

Lesbian Fights To Win Job As Deputy Sheriff

Contra Costa Sheriff considers gay deputies a liability

by Sue Zemel

The Contra Costa Sheriff's Department continues in its refusal to hire Denise Kreps, a highly qualified applicant, to a Deputy Sheriff position solely because she admitted during a required polygraph test to being a lesbian.

"Based on the California Constitution, Denise's rights to equal protection and due process have been abridged," stated her attorney, Donna Hitchens of the Lesbian Rights Project.

Although the Contra Costa Civil Service Commission, following a recommendation from Administrative Law Judge Michael Cohn, has ordered that Sheriff Richard Rainey consider Kreps' application without reference to her sexual orientation, the Sheriff plans to contest this ruling before state Superior Court Judge Richard Calhoun.

Hitchens explained that her client's case will test the boundaries of a wide-range state Supreme Court decision in 1979, limiting job discrimination against gays.

The controversy began last October when Denise, who ranked 16 out of 181 applicants in physical and written examinations, was required to undergo a lie detector test. The polygraph included questions about prior homosexual conduct.

When Kreps, who has worked in the department for three years as a dispatcher and reserve deputy, answered the question affirmatively, the Sheriff immediately disqualified her for the position. She was told by Rainey that her sexual preference precluded her becoming a deputy sheriff.

Ms. Kreps immediately appealed this decision to the Civil Service Commission. "I live in Contra Costa County and feel that I should be able to work in my own community," stated Kreps. At a Wednesday press conference she reiterated her longtime career goal to become a deputy sheriff, and asserted that she "intended to go all the way with my case."

At the March Administrative Law Hearing, held at the request of the Civil Service Commission, Sheriff Rainey argued that the department did not want to take on the liability of employing gay deputies. He expressed

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Special Election Set For Repeal of District Elections

by John Schrock

On August 19 San Franciscans will vote on whether to retain district elections or return to the at-large method of selecting members for the Board of Supervisors. Campaigning for the special election began Monday with a debate at a meeting of the Stonewall Democratic Club between repeal leader Terry Francois and district elections proponent David Scott.

Former Supervisor Francois said the existing system results in "taxation without representation" because "there are ten Supervisors I can't reach."

"If the gay community wants maximum political power, they have to be able to reach all Supervisors, not just the one in District 5. In an at-large system a politician can't stay alive politically and alienate the gay community."

Public Utilities Commissioner Scott countered Francois' arguments with the claim that big money actually controls an at-large Board. He warned against "turning the clock back to the 60's when people calling the tunes were the downtown big businesses."

He pointed out that Supervisor Nancy Walker conducted a successful

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(Photo © Greg Day)

An unidentified woman attempts to keep comic Robin Tyler (center, with finger in mouth) from passing through the entry gate to the speakers platform at the Gay Freedom Day Celebration. Photographer Greg Day was expelled from the press area for taking pictures of the incident.

Backstage Struggle Mars Gay Pride Celebration

Robin Tyler and supporters storm gate demanding entry to speakers platform

A week of celebration of Gay Pride came to a rousing close when an estimated 200,000 people lined the city's streets for the Gay Freedom Day Parade on Sunday, June 29.

The three hour parade featured 30,000 colorful marchers, with floats and musical units filing up the Market Street route to the Civic Center Plaza for the post-parade fair.

Under unexpectedly sunny skies thousands of people jammed the Plaza, zipping around on the carnival rides, stuffing themselves with junk food, and sunbathing on the fairground lawns.

An incident involving lesbian comic Robin Tyler almost marred the otherwise upbeat celebration.

Earlier this month the Parade Committee's Corporate Board nixed Tyler, Tom Ammianno and a Native American spokesperson from the list of celebration speakers, despite endorsement of these speakers by the general membership at their final meeting on June 15. Anne Kronenberg and Willie Brown were added to the program instead.

Dissatisfied with the slate of scheduled speakers, lesbian-feminist Marion Vandenberg, joined by other women, attempted to arrange for women's entertainment groups to introduce women speakers, including Tyler.

Alive, a women's jazz band, brought Barbara Cameron, a native American woman, onstage to speak at the end of their act, but no one introduced Tyler.

Amy Fournier, co-chair of the Parade Committee, stated that rumors were circulating throughout the day that Tyler and her supporters were going to storm the stage in the early afternoon. Upon hearing this, the Committee leaders decided in such an event to let Tyler speak rather than risk a violent incident. When the incident didn't occur at 2 p.m. as rumored, the co-chairs reasoned the rumors were unfounded.

However at 3:30, the rumored incident did indeed occur.

"Our strategy was to speak from the Press Platform near the stage," said Tyler. She had secured a cordless mike and was prepared to address the crowd from the platform. However, a group of monitors surrounded her and confiscated the microphone.

An angry mob of people then began pushing Tyler toward the main stage, chanting "We want Robin!"

According to Fournier, "Tyler and her pack of howling wolves" nearly wreaked havoc. "The stunts she pulled were outlandish."

Fournier said that Tyler, donning a monitor's t-shirt, sneaked into the backstage area. Others involved in storming the gate also wore monitor t-shirts. Robert Dunn, Chief of Monitors, had earlier in the day instructed

the monitors to remove their official t-shirts if they felt obligated to join any disruptive activities. He noted, however, that several monitors reneged on this commitment, so that the gate battle became one of monitors versus monitors.

"I looked behind the stage and the scene was ugly," said Armistead Maupin, one of the celebration's MCs. "People were pushing and yelling—and it looked like a riot would start."

Acting in the interest of public safety, Maupin and co-MC Pat Bond proceeded to escort Tyler onstage, where Maupin introduced Tyler to the audience as "someone who has betrayed me."

Maupin stated that prior to his less than whole-hearted introduction, he had been asked by Harry Britt to introduce Tyler. Tyler also said that she had spoken with Harry Britt earlier in the week, and that at that time, the supervisor offered to introduce her to the audience.

Britt did not do so, however, and later stated that although he supported

Tyler in her efforts to speak, his first concern was that an ugly incident would not take place.

Alan Johnson, who was standing at the stage area as the crowd stormed the gate, overheard a squabble between Britt and Maupin. Britt said that he couldn't introduce Tyler because, according to Johnson, he didn't want to get involved in this heated issue.

Once onstage, Tyler spoke about *Bent*, the Broadway play about gay persecution during the Holocaust, the CBS documentary on gay politics in San Francisco, and the Santa Clara County rights defeats as instances of an anti-gay backlash.

While most people agreed that the speech was effective and generally well-received, some members of the gay community were angry about the tactics Tyler employed to gain access to the stage.

During the commotion, photographer Greg Day was snapping pictures from the press area behind the stage. Day was asked to leave the area by Security Director Bob Futch, in spite of Day's objections that this violated his journalistic freedom. Futch remarked, "Yes, I asked him to leave. He didn't need to take that kind of stuff. Besides, we needed to clear the area for security reasons."

During the pandemonium (which lasted less than five minutes), most people in the fairgrounds didn't even know the incident had occurred. They were busy lying in the sun, riding the ferris wheel, and enjoying the day.

Gays Launch Efforts To Help Cuban Refugees

A national relief program to aid gay Cuban refugees was announced this week by a coalition of gay religious and activist organizations meeting in Washington, D.C.

The program, which will provide jobs, housing and gay community services to thousands of Cuban gays, will be backed by the federal government and Church World Services, an inter-denominational group experienced in refugee resettlement, officials from those agencies said.

The aid program will be coordinated by the Metropolitan Community Church, which has pledged \$100,000 and the services of its 113 congregations to launch the program. Dignity, a gay Catholic organization, and Integrity, a gay Episcopalian group, also pledged strong support, as did the National Gay Task Force, Gay Rights National Lobby, the San Francisco-based Gay Rights Advocates, and the National Organization of Women.

Neither federal officials nor relief groups working at the four refugee centers are able to provide a firm estimate of the number of Cuban gays who will require a gay community outreach, but current unofficial estimates place the total between 10,000 and

20,000. Approximately 40,000 Cubans of the original 116,000 refugees remain at U.S. camps.

Cuban gays are known to be at all four locations, including the newly opened Fort McCoy, Wisconsin facility. The Minneapolis, Minnesota-based publication, *Positively Gay*, reported it had met with several hundred gays at the Wisconsin camp earlier this week and local gay organizations near Fort Indiantown Gay, Pennsylvania, and Camp Eglin, Florida, also report meeting with large numbers of gays and lesbians. Federal officials at Fort Chaffee, Arkansas who asked not to be named suggested about 2,500 gays remain at that camp.

A large number of the Cuban gays are believed to have come directly from Castro's prisons or been ordered by state security police to leave on the Mariel boatlift. U.S. officials privately estimated that between 1,500 and 2,000 Cuban refugees have prison records for homosexuality, but that number could not be confirmed by official spokespeople.

The size of the Cuban gay population has been a sore point with Amer-

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Demos Revise Charter To Include Gays

Feinstein and Daly endorse charter revision, but oppose 'affirmative action' program for gays

by Larry Bush

Gay Democrats won an unexpected victory this week when their party voted to open its charter to gays and also to prohibit Democratic Party "conduct" which discriminates against gays.

The vote came in a Rules Committee meeting in Washington, D.C., and will not have official status until ratified at the August Democratic National Convention. But that step is considered merely a formality in light of the substantial Rules Committee majority.

The action is the second taken by the Democrats in the past two weeks to affirm the rights of gays, marking an historic departure from the traditional silence on gay issues by both national political parties. The first action took place at the Democratic Platform Committee deliberations, which unanimously endorsed a gay rights plank for the party's presidential campaign.

The Rules Committee change, however, will mark a permanent recognition of the Democratic Party's opposition to discrimination based on sexual orientation and is expected to be particularly useful for gay political clubs' secret entry into the Democratic Party structure.

"It is very, very clear that in certain places around the country gays and lesbians are very involved in the party," Democratic National Committee representative Elaine Kamarck told *The Sentinel*.

"They are contributing money and that always gets politicians' attention. That has been true for a long time in California where they are a crucial part of the Democratic Party. In the last two years it was beginning to happen in other places in the country and that's why it was clearly time to do this," said Kamarck.

"We are going to need gays against Ronald Reagan. We need their money,

their work, and their votes. This is our way of saying we know they are there and we want them," Kamarck concluded.

The proposed charter change was recommended by Rules Committee member Stephen Weltman, a Los Angeles attorney who is a member of the California Lesbian and Gay Democratic Caucus. Weltman's proposal was strongly endorsed by San Franciscan Jo Daly, also a Rules Committee member, and was seconded by San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein, a Carter leader at the Rules Committee.

"Mayor Feinstein's role was typical," Daly said after the vote. "Because she is a nationally recognized leader, because she's one of the strongest and most popular people in the Carter camp, and a leader in the Rules Committee, her speaking was absolutely necessary."

"It wasn't politically expedient for her, in my opinion," said Daly, a Kennedy delegate. "After all, the CBS Report wasn't flattering to her or to her city, but she wouldn't back down on what she believed in."

The rule was opposed by several Committee members as "making waves," but an anti-gay speech by a Connecticut delegate charging that "next we'll be asked to support non-discrimination for arsonists," was believed to have created a strong backlash in favor of the gay rule.

A second rule, however, proposing that the Democrats actively seek lesbians and gay men under a party "affirmative action" program went down to resounding defeat.

That measure, also sponsored by Weltman, drew only a handful of supporters after both Feinstein and Daly indicated they would not support it.

"The section that was introduced

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GOP Supports Anti-Gay Legislation

Republican Platform Committee takes pains to insure gays not included in anti-discrimination plank

Ronald Reagan's handpicked Republican Platform Committee this week laid out a program to march the Republican Party into the arms of the new Christian Right and back into the Cold War.

Included in the newly approved Platform were open swipes at gays, restoration of the House Un-American Activities Committee (which purged gays and alleged Communists from American political and economic life in the 1950's), support for Senator Paul Laxalt's anti-gay Family Protection Act, and a repeal of the Republicans' 40-year stand favoring the Equal Rights Amendment.

Despite what National Convention Project's Co-Director Tom Bastow described as an atmosphere of "huddled survivors of some sort of calamity," Republican Platform Committee members were actively lobbied by gay Republicans during the weeklong deliberations.

This year two openly gay Republicans were elected to the party's national convention for the first time, and local gay Republican groups have taken an active role in testifying in support of gay rights.

Only one public hearing of the Republican Platform Committee included testimony supporting gay rights, however, with Party officials claiming they had heard enough without further testimony during later hearings.

When the Republican Platform Committee voted this week they took special pains to make clear they do not support gay rights.

A plank calling for an end to "unjust discrimination against Americans"

was passed and then amended successfully so that no inference could be made that gays were subject to unjust discrimination.

That amendment was put forward by Virginia's Guy Farley, one of Virginia's large Moral Majority team. Farley called the Platform Committee's attention to the possibility that homosexuals might be considered as candidates under the plank as it then read and suggested it be amended forthwith. His proposal was roundly endorsed by Mississippi Congressman Trent Lott and passed overwhelmingly.

This year's Platform Committee is strongly dominated by Christian conservatives as a result of Republican Party rules which, unlike the Democratic Party, do not provide for proportional representation by state Republican size. That has left states with large, sophisticated and urban Republican majorities with no more say than Virginia Republicans, who were recently described by an ousted Virginia Republican leader as "a case study for an abnormal psychiatrist. A political scientist wouldn't have much work in this state but an abnormal psychiatrist would."

"We didn't come here expecting to win any big victories," Bastow said. "We will establish contacts with other gay Republicans, build the strength of the gay community in the Republican Party, and establish our presence here so they will know that we will be back."

Bastow was joined in his lobbying effort by elected gay Republican delegates Tim Drake (Ill.) and Chuck Thompson (NY), and by Don Genhart,

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NEWS BRIEFS

Irish Man Challenges Anti-Gay Law

(Dublin) David Norris, a 35-year-old teacher at Dublin's Trinity College, is suing the Irish government on the grounds that an 1861 law punishing homosexuals with life imprisonment at hard labor is in violation of the Irish Constitution. An Irish High Court is expected to make a ruling later this month.

The case has raised considerable controversy in conservative, Catholic Ireland. Although no homosexuals have ever been sentenced to life under the law, some have been convicted of criminal offenses.

Norris testified in court of his awareness of his homosexuality since his teenage years, and his sense of isolation and fear while a top scholar at Trinity College. He said colleagues urged him to emigrate to another European country where homosexuality is not regarded as a criminal offense.

Norris said he was "indignant" at the thought of having to move from the country of his birth.

Dr. John P. Spiegel of the American Psychiatric Association told the court that homosexuality is no longer considered a nervous disorder. The Archbishop of the Church of Ireland in Dublin said that while the church does not regard homosexuality as normal, there is a need to reform the laws penalizing homosexuals.

"I believe we have a strong case," Norris remarked. "It's extremely bad law, reflecting ancient, medieval prejudices. It has never been debated by Parliament, but was simply incorporated into the body of Irish law from the English."

The law does not classify lesbian relations as criminal.

Eighteen months ago Norris was instrumental in founding the National Gay Federation, a group that provides Dublin gays with a telephone switchboard, a cinema, a restaurant and a disco.

Both measures were prompted by public indignation over the manslaughter convictions of former San Francisco Supervisor Dan White who shot and killed Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk in 1978.

Although White was charged with murder, the jury supported manslaughter convictions on the basis of defense testimony that White lacked the mental capacity to premeditate a murder.

Following extensive testimony on the bills, which were approved earlier by the Senate, the Criminal Justice Committee killed the Holmdahl Bill (SB2033) by a 2-3 margin, and the Roberti Bill (SB1314) by 2-4. Assemblyman Willie Brown (D-SF) was absent from the voting.

Although the bills were slightly different, they both aimed to limit the defense of diminished capacity. The mental deficiency defense would have been limited to a separate sanity trial following the actual criminal conviction. This would change the verdict from not guilty by reason of insanity to guilty but insane. The defendant would then be sentenced to a mental hospital as a criminal rather than a civil commitment as the law now provides.

Eric Schlockman, an aide to Assemblyman Art Agnos (D-SF) regards the defeats "as reflective of the concern in Sacramento that this tampering with the law is too premature."

Although the committee members understand the travesty of Justice over the Dan White case, the psychoanalysis in this area is in disarray and controversy," he said. "It's just not certain when someone's capacities become diminished."

The controversy in this area was apparent in the contrast between the testimony by Dr. Bernard Diamond, a psychiatrist and law professor at U.C. Berkeley, and Dr. Lee Coleman, a private Berkeley psychiatrist.

Coleman declared the notion of diminished capacity as "just pure psychobabble."

Formal Complaint on CBS Documentary Filed with National News Council

(San Francisco) A detailed, lengthy complaint was filed with the National News Council this week, concerning the recent CBS "documentary" entitled "Gay Power, Gay Politics." Gay journalist Randy Alfred catalogued a wide variety of untruths and half-truths throughout the show.

Alfred accused reporter George Crile of "using inflammatory buzzwords" and "fishing for sensational answers." Sometimes Criles simply planted his own interpretation onto the filmed events.

For instance, in one sequence a frightened young girl was shown on Castro Street on Halloween as Criles remarked, "Since the gays took over here, they've introduced a new experience to the kiddies."

Alfred interviewed the girl's mother who told him that her fright was caused by the "anti-gay punks there to hassle people." Minutes after the film was shot, the mother took her little girl to a cafe for the protection of being among gay men.

Alfred cites numerous other half-truths and downright lies. He chides Harry Reasoner for his "unsubstantiated" concluding statement that gay politicians in San Francisco "demand absolute sexual freedom."

The show was designed, Alfred concludes, to conform with "the outrageous editorial stance of the producers—sex and politics are repeatedly confused."

Alfred asked the National News Council to condemn the show in order that no "other news organizations will be given license to copy these abuses."

Bills To Abolish Diminished Capacity Defense Defeated

(Sacramento) Two bills designed to eliminate the defense of diminished capacity in criminal trials were defeated within the Assembly Criminal Justice Committee recently.

Both measures were prompted by public indignation over the manslaughter convictions of former San Francisco Supervisor Dan White who shot and killed Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk in 1978.

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Kokpit Shuts Down After Attempted Trashing

(San Francisco) The Kokpit, a gay bar located at 301 Turk Street, has been forced to board up its doors and permanently close down following repeated harassment from Tenderloin juveniles and lack of police protection.

According to owner Howard Bloomfield the harassment escalated last Sunday evening when a gang of young blacks began throwing cherry bombs into the tavern.

When a 9-year-old youth who had been firing the bombs into the tavern was caught by bar employees, however, a small group of angry adults appeared on the scene threatening to kill the Kokpit's workers if the youth was not immediately released.

Bloomfield, who placed six unanswered phone calls for help to the Northern Police Station, reported that after the youth was released an irate mob of forty people wielding baseball bats and knives attempted to trash the bar.

Kokpit employees barricaded the door, and held off the threatening mob until a passing police car stopped at the scene at 8:30 p.m. The crowd dispersed upon the police officer's arrival, vowing "to burn this place down if it was reopened."

No arrests were made by officers Roy Holden and Mark Potter. The officers later told *The Chronicle* that the gays had laid a trap for the young boy, which angered the local residents. In their report they noted that the youth had been enticed into the tavern.

"We were lucky that the police happened to drive by when they did," said Bloomfield. "When we went down to report the incident at Northern Station they had no record that we had even called." Bloomfield added that he placed the first phone call to the police over an hour before the mob tried to break down the tavern's door.

The Kokpit, which has been a neighborhood bar for the past ten years, will not reopen for business. Bloomfield estimates that he will suffer at least a \$50,000 loss.

"Meanwhile, I have three people unemployed, but I would rather close down than endanger the lives of my employees or the residents who live above the bar," he stated. "We have no other recourse."

Supreme Court Rules Against Abortion Funding

(Washington, D.C.) In a five to four decision the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Hyde Amendment, the federal legislation eliminating virtually all public funding for abortion is, indeed, constitutional.

This ruling overturns a previous lower court decision that the Hyde Amendment, by cutting off funds for medically necessary abortions, violated the constitutional rights of poor women as defined by clauses guaranteeing due process, equal protection and free exercise of religion.

"The Supreme Court's decision is shockingly political. It abandons the Constitution and sacrifices poor women," stated chief counsel Rhonda Copeland.

An estimated 300,000 women seeking federal abortion funds each year will be affected by the high court's decision.

The question in the case was whether the government could constitutionally refuse to pay for medically necessary abortions for poor women when it pays for virtually all other medically necessary services for the poor, including childbirth.

In his majority opinion Justice Potter Stewart stated that in constitutional terms there was no significant difference between elective and medically necessary abortion.

"Abortion is inherently different from other medical procedures because no other procedure involves the purposeful termination of a potential life," said Stewart.

Within hours of the decision pro-abortion groups held a protest demonstration across the street from the Supreme Court chambers.

Nine women dressed in black robes, each wearing a sign with the name of a Supreme Court Justice, held a banner saying, "If men got pregnant abortion would be sacred."

Alice Wolfson of the San Francisco based Committee to Defend Reproductive Rights (CDRR) said, "This is one more in a series of Court decisions that erode the rights of poor people. Pro-choice Californians will have to redouble their efforts to defend the right to choose abortion. We can still make California a state where poor women have access to reproductive choice and medical care available to wealthier women."

The CDRR has a case pending before the State Supreme Court that challenges the cutoff of state Medi-Cal funds for abortion.

PEOPLE

Brazilian Jose Alves de Moura, a gatecrasher who has gained notoriety by penetrating security and kissing Frank Sinatra, Pele, and South American singer idol Roberto Carlos, vowed he would do the same to Pope John Paul II.

He almost succeeded in the town of Aparecido do Monte but he was recognized by a canny police officer. The officer promised to have him presented personally to the Pope at City Hall, but once there, he locked de Moura in the municipal jail for the duration of the papal visit.

Meanwhile, in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, the Pope told a mob of one million enthusiastic Brazilians, "Don't be led astray by the exasperation of sex which tears down the authenticity of human love and leads to the break of the family."

"Overcome the temptation of the so-called consumer society," the infallible pontiff admonished. "Strive for austerity and frugality, otherwise you'll slip around like bubbles of soap."

Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver publicly mourned the demise of the Berkeley Barb at a recent meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

Silver asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of the Barb. "Iconoclasm has lost its most energetic advocate," Silver sighed. "And we will miss its advice, criticism, witicism and stridency."

Playwright Oscar Wilde, captured in pudgy hauteur by French painter Toulouse-Lautrec, appears on one of the Europa stamps issued annually by the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administration.

The series, established more than two decades ago, is among the most prized of European issues.

Vigdís Finnbogadóttir became the first popularly-elected female head of state in Europe last week.

"This is a milestone for equal rights for men and women, not only here in Iceland but all over the world," Finnbogadóttir stated. She is director of the Reykjavik theater and a leftist known for opposing the American airbase at Keflavik.

On July 31, Senator Edward Kennedy will appear at a \$25 a head cocktail party at a gay bar in San Francisco.

This event, to be followed by a \$100 a plate dinner, will mark the first time a major presidential candidate has appeared in a gay bar.

Another sex-related controversy has surfaced on the missile test ship *Norton Sound*, this time involving alleged harassment of female crew members by petty officer Craig Norman.

This scandal follows a lesbian witch-hunt last month. Eight women crew members aboard the ship face dismissal hearings this month for alleged homosexual activity.

Fifty thousand copies of the *New Webster's Encyclopedic Dictionary* will list Ronald Reagan as the country's 40th President.

"We thought Reagan was the logical choice and filled up that line with his name with the idea of not going to press until after the election," explained the publisher.

The book, however, will go on sale this month. "We just can't eat them up," the publisher concluded.

In a formal opinion requested by Senate Minority leader William Campbell (R-Hacienda Heights), California Attorney General George Deukmejian stated that Governor Jerry Brown's executive order banning job discrimination based on sexual preference in state agencies is "wholly consistent" with state civil service laws.

Deukmejian, the highest ranking Armenian American in the U.S., said the April 1979 order does not infringe on legislative authority over the Civil Service system.

Dreaded Mediterranean Fruit Flies have invaded San Jose.

"This is the worst type of pest," said Chester Howe, agricultural commissioner for Santa Clara County.

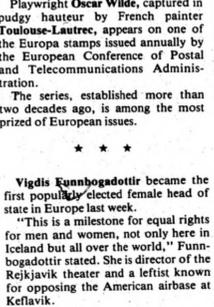
Although only two male Fruit Flies have been identified, authorities fear two females are lurking in the same area.

"What we plan to do is out-sex them," Howe explained, "by releasing thousands of sterile males during the breeding season."

Informed sources speculate that the plague of Fruit Flies represents Divine wrath incurred by the failure of the Gay Rights initiatives in Santa Clara County last month.



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Dijon Chicken Braised chicken in a Dijon sauce	Chicken Livertons Sauté Sautéed chicken livers, onions, butter and cream
Chicken Parmigiana Breaded chicken, lightly breaded, sautéed, and baked with tomato sauce and mozzarella cheese	Eggplant Parmigiana Eggplant, lightly breaded, sautéed, and baked with tomato sauce and mozzarella cheese
Tagliarini Carbonara Tagliarini pasta served with cream, ham, sausage, cheese, garlic, and egg white	Pasta Siciliana Short pasta served in olive oil, cream, garlic, cheese, sausage, and egg white

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The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to declare their independence of another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

On this 204th celebration of our nation's birth, it is necessary to remind ourselves that we still have not achieved for all our citizens the basic ideals set forth in the Declaration of Independence. We have not achieved equal justice for racial minorities. And we have not achieved equal justice for women. We have not achieved equal opportunity for the handicapped and gay men. The principles of equal justice and equal opportunity are at the heart of America's diversity, and its greatness. They are what make America the hope of the world, and history is replete with examples of the contributions that minorities have made to our national well-being. The time has come for us to extend this hope to all our citizens. The time has come for the government to stop penalizing people for their choice of whom to love. The time has come for this country to take advantage of the profound and constructive energies that lesbian and gay citizens can contribute when legal barriers to their participation are removed. The time has come for this country to recognize the wisdom of allowing full and equal participation to all its citizens, as the San Francisco Bay Area has amply demonstrated in the past decade. The time has come to guarantee—by law—this minority's right to equal job opportunity, equal access to housing, equal access to education, equal right to serve in this country's armed forces, in short, the same rights as all other Americans to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The stakes for America are high. We have much to lose by perpetuating bigotry. We have everything to gain by ending it. I am proud, therefore, to take this occasion of Independence Day 1980 to join the gay people of the Bay Area in calling for the realization of a goal that is not theirs alone: Liberty and Justice for All.

Dennis McQuaid
 Candidate for Congress

To put this statement into the Congressional Record, vote for Dennis McQuaid in District 5 on Nov. 4.

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Inside the Battle for a Gay Rights Plank

by Larry Bush

The 1980 Democratic Platform Committee wrangled and fought with each other over issues that divided Carter and Kennedy. Constant lobbying and caucusing kept the Colonial Room of Washington's Mayflower Hotel in a tumult of noise and confusion while the Platform Chair repeatedly sought to gavel the members into a semblance of quiet when delegates argued for their planks.

Only one moment stands apart from that confusion, when utter silence stilled the room and delegates sat quietly to hear a delegate speak. It was Bill Kraus, President of the S.F. Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club, took the floor to tell Platform Committee members that anti-gay discrimination must stop.

"It was clearly the most touching moment in the whole Platform process," said California delegate and Platform Co-chair Mike Steed. "It was the only moment when everyone was listening. The Democratic Party needed to hear things and contemplate with the discrimination gays have felt."

It was a message gay platform committee members had come to deliver, and one that Carter campaign officials first sought to keep from being heard. In the end, it was the Carter campaign that orchestrated and delivered a silent room to listen with deep respect to a gay man speak with a voice that sometimes choked on the cost of discrimination in this country—to gay Americans and all people.

Throughout the Platform debates, Carter and Kennedy forces mounted a slick and very frank effort to keep their delegates voting as a bloc, the well-oiled machinery kept in line by whips who walked to floors to orchestrate delegates' arguments and count heads on each vote. A Carter and Kennedy representative stood on the raised level that surrounded the

Platform room, leaving delegates in the pit a clear view of their thumbs up or thumbs down indication of which way to vote. Rarely were the thumbs of each camp in the same direction, although occasionally one representative would hold his hand closer in to his body to indicate it was not a "vital" vote.

The backdrop noise of the party politicians arranging for the next debate, cajoling the right arguments out of their delegates, sometimes swamped the process, and the Chair repeatedly would call for a modicum of quiet during actual debates.

By 2:00 a.m. of the last full day of debates, the "crazy hour" had set in, when delegates were slumped with exhaustion, confusion had turned to chaos, and tired campaign whips were struggling to keep their agenda moving forward.

That was the moment when Bill Kraus rose to speak on anti-gay discrimination. Carter campaign officials, who had been told that the detailed gay rights plank they found objectionable would be said aside after Kraus' speech, ran to the Chairman to ensure a good reception.

Kraus would be given all the time he needed, and Carter strategists told the Chairman to lay off the gavel which first sought to keep from being heard. In the end, it was the Carter campaign that orchestrated and delivered a silent room to listen with deep respect to a gay man speak with a voice that sometimes choked on the cost of discrimination in this country—to gay Americans and all people.

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Cuban Refugees

Continued from front page

ican relief organizations, which have sought to downplay the presence of homosexuals among the refugees. The U.S. Catholic Conference, which serves as a major relief support group, took strong objection to a Washington Post report that "thousands" of gays were among the refugees, but privately contacted Dignity leaders for their assistance in placing gays with Catholic gay families.

Most of the objections stem from a fear that American families will be unwilling to help resettle the Cubans if they fear that homosexuals will be placed in their homes, a leading official for one group said.

Rev. Robert Arthur, the MCC coordinator for the Cuban relief program, told gay leaders that resettling gays already had become a major problem for the traditional relief agencies.

One Cuban gay, Arthur told the group, had been placed in a rural Oklahoma town, where the sheriff and a large citizens' delegation appeared on his sponsor's doorstep to demand that he be immediately turned out. The sponsoring relief agency then contacted the Metropolitan Community Church, which was able to place the refugee in a gay home in Oklahoma City.

An effort to place Cubans with gay sponsors already has met with remarkable success in Miami, a leader of

the Dade County Coalition for Human Rights told the gay service groups.

More than 800 gay Cubans have been resettled with gay sponsors through the Dade County, Florida organization, Jose Freja said. His organization received help from the U.S. Catholic Conference office in Miami, and was able to locate gay sponsors throughout the country and in Puerto Rico. Freja and the Coalition earlier had chartered one boat to bring out Cuban gays during the boatlift.

Gay leaders were optimistic about the response from the gay community to the call for assistance, but cautioned that the challenge was among the greatest that gay leaders have yet faced.

Most of the refugees will require English language training, medical assistance which must rely on either volunteer gay doctors or gay contributions, employment training, and in some cases psychological counseling to deal with the shift from an oppressive life in Cuba to the relative freedom of American gay communities.

Resettlement efforts also will face an uphill battle with local government officials, who are reluctant to accept large numbers of unemployed people at a time when unemployment is high, and who fear added strains on welfare and public assistance budgets.

While gay communities in large cities such as San Francisco are most likely to have the resources to tackle resettlement problems, officials in those cities already feel they have an unfair burden with such problems.

"We have an understanding that no



Flanked by fellow indulgent novices, two perpetual sisters (center middle ground) discuss the probable outcome of Reagan senility tests. (Photo by Ross-Hermann Photography)

First gay refugee arrives in San Francisco
Gay Cuban Begins New Life

by Chris Kerby

Thinking back over the circumstances surrounding his exodus from his Cuban homeland, Miguel gently tugged on his beard, starting blankly into the past. "Where it all began," he sighed softly. "I am all the time trying to forget."

At the age of 34, Miguel has put his past aside.

"Now I am beginning to realize that I am out of Cuba," he remarked after several moments. "I have no possibility of coming back, even for a visit."

The sadness that he feels about abandoning his country, family, and friends was apparent in his comments. Miguel admitted "there are people who don't care if they live in one place or another, but I like my people."

Yet with a voice of determination, he concluded, "I think I should make my mind that I'm out of my life, and I must begin a new life." Clad in a stiff pair of newly-purchased, all-American Levis, Miguel has resolved to start anew in San Francisco.

Sill emotionally frazzled after only several days in the city, the Cuban refugee's eyes widened as he exclaimed his amazement about the spectacle that is America. "You must understand that everything is new for me. Everything is amazing! Everything is a big shock!"

"Of course I'm happy I'm here," Miguel continues. "Everything could be better for me here."

Fired for Having "Certain Manners"

Miguel is but one of the 115,000 Cuban refugees who emigrated to America during the spring and summer months with hopes for a better life.

Although he previously never seriously considered leaving his country, Miguel decided several months ago that he had to abandon Cuba after being fired from his teaching post at the University of Havana.

The professor of zoology was charged with having "certain mannerisms," a euphemism referring to homosexuality. "Since a university employee could be discharged for violating the 'socialist moral,' a vague catch-all notion, Miguel was dismissed after a hearing which he termed a "farce."

After he was fired, the professor was shocked to find that it was impossible for him to work elsewhere or to publish his research. "I could make the best research in Cuba and nobody would publish it," he explained. "I couldn't work in my profession. There was no way out. I decided I should leave the country."

"Undesirables" Rounded Up

Had Miguel stayed in Cuba, he might have been imprisoned for his "crime," or packed off to a forced labor camp. "In Cuba it is not possible to be gay," he explained matter-of-factly. "It is against the law. If you are openly gay, you cannot work anywhere with direct contact with people, especially young people. You can be put in jail."

Asked if he had known anyone who had been imprisoned, Miguel quietly responded, "I know some," and seemed unwilling to elaborate.

Hedda, his lesbian sponsor in San Francisco, recalled the persecution of gays that she witnessed during the years that she taught in Cuba from 1962 to 1972. During her decade there, suspected homosexuals and other "undesirables" were periodically rounded up and taken to work camps.

When waves of denunciations of homosexuals swept through the Young Communist League school where she taught, Hedda emigrated to America, eventually settling into her apartment in San Francisco's Mission District.

Both Miguel and Hedda term the life of gay Cubans as "underground."

"We have no bars," said the newly-arrived refugee. "To get into a bar, you should be in a male-female couple. Not even a straight man can go into a bar alone."

He added that when going out, a gay male couple might pair up with a lesbian couple to project the appearance of a heterosexual double-date.

"Normally you can't even have a party in your home," he noted. "If the neighbors realize that you are having a party of gay people, they can call the police."

Escape to America

But Miguel's precautions might have slipped. "Maybe they guess that I was gay or not exactly what they would like me to be. They never had any proof," he stated.

"But there was no way out. I looked for the best way to leave the country." Since the Cuban government would not allow professional people to join the boatlift to America, Miguel had to flee illegally.

"It was not easy, but I found a way," he confessed. "I would prefer not to tell how."

After surviving for nearly a week on small portions of dry rice and pieces of Spam—Miguel—like thousands of his countrymen—arrived in America "with the clothes I was wearing and nothing else. Everybody brought money for food, but the Cuban government take all of it before we leave."

Paroled into the country at Key West, Florida, Miguel was flown the next day to the temporary resettlement camp at Ft. McCoy, Wisconsin. During his month-long stay there, he became active in establishing a refugee government to negotiate with the American military personnel charged

with their detention.

Because he is bilingual, he eventually became the liaison between the military's Office of Civil Affairs and the newly-formed Cuban refugee government in the camp. Particularly concerned with security in the compound, Miguel noted, "we had some problems with the queens in the camp. Although there were gay people in the camp, the only ones that were openly gay were the queens."

"They think that they arrive in the country of freedom and that they can dress like women and wear make-up," he explained. "Straight people laugh at them."

"We also had problems with all the queens who arrived in America with their 'husbands,' but find a new 'husband' in the camp. Some queens were attacked and wounded by the first 'husband'."

Beginning a New Life
Will Be Difficult

During the month that Miguel was held in the camp, Hedda—who had received a telegram from Cuba concerning his departure—was frantically working to locate her "long-time friend."

She eventually contacted Ft. McCoy, learned that Miguel was being held there, and after shuffling through the bureaucratic maze, arranged to sponsor the refugee.

He arrived in San Francisco this week after being supplied with the plane ticket and \$15 in cash from the government.

"I was in some way prepared to arrive here because friends have told me something about San Francisco life," he noted. "But it will all be very difficult."

"Maybe you can imagine how difficult it will be for a Cuban to come here without any preparation to begin a new life that he never imagined existed," Miguel said. "The gay people that want to come to San Francisco only know that it is more easy to be gay here. But they don't have any idea what it is like to live or work here."

"It will all be very difficult," he repeated solemnly.

Hedda explained that the gay Cubans only know that it is more easy to be gay here. But they don't have any idea what it is like to live or work here.

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Program needs volunteers and sponsors
Local MCC Undertakes Refugee Resettlement

The recently-organized Gay and Cuban Refugee Program has appealed to the local gay community to volunteer its energies and resources to help settle an estimated 2000 to 3000 homosexual Cuban refugees in the Bay Area.

"The refugee work will be massive," says Rev. Robert M. Falls, pastor of the San Francisco Metropolitan Community Church and coordinator of the refugee program. "A call has gone out to the San Francisco Bay Area gay and lesbian community to find acceptable housing and support for these refugees. The gay and lesbian community intends to prove that it can provide for its own."

The Refugee Program's most immediate efforts will be aimed at finding sponsors for thousands of gay refugees who, because they have no family or friends in this country, are still detained in temporary resettlement camps. Although specific figures are hard to come by, *The Washington Post* reported this week that as many as 20,000 gay Cubans may have entered the United States in the recent boat lift. The Refugee Program has already received over a dozen phone calls from detained gay refugees expressing particular interest in resettling in San Francisco, says Falls.

Two gay Cubans have already arrived in San Francisco, and a dozen more have been assigned to sponsors in the Bay Area and are expected to arrive shortly. With the Refugee Program now underway, Falls expects that several thousand gay Cubans may eventually locate in this area. The Refugee Program officials have received numerous inquiries about the sponsorship program, and over fifty people

and packaged foods, and money for the refugees who have arrived in this country without these necessities. These goods may be dropped off at the Refugee Program offices, located at MCC, 150 Eureka.

Volunteers are additionally required to staff the Refugee Program offices, answering telephones for a few hours a week or serving on committees to screen potential sponsors and to pair up the refugees and sponsors.

Hundreds of volunteers are necessary for the smooth operation of the program, says Falls. He notes that the gay community has, thus far, responded enthusiastically and that he expects the concern to continue during the resettlement campaign.

Questions concerning the Refugee Program may be directed to the program offices (863-4434) every day between 12 noon and 9 p.m. Orientation meetings for potential sponsors and volunteers are being held every Wednesday at MCC, 150 Eureka, at 8:30 p.m. Leaders of the Refugee Program will be on hand to answer questions about the sponsorship program and to sign-up volunteers for various projects.

The Gay and Lesbian Cuban Refugee Program is under the sponsorship of the local Metropolitan Community Church, although it acts independently of the Church. The Program is coordinating the refugee placements in conjunction with Church World Services, the refugee resettlement arm of the National Council of Churches. Officers of the Refugee Program include Rev. Falls, coordinator, and co-chairs John Wahl and Norma Scroggie.

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Gays may provide margin of victory in presidential election

Gay Power Comes of Age

by Larry Bush

Last January, when gay leaders were courting Jimmy Carter, Jimmy Carter was courting Iowa voters. According to the conventional wisdom that passed for Carter campaign strategy at the time, it was not an auspicious occasion to take on gay rights.

In late May, Jimmy Carter's Rose Garden was crowded with elected delegates Carter wanted to impress. One delegate was the Rev. Harold Wells, a Methodist minister from Iowa. Wells won an uncommitted delegate on the pledge that he would support the candidate with the best chance of supporting gay rights. Stuffed in his pockets were the names of a dozen Iowa precinct caucuses that had passed gay rights resolutions.

The presence of Wells and literally dozens of other delegates like him at this year's Democratic Convention will lay to rest some of the arguments politicians traditionally have advanced for

political ventures a little less visible to the public at large, which is used to seeing progress made only after some blood is shed on convention floors. But the progress is nonetheless substantial, and readily apparent to the Democratic Party officials who will have to act on their altered perceptions.

The first impact, according to Tom Bastow, the National Convention Project director who has worked to stitch together local gay efforts into a national focus, has been to show that gay votes are not in California and New York alone, which provided the only gay delegates to the 1976 Democratic Convention.

This year the first openly gay delegate were elected from Dade County, Florida, which only three years earlier delivered the first of several resounding defeats to gay civil rights. Gays in Dade County swept their county conventions, winning not only delegate slots but leadership positions on the local Democratic committees.

states up to the level of participation gays in large cities have come to expect. It is, of course, the large cities that have delivered the most gay and lesbian delegates to this year's convention. San Francisco and Los Angeles probably lead the list, but the 1980 convention will include delegates from Washington, D.C., Minneapolis, and Houston as well.

Nor are gay successes confined to large cities. Gay delegates were elected in Arizona, Wyoming, Iowa, and Washington State. In all, more than 70 openly gay and lesbian delegates have been elected, a larger contingent than that of 16 states, surpassing that of even such a traditional Democratic stronghold as Mississippi.

Such successes, Bastow says, may have their greatest impact at the state and local levels, where Democratic regulars have had to sit up and take notice of gay strength for the first time.

In Texas, for example, gays have a strong record of accomplishment in Houston and an effective presence in Austin. But when the state Democratic convention was held, the gay caucus numbered 100 members from across the state.

In Louisiana, a state surely not noted for support of gays, a dozen openly gay delegates were at this year's state convention, pushing for gay rights support.

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their lukewarm support of gay rights. More than any time in history, gay communities across the country have organized and shown that they are a political force to be dealt with, a force that will reach to the national campaigns for the first time.

It is not, of course, the first time gays have sought to influence national campaigns. In 1976, and more notably in 1972, gays sought to put candidates on the record in support of gay rights. In 1972, gays mounted a convention fight for gay rights that lingers in the memories of many Democratic regulars to this day.

This year gays have won support from the Platform Committee for a gay rights plank, and a revision in the Democratic Charter to include gays as party regulars for the first time. There will be no floor fight; both proposals won overwhelming majorities in preliminary committee meetings.

That may keep the success of gay

"Whether Reagan will take up gay rights as a campaign issue himself is very much open to question, but it now seems unlikely that he will disavow the statements of his supporters who are adamant in their opposition to gays."

Even before the Florida primary, however, gays were visible in Iowa and New Hampshire, holding candidate forums and publicizing their hopes of influencing the election outcome. Such efforts, Bastow said, served to flash the message early on that gays were serious about this election, and that candidates could not isolate gay concerns on a state-by-state basis, saving their big punches for the states with major gay voting impact.

Beyond that, Bastow notes, the successful efforts of groups in Iowa and New Hampshire has laid the groundwork for continuing Democratic Party efforts which will bring gays in those

In yet other states, gay delegates were elected who chose not to be openly identified in the gay or straight media, but who are out to their state party officials and who are working with the National Convention Project to accomplish gay goals.

Presidential candidate Edward Kennedy was among the first to note the shift of openly gay people working in political campaigns, and to benefit from that shift.

The strongest evidence of what gay support could mean to Kennedy came in Dade County, where gays financed and managed his political organization and delivered a victory while Kennedy

was being defeated in other parts of the state.

Such effective actions have gone unnoted by other presidential candidates, and can be largely credited for the increased Carter outreach and the strong Anderson campaign effort, Bastow says.

Anderson was the only Republican candidate to make a strong outreach to gay voters, cosponsoring gay rights legislation and advertising his candidacy in gay publications. That resulted in the election of the first openly gay Republican delegate to a national convention in history during the Illinois primary.

Today Anderson's independent campaign for the presidency relies on a number of key gay staffers who are organizing petition drives in several states. Anderson also has pledged to create a special gay liaison position at

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his national headquarters, which would mark the first such effort by any national campaign.

Jimmy Carter's campaign managers have overcome their early reluctance to campaign among gay voters, a position they attributed to the stronger gay outreach by Jerry Brown and Edward Kennedy, and now are laying plans for major campaign activity in key gay voting areas, particularly California.

For Carter, such a campaign outreach also can be expected to have immediate dividends for gay voters, since it doubtlessly will be coupled with presidential actions that will have beneficial effects for the gay community before the November elections.

While much of this activity has taken place within the confines of traditional Democratic Party circles, it is increasingly coming to the attention of the public at large, and more particularly to some enemies of the gay community. During the White House Conference on Families in Baltimore, for example, conservative right-to-life delegates stalked out charging that Carter had stacked the deck against them so that he could better court gay voters.

Other groups, such as the fundamentalist Moral Majority, now are circulating voter information that targets Carter as a gay rights supporter and the Democratic Party as "anti-family."

To some extent, such opposition has helped to weld coalitions with organizations that support socially progressive actions, or whose programs are similarly threatened by the New Christian Right.

During the Democratic Platform Committee deliberations, for example,

support for a gay rights plank came from the Americans for Democratic Action, Hispanic and black civil rights organizations, and the feminist groups. Mary Spottswood Pou, a co-director of the National Convention Project with Bastow, has been largely responsible for turning that support into a meaningful vote during the political working sessions. Pou lined up both the National Women's Political Caucus and the National Organization of Women, and those organizations' local chapters provided some of the most effective lobbying of key platform committee members during the gay rights deliberations.

In turn, gay delegates lobbied effectively for positions to help their coalition members. Bill Kraus, Harvey Milk Democratic Club President and a Platform Committee member, won a majority vote from the Platform Com-

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mittee for a stronger plank on boycotting non-ERA ratified states, and both Kennedy and Carter gay delegates voted together in support of other coalition goals.

The maturing of gay politicians into an effective pressure group only now is coming to the attention of the general public. That is happening very gradually and usually only through the local media.

In Houston and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for example, local city magazines have done major features on the strength of their emerging gay communities for the first time. A similar article is slated to appear this fall in Washington, D.C.

In Florida and San Diego, California, the daily press has recorded the success of gay political ventures, while in Atlanta, Georgia, the appearance of a Kennedy family member before the local gay Democratic club made front page news, the only front page news the Kennedy campaign received in Georgia.

Whether the American public will respond positively to the new gay clout remains to be seen, but the question will be put to them soon. George Gallup, Jr., the national pollster, says he will repeat a 1977 poll on gay rights this summer and include questions

about the acceptance of a gay courtship by presidential candidates.

Gay Rights National Lobby, which undertook a major study to show the impact of gay rights support on candidates, argues forcefully that candidates are not hurt by their position. A thoroughly documented study makes that point by recounting the instances of opponents seeking to discredit candidates over gay issues in elections over the past decade, with remarkably little success. That study has inevitably found its way into the campaign offices of most major candidates.

The issue may become of greater concern this year as a result of the fundamentalist support that Ronald Reagan has received. Reagan has been cool to gay Republicans, but has opposed discrimination against gays. That nondiscrimination statement now seems tepid since Reagan blasted gays in their "lifestyle" in a *Los Angeles Times* interview and his campaign has circulated those remarks to their fundamentalist supporters.

Whether Reagan will take up gay rights as a campaign issue himself is very much open to question, but it now seems unlikely that he will disavow the statements of his supporters who are adamant in their opposition to gays.

Such actions have put most gays into either the Democratic Party or into the Anderson effort, and the prospect of Carter and Anderson warring over gay support brings smiles to the faces of most gay leaders.

A three-way presidential race may prove to be the best thing yet for the newly emerging gay political organizations. Gay votes have been most important in city races, where three-way races are not uncommon. In the past two years, such campaigns have resulted in the most recognition for gay voting strength yet. In Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Houston and San Francisco, gays were credited as providing the margin of victory in the last mayoral elections.

This year, strategists for both Carter and Anderson see gays as potentially providing that margin of victory at a national level. The best evidence to date that this assessment may prove true is the success of the National Convention Project and gay organizations across the country as the primary season ends and the general election begins.

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District Elections

(Continued from front page)

campaign in District 9 last fall with only \$37,000 while a citywide campaign would cost at least \$250,000. "The people with the biggest bucks will control your future," Scott said. Scott praised the "full political spectrum" represented on the Board today. He said the "real gripe" against district elections is that Supervisors have to answer to a strong constituency and "vote for their district, and not for special interest groups."

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Exploring Patterns In Gay Male Relationships

by John Schrock

Gay male psychologists are beginning to discover patterns in the problems that arise in gay male relationships. At the recent National Gay & Lesbian Health Conference, two relationship-oriented workshops exposed two different approaches to problem solving for gay male couples.

The Faces of Mr. Right, presented by Jack Morin and Tom Moon of San Francisco, explored three images of an ideal man, the pursuit of which can stunt the growth of an intimate relationship.

This could result in a situation where expensive citywide campaigns are waged this fall for Supervisor seats no longer vacant if the Charter is approved. Would the newly elected at-large Board serve until the new Charter takes effect? Would the incumbents simply retain their seats?

These are questions no one at this point is prepared to answer. Charter commissioners plan for the new charter to become effective next July, but this is largely discretionary.

This special election—called because repeal advocates failed to collect enough signatures in time to appear on the June 3 ballot—could imbue the Board of Supervisors in a sticky legal quagmire.

The Registrar of Voters now estimates this special election will cost the financially strapped city of San Francisco a total of \$500,000.

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Gay male psychologists are beginning to discover patterns in the problems that arise in gay male relationships. At the recent National Gay & Lesbian Health Conference, two relationship-oriented workshops exposed two different approaches to problem solving for gay male couples.

The Faces of Mr. Right, presented by Jack Morin and Tom Moon of San Francisco, explored three images of an ideal man, the pursuit of which can stunt the growth of an intimate relationship.

This could result in a situation where expensive citywide campaigns are waged this fall for Supervisor seats no longer vacant if the Charter is approved. Would the newly elected at-large Board serve until the new Charter takes effect? Would the incumbents simply retain their seats?

These are questions no one at this point is prepared to answer. Charter commissioners plan for the new charter to become effective next July, but this is largely discretionary.

This special election—called because repeal advocates failed to collect enough signatures in time to appear on the June 3 ballot—could imbue the Board of Supervisors in a sticky legal quagmire.

The Registrar of Voters now estimates this special election will cost the financially strapped city of San Francisco a total of \$500,000.

Whether Reagan will take up gay rights as a campaign issue himself is very much open to question, but it now seems unlikely that he will disavow the statements of his supporters who are adamant in their opposition to gays.

Such actions have put most gays into either the Democratic Party or into the Anderson effort, and the prospect of Carter and Anderson warring over gay support brings smiles to the faces of most gay leaders.

A three-way presidential race may prove to be the best thing yet for the newly emerging gay political organizations. Gay votes have been most important in city races, where three-way races are not uncommon. In the past two years, such campaigns have resulted in the most recognition for gay voting strength yet. In Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Houston and San Francisco, gays were credited as providing the margin of victory in the last mayoral elections.

This year, strategists for both Carter and Anderson see gays as potentially providing that margin of victory at a national level. The best evidence to date that this assessment may prove true is the success of the National Convention Project and gay organizations across the country as the primary season ends and the general election begins.

He has a limited capacity to be intimate because "intimacy means vulnerability."

The pursuit of the Real Man is closely allied with Hero Worship. One man projects onto another his ideal of the man he would like to become.

Men have a tendency, Moon said, to relate hierarchically even in non-sexual encounters. Hero Worship plus sexual energy results in an explicit exchange of power, with an "appreciation man" on the bottom, and the Real Man on top.

This sexualized power dynamic, Moon said, is the root of S&M. "Even a blow job in Buena Vista Park can be the same thing if one man kneels, worshipping the other."

Comradeship is the cornerstone of a relationship between two Real Men. Crises arise if the men refuse to recognize the yielding side of their natures.

"The integration of the feminine requires that sex be channeled through feelings," Moon said. "This can insure men's ability for a long lasting relationship."

Morin and Moon see the prominence of the Real Man mystique in today's homosexual society as a natural phase in the maturation of gay culture.

"Look at Castro Street—hanging out, dress codes, in-group language—it's psychological adolescence," Moon said. "The need to identify with a group is a natural phase toward self-esteem that most gay men were denied in their teens. It's a kind of second adolescence."

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a better understanding of the problem phase they're experiencing."

The first year is usually characterized by an avoidance of conflict. "We put ourselves so firmly in the relationship we avoid arguments at any cost," Mattison said.

The desire to be in a relationship is high, as well as the feeling of relief at the end of loneliness. The lovers strive to "blend" their personalities as much as possible.

If the couple makes it through the initial year, they enter what Mattison calls the "nesting phase." The couple settles into homemaking, "buying furniture and establishing routines of who does what."

There is a decline in the obsessive passion which may have marked the first year, and Mattison cites that decline as a common excuse for breaking up. Also "men harbor the myth that gay men can't have long relationships, and they end up following their own preset pattern."

During this general period, there is "a decline in the quantity but a rise in the quality of sex." Lovers begin to dabble in outside sexual encounters, a step which Mattison believes can be healthy.

While for the first three years, lovers worked to generally "blend their personalities," after the third year individualization sets in. Each man pursues more outside interests in which his partner cannot participate.

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"Men fear to individualize, saying 'but what will hold us together?'" Mattison said. "Yet if individualization doesn't occur, the relationship is in trouble."

During this period, lovers begin to rely on their relationship, gaining outside recognition for its durability.

Mattison termed the next phase, from 5-11 years, the "pay-off." "It's when processing stops and rewards begin." The couple begin to establish traditions—"we do this on New Year's Day, and this every Friday night."

By the end of this stage, financial affairs are usually completely merged. "The first thing that's shared is the toothbrush and the last is the car."

There is an increased dependence on the relationship which can generate increased energy for outside activities.

"We have much less data to support stages after ten years," Mattison said. All these stages are simply guidelines and can vary depending on the lovers' past relationship history or the difference in their ages.

"Gay people pride themselves on our ability to establish intimacy quickly—even an encounter at the bath can be highly personal," Mattison remarked. "It's the ongoing nature of intimacy, the maintaining of it that is difficult."

"There exists nothing in the gay community to support couples." The two psychologists have written a book about their findings which is scheduled for publication by St. Martin's press.

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West Coast Women's Music and Cultural Festival

Two thousand women will gather at the Mendocino Woodlands in Northern California for the First Annual West Coast Women's Music and Cultural Festival early this fall.

The festival, scheduled for September 5-7, will include three nights and two days of women's music concerts, workshops on culture, politics, and spirituality.

Some of the performers scheduled to appear include Casselberry and Dupree, Izquierda Ensemble, Theresa Trull, Alix Dobkin, Terry Garthwaite, Gwen Avery, Pat Parker, and Robin Tyler.

"But we're not just concentrating on music," emphasized Torie Osborn, who will produce the festival along with Robin Tyler. According to Osborn, poetry, comedy, and workshops facilitated by Charlotte Bunch, Z Buda-

fest, Dorothy Healy, and Margaret Sloan and other women will round out the festival's offerings.

"We hope it will be more participatory; we don't want to just concentrate on culture onstage, but on all the other ways for women to network, inspire each other and exchange ideas," said Osborn.

The fee per person for the festival, which covers concerts, workshops, food and lodging is from \$40 (bring your own tent) to \$60 (for a cabin with a fireplace to be shared with five other women). Children under 12 can attend for free. All participants must pre-register as soon as possible. Check can be sent to the West Coast Women's Music Festival, 8033 Sunset Blvd., Suite 666, West Hollywood, CA 90046.

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EVENTS

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FRIDAY, JULY 11

Contraband—a different approach to dance performance combining dance, improvisation, theatre, vocals and music. Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., July 11-13, 8:30 pm. For info call 863-1002.

Berkeley Shakespeare Festival opens its 1980 season with *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Performances scheduled through August 3. Tickets available at all Bass and Tickerton outlets, Macy's, Emporium/Carwells, UC Box Office or 845-0303.

Messiah Rock-a-Soul at the Trojan Bar and Grill, 685 Sutter St., S.F. (tonight and Fri. the 18th).

SATURDAY, JULY 12

Bette Midler makes her only S.F. appearance as an author for a special autograph session promoting her *A View From A Broad*. 12:00 pm at Brentano's Bookstore, 265 Sutter St. One Act Theatre Company of San Francisco's *The Glorious Oh My Darling, Hear We Are and Home Free*—July 12-August 16, Thurs-Sat. at 8:30, Sun. at 2:30 and 7:30 pm. 421-6162 for info. One Act Theatre, 430 Mason at Geary, S.F.

Lloyds at The Palms, S.F.

SUNDAY, JULY 13

A celebration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of French Impressionist Camille Pissarro will be held at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor from 11:30 am to 3 pm. The Honor from 11:30 am to 3 pm. The museum's volunteers and docents for their dedicated service. Slide lecture, performances by Isadora Duncan Heritage Dancers, strolling musicians and singers. Bring picnic lunches and come in Impressionist period dress.

Quisha Paradox—rock reggae—at Sound of Music Theatre Lounge, 162 Turk St., S.F. 885-9616.

Handel's Feast—Pocket Opera—at the On Broadway, 435 Broadway, S.F. 474-3226.

Contractions, Plugz (L.A.) Romeo Void, 7 pm. \$3. Savoy Tivoli, 1438 Grant Ave., S.F. 362-7023.

MONDAY, JULY 14

David Heiss, the on-stage cellist in the hit play "The Elephant Man" and Warren Jones, pianist, will give a benefit concert in Hellman Hall (19th Ave. and Ortega) for the San Francisco Conservatory of Music on Monday, July 14 at 8 pm. Tickets are \$5/\$3 for students and seniors, and are available at the door.

Cambodian Emergency Relief benefit at the Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F. on Monday, July 14 at 8:30 and 11 pm. Nicholas, Glover, & Wray, Vicki Randle/Billy Philadelphia. Phone 885-0750.

TUESDAY, JULY 15

C&W Mow Co. at the Rainbow Cattle Co., 199 Valencia, S.F. 861-9652. 5 pm-9 pm.

THURSDAY, JULY 17

The Distractions present their "Music for the 8-Track Mind" at 9:30 pm at Hotel Utah, 4th St. at Bryant, S.F. The comedy and harmonies of this

outstap octet combine original material with arrangements, adaptations, translations and blatant sendups of classic 20th Century songs and styles—from the twenties into the eighties.

FRIDAY, JULY 18

Estuardo Mimic Show at Sound of Music, 162 Turk St. \$2. 885-9616.

SATURDAY, JULY 19

Les Nicolettes' Salmon Awards at Gumpston Theatre, 1563 Page St., S.F. 8 pm. S.F.'s unique theatre company's fundraising bash will feature surprise guest stars, refreshments and a raffle. \$5 at the door. 621-0448 for info.

SUNDAY, JULY 20

Str Crazy at Rainbow Cattle Co., 199 Valencia, 5-9 pm. **Pocket Opera's The Rake's Progress** by Stravinsky at the On Broadway Theatre, 435 Broadway. Phone 474-3226 for more info.

MONDAY, JULY 21

Lesbian Lyrics in Music and Poetry, Martha Shelley and Catherine D'Amato at the Network Coffeehouse, 1036 Bush St., S.F. 8 pm. \$1. 989-6097.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23

Faulline Comedy Theatre, Savoy Tivoli, 1438 Grant Ave. at 8:30 pm. \$2. 362-7023.

THURSDAY, JULY 24

20 American Artists is the first in a series of biennial exhibitions to be presented by the S.F. Museum of Modern Art under the sponsorship of Collectors Forum, a new support group at the Museum. Christo's drawings, Robert Arneson ceramic work, painter Sam Francis, Frank Stella, Agnes Martin, Tony Smith and many, many more.

Ska Band—new wave—at Sound of Music, 162 Turk St. \$3. 885-9616.

★ ★ ★ EVENTS ★ ★ ★

SATURDAY, JULY 12

"The Gay Life" on KXAN, 95 FM, presents a special report on "Gays in Jail," at 5 AM and Monday, July 14, at 1 AM.

The Occupational Health Project of Public Media Center is offering a four-hour workshop on health and safety hazards in the printing industry, from 10 AM to 2 PM, at the San Francisco Labor Council, 3068 16th Street. The workshop is free and is open to all interested individuals; printers, concerned community members, and health practitioners. For more information on the project or if you're interested in attending the workshop, contact Public Media Center at 434-1403.

Lovestyles—Cable 6—10 PM. Jud Kohl hosts a topical discussion of gay issues.

SUNDAY, JULY 13

The Unitarian-Universalist Gay Caucus of San Francisco presents **A Conversation with Armistead**. Gay author Armistead Maupin will be in the Chapel of the First Unitarian Church, Franklin at Geary, at 9:45 AM.

MONDAY, JULY 14

Alice B. Toklas Memorial Demo



C.F. "Bud" Castleman (left) is presented with a \$1000 check by Sentinel publisher Chuck Morris. Castleman is the lucky winner of the \$1000 drawing which inaugurated the Sentinel's new home delivery subscription service. A resident of the City for twenty-eight years, Castleman spends three days each week donating his services to the Golden Gate Performing Arts, the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, the Gay Men's Chorus, and the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Men's Community Chorus. The retired airline employee said he has decided to donate his winnings to several of the musical groups to which he volunteers his time. (Photo by John Gieske)

SUNDAY, JULY 20
G 40 Plus meeting—2 PM, 1668 Bush St., S.F.
Unitarian-Universalist Gay Caucus of S.F., First Unitarian Church, Franklin at Geary, presents **Pat Bond**. 9:45 AM.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16

Lambda Gammon, a backgammon league for gay men and women, is sponsoring **Backgammon Tournaments** every Wednesday evening at Sutter's Mill, 30 Kearny St., S.F. Registration at 6 PM, and matches set to start at 6:30 PM. Entrance fees: \$2 for novice and intermediate, \$3 for Open. Cash prizes to 1st and 2nd place winners in each category. Everyone guaranteed at least two rounds of play. Bring your own boards; membership in Lambda Gammon will be made available; reduced entrance fees for tournament play. For further info call: Marvin Tauber, 864-7882.

9 PM—Cable 6—Lovestyles. Jud Kohl hosts a topical discussion of gay issues.

THURSDAY, JULY 17

Lecture/discussion: Psychiatric Drugs: Informed consent and the right to refuse, with representatives from S.F. Community Mental Health Services, Patients' Rights Advocacy Services, Bay Area Committee for Alternatives to Psychiatry. 8 PM at the Network Coffeehouse, 1036 Bush St., S.F. Donation. 989-6097.

A Gay Night at the Harness Races, a fundraiser for Mom... Guess What newspaper, at 6 PM, in the Turf Club of Cal Expo, Cal State Fairgrounds, Sacramento. Trackside table, dinner ticket, gate pass and Turf Club entrance fee for \$15. Mom... Guess What is a newspaper for the women and men of the gay community in the capital area and Northern California. Reservations: \$15 per person with SASE to: MGW, P.O. Box 8170, Sacramento, CA 95818.

10 PM—Lovestyles, Cable 6. Jud Kohl hosts a topical discussion of gay issues.

Anti-Gay Violence on the Rise in San Francisco

by John Schrock

At 2 a.m. last Friday night, a gay man, Scott Alpert, jogged down Haight Street when suddenly he was accosted by a man who threatened to "put your ass in the ground, you fucking faggot." The gay man pulled out his mace and the assailant fled.

A friend joined Alpert from across the street and together they entered a neighborhood food store. The assailant reappeared and began to choke the gay man from behind. The store owner refused to summon help, and grabbing a baseball bat from behind the counter, he chased all three men into the street.

Alpert ran home and called the police. "Any major injuries?" "No." "Then we can't send a squad car." He hung up and tried again. "Someone's going to get killed," he said. "I don't have time for your games," the woman replied.

Alpert grabbed a small kitchen knife and ran back to Haight Street in time to see his friend about to be thrown through a plate glass window. A scuffle ensued, leaving Alpert with a slight concussion and the attacker with a minor stab wound.

Both Alpert and the assailant filed police reports—Alpert at a nearby police station, the assailant on the scene on Haight Street. The assailant's report accused Alpert of initiating the conflict by soliciting the man for prostitution.

Within a week the police department issued the gay man's version of the incident. The lost report was not found until pressure was exerted from Supervisor Harry Britt's office.

Alpert will press charges. Meanwhile, the assailant can be seen daily, hanging out at the Theater Club, 1685 Haight Street.

There has been a dramatic increase in anti-gay violence this year. "It used to be that to get one report a day was a lot," said Andrew Nicholas of Community United Against Violence. "Now it's about four or five reports a day."

CUAV is a group of anti-gay assault victims who have banded together to do what they can to make the streets safer for gay men and lesbians.

"This isn't a bunch of faggots and dykes running around screaming 'We're getting beat up,'" said Dick Stiegel of CUAV. Working with a minuscule budget out of a tiny office above DJ's on Castro Street, CUAV organizes self-defense classes and street patrols and serves as a clearinghouse for information on anti-gay crime.

"To the assailant, a gay person is like a parking meter you might kick if you're walking down the street and feeling upset," said Nicholas. Rarely do the assailants bother to rob their

victims of money or valuables. The typical assault occurs within four blocks of 18th and Castro Streets, or near Duboce or Dolores Park. The victim is usually alone and outnumbered. The use of weapons is becoming increasingly commonplace.

In many instances, the victim is returning home at night from the bars or a party, is drunk or high, and not paying much attention to his surroundings.

"The assailants think it will be very quick and easy—that the victims won't put up any resistance," Nicholas said. "In 60% of the cases, any resistance—blowing a whistle, yelling, kicking—will cut off the assault."

CUAV recommends whistles as the most effective, non-violent, way of warding off assailants. Yells and screams, they say, can blend easily with other street noises but a whistle is a clearcut signal that you're gay and you need help.

Often assailants attack and surround the victim without warning, but sometimes they try to pick a fight with verbal harassment first. The best response to verbal harassment, according to CUAV, is a "turn the other cheek" brand of friendliness.

"Some men were taking a meal break during the Advocate Experience and were walking downtown near the Jack Tar Hotel," Nicholas relates. "A car went by and half a dozen thugs stuck their heads out the windows and yelled 'faggots.'

"They gay men all turned, smiled and waved and said 'thank you.' The assailants were so thrown off, they crashed their car into the side of a building."

"Rather than flipping the finger, if you smile and wave it contributes nothing to their desire for assault and it will probably confuse them," Stiegel agreed. "And if you give no response at all, they assume you won't respond to physical aggression either."

CUAV gets very few assault reports from women, although not, Nicholas believes, because women are assaulted less frequently. "Women have often had very negative experiences of reporting and dealing with crimes against them in the past. Especially if-sex comes into the picture."

CUAV stresses that reports are essential in combating street violence. "If there is no report, then the incident never happened." CUAV was instrumental in getting the police department to recognize anti-gay violence as a specific category of assault.

"On the whole, the police attitude is still that anti-gay violence isn't really a problem. So there does tend to be a lack of responsiveness when there has been an attack," said Patrick Feruccio, who handles anti-gay assault reports for Supervisor Britt's office. He added, however, that on many occasions, assault victims have praised police cooperation. Much depends on

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ON LIVE!

with Randy Alfred

LONDON BRIDGE IS FALLING DOWN: How to solve the problem of nearly everyone in the Gay Freedom Day Parade wanting to see who else is in the parade? Well, we could line up the groups in reverse order in the parade assembly area, have all the groups move to the sides, march the first group backwards through the parade line, followed by the second group, and so on.

At the end of the viewing area to the side, allowing the second to pass by. The second group would likewise move to the side, and the third would pass in front of the first and second, and so forth again.

No, it's probably not practical, but remember that kindergarten game?

GAY FREEDOM DISH: Did we really need to have the stage stormed so a Hollywood comic could talk about a Broadway play to a San Francisco audience?

M.C. Armistead Maupin said he felt "betrayed" by Robin Tyler's surprise move to force her way on stage, but he's not the only one. At least one of the women who took part in the backstage charge feels the same way: she told me Tyler had promised to talk about women's issues, which Tyler wound up not mentioning at all.

Personally I found myself wishing for Tyler and Charles Pierce to be locked into the same cell at the Drummer party.

SODOM AND WHAT? We've all heard of sodomy and sodomites, but who knows who the Gomorries were? And what the hell is gomorry? I think I've finally figured this one out. Gomorrah was populated by lesbians, so the media ignored them.

DON'T IGNORE THIS ONE: Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club veep Gwen Craig, that is, Leland Traiman, member-elect of the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee, thinks Craig should be nominated for Vice-president of the United States at the Democratic National Convention in August. He thinks the speeches would be a great way for the many gay delegates to raise the issues before a national audience. Sounds good to me.

HE'S GOT A POINT THERE: Dr. Sander Breiner, Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Michigan State University, writes in an article called "Sexual Misconceptions": "Homosexuality invariably is a symptom of a psychological problem. However, in the absence of a sexual partner of the opposite sex, homosexuality is a normal outlet for a heterosexual man or woman."

This prompts Dr. David Kessler, founder of Bay Area Physicians for

Human Rights and President of the Gay Caucus of the American Psychiatric Association, to comment: "What he's saying is that homosexuality is normal for heterosexuals but abnormal for homosexuals."

IN THE WORKS: More formal ties between Gay Rights Advocates (S.F.), the National Gay Task Force (New York), and Gay Rights National Lobby (Washington). According to a senior official in one of the organizations, they would remain separate but do more in the way of sharing computer lists and so on.

The links were discussed at a recent Washington meeting of GRA's Don Knutson, NGTF's Charles Brydon, and GRNL's Steve Edeand. Edeand already sits on NGTF's Board, and NGTF Co-Executive Director Lucia Valeska sits on the GRA Board. And shouldn't that be Executive Co-Director?

STYLE: A San Francisco gay man recovering from bones broken in a motorcycle accident has moved most of his apartment to his hospital room. That includes TV, stereo, full bar, a massive Meso-American carving that threatens to fall on nurses and orderlies emptying the bed pan, and a black leather teddy bear. Aaaa.

YES, WE HAVE NO BANDANAS: How about a color for "Let's cuddle tonight and see what happens in the morning?" Better yet, we could try little fuzzy (or maybe leather) teddy bears that fit in back pockets. Teddy left means you want to hold someone in your arms, teddy right you want to be held.

NAMES IN THE NEWS: Long-time rap organizer Don Jacobs will be honored at the tenth anniversary party of S.F. Gay Raps, at the M.C.C., 150 Eureka, July 22, at 8 P.M. ... Police Chief Cornelius Murphy returned a \$175 check to a retired Inspector who wanted it used to repair a blue-and-white police car "the standard black-and-white color." (The cars aren't to be repainted, but new cars will be black-and-whites.) The Inspector's name is Castro. ... Bob Barnes, who garnered 11% of the vote in his race against Democratic incumbent Phil Burton in the Sixth Congressional District primary, wants to change his name to Les Taxes. "Wouldn't you vote for Les Taxes?"

WHEN IN CLONE: Have you seen the paper-towel package with a muscled lumberjack? It's labelled: "New Brawny Designer." ... Could we light the city, or at least our neighborhoods, if we harnessed the energy from all those exercise machines? ... Welcome the Cuban gays: "Give us your tired, your poor, your hunky..."

HEAD SPACE

by Jim Boland, Ph.D. and Alan Sable, Ph.D.

Head Space is designed to help gay people deal with personal issues by providing support, advice, understanding and useful information in response to readers' letters. The authors are connected with the Pacific Center in Berkeley and both are therapists in private practice. To contact Head Space, write Dr. Jim Boland, 1446 Hopkins, Berkeley 94702, or Dr. Alan Sable, 2223 Lincoln Way, S.F. 94122.

The following are excerpts from a letter and pamphlet sent us by Richard Wellner, a reader who works as a sexual assault counselor at Central Emergency Hospital. Too few people in the gay male community are aware of the problem of male rape. We are reversing our normal procedure and printing extensive excerpts from material sent to us because we want readers to know more about male rape and the resources available to those who have been its victims.

I am a male sexual assault counselor with Sexual Trauma Services at Central Emergency Hospital. Since working there I have been in contact with numerous recent male rape victims. However, I have also heard of many people who have had to deal with this trauma alone. I have found that the more people who know of our services the more people will seek help.

It is commonly believed that only women are raped, but it happens to men too. No one anticipates a rape but it can happen anywhere, at any time. The rapist is rarely a male stranger. In the year 1976-77, over fifty percent of assaults reported to the San Francisco Police Department took place within a casual situation. Whether at home, in a bar, or within a social encounter, rape can and does occur.

Sexual assault of men is not just a problem within prisons nor is it limited to the gay community. The average age of the male victim based on reported cases to the S.F.P.D. is 25. Male victims have been as young as two years and as old as ninety-one. They were raped by juvenile gangs, relatives, friends, or fellow inmates.

A victim of rape may experience feelings of guilt, humiliation, anger, physical injury, and psychological or emotional damage. The assault may create impairment of the normal sex drive, questioning of one's sexual identity, and loss of self-esteem. The victim who is gay may find the blame on his lifestyle. In addition, the homosexual victim may feel that societal attitudes towards his assault (already unsympathetic or insensitive), may be compounded by the recognition of his sexual preference.

It can be difficult for a man to admit he was raped because of societal attitudes or the notion that rape doesn't square with his masculine self-image.

But rape does happen whenever your space is invaded, whenever you perform a sexual act against your will. If you have been sexually assaulted, your first responsibility is to take care of yourself physically and emotionally. Don't suffer in silence.

In the past many male rape victims have chosen not to report or seek counseling for various reasons, either the fear of not being believed or thinking that the authorities were only interested in women victims. This is not the case at Central Emergency Hospital. Sexual Trauma Services provides free medical care for male and female victims of rape and sexual assault. The doctors and nurses here are familiar with appropriate procedures. Hospital staff will examine the victim for injuries and provide general disease treatment. I or another counselor will be available to provide emotional support or information about other services, such as going to court.

Whether it's a trick that isn't true or for an answer, or a mugger who thinks he's proving himself by raping you, there is help available. Go to Central Emergency Hospital, located at 505 1/2 Street between Grove and Hayes, off Polk Street. Call 558-3824.

Second, know the anatomy. A good understanding of the area with a knowledge of the twists and curves of the bowel will go a long way in preventing injury. (See previous issue.) Third, never force. The bowel does not understand force, although the mind often might. Once the bowel pressure tolerance is exceeded, it ruptures, period.

Fourth, remove all rings, cut nails, etc. The bowel does not like sharp objects. It responds by hemorrhaging profusely.

Fifth, a word about drugs. Although medical attention is sought promptly (the injury should not be more than 4 hours old), and if the size of the perforation is less than 2 cm. (1/2), a colostomy might not be required. But, no promises!

ON CALL

Handballing

by Elliott Brender, M.D. (under the auspices of BAPHR)

In the last issue we discussed various injuries to the rectum resulting from "handballing," namely fissures (tears), sphincter damage, infection, bleeding and perforation. Here we will discuss ways to reduce the likelihood of injury and what to do if injured.

Prevention

First, preparation is important in minimizing the risk. Cleansing of the bowel by enema, i.e., douching, is by far the single most important thing one can do. In this way, if perforation does occur, the spillage is minimized. It is the overall volume of spillage that determines if a complication will occur. It is also the deciding factor in determining if a colostomy is required. If there is no spillage, if medical attention is sought promptly (the injury should not be more than 4 hours old), and if the size of the perforation is less than 2 cm. (1/2), a colostomy might not be required. But, no promises!

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Handballing appears to be increasing in frequency. Injuries are increasing as well. As the incidence and frequency of this activity in the gay community is unknown, one cannot say whether there is great or little danger in it overall. For those who get injured, however, the risks are high. By increasing awareness the risks can be minimized. Proper preparation and precautions can reduce the risk of injury. Forewarned is forearmed! Right?

center that has familiarity with this type of injury.

Medical Evaluation

A word about the evaluation. As previously mentioned, if possible, a surgeon with prior experience with this type of problem should be sought. Cooperate with your doctor fully. Do not try to hide anything from him. Remember, your life may be at stake and you wouldn't want to jeopardize it by not telling your doctor what happened.

An accurate history is essential to proper diagnosis. Try to recall everything that happened. He will perform a comprehensive physical exam and run you through a series of blood and x-ray tests. He may also perform proctosigmoidoscopy, i.e., looking inside your rectum with a scope, and/or colonoscopy, i.e., looking in your colon with a longer flexible scope. He, most likely, will not give you anything for pain until the evaluation is complete. This is not to torture you. It is simply that narcotics cloud the evaluation, often obscuring important findings. Once correct diagnosis is made, then you may have pain medication. Remember, although some of the evaluation is unpleasant, it is imperative that the right diagnosis is reached. Errors due to lack of cooperation can be catastrophic.

One final word about adequate medical insurance. Nobody plans to be sick or injured. These things just happen. So, if you plan to participate in this activity, a paid up insurance policy is mandatory. You don't want to find that after you've sustained a perforation, and have a colostomy, you don't have insurance to cover the colostomy closure. The perforation is an emergency. However, the colostomy closure is elective. Additionally, should you sustain a perforation and try to get insurance later, you'll be in for a surprise. The insurance carriers regard anything you have prior to getting insurance as a pre-existing condition and hence will not cover a colostomy closure. Current hospitalization costs run around \$5000 for colostomy closure and that's without any complications.

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LETTERS

EDMUND WHITE ON FIRE ISLAND

Editor, Edmund White's essay on Fire Island in your last issue was a real gem—I haven't been so thoroughly entertained by a piece of writing in a long time.

Thanks for introducing me to an excellent writer. Jim Cabott

GAY MEN APE PSEUDO-MACHO HETEROMALE

Is "I Only Want You For Your Body" becoming the Gay National Anthem? I would love to think otherwise. When I first came out I thought I had found an alternative to insensitivity. The last couple of years, however, I've become overwhelmed with what is increasingly evident in the San Francisco gay community.

The way I once interpreted "New York attitude" has spread its cancer from coast to coast. Our warm little City of the West is rapidly becoming a callous, heartless, sexist environment in the gay community. Increasing influxes of gays are succumbing to the insipid role models and advertising the overwhelming obsession with sex and stereo-typical superficial images. Fantasy is reality now and how far will everyone go to find the ultimate trick?

Most everything gays have to sell is built upon sexual innuendo, from the restaurants with well-endowed waiters holding waffles and power saws. Since time began many women have used their best behavior to control the oppressive male, their bodies. Dangling like a plump carrot before the proverbial horse, men could become assets of themselves trying to get a taste. Flaunt it and men would come running like curs after a bitch in heat.

Gay men are still like those women, using that superficial bait. Many of the things I am a reporter and photographer for Altercation magazine and Lipfrott America, I am as a regular contributor to a number of other gay publications. As a member of the press I attended several planning meetings for the Gay Freedom Day Parade Committee and was issued a press pass by the Parade Media Committee. Once inside the park area, behind the main stage, I followed all rules and requests made of the press by the Parade Committee.

I was standing on the steps of City Hall when the parade was in full swing. I saw Parade Monitors suddenly appeared at the entrance to the stage area escorting Robin Tyler. There was considerable confusion and conflict at the stage entrance as Robin Tyler entered and I photographed this activity. Bob Futch, co-chair of Security, came up to me and told me that I would have to leave because they didn't want any pictures taken of what was going on. I showed him my press pass, said that I was a member of the gay press, that this was a designated press area and I was only doing my job. He repeated again that I would have to leave because they didn't want pictures taken of what was going on.

This is an outrageous violation of those very civil rights that we as gay people are fighting for! That it was perpetrated by a member of the Parade Steering Committee is both frightening and embarrassing. It is a dangerous precedent and gives further support to a long standing contention by some members of the gay press and community that a straight police mentality exists within the leadership of the most politically active gay community in the world has completely ignored the question of employee protection for individuals in bar and restaurant businesses. These men may be served notice at any time for any one of a number of deceptive and fraudulent reasons for their dismissal.

May I suggest to them all a viewing of the film *Norma Rae*, for it is a film that portrays union attempts at organizing and the abuses that can be broken in order to instill self worth and a decent living for the workers of America, in this case, the workers in gay bars and restaurants.

Perhaps the idea is ahead of its time, but thanks to people like Larry, and Mavis

Andy, answering service worker: No. It seems like a good system to elect people from the community. It makes more sense to me than to have the elected people live in the suburbs and rich areas and come into the city to work.

McKinley, hospital worker: No. People should be responsible to their districts and the board that they live in. When the Supervisors live in their districts they know what's going on there.

Alice, student: I think it's important for the people who live in a district to have someone to represent them and for that person to be responsible to that district. It's a good system that they have now.

Patrick, bartender: I think they should be retained. If they went to an at-large election I don't think one person could efficiently represent as many people.

Tom, printer: No, I don't think they should be abolished. District elections are one of the best things that have happened to San Francisco. It makes for local representation. You have your own Supervisor.

Le Golden

DR. LOWRY RESPONDS

The method by which amyl and butyl nitrite influence the brain is not known. There are no studies on the effect of long-term use on thought or cognition, nor is there any definition of what dose and time would constitute "long-term." I would expect a small number to be sensitive to nitrites, since fairly non-toxic substances such as alcohol and marijuana produce paranoia, impulsive behavior and thought disorder in susceptible people. However, the number of people with toxic reactions to the volatile nitrites appears to be very small and, from a public health viewpoint, of little concern. If we define "health social usage" as four poppers on both Friday and Saturday nights, I would anticipate harmful effects to be vanishingly rare.

As to the question of habituation/dependence on nitrites, this phenomenon is well-known, dating back many decades to the use of amyl nitrite by the medical profession. As to the question of habituation/dependence on nitrites, this phenomenon is well-known, dating back many decades to the use of amyl nitrite by the medical profession.

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CENSORSHIP OF THE GAY PRESS

During the celebration at Civic Center following the 1980 Gay Freedom Day Parade I was removed from the press area by Bob Futch, co-chair of Parade Security, because I was photographing events that he decided should not be seen by the public. This is a direct violation of constitutional law protecting freedom of the press and the right of the press to report on the information about their leaders and community events.

I am a reporter and photographer for Altercation magazine and Lipfrott America, I am as a regular contributor to a number of other gay publications. As a member of the press I attended several planning meetings for the Gay Freedom Day Parade Committee and was issued a press pass by the Parade Media Committee. Once inside the park area, behind the main stage, I followed all rules and requests made of the press by the Parade Committee.

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Le Golden

AT THE PARADE MEETINGS THAT I ATTENDED

It was clear that the Executive Committee and in particular the Parade Co-Chair were prepared to receive the advice of the gay community. They reacted defensively to opinions different from their own and retreated behind the security of their own committee.

Due to a lack of democratic process the final selection of speakers included only part of the gay political spectrum. Noticeably missing were conservative and moderate political viewpoints. We need a Parade leadership that is not afraid of, or embarrassed by the wide range of political opinion within the gay community. Our diversity is our greatest strength, and it should be celebrated in the speakers platform just as it is already celebrated in the Parade.

We need Parade leaders who can conduct affairs in a calm adult way, who understand and support our diversity, and who are willing to use those democratic principles and procedures which protect our rights of speech and to get before dependence developed.

PROTEST AT OCEAN BEACH

On Monday, June 30, John Struer and Don Baker (who were present) took the afternoon off to drive to Ocean Beach with a friend, Margaret, who was visiting from out of town. Arriving at Ocean Beach, John said he needed to see to his old friend Don and Margaret to go ahead while he ran to the bushes on the bridge path. They separated and John crossed the highway while Don and Margaret strolled on the esplanade.

John had just crossed the sand/sidewalk when he was grabbed by three men in their early 20's and dragged into the bushes. One man clubbed John in the head with a tree branch, while another kicked his legs out from under him, falling him to his back. The third man had a knife and he said: "Let me at him... I want to cut this faggot's throat and watch him bleed."

John, dazed from the blow on the head, realized the best cure is avoidance of the situation. He kicked and crawled his way back to the trail with a life-or-death urgency. His attackers kept coming and they continued to kick him, grab his arms and slash at him with their knives.

COPY OF LETTER TO JILL EDELSTEIN, REVIEWER OF HETEROSEXUAL SEX

Dear Ms. Edelstein, I am writing in SF sent me your review of *Heterosexual Sex*. I am sure that your review is all the better than no review, considering the number of books there are to review these days, but I must wonder if you read the books that I can't imagine where you found a prejudice against blacks—they have been among my students, and at no time, did I ever hear of an accusation of racism. Must a book include everything the reviewer happens to think should be in it—and then some? I am sure that you did as you read the chapter on older men? It also happens to be a founding member of COA—Camp Our Decade. Again, the older gay group in Toronto. As for "chicken" I don't know what your definition of that is... most of my affairs have been with men who are older than I am, and especially with my lover. I don't see how the image of master gets any better a portrayal in the book than that of slave, so where is the bias?

BAR AND RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES

I am writing to congratulate the owners of the gay bars and restaurants because they have won another battle against the cause of employee rights.

Larry Di Rocco published three truly fine articles on this serious problem in our community and outlined several courses of action. He published his phone number so that gay workers could respond to these articles and perhaps gain some insight into organizing to protect themselves and gain some insurance for their futures.

However, there was only one call to that number and that call was made by myself. As Larry said, it has become a dead issue. It just saddens me to discover that a city that brags of the largest gay parade in the nation and the most politically active gay community in the world has completely ignored the question of employee protection for individuals in bar and restaurant businesses. These men may be served notice at any time for any one of a number of deceptive and fraudulent reasons for their dismissal.

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OUTLOOK

by Charles Lee Morris

Refugees Need Our Help

The tragedy of the gay Cuban refugees is one of the true horror stories of our time, surpassed only by the Nazi butchering of at least 250,000 homosexuals during World War II and the wholesale execution of gays under the tyrannical rule of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in today's theocratic state of Iran.

It is difficult to imagine the nightmares these sorrowful refugees have suffered at the bloodied hands of Castro and his henchmen: humiliation, imprisonment, loss of livelihoods, and unpeppable torture inflicted by prison guards who, along with the despicable Castro, have sold their revolution out to just another despotic dictatorship.

Difficult as it may be, we as gay people, must imagine the plight of this flood of gay men and women awaiting resettlement in the federal camps where they are now being detained.

Imagine for a moment that you are living in Cuba and are either gay or lesbian. It is difficult to imagine the nightmares these sorrowful refugees have suffered at the bloodied hands of Castro and his henchmen: humiliation, imprisonment, loss of livelihoods, and unpeppable torture inflicted by prison guards who, along with the despicable Castro, have sold their revolution out to just another despotic dictatorship.

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A Forceful Presence

Unseen except for a handful of spectators at the Gay Freedom Day Parade was a deplorable episode which was absolutely disgusting. The incident involved comic Robin Tyler and her unshakable determination to address the gathered masses at the fair by whatever means she could.

Ms. Tyler was not one of the persons selected by the Gay Freedom Day Executive Committee to speak at the fair following the parade. Deciding, therefore, to take matters into her own hands, she equipped herself with a wireless microphone which was to be plugged into the amplifiers on stage by one of the groups performing there. Tyler's plan was to speak from a platform set aside for the press.

When that plan failed, Tyler quickly donned an official monitor t-shirt and, surrounded by monitors sympathetic to her cause, began to storm the performers stage.

According to some sources, Supervisor Harry Britt knew of Tyler's intention to thrust herself onto the stage several days before the event and when he arrived on the stage to speak, asked M.C. Armistead Maupin to introduce Tyler.

Meanwhile, those monitors trying to get Tyler onto the stage and those monitors determined to carry out their responsibility to keep unauthorized people (such as Tyler) off the stage engaged in a pushing and shoving match, which came perilously close to sparking a major violent incident.

Ms. Tyler's actions are inexcusable. Who gave her the right to come so close to creating a violent incident in a city in which she doesn't even live? What megalomania on her part leads her to believe that she has anything so important to say to the gay community that her forcing her way onto that stage is justified?

We must keep in mind that Tyler is a performer whose financial survival depends on public exposure. When she was not invited to speak at the fair she obviously decided to grab that badly needed exposure any way she could. Supervisor Britt's part in all this is just as reprehensible. He is an elected city official. He was invited to be a speaker on that platform and not to make the decisions about who else would share that platform. By his actions Britt certainly acquiesced in the anarchistic actions of Robin Tyler. At a time when the gay community sorely needs leadership, the supervisor's actions hardly instill faith in his ability to provide responsible leadership.

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Houston Gay Leader Killed On Eve of Gay Pride Parade

by Chris Kerby

On the eve of its 1980 Gay Pride Parade, the Houston gay community was shocked to learn of the shooting of Fred Paez, the secretary of the powerful Gay Political Caucus, by an off-duty Houston police officer.

During the night, word of the shooting spread throughout the community and the next morning the 15,000 parade participants wore armbands to commemorate the slain man.

"It was a sea of black armbands—thousands and thousands of them," GPC president Lee Harrington told *The Sentinel*.

Despite scorching temperatures and tense feelings—not only about the shooting, but also about a raid of a gay club earlier in the week in which 61 people were arrested for public intoxication—"the atmosphere at the parade and rally was subdued and festive," said Harrington. "Fred would have wanted us to celebrate."

Local and national gay leaders, alleging police harassment in the past, have set up a five-member Task Force to investigate the death of Paez, 27.

"Any time an unarmed citizen is shot in the back of the head by an off-duty officer who is not in uniform and whose own statement doesn't justify his pulling a gun, a thorough, impartial investigation is called for," said Houston City Councilperson Lance Lalor before the parade rally.

In addition to the Task Force inquiry, the FBI launched an investigation last week to look into the incident.

According to police reports, the shooting by Officer K.M. McCoy was accidental. The report claims that Paez had driven a car past a spot where McCoy and another non-uniformed officer were working off-duty jobs. They said that Paez stopped and talked

to the officers, then suggested that McCoy go with him to the side of a building.

There Paez approached and groped McCoy, police said, and the officer pulled out his police identification and his .45-caliber automatic pistol to search and arrest Paez for public lewdness.

Paez reached back and grabbed the pistol, according to the report, and a struggle ensued during which the pistol discharged accidentally.

The other officer was nearby but did not participate in the struggle, police said.

Paez died about 3:20 a.m. on Saturday, June 28, from a single gunshot wound to the head.

Gay Political Caucus president Lee Harrington said the Task Force does not have enough facts to make a judgment about Paez's shooting, but that he is not convinced it was accidental.

GPC leader Ken Spear noted several inconsistencies that he sees in the case. Paez, who was a member of a civilian volunteer police assistance organization, "would have recognized the

policeman," Spear told *The Sentinel*. "And because of his training, Fred wouldn't have struggled or resisted any arrest."

The Task Force employed a ballistics expert to testify about the likelihood that the pistol might have discharged accidentally. According to the expert, "the weapon cannot accidentally go off by itself. But the operator can accidentally discharge the weapon."

"There is only one way this weapon is discharged: the operator loads the weapon, the operator takes the safety off, and the operator pulls the trigger," testified the firearms expert.

The Task Force investigation is still underway, investigating powder burn evidence on the corpse, and suggestions that Officer McCoy was intoxicated at the time of the shooting.

A Fred Paez Memorial Fund has been set up to provide financial assistance to a lesbian or gay man interested in becoming involved in law enforcement. Donations should be sent to the Fund in care of Houston Gay Political Caucus, P.O. Box 3887, Houston, Texas 77001.

cluded affirmative actions for more than a dozen special interest groups.

Welman expressed his clear disappointment that his second proposal had not met with more success, providing at least a minority report that could be debated on the floor. The clear majority for the first rules change, along with the unanimous support for the platform plank, leaves gay delegates in the unexpected position of having no major gay issue to debate at the convention.

A second route to secure convention attention also appears foreclosed as a result of a Rules Committee vote this week.

Under a new rule, Vice Presidential



Thousands of people jammed the S.F. Civic Center Plaza on Gay Pride Day to stroll and sunbathe on the fairground lawns.

Photo by John Gieske

nominations no longer can be made with only fifty delegates supporting the candidate, but will require at least 10% of the delegates, or about 230.

Gay Democrats had been discussing nominating a gay candidate and Miami gay businessman and political leader Jack Campbell already had started a petition drive to place his name on the ballot. In past conventions minority groups had used the Vice Presidential nomination as an avenue for increasing their visibility.

Campbell reportedly will continue his effort to round up 320 signatures, but prospects seem dim.

Democratic National Committee representative Elaine Kamarck, however, said that convention leaders are actively considering asking a gay representative to present the gay rights plank to the convention as a gesture of their support for gay participation.

"We are giving consideration to having a gay delegate present the platform part that includes gay rights," Kamarck said. "We might be faced

with the situation of having some person get up and summarize 70 pages in five minutes because of Kennedy's minority amendments which have to be discussed, but we are working on it. We think it's great."

While the Rules Committee action held no real overall surprises, one major compromise may hold particular importance to gays.

That compromise establishes a watchdog committee to oversee the Democratic Party's implementation of this year's platform, for the first time holding party officials responsible.

Gay leaders had pledged that they would be closely monitoring the implementation of the gay rights plank in the months ahead.

The watchdog committee will be named by the new Democratic National Committee in its first meeting following the August convention, and will have 25 members. Gay Democrats are expected to mount an effort to have at least one gay representative on that committee.

Lesbian Fights

(Continued from front page)

concern that gays might not report instances of homosexual conduct among prisoners, or that they might engage in sexual activity with the prisoners.

Rainey also presented an Orange County psychiatrist as a witness who testified that homosexuals tend to "act out under stress." The psychiatrist, who has never spoken with Denise Kreps, claimed that she was "self-destructive," because she chose to tell the truth about her sexual preference on the polygraph test. If she was a healthy individual, the psychiatrist suggested, she would have lied.

At the hearing three deputy sheriffs testified on Kreps' behalf, saying they had worked with her as a reserve deputy and found her entirely capable.

Kreps says that she has received support and positive feedback from other department employees and family members who had not known of her sexual preference prior to the controversy.

"If the Civil Service Commission's ruling is overturned it will be an unfortunate loss for Contra Costa," stated San Francisco Sheriff Mike Hennessey.

The San Francisco Sheriff Department actively began recruiting gays under former Sheriff Richard Hongisto.

"The Contra Costa department is closing off a valuable avenue of talent," said Hennessey. "Based on the millions of hours gays have worked in this country's prisons, the worst fantasies of law enforcement officers, psychiatrists, and other professionals just are not true."

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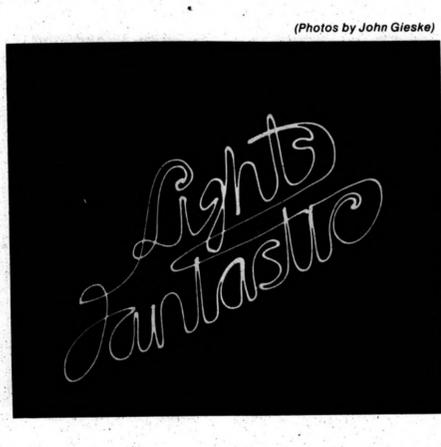
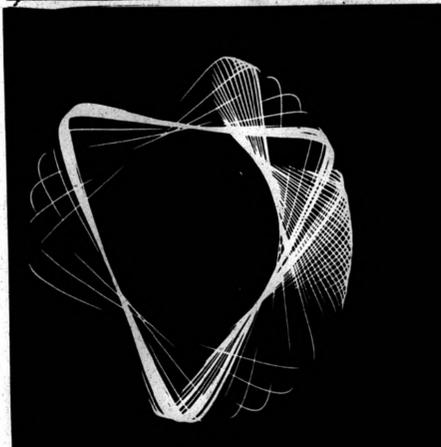


The Sentinel

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(Photos by John Gieske)

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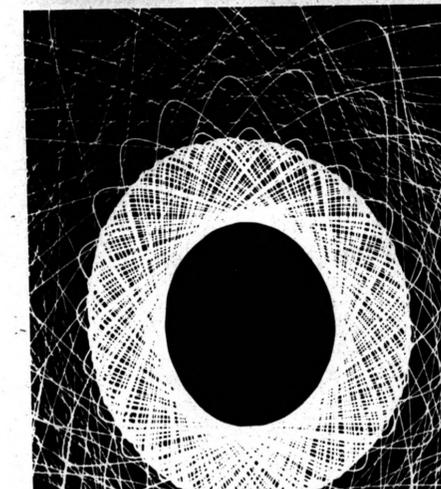
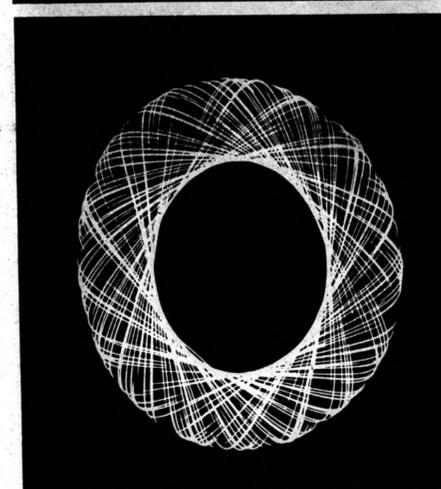
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by Dick Hasbany

Morrison Planetarium's brochure promises that Lights Fantastic, its new laser light show will "dazzle and mesmerize the eye," and furthermore, that the show offers a "new realm of sight and sound." Now, all this seems pretty hard to believe, right, when you've seen as much as we've seen—those late '60's acid-rock light shows with visceral jolts of light pulsing like heated amoebae across sweaty rockers' chests—when you've danced till dawn as we have in druggy discos under beating strobes. We are to believe that we can go to a family planetarium show, sit down in plush, tilted, theatre seats, for heaven's sake, and be dazzled and mesmerized? Right. I may have overstated our jaded condition a bit here, but light shows, or "laser concerts," as Lights Fantastic is called, are bound to meet some of this "I've seen it all before" resistance.

Lights Fantastic won't overcome the resistance, not entirely, but it is a good show and has a few moments of outstanding and, yes, dazzling beauty. Lights Fantastic remains a rich production despite all odds because the production company, Eye See the Light, has been around a long time (longer than Lasarium) and has held on to both the lessons of its experience and the advantages of its original, eclectic technology. Though Steve Benedict, one of Eye See the Light's founders, ended up in multi-disciplinary Social Science, he started in some kind of electronics major at Michigan State. With that interest and a largely incandescent special effects technology, he began to put on light shows. At first (1968) the shows used images front or rear projected onto a flat screen stretched behind a rock band. The first gigs were at radio station WJLS's Young Adult Dances in the Jack Tar Hotel in the very provincial capital city of Lansing, Michigan.

In those days, Benedict recalls, the light show was backdrop for the band, and the dancing. Now the shows have assumed the foreground. They are the thing the people pay to see, and perhaps the development that made laser shows the main event was the interest planetariums, for whatever mysterious reasons, began to take in them. In 1971, Abrams Planetarium on the Michigan State campus contracted Eye See the Light to do a show behind a live, local rock band.

Again the focus was the band, which being live and raucous, as local Michigan bands tended to be, simply captured most of the attention. But Abrams officials wanted to appeal to a broader audience than those who wanted hard rock served up with laser sauce, so they had Eye See the Light put together a show to recorded music, some of it pretty soft, some of it occasionally just pretty.

With no live bodies to distract, with everything else canned, as it were, people's attention was focused on the only live thing around, the lights. The effect of the newly focused attention has been crucial. The light and laser show has had to become worthy of the attention. It has got to be mesmerizing. Abstractly visual and hence limited in its ability to tell a

story, unable to fascinate with human presence or intellectual profundity, it has had to create an impact that is immediate, memorable and powerful.

Never breaking the primal connection between sound and image, the laser showmakers used better and better sound systems and created just such memorable spectacles and created what amounts to a minor entertainment genre as well. With the genre's creation came aficionados of the purest stripe. I have friends in Los Angeles who stand time after time in the half-block long lines that wait outside Griffith Planetarium to see the Lasarium shows there.

Eye See the Light has grown because of this kind of devotion. It has four productions currently running, on Long Island, in Portland, Oregon, and Cupertino, and, of course, the one in Golden Gate Park. There were lots of children at the 5 P.M. show I saw, and their presence attests to the broad appeal of light shows these days. It also suggests that if you have a nostalgia about the old days and old shows, you may want to go to later performances. Steve and his wife and co-showmaker Paula said there would be increasing amounts of rock in the later shows.

At any rate, such an early show is probably something like a warm-up set (remember, this is a live art, always changing) and we got off to a slow start. If the performance had one fault, it was that Lights Fantastic didn't use fully enough the kinetic imagery available in the lasers. Interesting as projections and liquid lights can be, they don't pulsate or engulf the viewer in movement as lasers can.

Still, even in this show it wasn't long before it all came back, the memories of breathtaking, engulfing beauty. Luminous, impressionistic, jewel-edged clouds twirled and swirled to Rampal and Bollings "Sentimental" and Jethro Tull's "Bourne." It wasn't new. I'd seen the effects before, but they were wonderful anyway.

The effects for Santana's "Waiting" deserve mention—wheels in shifting, spinning wheels of light, all baroque complex and sparkling. Probably the most interesting effects (Eye See the Light claims 100 special effects in Lights Fantastic) come as a result of fairly new laser technology.

The laser is hooked up to a computer so that the operator can draw figures. Thus one of the Benedicts drew the Golden Gate Bridge, stretched it, shrank it, then flipped it over. With the computer, the operator can also draw two similar figures and, by shifting from one figure to the other, appear to animate them. Draw two legs, shift from one to the next and you get dancing, in this case a can-can set to Offenbach.

There will be more of this laser animation in the future, Benedict feels, and bodes well for future light shows.

I would like to see laser light shows try some new things—perhaps silence, perhaps computer or Cape-like music, perhaps attempts at narrative. But, even if they stick to their relatively conservative format of the last few years, they are worth an occasional trip to the local planetarium. Lights Fantastic, which runs Fridays through Tuesdays throughout the summer, is fun, finally, if not all that fantastic.

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DANCE

Brilliant mime performance at Zellerbach Playhouse

A Taoist Wedding with Nature

Jean-Louis Barraut, Zellerbach Playhouse.

by Renee Renouf

Seeing Jean-Louis Barraut live at Zellerbach Playhouse last month was like seeing the summation of the moon and stars of today's theatre. Few can match him for the poetry he has brought to Western contemporary drama and none can surpass him. Since his language is French, his world is more limited to Americans than Sir Lawrence Olivier or Sir John Gielgud, but Barraut, nevertheless, is their peer in everything, including longevity of activity.

Barraut, as one of Etienne Decroux's disciples, made his first impact on Americans in the motion picture *Les Enfants du Paradis* where his expressiveness as a mime stunned us with its range. The film, created during the German occupation of Paris, gave us a first glimpse of Barraut's enormous intensity and his simplicity. Who can forget his comments when his character said that he wanted to make people laugh and cry?

Barraut and his wife Madeleine Renaud exhibit a security of presence which perhaps may be influenced by the French tradition of theatre. Now in their seventh decade, they present that serenity which drives, paradoxically, from a passionate conviction and a life expended in service to their vision of that conviction.

Barraut, both evenings, came quietly on stage in unadorned black, his shirt open at the throat. The cadences of French rolled from his lips with their

exactitude, and for all their strangeness, to see him was gratifying. His is an affection for the *enfant terribles* of French literature, the vagabond, the trouble maker, as much as for the undeniably great ones. Consciously or otherwise, he understands the spirit of *peur aeterna* who rail against society, and whose submission only is to the frailties of age. His recitation of La Fontaine exhibited just how clearly he understands them, and how clearly La Fontaine understood the follies of humanity. One felt that Barraut believes that the human follies perhaps bear the kernel of saving grace for us all.

Barraut's demonstration of the command of his body commenced his lecture-demonstration *Le Langage du Corps*. It was a lengthy ascent, and with his convincing eye, we too saw the distance he had mounted, like the years of his devotion to theatrical art.

His penetration on the subject of mime is as aquiline as the sharpness of his nose, the line of his jaw. His mime is less lyric than Marceau's, his demonstration of the absurdities more biting. The years with spoken theatre have provided him with a greater literalism.

This is not to say that Barraut lacks poetry. He climbed a tree for us and looked out over a distant landscape before he became one with the tree swaying in the wind, first gently, then fitfully under a raging, biting blow, then it subsided and from the tree a man descended. No Taoist could have wedded with nature with more totality.

Barraut also killed a companion,

convulsively, not one stab, but two, before he himself staggered beneath a mortal wound. He also knows the habits of a fisherman, the distaste of hooking a worm, and skill of the line being thrown into the river. One imagines his life-long observation of detail and gazing at the life along the river Seine.

The French have an affinity for William Faulkner, and Barraut used it to depict the struggle and travail under great difficulty to continue one's tasks, the laboriousness of sheer breathing and moving, finally, the succumbing to death. The demonstration of Barraut's selections seemed like the only way it could ever be.

Barraut's conclusion, translated into English, is a paean to life. "What pushed me into writing these lines? A certain solitude which embraces me in the midst of a society that has lost its way. . . . And at the same time the vague intuition that that which this society as it evolves, proposes, is not true, is not interesting."

He gives thanks, however, in the midst of his acuity. "Life has been given to us. A great thanks! I will never do enough to be worthy of this gift. . . . In giving me life one made me: a body. . . ."

"This body which I love as much as I love life, I must be worthy of. I am at the same time astonished and marvelling."

Such expression recalls *Les Enfants du Paradis*.

It is small wonder that both evenings ended in standing ovations. Barraut and Renaud are artists to venerate and adore unashamedly, unabashedly. They epitomize, theatrically, a quality one calls in its finest sense, humane.

Bay Area Dance Coalition Hits the Big Time

Choreographers Concerts, S.F. Bay Area Dance Coalition, Margaret Jenkins Studio, July 4.

by Renee Renouf

When dance makes the pages of an Arts and Leisure Publication, you know it has received the imprimatur, Sherwin Williams style, of the local performing world which Arts and Leisure covers. So, apparently this third annual choreographic go-around for the San Francisco Bay Area Dance Coalition means the series has hit the big time. In three years, that's going some.

The balance side of it was summarized when I heard Henry Berg say behind me, in response to a query about his current choreographic essays, "They're brief." Mostly, that statement did not characterize the showings on our National Independence Day. And brevity can be the ultimate aesthetic.

While the technical level shows many

improvements over last year, the development and conceptual completion is uneven. The dance pace is mainly like our salubrious climate. If dance is going to be leisurely, the trappings had better have gorgeous blandishment to sustain my interest and my visual appetite. Otherwise, the alley cat impulse can be nearly overwhelming.

Paul Scardina's *Diadora* showed a strong Middle Eastern flair, arabesques in profile against side lighting to suggest the melismatic quality of Arabic line. Scardina circled around his partner, Leslie Dunn-O'Brien, a slip of a lass, and the formalism and ritual seemed very traditional male-female protocol, Middle Eastern style. The use of shoulders and weight balance to create a feeling of intimacy was intriguing, and the lower impulse of the arm swing to provide a lift of spirit to counterbalance an otherwise static series of postures.

Navigation, post intermission, was Virginia Matthews' Cunningham-style piece in fatigue blues and taupes tied with a string around the waist of some pretty competent women. Endless

leaps and jumps, changes of direction, performed well, were provided us without music. Beth Harris was earth woman and Karen Attix the sprite with supporting characters. The pulled and stretched qualities of intelligently-inhabited bodies was evident. The Harris-Attix duet might have been performed alone and effectively.

When Helen Dannenberg came out and in a flat, thin voice began to sing *My Raindeer Flies Sideways*, we were in for an outrageous treat, and a master of brevity. Those New Yorkers get right down to the point, summarize it and strip it to the essence. "Your penis may enter my vagina but that doesn't mean anything intimate will happen" she drops along the way to which the audience howled and guffawed appropriately.

In Lower East Side black, she was the soul of every woman who has ever had to cope with the indignities of urban living, and she also knows how to take feet patterns, principally balletic and say, "I don't love you and you don't love me." Bless her—it's not exactly dance, but it was interesting!



Mangrove Back for the Summer

Mangrove, the San Francisco Men's Performance Collective, launches its annual summer season with a series of twelve improvisational performances incorporating dance, theater, athletics, and vocal sound. *Mangrove* will perform at the San Francisco Performance Gallery on 17th Street every Friday and Saturday July 18 through August 23.

MOVIE NEWS & NOTES

Why Shoot The Music?

by Edward Guthmann

Nobody, least of all Allan Carr, can say why *Can't Stop The Music* failed so fast and fatally. After the biggest ad campaign since Perrier crossed the Atlantic, the picture played 10 dismal days and then disappeared from most theatres.

Did the disco stigma nip it in the bud? Are the Village People box office poison? Would Olivia Newton-John, the original choice for the Valerie Perrine part, have drawn the public? Has Allan (*Grease*) Carr developed the kiss of death?

One thing is certain: Carr's alarmist calls for Hollywood "summit meetings," to purportedly "save" the movie business by lowering admission fees, was clearly a case of misery-loves-company. I think Carr is smart enough to know that his picture's *U-zie* is a sign of industry doom, but—given the mediocre returns on *Bronco Billy*, *Rough Cut* and *Urban Cowboy*—he saw the opportunity to obscure his own failure and make it appear that everyone was suffering collectively.

What worries me is the fate of the Hollywood musical, a province that Carr nearly cornered with his purchase of film rights to *Chicago*, *A Chorus Line* and *I Love My Wife*. Will any of these projects get off the ground now? Will Carr be smart enough to not hire an untested director like Nancy Walker again?

Slazy though he is, I wish Allan Carr a world of good luck.

Eaton, 48, who does community theatre in Mill Valley when she's not working with Carr, has pledged to buy the first print of *Skinny Ties*, and McDowell hopes to enter it at Filmex in Los Angeles next March. (*Thundercrack!* was a smash at Filmex in 1975, thanks to the support of Buck Henry, and Carr has had a yearly invitation from the festival since.)

With the enormous costs of film production and editing, what helps Carr survive? "It's totally thanks to Robert," he said, referring to his lover Robert Evans, a co-owner of the Roxie Cinema. "It's been really difficult because we have Robert's 10-year-old

To date, San Francisco has never really caught on to Curt McDowell. "I've never been received quite the same way here that I was at UCLA or the Anthology Film Archives in New York," Curt said.

When Curt McDowell's *L.A. Show* opens next Friday at the Roxie, 3117 16th St., at Valencia, that score will be settled.

In *A Year Of 13 Moons* is the title, and for the amazingly prolific Rainer Werner Fassbinder (*Marriage of Maria Braun*), it is perhaps the most personal and most specifically gay of his films to date—"total Fassbinder," in the words of *Film Comment's* James McCourt.

It's the story of Erwin Weishapt, a Frankfurt butcher who undergoes a sex change operation to ensnare his "straight" lover. Returning from Casablanca, Erwin-now-Elvira is rejected by her former love, and embarks on a series of grandly pathetic misadventures.

Starring Volker Spengler (the red-headed friend in *Despair*), *13 Moons* is dedicated to a lover of Fassbinder who committed suicide, and includes homages to Douglas Sirk's *Written On The Wind* and Fellini's *Nights of Cabiria*. When it premiered at the New York Film Festival last October, Andrew Sarris wrote in the *Village Voice* that "only Fassbinder could make a film about a tormented and humiliated transsexual more lyrical than clinical. . . . Elvira becomes one of the most memorable screen creations of our age."

13 Moons opens Wednesday, July 16 at the Surf.

Quick takes: Warner Bros. has picked up the option on Lucien Trustcott IV's *Dress Gray*. Don't hold your breath, though: Warner's notorious for sitting on "literary" projects. They're still dragging their feet on *The Thorn Birds* and *The World According to Garp*, and only recently have made moves with *The French Lieutenant's Woman* (to star Meryl Streep). . . . The funniest Hollywood rumor right now concerns Clint Eastwood's next "Dirty Harry" picture. After being paired with a Chicano cop, a Black and a woman, Harry's next partner will be. . . you guessed it, a Gay Cop! . . . Orson Welles will direct his first Hollywood picture in 22 years, a \$6,000,000 romantic adventure called *The Dreamers*. Welles has completed the screenplay and will play one of the four leads. Hal Ashby is co-producing. . . . I had to soak my fingers in cold water for hours after I finished Andrew Sarris' attack on Pauline Kael in the latest *Voice*. "Her prose is, if anything, even more precociously schoolgirlish than it was in the early '60s," Sarris wrote. "From the beginning Pauline Kael burst upon the New York critical scene as an unlikely combination of a Berkeley intellectual and a Hollywood agent. Try to imagine Susan Sontag and Sue Mengers as the same person and you have an approximation of Pauline."



Curt McDowell

One of the great American sagas of the Eighties—the one called *The Fortitude of the Independent Filmmaker*—is currently being played out here in San Francisco. It stars Curt McDowell and it's not entirely happy.

But it is heroic. McDowell, 35, known chiefly for his macabre sex comedy *Thundercrack!* and soon to be featured at the Roxie in midnight showings of his short films, told me this week that "since 1975 I've just been keeping alive and putting things in cans."

What's in those cans will some day constitute three feature-length films: *Taboo*, *Initiation On King Street* and *Sparkle's Tavern*. Each one stars Marion Eaton, the odd and wonderful star of *Thundercrack!*, and each one waits today for final editing and distribution.

But without grant money or the benefits of shit jobs that most artists endure, McDowell has played a marathon waiting game. "It costs me \$750 a month to rent a flabed," he explained. "That's the machine that's necessary for the final stages of editing."

McDowell keeps running out of flatbed funds, but is hopeful now that *Skinny Ties*, his latest, still-shooting Marion Eaton opus, will get aloft. "It's about the demise of the patriarchal family," Curt said. "It takes place in a sleazy little machacha-parlor type home" where Marion plays Dorothy Fuqua, a sexually insatiable wife who lolls about in a merry widow. "Her character is based on some graffiti I saw two years ago," Curt said.

In Lower East Side black, she was the soul of every woman who has ever had to cope with the indignities of urban living, and she also knows how to take feet patterns, principally balletic and say, "I don't love you and you don't love me." Bless her—it's not exactly dance, but it was interesting!



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MOVIES

Rape Is a Violation of the Soul

PRIMAL FEAR. Directed by Anne Claire Poirier. Bridge Theater.

by Sue Zemel

Before the screening of Primal Fear, I overheard two women talking in the Bridge Theater lobby. "I didn't want to come, but I knew I should," said one woman. "Same for me—it's my day off and I don't feel like getting depressed."

"So do I," her friend said. Perhaps with the feminist movement, the writing of books such as Susan Brownmiller's Against Our Will, and the growing necessity to deal with potential violence in our own day to day lives, our consciousness around the issue of rape has been raised.

Still, as the incidence of rape and violence against women increases, Anne Poirier's powerful docu-drama is an important and pertinent film that both women and men need to see. And to learn from.

Poirier, a French Canadian director/writer, explores the implications, manifestations, and ramifications of rape, in both its widest social context, as an act of political domination, and in its devastating effect on one particular victim, who is left with a sense of fear and shame.

"The worst wasn't the pain or violence," says Suzanne, the victim whose ordeal the film in part documents. "Rape is also a forcing of the soul." Unfortunately, like many women, Suzanne does not survive the emotional and psychic violation. "I didn't catch a disease," she explains following a V.D. examination by an insensitive male doctor. "I caught fear. It's like some-

thing's broken inside me—as if I lost love inside." For Suzanne, that is worse than death.

Primal Fear, whose French title, "Mourir a tue-tete," translates "To Die Screaming," follows Suzanne through this painful process.

As the film begins we see her leaving the hospital where she works as a nurse. Suzanne, effectively played by Julie Vincent, is grabbed on the street by a tall young man. He forces her at knife-point into his van and proceeds to beat her, verbally abuse her, and finally takes her.

The audience experiences this brutal scene through the victim's perspective. The camera actually becomes Suzanne and as the rapist, played by Germain Houde, moves about the truck like a wild animal caged with its prey, taunting, abusing and backing off, it is extremely difficult to remain seated. One directly experiences the helplessness of the victim.

"It's disgusting," says the film editor (played by Micheline Lanctot) as the lights come on in the screening room at the end of the rape scene. "It's supposed to be," responds the film's director (played by Monique Miller).

Here, the film shifts perspective and throughout the rest of Primal Fear, the characters of the director and editor exchange ideas and observations about the story they proceed to document.

With an especially feminist flair, Poirier has chosen also to make a film about making a film about rape. This dramatic device provides a thought provoking commentary about the dynamics of rape, and raises a number of questions about how best to communicate to a wide audience of both sexes, the strikingly different perspectives men and women have of the issues surrounding rape.

Poirier also uses documentary footage showing Vietnamese war victims (women and children who have been raped by soldiers), a scene of a crite-

otomy performed on a young African girl (a form of ritualized rape and mutilation), and Nazi concentration camp victims.

Poirier cuts back and forth between these scenes, Suzanne's ordeal, and the filmmakers' discussions. Finally, the fourth dramatic device employed is that of a surrealistic tribunal, in which a number of rape victims testify before a stolid male judge.

"Animals don't rape—why do men," says one woman. "With rape there are two truths—the man's and the woman's," observes another victim.

"You men protect each other internationally," responds yet another woman. As the victims give their testimony, a group of children is led into the courtroom. "All of these children have been raped," explains a woman. "I thought they should hear."

The tribunal is the most informative scene in the film, covering a myriad of political, and personal issues about rape. After this scene Poirier returns to Suzanne's story. Two months after the rape she kills herself. "It had to be," says the film director. She reveals that in her research the woman she interviewed did in fact commit suicide.

"But some women get over it," says the editor. "It depends on the circumstances," says the director. "Most of the time a raped woman must go it alone."

While Suzanne's death is difficult to accept, the reasons for it are poignantly, and painfully believable. As the lights came up in the theater, and I overheard some women comment that four men in the audience had walked out a third of the way into the film, I wondered how much Poirier's film would actually change the fact of rape. Yet, I believe that this docu-drama should be required viewing for everyone. It is a piercing cry we cannot afford to ignore.

Sunlit Waters, Tanned Skin and Retarded Moralizing

THE BLUE LAGOON. With Brooke Shields and Christopher Atkins. Directed by Randall Kleiser. Regency II.

by Ned Brown



The ads for this movie promise that it will show us "natural love." Instead, we get something more like an anatomically correct version of Barbie and Ken Reach Puberty in Paradise.

The chief selling point seems to be the two extraordinarily beautiful young stars. Unfortunately, their limited acting ability fatally weakens the film.

The Blue Lagoon, in the original story by Henry De Vere Stacpole, was for its time and place a sensitive, if rather poeticized account of coming of age. The movie version, however, is blown into a soapbubble idyll, gassy with romantic notions about "natural" and "civilized" behavior.

Although the subtlety and drama of the original have been lost, the plot remains basically the same. Two children, Emmeline and Richard, escape a ship's fire and find safety in a south-sea Eden. Cut off from civilization, they must learn how to secure the necessities of life and how to cope with the nature of life itself.

They are not alone, at first, however. An old sailor accompanies them and conveniently demonstrates various survival techniques. Then he just as conveniently O.D.'s on rum, leaving Em and Richard to their own devices.

The two children are not so "natural" or untaught by the outside world as they might initially appear. To begin with, they bring with them their civilized upbringing. Then, they have the lessons and instructions left behind by the old sailor. Finally, they salvage a large steamer trunk which contains among other things a series of stereotypical slides fortuitously entitled "Marriage." (The various stages of flirtation, courtship, marriage, parenthood are intercut with the film.)

In time Em and Richard encounter all the joys and terrors of existence: friendship, quarrels, sex, birth, and death. But there is no sense of discovery or wonder, no feeling for the emotional development of this suburban Adam

and Eve. Shields and Atkins bump into Big Changes as if they were moving from hole to hole on a midge golf course. Here is Brooke, bleeding and weeping in the Grotto of Womanly Mysteries. There is Christopher, whiping it off behind a rock on the phallic Peninsula of Masturbation. At no time do they seem to be more than teenage tourists in a symbolic toyland.

With its inadequate actors, uninspired direction, and wooly screenplay, The Blue Lagoon must rely heavily on visual images. But the photography of Nestor Almendros is never able to sustain the dramatic and mythic dimensions which the other participants have failed to develop. Almendros limits himself almost entirely to the tropical banalities of sunlit water, tanned skin, brightly colored fish, and parrots.

The film glorifies a spurious innocence at the expense of a fuller exploration of human possibilities. Just when we would like to see how the two young people might cope with a return to civilization, the film ends. We are never allowed to know who they really are or what they might become. (The film's failure of nerve at this point seems to correspond with the couple's decision to hide from a rescue ship because "people are bad to one another.")

Movies can play an important part in our fantasy lives. (Think of Korda's Jungle Book or his Arabian Nights.) Indeed, they can help to form our imaginations. Movies about growing up can be particularly effective in this regard. (The Black Stallion, for example or even Breaking Away.) If The Blue Lagoon reveals anything at all, it is the faltering imagination of its makers. Go see it if you want to watch some pretty footage, but be prepared for some rather retarded moralizing about human nature.

Airplane Fails To Take Off

Directed by Jim Abrahams, David Zucker, and Jerry Zucker. At the Royal Theatre.

by Steve Berry



In sharp contrast to last year's funniest movie, the civilized and humane French farce, La Cage aux Folles, Airplane! demonstrates the unimaginative timidity of Hollywood. "Let's do a spoof of the Airport movies," we can hear the moguls saying as we watch this sometimes amusing but always unengaging film, "but let's be sure the audience gets the point."

Increasingly, American movie-makers are playing it safe in order to pause the greatest possible return on their investment. Airplane! is full of gags, but it's a one-joke movie, dim-witted and cautious enough to make Mel Brooks look like Feodor Dostoyevsky.

There are plenty of funny bits here, but they exhaust more than they exhilarate. This is a comedy of objects. When the harried air traffic controller radios the disabled plane's pilot to "Land! Land! Land!," a watermelon hits the floor and shatters. The lovelick stewardess has to inflate a blow-up pilot whose nozzle is located just below belt level. In what must be a new low in movie crudity, someone announces that the shit is going to hit the fan, and sure enough, it does. After half an hour or so of this nonsense, we yearn for the appearance of a Madeline Kahn or a Gene Wilder to lend a comic performance to the non-stock schtick. No such luck.

The movie stars Robert Hays and Julie Hagerty, two blank-faced nonentities from T.V. Peter Graves, as the pilot who gets sick in mid-flight, has a couple of funny lines ("Ever been in a cockpit before, little boy? Ever seen a grown man naked?"). Robert Stack, in the control tower, is mildly amusing, mocking the tough-guy-under-pressure

Airplane! audiences are never allowed to miss the point of the movie's weak gags.

roles he usually plays. But people and subtlety are not what Airplane! is all about. When the soundtrack broke into "Staying Alive" while Robert Hays in a black shirt struck a Travolta pose, the audience

applauded, as if to congratulate itself on catching the reference to Saturday Night Fever. This is the level Airplane! refuses, or is unable, to rise above. Mel Brooks is looking better all the time.

Records Killer Rhythm, Arabic Yodeling and Trite Disco

by D. Lawless



The English Beat: Masters of the law of hectic motion.

The English Beat: "I Just Can't Stop It" (Sire Records)

Whoop bop tingling, this one's a hot jewel. The English Beat are to ska/punk what the Ramones (in their first speedy outburst) were to heavy-metal/bubblegum. An expert fusion of punk and reggae, pop and jazz, this is heat beyond the stupor. A bi-racial unit (like The Specials and The Selecter) the English Beat kick my heart hard with a savage attack that's both spiteful and soothing, and without a trace of tedium.

The immediacy of their appeal lies in their Clash-like vocal ferocity combined with a killer rhythm section that pauses just long enough to establish the chugging, dipping regularity of the Rasta scheme before babbling on through to a ruder note. In contrast to their ripping drive, its 50-year-old sax player slides on in from time to time—floating on some deliciously greasy cocktail riffs circa Stan Getz, etc.

There's really not a duff cut on this A-1 party-making gem. You'll play and replay this one well into the nights to come. The English Beat have mastered the laws of hectic motion. Watch them ride the rhythm, coursing through row after row of tin collectors of Summer heat. Too much to contain!

The Residents: "Diskomo/Goosebump" (Ralph Records)

More an electronic scanning unit than a pop group, the Residents present a splice of machine-age "lifestyle" conceived under the duress of Permanent Technological Difficulty. These enigmatic odd ducks concoct genre-slipping aud experiments with a decidedly non-sensual feel.

Holger Czukay: "Movies" (EMI Record/Import)

It's downright weird nowadays to hear this sort of synthetic rhapsody minus the usual dronish clock-

work. Although Holger Czukay was the one-time bassist with Can, an experimental German electronic ensemble, this isn't the expected trite muzak but a lavishly kinetic soundtrack of ascending warmth. Not unlike something Paul McCartney might assemble if he had the imagination.

Neither unearthy nor in any sense cryptic, Czukay's a versatile keyboard player with a carefree child-like touch and Continental air somewhat akin to that of Patrick Moraz. And "Movies" is a sunshine collage that blends squirmy Arabic yodeling with Spanish classical runs, some funkjam bass and large doses of Czukay's irrepressible wiggly bits. Glistening with silken curves of surprising range, this is fusion music in the truest sense—without the redundant funkisms that generally cloud that category. At first, only mildly seductive, "Movies" becomes positively addictive with repeated exposure

to its glowing rays. The Rance Allen Group: "I Feel Like Going On" (Stax Records)

See here, y'all, Rance Allen is one of the prize inspirational singers of all-time. A magnificent, crunchingly sympathetic voice like wind hurrying through trees. But the trite disco puffery arrangements here trap the natural surging ardor of Allen & trio beneath a showy blanket of Vegas clichey-clack. He could've been... mediocre... but he kept right on trying. Came through twice—on the softly cried "I'm Coming Back To You" and the resolute "Believe in Yourself." A disappointing LP, for the most part, but one that still works as an uplifting light-housecleaning soundtrack. All I have to do is tie a rag 'round my head, grab a cold beer from the fridge, blast Rance Allen on the stereo and, Lord knows, I'm ready to clean house! Well... almost. Lord...?

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The Plush Room Goes For Glory

by Michael Mascioli

Now it must be the talk of the local club scene: The Plush Room at the Hotel York, a mere six months in existence, has already shifted from its policy of showcasing local entertainers to featuring nationally-known talent, hopefully filling the void left by the demise of the City and the Mocambo, once the city's foremost cabarets.

The first hint came in May, with the booking of Donna McKechnie, Tony Award-winning star of *A Chorus Line*. July will see a full-scale escalation, highlighted by the engagement of no less than Eartha Kitt.

Gary Herb, an alumnus of Gotham, the superb gay male vocal trio, premiered his solo club act to S.F. audiences this past Tuesday at the Plush Room, where he will continue through July 17. With any luck, he'll bring to the act his share of Gotham's musicianship, eclecticism and campy brand of humor. The music charge is \$5.

On July 18-20 and 22-23, Maxine Weldon takes center stage. Weldon has recorded four albums for CBS and for the prestigious jazz label Mainstream, but, strangely, her career has failed to take off. Yet there is no better indication of her very real talents than the fact that only last winter, in *Ladies Sing the Blues*, a concert tribute to Billie Holiday at the Oakland Coliseum, she outshined everyone else on the bill.



Eartha Kitt (above) and Maxine Weldon (below) lead off the Plush Room's drive to become the City's foremost cabaret.

Gilbert and Sullivan production

A Tale of Lords and Fairies

Iolanthe, or The Peer and The Peri
At the Presentation Theatre
through August 2.

by Anthony Weaver

Iolanthe was the first opera that William Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan wrote for the Savoy Theatre, the house that impresario Richard D'Oyly Carte had built for them. It is a product of the prime of their collaboration and shows the care given for the special circumstances. The Lamplighters have given as much care to their current production of *Iolanthe* playing now at the Presentation Theatre.

Gilbert and Sullivan's tale of Lords and Fairies interfering with Arcadian love has received the very best attention of the Lamplighters. It is strongly cast, delightfully directed and handsomely designed.

Although *Iolanthe* is the title character, she can often seem almost unnecessary on the stage. Martha Vlahos played the lovely spirit, who has been banished for transgressing fairy law by marrying a mortal, with sufficient strength that one never felt her to be a minor character.

Strephon, her son, an Arcadian shepherd (and because of his unique parentage) only half a fairy was played with suitable slightly slow-witted innocence by John Rouse. Rouse possesses the youthful voice and looks to be a nearly perfect Gilbert and Sullivan hero.

Phyllis, an Arcadian shepherdess betrothed to Strephon, and a Ward in Chancery is at the center of the plot. She is adored by all the Lords in Parliament and most particularly by the Lord Chancellor. Lenore Turner's beautiful voice and looks make that situation easily believable. She invests Phyllis with a certain bubble-headed logic which must be precisely what Gilbert had intended. She is Phyllis.

William Wilson was that highly susceptible Chancellor who must decide

how he can plead before himself for the hand of Phyllis. There are moments when the words of the patter song seem to be getting the better of Wilson but he is still a highly successful Chancellor.

Mary McMahon Brown was the influential fairy (Queen to be exact) who attempts to reunite the lovers with her magic. Although her voice does not always do her bidding faithfully, she played the role with considerable authority.

John Zajia and Robert Wood are a wonderful pair as the lordier of the

Lords. Wood especially displayed an upper crust voice in his song in praise of Blue-blood.

Barbara Heroux, Kate Doyle and Jeanne Hitzeman were superb as the chief movers among the fairies. William Neely as Private Willis was soundly unshakable as a Granard Guard.

The chorus and orchestra displayed a happy familiarity with their parts. Orva Hoskinson must be congratulated for moving so many people on such a small stage with so much grace without ever stooping to being merely a traffic cop.



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A Festival of Masses

by Anthony Weaver

The Mass, in addition to holding the central position in the liturgy of the church, has for centuries been a major receptacle of the composer's art. The body of music that has been written for the mass is immense. The Bay Area has before it the opportunity to explore the merest sampling of the music for the mass with the two-week "Mass-A Festival With Robert Shaw at St. Mary's Cathedral.

The festival began with a consecrated mass at St. Mary's with the world premier of a *Festival Mass* by the Bay Area composer, Roger Nixon. Nixon's piece should surely find a home in the church. His musical language is not particularly individual, consisting of healthy borrowings from Hindemith and Copland and other assorted modern sources. But the music is pleasant and successful and well within the abilities of many church musical establishments and congregations.

One potentially dramatic moment, however, did not work. The congregation is divided in three parts to speak the Credo in canon. By the time the third group is to begin speaking the sound of the first two groups has become so jumbled and the organ melisma which has been running through it all has become so loud that no one has any idea when to begin. So they don't. Not only has the musical effect misfired but a good portion of the congregation has been robbed of the opportunity of speaking this central statement of faith.

Sunday evening's performance with Chanticleer and the California Bach Society Choral presented a plainsong mass and various polyphonic settings of the mass. Chanticleer performed the chant settings of the ordinary of the mass from behind one of the massive supports of the cathedral. The popular notion of the pure other-worldly sound of plainsong was thereby reinforced. Their performance interpreted the visually free-flowing notes of the chants in metrical units, so that one felt a rhythmic relaxation. Sections were set off by a subtle contrast of volume and tonal weight.



They moved in front of the support for the performance of Dufay's *Mass l'homme arme*. Their light, unforced tone, carefully balanced and weighted, was well-suited to this fifteenth century masterpiece. Their sound and careful sensitivity to pitch was most satisfying in William Byrd's *Mass for Three Voices*. They captured the characteristic English intensity and melancholy of Byrd's music. The fuller sound of the California Bach Society Choral was used for the *Messa a Quattro Voci da capella* of Claudio Monteverdi. This is clearly more modern music closer to our own time. Its counterpoint is harmonically directed. Its melodies are intensely expressive. Its rhythmic patterns and

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BOOKS

Allen Ginsberg Revisited

by Steve Abbott

Allen Ginsberg, *Composed On The Tongue* (Grey Fox Press: 1980) 153 pages, \$5.95.

Allen Ginsberg, Peter Orlovsky, *Straight Hearts' Delights: Love Poems and Selected Letters* (Gay Sunshine Press: 1980) 239 pages, \$8.95.

Allen Ginsberg is probably the most famous poet and homosexual in the world. Almost everybody you meet has an Allen Ginsberg story. If they didn't sleep with him personally, their roommate or cousin did. I have a few Ginsberg stories myself. As a shy kid from Nebraska I first met him in Lawrence, Kansas in early 1967. "Will you come up to the University of Nebraska and read?" I asked trembling. "How big an audience can you guarantee?" he replied. "Oh, a thousand," I said, pulling a figure out of the air. Then, as an afterthought, "Karl Shapiro would love to see you too." That did it. Shapiro was a two time Pulitzer Prize winner and the first established poet to praise Allen's poetic talent, or so I'd heard. The reading was set.

As editor of the campus literary magazine, I went to secure a room for the reading. "All rooms are booked except the Ballroom," sneered the Student Union secretary. "We'll take it then," I replied. She looked at me like I had rocks in my head. The last poet to come to campus had drawn fifteen people. With the amused aid of Shapiro, we began telling people about the reading. Word spread like wildfire. Ginsberg had just been written up in *Life* as the pro-pot, anti-war Beatnik who peed on carpets and tore off his clothes at readings.

A few days later Allen appeared at my door with Peter Orlovsky, Peter's catatonic brother Lafcadio and someone else I can't remember. He written "Wichita Vortex Sutra" on route and had a tape recorder under his arm that Bob Dylan had given him so that when Midwestern cops busted him he could replay the "real facts" later in court. I showed Allen a tentative schedule I'd arranged for him: meetings in frat houses, dorms, newspaper and radio interviews, etc. He was ecstatic! "This is the best schedule I've had since Czechoslovakia," he said. By the time of the reading, 5,000 people were on hand, many with rotten eggs and vegetables under their letter sweaters. The university would have called the reading off but for fear of a riot. "Just what do you plan to do here?" the Dean of Student Affairs asked when we arrived. "Oh, just read some poetry," I told him.

To make a long story short, Allen turned that ugly, violent mob into ardent worshippers after just one poem, "Sunflower Sutra." Never had I seen such courage, such miraculous moral force, not to mention one of the most exciting readings of my life. He read for three hours but could have kept the crowd all night if he'd wanted

At parties afterwards he was all for the hype, the Beat gospel to professors and psychologists, but when I came up to him with a personal question about a guy I liked, he was all attention. "Just give it all the energy the traffic will bear," he said gently.

Allen Ginsberg was the model of strength and sensitivity for my own "coming out" a few years later. I owe him a debt that can never be repaid. So do all poets in America. He opened the closets on more fronts than one.

In 1972 I met Ginsberg again in Atlanta, Georgia. He was picking in front of a supermarket which was selling scab grapes. I'd come to interview him for *The Great Speckled Bird*, a local underground paper. I was surprised he remembered me. I told him of his effect on my life. "Did I cause all that?" he laughed incredulously. We'd both been through hard times, he because Peter had been strung out on speed, me because my first lover had been murdered by an AWOL Marine and my wife killed in a car accident, leaving me alone to raise our infant daughter.

Allen didn't seem larger than life this time. He read *Howl* as if it were a joke and his mantras and Blues songs got on my nerves. The interview never got printed, partly because of homophobia on the part of the paper's editors and partly because it was a lousy interview.

Well, there's other stories, none so interesting, but the other night I went to a publication party for *Straight Hearts' Delights*, his latest book from Gay Sunshine Press which is celebrating its Tenth Anniversary this summer. This time it was Allen who was down. A recent controversy threatens the existence of his Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics. Despite the Buddhist philosophy that all suffering is illusion, the controversy weighs heavily upon him. Still, he was kind and paid special attention to all who came.

What does all this have to do with the two books supposedly under discussion? Allen has made the myth of his persona inseparable. One can't discuss one without discussing the other. *Composed On The Tongue* consists of essays on his poetic theories and describes touching scenes like his playing the Beatles for Ezra Pound.

Straight Hearts' Delights consists of poems and letters by Ginsberg and his lover of over twenty years, Peter Orlovsky—a record of love long lived against all the pressures of a society dead set against it. Unforgettable masterpieces such as Allen's "A Supermarket In California" are here along with doggerel such as "Jimmy Berman's Rag." Orlovsky's "sex experiment" poems are here too, works Allen declined to hear Peter read in an English class at NU in 1967 because "They embarrass me," as he said at the time. All the pertinent correspondence behind these works is here too.

I am torn. My own feelings about



Allen Ginsberg, who once backpacked poetry into Middle America, now sits on the National Institute of Arts and Letters and travels by jet.

poetry have changed almost 180 degrees from the days when I swore by *Howl*, Elvis Presley and Miles Davis. *Howl* and *Kaddish* are still great poems, as are a handful by Gregory Corso, Bob Kaufman, not to mention Kerouac's novels which have more drive than most poems could ever hope for, but most "Beat" poetry, based on the cult of personality as it is, seems positively fatuous, boring and reactionary to me.

It didn't protect us from Nixon and it won't protect us from Carter, Reagan or the Ayatollahs. Maybe it's not the job of poetry to protect us from anything, but that's just the point: Beat poetry attempted to do so. It posited the Cult of the Individual against the Cult of the State, language consciousness be damned.

Those Beats who didn't flip into madness, drugs and drink got famous (i.e. co-opted by the very establishment they set out to transform). The Allen Ginsberg who once backpacked poetry into Middle America now sits on the National Institute of Arts and Letters and travels by jet. He's staunchly loyal to his friends, genuinely concerned to help his students, opposes nuclear power plants and otherwise, sans beard, looks and acts like any other good, liberal Wall Street banker (i.e., extremely anxious). The King of the May has become the

King of the Mountain and a lot of ungrateful second-raters would like to see him knocked from his perch. America eats her heroes, a tradition dating before Orpheus.

Personally I don't care who Allen's guru is: the Pope, Timothy Leary, Rimpoche Chogyam Trungpa or... but here's the problem, are the omniscient brain police really behind all gurus after all? I wish I could say, "Allen, I'll back anything you say," but those days are gone, not only for Allen Ginsberg but for all of us. In the '50's we trusted rebels without a cause; in the '60's we trusted anyone under 30; today we dare not trust anyone, as even babies are poisoned by the language assumptions of racism, sexism and Three Mile Island. What a poet must do today is analyse the deep language of this state of affairs, the language of heroism and religious cults as well as the language of Kafkaesque bureaucracies.

What cannot be denied is that Allen Ginsberg is the last poet of the larger-than-life tradition. Without him, few of us would be where we are today for he put his "queer shoulder to the wheel" and pushed the door open a crack before this decade of final reckoning. These books vividly document that heroic struggle, a struggle for which he should be honored. They also record its severe limitations.

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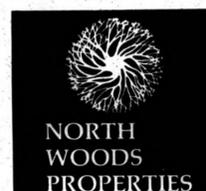
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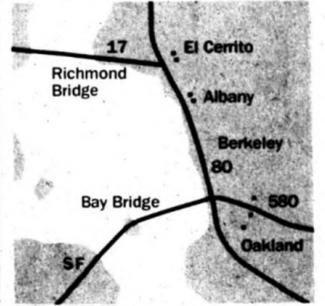
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El Cerrito, Phone 529-1323

Val Strough Honda of El Cerrito
11858 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, Phone 529-1323

Val Strough Subaru
929 San Pablo Avenue
Albany, Phone 525-4914

Val Strough Volkswagen
718 San Pablo Avenue
Albany, Phone 526-2942



The Val Strough Company

Chevrolet, Honda, Jaguar, Mazda, MG, Triumph, Subaru and Volkswagen.