

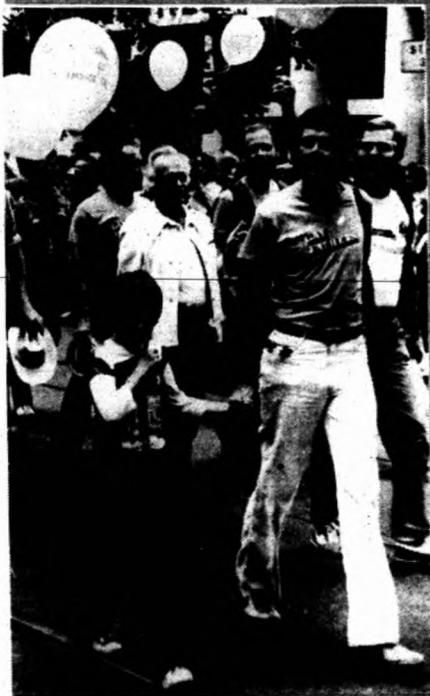
COMING UP!

THE GAY/LESBIAN
NEWSPAPER
AND CALENDAR
OF EVENTS FOR
THE BAY AREA

**Coming Up!
Endorses
ART AGNOS
for Mayor
of San Francisco**



**JoAnn Loulan
on the State of
Lesbian Sex
(and Passion)**



**ADOPTION ISSUES AND LESBIAN/GAY PARENTING:
The Discussion Continues**



**PLUS:
A Special
Report on
the March**

LETTERS

What Happened to Baybrick?

If we discuss supporting women's places instead of taking our business to "non-gay" clubs, we may have an answer.

Who owns the business you patronize? Are they women like Ollie, Rikki, Susan or Linda who invested their futures into providing gay women with a place to meet? Or are you really supporting a straight establishment and taking the money out of the women's community? The women who own their own bars have a commitment to the women who support them. Speaking for myself, I am hurt by those who rent out a straight establishment that is not committed to being here for women. We may see more businesses go down the Bay Brick Road if this trend towards underground parties held at non-gay establishments continues.

I am asking you gay women to support your gay hangouts to ensure that they will be here for all of us in the future.

Thank You,
Susan Clayworth
Owner of A Little More
San Francisco

Shilts As Reporter

This was originally sent as a letter to the Chronicle. While Randy Shilts was reporting on the controversies surrounding the bathroom closings he insisted that he had no political agenda or point of view, but journalistic objectivity. It offers slight relief to read now ("Reporting on AIDS: The Inside Story," SF Chronicle, Oct 12, 1987) that either he was lying then or has learned better since.

Randy's unpopularity has not been so much due to the bad news he has delivered, but the way he has delivered it. Governmental institutions which Gays and Lesbians have experienced or perceived as viciously homophobic have in his articles been accorded more credibility than our own community institutions and organizations. When the CDC and the SF AIDS Foundation come out with conflicting analyses, one can always count on Randy to report on CDC "findings" while ignoring any contrasting position from the AIDS Foundation.

Most disturbing, however, is his constant reference to people who have AIDS as "dying with AIDS." The underlying message in that phrase, to anyone with AIDS and to all the Gay community, is "You are dying. There is no hope. Life is over and done. You may as well roll into the pit pathetically and be gone." Too many people want to bury the Gay community. Randy Shilts offers his pen as their shovel. This is what makes Randy Shilts truly repugnant to many of us.

Never does he say that people are in fact living with AIDS, struggling with AIDS, learning and teaching others to live each day to its fullest and deepest, to celebrate each breath of life as a precious gift from God.

There is no denying that this epidemic is a horror, and yes, people are dying, but every breath brings every living creature closer towards that ultimate transition. In the meantime, with or without AIDS, we are living. And people with AIDS help us learn how to live in the face of death.

The examples of PWAs (People With AIDS) who are living — not dying — provide a testament of courage and faith. Bob recently celebrated — yes, celebrated — the anniversary of his diagnosis. He was celebrating a year which "common knowledge" says he shouldn't have survived; a year which was filled with love, accomplishment, and growth; a year in which every day means so much more; a year not of dying, but of very precious life. Five years after their respective diagnoses, Brad is planning (another) trip to Europe, Dan is getting his Master's degree, Frank's body is weak, but his eyes are strong with the light of faith and acceptance. His strength, hope, and experience are valuable gifts that he shares freely, but modestly.

Through failures of the body we learn to trust in the spirit. We learn to face and to conquer pain, fear, sorrow, and grief. We are challenged to acts and commitments of love and dedication we had never known could exist. By necessity we are learning to become healers, and most importantly, we are learning to be healed by our brothers and lovers who are living with AIDS. They are not dying until their bodies finally resign.

Alas, consistently in Randy's prose, anybody

diagnosed is "dying with AIDS." He deprives himself and his readers of the finest lessons his subjects may share. As Randy fixates on death, he verbally feeds faggots to a pyre.

Despair and fear are the most deadly of AIDS related conditions, but they can be cured. Let us pray that Randy overcomes his own horror. In the meantime, he offers the Gay community not hope nor help, but death.

Sincerely yours,
Jack Fertig
San Francisco

Carrying Forth the Spirit of the March

The images of the March on Washington continue to be inspiring and uplifting — the line of PWAs in wheelchairs approaching the White House, the excited joy on the faces of Grinnell College students discovering Sistah Boom, the crowd on the Metro spontaneously applauding itself. Because of the vision, strength, and audacity of people like Pat Norman and Cleve Jones, our community was able to collectively address our pain, sorrow, and anger and to infuse ourselves with pride and determination.

Because of this emotional power, the March on Washington could become a watershed for the lesbian and gay rights movement. The challenge for each of us is to continue living the spirit of the march both as individuals and as a community. Toward that end, a workshop is being organized to help us "Carry Forth the Spirit of the March."

The workshop, set for the afternoon of November 21st, will be facilitated by Marsha Quackenbush and Larry Lowen. Visioning, ritual and discussion will be used to help us reflect on the march's meaning and to creatively explore options for our own involvement and commitment. If you would like more information, please call me.

Larry, 655-7801
San Francisco

Thanks to Nancy Pelosi

Dear Nancy,

I feel compelled to write you and let you personally know how proud I am to have you as my Congresswoman. This past weekend's events in Washington DC during the "National March on Washington for Gay and Lesbian Rights" proved once again to me how deeply committed you are to our cause.

The efforts personally made by you preceding the March, in the organizational efforts for both

the Names Project and the March itself, and the presence you exhibited as a federally elected official during the week's events in Washington, again have made me very proud to be associated with you.

You are to be commended on your continuous "heart felt" commitment to our cause. My longtime friend Michael McCall and I stood arm in arm, believe it or not, with Dr. Frank Lilly, the only openly Gay member of President Reagan's Task Force on AIDS, at the conclusion of the March in front of the Capitol and sang, "We are gentle, loving people, and we are singing, singing for our lives." Tears streamed down all three of our faces as we sang, arms locked, swaying with hundreds of thousands of people.

Nancy, I have experienced some pretty special, uplifting moments in my life to date, but none that have equalled this weekend's. I'm glad I went to Washington, as I'm sure are most of the 20,000 to 25,000 San Franciscans who did. And we are all proud that you, as an elected official, were there participating and leading us, as you should have been.

Pat Norman, Cleve Jones, Ralph Payne, Paul Boneberg, Art Agnos and Harry Britt also deserve a big round of applause for their contributions and participation, but Girl, you did well! More power to you.

Scott Douglas
San Francisco

Perpetrating Rodeo Violence

The Gay Rodeo came to town amid lots of advertising hype and some generated interest. It is ironic that people struggling against oppression and injustice find entertainment and benefit in the fruits of oppression and injustice. Rodeo is a celebration of human ability to dominate and oppress animals using brutality and fear.

The animals' lives are spent and manipulated for human pleasure and profit. Animals buck because a "bucking" strap is pulled tightly around a sensitive area (and contestants are graded on raking spurs across the animals). Kicking, electric-prodding, tail-twisting and other forms of torment occur in the chutes to agitate the animals and to get them to run out. The injuries sustained range from extensive bruising and pulled muscles to crushed tracheas, internal hemorrhaging and broken ribs, legs, necks and backs. They are hauled around the rodeo circuit until slaughtered, and all they know of humans is their capacity for violence, insensitivity and instilling fear.

The attitude that rodeo glorifies is the very attitude we reprehend when we are the recipients and is no less objectionable when we are the perpetrators.

Barbara Grove
San Francisco

Zen Center Corrections

Although Alex MacDonald's article on the Zen Center in the Castro was published several issues ago, it contained four factual errors which we feel should be corrected. All the errors pertained to Robert Aitken Roshi.

Firstly, Aitken Roshi is not my teacher even though he has had, from the beginning, an interest and a hand in the well being and the development of the Hartford Street Zen Center. My formal teacher is Richard Baker Roshi.

Secondly and thirdly, Aitken Roshi is not homophobic nor does he exhibit misogyny. Actually, Roshi was among the very first to question whether the existing Buddhist communities were adequately responsive to any needs and sensitivities unique to gay and lesbian people interested in Buddhist practice. His awareness of this community was actually an outgrowth of the sensitivities he had developed in working with the issues of women among his own students.

Fourthly, Aitken Roshi is not dead. Because many Americans are experiencing the visibility of Buddhist practice for the first time, and especially because of the growing role the Hartford Street Zen Center is being called on to take in the midst of the AIDS crisis, we feel that a correction is very important.

Thank you for your interest in the center and thank you for your article.

Cordially,
Issan Dorsey
Resident Monk

Sexually Explicit Advertising

As far as I'm concerned, *Coming Up!* is the gay publication in the Bay Area. It's informative, fun, varied, and although I don't feel women are equally represented in your format, they're represented enough to make readers feel *Coming Up!* is for the gay men's and women's community.

I do, however, have a complaint. I feel the sexually-oriented and explicit advertising, as well as some of the more explicit photos in articles, cheapen your publication. Don't get me wrong. I think sex and sexy pictures are fine. It's just there's too damned much of it in *Coming Up!*, and what there is seems to me to be of a cheap, porno type rather than tastefully done. Also, I might add, it's 99 percent male oriented. You'd think Lesbians don't have sex!

I feel your publication has an identity crisis, and I think a deep soul-searching is due among your editorial staff. Half of your publication is informative and interesting; the other half reads like a cheap version of *Hustler* magazine (*I said cheap version*; you haven't even attained the status of good porn as far as I'm concerned.)

Consider what impression your publication, as a flagship gay publication of the Bay Area, gives readers, gay and straight, male and female. A lot of people pick up *Coming Up!* and just glance through it without reading much. I think they come away feeling like the gay community is in-to-cheap, one-night-stand type sex, and I, for one, object to this.

Perhaps you get a lot of advertising revenue with your ads. Perhaps, also, horny gay men are going in for phone sex and sexy photos more because of the health crisis. Perhaps these are the reasons your publication has cheapened itself. I have confidence, however, that you can come up with better solutions than the ones you have now. HOW ABOUT IT???? GET CREATIVE!!!!

Cathryn Haizmann
Oakland

I think you've penned a common complaint about *Coming Up!* among our women readers concerning the sex ads.

Gay men and lesbians on staff made a joint decision here, several years ago, to accept phone sex advertising, which is decidedly different in tone than the rest of our ads. The reason was simple — and also compelling — on one basic level: phone sex represents an incredibly safe sexual outlet for gay men, at a time when they have had so very much taken away from them in terms of their sexuality.

But it was more than just AIDS that made us decide to publish phone sex ads. Sexuality is, and always has been, a crucial part of gay and lesbian culture (really, the only thing that unites us), especially among gay men. Open, overt sexuality challenges the stifling puritanism of American culture that has always done its best to hide sex, and is now trying to equate sex with death or babies.

Part of our solution to the conflict has been to soften the ads somewhat in terms of their imagery. We have very definite standards in terms of nudity and explicit sexuality. If you look at the gay male papers, you'll see many of the same ads, but they'll be much more explicit than the ones we carry. And

you'll see many ads that we don't carry at all, that go way beyond what we're willing to publish graphically. Along the same lines, we limit the number of sex ads we carry in a particular issue; we could easily double the volume we carry now, if we wanted to.

None of that is to pretend that *Coming Up!* doesn't benefit financially from the ads. The reality is that we would have an incredibly difficult time making ends meet were it not for the income we get from the phone sex ads.

But beyond all of that, this is just one of the problems of publishing a co-sexual newspaper, in a community that is in reality often quite polarized. There are still huge segments of both the lesbian and gay men's communities that have little to do with each other, and are coming from very different perspectives with very different sensibilities. That makes it difficult to publish a newspaper for both gay men and lesbians, that represents as much of the diversity of our communities as possible.

Not uncommonly, among lesbians *Coming Up!* is viewed as a gay men's newspaper that also includes stuff for lesbians, and among gay men, we're seen as a lesbian paper that also has things for gay men. But actually, we're neither. It's just that there's no frame of reference for what we publish. We're all accustomed to either women's newspapers or gay male newspapers, and *Coming Up!* doesn't look like either. We represent something entirely different in the community — a forum for both gay men and lesbians, where we can see our differences and share our similarities.

—Kim Corsaro, Editor

Music Festival Workers Protest

As Festival crew who have worked with Robin Tyler and the West Coast Women's Music and Comedy Festival for two to eight years, we are writing to affirm our total support of Robin and the Festival. We were appalled at what we considered an attack on Robin by *Coming Up!* by questioning her integrity, ethics and honesty.

For those 156 of us who were trapped on the land, Robin provided clear and calm leadership and made the decision to evacuate well before we received word from the Fire Marshalls. Her decisions were based on a desire to protect us and the festival attendees — without any regard as to how cancelling the Festival would affect the Festival financially. Safety was the primary concern.

Since the Festival was cancelled, Robin has received hundreds of telephone calls and letters of concern and support. Prior to the printing of the October *Coming Up!* article, you received a copy of a letter that was sent from the Festival to all ticket holders regarding the refund policy and asking people to be patient. Other community newspapers reprinted the statement in its entirety and wrote a supportive response (*Lesbian News*, Los Angeles). Why did *Coming Up!* choose to ignore the letter? Why did you choose not to interview some of the workers who live in the Bay Area and were involved with the plans? Why did you choose instead to harass Robin, ignoring that she was in a state of shock and implying that she was in some way misrepresenting the financial status of the Festival? Is this not representative of the way we as lesbians fight ourselves rather than the outside powers who oppress us? And is this not representative of the anti-semitism we are seeking to eliminate from our lives?

Yes, Robin is a businesswoman. And an honest one. She is also a strong political voice for our community and a leader of the movement. She has just returned from Washington, D.C., where she produced the rally for the March on Washington and received the Award of Distinction from the Executive Committee. It is time to acknowledge Robin for her valuable leadership and courage. As Festival workers, we urge you to follow our lead in supporting her. Let's give back some of the energy she has given to all of us for years.

Signed in a spirit of positive support.
Doty Calabrese (Mountain View)/Crafts Coordinator; Eleanor Brownfield (Atlanta)/Stage Crew, day stage; Debra K. Friedland (San Francisco)/Stage Crew, artist and performers liaison; Billie Herman (Los Angeles)/Security; Deborah Jenkins (San Diego)/Registration Coordinator; Carol MacDonald (New York City)/Trouble-shooter; Angie Maldonado (LA)/Communications; Kathy Mullen (SF)/Stage Crew, production; Corlyce Olivieri (Santa Cruz)/Security; Jayne Pleasants (Atlanta)/Stage Crew, lighting; Bonnie Sherwood (San Diego)/Interpreter Coordinator; Kitty Thompson (LA)/Stage Crew, carpentry; Clare Woakes (Oakland)/Trash Queen.

The Need to Support NAMBLA

I was gratified to read the three letters in September's *Coming Up!* which were written in favor of NAMBLA's participation in the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade. It is amazing how much fear and hatred is directed toward an

organization whose only goal is to promote the empowerment of the powerless and allow them to love without fear of state intervention. The reactions from the political community and the Gay community at large are not unlike the reactions of the political community and the straight community at large toward Gay people in the 1950s and early 60s.

Of particular interest was John Baxter's comment that the Eureka Theatre Company's request to ban NAMBLA from the parade "reveals a mean-spirited streak of authoritarianism that is all too prevalent among a certain sector of self-avowed progressives." I've personally experienced that "mean-spirited streak" a number of times when mentioning NAMBLA to political "progressives." Once I asked Harry Britt to join me for breakfast. During the meal, I asked his support of NAMBLA. I thought he was going to choke. He said that supporting NAMBLA would be political suicide, similar to "supporting communists."

From 1980 through 1982, I devoted a tremendous amount of time and effort as Treasurer of the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club to bring the club from economic insolvency to economic health. During my five years as an active member of San Francisco's foremost "progressive" club, I spent much of my time promoting "Gay rights." Then, when the FBI infiltrated NAMBLA and attempted to discredit the organization (see "FBI vs NAMBLA, A Witch-hunt foiled") with lies and innuendos (for precedent, read "The Boys of Boise" about the most highly publicized "Homosexual" scandal of the 1950s), I went before the Executive Committee of this "progressive" organization and asked that a discussion of NAMBLA's position be put on the club's agenda. Some of the members of the Executive Committee became outraged that I would even bring the subject up and angrily denounced NAMBLA, saying that the name NAMBLA should not even be mentioned at a Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club meeting.

To the Eureka Theatre Company, to Harry Britt, and to the leadership of the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club, I say that you have "a mean-spirited streak of authoritarianism." In your rush to be accepted by the Bigots in American Society, you have become bigoted. Don't forget the words of German Lutheran Minister Martin Niemoeller: "In Germany, the Nazis first came to the communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a communist. Then they came for the Jews and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then, they came for the trade unionists and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then, they came for the Catholics and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant. Then, they came for me, and by that time, there was none left to speak for me."

In conclusion, I would like to add that, in addition to being banned from the Gay Freedom Day March in Los Angeles, NAMBLA was scheduled to meet in Baltimore's Gay Community Center this weekend for the 9th National Conference, but as a result of pressure put on the center by the Baltimore press, the contract has been voided. Due to harassment, the conference is now being held in an undisclosed location on Saturday, before members go to Washington to join the National March.

Steve Raymond
San Francisco

No on Hennessey

The test of a real friend in politics is if that person will stand up and fight for you when it might cost more votes than will be gained. When the homophobic flak started coming in over Sheriff Hennessey's participation in a recruitment effort for gay deputies in a gay bar, Hennessey did not stand up for the gay community. He walked away from us.

In March 1984, Sheriff Hennessey appeared at a Sunday afternoon event at CHAPS, a gay western, Levi bar in the South of Market. This was a recruitment for deputies reception which had been arranged by a group of gay deputies. Supervisor John Molinari was the master of ceremonies. About a dozen gay deputies, including myself, were present. About 250-300 gay men and lesbians attended. The next morning the *SF Chronicle* ran a sensational story headlined: Sheriff Recruits In Gay Bar.

Sheriff Hennessey's response was to write a letter to the president of the Deputy Sheriff's Association which said: "Some weeks ago when approached to take part in a panel presentation

(continued on page 12)

LETTER INFO: Deadline for letters to appear in the December issue is Nov 20. Please type and double-space letters if at all possible. We reserve the right to edit letters for length. All letters must provide a name, address and phone number for verification. We will not publish anonymous letters or letters submitted only with pseudonyms, but will withhold your name on request.

COMING UP!

592 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114
(415) 626-8121 Mon-Fri 10am-6pm

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Personal Advertising: Refer to the order form in the "Personal" section. No personal advertising can be taken over the phone. Deadline is the 20th of the month preceding publication.

CALENDAR

Performers, clubs, individuals or groups who want to list events in the calendar must notify us by reaching us by the 20th of the month preceding publication. We cannot take listings by phone.

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VOLUNTEER BULLETINBOARD

Volunteers: It's busy around here, but not so busy that your efforts aren't genuinely noticed and deeply appreciated. Thank you all for your time and willingness to help out. Anyone who's interested in lending a hand around production time (experienced and learning volunteers are always welcome) should stop by or give a call. Our office hours are Monday through Friday, 10am-6pm, our phone 626-8121.
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COMING UP! NOVEMBER 1987



"We are one community fighting for the ones we love."

— Art Agnos
Washington, D.C.
October 11, 1987

We proudly endorse ART AGNOS for Mayor:

Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club
Sierra Club
National Organization for Women PAC
League of Conservation Voters
San Francisco Tomorrow
Affordable Housing Alliance
San Francisco Police Officers Association
Hotel and Restaurant Workers Local 2
Hospital and Institutional Workers Union Local 250
Retail Clerks Union 1100
Latino Democratic Club
Black Leadership Forum
Filipino American Democratic Club
San Francisco Women in the Trades
California Nurses Association
Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators
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STONEWALL

GAY DEMOCRATIC CLUB

ENDORSEMENTS

WE WANT THE BEST AIDS SERVICES IN THE WORLD... San Francisco, already the model for the world in its response to AIDS, faces an ever-increasing strain on its health-care delivery system. As more and more of our people are diagnosed with AIDS or ARC, and as more and more life-extending treatments become available, new funding solutions must be found. We want the new mayor to make AIDS the highest priority of the administration.

WE WANT A LESBIAN/GAY COMMUNITY CENTER... There is a growing need for a center dealing with the myriad of medical, social, cultural, and recreational needs of our community. We want in San Francisco what already exists in Fresno, Vancouver, Los Angeles and elsewhere. We want our own community center, and we want it soon.

WE WANT DOMESTIC PARTNERS LEGISLATION SIGNED INTO LAW... We want full recognition of our relationships. We want a vehicle to register our life commitment to each other, and we want benefits equal to those accorded to heterosexual spouses such as life and health insurance, bereavement leave, and visitation rights. Many California cities have already enacted similar legislation. It's time that San Francisco recognized the legitimacy of Lesbian and Gay relationships.

WE WANT AN END TO VIOLENCE AGAINST LESBIANS AND GAY MEN... There's no excuse for our people having to fear walking on the streets, riding on MUNI, or strolling in the parks. MUNI or the Police Force or both should be shaken up. The next mayor must make it happen.

WE WANT FULL EMPOWERMENT OF LESBIAN AND GAY PEOPLE... We want the new administration to have Lesbians and Gay Men fully integrated into the system at every level of government. We want equal access to the powers that run our city. We want a mayor who listens to us and who helps us achieve our goal, not one who dictates to us.

For many years our community has given its liberal friends the full extent of its support. In return, we must demand their support of us. And when we have a rare chance to elect one of our own to higher office, as in the recent Congressional race, we expect our friends to return the support. As Harvey Milk so often reminded us—we will not be liberated until we ourselves are in positions of power. **When push came to shove, only one candidate for Mayor supported the hopes and dreams of Lesbian and Gay people in our effort to send one of our own to Congress.**

Stonewall has been fighting for Lesbian and Gay Liberation for thirteen years. Nothing comes before that goal. We've never been dictated to by a party machine, a favored politician, or anyone. We don't make deals, we make demands.

In a completely open and democratic process, we evaluated the candidates and their track records. We kept our goals in mind and considered what we want from a mayor. *Only one candidate passed the test.* Supported by a majority of our Executive Board as well as every Club President since 1979, our members overwhelmingly decided that...

WE WANT THE CANDIDATE WHO IS WITH US ON THE ISSUES THAT MATTER:

JOHN MOLINARI FOR MAYOR

Re-elect proven friends of our community

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FOR INFORMATION ON MEMBERSHIP CALL CLUB PRESIDENT WAYNE MOORE 864-6036

PAID FOR BY THE STONEWALL GAY DEMOCRATIC CLUB

ART AGNOS FOR MAYOR

BY KIM CORSARO

This November 3, the gay and lesbian voters of San Francisco are presented with a unique opportunity: we will go to the polls elect the Mayor of San Francisco from a field of candidates who virtually all swear support for our vital concerns. AIDS funding, services and treatments, domestic partners legislation, basic lesbian/gay rights, "women's" issues — among the primary contenders, Roger Boas, John Molinari and Art Agnos, we have three candidates who in recent times have pledged the "community line" of allegiance to the agenda that's been set forth by much of the gay and lesbian political leadership in San Francisco.

Still, two vital questions remain: Who can we best trust to implement our community's agenda over the next four — and probably eight — years? And, of the other issues that face the residents of San Francisco — affordable housing, downtown vs. neighborhood development, economic growth and viability, care of our elderly, poor, and disadvantaged, funding for needed programs, parking — who among the candidates can we truly count on to make the much-needed changes and deliver the most comprehensive services to revitalize San Francisco and lead it into the 1990s as a thriving center that offers a high quality of life for all of its peoples and business?

In examining these issues, *Coming Up!* has looked at the current and past records of the major candidates. After careful consideration, we urge the lesbian and gay communities to cast their votes for Art Agnos for Mayor of San Francisco.

BOAS:

Roger Boas has emerged as a surprisingly strong third runner-up city-wide in the race for Mayor. In the course of the campaign, he's faithfully appeared at lesbian/gay and women's community debates and forums, but appears very much on the fringe of things, mouthing pronouncements he assumes we want to hear. Even then, he often evokes snickers and snorts of disbelief, as at the Lesbian Agenda for Action debate at the Women's Building. There, when asked what his record had been on hiring women in his business, he said, "I've always had women working for me. Recently, I hired a woman to hire someone to manage my business for me." Good show, Rog. You get an A for effort, but have a long way to go to earn the votes of the lesbian/gay community of San Francisco.

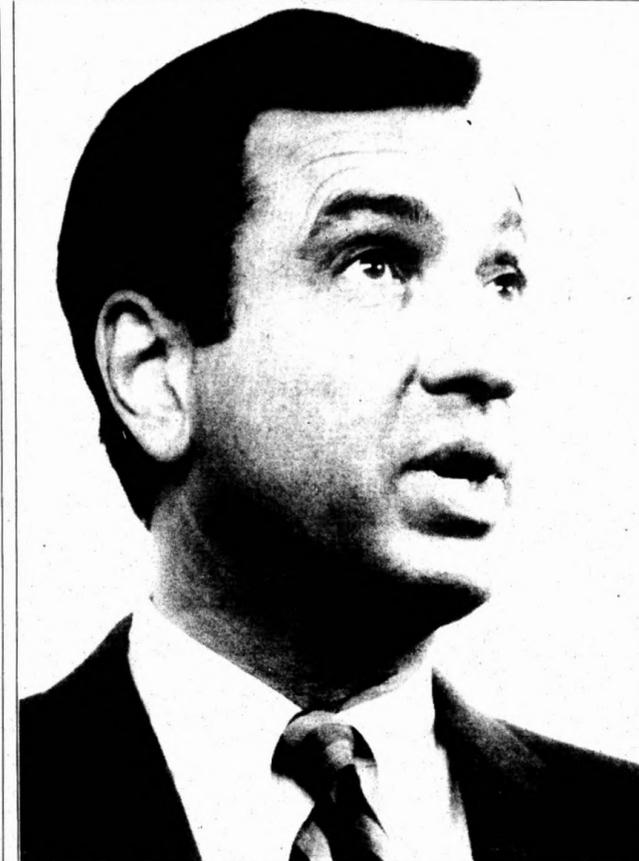
MOLINARI:

John Molinari has served on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors for sixteen years. First elected in 1971 as a hard-line conservative Republican, Molinari has softened considerably since then. In the last few years he has taken a primarily liberal stance on social issues and a moderate-to-conservative approach to just about everything else.

Few politicians enjoy a higher visibility in the gay community than Jack Molinari. He's been generous with his support of our community, hosting countless benefits and fundraisers, and tirelessly appearing at our rallies and events. His high profile has earned him a great deal of support among gay men and some support among lesbians.

More importantly, Molinari's office at City Hall has always been open to community activists for the help they have needed as they've had to deal with one bureaucratic snafu or another. And he's played Best Supporting Actor on a number of key issues — a 1972 ordinance prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation, AIDS funding and lobbying, opposition to Props 6 and 64, and getting monies for community organizations, to name a few.

But can Jack Molinari be counted on as an unflinching ally under trying circumstances? And how trustworthy are his current liberal pronouncements? Three incidents in particular call



his integrity and commitment into question.

In 1984, the San Francisco *Bay Guardian* endorsed Molinari for re-election to the Board of Supervisors. That endorsement surprised a lot of observers, but Molinari promised the *Guardian* crucial support on the Board for a particular anti-development issue. When the issue came before the Board, Molinari switched his vote. Later, the *Guardian* asked Molinari why he broke his promise. His response: "I lied to get your endorsement."

Incident number two: The events surrounding the recent debate over the homeporting of the USS Missouri led *Coming Up!* to question just how far Molinari would be willing to go when San Francisco sentiment runs against the gay/lesbian community. Public opinion polls clearly show that the majority of this City want the battleship here.

Art Agnos raised the question of Navy discrimination against gay men and lesbians at a gay-sponsored candidates' debate this past summer. Even if you call that political opportunism, Molinari's actions in the heat of the ensuing controversy were unconscionable. In the face of widespread gay and lesbian opposition, even among those who support him, Molinari voted for the Memorandum of Understanding, which offered no binding protection against discrimination and paved the way for the Missouri to come anyway.

And then Molinari took it a step further. His campaign produced a direct mailer that was sent only to carefully selected neighborhoods in San Francisco: voters west of Twin Peaks and other relatively conservative neighborhoods got the piece, as did Black neighborhoods, but primarily gay and progressive neighborhoods did not. The flyer accused Agnos of "phony passion, phony issue" and of pitting gays against Blacks. While there has always been an awareness in this City that the Black community by and large favors homeporting and the gay community does not, no one had ever turned it into a Black vs. gay issue before (playing

directly into the hands of racism in the white gay community and homophobia in the straight Black community). And the flyer was a direct slap in the face to the gay men and lesbians who were backing Molinari for Mayor and who had voiced serious concerns about Navy discrimination.

The third incident arose during *Coming Up!*'s endorsement interview with Molinari. In the course of a courteous discussion, *Coming Up!* asked Molinari to explain his position on vacancy control. His immediate response was angry and belligerent: "What do you care about vacancy control?" he challenged. (Not all gay/lesbian voters are property owners, and a few of us have a somewhat difficult time affording to live in this city.) Molinari calmed down a bit, and responded that he opposed vacancy control. He maintained that it wouldn't be necessary if eviction legislation was strengthened, and he said he definitely supported that.

That discussion took place on Friday, September 18. On Monday, September 21, Harry Britt introduced legislation before the Board of Supervisors that closed up some of the loopholes in eviction law. Molinari voted to table the bill.

Once again, was Molinari just "lying to get the endorsement"? Maybe he just didn't want to be on record backing tenants' rights prior to the election. But is this the kind of politician we can genuinely trust to press our concerns when "bigger" interests oppose us?

Since his 1983 conversion to the Democratic Party, Molinari has promised a great deal more action on social concerns than he has delivered. His current list of proposed actions he would take as Mayor reads like a litany of the progressive community agenda. But Molinari has been in a position of power for sixteen years, and had plenty of opportunity to implement major change. He hasn't.

Our gay/lesbian community cuts through the entire social, political, racial and economic

spectrum. But all of us know what it means to be disenfranchised. Now, we need to stick with our friends if we're going to survive. The AIDS epidemic worsens by the minute, and last year's battle against Proposition 64 seems to only be a shadow of what is to come.

Molinari has been there for us in a lot of ways, for a long time, and he's been accessible. In some ways he's contributed considerably more to our community than most other politicians. But Jack Molinari's closest political friends, his closest political allies, have not. Many of them would just as soon we didn't exist. And he owes them plenty.

Some day, there will be a gay or lesbian mayor of this city. In the meantime, we need to support a candidate who has a track record of proactive action and who is primarily accountable to the forces that we can best count on to be on our side when we're under attack.

AGNOS:

Art Agnos fits that description. He has been a consistent, tireless supporter of gay and lesbian rights. He has earned the wrath of the Doolittles, Dannemeyers, and other right-wing bigots of this state who label him the "chief spokesman for the homosexual community."

From his position representing half the city of San Francisco in the California State Legislature, Agnos has accomplished a great deal, garnering international attention for his innovative AIDS programs. Many of the services, treatment availabilities and protections our community has in the midst of the epidemic can be traced to his doorstep. The San Francisco AIDS Foundation (then the AIDS-KS Foundation) was started out of Agnos' office in 1982. Agnos got the first state funding for AIDS education in 1983. PWAs are assured of their right to privacy due to confidentially legislation written by Agnos. Because of Agnos, those of us who are antibody positive cannot be denied insurance or employment. PWAs can have their AZT paid for by Medi-Cal because of Agnos legislation.

Agnos has promoted a host of other progressive issues at the state level as well. Presumably by now every voter has had the opportunity to read all about it in Art's "book" (oh boy, have we). Many of his accomplishments are outlined there.

Beyond Agnos' well-documented record lies the primary reason *Coming Up!* has chosen to endorse him for Mayor of San Francisco: Art Agnos represents the only progressive choice for the gay and lesbian community. Agnos has always been a progressive. We know where he stands. We know that when powerful interests oppose us, Agnos is not likely to desert his commitment to gay and lesbian rights for the political expediency of the moment.

The question is, does our community need a Mayor with an intense sense of social justice, developed from his immigrant roots and honed in his training as a social worker, or do we need a political horse-trader?

It's that overwhelming sense of social justice that's particularly noteworthy in conversation with Agnos. He gets excited about housing for the elderly. He's proud of his AIDS legislation. He matter-of-factly acknowledges that his female co-workers taught him a thing or two about dealing with women when he got out of school ("I was pretty obnoxious."). He brags a bit about bringing a film company to San Francisco. He passionately defends G.A.I.N./workfare (ugh). If you ask him about probable opposition to a program like domestic partners legislation from the Archdiocese, he shrugs, and says, "What about 'em? They should know it's going to benefit them, too." And if they don't? He shrugs again. He argues forcefully for the basic civil rights of just about everybody.

Agnos' schooling in social work cuts two ways, however. He suffers a bit from the social worker mentality — they always know what's best for you. With Agnos, that usually translates to charges of arrogance, and an occasional inability to listen when constituents

(continued on page 11)



Photo by Barbara Maggan

Painting the Town Pink

BY TIM KINGSTON

For one week in October the chant WE ARE EVERYWHERE came to have a very specific meaning; everywhere was Washington, D.C. The nation's capital became the gay capital, not just of the United States, but of the world.

"We are all over town," exulted Mary Dunlap, attorney for the Gay Olympic Games and countless other legal battles for lesbian and gay rights. "Gays, and lesbians, and bisexuals, and friendly people with big smiles, pink triangles and warmth are everywhere, all over the city!" She had a huge grin plastered on her face, and a mischievous glint shone in her eyes as she added in a very special tone, "They can't ignore us. Isn't that nice."

Of course, they did try to ignore us, but with hundreds of thousands of lesbians and gays crowded into the nation's capital, — taking up every available bed, couch, and hotel in the city and surrounding area — ignoring the event proved a little difficult. It was a week of first-overs. Even the worst efforts of Jesse Helms and his ilk could not deny it.

The March was the biggest demonstration to hit Washington — ever. An estimated minimum of half a million to three quarters of a million lesbians, gays, Blacks, Latinos, whites, faggots, dykes, queers, queens, puppies, luppies, leather people, motorcycle maniacs and radical faeries marched and rallied all through the day on October 11. Early that same morning the Names Project quilt unfolded on the Mall in front of the Capitol. So did the grief of thousands. Tuesday, October 13, a civil disobedience action at the Supreme Court broke all records and shut down the entrance to the Supreme Court for the first time in history.

The list goes on: a national conference of Black lesbians and gays, an organizing plenum of AIDS activists, a more official-type Gay Congress, a euphoric mass marriage of 2,500 homosexual couples, an s/m conference that exceeded the organizers' wildest expectations (situated directly across from the National Museum of American History, to the eyebogged amazement of unsuspecting tourists not familiar with the world

of leather and chaps), an official reception at the headquarters of the AFL-CIO that would have been unthinkable five years ago, a memorial for Harvey Milk, another for gay and lesbian war veterans. On top of all that, over seventy-five other events all over Washington.

Organizational and personal links were made that will stand the test of time to strengthen and empower lesbians and gays in all our varieties across the country.

Every airplane, bus and train heading into town was crammed full of activists and March supporters. For many, the March on Washington was their first political act. Even the infamous anti-union and homophobic TWA — everybody's least favorite airline after Northwest Orient — called up the March offices on Friday October 9, begging for an informational table at the airport because they were swamped with inquires about the March.

There were some incidents. The U.S. Park Service did its best to nit-pick and obstruct the March in the finest bureaucratic and homophobic tradition of the Reagan administration. Then there was the Peoples Drugs store (a D.C. equivalent to Walgreen's) wheelchair incident. The company had offered some fifty wheelchairs for the March, but allegedly backed out at the last minute when they found out gays and lesbians would be sitting in them. (Who the hell did they think would be sitting in the wheelchairs, for goddess's sake!!!)

But even those incidents, normally meriting outraged headlines (at least in the gay press), were simply overwhelmed by the enthusiasm and sheer mass of people at the March.

But, then you know all that from your friends, who came back telling tales of the ever-present pink triangles. What the numbers can't tell is the sense of community, and dare I say it, hockey though it may sound, the sense of family felt all over Washington. For one week it really was *our* town.

So I'm gushing. I'm so sorry. But what do you expect when you're in D.C. for the biggest lesbian and gay political event of the century?

After being in town for about five minutes, I started running into familiar faces. I arrived at the Dupont Circle — the nearest thing to gay haven D.C. has — Metro station about 10 p.m. It was packed and looked like the Embarcadero in the morning rush hour. But rush hour people in the city don't normally grin, cheer and giggle as they crowd off the train.

I walked out from the Metro and stopped dead in my tracks. Suddenly I was surrounded by pink triangles everywhere. This was *not* the Washington I remembered from other visits.

Norman Nickens, San Francisco Human Rights Commissioner, practically collided with me, my pack, and assorted hardware, complaining that he wanted to show his lover Washington, before the influx for the March showed up. He was too late; the city was already packed. It was the same everywhere; everybody seemed to be smacking into long lost friends, or less than friends, as one gay man was overheard complaining, "I came all the way from L.A. to get away from him."

Only Georgetown remained the same — residential playground of the nation's powerbrokers — all white, rigid, wealthy and thoroughly revolting. Nothing made the sense of family for this March clearer than my escape from Georgetown; I had been stranded at a very, ever-so-Washington party. After politely excusing myself from the hetero couplings, I escaped to a March benefit at the Onyx. Inside, after being ushered in by D.C.'s version of a CHP officer into discipline, hot sweaty creatures heaved and bopped to less-than-up-to-date music, but danced nonetheless. More fun was had while waiting in line just to get into an overcrowded club than in a whole year in Georgetown. Perhaps you remember our merry little band. We were harassing everyone in the queue for titles so we could play charades.

In many ways, Georgetown is a motif for all the March opposes. Georgetown, where George Bush lives, where Jeanne Kirkpatrick resides, where countless government bureaucrats either play or ply their trade. The March was about anger, peo-

ple marching because they are tired of the lobbying, tired of representatives ignoring homophobia, AIDS bigotry, sodomy laws that criminalize lesbians and gays for daring to exist.

As Pat Norman stated at the Supreme Court civil disobedience, "Every day of our lives, in every part of this world, we commit civil disobedience by loving one another." Former Ronnie fans were not amused either, as Rick Alderman, a person with AIDS from Los Angeles, admitted, "I've always been a Reagan supporter...I just don't like the way things are happening. I think we could use 270 million dollars just as well as Nicaragua can."

Gerry Studds, Massachusetts gay Congressional Representative, asked if he could comment on the Reagan administration's AIDS policy, snapped, "Not politely," and goes off on Ron. "This administration has simply not done its job. On balance, and I choose my words carefully, this administration has been criminally negligent in the field of AIDS. ...They have done absolutely nothing whatsoever in AIDS education. We are behind virtually every nation in Europe, and now we find to our embarrassment we are behind the Soviet Union, which has a grand total of 102 cases. In terms of effort and public education, the fundamental responsibility is to get the information out to every household. This administration is paralyzed by its own ideological considerations and continues to be more embarrassed by the information than by the deaths from AIDS."

David Chickadall, board member of the National Association of People with AIDS and a person with AIDS for five years, put it somewhat less delicately. "Off the record Reagan fucking sucks." He paused. "On the record he fucking sucks, him and his wife, too!!!"

A spirit of defiance and rebellion hummed throughout the week. Lesbians and gays went to Washington angry, reacting to five years of AIDS hysteria and homophobic Supreme Court decisions, but the chemistry of March day changed all that. Somehow, at least 650,000 lesbians, gays and bisexuals showed up in Washington demanding — not asking, but *demanding* — in spite of our obvious differences, our fundamental right to love.

Of course, the media focused on the "flamboyant" and the purely dramatic portrayal of the event as a gay parade — in every sense of the word — but never acknowledged our demands to basic civil rights, freedom from discrimination, freedom of association, freedom to love whom we choose.

The March was an act of defiance, not a parade. Many of us descended on Washington with the hope that our sheer numbers would force the world to finally sit up and take notice. But in the end, it was not the reaction of America watching us on TV that mattered. In a way, that became irrelevant.

What mattered was the massive sense of power and strength that all of us will bring home with us. From the smallest sharing of moments by lesbians and gays who said no to harassment and silenced their antagonists, to the massive throng on the Mall, it was, WE ARE EVERYWHERE!

For love and for life, we are not going back.

QUILTING THE MALL: HONORING THE FALLEN

The day started early, up at 5:30 a.m. A frantic search ensued through the streets of Washington D.C. for that elusive taxi cab that would stop, and even better, that would take you where you actually want to go. Believe me, that was harder than it sounds.

Few could have been ready for the impact of the Names Project and the emotional roller coaster October 11 became.

Morning began cold and chill, with a solid grey overcast sky. People trickled into the Mall around 7 a.m., as final details for the unfolding of the Names Project were attended to. Cleve Jones, founder of the Project, and a

crew of several hundred volunteers, labored from 2 a.m., laying out the white cloth borders around the area where the quilts were to be unfolded, setting up the podium, getting the cherry picker in place.

At first, everything was normal as any other demonstration. A low buzz of activity, volunteers and coordinators flitting around, press contacts shepherding media jackals into the area, setting up interviews and whatnot. But, already something quite different was in the air.

Bundled figures slowly gathered around the edge of the quilt, almost the size of two football fields, silent and cold. A small knot of volunteers stood in the center of the massive rectangle. They looked tiny. The area was broken down into squares with little folded pieces of the quilt sitting forlornly in the center of each.

"It's incredible. So many people," murmured Cleve. "It's been, all of us who have worked on it, have felt that it's been a privilege. We have received so much love and support and wonderful creative energy. It's been a real privilege, an extraordinary group of people, very talented, very loving, very dedicated. We have over 400 volunteers here this morning. But it hurts so much to read those names...." His voice trailed off.

The roll-call began. It would take three hours, at least, for the slow, measured enumeration of the name of each person with AIDS stitched into the quilt to be read. 2,000 names. Each rolled like slow thunder across the Mall. Some voices read strong and resonant, some cracked with tears, with grief. The volunteers danced their slow dance, silently unfolding each section of the quilt, as a flag is unfurled. First the four corners, pull out the next four corners, pull out the corners again, they silently, slowly, reverently hold each quilt, rotate, place it on the ground and tie it in place. Then they do it again, and again, and again.

Everyone was muted, hushed. What little talk there was, passed in low tones, but the area radiated power. Roberta Achtenberg, her voice rough and gravely after reading the names, recounted, "The Jews have a tradition every year. You read the names of the dead. I don't know any of the people whose names I just read. To read someone's name aloud, they live again at least in people's memories. I think the impact of the quilt, in particular the John B's, the Ron O's, who couldn't be identified for whatever reason, these are not nameless faces. They are real people who have loved, who were the mothers and fathers of children from all walks of life."

Some people alone, some in small groups, stood hugging and crying, heads bowed, tears streaming down their faces, as a familiar tag or nickname was heard, or spied laid out on the ground. Everything was colored by the roll-call like an invisible aural enclosure covering the quilt, wrapping everyone in an awareness of loss — and loving. Eventually, something cracked, and you just stood silent, not even knowing whose name you just heard.

The readers came from all races, all walks of life, from suits and ties, to jeans and ratty sweaters. Glen Margo described the ceremony: "There's a lot of grief, unfinished grieving and loss. And power, too. There's a lot of energy here."

It was palpable; you could feel it pressing in. Had to keep moving, had to keep talking. Countless failed interviews began and ended as the tape recorder was turned off, the pencil put down, and the only thing to do was hug the person next to you. But it was too overwhelming. Quick, break off and take a photo.

Then walk alongside the now finished quilt, glance over and look. Suddenly it slammed home. These are more, much more, than names on a quilt. Each quilt is an incarnation of the deepest loving and caring for each person. Some made by a group of friends, some by a lover, a parent, a friend. One quilt lay dedicated to the neighbor upstairs, the man never known, just loved by an unknown person.

From the cherry picker, the view could only be described as awe inspiring. The voiced names were muted three stories up, the brightly-colored patchwork stretched out into the distance, grabbing your eyes along the full 500 feet of the quilt. The view swept up along the mall until your gaze rested on the Capitol, gradually lighting up, pinks and grays

of the early morning sun ushering in the day. It was quiet. The silence was lighter than on the ground.

"I can only believe that anyone who has seen, or participated in, or in any way been exposed to this ceremony here is going to be fundamentally changed," said Gerry Studds. "And if they weren't determined before, they are going to be determined now, and if they were determined before, they are going to be adamant now that we get about the job of caring for those that are ill, and of doing what we damn well know how to do, to minimize the numbers who will fall ill until we conquer this disease. This is just an overwhelming setting. It's beautiful and it speaks for itself. Lots and lots of people... are going to demand that their government act in a reasonable and humane way; and that is not too much to demand of a government."

Later Fifth Congressional District Representative Nancy Pelosi added her voice to the angry chorus: "The listing of names could go on for days if all those who have died were included. It's not like the Vietnam memorial, where at least it is finite, somehow or the other it would end."

"We just have to be completely insistent in terms of getting resources. We'll just have to take education into our own hands and not depend on the White House... look what happened in San Francisco That can happen in the rest of the country."

Among those paying tribute were Cris Williamson, Cesar Chavez and Molly Yard. Yard reiterated the cry for a Manhattan Project on AIDS, saying she could not understand why such an effort had not already begun.

The ceremony was not all grieving and remembrance. It also affirmed, validated and recognized those who died, and the survivors in attendance. California State representative

Art Agnos noted, "The release of this grief serves also to release the strength that is part of the gay community. Nothing in the past has served to paralyze the gay community. All of the oppression, all of the anguish, all of the pain, and neither will this. ...I'm hoping the rest of America can learn and gain from this."

Ultimately, what made the ceremony was not the famous faces, but the people themselves, the living and the dead. Later on in the afternoon, when the quilt was opened to the public and covered with people looking for those they had lost or just looking, there was still a reverence in the air. One can only hope it will have the same effect as it tours the cities of America.

I was supposed to have been a half a hundred other places that morning, but I never did tear myself away. As the names were read, they picked up a little something from everyone present. I could not work out whether I had left something there or brought something with me. Perhaps both. The names echoed that day as if in a giant hall, not of brick and mortar, but made of a sharing and openness among the participants, who soon realized something very unique and special had occurred; something that can be explained to others, but not wholly felt.

As I reluctantly shambled off, a comment in Harvey Fierstein's laryngitis voice stuck in my mind from an alcohol-sodden evening a night or two earlier at a benefit in the French Embassy:

"AIDS is our proudest moment. We took care of our own when no one else would listen. We started research, raised money. Finally, heterosexuals noticed this year, and their first answer was quarantine and testing and all that. I'm very proud not to be straight, and prouder than ever to be gay."



COMING UP! NOVEMBER 1987

HALF A MILLION QUEERS SHOUT IT OUT: FOR LOVE AND FOR LIFE WE'RE NOT GOING BACK

Onward to the March!!! As we trooped over the crest of the hillcock away from the Capitol towards Washington's huge white phal... uh, Monument (that glows dull red orange at night — is that tumescence or just the aircraft warning lights?) I felt the air lighten, and become cheerier, triumphant. Glancing up after an interview, I looked towards the ellipse park and saw thousands of lesbians and gay men spilling into the President's backyard behind the White House.

The sight was overwhelming, everyone covered in buttons, badges and T-shirts, flaunting it and screaming it: "I'm gay, I'm lesbian, and I'm proud of it." Pat Norman, National Co-Chair, summed it up: "It's incredible! We are beautiful! And we are gonna do it!"

The scene looked more like a fairground than a march assembly point. Bright banners from every state of the union fluttered, booths ranging from gay health food (???) to lesbian leatherettes and the s/m contingent were there, alongside marching bands, and every political agenda under the sun. I wandered in a daze through Michigan, Delaware, Texas (with a big ol' state flag and even some real stetsons).

Just in case "it" had slipped your mind, the seven premier demands of the march were, count 'em: (1) The passage of a congressional lesbian and gay civil rights bill; (2) An end to AIDS/ARC-based discrimination and a

massive diversion of federal moneys away from arms expenditure to AIDS education, patient care and research; (3) Repeal of all sodomy laws; (4) A presidential order banning anti-gay discrimination in the federal government; (5) Legal recognition of lesbian and gay relationships; (6) Women's right to control their bodies and the passage of the ERA; and (7) A call to end racism at home and apartheid in South Africa. That's why we were there.

"I think it's great," grinned Drew Siegel, San Francisco march office coordinator. "We got the people, we got the excitement. I'm here with my own. This is what I have waited for all my life. We should keep Washington D.C. this way — the gay capital of the world."

All I wanted to do was sit on the grass and rest. I did, and the bouncy lesbians from the game of charades the night before appeared out of nowhere. Oh, please, I groaned, but the glee is infectious.

After much tromping around, I finally located the San Francisco contingent, spread out like an amoeba with no particular arrangement or form, and caught up on the news from home.

Bob Monk, one city denizen, declared, "All I know is that I spoke to my lover a couple of days ago, and he said Castro Street is deserted, and there were only five people in the gym."

Estimates of those in the California contingent varied wildly from 10,000 to 50,000. All I know for sure is a lot of us showed up in D.C.

The loudspeakers abruptly blared into life like some final airport boarding call to announce the departure of the march. OK, fine, but where was the beginning? People were all over the place heading in different directions! Finally, we were off, all in roughly the same direction.

Onlookers and well-wishers stood three deep along the sidewalk, clapping, cheering and hollering, "WE LOVE YOU!" At the head of the March, carrying the National March On Washington banner were a solid phalanx of lesbian and gay leaders. Loren Loreano from

Texas, Morris Kight from Los Angeles, Ginny Apuzzo from New York, Pat Norman from San Francisco, Nicole Ramirez Murray from San Diego, Harvey Fierstein from New York, Karen Thompson from Minnesota among others. Next to the March banner, actor Whoopi Goldberg pushed Jim Manness, former co-manager of the Valencia Rose, in his wheelchair for the length of the march.

The real leaders followed the political leaders and famous names. Across the width of Pennsylvania Avenue rolled a battalion of twenty or thirty people with AIDS in wheelchairs, pushed by friends, designated buddies and other people with AIDS. Banners and pennants from the National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA), National AIDS Network, and the People With AIDS coalition floated proudly. Nestled amongst the larger banners was a purple and white placard that simply stated, "Thank God I'm Gay."

At the White House, the wheelchair brigade pulled up in a semicircle. They pointed their fingers and addressed the President: "Shame! Shame! Shame!"

For some People With AIDS, just to march was a heroic act. Given their state of health it was a risk to their lives, but as David Chickadell said, "This is better than any medicine I have been on, and I've had AIDS for five years."

Kevin McGeehee, a PWA from Sacramento, spoke for thousands of lesbians and gays and people with AIDS as he explained why he showed up, "I'm on the march to be proud to affirm who I am, to be with my people. I hope there will be an effect from this to the people of this nation, to let people know that we are everywhere; and we are not going to hide anymore."

The christian terrorists were out too, all eight of 'em, shouting familiar epithets, well protected by the police. The march quickly disposed of the "fundies" with a "2-4-6-8, We don't need your christian hate!"

The march stopped briefly as it turned the corner onto Pennsylvania Avenue, then surged down the street to the Capitol: "Come on, come on, get on over, we've got the whole street!" And we did. Rank upon rank of marching lesbians and gays packed the street,

chanting and yelling, "Gay Rights, When Do We Want Them? NOW! Fight Back! Fight AIDS!" and even singing "America the Beautiful," with a special emphasis on, "above the fruited plain."

A hundred little vignettes were played out along the march. A tiny contingent from Idaho chanted, "I-D-A-H-O-M-O, Idaho! Yeah!" Lani Kahaamanu from San Francisco had the temerity to call out "San Francisco" just as the Missouri contingent went by (remember, something about baseball that weekend?). The entire contingent turned on her and red of face hollered, "ST. LOUIS!"

The march had poignant moments, too. I glanced over to the side where a man cheered the parade. Next to him sat an empty chair with a placard bearing the name of his dead lover.

The contrast between the Los Angeles and San Francisco contingents clearly symbolized the difference in attitude between the two cities. Los Angeles had a massive banner, bigger than most others in the parade, and all the marchers, if not similarly attired, at least displayed a similar sartorial attitude.

The same could not be said for San Francisco. A motley collection of happy factions ranged in attire from crucified jeans to pinstripe suits. Mayoral candidate and State Assemblyperson Art Agnos sauntered along somewhere towards the rear of San Francisco's little troupe, heading towards the mall.

THE MALL GETS MOBBED

Eleanor Smeal, former President of NOW, had the proud honor of giving the assembled thousands the good news. "I wish you could see the sight that I see. Feel the power of this moment and carry the message to the Capitol that we will have full human rights, civil rights for lesbians and gay people. And we will not be denied. I want you to savor this moment. The official count is over 500,000 people. 500,000 people. Look at you! One of the largest marches in U.S. history." It took the March five hours to pour into the mall.

"This," declared Nicole Ramirez Murray a member of the steering committee (and Republican!), "is the biggest damn family reunion I have ever been to!"



Steve Ault, one of three National Co-Chairs, called the official U.S. Park Service estimate of 200,000 "deliberate political sabotage." Other March organizers overheard Park Services officers estimating a crowd size of at least 600,000, but they were only permitted to place the official estimate at 200,000.

As I tromped into the mall, Elizabeth Smith, Black writer and activist, urged the lesbian and gay movement to put its own house in order and deal with racism within the movement. Addressing the issue of speakers at the rally, she explained, "There's a lot of frustration in always being a token. It is a tough role to play. It's impossible for me to speak for all people of color, but I can honor all of us; Native Americans, Asian Americans, Latinos, Palestinians, Africans, and many more lesbians and gay men of color... Today we have left an indelible mark on history."

Entertainment was laid on by a grooving Sister Boom, a melodic *Sweet Honey and the Rock*, and the same old Holly Near. Then again, what other political event would have inspired Lea Delaria to declare that she is tired of the word lesbian: "It always seemed so ugly. I like *muff-diver*! I think we should have called it the National Gay and Muff-Diver March on Washington!"

The keynote speaker was, of course, Jesse Jackson. Many had mixed feelings about a straight political leader taking the premier spot on the program, but Jesse delivered. More important than his speech were the circumstances surrounding his address. Forgive me for saying so, but it is a rather unique American politician who is willing to make the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights the first stop on his agenda the day after he throws his hat in the ring for the presidency.

No doubt Jackson saw the possibility of a sure half million votes, and possibly many more. Or, as Jackson put it, "Today I stand with you. At election time you stand with me." At least the man is honest about his ambition.

Critics have complained that Jackson's subject matter in his speech was too broad, that it fit an election campaign and insufficiently addressed the particular needs of lesbians and gays. That did not seem to be his intention. Instead, he gave the rainbow speech in an attempt to draw people in, not single them out.

Jackson called for an end to violence against minorities, women, lesbians and gay men. He urged a focus on "the common ground, the ties that bind us" and included in his definition economic violence, runaway plants and capital flight. "Nothing is wrong with the American worker; something is wrong with the formula."

"Let's come together and state the case as we the people," Jackson urged the crowd, "the displaced steel worker, or textile worker, black, brown, gays and lesbians. Those who are displaced must have the sense to turn to one another when the lights go out. You cannot use race, religion, or sexual preference. All people take on amazing similarities in the dark. Let's turn on the light of justice."

But his loudest and most vehement response from the gathered marchers came as he stated, "Let's fight this killer disease." The crowd had been waiting, waiting for just such a speaker to say it right, to say what they were thinking and wanting to hear.

"AIDS is an international medical crisis. AIDS cannot be naturalized. AIDS cannot be

moralized. We must end the virus. Stop death. Give life a chance." The call and response shook the air as the crowd's fists and clapping hands punched the sky in rank upon rank of reply. Jackson roared out, "GIVE LIFE A CHANCE!" The below the crowd let loose must have rattled the White House windows.

The piece de resistance of Jackson's appearance took everyone off guard, including his own security. He suddenly sprinted from his car to the People With AIDS enclosure immediately in front of the stage, shaking hands, giving bearhugs and exchanging a few brief words. Pressing the flesh it was, but how many politicians would even think of personally reaching out to people with AIDS? Jackson moved down the line to the delight of the front row.

If anything was typical of the march, it was the mix of emotions, laughter, tears, anger, sometimes by themselves, sometimes all mixed together. Reagan bashing was a sport not entirely unattended by the other speakers. Virginia Apuzzo tore in with particular gusto commenting, "Beginning today we want to deliver one simple message to the Reagan administration — it has to be simple." She continued, "No more delays on AIDS treatments. Equal justice for lesbians and gay men. How many must die before this administration will wake up?" Apuzzo angrily pointed out that in 22 states of the union, the Supreme Court decided lesbians and gays have no right to privacy. "We will sit at the tables as equals. We are nobody's dirty little secret anymore."

OUT AND OUTRAGED: SUPREME COURT BESIEGED

Christ! It was another early morning wake-up. Why can't they have these protests at a more humane hour? I thought I had it bad until my cab was flagged down by a distraught individual (none of this taxi all to yourself in D.C.; you share with whoever hops in!) wrapped in a blanket leaping up and down in the middle of the road, nearly crying with frustration. It was a fellow San Franciscan, one of the legal coordinators who should have been at the Supreme Court about an hour ago. Turns out she spent the hour trying to hail a cab with only jeans, jean jacket and the blanket to keep her warm. She clambered in, teeth chattering.

THE FACTS: 840 arrests, the biggest ever Civil Disobedience action (CD) at the United States Supreme Court. About 4,000 to 5,000 attended the rally. The action took all day, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nine or ten waves of arrestees hit the Court: police only allowed fifteen or so arrestees through the line at any one time. For the first time in history, a demonstration shut down the plaza and the main entrance to the Supreme Court during business hours.

About 12 busloads of prisoners were taken to jail. Some of the prisoners were released on \$100 bail, but processing took hours. At 3 a.m.

there were still 80 people in jail.

Many refused to cooperate with the authorities and gave their names as Michael Hardwick, Karen Thompson and Harvey Milk.

Virtually every single arresting officer wore plastic gloves, but the police line separating protesters from the sidewalk and the plaza, with one or two exceptions did not.

THE ACTION: It was only 8 a.m. but thousands had already arrived. The previous night, over 750 had pledged to get arrested.

It was bitterly cold in the shade, with a brittle sun trying to drag itself above the horizon. The jostling and aimless wanderings of the crowd soon coalesced into affinity groups, huddling, preparing for the action. Food, coffee (yeah!) and orange juice were laid out, but many were too excited to eat.

Protesters came from all over the country to participate. Much of the organization for the CD was arranged by women from the Seneca peace camp, and others with extensive experience in the peace and anti-nuclear movements. "I'm lesbian, I'm gay and I'm going to fight for my rights," said Bissy Craig, who came down from Boston to take part in the Tuesday action. "I think CD takes it one step further: I am so alienated by this legal system, that I have to show you how little respect I have for a system that makes me an undiscovered criminal."

Across the street, the helmeted police were flexing their batons. They lined up single file across the lip of the steps of the Supreme Court Plaza. The blue uniformed city cops were backed up by court enforcement officers in dove grey uniforms and a detachment of black-suited *badges* and *numberless* Capitol hill riot squad cops, who quickly got dubbed "The Darth Vader's." The "Vaders" did not laugh at their nickname. They did not laugh at anything. They probably kick small dogs and children in their spare time.

The plaza was slashed by a line of solid blue uniforms and POLICE LINE: Do Not Cross barricades. The Court loomed over the police and Plaza, cold and sterile.

On our side of the street, things were

anything but cold and sterile. David Almen, a board member of the National AIDS Network and person with AIDS, bubbled with excitement, "We're bringing lots of people together.... We will not be pushed around and treated as second class citizens any longer. The crowd is very up, and we are ready to go!"

Organization was tight, and extensive medical care was available for PWAs, as were a sizable legal team and numerous legal observers. The air was charged. Once more, the feeling was unique to the day, a sense of readiness and anticipation tinged with nerves. I asked one legal observer if she thought the police would get the numbers right this time. She looked startled, "No, they never do. They never do."

Banners from all over the country were unfurled in the cold early morning light. God, it was cold. I couldn't tell if it was excitement or the temperature that made my fingers tremble. The Harvey Milk Memorial pennant unfolded depicting a burning squad car and the slogan, "It's Right To Rebel." Wonder what the local cops thought of that?

"I think this is probably the most important event of the decade," declared Irwin Keller, a leading light in Chicago's lesbian and gay community. "Our movement has been shut upon so much... that there are no other choices but to join together and fight these oppressive forces. The primary demand that I have is that all sodomy laws be repealed. That the right of privacy of gay and lesbian people be enforced and recognized by the judiciary of this country."

Press conference time. Pat Norman kicked the day off posing a question to the media, and to the rest of America: "May I ask how heterosexuals would feel if today we demanded that they change into homosexuals?" Whoops and cheers from the crowd, a stony silence from the gentlemen and women of the press. Norman continued in a pattern repeated throughout the day, recapturing classic American texts as our own. "If by sheer force of numbers, a majority should deprive a minority of any constitutional right, it might



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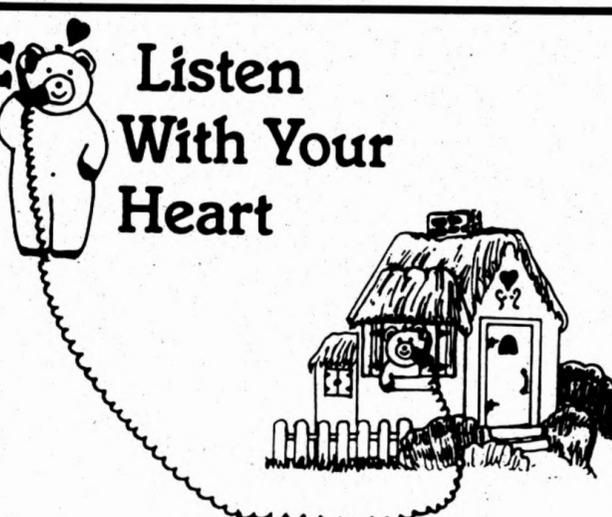
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 and say YES!

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in a moral view justify a revolution. It certainly would, if such a right were a vital one. That," declared Norman, "was said by Abraham Lincoln."

"Today we are sitting in at the lunch counters of the gay and lesbian civil rights movement!" asserted an exuberant Karen Beetle, a CD organizer groomed in the anti-intervention movement. "We choose non-violence because our enemy is not the Supreme Court, but discrimination. Not the Justices but injustice. We seek to challenge the members of the Supreme Court, the employees who work there, those we meet today, to hear the truth of our demands. We ask with the knowledge that the Hardwick decision—like the Supreme Court decision to uphold slavery and segregation — (that) this, too, will be history."

As if at a hidden signal, the first wave got up and headed towards the court. The police had prepared a central corridor where the arrestees were supposed to walk up and be arrested in an orderly fashion (ah, well, the best laid police plans). The entire sidewalk facing the Court was abruptly packed with supporters shouting, "Gay Rights Now, Gay Rights Now — It's Written Up There On The Wall, Equal Justice For All!"

All hell broke loose as the protesters surged across the street, bringing traffic to a standstill. The first wave of protesters belted up the steps. The crowd shouted, "Go-Go-Go-Go!" The demonstrators ran smack up against the police line, arms and legs were flying. The police line parted slightly, a few activists tried to force their way through. The next wave of lesbians and people with AIDS was already in the street, and halfway up the stairs. Pandemonium reigned.

Attempts were made by the police try to separate media, protesters, and supporters; "Get off those steps! I want everyone off the steps!" So where were we supposed to go, up? "We Are Everywhere! We Are Everywhere!" chanted the exultant mob. The entire two hundred-odd feet of steps rapidly filled with jostling demonstrators, determined to get up the steps and through the police. And this was only the first two waves!

The first few get through. On the plaza, the arrestees sat down and were read their rights by police wearing plastic gloves. Some went quietly and were escorted to the buses, others went limp and got dragged or carried on board. Mark Givissor, a New Yorker, snuck round the side of the Court house and witnessed police tearing off the plastic gloves used to arrest demonstrators, and flinging them aside like deadly snakes. Other officers spat either in disgust, or fear, as if they had been holding their breath around the people with AIDS. When will they learn? Did they get any AIDS awareness training?

The crowd chanted to the police, "Ten per cent of you are gay! Equal rights for gay cops!"

Someone yelled above the din "This Court Is Illegal. Shut It Down!" The refrain was taken up by the crowd.

The police called in reinforcements. With a surge from the police, bodies went tumbling down the steps. Batons jabbed into the backs of protesters. Police took the wooden barricades and used them as battering rams. The front row on the steps yelled, "Sit down." Everyone did, and all hope the police ever had of clearing the steps disappeared. Over the melee, the Supreme Court stood impassive, Equal Justice Under The Law chiseled in the stone portico.

Lots of people were wearing yellow rubber gloves, some with garish red nail polish, mocking the police. Chants raced among the crowd, born and died like twisters. But others became a rambunctious refrain. "We're Here Because We're Queer! We're Here Because We're Queer!! WE'RE HERE BECAUSE WE'RE QUEER!!!"

"AZT AZT, anyone need their medication?" Some few hands go up in the Names Project section of the steps. The chant, "People with AIDS, Fighting for Our Lives," came starkly to life. Some of the police officers' faces went taut and scared. They were probably terrified. Again, I wondered what kind of AIDS awareness training they got.

There was a commotion on the other side of the street. Was that "When the Saints Go Marching In"? Not quite. The Seneca Peace Camp women and other assorted lesbians were singing at the top of their lungs, "When the Dykes

go marching in, I want to be in that number when the Dykes go marching in!" It occurred to me that Washington hadn't ever seen anything like this.

One cop on the line made the mistake of putting his plastic gloves on in front of the crowd. A barrage of "Ignorant, Ignorant!" flew out. The cop looked defiant, then petulant, like a small child caught doing something naughty. The crowd chanted the now classic, "Your Gloves Don't Match Your Shoes, You'll See It On The News." A trace of a smile lingered on the faces of some of the police. The same could not be said of their reaction to, "2-4-6-8, How do you know your wife is straight?"

Something of the chanting must have had some effect. Later on in the day, the cop who donned his gloves in front of the crowd surreptitiously removed them and stuffed them in his pocket. Score one for AIDS education?

Protesters tried to break through the police line at any one of a dozen points. Down the far end of the steps one cop lost it, ripped off his badge and proceeded to whale on a woman trying to get through the line. The crowd yelled, "No violence, put the batons down!" and got the cop's number.

A second or third wave of women broke through, scattering little pink and black triangles in the air like snow. (The Nazis had forced lesbians and prostitutes to wear black triangles as female "sex criminals.")

"I'm Becky Konicacan, and I'm working against patriarchy!" We looked at each other, then dissolved into helpless giggles at the ambitious statement. Then she yelled, "It's really hard to get arrested in D.C.!" and we collapsed in hysterics. "There's a waiting line to be arrested, be patient please," mocked another woman. It was that kind of demo.

New breaks in the police line were forced as soon as another was closed. Despite the high energy, there was surprisingly little violence from the police. The Seneca and LIPS (Lesbians Insisting on Privacy from Sacramento) women tossed blue balls of yarn back and forth making a spider's web, which made single isolated arrests impossible.

"Peace in love, peace in the streets, for peace and love you gotta hit the fucking beat!!!" sang the women.

The crowd screamed and cheered whenever people tried to get through. An attempt to sing "This Land is Your Land" disintegrated into the general tumult as the ACTUP crew arrived. Dozens of cute young boys in their near trademark SILENCE = DEATH t-shirts yelled, "ACT UP! FIGHT BACK! FIGHT AIDS!" and "PEOPLE WITH AIDS OUT AND OUTRAGED!"

More arrests. "The whole world is watching" (it probably was, too). The mood all day was incredible. This wasn't reaction. It was power, alive and kicking hard.

It was infectious. The temptation was awfully strong to try to push through the police line. One dogged woman did, and unexpectedly made it. She got up on the other side with a "How did I get here?" look on her face.

By afternoon, fatigue took its toll. The chant of choice became, "We're Tired, We're Bored, We Want to go to Jail." Open smiles broke out on the cops' faces.

The crowd briefly revived when Michael Hardwick, who looked more like a flax-haired surfer boy from Los Angeles than a Supreme Court challenger, went through to be arrested. The crowd chanted Who is Michael Hardwick? WE ARE! Who is Sharon Kowalski? WE ARE!

The last arrestees were hauled off in the buses, but no one wanted to go. No one wanted to break the magic of the day. We even sang those awful songs that usually sound so tired — "We Shall Overcome" "We Are a Gentle Angry People" — and it felt right. No one wanted to go back to "reality."

A group of very P.C. looking women captured the spirit of the day with a song:

CHORUS:
 My body's nobody's body but mine.
 You run your own body, let me run mine.

My body's all mine this very minute.
 How dare you tell me what I can put in it.
 (Chorus)

Nothing is finer than skin against skin.
 Only a pervert would call it a sin.
 (Chorus)

Cranston Betrayal

BY TIM KINGSTON

Helms will be offering all sorts of unpleasant, obnoxious, and inappropriate amendments either to the Kennedy, Weicker, Cranston bill or to the Health and Human Services appropriations bill...and I will be one of those who will lead the battle against those improper amendments, and I have committed to taking up the lead on at least two of them.

Senator Alan Cranston, October 9 before a special briefing session for lesbian and gay lobbyists from the March on Washington.

"I do not think we should discriminate against those with different lifestyles."
Q: Is it more important to save lives or not offend people?

A: "Obviously to save people's lives, but I don't know that it is necessarily required that a choice be made. It seems to me that it's possible to save lives without offending people."

Senator Pete Wilson, October 9 at a special briefing for lesbian and gay constituents from the March on Washington.

Both Senators Alan Cranston and Pete Wilson voted for Jesse Helms' amendment to the Health and Human Services Appropriations bill that will cut all funding for AIDS services organizations that "promote or encourage" homosexuality. The bill was passed 94-2 by the Senate on October 14. Helms offered his amendment the day after the protest at the Supreme Court, and referred to the March for Lesbian/Gay Rights as a "disheartening spectacle."

The next day, the House voted 368 to 47 for the same measure at the urging of Representative William Dannemeyer. Virtually the entire Bay Area House delegation opposed it. The deepest outrage was directed at Cranston, who up till now has portrayed himself as a friend of the gay community.

"We were sold down the river by our friends on this one," declared Roberto Estevez of the Alice B. Tolkas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club at an angry meeting in Cranston's San Francisco offices on October 27.

"Cranston crumpled to the Helms amendment," said an outraged John Belskus of Citizens for Medical Justice. "Worse is going

Agnos...

(continued from page 5)

oppose his proposals. It's also a mark of the passion with which he defends his positions on issues: Agnos does his homework, he makes up his mind, and he decides that he's right.

That means that we have to be sure that our community is in on Agnos' decision-making process on the ground level. Agnos has received some criticism in the gay community for not being as openly accessible as many feel he could be. He could stand to open up the process a bit.

One of the encouraging signs in this election has been the emergence of all of the candidates' recognition that lesbians are a force to be reckoned with in San Francisco. While Agnos admits he hasn't had much input from lesbians in the past, he pledges to incorporate more into his staff in the future. (All the candidates pledge this. But no candidate's political outlook corresponds so closely to the lesbian community's as does Art Agnos.)

Art Agnos represents change, growth and enfranchisement for all the people of San Francisco. He represents the possibility for rebirth of a progressive coalition silenced by Dan White's bullets in 1978.

The gay and lesbian community is looking at some pretty terrifying times ahead. We need to be absolutely certain that the candidate who is elected can be trusted to stand by us as the backlash against the gay community grows in the face of AIDS.

At the same time, we could experience an exciting period of social change, and finally see the implementation of some major items on our agenda with Agnos as Mayor.

This election gives us a clear choice. We need change. We need trustworthy allies. We need to move forward with a progressive agenda for the gay/lesbian community and the City of San Francisco. We can move much more quickly and easily if we elect Art Agnos the next Mayor of San Francisco.

to follow if you don't stop Helms here; you are only going to give him a taste for more, and that is exactly what Cranston did."

Twenty incensed lesbian and gay activists and politicians jammed into Cranston's office to hear two unhappy Cranston aides try to explain the tortured logic of Cranston's support for the Helms amendment.

Cranston claims he supported the bill because he doesn't believe the federal government should "advocate sexual activity of any kind." In a letter to the conference committee, Cranston says he believes the Helms amendment fosters government neutrality because it does not "promote or encourage" homosexuality. That letter also requests that the joint conferees either (preferably) drop the Helms amendment altogether or have the bill "clarified" so that it does not threaten the funding of lesbian and gay AIDS outreach organizations, but the fact remains he voted for the Helms amendment.

Activist Ilene Hansen says the issue of government neutrality is a smokescreen to justify Cranston's caving in to Helms. She says the Gay Men's Health Crisis's safe sex comic, brandished by Helms to justify his venomous measure "did not advocate anything. It accepted a pure simple fact that gay men are going to have sex...and we need to educate people how to have safe sex. Or are we telling them that we don't care if they die? I'm just amazed that we are here a second time in six months

saying, 'You have blown it again. What's wrong with you?' " (Cranston recently voted for an imposed mandatory AIDS antibody testing on immigrants.)

The original Helms amendment was broader, including IV drug users and those

engaging in pre- or extra-marital sex.

"The drug people were in there; they were taken out. The people who had heterosexual sex after and before marriage were taken out," said Estevez. "The only people left were the true scapegoats of society: the homosexuals."

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Larry Littlejohn has been a gay activist for 23 years. He is a former president of the Society for Individual Rights, a founder of the Pride Foundation, the originator of the Community Thrift Store, and is currently Board Secretary for the Gay Rescue Mission.



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Letters...

aimed towards job opportunities for the gay community, I agreed. Unfortunately, I am at fault in not knowing the nature of the particular establishment selected for this presentation. Had I known, I would have scheduled the panel for a different establishment." Hennessey went on to say: "It seems that I do one or two spectacularly stupid things each year and this was one of the most spectacular and most stupid."

I am offering an opportunity for voters to vote NO on Hennessey at the November 3rd election. I am on the ballot as a candidate for sheriff. If elected, I pledge to resign. This will allow the new mayor to recruit from the top talent in law enforcement and corrections and to appoint an outstanding professional as our next sheriff.

Larry Littlejohn
San Francisco

For Proposition C

We, members of the Community Advisory Board to SF General Hospital Psychiatric Services, urge your readers to vote for Proposition C on the November ballot. This proposition will provide financing of the \$26,000,000 to construct a Mental Health Skilled Nursing Facility of 185 beds on the grounds of SFGH.

San Francisco does not now have its own subacute facility of this kind; patients needing this level of care are sent to other counties—sometimes as far away as Los Angeles. The public and personal costs of this are excessive.

Excessive public costs result from ambulance and staff trips back and forth to distant facilities, overuse of expensive acute hospital services when no subacute beds can be purchased, and longer than necessary stays by clients in subacute facilities due to the difficulties of evaluating and moving patients when they are far away from local services.

Personal costs are horrendous. Patients are isolated from friends and families and are thus deprived of loving support crucial to recovery. Often it is difficult or near impossible to monitor the quality of care—remember the sexual exploitation, illegal trafficking in drugs, and malnutrition at the El Dorado facility in Santa Clara County!

Our City needs a mental health skilled nursing facility at SF General Hospital. This facility will reduce wasteful spending; friends and family will be able to visit those who are ill; older adolescents will have a place to be cared for other than the State Hospital.

A lot of mentally ill people would not be begging on the streets and lying in doorways if needed treatment and rehabilitation had been available. This facility will help some of them but more important, it will help the next generation. It will help people find the support they need to "make it."

Hilda Bernstein & other members of the Community Advisory Board to SF General Psychiatric Services

Losing Britt to Other Interests

Yesterday, Tuesday, October 13, 1987, I attended the hearing in the Board of Supervisors chambers on the issue of tightening up rent control and dealing with vacancy control. The place was packed with Landlords while most of us tenants were unable to gain access to the chambers. I was one of the more fortunate (or perhaps unfortunate) tenants to get into the hearing. It has become apparent that there are some supervisors who are, for reasons that may be all too apparent, stonewalling on this issue. It has once again been delayed to another date in the future.

I have heard rumors that Supervisor Harry

Britt is one of those forces who is deliberately stonewalling (out of the deepest respect for what Stonewall means to me, I wish I could think of another word for 'obstruct'), but not to detract from my point, Harry seems to be following the lead of his candidate, Jack Molinari. We saw it with his stand on the USS Missouri, and now we have his statement on rent/vacancy control. I hope that I am wrong, but I believe that we are losing Harry to other interests. We may well have already lost him. If Harvey Milk were alive today, he would be our candidate running against Harry Britt. I am sorry, Harry. I have supported you throughout the duration of your office. I worked for your congressional campaign. I pained when Pelosi won. I pain worse today as a tenant, as a person with AIDS, as a community activist, when I see you dragging your heels on issues of vital concern to the gay and lesbian community and our city at large. 500,000 of us gathered in Washington DC to make a statement, Harry. Stop listening to those other interests and refocus on our community and city again, before it is too late.

There are some very dynamic gay and lesbian candidates out there, people of color, women, people able to give us the leadership and the pride that we are truly about. Don't let Jack pull you down, Harry. Maybe we can still be friends.

Richard P. Bornstein
UCSF/AIDS Support Group
San Francisco

Full-Page Lies

The October issue of *Coming Up!* contains a full-page ad against Prop. T (Public Property Voting Rights). Saying we cannot afford Proposition T, the ad creates the impression that Prop. T is "just another effort by those who want to see San Francisco become a preserve of the wealthy."

Curiously, the ad is signed by "San Franciscans Against Proposition T." Guess where their address is? Turns out to be "One Jackson Street." In other words, this group is rich corporation executives who sit in the city's plush high-rise offices and write large checks to community papers like *Coming Up!* to buy full page ads to present the viewpoint of none other than the city's biggest businesses.

We wish we could also buy full-page ads in *Coming Up!*, partly because you need and deserve it, and partly because it's only fair that the lies of the Chamber of Commerce be exposed. But, far from being the conspiracy of wealthy people that these wealthy people claim we are, we're actually very poor; we can't afford even tiny ads.

But don't take my word for it. Come to our office and see for yourself. It's just a short walk away. We're not located way downtown among the ruling class. We're located in poorfolks country, at 3004 16th St (rm 304), at the corner of Mission.

GRASSROOTS/Election Action is the same multi-issue petitioners' co-op that also put Prop. U (Nuclear Free Zone) and Prop. V (Apartheid Consumer Boycott) on the November ballot (and also helped the District Elections and Minimum Fire Protection initiatives gather signatures). We are composed exclusively of poor people. Not that we discriminate; it's just that even middle-class people aren't willing to work for our poverty-level wages.

Since anyone can verify that we are a poor people's campaign, you might wonder why we "want to see San Francisco become a preserve of the wealthy." Good question. Shocking as it may seem, it turns out that the rich are simply lying to us about this.

Here's the truth. Prop. T is a protest against the undisputed fact that the Rockefeller-led Embarcadero Center developers "donated" over

\$100,000 to local politicians, including every one of the Supervisors, led by Molinari (\$17,250).

Why? The *Examiner* asked the Embarcadero Center's lobbyist, David Nelson. "No question I do get some extra access (for contributions)," he admitted, and "no question" about it; it's true.

To make it worth their while, it must have been access worth more than \$100,000 to them, and anyone can see that it's not a coincidence that the Supervisors (all but Hongisto) voted recently to give the Embarcadero-fellers millions of dollars worth of development rights, for free. We're speaking of the land use rights for the Commercial St. Mall. This was worth many millions to the Embarcadero-fellers, in terms of increased value to their luxury hotel, etc., which they're building next to the site. *The supervisors never asked the developers if they would be willing to pay even a penny for these rights!*

For verification of the above facts, stroll over to the library and check out the *Examiner/Chronicle* for Sunday, 3/29/87. As far as we know, no person has disputed any of these facts (although the folks involved insist there was no cause-and-effect).

What the Supervisors did is much the same as what Ollie North got in so much hot water over. They sold public property, but instead of putting the money into the public treasury, they kept it for their own (campaign) purposes. Some of that money, presumably, went to pay for the *Coming Up!* ad.

Prop. T calls for revoking the Commercial St. land-use rights "until the beneficiaries have paid a reasonable amount," and it would "prevent similar abuses in the future by increasing the public's right to vote on transfers of publicly-owned property to private interests." Those are exact quotes from Prop. T; by contrast, the full-page-liars don't quote a single word from Prop. T.

Prop. T is not against affordable housing. It in no way restricts giving (or selling-below-value) public land to other public agencies, non-profit housing, co-ops, etc. It only applies to transfers "to private interests." And even there, it only requires voter approval. The rich and famous are lying to us (again).

Pebbles Trippet
GRASSROOTS/Election Action

Britt & Molinari

Harry Britt's letter in a paid advertisement for John Molinari's mayoral ambitions graphically illustrates the odd adage "politics make odd bedcompanions."

Harry Britt, heretofore a bona-fide liberal of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt tradition is urging gay voters of San Francisco in his October 9th *Sentinel* advertisement to reject progressive Rooseveltian Art Agnos for John Molinari, a conservative Republican camouflaged as a Democrat.

Britt's campaign letter in the *Sentinel* illustrates anew the colossal distortion of the political past in San Francisco which stems from the mythification of the political career of Harvey Milk.

Milk was a maverick. His wise insight was that a sufficiently large number of politically sophisticated gay men and gay women had relocated to San Francisco from hometowns elsewhere to warrant a gay person, hopefully himself, to seek election to the Board of Supervisors instead of backing exclusively heterophile politicians who were political liberals.

As it turned out, Milk was initially too optimistic because the reality was that only the adoption of district elections of supervisors would set up the conditions necessary to elect an openly gay supervisor. This joyful event finally became a reality in November 1977.

With Milk's solo performances in San Fran-

cisco politics and his political background as a converted liberal from Goldwater Republicanism, is there any real surprise that the bona-fide liberal Burton machine had rejected him in 1976 as an acceptable Democratic Party candidate for the California Assembly?

The Burton machine, quite logically from its point of view, had backed Art Agnos over Harvey Milk.

Unlike Harry Britt in his political Molinari campaign advertisement in the *Sentinel*, truly progressive gay men and women voters in San Francisco should give no weight to the fact that Art Agnos defeated Harvey Milk enroute to his seat in the State Assembly.

Harry Britt also argues in his *Sentinel* letter that Art Agnos did not endorse him for the House of Representatives seat vacated by the February 1987 death of Sala Burton.

How could Agnos possibly do this, since Harry Britt had cut a deal with John Molinari, believing, quite erroneously, that Molinari's endorsement would be needed for Britt to win election to the United States House of Representatives?

Gay San Franciscans should ignore Britt's mayoral endorsement of Molinari.

Agnos is the progressive candidate. Furthermore, gay San Franciscans should ponder this historical fact in San Francisco politics: the assassinations of George Moscone and Harvey Milk sidetracked political liberalism at City Hall.

A vote for Art Agnos will re-track progressive politics in San Francisco. A vote for John Molinari is an endorsement of the Feinstein status quo.

Respectfully yours,
James F. Gibbons
San Leandro

Those Who Surround Agnos

As we all know by now, the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club held its endorsement vote at the October 6th general membership meeting in an attempt to select a mayoral candidate to whom to offer the club's support.

Again, Alice members spoke on behalf of their chosen candidates and, again, as at the July, August and September meetings, those who did not support Art Agnos' candidacy for mayor were greeted with a barrage of boos, catcalls and jeers and were otherwise heckled and insulted by the Assemblyman's backers.

Unlike previous instances, however, this meeting did not find the candidate standing in the midst of the throng, a condoning smile on his face, as his troops (a number of whom had no affiliation with Alice) taunted and harassed those speaking for his rivals. Efforts by Alice President Roberto Esteves to silence the unruly mob were for naught. Mr. Agnos' zealots ignored the chair, much as the candidate himself had previously done with regard to the rules of numerous candidates' forums which I have attended.

Among the Agnos group was an ardent supporter and officer of another organization who, in an abusive pre-dawn telephone call to an Alice officer, accused him of "fascism of the worst kind" (does he actually believe there is any good kind?). The tactics to which certain of these people have resorted on this and other occasions are more reminiscent of those used by the dark-shirted minions of many a repressive regime than those of the enlightened, progressive movement which they profess to represent.

Art Agnos is a (to use one of his favorite words) "decent" man, but what of those who surround him? I have a number of good friends who actively support him, although I believe that Supervisor John Molinari will be a far more effective and supportive mayor for our community. Yes, there are decent men and women, both gay and straight, who are in the Agnos camp. Yet there

exists that element within the upper reaches of Mr. Agnos' campaign hierarchy that shows no respect for the opinion and rights of those who do not share their point of view. Their high placement and influence on the candidate gives me cause to worry for my freedom to speak my mind without fear of intimidation and harassment.

We are all one community, lesbians and gay men working together and fighting for our rights against intolerant and oppressive state and Federal leaders. Must we also fear such oppression from within our own ranks? Judging from their past and recent behavior, should a certain portion of Assemblyman Agnos' supporters come to power, I am very much afraid we must.

Yours truly,
George J. Wicke, Member, Exec Committee
Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Demo Club

Molinari's Anti-Gay Brochure

Funny thing: the only people circulating Molinari's brochure on the USS Missouri at the Castro Fair, were the Agnos people!

It seems the Molinari folks are only distributing this one outside the gay community. If you want to know why, I can explain it just by quoting from it:

"John Molinari fought for the USS Missouri... Art Agnos opposed her for a few cheap headlines... PHONY PASSION, PHONY ISSUE... He used phony passion — over a phony issue — to pit gays against blacks..."

Leaving aside the fact that Molinari is himself trying to pit blacks against gays with this brochure, he should be forced to eat that "PHONY ISSUE" talk. He's referring to job discrimination against gays. Agnos had pointed out that people applying for Missouri-related jobs will be asked noney questions like "How often do you participate in deviant activities" (I'm not making that up; that's an actual quote of what they ask) — questions that are undeniably being asked so that they'll know who to discriminate against.

Supervisors Hongisto and Britt agreed with Agnos, and so they proposed that the Navy be asked to agree to the simple policy of treating lesbians and gay men the same as other people. Their motion was defeated, and Molinari cast the deciding vote against us.

Britt and other community Big Shots are still backing Molinari, on the theory that this will bring gay empowerment. It might indeed bring them "empowerment," as individuals, but if Molinari doesn't support gay rights during the election campaign, he sure isn't going to suddenly start doing it after the election.

It would be one thing to say we-got-the-best-deal-we-could-get, or the-problem-isn't-as-bad-as-you-think. But it's something quite else to say gay equality is a "phony issue" — especially in a brochure which is only distributed outside the gay community!

Speaking of "phony," this fellow Molinari has been an establishment, pro-Big Business Republican for the great majority of his lengthy career on the Board of Supervisors. This was true in 1972, when he was the head of the local Nixon campaign, again in 1974 when he voted to support a constitutional amendment to outlaw abortion (he recently said he doesn't remember why — how very Republican of him!), and again in 1982, when he helped get Gov. Duke elected, and to this very day, in his heart. Yes, he's had an "operation" and now calls himself a "Democrat"; but nobody has been able to detect any way in which he's changed since he was an out-of-the-closet Republican.

By the way, Molinari is spending well over a million dollars on this campaign. Most of that comes from the same folks who fund the Nixon, Reagan and Deukmejian campaigns — from corporate execs who are just as much opposed to job equality as Molinari is.

It figures that Molinari probably won't get much more than 50,000 votes, if that. Dividing the numerator by the denominator, that comes out to well upwards of \$20 per vote. So if you're voting Molinari, and you haven't gotten your \$20 — ask yourself who has.

Terry Kelly
Berkeley

March...

(continued from page 11)

I can suck on my thumb...
I can suck on my finger...
So don't you tell me where my lips may not linger.
(Chorus)

Your puritan claims make all of us frown.
How dare you tell us we cannot go down.
(Chorus)

My body's my temple.
Your laws are just heinous.
So climb in a spaceship and fly to Uranus.
(Chorus)

Dykes to Watch Out For



If You Visited The San Francisco City Clinic Between 1978 And 1980

Men who visited the San Francisco City Clinic between 1978 and 1980 may be able to provide critical information to AIDS research.

If you visited the Clinic during this time, or even if you think you did, please call us. We'd like to talk to you.

All replies will be held in strictest confidence. We're

gathering scientific facts, not names.

Information is the most important element in the fight against AIDS. Your call could provide answers to crucial questions.

Please call the Clinic Study at (800) 537-3722.

The call is free. Your help is invaluable.



Call 800 537-3722

San Francisco, California
94142-1873

Is There Sex After "Merger"?

JoAnn Loulan on Lesbian Passion and Other Complications

BY KIM CORSARO

In 1984, JoAnn Loulan wrote a book called *Lesbian Sex*. Since then, the book has gone into its seventh printing and has secured a comfortable spot among the top ten all-time bestsellers in the lesbian community. Much as *Lesbian Woman* by Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon broke ground in the 1970s, *Lesbian Sex* offered the lesbian community of the 1980s important information and a sense of validation.

Now Loulan has moved beyond the "how to do it" (homework and all) framework of *Lesbian Sex* with the publication of her sequel, *Lesbian Passion: Loving Ourselves and Each Other*. Released in October, this book is an outgrowth of a series of lectures Loulan gave in early 1987 at the Women's Building in San Francisco, and captures more of her intense personal style than was present in *Lesbian Sex*. The table of contents reads like a directory of current issues lesbians confront in our lives: "Healing the Child Within," "Lesbian Self-Esteem," "When Will We Love Our Bodies?" "Celibacy," "Passionate Friendships," "The Lesbian Date," "Sex Toys," "Fanning the Flames," "Lesbians and AIDS," "Intimacy and Passion in Recovery," "After Incest," and "Partners of Incest Survivors." The book concludes with "Research on the Lives and Sex Practices of Some Lesbians," a chapter which tallies the results of a survey Loulan distributed to over 1,500 lesbians.

Loulan's work has taken her across the country over the last several years, where she's become a prime staple on the lesbian lecture circuit, much in demand for her entertaining, informative, and very funny talks on the issues that surround lesbian sexuality. She also does sex workshops and maintains a therapy practice on the Peninsula.

Coming Up! talked to her recently about her book and about some of the issues currently facing the lesbian community.

(Coming Up!): What was the primary impetus for Book Two?

(Loulan): Well, first of all there were a lot of things that didn't get included in *Lesbian Sex*. Like AIDS wasn't a big deal when I wrote it, and six months after it came out, AIDS was a big deal. So that's glaringly missing.

Also, it feels like things are shifting and the right-wing backlash is growing, so I think that our self-esteem and our self-worth as lesbians

are being questioned more than ever.

Lesbians are not seen as a target group, but we are a target group. We're not having abortions, so we're not the target group there, even though we're women. And it's the gay men who are dying of AIDS, so the heat is being put onto them. But we're still homosexuals. And we still experience the tremendous negativity — the fact that we can't pick up a newspaper without reading that homosexual sex will kill you. I think that lesbians are taking that in at a very deep level.

But don't you think women feel that applies to gay men and not really us?

Well, I think we're going in two directions. One is coalition politics, in which a lot of lesbians are helping with the AIDS crisis. On the other hand, a lot of women are furious that lesbians and women are giving their money and time and energy to the AIDS crisis.

But I think in either camp, on a conscious level everyone's trying to divorce themselves from it being something that's going to happen to them and their lesbian friends. We're not going to get AIDS — it's a gay male disease — even though we will turn around and say to our heterosexual friends and relatives, this is not a gay disease, this is a virus, it knows no sexual orientation. We think we're completely exempt because we have such holy sex.

I have a hard time with lesbian practitioners, even good friends of mine, who tell me that lesbians aren't going to get this. But lesbians come up to me all over the country after my talks and say, "Thank you for talking about AIDS. I'm HIV positive and I can't tell anybody in the lesbian community; I only get my support from gay men."

How often does that come up?

It's come up a few times.

But there's an assumption those aren't real lesbians.

Right, and that's part of why they don't tell. Most of the HIV positive women I know of are IV drug users. But that, of course, doesn't account for the women who have had sex with gay men or other men in a high risk group. And certainly lesbians have sex with men.

The virus is in our community, and we're acting like it's not. And we want to divorce ourselves further than anybody from this as a gay male disease.

What I think is dangerous about that is that we are taking in this anti-gay backlash at a very deep level. And because we're not being con-

scious, and because we're not being consciously attacked, it's very difficult to fight. When I go around the country and I bring up these issues, the room gets silent, the room gets frozen. Clearly, women are very deeply affected, much more deeply affected than by issues around sex. Because just as intensely as women get frozen and scared around sex, these issues go even deeper, because they go back to the issue of questioning your selfhood. Who you are.

In Lesbian Passion you devote an entire chapter to self-esteem, where you link our self-esteem as lesbians to how much we are out of the closet. You relate a very funny incident you experienced on an airplane, where you froze in terror for 45 minutes after the man next to you casually asked you about the kind of sex workshops you do. In the process, you really encourage women to come out of the closet and be open about ourselves as lesbians, as a way of dealing with the negativity from the right-wing backlash, and building our self-esteem. That makes sense in San Francisco to a degree, but what about women who are absolutely terrified of coming out, who think they're going to lose their jobs, and they very well may? And women with children. How do you address that to those women?

When I speak in Atlanta and Dallas, the women all go, "Oh sure, JoAnn, come out. Uh-huh, good luck." And so, I understand. I'm certainly not saying you've got to come out of the closet or else you're bad. This isn't about one more guilt trip. All we need is one more guilt trip.

More what I'm saying is to look at the cost it is to not be out. This does take a toll on us. It impacts severely on our self-esteem. It impacts our intimate, loving relationships. It impacts our relationships with our children and our families of origin. It impacts our relationships with people at work. It impacts every relationship, every breathing moment.

For so many years we have traditionally accepted: this is just the way it is. Of course, you can't tell. Of course you can't tell your boss, and you can't tell a stranger on an airplane. And more what I'm trying to do is say: "Why?" And, there's a toll that it takes.

Now why is it that I'm not telling this man on the plane that I'm a lesbian, because this guy is not going to affect my life. He is not going to murder me on the plane. He's not going to tell my boss. He's not going to meet the people who meet me at the plane and say, "Do

you know what she told me on the plane?"

So now, I'm more and more questioning, why don't I come out in situations like that? What I'm doing is shaking it up, because it takes a tremendous toll, even to be on an airplane with a perfect stranger for only four hours, it takes a toll on me to not say when it's up. When, clearly, I am omitting a major part of my life, and to omit that continues to feed that self-hatred inside of my lesbianism.

At least becoming conscious of the toll it takes helps us to not feel so nuts. It's not me that feels like shit. It's that I'm trying to fit into a society that tells me I'm a piece of shit, so I'm having to battle that on an unconscious level.

One of the major issues you deal with in the book is the dying out of sex in lesbian relationships after the "timerance" wears off. Since you focus so heavily on issues of self-esteem and loving ourselves, do you think the lack of sex in lesbian relationships primarily relates to that, or what do you attribute it to?

I think that self-esteem has an impact on it. I think that what often happens in couples is that after the first year or so, the more intimate we become, the less we want to have sex with the person we're intimate with. We have that first outbreak of telling them everything we know about ourselves, every story, every everything, and then we start to close it up.

At a certain level, we've gotten too vulnerable. We commonly move in together, we commonly start sharing everything — economics, toothpaste, a bedroom, clothes, kids — we share everything. And I think that what happens is that shutting down intimacy is a way for us to protect ourselves. And one of the ways in which we do that, I think, is to shut down our sexuality with someone that we share so much with.

Why sex, though? I mean we could stop choosing toothpaste together, you know?

I think that women who are assertive or aggressive sexually are put down. That's something women say: "All you want me for is sex. You're just like a man. We can be fighting and you can still have sex. We can have no intimacy in the relationship and you can still have sex."

Also, there are two groups of women: those who need to have intimacy before they can be sexual and women who need to have sex before they can be intimate. The women who need to have sex before they can be intimate, and are aggressive sexually, don't need to have "closeness" to be sexual. Oftentimes those women are more aggressive and assertive sexually, and they get put down a lot. They get a lot of flack from their partners and from the community at large.

And there's a great reluctance to push a partner to have sex. That's really, really not cool. And I'm not necessarily saying we should push somebody to have sex, but I think that oftentimes when somebody has been aggressive with me, I'm much more into having sex than if we just sort of wait around, and one of us sort of, kind of, maybe, sort of wants to, kind of be, I don't know, sexual, you know? Of course I'm not an incest survivor, and I'm not a rape survivor, so I don't have those traumas in my background to set it up so if somebody does that it reminds me of that horrible violent aggression on me. Of course, that's individual.

But I do think that a lot of women that are aggressive sexually get a lot of flack for being that way. Because it's not about true love, it's about sex.

What do you think about Nichols' ideas that lesbians should model our relationships after gay male patterns of sexuality — we would have our primary relationship, but also allow casual secondary sexual relationships.

And that we don't seem to be able to do that? That instead we are serially monogamous and we fall in love? I think she's right on about that. I think that very few lesbians can pull off having casual sex with other lesbians, especially

backlash, with the Supreme Court, that the deal is, on an unconscious, silent level, we will trade off. We'll be companions. We'll get to call ourselves lesbians, and we'll hang out with lesbians, and we'll be with a lesbian, but we won't have sex. We won't act on genitality that which separates us from heterosexuality, although, of course, genital sex is not all that separates us. But I think that intimate encounter, that genital contact with somebody else, is something that we say that we're going to give up. To give it back.

There are many factors, but let's just keep looking at the self-esteem issue: I think that's our silent deal. That somewhere inside, all lesbians have that internalized homophobia, so we agree with the culture, and that's one of the things we say we'll go ahead and give up, unconsciously.

And why sex? You know, we can say that women are raised not to be sexual; we can say that we don't know how to initiate. We have never been taught to initiate. In those first six weeks or six months when we're insane in a relationship, no one even notices who initiates; it's just grovelling at each other's panties. After that period of insanity wears off, somebody has to initiate.

Margaret Nichols (in the recently-released book *Lesbian Psychologies*) has an interesting approach. She says lesbian feminism has actually dealt us a disservice, because we all have to be so equal, that nobody's allowed to take that aggressive role, because it's male identified, it's heterosexual. And so we have a very difficult time letting in difference in the relationship, letting one be aggressive and the other passive, because we're supposed to all be assertive and aggressive. None of us are supposed to be passive. So what ends up happening is we just don't have sex at all. So I think that those are also factors in this whole issue of why sex dies off.

So, we're fighting lots of things. We're fighting the cultural messages about who women are. We're making these silent deals that as lesbians we won't carry through with the "lesbian act." We get bored, and because we have never been trained how to be aggressive or assertive sexually, and because it's sort of frowned on in the lesbian community, we sort of let it...

Do you think it really is frowned on?

I think that women who are assertive or aggressive sexually are put down. That's something women say: "All you want me for is sex. You're just like a man. We can be fighting and you can still have sex. We can have no intimacy in the relationship and you can still have sex."

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What do you think about Nichols' ideas that lesbians should model our relationships after gay male patterns of sexuality — we would have our primary relationship, but also allow casual secondary sexual relationships.

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when they're already in a relationship. Or even not.

Even lesbians who say they're going to have casual sex end up involved with somebody. They can't pull off casual sex for very long, because it's not fun. There's not the charge there. If there's no charge, they just stop having sex with that person. If there's a charge... they get in a relationship.

Exactly. They move in with them, because they think they've found mecca, because they've gotten so turned on. And before you know it, they've merged their checking accounts and stopped having sex. And now what do you do? You're not even having a charge. That's the purpose you moved in together for.

The other thing is that some lesbians may be able to carry off casual sex, but they get involved with people who can't. So what is the chance of casually running into somebody who can have casual sex and you're both lesbians?

Pretty rare.

Yeah. Which is why I think a lot of lesbians have had casual sex with men, because it's much easier. Because men can have casual sex. So a lot of women who have wanted to have recreational sex have had recreational sex with men.

How many lesbians do you think really sleep with men?

Two percent (in my survey). Which I think is low. I don't know if they thought people were looking over their shoulders when they answered the question.

But still, at least two percent do, and I think a lot of lesbians feel that no lesbians have sex with men, or if they do have sex with men, they can't identify themselves as lesbians. That's really fucked, and I've had that argument all over the country with all the lesbians who don't think you can identify as lesbian if you have sex with men.

You think you can?

I think that if you identify as lesbian, I don't think it's up to me or the community to define who is a lesbian, and who is not. And I know I get shit about this, and it's such a minor part of anything I've ever said. Even in *Coming Up!* — a friend kept me informed because I don't read this trash that comes out about me — but she said, "Well, you're still in the news there, in letters in the editor, going back and forth about JoAnn Loulan says that lesbians can have sex with men," and it's like, "C'mon!!! Can we get over it, already? Can we go on to what's really happening?" So two percent of lesbians have sex with men. Don't kill me. I don't have sex with men. I'm doing my part to try and get lesbians to just have sex with other lesbians, so hey, you know, like don't crucify me. I'm just reporting what they do. I'm just the agent of the lesbian nation.

And so, yeah, I think a woman can identify herself as lesbian if that's what she wants to identify herself as. There don't need to be any strict rules.

I know a lot of politicians feel very different about that view. They think it's really dangerous to have these fuzzy boundaries, so there ought to be rules for who's a lesbian and who's not, so that we can't get taken by these straight women that foray into the lesbian community, rip off all of our energy and then take it back to the boys. And I hear that. But what I feel is we cannot make rules, because women are going to do whatever the fuck they want to, which I'm glad of. They're not so easily duped by somebody's rule and somebody's decision about what they can and can't do.

It's like the s/m controversy. Do you think that the s/m controversy stops women from practicing s/m? They don't give a shit what anybody else thinks. They may have a lot of guilt about it, and they may question it, and they may feel like they're a bad lesbian, but they're still going to do it.

So what my feeling is, and that's what I think is my message in terms of this whole issue about self-esteem in terms of coming out or not coming out, and my whole stance on sex, period, for lesbians, is, the more open we are, the more we create a forum and a safe place for lesbians to come and talk about who they are and what they're doing, the more we're going to be able to know what lesbians are doing, and the more we're going to create a positive and loving atmosphere for lesbians to be who they are.



Photo by Irene Young

I think that very few lesbians can pull off having casual sex with other lesbians. Even lesbians who say they're going to have casual sex end up involved, and before you know it they've merged their checking accounts and stopped having sex.

The more we create rules and shut down and have limits and boundaries, the less we're going to hear. We're just not going to hear about it. That's why lesbians don't talk about their sex lives to other lesbians. Part of that is that women are raised not to be sexual and not talk about it, and part of it is we don't have the words, but a bigger part of this that we're all so afraid of being judged by other lesbians.

I know a lot of lesbians that sit and dish with gay men about what they do sexually, because they know they're not going to get shit from a gay man forever. And they wouldn't dream of telling their best lesbian friend, because they're so afraid of being judged. So that's my stance in the community: let's at least let each other tell the truth. Let's at least start with that. And part of making those rules and boundaries and limits that block us from doing that has to do with our negativity around our lesbianism.

It's like the separatists. Some of the most vociferous lesbian separatists are now with men.

It seems like many of the women that carry on about men the most oftentimes end up sleeping with them, or really wish that they could.

Yeah. Of course, my separatist friends will kill me for even mentioning this, and I don't think that's true about all separatists. I'm just saying that a lot of them carry the charge and a lot of them are with men today. And a lot of them married men. That's the oddest thing. It totally blows my mind that these lesbians meet a man and in four months they fuckin' marry him! Even straight girls now don't marry men, do they? The 23-year-olds marry, but I'm talkin' about women in their 30s and 40s. I don't know any straight political feminist women in their 30s and 40s that are marrying men. They are living with them, they're doing whatever they want with 'em, but I don't hear them marrying them. And taking their names?

So I think that what scares me about women identifying as bisexual is that ambiguity in which I'm going to get left out in the cold. Intellectually, I know there are bisexual people. Intellectually, it's an OK thing for me. But emotionally, it gets down to my life and my interactions. I can be friends with bisexuals, but I don't want to be lovers with bisexuals, and it's all part of my feeling of self-worth. That, as a lesbian, I know I can't compete on all

(continued on page 35)



Photo by Tee A. Corinne

COMMUNITY FORUM

Lesbian/Gay Parenting Group Responds to Issues Raised by Adoptees and Birthparents

Were members of the Lesbian Gay Parenting Group (LGPG), a support group for lesbians and gay men who are considering parenthood or who have children. Collectively, we have many years' experience as people choosing to parent. Our group is composed of many family configurations and styles, and we rejoice in our diversity — the pioneering way in which lesbian/gay parents are expanding and recreating the meanings of family.

As such, we are outraged by *Coming Up!*'s feature of three articles so destructive to the growing lesbian/gay childbearing and -rearing community. We are outraged and deeply hurt. We view these articles as exploitation of individually named members of our community, as an attack on our children, as aggression against the efforts we represent, and — some of us believe — as libel.

There are two aspects to this belligerent abuse of our rights: the content of the articles themselves, and the fact that they were published.

First, then, we want to address the (ir)responsibility of the so-called journalists concerned. The problems here began in the September issue of *Coming Up!*, which ran a story reporting the Gay and Lesbian Parenting Conference held by Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom at Golden Gate University. This article was based on coverage by a reporter who did not identify herself as a member of the press at the outset of the conference, thus failing to inform panel members that their words were subject to exposure in the media. Moreover, she filled her account of the conference with misquotes, incomplete information, and quotes out of context.

So, the articles featured in the October issue are, in fact, based on poor-quality hearsay.

And, predictably, they show it, railing against situations which are simply not true. For example, the adoption they so vehemently oppose as closed is in fact an open adoption, with continuing contact between the child and the birth mother.

In the case of "The Adoption History," the author was told before publication by a third party that the adoption was open and that the author needed to check her facts with the adopting couple. But, she did not.

This same author suggests that her group has not been welcomed into LGPG. She is right that we did not want their combative, disruptive presence in our family group during the parade, especially because they attempted to place themselves between us and the truck carrying our children. In addition, banners they carried offended many of our members, inasmuch as they denied our right to choose how to bear and raise children. What she does not report is that her group has been invited to attend discussion meetings of LGPG — where the real work of decision-making and sharing goes on — but they have never appeared. It seems they seek media events rather than opportunities for open dialogue.

All three authors seem to have no trouble in speaking for women who bear children, men who donate semen, children (and former children) who are born and then kept or not kept by their birth mothers, people who are blood relatives or friends of any of the above... in short, everyone.

We resent this audacity. We can and do speak for ourselves. Some of our (adult and child) members are adoptees. Some of our



Lesbian mothers and their children in the film "Choosing Children."

To us, this is another example of an oppressed group turning against itself, of in-fighting distracting us from the real work we have to do.

members have anonymous genetic forebears. We all struggle with the issue of the child's right to know, and yet, as lesbian/gay parents, we claim the right to choose how to form our families.

Our position is that all options are explorable and none are universally appropriate. That is, we support the careful consideration, even scrutiny, of this, one of the most important decisions an adult can make. Indeed, most of us can say that family-building is a continuing, compelling concern with us. It is not, as the three authors intimated, something we fell into with no thought as to the imagined future feelings of all participants, most especially, our children. We think about this every day.

In light of this effectively malicious journalism, why are these articles featured in one of our own community's leading newspapers? It's almost inconceivable. Only the Editor of *Coming Up!* herself can answer this question, for she bears the responsibility for this grave error in judgment.

She has three mistakes to rectify: failure to corroborate information/accusations presented in her newspaper, failure to offer the standard opportunity to reply to individuals named in the articles, thereby allowing the issues to become personalized and vindictive, and failure to label the articles as letters to the editor — if, indeed, they were such. The "Community Forum" identification was minute and buried in the section's introduction. All these add up to a virtual endorsement of the articles' content.

What does this all mean? What is the damage done by the September and October

issues of *Coming Up!*? We cannot — and will not — speak for all lesbian/gay parents, but our own experience shows several disturbing repercussions. First, we must not discount the pain the papers caused, in particular, to the two families who had to see their children's names thrown about in black and white, and, in general, to anyone who has thoughtfully weighed the options of donor insemination, adoption, foster parenting, and so forth.

Second, we notice, sadly, some new distrust of the gay/lesbian community's public institutions, particularly the media. If we cannot trust our own papers to check out inflammatory statements about our lifestyles, who can we trust? The Community Forum column's stated intent is to promote discussion of issues. In this instance, the effect was the exact opposite — many of us now feel that we will seek to avoid exposure to this type of attack, by avoiding participation in public discussions.

To the gay/lesbian community's credit, open sharing about parenting options has long been welcomed. Our group alone — and there are others — has been around for three years, fostering many frank give-and-take sessions. But, fear of attack by publicity-seeking, combative elements may stifle some of this exchange. Indeed, we have word that a newly formed group concerned with exploring parenting options for gays and lesbians is choosing not to participate in the upcoming Lesbian and Gay Parenting Faire for the precise reason that they do not want their information table to become a battle zone.

Certainly, the three authors wrote from their own sense of pain and loss. But, we insist that personal attack and public hostility is an inappropriate form of grieving. To us, this is another example of an oppressed group turning against itself, of in-fighting distracting us from the real work we have to do. We are a community devastated by death. And we are also a community filled with loving and caring for those entering life. Our children are a treasure we protect.

Now, we call for a public, printed retraction of the October Community Forum section of *Coming Up!*, an editorial admission of error, and an apology to the individuals named in particular and to the community at large for behavior injurious to the health of lesbian/gay parenting in all its forms.

To the Lesbian/Gay Parenting Group — Editor Kim Corsaro responds:

First of all, I'd like to clear up some of the misconceptions regarding the series on parenting that have appeared in the last two issues of *Coming Up!*

Concerning the first article, "Lesbian/Gay Parenting Conference," that ran in the September issue: *Coming Up!* received a press release on the conference, inviting coverage, and our reporter contacted conference organizers prior to appearing at the conference. I understand the uneasiness some conference participants felt at having the stories they told at the conference appear in print, but from our point of view we simply reported information presented at a public forum and had cleared that with organizers in advance. After that article appeared, we received positive feedback from people involved in the Lesbian/Gay Parenting Group — LGPG folks liked it.

That article pushed some buttons among lesbians who are involved in the Adoption Rights Movement — birth mothers and adoptees — because they felt that here again was another conference on parenting in the lesbian/gay community which did not address their concerns. Many of them sent in letters to the editor voicing those concerns. As *Coming Up!* has done many times in the past when we've received a lot of letters on a particular topic, we separated them out in the paper and ran them as a Community Forum, which appeared as "Time to Come Out of the Adoption Closet" in the October issue.

The articles from the three women were very personal. As the original article on the conference had positively presented the stories of Mary/Carol/Emma and Dmitri/Tom/Elliott as examples of pioneers in lesbian/gay parenting, the adoptees and birth mothers in their responses used those families as examples of the problems they feel exist surrounding anonymous insemination and closed adoption. (It is true, however, that Elliott's adoption by Dmitri and Tom is an open adoption, and *Coming Up!* apologizes for that inaccuracy and any difficulty it has caused them.) The responses by the birth mothers and adoptees were in no way meant as personal attacks on those particular families.

I know that in addition to the Lesbian/Gay Parenting Group, many readers view last

month's Community Forum as an all-out assault by *Coming Up!* on gay/lesbian parenting, that it's as bad as a right-wing attack, that it's evidence of *Coming Up!*'s internalized homophobia, that the articles never should have been published. The Lesbian/Gay Parenting Group demands that I retract the articles.

But what am I supposed to retract? Those letters expressed a deeply personal pain of the writers, and as such, are part of a long tradition in the lesbian/gay community of speaking out on issues from a personal point of view. *Coming Up!* has published personal articles on race, class, disability, anti-semitism and a host of other issues that are difficult for each and every one of us to confront in our lives. That's what this paper does. That's what we're about.

And we exist in the lesbian/gay community with people who are adopted, people who are birth parents. I have spoken to many adoptees and birth mothers over the past month, and to a person, they do not feel that their concerns are represented within the lesbian/gay parenting movement. *Coming Up!* holds the same responsibility to publish the views of adoptees and birth parents as we do any other oppressed group.

I can't pretend to be a totally impartial editor in this instance, however. I, too, am adopted and experience all of the pain that goes with that. I feel all of the concerns the adoptees and birth mothers voiced in the last issue. I also understand that there's a whole range of difficult issues when we get into questions of how we choose to structure our gay/lesbian families, what we tell our children, and anonymous vs. known donors. I particularly understand the fears of custody battles, and have shared the horror of women and men who have lost their families simply because they are gay. For myself, I feel that horror very deeply, because I know fully what it means to lose people you've loved and who love you.

Closed adoption and anonymous insemination are often very threatening issues for our community to deal with, and I think that a big part of that stems from the misinformation surrounding the issues in our larger society. Adoption is seen as no big deal (when was the last time you so much as batted an eye when someone mentioned something about adoption to you?), and artificial insemination is often treated like a simple technical procedure (we all know the jokes about jars of sperm and turkey basters).

Still, the last 15 years has seen a burgeoning body of research developed regarding the perils of adoption that backs up the feelings expressed by adoptees and birth mothers, as published in the last issue of *Coming Up!*

But all that is about adoption. Wouldn't it be entirely different for the offspring of an anonymous donor, who does at least have one-half a biological family?

There is a recently completed seven-year study to be published as a book next spring called *Lethal Secrets: Perfect Families*. The study looked at families formed through artificial insemination and included several lesbian families (almost 20 percent of the sample studied). Last month I spoke to researcher Annette Baran, a social worker who also spent the 1970s studying adoption. She tells me that she's come to believe that "it's much harder" for offspring of anonymous donors than for adoptees, because it "is really a no-win situation, since there's no way you can even think about learning about the donor. From the child's point of view... you don't feel like you're real. You're somehow floating around." Baran comes out strongly against anonymous insemination. She says, "You know, we struggled with this, because when we first started the study, we were full of all the anonymity crap, just like we were in the years we did adoption. But it marinated in our heads sufficiently to become important to us somewhere, if you were honest and open. I believe all donors should be available to be identified as genetic parents."

In spite of all of that, there's still a great deal of resistance and denial from the legal, medical and psychological professions, as well as from many adoptive parents, that adoptees, birth parents, and offspring of anonymous donors have any right at all to feel that there might be something wrong, or there needs to be a different way of doing things.

And because of that overwhelming societal opposition, we often quietly go about our

business as adoptees and birth parents — sometimes we talk to other adoptees and birth parents, we enter therapy, and individually we try to make some sense out of the craziness of it all. But our situation is much like that of women in the 1950s pre-feminism. We can each try to arrive at private, individual solutions to our problems, or we can recognize that "what's wrong" is something that grows out of a system embedded in the larger culture that we've been victim to. We can recognize that we can claim our feelings, and we can work to educate society at large, and end that which victimizes us and future generations.

Of course there are going to be adoptees and birth parents who don't feel like it's an issue for them, much as there are women who don't relate to feminism. But those women make those choices as adults. Children don't choose to be cut off from half or all of their heritage, but are simply dealt the hand that leads to the suffering they'll have to endure as adults.

I feel strongly that it's a mistake rampant in our larger culture that we are repeating in the lesbian/gay community. It doesn't mean lesbian and gay parents who participate in closed adoption and anonymous insemination are horrible people. Mostly they are courageous pioneers who have acted on a deep desire to parent against incredibly hostile odds, and have made their decision on how to do that based on partial, and often inaccurate, information. How can they make a fully informed

decision when these issues are virtually never raised, or at best raised tangentially, and have not fully been part of our public discussion?

So where does that leave us? I feel it's important that we not go on as before, offering anonymous insemination and closed adoption as viable alternatives, without a full awareness of what the ramifications of those decisions are. The voices of adoptees, birth mothers and fathers, and offspring of anonymous donors need to be listened to closely on this one.

Beyond that, we can begin now to recover what information we can to ensure full rights of heritage to the children we have borne. (The questions around when and how to share that information with our children form a whole other discussion.) Many women who originally chose anonymous insemination from unknown donors are now going back and trying to find out who those men are, some because they've realized as their children have gotten older that they have a deep desire to know "who daddy is" that goes way beyond the patriarchal conditioning of this society, and some women have developed concerns around AIDS.

At the same time, it's equally important that we fully protect our families from destruction by society at large, and from the unwanted intervention of heterosexual relatives and the courts.

That brings me back to the Community Forum and the Lesbian/Gay Parenting

Group's response to it. Apart from their contention that the Community Forum articles should never have been published, nothing frightens me so much as the suggestion that some members of the group will now avoid participation in public discussion. *Raising this issue is not an attack on lesbian and gay parenting.* This is an attempt to say that there's a very, very important piece of the puzzle missing, and we need to start talking about it fully, in all of its ramifications. We don't want our children growing up with some enormous pain that we never saw coming, that we can't possibly undo, that may not have been necessary in the first place. At the same time, we don't want our families torn apart by the courts.

How are we going to do solve that dilemma? I don't have many of the answers, but I do believe that we are an incredibly resourceful community, and we are capable of arriving at solutions that incorporate all realities. I'm very encouraged to hear that the Lesbian/Gay Parenting Faire has added a panel addressing questions of anonymous vs. known donors as a response to these articles. That is a good first step.

Let's keep talking. We have a lot to sort out.

The Community Forum on Lesbian/Gay Parenting continues on the next page with a series of responses to last month's Forum.

Let's Create the Action

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- PROMOTE OUR VISIBILITY
- MAKE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CHANGE

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Community Forum...

(continued from previous page)

Anonymous Father/Adopted Son

Your community forum on gay and lesbian parenting weighed against the concerns of adoptees was exceptionally interesting, and has caused me to take a long look at my own experiences with both.

I participated as an anonymous donor more than five years ago. At that time, I gave the information on my mother to be that of my adopted mother. At that time I had sort of "forgotten" that I was adopted, or that it meant anything to me. Since that time I have found myself with confused and often sorrowful thoughts, feeling detached from the mother who gave birth to me, and the anonymous child I fathered.

Reading the very clear and inspiring remarks of the lesbian birthmother and adoptees, I have been able to clarify some of my own feelings. I am really upset that I unintentionally misinformed others about my anonymous child's background, and angry that there is no way I can correct this. At the same time, I realize that one day I will search for my natural mother. Though I may have some issues with her once I find her, I want to make that connection that will help to make me a whole person.

Thanks,
Name Withheld By Request
San Francisco

Knowing the Donor

I read the article about adoption with interest. I am both an adoptee and the mother of a four-year-old daughter, conceived through artificial insemination. When my lover and I decided to have a child, we decided that I would be the one to become pregnant. It was important to me to be the biological mother. I have not met or searched for my original parents, so my daughter is the only family I know that I'm related to by blood. My lover and I decided to seek out a donor who would be willing to be a known donor. Being an adoptee, it was important to me that our daughter have the opportunity to someday know her father, if she so chooses. We do not have a relationship with the donor, but I do know his identity. Thanks for the article. I didn't know there

was a support group for lesbian adoptees.
Marilyn Jacobs
San Francisco

Beyond Medical History

Thank you for the excellent articles on adoption in your October issue. As an adopted person, I can confirm that Newbrough, Cheney and Phillips are telling the truth when they warn of the emotional pitfalls and difficulties of adoption; prospective adoptive parents need to be aware of these problems in order to try to minimize or avoid them.

Medical information is one topic that becomes more important as an adopted person ages. In traditional closed adoptions, this is impossible to obtain. I have a potentially serious health condition that is inherited; doctors always ask about family medical history for a reason, to help diagnose diseases. The health information taken from my birthmother 37 years ago, at its best, could not have reflected this condition, which shows up later in life. I was fortunate and persistent: I found my birthmother and birthfather, and learned that in fact my paternal birth grandmother did have this condition. Now I can remind the doctor that yes, I do have a family medical history of the condition. Most adoptees have no access to this information.

Concerns of medical history do not begin to address the emotional difficulty of knowing one has a biological family but not knowing who they are. Adoption records are still legally closed. People who are not adopted cannot imagine the feeling that an entire side of one's family has been mysteriously obliterated, not by death, but by laws that protect the illusion that an adoptee's life begins and ends with his or her adoptive family. I admire those adoptive parents who help their children find their birthparents, knowing that the birth family is important to their children, and not a threat to the adoptive parents' role.

Again, thank you. The voices of birthmothers and adopted people are not heard often enough.
Janine Baer
San Francisco

P.S. Also, I want to mention something about the resources you listed in the adoption articles in October. The "Donor Offspring" organization in Missouri is totally different from all the other organizations listed: it is homophobic and influenced by religious fundamentalist bigotry. *Coming Up!* readers who write to them will learn that some donor offspring are quite angry about having been conceived by that method, and I think this is a valid point. But lesbians and gay should not expect validation or support from that group.

The Complexity of Forming a Gay Family

I would like to offer several impressions from the articles in *Coming Up!* by birthmothers and adult adoptees. I am a gay man who hopes to parent, and have been deeply involved with children for the past ten years as a friend of several gay families and as a child care teacher.

I respect the intensity of the emotions expressed by the authors and their willingness to be open about their frustration and pain. I think it is correct that as gay parents (prospective or current) we should be more sensitive to the struggles of adopted children, anonymous donor children and birthmothers. In response to that, I think we are. I have spent countless hours discussing these and other issues with friends who realize the complexity of starting a gay family. While additional input to this process by those sensitive to the issues is valuable, it is presumptuous to assume the process does not occur in most gay families.

Gay and lesbian parents do not victimize their children or birthmothers as is suggested in all the articles. As with racism, health, or any other issue, we as lesbians and gay men must define our role and make choices with care.

In real terms, to become a gay parent in 1987 usually means working within a system that devalues women (especially if they are economically poor or single parents) and would like gay people to simply die. In real terms, lesbians and gay men still risk losing custody of their children if ANYONE who happens to be straight contests their parenthood. In real terms, being a gay parent means accepting (and preparing for) the difficult issues your child will need to face being part of a "queer" family and never truly being allowed within the mainstream of society.

I do not believe the answer to this is to stop creating imperfect alternatives. Waiting for an ideal or even nearly ideal situation means not becoming parents for most gay people. Cooperative adoption and non-anonymous sperm donors are two great ideas, but can also place the child at severe risk in a society like ours. I should not need to name the lesbians and gay men who spent years fighting to maintain their families against previously uninvolved relatives and who lost their rights in court.

We cannot create a perfect situation for our children, but we can support them and help them

grow to be strong and emotionally honest. We cannot prevent them from losing uncles to AIDS and cannot promise we will not "divorce" our lovers or co-parents. If we accept the right and responsibility to be parents, we cannot promise they will know every bit of their history. And sadly, we cannot always assume that birthmothers will be properly respected by a system that devalues them.

What we must do, and what I see my lesbian and gay parent friends doing with regularity, is take responsibility for supporting our children in ways many of us were not supported as children. We must work to change the patterns of disrespect and human devaluation. By working with gay parenting groups, political organizations and within our communities, we will offer a context to create viable alternatives.

I am saddened by the authors' choices to focus their anger on two families who have made efforts to not only take responsibility for their own situations, but have worked concretely to change destructive aspects of our society. The tone of the articles, while sometimes bravely emotional, attacked and misrepresented the experiences of both families. The preface to the articles suggested they be used to "open up a dialogue." It is ironic that people who are calling for greater sensitivity, cruelly and personally targeted individuals instead of initiating a discussion that clearly has many perspectives.

These two families and many others offer us much needed role models to counter and change society's nuclear mythology. Supportive (even if angry) input is essential, but must not come presumptuously. We must have the courage as lesbians and gay men to continue to parent, as others parent, imperfectly.

In love,
Jade Travers
San Francisco

Challenge from Conference Organizer

Dear Kim Corsaro:

It was with real distress and anger that I read the accusations and slights in the articles published in *Coming Up!* concerning closed adoptions, the BALIF Conference on Gay/Lesbian Parenting held in August 1987, and related matters. For example, someone editorializes at the top in the October articles that "...the Conference failed to tackle some serious questions regarding how we, as gay men and lesbians, choose to become parents..." This accusation is false, in significant part, and where it is true, the failure is as much with those who wrote the October articles as with the August conferees.

None of the authors of the October articles attended the August conference, according to the conference sign-up sheet. Instead, they chose to take on the "serious questions" that you allude to, by the method of ambushing conference participants for not addressing their views and concerns (many of which were addressed — I was there and I heard many of the issues raised in the October articles addressed in the August conference).

Nor were any of the people or interests appearing in the October articles in any way excluded or discouraged from attending and participating fully in the August conference, which BALIF offered to the public, unrestricted except by a modest charge for food, materials and expenses (and so that child care could be offered free). The claim of Amy Jane Cheney that she called up and offered to speak as an adoptee to the participants is very suspicious to me. I was the conference organizer, and Amy Jane Cheney never called me or my co-chair on the BALIF Committee for Gay and Lesbian Families, or any other BALIF representative. If Ms. Cheney or anyone else had called me to ask to be included and to speak as an adoptee, they would have been included. These people never afforded me, or BALIF, that opportunity.

The issues of gay and lesbian parenting are sensitive, difficult and, in some ways, legally special. The articles published in October inappropriately attack people and organizations working hard to understand and resolve these issues. I personally think that you, as editor, and the October writers owe an apology to BALIF, to those who attended the Conference in August, and to myself as the Conference organizer.

You know that *Coming Up!* enjoys my personal appreciation, as it has been and is a publication of depth, interest and diversity, especially for lesbians. However, I detect in the editorial method an inclination on several occasions to stir inter-cine and horizontal hostilities in the gay/lesbian movement for liberation and equality, and I fail to appreciate the ethics, sense or effectiveness of this method. The real controversies that might have been articulated and addressed, if the October writers on gay/lesbian parenting had attended and participated in the August conference, instead of standing outside and booing, would have been worth reading about. The manufactured controversies contained in the October issue are not worthwhile, and are wasteful and insensitive. I am disappointed. Please publish this letter in full. Thanks.

Best regards,
Cherie James
San Francisco

Mary C. Dunlap, Attorney

Editor's note: As point of information, the conference Amy Jane Cheney called and offered to speak to was not the BALIF conference. What I would hope, however, is that much as our community has come to often include the perspectives of people of color, working class people, or differently-abled people at our events, that future events for lesbians and gay men considering the problems of becoming parents automatically include the perspective of adoptees and birthmothers (and offspring of anonymous donors, whenever possible), and that those groups not be put in the position of having to ask to be included.

Somewhat Irrational

There are two basic points which betrayed the irrational nature of some parts of the articles you published last month concerning adoption. (1) Lesbian mothers who use artificial insemination are the birth mothers, and have no intention of giving up their children. (2) Some women who become pregnant do not want their children, and put them up for adoption because they love them.

There were so many misstatements in the articles, I was amazed at the lack of an editorial hand at the wheel of *Coming Up!* No, it is unlikely that one man's sperm would be used to inseminate 50 women. This is a very peculiar misunderstanding of the highly controlled methods of donor control. Also, many artificial insemination donors are willing to be known to the child when the child is 18.

These articles have compared apples and oranges. Closed adoption is a problem, but it has nothing to do with artificial insemination. Sometimes, closed adoption is used to protect the child from being the object of a tug-of-war between an incompetent parent and competent adoptive parents. There are many instances of children being taken inappropriately from young mothers, and I firmly support any steps that would remedy this situation. But why attack the people who could help you? By the end of the article, I was beginning to think, this is the newspaper that printed unnamed sources as describing Harry Britt's incompetence. This is the newspaper that I listened to when I changed my vote to Nancy Pelosi. This is an irresponsible editor, and my listening to this editor may have changed the course of history for a gay representative in Congress.

Finally, the most outrageous moment for me was reading about the woman who was angry that she was not allowed to march in the Gay Freedom Day celebration with the lesbian mothers. I watched an incident that was very sad. The lesbian mothers, harassed and vilified by the majority of society, were walking in their parade with their infants, and a lesbian sister was marching defiantly and oh-so self-righteously beside them, bearing a large sign that read, "Lesbians against artificial insemination." If this is my sister, who needs Jerry Falwell? Open up your hearts. We are not the enemy. This is not the same situation. We are welcoming children into the world, and we would like you to be a part of that world, with love.

Phyllis LaVoie
San Francisco

Thanks for the Coverage On Adoption/Birthparents

The lesbian and gay community is fortunate to have a newspaper such as *Coming Up!* which is not afraid to take unpopular stands (i.e., your endorsement of Nancy Pelosi) or to deal with difficult issues such as your recent coverage of lesbian and gay parenting and the subsequent coverage from the point of view of birth mothers and an adoptee.

There are no easy answers to situations where the rights of several must be balanced against each other. Beyond adoption, and certainly conceived strongly to it, are the problems of anonymous donor insemination and surrogate motherhood. It disturbs me to see that in our rush to protect the rights of lesbians and gay men to parent, we quickly forget, ignore or trample over the rights of birth parents and the children themselves. We also seem eager to adopt the view that the nuclear family (or our variation of it) is the only way to raise a child. Birth parents do not "disconnect" from their children, and everyone has a right to information concerning their biological heritage. Perhaps your coverage will help all parents realize that no one "owns" their children and that sharing children with their biological parents is less likely to bring about loss and damage than are secrets and fear.

As the mother of three daughters, one of whom I have never known because I gave her up for adoption, I certainly have a vested interest in this issue. But more importantly, as a lesbian, a woman raising two daughters, an activist in the feminist community (past president of S.F. NOW), a member of the public who values intelligent newspaper coverage of difficult issues, and as a human being, I applaud *Coming Up!* for your integrity, vision and courage in examining such an emotionally charged subject. Thank you.

Cherie James
San Francisco

WHAT'S GOING DOWN

BY LOUISE RAFKIN



Photo by Jim Krigstein

Gay For a Day And That's OK:

Yes, Washington certainly was swarming. The airports, bus stations, trains and metros were all populated by people wearing small buttons with pink triangles. It's been a long time since political buttons were in style; it's amazing what being in the majority will do to fashion consciousness. *Everywhere, ye gadz*, we were absolutely everywhere. Instead of the usual nod of acknowledgement in passing, queers were grinning ear to ear, waving, and giggling with the sheer outrageousness of it all. I got on my plane (from Miami) and gals both next to me and beside me were on their way north to get marching. (The gentleman on my left, however, was on his way to a computer trade show and was a bit concerned. He told me he rarely left the convention center, and I assured him we weren't going to take hostages.)

Crowds of us ten, twenty deep cruised the streets Saturday night. Old friends reuniting



Photo by Barbara J. Maggiani

at every corner. (Yes, even in that mass of folks I ran smack into my ex-lover! Of course!) Straight folks scurried out of the way and ducked into taxis, probably wishing they had vacationed in Missoula. Interactions with townspeople, i.e. the 7-11 clerk and various taxi drivers — were pleasant; I found a mixture of curiosity and naivete. It was fabulous to walk in front of the White House holding hands. P.D.A.s (Public Displays of Affection) were rampant. D.C. felt like Disneyland for queers and we were on parade.

Chris Cagney Come Out was my favorite banner, surely, but kudos go to the two gals who carried a sign which read "Mildred! They look just like we do!" The march itself took ages getting underway, and the last contingent didn't arrive at the mall until after five o'clock. Marching with the Bay Area contingent (amidst nationalistic cries of San Fran-cis-co! San Fran-cis-co!) we strode past other folks just like us. The straight population didn't come out, so to speak, for the occasion. Here and there were a pocket of young college types with a sign like "Straights for Gay Rights," but in general it felt like the nine out of ten heard we were coming and vamoosed. Which is partly true: why a march on Washington should take place on the Sunday of a three day holiday weekend is beyond me. A few stray tourists shuffled around us and into the museums, but hey, everyone was at their version of Camp David. I propose that the next march be held on Inauguration Day 1988.

Rallied Around: I was pleased to run into a gang of ex-cheerleaders, which I immediately joined. We led a rousing cheer of "L-E-S-B-I-A-N! We like women more than men!" Another group entertained with a new version of "Three Blind Mice": "We all went up to the mall one day/to make a statement about being gay/Someday soon we'll get our way/We're half a million queer!" Another clever ditty took the tune of "You are my Sunshine." It began, "We are your nightmare, your biggest nightmare..." But the atmosphere was as politically charged as that of a PTA potluck. Hardly a handful of cops were clustered here and there. A choir of evangelicals tried to convert us at one turn of the road, but the boys in blue casually protected them from us and vice-versa. It felt like a Gay Pride march, which of course, in many senses it was. Yet caught up in the levity, it was hard always to remember the gravity of the issues that brought us together.

Naming Names: The Names Project was really at the emotional center of the march. A bed of color amidst the wash of people, the quilt took on both personal and political pain and grief. Friends and families (of the gay variety, mostly) brought flowers and tears to the squares of lost pals, others of us wandered through the maze touched by the lives, and deaths, of those we never knew. Some pieces were starkly painful: a square listing "Roy Cohn: Bully, Coward, Victim." Other squares

showed the lives of their namesakes with clarity and humor: a pair of loved, well-worn levis, diary entries stitched to the front, and pictures of the coming of age of a young man who died before he reached twenty. The insanity of the situation was felt at every turn, the waste of human potential, and anger at those powers that be as they thumb their noses at the crisis. I felt that if Reagan and his cronies (Mr. Helms, damn him, and the rest of those blokes who voted for that homophobic, death-affirming bill within a week of the march) could walk down the aisles of that cloth and read each name, look at the love in each life, perhaps they would soften. I'm naive, however; I seem to remember that Reagan wasn't too emotionally moved at his visit to Bitburg last year...

Hell Fire And Affirmation? The rally was disappointing for me, and, I'll warn you, I seem to be the only one with a differing opinion on this aspect of the march. Holly sang, as per usual "We are gay and straight together." (Where were the straights?) Troy Perry, head of the Metropolitan Community Church, was backed by local gals Sistah Boom, and preached love and affection: "Go out and hug and kiss your lover in the metro, on the streets. Show the world what a loving group of people we are!" Jesse Jackson said all the right things in all the right ways. But where were our gay or lesbian political leaders? Why was Jackson speaking for us? Where is our voice, our direction?

I felt very uneasy at the march, and it's taken these last two weeks to sort and sift through my feelings. There's a sense I had at the rally that we were sitting on shaky ground, building on loose foundations. It has to do with our alliances and our process of coming together as a community, and I use that word loosely. Just as the black and white alliance of the civil rights movement took much for granted which it later had to examine very closely, I feel as though our gay and lesbian unity has been hastily thrown together, a marriage of convenience. And I know it's unpopular to mention our differences, divide in the face of adversity, but I harbor resentments and fears. I see a force of people who predominantly focus on

the needs of men. Yes, I know that AIDS has/will affect us all deeply across the board. But I wonder where the folks were when it came time for the ERA marches in the late seventies? Was that not a case of civil rights? I wonder where the protest is coming from now as women face archaic restrictions on abortions? Is this not a crisis which will result in the deaths of thousands of women? Are these issues anymore in the gay and lesbian community? I wonder about the nature of our alliance when I experience sexism and misogyny from my gay brothers, and I was not surprised to learn that the Los Angeles contingent ignored the list of the national demands of the march and left out the issue of racism and minorities. And it concerns me that the national organization could not reach consensus on opposition to Contra aid and non-intervention in Central America. I don't see a men's movement that has championed the rights of women and minorities, and I well remember the bile that surfaced last year when the lesbian editor of this paper came out in favor of Nancy Pelosi.

The civil rights movement swept up many white folks in its wake, and many of these disappeared as soon as the trendiness of the era wore off. I am hoping for a deep relationship of solidarity between gays and lesbians, but I don't think we've yet done our homework, talked out our differences, heard each other's pain as well as demands. We've been thrown together hastily, and while holding hands with two gay men at the rally, hands held high against the gray Washington sky, I wondered if I had the support of these men in other struggles.

The women's movement chugged full speed ahead chanting "We are family" for quite some time before women of color, lesbians, and working class women got off the train of white girls and demanded to be seen and heard. The same protests were voiced at that time: women said, "Don't divide the movement, don't slow us down." But the train was really going nowhere until it acknowledged all its passengers.

Out And About: I stopped at the march as one
(continued on page 46)

HOSPICE... Because There's No Place Like Home



Photo by Gypsy P. Ray

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ASTROLOGY

BY JACK FERTIG

Election Erection

According to the Greek tradition, birthdates at the end of the month are often shifted to the beginning of the next month for good luck. While common literature lists Art Agnos' birth in Springfield, Massachusetts on September 2, 1938, his mother revealed to me, by way of Art's staff, that our Assemblyman was born on August 31 at 11:20 p.m., E.S.T.

Jack Molinari's staff was equally friendly to my calls, but with less result. (Is my favoritism showing?) With a birthdate (Sept. 6, 1935) and no time, I only have a solar chart to work with, but the difference in the two charts is significant enough to expect that little difference would be provided by an Ascendant and the concurrent fine tuning. Jack? You can still get that to me for the December runoff.

Parentetically and most unastrologically, I admit that my own bias is on record. Molinari would be an acceptable mayor, but Agnos is way and above the better choice. I have good friends whom I respect on both sides and I ask the Molinarians, "Why?" They have without exception spoken of his personality, longstanding friendships, and favors done. Not one has mentioned any issues, but these are legitimate reasons to support a candidate. Or maybe they think I'm more interested in personality than issues. (Anyone who's followed my love life could easily suspect that.)

The rudeness and vindictive, mean-spirited viciousness that has filled our community in this campaign has been disgraceful. We've heard the kettle and the pot call each other every bit of ugliness imaginable. Neither side has much room to claim moral superiority. Agnos has a developer friend in Sacramento. Molinari has lots of them here in SF. Art tried to cut a deal with the AIDS/ARC vigil; Jack made one with Harry Britt. It's politics, kids. Nothing to get outraged over. (Although I do wish Harry were more adept at cutting a deal. It's embarrassing to see him say that the Gay and Lesbian communities are united against the Missouri so we should support Jack Molinari.)

Meanwhile, Back In Orbit...

Pluto entering Art's 6th house shows a period of intense power and charisma beginning 12 years in which he will be focused on working much harder and more in an executive style. No Pluto aspects for Jack, but unlike Art, he does have Neptune aspects. Neptune rules dreams and delusion. Trine Uranus and sextile Saturn it could land him his dream job, but it needs stronger aspects to back it up. Uranus, the planet of surprises, is very strong on Art's side on election day — sextile both "benefics" Venus and Jupiter trine Mars. Jack only has a weak and not very nice semi-sextile to Mars. Saturn shows Art facing opportunities and changes at work and Jack shutting down emotionally. Jupiter, opportunity and good luck, is strong on Art's side. Venus is even more so. (But isn't Venus the Goddess of Art?) Both candidates are ruled by Mercury, which looks stronger on Jack's side. But only by a seriously self-critical square to Pluto.

Issues! Issues! Issues!

Gesundheit!
With a rare combination of aspects to and from the 11th house (The Board of Supervisors) the civic chart makes Proposition P more likely than most would dare hope. Pro-labor sentiments look strong, but otherwise the mood is fiscally tight. Although Prop. W looks like an easy win, there's not a lot in the charts to support it. (The chart does suggest a flawless campaign strategy, but I won't tell. Vote NO on drunken, noisy, homophobic rednecks carousing through South of Market.)

Meanwhile, Back In Uranus...

Guess what? Another month of dull aspects. Jupiter trine Saturn (from the 11th until early December) is pleasant, but we discussed that in May. What? You children want to hear it again? Well, all right. Jupiter is the planet of opportunity and good luck. Saturn is structure and restriction. With Jupiter in Aries (strong

physical energies, general personal good fortune) in a harmonious trine to Saturn in Sagittarius (intellectual challenges, working towards freedom and humor) we have great opportunities to learn how to utilize apparently conservative structures towards liberating purposes. It takes respect for that which you are trying to change, and a great deal of discipline, but the possibilities (in a direct relation to your capacity for hard work, discipline, and respect for authority) are magnificent.

Little Mercury goes direct on the 5th. We have a good chance to mend systems and reorganize things that went kerblowee in the last month. Try not to make it the way things were before, or you'll only have the same disasters again. Be creative and learn from history. Those who don't learn from the mistakes of a Mercury retrograde are doomed to repeat them.

Aries: Now you can start putting back together the pieces of the puzzle that came apart last month. Just to keep life interesting, you find out that not only were your answers wrong, but the questions were formulated incorrectly. Start from scratch. It seems like more work, but will prove in the long run to be the easier, softer way. People in charge are more open to exploring possibilities than you would expect. Trust their motivations and consider their advice.

Taurus: This is an excellent time to renegotiate contracts. If you've agreed to any in the last couple of weeks, you'd BETTER renegotiate them! Your lover(s) show(s) a serious interest in getting tied down. Yes, that could mean any of several things, but the stars are not more specific. Keep all lines of communication open, and be willing to consider all possibilities.

Gemini: This month offers great opportunities to get your work and health issues into a clear cut, razor sharp, single minded focus. You're right, that doesn't sound like Gemini. You're going to need some help. Enlist the advice of trusted friends. You're not losing self-worth, but gaining a resource.

Cancer: Despite the opportunities and support you can now enjoy in your work, your mind wanders towards fun and relaxation. Bringing that playful wit into your work can be very creative and even buoyantly inspiring to co-workers, but be careful. You humor is tending to the outre and could prove dangerously disruptive.

Leo: Creative exploration, thoughtful playfulness open new horizons for you. Domestic issues can be worked out to your advantage, but keep an open, playful mind. The home front looks mildly combative. We all know you're a sweetheart, but sometimes you use that as a cover for stubbornness. Show what a real sweetheart you can be with a little flexibility.

Virgo: Something very deep and very serious is bugging you. It's probably nothing new, but the awareness of the issue is becoming so clear as to feel more urgent than usual. This is a good time to find somebody and talk it out towards resolution. You may experience some very ugly emotions in the process, but you will come out of it feeling more strong and clear about yourself. You have nothing to fear, but fear itself.

Libra: While this is a good time to get your finances in order, you should be sure to get some good help in doing so. Of course you could do OK without any help, but the problems that came up last month will ultimately recur unless you try a different approach. Level with your partner and ask frankly for advice. You don't have to go along with it, but at least consider what s/he has to say.

Scorpio: Hard work and lots of it can be a source of pride or a cause for burn-out. Watch your limits. Do what you have to, but consider your tendencies to obsessive behaviour. Give yourself a break. You deserve it. Coming off too strong, you may think that you're only riding yourself too hard, but the pressure you're putting yourself under is affecting those around you. The situation could become dangerously volatile. Keep channels open and ask periodically for some feedback. If somebody tells you to rest, don't argue! Rest! Your doubts will never be answered if you keep them to yourself.

Sagittarius: Your usual playful manner is more than usually evident to those around you, but something is drawing you in and away from others. The inner workings of your mind are demanding attention and could provide a source for inspiration. You could amuse your friends with metaphysical fun and games or provide

(continued on page 43)

COMING UP! CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE BAY AREA

NOVEMBER

1 SUNDAY

"Ethnic Women in Film," a forum exploring the cinematic depiction of women of color in film. 1:30pm. Free. Oakland Museum. Public screenings of work by independent filmmakers. Informal discussions with film artists about their work. Films include: Debra Robinson's landmark film about Black women comics, *I Be Done Was Is*; Andrea Weiss & Greta Schiller's work about the famed 1940s women's jazz band, *The Int'l Sweethearts of Rhythm*; Julie Dash's tale of a Black woman's search for identity in white Hollywood, *Illusions*. Also excerpts from Elena Featherston's work-in-progress about novelist Alice Walker. *Alice Walker: Visions of the Spirit*. Trinh Minh-ha, Vietnamese-born author, anthropologist, composer, poet & filmmaker discusses her controversial documentary, *Reassemblage*. Patricia Aguayo presents her public service announcement, *Elder Abuse*. Gerry Lim, Chinese-American poet & playwright, screens *Paper Angels*, a video based on her award-winning play. Also Bay Area premiere of Japanese independent filmmaker Yui Kageyama's tale of romance, *A Back Alley Asian American Love Story of Sorts*. Program sponsored by There City Cinema. Info: 428-0116.

G Forty Plus Mtg: "Backup & Backdown: Pacific Center & Its Work," a talk with Ivan Myer, Jim Bartholomew, Karl Berrsten & Matt Ager. Also collection for the AIDS Fdn Food Bank—brown rice, soup, shaving soap & other toiletries especially needed. 2pm. First Unitarian Church, Franklin at Geary. SF. Info: 552-1997.

Encore presentation: "Two Jewish Boys Photograph Sex South of Market," outrageous new black and white photographs by SF artists Mark I. Chester & Michael Rosen. 2-6 pm. Rosen will photograph donors. Free. 1229 Folsom St. SF. Info/appt: 391-9525.

Brazilian Beat at El Rio, 3158 Mission St. SF. 4-8 pm. \$3. Samba lessons offered. Info: 282-3225.

Harvest Brigades to Nicaragua: learn about Nicaragua first hand! 2-3 week harvest brigades leaving December-January. Special elders, students & Third World brigades. Applications accepted now. Info: Nicaragua Information Ctr. 549-1387.

Sunday Cabaret at The Galileo with Mike & Friends at 5 pm. Weston McGowan at 8 pm. 718 14th St. SF. Info: 431-0253.

SAGA Skivwear Extravaganza: fashion show presented by Skiers & Gay Athletes—get a look at the latest in colors & styles to help you look your best on the slopes. Bring a friend & meet other gay skiers. 7pm. St. John's Church Hall, 5th Ave at Irving. SF. Info: 928-1736.

Bisexual Significant Other Group 1st mtg. Topic—"Loving Someone Bisexual." Attendance open to anyone wanting to discuss what it's like to be in a relationship with a bisexual. 7-8:50 pm. \$3-5, no one turned away for lack of funds. Pacific Ctr. 2712 Telegraph Ave at Derby, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.

Music of Ireland & Scotland, with Andy M Stewart & Manus Lunny, part of Plovershare Acoustic Folk Concert Series. 7:30 pm. \$7 gen'l, \$6 srs. \$4 kids. Ft Mason Ctr Bldg A, Marina at Laguna St. SF. Info: 441-8910.

Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group meets 7:30 pm at the Old Firehouse, Stanford campus. Tonight's topic: Movies & Munchies—showing of *The Times of Harvey Milk*—bring munchies & drinks to share! Info: Marilyn 959-1260.

Bravol For Women in the Arts: a special event featuring women artists including Helen Schumaker, Alleluia Paris, Janice Mirkutan, & others. Program features dance, theatre, music & poetry. 8pm. \$10. \$30 includes reception. Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St. SF. WA SIGN & CC provided. Tix at BASS STBS. Info/res: 550-8830.

The Cantata Singers in concert at SF Conservatory, with pianist Peggy Salkind & the John and Annamaree McCarty piano duo. Program includes a Broadway & Tin Pan Alley musical revue, works by Copland, Elliott Carter & others. 8pm. \$7 gen'l, \$5 students & seniors. Helman Hall, 19th Ave & Ortega St. SF. Info: 665-0874.

Stand-up Cabaret: Color Me Famous: Sandra Hebert leads you thru "that infernal rat race known as the search for fame." 8:30pm. 1129

2 MONDAY

Women's Cancer Drop-in Support Group begins tonight. Group meets 1st & 3rd Mon of each month. 6:30-8pm. Old Providence Floor. American Cancer Society. Group is a project of the Women's Cancer Resource Ctr. Info: Jackie Winnow 653-9028 or Regina Querner 658-8149. \$5 donation requested, no woman turned away for lack of funds.

AIDS Interfaith Healing Service: co-sponsored by Holy Ascension Eastern Orthodox Parish. 7pm. chapel of St Gregory of Nyssa at Trinity Episcopal Church, Bush & Gough Sts. SF. Service uses the ancient Order for the Blessing of Oil & the Anointing of the Sick, celebrant Bishop Jonah Tolson. All people living with AIDS/ARC, their friends & families, & all in need of healing welcome. Info: AIDS Interfaith Network 928-HOPE or Bishop Tolson 563-8514.

For Women: "Feminism is the only alternative if life is to continue on this planet"—Sonia Johnson. A group to connect, empower, realize, create, discuss how women are, learn to be courageous, powerful women. Mondays. 7-9 pm. Info: Marcie 221-1686 evenings.

An Eye on Contemporary American Issues with Anthony Jonathan Schell & Orville Schell discuss political & environmental issues facing the US. Moderated by Sedgwick Thomson. 7:30 pm. \$10. SF Jewish Community Ctr. 3200 California St. SF. Co-sponsors: SFJCC & City Arts & Lectures. Info: 346-6040.

Faculty Chamber Artists in concert at SF Conservatory, Bonnie Hampton, cello. Paul Hersh, viola. Nathaniel Schwartz, piano, & guest violinist Miwako Watanabe present an American Music Week concert of works by Dvorak, Ives & George Rochberg. 8 pm. \$7 gen'l, \$5 students & srs. Helman Hall, 19th Ave & Ortega St. SF. Info: 665-0874.

Radical Women Mtg: review of current controversies, issues & articles from local & feminist press. 6:45 pm home-cooked dinner (\$4.50 donation), followed by 7:30 pm mtg. 523A Valencia St at 16th. SF. Info: 864-1278.

Transformational Sex: class on Tantra, Taoist & Reichian approaches to gay male sexuality. 11/3 & 5, 7-10:30 pm. \$35. Body Electric School of Massage & Rebirthing. 6527A Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Info: 553-1594.

Southbay SOL (Slightly Older Lesbians) meets 7:30 pm. Bly DeFrank Lesbian/Gay Community Ctr. 1040 Park Ave bet Race & Lincoln, San Jose. Tonight's topic: Massage & Reflexology with guest speaker, Corky. Info: (408) 293-4525 (leave message). Newcomers welcome. Info: 408-293-4525.

Friends of Brian Willson, Nuremberg Action Committee Update: video of 9/11 incident at Concord Naval Weapons Station. Also slideshow of Brian's work in Nicaragua. 7:30 pm. \$4-5 SL. La Pena. 3105 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

Battered Lesbians: new support group for women who are battered, or have been in a battering relationship. Writs mtgs. SL fee. Sponsors: WOMAN, Inc. Info: 864-4777. WA.

Dick Jones Master Class: "Stage Technique for Singers," at SF Conservatory. Public welcome. For info/res: 564-8086.

Careers in Training & Development, a talk on career opportunities with Sue Burish, training & design consultant. Sponsors by University YWCA's Turning Point Career Ctr. Noon-1pm. \$2. 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Info: 848-6370.

3 TUESDAY

Radical Women Mtg: review of current controversies, issues & articles from local & feminist press. 6:45 pm home-cooked dinner (\$4.50 donation), followed by 7:30 pm mtg. 523A Valencia St at 16th. SF. Info: 864-1278.

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4 WEDNESDAY

Heartbeaver CPR Class at Pacific Presbyterian Medical Ctr. 2333 Buchanan St. SF. 5:15-6:00pm. Merrill Rm. 1st Floor. 6-9:30pm. \$2. Info/res: 923-3362.

Heartbeaver CPR Class at Pacific Presbyterian Medical Ctr. 2333 Buchanan St. SF. 5:15-6:00pm. Merrill Rm. 1st Floor. 6-9:30pm. \$2. Info/res: 923-3362.

Men's Closed Coming Out Group: 1st mtg. Topic—"what it's like to be a man coming out." Because this is a closed group, advance sign-up is required. Call 841-6224 for info. 6:30-7:50 pm. Pacific Ctr. 2712 Telegraph Ave at Derby, Berkeley.

Bea Roman, Shanti Project's development director, speaks at tonight's Castro Lions Club dinner. 6:30 pm. Cafe DuNord Restaurant, 2170 Market St. SF. \$10 optional for dinner. Info: 626-9081.

Building the City: An Architectural & Development History of SF—program of illustrated talks with noted architectural historian Gary Brechin. Tonight's topic: "Reconstruction: Graft Trials & World's Fair." Reform. Years: 1906-1915. 7:9 pm. UCSF campus. Info/res: 441-3000.

Is Your Life Out of Control? Quit Your Addictions! Workshop on quitting smoking, coffee, sugar & other addictions, offered by Dyanne Arfang, DC & Francine Ball, CA. Info on the physical & emotional effects of addictive substances, tips on stopping common addictions. Eastern & Western philosophies discussed. 7:9 pm. \$3. Info/res: Francine 654-4618, Dyanne 549-9080.

"Empowering Your Child": a workshop with Alexandra Appel at Clairlight Women's Books, 1110 Petaluma Hill Rd #5, Santa Rosa. 7 pm.

5 THURSDAY

Demo to Shut Down the Lexington Control Unit for women political prisoners in the US. 4pm at the Flood Bldg, 870 Market & 5th. SF. Info: 315-7177 bet Folsom & South.

Personal Financial Planning & Achieving Financial Independence, a panel discussion at Mission Branch, SF Public Library, 3359 24th St. SF. 7 pm. free, or info call the Library, 624-2676.

Job Search Workshop: How to Use an Employment Agency/Executive Recruiter to Your Best Advantage, a workshop sponsored by University YWCA, led by Nora Davis, recruiter with Davis, Clifford & Associates, and Rochelle Collett. Permanent Placement Specialist with Adia Personnel services. 7-9 pm. \$20. 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Info: 848-6370.

BWMT Rap: "Necessity of Having an Independent Family!" 7:30 pm. 1350 W. Waller St. SF. Info: 931-BWMT.

Heat Lightning: bookparty & reading to celebrate John Lantigua's new novel, a murder mystery set in SF's Mission District, involving the Salvadoran death squads. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. SF. Info: 282-9246.

Holly Near in Benefit Concert for Santa Clara Valley Labor History Project. 7:30 pm. Filz Ctr. De Anza College, Cupertino. Tix \$8. \$10. \$12. Info: (408) 996-4712.

Abortion & Jewish Law: a talk by Rabbi Charisse Kraines, founder of the Feminist Miyavan. Abortion discussion from a liberal standpoint, in relation to biblical & rabbinic texts. 7:30-9 pm. \$5. SF Jewish Community Ctr. 3200 California St. SF. Info: 346-6040.

Jim Scott Concert: singer/songwriter, guitarist, formerly of the Paul Winter Consort, debuts at La Pena. Scott is a social protest singer in the tradition of Pete Seeger and Woody Guthrie. 8pm. \$6. 3105 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

6 FRIDAY

Poetry Reading at Mama Bears: Sharon Davenport & Mary Ann Hewitt read from their works. 7 pm. \$4. Women only 6:30pm. Telegraph Ave. Oakl. Info: 428-9684.

Naïve Women Concerned About the Middle East: returns for a 3rd year of film showings marking the 20th yr of Israeli occupation of the West Bank & Gaza. Tonight's feature, *On Our Land*, film focuses on the realities of the everyday Israeli citizens who are Palestinian. 7:30 pm. \$3-6 SL. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

Men's Series at MCC: tonight's topic, "Gay Men Learning to Love Ourselves." 7:30-9pm. MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St. SF. Info: 863-4434.

Marion Zimmer Bradley reads from her new novel, *The Firebrand*, in which she does for the Trojan War what she did for Arthurian legend in her bestselling *The Mists of Avalon*—she retells the story as seen by a woman. 7:30 pm. free. Everyone welcome. Old Wives Tales Bookstore, 1009 Valencia St. SF. Info: 821-4675. Call in advance for childcare seating and access info. Please wear no scents.

Eating Disorders Lecture Series offered by St. Helena Hospital Outpatient Eating Disorders Treatment Program in Santa Rosa. 11/4, 12, 19. 7:30pm. Santa Rosa Public Library, forum room, corner of Third & E Sts. Santa Rosa. Topics include: an overview of eating disorders, the cultural aspect of eating disorders, addictive aspects of eating disorders.

Archetype Dance Class: tonight's theme—The Child. Exploration with guided meditation, warm-up, improv, composition, drawing & writing. You'll leave the class with a little dance. 7:45-9:45 pm. \$10 drop-in, \$35 for series of 4 classes (see 11/11, 18 & 25). Info/res: Anah 863-0582.

Men's Closed Therapy/Support Group: 1st mtg. Place for men to discuss what it is to be a gay or sexual man. Because this is a closed group, advance sign-up is required. Call 841-6224 for info. 8-9:50 pm. Pacific Ctr. 2712 Telegraph Ave at Derby, Berkeley.

FOG German Class: 8 pm. 304 Gold Mine Dr. SF. Emphasis on conversation. Info: Fraternal Order of Gays, 641-0999.

Comie Addresses: Lynne Jassam & Judy Sloan at New Performance Gallery—comedy, mime, dancing & improv—New Vaudeville at its cutting edge. 8 pm tonight thru 11/7. Plus workshops on 11/8 at 1 & 3 pm. Tix: \$3.50. 315 7th bet Folsom & South. Van Ness. SF. Tix at BASS. STBS. Info: 849-1187, 863-9634.

Bisexual Women's Rap Group Open Mtg. tonight's topic—"The Fine Art of Meeting People." Attendance open to any women willing to discuss bisexuality & related issues, whether or not she considers herself bisexual. 8-9:50 pm. \$3-5, no woman turned away for lack of funds. Pacific Ctr. 2712 Telegraph Ave at Derby, Berkeley. WA. sign info: 841-6224.

Intro to the SF AIDS Foundation: 10 am-noon, 25 Van Ness St. SF. suite 330. Brief intro to the mission, purpose, goals & organizational structure of the Foundation. To reserve a space, call Kevin Cox. 864-5855.



Paul Meyer plays clarinet at the Green Room; see 11/7.



Cathy Cade's "A Lesbian Photo Album," see Galleries.



Irja Friend marches with the Grey Panthers in the film "Acting Out," see 11/12 for details.

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Congregation Sha'ar Zahav and Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco invite you to participate in a weekend of spiritual renewal

"And Your Daughters Shall Prophecy..."

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 8:15 PM

Shabbat Service

Dr. Naomi Janowitz, professor of religious studies at UC Davis at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (Danvers at Caselli)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 7:30 PM

"An Evening with Adrienne Rich"

professor of English and Women's Studies at Stanford. Advance tickets required for this event only. Donation of \$5-10 requested: 863-4434 for tickets. Celebration will take place at MCC, 150 Eureka Street featuring the debut of the CSZ/MCCSF Chorus

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 10:30 AM

Morning Worship

The Rev. Dr. Karle Ziegler, pastor of MCC New York City at MCC, 150 Eureka Street (childcare provided)

For more information, directions, tickets, contact the church at 863-4434 or the synagogue at 861-6932.

Polish Class for beginners, sponsored by FOG 10 wk course, emphasis on conversation. Info: Fraternal Order of Gays 641-0399.

Hearings: Peter, Paul & Mary in Central America—film documents their 1986 fact-finding tour of El Salvador & Nicaragua. Includes interviews with citizens, leaders, concert footage, old & new songs. 8 pm. \$8. York Theater, 2789 24th St. SF. Benefit for TECNICA, a nonprofit organization which sends technical & professional volunteers to Nicaragua. Info: 848-0292.

Ellen Glichter, writer, poet & Nat'l Public Radio commentator ("McNeil/Lehrer Report") speaks at Herbst Theatre. SF. 8 pm, \$11 & \$13. Part of Friends of the SF Public Library & City Arts & Lectures. 7th Annual Literary Events Series. Info: 552-3656.

"No More!" UC Berkeley composer Oly Wilson in concert at the Exploratorium's McBean Theater Program. Settings of texts by Black South African poets for tenor & 8 instruments. Wilson also discusses the recent performance by Seiji Ozawa & the Boston Symphony, in part a tribute to the late

Parlez-Vous Français? Soyez le bienvenu a nos reunions amicales qui ont lieu le premier vendredi de chaque mois (All levels of proficiency welcome.) La reunion du 6 novembre sera chez Neil. Pour informations telephoner: lui au 861-4815.

"Ethical Management of Resources: Food & Forests", 3rd of a 4-part colloquium examining the impact of science & technology on non-Western peoples. Participants include Victoria Bomberly, Randy Hayes, Eleanor M. LeCain & Alan Miller. Co-sponsored by Calif Institute of Integral Studies, the Elmwood Fdn, & Calif Council for the Humanities. Info: 753-6100. 7 pm. Unitarian Ctr. SF.

Gala Brick Hut Benefit Dinner! Come see how they cook—proceeds to benefit Joanne Garnett. Tax \$25/person, \$5 corkage. Info: Cheryl or Wendy 655-9591.

Wheelchair basketball benefit game for the Bay Area Metroliner's women's basketball team. 7 pm. donation. Rafi, 2550 Mission St. Mission Center Gym, 2450 Harrison St. Info: 849-4463 voice/TDD

Franklin at Geary Sts, SF. Spons by CJ Jung Institute. Info: 771-8080.

Int'l Taiko Festival: celebration of the ancient Japanese art of Taiko drumming—a throbbing, thrilling, fast-synthesizing of complex rhythms, spiritual harmony & pure athletics. Two performances tonight at 8 pm. Sun at 2 pm. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. Tel: 842-9988. Info: 842-9988.

Hot Blues Jam with Gwen Avery & Friends at Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St. SF. 7-8 pm. Info: 821-0232.

Judy Sloan & Lynne Jassen, comic actresses at New Performance Gallery—see 11/4.

Jennifer Berezan in Concert at Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Women only 8 pm. \$5. Info: 428-9684.

Dr. Naomi Janowitz, professor of Religious Studies at UC Davis, speaks at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's shabbat service. 8:15 pm. 220 Danvers St. Caselli, SF. Info: 861-6932.

9th Annual Quaker Lesbian Conference, a gathering for lesbians, women who are moving toward a lesbian lifestyle, who are Friends, or familiar

and card games. 7 pm. Info:location: Zeke 552-1353.

Toilet Erotic Massage: a class for Men: Heal the heart/venereal connection. Led by Joseph Kramer at Body Electric School of Massage & Rebirth. 6527A Telegraph Ave. Oakland. 7:30-11:30 pm. \$25. Info: 653-1594.

Phallic Fellowship at 746 Clementina St. Apt 2: eve of camaraderie in the best South of Market tradition. Savory movies, refreshments, midnight snack. Doors open 7:30-11 pm. Males age 18 & over welcome. Info: 621-1887.

"And Your Daughters Shall Prophecy", a poetry reading with Adrienne Rich. 7:30 pm. Peace & 150 Eureka St. SF. Spons by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav & Metropolitan Community Church of SF. Seating limited, adv reservations strongly suggested. Info: 861-6932.

Holly Near in Gala 10th Anniversary Celebration of Nat'l Women's History Project. The Project is the nation's largest & most prominent institution promoting recognition of women's contributions to American history. 8 pm at Luther Burbank Center, 50 Mark West Springs Rd. Santa Rosa. Tel: \$10, \$12, \$14. Tax available at Luther Burbank Box Office.

Early Music Concert with Orchestra of the 18th Century. Famed conductor Frans Bruggen has drawn together 40 musicians from 13 countries around the world, who are each known as specialists in 18th century music. Tonight's program includes: Beethoven's "Eroica" on period instruments, plus two works by Mozart: "Overture to Don Giovanni" & "Piano Concerto in d minor, K. 466". 8 pm. \$10-13. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. Info: 842-9988.

Southern Style Music with Jill Knight at Artemis Cafe—original & standard R&B, jazz & rock with that Southern touch. 8 pm. \$5. 1199 Valencia St. SF. Info: 428-9684.

A Double Bill: Judy Sloan & Lynne Jassen at New Performance Gallery—see 11/4.

Benefit for Bay Area Women's News at Mama Bears, with Mimi Fox, Jennifer Berezan, Mary Gerny, Monica Grant, Doreen Carter & others. Women only. 8 pm. \$8-10. 6536 Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

Civil Rights on the Rebound: day-long conference examines the effect of the Reagan Administration on the civil rights movement. Speaker: Paula Giddings, author of *When And Where I Enter*. Workshops & presentations on violence against our communities, reproductive rights, AIDS issues, unemployment, AIDS & the civil rights movement, and more. Sheraton Palace. SF. Spons by SF Civil Rights Coalition. 9 am-6 pm. CC provided. Info: write LRP, 670 Mission St. SF. 941103.

Garth Meyer in concert at the Green Room, War Memorial Bldg. Van Ness Ave. SF. 8 pm.

Women—Let's Go Dancing! Enjoy a night out with the Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group. Meet 9 pm at the Club St. Helens, San Jose. \$4 cover. Info: Marilyn 969-1260.

Lake Merritt Run with Eastbay Front-runners: meet 9:30 am, corner of 14th St & Oak, nr Cameron Stanford House. Oakland. 3 mile loop. Info: 261-3246.

KarmaKantz: irresistible blend of African, Caribbean, reggae & funk at La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. 9:30 pm. \$5. Info: 849-2568.

Basile Recordkeeping: Tax info for Self-Employed. 1 day seminar taught by Jan Zobel. 10:30 am-3 pm. \$40. Canada College, Redwood City. Info: 574-6563.

"The Great Goddess of Ancient Europe": 2-day workshop, extended lecture to be given by 11/6 lecture to a detailed examination of ancient European Goddess culture—its function, mythology & continuity thru the patriarchal era. Presented by Marja Gimbutas, PhD. Info: 753-6100.

Making Friends with Unfriendly Emotions: workshop uses our mind, breath, creativity & feelings to bring us into a "higher vibration of self-love". 10 am-6 pm. \$75. Center for Self-Growth & Healing, Inc. Castro St. SF. For details call Carole Morton 621-5683.

Gods in Everyman: the Way of the Archetypes in the Lives of Contemporary Men. Jean Shinobu Ueno, MD, author of *Goddesses in Everyman*, presents material from her current work in progress. At this 2-day workshop, Dr. Bolen discusses the Greek Gods whose myths provide insights into our male psyche. 10 am-4 pm today & tmw. Ft Mason Conference Ctr. SF. \$120 gen'l. \$100 strdts & srs. Spons by CJ Jung Institute. Info: 771-8080.

Violinist Catherine Favre demonstrates violin construction, including wood carving, principles of tapping & acoustics. Demos throughout day. 10 am-5 pm. At the Exploratorium, 3601 Lyon St. SF. Info: 563-7337. Today & tmw.

Gay & Lesbian Vegetarians Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner & Get-together. Informal dinner open to everyone. Chance for lesbian women & gay men to enjoy a traditional, non-meat holiday gathering. Bring vegetarian food dish or beverage to share. Info: Rick Haze (408) 426-7315; (408) 773-1335.

Lesbian Games Party: play all board

"The Great Long Beach Social Vagrant" Scandal of 1914: lecture by David Cameron, historian with the ONE Institute. Discussion of a long-forgotten example of early gay resistance. Spons by SF Bay Area Gay & Lesbian Historical Society. 2:5 pm. \$5. The NAMES Project, 2362 Market St. SF. Secret War, Secret Government: panel presenters include Dan Sheehan, chief counsel of Christie Institute; Tony Avrgan, ABC cameraman & plaintiff in suit against the "secret letter" 2 pm. \$5. followed by reception, \$25 donation. Masonic Auditorium, 111 California St at Taylor. SF. Spons by Mobilization for Peace, Peace & Justice. Info: 626-8053.

Int'l Talko Festival at UC Berkeley—don't miss! See 11/6.

"Jazz at the DeYoung" with The Mel Martin Trio & Pianist 2 pm. \$5. DeYoung Museum, Golden Gate Park. SF. Info: 750-3624, 441-6484.

Bookparty for Judy Grahn's new book, *The Queen of Swords*. 3 pm at Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

Brazilian Beat at El Rio—see 11/1.

Chrysanthemum Ragtime Band at Ashkenaz Music & Dance Club, 1317 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley. 4-6 pm. \$5. Info: 842-9988.

Canayla Chalken & Mark Haglock at 5 pm. Michael Calery at 8 pm. 718 14th St. SF. Info: 431-0253.

At ClairLight Women's Books: "The Enemy Inside: How We Keep Each Other Powerless," a 3hr workshop with Margo Adair, feminist educator & author of *Working Inside Out*. 5:30 pm, \$9-13. 1110 Petaluma Hill Rd #5, Santa Rosa. Info: (707) 575-8879.

SF Slightly Queer Lesbians meet to provide a social, nonsmoking setting for single men to meet other single men. Relaxed, informal, non-bar environment. Bring a dessert to feed at least 6 people. \$5 donation. Info: Paul 550-9220.

Canadian Singer Heather Bishop in concert at La Pena. Bishop's varied repertoire reveals her commitment to social change. 8 pm. \$5. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

American Art Song Recital at SF Conservatory, public performance by the Conservatory's American Art Song Competition finalists (competition for singers of all ages). 8 pm. \$7 gen'l. \$5 strdts & srs. Helman Hall, 19th Ave at Ortega. SF. Info: 665-0874.

Stand-up Cabaret: Color Me Famous see 11/1.

Achille's Heel AIDS Benefit: 12 hours of music, poetry, readings, art. Info: 428-9684.

The Banned (rock), Count George and the Wonder (reggae) and Genero Sound. Free food & happy hour prices all day. Proceeds benefit Friends of Hospice (AIDS Home Care & Hospice Program) & Coming Home Hospital, San Jose. \$4 cover. Info: 285-5615.

"I Like Noodles"—children's singer Gary Lapow celebrates the release of his 12th album with 2 shows at Freight & Salvage. 1827 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley. 10 am & 11:30 am. \$2.50 kids, \$3.50 adults.

European-born violinmaker Catherine Favre gives demos at the Exploratorium—see 11/7.

Ray Karle Ziegler of Metropolitan Community Church-NY, speaks at MCC-SF morning service, 10:30 am. 150 Eureka St. SF. Info: 863-4434.

10 TUESDAY

Heartaver CPR Class at SF. Franco Hospital, 300 Hyde St. SF. 5:30-9:30 pm. \$5. Info: 552-3656.

Heartaver CPR Class at French Hospital, 431 Geary Blvd. SF. 6:30-9:30 pm. \$2. Info: 665-8181.

Open Prose Fiction Reading at Modern Times Bookstore—Bay Area's only open reading for writers of fiction. Get feedback from peers, listen to works in progress. Co-spons by Dial! Writers Union, moderated by Jeffrey Hardy. Sign-ups at 7:00 pm. 968 Valencia St. SF. Info: 282-9246.

Southbay SOL (Slightly Older Lesbians) meets 7:30 pm. \$25 adv. 1040 Park Ave. Redwood City. San Jose. Tonight's topic: Mothers & Daughters. Guest speaker: Jill Steinberg. Info: (408) 293-4525 (leave message). Newcomers welcome.

Art & Practice of Lucid Dreaming, a 6-wk intensive workshop: learn a variety of techniques to introduce you to the wonders of the inner world of lucid dreaming. Designed to assist both beginning & experienced lucid dreamers to induce lucid dreams & enhance the power & quality of their dreams. Tues. 7:30-9:30 pm. thru 12/15. \$65. Led by Fariba Bogzaran, dream group leader, artist & researcher & Daryl Helman, author of *The Dream House*. 395 Sussex St. SF. Info: Daryl 752-6053, 626-9301.

Birthday Celebration for poet/filmmaker James Broughton. Join Broughton as he celebrates his 74th year with a poetry reading at Blake's 2367 Telegraph Ave. Berkeley. 8:30 pm. \$3.

Beginning Astrology Class offered by Jessica Murray, spon by Goddess Faire. Info: 626-7795.



Amigas y su Grupo Ritmo, one of the most dynamic forces in the emergence of Salsa and Latin Jazz in the Southwest, comes town!

Sunday, November 8
9 p.m.-1 a.m.
Cesar's Latin Palace,
3140 Mission Street, SF
\$5 at door

WILLOW IN AUTUMN...

Wake up to homemade breads, muffins and preserves. Take advantage of the slower pace to tour the area wineries and explore the changing color of the countryside. Unwind with a soothing massage, relax in our hot tub, and discover that it's not too late to experience the rest and relaxation you promised yourself in the summer.

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Oakland Symphony conductor Calvin Simons (of his "Sinfonia" 8 pm. 3601 Lyon St. SF. Info: 563-7337).

SF Conservatory's New Music Ensemble in concert. "California Composers, California Poets" a program in honor of poet Robinson Jeffers. Evening includes premiere of work by David Garner, plus works by Elmer Farmer, Robert Erickson & Robert Sargent. 8 pm, free—donation suggested. Helman Hall, 19th Ave at Ortega St. SF. Info: 564-8086.

Comic Actresses Lynne Jassen & Judy Sloan at New Performance Gallery—see 11/4.

Wendy Lesser, essayist & critic, reads from her first book, *The Life Below the Ground: a Study of the Subterranean in Literature & History*. 8 pm. Black Oak Books, 1431 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley.

Frameline Presents "Lesbian TV Party," also Susan Kuchnickas "Off Our Chests"—a dozen women bare their breasts & talk about them, plus part of Marissa Bocurkew's "Playing With Fire," a drama about lesbian life & love. 8 pm, Viacom Cable Channel 25. SF. Also see 11/19.

Church of the Secret Gospel mtg. 2 pm service, followed by carnal communion till 4 pm. Males age 18 & over welcome. Refreshments \$2 donation. Info: 552-7739.

Walkup & Backup at Teddy Bear's: elegant jazz vocals of Cath Walkup, backed up by the fine piano stylings of Vince DiCiccio. 9-12 pm, free. 131 Gough St. SF. Info: 621-6766.

SF Independent Filmmakers Series: see Felicia Lowe's *China: Land of My Father*, plus her new work, *Carved in Silence*. Noon. SF Main Public Library, Lurie Room. Civic Ctr. SF.

"Acquaintance Rape: New Solutions to Old Problems" a talk with Sallie Werson & Roberta Friedman of UC Berkeley Rape Prevention Education Program. Noon-1 pm, free. Toland Hall, UCSF. Discussion of acquaintance rape—how to prevent it, how gender socialization contributes to the problem. Spons by UCSF Rape Education Program & UCSF Affirmative Action Office. Info: 476-5222.

A Death in the Family: much-acclaimed New Zealand drama has its SF premiere at the Castro Theatre. As Andrew Boyd is dying of AIDS his friends gather round to nurse him thru his final days & his conservative farming family struggles with the tragedy on their own very different terms. 7:30 pm. Benefit for Frameline. Film plays thru 11/12. Includes two short films, *My First Suit* & *Foolish Things*. Info: 861-5245.

BWMT East Bay Rap: "Is racism coming to an end, or has it just changed its color?" 7:30 pm. 3135 Courtland, Oakland. Info: 261-7822.

Lesbian Gay Parenting Group meets weekly at 7:30 pm. Tonight's topic: "Separations," share feelings about separating when you drop your kid off at childcare or at your co-parent's house, you break up & move out, you travel & leave your kid go back to work, or separate from a child you do not parent. At Jeff's home, 785 Castro St. SF. Info: 550-1271.

"The Great Goddess of Ancient Europe" lecture & slide presentation of imagery from Europe's ancient Great Goddess culture. Presented by Marja Gimbutas, UCLA professor of European Archeology. 7:30 pm. \$8 gen'l. \$6 strdts & srs. Calif Institute of Integral Studies, 765 Ashbury St. SF. Info: 753-6100.

Humor in Dreamwork: a Friday Night Dream Talk with Linda Magallon. Discuss punny dreams, nightmares & hypnagogic images. Get tips on how to tackle the funny bones of your dream maker. 7:30-9:30 pm. \$5. The Dream House, 395 Sussex St. SF. Info: 239-6906.

Concert & Dance with Sabla at La Pena. Nueva Cancion at its very best. Led by Jean Shinobu Ueno, MD, author of *Goddesses in Everyman*, presents material from her current work in progress. At this 2-day workshop, Dr. Bolen discusses the Greek Gods whose myths provide insights into our male psyche. 10 am-4 pm today & tmw. Ft Mason Conference Ctr. SF. \$120 gen'l. \$100 strdts & srs. Spons by CJ Jung Institute. Info: 771-8080.

Gay/Lesbian Gourmets Potluck 7 pm. SF location. An invitation for accomplished cooks to share a favorite dish in a relaxed, smoke-free social setting. RSVP Nikos, 775-6143 bet 11 am & 11 pm, or write Epicures Unlimited, 14051-P, SF 94114. Also see 11/21.

with Friends. Theme: "Body & Soul" Workshops, worship & sharing. Also hiking trails, volleyball net, room for indoor crafts & music. Bring songs, instruments, sports equipment, etc. Today thru 11/9 at the Quaker Conference Ctr. Ben Lomond. Info: Aeden Dalena (408) 688-1333 BEFORE 9 pm, or leave message at (408) 688-2333.

7 SATURDAY

Make your reservation today for GGBA's Thanksgiving Feast—see 11/21.

"Prize Fighter" or "A Knight of Recognition", presentation of acting scenes involving stage combat for adjudication by the Society of American Fight Directors (a nonprofit corporation which aims to promote the art of fight choreography). Program features actors & actresses trained in stage combat by Touche Unlimited. 3 pm. \$2. Centerville, 2840 Mariposa St. SF. Info: 526-3755, 525-8290.

Sightlines/Orchestra of the 18th Century—open rehearsal, followed by question & answer session with founder/director Frans Bruggen, just prior to the Orchestra's performance at Zellerbach. Sightlines is an ongoing series of informal events & discussions with performing artists/luminaries, designed to promote sharing of insights & visions in intimate surroundings, giving the audience a more personal access to artists. 4:30 pm. \$5. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. Info: 842-9988.

Gay Men's Relationship Mixer: Ready for a relationship with a gay man? Attend tonight's mixer—a comfortable way to meet other quality men thru small group discussions, personal sharing. Social hour follows. Doors open at 7 pm, mixer at 7:30. \$5. MCC Social Hall, 150 Eureka St (3 blocks west of 18th & Castro). SF. Info: Partners Institute 344-8541.

Gay/Lesbian Gourmets Potluck 7 pm. SF location. An invitation for accomplished cooks to share a favorite dish in a relaxed, smoke-free social setting. RSVP Nikos, 775-6143 bet 11 am & 11 pm, or write Epicures Unlimited, 14051-P, SF 94114. Also see 11/21.

8 SUNDAY

Workshops at New Performance Gallery with comic actors Judy Sloan & Lynne Jassen. See 11/4 for details.

9 MONDAY

The Dance Brigade Fundraising Dinner at La Pena's Cafe Violeta. 6-9 pm. \$10 includes wonderful Italian pizza & live music. door prizes & \$2.50 kids. 11:30 am. \$2.50 kids, \$3.50 adults.

European-born violinmaker Catherine Favre gives demos at the Exploratorium—see 11/7.

Ray Karle Ziegler of Metropolitan Community Church-NY, speaks at MCC-SF morning service, 10:30 am. 150 Eureka St. SF. Info: 863-4434.

10 TUESDAY

Blues Artist Brownie McGhee—legendary singer, guitarist, actor, songwriter, entertainer extraordinaire & philosopher of the blues performs solo at SF State's Student Union Bar. Doors 8:30 pm. 1 BASS. Info: 338-2444. 1600 Holloway St. SF.

BANGLE (Bay Area Network of Gay & Lesbian Educators) East Bay chapter monthly mtg. 6:30 pm. 6152 Dover St. Oakland. Info: Lisa 658-3421.

BANGLE (Bay Area Network of Gay & Lesbian Educators) South Bay chapter mtg. 6:30 pm. Bily DeFrank Ctr. San Jose. Info: Ron (408) 737-0214. Brian (408) 978-5751.

Jim Seaton with *Cutaway Camarones* intimate, free-flowing exchange with the Salvadoran group on a US tour. Bring instruments & your voice. 7 pm. \$3. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. Info: 848-5510, 282-3094.

Building the City: An Architectural & Development History of SF—program of illustrated talks by Gary Brechin. Tonight's topic: "Boom, Bust & the Coming Storm. Interwar, 1915-1940." 7-9 pm. UCSF campus. Info: 481-3000.

At ClairLight Women's Books: Barb Wieser presents slideshow about women's camping adventures & travels: reads from her new book *Running Free*, a collection of writings by women who have "paddled away from civilization" 7 pm. free. 1110 Petaluma Hill Rd #5, Santa Rosa. Info: (707) 575-8879.

Slideshow with Sandy Diamond at Mama Bears: Diamond screens "The Making of Bliss", a documenting the production of her book *Bliss, Danger & Gods: Quotes of Risky Passions*. 7 pm. Women only. Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

Lesbian/Gay Open Reading at Modern Times Bookstore: monthly event for lesbian & gay poets & fiction writers. First-time & experienced readers & listeners welcome. Facilitated by Stephanie Henderson. 7:30 pm. 968 Valencia St. SF. Info: 282-9246.

Acting Our Age: hour-long documentary about women's experiences of aging in contemporary America. 7:30 pm. Palace of Fine Arts Theater, 3301 Lyon St. SF. Benefit for the SF Gay Panthers, the Women's Bldg & Options for Women Over 40. Champagne &

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Jim Seaton with *Cutaway Camarones* intimate, free-flowing exchange with the Salvadoran group on a US tour. Bring instruments & your voice. 7 pm. \$3. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. Info: 848-5510, 282-3094.

Building the City: An Architectural & Development History of SF—program of illustrated talks by Gary Brechin. Tonight's topic: "Boom, Bust & the Coming Storm. Interwar, 1915-1940." 7-9 pm. UCSF campus. Info: 481-3000.

At ClairLight Women's Books: Barb Wieser presents slideshow about women's camping adventures & travels: reads from her new book *Running Free*, a collection of writings by women who have "paddled away from civilization" 7 pm. free. 1110 Petaluma Hill Rd #5, Santa Rosa. Info: (707) 575-8879.

Slideshow with Sandy Diamond at Mama Bears: Diamond screens "The Making of Bliss", a documenting the production of her book *Bliss, Danger & Gods: Quotes of Risky Passions*. 7 pm. Women only. Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

Lesbian/Gay Open Reading at Modern Times Bookstore: monthly event for lesbian & gay poets & fiction writers. First-time & experienced readers & listeners welcome. Facilitated by Stephanie Henderson. 7:30 pm. 968 Valencia St. SF. Info: 282-9246.

Acting Our Age: hour-long documentary about women's experiences of aging in contemporary America. 7:30 pm. Palace of Fine Arts Theater, 3301 Lyon St. SF. Benefit for the SF Gay Panthers, the Women's Bldg & Options for Women Over 40. Champagne &

13 FRIDAY

Blues Artist Brownie McGhee—legendary singer, guitarist, actor, songwriter, entertainer extraordinaire & philosopher of the blues performs solo at SF State's Student Union Bar. Doors 8:30 pm. 1 BASS. Info: 338-2444. 1600 Holloway St. SF.

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BOOKSIGNINGS!

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Saturday, 11/7, 2-5pm
TOM O'CONNOR, AHMED GONZALEZ-NUNEZ
"Living with AIDS"

Monday, 11/16, 8-9pm
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JULY!

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dessert reception follows screening. Tickets \$8-\$15 SL, available at Modern Times Bookstore, Old Wives Tales Bookstore, Guide Church Seniors, Portero Hill Neighborhood House (SF), in Oakl. at A Woman's Place Bookstore. For info on tx, transportation & CC, call 431-1180.

Tribute to filmmaker Barbara Myerhoff at SF Jewish Community Ctr. see *In Her Own Time*, Myerhoff's film about Jewish life in LA's Fairfax area; part of Cantor Berle Zaltzman and Rabbi Nattali Estlin (guests at the event) plus rabbi Yehuda Ferris. 7:30 pm, \$5 gen'l, \$3 srs. 3200 California St. SF. Info: 346-6040.

Shattered Dreams: author Charlotte Fedders discusses her book, a description of her 17-yr marriage to John Fedders, chief enforcement officer of the Securities & Exchange Commission, during which she was physically & emotionally abused. Fedders sheds light on wife-battering in the corporate/business community. Booksigning & reception follows. 7:30 pm, \$8. Tax at BASS. SF Jewish Community Ctr. 3200 California St. SF. Info: 346-6040.

Archetype Dance Class: topic—Mother. See 11/4 listing for details.

Live Comedy Night at El Rio with comic Danny Williams. 8-10 pm, \$2. 3158 Mission St. SF. Info: 282-3325.

Another Side of Japan: slide presentation & lecture by Harry Parsner at Phoenix Gallery & Theater, 301 8th St at Folsom. SF. Info: 664-9532.

A Session with Scott Beach at Garardell Square's Waterfront Theater, 900 North Point St. SF. Beach traces the stage with an entertaining evening of anecdotes, jokes, innuendos, songs, impersonations & urban folk tales designed to delight. 8 pm tonight & 11/18, 12 & 19. Tu: \$12. Info: 885-2929.

Mamae Sakaki, wandering post-storyteller in the tradition of Chieko Tani & Basho, reads from his new book of poems, *Break The Mirror*. Introduced by Gary Snyder. 8 pm, Black Oak Books, 1491 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley.

Men's Series at MCC-SF: tonight's topic, "Feminism & Gay Men," 7:30-9 pm, 150 Eureka St. SF. Info: 863-4434.

13 FRIDAY

Womanist Theology: a lunchtime brownbag talk sponsored by Graduate Institute of Theology's Union of Women & Religion and the Inter-Racial Cultural Education Program. Participants: Dr. Cheryl Sanders, Howard University Divinity School, Dr. Anne Brotherton, Episcopal School of Theology, GTU; Dr. Carolyn Mitchell, Santa Clara University, 1-2:30 pm, GTU Boardroom, 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley (2nd floor). Info: 548-6772.

BWMT East Bay Social: call Lee, 261-7922 for details.

FLAG (Federal Lesbians & Gays) mtg features speakers from BANGLE (Bay Area Network of Lesbian & Gay Educators). 6-8 pm, \$2. At Raffles in Fox Plaza, 1390 Market St. n. Polk. SF. Free buffet, no-host cocktails. Info: 695-9174.

Cross Country Ski Potluck with X-TA-C Cross Country Ski Club. First-time skiers & non-members welcome. Meet other skiers, find out about December ski season. 6:30-8:30 pm, \$5. Free buffet, no-host cocktails. Info: 695-9174.

Cross Country Ski Potluck with X-TA-C Cross Country Ski Club. First-time skiers & non-members welcome. Meet other skiers, find out about December ski season. 6:30-8:30 pm, \$5. Free buffet, no-host cocktails. Info: 695-9174.

2nd Friday Series for those who are HIV positive, are concerned or at risk for AIDS) sponsored by AIDS Project of the East Bay. Topic: Self-Hypnosis—learn to use self-hypnosis to enhance the mind/body healing process. Workshop led by Bob Averson, PhD. 7-10 pm, free. Alta Bates Hospital Auditorium, 3001 Colby, Berkeley.

Pagan/Fairy Piercing Ritual with Jim Ward of Gauntlet. 7 pm-midnight. Group spiritual ritual, open to men & women. Explore permanent piercing as healing and spiritual growth. South of Market location. Proper hygiene. Jewelry available. Info/appt: Mark 621-6294.

Southbay FLSG (Feminist Lesbian Social Group) November Potluck at Vera's house in Sunnyvale. 7 pm. For info/location, call (408) 245-0589.

Sexual Counseling: Eastern & Western Perspectives—explores the personal, interpersonal & transsexual aspects of sexuality from both Eastern & Western paradigms. Examines sexual awareness, attitudes, expression, physiological response, beliefs & the healing process. Workshop led by Bob Averson, PhD. 7-10 pm, free. Alta Bates Hospital Auditorium, 3001 Colby, Berkeley.

12 THURSDAY

Heartsaver CPR Class at Bahai Ctr, 170 Valencia St. SF, 6-9:30 pm, free. Info: res: 665-8097.

File: We're Not Asking For A Trip to the Moon, shows at Instituto Laboral de la Raza; followed by discussion. 1855 Folsom, SF, 6:30 pm. See 11/9 for program details.

File: The World of Tomorrow, a documentary on the futuristic visions of the New York World's Fair of 1939, when the world was posed on the brink of war. 7 pm, free. Mission Branch Library, 3359 24th St. between Mission & Valencia, SF. Info: 824-2810.

Acting Our Age, an hour-long documentary about women's experiences of aging in contemporary America, shows at Rose Cinema, 3117 16th St. SF. Showtimes/info: 863-1087.

Contra Costa Women's Group meets for an open rap. \$1 donation. Info/directions: Jan Scott 935-6979.

BWMT File: "How Relationships Are Affected by Economics" 7 pm, 1350 Walter St. SF. Info: 931-BWMT.

Beyond Survival: creativity-based therapy group for women. Explore & heal yourself thru movement, art, humor, sound, ritual & more. SL fee. Info: Miriam Smokover, MFCO 428-1512, Betsy Ferber, MA 658-2234.

Her Wits About Her: Self-Defense Success Stories by Women, editors Denise Cagnion & Gail Groves discuss their new book, and its empowering message that women can effectively fight back. 7:30 pm, free. Everyone welcome. Old Wives Tales Bookstore, 1009 Valencia St. SF. Info: 821-4675. Call advance for childcare, signing and access info. No seats, please.

Eating Disorders Lecture Series sponsored by Santa Rosa's St. Helena Hospital, see 11/4.

"Is There Life After Coming Out? Bisexual?" topic—at 10:00-11:00 pm—discussion/sober support mtg at Bay Area Bisexual Network. 7:30 pm, \$5. All welcome. First Congregational Church of San Rafael, 8 N. San Pedro Rd. nr. Marydale & 101. San Rafael. Info: 865-4927.

A Session with Scott—see 11/11.

Trombonist Angela Wellman & band at La Pena: vibrant mix of jazz & Latin music. 8 pm, \$5. 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

Church of the Secret Gospel meets, see 11/5.

Latin & Jazz Concert with trombonist Angela Wellman & her band; plus special guest Carolyn Brandy at La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. 8 pm, \$5.

Creative Handweavers Guild 13th Annual Holiday Exhibit & Sale. Today thru 11/14. Mt. Diablo Women's Club, 1700 Farm Bureau Road, Concord (the artists) exhibit & sale from 6-9 pm. Thurs., 10 am-5 pm Fri. & Sat. Members of the Guild demonstrate the arts of spinning, papermaking, basketry & weav-

ing. Weavings, handwoven clothing, original Christmas decorations & gifts, & fine pottery available. Info: Barbara Cabrol (707) 746-0539 or Sue Hoffman 228-8496.

SF Independent Filmmakers series: see *Hearts and Hands: A Social History of 19th Century Women and Quilts*, by Pat Ferrero. Noon, SF Main Public Library, Lurie Room. Civic Ctr.

Sexuality, Power & Intimacy: free talk by Dr. Muriel Dimen, anthropologist, psychoanalyst & author of the new book, *Surviving Sexual Contradictions*. Booksigning follows lecture. Noon-1 pm, free. Toland Hall, UCSF. Spons: by UCSF Women's Resource Ctr. Info: 666-5836.

14 SATURDAY

Reserve today for GGBA's Thanksgiving—see 11/2!

Piercing Clinic with Jim Ward of Gauntlet. Privacy assured; proper hygiene. Jewelry available. Noon-5 pm, 415 S. Larkin, 227 7th St. SF. Info/appt: Robert 863-7764.

At Clairlight Women's Books: Frederique Delacoste, editor & Judy Helfand, contributor, read from *Sex Work*, written by Judith Lewis. In the sex industry. 5:30 pm, free. 1111 Divisadero Hill Rd #5, Santa Rosa. Info: (707) 575-8879.

An Eve with Piri Thomas: distinguished poet, playwright, author of *Down These Mean Streets*. Program also features post-musicalian Avoca, Chilean singer Lichi Fuentes, & international singer/educator Jose Luis Orozco. Authentic, delicious Puerto Rican dinner at 6 pm, followed by cultural program at 7:30 pm. Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St. SF. Tax: \$6 at door, \$5 in adv. Tax at Modern Times Bookstore (SF) & La Tienda (Berkeley). For CC, call 536-8173. Spons by Puerto Rican Information Ctr.

CALPWA (Calif Lesbian Professionals in Health Assoc) potluck dinner mtg 6 pm. New, old & prospective members welcome! See video, "Off Our Chests" by Susan Kuchnickas—12 women show & talk about their breasts. Info/location: Barb 552-0725.

Public Fellowship South of Market—see 11/7.

FOG Game Fest: fun Fraternal Order of Gays for a night of board & card games. Refreshments & snacks served. 8 pm, 304 Gold Mine Dr. SF. Info: 641-0999.

Lesbians At The Movies: meet other single lesbians, age 30-50, for an evening of video, popcorn & conversation. Bring your favorite movie! 8 pm, 304 Gold Mine Dr. SF. Info: 641-0999.

Lesbian Pole Party: 8 pm. For info/location call Zeki, 552-1353.

Bay Area Women's Philharmonic 1987-88 Season opens tonight with the world premiere of "Crescendo" by Belgian composer Jacqueline Fontyn; the "Concerto for Violin" by Samuel Barber, with soloist Jorja Flezanis, associate concertmaster for the SF Symphony; & the US premiere of French composer Maurice Strakosky's "Symphony No. 3 in G Minor", written in 1949. 8 pm, \$12. First Congregational Church, Post & Mason Sts. SF. Info: 626-4888.

Diana Schlichter & Maura Shannon "perfectly-cooked originals & unusual side dishes to satisfy your hearty appetites" at Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St. SF. 8 pm, \$5. Info: 821-0232.

Pat Bond at Sisterspirit Women's Bookstore & Coffeehouse: one-woman show with the acclaimed author, comedian & monologist. 8:30 pm, \$5-10 SL. DeFarrak Ctr, 1040 Park Ave bet Race & Lincoln, San Jose. Info: (408) 293-9372.

Don't Miss Gayle Marie in Concert at Mama Bears, with her new act by the duo *White Light* (Kolly Keller & Jesse Francis). Women only. 8 pm, \$7.9 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

Deep Tissue Massage Class with Doug Fraser at Body Electric School of Massage & Rebirthing. Today & tmw. 9 am-5 pm, \$95. Info: 653-1594.

Dem at Concord Navy Weapons Station, man gate on Port Chicago Highway, off Hwy. 4, Demos against weapons shipments to El Salvador, spon by the Pledge of Resistance & CISPES. Info: 655-1177 or 861-0425. 644-3636.

Women's Circles: an Experience in Music, Art & Spirituality. Workshop with Carole Etzler & Brenda Chambers. 9 am-noon, \$15. Ctr for Women & Religion House, 1730 Scenic Dr, Berkeley. Pre-reg required, contact Miriam, CWR, 2400 Ridge Rd, Berkeley 94709. 548-6772, 649-2480. Spons by Graduate Theological Union's Ctr for

Women & Religion

Madness is My Middle Name: performance by SF writer/artist Tim Barrus and Mark J. Chester. 9 pm, \$5. Gregory Ghert Gallery, 301 8th St at Folsom. SF. Room 206.

Alameda Shoreline Run with Eastbay Frontrunners. Take 23rd Ave exit off Hwy 17 to Kennedy St. Continue on Kennedy (merges briefly with 23rd Ave) turn right onto Park. Cross Park St. Bridge into Alameda, continue to end of Park St. Meet 9:30 am, intersection of Park St. & Shoreline Dr. Flat 3.5 mile loop. Info: 261-3246.

Women of Color Forum: Health & Healing—addresses the needs of women of color. Panel presentation/discussion with speakers: Felicia Ward on Black women's health care, Charlene Doria Ortiz on substance abuse, Debbie Lee on family violence, Jan Faulkner on mental health, Betty Cooper on alcoholism in the Native American community, Cynthia Chang on Acupuncture, Henri Norris on AIDS & Evelyn White on empowerment. Presentations followed by lengthy question & answer period. 9:30 am-4 pm, Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St. SF. Spons by Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services. Info: Sabrina Hernandez or Rose Quinones 641-9220.

Dance with Conjurto Capedes: eve of Afro-Cuban music, new material plus old favorites to dance the night away at La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. 9:30 pm, \$6. Info: 849-2568.

Tenants' Rights Counselor Training held by Old St. Mary's Housing Committee. 10 am-2:30 pm, free. Enables trainees to advise tenants seeking info. Bring bag lunch, refreshments provided. 660 California St at Grant. SF. Info/res: 398-0724.

Women Embodied Workshop: learn reverence for the rare creature you are. Use your emotions as sacred tools, clearing your path to higher states of consciousness. Utilize sound & breathwork, rebirthing & channeling to go into the core of your being. No experience needed, only desire for deeper peace, healing & self-awareness. Noon-5 pm, \$45-60 SL. Info: Lynette Lane or Pat Solo 524-8815.

15 SUNDAY

Heartsaver CPR Class at Holy Name of Jesus Church, 3240 Lawton St. SF. 14:30 pm, \$3. Info/res: 665-9526 after 6 pm.

Deep Work Women's Yoga Workshop: slow & deeper yoga stretching, done mostly with the help of a partner (or two). 1:30-3 pm, \$10. Info/res: Velleda 585-1092. Ctr for Tai Chi, 3252A 19th St at Shoreline. SF. 2nd floor G. Forty Plus Mtg: "The Great American 1950's" Phillip Mass discusses Robert Ingersoll, lawyer, agnostic & advocate of civil rights way ahead of his time. Also discussion of great operas with Bill Ingersoll. 2 pm, First Unitarian Church, 87 Franklin at Geary. SF. Info: 552-1997.

Pianist Jerri Witt in a recital of works by Beethoven, Bach, Chopin & Roger Sessions. 2 pm, free. donation suggested. Helman Hall, 19th Ave at Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Info: 849-2568.

Brazilian Beat at El Rio—see 11/1.

"Pigs in Paradise"—tea dance at Dreamland, 715 Harrison at 3rd. SF. 4 pm-midnight. Music by DJ Robbie Leslie. Tax: \$10 adv, \$15 at door. Tax at Geary. SF. Info: 552-1997.

Sunday Cabaret at The Galleon with Bob & Marilee Marquette at 5 pm; Scott Johnson at 8 pm. 718 14th St. SF. Info: 431-0253.

Year Gas Self-Defense Program offered by Judith Fern & Nancy Worthington at Clairlight Women's Books, 1110 Petaluma Hill Rd #5, Santa Rosa. 5 pm, \$9 adv, \$11 at door. Adv reg suggested. Info: (707) 575-8879.

Ethyl Etzler's One-Man Show at Geary Theatre. 7 pm. Etzler performs "Leer", a wildly comic version of Shakespeare's "King Lear", with him in the title role, and also as Lear's daughter Cordelia & his jester, the Fool. Tax at BASS, STBS, Info: 873-6400.

Learning from Our Experiences: Thoughts on the Movements of the 60s, 70s & 80s. Panel presentations by Karen Koan (60s anti-war), Beth Youhn (Central American solidarity), & Billy Nessen (Berkeley anti-apartheid) at Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. SF. 7 pm. Info: 282-9246.

Acting Our Age: hour-long documentary on women's experiences of aging in contemporary America. screens at

UC Theatre, 2036 University Ave, Berkeley. Showtimes/info: 843-6267.

"Taste of the Blues" with Heather Bishop at Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St. SF. 7 pm. Info: 821-0232.

Sable in Concert: traditional & new songs from Mexico, Central & South America, performed on a variety of indigenous instruments. 6-member ensemble from LA brings a message of cross-cultural understanding, political freedom & human rights, expressed with beauty, strength & humor. Program part of Plovshares Acoustic Folk Concert Series. 7:30 pm, \$7 gen'l, \$6 srs. \$4 kids. Ft. Mason Ctr Bldg A, Marina at Alameda St. SF. Info: 441-8910.

Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group meet 7:30 pm at the Old Firehouse, Stanford campus. Tonight's topic: Parents Come Out. Guest speaker from PFLAG (Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays) Friends & family welcome. Info: Marilyn 969-1260.

The Washington Sisters in Concert: gospel to acapella funk, with a little jazz, folk, contemporary, political & pop thrown in—don't miss this line singing duo from Ohio! 8 pm, \$5. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

Author Elizabeth Tallent reads from her new collection of stories, *Time With Children*. 8 pm, Black Oak Books, 1491 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley.

Carolyn Etzler & Brenda Chambers in Concert: warm blend of folk, guitar & voice, with a concern for justice, vision of peace & feminist understanding. 8 pm, 86 Graduate Theological Union, Pacific School of Religion Chapel, Scenic & Leconte. Berkeley. Spons by Ctr. for Women & Religion. Info: 548-6772, 649-2480.

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16 MONDAY

Author Tom Wolfe reads from his new book, *The Bonfire of the Vanities*. 7 pm, Black Oak Books, 1491 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley.

"Being Gay in Colombia", an eve of music & poetry, plus update on recent developments in turbulent Colombia. 7:30 pm, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. SF. Spons by LAGAI (Lesbians & Gays Against Intentional) **Battering in Lesbian Relationships:** 4-wk training on issues of lesbian violence. Monday nights thru 12/7. Spons by WOMAN, Inc. Info: Jeanie or Diane, 864-4777.

Julie: The Broadway Music of Julie Styne: benefit performance for the AIDS Emergency Fund. Special guests: Ann Fraser, Tom Andersen, Val Diamond, Tim DiPasqua, Cindy Herron, Bob Kastanek, Michael Levesque, Meg McKay, Sharon McNight, John Nockels, Gail Wilson and Music Director Donald Wescoat.

Refrain (Bright)

Things look swell,

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16 8:00 PM \$40, \$25
The Great American Music Hall
859 O'Farrell St.
Tx at BASS, STBS or Box Office: 885-0750
A Benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund

17 TUESDAY

Master Class with Ned Forem, Pulitzer Prize-winning composer & author. Forem conducts a master class using question and answer format at SF Conservatory's Hellman Hall, 19th Ave at Ortega St. SF. 2:30-4 pm, \$7 gen'l, \$5 sdn'ts & srs. Info:

Stand-Up Cabaret: Color Me Famous see 11/1.

Tayu Sunday: open house & intro to program & activities of Tayu Center-A Fourth Way Spiritual School. Info: (707) 829-9579.

Sunday's Women Celebration: This month's led by Melissa Farley, teacher of feminist spirituality. Topic—"Visions of Empowering the Female Self." Facilitated by Z. Budapest. 11:30 am-1:30 pm, Montclair Women's Club, 1650 Mountain Blvd. Oakland. Info: 864-1278.

Powers of Attorney for Lesbians: Make sure that the person(s) of your choice have the right to visit you if you're seriously ill, & the power to make important decisions about your medical & financial welfare. 7:30 pm, \$15. Reservations required. Info: Law Offices of da M. Scapartoni, 587 Valle Vista Ave, Oakland. Info: 268-8404.

18 WEDNESDAY

Deep Work Women's Yoga Workshop: slow & deeper yoga stretching, done mostly with the help of a partner (or two). 1:30-3 pm, \$10. Info/res: Velleda 585-1092. Ctr for Tai Chi, 3252A 19th St at Shoreline. SF. 2nd floor G. Forty Plus Mtg: "The Great American 1950's" Phillip Mass discusses Robert Ingersoll, lawyer, agnostic & advocate of civil rights way ahead of his time. Also discussion of great operas with Bill Ingersoll. 2 pm, First Unitarian Church, 87 Franklin at Geary. SF. Info: 552-1997.

Pianist Jerri Witt in a recital of works by Beethoven, Bach, Chopin & Roger Sessions. 2 pm, free. donation suggested. Helman Hall, 19th Ave at Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Info: 849-2568.

Brazilian Beat at El Rio—see 11/1.

"Pigs in Paradise"—tea dance at Dreamland, 715 Harrison at 3rd. SF. 4 pm-midnight. Music by DJ Robbie Leslie. Tax: \$10 adv, \$15 at door. Tax at Geary. SF. Info: 552-1997.

Sunday Cabaret at The Galleon with Bob & Marilee Marquette at 5 pm; Scott Johnson at 8 pm. 718 14th St. SF. Info: 431-0253.

Year Gas Self-Defense Program offered by Judith Fern & Nancy Worthington at Clairlight Women's Books, 1110 Petaluma Hill Rd #5, Santa Rosa. 5 pm, \$9 adv, \$11 at door. Adv reg suggested. Info: (707) 575-8879.

Ethyl Etzler's One-Man Show at Geary Theatre. 7 pm. Etzler performs "Leer", a wildly comic version of Shakespeare's "King Lear", with him in the title role, and also as Lear's daughter Cordelia & his jester, the Fool. Tax at BASS, STBS, Info: 873-6400.

Learning from Our Experiences: Thoughts on the Movements of the 60s, 70s & 80s. Panel presentations by Karen Koan (60s anti-war), Beth Youhn (Central American solidarity), & Billy Nessen (Berkeley anti-apartheid) at Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. SF. 7 pm. Info: 282-9246.

Acting Our Age: hour-long documentary on women's experiences of aging in contemporary America. screens at

19 THURSDAY

Heartsaver CPR Class at Bahai Ctr, 170 Valencia St. SF, 6-9:30 pm, free. Info: res: 665-8097.

File: We're Not Asking For A Trip to the Moon, shows at Instituto Laboral de la Raza; followed by discussion. 1855 Folsom, SF, 6:30 pm. See 11/9 for program details.

File: The World of Tomorrow, a documentary on the futuristic visions of the New York World's Fair of 1939, when the world was posed on the brink of war. 7 pm, free. Mission Branch Library, 3359 24th St. between Mission & Valencia, SF. Info: 824-2810.

Acting Our Age, an hour-long documentary about women's experiences of aging in contemporary America, shows at Rose Cinema, 3117 16th St. SF. Showtimes/info: 863-1087.

Contra Costa Women's Group meets for an open rap. \$1 donation. Info/directions: Jan Scott 935-6979.

BWMT File: "How Relationships Are Affected by Economics" 7 pm, 1350 Walter St. SF. Info: 931-BWMT.

Beyond Survival: creativity-based therapy group for women. Explore & heal yourself thru movement, art, humor, sound, ritual & more. SL fee. Info: Miriam Smokover, MFCO 428-1512, Betsy Ferber, MA 658-2234.

Her Wits About Her: Self-Defense Success Stories by Women, editors Denise Cagnion & Gail Groves discuss their new book, and its empowering message that women can effectively fight back. 7:30 pm, free. Everyone welcome. Old Wives Tales Bookstore, 1009 Valencia St. SF. Info: 821-4675. Call advance for childcare, signing and access info. No seats, please.

Eating Disorders Lecture Series sponsored by Santa Rosa's St. Helena Hospital, see 11/4.

"Is There Life After Coming Out? Bisexual?" topic—at 10:00-11:00 pm—discussion/sober support mtg at Bay Area Bisexual Network. 7:30 pm, \$5. All welcome. First Congregational Church of San Rafael, 8 N. San Pedro Rd. nr. Marydale & 101. San Rafael. Info: 865-4927.

A Session with Scott—see 11/11.

Trombonist Angela Wellman & band at La Pena: vibrant mix of jazz & Latin music. 8 pm, \$5. 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

Church of the Secret Gospel meets, see 11/5.

Latin & Jazz Concert with trombonist Angela Wellman & her band; plus special guest Carolyn Brandy at La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. 8 pm, \$5.

Creative Handweavers Guild 13th Annual Holiday Exhibit & Sale. Today thru 11/14. Mt. Diablo Women's Club, 1700 Farm Bureau Road, Concord (the artists) exhibit & sale from 6-9 pm. Thurs., 10 am-5 pm Fri. & Sat. Members of the Guild demonstrate the arts of spinning, papermaking, basketry & weav-

20 FRIDAY

Womanist Theology: a lunchtime brownbag talk sponsored by Graduate Institute of Theology's Union of Women & Religion and the Inter-Racial Cultural Education Program. Participants: Dr. Cheryl Sanders, Howard University Divinity School, Dr. Anne Brotherton, Episcopal School of Theology, GTU; Dr. Carolyn Mitchell, Santa Clara University, 1-2:30 pm, GTU Boardroom, 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley (2nd floor). Info: 548-6772.

BWMT East Bay Social: call Lee, 261-7922 for details.

FLAG (Federal Lesbians & Gays) mtg features speakers from BANGLE (Bay Area Network of Lesbian & Gay Educators). 6-8 pm, \$2. At Raffles in Fox Plaza, 1390 Market St. n. Polk. SF. Free buffet, no-host cocktails. Info: 695-9174.

Cross Country Ski Potluck with X-TA-C Cross Country Ski Club. First-time skiers & non-members welcome. Meet other skiers, find out about December ski season. 6:30-8:30 pm, \$5. Free buffet, no-host cocktails. Info: 695-9174.

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2nd Friday Series for those who are HIV positive, are concerned or at risk for AIDS) sponsored by AIDS Project of the East Bay. Topic: Self-Hypnosis—learn to use self-hypnosis to enhance the mind/body healing process. Workshop led by Bob Averson, PhD. 7-10 pm, free. Alta Bates Hospital Auditorium, 3001 Colby, Berkeley.

Pagan/Fairy Piercing Ritual with Jim Ward of Gauntlet. 7 pm-midnight. Group spiritual ritual, open to men & women. Explore permanent piercing as healing and spiritual growth. South of Market location. Proper hygiene. Jewelry available. Info/appt: Mark 621-6294.

Southbay FLSG (Feminist Lesbian Social Group) November Potluck at Vera's house in Sunnyvale. 7 pm. For info/location, call (408) 245-0589.

Sexual Counseling: Eastern & Western Perspectives—explores the personal, interpersonal & transsexual aspects of sexuality from both Eastern & Western paradigms. Examines sexual awareness, attitudes, expression, physiological response, beliefs & the healing process. Workshop led by Bob Averson, PhD. 7-10 pm, free. Alta Bates Hospital Auditorium, 3001 Colby, Berkeley.

21 SATURDAY

Reserve today for GGBA's Thanksgiving—see 11/2!

Piercing Clinic with Jim Ward of Gauntlet. Privacy assured; proper hygiene. Jewelry available. Noon-5 pm, 415 S. Larkin, 227 7th St. SF. Info/appt: Robert

Feminist Humor with

KATE CLINTON

Saturday, November 21, 8 p.m. UC Berkeley/Wheeler Auditorium

\$10 advance/\$12.50 door

Tickets available thru BASS & ASUC Box Office.

Info: (415) 893-4705

"So How's It Going?"

LESBIANS IN MID LIFE

A witty, insightful workshop exploration into the unique concerns of lesbians 35 and older, led by psychotherapist Lauren Crux.

Explore changing values & coping strategies re:

- Lover Relationships • Being Single
• Work & Career • Having Babies
• Sexuality • Health & Mortality

"Wonderful! A workshop leader who delivers what she promises." - Marny Hall

Saturday, December 5, 10am-5pm (bring lunch) SF Women's Building, 3543 18th Street • Cost: \$50

Send non-refundable registration in advance to Lauren Crux, 1722 N. Seabright Ave., Santa Cruz, 95062; Info: (408) 426-9515

Space limited - register by November 27 to insure participation

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Lesbian Healers Support Group 1st mtg for lesbians in the healing process... In Praise of the Goddess: an eve of drumming & chanting with Sedona...

18 WEDNESDAY

Mireya Lucero, peasant organizer & women's activist from Chalatenango, El Salvador, speaks in the Bay Area 11/18-21 as part of a 4-month US tour...

Tea Conrre celebrates the publication of her new book, The Dreams of the Woman Who Loved Sex... Castro Lions Club Dinner Mtg: speakers Golden Gate Business Assoc...

Men's Series at MCC-SF: tonight's topic: "It's Not All Black & White" 7:30-9 pm, 150 Eureka St... Moira Johnson, author of Take Over: The New Wall Street Warriors, and Take Over: Corporate Revolution, Ethical Crisis...

Duo Guardabarranca - Salvador Bustos from Nicaragua: an concert at Calvin Simmons Theater, Oakland... Pleasing Yourself, Pleasing Others: is the topic at tonight's Bisexual Women's Rap Open Mtg...

19 THURSDAY

Acupressure Massage Class with Ruth Scolnick 4 wks, 11/19, 24, 7, 10:30 pm, 1121-22, 7... Film: Hands to Work, Hearts to God: a 200-yr old spiritual community known for its simplicity, spiritual inventiveness & creativity...

20 FRIDAY

NEST Reception for Mireya Lucero, peasant organizer & women's activist from El Salvador... Dance Concert at La Pena: innovative acoustics with Robin Flower & The Bluechairs...



Photo by Adam Kulkid

A Season with Scott - see 11/11 Eve with Mireya Lucero, peasant organizer & women's activist from El Salvador... A Season with Scott - see 11/11 Eve with Mireya Lucero...

Church of the Secret Gospel mtg, see 11/15. "Thursday Night Edition," 2nd in a series of concerts by Chamber Music Sundays...

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clubs wine, space limited, advance reservations required... Marga Gomez Hosts The Origin of Spectacles... Phyllis Music Trio Room in concert at SF Art Institute...

Phyllis Music Trio Room in concert at SF Art Institute, 800 Chestnut St. SF 8 pm, \$4. Group combines computer tech with music...

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THE SAN FRANCISCO LESBIAN GAY CHORUS RIDES AGAIN. With: BARBARY COAST CLOGGERS, FIDDLESTICKS, FOGGY CITY DANCERS, MEN ABOUT TOWN, MENAGE, RAWHIDE II SADDLE TRAMPS, SOUTH BAY STOMPERS, DANNY WILLIAMS. November 21, 1987 8 pm. First Congregational Church Post & Mason San Francisco.

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"Has anyone read her book?" —Art

"Is she tough enough to make this city great?" —Roger

"She is...She is..." —Louise

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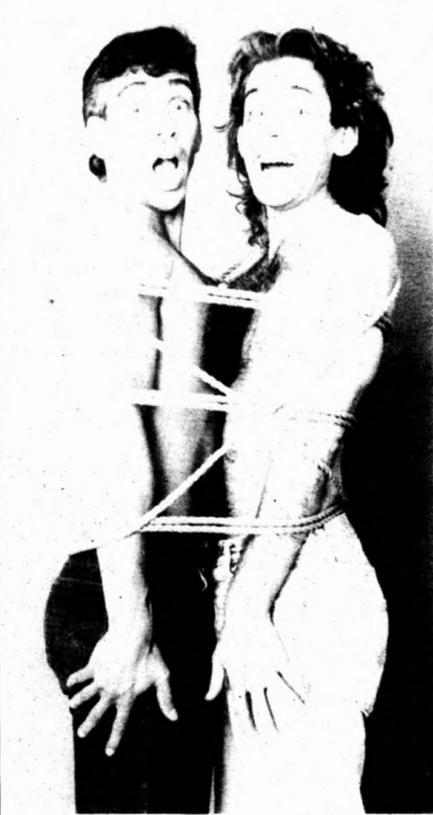


erotic massage, & tantric connections with others. 10 am-5 pm. \$50. Instructor Joseph Kramer. Body Electric School of Massage & Rebirthing. 6527A Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Info: 653-1594

30 MONDAY
Int'l Vegetarian Dinner plus book & record signing to benefit GRECE & the re-population of

El Salvador communities from Mesa Grande in Honduras. Menus prepared by Molly Katzan, author of *Moosewood Cookbook*. Performance by Shelli Nan. Desserts by Albert Adler of Nabloom Bakery. \$12 with reservation, \$15 at door. Info: 532-2358. At La Pena's Cafe Victoria, Berkeley.
Hampton-Schwartz Duo: cellist Bonnie Hampton & pianist Nathan Schwartz in a recital of works by Faure, Beethoven, Elliott Carter & others. Part of SF Conservatory's Faculty Artists Series. 8 pm, 75¢ gen'l, \$5 students.

ON STAGE



\$5-10 SL, no one turned away for lack of funds. Contraband production. Info: 558-8821.

Tale of Madame Zora by Ashah Rhaman. Story of the colorful & often controversial Black writer, Zora Neale Hurston. Opens 11/13, 3:30. Lorraine Hansberry Theatre production. Info: 474-8800.

A Bright Room Called Day by Tony Kushner. Set in Berlin during the days of the Weimar Republic, play follows a group of artists who drink, fight, work, love & are visited by the Devil as they struggle with Hitler's rise to power. Runs Wed-Sun, 8 pm; Sun at 7:30 pm; thru 11/15. Sun matinees 11:30 & 15, 2 pm, 11/12 discussion. Eureka Theatre Co production. 2730 16th St at Harrison. SF. Info: 558-9898.

Tamer of Horses, by William Mastrosimo. Compelling drama with humor, Greek mythology & street language—story of a troubled youth & two teachers who take him into their home. Oakland Ensemble Theatre production. Runs thru 11/22, Thurs-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2:30 pm. Oakland Ensemble Theatre, Alice Arts Ctr, 1428 Alice St (at 14th), Oakland. Tel: 510-114. Info: 763-7774.

Ah Wilderness! by Eugene O'Neill. Elegant & light-hearted comedy about the travails of a 16 yr old boy, an aspiring writer who balances his impulses for anarchy & romance with a poorly-leighed pessimism. Berkeley Repertory Theatre production. Runs Tues-Sun thru 12/2. Joined in rotating repertory with *Long Day's Journey Into Night*.

O'Neill's powerful autobiographical play, joined on 11/6 by O'Neill's *The Hairy Ape*, an autobiographical investigation of the psychological mystery of human death. *The Hairy Ape* is produced in cooperation with Theater Artaud. Tel: \$15.50 matinee; \$17 Tues-Thurs & Sun eve; \$20 Fri & Sat. 2025 Addison St, Berkeley—WA, services for people with hearing & physical disabilities. *The Hairy Ape* production is staged at Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St at 17th, SF. Preview: 11/5, 8:30 pm. Opens 11/6, runs Wed-Sat at 8:30 pm, Sun at 2:30 & 7:30; thru 11/29. No performance on Thanksgiving (11/26). Tel: \$9 preview, \$10 matinee, \$12 weekday eves. \$16 Fri & Sat eves. Info: 621-7797.

Jack London & Friends by Linda Spector. Brawling, boisterous one-act play based on some of the Bay Area's liveliest literary & social figures. College Ave Players production. Runs Fri-Sun, 11/6-22, 8 pm Fri & Sat, 2 pm Sun. Tel: \$6 gen'l, \$5 students & srs. Oakland Museum's James Moore Theatre, 10th & Fallon Sts, Oakland. Info: 843-9564.

Ladies Against Women: And Evening of Consciousness Lowering with the Plutonium Rumpers. Sharp and zany parody of the anti-feminist movement. Award-winning troupe thru the zany landscape of femininity & feminism in the 80s. 11/13, 15, 21, 22, 27-29, 8:30 pm on Fri & Sat, 7:30 pm on Sun. Tel: \$8-12, students, srs & group discounts. Victoria Theatre, 16th St nr Mission, SF. Info: 763-8163 or 762-BASS.

Dancing In The Dark by DR Anderson. A suspense comedy—a gay journalist sets out to expose a closeted TV news anchor. Theater Rhino production. Opens 11/14, runs Wed-Sun at 8 pm thru 12/19. Sun matinee at 3 pm, 11/29. Tel: \$10-12. \$1 off with donation of canned good for SF AIDS Fdn Food Bank. Info: 861-5079.

Popples by Noel Greg. Loves of the past & the menace of the future haunt an aging gay couple's picnic. Theater Rhinoceros production. Witty & insightful look from gay life to the world at large. Fri-Sun thru 11/15, 8:30 pm. Sunday matinees at 11:15 & 15, 3 pm. Tel: \$8. 2926 16th St, SF. Info: 861-5079.

Hijos: Once A Family, a bilingual epic tale of how social & economic realities have affected the strong, family-based Chicano culture. El Teatro de la Esperanza production. Runs 11/20-12/20, Fri-Sun, 8 pm. Mission Cultural Ctr, 2968 Mission St, SF. Tel: \$8. Info: 695-1410.

Webster Street Blues by Warren Kubota. A Japanese-American "American Graffiti", set in SF's Japantown in the summer of 1972.

She Stoops To Conquer, classic 18th century comedy of mistaken identities, class pretensions & convoluted romantic knots. Zellerbach Playhouse production. 11/12-22, Thurs-Sat, 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Zellerbach Playhouse, UC Berkeley. Info: 642-9925, 642-1677. Tel: \$2-50 students & srs, \$5 gen'l.

Harris Kobay: Dead Man-Live Letters by Dimon Krly. Mystery comedy satirizes Calif's "New Age" consciousness in the upfitted 80s. Performance Construction Co production. 11/2-24, Mondays & Tuesdays, 8:30 pm. Studio Eremos, Project Artaud, SF. Info: 654-7854.

Green Pastures by Marc Connelly. Black Repertory Group opens its 23rd season with a production of Connelly's Pulitzer prize-winning depiction of biblical tales dubbed the "Divine Comedy of the Modern Theatre" by the New York Times. Score by Hal Johnson

comprised largely of well-loved traditional Black spirituals. Opens 11/12, continues Thurs-Sat thru 12/19, 8 pm, \$8. Matinees half price. 1719 Alcatraz Ave, Berkeley. Info: 652-4017.

Series of One-Act plays by Phase One Productions: "Curtains" by Craig Sjogren, "Rockaby" by Samuel Beckett, & "A Nice Day For The Beach" by CD Arnold. Opens 11/20, runs Fri & Sat at 8:30 pm, Sun at 12:12. Tel: \$8. Students, srs & group discount.

Opening Night Actor's Champagne Benefit, \$10. Flight Theatre, 333 Dolores St, SF. Info: 864-0235.

Contraband, a duet about the failure of the intellect. Fri & Sat thru Nov. 8:30 pm.

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Photo by Suzanne Lewis

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South Pacific—Robert Goulet stars in production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's classic Broadway musical, produced by HAS Productions. 11/17-22, Tues-Sat at 8 pm; Sat & Sun matinees at 2 pm; Sun closing performance at 7 pm. Tel: \$32-50-25. San Jose Ctr for Performing Arts, Almaden Blvd & West San Carlos, San Jose. Info: (408) 995-5666.

Can't Keep A Straight Face, comedy revue includes the Mother of Gay Comedy, Tom Armano, accomplished comic actress Suzy Berger, comic Doug Holdclaw & graduates of the old Valencia Rose Gay Comedy Nights—Laurie Bushman, Kelly Kittel & Jeanine Strobel. Eve of fast-paced comedy sketches on life in the 80s—wickedly funny. Runs: Fri & Sat thru 11/21, 8 pm.

Phoenix Theater, 301 8th St at Folsom, SF. Info: 861-5079.
Lakeboat by David Mamet. A capsize of the lives of 8 crewmen, & how they deal with the crushing monotony of life on ship—dialogue is sharp, fast, full of energy & conflict. Runs Thurs-Sat thru 11/28 (excludes Thanksgiving). 8 pm, Haight-Ashbury Rep production. The Thursday Theater, 1563 Page St at Masonic. SF. Tel: \$9. Discount for students, srs. Info: 552-5514.

Bitterfruit, long-running NY cabaret revue comes to the Hotel York's Plush Room. Inspired cabaret—90 min song cycle deals with the space between the dreams of childhood & the realities of life. Produced by Kirk Frederck & Rick Roemer, stars Rick Roemer, Scott Rankine, Mara Finerty & Anne Toffler. 11/4-1/3, 8:30 pm Tues-Thurs, 8 pm & 10:30 pm Fri & Sat, 8 pm Sun. Tel: \$12.50 & \$15.
"Darlene With A D": 3-week one-woman cabaret show with Cabaret Gold Award winner Darlene Popovic at Zephyr Theatre 2, in SF. Opens 11/10. Info: 861-6895.
"Year of Living Art: Yellow Green": Lynda Montano's performance piece runs 11/12-20 at Emanuel Walter & Athol McBean Galleries, & 11/24-12/19 by mail. Montano conducts life counseling sessions in the galleries as part of this rigidly structured, performative piece which takes its format from the Eastern mystical system known as chakra. 800 Chestnut St. SF. Info: 771-7020.

"Brought the house down..."—B.A.R. "Don't miss it!"—Coming Up!
SILLY GIRLFRIEND PRODUCTIONS
PRESENT THE COMEDY REVUE
CAN'T KEEP A STRAIGHT FACE
November 6-November 21
Friday-Saturday 8:30p.m.
Phoenix Theatre
301 8th Street at Folsom
For Reservations, Call 861-5079
\$2.00 OFF WITH THIS AD.

GALLERIES

"Looking Back", an exhibit of black & white photo enlargements & collages from Cathy Cade's *A Lesbian Photo Album*. Exhibit runs 11/30, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St, SF. Reception, slides, reading, book signing, 11/22, 5:30 pm.
Die De Los Muertos exhibit at Galeria de La Raza: mixed media exhibit features colorful decorated altars & Day of the Dead folk art from Mexico—papers, paper cutouts, skulls, skeletons. Thru 11/14, 2851 24th St, SF. Info: 826-8009. Hrs: 1-6 pm Tues-Sat.

Erte Art-to-Wear Jewelry & Graphics exhibit at Circle Gallery, 140 Madison Lane, SF. Info: 989-2100.
"Women & Horses", wood sculpture by Barbara Wood. Life-size wooden figures & objects form an extraordinary tableau of ordinary life. Drawing on folk art traditions, Spring carves personalities & emotions into her figures which provoke & amuse. Reception 11/11, 6-8 pm. Exhibit runs thru 12/11 at William Sawyer Gallery, 3045 Clay St, SF. Info: 921-1670.

Photography of Lucien Clergue, on exhibit thru 12/5 at Vision Gallery, 1151 Mission St, SF. Multitude of images—from brightlights to nudes juxtaposed with sea & cityscape. Info: 621-2107. Hrs: Mon-Fri 10 am-6 pm.
Don't Call Me Honey... photographs of Women & their Work: photos by Ann Meredith on exhibit thru 11/25, California History Center & Foundation, 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Fremont. Info: Kathy Pergrin (418) 996-4712.
Paintings, Drawings & Etchings by Harry S. Pariser, on exhibit at Phoenix Gallery & Theater, 301 8th St at Folsom, Ste #201A, SF. Pariser's paintings are done on Japanese boards, handmade paper, scrolls and miniature folding screens, in a unique style. Info: 431-6777. Hrs: Tues 11-4, Thurs 6-8, Sat (with artist present) 1-5. Also by appl. **MH DeYoung Museum Exhibits**: "Viewpoints: Good, Better, Best"—special museum series designed to offer visitors the opportunity to explore how curators go about their work & to test their personal views against those of the curators. Series runs thru 12/4. Museum Hours: Wed-Sun 10 am-4:45 pm. Info: 750-3614.

California Palace of the Legion of Honor: "Italian Maicica from the Arthur M. Sackler Collections", thru 10/25/88. "Ars Medica: Art, Medicine & the Human Condition", thru 11/15. Hrs: Wed-Sun 10 am-4:45 pm. Info: 750-3614. For details on lecture tour program: 750-3638. Pipe organ concerts every Sat & Sun at 4 pm. Free—after the usual admission fee.
Judah L. Magnes Museum: "Under the Stars: Portraits of Mercy & Malice" by Israeli artist Shirley Faktor, thru 1/10/88. "The Chagall Centennial," illustrated books and lithographs by Marc Chagall, thru 1/10/88. "The Dybbuk: A Landmark in Jewish Theatre," exhibition commemorating S. Ansky's classic Jewish drama, thru 1/10/88. 2911 Russell St, Berkeley. Hrs: Sun-Thurs, 10 am-4 pm. Info: 849-2710.
Modern Myths: Classical Renewal, an exhibition of works by major American & European contemporary painters. 11/8-12/13 at Mills College Art Gallery, 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. Info: 430-3101. Hrs: Tues-Sun, 10 am-4 pm.

Storytellers: 7 Modern Narrative Painters, large-scale paintings by 7 American realists. On exhibit at Contemporary Realist Gallery, 506 Hayes St, SF. 11/3-12/24. Hrs: Tues-Fri 10:30 am-5:30 pm, Sat 11 am-4 pm. Info: 863-6550.
"The Big Women", series of oil paintings by Mary Czarniecki, making a strong, dramatic statement about women's experience. Exhibit runs thru 11/28 at Colorbox Gallery, 541 Hayes St, SF. Reception 11/12, 6-9 pm. Info: 863-8144. Hrs: Tues-Sat 11 am-6 pm, or by appl.
Armed & Open Studio, 111-23, 952 Rhode Island, SF. Hrs: Mon-Fri 4-7 pm, Sat 1-5 pm. Info: 821-9676.
Gallery Artists at Mesa Gallery, 2178 Bush St, SF. 11/4-30. Hrs: Wed-Sat 11:30-6 pm, Sun 12-5 pm. Info: 921-3392.
Urban Landscapes series of large scale color obachrome photos at Linn Gallery, 457 Pacific, SF. Show runs thru 11/15. Hrs: Mon-Fri, 9:30 am-5:30 pm, Sat 11 am-5:30 pm. Info: 397-7479.
"One Man Show: 7 Years in California": Doris Boris Berman exhibit features a wide range of photographic artwork. Show runs thru 12/5. Reception 10/29, 6:30-8 pm. Hatley-Martin Gallery, 41 Powell St, SF. Hrs: Tues-Sat, 11 am-5 pm, & by appl. Info: 392-1015, 392-1024.
New Paintings by Connie Smith Siegel at William Sawyer Gallery. Strong works, composed of flat abstract shapes, which suggest vast open terrain. Exhibit runs thru 11/6, 3045 Clay St, SF. Info: 921-1600.

RESOURCE GUIDE

AIDS RESOURCES

New Friends: a group made up of people with AIDS who help those who have been newly diagnosed. Info: Larry Paradise 928-5352.
People with AIDS Support Groups meet various times, days & locations. Free. Info: Shanti 777-CARE.

Family, Friends & Lovers of People with AIDS support groups for people close to someone who currently has AIDS. Free. Intake/info: Shanti 777-CARE.
AIDS/ARC Drop-In Group for gay men with AIDS or ARC who are concerned about drug or alcohol use. Wed 6-8 pm, 2152-B Market St (nr Church), SF. Get into about substance abuse, discuss drug & alcohol issues. Free. A minimum of 24 hours abstinence from the use of alcohol & non-prescription drugs required. Spons by 18th Street Services. Info: 861-4898.

Gay Support Group for people with AIDS/ARC/HIV + and alcohol substance abuse. Individual & group process. Operation Concern's Operation Recovery, 1853 Market St, SF. Info: 626-7000.
BWMT AIDS Task Force deals with people of color, minority & third world issues surrounding AIDS. All welcome. Info: 630 Fillmore #201, SF 94117, 431-8333.
Marin AIDS Support Network: emotional support for persons with AIDS or ARC & their loved ones, preventive education, speakers bureau, telephone info. Emotional support volunteers needed. Training provided. Info: 457-AIDS.
AIDS Screening Clinic at District Health Ctr #2, 1301 Pine St nr Ellis. SF. Call for appt: 621-4858.
Free Chiropractic Clinic for people w/AIDS. For appt/info: 282-4622, 9 am-3 pm.
Yoga Class for persons with AIDS & ARC. Teacher is PWA & yoga student who worked with BKS Iyengar in India on therapeutic application of yoga postures for him. Fri 4-5:30 pm, SL. Mission location. Info: 863-7212.
SF Kaiser Permanente Med Ctr has AIDS-related groups that focus on gay AIDS-related groups. Info: 429-5204.
Computerized AIDS Info Network (CAIN), a 24 hr, nationwide, up-to-date information service based in Cambridge, MA. To subscribe, call (800)

644-4005. To list a service, call (213) 464-7400.
AIDS Health Project offers prevention programs; mental health, substance abuse & antibody counseling; AIDS health professional training program & a guide to AIDS Research. Info: 1855 Folsom St, Ste 506, SF, 476-6430.
Third World People with AIDS/ARC meet Mon 6-8 pm in Oakland. Info: AIDS Project of the Eastbay 420-8181.
AIDS Ecumenical Healing Services, held the 1st Mon of every month, sponsored by AIDS Interfaith Network. Info: 928-HOPE.
Positive AIDS Antibody Test Support Groups: SF groups for gay & bisexual men who have tested positive. Ongoing, wky; groups limited to 20 people. 8225-F sessions. Led by Bill Folk, MFCC & Steven Abbott. Info: Bill 621-7177 or Steven 563-3723.
SF AIDS Foundation provides various educational support services, such as literature distribution, food bank, hotline & housing. Volunteers & contributions welcome. 333 Valencia St, 4th fl, SF. Info: 864-4376.
Shanti Project offers emotional, practical & residential support to people with AIDS, their friends, families & loved ones. 525 Howard St, SF. To volunteer as an emotional or practical support counselor (training provided) or for other info: 777-CARE.
El Paso Peninsula AIDS Services offers 1-1 & group emotional support for persons with AIDS & ARC; their families & significant others. Also info/retreats; case management/coordination & attendant care services. Extensive volunteer activities available. Info: 366-AIDS.
AIDS Interfaith Network offers support & guidance to people with AIDS, their families & loved ones thru hospital ministry, literature distribution, spiritual support, healing teams, and prayer. 2261 Market St #502, SF 94114-1693. Info: 928-HOPE.
AIDS Interfaith Support Committee of Sonoma County: persons of any faith tradition welcome (707) 762-0107.
The Center is a spiritual resource for persons with AIDS/ARC & their caregivers. Offers individual pastoral counseling, spiritual direction, prayer groups, retreats, spiritual support groups, message, friendly conversation, monthly calendar of events. Spons by the Missionary Brothers of Charity, 3421 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland 94609. Info: 655-3435.

Contra Costa County AIDS Interfaith Network. Every Thurs, 7:30 pm. Diablo Valley MCC, 2253 Concord Blvd, Concord. Info: 827-2960.
SF AIDS Fund provides emergency financial assistance to people with AIDS. 1547 California St, SF. Info/contributors: 441-6407.
Expect A Miracle: holistic healing & exercise class. Saturdays, 2-3 pm, Grace Cathedral gym, enter California St bet Taylor & Jones. SF. \$4. Info: 332-9100.
Expect A Miracle: Sunday celebrations, 790 California #37 at Stockton, SF. Gathering for people who desire holistic health & want to meet others with similar interests. Info: 332-9100.
SF AIDS Alternative Healing Project: free hotline provides info on alternative approaches to AIDS; referrals to holistic health practitioners; alternative healing support groups, classes, comprehensive alternative support services, such as literature distribution, food bank, hotline & housing. Volunteers & contributions welcome. 333 Valencia St, 4th fl, SF. Info: 864-4376.
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SHANTI WORK IS A MIRROR FOR ME



Sarah Finnegan
Shanti Emotional Support Volunteer

The sense of isolation in the gay community connected so strongly with my own experiences, that I knew my future included Shanti.

Overall the most powerful lesson I have experienced has been my opening up to fear and confronting it.

My clients and friends with AIDS have been wonderful teachers in this regard.

This past year I've known a joy and thrill about my life that wasn't there before my work with Shanti.

Volunteers needed. Call today for more information. **777-CARE**

SHANTI PROJECT

to Ray Cope 346-0770.

"Our Place," drop-in "living room," for people with AIDS/ARC. Mon-Fri, noon-6 pm, basement of Trinity Episcopal Church, 1668 Bush St. SF. "Clothing Closet" provides free clothing, bedding & kitchen items. Donations welcome. 2nd & 4th Wed support group mtg for people with AIDS & ARC. Info: Jim Mulligan 563-6045.

Reel Stop: a quiet Oasis for people with AIDS & ARC. Need someplace to rest during the day, to meet friends or to talk? Try Reel Stop, 134 Church St. (above El Quake-o-Restaurant), SF. 10 am-6 pm Mon-Fri. A ministry of Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church (MCC). Info: 621-REST.

Free Safe Sex Workshop spon by SF AIDS Fdn. Focus on helping gay men learn to have exciting safe sex. Info: 863-AIDS.

ARIS Project: emotional, practical wky support groups for people w/AIDS, ARC, HIV pos., & their loved ones. Also volunteer training. Call (408) 370-3272.

San Mateo County Buddies provide support & assistance to people with AIDS & ARC & their friends & family in San Mateo County. For info: AIDS Coordinating Office 573-2588. Volunteers needed, 6-month commitment asked; bi-weekly support groups; intensive training provided.

San Mateo County AIDS/ARC Counseling Service spon by Dept of Health Services. Trained & experienced facilitators. Open & frank discussions in a safe atmosphere. Info: Gloria Greenberg or Nancy Jordan 363-4111. For info on other county services or programs: Ed Hilton, AIDS Program Coordinator 573-2588.

Antibody Positive Drop-In Support Group spon by UCSF. Health Project & Operation Concern. Thursdays, 6-8 pm. Focus on assisting individuals in exploring concerns around positive test results, supporting development of coping skills. Operation Concern, 1853 Market at Guerrero, SF. Info: 476-6430.

People with AIDS/ARC Support Group meets in Berkeley, Thurs 2-4 pm. Spon by AIDS Project of the Eastbay. Info: 420-8181.

Parents Support Group: for parents of children living with AIDS/ARC. Open to parents with children of any age, facilitated by two parents of a person with AIDS. Issues that arise for parents can be difficult to deal with alone. We talk to other parents who've been there 6-8 pm in Oak. Spon by AIDS Project of the East Bay. Info: 420-8181.

Lovers, Friends, & Family of People with AIDS/ARC. Group meets in Berkeley, Mon 6-8 pm. Info: AIDS Project of the East Bay 420-8181.

Documentation of AIDS Issues & Research (D.A.I.R. Foundation) operates the Project Inform, the Ribavirin/azidothymidine research study, and an AIDS treatment information hotline. Archive open to the public by appointment. Info: 928-0292.

Couples Group for people with AIDS & their partners. Deal with improving communication, problem-solving, & other relationship issues. 6 wk groups start every other month. For info call AIDS Health Project 626-6637.

Bereaved Men whose lovers have died of AIDS. 6 wk support/healing group. Release feelings, receive comfort, find strength. Facilitated by Stuart Horance, PhD, Hospice psychologist, & Tom Grothe, RN. Low fee. Info: 731-4931.

Coping With Loss Group: support group for people who've had someone close to them die of AIDS. Free. Meets various times, days, & locations. Info: Shanti Project 777-CARE.

AIDS Legal Referral Panel: BAILIFFER offers free simple wills & powers of attorney for people with AIDS or ARC. Other AIDS-related legal matters handled on a case by case basis. Info: Clint Hockenberry 864-8186.

Self-Healing & Support Group for people with AIDS & those concerned with AIDS issues. Every Thurs, 7-9 pm, free. UCSF Campus Ministry Bldg, adjacent to Phelan Hall, nr the Golden Gate entrance to the campus (Golden Gate nr Parker, SF). Participants urged to practice self-healing in conjunction with traditional medical treatment. Positive reinforcements, visualizations, meditative techniques, & more. Info: Gienna 567-7126. Not affiliated with any religious group.

AIDS/ARC Switchboard: staffed by men & women with AIDS & ARC. Please call if you're in need of advice, looking for info, confused & anxious, depressed. We want to help. Staffed Mon-Fri 1-4 pm. At other times leave message. Info: 861-7309.

The Jason James Lazzari Memorial Library provides free books of all sorts for the edification & enjoyment of people with AIDS. For info on its use call Ben Brody 548-7570. Berkeley location.

HIV Concerns in the East Bay: drop-in groups spon by Pacific Ctr's AIDS Project of the East Bay. Thurs night, for gay men thinking (or not thinking) about testing, & men waiting for test results. Tues night, for women concerned over testing or waiting for test results. Wed night, HIV antibody positive support group for women & men—gay, straight or bisexual. However you came into contact with the virus, if you've tested positive for antibody or the virus directly, this group welcomes you. No fees, donations requested, no one turned away for lack of funds. Info: 420-8181.

Healing Mass: healing prayers offered for people with AIDS/ARC & others. Spon by Integrity, a community of lesbian & gay Episcopalians & friends. Gay & lesbian affirming worship at St John's, 1661 15th St, SF. Sun, 5:30 pm. Info: David Bentley 431-5859.

Garden Sullivan AIDS/ARC Project: provides environmental support (ice cream socials, posters, clocks, calendars, plants, etc) to people with AIDS/ARC. ward at St's Garden Sullivan Hospital. Spon by Integrity (see above).

Falmont Hospital in San Leandro offers AIDS specialty & screening clinic, outpatient day therapies unit, Retrovir (AZT) treatment site for HIV antibody testing, AIDS-dedicated inpatient ward, & an AIDS-sensitive staff. Info: 667-3219, 9:30 am-4 pm, Mon-Fri. 15400 Foothill Blvd, San Leandro 94782-1091.

AIDS/ARC Group at UCSF's Moffitt Hospital: for persons recently diagnosed with AIDS or ARC who are presently in hospital for treatment of related illnesses, or under outpatient care at UCSF. Internal confidential gathering to discuss problems, issues. Tues eves, 8-9 pm. Info: Richard Bornstein 929-7865, daytime hours only, do NOT call after 9:30 pm.

Transforming AIDS Project (TAP) is a holistic program designed for people with an AIDS diagnosis. Belief underlying the project: any disease process can be transformed into an experience of greater self-awareness & understanding, & this can lead to self-healing. Program consists of thorough medical evaluation, acupuncture, chiropractic, nutritional, & detox therapies, massage, counseling, support group, meditation & visualization guidance. Info: Leon Lashner, Susan Brennan, & Richard Bornstein, 268-8557 or Donald Aquila 863-9507.

AIDS Mastery Workshops: transformative & healing weekend. Moves you past feeling like a victim of circumstance. Operation Concern, 1853 Market at Guerrero, SF. Info: 476-6430.

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Passover players: ongoing games, emphasis on humor & fun. Smoke-free & WA. Friday evenings nr BART in Oakland. Info: Ray 763-0235. Call anytime for details.

Tour the Paramount! historic Paramount Theatre in Oakland is a restored art deco masterpiece—tour covers areas usually inaccessible to the public. Info: 465-6400.

SF Walking Tours: explore the waterfront by full moon, see the hidden gardens & stairways of Russian Hill, the murals of the Mission & embassies of Pacific Heights—free tours of SF neighborhoods by trained City Guides. For info or to arrange special group tours: 558-3981. Tues-Thurs 10 am-3 pm. Spon by Friends of the SF Public Library.

SF Friends of the Urban Forest Walking Tours: free tours thru 9 SF neighborhoods, designed to bring out spirituality between the natural, historical & cultural of an area & its history, land development, architectural features, cultural influences & special events. Info: 543-5000, 512 2nd St, 4th fl, SF.

Quicktricks, nation's only gay duplicate bridge club holds open an open games Mon nights, beginners' game on Tues 7 pm at MCC, SF. 150 Eureka (bet 18th & 19th) St. SF. Info: 626-1049.

Take A Ride on the Reading & come to a Lesbian Games Party! Scrabble, Monopoly, Hearts—any & all board games. Info: Zeke 552-1353.

Men's Brunch & Games for Older Gay Men (60+) & their friends—see Seniors. **Men's Outings** for Older Gay Men (60+) & friends—see Seniors.

Needlecraft & Fiber Arts for Lesbians: group for lesbians who enjoy knitting, crocheting, quilting, spinning, embroidery, counted cross stitch, crocheting, etc. Meet 1st & 3rd Thurs each month, exchange ideas, techniques, encouragement & friendship! Info: 285-3884.

Gay Domestic Violence: info, peer counseling for gay & bisexual men who batter. Referrals for victims of battering. Spon by MOVE (Men Overcoming Violence). Info: 626-MOVE.

Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project provides direct services for male victims of domestic violence: crisis intervention, 24-hr report hotline, criminal justice system advocacy, individual counseling, 8-wk support groups, referrals & referrals. Spon by CUAV. Call 864-7233 for help. Free.

Gay Area Youth Switchboard: info, referral, peer counseling. Info: 386-GAY or POB 846. SF 94101.

Gay Youth Community Coalition provides referrals for AIDS, bilingual (Spanish) staff available. Confidential, low cost services. Hrs: Mon & Thurs 9:30 am-6 pm, Tues, Wed & Fri 8 am-4 pm, 356 7th St, SF. Mon-Fri. Info: 864-8100.

Men's War Clinic: treatment for penile & anal venereal warts in a gay sensitive atmosphere at Oakland Feminist Health Ctr, 2930 McCune, Oakland. SL fees for low-income. Fred Strauss of the Gay Men's Health Collective is the staff physician for evening appt: 444-5676.

Quan Yin Acupuncture Ctr: experienced, licensed staff at Quan Yin Acupuncture & Herb Ctr offer acupuncture, homeopathy, Shatsu massage, dietary counseling, Chinese & Western herbs. Sliding scale. Open 9 am-7 pm, Mon-Fri, 9:30-1:30 on Sat, 513 Valencia St at 16th, SF. Info: 861-1101.

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Wed afternoons, 1-5 pm. Call 666-5787 for app.

The Men's Clinic: VD testing, treatment, counseling & referral by & for gay men. Gay Men's Health Collective, Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Durant Ave, Berkeley. Info: 841-0425.

Explorations in Healing & Eroticism: Taoist, Tantric & Reichen approaches to sex & love. Body Electric School of Massage & Rebirthing, 6527-A Telegraph Oak, Info: 653-1594.

Biological Stress Reduction call Shimon Attie, MA, MFCC for free consultation. Info: 922-3478.

Gay Macrobiotic Network offers vegetarian-natural foods dinners every Fri night, 6:30 pm. Buffet with soup, beverage & dessert included. After dinner socializing or discussion/discussion on wide range of topics related to holistic health, personal & community growth & spirituality. Zen Center Guest House, 273 Page St (bet Octavia & Laguna), SF. Cost: \$8. SL available. Info/fes: 637-3437.

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\$20 Referral Fee for first 1/2 hour consultation. Some low fee or no fee referrals available.

621-3900

announcing formation of a **WOMEN'S THERAPY GROUP**

This group will encourage individual change through group tasks, individual work and inter-group process in a safe, warm environment, each member can explore herself and encourage her inner movement to health and growth.

The facilitator, Cheryl Jones, M.S., has many years' experience with groups and sees them as an invaluable tool for change and for learning about oneself.

Each member will receive a personal interview to learn more about the group format and whether it will meet her needs.

Thursdays, 7:30-9:30; East Bay location \$25 per week; childcare available: \$5 per week

For information or to register, call 653-7374

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415 391-2093

identity, etc. Meets every other Sun in SF. Info: Amy 323-1454

Adoptees, Birth Parents & Adoptive Parents support groups meet throughout the Bay Area. For info: California Post Adoption Center for Education & Research (PACER) 935-6622

Bay Area Career Women: professional org for lesbians that offers educational opportunities, contacts & more. Info: 495-5393

Incest Survivor Groups: both mixed women's groups & those for lesbians in recovery from drugs or alcohol. Phase 1 & 2 groups. Info: Project, 264 Valencia, SF. Info: Angie or Deborah 864-2364

Incest Survivors Anonymous: We are no longer alone, we have each other. Incest Survivors Anonymous is a 12-step program that enables incest survivors to break out of the victim role & the nightmare of terror, guilt & confusion. Closed mtg for survivors & pro-survivors. Original perpetrators of incest or rape or victims who later became initiators do not attend ISA mtgs. Initiation is determined by intent. Mts for women & men. Sun 7:30-9:30 pm; Tues & Thurs 7:30-9 pm. For women Sat, 11 am-12:30 pm. SF Home Health Services Bldg, 225 30th St. (bet Dolores & Chenery, one block from Church), SF. 3rd floor, next door to the Coke machine. No smoking. WA. Info: 359-2070 anytime.

SF Disability 12-Step Mtg: Open to men & women. Hidden & visible disabilities. Info: Michael 864-6878, Eddie 550-1486

Women Workaholics: overcommitted? overachieving? difficulty delegating? control issues? free peer support group meets w/ky, SF location. Previous 12-Step recovery program experience preferred. Info: Sue 863-7940

Eastbay Lesbian S/M Support Group: for all lesbians with a positive interest in s/m & leather. Lesbians only. Have a hard time resolving your politics, spirituality or feelings with being a lesbian & in-leather? This group is for you! Call 554-1591 or write: POB 20365 Oakland 94620

Woman to Woman SM: Join the Outcasts, an educational, support & social group for lesbian, bisexual & transsexual women interested in SM with other women. Info: membership write POB 31266, SF CA 94131-0266

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S/M Lesbian Support/Incest/Incest/Incest: No perfumes or scents. Info: location: 668-4622

TV/TS & Friends Transgender Group: meets 8 pm, last Thurs of each month SF location. Info: 665-5216 or write: ETVG, POB 6486, SF CA 94101. We're very active & friendly folks, call us!

Older Gay Men's (60+) Rap Group: meets—see Seniors for info

Oakland/East Bay Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (Parents FLAG): holds support groups for parents, relatives & friends of lesbian & gay people. Each 4th Tues. Info: Betty McCall 547-4657

Berkeley PFLAG: 1st Wed of each month. Info: Ann 486-0534

SF PFLAG: 2nd SF each month 2 pm, St Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St. SF (enter gate left of church). All welcome. Info: Mary 928-2748

Mid-Peninsula PFLAG: meets 3rd Thurs of each month at University Lutheran Church, 1611 Stanford Ave, Palo Alto. 7:30 pm. Info & support for families & friends of gay men & lesbians. Info: Verda 854-0142

Diablo Valley PFLAG: meets every 3rd Tues. Diablo Valley MCC, 2253 Concord Blvd, Concord. Info: POB 2174, Martinez, 94553 or call 372-9014

Southbay PFLAG: meets 2nd Wed of each month, San Jose location. Info: Nancy (408) 270-8182

Marin PFLAG: welcomes & supports parents, spouses, siblings, friends & lesbians & gays to its mtgs. 2nd Wed of every month, 26 Kensington Ct, San Anselmo. Info: 479-3535

Support Group for Battered Gay Men: If you are being abused or have been abused in the past, call the Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project. Free, 8 wk support group led by licensed psychotherapist. Tues 7:30-9:30 pm, 514 Castro St. SF. Call us, we can help! Info: 864-3112

Lesbians Who Have Been Battered: group for lesbians who are in or have left a battering relationship. Thurs eves, Oakland. Led by Audrey Martin. MFCC. Info: 428-1503

Support Group for Lesbians: who are or have been in a battering relationship. SL. Info: Women Inc. 864-4722

Lesbians of Color Against Abuse (LOCAA): support group for lesbians of color who have been or are now victims of abusive relationships with other lesbians. Info: Rhonda 621-8684

Battered Lesbian Drop-In Group: spon by Sonoma County YWCA Women's Emergency Shelter Program. 2nd & 4th Wed of every month. Info: (707) 546-1234. Call—you are not the only one

Women's Employment Program: spon by Rosalie House offers counseling & support for battered & formerly-battered women; personal growth workshops & employment workshops

Free SF locations—close to BART & MUNI. Childcare & transportation assistance available. Info: Carmela or Jeanette 584-1163

BANGLA: Bay Area Network of Gay & Lesbian Educators, meets 3rd Thurs of each month, 6:30 pm, 150 Eureka St. SF. Info: Job 864-4099, Barbara 285-5078

BANGLA East Bay: meets 7-8:30 pm, 5030 Golden Gate Ave, Oakl. Info: 547-2200

Peninsula Women's Group: a support & networking group for lesbians, meets every Wed at 7:30 pm, United Church of Christ on Arroyo St., San Carlos. For info: calendar, call Diane 349-5189

Coming Out Support Group for Women: Drop-in Thurs 6-7:30 pm, Pacific Ctr, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224

Bad Girls Rap Group: spon by COYOTE. Any woman stigmatized on the basis of class, sexual orientation, activity or expression, etc., is welcome. 3rd Wed of each month, 7:30-9:30 pm. Turning Earth Restaurant, 13 Columbus Ave. SF. Info: Gloria 232-7762 (leave message on machine, calls outside of Bay Area returned collect)

SF Bay Area Phobia Society: help for phobia sufferers & their friends. Provides place to share feelings, goals, discuss progress. Info: 324-2630

East Bay Lesbian Rap: fun, relaxed atmosphere—come make new friends! Tues, 8:30 pm at Pacific Ctr, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: Ana or Barbara 548-8283

Native American Lesbian Support Group—see Third World

Racially Mixed Lesbians Support Group—see Third World

Women with Seriously Ill or Disabled Parents: free support group. Discuss love, grief, joy, limit-setting, care-taking. Eastbay location. Info: 547-7734

Leathermen's S/M Support Group: discuss issues & problems with others in the lifestyle. Safe place for those curious about SM, but afraid to ask or experience the reality. Donations. Info: 931-6180

UC Berkeley Gay & Lesbian Alumni Assoc.: see Social Groups

12-Step Homophobia Group: (AA type) Free mtg for people whose internalized homophobia (fear & hatred of being lesbian/gay) and/or of other gays/lesbians, and/or discomfort with the larger society) is making their lives uncomfortable & unmanageable. For info: Scott 346-5488 (mornings)

Applied Behavior Support Group: with Margo Adair. pool, psychic resources to combat isolation, energize realities, strategize to attain goals. Guided meditation. Group conducted with awareness of the political context of our lives. Women-only & men-only groups. Call 861-6838 for dates/times

Southern Women's Alliance: informal support group of relocated progressive southern women. Monthly potluck. Good food & good company. New folks welcome. Info/location: Jeanne 891-9410

Therapy Groups

LOVE (Lesbians Overcoming Violence): short term therapy group for lesbians. Safe, confidential place to begin to talk about your violence. Info: Margeanne Wilder, MA 558-8357 or Brenda Lyon 864-1109

Gay & Bisexual Men Who Batter: assistance & support for change in a safe, confidential place. Info: MOVE (Men Overcoming Violence) 626-MOVE. 4th Thurs of each month, 7:30-9:30 pm. Info: 864-3112, or 864-7333 (24-hr hotline)

Women's Institute for Mental Health: low-fee therapy for individuals & couples, women only. SL starts at \$10. Special services group for lesbian incest survivors, drug & alcohol counseling (thru IRIS—outpatient only), women's occupational stress resource ctr, 264 Valencia St. SF. Open Mon-Fri 10 am-5 pm, eves by appt. Info: 864-2364

Grief Healing Empowerment Group: for those who are experiencing pain & loss from the end of a relationship. Safe, supportive environment to grieve & get your feet back on the ground. 8-wk group. Info: Ariah L. Keller, MA 633-9304. Limited to 8 people

Gay Men's Ongoing Psychotherapy Group: members, with professional guidance, support each other in building self-esteem, creating healthier relationships & overcoming issues such as loneliness, depression, homophobia & emotional confusion. Longterm group, limited to 8 members. Meets Thurs, 7:30-10 pm. \$100/month. Info: Dave Cooperberg, MA 431-3220 or Pedro Rojas, MA 841-9183

Gay Men's Therapy Group: ongoing psychotherapy group for men. Work on intimacy, relationships, gay self-esteem. Meets Wed eves in SF—Noe Valley location. Info: Jim Fishman, LCSW 330-8033

Gay & Christian? Evangelical? Lesbian feminist therapist offers counseling for singles or couples on integrating sexuality & spirituality, relationship issues & more. Info: JoAnn Caetano 893-9400

Lesbian Therapy Group: led by

therapist experienced in working with individuals, couples & groups. Insurance accepted. Info: 552-9388

Disabled Lesbian Group: for women with physical disabilities, hidden disabilities, chronic illness & chronic pain. Wed & Thurs at Operatico, Corn WA, SL. Info: Rick Boden or Daryl Goldman 626-7000 vocally

Gay Men's Disabled Group: are you a gay man with a physical/hidden disability? isolated? in need of support? Call Tom O'Connell 626-7000 vty. Group held at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St. SF

Applied Meditation/Intuitive Problem Solving: group with Margo Adair. Pool psychic resources to support one another & create change. Info: 861-6838

Coming Out Group for Women: over 30, led by Robbie Robinson, MSW. Sun 4-6 pm, SF location. Info: 367-6094

Individual Counseling: for lesbians who are or have been in a battering relationship; SL. Info: WOMAN, Inc. 864-4777

Sexual Compulsive Group: for gay men an ongoing psychotherapy group for gay men whose sexual behavior, out of control. Monday eves at Operation Concern. SF. Info: Jim Fishman 626-7000

Couples Group: for Lesbians abused as children. Sat 9:30-11:30, SL. SF loc. Info: Morgane Wilder, MA 8357, Ann Longmore, MS 654-7907

Women Survivors of Incest & Childhood Sexual Abuse: Longterm therapy (3 month commitment), day & evening groups. SF loc. come to therapy appt. Info: Morgane Wilder, MA 558-8357

Grief Group: for those who have lost a loved one through suicide. Deal with feelings of anger, confusion, guilt. Find strength. Support. Meets w/ky for wks to therapist facilitates. Spon by SF Suicide Prevention. Info: 752-4866

Gay Men's Groups at Operation Concern: new 12-wk process group starts each month. Safe place to develop your interpersonal relating skills. Preliminary interview required. Info: Operation Concern 626-7000

Lesbian Couples Therapy at Operation Concern: Offers lesbian relationship therapy—this can include lovers, ex-lovers, family or friends. Low-fee, sliding scale. Med/Cal accepted. 1853 Market St. SF. WA. Info: 626-7000 vty

Men's Group: w/ky group on self-esteem & relationships for gay men. Meet men in meaningful ways, explore issues, get objective feedback, solve problems. Wed 8:30-10 pm. Info: free brochure. Adrian Bruce Triller, MS 346-2399

Bisexual Men's Group: focus on relationship & communication issues, positive feedback regarding life choices & experiences as a bisexual person. Info: Ron Fox, MA, MFCC 751-6714

Bisexuality: explore the issues. Women's support/therapy group or individual counseling. SL. Info: Linda Sue Sundale, MFCC 334-3356

Women's Therapy Group: explores work, parenting, sexuality, living in a male world, being alone. \$25/session info. Margeanne Wilder, Stephanie Leonard MFCC 524-7066

Home Counseling for Children of Lesbian/Gay Parents: Info: Mandy Meyer, MS, MFCC, 824-5532

Pre-Relationship Support Group: for Men. w/ky mtgs in SF for relationship-oriented men who want to connect with a life partner. Info/location: David Klein, MA (in Counseling), 343-8541

Lesbian Therapy Groups: work in depth on your own issues, personal power & autonomy. Thurs, 7:30-9 pm, \$20/session. SF location: Mattie Rothschild Poor, PhD, LCSW, 626-7109

Lesbians Who Love Too Much: group to explore obsessive attractions to painful, unfulfilling relationships & what you can do to recognize, understand & change the way you love. Info: Marilyn Girard, MFCC 843-2998

Success Support Group for Gay Men: who are having trouble achieving their goals. Think you're sabotaging your success? Get professional guidance, receive valuable support & feedback while exploring ways to overcome your blocks to success. 10-wk groups. Thurs 7:30 pm, \$20/wk. Pre-group consultation (free) is required. Info: Bud Hinkle, MA 928-3848

Gay Men in Our 40s & 50s: Challenge of mid-life: explore the changes in our bodies, goals, values & work experiences that come with mid-life. SL. Info accepted. Support/therapy group by Hal Slate, MA. Info: 832-1254

Lesbian Sex Workers: therapy group for lesbians working in the sex industry. Focus on issues of self-esteem, intimacy, relationships, money, health. Insurance accepted. Info: Leslie Halpern, LCSW, 863-7473

New Relationships Group: for gay men experiencing difficulty starting & developing romantic relationships. Group takes a practical approach to finding someone. Info: Kevin Miller, MS, 826-8692

"Beyond Survival": a creativity/therapy group for Women. Explore & heal yourself thru movement, art, humor, sound, ritual & more. SL. Info: Bets Ferber, MA 658-2234, Miriam Drama Therapy 428-1512

Drama Therapy Group: deal with stress issues, increase spontaneity, com-

munication skills, self-esteem in a creative, playful way. Ongoing fee. Info: Judith 528-0533 or Joel 668-4344

Jewish Lesbians Abused As Children: 10-wk groups explore the myth that "it doesn't happen in nice Jewish families." 7:30-9:15 pm, Eastbay location. Info: Meryl Lieberman 849-4059

Eating Disorders Support Group: at Marshall Hale Hospital: free, ongoing group for individuals, families & friends of people with compulsive overeating, bulimia & problematic overeating. Supportive environment to share concerns & experiences, as well as education. Led by professional staff from the Eating Disorders Program. 1st & 3rd Thurs of each month, 7-8:30 pm. Conference Room A, Marshall Hale Memorial Hospital, 3773 Sacramento St. SF. Info: 666-7856

Third World

Third World Gay Men's Rap Group: drop-in Wednesdays, 6-8 pm, Pacific Center, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224

Black & White Men Together: gathering every Thurs, 1350 Walker St. nr Masonic. SF. Rap 7:30-10 pm. For info/mtg topic: 931-BWMT. Also see AIDS Resources for AIDS discussion group

Third World AIDS Support & Stress Reduction Groups: see AIDS Resources

Lesbians of Color/Third World Lesbian Support Group: meets Thursdays, 6:30-8 pm, \$3 donation (no one turned away for lack of funds). Pacific Ctr, Telegraph & Derby. Berk. Info: Camille Barber, 548-8283

Latina Lesbian Mothers Support Network—see Parenting

Gay & South Asian? You're not alone! Indian, Pakistani, Bangla, Chinese, Sri Lankan, Nepali, Bhutan, Tibetan—men & women—this is our chance to find each other! Trikon, a new support group for gay men & lesbians from the Indian subcontinent. Info: Box 60536, Palo Alto 94306 (408) 729-4703

Bay Area Bisexual Lesbians & Gays Gathering: call Midget 864-0876 or Tony 929-9480 for info

Victoria Mercado: Lesbian & Gay Brigade multicultural group works in solidarity with the people of Nicaragua. Join us. Info: 533-4531

Native Amer/Asian Lesbians: meet for

networking, taking care of social, cultural & spiritual needs. Call 233-9665 & leave your name, tribe, address & phone number for mailing list

Racially Mixed Lesbians: support group. call 233-9665 for info

S/M Support Group: for Women of Color. Info: 647-0827

Third World People with AIDS/ARC: group spon by AIDS Project of the Eastbay. See AIDS Resources

Lesbians of Color Against Abuse (LOCAA): support group for lesbians of color who have been or are now victims of abusive relationships with other lesbians. Info: Rhonda 621-8684

Lesbians of Color Support Group: in partnership with the Eastbay. SF. Meets Thurs, 7:30-9 pm. Info: 826-8856

Japanese Lesbian Group: Nihongo o Bokokugo to suru Lesbian no Group. Matsuki, Daini Nichiyobi Meeting Ar. Denwa (Yoru) 563-8253

Gay Feminist Women of Color Group: meets at Billy DeFrank Community Ctr, 1040 Park Ave, San Jose. Enjoy social & community activities, cultural exchanges, meeting new friends. Info: Rose (408) 298-5742

Youth

Youth Group in the Avenue! It's true, there really are gays/bisexuals/lesbians under 21! Meet others at the Richmond Youth Rap. Tues 7-8:30 pm, 3654 Balboa, SF. Info: Diane or Rick 668-5955

Young Lesbians Rap Group: for women in their early 20s & younger. Fr, 5:30-7 pm. Pacific Ctr, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224

Lesbians Under 21: support group at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St. SF. Explores feelings & issues including racism, sexism, homophobia, interracial & intercultural relationships, how to deal with friends, family & coworkers; substance abuse problems. CIG, SIGN & Spanish translation w/3-day notice. Led by Micaela Lovett. Free. Info: 431-1180

Under 21 Gay Men's Rap: open rap. Sat 1-4 pm at Pacific Ctr, Berk. Info: 841-6224

Peninsula Gay/Lesbian Youth Group: discussion group. Sun at 2 pm. Fresno Ridge University Lutheran Church, 1611 Stanford Ave. Palo Alto. Info: 856-1144, or write POB 60782, Palo

Alto, CA. Group is not church-affiliated

Slightly Younger Lesbians & Gays: a social support group for men & women under 25. Meets every Sunday, 1:30 pm. San Jose location. Info: (408) 293-4529

Under-21 Gay Men's Rap: group meets at Pacific Ctr, Drop-In, 1-4 pm, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224

Gay Area Youth Switchboard: see Hotlines & Referrals

Lesbian/Gay Youth Project: for people 21 & under. Saturdays at 4 pm, Tiburon location. Info: Chris 381-4196

Young Adults Task Force: open to those 16-25. Fresno Gay Community Ctr, 606 E Belmont, Fresno. Info: (209) 258-3535

Young Lesbians: weekly support group for those 25 & under. Santa Cruz location. Info: Valerie (408) 427-3862

Peninsula Young Gay Men: support group for gay men under 23 who live in the Peninsula. Info: 692-8007

Join the GAY Group (Growing American Youth): open to gay men & lesbians 23 & under. Meets 2nd & 4th Fr of each month, 7 pm, Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church, 2253 Concord Blvd, Concord. Info: 827-2960

"Jackson Street": weekly therapy group for lesbians & gays under 21. Work on issues: coming out, sexual identity, survival, relationships, AIDS anxiety & other health issues. "Jackson Street" was formed to provide a place for young people to talk, find support & feel comfortable exploring their sexuality. Facilitated by Ruth Hughes & Ron Henderson. 3-5 pm. Ctr for Special Problems, 1700 Jackson St. (bet Van Ness & Franklin) SF. Spon by the Sexual Minority Youth Program at the Ctr for Special Problems. Info: Ron or Ruth 554-5534

California Runaway Hotline: provides services to young people who need help, want someone to talk to, or want to send a message to their parents. See Hotlines & Referrals

Lesbian/Gay Youth Project: spon by the Ministry of Light (a non-judgemental ministry with the lesbian/gay community) meets first, second & third Thurs of every month, 6:30-7:30 pm drop-in. 7:30-9 pm group. Ministry of Light, 1000 St Francisco Drake Blvd, San Anselmo, 94960. Info: Chris or Paul 457-1115

Loulan...
(continued from page 15)
those different levels, and it scares me that I can't compete. I think that's why I can't handle the ambiguity myself, when you get right down to it.

And, I've got all this privilege! I make my living being out. But when *The Lesbian Inquirer* came out with such a negative review of *Lesbian Sex*, they also called me heterosexual in the article.

How did they come up with that?

I have a son, so obviously I had invited semen into my body and I was heterosexual. And anybody that invited semen into their body anytime in their life was not a lesbian, so I know about four lesbians by that definition. I identified as upper middle class, and I was a "Marriage, Family, Child Counselor." So these were all clues that I was heterosexual. I've always used that as an example of how we get each other.

But, what I'm saying, and a lot of people argue with me on this point, is I really do think we have a hard time being out. And so, I think we have a very hard time with ambiguity.

So here I am now — my son started kindergarten, and every morning I'm at the bus stop with all the moms. And they know I go around the country giving talks on sexuality. Now, have I told them that I am a lesbian? I haven't. I can say to myself I haven't because I'm afraid they won't let their kids play with my kid. Well, they're all too liberal. They're not going to not let my kid play with their kids. But I don't want to tell them because I don't want them to ostracize me. I don't want them to treat my son differently than they treat the other kids. When my son starts get old enough to have kids spend the night, I don't want them to not let their kids spend the night.

So I have all these "reasons." What it really comes down to, is I don't want them to not like me. And I'm afraid they won't like me if they know I'm a lesbian. Which comes down to some place in me which thinks being a lesbian is not OK.

But they probably won't like you the same way. They probably won't let their kids come over.

Right. But think about what that does to me to hide out with that. Because what we have done throughout our lives is become invisible.

networking, taking care of social, cultural & spiritual needs. Call 233-9665 & leave your name, tribe, address & phone number for mailing list

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Lesbians Under 21: support

THEATRE

Poppies

BY GENE PRICE

A reviewer can consider himself lucky if once during the theatre season a play is produced that completely delights the eye, the ear, and the mind. *Poppies*, Noel Greig's play now having its American premiere at the Theatre Rhinoceros Studio, does just that.

Poppies' multi-layered themes concern attitudes toward war, the class structure, familial responsibilities, and one's own responsibility to love. It's powerful in its understatement. One cannot help but be moved. Now scheduled to run through November 15, this fine production deserves an extended run on the Rhino's Main Stage.

Director Nicholas Deutsch has done a superb job of bringing all the elements of theatrical production into focus. The script is sparse but compelling as it transports us backwards and forwards from two years in the future to a romanticized memory of the eve of World War II. The ensemble acting is of consistently high quality. Pamela Peniston's simple platformed set and Stephanie Johnson's lighting work handsomely within the complex time frames of the three couples who concurrently inhabit the stage.

Despite crackling radio warnings for the London population to remain at home — not to participate in the annual Remembrance Day March (our own Poppy Day) — Sammy (Robert Coffman) and his lover of many years, Snow (Nello Carlini), have come to Parliament Hill, Hampstead Heath, to picnic and watch the distant proceedings. (A singular act of bravery in itself, considering that a nuclear holocaust seems imminent.) Coffman and Nello are well complemented, their old lovers' conversations punctuated with poignant bickering.

Sammy has brought along a testament of their lives together, letters and photographs in a tin biscuit box, which he intends to bury on the hill so some future archeologist can piece together the gentle quality of their relationship. But a photo of Flag, Sammy's young lover who was killed in the firebombing of Dresden, opens the floodgates of memory.

Young Sam (handsome John Lawton) and Flag (ingratiating James Patrick Kennedy) materialize to enact their first meeting on this same hilltop. It's a tentative, touching first-time romance until Flag, bursting with patriotic fervor, is off to war. Young Sam, a conscientious objector, remains behind to face his term of imprisonment.

From the beginning of the play, a third couple has made its presence felt with considerable dramatic force. Marvellously made-up and costumed in tatters and rotting leaves, Mouldy Head One and Mouldy Head Two (R. Michael Fierro and Gary Widlund in tour de force performances) are two long-dead souls who slither about the stage, commenting on what the live ones are doing and caustically refuting each other's philosophies of life and love. One eagerly anticipates the trauma of rebirth and that first slap on the rear that will bring new life (food and drink, warmth and love) and the loss of old memory. The other Mouldy Head shuns rebirth, even as he is reluctantly sucked into its vortex.

Serving as a Greek chorus, the Beckett-like Mouldy Heads are beautifully written, dramatically unique characterizations. When one of them professes shock that people are now being put underground who aren't even dead, we are made to understand that those "undead" are members of the military complex who live in underground bunkers while waiting to push those final buttons.

A seventh character, a mysterious and aggressive punker (Todd Meeks), appears on the hill. He is Snow's deserted son, Hippo, who has come to demand his pound of moral revenge.

Don't miss *Poppies*. The Studio, Theatre Rhinoceros, Fri-Sat-Sun evening and Sun matinees. Call 861-5079.

36 COMING UP! NOVEMBER 1987

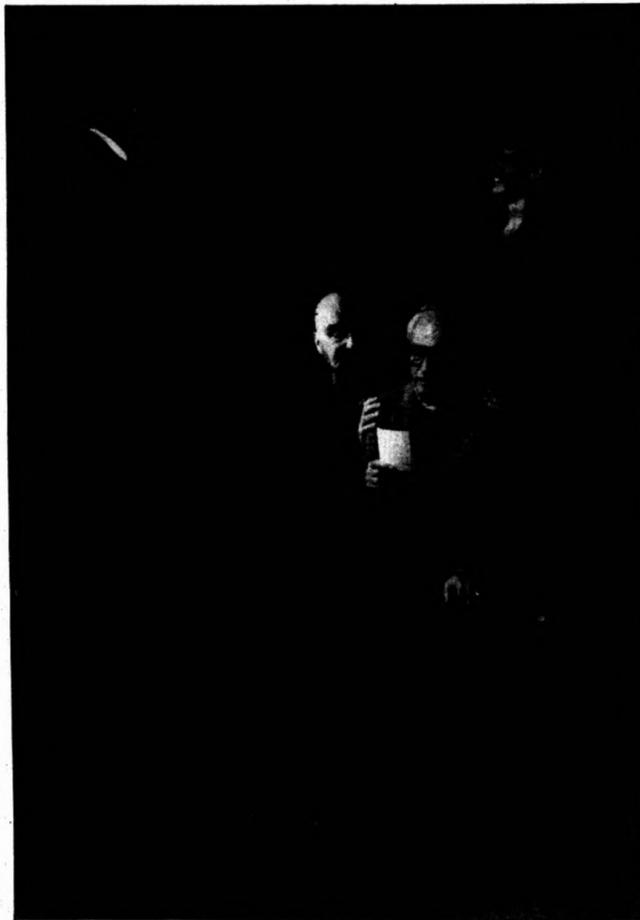


Photo by Max

Burning Patience

REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

The One-Act Theatre opened its twelfth season with a lyrical production of Antonio Skarmeta's *Burning Patience*, a tribute to Chile's Nobel Laureate poet-politician Pablo Neruda.

The full-length one-act was directed by Carla Sarvis with an all-Latino cast featuring Carlos Baron as Neruda; Phil Jimenez as Mario, the love-struck postman; Maria Alcorcha as the virginal but impassioned Rosa; and Leila Kane as Rosa's mother, Beatriz.

Designer Stephen Elspas created a corner of the poet's study on a rocky promontory above the crashing surf of Isla Negra. With each mail delivery, young and idealistic Mario pesters Neruda to assist him in his courtship of Rosa. Mario's passion even propels him to pass off a few of the poet's love lyrics as his own.

Baron gives us Neruda as a warm and ingratiating poet and friend. The activist-politician is barely touched on in the script, and then only through offhand references in letters that come to Mario after Neruda's appointment (by Allende) as Chilean ambassador to France.

Leila Kane delivers a beautifully delineated characterization as a determined, protective mother. The young lovers, Mario (Jimenez) is well remembered from previous Theatre Rhino productions and Rosa are barely able to restrain their lust, and the seduction scene, in which an egg is innocently rolled over Rosa's body, be-comes increasingly erotic as they divest each other of their clothing.

The last scene reveals Neruda back on the island and dying — and presumably under

house arrest — at the time of Chile's 1973 military coup. Looking down to the beach, he sees pieces of a shattered boat. They are, in reality, bodies washing ashore.

Low-key but effective, *Burning Patience* was one of the more moving plays of the new season. Bob Davis of Earwax Production created the impressive sound accompaniment. The play completed its run last weekend.

A Lear Triumphant

REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

Seldom presented on the commercial stage, *King Lear* was the happy choice of director Edward Hastings to open the ACT season. Smoothly seamed cuts have streamlined the tragedy's running time. It's a polished, lucid production.

Peter Donat is the king who, betrayed by two daughters (Jeanne Paulsen and Megan Cole), and having rejected a third, is left to roam the moors in madness. *Lear's* as bloody a tale of greed, betrayal, ambition, familial rejection and revenge — with assorted stabbings, hangings, and putting out of eyes — as one is likely to see. Plots and cross-plots are hatched.

Donat's *Lear* is at all times impressive. Shakespeare's language is water to his thirst. He thunders when he is in control, whimpers pitifully in high-pitched quavers as he becomes increasingly mad. Tentative in the first few moments, relying too much on palsied hands, he settles quickly, and the role is his.

Steven Anthony Jones brought an assured eloquence to his loyal Earl of Kent, and Drew Eshelman was a dignified, sympathetic Duke of Albany. Fredi Olster as Cordelia was not the

sweet, unassuming Cordelia one recalls from past *Lears*, but a proud and willful daughter cut from the same cloth as the old man himself.

To my mind, there has always been too much of the coy, unctuous Fool. He seems even in greater evidence here courtesy of a costume and headdress (a flaming red punk coxcomb) that call attention to the actor and not his lines. J. Garland Thompson, as the Duke of Cornwall, Rick Hamilton as an obsequious, mincing Oswald, and Richard Butterfield as Poor Tom, were also standouts in the large cast.

Special kudos to Richard Seger's setting of monstrous armored walls that moved soundlessly and silver back curtains that were marvelously effective against Derek Duart's realistic storm and lightning.

Costumes by Robert Fletcher were without consistent period. The Earl of Kent was strictly contemporary — military boots and tan leather jacket. Other dukes and earls were either futuristic military or operetta chorus boy (take your pick). The ladies of the court fared better in elegant, Empire-bosomed fabrics that were flattering, regal, and seductive at the same time. Oh, yes, *Lear's* appearance in an embroidered Russian peasant blouse, overly garlanded with leaves, sent quick flashes of Ophelia to mind. E'en so, he wore it bravely and rose above it.

King Lear plays at the Geary in tandem with *Lie of the Mind* through Dec 5 (673-6440).

Extremities

REVIEWED BY RANDY TUROFF

"I began my research. When I heard of a rape trial, I would sit in the court all day. I talked to spectators, lawyers, sometimes defendants and plaintiffs. I learned that one out of three women in the U.S. are sexually assaulted by age 18. That of all rape cases that are able to pass strict rules of evidence, only two percent result in conviction, which means that it's easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rapist to go to prison. That the average rapist rapes 29 times."

—from "The Making of 'Extremities'" by William Mastrosimone

Mastrosimone's *Extremities* is a play of our times. It serves as a radical indictment against the grossly ineffectual court system. But more than that, it's an intensely emotional play dramatizing the nature of sexual violence as it is inextricably tied to the dynamics of power. The plot is simple: a man breaks into a woman's house, out to rape, brutalize and murder her. The dramatic twist is that she manages to gain the power over him, rendering him her victim. It's knife-to-the-balls drama, where every beat, every movement, every pause, brings up questions of ethics, politics, and sexual power, on a gut level.

Aside from Marjorie and the assailant, two additional characters are brought into the play. The roommates function like a Greek chorus, acting as a tribunal in deciding the life or death fate of the rapist. Marjorie wants to kill him. She knows he's out to kill her, and in the film script (which is an expanded version of the original theatre script), Mastrosimone shows us that this is indeed the second time he's attempted to rape her. One roommate fears the legal ramifications of complicity, the other is horrified by the eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth brand of justice that Marjorie is demanding. Their emotions writhe in the turmoil of the situation where every ego is so shattered that nothing seems possible. It is only when Marjorie completely dominates the scene, by acting out the attempted rape with him, word for word, threat for threat, beating for beating, this time taking on his role, that the other women realize what has actually happened to her. Only when he has been metaphorically raped by her, forced with a knife in his groin, does he completely break down into a confession. He confesses of his intent to rape and murder all three of them, as he had done to other women before.

"No producer dared to put *Extremities* on stage for two years (most producers are men)," wrote Mastrosimone. *Extremities* had its first major production at the Actors Theatre of



Louisville, where it produced a maelstrom of reactions. From there, the movie rights were sold, just as the New York theatre production opened to a controversy of reviews. Now, the movie, with Farrah Fawcett and James Russo, is a home video best seller.

Kaleidoscope West recently produced *Extremities* at the Addison Stage Company in Berkeley. It was directed by JD Trow, and featured Michael Bellino and Allison Post in the major roles. Nadja Kennedy and Deborah Pryor played the roommates. It was not a very good production. For one thing, there was far too much screaming, and the bickering, petty quality of the roommates distracted from the real business at hand. The worst thing was that the main characters ran through the attempted rape scene like a freight train. It was as if the director had decided only the bare fact of the rape had to be established, so that she could get on with the more important ethical and political issues brought up by the play.

This is a mistake. It is the rape scene itself which dominates the rest of the play. It is the absolute, intimate rapport of bondage, of power and submission which gives the drama its heightened sense of terror. It's the extremely sensitized instinctual shifts and movements of power between the hunter and the hunted that makes the play so dynamic.

In the movie, for instance, when Raul enters, he holds Marjorie with the contact of their eyes. He's totally unanxious, soft-spoken, taking his time, playing with it. As he says, he's got all day. He doesn't have to mount her as soon as he tackles her on the ground. He doesn't have to shout. He whispers his commands. There's an array of stylized sadistic movements which he performs that are much more insidious than the grabbing of her breasts. When he takes the blood from her nose and sucks it from his finger with a dainty gesture, as he's smirking at her, we feel the depths of his psychotic fantasy at work. The guy's got a prurient imagination, and it's essential that he take his time and space onstage to allow the satanic machinations to play through his mind even as he's making his moves on her. That's his character. And when Marjorie finally gets him strung up, blinded by roach spray, and he still threatens that she's got no evidence of rape against him, since he never got to actually fuck her, we need time to see her feel what she's going to do next. It's all in the pacing. She needs time to hear his words: "I get out, I get you" reverberate through her mind before the beat changes and she plunges into total brutality towards him.

That's what made Farrah Fawcett and James Russo's acting so evocative. They made every beat count, they acknowledged each movement with control and precision, and they

made every action, a reaction. The violence was perfectly choreographed.

Whether on stage or on film, *Extremities* is a very difficult and demanding script. It's an ambitious project for any director and for the actors involved. It's so intense and complex on an emotional and instinctual level, that it really has to be acted and moved through with a heightened awareness of control: the restrictions to free movement, the boundaries of the power shifts in terms of who has it, and where and how it's being used at every moment.

Extremities is a classic play about domination and humiliation. It's about rape as an issue of power/control. And it's about violence and violation on many levels, starting with the physical/sexual.

A Lie of the Mind

REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

Sam Shepard's *Lie of the Mind*, now in repertory at ACT, has been mercifully trimmed by director Albert Takazaukas from four hours to three. It still meanders considerably, as the author borrows symbols from several Greek tragedies, appropriates themes from Shakespeare, and even dips into his own past work to re-exorcise a devil or two.

It's the performances that count. Takazaukas has assembled one of the strongest ACT casts in several seasons. As star-crossed lovers, Lawrence Hecht, as Jake, and Nancy Carlin, as Beth, move us with the raw savagery and helpless rage of their passions.

Jake, consumed with jealousy of Beth, has beaten her senseless, and leaving her for dead, flees. Brain damaged but nevertheless calling for Jake from her hospital bed, Beth slowly learns to talk and walk again. Both return to the safety of their presumably normal American families. But Shepard families are like icebergs. What you see floating on top is only one-tenth of what lurks beneath.

Barbara J. Mesney's set separates Jake's bedroom in his mother's California house and Beth's family's living room in Montana. A jagged split, like an earthquake fault, divides the stage and runs up the rear wall to separate the lovers. Even so, they howl each other's names across this 1,000 mile chasm, like wolves in heat.

Jake's gentle brother Frankie (Howard Swain) sets out for the Montana ranch to discover whether or not Beth is indeed dead. He is intercepted by Beth's vindictive brother Mike (Ed Hodson), shot in the upper leg, and dragged into the living room like a deer carcass. He is assaulted, reviled, and ignored according to the whims of Beth, her added mother (Joy Carlin) and her domineering, bombastic father (Will Marchetti).

Jake, trapped in bed by his mother (Anne Lawder), who is only too happy to spoon-feed him forever, eventually escapes in his jockey shorts and a leather jacket. When younger sister (Lanny Stephens) calls after him that he can't get to Montana in his underwear, he retorts, as though he were as sane as the next

(continued on next page)



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 — Bea Pixa, SF Examiner

person, "I'll travel at night."
 In a bizarre denouement, like a freeze frame in a movie, the play ends without ending.
 It's a puzzlement, but typical of Shepard. Many critics have called this his best play. I think not. It's engrossing from beginning to end, dramatic, startling, always catching one off-guard. But when it ended, I felt unsatisfied.
 The fine ensemble acting cannot be praised enough, especially Nancy Carlin (heartbreaking in her haltingly delivered, insightful bit about a man's shirt), and Lawrence Hecht (in his childish tantrums directed against a smothering mother). Swain, Lawder and Hodson made major roles of secondary ones. Marchetti and Joy Carlin were superb as Beth's parents. (Unfortunately, their dialogue too often might have been lifted intact from an *All in the Family* episode. It was so immediately apparent that I began to wonder how they could read their lines without sounding like Archie and Edith Bunker. I don't think it can be done.)
 If this is your first Shepard play, just jump in, feet first. It's prime Shepard — a little bit of your family, a little bit of mine.
A Lie of the Mind plays in tandem with *King Lear* at the Geary through Dec 12 (673-6440).

Shakespeare: The Musical Revue
 REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

Publicized as a show for people who think they don't like Shakespeare, this revue of readings, skits, and musical parodies was the first offering of Creative Artists Theatre under the direction of A.J. Esta. Musical director was David Shepard.
 Some numbers were original, some were borrowed from such as Cole Porter, Galt McDermot (*Hair* and *Two Gentlemen of Verona*), John Dankworth, Ogden Nash and Vernon Duke, Daniel Curzon and Dan Turner, Dick Hyman, and Morris Bobrow. The sparse but handsome setting by Jane Robbins featured colorful pennants listing the Bard's histories, comedies and tragedies.

With a company of 20 ensemble performers and a roster of 20 sketches, it was to be expected that some would sparkle, some would not. "The Lamentable Tragedy of the Merry Wife of Hank Cinque," for instance, borrowed freely from any number of plays (the assembler was unattributed) and revealed the kind of creative madness that a Shakespeare parody requires. Like a few of the other comedic pieces, however, it tended to meander on after its initial wit had been expended. A few of the voices simply failed to project and, while that was no problem for Shirley Nilsen Hall, her interpretation of Ophelia in the abandoned lyrics of Ogden Nash's "Madly In Love" was overly tentative. In general, pacing throughout might have been quickened to good advantage.

John Brebner, as Will Shakespeare himself, served with flair as both performer and interlocutor. I was especially delighted with Curzon & Turner's "The Canon of Shakespeare's Rap" performed by the company, Bobrow's "Titus Andronicus" as sung by Kathryn McGeorge and Don Rosenberg, and an impressively underplayed reading of Doin Marquis' "Pete the Parrot" by talented Will Bennett, who also scored vocally on Dankworth's "Winter, When Icicles Hang By The Wall."
 Featured on two solos, Rebecca Jones performed Dankworth's "If Music Be The Food Of Love," and was especially moving on "The Willow Song," Desdemona's aria by Robert Wright and George Forrest. Gloria Wood's rich voice also lent itself to two Dankworth songs, including the lovely "Our Revels Now Are Ended."

The Doom Folk
 REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

There's no mistaking Gary Aylesworth's multi-talents. As writer and performer of his own material, he's a one-man team to contend with. Ideas and impressions are tossed about the stage like firecrackers. He's



got so much to say and only a lifetime to say it in, so it's catch as catch can.
 Subtitled "Millions Now Living Will Never Die," *The Doom Folk* is a frenetic indictment of the apocalyptic beliefs of the Jehovah's Witnesses. It's also the true story of this solo performer's search for his biological mother.

Partially autobiographical, *The Doom Folk* is the story of a 34-year-old man, given up for adoption at birth, raised as a Catholic, who set out to find his real mother. Success leads to a first long-distance phone call. Within seconds she asks if he is a homosexual, then reveals that she had kept her pregnancy a secret from his father, that she now has a family of her own, and that she is a Witness. (But what a relief to discover he's really Polish and not Irish!) Seeking a convert, she mails him copies of *The Watchtower*, which sets the playwright on a further quest. The result is a merciless dissection of that religious sect as dramatized from portions of disfellowshipped Witness Raymond Franz's book, *Crisis of Conscience*.

In rapid-fire succession Aylesworth is Franz spreading the gospel in English to non-English-speaking Puerto Ricans. He is his mother in conversation with himself, various guardian angels (one with a Brooklyn accent who is called Angel Mashed Potatoes), a mantra-reciting student of Buddhism, and assorted religious bureaucrats. Puns and sight gags abound (a quick glance at his watch after a reference to Ecclesiastes 9:15). Split-second costume changes range from robe to shawl.
 Aylesworth was accompanied throughout by Peter Newton and his Taiko Gamelan Arkestra (percussion, bells, keyboard).

Approaching horrified hysteria at times, Aylesworth simply bites off too much. The potential for poignant comedy in a mother/son relationship via long distance phone calls is not always compatible with his strident, no-holds-barred satire on the Witnesses.
 Always fascinating to watch, Aylesworth may have something in *Doom Folk*, but it's not there yet. Presented at the New Performance Gallery, the play ran through October.

Manslaughter
 REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

Sorry I've got nothing good to say about Nicholas Crawford's black comedy/drama now at the Magic. It's a formless, witless, broadly acted cartoon about euthanasia and might well have served the talents of the socially conscious S.F. Mime Troupe as a better vehicle.
 A cast of four (plus a body in a bass viol case) attacked its roles in four wildly divergent acting styles. The script meandered off in a number of uncharted directions.

Major Jackson (James K. Lewis), a symphony player, has been tried and convicted for supplying the overdose that permitted his terminally ill sister to kill herself. He has escaped to the woods but reappears regularly to harass the presiding law-and-order judge, Lisa Montcrieff (Libby Anne Russler) and the pharmacist

brother with whom she lives, Sheldon (Bruce Mackey).

Ideas regarding euthanasia itself, the stand of the medical profession and the legal system's responsibility, are haphazardly mixed with inane conversations about restaurant menus, ballroom dancing (yes, this weird brother and sister go fox-trotting together), and butch Detective Sands' (Kate Black) hands-on infatuation with the judge. (As Sands places a hand on the judge's knee, the judge comments, "I'm not like that." "Like what?" responds Sands.)

Brother Sheldon (an innocent on the order of Elwood P. Dowd in *Harvey*) was also blessed with this line: "Being something diminishes the individual." Think about it.
 Co-directors John Lion and Eli Simon seemed incapable of creating a miracle out of a sow's ear.

Manslaughter. At the Magic Theatre, Fort Mason. Wed-Sun thru Nov. 15. Call 441-8822.



Me and My Girl
 REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

Happily toe-tapping across the boards of the Golden Gate Theatre, *Me and My Girl* remains in residence through December 13. It's snappy, happy, extravagantly mounted, delightfully simple-minded, and everybody loves it. Why not? Rags to riches is the universal day dream, and even royalty adores royalty.

First produced in London in 1937 (before *Oklahoma!* decreed that songs should have some thematic relationship with the story line), and best remembered for its famous, high-stepping Lambeth Walk number, this revival is a perfect example of the musicals of the period. Thankfully, it's handled with nostalgic affection and boundless enthusiasm.

Tim Curry, best known for his starring role on Broadway as Mozart in *Amadeus* and in the film and stage production of *The Rocky Horror Show*, is the crude, cocky, self-assured Bill Snibson. Always ready to take a pratfall for a laugh, Curry delivers a performance right off the British music hall stage. (His second act bit in his flowing royal robes brings the house down.)

Summoned to Hareford Hall, Bill is advised that he is the long-lost heir to the title of Earl of Hareford. Nonplussed for no more than a second, he sports a grin as wide as the Cheshire cat's, introduces Cockney girl friend Sally (Donna Bullock) to the family, and sets about stealing his own silver.

But every Will has its ifs and buts, and the Will in question states that the heir must be "fit and proper" to assume his social position. As co-executors, the imperious Duchess of Dene (Ursula Smith) and the urbane Sir John Tremane (Barrie Ingham) decree that Bill needs considerable polishing and that Sally simply won't do at all.

Lady Jacqueline (sultry Susan Cella) sets about laying her own sexual traps for Bill. Honest-and-true Sally, convinced that she

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Kate Clinton

BY ANDREA LEWIS

Who would've thought that a high profile, lesbian, feminist celebrity like Kate Clinton once had thoughts of being a nun? Or that this comic, whom many would label as radical, was very upset with demonstrators staging sit-ins and forcing universities to close during the sixties?
 Kate "The Great," as she has been called, is full of such surprises. She is perhaps the world's best known lesbian humorist. She is a former high school English teacher who spent eight years honing her act in front of large groups of 10th and 11th graders. Since then, she has spent most of her time performing for largely women's audiences throughout North America.

Clinton makes being funny look easy, but our Kate works very hard at what she does, always trying to find the right balance between educating and entertaining, and between the serious and the humorous.

(Coming Up!): You've become pretty well known in feminist and lesbian circles. Tell us something we might be surprised to hear about Kate Clinton.

(Clinton): Well, after high school, I wanted to join a convent. I was heavily recruited to be a nun, and I considered it seriously for about three or four days.

I've also read that you wanted to be an altar girl, and the church accepted your brothers, but not you. I would've thought that would be a bit of a feminist awakening for you.

It really was. I think it probably clued me in on the rest of my attitude about the church and women, that there really was no place for women to participate. My brothers were all struggling to memorize the Latin, and I could've said that mass. So I think that early inequity certainly stayed with me.

So why'd you give up the idea of being a nun after four days? Did you just not get that call

from God?

I don't know. I never answered. I must not have had my answering machine on.

What other events from your younger days really stand out in your mind?

In the sixties I worked my way through college. I was very conservative, and I was furious with the people who were closing the colleges, because I had earned the money and I wanted to get my degree. I think it's very interesting that now my former radical friends from college are major-enconced yuppies, and I'm a radical gal. It's a wonderful reversal.

It's probably true that some people join social movements because it's the trendy thing to do.

Yeah. I think they're really disgusting. I have no use for them. A lot of the ones talking about poverty programs were wearing their \$90 scuffed leather jackets. Please! I know where you got it, and I know Dad and Mom are gonna take care of you, pal.

What kind of university was this?

It was a Jesuit school. Yep, I couldn't stay away. But of course, I thought Jesuits were Jewish priests. Who knew? And I went to college before women's studies.

I'm sure many people have the idea that Kate Clinton has been a known lesbian/feminist since age five. When did you come out as a lesbian and feminist?

After I taught high school English for eight years, I left teaching and went to the Women Writers' Center in Cazenovia, New York. At that time, about 1978, I was coming out. I had always loved women, but as a Catholic it wasn't anything that was in the realm of possibility as far as I knew, and certainly sexuality was a whole taboo subject.
 So it wasn't until 1978 that I started to read about feminism. I wrote a paper about the uses of humor in the women's movement, a very serious paper. A friend of mine read it and said, "Where's the jokes?" So I wrote a

routine and called a friend of mine who owned a bar and asked if I could come and perform, and she said yes. Then I called about 100 of my friends and asked them to come down.

So the good news is that even an old babe like myself at age 30 can experience a massive change because of ideas that I was finally exposed to, that I thought only I had secretly, and that the power of the word can really change people. I'm living proof, and that's part of what I take into my work. Knowing that people can hear and be changed.

Tell me more about your paper. What was your theory on how comedy can be helpful in the women's movement?

The idea was that in this culture the serious is much more valued than the humorous. Humor is trivial and, well, not serious. I think that when women want to show how really present we are in the world and how serious we are — we really can out-serious the boys — we talk ourselves into corners that there's no getting out of, until we remember that a light remark can be very effective. You know, when you've been at a meeting and you are just gonna have to kill the woman across the table from you, and someone makes a light remark and moves the thing along. I think that's a good illustration of the power of humor, and that's basically what the paper was about.

I know from my experience as a writer and musician, that some of my more politically radical friends have implied, "How can you be a musician or study art when there are people being oppressed in the world?" Have you had similar experiences?

When I started in 1981, we really had to do fast talking to say that there was such a thing as a feminist/humorist, because women don't trust humor. We'd had it used against us for so long. I had a woman come up to me at a show in Ottawa and say, "I heard you were a feminist comedian, and I came to make sure you didn't make fun of us, and if you did, I was going to punch you out."
 I really think that the most radical thing we can do is enjoy ourselves, whether it comes through music or through laughter. As women, we think we must suffer and be real serious, and truly, for every emergence of women, there's an emergency by the boys. That's how nervous we make them: "Hmmm, a women's movement? Well, let's throw some nuclear weapons around here." So we have to get involved in that.

I think that enjoying ourselves and testing the limits of our pleasure responsibly is one of the most radical things about the women's movement. We can lose sight of a lot of things in that attempt to be taken seriously.

I think many women would argue with that statement. They feel that women haven't been taken seriously for so long with men totally running the show, and we need to get serious if we want some change; we need to say that women are concerned about Third World issues and about military build-ups; we want to let you guys know that we have power. Some might feel like it's detracting to say — like the song says — "girls just want to have fun."
 What I'm also talking about is using our humor and the genius of what the women's movement is. For example, there's a group of women in the Midwest running an abortion clinic. It was constantly being harassed. So these women had a meeting and got goofy and decided they were going to sponsor a picket. Whenever that picket showed up, money would be donated in that person's name to the abortion clinic. They even had cards made up that said, "Thank you very much. With your presence here today, \$50 has been donated to this clinic for abortion for poor women." I thought that kind of light touch, instead of the confrontational thing, was really just great.

So did you leave teaching because you didn't feel any of that dedicated teacher stuff about opening young minds and teaching young girls about feminist literature?
 I did, but I just got tired. I even taught during the summer, which was about the stupidest thing I could do. But even though I gave up teaching, I still feel that politically, that's what I'm doing.
 Educating people by making them laugh.
 Absolutely. When I taught, my kids always had a good time and I had to tell them, "You know, I don't want you to think that you

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 COMING UP! NOVEMBER 1987

aren't learning anything," because that's what they'd think.

In fact, we know that you learn most when you're having a good time or when you're in that play mode. I bring that to my performance, and you know, planning a lesson is very much like planning a routine. You have to establish a certain trust and a certain rhythm and you have to be ready to deviate from the lesson plan when no one is paying attention. You have to learn how to work a room when you're teaching. High schoolers are a tough crowd, and they come back every day.

One of the things that struck me when I read your press biography was a particular line that said your material was inspired from your background as a "white, middle-class, former English teacher and recovering Catholic." Why did you feel it was important to stress "white"?

I actually would like to say that I like to talk about white guys — if you hadn't noticed — and so many of our problems are with these white guys, and I think that the more we talk about it and put it in everybody's face helps, to stress these power things that are going on.

Well, I must say that my initial reaction was "Hmmm, why is she stressing this? Is it to say hey, folks, don't come expecting to hear discussion of Third World issues or anything like that?"

I do, in fact, in the politics I talk about. I talk about how Reagan had too much on his mind during the Iran-Contra hearings and that's how it happened in the first place. Well, at least he's not thinking about South Africa, for goshakes. His policy toward South Africa is one of "constructive engagement." I say, "Here's a tip for you heterosexual women. If your boyfriend gives you a constructive engagement ring, it means you're about to get fucked over." I used to do another joke about how our production company had done outreach and both of them were here.

White people get very nervous when they hear jokes like that. But, come on. We're here. We're together.

Let's talk a little about your work process. I have this image of you in front of the computer, every day, tap, tap, tapping away. Are you very disciplined? Do you watch TV, brainstorm?

That's it. "Tap, tap, tap." Every day I'm there typing away. I watch TV, I go to movies. I'm sort of a humor anthropologist, I think. I counted it the other day, and we have 33 magazines coming to my house. Reminds me of a friend I have who has all of her magazines sent to friends' houses. It makes her go visit her friends, and she doesn't have the clutter around her own place.

Right now I'm writing a thing on the Harmonic Convergence, and my contention is that it's thrown lip-synching off.

My experience as a lesbian has been basically, "Birkenstocks for brains." It's been a very traditional, almost separatist experience. This summer when I was working in Provincetown, I ran into gay culture. It was a trip! For me to see drag queens, trans's, and guys dressed up to the nines at five o'clock in the afternoon, and I'm thinking, "What's wrong with me here?" I did three weeks in this bastion of homosexuality, and then the next day I went to my brother's wedding. I had a difficult time identifying the actual women there, because they had these big bouffant hairdos and fabulous outfits on. I'd say, "That's a girl, right?"

One of the things that impresses me about your act is that while everyone feels very comfortable and relaxed in the largely women's audience, you are very studied, almost slick in your delivery. It doesn't seem that you are ad-libbing very much or making it up on the spur of the moment as you go along.

I'm very scripted, and again, this comes from teaching. One of the things I hated was to have a teacher who was unprepared, so I always have material worked out. But the more I do it, the more I find that I can do improv on the spur of the moment.

If you could write your own ticket in show biz, what would your dream picture of success look like?

Being in Hollywood has been very interesting to see what I am and what I'm not.

FILM

A Death in the Family

REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

Friday, November 6, *A Death in the Family* premieres locally at the Castro Theatre as a benefit for Frameline. It plays through November 12.

The one-hour drama, made for New Zealand television, was co-directed by Stewart Main and Peter Wells. Filmed as a documentary, it is chilling in its verisimilitude. A uniquely affecting treatment on an AIDS theme, it is not so much the story of a dying man as it is that of the friends who constitute the death watch of his last fifteen days.

It is July 1985. Andy (John Watson), dying of AIDS, returns from Sydney to the home of five gay friends in Auckland. These men are the family who bathe him, feed him, hold him and endure the final devastation of his mind and body. As one of them remarks, "Reality outside the house has faded away."

Andy's biological family, his mother, father, brother and sister-in-law, come to visit. They are conservative, Bible-carrying farmers who cannot comprehend Andy's lifestyle. Inarticulate in her grief, the mother (Nancy Flyger) can only embrace the young men, one by one, and thank them. The father, gruffly defying an emotion that threatens to surface, says bluntly, "If it were an animal of mine, I'd put it out of its misery. But it's my son, and nothing can be done." Elizabeth McTae as Aunt Molly is excellent as the plain-spoken go-between of the two families.

To the credit of the filmmakers, members of Andy's "real" family are not portrayed as villains, but as simple people whose love is confounded by an aversion to what their son and brother has become. He was already lost to them long ago.

The film opens, documentary fashion, with Andy's doctor, Vivienne Laube, speaking directly into the camera lens. Remarking that at first she considered AIDS clinically fascinating, she realizes now that it is not a clinical disease but a personal one, and that once touched by it, you can no longer consider it in the abstract.

Filmed in artfully framed groupings, *A Death in the Family* now and again delivers some remarkably Biblical images, self-consciously Renaissance in composition: close-up groupings of heads revealing separate and private emotions; figures surrounding the white, Christ-like face against its pillow; and a particularly moving image of one man's hands tenderly bathing Andy's feet.

Much of the dialogue is composed of interior monologues. The voice is most often that of Simon (John Brazier), an old friend who is at first devastated, but finally strengthened by Andy's own statement: "This is one bitch of a death." Simon remarks that in facing another person's death, the first emotion is a selfish one; you tend to lavish your sympathy upon yourself.

Never sentimental, the film simply records Andy's final days through the eyes and emotions of five friends. Two families have experienced the death of someone they loved. They will never understand each other, but they have shared a loss.

The directors have dedicated their film to "all who stay and lend a hand in time of fear and panic."

Maurice

REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

You will, of course, see *Maurice*, the first major gay film to find unqualified acceptance with the general public as well as from mainstream critics. But, for all of its advance hype, *Maurice* comes off as an overly sensitive, handsomely photographed, nevertheless enervated treatment of a homosexual affair in pre-World War I



England. It is a film that one watches with little, if any, emotional involvement.

The fault is in the concept. Following the dictates of E.M. Forster's novel, scriptwriter/director James Ivory has conceived Maurice as just an average, decent, cricket-playing guy. (Everyman as homosexual!) We observe Maurice, but we never know what he's thinking until the last half-hour of this over-long movie. Perhaps he isn't thinking.

Much of the film's lethargy may well be laid to its length. The pace is so leisurely and the camera lingers so lovingly on scores of extraneous mood shots that the potential for tension and real drama is dissipated. Cutting *Maurice* by half an hour would have added immeasurably to its energy and passion.

Written in 1913 and suppressed by Forster during his lifetime (the novel was published in 1971), the semi-autobiographical *Maurice* (pronounced Morris) unfolds against a background of rigid class structure and morality. Mere suspicion of homosexuality could mean social ostracization and the end of one's career. Exposure and conviction meant imprisonment.

Maurice Hall (James Wilby) and Clive Durham (Hugh Grant) meet as underclassmen at Cambridge. Wide-eyed, unsophisticated — but snobbish — Maurice is almost immediately attracted to the charms of urbane, upper-class Clive (the more interesting of the two men and, like him or not, when he finally rejects Maurice, we do understand his motivation).

When Clive first professes his love, it is Maurice who is repelled. But the seed is planted and Maurice, giving way for the first time to an impulsive emotion, climbs in Clive's window at night to kiss his sleeping friend.



The affair blossoms but, to the despair of the now physically awakened Maurice, it remains sublimated by Clive's classical Greek idealism. Even after Maurice is expelled for cutting a lecture to picnic with Clive, the two continue their unconsummated affair. Throughout weekends at Clive's country estate, balls and dinner parties in town, the young men are inseparable. Mothers, sisters, friends, all — except for a sly servant or two — seem blissfully unaware of the true nature of the relationship.

Then Clive, distracted by the arrest and imprisonment of another classmate, Lord Risley, suffers a breakdown and goes off alone to Greece. Unable to withstand further social pressures, he comes to the realization that he must marry for the sake of his political career. The distraught Maurice is now a hanger-on in Clive's smart married set.

During country weekends at Clive's, Maurice has unknowingly become the object of sheepish glances from the young gamekeeper, ill-spoken, uneducated Alec. Emboldened one night, Alec climbs through Maurice's bedroom window. There is a frantic coupling. No romantic foreplay. Just "Wham-bam, thank you, ma'am." But for Maurice, who's never had sex with another man, it's a revelation. Excited, yet fearful of blackmail or exposure, he rushes back to London and his job as a stockbroker.

He fails to follow-up Alec's invitation to a midnight rematch in Clive's deserted boat-house, so a hurt and puzzled Alec searches him out in London. After an initial misunderstanding, they spend a final night together before Alec is to emigrate to South America. But when Alec fails to show up for the sailing, Maurice drops his cloak of passivity. Suddenly he is a man in love. He rushes off to Clive's country estate, confesses all to a horrified Clive, and goes to meet his lover in the boat house.

Happy ending? More like wishful thinking on Forster's part. For its time and place, such an affair was unthinkable. Sexual freedom may have seemed like a great idea as the two lovers lay before a blazing fire in the boat-house, but what will they have to say to each other in the morning? It is unlikely that they could even acknowledge each other in public.

Perhaps the most poignant moment in the film is the closing shot of Clive. Drawing the shutters in his bedroom window, he looks toward the boat-house. In one lingering moment, a lifetime of regret for love he will never experience seems to haunt his eyes.

The two scenes of male lovemaking between Maurice and Alec are filmed in discreet shadows, but any semblance of tenderness is

conspicuously absent. The most erotic bit in the film actually occurs early on at Cambridge, when the camera lovingly captures a relaxed movement between Maurice and Clive. One lover traces the face, the cheek, the hair, and neckline of the other with his hand. It is a compelling moment of genuine sensuality. Too soon gone.

Denholm Elliott is the ineffectual Dr. Barry, who cannot bring himself to discuss the "unspeakable affliction" with his patient Maurice. "Get yourself a girlfriend," is his only advice. Ben Kingsley is the hypnotist/therapist Lasker-Jones, who suggests that Maurice might do well to move to France or Italy since "England has always been disinclined to accept human nature."

Billie Whitelaw as Maurice's mother, Judy Parfitt as Clive's mother, and Helena Mitchell and Kitty Aldridge as Maurice's sisters are little more than dress extras in the film. The lovely Phoebe Nicholls (*Brideshead Revisited*) is Anne, Clive's wife. She brings considerable sensitivity to a small role.

Director and co-screenwriter James Ivory (who was in town for the special preview benefiting Coming Home Hospice) directed last year's Academy Award-winning *A Room with a View*. Ivory was born in Berkeley and majored in architecture and fine arts at the University of Oregon.

Acting Our Age

REVIEWED BY LOUISE RAKFIN

My mother is growing old, not in the way her mother did, not in the way I expected she would, but in a way so bold that at times I am bowled over by her daring. She is, at 66, a wonderful, vibrant woman, though afraid of aging and sometimes incredulous that the process gallops forward without her consent. She jogs three mornings a week trying to contain a body which she feels "betrays her youthful self." Lining up for tickets at a theater she will take advantage of the senior citizens discount, yet otherwise finds it difficult to admit to her years. Watching a shop clerk patronize her as if she were a child, a sharp pain hits me and I witness a moment of her battle. A widow of nine years, she recently had her first sexual relationship since my father's death and was like a schoolgirl, hopes and dreams afloat. And she confided to me of a sexuality that has not waned with age. In contrast, her mother, also a widow, grew older with resignation, wearing black dresses and knitting socks for her grandchildren, allowing illness to gradually take over her body. In watching my mother I am redefining my understanding of women and aging.

Acting Our Age, produced and directed by Michal Aviad, validates and celebrates many of my mother's experiences. Profiling six women in their sixties and seventies, the hour-long documentary is a gift to older women and a joy to the rest of us. The women of the film come from various racial, ethnic, and class backgrounds, and have differing relationships with their families and friends. Mainly city dwellers, the women talk openly about their lives, talk candidly about their sexuality, the changes in their bodies, their economic struggles, their isolation and their communities. The film captures a rare honesty and vulnerability not often found in documentaries of this type.

When we hear of one woman's struggle to live on her \$550 social security check, it's without pathos or pity, her voice is brave and clear as she tells the intricacies of her life. Each woman brings a special thread to the fabric of the film, from Enola Maxwell (66), a Black woman living in Hunters Point who is Executive Director of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood Center, to Shevly Healey, who came out as a lesbian at the age of 50. In the film Maxwell is shown surrounded by a veritable flock of family, from her 84-year-old mother to her great-grandchildren. By contrast, Healey recently watched her own mother die isolated in a convalescent "home" and she is adamantly committed to creating for herself a community. At the film's close we see Healey celebrate — truly celebrate — her 65th birthday, complete with 65 candles, in the company of a large community of diverse women. Re-



flecting on her age, she says being old is feeling "energetic and tired, sexual and nonsexual, wise and foolish, together and alone."

The film cuts back and forth between the six women, loosely tracking broad issues. A widow, Lucille Isenberg (69), talks about losing her husband and the way in which she is for the first time in her life exploring her own identity — apart from that of wife and mother. She speaks of her family life as one she lived in the kitchen, "waiting, for the children to come home, for my husband to come home." Widowed, she felt as if a door opened up for her, "and it was up to me to walk through it." Volunteering to teach a journal writing course for seniors, she is shown writing about the financial struggles of widowhood: "I came here and lived like a rich widow, which I'm not." The film touchingly chronicles her move from a Marina apartment to a senior housing project in the Tenderloin.

We are also shown Carmen Morales (67), whose life is dominated by caring for her bedridden husband; Phyllis Metal, a white woman who through yoga and exercise battles arthritis and who is studying for her degree in gerontology; and Irja Friend (74), a Finnish American divorcee who moved to Berkeley to take up her life-long dream of acting. An active member of the Gray Panthers, the film shows her at a protest, marching against federal budget cuts which have slashed health care for the elderly.

The film opens to show a group of women sensuously dancing a hula, then abruptly cuts to shots of children's story books depicting older witch-like women, complete with hooked noses, warts and bristly chins. The stereotypes are familiar, more known than the reality of today's older women. Director Michal Aviad undertook the project after being repeatedly told that she "looked good for her age." Aviad, 32, started to look at the attitudes about women and aging. Her goal with *Acting Our Age* is to direct the public's attention to its own prejudices against older women. "It's important for me that people start to think about being older," she says.

The film prompted thinking about my own aging and helped me better understand my mother and her generation of women as they struggle to break the silence surrounding their lives. Both a resource and an inspiration, *Acting Our Age* is an important and well-crafted documentary. The women in *Acting Our Age* have powerfully reclaimed aging, personally and for some politically. Riveted to the screen, my only wish was to have my mother beside me. I wonder how she would react to both the validation of her life and the challenges posed by such a film.

Acting Our Age premieres November 11, 7:30 pm, at the Palace of Fine Arts Theater as a benefit for the San Francisco Gray Panthers, The Women's Building and Options for Women Over Forty. A champagne and dessert reception will follow the screening, and admis-

sion is by sliding scale, \$8-\$15. Tickets may be purchased at many Bay Area locations; call 431-1180 for information about tickets, childcare, and transportation. The film will then show November 12 at the Roxie Cinema and at the UC Theater in Berkeley on November 15.

Craig Russell's "Too Outrageous" Is a Drag

REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

A decade ago Craig Russell starred in a low-budget sleeper called *Outrageous*. It was a film about a hairdresser turned female impersonator, the girlfriend she rescues from a psychiatric ward, and a few other types they meet on their journey from Toronto to New York and the quest for fame. Loosely based on Russell's own relationship with his friend, writer Margaret Gibson, the unpretentious movie was successful in breaching the mass market with a sentimental look at gay show biz.

Now we have the sequel. Almost equally balanced between Robin's (Russell) continued search for the big break and Liza's (Hollis McLaren) continued but tenuous grasp on sanity, *Too Outrageous* barely soars above mediocrity.

What surprises me most is the trick my memory played on me. I recalled Russell (in the prior film) as being quite talented in his various



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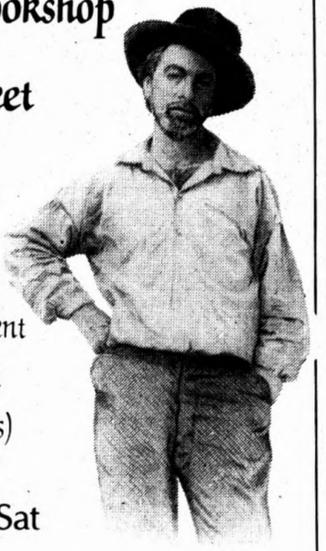
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incarnations as Garland, Dietrich, Channing, Mae West, etc. Sadly, as revealed in this sequel, he is not. He is just another drag queen in not very good wigs, haphazard costumes and makeup (he even does Eartha Kitt in black-face!) He projects none of Charles Pierce's inherent wit, flair, or acting ability. He reveals none of Jim Bailey's uncanny ability for subtle mimicry. Unlike either Pierce or Bailey, Russell never sublimates himself to the character he is portraying. His impressions are devoid of personal insight. What you see is all there is. There's little evidence of understanding under the wigs or affection for his women under the heaving bosoms.

Where was the wit and wisdom of Russell? (Director Dick Benner also wrote the screenplay.) Only once did Russell let fly with what sounded suspiciously like an ad lib (it was the movie's only laugh line). In a rational moment when Liza asks him if he doesn't think she's behaving much more normally lately, Robin responds: "You haven't put a cigarette out on your arm in a long time. And I know how hard it is cutting down."

But back to the plot. Robin is discovered by an abrasive female agent (a fine portrayal by Lynne Cormack) and is whisked out of town for a polishing job prior to springing him on America as a full-blown star. So it's back to Canada they go. The entourage now includes David McLwraith as Bob (Robin's personal manager), Ron White as Luke (Bob's lover and Robin's musical director), and Timothy Jenkins as Rothchild, the go-fer/dressmaker. Pill-popping Liza meets waiter Tony (Frank Pellegrino) and for one brief moment (well, perhaps an hour) it looks as though true love will put her mental demons to rest. Everybody has somebody. Except Robin, who just mopes about and makes life generally disagreeable by failing to cooperate in the image makeover process. He is, in fact, a self-indulgent bore, whose whimsical tantrums are road signs to career destruction.

Too Outrageous is reminiscent of many B-films of the forties, when a fentale Hollywood star was put in front of the cameras and then surrounded by genuine, talented actors. Russell is out front, but it's not really his movie. It is Hollis McLaren as Liza who gives the more compelling performance. You see every cog turning inside McLaren's skull. She's a real person with a real story to tell, and she plays it to the hilt.

The relationship between Bob and Luke also engenders considerable empathy. Their horse-play, occasional glances of affection, random touches, are genuine reflections of love. Suddenly, when Luke returns to New York to be near his doctor, the film achieves an importance. Despite some pedestrian and melodramatic dialogue, the AIDS scene manages to pack an emotional wallop.

Liza's affair has fizzled. Robin's pay-for-play hunk (handsome Paul Eves) has flown the coop. We're back to 1977 and starting over. But Robin and Liza still have each other. Sadder but perhaps not much wiser.

Not nearly outrageous enough, *Too Outrageous* is playing The Royal (Polk at California).

I've Heard the Mermaids Singing

REVIEWED BY JOANNE BEALY

I was warned before I went to see this movie that it was intense. I wasn't quite sure what that meant, so I wore my most comfortable clothes, took lots of kleenex, and of course bought the obligatory popcorn and coffee. I was ready for a lesbian tear-jerker, an oasis in the land of heterosexual pulp. Instead I got a very fine character study that was about women, honor and power. I was disappointed because *Mermaids* didn't live up to the rumors I'd heard, but I wasn't disappointed with the movie itself.

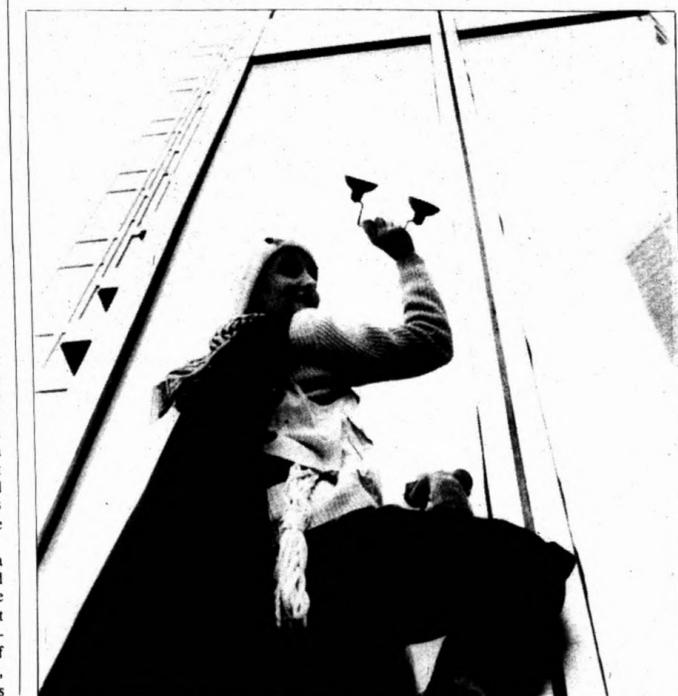
I've Heard The Mermaids Singing is a delightful Canadian comedy written and directed by Patricia Rozema, who, for the most part, does such a fine job directing that the directing is invisible. She is also most certainly helped along by her talented staff of characters and a musical score that somehow, in its simplicity and subtlety, is perfect for this

movie. The camera opens on Polly telling her own story to her own video camera about a time in her life that will probably affect her for the rest of her life. The story she tells is told with a great sense of humor and compassion. It is a time both wonderful and difficult, as any time is when boundaries are extended and limits tested. Ostensibly it is a story about an insecure, timid secretary who develops a crush on her boss, a gallery owner who is having an affair with another woman. And not so apparently, it is a story about honesty and integrity.

Sheila McCarthy is perfect as Polly, a whimsical, innocent cross between Pollyanna and Peter Pan, who is fascinated, and eventually falls in love, with her curator boss who just happens to be a woman. Gabriella, played by ever so elegant Paulie Baillargeon is everything that Polly is not. She is beautiful, she is smart, and she has a French accent. She supposedly lacks nothing: money, her gallery, a lover who loves her. And Polly adores her as well. Polly adores her partly because she's fascinated with her and her affair with another woman, partly because she believes she has so much to learn from her, and partly because, as the old adage goes, opposites attract. Polly trusts her implicitly. She believes in Gabriella more than she believes in herself, which leads to a very dangerous power imbalance. While Polly had me laughing out loud a number of times, I also wanted to shake her, somehow make her see her own talents, imbibe in her a sense of self-worth and self-trust.

Polly lets us know early on that in the last ten years she's dated a couple of men but it just didn't work out. She couldn't talk to them about her real feelings. She figures that makes her a spinster. After all, she's 31. But that doesn't seem to bother her. It also doesn't seem to bother her that as a Person Friday she's a dismal failure. Her last boss accused her of being "organizationally dysfunctional." But that was before her temporary agency sent her to Gabriella at Church Gallery. There, her new boss is amused by her, becomes fond of her, and finally offers her a full-time job.

I believed Polly, every feeling, every movement. And I felt along with her. I felt along with her when she first learned about Gabriella's affair with Mary. I felt along with her when she felt bad because Gabriella was sad. I was there when she asked Mary about her love for Gabriella, when she stood up for her beliefs and who she believed in, when she didn't care that people thought she was weird, when she was lied to, when she realized she was lied to because that was the worst thing that someone she trusted could have ever done to her.



I've Heard The Mermaids Singing is, in many ways, about passion and risk and compromise. Polly has a passion for life that just won't quit, and though her insecurities and lack of self-esteem are hard to watch, she is also a person you would want on your side. She takes what for her are major risks, to stand up for her beliefs and those she believes in. She passes no judgments on others until enough compromises have been made that they turn into lies. When she is lied to by Gabriella, she is totally devastated. You see in Polly the exact claim that Adrienne Rich made years ago in documenting how it feels to be lied to, how we are forced to re-examine our whole life because all of a sudden everything, absolutely everything, is upside down and under scrutiny. And Gabriella, who we thought had everything, has her own demons. She compromises her honesty in order to be a star. Things come easier for her and she gets lazy as a result.

Some things in the movie just don't work. Certain dream sequences, though they do allow us to see inside Polly's thoughts, move a little too slowly or go on a little too long. If *Mermaids* ever lost the audience, it was probably in those sequences. Also Mary (played by Ann-Marie MacDonald), though wonderful to watch, is not the easiest to listen to. Conversations between Mary and Gabriella, who supposedly have been lovers for quite some time, always come off sounding forced or stilted. Any kissing is always extremely brief, if not off camera altogether. At one point I found myself literally leaning over trying to see around the corner of the screen because Mary, who was kissing Gabriella, was on screen, while Gabriella was off.

I was also disappointed with the movie's ending sequences. It was as if they couldn't figure out how to stop and what they finally came up with just didn't work. At least not for me. I had a friend once who taught me to always follow my dreams, to not let other people's judgments rule me, to listen to everybody because you could learn something from everyone, and to look at the world like it was brand new, like you had never seen any of it before. She believed that if you did that it kept you alive and compassionate and forgiving. And it kept you humble. Polly was like that, and I think maybe some of it did rub off on Mary and Gabriella. Rozema just wasn't sure how to say that in the movie. What the movie did accomplish though, surpasses my few disappointments. It makes a very strong statement about women working together, women becoming self-sufficient, women learning to trust each other. And it is done with humor.

CLASSICS

BY STEPHEN SHARE



That old favorite, *Tosca*, is back in San Francisco and doing well. Having inaugurated the Opera House in October of 1932, and returned numerous times since then (19, to be precise), *Tosca* doesn't need big names to fill the house. It can also do without clever twists and innovative design. In short, it's an ageless melodrama that relies on little more than great singing and conducting. Small order, no?

But if this production falls short of immortality, it nonetheless does ample justice to Puccini's score. It works infinitely better than a sorry attempt by the erstwhile Los Angeles Opera in 1983, in which some fairly big names (designer Beni Montresor and stage director Eric Fraad) did nothing to salvage a truly awful production.

San Francisco Opera's *Tosca* deserves praise for several reasons, not the least of which is Olivia Stapp in the title role. In a word, Stapp is magnificent. Her dramatic and vocal power join to create an unforgettable image of opera's prima donna. She embodies so many qualities — religious fervor, coquetry, insane jealousy and revulsion — and is credible in each mode. Vocally, she meets every demand, and there is plenty to meet.

Alain Fondary as Baron Scarpia does equally well. In his American debut, he puts forth a frank embodiment of evil without becoming a cartoon. His voice, a rich baritone, reveals by degrees his determination to dominate. This lends greater irony to *Tosca*'s line as she watches him die: "And killed by a woman!"

Tosca's artsy lover, Mario Cavaradossi, is played by tenor Ermanno Mauro. Despite an impressive resume (including numerous appearances with the Met and Covent Garden), he doesn't come close to matching the brilliance of the other major players. He lacks sufficient projection, and is regularly overpowered by the orchestra in the first act, though he does manage a prolonged and powerful "Vittoria!" in Act 2. From here on, he improves, but not enough.

Other roles deserving accolades are Monte Pederson's Angelotti and Eric Garrett's Sacristan.

Minor problems with the production include an overly loud cantata in Act 2, which obscures

some of the dialogue. Also, the fact that *Tosca*, rather than laying the crucifix on Scarpia with reverence, nearly throws it on him with loathing is somewhat contradictory. She is, after all, a religious woman.

As for the conducting, Richard Bradshaw infuses the score with life and fire. He is playful at all the right times and passionate without being ponderous, despite the heavier thematic moments.

Fidelio

A new production of Beethoven's rarely seen *Fidelio* has been playing to packed houses — and no wonder. In virtually every way, this *Fidelio* works, and stands to become a regular both here and elsewhere.

The sets for this production are massive, grey and forbidding. The human drama carried out within these stark confines underscores the essential theme of the opera: faith overcomes the greatest obstacles. Indeed, by the end, the walls dissolve magically, and we get a wide-open skyline. Get the point? Still, much credit should go to designer John Gunter.

The frills are fine, as long as they don't attempt to compensate for artistic failure. No worry of that in this case. Elizabeth Connell as Leonore/Fidelio in her San Francisco debut is exceptional. Her far-reaching soprano is nonetheless meaty enough to make convincing her portrayal of a young man. One of the most poignant moments in the opera occurs as she descends into the dungeon, looking at the sleeping form of her husband. Her "God help me if it's Florestan" melts the coldest heart.

Tenor James McCracken's Florestan shines as well, and his major aria ("In des Lebens Fruhlingstagen") is stirring. He is similarly heart-rending in his thanks to Rocco and Fidelio for giving him bread and wine.

Rocco, played by Paul Plishka, boasts a good baritone and carries himself plathorically. Perhaps the greatest delight is Marzeline, played by Cheryl Parrish. Her energy, wit and exceptionally trained voice make her one of the most memorable characters in the opera. It was she, incidentally, who played the part of Papagena in "Die Zauberflote," again bring-

ing so much to a relatively small role. Let's hope to see more of her.

The overture used in this production is the standard Leonore Three — but it isn't wedged in the middle of Act 2, thanks to the scenery's smooth changing. So, we hear the overture at the beginning, in lieu of the usual "Fidelio" overture.

John Pritchard conducts correctly, but with little power. The more graceful passages come across, but we're never swept away. Still, this is a production not to be missed.

La Traviata

What can you say about *La Traviata*? Verdi wrote it in four short weeks, and it was nearly booed off the stage for its first performance, when the sight of a positively obese prima donna supposedly dying of consumption evoked howls of laughter.

La Traviata has come a long way, and San Francisco's new production is no exception. Unfortunately, it hasn't come far enough this time.

Andrew Meltzer conducts well, if a bit slowly, and the sets by John Conklin are spectacular. The supporting cast is fine, especially Juan Pons' Giorgio Germont. Everything should be wonderful — but the result falls just short of that.

The fly in this particular ointment is Violetta, played by Nelly Miricioiu. Her singing in the first act is nearly unendurable, with off-key high notes and moments where she goes entirely out of voice. Though she improves in the second act (the scene with the elder Germont is especially good: her half-voice lamentations are beautifully limpid), in the final solo aria ("Addio! del passato"), her voice actually broke at one moment.

Alfredo, played by Francisco Araiza, does fairly well. His warm bel-canto tenor is best when he is at full voice, and somewhat nondescript when he isn't. As an actor, he certainly fits the role better than Miricioiu does hers.

Despite a few problems, the opera is enjoyable. The lighting by Thomas J. Munn brings out new depths, especially to Violetta's death scene — and the choreography by Adela Clara is well worked out. Above all, there's

Verdi's music, which has stood the test of time, and is sheer delight.

Michael Tilson Thomas

Michael Tilson Thomas was up from Los Angeles to gratify symphony audiences with, among other things, a world premiere by Steve Reich.

The work, entitled "The Four Sections," is not radically different from other pieces Reich has done, and the concept (of focusing on different sections of the orchestra) is not new either.

Where Reich succeeds in broaching his ideas in an accessible format. The four movements of the piece follow each other logically, and the communication of ideas is conveyed through rhythm more than melody. Starting out slowly, the ensemble is playing. The tension is indescribable when, abruptly, the piece ends.

Thomas, to whom the work is dedicated, showed understanding of the composer's intent.

Following the Reich, Cho-Liang Lin performed Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto in D Major. Lin is 27, and phenomenally gifted. His technique, though still developing, is destined to set standards for other players.

Most notable is his dynamic control, his ability to drive a note to its highest point, then dropping it gracefully to a whisper. His double-stopping is effortless, yet breathtaking. He combines passion, speed and delicacy. With time, he may let the music play itself rather than over-interpreting, but I'd listen to him no matter what.

The concert opened with Handel's Organ Concerto in G minor, with Thomas Trotter as soloist: The organ, a decent replica of an 18th century instrument, was sweet and delicate of tone, and Trotter's playing was delightfully crisp. Thomas countered the organ's delicacy with broad, sweeping passages. In all, a charming work.

"Charming" is not what you'd say about Mahler's Third Symphony. This work, featured at another of Thomas' concerts, is one of the longest symphonies ever written, and is full of brass and fire. Thomas did well bringing out the passionate segments, but did less to bring out the beauty of more lyrical phrases. For my part, I will never forget Sir Georg Solti's rendition of Mahler's Fifth. The Adagio, at times barely audible, was the most gripping thing I'd heard in years.

In this instance, though, the big moments were satisfying enough to keep people happy. The voices — especially that of mezzo-soprano Florence Quiver — were exceptional.

Fidelio shows November 5 and La Traviata shows November 1, 4 and 7.

Astrology...

(continued from page 20)

satisfaction for yourself for providing for others less fortunate.

Capricorn: Nasty old issues about your family are liable to come under scrutiny, but this is an easy time to take them on. Don't keep those problems buried under the rug or they'll resurface at a less opportune time. Talking with your fingers and examining options for your future helps to keep things in perspective. Disagreements with your friends may get a little too serious. For whatever problems you inherited, you will find in your family heritage keys to harmony (even if they only come by negative example.)

Aquarius: Your mind is on your career, but your friends come a-knocking. Take advantage of the situation by allowing yourself a serious discussion about your ambitions, your goals, and your strategies. Any conflicts with your boss can and should be discussed now, as calmly and reasonably as possible. Presented in the right way you may easily convince her of your position in the matter.

Pisces: You have great opportunities to start making more money in more satisfying work. Your mind is now wandering even a little more than usual, but if you can focus yourself into considering long range plans you could put even that meandering mind to your advantage. Normally I'd advise anyone with a 9th house Mercury transit to consider all possibilities, but you already do. Your challenge now is to zero in on the most practical of them.

COMING UP! NOVEMBER 1987 43

BAR TALK

BY RANDY JOHNSON

For those that were placing bets, it's over with the Ramshead and I (aye-aye) aye-yi-yi! It was great fun(?), but just one of those flings, which probably doesn't surprise anyone. Lafayette is a lousy actor but a good man. Well, at times. No reason given when he calls on September 28 and tells me that they're doing away with the cocktail hour shift bartender so's to give the regular full-time shift bartenders more hours. As good a reason as any, except he offered me a full-time shift. But c'mon — I ain't that gullible. But, damn — it pisses me off that I'm so stupid. Rita helped me alright! And John Martinez? He's back as well! Rockin' Rodney? Like me (and the wind) — gone! Oh well, the Ramshead had a little class for two weeks — they just didn't know how to handle it. Pity!

Good news, views just for you: first off, I'm off my holier-than-thou kick, and am through bitching, moaning and complaining. Yep, I'm off my high horse and eating some crow. But as the law of the land so stipulates, tuff!

This column will be shorter, which is good for me, you and the typesetter, and Lily Street is back (she really never left — she's been busy, dizzy and in a tizzze as rumor will have it). (My views only, guys.) Yay! Lily's back in *Coming Up!*'s Bar Talk column, and good 4 us.

Lastly, I definitely would like to change the title of this column — and will have you submit to this paper (592 Castro, SF 94114) the heading you'd like to see me write under. Judges will be the *Coming Up!* faculty (owner, employees, volunteers, etc.). Prize (cash) for the winner, with the money going to the winner's favorite AIDS charity (no, not charity! We're over and above that! Let's call those fine helpers of the world "health organizations" — that's better) in his or hers and the paper's name. Everyone wins that way. So put that light on above your head and think of a good heading for this column...and be kind!?! And

thanx in advance for your input. Appreciated it is. Can you imagine what some sick minds will mail in? This should be a kamp — right, Mr. Settles? So smoke a dope and go for it, Mr. Harry. Listening, Randy Humphries? You two (to-too-tu-tu), Mar and Margo, and Dolly, and Phlame — uh, er, Chuck — and Kevin, and Big Gene. How 'bout you, Mr. Enslow? Or Dingbat Don? Or Vinnie or Jerry Jay (see, no E — just an Eek for the 50, "ahem," some odd years, birthday boy!).

The waiter, Alan (Allan-Alien), on Valencia at Teresa's Bus Stop Restaurant, is a TV (Not that! Television!) star now on Channel 20 amongst others. But 'cha better look for him quick in that auto commercial — and he's gotta new doo, too! A special happy Halloween, and Thanksgiving, wish to Laura, Teresa, Mary, and my best girl, Vanessa.... Golly, I miss Fox Hole Tillie.

Hey, Wes (my penguin buddy), that was some rubber (condom/prophylactic, et. al.) you gave Richard. Do you know something we don't? His head fits in it — that 'sit! It'sa rain (reign-rein) bonnet, right? Oh? OK, wrong — it goes on his dong. Is it long? Hit that gong — mooning! Right (write) a long.

Halloween, our original Gay Holiday, is here — stay safe and abide by the CUAJ rules and all should be well. Then Thanksgiving and Christmas and New Years and ate-ee-ate. The holidays are upon us — fast, huh? 1987 was not a touch of heaven. Farewell and good riddance to it. Trick or treat — or treat a trick, either way — gopher it!

I'm hooked, I admit it — but unashamed I am to admit that I'm a Marga Gomez groupie.... Congratulations to friends, customers, and family — but especially to June Starling and Gloria "Tits" Harrison for giving a very important auction for a very special friend, wahoo — wazoo!... Hi to Rocky Rockwood, a person who, like I (eye-aye-aye-yi-yi), speaks and states what's on his mind!

No beating around a bullshit bush for him — and besides, he's a good hairdresser. Glitter and be gay!... Oh no! This can't be! My next-door-neighbor, Jerri J., and my namesake from San Francisco's Imperial Family, my Baroness Von die Koff, have the same birthday, and they're as different as Laurel and Hardy. Happy birthday, Henry, and many more of 'em. Hi Arthur! U-2, Jerome! Nice party.... Say a little prayer for Tom — Empress III Shirley, and Daryl Glied, won't you? Thanx.

On a sad note(s), this column is dedicated to the lives of Bruce Eichner and Peter Hawkins. Bruce, my favorite roller derby skater with the bluest of eyes, who was a non-complainer and had every right to complain. He was a bartender's dream customer — you know: good looking, a spender, intelligent, and reserved — rare, my friends. He will be missed by many. He offered us sleazies a lot of good vibes and good times at righteous places. He was as nice as he looked — and I'm glad I knew him. Also a bumster it is to report that Peter is no longer with us. Hard to believe, he, a man who worked in as many bars as I have and who was my boss a couple hundred times, and I was his for as many times. Strange, this bar business, but it's rewarding in a lot of ways. Like meeting Peter Hawkins, for instance.

Zohn Artman, now there's a name that will be around forever. He had class and worked in so many facets in our community to better our lives. But you knew that. He leaves a gap that will not be filled. I've known him a long time — why, we even went to Bill Graham's house to go swimming on a hot summer day. Good vibes leave good memories, and Zohn Artman fulfilled them admirably. I thank him for that, and it'll seem strange that he is no longer here.

In 1968 when I first came to the City and was the morning bartender at Uncle Billy's

Scoreboard, my friend "Boo" (there was only one) was the morning bartender at the Trapp. Roy and Boo then decided to head for Polk Street, where they made the new Bell Saloon the place to be seen. I know, for I was a part of that scene, and have nothing more to say, except to let you know Boo (Bob), on Monday, the 26th of October, gave in to his illness. He's at peace now — but he will be sorely missed. Bye honey! And thanks for oh-so-many things. My condolences to Roy, Teddy, Lincoln and the New Bell family, of which I was right proud to be a member. Ah! The memories — good ones for sure.... Don't forget Tatiana, Empress Jonni, Lily Street and cast of a great night of variety at Kimo's for AIDS on Saturday, November 7, at 9:30 pm. Go for the show.

It's still unbelievable to conceive that Darimus became Diane, and even more so to realize that Diane passed away. He was a contestant of mine in my (the End-Up, Round-Up, Boot Camp, Spartan Theatre, Mr. B's — pant, pant!) Jockey Shorts and Jock Strap Dance Contests. She was my boss at Logan's and was just as crazy, and likeable as he, except that he's a she, from brunette (a hunk, a hot, hot man) to blonde! A one-of-a-kind person we may never likely see again. He's already missed, she's going to be R.I.P.... Congratulations to Larry Larson's roommate, and Artice Style's better half, who's also Superdick's teammate on his bowling team, Bob S. Remember, it's the quiet ones you have to watch out for (four-fore). Golly, remember when I was president of the league? Unbelievable, but thanx to Char, Linda/Denny Whitworth, Rowbottom and the girls. No, not Leona — although she did bowl with us — us being Lennie Lynn, Richard (Bawbwa fwm Boston), a.k.a. Agnes de LaRue, Rick (an affair) and Larry Ellis — we did have a good time, tho I still don't know how to keep score — crazy, huh?...

Attn: dear (deer) Nez Pas, B.A.R.'s star East Bay reporter — there's a there their, so there (they're) at the Revol! The Tavern Guild's East Bay meeting at Dowager President Jim Houghton's favorite bar was really a good one. The speaker you mentioned was really well informed, and I don't feel she slighted Ed Paulson — a go-getter — but just mentioned the Tavern Guild more. The TG and Mr. Paulson are old buddies from way back when, and duly respect each other.... A few goodies quoted from Oscar Wilde that most of us already knew, proving he did have a sense (cents) of humor, and was a bitch (a good one, tho). Yeh, how's this for starters: "Nothing succeeds like excess." Butt ain't it fun? "The only way to get rid of temptation is to yield to it." Yeh! But how often? Or, "I like men who have a future, and women who have a past — or is it the other way around?" And finally, "It is only shallow people who do not judge by appearances." No comment! A wild man, that Oscar (I wonder if he played with (in) a yellow band! Get it? Oscar (Meyer wienie) — Medie!

I would (wood) like to acknowledge the perfectly performed favor by Bill Moore/Tammy Lynn at Kimo's — but, being an ex-roomie, it doesn't surprize me — ya' hear me?... Bob (Patti) Page is back at the 527 — Chez Mollett, and looks good! Good.... Welcome back Madame President — Char/Chuck Morrow. Howdy dowdy. Question: did the rain (reign-rein) in Spain fall mainly in the plane? Or on the plain?

The next Tavern Guild meetings (every other Tuesday — a good news day) at one pee em will be on the 27th at the Blue and Gold; then to Bradley's on the 10th; and then to (two-too) the Castro Station on the 24th. So go — Desiree, or Mr. Acorn, or Bruce Bunny, Pee-Knot Butter Queen, or Wazoo, or how 'bout you?... Thoughts at Randy(jom) — Yep! I saw what my mentor and ex-roommate said about the short one (Lee) a few (weeks) weeks ago in his B.A.R. column — and I thoroughly agree with Mr. Marcus. Thanx Dahrling! So we can fulfill the fa-tash!

I already voted (absentee) and, good citizen that I am, will be working the polls Election Day. It's called S.... If anyone can, Ann can. The Thrift Store is doing better than ever. It looks good, but beware of the camera, as you are on Candid Camera. Happy five years there to Mr. Tongue, Vic Galvin — one of the good guys. Five years? My mama, Doris, remains there; Doug's back, and they have a new (gnu-knew) family member working there. Dear (deer) Ann, who is just as screwy, fun and caring as the best of 'em. She's a hott lady, and while there, take a look-see at the cleaned up Amelia's, which is looking good — real good — and don't forget, they have an upstairs that can be negotiated for meetings, par-tees, reunions, etc, or whatever. Tell Susan (you doll) and Rikki U red it here.

Wanna see (sea) a hot man? Marlowe from Bradley's Corner fills the bill. You can check him out in his car — the (s)lime greenie meanie keeps rolling along, as does Marlowe, and that's good!... Meanwhile, at 765 Ellis, all is well. Well, kinda. Vinnie's going to the races, Jerry Jay is pro-cocking it to Neiman-Marcus, and Bob and Margie's apartment is looking good. Richard and Nancy R just roommates — not wombmates! Of course, Jon-Jon is still chairman of the bored at the World Bank. Oh no! You figure it out — I'm dun inn.

The Usherette starring Janet Jackson can be seen (scene) at Ben Hur Whore — oops, I mean bookstore — almost nightly, while her (gimme a beat (beet?)) alter ego, Tommy Randall, is slinging, singing and swinging it at the Pendulum! Hi, Ken, Rod, Wally, Russ, Tommy Lee, etc., and yes, all is well between us, and hopefully all is well for Tommy and the Eagle Creek Saloon's Scott. Welcome back, Scott.... I'm thanking the swamper (clean up woman) from the Stallion — Nancy — for saving my arse the other night. She was just helping them out for awhile.

You bet 'chur ass I'm gloating, and feel I have every right to do so. Randy Shilts, besides having a great first name, is from my hometown in Illinois. His book (akin to expose — let's get it down to layman's terms, let's educate) on AIDS is only the beginning for this man, who is as nice as he looks. He's right proud of ya, Randy. You're on your way.... Hey, good to see Trixie Lynn (you'll chunky

you) who's hangin' in there, baby, at Sutter's Mill.

From my B.C. buddy Jason I get good vibes and a rundown of the B.C. November calendar. 11/1 is Constantine's "Fall Field Meet;" 11/4 is the B.C. business meeting at 7:30 (location to be decided); 11/6 is an open meeting of the Warlocks; 11/8 is CMC's carnival (Yes, it's still a go! Details TBA); and 11/13 is Constantine's open meeting and run show video. Jason also tells me Michael Gill has fled in search of a better existence on the sunny beach of San Diego. Happy belated birthday to the three Musketeers, Ken Wright, Cameron Tanner and Thomas Cooper.... The Outbound Press of New York is publishing a new b&d magazine called *Bound & Gagged* that will appear six times a year in a small and "handy" format. Subscriptions are \$21, and will be sent first class under discreet cover. Sub forms available thru B.C. Club correspondence.... The Barbary Coasters M/C feel the deepest sorrow at the news of the passing of our brother, Ron Strouse, of Valley Knights M/C. Ron will be missed by the entire Bay Area. Thanks Jason.

The party for Billy Ray and Ronnie Lynn was a success. Even though it was a birthday party, there was a tremendous amount of politicking going on with the upcoming events. Rumor has it that Larrie, yes, it's Larrie, spelled with an ie, has plans to sweep this city off its feet with his, in the near future, plans. Watch out for him, because he is an act that's hard to follow. And of course, if you see him, you always see Billy Ray. What's going on? I am sure as time goes on it will tell. Speaking of Billy Ray... Sunday, October 11, he was present at the Eagle's Beer Bash adorned with red bows and ribbons wearing his button, "Billy Ray, Class of '88." Tied to him by ribbons were his best buddies, Mario (you know Mario, everybody knows Mario) and, of course, his side-kick Larrie, with several other friends. It looked like a committee meeting.

Billy and Ronnie thank all their friends who showed up at the birthday party, and a special thanks to Linda and Western Electric and, of course, the Covered Wagon Saloon.

Words like kapish, cool, dig, end of rap, could only mean one person and itza cinch it's Tony Lasagne (a lifesaver and hero of mine — from the same mold as Papa Joe, Uncle Billy, Page, Lincoln (yellow-blue hoo!), Don Black, etc.), who tells me that Daryl Glied is at a nursing home, and if you want to see, write or call him, do so — now! Got it? Get it? Good.... Yep, I applied to be an AIDS Foundation Phone Volunteer until I found a job, plus it should squelch my being led into temptation, if you catch my drift?

Hey, Eloy and Joel (did ya' find your keys Mr. Radical?) Hope you two are doing OK. Congratulations for 12 years into your relationship. And thank pew both! I wonder if it's not too late to become a housewife?... Meanwhile, back at the ranch, Tonto, not knowing the Lone Ranger was disguised as a door — pulled off his knob. I know, get the hook! Onward!... Don't forget to vote. If you're asking me for who, I'll tell ya! Molinari — and if you're not, hey, it's a free country. Just take advantage of one of our privileges...vote. Don't vote, don't bitch.

If at anytime you're walking by a bar (one of the oldest) a block off of Polk, on Larkin, between Geary and O'Farrell and you hear Joni James, get wise and Gangway. John Wise (you think you got troubles) is getting better and better, Daryl remains the party man (thanx for the drink, honey), Stuart the artist, Roger the socialite, Chris Granger, now and then, here 'n there, and Papa Joe in the early morning, head rooster and booster, and the bar looks good. Dew Drop Inn! Here?

The March on Washington? It made it's point about our problems, especially concerning AIDS — well, better late than never. The lump in the throat happened when they laid out the quilt. Congratulations to all — officers, observers, marchers, AIDS/ARC patients and their loved ones, if for nothing else, for coming across intelligent, without losing tempers about our problems with AIDS (remember when we called it KS?)

Attention! Daryl Glied is looking for butch march — more'n likely at South of Market. Also, attn: Glenn Seaholz, probably in the Haight (Hi, Lettzo. Write to Daryl at 1359

(continued on next page)

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Bartalk...

(continued from previous page)

Pine Street until further notice.) Thanx Empress Tina, for the pin.... Don't forget original Bruce's Peanut Flavors Unlimited — it's the best thing since pee-knot butter, and it's rich 'n chocolate — right, Mr. Bunny? Bruce — mmm — good!

I still can't believe the gay capital of the world has no tubs, but nothing's changed in Berkeley. Lines, hot men, and newly remodeled, the Steam Works is. The streets and alleys and bookstores are now receiving capacity crowds — but could you show me the showers in Rhinegold? You mean? No kidding!... Well, I thought they (the powers that be — the lawmakers) wanted to clean up the streets, but that's right back where we (some of us, especially after 2 a.m.) are, since no holes or tubs or earthy after-hours spots (remember the Big Basket? Pearls? Kenny's? Kitty's? Grubstake One? After Bar Parties? Tricks? The Covered Wagon on 11th and Folsom? Daves? The Raven and Haven were heaven, as was Polk Street, especially Bob's Broiler. What a daze the days kept you in. Ga-rate times, butt change is inevitable. Go with the flow, Flo!

One liner jots with lotsa dots.... Yep! that's the Kenny Campaign in the a.m. at the Stallion.... Thanx, Bob Williams, for the lunch, even tho U were wrong on the day.... I owe Paul, late of the Thrift Store, the deliverer of Bay Area Reporters and Stretch's other half an apology. I am sorry Paul — 'cause I know you are a true blue. The store is quiet without you! Hi to the family!

A pox upon whoever took the collection of pennies to fight AIDS from the trusting folks at the Grubstake on Pine. A lot of the bars are doing this, and pennies were never put to a more useful purpose. Fred Fudpucker and cast and crew at the Gate are really going gung ho, and should be very proud as well. Pennies From Heaven is a city-wide event sponsored by the Gate for the AIDS Emergency Fund. Give, won't you?

A couple of weeks (where's Silly Billy?) and a fond good luck, farewell, and keep in touch to Tree and Nicky, who is one of the best in the west, and is ready to spend time with his family.... From the Via Vie — pronounced Vee-a-Vee — to the new Bell Saloon — to Burt's Bar. Two years of my life was spent at the Bell working — I've been going there since Day One. I've made, lost and kept in touch with my better friends, and still miss Marque Murdock (a great one), Adrian, Bruce, amongst others. I'm glad I was par t of it. That bar had the best "family" clientele (regulars), bar nun, and I've worked at plenty — bars, that is. Lincoln (yellow-blue who), Scott, Boo, Roy, Teddy, Kish, Maxine, Perry, Leo, Richie, Lenny, Lynn, Harry, Count Marco, Teddy P., Mr. David Kelsey, John McCullum, Stella and many more great people. Another tradition bites the dust. And I do (dew-du-du) mean the Christmas tree. Where're John and Roger gonna cook now? I'll bet'cha the colonel knows (nose). Wayne? Oh! He's only there one night now, but he can be seen flashing pistols and badges, and driving his city car. Right John. Hi Max!...

Thank, Mr. Semas, for the invite. It's good to have you back.... Thanx, Emma Mae Von Gay, for ignoring me at the auction. You're one man band, aren't you? Thanks, Carrot Top, for you. Thanks be to Teresa, as well, just for saying what's on your mind and for being honest with me. Hey! When is the San Francisco Cynical going to be coming out?

Now it's Lily's turn — and don't forget to pick yourself a Lily, silly: Here are some of the events for November. 11/1: Mama LeAnna's birthday at Kimo's, 4pm, potluck buffet. For info call George Roll (an October birthday boy) at 921-6835. Same day at 3pm at the 222 Club, the newly elected Emperor/Empress of Alameda, Carlos and Tootsie, will be feted. 11/3: SFGLD meeting at 8pm at Chez Mollet. 11/4: Court of the Golden Gate meeting at the Mint, 8 p.m. 11/6 (and probably all weekend): Kokpit anniversary. Same day: *A Death in the Family*, a New Zealand film, premieres at the Castro Theatre, 7:30, as a benefit for Frameline. 11/7: Tatiana show at Kimo's, 9 p.m. with the Imperial Family performing. \$5 donation (maybe Char, Reba and Remy will perform as the four-

(continued on next page)

MUSIC



Sister Double Happiness and Surf MCs

REVIEWED BY LOURRI HAMMACK

Let me just start out by saying October really sucked in my book. I succumbed to proletarianism purely for the money (DANGER!), and I haven't been able to forgive myself yet. This nine-to-five gig is definitely a trip — no wonder drug abuse is so rampant! Cyanide in the coffee for the chipper little bitch who comes in every morning humming the theme to "Welcome Back Kotter."

Next came the media blitz about the stock market, and the news about the inheritance wasn't pretty. Don't worry maw, you're not the only one who's upset. And just to top everything off, the greatest song stylist of the '70s (don't be silly, you know it's Barry Manilow) was in the city for a book signing, but never even showed as much as his nose to the fervent five hundred or so fans lined up outside the shop. A bomb threat, for chrissakes! Somebody, anybody, please tell me why anyone would want to blow up Barry!

I promised last month I'd be out on the streets in October, enduring the rigors of Life on the Road to search out Bay Area bands. But no club crawling here, as I suffered from a seasonal "bug," and I was reduced to a slow shuffle to the bathroom for my scheduled dosage of Nyquil. And marijuana is illegal! Let me tell you, I was feeling no pain on my planet! Aw hell, even disco queens lose the beat occasionally. Some good shows, but I managed to make a grand total of one. What can I say? At least it was a swell show.

Monday, October 19, I dragged my tired ol' body down to the I-Beam to see SF's *Sister Double Happiness*, along with the Bay Area premiere of *Surf MCs*. Watch out, I'm breaking out the eyeliner! The I-Beam usually hosts out-of-town bands for the select Monday night slot, and it's good to see local bands getting a chance to reap the benefits. With Wednesdays recently designated as a second live music night, look for more Bay Area artists to appear.

Sister Double Happiness opened the show to a fairly sparse crowd of dressed-down regulars and the not-so-regulars. I know, because I was there at 10:45 p.m. for the first time in my life, determined to do my one show all out, to the cutting edge. If memory serves me well, lead singer Gary Floyd once fronted the infamous *Dicks* from days of yore. He's come a long way

from his mad-as-hell noise-fests, arriving at a southern rockin' dude sound.

To think I used to see the *Dicks* in the cultural oasis of the south, the weirdo and homo haven of Austin (where e'en the good ol' boys listen to the *Butthole Surfers*), the days when Floyd donned drag and thrashed himself into a nauseating frenzy, much to the delight of the punk crowds. Now, this guy's got a sense of humor! Monday night we saw a changed Floyd, appearing in form-follows-function 501s and a sweatshirt, plus a shiny new all-knowing intellectualized approach to his new sound.

It's the same message, just approached with cool reserve that's nonetheless biting, with such Floyd lyrics as, "I call my mama, she says don't come home. My friends shun me, I'm all alone. Before they touch me, they put on gloves. Come on people, I need some love." It's a *propos* for a performer who faced hardcore crowds yelling, "Call us queer," and this time the effect is just as compelling without any theatrics. The remaining members of *SDH* consist of an *Aerosmith*-style guitarist, a bass player from the heydays of *Lynyrd Skynyrd* (he even had a Texas Secede sticker on his power axe), and a hot woman on drums who put out with a fury.

It all came together perfectly as they slipped into song after song of pure blues rock to assuage the soul. It was as much an emotional bond as any, as Floyd bared his pain for the audience to absorb. With a new contract and an album due out before the year's end, the only thing wrong with this band is the lack of well-deserved recognition that should be knee deep by now.

The DJ's between-sets mix of heavy funk shifted the mood to a "Git down on it" beat that drove even the well seasoned on the floor to groove. They weren't slam dancing, either! I swear, it felt as if we were one and had the all-encompassing power to live in peace and relate by being humans and end world hunger and then maybe go to an art museum after we finished that. The *Surf MCs* had a happy crowd at their disposal, and the atmosphere soon became one giant relentless beat that bore into your soul. We be jammin'....

I admit I'm stricken with the ol' rate-a-record philosophy of, "Well, Dick, I'll give it a 94 because it's got a good beat and you can dance to it," and *Surf MCs* sure worked that one out. Not that I'm complaining, mind you, bearing in mind we'd already gotten our dose of heavy social consciousness via *SDH*, and I was ready to party, to "Surf or Die." Sometimes our priorities change so quickly!

The Berkeley-based four-man beat machine jumped into "Gotta Get Air," replete with such over-exaggerated B-Boy moves that I

thought they were having a *Run DMC* identity crisis. But there is something different about their style that breeds rap, rock and rad surf-in' into a symbiotic sound that's as new to the streets as on the beach. In the course of one hour we sidewalk-surfed a few times, rocked that beat, turned on the bass and cruised California in a Mercedes in search of a hot tub and never once did the lead leave my feet.

Warner Brothers has placed their bet on the young band with an album due soon that has Scotty Roberts co-producing. Roberts accompanied the boys on drum machine, percussion and vocals, adding just enough POP to their sound to make it marketable. I was hoping they'd get all-out gnarly, but the band members have identified their respective roles and play them to the letter. We're talking serious grooving here! Given time and exposure, *Surf MCs* might just give the stagnant rap scene a much needed kick in the ass.

In November, I'm going to try the street walking scene out one more time, and hopefully we'll be getting around more. After surviving autumnal hell, I'm foaming at the mouth for some excitement, and the gnawing hunger has me scrambling for a fix. It's kind of strange, I feel so rabid....

Rafkin...

(continued from page 19)

leg of a 12-city book tour. This time I ventured into the heartland: Nebraska, Kansas City, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and further south, Atlanta, Tallahassee, Miami. The march was ever so important to people I met in these places. "Gay for a Day and Out" is something they don't experience as much as we do here. I found women who owned women's bookstores who were not out to their parents and women who were worried about being seen on national television and spotted by their families. There are huge closets out yonder.

The Washington Wedding passed without me, but after the march I did stay with one couple in New Orleans who recently honeymooned. They spoke of the service with delight, not a borrowed bit of ceremony, but a delicate avowal of commitment. They'd been together 25 years. While staying at their house I asked to borrow an iron. Betty brought me two. "I like this one and Nikki likes that one." I looked at her with a raised eyebrow. "We both have our ways of doing things," she said. "And it's worked for 25 years this way." I used both irons and there wasn't much difference between them. But it's sure something to think about. Maybe I'll buy my gal an iron for our anniversary, maybe two.

Loulan...

(continued from page 35)

Here I am in the middle of the night with these two men for three hours, the three of us having this conversation. The guy in the front seat is a fundamentalist Catholic. The guy in the back seat thought he was more of an ally: "Hey, it's groovy with me. Hey, you're so good looking, I can't imagine you being a lesbian." You know, that liberal boy shit, where he would fuck you in a back alley if he had a chance. And so here we all are, driving along, me educating these two straight men in the middle of the night in Ohio about lesbianism. And this Catholic at the end of the trip says, "Well, I just can't believe it; I cannot wait to call my fiance, and tell her what I've heard from you. I still don't believe that God wants you to do it, but I'm just blown out."

And I think that part of it, he took his cue from me, because I wasn't finding it disgusting. And I think on that one-to-one level, when we're talking about love and our hearts, and that kind of real-life stuff, they don't know where to go.

So what I'm saying, is that part of it has to do with our attitude. And I only think that we can get better, more positive about coming out to people the more we do it.

So you've been running around the country for the last few years talking to lesbians about sex. How would you say the sex lives of lesbians are doing these days?

I think that a lot of us have problems with sex. We're not having the kind of sex or the amount of sex that we want to have. It's very telling that in my survey, even though sex kept diminishing in the couples that I surveyed, after the second year, their satisfaction with sex did not diminish. So I think that many of us don't consciously feel that not having the kind or amount of sex that we want is much of a problem, until one of the couple gets attracted to somebody else. What I see most commonly happen is that eventually somebody leaves the relationship and goes off with this person that they're having this hot sex with.

I really feel that we need to keep sex alive in relationships, because there's a certain kind of intimacy and connection that we get with sex that we don't get anywhere else. And I rarely see couples who after years and years and years of no sex are totally satisfied and it's just fine. And nobody gets involved with anybody else. I see more commonly that the relationship ends because somebody gets sexually attracted to somebody else.

That's what the research in *American Couples* shows, that the lesbian relationships lasted the shortest amount of time. I think we have that myth that gay male relationships are shorter. But it shows a greater tolerance in gay male relationships for sex outside the relationship, so that sex stays interesting.

And for lesbians, I think part of the reason we have shorter relationships is because the sex dies out and we go for it in somebody else. And I think that's a big denial, that's a big secret, because we're not supposed to want to have sex. I hear continuously from people, "Well, it's not just the sex I'm leaving for. I really am

in love with her." And I think that feeling of really in love, or limerance, is sex. That's the difference.

And also maybe part of the reason we stop having sex after a period of time is to prove that it's not just about sex, to prove that I really love this person, it's not just about sex that I left my relationship.

What's wrong with just about sex?

I think it's this total taboo that women are not supposed to want to just have sex. They want to be loved and they want to have this attachment, and they want to have a deep, meaningful long-term relationship. Which I'm not discounting. I mean, that certainly sounds very wonderful to me. But I think that we have a tremendous taboo about just wanting to have sex.

Do think we could develop into a community of long-lasting relationships that include sex?

Well, I think that if we're willing to do it. I think that there's tremendous resistance to actually making our sex lives interesting. We're afraid of it, we don't have the tools, we don't have the information, and we're afraid to spice up our sex lives. I think we do have to make it more interesting. I think we do have to bring in new things all the time, or else it is going to get dull and we're not going to want to do it. Who wants to have sex the same exact way 500 times in their life?

Well...

Most of us don't. So, that's really what I see. Are we going to do that? It's up to each individual, and are you going to be willing to do the risk-taking it takes, are you going to be willing to make the effort, are you going to be willing to go through the changes we go through inside, to change our vision of our own sex lives, both personally and in a couple?

It's hard to change, period, much less change sex. We're such creatures of habit. To change something as intimate and as frightening as sex is not easy. And then, back to our self-esteem, where we take our self-hatred of our lesbianism, and it all gets hooked into one great, big circle.

Of course, there's always this tremendous optimism that we have. This wonderful sense of excitement and joy, in which the lesbian community just keeps on marching forward. No matter what the world sets up as our obstacles, somehow there's this inner draw to keep building, to keep moving forward, to keep opening our hearts to one another and to ourselves.

That's half the excitement about going to a lesbian event, going to a concert, going to a lecture. Half of it is simply being in a room with more than twenty other lesbians, because there's this incredible heart energy. It always feels like there's some magic that surrounds our lesbianism, that against all odds, you might say, we're still willing to go forward. We're still willing to explore one another, both in a physical way, literally, and also in a figurative way, emotionally and spiritually, with these open and wonderful, loving hearts.

And that, of course, is indeed the passion that we have as lesbians — to bring it back to

the book title. Our passion of friendships. Our passion of ex-lovers. Our passion of current lovers. Our passion of processing. Our passion of spirituality. Our passion of sex. I don't know that any other community — certainly none of the other sexual orientations — has this particular kind of passion that we as lesbians and women embody. That's what I can say on the positive side of it. Of course, there is a rainbow in this, and it is there for all of us, to touch and be a part of, equally.

JoAnn Loulan is starting a therapy group for couples and individuals. Call her office for further information: 327-5444.

Bartalk...

(continued from previous page)

letter girl trio). Sometime in November, Wayne Friday will celebrate his 51st birthday. 11/8: CMC Carnival (check out the coat check girls). Same day: Jason Garrett of the Barbary Coasters has a birthday. 11/9: Empress Council meeting. 11/11: Veterans Day, *Dancing in the Dark* by D.R. Anderson opens at Theatre Rhino. A comedy thriller about how a gay journalist sets out to expose a closeted TV newsman. This sounds chilling, almost on the order of last month's Sacramento Macy's t-room bust which resulted in the exposure of a TV weatherman and, unfortunately, a suicide (thru 12-19). 11/14: Matthew Brown's birthday (Happy happy, Helga). 11/14: Marlena, past Empress of Modesto, and Social Directress of Kimo's, birthday. 11/14: Modesto Coronation, "Fractured Fairy Tales". 11/15 is Mike D. Dyke's Birthday. 11/16 is Aleksandr Danilovich Menshikov (drop that name if you will!), Russian general and statesman, whose rise to fame began when Swiss adventurer Francois Lefort procured his stud service for Peter the Great, born in 1672. 11/18: ETVOC Outreach panel discussion, "Why do Men Wear Dresses?" panel with transgenderists, transsexuals, cross dressers and drag queens, Chez Mollet, 8 p.m. 11/21: Court Ladies' Auxiliary Tupperware Party for all you mothers who just got off the Grange. Paisley housedresses encouraged, 2 p.m. or so at the Galleon. 11/21: Golden Gate Guards Anniversary — location unknown to me. 11/21 The Mint's grand opening — new owners are showing it off, 4-7 p.m. with 8 p.m. gala. 11/24: Grand Duke and Duchess court meeting and pre-Thanksgiving food party, 8 p.m. at Kimos. 11/26 is Thanksgiving Day — you spread, I gobble, turkey. 11/27: Stephen Miller (Stephanie), Miss GDI '87 and bartender at the Transfer, has a birthday. 11/28: Los Angeles Coronation. 11/29: Sweet Lips' birthday, but won't be celebrated 'til December 2 at Ginger's II. Also around 11/21, the Castro Lions are planning a bus trip to Monterey to the Doubttree Hotel for the afternoon. This would be a great chance to meet the Castro Lions and find out what they're about and how Hector Caeceres makes those potent Virgin and Bloody Marys, while enjoying the Scenic Highway Tour's luxurious bus.

Is that enough Randy? And I didn't even mention all the Eagle Beer Bustin in November, or the upcoming Empress race? Which wouldn't be fair, coming from Lily

must give up Bill for his own good, beats a retreat to London. Sir John, having a change of heart, knows a man who just might be challenged into converting Sally into a lady. (Does this ring a bell?) Well, next we see Sally at the finale ball, she's very grand indeed. Sir John, in the evening's funniest anachronism, remarks "I think she's got it." (Actually Sally was much prettier before they powdered her face and frizzed her hair into little sausage curls.)

The comedy in this musical is strictly burlesque. Old two-liners are so ripe you laugh from helplessness.

"I usually buy myself a new hat when I'm down in the dumps."

"So that's where you get them!"

And this: "Have you ever been in love?"

"Oh no sir, I'm married!"

Or this: Sally, seeing Bill's suitcases across the room, asks, "What are those two bags doing there?" Bill, glancing beyond the suitcases to the Duchess Dene and a friend replies, "They live here."

The music is not great shakes, but the songs are bouncy and fun and carry such titles as "The Sun Has Got His Hat On" and "Take It On The Chin." Delectable ingenue Bullock has a gorgeous voice and sings the show's loveliest ballad, "Once Upon Your Love You Heart." Curry's own fine solo, a sweet soft-shoe called "Leaning On a Lamppost," leads into a foggy night ballet (an obvious tribute to Agnes De Mille. The first big act curtain number is the infectious "Lambeth Walk," danced by the Cockneys Bill has invited to the ball. The show's most bizarre choreography was the wildly exuberant "Song of Hareford," in which family portraits come down off the library wall to tap dance in a grand parade of historical figures, including a rhythm-crazed, humpbacked Richard III. An earlier tap number on the dining table revealed that neither Bill nor Sally was up to much more than a simple time step. Matter of fact, a combination of simple time steps comprised much of Gillian Gregory's choreography — for which she won a 1987 Tony.

Ann Curtis' costumes were elegant and Martin John's sets were breathtaking in their old-fashioned opulence. Mike Ockrent, who directed the London revival, repeated his chores for this production.

Me And My Girl is currently playing in Australia, Japan, Mexico, Belgium, Poland, Hungary and New York. But why not catch it at the Golden Gate Theatre, Tues-Sun until mid-December. Info: 243-9001.

"I'll try anything twice" Street. My slogan will not be "Slash and Burn;" it upset Flame too much, as she thought I was after her place in the sun. Bye for now. Get a job, Randy. Lily.

Thanks to Lily and to Jason and we say hang on in there and be hung! What Golden Dildeaux Award? What Spoon Awards? — Randy Johnson

My Girl...

(continued from page 38)

must give up Bill for his own good, beats a retreat to London. Sir John, having a change of heart, knows a man who just might be challenged into converting Sally into a lady. (Does this ring a bell?) Well, next we see Sally at the finale ball, she's very grand indeed. Sir John, in the evening's funniest anachronism, remarks "I think she's got it." (Actually Sally was much prettier before they powdered her face and frizzed her hair into little sausage curls.)

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When They Drank, who was taking care of you? And who are you taking care of now? A women's therapy group for Adult Children of Alcoholics. Individual, couples therapy also available. Ginny Pizzardi, MFCC, #MJ021756. 861-8964

Family therapy for lesbians and gay men. I work with families and individuals (both adults and children) to support your growth in your family constellation while exploring its relationship with your own inner child. Sliding fee scale. East Bay location. To talk more, call Cheryl Jones, MS, at 653-7374.

Survive the Holidays feeling Gay and Proud - even in front of the relatives. Hypnosis can empower you. Call Margy Nelson, PhD, experienced, certified hypnotherapist with a sense of humor. 647-2845, sliding scale.

Quality Counseling: individual and couple. Reasonably priced. Experienced, caring lesbian therapist. Interview session free. Lee Cox, MFCC. 824-7614.

Therapy too expensive? Catalyze change with facilitated trance work with Margy Adair. She'll also record a visualization tape specific to your

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Psychic Reading, energy healing, clarify issues, decision making, past and past life influences, relationships, how to further your talents and sexual, answers to specific questions. Experienced Sliding scale. Focus on personal growth and respect for each person's unique path. Kathie Bailey 547-1327.

ECKANKAR, the Ancient Science of Soul Travel presents ongoing, free introductory talks. Wednesdays at 7:30pm. 1412 Sutter. For SF recorded information, call 673-9234.

Tattoo??? Soul surfacing skin designs by Kore

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Clinton...

But my dream is to continue working and to expand my audience. People say, "Well, aren't you just preaching to the converted?" Well, hardly anyone is preaching to this converted group. Give me a break. I do still perform at colleges and conferences, and would like to continue doing that kind of work, and also explore writing possibilities with other people.

The first lesbian/feminist TV series? Yes. We're working on it. It's set in the Bay

Area.

How can you reassure us, your feminist fans, that we don't have to worry about your fading off into the Hollywood sunset, and that we'll never hear from you again as you climb the ladder of stardom?

If I ever did fade into the sunset, I'd want to work at UPS. They have those great brown uniforms and drive nice big, brown trucks. I could be a UPS comedian. I'd drive into town,

everybody would pull their rigs up, turn on the headlights, and that'd be the stage. I'd use the dispatcher's microphone, tell my jokes, and move on to the next town.

What can we expect at your performance this month?

Well, it's a very special Fall: I'm gonna turn 40, so we're calling this the Boomer Tour. I wanted to put sizes and favorite colors on the posters for presents, but my management

would not allow, even though they would've benefited. So I'll definitely be talking about getting older and getting better. I'm darned excited about it, because I figure I can't be held responsible for anything anymore. The older I get, the more out and outrageous I become.

Kate Clinton brings her new show to Wheeler Auditorium in Berkeley on Saturday, November 21. 8 pm. Tickets are \$10 advance, \$12.50 at the door, through ASUC Student Box Office and BASS. Info: 642-7477 or 893-4703.

WHEELERS PERSONALS

WOMEN

Two exciting, assertive women creating life for you. Believing in ourselves and our commitment to life and our togetherness. Dynamic, alive, each powerful in her own right, yet tender, loving, supportive of each other's careers and choices. Falling totally madly in love—taking risks against the odds to have the oneness we all passionately seek. Share your soul and catch the moonlight with me. Reply CUI/Box NV1

Good Hot Sex
Isn't the only thing I'm looking for but it is one of them. I'm a lesbian, professional, 42, and I'm also looking for someone who is interested in literature, movies, theater, children, politics and what's going on in the world. No drugs, but light alcohol and yes, meat OK. Reply CUI/Box NV2

Lots of Love to Give
25 yr old Black GF, attractive, intelligent, good sense of humor. Looking for GWF 25-35 who are racial hangups, who likes movies, and weekend excursions. Also likes quiet evenings. Wants someone down to earth. I'm more interested in the person than looks. Reply CUI/Box NV3

Athletic Femme Wanted
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Share Some Happiness
A blond, hazel-eyed, 5'4", dynamic, attractive, intelligent, fun, humorous, sensual, sexual, romantic, flirtatious, affectionate, caring, hating, giving, loving woman seeks strong, gentle type—around late 30s and early 40s. Hardworking, educated, professional in East Bay would like love for walks, drives, movies, dancing, sex, bowling, bicycling, sports, at museums, Ashland Shakespeare Festival, vacations in Hawaii, Caribbean, etc.—children, pets, smokers okay. Photo appreciated—will return if requested. Reply CUI/Box NV5

Seeking
warmth, laughter, passion, trust, commitment (with right person). I'm 36, a writer, politically left and looking for a woman who is politically aware, creative, and not afraid to try things. I am somewhat shy, love the outdoors, animals, good books, talking about everything. Reply CUI/Box NV6

Partnership in Mind
Attractive middle lesbian seeks feminist, outdoorsy, smart, independent woman for longterm liaison. My sense of humor is intact and I have many interests to share. Thoughtful and fun. I am steady and responsible as well. Reply CUI/Box NV7

San Francisco Woman
Big, bad (mostly egalitarian) top looking for wise woman who likes it rough in the sack/gentle on the side. Would like to meet someone capable

Dykes to Watch Out For



50 COMING UP NOVEMBER 1987

of exposing her emotional needs, intellectual interests, intricacies of the heart and soul. Novices and the curious welcome. Reply CUI/Box NV8

Forty-two and Fascinating
Really nice, zany, witty, sensitive, unpredictable, sensual, adventurous loner seeks asexual who is daring, responsible, monogamous, not obsessive or intolerant. Business demands don't allow much time so SF residents preferred. Love the movies, theatre, ball, dining out, wood carving, romantic outings, intelligent conversations. Dopers, smokers, alcohol and manipulators banned. Drop me a line and I'll give you a bite. Reply CUI/Box NV9

Seeking Goddess Energy
Intelligent, beautiful, intuitive, introvert seeks companionship leading to intimacy. I'm late 40s, physically fit, raised two children, committed to life honoring higher self as revealed through the unconscious. Emotional and economic stability essential. Looking for another highly educated professional seeking Goddess energy. Those with similar attributes only write details of your life values to Boxholder. POB 6254, Albany, CA 94706

A Lot Left of Center
Psychologically and politically active. I maintain a sense of humor about the politics. GBW in longterm (7 yrs) relationship, seek same or similar for friendship/socializing with or without spouses. Smoker (but want to quit), semi-professional & student. I love movies, Black authors, theater and coffee. Reply CUI/Box NV10

Holiday Cheer?
Yes, the holidays are right around the corner! I don't know about you, but I'd rather not be alone when the festivities start! I'm looking for someone to spend quality time with. I am a woman of color, or 26 yrs of age, whose interests include weight lifting, basketball, quiet dinners and spontaneous trips to LA/I'm open to most things except obesity and motorcycles. Take a chance and reply! Reply CUI/Box NV11

Casual Sex
Seeking someone to share fun, romance, sex. The woman I seek will be physically fit, and reasonably attractive: not into sm, alcohol, or profanity. Prefer a woman who lives in South Bay. Please send phone number, description, and photo if you have one! Reply CUI/Box NV12

Have Fantasy Will Travel
I'm an improvisation teacher who has created characters to do everything but get mail. Wanted: one wonderful woman or several lively lesbians to play with my personas. So look at me! I sit and pick your pleasure. Katie—midwestern farm girl, strong and sweet, show her the city, she'll show you her heart. Nancy—an 1800s country, brash, poised, her heart an undiscovered treasure. Rebecca—wealthy, witty, cultured and proud; a southern woman who takes charge, but needs to be taken. Plus the Amazon, the peasant, the Viking and more. So take a chance on a unique romance. Reply CUI/Box NV13

Great Woman Seeks The Same!
Roses are red. Violets are blue. I want a partner. How about you? Funny, serious, compassionate and intelligent woman seeks same. Well, maybe not same but I am looking to meet someone who appreciates the above values and more. Do you like to walk in the hills, watch TV, eat dinner out, laugh and share your feelings? Well, how about writing to me and we'll see what develops. Reply CUI/Box NV14

Do Ya Do Ya
Do you have east coast urbanity and midwestern values? Do you have style, rhythm, graceful hands and a sense of humor? Do you have a job, friends, hobbies? Have you finished your first Saturn return? Do you stay away from smoke,

and, emotionally responsible, dependable, trustworthy. (but still got kicked out of Cub Scouts—got off too much on lying knots, I guess), seeks similar. Remember, while a coward dies a thousand deaths, it only takes one hit to make a winner! Reply with photo #. Reply CUI/Box NV15

Warm, Wonderful Woman Wonders
why she's not in a loving, supportive relationship with a warm, wonderful woman. I'm 40 years old, bright, attractive, creative (writer-performer) and I want to be with a woman who is politically left, believes that there is a committed relationship are two of the most important things in life. I'm looking for a relationship rooted in love and affection, shared values and interests. Who are you? Letters, photos, please. Reply CUI/Box NV16

The Bottom Line Is:
I'm a 45 year old who likes her home, art, music, outdoors (for starters), hoping to find a woman of similar age, interests and attitudes for intimate relationship. I find it impossible to write an accurate yet concise description of myself and my desires, so here's a partial list of recurring themes in my life: I'm a professional, not dogmatic, not a feminist. Relationships—emotionally open, nurturing, independent, mature. Spirituality—cautious exploration. Vitality—creativity, humor, growth. Reply CUI/Box NV17

Black and White Are Beautiful!
Can you imagine opera one night, backpacking the next day, or meditating on Maui? Do you want hot, playful, caring, drug/alcohol free sex? Do you want intimacy with a man? Are you a nonsmoking GBM, 33-45? This GWM, 40, tall, attractive, responsible and fun, is waiting for you! Reply. Saying what on your mind is essential to a good relationship. Photo please—I'll return it. Reply CUI/Box NV18

Send A Spark My Way
GWF, 30, nonsmoking, Scorpio. I'm a photographer involved in a primary relationship. Looking to share a couple evenings weekly exploring secondary sexual relationship. This could be a brief affair or longterm friendship. I'm looking for two sparks to ignite the flames of my passion. You're 30-35, into art, politics, conversation. Let's explore our desires or stir our fantasies. Reply CUI/Box NV19

Je Suis Chaud Pour Toi
I walk into the bar. I see your red lips on the dance floor. I stand and watch you. You look up. I command you with my eyes to come to me. You leave your dance partner and stand by my side. I take your hand and lead you outside behind the building. I kiss you, deep. I feel your body get hot for me. I take your hand and put it on my— you feel the heat through my black silk panties. I turn you around and put your hands up on the wall (don't put them down or I'll spank you). My black faced hand covers your mouth. I take you from behind, again and again and again. Les enfants nous attendent. Je t'aime. Reply CUI/Box NV20

2 For 1
2 GWM, age 31, average builds, nice equipment. Want other GWM into hot, safe weekend sex-captives. Let's whip it out and have some fun together! SF or East Bay. Please send photo (a creative) and resume. Reply Boxholder, POB 208, 1442A Walnut, Berkeley, 94707

Twoosomes, Threesomes
foursomes, morsosomes. Butch, mass, bb, head turner/good looker and nice guy bottom looking for 2 (or more) guys who wanna take turns screwing the brains out of a hot woman. Reply CUI/Box NV21

No "Date", No Big Deal...
Are you reading the behind the Wall Journal or Sports Illustrated? Is "being G-A-Y" not the #1 priority in your life? But you are proud and confident of who you are and who you choose to love. I'm just hoping to meet some regular guy who doesn't have to wear the latest fashions or have the trendiest living room. I'm 29, 6', 155 lbs. in good shape, healthy and happy. Goodlooking and masculine (I'd rather not say "straight-cut")

Give Yourself A Chance At Happiness
38 yr old GWM (East Bay), blue/bird (balding), 5'10", 144 lbs, healthy, warm-hearted, hot-looking, with just enough faults to still be lovable hands and a sense of humor? Do you have a job, friends, hobbies? Have you finished your first Saturn return? Do you stay away from smoke,

and, emotionally responsible, dependable, trustworthy. (but still got kicked out of Cub Scouts—got off too much on lying knots, I guess), seeks similar. Remember, while a coward dies a thousand deaths, it only takes one hit to make a winner! Reply with photo #. Reply CUI/Box NV15

Daytime Gym Class Buddy
GWM, athletic. Looking for daytime buddy for running (9 minute mile), tennis, racquetball, cycling and other physical activities. I'm 30 years old, 185 lbs, 5'11", masculine, easygoing, motivated, outgoing, work evenings. You athletic, outgoing, masculine, fun guy. Enjoy friendly competition when appropriate. Some evenings OK, too. Other interests include: skiing (snow & water), softball, motorcycling, boating, camping and Giants games. Write Boxholder, POB 590403, SF 94159-4033

PWA Seeks Romance
I am not dying of AIDS; I am living with it and have a tremendous zest for life and adventure. I am a GWM, 33, bl/gm eyes, brun/balding, clean-shaven, mostly smooth 5'7", 130 lbs, very affectionate, cuddly, playful (silly at times), outspoken, direct, uninhibited, impatient, moody (Aries traits), intelligent, FIT employed, average looks, build and endowment (cut), gentle, quick smile, not in to role playing, nonsmoker, non-drinker, no drugs (other than AZT), into conventional but not "safe" sex. I am doing extremely well and no one would ever know I have AIDS! I have many interests, some of which are home computers (I have one), home video and music, photography, wrestling, working out, long drives (I love both car and scooter), long romantic walks, the outdoors, and doing whatever feels best, not in to bar scene, head trips or games. I am looking for someone to share these activities and feelings with in someone who is romantic, serious but fun-loving, much affectionate, cuddly, etc. Physical. I am usually attracted to someone between 25-35, little facial or body hair, independent, very responsible, health conscientious, and willing to put time and effort into developing a relationship. I strongly believe in communication and only time will tell if anything more could or ought to develop. Reply CUI/Box NV26

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Intellectually and spiritually inclined GWF
attractive, temperamental, of body reacting for you! Reply. I kiss you, deep. I feel your body get hot for me. I take your hand and put it on my— you feel the heat through my black silk panties. I turn you around and put your hands up on the wall (don't put them down or I'll spank you). My black faced hand covers your mouth. I take you from behind, again and again and again. Les enfants nous attendent. Je t'aime. Reply CUI/Box NV20

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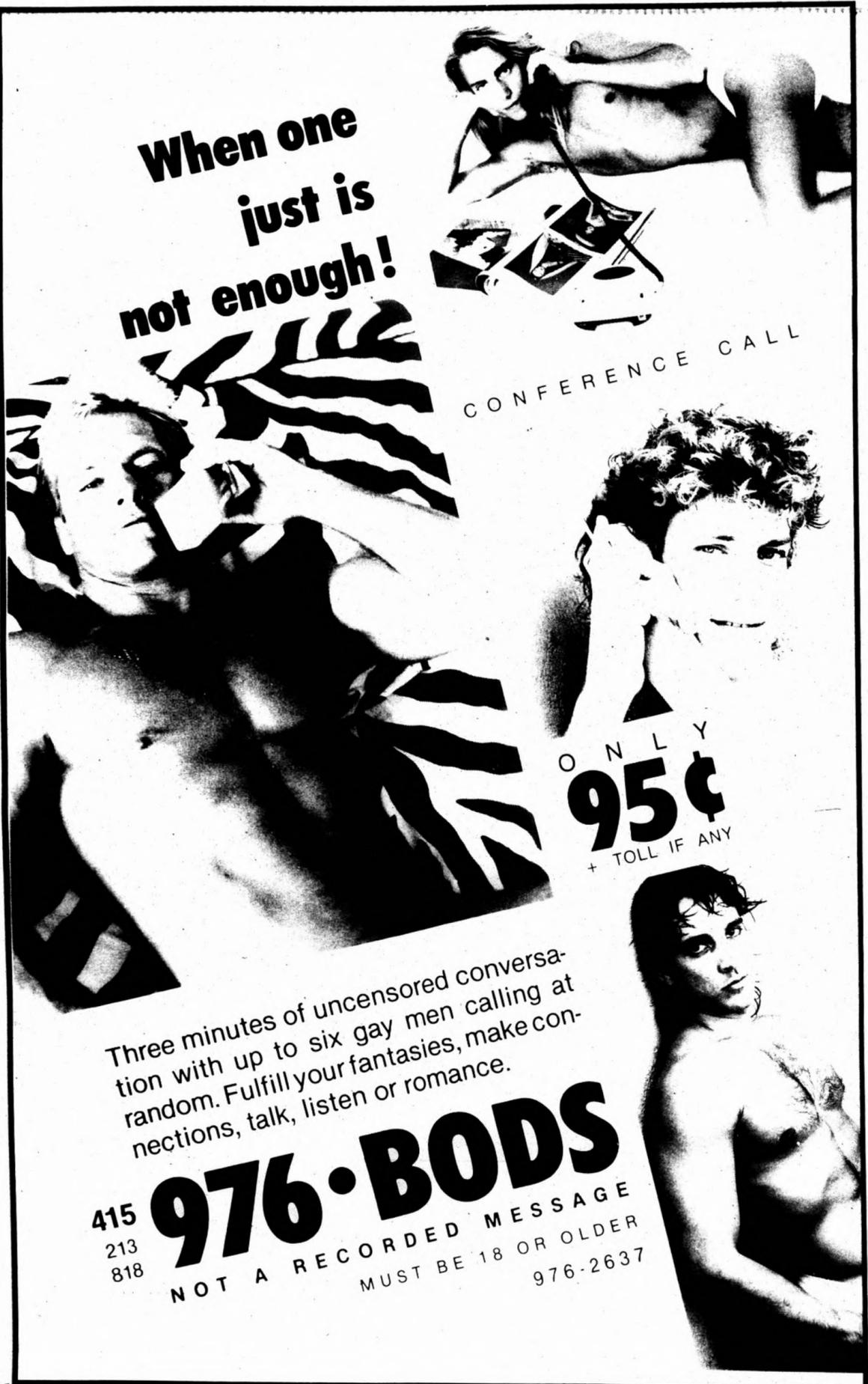
When one just is not enough!

CONFERENCE CALL

ONLY 95¢ + TOLL IF ANY

Three minutes of uncensored conversation with up to six gay men calling at random. Fulfill your fantasies, make connections, talk, listen or romance.

415 213 818 976-BODS NOT A RECORDED MESSAGE MUST BE 18 OR OLDER 976-2637



1131, SF 94101

In Search Of Alean Lover And Boyfriend
I am 22, 5'9", and 170 lbs. Black hair, brown eyes. And I am mixed. I am sincerely searching to meet an attractive young Asian male, 18 to 22 years old, English speaking, that would want to be my dear lover and boyfriend. If you are a young gay Asian male, looking for a lover that is not Asian, please answer my ad. I am so very sad and lonely. And depressed because I cannot find a young gay Asian lover who will love me truly as much as I will love and care about him. Won't someone please answer my ad. I beg you. And please, only Asians. And please, only serious ones. I don't like being played with, it's not fair. Also send a phone number in your letter and photo if you wish. Again, won't someone please answer my ad. Reply CUI Box NV104

Secret Longing
Cute, Ivy-educated guy, dark hair and eyes. 5'11", 160 lbs, active, funny, comfortable with both big C and little c culture—good job, conservative investments, passive of friends. Still what I want seems so taboo, so incorrect, it's like a huge dark secret. Now I'm hardly a raging queen or femme, but the truth is, I want to be someone's wife. So this ad is to find out if some handsome guy is interested in being a husband. I want to be Beatrice to his Benedick, Kate to his Spence, oh, I still want to be Charles. I want the romance, the banter, the dates, the whole nine yards. Now I'm sophisticated enough to view this endeavor with a wry grin, still I'm looney enough to dream of an ardent suitor, so, turn this smart-aleck yuppee into a princess. I'll make you feel like a king. Reply Boxholder, POB 42591, SF 94142

Got Some Time
Attractive 34, slim, 5'10", 160 lbs, well-toned build, rippled stomach, GWM with wavy brown hair and dark brown eyes, is gregarious and enjoys close physical contact. Like to smile, laugh, be silly, sail, camp, and dance. I'm high energy, like to experiment emotionally, sexually, socially and physically. Looking for someone dark-haired, hairy, slim to a little heavy but good proportion a must. Are you constructively oriented to improving your life? 25-40, with appealing masculine looks and willing to share backrubs. Photo + note greatly appreciated. Reply CUI Box NV99

Are You?
A bright, warm, sharing GWM, 35-50, seeking possible companion? Interested in travel, cooking, bridge, quiet nights, planning for future, hot/safe sex? Successful, comfortable with self, healthy, and smoke-free? Seeking a serious, stable, exciting and longterm relationship? I'm dependable, loyal, monogamy-oriented author with lots of love and warmth to give. Affectionate, emotionally and financially stable. I'm a GWM, 49, s/p male pattern, bearded. Also successful commuting professional, seeking intimacy and commitment to right person. Modest, hot and healthy. Reply (picture welcomed and returned) to Boxholder, Box 608, 584 Castro, SF 94114

Let's Enjoy Life
Unattached physically fit 40 years young, seeks a straight looking nonsmoker, drug free guy, 20-30, for companionship, dining out, travel, etc. Have beautiful home in San Francisco to share if needed. Write with phone # and picture. Reply CUI Box NV100

Italians, Latins/Asians - Friendly +
Me 33, 5'8", 165 lbs, hairy, attractive—brown/blue, moustache, top, hung, aggressive in bed, somewhat shy socially, honest, no vices. You: cute/handsome, 18-34, SMOOTH (completely smooth drives me wild), masculine preferred, nonsmoker or drags. I love to dance, listen to music, walk, comedy, travel, fun—dark-skinned Italians, French, Asian, Hawaiian, Latin, please apply! Photo returned. Reply Boxholder, POB 196, Berkeley 94701.

Open And Awake
In my independence, want delight of friendship, dating (perhaps more), honesty, regard for the individual, shared and varied interests, laughter, midnight VCR movies, early morning coffee and sunrises, late night talks of what happens on other soul planes, concerts, Scrabble, walks, bike rides, people watching, meditation, nurturing, gentleness, strength, self discovery—not escape, dancing, and throwing out other's agendas about life. I don't smoke, and don't care if you do. I don't drink very little, can be shy, no drugs except occasional SAFE smoking. If you like any of the above, want to laugh, learn, listen and explore, reply with why you liked this ad and what you like about yourself? Age, ethnic, size—I don't care, just be awake to life! Reply CUI Box NV101

Muscle Worship
WM, 5'6", 150 lbs, seeks muscular small guys, big bodybuilders. Blacks, Orientals into flexing, posing and having their body appreciated. Like pecs, biceps, oil, mirrors, armpits and joi. Have hot muscle videos and enjoy taking physique photos. Reply Boxholder, POB 6655, SF 94101

Christmas In November
Hol' Ho! Santa has a special gift for a GWM up to 40 years old who lives in the East Bay. A Christmas stocking with a boyish Chinese American, 36, 5'7", 138 lbs, black hair, stable, sincere, tested negative twice, and nonsmoker. His interests include business, dining out, music, musical shows, and traveling. No drugs. Let her photo (returned). Happy holidays! Reply CUI Box NV102

Black Man Age 48-65 Wanted
GWM age 50 seeks one dominant Black man age 48 to 65 who needs & loves long, slow oral sex sessions from a clean-cut, caring, professional deep throat expert. You're bare, relax, have a beer, & let me give you the total expert servicing that you love and deserve. Reply Boxholder, Box 130, 370 Turk St, SF 94102. All replies answered

Romance And Possible Relationship
I am available yet not Available. It's not to finally know and value oneself. I'm a 45 year old GWM, attractive and very charming. I offer excitement within the realm of a stable professional career and a secure home life. You are sensitive and stimulating and possess an appearance ranging from adorable to handsome. You tend to be bright with sparkling eyes, thin to husky in stature, yet with a high energy person such as myself. Seeking out romance and a possible relationship. Sorry however, a photo is necessary. Reply CUI Box NV103

Seek Dominant "Greybeard"
GWM, 40, 5'11", 170 lbs, smooth, average body and looks, "professional", seeks sexually dominant, analytical, older man over 46 who has a need in his life to develop and cultivate an emotional and sexual intimacy and share himself. Talking, touching, cuddling, fireplaces, film, eating in and dining out, Sunday mornings, Mann headlands, quiet times, professional endeavors, all important, as are trust and sharing. Drop a line with phone #—let's talk. Reply Boxholder, POB

1131, SF 94101

Non-smoking masculine executive who is career and relationship oriented, spiritually inclined but broadminded, and scrupulously honest and expects total honesty in relationships. I'm a high energy semi-outlet who is self-assured with an outer and inner strength that friends find nurturing and protective. I'm a giving, generous, civic minded person who loses interest in those who are not. I'm a political paradox: a social liberal and a fiscal conservative. I'm adventurous and love spontaneity. I'm an incorrigible world traveler who still loves to return to the lair. Although well-heeled, I feel materialism holds on a minor utilitarian or aesthetic interest. I love giving and receiving romantic gestures. I love acting out the sexual fantasies of others non-judgmentally, especially when I play the top or dominant role. I love a balanced diet of gentle cuddling, mutual caressing, and sweaty animal lust (safe sex, of course). I'm interested in a monogamous relationship built on an effort to control our innate promiscuousness. I love gourmet dinner parties, creative restaurants of every cuisine, the theatre, movies including porno, music (classical, most rock, some country), art of all kinds, world affairs, public television, football, pumping iron, horseback riding, bicycling, snow skiing, nude sunbathing, and camping (with a tent, silly). I love fine wine for the aesthetics, not for the high; I avoid drunks and druggies. I'm looking for a GWM under 40, clean-shaven, preferably a nonsmoker, who can butch it up in high society, who shares many of my values and some of my interests, and who is as comfortable in jeans as in a tux. I'm searching for someone to share romance, good times, personal growth, and the joy of helping others. For a serious relationship, send a photo, phone number, and short note about yourself to: Boxholder, PO Box 744, SF 94101.

Blonds Have More Fun
Let's prove it! If you're a tall, masculine, down-to-earth blond and are looking for similar qualities in a man, then read on. Myself: mid-thirties, professionally employed, homeowner, with interests that include travel, outdoors, movies, and sharing the company of that special person. Photo and phone number appreciated. Reply Boxholder, POB 1062, Daly City, 94017-1062

Spanking = Sexual Pleasure
Please, sir, slap my firm ass through my lightest 50's, padded, tan, bare round, suns framed in my eyes. I love being with my whip, play with my erect nipples, use your imagination and drive me to ecstasy. I love being at the receiving end, but will consider mutual play too. I'm an attractive GWM, 40, 5'8", 145 lbs. Letter with phone number, photo optional. Reply CUI Box NV110

Are You Into Sharing?
Affectionate, goodlooking Filipino, professional, 40, 5'6", would like to meet mature, sensitive, attractive GWM, 35-45, medium height; to share similar interests: classical music, theater, ballet, cooking, fine dining, stimulating conversation and quiet evenings at home. Committed to a nurturing, longterm relationship possible. Not into bar scene. No smoking or drugs. Please respond with photo. Reply CUI Box NV111

Where Are You?
Seeking for well built, goodlooking, young GWM, 30-40, mature, masculine, intelligent, male, lonely for special friend and relationship. One to give and receive warm massage. I'm 5'10", 160 lbs, bkl/bn, smooth body. Like to swim, hike, cook, gardening or cuddle in our special way. Discreet + must. Prefer East Bay, write to Boxholder: POB 2045, Walnut Creek, 94595-0045.

Optimist
Caucasian, 40, seeks dynamic partner in life, 30s-40s, with a twinkle in his eyes, a spring in his step, and a winning smile, who can talk about feelings, is generous with self, willing to work on a committed relationship based on equality and monogamy (but not monotonous), unafraid to love and be loved, financially stable, independent, affectionate, open to self-growth, physically fit, natural and masculine in appearance and behavior, free of smoking, heavy drinking, and drugs, eats healthfully, is HIV negative, has a great sense of humor, and lives in San Francisco. I am all of the above, tall, Jewish, professional, with many interests, including foreign languages and cultures, travel, community volunteer activities, running and the arts. Write with photo and phone #. Yes, I ask for a lot, but I also have a lot to give! I hope you feel the same way about yourself. Reply Boxholder, POB 14444, SF 94114-0444.

Love To Love You
baby. Relationship-oriented GWM, 32, 5'9", 150 lbs, dark blond/blue, looking for friends in 20s and 30s, in good shape and sharing some of these interests/qualities: liberal-minded, nonsmoker, enjoys arts, photography, aerobics, bicycling, hiking, daily jogging. A positive self-image without taking one's self too seriously. A compatible personality is more important than Jeff Stryker's looks. Please send letter with returnable photo, if possible, to: Reply CUI Box NV107. Thanks!

Physical Scientist
Masculine, attractive, intelligent, independent, easy-going GWM, 34, brown hair, eyes, moustache and beard, 5'10", 160 lbs. Enjoy science, hiking exercise, evenings out, quiet evenings at home. Seeking outgoing, responsible, relationship-oriented companion, nonsmoker, preferably with bright eyes and a nice smile, for mutual support, sharing, communication. Reply Boxholder, POB 421763, SF 94142

Bored
Sorry, but humans and their civilization are becoming tiresome, although still somewhat enjoyable. If you basically feel the same way and want to struggle up to the simple things, consider answering this ad. Monogamous companion with highly developed sense of personal integrity, honesty, and directness required. Looks and age not especially important. Basic orientation is Reply CUI Box NV108

Gourmet Breakfast
Attractive, intelligent, in shape 30 yr old GWM, 150 lbs, suburban seeks dominant (18-40) with active imagination for ongoing fun & possible longterm relationship. Fantasies include bicycle & workout tights, leather, rubber, nylon, cross-dressing, diapers, bondage, shaving, uniforms, masks, oil, massages, 14esting and safe sex only. Photophone, Reply CUI Box NV114

Short, Dark Man
Gay Latin seeks other short, dark men with hot bodies and passionate minds. I'm 5'5", 125 lbs, b/r/b, 38, very well defined, muscular body. You should be 5'8" or shorter, slim, b/r/b, 25-35 yrs old, athletic build, Latin, Mediterranean, Arab or Asian. I'm a professional in the arts, humorous, generous, imaginative, who can be as interested in dancing as the symphony, daily workouts as writing poetry, California cuisine as European

quality guy. I'm interested in tennis, swimming, skiing, fine arts, restaurants, weekend trips on the coast, etc. A letter (and photo if possible) explaining why I should add you to my list would be great. Reply CUI Box NV123

Horny And Handy
East Bay only. GWM, sandy/bl, 153 lbs, 5'9", trim, 30s, HIV negative, handsome and wholesome. My only problem is that I don't have a sex life—I don't want a lover! Wanted a friend or friends for safe sex, good laughs—are you dark haired and eyed, GWM 25-45 with similar looks and desires? Reply CUI Box NV124

Survival Partner
I'm tired of all the hype! You are allowed to be you, and that can mean simple, shy, or low on energy/self-esteem. But you are also sensitive and caring, with a spark of optimism, age 20-40, preferably free of drugs and tobacco, and able to laugh. I am 34, reasonably attractive, and am often "all of the above". Enjoy films, ocean, hiking, and massage. Reply CUI Box NV125

One Day At A Time
I am looking for a sexual friend and possible longterm partner who wants to grow but on a spiritual level in a loving and communicative relationship. It won't happen over night but one day at a time. Similar interests may help but aren't everything. Mine: bicycling, gardening, yoga, dance, most kinds of music, no drugs/illegal alcohol, running, anything outdoors, reading, good conversation, movies, healthy lifestyle. Me: a young 40, 5'11", 150 lbs, lean and muscular (regular workouts), HIV negative, attractive, brown/blue, moustache, quietly passionate and intelligent. Your photo and letter will get me. Reply CUI Box NV126

Brawny Older Brother
Big brawny outdoorsman, 40, 5'11", 235 lbs with brown eyes, hair and beard; likes camping, hiking, and outdoor activity even in winter. Enjoy younger men who are also adventurous, happy, stable, intelligent, tolerant and inquisitive. My interests include travel, music, film, human potential, and nature. If you would like an older brother full of warmth, support and humor, then write Boxholder, POB 11582, SF 94101-7582

Friend Seeks Friends
With all the gay men in the Bay Area, you would think making friends with a common lifestyle would be easy. Somehow, it seems the more the people, the more we become distant. I hope this ad will break the barrier between us. I hope my taking this first step will encourage you to take the second step by writing. I'm Asian and interested in all things Asian, 41, 5'9", 160 lbs and average + looks. I'm especially interested in meeting other Asians too. Reply CUI Box NV127

Chucky Chaser
Want to meet husky/chubby nonsmoking stable guys for a pleasurable, uninhibited, safe sexual friendship. Pluses: hairy bodies and warm smiles. I'm 39, 5'9", 150 lbs, brn hair, clean shaven, bright, optimistic, professional guy with a penchant for big bears who know where they're going and how they're getting there. Reply Boxholder 125, 2251 Market St, SF 94114

Attractive, Single GWM
29, 5'11", 140 lbs, nonsmoker, would like to meet Caucasian or Asian men who are under 35 years old and who want to be in a relationship. I enjoy a variety of interests including: computers, photography, music, writing, traveling, cooking, working out at gym, and walks along moonlit beaches. Telephone number and photo appreciated. Please reply CUI Box NV128

Looking For Prince/Duke Charming
Two guys, not lovers, seek fun dates. We are good guy/bad boy, 31, handsome, shy/wild, romantic/sensual, works out/smokes, professional/artist. You are: charming/smart, handsome/hot, affectionate/sensual, top, sophisticated/edukuberant, established/creative, witty/relaxed, mellow/complex. You don't have to be royal to meet us, just a great guy. Your letter gets two chances at these sleeping beauties. Drop a line, enclose photo, tell a friend, don't delay. Reply Boxholder, 2215-R, Market St #457, SF 94114

Gay Latino, 31 yrs old, 5'7", 145 lbs, classical musician/w/ great sense of humor, seeks friendly, sensitive and stable man for companionship leading to possible romance. Nonsmokers only. Please reply CUI Box NV129

Hairy Legs
and smooth white butt of which you are proud and eager to offer up to a tall, tanned, smooth, lean, muscular good guy. Reply CUI Box NV130

Slow J/O And Fantasy
Sim, clean-shaven, athletic, imaginative, well-hung guy 39, 5'10", looking for guys who like a variety of prolonged joi techniques and teasing. I really like slow, extra light cock teasing in and out of 501s, understrokes, cutoffs, sweat pants, and muscle and chest worship. I enjoy verbal trips, posing and visual trips, especially military and jock fantasy. Also would like to meet a guy to watch solo joi porno together. Send me your telephone number—I'm discreet. Reply Boxholder, Box 81922, SF 94188

Maurice Seeks Scudder
Tired of Durhams Tantalized by Scudders! (Maurice yes!), Latin/Irish GWM, early 40s (but really 35) seeks his life partner. A fun loving, witty, warm, affectionate and spiritual professional with a delightful past wants to share his future with a vibrant fit, relationship oriented, attractive and bright individual. Charming and hopelessly romantic. I enjoy sane sensual sexual play and have many cultural interests. You may be 30-40 (give or take a few years), drug free, nonsmoking and sincere about your interest and intent. (Although statistics are misleading, I acknowledge their value in understanding who I am and what I want. Me: 5'8", 148 lbs, black hair, intense brown eyes, gym toned and sensitively masculine. You: a few inches taller or shorter, fun, affectionate and open to fulfilling your personal dreams. A photo and a detailed letter will bring you same. Reply CUI Box NV131

Handsome, Sexy Latin
32 yrs old, 5'9", 165 lbs, bkl/bn with nice smooth body. ENJOYS the outdoors, beaches, working

6', 170 lbs, reddish brown hair, green eyes, 40. That's what you see. Inside intelligent, intense and sexual. Looking for a partner for adventures and quiet, laughter and discussion. Details: politically versatile, write and read novels, spiritually inclined, enjoy hikes, city walks, movies, museums, dancing, bookstores, North Coast, tennis, dinners out, breakfasts in professional with voluntary long hours. Community activist on indefinite sabbatical. Goodlooking but serious. You no requirements beyond an interest in yourself and me. Not looking for myself in you, so just write who you are. Reply CUI Box NV116

Fun Boyfriend Wanted
Horny, healthy WM (33) seeking frisky, affectionate adventurer for jockstrap-packed explorations over sexual (handcuffs, bondage) and non-sexual (movies, bicycling, brunch) terrain. You should be young, trim, healthy, nonsmoking, light drinking, safe sex aware, versatile or bored, I am exercised, 5'8", b/bi, slender, bearded, intelligent, attractive, romantic, responsible, career oriented. Reply CUI Box NV117

Come To Daddy
Hot muscular guy wants younger bottom. Daddy is swimmer and runner, average height and weight, goodlooking dark Latin type in mid-twenties, hairy chest and legs (sparse on head), clean-shaven, very muscular body. Am seeking affectionate, attractive, submissive younger guy 25-35 (smooth skin a plus) into safe sex and lots of fantasy. Would like to play with your ass and hear how much you need and crave discipline and the body of your strong hot daddy. Photo appreciated. Reply Boxholder, Ste 354, 1442A Walnut St, Berkeley 94709.

NOB Hill Area
I'm 30, 5'10", 160 lbs, goodlooking, real good body, athletic, brown/blue, big dick. Looking for a top around my age. I'm into: reading, travel (I've lived in 17th World), mountain biking, running, gym. I'm self confident and independent. Like to meet a guy who's athletic, fun, sexually aggressive. Near Nob Hill is good but not necessary. Photo if possible. Reply CUI Box NV118

Needing Nurture
31 yr old GWM health professional, recently divorced, beginning a path of self-discovery prior to career change, seeks GWM, 30s, for non-directive nurturance and support through physical intimacy and enjoying time together. I'd especially like to share things like movies, plays, dinners and weekends away. Because you have a keen sense of who you are and a busy, rewarding life, you don't need a lot more from me; you can allow the time to myself. I'm 6'11", Jewish, handsome, trim physique, sensitive, a little silly. You're intelligent, have a good sense of humor (silly would be great), you don't use drugs or tobacco and use alcohol only rarely. Most important, you know what you're feeling and what you need, you can communicate these things with openness and honesty, and you value and need the same kind of sharing from others. If this sounds like you, respond with descriptive letter. Reply CUI Box NV119

Leather? In Berkeley?
Articulate, aggressive bottom into mutual cbl, light/bid, french, cuddly/teasy, bear, handsome, complementary man; hairy, muscular, husky, 25-40. Are you literate, creative, down to earth; enjoy books, film, travel? Active, optimistic, but somewhat affectionate/sensual, top, sophisticated/edukuberant, established/creative, witty/relaxed, mellow/complex. You don't have to be royal to meet us, just a great guy. Your letter gets two chances at these sleeping beauties. Drop a line, enclose photo, tell a friend, don't delay. Reply Boxholder, 2215-R, Market St #457, SF 94114

Like A Wide Variety
I like dark Italian men and blonds, Hispanics & Blacks, tall and short men, hairy or smooth, clean-shaven or not, age 25-45. Do like goodlooking men with good bodies who are interesting, sensitive, career oriented and have a good sense of humor. I'm 30 yrs old, 172 lbs, 5'11", handsome, brn hair and eyes, moustache, good body, hairy, positive, funny, romantic, and have a lot of interests. Photo appreciated. Reply CUI Box NV120

Upples...
30 yr old yuppie, 5'5", 130 lbs, cute, affectionate, apple, athletic, good (but dry) sense of humor. I'm a well educated, self employed professional interested in tennis, racquetball, occasional trips to the gym. Looking for someone with similar interests & goals to share an evening dining out & dancing or cuddling at home by a fire. Please send letter, photo if possible. I'll reply. Reply CUI Box NV121

Seeking Potential Partner
GWM, 32, 6'1", 170 lbs, masculine, handsome, HIV neg, seeks relationship of meaning with vibrant attractive man. Good heart, challenging mind and spiritual inclination are all pluses. Reply CUI Box NV122

Halloween Encore
Attractive, mature guy seeks cute, macho guy who "enjoys being dressed in something frilly and sexy". I'm 6 ft tall, 160 lbs, with dark blue eyes & a fair complexion. You could be dark or fair with smooth tan skin, nice brows & pretty legs. We could enjoy cuddling, massage, spanking, strip tease, etc. with you in shorts, briefs, skirts & panties. Let me have safe sex & fantasy fun. Reply Boxholder, Ste 2603, 495 Ellis, SF 94102

What A Nice Guy To Do?
It's Saturday night and this tall, lean, clean-cut, very attractive guy doesn't have a date. Sure, I am a motivated young professional and do spend a lot of time on my career. Right, I tend to avoid bars because I dislike smoke and cocktail chatter. And I'm a bit selective about the guys I go out with. But should I relegate me to the life of microwave popcorn and c-span? No! I'm sure there are other bright, athletic, all-American types (between 25-35) who are interested in dating a

out, replies and past evenings. Seeks other very masculine, muscular, gay-to-white men for hot and safe times and possibly more. Photo and phone appreciated and returned. Reply Boxholder 435, 2215-R Market St. SF 94114.

Very Attractive, Yet Modest!
Scandinavian blue eyed blond, 6'1", 188 lbs, thoughtful, sincere and fun loving, emotionally secure GWM with an open heart and honest attitude, seeks masculine dark featured man, Italian, Greek, Latin or just a good person, 25-40 yrs, with well-toned build. Must be ready to share intimate special moments with my favorite things, like camping, fishing, movies, talking, swimming, skiing, laughing, good friends, travel and being responsible. I have special friends and I want a special someone. I'm not afraid to share if you've got the courage. I'll answer all who send photo and letter (will return). Reply CUI Box NV132.

UC Berkeley
Hot, handsome, versatile, GWM, 30s, 5'9", 150 lbs, edible build, progressive, adventurous, North Cal native—seeks student involved with books, not bars, for safe sex adventures—yes, HIV negative. Independent! Reply CUI Box NV133.

Not Intimidated By Studly Beauty
High caliber, white, 30, 6'2", 215 lbs, brown/blue, former football jock/bodybuilder, wants interesting young white workout partner. I'm basically bottom, attractive, careful, caring (HIV neg), masculine, seek aggressive counter-part with similar qualities in very masculine but-dybrother or? Looking to share good times with someone with focus beyond "lifestyle." Take a chance—we're both worth it! Reply Boxholder, Box 170475, SF 94117.

Shameless Oral
rates an "unbelievable" from masculine, muscular hunk. If you love having your body pinned down then licked, nibbled and slurped by a masterful safe-sex admirer, this one is for you. You must be firm, preferably hairy, and into prolonged exploration of newfound erogous zones. (I'm often told, "Nobody ever did that before.") I'm masculine, gym muscular, 170lbs, 6' hung, goodlooking, blue eyes, moustache, and would love to love a lover. Photo appreciated. PS: previous ad drew a perfect response from person with poor contact info—please try again. Reply CUI Box NV134.

Tall, Lississibie Guy
Long and lanky (6'3", 170 lbs), I'm 39 and ready

for a loving friend of any race to share good times together. You'll probably be 30-45, independent and easygoing. We are both health conscious non-smokers who use little or no alcohol or drugs and enjoy good safe sex. I enjoy dinner out, attending symphony and plays as well as relaxing evenings at home playing that special someone. We will also occasionally get out of town for the weekend. I am stable, career oriented and serious about building a loving relationship. Please write CUI Box NV135.

Share An Adventure
Handsome, muscular 40 yr old physician; warm, fun loving, into enjoying life to the fullest; seeking an intimate friend for possible longterm relationship. I am 5'10", 165 lbs, cleanshaven, in great shape. Interests include music (primarily classical & jazz), piano, theater, dining out, film, skiing, tennis, travel, and more. I'm looking for a muscular, athletic, youthful guy who is also fun loving & loves working out, keeping in shape & laughing a lot. I like guys who are taller than myself, preferably slightly younger & high energy. Together we can have quite an adventure! If interested send letter with photo. Reply CUI Box NV136.

Hot Bottom Seeks Top
GWM, attractive blond, blue eyed, 31 yrs, 6'1", 187 lbs, of Norwegian descent. I'm healthy, happy, fun, honest and open and looking for the same. I have a good attitude on life that lets me enjoy a wide variety of interests and people in general and love to smile. I hope to find an attractive, well-toned, hung, passionate Latin, Italian, Mediterranean-looking or dark haired man for good safe sex. Must have a sense of humor and not be a bar person. Returnable photo with reply. Reply CUI Box NV137.

Friend And Partner?
Senior WM wishes to explore life on life's terms, good and bad, with senior BM. An investment of a stamp and a free cup of coffee. Go for it! You might make a friend and be glad. Reply Boxholder, Box 397, 584 Castro St. SF 94114.

Safe, Sincere And Like To Wrestle
I'm 29, 5'10", 145 lbs, br/br, antibody negative. And attractive. I'm looking for someone who enjoys safe sex and/or wrestling for fun. I enjoy movies, books, dancing, sports, music and having a good time. I'm tired of the bar scene, hope you feel the same. I'm very sincere and fun to be with. Only same need to respond. Photo and response gets same. Reply CUI Box NV138.

Be A Pal

Let us laugh, talk, travel, go to movies, dine romantically out or in, spend quiet evenings cuddling and carressing. You are trim, under 42, nonsmoker. I am a light-skinned BM, 40, 6'2", masculine, big athletic build (not muscular), smooth skin, very healthy, fit, educated & professional. For fast response, send photo (promised return)/phone to Boxholder, POB 56590, Hayward 94545.

Live In Daily City?

GWM, 40s, 6', 175 lbs, short brn hair w/silver threads, bred of the Serranorte Trip and looking for a friend. I like doing nothing (if that's the mood at the time), playing video games, softball (play and coach), riding my motorcycle and spy movies (holding hands in the dark). Non-drinker, light smoker, no drugs and a very sloppy housekeeper. I am completely versatile, a leader sometimes and a follower other times. I'm looking for an Asian/Latino, 18-30 yrs, slender build, not feminine but not super macho either. A person who feels comfortable with themselves and their sexuality. Must like animals (I have 3 dogs and they are always underfoot). If you think we might "hit it off" please Reply CUI Box NV139 with a photo if possible (returned) and a way to reach you. Phone numbers answered promptly.

Buns For A Buddy

Healthy, happy, horny, GWM, 42 yrs old, 5'8", 140 lbs. Mostly satisfied with home life and life in general, would just like a little greek attention. Not goodlooking but looking good. I'm cleanshaven and have a firm hairless body with a trim waist, a flat tight tummy and a smooth round insatiable little butt. Into safe sex without games, toys or sm, but with plenty of mutually respect and hot, dedicated, prolonged action. Looking for a friendly, responsible, extra well hung guy who could use an occasional buddy like me. Please say/show why I should answer you posthaste. Reply CUI Box NV140.

Men 50-65 Sacramento Area

My mind's eye sees a husky, blue collar, truck driver type man with hairy chest and thick thighs. Somewhat overweight is desirable, but not out and out fat or skinnies. I need an easygoing guy starchy for companionship, love and sex; as I am. I'm GWM, 62, bald, 5'11", 185 lbs, light drinker, very horny, very loving and likeable. Appear younger than my age. Condoms for safe sex. Smoke cigarettes and hope you do. No drugs, alcoholics or unemployed. Like good

music, good food and a good time. Does my description fit you? Please write explicit letter photos (will return), and phone number. Reply CUI Box NV141.

Fishing Out Of The Wrong Pond?

That is what it feels like for me. I am 29, 5'9", 145 lbs, br/br, cleanshaven, non-ferm, HIV negative. Looking for someone to laugh with, grow with, care about and possibly fall in love with. I enjoy working out, scuba diving, camping, walking in the woods, skiing, laughing, cuddling and taking showers together. I'm a successful career professional, well educated. Given to bouts of practical jokes and teasing (yes, I'm a Scorpio). You should be between 23 and 32, emotionally mature, muscular build, cleanshaven with some similar interests. Please no ferns. Don't agonize over a letter. Something short and sweet with a photo (optional but preferred) and a way to get back to you will do. Reply Boxholder, Box 485, 2261 Market St. SF 94114-1693.

Wanted

Tall, thin, goodlooking, unpretentious, down to earth type of man for dating and safe body to body contact. We are both smoke, drug and alcohol free. We GWM, cafe au lait complexion, 38 years, 6'1", 180 lbs. Long hair is a plus. Respond with letter, photo, phone. Reply CUI Box NV142.

Once Upon A Time

I met a man who became my mentor, friend and lover. He showed me aspects of life that I couldn't afford and did not know anything about: theater, good dining, opera, Venice, Paris, ballgames, art. Now it is my turn to pass on what he gave me. I am looking for a younger man who wants to learn and share, not just the "finer things," but who wants to enjoy more of life. I am a goodlooking GWM, trim (go to the gym four times a week), who has great grey hair. I'm serious but funny. I'm happy without booze or drugs. I'm romantic and a gentleman in the living room, but assertive in the bedroom. I'm 48-top (HIV neg), 5'9", 153 lbs, masculine. I want to meet a man who is 25-late 30s, who is masculine and has an interplay of brains, heart and body, who wants to live life with gusto! I want to learn from you just as you will from me. I like casual people who are content to be honest, open-minded and willing to try. I want to meet a special person with whom I can share special times. Write a letter and send a photo and I'll reply with the same. A story with a happy ending? Reply CUI Box NV145.

If You Can't Get Down,
Forget it! On the other hand, if you want man to man, safe, hot, sweaty sex, with trust and affection, check this. I'm 50, 185 lbs, 5'11", beard, balding, masculine, goodlooking. GLaBp (com-doms), (if gloves) wis, same sm and more. I smoke some grass, drink beer, am a nice guy, responsible, secure and caring for another man, and if a relationship develops, great! No top/bottom role playing. If you feel there's something here for you and me, do us both a favor and Reply CUI Box NV143.

H-Words
Howdy! Handsome, Happy, Healing, Healthy, Hebrew, Helpful, Hennaed, Hesitant, Highclass, Honest, Hopeful, Horny, Hospitable, Hot, Hug-gable, Humble, Humorous, Hung, Hinterested? Reply CUI Box NV144.

My Ex-Lover Made Me Place This Ad!
Female, 39, & holding cab-driving student, politically depressed, recovering from everything save intermittent loneliness; seeks male/female I'm interested in classical music, swimming, eating healthy, moving, dancing, growing freckles. I'm 5'11" 78", you don't have to be. Covert narcissists need not apply. Reply CUI Box NV200.

Bisexual Latin Male
I am looking for a relationship with the right conscious man and sexual partner. I am looking for a top, Greek active, bisexual or gay male, financially stable, secure and positive, who is 20 to 36 yrs old, endowed 10+, thick, any race. I am willing to relocate if you are the right person and live in another part of the state, country or abroad. I am 34, 155 lbs, 5'8", handsome, masculine, typical Latin looks. If interested, answer with letter, phone #, photo (returned) to: Boxholder, 3181 Mission St Box #12, SF 94110.

Have You Bent Your Gender Teddy?
Cross-dressing male, 29, seeks interested female for friendship, romance and adventure. I want to explore gender and power roles in a safe, supportive atmosphere. I am creative, playful and open-minded. Let me know what's on your mind and out of your closet. Reply Boxholder, POB 78, 2550 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 94704.

Heireesses, Criminals, Welfare (Moms?)
or other underemployed (preferably) bisexual women sought by time-rich man for making trouble, love, whoopee, anarchism, bridge, cameras, depression, ecstasy, food, grimaces, hair, introspection, jokes, kindness, languishing, movies, nihilism, outrageousness, pontiff-bashing, quiet, rabiocination, stupefaction, tin-tinabulation, urges, vanity, wantonness, exes, yearning, zydeco. Have innumerable bad, good habits, seek woman with some trouble loving herself. I'm tall blond, bearded, slight, cute, flawed. Admit to lookism, exchange photos? Reply Boxholder, POB 11392, Oakland 94611.

Older/Younger
Bi WM, 39, friendly, sense of humor but passive, in some ways almost withdrawn, seeks compatible guy/gal for friendship and very low-key, safe sex. I like very young (18-30), smooth, skinny guys and non-obese women. Will exchange photo/letter. Reply Boxholder, POB 22201, SF 94122.

Tight White Stacks
and slinky undergarments worn by gay/straight slender females turn me on. Bi-guy, 50, 5'6", fun to be with, would like to meet you for pleasant evenings or weekend afternoon enjoyment plus. I know where my face oughta be! I'd prefer you to be 25-40, slender, with the same positive, optimistic outlook on life that I have. Reply CUI Box NV201.

Gourmet Potlucks
Accomplished cooks are invited to share a favorite dish and passion for fine food in an intimate, smoke-free, social setting. Dinners in San Francisco on the first and third Saturday of each month through 1987. Gourmet vegetarian and theme nights starting January 1988. For more information send name, address and phone number to Epicures Unlimited, Box 14051-C, SF 94114.

Lesbians At The Movies
Single lesbians ages 30 to 50, looking for same. Want to start ongoing fun video evening to meet, watch old films, share popcorn and conversation. Nov 14, 7:30 pm. Bring favorite movie food and Kleenex. See Calendar listing under Nov. 14.

HIV Positive Social Club
I am willing to host meetings of HIV positive people (or people who are sure they would be positive if they took the test) at my place on Diamond Heights. I am highly optimistic that I can maintain my good health even though I've been positive for six years, and I would like to socialize with other optimists who don't have ARC or AIDS. I have mild blood abnormalities, but no serious problems. I do not wish to compete with C.I.P., so in listing preferred meeting days, please omit Wednesday. Reply Boxholder, POB 640321, SF 94164-0321.

Reply Coming Up! Box

SOCIALGROUPS

Next Deadline: November 20

REPLYING TO A PERSONAL AD: If the advertiser has a CUI! Reply Box, send your reply to Coming Up! Personals, 592 Castro, SF 94114. In the lower left hand corner of the envelope place the box number you are answering. Boxes remain open for two months; i.e. this month's ads may be answered through the month of December.

CUI! REPLY BOX MAIL PICK-UP: You may pick up your mail every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 2-6pm. Mail will not be given out at any other hours. If you are unable to pick up your mail during these hours and do not have your own P.O. Box, you must get CUI! mail forwarding. Feel free to call us during the regular pick up hours to find out if you have mail, and please limit your calls to these hours! You must bring picture I.D. to pick up your mail at the office.

MAIL WILL BE FORWARDED WEEKLY. BOXES REMAIN ACTIVE FOR TWO MONTHS.

HEADLINE: _____
TEXT: _____

WORD COUNTS: Every word counts! 'A,' and,' the,' zip codes, PO Boxes, etc. should all be included in your word counts. Count 4 words for "Reply Coming Up! Box #." No refunds. There is a \$5 handling charge for any changes on an ad after it has been submitted.

IN PLACING AN AD you must not use names, telephone numbers or street addresses. If you do not have a PO Box, just check "Reply Coming Up! Box" on the form below, and decide whether you wish to pick up the mail or have it sent to you.

Coming Up! hopes that you will submit ad copy in keeping with our general editorial policies. Ads should stress those qualities the advertiser finds compatible rather than target specific lifestyles, races or other aspects in a negative manner. We understand the difference between discrimination and personal preference. If your ad does not fall within the realm of our guidelines, we may notify you and allow you to make the necessary alterations. We reserve the right to edit ads. We reserve the right to reject any ad whatsoever.

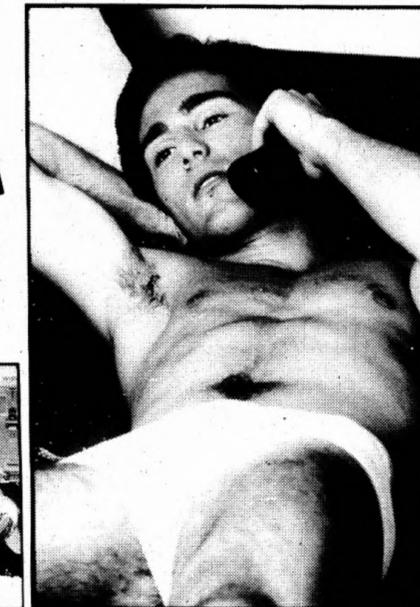
Reply Coming Up! Box

You may stop by the office at the below address to fill out a coupon. **We cannot take personals by phone, nor can we accept anonymous ads. All information will be kept confidential.**

Mail Coupon To:
Coming Up! Personals
592 Castro Street
SF, CA 94114

Next Deadline: November 20

MAKE THE RIGHT



CONNECTION... On California's Outrageous Conference Calls

Our exciting phone service has become the rage all over California, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C. and Baltimore. We are the first and biggest company in the field—our conferences are HOT!! When you dial you will be connected to an ongoing, UNINHIBITED CONFERENCE CALL, with up to nine men from all over California. NOT PROFESSIONALS! Just interesting men, like yourself, anxious to make new acquaintances. LIVE! NOT A RECORDING. Top or bottom, short or tall, young or old, they're all here! It's only \$2*—cheap by any standards, and billed discreetly to your phone bill. No credit cards are required. Your anonymity is guaranteed. Call 415-976-6767 in San Francisco, 213-976-3050 in Los Angeles and 619-976-G-A-Y-S in San Diego now and see what you have been missing. We even have a line for Spanish callers! 213-976-C-I-T-A.

IN SAN FRANCISCO:
415-976-6767

IN LOS ANGELES:
213-976-3050

IN SAN DIEGO:
619-976-G-A-Y-S

EN ESPANOL:
213-976-C-I-T-A

*This call is only \$2 in most of the 415, 213 and 619 area code. Matching is random and you may not hear another caller and yet still be charged. Call at peak night times to avoid unwanted charges. Additional toll charges may apply in some areas.

ONLY ONE CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR...

- Only one candidate has a fifteen year record of leadership on lesbian and gay community issues.
- Only one candidate has consistently listened to and worked with all segments of the lesbian and gay community, not just one political faction.
- Only one candidate has demonstrated his support in the political empowerment of lesbians and gay men by consistently supporting our candidates for public office, including Congress, Supervisor, College Board and School Board.
- Only one candidate voted for San Francisco's 1972 ordinance and Harvey Milk's 1978 ordinance forbidding discrimination based on sexual orientation.
- Only one candidate has played a leading role since the beginning of the AIDS epidemic in securing city funds for San Francisco's model AIDS programs.
- Only one candidate co-sponsored the law prohibiting discrimination against people with AIDS/ARC.
- Only one candidate has continually provided active personal support for our community's cultural, social service and political activities.
- Only one candidate voted and lobbied in favor of equal benefits for domestic partners.
- Only one candidate led a delegation of city officials to Washington to lobby for increased AIDS funding.
- Only one candidate has led the fight for city funding of lesbian and gay social service agencies and programs to fight anti-gay violence.
- Only one candidate has helped lead the effort to secure the Public Health Hospital for an AIDS treatment center.

JOHN MOLINARI has been endorsed by the broadest coalition in our community, including: Supervisor Harry Britt, Stonewall Gay Democratic Club, Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance, the *Bay Area Reporter* and the *San Francisco Sentinel*.

Together there's nothing we can't do!

John Molinari for Mayor

Paid for by John Molinari for Mayor Committee, 3016th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94118