

Volume 1 Issue 4  
SEPTEMBER 17, 1981

**GAY**

# FOCUS

MAGAZINE



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## FOCUS NEWS

AFL-CIO



# SOLIDARITY DAY

SEPTEMBER 19, 1981

Join the Solidarity Day Rally to demand jobs being sponsored by the AFL-CIO and other labor groups. It will begin at 12 Noon at the Embarcadero Palaza.

Various gay and lesbian groups have already endorsed the rally..... the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club, Solidarity, the Barbary Coast Democratic Club to mention but three of the groups.

The Peoples Anti-War Mobilization will have a contingent at the rally and you are being urged by them to join the Labor Focus of P.A.M. and you can help out by calling the P.A.M. office on 24th Street at 821-6545.

The Lesbian/Gay Focus of P.A.M. will also have a contingent there. This important rally to demand jobs is being held nationwide with over 250,000 expected in Washington, D.C.

2 To 2 Daily



S.F. EAGLE

398 12th St.

PROTEST VICE-PRESIDENT  
GEORGE BUSH'S VISIT TO SF  
October 1st.....see page 5 info.

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Mail: 324 - 14th Street, San Francisco, California 94103 (415) 885-6979

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FOCUS MAGAZINE

## GAY MAN SLAUGHTERED ON POLK BY MISSION DISTRICT THUGS

FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY (Vigilante-Guardian Angels) plus SELF-SERVING COLD, MAYOR plus CHIEF OF POLICE (sensitive to wants of Cops for Christ and Polk Street Merchants, but not the "little people") ADD UP TO



"LILLIE LAW" CONCENTRATES ON "CRIME" OF SOLICITATION FOR LEGAL SEX WHILE KILLERS AND THIEVES ROAM THE STREETS & HALLWAYS! POLK MERCHANTS GROUP SUPPORTS CHIEF MURPHY!

slaughter (slo-ter) Act of killing; violent or wanton destruction of life; violently or ruthlessly; execute.

Webster's Dictionary

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., Sept. 16——Nicholas Ritus, 31, dead on Polk Street. Killed by a savage pack of human beings from another section of San Francisco!

Ritus and his friend Barry Mabus were visitors in our City from Seattle Washington. Mabus will return to Seattle with a tale of horror of how he himself nearly lost his life to a pack of self-hating, gay-hating animals from the Mission District who "invaded" the Polk Street area, early Sunday morning, about 3 A.M., and for no reason other than the fact that the accused murderers thought the two men were gay, leaped from the low-rider car, and began stabbing Nicholas Ritus to death. Plunging the blade into the Seattle man repeatedly as he, Ritus in vain, tried to escape and while one of the animals in the auto shouted out encouragement to plunge the blade in again. And Mabus himself was struggling with another of the vicious alleged humans, who tried to spill his blood and life onto the streets of our City. Mabus escaped, wounded, and now recovering, and anxious to leave.

In an interview in the local morning paper, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, Mabus allegedly said, "there was no place to escape from what was happening.....there was no place to run——just the terror."

In custody, thanks to the description of the accused killers auto, by Mabus, are, Carlos Zuniga, 26 of 333 Potrero who was booked for investigation of homicide; Samuel G. Picazo, 24, 555 Naples Street; also

police arrested Alfredo Razo, 22 of 667 Badan Street for investigation of being an accessory to the crime, and police say they are still looking for the fourth auto passenger.

Self-appointed "gay leaders" met with Dianne Feinstein, their Mayor on Monday following the slaughter on Polk to express their anger over the killings (all were from the Castro of course!), and the Mayor did her usual "gay soft-shoe dance" for them, and they left quite satisfied with themselves that they had met with The Mayor!

But many Polk and Tenderloin/Central City residents feel that the Mayor is a great contributor to the problem of low-riders invading the Polk and Tenderloin harassing, beating and now, even killing gay men (no reports of any assaults of lesbians in this area for several months now).

As, the low-rider mentality is to "invade" the "gay areas" after night of drinking and dancing with their "women," and later, after 1 am, to go out with their usually alcohol-induced machismo, and "beat the fags." Typical low-rider macho-mentality. Super sexist and all induced by the Roman Catholic Church's long anti-gay attitude passed on down to the youth.

Feinstein's police usually are harassing gays for every imaginable reason in the early evening hours for such terrible crimes of "suspicion of soliciting for sex" but are booked on charges like "obstructing a doorway" of a closed store. Feinstein's police are few in number after 1:30 am when the "low-rider mentality" gang goes into action, and not just in the Polk either, but in the Castro and on Market. Some of you may remember Robert Hillsborough who was killed by the same type of thugs who also lived in about the same area as the accused.

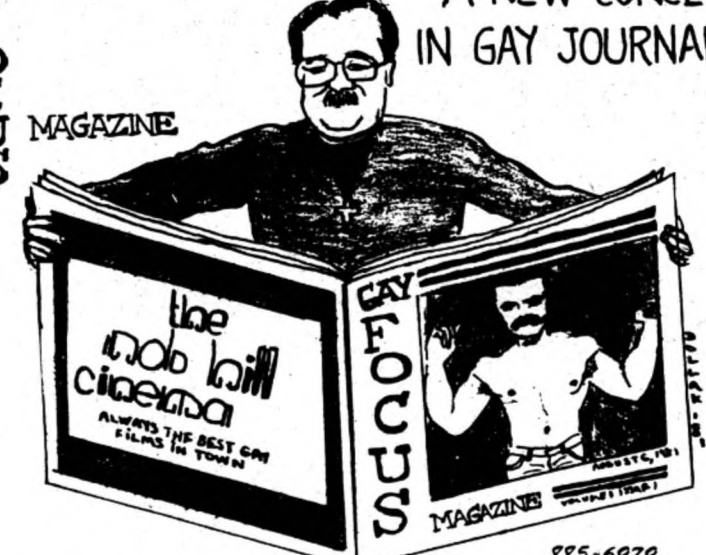
Feinstein's police have done little about violent crimes in the area, as well as a soaring rate of robberies and burglaries in the Central City. Obviously the plainclothes Vice Unit finds it safer and easier to bust safe-gays. 94 murders in San Francisco this year.

And then, what about the media-seeking self-styled vigilantes called the Guardian Angels, the residents of the Central City/Polk do not need or want them. The residents of the area demand justice, and an end to police harassment now.

reverend ray broshears

GAY

A NEW CONCEPT  
IN GAY JOURNALISM



885-6979

To Your Our Readers: This is our fourth issue of the Gay California Focus Magazine. And on behalf of the Orthodox Episcopal Church of God, Inc., my publisher, I wish to thank the lesbian, gay, and straight communities of northern California for their support, letters and calls of encouragement, and generally positive reception. We are trying to give you a publication that will help you to live better, by informing you of various things which other publications aimed at the lesbian/gay communities do not do. We have a long way to go. We have wonderful staffers, such as Carl Driver, our theatre reviewer; H.L. Perry our travel person; and Ed Dollak, our columnist on City Hall and City affairs, as well as his wonderful drawings. Each of us thank you, and want you to know we appreciate you. God bless each of you real good! OK?

reverend ray broshears  
managing editor.



## FOCUS 5



# FOCUS FABLES?

PAGE ONE OF THREE.....we are off and running once more. And we'll begin this one with a bit of bad news....at least for him and his fans. The hunk or The Blond, Jimmy Cash/Field, will not be returning to "society" for a time as it seems that the law arm of the blueprints stretched all the way north and grabbed him out of the Bay Area jail he was awaiting his hoped-for-release. But this Blond-hunk will most likely get a year or more. Those Lost Angeles queens will receive their "reward" for doing this to our Jimmy. Jim Gabbert of KTZO channel 20 should remember our Jimmy as well, as they did have a lovely time on the Gab's yacht in Sausalito-lands. Hope you get our sooner than you expect Jimmy. We'll be in touch more often via the males, excuse me, mails.

JIM OF THE ARENA IS NOW JIM of the Numbers in pissy Pacific Heights, thanks to a strong note of praise from his former boss and former lover Terry Thompson. We do hope Jim does well up north there in pissy heights. They aren't too used to seeing a real man that far north of Market.

RED EYE RIPPED OFF?.....yes tis true, the manager "Bill" seems to have "borrowed" about \$4,000 and then some and then flew off to lands unknown. Poor Boo and Roy just can't seem to get that old bar going right. They also lost starter David to a south of Market leather bistro (they serve pretzels). Oh well, they are sure to keep doing poorly as they have a south of Market "reject" working for them now. One bar's loss is definitely another bar's loss in this case!

QUEEN I BETTY-BULLET de Muscatele Meadows, (Chris of the Frisco) is a bit happy these days and knights. Seems he has found a lover....from Wino Park? dear? Heavens, you are festive! Oh yes your majesty, who is this "Miss Swamp Woman"? Is he a dilly silly dumm dumb? Or is it your new lover?

POOR LUCIOUS PAUL BENTLY, he went and opened a Video Palace south of Market street, but it seems that he was not too aware of the Feinstein Porno Law, and all who have such x-rated (partial or lots) will have to apply for a porn-permit.

HOT TIMES IN THE OLD MARLOWE?.....seems that room 51 at the Marlowe Hotel is a hot swinging room, so this writer calls up to check the story out and the very silly clerk admits all over the phone. How very un-smart. Also, they had x-rated videos playing in their TV room which is a no-no. This is not the south of Market kiddies. Oh yes, why don't you paint the outside of that tired place.....heavens know you can afford it with those outrageous rents.

KOREAN BOBS.....is what they are calling a Polk landmark, Bob's at the corner of Polk and Sacramento as Bob lost his lease and some very enterprising Koreans, none named Bob we're sure, bought this gold-mine corner up and have reopened using the landmark name and they have cleaned the place up and are sure to make lottsa yankee dollah! Lots of luck to you gang. Good food makes for good customers and lottsa cash.

TORICOS, 35 MASON STREET...is a new "landmark" as an old friend of everyone is back in biz once again in the food biz. He used to own the old Caboose on Turk Street...for those of us who can remember that far back...and now he has a walk in fast food "super burrito" place on Mason just across from the Corkyzed Peter Pan. They are open from noon til 10 pm and the burritos are simply delicious. Good luck to Easy. Easy is the name of the owner.

BOB BUSH QUILTS THE SF EAGLE.....contrary to rumors sexy Bob Bush of Folsom magazine did not get fired as assistant manager of the exciting SF Eagle but he simply quit. Seems that Bob seriously doesn't like the music very loud and the customers do, so he quit in a huff. El Dorado Bob also seems to have "quit" on his lanky lover of sometime, Rod. Let us hope they patch that up. Bob is young and energetic so he'll be around for some time yet.

FAREWELL TOMMY.....Farewell to a very fine human being, dear Tommy Thompson who used to work at the Brig, the Arena, the Plunge and the Plunge Inn. Tommy, only 35, passed over, just after walking out the front door of Griff's in Lost Angeles. It was reported that it was a massive kidney failure. Tommy, who hasn't had a drop in two years, was preparing to move back up here to the City. He truly was a fine person, warm, fun-loving and loyal to his friends who are legion. He will be missed, and we know that Jim Corbett and the SF Eagle will miss him truly.

TAMMY LYNN is busy and is looking good. Could it be that he is planning on things royal like come the first of January???

OTHER ROYAL THINKERS for January seem to have names like Connie, Bubbles, Remy, Mae, and others who just will not mention. And, for those of you who are interested, and it appears that very few are, the two "candidates" for emperor?? are having their things this weekend. Only one seems to make sense, Jerry Pruitt..... Jerry Pruitt, an emperor???? Just shows what an education can do for ya. May the best man win.....we can dream!!!!



Above is a man covering his eyes with a knife, and two others trying not to be embarrassed by his behaviour. This was in a "back room" at 12th & Folsom Street.

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GARY MENDER HAS SOLD OUT.....his "publication" which has the former member of the San Francisco Bay Area Critics Circle, Douglas Dean Goodman as a writer, as well as John Karr, the porno reviewer of a gay publication and a sprinkling of ads, most of which are Menger's clients, as he books in groups, mostly the same old faces and voices. sold out costs \$10 for 12 issues and you can obtain them at Fanny's, Trinity Place, Sutro Baths, and possibly the New Bell Saloon. Well laid out, small, done on an offset press, it could become sold out truly with time.

CELEBRITY EDDIE VAN was by the place the other day and even this writer was stunned. Eddie has a smart looking bit of hair above the lip, giving him a sexual look, and he has gotten such a small waist that it is unreal. And such a tan you wouldn't believe, and of course the usual do-dads hanging from his neck, and looking most debonair in his all black silk outfit. Eddie Van, a legend in his own time just celebrated his forty-first birthday and looks 33. He said that his Celebrity Showcase magazine will be out soon and that we shall all be surprised. Yes Eddie, if it comes out that will be the surprise!

DOES THE CMC REALLY think they can have another Carnival after all the trouble they caused certain people and lies that were told by those who attended their mess last year? They should rethink the entire situation! STAGE DOOR THEATRE is going back to being a regular movie house, which is nice. The Stage Door on Mason just off Geary, went into an art film house some years back playing all sorts of blah suffering junk. Then it became some kind of an "experience" which wasn't all that great. Now, it has been sold and to the people who own the Regency I & II, so it will be called the Regency III and will be reopening soon with first class first run films. About time too!

MARKET STREET CINEMA goes punk tonight. September 17th is the date of the debut of "punk" at the Market Street Cinema and the area residents and Merchants are howling. And the character that owns it and has ruined this once beautiful movie palace, wants a dance permit which he is sure not to get, as he is being opposed by the CCNA (Central City Neighbors). Can't you just see Market Street all sprayed painted up? Yuks!

LANDMARK CLOSED.....but it is hopeful of reopening, as Harry Ho refused to listen to repeated ABC warnings about his license being one for a dinner house and continued on without serving food, so they came in and locked him down. He has now reapplied for a regular permit and will surely be denied as he will be opposed by numerous who are tired of the violence and drugs in and out of the Landmark. Understand that the ABC is "moving in" on some other places for doing business under a dinner house liquor permit yet no longer serve food.

MADAM LESLIE has quit as manager of the Cookery.....the work was too hard on a person his age. Besides it was interfering with his night life too. Now, for more on this and other fast breaking news, read Fables on 11 and 14.



398 12th St. 626-0880

2 to 2 Daily

# FOCUS on NUTRITION

DE GUSTIBUS NON EST DISPUTANDUM—there is no dispute concerning tastes. This is something which many of the food-crusaders and self-appointed popular nutrition experts fail to take into consideration when they warn you about the dangers of eating this or skipping that. If you like the taste of salami, go ahead and eat salami, even tho they tell you about all the junk and "bad things" that go into making it. Life is too short to worry about these things, Eating should be a pleasure and not a chore.

The basis of good nutrition is very simply a varied diet. Any repetitious or highly restricted diet may be nutritionally deficient after a variable period of time.

Canned or frozen foods are excellent, particularly when fresh foods are out of season.

Convenience foods are usually more convient but they are substantially more expensive than unprocessed foods.

Some foods are nutritionally better when eaten raw, but many other foods are better for you when cooked. Most foods retain their nutritional value when cooked or prepared properly, but overcooking will destroy much nutritional value and often the taste as well.

Some people don't like to eat meat for a variety of reasons, including their abhorrence of killing other animals. We acknowledge this as a legitimate reason for being vegetarian. Without meat, variety becomes even more important to assure that some of the vitamins and minerals normally found primarily in meat are consumed in adequate amounts. Some vegetarians do eat milk and eggs and for them the problem is less severe.

Man is an omnivore: he heats meat and vegetable naturally and with equal facility. There is nothing unnatural or dangerous about eating meat. Eating meat has never been shown to cause any illness, does not predispose to somnolence or sloth, cannot conceivably be the cause "of all man's ailments," does not make man make war and does not make people violent.... (some of the most vicious, primitive tribes are vegetarians). Meat is, however, very expensive and inefficient source of protein and will certainly become increasingly unavailable as the world's population increases.

Children and women (pregnant) need milk. No one else needs it but it is good food for anyone. If you drink milk, the non-fat or skim milk is as good as whole milk and it is lower in calories, lower in unnecessary animal fats, and less expensive.

Sugar and carbohydrates do not cause diabetes. Most people would do well to eat less sugar in the form of candy, cake and pastries, eat more green vegetables, eat fewer eggs, eat less "red meat" and more white meat (poultry, fish), eat less animal fat and more vegetable oils, eat less salt, and eat fewer calories. Note that we stress the terms *less* and *more* and not *none* or *only*. Eat what you like but try to avoid excesses.

Although not established with certainty, saturated fats (animal fats) probably tend to predispose to early atherosclerosis and heart disease. It seems logical to try to minimize animal fats (hard or saturated fats) and replace them with vegetable or fish oils.

Sugar makes things taste better, and it probably can't harm you, but it has little to offer nutritionally except calories. If you must have sugar, brown or unprocessed (raw) sugar may at least contain some minerals trace and has a slightly different taste, and may have slightly better nutritional value than the refined white sugar. Its price which is usually much higher than white sugar, would appear to vitiate this trivial benefit.

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# FOCUS Views

Dianne Feinstein-Blum, Mayor of San Francisco!

Ms. Feinstein was not elected to her post by a mandate by any stretch of the imagination. Yet, in the manner she has ran City Hall, you would have thought she had the mandate of the gods. During her elected tenure she has shown herself to be a very vicious political shark, to say the least, for those that have crossed her, have attested to the pettiness shown to them by Dianne. Ms. Feinstein has shown absolutely no sympathy for the poor of San Francisco. She continually endorses cuts in the SF General Hospital, as well as cuts in social services and housing services. Ms. Feinstein lives and eats extremely well in her high fenced mansion on Lyon Street. This is perhaps why she is so cold and indifferent to the needs of the poor. Her apathy and patronizing pity for the muder of a gay visitor to our City this week stinks to the high heavens. Words, cheap meaningless words are all that anyone can expect from a person of her cold devious personality. Compassion, understanding, mercy, are three words that this woman who was born with both a gold and a silver spoon in her mouth, simply cannot seem to comprehend except in the way of Marie Antoinette, "Let them eat cake!" Only in the case of our City, "Let them eat one another!" A political shame on San Francisco for her election!



We do not believe that special rejuvenative or spiritual values ascribed to various food preparations or diets can be established.

Birdseed and honey diets rise and fall from time to time, and it is easy to find some crackpot touting the unique value of pomegranate seeds or an all brown-rice and water diet. Ignore them or we shall all be eating alfalfa sprouts and little else.

While it offends us from a purely esthetic and emotional viewpoint to note that you can purchase cream without cream and beef stroganoff without meat, there is probably nothing intrinsically bad or harmful in such synthetic foods, and we may find as the population grows, we will be increasingly obliged to turn to synthetic foods and seaweed to feed all the people.

A great deal is known about nutrition but much more is unknown, confused and incorrect. As consumers of food, we should insist on the most careful supervision of food growing and processing to keep the poisons to an absolute minimum; we should be careful to separate the real problems that warrant attention and concern from the unsupported claims and mouthings of food cranks.

written by ARTHUR FRANK, M.D. and STUART FRANK, M.D.

The above excerpt is from "The People's Handbook of Medical Care." Written by two Medical Doctors, this Vintage Books (division of Random House) selection tells you what you need to know about selecting doctors - choosing hospitals - medical costs - recognizing disease - head injuries - eye injuries - shock - burns - heart attacks and nutrition. This book is an absolute must for every home, apartment, hotel room in our society today. The money grubbers of the medical profession we don't think would want you to have it, which is all the more reason to have it. The cost is but \$2.95.

# FOCUS on The Last Straight Bar in The Castro

The last of the "straight" bars in the Castro has "bit the dust." The Eureka Valley bar, on the corner of 18th and Collingwood, just across from the Pendulum, has turned very Gay.

The new owners are Goerge and Shirley. This reporter had never met Goerge before, but Shirley and Mel were formerly the owners of the old Score II on Mason in the old Tenderloin, which is now a pawn shop.

Their "grand gay opening" was on Friday September 11th and the place was jammed. Among the merrymakers were Hans of the Cinch and several other bars; Goerge and the Mouse; Pendulum; LeRoy (formerly of the Blue and Gold); Ron, Dee Dee Love and Sweet William; Don Westlake, Atlas Savings....who were all mixing (and I might add very well!), with some of the former straight patrons of the bar and for the most part it was an older crowd and all were enjoying themselves and one another. I'm sure they never had so much fun in the old joynt before. The bar has been redone and has large windows on both sides of the corner. I found out that all the bartenders worked 12 hours a day just to get the place open. Al formerly of Santanna is playing the piano there. Jerry, Joseph, Dennis, Ralph, Ron, Peter and Bev(Bubbles) are the bartenders. Luck kids!





TOM LOVETT SOUZA, and ELLIE DAVIS, "Lido de-Paris" dancer, enjoy each other's company while dining at the CAESARS PALACE BACCANAL ROOM, during a recent visit by Tom Lovett Souza to Las Vegas. Tom says that the "Lido de-Paris Show" is a must, if you make a visit to Las Vegas...which Tom does often.



## Focus Theatre Carl's Follow Spot



It takes courage, almost to the level of foolhardiness, to produce an original show in a theatre in San Francisco using local talent. San Franciscans like to pride themselves on their sophistication as well as what a great theatre town this is yet the way they rush to buy tickets to admittedly weak plays that offer, not world renowned stage actors, but aged movie stars (not merely our currently sold out "Boys" either, but within the past few years Katherine Hepburn, Claudette Colbert, and Deborah Kerr) while ignoring "nameless" local productions rather makes this a hollow boast. Celebrity tennis or golf tournaments can be a lot of fun, but are hardly taken seriously by knowledgeable fans of either sport.

All of which is particularly apropos right now because there are currently two locally produced original musical revues that each offer some fine entertainment. Their combined ticket prices are appreciably less than a single to see our current Hollywood visitors and yet I'll bet that their total audience for

any two nights in the next couple of weeks won't equal that of a single on which has paid heavily to see movie stars "live on stage."

Which is extremely sad for, as has been pointed out before in this column, unless we support local commercial theatre, we are just not going to have any.

This is not to say that either *The Finest Hour* at the Alcazar (call 775-7100 for information) or *It's My Party*, at the Venetian Bakery, (call 956-9531 for details) is a blockbuster ready to take Broadway by storm. Neither is.....both have weaknesses..... (which unfortunately, always seem easier to point out than strengths and, even more unfortunately, tend to remain in readers minds more clearly) that are inherent in the show but each also offers a great deal that is excellent.

*The Finest Hour*, conceived, written and superbly directed by Jack Essex, is a broad look at the music of the Forties, interspersed with historical capsules symptomatic of the times. Having been a teen-ager during most of that decade, I was extremely impressed at how accurately the show captures the feelings of those years:..... thousands were being killed on battlefields all over the world, millions separated from home and those they loved, but, my God, they were exciting days.....there was a perhaps naive, optimism about the future.....a sense of purpose, and, which seems to be so sadly lost today.....enormous pride in being an American. Rarely have I seen any production so accurately reflect all of this.

Much of the show is done through illusions (rather than Charles Pierce-type recreations) of that era's stars and in almost every case, they work extremely well.....we recognize Sinatra, Kate Smith, Lauren Bacall, immediately. However, the highpoints are in the great theatricality that suddenly hits us like a punch in the gut.....an allied soldier crucified, not on a cross, but on a swastika; a soldier shot and uniform suddenly bathed in "blood".....the deep pathos of Neville Chamberlain's announcement that "war had commenced," that there would not be "Peace in our time."

In a generally highly talented cast, Anthony Abbriano and Bob Smith stand out, brilliantly performing Marcia Harp's excellent choreography. Michael Lane's costumes are truly fine and the props are superb while too often Fred Kopp's lighting is on the dim side.

True, some numbers don't quite work and there's rather too noticeable a contrast in the ability of the dancers at times but the bottom line of great enjoyment.

★ ★ ★

*It's My Party*.....is a dance revue by the Rhythm Methods that also is tied into decades of music: Act I current, Act II the Sixties and Act III the Fifties. Unfortunately the latter two don't live up to the sparkle of the first act but excellent ensemble dancing, superb costumes, some hilarious camp, and a highly talented, vivacious and energetic cast (although I wish they wouldn't deadpan quite so much) combine to make it a fun production.

★ ★ ½

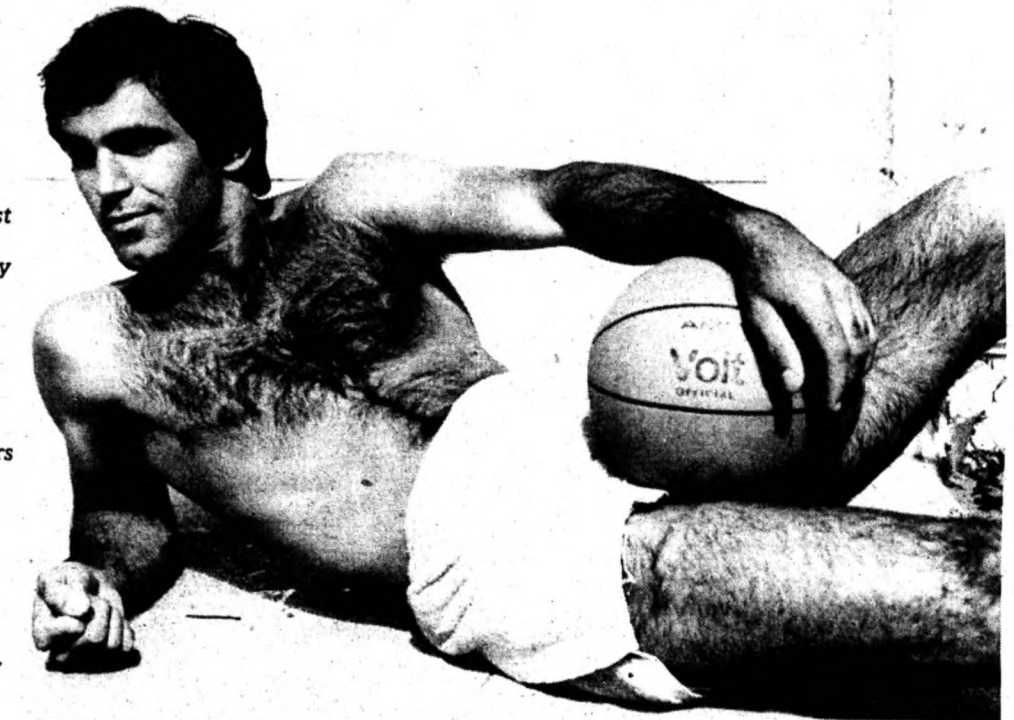
NOTE TO PUBLICISTS: From the above two shows and all coming up. Reviewers and critics, in particular, but the audience also will greatly appreciate your listing the performers in each number. Wandering in a morass of twelve names trying to figure out which cast member sang or danced a particular number does neither justice to that performer or enhance the reviewer's love for the show. FURTHERMORE, no picture without a cutline identifying the subjects will be considered for publication in the future. If you're not interested enough to take the time to tell us who they are, you can be sure we won't be interested enough to run it. Witness...no pics for either of the above shows. PLEASE REMEMBER!

Mark Blitzstein's *The Cradle Will Rock*, which made theatrical history with its famous abortive opening (originally WPA sponsored, the Government tried to close it at the last moment, fearing it was too "revolutionary") is being given an excellent production by the Theatre Guild of San Francisco. Held over at the Victoria Theatre, call 863-7576 for details.

The most astonishing aspect of this rarely performed musical is how tame such once controversial material seems today. Not that it is dated, it isn't: Its inherent truths are as valid today as they were 44 years ago, only now the idea of satirizing the rich, the clergy, the police and the press, is hardly earth shattering nowadays.

Director Jim Dickson has done a superb job in getting excellent performances from his large cast with Perry Liu, Mary Shawhan Bennett and Robert Cossitt particularly outstanding. Superlative production values help put this in the "Don't Miss" category.

★ ★ ★ ½



PETER SPEECH (above) is featured in the Bedini Theatre Project's production of Mark Medoff's "THE WAGER" opening September 18th at 401 Alabama Street (Studio Eremos/Project Artaud) at 17th Street. Call 221-0070 for information. Directed by Lawrence Bedini. photo by.... Bill Hendrickson

John Molloy, (held over at the Intersection, 982-2356 for info) is billed as an Irish comic storyteller. It is refreshing indeed, in these days of hype, to find something so exactly what it purports to be. Charming, witty, tender at times, deep into black humor at others, he captivates with a mixture of blarney and plain old fashioned story telling that is truly fascinating. In these times of gimmicky productions it is heartwarming to watch a man alone on an almost bare stage use nothing but his talent to hold an audience enthralled.

★ ★ ★

*Cymbeline*, Shakespeare's almost never done and entirely too convoluted semi-historical play is being given a strong production by the Berkeley Shakespeare Festival. The first act (as here presented) is so impossibly involved that one tends to become confused and finally disinterested but the second is crisp, moves well and even manages to tie up all the various threads.

Why director Patrick Tucker chose to cast the hero and the villain as the same actor is an enigma: It simply adds more confusion. But fine second act performances by Rebecca Engle as a much put upon royal daughter and especially Michael Sicilia and David Parr as wild Welsh mountain boys bring charm and excitement to the production, aided immensely by Warren Travis' excellent set and costumes and a thunderingly theatrical "deus ex machina" ending.

★ ★ ½

'Saw the preview of Mouse Productions' *Max & Tommy* (626-1755 for info) which is subtitled on the program as "two plays in the form of a tragicomedy happening on stage at once." This split stage idea with separate overlapping plays can be almost theatrical but unfortunately isn't here. The parody (of a TV talk show host and his various guest) is witty, charming and often uproarious with both the characterizations and satire "right on." Conversely the tragic element, which has only the barest of relations or parallels to the comedy, is monotonously repetitive, has two-dimensional characters and an inconclusive story line.....young German Jewish poet of great promise in the 30s lost his wife in a concentration camp, escaped Germany with his nearly morose daughter, and, never having lived up to his early promise, is now legally insanely paranoid.....period. However acting of solidly professional standards throughout the cast, especially Jerry Hauck as the TV host, a performance of award winning caliber, adds immensely to the production.

★ ★ ½

The Bedini Theatre is offering the classic comedy *You Can't Take It With You* with a new twist: the highly eccentric Vanderhof family are black. Interesting but it creates too many unanswered problems to work well. The borderline farce tends to get out of hand in the first act, becoming more ludicrous than funny, but the production picks up noticeably in the second, especially due to a fine performance by Kennette Reed as the one "sane" family member. William Lawrie is excellent, nicely underplaying the patriarchal grandfather in welcome contrast to most of the cast's overacting. William Zahiroff's excellent set is a decided plus.

★ ½

.....CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.....pleasure turn!



# Focus Theatre

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.....

The Magic Theatre (441-8822 for info) is currently offering *Victims of A War*, a surrealistic pseudo mystery that is just another droplet in the flood of plays about disturbed minds. Ostensibly about finding the murderer of a young boy, in actuality it is little more than the posings and posturings of his demented ex-lover, given a super-ficially flashy portrayal by Grzegorz Wagrowski. In appropriate costumes that look like rejects from the Purple Heart or Goodwill, a set that literally works against the actors and tediously slow paced direction by Robert Woodruff make this an easy one to forget.

## FOCUS Reflects

**PAUL ROBESON (1898-1976)**.....  
In a cold night rain we arrive at the Harlem funeral, converging with several thousand people to mourn the death of and celebrate the life of "The Tallest Tree" Mr. Paul Robeson. Black and white, of every age, we fill the Mother AME Zion Church, smiling solidarity to one another as the crowd closer together, a cross-section of lives touched by that great man. Hymns and prayers are followed by tributes; Lloyd Brown begins: "The tallest tree in our forest has fallen....."

The tree had roots strong and deep; Paul Robeson was born the son of a former slave. Bursting with extraordinary talent, energy and creativity, overflowing with humanity and love, Paul broke down racist barriers to win the highest academic and athletic honors at Rutgers, earn a law degree, and take the theatre by storm.

Paul Robeson sang in a full bass-baritone the spirituals and folksongs of his heritage. And he did more with his beautiful voice than sing: he agitated and taught, he fired the desire for freedom in working and oppressed peoples.

"The artist must elect to fight for freedom or slavery," he said. "I have made my choice. I had no alternative."

Paul Robeson drew from experiences from the common people and sang for the freedom fighters. He was in Spain performing for antifascist fighters during the Civil War there, he was in Russia, he was in China. And, he was also in the theaters and union halls of America, organizing solidarity with African liberation struggles fighting racism and national oppression, standing up to a lynch mob at Peekskill, New York. Paul Robeson loved the people of the world; he spoke over two dozen languages. And Paul was loved by people in every land. He was a true internationalist, a militant, a communist.

The mighty forces of U.S. racism hounded Paul, and he refused to move an inch. He was stripped of his passport, blacklisted as a performer, summoned before the House UnAmerican Activities Committee (HUAC). "Why don't you stay in Russia?" asked a U.S. Congressman. Paul Robeson's retort rang out:

"Because my father was a slave, and my people died to build this country, and I am going to stay right here and have a part of it just like you. And no fascist minded people will drive me from it. Is that clear?"

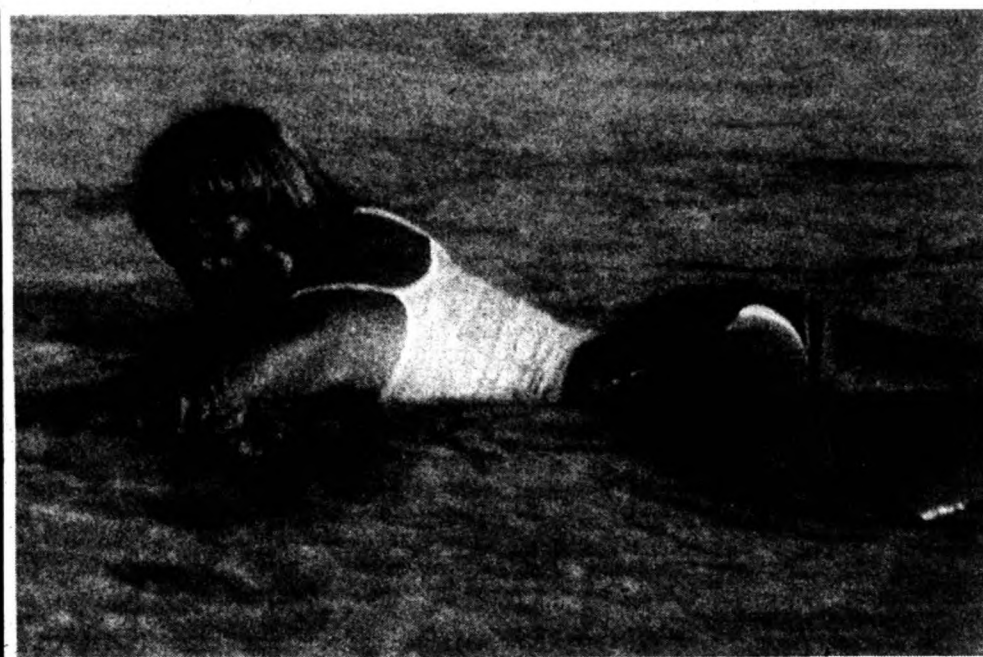
Illness forced his retirement years ago, but his political stance never wavered. "I am still the same Paul," he said in 1973, saluting the liberation struggles of his people and all those embattled against imperialism.

Now we recall with love and sorrow the father, friend, freedom fighter, artist, and brother, as we file out of the church into the night, I feel very proud having known Paul.

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Paul Robeson



"SEA NYMPH" is a play which Tom Lovett Souza (above) wishes to be featured in. Tom, a well known fashion model, has had acting experience and hopes to make his stage debut in the near future. But in the meantime, he's back in the same old grind, modeling clothing, going to Tahoe, Vegas and Reno, not to mention Rio



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# FOCUS FABLES?

**NOTE TO THE "GRAY FOX"**.....dear Col. David Monroe, you are requested to get some of those hot "Steel" schnapps t-shirts down to Faye Roy at the Castle Grand Brasserie right away or you just may get read!!! And for those of you who don't know the whats and wherefores behind the hard hats and t-shirts from Steel schnapps which is being distributed by Rathjen and is the hottest selling item in the Castro and south of Market bars right now. Good stuff!!

**REV' DEE DEE AND HER FLOCK**.....this is something that you have to see to believe. Delicious Dee Dee Love of the Ram's Head..... has "services" each afternoon for "her flock" which consists of the Rims Sisters.....the Ram Brothers.....and the Slush Brother. We'll have exclusive pictures of this unusual congregation in the next issue. Mother Inferior Leslie de Lobby tells all too!!

**"WHO NEEDS IT?"** were the words of the founding president of the Barbary Coast Demo Club when he quit the Club before last Saturday's meeting. Hmmm! Seems that he and the Veep don't get along....particularly since the Veep had a motion passed to oppose the building of the ramps in front of City Hall for the handicapped, something which the reverend ray wanted. Hear tell he has already began work on a new Demo Club.....that's one way to do it....if you don't get your way.....quit and start another one! Hmmm! That's one way to register new voters!!

**SPEAKING OF VOTER REGISTRATION**.....October 1st is the last day to register if you intend to vote on any of the ballot propositions which could very well affect your future life here in S.F. There is no real election outside of the Ballot Propositions.....as Mary Callahan is running unopposed.... and George Agnost has no credible opposition of note.

**LITTLEST ANGEL ON HAIGHT STREET**.....oh yes indeed. Harry "Tony" Lesure and his Ricepaddy are living on Haight Street.....you all remember them from SIR (Society for Individual Rights).....seems they left town and alot of money from SIR left at the same time they were running the office there. Hammm!

**BILLY PETTIT**.....everything can be ok.....call us at Focus.

**PAUL "LUKE"** one of the bartenders at the Devil's Herd (soon to reppen) is working at the Pleasure Palace and City Books these daze and knights. Goodie!

**PHONE BOOTH BOB**.....call me!

**ROBERT DUNN** is not in Houston as was alleged....if the D.A.'s office or anyone else is looking for him, he is in Lost Angeles now. Details later on!!!!

**CASTRO GAYS INVADE POLK?** Oh well! On Monday nite after the Sunday A.M. murder of a gayman on Polk by Mission district Low Riders....Castro queens came to Polk to protest....hmm, why didn't they go to Mission?

**HEAD QUARTERS** no longer sells Coors Beer .thank you to Skip and his fine crew of SF's gay community's only all night bar, and happy days and nights palace...683 Clementina.

**ALLAN LLOYD & DIXON** for brunch every Sunday at a Market Street bistro. No name!!!!!! Must be a delight too! Is the food good?

**JOHN HYER** once one of the best chefs in the gay community, is now working for a former chief of police of a central American nation which we will not mention here. Shame shame!!!!!! On the chief....not John who is a good ole boy and chef too.

**NATHAN & PAUL** of Alfies are not, and we repeat, are not going to get married. Who ever started that silly rumor. Nathan belongs to me!!!!!!

**ALFIE'S** by the way had more muscle builders per square inch the other evening you just wouldn't believe.....oh that meat for daze and knights...lu-s-t!!!!

**MOON OVER PINE** Street and that's a fact. CC just had to have himself a "moon" and now he has it

**THE CAVE?** is it being sold to Hank Chee-ke? We dunno but the rumors have been flinging and flying!

**RERI GRIST** and the cast of the San Francisco Opera had their Opening Night late dinner at the Castle Grand Brasserie last Saturday and loved the food. Nanon is a superb production.

**GDI's** paid Stella Stoll (David) a wild visit at the SF Eagle on Tuesday and the place was really packed that night!!!!

**ACAPELLA GOLD** which performs at the Savoy Tivoli in North Beach....performed at a private party at the Castle Grand Brasserie last Monday for Mrs. Don Thayer. It was a delight!

**DENNIS** a very hot n-u-m-b-e-r is back at the SF Eagle. He's no bumber, but a real hunky hot number!!!!!! Right JC darlink????? Who's Chuck????

**DOUG SHOOK**, the award winning chef of the Castle Grand Brasserie, has been asked by Shown & Sons Vineyard, to create a dish to go with their wine entry at QKED's Nourville Wine Tasting in the rotunda of City Hall (a charity affair). The contestis on how well the wine goes with the dish. This is quite an honor and is for about 1,000 peoples!!!! Good luck Dougie!!!

**BILL "DUKE" MURRAY** is still in old China. We do expect him back any day(or night) now. Perry has been like a lost puppy dog with Billy away. Me too!

**FRANK FITCH** blew it again....he never ever had a "yes" from Supervisor Wendy Nelder as to her being at the Eureke Valley meeting. Typical Fitch tactic...bluff and more bluster!!!! And "he" wants to be a "supervisor?"

**SUPE WENDY NELDER** was a big hit at my former club the Barbary Coast, last Sat at the Mark Twain Hotel...there were 24 people there and Vice-Prez Elmer Wilhelm kept calling Wendy...."Nancy" (yucks!)...which she was not too pleased over....for real!

**CENTRAL CITY DEMO CLUB**...that's the club that I'm with now. You will be hearing about it very soon. Get ready kids!!!!!! ...more of this on page 14???????Zap!!!



A day at the RENAISSANCE PLEASURE FAIRE on Labor Day 1981 was an enjoyable event. The annual event has charmed and entertained thousands and more thousands, and now is in danger of being ended due to lack of funding. The SF Hotel Tax Fund folks decided not to give them \$15,000 which could end this most beautiful event for all time. The people above obviously enjoyed themselves at this glorious event in Navato.

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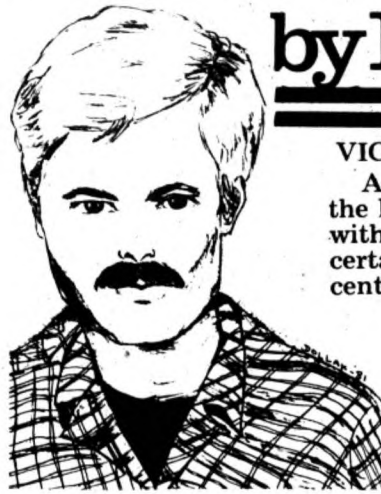
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# FOCUS MEMO

by ED DOLLAKE



## VICTORY IN CENTRAL CITY/TENDERLOIN!

A court settlement was awarded to tenants of the Hotel Dalt on Turk Street, after a long fight, with the owners of that "infamous" hotel. This certainly sets a precedent and thus provides an incentive for people to "fight back" for their rights and for justice.....Congratulations to the Hotel Dalt tenants!

The boycott against residential hotels which have "converted" to tourist, continues.....A minor incident occurred during the boycott of the Hotel Argyle on McAllister Street last September 2nd. The manager of the hotel called the police commander and for justice.....More boycotts of hotels are forthcoming!

Effects of the vicious cutbacks by President "Bonzo" Reagan in the Social Security and other welfare programs will most likely be felt strongly after October 1st. The "Bonzo" Reagan administration has to be one of the most insensitive, inhuman, and almost "fascistic" administrations we have had to deal with. "Bonzo" Reagan has underestimated the people of this nation. I can safely predict that a "people's uprising" will sweep this nation which will bring about a drastic change in government policies. One positive side to the "Bonzo" Reagan administration is that it has brought more and more people together than ever before to reject Reagan's type of dictatorial rule.....Power to the people, indeed!.....

It has come to my attention that my former place of residence, the Glenburn Hotel (later renamed the Abigail) on McAllister Street, is for sale at a price of one million bucks. When the present owner bought this hotel back in May '79, he proceeded with mass eviction of its tenants (some of them elderly; two of them died during the eviction hassle), so he could turn the hotel exclusively for tourists. But the tenants are fighting this eviction and are confident that they will emerge victorious.....What the outcome of this legal matter will be, only time will tell.....It should be noted that the owner of this hotel was found guilty of illegal rent increases and other unfair landlord practices in other properties he owns here in the city. It is all documented at the Rent Arbitration Board.....

The day to rally for Solidarity (September 19) is fast approaching.....Thousands and thousands of people are expected to demonstrate here in San Francisco and hundreds and hundreds of thousands more in Washington DC and nationwide as well will participate in this "unification of the masses." Perhaps "Bonzo" Reagan will get the message and realize that there are millions of citizens who oppose his vicious policies. I look forward to "Solidarity Day" and I urge all of my gay and non-gay brothers and sisters to take part in this meaningful event. Our destinies are at stake!.....God help us if "Bonzo" Reagan decides to "drop the bomb.".....Remember September 19th.....Solidarity Day at the Embarcadero Center by the Vaillancourt Fountain at 12 Noon.....Be there!

Police sweeps along Polk Street continue.....A real waste of taxpayer money.....And definitely a case of police-misplaced priorities!!!!.....The more reason why we need a citizen's review board.....right, Harry Britt?

A co-op restaurant for the elderly, the disabled, and low-income residents in the Central City/Tenderloin? .....Yes!!!! A co-op restaurant

# Focus Religion

THE MORAL MAJORITY'S THREATS ARE NOW BECOMING REALITIES.....

Congressman Larry McDonald was able to gain full passage of his amendment halting federal funds to any legal assistance program for lesbians and gays. Now, lesbians and gays in the District of Columbia who fought so hard to have local laws ended which made it illegal to be a homosexual, now face the prospect of having Congress repeal them as they can do. And Congressman McDonald who is trying to have the House UnAmerican Activities Committee brought back, is preparing an amendment which he will have introduced from the floor on an education funding measure which would withhold federal monies from any school district (states) which allow homosexuals to be school teachers. His chances of gaining passage for this measure are excellent. The Moral Majority is winning the war against us. Pathetic groups like Cornerstone in our City are like using spoons to dip out the ocean. We need strength. And we can best find our help in this matter from church groups (not a gay one either) who can give us the clout to save our lives (our souls is between us and God, thank you!). And never laugh about this, our very lives are in physical danger, for as each law which hits at us is passed in Congress, the savage punks then see this as a "green light" to beat, rob and even kill us. Already in 1981, four juries in America have released killers of gays all because the person they killed was "gay" and had allegedly "solicited them." This is a legitimate reason for killing another person? The Moral Majority is winning... and for any common sense lesbian or gay person to hide their head in the ferns and say it isn't so that we are just creating static.....they had best wake up or else they may never be able to wake up someday. We need clout, and our best allies in the past have been the church, is it not time to make friends anew with the Methodists, the American Baptist Convention, the Lutherans, Quakers the others who in the past have stood with us? Yes, it is time past due. Only churches can save us from the Moral Majority-type religious fanatics. ....reverend ray broshears



where residents can have nutritional meals at prices they can afford? Yes! A clean, and nice co-op restaurant with a friendly atmosphere for the residents of the Tenderloin? Yes!!! A non-profit co-op restaurant owned and managed by residents of the area? Yes!!!!.....This very needed and long awaited for co-op restaurant will tentatively open by next November at 501 Ellis Street (corner of Leavenworth, formerly Ming's Cafe).....the coordinator of this project is Bob Moore.....If you would like more information, he may be reached at 441-3531. Bob is seeking volunteers and paid help as well to assist in getting this project off the ground.....So please do give him a call.

Ms. Sheila, owner of the Roarunner bar on O'Farrell Street was denied a dance permit for 177 Eddy Street, the old Carnival Club.....she stated that she will appeal.....We'll keep you informed and we will want you to turn out at the Board of Permit Appeals to halt yet another dance hall in the Central City/Tenderloin.

Tenants Against Conversion (TAC), a housing organization for Tenderloin residents is planning a fund-raising event for some unscheduled date in October. The premiere of the movie "Street Music" (filmed almost entirely in the Tenderloin) will take place at the Fox Warfield on Market Street. Proceeds from this fund-raiser will go to TAC, which is presently having financial difficulties, call either Julian or Michael at 474-2164. Please note that TAC is a non-profit community organization run by Tenderloin residents, with legal counsel, and help the tenants in housing problems such as evictions, illegal rent increases, residential hotel conversions, unfair landlord practices, etc. If you are interested in assisting with this fund-raiser, please call the number above. It will be appreciated.

And, that is about it for this column this time.....until next time in Gay California Focus Magazine's "Focus Memo".....Peace and love. Be seeing ya!

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