

OUR PAPER
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Pickers protest Gov. Deukmejian's cuts.

Photo by Ted Sahl

S.F. Gays/Lesbians rally to protest AIDS budget cuts

By Ted Sahl

On the eve of the Congressional Subcommittee hearings chaired by Rep. Barbara Boxer and Rep. Ted Weiss earlier this month, San Francisco Gays and Lesbians called for a rally to protest state budget cuts in funding for AIDS research and services.

San Francisco Gay activists were outraged by the latest act of California Governor George Deukmejian in slashing \$11 million dollars from the proposed California budget for 1986.

The amount was designated for funding the fight against AIDS, a disease which has claimed the lives of eleven thousand people nationwide.

Paul Boneberg of Mobilization Against AIDS told two hundred people who gathered in Harvey Milk Square in San Francisco that the Governor cut 70% of research funding, and 30% of the human health services which were written into the budget.

Anger, frustration, and disbelief were common reactions to these figures. The speakers also were very animated in their reactions.

One speaker said, "In the eyes of our elected officials, people with AIDS are expendable, they might as well die — why waste the taxpayers money?"

A sister of an AIDS victim told the crowd, "I am not going to let that little s—t in Sacramento forget about us. There are people working hard for you. I am with you. I love you. You are in my thoughts every day. I know my brother who died two short months after becoming ill would be proud of you."

Attorney John Wald said, "We know how administration officials feel about us in Washington, they stand for leaving Gay men and Lesbian women and bisexuals here to die.

"We are here to say we are not going to let them leave us here to die. They are going to hear from us today, tomorrow, next week, the rest of the year, next year, the rest of the decade, the rest of the century, and as long as there is a California, as long as there is an America [shaking his fist over his head], as long as there is an America, they are going to hear from us.

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Initial success of new AIDS drug revealed at gay church conference

By Steve Warren

"I know I'm healthy. I can feel it in my body," said Rev. A. Steven Pieters in announcing the remission of his AIDS-related cancers during the 12th General Conference of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (MCC).

Pieters is one of 12 who have been on an experimental protocol involving the drug Suramin, which has been used for 40 years to treat African sleeping sickness.

The biennial international conference, held in Sacramento the first week in July, featured a day-long "Focus on AIDS" in the midst of an intense week of business that included the adoption of a revised internal structure to accommodate the continued growth of the denomination.

The theme of the conference was "Free to Be," from Galatians 5:1, "Stand fast therefore in the liberty where with Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage."

A recurring theme at the AIDS presentation was that the gay community is laying the groundwork in AIDS research, treat-

ment and support, and will become an increasingly important resource as the disease spreads further among heterosexuals.

MCC has different roles to play in different communities, according to its founder moderator, Rev. Troy D. Perry: "We have churches where there aren't even Gay bars . . . We're the only game in town." In such areas the church must be active in education and support.

In larger cities MCC can work in concert with other local organizations, helping to fill service gaps and providing pastoral care and hope. "You can live about 40 days without food," Perry said. "You can live about three days without water and three minutes without air, but you can't live for one second without hope."

Perry's response to the "wrath of God" theory of AIDS from the "religious right" is simple and unequivocal: "We don't believe in a theology of the common cold in our denomination. God does not give us disease . . . AIDS is no more God's gift to homosexuals than sickle cell

anemia is to black people or toxic shock syndrome is to women or legionnaire's disease is to American Legion members for being too patriotic."

Obviously concerned about the political impact of AIDS and talk of quarantine, he vowed, "If they can shut down any Gay businesses they can shut down our churches . . . We're going to fight that to the death."

Rev. Pieters, who is attached to MCC in the Valley in North Hollywood, was diagnosed with AIDS in April 1984. He had both Kaposi's Sarcoma and Lymphoma. After six weeks on the Suramin chemotherapy protocol, he said, all traces of both cancers are gone as is the HTLV-III virus from his blood.

In the face of a "life-threatening illness . . . I can experience hope and joy and peace," he beamed, "because God is greater than AIDS."

Attributing his apparent cure at least in part to the power of prayer — "God did not give me this disease. God is with me against this disease." Pieters admitted that the cancers could

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Congress holds AIDS hearing

By Ted Sahl

Congressman Ted Weiss (D-New York) and Congresswoman Barbara Boxer (D-Marin) presided over a four-hour hearing on acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) in San Francisco on July 3.

Hearing room 2007 of the Federal Building was filled to capacity as approximately seventy-five activists and witnesses gave testimony.

Rep. Weiss opened the hearing by reminding those present that the first meeting on the AIDS epidemic was held in 1983.

He recalled the words of Roger Lyons, an AIDS patient who had said, "I came here today with the hope that this administration would do everything possible and make every resource available. There is no reason this disease cannot be conquered; we do not intend to be defeated by it. I came here today in the hope that my epitaph would not read that I died of red tape."

"Roger Lyons died earlier this year," Rep. Weiss said. "He, like thousands of others, fell victim not only to a dreaded affliction, but also to an administrative reticence, to the lack of leader-



Rep. Barbara Boxer and Rep. Ted Weiss chaired four hours of testimony on the nationwide AIDS crisis.

Photo by Ted Sahl

ship and commitment needed to garner sufficient federal resources to challenge this human catastrophe.

"When Roger Lyons testified in 1983," Weiss said, "two thousand cases had been reported nationwide. Today the numbers and projections are beyond even their most pessimistic expectations."

"Almost eleven thousand cases have been reported, and over five

thousand deaths."

An estimated five hundred thousand to one million individuals have been exposed to the virus, Weiss said.

"But despite this magnitude of human suffering," Weiss continued, "we are still trying to convince the current administration that labeling AIDS its number one health priority is not

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Execution Event Deemed Successful By Sponsors

by Rick Rudy

It was the social event of the year! 400 lesbians, gay men and their friends filled the Montgomery Theatre on Thursday, July 11, for the San Jose premiere performance of *Execution of Justice*. A gala "Black and White" party followed the show, at Desperados.

The event netted the Arts Council of Gay and Lesbian San Jose slightly over \$2000. The Council has pledged to donate 10% of the profits to the Billy De Frank Lesbian and Gay Community Center of San Jose.

The "docudrama" about the trial of Dan White for the murder of SF Mayor Moscone and gay Supervisor Harvey Milk was performed by the combined forces of the Berkeley Repertory Theatre and San Jose Rep. But this special evening was the brainchild of David A. DeLong, publicist for the Arts Council which sponsored the event with the very generous assistance of Desperados owner Jon Snell.

The guests were asked to come in "black and white" and they did: from black leather with a



Not quite a full house, but a respectable turnout of enthused playgoers showed up for the special preview performance at the Montgomery Theatre in downtown San Jose. Photo by Ted Sahl

white scarf, to tuxedos, and everything in between. It was a gathering of gay people unlike anything ever seen in San Jose.

David DeLong, who is also publicist for the San Jose Rep, first got wind of the production of *Execution* last December and began working immediately to arrange for the Arts Council to buy out the full house on the first preview night as a benefit for the Arts Council, which sponsors various events showing off the talents of lesbians and gays from San Jose.

Jon Snell became intrigued by the concept and put up a considerable sum for holding the theatre, and agreed to host a party at Desperados for all attendees of the play.

Ron Schmidt, retiring Chair of the Arts Council, spoke to the audience just before the curtain, and acknowledged the tireless efforts of the whole Arts Council to make the event happen. He also introduced three special guests who had come down from San Francisco to join the occasion.



Ron Schmidt

One was Jack Fertig, the real-life Sister Boom-Boom, whose likeness appears in *Execution of Justice*. Another was Robert Epstein, Director of the Academy Award winning documentary film *The Times of Harvey Milk*. And also attending was Scott Smith, lover and business partner of Harvey Milk until his tragic assassination on November 27, 1978.

The Emily Mann play is a compelling look at a travesty of justice. Through slipshod preparation of the case by the District Attorney's Office, Dan White's attorney was able to convince the jury of White's "diminished capacity" caused by the eating of Twinkies and other junk food.

IGHC Member Handbook Available

Redesigned and in a new size, the 1985 IGHG Handbook of Member Clubs is now available. Its second edition is chock full of information on rates, time limits; and, more importantly, the kinds of facilities that are available in each member club.

Many of the 35 clubs in the handbook have included photos of their facility. The Association of Gay Health Clubs (IGHC) is proud to offer this one of a kind service to its members.

The handbook will be of particular use to the travelling gay male who would like to know something about an unfamiliar gay health club before he visits.

New sections in the handbook include the printing of AIDS-safe guidelines to assist in making the gay health club patron more aware of the problem of AIDS.

The new 1985 handbook is available for \$1.50 by writing: IGHG, 303 N. Senate Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46204.



State Assemblyman John Vasconcellos and friend (aide?) were among the first-nighters. Photo by Ted Sahl

The script draws heavily on the trial transcript, supplemented by opinions offered by various "un-called witnesses" whose testimony might have altered the outcome. White was convicted of simple voluntary manslaughter, instead of first degree murder, and received a mere seven-year prison term. White was released earlier this year and has reportedly been signed in San Francisco.

The audience gave the show many minutes of applause, then moved *en masse* to Desperados for a big party which lasted until closing time.

The present Board of the Arts Council includes Paul Curtis, David A. DeLong, Rick Rudy, Steve Storz, Shawn Stuart, and Madison L. Wright. You can contact them through P.O. Box 710691, S.J., 95171.

LEISUREWORKS

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Black & White Picnic

Black & White Men Together (BWMT - San Jose) has scheduled its annual picnic from noon till 6 p.m. on Sunday, August 4, at Stevens Creek County Park (group area #2).

Picnickers are asked to bring their own food, drink, games, etc. Charcoal will be supplied (contingent on fire warnings).

For more information, please call James Hittner (408) 356-6932.

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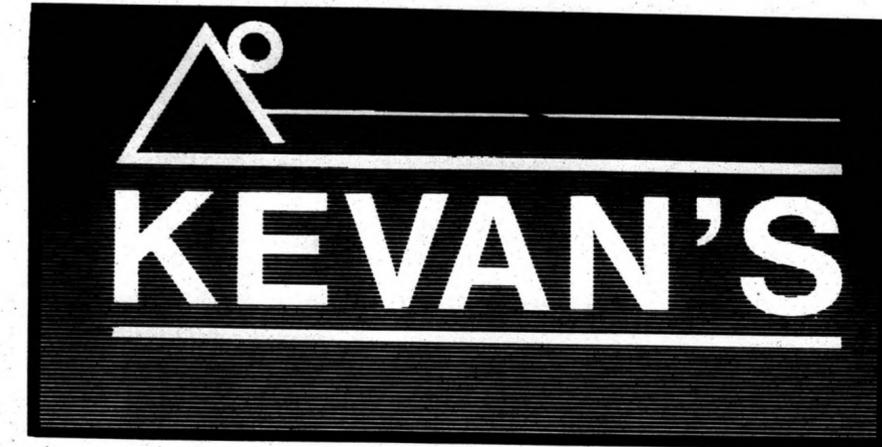
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LETTERS

CUSTODY BATTLE

I'm writing to you because your help is urgently needed in a lesbian custody battle.

A member of the lesbian community has died recently, leaving behind her lover of 13 years and their 6 year old daughter.

This child was conceived through artificial insemination and was biologically mothered by the woman now deceased. The child has, since her birth, lived with and been equally raised by the two women.

The child's biological grandparents have now decided that she must not be allowed to continue living with her surviving parent, due to the lesbian 'influence' in the household.

They have filed for guardianship of this child, even though they realize this move is in direct opposition to their deceased daughter's own wishes, as well as the desperate desires of the child herself.

Please join us in helping to prevent this tragedy. This child must not be made to suffer the loss of yet another parent in her young life.

It is estimated that legal fees will be \$10,000 to fight this injustice and insure that permanent custody is awarded to the lesbian parent. This parent cannot possibly handle these costs herself.

There is optimism in the legal community that this case can be won.

According to the 1983 Lesbian Rights Project report *Lesbian Mothers and Their Children*, (D. Hitchens and A. Thomas, eds.), because more and more lesbians are "willing to challenge the prejudices that previously separated lesbians from their children, legal and mental health professionals have been forced to confront society's stereotypes about lesbians and their ability to be parents."

Of the 41 lesbian custody cases tried up to that time, 18 (40%) of the cases were won by lesbian parents.

Together, we can make this another case in which prejudice against lesbianism is overcome and the best interests of the child are served.

Any size donation you can afford would be greatly appreciated.

Checks should be made out to "Defense Fund", and mailed to: Defense Fund, 845 Milwaukee, Denver, Colorado, 80206.

If you would like to know more about the case and how you can help, please write the above address or call (303) 333-9133.

Thank you.

Lesbian Parents Group of Denver

Announcement

The Feminist Lesbian Social Group (FLSG) meets once a month for a potluck and is open to all women who want to make new contacts and renew old acquaintances.

August Potluck: Saturday, August 17. Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: Chay's house, Hillsdale & Meridian, San Jose. Call (408) 978-2307 for directions.

AIDS BUDGET

On June 28 Governor Deukmejian signed a \$33.9 billion, 1985-86 budget that does not require a tax increase and maintains a \$1 billion reserve for economic uncertainties and emergencies.

The general fund commitment to Health and Welfare now totals \$8.8 billion, a 12.0 percent increase over 1984-85. This letter outlines the actions taken by the governor on the AIDS related augmentations which had been approved by the legislature.

The budget submitted to the Legislature earlier this year contained \$2.9 million for AIDS research. The State Department of Health Services was to receive \$2 million for AIDS-related personnel, information and education grants, surveillance activities and for the state laboratory.

AIDS augmentations added by the Legislature totalled \$16,635,000. Governor Deukmejian eliminated \$11,623,000 of the augmentations, leaving \$5,012,000 more than was included in his original budget.

Information & Education

The Governor approved \$3,012,000 of the \$4,250,000 augmentation for information and education activities.

The Governor stated "Given the tremendous increase in public concern and misconceptions about AIDS, it is evident an adequate amount of state resources are needed to increase public information about this disease."

"My original budget included programs, stating that these functions could be assumed by the staff totaling \$1,238,000. This additional \$3,012,000 will allow the full \$4,250,000 to be available to meet the cost of the projects in this area."

The Governor deleted language which would have required the State Department of Health Service to ensure that educational material was made available in languages other than English, stating, "I believe this provision could prove extremely expensive for a very limited benefit."

The Governor eliminated \$100,000 to establish an Office of AIDS Ombudsman and \$250,000 to evaluate information and education programs, stating that these functions could be assumed by the staff in the new AIDS unit.

A major problem encountered in obtaining treatment for people with AIDS is the fear and lack of understanding of treatment professionals. In order to assure that people with AIDS receive proper care the Legislature approved \$250,000 for education of treatment and care personnel.

Governor Deukmejian eliminated this item stating "The Federal Center for Disease Control has published AIDS guidelines for health professionals, and the Department of Health Services has sent this information to local health facilities as a reference when treating AIDS patients. Therefore, I question the benefit to be derived from this augmentation."

Treatment & Care

Recognizing that the state should do all it can to encourage the use of

community based services for AIDS care, the Legislature approved \$1,500,000 for a pilot block grant community support services program. Testimony in Sacramento earlier this year indicated community support services for people with AIDS have proven to be cost effective and humane.

In San Francisco, where an impressive array of community support programs have been funded and developed, the average hospital stay for people with AIDS is 8-10 days.

In Los Angeles County where community support programs have not received adequate funding, the length of stay at the county hospital is 21 days.

The Governor eliminated this item, stating that "providing funds for hospice, home health and attendant care for AIDS patients exclusive of other terminal illnesses is inappropriate. If this approach is effective and cost beneficial then it should be considered in all areas."

However, the Department of Health Services prepared a report to the Legislature in 1980 on the cost effectiveness and need of these services under Medi-Cal.

"The study indicated that there was not conclusive evidence on the effectiveness and efficiency of this type of care to include it as a part of the regular Medi-Cal benefit program."

I am unsure what a 1980 report has to do with the problems we face caring for people with AIDS in 1985. It is appropriate to pursue this type of program through SB 1251. The dollar amounts in the current version of this bill will have to be changed. Some of these funds have been approved in the budget.

HTLV-III

Stating that there are many unknowns about the potential costs related to HTLV-III antibody testing, THE Governor eliminated \$85,000 augmented to develop educational material related to the test.

The Governor felt that the funds already appropriated through AB 488 should be expended prior to adding additional funds.

Mental Health

The Governor eliminated a \$1,500,000 augmentation to train crisis center staff to treat and provide short term counseling to individuals with positive antibody test results. The Governor stated "AB 488 appropriated \$5 million for the department to administer the AIDS antibody blood test program."

"These funds are used in part to provide information and referral services to AIDS test patients. Other than medical information that should be provided by the patient's physician, this is a mental health issue, not one of public health."

"There are currently mental health programs in place to address these needs. The mental health budget proposed a \$40 million block grant program which could be used for AIDS-related mental health needs."

A \$1 million augmentation for mental health services for people with AIDS was also eliminated.

The Governor stated "If these services are viewed as a priority by coun-



ty mental health services, they should also be funded by counties at their option within the \$40 million augmentation provided in the budget."

Medically Indigent Services

The Legislature requested the State Department of Health Services to obtain reports from the six highest morbidity counties regarding the impact of AIDS and ARC on county operated programs for the medically indigent, the department did not fulfill this request.

My telephone conversations with San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Orange, Alameda and Santa Clara County Health Departments revealed that specific costs related to AIDS or ARC diagnosis is not tabulated separately, but is part of the overall Medically Indigent Services Program.

Certain that counties must be serving a significant number of ARC cases in their programs for medically indigent adults, the Legislature added \$1.5 million to this program. The Governor eliminated this item.

Research

The Governor reduced the \$9.2 million augmentation for AIDS research by \$4.3 million. The Governor retained \$4.9 million, which is an increase of \$2 million over fund levels for FY 1983-84 and FY 1984-85.

While I am pleased that the Governor made some increases over his original budget, I don't believe he really understands the very unique and specific problems before us.

A member of the Governor's staff made some extremely insensitive remarks on the telephone to an individual from a hemophilia organization, saying "they were sick and tired of all this AIDS business. The office had been inundated with letters and phone calls, and was getting fed up." I hope the letters and phone calls continue.

There is an article in the current *California Journal* regarding the presence of the religious lobby here in Sacramento. All of our AIDS organizations, political clubs and political action committees should think very seriously about establishing a presence in Sacramento. There is much to be done.

Warm Regards,

Stan Hadden
Office of the President Pro-Tem
California State Senate
Sacramento, Calif.

AIDS FUNDRAISERS

The Imperial AIDS Foundation of San Jose is a non-profit organization. We are here for our community. We have been holding fundraisers for the past two months since the death of a dear friend.

It's a shame we need to go out to the community — I would love the community to come to us — because admit it or not, AIDS is here and it's moving fast. We cannot put a stop to it, but we are here to help in whatever way possible.

For more information, please call Rachel at (408) 297-1209 or Yolanda/Bernie at (408) 258-9983, preferably after 5:00 p.m.

Thank you,
Yolanda Perez
San Jose

Announcement

SOL (South Bay slightly older lesbians — 30 and over) meets every Tuesday from 7-9 pm at the DeFrank Community Center, 86 S. Keyes St., San Jose, for a support/discussion group. All newcomers are welcomed. Call Pat at (408) 984-5624 for info.

August 6: Bring something to share that reflects your creative side.

August 13: B-B-Q in Central Park (across from Kaiser Hospital) on Kiely Blvd., in Santa Clara. Bring your dish and come to share.

August 20: Feelings about our names.

August 27: The film, *Word Is Out*.

Stanford Dance

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford University presents its annual summer bash.

The *Midsummer Night's Dream* Dance will be held on Saturday, August 10th at 8 p.m. in the Old Firehouse on Stanford campus.

This dance is a benefit for the Gay and Lesbian Youth Group on the Peninsula, and is open to all people regardless of age, race or sex. For more information call GLAS at (415) 497-1488.



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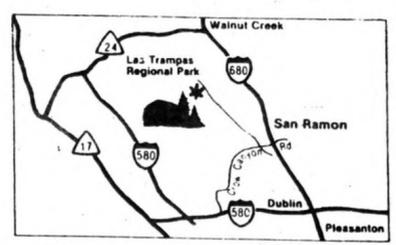
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RALLY

Continued from Page 1
"They are going to know we are here to live. We are here to claim our rights, whatever our sexual orientation is, to live free in America."
Mikhael Itkin, independent Catholic with Community of Love of Christ, told the crowd that "cutbacks are only one of our problems. The Director of Public Health for Alameda County is talking about a quarantine. Look back to the fall of the Weimar Republic in Germany before WWII."
"The first people to be sent to camps were Gay people and mental patients."
Itkin said, "The parallels in this country are frightening. Quarantine is being talked about. Haitian immigrants are already

being kept in quarantine — hemophiliacs are disposable in this society."
"As far as the Administration is concerned, this disease is attacking disposable people. We must organize and fight this fascist monster now."
Maggie Riverside spoke next. She said, "I am tired of rallies and demonstrations. I am tired of the b—s— from the government."
"The government, the medical profession, and the scientists don't give a damn about us. They don't give a s—t about our lives. They don't care if we die, they want us to die."
"We won't die. We are a viable, courageous, beautiful community composed of Gay men, Lesbian women, bisexuals and people of all lifestyles."
"We will not let this human

tragedy destroy our civil rights."
"Yes, we want research, but we want research that will find a cure not just b—s— research."
"Yes, we want the government and medical profession to be righteous with our lives, but not at the sake of ending up in concentration camps or dead."
"Yes, we want some kind of acknowledgement of where we are healthwise, but not at the expense of separating the positive from the negative, and making money off our lives."
"One trillion dollars for Star Wars, one billion dollars for a submarine, and the government cuts back on AIDS funding. That is homophobia, that is fascism."
"Our leaders must come forth. Our leaders must seek for us, because the time is now, there will never be another time." □

Community Information Line

Our Connection service has announced the beginning of operation of the 993-3800 information service. This service is designed to keep the South Bay Community informed of current events and activities.
Supported by civic-minded local businesses and groups, the service informs callers on topics of interest to our community. Callers simply dial 993-3800 to hear the latest information and there is no charge to the calling party.
"What to do, where to go, and who to see," says manager Brad

Nemeth. "Unlike the San Francisco community with local neighborhoods, our community in the South Bay is geographically spread out and communication is much more difficult."
"We hope to provide our community with a service that will help bring us all closer together."
People or organizations interested in placing an announcement should contact Our Connection at 977-4299 and ask for Bruce or Brad or leave a message anytime at 993-3821. □

National Gay/Lesbian Directory

WASHINGTON, DC — A directory providing information about more than 20 national gay/lesbian organizations is now available from the Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL).
The directory gives contact information, as well as summaries of each organization's current projects. It was developed as an adjunct to the GRNL sponsored Gay/Lesbian Leadership Forum.
To obtain a copy of the directory or to ensure that your organization is included in the next edition, contact: Michael Weeks, GRNL, P.O. Box 1892, Washington, DC 20013.



Patrons at reopening of 641 Club pose and ask, "Where's the beef?" as they wait for barbecue to begin. Photo by Ted Sahl

Sen. Dodd guest of Don Edwards

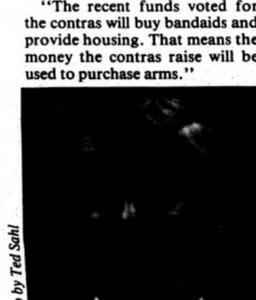


BAYMEC members attended the Edwards event. Photo by Ted Sahl

By Ted Sahl

Senator Christopher Dodd of Connecticut was the guest speaker at Rep. Don Edwards fundraiser at the Hyatt Regency in San Jose last month.
Earlier in the day, Dodd held a press conference. Rep. Edwards led off the session with, what did the Senator think of Reagan's victory over the funds Congress passed for "contra aid."
The Senator wasted no time assailing the Administration's actions as "dangerous."
"This was a mistake that could lead to a combat situation. Our policy in that area is damaging," said Dodd.
"It is dangerous to this country, it is dangerous to our allies, because our policies are not working."

nothing for the United States or Central America.
"The recent funds voted for the contras will buy band-aids and provide housing. That means the money the contras raise will be used to purchase arms."



Sen. Christopher Dodd

The Senator believes Nicaragua will step up actions against Costa Rica, Honduras and El Salvador.
"President Reagan has promised military aid should Honduras request it. At that point, you have a Central America conflict," he said.
I reminded Senator Dodd what Mr. Shultz said — we would send American troops in if we have to. I asked if there was any talk on the subject in Washington.
"No," replied Dodd, "but this is a policy that has bipartisan members, both Republicans and Democrats. Some support it, others oppose it."
"This is an example of what I call a two speech policy."
"There are members of Congress who go home on weekends and say to their constituents and those who are opposed to the contras — 'Don't worry about it, I didn't give them any military aid. You can sleep easy.'"
"Those who are for the contras say — 'Don't worry, I gave them military aid.'"
"It helps to keep constituents happy in this country, but it does

Ortega's trip to Moscow was discussed.
"I don't know why we got so excited over Ortega's trip."
"I'm wondering who is in charge of his schedule. But it's no secret Russia is sending stockpiles of arms to Nicaragua."
"We didn't get excited when India's prime minister visited Russia. We didn't get excited when Mexico went to Moscow. We didn't get up an embargo against those countries."
The Senator was troubled that Nicaragua might try to introduce missiles into the area.
The Senator touched lightly on the President's tax reform and at the same time pointed out that "he took care of his rich friends, the oil companies and the special interest groups."
"The rich and the poor will do fine," but, he was quick to point out, in his state of Connecticut "the middle income person will lose money."
"We're not ready right now to be taken away from working on the deficit. That isn't finished, we still have a lot of work to be done." □

First Lesbian/Gay donor club set up in East Bay

At the end of June, women of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club (EBL/GDC) and their friends set up the first blood donor account for Lesbian women and Gay men at the Alameda-Contra Costa Blood Bank.
According to coordinator Mary Ann Brownstein, EBL/GDC vice-president, the account will be made available to any Lesbian women or Gay men in the East Bay who need blood units, but are unable to provide blood donations themselves.
Most Gay men are excluded by the Blood Bank from giving, but some Lesbian women also find themselves unable to donate for a wide variety of medical reasons.
"We felt it was time someone did something like this in the East Bay," said Brownstein. "Our Club did all the organizing for the event. After the women gave blood, they were treated to a sumptuous brunch by the men of the EBL/GDC at a private home about three blocks from the Blood Bank."
The event was originally scheduled for early May, but officials at the Blood Bank asked the Club to postpone their drive because they had reached their quota of blood for the month.
Whole blood keeps only for about 5 weeks, and extra blood



Susan Denault of the EBL/GDC donating blood at the Alameda-Contra Costa Blood Bank June 29. Photo by M.A. Brownstein

would be wasted. Because of all the publicity of blood shortages, some were suspicious of the bank's motives in postponing the drive.
The Alameda-Contra Costa Blood Bank said that because of all the publicity that Irwin Memorial Blood Bank had done, there had been a sudden upsurge in donations, which they expected to decline in June.
At the Club's drive in June, Brownstein checked this story out with a Gay employee of the Blood Bank and was assured that there definitely was a "blood glut" in May.
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The Club plans to organize another blood drive and brunch

in the fall.
Anyone wishing to donate blood before then, or who finds Saturdays inconvenient, can donate at any other time and merely assign the blood credit to the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club Account. Those who want more information should call Mary Ann at (415) 548-0329.
"I would like to thank all the women donors who enabled us to set up this account, and the men of the Club for providing us with such a delicious brunch afterwards," said Brownstein.
Those interested in using the donor account should contact Mary Ann at (415) 548-0329, or Tom at (415) 843-2459. □

CONGRESSIONAL AIDS HEARING

Continued from Page 1
enough. Rhetoric is no match for the killer AIDS."
Testimony from People with AIDS
John Lorenzini, president of People With AIDS Alliance, and Richard Rector, with Mobilization Against AIDS, both made personal pleas for help.
Lorenzini pointed out to the committee that "AIDS patients are leaving the country in desperation, going to Mexico, France, and Sweden seeking help and treatment that is not available in the United States."
"Those of us who are left behind are being treated as laboratory animals; only when we are in the final stages of the disease are we given experimental drugs."
"The number one priority," he continued, "must be treatment and care . . . millions of American dollars have been funneled into HTLV-III testing which will cure no one."
"American researchers compete with each other and with foreign researchers for honors and awards rather than cooperating and maximizing their efforts to find a cure for AIDS," Lorenzini said.
Commenting further, he pointed out that "medical treatment for each patient is costing the American taxpayer \$140, according to the Centers for Disease Control."

care professionals; Congress has failed to allocate funds for local community-based non-profit agencies which provide services such as housing, food, home health care, referral, or other patient services.
"People with AIDS will no longer accept excuses or inaction. Congress must begin to pay now, or face a greater price later."
"I do not grieve that I have AIDS," said Lorenzini, "instead, I celebrate my need to face the challenge, and I only hope America will do the same."
Lorenzini added testimony in a letter he received from Robert White, a constituent from Rep. Boxer's district. White is in Paris receiving treatment.
"Many times over the past three months," said White, "I have asked myself why, in a country with only 400 cases, can the French spend so much time and money on treatment, while my own country with 10,000 cases is not testing a drug proven to be a vital treatment alternative?"
"The sad answer that comes to me is, to the French, SIDA, the French version of AIDS, is a health disease. To most Americans, and especially to health policy makers, AIDS is a homosexual disease."
"The respect, concern, and empathy with which I have been treated while in France points to these conclusions."
"My sexual orientation and association with this disease is the primary reason I have had to seek treatment abroad. I want to come home. I want to once again be with my lover, my family, and the things that are familiar and dear to me. It is not right that a person diagnosed with a potentially terminal illness should go through the struggle, expense, and emotional isolation that those of us over here in France have had to endure."

"As an American citizen who has paid taxes, contributed to my society, and attempted to be a useful member of that society, I deserve more than exile to a foreign land."
A 9-Point Program
Richard Rechter was the second person with AIDS to testify. He presented a nine-point suggested program:
1. Congress must pass legislation in the amount of \$60 million for community-based national AIDS education.
2. Congress must allocate \$500 million for AIDS-related research for 1985-86.
3. Congress must allocate \$55 million for established community-based programs providing food, housing, health and home care for AIDS patients.
4. Congress must allocate a minimum of \$25 million to fund treatment programs which provide medical and alternative therapy.
5. Congress should adopt national legislation guaranteeing anonymity in HTLV-III testing and confidentiality of participants in AIDS treatment and research.
6. Congress must appropriate and fund an independent National Research AIDS Council, including people with AIDS-related conditions, and guarantee AIDS research programs are well planned to avoid unnecessary duplications, the results to be shared with other researchers and interested members of the public.
7. Congress should call upon the Centers for Disease Control to re-examine and expand its current definition of AIDS. Many people are dying of AIDS, but have not been diagnosed as having AIDS under the present definition.
The definition of AIDS should be changed from what was once a mysterious and frightening syndrome to a disease that can be detected in a manner which is

consistent with a diagnosis of any other known disease.
8. Congress must enact legislation outlawing discrimination against people with AIDS and AIDS-related conditions in employment, housing, insurance, medical care, and funeral services.
9. Congress should immediately investigate the Federal Budget Administration, the National Cancer Institute, and the National Institute of Health and should enact legislation that expedites effective AIDS treatment and experimental drugs used in other countries, and which mandates international AIDS research and cooperation.
" . . . I put it to you, saving the lives of these Americans is more important than one man's quest for a Nobel Peace Prize."
"On the eve of this great nation's independence, I am reminded of the inscription on the statue of liberty: 'Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free . . .'"
"Now, people are fleeing this nation," said Rechter, "fleeing to other nations, other lands, in a desperate attempt to save their lives from the threat of this disease."
"I call upon you to examine your own conscience why this shameful exodus of innocent American people is taking place."
"I also have additional testimony, as well as 15,000 signatures collected from petitions circulated across the country; I ask that this be submitted into the record," Rechter concluded.

Lorenzini said, "Treatment that AIDS patients are receiving is not meaningful or helpful. We are talking about two kinds of help: prevention and education."
"First, we need education on prevention for people to learn how to protect themselves from exposure to the disease."
"The fact that the rectal gonorrhea has dropped dramatically in San Francisco proves that sexual practices have slowed down and even turned the tide as far as the number of cases of AIDS that will be diagnosed in future years to come."
"Second," said Lorenzini, "is education in the medical community; many people in the medical community are still unprepared and unknowledgeable. Some of the medical information we have learned in San Francisco should be shared nationwide."
Richard Rechter told the committee, "We don't see a study being set forth that utilizes more than one drug. I also question compassionate use. Many doctors refuse to go through the red tape of applying for compassionate use of certain drugs."
"As I am talking, fifteen men are in France receiving HPA 23; although this drug has been proven successful in treatment, it has not been approved by the FDA. I question the government not allowing this drug to be accepted and used in this country for treatment in AIDS."
Expert Testimony
Nine distinguished members of the medical profession testified before the subcommittee. We heard from experts in research, psychology, pediatrics, oncology, and epidemiology.
A.R. Moss told the committee, "When we saw the first homosexual case, AIDS had already been in this country for four or five years, which is why I say we have

Continued on Back Page

MCC Cont. from Page 1

return when he is taken off Suramin in November, that the virus could merely be "hiding in my central nervous system."
The results have been less dramatic, he said, for the other 11 patients on the Suramin protocol, all of whom had different symptoms from his, and some have had severe side effects as he was warned he might.
His doctor is scheduled to announce the details of the experiment late in July to the National Cancer Institute, he said. "She's going to tell them it proves one of three things: (a) Suramin is effective in treating AIDS in some people; (b) the old medical joke that the first experiment in a series is always successful; or (c) there is a God."
Perry noted that MCC of the Resurrection in Houston distributes free condoms to members — "and they're one of our most conservative churches! We're the only church in America that does it. What is the Roman Catholic church going to do when (AIDS) reaches their members?"
Other panel members and

some of their remarks included:
Dr. Martin D. Finn, Medical Director for Public Health, Los Angeles County Dept. of Health Services: Much has been accomplished in the four years public health officials have been dealing with AIDS. While a vaccine is a long way off, "What is open to us now is a course of prevention."
Studies have shown a high incidence of the HTLV-III virus in Gay and bisexual men in L.A. (54%) and Berkeley (47%). With about half of us carrying this virus already, "We have to protect the other 50 percent." An "up-and-coming problem" is "schoolchildren with AIDS."
Kate Duzman, Executive Director, Sacramento AIDS Foundation: Three conclusions: "1. Things will get worse before they get better; 2. This disease is preventable; 3. The government is not doing enough."
In educating people about AIDS, "Validate their fear of AIDS. Validate their fear of dying. In our culture that's not an okay thing to do . . . When I speak to heterosexuals, they're confused because a woman is doing AIDS education."

"Once they're confused you can teach them a lot . . . When they tell you that AIDS is God's wrath on Gay people, you ask why there are so many more heterosexuals than Lesbians who have AIDS. Is it true Lesbians are God's chosen people? . . ."
This is a disease. This is not our disease. There are men, women and children of every age and sexual persuasion on every continent in the world who have AIDS. This is news to most people."
Dr. Dennis J. McShane, Asst. Professor of Medicine, Stanford University Medical Center: "We all have AIDS because it's in our community. . . . AIDS is going to be around for a long time, so get comfortable with it. . . . I can't do much for my patients in terms of a cure, but what I can do is talk with them and touch them. There's a lot of healing in the hands."
While the HTLV-III antibody test is necessary for safeguarding the blood supply, it can do more harm than good to individuals who are advised of positive results.
As for "Safe Sex" preventing AIDS, "We really don't know. A lot (of the information) out there is just what will prevent the spread of any venereal disease."
Stan Hadden, Legislative Aide to California Sen. David Roberts: "Identify the (politicians) whose minds can be changed. Stop beating up on our friends for not doing enough."
Gov. Deukmejian cut about half of next year's AIDS budget request, leaving California about \$10 million for 1985-86. He cut money for in-home and hospice care based on a 1980 (pre-AIDS) report which showed they were "not cost effective."
Regarding the previous day's congressional hearing on AIDS, the first in two years, held in San Francisco, "It seems like the government wants to give us just enough to make us keep quiet."
Rev. Pieters likened the situation to the stage version of Peter Pan: "Thousands are dying all over the world because people don't believe in fairies anymore."
UFMCC is now almost 17 years old. From 12 people meeting in Troy Perry's living room it has grown to more than 32,000 members in ten countries, six of which (USA, Canada, Mexico,

Continued on Back Page

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ENTERTAINMENT & EASY LIVING

Interview

Robin Tyler

By Robin Einzig

I was fortunate enough to be granted an interview with Lesbian/feminist comic Robin Tyler, immediately following her show on July 16th at The Savoy in Sunnyvale.

As she had just finished quite a spectacular speech as a grand finale to her act (see Robin Tyler-Review in the July 10th issue of Our Paper), our discussion centered mostly on the apathy surrounding political involvement.

In order to give you, the reader, a bit more perspective into Robin Tyler's comments, I would like to provide some background information.

Robin is originally from Winnipeg Manitoba, Canada, and attended Manitoba Theatre Center and the Banff School of Fine Arts.

At the time she moved to New York at the age of 18, she was one of the youngest professional playwrights and directors in Canada. In New York, she attended the American Musical and Dramatic Academy.

She performed as a singer for five years, including a stint as a famous female impersonator (you will have to listen to her albums to figure that one out).

She then teamed up with New York model Pat Harrison and formed the comedy team, Harrison and Tyler. Their acts are considered the first feminist comedy to be recorded in the United States.



Lesbian comic Robin Tyler, as she appeared at a recent AIDS benefit at The Savoy in Santa Clara. Photo by Ted Sahl

They have spawned a generation of feminist and Lesbian-feminist comics such as Kate Clinton, Delaria & Strobel, Gomez & Palacios, and Linda Moakes.

Robin began working alone as a comedian in 1978, and released her first album *Always a Bridesmaid, Never a Groom* on Olivia Records, a well-known women's music label.

She recently has released her second solo album entitled *Just Kidding*, from which much of the material performed at the Savoy was taken.

Robin Tyler has been the

keynote speaker at the San Francisco, New York, and Dallas Gay Pride parades, and this year she joined us at San Jose's Gay Pride Rally on June 23rd.

She has been an out lesbian since 1959, and uses her history within the movement to expand both her humor and her political reach. Her humor concentrates greatly on issues of interest (and laughter!) to Lesbian women and Gay men.

She indicated distress over these "passive times" and she stressed the need to draw on as many people as possible in the fight for Gay and Lesbian rights.

At the Savoy, Robin did speak to a large number of women. In the closing minutes of her set, she spoke to the audience of the importance of standing up for our rights.

She challenged everyone present to think not so much about themselves, but about the children who will grow up being called "faggot" and "dyke" — "It is our responsibility to change things so that the world will be a safer, more accepting place for them."

In our interview, we spoke of this phenomenon entitled "politically correct."

Tyler feels especially strongly about the inappropriateness of this term. She described the "politically correct" movement as "fascism, amoral self-righteousness that stems from insecurities."

Robin directs her comments to those among the Lesbian community who she believes have gone too far in rejecting others who are not deemed "p.c."

This could mean anything, from a willingness to be arrested to eating tofu and sprouts. It varies geographically and within communities.

I questioned Tyler as to whether a desire for cohesiveness among the community could have gone too far and resulted in this present need for sameness?

She responded that she did not feel that is where the root of the matter lies — rather that it lies in fascism, in a power structure invented out of insecurities.

I discussed with Robin the ever-present need for change in the movement for Gay rights, and she responded in similar fashion to the question of political correctness.

This desire for change is all too often put in the hands of a small minority, who then insist that change happen "their way" and demand that others be "politically correct" and follow their lead.

Robin describes this as a "bully mentality" and stresses to me once again, a thought that has not weakened with the years (she wrote it at the age of 16) that "the choking of old extremities produces the breathing of new extremes."

Robin Tyler did also spend some time discussing with me her capacity as producer of the Southern and West Coast Women's Music and Comedy Festivals.

She feels that, in this way, she can offer opportunities to new musicians and new comedians.

She indicated to me that she's been on the road for 23 years, on and off, and now she feels it is

her turn to rest: "I have a home, and I enjoy spending time there; I've opened doors for many new comedians, and now it's my turn to take a rest."

But summer is not the time for rest for Robin Tyler with two music festivals to produce. The West Coast Festival will be held Labor Day Weekend Aug. 30 - Sept. 2 near Yosemite National Park.

Although she is currently very busy with the planning for that festival, which draws about 2,000 women to a women-only space for 4 days, she always looks forward to the festival.

Robin Tyler's message comes through loud and clear, whether it is in her comedy, her speaking engagements, or a quick interview.

She has given of herself in many ways, both personally and professionally, to further the rights of Gay people, and now she is seeing apathy and passivity among the younger Lesbian community.

She insists that we are not closeted, we are all out to some degree: "You are out of the closet — people know you are Gay — you just don't think they do."

Tyler has a powerful statement to make, and she makes it. She also sees an unspoken message, just as powerful, in many of us. We too can be working for the freedom to be who we are without oppression either from outside or within our communities. But it will not be handed to us, we all must work together and work hard, so that in the end all of us — even Robin Tyler — can get the rest we deserve. □

Comments on Execution of Justice

By Ted Sahl

Last month's special performance of Emily Mann's play, *Execution of Justice*, had people buzzing at the Black and White Benefit sponsored as a fundraiser for the Arts Council of Gay and Lesbian San Jose.

The play, a docudrama about the trial of Supervisor Harvey Milk's assassin Dan White, obviously stirred memories of the catastrophic events of 1978-79, so I decided to ask a few of the first-nighters how they were affected.

Rich Nichols: *Harvey and I did some business together. I did own a store in the Haight Ashbury district in San Francisco. It was a photographic store, camera supplies, film — and when Harvey was running for Supervisor in District Five, I gave him a corner of the store to set up an office.*

I liked the play as a docudrama — most of the dialogue was taken from actual transcripts, but I still liked it.

Harvey might have thought it was too dramatic — Harvey was a simplistic kind of person, almost shy. Harvey Milk was a stockbroker and spent some time working in the theater. He worked on the production of Hair and on Jesus Christ Superstar, and as a matter of fact, he came to California to work on Lenny. That's what he did after leaving the stockbroker business, he worked with the theater.

In 1971, we both opened our photo stores.

Harvey was an introvert, a very deep and quiet man. He was not the brassy extrovert people thought. Harvey didn't smoke, never drank, and stayed away from drugs.

He loved to listen to music, just sit quietly drinking a cup of coffee. He always had a lover younger than himself. He loved life, I think he loved the innocence of life, the fresh attitude of youth, and life around him.



Rich Nichols, a former colleague of Harvey Milk, accompanied Milk's former lover, Scott Smith, and Arts Council board member Rick Rudy at the benefit performance of Emily Mann's docudrama about the trial of Milk's assassin. Photo by Ted Sahl



Songwriter/singer Claire Mix (above) will be performing at Jonah's Wall, 10th & San Carlos, San Jose, at 9 p.m. on July 26. Featured will be her ever popular songs, "Lies, Lies, Lies," and "The Itty, Bitty Lady at the Checkout Stand." Mix will also be performing at the 1985 West Coast Women's Music Festival.

AIDS Auction

Rachel, Yolanda & Bernie of the Imperial AIDS Foundation of San Jose will be holding an auction from 3 - 5 p.m. on Sunday, July 28 at the 641 Club.

Keven Daniels will serve as auctioneer for the event.

Proceeds will be used to provide help for people with AIDS in the San Jose area.

A fundraising show featuring Rachel, Nikki Nations, Toby Productions and other local entertainers is planned for Saturday, August 17, from 9 - 11 at Kevan's on The Alameda. Watch Our Paper for further details. □

Execution of Justice Hits Home

Theatre Review By Rick Rudy

"Dan White showed that you can fight City Hall."

With these words, the long-awaited *Execution of Justice*, Emily Mann's "docudrama" about the Dan White trial, arrived on July 11 in San Jose, after a month playing in Berkeley and justly received the plaudits of an enthusiastic crowd.

Execution premiered in Louisville in 1984 and is being staged currently by a joint venture of the Berkeley Repertory Theatre and San Jose Repertory Company, though it is tough to find any San Jose Rep actors, save Randall King, among the large and excellent cast.

The murder of San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and Gay Supervisor Harvey Milk on November 27, 1978, by Supervisor Dan White was a ghastly tragedy, but the misguided prosecution of the murder trial in which White received a slap-on-the-wrist seven-year sentence, aroused a violent dissatisfaction with the judicial system itself.

Riots broke out when the jury's finding of voluntary manslaughter was announced, and this play does nothing to help us understand why the jury voted as it did.

The play is structured around segments of the trial transcript, interwoven with commentary from "uncalled witnesses."

Sometimes the presentation becomes so choppy that it is hard to follow just who is speaking from the crowded stage. Also the points these "witnesses" make are sometimes repetitious or simply interfere with the flow of the drama.

But more often, the angry, tearful by-standers speak to our hearts when the players who are locked in the trial transcript cannot. Most eloquent of them all is Charles Dean as District Attorney Freitas who lost his career in the backlash of the travesty of justice which the trial produced.



Charles Dean as former D.A. Joseph Freitas in San Jose Rep's production of Emily Mann's EXECUTION OF JUSTICE at the Montgomery Theatre thru July 28. Photo by Ken Friedman

Randall King is fine as the unfeeling White who sits throughout the trial as if in another world, never reacting or acknowledging the activity around him.

His flashback scene, where he confesses to his cop buddies, is emotional yet ludicrous, drawing laughter and scorn from the audience.

What is chilling, though, is the empathy which the inspectors display in their questioning of White.

Truly outstanding is the portrayal of defense attorney Schmidt by James Harper. Harper finely crafts nuances of expression and timing which are dazzling.

Brian Thompson, as prosecuting attorney Tom Norman, is good, but it is stupefying to watch a practiced attorney get outmaneuvered so easily. Hamilton Burger never gave Perry Mason such an easy run for his money.

Chuck LaFont is marvelous as Sister Boom Boom, even praised by Jack Fertig, the real Sister

Boom Boom, who attended the SJ preview performance. Also very moving is the reading of Harvey Milk's "Political Will" which he recorded months before the assassination, and in which he prophesied that "the bullet that shatters my brain must shatter every closet door."

The play, fortunately, doesn't rekindle the hatred of Dan White, but it does illuminate the sorry state of a judicial system that can allow a crafty lawyer and a circus of psychiatrists to bamboozle a jury. Tony Amendola is very good as the learned Dr. Martin Blinder who deftly promotes the famous "Twinkie defense" in which sweets and junk food will supposedly turn an upright citizen into a crazed killer.

Society has long pondered how a "sane" man can kill without being insane at the moment when the trigger is pulled. But psychiatry moved into a new realm altogether with this "Twinkie defense." The jury that desper-

ately wanted any excuse to save their All-American Boy found this argument compelling enough.

The direction by Oskar Eustis and Anthony Taccone is tight and strongly realistic. The set by Vicki Smith, with various levels over a raked platform and backed by a large rear-projection screen, allows for the range of locals demanded and forces our imagination to fill in the details.

For those who moved to the Bay Area after November, 1978, this play is an eye-opener; for those who remember the events all too clearly, this play reminds us that life goes on after any tragedy, but we must learn from the events and grow stronger.

Execution of Justice continues at the Montgomery Theatre through July 28, and it is a must to see. For tickets call (408) 294-7572. □



Arts Council benefactor Jon Snell, owner of Desperados, was on hand with his friends for the special performance of EXECUTION OF JUSTICE which his generosity helped to make possible. Photo by Ted Sahl

Planned Parenthood Volunteering

Volunteer training for the Planned Parenthood of Santa Clara County Information Line will be held July 31 and August 1 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at 1691 of the Alameda, San Jose.

Planned Parenthood needs volunteers who have telephone communications skills and who are available to work daytime hours.

The training will include information about community resources, human sexuality, reproductive health and Planned Parenthood services.

Volunteers answer over 500 calls to the line each month.

For more information, call Donna at (408) 287-7532. □



The real Sister Boom Boom, Jack Fertig, attended in black leather drag. Photo by Ted Sahl

Spencer Nutting: *I remember the day of the assassination because I was driving at the time and I heard about it on my car radio. It was insane, I thought I was listening to "War of the Worlds" — the program that Orson Welles did, that people thought was actually happening. It was crazy, the announcer didn't say the name, just that a supervisor was killed. I'll never forget it.*

Lanny Revoir: *I remember so clearly — it made me so angry I became an activist, heard about the Susan B. Anthony Democratic Club and joined that organization, and have been working on political issues ever since.* □



Folk singer Judy Small has recorded a song supporting "roly-poly people." Photo by Gill Thomas

Summer Coffeehouse Series

Sisterspirit, a nonprofit project to start a women's bookstore/coffeehouse in San Jose, repeats its popular Friday night coffeehouse this summer. Coffeehouses take place at Jonah's Wall (basement of the Campus Christian Center), 10th and San Carlos in downtown San Jose. Baked goods, coffee, tea and juices are on sale, as are albums, books and t-shirts.

For a free catalog of over 800 books and 100 albums, write to Sisterspirit at 2021 E. San Antonio, San Jose, CA 95116. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope for 44¢.

The August coffeehouse is as follows (a \$1-3 donation is requested, except for the Judy Small and Linda Hirschhorn concerts, where a \$3-5 donation is requested):

August 3 (Saturday) — Australian recording artist Judy Small. Two shows — 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

August 9 — Yemoja Napue, Nigerian dancing; Mariah Burton-Nelson, lesbian poet reading poetry and short stories.

August 16 — Sunny Merik, author of *Betrayal* — *The Shattering Sex Discrimination Case of Silver vs. Pacific Press Publishing Association*; Kathy Wolfe with her new feminist video, "Woman Was Created To Serve Man."

August 23 — Recording artist Linda Hirschhorn. Two shows — 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. □



Steven Repetti and Kathryn Nymoen will be featured in San Jose REP's new cabaret UP THE YUP! Previews began July 18, Upstairs at Eullpia, 372 South First Street in downtown San Jose. For tickets, call (408) 294-7572. Photo by Charles I. Savadelis

We Are Delighted

that so many people noticed our error in not updating the expiration date on The Watergarden's half-price coupon in our last issue. It's wonderful to know so many people are reading Our Paper — and so carefully! But we are sorry for any inconvenience caused Our Readers and/or Watergarden patrons by our oversight. Thanks for keeping our Advertising Department on its toes! ●

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PASSIONFRUIT

No. 5

By Jeff Black

Last time, Cynda was hurried across country where a worshipful cult awaited ex-lover Pat's return; and Toby, released from jail, was flung into the arms of paternity.

No bail was set for the Rileys, the alleged gunrunners.

"They have to set bail," Toby told their lawyers desperately.

"Not necessarily. The government feels that if any arms are to be exported illegally, Reagan will say which ones and to whom." The lawyer patted Toby on the back. "The only bright spot my clients have at the moment is knowing that you'll be taking care of their kids."

Toby sighed. What could he say? That it wasn't bad enough suddenly to have two kids to shelter, but that he also had to care for three orphaned cats since Cynda abandoned them for Pat and Provo?

Not to mention his worries about dinner the next night with young old Trevor Endicott III, the newly crowned love of his life, whose mother, Magda, had threatened Toby's extermination if he didn't leave her son alone. Toby sighed again.

Meanwhile, out in Provo, things proved difficult for Cynda. After a breakneck cross-continent trek, she'd discovered, instead of a hideaway suitable for serious smuggling, a cult, Sapphic in nature, but made no more pleasant by the fact.

This cult had the curious belief that Pat was some sort of goddess, a belief to which Pat had no objections. She demanded such worship, as a matter of fact, even from Cynda, who proved reluctant to follow her orders. Finally, Cynda spoke up and said she refused to be one of the faithful.

"I've had enough and I want to go home," she said during a particularly solemn worship service. Fifty pairs of female eyes turned to her. Pat was not pleased. Nor were the two burly bodyguards who grabbed Cynda.

Pat upbraided her and held her up as an example of the woeful ways of the unbelievers, and, finally, laid down the holy law: Cynda would conform.

Moses never held a stage more firmly than Pat. It was revealed during this gospel-according-to-Pat that she and Cynda had once been lovers. There were oohs and aahs from the gathered. Pat was their Holy Grail and Cynda had drunk heartily and often in her time and bed.

This didn't save Cynda from her fate, however. Pat clapped her hands and the bodyguards hauled Cynda away to, as it was termed, "Intensive Training." Then, with a renewed chorus of chants, the worship of Pat continued.

Toby put the kids to bed much too early. He put the cats in the bathroom much to their chagrin. He returned sadly to the kitchen where dinner was more than ready.

Trevor was nearly an hour late and, had there been room in the overcrowded apartment for yet one more person, Toby would have been beside himself.

Shannon Riley, twelve years old, shuffled into the kitchen, her fuzzy house-slippers making a homey sound that should have comforted Toby.

Instead, it made him snap. "You're supposed to be asleep." "You put us to bed too early." "I suppose Quentin's awake too?"

"He's writing a letter to David Stockman. Don't bite your nails. It makes your hands unattractive. Don't worry, I'll go to bed when your date comes." "If he comes."

Eeny, Miney and Mo, Cynda's orphaned cats, bounded into the kitchen. Eight-year-old Quentin followed. "They got out of the bathroom!" he cried. "I had to pee and they escaped!" "Get them out of here. I won't have furballs greeting Trevor at the door."

There was a scratching at the window. They swiveled their gazes in that direction and at first saw nothing. Then a hand appeared, followed by a handsome, newly-post-teenaged face.

"Trevor!" Toby shouted.

They hauled him in through the window, expressing amazement at his feat; Trevor lived on the third floor after all. That's when they noticed he was dressed as a priest.

"Why the setup?" Toby asked.

"Mother's having me followed to see that I behave," Trevor said. "I thought a disguise might help. Why didn't you tell me you have kids?"

"We're not his," Quentin said.

Shannon explained: "Toby's just watching us while our parents rot in prison."

"Want to play Trivial Pursuit?" Quentin asked.

"Dating Toby is pursuit of it enough for one evening," Shannon opined. "Just kidding, Toby dear."

"Bed!" Toby cried, and they obeyed, though not without threats of being nailed into their room, if not into their bed, being issued. He returned to the kitchen to find that beautiful Trevor had poured them some wine.

"Think I wouldn't come?" Trevor asked.

"I confess," Toby touched Trevor's clerical collar and laughed.

"You sure feed your cats well."

Toby turned to look. Eeny, Miney and Mo were devouring chicken in a cream sauce. "Dinner is officially ruined," he groaned.

"I don't care about dinner," Trevor proclaimed passionately. "I didn't climb three stories for food. I want you, Toby. Here. Now. On the linoleum if necessary."

It was necessary.

They fell into one another's arms, then dropped slowly to the floor. Wet smacking sounds, from their kisses and from the cats finishing their meal, were all that were audible (save for an occasional giggle from Shannon and Quentin down the hall). Most certainly no one heard the strange man as he appeared at the kitchen window and raised a tiny camera.

And next time, Cynda makes a break for freedom with a little help from a new friend... and incriminating photos are developed in Boston, catching Toby and Trevor with their pants down. Etc, etc.

55 and Older

Previous research in the Gay/Lesbian community has indicated a preference for retirement housing and long-term care facilities which are homosexually oriented.

To elicit more detailed and accurate information concerning interest in such facilities for older Gay people, a nationwide survey is being conducted by Dr. A.J. Lucco, Fellow in Geriatric Medicine at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore.

Gay men and Lesbian women who will be at least 55 years old by the end of the current calendar year are needed to complete an anonymous, self-administered questionnaire which asks for demographic data as well as opinions in regard to retirement housing options and preferences. If you qualify and are willing to participate, please contact: A.J. Lucco, M.D., The Beacham Center, 5200 Eastern Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21224.

Organizations willing to distribute questionnaires are also asked to reply.

The study is being funded privately by the principal investigator.

Results will be compiled and made available to Gay/Lesbian organizations around the country which are interested in developing retirement facilities for older Lesbian women and Gay men. □

Wills Brochure

San Francisco — National Gay Rights Advocates, the San Francisco-based public interest law firm, has published a new brochure on wills. Written in a question-answer format, the brochure addresses the typical concerns of gay men and women. Some of the areas covered are probate, taxes, joint ownership of property and estate planning.

NGRA Executive Director Jean O'Leary said: "Wills give us the power to make important decisions about the disposition of our property. With a will, you can make sure your last wishes are respected so that those most important to you will be remembered. Without a will, you simply have no choice."

Leonard Graff, NGRA Legal Director, said: "We just finished successfully defending the validity of a gay man's will that his two nieces had challenged. Unfortunately this sort of thing happens all the time. NGRA's brochure has a section that specifically deals with the problem of will contests." Graff noted that the defense of the will was a joint project with Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and the Fund for Human Dignity.

The brochure is entitled "Wills Give You Power" and is the second brochure to be published in NGRA's Consumer Education Series.

The brochure is free, but please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to NGRA, 540 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114.

Gay Games II

The first tryout for the South-bay's volleyball representative to Gay Games II is scheduled for Sunday, August 4th at 12 noon at Rivergreen Park (corner of Bird and Pine).

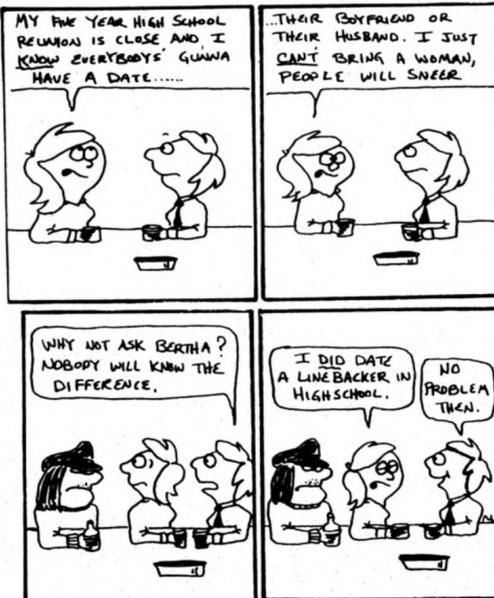
The Games will be held in San Francisco in August of 1986.

Neil Christie and Tim Toole, members of the San Jose volleyball contingent to Gay Games I, will be conducting the tryouts to select the San Jose volleyball team.

Anyone interested in trying out for the team is invited to attend the August 4th tryout. For more information call Neil Christie at 723-3586.

HAPPY GAY N' FREE

BY CLAIRE MIX



KKUP Women's Radio Show

KKUP, a listener sponsored radio station out of Cupertino (91.5), hosts a women's radio show every Sunday morning from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. The show includes women's music, interviews and community calendar. Hosts Karen Hester and Mary Jeffries encourage feedback and suggestions. The August schedule is as follows:

- August 4 — A thousand Cranes — Remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki
- August 11 — Interview with Karen Ferguson discussing alternative health
- August 18 — Women's music
- August 25 — Women's music

FORTUNES

By Tycho

ARIES (March 21 - April 20) The week begins with a magnificent burst of mental energy; it almost seems as if you can will the solutions to come to your questions. Moderating advice from a friend can help polish those ideas to a perfect sheen.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 20) Finishing off any long-standing responsibility clears the air and your mind. Your attentiveness is repaid many times over with a piece of information that is very valuable. Accept it with thanks, and think carefully about how best to use it.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21) Schemes, plans, and ideas that affect others will work best if you consult before putting them into practice. Your image is good now, and if you keep that in mind while acting, it will get better. Remember that change is hard for most people.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22) Something unfamiliar attracts you, and at the same time worries you because it conflicts with what you know so well. Step delicately here; this is not a question of all or nothing. Taste, sample, and appreciate the novelty, but don't make it part of your life.

LEO (July 23 - August 22) Bitten off more than you can chew? Or are you simply awestruck by what confronts you? It's not that you're incapable, only that you have to rearrange the way you do things. A loved one helps, and that's good since home priorities require change, too.

VIRGO (August 23 - September 22) Home satisfaction and happiness fill your days and nights, which is all to the good. The only possible side effect that could be less than perfect is a tendency to withdraw from the rest of the world. Be open to the outside.

LIBRA (September 23 - October 22) "I'm all right, Jack," is your catchphrase, but make sure that "You're all right" is something you say only when it's true. You'll be asked for an unbiased opinion, and a frank answer will be required — and appreciated.

SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21) Hard work is required, and you have all the ability it demands, so long as you don't give in to despair about how long the road to reward may seem. Distraction from a loved one helps; so does an attitude that appreciates what you're learning as you go.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 - December 21) Thinking beautiful thoughts may seem to be a silly pastime, but you need a center and the best one is in your own mind. Pull it into order, then let it wander. That gives you relief from distractions and may result in valuable insight.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 19) Something good has come into your home which has far-reaching implications. You can build on it and move forward, if all the baggage of the past has been cleared. Take a step away from the immediate situation and make sure the path is clear — in both directions.

AQUARIUS (January 20 - February 18) Go for the sure thing. With your abilities shining, you're tempted to go off in several tempting directions, perhaps all at once. Concentrate on a winner, get it, and carve that notch on your belt before you expend your energy uselessly.

PISCES (February 19 - March 20) Be faithful to your dreams. You've set a path that you should stick to, and any detours now are fruitless. Distractions abound; avoid any that decrease your efficiency or your concentration. Avoid any kind of overindulgence.

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Congressional AIDS Hearing in S.F. Continued from Page 6



Medical and research experts testify at Congressional subcommittee hearings on AIDS. From left to right: Steve Morin, PhD; Cathrine Steane, attorney; Dr. Werdigar; Dr. Silverman; Dr. Lee; Drs. Levy, Abrame, Volberding, Moss, and Cowan. Photo by Ted Sahl

just come to the end of the first decade of AIDS; and by the time we started seeing sick people, there were many more infected people than we were seeing.

"In San Francisco we estimate there are at least 25 times as many people with antibodies to the virus as people who are sick with AIDS. In this small city, there are maybe thirty thousand people in the real epidemic.

"I suspect," said Moss, "that there are upward of three hundred thousand people in the U.S. carrying the AIDS virus, and most of them do not even know it.

"What we need is some kind of anti-viral to stop those people from spreading the disease, a vaccine won't help those people."

He said, "AIDS in its first decade was a homosexual disease; that's not going to be true in the second decade. Very soon, AIDS in Gay men is going to taper off because there are only so many Gay men and because sexual behavior has really changed, at least in San Francisco."

"Meanwhile," Moss continued, "four to six years from now there are going to be more heterosexual cases in the United States than homosexual, and we will have learned to see AIDS as a venereal disease.

"So I urge you, when the vaccine comes as AIDS heads into its second heterosexual decade, that ironically, the cure and the prevention that the whole world is waiting for are going to come only with the support of its first and most stigmatized group of victims," said Moss.

Children with AIDS

Dr. Morton Cowan, Associate Professor at the Dept. of Pediatrics, Univ. of California Medical Center, testified on the more than 100 pediatric cases of AIDS (PAIDS) reported to the CDC, Atlanta.

"The pediatric population at risk for PAIDS includes those infants of high-risk mothers (either drug-abusing women with bisexual partners, or Haitian women) or infants and women receiving blood product transfusions containing the AIDS-related retrovirus (ARV, HTLV-III, or LAV).

"There are several important differences between adults and children with AIDS. One is the incubation period, which ranges from a few months to six years. This means that the actual magnitude of cases of AIDS which may result from current

high-risk exposures will not be realized until 1990," said Cowan.

"Furthermore, another difference is that it is extremely difficult to define high-risk infants because at least 50% of mothers of children with PAIDS are clinically normal."

Cowan said, "Women who are known carriers of the AIDS retrovirus can have multiple pregnancies, not all of which result in offspring who will get AIDS.

"The fact that a high-risk woman has an unaffected child does not mean subsequent children will be normal, even if the woman remains asymptomatic."

Cowan pointed out, "While virtually all adults with AIDS will be positive for the anti-body test, many young children will remain negative, making the detection of PAIDS that more difficult. These children must remain in the hospital for long periods of time.

"A recent example of the cost for three members of the same family was \$750,000, and that only included inpatient costs for physician, nurse, social worker, teacher, and other support services."

Cowan finished his testimony by saying, "In San Francisco we have found that about 10% of drug-abusing mothers and their offspring at San Francisco General Hospital alone have evidence of infection with (HTLV-III, ARV, or LAV) with 150 of these women delivering babies at S.F. General a year."

Treatment of AIDS

Dr. Paul Volberding, Chief Medical Oncology Director, AIDS Director, S.F. General Hospital, said: "Even if a vaccine were made available soon, it would be of no value for those hundreds of thousands already carrying the virus, thousands of whom are programmed to develop AIDS or pass the virus on unknowingly to their children or future sexual partners.

"As educational concerns have been addressed by others, I will focus on the treatment of AIDS itself.

"Early in the AIDS epidemic, our treatment focused solely on the infections or cancers that arise because of the damaged immune system.

"Quickly we realized, however, that success in treatment would require restoring the immune system. Even more recently, we appreciate that this cannot be expected as long as the AIDS virus is present; therefore, efforts are now directed at testing drugs to inhibit, if not completely

eliminate this virus.

"Unfortunately, every time these studies are performed means the expenditure of thousands of dollars, and increasingly there is no support for these costs.

"Insurance carriers, prepaid health plans, and local governments categorically refuse to support research.

"This situation cannot continue; we cannot place all our hope in an AIDS vaccine. To do so would condemn thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands of Americans, heterosexual as well as homosexual, children as well as adults, to die from this horrible disease.

"We must make a firm commitment to stop AIDS. It can be done. But it can't be done without vigorous emergency support for public education, and for the development of effective treatments," said Volberding.

Other Testimony

Steve Morin, PhD, American Psychological Association testified, as did David Werdigar, MD, MPH, Director of Health, San Francisco, who spent his time praising Dr. Silverman, the man he replaced.

Randolph Lee, MD, president, San Francisco Health Commission testified.

Cathrine Steane, Lambda Legal Defense attorney, described how AIDS patients are dismissed from their jobs, denied a place to live, have their insurance canceled — a common occurrence coast to coast.

The entire room was visibly shaken during the testimony given by Bill Bradley, board of directors of the Shanti Project.

Bradley described how quickly his training passed when he was assigned to Paul Castro, his first client.

"For 27 months, I was a personal friend, counselor, and teacher to Paul Castro. He knew that he could call me at any time if he had to be rushed to the hospital.

(His voice began to break) "He knew I would be there by his side; we were together for all the fundamental joys of living.

"When Paul finally knew his time was near, we talked about his memorial service. Paul had dedicated his time left to speaking every change he could and tried to educate others.

"In March of this year, Paul was admitted to the hospital. He came down with pneumonia, but he recovered and was sent home.

(Bradley could hardly speak.) "The last two months were the

most difficult time of his life. I watched him lie helplessly as the disease claimed his life. Shortly before he died, I spent an afternoon with him; his legs were swollen, and Paul asked me to massage them.

"I did so, but not effectively — he screamed at me, and forcing his rage on God! Paul burst into tears, he asked me to forgive him. He was scared his anger would chase me away, and he would die alone."

(Bradley tried to keep his own tears back.) "I assured Paul I would not leave.

"Paul Castro died two weeks later." (With that, Bradley broke out in tears, as Ms. Gayling Gee, sitting next to him, gently patted his shoulder. Moments later, Bradley, with broken voice, managed to finish his testimony.)

"Surely," said Bradley, "no one needs to die alone in America, in 1985. Yet as I look to next year, and the year after that, I see increased numbers of people dying of AIDS — who will be there to help them?"

Gayling Gee, RN, MS, head nurse at the AIDS clinic, S.F. General Hospital, told how she put up a blackboard with the names of AIDS patients who died, only to have to take it down. When we got to 27, I had to stop, they were dying so fast.

"My staff working in the ward suffered their own trauma — pleading with me to take it down. The blackboard became a constant reminder that we cannot do what we were trained to do. At one point, the clinic staff become so distraught they refused to go to work. I finally took down the blackboard, and put the names in a book."

Next to address the subcommittee was Mervyn Silverman, MD, former Director of Health, San Francisco: "The federal government must fund educational programs if we are to reduce the spread of this disease . . .

"Unless we can stop the spread of this disease," said Silverman, "the cost in human suffering and dollars will be incalculable."

He said, "The federal government must have a national comprehensive plan for at least three to five years. I suggest a bi-partisan group be formed from both the House and the Senate to prepare this comprehensive plan, to be locally implemented, but federally funded."

"Make no mistake about it, this is not just a Gay problem, transfusion-related problem, or a hemophiliac problem, this is a health problem and as such, everyone's concern..." □

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England, Denmark, and Australia) were represented at the conference.

The UFMCC Human Rights Award was given to Rev. and Mrs. Melvin E. Wheatley, Jr.

Bishop Wheatley recently retired as bishop of the four-state Denver area of the United Methodist Church. He and his wife, who celebrated their 46th anniversary in June, have been active with Parents and Friends of Gays as well as working for change within the Methodist denomination.

Bishop Wheatley urged us to relate to each other as people, not as issues. "My commitment," he said, "is to the God of all."

San Francisco Supervisor Harry Britt also addressed the breakfast at which the Human Rights Award was presented.

"I hope you will not underestimate the power that is in this room," said the former minister.

He pictured the U.S. as being "in terrible fear of losing its masculinity right now," and said the country is afraid of our "sexual naturalness."

Also visiting the conference was Sacramento Jerry Sloan, a former MCC minister who is suing Jerry Falwell for \$5,000.

He showed a tape of their joint television appearance in Sacramento last year in which Falwell promised to pay Sloan \$5,000 if he could produce a tape of Falwell calling MCC "a vile and satanic system" and saying there would be a "celebration in heaven" when the church was "utterly annihilated."

Sloan produced the tape but Falwell did not produce the money.

The case was supposed to be heard in Sacramento Municipal Court the week of the MCC conference, but Falwell has gotten it postponed, Sloan said, to September 13.

Another tape of interest to the conference was UFMCC's own, four-years-in-the-making documentary, *God, Gays and the Gospel: This Is Our Story*, which was shown and offered for sale on video-cassettes.

Perry has been appearing around the country in the 15 cities where the Fellowship hopes to buy airtime on local stations to show the hour-long program.

Negotiations are also continuing with cable systems that might air the evangelical tool which covers the history of MCC through the church's response to AIDS, including music, excerpts from sermons, comments by members and the frequent proclamation that God loves Lesbian women and Gay men.

Rev. Elder Freda Smith, who pastors River City MCC in Sacramento, a city that has been considering a Gay Rights ordinance, told the conference that MCC is "the beginning of an enlightenment of the Christian church. Part of that enlightenment will spill over to the political process."

At the close of the conference she officiated at a service where the mortgage on her church's building was burned.

Rev. Perry says the church now owns \$15 million in property, but at this point more congregations' buildings have been burned than mortgages. □

The Beginning... **993-3800** ...Where to go... What to do... Who to see!