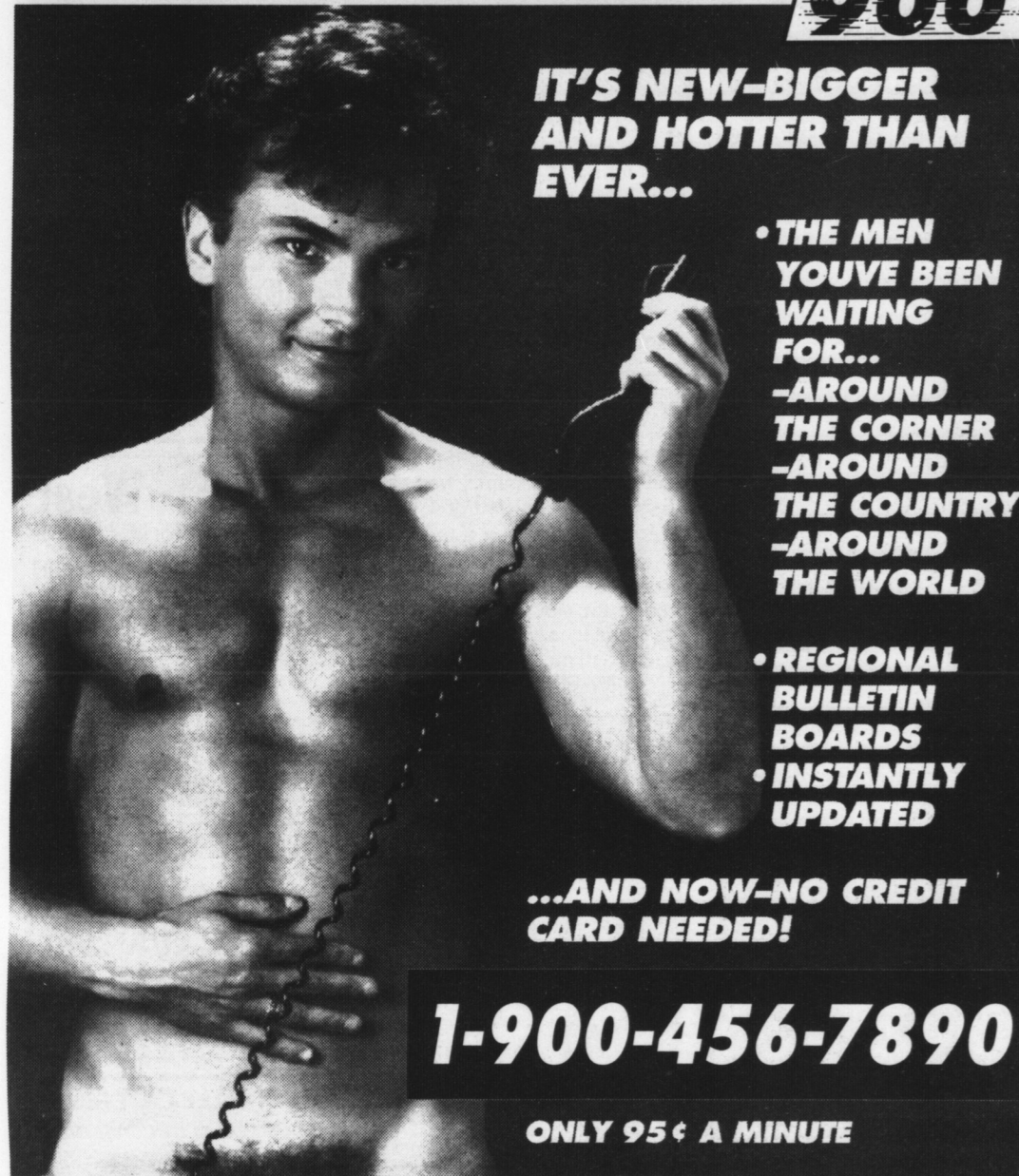


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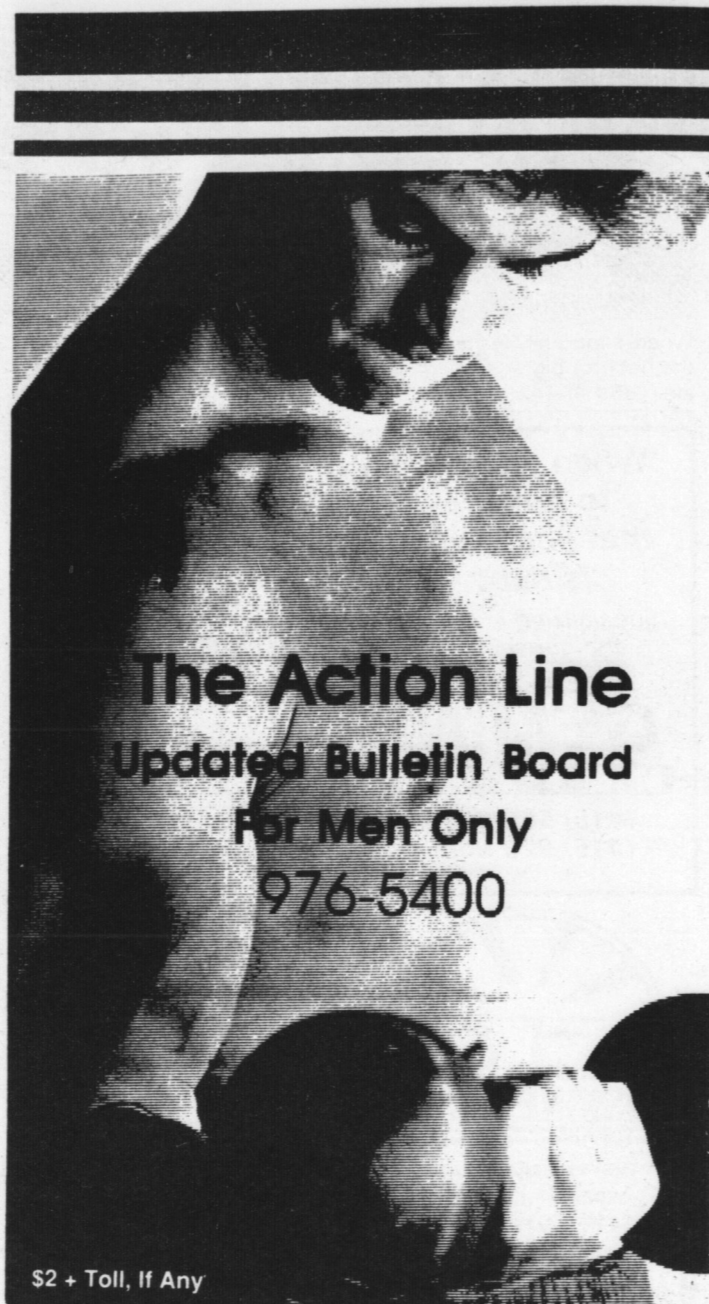
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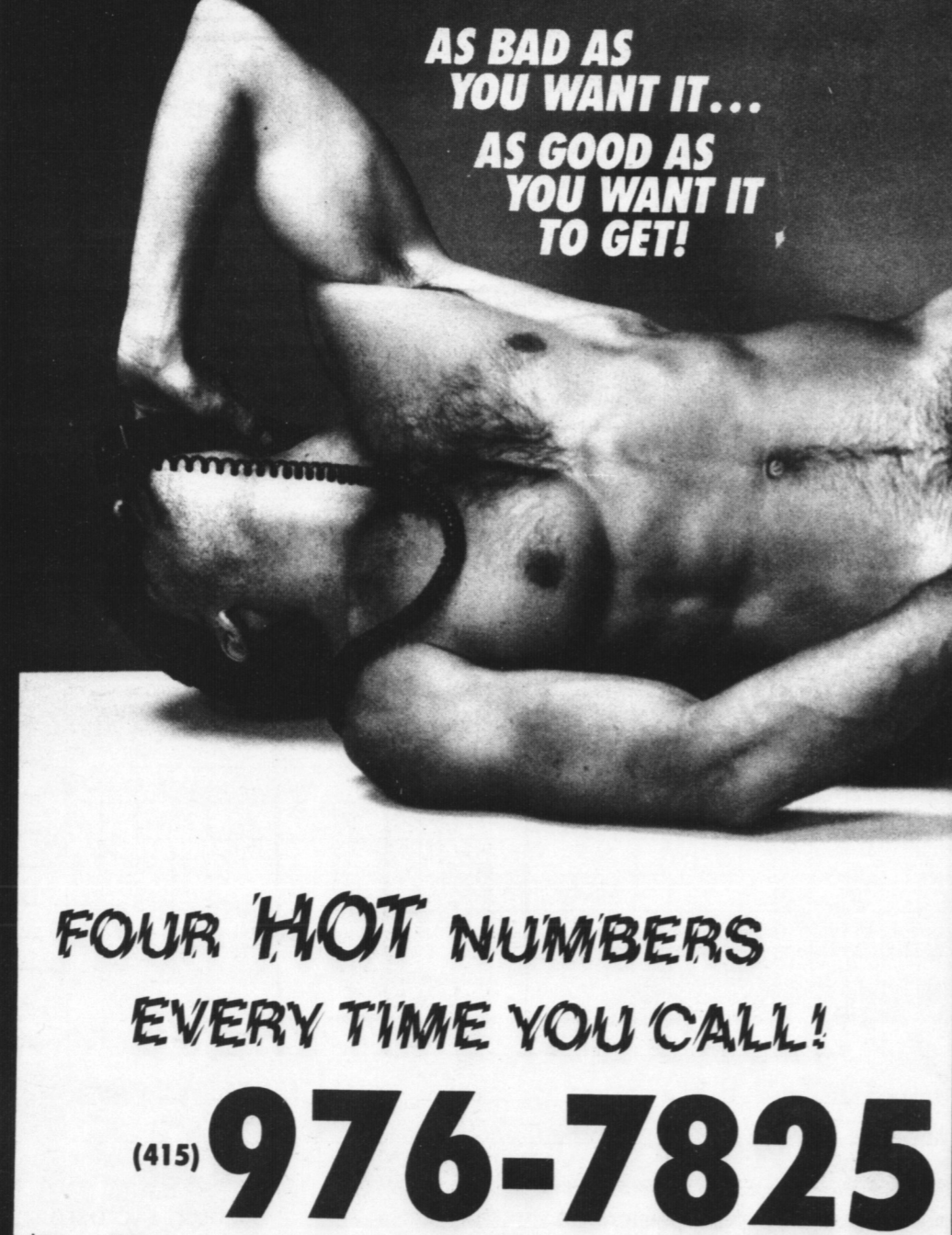
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Activists Still Skeptical About AZT Price Cut Drug's Cost Still Too High, Health Officials Say

by Dennis Conkin

Health officials and AIDS activists have reacted skeptically to the announcement that Burroughs Wellcome Co. has cut the wholesale cost of the anti-HIV drug AZT by 20 percent. Activists said the company would have to go further to satisfy concerns that the drug is too expensive for the thousands of patients who will need it.

The pharmaceutical firm announced on Monday a 20 percent reduction in the wholesale cost of the drug, effective immediately.

Health care and AIDS activists said the company's decision is a direct result of public outrage over what they term the firm's profiteering on the human tragedy of the AIDS epidemic. They also said the price reduction of the drug—from \$1.50 a

capsule to \$1.20 a capsule—isn't enough.

A Burroughs Wellcome representative told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the price reduction "should make AZT more accessible to patients." The spokeswoman said the decision to reduce the price was based on several factors, including analysis of data suggesting that AZT might be released to a broader population, as well as the firm's "responsibilities to patients and shareholders."

"It's about time," said Dr. David Werdegar, San Francisco Health Department director. "Those of us who are working in the AIDS field have long hoped that Burroughs Wellcome would see fit to lower the cost of the drug. But this really is just a

small beginning. The cost is still too high for most people suffering from AIDS. Even at half the dosage, the cost of AZT for people who need it will be at least three thousand dollars."

Werdegar was referring to recent medical reports that zidovudine, or AZT, may be useful in treating over half a million people suffering from asymptomatic HIV infection, as well as its current use as the only FDA-approved HIV antiviral treatment.

Dr. Mervyn Silverman, president of the American Foundation for AIDS Research, said that \$100 a month for the lower dose would be a reasonable figure. He also said that it only costs Wellcome between 20 and 30 cents to manufacture each capsule.

(Continued on page 15)

Danes Get Ready For Big Gay Wedding

by Rex Wockner

Activists with Denmark's *Landsforeningen For Bosser Og Lesbiske* [LBL] say they have overcome myriad of bureaucratic roadblocks and will be celebrating a mass gay wedding in the Copenhagen Town Hall Oct. 1—the day Denmark's first-in-the-world law granting homosexuals equal rights takes effect.

The wedding had been on-again/off-again for several weeks as activists scrambled to secure a mayoral decree keeping the town hall open on a Sunday and worked to ensure that the bureaucracy printed and distributed the marriage license applications in time.

"The Danish administration in this whole matter has been extremely slow," said LBL spokeswoman Dorte Jacobsen. "If you were some public servant and you were going by some quite new law and you hadn't gotten your forms yet and it is going to start on the first of October, well, it would be nice if you had your forms, I guess."

In the end, however, employees of the town halls in various Danish cities said they expected the gay marriage applications to be identical to the heterosexual applications, and if they didn't get the new ones in time, they would just use the old ones.

"Finally, we encountered some people who were very cooperative," said Jacobsen. "They didn't have to be, but they were."

LBL activists have been attempting to get an estimate of just how many gay/lesbian couples will tie the knot Oct. 1. Jacobsen says she knows of 50 so far, but expects that there will be more as publicity increases and the date approaches.

Some couples are choosing to wait a few days because they are not prepared to be beamed around the globe by the world press, which has indicated it will descend upon the mass wedding.

Following the ceremony, LBL will host a grand reception for the couples, their families and friends, "a lot of politicians," the media, and "all the people who worked for this law for the last 20 years," Jacobsen said.

On Saturday night, Sept. 30, gay stag parties and bridal showers are scheduled in all of Denmark's major cities. Called "pølterabend," the parties "mostly involve getting awfully drunk, at least in heterosexual society," Jacobsen said.

Denmark's fundamentalist Christians have stayed out of the limelight in the weeks preceding the big event. No protests are expected, although Jacobsen said, "I don't think they could make us angry on that day even if they wanted to."

Legislators in Sweden are expected to be the next to permit gay men and lesbians to marry, probably a couple of years from now. The Swedish prime minister has indicated he is supportive of the idea.

Kaiser Rejects Partners Proposal In Union Contracts

by Dennis Conkin

With over \$6 billion in assets and 2 million health plan members in Northern California, Kaiser Permanente has rejected four union contract proposals by Service Employees International Union Local 250 that would benefit lesbian and gay Kaiser Hospital workers.

The proposals include the coverage of domestic partners in health care benefits and bereavement leave and a proposal that unmarried Kaiser workers with five or more years of employment with the corporation be allowed to designate a beneficiary to receive lump sum retirement benefits in the event the Kaiser worker dies before retirement. Currently, Kaiser workers with spouses are entitled to such payments.

The union also called on Kaiser to include in contracts, set to expire in November, specific language addressing sexual orientation in existing contract non-discrimination provisions.

Kaiser is balking at adding the language, union activists report. They point out that there are no federal or state protections against sexual orientation discrimination and that if there are no city ordinances protecting such discrimination, the firm can discriminate. Kaiser workers in Alameda, Walnut Creek, or Redwood City, for example, do not have such protections against employment discrimination on the basis of sexual preference.

"Kaiser's reaction is typical,"

(Continued on page 2)



Yes on S

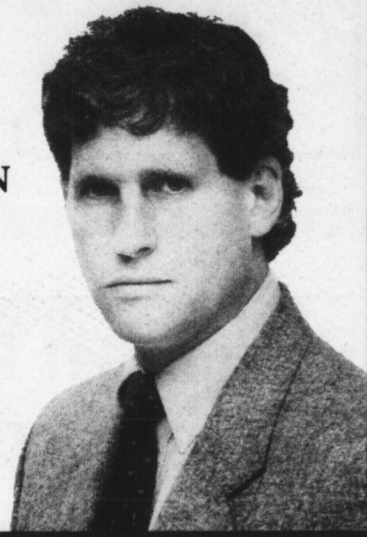
Angie Fa, precinct coordinator, handing out instructions to precinct captains in the "Yes on S" pro-domestic partnership campaign. To volunteer in the campaign, call 864-0860.

(Photo: Phyllis Christopher)

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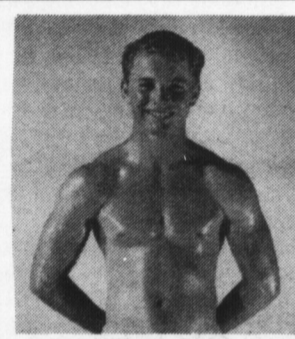


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Kaiser Permanente Hospital in San Francisco.

(Photo: Steve Savage)

Kaiser

(Continued from page 1)

but unacceptable," Sal Rosselli, president of Local 250, told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "Kaiser admits their employees are the hardest working and under the most stress, but they are refusing to take a progressive lead. It's hypocritical."

Rosselli pointed out that adding sexual orientation protections to contract language or providing bereavement leave or health care coverage were not particularly ground-breaking steps.

"It makes no sense that a health maintenance organization with so many lesbian and gay members would not want to change," said Supervisor Harry Britt. "It's puzzling. Local 250 is very strong in support of these issues. If Kaiser is trying to test the commitment of the union,

they will find that the union is very committed. These aren't throwaway items."

Supervisor Richard Hongisto also expressed surprise at Kaiser's stance. "It's truly unfortunate that an organization such as Kaiser would balk at supporting anti-discrimination efforts and domestic partners benefits. Kaiser would be an ideal kind of organization to help in the evolution of our society to one that is more just," Hongisto said.

Howard Wallace, a gay labor activist and Local 250 field representative, pointed out that if Kaiser were a public corporation, it would rank 80th on the Fortune 500 list of companies with the largest assets.

"What they do has a ripple effect in the health care fields locally and nationally," Wallace said. "It's homophobic conduct when they turn something like that down. The effect to a lesbian or gay person is that they feel like they are set apart."

Kaiser provides health care benefits to domestic partners of Berkeley city workers who are members of the plan.

"It's essentially fair to the employer, it's fair to the employee, because all of the domestic partners are not treated any differently than any other dependent that is enrolled," Robert Zimmerman, of Kaiser's contract administration and policy development office, told Mayor Art Agnos and the Human Rights Commission during public hearings on San Francisco's proposed domestic partners legislation last March.

Vince Quackenbush, vice chair of the Lesbian and Gay Labor Alliance, said the group is calling on all lesbian and gay Kaiser health plan members to send letters, telegrams and telephone calls to Kaiser labor relations director Ken Dale, denouncing Kaiser's rejection of the union proposals.

Two Men Charged in Anti-Gay Attack

Two San Francisco men have been charged by the district attorney's office for their alleged involvement in an anti-gay attack that occurred Sept. 6 at 17th and Market streets.

Two gay men were injured in the incident, which involved anti-gay remarks and an automobile chase through the Castro. Some 40 witnesses gathered during the attack and cut it short by intervening and by blowing

whistles.

Nathan C. Mitchell, 21, has been charged with battery with serious bodily injury, assault with force likely to produce great bodily injury, and driving with a suspended license. Mark J. Urquidez, 21, has been charged with assault with deadly weapon or force likely to produce great bodily injury, and drawing, exhibiting or using a deadly weapon.

"The case is still under investigation and we are still conducting interviews with victims and witnesses," said District Attorney Arlo Smith. Assistant District Attorney Charles Haines is prosecuting the case, and D.A. Investigator Ron Huberman is handling the investigation. Huberman can be contacted at (415) 553-1756.

Corrections

In the Sept. 14 issue of the *Bay Area Reporter* we reported that \$500 was raised at Maud's closing party. The correct amount was \$5,000.

In the Sept. 14 issue the address of Mark Chester's photography exhibit was deleted from the article. The address is 1229 Folsom. Call 621-6294 for details.

The front-page photo of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, which appeared in our September 14 issue, was taken by Darlene/PhotoGraphics.

CRIME WATCH

The following incidents were reported to Community United Against Violence between September 7 and September 15.

17th Street at Market and Castro, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 6. Two gay men were attacked by suspects who were yelling anti-gay epithets. One victim got a broken nose. The suspects were arrested and are being charged.

Alamo Square Park, 11 p.m., Sept. 5. A gay man who sought sexual contact in the park was approached on his way home by one of the men he had been with. The suspect asked the gay man to pay him for the sexual contact and insisted that he would go to the victim's home to get the money. When the victim refused to give him money, the suspect stole the victim's glasses and a fight ensued.

Tenderloin, Sept. 14. Two gay men from out of town were robbed and assaulted in an anti-gay attack. Their bus tickets home were stolen as well as their money.

During this time CUAU also received six reports of anti-lesbian/gay verbal harassment.

CUAU can be contacted at 864-3112.

Lawsuit Challenges California's Segregation Of HIV+ Prisoners

by Gregory Douthwaite

Quarantining prisoners with HIV infection into an "AIDS wing" at the state prison in Vacaville is "unthinkably cruel" and should end, an attorney testified in federal court last week.

Attorney Matt Coles of the American Civil Liberties Union asked for the disbandment of the AIDS wing in the opening arguments of a class-action suit by prisoners at the California Medical Facility at Vacaville.

"We think that the AIDS wing is a second-class life," said Coles. "It's very unpleasant and depressing."

Coles was one of four attorneys speaking about conditions at the nation's largest prison. The lawsuit charges that conditions are so bad for the prison's 7,500 inmates that they violate the constitution's prohibition of cruel and unusual punishment.

The lawsuit asks for court-ordered reforms at the prison. Coles asked that no more prisoners be sent to the AIDS wing, and that those already on the wing be allowed to return to the general prison population if desired.

Inmates in the AIDS wing have limited use of the recreation yard, the gym, the law library and job opportunities, Coles said. In addition, he said, they are not permitted to visit overnight with their spouses and children.

Conditions for the 130 prisoners on the AIDS wing have improved since the lawsuit was filed in January 1988, Coles said. They are now allowed overnight visits with their parents and have gained limited access to many programs that were denied them last year, he said.

Medical care has also improved tremendously, Coles said. A doctor specializing in AIDS has been hired, and sick call is now made every day instead of once or twice a week, he said.

However, segregating prisoners with HIV infection is still unfair, Coles said. "They should be able to participate in all the programs available to other inmates," he said.

An attorney for the California Department of Corrections, which runs the sprawling prison, defended the policy of segregating inmates with HIV infection. The policy protects other inmates from the spread of disease and allows the best treatment and monitoring of AIDS victims, said Deputy Attorney General James B. Cuneo.

But Coles said the segregation policy is not effective because it applies only to an estimated 10 to 20 percent of the infected population—those inmates who are voluntarily tested. The other 80 to 90 percent of infected inmates are not segregated, he said.

An estimated 3 percent of the state's 84,000 inmates, more than 2,400 prisoners, may be HIV positive, according to a recent department of health services study.

Coles said that a good AIDS education program given to all

inmates would be a better method of preventing the spread of AIDS than segregation. Inmates likely to assault or coerce another inmate should be classified and put in "administrative segregation," he said.

Efficient treatment of AIDS patients does not require them to be housed together, "as every outpatient clinic in the country knows," Coles said. However, he does not object to sending all infected prisoners to Vacaville, where treatment is available.

The trial is expected to last about three months, with testimony about the AIDS wing in early October. This testimony is expected to include informa-

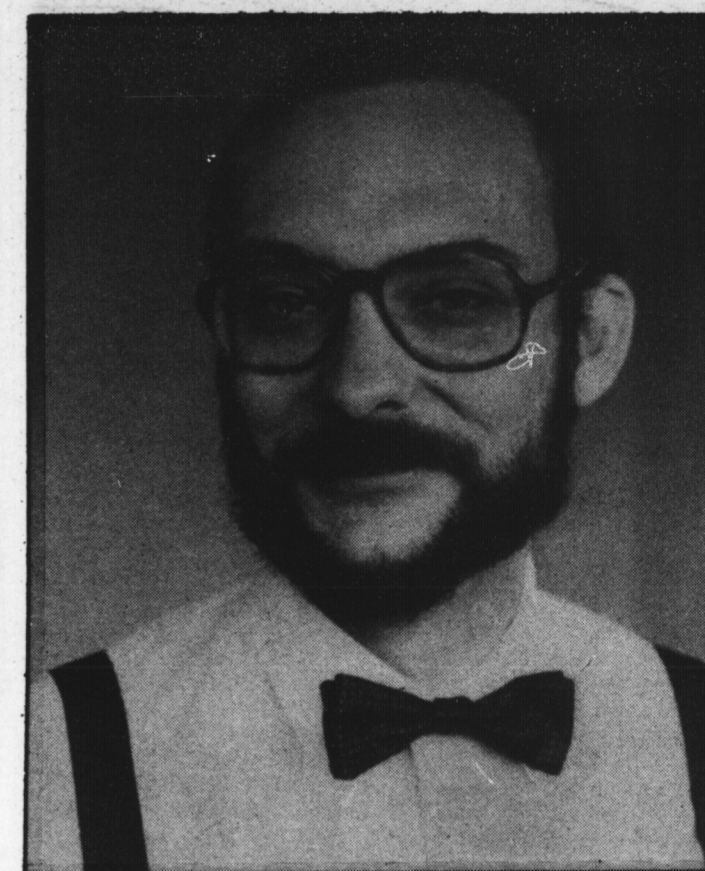
tion on how other prisons handle HIV infection.

California is one of only six states that automatically segregate all inmates infected with HIV, even those without symptoms.

A trial on a prison AIDS case in Alabama, which also segregates all HIV-positive inmates, has ended, but a federal judge has not yet given his decision.

In Connecticut, the state recently agreed to stop segregation in response to a lawsuit. Now, only inmates who pose a security risk or who require intensive medical care are quarantined.

The federal prison system stopped blanket segregation in

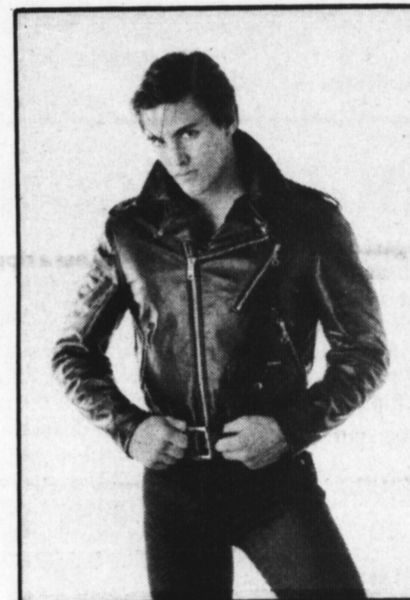


ACLU Attorney Matt Coles.

1986. The National Commission on Correctional Health Care, a group of prison health care ex-

perts, does not advocate segregation for prisoners infected with HIV who have no symptoms. ▼

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Government Is Sued For Denying Funds To PWA Housing

by Karen M. Everett

National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) has filed a potentially precedent-setting lawsuit charging that the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development has illegally denied funds for a planned housing complex for people with AIDS.

HUD last year rejected a loan application filed by a nonprofit housing agency in Santa Clara under the National Housing Act, claiming that people with AIDS do not qualify under Section 202 of the act, which they say was designed to benefit persons whose illnesses are "long-continued and indefinite."

The suit, *Jonathan C. Moreau and Housing for Independent People v. Jack Kemp*, concerns a 24-unit facility, "Casa de los Amigos," to be purchased in San Jose by Housing for Independent People (HIP). The suit was filed in San Francisco District Court.

HUD's decision is based on "an obscene stereotype," according to Benjamin Schatz, director of NGRA's AIDS Civil Rights Project. "HUD really believes that people with AIDS are all going to die very quickly and what's the point."

Medical experts now believe that new drugs can prolong the lives of HIV-infected people, particularly if they begin treatment early.

"The powers that be at HUD must assume that [people with AIDS] will meekly accept such blatant and irrational discrimination. They are mistaken," said Jean O'Leary, NGRA executive director.

NGRA's legal affairs are being spearheaded by the San Francisco-based law firm Heller, Ehrman, White and McAuliffe.

Ed Power, an attorney for the firm, filed a temporary restraining order against HUD in court Tuesday in an effort to keep the housing department from spending all its funds for this fiscal year, which ends on the last day in September.

"I think chances are real good that we'll get an extraordinary remedy from the court," said Power.

By 1991, an estimated 3,400 county residents will have AIDS and 22,100 will have ARC, according to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors.



Announcing a lawsuit against the Department of Housing and Urban Development are, from left to right, Ed Power, a cooperating attorney from the San Francisco law firm Heller, Ehrman, White and McAuliffe; Kerry Williams, project developer with Housing for Independent People; and Benjamin Schatz, AIDS civil rights project director for National Gay Rights Advocates. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

To date, no housing program exists in the county to respond to a growing number of homeless people with AIDS, said Robert Sorenson, director of AIDS Support Services in Santa Clara County.

Last October HUD rejected a loan application filed by Housing for Independent People, which plans to purchase and rehabilitate a number of single-family homes for displaced people with AIDS in Santa Clara.

The \$999,000 loan was denied

because AIDS does not fit the law's definition that an "impairment . . . be of long-continued and indefinite duration," according to Robert De Monte, a regional HUD administrator.

As the case goes to court nearly a year after HUD's rejection, the price of housing in Santa Clara continues to climb. The houses which the agency intended to buy last year for \$190,000 now cost \$250,000, said Kerry Williams, the agency's project developer.

"I hope there's a big uproar about this," said Schatz. "It's a shameful scandal [that] HUD [is] engaged in blatant stereotyping—which in this case is fatal."

Schatz said it was up to HUD's director to "change this immediately." He claimed that "Jack Kemp could change this tomorrow if he wanted to."

Kemp could not be reached for comment. A spokesman for HUD in Washington said he was unfamiliar with the case and could not comment at this time. ▼

Military Prosecution Termed Unconstitutional

The American Civil Liberties Union has accused the military of selectively prosecuting lesbians and gay men for sodomy in violation of the Constitution.

The ACLU's contentions were contained in *amicus curiae* brief filed with the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Military Review on behalf of Corporal Barbara Baum, one of several lesbians prosecuted for sodomy in a 1988 investigation at the Marine Corps' base in Parris Island, South Carolina. Baum was sentenced to one year in prison following conviction on the sodomy charge and related charges of indecent acts and obstruction of justice.

"Barbara Baum is the victim of a malicious investigation, an unconstitutional prosecution, and cruel and unusual punishment," said William B. Rubenstein, staff counsel to the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project. "Had Corporal Baum been engaging in sodomy with a man, she would never have been prosecuted, much less served time in prison."

The Marine Corps discovered Baum's activities after her lover's disgruntled ex-boyfriend reported her to the military in 1986. Although the incident was fully investigated, the Marine Corps took no action against Baum or her lover for nearly two years. In 1988, however, the Marines began what has been labeled "a witchhunt" against lesbians on Parris Island. Baum was one of four women court-martialed, and several dozen others were administratively discharged.

Indeed, the ACLU *amicus* brief makes clear that heterosexual soldiers are not prosecuted for private, consensual sexual activities which take place off-base and off-duty, although the military's sodomy statute applies to both same-sex and heterosexual sodomy. The ACLU argues that such "selective prosecution" of lesbians and gay men violates the equal protection clause of the United States Constitution.

"There is absolutely no justification for prosecuting soldiers for activities which occur in private, off-base, and off-duty," said Rubenstein. "Although the

"Barbara Baum is the victim of a malicious investigation, an unconstitutional prosecution, and cruel and unusual punishment."

Marines like to say that 'a Marine is a Marine 24 hours a day,' the fact of the matter is that only lesbian and gay male Marines are held to such a standard."

"Selective prosecution based solely on sexual orientation is repugnant to the principles underlying the Bill of Rights," commented Nan D. Hunter, director of the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project.

In Corporal Baum's appeal, her lawyers raise numerous other issues, including the alleged bias

of several members of her court-martial, the fact that one of the charges against her was unsubstantiated, the failure of the trial judge to properly instruct the jury, the relative harshness of her sentence, and the unusually long delay which preceded her sentence.

In addition to the Baum case, the ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project is assisting several other women ensnared in the Parris Island investigation. The ACLU is also involved in formulating a strategy for a congressional response to the mistreatment of lesbian and gay soldiers.

"We would like to see Congress address the serious constitutional injustices the military has been permitted to inflict on lesbians and gay men for too long," Hunter concluded. ▼

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People & Politics

Apparently worried that fundraising for their own elections might be cut short, State Senate President **David Roberti** and his Democratic allies effectively killed a bill last week that would have moved this state's primary from June to March in presidential election years. The proposed legislation, which **Governor Deukmejian** indicated he would have signed, was designed to make California a powerful force in presidential politics, but

Senate Democratic leaders expressed concern that such an early date might give state lawmakers too little time to raise money and campaign for their own re-elections. Only North Dakota has a later primary than California. Under the existing law, national candidates stream into the state to raise big bucks, then spend the California money in places like Iowa and New Hampshire, leaving the late California date meaningless, as most nominees are decided by the state's primary date.

Even with the abrupt divorce between gubernatorial candidate **Dianne Feinstein** and her former campaign manager, **Clint Reilly**, a new poll just taken in the Modesto/Central Valley area (27th A.D.) shows Feinstein leading **John Van de Kamp** by a 16.8 percent to 13.1 percent margin. A state poll shows Feinstein with 83 percent name ID, and political observers who were calling her "finished" only a few weeks ago are now saying that a Feinstein-for-Governor effort has been re-started and that all the negatives caused by Reilly's abrupt resignation will



Supervisor Doris Ward.

disappear by the end of the year. KPIX-TV has just won an Emmy award for the third year in a row, incidentally for its *AIDS Lifeline* series.

On Tuesday, September 19, the P.O.A. Board voted to endorse Prop. S, the domestic partners initiative. Quite a change from a few years ago. Congrats.

More than \$240,000 was raised Sunday at an Art Against AIDS auction held in L.A., bringing the total raised by the two-year Art Against AIDS campaign—including two held in San Francisco and New York—to nearly \$5 million. **Christopher Reeve**, **Lou Gossett**, and **Michelle Pfeiffer** are a few of the celebrities in the touring *Heart Strings*, a musical revue designed to promote AIDS awareness and raise \$4 million for N.Y. AIDS agencies. The show opened Sunday in Atlanta and goes to San Francisco, New Orleans, St. Louis and other cities, before opening on Broadway next spring. **Supervisor Bill Maher** is pitching in to help save domestic partners (Prop. S). Maher wrote the board of SPUR asking it to reconsider its opposition to the ordinance and pointing out that "while the domestic partners might not be a perfect piece of legislation, neither was the Civil Rights Act of 1964." Maher also will be meeting with the editorial boards of the *Ex* and the *Chron*, and he gets credit for working hard for Prop. S, as do others like **Supervisor Doris Ward**.

The influential *New York Times* editorially took **Rep. Jim Coulter**, the GOP nominee for governor of New Jersey, to task for homophobic remarks.

(?) the good Rev. Cecil is also working hard for approval of domestic partners.

The *San Jose Mercury News* is the latest to suggest that **Alan Cranston** should "think about retirement in 1992." Cranston, you will recall, was one of five U.S. senators who, in 1987, intervened on behalf of the Lincoln Savings and Loan Co., of Irvine, when that thrift was being investigated by federal regulators. Lincoln's chief officer, **Charles Keating**, had already given Cranston \$8,000 to help retire his old 1984 presidential race debt, then helped raise another \$40,000 for his 1986 race against Republican **Ed Zschau**. Later Cranston solicited \$850,000 from Keating for his pet "voter registration projects." In the meantime, thanks to Cranston and his senatorial friends, the Lincoln thrift was allowed to remain open another two years, and the resulting liability to taxpayers has been estimated at more than \$2 billion. Yes, senator, it might be time to think of retiring and collecting all those state and federal pensions you are entitled to. Hell, even "Senator Zschau" sounds better and better as Cranston's troubles keep piling up.

Milk Demo Club veep **Rick Hauptman** is accusing **Mayor Agnos** of "pandering to gay voters" in his quest to get support for his ballpark initiative (Prop. P). **Baloney**: Agnos has every right to go to any part of his constituency to get help for the ballpark. You might accuse the mayor of a number of things, but "pandering"? First, he doesn't have to "pander" when it comes to gays. The last election shows that, in this town, the gay community probably would follow Agnos just about anywhere. And incidentally, with "friends" like Hauptman, one of Agnos' appointed

And speaking of respected religious leaders, one of my favorite's, **Glide's Rev. Cecil Williams**, has a busy week—Cecil celebrates his 60th birthday tomorrow, his 25th year at Glide, and Sunday he performs a marriage ceremony for former baseball great **Vida Blue** and his fiancée on the pitcher's mound at Candlestick before the Houston game. In his spare time



David Dinkins, winner of the Democratic primary in the race for mayor of New York City.



Elizabeth Taylor.

Friday

(Continued from previous page)

commissioners incidentally (Commission on Relocation), who would Art need any enemies?

The Stonewall Gay Democratic Club also gave **Arlo Smith** an early endorsement last week in the race for Attorney General.

Here we go again! The prescient quote of the week from (who else?) **Supervisor Nancy Walker**. Arguing last week against building any new jails, Walker said, "The people who are in jail certainly belong someplace, but I don't think jail is necessarily where they belong." Sure, supervisor, we'll let **Ramon Salcido** and **Charlie Manson** do their work furlough on Telegraph Hill.

Illinois' **GOP Governor Jim Thompson** last week signed a bill repealing that state's 20-month-old law that required couples wanting to marry to be tested for HIV. It was the country's only such law.

Gay and lesbian activists in New York City are expected to line up behind Democratic mayoral candidate **David Dinkins** against Republican **Rudolph Giuliani** in what many expect to be a close November contest. Giuliani lost some gay support he originally had when he came out against recognition of domestic partners legislation for gays.

Even those of us who disliked **Ronald Reagan** and his politics are pleased that he survived his brain surgery and is apparently recovering.

S.F. Weekly recently ran an article reviewing drug czar **William Bennett's** homophobic history. But somehow, this doesn't surprise me.

News reports out of Massachusetts have **Rep. Barney Frank** "thinking of retiring" at the end

of his current term. The influential *Boston Globe*, long a supporter of Frank, called this week for him to resign, but no way should **Barney Frank** either resign or retire from politics. Sure, the man made a stupid mistake (who in politics hasn't?), but people such as Rep. Frank are needed in Washington, and the guy should be urged to continue.

Speaking of members of Congress, get out the crying towels folks. **Rep. Pat Schroeder**, who briefly considered a presidential bid last year, confirmed this week that she might enter the 1992 White House sweepstakes. (I mean, if this woman can run for president, Barney Frank could at least make it to the U.S. Senate.)

When you've got celebs like **Zsa Zsa Gabor** and **Jim Bakker** making the nightly news continually, we have to be thankful for public figures like **Elizabeth Taylor**. Ms. Taylor on the AIDS epidemic: "I'm sick and tired of people blaming gay men for AIDS. AIDS is not a sin, it's a terrible disease—and the insanity of homophobia has got to stop. The government has cold scientific knowledge, but I don't think it's heard about AIDS from an emotional heterosexual woman like me. It's [AIDS] got to be stopped." Ms. Taylor said recently that there has been no peace for her since the death of her long-time friend **Rock Hudson**. "I've never seen a more painful, cruel, degrading death," she said. "Whatever happened to compassion? And to caring? What happened to the Ten Commandments? How dare these so-called religious people say AIDS was God's idea, his wrath to kill the homosexuals. We're all God's children." After Hudson's death in 1985, Elizabeth Taylor threw herself into working with the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR), and she is credited for singlehandedly raising nearly \$20 million for research against the disease. ▼

Gay Agencies to Share Federal Anti-Drug Dollars

by Dennis Conkin

The San Francisco Health Department has received \$5.9 million in federal grants to reduce lengthy waiting lists at 19 city-assisted substance abuse programs, including several specializing in the care of lesbians and gay men.

The funds will be used to pay for budget allocations made by the county a year ago. They will provide outpatient and residential care to more than 800 individuals suffering from alcohol, injection drug, crack cocaine and other substance abuse problems.

Among the non-profit agencies specializing in the care of lesbians and gay men with substance abuse problems are **Baker Places** and **18th Street Services**.

According to Dr. Wayne Clark, head of the Health Department's Community Substance Abuse Services agency, the funds will reduce the city's waiting lists by at least 25 percent.

Fifty-five new outpatient alcohol and drug treatment openings at 18th Street Services will be created. Seventeen residential care beds will be provided through the federal funds at **Baker New Place**, a specialized residential program for gay men suffering from HIV infection, substance abuse and psychiatric problems.

Announcing the funding September 12, Mayor Art Agnos

said the funds "filled in gaps" in the city's recently released homeless action plan. He acknowledged that one of the city's "unmet needs was substance abuse treatment for homeless drug abusers."

"We greatly exceeded our expectations in obtaining these federal funds," Agnos said. "We planned for five million and are receiving nearly six million. The word is getting around that San Francisco is doing a smart job with its social programs."

Community Substance Abuse Services, which will administer the funds, has long been under fire by drug policy and planning experts for its handling of the city's response to substance abuse problems.

Critics have charged that the agency's heroin treatment funding priorities in the mid-80s ignored the injection use of speed among gay men and that it failed to seek community or neighborhood input regarding emerging drug trends or support innovative community drug treatment or outreach programs.

In one recent incident, the agency was attacked for approving a controversial "punishment protocol" conducted at a local methadone clinic. Clients were forced to attend mandatory AIDS education classes. If they refused, they were punished by having their drug withdrawal medication reduced.

The practice was condemned—and halted—earlier this year by AIDS experts and Dr. David Werdegar, the director of the Health Department, who ordered an investigation into CSAS approval of the protocol, which is still in use in some city-funded clinics for a variety of infractions, including client tardiness.

With an estimated 18,000 injection drug users in San Francisco and about 3,000 treatment openings for them, the majority in methadone programs for opiate addicts, the rate of HIV infection among out-of-treatment injection users is about 16 percent.

Among gay and bisexual injection users, the rate of infection is estimated to be 70 percent. About 12 percent of all gay and bisexual men in San Francisco with AIDS have a history of injection drug use.

"We all know that gay people have been addicted to speed in disproportionate numbers," said **Jim Illig**, director of **Baker Places**. "Now the virus has come to non-gays, and 'ice' is on the horizon. It's going to get worse," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*. Ice is a smokable form of methamphetamine.

Baker Places, a national model of residential care for people with mental health as well as substance abuse problems, received a total grant allocation of \$241,000. ▼

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by Kurt Erichsen

Mike Hippler is on Vacation

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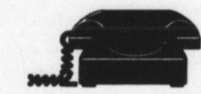
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Joint-Custody Case Could Have Implications For Lesbian/Gay Families

by Keith Clark

Within the next few weeks in Los Angeles Superior Court will begin a joint-custody lawsuit that could add an enormous dimension to the legal status of lesbian and gay relationships in California as well as establish an important precedent in an issue that has recently become particularly important among lesbians: who gets custody of the kids.

Terri Sabol filed suit late last year against Susan Bowling, claiming that she had been instrumental in the artificial insemination of Bowling because a male relative of Sabol's had been the sperm donor, and that she had provided financial support during the mother's pregnancy and for two years afterward until the couple broke up. For these reasons, and because Sabol claims Bowling agreed to visitation rights after their break-up, Sabol's lawsuit asks the court to recognize her rights as a parent "by estoppel."

Sabol's attorneys, Nathan Goldberg and Gloria Allred, have put the novel legal concept of "parenthood by estoppel" before the court by arguing that

there are "specific things someone can do that qualify that person as the legal equivalent of a parent," said Goldberg.

Allred and Goldberg said they believed it was the first time in the nation that a gay man or lesbian who is not the child's biological parent has been allowed to fight in court for custody and visitation rights.

Allred said the lawsuit is about "family values."

"We have a person who wants to assume all the responsibilities and enjoy the rights of being a parent," Allred said. "We have asked the court to recognize that this is a family, although not a traditional one."

"There aren't any laws or court rulings addressing the legal rights of lesbian parents," Allred said. "Yet there are an increasing number of lesbians in this state and in this country who are now becoming parents. In the absence of any legislation, Ms. Sabol's only recourse is to assert her custody and visitation rights as parent to this child in court. The courts will have to decide."

The concept of "parenthood by estoppel" that the attorneys are using is based in part on the "implied nature" of the Sabol-Bowling relationship as a couple at the time before, during and after the pregnancy as well as Sabol's claim that Bowling agreed after they separated that Sabol would continue to have visitation rights with the child. Sabol's suit says Bowling later began restricting the time she could spend with the child. It's this claimed verbal agreement that Sabol says Bowling later reneged on which the attorneys want the court to reassert by estoppel.

Bowling's attorney, Glen Schwartz, said, "The real question before the court is who is a parent and under what circumstances does someone become a parent." Since Sabol is not the child's biological or adopted parent, Schwartz said, her attorneys will have a difficult time convincing the court that she has or should have rights comparable to those of a parent.

The case is expected to begin within the next few weeks. ▼

Trials of New Form Of CD4 to Begin Soon

by David Smyth

The first human tests of a new form of CD4, an experimental AIDS therapy, will begin in two to four weeks at two Bay Area medical centers. The drug has two components: soluble CD4 and a genetically engineered human immunoglobulin molecule. Researchers hope the new agent will help prevent the spread of HIV infection to uninfected cells and help to kill infected cells.

The CD4 receptor is thought to be the main route by which the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) gains entry to cells. Scientists have manufactured CD4 with the goal of flooding the body with dummy targets for HIV, thus protecting uninfected human cells with CD4 receptors. Early human tests of CD4 showed the drug was well tolerated by patients and did soak up virus like a sponge. But scientists also found the artificial receptor largely disappeared from the bloodstream within minutes.

The new agent is supposed to last much longer, perhaps a week, because it is grafted on a genetically engineered antibody. Dr. Thomas Merigan, the director of the Center for AIDS Research at Stanford University Medical Center, said splicing immunoglobulin onto CD4 will have two advantages. "It promotes immune functions and makes the material last much longer in the bloodstream," he said. "It helps to kill infected cells. It uses the specificity of CD4 to recognize those cells," then the other part of the antibody triggers the immune system to destroy the infected cell. The

these agents have not been tested in humans.

Susan Zolla-Pazner, an associate professor at the New York University Medical School who is studying CD4 and other therapies, says it is important to develop agents that can kill infected cells as well as block the spread of HIV infection. But she cautioned that a potential disadvantage of rCD4-IgG is that "it will only kill cells that are expressing the gp120 molecule on the cell surface, and that molecule might not be present in very high quantities on a lot of cells or it may fall off those cells rather easily. . . . The other problem with a CD4 toxin is the potential for it to kill cells that are not infected, but just have gp120 adsorbed on its surface." Dr. Zolla-Pazner is working on drugs that will attach to molecules that are more deeply imbedded in the virus. ▼



Gay Cop

Ray Benson, former gay liaison for the San Francisco Police Department, speaking at last week's meeting of the Stonewall Democratic Club.

(Photo: Rink)

House Committee Agrees To Investigate Frank

by Cliff O'Neill

A House ethics panel on Sept. 12 agreed to investigate whether openly gay Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.) violated House rules when, four years ago, he hired male prostitute and pimp Steven L. Gobie for sex. The committee will also probe allegations that Frank knowingly allowed Gobie to run prostitution services out of Frank's home and "fixed" parking tickets for Gobie.

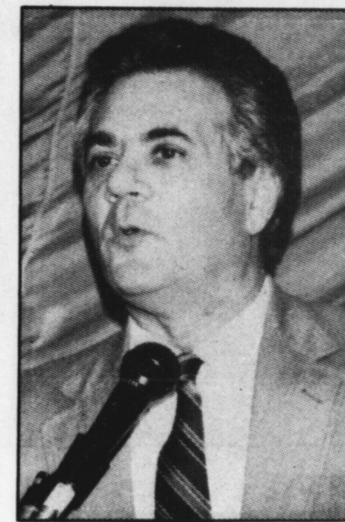
In an Aug. 28 letter to the House Committee on Standards and Official Conduct—the formal name of the ethics committee—Frank himself requested the investigation, saying he wanted to "ensure the record is clear" on his relationship with the convicted felon.

Frank has admitted to hiring Gobie as a personal aide with his own funds after having initially paid him \$80 cash for sex on April 1, 1985. Gobie has claimed that Frank was aware that Gobie ran gay and bisexual escort services out of Frank's Washington, D.C., apartment throughout the two years of their acquaintance. Frank has firmly denied those allegations and stated that he fired Gobie in August 1987 after learning Gobie was running the services out of his home.

Other charges against Frank include questions surrounding his writing several letters to Gobie's parole officer on Gobie's behalf.

Frank has stated that the letters to Gobie's parole officer were not in violation of House rules as they had no effect on Gobie's parole, and that the letters were on personal congressional stationery and were marked as such. He has also denied "fixing" Gobie's parking tickets, which he has said were not issued while Gobie was conducting business for Frank.

The ethics panel is also currently considering sex charges against Reps. Donald "Buzz" Luken (R-Ohio), who was convicted of having sex with a 16-year-old girl; Gus Savage (D-Ill.), who is charged with making unwanted advances toward a female Peace Corps volunteer while on an official visit to Zaire;



Barney Frank. (Photo: Rink)

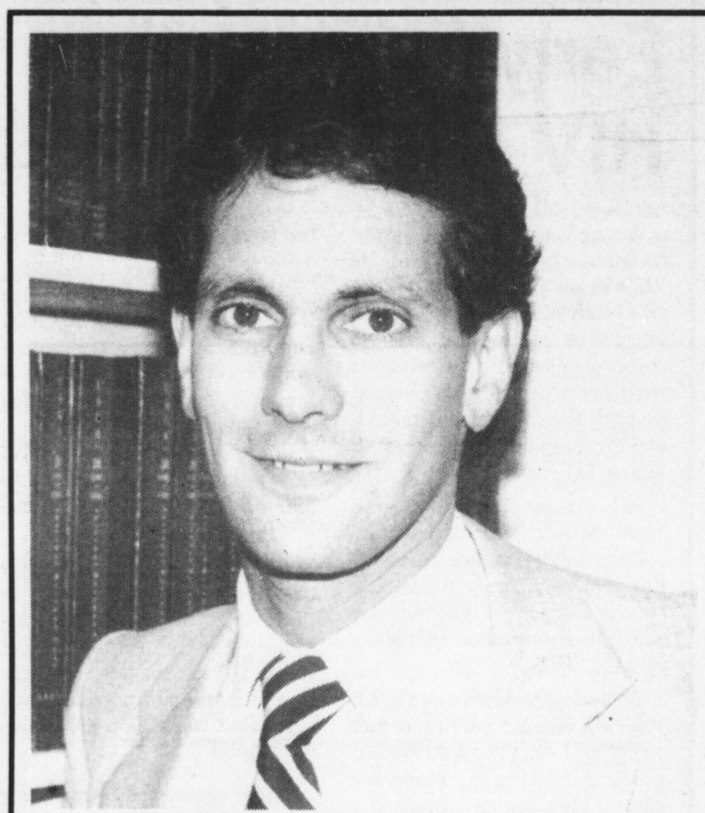
and Jim Bates (D-Calif.), who is charged with sexually harassing a number of his female staff members. The committee has also agreed to probe charges that House Minority Whip Rep. Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) violated House

rules as part of a deal to promote a book he co-wrote.

Frank has pledged to continue his work spearheading several pieces of legislation. The Massachusetts congressman has indicated that Democratic House members are supporting him. "People have been nicer to me than I feel like being to myself," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*, shortly after requesting the investigation.

The *Washington Post* reported that, at a recent meeting of Democratic House members where Frank publicly apologized for his actions, Frank received a standing ovation from his colleagues after completing his speech.

In a related development, Rep. Chester G. Atkins (D-Mass.) has removed himself from the ethics panel, based on his friendship with Frank, which he stated would prevent him from being as "impartial and unbiased" as House rules require. ▼



Stepping Down

National Gay Rights Advocates Executive Director Jean O'Leary has announced the resignation of Legal Director Leonard Graff, who has been with the organization for seven years. His resignation is effective Dec. 31. Graff cited personal reasons for his decision. He said he would remain affiliated with NGRA.

THE HEAT IS ON.



Voter Registration Now in Progress

San Francisco residents can exercise their right to vote in the San Francisco consolidated municipal election on Tuesday, Nov. 7, by registering to vote now through Oct. 10.

Registration forms, also available in English/Chinese and English/Spanish, can be obtained by contacting the San Francisco Registrar's Office, located at Room 158 at City Hall, or phoning 554-4375.

Germaine Wong, San Francisco Registrar, said she hopes that all eligible persons register to vote so that they may have a voice in what happens in their city. "Unfortunately, voter turnout for this type of election is usually only 25-30 percent," Wong said.

In order to be eligible to vote, a person must be a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age, and a resident of San Francisco. ▼

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Early Intervention HIV Bills Approved

As the California Legislature finished the first year of its 1989-90 session, two bills to provide early intervention to HIV-infected people and subsidize the cost of expensive drug treatments were overwhelmingly approved by both the Senate and the Assembly; both bills are sponsored by the LIFE AIDS Lobby.

AB 166 by Assemblywoman Jackie Speier, D-South San Francisco, establishes early intervention projects to provide sweeping services to people infected with the human immunodeficiency virus.

According to AIDS experts, AB 1600 is a measure on the cutting edge and is being heralded across the nation as a model for centralizing and coordinating a broad array of services, including clinical treatment, case management, behavior and psychosocial support, and information and referral for social, legal and insurance services.

Los Angeles Democratic Assemblyman Terry Friedman authored AB 2251, which creates a mechanism for disseminating HIV-related drugs to people with no health insurance coverage.

In order to maximize the limited state and federal funds available for this purpose, the bill contains a share-of-cost formula for people with adjusted gross incomes between \$23,000 and \$50,000.

The person's share is equal to

two times the person's state income tax liability.

According to LIFE Executive Director Rand Martin, "AB 1600 and AB 2251 as a package represent a complete intervention program for people with HIV. Once the governor signs both bills, which we expect, the battle will shift to the budget. There is only \$5 million in state funds for the program this year."

Another LIFE bill, AB 777, passed the Legislature earlier in the week. This measure by Assembly Speaker Pro Tem Mike Roos, D-Los Angeles, requires that counseling be provided each time that an HIV test is administered.

Once again, the Legislature passed a bill that would prohibit discrimination against people with HIV-related conditions. Assemblyman John Vasconcellos, D-San Jose, took a new track with AB 65 by placing into statute a distillation of existing regulations and case law that defines physical disability to include medical conditions that impair a person's ability to function normally. A similar bill by Sen. Milton Marks, D-San Francisco, SB 1535, also passed the Legislature.

Gov. George Deukmejian has until the end of September to take action on bills sent to him by the Legislature. He may sign a bill, veto it or allow it to become law without his signature. ▼



Croquet Classic

Supervisor Harry Britt, second from left, was the only politician (of several scheduled to appear) who braved Saturday's freak rainstorm to appear at the Croquet Classic on Marina Green. The event was a benefit for the Design Industries Foundation for AIDS.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)



... Rained Out

The scene was wet at Saturday's Croquet Classic, a fundraiser for the Design Industries Foundation for AIDS. Despite the unseasonable rainstorm, several die-hard croquet players carried on.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Senate Panel OKs \$30 Million For AIDS Drug Subsidies

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON—A Senate subcommittee has voted to approve \$30 million in funds to provide AIDS treatment drugs to low-income AIDS patients in 1990 as part of the coming fiscal year's Labor, Health and Human

Services Appropriation Bill.

The \$30 million dollar grant will extend, for the second year, a temporary AIDS drug subsidy that is scheduled to run out at the end of the fiscal year, Sept. 30. The subsidies are commonly used to provide AZT, the only government-approved anti-HIV drug, to low-income AIDS patients not qualifying for state Medicaid programs, but may also be used for federally approved drugs that treat opportunistic infections associated with AIDS.

While a \$5 million emergency reapportionment of funds to the AIDS drug subsidy program provided by Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Louis Sullivan last March was redirected from other AIDS funds, this year's subsidies have been reallocated from different sources.

Of the \$30 million, \$20 million come from HHS funds for a refugee assistance program and \$10 million come from a "contingency fund" that was included in President Bush's AIDS funding proposals and carried onto the House's version of the AIDS budget.

AIDS lobbyists have historically been against the "contingency fund" in the budget, insisting that leaving money in the budget with no specific purpose would allow HHS to not spend the money. To date, no final AIDS budget has included this line item.

What makes this year's funding unique is that it provides funds for a permanent AIDS drug subsidy program that, at present, does not exist. The authorization that sets up this program, the Low Income Treatment Assistance Program, is included in the Budget Reconciliation Act, which is not expected to be passed by the Sept. 30 date.

AIDS activists working on the issue with LITAP sponsor Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., have stated that they hope the measure will be attached to another bill before the end of the fiscal year.

Among other developments on the Labor-HHS Appropriations Bill was the Senate committee's

re-specification of how much money going to the National Institutes of Health will be set aside for AIDS research.

AIDS activists had earlier expressed concern that, for the first time in the epidemic, AIDS research was being left to compete for research dollars against other diseases in the NIH funding process, as per the House's version of the Labor-HHS Appropriations Bill.

Also, funding for a controversial \$11 million survey of American sexual practices, intended to gauge the patterns of HIV spread, had been removed by the House in their version of the bill. And despite lobbying attempts by a variety of groups, they are again missing from the Senate version of the bill.

Gone now, however, is the harsh House committee report language that stated that the government "has no business" in asking about people's sexual behaviors.

AIDS activists had feared that the language could have a "chilling effect" on funding for any AIDS research projects that ask about participants' sexual practices.

"The survey is de-funded," Gay Men's Health Crisis lobbyist Jeff Levi said, "but now we don't have any of the House's bad language."

The full Senate is scheduled to address the Labor HHS Appropriations Bill on Sept. 19. Members of the National Organizations Responding to AIDS coalition have been holding briefings for two weeks on expected right-wing amendments to the bill, which may range from an amendment banning funds to organizations that "promote or encourage" homosexual activity, to an amendment opposing the federal funding of any research involving sexual behavior to a ban on funding to school districts that provide counseling programs for gay and lesbian youth.

"Nobody's really said [what's coming]," said Steve Smith, Human Rights Campaign Fund lobbyist. "So we're prepared for the whole range of things." ▼

AZT

(Continued from page 1)

"We're basically pleased that they've lowered it, but it's not enough. I think all of us have to keep up the pressure to get a further reduction," Silverman told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

A one-year supply of the drug costs about \$8,000. The Burroughs Wellcome decision to lower the cost of the drug means that it will cost about \$6,500 per year. The firm previously lowered the price of the drug from \$10,000 to \$8,000 in December 1987.

FDA approval for the use of AZT at half the current dosage for management of asymptomatic HIV infection is expected shortly. It is expected that the cost for a year's supply for this use will be about \$3,500.

The Burroughs Wellcome claim that the price reduction makes AZT more accessible was lambasted by Pat Christen, acting executive director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

Although Christen said the decision was a "step in the right direction," she also called it arbitrary. "It's still unclear, because Burroughs Wellcome has consistently refused to open its books. There's no documented

reason why they chose 20 percent. They will show no data to indicate what the real costs of the drug are," she said.

Although there are no public indications of what the actual costs of manufacturing AZT are to Burroughs Wellcome, a recent *Wall Street Journal* report pointed out that the firm reaped over \$180 million in profits in its last fiscal year, with \$100 million of that profit resulting from AZT sales of \$220 million.

According to Marilyn Chase, the author of the exhaustively researched article, analysts believe that Burroughs Wellcome gross profit margins on AZT range between 70 and 80 percent. Chase also reported that the firm's profits on the drug for the fiscal year ended in August are greater than company start-up costs for manufacturing the orphan drug, developed not by Wellcome, but by a cancer researcher in 1964.

Because the unpatented drug failed as a cancer treatment, intensive research was abandoned, although Wellcome and other companies synthesized versions of the drug, which was in the public domain. Experiments in the mid-70s by a German scientist revealed the drug inhibited the replication of a mouse retrovirus.

Wellcome received the exclusive rights to market the drug for seven years in 1987, under the federal Orphan Drug Act, which

gives manufacturers of drugs designed to assist small patient populations suffering from rare illnesses, tax credits and other forms of government assistance in exchange for making the drug.

There has been increasing

local and national controversy over AZT's orphan status, with some activists privately saying that the federal government should intervene and seize the drug's patent rights and allow other companies to manufacture the drug because Wellcome's monopoly and pricing structure have priced the drug out of the reach of the vast majority of people who, experts say, need it.

The drug company has been the target of numerous and well-publicized protests by AIDS activists, including ACTUP. Last week five demonstrators chained themselves to the doors of the New York Stock Exchange in protest over the company's prohibitive pricing practices. Last February, five AIDS activists in San Francisco chained themselves to the doors of the Pacific Stock Exchange for the same reason. AIDS activists have also protested at the British firm's U.S. headquarters in North Carolina.

A host of government officials, including Dr. Anthony Fauci, the head of the National Institute of Allergy and Allergic Diseases, have publicly called on Wellcome to reduce the price of AZT. Representative Henry Waxman, the Los Angeles Democratic chair of the House Subcommittee on Health and the Environment, had scheduled hearings on Wellcome's pricing of AZT for October. Waxman threatened

this week to reopen these hearings if the company does not prove itself more forthcoming with information on development costs and profit margins.

According to Phil Lee, M.D., former president of the San Francisco Health Commission, annual costs to treat half the people suffering from HIV infection with AZT in San Francisco would be \$798 million in 1989.

If, Lee says, all the people in the United States suffering from HIV infection were to receive early intervention care, including AZT for the treatment of asymptomatic infection, the costs would be \$10 billion.

Lee, director of the University of California Institute for Health Policy Studies, is co-author of a September 15 study appearing in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

According to the study, the bulk of the financial burden of AIDS on the health care system is because of the costs of life-extending drugs such as AZT. It also points out that aerosol pentamidine, manufactured by Lymphomed and available for \$24.95 in 1984, now costs \$99.45 a vial, a 400 percent increase.

The San Francisco Health Department estimates that over 20,000 residents are suffering from HIV infection. An additional 3,000 are suffering from AIDS. ▼

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Sunday, October 8. Evening Services (Kol Nidre) 7:30 pm
Monday, October 9. Morning Services 10:00 am
Monday, October 9. Children's Services 1:30 pm
Monday, October 9. Yizkor (Memorial) Ne'ilah (Concluding) 5:00 pm

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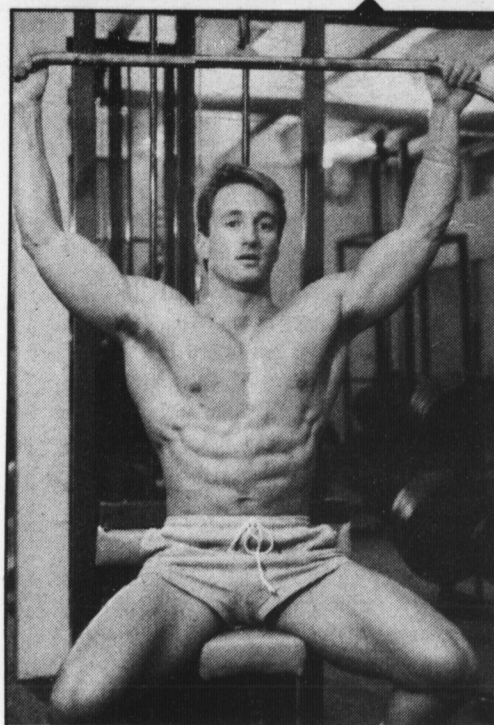
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FOR THE RECORD

Following is the unaudited 1989 financial report for the Design Industries Foundation for AIDS, which is headquartered at 150 W. 26th St., Suite 602, New York, NY 10001.

	Revenue	Expenses	Net
Events	1,523,800	70,372	1,453,428
Corporate Underwriting*	555,400	555,400	
Total Event	2,079,200	625,772	1,453,428
Programs	21,300	64,719	
Fundraising	163,684	52,170	
Interest	20,017		
Subtotal	205,001	116,889	88,112
Total Revenue	2,284,201	742,661	1,541,540
Administrative Costs		230,073	(230,073)
Total	2,284,201	972,734	1,311,467
Advances for 1989 Events**	6,850	85,433	(78,583)
Grants		1,168,851	(1,168,851)
Total Net	2,291,051	2,227,018	64,033

Notes:
95 percent of individual event donations went to further DIFFA's work
Administrative expenses were 10 percent of gross revenue.
*Excludes in-kind donations
**Financial records are cash basis



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City Health Commission Favors Needle Exchange

State Law, However, Forbids the Practice

by Karen M. Everett

By a 5 to 1 vote, the San Francisco Health Commission approved a controversial needle-exchange program last week, but the nation's top health official said Sunday he opposed the program as a means to fight the spread of AIDS among IV drug users.

Secretary of Health and Human Services Louis Sullivan said that the needle exchange concept gives tacit approval of drug use.

His comments came several days after San Francisco Health Commissioner Naomi Gray, who in the past has called needle-exchange "genocidal to the black community," cast the only dissenting vote against the program.

The new city resolution calls for "legislative efforts at the state level to permit a pilot needle-exchange program" as part of broader drug prevention and AIDS education efforts.

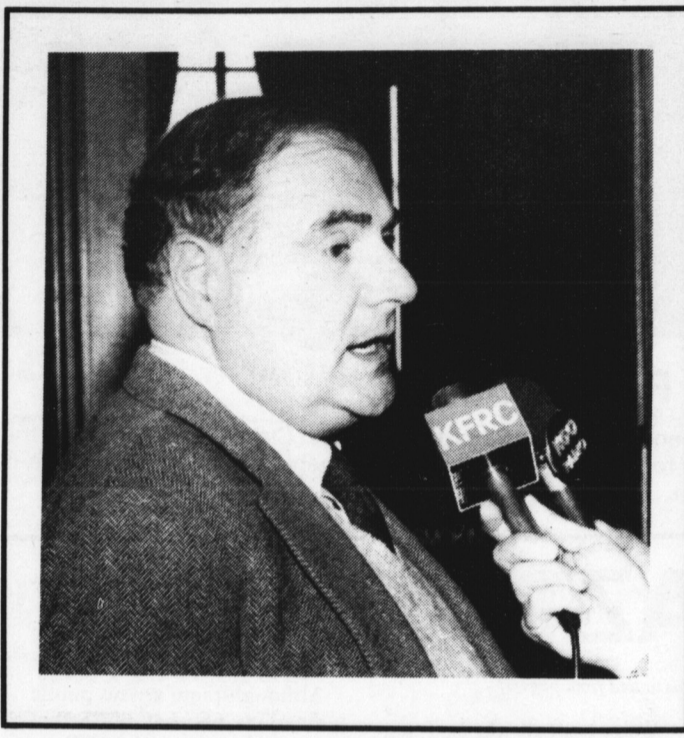
The commission's approval of the needle exchange program is largely symbolic. The city must now find a way to change or go around a state law which prohibits possession of syringes without a doctor's prescription.

Prior to the vote, a group called Prevention Point presented the health commission with 2,000 used hypodermic needles which volunteers have collected since November.

The financially strapped group illegally exchanges clean needles for used ones among injection drug users in the Mission, Tenderloin and South of Market districts in San Francisco.

"If the Department of Public Health won't help intravenous drug users to obtain clean needles, at least they can help those who will to discard of the dirty ones safely," Jim Haber of Prevention Point told the commission.

Opponents of needle exchange—primarily black religious leaders who argue that the program sends a message condoning drug use—said they will take their objections to the Board of Supervisors.



Dr. Werdegar.

(Photo: Rink)

"We still have a message to tell," said the Rev. Amos Brown of the Third Baptist Church.

Intravenous drug users make up an estimated 13 per cent of the 7,123 AIDS cases reported to date in San Francisco, according to Dr. Patricia Evans, assistant medical director for the city health department.

Citing the high incidence of HIV-positive black children born to drug-addicted mothers, Evans said the needle program presented "a window of opportunity—but it's going to close extremely rapidly."

"I hate to see my community divided," said Evans, who is black.

The Rev. Martin Grizel told the commission he opposed the resolution or "anything that implies or suggests that we endorse substance abuse."

Prevention Point members said that while they were pleased with the vote, the commission's support was "meaningless" without "aggressive" follow-up.

The city is now faced with the task of finding a "legal remedy,"

according to Prevention Point spokesman George Clark.

In July the California State Board of Pharmacy supported a plan to give San Francisco a legal exemption to distribute needles, but a state legislative legal council later issued an opinion striking down that option.

Efforts to change the state law would take too long to implement, according to Moher Downing of Prevention Point.

"They can't drag their feet on this," she said. "The city must look at creative ways to decriminalize [needle exchange]."

Dr. David Werdegar, director of the San Francisco health department, said he believed the commission's support of a needle exchange program would be "excitingly valuable" in seeking "legislative clarification" at the state level.

Prevention Point said it will continue to trade used needles for new ones with IV drug users until the city starts "a street-based, anonymous, user-friendly program."

Lawyers, Students Debate Domestic Partners Strategy

State-Sanctioned Marriage for Gays, Lesbians Discussed

by Karen M. Everett

Gay couples, students and lawyers Wednesday debated the best strategy to be used in the domestic partners campaign in San Francisco. Discussion ranged from appropriate short-term strategies to the question of whether gays should press for the right to state-sanctioned marriage.

The community forum, held at Golden Gate Law School, was sponsored by two student groups, Stonewall Law Caucus and Lesbians in Law, and by Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom.

Earlier this year the San Francisco Bar Association unanimously passed a resolution calling for the state to amend Civil Code 4100, which restricts marriage to male-female couples.

But changing state law to legalize gay marriage may take 20 to 50 years, according to activist T.J. Anthony, an aide to city Supervisor Richard Hongisto. "We have to be realistic," Anthony said. "For now, our priorities have to be on [winning the] domestic partners [referendum] rather than marriage."

San Francisco's domestic partners law was signed by Mayor Art Agnos in June after the San Fran-

cisco Board of Supervisors approved legislation submitted by Supervisor Harry Britt allowing unwed couples to register as domestic partners. City-employed partners would receive the same right to bereavement leave as is currently enjoyed by their married coworkers.

"I'm not sure marriage is an answer."
—Attorney Madeleine Tress

But conservative religious leaders opposed to the concept gathered enough voter signatures to put the legislation on the November ballot.

Polls show that a majority of San Francisco voters are inclined to vote "yes" on Proposition S, the partners initiative. But voter

turn-out during an off-season election tends to favor older and more conservative viewpoints, according to pollster David Binder.

The "Yes On S" campaign strategy is focusing on getting gays and young straight Democrats registered and to the polls rather than on changing the minds of "the solid quarter who are totally against domestic partners," said campaign manager Dick Pabich.

"As a straight person I'm almost insulted by that strategy," said Mitch Genser, the only acknowledged heterosexual to speak at Wednesday's forum.

"But the point is to get the bill passed cheaply, not to educate," replied participant John Beattie.

"It's a simple political judgment," Anthony agreed. "We don't have the energy to educate people now."

Participants also debated



Supervisor Harry Britt addressing volunteers Saturday morning at the "Yes on S" campaign headquarters.

(Photo: Phyllis Christopher)

whether legalizing gay marriage should be a priority on a gay political agenda.

"I'm not sure marriage is an answer," said attorney Madeleine Tress, who has been in a lesbian relationship for 26 years. She pointed out the "tremendous downside" associated with marriage, including being held legally accountable for a partner's debts.

"Gay marriage offers a false sense of security because what the state gives, the state can take away," said attorney Elizabeth Henderson.

Others argued that gay marriage could ultimately inspire the rest of society with a model free from "sexist and oppressive religious" trappings.

Lesbian attorney Mary Dunlap asked participants "to see how we all have been hurt by marriage—the ones we couldn't have, the ones we did have." She read a poem she had written about how marriage treats women as second-class citizens but concluded that despite the faults of the institution, marriage should be an option for gays and lesbians.

Flu

(Continued from previous page)
associated with influenza.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control's 121 "Cities Mortality Surveillance System" indicates that the number and percent of deaths associated with pneumonia and influenza among persons 25 to 44 years old have more than doubled in the 1980s in cities with a high incidence of AIDS.

The Johns Hopkins investigators measured antibody production in 78 HIV-infected and 31 uninfected individuals immunized with a two-dose regimen of the vaccine containing proteins from three different influenza strains. The participants received the two doses one month apart between November 1987 and February 1988.

"The second dose of vaccine did not significantly increase the frequency or the amount of antibodies produced among our study participants, regardless of their HIV-1 infection status," Nelson says. Individuals with AIDS and those with AIDS-related complex (ARC) had the weakest antibody responses.

According to Nelson, the CDC says it is prudent to immunize HIV-infected individuals with influenza vaccine once a year. Nelson adds that individuals with AIDS or clinical symptoms of HIV-1 infection also may require prophylactic treatment with the anti-influenza drugs amantadine or Symmetrel to provide adequate production during an epidemic of Type A influenza.

Nelson cautioned, however, that although amantadine is licensed by the Food and Drug Administration for the prevention of influenza in individuals with high risk of death or complications of influenza, the drug has not been studied among people with AIDS.

Flu Vaccine For HIV-Infected Individuals Recommended

by Keith Clark

An article in the August 11 issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, reports that a single, yearly dose of influenza vaccine can give adequate protection against flu to people who are HIV-positive but not yet symptomatic with ARC or AIDS.

Investigators at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health examined the effect of influenza vaccine and found that people who are HIV-positive produced antibodies to the vaccine. However, some of those who have AIDS or clinical symptoms of infection may have an inadequate response to the vaccine and remain susceptible to the influenza.

"Large flu epidemics can affect a high proportion of the pop-

ulation," said Dr. Kenrad E. Nelson, professor epidemiology at Johns Hopkins. "During a large influenza epidemic, HIV-infected individuals—estimated at 1 to 1.5 million Americans—may be at increased risk to complications from influenza because of their compromised immune systems."

Although the contribution of influenza to HIV-related deaths in this country is not clearly established, Nelson says, it is well-known that HIV-infected individuals are at increased risk for pneumonia due to *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and *Haemophilus influenzae*, bacteria that cause serious respiratory complications

(Continued on next page)

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Gay Arts Groups Get Funding Increases From Hotel Tax Fund

The gay community will receive \$164,200 through the Grants for the Arts of the San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund. Most of the organizations will be receiving a 10 percent increase over last year's grants.

The total for specifically gay organizations represents just over two percent of the \$7,209,250 being allocated for the 1989/90 fiscal year.

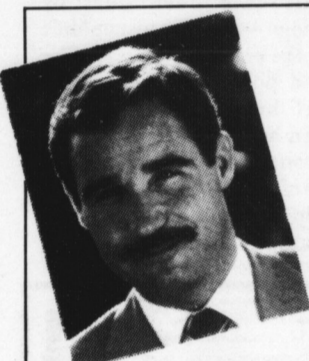
The largest recipient of funds will be the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee, which produces the annual parade and celebration in June.

For 1990 the organization will receive \$57,500, an increase of \$2,500 from the previous year. In the category of parades and celebrations, the gay parade ranks number-one in funding. The second-largest recipient, at \$56,500, is the Chinese New Year's Parade, and number three is the Cinco de Mayo and 24th Street Festival, which receives \$46,000.

Theatre Rhinoceros receives an increase this year to \$45,000 from \$42,000 last year. Of the 25 theatre groups which receive funding, Theatre Rhinoceros



The San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade will receive \$57,500 in hotel tax funds. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)



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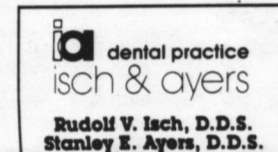
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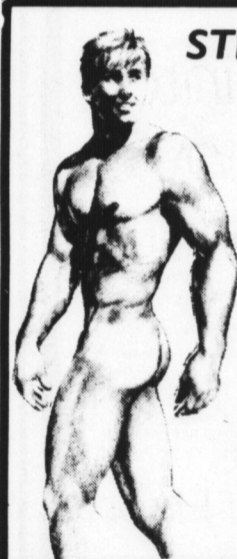
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ranks seventh. Frameline, which produces the annual Lesbian/Gay Film Festival, sees an additional \$1,500, for a 1990 allocation of \$16,500.

The San Francisco Band Foundation, which is the umbrella organization for the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, the San Francisco Tap Troupe, Vocal Minority and City Swing, will receive \$19,800 for the 1989/90 year. Last year the group received \$18,000.

The Golden Gate Performing Arts, the parent organization of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, will receive \$19,000, an increase of \$1,000. The San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus sees a 10 percent increase, from \$3,000 to \$3,300.

The Folsom Street Fair will receive a \$100 increase from last year, to \$3,100.

The Grants for the Arts program derives its revenue from an 11 percent hotel tax which is collected from overnight visitors to San Francisco. 12.5 percent of each dollar from the hotel tax goes to the fund. The remainder of the tax money goes to maintenance and expansion of Moscone Center and to the maintenance of the War Memorial Performing Arts Center and of Candlestick Park. Funds are also used by the city's Convention Bureau and low-cost housing at the Yerba Buena Center. The remaining money goes to the city's general fund.

The fund was established in 1961 for the purpose of enhancing the city's attractiveness to visitors by supporting various cultural activities. In its 28-year history, Grants for the Arts has distributed more than \$85 million.

In making the announcement of this year's grants, the city's chief administrative officer, Rudolf Nothenberg said, "I'm delighted the hotel tax fund will be able to provide a small overall increase in annual support to our diverse artistic and cultural organizations."

The largest grants are to the San Francisco Opera, which receives \$815,100, and the San Francisco Symphony, which will receive \$777,400.

Thinking Ahead

Protecting Benefits When You Have AIDS

by Michael Hillary

One thing about AIDS: when you start thinking about insurance, you seriously think about insurance. One of the first questions is, "What's going to happen to my medical insurance at work?" The answer is complex. It depends on how large the employer, how long you have worked there, and the design of the plan. All of a sudden you have to learn a new language. The meaning of terms such as COBRA, extended benefits, conversion, eligibility, pre-existing conditions, and medical leave policy suddenly become critical to your economic survival.

Protecting your employee benefits after being told you have a potentially disabling illness is serious business. A basic conceptual understanding as to how your plan operates can do much to help you protect these critical benefits and provide peace of mind during what is obviously a very traumatic life event.

COBRA stands for Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985. This federal law requires that employers provide for continuing group medical, dental and vision benefits for 18 months for employees who terminate employment. The law applies to employers and unions who cover 20 or more employees under their group employee benefit plans. The employee has 60 days to elect coverage. The employer can charge 102 percent of his cost to the employee.

COBRA benefits must be the same as provided to active employees. Except in very unusual circumstances, it is always a mistake—a big, big mistake—for anyone HIV-positive who leaves employment not to elect COBRA.

The passage of COBRA by Congress was a fluke. The insurance lobby missed it. It has not been popular with unions and employers. It was a small amendment attached to a massive tax bill, and President Reagan had to sign the bill to keep the government going. It has done more for people with AIDS by accident than most of the legislation passed on purpose to help them.

Extended benefits is a provision of a group medical policy that provides for continued medical expense payment if a covered person is disabled when insurance terminates. Extended benefits normally continue for 12 months after the date on which insurance coverage ends. There is no premium for this benefit, and it only covers expenses relating to the disabling illness. In most cases it would kick in at the end of COBRA.

Many people overlook this benefit. It is important to check your group-medical booklet and make sure it contains an extended benefit provision. If you are eligible for COBRA and extended benefits, you are in excellent shape if you become disabled because you have coverage for 30

months. Disabled people become eligible for Medicare after 29 months of disability. (There is a five-month waiting period for Social Security Disability Income Benefits, and Medicare doesn't become effective for 24 months after benefits start.)

Conversion refers to a state law which requires an insurance company to provide an individual policy to a person whose group medical insurance terminates. You have 31 days to elect to take the conversion without health questions. Conversion coverage is normally not as good as employer-provided benefits; also, it can be expensive. But if you are not eligible for COBRA benefits, it is your best bet.

Employers have the right to establish a medical leave policy for employees who are on a medical leave of absence. This policy varies from employer to employer. Since the goal is to keep coverage until you are eligible for Medicare, medical leave can help stretch out your coverage. If you don't have extended benefits, medical leave can serve as a means to continue coverage, since COBRA benefits start when employment terminates. While on medical leave you are still an employee.

Eligibility refers to the plan provision which make you eligible for benefits. They are always stated in your employee-benefit booklet. Make sure you read and

(Continued on page 24)

Lutherans Skirt Ordination Issue

by Rex Wockner

Plans by several California Lutheran churches to ordain sexually active homosexuals to head a new joint lesbian and gay ministry project were expected to cause "a major conflict" in late August in Chicago during the week-long convention of the 5.3-million member Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

But to the surprise of the 1,042 delegates, the blow-up never occurred and the ELCA's interim guidelines opposing ordination of non-celibate gays were referred to committee without discussion.

The Rev. Jim Lokken, a spokesman for the pro-gay California congregation, has promised that his church, St. Francis Lutheran Church in San Francisco, will ordain 26-year-old Jeff Johnson this fall "with or without the blessing of the bishop."

Northern California synod Bishop Lyle Miller has responded that "congregations do not declare who is or is not eligible [and] Mr. Johnson is not an authorized candidate for ordination."

Although convention delegates bypassed the gay ordination decision this year, the conflict will undoubtedly come to a head when Johnson starts his job. Next year's convention in Kansas City, then, should see the fireworks that were expected in Chicago.

During the unofficial forum on gay issues at the convention, Johnson was quoted by the Lutheran press office as saying that since the ELCA does ordain celibate gays, the real "issue is about our relationships, and whether or not the church will... say that lesbian and gay people can have relationships, that those relationships can be healthy, and that we can bless and celebrate those relationships in our midst, even among our clergy."

Johnson accused the church of "excluding an entire community of people from evangelism... If we can't go to the lesbian and gay community and say, 'We honor your relationships,' then we have nothing to say to them," he said.

A second gay presence at the convention was Lutherans Concerned, an international organization of gay Lutherans. The group staffed a literature table and confronted convention-goers with pro-gay banners, badges, posters and slogans.



Back from Greece

Richmond Young, left, president of the Stonewall Democratic Club, gets a slap on the back from Mayor Art Agnos, just back from a vacation to Greece, at last week's club meeting. (Photo: Rink)

At its convention last year in Toronto, Lutherans Concerned issued "A Call For Repentance" to the church, in which gay Lutherans asserted, "those of us who bear the pain of the Church's neglect are not satisfied. Our pain remains unabated, our thirst for justice un-

quenched. "The churches have permitted malicious, false and antiquated images of lesbian and gay persons by allowing us to be maligned, attacked and denigrated from the pulpit," Lutherans Concerned members wrote. "The churches have responded to us primarily

out of institutional self-interest rather than love and concern." The ELCA came into existence less than two years ago when the Lutheran Church in America, the American Lutheran Church and the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches merged. This was the new church's first convention.

Lutherans Support PWAs

The first Churchwide Assembly of the newly merged Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has overwhelmingly passed a strong policy statement on the AIDS epidemic. The August 29 resolution committed the church to the inclusion of "all persons living with AIDS, their families, partners, and friends" in "the life and worship of the church" and dedicated the ELCA "to practical, pastoral, and emotional support services through its congregations, institutions and agencies."

The ELCA was formed as a result of the merger of the three major Lutheran denominations in the U.S.—the American Lutheran Church, the American Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the Lutheran Church in America. Two thousand Lutherans from the U.S. and the Caribbean gathered in Chicago during the week of August 23-30 to decide on church policy and the basic direction the new church will follow on issues as diverse as abortion and divestment in firms doing business in South Africa.

Bob Nelson, a delegate from the Sierra Pacific Synod (Northern California/Northern Nevada) was one of the authors of the resolution. "I was amazed that no regional assembly had proposed a resolution on AIDS prior to this one," he said. "In fact, the only time AIDS was to be discussed was at 6:30 a.m. at a breakfast meeting. We quickly got an ad-hoc group together and drafted a resolution with some teeth in it."

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Gallo: Two-thirds Of HIV-Positives May Escape AIDS

by Rex Wockner

Chief U.S. AIDS researcher Dr. Robert Gallo has confirmed that he told a British newspaper in late June that only about 33 percent of those exposed to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) will develop AIDS.

Gallo—who is credited with co-discovering HIV—was quoted in the July 1 issue of London, England's *The Pink Paper (TPP)*, in the context of criticizing a British ad campaign that states, "The only difference between HIV and AIDS is time."

"We have no way of predicting how many people who are infected are going to develop AIDS," Gallo told *TPP*. "The best data today argues for about one-third, but there are so many variants out there, don't start projecting that you know the future."

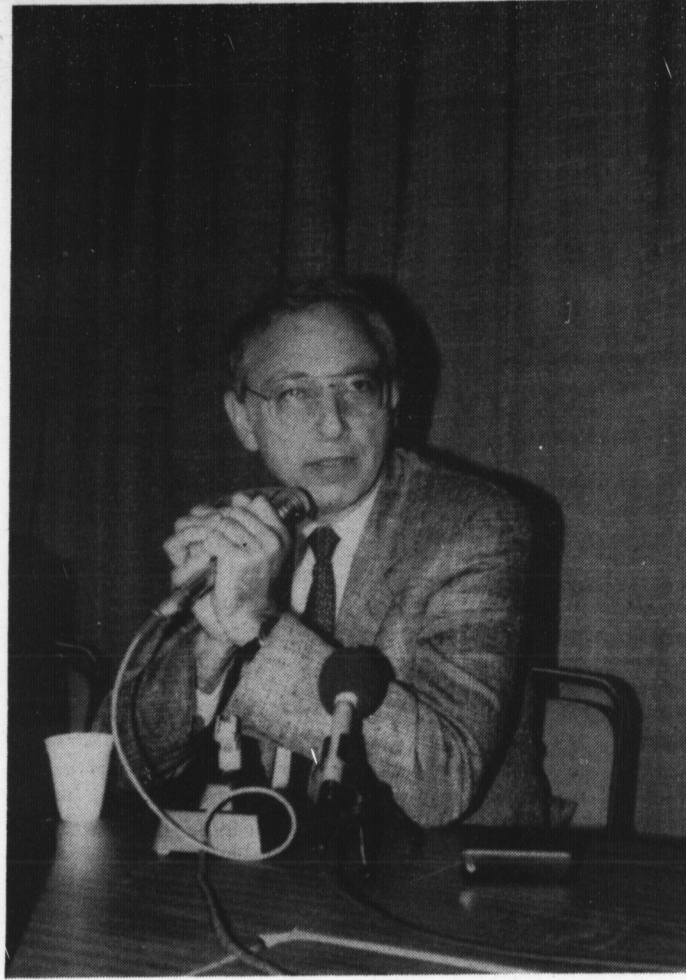
In a Sept. 8 telephone interview, Gallo termed the *TPP* news report "reasonably accurate," saying, "There are so many variants [of HIV] that it is impossible to say that a hundred percent of them are going to lead to lethality. In fact, I'd be very surprised if every variant caused AIDS in an individual's normal lifetime. Very few bugs do lead to a hundred percent lethality."

"Look at HIV-2," Gallo continued. "Of the thousands of people HIV-2 infected, you can

count on a few fingers the ones that have developed any kind of immune deficiency... And you can look at HIV-2 as just an extreme variant of HIV-1. So, if HIV-2 is so much less efficient [at causing disease], what about other variants that are less variable than the prototype HIV-1?"

"I don't want everybody who is antibody-positive to think, 'Holy shit, it's hopeless,'" Gallo added. "It could be a third, a half [who develop AIDS]—the point is that no one can predict what every variant of this virus is going to do."

Gallo was asked whether recent studies showing that AZT slows HIV infection should have taken into account that all variants of HIV are not equally lethal and whether those who are found to have been exposed to less lethal variants should subject themselves to toxic anti-HIV medication. "That is an extremely good question," Gallo responded. "I would base it on odds. If I were antibody-positive, I would take AZT the day I learned I was infected, if I could afford it. Too high a percentage are suffering too much from this virus. I would take low-dose [AZT] and combine it with something and gamble on that, rather than gambling on having a relatively innocuous strain of the virus."



Dr. Robert Gallo.

Another increasingly prominent development in Gallo's thinking centers around secondary viruses that, when present along with HIV-1, speed up damage to the immune system.

Gallo says cytomegalovirus and HTLV-1 have been shown in the lab to increase immune system decline "two- to four-fold" in the HIV-infected. He also expects that human herpes virus six (HHV-6) is an important

AIDS co-factor, but has not yet produced data to back up his theory.

Gallo agreed that studies measuring the effect of drugs such as AZT on immune system decline should also look at which subjects are infected with which co-factors. The recent highly touted AZT studies considered neither AIDS co-factors nor HIV variants.

Illinois Marriage Test Gone But Kissing Now Illegal

by Rex Wockner

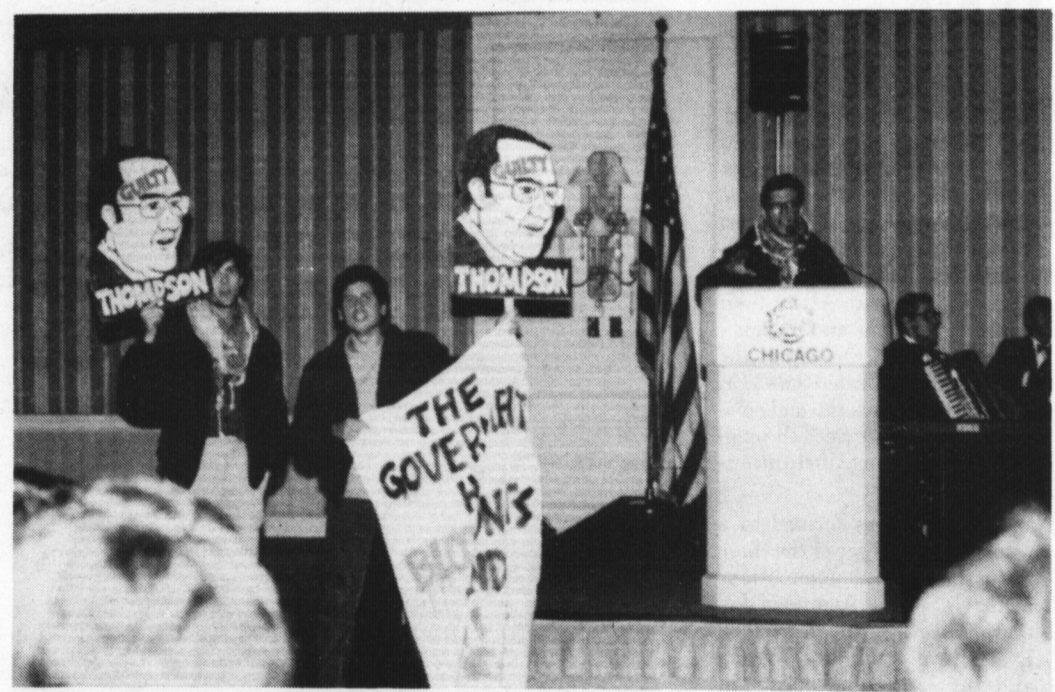
Illinois Gov. James Thompson Sept. 11 repealed the state's one-of-a-kind law requiring those seeking marriage licenses to take an HIV antibody test, but at the same time signed a bill making it a possible crime for an HIV-positive person to kiss someone who doesn't know of the individual's positive status.

In repealing the marriage testing law, Thompson said, "I believe it is far better to encourage testing among people who are truly at risk than to mandate testing for people who have never engaged in any activity which would cause their infection."

Since the law took effect on Jan. 1, 1988, 250,000 pre-marital HIV tests in Illinois turned up 52 antibody-positive individuals, marriage license applications in counties bordering Wisconsin and Indiana, meanwhile, dropped as much as 21 percent when lovers crossed state lines to avoid the HIV test and the \$20 to \$150 lab fees.

While Thompson was applauded by AIDS, gay, civil rights and public health activists for repealing the marriage testing law, he was denounced for signing a measure making it a felony, punishable by up to seven years in prison, to "expose... the body of one person to a bodily fluid of another person in a manner that could result in the transmission of HIV."

The bill, authored by arch-conservative state Rep. Penny Pullen (R-Park Ridge), does not require that transmission occur for a crime to be committed. It



One of several protests that ACT UP/Chicago has staged against Illinois Gov. James R. Thompson for affixing his signature to "bad" AIDS bills.

does, however, exclude the antibody-positive person from prosecution if the other individual "knew that the infected person was infected with HIV, knew that the action could result in infection with HIV, and consented to the action with that knowledge."

Pullen has asserted that government studies back up her position that open-mouth kissing falls within the law's parameters, even though the government has yet to record an actual instance of HIV transmission via kissing.

AIDS activists are calling the new law "outrageously vague," and they point out that violation

seems contingent—among other things—on the precise epidemiological knowledge of the person allegedly put at risk.

One would, for example, apparently commit a crime if the person placed at risk did not know that unprotected intercourse is risky but would not commit a crime if the person placed at risk did know that intercourse is risky.

Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force legislative chair Tim Drake said the measure is "so confusing that it's unenforceable." But Drake added that he believes Gov. Thompson "knew what he was doing" in signing the bill,

since Thompson simultaneously vetoed a more coherent Senate version of the law.

"It shows a total lack of leadership on behalf of the governor," Drake said, "but suggests he knew he was signing the one that won't hold up in court and vetoing the one that would have."

Thompson was generally praised by AIDS activists for other actions he took Sept. 11. The governor vetoed measures requiring testing of prisoners and persons indicted for sexual assault, and he created a new crime of "educational intimidation" to address harassment of school children with AIDS or other chronic infections.

'Mother Jones' Editor Blasts Helms, Censorship Effort

by Karen M. Everett

Mother Jones Managing Editor Peggy Orenstein denounced recent efforts to censor art—including Sen. Jesse Helms's attack on the homoerotic photographs of Robert Mapplethorpe—and warned of devastating consequences to creative expression.

"Threatening" seems to be the word of the summer in terms of art," Orenstein told about 80 people gathered at Modern Times Bookstore in San Francisco last Monday.

She told the *Bay Area Reporter* she knew of no artists organizing locally to fight "artistic terrorism."

In June an art gallery in Washington, D.C. bowed to the threats of Jesse Helms to cut public funds for "offensive art."

Last month Helms succeeded in passing a Senate amendment to ban funding for "obscene art." United Democrats in the House of Representatives rejected the measure last Wednesday, but Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, R-Torrance, said that the battle was not over.

"I believe Sen. Helms has a few rabbits up his sleeve," Rohrabacher said.

"What I hope for *Mother Jones* is that we have a place to put (provocative) artists and cultural figures forward," Orenstein said.

Orenstein, author of the current issue's cover story on black film producer Spike Lee, also talked about censorship forces at work in Hollywood.

She said that critical funding for Lee's current hit, "Do The Right Thing," was forthcoming only because Lee's two previous "revolutionary" films made millions of dollars for movie studios.

Seminar Focuses On Addictions

Maintaining sobriety may be especially difficult for gay men and lesbians after the first six to 12 months of an intensive recovery program. How do we deal with our long-term need for support, facing the day-to-day issues or the crises which arise? We need new, ongoing coping skills.

Operation Recovery, a program of Operation Concern, offers a 12-week seminar presented by Sheppard Kominars, Ph.D., author of *Accepting Ourselves, the 12-Step Journey of Recovery from Addiction for Gay Men and Lesbians*.

Kominars will present 12 three-hour sessions on applying the 12 steps to personal experience for long-term alternatives to addictive behavior in a practical and meaningful way.

The program will meet on Wednesdays, 7 to 10 p.m. starting Sept. 27. Cost for the series is on a sliding fee basis, beginning at \$120 plus \$10 for materials. Registration is limited to 20; advance reservations, please.

Three one-hour introductory sessions will be provided to the public at no cost, Friday, Sept. 8; Thursday, Sept. 14; and Wednesday, Sept. 20. Call 626-7000 for reservations. Make checks payable to Operation Concern. ▼

She concluded that because people tend to "think the arts are frivolous," they don't fight attacks on artistic expression.

Many audience members seemed concerned about the lack of concerted political action against censorship efforts in Washington.

"People haven't been responding, artists haven't been organizing," said Clyde Smith, a 29-year-old writer.

Orenstein warned that withholding National Endowment for the Arts funds to the two agencies could have a "chilling effect" on a new generation of creative minds.

"In the end, it isn't Mapplethorpe and (artist) Andreas Serrano who'll suffer," Orenstein said. "The danger is that young artists will be censored if they fear they won't get their grants (when) making provocative statements."

Orenstein admitted she felt

disturbed when she first saw Mapplethorpe's erotic images of children.

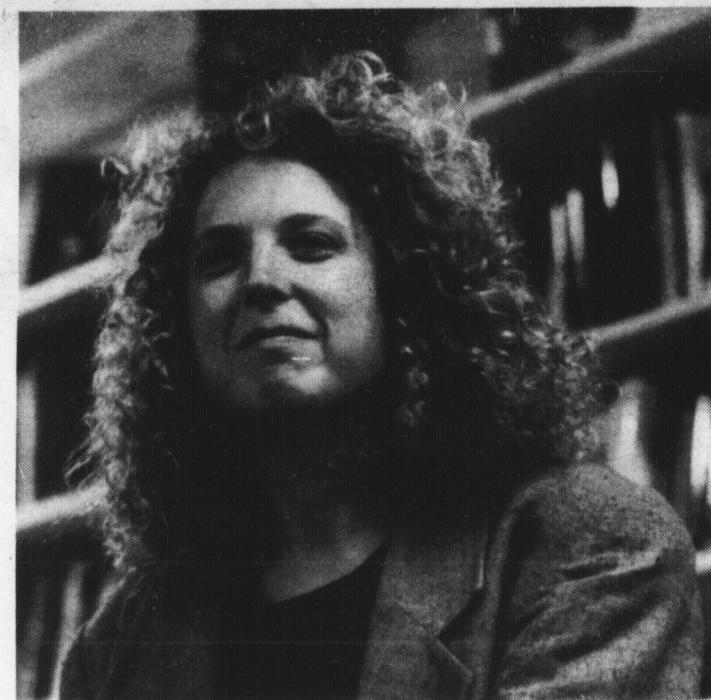
"A little voice in me said, 'Ooh, maybe Jesse's right. I really don't want to see this stuff!'"

She said that in an effort not to exploit the issue, the editorial staff had a difficult time deciding which Mapplethorpe photos to include in the August edition of *Mother Jones*.

She said extreme images would "sensationalize" the work, while "inoffensive" images "wouldn't show the controversy."

Editor Doug Foster said he was not surprised when two dozen readers cancelled their subscription to the magazine as a result of the Mapplethorpe nude in the current issue.

Smith said he had seen only a couple notices posted in San Francisco performance spaces such as The Lab urging people to write to their congressional representatives.



Peggy Orenstein, managing editor of *Mother Jones* magazine. (Photo: Phyllis Christopher)

About 20 Bay Area agencies belonging to a small press publishers group have sent an "Open Letter to Representatives in Congress" criticizing recent censorship, according to Kay Griffen, a member of the publicity board for the San Francisco Arts Democratic Club.

Approved last month, the letter reads, "We most strongly oppose the redefinition the Helms Amendment (has had) on the NEA's original mission."

Griffen said she was unaware of other efforts to halt "a pervasive pattern of censorship." ▼

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Dallas Police: Bestiality Better than Gay Sex

by Rex Wockner

If you want to be a police officer in Dallas you "must not admit [to] nor have engaged in deviate sexual intercourse [or] sexual contact with a member of the same sex since age 15."

If, however, your particular youthful indiscretion was bestiality rather than homosexuality, then that's a different matter. In this case, you "must not admit [to] nor have engaged in deviate sexual intercourse [or] sexual contact... with any animal or fowl since age 17!"

A copy of the Dallas Police Department hiring policies found its way into the hands of the Dallas Gay Alliance last week. DGA officers were livid.

"Chicken-fuckers and sheep-sleepers are allowed!" a horrified William Waybourn, president of the Alliance, exclaimed. "It's obviously an accommodation to all the farmboys in Texas. To think

that we're only 10 years away from the 21st century and people who sleep with animals get better treatment than gays, Dallas is synonymous with Dark Ages!"

"It's just sick!" key DGA activist John Thomas added.

"Texas is predominantly a rural state, and Texans are predominantly ignorant about sexual relationships. So, they really are more comfortable with the idea of sex with animals and fowl than with their own sexual desires for someone of the same sex."

Thomas and three other local activists—angered by the guidelines, which came to light after the police recently rejected an open lesbian applicant—have decided to go head-to-head with the Dallas Police Department.

They recently realized, they say, that their life's ambition is to serve their fellow citizens as officers of the peace. They have fill-

ed out applications to work as cops.

If it weren't for the homosexual exclusion, the Dallas Police Department would probably be happy about this. They desperately need 83 new officers by Sept. 1.

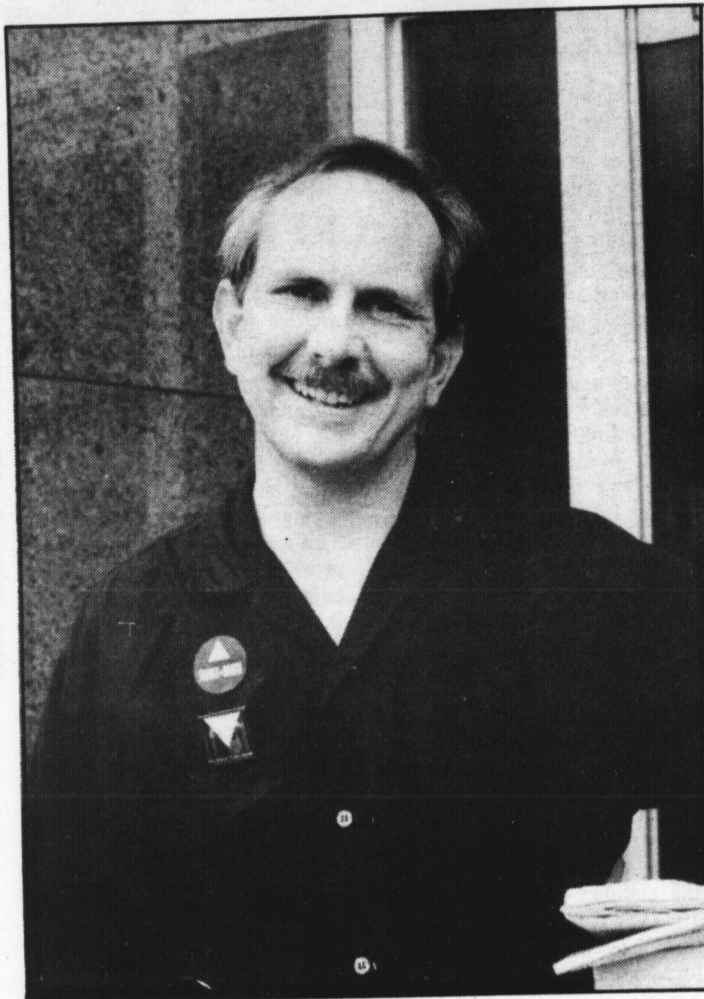
But police say their anti-gay policy will stand as long as Thomas, B.J. Anderson, Don Herve, Dan Sopko and all other practicing homosexuals in Texas continue breaking the law.

Law-breakers, of course, are prohibited from being police officers. And Section 21.06 of the Texas Penal Code defines homosexual sex as "deviate sexual behavior, a Class C misdemeanor punishable by fines up to \$200."

DGA officers hope the new publicity surrounding the "better-a-chicken-than-a-cock" policy will bolster an on-going legal attempt to overturn Section 21.06.

"Even though it's not enforced," Thomas said, "we can at least show that they use it."

Many major American cities recruit gay men and lesbians for police jobs by going into the gay community. In Philadelphia last month police officials set up a recruitment table inside Giovanni's Room, the city's gay/lesbian bookstore.



The Dallas Gay Association's William Waybourn.

After 3-Year Delay, HHS Forbids Firing

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has ruled against the termination of an Orlando, Fla., surgical technician, James Kautz, by Humana Hospital Lucerne because he tested HIV-positive. The ruling requires the hospital to reimburse Kautz for all lost wages and employee benefits and to revise its infection control and employment policies to prohibit discrimination against employees with AIDS and ARC.

Filed with HHS in September of 1986, the administrative complaint took attorney Benjamin Schatz, director of National Gay Rights Advocates' AIDS Civil Rights Project, to the Presidential AIDS Commission to protest the government's extraordinary delay in reaching a decision. Schatz said, "I am delighted that the department has upheld the right of HIV-positive health care workers to be free of employment discrimination. However, I am appalled that the department sat

on this case for three years. People with AIDS-related complaints cannot afford to wait while HHS officials debate the political implications of upholding the law."

Jean O'Leary, executive director of NGRA, said, "AIDS-related discrimination complaints must be determined swiftly or justice is not being served. The culprit in this case was not only Humana Hospital but a sluggish and insensitive Department of Health and Human Services, which delayed this important civil rights decision for nearly three years."

Acting against the advice of its own medical personnel, Humana Hospital placed James Kautz on involuntary suspension after learning of his HIV-positive status from his personal physician. NGRA is presently involved in a lawsuit against the physician, Herminio Orizondo M.D. for breach of confidentiality.

Kautz, who is in good health, is presently working as a surgical technician in San Francisco. ▼

Benefits

(Continued from page 18)

understand them.

Pre-existing conditions are a plan provision which affect coverage for medical conditions that existed before the insurance was effective. If you have worked for your employer for less than a year, it is important to read and understand this part of your employee-benefit booklet.

The fact is that employee benefit plan contracts are complex and tricky, even to people who work in the field of employee benefits. It is very unlikely that you are going to be able to buy health insurance after an AIDS or ARC diagnosis. So make sure

you research your plan. Your existing benefits at the time of diagnosis, in most cases, are your last chance for medical-insurance benefits. Don't be surprised if the person who handles your benefits at work can't answer your questions. This is an area of insurance that you normally don't deal with unless you are disabled. But if you know the questions to ask, the benefits person can find out the answers for you.

The important thing to remember is that the time to find out how your plan operates if an employee is disabled is before you take any action to terminate employment. Many people with AIDS have lost benefits because they didn't think about this until after they were no longer eligible for their benefits. ▼

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS



Women's Weekend

Relaxing poolside at The Woods in Guerneville during a past Women's Weekend. The next Women's Weekend is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 29-Sunday, Oct. 1. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Alameda County Union Adds Partners Benefits to Contract

by Keith Clark

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors has agreed to a contract proposal from Service Employees International Union (SEIU) locals that would include bereavement leave for straight and gay unmarried union members. The SEIU rank and file approved the new portion of the contract proposal with the county on September 11. It represents the first contractual recognition by Alameda County of the domestic partnership concept.

Supervisor Warren Widener said, "I want to emphasize that we've accepted this [domestic partner bereavement leave] as a civil rights issue. The dollar amount involved in bereavement leave is trivial, but as a matter of principle it's an important step in recognizing certain kinds of non-traditional relationships."

The original SEIU proposal had also called for sick leave and

health insurance benefits for union members in domestic partnerships comparable to those married county workers now receive. But SEIU negotiators said those added benefits had been traded off in negotiations with the county for broader comparable worth pay equity arrangements, the other major contract proposal SEIU wanted.

The initial proposal to add domestic partner benefits to the list of SEIU issues to bring to the bargaining table came out of the local 616 lesbian/gay caucus, which Davis described as "a 'put your money where your mouth is' challenge to the union, and the SEIU responded by including it."

Following more than a month of negotiations between union and county representatives, SEIU negotiators went back with the domestic partners bereave-

ment leave proposal to the rank and file for ratification by the union membership. The proposed new contract was accepted by a 77 percent majority.

SEIU local 616 president Andrea Davis said the local's lesbian/gay caucus had lobbied extensively throughout the county to get support for the domestic partners benefit. "We lobbied people in the community for this proposal," Davis said. "It's a victory for the whole community, not just a labor victory." According to Davis, one of the supporters of the new benefit was San Francisco Board of Supervisors President Harry Britt, who telephoned Supervisor Widener to express his support of the domestic partners proposal.

Davis said the new benefit will require county workers in domestic partnerships to register their relationship through the county in order to be eligible for the new benefit.

Widener said the bereavement leave proposal was a "done deal" which the supervisors had already accepted in executive session and which now only requires a formal vote by the supervisors when the exact language of the contract comes up later this month on the board's agenda. ▼

Station Aims AIDS Programs Aimed at Young People

by Keith Clark

KTVU-TV (Channel 2) in Oakland broadcast two early-morning programs about AIDS aimed at younger TV viewers on Saturday, September 16. "Thumbs Up For Kids," which aired at 8:30 a.m., was written, produced and hosted by Ruby Petersen, known to kids as Ms Nancy of "Romper Room and Friends." The program is aimed at children ages 3 through 8 and their parents. The second program, "Secrets," aired at 7:30 a.m. and is aimed at teen-agers. It was produced in conjunction with Kaiser Permanente and has been shown in a number of high schools in the Bay Area.

In "Thumbs Up," Petersen leads youngsters in songs and

dances about hygiene. "The program doesn't talk about condoms. This is hardly the audience for that," Petersen said. "We talk about keeping clean and protecting your body." In one segment, for example, Petersen dips her hand into flour and handles a black balloon. By passing the balloon on to the children, Petersen says, the segment helps illustrate how germs can be passed from person to person. Petersen and three youngsters sing an up-tempo song, "Wash Your Hands, Kill the Germs," during the skit.

Petersen said she began working on "Thumbs Up" over a year ago using education guidelines (Continued on page 26)

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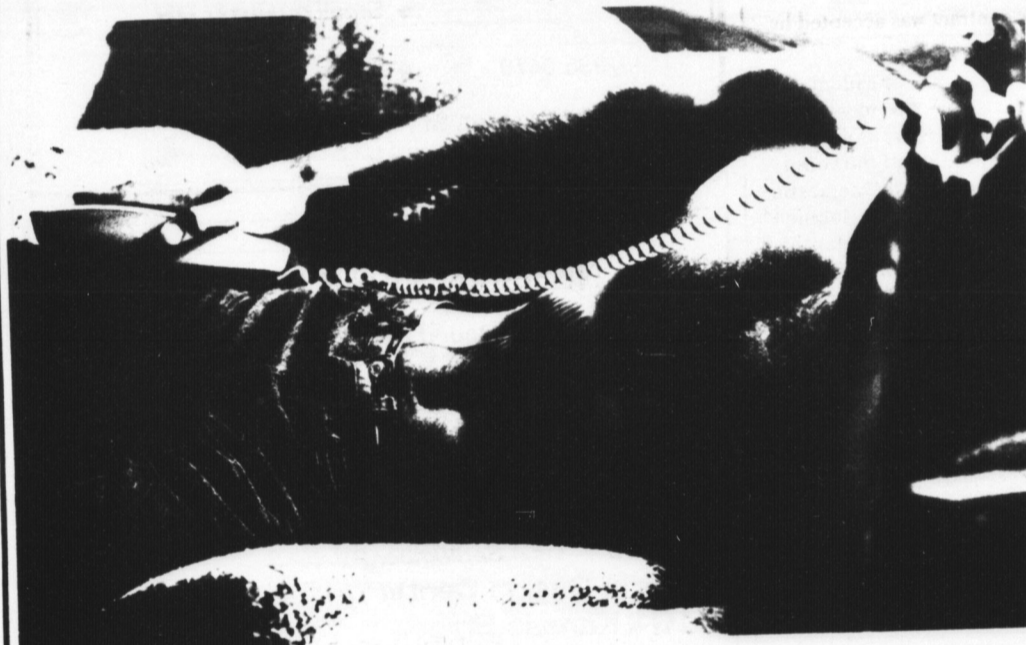
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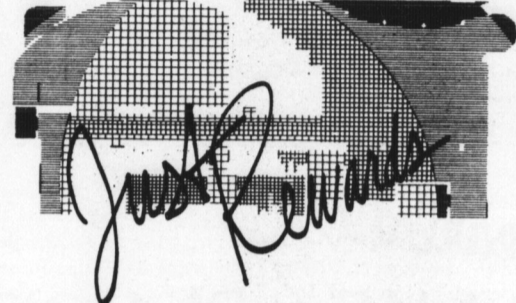
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Nez Pas

Imperial Star Empire

Monarchical Aspirants
(A "Trumpet" Nose)

At exactly the stroke of the bewitching hour between last Friday and Saturday, Sept. 15 and 16, Imperial Star Empire made public the names of the candidates for Emperor and Empress XI, and hopefuls to the Board of Directors.

Running for the august title of ISE Emperor Eleven are the renowned Michael Miller and the acclaimed David Murray.

Competing for the stately title of ISE Empress Eleven are non other than that temptress Trampolina Lopes, the mischievous Manuel Oliver, and the tireless Miss Timmi Ryan.

It has been quite a few years since there has been this kind of slate. All too frequently in the past there was no questions as to who would be Emperor, and the contest for Empress wasn't, because it was always seemingly a shoo-in. It will be rather refreshing to witness some honest-to-goodness campaigning for a change.

There are three hopefuls for the Board of Directors of Imperial Star Empire. They are: Greg Gist, Count to Court of Fire and Ice; C.J. Stoyka, Imperial Guard to Empress X Fina; and Paul Vierra, Emperor VII. I was told that these three will be elected by a Yes/No vote, with the one receiving the highest number of yes's will be Chairman of the Board.

The Kick-Off Parties started last weekend at the Town and Country and continued to south county at Big Mama's. Just a few of the other parties in the works are: Miss Timmi's Champagne soiree this Thursday, Sept. 21; and Trampolina's titillation on Friday, Sept. 22. Both of these will be at the Town and Country.

Don't forget: *In-Town Show/Imperial Roast* hosted by Empress V Cha Cha and Empress VII Johnny, at Big Mama's on Thursday, Sept. 28, starting at 8 p.m.; *Out-of-Town Show* hosted by Imperial Command Performer Morgan, Hyatt International, Oakland Rooms A and B. Doors open at 8 p.m., and there is an \$8 admission fee.

Watch the bulletin boards and advertising spots at your favorite watering holes for many more functions at various and sundry establishments. Egads! There are only eight days left for campaigning!

You can look forward to seeing and meeting up close and personal all the candidates at the ISE Booth, People for People Picnic, Sunday, Sept. 24, on the grounds of Fairmont Hospital.

Canescent Equus
(A "Heralding" Nose)

Speaking of P/P Picnic, look for a fantastic booth from the White Horse! Daddy David and the clientele are quite eager to get back into the "swing of things," and the picnic is just the beginning!

The White Horse now features Tuesday Night Country/Western Beer Busts, with five bucks buying all the draft beer you can consume.

Thursday through Sunday nights, dance to the favorite selections from WHDJ (sounds like an eastern radio station, but in reality it simply means White Horse Disc Jockey!), from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Gallimaufry
(A "Mish-Mash" Nose)

The community was shocked



Garage Sale
Female choristers draw attention to the finer points of a recent garage sale for the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco.
(Photo: Rink)

Programs
(Continued from page 25)

from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and the American Academy of Pediatrics. The emphasis in the program, Petersen said, is on reassuring young kids that they are not at risk for AIDS.

During one portion of the program, Petersen introduces 6-year-old Brendan O'Rourke of San Francisco and explains that he contracted AIDS several years ago following a blood transfusion. Now, Petersen explains, doctors screen blood for AIDS to prevent transmission that way. She also explains that other kids can't get AIDS from young O'Rourke because the virus "is inside his body. It can't live outside the body."

The program aimed at teens, "Secrets," consists of several true stories dramatized by actors and is followed by a question-and-answer period during which the actors discuss audience questions about AIDS.

"Secrets" producer-director Sabrina Klein said, "Teen-agers know most of the facts about how you do get AIDS. What many of them don't know is how you don't get it. Some still think it's spread by toilet seats or mosquitoes or by kissing."



Threat of Violence
A copy of a flyer that was found recently in the Haight district.

Legislature Adjourns Without More AZT Funds

As the Legislature adjourned for the year Saturday, an agreement that included additional funds for subsidizing AZT and other drugs collapsed.

In signing the 1989-90 budget in July, Gov. George Deukmejian set aside \$157 million to be negotiated with the Legislature. The final product, contained in AB 250 by Assembly Ways and Means Chair John Vasconcellos, D-San Jose, included \$5.7 million for AIDS, \$4.9 million of which was earmarked for early intervention and drug subsidies.

In a convoluted agreement, AB 250 was held hostage until Assembly Republicans agreed to support a \$25 million family planning budget restoration. In turn, the governor asked the Republicans not to support family planning until the Assembly Democrats agreed to pass a bill permitting businesses to subcontract labor to prisons.

Unwavering opposition from the California Labor Federation resulted in an impasse on the prison bill, thereby stalling every other piece of the package.

LIFE AIDS Lobby Executive Director Rand Martin indicated that the prison impasse was too big for the combined lobbying efforts of health care and family planning organizations.

"We were the victims of a power play between the governor, the Assembly leadership and organized labor."

Martin did note that the administration recognized the need to add funds for drug subsidies.

Frisch



Teacher with AIDS Sentenced In Sexual Assault Case

by Keith Clark

A former schoolteacher diagnosed with AIDS was sentenced in Seattle Sept. 1 to a six-month prison term and two-year psychiatric treatment program after pleading guilty to charges that he raped and sexually molested one of his students after being diagnosed with AIDS.

The teen-age boy, now 16 years old, had begged the sentencing judge to give the former teacher the severest sentence possible. "I really don't want anybody else to go through this," the boy told the court. "It just is hellish. If you let him go, he'll do the same thing again. He'll do it more cleverly. You won't catch him, maybe." The boy's identity is being protected by the court because of his age.

Superior Court Judge Charles Johnson handed down the sentence against David Adhloch, age 29, after the former private school teacher pleaded guilty to the charges earlier in August. Judge Johnson emphasized that he was limited by a special sentencing law for sex offenders that stresses psychiatric treatment rather than prison sentencing. Johnson gave Adhloch six months in jail and ordered him to complete the treatment program, which includes intensive therapy for sexual deviance.


Adhloch pleaded guilty to single counts of third-degree statutory rape and third-degree child molestation for sexual contacts he had with a youth shortly before and after the boy's 15th birthday.

The offenses occurred last spring and summer while Adhloch was a teacher at the private Northwest School here. He resigned when confronted with the accusations.

Adhloch, who had taught dance and math at the school since 1985, was stricken with AIDS a year and a half ago. He was hospitalized in late 1987 for problems related to the disease. When prosecutors filed charges against Adhloch last May they accused him of having oral sex with the youth, who was staying overnight at the teacher's home after the two attended a festival. No protective measures were taken during the sexual contact, prosecutors said in an affidavit filed with the charges.

In pleading guilty, Adhloch said he took precautions that would have minimized the risk of the youth becoming infected with the HIV virus.

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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

FOLSOM

'Hot Six in the Big City'

by Dennis McMillan

Sunday, Sept. 24 at 11 a.m. the sixth annual Folsom Street Fair once again opens its studded leather portals for "Hot Six in the Big City." One of the city's biggest block parties—roping off Folsom between 7th and 11th streets—and purportedly among the third largest drawing events in San Francisco, last year's fair drew 200,000.

Not only will there be exotic erotic foods and butch beer and nelly blender drinkers, but nearly 100 booths will offer merchandise from the brazen (genitalia jewelry and leather paraphernalia) to the bland (ceramics and souvenirs) and everything in between (fair T-shirts and buttons).

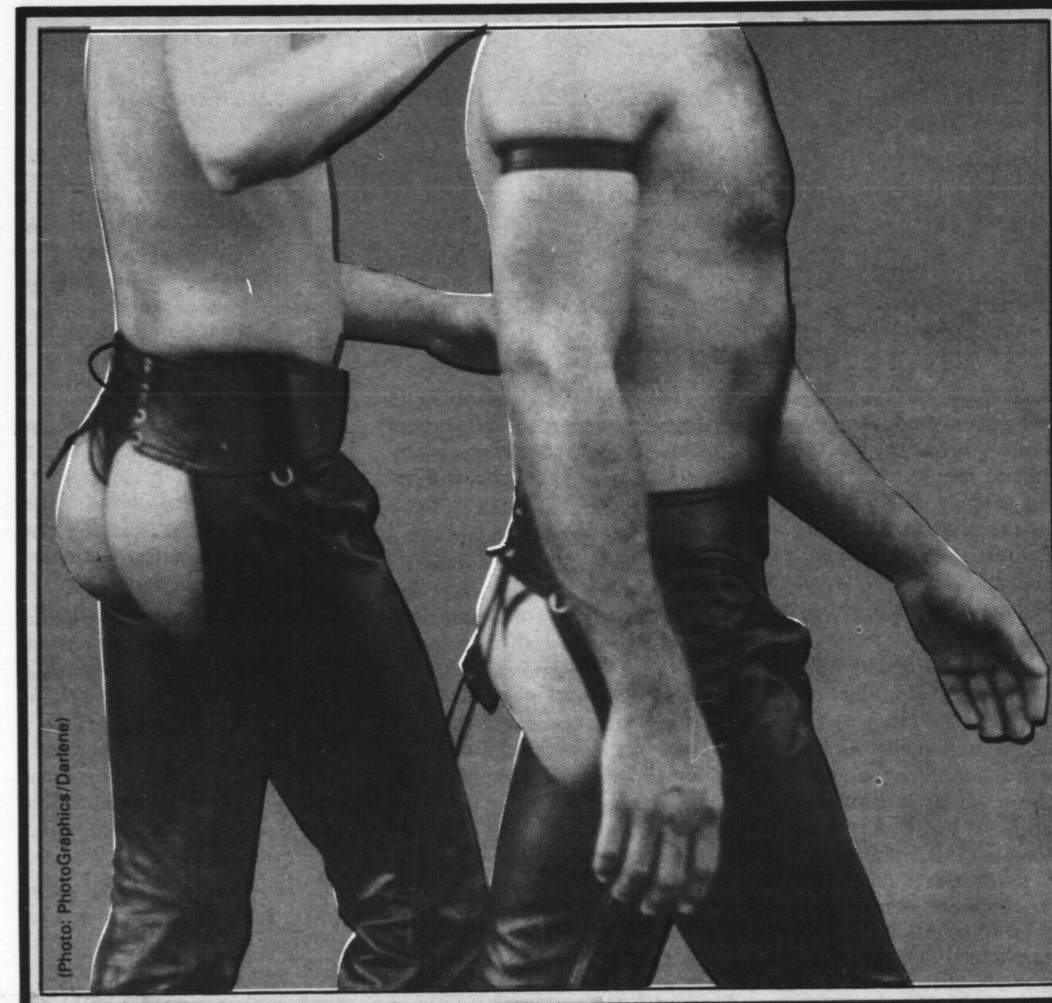
You can visit the fair mascot, a giant lounge lizard, Megahood, or just ogle the pretty men and women all dressed in leather.

Entertainment this year will be available at both ends (top and bottom) of the fair. Heading the 7th Street stage from noon to 6 p.m. will be mixtress Page Hodel of Live 105 radio fame and current R&B funk spinner at The Box nightclub.

For the sixth year in a row, loyal Folsom-booster and disco queen Viola Wills will bring her high energy hits such as "Stormy Weather" and "Up on the Roof" to 7th Street.

Those Country Western two-steppin' Saddletramps, having tramped all over California and Nevada and stomped up many a fundraiser, will contribute their precision cowboy style to the leathermania.

Singer/keyboardist/percussionist Joyelle Lewis of N' Orleans will serve up her creole style soft funk with a little tabasco sauce on the side. Fresh from the video "She's Outta Control," there



simply will be no controlling her Joy.

Hosting the 11th Street stage will be production manager Gary Walker, who has put on many a wild production in his time. He will feature famous comics Marga Gomez, Danny Williams and Tom Ammiano.

Gomez, having opened for k.d. lang and Los Lobos, and also having worked the prestigious Black and White Ball stage and In Concert Against AIDS, not to mention various spots on KQED-TV,

has the credentials to crack up any audience.

Williams is equally qualified to whip the crowd into uncontrolled laughter. He was recently given the John L. Wasserman Award by the San Francisco Council on Entertainment for AIDS community service; he is Gold Awards outstanding male comic and outstanding entertainer of the year. And he still manages to throw water weekly on cute boys in jockey shorts contests.

Award-winning comic Tom Ammiano, self-proclaimed "Mother of Gay Comedy," will shriek and scream and cause deep pains in the sides... from laughing (and you thought it was S&M?!). Catch Mom later in the day. He's the one who doesn't need a microphone.

City Swing for the second year in a row will bring its big band sound back for more boogying, along with the fuchsia-haired chanteuse and general wild

(Continued on page 46)

Folsom Tradition— For a Day

by Dennis McMillan

Although the South of Market district, home of the annual Folsom Street Fair, is gradually gentrifying and yuppieing itself away from the good old days of hard core leathermania, there are still enough dedicated leathermen and women, as well as leather shops, to keep the tradition alive—at least for now.

The SOMA has come a long way since the inception of the leather days and the Tool Box Bar of the early '60s. The Tool Box paved the way for the original Stud and Febe's in 1966 (the former having "moved on up" and the latter having died).

Then came the Ramrod in 1968, and Ambush and Bootcamp in the early '70s, which have since gone the way of the latter '70s bars, Arena, Black and Blue, Chaps, Headquarters, Stables and the Trench... all belly up, and I don't mean being a bottom.

The Eagle has somehow survived along with others, which have learned to adapt. Case in point, the Watering Hole, which moved from its sleazy origins famed for the human urinals in the pre-AIDS days and has now relocated into classier surroundings.

The Stud has become less bisexual raunchy and more asexual guppy.

(Continued on page 46)

'Mother, Mother'

AIDS and Rifts Within the Family

by Daniel Mangin

At the beginning of *Mother, Mother*, Jeff, a young man whose lover has just died of AIDS, shows his lover's mother the quilt he's made commemorating her son's life. In the early stages of AIDS himself, he asks if she'll make one for him when he dies, but she tells him she won't. "You have a mother," she says.

Jeff does have a mother, or, as he describes her, "a woman who gave birth to me," but they've been estranged for years because she believes his homosexuality destroyed her family. *Mother, Mother* follows the road to reconciliation for Jeff and his mother, played by John Dye and Polly Bergen. Piper Laurie appears briefly as the lover's understanding mother.

Mother, Mother was directed by Micki Dickoff, whose 1987 documentary *Too Little, Too Late* focused on the families and friends of people with AIDS. In an interview earlier this week, Dickoff said that one of the things that shocked her the most while making the documentary was how frequently she heard about people with AIDS being rejected by their families. *Mother, Mother*, subtitled, "There are No Second Chances," grew out of the stories the director heard.

Dickoff made *Mother, Mother* as a fundraising tool for AIDS organizations. The film has played already in Boston and Palm Springs. Its San Francisco premiere takes place Thursday, Sept. 28, at the Palace of Fine

(Continued on page 42)



Polly Bergen, Piper Laurie, John Dye and Bess Armstrong in *Mother, Mother*

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

Lesbian Magazine Celebrates

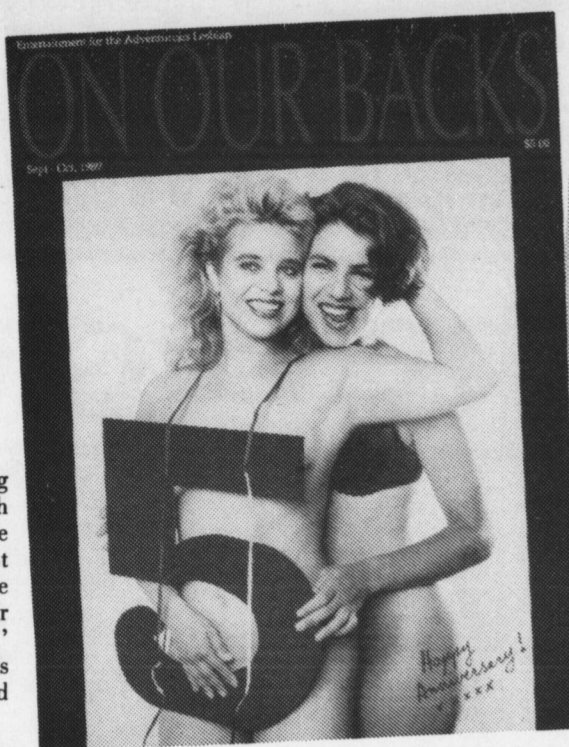
by Noreen C. Barnes

On *Our Backs* is celebrating its fifth anniversary with the publication of the September issue. In the first publication in summer 1984, the magazine proclaimed that year "the year of the lustful lesbian" and offered it "toward the goals of sexual freedom, respect and empowerment for lesbians."

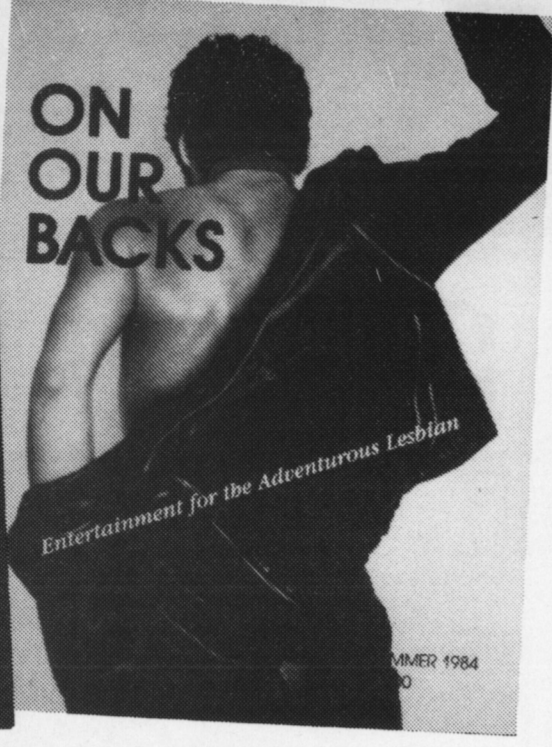
In this current issue, publishers Debi Sundahl and Nan Kinney write:

"*Our Backs* was the very first lesbian sex magazine made for a lesbian audience. We have accomplished many firsts, and have seen, in a short period of time, the influence of our endeavors. . . . The pinnacle of our accomplishments came last month when Susie Bright, our editor, gave her historic lecture on lesbian sexual images from the '60s, '70s and '80s at the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. . . . When Susie received a standing ovation, we knew we had indeed accomplished our goals: to see lesbian erotica recognized as a powerful and liberating expression of our culture."

They cite, among their accomplishments: "the creation of



On *Our Backs* today, left, and the first issue in 1984.



a lesbian market and distribution network; the production of a consistent, quality bi-monthly publication; the development and support of lesbian artists; and the building of a small cadre of advertisers making quality sex products, who are willing to gear their ads to speak directly to lesbian needs."

The magazine, with its expansion into video production with Fatale Video (also as part of Blush Entertainment Group), has been a pioneer in the changes in "sexual images controlled by decades of men" and the very act of women finally creating erotic materials is, as Sundahl and Kinney comment, "nothing if not autonomous, radical and feminist."

For the 1990s, they anticipate that "lesbian sex will influence in even greater degrees, mainstream sexual behavior and imagery."

In an interview, Bright cited the refusal of some women's bookstores to carry the magazine as an example of not providing services to the lesbian community, nor of acknowledging the diversity of that community. This censorship has, among other bad business decisions, affected the survival of some of these stores. In contrast, the success of gay and lesbian publishing in general has expanded far beyond the gay/lesbian and women's bookstores, and stores such as Crown Books on Castro are now stocking *Our Backs*.

In some parts of the country, Bright notes, gay and lesbian publishing of any kind is simply unknown, effectively blocked out, and ways to break through the barriers to wider distribution created by anti-gay and anti-sex forces need to be found.

What she finds curious is the lack of realization on the part of some women that if "we hadn't been revolutionary feminists, we wouldn't have started *Our Backs*." Sexual freedom, contends Bright, is as important a priority for women as abortion rights and equal pay for equal work.

"We are all part of the same movement. What we did was to make a break with the closet cases, to initiate a lesbian effort that was not exclusionary in terms of sexuality. We opened the box of women's sexual liberation," and with this territory has come a responsibility on the part of the magazine.

Our Backs has, within the sex industry, "shown other magazines what can be done, that political and artistic content can be mixed. Sex is demystified, and we talk about everything from lesbian history and style, to safe sex, sex toys, the G-spot and female ejaculation."

Sex education has been an important function of the magazine, particularly because women have had little, if any, access to sexual materials and information. Bright also believes that it provides positive role models for heterosexual women as well, as there is virtually nothing published for them.

Bright adds, "We are showing women how to do it, while promoting lesbian sexuality."

Our Backs will continue to play an educational role, promoting positive and diverse sexuality.

Our Backs continues to explore a number of issues of sexuality with which women have to contend. Butch/femme, for example, "opens up the question of masculinity for women," and S/M's power dynamics is another way in which Bright notes "we are breaking the chains of feminine sexual scripting. . . . we are taking over all kinds of territory."

As a kind of public forum for talking about sexual taboos, *Our Backs* has covered such topics as lesbians' views on gay porn, and lesbians' relationship to straight women. Bright says that "we all fantasize about each other—if you're already queer, your sexual preference doesn't run in a straight line.

Initially part of the purpose of the magazine was to encourage the erotic self-esteem of lesbians, and now that many lesbians have acquired it—and all they needed, Bright says, was someone to "give them permission"—and many younger lesbians just seem to have it (spared from the older generation's struggles with 1970s feminist struggles and splits in the women's movement)—there now is an audience of women who want more than just permission.

As Sundahl and Kinney write, "lesbians want more graphic and passionate images in their sexuality. Now we at *Our Backs* find ourselves in the interesting position of striving to keep up with that demand."

Part of that keeping up has been to increase the frequency of the magazine's publication, from four to six times a year.

Reflecting on the changes that have taken place in the past five years, Bright calls the attitude with which the debut issue was published a "precocious 'Here we are!'" that, five years later, has transformed into a more sophisticated and demanding one—and of a sense of power gained through experience and expansion in the business of sex.

"From the first," she says, "we were never defensive about what was presented and never squeamish about sexual liberation. We've raised consciousness and controversy about what can be sexy, romantic, provocative, hot. To express their sexuality, lesbians want to celebrate it—in a variety of ways. We want the rest of the world to feel our presence and get the credit we deserve from our work."

Our Backs is also responsible for being the first to publish and promote a number of erotic fiction writers—it was my introduction to Jewelle Gomez, Sarah Schulman, Joan Nestle and Pat Califia—and many have produced major works since appearing in the magazine.

(Continued on page 36)



Susie Bright

MOVIES

'Policing the Bedroom'

Art for No One's Sake

by Jeffrey Brodhead

Policing the Bedroom is promoted as a series of "British shorts on sexuality and the law." This statement is, at best, only half true. Yes, indeed, *Policing the Bedroom* is a collection of six British shorts, but only those with the most expansive imagination, or more likely, intimate knowledge of hallucinogens, could possibly say that these shorts have anything to do with sexuality and the law.

The four shorts I was able to preview, *Alfalfa*, *Illegal Tender*, *Pedagogue* and *Ballad of Reading Gaol*, were beyond abstraction; they were pointless. Whatever points the artists had were either so trite that the whole idea of spending good money on the idea is down right shameful, or so obtuse that no one but themselves could ever understand it.

Granted, I have never subscribed to the theory of "art for art's sake." The whole concept sounds too much like masturbation. . . . without the honesty. Self-gratification is fine. . . . with no pretenses. *Policing the Bedroom*, unfortunately, is very pretentious and presumes to be a lot more enlightening than it actually is. It neither challenges perspectives or is very interesting, visually.

I don't like giving a bad review. Particularly to experimental filmmakers or those with special interests, in this case the gay and lesbian community. To be fair, I have to say that I haven't seen either *Before the Act* or *Girls' Night Out*. They weren't included on my tape. Hopefully they will redeem the collection as a whole.

Certainly, *Illegal Tender* was at least visually interesting, to a point. After that the effect was monotonous. *Pedagogue* was the best of the quartet. It came closest to approaching an issue intelligibly.

Pedagogue concerns the homophobia surrounding homosexual teachers and their influence on pupils. Done in a documentary style, it points out, makes fun of the fears of straight society by "interviewing" students of gay teachers who all have suddenly gone gay. The humor is dry, the wit, caustic. Not a brilliant concept, but at least *Pedagogue* is sharp and accurate at doing what is intended.

My least favorite shorts, both directed by Richard Kwietniowski, are *Alfalfa* and *Ballad of Reading Gaol*. The premise behind *Alfalfa* is that our languages, that is, straight versus gay, are different, and therefore, never the twain shall meet. *Alfalfa* goes through the alphabet letter by letter and gives us examples of this by listing several definitions to words such as "queen," "Nancy" and "rim."

I remain unconvinced. It seems to me that straight/gay differences run deeper, unfortunately, than the venacular. Let's hope this short was a joke that I missed. Even so, it's not that funny.

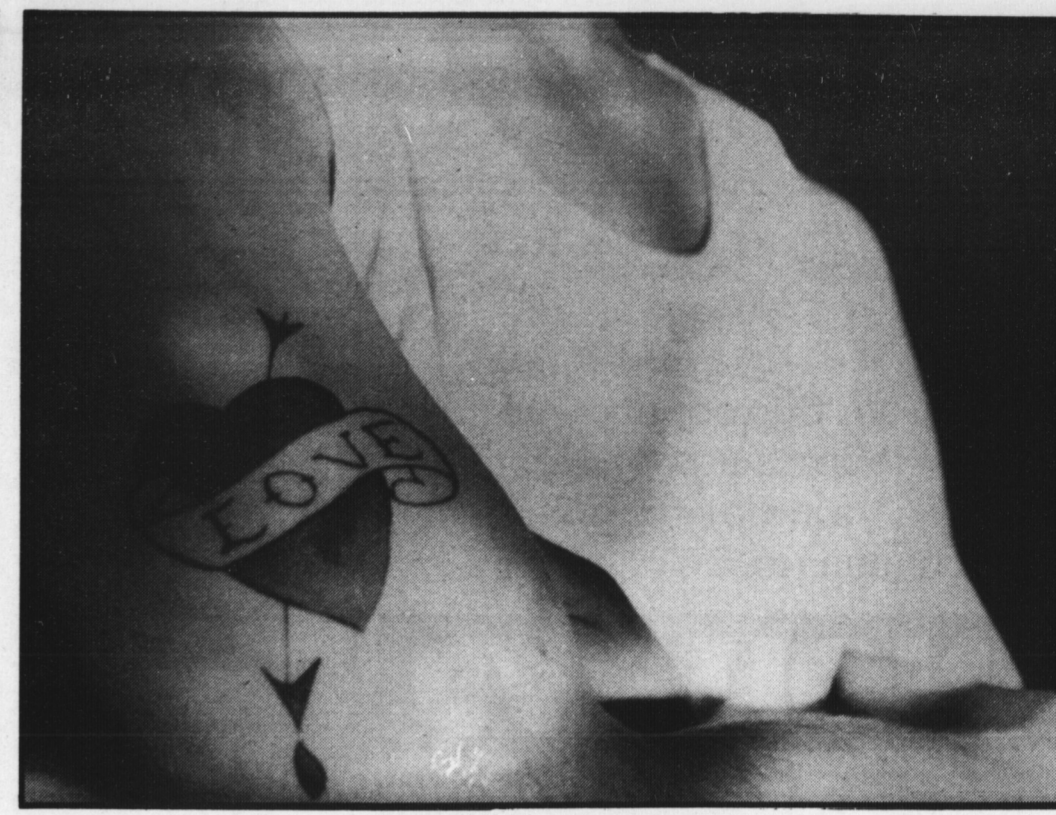
Ballad of Reading Gaol is a visualization of Oscar Wilde's defense of homosexuality: "The Love That Dare Not Speak Its Name." It strings together Wilde's words on matchbooks, T-shirts and sculpture. Some of it is

pretty erotic. All of it is very confusing.

Luckily, Quentin Crisp has a voice over at the end in which he reads the entire defense from start to finish without a flaw. That's it. Nothing more. Absolutely nothing new is brought up, nothing about the original statement clarified or enhanced by the film, so my question is, "why bother?"

Perhaps Kwietniowski's intention with *Ballad of Reading Gaol* was to show how such a simple, pure statement, as is Wilde's defense, can be so confusing to so many people. If so, I think that's a fine idea. What's wrong here then is that the visual images that he chose don't fit with the intention. They don't illustrate confusion, they distract.

Working in experimental film, especially dealing with a social taboo, is a fine and noble thing. *Policing the Bedroom* fails be-



The *Ballad of Reading Gaol*, from *Policing the Bedroom*.


cause it is too self-indulgent and the messages either unintelligible or trite. This is not to say that this should be taken as a personal failure of the artists. They have proven they understand experimental style. Now what they need is to stop being impressed with being an artist and get down

to the business of producing art. Ideas are great. Crafting them into a cohesive finished product, even better.

Policing the Bedroom will be shown at the Roxie Theatre, 3117 16th St., on Wednesday, Sept. 27 at 7 and 9:30 p.m. On Thursday,

Sept. 28, it will be shown at the Pacific Film Archive, located at 2625 Durant Ave. in Berkeley at 9 p.m. The series will be introduced with a commentary by Richard Kwietniowski, director of *Alfalfa* and *Ballad of Reading Gaol*.

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Corcoran Gallery Under Fire Over Art Censorship Flap

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON—Facing a growing crisis spawned by its cancellation of a controversial photo exhibit last June, Washington, D.C.'s Corcoran Gallery of Art is now desperately seeking to regain its credibility with the nation's arts community. The gallery's board of trustees is now reported to be considering an exhibition focusing on censorship of the arts in order to stop a hemorrhage of bad press stemming from their summer cancellation of the display.

The Corcoran crisis began last June when, citing a growing controversy on the federal funding of controversial art, the gallery cancelled a planned exhibit of photographs by the late Robert Mapplethorpe. The photo retrospective, which included a number of images with homoerotic and sadomasochistic themes among many more traditional still-lives and portraits, had been specifically singled out for criticism by Capitol Hill conservatives.

In cancelling the exhibit, Corcoran Director Christina Orr-Cahill had sought to keep the gallery out of the political debate. Now, three months later, the cancellation appears to have had exactly the opposite effect.

Irate about the cancellation, the arts community galvanized around the arts funding issue. After a month of the controversy, reactionary Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., successfully attached an amendment to the National Endowment for the Arts budget banning the funding of art which is deemed to be "obscene," "indecent" or "homoerotic."

Art activists again mobilized, staging demonstrations nationwide and setting off a flood of letters and "faxes" to Congress, demanding the deletion of the Helms amendment.

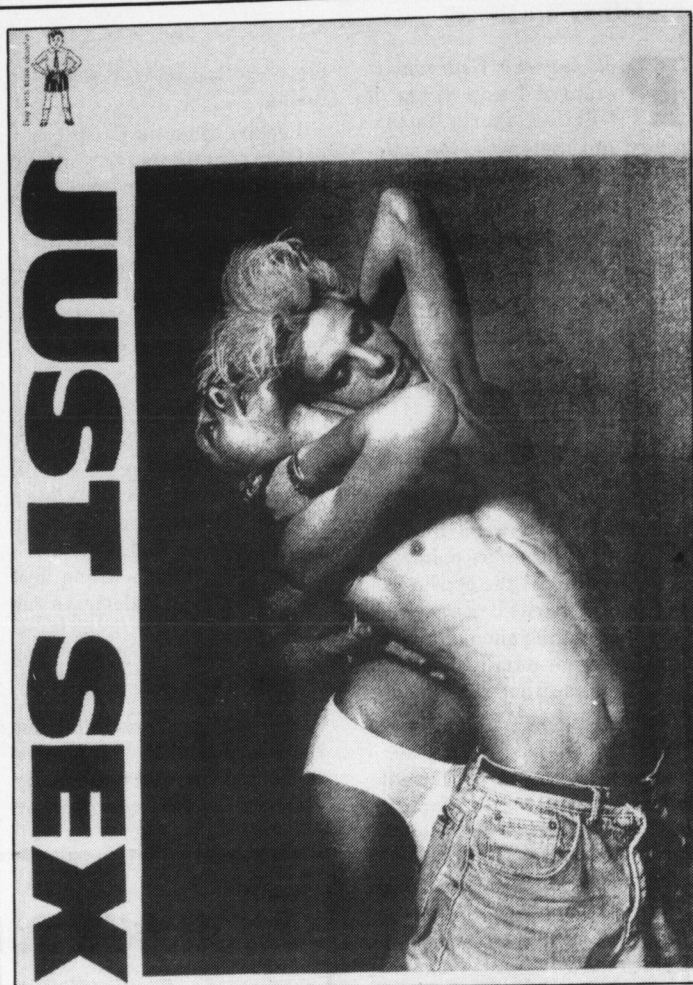
The House rejected Helms' Senate amendment on Sept. 13 by a 264-153 vote.

But while Congress postured around the funding issue, the arts community continued to target what was quickly becoming a symbol of what they called the "censorship" issue: the Corcoran.

In August gallery officials were stunned when, in a move designed to punish the gallery leaders for their cancellation of the Mapplethorpe display, artists pulled two exhibits from the gallery, leaving the Corcoran in the lurch. A third exhibit—on American and Soviet art—is also being threatened by angry artists.

A week after the announcement of the two cancellations, realist painter Lowell Nesbitt—also incensed about the Mapplethorpe cancellation—announced he was cutting the gallery out of his will. Nesbitt's move will deprive the Corcoran of up to \$1 million.

Nesbitt told *The Washington Post* he was particularly irate about a statement in the *Post* from Corcoran board Chairman David Lloyd Kreeger in cancelling the Mapplethorpe exhibit. Kreeger has told the *Post* in June that he did expect the gallery would suffer financial repercussions from the decision to cancel the Mapplethorpe display, "but not serious ones."



Boy With Arms Akimbo, a San Francisco group opposed to Helms' censorship campaign, is peppering the city with this poster as a protest.

"Clearly, the only guiding principle for the Corcoran was money," Nesbitt told the *Post*.

Nesbitt, who has no heirs, had wanted to pay back some of those that helped him early in his artistic career, and had willed 45 percent of his estate to the Corcoran, 45 percent to the Baltimore Museum of Art and 10 percent to Temple University, where he received his arts training. In response to the Mapplethorpe cancellation, however, he had his will adapted to write out the Corcoran and will leave more to the other two institutions.

Although Corcoran board members have refused to comment on the controversy, the gallery curators have now

reportedly proposed an exhibit they hope will put an end to the escalating controversy—an exhibit on censorship in the arts.

Although the proposal has not been formally announced, a number of the six present at a closed meeting of Corcoran exhibition committee members have gone public with the news of the proposition. Corcoran board members have been unavailable for comment on the proposed display.

The *Post* has revealed that, according to unnamed sources, the exhibit is being coordinated with a New York arts collective called Group Material, which coordinates exhibits that deal with arts and politics.

LA-Based Dance Co. to Perform

Loretta Livingston & Dancers, a Los Angeles-based contemporary dance company, will perform for the first time in San Francisco on Sept. 26-28 at New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. at 8 p.m.

The program will include two new works by Livingston premiered in June in Los Angeles. "Don't Fall, Pomegranate" was called by the *Los Angeles Times* an "extraordinary new solo" for Livingston, to a score by Los Angeles composer Carl Stone. "Before the Burning" is a quartet for the company to Prokofiev's Sonata #2 in D for violin and piano.

Also on the program are Livingston's "Paper/Scissors/Rock," a duet for her and long-time partner David Plettner; and "From Apogee to Perigee," a work for all five company members to selections from Handel's Concerti Grossi, Opus 3.

Livingston formed her company in 1984 after 10 years with

the Lewitzky Dance Company. *Dance Magazine* says of Livingston's work: "...while so many choreographers revel merely in the play of creativity—innovative movement that is aesthetically pleasing and/or clever—Livingston belongs to those exceptional few (Susan Marshall and Mark Morris come to mind) who make imaginative leaps from their awareness of matters interpersonal to the dance stage" (June 1988).

David Plettner was also a member of the Lewitzky Dance Company for five years and, in addition to holding a law degree, is an arts management consultant with ARTS Inc. in Los Angeles.

Admission is \$10; \$8 Dance Bay Area members, seniors and full-time students with I.D.

For ticket information please call the box office at New Performance Gallery, 863-9834. Tickets are also available at Bass Ticket Master and STBS.

MOVIES

Chinese Films Find Receptive Reviews

by Daniel Mangin

Making American-style movies on low budgets, in Chinese, for the Asian market, is not the easiest thing to pull off, something the movies of Taiwan-born, American-educated director Fred Tan bear out.

There is a cross commercialism to the largest segment of the Chinese market that would make even *Nightmare on Elm Street* seem like an art film by comparison. Tan has waged an interesting if not always successful campaign to please his various masters, among them Chinese film-goers, Taiwanese and Hong Kong financial backers, and any American producers who might be able to extrapolate from his handling of Chinese material an ability to helm a Hollywood picture. He may be about to hit pay dirt.

As it's made the rounds of the international festival circuit, the director's latest film, *Rouge of the North*, has been well-received, and deservedly so. A richly styled work, *Rouge* is based on a novel by Eileen Chang, a popular Chinese novelist. The film tells the story of Ying-ti, an innocent woman married off to a blind, asthmatic and hunchbacked son of one of Shanghai's wealthier families, the Yaos.

When her husband, known as

Mr. 2, and his mother die, Ying-ti and her son, Yu-shi, must carry on in reduced circumstances. By the time Yu-shi is a teen-ager, Ying-ti is manipulating him much the way others have her—although because she's gotten him hooked on opium, the son isn't as upset about it as she was. Like the true soap opera it ultimately is, in *Rouge* the sins of one generation are passed onto the next, and Ying-ti arranges not one, but two marriages for Yu-shi.

What makes *Rouge* so involving is Tan's ability to render the disillusionment that slowly but surely envelops Ying-ti. We see early on how trapped she is by her poverty and her place in society as a woman. Weary of her family's attempts to marry her off, Ying-ti forsakes love for money, but this only results in a further loss of control over her life.

Tan is a devotee of Hitchcock, and although this is not a suspense film, his camera hovers over Ying-ti the way Hitchcock might, and there's something of the master's playfully grim world view to *Rouge*. The film's dramatic texture is enhanced rather than dissipated, as it might have been, by a vein of dark humor that runs through it. The members of the house of Yao engage in outlan-

(Continued on page 56)



Emily Chang and Sue Ming-Ming in Fred Tan's film *Dark Night*.

Filmmaker Fred Tan Discusses Gays, Women, Western Influence

by Daniel Mangin

When I told Fred Tan I'd decided after seeing his three films that he was basically anti-romantic, the 33-year-old director said nothing could be further from the truth.

"In fact," he laughed, "the last two films were made in Taiwan because I'd fallen in love after the first and didn't want to come back to the United States.

How much more romantic can you get?"

Tan, born in Taiwan and now a U.S. citizen, studied film at UCLA before returning to his native land to make films. He would have stayed in America, "but I didn't get any offers from Hollywood after college, so I went where I did."

Besides romance, Tan chatted

about a number of topics, including Western influences on Chinese society, women's roles in Chinese culture and the state of gay film.

Q: The protagonist in each of your films is a woman whose innocence is shattered by a combination of romantic treachery and oppressive customs. Is there

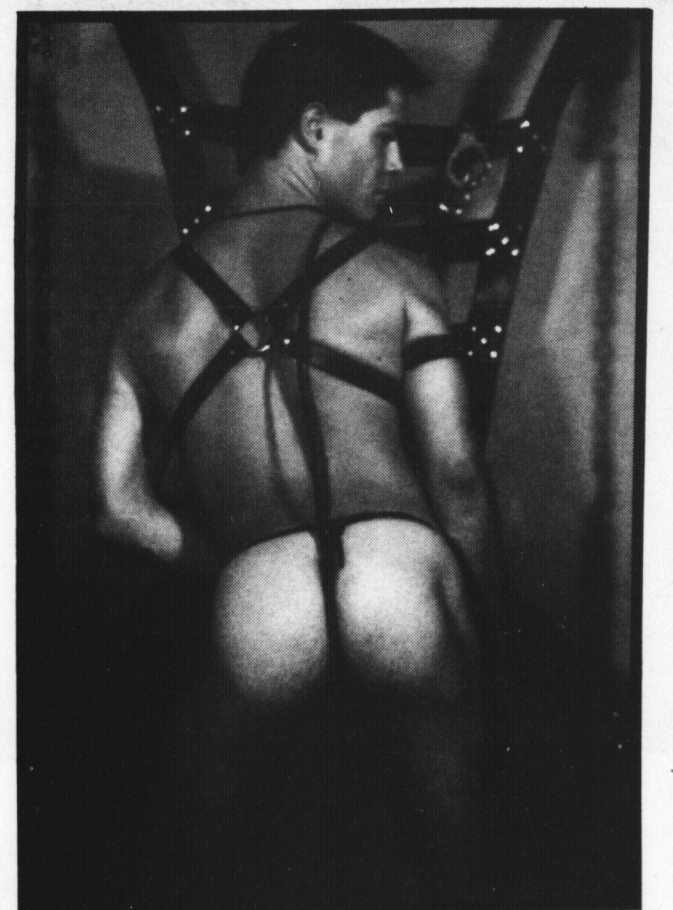
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Fancy Madonna As a Nun

by David Taylor-Wilson

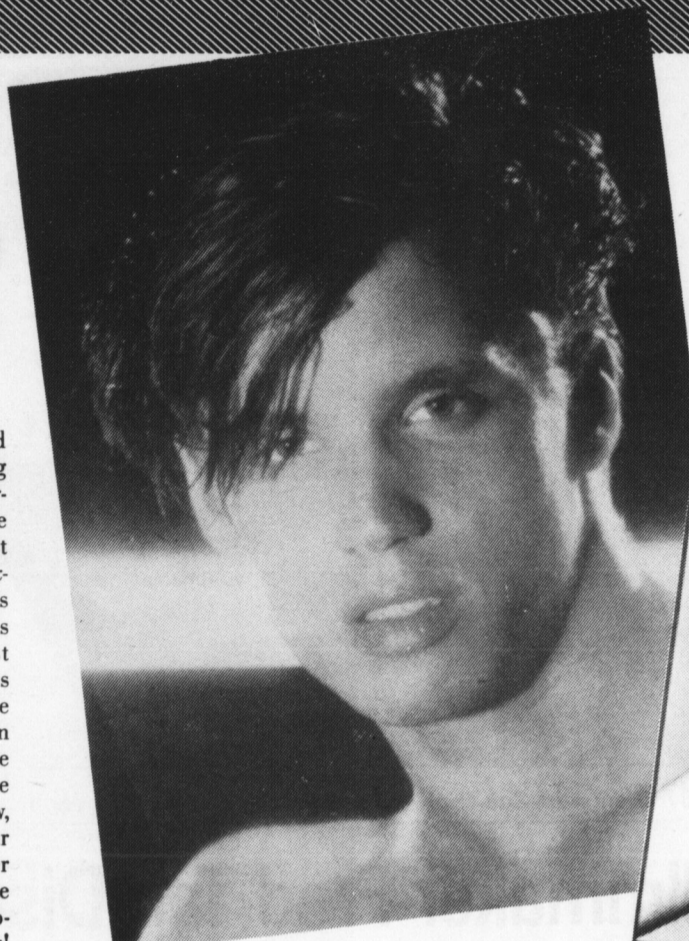
Of course *The Beat* would never stoop to printing items that are mere hearsay and through-the-grapevine rumors, but this one we just couldn't resist. The *National Examiner* has just listed its "Predictions For Fall 1989" as foreseen by parapsychologist **Emil Dumas**, and he predicts that **Madonna** will experience "a midnight visit from the Virgin Mary" that will lead her to give up her music career and become a nun! You may be laughing now, but this guy predicted last year that Cincinnati Reds manager **Pete Rose** would experience embarrassing gambling problems that would ruin his career!

Stompin' to the Beat

Michael Jackson has just signed a multiyear multimillion dollar contract with the L.A. Gear sportswear company to design and promote a line of "fashion sneakers." Reportedly, the footwear will debut this spring and be accompanied by an ad campaign featuring Jackson entitled "Unstoppable."

Video Beat

We broke the news about the Nov. 15 release of *Batman* to the



Paul "Boom Boom" Lekakis, left, and Dino.



home video market, and now we hear that *Ghostbusters II* will be released Nov. 22, also in time for the Christmas season. **Deborah Harry** has just completed lensing her new video "I Want That Man." Directing the video was **Mary Lambert**, who did the honors in last year's horror-flick *Pet Cemetery*. The best looking man in dance music today, **Dino**, was recently in Paradise Grove finishing a video for his new

release "Sunshine." The video for "Partyman," the new release by **Prince**, has also just been wrapped up and will be showing soon on a TV screen near you. His *Purpleness* is scheduled to make an appearance Sept. 24 on the 15th anniversary special of *Saturday Night Live*.

The Best Beat in Town

Congratulations to local radio station Live 105 for being nam-

ed the Best Rock Radio Station of the Year in a major radio market. The station's modern rock format was cited as being eclectically innovative in a market that is usually known for being conservative. This is a major feat of accomplishment considering the fact that last year Live 105 garnered not a single award. The award is presented each year by *Billboard* magazine, the highly respected international authori-

ty on radio, music and home entertainment. Congratulations to everyone at KITS-FM.

Tid-Beats

The Teen Brigade continues to dominate contemporary hit music. **New Kids on the Block** has been listed with two new singles this week. "Cover Girl" is the new release, while "Didn't

(Continued on page 37)

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Community Action Network News

Monday, 7:30 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30
Thursday (1st, 3rd) 6:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 6
Gay and lesbian seniors; Donna Summer, Bette Midler, Joan Rivers and the boycott of General Electric.

Outlook

Wednesday (1st, 3rd), 9 p.m., PCTV (Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda, Emeryville, El Cerrito, Richmond, Piedmont)
Thursday (2nd, 4th), 6:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 6
Thursday, 8:30 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30
Friday (2nd, 4th), 7:30 p.m., Cupertino Cable 30

Electric City TV

Sunday, 10 p.m., S.F. Viacom Cable 35
Tuesday, 10 p.m., Mountain View, Los Altos, Cupertino Cable 30
Wednesday, 8 p.m., S.F. Viacom 35
Friday, 7:30 p.m., KCAT South Bay Cable
Rainbeau; porn star Al Parker; Sister Woman; and Joseph Bean.

Frameline Presents

Monday, 8:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 25
"Finding Our Way Together" looks at a variety of support systems developed for people with AIDS.

Fruit Punch

Wednesday, 10 p.m., KPFA 94.1 FM
News, interviews, reviews.

KPIX-TV Wins Emmy Award

KPIX Channel 5 has received a National Television Arts and Sciences Emmy Award for its AIDS Lifeline campaign under the Community Service category. The honor was shared with KOMO-TV, Seattle, for its "Getting In Touch" breast cancer campaign.

AIDS Lifeline is KPIX's continuing campaign designed to bring viewers the most current information about AIDS and its prevention. The campaign began at Channel 5 in 1983 and has included numerous documentaries, news features, public service announcements and features

MUSIC

Costello Hasn't Turned Mellow

by Drew Blakeman

I've always promised myself that if I ever won the lottery, I'd hire Elvis Costello to sing at my wedding. Nothing fancy—just him and his guitar, singing his trademark bitterly touching love songs to the "dearly beloved" with a plethora of Cuisinarts and toaster ovens as a backdrop.

The odds are against me on this one (the megabucks part, anyway) so for now I'll have to settle for seeing Costello in his all-too-infrequent public performances. His current tour, his first of the states in I don't know how many years, brought him to the East Bay for two sold-out shows last weekend.

Fortunately, reports of the demise of 1977's most notorious "angry young man" have been grossly overstated. True, he's thirtysomething and married with a mortgage. Yeah, he's been writing songs with Paul McCartney. I've even heard him described as "wimpy" and "mellow." Hey! He's not 22 anymore (and neither are you, my dear, or won't be for much longer).

Costello may be older and wiser these days, but Friday's show at UC-Berkeley's Greek Theatre (he also performed Saturday at the Concord Pavilion) proved the '80s haven't dulled his edge. The slashing, sparse sound of his first few albums has been filled out through the years, but give the man credit for mastering the arts of musical arrangement and production.

The show started right on schedule, forcing latecomers to scurry into their seats as Costello launched into "Accidents Will Happen" with his six-member backing band, the Rude 5. Though a little rough at first, everyone was in a groove by the third number (a jazzy-bluesy "Clubland"), which featured an underrated-as-guitar-technician Elvis on screeching, scorching leads.

The Rude 5 (plus one) provided Elvis superb support. These multitalented musicians switched instruments as the mood of the songs dictated, adding a little horn here, a little accordion there, but always returning to a straight-ahead style featuring a standard guitar/bass/synth/percussion lineup (including former Attractions drummer Pete Thomas).

Costello next played several selections from his most recent album, *Spike*, which was recently certified as a gold record. "Let Him Dangle," a biting derision of capital punishment, slid into an extended version of "God's Comic" as a vehicle for his acerbic social commentary. He stopped in mid-song to deliver a caustic monologue, castigating TV preachers, fur-wearers, apartheid proponents, and Exxon executives among other targets.

Elvis drew laughs with his remarks about Ronald Reagan's recent brain surgery, then said that "we probably shouldn't make fun of other people's misfortune. But fuck it. After all, that's what they've been doing to us all along." He then finished the song, which features a chorus of "Now I'm dead, now I'm dead" and a horn arrangement reminiscent of a Dixieland funeral.

Costello was billed as performing "solo and with his band," so the band obliged by leaving the stage for a lemonade break. Elvis' solo tour a few years back cast his songs in an unexpectedly emotional and sincere light, and hopes were high that he would treat the crowd to an extended 1-on-6,000 exhibition of the singer-songwriter genre at its finest.

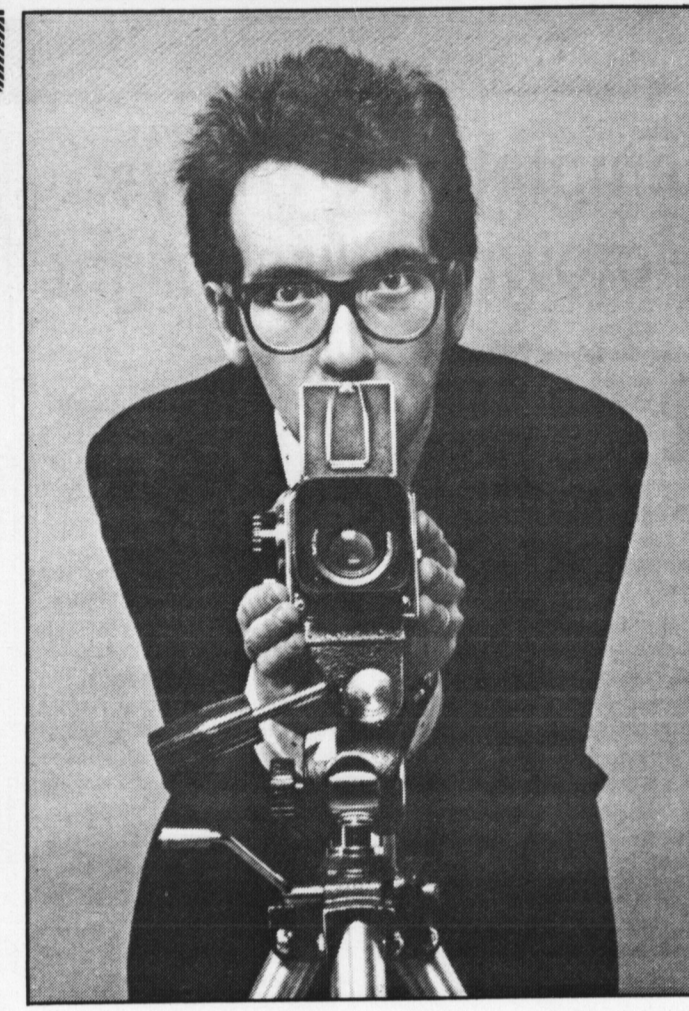
Alas, he was alone on stage for only a few acoustic numbers (among them a charmingly bittersweet "Radio Sweetheart") before being joined on a duet of "Girls Talk." The rest of the band quickly reappeared, jumping into the Dorian Gray-esque "(The Angels Wanna Wear My) Red Shoes," which replaces the portrait in the attic with flashy ruby-hued footwear.

Costello ended the 90-minute set with "Mystery Dance," a frustrated virgin's lament that

"I've tried and I've tried and I'm still mystified/I can't do it anymore and I'm not satisfied." A quick break (no milking the crowd for adulation and flicks of their Bics; he seemed as eager to get back on stage as the audience was to see him there), a quick return.

Nick Lowe, Elvis' drinking buddy and sometime producer, just happened to be on hand to lead the ensemble on his composition "(What's So Funny 'Bout) Peace, Love and Understanding" to end the first encore. The only real disappointment of the evening was Lowe's abrupt disappearance after just this one song, especially because the concert was still almost an hour away from being over.

"Veronica" was a highlight of the second encore. Costello's first U.S. Top 20 single, it is also among McCartney's best collaborations since his work with John Lennon.



Elvis Costello.

(Photo: CBS Records)

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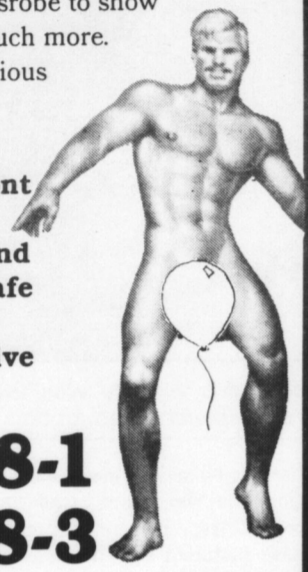
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Mr. Marcus

Welcome Mr. Drummer Fans



1988's Mr. Drummer contestants.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Within 48 hours of the publication date of this issue, a new Mr. Drummer will be selected at the Warfield Theatre. Last week, I listed all the functions that had reached my mail box before and after the contest, but needless to say, mail was delayed, press releases sent to the wrong addresses, etc., so here is a supplemental list of fun things you might want to be a part of during this week of leather pride.

And leather pride is at fever pitch already. Both the Sandmopia Store and Mercury Mail Order have sold out their Leather Pride pins. Tourists from all over the country and overseas are here already and the activities are going full blast.

Add to your already lengthy list of activities:

All this week, wear your leathers and/or your Leather Pride pin and purchase vitamins at a 10 percent discount at all Great Earth Vitamin Stores (556 Castro, 1738 Polk, 753 Clement and 2068 Chestnut). The Castro store is already decorated with the Leather Pride flag. Anything you buy over \$10 will be discounted.

Out of towners arriving at SFO are already aghast to see the Quilt panels hung throughout the whole complex. The quilt leaves for another display in Washington the first weekend of October.

Tonight, Thursday, Sept. 21, is the Fetish and Fantasy Party at the Endup.

Tomorrow night, Friday, Sept. 22, the Hun Art Show opens at the Powerhouse and Mister S Produces presents a flawless leather fashion show beginning at 2200 hours.

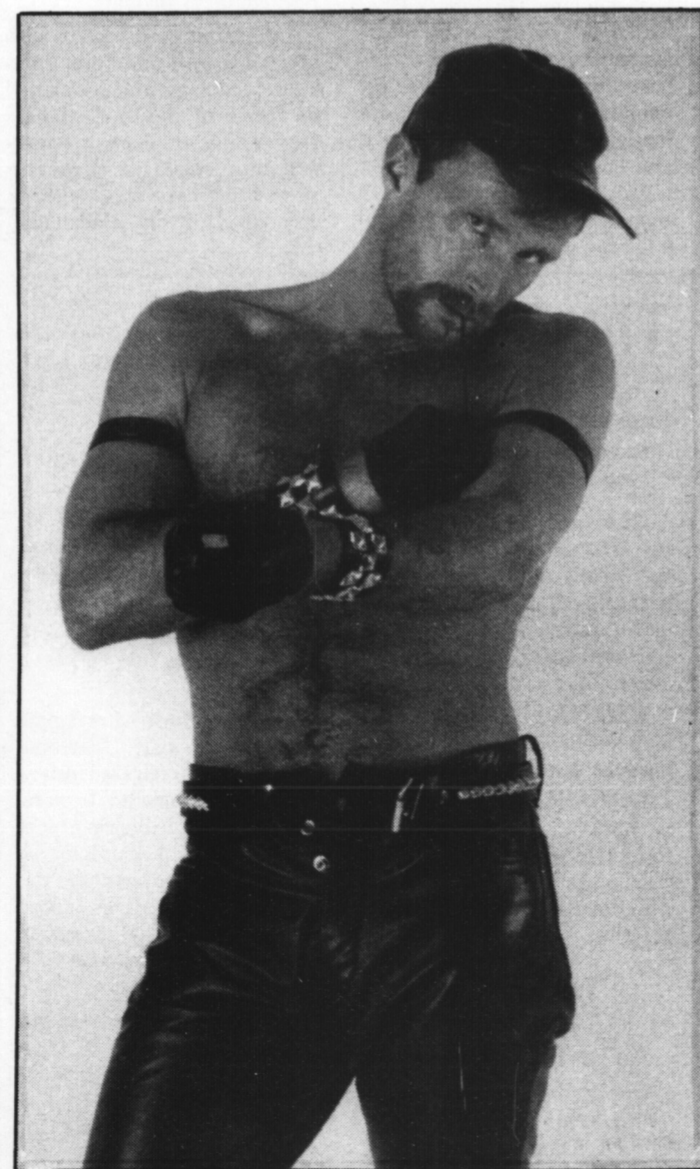
And did you know that Mister S is giving a round-trip ticket for two to Hawaii to the new Mr.

Drummer? And \$800 in custom leather to the first runner up; and \$400 in custom leathers to the second runner up?

All the regional Mr. Drummer winners will be at both parties.

Friday is the Leather Pride Dance at the Endup featuring

Viola Wills, leather fantasies and dancing galore. By the way, tickets to the Leather Pride Dance and the Mr. Drummer contest are available from BASS tickets (call 762-BASS). Mr. Leather of S.F. Peter Austin will host this dance party and the ducats are only \$10.



One of Jim Wigler's photos on display at the Eagle this week.

(Photo: Jim Wigler)



Pencil drawings by "The Hun" of Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather Mitch Davis, left, and Michael Shareck, Mr. Carolinas Drummer, on display at the Powerhouse this week.

Friday night too, the JO Buddies present their JO4Q J/O Benefit to raise money in support of Project Inform and the community-based research on Compound Q. Entry is between 2000 and 2300 and if you don't know where they meet to beat, call 543-3433. The fee is \$7.

There's a Folsom Dick Feast on Saturday night too with service beginning at 2200 and going all night. Call 863-8672 for details. BYOB, BYOF and the usual regulations apply.

The GDIs lucked out and will host the Eagle Beer Bust from 1500 to 1800 for only \$7 which includes all the beer you can drink (draft) and food! On Friday, Sept. 22, the GDI's will show the video of their run show "North to Alaska" at the Transfer on Friday beginning at 2000 hours.

Dick Manning still needs help with bar boys at the Folsom Street Fair on Sunday. If you want to contribute your time for the "cause" for a three-hour shift, call him at 864-5239. There's room for about half a dozen more volunteers.

And Sunday, of course, everything you want in a street fair will be there. In addition to all the food, games and service booths, entertainment on the Seventh Street Stage includes Nikole Rivera, the Zacharys, Saddletramps, Neon Leon, Annie B, Doc Martin, Viola Wills, Page Hodel and Joyelle Lewis. On the 11th Street Stage will be the Camp Fire Girls, Hula Sisters, Citizen Jane, Tom Ammiano, Danny Williams, Marga Gomez, City Swing, Dave Diebold and Pride and Joy—all in that order.

It should be a great weekend (it all started last night, Wednesday) and I hope you can be a part of what looks like the best Leather Pride Week ever in San Francisco!

The crown isn't even on the head of the new Mr. Drummer, and already one contestant for Intl. Mr. Leather in Chicago in May 1990 has been chosen. He will represent the Los Angeles Detour Bar and was chosen from six contestants last Saturday night, Sept. 16. The Detour was

wall-to-wall leather that night as IML '88 Mike Pereyra, IML '89 Guy Baldwin, Mr. Southern California Drummer Brian Dawson, judges all, faced the leather dudes vying for the title. Los Angeles didn't escape the wet weather that night (like we had here) so it was unbearably hot at the Detour even with four gigantic air conditioners going. When it was all over, a hunky bear-hugging type, Brian, emerged the winner. Detour owner John Bailey took it all in stride. His efficient staff handled the onslaught with flying colors. It was George Bogish's first "special event" and it was a smashing success. Zeus Studio's Mikal Bales did a great job emceeing and it was a very enthusiastic audience cheering on their favorite entry.

Immediately following his photo show at the S.F. Eagle this weekend, Jim Wigler's great collection will be on display for the Castro Street Fair next Sunday, Oct. 1, at the Castro Country Club, 4058 18th St. If you don't catch it this week at the Eagle, check it out next weekend. It is flawless!

The same night, Michael Chase presents "Reservations" at Scooters, 22 Fourth St., a dinner with dancing, entertainment and door prizes and you'll be served by Deena Jones, Doris Fish, Danny Williams, Lily Street, Stephanie Miller and Gail Wilson. When I say "served" I mean they will actually serve your meal!

Coming your way too, other activities outside the leather community include: Saturday, Sept. 28, two benefits for the AIDS Emergency Fund. I know you'll all want to help salute former AEF Chair Hank Cook at his "Hats Off To Hank" dinner at the Marines Memorial. The action will be well attended in tribute to one of the great guys in our community.

The tribute to Hank Cook begins at 1900 with cocktails and dinner at 2000. You are encouraged to wear a hat. Like George Burgess who adores boots, Hank's fetish extends to hats, caps, etc. Black tie is optional and if you need more info, call Zachary Long at 661-8290. Hope to see you all at either AEF benefit.

Saturday afternoon, Sept. 23, it's Monte Carlo Madness at the Pilsner Inn by Tom Begano for the Pilsner Penguins softball team. It's from noon to 1800 with bingo, games of chance, prizes and entertainment by the world's tallest sissy—Tatiana. For further info, call 621-7499 after 1800 hours.

The Czarina of Turk Street, Sweet Lips, is hosting a very chichi cocktail party on Saturday evening from 1730 to 1900 at the Yacht Club (2155 Polk) to raise funds for the 25th anniversary of the Imperial Court of San Francisco. Minimum donation is \$20. If anyone knows how to throw a festive cocktail party, it's the Lips!

And hurry if you want to attend the Golden Gate Guards third annual run. The theme is "Murder, We Wrote" weekend of Sept. 29-Oct. 1. The highlight of this run is what's selling the tickets: five sumptuous meals by the award-winning Irving Fleming, plus all the booze, bike and people activities, guest show and the usual amenities. There will be a Jessica Fletcher Look-Alike Contest and prizes for bike, buddy, people, campsite and costumes. You can still make it by calling the GGG Hotline: 431-9475. The run fee is \$75 and no applications will be accepted at the run! And

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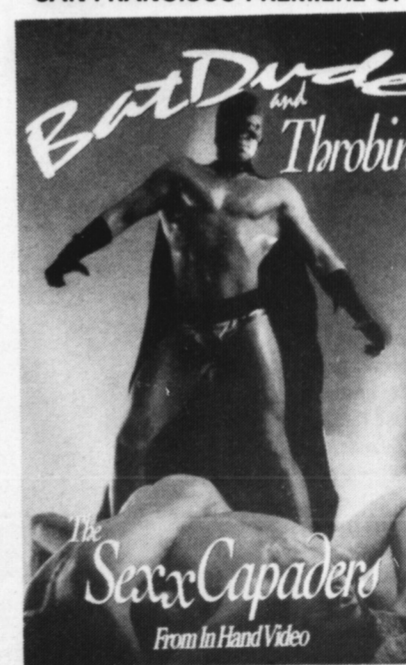
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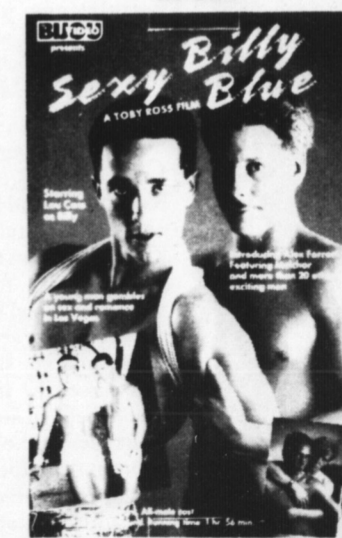
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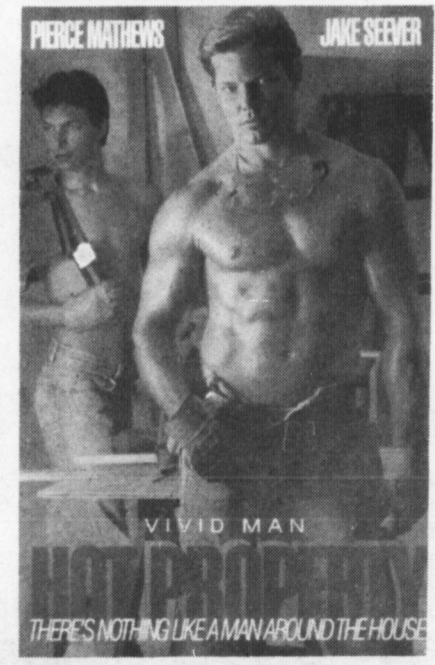
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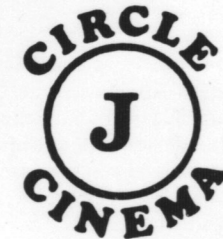
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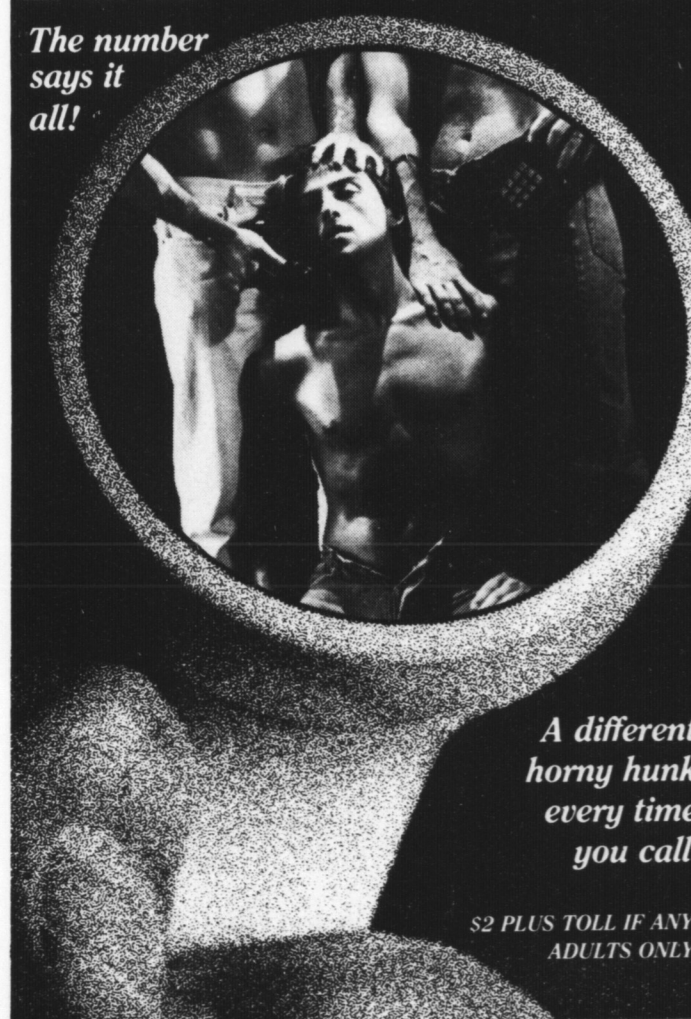
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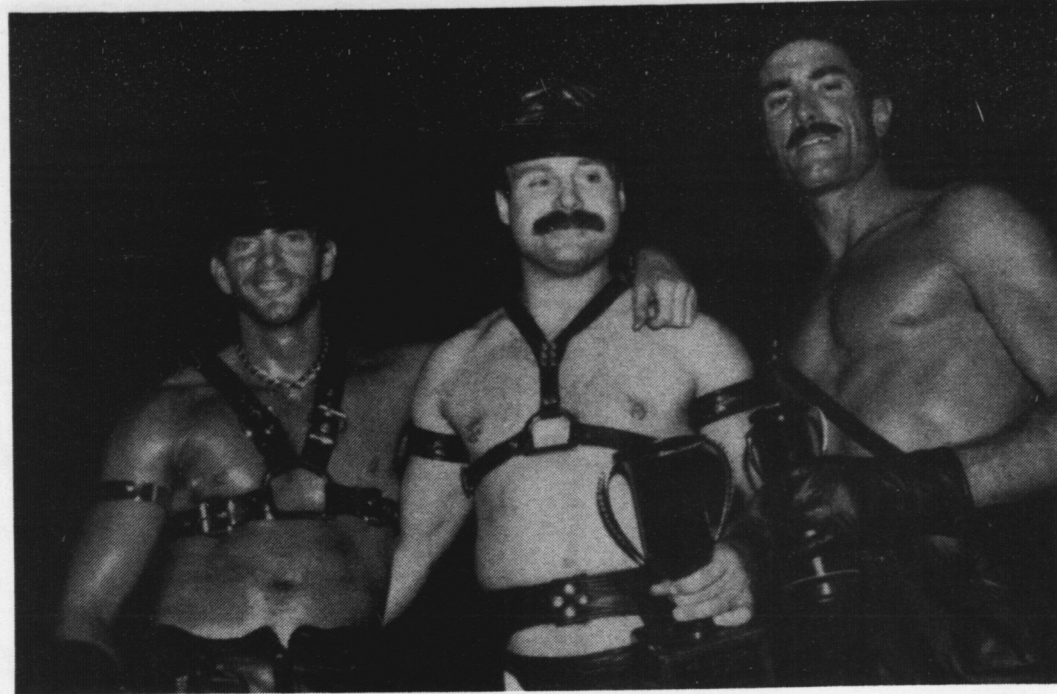
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The winners at the L.A. Detour Mr. Leather contest last Saturday. (Photo: Marcus)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

like all other activities, you must be 21 and no pets or non-prescription drugs allowed!

The Mr./Ms. Gay San Francisco contest is all set for Saturday, Sept. 30 at the Holiday Inn (Van Ness Avenue at Pine Street). There are four contestants for Mr. Gay and seven contestants for Miss Gay. Action begins at 2000, and I haven't seen any posters regarding this event yet.

That same night, Allen Balderson has been working his cute little buns off getting the Team San Francisco auction ready. It's the "Go for the Gold auction" to be held at Most Holy Redeemer Church, 110 Diamond St. at 18th, starting at 2000. There's a "silent" auction beginning at 1700. And Danny Williams, Tom Rodgers and Jo Carroll are among the guest auctioneers. They could use some prize donations too, so call Allen Balderson at 626-1787 if you have some. I hear Leather Daddy Dennis Graff will auction off things too! Hey, it's leather, isn't it?

Idol Gossip

Esta Noche is celebrating its 10th anniversary tomorrow night, Friday Sept. 22, and Lola Lust will emcee the show which will be predominantly male strippers. Champagne free at 0100 and the party goes until the wee hours, or didn't you know Esta Noche is open until at least 0400? Congratulations to Tony and Manuel—best wishes for continued success! I wonder if "Hombres" Magazine will be there?

I was in contact with people in Los Angeles, San Diego, Sacramento and here and everyone agrees that Officer Paul Kramer is one of the hottest cops going. What? You don't know who Officer Paul Kramer is? He's the dude that arrested Zsa Zsa Gabor and got slapped, spit on and cursed by that Hungarian Bombshell! In several of his appearances on the news shows, he alternately appeared with his motorcycle helmet, sunglasses and uniform on the witness stand. Other news stories showed him sans helmet and shades—eyes bluer than Paul Newman's; a moustache made in heaven; a voice that sends chills up your spine. Even Zsa Zsa thinks he's "gorgeous"! I personally know four dudes who have written to the Beverly Hills PD asking for his hand in marriage! Hey, freak freely!

Tidbits of either fact and fiction or fact or fiction have filtered in on Hellfire's "Inferno" camp-out two weekends ago. Alas, photos were absolutely forbidden except for the club's own personal archives, but I can tell you it rained a lot and there was a lot of mud which led to some squishy action. Over 200 people attended this classic annual event but a good time was had by all, and they're already lining up next year's event! Hope you got in on the action!

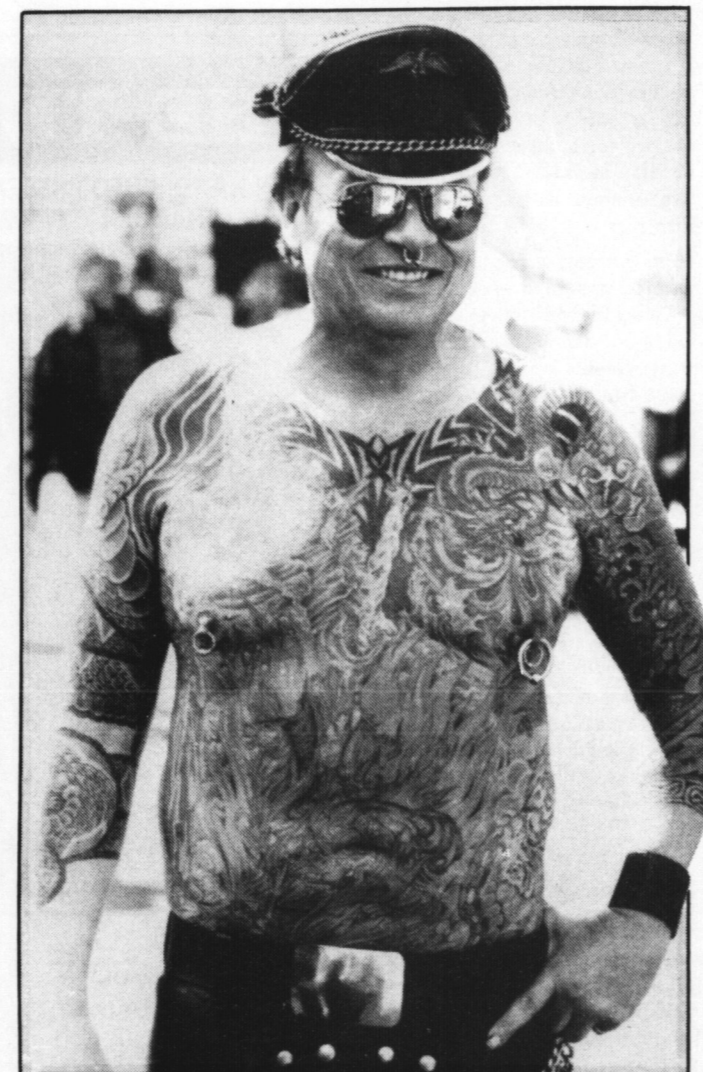
The other hot new item on everyone's list is Video Ten's latest release titled "Powerful II" starring Jeff Stryker and he isn't using a dildo in this one! So why is Mr. Stryker's new video selling like hot cakes? Well, have you ever seen Mr. Stryker actually "do" anyone? He's usually on the receiving end. But not in "Powerful II," no sir! Mr. Stryker is the "do-er" in this one and thousands want to see it. They can hardly keep it in stock at Le Salon and the Stud Store. Have you got your copy yet? Where's your charge card?

Don Thompson of the Gay and Lesbian Chorus wanted me to let you know they were having a beer bust at the S.F. Eagle last Sunday,

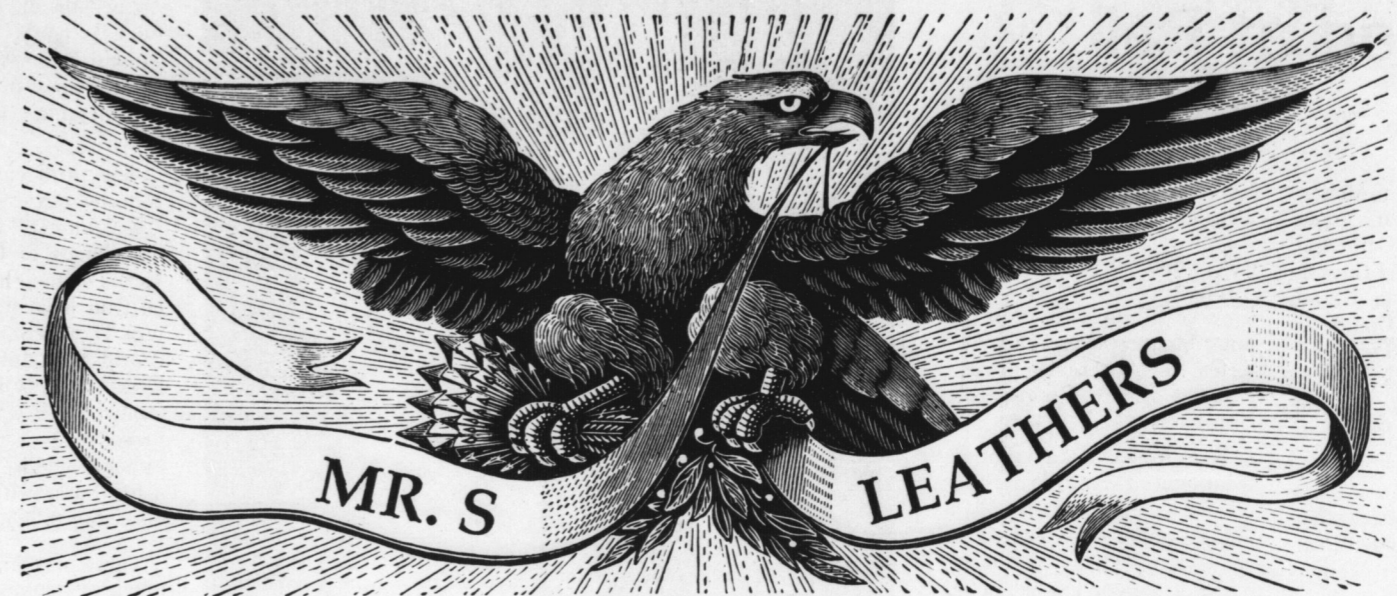
but I didn't get his press release until the Tuesday after my deadline! Seasoned press release writers and distributors all know my absolute deadline is on Monday night, Don. You sound like a good candidate for corresponding secretary of a fraternal club, darrrring!

And would you believe, not all gay businesses are charitable? Last week a fundraising activist tried to get a donation from two Castro merchants for an AIDS Emergency Fund benefit during Leather Pride Week and was told, rather haughtily, "We pride ourselves in never donating to gay or straight charities." That's what I like to hear. The truth. Even if it hurts. What is even more truthful is that what goes around eventually comes around. I can't wait until the shoe is on the other foot.

Hey dudes and dude-ettes, have fun this week and this weekend. Welcome all you visitors for S.F. Leather Pride Week. Thanks Ron Zehel, Mr. Drummer '88 for your beautiful countenance all this past year and good luck to all the contestants. If ever there was a week to live, love, laugh, leap, lurk, lunge and lay, this one is it! During this Leather Pride Weekend—just do it in leather!



Fashions and passions at last year's Folsom Street Fair. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

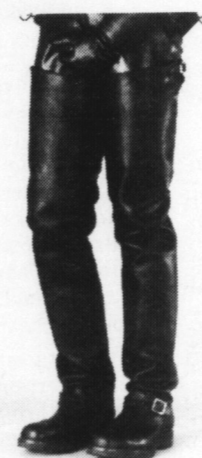


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Bruce, Collette Crowned at Ball

by Dennis McMillan

A Winter Odyssey to Mother Russia," this year's grand duca ball at Cathedral Hill Hotel Saturday night crowned Bruce Harrelson as Grand Duke and Collette Le Grande as Grand Duchess of San Francisco, while Grand Duchess XVI Suzie Wong and Grand Duke XV Jim Johner stepped down from their reign.

The event was staged in three acts and two set changes, the first to reflect Johner's golden bear theme, the second for Wong's jade dragon symbol.

The whole show fairly reeked of "Dr. Zhivago" with Russian minarets and mosques everywhere. It was pre-Bolshevik revolution "Nicholas and Alexandra" what with fur coats and hats on all the czars and czarinas in attendance. The San Francisco Imperial Court needed to be heavily bundled in sable and fox, just to keep the chill of Siberia off them, being seated so far to the rear in the salt mines section.

A historical parade opened the program with the Grandmama of the duca family, H.L. Perry, Grand Duchess I, leading the royalty. Included in the retinue were past duchy rulers Connie, Vinnie, Kitty Litter, Lola Lust, Flame and Mike D. Dyke (the first lesbian duke in this city).

Most of the visiting emperors and dukes in the audience resembled the onstage grand duke, wearing epaulets and sashes for days, looking as if they

just stepped off the curb of the Plaza Hotel. Taxi, sir?

A command performance by Anna May Wong gave us a Chinese Whitney Houston (the mind boggles) singing Chinese lyrics to "Where Do Broken Hearts Go?" Presumably, Chinatown.

Wong (Anna) thus appropriately introduced Wong (Suzie)—you needed a program to keep all the Wongs straight—for the Oriental set. The retiring grand duchess had a pagoda on her head large enough to sleep a small boat family. The grand duke wore a Cantonese queue pony tail and fu manchu mustache (Grasshopper, is that you?).

The two royals each sang (lip-ped?) their stepping-down songs. Johner chose "Don't Cry for Me San Francisco" and everyone felt like Eva Peron was abdicating. Wong did the Babs Streisand version of "Somewhere" while transforming into yet another evening gown. Nancy Kwan, eat your heart out; "Flower Drum Song" has got nothing on this gal.

Prior to the last walk of Johner and the final wok of Wong, a series of permanent titles were bestowed upon loyal royals. One wonders what it would be like to hand out temporary titles—sort of press-on-nails of nobility concept.

Prior to announcement of the election results, each candidate



Grand Duke Bruce Harrelson and Grand Duchess Colette, above. Outgoing royals Suzie Wong and Jim Johner, below. (Photo: Rink)

presented an act. Harrelson emerged from a tasteful glossy 8x12 (foot... well, almost) photo while the lovely chanteuse Miss P sang a la Marilyn Monroe: "Swonderful, 'smarvelous, 'sawful nice!" to be with Bruce. This was followed by a bevy of beauties, six (count 'em—six) dancing dragettes whirling about to "I've Had the Time of My Life."

Collette (running unopposed for the female title) appeared next in a curly red wig that Lit-

tle Orphan Annie would have killed for. Her dress matched her theme—the Brick—and proved a duchess could be built like a brick you-know-what house. Collette lip-synched another Whitney hit, "One Moment in Time."

The third candidate, Shinn, running on a cow platform, sang "Wilkommen" from *Cabaret* as his chorus of Guernsey Guys kicked up their hooves and danced (you look moo-velous, dahl-ing). Then as Shinn sang "If You Could See Her Through My Eyes," Shinn's dancing partner removed her veil and revealed herself to be a true cowgirl (or rather should we say "girl cow"), a big bossy with earrings and nose ring to match.

There was one serious and touching moment when Suzie knelt down and broke into tears giving the dedication of the evening to "my best girlfriend, the late Gaby."

The program also showed its sober side in announcing itself in honor of past monarchs and friends who have passed on, including Duchess and Empress Sable Clown, Mr. Dolly and Mark Friese, award-winning columnist for the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The show ended before the stroke of midnight (a record) and sent the newly crowned royals out into the bars to claim their domain and meet their new subjects.



Mother, Mother

(Continued from page 29)

Arts Theatre as part of a benefit for the Community Research Alliance and the Family Link.

The Community Research Alliance supports community-based research into new AIDS and HIV drugs as an alternative to treatments developed through traditional—and often more costly and time-consuming—methods. The Family Link provides accommodations for families visiting loved ones with life-threatening illnesses.

The story of the making of *Mother, Mother* is almost as uplifting as the film itself. Dickoff and her producers (chief among them Ian Praiser, producer of the theatrical and video versions of the "No on 64" fundraising vehicle, *P.A.N.I.C. in Griffith Park*, in 1986) convinced members of the Hollywood filmmaking community, from actors to Teamsters, to donate their services. A grant of \$50,000 from the John Hancock Life Insurance company provided Dickoff seed money.

Polly Bergen is appropriately terse in the role of the mother who at first refuses the help of two people trying to bring her closer to her son. It's a trademark Bergen role. She's uptight, upper-middle class and icy. Even the news that her son has had a minor bout with pneumocystis doesn't thaw her.

Son Jeff is well-loved by his friends, but has a big chip on his shoulder when it comes to Mom. John Dye, last seen in *The Billionaire Boy's Club*, ably conveys the bitterness his jolly demeanor masks. When finally he realizes he really does need his mother, his admission of this to his best friend, Kate (Bess Armstrong), is heartfelt.

It's interesting to see how much intervention by others is needed to bring these two to the brink of reconciliation, an indication of how deep resentment can run for both parents and their gay children.

"When I made *Too Little, Too Late*," Dickoff says, "I found that a lot of the times the son was just as stubborn about initiating contact as the parents. It was common for outsiders to bring a family together."

At 30 minutes, *Mother, Mother* is more of a sketch than a full-blown portrait, but Dickoff's strokes are nicely placed, and her film will undoubtedly provide intervention and illumination on a wider scale.

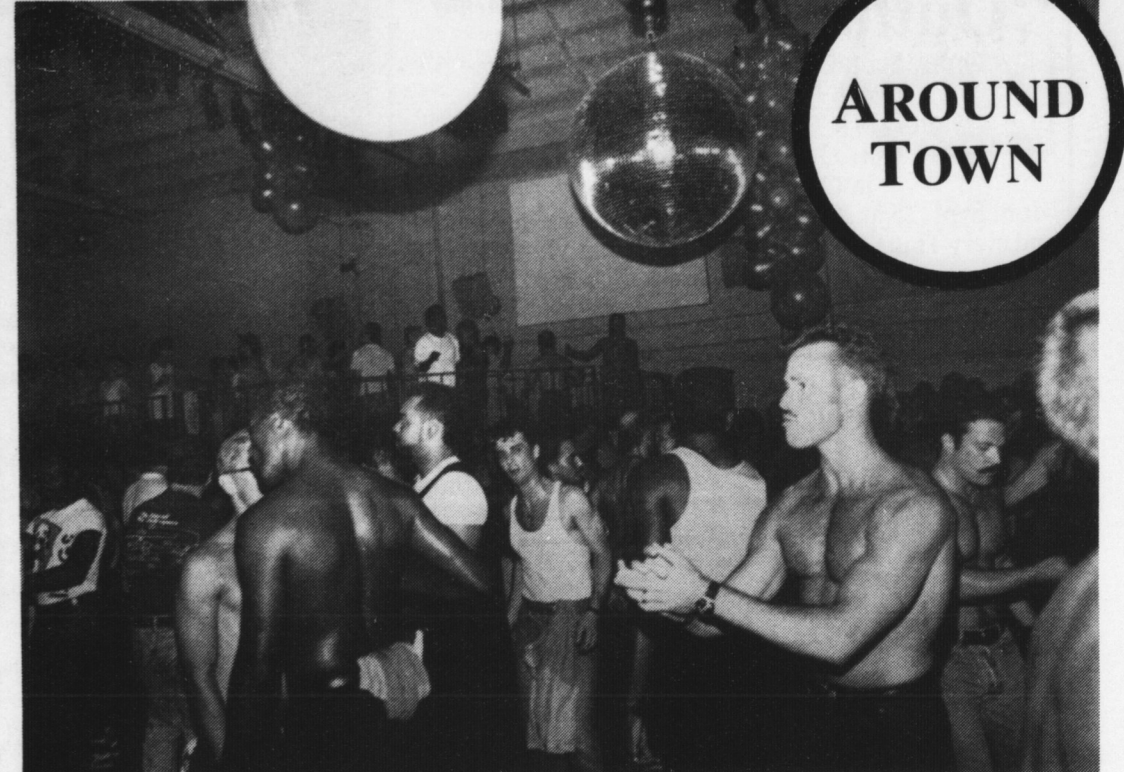
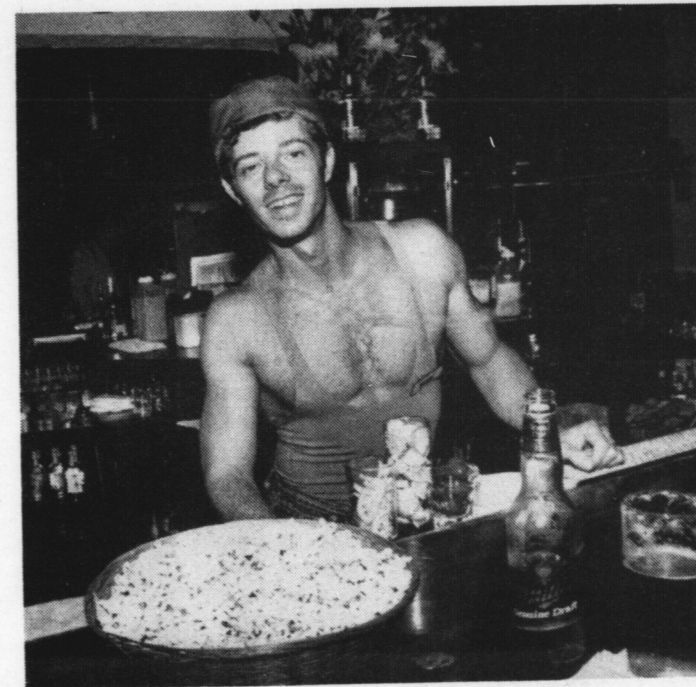
Tickets are \$25 for the 7 p.m. screening and post-film reception, which Laurie, Bergen and Dye will attend, along with Dickoff and other crew members.

A \$100 ticket includes a private reception with the stars. For ticket information, phone 626-2145. *Mother, Mother* will also play the Mill Valley Film Festival in October.

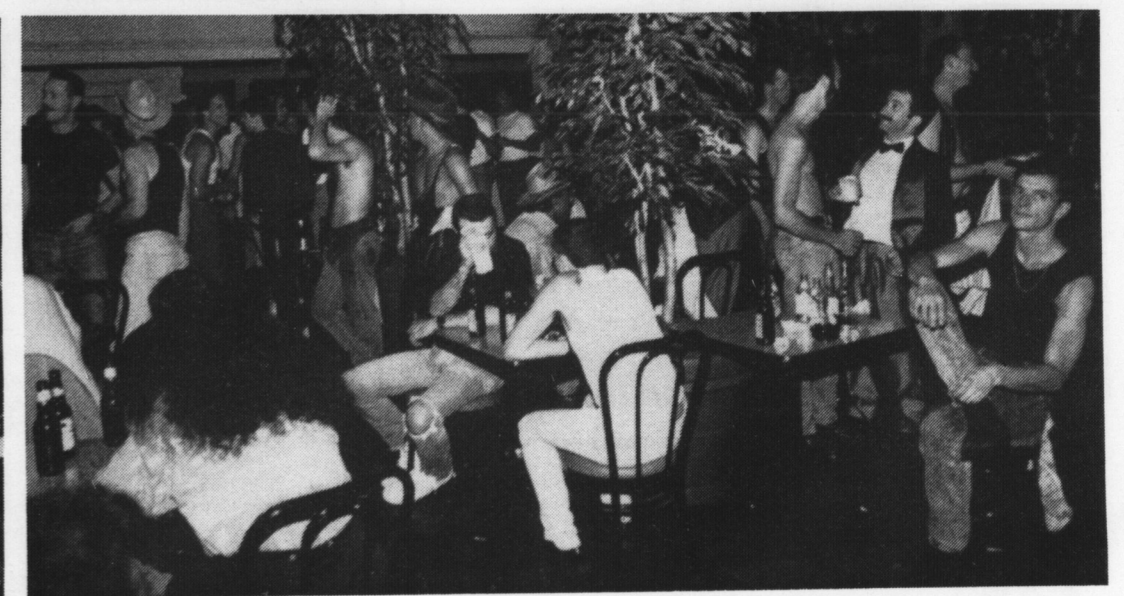


Clockwise from top left, Stripper Night at the Endup; sweating up a storm at Dreamland's Bartenders' Bash; off the dance floor at Dreamland; bartender Mark at the Endup.

(Photos: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)



AROUND TOWN



The Endup dance bar opens at 6 a.m. Saturday and Sunday and anticipates getting a new permit to stay open all night Saturday. The bar got its name, not from a popular sexual position, but from its reputation as the place to go after an all-nighter when other clubs close in the morning—that was where people would eventually end up.

The bar has undergone many surface changes (including outdoor landscaping complete with majestic waterfalls and a fountain) and a basic general cleaning and spiffing up, all in hopes of "getting away from the zombie appearance we had before with the dredges who came in early morning and stayed all day," according to manager Ken Schonborg.

The Endup attracts a mostly white and Asian young male crowd, although there is quite a mix found there.

Wednesday nights feature dollar well drinks and domestic beer. Thursday nights offer strip shows, jockstrap or wet jockey shorts contests. Saturday and Sunday mornings from 11 to 4 are \$2 beer busts, and Sunday from 1-5 p.m. feature all-you-can-eat fried chicken.

Sept. 21 will be fetish night kicking off Leather Pride Week with various leather demonstrations. The current Mr. Drummer will arrive Friday the 22nd along with all the Mr. Drummer contestants. The MC will be Peter Austin, Mr. S.F. Leather; disco singer Viola Wills will appear.

The Endup hopes to start AIDS fundraisers later in the year. In the past, the manager has put out AIDS education cocktail napkins with sayings like, "Before you pick up a hot number, pick up a condom."

The Endup hosts of not being stuck up but boasting a warm and friendly crowd. Leather week could be a good time to check them out.

Dreamland, at 715 Harrison, is one of South of Market's primo dance bars. The bar is gay on Sunday nights. The rest of the week it is known as City Lights, a straight club.

Team San Francisco frequently holds fundraisers at Dreamland.

One of the bar's popular attractions is its laser shows. Ron Baer is manager. Check them out.

Redwood Music Festival

Redwood Music Festival '89 is a festive day of folk, blues, gospel, women's, salsa and world music. It is a multi-cultural celebration of the song and the spirit of progressive music.

On Saturday Sept. 23, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at Estuary Park in Oakland, Holly Near, Luis Enrique Mejia Godoy and Mancotal, Fer-

ron and Faith Nolan, the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir, Ceedo Senegalese Dance Company, Altazor and Sinigual will take the stage.

Redwood Music Festival '89—Music that Rocks the Boat—is a community event in Estuary Park, Oakland.

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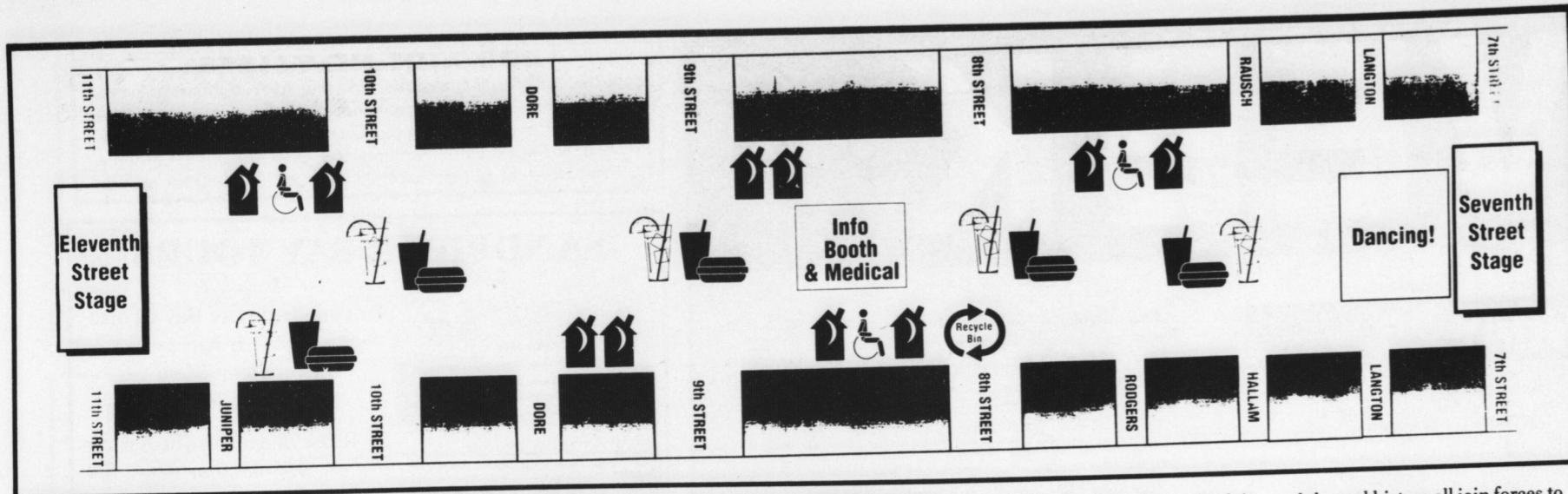
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FOLSOM

(Continued from page 29)

The Powerhouse, formerly the Brig, holds down as a bastion of leatherdom, despite Dore Alley's new high intensity lights, recently installed to discourage after-hours cruise-and-bruise activities.

Old warehouses for light industry converted into leathermen's quarters are now being reconverted into posh, trendy restaurants and nightclubs for the straight Serramonte set. One-time home of S&M clubs, Rodgers Street has now come chichi Cafe Milano where the closest to a whip you'll get is whipped cream in your capuccino.

What used to be a lesbian dance bar and cabaret called Bay Brick Inn is now straight Southside, and pretty much off-limits to gay women who look it.

Some of the changes South of Market have graciously included gay men and lesbians, although the atmosphere is nowhere near as gay as before. What was



S.F.-based Citizen Jane plays the 11th Street stage Sunday.

leathery Chaps is now new wavy DNA. Down and dirty Febe's is now up and preppy Paradise Lounge. What used to be the

Club Med-like Oasis, which is predominantly straight but still holds gay affairs on special nights.

As the city went into the '80s, then Mayor Dianne Feinstein chose to redevelop the South of Market into restaurant row and the land of the high-rises demanding high rent. Thus prompted the exodus of leathermen who were forced to seek out other low-rent lodgings.

Now the city is going into the '90s, and Mayor Art Agnos is looking for further improvements, including a baseball stadium and parking for same. Will this herald not only the end of the leather sodomite community but the chi-chi SOMAites as well? Will the leather bars, rock

clubs and bistros all join forces to defy the dastardly developers, or will they just quietly fade away, so that DNA & Chaps and Febes & Paradise will all be part of the recent history of South of the Slot?

These and other questions will be answered in time. Meanwhile, it is up to the leatherpeople—yes, once again the gay community takes the burden of the city's causes—to rally together and take back the Folsom. Wouldn't it be great if black leather, chains and studs once again dominate South of Market?

A good start is the unofficial celebration of leather pride week in San Francisco, climaxing with the Folsom Street Fair Sunday Sept. 24. Come out and support the leather community! ▼



Mixtress Page Hodel will spin platters at the Seventh Street dance club at the fair.

Fair

(Continued from page 29)

woman, Gail Wilson, swinging and swaying beneath the baton of conductor Wayne Love.

Direct from her European R&B tour, composer/musician/singer Lauren Carter will join several different house music and high-energy bands adding her own special sound.

Formerly the Homewreckers, the Hula Sisters will do everything but hula on stage, belting out rhythm and blues from their upcoming album, "Born to Burn."

New York's High Energy Dance Awards nominee Diebold and Co. will back and track David Diebold's music the likes of "Set Me Free" along with Kim Kataluna, Todd Rundgren's classy back-up lady in the "Nearly Human" LP.

The country rock pop sound of female Calamity Jane has merged

with two fellows to become the Zacharys, who will perform some C/W tunes from their soon-to-be-released album "Tip of My Tongue."

For the Motown soul aficionados, Pride and Joy will be on hand with some new takes on some golden oldies. You better "Knock on Wood" and show some "Respect" for this seven-man, two-woman revue.

If your cup of tea is more toward the cutting edge, Citizen Jane and their three rockin' mamas will offer solid dance music akin to their single hit "Independence Day" heard on the modern rock stations.

This year's Folsom Fair is sure to draw a hot and varied crowd, especially if fairgoers live up to the producers' motto: "Don't Be Shy." So, drag out your leather drag, even if it's only a leather key chain or a pair of leather running shoes. Even in your cowhide... or better yet, leave your hide exposed. ▼

"Willard Joins The Army"

A funny and moving play performed by developmentally disabled actors with theatre professionals, *Willard Joins The Army* concerns a group of disabled Army inductees who join forces with another outcast—a gay

soldier—who befriends, rather than betrays, them.

Willard Joins The Army by Ron Jones; directed by Tannis Huggill and David Morgan Lewis. Presented by Theatre Unlimited at Recreation Center for the Handicapped, 207 Skyline Blvd., San Francisco; 665-4100; tickets \$8. Sept. 21, 7 p.m.; Sept. 22, 3 p.m., 8 p.m.; Sept. 23, 8 p.m.

M.J. Murphy

Zsa-Zsa was a No-Show at Maud's

Zsa-Zsa Gabor should have been at Maud's on closing night as a sad memento of a time of fear and intolerance that has finally been left behind.

UPI dubbed her "one of America's last glamor queens" during her trial last week for allegedly slapping a Beverly Hills cop, but the way she put her foot in her mouth, maybe she should be the first of the new dental dam queens. Her off-color remarks on the steps of the courthouse raised the ire of many gay and lesbian feminists across the nation.

"Mother is so worried," Gabor said. "In a deathly voice she phoned me this morning and asked me, 'Dahling, are they going to book you in jail?'"

"I told her I hoped not," Gabor replied. "I have claustrophobia and would be very unhappy in jail. And besides, they are all lesbians in jail and I'm so scared of lesbians. Can you imagine being in jail with all those women?"

Well, Dahling, it doesn't really require a quantum leap of the imagination, if you know what I mean. While jailhouses have never been part of my fantasy repertoire, island and/or spaceship captivity has been a full-length feature.

Besides, Zsa-Zsa, don't you know that there are plenty of straight women in jail, or otherwise who would love to rip that silly wig off your head and force you to sign papers for a legal change of name! It's the lesbians who have to beware of the!

But, back to Maud's closing. The end of an era.

Back in 1966 when Maud's first opened, it was against a California law for women to tend bar, so the owner of Maud's Rikki Streicher, got the guys from Bradley's across the street to do double duty at both places. Even though a lot of the women looked like men and dressed like men and could sometimes pass for men (unlike now?)

Women had names like Joey, Bobbie, Scotty, Tony, Maxie, Timmy and even Ricky. Some even bound their breasts and wore men's underwear (unlike now?). In Chicago, where I would eventually come out, women tried to pass as men for a variety of reasons, but mostly for security to avoid harassment by the police or passers-by when out on a date with their "femme" girlfriends.

Those women had either real long straight hair or wore a bouffant, and almost always wore skirts or dresses, right, Zsa-Zsa? Role playing was really big back then, right Zsa-Zsa?

In Chicago the so-called "women's bars" were actually run by the Mafia, so all the bartenders and bouncers were big scary looking guys who enforced the "no touch/no dancing" rules to the maximum. At the Chez Ron on Lincoln Avenue women would run across the street to use a service station bathroom rather than risk being leered at by the bouncers in the bar's restroom.

Here in San Francisco, according to long-time friend of Maud's, Joanne Shirley, women ran their own bars like the Golden Cask on Haight, the Capri in North Beach and the Anxious Asp, where Shirley remembers meeting her first girlfriend and seeing "Janis Joplin leaning on the juke box

belting out Bob Dylan songs."

When Maud's opened it became a place of refuge for lesbians at a time when there were very few places to choose from.

"It was safe, warm and home," Shirley says. "Actually, it was better than home." Although the "no touch/no dance rules" still applied there was a whole lot of shakin' goin' on. Maud's was even closed for 30 days for a so-called violation.

So it was with mixed emotions that the women gathered at Maud's on closing night and had their parting shots. The reality is that there are six or seven clubs to choose from that cater to lesbian clientele now, and dozens of mixed bars where women are welcome. We don't dress with regard to the butch/femme roles so much anymore. In fact, my friend pointed out to me, it's largely because of those pioneering lessies from the '50s and '60s that we can dress an way we want today.

As I looked around the bar at the variety of styles and fashions,

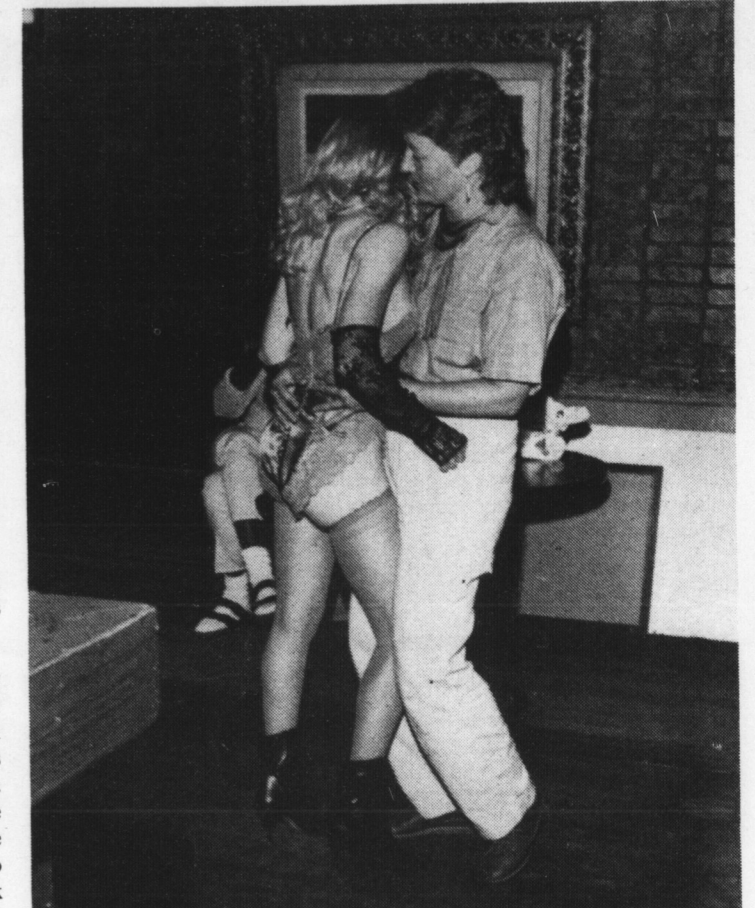
I saw the truth of her words. On the dance floor an attractive woman shimmied through a song in a silky teddy, stockings and high heels.

The woman smiled and laughed and twirled around the dance floor with her friends. My friend said to me, "This is why Maud's has lasted so long. It's always been a place where women could be themselves, where we could raise our self-esteem and gain more confidence in who we are, it's ironic, but that's why we don't need Maud's anymore."

Thank you, Rikki Streicher. Thank you, Maud's. Happy trails to you.

Everyone will be exercising their freedom of expression (among other things) at the sixth annual Folsom Street Fair this Sunday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. "Hot Six in the City" is the theme this year, and with the hundreds of visitors here to celebrate Leather Pride Week and the Mr. Drummer contest, this will be where all the action

(Continued on page 55)



Last Dance at Maud's.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

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VIDEO

Catalina's 'Class' Gets an A+

by Mark Johnson

School's back in session, and I know you are all driving safely. In honor of the class of '90 Catalina has released *Head of the Class, Part Two*, one of the best videos I've seen this year. Skillfully written, produced and directed by Scott Masters, this film is enough to make me seriously consider returning to the campus for my master's degree. The sexual energy from beginning to end is as hot as an August afternoon in Key West.

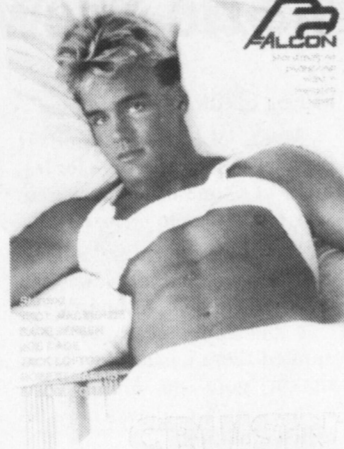
Adam Grant, Brian Hart, Chris Dano and Jeff Dickson are listed

as the stars, but there's not one member of the cast who doesn't live up to that title. Every room in this off-campus house is put to great use as combination after combination of some of the most impressive guys doing video this year make the dean's list. Brian Hart gets my vote for valedictorian (someone please put him together with Brad Carlton and make me happy).

Chris Dano, one of the best things to happen to video tape since stop action, not only cooks but serves dessert in the last

scene, a combination of three magnificent pairs that will make you want to audit this class over again. This film gets an A+.

Falcon's new release, *Cruisin' Men on the Make*, doesn't credit the director or cinematographer either at the beginning or end of the film, and credit is exactly what they deserve. Some of the most beautifully photographed cityscapes propel this video out of the ordinary and into the rare. But don't get me wrong, it doesn't get in the way of living up to Falcon's reputation as a



MEN ON THE MAKE

creator of hot videos

Race Jensen and Jack Lofton are terrific on a desk and even better climbing a stairway to heaven. When the fleet comes in Race really gets into the fleet. When Jack Lofton's ship comes in he makes the most of his home port.

I said last week that Joe Cade can be wonderful, depending on who he's paired with, and they don't get much better than Robert Harris.

Race Jensen should pay his dog Sabrina a finder's fee, she leads him right to Lofton and then uncovers buried treasure in Troy Mackenzie, who the gods chose to give jewels where his eyes should be. Usually one blond is enough for me, but a roomful of Races and Troys wouldn't be too much. This film finds Falcon Studios in the peak of flight.

Mannequin Man is a Fine Line Production. The box says, "Mannequin Man. He's Harder Than Plaster." I think they meant stiffer, and unfortunately they weren't only talking between the legs. Everything is forced in this really ordinary, and in some cases, waste of raw materials.

The special addition to this video is the appearance of Chi Chi LaRue (West Hollywood) the most famous window dresser in all of Fifth Avenue. When an aging drag queen is the most spontaneous and interesting moment in a porn film, we're in trouble boys, and we never even got to see what Mr. LaRue was creating on the sewing machine.

Eric Manchester gets to play a sleaze in this one, and does it like

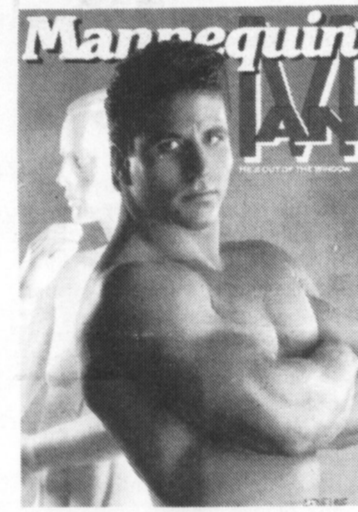
everything else he does, well. He is however so wasted by the director he not only stole the film, he stole his paycheck. The director has no idea where the camera ought to be. I can't remember anyone being more in the wrong place at the right time since Jim Bakker met Jessica Hahn. The writer has Eric making all kinds of promises to Steve Ross that the director can't deliver.

The film introduces Joey Pirelli who's also wasted. Hopefully, someone will see this one and take him away from all of this.

Then there's Nick Cougar. Talk about stiff as plaster, the slightest shift to the right or left would leave a gigantic crack in the macho-er-than-thou image of this video's "star." He can't suck, he can't fuck, but you couldn't ever be as impressed with him as he is. Take your hand off it, Nick.

The *Mannequin Man* never comes to life. Some credit should be given to the designers of the boxes for the recent Vivid Video and Fine Line Production releases. This is really marketing. They're slick, attractive and beautifully photographed, but haven't you guys ever heard about false advertising. Don't bother answering, and don't you all bother with this dummy.

Finally, Catalina has just put together *The Best of John Davenport*, and for those of you who have rented or purchased films during the past couple of years knowing he'd be in at least one scene, now's your chance to see him in every one of the best scenes he's done. What can you say about John, he always gives you all, and his all is plenty. ▼



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BOWLING

Gilmore's Takes Championship

by Will Snyder

This is Transition Week at Japantown Bowl. With the exception of the Sunday Reno League, which still has a month to go, the summer leagues are history and the fall leagues are about ready to make some history.

The last days of the summer leagues produced one interesting showdown for first place in the Tuesday Community League between the first-place Obnoxious Vermin and the second-place

Gilmore's team. Because of a scheduling conflict, the Vermin had to pre-bowl on the night of the showdown. Gilmore's couldn't make the bowling date, so it had to make up the night's bowling.

Gilmore's ended up sweeping the three-game set to win the championship. The losses sent the Vermin tumbling to third place behind the fast-charging Spare Balls. Members of the Gilmore's squad included Ken Gray, Chuck Adkins, Rich

Sparacino, Scott Miller, Ron Schriock, Dick Petroff and Bill Pierson.

Two other league champions were crowned. In the Monday Community League, the Missing Persons team of Charles Daniels, Sebastian Giansiracusa, Gordon Menzies and Andre Locke walked off with the title.

Here are the 200 or better scores for the Japantown Bowl

leagues for Sept. 3-17:

Tuesday Community League, Sept. 5: Tim Kneis (191) 222, 204 and a 615 series; Shawn Christman (149) 210; George Topasna (138) 220; Bruce Gresham (175) 201, 222 and a 614 series; Len Broberg (161) 202; Russell Palmer (165) 206; Don George (180) 214, 218 and a 626 series; Ed Hannan (133) 202; Scott Miller (171) 224.

Friday Community League, Sept. 8: Michael Seibel (161) 206.

Sunday Reno League, Sept. 10: Roger Queen (150) 209; Larry Fuller (150) 207.

Monday Community League, Sept. 11 (Sweeper): Edgar Allam (161) 247, 219 and a 660 series;

Marty Nellans (130) 200; David Young (164) 223; Alan Pex (156) 200.

Tuesday Community League, Sept. 12: Jeff Collins (147) 203; Rick Chapura (147) 201; Len Broberg (163) 207, 203; Don George (182) 203; Shawn Christman (150) 200; Scott Miller (173) 202; Ken Gray (183) 211.

Friday Community League, Sept. 15: Ted Aguirre (157) 212; Steve DiTomaso (144) 208; Michael Seibel (161) 200; Phil Whitaker (177) 215; Greg Gralik (160) 214.

Saturday Gay Games III Vacation League, Sept. 16: David Arnold (194) 211.

POOL

Captain's Tournament Sept. 26 at Park Bowl

Tuesday's matches mark the end of the San Francisco Pool Association's fall season's first half and there are a lot of players off to a great start. Seventeen check in with four or fewer losses, and there were 13 players in last week's 4/0 club.

The match-ups in the season's second half should prove more challenging as teams of equal ranking will face off each week until the regular season finale.

A flurry of individual contests kick off at the mid-season break on Sept. 26 with the Captains' Tournament at Park Bowl. Preceded by a general membership meeting at 7 p.m., the contest will determine bragging rights among the various teams' leaders.

The 1989 9-Ball Championship kicks off the following Thursday night with the first of a series of eight qualifying tournaments, which select this year's finalists in the league's prize plum.

Rick Mariani is planning yet another collector's edition poster to commemorate the event.

As of week 6, the Park Bowl team leads Division I behind their pace-setter, Bob Boyle, who's trucking along at 17/4. If Karen Brandman of the Sn Marcos Maniacs can inspire her team with her 20/4 pace, they'll be challenging for the division lead. Playoff contenders here include Cinch You've Been Gone, Uncle Bert's Rowdy Nephews and the Special Effects.

Division II has been thoroughly tamed by the Sn Marcos Cafe Quackers, who post 5

players in the top 16, including the league leader, Lisa Duncan at 14/1. The SpecialTease and Le Quippe Detour are maintaining a playoff pace here.

Just two games separate first from third in Division III, and the upcoming interdivisional matches will definitely keep this group in turmoil through the season's second half. The Castro Station Express sits tenuously atop the heap.

Prognosticators predict a City Final featuring the Overpassers, comfortably atop Division IV, and the aforementioned Quackers. The Overpassers have thus far matched the 77/19 league leading pace of the Quackers and face their first true test against their divisional rivals, the White Swallow International, next week.

Jim Russo once again places the passers at 20/2.

Maritza Torres may have set a league record last week when she blasted in two 8-ball breaks as she led Uncle Bert's Wild Women by the Pilsner Oop-Ooops, 9-7. Also notable were the following players who reported table runs in their respective matches: Norman Indo, Pam Pugh, Roz Reiter and Lauren Ward. Last week's 4/0 club was composed of Norman Indo, Beverly Johnson, Bernie King, Matt Lynn, Gerlie Mendoza, Chuck Numbers, Luby Pelletier, Jim Russo, John Schou, Krista Smith, Ted Somora, Lauren Ward and Lynn Westhoven.

Dial JOE-POOL for SFPA information.

DIFFA Showhouse Lecture Series

The Design Industries Foundation for AIDS Northern California Chapter has announced that the 22-room DIFFA Showhouse at 898 Francisco on Russian Hill will feature a lecture series devoted to design. The series is scheduled Sept. 22 through Oct. 15.

The lecture series was spearheaded by Paolo Polledri, curator of the Architecture and Design Department of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and is included in the \$15 price of admission. The following individuals will participate:

Sunday, Sept. 24, 3 p.m., "Behind the Screens of the DIFFA Showhouse," Garry Hutton, Design Committee Co-Chair, Gary Hutton Design.

Thursday, Sept. 28, 6 p.m., "On Design: Be Aware or Beware," Andrew Belschner, Andrew Belschner/Joseph Vincent.

"A Dreamhouse to Help End the Nightmare" is the theme of the benefit, which unites leading designers with hundreds of other volunteers and corporate sponsors. Designers are donating time and talents, while sponsors are providing funds, goods and services to the project. Proceeds will benefit Project Open Hand and other local AIDS charities.

Murphy

(Continued from page 47)

is on Sunday. Booths will be located on Folsom Street between Seventh and 11th streets with food, drinks, arts and crafts and two stages featuring continuous entertainment.

San Francisco photographer Darlene/PhotoGraphics, whose work appears regularly in the Bay Area Reporter, will exhibit her work from the local gay and leather communities at booth D-1 on Folsom Street near Eighth and the Border Cantina. Everyone is invited to stop by and say hello.

A retrospective of Mark Chester's photos, "Ten Years on Folsom Street," will be on exhibit Sunday at 1229 Folsom St. as part of Leather Pride Week activities.

Also this week, there will be an Anti-Fashion Show II held on Friday night at the DNA Lounge, 375 11th St. beginning at 10 p.m. with Dee Russell. If this show is anything like the first one, viewers will be treated to an exciting visual extravaganza of the sometimes wacky, somewhat wierd, yet loudly offbeat anti-fashion creations.

On Tuesday night, Sept. 26, Ruth Bernhard will appear at the screening of the new film, "Illuminations: Ruth Bernhard, Photographer" by Robert Burhill. The film highlights the life and work of this master photographer whose beautiful nudes of

women in black and white include, "In the Box, Horizontal," "Two Forms," and "Wet Silk." The film will be shown at 7:30 p.m. at the AMC Kabuki Theaters, 1881 Post St. Tickets are \$5. For more information call 552-8760. Don't miss this opportunity to see and meet this extraordinary woman.

Speaking of extraordinary women, as in way, way out of the ordinary women, Viacom San Francisco's Channel 25 will present Dr. Farkle's "How to Pick Up Babes" on Thursday, Sept. 28 at 10:30 p.m. Farkle (a.k.a. Carole Fife) cajoles viewers with the "perils and rejections of cruising the clubs." "How to Pick Up Babes" was filmed at the ever-popular El Rio and features clothes by Wilkes Bashford and Alexander Julian. This video, described by the Dr. of B.F.D. as baby boomer humor, is sure to inspire new one-liners and cheap thrills at watering holes across town.

And, as always, there's just one more thing, Women's Weekend is coming up Sept. 29, 30 and Oct. 1 at the Russian River. Besides the usual entertainment and events held at Fife's and the Woods, popular author Joann Loulan and the Brown Bag Readers Theater will perform at the Guerneville Veterans Hall on Friday night.

And on the following night there will be a dinner/theater show that will include the unimitable Marga Gomez, Monica Grant, Gayle Remic and Melanie Demore with emcee Carmen at the Vets Hall Party Palace. For more information and/or reservations call (707) 887-1455. These events are "by women and for women," as well as non-alcoholic, so come on out and have a great time!

Berkeley Symphony Event to Benefit The Center

The Berkeley Symphony Orchestra will sponsor a benefit concert for The Center, an agency providing supportive practical services for persons with AIDS/ARC in Alameda County, on Sunday, Sept. 24, at 7 p.m., at the First Congregational Church, at Dana and Durant streets, in Berkeley. The suggested donation is \$10 per person and may be paid at the door.

The evenings' program, which will be conducted by Maestro Kent Nagano, the Berkeley Symphony's music director, will include Prokofiev's Piano Concertos No. 1 and No. 3, and Dvorak's Cello Concerto in B Minor.



Working Girl

Doris Fish and others will wait tables at Reservations, an AIDS Emergency Fund benefit Thursday, Sept. 28, at Scooters.

(Photo: Robert Pruzan)

Gay Games

(Continued from page 53)

Vancouver "despise" the idea of the Gay Games. He added that cabinet ministers "wouldn't allow such garbage."

But Vancouver Mayor Gordon Campbell said holding the Gay Games in the city was "a human rights issue."

"I think most people in greater Vancouver believe that we should treat people as human beings," Campbell said, "regardless of their sexual preferences."

Gay Games III organizer Barry McDell said he was reluctant to respond to the evangelical fundamentalist charges because it would "play into their hands."

"I have no argument with them," McDell said. "I wish they'd stop arguing with me."

Gay Games III is expected to attract more than 10,000 athletes and artists from around the world.

While protester Audrey Mabley, founder of the Eternity Club Ministry of Burnaby, said evangelicals need to "stir up" Vancouverites because they're too "tolerant" of homosexuals, McDell praised the people of Vancouver "for being probably among the most outstanding in Canada for tolerating different lifestyles and backgrounds."

A spokesman for Campbell's office, Muriel Honey, said Prayer Canada had sent the mayor's office a petition signed by 316 people opposed to Gay Games III but said the petition contained the names of only four people from the city of Vancouver. The rest were from nearby suburban and rural areas around Vancouver. She added the petition would have no effect on the city's welcoming the sporting event.

Mainstream religious denominations, such as Anglican, Catholic and Baptist, have not joined the anti-gay protest.

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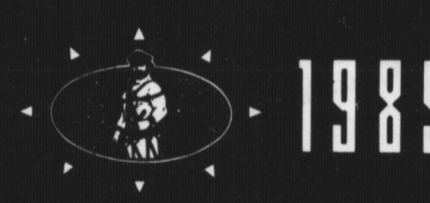
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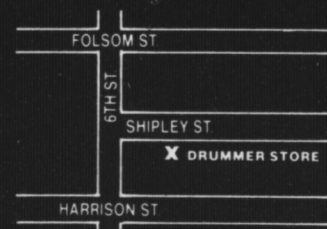
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Take Me to the Fair

The crowd at the Folsom Street Fair last Sunday afternoon. Coverage starts on page 25.
(Photo: Robert Pruzan)

Dancing at Disneyland Gay Who Challenged Dance Policy Returns to "Magic Kingdom"

by Keith Clark

In September 1980 Andre Ross Exler, then age 19, and his dancing partner, Shawn Elliott, went dancing at the Tomorrowland Terrace in Disneyland. When Disney security officers escorted the two men off the dance floor and out of the club, Exler and Elliott filed a sex discrimination suit with the legal assistance of the American Civil Liberties Union. In May 1984 a superior court jury agreed with their sex discrimination claim and the

court issued an injunction against Disneyland.

Saturday night, Sept. 16—almost nine years later to the day—Exler returned to dance once more at Disneyland, and this time the only concern the security guards seemed to have was that Exler wasn't being hassled by other patrons of the club.

With the 1986 opening of the theme park's new Videopolis teen dance club, Disney officials

quietly dropped its ban on same-sex dancing, ostensibly to accommodate teen-age girls who wanted to dance together. The 1984 court order against Disneyland technically applied only to Exler and Elliott, but Exler says he believes the switch took place as a result of that ruling.

The ruling also established, for the first time in California at any rate, that public business and

(Continued on page 2)

FBI Spying on Gay Groups Under Fire

by Karen M. Everett

A congressional leader on civil rights will spearhead an investigation into what he called the FBI's "worthless, biased surveillance" of gay organizations, which began in 1953 and continued for more than two decades.

The FBI probe "is no surprise," said Rep. Don Edwards (D-San Jose), head of the House Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights.

The FBI kept gay groups and their membership under close surveillance for 22 years, the *San Francisco Chronicle* reported last week, based on FBI documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act.

"We've been aware of this for several years," said Edwards, a former FBI agent. "My subcommittee has worked long and hard to get the FBI to stop this kind of activity, and by and large we have. I am aware of no current FBI investigations of gays."

The probe included sending spies to gay meetings, photographing activists in gay marches, tapping phones of suspected homosexuals and sharing information with government agencies, according to *Chronicle* reporter Randy Shiels.

An FBI spokesman said that the agency has no formal investigations under way on modern-day gay organizations.

But according to John Crew, attorney for the American Civil

Liberties Union, there are "strong indications" that FBI surveillance of gays "is not ancient history."

Crew said that the FBI and a dozen regional law enforcement agencies conducted a "massive intelligence gathering" in 1984 in which they targeted several groups, including gay organizations, in an FBI document titled, "Who We're Interested In."

The scrutiny, initiated by the late J. Edgar Hoover, began in 1953...

At the request of the ACLU, the San Francisco Human Rights Commission is currently studying a proposal to denounce such surveillance. The proposal would recommend that the San Francisco Police Department "restrict... this sort of intelligence gathering abuse," said Crew.

Politicians and gay leaders expressed outrage over the latest revelation of FBI surveillance.

Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-San Francisco) last week asked Ed-

(Continued on page 2)

Bisexual Man Beaten in Mission

by Gregory Douthwaite

A bisexual man with ARC was severely beaten last week after telling a gang at a Mission District housing project that he was taking AZT. Robert Michael Todd, 28, suffered a crushed leg, cracked ribs, and a concussion in the assault on Sept. 20.

"This is not right—just to be attacked because I take AZT," said Todd from his hospital bed.

Todd was walking by the Valencia Gardens housing project after midnight when he saw five young black men, arms crossed, all wearing blue handkerchiefs.

Todd tried not to act scared. He rulled up his sleeves, exposing his tattoos, and said, "How's it going?"

"What are you doing over here, white boy?" they said.

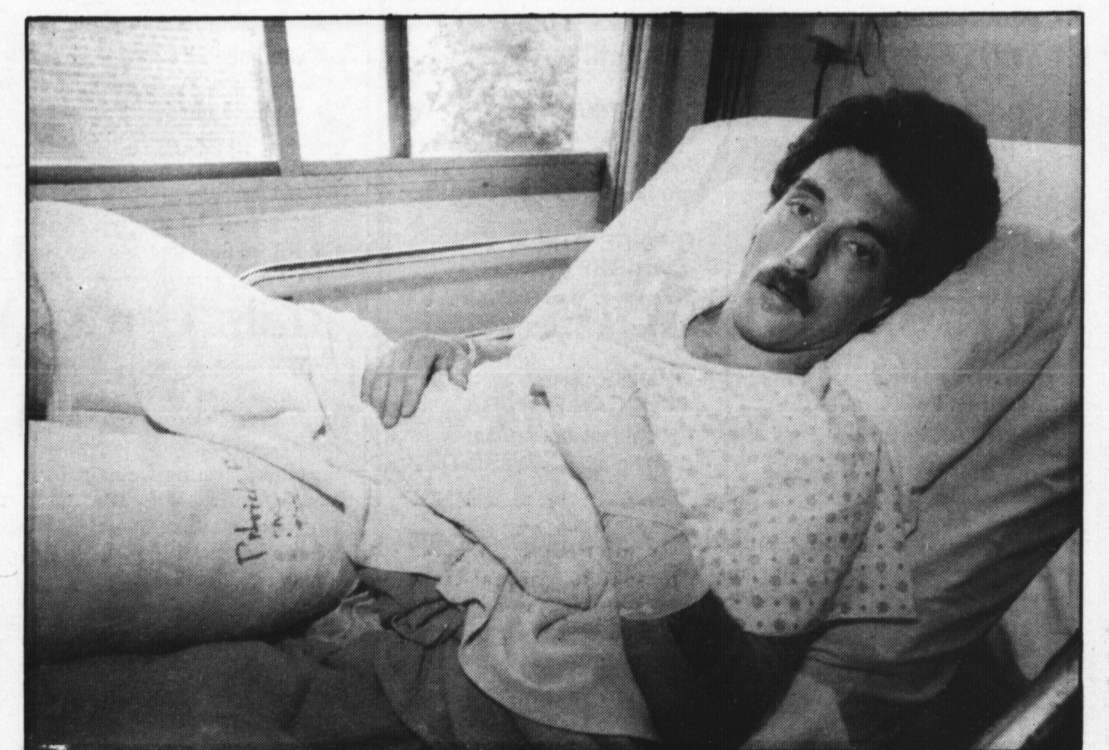
Todd replied that he had been to the pharmacy to get his AZT. He got AIDS from shooting heroin, he said.

"He's one of them dick-suckers with AIDS. Let's get his white ass," they said. The men stomped on him with their boots and threw him down several flights of stairs, Todd said.

One of the men made sexual advances toward Todd, which he said he violently opposed. When he tried to escape, he was hit by a car, which didn't stop.

The men stole all his medicines, his wallet, and his

(Continued on page 2)



Mike Todd suffered a crushed leg, cracked ribs and a concussion.

(Photo: Phyllis Christopher)