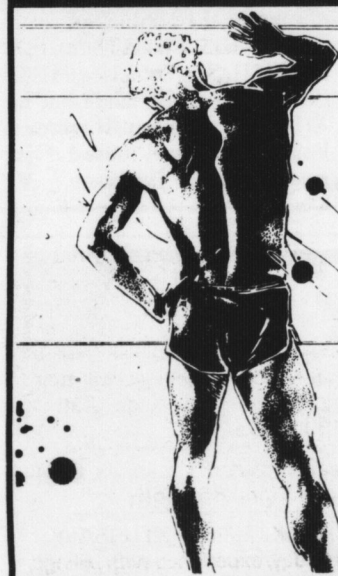
"Not for some people," my friend corrected.

They left it at that.

Now it is our turn to stand and defend free speech.

The Body You Want Southern Exposure Gallery at Project Artaud 401 Alabama St. 863-2141 thru Sept. 8

## THE NEW GAY CONNECTION



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## Dangerous Games



Ken Ard and Malinda Shaffer in a scene from *Dangerous Games*, playing at the Curran Theatre through Sept. 3.

## Pool

(Continued from page 47)

The Powerhouse is a new sponsor this season. The bar is also starting up an open money tournament on Wednesday nights.

The Pilsner has returned as a team sponsor, filling the void created by the evaporation of the Division II Phone Booth team on opening night.

Welcome to their players, Tex, Michael, Gerlie Mendoza, Bonnie Marshall and Ed Adams. They had their work cut out for them when they took on a playoff contender from last season, the SpecialTease, in their first match.

New or returning sponsors also include the new Peter Pan and the Cafe Sn Marcos, and they both are offering open tournament opportunities as well. The Cafe's is on Sunday afternoons and the pot is matched by Hector at the Cafe as a donation for an

AIDS charity. The Pan's is on Thursday nights.

Beverly Johnson and Lauren Ward ventured over to the Gold Key Club in Oakland last Sunday for a women's 8-ball tournament. Both took home trophies, and Ward copped the top cash prize.

The friendly, supportive sponsors want to make this a weekly event and issued an open invitation for interested women to come on down next Sunday afternoon. They are within walking distance from BART and near I-880.

Another excellent East Bay resource is Oakland's Herbie's cue repair. He does expert shaft construction or renovation and re-tipping while you wait. He also manufactures his own line of "sneaky pete" style cues and has at least a thousand pool stories. Reach him at 465-5906 and tell him Lauren sent you.

Dial JOE-POOL for SFPA information and remember, stroke it, don't poke it!

## Dinner to Benefit Peninsula Group

Ellipse, Peninsula AIDS Services, presents its third annual "Fiesta Italiano Night," a benefit dinner, Saturday night, Aug. 26 at the Cruiser Lounge and Restaurant, 2651 El Camino in Redwood City.

There will be two seatings, at 7 p.m. and at 8:30 p.m.

Money from the event will go to the Direct Services Fund

benefiting people with AIDS through Ellipse. The \$20 ticket price is tax deductible and includes entry into a drawing for a door prize of a compact disc player (need not be present to win).

For tickets or more information, please call Ellipse at 572-9702 Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

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Lg sunny studio, spacious 1br, nr UC Ext Cr, \$550-725, pvt decks, gar incl, 673-6300 E35

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Professional male seeks same or similar to share large 3bd, 2 1/2 bath townhse, (415) 570-7563 E34

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Wanted by 34-year-old gay male (3 years with AIDS) seeks special roommate. I'm doing fine now, but need a friend to help support one another. Gary 664-4286. E34

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### Features Editor

Features editor wanted to supervise arts coverage for the Bay Area Reporter. Responsibilities will include assigning, copy-editing, and some writing. Journalistic experience and thorough knowledge of the fine arts required. Position will be available late September or early October. Address resume and clips to: Brett Averill Editor-in-Chief The Bay Area Reporter 395 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA 94103-3831

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# BAY AREA REPORTER

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## Frank Asks for Inquiry Into Sexual Allegations

by Cliff O'Neill



Barney Frank has received support from his colleagues.

Seeking to head off what could become a political disaster, openly gay Rep. Barney Frank has asked the House ethics committee to investigate his relationship with a man who says he worked as a prostitute out of the congressman's Washington apartment. Frank also cancelled a trip to San Francisco this week during which he would have helped kick off the fundraising campaign on behalf of the city's domestic partnership ordinance.

Meanwhile, Frank's constituents expressed overwhelming support for him during an appearance last Sunday in Fall River, Mass., where thousands lining the streets cheered and shouted his name as he marched in the "Fall River Celebrates America" parade. And public opinion poll results reported by the *Boston Globe* indicate that his constituents still strongly support Frank despite the allega-

tions that have been made against him.

The controversy erupted on Aug. 25 when the ultraconservative *Washington Times* reported that a male prostitute had used Frank's Capitol Hill townhouse as a base of operations. Frank said the hustler, 33-year-old Steven Gobie, had been using the apartment for prostitution without Frank's knowledge, and said he evicted Gobie after receiving reports from his landlord of strangers coming and going in his absence.

Frank also acknowledged having once, in the spring of 1985, paid Gobie for sex, but said he subsequently developed a personal relationship with him and hired him as a personal aide the following autumn, thinking he could help Gobie "change his life."

There is no specific House rule covering the ethical situation in

which Frank now finds himself embroiled, but the ethics committee has broad authority under a general rule forbidding conduct that brings discredit to the House.

Frank's request for an investigation of himself "is both the right thing to do and a smart political move," according to John Buckley, spokesman for the Republican Congressional Campaign Committee, who was quoted in the *New York Times*. "It takes his Democratic colleagues off the hook from deciding whether or not to call for an ethics investigation themselves."

Of the controversy, Frank said to the *Bay Area Reporter*, "I regret it. I feel I have an obligation to make clear that my mistake does not reflect on anybody else. I have damaged the community's standing, and I

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## Compound Q Patient Goes into Coma In UCSF Study

by Dennis Conkin

University of California AIDS researchers are refusing to comment on the condition of Charles Weaver, 38, a participant in phase-one clinical trials of GIQ 223, at San Francisco General Hospital.

Weaver remains on a respirator in an intensive care unit of the hospital in a semi-comatose state, suffering severe neurological complications more than two weeks after he developed toxic encephalopathy following the administration of the experimental AIDS drug Compound Q on Aug. 10.

Weaver is also being treated for pneumonia, which developed several days after he was admitted to intensive care.

"We both had hopes we'd be able to help the gay community find something that would be a cure for AIDS, or at least be a medication to help control it. I pray that he doesn't have permanent brain damage. Only time will tell," Steve Kubelka, Weaver's lover, told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Kubelka, also a participant in the clinical trials, says that Weaver's neurological problems developed on Aug. 11 and that he became disoriented and later

unresponsive to normal stimuli.

"They told me at first that they didn't know what was going on. I was scared to death. He looked completely lost, his eyes were blank."

By that afternoon, Kubelka says, Weaver was almost completely comatose, only opening his eyes when his name was yelled. Weaver was given three different spinal taps and other tests, including magnetic resonance imaging, in an attempt to determine the reasons for his condition.

He says that now Weaver is able to look at him and squeeze his fingers when his hand is held.

Toxic encephalopathy, a drug reaction side effect, can be treated or prevented by the administration of Decadron, a steroid. In the recently concluded underground tests based on a treatment protocol developed by Project Inform for tricosanthin, the steroid was given to patients who suffered the side effects.

Ironically, Project Inform was criticized by UCSF researchers following the death of a patient who suffered toxic encephalopathy. After having emerged from a coma, the patient died of

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## Attorney General To Appeal Ruling in Gay Man's Murder

by Ray O'Loughlin

The California attorney general's office will appeal to the state Supreme Court an Aug. 24 ruling that could free the convicted killers of John O'Connell, a gay man who was killed on Polk Street in July 1984.

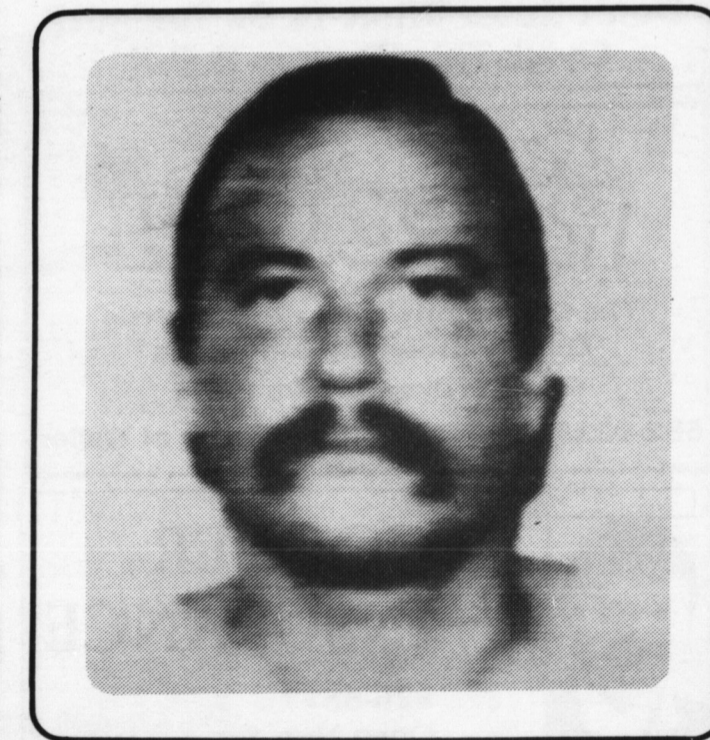
The state Court of Appeal reversed the second-degree murder convictions of Donny Clanton, Timothy White and David Rodgers, all of Vallejo, reducing the charges to involuntary manslaughter.

All three are presently serving 15-years-to-life sentences in state prison. If the Court of Appeal decision stands, they could be released immediately. Manslaughter carries a maximum sentence of four years.

They will remain in prison, however, while further appeals are being considered.

The three-judge panel of the appeal court ruled in a 2-1 decision that insufficient evidence was presented to show that Clanton, White and Rodgers intended to kill O'Connell.

According to the majority opinion by Judge William Newsom, "That the attack on O'Connell was 'malicious' in the sense of being motivated by ill-will is not the legal equivalent of 'malice' as an



John O'Connell, murdered by gay-bashers.

element of murder. Nothing in the circumstances of the attack supports the rational inference that appellants believed it 'highly probable' that it would cause the victim's death."

"The evidence of legal malice on the present record is in our

opinion inadequate to justify a finding of second-degree murder," Newsom said. "It consists exclusively in striking two blows with bare hands, in a manner not calculated to kill. Given such a record, the convictions of second-degree murder cannot stand."

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