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BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XIX NO. 8 FEBRUARY 23, 1989

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Report Shows Drop In Bias Complaints

Small Businesses Bigger Problem; Rights Panel Resolves Cases

by Gregory Douthwaite

Discrimination against gays, lesbians, and people with AIDS declined in San Francisco last year, according to a new report by the city's Human Rights Commission. The total number of complaints investigated fell from last year's all-time record of 146 to 126 this year.

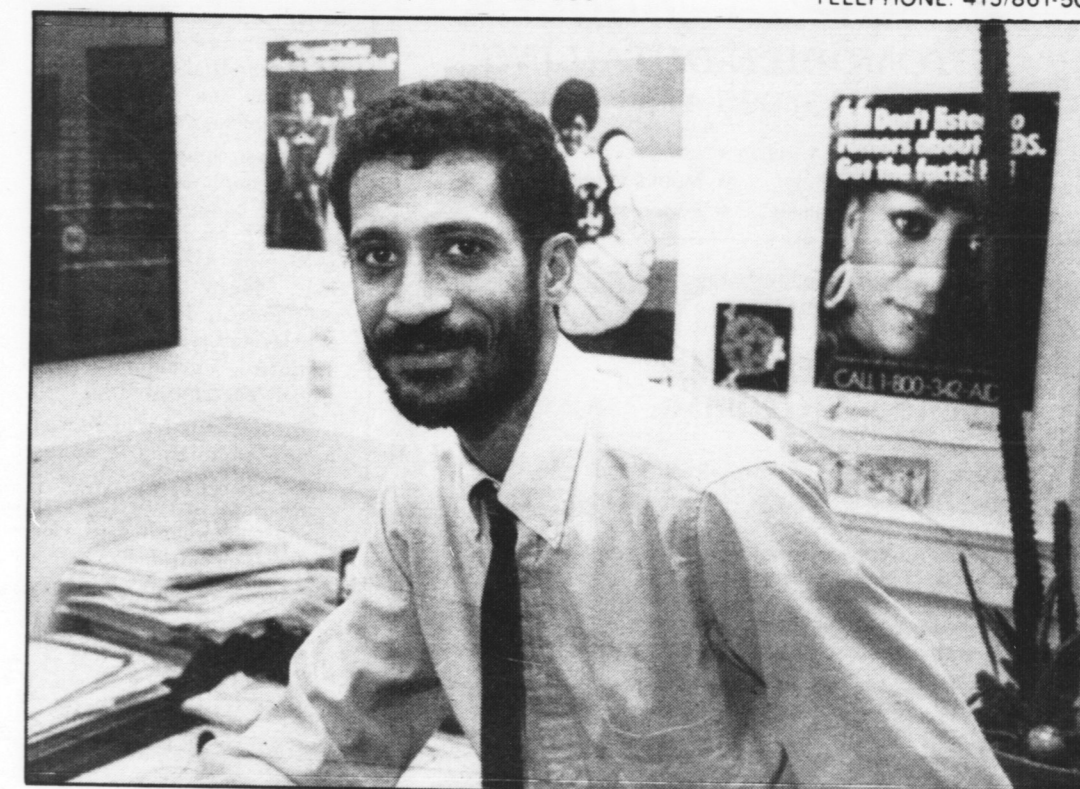
"The report illustrates that municipal anti-discrimination protections can be an effective mechanism for addressing and reducing prejudice and bigotry on the basis of sexual orientation and AIDS," said Lawrence B. Martin, chair of the commission.

The Human Rights Commission enforces the city's AIDS and

sexual orientation discrimination ordinances. This was the second full year of enforcement of the AIDS discrimination ordinance, enacted in late 1985.

Elsewhere in the nation, discrimination has continued to increase, said AIDS representative Norm Nickens. Complaints from

(Continued on page 2)



Norm Nickens, author of the HRC report.

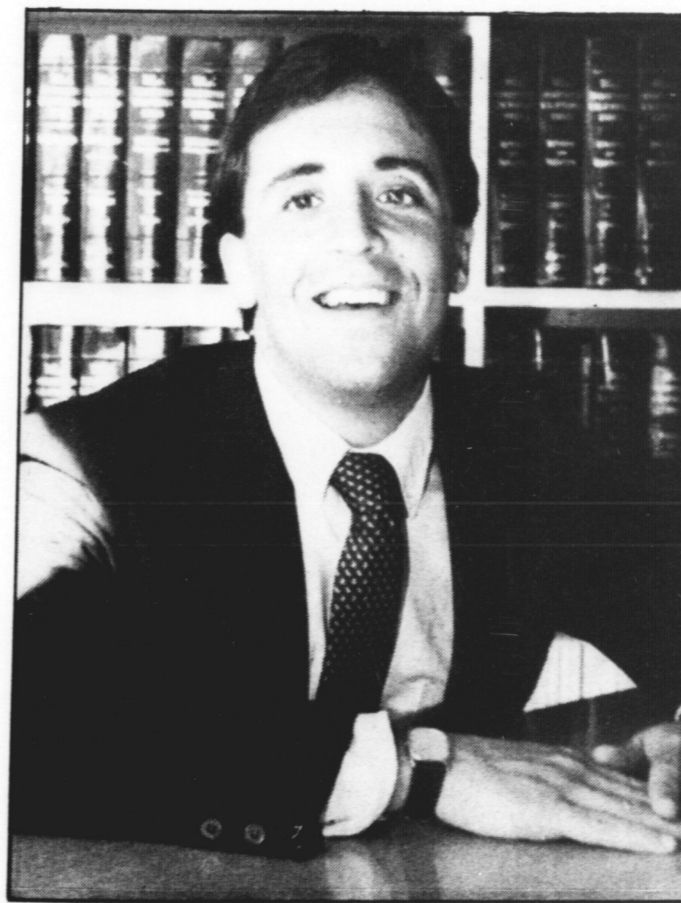
(Photo: S. Savage)

Housing Group Challenges Ruling

Hope to Change HUD Policy; Get Subsidies for PWA Housing

by Dennis McMillan

A formal administrative complaint has been filed against the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for denying subsidized federal housing to people with AIDS/ARC. Filed on behalf of Housing for Independent People (HIP) in San Jose, the complaint charges discrimination against PWAs as not qualifying for the program under handicapped regulations.



Attorney Ben Schatz of NGRA.

(Photo: S. Savage)

HUD denied a loan last October to the group on the basis that PWAs' illness is not "expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration."

The complaint charged HUD with violation of the Federal Rehabilitation Act which bans discrimination against the handicapped. The complaint called it an erroneous stereotype that people with AIDS/ARC necessarily face imminent death.

"HUD is no more permitted to formulate policy on the basis of erroneous stereotypes than is an employer, school, or hospital governed by the Federal Rehabilitation Act," commented Benjamin Schatz, director of NGRA's AIDS Civil Rights Project, who is attorney for the case.

"HUD's apparent position—that people with AIDS and ARC don't live long enough to benefit from their program—demonstrates their ignorance about both medicine and the law," he added.

The complaint challenged the Office of Civil Rights for HUD, demanding investigation of the agency. HUD claims that PWAs are not handicapped and therefore cannot qualify under Section 202 concerning grant proposals.

Schatz explained, "Basically what they are saying is that people with AIDS, in their estimation, are not going to live long, and therefore do not qualify for the housing."

He further elaborated, "Besides, it is highly doubtful that HUD requires project sponsors to refuse housing to heart patients, for instance, whose condition is in danger of degenerating, and who may die within a relatively short period of time."

Dirk Murphy, special assistant for the HUD administrator at the regional level, commented, "We don't see ourselves as adversaries to the HIP group. I think we share the same sorts of con-

(Continued on page 3)

Danes to OK Gay Spousal Rights

by Rex Wockner

The Danish Folketing (Parliament) is expected to extend full spousal rights to gay and lesbian partners this spring. The legislation will elevate gay and lesbian couples to the status of married heterosexuals in the areas of marriage, divorce, inheritance, retirement, and housing.

According to activist Steffan Jensen of the National Danish Association for Lesbians and Gay Men, "Two people of the same sex will be able to go into a partnership, which will give them the same legal rights as a married couple except for one thing. The exception is the right to adopt children. In all other areas—social welfare, pensions, housing, everything you can mention—it's exactly the same rights as a man and a woman." Jensen spoke by phone from his home in Copenhagen.

Gay and lesbian couples, Jensen said, will be allowed to marry in town halls, although not in churches. "But all the marriages that are accepted in a church," he said, "are legally the same as if they were accepted at the town hall. It's the same."

The gay partnership bill was first introduced in the Folketing last December and should come up for a vote in April or May. Jensen said the legislation is still supported by a majority in Parliament even though a recent election saw the formation of a more conservative government.

"The new government may not favor the proposal," Jensen said, "but it should pass Parliament. The Social Democrat's, the People's Socialist Party, many members of the middle groups, and even the most right-wing Danish party supports it. The vast major-

ity of that (right-wing) party is for the proposal, which is rather surprising, but they are."

Should the gay partnership bill pass, it would become law July 1.

Until 1980, Jensen's group was known as *Forbundet Af 1948*, and it is still referred to as such in most international gay guides. The organization is involved in social work, counseling, media education, and social research, in addition to operating a cafe, a restaurant and a discotheque.

Denmark, according to researchers for the *Spartacus* international gay guide, has "a general atmosphere [that] is very free towards gay people, and Danes tend to look upon sex as natural, healthy and lots of fun."

The legal minimum age for consensual homosexual activity is 15. But, according to *Spartacus*, "if you unknowingly break the law on minimum age of consent and your partner threatens blackmail, you can report it to the police without fear."

Despite the enlightened modern atmosphere, Denmark burned gays at the stake until 1682 and gay prostitution was not decriminalized until 1967.

By 1985, however, a poll found that half of all Danes believed gay couples should be granted the same legal rights as heterosexual couples.

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Bias Report

(Continued from page 1)

other areas are pouring into San Francisco's office, and complaints in New York City are skyrocketing, he said.

In San Francisco, investigated complaints of sexual orientation discrimination dropped in the last fiscal year from 88 to 70. Complaints of AIDS discrimination fell slightly, from 58 to 56.

The commission reported a decrease in complaints involving larger employers. Many of these companies have, with the help of the Human Rights Commission, developed and adopted AIDS-related personnel policies.

However, complaints involving smaller employers have increased. The commission plans to work with small businesses on developing AIDS policies this year. Many requests for assistance in developing AIDS policies and reasonable accommodation agreements have already been received.

The total number of discrimination complaints is approximately three to four times the number of investigated complaints, the report said. Complaints from outside San Francisco

and complaints involving the military, immigration or insurance are outside the commission's jurisdiction and are not investigated.

Another 40 complaints of gay and AIDS discrimination were investigated by the Human Rights Commission's Fair Housing Unit. Many of the 25 AIDS-related complaints involved people who had suffered a drop in income as a result of illness. Others complained that AIDS support workers were not allowed to visit their rooms in residential hotels.

The report concluded that, while the number of investigated complaints had declined, discrimination remains a significant problem in San Francisco.

The commission's most publicized case last year was the investigation of discrimination at the Shanti Project. Other complaints included:

- A large number of complaints involving dentists who refuse to provide services after a patient voluntarily reveals that he has tested positive for HIV. These cases are usually resolved with education and technical

assistance. However, one case may go to court.

- In one case, a patient was turned away by a dentist after he revealed that his brother had recently died of AIDS. After mediation, the dentist finally agreed to treat the man, but the man decided to seek treatment elsewhere.

- An employee of a small business asked for time off work to go to an appointment at an HIV testing center. The employer demanded to be informed of the test results, and when told that the results were confidential by state law, the employee was fired. The commission resolved the complaint with a \$3,000 settlement and an extension of health benefits.

- A publisher, upon learning that two women co-authors of a book it had agreed to publish had a lesbian relationship held up production of the book and refused to set a date for release. With the help of the commission, the women got the manuscript returned, and they have since found a new publisher.

Open Hand Moves To New Home



Project Open Hand inaugurated its new facilities last week in a grand open house. Quite a difference from working in a church basement. Open Hand now serves 1200 meals every day of the week. With their new professional kitchen, the group could provide up to 8,000 meals a day.

"It's a fantasy come true," in the words of director Ruth Brinker. She plans to expand the operation to minority communities in San Francisco and eventually to people throughout the Bay Area. The new facility on Seventeenth Street near Bryant was purchased with help from corporations like Chevron who made the down payment possible.

(Photo: Photographics Darlene)



**Police Seek Man
In Charity Scheme**

**Collected Funds for Bogus Shelter;
Used Health Project as Cover**

by Ray O'Loughlin

San Francisco police are investigating the unauthorized and possibly fraudulent solicitation of funds in a mysterious case involving the AIDS Health Project. Someone, possibly a group of individuals, has been going door-to-door asking for contributions for the AIDS Health Project and a shelter for homeless people with AIDS. But the project does not conduct such fundraising and has never authorized anyone to do so using their name. The agency also does not operate any shelters.

"The AIDS Health Project is not actively into fundraising of this sort," said Paul Causey, development director of the organization.

According to Causey, the organization discovered this was going on when one donor sent a check with a note "thanking the nice young man who was out in the rain" on behalf of the project.

Causey said a white male, neatly dressed, with a slight build and short hair was reported by a number of people as soliciting funds.

He said he suspected that this person, and possibly others, has been operating for the last four months without the agency's knowledge.

In recent months, bundles of checks have been mysteriously appearing at the project offices. Until this week, those checks were processed as legitimate donations.

Causey and the police suspect that the solicitors have been collecting cash and pocketing that while turning over checks. They said that that is not uncommon in such cases.

"It's unauthorized," said Causey, "but we're not yet sure it's fraud."

One problem is that the checks seem to appear out of nowhere. "Nobody has ever seen the person with the checks, they just appear in the office," he said. "We have seen a man come in a number of times to pick up our brochures, however."

Causey said he would like to talk to that man.

The door-to-door solicitor has been handing out project brochures and a flyer of his own making containing information on AIDS services—some of it wrong.

A number of people who have been visited by this man reported that he mentioned support going to a shelter on Folsom Street for homeless people with AIDS. The AIDS Health Project does not maintain any shelters.

"We need the help of the community to stop this unauthorized soliciting," said Causey. "This kind of illegal activity will only hurt the fundraising efforts of groups like ours who need money to help in the fight to stop AIDS and to provide compassionate care to those who are infected."

He said all checks believed to have been obtained through any misrepresentation are being returned to the donors.

Any decision on whether or not to prosecute anyone charged in the matter will be up to UCSF, with which the project is affiliated for fiscal management.

The AIDS Health Project was begun in 1984 as a counselling and education service. It now maintains staff at city-sponsored HIV test sites and conducts a

Housing

(Continued from page 1)

crimination by their own government." He added, "We are clearly aware of the critical need for affordable housing opportunities for persons with AIDS, and we would like to see this avenue work. We are also exploring lots of other avenues besides Section 202."

HIP, a nonprofit housing agency which develops low-cost housing for special populations, had proposed the Casa de los Amigos program to be coordinated with ARIS Project, the major AIDS service organization in Santa Clara County.

HIP executive director Al DeLudovico said, "For people with AIDS, access to housing may make the difference between life and death. It is outrageous for a federal agency such as HUD to block efforts to help them out."

NGRA calls this a test of the new Bush administration, whether this will in fact be a "kinder, gentler nation." NGRA executive director Jean O'Leary stated, "There is nothing more unkind than telling homeless people with AIDS who are struggling to survive that they must also fight dis-

crimination by their own government."

HIP and NGRA conclude that persons with AIDS and ARC can live independently and would be improved greatly by provision of a group living environment with supportive services. "In addition to nursing care and hospitalization, those with AIDS often have specialized needs for emotional and psychological services, nutrition and health counseling, benefits advice, and various other support services throughout their struggle with the disease," said DeLudovico.

"Persons with AIDS and ARC could also benefit from the solidarity and understanding they would gain from living with other persons in a similar situation," he said.

If the issue is not quickly resolved, NGRA intends to file a civil discrimination suit in federal court.

"Hopefully the more publicity we get on this, the more pressure will be put on the administration at the top to reverse their policy quickly," said Schatz. "We just don't have the luxury of time when it comes to this issue."

**High Court Upholds
Feds' Firing of Gay**

WASHINGTON, DC—The firing of a gay employee of the National Security Agency for the man's sexual activity while he vacationed abroad was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The ruling, however, is not expected to have significant impact on the ability of other gay employees to achieve or retain their NSA jobs, reported Frank Kameny, an expert on security clearance cases that involve gays.

The case involved a longtime veteran of NSA's highly secret communications operation who admitted in 1982 that he had sex with other men while vacationing in the Caribbean.

The Supreme Court upheld the NSA's choice of procedures in the firing, the Washington Blade reported, but it did send the case back to the appeals court to hear the employee's arguments that NSA violated its own regulations and his due process.

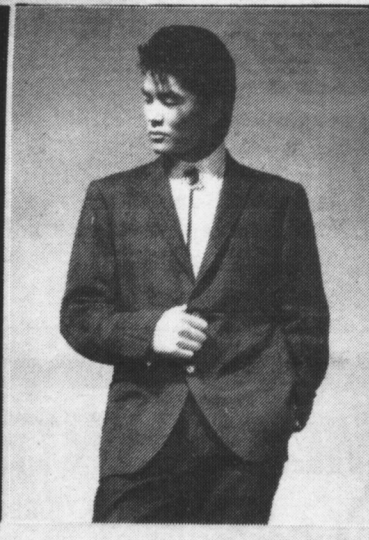
Kameny minimized the impact of the case. "The policy at NSA is that gays are looked upon with considerable suspicion, but the agency is willing to accept gay employees—and does."

—Washington Blade

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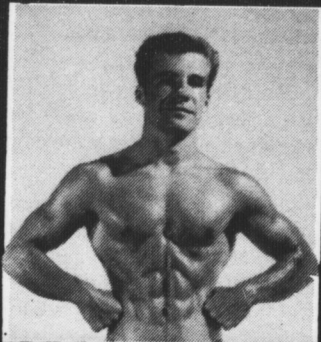
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FDA Still Mum On Gancyclovir

Rumors Say Feds To Dump Test For Eyesight Drug For PWAs

by Jay Newquist

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is apparently set to rescind its decision to require more testing before approving the drug gancyclovir used to treat people with AIDS who are losing their eyesight.

Brad Stone, an FDA spokesman, would neither confirm nor deny that FDA commissioner Frank Young has ordered a re-evaluation of the previous decision to require clinical trials of gancyclovir.

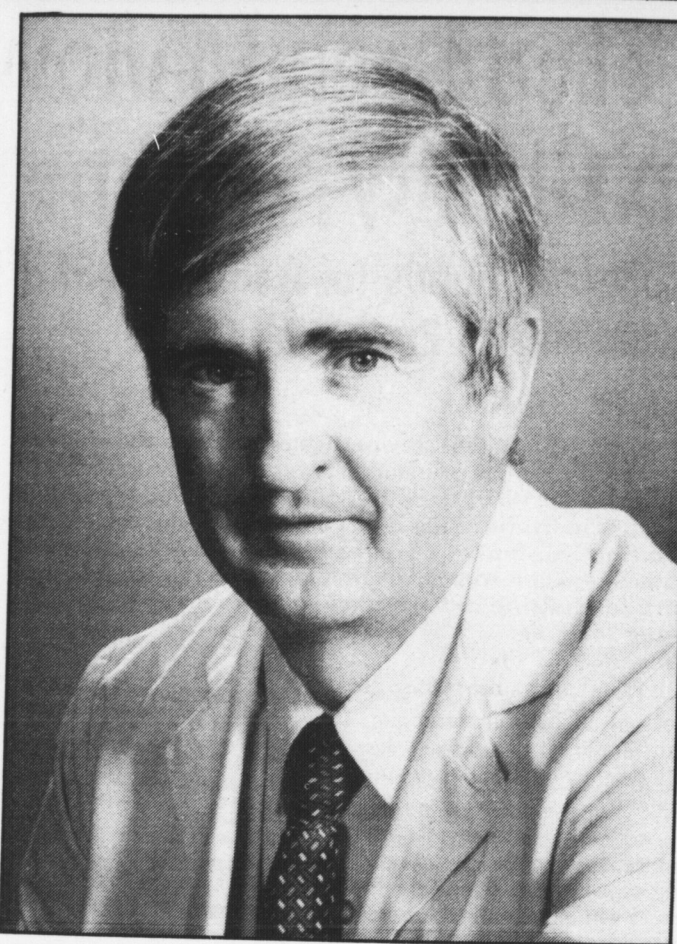
Still, FDA sources predict the new direction based in part on the urging of Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. Fauci reportedly urged Young to reconsider use of gancyclovir based on the data on the drug's effectiveness.

"There is the general sense the drug works," Stone said, indicating it was "impossible to say" when gancyclovir would be approved. "There is the lingering question when to start the drug, and it apparently doesn't work well with other drugs, especially AZT," he said.

Stone said the FDA wanted to continue to make the drug available on a "compassionate use" basis for unproven drugs because gancyclovir is the only drug available to treat cytomegalovirus infections that eventually afflict most AIDS patients.

The infections not only threaten the retina—and eyesight—but also cause debilitating intestinal inflammation. Gancyclovir has been in use for several years and is provided free by the manufacturer, Syntex Corporation of Palo Alto.

Dr. Lawrence Drew, an infec-



Dr. W. Lawrence Drew

tious disease specialist at Mount Zion Hospital, supports the use of gancyclovir. "There is no doubt it is effective," Drew said, indicating that five patients were taking the drug at the hospital. "There was the impression early on that it worked."

Drew said the positive results from gancyclovir did not come from a controlled study as the FDA would like, but patients did improve using the drug.

The FDA decided late last year that it would not sanction sales of the drug until a new clinical trial was completed. In a study that began last month, gancyclovir was given to all patients whose in-

fection had traveled across the eye and was about to affect the center of the retina.

The patients who had less pronounced infection were either chosen to receive the drug or receive no treatment at all in the controlled experiment.

New patients with the infection could obtain the drug only by enrolling in the study, but risked being placed in the control group that received no gancyclovir.

The FDA's Brad Stone said the agency wanted to continue to make the drug accessible while receiving the basic data about gancyclovir's safety and efficacy at the same time.

Cocaine New HIV Threat Says Study

The AIDS virus is spreading at an alarming rate among intravenous cocaine users—particularly minorities—who share their needles with other addicts, according to a UCSF study. The AIDS-IV drug problem is moving from heroin to cocaine, researchers warn, and unless strategies to treat poor cocaine addicts are developed soon, the threat of AIDS looms even larger than previously believed for IV drug users and their sexual partners.

The study of 633 heterosexual IV drug users in San Francisco methadone and detoxification programs from May 1986 to July 1987, found that 12 percent (77) were infected with the virus (HIV) that causes AIDS. Among those who injected cocaine daily, however, 35 percent (17 of 49) were infected with HIV.

More than a third of IV drug users in treatment in the UCSF study were injecting cocaine at least monthly. Those who injected cocaine at least once a week were nearly three times as likely to be infected with HIV than those who injected heroin weekly, the UCSF researchers found.

Injecting cocaine is a recent phenomenon. While 68 percent of the IV drug users in the UCSF study had begun regular heroin use before 1976, none had regularly injected cocaine prior to 1984.

"We don't know yet how many young people are moving from crack to injecting cocaine," says Andrew Moss, principal investigator in the study. "But cocaine use may provide a bridge from older heroin users to this younger, sexually active group,

which is not currently infected."

"Most treatment is set up for heroin users, and that turns out not to be our biggest current problem for AIDS," says Moss. "While there are strategies and treatment programs for white middle-class cocaine addicts, there's no therapy, no policy and no access to treatment for poor people."

The high rate of HIV infection among IV cocaine users is due in part to frequency of injections and increased popularity of "shooting galleries," where groups of addicts inject drugs and share the needles, according to UCSF researchers. Forty-nine percent of all subjects studied said they had used drugs in a shooting gallery, where they did not know who had previously used the needle and syringe.

In an accompanying editorial, Stanley H. Weiss, MD, of the New Jersey Medical School, writes that the observations in the UCSF study may have profound implications for the future course of the epidemic. "Those who binge on cocaine and who trade sex for drugs pass the risk of propagating HIV beyond just the IV drug abuser," Weiss says.

Thompson Allowed Visit With Kowalski In Hospital

Judge Allows 3-Day Visit For Lovers

Sharon Kowalski and Karen Thompson have finally met again. On Feb. 2, Thompson made her first visit to Kowalski in more than three years, a visit that extended over a three-day period. In just that short span, Kowalski showed cognitive improvement from contact with her life partner, Thompson, who has been denied visitation by Kowalski's father since 1985.

Sharon Kowalski was severely injured in an automobile accident in November, 1983 and has been hospitalized ever since. Her father Donald Kowalski, who was appointed her legal guardian, moved his daughter to a nursing home with minimal rehabilitative care and barred Thompson and Sharon's other friends from visiting her.

After a four-year legal battle to get rehabilitative care for Kowalski, Thompson was able to convince the court to test her for competency last September. As a result, St. Louis County (MN) District Court Judge Robert V. Campbell issued an order on Dec. 28 that Kowalski be transferred to Miller-Dwan Medical Center in Duluth for a period of rehabilitative care.

The court order also stated that Sharon was to be allowed to visit with whomever she specifically and reliably requested to visit.

In her meeting with Kowalski, Thompson attended all of her therapy sessions in communication, memory and comprehension, and physical work-out/stretching. She said Kowalski was extremely responsive to all her exercises, laughed a lot, and was consistently alert. Thompson was encouraged by the therapists to participate in the sessions.

"They are giving Sharon choices, even if what she wants is to be left alone. I feel they are doing an excellent job with Sharon. They believe Sharon understands and is capable, and they're giving her honest information," said Thompson.

Thompson was distressed, however, by the deterioration in some aspects of Kowalski's physical condition since 1985, the last time they were allowed to meet. She said the tendons in Kowalski's legs had been allowed to become so tight that it is questionable whether even surgery could restore her feet to a proper 90-degree angle. "She may not ever be able to stand again," Thompson said.

"We hope that the rehabilitative care will enable Sharon to go home again someday, to a home of her choice," said NOW President Molly Yard. "Karen Thompson is to be commended for her persistence in seeking and winning better care for her partner despite overwhelming odds.

"Sharon Kowalski's rights were being violated," Yard said. "She was being denied rehabilitative care that could help her live a fuller life, and she was being denied the right to live her life with whomever and how she saw fit. NOW is proud to stand with Thompson and Kowalski in this fight."

Although Sharon Kowalski has been under the legal guardian-

ship of Donald Kowalski since 1984, the September, 1988 tests were her first full evaluations for competency. Guardianship law requires such testing at least annually. The tests were ordered in July, 1988 over strenuous objections of her father. Thompson has been pursuing legal action since 1984 for improved medical care for Kowalski, as well as the right to visit and help care for her. Kowalski had been kept in the Leisure Hills Health Center in Hibbing, MN, since 1985, which has limited rehabilitation facilities and was prevented from seeing any visitors not approved by her father.

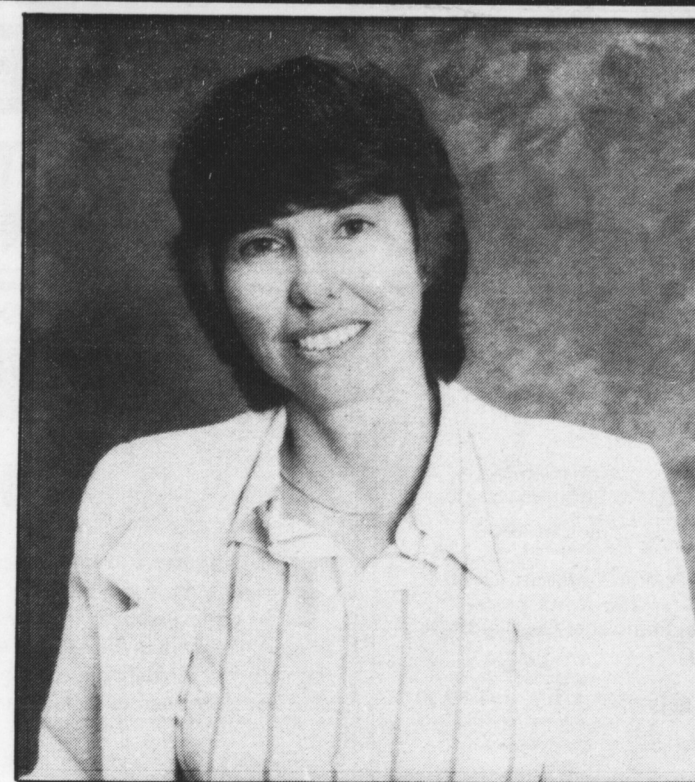
Thompson said she expects to be able to visit Kowalski whenever she can make the almost four-hour drive from St. Cloud to Duluth, provided she notifies Dr. Dorothy Rappel, a psychologist working with Kowalski, in advance to avoid confrontation with Kowalski's parents.

The doctors will provide the judge with a progress report after 60 days. Ultimately, the judge will have to issue additional directives about Kowalski's future.

Thompson is optimistic that Kowalski will continue to receive the rehabilitative care she needs and eventually be able to move into an independent living situation. Donald Kowalski remains Sharon's guardian with all related powers, however, except those altered by the court.

On Feb. 25, CBS's "West 57th" will profile the Karen Thompson/Sharon Kowalski case.

The program will examine very complex issues, most of which society refuses to confront: the "coming out" of a lesbian fighting for the right to care for her life partner; the parents' difficulty in accepting a lesbian daughter and, therefore, the



Karen Thompson

sincerity of the daughter's partner in wanting to help care for her; a clash of cultures between a lesbian couple fighting for dignified recognition of their relationship and society which insists lesbians have no rights, not even to care for each other as human beings; and, finally, the

situation of a disabled woman caught in a legal crossfire with her parents maintaining she is not competent to make decisions about her life, and a partner who insists that she is competent and can improve her condition with adequate rehabilitative care.

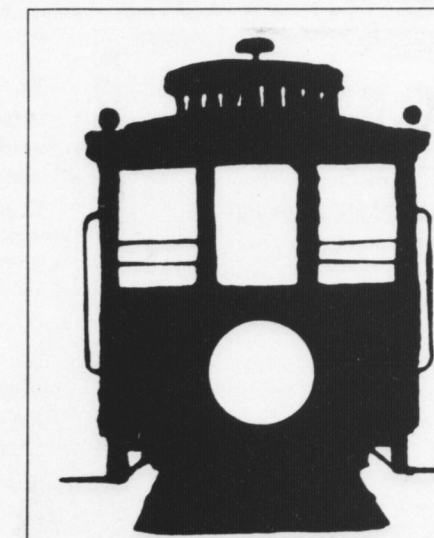
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PUBLISHER:
Bob Ross

NEWS EDITOR:
Ray O'Loughlin

FEATURES EDITOR:
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR:
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Scott Martin,
PhotoGraphics/Darlene,
Robert Pruzan, Rink,
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CARTOONISTS:
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CONTRIBUTORS:
Les Balmain, Philip Campbell,
Gregory Douthwaite,
William Francis, Robert Frank,
Wayne Friday, Mark Friese,
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But the judge decided that he would determine who would get visitation rights. At the urging of medical and psychological professionals, he allowed Karen to visit with Sharon.

Now reports from the rehabilitation clinic where Sharon is indicate she is improving since she has been allowed to see Karen again. With the court's permission, Karen spent most of three days with Sharon and Sharon responded emphatically that she wants and needs Karen in her life to help her recover.

If there ever was a love story in the '80s, this is it. Karen's devotion to Sharon kept her going for nearly six years. She fought court battle after court battle despite frustrations and setbacks. For most of those years, it looked pretty dim for her chances to ever be reunited with Sharon.

But she persisted. And now she may have won, not so much for herself as for Sharon who will now get the therapy and the support she needs to recover at least partially. A better life is in store for both women. Though the case was never based on lesbian rights as such, it is a dramatic demonstration of the depth of lesbian and gay relationships. ▼

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No one can say for sure what transpired between Hudson and Christian. The jury reached the verdict that Hudson had conspired not to tell Christian that he had AIDS. According to Christian, the two went on to have unsafe sex that may have exposed Christian to AIDS despite his doubts about Hudson's health. Christian has repeatedly tested negative for HIV. He sued the estate because of the potential exposure to the fatal disease and for the emotional distress caused by Hudson's death from AIDS.

There are some problems with this case. We can't second guess the jury—undoubtedly an appeals court will review the ruling and may or may not uphold that sum. But the excessively high amount of money awarded Christian smacks of AIDS hysteria. And the premise behind the suit—that Hudson was responsible for Christian's possible exposure to AIDS—is based on misinformation and will only contribute to further the confusion over AIDS.

It may have been shabby of Hudson not to have told the man he supposedly loved that he was suffering from the disease. But one cannot be infected with HIV through the bad intentions of others. One can become infected only willingly—no one here claimed forced sex—through one's own actions. Just like the ads say: it takes two to have unsafe sex, but only one to prevent it.

People have to stop thinking that someone else is out there to infect them, to spread AIDS. Each of us has to take responsibility for our own acts. Regardless of what lies or evasions others might give, if you are committed to safe, responsible sex with all partners, you are not at risk.

The jury's award, by its excessiveness, feeds fears and common misconceptions about AIDS. It relies on a demonic scheme to spread the deadly virus to innocent victims. But there are few innocent victims in such a case or perhaps we should see all those with or at risk of AIDS as innocent victims. Innocence has nothing to do with responsibility—none of us can presume to be innocent of responsibility.

Whether you trust or don't trust your partner, remember this: it takes two to have unsafe sex, but only one to prevent it. ▼

OPINION

Who Is Out of Touch?

by Rep. Barney Frank

The following is a copy of the "Dear Colleague" letter sent by Rep. Frank (D, MA) to all members of the U.S. House of Representatives.

This is about AIDS, the voters and William Dannemeyer. From time to time, the House is accused of being "out of touch with the will of the people." Since it is the people we are accused of ignoring who determine the composition of this body every two years, this assertion is, logically, an attack on the voters' ability to know and express their own minds.

Not surprisingly, those who make this attack try to deny its anti-democratic implications. In a peculiar mental leap, many of them argue that the very fact that almost all House members are regularly re-elected is a sign that we do not represent those who vote for us. Other than making House elections look more like professional wrestling, and agreeing among ourselves to lose a few every now and then, I do not think a great deal can be done about that.

But there is something we can do about the charge that we have defied the public's will on a particular issue; test the outcome of our deliberations against reliable indications of public opinion. The recent referendum in California on the AIDS initiative proposed by our colleague, Mr. William Dannemeyer, offers us a chance to test one of the most frequently repeated charges that the House is "out of touch."

Mr. Dannemeyer has from time to time expressed his frustration with what he sees as the unwillingness of the members of the House to listen to the American people with regard to AIDS. (I do not mean to suggest that he has singled us out—Mr. Dannemeyer has also been extremely critical of the AIDS policies promulgated by Ronald Reagan's appointee as Surgeon General, Dr. Koop; Ronald Reagan's appointee to head the AIDS Commission, Admiral Watkins; Ronald Reagan's appointee to head the Office of Personnel Management, Dr. Constance Horner; a majority of the rest of Ronald Reagan's appointees to the AIDS Commission; leaders of the American Medical Association, the

CDC, and a wide range of other groups.)

Driven by this frustration last year, Mr. Dannemeyer took his case to as large a segment of the American population as can be asked to vote on a single policy issue—the voters of California.

In 1986, Mr. Dannemeyer backed an initiative put together by the prominent felon and medical authority, Lyndon LaRouche, and when that effort to deal with AIDS was overwhelmingly repudiated by the voters, its supporters attributed its defeat in substantial part to the unpopularity of Mr. LaRouche.

So in 1988 Mr. Dannemeyer put his own initiative on the ballot, one in which he was free to frame the proposal as he wished. The proposals he put forward bore, not surprisingly, a strong resemblance to some of the proposals he has offered unsuccessfully on the floor of the House.

A very vigorous debate ensued with a good deal of both paid and unpaid media. (California voters by now have had the chance to get very familiar with the referendum process, since that state puts so large a percentage of its important public questions on the ballot that I sometimes wonder what it is they pay their legislators to do.)

The result of this vigorous public debate on a set of proposals which Mr. Dannemeyer himself framed was very much the same as the result that has occurred when we have dealt with these issues in the House: the Dannemeyer proposals were very soundly defeated. Statewide, 5,786,000 people voted against the Dannemeyer initiative, Proposition 102, while 3,027,000 voted for it.

In Orange County, the home county of Mr. Dannemeyer, and our colleague Mr. Robert Dornan, the no vote was 506,302, while the yes vote was 325,396. In Mr. Dannemeyer's own congressional district, doubtless as a tribute to the respect his own constituents have for him, his initiative did better than it did on the statewide ballot by 6 percentage points—he was only defeated on his initiative in his own congressional district by a margin of 59.6 percent to 40.3 percent.

I eagerly await this year's debate on AIDS issues in which we may well be told that the trouble with the country is that the people are out of touch with themselves. ▼

LETTERS

Take Action

★ Thank you for your article, "To Test Or Not To Test" by Dennis McMillan, in your Jan. 26 edition. I agree with most of the items discussed there. However, there are several recent developments which bring into real question anyone's so-called "need" not to be tested. These include:

1) The rapid development and trial of promising new therapies, including several versions of the CD4 decoy, a European mistletoe extract called Iscador, and other antiviral drugs that are perhaps more effective than AZT with fewer side effects.

2) Some very convincing evidence that for virtually all available therapies, the sooner one starts, the more effective the drugs are with fewer side effects, and

3) In light of items (1) and (2) above, more and more medical authorities are recommending that, if any treatment is being considered, it be done sooner instead of later. Depending on one's blood tests and medical advice, even AZT could be started earlier (say in a half-dose form) in view of adding or switching to something less toxic as soon as it is available.

As mentioned in the article "the ability to start early treatments if seropositive" could indeed be a lifesaving measure, while there may be little rationale left for the "depression, anxiety," and "sleep disturbance" involved.

I know that Tom Calderola recommends Project Inform to people considering treatment. I agree with him that their approach is rather aggressive. There is something to be said, however, for the feeling that one can and is doing something to slow the spread of the virus. Perhaps a more thorough look at one's immune system is in order before deciding on a treatment.

I was in Los Angeles at the Advanced Immune Discoveries Symposium Feb. 4-5. There were many interesting talks. While a few still question if HIV causes AIDS, there were other presentations on Chinese herbs, vitamins, visualization and attitudinal healing. Dr. Robert Gorter gave some exciting data on T-cell rises for 11 patients on Iscador alone that were consistent beyond the one year point. If you want to hear more about holistic treatments, Tom O'Connor is presenting a two-day workshop on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 27-28 at MCC, 150 Eureka Street.

Sources of information western medical treatments appear in such informative places as AMFAR's Experimental Treatment Directory, the SF AIDS Foundation's Bulletin BETA, and Project Inform's PI Perspective. Information on holistic treatments can be found in Healing AIDS, and in Tom O'Connor's and Dr. Laurence Badgley's books.

The Healing Alternatives (Buyer's Club) has a large resource library (which includes all publications mentioned here) on treatments of all kinds. John James' AIDS Treatment News can keep you up to date on new developments.

Making decisions and taking action takes time. The decision to monitor immune status is another stepping stone—to some even more frightening than the original decision to get tested. We all need support systems, and having at least a few friends or people in groups (such as Tom's at Operation Concern) to discuss these matters is extremely important.

The hardest decision is to know what action to take. It takes time to learn about therapies. And considering what may be coming by the end of 1989, I'd say the time to get started is now (if you haven't already). I love the gay community, and I want you all to be here in ten years (and beyond). I've had too many friends "wake up" with PCP to believe in the "wait and see" approach. We are still in the midst of an epidemic. However, with real initiative we can change the course of our future.

Michael H. Merry
San Francisco

Clarification

★ I was quoted in the Feb. 9 B.A.R. in the article "Scientists Say AIDS May Be 'Manageable'" and would like to clarify a point. The article reported that I "debunked... new age thinking that if one things positively then it will happen positively."

The point that I was trying to make that I feel became obscured is that some people are afraid that if feelings of helplessness and hopelessness about their medical condition are allowed to surface that this will cause serious damage to their bodies. I don't believe this to be the case, and in fact, find that people experience a greater sense of comfort and some relief by finding that they are able to identify, express, and respond to their own frightening emotions.

The new-age thinking that I was trying to debunk was the idea that if one thinks negative things it will cause them to happen. One of the problems with this thinking is that when people do become ill from the natural course of a disease they can end up blaming themselves for having made it happen by having just thought about the possibility. It is virtually impossible these days not to think "negative" things at times, and if we then become afraid of those

thoughts, we simply intensify our fear and discomfort.

Thank you for providing the opportunity for me to clarify this important psychological point.

Dr. Ken Charles
San Francisco

All Responsible

The following was sent to the San Francisco Examiner

★ Your Jan. 15 Image coverage of Dr. L. Day was interesting. It amazes me how people like Dr. Day can imagine flagging their names with the credentials of "M.D." After all the horrors and loneliness she sees you would think she would have a little more compassion and understanding of AIDS.

Every precaution for every patient/doctor, whether HIV infected or not should be taken (as always?) at all times—without taking away patients' rights. What would be next?

She is so incredibly insensitive to the other AIDS issues (e.g. loss of insurance when confidentiality is broken, many times due to a physician's "slip of the tongue"). Blood testing for incoming ER (unknown) patients is not necessary. We all should assume that everyone is HIV positive, thus insuring everyone's safety (sexually, medically, etc.) We all have a responsibility in this crisis!

Facing a death sentence from a disease that no one knows (yet) how to cure or stop is bad enough. But when running further risk of destroying people's lives with "knowledge" possibly ending up in the wrong hands is ridiculous!

Doctors, unlike what she stated, do not have all the responsibility. It is mine and every person's responsibility not to bring the devastation of AIDS to others. That is a hell of a responsibility when infected. Think about it, Dr. Day! Try to understand, if at all possible!

Dr. Day has said and done such mindless things. It all truly a contradiction and ironic that she works with/around AIDS patients, isn't it?

Denis Gregory
San Francisco

Get The Facts Straight

★ This letter is in response to Gary Menger's letter in B.A.R., Feb. 16.

I'm shocked with your lack of awareness, concerning the gender balance of the Cable Car Awards Board of Directors.

Your display of concern, or should I say lack of knowledge, that you shared, showed many people that you did not do your homework! Your letter was mere hearsay, or old fashioned "telephone rumors"!

First, Gary baby, I have been a proud member of the Cable Car Awards board for many years and am one of twelve members which happens to balance itself with half men and half women. Please note that I did not use the phrase "gay men or gay women"! As it stands now, we are all gay members of this community, but that is our choice in sexuality and continued commitment to the board.

I can assure you, Gary, that if a person of any given gender were to be recommended to the board as a new member, their sexual preference is not our concern. Our concern is what this person can, and will do to better our continued efforts within the community. We try to be fair and look at things with an open mind. But we are not perfect, nor will we ever be.

There are several hardworking committees of individuals that volunteer their time and efforts in conjunction with many outstanding events and happenings. We all try and bring due acknowledgements to the gay community at large and not intentionally to exclude anyone because of sexual differences or beliefs.

Yes, before you say, "It's politics!" we are not immune. But the only honest thing that one person can do, is share your concern with us and help us grow in the years ahead. Change can only better us, but incorrect knowledge and information can only detract one's accomplishments and goals to further one's success.

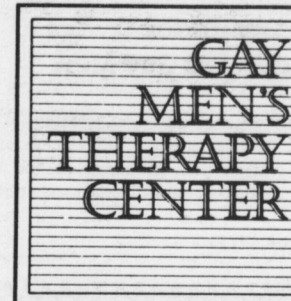
We are a fun-loving group that tries very hard to cover many bases. We work hard to listen and not to judge people for motive.

We are human, and for that, sometimes there are people omitted in some categories that should be included as nominees. We ask for help not criticism. We look at the "straight community" always for support of our efforts, and have special awards for those who have been ever so special and dear to so many of us.

You are not the first, nor the last that feels so strongly about someone who has been omitted. But you can assist us by joining or providing input to our committees.

But in the meantime, verify your concerns!

Chris Puccinelli
San Francisco



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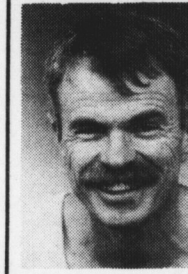
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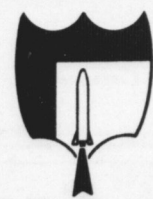
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CDC, and a wide range of other groups.)

Driven by this frustration last year, Mr. Dannemeyer took his case to as large a segment of the American population as can be asked to vote on a single policy issue—the voters of California.

In 1986, Mr. Dannemeyer backed an initiative put together by the prominent felon and medical authority, Lyndon LaRouche, and when that effort to deal with AIDS was overwhelmingly repudiated by the voters, its supporters attributed its defeat in substantial part to the unpopularity of Mr. LaRouche.

So in 1988 Mr. Dannemeyer put his own initiative on the ballot, one in which he was free to frame the proposal as he wished. The proposals he put forward bore, not surprisingly, a strong resemblance to some of the proposals he has offered unsuccessfully on the floor of the House.

A very vigorous debate ensued with a good deal of both paid and unpaid media. (California voters by now have had the chance to get very familiar with the referendum process, since that state puts so large a percentage of its important public questions on the ballot that I sometimes wonder what it is they pay their legislators to do.)

The result of this vigorous public debate on a set of proposals which Mr. Dannemeyer himself framed was very much the same as the result that has occurred when we have dealt with these issues in the House: the Dannemeyer proposals were very soundly defeated. Statewide, 5,786,000 people voted against the Dannemeyer initiative, Proposition 102, while 3,027,000 voted for it.

In Orange County, the home county of Mr. Dannemeyer, and our colleague Mr. Robert Dornan, the no vote was 506,302, while the yes vote was 325,396. In Mr. Dannemeyer's own congressional district, doubtless as a tribute to the respect his own constituents have for him, his initiative did better than it did on the statewide ballot by 6 percentage points—he was only defeated on his initiative in his own congressional district by a margin of 59.6 percent to 40.3 percent.

I eagerly await this year's debate on AIDS issues in which we may well be told that the trouble with the country is that the people are out of touch with themselves. ▼

LETTERS

Take Action

★ Thank you for your article, "To Test Or Not To Test" by Dennis McMillan, in your Jan. 26 edition. I agree with most of the items discussed there. However, there are several recent developments which bring into real question anyone's so-called "need" not to be tested. These include:

1) The rapid development and trial of promising new therapies, including several versions of the CD4 decoy, a European mistletoe extract called Iscador, and other antiviral drugs that are perhaps more effective than AZT with fewer side effects.

2) Some very convincing evidence that for virtually all available therapies, the sooner one starts, the more effective the drugs are with fewer side effects, and

3) In light of items (1) and (2) above, more and more medical authorities are recommending that, if any treatment is being considered, it be done sooner instead of later. Depending on one's blood tests and medical advice, even AZT could be started earlier (say in a half-dose form) in view of adding or switching to something less toxic as soon as it is available.

As mentioned in the article "the ability to start early treatments if seropositive" could indeed be a lifesaving measure, while there may be little rationale left for the "depression, anxiety," and "sleep disturbance" involved.

I know that Tom Caldarella recommends Project Inform to people considering treatment. I agree with him that their approach is rather aggressive. There is something to be said, however, for the feeling that one can and is doing something to slow the spread of the virus. Perhaps a more thorough look at one's immune system is in order before deciding on a treatment.

I was in Los Angeles at the Advanced Immune Discoveries Symposium Feb. 4-5. There were many interesting talks. While a few still question if HIV causes AIDS, there were other presentations on Chinese herbs, vitamins, visualization and attitudinal healing. Dr. Robert Gorter gave some exciting data on T-cell rises for 11 patients on Iscador alone that were consistent beyond the one year point. If you want to hear more about holistic treatments, Tom O'Connor is presenting a two-day workshop on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 27-28 at MCC, 150 Eureka Street.

Sources of information western medical treatments appear in such informative places as AMFAR's Experimental Treatment Directory, the SF AIDS Foundation's Bulletin BETA, and Project Inform's PI Perspective. Information on holistic treatments can be found in Healing AIDS, and in Tom O'Connor's and Dr. Laurence Badgley's books.

The Healing Alternatives (Buyer's Club) has a large resource library (which includes all publications mentioned here) on treatments of all kinds. John James' AIDS Treatment News can keep you up to date on new developments.

Making decisions and taking action takes time. The decision to monitor immune status is another stepping stone—to some even more frightening than the original decision to get tested. We all need support systems, and having at least a few friends or people in groups (such as Tom's at Operation Concern) to discuss these matters is extremely important.

The hardest decision is to know what action to take. It takes time to learn about therapies. And considering what may be coming by the end of 1989, I'd say the time to get started is now (if you haven't already). I love the gay community, and I want you all to be here in ten years (and beyond). I've had too many friends "wake up" with PCP to believe in the "wait and see" approach. We are still in the midst of an epidemic. However, with real initiative we can change the course of our future.

Michael H. Merry
San Francisco

Clarification

★ I was quoted in the Feb. 9 B.A.R. in the article "Scientists Say AIDS May Be 'Manageable'" and would like to clarify a point. The article reported that I "debunked... new age thinking that if one thing positively then it will happen positively."

The point that I was trying to make that I feel became obscured is that some people are afraid that if feelings of helplessness and hopelessness about their medical condition are allowed to surface that this will cause serious damage to their bodies. I don't believe this to be the case, and in fact, find that people experience a greater sense of comfort and some relief by finding that they are able to identify, express, and respond to their own frightening emotions.

The new-age thinking that I was trying to debunk was the idea that if one thinks negative things it will cause them to happen. One of the problems with this thinking is that when people do become ill from the natural course of a disease they can end up blaming themselves for having made it happen by having just thought about the possibility. It is virtually impossible these days not to think "negative" things at times, and if we then become afraid of those

thoughts, we simply intensify our fear and discomfort.

Thank you for providing the opportunity for me to clarify this important psychological point.

Dr. Ken Charles
San Francisco

All Responsible

The following was sent to the San Francisco Examiner

★ Your Jan. 15 Image coverage of Dr. L. Day was interesting. It amazes me how people like Dr. Day can imagine flagging their names with the credentials of "M.D." After all the horrors and loneliness she sees you would think she would have a little more compassion and understanding of AIDS.

Every precaution for every patient/doctor, whether HIV infected or not should be taken (as always?) at all times—without taking away patients' rights. What would be next?

She is so incredibly insensitive to the other AIDS issues (e.g. loss of insurance when confidentiality is broken, many times due to a physician's "slip of the tongue"). Blood testing for incoming ER (unknown) patients is not necessary. We all should assume that everyone is HIV positive, thus insuring everyone's safety (sexually, medically, etc.) We all have a responsibility in this crisis!

Facing a death sentence from a disease that no one knows (yet) how to cure or stop is bad enough. But when running further risk of destroying people's lives with "knowledge" possibly ending up in the wrong hands is ridiculous!

Doctors, unlike what she stated, do not have all the responsibility. It is mine and every person's responsibility not to bring the devastation of AIDS to others. That is a hell of a responsibility when infected. Think about it, Dr. Day! Try to understand, if at all possible!

Dr. Day has said and done such mindless things. It all is truly a contradiction and ironic that she works with/around AIDS patients, isn't it?

Denis Gregory
San Francisco

Get The Facts Straight

★ This letter is in response to Gary Menger's letter in B.A.R., Feb. 16.

I'm shocked with your lack of awareness, concerning the gender balance of the Cable Car Awards Board of Directors.

Your display of concern, or should I say lack of knowledge, that you shared, showed many people that you did not do your homework! Your letter was mere hearsay, or old fashioned "telephone rumors"!

First, Gary baby, I have been a proud member of the Cable Car Awards board for many years and am one of twelve members which happens to balance itself with half men and half women. Please note that I did not use the phrase "gay men or gay women"! As it stands now, we are all gay members of this community, but that is our choice in sexuality and continued commitment to the board.

I can assure you, Gary, that if a person of any given gender were to be recommended to the board as a new member, their sexual preference is not our concern. Our concern is what this person can, and will do to better our continued efforts within the community. We try to be fair and look at things with an open mind. But we are not perfect, nor will we ever be.

There are several hardworking committees of individuals that volunteer their time and efforts in conjunction with many outstanding events and happenings. We all try and bring due acknowledgements to the gay community at large and not intentionally to exclude anyone because of sexual differences or beliefs.

Yes, before you say, "It's politics!" we are not immune. But the only honest thing that one person can do, is share your concern with us and help us grow in the years ahead. Change can only better us, but incorrect knowledge and information can only detract one's accomplishments and goals to further one's success.

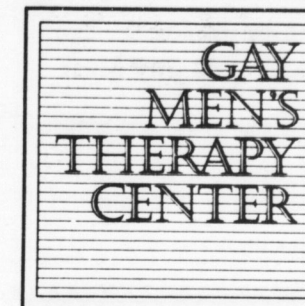
We are a fun-loving group that tries very hard to cover many bases. We work hard to listen and not to judge people for motive.

We are human, and for that, sometimes there are people omitted in some categories that should be included as nominees. We ask for help not criticism. We look at the "straight community" always for support of our efforts, and have special awards for those who have been ever so special and dear to so many of us.

You are not the first, nor the last that feels so strongly about someone who has been omitted. But you can assist us by joining or providing input to our committees.

But in the meantime, verify your concerns!

Chris Puccinelli
San Francisco



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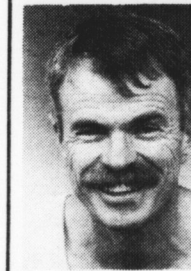
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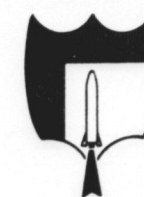
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LETTERS

Sabotage

This is a copy of an open letter mailed to Mayor Art Agnos.

★ I am writing this in response to recent attempts by a group called Dignity to sabotage and totally undermine your Human Rights Commission by demanding the removal of one of your appointed members, Fr. Peter Sammon.

Apparently this is a kind of revenge to be exacted since Dignity was ostracized from meeting on church property. A group wrapping itself in such righteous liberal pieties resorts to fascist, storm-trooper tactics—what irony!

I ask you to resist this outrageously presumptuous and self-serving demand to placate their bruised egos. The objective and long-range considerations of the entire community deserve to be reckoned with first.

You certainly have no apology to make to the gay community about how sensitively you've responded to other, more responsible needs. But they have no right to demand his removal in such imperial terms. He has every right to be there, and you were right in appointing him.

Please maintain the courage to withstand this vigilante juggernaut and keep Father Sammon where he is. Dignity has a lot to learn about compassion—the real kind, not the grandstanding kind that grabs headlines.

Michael Langham
 San Francisco

Cupid Blows Whistle

★ On page ten of the Feb. 9 issue of Bay Area Reporter, you and your staff graciously and exquisitely published a notice regarding a special Valentine theme whistle promotion and sale in conjunction with Community United Against Violence (CUAV).

Although the special street corner promo is over, 60 whistles were sold, in spite of the windy and chilly weather. CUAV and the community at large extend (at least) 60 thank you's for your timely assistance in promoting the concept of community-based resistance to homophobic street violence.

You should be aware that when the whistle salesperson arrived to set up shop on the corner of 18th and Castro Streets, someone was already there waiting to buy a whistle. He was there waiting in response to your publicizing the Cupid blowing a whistle flyer. On another occasion, two gentlemen purchased half a dozen whistles for themselves and various friends. One related that both of them had traveled all the way from Los Altos to San Francisco to buy whistles because they had read about it in your newspaper.

Bay Area Reporter provided over 10 percent of sales! Yes, Virginia, it pays to advertise! And again my personal thanks to all of you at B.A.R. for your help over the last dozen years of the whistle response program.

Martin Van Horne
 San Francisco

Recommendation

The following was sent to Mayor Art Agnos

★ We, the rector, wardens and vestry, of Trinity Episcopal Church, urge your support for the nomination of a member of the gaylesbian clergy on the Mayor's Task Force on AIDS. While Archbishop Quinn and Bishop Swing represent a large and important part of the religious community, they do not reflect other values important to the gay and lesbian religious community. Rev. James Sandmire or Rev. Jim Mitulski of the Metropolitan Community Church would make good choices.

Rev. Warren Cromey
 San Francisco

Get On The Right Track

★ Responding to Gary Menger's letter in last week's Bay Area Reporter, the Cable Car Awards is, first and foremost, a time to honor those lesbians and gay men who have made outstanding contributions to our community. That is what we are about!

If Gary Menger wants another set of guidelines for the presentation of awards, we suggest the Academy Awards, the Emmies or the Cabaret Gold Awards.

Over the years we have also honored persons and organizations who are not gay but have made a significant contribution to the gay and lesbian community. These people range from Mayor Art Agnos and former Mayor Dianne Feinstein to Sharon McNight, Jeanie Tracy, Episcopal Bishop Kilmer

Myers, Rev. Cecil Williams, Ruth Brinker, Rita Rockett, former Police Chief Charles Gain, Sheriff Michael Hennessey and organizations which include Levi Strauss, Neiman-Marcus, KPIX and KRON.

We don't ask recipients to "prove" they are gay as Gary Menger suggests we might. Menger also observes that to do so might "frighten the horses."

Cable Car Award winners in our community have already, in fact, proven themselves and that is why they are winners. We would add that most have the distinction of "frightening the horses" at least once—and they probably enjoyed it!

To clarify another point in Menger's letter, there are two women on the Cable Car Awards Entertainment committee and there is a 50/50 parity on the Cable Car Awards Board of Directors.

Having said that, we hope to see Gary Menger, a member of the Cable Car Awards Entertainment Committee and others in our community on Saturday, March 4 at the Giftcenter, when for the 15th year the lesbian and gay community honors its finest at the Cable Car Awards & Show.

Hydie Downard
 Bob Cramer
 Co-Chairs
 Cable Car Awards Board of Directors

Enough

★ I would really like to know how much Jerry Coletti and Pat Montclair spent on their campaign for Emperor and Empress. I am sure that the amount spent is several thousands of dollars looking at all the advertising that appeared all around town, and in the gay papers, the numerous unsolicited mailings I received in the mail, the limousine rentals, the motorized cable car rental, the special parties, the jackets, pins, flyers, posters, etc., etc.

What a complete waste of money just to play dress-up! I believe that amount of money could have gone a very long way in helping the homeless in our community or those with AIDS who cannot afford proper medical care. It could have helped more than one person. Instead, all this money went for one huge ego trip!

Mr. Coletti is always in the news for doing some fundraiser at his restaurant—one should ask how much he makes off the bar and food at these events. What great free advertising!

I think it is high time that people like Jerry Coletti and the Court System start letting this community know how many thousands of dollars they spend on these elections and also their extremely fancy investitures. I think the amounts would amaze all of us!

The gay newspapers are always stating that accountings should be made from other groups. Are these people that are involved in the Court System "sacred cows" and exempt from these requests—or what are they really hiding?

I am sick and tired of hearing about Jerry Coletti and Pat Montclair and their campaign for Emperor and Empress and seeing their pictures so much in the gay papers. There are many other people and gay businesses in our community that raise funds and contribute as much or more than Mr. Coletti and Ms. Montclair, and never get their names mentioned or are publicity seeking hounds like these two individuals. Enough is enough!

Brian H. Roberts
 San Francisco

Leadership

The following was sent to Pres. George Bush:

★ Please, Mr. President, I don't want to die. I am one of thousands of American citizens, men, women and children who have AIDS. I know I am dying as thousands upon thousands of men, women and children have died before me, and thousands upon thousands of men, women and children who will die after me.

AIDS does not discriminate. We who are dying are your priests and ministers, your doctors and lawyers, your brothers and sisters, and your mothers and fathers. We all have one thing in common: We are all children of God.

As one who works at a medical center, I see, hear and smell the agony of disease, and death from AIDS every day. I stand by helpless and in that helplessness, I think maybe our new President will take a leadership role and declare AIDS a national health emergency. Then and only then will this declaration by you, Mr. President, inspire our scientists to go that extra mile and give that extra measure to come up with a cure for this dread disease.

I know that thousands upon thousands of us will continue to die while waiting for Presidential leadership which could help lead to a cure; but isn't it worth it, Mr. President, in the name of humanity and God.

Please do what your conscience—not politics—dictates. We have had too much of politics and too little of conscience these past eight years.

James Steward
 San Francisco

Wayne Friday

The Saga of Rock and Marc

Gay activists, legal experts and those involved in the fight against AIDS were still talking this week about the precedent-setting multi-million dollar award given to late movie star Rock Hudson's gay lover last week.

The jury gave Marc Christian \$14.5 million from the estate of the AIDS victim film star for "emotional distress" supposedly caused by Hudson's failure to inform his 35-year-old former bartender lover that he was suffering from the deadly AIDS until only weeks before his death in late 1985. Then two days later they awarded him an additional \$7.25 million in "punitive damages," penalizing Hudson's longtime secretary for allegedly conspiring in the big secret. The jury gushed unashamedly at the young Christian, shaking his hand, wishing him "luck," treating him as though he was in fact a film star. Clearly enamored with the handsome Christian, most jurors warmly greeted him after the verdict then quickly brushed past reporters, avoiding discussing what led them to award Christian such huge sums of money.

In bars in Silver Lake and West Hollywood patrons who claim to have known both Christian and Hudson had mixed opinions of the unusual court decision. One patron snapped that, "I guess this means we have to give resumes to our potential lovers—what's next?"

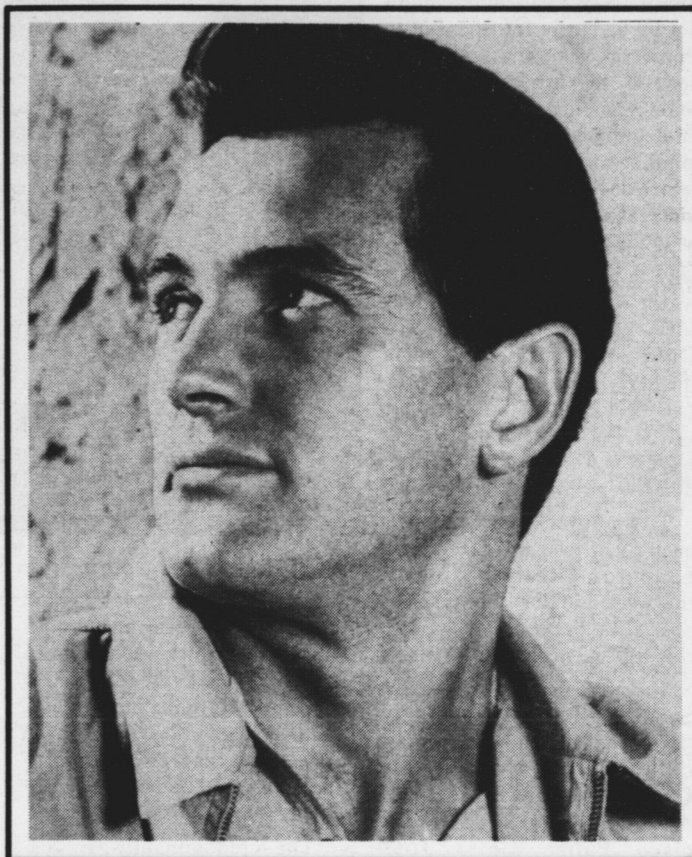
Steve Schulte, West Hollywood City Councilmember and former mayor of that city, said that while he was surprised, as were most, by the size of the award, he does agree however with the jury's decision to "assess some kind of responsibility to provide for the survivors in relationships like these." He also worried that the Hudson case might "open the floodgates" to similar actions against other wealthy gay men.

Christian told reporters that if he ever in fact collects the \$7.25 million in punitive damages, he planned to donate it to AIDS research or to a group supporting AIDS victims. "No one person needs that much money," he commented, though neglecting to mention why he would need the original \$14 million he was awarded.

Though Christian told reporters that he "still misses" Rock Hudson, he criticized the late actor for leaving nothing in his will (reportedly worth as much as \$27 million) to AIDS research or support groups. Many called Christian's promise to contribute to AIDS groups nothing more than a public relations gesture, since both he and his attorney supposedly know that Mark Miller, the secretary to the late actor against whom the judgment was made has total assets of less than \$100,000, and can never in fact pay the judgment.

The late actor left as his beneficiaries the Motion Picture and TV County Home and Hospital in Woodland Hills, the Braille Institute, and USC. Shortly before his death in 1985, Hudson was credited publicly with providing \$250,000 in seed money for the creation of the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR), the organization led by Elizabeth Taylor.

However, it was learned this week that the money was merely a short-term loan that was in fact



Rock Hudson, matinee idol

repaid to the actor's estate after his death.

Legal experts reacted to the extraordinary judgment in differing ways. Ben Schatz of the National Gay Rights Advocates said, "The fact Mr. Christian was not infected appears to have been overlooked. The jury seems to have responded hysterically to the very fear of AIDS rather than the medical facts."

Saying that the case "sends a dangerous message," Schatz says the judgment seems "to tell people that if they continue to bury their heads in the sand by engaging in unsafe sex and become infected, it's entirely their partner's fault and they don't bear any responsibility."



Political consultant Ron Smith.

Frank Schubert, president of the Association for California Tort Reform, seemed to agree with Schatz. He said that the jury set a "catastrophic" precedent. "What the jury did was set damages for fear—whether it's rational fear or not."

After it all, Mr. Christian was telling reporters late last week that "Rock would have been proud of me—he would have said 'Go get 'em, kid!'"

Pending appeals, appeals, and more appeals, Marc Christian could end up with "damages" totalling \$21.7 million dollars. Reality had set in by press time though when Christian acknowledged that he "might even have to get a job" because court fights

could keep the money tied up for years.

When asked what his immediate plans were, Christian said he would "stay away from movie stars."

Ah, the world of political consultants—where would we be without them? A couple of weeks ago GOP "strategist" Ron Smith was busily heralding the likes of L.A. Police Chief Darryl Gates, a possible Republican candidate for governor, in the L.A. Times. This week he is jumping on the Pete Wilson bandwagon, predicting that the Wilson candidacy meant "a (GOP) party united as you haven't seen it in decades in this state." (Shopping for a gubernatorial client, Ron?)

Did you ever notice that whenever Smith is mentioned in the press he is inevitably described as the person "who ran Ed Zschau's near-successful campaign" against Sen. Alan Cranston in 1986. Never is it mentioned that he also ran John Molinari's disastrous mayoral campaign.

Then there is Democrat political consultant Clint Reilly, who reportedly pocketed as much as \$9 million from the insurance companies while losing their campaign last year. He told the Examiner, straight-faced and all, that, "We're not in this business to make money, we're in it because we love politics." Ha! (And the moon is made of cream cheese, there really is a Santa Claus, and I've got some ocean-front property in Arizona that I want to talk to you about.) Talk about insulting the intelligence!

Incidentally, it looks like the Republicans have their candidate for governor in the popular Pete Wilson, but I'll take bets that Dianne Feinstein could give the guy a real run for his (Republican) money.

While the GOP state convention in Sacramento last weekend was busily making jokes about Jerry Brown's re-emergence as state Democratic chair, George Deukmejian was warning the Republicans that they shouldn't get too cute about attacking the

(Continued on next page)

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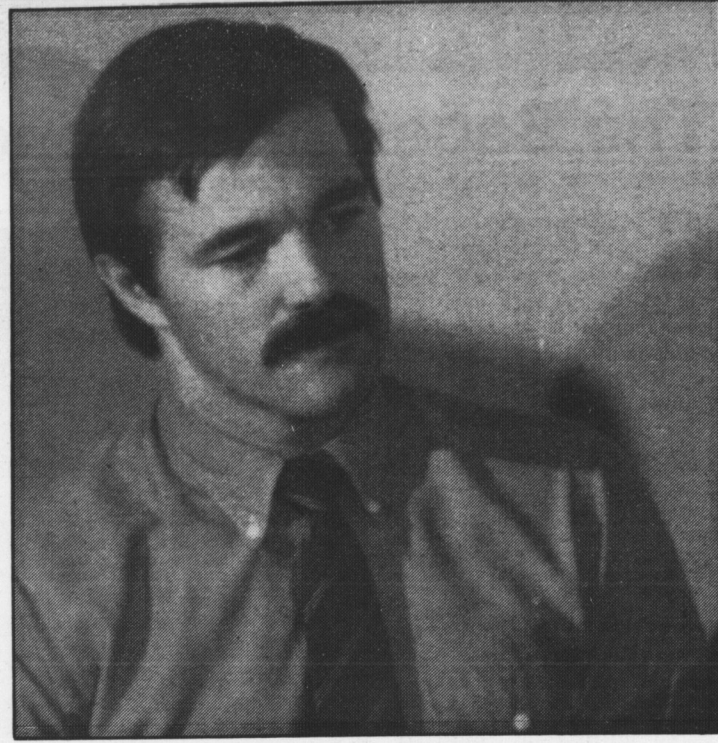
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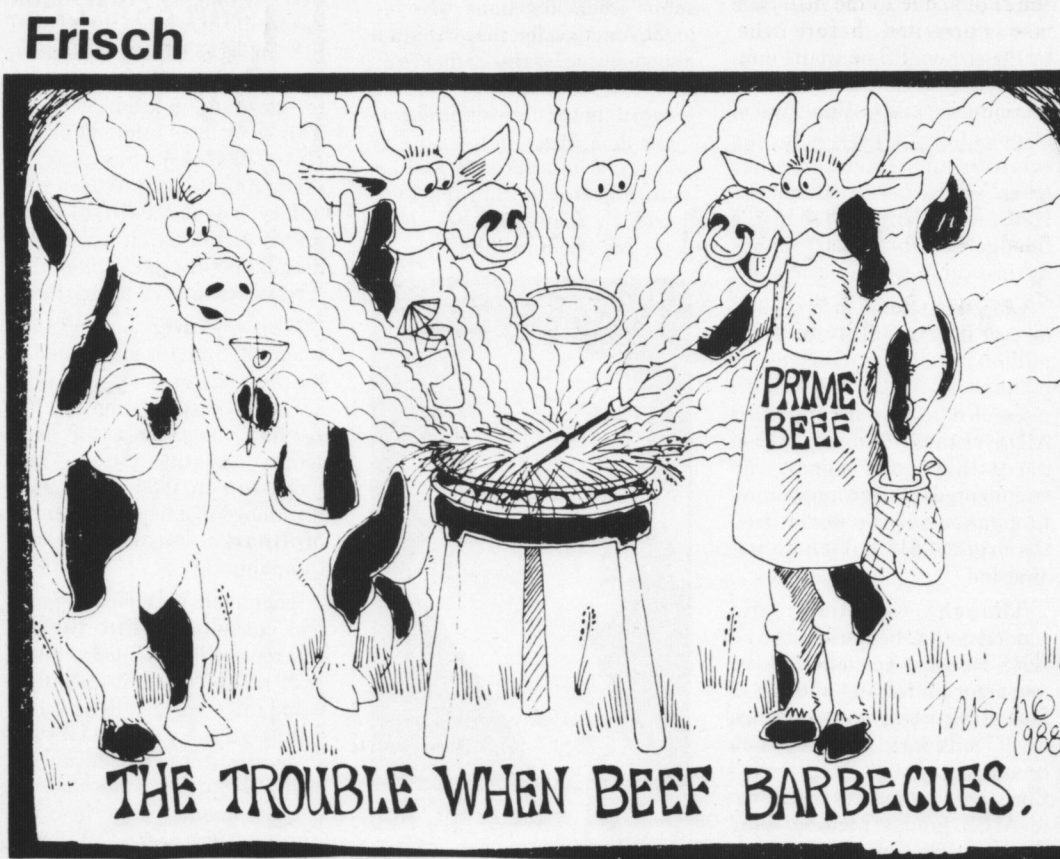


Friday
(Continued from previous page)
former governor. Deukmejian told the GOP delegates that Brown's political liabilities might not be as easily transferable to Democratic candidate for governor and other offices next year as some Republicans think. "I hope we Republicans will not make the mistake of thinking that the return of Jerry Brown is going to make our task easier."
As for national Republicans, I have to like GOP chair Lee Atwater when he says he will kick former KKK leader David Duke's ass "and kick him out of the party." The state representative-elect in Louisiana is an advocate for racial and religious bigotry and even the Republicans don't want him.
The networks are fighting each other over the coverage of Emperor Hirohito's funeral this week and the duke has been dead since Jan. 7. Damn, let's get this funeral over with.
There was the L.A. Times in the Saturday edition promoting the "Newsmaker Sunday" program on CNN with guests Rep. Charles Rangel of N.Y., Asst. Attorney General and San Francisco Police Chief Josh McNamara. (Are you reading this Frank Jordan?)
In Boston, attorney Dermot Meagher has been nominated to the City Court, and if confirmed, will become the first openly gay judge in the commonwealth of Massachusetts.
Political types buzzing about the break-up of Tom Hayden and Jane Fonda, two good friends of the lesbian/gay community. Makes that Christmas card of Tom, Jane,



West Hollywood Councilman Steve Shulte.

Troy and Vanessa, and Jane's stepmother Shirlee Fonda that I received last December, a souvenir. Hayden, incidentally, leads all state-wide polls to be the new state insurance commissioner, should he become a candidate.
The predominantly-gay concerned Republicans for Individual Rights have changed their name to Log Cabin Club of San Francisco/CRIR, and are part of a state-wide organization with the same name.
San Francisco Archbishop John Quinn is among 10 religious officials chosen to engage in an "open, free-flowing discussion" (?) with Pope John Paul II next month, church officials announced last week. The unprecedented four-day session with the

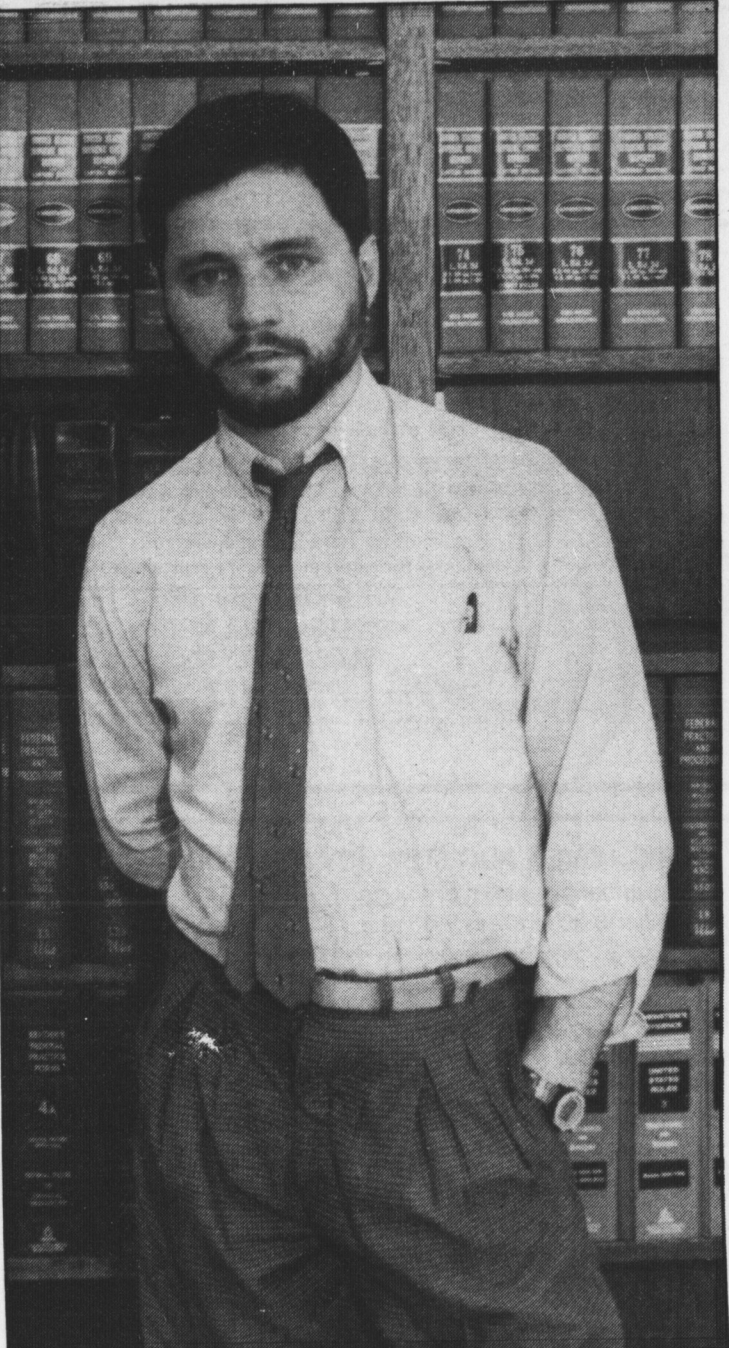


by Kurt Erichsen



Mike Hippler
Supporting Women's Rights

Unlike my more politically correct friends, I am sometimes uneasy concerning my stand on abortion. I am not certain, for instance, that life does not begin at conception. But after considering the alternatives—unwanted pregnancies, unavoidable deaths, unconscionable denial of rights—I put to rest whatever qualms I had years ago. That's why, when T.J. Anthony of the Feminist Men's Alliance asked me to sign on as a supporter of Men Who Care About Women's Lives, a newly-formed pro-choice group, I readily agreed.
According to Anthony, Men Who Care was formed for three reasons: to involve men in the abortion issue in a much more visible and profound way than they have been previously; to inform political institutions and the courts that they cannot rely on the indifference of men to this issue any longer; and to communicate to women that men do care about the issues that affect their lives.
"When Men Who Care is comprised of both straight and gay men, gay men have a particular reason to give their support," states Anthony. "A lot of women have helped us in our struggle against AIDS. As a result, their attentions have been diverted from their own concerns, which are now suffering. It's time for us to do what we can to help them."
Urgency, continues Anthony, is imperative. "We recognize that we are at a point of panic on abortion rights, due to the Missouri case currently before the Supreme Court. The Court may choose to curtail or even rescind the rights secured by Roe v. Wade in 1973. If so, not only women will suffer, but all people who believe in a constitutional right to privacy."
This is another reason, notes Anthony, that gay men should be concerned. "As gay men, we believe we have the right to do what we want with our bodies; so do women. There is no other issue at this moment that can cause us more harm in our struggle to expand the right to privacy than the potential loss of Roe v. Wade."
"The right to privacy is not explicit in the Constitution; it's implicit. It's based on developing case history. Griswold v. Connecticut in 1968, in which the Court decided that married couples have the right to use contraceptives, was the first of these cases involving private sexual behavior. Roe v. Wade was the second. The Hardwick case might have been the third, by striking down Georgia's antiquated sodomy law."
"Unfortunately, we lost that case, and the expansion of rights has come to a halt in this country. Yet this is not enough for the right wing, who want not only to halt this expansion but also to reverse it. We cannot allow that to happen."
To prevent a right-wing abortion victory, the leaders of Men Who Care have planned a multifaceted counter-attack. Following a press conference and fundraiser in early March, they will sponsor a candlelight march on March 23 in memory of women who died in back-alley butcher shops when abortions were illegal. A week later, they will lead a large-scale civil disobedience at the Federal Building. Finally, they will mount a surprise campaign that will graphically demonstrate their concern in a way the President and the Supreme Court cannot possibly ignore.
Responding to suggestions that the Court is supposed to be beyond this kind of public pressure, Anthony replies, "The idea that public opinion has no bearing on the outcome of judicial decisions is nonsense. The Court is quite sensitive to criticism, as a number of instances have proved."
"Two of the most visible blights on our country's commitment to justice and equality for all citizens, Plessy v. Ferguson and Korematsu (one involving black Americans and the other Japanese-Americans), were eventually reversed when widespread criticism led the Court to change its mind. This may happen with Roe v. Wade—but in a manner not to our liking."
Regardless of the outcome of Roe v. Wade, the emergence of Men Who Care may have significance beyond the abortion issue. "The whole concept of the movement," affirms Anthony, "is that this is the first time there has been an organized effort to involve men visibly and energetically on the abortion issue. But more than that, this is the first time men have come together as an organized force to support women. We are confident it will not be the last."
For more information, call 337-2061 or 826-1941.



T.J. Anthony (Photo: S. Savage)

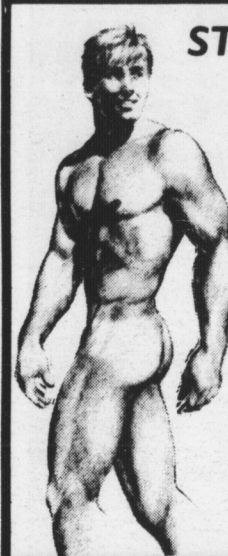
3 Judges Cited for HIV 'Hysteria'

The Civil Liberties Union of Alabama and 13 Alabama organizations filed a complaint last month against three Alabama judges who refused to allow HIV-infected persons in their courtrooms.
"These judges' actions represent an outrageous example of AIDS-hysteria threatening basic constitutional rights," said Olivia Turner, executive director of the Civil Liberties Union of Alabama. "Judges have a responsibility to rise above senseless prejudice and we intend to hold them responsible for failing to do so," Turner added.
The complaint addressed incidences in which the three Birmingham judges—Jack Montgomery, O.L. "Pete" Johnson, and Mike McCormick—had asked HIV-infected defendants to enter pleas and to hear sentences by telephone rather than appear in the courtroom. It also referred to discriminatory statements made by one of the judges about gay people.
"The behavior of these judges in the face of public information regarding how the AIDS virus is transmitted has compromised the integrity, independence and public confidence of and in the judiciary and its proper conduct," the complaint stated.
In addition to the Civil Liberties Union of Alabama, the complaint was signed by the AIDS Task Force of Alabama, a number of other Alabama AIDS groups, several Alabama chapters of the National Organization of Women, and the Unitarian Church.
The charges, which accuse the judges of violating four canons of judicial ethics, have been filed with the Judicial Inquiry Commission of the State of Alabama. Should the Commission find that the judges acted unethically or that misconduct occurred, the charges will be forwarded to Alabama's Court of Judiciary for a public hearing. The Court has the authority to publicly censure the judges, to suspend them with or without pay, or to remove them from the bench.
"We hope that the Commission will act swiftly to vindicate the constitutional rights of the HIV-infected persons involved," said Nan D. Hunter, director of the ACLU's AIDS Project. "A public reprimand of this outrageous discrimination will send a message nationwide that AIDS discrimination will not be tolerated in the judicial system," Hunter stated.

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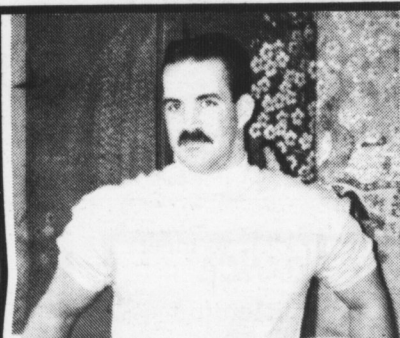
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Court Refuses to Dismiss Bias Suit Against Dentist

Dental Clinic Denied Treatment to HIV+ Man

by Dennis McMillan

National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) recently scored some points for the rights of seropositive people when San Francisco Superior Court Judge Stuart Pollak rejected an attempt to dismiss an AIDS-related discrimination charge. NGRA's case, *Bearden v. Sutter Dental Clinic* will now proceed to trial and may eventually establish important legal precedent for dental patients with HIV.

Last November, NGRA had filed the suit against the Sutter Place Dental Group for refusing to treat HIV-positive patients. The dental clinic then filed for dismissal, arguing that dentists may legally discriminate against HIV-infected patients.

Included in their brief was the argument: "Defendants have a right to protect themselves from the danger of infection represented by plaintiff, and moreover have a duty as dental practitioners to avoid becoming carriers of AIDS."

The argument went to the extremes of stating, "The alternative as urged by plaintiff presents a chilling prospect indeed. If plaintiff (Bearden) has his way, all medical practitioners will bear a nonconsensual and heightened risk of contracting AIDS. The ultimate disaster is the possibility that these same medical practitioners will succumb to the fatal effects of AIDS, thereby depriving an entire society of medical practitioners."

NGRA attorneys presented the facts and history of the case. On May 18, when Douglas Bearden checked on a standard health form required by the clinic that he had been tested seropositive, he claims he was subsequently denied dental care.

In the middle of his examination and x-ray, he was summoned to the front office, informed by the receptionist that they could not treat him, and referred him to another dentist.

Asked why he was refused treatment, the receptionist apparently told Bearden that they were not equipped to handle AIDS patients.

Benjamin Schatz, director of the AIDS Civil Rights Project of NGRA, countered that in treating HIV-positive people (Bearden does not have AIDS) there is nothing different that needs to be done than is normally carried out for any other patient.

"This case is the first in California to test whether California law prohibits doctors or dentists from discriminating against people because they have AIDS or because they have tested positive for the AIDS virus," stated Schatz.

Schatz said that under the Unruh Civil Rights Act, a broad law which prohibits business establishments from engaging in arbitrary discrimination, and various local city and state ordinances, including the San Francisco AIDS ordinance, it is illegal for California dentists and physicians to discriminate against HIV-positive people.

He added that the American Dental Association and the American Medical Association both oppose such behavior as unethical.

Cooperating attorney Charles Perry of the San Francisco law firm Folger & Levin explained that this discrimination is not peculiar to San Francisco or California, but is a problem throughout the United States. There are similar cases currently pending in New York and Chicago courts, he said.

Schatz has called the incident an outrageous case of AIDS hysteria in the midst of a health care crisis.

"We believe the suit is going to send a very strong message to doctors and dentists throughout the state of California that they cannot simply wash their hands of the AIDS crisis, and if they refuse to treat people with AIDS and HIV infection that they very well may pay a price," said Schatz.

He recalled that several months ago Gov. George Deukmejian had already vetoed a law (SB 2857) which would have prohibited doctors and dentists from such discrimination. The bill proposed by Sen. Quentin Kopp stated that it "prohibits the health care provider from denying or discontinuing services unless the provider has made an appropriate referral to another provider who has agreed to accept the patient and transfer has been completed." The measure was intended to block patient dumping.

Schatz said that the Bearden suit should send a message to the governor that this type of HIV discriminatory action will not be tolerated.

The lawsuit seeks an injunction prohibiting Sutter Dental from refusing to treat any patient infected with HIV and asks for triple the amount of money in damages, according to the statutes.

Bearden's attorneys' next step is to gather depositions necessary for discovery.

NGRA's executive director Jean O'Leary commented, "Now that the legal obstacles are out of the way, we should have no problem demonstrating that the clinic did, in fact, discriminate against our client."



Rep. Barbara Boxer accepts award from Laurie McBride and Ken McPherson of Mobilization Against AIDS. (Photo: S. Savage)

Consumer Group Tests Condoms for Reliability

Finds Most Brands Adequate In Disease Prevention; Some Failures Blamed on Improper Use

by Ray O'Loughlin

It may not be news in the gay community, but the rest of America has discovered condoms. What was once a subject only for whispers and snickering, is now a routine topic of conversation. In the last two years, condom sales have jumped 60 percent. Many of those new consumers are gay men and women, two groups never previously connected with condom use. Now the highly respected journal Consumer Reports has joined in with a splashy cover story on rating condoms for reliability.

The March issue—due to hit newsstands Feb. 28—rates 37 varieties of latex and lambskin condoms.

Rene Durazzo of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, called the article a "positive piece" about condoms. "It spells out in clear ways the best kinds, the best ways to use them for protection against AIDS, and points out some of the inadequacies of the FDA's testing."

Consumer Union tested 16,000 condoms, according to their report. On average one in 140 broke. But that average jumped to one in 105 during anal intercourse.

According to Durazzo, that is not a significant problem. "If you engage in anal intercourse and use condoms, there is still a fairly high reliability. But people should be aware that there is a slightly higher degree of risk," he said.

While he thought that the article did not contain a lot of new information for gay men—who have been adapting to condoms for years—the report was useful in its ratings and in its recommendations on how to use condoms.

Much of the effectiveness of condoms depends on whether or not they are used properly. "Many cases of condom failure are because people don't use them right," said Durazzo. "There is a responsibility not only on the manufacturer but a responsibility on the individual to use them properly."

According to Consumer Reports, the top five rated condoms in terms of performance strength were Gold Circle Coin, LifeStyles Extra Strength Lubricated, Saxon Wet Lubricated, Ramses Non-Lubricated Reservoir End, and Sheik Non-Lubricated Reservoir End. Those and 27 other brands were in the category with failure rates below 1.5 percent. The others were ranked in descending order according to their ability to withstand pressure.

Less well rated with a 4 percent failure rate were Sheik Non-Lubricated Plain End, Ramses Sensitol Lubricated, Pleaser Ribbed Lubricated, Ramses Nu-Form, Mentor, and LifeStyle Nuda.

Two brands flunked the Consumer Reports tests. LifeStyles Extra Strength with Nonoxynol-9 and LifeStyles Nuda Plus came in with a failure rate exceeding 10 percent. The manufacturer has recalled LifeStyles Extra Strength from the market.

Consumer Reports used an airburst test, in addition to other tests, to measure how much pressure an inflated condom could withstand and how likely it was to fail in use.

The magazine reported that although the airburst test is standard elsewhere in the world, the

FDA has yet to use it in the U.S. The federal agency, however, is expected to adopt that test in the near future.

According to Consumer Reports, "Until recently testing (of condoms) has been a low priority. But in the face of AIDS, the FDA has dramatically stepped up its program, putting more than 100 staffers into the effort."

Over 120 million condoms hit the U.S. market each year. Greater government inspection, concluded Consumer Reports, has resulted in better

quality condoms, with defect rates cut in half since 1987.

Also mentioned in the article are some precautions to take in storing and using condoms. For example, use only water-based lubricants with latex condoms. KY Jelly is OK, but avoid the Crisco. The oils in some lubricants damage the latex in the condom.

Condoms should also be stored in cool, dark places, recommends CR, to avoid drying out and cracking or breaking. Gay men surveyed by CR said



they preferred latex condoms over lambskin. Lambskin may provide greater sensitivity but latex is rated as slightly more secure in preventing transmission of the tiny molecules of viruses.

Disease prevention is now the leading reason for the use of condoms, according to CR's readers. The FDA does allow manufacturers to state that latex condoms

can be used for disease prevention but does not allow lambskin condoms to carry that recommendation.

There was no test performed on the effects of spermicides in anal intercourse.

And if you want to help the economy, buy American. Imported condoms generally fared less well in CR's tests than U.S. manufactured brands.

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Agnos Urged to Appoint Norman to Police Panel

Opportunity to Restore Gay Spot on Commission

by Allen White

A coalition of gay and black community leaders is aggressively urging San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos to appoint Pat Norman to the city's Police Commission. There will be an opening on the commission in the next few weeks when Gayle Orr-Smith leaves to assume the duties of deputy mayor.

Supervisor Harry Britt met with Agnos last Friday morning and the Police Commission slot was at the top of his list of items for discussion. It was learned that Britt strongly recommended Pat Norman for the Police Commission. Britt has long supported the idea that at least one Police Commission member should be lesbian or gay.

Britt is, in fact, just one of many people who have been actively lobbying the mayor for Norman's appointment. According to a source close to Norman, she has a wide level of support from across the community.

Among those who have stated they favor the appointment are lesbian former Police Commissioners Jo Daly and Juanita Owens. Norman also has the support of Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club President Ron Brathwaite, Sup. Doris Ward and Fire Commissioner Sharon Bretz.



Will Pat Norman be our new Police Commissioner?

(Photo: S. Savage)

This will be the second time Mayor Agnos will have the opportunity to appoint a member of the gay community to the Police Commission. Agnos was criticized last year when he failed to appoint a lesbian or gay to the commission when he made numerous other appointments.

Because the Police Commission so directly deals with gay issues, many community activists were outraged by Agnos' failure to keep a gay person on the commission. His office responded that openings would occur on the commission in the years that followed.

A spot on the Police Commission has, for the last decade, been viewed as one of the most important appointments that can be made by the mayor. In 1979, it was a litmus test for support when Dianne Feinstein ran against Quentin Kopp. Feinstein's commitment to appoint a gay to the Police Commission was viewed as a critical decision for gaining gay community support.

After her election, one of her first moves was to appoint Jo Daly to the Police Commission. When she resigned, Juanita Owens took her seat on the commission.

Early this month it was announced that current Police Commissioner Gayle Orr-Smith would be appointed deputy mayor.

Norman has run twice for San Francisco Supervisor. Both times she lost despite substantial support from the gay community.

Though she had been an active supporter of Agnos in his mayoral campaign, she was unable to gain Agnos' support for her candidacy in her supervisor campaign last year.

Norman was scheduled to meet with Mayor Agnos last Tuesday, a meeting set several weeks before the Police Commission opening was known.

Norman had been in Southern California for much of the last week attending a conference of black lesbians and gay men. Reached upon her return, she said she was unaware of much of the support that was being generated on her behalf. She also said she was interested in the appointment.

Mayor Agnos is expected to make the appointment within the next few weeks. Almost two dozen lesbians and gay men have been named or reconfirmed to city commissions by Mayor Agnos.

Several appointments mark breakthroughs for the gay community. Sharon Bretz became the first lesbian ever appointed to the Fire Commission while former Alice Club President Connie O'Connor became the first lesbian named to the Park and Recreation Commission.

Agnos has also appointed Steve Coulter to the Library Commission, Rob Epstein to the Mayor's Film Advisory Board, Rick Hauptman to the Relocation Appeals Board, Allen Bennett to the Self-Esteem Task Force and Jerry DeJong was named to the Narcotics Task Force. ▽

Court Throws Out Will, Says Duress Was Used On Lover

Destination Of Michael Taylor's Estate Is Still Undetermined

by Dennis McMillan

A San Francisco Superior Court jury decided recently that a gay man's deathbed will was influenced by the duress of his lover. However, the verdict about the eventual destination of the bulk of his \$3.5 million estate—which may end up in a charitable trust—is still undecided.

Interior decorator Michael Taylor, 59, changed his will and life insurance policy three days before he died of AIDS in 1986. He gave his lover, Charles Husted, 80 percent of the business and named him sole beneficiary of the \$250,000 policy.

According to a witness at the trial, Husted threatened to leave Taylor at his deathbed unless he made out a new will with terms as he dictated.

Taylor had named as his executor, real estate agent Alfred Wilsey, a client and close friend for 16 years. Wilsey kept the revised will until Taylor's death. Six months later, Husted died of AIDS.

Taylor's mother contested the will, saying that her son had been suffering from AIDS dementia when he signed the revision.

According to Martin Quinn, an attorney representing Wilsey, there was substantial evidence that Taylor and his mother had a difficult relationship. She allegedly meddled in his life and he resented it. He did provide \$2,000

per month in his will for his mother, twice as much as in the original 1978 will. In 1982, Taylor took out an insurance policy which left his mother \$250,000 upon his death.

LEGAL PRECEDENT?

At this stage, the case is just a trial court opinion. Should it be appealed, however, and decided in favor of the amended will, important legal precedent concerning mental competence of patients in the final stages of AIDS would be established in a case-by-case basis.

Attorney Jack Slobodin, the mother's legal counsel, was confident that the jury clearly gave their verdict setting the will and policy aside because of the alleged undue influence of Husted.

Deputy attorney general Geoyios Apallas, however, defended the will, saying that only the part which was allegedly unduly influenced should be discounted and the trust—a charity in memory of Taylor to be used in promoting the decorative arts—should remain intact.

Wilsey's counsel is asking San Francisco Superior Court Judge Maxine Chesney to overturn the jury's decision for a lack of substantial evidence.

Quinn will argue that even if the judge sticks by the undue influence ruling, the only part of the will that should be knocked out is the bequest to Husted.

"I think the chances are very good in our favor," said Quinn. ▽

Hunger Strike Continues Despite Poor Response

Governor Still Says No To Discrimination Law; McDonald Passes 50th Day Of Strike



Assemblymen John Vasconcellos, John Burton and Terry Friedman listen to Stuart McDonald (second from r.) tell his story.

by Dennis McMillan

Stuart McDonald's hunger strike has now passed the 50-day mark. His dramatic, personal protest is receiving notice from the media and a number of California legislators after having gone virtually unnoticed for a month. News of the strike, begun Jan. 2 to protest Gov. George Deukmejian's discriminatory policies against gays and HIV-infected people, has reached the state capitol and Washington, D.C.

McDonald appeared recently at a Sacramento capitol news conference to publicize his protest of Deukmejian's vetoing two bills that would have outlawed discrimination against gay people on the job and against anyone who tested positive for the AIDS virus.

He was joined by the Assembly authors of the two bills which have now been reintroduced—John Vasconcellos, a San Jose Democrat and chair of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, and Terry Friedman, a Sherman Oaks Democrat and chair of the Assembly Subcommittee on Health. San Francisco Assemblyman John Burton also expressed his support for McDonald's effort.

Vasconcellos referred to his AB 65, as "a public health measure along with a humanitarian measure."

Friedman's AB 84 is similar to the bill he proposed last year prohibiting job discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Assemblyman John Burton said he supported the cause although not condoning the hunger strike, which doctors have said will certainly hasten McDonald's ARC diagnosis to full blown AIDS and eventual death. So far he has lost a total of 55 pounds.

Nevertheless, McDonald said he will fast until the governor supports anti-discrimination legislation, until enough Republican legislators support the measure to override a veto, or until President George Bush supports federal legislation banning AIDS discrimination.

Friedman called the strike "an incredible act of personal courage."

Deukmejian's press secretary, Kevin Brett, said that despite the many letters McDonald has written, the governor's position has not changed. "It is unfortunate that Mr. McDonald would want to injure his body for misguided reasons. Instead of injuring his body he should be saluting the governor because California is the nationwide leader in the fight against AIDS," he said.

McDonald's most recent letter accused the governor of burying his head in the sand and making blatantly false statements concerning protection of gays and HIV carriers.

He has sent a draft resolution to Mayor Art Agnos and the Board of Supervisors, saying, "Be it resolved that we urge the U.S. and California state legislatures to immediately pass comprehensive legislation which redresses anti-gay and AIDS-related forms of discrimination. We urge Pres. George Bush and Gov. George Deukmejian to sign that legislation into law once it is passed. And we urge the U.S. and California state legislatures to override any vetoes of such legislation."

He has yet to receive a response to his proposal.

He has also written a letter to Pres. Bush, bringing the issue to a national level. "Time is getting very short—for me, and for thousands of innocent gay people who have run out of hope. Please help

us. Our very lives are in your hands," he wrote.

McDonald's next step is to approach Reps. Nancy Pelosi and Barbara Boxer to get sponsorship for a trip to Washington, D.C. in search of sympathetic legislators there. ▽

AIDS Research Grant Goes To UCSF Center

VAMC To Get \$1.5 M Over Five Years

The UCSF-affiliated San Francisco Veterans Administration Medical Center has been named one of six centers receiving VA grants for new AIDS research programs—with new studies ranging from basic research on how the AIDS virus attacks cells to an attempt to define the best ways to educate people about the deadly disease.

The VAMC will receive \$1.5 million over the next five years to help support the new VA Center for AIDS Research and Education (VACARE), according to John Ziegler, M.D., professor of medicine at UCSF and director of the UCSF AIDS Clinical Research Center. Ziegler will direct VACARE, which officially opened May 11.

"This enterprise is another milestone in our battle against AIDS," Ziegler said. "The government, the university and the community are continuing to find new ways to join forces against this disease."

The grant will help support VAMC investigators in both clinical and laboratory research, Ziegler said, and will establish a new facility to produce monoclonal antibodies—biologically engineered proteins that have proved useful in diagnosis and treatment of other diseases.

One team will study how and why the AIDS virus "activates" in CD4 lymphocytes, the immune system cells attacked by the virus. Recent research elsewhere suggested that the virus lies dormant and harmless in cells, Ziegler notes, until the lymphocytes themselves are prodded into action by another infection. The researchers hope to pinpoint

ways to keep the virus dormant indefinitely.

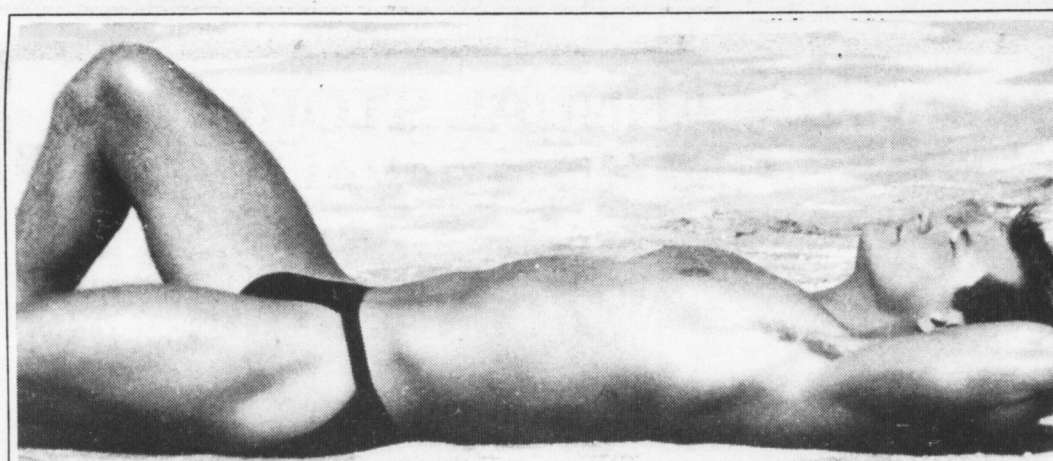
Another group will attempt to learn exactly how the virus attaches to and enters cells and how this process might be stopped.

Further studies will focus on AIDS-associated cancers and "opportunistic" infections such as pneumocystis and giardia, an intestinal parasite. "We don't even know what the normal immune responses are to these infections, much less what goes wrong in AIDS," Ziegler points out.

UCSF assistant professor of medicine Martin Heyworth, M.D., a gastrointestinal immunologist, will serve as scientific director for VACARE. His research team will study how the AIDS virus and other organisms penetrate the intestinal lining's immune defenses.

Clinical research will focus on AZT (including a study already under way in which AZT is used to treat patients with AIDS-related complex) and other treatments.

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Agnos Urged to Appoint Norman to Police Panel

Opportunity to Restore Gay Spot on Commission

by Allen White

A coalition of gay and black community leaders is aggressively urging San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos to appoint Pat Norman to the city's Police Commission. There will be an opening on the commission in the next few weeks when Gayle Orr-Smith leaves to assume the duties of deputy mayor.

Supervisor Harry Britt met with Agnos last Friday morning and the Police Commission slot was at the top of his list of items for discussion. It was learned that Britt strongly recommended Pat Norman for the Police Commission. Britt has long supported the idea that at least one Police Commission member should be lesbian or gay.

Britt is, in fact, just one of many people who have been actively lobbying the mayor for Norman's appointment. According to a source close to Norman, she has a wide level of support from across the community.

Among those who have stated they favor the appointment are lesbian former Police Commissioners Jo Daly and Juanita Owens. Norman also has the support of Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club President Ron Brathwaite, Sup. Doris Ward and Fire Commissioner Sharon Bretz.



Will Pat Norman be our new Police Commissioner?

(Photo: S. Savage)

This will be the second time Mayor Agnos will have the opportunity to appoint a member of the gay community to the Police Commission. Agnos was criticized last year when he failed to appoint a lesbian or gay to the commission when he made numerous other appointments.

Because the Police Commission so directly deals with gay issues, many community activists were outraged by Agnos' failure to keep a gay person on the commission. His office responded that openings would occur on the commission in the years that followed.

A spot on the Police Commission has, for the last decade, been viewed as one of the most important appointments that can be made by the mayor. In 1979, it was a litmus test for support when Dianne Feinstein ran against Quentin Kopp. Feinstein's commitment to appoint a gay to the Police Commission was viewed as a critical decision for gaining gay community support.

After her election, one of her first moves was to appoint Jo Daly to the Police Commission. When she resigned, Juanita Owens took her seat on the commission.

Early this month it was announced that current Police Commissioner Gayle Orr-Smith would be appointed deputy mayor.

Norman has run twice for San Francisco Supervisor. Both times she lost despite substantial support from the gay community.

Though she had been an active supporter of Agnos in his mayoral campaign, she was unable to gain Agnos' support for her candidacy in her supervisor campaign last year.

Norman was scheduled to meet with Mayor Agnos last Tuesday, a meeting set several weeks before the Police Commission opening was known.

Norman had been in Southern California for much of the last week attending a conference of black lesbians and gay men. Reached upon her return, she said she was unaware of much of the support that was being generated on her behalf. She also said she was interested in the appointment.

Mayor Agnos is expected to make the appointment within the next few weeks. Almost two dozen lesbians and gay men have been named or reconfirmed to city commissions by Mayor Agnos.

Several appointments mark breakthroughs for the gay community. Sharon Bretz became the first lesbian ever appointed to the Fire Commission while former Alice Club President Connie O'Connor became the first lesbian named to the Park and Recreation Commission.

Agnos has also appointed Steve Coulter to the Library Commission, Rob Epstein to the Mayor's Film Advisory Board, Rick Hauptman to the Relocation Appeals Board, Allen Bennett to the Self-Esteem Task Force and Jerry DeJong was named to the Narcotics Task Force. ▼

Court Throws Out Will, Says Duress Was Used On Lover

Destination Of Michael Taylor's Estate Is Still Undetermined

by Dennis McMillan

A San Francisco Superior Court jury decided recently that a gay man's deathbed will was influenced by the duress of his lover. However, the verdict about the eventual destination of the bulk of his \$83.5 million estate—which may end up in a charitable trust—is still undecided.

Interior decorator Michael Taylor, 59, changed his will and life insurance policy three days before he died of AIDS in 1986. He gave his lover, Charles Husted, 80 percent of the business and named him sole beneficiary of the \$250,000 policy.

According to a witness at the trial, Husted threatened to leave Taylor at his deathbed unless he made out a new will with terms as he dictated.

Taylor had named as his executor, real estate agent Alfred Wilsey, a client and close friend for 16 years. Wilsey kept the revised will until Taylor's death. Six months later, Husted died of AIDS.

Taylor's mother contested the will, saying that her son had been suffering from AIDS dementia when he signed the revision.

According to Martin Quinn, an attorney representing Wilsey, there was substantial evidence that Taylor and his mother had a difficult relationship. She allegedly meddled in his life and he resented it. He did provide \$2,000

per month in his will for his mother, twice as much as in the original 1978 will. In 1982, Taylor took out an insurance policy which left his mother \$250,000 upon his death.

LEGAL PRECEDENT?

At this stage, the case is just a trial court opinion. Should it be appealed, however, and decided in favor of the amended will, important legal precedent concerning mental competence of patients in the final stages of AIDS would be established in a case-by-case basis.

Attorney Jack Slobodin, the mother's legal counsel, was confident that the jury clearly gave their verdict setting the will and policy aside because of the alleged undue influence of Husted.

Deputy attorney general Yeorios Apallas, however, defended the will, saying that only the part which was allegedly unduly influenced should be discounted and the trust—a charity in memory of Taylor to be used in promoting the decorative arts—should remain intact.

Wilsey's counsel is asking San Francisco Superior Court Judge Maxine Chesney to overturn the jury's decision for a lack of substantial evidence.

Quinn will argue that even if the judge sticks by the undue influence ruling, the only part of the will that should be knocked out is the bequest to Husted.

"I think the chances are very good in our favor," said Quinn. ▼

Hunger Strike Continues Despite Poor Response

Governor Still Says No To Discrimination Law; McDonald Passes 50th Day Of Strike



Assemblymen John Vasconcellos, John Burton and Terry Friedman listen to Stuart McDonald (second from r.) tell his story.

by Dennis McMillan

Stuart McDonald's hunger strike has now passed the 50-day mark. His dramatic, personal protest is receiving notice from the media and a number of California legislators after having gone virtually unnoticed for a month. News of the strike, begun Jan. 2 to protest Gov. George Deukmejian's discriminatory policies against gays and HIV-infected people, has reached the state capitol and Washington, D.C.

McDonald appeared recently at a Sacramento capitol news conference to publicize his protest of Deukmejian's vetoing two bills that would have outlawed discrimination against gay people on the job and against anyone who tested positive for the AIDS virus.

He was joined by the Assembly authors of the two bills which have now been reintroduced—John Vasconcellos, a San Jose Democrat and chair of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, and Terry Friedman, a Sherman Oaks Democrat and chair of the Assembly Subcommittee on Health. San Francisco Assemblyman John Burton also expressed his support for McDonald's effort.

Vasconcellos referred to his AB 65, as "a public health measure along with a humanitarian measure."

Friedman's AB 84 is similar to the bill he proposed last year prohibiting job discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Assemblyman John Burton said he supported the cause although not condoning the hunger strike, which doctors have said will certainly hasten McDonald's ARC diagnosis to full blown AIDS and eventual death. So far he has lost a total of 55 pounds.

Nevertheless, McDonald said he will fast until the governor supports anti-discrimination legislation, until enough Republican legislators support the measure to override a veto, or until President George Bush supports federal legislation banning AIDS discrimination.

Friedman called the strike "an incredible act of personal courage."

Deukmejian's press secretary, Kevin Brett, said that despite the many letters McDonald has written, the governor's position has not changed. "It is unfortunate that Mr. McDonald would want to injure his body for misguided reasons. Instead of injuring his body he should be saluting the governor because California is the nationwide leader in the fight against AIDS," he said.

McDonald's most recent letter accused the governor of burying his head in the sand and making blatantly false statements concerning protection of gays and HIV carriers.

He has sent a draft resolution to Mayor Art Agnos and the Board of Supervisors, saying, "Be it resolved that we urge the U.S. and California state legislatures to immediately pass comprehensive legislation which redresses anti-gay and AIDS-related forms of discrimination. We urge Pres. George Bush and Gov. George Deukmejian to sign that legislation into law once it is passed. And we urge the U.S. and California state legislatures to override any vetoes of such legislation."

He has yet to receive a response to his proposal.

He has also written a letter to Pres. Bush, bringing the issue to a national level. "Time is getting very short—for me, and for thousands of innocent gay people who have run out of hope. Please help

us. Our very lives are in your hands," he wrote.

McDonald's next step is to approach Reps. Nancy Pelosi and Barbara Boxer to get sponsorship for a trip to Washington, D.C. in search of sympathetic legislators there. ▼

AIDS Research Grant Goes To UCSF Center

VAMC To Get \$1.5 M Over Five Years

The UCSF-affiliated San Francisco Veterans Administration Medical Center has been named one of six centers receiving VA grants for new AIDS research programs—with new studies ranging from basic research on how the AIDS virus attacks cells to an attempt to define the best ways to educate people about the deadly disease.

The VAMC will receive \$1.5 million over the next five years to help support the new VA Center for AIDS Research and Education (VACARE), according to John Ziegler, M.D., professor of medicine at UCSF and director of the UCSF AIDS Clinical Research Center. Ziegler will direct VACARE, which officially opened May 11.

"This enterprise is another milestone in our battle against AIDS," Ziegler said. "The government, the university and the community are continuing to find new ways to join forces against this disease."

The grant will help support VAMC investigators in both clinical and laboratory research, Ziegler said, and will establish a new facility to produce monoclonal antibodies—biologically engineered proteins that have proved useful in diagnosis and treatment of other diseases.

One team will study how and why the AIDS virus "activates" in CD4 lymphocytes, the immune system cells attacked by the virus. Recent research elsewhere suggested that the virus lies dormant and harmless in cells, Ziegler notes, until the lymphocytes themselves are prodded into action by another infection. The researchers hope to pinpoint

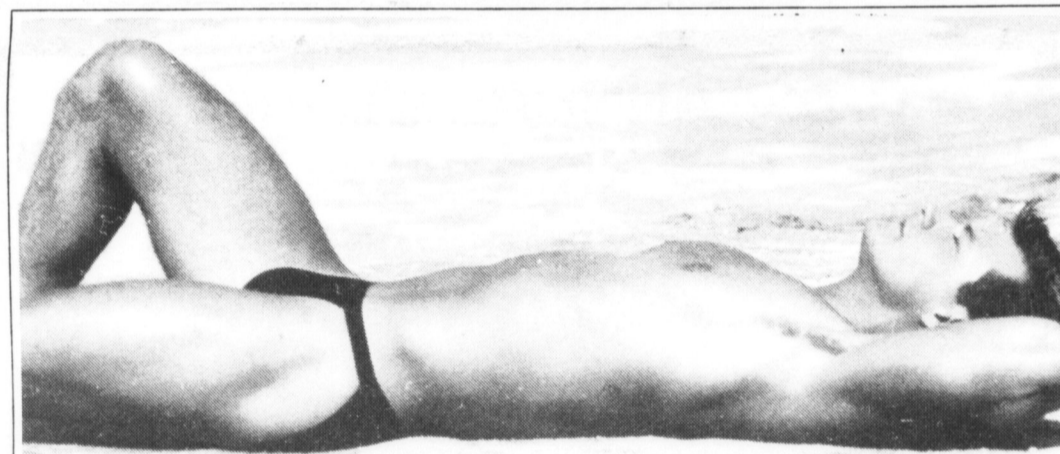
ways to keep the virus dormant indefinitely. Another group will attempt to learn exactly how the virus attaches to and enters cells and how this process might be stopped.

Further studies will focus on AIDS-associated cancers and "opportunistic" infections such as pneumocystis and giardia, an intestinal parasite. "We don't even know what the normal immune responses are to these infections, much less what goes wrong in AIDS," Ziegler points out.

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Retake of Preceding Frame

Tribute to the Star

1000 Gather to Remember Sylvester

by Allen White

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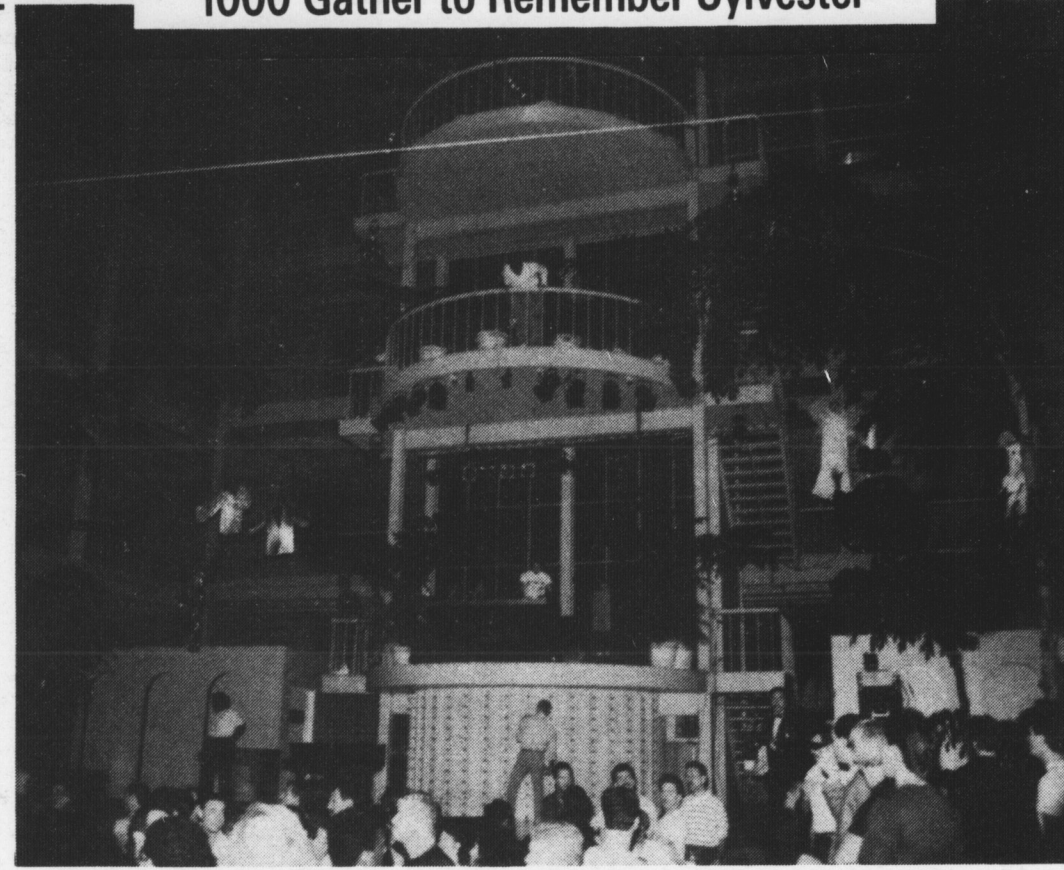
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The Galleria became a museum of Sylvester's lavish costumes.

(Photo: Rink)

between Sylvester and Britt was unique but not unusual for the openly gay entertainer. "He offered me some very personal things, like the album cover," Britt said. Britt is one of the people included on the album jacket for "Living Proof," the recording of the Opera House event.

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AIDS Changing Behavior, SFSU Survey Shows

One in four San Francisco State University students has personally known someone who has died of AIDS, according to a survey conducted by the University's Public Research Institute (PRI). Additionally, San Francisco State students appear to have made more changes in their sexual behavior since becoming aware of AIDS than their peers at other universities in the United States.

The findings, based upon responses to a questionnaire sent to a sample of SFSU students last April concerning knowledge about and attitudes toward AIDS and sexual health issues, as well as sexual behavior, will assist the University's Student Health Service and AIDS Coordinating Committee in developing new health education programs. The project was directed by Fran Kipnis, an SFSU master's degree candidate in political science and PRI staff member.

The survey population consisted of 1,600 student names randomly selected by computer from Admissions and Records' list of SFSU graduate and undergraduate spring semester students. Of these, 604 or 38 percent completed and returned their questionnaires. The sample was broadly representative of SFSU's total student population.

Among the findings:

- 26 percent of the sexually active, heterosexual students and 40 percent of the sexually active

homosexual/bisexual students report using condoms all the time.

- 60 percent of the sexually active, heterosexual students and 72 percent of the sexually active homosexual/bisexual students say they have decreased the number of their sexual partners since becoming aware of AIDS.

- 68 percent of students want to receive more AIDS information.

- 24 percent of sexually active, heterosexual students never discuss "safer" sex with new partners; the same is true for 9 percent of sexually active, homosexual/bisexual students.

- Asian and black students have the strongest desire to improve "safer" sex communication, significantly more so than Latinos and whites.

- Almost 30 percent of the students polled are not covered by health insurance.

"Although only 26 percent of the sexually active, heterosexual students reported using condoms all the time, that's a much higher percentage of regular condom users than most studies show," said Dorith Hertz, health educator at SFSU's Student Health Services, chair of the AIDS Coordinating Committee, and one of the survey designers. "Some surveys among adolescents show condom usage as low as 2 percent." An unwillingness to accept that they may be at risk and physical discomfort are among the two most common explanations given by those who do not use condoms, Hertz said. ▼

NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

Lover Pleads Guilty to 'Unsafe' Sex

CHARLESTON—A South Carolina man who was accused by his former lover of concealing his HIV status and having unsafe sex pleaded guilty in a Charleston court Dec. 2 and received a \$500 fine and 500 hours of community service counseling HIV-antibody-positive persons. The former lover reportedly continues to test HIV antibody negative.

James Michael Pittman, 26, was arrested Aug. 29 after Keith Yodis' attorney got Pittman's HIV test results from the state health department. Yodis had filed a complaint under the criminal felony provisions of South Carolina's new sexually transmitted diseases law, claiming that he and Pittman had unsafe sex for eight months, during which Pittman knew he was antibody positive.

South Carolina's Palmetto AIDS Life Support Services (PALSS) has denounced the new STD law—which permits a \$5,000 fine and 10 years in prison—and unsuccessfully fought it during the last legislative session. According to PALSS Joe Hall, his group is particularly upset with the law's

vagueness, fearing that even open-mouthed kissing falls under its purview.

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PALSS is now pushing the health department to address "the potential for abuse in the vaguely worded law and do some revisions." But those revisions would return to the legislature that originally passed the measure.

—Rex Wockner

Anti-Gay Sanctions Absent From Code

WASHINGTON—A Virginia school board declined to place sanctions against anti-gay harassment of students in the system's code of conduct.

The Arlington County School Board told gay activists the existing code is sufficient to protect all students, including gays and lesbians, from harassment.

A former school board president actively disputed that claim and said the ban against anti-gay behavior in the code may serve as an unintended signal encouraging anti-gay slurs.

Fred Parris said in a letter to the current school board president that local gay activists were aware of incidents where students in the Arlington County school

harassed classmates with anti-gay slurs such as "fag" and "dyke."

Parris continued that great pains were made to protect students of harassment based on race, religion, sex, creed, national origin, but the code was silent on an individual's actual or perceived sexual orientation.

—The Washington Blade

Specter To Replace Weicker On Committee

WASHINGTON—Sen. Arlen Specter will take the minority chair on the influential U.S. Senate labor, health and human services subcommittee (HHS) that is a crucial forum for origination of AIDS funding.

Specter succeeds Sen. Lowell Weicker who was defeated for reelection. The ACLU expressed guarded hope that Specter is a far cry from the liberal Weicker, but he was the best choice.

Lobbyist Steve Smith of the Human Rights Campaign Fund said Specter isn't exactly "out-front on gay issues," but he did have a strong voting record.

Specter voted for the Helms amendment in October 1987, but he did work in subcommittee to

neutralize it on two occasions out of public view. During last summer's three-time outing on the Helms amendment, Specter voted against Helms once, with him once, and then against him once again.

Smith suggested that the complicated maneuvering strategy orchestrated by Helms during the votes could explain the one irregular ballot.

Specter, however, then joined 81 other senators in approving the ill-fated Sen. Gordon Humphrey measure that would have banned the funding of any agency that "promotes, homosexuality" or uses words describing it being a "normal, natural and healthy" lifestyle.

Tenn. May Reduce Crime for Gay Sex

MEMPHIS—The Tennessee legislature was expected to recommend changes in the state criminal code that would reduce the crime of homosexual behavior from a felony to a misdemeanor.

The proposed revisions to "crimes against nature" law would reduce conviction from a

sentence of five to 15 years and a \$10,000 fine (felony) to punishment by 30 days in jail and/or a \$50 fine (misdemeanor).

Gay leaders replied that reduction from a felony to a misdemeanor didn't reduce the sting of the state's role in the private lives of lesbians and gays.

—Gaze



San Francisco's Bud Smith (r.) with the Consort 1988 of the Lords of Leather at Mardi Gras in New Orleans.

NY ACTUP to Give Funds to Groups

Following the success of a recent nationwide direct mail campaign, ACT UP New York, the nation's largest AIDS activist organization, plans to distribute individual grants totalling \$6,650 to other AIDS activist groups.

The program is designed to help existing groups fund special projects or to serve as "seed money" for the formation of new groups. Each grant will be for a minimum of \$200 and a maximum of \$500.

Groups wishing to apply for a grant under this program should write directly to ACT UP, 496A Hudson Street, Suite 84, New York, NY 10014. A brief letter should include a description of the organization and its primary purpose, and the nature of the project to be funded. Requests should be mailed no later than March 5.

ACT UP emphasizes that applying groups should be activist in nature. This program is not intended for AIDS service organizations and is not open to tax-exempt associations.

Personal Stories of Homophobia Sought

A social scientist writing a book about heterosexism needs personal stories about experiences with homophobia, bashing, or discrimination.

Please write to Prof. Gregory Herek, P.O. Box 487, Berkeley, CA 94701.

Mandatory HIV Test Denied by Court

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit this month affirmed a lower court decision holding unconstitutional a mandatory HIV testing program for employees of a facility for the mentally retarded.

The court upheld the trial court's ruling that the testing program was a violation of the staff members' Fourth Amendment rights which prohibits unreasonable searches and seizures.

In a case brought by the ACLU of Nebraska, a federal district court had ruled that because the risk of transmission of the AIDS virus by employees to patients was "extremely low, approaching zero," the mandatory testing program lacked a rational basis. The policy was adopted shortly after a staff member had died of AIDS.

"This is the most important ruling on AIDS-related testing which any court has rendered," said Nan D. Hunter, director of the ACLU AIDS Project in New York. "It is the first decision on this issue by a federal appeals court, and it is the strongest judicial statement yet that mere speculation of risk is not enough to justify mandatory testing."

The ACLU of Nebraska co-operating lawyer who argued the case is Patrick Kennison of Omaha. The American Public Health Association filed an amicus brief in support of the plaintiff employees who challenged the testing policy.

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EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT

Tribute to the Star

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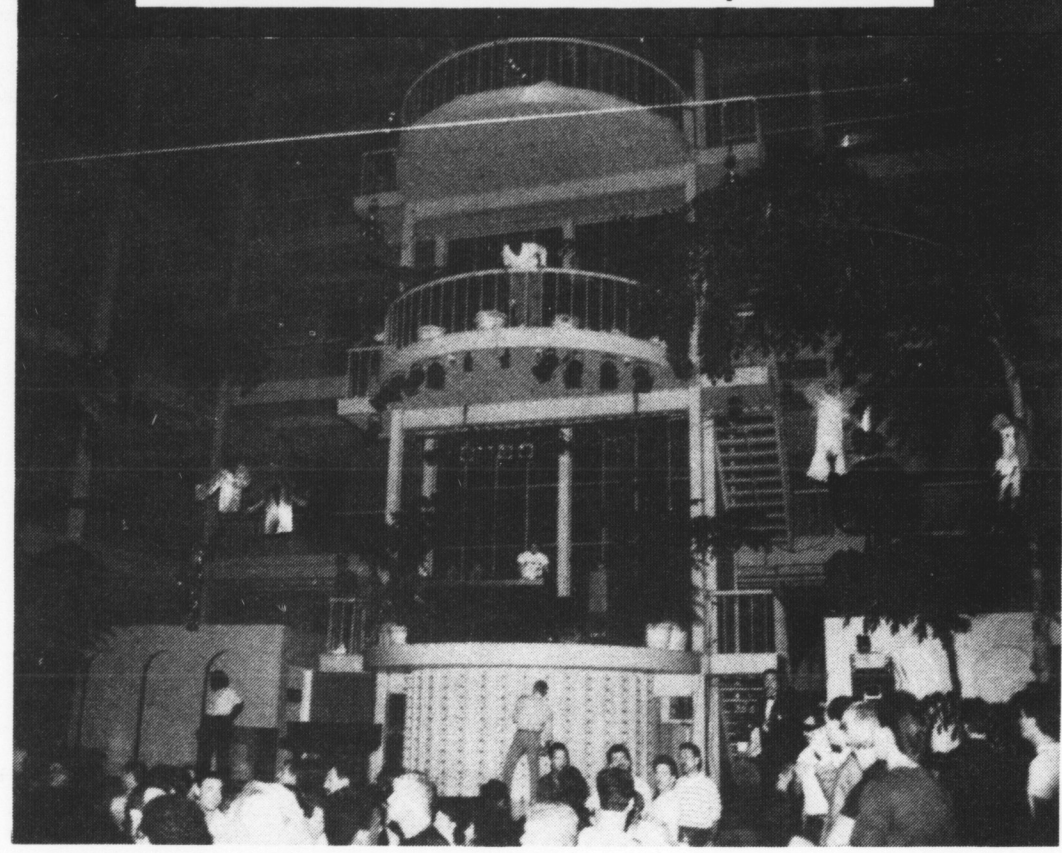
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WASHINGTON—A Virginia school board declined to place sanctions against anti-gay harassment of students in the system's code of conduct.

The Arlington County School Board told gay activists the existing code is sufficient to protect all students, including gays and lesbians, from harassment.

A former school board president actively disputed that claim and said the ban against anti-gay behavior in the code may serve as an unintended signal encouraging anti-gay slurs.

Fred Parris said in a letter to the current school board president that local gay activists were aware of incidents where students in the Arlington County school

harassed classmates with anti-gay slurs such as "fag" and "dyke."

Parris continued that great pains were made to protect students of harassment based on race, religion, sex, creed, national origin, but the code was silent on an individual's actual or perceived sexual orientation.

—The Washington Blade

Specter To Replace Weicker On Committee

WASHINGTON—Sen. Arlen Specter will take the minority chair on the influential U.S. Senate labor, health and human services subcommittee (HHS) that is a crucial forum for origination of AIDS funding.

Specter succeeds Sen. Lowell Weicker who was defeated for reelection. The ACLU expressed guarded hope that Specter is a far cry from the liberal Weicker, but he was the best choice.

Lobbyist Steve Smith of the Human Rights Campaign Fund said Specter isn't exactly "out-front on gay issues," but he did have a strong voting record.

Specter voted for the Helms amendment in October 1987, but he did work in subcommittee to

neutralize it on two occasions out of public view. During last summer's three-time outing on the Helms amendment, Specter voted against Helms once, with him once, and then against him once again.

Smith suggested that the complicated maneuvering strategy orchestrated by Helms during the votes could explain the one irregular ballot.

Specter, however, then joined 81 other senators in approving the ill-fated Sen. Gordon Humphrey measure that would have banned the funding of any agency that "promotes, homosexuality" or uses words describing it being a "normal, natural and healthy" lifestyle.

The amendment was later dropped in subcommittee in much the same manner as the original Helms measure was limited.

—Philadelphia Gay News

Tenn. May Reduce Crime for Gay Sex

MEMPHIS—The Tennessee legislature was expected to recommend changes in the state criminal code that would reduce the crime of homosexual behavior from a felony to a misdemeanor.

The proposed revisions to "crimes against nature" law would reduce conviction from a

sentence of five to 15 years and a \$10,000 fine (felony) to punishment by 30 days in jail and/or a \$50 fine (misdemeanor).

Gay leaders replied that reduction from a felony to a misdemeanor didn't reduce the sting of the state's role in the private lives of lesbians and gays.

—Gaze



San Francisco's Bud Smith (r.) with the Consort 1988 of the Lords of Leather at Mardi Gras in New Orleans.

NY ACTUP to Give Funds to Groups

Following the success of a recent nationwide direct mail campaign, ACT UP New York, the nation's largest AIDS activist organization, plans to distribute individual grants totalling \$6,650 to other AIDS activist groups.

The program is designed to help existing groups fund special projects or to serve as "seed money" for the formation of new groups. Each grant will be for a minimum of \$200 and a maximum of \$500.

Groups wishing to apply for a grant under this program should write directly to ACT UP, 496A Hudson Street, Suite 84, New York, NY 10014. A brief letter should include a description of the organization and its primary purpose, and the nature of the project to be funded. Requests should be mailed no later than March 5.

ACT UP emphasizes that applying groups should be activist in nature. This program is not intended for AIDS service organizations and is not open to tax-exempt associations.

Personal Stories of Homophobia Sought

A social scientist writing a book about heterosexism needs personal stories about experiences with homophobia, bashing, or discrimination.

Please write to Prof. Gregory Herek, P.O. Box 487, Berkeley, CA 94701.

Mandatory HIV Test Denied by Court

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit this month affirmed a lower court decision holding unconstitutional a mandatory HIV testing program for employees of a facility for the mentally retarded.

The court upheld the trial court's ruling that the testing program was a violation of the staff members' Fourth Amendment rights which prohibits unreasonable searches and seizures.

In a case brought by the ACLU of Nebraska, a federal district court had ruled that because the risk of transmission of the AIDS virus by employees to patients was "extremely low, approaching zero," the mandatory testing program lacked a rational basis. The policy was adopted shortly after a staff member had died of AIDS.

"This is the most important ruling on AIDS-related testing which any court has rendered," said Nan D. Hunter, director of the ACLU AIDS Project in New York. "It is the first decision on this issue by a federal appeals court, and it is the strongest judicial statement yet that mere speculation of risk is not enough to justify mandatory testing."

The ACLU of Nebraska cooperating lawyer who argued the case is Patrick Kennison of Omaha. The American Public Health Association filed an amicus brief in support of the plaintiff employees who challenged the testing policy.

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AIDS Changing Behavior, SFSU Survey Shows

One in four San Francisco State University students has personally known someone who has died of AIDS, according to a survey conducted by the University's Public Research Institute (PRI). Additionally, San Francisco State students appear to have made more changes in their sexual behavior since becoming aware of AIDS than their peers at other universities in the United States.

The findings, based upon responses to a questionnaire sent to a sample of SFSU students last April concerning knowledge about and attitudes toward AIDS and sexual health issues, as well as sexual behavior, will assist the University's Student Health Service and AIDS Coordinating Committee in developing new health education programs. The project was directed by Fran Kipnis, an SFSU master's degree candidate in political science and PRI staff member.

The survey population consisted of 1,600 student names randomly selected by computer from Admissions and Records' list of SFSU graduate and undergraduate spring semester students. Of these, 604 or 38 percent completed and returned their questionnaires. The sample was broadly representative of SFSU's total student population.

Among the findings:

- 26 percent of the sexually active, heterosexual students and 40 percent of the sexually active

homosexual/bisexual students report using condoms all the time.

- 60 percent of the sexually active, heterosexual students and 72 percent of the sexually active homosexual/bisexual students say they have decreased the number of their sexual partners since becoming aware of AIDS.

- 68 percent of students want to receive more AIDS information.
- 24 percent of sexually active, heterosexual students never discuss "safer" sex with new partners; the same is true for 9 percent of sexually active, homosexual/bisexual students.

- Asian and black students have the strongest desire to improve "safer" sex communication, significantly more so than Latinos and whites.

- Almost 30 percent of the students polled are not covered by health insurance.

"Although only 26 percent of the sexually active, heterosexual students reported using condoms all the time, that's a much higher percentage of regular condom users than most studies show," said Dorith Hertz, health educator at SFSU's Student Health Services, chair of the AIDS Coordinating Committee, and one of the survey designers. "Some surveys among adolescents show condom usage as low as 2 percent." An unwillingness to accept that they may be at risk and physical discomfort are among the two most common explanations given by those who do not use condoms, Hertz said.

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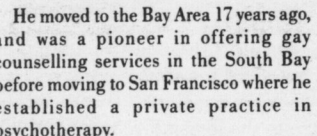
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DEATHS

Jason Luff
 On Feb. 8, in the early morning, surrounded by family and friends, Jason began the new adventure he'd been anticipating for the past two years. Born on June 22, 1943, Jason was raised in Kansas City. He attended Shawnee Mission East High School and pursued both graduate and undergraduate studies at Kansas University.



He moved to the Bay Area 17 years ago, and was a pioneer in offering gay counselling services in the South Bay before moving to San Francisco where he established a private practice in psychotherapy.

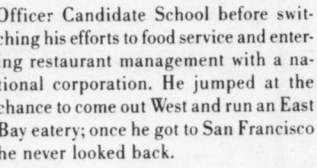
Rather than dying of AIDS in the past years, Jason lived with it as a reason to grow and expand. He turned on his creativity and explored new areas of interest in sculpting, writing, photography, travel, and meditation. To us, his family and friends, he gave a gift of understanding.

To know Jason was to feel that to at least one person in this often crazy world, we made sense. We who are still here—Mother Clyde, Step-dad, Pat, Brother and wife Dennis and Suzie, nieces Nikki, Crystal and Brandy, and friends, Stephen, Lu, Chad, Keith, Mark, Robert, David, Michael, Joe and Lawrence—will miss you Jason, but wish you well in your new adventure.

Those wishing to make donations may do so to an AIDS support organization of your choice. At Jason's request, a small, private memorial for family and close friends only will be held at a later time.

Sammy N. Flake
 Sept. 7, 1963-Feb. 11, 1989

Nothing in life was more important to Sam than his friends. Now he won't smile again unless we smile for him. After a two-year battle, Sam slipped away quietly on Saturday morning, Feb. 11.



Born and raised in Indiana, Sam served with the Army as a helicopter maintenance mechanic and attended Officer Candidate School before switching restaurant management with a national corporation. He jumped at the chance to come out West and run an East Bay eatery; once he got to San Francisco he never looked back.

Although most of us remember him from parties or his leather appearances at the Eagle, Sam's own proudest memories were of his work with *The San Francisco Flag Corps*, where he made good friends and twirled with the best. The flag may be stilled, but the pride is not.

Sam is survived by his lover Rod McKim, his father Paul and mother Charlotte, brothers Randy and Rusty and sister Starla, a host of friends and a multitude of teddy bears. All of us will miss him.

He has been laid to rest at his home town in Indiana.

A Memorial Mass will be said in his name at 6 p.m. on March 9, at Most Holy Redeemer Church at 100 Diamond St.

Donations in Sam's memory may be made to the Most Holy Redeemer Support Groups.

Ralph Randolph Harmon
 July 13, 1945-Feb. 3, 1989

The traveller left my arms the a.m. after Candlemas, after a week back home of movies, music, love, laughter and leaving-taking. Transition was dignified, humorous and peaceful, for Ralph was an Adept. Having gone back to Viet Nam and seen China, India, Nepal, Thailand, Russia and other sights, another realm now has his attention. He has become a Free-man of the City of the Stars.

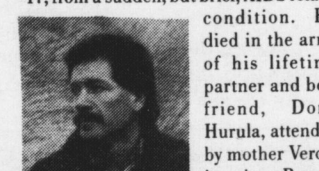
become treasure to his intimates.

The Magick Bear sorely misses him, while wishing Big Ralph liberation from the Wheel of Incarnation. His loss is felt by loving family and friends in California, Nevada and Florida. A Greater Feast to celebrate his freedom was held as he asked, and the Moonchild will return to Mother Sea as he willed. I know, dear Ralph, that "Our love has lasted longer than the Temples of our Gods."

My thanks to Ralph's fine family and Eleni Hulanicki, R.N. whose empathy and love made the final days so beautiful. Donations to Hospice-by-the-Bay appreciated.

Joseph F. Yuhre, Jr.
 April 5, 1949-Feb. 17, 1989

Joe "Boo Boo" Yuhre gently slipped away from this life at 12:20 a.m. on Feb. 17, from a sudden, but brief, AIDS related condition. He died in the arms of his lifetime partner and best friend, Donn Hurula, attended by mother Veronica, sister Bonnie and friends.



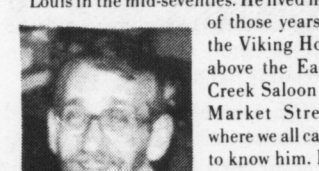
Joe was a native of the Bay Area until his death and spent the last 16 years here in San Francisco. He graduated from the University of California at Davis and pursued a career with the airlines which enabled him to travel and know this world from which he departed.

Joe's gregarious and gentle nature was evidenced by his many friends, love of Teddy Bears, beautiful flowers and his appreciation for the wilderness. He constantly shared his rich life with those less fortunate.

We wish to thank the staff of Presbyterian Medical Center for their warm and nurturing care. Memorial contributions may be sent to the San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund.

Francis "Frank" Browne
 1942-Jan. 25, 1989

Frank came to San Francisco from St. Louis in the mid-seventies. He lived most of those years in the Viking Hotel above the Eagle Creek Saloon on Market Street, where we all came to know him. His interest in religion was always tempered by his sense of humor, which we will all miss.



Frank was feeling particularly had this last year and had just returned from a visit to St. Louis where he visited his sister and mother.

His death resulting from complications due to ARC was sudden and unexpected.

Eddie Porter Cantrell

Eddie Porter Cantrell died peacefully in his sleep on Feb. 6. He was 34 years old. Eddie grew up in Longview, Washington, after his family moved there from his birthplace in Pickens, South Carolina. Eddie moved to the Bay Area after college and loved his life in San Francisco.



He was a wonderfully sweet and funny man who liked to camp and travel, and will be missed greatly by his many friends and family members. Diagnosed with AIDS over five years ago, he used his many interests and activities to help maintain his health and keep his spirits up.

Eddie enjoyed playing with his pets, gardening, reading, working on his car and motorcycle, and a good game of Scrabble. He enjoyed, and his many friends loved, his stint as an outer-space dancer in a Gay Softball League Talent Show. Eddie had a high-spirited zest for adventure and fun, and was a caring and solid friend.

A memorial service was held in Longview, Washington on Feb. 14. Friends are invited to attend a reception which will be held in San Francisco on this Saturday, Feb. 25, from 4-6 p.m. Friends may call John at 641-7203, or Celia at 644-3218 for more details.

Michael Evan Jennings
 Aug. 24, 1957-Feb. 1, 1989

Michael passed from this life peacefully and without pain on Wednesday evening, Feb. 1 at St. Francis Hospital, San Francisco. During his final hours, he was surrounded by the love of friends and his sister. Death was caused from AIDS-related complications.

This very special person touched the lives of everyone he met. His loving and caring spirit lives on in those who knew him. Michael, 31 years of age, was born in Denver, raised in Southern California and lived in Laguna Beach before moving to San Francisco in 1980.

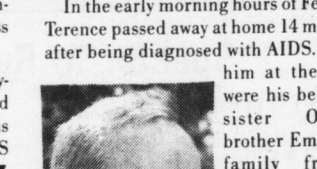
Michael was last employed as a computer programmer for Bank of America. He is survived by his mother, father and two sisters in Southern California and by his lover, Dick Cobb. Thanks to friends who were so supportive and loving. Special thanks to Shanti's Jan Bannon, Jan Shropshire, R.N., P.H.N., Dr. Barbara Brodie and the caring personnel of S.F. General's Ward 86 and 5A.

A memorial service is being planned. Those wishing to attend should call (415) 558-9695.

Goodbye, Mike, we love you, we'll miss you and we'll remember the beautiful time you spent with us. Sleep warm.

Terence Maguire
 March 26, 1926-Feb. 14, 1989

In the early morning hours of Feb. 14, Terence passed away at home 14 months after being diagnosed with AIDS. With him at the end were his beloved sister Oona, brother Emmett, family friend Nick, and his night nurse Jan, who along with Don on the day shift lovingly tended Terence during the final weeks.



Terence is also survived by his loving niece Laurie and nephews Brian and Danny. He leaves behind many loving friends, too numerous to name here, but who shared with him a warm and affectionate companionship and who found in him a person of complete joy and grace.

He was a special person who enjoyed life to the fullest. He was especially proud of singing tenor with the S.F. Gay Men's Chorus for the past several years and had recently joined the Mixed Chorus.

He was a WWII Navy veteran and in accordance with his wishes, his ashes will be scattered at sea.

Sing to us from the heavens, dear Terence, for you will be greatly missed, but you'll always be in our hearts.

Jerry Alden Hanson

Jerry died at Children's Hospital on Jan. 29 of Pneumonia.

Jerry was born in Nebraska on Aug. 27, 1932. He received a degree in music from the Chicago Conservatory of Music.

He is survived by his mother, Mayme, and his cat, Meat Loaf.

Jean R. Pecchenino "Mama Peck"
 1927-1989

"Mama Peck" passed away Saturday, Feb. 11, in a Monterey Hospital of cancer of the pancreas. He had been hospitalized several times at the French Hospital the last few months but was transferred to Monterey to be closer to his family a few days before his death.

Jean was formerly an award-winning hairstylist and owned his own shop for many years. After tiring of that business, he started tending bar and worked at The Web, The Gangway, Toities and The Roadrunner. He was interested in the Court System and was elected "Queen Mother of California." The last few years he worked for the Muni in their office.

He is survived by his Uncle Hugh in Monterey and his Aunt Phyllis of Stockton and by his cousin, actress Dawn Wells formerly of Gilligan's Island.

Jean was loved by many and will be missed by us all. We bid you fond farewell and look forward to seeing you again in another world.

Dignity Honors Britt At Awards Banquet

Britt Commends Dignity for 'Advances'

by Allen White

Over 200 people gathered at the Cathedral Hill Hotel Feb. 11, for the annual Dignity awards dinner. Getting kicked out of the Roman Catholic Church has given the group a new sense of spirit and a new sense of direction. That new life was on display at the event. Since they were expelled last November from St. Boniface Church, there have been many changes.

In past years, the small talk revolved about social issues that reflected a mixture of an upscale gay bar and a church potluck. That has all changed.

This year, the members of Dignity talked like they were Crusaders off to slay a dragon. They were noticeably proud of what their organization has accomplished in the last few months.

That pride was reflected in the other gay religious organizations that attended the dinner. There were tables filled with members of the two San Francisco Metropolitan Community Churches. Representatives of the Parsonage and Episcopal were also present. Across the room there were people from a wide diversity of religious groups.

Sup. Harry Britt, honored with Dignity's 1989 Pax et Bonum

Community Award, continually expressed his delight at the new directions being taken by Dignity.

Britt remembered Dignity/San Francisco when it was just beginning in 1974. "My friend Tom Fry and I used to go to Dignity down at St. Peter's and I think I can say there was a lot of faith, a lot of love and there was a lot of hope."

Of those days, Britt said, "There were a lot of wonderful men and women trying, as I was trying, to reconcile our histories as spiritual and gay people. Dignity's job, in those days, was a pretty tough one. I think that even in 1974, Dignity understood that the choice that the church seemed to be presenting—do you want to be gay or do you want to be Catholic—was simply not an acceptable choice and you weren't going to spend any time deciding what you were going to be, but somehow find the answer."

He remembered that back in 1982, his domestic partnership legislation was vetoed by then Mayor Dianne Feinstein. The primary source of pressure for the veto is attributed to Archbishop John R. Quinn. Britt noted that Dignity, at that time, worked to prepare a report challenging the church's Com-

mission on Social Justice. "Dignity produced some extraordinary dialogue and made some extraordinary advances," he noted.

Britt talked of the need to understand the need to overcome the persecution of the church. He took special note of Barbara Harris, a woman who has stood proudly for gay rights and who earlier in the day became the first woman Bishop of the Episcopal Church. "First-class citizenship for women in whatever religion is fundamental," Britt said.

"Lesbian and gay men are teaching the people of the world the true meaning of the word 'family,'" Britt said at the mention of the upcoming domestic

partnership legislation. For Beth Gorman, these are times of empowerment. She is the vice president of Dignity/USA and has just moved to San Francisco from Philadelphia. She said, "I think this is an empowering time to start ministering to each other."

Receiving the 1989 Pax et Bonum Award was Matthew Fox. The East Bay priest has been muzzled by the church. So restricted are his moves that he was unable to appear at the Dignity dinner to receive his award. Fox is another Catholic priest who has been outspoken in his support of gay rights.

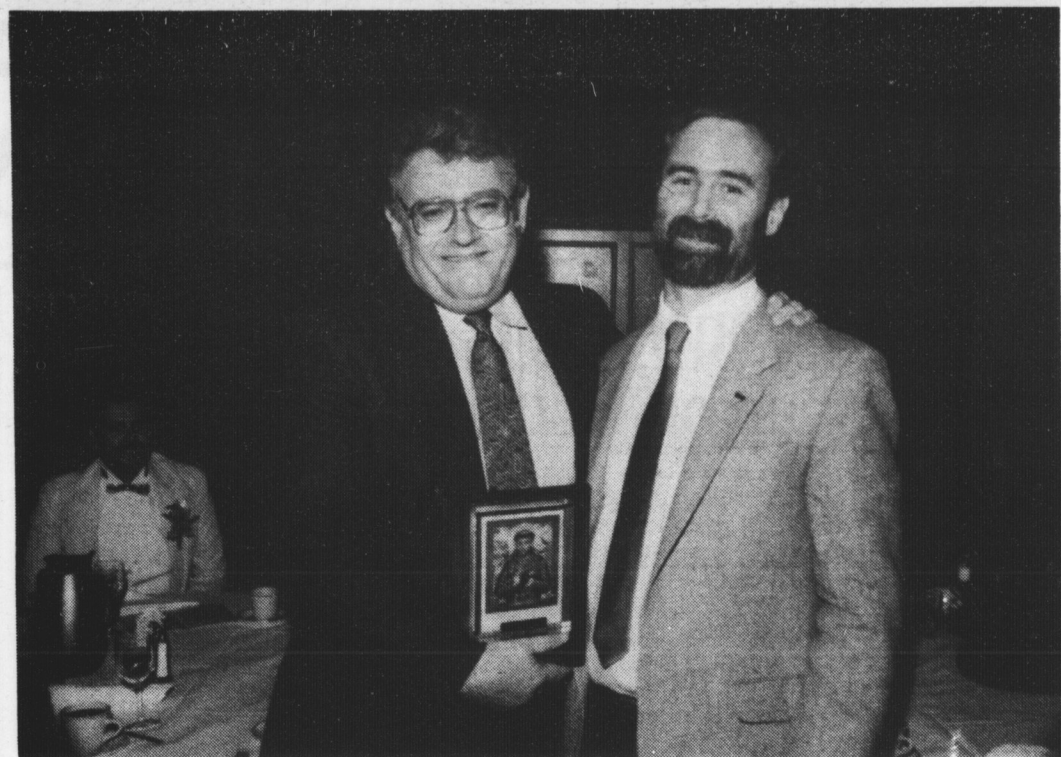
The Chapter Awards were presented to Tom Carroll and

Kevin Calegari. Carroll was the person who headed the San Francisco Dignity response to the recent papal visit. Kevin Calegari, who was also honored, said, "We embarrassed the pope. We embarrassed the archbishop and now we have embarrassed the mayor."

"Who would have thought that our hope could have helped so many people," Calegari said.

The Dignity dinner, of which this was the seventh, was once described as "the senior prom we never had."

What's Mr. Marcus up to? Find out in BAZAAR!



Sup. Harry Britt with Dignity member Richmond Young.

(Photo: Rink)

DEATHS

John E. French
 Sept. 15, 1947-Feb. 11, 1989

John E. French passed away on Feb. 11, beloved son of John E. French and Peggy Frost. Brother of Sarah French, and Pat Powers. He lived with dignity during his life and illness, and struggled valiantly against AIDS.

John loved his work at Pacific Medical Center because he cared deeply about people. He sang in the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and the Dick Kramer Gay Men's Choral which brought profound joy to him. He loved his participation in the 12-step AA Program and Meditation Retreat Group.

All will remember him for his wit, humor, and open-heartedness. He inspired family and friends alike. John wrote to his friends: "Music is profoundly significant in my life and in the life of mankind. It can communicate our innermost feelings of longing to be a part of a greater whole, of brotherhood and teamwork, fellowship, and comfort, compassion, and love, making life more real so that we can share what it is like for us and what it can be."

A memorial gathering in John's memory will be held on Sunday, Feb. 26 at 4:30 p.m. at 347 Dolores St., Room 201. Meditation Retreat friends, chorus friends, and 12-Step Program friends are all invited to attend.

Bobby Max Fairfield
 Nov. 2, 1952-Feb. 11, 1989

With his mother, Dottie, and his sister, Donna, at his side, Bobby Max Fairfield entered into eternal rest on Saturday, Feb. 11, at Kaiser Hospital in San Francisco.

An employee of Pacific Bell for many years, he leaves a host of good friends and his kitties. A true love for the theatre and performing arts was his gift for life.

Joseph Michael Haudel
 July 24, 1946-February 10, 1989

Good by Sweet Joey
 With love in my heart
 and a tear in my eye
 I reach down deep inside myself
 to say to you good by
 I know someday great happiness
 can be yours to find
 The world will be a better
 place where people will be kind
 Sadness cannot overtake a man
 who looks for joy
 Sorrow will soon be replaced
 by beauty in the world
 Good by to you Sweet Joey
 I know I won't be sad
 I'll save a little spot inside
 my heart to remember
 what we had.

Thanks from everyone
 whose life you touched.
 B.

Randy Johnson

A memorial service for Randy Johnson will be held Saturday, March 4 at 2 p.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church, 58 Belcher St., off 14th St., in San Francisco. All are invited.

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BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

Students Considering Legal Action on Housing

by Jay Newquist

A group of lesbian and gay students may take legal action now that UC Berkeley has denied their petition to have same-sex couples move into married student housing.

"We're in the negotiation stage and we're keeping our options open," said Kevin Goebel, who helped write the proposal denied by Berkeley Chancellor Ira M. Heyman. "A lawsuit is a definite possibility."

Goebel said he had contacted gay rights attorney Roberta Achtenberg to look into the case that concerned the proposal to authorize same-sex "domestic partnerships" to assign family student housing.

Goebel added that discrimina-

tion against gays is the crux of the issue and that gays had the same needs as straight couples for university housing.

An anti-discrimination policy of UC Berkeley based on sexual orientation is in place, according to Goebel, but not being enforced in this case.

Heyman disagreed, stipulating that all UC campuses provide separate housing for married students or students with minor dependents.

"There is no evidence suggesting that the establishment of our married student housing program arises from an intent to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation," Heyman wrote in a letter to Goebel and other students.

He said the campus does have a compelling need to provide

married student housing and there are now long waiting lists for available spaces.

"Any attempt to expand eligibility will unnecessarily place greater burdens on the group this housing is designed to benefit," Heyman wrote.

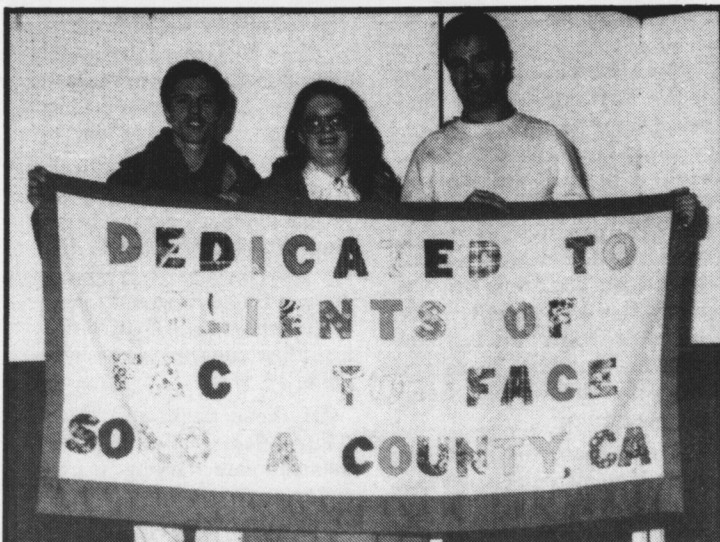
He said he was particularly concerned with a portion of the students' proposal that would direct the university to give official sanction to domestic partnership relationships.

No public or private university has taken that kind of responsibility, he added.

Stanford University, however, has approved same-sex housing in campus residences, not as a rule, but if lesbian or gay couples specifically petition and meet certain requirements.

Heyman continued, there was no legal authority for creation of a new class of personal or familial relationships or for sanctioning or recognizing committed personal relationships outside of existing marriage laws.

A point of contention with the



Dan Perdios, Helen Wilber, director of Face to Face, and Rick Dean at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds showing of the Names Project Quilt early this month. (Photo: P. Satterthwaite)

gay and lesbian students was that married students only had to produce a marriage license to qualify for housing, while same-sex couples could obviously produce no such document.

The students hence petitioned Heyman that committed same-sex unions had all the legitimacy and permanency of heterosexual unions recognized by law.

Heyman said that beyond the legal considerations of recognizing same-sex unions that the campus "would also be an intrusion into highly personal mat-

ters."

He said he was asking his staff to "continue a dialogue" with Goebel and the other students to determine whether or not some alternative and more acceptable approach might be available to make exceptions for the admission of non-traditional families into campus housing facilities.

Heyman concluded that "such an effort would be worthwhile, although it was not at all certain that a mutually acceptable procedure could be developed." ▼

Leather Daddies, Daddy's Boys In San Jose

The Southbay Leather and Uniform Group (SLUG), and Alan Selby of the San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund, and the management of Club St. John, will host the first South Bay

Leather Daddy and Daddy's Boy Contest on Feb. 26. The Club St. John is located in San Jose, at 710 W. St. John at the corner of San Pedro and St. John St. The doors will open at 6 p.m. and the contest will start at 8 p.m.

The Master of Ceremonies will be International Mr. Leather 1988—Mike Pereyra. Guest judges will be Mistress Kathy, Andrew Charles, Tony DeBlase, and two representatives of the Southbay Leather and Uniform Group: Michael, Mr. San Jose Drummer, and Ken.

There will be a demonstration of body rope harnesses and bondage techniques. Selby will give a brief talk and demonstration entitled "Everything you ever wanted to know about leather." The feature show of the evening will be a sizzling and erotic performance by the one and only Rainbeau. The show and contest will conclude with raffle of several gift items.

There will be a \$5 cover charge at the door. Proceeds will be donated to the San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund and the Aris Project.

Anyone interested in entering the contest or donating a gift for the raffle, should contact the Southbay Leather and Uniform Hotline (408) 280-SLUG.

The Southbay Leather and Uniform Group (SLUG), is open to both men and women interested in the leather and uniform lifestyle. It holds weekly social meetings and pot lucks. The group promotes safe sex education, fundraising events and much more. Future fundraising events will be the South Bay MAMA and MAMA's Girl contest. ▼

Bias Hampers Services In Contra Costa; State Funds Curtail Education Outreach

Task Force Maintains Operations On Shoestring Budget; Concentrates On Client Services In Conservative Area

by Jay Newquist

The face of AIDS alters when the epidemic jumps out of the liberal bastion of San Francisco, reports the Contra Costa AIDS Task Force. "It is unlike San Francisco here in that you find Middle America in lots of ways," said Robert Thompson, CCATF's education coordinator. "Most of the people I have come into contact with in Contra Costa have been very open and have not evidenced any homophobia whatsoever."

"If they had questions and concerns, they were willing to hear the answers and they took the information and incorporated it."

"There is, however, a very conservative element like the Coalition for Traditional Values who have been vociferous in their criticism of anything that looks like gay activism."

"These critics feel AIDS is a gay issue despite the fact that we're seeing a good many heterosexuals in Contra Costa. They have been very resistant to the work that has been going on. It's been an uphill situation."

A local fundamentalist TV station is also quite reactionary, according to Thompson, when it broadcast that AIDS was God's punishment for immoral behavior.

"It even reached a volatile point last summer when people received death threats by telephone and mail," Thompson said, adding that no one from CCATF was threatened.

"Our purpose has not been so much political as providing patient services."

CCATF started—like many grassroots AIDS organizations—on a wing and a prayer almost three years ago when a group of people perceived a need for a community-based volunteer AIDS organization in Contra Costa.

Thompson said the nature of the agency was meant to be as non-governmental as possible so there would be few restrictions as a result.

He said CCATF was born at a time when the AIDS Project of the East Bay was unable to handle the demand of both Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

"Contra Costa is enormous, it stretches from Richmond to Antioch and south to Alamo, the geographical problems are immense."

In the end the CCATF landed in offices in Martinez, the county seat, in a facility provided by the County Health Department.



Contra Costa AIDS Task Force staffers (l. to r.) Jered Gross, John Bermudez, Kathy Foster, Bob Thompson. (Photo: S. Savage)

"We work very closely with the county's AIDS Program and the advantages are great because we as a community-based organization can provide the county with hundreds of hours of volunteer patient service support every month."

Thompson said the county AIDS staff provide the statistical followup, education and case management work. CCATF itself provides two programs: public educational and direct patient services in emotional and practical support for people with AIDS.

The gamut of CCATF services ranges from equipment support where items like hospital beds and wheelchairs are loaned to clients, to emergency funds for food vouchers or bills for PG&E, telephone and rent.

The more than 200 volunteers can also help 140 clients steer through the maze of the Social Security and State Disability

systems. Thompson heads the CCATF education wing with the aim to "reach anyone and everyone in the county" with AIDS education and prevention.

"We're going into the workplace to small privately held businesses or large corporations to assist them to develop AIDS policies for their employees and helping management get out the word that transmission is not something their employees have to worry about."

"We try to tell them they need to get the education done before there's a crisis, and a lot of times that's been successful, but sometimes an issue has come up

(beforehand) and panic sets in, and we have to put out little forest fires."

CCATF works with churches, schools, youth groups and prisoners who have AIDS transmission anxieties because condoms are not permitted in the county jail. CCATF reached 6,000 people in 1988.

Thompson said Contra Costa has reported 276 AIDS cases since 1981, adding the figure is misleading because many people who had a diagnosis left the county and went to Berkeley, Oakland or San Francisco for treatment.

"I think the medical commu-

(Continued on next page)

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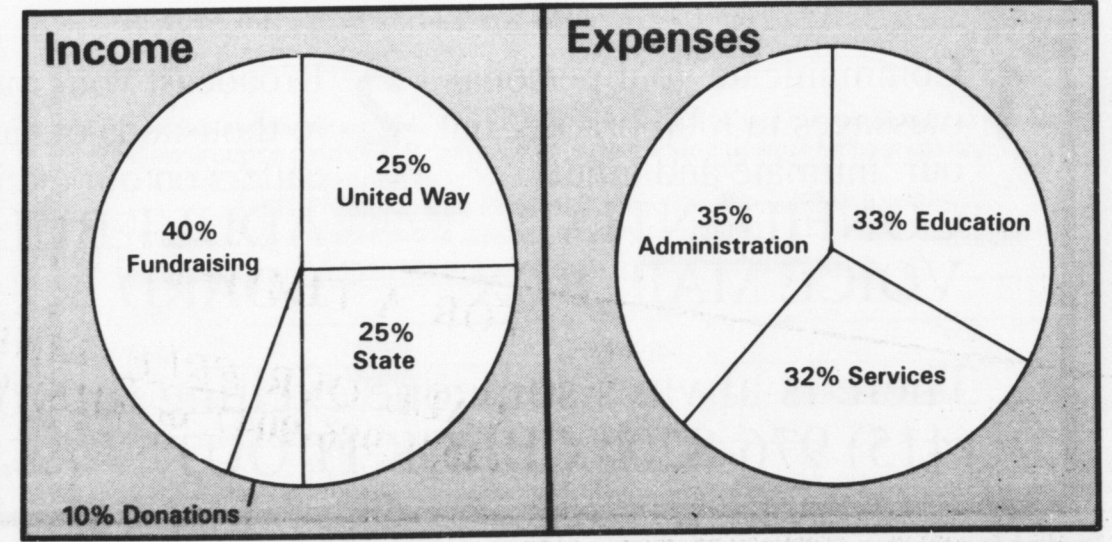
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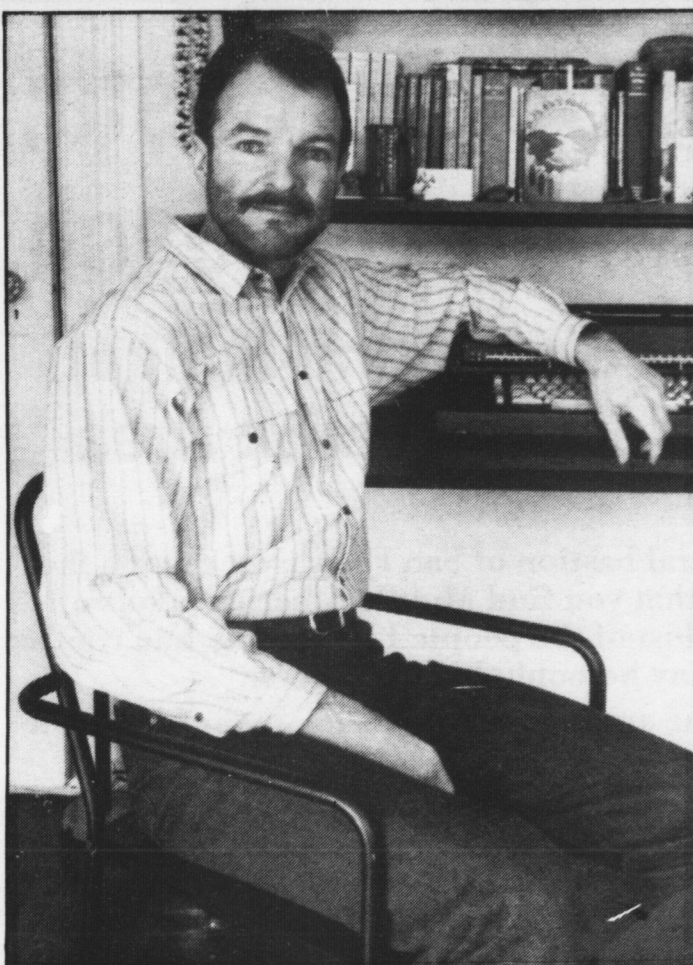
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Illustration by Laura H. Young

Contra Costa AIDS Task Force

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Budget | 1987, \$187,450 |
| Staff | .2 full-time, 1 part-time |
| Clients | 140 |
| Volunteers | 200 |
| Income: | |
| United Way | 25 percent |
| State Office of AIDS | 25 percent |
| Fundraising, Special Events | 2.5 percent |
| Individual Contributions | 10 percent |
| Services: Emotional and practical support for people with AIDS, preventive education, housing, emergency fund. | |





Bob Thompson, director of the Contra Costa AIDS Task Force. (Photo: S. Savage)

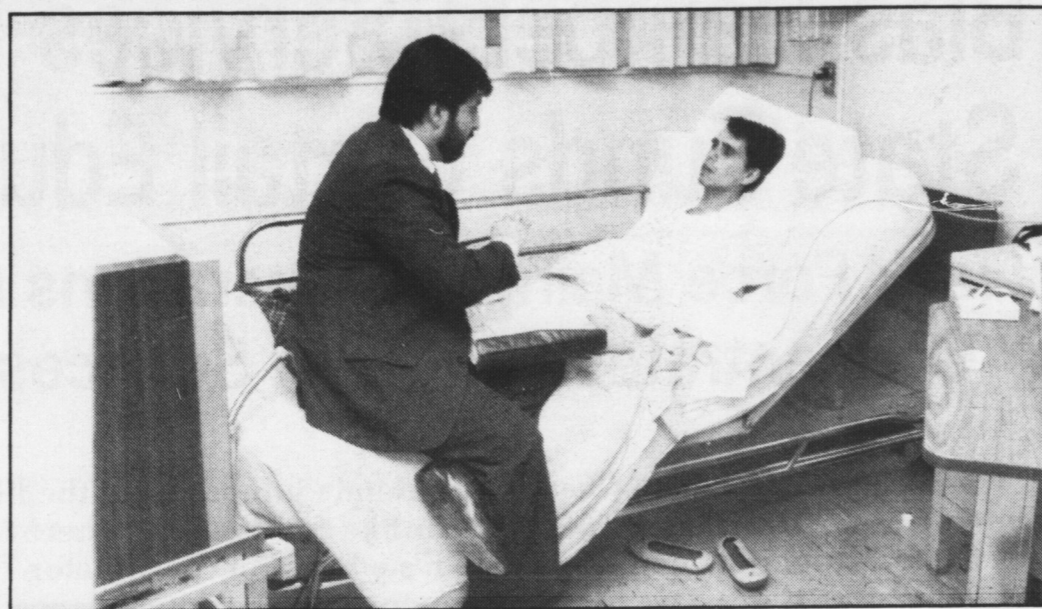
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nity in Contra Costa responded after San Francisco. We also know a lot of people came back to Contra Costa to family support subsequent to their diagnosis in other parts of the state. The actual number of people with AIDS here now or who have been in Contra Costa at some point is probably a lot higher."

CCATF had a budget of \$187,450 in 1988 and its revenue came from:

- United Way, 25 percent
 - State Office of AIDS, 25 percent
 - Fundraising/Special Events, 40 percent
 - Individual Contributions, 10 percent
- Thompson expected the budget to increase in 1989 to meet the increased client need as well as internal need for added funds to recruit an executive director

Another in a Series on AIDS Organizations



Contra Costa Task Force staffer visits a patient. (Photo: S. Savage)

and a full-time office manager.

He estimated that 65 percent of its budget went for direct services (32 percent for patient services, 33 percent for education) while the remaining 35 percent went for administrative overhead.

Thompson also reported that the funding from the state Office of AIDS was often something of a mixed blessing because of its conservatism about AIDS education materials.

"I think a ridiculous example is the brief video narrated by Ron Reagan, Jr. which showed Ruben Blades putting a condom on a banana. The video was very well done and an easy way to get the message across.

"The State Office of AIDS disapproved precisely because a condom was put on a banana. Educators throughout the state have really been distressed about

this sort of thing because it limits what we can print up with their funding.

"It's a problem."

The state, however, does contribute to fund two full-time and one part-time employees who make the following salaries per year: patient service coordinator (\$31,000); community educator (\$31,000); and part-time office manager (\$18,000).

The staff is composed of two gay men (one white, one Hispanic) and one straight female.

Thompson reported that CCATF served primarily gay/bisexual white males, but added there was a significant increase in 1988 of Latinos and blacks.

An increase in AIDS cases from IV drug use has also begun.

CCATF volunteers, on the other hand, were once primarily gay white males.

"I'm gratified as the epidemic moves along that we have a real cross section in Contra Costa," Thompson said, indicating that in recent volunteer trainings there were more heterosexual men and women who were retired.

Thompson expressed frustration about problems for CCATF that loomed ever larger. A food bank is a great idea for Contra Costa, but where? AIDS patients are scattered all over the county.

The lack of transportation to receive services is also critical as well as the need for more housing for people with AIDS.

The fact that CCATF pulls the rabbit from the hat for a mere \$187,450 a year is major magic. ▼

Nez Pas

It Was (Old) Home Week

GENETHLIC EROS AND ARES (A Naevoid Nose?)

On Valentine's Day last, Big Mama's went all out to provide a spectacular birthday party for one of its bartenders, Keith (or Keith Ann as he is known in some circles).

A fantastic buffet was provided by Miguel's of Hayward, and a terrific 50s/60s/70s trio, Joan Shaft and Doctor Goodness, kept the teeming crowd toe tapping, finger snapping, arm flapping, and hand clapping for several hours. Ed P. and Rick were really hopping on the planks to slake the thirsty, parched throng.

Keith, in all his modesty, held court at one end of the bar while his subjects for the evening practiced elbow-bending with shots of schnapps. Bartender Michael was the jester of the night, cavoring his antics on the dance floor.

It was almost like old home (de-emphasize the old, please!) week, seeing some of the regulars. Brendon still calls us "ex-boss." Cookie, your remarks were most certainly appreciated. Lee's asides are as cutting as ever. Dean Snow never changes. Daddy David begrudgingly admits that he only has one vice left and doesn't intend to quit. Lynn and Jodie were keystones of Keith's court at his end of the bar. Jackie and Jose jested with the jesters. And Michelle was full of quips.

Frumpy, Daniel, and Larry from Turf Club rounded out a perfect reunion with a lot of friends in Hayward.

Empress VI Billy was there, and he looks great, what with the attractive addition of several pounds. He's looking forward to being out of business for himself and working for someone else. He was sorry to have missed the Emperor and Empress' Ball, but he elected to stay home with his lover!

The mysterious disappearance of Ray-Ray was solved when it was discovered that he had been in jury duty all day. That's still not an excuse for leaving your keys in your car and not telling anyone where you were, Ray!

Festive occasions such as this must come to an end, and since it was on a work night, it came to an end for us all too soon. A tip of Nez's nose to all who contributed to making Keith's birthday such a rousing success.

AUX ABOIS (A Mourning Nose)

The hour had come, and the race had been run. Hayward was in a state of shock when it learned of the unexpected and untimely death of Big Mama's manager, Gene Leach. He will be grieved and lamented by all his friends and acquaintances.

The passing of Randy Johnson will also leave a void in the lives of many on both sides of the bay.

"Till we meet again," to Joann C. You'll be sorely missed

ABNEGATE AND VAMOOSE!

(A "You Gotta Believe" Nose)

As I heard the story, this guy tells his manager that he quits. The manager took it as blowing off steam. The next day at work, the comely lass was expecting to be relieved at 6 p.m. When 8 p.m. came and went, she called the manager and voiced her tale of woe.



Keith enjoying his birthday party.

Said manager uttered something like, "I thought he was kidding," as he hurried into town to finish the over lapped shifts.

TOILING HABILIMENTS (An Attired Nose?)

A little preface to this item is needed in order to understand the full impact (hopefully!). At a major department store here in town, the usual employee discount is 20 percent. If an employee purchases something in the line of "work clothes" the discount is raised to 30 percent. Well, it seems that Manuel had a birthday recently, and Leroy S. wanted to give him something special. Ms. Leroy didn't bother to shop the aisles of the bargain basement; he opted for the more opulent main floor, and returned with a quite stunning beaded bag. When asked by a fellow employee how he could afford such an expensive present, Ms. Leroy replied that not only was the reticule on sale, but he was able to get the full 30 percent discount for "work clothes"!

Fellow employee asked if Ms. Leroy went home and changed into drag. Mr. Leroy replied that fortunately there was a phone booth available near the elevators!

Well, there are work clothes and then there are "working clothes"!

HOTCHPOTCH (A Ragout Nose)

The Imperial Star Empire has selected Saturday, Sept. 30, as Coronation night. This year's theme is Welcome To Our Nightmare. Everything will take place at the Oakland Hyatt.

When I say everything, I mean not only the Coronation itself, but also the host hotel for out-of-town guests, the hospitality rooms, the out-of-town shows, and the Victory Brunch. Geeesh! Maybe it will be the Hyatt's nightmare!

You'll just have to ask Hank and Ralph about a certain adopted Randolph who sits in the tub waiting for a bath!

Just when you thought it was safe, etc. There will indeed be another Bartender's Turn-Around on Wednesdays next month. The schedule is: Wednesday, March 8, Town & Country; Wednesday, March 15, Big Mama's; Wednesday, March 22, Bench & Bar; and Wednesday, March 29, Turf Club.

No list of the bartenders involved has been made available yet.

Marlow has selected Sunday, March 12, as the day for the Telegraph Three (Cabel's Reef, Bella Napoli, and Town & Country) to hold, simultaneously, the benefit for AIDS Food Bank. The three events will take place from 3 to 6 p.m. Participants are urged to bring a can of food (see back of flyers for particulars) or offer a donation. There will be entertainment and speakers at all three places. I guess Marlow will be at all three during the day, too! I was told that there will be reduced prices on well, beer, and call for the three hours.

Little Mother is desperate! She needs lots of goodies and items for her upcoming auction at Town & Country on Sunday, March 5, from 4 to 8 p.m. Call her (562-9826) for pick-up and delivery. All proceeds will go to EBAB.

Wednesday, March 29, has been chosen for the 61st Annual Academy Awards. Check your favorite watering hole for any festivities it might be planning for that star-studded night.

St. Patrick's Day falls on Friday, March 17, this year, and as usual, Sammy is planning his famous corned beef and cabbage lunches and dinners at Town & Country all day long!

ISE's Bitch Switch at the Driftwood last week was a good show, but the turnout was disappointingly sparse. Not enough publicity in Hayward, or what?

Hope to see many of you at my 9th Annual Chili Cook-Off on Monday, Feb. 29.

Way on into April, look forward to a huge Big Country Hoedown



Whose feet are these anyway? Who in Hayward wears argyle socks anymore?

to be held at Town & Country on Sunday, April 2, at 4 p.m. a C/W band, Thorn & Roses, will entertain, and there will be a big country buffet.

How can anyone expect me to learn how to resuscitate. I can't even master suscitation yet! Dast I smile at that? Love, Nez. ▼

Southbay Leather Daddy and Daddy's Boy Contest

Sunday, February 26

Door open at 6:00. Contest from 8:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.

Master of Ceremonies:

Mike Preyra

Featuring

Rainbeau, Erotic Dancer

Alan Selby: Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Leather



Co-produced by Southbay Leather and Uniform Group and Alan Selby

In cooperation with Club St. John

Proceeds to benefit AIDS Emergency Fund, SF and the Santa Clara County's ARIS Project

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For further information and contestant sign up, call 408-280-SLUG.



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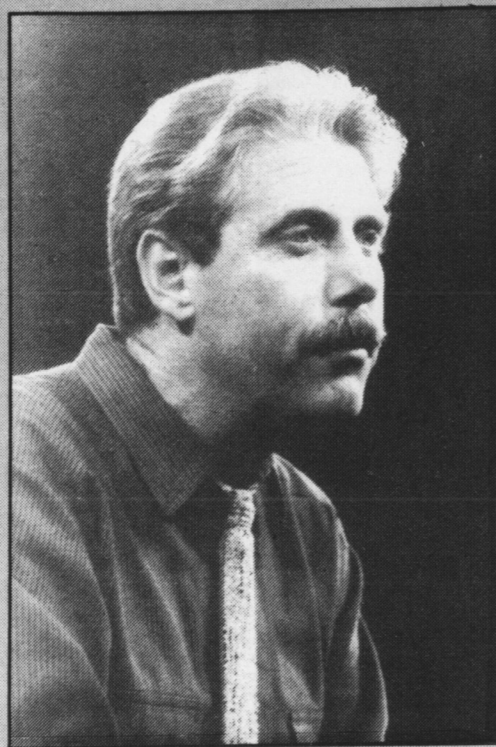
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February 25th & 26th

4:00 pm 'till

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THIS WEEK



Paul Linke stars in a one-man show, *Time Flies When You're Having Fun*, at Life on the Water on Sunday, Feb. 26, to benefit Hospice by the Bay.

FRIDAY 24

- **Artemis Cafe:** Rebel songs by Marion Wade, Faith Petric and Janny MacHarg. Located at 1199 Valencia at 8 p.m. \$4-7 (sliding scale), call 821-0232 for details.
- **Hospice Volunteer Training:** provided by Hospice by the Bay at the Villa Hotel, 4000 South El Camino Real, San Mateo. Training begins tonight from 6:30-9:30 p.m. and continues tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 673-2020.
- **Art at Whitmans:** Figurative works by Shishir Thadani with gay sensibility at Noe and Market through Feb. 14; through Feb. 27 at Polk and California.
- **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.
- **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. Through April 2. 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.
- **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.
- **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 25

- **Partners Institute:** Creating a Relationship That Works, a one day workshop for gay men seeking a life partner. \$25. Call David Klein for more information.
- **A Different Light:** presents George Melton and Wil Garcia who will discuss their new book *Beyond Aids* from 1-3 p.m. 489 Castro.
- **An Evening With The Girlfriends:** begins at 9 p.m. at the 641 Club, 641 Stockton St., San Jose. Free.
- **The Box:** a gay and lesbian R and B, funk and soul club every Saturday and Thursday nights. 628 Divisadero. \$3/4 cover.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** presents Game Fest, an evening of board and card games and refreshments. 8 p.m. The Fog House, 304 Gold Mine Drive. Call 641-0999 for details.
- **EastBay FrontRunners:** Inspiration Point-Tilden Park. Take Grizzly Peak to either South Park Drive or Shasta Road. Continue to Wildcat Canyon Road. Meet at parking lot at left side of road. Flat to slight incline, 3 to 8 mile loop. Info: 939-3579 or 865-6792.

- **San Francisco Wrestling Club:** workout from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call Jim at 538-8490 for information.
- **Church of the Secret Gospel:** at 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2 from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. Sexy movies and refreshments with \$7 contribution. For info call 621-1887.
- **Comedy at the Rose:** Franchesca Bon Journo appears at 6 p.m. as Dorothy Parker in "Boys, Booze and Broads." Rose and Thistle, 1624 California. \$5 cover.
- **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, Charpes Grill, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 p.m.
- **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 26

- **Concert:** Bay Area Concerto Ensemble, William Ludtke, conductor. Chopin Piano Concerto No. 2, Seth Montfort, pianist; Mozart Violin Concerto No. 4, Valerie Tisdell, violinist. First Presbyterian Church, 2001 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda. 7 p.m. \$4 donation.
- **New Music:** by local off-beat musicians. Sabot, Slut-puffins, Blue Vulva, Underground, Deb Mud, and more. 440 Potrero, Studio 4. 2-6 p.m. \$2 donation. Call 863-0582 for details.
- **Life on the Water:** presents Paul Linke in "Time Flies When You're Alive" to benefit Hospice by the Bay. Fort Mason. Call 776-8999 for tickets and information.
- **Different Spokes:** Tunitas-La Honda Loop. Meet at the intersection of Tunitas Creek Road at Highway 1 in the town of Tunitas at 10 a.m. Rain cancels, helmets recommended, bring/buy lunch. Call Karry Kelly at 864-2778.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** 2nd Annual I Love Berkeley Run meets at 36 Panoramic Way at 10 a.m. for a 5 mile run thru the hilly streets of Berkeley. East Bay FrontRunners welcome. For carpooling meet under the Safeway sign (Market and Church) at 9 a.m. Maps will be available. Call Tim at 453-4118 or Margaret at 821-3719.
- **S.H.A.R.E.:** Self Healing AIDS Related Experiment are George Melton and Wil Garcia who will present their program *Beyond AIDS*: people can and are healing themselves from AIDS and ARC. Unity Christ Church, 2690 Ocean Ave., at 7:30 p.m. and again at F.L.A.M.E. Outreach, 347 Dolores St., Wednesday, March 1 at 7:30 p.m. \$10 donation appreciated. Call 566-4122 for information.
- **Lecture: Black America 1989:** Vielka McFarlane, Tom Boot and Willie Hyman at 6 p.m. at the Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Call 864-1278 for information and prices.
- **Lecture: AIDS Ethical Issues:** Rev. Orloff Miller will speak on drug protocols, euthanasia and HIV testing. 10:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Fellowship of Redwood City, 2124 Brewster Avenue. 365-6913.
- **AIDS Interfaith of Marin:** Monthly service at 2:30 p.m. at Congregation Rodef Shalom, 170 North San Pedro, San Raphael. 457-1129.
- **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.
- **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.

MONDAY 27

- **Community Action Network News:** a look at anti-gay judges and an investigation of the Dolores Huerta beating by San Francisco police. 7:30 p.m. on cable 30 in Mountain View.
- **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 for 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.

TUESDAY 28

- **Gay Men's Sketch:** classical nude modeling. Open to all levels. 2 minute gestures up to 40 minute drawings. 1229 Folsom St., 7-10 p.m. \$10 donation. Call 621-6294 for reservations.
- **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.
- **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 Saare, 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.
- **Master Your Mind:** Support group for people with AIDS and the worried, led by Mary Richards, 4th floor, 333 Valencia St., S.F., noon-2 p.m. Focus on meditation, visualization, empowerment, and health; not affiliated with the S.F. AIDS Foundation. Call 945-0941 for more information.
- **Gay Support Group for People With ARC:** and alcohol/substance abuse, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7-9 p.m. Individual and group process. Call 626-7000 for intake appointment.



Cynthia Gregory of the American Ballet Theater will dance in *Swan Lake* on Tuesday, February 28.

- **Evening Group Orientation:** For people with AIDS or ARC, San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 333 Valencia St., 4th floor, S.F., free. Assistance in interpreting financial benefit systems, applying for government assistance programs, and information on social service agencies and discounts available. Call 864-4376 to reserve a space.
- **Community United Against Violence:** Support group for battered gay men, 514 Castro St., S.F., 7:30-9:30 p.m., free. Call 864-3112 for more information.

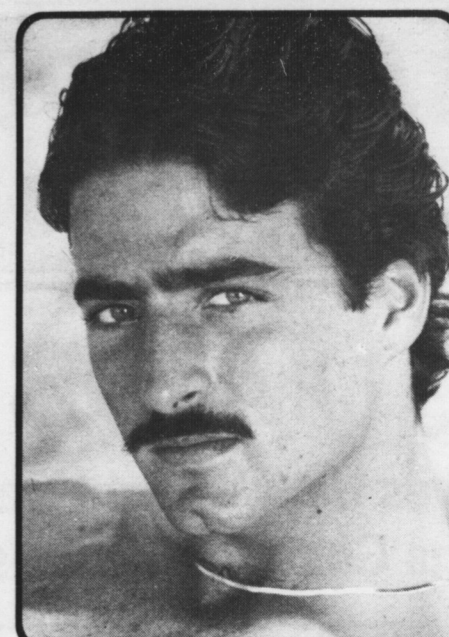
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- **Grieving Workshop:** Letters to the Grave, a continuing workshop for people in the grieving process, is held on alternate Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the S.F. AIDS Foundation, 333 Valencia St.
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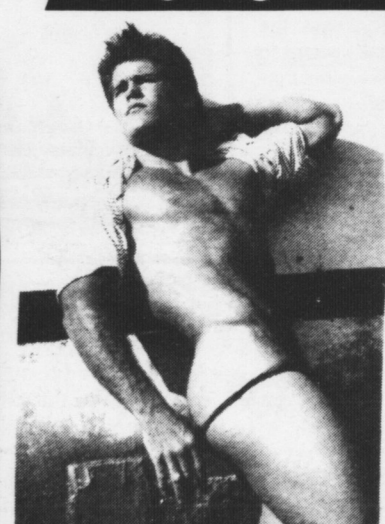
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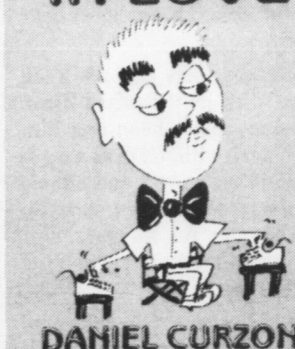
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—Robert Patrick

Also this weekend: **George Melton & Wil Garcia**, BEYOND AIDS, Sat. Feb. 25, 1 p.m.; **Karla Jay, THE AMAZON & THE PAGE**, slideshow talk on the life of Natalie Clifford Barney, Sun. Feb. 26, 7 p.m.

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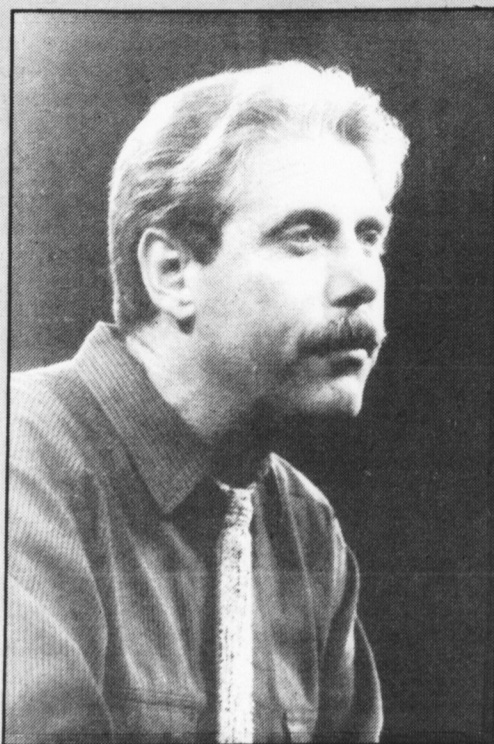
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February 25th & 26th

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THIS WEEK



Paul Linke stars in a one-man show, *Time Flies When You're Having Fun*, at Life on the Water on Sunday, Feb. 26, to benefit Hospice by the Bay.

- **San Francisco Wrestling Club:** workout from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call Jim at 538-8490 for information.
- **Church of the Secret Gospel:** at 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2 from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. Sexy movies and refreshments with \$7 contribution. For info call 621-1887.
- **Comedy at the Rose:** Franchesca Bon Journo appears at 6 p.m. as Dorothy Parker in "Boys, Booze and Broads." Rose and Thistle, 1624 California. \$5 cover.
- **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, Charpes Grill, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 p.m.
- **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 26

- **Concert:** Bay Area Concerto Ensemble, William Ludtke, conductor. Chopin Piano Concerto No. 2, Seth Montfort, pianist; Mozart Violin Concerto No. 4, Valerie Tisdell, violinist. First Presbyterian Church, 2001 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda. 7 p.m. \$4 donation.
- **New Music:** by local off-beat musicians. Sabot, Slut-puffs, Blue Vulva, Underground, Deb Mud, and more. 440 Potrero, Studio 4, 2-6 p.m. \$2 donation. Call 863-0582 for details.
- **Life on the Water:** presents Paul Linke in "Time Flies When You're Alive" to benefit Hospice by the Bay. Fort Mason. Call 776-8999 for tickets and information.
- **Different Spokes:** Tunitas-La Honda Loop. Meet at the intersection of Tunitas Creek Road at Highway 1 in the town of Tunitas at 10 a.m. Rain cancels, helmets recommended, bring/buy lunch. Call Karry Kelly at 864-2778.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** 2nd Annual I Love Berkeley Run meets at 36 Panoramic Way at 10 a.m. for a 5 mile run thru the hilly streets of Berkeley. East Bay FrontRunners meet at 9 a.m. For carpooling meet under the Safeway sign (Market and Church) at 9 a.m. Maps will be available. Call Tim at 453-4118 or Margaret at 821-3719.
- **S.H.A.R.E.:** Self Healing AIDS Related Experiment are George Melton and Wil Garcia who will present their program Beyond AIDS: people can and are healing themselves from AIDS and ARC. Unity Christ Church, 2690 Ocean Ave., at 7:30 p.m. and again at F.L.A.M.E. Outreach, 347 Dolores St., Wednesday, March 1 at 7:30 p.m. \$10 donation appreciated. Call 566-4122 for information.
- **Lecture: Black America 1989:** Vielka McFarlane, Tom Boot and Willie Hyman at 4 p.m. at the Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Call 864-1278 for information and prices.
- **Lecture: AIDS Ethical Issues:** Rev. Orloff Miller will speak on drug protocols, euthanasia and HIV testing. 10:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Fellowship of Redwood City, 2124 Brewster Avenue. 365-6913.
- **AIDS Interfaith of Marin:** Monthly service at 2:30 p.m. at Congregation Rodef Shalom, 170 North San Pedro, San Raphael. 457-1129.
- **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.
- **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.

FRIDAY 24

- **Artemis Cafe:** Rebel songs by Marion Wade, Faith Petric and Jenny MacHarg. Located at 1199 Valencia at 8 p.m. \$4-7 (sliding scale), call 821-0232 for details.
- **Hospice Volunteer Training:** provided by Hospice by the Bay at the Villa Hotel, 4000 South El Camino Real, San Mateo. Training begins tonight from 6:30-9:30 p.m. and continues tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 673-2020.
- **Art at Whitmans:** Figurative works by Shishir Thadani with gay sensibility at Noe and Market through Feb. 14; through Feb. 27 at Polk and California.
- **Oresteia:** An adaption of Aeschylus runs through Feb. 26 at the Julian Theatre, 777 Valencia St. At ticket outlets and at box office. Call 626-8987.
- **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. Through April 2. 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.
- **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.
- **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 25

- **Partners Institute:** Creating a Relationship That Works, a one day workshop for gay men seeking a life partner. \$25. Call David Klein for more information.
- **A Different Light:** presents George Melton and Wil Garcia who will discuss their new book *Beyond AIDS* from 1-3 p.m., 489 Castro.
- **An Evening With The Girlfriends:** begins at 9 p.m. at the 641 Club, 641 Stockton St., San Jose. Free.
- **The Box:** a gay and lesbian R and B, funk and soul club every Saturday and Thursday nights. 628 Divisadero. \$3/4 cover.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** presents Game Fest, an evening of board and card games and refreshments. 8 p.m. The Fog House, 304 Gold Mine Drive. Call 641-0999 for details.
- **EastBay FrontRunners:** Inspiration Point-Tilden Park. Take Grizzly Peak to either South Park Drive or Shasta Road. Continue to Wildcat Canyon Road. Meet at parking lot at left side of road. Flat to slight incline, 3 to 8 mile loop. Info: 939-3579 or 865-6792.

MONDAY 27

- **Community Action Network News:** a look at anti-gay judges and an investigation of the Dolores Huerta beating by San Francisco police. 7:30 p.m. on cable 30 in Mountain View.
- **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.
- **Emergence/San Francisco:** Gay Christian Scientist group meets at 7:50 p.m. Call 221-HOME for 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.

TUESDAY 28

- **Gay Men's Sketch:** classical nude modeling. Open to all levels. 2 minute gestures up to 40 minute drawings. 1229 Folsom St., 7-10 p.m. \$10 donation. Call 621-6294 for reservations.
- **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.
- **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 Saare, 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.
- **Master Your Mind:** Support group for people with AIDS and the worried, led by Mary Richards, 4th floor, 333 Valencia St., S.F., noon-2 p.m. Focus on meditation, visualization, empowerment, and health; not affiliated with the S.F. AIDS Foundation. Call 945-0941 for more information.
- **Gay Support Group for People With ARC:** and alcohol/substance abuse. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7-9 p.m. Individual and group process. Call 626-7000 for intake appointment.



Cynthia Gregory of the American Ballet Theater will dance in *Swan Lake* on Tuesday, February 28.

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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

AIDS In Theatre

While TV Gives Us 'Midnight Caller,' And The Movies Hide From the Subject, The Stage Goes To The Grassroots With Good Works And Education

by Will Snyder

There was a moment during a recent production of *As Is* which seemed to exemplify what the authors always want to happen. In the play, a gay man holds his ex-lover, now covered with lesions and suffering from AIDS, and says that he will take care of him, that he will accept him "as is." When that scene unfolded only a few muffled sniffles could be heard from the audience.

It was hard for anyone to hold back the tears that night, or probably any night that *As Is* plays on a stage, whether it is in San Francisco or even Los Altos Hills. The production company for this *As Is* comes from Foothill College in Los Altos Hills and the play's director, Jay Manley, says the word about AIDS finally seems to be spreading to folks who normally might not listen.

"I think the play kind of selects its audiences," says Manley, "but the responses we got, I think, were best exemplified by one letter I got from a lady in her 70s in Woodside. She was wealthy and probably pro-Reagan, but she was honest when she said, 'You can imagine—at my age—what a difficult production this was for me. But you touched me and I am trying to understand.'"

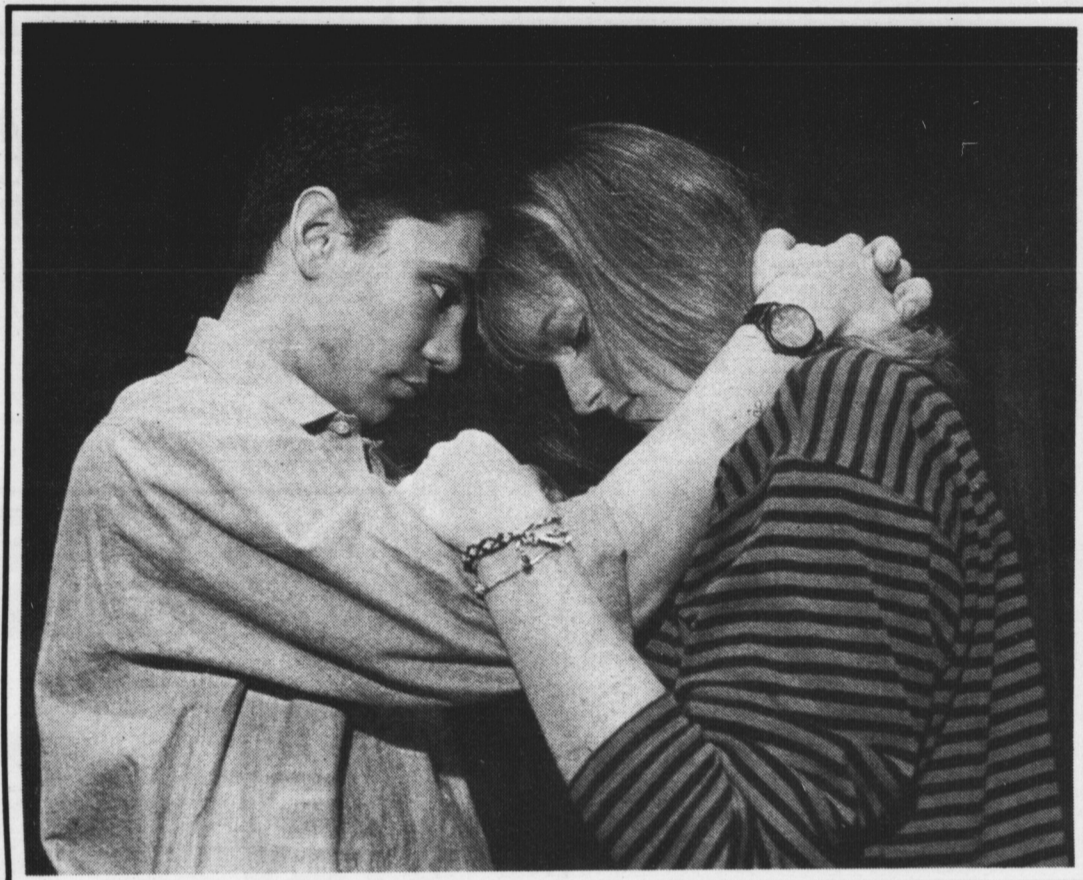
As Is is only one of eight or nine productions Manley plans for Foothill's drama classes for the 1988-89 school year. This play is, as he puts it, "our open show. Any California resident can apply to be in one of our plays. If they are chosen, they have to enroll in the class."

The plan for *As Is* was to make it different than some of the other productions. Manley wanted to take it on tour to different locales in the Bay Area for special causes. The play was at the San Francisco MCC in December to help different gay groups and the response was so great that it was brought back in January for four more benefit performances.

The success of Foothill's performances thrills Manley, but it meant a lot personally to the bearded teacher, now in his tenth year at Foothill. The play helped him to come out.

"This was the most complete process of coming out for me," he says. "That was true for all of the gay cast members, too. When we started this thing, I told them (the cast) that I was gay and that I had lost a lot of people close to me.

"When we started this play, I had a written statement prepared," he added. "I told them why I wanted to do the show and why I wanted to do the tour. I told them that the two main characters have to be physically affectionate with each other."



Secrets is being presented to Northern California high schools by the Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program in an effort to educate teens about AIDS.

Thus, the educational experience began for the cast which was half straight. "We did a lot of talking with each other about sexuality," says Manley. "They read books about AIDS, things that I thought would sensitize them. We spent time talking about things like, what two men do in bed together."

The result was a smooth production, well-acted and touching. And, in a footnote, the cast—gay and straight alike—got together and memorialized friends who had passed on with another addition to the AIDS quilt. Again, this is the crossover when an entire community begins to understand.

But if something good happens in Los Altos Hills, does it happen in other segments of the country? Television has produced *An Early Frost*, *Tidy Endings* and a few scattered shows on sitcoms, but not much else. And, TV has given us the scurrilous *Midnight Caller*.

Hollywood has a worse track record with its theatrical films. When has there been one film which dealt with AIDS as a main theme in an honest and educational way? Millions are spent on Rambo and food fights, but nothing on the fight against the big 'A' disease.

It has been up to the theater to lead the way in producing works which sensitize people. Here in the Bay Area, Theatre Rhinoceros has been the leader with a commitment to works concerned

with AIDS. But whereas Rhinoceros touched hearts in San Francisco with its work and *As Is* (a Tony Award winner) and *The Normal Heart* did well on Broadway, how about the suburbs or Middle America or other areas more inclined to look suspiciously at anything from New York or San Francisco?

There seems to be a trickle of interest coming from other areas of the country. David Lemos, whose play *Remember My Name* played to some good crowds and good reviews here recently, remembers one of the touching results of his play's first performance in Washington in 1987 during the first display of the AIDS quilt.

"I got a communication from the Midwest from a guy," says Lemos. "This guy had been closeted, but after he saw the play, he came out. He started getting involved in the gay community."

Maybe the experience of the Midwesterner touched home base for Lemos. In his teen years, he studied for the priesthood, but he admits there were things he didn't know about yet, such as his sexuality or his creativity.

Some questions seemed to be answered for him when he first saw the AIDS quilt at the Moscow Center. "You could feel the power of the people when you walked on it," Lemos reflected. "When I felt that power, I just knew that I had to write about it."

As a result of that power, Lemos took an apartment in San Francisco and devoted all of his

time to writing a play which has been widely praised in newspapers which include the prestigious Washington Post. With no offense intended to the Post, though, Lemos seems just as tickled when he gets responses such as the one from the Midwesterner.

So, that's one story of a "trickle" and a good one. But there are more and they are grassroots.

Last year, American Conservatory Theatre produced a youth group freeform performance about AIDS, *The Wildest Storm of All*, which toured schools. *The Inner Circle*, produced by the New Conservatory Children's Theatre Company, received wide praise for bringing the subject of AIDS to teenagers. Now, another play about AIDS for teens has come from a source criticized in the lesbian and gay community in the past, the Kaiser Permanente hospital group.

Recruiting actors in their early 20s who can pass for teenagers, Kaiser has produced a play called *Secrets*, a 40-minute production about AIDS for teenagers and in a language they can understand. The play was performed recently in San Francisco at Raoul Wallenberg High School and will be touring selected East Bay schools in the near future.

"The play is based on true stories about kids who come in contact with AIDS in some way," said Jennifer Cross, a Kaiser spokesperson. "It was quite interesting to observe the kids and their reactions to the play.

"At first," she added, "the questions were cautious. But then the kids really started opening up and asking some thoughtful questions."

Cross said there are some gay characters in the play, but that most of the characters are straight teenagers. Nevertheless, the slick information guides given out to kids at the performances do not contain anti-gay language, only non-judgmental words. For example, the answer to a question of whether or not AIDS is mostly a gay disease is, "No. It's not who you are, but what you do that makes you susceptible to AIDS. Everyone is vulnerable regardless of age, gender or race. The AIDS virus neither knows nor cares who it infects. Although a large number of AIDS cases in the U.S. are gay men, the number of reported heterosexual cases worldwide is greater and is increasing rapidly."

And, Cross added, none of the language in questions about gay people contained "fag language."

So, there are positive stories to tell about gay/straight relationships and how AIDS stories may be educating the public. As Jay Manley says, "Can something like *As Is* actually do much to bring people closer together? Absolutely, in many ways, I think it is doing that. The potential is there. Of course, the reverse is always possible, too, but I guess I'm just an optimist."

He can speak from his experience with his letter from an aging Regan Republican. Others will say the price of thousands of lives is a steep price to pay for the tortoise-like path of understanding by a sleeping nation whose just-retired president, many feel, conveniently failed to mention the word, "AIDS," until his second term.

But at least some education is getting out to the public now, some in the form of documentary performances and others in the form of entertainment which brings sniffles from nervous audiences.



Now, if only someone can convince some closeted executives at Paramount or Universal or Fox to put \$20 million bucks into a movie about the fight against AIDS instead of food fights by belching, scantily-clad kids, Hollywood night grow up and get a little courage, too.

John Karr

A 'Tuna' And A Novel With Good Taste

A stiff martini or two gets me through that crisis when the Academy Award nominations are announced and I find that I am passed over *once again*. But when I arrive at the Royal Court voting polls and find I'm not even on the ballot—*again*—well, that's a lesson in making a dignified exit and weeping in private. Oh, when will I ever be Queen? And before you moan, "girlene..." please note I've used that word not as an adjective but as a proper noun; I may already be one, but can still dream of being The Other.

So there was poetic justice that the very day somebody else was being elected Empress I went to see a completely different royal flush of queens. And I do mean that gallery of women so divinely portrayed in the long run hit *Greater Tuna*. It's having new life breathed into it with the limited engagement of its authors and original stars, Joe Sears and Jaston Williams.

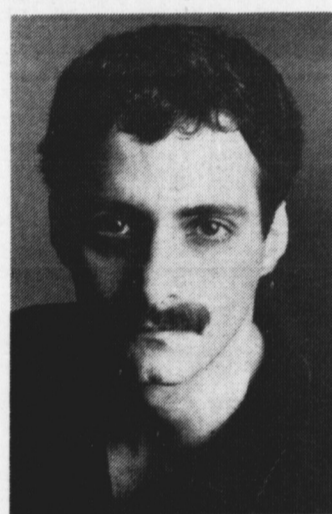
It's easy to look down your nose at "Tuna." It's an easy shot for middle class audiences; its ignorant bigots, unafraid to announce their stupidity, are easy setups for audiences to laugh at, as are the just plain uneducated country boobs and the in-bred farming community neurotics. But, dang it, the show is understated in its writing, and most

before, played broader, going for the laughs. This original cast offers little grandstanding. They play a crisp, efficient version of the show that not only tightens it admirably, but underscores the simple humanity of the population of *Greater Tuna*—this is more a zany refracted *Our Town* than a parade of weirdos, and I was glad I saw this original team do it. They have a restraint which heightens the comedy—they wring hilarious volumes out of a mere two-word exchange during a catfight, for instance. Williams may even over-do underplaying, reducing his voice to nearly inaudible cornsilk, and throwing away the pathos of Charlene, whose overly broad hips prevent her from making cheerleader.

But their two dozen portrayals are a virtuoso display of acting, and the gals they play are swell. They've familiarized a mainstream audience with drag in a way that humanizes it, so that next time our tourists see a real drag on the streets, they'll be less likely to think it's a perverted, weird thing. I think them for that, and I can recommend their *Greater Tuna* for its simple fun and enjoyable performances. They're at The Marines Memorial (771-6900) through March 5 only.

★ ★ ★

We've had the AIDS novel earnest (*Facing It*). We've had the AIDS novel artful (*Blue Star*). We've had the AIDS novel of clinically charted decline (*Borrowed Time*), and the AIDS novel of artistically selective scenes of decline (*Valley of the Shadows*). In *Eighty-Sixed*, David Feinberg does all of the above, adding high camp and hilarious wit as he moves from the flippant and silly years leading into the plague to the somber and severe years that developed. Marv Shaw wrote highly of the book in a recent B.A.R. and after reading it myself, I not only agreed, but was moved to meet the author at A Different Light Bookstore last weekend.



David B. Feinberg, author of *Eighty-sixed*.

The novel's jumpcutting, as it covers the years and even interrupts its development for short set-pieces of satirical commentary, makes it look like it could have been written as short stories and magazine quickies over a period of years. My appreciation for the book's craft was heightened when David told me he wrote it all as a piece. A member of a writing group which includes now-editor Stan Leventhal and C.F. Borgman (whose first novel

always presents the human side of this assemblage of bimbos—they have the same dreams and difficulties as the rest of us, and we somehow see their universality after we've laughed heartily at their crudities and foibles.

And I love a queen. Not that the two men don't play the male roles exceedingly well. It's just that a man in drag will always steal the spotlight, and that's what happens to Sears and Williams. I've seen the show



Joe Sears and Jaston Williams pose as ten of the twenty characters they portray in "Greater Tuna," opening for a limited run at the Marines Memorial Theater in San Francisco.

River Road is a brilliant debut and a page-turner itself. Feinberg had written only several pieces of *Eighty-Sixed* when an editor at Viking expressed interest, and the full novel followed.

I asked that tired question about the autobiographical nature of the work. It's a first novel, and they usually depend a lot on the author's experiences. And this one moves from baths to one night stands to family visits

in a way that seems to cry "autobiography," yet Feinberg demurred; some reflects his own experience, of course, but not much. It's another testament to Feinberg's skill that his hero is so visible to us that we assume it's the author himself.

Too bad Feinberg didn't prove the perfect reader, however. Not much of a performer, Feinberg bulldozed over the slashing wit of his words, his drone cancelling

the pathos as well. And then after reading its entire setup, he was too moved by the knowledge of what was to come to read the last paragraph at all.

But authors aren't supposed to be performers, and the proof is in the pages. Read it yourself. Feinberg's is a very "Now" voice in writing, and if he couldn't reveal all the pleasures of his book out loud, your own silent reading will. Don't miss it. ▼

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Conservatory Plans Benefit Sale of Vocal Sheet Music

The San Francisco Conservatory of Music will hold a giant exhibit and benefit sale of vocal sheet music on Sunday afternoon, March 5, from 12 noon to 5 p.m.

Opera scores and arias, art and parlor songs, Broadway and movie tunes, and many collector's items are among the tens of

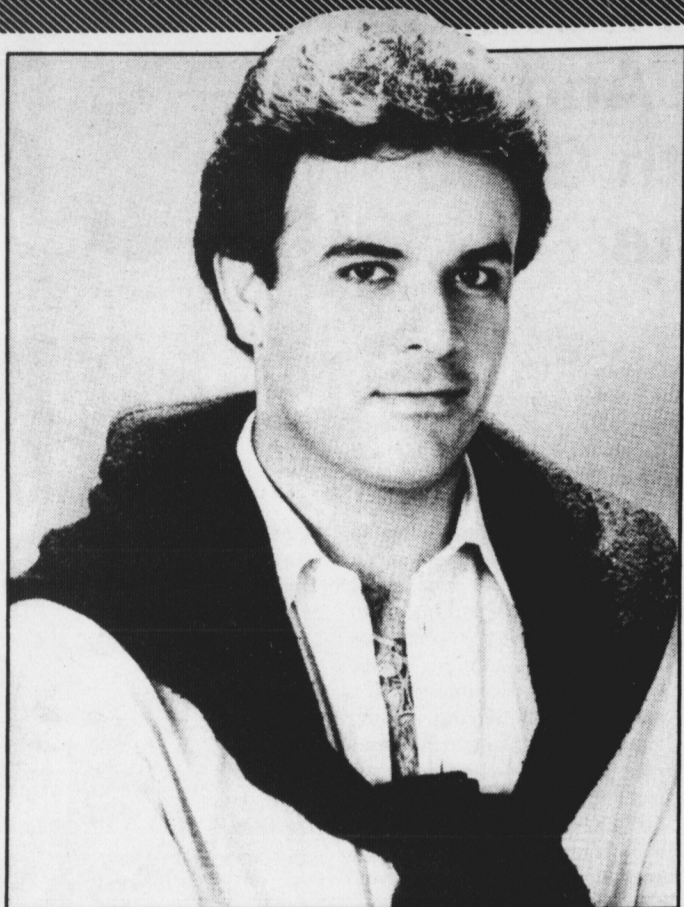
thousands of items that will be on exhibit and for sale in the lobby of Hellman Hall, located at 19th Avenue at Ortega Street near Golden Gate Park. Proceeds will benefit the Conservatory's scholarship fund.

For more information call 564-8086.

Bohemian Follies

Last fall, when the San Francisco Opera presented Puccini's *La Boheme*, audiences got a strange taste of how different an opera production can become when certain crucial elements are altered. The genesis of this *La Boheme* revival is particularly interesting because it demonstrates the perverse kinds of artistic and financial pressures an impresario can be subjected to when an egocentric superstar attempts to run an opera company.

Originally, the time slot for *La Boheme* had been reserved for a double bill of two new productions: Puccini's *Suor Angelica* (starring Mirella Freni) and Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci* (starring Luciano Pavarotti). Freni, however, decided that Puccini's one-act tear-jerker was too emotional for her to handle and decided not to sing the role anymore. Last January, when she and Pavarotti scored a huge success at the Metropolitan Opera in a revival of *La Boheme* conducted by Carlos



Fernando De La Mora gave a stunning performance as Rodolfo from Puccini's *La Boheme*.

into Rodolfo's shoes and, with a cast of younger singers around him, delivered a performance which made jaded operagoers shed tears of genuine emotion.

At this point in his career, De La Mora (a protege of Placido Domingo who made his professional debut in 1986) is still young enough and new enough on the opera scene to find it all a bit intimidating and experience strong feelings of discovery while in performance. Blessed with superb dramatic and classical support from Cecilia Gasdia's beautifully-etched Mimi, Mark Delavan's touching Schaunard and Kevin Langan's sonorous Colline, De La Mora sang like an angel (without having to transpose his big aria down a half step) and glowed with puppy love. David Malis's handsomely-sung Marcello provided a wonderful foil for Evelyn de la Rosa's remarkably feminine Musetta (a winningly emotional characterization which let the audience come to her rather than attempting to sell the audience a bunch of tired, old operatic shtick).

John Fiore conducted the orchestra for the second cast's performances with much more consideration for the score's parameters and, to the amusement of those with sharp eyes, the original scenery, complete with its staircase, returned to grace the Bohemian garret where Marcello and Rodolfo once lived and loved. Veteran performer Italo Tajo doubled as Benoit and Alcindoro in all three casts.

There was no question in my mind that the second cast delivered a vastly superior performance to the first one; an ensemble effort which captured the essence of what *La Boheme* is all about. I only wish that all the starfuckers who were so intent on seeing Luciano perform live would have stuck around long enough to experience a genuinely moving performance of Puccini's opera. The ultimate irony is that those who missed out on the Pavarotti phenomenon got the real thing, instead.

John Fenstermaker To Accompany Chaney's 'Phantom'

John Fenstermaker, organist for San Francisco's Grace Cathedral and organ conservator for the San Francisco Symphony, will accompany the 1925 silent horror classic *The Phantom of the Opera*, on Saturday, March 11 at the Oakland Paramount Theater.

The Phantom of the Opera, one of the best-known horror films, features a stunning performance by Lon Chaney as the crazed man without a face who lives in the catacombs beneath the Paris Opera. Infatuated by the voice of a young opera singer performing on the stage above his lair, he kidnaps her, dragging her to the depths below where she will sing only for him.

Though Fenstermaker has made his name as a classical organist, silent film accompaniment has been a long time avocation since the age of 12. He noted, "My first job with silent films was at the Indianapolis public library where I accompanied the antics of the Keystone Kops."

Tickets for the March 11 performance are \$6-\$11. For further information and to order tickets by phone, call the Paramount box office at 465-6400 or any Bass/Ticketmaster outlet.

Kleiber, the logical solution was for the San Francisco Opera to revive *La Boheme* in place of the endangered double bill and, at the same time, use the substitution as a means of saving money on the costs of a new production.

After the contracts had been renegotiated, signed and delivered, Terry McEwen (a long-time friend of both stars) announced his resignation from the post of General Director. During the search for his successor, speculation ran rampant about whether or not Pavarotti would break his contract if McEwen were no longer in town.

Meanwhile, operatic starfuckers who had bought and/or scalped tickets for those performances in which Pavarotti was scheduled to appear (many fans flew into town from cities across North America for the event) wondered whether or not their favorite superstar would perform. Some reassured themselves that, if they possessed tickets to any of the four performances of *La Boheme* which were being videotaped for European distribution, they would be fine. Others fretted over their financial investment and the warning on their tickets which stated that all performances are subject to changes of cast and repertoire.

Season subscribers whose series featured performances without Pavarotti resigned themselves to hearing "just another *Boheme*." In retrospect, they were the ones who enjoyed the last laugh. Here's why.

Ego Knows No Bounds

As most people have since learned, Pavarotti's management had double-booked the tenor so that, after taping *La Boheme* in San Francisco, he could make his operatic debut directly in Italy with a production of Donizetti's *La Favorita* starring Shirley Verrett. Throughout his stay in San Francisco, Pavarotti's backstage behavior was so abominable that the superstar ended up being lampooned in Herb Caen's column. In a gross display of "tenoritis," Pavarotti had an integral part of the scenery removed so that he wouldn't have to climb stairs, tried to redirect the opera so that the stage action would conform to the way he usually performs Rodolfo and, in the process of making life miserable

for his colleagues, proceeded to transform himself into a real pain in the ass. One artist who sat in on the final dress rehearsal of *La Boheme* confided to me that Pavarotti's appallingly egocentric behavior made her feel embarrassed to be considered a professional colleague.

I caught Pavarotti in performance at a Saturday matinee in November when the cast sounded fresh enough and the performance was going fairly smoothly. Pavarotti was in relatively good voice, noticeably slimmed down and, although his Act I aria, "Che Gelida Manina" had been lowered a half-tone, seemed to be "on" (a friend pointed out that miracles can and sometimes do happen when Luciano knows that the cameras are rolling).

Mirella Freni delivered a portrait of Mimi which was, as always, dramatically valid, reliably well-sung and totally professional. Her husband, Nicolai Chiaurov, appeared as Colline opposite Stephen Dickson's Schaunard while handsome Gino Quilico brought a much-needed sense of youthful vitality and playfulness to the production. Soprano Sandra Paecetti (who has apparently replaced Madelyn Renee as Pavarotti's "personal secretary") made a vulgar and rather unimpressive debut as Musetta. Tiziano Severini's conducting had the subtlety of a Mack truck.

Having been duly hyped for Pavarotti's appearance, the audience responded enthusiastically. My own feeling was that, while the matinee had certainly been a satisfactory performance, there was a mechanical coldness to the proceedings which was made even more suspect by a sense of forced and faked emotion.

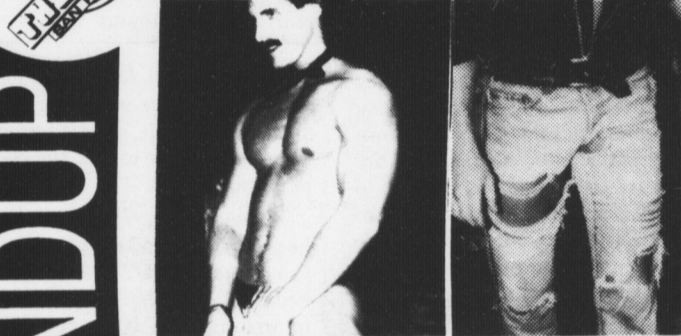
The Glory of Youth

Several weeks later, when Opera America convened in town for its annual conference, many of its members (like the rest of the public) arrived at the Opera House having purchased tickets to *La Boheme* with high hopes of hearing Pavarotti and Freni together again. By that time, Luciano had skipped town and Luis Lima (who was originally scheduled to sing in the second cast) had taken his place. For the opening night of the second cast, Mexican tenor Fernando De La Mora stepped

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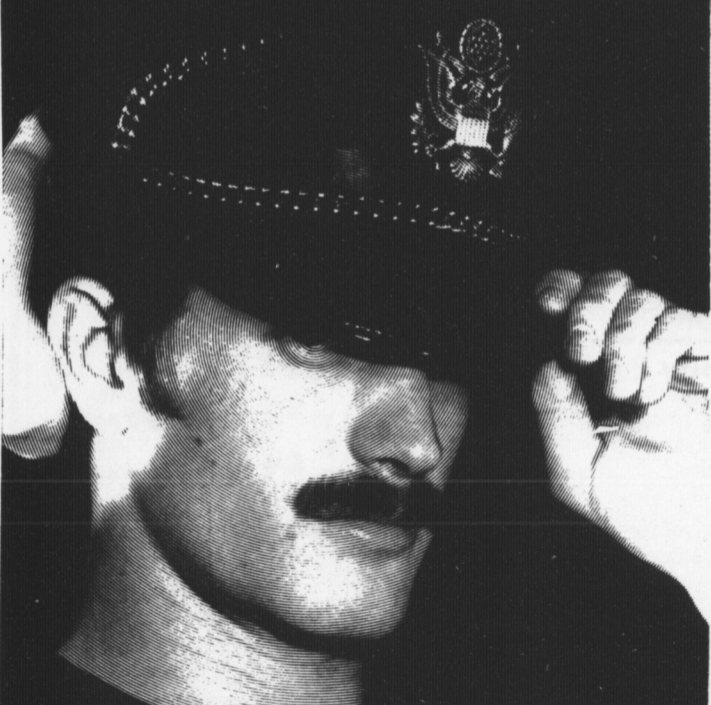


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Menage

'Steppin' Out' Was Definitely Steppin' Up

by Dennis McMillan

Menage, the octet offspring of the Lesbian/Gay Chorus, recently presented its concert, "Steppin' Out," at the York Hotel and proved to be steppin' up as well. A big step from the beer busts and co-starring roles of the past, Menage was a single, flawless diamond in the perfect setting provided by the Plush Room to show off every facet of these sparkling singers.

No matter what the tune—torchy ballad to 1950s rock—every time their personal Menage touch was upon it. The four mustachioed men provided light-hearted humor in their routine, tootin', wild west rendition of "Big Bad Bill" who is Sweet William now, since he's learned to two-step with a cowboy.

Not to be outdone in the humorous homo quartet category, the four women became the Blues Sisters when they donned their shades, slickly singing some sophisticated stylings. They showed us once and for all that the St. Louie woman of "St. Louis Blues" was definitely a dyke.

Continuing the bluesy motif, the eight got together and took us back to "The Birth of the Blues," which was so seductive that we could even imagine we were at the "Conception of the

'Greater Tuna' Held over Until March 5

Greater Tuna, the hit comedy starring Jaston Williams and Joe Sears (and co-written by them and director Ed Howard) has been held over for an additional two weeks, and must close on March 5 according to producer Charles H. Duggan.

Williams and Sears have appeared as the 20 very odd denizens of Tuna, Texas (the third smallest town in that large state) over 1,700 times since they introduced it to the world off-Broadway in 1983. This is the third time around in San Francisco for them and, along with other two-man casts, *Greater Tuna* has become the longest-running comedy in the city.

Good seats for all remaining performances are now available at the Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter Street. To Charge, call (415) 771-6900, Ticketron (415) 392-SHOW and other agencies. For group sales, phone (415) 331-0365.

Grima To Speak At Church Service

John Grima, assistant director of ELLIPSE will be the speaker at the San Carlos Holy Trinity Community Church, 1336 Arroyo Avenue, San Carlos on Sunday evening, Feb. 26, at 5 p.m.

San Carlos Holy Trinity Community Church, an independent church serving the gay and lesbian community, invites all of the Bay Area to attend this very special service. Refreshments and a discussion period will follow the evening service, according to Rev. Bob Wheatley, pastor.

Blues." Hot hot hot and coool!

Followed by the classic *Casablanca* love theme "As Time Goes By," the group switched lyrics around to homophile it up a bit: "Woman needs woman and man must have his guy." Play it again, Menage.

From our trip to Morocco our musical guides then took us to Chicago and a medley from the hit Bob Fosse musical of the same name, where the original, unchanged lyrics told us "her baby's queer for All That Jazz." And Scott Johnston's Standout solo voice promised, "Give 'em the ole Razzle Dazzle and they'll make you a star." They just might, if he wins that well-deserved Cable Car award this year.

From the 1930s to the 1970s, Menage took a daring step in choosing a medley of Kenny Rogers numbers (which could have been a real snooze, had they not had the good sense to fruit them up, for instance, by calling

"The Coward of the County" by his true name, "Mary"). It was a swishy-wristed visit to Mr. Rogers' neighborhood. Sorry, Kenny.

It's been said before, and it will be said again—it IS "Almost Paradise" when Paul Stoak's lyric baritone and Joan Helmes' sultry alto voices are silhouetted against the pleasing backdrop of the other six, smooth singers.

Certainly their camped-up Barry Manilow (wait, isn't that redundant?) "Copa" number was all the more delightful thanks to Jules Dantin and her witty mugging throughout. Those asides to the audience are priceless.

The only complaint is, the final piece on the program, "Time of My Life," (this critic's own personal Menage fave) from the film *Dirty Dancin'* was omitted. Because of this gross mistake, they will have to be docked down from four to three and seven-eighths stars.



Menage recently presented a flawless concert, "Steppin' Out," at the Plush Room in the York Hotel.

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BOOKS

16 Years Ago

Once, the APA Depathologized Homosexuality But the Group Still Seems to Lack a Mandate

The Treatment of Homosexuals with Mental Disorders
Michael W. Ross, PhD (ed.)
Harrington Park Press, New York, 1988, 222 pp., \$12.95

by Wendell Ricketts

Sixteen years have passed since the American Psychiatric Association first voted to remove homosexuality *per se* from its exhaustive taxonomy of the signs and sequelae of mental disorder, the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual*. By 1980, however, the diagnosis of homosexuality had reappeared in the *Manual*, after bitter professional debate, under the heading of "ego dystonic homosexuality."

The new category—in which homosexuality was not considered pathological unless an individual actively wanted to be rid of it—was immediately recognized as a diplomatic compromise, the kind of mental illness that could only have been designed by committee (as, indeed, it was). In 1987 that diagnosis, too, was stricken from the revised third edition.

Official policy, however,

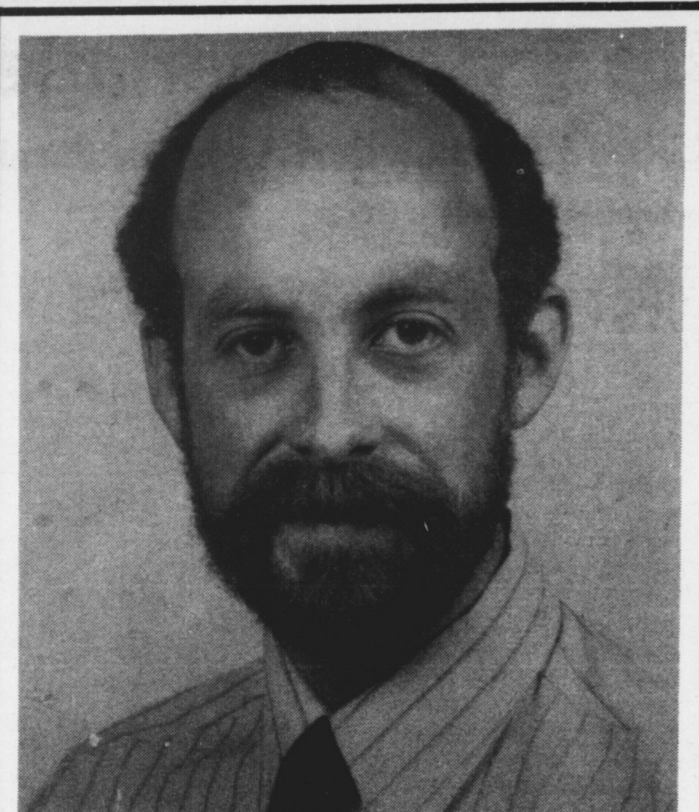
continued to reside some distance from the norms of professional practice. Psychiatry, and the mental health establishment more broadly, has been in no hurry to sever a connection between psychopathology and homosexuality that first arose, nearly two centuries ago, when the Church began to share the institutional stewardship of human sexuality with the burgeoning sciences of "nervous disease."

The 17 authors in Michael Ross's monograph, *The Treatment of Homosexuals with Mental Health Disorders*, understand this history well. They are, in fact, part of a relatively recent, but well organized effort within the allied mental health fields to provide an alternative to the view that homosexuality is intrinsically disordered.

The mission of that alliance, as

embodied in this volume, has been both to cleanse homosexuality of the taint of inherent sickness, and at the same time to develop guidelines for practice with lesbian and gay clients who seek treatment for a variety of psychological disturbances. Ross and his colleagues, then, consider it unremarkable that homosexuals occasionally request psychotherapy for problems in their lives and relationships, that some lesbians and gay men abuse alcohol and other drugs, that some try to commit suicide, and that still others suffer from neurotic and psychotic conditions that require medication, hospitalization, and extended treatment.

Yet even as they outline these areas of practice, several authors issue important warnings. Terry Stein, for example, notes that preconceptions about homosex-



Dr. Michael Ross, editor of *The Treatment of Homosexuals with Mental Disorders*.

uality can become the lens through which the therapist evaluates a client's problems. If, for instance, a gay man complains of difficulty in forming romantic relationships, the therapist may locate the problem in the nature of homosexuality, in the nature of being a man, or in the nature of intimacy—all depending upon his or her prejudices.

Elsewhere, Damien Martin and the late Emery Hetrick address the agonizing hardships, isolation, and alienation suffered by lesbian and gay adolescents. As co-founders of New York's Institute for the Protection of Lesbian and Gay Youth, the authors speak eloquently of the appalling intolerance young gay people face when they turn to mental health professionals for help. Still other contributors turn to such topics as the treatment of sexual dysfunction among gay men, the diagnosis of personality disorders, and the first-time translation of the fascinating case study of a Dutch pedophile.

Throughout the monograph, Ross's authors convincingly demonstrate the myriad ways in which social prejudice against gay people has mingled with "objective" science to produce a particularly vicious hybrid of what they call "homophobia" or, more simply, heterosexual bias. Within the mental health establishment, they assert, that hybrid has both tainted psychological research and made itself a silent, energetic presence in the consulting room.

The evidence for such a proposition is chilling. Jaime Smith, for example, records the view of a professor in a psychoanalytic training program, who commented, "Whenever I see a patient in whom homosexuality is ego syntonic, I try to make it ego dystonic." And Robert Cabaj describes the desperation of patients who, deeply fearful of earning their therapists' disapproval, invent opposite-sex names for loved ones in order to hide their homosexuality. Ross's book abounds in such examples.

In its effort to expose the abuses of what are sometimes called the "helping" professions, and in proposing remedies for those wrongs, *The Treatment of Homosexuals* is provocative and thoroughgoing. Still, the reader may close this book with apprehension.

The APA's 1973 and 1987 decisions to depathologize

homosexuality, despite its apparent authority, lacked both the weight of consensus and the force of mandate. Ross's authors make this clear. Psychiatry, moreover, even as it allows homosexual mental health or illness to be determined at the ballot box, arrogantly ignores the fact that none of society's institutions is immune to society's prejudice.

Thus, as Charles Silverstein writes, official concepts of mental health and disease always reflect "the culture, the times, and, though many professionals dislike admitting it, political negotiations and compromise." The frightening implication behind Silverstein's words is that the notion of inherent homosexual psychopathology—twice overruled—could be reinstated at any time.

Yet this volume is nothing like a call for a new system of classifying mental health disorders, a system not as deeply culture-biased, and one not dominated by the designs of institutional power. Indeed, it is disturbing to realize that mental health can be awarded or withheld, by clusters of psychiatrists, like a blue ribbon at the county fair. It is more distressing, however, to understand that hatred of homosexuals, in the company of sexism, racism, anti-Semitism, and the other oppressions, is a neurosis for which psychiatry feels compelled to offer no cure.

Computer Printer Available To Non-Profits

Horizons Foundation will award a "slightly used" NEC Spinwriter 5500D with stand, a gift to the foundation, to a non-profit organization serving lesbians and gay men in Horizon's nine-county Bay Area service region.

Organizations who wish to be considered in the award process must have a 501(c)3 non-profit status and must submit a one-page letter of intent detailing the printer's proposed use and its direct benefit to the lesbian and gay population served by the organization.

Letters and inquiries should be directed by mail only to: Horizons Foundation, 604 Mission Street, #306, San Francisco, CA 94105. The deadline for submission is March 15.

The Revenge Was Against Scarlett! Where's Our Old Sense of Humor?

by Dennis McMillan

On Sunday, in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of *Come With the Wind*, a benefit was held for the San Francisco Band Foundation at Cafe Sn. Marcos. Although it was billed as "The Revenge of Scarlett O'Hara," frankly, my dear, this community didn't give a damn.

Despite the searchlights outside the Cafe lighting the skies, despite the Confederate flags flying from the balcony, and despite noble attempts to decorate the premises in an Old South flavor, for some reason, the party queens in this town did not come out in droves to attend. Dribbles, maybe... droves, no.

The benefit had several strikes against it before the doors even opened at 7 p.m. Some folks were protesting the Revenge party because the Confederate flags offended them. According to the organizers of the benefit, protesters arrived the day before (with media in hand, naturally) to show their concern over "neo-

Nazi fascist flags flying in the Castro." Honestly, some queens have no sense of humor at all.

That wasn't the only threat, either. Threat of inclement weather cancelled the scheduled ceremonial ride by horse-drawn carriage of Miss Scarlett and her troupe.

And speaking of troops, there were none. Aside from the doorman dressed in Confederate grey uniforms, no colorful characters from Atlanta graced the premises.

One couple arrived rather disappointed, having taken the trouble to dress flawlessly as Scarlett and Rhett. The Vivien Leigh lookalike introduced herself as Harlot O'Hara, and dressed in that black silk hoop-skirted gown with the red velvet trim, she was the Belle of the ball.

Speaking of which, where was Belle and her Decatur Street whorehouse girls? Where was the nelly Mellie-with-child and missy Prissy with hissy fits, who didn't know nothin' 'bout birthin' babies? And not one single fat Mammy attended the party to assist the girls with retightening their corsets.

All these golden opportunities for outrageous drag somehow passed by. But then, we won't think about that now. We'll think about that tomorrow.

One event saved the evening from being a total loss. The writer met a gen-u-ine Southern gentleman, Haden Honeycutt III (his REAL name, trust me, I checked his I.D.) from Knoxville, Tennessee. He was escorting his Aunt Pittypat (actually, Betsy his roommate) who had a bad case of the vapors and had left her smelling salts at home.

All in all, the South did NOT rise again... it wasn't even slightly aroused, child. Four hours later, the few festive participants who DID show for the event finally seceded from the place and left Atlanta in ruins.

As gawd is my witness, I'll never go to such a sorry soiree again. Fiddle-dee-dee!



There she is... Sue Ellen, the Queen of the Pilsner Sock Hop, after repeated attempts. (Photo: Pruzan)

Viacom Donates \$18 K to SFAF

Viacom Cablevision in San Francisco has presented a check for \$18,000 to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, capping an extensive effort between the two organizations to help in the fight against AIDS. The project was an effort to respond to the mayor's call for public/private partnerships which address the major issues faced by San Franciscans.

According to Jon Marx, Viacom San Francisco's general manager, the money was raised by setting aside \$10 for each new cable customer who signed up during October of last year, National AIDS Awareness Month. More than 1,800 San Francisco residents responded to the offer, a significant increase in the number who signed up in a similar 1987 campaign.

Other important elements of Viacom's October project included the distribution of an AIDSARC services guide to over 200,000 San Francisco residents and the cablecast of more than 30 AIDS-related programs on Viacom, cable channel 6, from major cable networks such as Showtime, CNN, The Discovery Channel, C-Span, and HBO.

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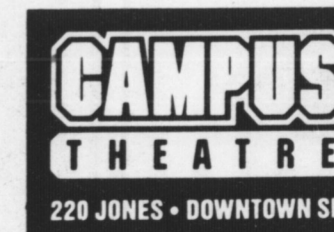
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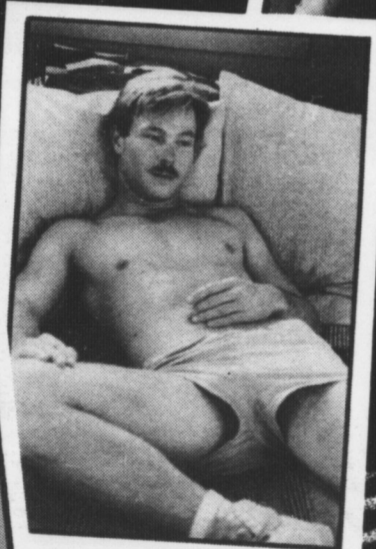
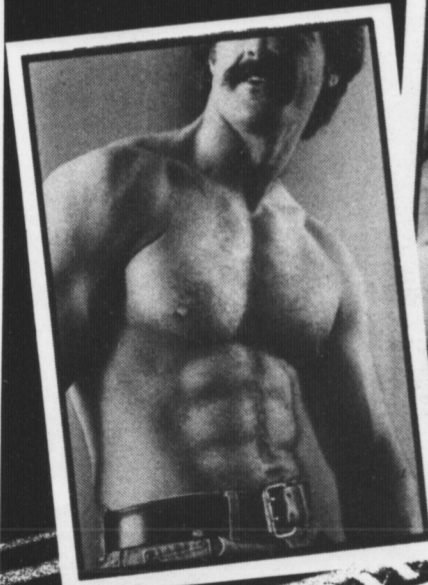
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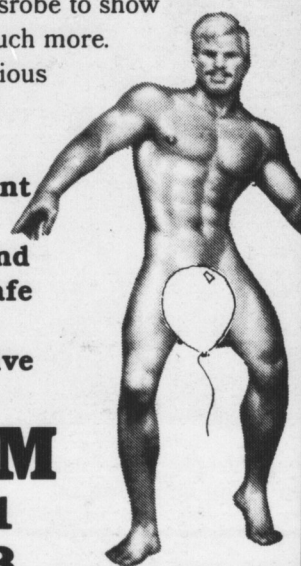
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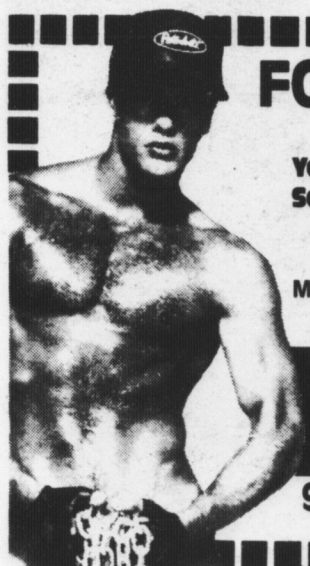


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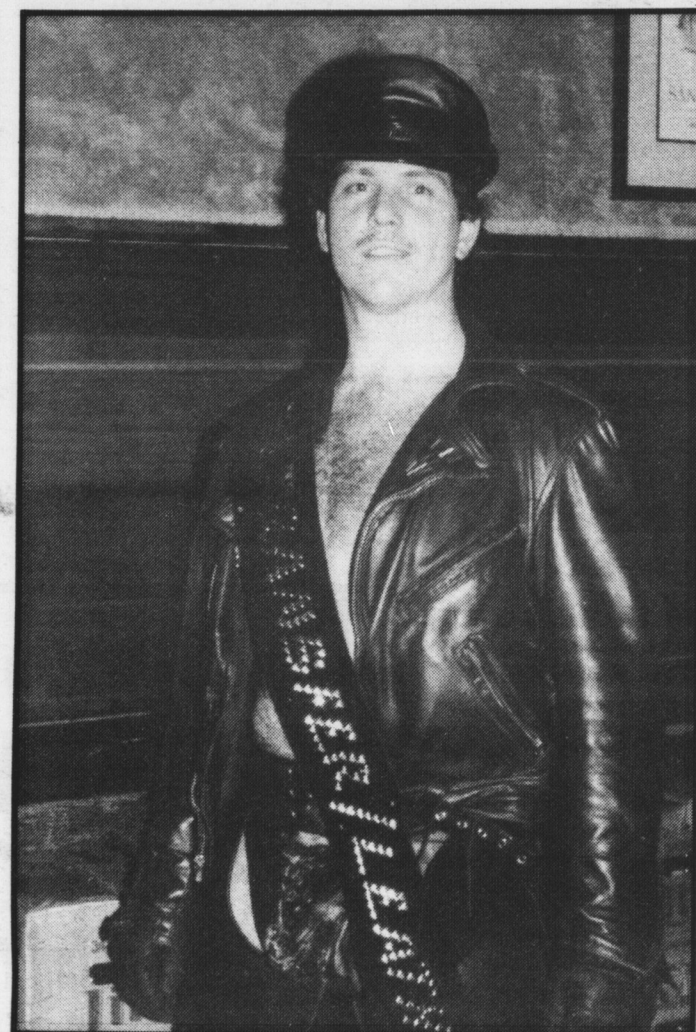
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Mr. Marcus

Searching For Leather Icons

The search for contestants to represent various bars in the Mr. Leather of San Francisco (to be held April 7th at the S.F. Eagle) kept steamrolling around the campus last week. Last Wednesday a total of six hunks got into the competition at the Watering Hole. The third heat in the month-long competition was not without its lively moments. A lot of new faces came out of the woodwork and the future looks good. The men competing, besides looking extraordinarily good, conveyed a sense of responsibility, awareness and a desire to be of whatever assistance they can lend to the betterment of the leather image as well as community at large.



Paul Kelly is Mr. Transfer Leather, selected by the judges last Sunday. (Photo: Marcus)

Judges Tom Rodgers; Ms. Leather of SF, Nina; Jim Kahl, Mr. Northern California Drummer had their hands full. In the end, 27-year old John Ferrari, a newcomer to S.F. took the 3rd spot. The 4th heat was last night (too late for this deadline) and the finals with all four winners will take place this Saturday night at 1900 hours with Vern Stewart MCing. The winner will compete for Mr. Leather of S.F. on April 7th.

Sunday, the Transfer (just a few steps north of Market) got into the competition with some six contestants vying for the one-time only contest. The heavies of the local leather scene stood in judgment: Jim Cvitanich Mr. Leather of S.F. '82; Sonny Cline, Mr. Drummer '84; Pete Pettine former Mr. Northern California Drummer; Jim Kahl again and again Ms. Leather of S.F., Nina. There was a good crowd on hand and the contestants again were better-than-average in their responses and their commitments and plans. When all was said and done, Paul Kelly emerged the winner and he too will compete in the Mr. Leather of S.F. Contest in April. The contestants so far in Mr. Leather of S.F. all look good and it should be very interesting.

Besides the leather competition, hordes of out-towners were in town for the festivities. The Motorcycle Awards were with good attendance. Friday night, the Constantines had their Mix 'n' Match at the Eagle with a great turnout. The Oedipus MC of Los Angeles were most apparent with their presence with the new Rex enjoying the frivolity. Saturday, supporters of the candidates for emperor and empress were out campaigning. I understand the voter turnout was the biggest ever in recent years and you'll all find out who comes out on top in the voting this Saturday night at

the Coronation. Since I'll be MCing the Mr. Leather Contest in Phoenix, AZ, that night I'll miss the festivities. May the best men win.

At the Motorcycle Awards (see the full results elsewhere in this edition of B.A.R.), Stephanie Miller was a gas—entertaining several times and co-MCing the 2nd half with Rocky Rockwood of the Cheaters. While the votes from last week aren't even counted yet, I heard rumblings all over the place about La Miller ascending to the throne next year?! And why not?! Well, let's get this year over with first, shall we Phyllis? When Frank Nacarato



John Ferrari (top right) is the winner of the Mr. Watering Hole contest. (Photo: Marcus)



Paul Kelly (lower left) emerged as the winner of the Mr. Transfer Leather competition. (Photo: Marcus)

to of the Cycle Runners got up to present the Buddy Rider of the Year (to Jack Goodall), he proved to be verbally agile (read: acerbic) with some of his comments unrelated to the awards themselves and brought the house down two or three times in his four minutes onstage! In my opinion, Mr. Nacaratto would be a great MC for next year's awards show! Wow!

Saturday night too, thousands converged on the Galleria for the big Tribute to Sylvester dance party. Supervisor Angela Alioto (fast becoming the "darling" of the gay set) presented a proclamation from the Mayor's office to Tim McKenna, Sylvester's long associate/manager. The crowd went wild! Later on the entertainment was all the talk the next day. Celebrants flocked over to Hero (formerly the Troc) afterward where Paul Varda was welcoming everyone with open arms. If you were misled last week about the \$5 admission charge, I beg your forgiveness. A lot of these press releases get garbled when they're not given to me in print. Sometimes it's hard to decipher utterances on an answering machine... right Steve Fabus, Benjamin, Bill Camillo, and you other disco entrepreneurs?

Yes, it was a good weekend. Lost of visitors and out-of-towners as well as former residents—James Buhler, God's gift to the airline industry floated into town, having just earned his "wings" for one of the "major" airlines. He'll be stationed in Pittsburgh (Brrr!). PA for awhile but vows (like MacArthur), "I shall return!" Kirby of Piedmont is making waves—everyone thought he was a pilot! I see!

What's on tap for this weekend? Well, tonight, Feb. 23rd, Mr. March 1990 on the Bare Chest Calendar will be chosen at the S.F. Eagle. The hunks are coming out of the woodwork this year. The action starts at 2200, so get on down and show off your pulchritude. I'll never understand why those gym dudes don't get into the act—it's definitely a narcissistic adventure! Maybe Terry should install wall to wall mirrors on contest nights?

The outgoing Emperor Steve and Empress Lily will be besieged with all sorts of activities before they give up the crown(s). Oooops in this town the royalty don't give up the crowns, they just "step aside," or didn't you notice? Saturday too, there's a kinky-jio party somewhere South of Market. It's only \$10 so call 621-6294 for the details (callback required). That same night,

(Continued on next page)

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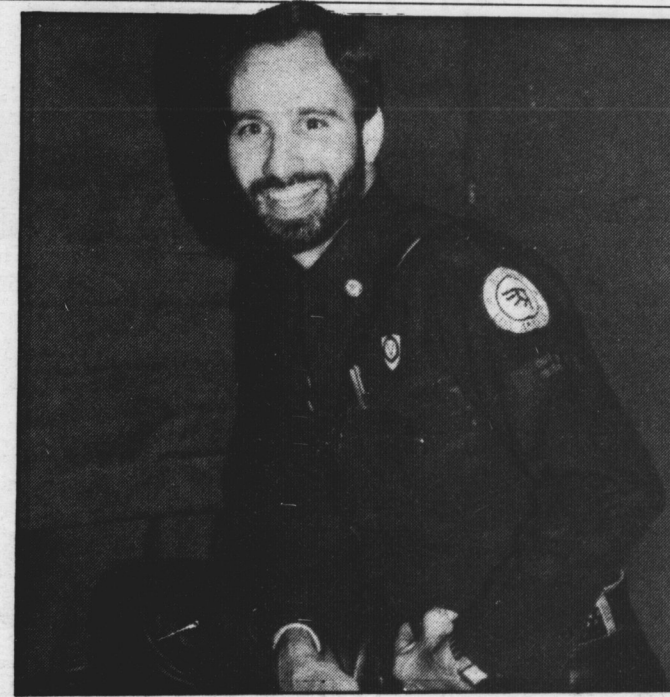
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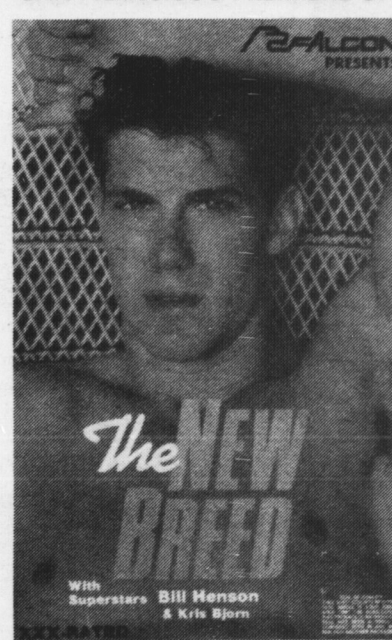
John Ferrari won the 3rd heat in the race for Mr. Watering Hole. The finals will be this Saturday, 25 Feb. at 1900 hours. (Photo: Marcus)

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Masters, slaves, X-videos, porno, leather, S&M equip, whatever. Watering Hole, Saturday, Mar. 4, 3 to 6PM. Bring auctionable items or drop off at Gay Rescue Mission, 1080 Folsom. Donate yourself as master/slave for a night. See auctioneer. 431-8748.

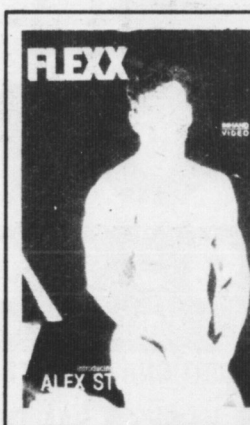
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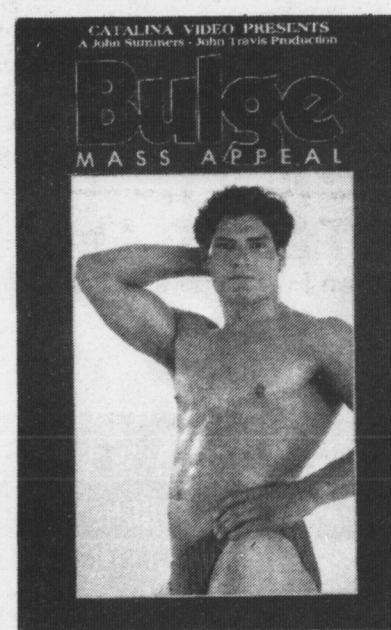


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(Continued from previous page)

"Crew" gets underway at Hero or 524 4th Street (you never know what will outrage these cha-cha promoters) from 2130 hours. Raphael of Playgirl will be featured and John Sex and the Bodacious Tala's will perform. They're always promoting the star DJ's from New York or the East and this party is not without it's vinyl master: Dave Moss. Thankfully, they didn't list every dance palace he's played in. All

this is being put on by Gus Bean (for details call him at 567-8958) who's main claim to fame is Dude Ranch, Palace and Gotham City, a continuation of where the Box left off.

Are you thoroughly confused? Their press release states these parties are for gay, white, lesbian, brown, straight and yellow. Nothing about Black or Black Leather or Drag. I don't think they'll turn you away if you're one of the latter three, but you must be 21 and you need \$7 to get in.

Sunday afternoon, Feb. 26, it'll cost you \$8 for the beerbust and

all the food you can eat at the S.F. Eagle where Sandy Van and Leather Daddy Jason will MC a Laugh Bust. Karen Williams and Teresa Chandler will perform as will Deena Jones and it's all a benefit for the Shanti Project.

If your sides aren't hurting, you'll be expected to show some support for your leather brothers and sisters in San Jose as SLUG presents their 1st Leather Daddy and Daddy's Boy contest at Club St. John. Intl. Mr. Leather Mike Pereyra and I will fly in from our duties in Phoenix—Mike to MC and me to cover it for B.A.R. Ms.

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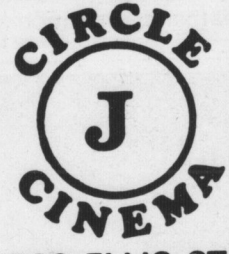
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Entertainer Joy-Michelle does her big Roy Orbison imitation at the Valentine's Pilsner High Sock Hop. (Photo: Pruzan)

Rainbeau, who definitely wowed 'em at Ms. Leather of SF promises another big (and hot) surprise. The \$5 admission charge alone is worth a performance by Rainbeau! The action begins at 2000 and from the looks of the lineup, it will definitely go until 0200 the next day! Alan Selby will either act out or give a speech on "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Leather!" Hmmm. Maybe somebody will tell you everything you need to know about paying off your credit card(s) when you begin to buy it too! That would be helpful. One well-known leather dude who also dabbles excessively in female drag just declared bankruptcy for all his "outfits"!

If none of the foregoing is to your liking, be butch—be a jock. Throw your balls around at the Park Bowl either Saturday or Sunday for the BEAR (Bowlers Emergency Aid Relief) benefit. Their press release is slightly longer than the Bible, so call Jim Hahn (824-0101) or Vickie Schneider (661-9389) for the details for this 2-day benefit or Mal Garcia at Park Bowl (752-2366). There's a few more numbers to call, but you're confused already, aren't you? Looming soon too, the Golden Gate Guards Winter Wonderland trip to South Lake Tahoe (would they dare go North?) on March 3-5. Only \$99 for transportation to and from, 2 nights lodging in a gay-owned motel, cocktail party on Saturday afternoon and a continental breakfast Saturday and Sunday mornings. Also take your guru so you can win some dough!

I hope the Guards are preparing the breakfasts. After all, didn't they win Best Food On a Run at the Motorcycle Awards last Saturday night? Don't stop

now for heavyness sake! And if even a Tahoe trip is not to your liking, Daniel Curzon will be at A Different Light Bookstore Sunday, Feb. 26th at 1500 to read from his latest tome, followed at 1900 hours by Karla Jay, with a slideshow look at Natalie Clifford Barney. I don't know who Ms. Barney is, but the literati will know I hope.

Since Valentines Day just passed us by, why dish anyone? Valentines Day is supposed to be a "love" holiday. I hope you all got loved (read: laid) last weekend; if you didn't you'd best get a Cruise Book. Al Parker and Surge Studio just released their latest video—a size queen's delight! More about that next week.

Until-then, if your candidate doesn't win, don't start a civil war—remember, we must display unity! We must be together! The entire gay/lesbian world is watching us! They want to know what the dish is on that dude who sat in the pork and beans! They want to know why the sex party producers are at each other's throats! They want to know why the amyl producers didn't tell their distributors about the legislation that resulted in megaton gallons of "room deodorant" sitting in warehouses all over the country! They want to know who the "informers" are about other actions. I hope it all comes out in the wash. Until next time then boys/men and girls/women, hang in there. Give a lot, live a little, love a little, laugh a little—but do it in leather!

P.S.: Congratulations to CW and DH on becoming the new honorary co-chairs of the AIDS Emergency Fund! Hi Darryl! ▼



Bobby Wong, part of the 42nd Street Gang performed at the Motorcycle Awards in a nominated group number. (Photo: Marcus)

M.J. Murphy

Hay Marc— How About Donating Some Millions To AIDS Research!



Rock Hudson, towards the end of his battle against AIDS.

Rock Hudson's historic bout with AIDS was officially made public in July of 1985, more than a year after he had been diagnosed. Daily Variety columnist Army Archerd broke the story first on July 23.

"Good morning. The whispering campaign of Rock Hudson can—and should—stop. He was flown to Paris for further help. The Institute Pasteur has been very active in research on AIDS. Hudson's dramatic weight loss was made evident to the national press last week when he winged to Carmel to help long-time friend Doris Day launch her new pet series."

"His illness was no secret to close Hollywood friends, but its true nature was divulged to very, very few. He left for France and possible aid from scientists there over the weekend. Doctors warn that the dread disease AIDS is going to reach catastrophic proportions in all communities if a cure is not soon found."

The announcement rang in a new era of AIDS coverage by the mainstream press that in the past had given only sensational accounts and irresponsible lip service to the plight of the thousands of people suffering with AIDS. In the days following the press release, the words Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome were indelibly placed in the minds of millions by a media machine that had been so reluctant to deal with the virus before.

After the publication of his book, *And The Band Played On*, Randy Shilts described in an interview with Studs Terkel the ironic and ethically retarded way in which some of the press clamored for coverage.

"When the news first came about Rock Hudson from Paris, it wasn't sure whether or not he had AIDS. It was very confusing. A producer from *Face the Nation* called up Congressman Henry Waxman and said, 'We want to do an AIDS show, have you and Margaret Heckler (then Secretary of Health and Human Services) on.' Well he's thrilled because here we are four years with the epidemic and there had never been a Sunday public affairs show devoted to AIDS in terms of the major networks. He's about to hang up and the producer tells him, 'Oh, and I want you to know, if it turns out that Rock Hudson doesn't have AIDS then we're going to cancel the show.' That was the national news media's commitment to this issue."

Yet activism began to replace apathy as the public awareness of the epidemic increased. Elizabeth Taylor's benefit for the AIDS Project LA the following month had to be moved to a larger auditorium because a rush of contributors wanted to attend and over a million dollars was raised.

Rock Hudson did not attend the fundraiser and two months later he was dead. But even before his death, Marc Christian, a musicologist and former lover, had hired palimony attorney Marvin Mitchelson to file a \$10

million lawsuit against the Hudson estate, and a separate \$14 million lawsuit, both alleging that Hudson, his secretary Mark Miller, and two unnamed doctors had conspired to keep him from learning that he was being exposed to AIDS.

A headline in the Los Angeles Times on Nov. 13, 1985 screamed, "Hudson: Two Claims Filed By Homosexual." The word "gay" did not appear in the article, but it stated that Mr. Christian alleged that "Hudson and others not only conspired to keep him from learning about the actor's condition, but also lied to him, telling him that Hudson's extreme weight loss was the result of dieting and exercise and that his other symptoms were psych-

ological (sic) and caused by anorexia."

Well, Marc Christian eventually changed attorneys and amounts, and as you probably heard last week, he was awarded \$14.5 million in damages when the jury decided that Hudson and Miller were guilty of "outrageous conduct" by deliberately hiding Hudson's AIDS diagnosis from Christian while Hudson and Christian continued to have unprotected sex, according to *The Examiner*. On

Thursday he was awarded another \$7.25 million in exemplary and punitive damages against Miller.

Tests have consistently shown that Christian was not carrying the AIDS virus, but he felt that he was entitled to compensation for having to live in fear of eventually developing the disease. Yet, we're all asking, why wasn't he practicing safe sex to begin with? Regardless of Hudson's condition why didn't he take on the responsibility to protect himself? How could he have been so ignorant?

Ben Schatz, an attorney for the National Gay Rights Advocates commented last week that "I think the case is sending the wrong message to people—it tells people that if they continue to bury their heads in the sand and continue to engage in unprotected sex and later become exposed to AIDS, it's somebody else's fault. We have to send a strong message that it is your responsibility." Is everyone listening?

While Marc Christian was boneheaded to have unprotected sex with an obviously sick man,

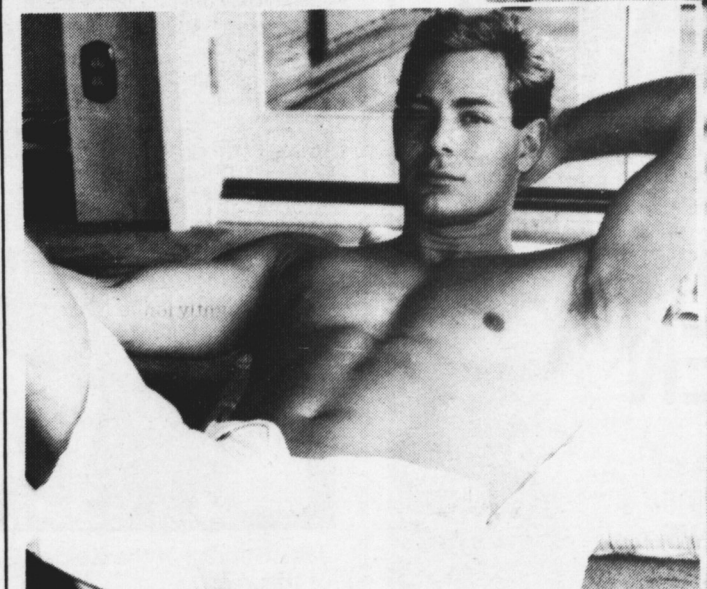
I can easily picture him laughing all the way to the bank because it was Hudson's deceit, not Christian's irresponsibility, that the jury so decidedly judged to be improper.

Margaret Davis, an L.A. attorney and author of the book, "Lovers, Doctors and the Law," on the legal consequences of transmitting sexual diseases, said of the case, "The jury is telling America that you have to make full and complete disclosure if you are aware that you have the disease. It is absolutely a landmark case."

Rock Hudson never really said in public that he was gay, and he never really said in public that he had AIDS. He never really "came out of the closet" so to speak, but he continues to have a profound effect on the ways we deal with the AIDS epidemic and our own interpersonal relationships. And if Marc Christian would like to have any positive effect at all he should donate his millions to AIDS research and education so that his own stated ignorance should never be repeated in another person's life.

(Continued on next page)

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Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

"Crew" gets underway at Hero or 524 4th Street (you never know what will outrage these cha-cha promoters) from 2130 hours. Raphael of Playgirl will be featured and John Sex and the Bodacious Tala's will perform. They're always promoting the star DJ's from New York or the East and this party is not without it's vinyl master: Dave Moss. Thankfully, they didn't list every dance palace he's played in. All

this is being put on by Gus Bean (for details call him at 567-8958) who's main claim to fame is Dude Ranch, Palace and Gotham City), a continuation of where the Box left off.

Are you thoroughly confused? Their press release states these parties are for gay, white, lesbian, brown, straight and yellow. Nothing about Black or Black Leather or Drag. I don't think they'll turn you away if you're one of the latter three, but you must be 21 and you need \$7 to get in.

Sunday afternoon, Feb. 26, it'll cost you \$8 for the beerbust and

all the food you can eat at the S.F. Eagle where Sandy Van and Leather Daddy Jason will MC a Laugh Bust. Karen Williams and Teresa Chandler will perform as will Deena Jones and it's all a benefit for the Shanti Project.

If your sides aren't hurting, you'll be expected to show some support for your leather brothers and sisters in San Jose as SLUG presents their 1st Leather Daddy and Daddy's Boy contest at Club St. John. Intl. Mr. Leather Mike Pereyra and I will fly in from our duties in Phoenix—Mike to MC and me to cover it for B.A.R. S.

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Entertainer Joy-Michelle does her big Roy Orbison imitation at the Valentine's Pilsner High Sock Hop. (Photo: Pruzan)

Rainbeau, who definitely wowed 'em at Ms. Leather of SF promises another big (and hot) surprise. The \$5 admission charge alone is worth a performance by Rainbeau! The action begins at 2000 and from the looks of the lineup, it will definitely go until 0200 the next day! Alan Selby will either act out or give a speech on "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Leather!" Hmmm. Maybe somebody will tell you everything you need to know about paying off your credit card(s) when you begin to buy it too! That would be helpful. One well-known leather dude who also dabbles excessively in female drag just declared bankruptcy for all his "outfits!"

If none of the foregoing is to your liking, be butch—be a jock. Throw your balls around at the Park Bowl either Saturday or Sunday for the BEAR (Bowlers Emergency Aid Relief) benefit. Their press release is slightly longer than the Bible, so call Jim Hahn (824-0101) or Vickie Schneider (661-9389) for the details for this 2-day benefit or Mal Garcia at Park Bowl (752-2366). There's a few more numbers to call, but you're confused already, aren't you? Looming soon too, the Golden Gate Guards Winter Wonderland trip to South Lake Tahoe (would they dare go North?) on March 3-5. Only \$99 for transportation to and from, 2 nights lodging in a gay-owned motel, cocktail party on Saturday afternoon and a continental breakfast Saturday and Sunday mornings. Also take your guru so you can win some dough!

I hope the Guards are preparing the breakfasts. After all, didn't they win Best Food On a Run at the Motorcycle Awards last Saturday night? Don't stop

now for heavyness sake! And if even a Tahoe trip is not to your liking, Daniel Curzon will be at A Different Light Bookstore Sunday, Feb. 26th at 1500 to read from his latest tome, followed at 1900 hours by Karla Jay, with a slideshow look at Natalie Clifford Barney. I don't know who Ms. Barney is, but the literati will know I hope.

Since Valentines Day just passed us by, why dish anyone? Valentines Day is supposed to be a "love" holiday. I hope you all got loved (read: laid) last weekend; if you didn't you'd best get a Cruise Book. Al Parker and Surge Studio just released their latest video—a size queen's delight! More about that next week.

Until-then, if your candidate doesn't win, don't start a civil war—remember, we must display unity! We must be together! The entire gay/lesbian world is watching us! They want to know what the dish is on that dude who sat in the pork and beans! They want to know why the sex party producers are at each other's throats! They want to know why the amy producers didn't tell their distributors about the legislation that resulted in megaton gallons of "room deodorant" sitting in warehouses all over the country! They want to know who the "informers" are about other actions. I hope it all comes out in the wash. Until next time then boys/men and girls/women, hang in there. Give a lot, live a little, love a little, laugh a little—but do it in leather!

P.S.: Congratulations to GW and DH on becoming the new honorary co-chairs of the AIDS Emergency Fund! Hi Darryl! ▼



Bobby Wong, part of the 42nd Street Gang performed at the Motorcycle Awards in a nominated group number. (Photo: Marcus)

M.J. Murphy

Hay Marc— How About Donating Some Millions To AIDS Research!

Rock Hudson's historic bout with AIDS was officially made public in July of 1985, more than a year after he had been diagnosed. Daily Variety columnist Army Archerd broke the story first on July 23.

"Good morning. The whispering campaign of Rock Hudson can—and should—stop. He was flown to Paris for further help. The Institute Pasteur has been very active in research on AIDS. Hudson's dramatic weight loss was made evident to the national press last week when he winged to Carmel to help long-time friend Doris Day launch her new series."

"His illness was no secret to close Hollywood friends, but its true nature was divulged to very, very few. He left for France and possible aid from scientists there over the weekend. Doctors warn that the dread disease AIDS is going to reach catastrophic proportions in all communities if a cure is not soon found."

The announcement rang in a new era of AIDS coverage by the mainstream press that in the past had given only sensational accounts and irresponsible lip service to the plight of the thousands of people suffering with AIDS. In the days following the press release, the words Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome were indelibly placed in the minds of millions by a media machine that had been so reluctant to deal with the virus before.

After the publication of his book, *And The Band Played On*, Randy Shilts described in an interview with Studs Terkel the ironic and ethically retarded way in which some of the press clamored for coverage.

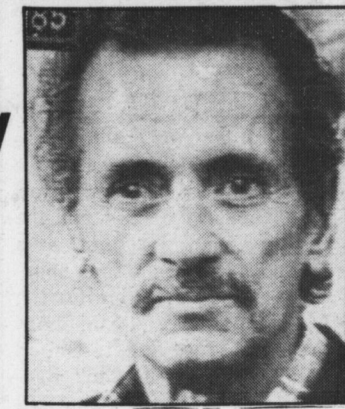
"When the news first came about Rock Hudson from Paris, it wasn't sure whether or not he had AIDS. It was very confusing. A producer from *Face the Nation* called up Congressman Henry Waxman and said, 'We want to do an AIDS show, have you and Margaret Heckler (then Secretary of Health and Human Services) on.' Well he's thrilled because here we are four years with the epidemic and there had never been a Sunday public affairs show devoted to AIDS in terms of the major networks. He's about to hang up and the producer tells him, 'Oh, and I want you to know, if it turns out that Rock Hudson doesn't have AIDS then we're going to cancel the show.' That was the national news media's commitment to this issue."

Yet activism began to replace apathy as the public awareness of the epidemic increased. Elizabeth Taylor's benefit for the AIDS Project LA the following month had to be moved to a larger auditorium because a rush of contributors wanted to attend and over a million dollars was raised.

Rock Hudson did not attend the fundraiser and two months later he was dead. But even before his death, Marc Christian, a musicologist and former lover, had hired palimony attorney Marvin Mitchelson to file a \$10

million lawsuit against the Hudson estate, and a separate \$14 million lawsuit, both alleging that Hudson, his secretary Mark Miller, and two unnamed doctors had conspired to keep him from learning that he was being exposed to AIDS.

A headline in the Los Angeles Times on Nov. 13, 1985 screamed, "Hudson: Two Claims Filed By Homosexual." The word "gay" did not appear in the article, but it stated that Mr. Christian alleged that "Hudson and others not only conspired to keep him from learning about the actor's condition, but also lied to him, telling him that Hudson's extreme weight loss was the result of dieting and exercise and that his other symptoms were psych-



Rock Hudson, towards the end of his battle against AIDS.

ological (sic) and caused by anorexia."

Well, Marc Christian eventually changed attorneys and amounts, and as you probably heard last week, he was awarded \$14.5 million in damages when the jury decided that Hudson and Miller were guilty of "outrageous conduct" by deliberately hiding Hudson's AIDS diagnosis from Christian while Hudson and Christian continued to have unprotected sex, according to *The Examiner*. On

Thursday he was awarded another \$7.25 million in exemplary and punitive damages against Miller.

Tests have consistently shown that Christian was not carrying the AIDS virus, but he felt that he was entitled to compensation for having to live in fear of eventually developing the disease. Yet, we're all asking, why wasn't he practicing safe sex to begin with? Regardless of Hudson's condition why didn't he take on the responsibility to protect himself? How could he have been so ignorant?

Ben Schatz, an attorney for the National Gay Rights Advocates commented last week that "I think the case is sending the wrong message to people—it tells people that if they continue to bury their heads in the sand and continue to engage in unprotected sex and later become exposed to AIDS, it's somebody else's fault. We have to send a strong message that it is your responsibility." Is everyone listening?

While Marc Christian was boneheaded to have unprotected sex with an obviously sick man,

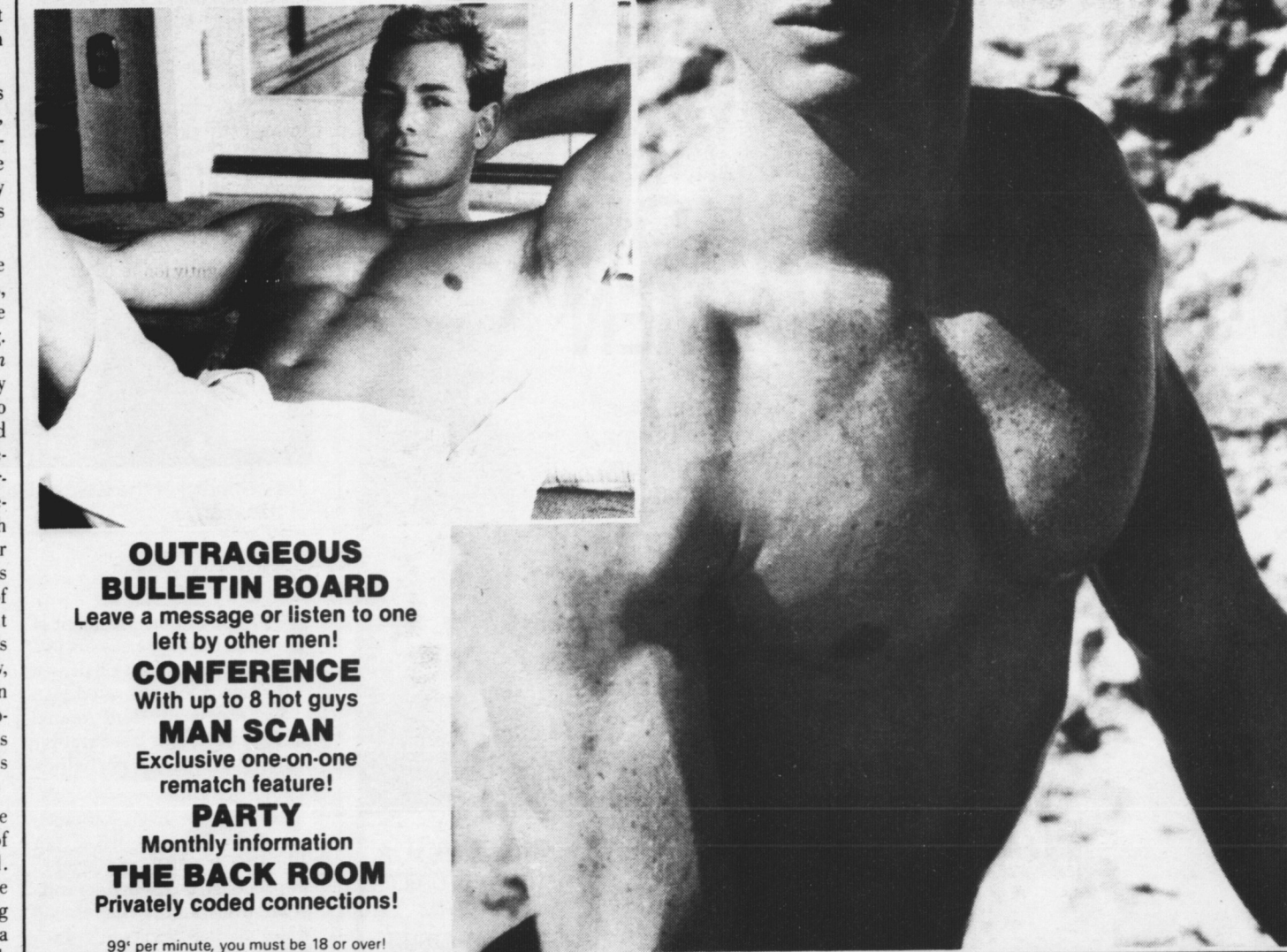
I can easily picture him laughing all the way to the bank because it was Hudson's deceit, not Christian's irresponsibility, that the jury so decidedly judged to be improper.

Margaret Davis, an L.A. attorney and author of the book, *"Lovers, Doctors and the Law,"* on the legal consequences of transmitting sexual diseases, said of the case, "The jury is telling America that you have to make full and complete disclosure if you are aware that you have the disease. It is absolutely a landmark case."

Rock Hudson never really said in public that he was gay, and he never really said in public that he had AIDS. He never really "came out of the closet" so to speak, but he continues to have a profound effect on the ways we deal with the AIDS epidemic and our own interpersonal relationships. And if Marc Christian would like to have any positive effect at all he should donate his millions to AIDS research and education so that his own stated ignorance should never be repeated in another person's life.

(Continued on next page)

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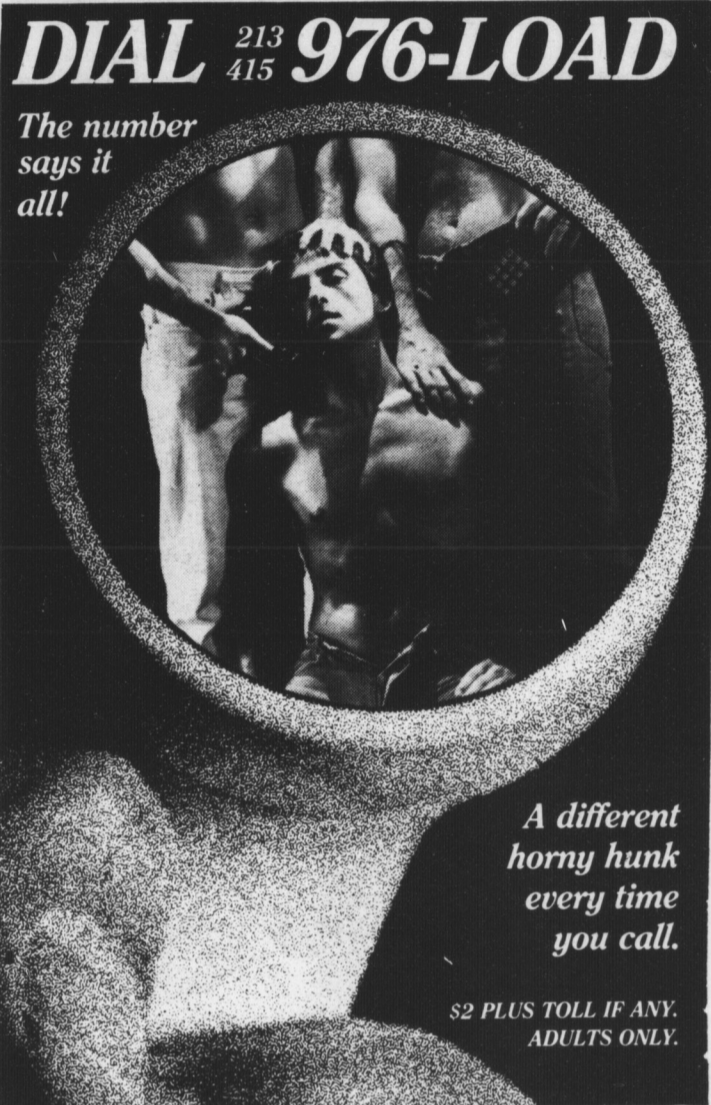


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M. J. Murphy

(Continued from previous page)

Coming events for this weekend include a Live Women's Rock & Roll doubleheader with ET and the Upstarts and Watchout! at a Clean and Sober Dance sponsored by The Institute for the Musical Arts at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25, at Trinity United Methodist Church, 2362 Bancroft Ave., between Dana and Shattuck in Berkeley.

On Sunday evening, Feb. 26, there will be a "Celebration of Lesbian Lives" at the opening of the Lyon-Martin Women's Health services satellite clinic in the East Bay. Musicians Robin Flower and Nancy Vogl, along with lesbian activists Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, a multimedia slide show by JEB, and lots of fun and dancing at La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave. in Berkeley, \$8-\$10 SL.

And on Wednesday, March 8 at 6 p.m., Ann Jennings, Deputy Attorney General and spokesperson for the Gay Rights Chapter of the ACLU will speak at the monthly meeting of FLAG (Federal Lesbians and Gays). There will be a question and answer period after her talk and everyone is invited to attend. At La Pinata, 510 Larkin St. in S.F.

And, as always, there's just one more thing. Congratulations to Bishop Barbara Clementine Harris who has broken a barrier for all branches of Christianity by becoming the first woman to be consecrated as an Anglican Bishop on February 11, 1989. ▽

Los Angeleno is Rider of the Year

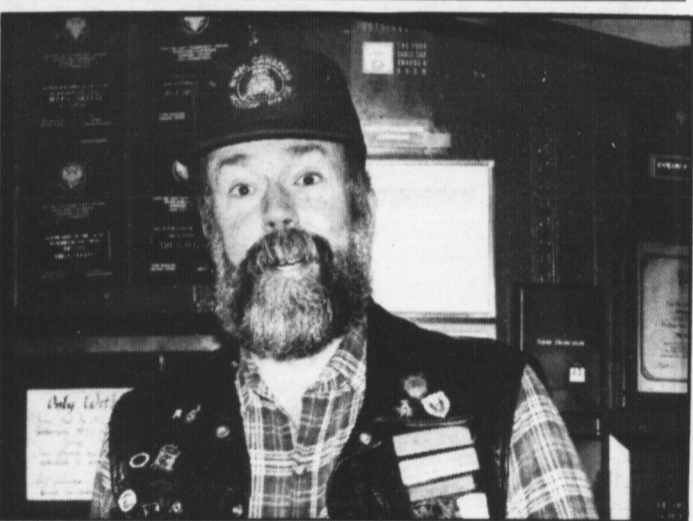
Chuck Eargle Is Man of the Year at Motorcycle Awards



Barbary Coasters MC President Chuck Eargle was voted 'Man of the Year' at the Motorcycle Awards. (Photo: Marcus)



Greg Mills of the Los Angeles Warriors MC won the 'Rider of the Year.' (Photo: Marcus)



Jack Goodall of the Golden Gate Guards is the 'Buddy Rider of the Year.' (Photo: Marcus)

by Mister Marcus

Chuck Eargle, President of the Barbary Coasters MC and recent Past Chairman of the Inter-Club, was voted Man of the Year at the 23rd Annual Motorcycle Awards last Saturday night, 18 February at the California Club.

Los Angeles biker and member of the Warriors MC of Los Angeles Greg Mills managed to score enough points in rider competition to capture the coveted Rider of the Year while Jack Goodall of the Golden Gate Guards executed a steady pace throughout the bike run season to snag the Buddy Rider of the year niche.

The evening was full of surprises all around with the Constantines reaping most of the motorcycle event categories and the CBI's running rampant in the run show department. The

Independents were rewarded for their participation too with Suzie Wong taking the Best Individual Performance for an In-Town Show and Ed Medina taking it for his performance in a Run Show. The successful reputation of the 42nd Street Gang was kept intact with Bushel And a Peck, and the Golden Gate Guards (formerly the Imperial Guards) were overjoyed at winning at least four of the gleaming statuettes in their fledgling 2nd year of run participation.

Alan Selby of Mister S was given a special award for his contributions and cooperation with the club community and Fire Fairy Ray Floyd was recognized for his untiring efforts on all the season runs in keeping the all-important campfire(s) going.

The awards were presented by

(Continued on next page)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

various club members and independent people with the first half being MC'd by Ken Wright and Ed Medina. Besides his spectacular musical appearances and joie de vivre, the scintillating Steve (Stephanie) Miller showed an overwhelming amount of professionalism as well, sharing the 2nd half MC duties with Rocky Rockwood. Nominated show numbers for both individual and group efforts were interspersed with the awards presentations with loud cheering and squeals as each winner was announced.

The entire evening was satisfying and culminated the voting that was in progress in the past few weeks. Veterans of this particular event were quick to express the wish that these awards return to the old format which included the Southern California clubs in the ceremony, since those in the Southland have not continued their own awards ceremony. Besides the awards show on Saturday, the event was preceded by the annual Mix 'n' Match party by the Constantines on Friday night at the S.F. Eagle. Immediately following the awards show, the Winner Circle was hosted by the SF GDI's at the Transfer Bar. Sunday afternoon, the Golden Gate Guards experienced a great turnout for their victory brunch at The Galleon where a flawless brunch was attended by both winners and losers alike.

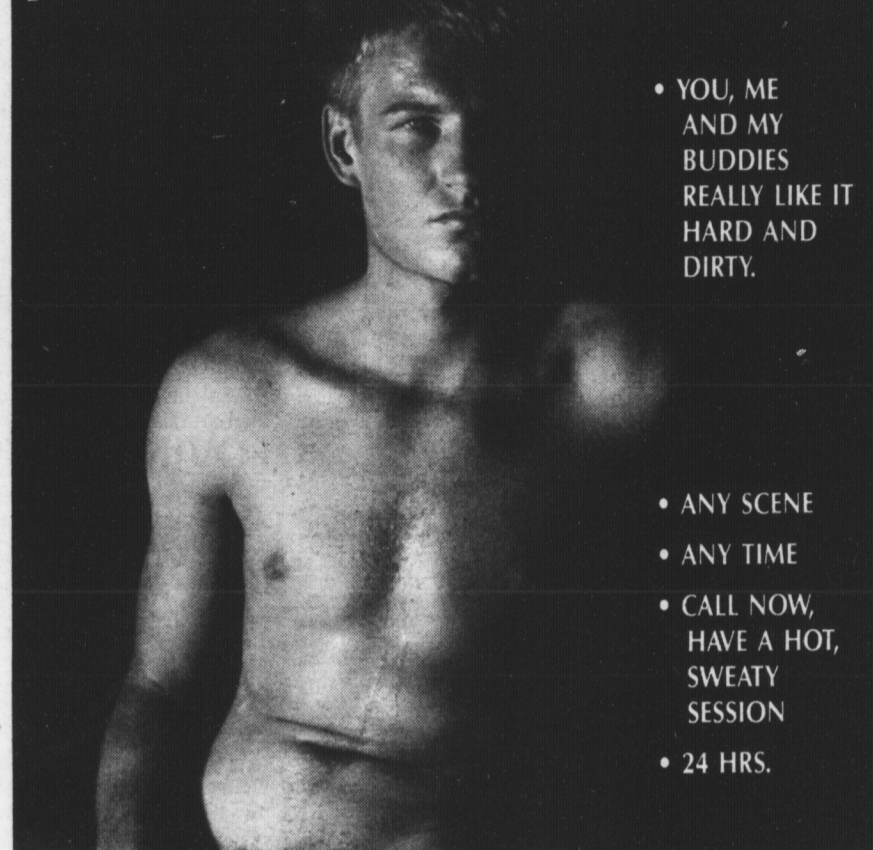
The Barbary Coasters end their year on a happy note. Having again been enshrined with their Best Run of the Year, Man of the Year, Best One Day Run and a tie with the Golden Gate Guards for the Rider Event on a Weekend Run, it strikes a happy chord. Next month, on Saturday,

March 18th, at their anniversary party, their new officers will be announced. As for the crop in charge this past year, good show!

The entire list of winners follows:

Best Guest Campsite: SF GDI's; Best Open Social Function: Folsom Follies (Inter-Club Fund); Best Non-Bike Competitive Event On A Run: Scavenger Hunt (Golden Gate Guards); Best One-Day Run: Newollah (Barbary Coasters); Best Overall MC Events One Day Run: Constantines; Best Buddy MC Event One Day Run: Road to Gold (Constantines); Best Rider MC Event One Day Run: The Giant Slalom (Constantines); Best Individual Performance In Town: Kiss Me In The Rain (Suzie Wong); Best Overall MC Events Weekend Run: Constantines; Best Food On a Weekend Run: Golden Gate Guards; Best Run Theme: Jail House Rock (SF GDI's); Best Group Performance In Town: Up On Your Toes (Rocky, Phyllis, Miguel); Buddy MC Event Weekend Run: Rings & Balls (Constantines); Rider MC Event Weekend Run: Tie-Safe Sex at Drive-In (Barbary Coasters) and Thru The Mirror (Golden Gate Guards); Best Individual Guest Night Performance: Ballad of Irving (Rocky Rockwood); Best Group Guest Night Performance: Bushel and a Peck (42nd Street Gang); Buddy Rider of the Year: Jack Goodall (Golden Gate Guards); Rider of the Year: Greg Mills (Warriors of LA); Best Individual Number On A Run Show: Ed Medina (Good Time Girl); Best Group Number On A Run Show: SF GDI's (Hairspray); Best Show On A Weekend Run: SF GDI's; Best Weekend Run: Barbary Coasters; Man Of The Year: Chuck Eargle (Barbary Coasters). Special Award: Alan Selby. Special Award: Fire Fairy Ray Floyd.

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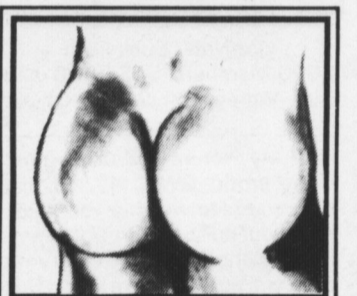
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Full Body, Oil Massage by Handsome Man Russ, 655-5900

Sensual Double Massage by Lovers. Peter/Jim 864-5483

LOVING TOUCH

Well hung, attractive, masculine masseur. 221-9943.

Handsome Athletic Masseuse Castro Area, \$35-\$45, 60-90 Minutes. Jim, CMT 626-2598

LIFE ENHANCING Massage By Damian. 921-6341

Wholesome, X-handsome, butch, blond BB, 6'4", 205#. Safe, clean place for top-quality bodywork. Cert., \$45. Thor, 587-7707.

Jose, 26, Gdlk. CMT 285-4875

Eastbay Massage. Sensual massage by Paul or Alan. The choice is yours. \$25 in. 276-8481

YOUNG, HANDSOME MEXICAN MAN A TEDDY BEAR
5'7", 135, 25 yrs old, athletic build, smooth body, nice buns, knows how to give you a pleasing, relaxing massage. \$50, out only.
CARLOS 465-0231 FUN MAN

Certified Massage
With a nurturing, relaxing, sensual touch, plus Thumper Professional Body Massage. I am caring, 26, gdlk, friendly. Relax under classic music and let my hands orchestrate your body into a crescendo of pleasure. Come melt with Tom. 285-4875.

HEAVENLY HANDS



(415) 928-2195

Sophisticated Muscular Energy SENSUAL MASSAGE
Max 861-7020

Boyish, Handsome Man, 32, Muscular, Blond/Blue MEN OVER 40
Pro Swedish Massage BOB 922-3250 \$40 IN

JUAN-CARLOS
Regular Swedish/Shiatsu Massage
Private Potrero Hill Studio
Introductory Offer 60 Minutes \$25
Discounts for Morning Appts. Repeats, and PWAs
State Certified
285-9318 • pgr. #896-8550

Massage

GET MASSAGED BY THE BOY NEXTDOOR
Do you yearn to relax with a sexy, clean-cut and very sensual young man? DAVE has 8 years of masseur experience. Is 31, 5'11", 180 lbs, has short brown hair, blue eyes and sumptuous hairy chest. His business objective is to keep his clients, from college age to executive men, satisfied. The rate is \$46 per hour and \$12 for each additional half hour. (\$30 for one half hour session). If your session inadvertently goes "overtime," your friendly masseur will waive the additional cost. COUPLES GET SINGLE RATE. FULFILL A FANTASY. DAVE (408)741-5376

MICHAEL QUINTAL
\$40 for 75 minutes
587-9316



Certified in Shiatsu therapy. Shiatsu is a Japanese acupressure massage providing reflexology, facial massage and balancing.

Nude Bondassage in Davis By Handsome BB, 50. Call AMs (916) 756-8120. Nov. \$40.-1 Hr.

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Deep-Tissue Healing by loving hands. Randy, 864-1260. Before 11 PM. Certified.

E-Z PARKING-CASTRO
Trained hands offer full body, hot oil ecstasy. 90 mins., \$35. in. Certified Larry, 621-8560 Anytime.

All Men 50+ . Best \$25 Massage. Great! Nick, 552-5059

MAN'S MASSAGE
Versatile, Sensual on call for any requests w/out training wheels 821-1361

PHYSICAL ATTRACTION
V-handsome Scandinavian man, weight lifter, friendly, 8" cut, blond/blue, 6', 185. Especially like small Asian & Latin men. Erotic nude massage.

40 in 55 out **931-3263** 24 hrs

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CERTIFIED MESSAGE
Jim • 564-7796

CHECK IT OUT!
Extraordinary full-body massage in comfortable Castro studio by sensitive, goodlooking 28-year-old.
DAVID, 648-1413
Serious/Experienced/Personable Reasonable Rates/In Only

HUNG 8 UNCUT
5'9", 170#, 43c, 30w, Italian
Massage or Company
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SPORTS MASSAGE
JEFF GIBSON
626-7095 \$40




Excellent massage by swimmer/runner/cyclist. For aches and pains, injuries, or just to relax! These experienced hands have worked with athletes at the Colgory Olympics and Boston Marathon. Certified. Member AMTA.

A NATURAL MAN
Gives an erotic massage. Hndsm, musc, masculine, hung. Strong but sensitive, healthy. Andy, 24 hrs, (415) 864-6097.

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Built tight, muscular & hung. Blond man, 32, 6', 190 lbs. Very friendly guys over 30 preferred. Sensual massage in the buff. \$45 in/\$60 out 24 hrs.
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Callback Required

SENSUAL BONDAGE
SAFE-NO FR/GR/FF!

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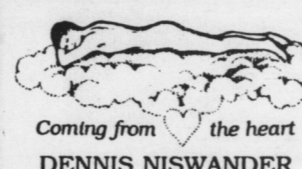
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JAPANESE MASSAGE
Foot Reflexology • Hypnotherapy

PETER HOPKINS
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IN • OUT
\$30-\$60

Certified • Non-sexual
Easy Parking & Close to Muni

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Massage Therapy
\$25/in (415) 255-2839



Coming from the heart

HOT PUERTO RICAN MASSEUR, 647-4423

Fantastic Massage by an Old Pro. \$30, Roy, 621-1302.

Chuck's Castro St. Massage 861-5129 \$30/in \$40/out

HUSKY GUY
College student gives sensual massage to men 18 to 60. Call Steve, 864-6155, evenings and weekends.

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Relax in sensual setting, in only. \$40, Mark, 648-6081.

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Powerful energy work and full body massage combined. Certified. Castro location. Nonsexual. \$30/90 min. David, 552-3712.

Short stop to release. Get int. massage by 3 young, goodlooking Asians. Call Lon or Nam or Mike, 788-0380.

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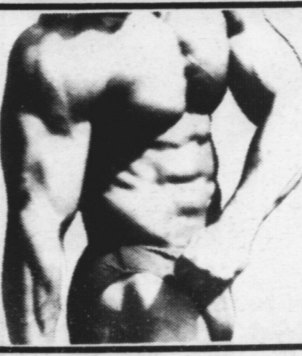


BE GOOD TO YOURSELF WITH MASSAGE
NYC LIC#9739 ROBERT 626-0667

DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE
and intuitive energy work by holistic-oriented bodybuilder.
45/90 min. • 550-6401, Jim

RELAX IN CLASS A RELAXING MASSAGE
by a handsome, masculine blond, 6', 190, beautifully nude, muscular body, summer tan. Firm. Erotic Swedish Massage Massage Lotion & Table. Hard to Beat It! \$45 In/\$60 Out 75 mins.
Mike 931-0149 24 hrs.

CERTIFIED SWEDISH MASSAGE
A carefully tailored, tension-reducing, restorative massage by a Certified Swedish Masseuse/Competition Body Builder, strong enough to work your muscles thoroughly and experienced enough to make it feel relaxing at the same time.
\$45/1:15 min. In only. Nonsexual.
PETE (415) 621-1066



Massage

WEST PORTAL MASSAGE
Warm Oil, D.J., 681-9995

Big, beautiful, blond, blue-eyed bodybuilder, best bodyworker, beyond belief. Brad, 861-1805

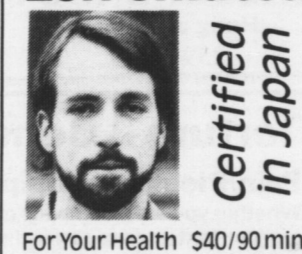
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Swedish massage, Cert. \$25/Hr. Steve, 665-7105

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Tired of being handled like a piece of meat? Try something completely different—a relaxing, sensual massage in a quiet, relaxing atmosphere.
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Sail Away... with a luxurious, sensual massage. 24 hours! In/out Alex-861-1362

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Deep tissue work for men. Clean cut. Discreet & safe. Phillip, 864-5566

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Certified in Japan



For Your Health \$40/90 min.
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Enjoy Total Relaxation & **WARM CHAKRAS**
18th & Noe, Certified. \$35 Jim 864-2430

Serious, full-body, erotic massage by 26yo blond BB. 6 yrs exp. \$40/in. 864-1190.

Edge of Ecstasy... a deep sensual massage! David, 861-1362, 24 hrs. PWA discount.

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from head to toe, To be soothed and stroked **YOU WANT MY TOUCH.** Keith, \$45. 255-8261.

Deep-tissue, Swedish full-body erotic massage by young blond BB trainer. Jeff, \$40 in/out, 550-6833, cert.

TAKE A VACATION
on my table. Hndsm. 5'10", 160, 29, Latin. Nurturing massage Christopher, 668-2795. In/Out

Hot Hung Man 6'4", 195, 43, goodlooking & well built. Silver/blue. Massage and/or company. Hank (415) 775-4075

PROSTATE MASSAGE
John, 541-5640

PROFESSIONAL MASSAGE
Certified in both Swedish-Esalen and Acupressure. I'm an instructor at a S.F. massage school and a masseur in a medical clinic. 90 minutes: \$35 in/\$45 out. Nonsexual. Be touched!
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Would you like to meet a handsome, well built, gentle macho who wants to see you relax and really enjoy yourself?
Guy 221-9943
Masseur/Escort/Model


MUSCULAR IRISHMAN LIKES TO LEAN BACK THICK CUT 8"
32, 5'10", 190#, Br/Br
DAN • 861-7931
Anytime



For a sensual massage • In/out
Call Dick 255-0730

VERY HANDSOME CLASSY MAN WEIGHT LIFTER & MASSEUR
Strong, hairy, defined chest & arms. 6'1", 195 lbs.
HOT
Xtra hung, firm, erotic, nude massage. \$50/70
CARL 921-0965

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Are you athletic or have a stressful job that makes your body tight and sore? Sportsmassage successfully treats minor strains and injuries from most activities and is applicable to any situation where there is muscle tension and strain.
1 hr. \$35 in/\$50 out
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PWAs Welcome • Series Discount 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.
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DANCERS, BB
Athletes, Preppy, GQ Types Wanted for Adult Video. Big Bucks for the right look. Gorgeous bodies-face need not show. 626-9886.

I WANT YOU - GWM
Young, Sexy, Hung Blond, Out Calls, E. Bay, Matt 531-1165 \$80.

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THE ULTIMATE SENSUAL MASSAGE EXPERIENCE!
641-0780
100% GAURANTEE!

WHEN ONLY THE BEST WILL DO!!!
Smooth, Trim, Muscular Masseuse Gives You ALL THE EXTRAS!
Handsome, Friendly, Affectionate, Hung, Special Afternoon Rates Available
In/Out Major Hotels OK
Call J.J. 553-3309

REAL YOUNG, HUNG BB
20, 5'8", 190, 18a, 48c, 28w, thick 8. \$120, out only. Beeper #558-0765, wait for tone, punch # for quick callback.

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(415) 976-SUCK
\$2 Plus Toll, If Any

QUALITY MAN
Here's a real man who won't leave you feeling ripped off. A big stud at 6'2", 215 lbs, 19" a, 34" w, 49" c. Call Mike at 661-6400. You'll feel great!

Models & Escorts

THE STALLION
Bpr # 337-3985

Gay City/Gay Paper Bay Area Reporter

Hung, Hairy, Bearded Man, 37 6'2", 180. Ready and waiting for you. 24 hours. 431-5974

Hot Tight Bottom
Tim, 386-0902

Delectable Dan, 995-4901

I'VE GOT IT
An' you can have it. Yng & Hung Out calls. Jon, 530-0935. \$45.

UNCUT AND HAIRY
will meet your needs, 12-12, top, 6'2", \$50, 864-5710, Greg.

Wake up hard? Phallic worship with hot 8" stud. 8 AM-Noon. Jim, 928-5826. \$60.

ROOM SERVICE
Body Builders All Types
Ask for Ken, 272-9418

FANTASY MAN
BLOND BODYBUILDER
27 yrs old, 5'9", 165#, 42" c, 28" w, 15" a, 9" and thick, smooth tan skin, into all scenes!
Josh • 558-9163

HUNG STUD
Thick and Big
GUS (415)469-7221

Head Waiter at Your Service 27, Gdlk Luis. 285-4875

HOT HANDSOME HUNKY
Hedonist Henry, 863-5640

TEEN ANGEL
Subservient guy waits 4 U
To press his digits: 979-0648. 24 hrs. In/Out P.S. Loves a good spanking

Hung 8"x5" w/Big Balls Ready to Explode. Hndsm., Smth, Hot Top. 626-0864. Peter

Oakland Phallic Worship. Safe Gentle Top, 5'5", 142, Hairy, FR A/P, GRIA, J/O, Verbal. \$70 In! **MARC 444-3204**

I LIKE MEN OVER 45!
Jim. 255-1430. \$35.

Butt scenes for young studs. 285-4319

Handsome, Brawny Blond **CALIFORNIA FOX**
Eat it up! Ron, 863-3270.

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MICHAEL 979-4011
CALL FOR DETAILS

Ask for B.J. 864-5483
HEAD MY WAY! \$30

REAL YOUNG, HUNG BB
20, 5'8", 190, 18a, 48c, 28w, thick 8. \$120, out only. Beeper #558-0765, wait for tone, punch # for quick callback.

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QUALITY MAN
Here's a real man who won't leave you feeling ripped off. A big stud at 6'2", 215 lbs, 19" a, 34" w, 49" c. Call Mike at 661-6400. You'll feel great!

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Wake up hard? Phallic worship with hot 8" stud. 8 AM-Noon. Jim, 928-5826. \$60.

ROOM SERVICE
Body Builders All Types
Ask for Ken, 272-9418

FANTASY MAN
BLOND BODYBUILDER
27 yrs old, 5'9", 165#, 42" c, 28" w, 15" a, 9" and thick, smooth tan skin, into all scenes!
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CALL FOR DETAILS

Ask for B.J. 864-5483
HEAD MY WAY! \$30

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20, 5'8", 190, 18a, 48c, 28w, thick 8. \$120, out only. Beeper #558-0765, wait for tone, punch # for quick callback.

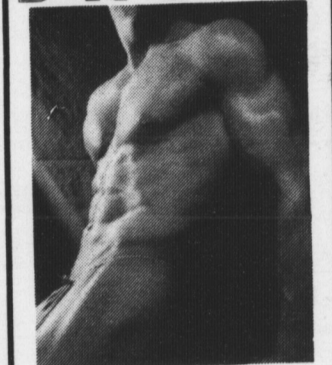
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QUALITY MAN
Here's a real man who won't leave you feeling ripped off. A big stud at 6'2", 215 lbs, 19" a, 34" w, 49" c. Call Mike at 661-6400. You'll feel great!

B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

Models & Escorts

MICHELANGELO'S DAVID



Friendly, Handsome, Safe
929-7336 • \$100 • In/Out



BIGGEST MUSCLE
Competition BB, 6'4", 230 lbs, 54c 22a 32w
(415) 863-9850 BOB. \$80 in / \$100 out.

Straight dude kicks back 4 head. 8 1/2 fat inches, muscular, into cigars, women, attention, and men. \$60 up. Nick, 861-7379. 18

255 lbs.
54" Chest
22" Arm
MUSCLE
MAX • 563-5176

CHECK ME OUT
See to believe. 25 y/o rugged XXX-Handsome, XXX-Hung, XXX-ripped, lean, hard muscular god-body, tattoos. No BS. Serious stud pleasure seeker. I f--king dig attention. \$120.
RICK, 626-6839.

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Likes to show off. Hung big, nice butt athletic body, 6', 165 lbs.
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27, Dark Tan, Smooth and Muscular for Massage J/O or striptease. Call Shawn 255-4691 18

Sexy, hot looking guy will give great time. \$50-\$30. Available 24 hours. 775-4771 18

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Stud looks - Body - Hung Kent, \$90. 626-8535 18

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For your pleasure...
Sexy, clean-cut student. Smooth, fit & tan. 19 yrs, blue/brown, 5'11", 150# Young, healthy & safe
DALE 928-4896

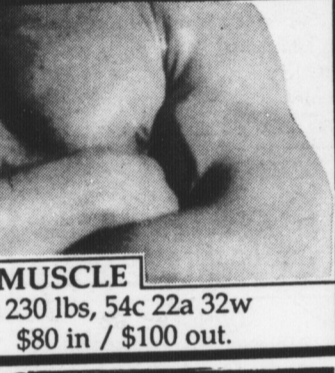
Models & Escorts

Titwork - C&B - Titwork - \$60
Sexy, burly, dominant, & safe.
No Fr/Gr/FF. 621-0420 - Ian. 18

EX-MARINE
Muscular, hung, lean machine; buffed & cut; real f--king handsome; big, thick gun. \$80 - 861-7379, Mike. 18

WARM FRIENDLY HOT
Young man, 5'8 1/2", 150 lbs, it brwn/hazel, 25, nice pecs, hot buns, safe, fun, intelligent, and discreet. 621-8381. 18

HOT-BLOODED BUDDY
Hot young stud, super-endowed, thick power tool. Solid. Good looks. Rock-hard body, low-hangers! Vincent, \$75, 626-8535. 18



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"BACK TO THE BASICS"
Masc. topman (FR, GrAc), straight appearance. Long dong (x-thick), bull balls, & massive mushroom head! 621-1260 Call Rick Now "It's Bigger Than You Figure"

WORSHIP the boy next door
9" EXTRA THICK CUT! FRENCH PASSIVE
Hot, boyish, clean-shaven, good looks, 6'1", 160 lbs., 26 yrs., green eyes, brown hair.
MIKE 664-2057
(If out, follow answering machine instructions to page for fast callback.)
\$100 • out only

INCREDIBLE Pecs
on a well-hung jock w-thick legs, rippled abs and rockhard buns, dominant, masculine, extremely handsome
\$120 • Scott • 415 825-2433

Models & Escorts

LEATHERMASTER BIKER
EXPERT B&D - S/M
Very Aggressive
Ropes, chains, handcuffs, hoods, gags, Leather! Electro-stim, Torture suspension - prolonged
From its stimulation to
Exquisite pam - your Bag Whippings & Spankings.
JACK
415-680-8959
Mirrored S. of Market Playroom

YEAH!
SIX FOOT SOLOFLEX
STRONG, SOLID, & SEXY
GREAT LOOKS/CLEAN CUT
HONEST THICK NINE
\$100/921-0811
Professional Massage Included
Downtown Location

UNINHIBITED HUNK
Does-What-A-Man-Does-Best
Mac 621-5125, Anytime. 18

O B V I O U S L Y
ITALIAN HANDSOME HUNK
SEXY • CHISELED
NATURALLY HUNG
\$100. 861-2206

Hot, Young Swimmer. Healthy, Boyish good looks. 24, 150 lbs. 5'11", Safe. David, 563-5637. 18

EARLY RISER?
Am fun, relaxation. Brad
Delivers 24 hrs. 648-6081 18

Young, blond, blue, smooth, hung, hot! Also SM/BD. 285-0374. 18

Mike
23, 5'10", 160 lbs, blond hair, blue eyes, cleancut student, smooth, muscular, swimmer, fun, safe, discreet. \$100. In/Out, will travel. 267-3032. 18

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24 HR DADDY
Big Butt Nipples
Tall Hairy Chad 861-7014 18

★ \$30 - Hot athlete. Hung nice. ★
★ Bill 441-1054 Massage, etc. ★ 18

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Handsome Hung Tall Big Balls
24 Hrs Axel 863-0252 18

"A condom or a casket!!!!" 18

6'4", 195#, hairy ex-Army Sgt. Chuck, (415) 431-1579. 18

8 1/2 x 7 1/2" of manmeat needs "sir" voice. \$45, Hank, 861-7379. 18

5'9", 170#, 43c, 30w, Italian
HUNG & UNCUT
Massage or Company
626-8391

WORSHIP the boy next door
9" EXTRA THICK CUT! FRENCH PASSIVE
Hot, boyish, clean-shaven, good looks, 6'1", 160 lbs., 26 yrs., green eyes, brown hair.
MIKE 664-2057
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\$100 • out only

Models & Escorts



ITALIAN DADDY
Hung and Hairy
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Torture - Bondage - Muscles Pain/Pleasure, Equipment, S&M, Surrender
Whether you are a complete novice or a stone masochist, these are just fantasies until you find a safe, sane, and experienced man who is a *master* at knowing where and just how far to take you. I am an expert at guiding partners through new territory, gradual to intense creative stimulation, and pleasure/pain (it's all the same when it's done right).
Give up control in a safe place.
Roger (415) 864-5566

BI JOCK
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\$100 Aaron
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DAN
\$100 • 922-3645

Mr. N.Y. City
2nd Place - Tall Class
220# OF STEEL HARD MUSCLE
52" c., 19" a., 30" w., 8" ENDOWED
VERSATILE
JOE • 864-4079

LEATHER FFANTASY PLAYROOM
Tall, hot top enjoys FFA, safe kink, visual delight.
CHRISTOPHER
\$100 in 255-1018 \$120 out

JASON
175 lbs., 5'8 1/2", 46" C, 29" W
864-2070 • \$115

FRAT BOY
Dominant • Verbal • Long Lasting
Horse Hung, Collegiate Jock
Masculine, Muscular
Swimmer's Build
Craig \$80 in/out
(415) 626-8535
Dial no. wait 3 bps. Punch yr no. & sign. Wait 3 bps. again. Hang up. Pager 739-7527

Models & Escorts

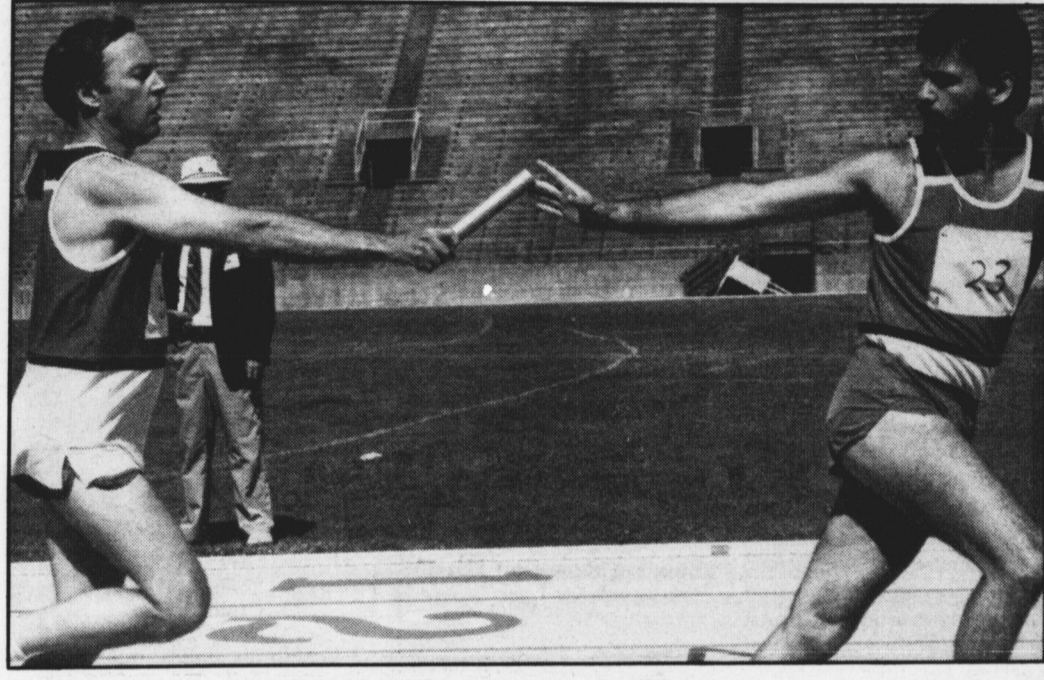
FRAT BOY
Dominant • Verbal • Long Lasting
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Craig \$80 in/out
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Jim 441-3131

VIRILE SEXY ITALIAN
Hot, gdlk, rockhard muscles & athl legs. Vers, healthy, yng, hung, tall Marine type. Anytime. No BS.
Dan 753-8604

BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

Nothing's Gonna Stop Him Now Track Star Alan French Fights AIDS On The Road To Vancouver



Alan French (l.) passes off to Efreim Cavazos in the 4x400 relay. (Photo: S. Savage)

by Rick Thoman

At the end of the Apex Awards presentation in late January, all of the evening's winners gathered on stage and celebrated as the song, "Nothing's Gonna Stop Us Now," was played in the background.

It was an event San Francisco track and field athlete Alan French was unable to attend. Although he wanted to share the evening with his teammates and fellow athletes, he realized the long evening would probably be too much of a drain on his system... a system that is struggling against the AIDS virus.

By skipping the evening's festivities, French was able to get the rest he needed to attend track practice the next morning. He admits AIDS has placed a few restrictions on his lifestyle, but he's determined to continue his athletic training.

At age 42, French exemplifies the song, "Nothing's Gonna Stop Us Now." He's determined to be a part of Gay Games III. He'll be in Vancouver in August 1990 as a competitor.

He's resolved that nothing's gonna stop him now, not even AIDS.

"I'm mentally ready for Gay Games III," said a confident French. "I may have to drop down to the 100 or 200 meters (from the 400 meters) because the shorter distances won't fatigue me as quickly, but I plan on being a competitor in Vancouver. I'm continuing my training program with that goal in mind."

A noted lawyer in the San Francisco gay community, French has fought and won many battles. And his athletic career has been a series of challenges as well. French just missed winning a medal at the first Gay Games, finishing fourth in the 400 meters. In the years between Games, French trained hard, determined to do better the next time. In the 1986 Gay Games II, he surpassed the goals he had set

for himself by capturing bronze medals in both the 200 and 400 meters, as well as a silver medal for San Francisco's "B" 4x100 relay team and a gold medal on San Francisco's "A" team 4x400 relay. He had reached a glorious peak athletically, and immediately focused his attention on the 1990 games.

However, the following year French noticed a change in his performance on the track. His efforts were sporadic at best and his race results were slower than they had been the previous season.

Reflecting back, French says, "As an athlete, you're more in tune to your body and the changes that go on within it. On the track I could feel something was wrong, but I assumed it was related to a big case I was working on. I was undergoing a lot of stress and I didn't have any idea I was in the early stages of ARC."

That "case" took an enormous amount of French's time. It turned out to be a landmark trial against the Sohio oil company and the first time an alleged gay discrimination case against a private employer was tried before a jury. The trial wore on for nine grueling months.

Alan French discovered he was not only fighting a big oil conglomerate, but was fighting for his health too. In December of 1987, French was diagnosed with AIDS.

The following year, French wound up losing the Sohio case, but he triumphed over bouts of bronchitis, thrush, shingles and pneumocystis pneumonia. He continued to train for the Gay Games in 1990 and his determination hasn't wavered.

"It only takes one relapse to make you act more sensible," French explains. "I'm continuing to test my body and occasionally I take it to the limits where I wear myself completely down and bring on a relapse. While

that may not be the smartest thing to do, I discover my limitations and learn how to work within them.

"The AZT program I'm on now is starting to affect my muscle strength," French continued. "But you learn to adjust and continue training. I can still complete workouts the rest of the track club is doing, I just do them a lot slower... at a pace that my own body is capable of handling."

French feels his age will help in 1990. "I've been training for years and a lot of people my age aren't in competitive shape. I think even with AIDS that I'll be able to hold my own against most of the other athletes my age because I've been working out continuously for so long."

His teammates on the San Francisco Track & Field Club marvel at Alan's tenacity, and they expect him to be a real threat at the 1990 Games. As sprinter Earl Bryant said, "Alan is a naturally challenging person, both on and off the track. He continues to come out to practice and give it his best so I see no reason why he shouldn't do well in Vancouver."

French's former relay partner Frank Demby agrees: "Alan has always been able to pull out a good performance when he needs to. He's surprised a lot of his competitors throughout the years and I fully expect he'll do it again in 1990."

French feels track is a perfect sport for someone dealing with an illness such as AIDS. "Running is basically an internal competition. You're always searching for your next personal achievement," he said philosophically. "Having to run slower because of AIDS isn't really a problem for me because I am still able to perform up to the limit of my ability."

He added that "Workouts take a bit of organization in one's life. This organizational skill can help you fight to overcome other

obstacles in your life, not just athletic ones."

The San Francisco Track & Field Club, of which French is a founding member, is an important part of his life. He hopes everyone in the community can experience the support an athletic team can provide. As he sees it, "Gay sports teams provide an individual with a sense of belonging as well as a sense of accomplishment."

"I've made some personal friendships in the track club that I wouldn't be able to find elsewhere," he added. "I think

anyone who has experienced the bonding that goes on in athletics knows how deep it can be. You go through some intense experiences together, you share the pain and suffering it takes to be the best and it makes those friendships more lasting and more meaningful."

French's commitment to his team and to himself will help him reach his goals in 1990. He's worked hard to make it as far as he has today and for the future, well, nothing's gonna stop him now. Watch out Vancouver! ▼

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BOWLING

Let's Just Call It J.C. Halstead Week!

by Richard McPherson

Feb. 6-9 was J.C. Halstead Week at Park Bowl. Halstead, who averages in the 180s and 190s in four Tavern Guild Leagues (TGL) shot 600+ series in all his leagues that week, racking up nine 200+ games in the process.

He began his striking spree in the Monday TGL with a 646 series on games of 235, 207 and 204. He followed up two nights later with a very consistent 197, 203, 219/619 effort in the WTGL. On Thursday he shot back-to-back 600s in the Hawaii League and Thursday TGLs. He began the night with 235, 216/635 in the early league and 234, 225/619 in the late. All this following a 653 series the previous week.

"All I did was move back a foot on the approach," he said. This seemingly simple move seems to be just what he needed to zero-in on the pocket. Moving back, he explained, helped him speed up his ball on the lane (since he had to increase his stride on the approach). This increased speed aided him in overcoming the excessive curve he was experiencing on the lanes. After a slow start at the beginning of the season, J.C. is experiencing a mid-season triumph on the lanes, which doesn't show any signs of letting up.

Tim Benton, 180 average, had high series for the week in the TGLs with a 231, 238, 192/661 score in the TG Trios, followed by Jeff Hettmansperger, 197, in the Hawaii League with a 227, 246/637 effort.

Special congrats to Roger Spencer, a 159 average in the MTGL, on a 183, 242, 192/617 series. This represents his first 600+ series in the past two years and only his third in his 13-year bowling career.

The 600+ roster at Park Bowl for the week of 2/6 to 2/9 includes: Luis Garcia (179) 200, 199, 216/615; Bob Mack (169) 203, 251/610!!!; Arne Prince (197) 225, 203/603; Nathan Hauser (191) 216/603.

Angelo Maggio had high game for the week in the TGL with a 253 in the Wed. TGL (He also had a 222 somewhere else, too). Vince DiColla, 170, started out the night with a great 248 (although it was downhill from there).

Bowlers topping 215+ in the TGLs: Ben Dedionisio (175) 226; Ernie Wilson (164) 226; Dave Gooding (152) 223; Donald Fritsche (172) 223; Michael Haggett (171) 223, 204.

Honorable Mention (160 average and under): Tom Neidert (158) 213; Bob Kelleher (149) 212; Michael McPherson (148) 209; Michael Valicano (148) 209; Jeff Lampert (155) 207; William Schneider (131) 202; Ken DeLong (153) 201; Tim Hagerman (154) 200.

A belated "way-to-go" to Wally Hansen, a Monday TGL bowler, on his newly-claimed "Mr. January" title in the recent S.F. Eagle bare chest contest.

In the S.F. Women's Business League, Mary Lassalle, a 152 average, was high with a 231

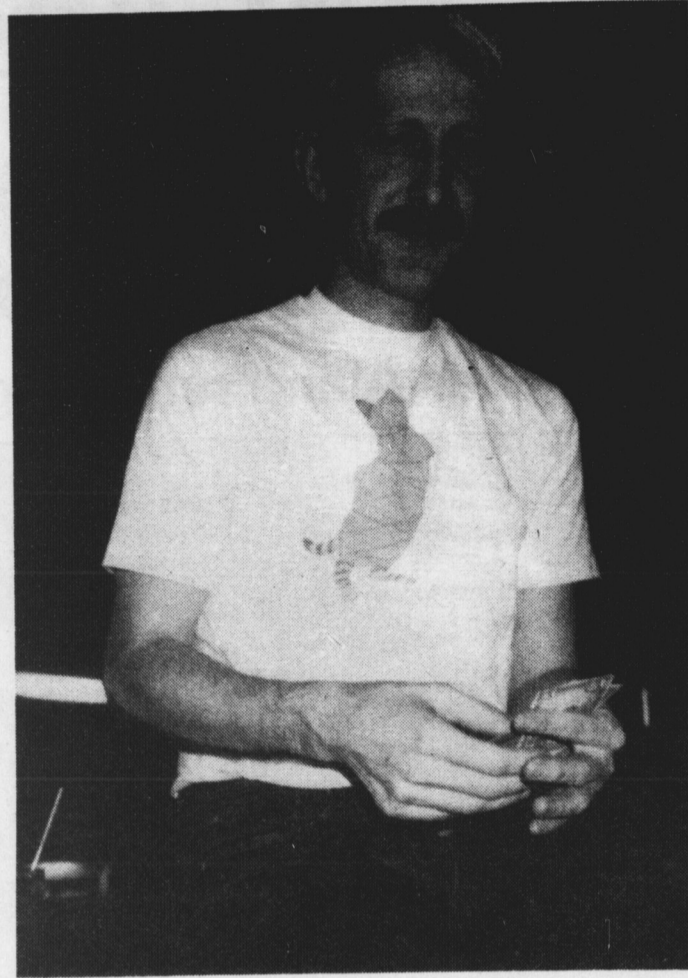
game.

In the Community Leagues at Japantown Bowl, Allen Neitzke, a 167 average for the Hot Rollers was the overall best for the week with a 601 score. Bowling in the Tuesday Community League, Neitzke shot a very consistent 204, 207 and 190 three-game set.

There were some great over-average achievements in the Tuesday and Wednesday leagues at JTown, led off by Rod Silva, a 119 average, who had a 508 series. Bowling for the Metro, Silva put together games of 155, 148 and 205, an American Bowling Congress award-winning 151 pins over his average. In the Tuesday league, Michael Taylor, a 133 average shot a 211 game, followed by T.J. Woods, 128 average, with a 200 and Jim Shevock, 132, with a 201.

Honorable Mention (160 average and under): Robert Bennett (146) 213; Bob Dos Santos (152) 200. (The above JTown scores are for 2/7 through 2/10.)

The team of Michael Bulawit, Donald Fritsche and Michael Haggett emerged at the first place winners in the S.F. BEAR Mini No-Tap Trios Tournament of Feb. 4-5. For their enormous score of 2310 they received \$195 in prize money. Second place: 2294, Dan Burley and Don George (\$162); 3rd place: 2222, Mark Platis, Jerry De Young & Butch Gillum (\$129); 4th place: 2208, Rob Levi, Bob Bates and J.C. Halstead; 5th place: 2191, Dan Burley, Troy Verhoeven, Nathan Hauser.



Bowling sensation J.C. Halstead bowled nine 200+ games in one week for four Tavern Guild Leagues (Photo: R. McPherson)

J.C. Halstead shot a no-tap 300 game, on the way to a 784 three game series.

This BEAR (Bowlers Emergency Aid Relief) tourney raised \$645 for the kiddy.

And, speaking of BEAR, this weekend, Feb. 25-26, is its major fundraiser at Park Bowl. Bowlers will be collecting pledges for their highest game rolled in either the 12 p.m. or 3 p.m. squads on Saturday, or 1 p.m. on Sunday. All proceeds will go to

benefit terminally ill bowlers in gay and lesbian leagues at either Japantown or Park Bowls.

The BEAR board hopes to raise \$20,000 this weekend; that translates into mucho support from Japantown and Park bowlers. Call one of the tournament co-chairs now, if you haven't already signed up, and find out how you can participate. We need your support! Jim Hahn (824-0101) or Vickie Schneider (661-9389) or Mal Garcia at Park Bowl (752-2366).

OFTEN-CALLED SPORTS PHONES

| ORGANIZATION | ACTIVITY | CONTACT |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Bay Area Women's Freeform Wrestling | Wrestling | Amy 548-3496 |
| Club Volleyball | Volleyball | Mike 731-2056 |
| Community Bowling League | Bowling | Terry 921-6200 (Japantown Bowl) |
| Different Spokes | Bicycling | (Tape) 771-0677 |
| East Bay FrontRunners | Runners | Roz 939-3579 |
| Gay/Lesbian Sierrans | Hiking, Camping | (Tape) 653-5012 |
| Gay Softball League | Softball | Donna 864-6202 |
| Gay Tennis Federation | Tennis | Chris 563-8568 |
| Golden Gate Wrestling | Wrestling | Gene 821-2991 |
| Hot Shots | Basketball | Tony 621-2710 |
| Saga North | Downhill Skiing | Allen 885-0386 or 928-1736 |
| SF FrontRunners | Running | Jim 922-1435 Margaret 821-3719 |
| SF Hiking Club | Hiking | Jim 647-2193 |
| SF Slammers | Basketball | Nancy 861-6739 |
| SF Spikes | Soccer | Carlo 821-4248 |
| SF Track & Field | Track & Field | Rick 626-6258 |
| SF Trojans | Flag Football | Bernard 824-7048 |
| SF Tsunami | Swimming | Lavonn 572-9690 |
| SF Water Polo | Water Polo | John 887-5858 |
| SF Women's Business | Bowling | Mal 752-2366 |
| SF Women's Rugby | Rugby | (Tape) 621-2679 or Debi 863-0461 |
| SF Wrestling | Wrestling | Jim 821-9721 |
| Tavern Guild Bowling League | Bowling | Mal 752-2366 (Park Bowl) |
| Team San Francisco | Gay Games III | (Ans. Svc.) 626-1333 |
| Wilderness Women | Hiking, Backpacking | Martha 658-2196 |
| Women on Wheels | Bicycling | Allison 550-7439 |
| X-TA-C Ski Club | Cross Country Skiing | Jim or Trudy 995-2736 |

(All phone numbers are 415 area code)

POOL

Lisa Duncan—A Real Winner

by Lauren Ward

The honorable intent of awards programs, like the recent Apex and the upcoming Cable Car Awards, is to recognize and celebrate achievement in our community. But for every nominee there are those who feel slighted and every winner can win a share of detractors.

It's crucial to keep these programs and their naturally subjective selection processes in perspective. Nominations are often as much a result of social and political connections as empirical performance. The winners of these types of awards are simply those who happen to be singled out for various reasons and are not necessarily the most deserving or the best of all. Let's face it, we're not talking Nobel Prize here. Just an opportunity to dress up and hobnob with some of the "beautiful people" of our community.

The nominees for the upcoming Cable Car Awards, a see-to-believe extravaganza at the elegant Gift Center Pavilion on March 4, were recently announced. Selected as "Outstanding Sportsman of the Year" in pool were Rick Bradford, Jim Fierro, and Rick Mariani. Donna Blow, Torri Connelly and Lauren Ward were singled out for "Outstanding Sportsman of the Year." The nominees from all sports are grouped together in the "Outstanding Contribution to Athletics" category. Pool is represented by Tim Chitwood and Toni Macante.

There is one pool player who will be only the second individual from any sport to be inducted into the "Cable Car Awards Hall of Honor." By any measure, Lisa Duncan is clearly deserving of this honor, having won the Outstanding Sportsman in Pool award for the last three consecutive years, based primarily on her consistent excellence in the sport.

Duncan manages a Bakers of



Lisa Duncan will be inducted into the Cable Car Awards Hall of Honor for her accomplishments in women's sports (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Paris outlet on Haight St., near her home team table at Deluxe. She's got an infectious charm that dares people not to feel good around her and she's a graciously fierce competitor.

"My Gay Games medals mean the most to me," she said when asked about her many awards. "The community awards are nice but I always feel badly for those who get left out. When you win a major tournament it's an achievement with substance, a specific accomplishment that's undeniable."

Duncan already is making plans to defend her women's team 8-ball gold medal at Gay Games III in Vancouver next year.

When it comes to awards, not to mention sports performance in general, let's remember that old saying, "The reason angels can fly is that they take themselves lightly."

Dial JOE-POOL for SFFA information.

2 S.F. Softball Officials Get National Posts

Two local gay softball officials were elected to national positions last weekend at a meeting of the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Association (NAGAAA). Katherine Ross was elected to the position of Assistant Commissioner in the Women's division while Rick Ritt was re-elected treasurer of the Open Division. The meeting was held in Atlanta.

Officials at the Atlanta meeting also announced that Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania has been awarded the 1990 Gay World Series. The '89 Series will be held in Atlanta, thus the reason to hold the NAGAAA meeting in the Peachtree City. NAGAAA representatives spend most of the weekend looking over softball field sites as well as sharing in Southern hospitality.

San Francisco softball officials found out about their opponents in the Atlanta Series for this fall. The local Open Division team drew Pittsburgh while the San Francisco Women's Division will be paired against Chicago M.S.A.

GSL Commissioner Donna (Jane Fonda) Gecewicz announced that she will hold a meeting this Saturday at 12 Noon at the Pilsner Inn, Church near Market Street. According to a GSL spokesperson, Gecewicz will discuss the NAGAAA meeting as well as "a broad range of topics."

Grace Cathedral To Host New AIDS Play

Seven Sundays, a drama by Michael Scott Reed, will be performed at Grace Cathedral, benefitting the cathedral's AIDS ministry, March 3, 4, 10 and 11. All performances are at 8 p.m. The play is about a young man who fills his once-empty Sundays by visiting a stranger dying of AIDS. Seating is limited.

Grace Cathedral is located on Nob Hill at Taylor and California. For tickets, please call Grace Cathedral at 776-6611 or through BASS. Donations are—preferred seating, \$20; and general, \$15.

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You are eligible to enter every time you use 976-5757 from now until February 28, 1989. A winning personal code number will be selected at random by computer on March 6, 1989.

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Slammers Avoid Playing Catch-Up, Take Over First



The Slammers defeat of Mission Recreation Center has moved them into first place in the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department Women's Basketball League. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

"We didn't play have to play catch-up and that made a big difference," said a jubilant Slammers coach Susan Kennedy after her women's basketball team beat Mission Recreation Center, 69-60, on Valentine's Day at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center. The win pushed the Slammers, a lesbian team, into undisputed possession of first place in the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department Women's Basketball League.

The Slammers will take their 5-1 record to Kezar Pavilion tonight for a 6:30 p.m. contest against Rainbow. In the second game of the doubleheader, the

Hamilton Stars and the Blazers will battle in the 8 p.m. contest.

Unlike two weeks earlier when Mission Rec pulled away to a 64-53 win because of a relentless full court press, the Slammers didn't allow themselves to get rattled by the defending league champions' defense. The two teams battled to a 31-31 first half deadlock, thanks to Ann Banks, who made three straight baskets, and Katherine Martin, who dominated the boards.

In the third period, the Slammers pulled away with Alice Butler leading the way. Butler pumped home 11 of her game-

high 31 points. According to Kennedy, Butler's offensive show put the uncomfortable gym shoes on the other foot. Now, it was Mission Rec which was forced to battle back.

"Because we were able to get control of the game," said Kennedy, "we forced them into taking the long, hard-to-make, three-point shots. We forced them into going after us with fouls and just hoping that we would miss free throws."

Besides Butler, Martin had 12 points. Patti Harmon and Lynn Metzger had 13 points for Mission Rec, which is 4-2 on the year.

PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD LEAGUES

Team Standings

SAN FRANCISCO WOMENS BOWLING LEAGUE (Through Feb. 12)

| | W | L |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|
| 1. Ink Blots | 39 | 17 |
| 2. Express Comp. Sup. | 36 | 20 |
| 3. Berkeley Women | 35 | 21 |
| 4. F. Darling Tax Serv | 32 | 24 |
| 5. Awards by Chris | 31 | 25 |
| 6. Sidney's Pinheads | 30 1/2 | 25 1/2 |
| 7. Park Bowl | 30 1/2 | 25 1/2 |
| 8. Bad Girls | 30 | 26 |
| 9. Maud's Squad | 29 1/2 | 26 1/2 |
| 10. Olive Oil's | 26 1/2 | 29 1/2 |
| 11. Cassidy's Cabinettes | 25 | 31 |
| 12. Just Enough | 25 | 31 |
| 13. Bowldykes | 25 | 31 |
| 14. Artemis | 22 | 34 |
| 15. Amelia's | 22 | 34 |

MONDAY TAVERN GUILD (Through Feb. 6)

| | W | L |
|------------------------|--------|--------|
| 1. Pilsner Pinguins | 56 1/2 | 15 1/2 |
| 2. Pubio Rolo's | 50 1/2 | 21 1/2 |
| 3. Bassett Hounds | 47 | 25 |
| 4. Welcome Home | 45 | 27 |
| 5. Urasia Dragon | 44 | 28 |
| 6. All American Trophy | 43 | 29 |
| 7. Barking Lot | 40 | 32 |
| 8. Frantic Finishers | 38 1/2 | 33 1/2 |
| 9. Rolo's | 38 1/2 | 33 1/2 |
| 10. S.F. Gay Band | 38 1/2 | 33 1/2 |
| 11. Park Bowl | 37 | 35 |
| 12. Castro Station | 37 | 35 |
| 13. Pend. White Trash | 36 | 36 |
| 14. Sheela Wood HFC | 35 1/2 | 36 1/2 |
| 15. Pet Stop Cocktails | 35 | 37 |
| 16. Always Tan | 29 1/2 | 38 1/2 |
| 17. Rawhide II | 29 | 43 |
| 18. Pendulum | 28 1/2 | 43 1/2 |
| 19. Allgood & Asso. | 28 | 44 |
| 20. Tom Clark Painting | 26 1/2 | 41 1/2 |
| 21. Spare Us | 19 1/2 | 52 1/2 |
| 22. Team 22 | 0 | 72 |

TAVERN BUILD MONDAY TRIOS (Through Feb. 6)

| | W | L |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|
| 1. The Cave Men | 46 1/2 | 17 1/2 |
| 2. Play With It, Ltd. | 41 | 23 |
| 3. Golden Girls | 41 | 23 |
| 4. Uncle Bert's Place | 38 | 26 |
| 5. J J's Immortals | 35 | 29 |
| 6. Park Bowl | 33 1/2 | 30 1/2 |
| 7. No Name So Far | 33 1/2 | 26 1/2 |
| 8. Pilsner Pin Pals | 33 | 31 |
| 9. Main Course | 32 | 28 |
| 10. Capricorn Coffees | 32 | 32 |
| 11. Pin-Curls | 32 | 32 |
| 12. S.F. Eagle | 31 | 29 |
| 13. Fancuts | 31 | 33 |
| 14. Contourettes | 30 1/2 | 33 1/2 |
| 15. Pilsner Pinguins | 30 | 34 |
| 16. Inches | 30 | 34 |
| 17. Beck's Bed Bugs | 26 | 38 |
| 18. Zona Rosa | 25 | 39 |
| 19. Bosco's Brigade | 25 | 39 |
| 20. Bowler Types | 25 | 39 |

WEDNESDAY TAVERN GUILD (Through Feb. 8)

| | W | L |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|
| 1. Park Bowl | 53 | 19 |
| 2. Leftovers | 50 | 22 |
| 3. Pendulum | 47 1/2 | 24 1/2 |
| 4. Pilsner I | 47 | 25 |
| 5. Play With It Again | 46 | 26 |
| 6. Bow-K | 45 | 27 |
| 7. Pilsner Men/Balls | 43 | 29 |
| 8. S.F. Eagle | 42 1/2 | 29 1/2 |
| 9. Rams & Ewe | 41 1/2 | 30 1/2 |
| 10. Galleon Sharks | 38 1/2 | 33 1/2 |
| 11. Play With It Ltd | 36 1/2 | 35 1/2 |
| 12. Pilsner Pick-Ups | 36 | 36 |
| 13. Pilsner Quackers | 35 1/2 | 36 1/2 |
| 14. Godfather Serv. Fund | 33 1/2 | 39 1/2 |
| 15. Gutter Girls | 33 | 39 |
| 16. Evans Pacific | 32 1/2 | 39 1/2 |
| 17. Pendulum Pandas | 30 | 42 |
| 18. 9 Eyes Only | 28 1/2 | 43 1/2 |
| 19. Unbearable Bottoms | 25 | 47 |
| 20. Bear Tops | 19 1/2 | 52 1/2 |
| 21. Helen Beds | 3 | 61 |
| 22. Team #22 | 0 | 64 |

THURSDAY TAVERN GUILD (Through Feb. 9)

| | W | L |
|------------------------|--------|--------|
| 1. Play With It Ltd | 46 | 14 |
| 2. Together Again | 41 | 23 |
| 3. Mint Condition | 39 | 25 |
| 4. Ma's Kids | 38 | 26 |
| 5. Park Bowl | 37 1/2 | 26 1/2 |
| 6. S.F. Eagle | 37 | 27 |
| 7. Trax | 35 | 29 |
| 8. DustBusterz | 35 | 29 |
| 9. Super Star Video | 33 | 31 |
| 10. Hot Trax | 32 | 32 |
| 11. Wild Balls | 32 | 32 |
| 12. Sassy | 30 1/2 | 33 1/2 |
| 13. Rendezvous Too | 30 | 34 |
| 14. Bert's Screwballs | 30 | 34 |
| 15. Inches | 28 | 32 |
| 16. Bear's Boys | 27 | 37 |
| 17. Polk Rendezvous Is | 26 1/2 | 37 1/2 |
| 18. 501 Blues | 23 | 37 |
| 19. Stars & Strikes | 21 1/2 | 42 1/2 |
| 20. Team #20 | 0 | 60 |

THURSDAY HAWAII TAVERN GUILD (Through Feb. 9)

| | W | L |
|----------------------|--------|--------|
| 1. Hangin' Loose | 52 1/2 | 27 1/2 |
| 2. Birds of Paradise | 51 | 29 |
| 3. Gekko Girls | 48 | 32 |
| 4. Throw Mother/Lane | 44 | 36 |
| 5. Castaways | 39 1/2 | 40 1/2 |
| 6. Roommatters | 39 | 41 |
| 7. The Moo Moos | 35 | 41 |
| 8. Team #8 | 0 | 76 |

(It is the responsibility of the bowling establishment to supply the B.A.R. with league standing sheets.)

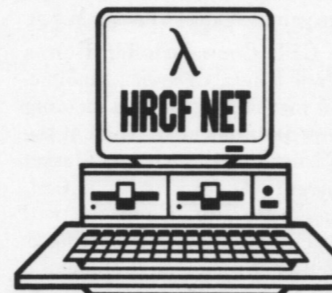
Gay Hackers Can Plug Into HRCF NET Line

Gay and lesbian computer users can now get up-to-the-minute information from the nation's capital by signing onto the new Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) computerized bulletin board.

The bulletin board, called HRCF NET, features a variety of information on federal legislation, voting records, constituent mobilization and other news of interest to the national gay and lesbian and AIDS communities. HRCF is the nation's largest gay and lesbian civil rights and AIDS political action committee and lobbying group.

Access HRCF NET for:

- Legislative Update—With current AIDS and civil rights bills, amendments and other Capitol Hill happenings.
- Voting Records—Are your congresspersons homophobic or homophobic? Find out by checking their voting records on the most recent gay-related legislation.
- Press Releases—Get the scoop on the fastest breaking gay news released to the media.
- HRCF Editorial—A monthly editorial from the desk of the



HRCF executive director.

- Field Division—Learn about gay and lesbian constituent mobilization and sign up directly online for hard hitting mailgrams to Congress.
- HRCF Fact Sheet—Find out about the nation's largest progressive PAC and what it's doing for you in Washington.

The HRCF NET access number is (202) 639-8735. Modems must be at a minimum of 300 baud rate. Contact the system operator, Sheryl Harris, HRCF operations manager, at (202) 628-4160 (voice number), HRCF, 1012 14th Street N.W., Suite 607, Washington, D.C. 20005. Use of the bulletin board is free, except for phone line charges.

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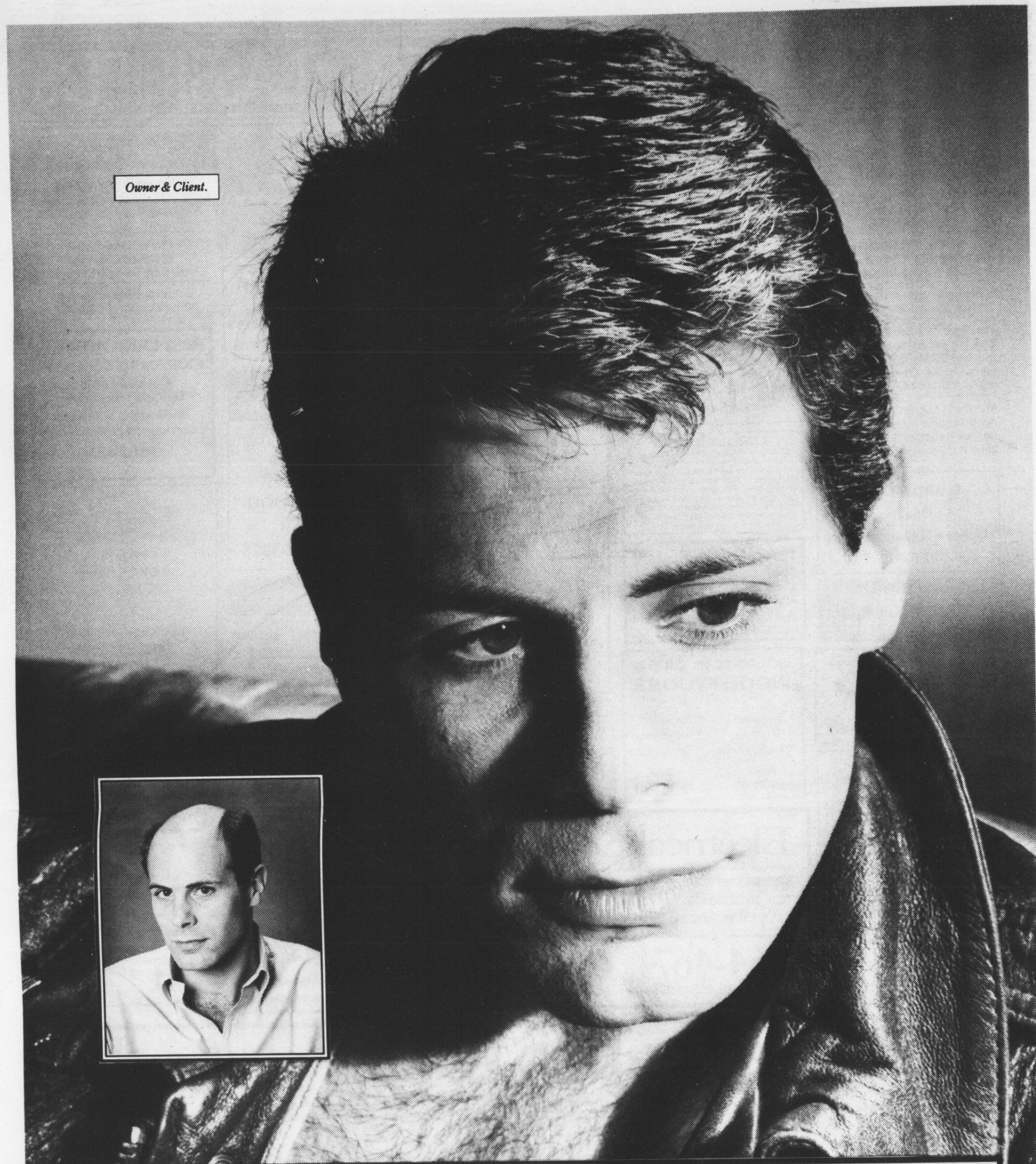
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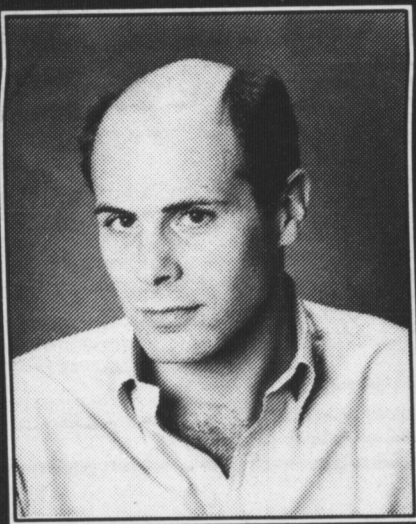
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Pres. Ford Sends His Condolences To Sipple's Friends

by Allen White

A letter arrived this week for the friends of Billy Sipple from former President Gerald Ford. The letter is now on display at the New Bell Saloon for his friends to see. The former president expressed his condolences to Sipple's friends and his gratitude to Sipple.

The letter stated, "Mrs. Ford and I express our deepest sympathy in this time of sorrow involving your friend's passing."

Ford wrote that he would be "forever grateful for Oliver's actions on my behalf."

"I strongly regretted the problems that developed for him following this incident," said Ford. "It saddened me to learn the circumstances of his death."

The note was personally signed by Ford.

Sipple, whose legal name was Oliver Wellington Sipple, and known to his friends as Billy, died last month in his Van Ness Avenue apartment. He had become famous for knocking a gun out of the hand of Sara Jane Moore in 1976. She was attempting to assassinate President Ford in front of the St. Francis Hotel.

With the sudden fame he received, it became known through the media that he was gay. The item, submitted by Harvey Milk, was intended to be an example of pride in an emerging gay community.

But it turned out to be devastating for Sipple. His family was unaware he was gay and they spurned him. The quick moment of fame for Billy Sipple threw his life into a downward spiral which left him very bitter.

Though he had a drinking problem, he also had the ability to make an extraordinary number of friends. Each day he would make the rounds of his favorite bars, especially the ones on Polk Street.

What prompted friends to go looking for him was the concern that he had not been in Reflections, a bar he went to on Polk Street.

His main bar, though, was the New Bell Saloon. Almost daily he would go in and have a drink with Toady, the main daytime bartender. His friends were there.

When Sipple died, a call was placed to President Ford's office in Palm Springs. Ford's chief of staff Penny Circle was advised of the death and notice was given to the former president to make a response.

None came. Word came back

that President Ford was traveling. Through a series of phone calls it was learned there would be no flowers nor any message at the funeral.

When President Ford returned to Palm Springs, that changed. Penny Circle called to find the address of George Sipple, Billy's brother, so a letter could be sent.

Ms. Circle was told that if Gerald Ford really wanted to do something for Billy Sipple, he should send a letter to his friends. She was told that if a letter was received, it would be framed and put on display at "a gay bar on Polk Street, the New Bell Saloon." She seemed intrigued with the idea and said she would run it by Ford. The former president approved and the letter was sent.

Last Friday evening the framed letter was presented to Toady, at the New Bell. For all of Billy Sipple's friends, the message from a President of the United States is on display.

As one of his friends commented, "Billy would have liked that."

Wilson Again Pushes Walker For Judge

Olympics Attorney Defeated Last Year; Re-Nominated to Federal Judgeship

by Dennis McMillan

Now that the George Bush election has kept the White House Republican occupied, Sen. Pete Wilson has decided to push once again the nomination of Vaughn Walker for federal judge in the Northern California U.S. District Court. Walker had been defeated October last year after months of hearings and political pressure from the concerted efforts of the Judiciary Project and T.J. Anthony, Abby Ginsberg, and Mary Dunlap.

(Continued on page 2)

Arson Destroys Dallas Gay Center

Had Housed AIDS Services; Cash, Computers, Files Stolen

by Ray O'Loughlin

The Gay Community Center and AIDS Resource Center of Dallas was burned to the ground early Thursday morning, Feb. 23. Police believe the six-alarm blaze was the work of arsonists who had robbed the community center of computer equipment, including disks, and money before setting the fire. Also destroyed in the blaze were two adjacent buildings.

"We lost everything we had," said William Waybourn, president of the Dallas Gay Alliance which administered the center on Cedar Springs Road. Only the Food Pantry for people with AIDS escaped the flames. A firewall separated it from the main building.

Fire inspectors estimated the total damage at \$750,000.

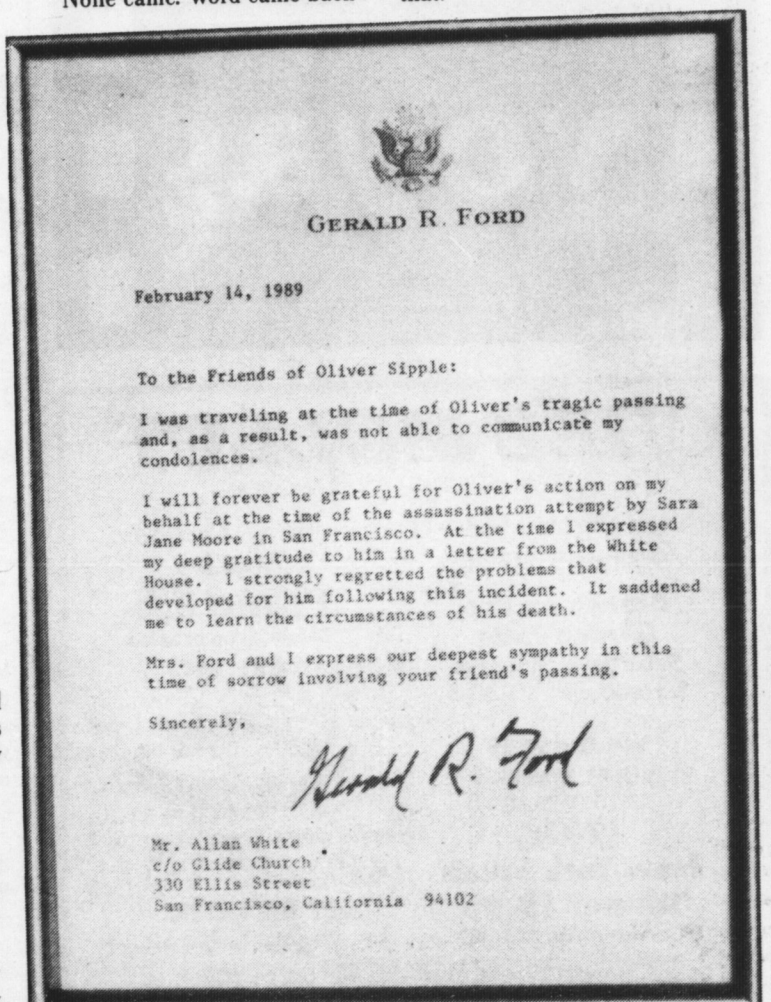
"We feel from the evidence we've found so far that a burglary occurred here and somebody probably started the fire to cover his tracks," Capt. Randy Sanders of the Dallas Fire Department told the Dallas Voice, a local gay

newspaper.

Sanders said that investigators had no leads but hoped to find some when they sifted through the wreckage.

Waybourn said that the center had received several threats a few weeks earlier when Dallas gay ac-

(Continued on page 2)



Pres. Ford sends his condolences.

(Photo: S. Savage)