

BAY AREA REPORTER

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O'Leary Leaves NGRA

Graff Named Interim Chief

by Dennis Conkin

Jean O'Leary, the executive director of National Gay Rights Advocates, the troubled gay public interest law firm, abruptly resigned from her post on Monday, Dec. 4.

O'Leary had been under fire amidst revelations that in recent years she received an estimated \$100,000 a year in salary and bonuses and allegations that NGRA conducted direct-mail and telemarketing campaigns for projects that never materialized.

Charges surfaced shortly before her resignation that O'Leary had also allegedly used NGRA resources and staff time to engage in partisan politics, including work for the Dukakis presidential campaign and the Democratic National Committee.

Richard White, chair of the National Gay Rights Advocates board of directors, announced O'Leary's resignation on Tuesday, Dec. 5. White also announced that Leonard Graff, the agency's outgoing legal director, had been appointed as interim executive director of the organization.

William Pratt, NGRA director of community affairs, was ap-

pointed director of operations for the agency. Jim McDaniel will continue to be director of development.

"It is with deep regret and mixed feelings that I tender my resignation after eight years as executive director of National Gay Rights Advocates. . . Unfortunately, differences of opinion and vision, exacerbated by internal strife have made it far too difficult for me to be effective in an organization I cherish," O'Leary's resignation letter stated.

"This compounded by the relentless, and clearly orchestrated attacks in the press are damaging NGRA. For months, I have attempted to take the high road in this feeding frenzy in the press. It is almost impossible for a reasonable answer to be heard amidst the drama and hyperbole of many groundless accusations and innuendoes," O'Leary said.

"It comes as no surprise to me that these baseless attacks are made upon a woman in a powerful and wealthy national organization," her letter said.

(Continued on page 23)



Alliance to Stop Abusive Police rally at City Hall on Nov. 30.

(Photo: Jane Cleland)

Supervisors Open Hearings Into Police Aggression

by Dennis Conkin

Police Chief Frank Jordan was threatened with a subpoena after failing to appear before the Human Services Committee of the Board of Supervisors, Nov. 30.

The committee was holding public hearings on police response to demonstrations including the Oct. 6 ACT UP demonstration in the Castro.

Acting Deputy Police Chief Fred Lau told the committee that Jordan was unable to attend the hearings because he was giving testimony in the Police Commission hearings of officers charged with mishandling the 1987 George Smoot homicide investigation.

More than 100 activists and representatives of community groups and legal groups including the American Civil Liberties Union, Community United Against

Violence, ACT UP and Central American activist organizations attended the hearings.

Citing a 30-year history of alleged police brutality against activist groups in San Francisco, Lester Olmstead-Rose, a representative of Community United Against Violence, urged the Board of Supervisors to adopt recommendations of the Human Rights Commission regarding police crowd control during demonstrations.

The Human Rights Commission recommendations, issued by the Police Liaison and Social Issues Committee, call for civilian control of the police department, and for training and education of police officers in the area of crowd control.

The HRC recommendations

also call for controls over intelligence-gathering by the police department, including a "complete ban on intelligence gathering and surveillance of po-

That recommendation follows reports that police officers threatened to turn the names of Salvadoran refugees attending a recent demonstration in front of the Salvadoran Consulate over to the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

The Board of Supervisors acted to prevent such incidents earlier this year after a police sergeant photographed Salvadoran demonstrators and turned the film over to officials of the government of El Salvador.

Urging the Board of Supervisors to increase the "political pressure"

(Continued on page 23)



Protesters clashed with police at Burroughs-Wellcome in Burlingame on World AIDS Day.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

World AIDS Day

AIDS Group Chiefs Protest Inaction

by Allen White and Cliff O'Neill

With angry chants of scorn directed at President Bush and District of Columbia police, 78 representatives from 51 AIDS service organizations were arrested in front of the White House Dec. 1, World AIDS Day, in an act of civil disobedience intended to raise awareness of the AIDS crisis.

The activists spent the afternoon of Dec. 1 in cell block B of the Washington, D.C., jail. Arrestees were placed in three cells, two for men and one for women. The prisoners were all AIDS service or-

ganization executives who blocked traffic on Pennsylvania Avenue purposely leading to their arrests.

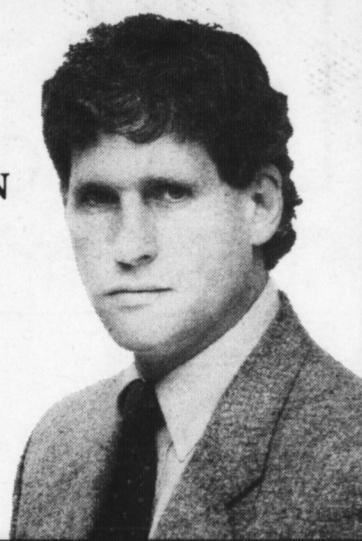
Alternately led or carried away by plastic glove-wearing D.C. police officers, the activists, wearing everything from tailored suits to jeans, chanted slogans decrying what they called the government's inadequate response to the AIDS epidemic.

"We die, they do nothing!" protesters chanted. Others drew chalk outlines of their bodies on the pavement. (Continued on page 14)

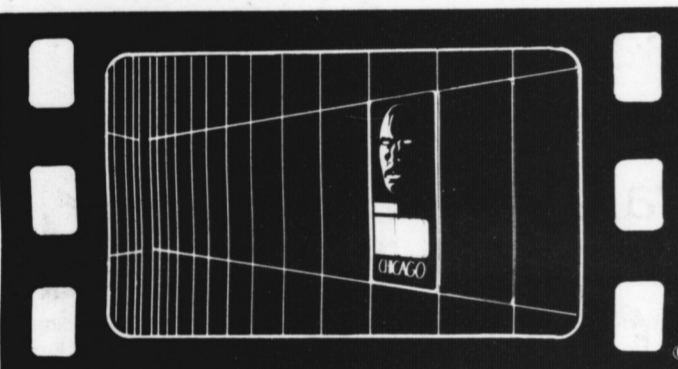
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SCENE AND HERD



(Photo: Marc Geller)

A Boy and His Briefs

by Dave Ford

Launched in late July and running through Christmas "After the Game" the Hanes Underwear television advertising series shows six football players in different at-home vignettes. A far cry from the "Inspector 12" series that preceded it (in which an actress played a lab-coat-attired "quality inspector"), this beefcake-heavy set of spots gives the mass-merchandised products a paradoxically sexed-up image even as it supposedly sells relaxed, homey comfort.

The ads are designed to appeal equally to men and women; the latter, according to Sarah Lee's spokesperson, Nancy Young, buy the bulk of men's and boys' underwear. (Sarah Lee bought Hanes a couple of years ago, lending a whole new meaning to the term "cheesecake.") Rather than showing thudding shoulder pads and crashing helmets, the ads literally expose the footballers at home. "It shows the softer side of the athletes," Young says.

It also shows the harsher side of advertising reality, in which children can appear to be exploited sexually to sell product.

Half Moon, Visible Croch

The spot featuring Seattle Seahawks star Steve Largent and his son Kyle is set in the boy's room. The ad begins with Kyle, who is nine, bent over in a lineman's stance. He is wearing nothing but a pair of underwear; his rear end, which faces the camera, fills half the frame. The other half shows Kyle's reflection in a full-length mirror; his white-pantied croch is clearly visible.

In a voiceover that runs throughout the ad, Kyle says, "They knocked me all over the place today." He's presumably referring to a football game, but coupled with the shot of his little-boy butt mooning the camera, the comment suggests a more disturbing, violent interaction.

Continuing the sex-and-violence metaphor, Kyle goes on: "Like my dad says, Hanes underwear has the comfort you want after a rough game." A jump cut shows Kyle donning his T-shirt while he cradles the foot-

ball. (His bare chest and nipple momentarily fill the frame as he walks towards the camera.) He then tosses the ball in the air and dives after it. As the soundtrack (which also includes bluesy harmonica and bass guitar) suddenly booms football field sounds—including an orgasmic male "Yaaah!"—Kyle lands face-down on his bed amidst rumpled white sheets.

To show a boy's disembodied butt at first appears to desexualize the child...

Next, Kyle says of his dad, "He oughta know." At that instant the camera focuses in closeup on the rising mound of Kyle's Hanes-clad rump. Quickly (guiltily?) the camera pans up his body—it's covered by the T-shirt—and fixes on his face, which is only half visible behind a pillow.

"He's Steve Largent," the boy's voiceover says. We next see Kyle jumping up and down on his bed, all pristine white underwear, T-shirt, white socks and legs; he's clutching the football. Bright light, suggesting a hot sun filtering through the bedroom window, illuminates archetypal boy-space signifiers: dart board, bureau, pennants. Yet the room feels hyper-real: it's boys-room-as-showcase.

"He plays for the Seattle Seahawks," Kyle says. The next shot shows Steve, a good-looking, if slightly nervous, young man wearing a dark blue, short-sleeved sweatshirt, gray sweatpants and white hi-tops. He grabs a pair of shorts hung on the doorknob and tosses it toward Kyle, as though to playfully admonish the boy for frolicking in his skivvies. (Kyle's T-shirt-covered torso, his croch and his thighs are readily visible.)

Apparently without irony, and still referring to his dad in the voiceover, Kyle concludes, "And he wears Hanes too—only big-

ger." In the accompanying shots: 1.) Kyle executes a twisting leap, his back and butt to the camera; he falls butt-first onto the bed; 2.) Kyle, now fully clothed (T-shirt, jeans, tennies) mimes a football pass as Steve sits on a low window sill and watches; 3.) Steve, still sitting, tosses the football in the air; Kyle lunges for it, and falls into Steve's knee. Steve hugs Kyle. Behind them, the music comes up: "Now you're wearing what you like—Hanes."

While the ad purports to show a cockle-warming boys' life sketch, it simmers with darker undertones. The white-hot buildup—the lineman's stance, the quick rear-end close up, the bed-jumping—climaxes when Steve tosses the shorts to his son. The concluding shots are filmed in much cooler, more shadowy tones, suggesting a post-coital denouement. (Oddly enough, in the penultimate shot, the closet door is open; in the final shot, it is closing. Coincidence?) But the concern is not about Kyle's behavior; it's about the ad-makers' choices, which undeniably include questionable camera angles. Graham continued to deny that "there's any logic to this that goes the way you're thinking."

Keister: Object Or Not?

To show a boy's disembodied butt at first appears to desexualize the child: since he is underdeveloped and since his hienie therefore isn't considered sexual, a shot of the "product" encasing it must be asexual. But the effect is just the opposite: to employ the same camera angle and style that in the context of an adult would instantly create a sexual overtone is to suggest filically that the boy's butt is a sexual object. That in turn means the company is selling underwear by sexually objectifying a child for consumerist purposes.

Furthermore, children are sexual, and their pleasure zones are the same as those of developed adults: genitalia, butts, etc. So their objectification for commercial purposes amounts to child sexual abuse.

Worse, the denial of this sexualization—cloaked in the

(Continued on next page)

Gays on the Airwaves

by Mary Richards

The sophisticated technology of today is taken for granted by a world which relies on immediate communication at all hours of the day. But when the high-tech systems fail, groups like the Lambda Amateur Radio Club get through. During the recent earthquake, their members networked with other "hams" throughout the country to transmit vital messages from a city that some thought was not surviving.

A short wave radio system, combined with a computer listing or "bulletin board" of messages, was operational even as telephone communications into San Francisco became impossible following the quake.

Larry Kenney is one of the founders of Lambda.

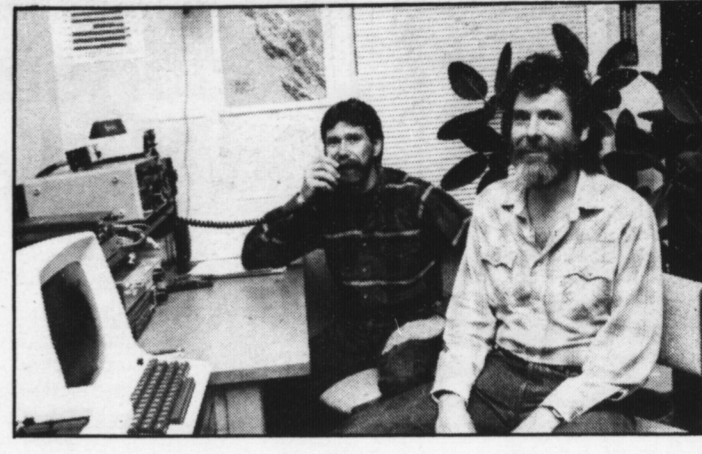
"We hadn't realized," he says, "how this would work in time of emergency. At one time we had 1,100 messages just sitting there waiting to be delivered the third day after the quake. People just chipped in and got rid of them. It was amazing."

Public service is only one of the stated goals of the club, which was founded in 1987 to attract other gays and lesbians interested in amateur radio. Now their activities range from on-the-air contact to newsletters, picnics, brunches and excursions. They'll sit down to a potluck dinner or go off on a jaunt to the Exploratorium.

Bill Choisser is co-founder of the club. It was after volunteering at the AIDS Bike-A-Thon that he and Larry realized ham radio could be of invaluable assistance in communicating from some of the remote checkpoints along the bike route. They decided to start the Golden Gate Chapter of the national gay organization.

"We're not just a radio club as such," Bill says. "All some radio clubs do is sit around and talk technical stuff - those meetings are the kiss of death."

Lambda meets twice a month, he says. "One is a meeting which is probably a third business and two-thirds just yacking at each other. The other meeting is a



social event. The main rule in our social event is that it shouldn't have much to do with radio."

At present, 27 men and 3 women are members of Lambda. They include physicists and engineers as well as construction workers, students and professors.

Does the fact that Lambda is a gay and lesbian club make any difference in the world of radio?

"Some people have asked us," Bill comments, "especially it being a gay club, do we talk about sexual-type things, like phone sex on the radio?"

The answer, he adds, is a definite no.

"Our feeling is that we go just

as far as the straight people do when it comes to that. We may mention our lover, but we don't talk about what we do in bed."

Romance, though, is part of radio and Bill and Larry are proof of it. They first met through the air waves, and their interest in the hobby is what eventually brought them together.

"We talked on the radio before we ever laid eyes on each other," Bill recalls. I lived 300 miles south of Chicago, and Larry lived in Chicago. He was on vacation at the time in a national forest. I was testing my antenna - "Is anybody out there?" and he answered yes. I gave him directions, he told me my antenna was

working fine, and I thought "I'll never talk to the guy again!"

A few months later the two men would meet, when Bill moved to Chicago and investigated a radio club that he had heard about. The secretary of the club was wearing the call letters he'd remembered from the Garden of the Gods in the national forest. When they realized that they had been in touch for, Bills says with a laugh, "Larry looked at me as if I had ESP or something!"

For the last two years the Lambda has set up a booth at the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade festivities, and also at a gay fair in San Jose. Part of their exhibition is to transmit to other parts of the world.

"The first station we talked to was UAOFAC, a Russian ham," Larry recalls with amusement.

The Golden Gate Chapter of the club welcomes new members and will assist other amateurs to obtain their licenses. "Anyone who's interested in ham radio, short wave radio, or radio in general can join," Larry says. "We're here to help people get started."

Interested radio amateurs can contact LARC at P.O. Box 14073, San Francisco, CA 94114 or by calling 863-1196.

Scene

(Continued from previous page)

claim that the ad shows innocent, boyish hijinks designed to lure soft-hearted moms into parting with part of the family budget—contributes to the abuse. Most moms will unleash a loving sigh when they see the ad, and won't even consider the subtext. (When I pointed out the ad's sexual content, one woman, a representative for Sarah Lee's public relations firm, said, "Really? And I thought that [ad] was so sweet.")

That denial continues at a corporate level. In an interview, Bob Graham, creative director of Long, Haynes and Carr, the advertising firm responsible for the ad, said: "All I can tell you is that it is what it is: It's a dad and a son, and it's about underwear." And what about the shot of Kyle bending over in front of the mirror? "That is simply an edit of very pretty film," Graham said. "It's spontaneous behavior by the kid; [we] let the cameras roll. There is no hidden agenda." But the concern is not about Kyle's behavior; it's about the ad-makers' choices, which undeniably include questionable camera angles. Graham continued to deny that "there's any logic to this that goes the way you're thinking."

But some adults fantasize sex with children and this ad plays into their fantasy. The camera's jittery, nervous quality suggests that we're watching this half-dressed boy from the eyes of a guilty observer. In point of fact, this "innocent" spot turns us into the guilty observer: watching this sexualized display of "product" makes us unwilling participants in a subliminally voyeuristic exercise.

And that, Hanes says, is "What You Like."

Correction

Lyle E. Julius, who on Nov. 20 was convicted of voluntary manslaughter in the death earlier this year of David Koerner, has written to the Bay Area Reporter to say that he was Koerner's roommate, not his lover, as was stated in a news account in our Nov. 23 issue.




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Reporters Field Questions On Media Coverage of AIDS

A panel of media members, representing newswriters and TV and radio correspondents, responded to questions about AIDS and HIV coverage at a forum Nov. 30 hosted by Positives Being Positive, a peer support network sponsored by the AIDS Health Project.

Betty Ann Bruno of KTVU, Channel 2, David Israels of the *Bay Guardian*, Lisa Krieger of the *Examiner*, Jim Bunn, formerly with KPIX-TV, and Michael Botkin of the *Bay Area Reporter*, explained the role of the media and of media workers in advancing the public's awareness of the HIV epidemic.

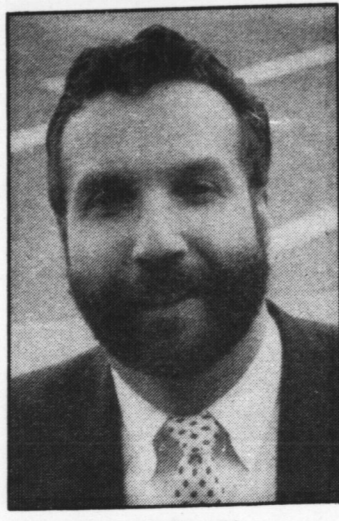
The panel answered questions about HIV coverage outside cities like San Francisco, the reluctance of the media to address alternative therapies, and how they get access to obscure or new information. One questioner provocatively asked what stories they would like to cover, but can't.

"I'd like to look at problems in services on a regular basis," Israels said. "Wards 86 and 5A [at San Francisco General Hospital] are islands of calm; outside of them it's a fight to get services."

Botkin of the *Bay Area Reporter* cited movement infighting, and Bruno mentioned Compound Q as stories they would like to cover.

All the panel members agreed that covering AIDS and HIV was vastly different now than it was at the beginning.

"It takes a different type of person to handle a 'start-up' mission than it does an ongoing story," Bunn said.



Eric Rofes of Shanti.

Bunn and Krieger, both science reporters at the beginning of the HIV epidemic, reminisced about the early days of the crisis when they had to scramble to learn about the intricacies of the novel disease, and then they had to pressure reluctant editors to cover the issues, which involved too many taboo topics for their tastes.

"The media failed to provide vital information," Israels said. "For example, not talking about transmission or anal sex."

Although the media eventually did focus on the issue, panel members said that media interest in HIV had waned recently.

"Our editors are absolutely brain-dead on the topic," Bunn said. "Science isn't making the huge jumps in its understanding of the disease anymore," Krieger said.

"For a while we had an AIDS story every week; now it's about

once a month," Bruno said. "And we haven't done anything on AIDS since the quake."

Toward the end of the forum, Bunn and Botkin got into an argument about the role of ACT UP in response to a question about the inhibiting effects of the media's profit motivation.

"I was banging on my editor's door long before ACT UP even existed. I did stories before it became fashionable to be a 'PWA,'" Bunn said.

Botkin took offense at Bunn's characterization of people with AIDS as trying to be "fashionable," but Bunn defended his statement.

"You should have seen them [ACT UP] at Montreal," Bunn said. "They turned their medical status into a political badge of honor."

"Good for them," Botkin responded.

In response to the last question of the evening, "How has doing AIDS coverage affected you?" all the panel members agreed that reporting on HIV was not like most media work.

"Your work with an AIDS victim is not your typical professional relationship," Bunn said.

The reporters said that covering AIDS was more demanding and more rewarding than most of their work.

The forum was the first in a series sponsored by the AIDS Health Project. Upcoming forums include "Clinical Trials: What, Who, Why and How," in January; "Conversations with People Living with HIV," in February, and an "Update with Paul Volberding," in March.

For more information, call AHP at 476-6430.



Dr. Steven Mehalko (with shovel) breaks ground for Davies Medical Center's new HIV facility as Dr. Steven Follansbee, director of the institute, looks on.

Davies HIV Facility Under Way

On Nov. 1 Davies Medical Center broke ground for an expansion of its Institute for HIV Research and Treatment. The new facility, expected to be ready by the end of June, will cost \$1.4 million to build, and is partly funded by a federal grant and by an anonymous \$100,000 donation.

The expansion will make the institute the most comprehensive HIV treatment and research facility on the West Coast.

"The expansion will allow us to have all of these services under one roof to meet the growing

need for AIDS services in the Castro during the coming years," said Brian Christianson, director of the institute.

The institute, which Davies opened in 1988, serves 5,000 HIVers, making it the second-largest private provider of HIV care in the country.

The expansion will provide more space for the institute's aerosolized pentamidine, IV infusion therapy and social and nutritional counseling programs. The new facility will also house two new services—an HIV social day-care center and respite care

for caregivers for people with HIV infection.

Davies projects that by 1993 the institute will treat 1,500 people a month in its pentamidine unit, and 1,200 a month in the IV infusion unit.

The institute will also expand its drug trials program, where 14 trials are under way.

"We feel our mission is to provide experimental drugs to the people in the local community who need them, rather than sending them across town or across the country," Christianson said.

HIV WATCH

The New San Francisco Model

by Michael C. Botkin

Last week 50 San Francisco AIDS service organizations met to begin planning a process that would allow them to function as a coalition (see news article, this issue). In the face of growing case loads, tighter funding and a backlash from mainstream media tired of covering the issue, they are pioneering a new model for dealing with AIDS. Some of the ideas being tossed around included centralized volunteer recruitment and fundraising and greater specialization by each organization. If they can bring this off, they may have found the only way out of the crunch that is threatening to bury AIDS service organizations all across the United States.

There was a nationwide crisis in AIDS organizations that began in 1987 and peaked last year. The Shanti Project in San Francisco, AIDS Project Los Angeles, the Howard Brown Clinic in Chicago, HERO in Baltimore, the Whitman-Walker Clinic in Washington, D.C., and, as far as I can tell, leading AIDS organizations in every major US city had problems that brought them to the brink of disaster—or beyond.

When the groups were founded in the early '80s, they had no competition—no one outside the lesbian and gay community wanted to have anything to do with AIDS. As federal grants became available, they got them almost without trying, by default.

Volunteers flooded in by the thousands. The organizations mushroomed overnight from small groups of friends to outfits with multi-million-dollar budgets. Frequently they were run by cliques or authoritarians, but they got the job done, and even the few people who were reluctant to attack the organizations on the front lines of the epidemic.

In 1987 the shit began to hit the fan. Mainstream organizations began to compete for the grants and easily took them away from the unsophisticated gay community organizations. Comparatively when HERO of Baltimore attempted to renew its first three-year grant, it was asked to produce its receipts. "What receipts?" they asked; they didn't know they were supposed to save them.

Miraculously, they were able to retroactively get 97 percent of them, but only at great cost and effort.

Last year, AIDS Project Los Angeles suddenly "discovered" that it was "missing" about \$1 million, and I still haven't heard any convincing explanation of where it went.

Bad leadership was common, perhaps a natural consequence of such sudden growth. The Howard Brown Clinic in Chicago went through four executive directors in two years; rumor had

it that the clinic's board of directors made it impossible for the director to get anything done.



The sad case of the Shanti Project under Jim Geary is well known. An all-powerful manager out of control, a board of directors that is little more than a rubber stamp, and a helpless, burnt-out, demoralized staff—it's a story that was all too common and can still be seen (e.g., the ongoing controversy at National Gay Rights Advocates, a national gay and lesbian legal organization that has lost or fired virtually its entire staff). Insensitivity to women and people of color was common in many organizations, founded as they were by Anglo gay men, and the organizations

will have to work hard to overcome the distrust they earned from these communities.

Finally, that seemingly endless flood of volunteers dried up. Eric Rofes of Shanti has commented that in 1985 direct service was "sexy"; everyone wanted to do it. Now, people are burned out. That initial feeling of "crisis" is over, and caring for the sick and dying now seems less like a sacred vocation and more like dirty, hard work.

In effect, the first generation of AIDS service organizations grew up in a hot-house environment: no competition, easy money, much volunteers. The task was hard, but everyone pitched in. Now the task is getting harder, but the resources are dwindling. The surprise is not that these groups went into crisis, but that they took so long to get there. Even so, it will take years for the affected organizations to recover from the years of mismanaged funds, poor leadership, weak outreach and burnout. It is unfortunate that they have to attempt this recovery in an atmosphere of limited funding, volunteer burnout and conservative backlash.

The original "San Francisco Model" aimed at keeping people out of hospitals and using volunteers instead of costly professionals. The new model under construction adds to that by carefully defining the tasks

undertaken by each organization, working together as much as possible and reaching out to form coalitions with every concerned community.

The new model has numerous benefits. Eliminating duplication of effort and increasing communications and referrals could lead to much greater efficiency. But much more important is the potential for political clout. If the coalition truly embraces all of the communities affected by HIV—gays, women, people of color, injection drug users, sex workers, youth—they will make a combo hard to beat. As the HIV crisis is getting more and more political in nature, this will take on primary importance.

There are plenty of obstacles to overcome. Will the big organizations be willing to yield their dominant positions to the coalition? Will the small organizations be willing to risk submersion in it? Will groups representing such diverse constituencies be able to find common ground? If they can, San Francisco will have forged a new path for the rest of the country, as it did six years ago with the original San Francisco Model.

Frankly, I don't see any other way out of the looming crunch.

Media Atrocity of the Week

An op-ed piece in the *Chronicle* last Thursday obscenely
(Continued on page 23)

AIDS Briefs

AIDS and Vision Loss Conference Set

Professionals across all-service delivery fields—medical, social work, rehabilitation, psychological and others—will meet for the first international conference on "AIDS and Vision Loss" Jan. 25-26 at the Marriott Hotel in San Francisco. Made possible by a generous grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the "AIDS and Visual Loss" conference is being co-sponsored by the American Foundation for the Blind's Western Regional Center and the Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, San Francisco. The program will feature presentations from leading AIDS researchers, hospice workers, physicians and others involved in the treatment of persons with AIDS. "An estimated 75 percent of PWAs lose their vision, often as a result of the cytomegalovirus," said Diane Wormsley, Ph.D., director of AFB's Western Regional Center and co-coordinator of the conference. "We are bringing together AIDS-care providers and agencies providing services to blind and visually impaired people to share resources and information." The opening session on Jan. 25 will feature presentations from four subject areas—medical, psychosocial, administrative/legal, and rehabilitation/education.

Beta Issue Offers ddl, Q, AZT Info

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation has released its latest issue of BETA (The Bulletin of Experimental Treatments for AIDS) which provides an overview of the promising anti-HIV drug ddl; summarizes the latest information about Compound Q; examines prevention of Pneumocystis Carinii Pneumonia; and gives an update on AZT. According to BETA Editor Ron Baker, the ddl report reviews possible toxicities and the results of early trials as well as outlining the criteria for the expanded access program and Phase II trials. "The article on PCP is important because it suggests that existing guidelines calling for prophylaxis at a T-cell count of 200 or less are antiquated. People are developing PCP at higher T-cell counts," Baker said. "As a result, some people should begin preventative treatment even earlier." This issue of BETA also contains a directory of open HIV trials in the Bay Area. BETA is being distributed free in San Francisco hospitals, health clinics, AIDS agencies and select bookstores. For a subscription or for more information, call the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Hotline: 863-AIDS or 800-FOR-AIDS.

Shanti Care Home on Hold

Because of earthquake damage to one of Shanti's 14 independent living homes, plans to open a 24-hour care facility for people with AIDS requiring round-the-clock attendant care have been put on indefinite hold. Shanti is urgently seeking a total of four apartments capable of housing four individuals each for \$1,200 or less each per month. Information available from Ellie Cousineau, Shanti Residence Director, at 777-2273.

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Wayne Friday

More Lincoln Fallout

The Lincoln Savings & Loan scandal has produced political fallout not only for Alan Cranston and four other U.S. senators (The Senate Five) but has touched on the credibility of Republican Governor George Deukmejian, a beneficiary of big contributions from Lincoln's discredited boss Charles Keating, and this week the continuing saga threatened gubernatorial candidate John Van de Kamp, the current attorney general.

When state thrift examiner Richard Newsom told an Assembly subcommittee last week that Van de Kamp's office had discouraged efforts to halt junk bond sales by the troubled Lincoln Savings & Loan, Van de Kamp and his aides quickly called Newsom a liar. But interim memos surfaced later that showed Newsom's testimony was largely correct—and that the attorney general's office knew considerably more about the matter than it had acknowledged.

Whether these revelations will damage Van de Kamp's high-flying campaign for governor remains to be seen.

Meanwhile, former San Francisco mayor Dianne Feinstein may or may not, depending on who you talk to, be ready to sink some of her and her wealthy financier husband Dick Blum's millions into her lagging gubernatorial effort. Most insiders, even those who are not favorable to the former mayor, agree that if she is willing to help bankroll her own campaign—something she has seemingly been unwilling to do—the Feinstein-for-Governor effort still has a chance to overtake the unexciting John Van de Kamp.

Even some of Feinstein's most loyal backers are annoyed at what one of them said is "Dianne and Dick's apparent feeling that others should finance her campaign," leaving their millions safely in the bank, and nearly all now agree that unless the candidate and her very wealthy husband are willing to part with some of their own money, this one is all but over.

Senator Pete Wilson, the certain Republican nominee for governor in next year's race, is stashing the campaign bread in the bank. A fundraiser featuring Ronald Reagan in L.A. last week netted \$700,000 for the Wilson campaign, bringing the senator's current in-hand cash figure to \$5 million, a quarter of what most think will be a \$20 million campaign by the state Republicans.

In what promises to be one of the more interesting statewide contests next year, Matthew (Kip) Fong, the 36-year-old lawyer son of Secretary of State March Fong Eu, announced that he will be the Republican candidate against incumbent Controller Gray Davis. Demos and Republicans alike agree this could spell trouble for Davis.

Gay activists in Texas applauded that state's Commission on Judicial Conduct for publicly censuring District Judge Jack Hampton of Dallas last week for admitting he gave a lighter sentence to a killer because the victims were gay. The action was described as being "tantamount to denunciation." The censure is the strongest action the commission could take short of recom-



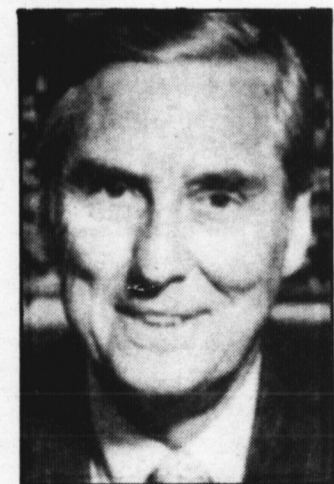
Sup. Angela Alioto.

mending removal of the 57-year-old Republican judge from the bench, a move many gay and lesbian activists in Texas had hoped for.

Some of Supervisor Angela Alioto's board colleagues are snickering at how the acting mayor handled the confusion surrounding last week's fatal construction crane accident. Understandably enough, the supervisor did give out some conflicting reports during the day (based on information she was supplied with), but some of her board "friends" are quietly suggesting she "blew" her big chance.

San Francisco school Superintendent Ramon Cortines, who already has enough critics in this town, has quietly withdrawn an offer to use admitted sex offender Roger Boas, a former supervisor and mayoral candidate, as a consultant on three capital projects planned by the district. Cortines announced this week that because of "objections" by some school board members, he had dropped Boas as an unpaid consultant on the projects. Boas was fined \$100,000 and sentenced to various community service and cleanup projects. Cortines said Boas' consulting work might have counted toward his community service requirements. "I have a real problem with how long we choose to humiliate a person trying to rebuild his life," Cortines said, referring to Boas.

Senator Lloyd Bentsen, last year's Demo vee nominee, will be the star draw at next Wednesday's (the 13th) California Democratic Party fundraiser at the Fairmont. (\$1,000 per person; 6:30 cocktails, with dinner at 7:30; contact the state party headquarters if you want to make this one.)



Lloyd Bentsen.

On the eve of last Friday's World AIDS Day, President Bush issued a statement saying the best way to fight the spread of "this terrible disease" is through education. Bush also expressed compassion for sufferers of the deadly virus, spread through sex or shared needles with an infected partner. The White House issued the remarks shortly before Bush left for Malta

and his summit with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, and though Bush's remarks about the disease represent an awareness never shown by his predecessor Ronald Reagan, those marking World AIDS Day were quick to agree that Bush falls far short of what is needed to bring even more attention to the dreadful epidemic.

Meanwhile, in London, Princess Diana chatted and joked with AIDS patients on World AIDS Day as she opened a new AIDS ward at London's St. Mary's Hospital, giving "enormous confidence to people who otherwise feel alienated and cast aside" as she sat on patients' beds, clasped their hands, and listened intently to them.

John Dunne, a former New York state senator, has emerged as the leading candidate for the nation's top civil rights enforcement job. Dunne, a lawyer, has received the support of some liberal Democrats. (New York Rep. Charles Rangel, a liberal Democrat: "If the president has to pick a Republican, he couldn't pick a more decent one than John Dunne.") As a member of the New York state Senate, Dunne sponsored anti-discrimination legislation to protect those infected with the AIDS virus and pursued anti-sex discrimination provisions in state insurance law.



Jean Harris.

You think Mayor Art isn't thinking about a higher statewide office? One report has it that the mayor's longtime political advisor, Richie Ross, is already jokingly referring to the popular mayor as "my friend, Senator Agnos."

49er owner Eddie DeBartolo, Joe Montana, Ronnie Lott, and the other world champions are expected at Tuesday's big \$1,000-per-person bash at DeBartolo is throwing at the St. Francis for his "favorite gubernatorial candidate," Dianne Feinstein.

Dick Hongisto is all set to announce he will definitely run for city assessor next year, clearing the way for a political free-for-all for Dick's Supe seat.

Incidentally, some of Jack Molinari's friends are urging him into attempting a political comeback, but don't bet on it.

And those who are supposed to know these things say the room temperature really drops when Mayor Art and Supervisor Wendy Nelder appear at the same function.

Jean Harris, Supervisor Harry Britt's City Hall chief of staff, slated to become the Milk Demo Club's new president? Those who know City Hall say she is one of the most qualified aides in the building, and Britt is lucky to have her.

Mike Hippler

Better GLAAD Than Mad

Say you're growing up in Modesto, and you've decided to face your homosexuality at last. You're either too young or too afraid to enter the one gay bar you've heard about, and you don't know any other gay people. You know that organizations for people like yourself exist, perhaps even in Modesto, but you don't know how to contact them. So what do you do? Let your fingers do the walking through the Yellow Pages?

Get serious.

You are. Only a month ago, such a solution to your problem would have been a pipedream. But soon, thanks to an organization called Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, consulting the Yellow Pages is exactly what you could do.

Inspired by their New York counterparts, who won an eight-month long legal battle with the New York/New England phone company, members of the local chapter of GLAAD recently persuaded Pacific Telephone to include a "Gay and Lesbian Organizations" category in phone directories throughout California and Nevada.

Noted Byron Potts, co-chair of the San Francisco chapter of GLAAD, "This will increase the visibility of those organizations, both within the gay and lesbian community and in society at large. And because it is the community's responsibility—and not that of the phone company—to provide the listings (which could run into the thousands), in a way this action represents a massive coming out process for us."

Visibility is the key word here. From the very beginning, the major concern of GLAAD was to ensure the dignity of lesbian and gay people by monitoring the public arena. It was founded in New York City in 1985 by a group of people who were infuriated by the habitual lack of coverage of gay and lesbian concerns in the *New York Times* and by the vitriolic and sensationalist coverage in the *Post*.

"All [the New York group] wanted," Potts explained, "was fair coverage in the press. They were not interested in being a gay glee club, a rah-rah group promoting gay propaganda. They simply wanted a realistic, accurate portrayal of our concerns, with respect for our diversity and disdain for stereotypes."

As the group grew and expanded nationally—there are now chapters across the United States, including one in San Francisco—so did the scope of

its concerns. Monitoring the media remained a priority, but equally important was combating defamation wherever it occurred—in statements by public figures like Jesse Helms or William Dannemeyer, for example.

Within these rather broad parameters, the one rule of thumb seemed to be, "If it makes someone mad, do something about it."

Like its focus, the methods GLAAD has used to achieve its aims have also increased over the past few years, from letter-writing campaigns and public protests in the beginning to negotiations and computerized phone-tree "activations" now.

"We don't want attention," Potts claimed. "We want results. That's why we're more interested in negotiation than in street demonstrations. Picketing is fine, but it isn't enough. Winning requires collecting data and providing evidence. We refuse to substitute rhetoric, polemics and ideology for hard work."

"Of course, this doesn't mean that we won't take to the streets if we feel it's necessary—which we have done in the past. We do believe in confrontation, in exerting pressure. But for us, confrontation can mean any number of things, from street protests to sitting across from a producer in a grey flannel suit and presenting a well-documented report. It's the latter that more often gets results."

In the short year and a half since the San Francisco chapter of GLAAD has been active, it has used all these methods to promote a wide range of interests. The group's first action—a relatively simple one—was to urge gay people to participate in Valentine's Day dedication programs sponsored by Bay Area radio stations.

Later, GLAAD initiated a letter-writing campaign to the editors of the *San Francisco Chronicle* when the *Chronicle* ran an inflammatory survey asking, "Are there too many gays in San Francisco?" Group members also met with the news and editorial departments of the paper and responded to the survey with a guest editorial of their own.

When homophobic disc jockey Alex Bennett of KITS promoted anti-gay comic Sam Kinison on his show, GLAAD protested. Bennett was dismissed from his job soon after this, presumably for unrelated reasons (although Potts refused to speculate).

Unfortunately for the gay and lesbian community, Bennett's replacement was Perry Stone, a former disc jockey for KSJO in San Jose, who had a reputation for gay-baiting equal to that of his predecessor. As a result, GLAAD activated the phone tree and issued press releases before Stone ever appeared on the air.

Meetings with KITS management followed, and the group obtained a number of concessions, including gay and lesbian public service announcements five to seven times a day, a major gay/lesbian fundraiser once a quarter, and gay and lesbian comics on the air, as well as two shows, "Rubyfruit Terrace" and "Hibernia Beach." KITS even promised to muzzle Perry Stone.

Besides initiating its own projects, the local chapter of GLAAD also participates in national actions. When the national office convinced Bob Hope to apologize for an anti-gay joke by making a public service announcement condemning anti-gay violence, the locals persuaded Bay Area television stations to broadcast it.

And when the NBC Nightly News promoted a story concerning the "troubled homosexual" who allegedly caused the explosion on the USS Iowa, GLAAD members across the nation joined forces to pressure NBC executives to meet with them. As a result, NBC promised to include gay and lesbian viewpoints in gay-oriented stories; the network also promised to concentrate on more positive gay and lesbian images, like Naval Academy midshipmen fighting their expulsion from the military rather than "troubled homosexuals" blowing up their comrades.

More recently, when the investigator for the Texas State Commission on Judicial Conduct recommended that charges of prejudice against Judge Jack Hampton be withdrawn (Hampton was the judge who, following the murder trial of Richard Bednarski, said that Bednarski's gay victims were "looking for trouble"), GLAAD sent the Commission 10,000 postcards in protest. Soon thereafter, the commission rejected the investigator's recommendation and censured the judge.

Finally, when half the sponsors of the television show *thirty something* pulled their advertising because an episode of the show "promoted homosexuality," GLAAD members wrote letters of thanks to the show's producers for including gay characters.



GLAAD's Perry Stone press conference held earlier this year. (Photo: Rink)

Then, through contacts in the television industry, they began researching exactly who pulled out and why—in preparation for a pressure campaign against one or more of those advertisers.

As its leaders point out, GLAAD is so active because it has to be.

"For every nine cases of defamation," Brian Potts noted, "we're lucky if we can focus on one. An incident occurs every few minutes on radio, television or in print. Far too many of these are left unchallenged, because we just don't have the resources."

The results of this situation, he continues, include increased violence and discrimination, decreased political support, and loss of dignity for all gay and lesbian people.

Much of this can be prevented with community support, of course. GLAAD is soliciting dedicated members and supporters. To find out more about GLAAD, call 861-4588, or write: GLAAD/SFBA, 2379 Market St., Box 38, San Francisco, CA 94114.

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MURPHY'S MANOR

by Kurt Erichsen

In 1957 my Uncle Nikki seduced Rock Hudson at a cream cheese soiree. James Dean was furious, and never spoke to Nikki again.

That's nothing. My grandfather once rimmed the Pope during an audience.

And I thought you were supposed to kiss the ring!

In 1960, my brother spent a night with Sal Mineo.

Don't be silly! You're making that up!

A friend of my Aunt Lucretia's third cousin once had Roy Rogers and Trigger.

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This Is Truth

by John Parkes

Certain dates are irrevocably committed to personal memory. Two years ago, on June 1, I moved to San Francisco. This year on June 1 someone tried to murder me. The thing is, I haven't yet died.

The evening of June 1 was reasonably warm and fogless. I arrived home tired but hungry, too lazy to cook for myself. I grabbed my coat and walked out into a night that would only grow darker.

It wasn't my intention to go out "on the prowl." A burrito in the Mission filled my hunger for food; a drink in the Castro promised to quench my thirst and fill my need for the company of other people. The Midnight Sun had music videos, and besides, it was still early: The pretty boys in the prettier sweaters hadn't yet begun to line up outside the door. I walked in and stood beneath one of the monitors, watching the opposite one.

I planned on staying no longer than it took to finish my drink. I planned on going home. I planned on marking my second year quietly, allowing June 1 to fade into obscurity. I didn't plan on the handsome man, who stood at the far end of the bar, walking over and standing beside me. I didn't plan on the radiant smile he gave me when I looked over my shoulder. For the purpose of the story I'll give this man a name: "Roberto." It fits his dark complexion, brown eyes, dazzling teeth. Roberto was proud of his body, of how he had carefully shaped it. Of how it revealed itself through strategically worn-out jeans, a loose tank top. He was about my age—30, 33—and about my height—5'10", 6'—and clean-shaven. His receding hairline, nearly bald on the top of his head, only added to his vaguely exotic appeal. I sipped my drink awkwardly, wondering if his move next to me was deliberate or accidental. Was he making a move on me, or was it just a good vantage point to watch who came in, who left?

I can't remember what was said first. Our conversation was initially words jumbled together for the sake of noise, for the purpose of filling gaps. They grew a little more personal: words describing our jobs, our histories. What we do for fun,

where we have traveled. We both shifted nervously while we spoke, accidentally and not accidentally brushing against one another. I drank more slowly, extending my time, flattered by the attention and wondering where the evening would lead.

A little more time passed and the small talk passed away. There wasn't too much left to say, and the void created by words unspoken was filled with the strange sensation of sexual excitement. And then he spoke: "I have to pick up a friend who works late, but it's not for a few hours yet. We could stay here, or we could go someplace and get to know each other better."

I had expected he would say something like this, because I had toyed with the thought of saying something similar. He shuffled nervously, and I stared intently at the monitor.

"I... uh... well, sure I guess," I stammered. He smiled at me. I couldn't understand my good fortune. I would remember June 1, I was sure. We walked outside.

"I hope you don't think I do this a lot," he said reassuringly. "I'm not like a tramp, or anything. I'm just interested in you."

It had grown cold out. I shoved my hands in my pockets, and my voice broke like an adolescent's. "No," I answered. "I understand." And then I half-laughed and said something I can't forget: "Besides, life is short. It should be sweet."

"Right," he replied, smiling. Moments later we stood in my apartment. Roberto had followed me on his motorcycle. He apologized in the warmth of my apartment for his cold hands. There were a few interruptions at first: a phone call, a neighbor at the door. Fate, having provided this opportunity, now seemed intent on delaying it. I consciously thought this, but Roberto and his rapidly warming hands turned my thoughts from the metaphysical to the physical.

transmitted and how I could avoid it. I hadn't been tested for HIV but was certain I had not been infected.

A short time later it took a great deal of willpower to push Roberto away from me and whisper, "No, not without a condom, I won't." In the half-light of the room, his hands and body changed course, but then again, with insistence, he pressed against me, making it clear he desired unprotected, unsafe sex. And again, I pushed him away. This happened a third time, and I strengthened the tone of voice. I would not submit to unsafe sex. And he seemed to finally understand.

"Fine," he said with irritation, "get a damned condom."

So I did. I even opened the package and handed it to him.

And a few moments later, after various physical distractions, he got what he wanted. And he knew it. And I got something I didn't want. But I didn't know that yet.

After a while, Roberto strode into the bathroom, got dressed, and left to pick up his friend. I luxuriated for a few minutes, wondering at the vagaries of fate. All I had been after was a burrito and a beer. Instead, I stumbled into a little fantasy.

I live in an old building. It has great views and lousy plumbing. So when I went into the bathroom after he had left and saw the condom floating in the toilet, I deliberated about flushing it down. I didn't want to create a clog. And as I stood over the bowl, looking at this transparent souvenir of the evening, I noticed that something seemed wrong about the condom. It seemed empty.

I fished it out with trembling fingers. It was empty. It was not intact. There was no tear, no rip. There was, however, a hole in the tip the diameter of a pencil. Water from the toilet poured through the condom as I stood through the edge of the sink. I thought, "No, I'm not seeing this." I put the condom down on the edge of the sink. I walked out of the bathroom, and shut off the light. I sat in the dark of my living room and absently stroked my cat. Then I went back in the bathroom and looked again at the condom, as if I might have imagined the whole thing. But I hadn't.



"Well?" asked my friend. "He gave me a list of books," I said. "One is called *Living with AIDS*."

We stopped for a moment, and I idly observed my friend's bewildered face. I asked to be taken home, and on the way I stared at my thumbnails, and the little pink crescents of blood just underneath that somehow didn't feel like my blood anymore.

Many weeks have since passed. In the opinions of my physician, my counselor at the health foundation, my therapist—all newly formed, highly respected connections as a result of the infection—I contracted the virus through that single contact with Roberto on June 1. I have since recovered my "health," though not the weight. I keep busy at work. I have to keep busy.

I watch now, distanced, as my emotions sweep over me like waves on the beach: anger, fear, pain, sadness. If I could believe I contracted the virus at some other time, some other place, it would not alleviate these feelings, but I think they'd be easier to deal with. I replay that one evening over and over again in my mind. It is all too easy to recall that sense of nausea I felt when I stood over the toilet bowl late in the evening of June 1, staring at an empty condom and making a silent, unheeded prayer as my hand reached to learn the truth. I've relived that feeling every day, and ask again and again: Why? Why, Roberto?

A gay man—one of "our own"—exploited my need—our need—to be flattered, to be desired, to be held—needs that seem too frequently absent in the gay community. This man, with his dazzling teeth and attractive body, played upon these desires, but used his body as a lethal weapon. He tried to murder me, and ultimately may succeed.

Even if the wishes of my friends and the medical community come true, that someday soon a wonder drug will stop or erase the virus from my body, it will not be able to restore to life those pieces of me already silenced. My faith, my trust, my compassion seem to have fallen away, scattered beyond reach like so many dried leaves.

Last weekend I intended to go to the supermarket. Instead, I passed it, and found myself upon a beach just north of Santa Cruz. I walked the endless strip of deserted sand, watched the seagulls wheel and call, then sat, and watched the waves, one after another. I made a silent plea: If there is a God, speak to me now, explain to me this cruelty; if there is some manifest destiny, why this course, why this event; if there is something within myself, some ancient spirit, allow me to understand. I need to know why.

Is there an answer? There is existence, and non-existence, between which is a transition of some kind, at some critical point. But I don't know when that transition occurs. Is it now? Or to follow? Is it self-inflicted, or at the hands of fate and a stranger? Is there no explanation? I waited for an answer, and found none. I watched the waves: each different, but similarly swelling with life and cresting; each leaving with a whisper.

I tell my story in the hopes that this will not happen to you, that you, in some way, might guard against something so inconceivable, so cruel, so unanswerable. I must remind you as I must remind myself: this is not a work of fiction.

This is truth.

I lay in my bed that night without sleeping, going through the events of the evening over and over again, searching for the smallest clue. In the early morning light the condom was still there, still broken. I stared at it dully, and went to work.

About a week later I confronted Roberto. We stood in front of the elegant restaurant where he is a waiter. I explained what I had found. I explained my fears. I asked about his health.

"Oh, no, I'm fine," he said, "my health is excellent."

"Have you been tested?" I asked.

"Yeah. Yes. And I'm fine."

"Positive or negative?" I asked, feeling somehow ashamed.

"Negative. I'm fine. Listen, it probably broke when I pulled it off in the bathroom. Don't worry. It's fine."

And then he ran back into the restaurant.

I made an appointment with the San Francisco health department for a confidential test. I watched a video of how the virus works. I gave blood and walked out with a little yellow card representing the future. I was to come back in two weeks.

Several days later, at work, I didn't feel well. Not sick, just not well. I had an appointment the next morning in the Central Valley but knew I wouldn't make it. I got a co-worker to cover for me, and I went home.

The next morning my temperature was 105.

It remained that way for the next week, then broke. I became congested, and my doctor began to treat me for pneumonia. Another week went by. Sick, I dragged myself to the clinic for my test results. I handed over my yellow card. My counselor, a bookishly handsome man, checked it against his list.

"Your test results are negative," he said.

"Oh," I replied.

"You don't look well."

"I'm not."

I told him what had happened.

He suggested an immediate re-test. Blood was drawn; a band-aid supplied. I returned home, exhausted and feverish, clutching a small yellow card that would foretell my future, and I fell asleep.

The next two weeks passed

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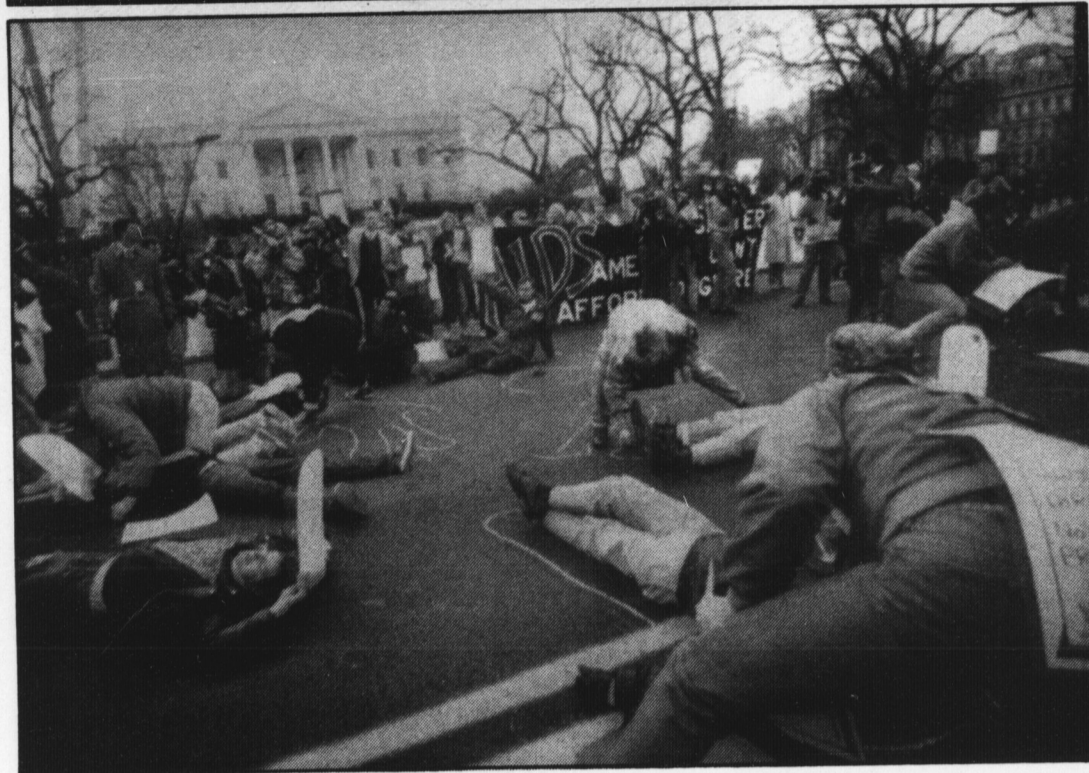
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BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 7, 1989 PAGE 13



AIDS activists block traffic on Pennsylvania Avenue in front of the White House. Eighty people were arrested. (Photo: Patsy Lynch)

(Continued from page 1)

The activists, who sat in the street for about five minutes before being taken away, were charged with blocking traffic, a minor violation, paid a fine and were released shortly afterward.

"There was a very strong sense that you were there because that was the only place you could be," said Pat Christen, executive director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. "There was a great deal of warmth, of sharing a small piece of history by being arrested. These people felt they absolutely had no choice. We all felt we were part of something that was very

important."

Cleve Jones, executive director of the NAMES Project, began the day by addressing the National Institute of Health.

"Today, we have everything we need to defeat AIDS: the institutions, the knowledge, the resources. All we lack is leadership from the White House and from Congress," Jones said.

After completing his speech Jones announced he planned to be arrested in the civil disobedience at the White House, to the surprise of those in attendance.

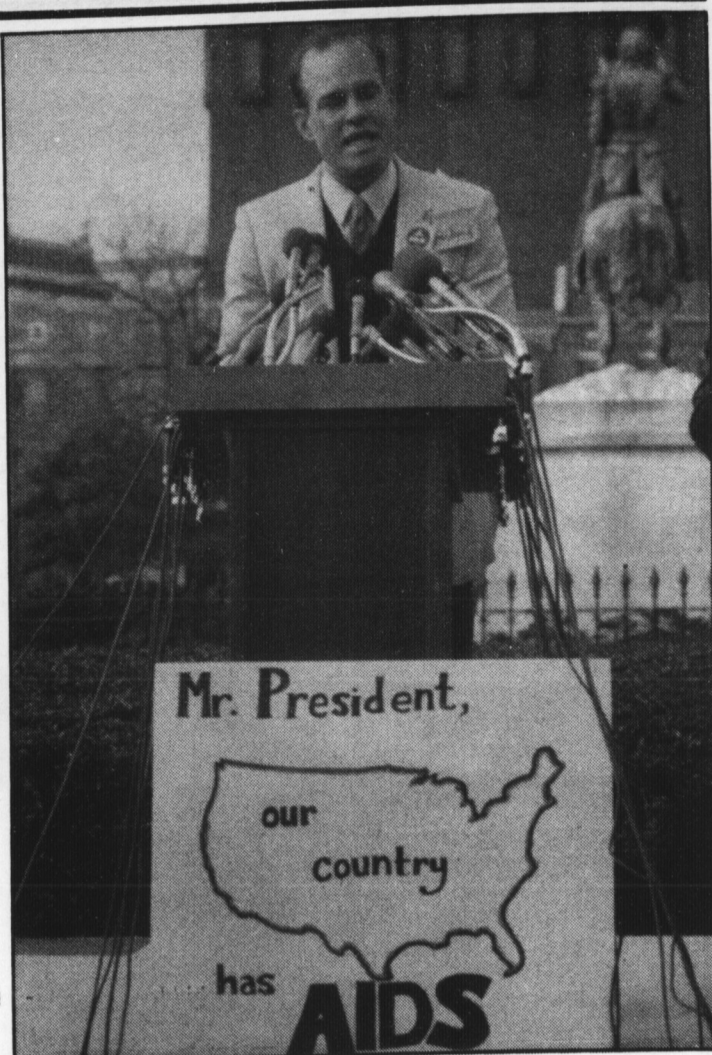
Paul Boneberg, executive director of Mobilization Against AIDS

began his day at a Washington church where people were being briefed on civil disobedience. He later addressed a rally in Lafayette Park across from the White House before joining protesters in Pennsylvania Avenue.

Opening the rally, Urvashi Vaid, executive director of the National Lesbian and Gay Task Force, welcomed the crowd to "the world capital of AIDS neglect."

These [AIDS] organizations are the frontline in this country's response to AIDS," Vaid said.

"It is a line that has been paid for, cared for, nurtured, not by the



AIDS activist Paul Boneberg addresses rally at Lafayette Park in Washington on Dec. 1. (Photo: Patsy Lynch)

government, certainly not by this administration, but by we, the people of this country."

"We marched into the street and took over Pennsylvania Avenue," Boneberg said. "We were in front of the White House yelling 'Shame, Shame, Shame.' There was a feeling of euphoria from the moment we surged into the street until the moment we got out of jail."

"That was very energizing," he said. "It was sort of a reality check. People were invited from all over the United States, but only 76 were willing to get arrested. There were cheers as each person came into the cell. At one point a guard came in and said to stop singing 'so you can hear your number' called."

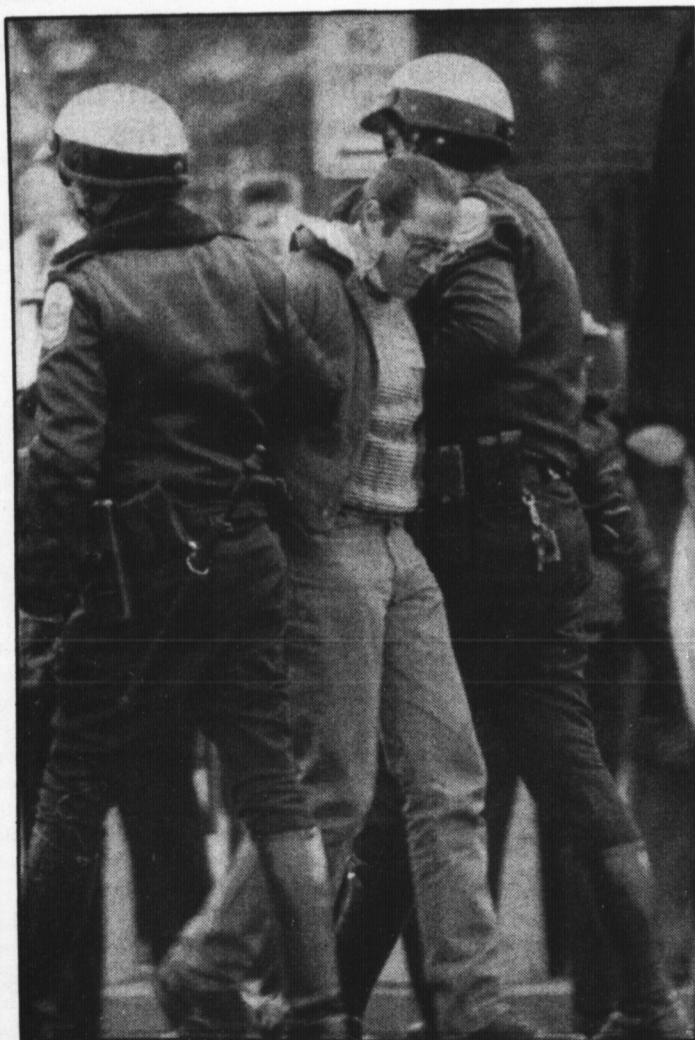
"Next year I would like to see 1,000 people be arrested in front of the White House," Boneberg said.

"I think the reason we did it we had no option," Christen said. "In the next 12 to 18 months the number of people with AIDS will double. The San Francisco community cannot be expected to continue to carry the fiscal burden on their backs."

"I think it is unusual for the executive directors of these very large AIDS organizations to block traffic and get themselves arrested," Christen said. "I think it says we are very serious about the level of crisis we are entering into, that this isn't just lip service. We need the president to respond to the tragedy that it is."

A day before the demonstration the Bush White House issued a statement calling the activists demonstration a "commemoration."

(Continued on Page 2)



An AIDS activist is carried away by District of Columbia police. (Photo: Patsy Lynch)

NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

Priest with AIDS Disrupts Conference at Vatican

by Rex Wockner

A British priest with AIDS disrupted November's Vatican AIDS conference by jumping up and proclaiming, "I am living with AIDS and I have no voice at this conference," according to *Capital Gay*, a London newspaper.

Fr. John White reportedly held a banner reading "The Church has AIDS" while staging his one-man zap. He later told reporters that the Vatican "stage-managed" the conference to deny anyone with HIV an opportunity to speak.

"Dressed as I was in priest's robes," White told *Capital Gay*, they had to deal with AIDS as a problem which affects the people of God. I had hoped that my actions wouldn't be necessary, but the conference was so oppressive."

White was reportedly seized by Vatican guards, who took away his conference pass and expelled him from the building.

But other delegates promptly circulated a petition to protest his ouster and, following a one-man, five-hour vigil outside the building, White was invited back by conference President Archbishop Fiorenzo Angelini.

During the vigil, dozens of delegates reportedly came out and congratulated White for his action.

The Italian version of ACT UP scheduled a zip of the Vatican conference to protest White's treatment, but later cancelled the demonstration for fear of offending Pope John Paul II, according to the British reports.

Meanwhile, delegates to the confab adopted wholesale some of the conservative statements from a new US bishop's document that was hammered out during their November meeting in Baltimore.

Official Roman Catholic teaching allows for sexual expression only in heterosexual marriages and demands that every sexual act must be open to the possibility of procreation.

Condom use, even for married heterosexuals, is thus forbidden, even for disease prevention, because the rubber would prevent the sperm from possibly making contact with the egg. Masturbation and oral sex to orgasm are similarly forbidden, even for spouses.

The only approved form of birth control for Catholics, "natural family planning," requires a woman to chart her menstrual cycle on a calendar and regularly check the consistency of her vaginal mucus.

Previously known as the "rhythm method," the system is supposed to let a married couple know which days of the month the woman is fertile.

Condom use among Catholic homosexuals is prohibited because sex of any type among Catholic homosexuals is prohibited.

Theologians have not yet addressed the issue of whether a gay man using a condom compounds his sin or commits more than one sin simultaneously. ▼

Texas Censures Dallas Judge Because of Anti-Gay Remark

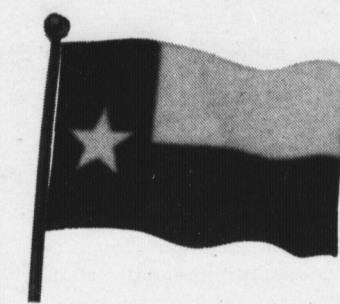
by Rex Wockner

The Dallas Judge who told the media last December that he gave a murderer a lighter sentence because the victims were "queers" was publicly censured Nov. 27 by the Texas State Commission on Judicial Conduct.

On Dec. 15, 1988, following the sentencing of 18-year-old Richard Lee Bednarski to 30 years in prison for the homophobic murders of Tommy Lee Trimble, 34, and John Lloyd Griffin, 27, District Court Judge Morris Jackson Hampton told a reporter for the *Dallas Times Herald*:

"These two gays that got killed wouldn't have been killed if they hadn't been cruising the streets picking up teenage boys... I don't much care for queers cruising the streets picking up teenage boys. I've got a teenage boy... Some murder victims are less innocent in their deaths than others. In those cases, a defendant is unlikely to deserve a maximum sentence... I put prostitutes and gays at about the same level. If these boys had picked up two prostitutes and taken them to the woods and killed them, I'd consider that a similar case."

In censuring Hampton, the state wrote that his comments had been "destructive of public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary [because] the public reacted to this judge's



comments with disbelief, abhorrence and indignation. The hostility and distrust generated by this judge's irresponsible statements," the state continued, "created an additional burden for the entire judiciary."

The censure was praised by New York's Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. Executive Director Craig Davidson, said, "it demonstrates that, in the eyes of the court system, a gay life is worth just as much as a straight life."

But the president of the Dallas Gay Alliance, William Waybourn, called the censure "merely a slap on the wrist."

"We're going to continue to push for the removal of Judge Hampton from the bench," Waybourn said. "If he's been found guilty of being biased, why is he still a judge? It's a cloud hanging over the entire Texas judiciary."

In a statement to the press,

Hampton's lawyers specifically blamed the Dallas Gay Alliance and the American Civil Liberties Union for Hampton's censure, charging that the commission "must have succumbed to pressure... from uninformed special interest groups."

Bednarski murdered Trimble and Griffin last Nov. 19 after they picked him up in the crummy Oak Lawn neighborhood and were forced at gunpoint to drive to a secluded park. Trial testimony showed that Bednarski ordered them to strip and then placed the gun in Trimble's mouth and pulled the trigger.

When Griffin was not killed by the first shot and attempted to crawl away, Bednarski stepped on his leg and pulled the trigger again.

Bednarski will be eligible for parole in 1996. ▼

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Religion Briefs

Gays in Holocaust Acknowledged

"Those who hate you, hate me," Nobel Peace Prize Winner Elie Wiesel told an audience of lesbians and gays and their supporters at the Eighth Annual Human Rights Campaign Fund Dinner earlier this month in New York. The noted scholar of the Holocaust was awarded HRCF's Humanitarian of the Year award. In his remarks, Wiesel recounted the shared experiences of the Jewish and gay communities in Nazi death camps, stating that he had seen gays "in those places of darkness, silence and fire." In a *New York Times* article writer Richard Plant noted that HRCF's dinner "marked a special day... for the first time in 50 years, the gay community and the Jewish community shared the pain of their memories." ▼

Episcopals Elect Gay to Policy Board

The Episcopal Diocese of Rochester has elected the first openly gay deputy to the Episcopal Church's highest policy making body, the General Convention. Bruce Colburn, chair of the Diocesan Homophile Commission and immediate past Northeast regional vice president of Integrity, the national lesbian and gay ministry of the Episcopal Church, was elected. Colburn is project director of Families of the Incarcerated, a project of the Rochester Interfaith Jail Ministry. He previously served as an Alternate Deputy to General Convention in 1988, and is on the Vestry (governing board) of his parish, St. Luke and St. Simon's, Rochester. The Diocese of Rochester has long been one of the most welcoming in the Episcopal Church to lesbians and gays. The joint Rochester chapter of Integrity and Dignity was formed at the initiation of a previous bishop, and has met ever since on Episcopal Church property. ▼

Gay Elected to Church Group Board

The first openly gay man to be ordained in a mainline Protestant denomination in the United States has been elected as program secretary of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries. The Rev. Bill Johnson of the United Church of Christ will assume the position of secretary for AIDS Programs and Ministries Coordination on Jan. 1. He was elected by unanimous vote upon recommendation by Dr. Charles Shelby Rooks, UCBHM executive vice president. After coming out publicly during his senior year at Berkeley's Pacific School of Religion in 1970, Johnson was ordained to Christian ministry in 1972, the first such occurrence in a mainline Protestant denomination. ▼

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Fetal Tissue Research Ban Disturbing to AIDS Activists

by Cliff O'Neill

In the wake of a recently announced federal ban on fetal tissue research, AIDS and legal activists are now carefully examining connections between the controversial research and the search for a cure for AIDS in contemplating a legal challenge to the prohibition.

The increased attention to the issue came after an announcement earlier this month by Secretary of Health and Human Services Louis Sullivan that the National Institutes of Health will now be banned from engaging in research using fetal tissue.

In making permanent an 18-month moratorium on fetal tissue research imposed last year, in a letter to the director of the NIH, Sullivan said the possibility that fetal research could encourage abortions outweighed the possible benefits from such research.

"[After] carefully reviewing all of the materials," wrote Sullivan, "I am persuaded that one must accept the likelihood that permitting the human fetal research at issue will increase the incidence of abortion across the country."

In making his decision, Sullivan, who has historically avoided making any decisions on the issue, passed the decision-making responsibility to Undersecretary of Health James

Mason, a staunchly anti-abortion Utah Mormon.

"This is a moral issue," Mason said at a Nov. 1 press conference announcing the decision. "I'm concerned that there could be a clear perception on the part of many that their government is encouraging or promoting abortion."

The HHS decision to clamp down on the cutting-edge research has raised the ire of medical researchers and AIDS activists alike, who have reacted with dismay.

"The whole idea that fetal research encourages abortions is sort of like saying the use of cadavers is encouraging murders," stated Greg King, communications director for the Human Rights Campaign Fund.

"I don't see anyone complaining about that. So the whole idea of it being a potential human life—if they believe life begins at conception—has no relationship to the scientific research. I don't think any reasonable person opposes appropriate restrictions on research, but those aren't even being discussed. What they're doing is cutting off all research. And when you do that it only sends the research overseas."

Fetal tissue research, now gaining heightened attention from scientists, involves the use of

aborted human fetuses to treat a myriad of illnesses, ranging from Parkinson's disease to birth defects.

Because fetal cells have properties which are much more adaptable than adult cells, investigators have been looking into transplanting fetal cells into adult bodies to replace damaged or diseased cells.

Presently, there is no federal-financed AIDS research underway involving fetal tissue, according to congressional sources working closely on the fetal research issue.

Although such research into AIDS is, at this point, theoretical, the National Organizations Responding to AIDS coalition lists "necessary research using animals, fetal tissue and recombinant DNA with appropriate safety and ethical guidelines" as priority issues deserving support.

Adding to the concern that the ban, which applies to any medical research using federal funds, could hamper AIDS research are recent comments made by Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute for Allergies and Infectious Diseases, at a recent meeting with AIDS activists.

Addressing the Treatment and Data Committee of the New York

(Continued on page 17)

National Briefs

Some AIDS Funds Reinstated

A compromise budget package passed in the final hours of the 1989 session at the 101st Congress reinstates some, but not all AIDS dollars cut in October by the automatic Gramm-Rudman budget ax. The budget reconciliation bill with the use of several accounting "gimmicks" will lessen the federal deficit to \$106.9 billion. The bill will now supersede the automatic across-the-board budget cuts that went into effect Oct. 15 when Congress had not yet passed a budget reduction bill by the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings deadline. However, as a concession to the Bush administration position, Congress will allow the automatic "sequester" cuts to remain in effect until February. Previously, most AIDS spending had been exempted from the budget cuts. This year, however, they were subjected to the same automatic 5 percent reductions as were most all other federal programs, resulting in an \$80 million cut from 1990's \$1.6 billion AIDS budget. The AIDS budget cuts will result in a final \$30 million loss from the original budget cuts with the original cuts, all agencies receiving federal AIDS funding—the Food and Drug Administration, the National Institutes for Health and the Centers for Disease Control, among others—will be directed to cut their budgets by the same percentage wherever they can.

—Cliff O'Neill—

ACT UP Targets St. Patrick's

ACT UP protesters plan to surround St. Patrick's Cathedral with a moving picket line and risk arrest on the morning of Sunday, Dec. 10 at 9:30 a.m. The gathering called STOP THE CHURCH will challenge Cardinal O'Connor and the Catholic Church hierarchy for their interference in public policy concerning AIDS and abortion. In addition, supporters of the demonstration will gain access to the church interior and create a civil disobedience action. A series of controversial and colorful posters, costumes and displays will highlight this major event. The church has not released any official statement regarding the upcoming demonstration.

Gay Rights Battle in Chicago School

A six-month fight to add protections for gays and lesbians to a suburban Chicago high school anti-discrimination policy continues to escalate as fundamentalist Christians face-off against a united front of community groups and school organizations. The controversy at Oak Park-River Forest High School began in June when the school board decided to add the phrase "sexual orientation" to its human dignity policy. Six months and three re-writes later the Christians remain outraged while much of the rest of Oak Park has come together to urge the policy's adoption. Supporters include mainstream churches, city government, and a host of school groups such as the Citizens' Advisory Committee, the Parents Human Relations Advisory Committee, the Parent-Teacher Organization, the Faculty Senate and the Student Council. Both the senior class president and the president of the Student Council have publicly lobbied for the measure. The Christians, meanwhile, staged two postal and newspaper blitzes containing detailed descriptions of homosexual love-making and a list of pro-gay moves they fear will follow the policy's adoption. Among much else, the Christians anticipate a gay prom, a gay awareness month and a gay studies curriculum. The school board is again set to vote on the measure Dec. 16. It is expected to pass unanimously, Wilson said, barring any unforeseen blow-ups in the interim.

—Rex Wockner—

Panel Eyes Security Clearance Policy

Two congressional subcommittees recently held a joint hearing to examine procedures governing the granting of national security clearances to gay men and lesbians who work on sensitive government projects. The hearing testimony "highlighted" disturbing and pervasive discrimination against gays and lesbians in the security clearance process," said U.S. Rep. Gerry Studds (D-Mass.). "Gay clearance applicants are subjected to disparately intensive scrutiny and extensive processing, as contrasted to other applicants," said Dr. Franklin Karnen, a long-time gay activist with extensive experience in security clearance procedures before agencies ranging from the Central Intelligence Agency to the Department of Agriculture. "Agencies engage in transparently pretextual efforts to get rid of gay men and lesbians without direct utilization of allegations of homosexuality," he said. Government agencies are not obligated to disclose reasons for clearance denials if they deem such disclosure "detrimental to national security." Several witnesses at the hearing argued that agencies routinely deny or revoke security clearances solely on the basis of homosexuality. The Department of Justice has filed briefs in two court cases that argue for the power to institute an across-the-board denial of all security clearances to all homosexuals. The House Subcommittees on Civil and Constitutional Rights and on Civil Service will continue hearings on related questions in the coming months.

Wellcome Funding Sexuality Survey

Wellcome, the British drug company that AIDS activists say overcharges for the anti-HIV drug AZT, has provided \$1.5 million to fund a comprehensive British survey of human sexual behavior. The survey—the first of its kind since Alfred Kinsey's landmark study in 1948—had been nixed by Britain's Conservative government because Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher felt the questions would be "an inappropriate intrusion into people's private lives." But the Wellcome Trust, a charity which owns 75 percent of Wellcome, PLC (known as Burroughs Wellcome in the US) quickly approved the funding when approached by the survey's steering committee. Known as the "National Survey of Sexual Behaviour," the two-year project will question 20,000 adults between ages 16 and 59. According to *Capital Gay*, a London gay newspaper, "once the survey is complete it will replace the 'Kinsey Report' as the most comprehensive study of human sexual behavior. And, as Thatcher may have suspected, it will reveal facts about sexuality, abuse and 'deviancy' which some people would prefer to keep buried."

Thailand's Sex Industry: An Armed 'AIDS Time Bomb'

by Rex Wockner

"Thailand is sitting on an AIDS time bomb," according to British writer Peter Tatchell, who visited Bangkok this fall.

"It's the world's leading center for sex tourism," Tatchell said, "and also has a massive drug problem arising from the production of heroin in the 'Golden Triangle' in the north-west section of the country.

Thailand reportedly has 200,000 women and 5,000 men employed in the sex industry, which caters mostly to foreigners who visit specifically for cheap, abundant sex.

And while many Westerners have in fact taught Thai prostitutes about safe sex, a measurable percentage of Europeans still go to the country to indulge in dangerous sexual practices, according to gay activist Natee Teerarajanapongs.

Most problematic at present, however, are rich Thais, South Koreans, Malaysians and other Asians who know very little about safer sex, Teerarajanapongs said.

In March of this year, Teerarajanapongs founded the Fraternity for AIDS Cessation in Thailand.

"Our first initiative," he told Tatchell was to get the sauna

Fetal Tissue

(Continued from page 16)

AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power Oct. 19, Fauci suggested that fetal liver transplantation may be the key to finding an eventual cure for HIV, the virus believed to cause AIDS.

Noting research into "triple negative cells" which is currently underway at Duke University, Fauci stated that the outcome of such research may indicate a need to delve into AIDS research using fetal tissue.

"If it comes to that," Fauci said, "then I think there really has to be some very serious pressure about [fetal research]."

When asked about the Bush administration's staunch opposition to abortion and, consequently, fetal research, Fauci told the AIDS activists they would do well to direct pressure on that front, saying, "I need support. I don't operate in a vacuum."

Based on Fauci's comments, AIDS activists are now investigating the possible connections between AIDS and fetal research.

Speaking in the Nov. 3 issue of *New York Newsday*, Fauci called the attention to his comments "much-to-do about nothing," adding that he is not conducting fetal thymic gland research and that his comments were "speculative."

Responding to Fauci's comments, however, ACT UP/N.Y. has made fetal tissue work a top priority item and has pledged to push for such research in reconstituting immune system function.

Whatever the outcome of the possible connection between AIDS and fetal research, however, all legal contacts suggested a legal challenge would be investigated, citing the unprecedented limit on scientific research by the government. ▼

owners' agreement to conduct anonymous HIV tests on their premises so we can discover the true scale of HIV infection in the gay male population.

"Following liaisons with the government's STD clinics," Teerarajanapongs continued, "we got them to provide the medical staff with HIV test kits... It will give us a more accurate picture of the spread of HIV and enable us to target public education more effectively.

Teerarajanapongs, a dancer, also formed the "Purple String" dance troupe, which tours gay bars to educate sex workers. The health ministry recently took Teerarajanapongs on as a consultant.

But a number of obstacles stand in the way of Thai AIDS educators. Foremost are the Buddhist teaching to accept one's fate, the social custom of deference to one's economic

superiors, and the expectation that a prostitute will do whatever a customer requests.

"There is also fear among the prostitutes," Teerarajanapongs said, "that if they insist on safer sex, they might lose their customers... There is a lot of competition for clients [and] this is a real disincentive to safer sex.

Following the direct involvement this year by the Thai royal family in the person of Princess Chulabhorn, the government set up 29 mobile AIDS units "to educate the public, test for the virus and investigate its source," according to a spokesman.

To date, the government has acknowledged 30 cases of AIDS, 100 diagnoses of ARC and about 10,000 cases of HIV infection.

In the meantime, Teerarajanapongs has appealed for help from the gay movement in the West. FACT particularly needs safer sex posters, condoms and money for a hotline, he said. ▼

Gay, Lesbian Activists Chart Change for '90s

by Cliff O'Neill

More than 500 gay and lesbian activists descended upon the Bethesda, Md. Holiday Inn over Veteran's Day weekend with a singular vision in mind: creating change. Attending the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's second annual "Creating Change" Conference, in a wide array of national executive directors and local volunteers tried to learn how to do just that.

Participants discussed their own tools of change, which included direct action, political lobbying and social pressure. At other workshops, some chose to more closely deal with issues facing the gay and lesbian movement such as sexism, racism and the de-gayng and re-gayng of AIDS while yet others focused on community building matters such as starting gay and lesbian campus groups and reaching out to older gay men and lesbians.

One central focus of the Veteran's Day weekend conference weekend was the Defense Department's policy exclusion of lesbians and gay men from military service.

Sgt. Perry Watkins, defendant in an ongoing case that seeks to rescind the military's anti-gay policy, highlighted the issue in his keynote address. Telling his tale of being denied reenlistment in the Army in 1982 despite the Army's knowing he was gay for 15 years, Watkins underscored the relevance of his fight to the gay and lesbian movement at large.

The conference, a national gay and lesbian leadership seminar for activists from across the nation, was established as one of four agenda items coming out of the "War Conference," a 1988 exclusive retreat for 200 of the nation's gay and lesbian activists. ▼



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Local AIDS Organizations Cite Growing Apathy in Community

by Michael C. Botkin

Fifty local community AIDS groups met on Dec. 1, World AIDS Day, in an all-day meeting to plan their response to AIDS in the coming decade.

The conference, which was originally planned for Oct. 19 but had to be rescheduled because of the earthquake, was co-sponsored by Shanti Project and the AIDS Service Providers Association of the Bay Area.

"Funding is leveling off, volunteer numbers are decreasing, and the number of clients continues to grow," said Eric Rofes, executive director of Shanti Project, speaking at a news conference following the meeting.

He told of how AIDS organizations were affected by the quake.

"\$200,000 was lost in cancelled benefits, and fourth-quarter donations are down—traditionally the biggest [fundraising] season," he said.

Rofes and others were particularly upset at an op-ed piece published in the *Chronicle*, titled "The Beginning of the End for AIDS Epidemic?" which proposed that the HIV crisis had "peaked."

"Estimates [of the incidence of AIDS] made in 1987 were actually too low," said Ernest Hinojos, acting education director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, refuting the *Chronicle's* editorial. "The epidemic is far from over. At this rate, in 1993 we'll be unable to meet the need [for services]," he said.

"What happened today is extraordinary," said Bob Munk, executive director of ASPABA. "There is a public perception that AIDS organizations are wasteful of resources. People ask, 'isn't there needless duplication [of services]?' This upsets me—it puts the burden of organization on these agencies in the absence of state coordination."

At the meeting the AIDS service organizations discussed ways to coordinate their efforts, but no concrete steps were taken at this time.

"What we did today was commit to a planning process," Munk said. "Should some organizations close their doors, and others narrow their range of services? Do we need 50 organizations doing pay-

roll and recruitment, or can we have a centralized one to do it?" Rofes asked.

The meeting was called in response to a rising sense of desperation felt by many AIDS service providers. "It feels like it did in 1981-1983 for those of us who were around then," Rofes said. "It's even more frustrating now. In 1985 providing care was sexy and we had the public eye. Now it feels like a has-been issue."

Munk acknowledged that there were many barriers to overcome in putting together a tighter alliance of AIDS service organizations.

"It has never been done before; historically there are rivalries and stereotypes," he said. "But now everyone is under such pressure that there's lots of motivation. Agencies are taking a hard look at their services and cutting back where they can; it's an encouraging start."

Munk pointed out that many people were initially skeptical about ASPABA, which is a loose coalition of groups.

Gay Groups Blast Weakening Of D.C.'s Human Rights Act

National and District of Columbia lesbian and gay organizations strongly denounced the recent anti-gay congressional vote that weakens the D.C. Human Rights Act and permits religiously affiliated educational institutions to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

The House, on Oct. 11, approved by voice vote the so-called Armstrong amendment. The amendment exempts religious educational institutions from D.C.'s Human Rights Act and its strong gay and lesbian anti-discrimination protections.

The amendment was sponsored in the Senate by William Armstrong (R-Colo.) and in the House by William Dannemeyer (R-Calif.).

Before passing the Armstrong-Dannemeyer amendment, the House rejected by 252-170 an alternative amendment supported by gay and lesbian activists.

"It's a sad moment for all people who believe in basic civil rights when the Congress explicitly authorizes discrimination of any kind," said Peri Jude Radevic, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force lobbyist. "This move is an invasion of home rule, a colonial exercise of power over the voters of D.C., and good old-fashioned anti-gay and lesbian bigotry."

In 1988 Congress passed a similar amendment, but Federal and Appeals Court decisions ruled

that the amendment violated the D.C. Councilmembers' First Amendment rights. The recent congressional action amends the D.C. code directly.

The amendment was created after an on-going battle between D.C.'s Georgetown University and its gay and lesbian student group was settled in court to the satisfaction of both parties.

"It takes amazing arrogance to gut D.C.'s Human Rights Act, enacted by the democratically elected government of the citizens of the District," said Roger Doughty, executive director of D.C.'s Gay and Lesbian Activist Alliance. "Congress wouldn't dare change any other city's laws, but it feels free to treat D.C. like a colony and use our gay and lesbian community as a punching bag for bigotry."

NGLTF, GLAA, the Human Rights Campaign Fund and the Gertrude Stein Democratic Club prepared for months for a showdown on the Armstrong amendment.

The organizations launched a massive direct lobbying campaign, mobilized grassroots pressure, urged religious leaders to speak out against the amendment, and cross-referenced member's votes on choice and gay issues to build coalition support.

The alternative language, supported by the gay and lesbian organizations and approved by

(Continued on page 22)

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS



Trans-Bay Protest

ACT UP protesters held a rally at Oakland Mayor Lionel Wilson's office on World AIDS Day to demand effective leadership against AIDS in Oakland. An informational picket was also held at the Department of Health Sciences Building in Berkeley demanding testing on "passive immunotherapy." ACT UP East Bay can be reached at 420-8864. (Photos: Jane Cleland)

ACT UP

(Continued from page 14)

tion to remember all those with HIV infection and all who have died from it."

"Though the problem is great and taxing our health-care system now, far greater difficulties await us in terms of human suffering in terms of health care," the White House statement said.

Bush, enroute to the US-Soviet summit in Malta, was not present during the demonstration.

The White House statement also noted that resources have been committed to AIDS services at what it called an "unprecedented rate," a statement that was greeted with angry chants from demonstrators.

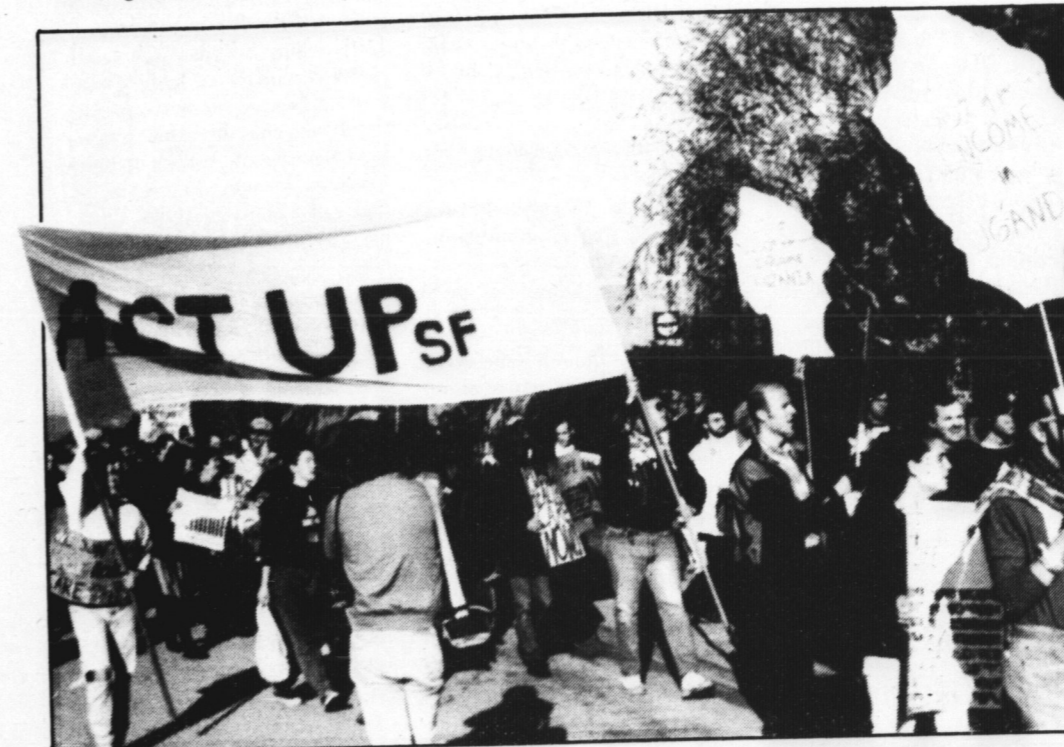
"If we had any illusions about George Bush," Boneberg said, "it ended on one symbolic day (Oct. 6), one block from the White House when the nation's families who were stricken with this disease were gathered in mourning



Police converge on ACT UP protesters at Burroughs-Wellcome AIDS Day demonstration.

around the AIDS quilt. And, literally, as they were there weeping around their children's panels, the president got in his helicopter and flew over the quilt with utter contempt.

"Mr. President," Boneberg said, "it couldn't have been worse if you had walked on the quilt and spit on it. It was absolute contempt for the people who are living and fighting AIDS every day." ▼



ACT UP/SF protesters march at Burroughs-Wellcome. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

BACW Fund to Benefit Programs, Services For Lesbians

Bay Area Career Women, a 1,300 member lesbian organization, has established a BACW Fund, administered through the Horizons Foundation, to benefit programs and services for and by lesbians.

"We established this fund to address the critical lack of funding for the many lesbian services in the greater Bay Area. We hope that the entire gay and lesbian community will join with BACW in making this fund a success," said Ann Wilson, BACW president.

The BACW Fund will target lesbian services and programs in art and culture, education, health, rights and human services for grants in spring 1990.

The organization has initiated a fundraising campaign to its general membership and hopes the

large will also support this fund.

"Although BACW has initiated this fund, its purpose is to provide grants to many lesbian services and projects. We would hope that everyone who would like to support lesbian services will donate to this fund," Wilson said.

"The strains on the gay and lesbian community are great. But our community must begin to mobilize to address the many urgent needs of the lesbian community," Wilson said.

For more information on this fund call or write the BACW office: 55 New Montgomery St., suite 606, San Francisco, CA 94105; 495-5393. To donate to the fund, make your check payable to Horizons/BACW Fund and mail to the BACW office. ▼

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Grant Cash Available For Gay Organizations

by Allen White

The Vanguard Public Foundation has grant money available for lesbian and gay community organizations. Application deadline is January 1.

In previous years the Vanguard Foundation has funded a whole range of gay-related causes, including the National Gay Rights Advocates and the Lesbian Rights Project. They were also one of the first groups to fund *Can We Talk?*, which was distributed by the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club. They also have funded the People With AIDS organization.

Special projects funded by Vanguard have included the AIDS Memorial Garden Fund, which supports the development of a memorial garden in Harvey Milk Plaza at the Castro Street Muni Metro station, dedicated to those who have died of AIDS.

Since 1987 Vanguard has administered donations to the National Public Health Project Against AIDS, which identifies public policies required to combat the AIDS epidemic effectively.

The fund supports Central American solidarity groups and promotes AIDS education and advocacy. They also manage a memorial fund set up in memory of Stan Criellos, a longtime activist in the gay and Latino communities who served as Vanguard's co-chair of the Board of Directors.

The Gay/Lesbian Youth Advocacy Council and the Mid-Peninsula Support Network are the only two organizations Vanguard funds with ties to the lesbian/gay community. And therein lies a problem for Vanguard.

Beth Rosales, executive director of Vanguard, says, "We have had a very slim number of proposals coming from the lesbian and gay community."

Rosales said Vanguard was in a position to fund many other gay-related organizations. "We are taking a pro-active position to ask people to apply for funding," she said.

Rosales is looking for gay civil rights organizations that need money.

"We felt that given the most recent publicity around Concord and Proposition S here, it was necessary to fund proposals that are engaged in civil rights issues," she said.

Because of their structure, Vanguard doesn't look for the larger organizations.

"One of our major criteria," she said, "because of our limited resources, is to look at small-budget organizations. Our intent is to seed new smaller organizations and to seed advocacy work."

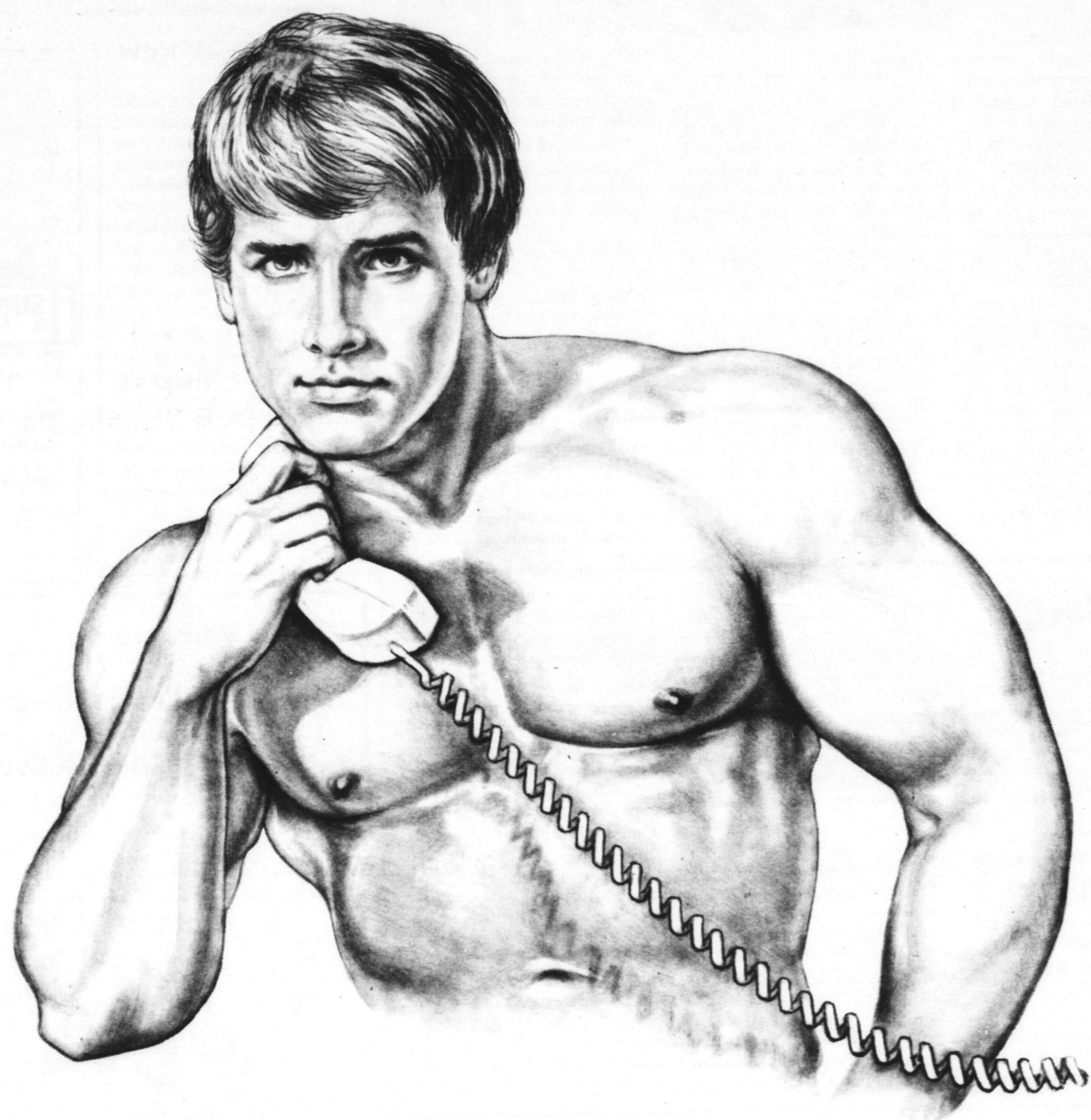
Dan Geiger, development associate at Vanguard, said, "Vanguard has long supported the gay rights movement, and has provided funds to many gay and lesbian organizations throughout Northern California. We are currently seeking to increase our funding."

A final decision on funding will be made within six months after the Jan. 1 deadline.

Organizations that are interested in obtaining further information should contact Dan Geiger at 285-2005 at the Vanguard offices in San Francisco. ▼

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**BAY AREA REPORTER
 ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

Jewish Gays "Own" Their Dual Birthrights

Twice Blessed: On Being Lesbian, Gay, and Jewish
 edited by Christie Balka and Andy Rose; Beacon Press; 304 pp.

by Mike Rankin

Proposition S, the domestic partners initiative, was narrowly defeated in San Francisco in November. Those who led the fight against it were Archbishop Quinn, Presbyterian minister McIlhenny, and Lionel Feldman, a fundamentalist rabbi without portfolio or congregation, a man largely unknown in the Jewish community of the Bay Area.

Two days before the election, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the million member Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the progressive wing of North American Judaism, gave a sermon to 4,000 delegates to the General Assembly of the UAHC in New Orleans. In his address Rabbi Schindler urged synagogue leaders to welcome lesbians and gay men to congregational membership as individuals, couples and families. He called for an end to discrimination against gays in employment and housing, and endorsed the ordination of lesbian and gay Jews as rabbis.

Eliminating Homophobia

That such a sermon could be given by the leader of the world's largest Jewish organization was due in large measure to the women and men whose writings are contained in a remarkable new book, *Twice Blessed: On Being Lesbian, Gay, and Jewish*. These individuals have worked

with Jewish leaders for 10 years or more, seeking to eliminate the homophobia still present in Judaism (as it is in all world religions), and to gain full equality for gay people in all aspects of their lives.

Twice Blessed was edited by San Franciscan Andy Rose, whose programs for people with AIDS have won national recognition, and by social activist Christie Balka, who has written and spoken in recent years on the Middle East, feminism, and lesbian and gay issues. She lives with her partner in Philadelphia. The book contains 26 essays on being gay and Jewish, including coming out in a Jewish family; reclaiming a place in Jewish history; the impact of homophobia on gay and lesbian rabbis, cantors and Jewish educators; and building a gay/lesbian Jewish family and community. There is also an excellent bibliography.

With two or three exceptions, the authors are gay or lesbian Jews. They are thoughtful, articulate, and passionate. They "own" their Judaism, as they "own" their gayness, and they will let no one take either from them. You don't have to be Jewish to love this book, or even lesbian or gay, though it is written mostly for us, and for those who are important in our lives.

Twice Blessed should be mandatory reading for every parent, religious leader and teacher. Per-

haps having read it, they will be supportive and understanding of the next generation of gay youth, and will not make their lives difficult, as many, though by no means all, made ours.

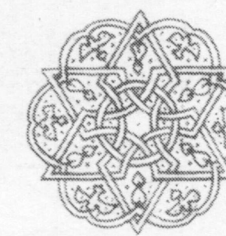
The authors not only reclaim their Jewishness, they enrich it. They are beautiful role models, teaching the whole community what it means to live a creative and committed life as a Jew in the modern world. In a sense the essayists resemble the townsfolk of Spoon River, each with a tale to tell. But their stories are more interesting, because they are above all *our* stories, whether we are Jewish or not.

One writer is Agnes Herman, a retired social worker who describes her "coming out" as the mother of a gay son. She is the parent we all should have had, proud of her offspring, loving and fervent in her insistence on Jeff's right to live his life openly and honestly.

Scott Klein and Paul Horowitz, a couple nice Jewish boychicks, wanted to get married—to each other. More accurately, they wanted to let the world know they were already married, in every way that counts. So they had a wedding, in Brooklyn no less. Their description of the "ceremony of commitment," and of the celebration that followed, is a joy and a hoot. Would the moms and pops come? They came, and Bubbe and Zayde with them.

**TWICE
 BLESSED**

**On Being Lesbian,
 Gay, and Jewish**



EDITED BY CHRISTIE BALKA AND ANDY ROSE

Would they collapse in a spasm of embarrassed indignation when the "grooms" marched in? They remained erect. As a matter of fact both families loved it, and so did 150 of Scott and Paul's closest friends who were also invited.

"It was a wonderful feeling," they write in their chapter. "Everyone was dancing the hora together, young and old, Jewish and gentile, gay and straight, black and white and Latino. We were high for weeks!"

(Continued on page 56)

Sarah Vaughan to Headline

'Hats Off to Hospice' Benefit on Friday

by Michael C. Botkin

When Patrick was told he needed 24-hour-a-day care for AIDS-related complications, he looked for alternatives to staying in hospitals or getting care at home. "I live in a third floor flat," he said. "I couldn't get around by myself and felt very isolated."

Instead he went to the Coming Home Hospice in the Castro. "I'm not lonely since I moved here," he said. "It's very free-wheeling and I'm with people a lot."

The Coming Home Hospice, which opened in March, 1987, is part of the Visiting Nurses and Hospice Program of San Francisco. The program will be celebrating its tenth anniversary on Dec. 8 with a benefit, "Hats Off to Hospice" headlined by singer Sarah Vaughan. The event takes place, Friday, Dec. 8 at the San Francisco Marriott.

The goal of the hospice pro-

gram is to provide a comfortable environment for terminally ill patients who need round-the-clock attention. The program provides in-home care and support for significant others and families in addition to operating hospices such as Coming Home.

"At a hospital they bother you over and over," said Ted, another Coming Home resident. "Every four hours they take your temperature or something. I'd much rather be here," he said.

Patrick, who spent much of the past three months in a hospital, described it as a "warehouse."

"I feel like a human being here; I have some dignity," he said of Coming Home. "The people here are wonderful."

He particularly liked the openness and accessibility of the hospice.

"It's easier to come and go here than it is at a hospital. People are put off by a hospital at-

mosphere, and it's a lot harder for them to visit you there," he said.

In addition to being more accessible to others, Patrick can get around easier himself.

"Yesterday a friend took me in a wheelchair to the Castro," he said. I could never do something like that at a hospital, and here they encourage it."

The hospice philosophy puts much more emphasis on social and emotional support than hospitals do. Hospices can't provide "heroic" last-ditch, life-extending treatments, but they do maximize opportunities for the residents and their friends and families to spend time together.

"Last night I went to my stepdaughter's house for dinner," said Patrick. "It was very poignant. This sort of thing makes you look at yourself. Since I came here, I've been more emotional;



Coming Home Hospice resident Teddy Lind.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

I can feel myself opening up," he said.

For Patrick, staying at the hospice has provided opportunities for spiritual care and growth completely absent in the hospital setting.

The Coming Home Hospice, a former convent, hosts 15 residents, about two-thirds of whom are people with AIDS. It is the nation's first bed-and-care hospice primarily for PWAs. Over 300 people have lived at Coming Home since its founding 2½ years ago. The staff of Coming Home includes nurses, social

workers, maintenance crew and volunteers.

Performing along with Sarah Vaughan at "Hats Off to Hospice" will be Weslia Whitfield, Scott Johnson, the Jesters, Jae Ross, Menage, and the cabaret trio Nicholas, Clover and Ray. Tickets for the event, which will include cocktails, dinner and an evening of cabaret entertainment, are \$150 and can be reserved by calling 923-3310, or purchased by phone by calling 762-BASS. Cabaret-only tickets are \$35. All proceeds will benefit VNH Hospice Programs. ▼

STAGE

Gender Agenda: Learning to Count Higher Than Two

by Wendell Ricketts

I was a woman who was a man playing a man written by a woman using a man's voice directed by a woman and coached by a man. Then I was a woman who was a man playing a woman written by a man using a woman's voice directed by a man coached by a woman. And finally I was a woman who was a man playing a not-man/not-woman in a woman's voice written by a not-woman/not-man and directed by myself. And I hope that clarifies it.

—Kate Bornstein

The night after seeing *Les Miserables*, I took in playwright Kate Bornstein's *Hidden: A Gender*, recently premiered at the Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros. Happily, the two shows have absolutely nothing in common, which is all to the credit of Bornstein, director Noreen Barnes, and their extraordinary cast (of which Bornstein is also a member).

In addition to being a great relief, *Hidden: A Gender* redeemed my conviction that theatre ought to be risky business—quirky, prickly, a triumph of substance rather than of form, even a bit subversive. *Hidden: A Gender* is all of these things, and more. It is one of the most remarkable pieces of organic theatre to come along in some time, and is all the more significant for being, so to speak, home-grown. I don't need to tell you what you'll be if you miss it. (Personal to Eureka and Life on the Water Theatres: One of you should snap this show up while the getting is good.)

Second Rhino Outing

Hidden: A Gender marks the second time in recent memory that Bornstein has trod Rhinoceros' stages. Last April, Born-

stein appeared in *The Balcony*, Genet's tale of ambiguous identity and sexual delusion, made all the more lacquered by the presence of Doris Fish, Miss X, and Tippi—a trio of gender benders if ever there was one. Bornstein's own gender pluralism in the role of the Judge brought a delicious sizzle to her B&D scenes with the Thief and the Executioner. (Okay, so Charles Ganim's deltoids helped, too.) A few months later, to no one's surprise, Bornstein won a Bette Rhino award for her performance in that part.

At the awards ceremony, Bornstein strode to the stage, clad in a leather vest and more-or-less identifiably "female" outerwear. When she reached the podium, however, statuette in hand, Bornstein paused just long enough for the audience to register the full impact of the bushy blonde moustache growing across her upper lip. As anxiety mounted, Bornstein dispelled it with a quip: "Being in *The Balcony* did this to me."

This was because, in addition to being a scamp ("Gender is a hoot!" says she), Bornstein is a transsexual lesbian. The terms are reductive, but let that go for the moment. Like all actors, but to a degree not common in the



Hidden: A Gender cast, left to right: Justin Bond, Sydney Erskine and Kate Bornstein.

craft, Bornstein has allowed her body to become the clay upon which identity is molded. Also unlike many actors, Bornstein is her own potter. *Hidden: A Gender*, then, is Bornstein's story, the articulate, fearless dramatization of an examined life.

Hidden: A Gender is framed as a circus sideshow, traditionally the province of society's curiosities, misfits and oddballs. But, Bornstein points out, modern "tabloid TV" has replaced the freak show, and host "Doc" Grinder (Bornstein) is thus half snake-oil salesman, half Gerald Rivera (on whose program Bornstein appeared earlier this year).

Dissolving Distinctions

Among other things, Grinder is hawking his miracle elixir, *Gender Defender* (guaranteed to keep you straight—two bottles and your family can breathe a sigh of relief!). The alternative, Grinder warns, is "Gender Blur," and so begins this cautionary tale of "suicide, piety, mutilation, and scientific anomalies."

At the other end of time is juxtaposed the story of the child, adolescent, and adult Herman Amberstone (the playwright herself—"Amberstone" is a translation of Bornstein's own surname). As Herman, Sydney Erskine is a

delight, by turns crude, miserable, strong and, in the end, self-possessed and sexy as hell. She is particularly poignant as the awkward, squeaky-voiced, 13-year-old Herman, anticipating his Bar Mitzvah and praying that the utterance of the magic words, "Today I am a man," will somehow make it so.

These two halves, as it were—Herculine/Abel and Herman/Kate—eventually meet across time in a dream ballet that suggests reconciliation, but which is too fraught with doubt to be of ultimate comfort. Here, Bornstein and Barnes employ a melange of movement, lighting,

(Continued on page 52)

STAGE

Mesmerizing 'Fool'

by David Perry

There's no fool like an old fool they say, and in Geoff Hoyle's mesmerizingly comic one-man show *Feast of Fools* you meet a lot of very funny old fools indeed. If this weren't a set run before its Broadway opening in March, *Feast of Fools* would run forever, and wouldn't that be nice.

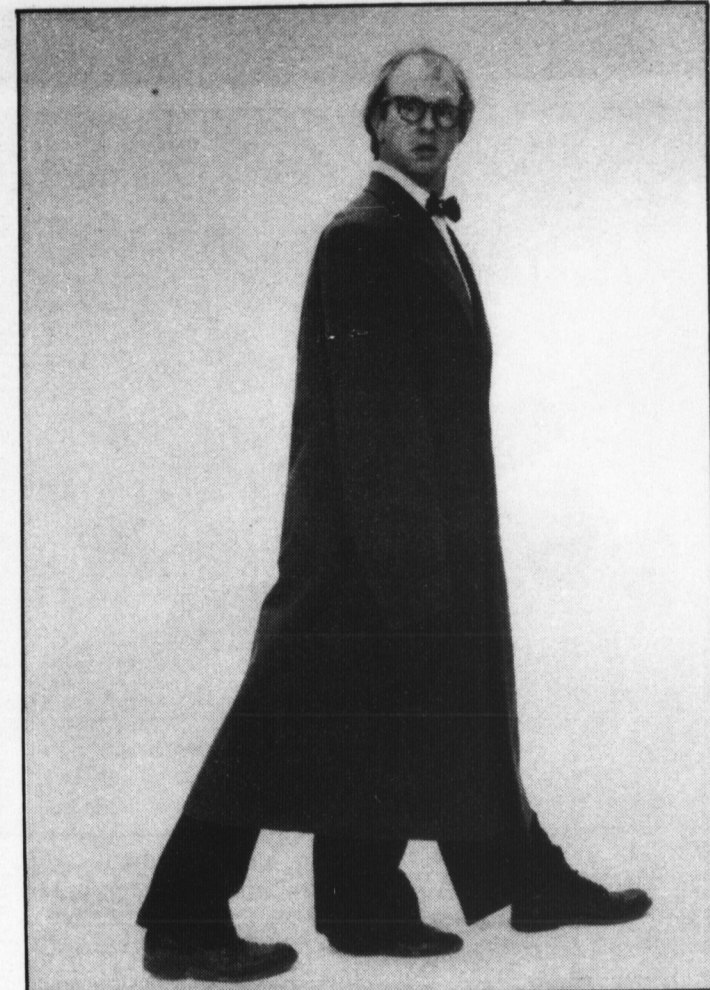
San Franciscan Geoff Hoyle became a fool at the hands of the city's very own Pickle Family Circus. Pickle alums Larry Pisoni, and more famously Bill Irwin, have likewise gone on from the Circus to create their own shows. Irwin, it is remembered, premiered his *Largely New York* here in San Francisco before it went on to Tony-nominated acclaim on Broadway. Hoyle hopes to recreate his success.

Along with Pisoni, Irwin, and master clown Avner, Hoyle belongs to and helped create the moniker "new vaudevillian," a theatrical style perhaps best described as post-modernist clowning. And wickedly funny it is.

Feast of Fools is a reworking of Hoyle's earlier work *The Fools Show*, seen here a few years back at the Eureka Theatre. The premise is the same. Hoyle introduces us to the concept of the fool through the ages, an indispensable addition to every bit of officialdom from the Druids on up. After the introduction, Hoyle shows us.

"You didn't think you'd learn so much," Hoyle kids and winks. And learn we do. Based on equal parts physical comedy and intellectual irony, *Feast of Fools* is in many senses stand up comedy for the postgraduate set—the type of people who laugh at racy comments said in Latin. You know, properly dished. And yet, on the other hand, you need nothing more than a diplomaless smile to get the humor of what Hoyle is about. There's something for everyone.

Starting with the wildly gyrating tribal clown of the Druids, Hoyle takes us on a foolish tour through the ages. We are treated to the gastrocomedy



Geoff Hoyle: "You didn't think you'd learn so much."

of Italian Commedia dell'Arte, the historically correct Bishop of Fools who cavorted through medieval French churches during the annual Feast of Fools. And through it all, Hoyle weaves his singular tapestry.

Besides learning the origins of many stock comic routines, we get to experience them. Who would have thought it, laughter from the Dark Ages.

Act II leaps forward in time, a

kind of "Geoff Hoyle's Greatest Hits." We get Mr. Sniff, the grandly nosed clown of Pickle Family fame and a bogglingly choreographed fight between two waiters, one pretentious, the other a slob. You really expect them both to be on stage at the same instant.

And, if Hoyle can play two men with four legs between them, certainly portraying one man with three should be no problem. For

Hoyle and his signature character, the three-legged "Spare," it is not. The audience moves and gasps like those at a frenzied tennis match, shaking their heads as they try to figure out which leg is... ah, not real. In a word, amazing. In another, hilarious.

Feast of Fools is stand-up comedy for the postgraduate set

However, perhaps Hoyle is at his best with the Act II opener, a simple, direct routine known as "the fundraiser." Certainly, we have all been at parties or experienced speakers who desperately try and fail in the simple act of telling a joke.

"A humorous anecdote," as Hoyle's wrinkled persona tells us, and then proceeds to forget the punchline and lose his way off stage. Just remembering Hoyle's flawless characterization is enough to start the gut laughs again. You will beg him to stop as the tears roll down your face.

Pretty soon, Hoyle and his foolishness head to Broadway. It may be a while till he's back home in San Francisco. If you miss this chance to see him, what you will be is pretty clear. ▼

Feast of Fools
Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter
(at Mason); Tue-Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 17, 3 p.m. & 8 p.m.; \$17-\$23
771-6900

Energetic 'Blue Leaves'

by David Perry

John Guare's *House of Blue Leaves* is at once funny and tragic—like life. Where else but reality would a would-be songwriter/keeper have his aspirations crushed by a wife named (aptly) "Bananas," a girlfriend who will sleep with him but not cook for him, a visiting Pontiff, and a son who would like to blow up the latter?

In an energetic and enthusiastic production by Genesis Theatre Company, *Blue Leaves* retains its delicious insanity, its through-a-glass-darkly view of historic events and their farcical effects on the world around them. On the strength of individual performances, this *House* manages to stand despite its shaky directorial foundation. It's entertaining, if somewhat rough around the edges; thought-provoking if not entirely shocking as Guare meant it to be.

no memorable impact. So, the Genesis Theatre Company production at the Phoenix Theatre is a welcome addition. Guare, one of this country's best and most prolific practitioners of dark comedy, is known also for his *Landscape of the Body*, *Bosoms and Neglect* and the most recent *Lydie Breeze*. He also received an Academy Award nomination for the screenplay of *Atlantic City*. His are scripts full of human dialogue basted over base desires. Murder, cancer, blasphemy are all just a monologue away.

As Artie Shaughnessy, the man who would be Hollywood's greatest songwriter, Louis Parnell is convincing and understated. Balancing his animal-imitating wife Bananas (Kim Richards) against a raging lust for Bunny Flingus (Sara Heckelman), Parnell manages to be neither totally hateful nor pitifully powerless. He is an average Everyman, tottering on the brink of his dreams.

Heckelman, as the healthy-sized Bunny who holds out on her cooking "till the honeymoon," is a feisty treat.

As Bananas, Kim Richards has one of the great parts written for the modern stage. Thankfully, she does not succumb to cheap imitations of insanity. Though certainly crazy, Richards' Bananas is sly and lovable as well. Guare's now famous "Jackie Kennedy" monologue is shaped to hilarious and touching results in Richards' loony hands.

All of this adds up to a wealth of off-the-wall characters who would seldom share the same play. Guare has (as he is aware) given us too much. Excess is the point of *Blue Leaves*, a black comedy masquerading as farce. Director Brian Scott's delightfully slapstick production of *Self Torture and Strenuous Exercise* last season at the Phoenix was Pinteresque farce. *Blue Leaves* is Ortonesque. Scott has ignored

(Continued on page 54)

Women's Building Fair at Fort Mason

The Women's Building 11th annual Arts and Crafts Fair, the largest juried women's crafts fair in the country, will showcase over 150 women artists and crafts-women, plus many leading entertainers representing the racial, cultural and ethnic diversity of the Bay Area on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 9-10 and 16-17 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Herbst Pavilion and Cowell Theatre, Pier 2, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco. The Arts and Crafts Fair is a major annual fundraising event for the Women's Building, which has launched a \$1.8 million 10th anniversary campaign to complete the purchase and renovation of the building.

Many popular entertainers will make return appearances at this year's fair, including blue grass musicians Judy Fjell and Crystal Reeves, blues/jazz singer Faye Carol, jazz guitarist Mimi Fox and pianist Julie Homi, Afro-Cuban group Conjunto Cespedes, jazz pianist Jessica Williams, Afro-Venezuelan folk group Trio Arepa, jazz/folk duo Maura Shannons and Diane Schlectus, South African freedom singers Vukani Mawethu, gospel singers The Disciples of Prayer, Allwin Price, singer/songwriter Elaine Townsend and stand-up comedian Karen Williams.

Body work, psychic arts, informational booths, special



Mien crafts-woman Lai Finh Saechao.

For the first time, the entertainment lineup will also include political satirists The Plutonium Players featuring Ladies Against Women, "new song" musician Linda Hirshorn, cabaret singer Faith Winthrop, gospel singer (and former director of The Disciples of Prayer) Allwin Price, singer/songwriter Elaine Townsend and stand-up comedian Karen Williams.

Body work, psychic arts, informational booths, special

(Continued on page 54)



Blue Leaves cast members.

First produced Off-Broadway in 1971, *House of Blue Leaves* was a smash, winning the New York Drama Critics Award, the Obie and the Outer Circle Critics Award. Its Lincoln Center revival in 1985 garnered four Tony awards. Here in the city, ACT presented it in 1972. Semi-professionally, it makes the rounds every few years, but with

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BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 7, 1989 PAGE 29

The Beat From Beyond

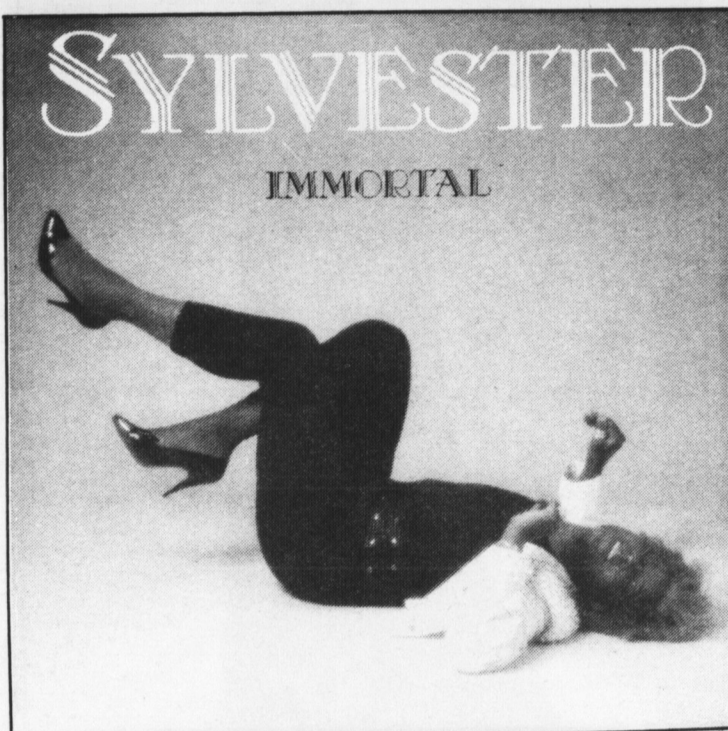
by David Taylor-Wilson

Buried beneath the usual heap of bills in the mailbox this week were the little gems we've been waiting for. Preview cuts from the upcoming *Immortal* album/remix project by Sylvester.

Through the magic of studio editing, here are multiple, new remixes of the Sylvester classics "Rock The Box" and "I Need You." Though each of the mixes are musically unique, they all showcase Sylvester's unequalled, and powerful yet passionate vocals. All of the mixes are excellent, with our favorites being the acid treatment of "Rock The Box" and the Howard Merritt underground remix of "I Need You."

Immortal is due from Megatone Records sometime this month, and along with more remixes of other Sylvester classics, it will also include three previously unreleased tracks (see *B.A.R.*, Nov. 30).

Dec. 17 will mark one year since the passing of Sylvester, and in that time I can guarantee that somewhere in the Bay Area a Sylvester tune has played at a nightclub each and every night, and rightfully so. In my mind, the big man upstairs that watches down on all of us is a lot more hip than most would begin to think,



and when He decided that the angels should be serenaded by only the best—Sylvester moved on to the next gig. Sing it, Syl.

12" Beats and Pieces

Also new from Megatone this week on the new House label is *N-10-City* with "Love Reaction." A wonderful little dance number that throbs with the essence of what House Music is all about. Even though we don't know much about N-10-City's lead vocalist **Marsha Martin**, we know a great set of pipes when we hear 'em, and this woman can sing. I'd like to hear her do a remake of **Sarah Dash's** "Sinner Man." I bet it would scorch so much you'd have to change the

needle on the turntable each time you played it.

Speaking of remix projects, one of my all-time favorite male vocalists, **Luther Vandross** is currently riding high with his double-disc *Greatest Hits* package which contains the new single "Here and Now." Just arrived is a "1990 remix" of his classic single "Never Too Much," which also happens to be my favorite Vandross number. There are three remixes here along with the original LP version.

The **Justin Strauss** remix jams, and is destined to do overtime here at Bay Area nightclubs. This came as a complete surprise, as we hadn't heard of any planned remix activity for this an-

thology set, but what a great surprise.

Another nightclub gem has been given the remix treatment, from ZYX Records comes **Paul Zone & Man to Man** featuring **Man Parrish** with a great updated version of the Hi-NRG classic, "Male Stripper." This is actually the B-side of their long overdue new release, "Action!" which proves that even on hiatus these guys know exactly what the dancefloors demand. Only serious dancers need apply.

Donna Summer slows down the pace a bit on her current release "Breakaway." The real treat here however is the British remix of "I Don't Wanna Get Hurt," which is included on the flip-side. "Hurt" was released in Europe quite awhile ago and enjoyed great success. Why it wasn't scheduled earlier for stateside release has been a mystery. The Beat predicts that most Bay Area nightclubs will skip "Breakaway" for the more inviting rhythms of "Hurt."

Stars for Marvin, Jimi?

Angela Winbush is a multi-talented artist that deserves more crossover attention than she's received thus far. We were upset when her last release, the fabulous "C'est Toi," with Winbush's soaring vocals, didn't accrue as much chart activity as we had hoped for, but fortunately she's back, and swinging vocal punches harder than ever. "It's The Real Thing" is a knockout that dares you to dance. We're hoping that more remixes of this single are on the way.

One single from a while back that we liked but still didn't think quite had "it" was "Sweet Talk" from **D'atra Hicks**. Now comes a remix of the single courtesy of the masters **Bradley D. Hinkle** and **Les Massengale**. The bass-line pumps with a "Planet Rock" inflection, and the beats are thicker and more endearing. Hicks' vocals have been excellent from the start, and she is an artist to keep an eye on. It was the original mixes that hampered this single. What a difference a mix makes.

One of the best singles this year came from newcomer **Flame**, with guest vocalist **Todd Terry** on the duet debut "On The Strength." This week she returns with "One Way Lover." With a rhythm that has become identified with the group **Soul II Soul**, this sophomore outing from Flame is a worthy follow-up that gives her a 2-for-2 rating in the winner's column. **Ruby Turner** also follows suit, rhythm-wise, with her current Jive/RCA single, "It's Gonna Be Alright." Melodic and slinky, it packs just enough bite to tease and please. As we previously reported, the new single from **Sybil** is a remake of the **Dionne Warwick** classic "Walk On By." As with her debut single, "Don't Make Me Over," Sybil updates the classic with a jack-swing beat. Also out now and garnering big points is another remake of "Walk On By" this time with honors by **Melissa Manchester**. Manchester's version however stays true to form with the original in ballad form. Can you say *timing* boys and girls?

In Other Beats

Congratulations to the **Four Tops** for being named to the

Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Thirty-five years ago this group began a musical partnership that continues to this day with the original four members. That in itself is an accomplishment.



Marvin Gaye.

If you are of the opinion (as is The Beat) that the late, great **Marvin Gaye** is deserving of a star on the famed Hollywood Walk of Fame, you are encouraged to write a letter of support to: Committee For A Star For Marvin Gaye, P.O. Box 431578, Los Angeles, CA 90043. Tell 'em you read about it here.



Jimi Hendrix.

In a related matter, the Los Angeles chapter of the Black Rock Coalition threw a **Jimi Hendrix** birthday bash a couple weeks ago on what would have been the late guitarist's 47th birthday. Proceeds from the admission to the party were earmarked for the establishment of a star for Hendrix on the Walk of Fame. If you're interested call (213) 856-2695. . . **Nona Hendryx** has been on tour lately in support of her latest LP *Skin Diver*, but had to cancel dates in the Northeast after discovering that the band's equipment, including all the keyboard programming, was stolen in Italy.



Nona Hendryx.

Jackson Attraction

Las Vegas has seen the opening of its first full-scale hotel/casino in quite some time (Continued on next page)

Abstract, But Always Creative

by David Taylor-Wilson

Herb Alpert, My Abstract Heart, A&M Records
Producers: Herb Alpert, Eddie del Barrio, Niko Bolas, Shorty Rogers
Rating: A
Best Tracks: "3 O'Clock Jump," "Soho," "My Abstract Heart," "Romance Dance," "Kalimba"

In what is now his 25th year of recording, Herb Alpert proves that he is among other things, an octopus.

You would have to be in order to have that many hands to accomplish his many feats, while still being able to keep two on his trumpet and a set of fingers firmly on the pulse of a music scene that changes faster than you can spell c-o-n-t-e-m-p-o-r-a-r-y.

Co-founder and current head honcho (with Jerry Moss) of A&M Records, a talented painter, overseer of a new women's fragrance, Listen, and director/benefactor of The Herb Alpert Foundation (which was established this year with a special endowment from Alpert in order to encourage and promote the study of jazz and to reward excellence in performance

and education with the National Association of Jazz Educators), Alpert returns with the release of his 21st album, *My Abstract Heart*.

The initial single, "3 O'Clock Jump," became an immediate success on black radio. A great, toe-tappin', finger-poppin' number that deserves to be played loud while in the car with the top down. Almost a modern, updated version of his 1979 classic "Rise." (Actually, what with all the current remix projects going on, we'd like to see "Rise" remixed and re-released.)

The title track evokes a time of days gone by with the Tijuana Brass. Having just returned from Puerto Vallarta, this track immediately conjured up mental images of the cobblestone streets and the warm, starry nights there.

"Legs" explodes with a jazz thunder that isn't at all overpowering (if that's possible).

Some of the guest artists on

the album, George Bohanon, Oscar Brashear, Ernie Fields, Eddie del Barrio and Paulinho da Costa, have all done previous work with soul group, Earth, Wind & Fire. A bit of that previous experience shines through on the track "Kalimba."

"Fun House" was just that, fun, light, breezy.

"Soho" was one of my favorite cuts. As each of Alpert's notes wafted through the air we pictured a lone trumpeter on a lonely night playing to an audience of none, while the steam rose from the grates of the street, capturing each note and carrying it up into the night.

With 15 platinum albums, seven Grammy awards, and 72 million records around the world with his name stamped on them, Alpert is nowhere near the end of his multi-faceted career. As long as product like this continues to be cranked out, the only thing he'll be near is the top.



Herb Alpert.

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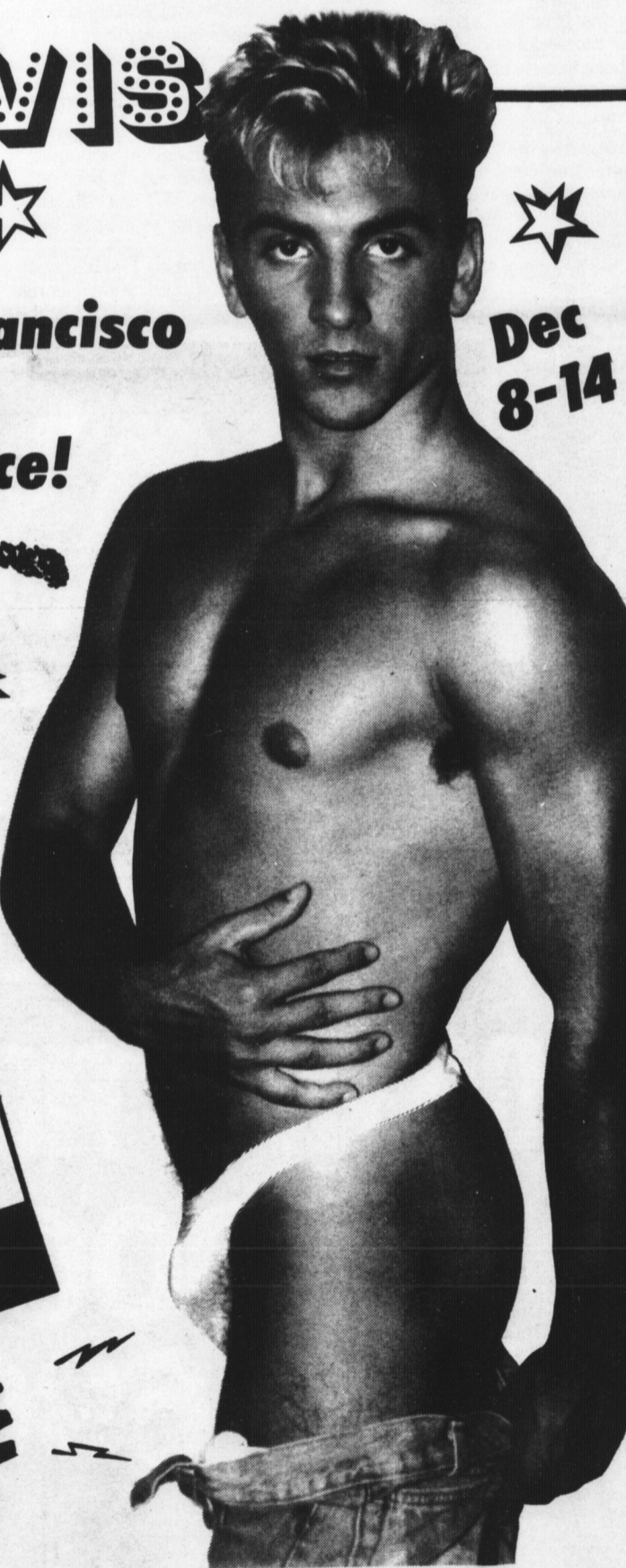
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Sacrifices Must Be Made

by George Heymont

We've all heard the standard clichés. "No pain, no gain." "You only get out of this as much as you put into it." "No doubt, this tragedy is a blessing in disguise."

In their own ways, such greeting card sentiments address a crucial element in our lives: change. Change is the catalyst which empowers the needy. Because it means relinquishing control and possibly even relinquishing power, change is also a direct threat to complacency. Change means accepting new definitions and embracing new leadership. Above all, change means taking risks.

Just think what a difference a day of change makes for the haves and the have-nots! One need only examine the blind prejudice, dread fear, emotional constipation, and moral cowardice shared by Jesse Helms, William Dannemeyer and Dan White to compare it to the daring actions of gay men who fought back against New York's finest during the Stonewall Riots and realize what a fiercely liberating catalyst change can be.

When all is said and done, change terrifies those who have gotten too cozy with their surroundings; people who are heavily invested in preserving the status quo. And yet, due to the extreme polarity with which wealth

is distributed in most societies, change can also be invigorating—an intoxicating windfall for those who have nothing further to lose.

Change. It's quite a miraculous force in the world.

The Cutting Edge

Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd, The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, shows what can happen when an angry, wounded and bitter man suddenly takes the law into his own hands as a means of effecting change in an unjust society. When it first premiered on Broadway, *Sweeney Todd* was framed by a monstrous set which emphasized the uglier effects of the Industrial Revolution on the lives of London's poor. By staging the work in an arena setting, a recent production transferred from the York Theater to New York's Circle in the Square, reduced *Sweeney Todd* to an intimate chamber opera whose human anguish became infinitely more palpable to the audience.

The process of scaling down Sondheim's masterpiece from the epic proportions of Harold Prince's original concept to the surprising intimacy inherent in Susan Schulman's approach wrought some curious changes on this groundbreaking piece of musical theater. While I enjoyed James Morgan's highly atmospheric sets—which gave one the feeling of being alive and

struggling to survive in the dimly-lit streets of Victorian London—I found myself extremely uncomfortable with the use of four synthesizers in lieu of an orchestra (a cost- and space-saving move which robbed Sondheim's score of much of its sweep and vitality).

Other changes, however, proved to be fascinating. With such close proximity to Circle in the Square's wraparound audience, the actors had to develop characters rather than caricatures. As a result, Grand Guignol was transformed into grim and grisly determination. In becoming more feminine, Beth Fowler's portrayal of Mrs. Lovett lost some of the character's monstrosity while Bob Gunton's vengeful barber gained in sympathy and masculine strength. Ultimately, however, *Sweeney Todd* and Mrs. Lovett became more pathetic than anarchic in that, no matter how hard the pair struggled to enact their vengeance upon society, they were doomed to be crushed by its weight.

Others in the hard-working cast included Jim Walton as Anthony, Gretchen Kingsley as Johanna, Eddie Korbich as Tobias and SuEllen Estey as the Beggar Woman. David Barron was the evil Judge Turpin, Michael McCarty his corrupt Beadle Bamford and Bill Nabel the Italian barber, Pirelli.



Nancy Gustafson was the vengeful Elettra in the San Francisco Opera's new production of Mozart's *Idomeneo*.

Ocean, Thou Mighty Monster

If most of the people sacrificed to Sweeney Todd's razor might never be missed by the residents of London, the sacrifice demanded by the gods of *Idomeneo*, King of Crete, weighs much heavier on the ruler's soul. Mozart's opera seria (fondly nicknamed "Eat-A-Tomato") received a new production from the San Francisco Opera this fall and, although handsomely mounted (with sets by John Conklin and costumes by Michael Stennett) and nobly sung by a fine international cast, I found it to be dreadfully dull.

I will readily confess that *Idomeneo* has never exactly been my cup of tea. And, even though I look forward to the day when my personal feelings toward this particular opera undergo a positive change, I ain't holding my breath. Despite my respect for the San Francisco Opera's new production of *Idomeneo*—which was physically quite beautiful to look at and boasted superior music-making—repeated exposure to this work often makes me wonder if (to paraphrase W.C. Fields) "Opera seria should be heard and not seen."

With life-long *Idomeneo* expert Sir John Pritchard on the

podium, the five principals went at their music with as much style and professionalism as possible. In their San Francisco Opera debuts, soprano Karita Mattila (Ilija) and tenor Hans Peter Blochwitz (Idamante) made strong impressions with the beauty of their singing and the effectiveness of their acting. Aided by William Lewis's sympathetic Arbace, tenor Wieslaw Ochman delivered a stunningly effective portrayal of Mozart's protagonist—singing with grave conviction and managing to capture the anguish of a man who is asked, by a curious twist of fate, to sacrifice his most beloved son as a gesture of thanks to the gods for having spared his own life.

Although director John Copley tried to infuse as much vitality into the proceedings as possible, he only succeeded when Nancy Gustafson's fiercely animated Elettra took center stage and started to chew the scenery with a vengeance. Cameo contributions came from Kenneth Cox as the Voice of the Oracle and Randall Outland as the High Priest of Neptune. Much of the performance, however, met with stultifying yawns from the audience.

Grants Workshop For First-timers

Artists, administrators, producers and supporters of San Francisco arts and cultural organizations are invited to learn about the Grants for the Arts application process for 1990-91 funding at two workshops. Grants for the Arts staff will conduct the workshops 3-5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 11 in the Dollar Board Room of the San Francisco Ballet Building, 455 Franklin and 6-8 p.m. Dec. 11 at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St.

The workshops are free of charge for any San Francisco-based non-profit arts and cultural organizations seeking first-time funding from Grants for the Arts, which aims to enhance the city's attractiveness to visitors through support of the arts. The applica-

tion deadline is Feb. 16, 1990 for funding to be disbursed in fiscal year 1990-91.

Applicants should have as a primary purpose the performance or exhibition of art; produce a dependable season of consistently high quality work; publicize in advance and reach a broad number of people including tourists and visitors; advertise and promote the city of San Francisco and make it a desirable destination point.

Grants for the Arts provides funds to support music, dance, theatre, visual arts and multi-arts groups. The agency also funds parades, special events and promotional organizations that serve visitors and residents.

For more information phone 554-6710.

Ready for the Holidays

by Philip Campbell

The towering Christmas trees are already decorated and lit on two levels of Davies Symphony Hall and the annual musical celebrations have been planned to include a few special surprises. Amateur vocalists champ at the bit, anxious for this year's sing-it-yourself "Messiah," but before the festivities begin in earnest, music director Herbert Blomstedt has been treating audiences to some comparably gala performances in recent weeks.

After a five-year absence, pianist Yefim Bronfman appeared with the San Francisco Symphony playing the Brahms Piano Concerto No. 1. He didn't erase memories of Andre Watts and his muscular approach in 1987, but he held his own with the more balanced performance by Vladimir Ashkenazy, way back with former music director Edo de Waart.

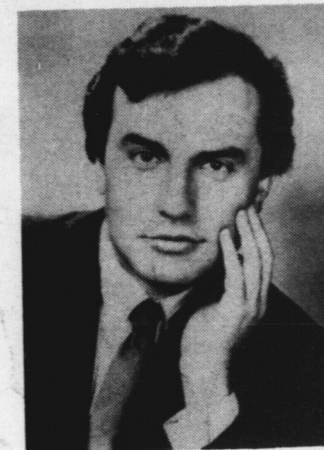
Ideally, the long and demanding score requires a poet with athletic technique and, as numerous recordings have proven over the years, it is a difficult combination. Herbert Blomstedt provided sympathetic orchestral support and sure guidance through the many moods of the intensely felt music. Bronfman lacked the subtlety of Clifford Curzon on his justly celebrated disc with George Szell and the London Symphony Orchestra, but he did avoid some of the idiosyncrasies shown by such masters as Claudio Arrau and Rudolf Serkin.

If composer Arnold Schoenberg was right in saying the middle road was the only one that did not lead to Rome, then he would have been disappointed by Bronfman's sensible rendition. Still, it was a characterful performance, missing some fire, but satisfying with a careful thoughtfulness and ability.

More exhilarating and a splendid preview of the Orchestra's continuing association with London/Decca records, was a splendid performance of Carl Nielsen's beautiful Symphony No. 3, "Sinfonia Espansiva." This is music obviously close to Blomstedt's heart and he led a reading that could stand next to Leonard Bernstein's breathtaking account for Columbia Masterworks in 1965 without a hint of apology.

A self-confessed Nielsen disciple, I have watched with pride while Blomstedt turns his San Francisco band into a troupe of Danish nationals. The entire cycle of Nielsen's six remarkable symphonies will eventually be recorded with the Fourth and Fifth already available, and the postponed First and Sixth due in January. This month will see completion of the laudable task with transcriptions of the Second and Third.

The existing documentation is superb, the Fourth and Fifth symphonies deservedly entered the Billboard charts upon their release in 1988 and soon won France's Grand Prix du Disque and Belgium's Caecilia Prize. The recent hearing of the glorious Third showed some fine tuning was in order, but it is sure to make another prize winner for the orchestra.



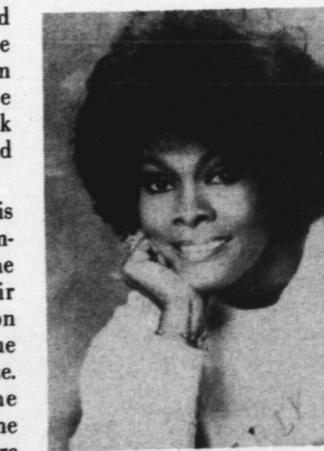
Yefim Bronfman.

Describing Nielsen's music is ultimately futile, like all great artists, he doesn't really sound like anyone else. There may still be traces of Sibelius and a certain Nordic sensibility apparent in the "Sinfonia Espansiva," but with it, Nielsen finally broke free from undue influences to create a unique relationship with tonality and lyricism. The music soars, pauses to reflect and stirs our hearts.

Blomstedt chooses to ignore, for the most part, any hints of darkness or neurosis in the score and that is where his vision suffers in comparison with Bernstein. Still, the joyously busy orchestration fairly bristled with life and Blomstedt has a steady grip on the complex rhythmic pulse, absolutely necessary for the work to convince. Along with London/Decca's legendary sumptuousness of tone and transparency of texture, this will surely be the chosen Nielsen cycle for generations.

Now we look forward to the regularly scheduled "Messiah" series led this year by newcomer Mario Bernardi and the usual spate of candlelight concerts, organ and Symphony Chorus celebrations, "Peter and the Wolf" with Bobby McFerrin on hand to delight children and adults and a new innovation - a Winter Pops series! Dionne Warwick will debut with the Symphony at Masonic Auditorium Saturday, Dec. 16 and Ray Charles will appear the night before. The wonderful Canadian Brass are also warming the Masonic on the 13th.

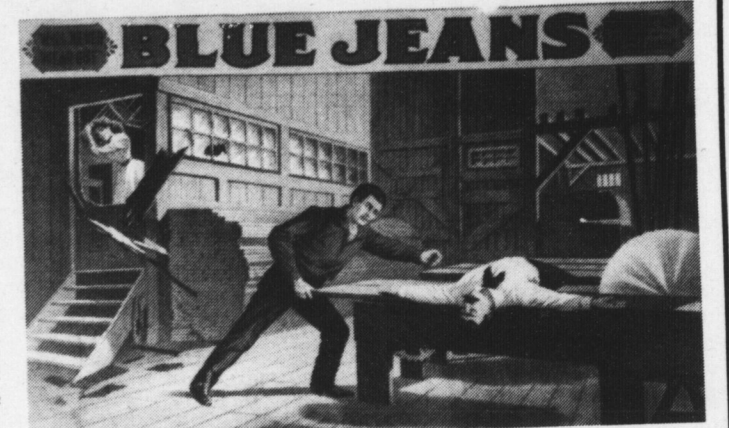
New Years Eve will once again be feted in a style with a "Night in Old Vienna" and I speak from happy experience in suggesting attendance at some of the offered merriment, like ACT's delightful "A Christmas Carol"—it is a sure way to beat cynicism and enter into the joy of the season.



Dionne Warwick.

Rare Theatre Poster Exhibit at New Performing Arts Gallery

"Images of the San Francisco Stage, From Gold Rush to Earthquake, 1849-1906: Theater Posters from the Schwabacher Collection" will be the inaugural exhibition in the new gallery of the San Francisco Performing Arts Library and Museum (SF PALM, formerly the Archives for the Performing Arts).



Poster from the Schwabacher collection.

The exhibition, to be presented from Dec. 1 through July 31, 1990, includes more than 50 rare San Francisco theater posters from the collection of the late James H. Schwabacher Sr., noted Bay Area businessman and patron of the arts. This exhibition marks the first time that the full scope of the Schwabacher collection—believed to be the largest such collection in private hands—will be seen by the general public.

The posters, predominantly from the "international" era of the 19th century San Francisco stage (1869-1906), document with great flair many of the city's major theaters, such as the Grand Opera House, the Tivoli Opera House, the Baldwin, the California, the Alcazar and the Columbia. Many of the principal forms of late 19th century San Francisco entertainment—including grand opera, vaudeville, musical

comedy, minstrelsy, and Shakespearean theater—are also showcased in the collection, as are such leading figures as Edwin Booth, David Belasco and Emma Abbott.

"The late 19th century was a seminal era for theater posters," states exhibition curator Stephen Cobbett Steinberg. "During the last quarter of the century, the theater posters became the best and least expensive way to advertise the performing arts. During this time, with key advances in printing techniques, the earlier black-and-white 'broadsides' suddenly gave way to colorful, pictorial posters. Posters quickly

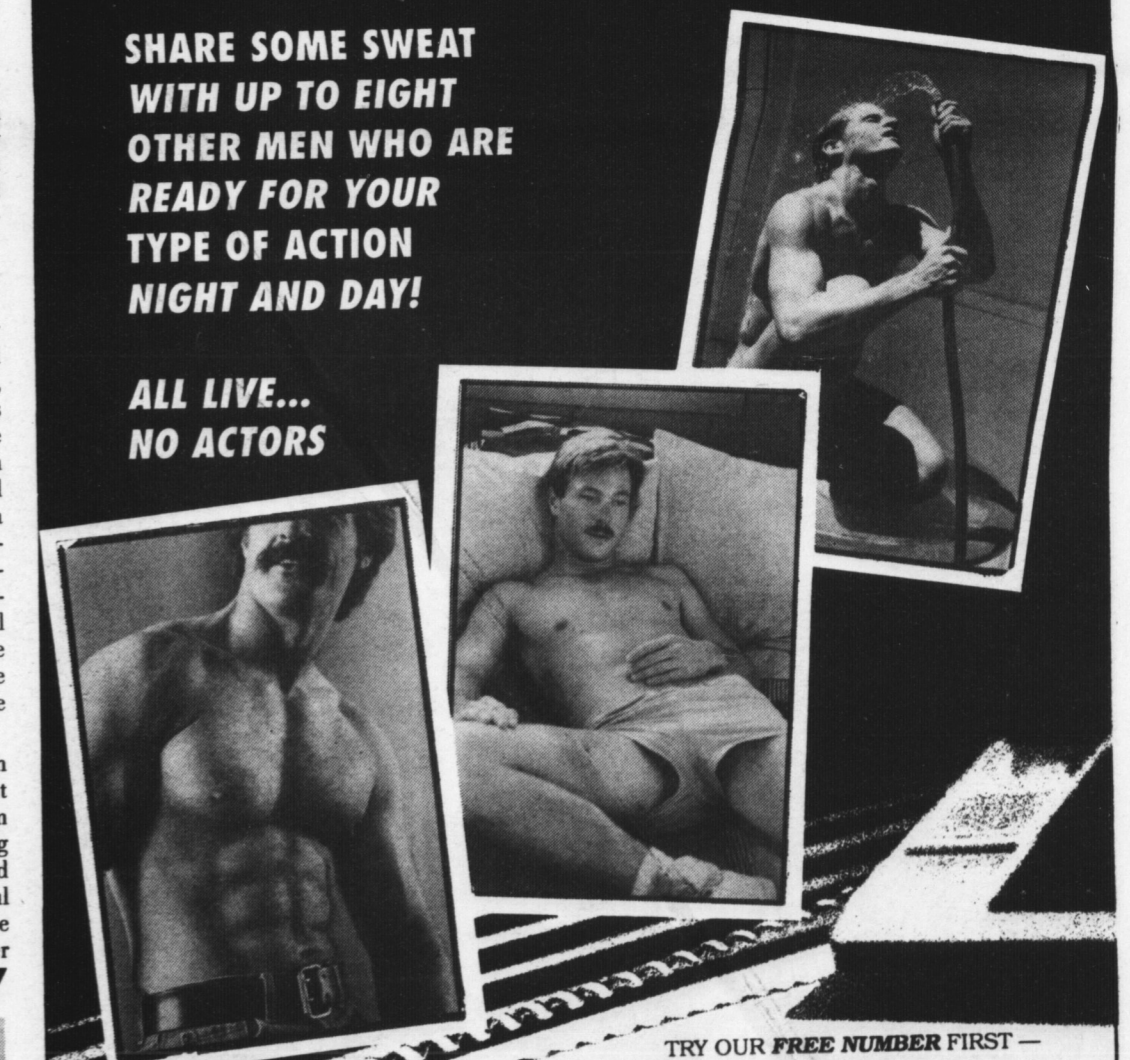
became bigger, showier—more eye-catching. Although such posters were never intended as enduring artifacts—they were 'advertising' pure and simple—these posters have increasingly found their way into museums, libraries and historical societies. They're vital documentation now, and sometimes they're something more: art."

SF PALM is located at 399 Grove St. "Images of the San Francisco Stage" is open to the public, free of charge, Monday through Friday, noon to 5 p.m. For evening and weekend schedule, phone 255-4800.

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Distilling the Gay Essence

Gay Tales and Verses from the Arabian Nights compiled and edited by Henry M. Christman; Banned Books; \$7.95

by James Tushinski

The idea of repackaging the homoerotic stories from what is commonly called *The Arabian Nights* seems ingenious. After all, the most readable and modern English translation of this great work runs to over 2000 pages. A complete translation done by Sir Richard Burton (the explorer, not the actor) takes up 16 volumes. Daunting, isn't it? Anyone wanting to read just "the good parts" was out of luck.

Henry Christman set out to change all that, but what he has given the curious gay reader is a thin, little volume that seems rather spindly when compared to the staggering, exotic/erotic original. I wish I could report the book is an unparalleled delight. Instead of being the "magical experience from childhood...experienced afresh in adult life" that the introduction proclaims it will be, *Gay Tales and Verses from the Arabian Nights* left me doing a Peggy Lee impersonation. Is That All There Is?

Perhaps if the volume were illustrated with high quality color drawings or erotic photography it might have made a nice Christmas gift for those interested in the exotic and fantastic. Instead, the only illustration is an embarrassingly

amateurish cover painting and the contents of the book are printed in a typeface so big it reeks of padding.

Christman gives us seven brief stories and a number of poems. Only one story features a consummated gay male love affair (don't expect any lesbians in ancient Arabia) and that one, "The Tale of the Third Kalendar and the Jeweller's Son," has the least moralistic approach to gay love and is the most coherent of the bunch. Pier Paolo Pasolini used it in his film version of *The Arabian Nights* and Christman wisely saves it for last here. The other stories almost all deal with older men lusting after boys who are either too virtuous or too straight to respond.

Sometimes this is touching, as in "The Tale of Kamar and the Darwish," but all in all there is a sameness to the tales. This repetition is undoubtedly essential when the stories are presented as parts of the complete *Arabian Nights*, giving coherence to the immensity of the whole. But when the stories are gathered together as they are in Christman's collection, they seem rather insubstantial and plain.

Part of the problem lies in Christman's decision to present fragments of longer tales. Not

only does this make for abrupt beginnings and endings, but it also gives the reader the impression that the homosexual "angle" of the story is peripheral. What is left is a collection of vignettes that seems almost like a gay Reader's Digest. All the gay parts are here, but so what? Wonder, adventure, magic and beauty show their faces too seldom and much too quickly.

But are all the gay parts really included? Christman does not discuss the politics of translation in his introduction, but his choice of E. Powys Mathers' 1923 English translation and condensation as his source material raises some questions. Mathers chose to include about a quarter of the complete *Arabian Nights* in his edition and one might assume that a British scholar in the 1920s who wanted to see his translation published would leave out the racier parts. It's hard to believe that Christman's paltry selection comprises all the homosexual stories found in the original. If these seven stories and a handful of verse are all there is, then publishing them separately doesn't seem worth the trouble. Instead of 1001 Nights, Christman gives us 60 Minutes.

Gay Tales and Verses from the Arabian Nights

Edited and with an introduction by Henry M. Christman



Two Quirky Fantasies

Two Novellas: Walking Water/After All This by Thom Nickels; Banned Books; \$8.95

by James Tushinski

Fantasy is a difficult genre to pull off. At its worst, fantastic literature is trivial, hackneyed or incomprehensible. At its best, it gives the reader a fresh vision of the world and an unforgettable reading experience. Thom Nickels' novellas fall somewhere in between. Certainly no one could accuse Nickels of being a hack or of lacking talent and imagination. On the other hand, I felt myself vaguely disappointed when I had finished each story, as if I had been hurried along on a guided tour without getting a chance to appreciate the scenery.

Walking Water is a Catholic fantasy reminiscent of C.S. Lewis' *The Great Divorce*. It follows lonely, spiritually hungry Dennis on a journey encompassing earthly temptation, purgatory, redemption and paradise. There's nothing stodgy about *Walking Water* despite its serious intentions. In fact, it's a highly entertaining, sexy and imaginative roller coaster of a story, careening from lustful monks in a remote island monastery to increasingly vivid and wild flights of fancy.

There's a river that changes into a sea without warning; a dark, sunless city populated by marauding wolfmen; mysterious catacombs where sinners are fried on skillets or locked in freezers to atone for their actions; a thicket that falls away at a touch and myriads of other delightful happenings. Unfortunately, as the story moves toward its conclusion, Nickels pulls out all the stops and so many bizarre things happen in rapid succession that I felt myself going a little numb.

Walking Water is finally kept

from self-destructing by an intriguing and enigmatic conclusion that helps give the story shape and coherence. I wish I could say the same for the second novella, *After All This*. Here, as before, Nickels shows a lively imagination, but in the end, the story leaves too many loose ends and exhibits too many signs of underdevelopment.

An unexplained flash of light has killed almost everyone in the world, and a small band of survivors, including two gay men, is intent on carving out a new life for themselves. When the first post-apocalypse baby is born, he turns out to be a superhuman, almost diabolical creature. Nickels' descriptions of the baby's actions are eerie and well-done, but as the story progresses and stranger things begin to happen, there is little coherence. What started out as science fiction becomes both a social satire and a mystical fantasy, but without much feeling of purpose and even less explanation.

Nickels overlooks or dismisses details that are vital to creating a believable apocalyptic landscape. It's odd that with all those dead people lying everywhere there's so little smell and no disease. Odd, too, that supplies never seem to dwindle, that crops never fail and that none of the characters seems to miss electricity or television or music. Small details, to be sure, but important ones.

Despite its weaknesses, *Walking Water/After All This* is a fascinating and entertaining work in a genre too few gay male writers are exploring. Readers interested in the quirky and fantastic should definitely give it a try.

Taking on the God Establishment

Touching Our Strength: The Erotic As Power and The Love of God by Carter Heyward; Harper & Row Paperback, \$12.95.

by Frank Howell

"Nonalienated sexual love-making brings pleasure and delight... the essence of erotic love is not possessive. The erotic opens us, changes us, and moves us into becoming ever more fully ourselves in relation."

It is well-known that Western Civilization is sexually repressive. One of its chief formulators, the Christian Church, has come under increasing pressure for its anachronistic teachings and attitudes regarding our carnal needs.

In her new book, *Touching Our Strength*, Carter Heyward takes on the God establishment full force. She denies the classic split between the flesh and the spirit as declared by the early church fathers. She believes that amorous feelings, per se, are desirable, regardless of sex. It is not what we do that is significant,

Heyward says, but who we are. By insisting on the rigid formula of husband-wife unions, many of us are compelled toward dishonesty in our intimate relations.

Heyward, who functions as an Episcopal priest and a professor of theology at Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, even views sex as a form of social justice.

But at times she falls into a fit of wild overgeneralization. She claims that liberal churches have done little for gays and women, neglecting the progress that has been made by such progressive groups as her own Episcopal Church, the Unitarians. Heyward casts her social net wide to catch any male who she sees as overdominating. The author feels that all relationships are based on power and submission.

Heyward also attempts to link capitalism to what transpires in the bedroom. Her freewheeling analogies even produce a semantic howler that detects a connection between the "use of guns and bombs and the forceable thrusting of a penis into an unwanted vagina."

Touching Our Strength tends to be overly laden at times with academic jargon and its author borders on producing a political tract. Nevertheless, the book delivers a potent message that deserves to be heard. For too long the erotic impulse has been forced to dwell in the wasteland of ideas, the spirit automatically considered superior to the flesh. Heyward has made a bold step toward bringing human sexuality into the community of idealism.

Norse

(Continued from page 27)

contributed to the birth of a new subculture as the masses absorbed it and it was ultimately united with the civil rights movement. "What William Carlos Williams had started was by no means confined to poetic technique," Norse writes. "It was nothing less than a cultural revolution, a language for several generations of protest and social change."

Sexy, moral, literary—shall I add that this is a witty book, too? After being snubbed for years by Isherwood, Norse writes, "Vedanta and vendetta agreed with him." After he declined a pass from Allen Ginsberg, he comments, "If I had been Peter Orlovsky, this memoir would be longer." And on having his lowly origins pointed out by someone of social standing, he writes, "I had assumed I was above such trivial concerns as social position; for the first time I saw I was beneath them."

Memoirs of a Bastard Angel takes us to drugged nights with William Burroughs in the Beat Hotel, to lifting weights with Arnold Schwarzenegger in Gold's Gym at Venice Beach, to dancing with Jerome Robbins, carousing Manhattan with Marlon Brando, and cruising Morocco with Paul Bowles.

There are a million stories in the naked city, and most of them happened to Harold Norse. *Memoirs of a Bastard Angel* is a memorable document of gay life, and the life of poetry in our times. It takes us into the hearts, minds and gonads of many of this century's prominent poets, and distills a very fine wine from some sour grapes.

★★★★★★★★

Calendar Funds Trip For AIDS Clients

Twenty-eight clients of the San Diego AIDS Project enjoyed an expenses-paid visit to Sea World Amusement Park on Nov. 5 from funds provided by sales of the 1990 FOCUS On The Male Nude AIDS Benefit Calendar.

TOUCHING OUR STRENGTH



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CARTER HEYWARD

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Adrian G. Horn, Choral Society conductor.

A Conductor With Ambitious Plans

by Mary Richards

The glorious music of the Christmas season will be presented to San Francisco in varied forms throughout December. Among the more ambitious of concerts will be a trio of performances sponsored by the San Francisco Choral Society: Mozart Grand Mass in C Minor and Bach Magnificat; A Christmas Carol Concert and Bach Magnificat; and the Festival of Carols, a Christmas sing-along.

Adrian G. Horn, the group's director is also a conductor. "The San Francisco Choral Society itself has been structured as an organization that sponsors other choral activities," he says. "There is no such thing as the Choral Society chorus. The

Choral Society has a Community Chorus that's co-sponsored by UCSF Arts and Lectures, it has a Woman's Chorus that's not co-sponsored with anybody, and it has a Chamber Chorus which operates as a sub-group of the Community Chorus."

It was Horn's idea to form the Choral Society, many of whose members were affiliated with San Francisco State University.

It is open to anyone who has the ability to meet the standards of a group which has plans for the upcoming season to perform the Haydn Creation, Mahler Second Symphony and Verdi Requiem.

In July the Choral Society joined the Redwood Symphony to present the powerful *Carmini*

Burana, a series of verses from the 12th and 13th centuries, set to music by Carl Orff in 1935. The show was extremely well-received, Horn says.

Louis F. Martin is the Choral Society's president. "I first joined when they were doing the Gabriel Faure Requiem," he says. "I became involved because I always wanted to sing that." He talks about the magnetism of Adrian Horn, or "Andy" as he calls him, and how he started what Martin describes as a "great group."

As president and chairman of the board, Martin deals with the logistics of the performance. "I'm the man behind the scenes here," he says with a smile, and adds, "it's a lot of responsibility."

Some of the responsibility is not as serious as it sounds, and the director and president describe with amusement their quest for a solution to the problem of fitting all the members of the chorus on one stage so they could perform together.

A large chorus will use risers to elevate their members to different levels. Martin and Horn decided to make what they call their "famous risers" out of strong cardboard boxes with stained plywood coverings, a daring concept which was not received with enthusiasm by all performers. When they were complete, "people were still skeptical," Horn says, with a laugh.

It will probably cost close to \$10,000 for the group to put on their Christmas performances, but they are determined to keep prices low so as many people as possible can enjoy a choral concert.

"We make our concerts available at a low price to everyone," Martin says. "People go to the symphony and spend \$24 or \$40, but that's a professional organization. We are semi-professional. We hire professional orchestras and professional soloists, but we have singers from the community." Prices for their Christmas concerts range from \$6 for advance tickets to \$8 to \$10 at the door.

Not one to be content with your usual, run-of-the-mill performances, Horn has plans to organize a choral festival next year or in 1991 similar to the huge sing-alongs that took place in the mid-1800's.

"The idea I had," he states, "was to get the Cow Palace, Civic Auditorium or Oakland Coliseum Arena, where you could get

a massive amount of people and make a real fun thing of it." He is presently spreading the word to other choral groups to see if there is any interest in this "monster sing-along of 10,000 voices" before presenting it to the public.

The San Francisco Choral Society Christmas Concerts are as follows at the First Congregational Church: Saturday, Dec. 9, 8 p.m., Mozart Grand Mass in C Minor and Bach Magnificat; Sunday, Dec. 10, 4 p.m., A Christmas Carol Concert and Bach Magnificat. At the First Unitarian Church, Saturday, Dec. 16, 8 p.m., The Choral Society will present their sing-along, the Festival of Carols.

For information about the San Francisco Choral Society, or auditions to be held in early January, phone 566-8096.



San Francisco Choral Society.

Christmas Chorus Continues This Week

In the first set of its eighth concert season, the Golden Gate Men's Chorus will present its annual "An Old Fashioned Christmas," featuring the debut of its small performance group, The J-Line Singers.

Traditional carols, songs of joy and inspiration for the New Year will be performed this season at the chorus' new permanent base in MCC/San Francisco's main hall, 150 Eureka St.

Concerts are Dec. 8 and 9 at 8 p.m., and are \$10 in advance, \$6 for students and seniors and \$12 at the door. Tickets are available at all Headlines stores and from chorus members.

Bay Area Youth Opera

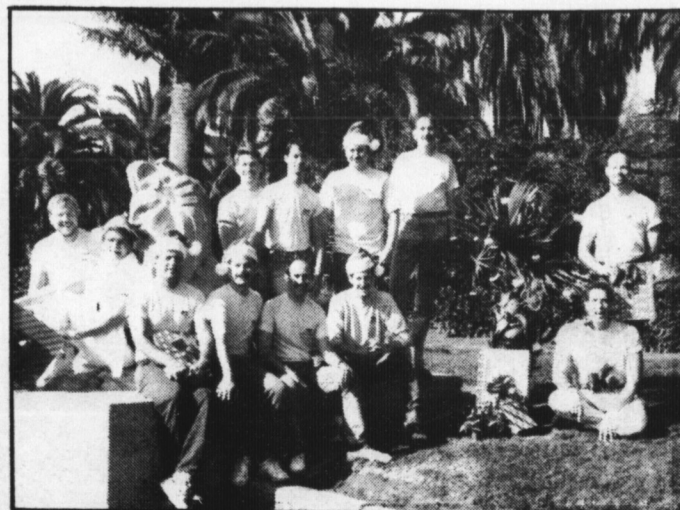
Bay Area Youth Opera (BAYO), a special project of VOICES/SF Opera Ensemble, performs David Ahlstrom's *The Bishop's Horse*, an intercultural and intergenerational opera for children and their families, set in 13th century France. Four holiday performances will be given Dec. 9 and 10, 3 and 4:30 p.m. at Mission Cultural Center, 2868 Mission

Street, between 24th and 25th streets.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$6 for children and seniors. Group and school rates are available. Children interested in BAYO may call 431-2027 for a free ticket to one of these performances. For more information, phone 431-2027.

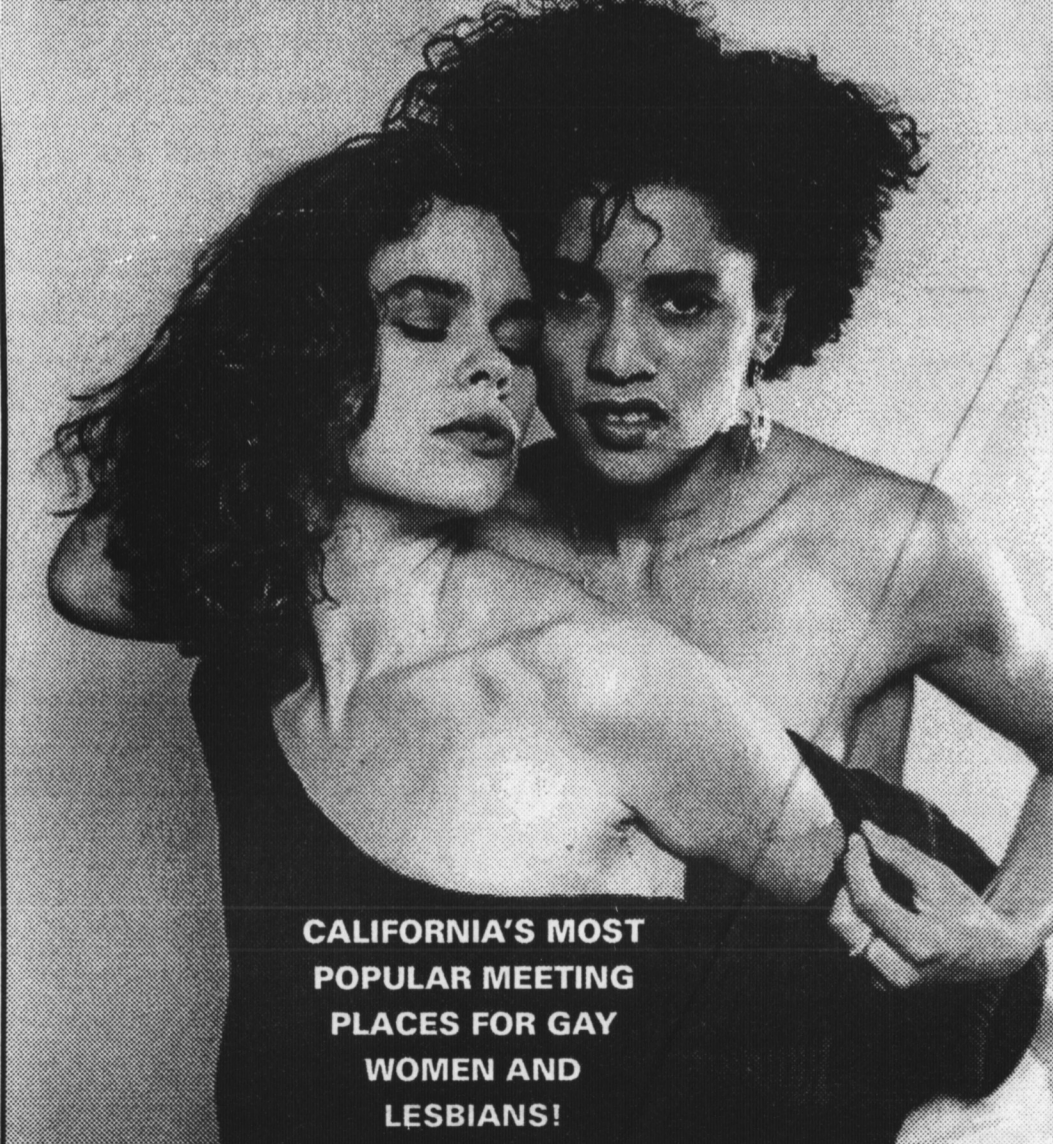
Bach Choir Sings Praetorius

The San Francisco Bach Choir offers two performances of Renaissance Christmas music of the early 17th century German composer Michael Praetorius. Simple carols of the era will be expanded and amplified to the proportions of a colossal 20-part harmony. As many as seven antiphonal choirs of voices and instruments will be placed throughout historic St. Paulus Church at Gough and Eddy streets. The space requirements of the choir for this concert will limit seating on both nights. Ticket prices are \$12 for general admission and \$7 for students and seniors. Phone 931-4529 for ticket or further information.



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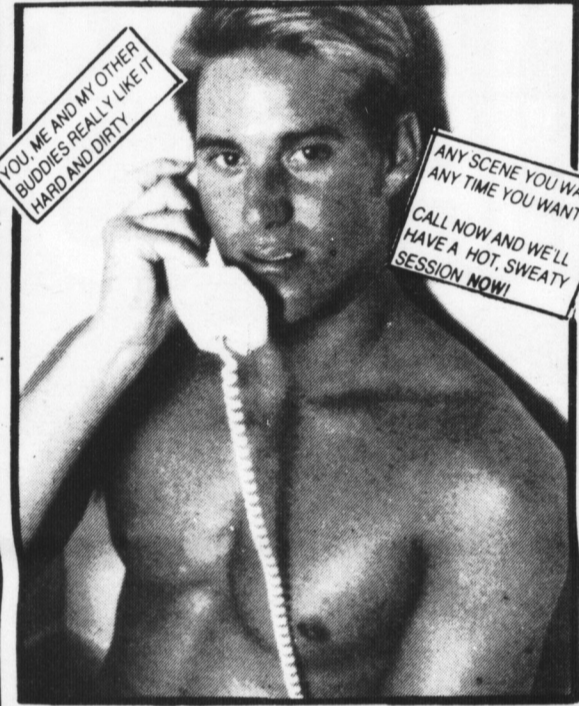
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BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 7, 1989 PAGE 38

Gay Basketball Teams Eliminated in Playoffs

by Joseph Nelson

The two remaining gay teams participating in the playoffs in the basketball league at Eureka Valley Community Center both lost their chance to play for the championship last Thursday.

In the first game, the first-seeded Great Expectations Bookstore team convincingly beat a newly-revived gay team sponsored by Sweet Inspirations.

With only 1:14 left in the first half, the SI team was losing by only three points, 21 to 18. However, by halftime the difference was 12 points due to a series of errors bringing the ball inbounds. The final score was GEB 64, SI 46.

Mike Gray and Roosevelt Winchester led the SI team with 14 points apiece. The weakness of the SI team was clearly its ball handling; they often lost the ball when pressured.

The team consisted mainly of members of the gold medal-winning team from Gay Games I, who also won the silver medal in the second Games. The veteran squad, replenished with some youthful members, had also participated in several other tournament games, usually sponsored by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, in the early 1980s. They placed fourth in the league with two wins and three losses.

The Hotshots' representative team had a closer game with a weaker opponent. Leading 7 to 1 after five minutes of playing, they lost steam just before halftime. Failing to score any points in the last four and a half minutes of the first half, they still led at halftime 19 to 15 over the third-place YMCA team.

Scoring continued to be a problem in the second half, especially with the loss of high scorer Steve Moore (and center Mike White) to foul trouble.

The YMCA team took a lead in the second half with 26 to 25 with eleven minutes to go. With one minute left in the game, the Hotshots led 42 to 41. With nine seconds left, they led 44 to 43. However, the capable center of the YMCA team scored in six seconds and the Hotshots failed to score again, leaving the YMCA ahead 46 to 44 at the buzzer. Michael Mazgai led the Hotshots in scoring with 14 points.

There were several significant reasons for the upset of the Hotshots team. They shot poorly from the freethrow line, even missing the rim several times. They also shot poorly from outside, which allowed the quick YMCA team to sag towards the middle of the court. Also, there was some help to the YMCA from the timekeeper.

When the Hotshots scored their 26th and 27th points, the timekeeper failed to record the baskets. This caused the game to be delayed, since the referees had to review the score. At the time,



The Hotshots.

(Photo: Rink)

the clock was running and the YMCA team ahead. The timekeeper, who openly cheered for the YMCA team during the game, also let the clock run for 30 seconds (again with the YMCA team ahead) while the referees were having trouble determining whether the YMCA team was in a penalty situation over a foul.

There will be a single gay-representative team participating in a much bigger, tougher league starting in January at the Eureka Valley gym. Any experienced basketball players interested in playing should contact Tony Jasinski soon. Plans for basketball teams for Vancouver are also being made now.

The Hotshots have regular "pickup" style nights for all levels of players on Sundays at the same place at 6 p.m. Also, they play Friday nights at 6:30 at 1525 Waller Street. All are welcome.

Tony Jasinski stated, after the losses, "This whole league was created for the sole purpose of preparing ourselves for Vancouver. And I think we accomplished that. We thank the San Francisco Recreation & Parks Department for their terrific efforts on our behalf, especially Peter Oquendo. We look forward to continuing that relationship with them."

Islanders Win in San Diego Tourney

by Rick Thoman

The San Francisco City Islanders scored a thrilling come-from-behind win over the San Diego Tavern Boys to win the "BB" division at the 11th annual San Diego Invitational Gay Volleyball Tournament, Nov. 25-26.

In addition to the City Islanders championship, the San Jose Spankers placed second and the San Jose Hard Knocks were seventh in the "B" division, while San Francisco's Quakes had to settle for fifth place in the highly competitive "A" division.

The City Islanders had a hard time getting to the finals as three of their four matches in regulation pool play went to tie-breaker games. The Islanders defeated the San Diego Tavern Boys in pool play and in the play-offs they lost the first game but came back to win the second. In the final match for the "BB" championship title, the Tavern Boys got an early jump on the City Islanders, leading 9-6 before the Islanders pulled off a come-from-behind charge, winning the tournament with a 11-9 victory.

Three City Islanders made the "All-Tournament" list of out-

standing players: middle lineman Steve Moore and Darren Makaila, and setter Gary Edde.

While the San Francisco Quakes were not as successful as the City Islanders, they battled some of the nation's top gay volleyball squads, including the "A" division winners, the Los Angeles Inland Empire, a team made up of some of the best players from around the country. Although disappointed with their finish at the San Diego tournament, the Quakes feel they will be ready to take on the best at the Gay Games in Vancouver in August.

The San Jose Spankers' second place finish in the "B" division was "our best finish ever," according to team captain Dan Rotramel. The Spankers lost to the New Orleans Jazz for the title, and were followed by Los Angeles LAVA 'B' team, the New York Aliens, two teams from Sacramento (the Rebels and Salsa respectively), and San Jose's other squad, Hard Knocks, in their first tournament appearance.

The San Jose Spankers match-

(Continued on next page)

TENNIS

Gay Tennis Federation Holds Elegant Awards Ceremony

by Les Balmain

The eighth annual awards dinner of the Gay Tennis Federation was held on Saturday, Nov. 18, in the posh banquet room of Gaylord's India Restaurant in Chirardelli Square. Over 80 members, sponsors and guests attended.

"Although gay tennis in 1989 was certainly another year of successful tournaments and club socials," said a smiling Chris Walkey, president and toastmaster, "I would like to add that the contribution of new members, both men and women, definitely raised the level of competition. It was exciting and outstanding!"

During an elegant sit-down dinner, the awards were presented. They include:

Seventh Annual ABC Doubles Tournament

Champions: A1, Norm Burgos and Rich Ryan; A2 Chris Walkey and Mario Mora; B1, (two teams tied) George Teranishi and Charles Woods, and Raul Gonzales and Tim Newman; B2, Bruce Beiges and David Williams; and C, Kurt Bruens and Doug Cannon. Runners-up: A1, Kyle Baker and Lasse Neilsen; A2, John Kemp and Dan Stack; B2, Rick Raggio and Lari Soa; and C, Doug Huffines and Steve Kraft.

Ninth Annual Team Tennis

First place (repeat champions from last year), The Galleon Bar and Restaurant, sponsor Jerry Coletti, team players: Chuck Gee, Mario Mora, Robert Creth, Pete Devora, Kurt Bruens and Barbara Gilman. Second place, Uncle Bert's Place, sponsors, Tom Sherck and Bert Farber. Third place, The White Swallow, sponsor Mike Dooley and fourth place, Community Rentals, sponsors, Tom Kelly and Bob Viereck.

Team Tennis Most Valuable Player

The Galleon, Robert Creth; Uncle Bert's Place, Diane Walker; The White Swallow, Rick Hadnot; Community Rentals, Greg Prigmore; The Cinch, Irene Goodman; Leticia's, J.W. White; Roto Rooter, Tom Taylor; and The Silver Fox, Robert Sissenstein.

Islanders

(Continued from previous page)

ed the City Islanders with three players on the "All Tournament" roster: Scott Engels, Phil Herlith and Mike Segovia.

San Jose is now preparing to host their fourth annual gay volleyball tournament, to be held Feb. 17 and 18. Teams interested in participating should contact Dan Rotramel at (408) 269-6259.

In San Francisco, advance play volleyball takes place every Saturday morning (except the first one of each month) from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., at Eureka Valley Recreation Center on Collingwood St. Advance player drills and workouts are Monday evenings, 6:45 to 9 p.m. at the Glen Park Recreation Center. For more information regarding recreational play volleyball on Sunday evenings at Eureka Valley Gym, call Mike Powers at 626-4743.

"Jim Holloran Classic," Tenth Annual Membership Tournament

Championship Bracket: A Division, winner, Norm Burgos; runner-up, Craig Davis; B Division, winner, Joe Romano; runner-up, Robert Creth; C Division, winner, Kurt Bruens; runner-up, Randi Glick. Consolation Bracket: A Division, winner, Rich Ryan; runner-up, Pat Miller; B Division, winner, Barbara Gilman; runner-up, Marvin Anderson.

Fifth Annual Mixed Doubles Tournament

Champions: Cheri Halsema and Chris Walkey; runners-up, Shirley Gee and Charles Woods.

First Annual Fall B & C Doubles in San Jose

Championship Bracket: winners, George Teranishi and Charles Woods; runners-up, Robert Creth and John Burnette. Consolation Bracket, winners,

Kevin Liberg and Jeff Kearns; runners-up, Carlos Terra and Robert Sissenstein.

Gran Prix Tournament

A Division: winner, Joe Romano; runner-up, Rick Hadnot; B Division, winner, Charles Woods; runner-up, Kurt Bruens.

Most Improved Player of 1989: Diane Walker.

Player of the Year: (tie) Ken Chan and Rob McCann

President's Special Service Awards: Dan Hartstuff and Tom Kelly.

The final ceremony of the evening was the changing of the guard from the old to the new executive board. The newly elected officers are: president, Carlos Terra; vice-president Kevin Liberg; secretary, Chris Walkey; treasurer Barbara Gilman, and sergeant-at-arms, Rich Ryan.

A vigorous membership drive is underway, especially for



New tennis board, left to right: Rich Ryan, Kevin Liberg, Barbara Gilman, Carlos Terra, Chris Walkey. (Photo: Les Balmain)

players interested in team tennis for next year. For GTF information and application forms, contact Chris Walkey, secretary at

563-8568, or write to The Gay Tennis Federation, 2215-R Market Street, #109, San Francisco, CA 94114.



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BOWLING

Tavern Guild Bowlers Realize Impossible Dream

by Jerry R. De Young

Before we get into the heart of the matter, which is the outstanding bowling achievements realized by members of the Tavern Guild Leagues, there's something I simply must get off my chest. That something is, no matter how hard I try or how much I practice, I simply can't bowl well enough to break out of the mediocre category. Just the other day, when a Park Bowl employee mentioned to a TG league member that not one pin had fallen during the October 17 quake, the bowler suddenly looked enlightened and responded, "Oh, you mean like when Jerry bowls?" (I was never so humiliated in all my life, it's almost enough to make one give up eavesdropping!) Now, onward and upward!

Since last reporting on the happenings within the Tavern Guild Leagues, many remarkable exploits have occurred on the lanes. As an example, on the Sunday Before Brunch Bowling Bunch (also referred to as The Sunday Pseudo-League by some comic detractors) John Seiler has taken the high-game prize two weeks in succession with a marvelous set of 242 and 262 scrrab games. Also on the SBBBB, Tim Mulvenon, with the

able assistance of his sensual sidekick, Kristal Shandaleer, has won first place in the team category twice consecutively.

Here are a few fresher tidbits: on Nov. 30, bowling on lanes 15 and 16, Joe Ross of the IGBO/GC Pilsner Panter's deftly picked up the incredibly difficult 7/9 split, then coolly walked away as though it was an everyday occurrence. On the same evening, saucy Carol Stuart of the opposing team, Mixed Fruit, flipped the devilish digit by just as elegantly picking up the highly unlikely 5/7 split.

The absolute ultimate in picking up splits, however, was performed by the classy Tim Mulvenon in the recent 1989 SFNTIT tournament when he picked up the bowler's nightmare, the 4/7-6/10. The tournament was unsanctioned, therefore, regretfully, Tim will not be receiving a patch from the ABC; nonetheless, we all know he is now a proud, unofficial, member of a very exclusive bowlers' "Big Four" club.

Let's not forget Robyn Trost of the IGBO/GC Bowlers With Arms Akimbo team, who, on Nov. 16, dramatically rolled her way into another special bowlers' group, the "Dutch 200 Club."

(What does the WIBC present its members with for this accomplishment?) Anyway, congrats Robyn, your ball obviously unwaveringly reacts to your slightest whim.

A few more bowlers who have recently performed above-and-beyond the norm are: John McKinney of Rolo's Too, with an average of 126, recently bowled a fantastic series of 152, 151 and 160; Terry Born of the G.W. Finley team, avg. 96, accomplished a fantastic 145 game; and, finally, Ed Lewis, also of Rolo's Too, tested himself and achieved an amazing 192 game. (Look out, national bowling circuit!) ▼



IGBO/Gay Games "Mixed Fruit" team. (Photo: Jerry R. De Young)

PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD LEAGUES

Team Standings

MONDAY TAVERN GUILD TRIOS (Through November 27)		THURSDAY IGBO/GAY GAMES LEAGUE (Through November 16)	
W	L	W	L
Cave Men	26 6	Bowlers with Arms Akimbo	26½ 13½
Toy Chess Mollet	23 9	Team 13	24 16
Capricorn Coffee	22 10	CUinBC	23 13
Play With It, Ltd.	21 11	Pilsner Panter's	22½ 17½
Pin Curis	21 11	Mixed Fruit	22½ 17½
Michael Bruno's	19 13	Sassy	22 14
Puckin Figgies	19 13	"1990"	22 14
J.J.'s Immortals	18 14	Canuts	20½ 15½
Hitchhikers	17 15	Capricorn Coffees	19 21
Mostly Redeemed	17 15	Bowl This!	17½ 22½
Park Bowl	15½ 16½	Pilsner Pin Pounders	13 27
All American	15 17	Pistons	7 33
Pilsner Pimpals	15 17		
Beck's Bed Bugs	14½ 13½		
Puss and Boots	14 18		
J.J.'s Immortal Too	11 21		
Fear & Loathing	11 21		
Last Chance	5 27		
The Fancuts	5 27		
Team 7	3 25		

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MONDAY TAVERN GUILD TRIOS

Darrell Haven (PWIL)	.204, 246 (607)
David Arnold (CM)	.241 (613)
Jeff Hettmansperger (TCM)	.237, 211 (626)
Jeff Hines (JJJ)	.230
Don Gambell (PWIL)	.224
Bob Mack (PB)	.206
Richard Alaimo (AA)	.202
Pat Conlon (PP)	.202

MONDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE

Jim Hahn (PB)	.258, 201 (649)
Ron Squires (PB)	.245
Don Gambell (AAT)	.238 (621)
Michael Bulawit (RT)	.237, 203 (611)
John Seiler (SEP)	.225
Frank Cloutier (PP)	.217, 201
Paul Chudomelka (B&B)211, 218 (616)	.218
Mark Schultz (R's)	.212
Dave Lilly (AAT)	.212
Craig Cleverly (RT)	.212
Joe Sanders (SR)	.211
Joe Dermer (TMH)	.209
Luis Garcia (TLB)	.208, 203
Steve Szasz (AAT)	.202, 200

MONDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE

W	L
All American Trophy	38 10
Pilsner Pinguins	31 17
Park Bowl	31 17
Starlight Room	31 17
Macho Sluts	30 18
Julie's Supper Club	29 19
S.P.N.E.S.O.	26½ 21½
Rolo's Too	25½ 22½
Stars & Strikes	24 24
Bowling "4" Husbands	21 27
G.W. Finley	21 27
5 Easy Pieces	20 28
Gutter Goddesses	19½ 28½
The Male Hookers	19½ 28½
Rolo's	18 30
The Lucille Balls	18 30
Bench & Bar	18 30

WEDNESDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE

W	L
Pilsner I	29 11
976-Pilsner	26½ 13½
Leftovers	26 14
Bow-K	23 17
Pilsner No Boys	22 18
Play With It Again	22 18
Cinch	21 19
The Bear Tops	19 21
Gutter Girls	19 21
Wee Bowls Wah Bowls	19 21
S.F. Chucks	18½ 21½
Park Bowl	18 22
Galleon Sharks	17 23
Pilsner-Tragedy Strikes Again	17 23
San Francisco Pinheads	15 25
Bearly Bowlers	15 25
Bowlerinas	8 32

THURSDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE

W	L
Choyce Meat	32½ 11½
Willows	31½ 12½
Ma's Kids	31 13
29'ers Only	30 14
Brooklyn Raiders	28 16
S.F. Eagle	26 18
The Starlight Room	25 19
The Krewes	24 20
Play With It, Ltd.	23 21
Trax of R Years	23 21
Reflections	22 22
Gutter Sluts	22 22
Park Bowl	20 24
Capricorn Coffees	20 24
Fresh Trax	19 25
Wild Balls	19 25
Dustbusterz	15 29
Four Play	14 30

WEDNESDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE

Don Gambell (Litovrs)	.244 (625)
Hank Givan (PWIL)	.235 (617)
Robert Mack (PB)	.234 (607)
Timothy Benton (PNB)	.231, 216 (642)
Pat Conlon (P-I)	.224
Ernie Wilson (Litovrs)	.221
Angelo Maggio (P-I)	.220
Tom Sipple (PWIL)	.209, 217 (616)
Preston Lasley (B-K)	.212
Dave Lilly (PNB)	.201, 209

THURSDAY IGBO/GAY GAMES LEAGUE

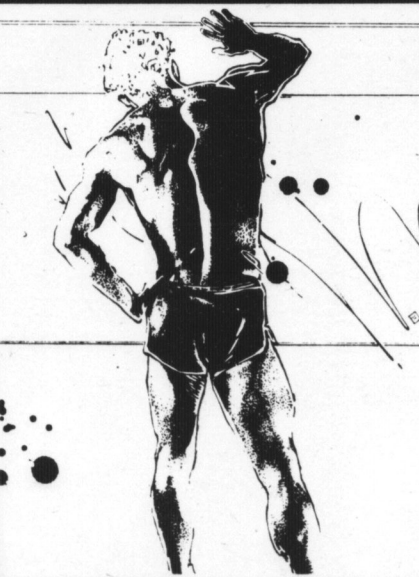
Jerry Pepper (PP)	.203, 235 (617)
Kevin Schwabe (PPP)	.202, 226 (621)
Chuck Miller (T-13)	.214
Hugh Smith (BWAA)	.210
Robyn Trost (BBWAA)	.200 (Dutch)

THURSDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE

Don Fritsche (W)	.245
Don Mannon (PWIL)	.232
Butch Gillum (MK)	.232
John Glynn (TSR)	.227
Frank Fensterer (CM)	.222, 213
Jay Kubovec (ToRY)	.220
Joe Sanders (TSR)	.206
Tim Mulvenon (PWIL)	.205, 201
Fred Doherty (R)	.205
Hugh Smith (MK)	.204
Vince De Santis (FT)	.202
Lhubo Sliskovic (SFE)	.200
Kevin Keefer (FT)	.200



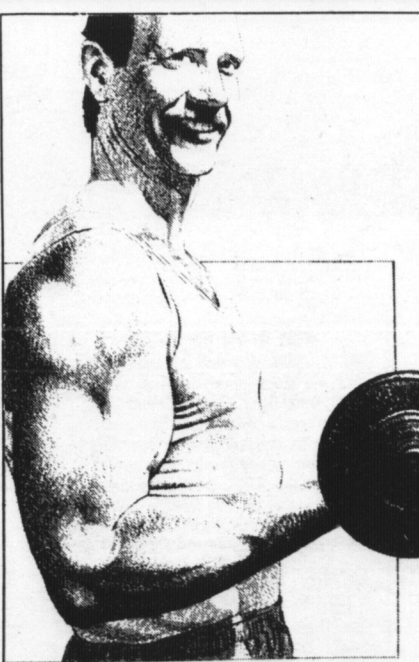
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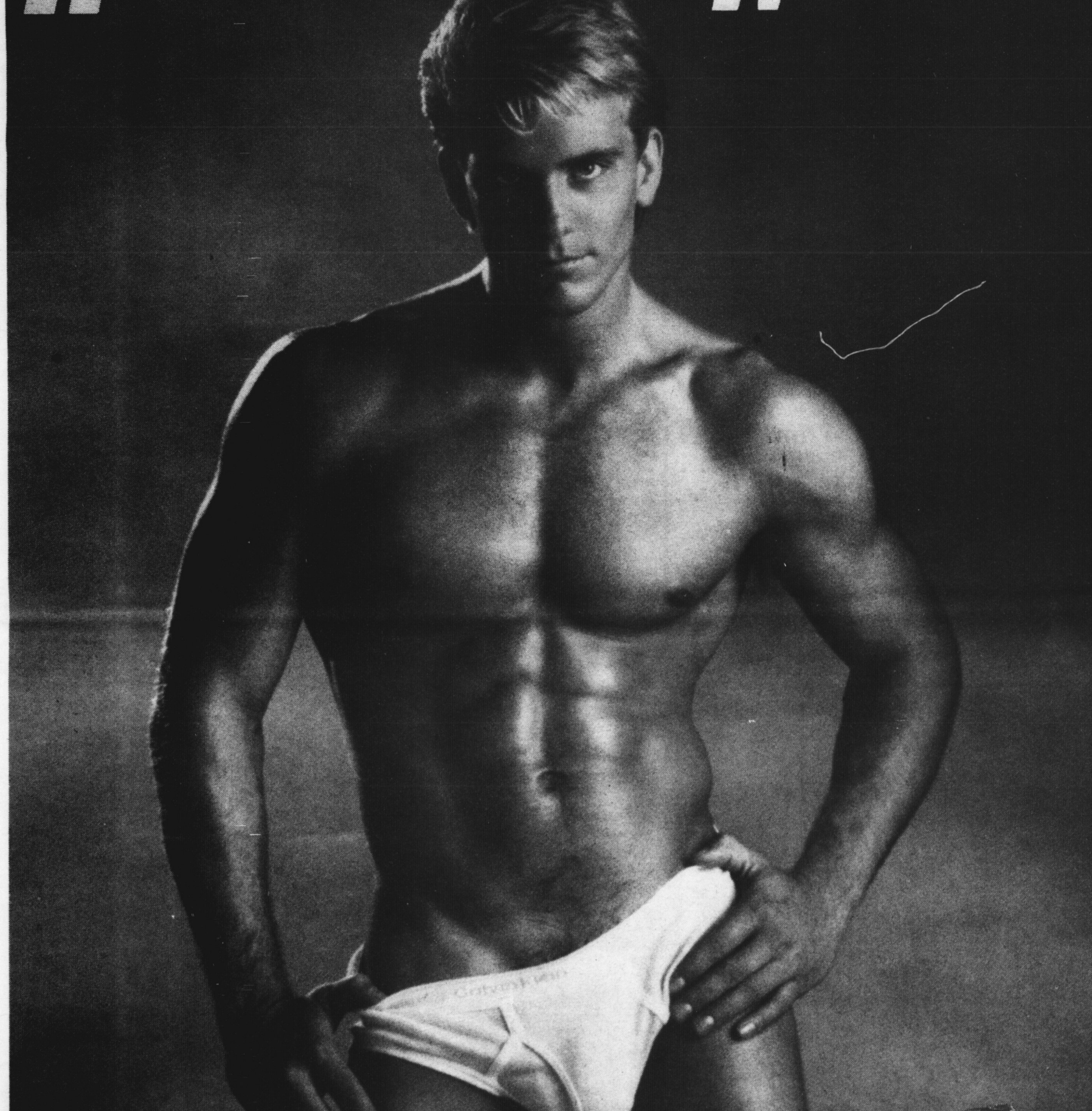
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Body Beautiful

by Leigh Rutledge

The body-building magazines of the '50s and '60s nourished a lot of pre-Stonewall fantasies and laid the groundwork for more explicit gay skin mags. In this excerpt from *The Gay Fireside Companion*, Leigh Rutledge gives us a glimpse of our past.

Adonis, subtitled "The Art Magazine of the Male Physique." Early physique magazine "dedicated to man's desire to improve his face and figure." *Adonis* featured handsome, muscular young models in posing straps, or sometimes completely nude but only from the back. The magazine first started publishing in 1951.

Like other "physical culture" magazines from the period, its fleshy and provocative photos of near-naked men—often taken by such renowned male photographers as Bob Mizer of the Athletic Model Guild or Don Whitman of the Western Photographic Guild—were published under the then-necessary pretense of championing physical fitness and good health, while in actuality providing erotica for gay men. Models were often presented under such coy captions as "Ripening grain, ripening youth—the strength of America" or "Here is the finest flower of masculine perfection. Jim is in the Navy, so you can be sure the country is in good hands!" *Adonis* also published a companion magazine, *Body Beautiful: Studies in Masculine Art*.

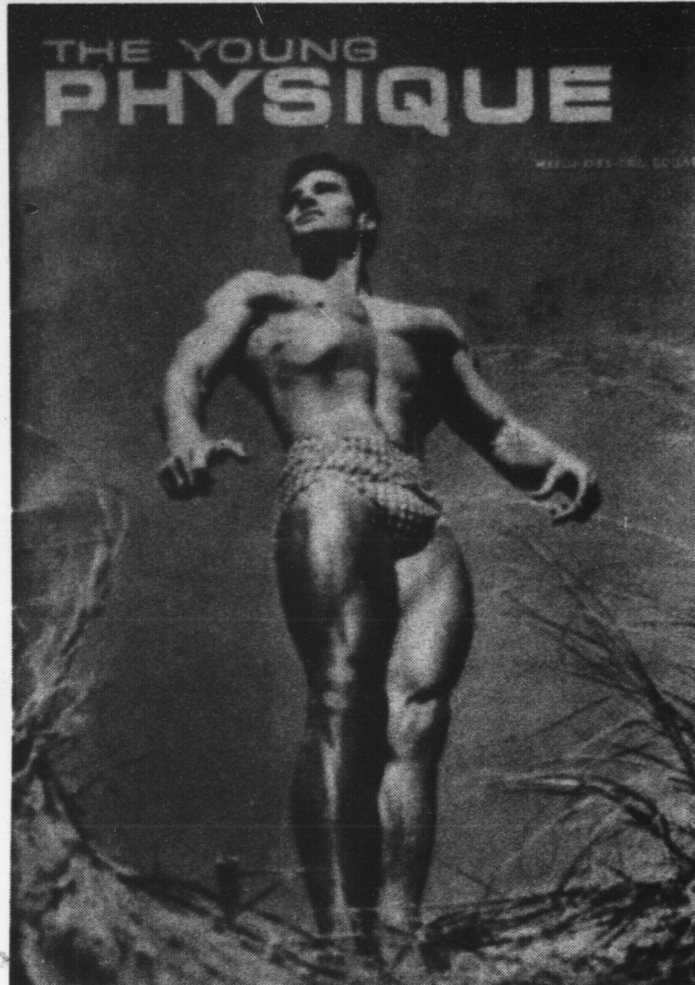
In 1958, *Adonis* and *Body Beautiful* were combined to

create a single magazine, *The Young Physique*. By the mid-1960s, *Young Physique*—although still confined to photographs of male models in posing straps—was becoming more and more openly gay. Like most early physique magazines, *Adonis*, *Body Beautiful*, and *The Young Physique* were openly sold in many drugstores.

Tomorrow's Man, popular physique magazine of the 1950s and 1960s, subtitled "The International Magazine of Bodybuilding." It began publishing in 1952.

Tomorrow's Man—which, like other physique magazines, stressed muscular development, health, and self-discipline—featured photos of professional bodybuilders, readers "training at home," and international male models, as well as the usual photos by some of the best physique photographers of the period, including "Bruce of Los Angeles" (later "Kensington Studios") and Don Whitman of Western Photography Guild in Denver.

Amid the photos of beautiful 18-year-olds shirtless in tight jeans and posing straps—typically subtitled "Tony has made a good start on the road to healthy shape and strength" or "Tom has reaped the rich rewards of training with barbells"—were articles on masturbation, circumcision, and other sexual matters, as well as questions from readers. ("I am very embarrassed over the size of my penis. I am a university student.



I have noticed, when in the showers, that mine is smaller than most. Could I have a deficiency somewhere?"

In 1983, gay porn star Richard Locke spoke for many of his generation when he said that *Tomorrow's Man* was one of his favorite magazines to masturbate to when he was growing up.

VIM, popular physique magazine of the 1950s, first published in 1954. Subtitled "The Magazine for Vigorous Living,"

Vim featured physical culture photography by the Athletic Model Guild, Spectrum Films, the Western Photographic Guild, and other notable male photographers of the time. Articles included such topics as "In Defense of Nudism," "Are Bodybuilders Oversized?" and "How to Develop a Low He-Man Voice." One memorable article—on the do's and don'ts of bathing—began, "If you are building a handsome body remember that the classic Greeks—glorifiers of the body beautiful—invented the bath as we know it, and ever since then bathing has been a true mark of culture. A lot of suds have dribbled down the drain since ancient Rome, where public pools let 3,000 bathers dunk together." Other features debated the propriety of showing male models in G-strings—some readers found it offensive and immoral, others wanted complete nudity—or criticized other physique magazines for their lack of integrity and the introduction of "undesirable elements" (i.e. homosexual overtones) in their editorial content.

MANual, popular physique magazine, started in 1959. *MANual* was especially popular because, unlike most other physique magazines of the day, it often showed some male pubic hair in its photos.

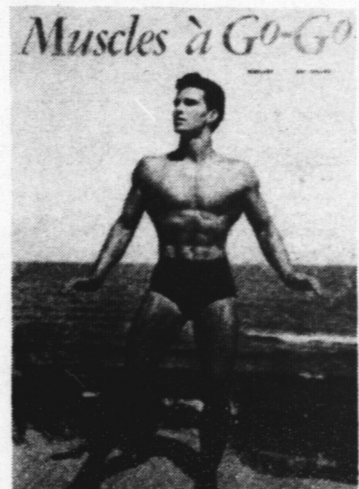
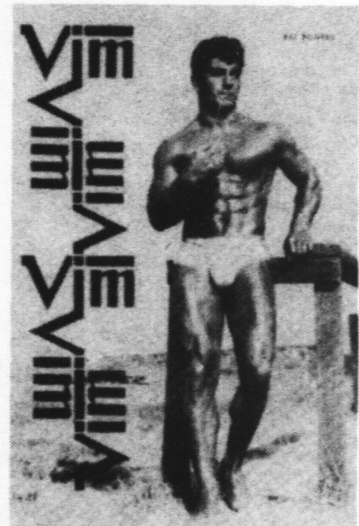
Champ, 1960s physique magazine, whose stated purpose was "to awaken the youth of America to the importance and need of developing a sound body." The magazine was started by male photographer Bob Anthony, and began publishing in 1960. *Champ* not only featured the usual pictures of handsome young men in posing straps, but also showcased the original drawings of several early gay artists. These drawings often had absolutely no relevance to bodybuilding or physical fitness, but were among some of the first contemporary gay erotic art to be so widely published.

GO GUYS, early gay magazine, first published in the spring of 1963. In terms of content, *GO GUYS* was somewhere between the more traditional, less revealing physique magazines of the '50s and the slick, totally explicit gay magazines of today. Models were featured in multi-page layouts

almost identical to those in the modern gay "slicks," except that full genital shots were still forbidden. Other photographic layouts, called "Fotoantics," highlighted two or three models in mildly erotic, comic strip-like stories—wrestling bouts, locker room antics, vacations on the beach—usually full of double entendres: "With such an eventful trip behind them, Sven and David thought the rest of their vacation would be anti-climactic. But, as it turned out, they both found more than they had bargained for, and returned to the campus engaged to be married!" There were also reasonably explicit gay cartoons, as well as fashion layouts, travel tips, and a smattering of gay history, such as features on famous artists—Michelangelo, Goya, et al.—who were preoccupied with the male nude.

Muscles a Go-Go, physique magazine, more explicitly gay than most, first published in February 1966. *Muscles a Go-Go* featured model layouts under such titles as "He's Butch!" and "Oh Mary, They're Hairy!" The Athletic Model Guild, Bruce of Kensington Road, and other major physique photographers were all regular contributors.

Excerpted from *The Gay Fireside Companion* by Leigh Rutledge (Alyson Publications, Boston, MA).



POOL

Final Four Reach Semi-Finals

Just four teams remain of the 16 which made San Francisco Pool Association's post-season cut and they face off in a best-of-three match series to determine the two finalists. At stake is the league's 23rd City Championship and representation at West Coast Challenge XX, hosted by Long Beach in January.

The semi-finalist teams had the four best records in regular season play, a testament to the effectiveness of the regular season scheduling design.

Thursday night's action features the number 2-seeded Overpassers being hosted by the "Powerhouse, We Are" in what will be their second playoff meeting. Should a tie-breaker be necessary, the action returns to the Overpass next Tuesday. It's considered extremely unlikely that the Powerhouse can hope to overcome the experience and poise of the 'passers, a team formed expressly for the purpose of challenging for the title. They waltzed through their second round opponents, Park Bowl, 9-2 and seem unstoppable in their march to the finals.

Also on Thursday, the top-rated San Marcos Cafe Quackers visit the White Swallow International, which finished with the league's third best record, thanks to team leaders, John Schou and Bernard Bayaca. The Quackers, formerly the Deluxe Ducks, finished their ninth consecutive

season as the league's top seed and are the defending Champions. This match may offer some of the playoff's best fireworks to date. Should either team fail to sweep, the third match will be at the Cafe next Tuesday.

The first two players to represent San Francisco at WCC XX will be determined next Saturday at the Cinch were the Women's Qualifier will be held, starting at 10:30 a.m. The contest features

the top 16 women, based on last season's play, and spectators are welcome.

The Star Search Tournament, which featured a field of 16 who finished at .500 or below, was held last Saturday at the Bear and Special. The second edition of the contest was won by Larry Fyvie, with Terry Ward, Norman Whited and Toni Ihler rounding out the top four.

Dial JOE-POOL for the latest SFPA information.

Search Begins for 1994 Gay Games Host

The Federation of Gay Games has begun the site selection process for Gay Games IV in 1994. Proposal guidelines are now available for organizations interested in hosting Gay Games IV in their city and country. The Federation's search for the 1994 site has already attracted international attention. Cities in North America, Europe and the South Pacific have inquired about hosting guidelines.

The proposal guidelines for bidders seek information about the potential host organization's legal status, philosophy, administrative structure, community relations, financial strength, availability of sport and cultural facilities, as well as programmatic

and promotional plans. Members of the Federation will be available to assist groups preparing bids, which are due by April 1, 1990.

Once the Federation receives proposals, it will review and rank them in preparation for board action at its annual convention in June in Denver, Colorado. Contract negotiations will follow, and at closing ceremonies of Celebration '90, the Federation will announce the host for Gay Games IV.

All organizations interested in hosting the next Gay Games can obtain site selection proposal guidelines by writing the Federation of Gay Games, 584 Castro St., Suite 343, San Francisco, CA 94114.

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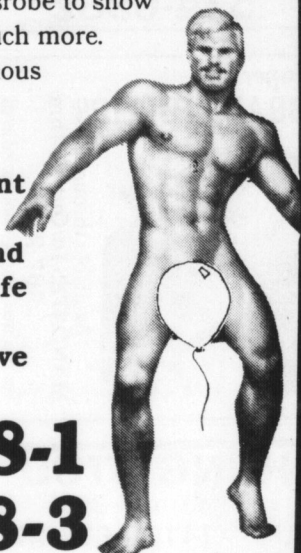
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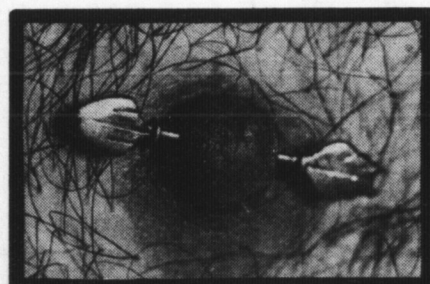
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Mr. Marcus

Only 16 More Days Until Christmas

Here we are heading into the homestretch of 1989 and there are some who will be glad to see it go and some who will look back with a certain sense of nostalgia and warm feelings. For every individual, 1989 will be worthy of remembering the end of the decade. The '90s loom ahead, hopefully with a brighter and happier way for everyone.

In the meantime, the waning weeks hold lots of fun things for everyone including a lot of benefits for those among us who need our help. Your generosity throughout the past months has been phenomenal. Only last Sunday, Dec. 3, some \$4,000 was raised for the Shanti Project at the Eagle beer bust. Gail Wilson had the crowd jumping with her bouncy renditions of seasonal melodies as well as some old favorites. Alan Selby, assisted by Leather Daddy's Boy '88 Rick Ramirez, auctioned off several choice items while the current Leather Daddy's Boy, David Thompson, ran his cute buns off pouring beer. Don't ask me where Leather Daddy Dennis Graff is; I haven't seen him in months, but someone told me he was having back problems so that probably accounts for his non-visibility.

The Galleon celebrated their 4th anniversary over the weekend. Spotlights punctuated the night skies around 14th and Market/Church where special shows and special prices for drinks and dinners prevailed throughout the four day celebration.

This past Saturday, a lot of volunteers (try 68 of them!) from PAWS became the sponsoring organization for the Castro Christmas Tree, financed by the Eureka Valley Merchants Association. Dan Ferguson, bless his heart, for the sixth year in a row, furnished the tree. In what is being billed as a spectacular ceremony, the lighting ceremony will take place this Saturday, Dec. 9 at 1730 hours—be there or Steve Gauger will be mighty disappointed!

While you're in the vicinity, you might buy the 1990 Bare Chest Calendar for \$10 (benefiting the AIDS Emergency Fund). Mr. June 1990 John Dopp and his elves (Jerry and Randy) are out there autographing and pushing the calendar so buy one, or two, or three. Thanks, John. Thanks, Dan. Thanks, PAWS. Thanks, Steve Gauger.

UPDATE: The Los Angeles Satyr MC 35th anniversary celebration held at the Musicians Union Hall in Hollywood a few weekends ago was a huge success according to several dudes who made the trip. Over 300 people were on hand for the anniversary party which raised over \$500 for Los Angeles AIDS agencies.



Even Santa made an appearance at the Shanti beer bust at the SF Eagle last Sunday. (Photo: Marcus)

The guests were entertained by a group of female musicians called the "Dixie Belles"—not one of them under the age of 70! I've seen this group on TV several times and what they lack in musical expertise is more than made up for by their enthusiasm. And they didn't mind entertaining for hundreds of leather and uniformed men—at their age, do you think they care who's sleeping with who? The next day, the San Francisco Rainbow MC hosted a brunch for everyone within reach and yes, Larry Reams is still the prez.



Shanti staff member Bea Roman was surprised at the beer bust last Sunday with a birthday cake. She's a young 62! (Photo: Marcus)

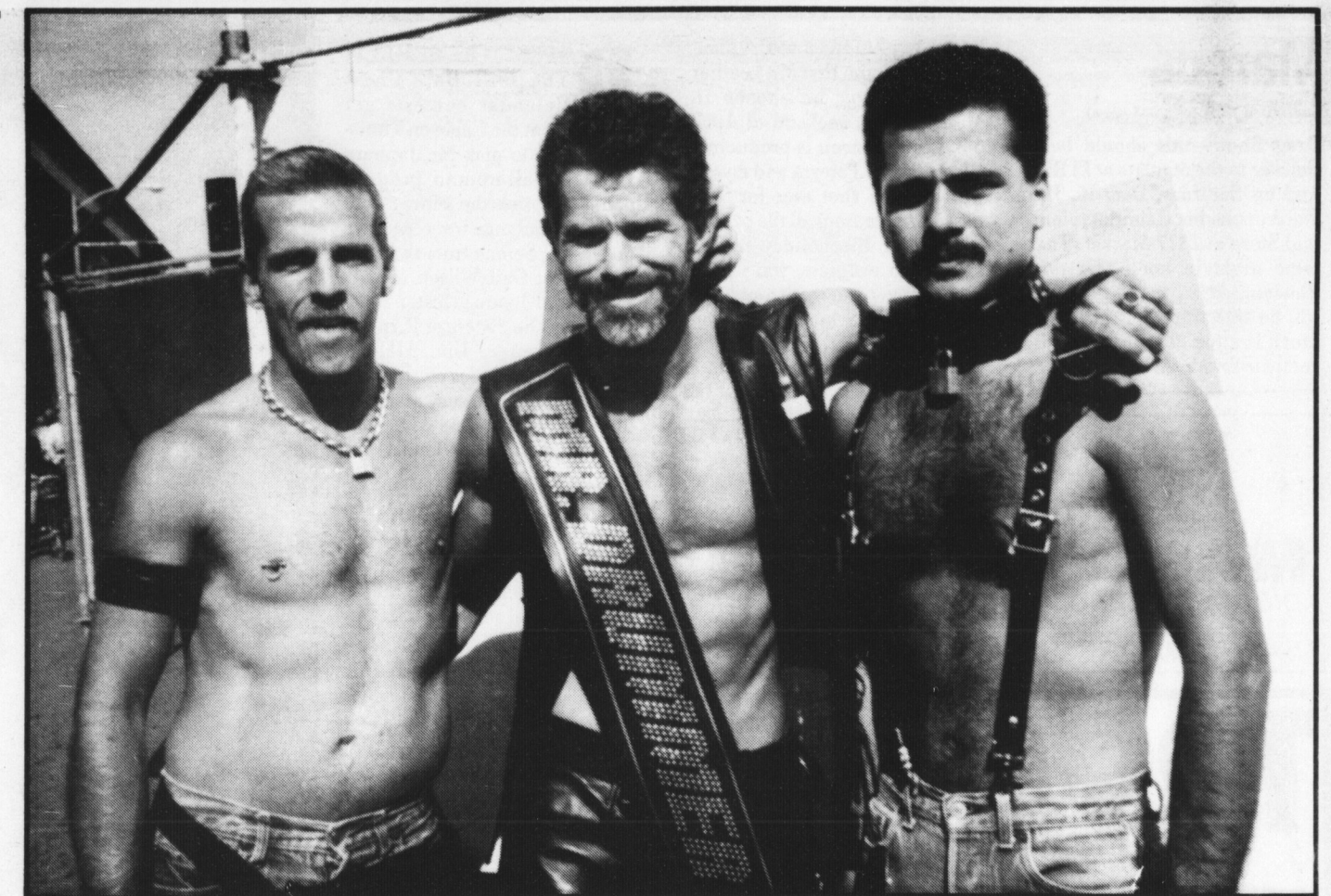
Closer to home, the SF Golden Gate Guards celebrated their 3rd anniversary at the SF Eagle and from all reports, it was very festive that Saturday night, Nov. 18. I was traipsing around Sacramento that night for the Mr. Sacramento Leather contest so I missed the action here. Everyone I talked to gave the Guards rave reviews and as always, the food was superb. Jason Fontaine, the corresponding secretary of the GG Guards reminds you that the new officers are: Commanding Officer Jim Welcker; Exec. Officer Allen Hemming; Admin. Officer Vincent Behan; Finance Officer Steve Sanders and do you think they'd dare leave Jack Goodall off the officer roster? He's the Road Captain. Watch for news of the GG Guards' "Winter Wonderland III" weekend run Jan. 26-28 to Yosemite.

This past weekend, the Cheaters celebrated their 20th anniversary at the Transfer. Another gushing response from all who attended. Cocktails (free!) were flowing and while nobody gave me the list of new officers, I'm sure the Cheaters did a good job in their voting. And speaking of clubs, Glenn Tomblin of the SFGDI Club wants you all to see the 1989 Minsky's Show video tape this Friday, Dec. 8 at (where else?) the Transfer. The viewing begins at 2000, so don't be late. You know how Danny hates rewinding the video tapes! Also on the club agenda, the Phoenix Uniform Club is having their party this coming Saturday, Dec. 9 in Atherton and this one sounds tre chic!

I hope you've got your tickets for Men Behind Bars #5 coming your way on President's Day weekend in February. Tickets are on sale now to the general public and you can charge them to your VISA or Mastercard by phoning 552-3656. They are on sale at STBS on Union Square too, so don't get left out of the biggest winter party/show of 1990. Also next Thursday, Dec. 13, the Galleon begins their Twelve Nights of Christmas extravaganza hosted by Scott Johnston and Danny Williams and continuing through Dec. 23. Everyone who can sing, play a piano, or tell jokes is scheduled to appear.



Dustin Logan of Omaha. (Photo: Marcus)



Top: Brian Dawson, center, with his two "boys." Bottom left: Rick Conder, Mr. Bum Steer, Phoenix, hands over his title next Saturday. Rick is also Mr. Leather of Arizona and Mr. Southwest Drummer. (Photos: Marcus)



Make your dinner reservations now. What else is on tap? Check this out:

Friday, Dec. 8: Hats Off to Hospice at the SF Marriott Hotel (3rd and Market) with Nicholas, Glover and Wray, Weslia Whitfield, Menage, the Jesters, Scott Johnston, Jae Ross—and, ta-da, Sarah Vaughan! For the cabaret show and dinner, it's \$150 per person; cocktails are at 2100, the show at 2130. You can see the show only for \$35, tickets available through BASS/Ticketmaster, or call 923-3310 for more info.

Saturday, Dec. 9: If you want to wear the crown of Empress of SF or become the Emperor of SF (emperors are forbidden to wear crowns), the applications will be available today at the Galleon, the Mint or the Hob Nob. They didn't say how long the apps would be available or when the deadline for submission may be. The big 25th anniversary of

royalty is in 1990—a silver jubilee.

Sunday, Dec. 10: They'll be picking Mr. January 1991 down in San Jose at the Heat at the SLUG beer bust from 1500-1800. The 1991 calendar will be called Men of the Heat and leave it to John Escudera to come up with a hot title like that!

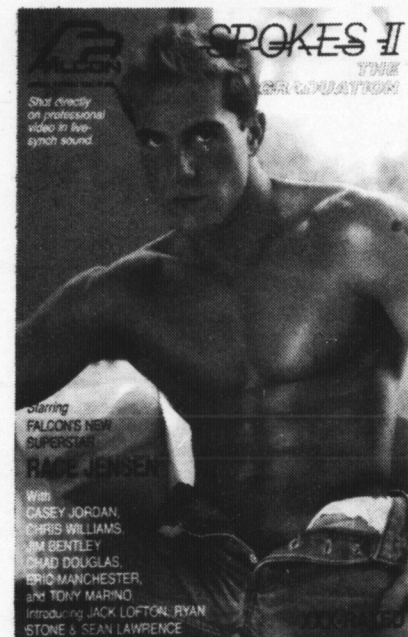
Mr. and Ms. Gay San Francisco (Nova Lei and Lady Bobbette) are inviting you to the Mint on Sunday at 2000 for entertainment and a 50/50 raffle for Coming Home Hospice and Shanti. They'll be showing the video of the Mr. and Ms. Gay San Francisco Pageant that night too.

Friday, Dec. 15: Drag comes to the El Rio on Outer Mission (Hi Bob and Malcolm) for the Mr. and Ms. Santa Contest. Vinny Russell and Lola Lust will MC this one billed as a Christmas

(Continued on next page)

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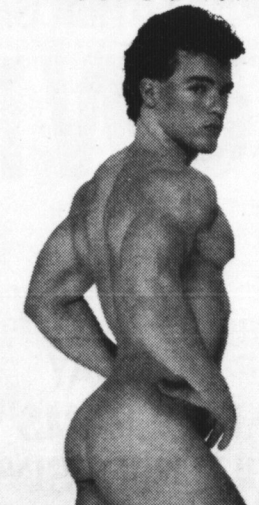


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Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

Drag Show—this should be a shocker to the regulars at El Rio! And on Saturday, Dec. 16, Jim Ward opens his Gauntlet (piercing) Store at 2377 Market. That same night in not-too-far-away Phoenix, Ariz., the Bum Steer will be selecting their Mr. Bum Steer Leather. The winner will compete for Mr. Arizona Leather

late on in 1990 and if you're planning ahead, the first Mr. Leather Tennessee will be chosen in Memphis the weekend of April 6-8. Les Robinson is producing. "Iron" Mike Pereyra and myself will MC the first ever for Tennessee. Aside from all the private parties for the holiday season already in progress, you'll find plenty to get you into trouble, so have fun and whistle while you lurk!

DATES TO REMEMBER: The 1991 Bare Chest Calendar contests get under way at the Eagle on Thursday, Jan. 4 to pick Mr. January 1991. An all-woman judging panel will pick the winner consisting of Solange from the Cove on Castro; Serena from the Bear on Castro; Gail Wilson of City Swing and Joanna (Sister Blanche) from the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Inc. All you muscle-bound dudes better smile at those ladies and start pumping up now! Winner gets \$100 cash and a spot on the 1991 calendar!

Mr. South of Market will be selected on Sunday, April 1, 1990 at the SF Eagle beer bust. More on this one later.

Mr. Leather of San Francisco—no date scheduled at my deadline.

Mr. Northern California Drummer—no date scheduled at my deadline.

Mr. SF Eagle Leather contests begin on Wednesday, March 7 and again on March 14 and 21. Finals on March 28.

SF Leather Daddy Contest, Friday, July 27 at SF Eagle. Beneficiary: AIDS Emergency Fund.

SF Leather Daddy's Boy Contest, Sunday, Sept. 2 at SF Eagle, for AIDS Emergency Fund.

As of my deadline this week, no one but no one has sent in any New Years' Eve party information. But never fear, the info will be here!

In answer to your many inquiries, I am no longer working at the Dildo Mines on 18th and Castro. I've joined the staff (after all these years) of B.A.R. so you can reach me there days Monday through Friday. Hi Charlie!

Hey! They've picked the first Mr. Leather Oklahoma already and he'll represent that state at Intl. Mr. Leather in Chicago this coming May 1990. Patrick Sullivan won the contest and Mike Bennett was the runner-up.



Gail Wilson belted out hits for Shanti.

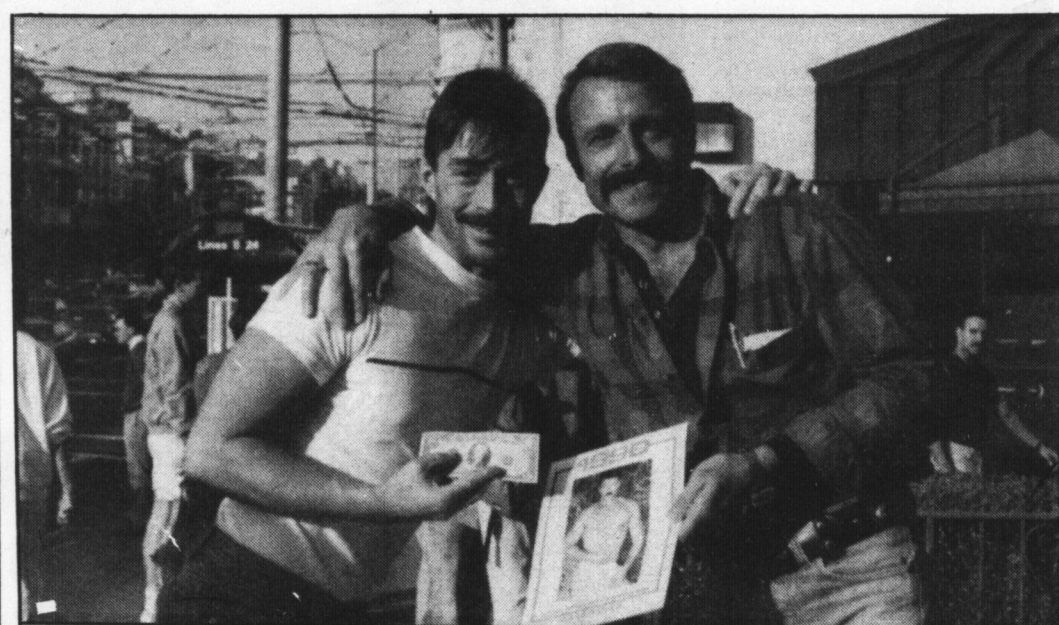
(Photo: Marcus)

The photos of the winner got lost in the mail, so you'll have to wait and see what they look like. Les Robinson of Nashville, Tenn. was the MC for the event and it was put on by T.U.L.S.A. (Tulsa Uniform Leather Seekers Association) at the Tool Box in that city. The Green County Cloggers performed as well as Jonathan Brown, a country western singer. Very Oklahoma. Very butch. Very interesting. Even Mr. Prime Choice of Texas Vince Butts was there... and before you start, no his middle name is not, repeat, not, Pork!

The Blazing Redheads will be appearing South of Market on

New Years Eve—at the Paradise Lounge (formerly Febe's) and will no doubt pack the house. If you want to ring in the new with a rhythmo-fusion funky sound, make your reservations now by calling 861-6906.

There's a dearth of dish this time around; this is the season to be jolly as opposed to dishy. Gossip abounds, but who cares about the feudin' and fussin' and fightin'? Just get your chores done, do your shopping, support the worthwhile charities and live, love and laugh—and hey... try to do it in leather! ▼



John Dopp, right, Mr. June 1990 on the Bare Chest Calendar.

(Photo: Marcus)

Gender

(Continued from page 28)

percussive sound, and slightly distorted voice-over to achieve an effect not unlike that for which Laurie Anderson is justly famous.

Perhaps all that remains to be said is that *Hidden: A Gender* is basted simultaneously in a most engaging spirit of humor and irony. As Bornstein reminds us, gender is both the battle ground and the playground. At play, then, Bornstein performs several outrageously funny monologues, including a corker as 8th grade

English teacher Mr. Blunt, who explicates gender and pronouns thus: "'I' has no gender, and 'you' has no gender. 'He' and 'she' do, which is fortunate, because 'we' has no gender either, does 'we'?"

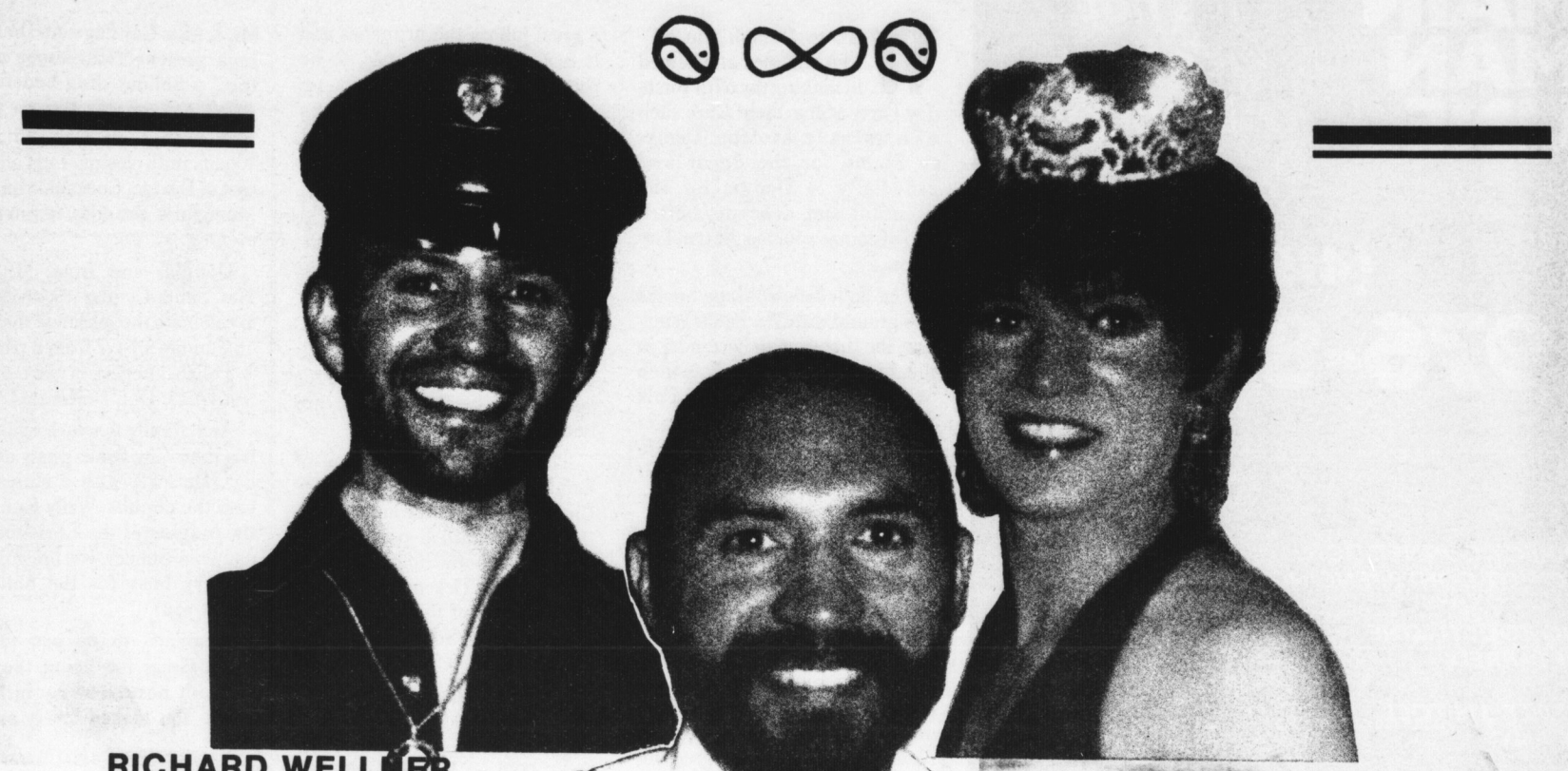
Another bit, a Marx Brothers sketch with Groucho and Harpo as two surgeons (Drs. Razor and Weener) who refuse to perform Herman's sex change because she is a lesbian, is also a scream.

Earlier, I ventured the opinion that good theatre is subversive. If you look "subversive" up in the dictionary, you'll find a definition that goes something like

this: "having a tendency to undermine or overthrow an established system, as by persons working secretly from within." The editors might well have been thinking of Kate Bornstein when they wrote those words—and, if they weren't, they should have been. These days, when closets of various conformities can scarcely be built fast enough, everyone ought to take a little Bornstein-style subversion on his plate. ▼

Hidden: A Gender
Theatre Rhinoceros Studio, 2926 16th St.; Thurs.-Sun., 8:30 p.m.; through Dec. 23; \$9-\$10; 861-5079.

MARCH 30, 1938 JOHN L. VALLE NOVEMBER 24, 1989



RICHARD WELLNER
PRESIDENT GDI

'EVERY MAN'S DEATH DIMINISHES ME... JOHN DONNE.

SOUTH OF MARKET BROTHERHOOD HAS BEEN DIMINISHED BY THE DEATH OF JONNI VALLE. JONNI VALLE WAS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE SOUTH OF MARKET CLUB SCENE. SERVING THREE YEARS AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE S. F. G. D. I.'S. A LEATHER/LEVI CLUB, JONNI SERVED AS A CATALYST FOR ACTION, CREATIVITY, AND IMAGINATION IN EACH ENDEAVOR HE ACCOMPLISHED. HE PARTICIPATED AND GUIDED SEVERAL BIKE EVENTS AND DIRECTED NUMEROUS AWARD-WINNING CLUB PRODUCTIONS. HIS TRADEMARK WAS THE GRAND FINALE, HIS SIGNATURE TO EACH PRODUCTION. JONNI WAS A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE I.C.F., THE INTER-CLUB FUND, A SOUTH OF MARKET CHARITY FOR CLUB MEMBERS. HE UTILIZED HIS ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS AND HIS VARIED NETWORK OF FRIENDS TO HELP PROVIDE THIS ORGANIZATION WITH A SOUND FINANCIAL BASE. JONNI VALLE PROVIDED VITAL LEADERSHIP TO HIS CLUB WHILE ALWAYS MAINTAINING THE BOTTOM LINE. ONE OF HIS PROUDEST ACHIEVEMENTS AS THE CLUB'S PRESIDENT WAS TO LEAVE ITS TREASURY IN THE BLACK. JONNI VALLE WAS A GENUINE CARING INDIVIDUAL WHO GAVE SOLOCE AND COUNSEL NOT ONLY TO JUST HIS CLUB BROTHERS BUT TO ANY SEEKING COMFORT IN THE LEATHER COMMUNITY. HIS ENERGIES WERE CHANNELLED INTO LESS CONFORMIST PATHS WHICH ENABLED HIM TO SEE ANOTHER SIDE, A DIFFERENT VIEWPOINT, WHICH ASSISTED HIM WHEN CALLED UPON TO MEDIATE VARIOUS CLUB DISPUTES. EACH HAS THEIR OWN WAY AND THEN THERE WAS JONNI'S. JONNI VALLE HAS LEFT HIS MARK IN THE HISTORY OF SOUTH OF MARKET AND WILL BE REMEMBERED AS A TRUE SOUTH OF MARKET LEADER. BRAVO JONNI, GRAND FINALE.

MICHAEL SWEENEY
FIRST VICEROY

THOUGH MY FIVE YEAR RELATIONSHIP WITH JOHN WAS RATHER SHORT IN THE BIG SCHEME OF THINGS; JOHN BROUGHT TO ME AN INCREDIBLE KINDNESS AND GENTLENESS WHICH I HAD NEVER KNOWN BEFORE. I ALSO CAME TO APPRECIATE THE PATIENCE HE ALWAYS HAD FOR EVERYTHING, AS WELL AS FOR ME. DURING THE ONSET OF OUR TIME TOGETHER, GETTING SERIOUS AND MORE INTIMATE, I THOUGHT THIS RELATIONSHIP WOULD ALWAYS BE HARD... YET JOHN ALWAYS MADE IT EASY. WE COULD TALK, WE WERE FRIENDS AS WELL AS LOVERS. OUR TIME TOGETHER WAS SIMPLE YET FUN, HE GLOWED, AND I GLOWED IN THE LOVE WE'VE HAD AS WELL. MY HEART HAS ALWAYS BEEN WITH HIM, AND THIS HAS GIVEN US BOTH AN EVEN GREATER STRENGTH THROUGH THIS TRYING TIME. I WILL CARRY OUR GOOD TIMES WITH ME FOREVER, AS HIS PASSING WILL CHANGE MY LIFE DRAMATICALLY. IN JOHN'S PEACEFUL PASSING I HOPE HE CARRIES WHAT I'VE GIVEN HIM AND THE THINGS HE'S GOTTEN FROM ME DURING OUR GREAT TIME TOGETHER... ON WITH HIM TO THE NEXT PLANE OF HIS LIFE. I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN SOMETIME JOHN. - I LOVE YOU - LIKE 'I' CAN'T BELIEVE.

P.S. JOHN, IF YOU READ THIS SOMEWHERE THIS IS FOR YOU, FROM DEEP IN MY HEART. ENJOY THAT TRIP TO THE GROCERY STORE.

GINGER, EMPRESS XIV

KNOWN TO ALL OF US AS 'JONNI', THIS VALIANT LEADER IN OUR COMMUNITY PEACEFULLY LEFT US AT 4:00 A.M. ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, BORN IN COLTON, JONNI CAME TO SAN FRANCISCO AFTER HIS TOUR OF DUTY IN THE NAVY. HE MADE HIS MARK IN MANY WAYS IN MANY FACETS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO COMMUNITY. HE WAS ELECTED AND SERVED WELL AS THE SEVENTH EMPRESS OF SAN FRANCISCO. UNLIKE SOME WHO SERVE ONLY THEIR TERM, JONNI WAS EVER THE DEVOTED PAST EMPRESS SERVING WELL THE OFFICE, THAT IS, ASSISTING THOSE WHO WERE TO FOLLOW HIM. ONLY IN SICKNESS DID HE RELAX AND THEN, ONLY MINIMALLY. HE SERVED SEVERAL YEARS AS A DIRECTOR OF THE IMPERIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF SAN FRANCISCO AND WAS AN HONORARY MEMBER FOR LIFE.

ADDITIONALLY, JONNI WAS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE BIKE-CLUB COMMUNITY OF SAN FRANCISCO. SERVING THE GDI'S AS PRESIDENT HE WAS ACTIVE IN THE YEARLY PRESENTATION OF 'A DATE AT MINSKY'S'. A TALENTED PERFORMER, JONNI PERFORMED AT THE 1987 CORONATION, AND HAS PREVIOUSLY PERFORMED AT MANY FUNCTIONS, PRIMARILY FOR CHARITY, IN OUR CITY.

JONNI WAS A LEADER, A FIGHTER FOR INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS, AND A PLEASURE TO KNOW. HE WILL BE MISSED BY ALL OF US.

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Sweet Lips

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

Wish to "thank you all" who attended and helped in making my 67th Birthday Party at the Yacht Club such a success and a lot of fun. Thanks to Flame for the decor and especially to Dennis for the beautiful and delicious buffet, and of course you, too, Rotten Loraine.

The Polk Gulch Saloon breaks new ground with Ms. Paula Valentine, the first woman bartender in the history of the Polk Gulch Saloon and possibly all of Polk Street. Something for everyone, in the usual Polk Gulch Saloon tradition. Welcome, Paula, or is it Paul? Only Jesse and Johnny know for sure.

A great 70th birthday bash for Lenny Mollet on Dec. 4 with just about everyone who is anyone there to wish him well. You outdid yourself this time, Lenny, but aren't we seeing each other too often now, three times in four days? But happy birthday, dear. Also a belated birthday greeting to the wonderful June Banda.

Dear Art York: I had a wonderful letter from John Kehr, a.k.a. Virginia, the other day and he certainly seems to be doing quite well. The picture of his house is wonderful. Maybe he'll send us plane fare for a visit in the spring. Are you doing Santa Claus this year, Art? The SFGDIs will be showing the 1989 Minsky's Show Tape on Friday, Dec. 8, starting at 8 p.m. at the very popular Transfer Bar. Thanks for the info, Glenn, as your show tapes are almost as good as being on the run.

The Kokpit and Le-ona invite you to the 3rd Annual Holiday Brunch by Hal to benefit the Empress Tessie's Community Christmas Dinner on Saturday, Dec. 16 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Kokpit, 301 Turk Street. No charge for brunch but donation accepted for the dinners with hosts the Grand Duke Bruce and Grand Duchess Collette. Hal does

a great job on the brunches and it is a very worthy cause, so be there.

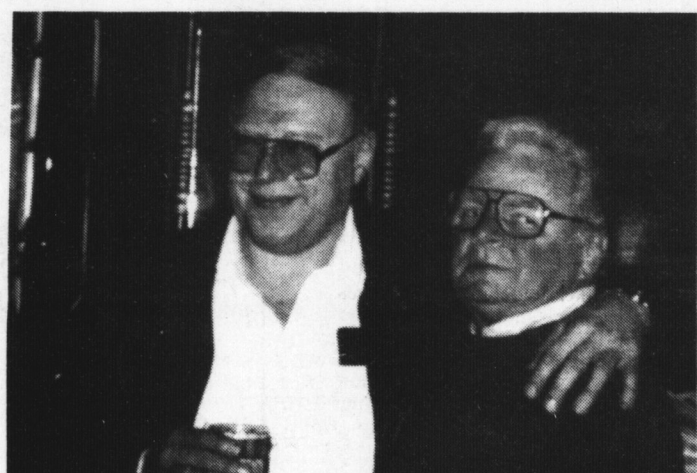
It was nice having my good friend Steve Suss here for the weekend as he is on his way to Mexico with his brother. Steve has the popular Embers/Avenue in Portland and it is a hot, hot establishment not to be missed when you visit the city, right Lily and Steven?

It was also nice to have Bob Dunn and his Woody in town for last week's festivities. You are both looking just great.

The Grand Ducal Council of San Francisco presents "Country Christmas" on Saturday the 16th from noon until 8 p.m., with a show and booths at 240 Golden Gate Avenue. Tickets are \$4 at the door, and \$1 of that goes to the Silver Jubilee. Sounds like a fun afternoon.

Lots of holiday parties coming up, so you should make your plans early. Mr. & Miss Gay San Francisco '90 Nova Lei and Lady Bobette invite you to the Mint to a benefit for Coming Home Hospice and the Shanti Project on Sunday, Dec. 10 at 8 p.m., with entertainment, a 50/50 raffle and a special feature of the video of the

Don't forget Men Behind Bars is coming on President's Weekend, as is the Silver Jubilee Party and of course the Coronation of the 25th Empress of San Francisco. These are not to be missed. ▼



Steve Suss of the Embers/Avenue in Portland at you know what party.

Blue Leaves

(Continued from page 29)

many of the subtleties and tacked on a few of his own.

The preshow in front of the curtain is an interesting idea that should have stayed in rehearsal. Forcing an audience in an already small theater to "participate" while Artie plays the piano at Amateur Night is asking too much, and adds nothing to the subsequent understanding of Artie's actions or angsts. Not to mention, it's done badly. The audience doesn't know whether to join in; a waiter circulates among the crowd taking drink orders that, of course, never appear. Get on with the play and cut this gratuitous bit of schtick.

More to the play, Scott is a clever mover of actors. His staging is not to be faulted. However, the reasons behind his choices are obscure at best, and not precisely executed.

As the play progresses, Scott's direction becomes more static, more unreal. It finally reaches a zenith with the slow motion pseudo-erotic fight between the nuns who have entered Artie's apartment to watch the pope on TV. The change in speed and tone come with no warning, and offer no insight. It is as if Scott were looking for hidden agendas

Crafts Fair

(Continued from page 28)

children's entertainment, plus free, on-site childcare also will be available. Ethnic food will be on sale. Crafts and art work on exhibit and for sale will include: jewelry, fiber arts, sculpture, ceramics, woodwork, mixed media, fine arts, children's items, photography and instruments.

A special Laotian Lu Mien Women's Embroidery Exhibit organized by the Refugee Women's Program (based in the San Francisco Tenderloin since 1982) will highlight intricately embroidered textiles, applique, red fluff collars and silver beadwork made by Lao Lu Mien tribal women. Their work also will be for sale. Forced to flee from the Pathet Lao government to refugee camps in Thailand in 1975, over 5,000 Lao Lu Mien now live in the Bay Area.

Tickets for the fair are \$4.50 and \$10 on a sliding scale, which includes entertainment, with children under 12 and seniors 65 and over admitted free. Tickets will be available at the door. Parking at Crissy Field will be free, with a shuttle to Fort Mason provided. A shuttle for Mission residents will leave at scheduled times from the Women's Building and the 16th Street BART station for East Bay residents. For more information call the Women's Building at 431-1180. ▼

House of Blue Leaves
Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th St. (at Folsom); Fri.-Sun., 8 p.m.; through Dec. 23; \$10
391-8778

VIDEO

A Boy As Good As His Topping

by Mark Johnson

MADE FOR YOU
Falcon Video Pac 63
Cast: Rex Chandler, Butch Taylor, Jim Bentley, Brad Mitchell, Mike Gregory, Danny Brown, Joe Cade

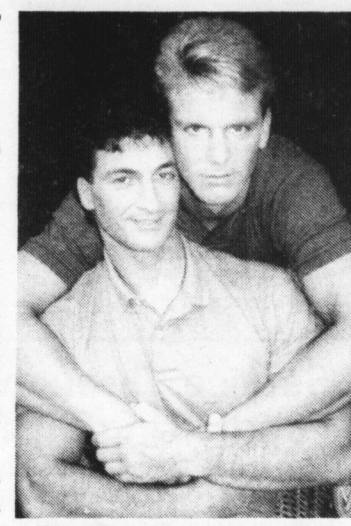
Falcon's new release, *Made For You*, features a smaller cast than many previous releases, but the quality is high. Butch Taylor, Joe Cade and Jim Bentley are roommates, and while Butch and Jim are content with their lifestyles, Joe is looking for more than one-night stands.

While Joe, who's a pilot, takes off on a trip, Butch takes a run and meets Rex Chandler. The two have a terrific scene, even though Rex is somewhat uncomfortable with Butch's uninhibited approach.

The "Inside Out" cleaning service arrives to tidy things up. Mike Gregory is in charge of the service's new employee, Danny Brown. Their scene is one of this year's very best. I have always contended that Danny Brown is as good as whatever is topping him, and he is extraordinary in this segment of true energy. Mike and Danny both get exactly what they want, and that leaves nothing to be desired.

Jim Bentley and Brad Mitchell get together next in the upstairs bedroom, while Butch lets Joe, who's just arrived home, know that he's met a guy (Rex Chandler) he thinks Joe would really like. Reluctantly, Joe agrees to a blind date.

From dinner to bed Rex and Joe get along fine, as if they were made for each other. In film after film Falcon keeps proving they're the tops. Those that can do, those that can't have long credits listed. ▼



Rex Chandler and Joe Cade.

Vincent, who's been dreaming about his brother, discovers two terrific looking guys going at it in the woods, he can't take his eyes off them, and it will be hard for you, too. Somehow these two disappear before Vincent can get to them.

Back at the house, who should appear on the couch ready for action but Chris Dano, one of the guys in Joe's fantasy. Chris is one of the hottest models around, and doesn't fail here to live up to all you expect. Joe heads for the showers, but just as he's coming by his own hand, someone steps in and covers his mouth.

On the way back from his hike Vincent discovers a trunk in the shed and opens it to be surprised by... and now we understand why this film doesn't make any sense, you'll have to rent or buy the sequel to find out why all the mystery.

I turned off the machine not so enticed by what's ahead, but feeling a little ripped off that this first episode can't stand on its own. If you're going to write, fellas, take a cue from the best storytellers and give your tale a beginning, middle and end. Otherwise, forget the plot as technique for increasing sales.



Rex.

One last reminder, 15 minutes of coming attractions does not make a full-length video. ▼

THE RIVER
Fine Line Production
Distributed by Vivid Video
Cast: Joey Stefano, Steve Kennedy, Nick Romano, Roberto Arias, Tony Davis, Sparky O'Tool

This film is all wet. It's not well-photographed. The models are average. The location is stark and unattractive. The sex is luke-

warm at best, and downright boring at worst. The box, though, is gorgeous. If you read these columns, you've heard me compliment Vivid before for their come-on packaging, and encourage them to try and live up to the boxes on the cassettes.

I don't know of another distributor that has put out more product this year than Vivid, most of it just OK, much of it lousy and none of it up to Falcon or Catalina. As a video fan, I've begun to dread seeing a Vivid product come out because I know I'm going to be wasting my time watching it. I have to, you don't, and I'll be sure to let you know if things start improving.

It begins to become clear that there's only one reason for Vivid's efforts. Money. Your money. My mother used to call her cooking shortcuts "quick and dirty." Vivid needs to slow down and clean up their act. ▼

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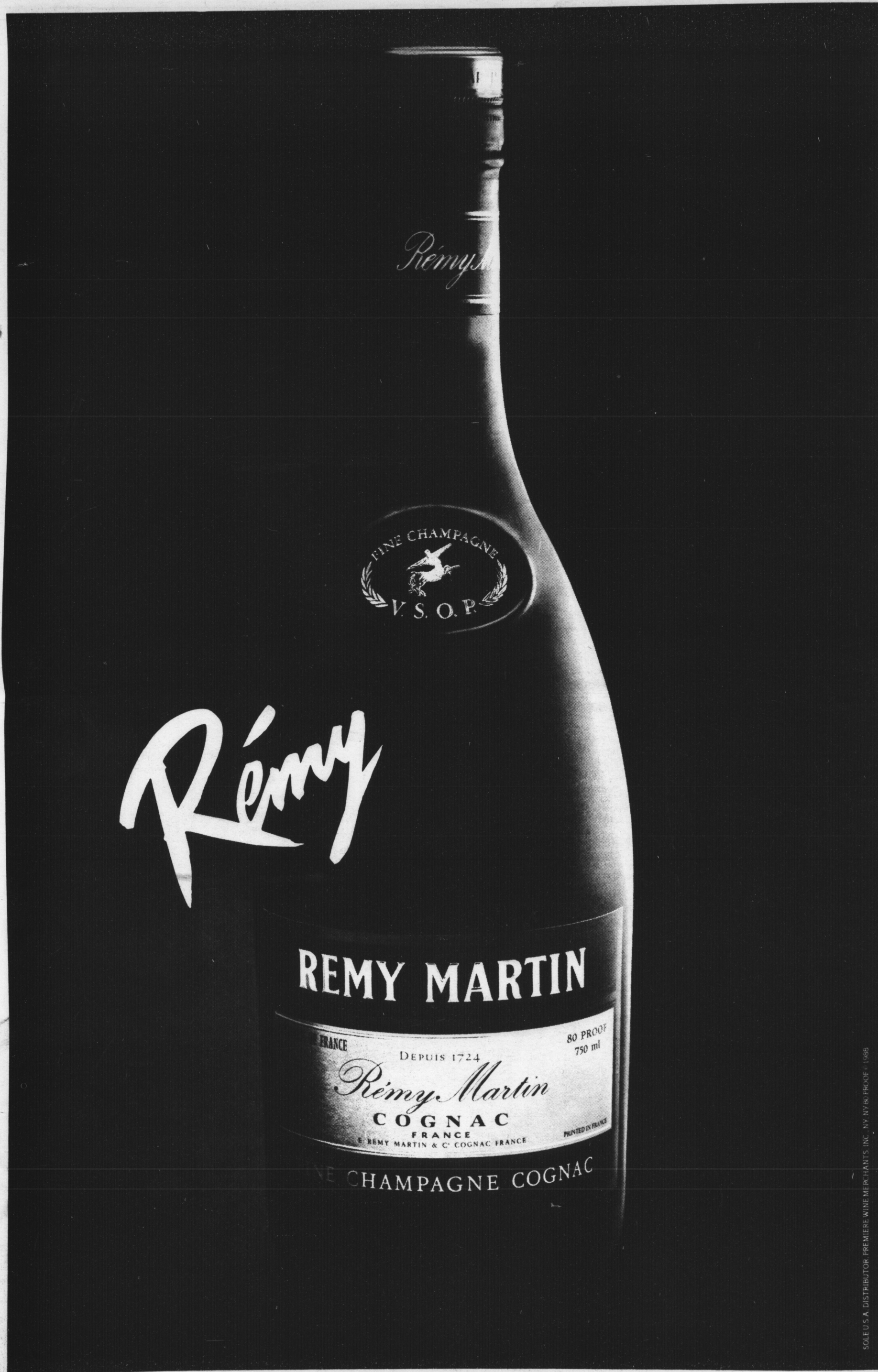
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VOL. XIX NO. 50 DECEMBER 14, 1989

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Segregation Of HIV Inmates To End

by Michael C. Botkin

A settlement between inmates—represented by the ACLU, the Prison Law Office, and three private law firms—and the California Medical Facility at Vacaville will phase out the segregation of prisoners with HIV.

The arrangement, which will also address improved care for prisoners with HIV, will settle the class action lawsuit *Gates vs. Deukmejian*, which was filed in January 1988.

"As prison lawsuits go, this is greased lightning," said Matthew Coles of the ACLU's Northern California Branch.

He characterized the recently agreed-upon consent decree as a gamble that working with state prison authorities will yield faster results than continuing the lawsuit.

"Carrying the lawsuit through to conclusion would probably take two years," he said.

The suit charges that the inmates are being discriminated against because of their "handicapped" status, which is not allowed in any program receiving federal funds.

(Continued on page 24)



'Tis the Season

The Castro Street Christmas tree is up and lighted at Hibernia Beach. This year's tree is sponsored by the Eureka Valley Merchants' Association and Pets Are Wonderful Support. Story, page 24.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

ACT UP Wants AIDS Funds Released

by Michael C. Botkin

Approximately 150 people rallied on the steps of City Hall Tuesday evening, protesting the "freezing" of \$700,000 of city money allocated for AIDS services before the Oct. 17 earthquake.

The demands for "thawing" the money caused a furor at City Hall, where members of the Board of Supervisors and the mayor's office frantically denied responsibility for the freeze and pointed fingers at each other.

The demonstration was called by ACT UP and endorsed by many of the city's AIDS service organizations, and even before it happened the mayor's office had promised to re-allocate \$500,000 for AIDS services, asserting that this was the "pro-rated" equivalent of the original allotment.

A member of the ACT UP Local Issues Committee read portions of a letter from Mayor Art Agnos that had been received the day before. "There will be no reduction in the level of spending," she quoted. "While overall spending this year will be \$500,000, it will be the equivalent

of \$700,000 on a pro-rated basis. So they're ripping us off \$200,000 and still not telling us when we'll get it," she said. "This is not supplemental funding, it's necessary funding, and we want it released now."

She announced ACT UP's support for other city programs and denounced the mayor's office for, she said, trying to play the needy off against each other. "We will not be put into competition with all the other programs," she said.

"We do not have AIDS on a pro-rated basis," Brandy Moore of the Black Coalition on AIDS told the crowd. "\$500,000 on a pro-rated basis is inappropriate. In fact, it's outrageous. People living with AIDS should not have to come down here and beg for assistance in fighting this dread disease."

Other speakers at the rally included Ken Jones from the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Barbara Cameron from Community United Against Violence, Terry Beswick from Community Research Alliance, and Mike Shriver from the Tenderloin

(Continued on page 27)

When Gays and Catholics Meet Homosexuals, Church Can Get Together

by Cindy Bologna

In the recent past, the Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco has come under fire from the gay and lesbian community because of its opposition to the defeated Domestic Partners ordinance in San Francisco.

Quite often, the Catholic Church has been viewed as an enemy of gay and lesbian families. But for the past four years, in the heart of the Castro, a Catholic Church has been sponsoring a support group for people with AIDS and their families.

The Most Holy Redeemer Support Group, which has its offices in the rectory of the Most Holy Redeemer Church on 100 Diamond St., has not only been providing essential services to those infected with HIV, ARC, and AIDS, but also includes in its services, a support program for family members of those infected.

"Our support group is for all people affected by the AIDS epidemic," said Franciscan Brother

Regan Chapman, program director. "That means parents, lovers, siblings, grandparents..."

Brother Chapman has been a Franciscan Brother for the past five years and says that his work has helped change some of his perceptions.

"I used to think that doing service work meant giving only," Chapman said. "I now understand service means sharing."

The Support Group was fashioned after the Shanti model and provides practical, as well as emotional support volunteers to people with AIDS, ARC and HIV infection.

"We have a good, working relationship with Shanti," Chapman said. "Shanti is sort of a spiritual mother to us."

Chapman went on to say, "Our group tries to serve those who might otherwise fall through the cracks for one reason or another. We try to reach the neediest."

(Continued on page 4)



Gays embrace outside Most Holy Redeemer Church after Mass. (Photo: Rick Gerhart)

Archdiocese Target Of Protest

by M.J. Murphy

Parishioners arriving for Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral last Sunday morning were shocked to find an estimated 200 red palm prints smeared on the front of the church. Also on the facade were dozens of posters, some with slogans, "Stop The War on Safe Sex," "Stop The War on Gays and Lesbians," "Stop The War on Abortion" and "Yes on Sex."

In a similar action, the offices of the Archdiocese of San Francisco were marred with hand prints and posters on Saturday night. Posters there read, "Stop The Hate," "Stop The War on People With AIDS," "Stop The Hypocrisy" and "Yes On Sex."

While police say they have confiscated one sticker from the cathedral and one poster from the chancery office, both bearing

(Continued on page 4)