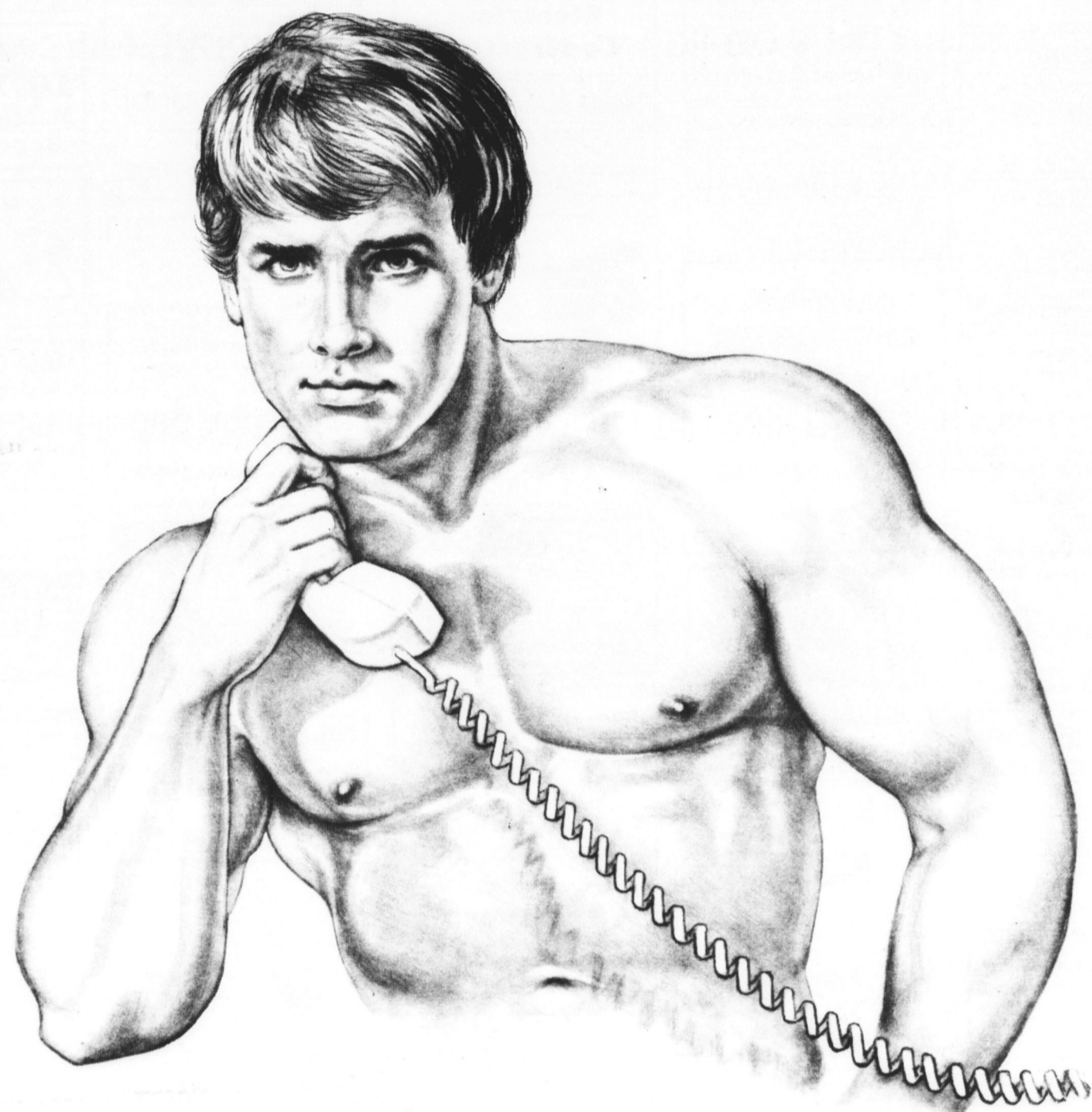


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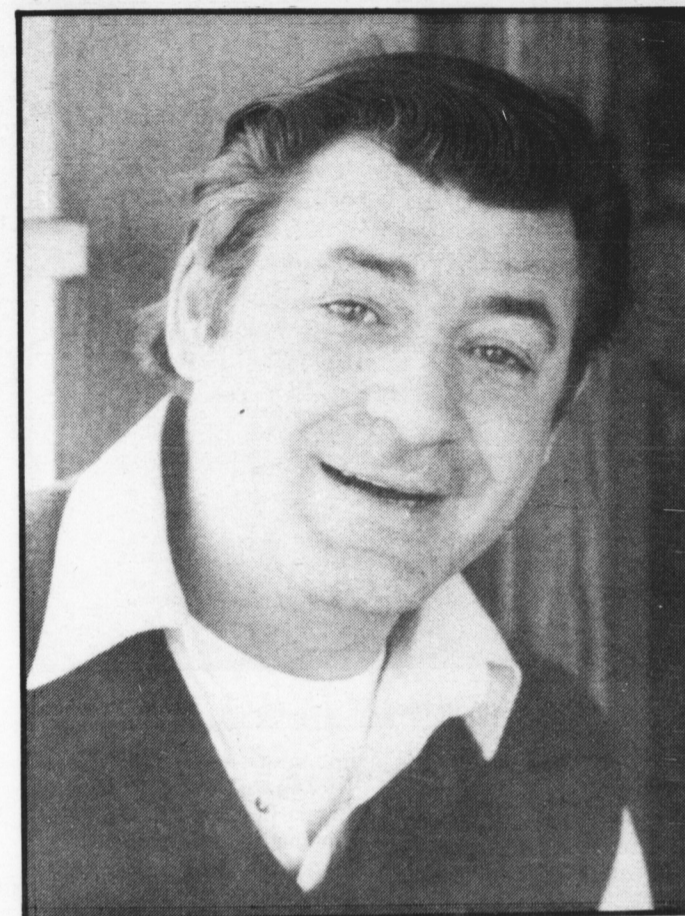
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BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XIX NO. 6 FEBRUARY 9, 1989

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(Photo: Rink)

## Billy Sipple

### Saved Pres. Ford's Life In 1975; Found Dead In Apartment

by Ray O'Loughlin

The man who saved the life of President Gerald Ford in 1975 and unwillingly became a national celebrity for his efforts died alone early last week. Oliver W.—Billy—Sipple was found dead in his apartment on Thursday, Feb. 2. He had been dead for a few days when concerned friends called to check on him.

According to friends, a bartender at the Polk Street bar Reflections—where Sipple had been a regular—was concerned about Sipple when he failed to appear at the bar for a number of days. He asked them to look in on him.

Police were called to investigate. But according to the coroner's report, Sipple died of natural causes. He had a history of heart problems and had undergone open heart surgery a few years ago. He had recently been in the Fort Miley Veterans Administration Hospital.

At the time of his death, Sipple was 47 years old.

Friends remembered a man who was fun to be with but tended to be secretive about his life. They said he never recovered from the shock of his sudden exposure in the national media.

In 1975, Sipple was in the front of the crowd at the St. Francis Hotel hoping to catch a glimpse of Pres. Gerald Ford. Unknown to him, he was standing next to would-be assassin Sarah Jane Moore.

When Sipple noticed Moore draw a gun preparing to shoot Ford, he instinctively knocked her arm down. The gun went off

but fortunately nobody was injured.

Sipple thought that the flurry of media attention immediately after the event was the end of the matter. But shortly thereafter, San Francisco Chronicle columnist Herb Caen ran an item revealing that the man who had saved the President's life was gay. Caen's revelation came as a complete surprise to Sipple, who found himself suddenly yanked out of the closet.

Once the Chronicle ran the story, the national media went after it. Sipple's family in Michigan learned of his gayness through local newspaper accounts of the matter.

"All his primary relationships with his family were ruptured," said John Wahl, Sipple's attorney. "It was a very negative situation."

Sipple sued the Chronicle and other papers but the courts threw out his lawsuit, saying that Sipple had become a public figure by his action. "They said his homosexuality was not a private fact anymore since he had injected himself into the public eye," said Wahl.

"Oliver Sipple didn't have a

(Continued on page 19)

## Shanti Names Rofes To Direct Agency

### Author-Activist Rated High In Communications, Minority Sensitivity

by Jay Newquist

Eric Rofes, a noted gay activist, teacher and author, will take the helm of Shanti as executive director in April, concluding months of turmoil at the agency that has sought to regain its stature as a worldwide model in AIDS services. Rofes, the former executive director of the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center (LAGLSC) from 1985 to 1988, is credited with salvaging the LAGLSC that was plagued by charges of sexism, racism, low staff morale as well as shaky finances.

The Boston-born Rofes, 32, is the author of six books, has a degree from Harvard and was the founder and first chairperson of the Boston Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance. He served as co-chair of the No on LaRouche Committee and was a commis-

(Continued on page 2)

## Cupid Goes Gay

### How History Might Have Been Had His Arrows Gone Astray

by Dennis McMillan

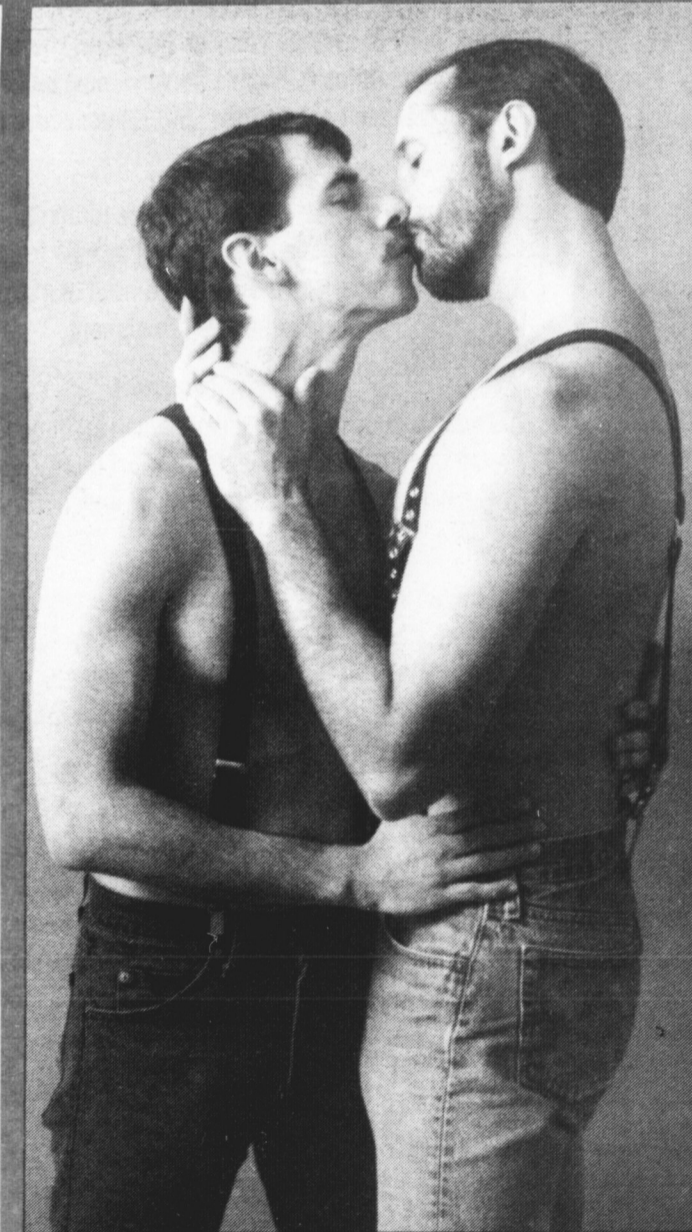
As Valentine's Day approaches, it might be amusing to muse how the course of history, past and future, might be changed had Danny Cupid ever come out of the closet. Let's face it, here is this fairy who runs around nude and points his arrow at everyone he sees. Now if that isn't gay love, what is? Suppose way back in the Garden of Eden, Cupid had aimed his bow at Adam and the serpent, instead of Eve. It would have been the original phallic symbol and the original phallic owner united in heavenly love. Then God would have had to create Eve's helpmate from Eve's own rib, and all that male chauvinistic pig stuff would never have existed.

And if Cupid had matched up the boys with the boys and the girls with the girls in Paradise, there would not be a population explosion today. Of course, there wouldn't be any population at all, so maybe we just better go ahead with our history examination here.

What if in paleolithic times the cavemen settled down with other cavemen, painting prehistoric porn on those walls, and being more concerned with redecorating than attacking. "Oh, puhleeze, Mary, that brontosaurus skin couch does not go with the triceratops bone coffee table!"

And can you imagine the joy when they discovered that be-hemoth skins made fabulous chaps?

Naturally, the hunters of the species would be the Sapphic



(Photo: S. Savage)

Cavewomen, teaching the men how to fashion meals from tofu, and deciding important tribal business over pot-lucks.

Might the Roman Empire have lasted even longer had Cupid shot Marc Antony and Julius

(Continued on page 23)

THIS PAPER IN TWO SECTIONS



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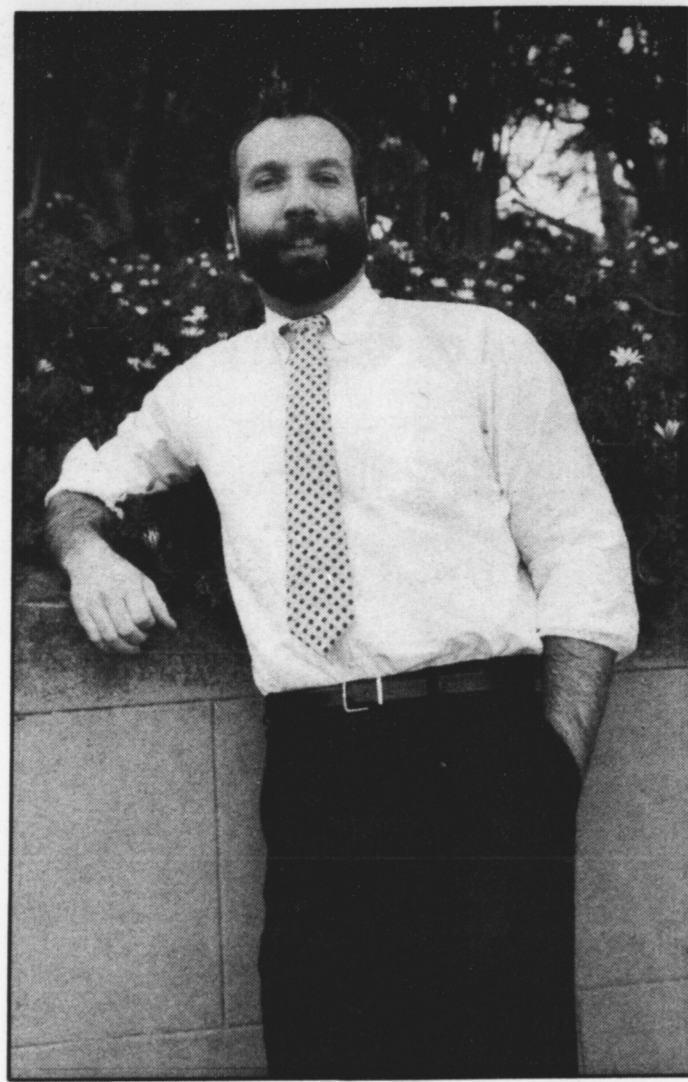
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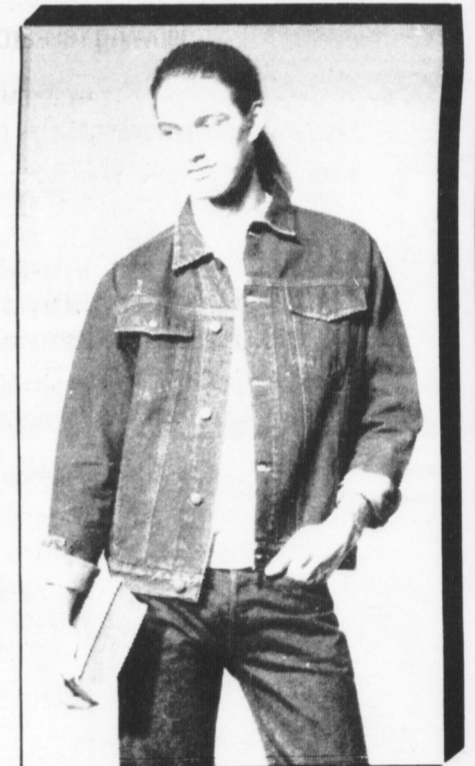
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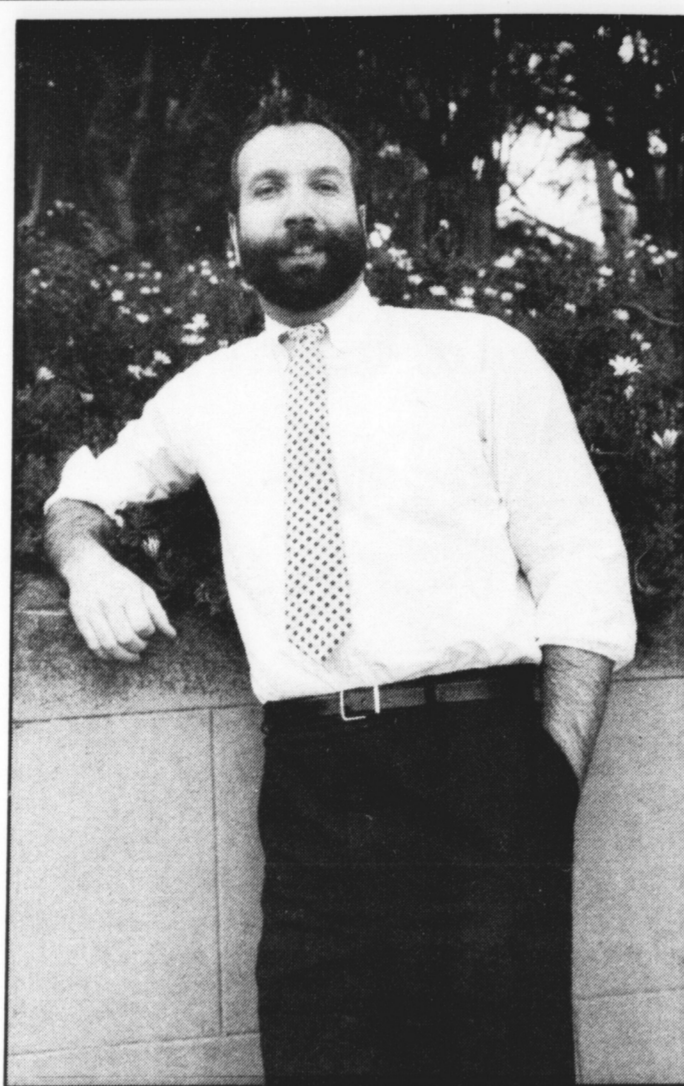
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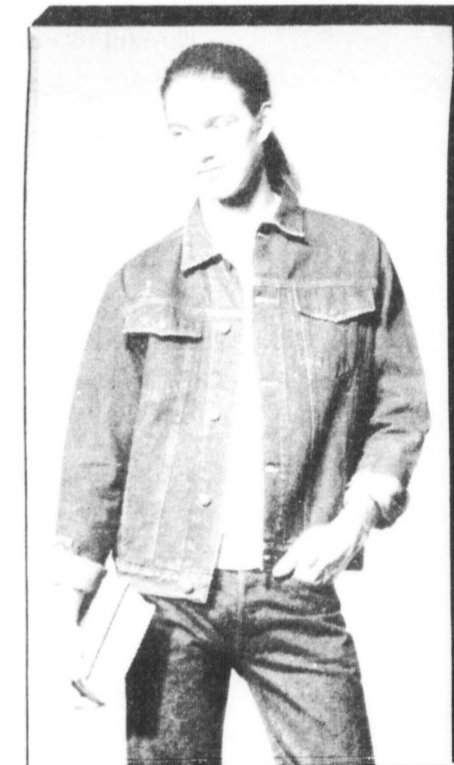
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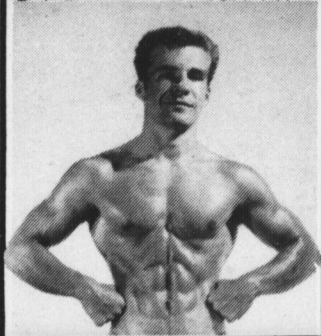
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## Scientists Say AIDS May Be 'Manageable'

May Not Be Fatal In Future;  
New Treatments Extending Life

by Jay Newquist

Medical scientists are beginning to change their perceptions of AIDS as a necessarily fatal disease in all cases. As experience in treating the syndrome grows, new data indicates that some people who are HIV positive may never manifest the full-blown disease and others who have AIDS illnesses and ARC may, through medical help, live out their lives with the illness.

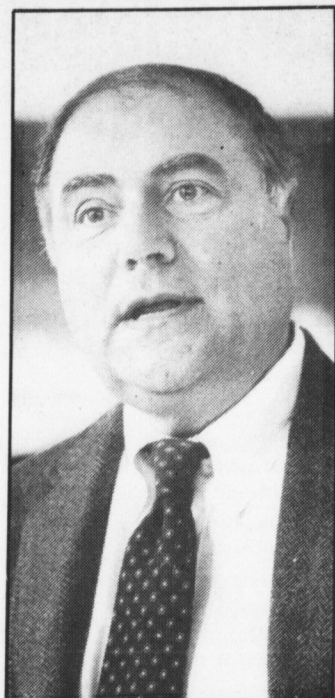
Dr. David Werdegar, director of the San Francisco Health Department, said absolute fatality was not a concept he believed in. "We don't have any direct evidence and only estimates. I am optimistic by nature, and I always like to convey a positive attitude about AIDS," he said.

"It is a chronic illness, (but) we haven't given enough time to consider that the latent period from infection to actual AIDS is now as long as 12 years," said Werdegar.

"The picture is changing. We know AZT is a benefit," he continued. "I foresee a time when HIV infection can be a conventional infection one lives with for a lifetime. It's like a diabetic taking insulin."

Dr. Anthony Fauci, head of the National Institutes of Health AIDS research program, agreed that AIDS need not be seen as 100 percent fatal. He told KPIX news reporter Hank Plante in a broadcast interview, "I think the message is that the gloom and doom of HIV infection is not really to be taken the way it was a year or two ago."

Dr. Werdegar said he shared the feeling that researchers must expedite with urgency clinical drug trials, adding that there are better ways to assess experimental AIDS treatments than the FDA now employs.



Dr. David Werdegar  
(Photo: S. Savage)

Werdegar continued that people who currently have AIDS should be aware that the average life expectancy had jumped 50 percent in two years to the current 15 to 16 months for a person with AIDS.

"That's telling me that medications have been helpful," he said. "It's not a dramatic breakthrough, but it's encouraging." Werdegar added it was quite possible that the combinations of various drugs might prove to be less toxic and more effective.

"I take the view we've hardly begun to see what we'll see in the treatment of documented AIDS."

Pat Christen of the S.F. AIDS Foundation said she disagreed that AIDS was fatal, principally because medical scientists don't know enough about the long-term effects of the disease.

"People are living with AIDS every day, but when you hear people talk about it they feel they are about to embark on a journey of no return," Christen said. She added that people are still alive and contributing to society some three, four or five years after their diagnosis.



Pat Christen  
(Photo: S. Savage)

"The foundation has felt this way for the last 18 months, so the concept that AIDS isn't fatal isn't a revelation to us," said Christen, director of public policy for the foundation.

"People with AIDS are living, not dying, it's not new news, but it's helpful for the newly-diagnosed or the infected because it provides them with a lot of hope. This disease is potentially manageable."

"If you tell them they're dying and there's no hope, then they will die as in other serious illnesses," Christen continued. "If friends say they want you alive, there are people who will get well."

"This gives them the structure that they need to fight for their lives."

Dr. Ken Charles, a psychologist, concurred with Christen how enormously helpful hope is in dealing with any serious or difficult illness.

"It has been hard over the last eight years to sustain our hope when the news gets worse and we constantly experience death and dying," Charles said, indicating it was getting difficult to say you and your friends will "make it."

"It used to be that people said 'I'll be the one to beat it.' But there are 40,000 people who had that feeling who are now dead."

Charles said we are greedy for hope and it provided a valuable boost when authorities on AIDS like Dr. Werdegar and Dr. Fauci say it isn't fatal.

Charles, however, debunked what he called the new-age thinking that if one thinks positively then it will happen positively.

Doug Victor, emotional support coordinator at Shanti, said "It's changing over time, but in the long run we see a lot of pessimism around HIV conversion."

"My sense is that the mainstream does view AIDS as fatal," Victor said. "The longer HIV goes on, somewhere down the road people will live with this chronic condition, but we're not there yet."

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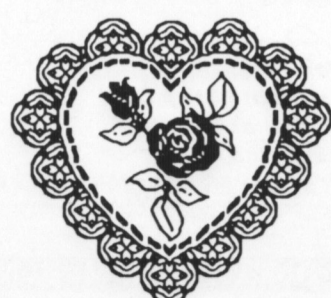
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NANCY'S ASTROLOGER SAYS MARK'S IN URAMUS

Really! Let me see that.

BAY AREA REPORTER FEBRUARY 9, 1989 PAGE 10

**Mike Hippler**  
**Rhetoric Is Not What We Need**

For those facing illness, finding adequate health care without insurance can be a difficult and frightening experience. Unfortunately, having insurance is not guarantee that things will necessarily be better. This is particularly true for members of large, impersonal health maintenance organizations (HMOs), who often feel trapped by a system over which they have little control.

One such HMO is Kaiser Permanente, the second largest provider of health care to people with AIDS in San Francisco. Of the estimated 30,000 persons in the city who test positive to HIV, 25 percent are treated at Kaiser. Approximately 450 PWAs are seen there. Yet enough of these people are unsatisfied with the care they have received that in March, 1988, as the result of a public forum sponsored by Project Inform, they founded the Kaiser Patient Advocacy Union (KPAU).

KPAU describes itself as a "consumer advocacy group committed to bringing about changes" in Kaiser policy. According to Alex Captainian, a member of the group's negotiating team, "The horror stories that led to the formation of KPAU included refusal of Kaiser doctors to treat PWAs, failure to diagnose KS lesions properly, inadequate T-cell monitoring, and the like. Something needed to be done. So a group of Kaiser patients met to identify specific problems and possible courses of action. At our first meeting, over 100 people showed up. It was amazing."

While acknowledging that "there is a network within Kaiser of dedicated, hard-working staff who give their all, every day, to help those of us infected with the AIDS virus," KPAU nevertheless claimed in a letter to Dr. David M. Lawrence, regional manager of Kaiser, "The current health care delivery systems at Kaiser are failing us...It is clear that a standard of care exists in the community that is not available at Kaiser."

To address these concerns, KPAU issued a set of demands. The foremost of these was the creation of an HIV outpatient clinic, such as the ones at San Francisco General and Alta Bates, which would provide for the coordination of care and case management. Other demands included the hiring and training of staff members interested in and committed to HIV care, and the raising of testing and treatment standards. Specifically, KPAU asked that AZT be made available for persons with T-cells counts of less than 400, and that aerosol pentamidine be made available on a prophylactic basis before the first bout of pneumocystis.

When meetings with Kaiser officials in San Francisco and Oakland led nowhere, KPAU organized a demonstration at the Medical Building on O'Farrell Street. Approximately 85 people participated in the Sept. 29 demonstration, which led to extensive local media coverage. Subsequent meetings with Kaiser officials followed, at which administrators professed to be concerned.

"But they have yet to prove it," notes KPAU's Captainian.

"In response to our protests, these officials said they initiated a planning process to study the problems, but so far they haven't done anything," Captainian claims. "Among other things, they promised us two physicians and a nurse practitioner with backgrounds in HIV care and treatment, but they haven't yet hired them."

"They did establish an outpatient transfusion clinic, but this was primarily a cost-saving device for them. Also, they established HIV support groups throughout the Department of Psychiatry—an effort which we applaud. But offering us support groups in lieu of medical programs and rhetoric instead of action isn't what we need."

One of the major problems with Kaiser, explains Captainian, is that as a federally-charted HMO, the organization has to allow transfer-ins from other

**Whistle Sale to Help Stop Homophobic Street Violence**

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Community United Against Violence (CUAV) urges everyone to carry a whistle and respond when you hear one if you are in fear of violence, or when you see someone in trouble.

CUAV will sell whistles for \$1.50 each from 12 noon to 3 p.m. this Saturday and Sunday at the corner of 18th & Castro. For further information call CUAV at 853-3112.

*Give Someone You Love A Whistle and Help*

by Kurt Erichsen

Look. The address is in Transylvania.

NANCY'S ASTROLOGER SAYS MARK'S IN URAMUS

**Rubber Romance**  
**Events To Encourage You To Slip Into Something Comfortable**

by Dennis McMillan

National Condom Week is due to be consummated Feb. 14 to Feb. 21. Many local events have been planned to celebrate the 10th anniversary of this auspicious occasion to properly profile the prophylactic.

Buz Bense, public relations man for the Condom Resource Center in Oakland, explains the week of the rubber coinciding with Valentine's time. "It's about romance, it's about love, it's about sex—the perfect time to bring to people's attention the subject of condoms."

The Center also feels it is an appropriate time to be both humorous and serious about things venereal.

The Condom Resource Center, a nonprofit organization, is coordinating and assisting the sponsorship of events across the United States responding to the individual needs of communities concerning condom education.

director of PEP (Prostitutes Education Project) will speak on Feb. 14 at 11 a.m. in Cloud Hall and Dr. Clark Taylor from the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality will teach on eroticizing safer sex on Feb. 15 at noon in Conlan Hall.

Graphics of condoms saying "sexual fashion: wear it" PM t-shirts will be on sale for \$7.

San Francisco State plans to show videos and give out info and condoms on Monday, Feb. 13 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Down the peninsula at Stanford University, for the third year in a row, the Stanford AIDS Education Project will feature a condom testing program. Daniel Bao is heading up this project, handing out over 5,000 packets, each containing six different brands of condoms and instructional material. Inside the packet is a rating sheet, requesting students to try out the condoms and give a personal consumer rating, the results of which will be published later on.

The Contra Costa AIDS Task Force will have informational tables in all the shopping malls (like totally awesome, ya know?).

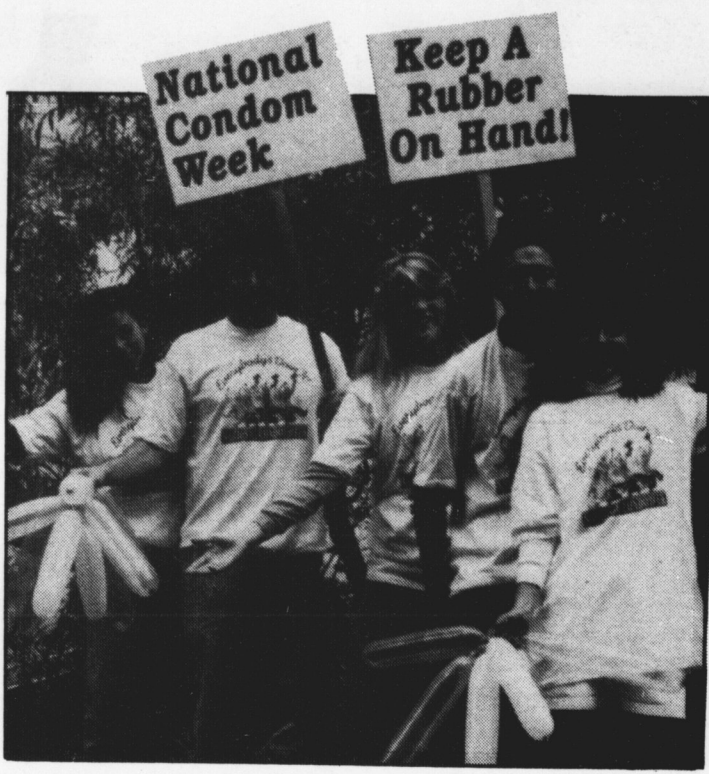
Santa Rosa Junior College promises a very active program of education and information dispersal for the Sonoma and Russian River set.

The Marin AIDS Support Network will be selling its Valentine Safe Sex Package. You can call 457-2437 to hear more about it.

Condoms will even receive TV media coverage. Dr. Dean Edell of Channel 7 News will broadcast a segment featuring condom usage on Feb. 11 at 7 p.m.

The Condom Resource Center at 891-0455 will happily give further information, as will the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 864-4376, ext. 2030.

So be sure to Circle your calendar and make a Trojan effort to attend these Prime events.



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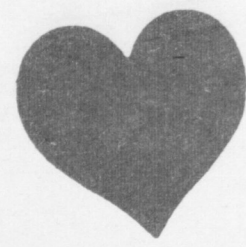
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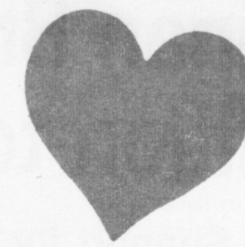
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**HARD-HATTED WOMEN**

STORIES OF STRUGGLE AND SUCCESS IN THE TRADES  
 EDITED BY MOLLY MARTIN



**'Hard-Hatted Women: Editorial Labor of Love**

**Hard Hatted Women: Stories of Struggle and Success in the Trades.** Edited by Molly Martin. Seattle: Seal Press, 1988. 265 pp. \$10.95

by Noreen C. Barnes

**N**ina Saltman, a carpenter foreman, believes that, for women working in the trades, "each one of us must make our mark, meet our respective challenges and take charge of our lives. With time it will make a difference."

Laura Deane Mason, a rural contractor, acknowledges the "women who have gone on before" who have made it "easier for me to reach my goal," and hopes to "help build the bridge for all those who will follow."

Truck driver Judith Foster cites "the thing that remains dearest to my heart" as "the women who forged a place for those of us to learn a skill we would never have had the chance to learn if it weren't for their courage and daring."

"They are the women to whom we owe our gratitude, for without them some of us would never have had the courage to try."

**Hard-Hatted Women** reveals the stories of 26 women working in non-traditional jobs—from sheet metal, steel and iron workers, to fisher, firefighter and phone repair technician. For all of them, courage, determination, independence and a sense of humor have been vital to their survival and success in occupations dominated by men. These are very personal and moving testimonials of women young and

old; black, Asian, Chicana/Indian, Latina and white; straight and lesbian; urban and rural.

Each tells her own story, in her own distinct voice—about the upbringing, education and circumstances influencing the decision to undertake a career not conventionally viewed as "women's work." In addition to years of apprenticing, learning to handle the tools of their respective trades and assignments that were dirty, strenuous and often dangerous, these pioneer workers also developed various methods to combat the harassment and hostility frequently encountered on the job.

Mason cites the importance of "verbal volleyball" in these instances—"A quick comeback saved me many a time." Some have been able to develop positive working relationships with the men on the job, even to the point of true camaraderie. Others have opted to work independently, or have formed businesses with other women.

While the challenges are many, the rewards of non-traditional work outweigh what sometimes seem to be overwhelming obstacles. Plumbing contractor Naomi Friedman likes "the satisfaction of having produced something tangible at the end of the day." Pat Cull, a

(Continued on page 23)

**'A Herd of Tiny Elephants': There's A Great Writer Here**

**A Herd of Tiny Elephants And Other Short Fictions** by Stan Leventhal  
 Banned Books, Austin, TX, \$8.95 in paperback

by Will Snyder

**A**h, the state of modern literature. There is a tendency in this day and age to write short novels and extremely brief short stories. Good-bye Charles Dickens and hello fictional news bites.

Some of these short pieces make it while others don't. *Less Than Zero* was short, quite bizarre and quite well done. Christopher Coe's *I Look Divine* was short and cute but less than divine. We're not asking for Dickensian detail on everything, just a little detail.

Such is the case with Stan Leventhal's collection of short stories called *A Herd of Tiny Elephants*. This book is a mixed collection. Some elephants are jumbos, as short stories go, and are downright superb. But others are as long as Dumbo's trunk and leave a reader frustrated because of the brevity.

And that's too bad because Leventhal knows how to write. He knows how to describe sexuality and sensuality with a quick wit. Witness: "I watched him walk away, quickly pressed some random numbers, and waited for his return. The jeans faded to a powder blue, stuck to his body like a veneer of paint. The fabric adhered to the two perfectly formed globes in the rear that were joined together like Siamese twins, with a straining seam. In motion, they seemed to sneer defiantly, gracefully propelled by sturdy thighs that pumped rhythmically like the pistons of an engine."

Now that is great writing. And, there's a lot of Leventhal's descriptiveness in *Herd*. The above passage is from *The Star of David*, a story about a young man who went home with a gay vampire. If that kind of scenario gives you an indication of Leventhal's sense of humor, then you know he's talented.

But Leventhal's cleverness isn't limited just to stories about the bizarre. He can write touching stories, too, with real, live, breathing characters we can relate to very easily. In *The Gang of Five*, the longest story in the book (40 pages), Leventhal tells about college students in the 1960s and their experimentation in gay sex and drugs. For some folks such as this writer, it was a nostalgic trip (no pun intended). In *The Buddy System*, he tells of a young man who harbors a secret love for a friend and never dreams his friend is interested in him! Either O'Henry or Ernst Lubitsch would be proud.

For stories such as these, Leventhal's *Herd* gets a solid recommendation. When you pick up this book, however, you may be disappointed in such short things as *The Showdown* (three pages, for crying out loud!) or *Body Language* (two pages). You're barely getting warmed up when you're getting frozen out of the story. A story without some depth just isn't a story.

But short subjects aside, *A Herd of Tiny Elephants* is worth a good long look. There's a fascinating writer here.



**a herd of tiny elephants**



and other short fictions by Stan Leventhal

**PROFILES ENCOURAGE**  
 CONVERSATIONS WITH TWENTY WOMEN

Pamela S. Johnson

**Profiles in Boredom**

**Profiles Encourage: Conversations With Twenty Women** by Pamela S. Johnson. Austin: Banned Books, 1988. 178 pp. \$8.95.

by Noreen C. Barnes

**S**tories of women's lives should inspire us, should be "an encouragement to anyone who wants to make their own place in the world." Unfortunately, although that is the purpose of Pamela S. Johnson's *Profiles Encourage*, the book fails to do so. This is primarily due to the poor quality of the writing, which is an obstacle to any appreciation of what the women interviewed have to say.

Johnson's style is awkward, simple, sophomoric and ultimately insulting to any reader's intelligence. Many sentences are unfinished thoughts, with participles, prepositions and other things left dangling in the air. Paragraphs are packed with wrong tenses, spelling errors and irritating slang. This book is in critical need of an editorial overhaul. Did Banned Books publish it because no one else would?

Despite having to fight through a veritable maze of mangled English, I did find some of the accounts to be interesting (though in no way comparable to those in Molly Martin's *Hard-Hatted Women*—true inspiration—well written and superbly edited). These include those of blind therapist Carolyn Carney and deaf actress Julianna Fjeld, both of whom overcame serious physical challenges to attain success in their fields; musician Alix Dobkin; and Miriam Ben-Shalom, who is the first openly gay person to graduate from a U.S. military school and a sergeant in the Army Reserve (currently in litigation with the Army for reinstatement).

The majority of those interviewed are Los Angeles residents, most of whom are lesbian (some members of Southern California Women for Understanding, a lesbian educational/social organization). The remainder of the interviews are with straight and non-white women, providing a balance in the range of lifestyles, race and age represented by the book's subjects.

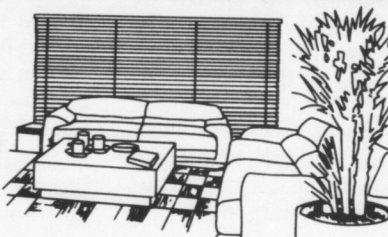
Much of the information about these women seems to be an exercise in the pursuit of trivia, and actually irrelevant to their present lives and careers (i.e., grade point averages in school, including the author's). It often seemed as if Johnson was attempting to pad her pieces with any story or fact about these women, no matter what it was (this is where some editing was needed).

What I found important to read—to listen to—was what the women themselves had to say, and to pay less attention to a narrative lacking real insight, underneath a heavy sugar coating. It may have been better if Johnson had served as an editor, and let these women's voices be heard without the accompaniment of somewhat trite commentary.

(Books continued on page 23)

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# Hallinan Brings Civil Rights Tradition to Supervisors

## Pledges Support for Mayor's Efforts, AIDS Services

by Allen White

The presence of Terrance Hallinan on the Board of Supervisors brings a family name as familiar to San Francisco as the cable cars and Fisherman's Wharf. Vincent and Vivian Hallinan are two people who have made numerous contributions to the city over five

decades. Terrance Hallinan, one of six children, continued the family tradition when he took office last month as one of the two new members of the Board of Supervisors.

Asked to describe his family, he said, "I think the best thing about our family is that it is a

family of principle and most people, whether they agree or disagree with us will acknowledge that. That it is a family that says and does what they believe in whether it is popular or not. We have done, all of us, what we feel is right. We agree on most humanistic issues."

For Hallinan, the pride of his family is almost as great as his pride in San Francisco. Significantly, both he and the other new board member, Angela Alioto, come from well known city families and both grew up in this area. "There is no question that the love of San Francisco is instilled in Angela and me," he said. "From the nicknames places have, to the way you act, what is acceptable and what is not, what is traditional and what is not. We don't even have to think about it. It is just the way we have been raised."

He feels that association with San Francisco may have been a factor in his election as well as that of Sup. Alioto. "I did feel that perhaps, to a certain degree, that was a factor in people's minds," Hallinan commented.

"For the first time, certainly in my memory, they had elected a mayor who was not a native San Franciscan. That they had a board of supervisors, the majority of which, was not native San



Terrance Hallinan at his swearing in for the Board of Supervisors. (Photo: S. Savage)

Franciscans, and they felt it was important to have some links with the past. I think that was a strength that Angela and I both enjoyed," he said.

Looking back at last November's election campaign and his well known name, he observed, "It's a name they know that has been around for a long time and if they haven't heard anything negative I guess they think, well, it's not going to be a kooky person. That's a factor." At the same time he says of himself and Angela Alioto, "Both of us had run before and the people knew we were serious about wanting this job."

This is the second time Hallinan has run for a seat on the Board of Supervisors. The first time was in 1979 against Sup. Harry Britt, now president of the board. Looking back on that election he noted, "I made a mistake in running in District 5. I was not aware of the gay self-identity movement of that time and I ended up in a race I was not going to win."

Yet, last year he ran in a city-wide race and enjoyed substantial support in the gay community. "My best support in the election was in the gay community. I was a solid third everywhere," Hallinan said.

He believes a large part of his success had to do with his stand on major issues. "I think the gay community felt strongly about the vacancy issue, about domestic partners, the Missouri, discrimination about the Navy and the history of human rights issues," he said.

Speaking of the gay community, he observed, "I think it has matured a lot, obviously. It is now having to live with this terrible tragedy AIDS and it has taken all the fun out of life for a lot of people and certainly for the gay community, especially, with their friends dying."

"Two of my three campaign managers over the years have died of AIDS. I am not part of that community, I am just a San Franciscan. I can imagine what it must be like to actually be living in that community and dealing with that."

He continued, "I think the gay community has become more acceptable. There is nobody who can deal with San Francisco politics without dealing with and acknowledging the strength of the gay community. It has become more cohesive, I believe. The sort of extreme views on each end are not as sharp as they were and are not as divisive as they were. I think the gay community has just matured and become an acceptable part of San Francisco."

About the AIDS crisis, Sup. Hallinan said, "My thinking is to be supportive of people who are taking the leadership in that issue. It is a regional problem. It is a state problem, it is a national problem. We should have help from all those sources." He plans to lobby and do what he can to get that help.

"At the same time," he said, "we have to operate with what we have. It seems to me the best role we can do is to make sure that people infected or vulnerable to it know we are a community that is compassionate. That we are going to help them out, that is going to make everything as easy as possible. This city is not going to discriminate but do exactly the opposite."

Two of his highest priorities are domestic partners and vacancy control. "I intend to play a leading role in vacancy control. My thinking is also to be supportive of Angela on the domestic partners legislation which I feel strongly about."

He explained, "Not just because it is fair for the gay community but because it is the right thing to do from every point of view."

Sup. Hallinan is also concerned about the quality of life in San Francisco. "Unfortunately, the dent this year and last year in the budget is not helping out. I think that quality of life is the bottom line. I campaigned solidly on that and that I was going to fight for essential services. I think that had a lot to do with my winning."

As a member of the board he said, "I see myself bringing the board together even though we disagree, as we should, we will have a friendly and a positive relationship to get work done. I see myself playing a role in allowing Mayor Agnos an opportunity to enact programs that we all supported him on."

About Mayor Agnos he said, "I appreciate that he supported me and Angela but if we disagree on something I am not going to be afraid to say so. I find I am pretty much in agreement with his program as I have seen it so far and his programmatic approach to the city's problems such as AIDS, the homeless and vacancy apartments. It is not just issues but a view that he really wants to carry out."

As he becomes one of the two newest members of the Board of Supervisors, Hallinan is direct in his appreciation for the gay community. "I want to thank the gay community for the support they gave me and let them know it will not be misplaced" he said. "I won't forget it!"

# Protest Persists on Agnos Appointees

## Group to Challenge Rights Panel; No Response from Mayor on Demands

by Allen White

Members of Dignity, the two San Francisco Metropolitan Community Churches, two gay Jewish synagogues and almost a dozen other gay religious groups are scheduled to appear at the Human Rights Commission to challenge Father Peter Sammon. The showdown was to take place Thursday morning at the commission meeting. These groups are also part of a growing concern surrounding the Mayor's Task Force on AIDS to which Archbishop John R. Quinn was appointed.

Jim Loneragan, co-chair of Dignity, said, "We have sent a letter to the Human Rights Commission telling them that if Fr. Peter Sammon was still on the commission we were going to be there. We will question Fr. Sammon about what his opinion is of the Ratzinger letter and how he feels he is bound or not bound by it." The Ratzinger letter was distributed to Roman Catholic churches around the world in 1986. It said that homosexuality was "an intrinsic evil."

As they prepare for the meeting, the Dignity co-chair said, "We are not going away. Mayor Agnos might wish we would go away but we are not going to. That is one reason we are going to the Human Rights Commission."

"We are not going to put up with Father Sammon sitting on the Human Rights Commission. We feel that his loyalty to Archbishop Quinn and his loyalty to the Archdiocese of San Francisco will require him, especially in the issue of domestic partners, to side with the church. That is unacceptable to us."

The showdown at the Human Rights Commission comes in the same week that attention was again drawn to the Mayor's AIDS Panel. Last week a letter defending the mayor's panel from Tim Wolfred was published. Monday, an article appeared in the S.F. Chronicle by Randy Shilts also defending the mayor.

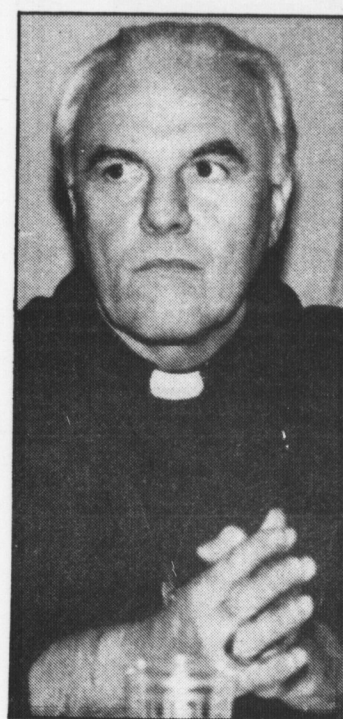
Next Monday night the Alice B. Toklas Club will address the matter. That panel will include Task Force Chair Dr. Don Fran-

## Nominees Sought S.F. Fndtn Award

The San Francisco Foundation is accepting nominations through Mar. 31 for the 27th annual San Francisco Foundation Award. This \$1,000 award honors an individual who has improved human relations in the Bay Area counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco and/or San Mateo.

Last year's recipient of The San Francisco Foundation Award was Rev. Frank Gilbert, Oakland civic leader and community representative in Alameda County Supervisor Don Perata's office. Other past winners include David Yamakawa, Jr., Barbara Cross (who is now a member of the Awards Committee), Dr. Moses Grossman, Florette Pomeroy, Leandro Soto and Earl Raab.

Nominations must be submitted by Mar. 31, 1989. For nomination forms or further information, call The San Francisco Foundation Awards Office at (415) 543-0223, Ext. 26.



Rev. Jim Sandmire

don't think that any task force that the mayor would put together could not include organizations like the Catholic Church," he said.

Rev. Jim Sandmire has charged that his critics have missed the point of his concerns. Sandmire said, "We all want the full resources of our community used to fight AIDS. Those who join in voicing our concerns to the mayor are pretty well informed and realistic. The archbishop commands considerable resources and we need everyone's help. We could hope that the archbishop could provide the resources to gay people when they are alive and well that the archdiocese provides to those who are ill and dying."

Said Sandmire, "Once again we come back to three white straight male religious leaders who have once again been made the guardians of the religious conscience of the community when we know the church has been responsible and often times the backer of the major oppression of gay people."

Sandmire said he was not demanding the ouster of Quinn. "Since the mayor has appointed three mainstream religious leaders in San Francisco, our feeling is it should be expanded

to include members of the gay and lesbian community. It is not that Quinn should not be on the panel. It should be expanded affirming the perspective of the gay and lesbian religious groups and so they might be heard, not just the straight religious leader."

Speaking of Mayor Agnos, Loneragan said, "He doesn't understand the issue and, so far, he has ignored the issue. We want to meet face to face with the mayor so he has a better understanding of both issues. We have had no response from the mayor's office. We have had no acknowledgment from the mayor's office."

Sandmire said that support for the opposition is building. "This weekend there have been two full gay Jewish temples, two full Metropolitan Community Churches. One full church of Dignity people. Affirmation has representatives in half a dozen Methodist churches in the city. Lutherans Concerned heard this and they were most bemused about this. They know many of these people, even beyond their own individual congregations have considerable standing in the community generally."

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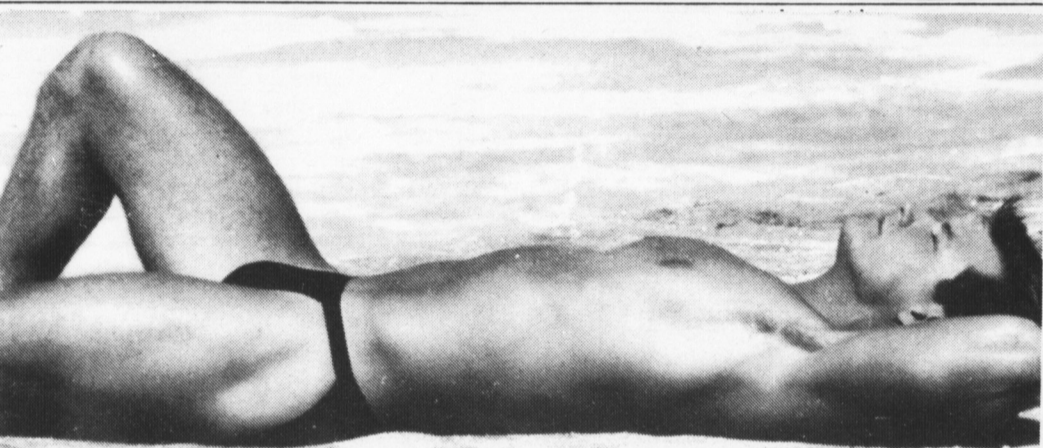
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## Bad Faith

Fundamentalist Illinois School  
Violates Privacy Of Student;  
Pays The Price Out Of Court

by Dennis McMillan

A four-year lawsuit against a southern Illinois fundamentalist college has ended with an out-of-court victory for a San Francisco gay man. Lincoln Christian College (LCC) denied a degree in sacred music to Greg Johnson, alleging that Johnson was homosexual. However, National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) worked on a legal case and forced LCC to settle out of court.

Johnson had been enrolled at LCC from 1976 to 1981. During his last semester, another student named Linda Heppner told Dean of Students, Thomas Ewald, that Johnson might be gay. LCC through Heppner, told Johnson that he would graduate only if he sought counseling from religious counselor Kent Paris.

According to the written court opinion, Johnson followed this requirement, traveling between Lincoln and Champaign, Ill. repeatedly to attend sessions with Paris. Believing their discussions to be private, Johnson revealed many personal facts.

Soon afterwards Ewald informed Johnson that he would be dismissed from college because of his alleged homosexuality, and his transcripts would be recorded as such, thus jeopardizing his future career. Additionally, Ewald notified Johnson's mother that he was being put out of school because of homosexuality.

On Nov. 29, 1984, Johnson filed a 16-page, seven-count complaint in Champaign County circuit court. The plaintiff alleged that LCC breached its college contract by arbitrarily and in bad faith denying his graduation, and claiming that the confidential information that Paris divulged had violated the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act. Johnson further charged that LCC invaded his privacy by publicly accusing him of homosexuality. He brought suit against Paris as well.

The case began in trial court with Johnson's complaint, and was filed for dismissal by LCC, fearful of bad publicity. NGRA won at the court of appeals but the Illinois Supreme Court refused to review the appellate decision.

Although NGRA alleged that the school had committed a breach of contract, LCC had argued that there was no contract right inherent in the college-student relationship.

"When a school says that if you pay tuition and attend all the required classes, then you will get a degree, that constitutes a contract," explained Leonard Graff, NGRA legal director.

When asked why a fundamentalist school did not have the right to exclude gay people, Graff replied, "It might not have been a problem if the school, from the beginning, had declared in their course catalogue and registration material that it would only grant diplomas to heterosexuals."

### DETRIMENTAL ALLIANCE

A legal principle involved in the case is "detrimental reli-



Leonard Graff

(Photo: Scott Martin)

ance," in which Johnson had not been told until the final semester of his education that he would not be allowed his degree. "Had he known from the very first, that would have been a very different matter," Graff said.

No legal precedent is established by the case, since no decision was reached at the appeal level, but nevertheless it is an important case for gay people.

"This represents a flexing of muscle for the gay community—a political statement and message to Christian fundamentalists that they can't mess with our community and expect to get away with it," Graff explained.

"Even in rural parts of the country like Lincoln, Illinois, they have to be accountable for their actions," he added. "If they discriminate, they will be sued or in some way be liable for those actions."

Graff warned, "If Oral Roberts University, for example, or other Christian schools don't want gay people, they had better state it right up front."

The defendants finally decided not to replead again, which, according to the written opinion, "would have been a futile effort, resulting in defendants' refiling virtually the same motions to dismiss and further delaying these already protracted proceedings."

Under the terms of agreement, the dollar amount settled upon must remain confidential. "Although we did not favor that, the settlement was in Greg's interest so we had to agree," said Graff. "Let's just say that the amount was substantial and satisfactory to allow Greg to continue his life and education, pursuing a graduate degree in teaching."

## First Marriages Gay, Says Historian

Church Services for Gay Unions  
Centuries Before Heterosexual Couplings

by William Burks

The audience, mostly Christian, gathered in a basement at the University of Chicago recently to discuss Christian marriage for same-sex couples. It was not fear of persecution that sent them underground.

The size of the crowd turning out to hear Yale University history professor John Boswell was too large for any other room in Brent House, the Episcopal Church campus ministry, so the meeting took place in the carpeted but chilly space. Boswell, wearing gray jeans and a herringbone jacket, spoke and answered questions about his latest research for more than two hours.

The interest in Boswell's talk became clear as he presented the results of his research. The first Christian marriages based principally on love and solemnized in the church by a priest were in fact gay marriages, dating as early as the 4th century, Boswell asserted.

Heterosexual marriage, on the other hand, was a mostly civil institution, and local marriage traditions were only gradually taken over or modified by the church. Solemnization of the marriage at church—usually on the front porch—was not widespread until the 11th century.

The earlier gay marriage ceremony is significant to Boswell, a practicing Roman Catholic, not only for its historical interest but also for the contribution it can make to the contemporary moral dialogue on marriage, relationships, and intimacy.

"I would point out," he said, "that the most common pre-modern definition of marriage was the union of male and female for the rearing of children. This was not only inadequate then, but it's certainly inadequate now."

Heterosexual marriage often performed such societal functions as the transfer of the woman as property from her father to her husband, the political alliance of two powerful families, the economic betterment of one of the families, the establishment of a new household for civil or religious purposes, and the procreation of children.

Romantic love, erotic fulfillment, faithfulness, and commitment were not necessarily a part of the picture, Boswell said.

And Christian marriage ceremonies, accepting all those political goals, included prayers chiefly for wealth, success, long life, and children. But gay marriages, which began as a Christian ceremony rather than a civil one, emphasized commitment, fidelity, and love, he said.

Boswell has, in fact, discovered both gay marriages and other ceremonies for friendship, which he will also examine in his book. But he is sure that the Roman Catholic Church, once it sees his book in print, will assert that no eroticism is implied in any of the ceremonies, "because it will not be possible for them to claim that I made the ceremony up, since it occurs in well-known Vatican documents. What they will say is that Boswell has a dirty mind, and these are not erotic relationships at all," he said.

"It's a hard question, and I don't anticipate that I can do anything more than provide what I regard as convincing evidence to the fair-minded. You can't reasonably argue someone out of

necessary to establish what constitutes a Christian marriage," he said. Despite some ambivalence, theologians affirmed overwhelmingly that sexual consummation is not necessary in order for a marriage to be valid.

"In fact, if the gay marriage ceremony did not envision physical consummation, it could still be a valid marriage, according to Catholic tradition. And the fact that it occurs in liturgical books often under the rubric, *Gamos*, or marriage, next to the heterosexual marriage ceremony suggests to me that they envision it as a marriage," stated Boswell.

"Perhaps more interesting is, there are a lot of references to the ceremony and the kind of rela-



John Boswell

tionships it creates from medieval times, in fact, into the 1940s, where anthropologists or people from other cultures came and saw the ceremony being performed and asked locals, 'What is this?' And the locals described it, and they said, 'It's the marriage of two men; it's just like the marriage between a man and a woman; it wouldn't be right for

them to have sex unless they were married, but once they're married in the church it is all right.'

When his book appears—it will take at least another year to complete, Boswell said—it is sure to excite strong debate, but his heavy teaching schedule at Yale and the research he still needs to do prevent completing it sooner.



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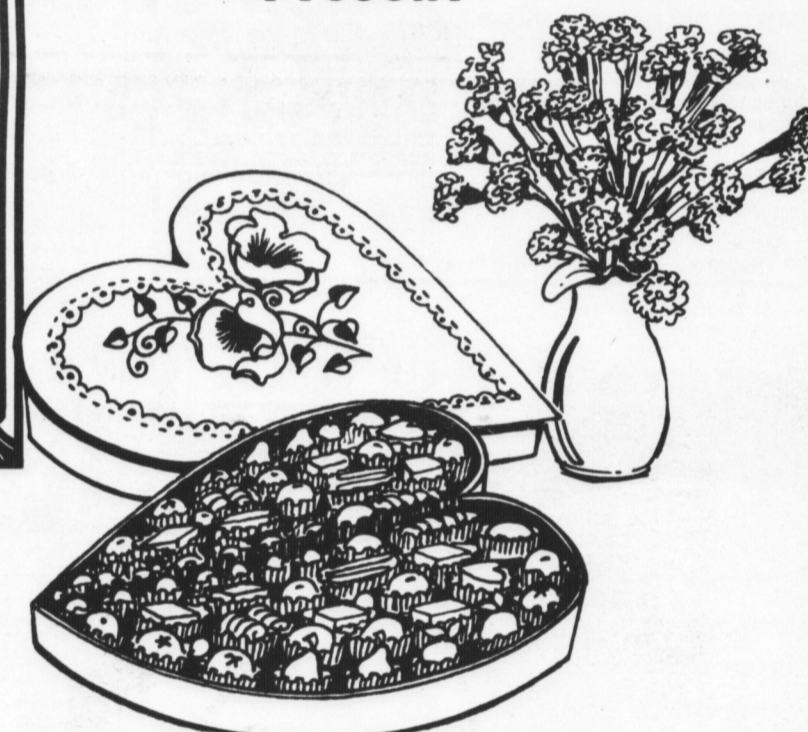
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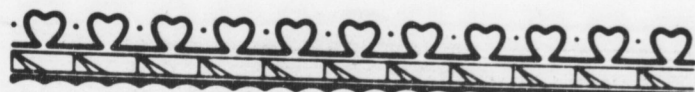
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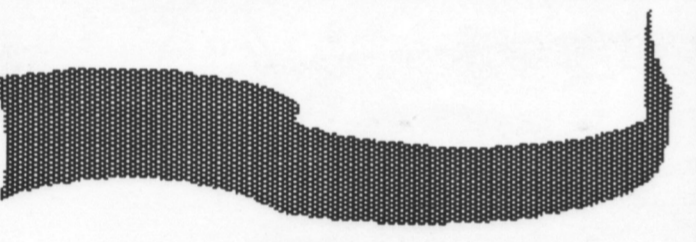
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BAY AREA REPORTER FEBRUARY 9, 1989 PAGE 18

**DEATHS**

**William "Bill" Teeter**  
Dec. 22, 1946-Jan. 21, 1989  
Bill left his body on Jan. 21 at 5:50 p.m. due to AIDS-related cytomegaloviral pneumonia. Bill suffered greatly during the last five months before his death, but was able to easily and gracefully with clarity of direction and peace, leave his body with his close friends Irene and Ben by his side.

**Carl Rowlett**  
Feb. 17, 1950-Jan. 30, 1989  
A loving friend to many, Carl Rowlett has passed on. Cared for by a community of tenderness, he died in his sleep from complications due to AIDS. Carl's life was filled with light, joy, inspiration and creativity which he shared fully and deeply.

**Chris West**  
Sept. 4, 1952-Jan. 30, 1989  
A cherished friend left us for another world on Monday, Jan. 30. Chris bravely handled the challenges of AIDS with courage, style and grace. Chris passed away surrounded by the love of his family and friends.

**Leonard R. Jones**  
Oct. 2, 1932-Jan. 10, 1989  
On Jan. 10 at 4:50 p.m., Leonard R. Jones left this world for another. Leonard was a 1957 graduate of the Bellevue School of Nursing in New York City. He continued to work at Bellevue Hospital and live in New York City, until his move to the Bay Area in 1962.

**Artie Wallace**  
Artie Wallace, 33, who won the nation's first court ruling granting primary physical custody of a child to a parent with AIDS, died Jan. 29 of AIDS-related complications in Fortuna, CA.

**Charles Martin Hanson**  
Chuck Hanson died of AIDS on Feb. 2 at Davies Medical Center in San Francisco. He was 31 years old. At the time of his death, Chuck was a law student at the Hastings College of the Law, where he was the recipient of the American Jurisprudence Award during his first year.

**Carlos Kunn**  
1949-1989  
In light of his friends we love him and will miss him.

**Bill Brown**  
Sept. 6, 1949-Dec. 3, 1988  
Bill passed away peacefully at Garden Sullivan in San Francisco after a courageous five year battle with AIDS. He was surrounded by his loving family and friends.

**James L. Michaels**  
James L. Michaels was born in Avenal, California, on September 8, 1933. At one time he did have a tattoo business, and tattooed his own arms. While living in the Los Angeles area he was a member of a bike club, and for 15 years worked at Fantasy Flowers. He also worked for six years as a counselor at San Quentin.

**Richard moved to San Francisco in 1982 to join his beloved Ed. Ed owned The Special on Castro Street for 18 years until his passing last March. Richard was a bartender at The Special and took over management last March until present. They both contributed their time and generosity to many community related projects and fundraisers.**

**John G. Maynard**  
May 27, 1925-Jan. 30, 1989  
A celebration of John's life will be held at 2 p.m. on Feb. 18 at the Church of the Advent, 261 Fell St.

**Carl Rowlett**  
Born in Kingsport, Tennessee, Carl moved to San Francisco in 1973. He received his B.A. in Fine Arts from San Francisco State University. Carl worked as a lighting designer. He later switched to party catering as befit his outgoing nature.

**Richard S. Howe**  
Sept. 15, 1949-Jan. 4, 1989  
Richard passed from this life on the evening of Jan. 4th from AIDS-related complications. He was 39. Richard was surrounded by his dear and loving friends Henry, Randy, Terri, Chris, Lonette, Gretchen and Paula, a long-time friend from New York. His brother Larry and his sister-in-law, Judy, were also with him. He is survived by another brother, Gregory, of Berkeley.

**Peter Michael Keane**  
Jan. 29, 1955-Feb. 2, 1989  
Graphic Artist and Writer, Peter Keane, died with dignity and grace in the early morning hours of Friday, Feb. 2, after living with AIDS for 1 1/2 years. Peter was a nonconformist, but set the pace on new music, clothes, reading, art, style and ways of thinking. He had a boyish smile, an infectious laugh, and a love of shopping.

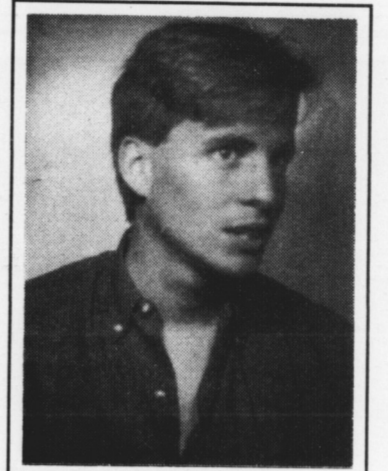
**James L. Michaels**  
When he died on Dec. 16, 1988, of pneumocystis, he and his lover, Roger Cooper, lived on a farm near Portland with one steer, 11 goats, five geese, four ducks, 25 chickens, three cats, two parakeets, and a 50-gallon aquarium.

**John G. Maynard**  
A 1976 graduate of Moore University of Hair Design, Cincinnati, Ohio, Sam was employed for several years at Dustin's Haircutting at 211 Church St. San Francisco and other Bay Area salons, including Ross McArthur in Menlo Park.

**Samuel Ray "Sam" Peck**  
May 11, 1956-Jan. 12, 1989  
Sam entered eternal life on Jan. 12, after a two year bout with AIDS.

**John G. Maynard**  
A few weeks after the incident, the White House sent Sipple a thank you and a commendation which Sipple had framed. But the story went around that once Sipple's gayness was revealed, Ford refused to invite him to the White House for public recognition.

We will remember with love our friend and co-worker...



**DAVID ECKENWEILER**  
Terrific Graphics

**Peter Michael Keane**  
Jan. 29, 1955-Feb. 2, 1989



Graphic Artist and Writer, Peter Keane, died with dignity and grace in the early morning hours of Friday, Feb. 2, after living with AIDS for 1 1/2 years. Peter was a nonconformist, but set the pace on new music, clothes, reading, art, style and ways of thinking. He had a boyish smile, an infectious laugh, and a love of shopping.

As a graphic artist, Peter was art director for the B.A.R. for four years and later did advertising for Theatre Rhino. He drew the infamous sady-eyed Keane painting parody for *Gay Comix* #10. He also wrote music reviews for the B.A.R.

Peter Keane was one of the most fair minded people around. The ability to develop friendships with different types of people was characteristic of Peter's Aquarian nature. He was incredibly sensitive and diplomatic and saw the human in many tense situations— "Harumph! No one screamed at her!"

Peter was born and raised in Rochester, N.Y. and lived in New York City a year before moving to San Francisco in 1975. He is survived by his family: his mother, Naomi Keane Lindsay, his brother and sister-in-law, Mark and Karen, aunt and uncle, Millicent and Harold Beatson and many nieces and nephews.

He also leaves behind his faithful cat Stubbie and many friends: David Knoll in New York; Susan, Tom, Michael and Jim, Robert, Michael and Michael, Gregg, Edris, David and many others in San Francisco and the Bay Area.

Peter was truly irreplaceable and we'll miss him.

**DEATHS**

**Jonnathan Rogers York**  
Dec. 28, 1954-Jan. 29, 1989  
Jonnathan was an entertainer in San Francisco. He worked at the Fisherman's Wharf for the last seven years of his life. He made people laugh and he made people cry. Jonnathan went to Berea College in Berea, Kentucky.

**Richard S. Howe**  
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BAY AREA REPORTER FEBRUARY 9, 1989 PAGE 19

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Escaped From Hospital; Considered 'Armed and Dangerous'

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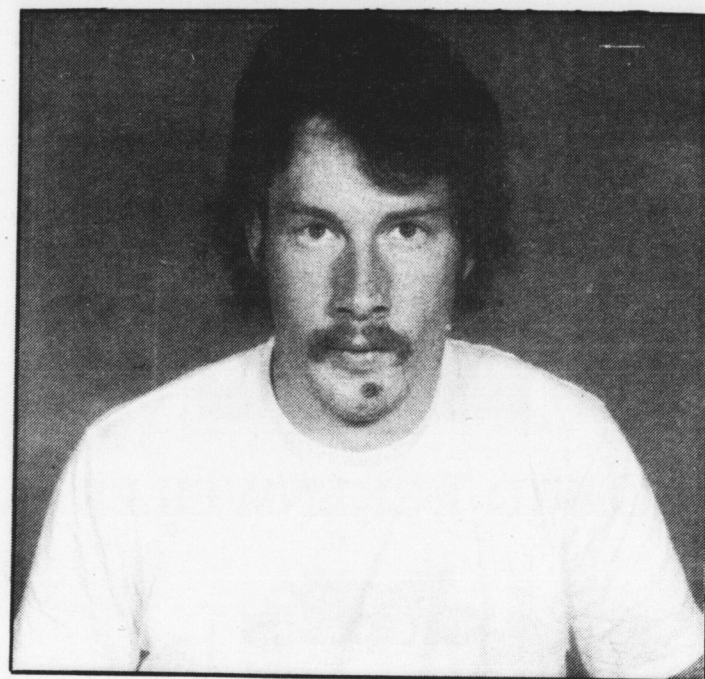
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Illustration by Laura H. Young

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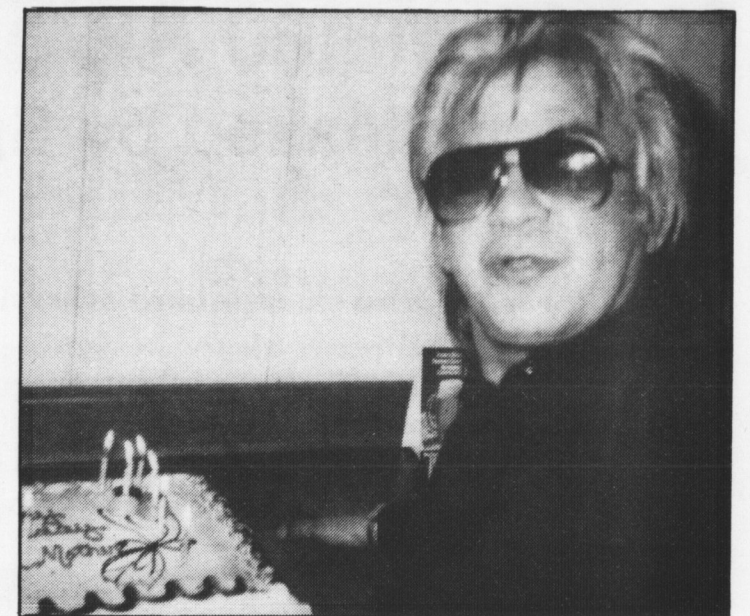
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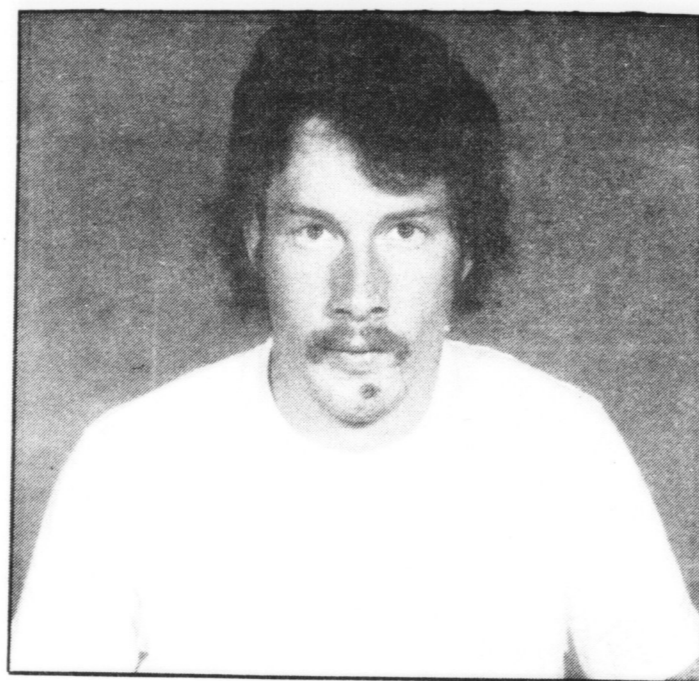
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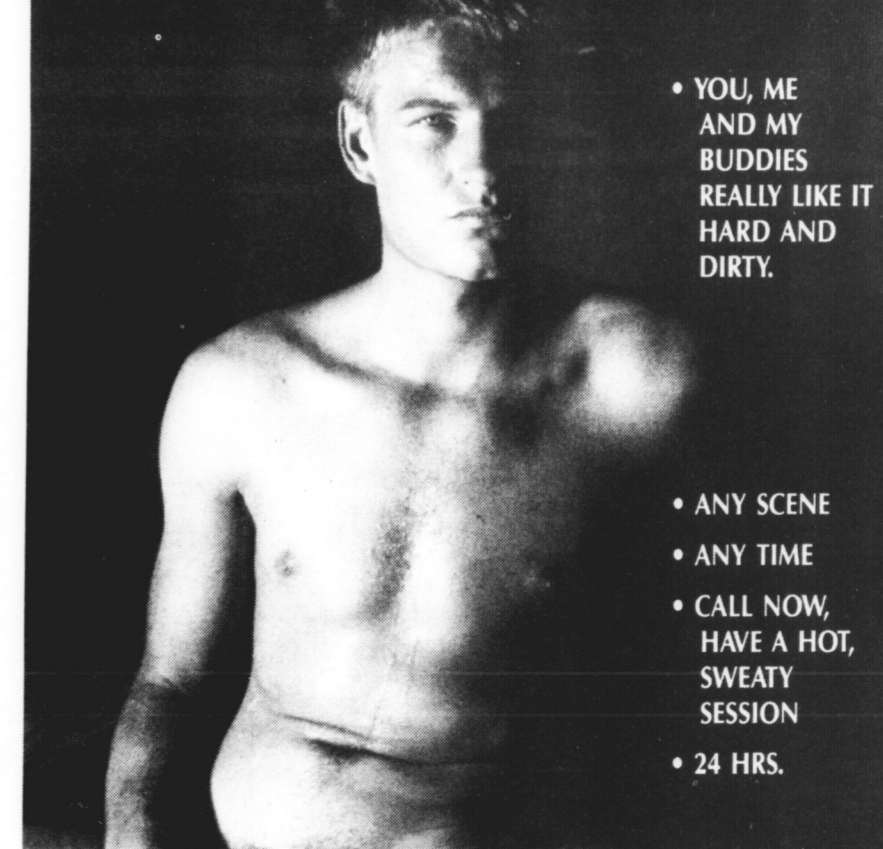


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# Ellipse Provides Smorgasbord of AIDS Services to San Mateo AIDS Clients

## Agency pleased by Supportive County

by Jay Newquist

ELLIPSE provides a smorgasbord of services to people with AIDS in San Mateo County:

The genesis of Ellipse rivals the beginnings of other relatively small grass roots AIDS organizations, springing up in September 1985 when a volunteer group combined the pre-existing Beacon of Hope and the Buddy Program under the umbrella of Ellipse.

The Beacon of Hope AIDS Support group provided emotional support, information and a safe place to meet for people with AIDS/ARC, those antibody positive and people interested in preventative health and one's family, lover or friend.

Brian Dobrow, executive director of Ellipse, said eight support groups now served some 60 people a week and as many as 100 a month.

The other jewel in the Ellipse crown is its Buddy System composed of trained volunteers on the Shanti model who provide one-to-one emotional and practical support for people with AIDS.

San Mateo County has already been hit with 200 diagnosed cases of AIDS and has had a resulting mortality rate of 50 percent.

Other Ellipse services for 36 active clients include a case worker who plans case management, advocacy and other assistance. Homebound people with AIDS or ARC provide in-home services like meal preparation, domestic help, attendant care and skilled nursing.

Small financial assistance grants are also available on a one-time-only basis.

Dobrow said AIDS was AIDS whether in San Francisco or San Mateo Counties, but the latter location had its own unique qualities.

"My impression is that attitudes about AIDS differ slightly in that it reflects something about the kinds of people who have AIDS that have been diagnosed," he said.

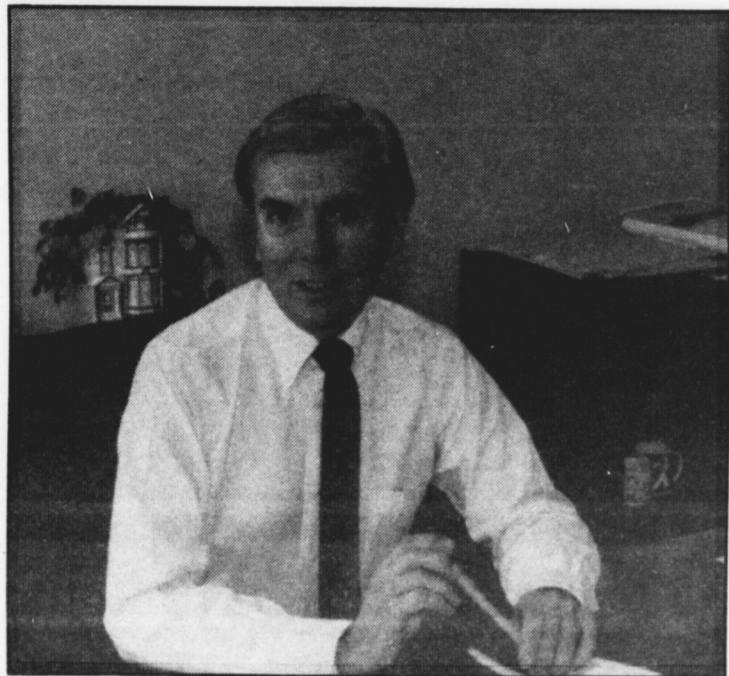
"Cases in San Mateo are pretty much mainstream, and I don't mean straight. People who have been established in this community, own their own homes, they're more couples than in San Francisco.

"There is a much more positive viewpoint (here) in providing assistance. The straight community is very supportive. They're not coming through with as much money as we'd like, but they're certainly doing other things to volunteer their help."

Ellipse has a budget of \$587,523 for 1988-1989 which comes from:

- State Office of AIDS . . . . . (55 percent)
- San Mateo County . . . . . (7 percent)
- Individual Contributions . . . . . (31 percent)
- Special events, anonymous donations . . . . . (6 percent)

The biggest chunk comes from the State Office of AIDS which provides \$325,000 for the case management, San Mateo County chips in \$41,000 to finance the various support groups, including bereavement and spiritual healing components, and individual contributions account for \$185,423.



Brian Dobrow, director of Ellipse.

(Photo: B.A.R.)

About 83 percent of Ellipse's operating budget goes into direct services, including some salaries where the staff are the service. The remaining 17 percent goes for overhead in Ellipse's modern office atop a bank building.

There are seven full-time employees whose salaries include:

- Executive director . . . . . (\$40,800);
- Assistant executive director (\$32,260);
- Social worker . . . (\$30,000);
- Volunteer coordinator . . . . . (\$28,000);
- Data clerk . . . . . (\$18,000);
- Administrative assistant . . . (\$18,000)

Ellipse employs four gay white males, two straight women (one is a Latino) and one white lesbian woman. The more than 100 volunteers are in turn predominantly gay white males.

"Our salaries aren't high compared to other peninsula agencies and Santa Clara," Dobrow said. "They're pretty typical."

He continued that Ellipse had its salary structure analyzed by a professional management firm, adding the agency was underpaying in some areas, but more or less right in the middle with other AIDS agencies.

He expected the budget would probably increase to \$640,000 in 1989-1990 if and when Ellipse was designated the Medicare waiver agency for San Mateo County.

Ellipse would receive \$300 per month for each of 10 people with AIDS who would receive at home services as opposed to hospital care.

Ellipse, however, doesn't perform too much AIDS-related education because of a county-wide

brow said no one had yet developed an adequate approach to meet the service needs of this segment of the population at risk.

He said IV drug users would remain outside the scope of programs because no agency would serve them while they were still using drugs. They, in turn, would be unwilling to stop using drugs in order to receive assistance.

"They still need services. It's a dilemma this county has to face," Dobrow concluded.

He was gratified, however, that San Mateo County had a liberal, accepting attitude toward the epidemic and the reception, for example, was aided by gay Supervisor Tom Nolan as well as the sympathetic straight administra-

tor of the local Department of Health Services.

Dobrow will remain in the AIDS field but wants to concentrate on administrative and legislative aspects of the epidemic as opposed to the major duties he has had in direct services to patients.

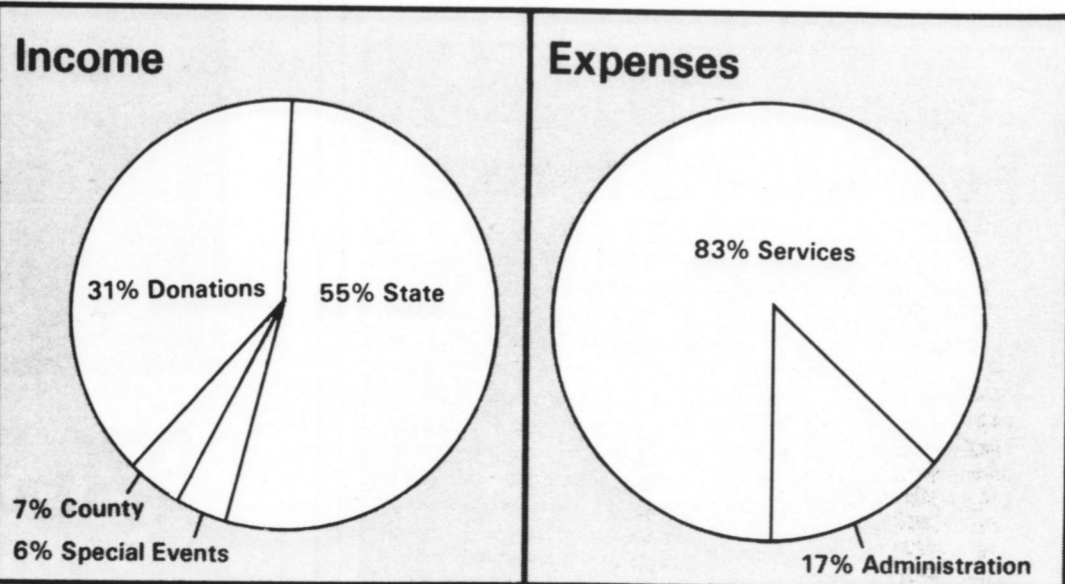
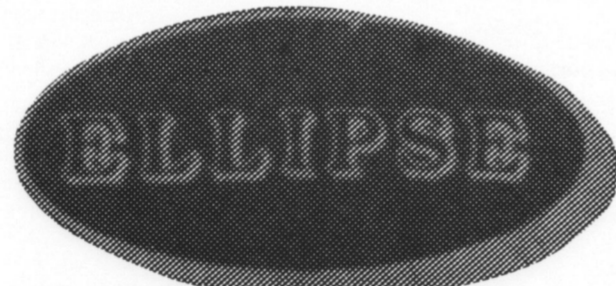
He stipulated he had not burned out like many in the AIDS field, but he had experienced a certain toll.

"I have trouble establishing the necessary emotional distance from our clients," he said, indicating that Ellipse, like all AIDS work, was a calling larger than the circumstance of its individual efforts.

### ELLIPSE

Budget . . . . . 1988-1989, \$587,523  
 Staff . . . . . 7 full-time  
 Volunteers . . . . . 100

Income:  
 State Office of AIDS . . . . . 55 percent  
 County of San Mateo . . . . . 7 percent  
 Individual Contributions . . . . . 31 percent  
 Special events, anonymous donations 6 percent  
 Services: Emotional and practical support for people with AIDS/ARC, advocacy, care coordination, in-home health care, support groups for people touched by AIDS.



Another in a Series on AIDS Organizations

## Cupid

(Continued from page 1)

Caesar instead of screwing around with that Cleopatra dame. They were already having wild Roman orgies. So without Cleo's influence they never would have bothered trying to conquer each other-except in bed. "No, this time I'm gonna be the top, Julius."

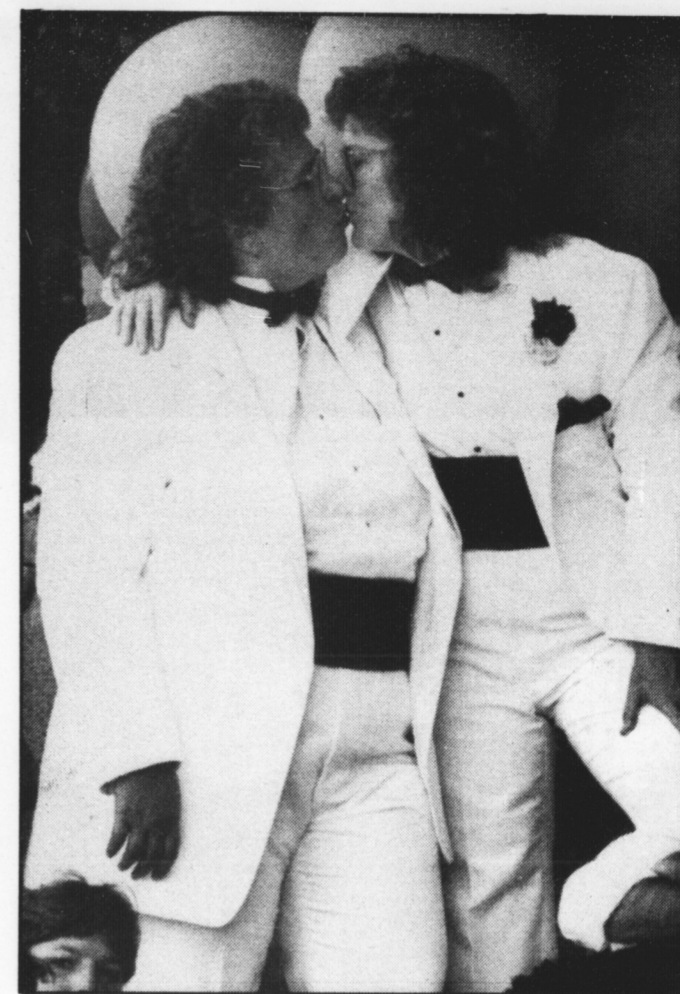
Then Cleopatra could be the first lipstick lesbian, with her berry juice cosmetics tips for her ladies in waiting.

Moving along into the 14th Century, we know that all the men of King Louis' court were already flouncing around in wigs and high heels, so it was just a matter of a few Cupidian arrows aimed at those courtiers before the first drag show would have been invented.

And had Marie Antoinette only shouted to the Bastille women, "Let them eat pot luck," her French reign might have continued with her lesbian head on her shoulders instead of her heterosexual head rolling off the guillotine.

The American Revolution never would have occurred if the English redcoats and American soldiers had been firing at one another from Cupid's lusty quivers instead of those trusty muskets. They would have been so turned on by the red uniforms that those American minutemen would have hopped into the trenches with those hunky limeys in a minute. Puts a new meaning to the "shot heard round the world."

And can you imagine the incredible women's music festivals the patriot women would have put on if only they were free of their hetero homemaking duties



(Photo: Steve Savage)

—Betsy Ross so busy sewing the flag and Dolly Madison serving meals in the White House.

We most certainly would not have had to endure the Civil War if Cupid had shot the Southerners and the Yanks with manly love. We've heard of Black and White Men Together. Well, this would have been Blue and Gray Men United. There would be no question about slavery, except for which the master.

Now here we are practically in the gay '90s, but just how gay is

it with Pres. George Bush and Veep Dan Quayle? Couldn't a fairy Cupid have wreaked gay havoc on those Democratic primaries?

But no, some wise ass heterosexual Cupid had to go and shoot Gary Hart and that Donna Rice woman, resulting in a whole lot of monkey business on that boat, eventually selling us all down the river.

Gay Cupids unite and draw your bows: it's time America got a heart-on!

## Trade Group Recognizes Gay Bus Tour Firm

Scenic Hyways Tours, Inc., of San Francisco has been presented with one of the American bus industry's most prestigious awards in recognition of the firm's flawless safety record.

Scenic Hyway was one of only four private bus companies in the United States to be honored with presentation of the Robert J. McReil Safety Award during the United Bus Owners of America (UBOA) "Bus Expo '89," held in Louisville recently.

"No achievement in the American passenger transportation industry may be more important than the recognition of a company's safety record," said UBOA Executive Director Wayne J. Smith during presentation ceremonies.

"The McReil Safety Award is given each year by UBOA to those private companies which have compiled the best safety records and those which have done the most to promote highway and passenger safety within the private bus industry.



Richard Twining, president of Scenic Hyway Tours, accepts the Robert J. McReil Safety Award from Wayne J. Smith, executive director of the United Bus Owners of America.

(Photo: Mosley Photography)

# WINTER BOOKS

(Continued from page 12)

## 15 Watts of Gay in 'City Lights'

City Lights Review II Edited by Lawrence Ferlinghetti and Nancy J. Peters City Lights Books \$9.95

by Marv Shaw

About a quarter of this review is "Forum: AIDS, Cultural Life, and the Arts," edited by Amy Scholder, who is no further identified. Twenty-six literary artists responded to City Lights' call for comment on the editor's statement: "When government and mass media exploit the vulnerability of certain people with AIDS (homosexuals, Black, Hispanics, women in the sex industry), an oppressive morality is reinforced and diversity is threatened. Today, a community is emerging to work toward change, and artists and writers have been responding with their work and their lives."

Some familiar voices of gay America talked back: David Wojarowicz, Jack Collins, James Broughton, Edmund White, Robert Gluck. Their pieces — and a few others — are the only reason to look into this book.

Painter Wojarowicz says near the end of his brief, intense essay: "I work quickly now and feel there is no time for bullshit; cut straight to the heart of the senses and map it out as clearly as tools and growth will allow." In "The Rape of AIDS," Broughton asks, "How will this penetrating plague/ deflower our erotic life?" He then enumerates, in his unique combination of pathos and humor, all the consequences of this violent act.

But some others simply yoke their thoughts on AIDS to their own obsessions, like Abbie Hoffman with his "AIDS and Responsible Drug Education" and Rachel Rosenthal with her diatribe on the animal abuse she alleges is going on in the labs.

Collins, though, sounds a clear, strong warning on the dangers of censorship and general repression of gay expression in his "Statement." Gluck sweeps us powerfully into the heart-tensing need to know if one is HIV-positive.

But that's about it. So what is the other three-fourths of City Lights Review II about? In general, it is the accustomed collection of experimental prose and poetry in the U.S. and from abroad. While some of the pieces are sexy — often in a morbid way — none is gay.

As with so much other experimental, avant garde work, most of the non-Forum pieces have about them the air of self-indulgence, a prime motive of experiment for the sake of originality alone. The result, disappointingly often, is an uncommunicative mess. That's true even of Federico Lorca's "Buster Keaton Promenade," a grim bit of absurdist theater that means nothing.

Two things must be granted. First, this review is dedicated to the discovery and promotion of new writing talent. Second, the publisher has the perfect right to bring together pieces from books his company is about to bring out. OK.

But what a missed opportunity to compile an entire issue on AIDS, to give more voices from the international gay community a chance to be heard! When such resources as the James White Review and the 350 non-affiliated authors who submitted short stories for Charles Jurrst's recent *Shadows of Love* are considered, the wealth must be recognized as tremendous.

## Frisch

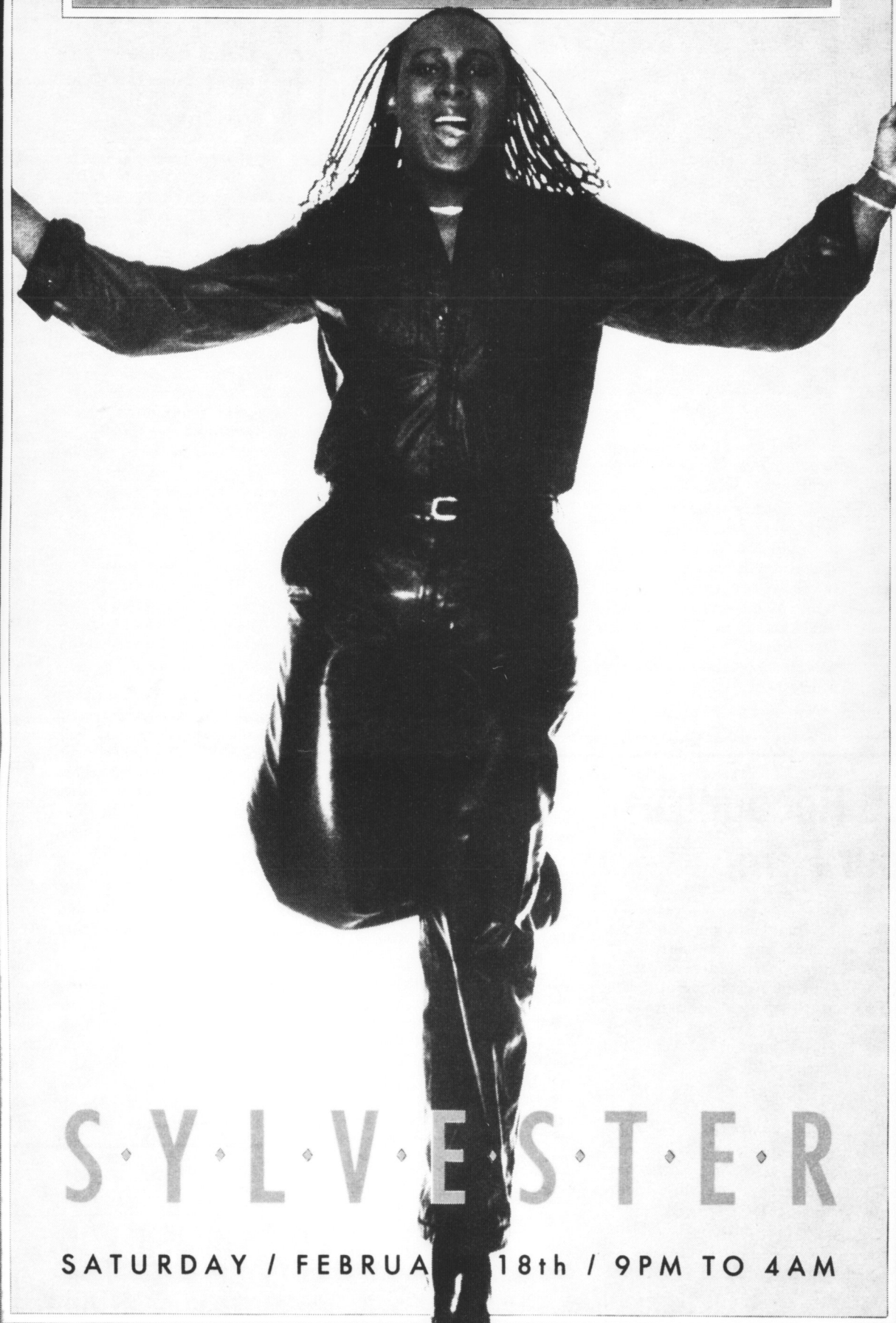


PAUL VARDA & BILL CAMILO IN ASSOCIATION WITH JOHN VUKAS

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P.R. Coordinators: Bill Camilo & Paul Varda  
Entertainment Coordinator: Tim McKenna  
Staff Coordinator: Mark Savino  
Stage Coordinator: Gary Walker

Light Design: Greg Fleming with Michael Cisco  
Lights: Roy Urib  
Sound: E.P. Parisier for Wm. Roderick Associates  
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# BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## For Your Consideration

### 'Torch Song' Producers, Stars Cross Their Fingers And Hope For Academy Award Nominations on Feb. 15, But The Changes Are Slim

by Matthew Ogden

**F**or Your Consideration. Usually, those are three little words, but this time they have nothing to do with the old MGM musical about the Kalmar-Ruby songwriting team. From December to March, "For Your Consideration" turns from three obscure little words into three big words for many people in Hollywood.

Every winter, all the movie studios begin filling up Daily Variety, the film industry's trade newspaper, with ads, trying to get Academy Award nominations. Take a look at the trades and you'll see United Artists promoting Dustin Hoffman for Best Actor for *Rain Man* or Twentieth Century Fox promoting Tom Hanks in the same category for *Big*.

Nestled in among the ads for *Rain Man*, *Big*, *Working Girl*, *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, etc. are ads for *Torch Song Trilogy*, the film with the "taboo" subject matter. So, how good are the chances for "Torch Song" to cop a few nominations? New Line Cinema, the film's distributor isn't trying to get the film into the limelight.

New Line, an independent studio which deserves a lot of credit for producing a film that won't gross a zillion dollars and which features an openly gay actor playing an openly gay character—is promoting *Torch Song Trilogy* as

its major release and contender for the 61st Academy Awards. While full-page ads do not appear every day in *Variety*, they appear every other day. The ads themselves are tasteful and understated, run in black and white—save for torchy crimson letters spelling the film's title—and feature a group shot of the four principals up for consideration. The intent is to present the film as a prestige picture.

Rave reviews accompany the suggestion of nominations for Best Picture, Screenplay based on Material from Another Medium, Actor (Fierstein), Supporting Actress (Anne Bancroft), Supporting Actor (Both Matthew Broderick and Brian Kerwin) and Director (Paul Bogart). While one might fantasize about a sweep across the board of nominations on Feb. 15, the brutal fact is that if the film receives any of these nominations it will be luckier than most recent attempts at screening gay fare.

*Making Love* and *Personal Best*, as well as last year's *Prick Up Your Ears* were completely ignored by Oscar. While films in a lighter vein—such as *Victor/Victoria* and *Maurice*—earned nominations, they were virtually shut out on the Big Night.

**D**issecting New Line's ads nomination by nomination, it seems likely that neither Bogart nor Kerwin will

be receiving congratulatory telegrams this month. While highly respected for directing sitcoms, i.e. *All In The Family*, Bogart has been sharply criticized by the likes of gay film expert Vito Russo for directing *Torch Song Trilogy* at a fever pitch and failing to give the film any special visual flair.

Kerwin offers the most sophisticated, understated and appealing characterization in the film. Acting a bisexual believably isn't easy, but he's done it. However, up against co-star Broderick—the "name" actor (along with Bancroft) of the crop, he's likely to be forgotten by the short memories of the Academy's Acting branch.

Broderick has earned respect on the strength of his "daring" decision to play a gay man after a string of teen leads. But his chances are slim. Reviews have been mixed for his performance.

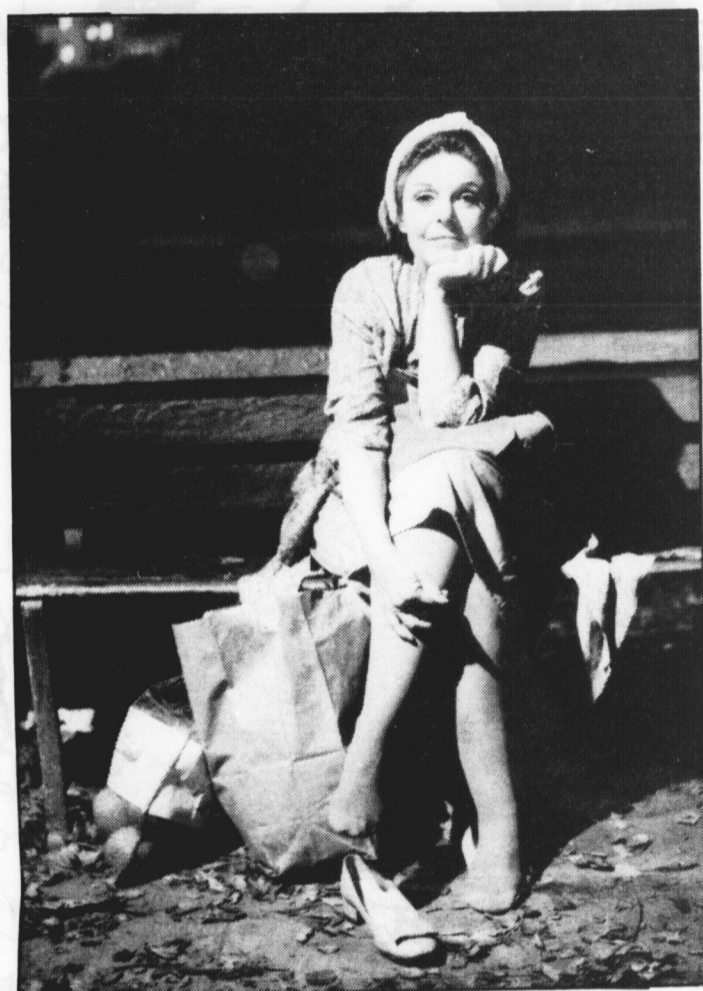
The film's best chance for a nomination may well be Bancroft. It's been 26 years since she won her Oscar (for *The Miracle Worker*,—not *The Graduate*) and many feel she's past due for another nomination. She's well-known and well-liked with a body of respected work under her belt. Her portrayal of the quintessential Jewish mother—while stereotypical and breaks no new ground—has been a crowd pleaser.

**I**n the case of Fierstein—Oscar seems both a certainty and a long-shot. The *Variety* ads seem to reflect this: in one ad, the suggestion of Fierstein for Best Screenplay Based on Material from Another Medium actually precedes the suggestion of Fierstein for Best Actor. The order of importance of role is reversed in another ad.

In a year when Hoffman charmed critics in *Rain Man* and Hanks charmed hearts in *Big*, New Line Cinema may well be right to remind voters of the one-two punch Harvey gave to the film version of his play.

However, it has been a stand-out year for actors. In addition to sure-bets Hoffman and Hanks, Max von Sydow (*Pelle the Conqueror*), Tom Hulce (*Dominick and Eugene*), Michael Keaton (*Clean and Sober*), Eric Bogosian (*Talk Radio*), Gene Hackman (*Mississippi Burning*), William Hurt (*The Accidental Tourist*), Bob Hoskins (*Who Framed Roger Rabbit*), Forest Whitaker (*Bird*), and Edward James Olmos (*Stand and Deliver*) are all eager to fill the remaining three slots and keep Harvey from his chance to become the first openly gay actor to receive an Academy Award.

Still, Fierstein is well-liked and has won his share of awards. Besides his three Tonys, he received the ACE award for the cable-TV adaptation of his *Safe Sex* one-act, "Tidy Endings," last month.



Anne Bancroft as the archetypal Jewish mother in *Torch Song Trilogy*.

There are some things to remember about a Fierstein acting nomination:

- Academy members are not required to see the films they nominate;
- Hollywood is a conservative town, and;

Committee, Broadway's liberal acceptance of homosexuality has always been light years ahead of Hollywood. Also, even in 1983, the selection of *Torch Song Trilogy* over 'night, Mother and *Crimes of the Heart* was looked upon as an upset.

**"TORCH SONG TRILOGY" IS AN IMPORTANT MOVIE, AN ENTERTAINING MOVIE, a story laced with life-giving humor...a movie that should be seen with an open mind and an open heart—a work of the human spirit! Harvey Fierstein earns a permanent honored place among America's writers with this single—and singular—work.**

—Gene Shalit, THE TODAY SHOW

• Harvey is very likely to be openly gay on television—and thus in the living rooms of America (remember the furor the day after the Tony awards when the New York Times scoffed that they had seen everything now that a man had thanked his male lover on national television?).

Fierstein's best chance for a nomination will probably be for a screenplay. The writers' branch tends to be more intellectual and liberal.

The nomination of *Torch Song Trilogy* for Best Picture would be not only a triumph for New Line Cinema, but a miracle. With the proliferation of December releases designed to capture Oscar nominations, the *Torch* doesn't burn too brightly. Despite the fact that it did receive Best Play honors from the Tony Award

Besides, winning a Tony Award does not guarantee a Best Picture Oscar. Only twice has this happened and in both cases the plays involved were musicals: *My Fair Lady* and *The Sound of Music*.

"The game of just supposing is the sweetest game I know," to quote Oscar Hammerstein II. And until Feb. 15 one can only suppose how the erratic Academy will stack the odds for Oscar night, March 29. That is—of course—half the fun.

Still, you might keep your fingers crossed for all those involved with *Torch Song Trilogy*. The recognition of this film by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is Hollywood's most recent chance to right past omissions and injustices while at the same time reward a fine film. ▼



Harvey Fierstein and Matthew Broderick get cozy in *Torch Song Trilogy*.

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## French Technique

Although, as adults, many of us share a vague recollection that *Romeo and Juliet* concerns two young lovers trapped by the hatred of feuding families, the sad truth is that, after graduating from high school (and tossing their Cliff Notes into the garbage) most people lost touch with the jagged emotions and idealistic fantasies which lie at the core of Shakespeare's tragedy. What many audiences members forget (or prefer not to acknowledge) is the fact that Romeo and Juliet were two very horny teenagers whose post-pubescent hormones were wreaking havoc on their emotional systems. Shakespeare's doomed lovers were two intensely passionate, idealistic and sexual creatures.

When, in Act III, Scene I of Gounod's *Romeo Et Juliette*, the curtain rises on the sight of the two young lovers in bed, modern audiences must face the fact that Romeo and Juliet did not sleep together because the young man had nowhere else to spend the night. Or because he missed the last bus home. Nor were Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers playing some late-night game of tidlywinks.

They were fucking.

Why is teenage sex a much more impetuous affair than the adult version? Because, in addition to the benefits of prolonged physical stamina, the emotional ability to block out the real world, the intense thrills of discovery and the joys of exploration, a teenager's emotions vary so



Tenor Vinson Cole and soprano Kathryn Gamberoni recently starred in the Seattle Opera's production of Gounod's *Romeo et Juliette*.

sharply that, with or without drugs, one's highs become higher and one's lows become much, much lower. The peculiar kind of puppy love experienced by many teenagers (a form of self-expression which, as adults, we tend to look back on with severe embarrassment) forces them to develop vastly idealized and highly romanticized visions of the people they think they love and the world in which they live. When a friend who teaches at Mission High School recently complained about his inability to get through to his tenth-grade English students, a neighbor just laughed at him and said "Why are you so surprised? Those kids couldn't care less about Shakespeare. Neither could you when you were that age. Don't you remember what it was like to walk around school thinking you were the only guy in the world who had a hard-on for 23 hours out of each and every day?"

Apparently, this teacher had forgotten.

Back in 1967, when I first saw *Romeo Et Juliette* performed by the Metropolitan Opera (with Franco Corcelli and Mirella Freni singing the lead roles) I was struck by the sheer elegance of its score. Although, like many Verdian pot-boilers, there were moments which sent the blood pulsing through my veins, there were also large sections of gossamer magic; exquisitely romantic music of a caliber that, when sung properly, can have a spellbinding effect upon its audience.

My love for Gounod's opera never wavered and, when compared to other musical treatments of Shakespeare's romantic tragedy (Prokofiev's score for the ballet *Romeo And Juliet*, Zandonai's verismo-style *Glietta Et Romeo*, Bellini's bel canto masterpiece, *I Capuletti Ed I Montecchi*, Tchaikovsky's *Romeo And Juliet* overture and Bernstein's *West Side Story*), the elegance and grace of Gounod's writing continues to stand out like a sore thumb. From the prelude's orchestral fugue to Mercutio's animated "Queen Mab" aria; from the innocence of Juliet's waltz song to the breathtaking purity of Romeo's "O nuit divine," this is music that begs to

be sung. Even small details in the libretto, such as the use of the familiar rather than the formal declension of the verb "to rise" in Romeo's big aria, "Ah, leveto soleil," bespeak a rare intimacy and gentle ardor.

While the musical style of Gounod's opera may lack the more rhythmic appeal of Verdi's blood-and-thunder scores (scornful critics love to slash *Romeo Et Juliette* to shreds as a sappy, treacle-coated, mishmash of a score), the delicacy of its orchestrations often makes it difficult for this opera to be staged with much success. Nevertheless, the Seattle Opera presented Gounod's opus in a production last fall which, for reasons of its own, proved to be downright shocking. What happened? Under Peter Mark Schifter's direction, the soloists actually moved like young people. They did somersaults, crawled under tables, jumped off wagons — some of them even ran across the stage.

While this sounds painfully simple, it goes directly against the grain of most operatic productions, where soloists are frozen into the visual equivalent of sound bites in order to create pretty pictures that are, unfortunately, quite lifeless. Although I would be the last person in the world to cast aspersions on the artistry of a tenor like Alfredo Kraus, a performer in his early sixties who is attempting to portray a teenager strains a production's dramatic credibility beyond belief. Whenever possible, Gounod's opera can and should be cast with younger artists.

That's exactly what Speight Jenkins did with both his Gold and Silver casts last fall and the results speak handsomely for themselves. On opening night, tenor Vinson Cole (who often looks like a cherubic version of Bryant Gumbel in period drag) sang like an angel while soprano Kathryn Gamberoni finally found a role that perfectly suits her delicate femininity. Kurt Ollman made for a lanky Mercutio while baby-faced Steven Tharp offered an appropriately obnoxious characterization of Tybalt. Jose Garcia continued to show promise as Friar Lawrence (this basso's

(Continued on next page)

## VIDEO

### Out In Suburbia

## Video Shows Another Side of Lesbianism

by Mary Richards

At its best, the documentary format should produce honest images, a real world unhampered by a director's whims or a writer's fantasy. If the documentary is successful, its audience is treated to rare moments of truth on film. *Out of Suburbia*, produced and created by Pam Walton, is a 28-minute video documentary about lesbians which is entertaining as art and enlightening as culture.

Pam Walton was a high school teacher until, at the age of 40, she decided to devote her professional life to film and video. Her documentary was completed to fulfill a master's project at Stanford, but it is destined for greater exposure than a shelf in academia.

"The average person," she says, "still has too many stereotypes about lesbians and gay men. The media doesn't help because most of the time lesbians are portrayed as a fringe element: perverse, maladjusted, even sadistic. The truth is that most lesbians are like most people: 'normal' in the mainstream sense of the word."

The women in the suburbia of the documentary are proof of Walton's thesis. They go about their business in the home and the workplace just like everyone else, with one exception: they identify themselves as lesbians.

Not every woman who was interviewed for the film is introduced by name, but this informality does not detract from their statement. They are "out" by virtue of being filmed.

One of the women discusses her choice to come out, saying,

### Heymont

(Continued from previous page)

dark voice has a particularly interesting sheen to it) and young Susan Graham scored a big hit as the rowdy Stephano. Veteran performers Arnold Voketaitis (Count Capulet), Archie Drake (the Duke of Verona) and Shirley Lee Harned (Juliet's sympathetic nurse, Gertrude) added dramatic strength to the proceedings while the obvious difference in their age helped to underline the clash of generations in Shakespeare's tragedy.

At the Sunday matinee, tenor Gregory Kunde and soprano Nicole Philibosian took over the two lead roles. I thought Kunde (who I first encountered when he was an apprentice at the Lyric Opera of Chicago) was particularly well-cast as Gounod's hero. This young man is an exceptionally

### Suicide Prevention Seeks Volunteers

San Francisco Suicide Prevention announced that it is undertaking a concerted search for volunteers who are bilingual to staff its crisis lines. The agency, the second oldest crisis line in the United States, provides 24-hour counseling and referral services by telephone. All services are handled by trained volunteers.

Volunteer training, an intensive 10-week course, starts in early February, Cindy Bott, crisis

"I made a very conscious decision in my life when I was going through a lot of changes after I got divorced, that I was not going to do something because I was afraid. And I was not going to do something because other people thought I shouldn't do it—I was going to do it because of me."

A mother and daughter sit side by side in obvious harmony. The mother offers advice: "I would tell any mother whose child is gay that it's a shocking thing to hear at first, but remain friends," she says. "Don't give up your child."

Her daughter explains why it was easier for her to be honest with her mother: "My whole situation was colored by the fact that I knew she would be very accepting, and she would be happy for me, and that it wouldn't cause a problem. So it's very hard to hear other friends of mine saying that they were disowned, and they were thrown out. I can't imagine being in that situation."

Not all lesbians, unfortunately, share the daughter's positive experience. One woman explains that for years she and her lover attended all the lover's holiday gatherings with the family. Her lover's brother discovered they were gay, and told his sister that "I was not to touch him, his wife or his children, or hug them in any way, and that I was not welcome in their home."

Then, she adds, with some bitterness, "He doesn't even see me, he doesn't know who I am. He doesn't even know how loving I can be, and how caring and sensitive. He doesn't see any of that."

appealing tenor who moves well onstage and has exquisite French. Philibosian's Juliet began rather shakily and suffered some pitch problems during Act I. However, once the soprano was able to get her huge voice back under control, its impressive colorings lent a very special flavor to her portrayal of Juliet.

Compared to the rigidity of Claude Girard's fairly unit set (which had been borrowed from L'Opera de Montreal) Schifter's stage direction was exceptionally fluid and busy. It brought a sorely-needed measure of youthful vitality to the performances and a sense of liveliness which is missing from so many other productions of *Romeo Et Juliette*. George Manahan's conducting was solidly on the mark, making this one of the more pleasing efforts to grace the stage of the Seattle Opera House in recent seasons.

line director, explained. The course is often used by people who want to go into counseling fields as a way of testing out how they would react to service situations.

San Francisco Suicide Prevention will offer three training courses: crisis lines, youth line and geriatric outreach program. Applications are available from the business office. The phone number is 752-4866.



*Out of Suburbia* discusses the life and times of lesbians in a video documentary.

To be ostracized for one's sexuality can keep that closet door firmly shut. One woman declares, "I love my sexuality. I love my identification with women. I love the feeling I get being around other women. But knowing this is something that is despised makes it very hard for me to say who I am. This is what I struggle against."

The struggle is shared by a young woman caught by the camera as she strolls with her pet. "I walk my dog a few blocks away from my house," she says, "and it's a retirement place for Protestant ministers and their wives. These people wait for me to come by every day with my puppies. They love them, and come out of their houses and talk to me. I often wondered if I said to these people, 'I'm a dyke' if it would change how they would think of me."

Pam Walton is determined that her documentary will reach out to the general public. "I want it to go to college classes in human sexuality, women's issues and lifestyles; to play in as many film and video festivals across the country as possible, and to broadcast on KQED and national PBS."

Walton has applied for grant money from the Vanguard Public Foundation, Horizons, and the Nu Lambda Trust, which he says are all gay-sympathetic.

On Sunday, Feb. 12, *Out In Suburbia* will be screened at a meeting of High Tech Gays at 8 p.m. at the Billy DeFrank Community Center in San Jose. With events such as this one, Walton plans to raise more money for distribution of her video, which is an uplifting and challenging work of art.

## 2 New Fiction Contests For Gay, Lesbian Writers

The San Francisco Bay Guardian, the news, arts and entertainment weekly of the San Francisco Bay Area, and the Gay Rights Chapter of the ACLU of Northern California are sponsoring two fiction contests in early 1989.

The Bay Guardian's third annual short fiction contest will be judged by Felicia Eth of Felicia Eth Literary Representation; Fenton Johnson, recipient of a 1988 National Endowment of the Arts fellowship and author of the forthcoming novel *Crossing the River*; and Graciela Perez Trevisan, an Argentinean poet, fiction writer and instructor of Latin American and Spanish-language literature.

Lesbian and gay men have created, and are evolving, relationships that expand the traditional notions of families. The first annual Lesbian and Gay Families Fiction Contest, sponsored by the ACLU's Gay Rights Chapter, is seeking manuscripts that will explore and/or celebrate the diversity and richness of lesbian and gay families. The contest will be judged by Thom Gunn, distinguished poet and critic; Don Liles, creator of the gay literature course at San Francisco's City College; and Merle Woo, socialist-feminist educator and writer.

Prizes total more than \$2,000 and the top two stories in each contest will be printed in the May 3, issue of the Bay Guardian. The deadline for entries is Mar. 1, 1989.

For rules and entry form, send an SASE to: Fiction Contests, Bay Guardian, 2700 19th St., SF 94110.

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## 'As Is': An AIDS Story About Love

by Will Snyder

It would be too easy to make references to *As Is* as "an AIDS play." But that would be unfair to William M. Hoffman's 1985 Tony Award-winning hit. It's far more than just an AIDS play.

*As Is*, currently being performed as a benefit for S.F. Metropolitan Community Church's AIDS Ministry by the Foothill College Players, is a love story. When Saul tells Rich, his ex-lover and a man with AIDS, that he will take care of him no matter what, that he will

accept him as is, the great humanity of this play leaves one with a grand feeling despite the sobering nature of the story matter.

All through *As Is*, the love that Saul (Bear Capron) has for Rich (R. Keith Allann) is apparent, whether in words or glances. When two people really love each other, they remember doing the simple things for each other such as taking walks through the park or having a hot meal ready when the other gets home. Those

things can be more romantic and memorable for lovers than anything.

Saul remembers those things with deep pleasure while Rich remembers them as the boring things that broke up the romance. "We got to be stagnant," he tells Saul.

But as the 90-minute play (without an intermission) moves along, Rich makes some discoveries for himself. His new lover, Chet, can't stand to be near him once Rich is diagnosed with Kaposi's Sarcoma. Ditto for Rich's straight brother, who has trouble dealing with homosexuality in the family anyway. But through all of this, Saul is always there.

Saul never really wants a breakup in the relationship. He is hurt when the break comes. But when everyone else keeps away from Rich and his new disease, Saul reaches out for his ex.

He does it with some heartache, too. When Rich asks Saul to get him the proper medicine for suicide, Saul contemplates the request, thinks about a double suicide, but ends up opting for life.

There are some who would find some of Hoffman's lines about not having the right to take one's life as being too spiritual. But the playwright is right on target with his themes about the giving of one's self to someone you love. The story provides some lessons in life for many members of the "Me First" society we all live in these days.

Hoffman's writing also has strong strokes of reality. Rich used to write life-breathing poetry and jog through Central Park. But now with AIDS ravaging his body, he is reduced to thinking of taking his life. Hoffman also writes telling scenes which reflect the first days of



Annette Boyenga, R. Keith Allann (center) and Bear Capron in *As Is*. (Photo: Marion Patterson/Mike Ivanitsky)

AIDS when well-meaning straight people tell PWAs, "I know how you feel," when they obviously don't.

The main actors in the play are touching and powerful. Allann conveys Rich's confusion and rage very well. Toward the end of *As Is*, when Rich is in a hospital bed, Allann wheezes and snuffles and actually *sounds* like someone who is sick. Capron is smooth and self-assured as Saul. When he ketches at Rich one minute and shows tenderness the next, you get a slice of a real human relationship formed.

Director Jay Manley directs Allann, Capron and eight supporting cast members with a pace which never bores the audience. All of the supporting cast play multiple cameo parts with Steven Cortopassi and John B. Scott particularly good in an assortment of small roles.

About the only technical problem with the show is the staging of the production. Because of the flat-level seating arrangement at Metropolitan Community Church, it is impossible to see a few scenes from the back rows. This is particularly annoying in one key scene in which Saul starts to seduce Rich. The people in the first few rows can see it, but no one in the back can, unless they stand up.

But there's no denying the power of Hoffman's play. And, *As Is* provides an ample opportunity to show just how well they can act.

★★★½

*As Is*  
Metropolitan Community Church,  
150 Eureka St., S.F.  
Feb. 10-11, 8 p.m.  
Tickets: \$10, 621-6300

## Palimpsest A New Literary Voice Is Born

by Dennis McMillan

Palimpsest, a small press publishing gay and lesbian poetry and fiction writers, is starting up in San Francisco. The format will be a series of cheap books, 50 page soft-cover books produced and hand bound.

The cornerstone of the series will be called "Voices of the Living," a quarterly issue of poetry and prose authored by people with AIDS and ARC.

The publishers are currently taking submissions for the first issue out during March.

The name Palimpsest, a brand new gay press owned by Michael Thompson and his lover, George Decker, traditionally refers to a parchment which has been written upon and erased for use again. It is a term which has also been used to describe masterpiece paintings that have covered up old, mediocre oils by an artist who did not have any more canvas handy.

Thompson sees the press as a means of rewriting what has already been written, but in the voices of PWAs. "It will strip away

the layers, so we can get to the core of what we as gay people are about as a community of writers," said Thompson.

He sees this as an opportunity for people living with AIDS "to confront death on an immediate level and distill a certain wisdom about daily life."

"Voices" should be an opportunity for PWAs to articulate that wisdom and their perception of the disease to the outside world.

Thompson sees writers with AIDS as fighters on a daily level which brings out a lot of creativity and creative energy. He wants to inspire people who may not be writing to give it a try. He encourages those who are keeping a journal to submit their work to the press.

For the other series, he is seeking submissions from anyone who identifies as gay or lesbian. For "Voices" he will accept anyone who is diagnosed with AIDS or ARC, gay or straight.

He considers his works and those of his circle of friends as outside the mainstream. In col-

lege he put out a quarterly xeroxed edition of poetry for his friends' own benefit.

Having experimented with bookbinding and printing, he discovered he could be a professional self-publisher and publisher of people he knew.

"I want to serve the community by publishing what otherwise might not get printed, and bring the voice of the people with AIDS out to a larger audience," he said.

There is no particular format required for "Voices." He can accept line drawings and sketches. Poetry, stories, journal entries, letters are all acceptable. There is a length limit of six double-spaced pages per person, type-written or computer-printed. He can also accept discs on IBM compatible Word Perfect programming.

"The more submissions there are, the better the diversity the anthology will have," he said.

Thompson requests art and writings be sent to Palimpsest Press, P.O. Box 460345, SF 94146. For further information, call 255-1852.

## Archetypes Of The Old West

Rodeo is the most famous ballet of one of America's most famous choreographers, Agnes DeMille. DeMille made the ballet during the days when commissioned scores were still economically feasible, and for this ballet she turned to the composer Aaron Copland, who has composed *Billy the Kid* for Lincoln Kirsten and Eugene Loring four years earlier. Ever since its instantly successful 1942 premiere by the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo, *Rodeo* has enjoyed a rich performance history, at American Ballet Theatre since 1950, and at the Joffrey Ballet since 1976. Now it has been restaged for the San Francisco Ballet by Christine Sarry and Paul Sutherland, both of whom had performed it at American Ballet Theatre (Sutherland alone was responsible for The Joffrey's staging in the '70s), with new costume designs by Stanley Simons.

Sexism probably reached its ultimate expression in the American Southwest, and that is what *Rodeo* is really about. In the words of DeMille, *Rodeo's* simplest theme is "the problem that has confronted every American woman from earliest pioneer times... how to get a suitable man." In DeMille's ballet, a tomboy cowgirl lacks the feminine wiles to attract the man she most admires, and must finally follow the example of the beribboned ranch owner's daughter and her visiting friends from the East (Kansas City).

Lesbians might or might not be disgusted by this tale, and I doubt that anyone in the audience can see it as anything other than a period piece. But the ballet's attraction is in the strength of its archetypes, which the libretto serves, rather than the reverse. As an inventor of movement, DeMille revolutionized dance in both ballet and musical theatre, and in *Rodeo's* horseback-riding, bronco-bucking, cowboy swaggering choreography, one sees some of the most powerful physical images to be found on the stage.

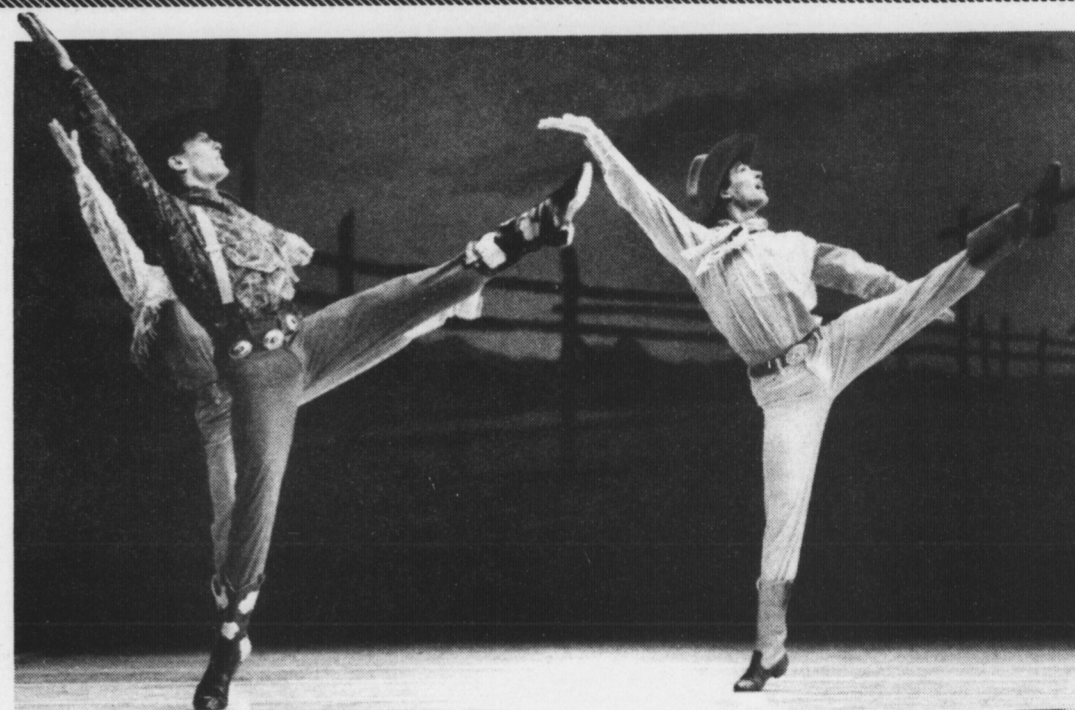
Character development was another major trend in choreography of the 'Forties, and the challenges of *Rodeo* are dramatic as well as kinetic. DeMille saw humor in the narrow mores of the old West as surely as she admired its physical strength. The lead dancers must have a sure sense of comedy and a generous theatrical spirit typical of a good Western movie.

I'd forgotten what a really good ballet *Rodeo* is until I saw it at the San Francisco Ballet last week. The dancers here have managed to embody each flamboyant role with unselfconscious largesse and great theatrical truth. The most gratifying performances were those of Jim Sohm, as the Head Wrangler with whom the Cowgirl is initially romantically smitten, and Lawrence Pech, as the Cowgirl's only friend early in the ballet and her lover by the end of it.

Sohm has summoned exactly the right nuances. The Head Wrangler is an unapproachable figure of authority and stature, and into this formula Sohm has injected a tinge of humor that breaks the impenetrability of his character. The Champion Roper has an even

greater dramatic challenge, since he must, by turns, ridicule the Cowgirl, then befriend her, and finally seduce her, maintaining his likability all the while—and he has a fairly complex tap dancing solo during the ballet's third scene. Lawrence Pech's performance supports my long-standing suspicion that he can do anything. Of all the men I have seen in the role of Champion Roper, Pech is the most animated, sunny, magnanimous and magnetic trickster whose heart is as big as the western horizon.

Sabina Alleman, a principal dancer in the National Ballet of Canada who will be dancing at the San Francisco Ballet this season, made her debut as the Cowgirl in a finely acted and physically articulate performance. Alleman's face is so softly feminine that it is sometimes hard to believe she is really the tomboy she portrays. And yet, it is because of this very prettiness that we are able to believe, in the final scene, that the Head



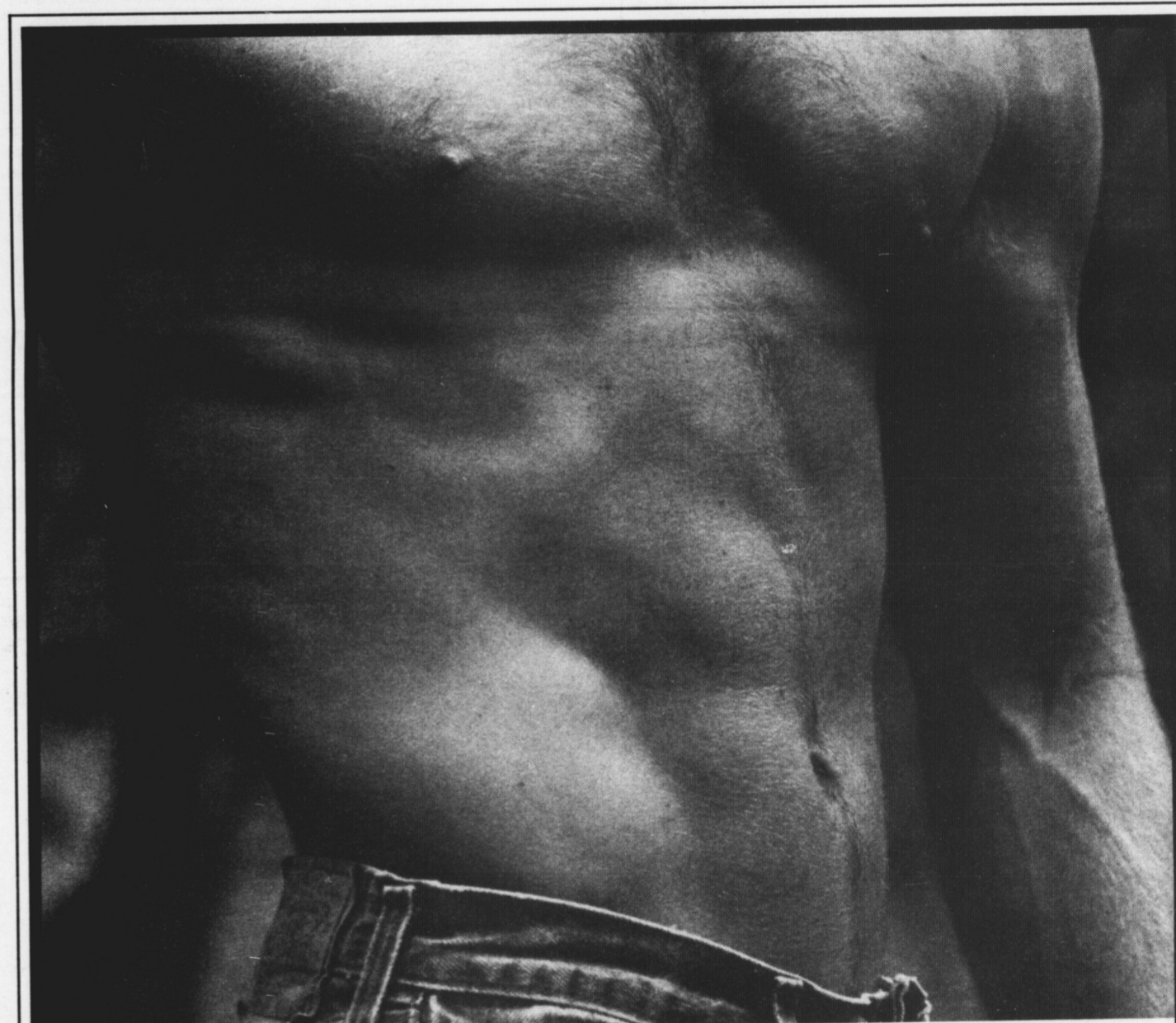
San Francisco Ballet premieres *Rodeo* with music by Aaron Copland and Agnes de Mille's choreography (Photo: Marty Sohl)

Wrangler and Champion Roper are willing to fight over her when they finally see her wearing a dress and ribbon.

*Rodeo* shared a program with *Ballo della Regina*, a hallmark work of Balanchinian neoclassicism, and Canadian choreog-

rapher James Kudelka's *The Comfort Zone*, to Beethoven's Triple Concerto for Piano, Violin and Cello, a satisfying new ballet about which I will have more to say in a future column. This very strong program has been scheduled for a discrete run ending on

Feb. 12 (unlike the other San Francisco Ballet mixed bills, which are typically repeated at intervals throughout the season). It is a program that demonstrates a great deal of what ballet is, and a number of things people never thought it could be.



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## A MAN'S BARBERSHOP

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MOVIES

But 'The Naked Gun' Is A Blast

'Three Fugitives' Is A Crime



Martin Short (left) and Nick Nolte in *Three Fugitives*.

by Ron Larsen

**T**hree *Fugitives*, a tiresome new slapstick comedy with Nick Nolte and Martin Short, is a criminal waste of talent, time, and money—the studio's and the audience's. In an obvious attempt to duplicate the success of *Three Men And A Cradle*, the highest grossing film of 1987, Touchstone Pictures has released a cloying and annoying clone that might just as well have been tagged *Two Men And A Waif*.

Trying to prove that crime pays, particularly when it's

played for laughs and mixed with equal parts of sentiment and schmaltz, French writer-director Francis Veber has remade his own 1986 comedy, *Les Fugitifs* ("The Fugitives"). Predicated on a case of mistaken identity, the plot revolves around a skittish, hopelessly inept amateur bank robber (Short) who completely bungles his first job. When the faint-hearted criminal finds himself surrounded by the police, he panics and takes a hostage (Nolte) in order to ensure his escape. But since Nolte is himself

a notorious ex-con who's just been released from prison after serving a five-year sentence for armed robbery, the police naturally mistake him for the bank robber and Short for the hostage.

The mismatched pair of feuding fugitives manages to elude the police in a high-speed chase through the streets of Tacoma, a scene that plays like Abbott and Costello Meet the Keystone Cops. Then, before you can say, "bring on the waf," the odd couple's plight is further

complicated by the appearance of Short's six-year-old daughter (Sarah Rowland Doroff), an adorable but emotionally traumatized little girl who hasn't spoken a word in two years, since the tragic death of her mother.

Tough guy Nolte is mad as hell at the bumbling Short for entangling him in the crime, and he hates kids, even mute ones, but he soon finds himself a reluctant accomplice in their flight from the law. By the time he's been cleared of any involvement in the bank robbery, Nolte has become so attached to the doe-eyed girl and her hard-luck father that he can't help but play the part of their knight in tarnished armor, despite himself. All very sweet, if patently predictable.

En route to a ridiculously contrived conclusion, *Fugitives'* strange trio of social misfits evolves into a family of sorts. Nolte becomes the take-charge father figure, and Short assumes the role of his put-upon wife, Lucille, replete with frigid wig, frumpy dress, and wobbly heels.

The scenes with Short in drag are hilarious, evoking roars of laughter, and the bank robbery sequence which opens the film is a comic gem. But most of what comes between is a real drag, as director Veber substitutes pratfalls and chases for characterization and plot. The film is further marred by an excessive amount of violence, brutality, and foul language (hence the PG-13 rating), none of which is very funny.

Sitting through this highly manipulative comedy is a little like being held at gunpoint for 90 minutes. *Three Fugitives* is, in

fact, a mistitled work, for it's really about a misguided director who holds an entire audience hostage, refusing to free them until they've laughed at a hundred or so variations on the same theme. Truth is, you're likely to have more fun in a dentist's chair, especially if your dentist uses laughing gas.

But, wait, if pratfalls and sight gags are your bag and you want to see a sure-fire hit riddled with solid laughs from start to finish, forget about *Fugitives* and make haste to *The Naked Gun*. This movie is a blast, and it features some good-natured humor involving gays.

Now playing at the Royal, *Gun* is a rapid-fire fun-fest from director David Zucker, who gave us *Airplane*. This side-splitting spoof of crime capers and action adventures is worth the price of admission just for its unforgettable scene of Leslie Nielsen and Priscilla Presley making love in full-body condoms, the ultimate depiction of "safe sex."

It's a safe bet that while folks facing the tired antics of *Fugitives* will bite the bullet, those confronting *Gun's* points will die laughing. Pick your own poison . . . as always, the choice is yours! ▼

★½  
**Three Fugitives**  
Regency 1 Theatre, Van Ness & Sutter  
Information: 885-6773

★★★  
**The Naked Gun**  
The Royal, Polk near California  
Information: 474-0353

Popovic To Highlight Benefit For AIDS Emergency Fund

Four time Cabaret Gold Award-winner Darlene Popovic will perform a benefit show for the AIDS Emergency Fund at The Galleon Cabaret on Sunday, Feb. 19, at 8 p.m. A popular performer in the Bay Area, Popovic presented an all new one-woman show which won her critical acclaim. Gerald Nachman of the S.F. Chronicle called it, "An act of singular charm, wit, presence and fine songs."

This singer, actress, comic originated many roles in some of the most popular Bay Area revues including the long running musical hit, *Tune The Grand Up*. She also created roles in *Come On an' Hear, Kernels of the Century*, the original *With Relish* and *Mama Parmigiana*.

Popovic is the winner of four Gold Awards each in a

different category, two of which were awarded this past year at the Venetian Room for her one-woman tour-de-force show "Darlene With a 'D'." She was awarded a Gold Award for Outstanding Cabaret Theatre Presentation, a production award and Outstanding Performance in a Cabaret Theatre Presentation. "Darlene With a 'D'" has played in many venues in California and is currently being booked into 1989.

Popovic was a featured performer in the AIDS benefit *In Memory of Loving Friends* held at The Palace of Fine Arts Theater last Oct. 9. The Popovic performance for the AIDS Emergency Fund for one night only, will be held on Sunday, Feb. 19 at 8 p.m. at The Galleon, 718 Church St. at Market. For advance reservations, please call (415) 431-0253. All seats are \$6. ▼

Women's Writing Workshop Set For August

PORTLAND, OR—Flight of the Mind announced it will hold its sixth annual summer writing workshop for women on Aug. 13-20, led this year by Ursula LeGuin (fiction), Evelyn C. White (nonfiction), Judith Barrington (poetry), and Carlette Wilson and Theresa Clark (sound/word collaboration).

The workshop will be held at a retreat center on the McKenzie River in the foothills of the Oregon Cascade Mountains. The registration fee of \$425 includes tuition, full board and lodging in a room of your own. Scholarships are available and college credit can be arranged. For a brochure send a 25 cent stamp (not a stamped envelope) to: Flight of the Mind, 622 S.E. 29th, Portland, OR 97214. ▼

'Frontline' Examines The Life of a Polk St. Hustler

TELEVISION NOTES

On the morning of Dec. 29, 1987, 19-year-old Iain Brown was found hanging from the rafters of his family's garage in Walnut Creek, California, just another of the thousands of teenagers who committed suicide that year.

Iain was also one of what has been called "America's lost tribe"—teenage runaways. Today, over a million runaways live on the streets of our major cities trying to survive in a world of prostitution and drugs. More than 5,000 a year end up in unmarked graves.

Frontline with Judy Woodruff profiles Iain Brown's story in "Children of the Night" airing Tuesday, February 14, at 9 p.m. on KQED, examining why, at 13, he left the comfortable world of his middle-class family in Walnut Creek for the life of a male hustler on San Francisco's Polk Street and Los Angeles's Santa Monica Boulevard.

"I've gone off with a guy that told me I looked like his son," said Iain in one interview. "It just freaked me out. How could they be married and have children and then come and pick up a child like me on the streets and buy him for an hour? I just couldn't ever understand that."

For the next five years, Iain drifted between life on the streets and his home in Walnut Creek. But his immersion into the world of male prostitution and drugs made it impossible for him to go back to a normal life in suburban California. After more than five years on the streets, Iain ended the cycle by taking his own life.

He left behind a remarkable account of his world, partly recorded in an earlier documentary *Telles* produced for San Francisco's KQED-TV and in hours of audiotaped interviews Iain recorded with neighbor Bill McIntosh before Iain's suicide. According to McIntosh, Iain wanted "to tell the real story of what he had been through."

To the runaways on San Francisco's Polk Street, Iain "was a big brother," one of them recalls, "someone you could talk to when you had a problem." Playing father to his street family was a role Iain relished, whether caring for his friend Beto after a client assaulted

4 Lesbian AIDS Activists To Appear At Different Light

Four of the contributors to the landmark AIDS anthology *AIDS: The Women*, a collection by women from 12 countries whose lives have been irrevocably changed by the disease, appear Thursday, Feb. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St.

Louise Rafkin (*Blood Ties: A Family Keeps Its Secrets*), Cheri Pies (*Insemination: Something More To Consider*), Deborah Stone (*Lesbians Discuss Their Role*) and Lea Sanchez (*You Have To Know Street Talk*) discuss their individual chapters and, along with co-editor Patricia Ruppelt, the impact of the book as a whole.

Contributors include women who have cared for husbands, brothers, lovers, friends and children; women who work in the sex industry; lesbian AIDS activists who are educating their communities; women in the health care professions.

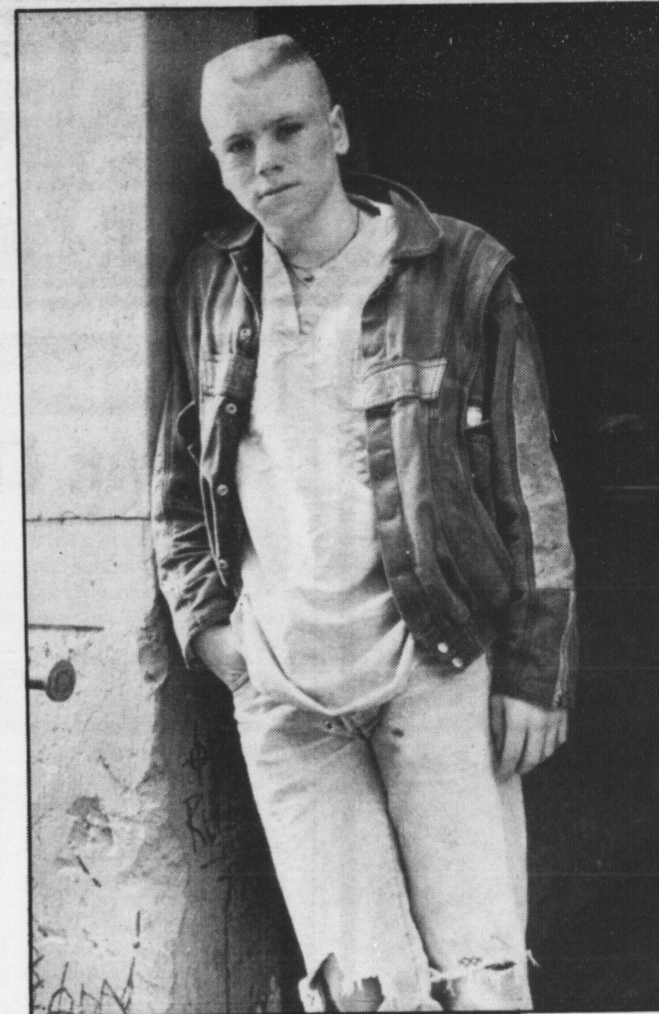
For information, call Richard, 431-0891.

him with a tire iron, or consoling a friend when he learns that his pregnant teenaged girlfriend has just had a miscarriage.

"Iain's story," says Frontline executive producer David Fanning, "examines the dark heart of the growing national problem of teenage runaways and teenage suicide. This documentary addresses the hard question of why these kids run away and why they stay on the streets where they are so easily victimized."

Another show of some note for gay and lesbian audiences will be Friday's *Geraldo* show on KRON-TV at 9 a.m. One of the guests is Tony Feliz, a former Mormon bishop now out of the closet and living in San Francisco. Feliz, the author of *Out of the Bishop's Closet*, complains however that *Geraldo Rivera's* show is anything but informative.

"We were talking about gay men and coming out at a later age," said Feliz, "but he (Rivera) didn't want to talk about where men could go to deal with their understanding of their homosexuality. He wanted to go into the sleazy and sordid side of their experiences." ▼



Iain Brown (Photo: Karen Heilman)

'Torch Song' Soundtrack Album Now On Sale

NEW YORK—The original soundtrack *Torch Song Trilogy*, the New Line Cinema/Paul Bogart Film adaption of Harvey Fierstein's Tony Award-winning play starring Anne Bancroft, Matthew Broderick and Harvey Fierstein, was released on Jan. 23 by Polydor/Polygram Records.

The album features jazz classics from an all-star list of artists, including Billie Holiday singing "What's New?" and "But Not For Me," Joe Williams and Count Basie singing "S Wonderful," Bill Evans' live version of "I Loves You Porgy," plus performances by Marilyn Scott (her rendition of "Skylark" is the LP's first single), Anita O'Day, and the Charlie Haden Quartet West. Harvey Fierstein, the show's creator, also sings two songs.

The film had its world premiere Dec. 5, 1988 at Avery Fisher Hall, and officially opened in New York and Los Angeles Dec. 14. It will see a wide release concurrently with the in-store date of the soundtrack.

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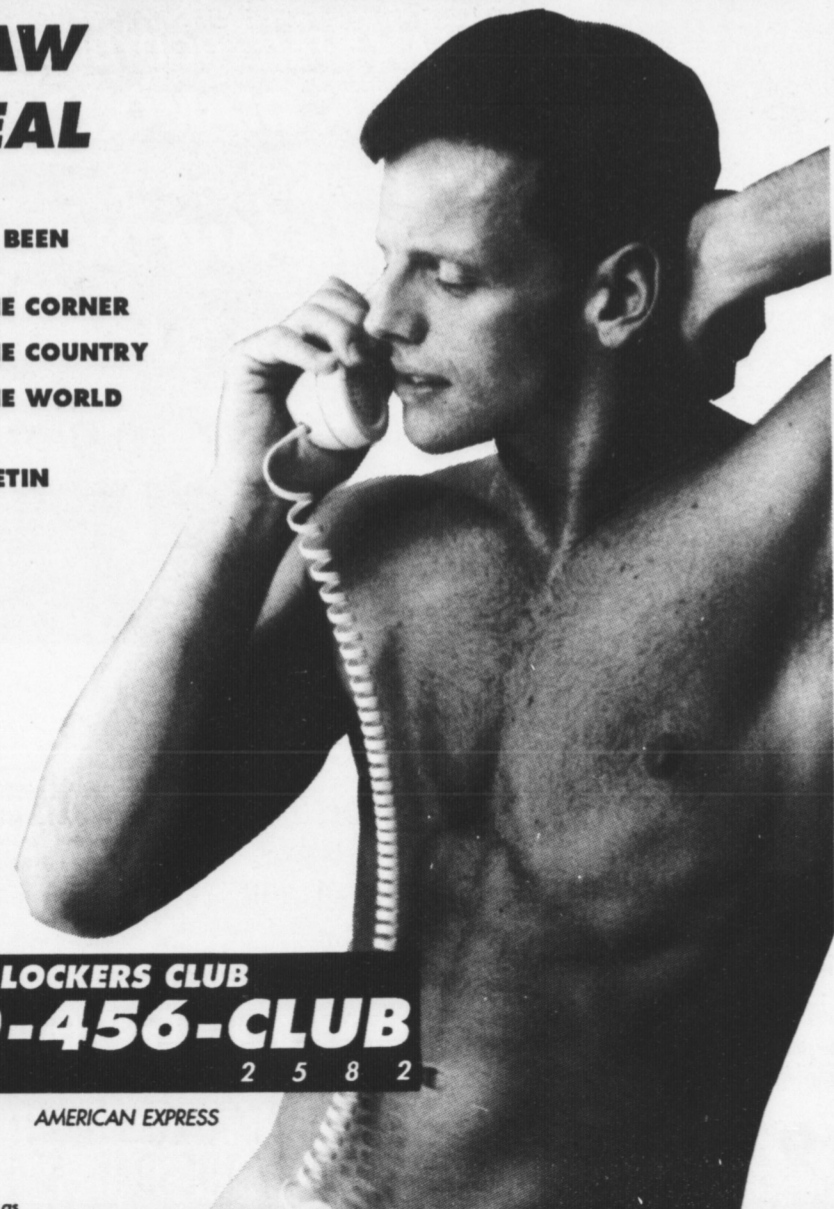
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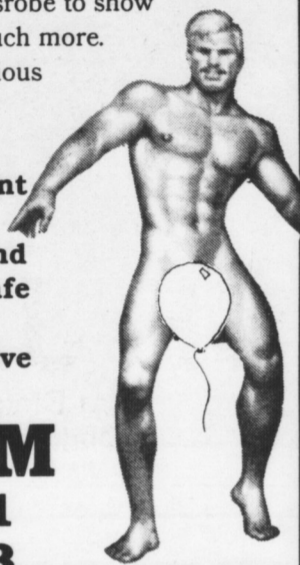
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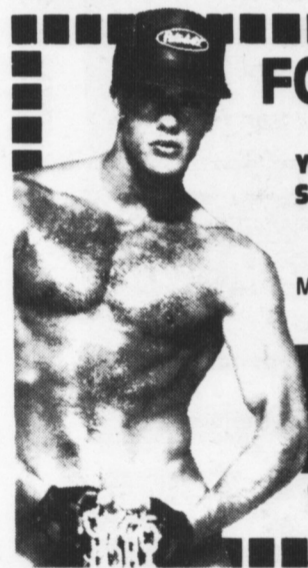
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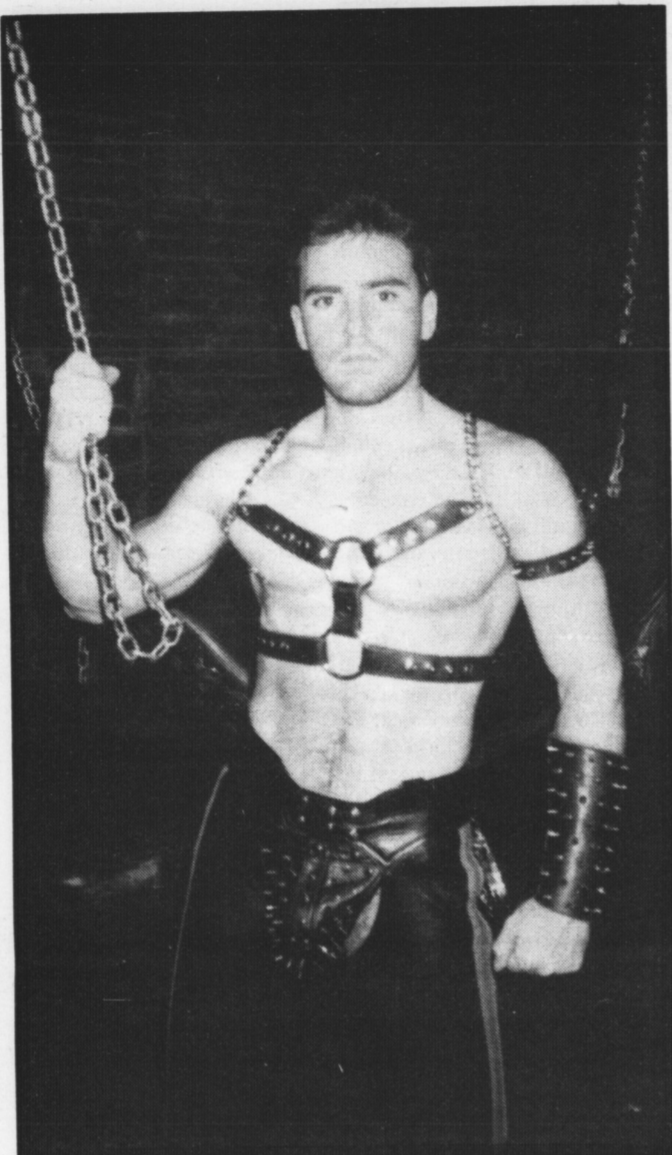
Collectors will want to know about the dazzling new photo sets now available of the startlingly goodlooking Ron Zehel, the current Mr. Drummer. In an effort to support various AIDS agencies as well as help finance the numerous demands of holding the title, five sets of Mr. Drummer in color are now available to the public. The frosting on the cake is that almost all of them portray leatherdom's newest icon au naturel!

The five sets: RZ201 Hot Leather Shots; RZ202 More in Leather; RZ203 Ron's Leather and Play Room; RZ204 Jock Strap Stud and RZ205 Mr. Drummer J/O Fantasy are available for \$15 which includes 10 photos in color. There's a \$2 postage fee for the 1st set and an additional \$1 per additional set. If you live in Ohio, add 5½ percent tax.

You can get them by writing to Ron Zehel, P.O. Box 16254, Columbus, OH 43216. And yes, make your check payable to Ron Zehel. For international orders, write to the address above for the rates. Mr. Drummer will be in San Francisco a couple of times later this year and he'll be 21 in November. I'll be sure to let you know before he arrives!

It was bussyy around ye olde campus last week, I tell you. The search for Mr. Watering Hole Leather got off to a start on Wednesday night. While there were only three contestants for the first heat, the enthusiasm was there and the judges were astute and concise in their questioning. In the end, a 29-year old Sagittarius man, notorious in many ways on the Leather Strip, grabbed the 1st heat.

His name is Bill Southard, a tall, lean macho man with a great sense of humor and an acute awareness of the South of Market tradition(s) for his 29 years. Bill will compete for the grand title



Mr. Drummer '88-'89 Ron Zehel

on Saturday, Feb. 25. In the meantime, the next heat is Wed., Feb. 15, at 2100. There was another heat last night, but due to my deadline, the results will be announced next week. Drop in and catch the action, or better yet, join the competition!

The emperor/empress campaign is in full swing too, and the candidates are out and trying to get your vote. Remember, the voting takes place on Saturday, Feb. 18, at the San Franciscan Hotel and the coronation is on Saturday, Feb. 25.

The California Eagles MC had their 5th Anniversary party at the S.F. Eagle on Saturday, Feb. 4, and a big crowd was on hand, despite the cold weather, to savor in the lavish buffet and toast a little bubbly to the club. Danny Williams did a repeat of last year's diatribe with intimate details of faux pas (plural) of the



The Cal Eagles M/C hoist champagne to celebrate their recent 5th anniversary at the S.F. Eagle (Photo: Marcus)



President (c.) Hal Massey with the new officers of the Cal Eagles M/C at their Fifth Anniversary party last Saturday night. (Photo: Marcus)

various members, the most notable ones being Paul Ciancolo bringing a "vanilla" flavor to the club; Manuel Marin being the Vanna White of the Sunday beer busts; John Janeczko being the only resident of Rhingold Alley with a sign that reads "Please Pee In the Doorway." John, in spite of his advanced age, still has yet to realize that "real" men don't use the word "Pee"; Michael Sichi's impersonation of a GDI member; Keith Bishop's agonizing wait to be the Club Bottom; David Haldine's "called into work sick (he's an ambulance corpsman), then got into a bike accident, and ended up in the hands of all his co-workers who wondered what he was doing on a bike in the rain when he broke his ankle."

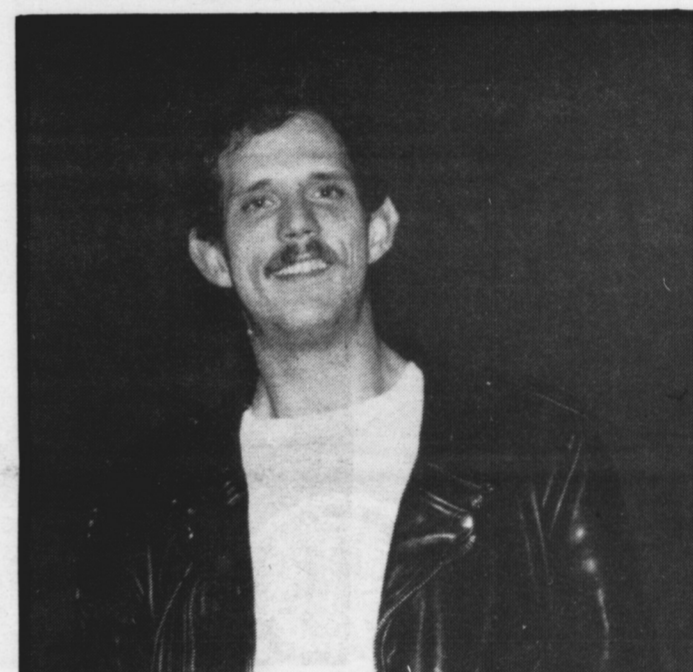
The biggest laugh-getter was the revelation of the "real" names of club members Sky Renfro and Shadow Morton. Sky was Pamela and Shadow was Rhonda! Blame all this on Bruce Wright, the club nookie-bookie. It was great fun and congratulations to the new officers: Prez Hal Massey; Veev Dave Meeker; Treasurer (reelected) Rod Pearson; Road Captain Jim Cahill; Recording Secretary Bill Hollabaugh and my personal interest Corresponding Secretary Butch Husted. The Master-Arms is Kevin Roddy, star of his lover's forthcoming play, "Two Bottoms In Search of a Top."

Later on Saturday night, the Bear on Castro hosted the finals of their month-long search for Mr. Bear Leather. The winner will compete in the Mr. Leather of SF Contest on April 7 at the Eagle. Three fine contestants faced judges Tom Rodgers, Zach Long and Mr. No. California Drummer Jim Kahl appeared onstage three times and all gave very enlightening, encouraging and entertaining speeches. The scoring was close and in the final of it all, John Caldera took the title and will represent the Bear. The crowd was polite and attentive, gave the right amount of applause and you would too if you had Serena and Jay serving you all evening. Serena is hot!

Sunday, it was cooold! Everyone was bundled up (and looking butch with clothes on for a change). The bowling dudes had a great crowd for their beer bust and Mel Garcia was supervising the whole thing while the chairman was chasing a man from Walnut Creek all afternoon. The new owner of the Bob Damron Guide Book, Dan Delbex, showed up with his coverman for the 1989 edition, a 27-year-old hunk

from Atlanta who was the 1st runner-up in the Mr. Hotlanta Contest a few months ago. When Stella (about to embark for Tijuana) saw the dude, he screamed: "If he's the runner-up, what

did the winner look like?! That hot man will be back in town later this year and believe me, I'll make sure you meet him! I hope it's warmed up by the time you read this! (Continued on next page)



Bill Southard won the first round in the Watering Hole's Mr. Leather Contest. (Photo: Marcus)

Happy Birthday, Alan Selby!

... 39 again?

Love, Bill

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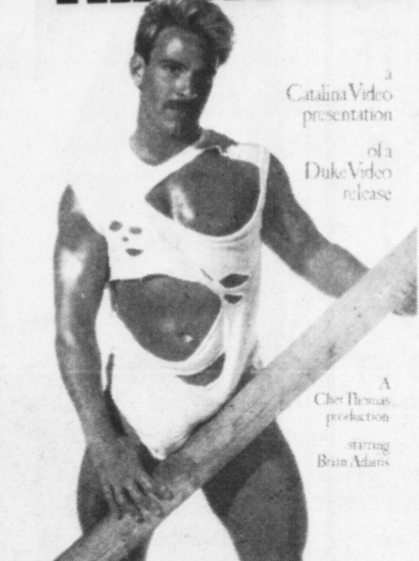
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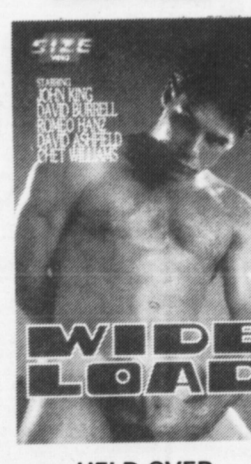
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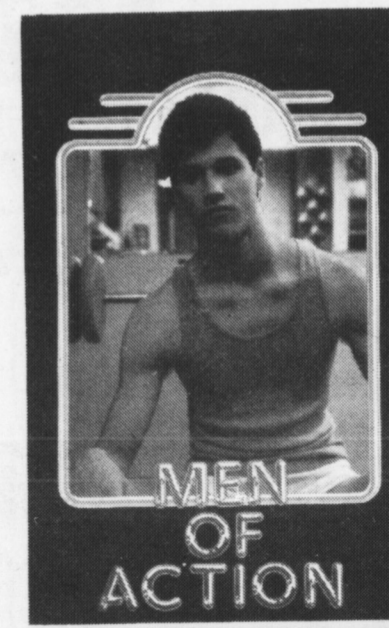
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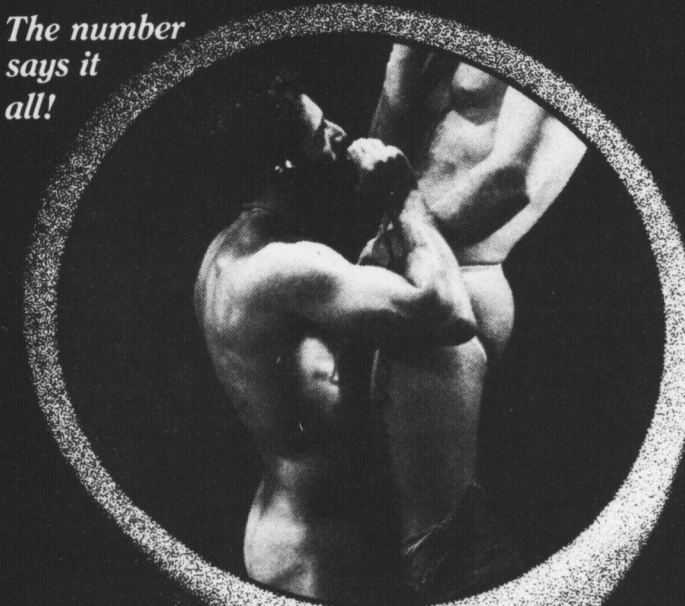
# Marcus

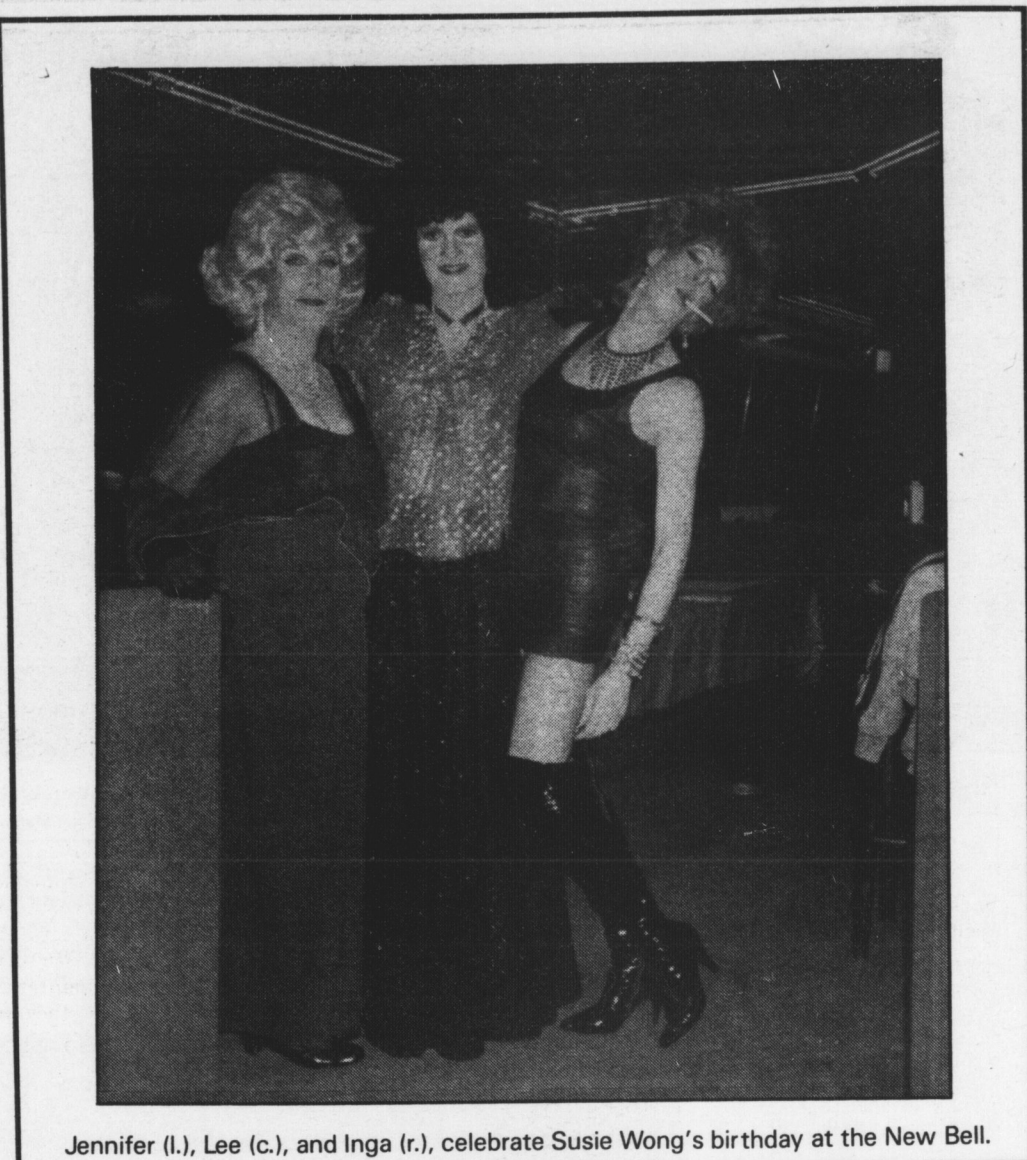
(Continued from previous page)

What's up this week and if it's cold you hope it's inside? Tonight, Feb. 9, they're looking for Mr. Feb. 1990 on the Bare Chest Calendar at the Eagle. The action starts at 2200 and John (Balloon Man) Hedges will definitely be there as a judge along with Nina, Ms. S.F. Leather. Pump up your peccs and participate! Tonight too,

Danny Williams will be the Guest Caller at the Bingo parlor (Holy Redeemer Church) beginning at 1900 hours. Expect pure bedlam for this one! Ray Herman is all aglow about this turn of events. They're calling Danny the Irene Soldenberg of the Bingo set. Friday, former Grand Duke Tom Roller and his committee are having a lavish buffet for Phoebe Planters at the Eagle from 2000 on; Saturday, Alan Selby (happy birthday!) celebrates his latest year on earth from 1800-2000 and wants no gifts!

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Jennifer (l.), Lee (c.), and Inga (r.), celebrate Susie Wong's birthday at the New Bell.

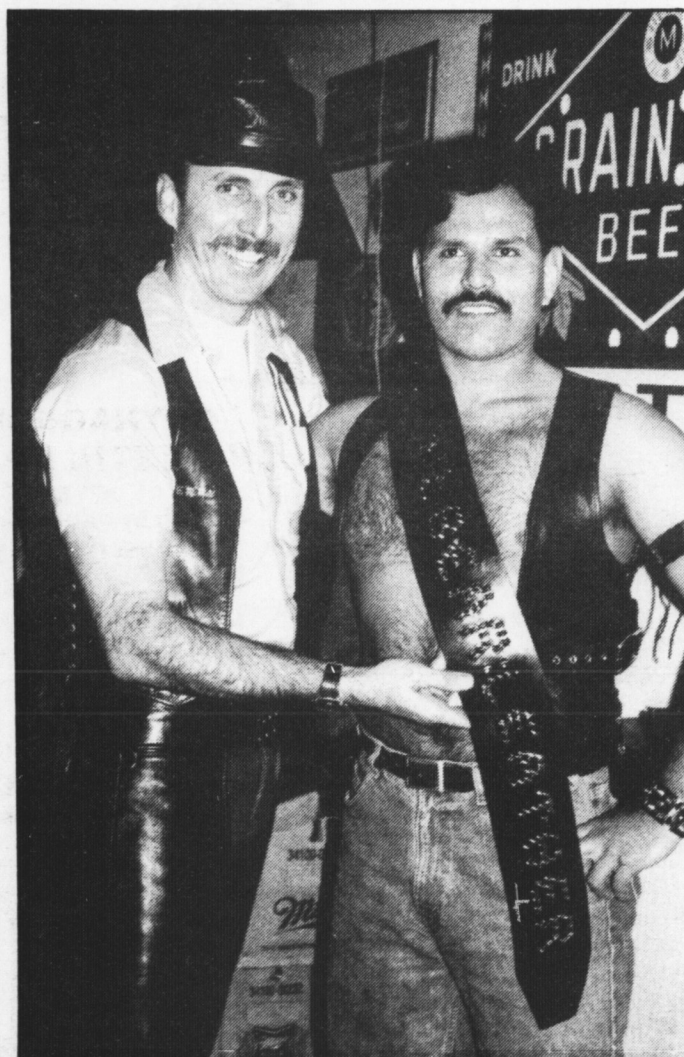
Well! Saturday, Feb. 12, the newly formed San Jose leather club SLUC is having a Beer Bust at Club St. John from 1800-2100 for a mere \$6 to benefit the San Jose Leather Daddy and Daddy's Boy contest to be held on Sunday, Feb. 26 with IML Mike Pereyra MC'ing. More on that later.

The big used leather auction is Sunday at the Eagle by the Castro Lions Club, a benefit for the Peter Claver AIDS/ARC Residence and Open Hand Endowment Fund. The action is at 1500 through 1800 for a beer bust at \$8 with food. Good bargains at this one!

Sunday, Amelia's cautions that all pets must be leashed—repeat—leashed at the Human Pet Show beginning at 2100 for only \$6 to benefit Intl MS Leather. Prizes for best pet and best trick, er, uh, Pet Trick! This sounds wild! Those leather women are really into S&M! I



GDI "Man of the Year," Bill Ireton, with the flashy Emperor Steve Rascher. (Photo: Rink)



Jerry Dowling (left), the Bear manager, places the Mr. Bear Leather Sash on winner John Caldera, who will compete in Mr. Leather of S.F. Contest in April. (Photo: Marcus)



Jim Cahill, outgoing Cal Eagles M/C President, introduces Ms S.F. Leather Nina. (Photo: Marcus)

presume men pets are welcome, right Sky? I can't wait!

Sunday night too, Ito Curata presents the 2nd Annual World's Beauty Quest '89 contest at the Holiday Inn (Van Ness at Clay) at 1900, tickets are \$20 with some 25 contestants already. Desiree and her Man will perform! You can also get sketched at the Gay Men's Sketch Club from 1300-1700. Call Mark at 621-6294 for all the details. If that isn't enough or too tough, check out Le Salon's newest release. It's called "Men of Action II" and is a non-stop from beginning to end, series of hot dudes "doing their thing." Well photographed; imaginative scenes, well done—don't miss this one! Available at your favorite video store or direct from Le Salon's great mail order outlet.

**YOU'RE SO VAIN**  
(It'll Bet You Thought This Dish Was About You!)

Biggest topic of conversation around Folsom environs this weekend is about that certain elder statesman of the biker/leather world who espied a very hot man at the S.F. Eagle two Saturdays ago; great physique, tall, hairy chest, good looks, genuine, knowledgeable about leather, S&M, bikes, etc. etc. When said elder statesman succeeded in convincing this chap that they must "bond" so to speak, it happened, but WOW! The "hot dude" turned out to be a woman! A woman going through a sex change! Prudence and respect restrict my naming the person(s) involved, but does this mean that from now on when making a prospective cruise you'll be bound to asking the ob-

ject of your lust, "Are you a woman or a man???" Only in Faghdad-by-the-Bay!

I wouldn't say this emperor/empress campaign is any more vicious than some we've had in the past, but I would call it a

questionable action when a former emperor goes into one of the candidates' place of work wearing a button that says "Anybody but..." While some of our previous emperor/empress incumbents truly felt they were

royalty, this is not the case. It's supposed to be "camp" and "hard work"—shall we cut out the vicious bitchiness, gentlemen? If you don't like any of the candidates—simple—just don't vote for them. Use your "hate" energy in another productive outlet!

Memo for those two dudes who bought that "haunted gay house" up on Duncan St. Good news, I've found an exorcist for you! Contact me when you return from Puerto Rico. By the way, the

exorcist is a very hot man. He'll scare the hell out of your ghost(s)! Final item: Hero is not closing Hero is not going straight. Gus Bean is going to promote Hero's early hours (2100-0200) starting Feb. 18th. The dynamic John Sex will perform live on Feb. 25. Steve Fabus continues to turn you on as DJ at Hero. There will be a "Red Party" on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Black Party is coming later this year! 'Nuff said!

'Til next week then, live, love and laugh—but do it in leather!



A GDI Miguel Award, "honorably GDI," for Lee Raymond. (Photo: Rink)

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**Symphony Presents Isaac Stern At Davies Hall**

The San Francisco Symphony (SFS) will present violinist Isaac Stern in recital as part of the 1988-89 Merrill Lynch Great Performers Series at 8:30 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 12 in Davies Symphony Hall. Pianist Robert McDonald performs with Mr. Stern in a program which includes Bach's Sonata in E major, BWV 1016; Enesco's Sonata No. 3 in A minor, Op. 25; Bartok's Rhapsody No. 1; and Beethoven's Sonata in C minor, Op. 30, No. 2.

Tickets for the Feb. 12 concert are priced from \$10 to \$36 and are available through the SFS Box Office at (415) 431-5400, and all major ticket agencies. For further information, please call the SFS at (415) 431-5400.

## Encouraging News, Positive Images

Meanderings on a sunny morning: There have been a number of encouraging stories that address gay issues in the news recently. One of them took place right in Our Town on the corner of Castro and Market two weeks ago.

Kudos and back pats to Dennis Combs and Doug Young who thwarted an attempted gay-bashing on the 24-Divisadero bus by macing one of the attackers and forcing the driver to stop the bus. They were assisted by a group of gays on the sidewalk who blew whistles and surrounded the vehicle until the police arrived.

According to Young, "When they arrested those guys everybody burst into applause. It was good old fashioned gay power that I haven't experienced in years." We can make a difference!

At the University of California in Berkeley, the administration is considering a proposal by the Associated Students which would recognize gay couples as a family unit, thereby making them eligible for family housing. Since the state of California does not yet recognize gay couples as

legally married this proposal, if accepted, could be a real trend setter.

Also setting the trend for major changes in Our Town is Sup. Harry Britt who is sponsoring a law that will define domestic partners and set up a government process to create and dissolve such partnerships. Matt Coles, an attorney with the ACLU, is the primary author of the law which includes amendments to city laws which dignify and validate the relationships. This is an extremely important piece of legislation that will directly affect us all, and I encourage everyone to support its passage.

Hearings on the domestic partnership proposal will be held by the mayor's Human Rights Commission. As you may recall, the mayor's appointment of Fr. Peter Sammon to this commission recently came under fire from several gay political clubs and gay religious leaders. From what I've read in the gay press and heard during debates on the issue, no one seems to be familiar with Fr. Sammon's view on human rights or his history of activism in the Bay Area.



Harry Britt

Opposition to his appointment has been made on the sole fact that he is a Roman Catholic priest and then an assumption has been made that he is incapable of upholding the commission because he is bound by his Catholic beliefs to restrict his views on homosexuality to those expressed by Cardinal Ratzinger

and the Vatican. Should it then be assumed that no Catholics whatsoever should be appointed to the Human Rights Commission because they, too, must follow the teachings of Cardinal Ratzinger that homosexuality is an inherent disorder? Even if they have expressed views to the contrary?

Community leaders who have shown a deep commitment to human rights for all people should be appointed to represent the concerns of a significant cross-section of the city. Gay community leaders have been and should continue to be included in those appointments regardless of their religious convictions.

The appointment of Roman Catholic Archbishop John Quinn to the mayor's AIDS panel has also come under attack by these same groups. Yet in the archbishop's case, he has repeatedly shown a history of actions against the gay community including his opposition to the domestic partnership legislation in 1982, and his recent expulsion of the gay Catholic group, Dignity, from St. Boniface Church.

At a time when increasing numbers of people with AIDS are turning to religious leaders for comfort and solace, Quinn blatantly closes the door on our rapidly changing community.

Rev. Robert Cromey, pastor of Trinity Episcopal Church in San Francisco addressed Quinn's actions during an interview on KQED radio last month.

He said, "It's a matter of compassion, of caring for people... community standards change. What the homosexual community is saying is the standard is going to change and must change. Homosexual sex is a natural, normal part of God's plan, and it's a natural, normal gift from God to human beings. We've got to be able to see that that's what is going to come. People don't want to hear that message, but that's in fact, what the change is going to look like."

Archbishop Quinn has chosen not to consider our changing community standards in his decision-making process, and on that basis we should continue to question his authority on issues that directly affect us such as the mayor's AIDS panel.

Oh, yes. I was talking about positive images in the news. Well, how about the image of Lyndon LaRouche behind bars? Yes, I like that one, too. He was sentenced

last week to 15 years in prison for illegal fundraising activities. Good riddance to bad rubbish as my family unit used to say!

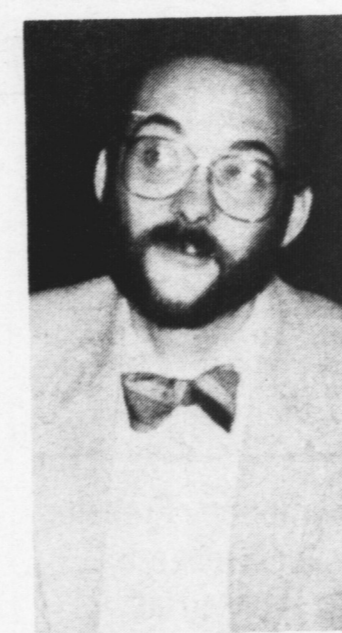
In Minnesota, Karen Thompson has been battling for her lover, Sharon Kowalski, to receive communication and rehabilitation therapy since 1984. Kowalski was severely injured in an auto accident in 1983 and was then placed in a nursing home by her father where she received minimal care and Thompson was refused visitation rights. Now the case seems to be near a major breakthrough. According to a recent court order, Kowalski was scheduled to be moved to the Miller-Dawn Medical Center in Duluth.

The National Committee to Free Sharon Kowalski is still in need of funds to continue the long legal battle for Sharon's freedom. Donations may be sent to the National Committee at 1725 17th St. N.W. Room 515, Washington, D.C. 20009.

Events coming up this week include another gay/lesbian video on Frameline Presents. This week's program features "Kim," one of the highlights of last year's Gay/Lesbian Film Festival. That's Thursday night at 8 p.m. on Viacom channel 25.

On Saturday, Feb. 11 at 8 p.m. the Bay Area Women's Philharmonic will present a must see/hear performance of Black female composers at the First Congregational Church, Post and Mason Streets. Tickets are available at all BASS outlets or by phone at (415) 626-4888. Free childcare will be provided.

Also on Saturday night something with a little leather and lace, perhaps? Code Blue's Valentine Extravaganza begins at 9 p.m. 1484 Market Street at Van Ness.



Matt Coles (Photo: Rink)

Sunday you can enjoy Fruit of the Womb II: Luscious Wet—an erotic Valentine at Modern Times Bookstore with candlelight, fruit, and lesbian erotica by Stephanie Henderson at 7 p.m. 968 Valencia St., S.F.



And, as always, there's just one more thing: Happy Valentine's Day to Everyone and especially Happy Anniversary to Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon.

## Taylor Lauds 'Spectacular Response' To L.A.'s 'Art Against AIDS' Project

LOS ANGELES—Elizabeth Taylor, national chair of the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR), recently announced "spectacular response" to the launch of the national "Art Against AIDS" campaign scheduled for Dec. 14 in Los Angeles.

Said Taylor, "Over \$250,000 has already been raised in Los Angeles. This is an expression both of the generosity of the people of Los Angeles and, also, the hard work of leading citizens serving as Art Against AIDS campaign co-chairs, including Edythe and Eli Broad, Jane and Michael Eisner, Susie and Ted Field, David Geffen, Ariadne Getty, Dr. Armand Hammer,

David Murdock, and artists committee co-chairs David Hockney and Sam Francis."

The Art Against AIDS exhibition opening reception—on Dec. 14 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Murray Feldman Gallery of the Pacific Design Center, 8687 Melrose Ave. in West Hollywood—will be the first in a six-week series of events to benefit both AmFAR and AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA). A dance party at Studio One will follow the gala reception.

Both sponsoring organizations expect the Los Angeles campaign will raise in excess of \$1.5 million for urgently needed patient care, research, and education programs.

As a result of the promising initial response, the previously announced gala dinner to be held at Greenacres (the Beverly Hills estate of Susan and Ted Field) will culminate the Art Against AIDS effort and has been rescheduled to Jan. 29, 1989, to maximize the fundraising effort.

The response from the art community has been equally impressive, with major works contributed by artists committee co-chairs David Hockney and Sam Francis, as well as such important modern and contemporary masters as Charles Arnould, Don Bachardy, John Baldessari, Larry Bell, Tony Berlant, Cindy Bernard, Chris Burden, Judy Coleman, Ron Cooper, Mary Corse, Lavi Daviel, Laddie John Dill, Viola Frey, Charles Garabedian, Frank O. Gehry, Jill Giegerich, Joe Goode, Gronk, George Hurrell, Dennis Hopper, George Herms, Barbara Kasten, Mike Kelley, Laura Lasworth, Mark Lere, Duane Michals, John Mil-Ed, Ed Moses, Sabina Ott, Eric Orr, Herb Ritts, James Rosen-

quist, Erika Rothenberg, Ed Ruscha, Betye Saar, Peter Shire, Masami Teraoka, Jeffrey Valance, Nick Wilder, and Tom Wudl.

A separate events committee has also been formed, headed by co-chairs Lynda Palevsky and Joan Nicholas. A newly created benefit committee now includes Tina Chow, George Christy, Keith Reichard and Anne Livet of the Rogers and Lisa Specht, Veronique and Gregory Peck, Earl A. Powell, Audrey and Billy Wilder, and Los Angeles City Council member Joel Wachs, among others.

Others involved in the campaign include Steve Tisch, Andrew Klink, and Wendy Stark, co-chairs of the entertainment committee; Stanley and Elyse Grinstein, Linda and Bob Gersh, and Ann and Edwin Janss, co-chairs of the collectors committee; Margo Leavin and James Corcoran, owners of prominent galleries bearing their names, who are serving as co-chairs of the galleries committee; and

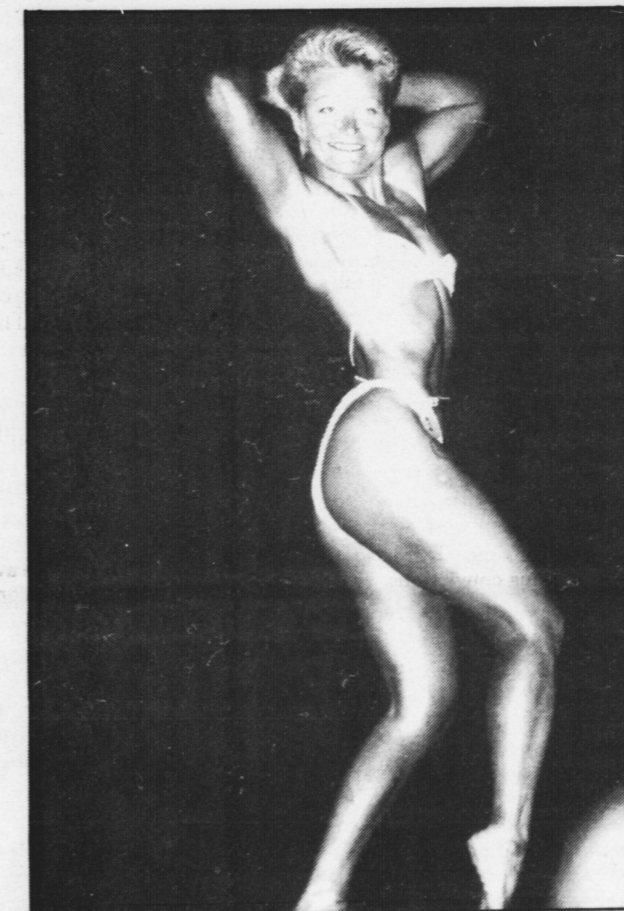
Wendy Brandow and Harold Hutatas, co-chairs of the exhibition committee.

Art Against AIDS represents a major commitment by artists and cultural and business leaders to work together to raise funds urgently needed to fight AIDS. The campaign, sponsored by AmFAR in four cities across the U.S., will benefit AmFAR as well as local AIDS organizations, providing funds for patient care and services, education, and research.

Art Against AIDS was conceived and organized by Stephen Reichard and Anne Livet of the Livet Reichard Company, Inc., in association with Susan Martin of Susan Martin Public Relations, both based in New York City. Last year's Art Against AIDS events in New York raised more than \$2.5 million.



## Bodybuilding Workshop



Dianne Aaronson

Gay Games and Physique '88 medal winners Joe Tolbe, Jessie Bigford, Dianne Aaronson and Phill Barber will conduct a workshop designed to train the serious bodybuilder through a five month contest preparation process that will lead up to Physique '89. With this once a month workshop, the serious bodybuilder will be instructed on proper nutrition, posing, stress management and techniques with free weights and machines. She/he will receive individual attention.

Co-sponsored by the Arcadia Bodybuilding Society (producers of Physique '87 and '88) and the Market Street Gym, the first Bodybuilding Workshop will be held on Sunday, Feb. 19, at the Market Street Gym (2301 Market) at 7:30 p.m.

Workshops cost five dollars to the general public, three dollars to ABS members. Class size is limited to 30. Advance tickets are available at the Market Street Gym. The workshop is open to all women and men athletes and bodybuilding trainers.

The board of directors of the Arcadia Bodybuilding Society are proud to announce that Physique '89 (National Gay and Lesbian Bodybuilding Championships) will be held at the

Palace of Fine Arts on Saturday, June 14—the day before the Gay Freedom Day Parade. By making this change to a comfortable thousand seat theatre the ABS organizers promise a bigger and better show with bodybuilding athletes from all over the world.

Like last year, the competition categories include men and women bantamweight through heavyweight; master and elite classes for athletes 40 to 50; 50 to 60; and 60 on up. Also same-sex pairs, and mixed pairs.

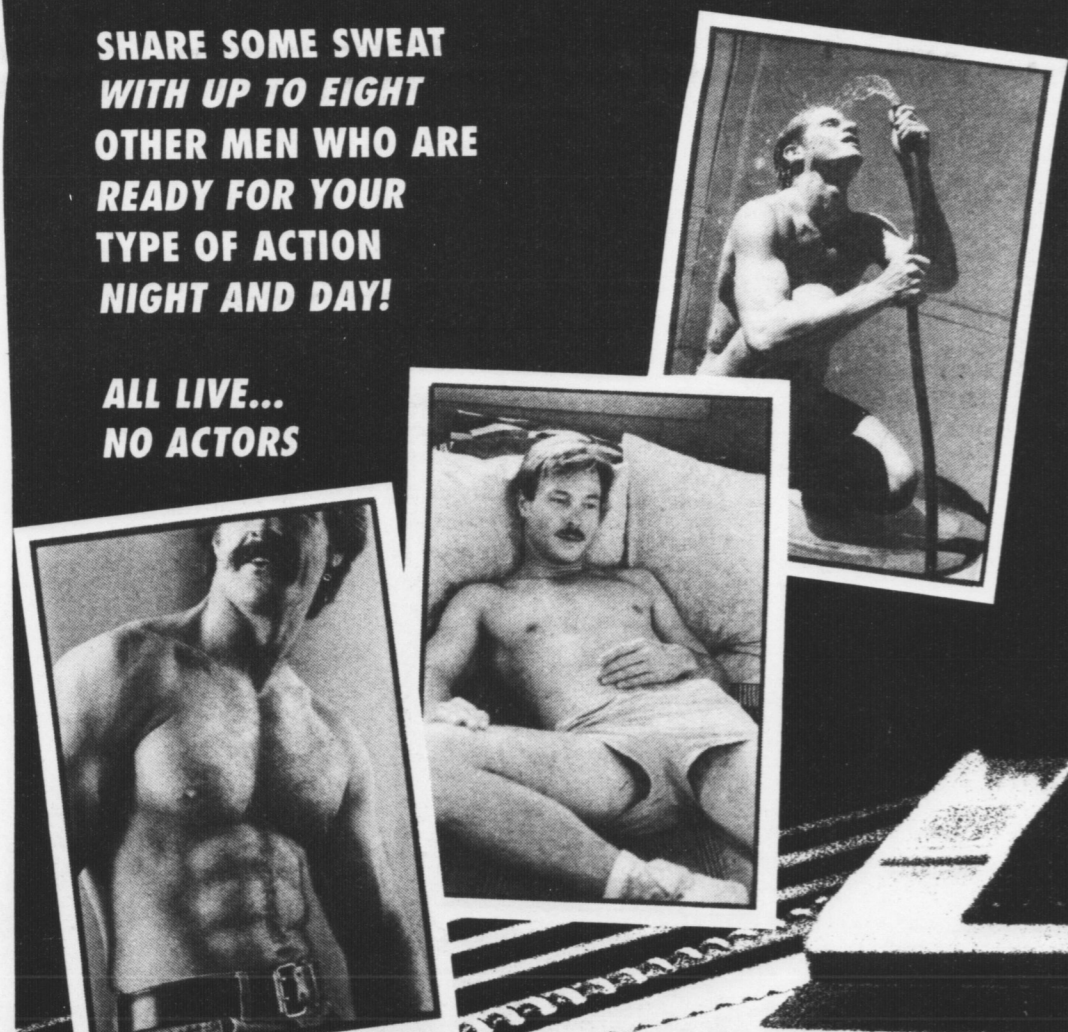
Arcadia Bodybuilding Society (ABS) is a non-profit membership organization dedicated to the education, appreciation and promotion of the sport of bodybuilding, with the focus on gay women and men. Membership is open to any interested individuals for \$10. ABS is committed to providing financial support to all ABS bodybuilding members that plan to attend the 1990 Gay Games in Vancouver.

For an informational brochure on ABS and the National Gay and Lesbian Bodybuilding Championships write: Arcadia Bodybuilding Society, Inc. 1445A Market St., Suite 221, San Francisco, CA 94103, or phone George at 431-6254.

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Saturday/Feb. 18/3-5 p.m.

New York novelist David Feinberg reads from and autographs *Eighty-Sixed*, hailed as "a rollicking, risky ride, sharply depicting the resiliency gays have shown in the face of catastrophe."



Sat./Feb. 18/1-3 p.m.

Artist Doug Simonon (Hawaii) discusses his work—and demonstrates his technique first-hand by working on a painting while customers watch.

Sun./Feb. 19/1-3 p.m.

Tea Corinne, author of the bestseller *Dreams Of The Woman Who Loved Sex*, signs her book and reads from new and published work.

Later This Month: Feb. 25, 1 p.m., George Melton and Wil Garcia (Beyond AIDS); Feb. 26, 3 p.m., Daniel Curzon (Curzon in Love); Feb. 26, 7 p.m., Karla Jay (The Amazon and The Page); Mar. 4, 3 p.m., David Leavitt (Equal Affections).

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# THIS WEEK



## FRIDAY 10

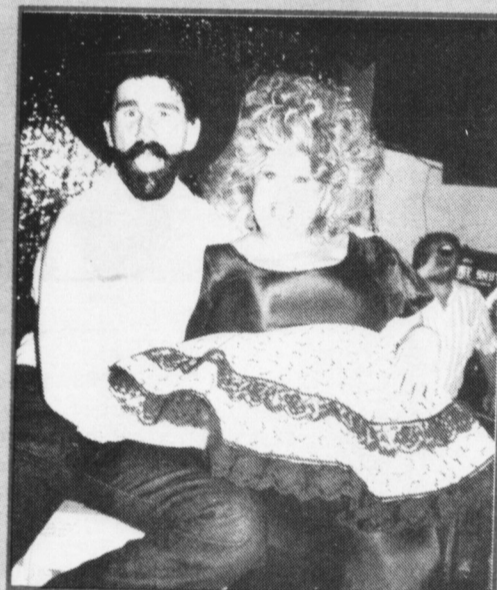
- **Oresteia:** An adaptation of Aeschylus runs through Feb. 26 at the Julian Theatre, 777 Valencia St. At ticket outlets and at box office. Call 626-8987.
- **Kennel Club:** SEA HAGS and Verbal Abuse at 10 p.m. at 628 Divisadero. \$4.
- **Cycling:** Different Spokes and S.F. Bicycle Club sponsor gay and lesbian weekend recreational rides and touring for all levels. Call 771-0677 for information.
- **Bar None:** The audience interactive mystery plays Thursday and Friday evenings at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Zephyr Theatre, 25 Van Ness. Call 861-6895.
- **Entertaining Mr. Sloane:** The Joe Orton comedy is presented by the Island Players, 900 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, and runs through March 4. For reservations call 521-6965.
- **Remember My Name:** A play about the AIDS Quilt, runs through Feb. 19 at the Zephyr Theatre, 25 Van Ness. Tickets at box office or BASS/Ticketmaster Ticket outlets.
- **T.G.I.F.:** Bay Area Career Women present T.G.I.F. from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Charpe's, 131 Gough.
- **Modern Music Friday:** With DJ Steve Masters, 8 Street, 236 B St., San Mateo, 9 p.m., cover.
- **Club Infra-Red:** Dancing, Scooter's, 22 4th St., S.F., 9 p.m.-2 a.m., cover. Sound by Randy Schiller. Call 777-0880 for more information.
- **Ballroom and Latin Dancing for Lesbians and Gay Men:** Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission St., S.F., beginners 7:30-8:30 p.m., intermediates 8:30-9:30 p.m. Call 995-4962 for more information.
- **Living Well With AIDS/ARC:** Attitudinal healing support group, Rest Stop, 134 Church St., S.F., 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 621-REST for more information.

## SATURDAY 11

- **Dignity:** Pax and Bonum Awards Dinner and Dance at 7 p.m. at the Cathedral Hill Hotel. Tickets \$30 and up. Call 255-9244 for reservations.
- **S.F. Hiking Club:** Circumambulation of Mt. Diablo State Park. Meet at the BIG Safeway sign at Market and Dolores at 9:30 a.m. Leader is Jim Gordon (431-3854). Rain cancels.
- **Coming Out for Women:** A workshop facilitated by Dotty Calabrese from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Room 130 of the Clinical Sciences Building, UCSF, 513 Parnassus Ave. Sliding scale fee of \$15 to \$25.
- **Gay Parade:** The Women's Motorcycle Contingent of the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade meets at 1519 Mission at 5 p.m. Call 864-FREE for information.
- **Valentine's Party:** Special Guest DJ, Chata from 9 p.m. to 2 p.m. at Renee's Deja Vu, 702 15th St. at Potrero. Cover \$5.
- **Comedy at the Rose:** Francesca Bon Journo appears at 6 p.m. as Dorothy Parker in "Boys, Booze and Broads." Rose and Thistle, 1624 California. \$5 cover.
- **Woman Inc.** sponsors a women's dance at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St. Sliding scale \$7 to \$10 at door. For information call 864-4777.
- **Partner's Institute:** Men Seeking Relationships, a mixer/workshop, MCC Building, 150 Eureka St. from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Call 343-8541.
- **S.F. Wrestling Club:** has a workout from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For information call Jim at 538-8490.
- **Men of Color Conference:** committee meeting from noon to 2 p.m. at the Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave. Berkeley. Call 548-8283.
- **Hortiphiles Brunch:** for lesbians and gays who like plants at 11:30 a.m. in Menlo Park. Also a nursery tour. Call Michael at 826-2515.
- **Personal Power:** A supportive environment for gays and lesbians to learn self-defense. Saturdays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church, Room 205. Suggested \$7 donation per lesson. Call 826-6486.
- **Frank Banks:** Sing-along piano, Charpe's Grill, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 p.m.
- **Church of the Secret Gospel:** Fellowship, 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2, S.F., 8 p.m. Call 621-1887 for more information.
- **Alanon:** Meeting for people with AIDS/ARC/HIV-positive concerns, Rest Stop, 134 Church St., S.F., 4:30-6 p.m. Call 621-REST for more information.
- **Game Night:** For persons living with AIDS/ARC and HIV+, Rest Stop Support Center, 134 Church St., S.F., 7 p.m., free. Call 621-REST for more information.

## SUNDAY 12

- **Piano Recital:** Janina Sajka plays the romantic music of Chopin and others at 3 p.m. at MCC, 150 Eureka. \$5. For information call 863-4434.
- **Dignity:** Liturgy for gay/lesbian Catholics and friends at 5:30 p.m. at Dolores Baptist Church, 15th and Dolores. For information call 255-9244.
- **Marin MCC Services:** MCC of the Redwoods has worship services at 6 p.m., 8 Olive St., Mill Valley. Call 388-2315 for information.
- **S.F. Frontrunners:** Justin Herman Plaza Run. Meet at the Plaza behind the Hyatt Regency at 10 a.m. for a 4.5 mile flat run to Muni Pier and back.
- **Ragtime Band:** Chrysanthemum Ragtime Band at Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Turn-of-the-century popular music and ragtime dancing with instruction \$6.
- **Different Spokes:** sponsors a ride through Big Basin State Park. \$3 entrance fee. Bring lunch and helmet recommended. Rain cancels. Meet at Park Headquarters at 11 a.m. For details call Tim Mess at 648-3594.
- **Valentine's Bake Sale:** is held by Radical Women through Feb. 14. Call 862-1278 for details.
- **Valentine's Sketching:** Gay Men's Sketch invites men to have their bodies drawn and pictures may be purchased for \$10. Sign up at 12:45 p.m. for class from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at 1229 Folsom. Reservations in advance from Mark at 621-6294.
- **Interfaith Service:** The monthly interfaith service of AIDS Interfaith of Marin at 4 p.m. at Marin Lutheran Church, 649 Meadow St.
- **Skirts:** The nightclub for women is open from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. at Club Townsend, 3rd and Townsend.
- **San Francisco MCC:** Worship services, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. (with childcare and signing for the hearing-impaired) and 7 p.m. Call 863-4434 for more information.
- **New Life MCC:** Worship service, 1823 9th St., Berkeley, 5 p.m. Call 843-9355 for more information.
- **Golden Gate MCC:** Worship service, 48 Belcher St., S.F., 12:30 and 7 p.m. Call 621-6300 for details.
- **MCC Santa Rosa:** Worship service, 515 Orchard St., 11 a.m. Call (707) 526-HOPE for more information.

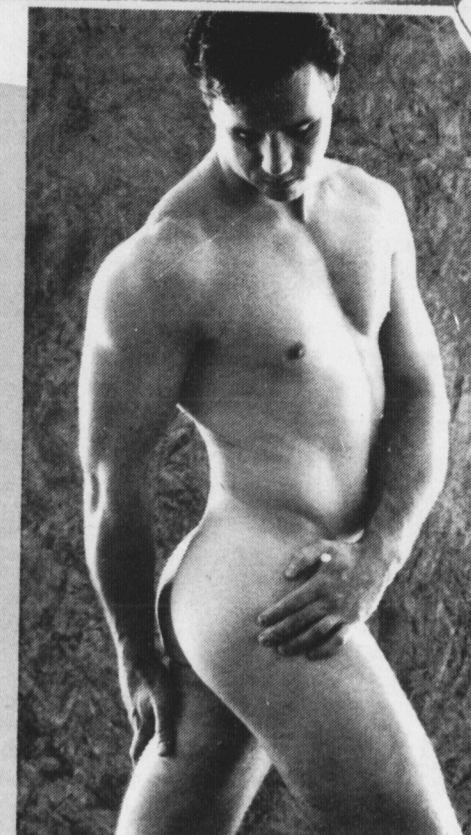


Joy Michiel entertains with bartender Ron Brewer at Pilsner Inn's 7th annual Valentine's Day Sock Hop.

## MONDAY 13

- **Buddy Connection:** A safe sex workshop for gay and bisexual men from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at MCC, 150 Eureka St. Sponsored by the S.F. AIDS Foundation. 863-AIDS.
- **Church of the Secret Gospel:** Buddy night, 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2, S.F., 8-11 p.m. Call 621-1887 for more information.
- **Hypnotherapy:** Taught by David Ricard for caregivers, Kairos House, 114 Douglass St., S.F., 7-8:30 p.m. Call 861-0877 for more information.
- **HIV+ Spiritual Support Group:** Meeting, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F. Call 863-4434 for more information.
- **Alanon:** Meeting for people with AIDS/ARC/HIV-positive concerns, Rest Stop, 134 Church St., S.F., 7:30-9 p.m. Call 621-REST for more information.
- **Emergency/San Francisco:** Gay Christian Scientist group meets at 7:50 p.m. Call 221-HOME fore more information.

- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** Support group for older gay men (60+), Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7-9 p.m. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **Country and Western Dance Lessons:** Turf Club, 22517 Mission Blvd., Hayward, 7:30-9:30 p.m., free. Also Tuesday and Thursday.
- **Battle Fatigue:** Support group for primary-care givers based on principals of attitudinal healing, Rest Stop, 134 Church St., S.F., 5-7 p.m. Call 621-REST for more information.
- **Spiritual Support Groups for HIV-Positive Individuals:** Sponsored by the United Methodist AIDS Project, Bethany United Methodist Church, 1268 Sanchez, S.F., 7-9 p.m. Call 647-6051 or 752-3222 for more information.
- **Emotional Support Group:** For people who have lost their lovers due to AIDS/ARC, 7:30 p.m. Call Sean Martinfield at 626-4329 for more information.
- **Support Groups for PWA and Those Concerned About AIDS:** Ongoing meeting, Kaiser Foundation Hospital, 2425 Geary Blvd., 3:30-4:45 p.m. The meetings will be held in Conference Room B on the fifth floor. Call 929-4186 for details.



Untitled male nude photographs by Steven Baratz are now on display through March 3 at Moby Dick.

## TUESDAY 14

- **Dinner with Cupid:** Fraternal Order of Gays has Valentine's Dinner at 7:30 p.m. at Jovanello's, 840 Sansome. For reservations phone FOG at 641-0999.
- **Valentine's Day Dance:** given by Bi-Friendly that is open to bisexuals and bifriendly individuals from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Women's Building. Sliding scale \$8 to \$10. Call for information 863-5961.
- **Valentine's Sock Hop:** The Pilsner Sock Hop with guest Joy Michiel is from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. at the Pilsner Inn at 225 Church. Call 621-7058.
- **Ministry of Light:** Gay men's support group from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., room 18, San Anselmo. For information call 457-0854 or 457-1115.
- **AIDS Mastery Workshop:** Free introduction to the workshop at 7:30 p.m., 347 Dolores St., Room 315. For information call 626-3209.
- **Gay and Lesbian Literature:** Taught by Jack Collins, Everett Middle School, Church Street between 16th and 17th streets, S.F., 6:30-9:30 p.m., tuition \$15. English 56B is offered through the City College outreach program and meets every Tuesday, beginning tonight. Register the first or second night of class. The three-unit class may be taken for a letter grade or pass/fail.
- **Slightly Older Lesbians:** Small group discussion, Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 7-9 p.m.
- **Gay Roller Skating:** Club Saara, 15721 E. 14th St., San Leandro, 8 p.m.-midnight, cover. Call 278-2095 for more information.
- **Richmond Youth Rap:** Lesbian/gay youth group, 3654 Balboa, S.F., 6-7:30 p.m. Call 668-5955 for more information.
- **Asian Gay Men's Support Group:** Meeting, the Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 6:30-8 p.m. Call 548-8283 for more information.
- **Co-Dependency Group:** For caregivers, Kairos House, 114 Douglass St., S.F., 7-8:30 p.m. Led by Joe Tolson.

## WEDNESDAY 15

- **Outlook:** The gay/lesbian video magazine features Playwright David Lemos and Ken Dixon of Theatre Rhino at 9 p.m., PCTV Cable Network in Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda, Emeryville, Piedmont and El Cerrito.
- **Castro Lions:** Contestants in regional high school speakers contest will present "Transportation 2001 - How will we get there?" at 6:30 p.m. at Cafe du Nord, 2170 Market. For information call 661-4168.
- **Grieving Workshop:** Letters to the Grave, a continuing workshop for people in the grieving process, is held on alternate Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the S.F. AIDS Foundation, 333 Valencia St.
- **Male Nude Exhibition:** Photographs by Steven Baratz on display through March 3 at Moby Dick, 4049 18th St.
- **Greater Tuna:** returns to Marines Memorial Theater at 8 p.m. for a two-week run with original cast members Joe Sears and Jaston Williams. Tuesday through Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets at major outlets.
- **A Self-Defense Class:** Learn practical skills in a Castro/Valencia Community College class. Free. Call Chris Andereg at 861-3523.

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Fri. & Sat. Evens. at 8:30:  
Orchestra or Logo \$33. Front Mezzanine \$30. Rear Mezzanine \$28. Front Balcony \$17. Rear Balcony \$12.  
Added Perfs. Thurs., Feb. 16 at 2:30 & Sun., Feb. 19 at 7.  
Tickets at Curran Theatre Box Office, Ticketron and major agencies.  
Charge by Phone: (415) 243-9001  
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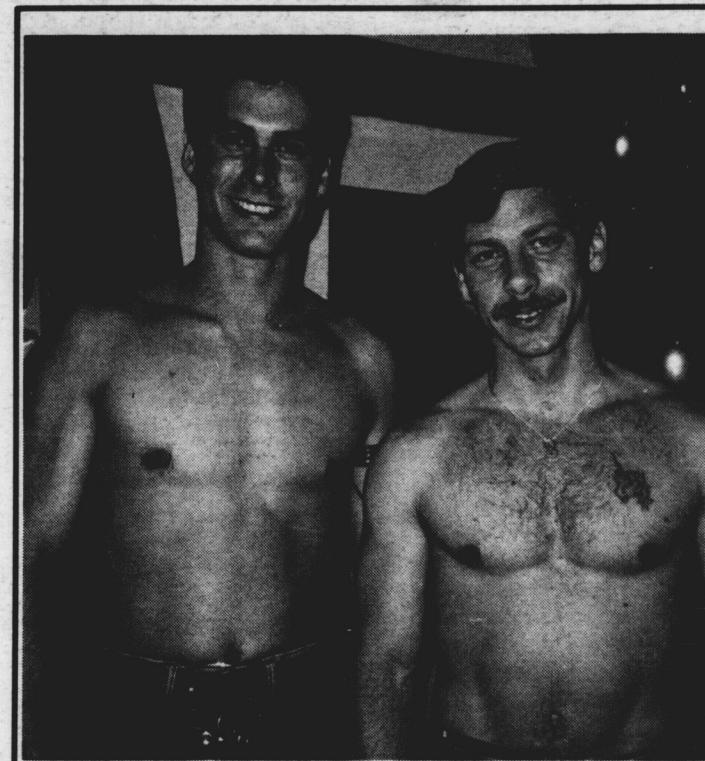
A Benefit for the San Francisco Band Foundation

# BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XIX NO. 7 FEBRUARY 16, 1989

395 NINTH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103-3831

TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019



Stephen Davis (l.) was the 1st runner-up with Curtis Greenhaw in the competition for Mr. Feb. 1990 on the Bare Chest Calendar. For full details see Mr. Marcus, page 37, second section.

## Poppers Outlawed In Fed Drug Act

All Sales Illegal in U.S.;  
 Possible Link to AIDS

by Ray O'Loughlin

A new federal law that took effect yesterday, Feb. 15, bans all production, distribution and sale of any isobutyl nitrite substance—poppers, as they are more widely known—in the U.S. The measure was signed into law last November by Pres. Ronald Reagan. It is part of the Drug Omnibus Act of 1988.

The federal statute makes illegal "all consumer products used for inhaling or otherwise introduced into the body for euphoric or physical effects."

All supplies were to be removed from retailers shelves as of yesterday.

The act provides for civil and possible criminal penalties "consistent with the Consumer Product Safety Act."

The federal ban was hailed by AIDS activist Hank Wilson who has advocated greater control of the substances for years.

"It is long overdue," said Wilson. "There are still many people just coming into the community who are not aware of the harm poppers can do to the immune system."

He said he feared that "many may be misled to believing they are safe when they see poppers sold in businesses in the community."

Wilson said numerous studies have demonstrated a link between poppers and the development of AIDS, especially Kaposi's sarcoma.

According to Dr. Harry Haverkos of the National Institute of Drug Abuse, the mea-



That claim has been the subject of controversy for years. "It  
 (Continued on page 2)

## 63 Reps, 8 Senators Back Fed Rights Bill

The Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights Bill has been reintroduced into the U.S. Senate by Sen. Alan Cranston (D-CA) and into the U.S. House of Representatives by Reps. Ted Weiss (D-N.Y.) and Henry Waxman (D-CA).

Sixty-three representatives signed up as original cosponsors of the bill, officially called the Civil Rights Amendments Act of 1989 (H.R. 655). Eight senators have signed on to the companion bill. Gay rights lobbyists from the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) are confident more will sign on in the upcoming months of the 101st Congress.

The bill would amend existing federal civil rights statutes to protect people on the basis of "affectional or sexual orientation" from discrimination in the areas of employment, housing and credit, government-assisted opportunities and public accommodations.

The bill would outlaw discrimination in stores, restaurants, hotels and other places selling services or goods.

"Affectional or sexual orientation" is defined to mean "male or female homosexuality, heterosexuality, and bisexuality by orientation or practice, by and between consenting adults."

"Discrimination in any form, against any class of persons, should be abhorrent to all those who live in a civilized society," said Weiss in his remarks introducing the bill.

"Gay men and lesbians are in every occupation and institution in our Nation, be they doctors or nurses, lawyers or clerks, writers, union members, and managers," said Weiss.

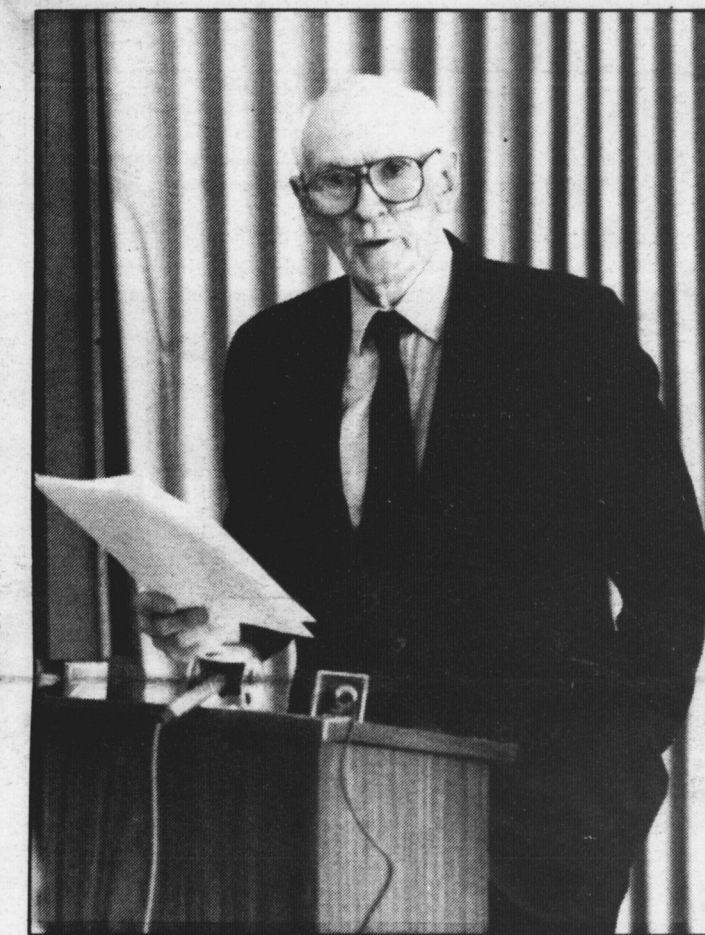
"They are rich and poor, black and white, rural and urban, and number perhaps 20 million of the hard-working, law-abiding citizens among us. But this minority is different from others in that they do not now have legal recourse when they encounter discrimination."

The bill has been introduced into Congress since the mid-1970s and has gained support over time. Hearings were held on the bill in 1980 and 1981. At the end of the last Congress, 73 representatives and 10 senators were cosponsors.

All cosponsors who ran for reelection last year won their races, except for Sen. Lowell Weicker (R-Conn.). Lesbian and gay civil rights were not an issue in Weicker's race.

"Almost every previous sponsor is already back on the bill, plus some new ones," said Eric Rosenthal, HRCF political director. "We will work hard to increase the number of cosponsors. We also will seek opportunities to move lesbian and gay civil rights issues wherever we can."

Among the House cosponsors  
 (Continued on page 2)



Sen. Alan Cranston again introduced Gay Rights Bill.  
 (Photo: S. Savage)

## FDA Loosens Regs For Pentamidine

OKs Use To Prevent Pneumonia;  
 Full Approval Expected Soon

by Jay Newquist

The FDA permitted wider use of the anti-AIDS drug aerosol pentamidine last week, enabling high risk individuals to use the drug against pneumocystis pneumonia. The FDA has yet to grant full approval, however. The decision to list aerosol pentamidine as a "treatment investigational new drug" was prompted by widespread complaints that the FDA approval process is sluggish and obstructs promising drugs for people with AIDS. Aerosol pentamidine has also scored some positive results in studies of the drug.

Brad Stone, an FDA spokesman, said aerosol pentamidine could now be distributed outside clinical trial settings. He estimated from 50,000 to 100,000 people with AIDS would now be able to use the drug.

Stone said FDA guidelines allow use of aerosol pentamidine for people who have had at least one case of pneumocystis carinii pneumonia. He added the drug was also preventative for people whose T4 helper cell count was 200 or lower.

In this particular case, Stone said doctors will have a good idea what dose to employ because of studies completed at the University of California at San Francisco and San Francisco General Hospital.

Researchers at those institutions developed and tested an aerosol delivery system for pentamidine that proved more effective and safer than the standard intravenous form of the drug. The intravenous form allowed