

Changing
Consciousness
& Lives
pg. 16

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February 12, 1988

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75¢ Outside SF Bay Area

THE FEMINIZATION OF POWER



*Historic National
Tour Sweeps through
the Bay Area*

by Karen Everett

Photos by
Marc Geller

the feminization of

Eleanor Smeal, past president of NOW, took the Bay Area by storm when she challenged 700 women at the Feminization of Power Campaign last Sunday to take their rightful place in elective and appointive office. An estimated 120 women — an unprecedented number in the history of the national tour that has already swept through Los Angeles, Dallas, Chicago, Philadelphia, San Diego and Sacramento — accepted Smeal's challenge to run for public office.

"This is setting a record, no doubt about it," shouted Smeal. "The closest we've come before this is 43 in Philly."

Continued on page 7

'Army Caters to Private Biases'

Military Exclusion of Lesbians/Gays Overturned

by Tim Taylor

Efforts by the United States Army to discharge a gay enlistee with a 14-year record of distinguished services was ruled unconstitutional last Wednesday by a federal appeals court. A sweeping 60-page decision by the court shattered existing precedent — and military policy — saying the Army's practice of discriminating against lesbians and gay men violated the Constitution's provisions guaranteeing

citizens "equal protection" under the law. The decision equated lesbian and gay civil rights with those afforded racial minorities.

"We must reject many of the Army's asserted justifications [for banning lesbians and gays] because they cater to private biases," the decision said in a 2-1 ruling by a panel of the Ninth Circuit of the United States Court of Appeals.

"This is history," civil rights attorney John Wahl exulted. "This is just absolutely beautiful."

Wahl's comments were echoed by other civil rights attorneys who have waged a lengthy — and often lonely — struggle against the military's policies of discrimination. "This is the most expansive ruling in favor of gay people ever issued by a

Continued on page 12

A T E A S E



BLOCKBUSTER EGO

Glen Helfand Meditates on the Marketing — and Modesty — of Art World Superstar Julian Schnabel

20



Local Girl Makes Good

Robert Julian Meets Carol Channing and a Fracas at the Fairmont Ensues

Books	26
Classics	24
Dance	23
Film	25
FullFrame	27
Less Talk	27
Rock Previews	30
Theatre	28

Week at a Glance .. 29

Catholic Charities Acquires New Residence for ARC/AIDS Homeless

by Alex MacDonald

On January 10, Catholic Charities announced the acquisition of a residence for homeless people suffering from ARC or AIDS. The social services arm of the San Francisco Archdiocese successfully concluded a year-long search for a suitable site when Christine and Jim Silva donated \$800,000 to the AIDS/ARC residential program of Catholic Charities.

The new residence on the edge of the Western Addition will replace the Folsom Street hotel south of Market, which the program used as temporary housing for it. The South of Market site, according to Melvin Robinson, one of the residents, "is unhealthy for a person with an infectious disease." Describing the hotel as encrusted with years of dirt, Robinson says he thinks he picked up a respiratory disease just from living there.

Robinson gives higher marks, however, to the South of Market neighborhood and expressed concerns about the new location. "We're indirectly protected there," he says, "because we're close to the Hall of Justice. But over here, don't cross Fillmore, even if you're real adventuresome." He adds, "I know. I'm from this neighborhood."

A new police station is situated just north of the new residence. Program coordinator Kevin Gogin lists a number of deficiencies in the South of Market site. Inadequate toilet facilities and the lack of an elevator head the list. Nine-by-nine rooms with only a sink and a

bare bulb for decoration add to the atmosphere of gloom which residents and their caseworkers must face. Until several months ago, complaints of AIDS-phobia by managers who lived in the hotel compounded these problems.

The new site in the Western Addition, to be called the Peter Claver Community in honor of a 16th-century Jesuit missionary who ministered to slaves, will offer long-term residence to 32 clients drawn from the city's ARC and AIDS homeless population. Preference will go to people whose problems with substance abuse or neuropsychological conditions make them unacceptable to other programs. The Peter Claver Community is thought to be the first of its kind in the United States.

A year ago, the San Francisco Department of Public Health estimated the number of ARC and AIDS homeless to be between 70 and 90. The estimate has now climbed to about 350 and is expected to increase to between 700 and 1,000 by 1991.

Aware of these estimates, Monsignor Francis Lacey, the vicar general and



Christian Haren, a health department consultant and the original Marlboro Man, casts a critical eye on a room that will soon be available to a homeless person with AIDS. It passed inspection.

moderator of the curia of the archdiocese, said, "We will not meet all the need. We are not under any illusion about that."

Mayor Art Agnos lauded the Peter Claver Community as a model for providing long-term residents with case

management, money management and community living. Noting that the DPH estimates that 10% of the homeless in San Francisco suffer from AIDS or ARC, the mayor added, "It is also a good model of how the community and public and private partnerships, using

federal, state and local money, working with people in the public sector and the private sector, can get things done."

A project for AIDS/ARC homeless was originally proposed by Robert Prentice, the DPH's director of health

Continued on page 15

leather première

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Buena Vista Park Gets a Facelift

by Robert Pruzan

On January 26 city Park Planner Deborah Learner announced to a small but attentive group of Buena Vista Park neighbors that \$1.3 million of a city bond has been slated for BVP. Since the park commission adopted the Buena Vista Park Master Plan last March, major changes have been indicated pending such funding.

Although bond funds won't come through before July, there is "seed money" already available for certain projects through the city's General Fund and the "Open Space" Fund which has paid for most of the park's extensive pruning. The total amount, still \$1 million short of the master plan's needs, will be met by grants from the state, volunteer community efforts, and as yet unsolicited donations from groups and individuals.

This current funding deficit called for prioritizing of projects, and this was the theme of the January public meeting called by the SF Park and Recreation department. About 30 people attended. Even with the predominately gay constituency of BVP, few present were gay. Previously marked by covert and open hostility to the public "manners" of gay park users, this meeting seemed genuinely apolitical and more attentive to park needs. The neighborhood consensus finally appeared more concerned with wildlife than "the wild life."

Erosion control and reforestation remain the largest intended expenditures. \$710,000 and yearly maintenance costs of \$13,500 will go towards temporary fencing and other control measures around the steep and heavily eroded areas now trod daily by hearty souls. During the next three years, these areas will be replanted at a cost of \$152,000. Signage explaining the need for such

measures is considered top priority as the sandy slopes crumble daily.

Further uses of the money may include renovating vista points, fencing and protecting children's play areas

trees, planting grass and providing irrigation to make the area more conducive to community gatherings or picnics, through the idea of barbecue pits was frowned upon. Even previously opposed factions appeared to agree on this development.

Added funding may come from private groups and individuals who would donate memorial trees, benches and vistas, and an outside facility working with Park and Rec could raise and organize a great deal of money. One



Buena Vista Park got plowed before the final planting.

from wind, dogs and transients, and a major renovation of the tennis courts. The park's outer promenade will be restored, including new entrance paths to the interior, especially near the Park Hill Condominiums, that may follow earlier pathway plans.

The most popular new project discussed was the transformation of the parking lot into a grassy knoll by removing the asphalt, pruning existing

participant lobbied to enhance wooded areas for quail and squirrels. A police department representative, reprimanded at the last public meeting by even nongay residents for the department's aggressive park presence, was commended for the current, more relaxed but attentive stance. One senior said how much she liked hearing the "clap, clap, clap" of the mounted police once or twice a day.



State Senator Quentin Kopp gives his pro-Olympics testimony to Supervisors Hsieh, Silver and Ward.

Kopp Attacks Britt's Olympic Resolution

by Charles Linebarger

State Senator Quentin Kopp came out strongly against Supervisor Harry Britt's resolution to disinvite the Olympics to San Francisco at the February 4 Board of Supervisors' hearing on the issue. Following Kopp's testimony, the Human Services Committee voted to send Britt's resolution on to the board without a recommendation.

Britt also brought a second resolution before the committee, requesting that the board not endorse the appointment of USOC attorney Vaughn Walker to the San Francisco federal bench.

Britt predicted Thursday that a majority of the Board of Supervisors would vote this Monday to support his anti-Olympics resolution, and that he had a commitment from the mayor's office

that the measure would be approved. Britt has not yet done a nose count on the Vaughn Walker resolution, but predicted it too would pass easily.

On the Olympics resolution, Kopp told the three-member committee, "This is a matter of considerable moment as far as the city and region are concerned. We've had over 100 people

Continued on page 15

Safe Sex Censorship Has Marin Buzzing

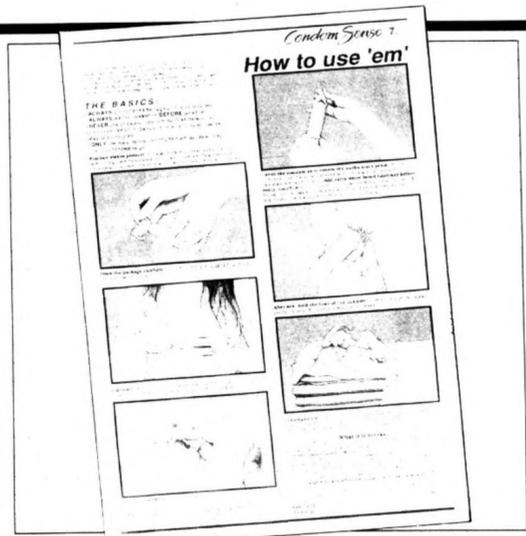
by Alex MacDonald

Official disapproval of AIDS prevention materials threatens to leave Marin County defenseless against what health officials now call the "third wave" of the AIDS epidemic, the advance of AIDS into the suburbs, according to Buzz Bense of the Marin AIDS Support Network.

Bense told the *Sentinel* that Marin now has the second largest cumulative number of AIDS cases per capita in California. San Francisco ranks first. In spite of that, workers trying to get prevention information to people at risk feel the chilling effects of official disapproval rendered by faceless and — so far — nameless officials in Sacramento whom the governor has empowered to determine what AIDS prevention infor-

mation may be prepared or distributed at state expense.

The most recent disapproval — Bense will not call it censorship — fell on a 12-page tabloid-size paper called *Condom Sense*. Page 7 contains six drawings showing how to unpack, lubricate and put on a condom. Because the drawings show an erect penis, they violate state guidelines. Distribution of the paper, unless page 7



The infamous page 7: *Condom Sense* took flak from state censors over its graphic "how-to" guide to using a condom.

is deleted, might cost the Marin AIDS Support Network its state funding.

Other materials the network felt required to withhold funds for disapproval include *The Works*, a comic book showing how to sterilize IV needles, and *Can We Talk?*, a video which enjoys high repute among AIDS educators.

Apart from the chilling effect of the threat to withhold funds for disapproved material, Bense said, disapproval creates gaps in the network's efforts to reach Marin's at-risk populations. Latinos and IV users tend to be left out, he said. "Page 7 [of *Condom Sense*] is the keystone of the whole [paper]."

Bense's anguish over his inability to get the information to the people who need it is compounded by his frustration at dealing with the bureaucracy which monitors the spending of state money on AIDS education. The network, for example, has been unable to get written copies of the state's guidelines.

Continued on page 15

Achtenberg Testifies at KQED Hearings Hongisto Calls for Gay-Rights Law Amendments

by Charles Lineberger

The KQED hearings before the February 4 Board of Supervisors committee led Supervisor Richard Hongisto's office to ask the city attorney to draft a secondary discrimination amendment to the San Francisco gay rights law. The hearing itself was continued for one month after half a dozen gay activists and KQED supporters had given testimony, including California Assembly candidate, Roberta Achtenberg.

"Dick [Hongisto] started out with a resolution to make a point," Hongisto City Hall aide Cindy Myers explained to the *Sentinel* after the hearings were postponed. "This was a resolution he didn't feel anyone could vote against,

but after listening to the committee I feel we need to put more teeth into this."

Myers said that she would ask the city attorney to draft legislation that would embody the language of the KQED resolution. "We're going to

look at the South Africa ordinances," said Myers, referring to laws passed against giving city contracts to firms that do business with South African firms.

The resolution that Myers presented to the Human Services Committee on behalf of Hongisto, who was touring the Israeli-occupied West Bank the week of the hearings, called on the city to cease funding any station or city contractor which did business with organizations that discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. The aim of the resolution, according to its backers, was to force a cutoff of city funds to KQED

until the station ceases to broadcast Monitor Radio. Monitor Radio fired a lesbian reporter, Christine Madsen, several years ago.

The February 4 hearings on KQED ended when Supervisor Doris Ward said that a resolution was insufficient to deal with the issue of indirect discrimination. "We need to establish a policy that we do not discriminate indirectly and then police it," said Ward, who insisted that the question at issue was not KQED but the more general question of indirect discrimination. Ward then called for continued hearings until the committee's next meeting during the first week of March.

Assembly candidate and the directing attorney of the Lesbian Rights Project, Roberta Achtenberg, led off the speakers calling for a cutoff of city funds to KQED. Said Achtenberg, "If you are serious on the issue of fighting discrimination, then you should vote for this resolution." After telling the three committee members, Ward, Carol Ruth Silver and Tom Hsieh, that the Lesbian Rights Project had been involved in the case of Christine Madsen, Achtenberg added, "And I can assure you without hesitation that the *Christian Science Monitor* does not reserve for itself the right to discriminate."

"Christine Madsen worked her way up from copy girl to reporter," said Achtenberg, "but when they found out that she was a lesbian they fired her. The fact that they fired her because of her sexual orientation was never in dispute."

However, the director of the city school district radio station, Danielle Solar of KALW, told the supervisors, "We also carry Monitor Radio... and there has never been a conclusive finding of discrimination by Monitor Radio. I'm quite sensitive to the case of Christine Madsen. The question is, what

is the legal test you should have written into the legislation? Our station is prepared to change position on Monitor Radio as soon as there is a legal finding of discrimination against Monitor Radio."

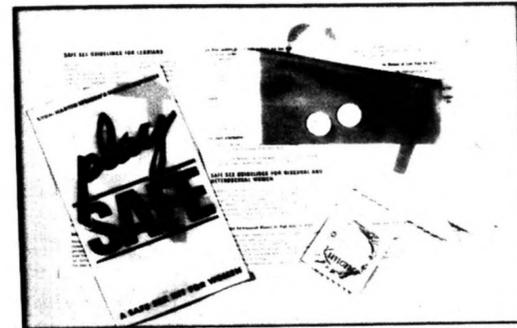
"We're not trying to abridge First Amendment rights," said Rick Pacurar, the former president of the Harvey Milk Democratic Club and a leader in the two-year effort to cut off city funding to KQED. "What we are talking about is what taxpayers are paying for." KQED currently receives \$150,000 annually from the city's Hotel Tax Fund.

"What we're really talking about is indirect discrimination by KQED," said gay activist attorney John Wahl. "We give money to KQED, which turns around and gives air time to the *Christian Science Monitor*." Wahl then referred to the Massachusetts case in which that state's high court upheld the firing of Christine Madsen by Monitor Radio. Said Wahl, "They decided this case on the basis that the *Christian Science Monitor* is a church and so they could legally fire Christine Madsen because she is a lesbian [despite the Boston gay rights law]."

When Ward interjected that she was not opposed to the resolution but only wanted the wording tightened up before she would agree to a vote on it, Wahl appeared to threaten a lawsuit. Said the gay attorney, "It's my opinion that the city and KQED and Monitor Radio are all now exposed to a lawsuit if inappropriate action is taken on this."

Lester Olmstead-Rose, a member of the Mayor's Committee on Commission Appointments, told the supervisors that the issue is urgent. Said Olmstead-Rose, "I realize that this has been pending for two years but if city money is funding a discriminatory organization, then that is urgent."

Women's Clinic Targets Sexually Transmitted Diseases



by Cathy Cockrell

Play safe. That's the message that Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services hopes to get across to women — gay, straight and bi — through an upcoming event and a new sample kit of safe sex goodies. Contents? Lots of latex: two gloves, one condom, two finger cots and three rubber dams in several colors, plus guidelines in English or Spanish outlining safe, low-risk and unsafe sex practices for women of all sexual persuasions.

"A lot of women have never seen these things," says Rose Quinones of the Lyon-Martin clinic. The kits are intended to be conversation-provokers and the beginning of an ongoing conversation about what women can do to take care of themselves.

"We want to do as much as we can to minimize the number of [AIDS] infections," she says. "Because once it's in a community, you can count on it spreading."

But Lyon-Martin is talking about safe sex for women not only in terms of AIDS but in terms of sexually transmitted diseases in general, as well as contraception. "For us it's all the same issue," says Quinones. "It's how to get women to do self-protective instead of high-risk behavior."

A lot of energy has been put out to the gay male community, she observes, but seldom are women made the focus. When women are, they may be being misled. Witness *Cosmopolitan's* much-vaunted January cover story that four leading women AIDS activists have called "the most deceptive and dangerous article about women and AIDS ever published in an American magazine."

In the article entitled "A Doctor Tells Why You May Not Be At Risk," Robert E. Gould alleges that "ordinary" vaginal intercourse poses no AIDS risk to women; advises women not to practice safe sex; and asserts that heterosexual transmission in Africa occurs because African men "take their women in a brutal way... closer to rape

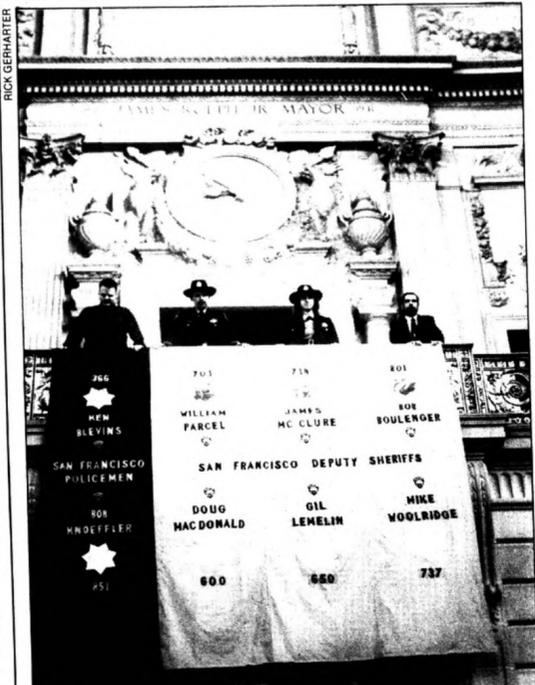
by our standards." Critics are so alarmed at the danger the article may pose to women, by lulling them into a false sense of security, that they've called for an international readers' and advertisers' boycott.

Women are, in fact, the fastest growing group at risk for AIDS. Of those women who already have it, 50% acquired the virus through their own drug use. The second most common cause (29% of women with AIDS) is heterosexual sex with a high-risk partner. Eleven percent acquired AIDS through a blood transfusion and one percent are hemophiliacs. For nine percent, the source of infection is undetermined. Research also shows that of women who have AIDS, a fairly high percentage have had same-sex contact in the past ten years — suggesting that lesbians, too, should reconsider casual unsafe sex, unsafe sex with multiple partners and/or sex with partners whose sexual or drug history is unknown.

As for other sexually transmitted diseases, there are 2 million new cases of gonorrhea every year among men and women in the US, Quinones says, and three million of chlamydia, a microorganism that in women can cause serious scarring of the uterus, as well as infertility. Among lesbians, Lyon-Martin sees many cases of sexually-transmitted venereal warts and herpes.

The clinic hopes to promote discussion among women of safe sex practices, and to probe for the reasons why women are not protecting themselves more diligently against sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies. Is lack of self-esteem, lack of information or fear of rejection to blame?

The first event sponsored by Lyon-Martin to explore these questions will be held Thursday, February 18, in the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street near Valencia, at 7 pm. Admission is \$5-\$10, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. The safe-sex kits cost \$3 and can be ordered from the clinic by mail or purchased at the workshop. For more information, call 641-0220. ■



PIGS IN PARADISE: The Golden State Peace Officers Association, also known as Pigs in Paradise, donated a quilt to the NAMES Project honoring 6 sheriffs and 2 police officers who died of AIDS. It was displayed in City Hall's rotunda.

\$250,000 Grant to Lambda May Be Largest in History

Luis Sanjurjo left a bequest of \$250,000 to Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund when he died of AIDS in March, 1987. Lambda is the nation's largest lesbian and gay civil rights law firm. The firm, headquartered in New York City, has become a major force in fighting for the rights of people with AIDS. The gift was the largest in Lambda's 15-year history and may be the largest in the history of the gay rights movement in this country.

The benefactor was associated with International Creative Management in New York and listed among his clients the late Tennessee Williams, Arthur Miller, Wendy Wasserstein and Arthur Kopit. He was a lifetime civil rights advocate, had served as Dean of Medger Evers College and was once active in the American Civil Liberties Union in New Orleans.

Lambda is currently pursuing over two dozen legal challenges nationwide. Half of these cases are related to AIDS and the other half are related to such matters as relationship rights, custody rights and challenges to "sodomy" statutes. ■



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need your help more than ever before. The next *Practical Support Training* begins Friday, April 8th. The next *Emotional Support Training* begins Friday, April 29th.

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Boxer Urges Condom TV Spots

Rep. Barbara Boxer (D-SF/Marin) has written a top CBS executive, urging the network to reconsider its decision not to air a government-produced AIDS prevention announcement that mentions condoms. Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-SF) also joined in the letter.

While praising CBS for airing other public service AIDS spots, Rep. Boxer pointed out that the US Surgeon General has said that condoms can help prevent the spread of AIDS and that this message must get out.

In a December 2 letter to the congresswoman, the network's vice-president for program practices George Dessart explained the decision not to air the "America Responds to AIDS" prevention announcement. "Since we do not accept condom commercials for broadcast over the CBS television network, we have no choice but to reject this public service announcement," he wrote.

Boxer said in reply, "CBS's policy of refusing to air this frank, urgently needed information makes little sense. In fact, it seems to signify a programming double standard: it's okay to freely air sexually explicit soap operas like 'The Young and the Restless,' but it's not okay to tell the young and the restless how to act responsibly and prevent the spread of AIDS."

The letter from CBS also justified the decision by citing varied community standards and public health information concerns and expectations that some affiliates might reject the announcements. ■

SHOULD YOU TAKE THE AIDS ANTIBODY TEST?

Possible Benefits

- People who get test results usually reduce high risk behavior.
- By taking the test, you find out whether or not you can infect others.
- Regardless of the result, testing often increases a person's commitment to overall good health habits.
- People who test negative feel less anxious after testing.

Possible Disadvantages

- Some people wrongly believe that a negative test result means they are immune to AIDS.
- People who test positive show increases in anxiety and depression.
- When testing is not strictly confidential or anonymous, some people may risk job and insurance discrimination.

YES NO

Funding for this message provided by the S.F. Department of Public Health.

GET THE FACTS. CONSIDER YOUR FEELINGS. THEN DECIDE.

AIDS Initiative Wars Set for June and November

by George Mendenhall

Voters will again be confronting an initiative modeled after Prop. 64, the LaRouche-sponsored AIDS initiative that appeared on the ballot in 1986. The new version, only slightly different, is on the June ballot. The gay community plans to have its own initiative on the ballot to counter two from a county sheriff and a right-wing congressman that are also scheduled for the fall.

LaRouche II has only minor changes over last year's initiative. It calls for mandatory testing and would restrict travel of those with AIDS, as well as allow for possible quarantining. In a sweeping statement, it declares that all HIV-antibody carriers have an "infectious, contagious and communicable disease."

But the principal fireworks are expected in November. Offices will soon open here and in Los Angeles, and small staffs put in place to begin gathering the 600,000 signatures needed to qualify an AIDS tax credit initiative that will give individuals a write-off of up to \$25, couples up to \$50 and businesses a credit of up to \$5,000.

A second initiative by Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block would be chosen to serve as co-chairs of both the June and November ballot campaigns. The 1986 Stop LaRouche initiative campaign was able to raise \$2.4 million, but Pabich believes \$700-\$800,000 would be adequate initially to fight the new LaRouche initiative on the June ballot. How much additional will be needed for the November effort will be analyzed with a statewide opinion poll.



Dick Pabich will help lead the anti-LaRouche campaign.

Dick Pabich and West Hollywood councilman Steve Schulte have been chosen to serve as co-chairs of both the June and November ballot campaigns.

The 1986 Stop LaRouche initiative campaign was able to raise \$2.4 million, but Pabich believes \$700-\$800,000 would be adequate initially to fight the new LaRouche initiative on the June ballot. How much additional will be needed for the November effort will be analyzed with a statewide opinion poll.

An urgent plea is being made by Pabich. More than \$100,000 is needed within the next two weeks to begin fundraising and the signature solicitations. Donors are being asked to give and pledge as much as they can immediately so the poll can begin, petitions can be printed, offices opened and telephones installed. Pabich emphasizes that paid staff will be "very small."

A state co-chair in the 1986 Stop LaRouche campaign, Ralph Payne, urged, "While we won big in 1986 and only 51% is needed to win, we cannot take the defeat of LaRouche for granted. The state legislature has begun

to erode our civil rights, and it appears that LaRouche will be campaigning for the presidency and for his initiative in California. He stayed out of it last time. He obviously has money."

Payne fears that LaRouche will be using material from Randy Shilts' *And the Band Played On* in his California campaign. He said, "Shilts gave arms to our enemy. He indicated that we have been irresponsible and that gay leaders have tried to block information about the transmission of the epidemic. He put our community in a very bad light and LaRouche can use this against us."

Ken McPherson, former Mobilization Against AIDS co-chair, believes the current image of gay people could affect what happens at the ballot box in California. "We have done a poor job in educating what gay people have done to stop the spread of AIDS in our community. Much of the rhetoric is that we do not care about AIDS but only our own civil rights. We must begin to spread the word about what we have done."

Readers wishing to contribute to the coming initiative campaign may send money to Stop LaRouche, 1950 Pierce Street, San Francisco 94115.

Comedy and Song Kick Off Parade Fundraising

by Karen Everett

The San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration Committee ushered in its fundraising season Saturday night with a well-attended benefit featuring Tom Ammiano and Lynn Lavner. "This is our first big success, and we couldn't possibly be happier," said Michael Gardner, co-chair of the fundraising committee. "My working partner, Rikki Streicher, and I have never done this work before. We had no records or contacts from last year, so we were flying by the seat of our pants."

Dressed in an exquisite white jacket, premiere act Tom Ammiano bewitched the audience with a saucy stand-up routine. The former SF Entertainer of the Year said he loved the diversity of the June 21 parade, especially the "lesbian fathers with their big turkey baster banners calling for visitation rights on Thanksgiving Day."

Raised in an Italian Catholic family, Ammiano appeared at his festive best when, hand on hip, he jested about selling the "leather-bound Queen James version" of the Bible on Castro Street. "Was Jesus gay? Gayish?" asked Ammiano, who added he thought he saw Jesus on Van Ness. "He said, 'This is my body. Eat me. Puhleeze.'"

After his performance, Ammiano told the *Sentinel* he had felt "a magical transference" between him and the audience. "I wish I could freeze-dry the crowd response and take it with me wherever I go," he said.

The second act starred Lynn Lavner, who traces her piano compositions to "the humor of the Borscht Belt and the music of the old Broadway shows." Donned in black leather and perched atop a thick telephone book on a piano stool, the five-foot-tall, "vertically challenged" Lavner introduced herself as "the real Yentl — the only difference being I know what to do with Amy Irving."

Lavner alternately flushed and

hushed the crowd with a medley of original songs, including "First Dyke on 'Dynasty'" and "Such Fine Young Men," a tribute to the close friends she lost to AIDS. Drawing a historical parallel between the Jewish Holocaust and the AIDS epidemic, Lavner sang a first person narrative in the voice of Anne Frank: "Looking back/ On all the days of keeping mum/ We saw the signs of things to come/ ... Who doesn't learn from history/ Will learn it all again."

According to fundraising co-chair Rikki Streicher, about 350 people attended the performance, generating some \$2,800 in ticket sales. "Michael and I want to drop the 'd' from 'fundraising,'" said Streicher. "It's difficult with the AIDS crisis to go out and ask people for money to throw a parade." Streicher said that this year the federal government was defunding the parade committee's nonprofit status, possibly trimming their hotel tax break.

Parade co-chair Jennifer Roberts praised the fundraising committee for its ongoing hard work in raising about 25% of the more than \$200,000 needed to foot the parade bill. Merchandising and advertising sales will complete the offer.

Co-chair Douglas Conrad said that while most of the subcommittees already had co-chairs, the parade committee still needs volunteer staff in all areas, particularly graphics and media.

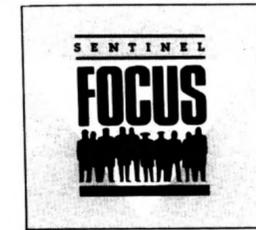
The next major fundraiser will be an "erotic auction" emceed by Danny Williams on March 19 at the Endup. Information on the parade committee can be obtained at 864-FREE.

Power

Continued from page 1

The women's collective vow defies the grim statistics reporting that, at the current rate of increase, women in Congress will achieve parity with men around the year 2333.

The four-year national tour, designed to inspire feminists to run for public office, teamed president of the feminist majority Eleanor Smeal with performer Kay Weaver and campaign producer Peg Yorkin. Believing that the way to advance the feminist agenda and fight against the erosion of rights every-



where is to go on the offensive and elect women in record numbers, the trio summoned forth a legion of Bay Area delegations. Representatives from Bay Area Career Women (BACW), Legal Advocates for Women, SF Greens, Redwood Records, Stonewall Club, California NOW and several other endorsers set up booths in the lobby of the

Hispanic women 0.2% of the seats in state legislatures. In California, only 17.8% of municipal council members and 21.6% of county governing boards are women.

"Even if all the feminist candidates won their races, it wouldn't make a difference because we aren't running enough," Smeal told the women in attendance. "We're accepting conventional wisdom that we can't win, that we're not a majority. The truth is that feminists are stronger today than we ever were in the history of the world. If the Democrats take the ERA, gay rights and abortion out of their platform, they do it at their peril, not ours! It's outrageous that they even suggest it!"

Calling herself "a walking bumper sticker for feminism," Smeal said that wherever she goes she's asked why the feminist movement has lost the young people. "It's really boring to have people tell me it's the postfeminist generation," said Smeal, who tours the campus circuit regularly. "If you think my generation was good on this issue, we were still debating equal pay for equal work in the '70s. Our best support is on the campus; young people give you the most hope."

When questioned about market research conducted by Anne Summers, the new editor of *Ms.*, which shows that younger women don't like the word "feminist," Smeal told the *Sentinel* she recently had breakfast with Summers and countered that the polls showed just the reverse. She cited a 1986 *Newsweek*/Gallup poll, in which 88%



Memorabilia for the conference were hot-selling items.

Helms. He succeeded in bigotry — within two weeks after that mammoth march when 500,000 gays and lesbians and their supporters — us — fell on Washington. We should remember that insult."

Representative Nancy Pelosi, a living example of Smeal's rhetoric that running for party and public office can at least get a candidate visibility if not instant victory, said that the Feminization

vention in Philly last year and we thought, 'Why not team up?'" Weaver told the *Sentinel*. She said that her upbeat pop music conveys Smeal's political speech with an entertaining twist. Along with Ishtar Production partner Martha Wheelok, Weaver created "One Fine Day" and "Take the Power," the video that concluded the rally with a celebration of contemporary women around the globe. Weaver said her next film will be about gay pride.

At the climax of the rally, a dozen young women wearing bright fuchsia T-shirts emblazoned with "Feminization of Power" distributed pledge cards. Smeal resumed the podium and challenged the audience to keep faith with their suffragist foremothers by joining the nationwide pledge to produce feminist alternatives on the ballot, rather than settling for the lesser of two evils. While one gray-haired man remained seated, a ballroom of women rose and recited the feminist pledge: "I pledge not to work for, nor support with my vote, money or time, any candidate who does not support and work for women's rights and feminist principles."



Eleanor Smeal.

seeks. According to data supplied by the National Women's Political Caucus, in 1986 a nationwide average of 58% of women candidates won state legislative office.

Several prospective office holders accepted the invitation to address the rally, including Pat Norman and Roberta Achtenberg. "They told me I can't win," said Achtenberg. "They told me

"Even if all the feminist candidates won their races, it wouldn't make a difference because we're not running enough."

— Eleanor Smeal



A photo exhibition of women elected to public office greeted conference participants.

Cathedral Hill Hotel, where the campaign exhibited a pictorial history of women in public office.

The city's top female leaders, including Representative Nancy Pelosi; Supervisors Doris Ward, Willie Kennedy and Carol Ruth Silver; City Attorney Louie Renne; and lesbian activists Pat Norman, Jean Harris and Roberta Achtenberg were also in attendance. National campaign manager Yorkin called the rally the largest local feminist event since 1977, the International Year of Women. She said that the tour to rouse women to aspire to

of women 18 to 29-years-old believed the feminist movement had improved their lives. Smeal said she was fed up with the myth that feminists are a strident fringe group. She believes that the greatest block to getting women to run for office is psychological, not financial, and expressed confidence in the maturity of the San Francisco feminist community to elect an open lesbian like Roberta Achtenberg to public office.

In marked contrast to the 1977 Year of Women Rally in Houston, where feminist leader Betty Friedan called the lesbian contingent "the lavender

of Power Campaign was having a "most wholesome, important effect on public policy in this country." Pelosi's unsuccessful bid for chair of the Democratic National Committee is believed to have given her the needed name recognition to capture her current congressional seat.

"In the history of the US legislature, about 12,000 people have served in the House of Representatives," said Pelosi. "One hundred-twenty of them — one percent — have been women. Because of your efforts we will unleash the greatest pool of talent this country has ever seen."

Sporting a Burton campaign button on her lapel, Pelosi reminded the crowd of the 1992 reapportionment when California could receive four to six new congressional seats. "There's no reason that all those seats can't go to women. Not friendly male candidates — women," said Pelosi.

Performer Kay Weaver, who opened the rally with "One Fine Day," a feminist music video that chronicles women's progress toward equality, told the crowd she wanted to sing a country western song but didn't think that "Stand By Your Man" was appropriate. To spirited cheering and clapping she sang, "Treat me like a lady, gently if you can... but pay me like a man."

"I met Ellie at NOW's national con-

"They told me I can't win. They told me I can't raise the money. And ya know what? We're raising the money and we're gonna win."

— Roberta Achtenberg

university, corporate, municipal, state and federal office "achieved quite a degree of excitement nationally."

In 1987, over half a century after women won the right to vote, women comprise only 9% of the US Congress. While faring better at the state level, still only 15.6% of all state legislators are women. Black women hold 1.2% and

menace," gay issues received ardent support from most of Sunday's speakers. "How can I be a San Francisco supervisor and not recognize gay power?" asked Doris Ward.

Smeal angrily denounced the October 14 US Senate vote on an antigay AIDS funding bill. "Only two senators had the courage to stand up against

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Insuring the Gay Family

San Francisco is set for a new clash on a fundamental gay-rights issue with the recent reintroduction of Harry Britt's live-in lovers legislation to the Board of Supervisors.

This time around, Britt and allies have modified the legislation and changed its name — from "Domestic Partners" to "Alternative Families."

The new legislation provides that unmarried partners may register their partnership with the city. Public and private employers would be required to give registered partners child care and bereavement leave benefits. It also makes provision for protecting partners' hospital visitation rights. Unmarried heterosexual partners would also enjoy the benefits of this legislation.

The most important modification to the previous legislation involves dropping the mandate that the city provide insurance coverage to the lovers of city employees as they do with spouses of city employees. This time, a pilot project to test the idea is the likely approach that will be taken.

Britt believes the modifications make this new bill a better one. Input by lesbians, who were overlooked in the earlier draft, will also improve the measure. We suspect the changes — which don't seem to substantially alter the measure for better or worse — were conceived in hopes of making this radically righteous proposal less hateful to the homophobic forces that derailed it in 1982.

At that time, Britt's legislation succeeded in passing the Board of Supervisors. But it died a quick death on Mayor Feinstein's desk when she vetoed the legislation. Though we would not accuse Feinstein of homophobia, the society-matron mayor was known to harbor quaint schoolmarmish views about homosexuality. And her blue-blooded prudery clearly seemed offended by the notion that lesbian and gay relationships should receive at least some of the societal recognition accorded heterosexual marriages.

Feinstein and others made noises about the terrible costs of adding city employees' partners to city health benefit plans. But we believe that argument was mostly political fog designed to obscure the true reasons behind the opposition.

In addition, Archbishop John Quinn, head of the local

Roman Catholic Church, took up the holy crusade to save the heterosexual family and lobbied Feinstein to squash the legislation. Though the church opposition was not the only voice raised against the proposal, it brought the contra forces a veneer of moral veracity they might not otherwise have had.

So, as the battle begins anew, we admire Britt's artful attempt to dodge the storm of protests that will likely arise over this issue. Though anyone who bemoans the Orwellian world of politically correctspeak will shudder at the legislation's new name, reportedly a squeamish Art Agnos thought "alternative families" was an improvement over Britt's already obscurely titled "domestic partners."

But by whatever name fuzzy-speaking politicians call this new live-in lovers legislation, it will remain a red flag for those who cannot abide the thought that society, in the form of San Francisco's city government, would take a small but radical step towards recognizing that homosexual relationships can be as legitimate as heterosexual marriages.

It is true many heterosexuals will persist in believing that gay and lesbian relationships cannot have the sanctity of heterosexual marriages, but they do so only by ignoring the evidence such as that which comes every day from the hospital wards and AIDS-plagued homes of too many gay men.

It is important to note that in the midst of the AIDS crisis, gay men continue to explore their amazing ability to love by forming new stable relationships that are often fraught with uncertainty because of the health status of one or both partners. Harry Britt is right when he says that city government "needs to play a role in encouraging and supporting" such relationships.

As more and more gay men and lesbians move into successful long-term relationships — without, we might add, the benefits of tax write-offs or society's ritualistic blessing — the pressure to sanctify these unions in some official manner will grow. And it will be the source for some deeply homophobic opposition. While we recognize that it is not always politically wise to fight our battles on such clearly defined grounds, we think that in this case it is best to face directly the hatred that inspires the opponents of live-in lovers legislation.

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POINT OF VIEW

PHYLLIS LYON

HRC Under Scrutiny

Perhaps the most undervalued agency in San Francisco is the Human Rights Commission. Since its inception in 1964, it has upheld the rights of San Franciscans to live, work and play in a nondiscriminatory environment. Despite its obvious importance to our city, the HRC is often regarded as a secondary commission by most, save those minority groups actively involved in civil and human rights issues. More often than not bureaucrats, politicians and the media ignore, disregard or denigrate the work of this commission.

HRC is the primary agency which enforces lesbian/gay rights and those of persons with AIDS/ARC. The Lesbian/Gay Advisory Committee is also mandated by ordinance. The HRC monitors city contracts for discrimination and enforces the Minority Business Enterprise/Women's Business Enterprise/Local Business Enterprise ordinance which gives minorities and women access to prime contracts let by the city.

As new problems arose over the years, additional duties were mandated to the HRC, duties which were seldom accompanied by additional funding. As a result, difficult decisions have had to be made on priorities, and staff has been

stretched so thin that errors and lapses of coverage cannot be avoided.

However, in spite of being treated like a stepchild by The City, HRC, its staff and commissioners have, for the most part, worked diligently to enforce The City's human rights laws. With a new mayor and a new administration in City Hall, I think the time is right to suggest some changes in the HRC's ordinances, structure and funding. For instance:

• By ordinance the HRC is composed of 15 persons representing the diversity of the city, serving at the pleasure of the mayor. Because of the commission's size, mayors have been tempted to appoint persons to whom they owe political favors. Although most commissioners



THOMAS ALLEMAN

take their duties seriously, some serve only for the "glory" of the title and of being an official in the city.

Most people have no concept of the amount of time and work required for adequate service on a commission. Besides two meetings of the HRC per month, commissioners are expected to serve on committees and take an active role in administrative hearings. I believe the number of commissioners should be changed to five or seven. The mayor should insure that those appointed know what is expected of them and that they are dedicated to working for the benefit of everyone in the city, not just

their own constituency. A smaller commission would assist in getting quality persons, establishing a quorum and expediting the HRC's work.

• The Commission is currently working on closing loopholes in the ordinances and must continue to do so. One such loophole allowed exemption of the archdiocese from the nondiscrimination provisions in its contract with the city for use of Candlestick Park for the pope's visit. Michael Raines' suit against the city for sexual orientation discrimination in employment failed because he was in management. The city signed a

details of the entire agency. • The MBE/WBE/LBE ordinance spells out the responsibilities of city departments to the HRC. Yet compliance has been grudging and reporting of data slow. Mayor Agnos must make clear to his department heads that such a situation will no longer be tolerated. If the mayor's mandate doesn't work then sanctions against delinquent departments must be instituted.

Mayor Agnos has an opportunity to strengthen all of the city's commissions. It is to be hoped that he will recognize the importance of the Human Rights Com-

A smaller commission would assist in getting quality persons, establishing a quorum and expediting the HRC's work.

Memo of Understanding with the Navy stating there would be no discrimination against lesbians and gays in civilian jobs, knowing full well that the agreement was not legally binding and thus unenforceable.

• Stronger sanctions should be added to Articles 33 and 38 (lesbian/gay rights and AIDS nondiscrimination) and to the MBE/WBE/LBE ordinance.

• Our new mayor should give serious consideration to funding a deputy director for the HRC. With increased responsibilities and volume of work, it is outrageous to expect one person, the executive director, to oversee the minute

mission, give it the funding it desperately needs, and consider other ways to strengthen and revitalize this agency which is charged with safeguarding equal rights and equal opportunity for all citizens of San Francisco.

Phyllis Lyon, author and longtime lesbian activist, was first appointed to the Human Rights Commission by Mayor George Moscone. She resigned in protest last fall after Mayor Dianne Feinstein refused to reappoint Esta Soler as chair because of the HRC's stance against homeporting the USS Missouri.

COMMENTARY

TIM TAYLOR

Sitting-In at the Vigil

The big news last week was no news — Mayor Agnos did not get arrested at the ARC/AIDS Vigil outside the Federal Building in Civic Center. And mayoral aides were vociferously denying that the thought ever crossed his mind.

The nonevent didn't occur despite a rash of rumors that swept through the embattled encampment and the city predicting that last Tuesday he was going to be the latest addition to the lengthening list of civil disobedience participants.

It's a list that includes Supes Harry Britt and Nancy Walker, labor leader Walter Johnson, activist Jane Jackson and a whole gaggle of others ranging from members of the three Democratic clubs to Castro Street bartenders. Next week, half the Berkeley City Council gets chained to the doors of the building.

For the record, organizers of the Vigil did meet with several Agnos aides last week trying to enlist his support, if not his body, for their cause.

Arresting mayors in a good cause

does have precedent. Marion Barry of Washington was cuffed outside the South African embassy protesting apartheid.

Any free time on your calendar, Mr. Mayor?

Pelosi Doesn't Get It

Rep. Nancy Pelosi — who already has her slice of the political pie — was sporting a John Burton button when she showed up at last Sunday's conference. "The Feminization of Power."

The gathering, which drew 700 participants, was conceived to promote the election of women to public office. Of those attending the conference, 120 women pledged to run for local, state or federal office.

Pelosi's pitch to the crowd seemed to involve women deferring their aspira-

tions for elective office until after 1990, when the new census will bring California 4-5 new congressional seats, and any election contests waged then wouldn't shake up the male-dominated establishment.

Meanwhile, Burton's opponent for the Assembly, Roberta Achtenberg, worked the room garnering support and recognition for her uphill but accelerating campaign. As of now, the April 12 special election is the only game in town.

Pressing In

US Senate candidate Bill Press visited the Sentinel offices this week, blasting Democratic primary opponent Leo McCarthy as a "low voltage" and "lackluster" alternative to incumbent Republican Senator Pete Wilson.

Press is hustling the state to pick up support, including making inroads into McCarthy's Bay Area base. Already, Supe Harry Britt is flirting with Press' candidacy.

The gay and lesbian community is high on the list of constituencies Press is courting. The former news commentator is a board member of MECLA.

Speaker Held Hostage

The LA Times reports this week that the latest sign of Speaker Willie



MARC GELLER

The De-Feminization of Power: Nancy Pelosi was wearing John Burton's button at a conference promoting the election of women to public office.

Brown's eroding strength is his inability to pass AB 87, the omnibus AIDS bill that tries to take the politics out of statewide policy.

According to the Times account, the cranky "Gang of Five," a cabal of conservative Democrats, is refusing to back the bill. That means Brown doesn't have the 41 votes to pass it.

The bill passed the Senate in early January and was expected to coast to easy passage in the lower house. That was, until the fight over the speakership broke out.

Insurance Ripoff

Insurance companies, those friendly neighbors who want to bring you mandatory HIV testing and jacked-up premiums, are rolling in dough partly because of an extraordinary "special interest" benefit that was thrown their way.

Unlike ordinary business mortals, insurance companies — along with banks — are exempt from local payroll and business taxes. That little perk, worth a reported \$50 million to those industries just in San Francisco, is part of the state Constitution.

Meanwhile, San Francisco is swimming in \$76 million of red ink, and the bills for AIDS care, the homeless, MUNI and basic city services continue to skyrocket.

Who gave these yoyos this perk? And more to the point, when is it going to be repealed?

Splitting the Baby

The squabbling factions of the Sisters Who Are Perpetually Indulgent settled their bitter lawsuit over who gets use of the name.

The Solomonic outcome lets current members of the group travel under the monicker "Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Inc." Former members are henceforth known as the "Unincorporated Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence."

It's probably not worth being confused over.

LETTERS

Free DNCB

To the Editor: The caption under my photograph on the front page of the Sentinel (2/5) incorrectly states that I am selling DNCB out of my home. That statement is not true and its implications are very serious.

I co-founded the National Network of DNCB guerrilla clinics in order to provide another option for HIV-positive persons. I have always insisted that DNCB be provided at no charge in order to make the treatment available to everyone and to remove any question of profiteering on our part. We have built our credibility on this fact.

Obviously, there are costs involved in making DNCB available: supplies, copying, postage, information packets, etc. We welcome donations to support our work, but they have never been a condition for obtaining DNCB from the guerrilla clinics. Jim Henry

Gay White Bigotry

To the Editor: It was saddening to read such blatant bigotry in the letter by Dennis Patterson (Sentinel, 1/29). His senseless attack upon nonwhites would be appropriate from the group that calls itself the Gay Nazis or to a closet member of the Klan. As a past member (white) of Black and White Men/East Bay and a current member of Pacific Friends/San Francisco, I know from personal experience the terribly unfairness of his diatribe.

His letter supposes that gay is white when we all know that "we are everywhere." I recently lost the man

I loved most in the world, a universally loved Latino who died while suffering from AIDS. The man I currently love most is Asian. When I twice won elections by large margins, I was endorsed as an openly gay candidate by all the black endorsing organizations in Oakland. In the same issue of the Sentinel, CUAV mentioned that most of the fag bashing incidents were caused by white thugs. ("Hate Crimes Take the Spotlight"). I visit central and southern Mexico twice a year and have never faced the gay bashing that is such a great problem in San Francisco. It may well be that those Latinos who do attack gays are just responding to the message given them by white Christian churches about how evil we are. As for Asians, not only do they raise the intellectual level of America and beautify the streets with their presence, they also give San Francisco and the rest of our state the lowest crime statistics of any community.

Gone are the days when you had to go to the Deep South to hear the racist words of racist hatred. Armand Boulay

Gay Clout

To the Editor: This letter is in support of your editorial "Courtin' Gay Dollars," (Sentinel, 2/5). I believe that the gay community has a great deal of economic clout, and that we have not pressed that clout into service.

In order to make that clout heard we must stand up and be counted. I know that some people tend to be gay just in the evening or only on



Nancy Walker was among the latest luminaries to get arrested at the ARC/AIDS Vigil as part of the protest against federal policies.

weekends, but what I want to know is just when is your wallet gay? Mine is at all times.

This does not mean we all have to stand up and make some kind of announcement; what it means is that when an advertiser makes an appeal to the gay community in good faith, we should voice our "approval" or "disapproval" economically.

So to aid your publication, I enclose the following statistics: Marital Status: Single + 2 cats Income level: \$50,000-\$60,000 Major expenses: Rent, car, eating out Newspapers read: Sentinel, BAR, Chron.

Education level: 4 years, UC Davis Occupation: Wordprocessor

Interests: Food, computers and needlework Name Withheld upon Request

DC in '89?, '90? '91?

To the Editor: Are we going to march on Washington again? Why haven't we heard anything from the March on Washington offices? Are they closed?

If we don't march for everyone's civil rights on a yearly basis, we'll never get our point across to the federal government. People learn by repetition and the federal government is no exception.

The more repetitious we are, the more powerfully our statements are

heard. We cannot allow our government to continue to ignore us. Jon Anthony Crachiola

Retire Virus Theory?

To the Editor: In his letter putting down the AIDS/syphilis theory (Sentinel, 1/29), S.F. Stevens missed an important point of the Jan. 12 meeting. He bypassed entirely Dr. Duesberg's demolition of the AIDS theory, which calls into question much of what has been said and done about the epidemic since 1984. Duesberg's main points were summarized in the Sentinel story (1/15, "Art Research Dollars Wasted?"), and more arguments

Continued on page 10

CATHARTIC COMICS

Featuring THE BROWN BOMBER and DIVA TOUCHE FLAMBE by Prof. I.B. Gittendowne



AT THE COURTHOUSE

KEN CADY

AIDS Behind Bars

When the Department of Corrections first established its AIDS wards a couple of years ago, the local media interviewed five of the inmates who had been transferred to these units. I was surprised to see that two of the inmates were young men that I had prosecuted on burglary charges. Now we are learning that the attempt to house PWAs apart from the general prison population does not appear to be motivated by a concern for their well-being. No honest-minded prosecutor intentionally sends people to live in conditions such as are described in these units, so the recent lawsuit against the DOC is of great interest to me.

Eight inmates at the California Medical Facility in Vacaville are charging that the DOC didn't listen very well to the criticisms leveled against the facility last year by Assistant Attorney General Wm. Bradford Reynolds. In that report, discussed in this column last week, Reynolds stated that the care and treatment of inmates at Vacaville demonstrated a "deliberate indifference to medical needs."

Reynolds listed seven specific recommendations which were minimally necessary to bring the facility within basic standards of care. He pointed out that the great majority of the 3,300 inmates housed there had serious medical or psychiatric needs.

Coles, nothing has been done to improve things for those inmates. The lawsuit which he is helping prosecute states that the deficient medical and psychiatric care falls "beneath the standards of human decency" and inflicts "needless suffering on prisoners." The environment created "threatens the prisoners' mental and physical well-being."

Not all of the plaintiffs in the action have AIDS, but all complain of denial of access to medical care. For example, one inmate with lung cancer claims that he has been refused regular chemotherapy for his condition. An inmate with cancer of his lymphatic system makes the same complaint.

Three of the plaintiffs do have com-

plaints involving AIDS. One is seropositive, another has ARC and the third has AIDS. All three complain that they are denied appropriate medical and psychiatric care.

Coles tells me that there are two wards at Vacaville set up for persons with any of the above three conditions. Each ward currently houses about 70 inmates. Because they are now at 200% capacity, those who are found to be only antibody positive do not now get assigned to these two wards, although until recently the mere presence of HIV antibodies caused an inmate to be housed there. The attorney says that inmates were encouraged to take the antibody test without being advised that they would be isolated in this unit.

And it is isolation. AIDS unit inmates do not get to participate in prison activities, including work programs and educational training. This can cause them not only the accompanying boredom of having nothing to do, but can delay their parole significantly. An inmate participating in a qualified work program gets one day off of his sentence for every day he serves. A two-year sentence can be served in one year. But if he doesn't participate in the work program, he can only get one-third of his sentence discounted for good behavior.

Now that the AIDS units are full, the wards are in a semi-lockdown condition. This means that inmates are not as free to move about. In wings designed

for 35 people, working toilets and showers are needed for 70, many of whom are seriously impaired in their mobility. In the darkroom, there is only one toilet for 40 to 50 inmates. The ones who are very sick cannot go back to their cells because the semi-lockdown only allows them mobility to the dayroom or the yard once an hour. The toilet and shower facilities available are in bad repair, according to Coles.

The general facility at Vacaville has sick call daily, yet the AIDS wing inmates only have sick call once a week! According to Coles, nobody on the staff has training in dealing with PWAs or

The same issue confronts the San Francisco sheriff. Condoms cannot as yet be given to inmates because to do so might condone or admit that illegal sexual activity goes on. However, only sodomy is prohibited by the state penal code. It would seem that the authorities could provide condoms for masturbation or oral sex. If it was used for oral sex, the authorities could pretend that they don't know it's happening, just as they do now. Although the San Francisco sheriff provides AIDS education materials, it's hard to believe that such information is not available in the state prison.

AIDS unit inmates do not get to participate in prison activities, including work programs and educational training.

HIV positives. As we know, a critical matter in dealing with these persons is to have the ability to detect the development of life-threatening illnesses such as PCP early. This is not likely at the California Medical Facility.

"I would expect, at the very least, being aware of the AIDS problem in state prison, that the Department of Corrections would do something to be sure the virus isn't being spread, that at the very least, the same education as is available on the streets of San Francisco would be available to inmates in the AIDS wing. It's not," says Coles. "Prison officials cannot admit that sex and IV drug use go on because it's illegal."

Only in Vermont do inmates receive condoms upon request. The California DOC has recently begun giving incoming inmates a comic book-style pamphlet explaining about AIDS but has made no effort to obtain legalization for providing condoms. (They do give them to straight prisoners getting conjugal visits.)

The *Sentinel* has asked the Department of Corrections to respond to the criticisms of Assistant Attorney General Reynolds and the lawsuit filed by the inmates. Next week we'll look at what gays have a right to expect for treatment and care of AIDS in penal institutions.

We wanted to meet with you to explain why, as employees of KQED, we feel the charges made against the station are unfounded.

Thomas W. Yeager, Carol Pierson, Jolee Hoyt, Michael C. Kawalek, Alan Voorhees, Sinclair Crockett, Barbara Brantigan, Jane E. Tierney, Scott Fletcher, Tim Ramirez, Gary Gerwig, Alice Cahn, Monica Levin, Boyd Payne, Jr., Deborah Pinkas, Kevin Engle, Kim Thomas, Andrew Pettit, Ellen Schaefer, Matthew Drace, Jan Wilson, Margaret Berry, Tony Hurd, Greg King, Carlos Portugal, Omar L. Palmer, Elizabeth Swenson, John Blytt, Steve Guinard, John Torrens, Joel Miller, Lucien McGuire

The *Sentinel* welcomes your letters. All submissions must be typed, double-spaced and no longer than 200 words. Brevity is a virtue. We reserve the right to edit according to our space needs. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification purposes.

Corrections

A front-page photo caption in the *Sentinel* last week incorrectly stated that Jim Henry sells DNCB as an alternative AIDS treatment. Henry provides DNCB to those who request it at no charge. A voluntary donation is accepted but not required.

In last week's article, "Nicaragua Faces AIDS," the type was scrambled on one passage. It should have read:

"However, 20 foreigners have tested positive; the country hosts some 100,000 foreign visitors annually, many of them from countries with a high incidence of AIDS; and, given the ongoing war against the US-backed Contras, over 50,000 blood transfusions are given annually."

And, in our feature "Five Years Ago..." last week, Paul Hardman was incorrectly identified as the publisher of the *Village Voice* in 1983. Mr. Hardman was publisher of the *California Voice*, not the *New York* publication.

ON THE JOB

ARTHUR LAZERE

Second of Two Parts Another Bite of the Apple

Apple Computer is a great American success story. Barely into its second decade, it is one of the largest companies in America, a company that prides itself on being "driven by a vision to change the world," a people-oriented organization that claims to value human differences.

Still, Apple does not have an articulated policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Gay and lesbian employees interviewed for this story do not believe that the company's lack of such a policy is because of explicit homophobia, but is due rather to a failure on the company's part to understand the need. Bureaucratic inertia, too, probably plays a role.

Debbie Biondolillo, Apple's director of human resources, acknowledged that the company may need to extend its nondiscrimination policy to include sexual orientation.

The concerns of gays and lesbians in the workplace extend beyond nondiscrimination policies. Corporations can have an impact in many ways, both on the gay and lesbian employees and on the gay and lesbian community. Gays have long recognized that, because they cannot legally marry, their domestic partners are denied many of the fringe benefits provided to spouses of nongay employees. Health insurance, in particular, has been in the spotlight.

At Apple, a restructuring of corporate benefits was implemented on July 1, 1987. The company adopted what is known as a cafeteria or a "flex" plan, a system in which employees are allotted benefits "dollars" they can spend on a wide choice of alternative fringes. "We recognized that we have employees with different needs and wanted to give them choices," Biondolillo says.

But the different needs of gay or unmarried nongay couples were not recognized; coverage in the new plan was not extended to domestic partners.

Leslie Andrews, Apple's manager of employee benefits and relocation, says that the company sought employee input by having "focus" groups around the country. The groups were chosen at random and included 10% of the company's employees. "Towards the end," Andrews says, "we had three randomly selected employee groups in Cupertino preview the program, to give us input on what they thought about it and to tell us about how well we were structuring the communications."

Bennet Marks, 33, is the founder of Apple Lambda, a group of gay and lesbian Apple employees. "The company has not seen any need to contact Apple Lambda when they are dealing with issues that impinge on the concerns of gay employees, such as when they restructured the employee benefits package," Marks says.

Andrews raises another problem. "It's the structure of the federal tax law," she says. "The tax law would have to be changed before we could extend domestic partners benefits." She cites Internal Revenue Code Section 105b, which allows a company to pro-

vide benefits under a self-insured plan, benefits which are not taxed to the employee, so long as those benefits are extended only to spouses, relatives, and dependents as defined elsewhere in the Code (Sections 151 and 152).

"If Apple wanted to do this we couldn't," Andrews says. "She could stay home and raise the children, but we couldn't include her and give her a tax free benefit. And we would probably jeopardize the [tax] qualification of the plan."

It just ain't so, folks. If Kathy Lanterman's lover was living at their shared home and wasn't working, then it is fair to assume that Lanterman would be paying more than half of her lover's support. Under those circumstances her partner would qualify as a dependent under Section 152, and there is no reason at all under the tax law that she couldn't get tax-free benefits from Apple with no adverse tax effect on Apple's plan.

But many advocates of domestic partners benefits want to extend the reach of such benefits to a partner who is not a dependent. After all, they argue, the benefits are extended to spouses who are not dependents. Why shouldn't couples who cannot or choose not to marry get equal treatment?

Andrews believes that most Apple employees affected would be couples in which both work.

"My lover said to me, 'Apple is supposed to be so progressive. . . Why can't we get equal treatment?'" — Kathy Lanterman

for four years, says, "My lover and I have been together for several years. We're at the point where we are talking about having kids. She wants to quit her job, but we can't afford for her to do so, because we wouldn't be able to afford to buy the benefits. It would be a real financial hardship."

"I can see how it may lead to increased costs for the company to cover domestic partners," she continues. "There would probably be some abuses. But there are abuses of benefits by married couples, too. There's no failsafe way. But I feel real strongly that we need it. My lover said to me, 'Apple is supposed to be so progressive, such a wonderfully open company. Why can't we get equal treatment?'"

Many employers, when confronted with the issue of domestic partners benefits, have passed the blame to insurance companies which have been unwilling to write such provisions into insurance coverage. But Apple's plans are self-insured, so the buck cannot be passed to insurers.

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Iva Harper, longtime friend and benefactor of the gay community, celebrated her birthday Sunday with *Sentinel* publisher Bob Golovich (l), Associate Publisher Carl Stern (r), and her daughter, actress Valerie Harper.

cated by the company and requested that his partner's relocation expenses be reimbursed. "I would expect we probably would agree," she responded. "We have relocated heterosexual significant others. We've never been asked to relocate same-sex partners. I don't know why we wouldn't. I can't imagine that we would discriminate."

And if an employee's same-sex lover died, would she or he be eligible for grievance leave? "We are not a firm policy-driven company," Andrews responds. "We say that you can have five days grievance leave. I don't believe it specifies a required relationship. I would guess — and I don't know if it has ever been tested, so I'm not making a statement for the company — that if that were the case, somebody would have no problem getting grievance leave."

Biondolillo (Andrews' boss) said independently. "With the freedom we have at Apple, if it's the right thing to do, I just do it, as a manager. If I had somebody in that situation I would say, 'Take the time.'"

On another issue, Bennet Marks says, "I called a lot of people in human resources, trying to push for some sort of AIDS education at the company. They can be very slow to move. Months later I found out they were having an occasional AIDS-in-the-workplace seminar at the company's fitness center."

Biondolillo says, "We have had only two AIDS cases at Apple so far, and we've brought those work teams together and done some specialized work on it."

There is one activity in which Apple must be rated very highly by the lesbian and gay community. Apple's corporate philanthropy has been extended without prejudice to agencies serving the community, especially in the area of health and AIDS concerns. Apple's giving usually takes the form of computer hardware, software and training, rather than cash.

"The spirit that motivates Apple's corporate giving," says Fred Silverman, who manages corporate grants for the company, "was to have the technology that we design here really make an impact in the nonprofit social service sector and in the schools. . . . We felt

that the technology itself is so capable of impacting various social problems that we wanted to help social service groups implement projects so they can take advantage of the technology as best they can."

Apple, for example, has developed sophisticated communications and computer networking technology. Using electronic mail and computer bulletin boards, whole groups of agencies can participate in a previously non-existent (or, at least, far less efficient) communications network that can result in sharing resources and ideas, and avoiding duplication of efforts.

Requests for assistance from a variety of AIDS agencies have come to the company unsolicited. According to Silverman, volunteer employees review such proposals and make recommendations for corporate action. "At Apple," he says, "AIDS is a very high-priority issue for everybody."

An early grant to Berkeley's Pacific Center for Human Growth helped establish a California statewide network on AIDS programs. A 1984 grant helped establish a similar network covering agencies in Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, DC.

In another application, Gay Men's Health Crisis and the National AIDS Network were provided with desktop publishing systems to facilitate their work in disseminating AIDS information. Other recipients of Apple grants have been San Francisco's GGBA Foundation, the Lyon-Martin Clinic (a women's health facility) and the NAMES Project.

"We are interested in outreach," Silverman continues. "Users should come to us with ideas about what other things they can do with our technology. We are very open to it."

Like many large organizations, Apple is not a monolith with rigid and narrow procedures for creating company policy. There is no reason to question their good intentions on issues of concern to the lesbian and gay community. But the company is in need of better information and greater sensitivity to those concerns. Apple's future actions will reveal whether the company that is "driven by a vision to change the world" will be equally driven to treat fairly all of its employees.

LETTERS

Continued from page 8

can be found in his paper which was published in the March 1, 1987 issue of the journal *Cancer Research* (which can be found in the UC Medical Center Cole Hall Library).

With the AIDS virus theory demolished by Duesberg on so many points, medical researchers are now forced to postulate ever more elaborate scenarios for how the virus affects the immune system (or even manages to stay alive to be detected!), or else to abandon the theory. But so much as been invested by researchers, doctors, the government, the media and the community that it will be many years before the theory is finally junked and research directed elsewhere.

This is common in science. It has happened before, for example, in geology with the theory of continental drift, which was rejected in the early 1900s. Geologists then spent 60 years piling up concepts and concocting theories and corollaries until a handful of researchers produced a handful of facts that pointed the profession back to the continental drift theory it had avoided for so long. Another example is the Ptolemaic theory that the sun and planets revolved around the earth. When telescopes were invented, observations disputed the theory, so the theorists proposed that the sun and planets moved in "epicycles," imaginary circles in the sky. The mathematics worked, so the theory lasted another 200 years before it was finally retired.

The problem is that most scientists are too ready to abandon the scientific method of doubt and ruthless scepticism in favor of the certainty of religion. The AIDS virus theory has become a religion because everyone is seeking certainty about such a terrible and inexplicable phenomenon as AIDS, and researchers are constantly being pressured for answers. People want to believe and the Unknown makes them feel powerless. And with

the media drilling the viral theory into our heads everyday, it will be hard to change.

But the community must face reality also, not just the doctors and politicians. It doesn't make much sense to pressure Burroughs-Wellcome to make AZT cheaper if AZT has no effect on the disease and "just kills cells," as Dr. Duesberg put it at the meeting. And it becomes an outrage to quarantine people for antibodies to a virus which is as harmless as the common cold.

It is necessary to keep an open mind about causes, and the syphilis theory deserves a fair hearing and lots of research. So also, do other suggestions about causes that have been raised, such as chemicals, radiation or even microwaves, all of which have been found to affect the immune system, even if they point to active government targeting of sectors of the population. The way to scientific knowledge begins with scepticism and with saying "I don't know." Only religionists seek and praise certainty. Steve Tabor

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Health, not Hysteria

To the Editor:

It seems to me past time for responsible gay publications and AIDS groups to update the safe sex guidelines. The original guidelines served a useful purpose, since little was known about the transmission of AIDS at that time, and it was deemed wise to be very conservative with any recommendations.

The failure to update these sugges-

tions and to revise the guidelines has, however, resulted in unnecessarily restrictive alterations in the sexual behavior of many individuals and, more importantly to the gay community as a whole, resulted in a general revulsion and an exaggerated negative response from the straight community and its politicians.

There is now no reason to list an entire series of explicit interpersonal acts, since most of them apparently do not transmit disease. Except for unprotected anal intercourse and heterosexual vaginal intercourse, no sexual act has been demonstrated to transmit AIDS, whether or not it is caused by HIV.

Steve Johnson

KQED Charges Unfounded

The following letter was sent to Supervisor Richard Hongisto.

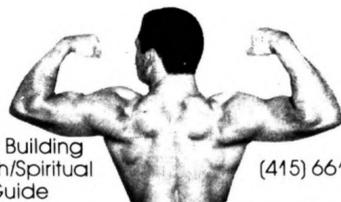
Dear Supervisor Hongisto:

As lesbian and gay employees of KQED, we are disappointed that you could not meet with us to discuss the allegations of discrimination at KQED. Through communications with your office, we understand that you were unwilling to meet without Charles Linebarger and Rick Pacurar present, and that it wasn't possible to schedule a meeting with us anytime within the ten days prior to the February 4 supervisors meeting.

We have no problems concerning the wording of any resolution banning the use of city funds by organizations involved in discriminatory behavior.

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Military

Continued from page 1
federal court," said Tom Stoddard, executive director of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. "It elevates gay people to the highest possible constitutional protection."

The court decision by Judge William Norris reaches far beyond military policy in its potential application. It says lesbians and gays qualify as a group for civil rights protection because they meet criteria established by the United States Supreme Court. The criteria includes:

- suffering a pattern of discrimination "sufficiently inconsistent with the ideals of equal protection to term it invidious."
- having characteristics, like race, that are "immutable for purposes of the equal protection doctrine."
- and being burdened by "official discrimination" and not having "the political power necessary to obtain re-

dress from the political branches of government."

Anthony J. Steinmeyer, a Justice Department attorney who supervised the Army's case, refused to comment on the decision. He told the *Sentinel*, however, it is standard practice for the Justice Department, first, to consider asking the appeals court to rehear the case in a proceeding before the full-member court. If the case is not reheard, it will be appealed to the Supreme Court.

"This is a very steep road to be climbed to the Supreme Court," said Mary Dunlap, a lesbian civil rights attorney. "Who knows what the 'Big Nine' will do?"

But Dunlap, like her colleagues, savored the victory. "Whenever judges take seriously the rights of gay people, and especially federal judges, it's a big success," she said.

Dunlap reserved special praise for Perry Watkins, the black Army sergeant who pursued this case despite an initial setback in a lower federal

district court. Watkins was battling against an ingrained policy of discrimination by the military that, thus far, has proven impenetrable to legal challenge.

"What a deserving winner he is," Dunlap said. "He and every other military person who stuck his neck out deserved to win this one."

During the 1984 Lesbian and Gay March on Washington, Watkins said, "It is quite often stated that changes are brought about by people who are willing to die for what they believe. It is not people who are willing to die for what they believe who cause change, rather it is those of us who are willing to live for what we believe until we die! I am an American. I am black and I am gay and now I would like to be free!"

Watkins enlisted in the Army in 1967 when he was 19. At the time of his induction, he freely acknowledged "homosexual tendencies" on Army medical forms. Watkins, nonetheless, was found "qualified for admission."

During his 14-year tenure in the ser-



Lesbian civil rights attorney Mary Dunlap.

vice, Watkins was the frequent recipient of praise from his superiors, many of whom knew his sexual orientation. One commanding officer called Watkins "one of our most respected and trusted soldiers."

In 1981, new Army regulations mandating the discharge of soldiers because of their homosexuality were put into ef-

fect. Watkins, who had survived repeated earlier investigations, was discharged and denied reenlistment rights pursuant to these toughened standards.

The Army then waged a full-court press, seeking to get the court to uphold in the Watkins case decisions that had been argued earlier. In those cases, the military had been granted broad powers to dismiss uniformed personnel on account of sexual orientation.

Two cases the Army depended on heavily were the *Hardwick* case, in which a Georgia statute banning consensual sodomy was upheld by the Supreme Court, and the *Beller* case, in which the Navy discharged a gay serviceman.

But the most recent decision upholding Watkins' claim to remain in the military was argued on different grounds from these preceding cases. The earlier two cases, which were viewed as dramatic setbacks for gay-rights issues, were presented as violations of due process. Watkins' attorneys, however, constructed a different argument, in which they said that the military's policy was in violation of the "equal protection" standard established by the Constitution.

In reaching a decision, the court depended heavily upon analogies with the black civil rights movement. Judge Norris wrote, "For much of our history, the military's fear of racial tension kept black soldiers separated from whites. As recently as World War II both the Army Chief of Staff and the Secretary of the Navy justified racial segregation in the ranks as necessary to maintain efficiency, discipline and morale. Today, it is unthinkable that the judiciary would defer to the Army's prior 'professional' judgment that black and white soldiers had to be segregated to avoid interracial tensions."

In his pathfinding decision, Norris then borrowed from language written by former Chief Justice Warren Burger, who wrote in a child custody case involving an interracial couple, "The Constitution cannot control such prejudice but neither can it tolerate [it]."

Norris used Burger's reasoning to underscore his decision that prohibits "the Army from justifying its ban on homosexuals on the ground that private prejudice against homosexuals would somehow undermine the strength of our armed forces if homosexuals were permitted to serve."

The decision further stated, "Laws that limit the acceptable focus of one's sexual desires to members of the opposite sex, like laws that limit one's choice of spouse (or sexual partner) to members of the same race, cannot withstand constitutional scrutiny absent a compelling governmental justification." The court found that no such justification existed.

The decision occurs against a backdrop of a Supreme Court divided 4-4 over homosexual-rights issues. The newest member of the court, Justice Anthony Kennedy, is a wild card whose vote will likely determine the outcome of the case.

Kennedy wrote the *Beller* decision which upheld the right of the Navy to discharge a gay recruit, but some court analysts caution that the *Beller* decision was narrowly written and did not take into account the argument over "equal protection."

The Ninth Circuit decision carefully noted, however, that the *Beller* decision authored by Kennedy avoided addressing the equal protection issue, and in fact, Kennedy's tight language provided his former colleagues with the opening to issue its expansive decision on equal protection rights.

One attorney who spoke with the *Sentinel* expressed pessimism that Kennedy would follow the path set forth by his former colleagues. But others were determinedly optimistic. Wahl said the decision ratifies common sense by upholding the principle that "your private consensual conduct is not a basis for being thrown out of the military. And I think that's just common sense." Wahl said.

BEYOND THE BAY

Insurer Hits Feminist Clinic

SEATTLE, WA — The 16-year-old Aradia Women's Health Center, which was forced to close its doors in December after its medical malpractice insurance was canceled, will reopen later this month.

According to clinic coordinator Shaela Connor, the Chicago-based company CNA initially said it was canceling the medical malpractice policy because of abortions the clinic performs. Later the company said it had nothing to do with abortions. Connor believes the company changed its story because it didn't want to create a lot of publicity about its antiabortion policy.

Closure of the clinic, combined with a huge hike in insurance charges, has been devastating to clinic finances. Aradia's medical malpractice premium, which last year was \$256 annually, will climb to \$3,600 per quarter under the new contract negotiated with Promed, which insures other feminist health centers, including Oakland Feminist Health Center.

PWAs Find Dentistry Abuses

LOS ANGELES, CA — A dental clinic designed to provide treatment for poor AIDS and ARC patients is now largely serving people whom private dentists have refused to treat. Of approximately 350 clients of the AIDS Project of Los Angeles' dental clinic, 40 percent say their own dentists denied them treatment.

"If dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants held to their ethical medical oath, this clinic would not have to exist," clinic manager Mimi Robins says.

In a related development in Southern California, the Safeguard Health Plan insurance group, under pressure from National Gay Rights Advocates, abandoned its illegal policy of informing dentists of patients who are HIV-antibody positive.

"Unauthorized disclosure is particularly dangerous when it is likely to result in denial of health care," NGRA Executive Director Jean O'Leary commented. "Safeguard's policy helped to feed the hysteria of those dentists who are refusing to care for people with AIDS and related conditions."

Mass to Anoint PWAs

CHICAGO, IL — A coalition of parishes on Chicago's Northside is holding its third Anointing of the Sick for people with AIDS and ARC on February 14. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is generally given to individuals who seek healing from a serious illness. The Valentine's Day mass will take place at St. Teresa of Avila Parish and be conducted in

Spanish and English.

Donations will go to the soon-to-open Bonaventure House, an assisted residential care facility for people with AIDS and ARC which is a project of the Alexian Brothers and the Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago.

Some Sodomy Terms Defined

CONCORD, NH — When puzzled New Hampshire state senators inquired about the meaning of certain vaguely used words in a proposed antisodomy law now before them, the author of the legislation offered to assist. "Unnatural" is anything not natural," the would-be Webster, Republican John Chandler opined. "Lascivious" is lewd."

Not convinced, the Senate Judiciary Committee voted 4-1 on January 11 recommending that the full Senate veto SB 240, which would make "any person who commits an unnatural and lascivious act with another person guilty of a Class B felony."

Lesbian and gay activists in the state have a good hunch who Chandler and allies intend the law to target. Three guesses, and here are some hints: Chandler was one of the most ardent supporters of a new state law prohibiting gay men and lesbians from becoming adoptive parents. Last spring, in discussing the presence of HIV in the nation's blood supply, he told reporters that he had "no problem with [gay men] donating blood, so long as they donate all of it at once."

FEC Double-Checks LaRouche

WASHINGTON, DC — The Federal Election Commission voted unanimously January 28 to hold up federal matching funds for Lyndon LaRouche's bid for the presidency until it further investigates the campaign's finances. Out of 1,693 contributions that the LaRouchites submitted in order to qualify for public monies, 1,000 are being questioned.

One of the matters the FEC wants to clear up is whether checks displaying "facial irregularities" were in fact intended as presidential campaign contributions. Some of the checks in question had the word "AIDS" written on them, suggesting that they were written in conjunction with the right-wing fanatic's AIDS quarantine campaign. Other checks appear to have been altered.

Texans Clash on School AIDS Policy

AUSTIN, TX — The Texas Education Agency is attempting to revive the policy of informing teachers as to which students have AIDS.

In September, the TEA's 2½-year-

old policy of telling teachers which students have AIDS was ended when a confidentiality law went into effect. The policy's fate now hinges on the definition of "health care professional" in the state's Communicable Diseases Act. TEA argues that teachers fit the definition of "health care professionals" as anyone "indirectly or directly related to the maintenance of the health status of another individual or animal."

State legislator Craig Washington says the TEA has interpreted "health care professional" to include "administrators, teachers, teachers' aides, virtually everyone in the school setting. This is exactly not what the language intended.... It does not mean that everyone who deals with Johnny is on a need-to-know basis."

Dutch Government Funds Fantasy Mag

AMSTERDAM — Jesse Helms, take note! The Dutch government, through its office of Health Education and Information, is subsidizing a literary journal featuring safe sex fantasies. *Vrijbeeld (Free Image)*, printed by a lesbian-owned firm in Groningen, publishes works by well-known Dutch gay writers like Marcel Bullinga as well as more obscure authors.

This publication of pornographic fantasy without exchange of bodily fluids grew out of a group workshop on eroticizing safe sex that began writing down the fantasies they discussed. *Vrijbeeld* is also funded by AIDS Funds of Netherlands and through public sales.

For more information, write *Vrijbeeld* at Postbus 803, 9700 Av Groningen, Netherlands.

Minority AIDS Film Awaits Official OK

PHILADELPHIA, PA — Black and Hispanic AIDS activists and city agencies together have produced a new 28-minute film on AIDS and minorities, shot on location in the City of Love.

AIDS and Minorities: A Matter of Life features original music and black jazz musician Rufus Harley. Narrating the film are Raashidah Hassan, director of the Philadelphia group Blacks Educating Blacks about Sexual Health Issues; and Carmen Paris, a city Hispanic AIDS educator.

Once approved by public officials, the film will be available to the public on standard format videotape. Organizers of the project hope the film will be launched with a special screening in City Hall.

Latina Lesbians North & South

SAN ANTONIO, TX/TJUANA, MEX. — Companeras Tejanas, a new



Norman Larson (left), president of the Haight Ashbury Improvement Association, presented a \$1,000 check to the Shanti Project for its support services for people with AIDS and their loved ones. The Haight Ashbury Improvement Association made this contribution to Shanti for its service to people with AIDS who live in the Haight Ashbury neighborhood and throughout San Francisco. Shanti Project Public Education Director Greg Day accepted the check.

statewide organization of Latina lesbians in Texas, is planning the grand opening of its San Antonio offices for the last weekend in February. The organization grew out of the annual Lesbiana Latina Retreat held in June, and was formalized in November when delegates from Dallas, Houston, Austin and San Antonio met to form a coordinating team. For information, contact ALLGO at PO Box 13501, Austin, TX 78711 or Maria Limon at (512) 320-0293.

Meanwhile, the border city of Tijuana, Mexico, now has its first lesbian organization, Grupo Lesbico de Tijuana, which held an initial function Halloween night. Publications and letters of support are welcomed. Write Grupo Lesbico c/o Y Que, Apdo. Postal 904, Oficina Central, Tijuana, BC, Mexico.

to respond to the AIDS crisis."

With 700 diagnosed cases and nearly 400 deaths, the city of San Diego has appropriated \$160,000, Ramirez-Murray pointed out, while San Francisco city and county spent \$2.5 million when it had 600 diagnosed cases.

Why is San Diego spending millions on the America's Cup yacht race while "AIDS is killing San Diego," speaker Barbara Peabody asked. Albert Bell, founder of San Diego's Act Up! AIDS action group, described the government's response to the AIDS crisis as "criminal neglect that had become epidemic by the fourth year of the epidemic."

Two days after the noisy demonstration, three San Diego city councilors signed an intercommunal memo urging the council to immediately appropriate \$250,000 for AIDS funding and to commit to spending an additional \$500,000.

AIDS Rally Confronts Mayor

SAN DIEGO, CA — As San Diego Mayor Maureen O'Connor exited her annual State of the City address January 11, a crowd chanting, "We all have AIDS till none of us has AIDS," greeted her in the street. As many as 600 took part in the militant demonstration demanding AIDS funding from San Diego, which AIDS activist Nicole Ramirez-Murray called "one of the very last major cities

to respond to the AIDS crisis."

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Items in this week's Beyond the Bay were selected from Focus on AIDS (LA), Gay Chicago, Gay Community News (Boston), the Montrose Voice (Houston), NY Native, Philadelphia Gay News, San Diego Gay Times and Seattle Gay News. The column was edited by Sentinel Assistant News Editor Cathy Cockrell.

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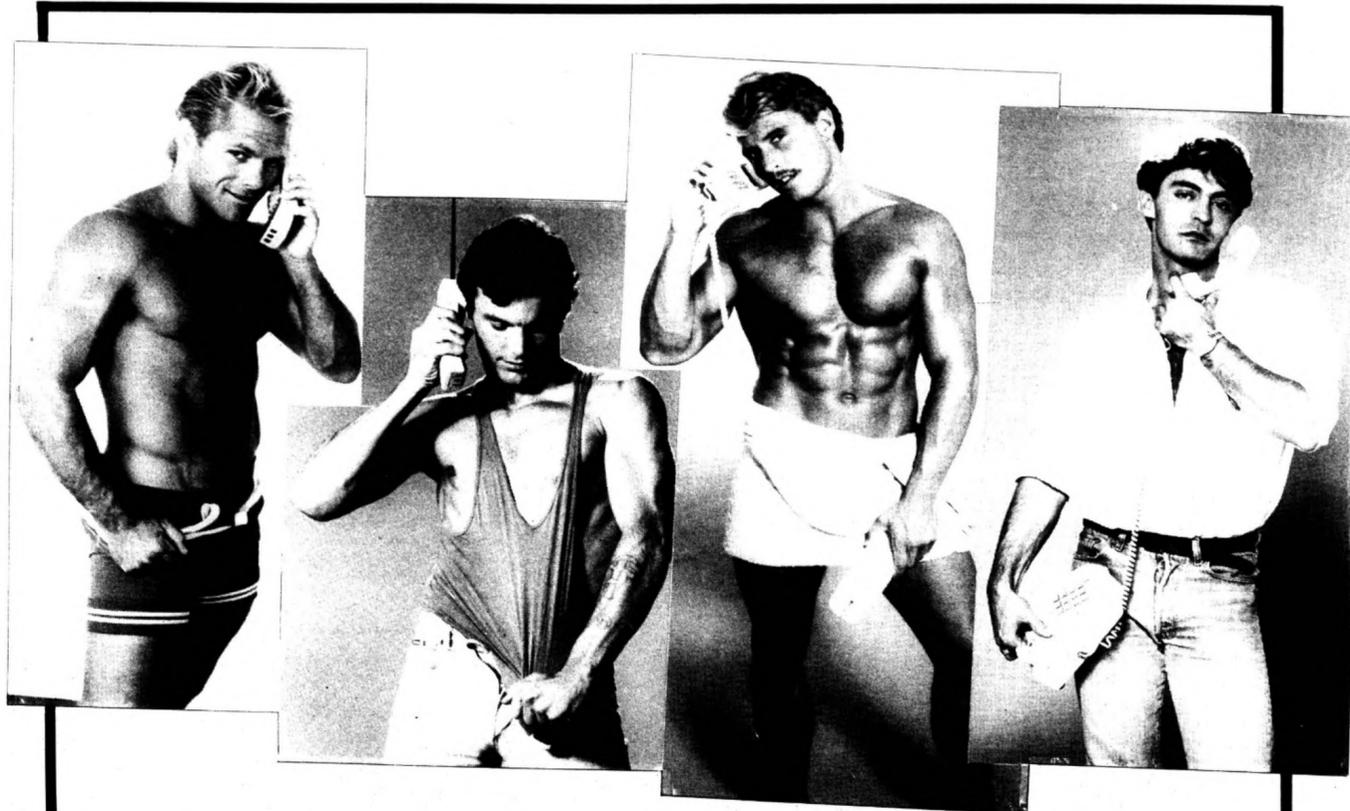
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AIDS Homeless

Continued from page 3

care for the homeless. Prentice and the DPH arranged with the city's Department of Social Services to administer the housing program and undertake case management of clients. When the Department of Social Services was rocked by a scandal and lost some of its

San Francisco's most pressing problems — AIDS and homelessness — with a single stroke.

In addition to the money found by the DPH and the gift from the Silvas, the project now receives funds from Catholic Charities, the mayor's Office of Housing and Economic Development, the Low Income Housing Fund and the Savings Associations Mortgage Company. Clients receive rent subsidies under Section 8 through the Stewart McKinney Homeless Act, named in



The announcement of the AIDS/ARC homeless residential program brought together Dale Meyer, director of AIDS/ARC programs for Catholic Charities; Mayor Agnos; Msgr. Francis Lacey; Rev. Johnnie Robinson, El-Bethel Baptist Church; and John Salazar, board member of Catholic Charities.

most experienced personnel, the DPH turned to Catholic Charities — or Catholic Social Services, as the agency was then called — to pick up the pieces. After a delay of several months, a few clients moved into the South of Market site. The project currently serves 22 clients in the South of Market area and ten more who live singly in other hotels.

Former residents of Hong Kong, Jim and Christine Silva, the program's major donors, moved to San Francisco 17 years ago. They now work as volunteers in the AIDS/ARC Project. "We didn't rob a bank to get the money," Silva says. "We made it in the stock market." They saw the residential program as a way of helping to meet two of

honor of a US congressman who died of AIDS. Agnos, with a touch of irony in his voice, calls the project "a model of creative financing." Expressing some uncertainty as to how future projects now in the planning stage will be financed, he estimated that between six and ten thousand San Franciscans need housing.

Rehabilitation of the Western Addition site will begin in March; Catholic Charities expects to move residents from the South of Market site in July. The total cost of acquisition and rehabilitation of the building will come to \$1,586,774. The project still needs approximately \$300,000.

Censorship

Continued from page 4

"The most recent word that I've gotten," Bense said, "is that you can't use street language. Specifically, that means you can't say 'cock' or 'suck' or 'fuck.' They also [disapprove of] the terms 'giving head,' 'going down' or other street expressions. Dictum number two is, the material cannot be sexually suggestive. The new one is, these materials cannot use illustrations or diagrams of the human genitals."

What can be used? "Words," said Bense.

Bense is not the only health educator stymied by state bureaucrats. Dr. David Werdegar told the *Sentinel* that his agency, the San Francisco Department of Public Health, has tried unsuccessfully for over a year to find out who the officials are who decided to approve

or disapprove educational materials.

In a report issued in March 1987, the San Francisco DPH took note of official attitudes at the highest levels of state and federal governments. "Federal [CDC] and state [DHS] funding officials are particularly anxious that educational materials be 'inoffensive' to the community at large," the report states. "It can be difficult to meet federal and state requirements and still provide messages that will really reach groups targeted. . . . In sharp contrast to the bureaucratic cautiousness reflected in these policies, the recently released report on AIDS of the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine calls for educational programs that are 'willing to use whatever vernacular is required for the message to be understood.' The US surgeon general has also taken the position that 'we can no longer afford to sidestep frank, open discussion about sexual

practices — homosexual and heterosexual.'"

Werdegar, who describes himself as a strong advocate of explicit materials, said that San Francisco gets around the state guidelines by spending its own money. On the other hand, Marin officials, according to Bense, are still unaware of the need. "Denial," Bense noted, "is the first stage. Everyone has to go through it. That's where Marin is." As a result, Bense continued, most of the funding in Marin comes from the state. Bense also estimates that about half the actual cases of AIDS in Marin are treated in San Francisco and recorded in San Francisco's, not Marin's, statistics.

Last spring, Marin County made its first AIDS-specific appropriations of \$15,000 after its board of supervisors was subjected to strident criticism for ignoring the epidemic.

Olympics

Continued from page 3

from San Francisco and elsewhere in the Bay Area working diligently for 13 months now to do what some considered a long shot on January 2, 1987, when our Bay Area organizing group held its first meeting. Since then, we've put together the most cost-effective bid [to the United States Olympic Committee (USOC)] that I've seen in 18 years of public life."

Kopp told the supervisors that a USOC member told him that either San Francisco or Minneapolis-St. Paul will be chosen as the site of the 1996 Olympic Games.

"The members of the [USOC] told me something else. The International Olympic Committee has a rule that requires a bid to be in the name of a city, no matter how broad the area [surrounding it], and the members of that committee said further that we must have by March 25 a message from San Francisco [expressing] a desire to host the 1996 Olympics."

Kopp said he believed the city would earn upwards of \$2 billion in spending by tourists if the games were held here in 1996. Said Kopp, "I cannot emphasize more than I am now what this represents for the future of San Francisco."

Britt missed the hearings on his resolution, according to his staff, because of an important committee meeting elsewhere.

Among the many speakers in favor of the Britt resolution was Gray Panther Bob Basker. Basker noted that Kopp failed to address the issue of antigay prejudice evinced by the USOC's suit against Gay Games for using the word "Olympics" six years ago.

Said Basker, "If the standards being suggested by Kopp of looking at this from a financial point of view are accepted, then I would suggest that human rights and minority rights are

not going to be considered. And I would suggest further that the board take up again all the resolutions dealing with South Africa because obviously we could make more money by dealing with South Africa."

Gay Games attorney Mary Dunlap reminded the panel that the USOC had not brought suit against the organizers of the Crab Olympics, Rat Olympics or other similar events in which the trademark word "Olympics" had been used.

Supervisor Tom Hsieh tried to table Britt's resolution saying that, even if it were passed by the board, it would not affect the Gay Games' ability to use the word "Olympics" in 1990 without an act of Congress. However, Supervisor Doris Ward said that she would not vote to table the resolution.

Said Ward, "I cannot vote for tabling this resolution after listening to Mary Dunlap who listed the Crab Olympics, the Rat Olympics and 20 other events where the word 'Olympics' was allowed. To not allow the Gay Olympics is to single out a single group. . . . Let me remind you as a black American that freedom has never been free. I cannot tell you how many arguments were made that stopping business with South Africa would be expensive."

When Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver asked Kopp what the local committee had done to pressure the USOC to change its stand on the "Gay Olympics," Kopp responded angrily, "We'll have a San Jose Olympics if that's what you want."

Britt's Olympic resolution was sent to the full board for a vote but was not recommended by the committee.

A second Britt resolution that grew out of the USOC's lawsuit against the Gay Games also had a hearing before the Human Services Committee on February 4. The second resolution called

on the Board of Supervisors to take a stand against the appointment of Vaughn Walker to the federal bench in San Francisco. Walker was the attorney at Pillsbury, Madison and Sutro, who represented the USOC against the Gay Games.

Said Gay Games attorney Mary Dunlap, "I have serious questions and deep discomfort about Mr. Walker's integrity and honesty. Those doubts are sufficiently deep that I have prepared a separate outline, complete with documentary exhibits, to show the basis for my real concern about this aspect of Mr. Walker's judicial qualifications."

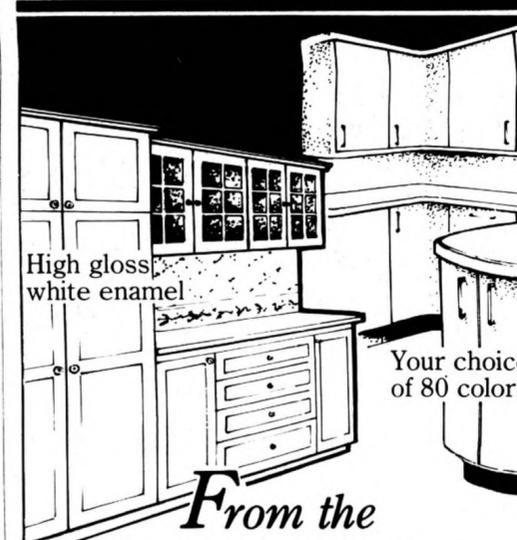
Dunlap's reasons for not favoring Walker's judicial appointment include allegations that Walker misstated facts in court during the Olympic case and that he misused "the economic vulnerability" of Gay Games founder Tom Waddell and its sponsors, San Francisco Arts and Athletics. Dunlap notes that Walker put a lien on the home of Waddell while he lay dying of AIDS at the same time that Waddell was trying to appeal the award of \$96,600 in attorney's fees that had been awarded against him.

As with Britt's Olympic resolution the three supervisors, Silver, Hsieh and Ward, voted to send the Walker resolution on to the full board with a recommendation.

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HEALTH FRONT

DAVID NAHMOD

Changing Consciousness and Lives

Welcome to Health Front! This new biweekly column for *Sentinel* readers will expand the Holistics section's coverage of the people, places and events that are on the front lines of healing in our community. As always, your input and feedback is greatly appreciated.

Tom O'Connor

Tom O'Connor, 41, has been living with ARC for eight years. As he relates in his book, *Living with AIDS: Reaching Out*, he has kept himself healthy through diet and nutritional therapy. The purpose of the book, says O'Connor, is simple.

"I want to attempt to change the consciousness around the issue of AIDS. Most of the media and the medical community are constantly saying that AIDS is lethal. The truth is that the medical community simply cannot or will not deal with the underlying disease, and patients are told that the situation is hopeless. I want to provide people with the knowledge that they are constantly involved in the direction of their lives. And through their ability to choose and make changes they can fend off the hex of society.

"This is done," continues O'Connor, "by teaching people how to look at their thoughts, emotions and many of the physical substances that are part of their lives. Information is given on nutrition, breath, exercise and body-work."

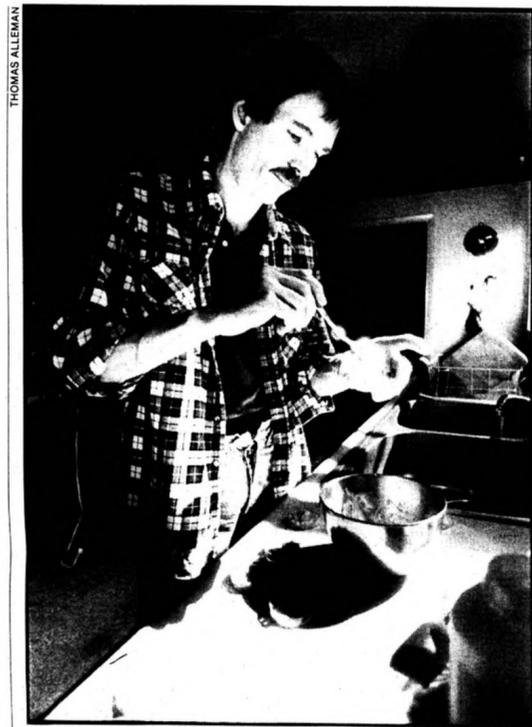
Tom is deeply involved with HABC, the Healing Alternatives Buyers' Club, an organization that teaches his philosophies, runs an AIDS education library and sells the alternative AIDS therapy AL 721.

Tom's detractors have accused him of "cashing in" on the epidemic by charging \$155 for one kilo of AL 721, about a month's supply. Yet a closer look reveals that the yearly cost of the

treatment is only \$1,860, as compared to the \$8,000-\$10,000 price tag for AZT.

"And," Tom adds, "although not FDA approved, AL 721 has a considerably lower toxicity rate than AZT and a higher rate of success for keeping PWAs in remission."

Remission is the key word, Tom is quick to point out, as AL 721 is not a cure for AIDS. He compares a PWA on AL 721 to a diabetic on insulin. The disease is still very much in the body, but is held in abeyance by daily doses of the therapy. This can, of course, give people a fighting chance at living to see a complete cure. Of course, AL 721



Tom O'Connor prepares homemade AL721.

users are advised to investigate other sources of immune stimulation, and Tom feels that everyone, regardless of whether or not they have AIDS, can benefit from huge doses of vitamin C.

"Vitamin C should be taken daily until you reach your bowel tolerance, then drop your dosage by about 20 percent. C is a natural antiviral and should be taken in conjunction with vitamins A and E, which are believed to have anticancer properties within them." (Note: Vitamin A can be toxic in high doses. Daily intake should be no more than 10,000-25,000 IUs.)

The fees that Tom collects go towards manufacturing and distributing AL 721, as well as operating HABC's storefront library/information center. The organization receives no funding other than AL 721 sales and occasional donations.

"If the money were there, I would gladly give the product away," says Tom.

The public is invited to join Tom O'Connor and the Healing Alternatives Buyers' Club every Tuesday night at 7:30 pm, at MCC, 150 Eureka Street, San Francisco. There is no admission fee. Come and learn more about AL 721 and other immune-boosting nutritional therapies. Feel free to visit the HABC information center at 273 Church Street in San Francisco. Hours are 1 pm to 5 pm, Mondays through Fridays, and from noon to 3 pm on Saturdays. For more information, feel free to call 626-2316.

Tom O'Connor's book, *Living with AIDS: Reaching Out*, is available at bookstores and various health food stores in the Castro area.

Irene Smith to Hold Workshop

A nine-week training course for massage volunteers to work with people with AIDS will be led by Irene Smith from February 23 through April 19, for nine consecutive Tuesday evenings, 6 to 10 pm. Irene has been giving massage therapy to people with AIDS since 1982 and is a familiar figure at Bay Area hospitals and hospices. Due to the demand for her services on a national level, Service Through Touch Workshops are now being offered throughout the USA and Canada.

Service Through Touch is an organization providing massage volunteers for PWAs in hospitals, hospice and home settings. The work-

shops teach people to utilize the basic human communication of touch and to offer this to people with life-threatening illnesses.

Enrollment in the workshop is limited to 25 people. Cost is \$200 for massage volunteers considering a one-year commitment to work with PWAs. A \$50 nonrefundable deposit is requested. There are still a few openings in the class, so call Irene at Service Through Touch, 564-1750.

AIDS Info Goes on Line

When it comes to networking on AIDS-related information, many areas of the country are "unaware of what is going on in their own backyards, let alone elsewhere in the country," says R.C. Morse of Northern Lights Alternatives. To remedy this, Morse, the director of NLA Online, has helped index AIDS articles available to users of personal computers with telecommunications capabilities.

This service is available exclusively over GayCom, the national gay communications network with affiliates in seven cities, including San Francisco. Nearly 2,000 articles, culled from medical journals, pharmaceutical trade and government publications, general media, and group handouts, are available through a variety of search modes: general topic (such as KS or MCP), publication name, article title or author.

NLA Online also provides information and calendars for NLA's projects — including the powerful AIDS Mastery Workshop, NLA's primary activity — other production and video activities, monthly newsletters from San Francisco, New York and Chicago, as well as NLA's *Quarterly Review*. If you have a personal computer equipped with a modem, you can connect to NLA Online and ABAS through FOG CITY BBS, San Francisco, (415) 863-9697. For more information on NLA Online, contact Bob Morse at (718) 565-0087.

Currently at the Amron

The Amron Metaphysical Center, 2254 Van Ness at Vallejo in San Francisco, is conducting a Free Healing Circle, supervised by Rev. Jill Taylor, the circle's purpose is to heal those who attend and those who ask for absentee healing. Free Healing Circles take place every Tuesday evening at 6 pm.

Continued on next page

You know how to take all the cures and how to cut out all the bad habits, but you honestly feel much better when you stay with your old ways. For Valentine's Day your lover gives you permission to be as unhealthy as you like.

♎ LIBRA, THE LEOPARD (Sep 23 - Oct 22): The party mood of Valentine's Day warms up your frozen heart just enough to make you say "I love you" one more time. But the frivolous chase-n-catch games played by immature housemates are simply no longer entertaining. You're looking for adult love, cold love, true love; playing with kids simply can't do that for you. Now what?

♏ SCORPIO, THE SCORPION (Oct 23 - Nov 21): The weirdest part of Valentine's Day is Pluto's retrogradation in your sign. Since last summer you've been drilling through solid granite-like feelings and making some headway, but suddenly you just can't go any farther. Relax and let love catch up with you this week. Soften up a little and let your natural sensitivity bring happiness to others. Share your love with more people than ever before.

♐ SAGITTARIUS, THE HORSE (Nov 22 - Dec 21): You'll receive three valentines in the mail this week. The first one will be from an old lover who now lives in a foreign land; the second comes from an old enemy who now lives next door; and the third is from

your true love, although you may not now know who this person is.

♑ CAPRICORN, THE WHALE (Dec 22 - Jan 19): The commercialism of Valentine's Day seriously upsets your work schedule. Ridiculous romantics not only bore you this week, they almost succeed in distracting you from your most important goals. One cute cupid will persist and steal your heart while you're not looking. Now who could that be?

♒ AQUARIUS, THE EAGLE (Jan 20 - Feb 18): For years you've considered yourself a Valentine's Day baby. At work you project yourself as romantically dominant but, in the off hours, everybody knows you for the softie you really are. Flaunt your fantasies this week, show off that beautiful body of yours. Tempt and tease your lover until he or she loses all control. And for your astrological chart, send birth date/time/place and \$1 to Robert Cole, P.O. Box 884561, San Francisco, CA 94188.

♓ PISCES, THE SHARK (Feb 19 - Mar 20): An unexpected lowball allows you to capture your lover and fly off on a romantic fling for Valentine's Day. Don't take any excuses and don't give any apologies. Simply assume full and absolute control and do what you'd planned months ago. If business associates become upset with your escapism, that's their problem. You'll be back in your own sweet time.

ON GUARD

JOHN S. JAMES

Dextran Sulfate: New Promising Antiviral

DISCLAIMER: We interviewed several physicians in researching this article, but were unable to get them a draft copy to review before press time. Any mistakes are our responsibility, not theirs. We must also emphasize that information is changing rapidly, and this article may soon become obsolete — and in any case cannot be relied on for medical advice.

Dextran sulfate, a drug used for 20 years in Japan and available there without a prescription, has become an important AIDS treatment possibility. While it is still too early to be sure the drug will be useful, preliminary experience is good, and a number of people are already obtaining and using the substance, especially in Los Angeles, New York and San Francisco.

Briefly, the case for dextran sulfate is:

- In the laboratory it works about as well as AZT in inhibiting HIV, at concentrations which can be achieved in the blood by oral use, yet it has very little toxicity (Ueno and Kuno, 1987).

- In addition, it seems to be synergistic with AZT; in the laboratory, the combination works much better against the virus than either drug alone (Ueno and Kuno, 1987; disputed by Berenbaum, 1987).

- Besides inhibiting reverse transcriptase, dextran sulfate blocks the formation of giant syncytial cells in the laboratory — important because healthy cells are trapped and destroyed when syncytial cells form. Dextran sulfate may be the first drug which can stop this cell-to-cell spread of the virus.

- Dextran sulfate is safe enough to be available without a prescription in Japan, where it is used for arteriosclerosis. Because of its 20-year history of human use, much safety information is known.

- Persons with AIDS or ARC are using doses two to three times larger than commonly used in Japan; however, these larger doses have been tested in humans without problems. Persons with AIDS or ARC can show unexpected toxicities to drugs, but so far, over 50 persons have used dextran sulfate under the close observation of private practice physicians we have contacted, apparently without any serious problems. A common side effect is loss of appetite and a feeling of fullness; occasionally there is a minor rash.

- Even persons allergic to sulfa drugs can apparently use dextran sulfate (Gingell, 1987).

- Dextran sulfate is being studied by Donald Abrams, MD, at San Francisco General Hospital and recently was put in the highest priority category for research by NIH. The San Francisco study has not reported on efficacy — it is a "phase I" dosage and toxicity trial — but it has not had any safety problems yet, even at doses higher than people are using for AIDS or ARC.

- The limited anecdotal information we have on the use of dextran sulfate for AIDS or ARC looks good.

- The drug is taken by mouth and is not expensive.

- It is more or less available today.

- The case against dextran sulfate is:

- The fact that something works in the laboratory does not mean it works in humans.

- No formal clinical trial has yet been done to prove whether or not dextran sulfate works.

- Dextran sulfate might not cross the blood-brain barrier, possibly limiting its usefulness. This issue is unclear at this time.

- We do know that dextran sulfate is not the whole answer or the answer for everybody. We know of one person who has died of AIDS complications despite having used the treatment for at least several weeks.

AIDS/ARC Experience So Far

Michael J. Scolaro, MD, a Los Angeles physician very experienced in treating AIDS and ARC, has been following over 30 patients who have ob-

"[Dextran sulfate] is exciting, I think it's promising. I think it's premature to be able to say that it's going to be the answer."
— Dr. Michael Scolaro

tained dextran sulfate. About 15 of them have used it for at least two months — long enough for results to be seen.

These patients have also used other antivirals, especially AZT, acyclovir and AL 721 substitutes. None of the patients on dextran sulfate is using the full dose of AZT. A handful are using only dextran sulfate and acyclovir because they cannot afford AL 721 and cannot tolerate AZT; they are also doing well.

Dr. Scolaro has found that at least 60% of the patients who have used dextran sulfate for at least two months have shown dramatic improvement in laboratory tests and clinical well-being. Often, T-helper cells have doubled, from 300 to 700 or more, from 400 or

450 to 900.

For patients with less than 100 T-helper cells, however, he has not seen increases in the numbers, so he counsels these persons not to look only at numbers but also at clinical effectiveness. Are they feeling well, avoiding new opportunistic infections and responding well to treatment for pre-existing ones?

Dr. Scolaro's first patient who used dextran sulfate, seen in August 1987, "was virtually preterminal, with advanced neuropathy, mycobacterium avium, CMV retinitis; and he was semicomatose." He was on a number of drugs — including large doses of acyclovir, glucocorticoids and several anti-MAI treatments — but not including AZT.

"He is now not only alive and walking and talking; he walks with a walker, he had almost a complete regression of his peripheral neuropathy, a magnificent return of cerebral function, has gained about 65 pounds." Dr. Scolaro explained that he could not necessarily attribute the improvement to dextran sulfate, but that he and another physician on the case were impressed and felt that this drug may have been the key element that made a difference in combination with the other drugs.

Recently, Dr. Scolaro had another case much like this one. But despite

great improvement so far, it is still too early to be sure the second person will survive.

Dr. Scolaro does not see dextran sulfate as proven. "It's exciting, I think it's promising. I think it's premature to be able to say that it's going to be the answer. I don't know that it works in vivo by itself; the in vitro studies showed that Ueno's compound did not suppress HIV by 100%; the exciting thing was the synergistic effect."

"I have to say that, from my perspective and my observation now over the last four to five years, I have not found a compound that seems to thus far be doing things so quickly. Not even AZT did that. I had very few patients who had a dramatic rise in T-4 counts. And

even when there was a rise, it was not sustained. In fairness to what we're doing now, I don't know that the rises in cell counts are going to be sustained with dextran."

We talked to Fred Ponder, a partner and business manager of Dr. Alan Levin's Positive Action Healthcare in San Francisco (see *Sentinel*, January 1, 1988). Mr. Ponder has computerized the patient data. About 20 patients at the clinic are using dextran sulfate, five of them for two months. These five are also using transfer factor; four of them are asymptomatic seropositive, one has AIDS.

All five who have used the treatment for at least two months have improved. One went from 500 T-helper cells and falling to over 800; he was negative for P-24 antigen all along. Another went negative on the P-24 antigen after being a high positive for several months. Two others had improved T-cell counts. The person with AIDS went to over 400 T-helper cells for the first time in a year.

Another clinical researcher, however, failed to get results with dextran sulfate. He tested only three patients,

one with ARC and two asymptomatic seropositive. He found no change in the P-24 antigen or in reverse transcriptase levels. But he used less than the usual dose — 1,600 mg per day versus the more common 2,100 mg for a person of average weight. And he had to stop the study after only a month, apparently because of pressure from his institution. ■ **TO BE CONTINUED:** For the complete article, including information on safety precautions and availability, send a self-addressed envelope to: John S. James, PO Box 411256, San Francisco, CA 94141. Ask for the dextran sulfate information.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: For a fact sheet on dextran sulfate, persons can call Project Inform at (415) 928-0293. Also, you can come to meetings of Healing Alternatives (HABC), most Tuesday nights at 7:30 pm, at the Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St., SF, for a discussion group on treatment options, including dextran sulfate. For more information about these meetings, call HABC at 626-2316.

HEALTH FRONT

Continued from previous page

Immediately following the circle on Tuesday, February 23, is a program entitled "Channeling to the Other Side — Communicating with Those Who Have Passed On." It begins at 7 pm.

Amron ministers can be heard on Radio KEST-1450 AM, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6 am, and at 11 am on Friday only. For information on other upcoming programs at Amron, call 775-0227.

Creating Miracles

The California Miracles Center has relocated to 2269 Market at 16th in San Francisco. They are offering an ongoing course entitled "A Course in

Miracles — 1." The class meets Sundays and Mondays at 7 pm. Please choose which night you'd rather attend. Enrollment in the course is \$60 with a required ten-week commitment. There is also a free open house at the center on Sunday mornings at 11 am and Thursday evenings at 7 pm. Sunday's meetings are followed by a coffee/social hour. Call 621-2556 for more information.

AIDS Mastery Goes Monthly

The AIDS Mastery Workshop is a weekend experience in living passively in our time of AIDS. It is primarily for people with AIDS or ARC. *Continued on next page*

ASTROLOGER

R O B E R T C O L E

February 12-18, 1988

WEEKLY ALMANAC: Happy Valentine's Day! The commercial celebration of Saint Valentine's martyrdom is ironic, to say the least. The poor boy was tortured and burned at the stake for falling in love with a pagan girl. It seems odd that the American marketplace can so easily smooth over the blood and guts with white lace and little red hearts. Or is that what love's about in this country?

On the 12th and 13th, Saturn aligned with Uranus and then entered Capricorn. On the 14th, Pluto begins a six-month retrogradation and Uranus leaves Sagittarius after seven years of energizing that sign exclusively. This impressive sequence of events is completed by a new moon in Aquarius on the 17th.

♈ ARIES, THE SHEEP (Mar 21 - Apr 19): The power of love will destroy evil thoughts and frightening fantasies this week. You will be wrapped up in the warmth of your lover and, as far as you're both concerned, the rest of the world could just as well blow up and disappear. All fear is removed when you look into your lover's eyes; the struggle for fame and recognition is

over. Destroy the past with promises of future commitment. It's time to start a revolution of love.

♉ TAURUS, THE OX (Apr 20 - May 20): Focus total attention on those who say they love you and stop playing around with competitors and jealous lonely-hearts. There is one ultra-passionate relationship which gives meaning to your life, and that relationship should receive every ounce of your commitment. For when you two are glowing with love for each other, the others are dazzled by the light. You and your lover will brighten a dark world.

♊ GEMINI, THE WOLF (May 21 - Jun 20): You have always had a hard time distinguished love from sex. If a friend is not willing to jump into bed on your whim, you conclude that there's no love in the relationship. For the first time in your life you will be shown the difference between passion and compassion, between making love and being in love. Most unsettling is the possibility that you'll be taught these lessons of love by someone of the sex you usually don't prefer.

♋ CANCER, THE CRAB (Jun 21 - Jul 22): The strangest coincidences link you up with a smashing new crowd of potentially important friends for Valentine's Day. Don't be shy in this sophisticated crowd, and for godsakes, don't talk about money or war or politics. You have no power left in any of these areas, so turn your attention to the arts, to health and to travel. By week's end old-time politicians and their soldiers will stop pounding on your door.

♌ LEO, THE SNAKE (Jul 23 - Aug 22): You are the one with the big heart on Valentine's Day. Your smile brings out the passion in everybody, and all that red stirs up the excitement even more. So don't be afraid to go bouncing into some grim, dark places with your head feelings this week. Scare away old worries forever and start brightening up your life with more love. It comes naturally.

♍ VIRGO, THE PIG (Aug 23 - Sep 22): Valentine's Day is a perfectly great excuse to pig out, and why not? After following all your doctor's orders, you're not feeling miraculously better.



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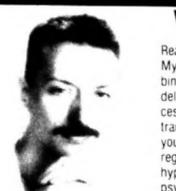
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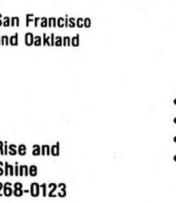
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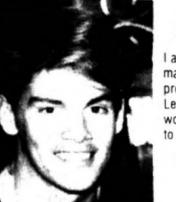
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HEALTH FRONT

Continued from previous page

and their loved ones, and also for those who feel that their lives are limited by the fear of AIDS. It uses group interaction, individual care, guided visualizations and emotional exercises that are designed to put you in touch with your power and creativity to make choices for your well-being.

The next workshop dates are February 19-21, March 18-20, April 15-17 and May 13-15. Introductory evenings are held each Friday before the workshops. Information about registration and location for the workshops and the introductory evening can be obtained by calling 553-2511.

Valentine's Macrobiotic Dinner

On Friday, February 12, the SF Macrobiotic Network will host a Valentine's Dinner at the Lodge in the middle of the Woods at Stern Grove, 19th Avenue at Sloat, in San Francisco. Entertainment will be provided by comic Marilyn Pittman, humorist Lynn Grasberg and pianist Tom Shaw. Sponsored in conjunction with the Coalition of AIDS Healing Groups, the evening will begin at 7 pm and will cost \$9, or \$5 for the entertainment and dance only. Enjoy an all-you-can-eat vegetarian buffet. For information and reservations, call 431-2122.

On Sunday, February 14, enjoy a Valentine's Day Vegetarian Brunch, 11:30 am to 1 pm, at the Zen Guest House, 273 Page Street, in San Francisco. Cost is \$8. Call 431-2122 for information and reservations.

AIDS-Syphilis Link?

Kevin Ryerson, well-known trance channel and contributor to the information on AIDS treatments in *Psychic Immunity and the Healing Process*, has probed the AIDS-syphilis link in a new channeling. Released as a supplement to *Psychic Immunity*, the channeling includes questions by a panel of holistic health practitioners and the answers of Ryerson's channeled entities.

The supplement is available for \$5 at many health food stores in the city.

Ongoing Events

A support group has been formed for those who have lost lovers to AIDS or ARC. Call Sean Martinfield at 626-4329. They meet every Monday at 7:30 pm.

Yoga classes for gay men take place every Wednesday, at \$30 for a four-week series. Sliding scale for PWAs and PWARCs. Call 841-6511.

"Cooking Macro in the Castro" classes happen on Thursdays. Classes begin with a talk and demonstration, followed by hands-on cooking and a sit-down dinner. Help clean up in a party atmosphere. Register for one class or for a series of five. Sliding scale. Call 552-5449.

A Loving Relationships Support Group meets Thursdays, at 7:30 pm, at 2782 Sacramento. Call Julian Baird at 563-2577.

Keep Us Informed

Help us pass along news about healing and transformation in the Bay Area to our readers. Events from the East and South Bay, as well as those particularly pertaining to women's needs, are needed and welcome.

Send information about relevant activities, including a contact name and telephone number. Photographs are welcome but cannot be returned. Sorry, we cannot accept notices over the phone. Deadline for the next Health Front is Thursday, February 18, at 10 am. Send to: Holistics Editor, SF Sentinel, 500 Hayes St., SF 94102.

David Nahmod is a Swedish/Esalen bodyworker, as well as a sometime actor and part-time journalist.

Local Girl Makes Good

CAROL CHANNING COMES HOME TO SAN FRANCISCO

by Robert Julian

Carol Channing is running late. A long rehearsal in the Fairmont's Venetian Room has put her behind schedule and her husband/manager, Charles Lowe, invites me and the photographer into their suite. From beyond the bedroom door, an unmistakable drawl floats into the room.

"I'm jey-ust putting on my ley-ipstick."
By the time my tape recorder is set up on the table and the photographer has assembled his camera, Channing emerges. She steamrolls in on a cloud of energy, breezes through the introductions, and jumps right into the photo session with our intrepid photographer, Marc Geller.

"Do you want me sitting or standing?"
"Sitting is fine. Are you comfortable sitting?"
"Oh, yes. Oh . . . can you shoot down on me?"

"Yes, I can. Absolutely."
Channing gestures toward her jawline. "I get mumps down there."

We all laugh as the photographer reassuringly responds, "Anything you can say that will be helpful to me, I'll appreciate."
I extend best wishes to Channing from Julie Harris, whom I interviewed last week, but as we talk the photographer snaps a shot of Channing from an angle she feels is too low.

"Up higher."
Quicker than you can say "Dolly Levi," and before the photographer has a chance to move, Channing slides off the window seat and onto the floor. She stares up into the camera lens.

"I'll get down here, then. You've got to get up. You see I get mumps. Just keep aiming down."
"Oh. Okay, you can see it's pointing down now."

A few frames later, both concerned and in awe at the spectacle beneath him, the photographer quizzically asks his subject, "Comfortable?"
"No. But I've got to get down here."
From the carpeting, Channing waves her arms and flashes a Pepsodent smile as she mugs for the camera, mouthing my

bizarre suggestion.

"Lie down, Carol."

"All riiii-ght, I'll lie down."

Less than two minutes after my entrance into her suite, Carol Channing lies prostrate on the floor, obscured from my view by the table that separates us; the photographer works furiously, perched on top of a chair; Charles Lowe shouts directions from the sidelines; and I convulse with laughter. This is not a typical interview.

In a few seconds the camera stops click-

If Channing has not been put on retainer by the Chamber of Commerce, she should be. As she looks out the window of her hotel room, she is positively rhapsodic in her enthusiasm for San Francisco.

name slowly in her own inimitable fashion, "Raaaah-bert Juuuulian. Raaaah-bert Juuuulian." A dozen different gestures and expressions follow in quick succession as the photographer continues snapping the woman seated below the window seat. Somewhat apologetic, but decidedly undeterred, Channing tries to put him at ease.

"This is driving you crazy, isn't it? All photographers want to get on the floor to shoot. Buildings look good from there. Poor man, I'm driving you crazy."

"No. That's all right."
Out of the blue, Charles Lowe steps into our menage-a-trois and offers the most

ing and Channing bids farewell to the photographer.

"Wonderful, thank you. Now — Robert Julian."

As she takes her place at the table and her husband retreats into the other room, I realize I'm already exhausted although I've hardly opened my mouth. For the first time, I get to focus on the woman across from me. Her blue blazer with brass buttons and gold braiding could belong to the skipper of a yacht. Channing has accented it with a white shirt, red tie and rhinestone stickpin. Above all this, big brown eyes peer out from under false eyelashes, cranberry lipstick defines a

mouth you could park a Buick in, and a disheveled blond wig frames her face, making the kind of fashion statement that gives Dynel a bad name.

Channing could be one of those ladies who works behind the makeup counter at Macy's. But the whole is more than the sum of its parts, and somehow, it all comes together in a way that works. She is, quite frankly, adorable as she reminisces about her childhood in San Francisco.

"Oh, the exciting things we did when Bobby Keefe was president and I was vice-president of the Aptos Junior High student body. They were building the Bay Bridge at that time, and my family lived at 1230 Washington Street. We could watch that bridge being built. It was so thrilling. It didn't go as far as Yerba Buena Island at that point and they allowed the student body officers from each school to walk on it as far as you could go, and Bobby Keefe and I got to go. We walked and walked and there we were, the first ones on the bridge."

"This is the greatest town to grow up in; just ask anybody who grows up here. We had advantages they don't have anywhere else. It was automatic for us to go to every new exhibit at the Palace of the Legion of Honor. I got to see the original Van Goghs, and they had the original Rodins. Then we would go to the De Young Museum in Golden Gate Park. Once they had all the hairdos done by the great hairstylists of the movies. They had as many as they had done lined up there and we got to see all of them.

Continued on page 22



BLOCKBUSTER EGGO

The Julian Schnabel Show Rolls Into Town

by Glen Helfand



When an audience member asked if he meditates before painting, Schnabel mockingly replied, "I masturbate a lot."

Media monster or artist extraordinaire? Painter Julian Schnabel.

Nothing fascinates the American public more than success. And in contemporary art, no one has succeeded like Julian Schnabel. Both his work and personality are large, expensive and hard to dismiss. He is a visible and vocal model of assertiveness who is best known for breaking dishes and rising victoriously above a sea of unfriendly critics.

Allegedly the product of unscrupulous marketing by New York's most powerful dealers, Leo Castelli and Mary Boone, Schnabel and his paintings now inhabit a permanent place in the history of contemporary art. As a larger-than-life media personality, Schnabel is perhaps more visible than his gargantuan paintings. The artist's public image combines rock star glamour with the old-style macho painter

myths of Picasso and Pollock.

Currently, at the age of 35, he is in the midst of a media blitz that includes his first international touring retrospective of works from 1975 to 1987, which opened Thursday at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. The exhibition of 37 oversized paintings is Schnabel's first one-person show in San Francisco since 1982. Certain to be the blockbuster museum exhibition this spring, the show offers a firsthand opportunity to put this artist's persona into perspective with his actual work.

The media saturation surrounding Schnabel has included every major art publication, as well as ultrahip British fashion magazines and an appearance in a documentary film, giving him exposure far beyond the confines of the art world. Even his troubled marriage is *National Enquirer*-type common knowledge. Other "products" and events coinciding with the exhibition include the publication of a catalog and an exquisitely designed, though childishly written, \$75 autobiographical coffee table book, which has been excerpted in a recent issue of *Vanity Fair*, as well as a talk by the artist.

The sold-out talk/slide presentation at the sizable Herbst Theatre last weekend attests to the kind of interest Schnabel generates, as well as pointing out a lucrative new career opportunity for notable artists: the lecture circuit. In this format, the artist can explicate his work as well as develop a recognizable personality. But shouldn't the work stand on its own? Such appearances reshape the concept of the artist's role and begin to blur the distinction between work and personality.

During his lecture, the photogenically handsome artist skillfully addressed, in a mild New York accent, a crowd eager to sink their claws into a clear symbol of success. Schnabel didn't really give much insight into his work, but he did hold his own. Though he came across as a far calmer and more amiable person than one might expect, he also reinforced his bad-boy image. When an audience member asked if he meditates before painting, Schnabel mockingly replied, "I masturbate a lot." Clocking in the talk at nearly three hours, he proved his point.

Schnabel's success, embellished with incredible hype and media exposure, has obscured the real issue: his paintings. Like any product of hype, they are difficult to see objectively. In a certain sense his work is irrelevant — Schnabel has become so famous that the show is important regardless of its content. The actual objects take second place to the format in which they exist.

In actuality, the paintings are neither as good or bad as their press might lead you to believe. Schnabel is not a genius but he does possess genuine talent — he is prolific, bold and capable of shining moments. Unfortunately, his talent must be measured against unrealistically high expectations and the justification of the extreme worth of his work.

The artist has been seen as heralding a return to modernism and revitalizing painting as a genre. This is something of an erroneous claim, as Schnabel's work is not wholly modernist. And while he has also been called a neoexpressionist and a postmodernist, he is neither. Schnabel himself states that stylistic categories don't mean much to him as they are the product of critics rather than artists. Thomas McEvilley writes in the show's catalog essay, "Schnabel's work falls in between. It is an expression of the moment when one view of history is just giving way to another. His approach is neither that of an unreconstructed modernist nor that of a detached postmodernist. He represents a position that mingles elements of modernism and post-



Maria Callas No. 4, oil on velvet, 108" x 120", 1988.



Eulalio Epiclantos after Seeing St. Jean Vianney on the Plains of the Cure d'Ars, oil and tempura on muslin, 135" x 173", 1988.

modernism — a position that seems, really, that of most of our culture."

The most consistent and interesting thread running through Schnabel's work is his use of unorthodox painting surfaces. Inspired by Gaudi's architectural mosaics in Barcelona, Schnabel struck his first success with his use of broken crockery as the base for his paintings. By painting over this uneven base, he creates a shifting terrain for his images. By working in a large format, the pieces change when seen from different distances. It's as though they have been projected onto a rough surface.

In other pieces, Schnabel paints upon velvet, animal skins and linoleum. These surfaces, as well as breaking up and add-

ing texture to the images, also contribute layers of meaning. More recently, the artist has used materials with more directly charged connotations. Schnabel has painted several works on tarpaulin which were originally used as covers for trucks in Mexico. The artist integrates the stains, tears and patches on the fabric into his pieces. The tarpaulin paintings, some of which comprise a series entitled "The Stations of the Cross" also include text. (One of these, entitled "Diaspora" has been just purchased by the SFMMA.)

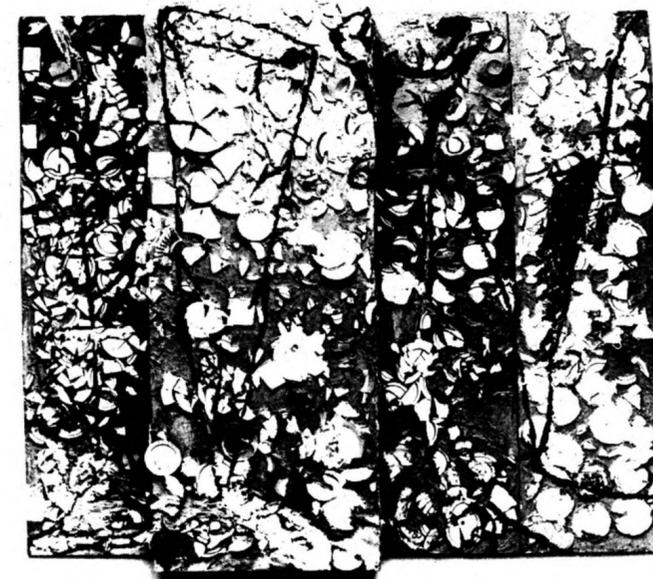
These materials themselves are fascinating to look at, but also bring up other issues. Some critics say the use of cultured materials reinforces an insensitive Americanism. In a scathing review

in *New Republic*, critic Robert Hughes likens Schnabel's neomacho image to Rambo: "...one might say that Schnabel's work is to painting what Stallone's is to acting, except that Schnabel makes bigger claims for himself."

Schnabel makes big claims with the confident size of his work, but in terms of content, he is less clear. The artist seems at ease letting his inspirations be more random. They are not intellectual pursuits, but more emotional and visual juxtapositions that combine a sense of the abstract with recognizable imagery. Schnabel also makes references to his influences, most notably Joseph Beuys. In some ways, Schnabel has achieved success by not ad-



Exile, oil and antlers on wood, 90" x 120", 1980.



The Patients and the Doctors, plaster, oil, plates and tile on masonite, 96" x 108", 1978.

ressing specific issues in his work. The attractiveness of emotionalism is part of his appeal.

By relying on his own private imagery, Schnabel essentially perpetrates a personalized myth. In his lecture Schnabel hinted at a key component of his work: "The fabric of fiction is the most important thing. If someone lies to me and I believe it, that thing is successful." If one buys into Schnabel's mythology, his paintings are all the more fascinating. If not, his work may appear to be a combination of brilliant marketing and provocative materials.

In London, Schnabel dared his audience to use his show as an opportunity to sift through the hype and see the work for

what it is. "The great thing about my show here is that people can come and decide for themselves whether they hate my work... pick a painting that you really don't like and just look at it." The same advice holds true for San Francisco. ■

Julian Schnabel continues through April 3 at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, 401 Van Ness Ave. Call 863-8800 for information.

Local Girl Makes Good

Continued from page 19

"And then there were the artists signed by the WPA to paint the walls of the Coit Memorial. We got to go watch that; we actually saw them painting."

If Channing has not been put on retainer by the Chamber of Commerce, she should be. As she looks out the window of her hotel room, she is positively rhapsodic in her enthusiasm for San Francisco. A full moon hangs suspended over the bay, and the Transamerica Pyramid glows before us, while the lights of the Bay Bridge twinkle in the distance.

"I built this city. That's my bridge. I helped build Grace Cathedral. A minister from the cathedral came to me and said they had a letter in their archives that said a little girl named Carol Channing used to come every day after school and help mix the cement, and he wanted to know if I was that girl. I certainly was. But by the time the cathedral was finished, I was grown up and on my way to Bennington."

Although Bennington eventually led to Broadway, Channing's original aspirations would have resulted in a much different fate. From the time she was six years old, she studied at San Francisco Opera Ballet, then under the direction of Adolph Bolm. But as fate would have it, Channing was not destined for the life of a prima ballerina.

"We worked and worked every day after school with Carlos de Pinada, the main dancer. Well, Carlos was a wonderful man, a beautiful, lovely man, but he was of Spanish height — about 5'6". He was so good to me. I realize now that he was about 30 years old at the time, but I thought he was very old. He was so sweet and so kind; we would do lifts and swan dives. But I kept growing.

"Finally, when I was 13 and two months, and just as tall as I am now, Adolph Bolm told me, 'Carlos has found that there is nothing but arms and legs all over the War Memorial Opera House stage, and he cannot get you off the ground any more.' I was still there — my arms and legs were still on the floor no matter how high he tried to lift me. So they had to tell me I could not be an adagio dancer, and it broke my heart. But I was already into doing everything comic in school, so I had an alternative."

That alternative which Channing perfected, ultimately led her to Broadway and her first hit, *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*, in 1949. Despite her success, the film role of Lorelei Lee went to Marilyn Monroe, a phenomenon that would later repeat itself when the film version of *Hello, Dolly* went to Barbra Streisand.

"Marilyn played Lorelei quite differently. On Broadway, we did it as a satire. Anita Loos, the author, was adamant she wanted me, and I'm eternally grateful to her. Anita said, 'There are two ways of doing *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*. You could do it with the cutest, prettiest, most adorable little flapper in town. But I want Carol's satire on it — this is a comedy.' We had a riproaring funny comedy,

because it was a satire on pretty girls, little girls, five-feet-two, eyes of blue. But in the movie, Marilyn was that and she was wonderful at it; I think it was her best role, but it wasn't the same kind of comedy. It wasn't a satire at all.

"I met Marilyn before she did the film. The studio bought her a ticket for three solid weeks, every single night and every matinee, to come watch *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* on Broadway. We thought she was the most beautiful thing. She was

"You have to love what you're doing and be true to what you're in love with, all by yourself, between you and God. Martha Graham said, 'Go into your closet and keep your channel open.'"

third row center — the boys in the orchestra were out of their minds. At the end of three weeks, she climbed up two flights of stairs to where the first dressing room was, came to see me, and said, "This was my last time to see you and I just want to tell you that I never tired of coming to see this show. I looked forward to it every single day. I've been here for three weeks every night, and every day I woke up thinking, 'Oh good, I'm going to see it again tonight.'"

"She didn't have to do that, she didn't have to come back and say that at all. Wasn't that dear of her? I already knew she was going to do the film role."

Many years later, *Hello, Dolly* would be an even bigger hit for Channing than *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*. But when asked if she could have predicted the overwhelming success of *Dolly* based on an early glimpse of the script, Channing answers emphatically.

"You never think of that! If you do you're sunk. You never think of that with any creative work. Never. It doesn't cross

your mind. You think about the character. If you ever stop to think, how many people will this appeal to — will it be a large audience or will it be a select cult — you're off-track. You have to love what you're doing and be true to what you're in love with, all by yourself, between you and God. Martha Graham said "Go into your closet and keep your channel open."

Right now, Channing's personal channel is tuned to CBS who, in conjunction with Lorimar Productions, is planning a television series for her. It will be Channing's first experience with weekly prime-time television.

"We've been having story conferences

thought that Channing really was too busy to see me, and the publicist has substituted Charles Pierce. How could she not remember? Out of nowhere, I suddenly hear my own voice drawing "raaaaaz-berries" in that peculiar Channingesque way.

"Do you know I walk down the street and doormen in New York ask me to say that word. Ross Hunter wanted me to say that, and I thought 'Why? Why does he want me to say that?' And I've never lost it."

Like a bolt, it hits me. I've been tricked. Duped. Conned into doing a Carol Channing impression — by Carol Channing. Not only have I abandoned journalistic



Those lips, those eyes, those teeth: The effervescent Carol Channing.

on it for several months, and we're just putting it together now. It's a wonderful thing I've been offered and I want to play the part. I play a lobbyist in Washington, DC, for all the little people, the people who can't be heard. It'll be a half-hour series and they're writing it right now."

From the moment I arrived, I've been resisting the temptation to ask one question. It would be completely unprofessional of me. It's just silly to think a journalist would ask an actress to repeat a line from one of her films. But it's such a small line. In fact, it's just one word: "raspberries." Channing used it throughout the film *Thoroughly Modern Millie* as a non sequitur. She'd show up in the middle of scenes, look straight at the camera, and roll out that one word with great comic effect.

Journalism be damned, I'm going to ask anyway.

"Aaaww, Raah-ber. How sweet of you to ask. Now I can't remember, just how did I say it?"

For a brief moment I entertain the

integrity, but I've made a fool of myself. But, working without the benefit of a biography or press kit, my final humiliation is yet to come.

When Charles Lowe interrupts the interview so Channing can prepare for her next appointment, she patiently asks, "Is there anything else you wanted to know?"

I vaguely recall watching Channing's recent television appearance on "Circus of the Stars," performing some sort of animal act. And, as I head for the door, I casually inquire about her stellar collaboration with a troupe of canine compatriots. But Channing corrects me.

"Oh, no. It was a baboon act."

"Are you sure it was a baboon? I could have sworn I saw you working with dogs?"

"No — a baboon. The dogs must have been Richard Simmons'."

Carol Channing continues at the Venetian Room of the Fairmont Hotel, Nob Hill, SF, through Valentine's Day, 2/14. For reservations, call (415) 772-5163.

DANCE

ERIC HELLMAN

SFB's New Season Begins Radical Dreaming

Not so long ago, an acquaintance of mine mentioned that he found ballet too "conservative" for his taste. At the time, I thought I understood, in a vague way, what he meant. But now, several months later and after having watched several performances included in San Francisco Ballet's first week of the new season, I find myself thoroughly perplexed by my friend's remark.

The Ballet's dancers are currently performing in three works which, even from the most restrained — or conservative — of perspectives, are radically contemporary in both form and content. These three ballets, James Kudelka's *Dreams of Harmony*, William Forsythe's *New Sleep*, and George Balanchine's *Ballo Della Regina*, are works which demand a rethinking of the individual's relation to art — and society — in the last quarter of the 20th century.

Set to Robert Schumann's lushly evocative Symphony No. 2 in C Major, Opus 61, *Dreams* is a continually evolving, sculptural assembly of sweeping arabesques, arched backs and proud, stately gestures. The dancing, as a whole, suggests a humane, even utopian vision of human togetherness. If there is a single work which deserves recognition as a signature statement of what SFB is — or can become — then Kudelka's *Dreams* is my choice.

The ballet requires an unusually large number of dancers (30 total), but opens with a controlled, solitary solo for a principal male. At the performance I attended, this introductory variation was danced with great authority by Christopher Boatwright. He established a tone of preoccupation with some other, vastly magnetic force, a beckoning energy that ultimately pervaded the entire piece.

This single dancer is soon joined by four other men (all dressed in translucent white tights and loose, sleeveless tops) who dance the first of the ballet's several passages of elegant but spirited movement for the male. In fact, one appealing aspect of *Dreams* is its definition of masculinity through utterly virile yet not self-conscious dancing.

The third movement, devoted to the sculptural enchainements of six principal couples, demands constant partnering and mutual support. This sequence is one of the most beautiful I have ever experienced. The dancers rarely — if ever — lost

luminous backdrop. The other dancers rejoice and frolic in various group configurations throughout the center stage. Finally, and dramatically, the contrapuntal movement ceases and the dancers all walk forward, extending one arm each and gesturing to the audience. They invite us to join them, they dare us to enter a newfound land of peace, harmony and joy.

The other two ballets which rank as aesthetic necessities among SFB's current offerings are last season's megahit, *New Sleep*, and this season's premiere of George Balanchine's *Ballo Della Regina*.

Choreographed by William Forsythe and already discussed at great length in print, *New Sleep* is a black and spiky work that directly confronts the tyranny of bureaucracy in our postmodern world. Set to a pulsating, electronic score and featuring a complex, space-slicing

contemporary sensibility in dance that exists to date.

Ballo, as a whole, is something of a time-travel experience. The choreographer both pays homage to the classic 19th-century tradition and shows us how he has changed the movement vocabulary, eliminating all the preparatory steps and increasing speed and precision. The music

The choreography, both difficult and precarious, suggests that if we are to survive into the next century, it will require this type of profoundly selfless cooperation.

for *Ballo* is a mix of the childlike and the regal, taken from Verdi's opera *Don Carlos*. The costumes, designed by Ben Benson, are a delicate combination of pale blue with white.

ings.

The other ballets included on SFB's first three programs were mostly a disappointment. *Ballet d'Isoline*, by Tomasson, was originally choreographed for a recital by students at the School of American Ballet. Despite revision, the ballet remains exactly that: an academic classroom exercise. The music, mostly ex-

cerpts from Andre Messager's operetta *Isoline*, is trivial to the point of insipidity.

The Sons of Horus, choreographed by the Royal Ballet's David Bintly, reworks a familiar Egyptian theme motif and never really inspires, despite an original, highly percussive score by Peter McGowan. The ballet also suffers from an excess of program notes which send the viewer on a trip to the embalmer, rather than focusing on the ballet's more general theme of protective ritual. The pas de deux for Isis and Imsety — danced by Joanna Berman and Christopher Boatwright — was, however, quite compelling.

The ballet's initial programs also included *Jinx* and *Scarlatti Portfolio*, two works by the company's late director, Lew Christensen. Both pieces emphasize the choreographer's interest in mime at the expense of dancing, and sentimentality at the expense of pathos. Both pieces help to explain why Christensen found the now departed Michael Smuin to be a suitable protegee.

On a more upbeat note, SFB repeated last year's enormously successful staging of Balanchine's *Rubies*. The ballet is a delight and principals Evelyn Cisneros, Tracy-Kai Maier and Jean Charles Gil gave definitive performances. Gil also performed with Paris Opera Ballet star Karin Avery in the *Le Corsaire* pas de deux at the opening gala. Avery's style is diamond-sharp but emotionally cheery. Gil, in addition to his technique, is one of the greatest dramatic interpreters on the ballet stage today. It will be an enormous pleasure to watch him dance in a suitably demanding and extended piece like the Ballet's yet-to-be-seen *Swan Lake*.



Signature statement: (left to right) Jamie Zimmerman, Christopher Boatwright, Lawrence Pech and Evelyn Cisneros dance in James Kudelka's *Dreams of Harmony*.

survive into the next century, it will require this type of profoundly selfless cooperation.

Dreams does, perhaps inevitably, have its pitfalls. Although this work was premiered last season, the dancing still evidences too many rough edges, too many tentative connections and shaky examples of partnering. *Dreams* is a major work and a difficult one. But it deserves, even demands, more rehearsal. Also, SFB director Helgi Tomasson needs to recognize that, despite dancer David McNaughton's many other talents, he cannot dance successfully in an ensemble-style work.

In the final, fourth movement, a pink "sun" glows against a blue "sky" while a line of dancers walks continuously and with resolute conviction from left to right across this

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San Francisco Symphony
The Strike Exhumed

Last week the San Francisco Symphony ended a two-week strike that canceled eight concerts and one open rehearsal. A primary issue in the strike was the protocol surrounding two relatively new endeavors that the Symphony's administration feels are crucial to the national and international profile of the orchestra: recording and tours. The question was, How hard could the administration work the musicians when the orchestra was engaged in these special undertakings?

Artistically speaking, the administration had the high road. They claimed, in short, that in order to present the orchestra at its finest and give the music its due, the conductor needs to be able to work the musicians intensively during the relatively short time in which they record and tour.

The point that the administration bargained away is a clear example of its position. What was conceded clearly damages the quality of the performance the musicians are able to offer. According to the *San Francisco*

conductor Andrew Massey noticed that the brass players, when they played at normal levels, overpowered the rest of the orchestra in this particular hall. After the concert, the reviewers specifically remarked on the unusual restraint shown by San Francisco's brass and the musically fine balance with the strings that resulted. Clearly that acoustic rehearsal was worth its weight in gold, both in terms of the musical event itself and the prestige that the favorable Vienna reviews earned for the San Francisco Symphony.

If the orchestra played a return-home concert, at least the SF audience would get the benefit of all that concert-rehearsal the tour represents.

Chronicle, "The principal schedule concession by management was a reduction in the number of so-called acoustic rehearsals on tour. These are short rehearsals in the unfamiliar halls on arrival in new cities. Music Director Herbert Blomstedt typically insists on these, and this was the one workload demand the players resisted."

I remember, for example, a point that Michael Steinberg made in his journal of the European tour last season; during the acoustic rehearsal in Vienna's Musikverein, Blomstedt's asso-

ciate conductor Andrew Massey noticed that the brass players, when they played at normal levels, overpowered the rest of the orchestra in this particular hall. After the concert, the reviewers specifically remarked on the unusual restraint shown by San Francisco's brass and the musically fine balance with the strings that resulted. Clearly that acoustic rehearsal was worth its weight in gold, both in terms of the musical event itself and the prestige that the favorable Vienna reviews earned for the San Francisco Symphony.



Music makers: Maestro Herbert Blomstedt (center/podium) and the members of the San Francisco Symphony in Davies Hall.

tion that Blomstedt displays, however, puts its own blinders on him.

To me, the most astonishing fact to come out of this strike is the compromise worked out because Blomstedt's religious beliefs keep him from rehearsing on Saturdays, when the orchestra traditionally began to prepare for the next week's program; the orchestra now begins rehearsing on Sunday morning. Presumably if Blomstedt were a truly religious man, he would not want to force others to work during the time that most Christians reserve for church. Perhaps there were not enough church-going members of the orchestra to make it an issue, but even so, wouldn't the rule preclude such a person from wanting to join the Symphony?

The point is not a musical one, but to me it speaks of the kind of person Blomstedt is, of what beliefs mean most to him. It suggests very strongly that the conductor may not adequately respect the needs of others. Would you want to give such a person unlimited authority to call you in to work on your weekends? This brings us to the larger musical picture.

In discussing this issue, it is essential to remember that the conductor's physical task is fundamentally different from the players'. His job involves him in a series of aerobic exercises that are lifegiving. He doesn't have to crimp his muscles by pressing down on a string or blowing through a tube. Indeed, his task, which is physically an almost ideal exercise program, is the primary reason conductors are

so remarkably long-lived. Rehearsing and concert-giving is not only less painful for the conductor than it is for the musicians, it helps his muscles remain flexible and young, even as it hardens and ages those of the players.

The conductor's schedule is also more flexible. Most orchestra players are involved in maintaining other jobs outside of their commitment to the Symphony. This balance was historically necessary when the Sym-

Presumably if Blomstedt were a truly religious man, he would not force others to work during the time most Christians reserve for church.

phony played only part of the year and thus paid its musicians only for the weeks they worked. Perhaps now orchestral musicians can afford to do without these extra jobs, but unfortunately, many are used to the extra income they derive from these jobs, and since most of these jobs involve teaching, this side employment benefits the larger musical picture.

When Blomstedt calls extra rehearsals for recordings or preparing for tours, the musicians cannot simply cancel their other work. This is when the workload becomes burdensome and debilitating. The pay raises that the new contract gives the musicians will presumably encourage some of those who have felt most cramped by Blomstedt's demands to give up their extra employment. But having the or-

chestral musicians give up their outside jobs en masse is not the answer either.

Lurking underneath the strike is the question of the players' commitment to touring and recording. The administration is committed to both, they say, because they help the orchestra attract the finest players and build self-respect and camaraderie among the musicians. However, my guess is that the real reason the administration wants to tour and record so bad-

ly is that those two endeavors increase the prestige of the orchestra and hence its ability to land big-time grants and funding. If I am right, the fact that the administration says one thing when it really means something else increases neither my respect for the organization nor, I assume, the musicians'.

What, for example, does the San Francisco audience get from the tours? Nothing, as best I can tell, except civic pride in our orchestra's foreign accomplishments. If, however, the orchestra played a return-home concert, at least the SF audience would get the benefit of all that concert-rehearsal the tour represents. Blomstedt has said that, from his perspective, one of the reasons for the 1987 European tour was the level of playing that the repetition of concerts enables the orchestra to reach. If the San Francisco Symphony Association cared more about its home audience, wouldn't they want us to share in that increased performance quality?

The fact that the Association and the music director do not schedule a return-home concert suggests to me that they do not really have the orchestra's home audience foremost in mind and thus I sympathize when the musicians say that the Association and music director don't have them foremost in mind either. Fundraising is important, but it oughtn't be foremost.

FILM CLIPS
ANDREW O'HEHIR

'In a Glass Cage'

Once in a great while a work of art really makes you confront the issue of artistic intention. It strikes me that *In a Glass Cage* (*Tras El Cristal*), the astonishing first feature from Spanish writer/director Agustin Villaronga that initially screened in last year's Lesbian and Gay Festival, could be a fascist film as easily as a film about fascism, a torture as opposed to an essay on torture. Certainly it is a film of both exceptional style and accomplishment, and unrelenting cruelty.

This duality, or possibly dialectic, may be the point, as in Pasolini's *Salo*: the filmmaker seeks to confront the audience with its own voyeuristic complicity in evil. Many movies are violent, but most create internal structures of justification, no matter how shallow, for their



Torture for two: David Sust and Marisa Paredes star in *In a Glass Cage*.

brutality. *In a Glass Cage* puts the questions starkly — why are we watching such atrocities? For titillation's sake? Why don't we do something? All one can "do" in this context is leave the cinema, refuse to participate in the process at hand. For some of *Glass Cage's* viewers, that will likely seem the tenable option; in this case I'd respect that decision as not necessarily a function of

In a Glass Cage puts the question starkly — why are we watching such atrocities?

bourgeois distaste. Then the problem becomes, of course, what you leave the cinema for, where you go. Assuredly you go into a world that's at once hypnotized and blinded by cruelty and torture of every description. *In a Glass Cage* is, after all, only a construct, although it may seem an overly unpleasant experience to some. Turning away from it, if we choose to, runs the risk of emblemizing our oblivious attitude to the tedious horrors of the everyday world.

Not that just sitting back and soaking up this film is an unambivalent affair. I generally find comparisons with Hitchcock invidious — no other moviemaker has parlayed obsessive misogyny (and general meanness) into such critical acclaim — but Villaronga indeed strip-mines the surface of the thriller genre to expose its underlying viciousness. Gunter Meisner plays Klaus, a psycho Nazi doctor who has retired to a quiet life of child molestation and murder in Franco-era Spain. Paralyzed in what may be a suicide attempt, he is visited in his iron lung — "haunted" might be a better description —

by Angelo (David Sust), a beautiful teenager who was apparently his victim/protege in the good old death-camp days.

At first Angelo seems like an innocent lost among the dark shadows of Klaus' exile estate — then he unlocks the iron lung (or glass cage) to mount the old doctor passionately, kissing and caressing him while Klaus writhes and gasps for breath. Later Angelo masturbates into the face of the stricken sadist as if to mark him, quietly showing the results to Klaus' frozen, embittered wife (Marisa Paredes). She's been toying with unplugging hubby herself, so Angelo disposes of her in a creepy hallway-hunt sequence worthy of Hitchcock's grandest paranoias. Here, as throughout the film, Javier Navarrete's skin-crawling score etches a tangible atmosphere of fear with its recycled buzzes, squeals and whimpers.

In his expressed desire to "become" Klaus, Angelo strings chicken wire and burlap through the house to recreate that old Auschwitz feeling. Dressed in jackboots and trench coat like an Argentine dictator, he begins abducting boys to serve as subjects for Klaus' highly theatrical "experiments." These include injecting gasoline into the heart with a veterinary needle and slowly cutting a boy's throat as he sings a Latin mass. As the depravations reach their more or less logical extremes, Angelo seems to pass the killing urge on to Klaus' preteen daughter, as if it were a contagion.

Technical analysis, to counterfeited a phrase, is the last refuge of amoral film criticism. That said, Villaronga's debut is a sensation, a film sophisticated and painterly enough to convince artier audiences, I expect, of its meaningfulness and "importance." Ought we to make such essentially ethical judgments based on aesthetic indicators? (The old art/morality dilemma — Aristotle didn't figure it out either.) If you see *In a Glass Cage*, you might wish you hadn't. But it's one of those high-concept events around which film sluts like you and me order our lives.

In a Glass Cage plays at the Kabuki, Post at Fillmore, SF. Call 931-9800 for times.

'Repentance'

It's incumbent upon contemporary radicals, I think, to remain healthily skeptical about the course of cultural reform and artistic revision in the Soviet Union. (Invertebrate American liberals have always been ready to prostrate themselves before any Soviet leader robust enough to walk unaided.) So much for commentary. *Repentance*, a gorgeous, ungainly political fable from the Georgian



Stalin remembered: Varlam Aravidze is portrayed by Avtandil Makharadze in *Repentance*.

Republic in a style described by Cannes quipsters as "social surrealism," is the most startling work to worm free of the Moscow film bureaucracy in many years.

Not since the emergence of Andrei Tarkovsky in the '70s has Soviet film received such attention on a world scale. While director Tengiz Abuladze is not the revolutionary film stylist Tarkovsky was, *Repentance* is a poetic and philosophical investigation of the Soviet state's most forbidden territory — its history of petty tyranny and wanton terror. Though completed several years ago, its release now makes it the bellwether cultural document of the Gorbachev era.

The Aravidze family has buried its patriarch, the apparently beloved former mayor of a middle-sized Georgian town. Only old Varlam won't stay in the ground — every morning someone hysterically discovers the corpse, a bit worse for wear, propped up in a lawn chair or against a tree. Varlam resembles

both Hitler and Mussolini a little, but the ricocheting dead leader is mainly a micro-model of that most famous of all Georgians — Iosif Djughashvili, known to the world as Stalin. This is no coincidence; he's being exhumed every night by Ket'i, a now-middle-aged woman whose parents Varlam condemned to exile and death during a frivolous purge years earlier.

Her trial for the grave desecration frames a lengthy flashback into the town's past and the late mayor's flirtation with and destruction of her Christ-like artist father and angelic mother. Varlam is frighteningly, hilariously overportrayed as a

blend of buffoonery and sinister power, lucidity and psychosis, proletarian stolidity and insecure philistinism. He sings Verdi arias and recites Shakespeare, he orders arrests based only on surname, and in speeches he proclaims: "Four out of every three people are foes! We must find a

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Unnatural Relations

NEBRASKA
by George Whitmore.
Grove Press, New York, \$15.95.
153 pp., cloth.

Gay literature is the perennially abused literary stepchild. On the one hand, it suffers from the not so benign neglect of the literary establishment which, when it recognizes it at all, dismisses it as a parochial literature that will only appeal to gay or lesbian readers.

The other side of this is, however, more problematic. The fact of the matter is that the bulk of gay fiction has been, and to a lesser extent still is today, a reactive literature. Consciously or unconsciously, writers were

dominant culture. Of all these metaphors, the most prevalent and spiritually enervating is the one in which the gay or lesbian character is equated with that which is sick or, at best, somehow unfinished

By the time Craig has finished his narrative it is clear that no one gets out of Nebraska intact and some don't even get out alive.

working with a series of metaphors that, in the final product, reflected not so much an accurate description of the internal and external conditions of being gay, as it reflected the homophobic proscriptions of the

or malformed. Though essentially a variation on the idea of inversion and the concept of "the adrogyne," the most damning aspect of this metaphor is not its inaccuracy, but its insidiousness.



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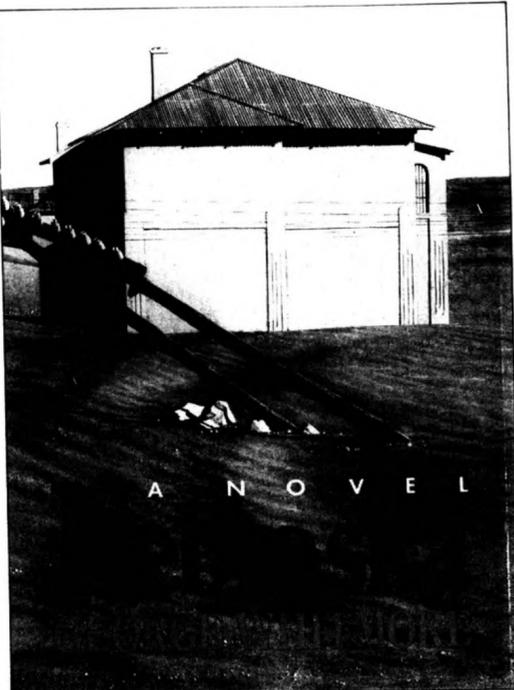
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A N O V E L

It is a metaphor which is implicit in our culture from the cradle on: that which is heterosexual — and preferably white and male — is both normal and all-encompassing. This mythic continuum does not allow for the slightest deviation without compromising its strength and presumptive validity. One crack, one allowance for something "other," and the entire infrastructure is seen as being in danger of imminent collapse.

Whether or not this is actually the case, and whether or not it would, in fact, be a desirable end is beyond the scope of a book review. Here the question is specifically how gay writers who wish to write about their experiences as gay men or lesbians accomplish this end without falling into particular metaphors.

Until now, the question was

moot. The best one could hope for was either a clever manipulation of a genre or a variation on the same flat theme, a literary fugue. However, with the publication of George Whitmore's new novel, *Nebraska*, the structure has been collapsed and the metaphor inverted. Readers can only put this short work aside with the same sense of satisfaction and resolution that are the appropriate responses to a piece of literature which, though flawed, constitutes a breakthrough.

What Whitmore has done in *Nebraska* seems, at least superficially, so obvious that one wonders why it hasn't been done before: he has inverted the metaphor of illness and malformation, and dissected it in such a way that it is clearly the society and its grossly dysfunctional

units, specifically the mythical nuclear family, which are sick and unnatural, not the individual members of the unit.

His Nebraska of the title is literally the state of Nebraska, but it is of course a metaphor for the so-called heartlands, the places in this country which have crippled themselves with their own overwrought and romanticized self-images. It is the domestic bower of bliss where "real" people inch out their lives according to the sort of half-witted mores that one associates with Rockwell illustrations.

But as Whitmore shows, illustrations are for magazine covers, not designs for living. He deftly begins his story of life in the "heartland" in the middle of the most morally constipated era of this century: Nebraska, circa 1956. It seems at first as though *Nebraska*, as it is narrated by 12-year-old Craig McMullen — who has just lost his leg in a traffic accident — will primarily concern itself with an examination of a prototypically dysfunctional family. He is the only male member in a household of women deserted by an alcoholic father, who are each adjusting to this traumatic disruption in their own neurotic fashion, because this is, after all, the "heartland," where such things aren't supposed to happen or, if they do, blame must be assigned.

In lesser hands, *Nebraska* could have become an indictment of '50s "Momism," territory that has already been well documented. In Whitmore's hands, ironically utilizing the crippled Craig as a narrator, it becomes an indictment of the whole crazy-making system of mores and myths that ruthlessly victimizes everyone entangled in its irrelevant morality. But *Nebraska* is exceptional, not only for its general examination of the system and sympathy for its characters, but also because it provides, within the parameters of its examination, a unique perspective on the effect that such a system has on its gay members.

It is for this reason that Craig is the ideal narrator. By virtue of his disability, he is put in the position of a passive, essentially innocent observer. By virtue of his age and sex, he is still young enough to have just begun the most tentative exploration of his own sexuality. He is also naive enough to become victim to the homophobic manipulation of the adults who surround him when he finds himself caught up in the horrific implications of a small, ultimately unsuccessful lie that he has told about his gay Uncle Wayne's nonexistent "interference" with him. By the time Craig has finished his narrative 12 years later in California, it is clear that no one gets out of Nebraska intact and some don't even get out alive.

Given what Whitmore has accomplished structurally in *Nebraska*, one is easily tempted to assign it the ever-fickle designation of "masterpiece." However, such a designation would prove both unfair to the novel and the reader. The necessary synthesis of structure and style that are the prerequisites of such a designation are, unfortunately, lacking in *Nebraska*. But the fact remains that it is, in many respects, a breakthrough, a watershed in gay fiction. And as such, *Nebraska* is an important book, one which must be read by anyone who is concerned with the state of gay literature today. ■

LESS TALK

DAVE FORD

Sweep Dreams Broom and Doom

After the barbaric McAteer High School broomstick-in-the-bunghole hazing battle last week, a media beat-fest spilled bilious bilge over a city besotted by boorish behavior. Nothing masked the tragedy of the situation — not even the jokes jolting 'round town. (What'll the McAteer High football team go as this Halloween? Witches.)

The facts are these: In a mean-spirited game called "Violation," McAteer football goons last Sept. 24 held down a teammate and, in response to his "mouthing off" during that day's practice, prodded his buttock with a broomstick. This was a common practice, part of an "initiation" rite popular with the team. "Take it like a man," a couple of the boys holding the victim to the floor cried, "as if," wrote columnist David Kirp in the Jan. 28 *Ex*, "there is some 'manly' way to 'take' a broomstick."

The thing slipped, pinching the boy's scrotum between the broom handle and the floor. The boy's immediate reaction remains hazy. Kirp wrote that two nearby assistant coaches heard screams, but thought they "were just the sounds of teenagers getting themselves psyched for the next day's skirmishes." But the Jan. 29 *Chron* quoted junior Chris Carter, 16, saying the violated boy "didn't scream or anything. He was just lying there." Noise or no noise, the boy had 5¢ stitches applied to the laceration. The medical bills, which came to less than \$100, were paid by McAteer from the football kitty.

There followed a flurry of denials, misreadings and scapegoatings on the part of the public, the media and school officials — one of whom maintained this was a "boys will be boys" party. McAteer High principal Ted Moore was suspended for three days Wednesday.

Fatal Stabbing and Heavy Curfews

The Feb. 3 *Examiner* then broke the story that the boy now faces criminal charges for allegedly stabbing a gay neighbor, George Smoot, 52, two months after the hazing incident. Smoot allegedly made a pass at the boy on Nov. 28, then later showed up at the boy's house and throttled his 12-year-old sister. The boy chased Smoot home and allegedly stabbed him in the chest.

Superior Court Judge Daniel Weinstein ordered the boy to stand trial Feb. 23 at Youth Guidance Center, and in the meantime sent him home with heavy curfews. He also urged that the boy get counseling. "Somewhere down the line, that will become valuable to the court as well as to yourselves," Weinstein told the boy's parents, according to the Feb. 3 *Ex*.

So much for the facts.

Beautiful Hairless Butts

When I was a boy (seems like only last week), I was dead scared to act on my gay impulses,

too afraid idiots like the "straight" boys on the McAteer High team would pin me as a homo. So I sat on the feelings (instead of on something more to the point), waiting and waiting and, with each passing year, disassociating.

Later, as I began to come out, I felt confused about my role as a young gay man. Specious as this may sound, I felt "objectified" by older men in bars. They were interested in me for sex; I was interested in some vague romantic notion of "love." And I hardly had a handle, after all the repression of my teen years, on human sexual response. So I felt a disengaging sense of paranoia; I wasn't yet used to enjoying being a sex object (like I am now). At the same time, I wasn't meeting the guys my age and younger whom I craved.

Hence, as any half-wit therapist would point out, my ongoing and very public praise for the boys of boy-ness: I'm older now, and the balance of power has shifted. And since I didn't have 'em then, writing about them here is a way of havin' 'em now.

Hence, too, my love-is-revenge exploitation of their beautiful hairless butts: the cheap and defensive way to "get back" at all those "straight" boys I felt I couldn't have (the ones who might've called me "fag" and shoved a broomstick up my butt) is to objectify them sexually, to make them less elusive erotic objects. (Plus, I like shapely hairless butts.)

Horseplay No More

But it is also the reason I persistently challenge the mores of "straight" boys (I put that in quotes, regular readers know, because nothing is as it seems): our male-based society still insists (though change is in the wind) that competition is "manly," that violence is commendable and that, by extension, shoving a broom up some boy's butt in the name of "initiation" is just a bit of hyperactive "horseplay." And being "straight" means hewing to the values and reactions perpetuated by such acts.

But it's not horseplay: it's sexual fear and emotional disengagement merging into one brutal act — the act, as Kirp pointed out, of rape. The 17-year-old boy was literally raped by a band of sexually fucked-up boys wielding, of all penetrating objects, a broomstick. He got stitched up physically, sure, but not emotionally: school officials, the boy's parents and the boy himself all swiftly swept the thing under the rug. This is typical of a

feelings-denying society: everything will be all right if we just ignore it.

Well, the boy's psyche, running rampant without the tonic effects of counseling, apparently decided everything wasn't all right. Though it's as yet unproved, there may be a connection between the hazing incident and the stabbing two months later. You don't have to know Freud to know a knife is as penile as a gun, nor that killing something in someone else is often a transference of wanting to kill something in yourself.

In this case, the boy is charged with killing a gay neighbor. Maybe this neighbor's alleged sexual advances triggered the boy's dormant angst and anguish over the broomstick incident: if so, what better way to kill off those internal feelings than by killing their embodiment?

A Fractured Boy?

The boy, along with playing on the football team, studied drama at McAteer's School of the Arts and performed in a batch of school plays. Now, we all know the old "drama school" stereotype is as disingenuous as any other. But a blurry picture emerges of a boy split in two. On the one hand, he's bashing around on the football field, the bastion of "straight" anxiety and violence; on the other, he's digging into himself for the emotions and reactions necessary to good acting, existing in a feelings-sensitive environment far removed from the smash-'em-up milieu of the gridiron.

This story is a tragedy, a sorry tale of violation, denial, homophobia and fear, of a community paralyzed by its inability to hear — or anticipate — a battered boy's cry for help.

Examiner Sweeps McAteer Coverage

The local press coverage of the hazing proved as intriguing as the tale. The Jan. 28 *Ex* broke the story, running a confused p. 1 above-the-fold box with, on the left, commentary by Kirp (a UC Berkeley public policy professor and weekly freelance *Ex* columnist), and, on the right, a straight news story by Lily Eng and Dennis J. Opatry.

Ex Managing Editor Frank McCulloch said late last week that the paper often runs commentary on the front page. "We didn't violate any standing policy to do that," he said. He added that Kirp had been working on an *Image* story on the incident (which appears — mark your calendars — Feb. 21), and had written an Op-Ed page piece on the hazing. "We just decided to move it up," McCulloch said. The *Ex* didn't use the boy's name — and still hasn't — although, according to McCulloch, "The school district is doing its very best to leak the whole thing on its own." He said they'd released documents revealing the boy's name and address. (As a result, NewsCenter 4's Karl Sonkin, in the best *Geraldo Rivera* tradition, wound up banging on the boy's door Jan. 28 for an "ambush interview," calling out the boy's first name. So much for privacy.)

The *Ex* also sat on the homicide angle for six days, since Kirp had promised silence to the family and their lawyer. McCulloch said he sent a reporter to the Feb. 2 hearing to sit on the bench outside the courtroom. Eventually, the reporter was invited inside by the judge, the prosecutor and the defense lawyer, "all of whom



On the sidewalk, D.C. Oct. 11, 1987

had their reasons," McCulloch said.

The *Chron*, which did not have a reporter there, ran the Tuesday hearing story on its Thursday morning front page.

In fact, this hazing story was the *Examiner's* baby from the start. And though they let the readers know it ("Cortines learned of the assault Wednesday when *Examiner* reporters questioned him about it," wrote Ms. Eng and Mr. Opatry in graf five of the Jan. 28 scoop), they deserve kudos — especially Eng, Opatry and Kirp. Even the headline writers sensed the story's news tag: the Feb. 3 head read, "Hazing Victim Charged in Gay's Death." The next day's *Chron* ran the more circumspect "Hazing Victim Charged in Neighbor's Slaying."

It's fun to watch the *Chron* scramble. The *Examiner* and *Chron* had their reasons," McCulloch said. The *Chron*, which did not have a reporter there, ran the Tuesday hearing story on its Thursday morning front page. In fact, this hazing story was the *Examiner's* baby from the start. And though they let the readers know it ("Cortines learned of the assault Wednesday when *Examiner* reporters questioned him about it," wrote Ms. Eng and Mr. Opatry in graf five of the Jan. 28 scoop), they deserve kudos — especially Eng, Opatry and Kirp. Even the headline writers sensed the story's news tag: the Feb. 3 head read, "Hazing Victim Charged in Gay's Death." The next day's *Chron* ran the more circumspect "Hazing Victim Charged in Neighbor's Slaying." It's fun to watch the *Chron* scramble.

Scene and Herd

The Mind bleeding The Blond: what local club owner shortchanges his boy hustler tricks thirty cents on the dollar?

Nice job by the *Ex's* Jayne Garrison: her Jan. 31 Castro front-pager touted the changes in the one-time gay mecca without, as some reporters love to do, simply telling its "demise."

Oprah Winfrey on "Phil Donahue": "If there never had been a Phil, there never would have been a me." Phil Donahue on "Oprah Winfrey": "I think she can dish with women better than I can." (*New York Times*, Feb. 1)

Burying the lead: "The operation removes the foreskin from the penis" — sentence at the end of the sixth graf of a Feb. 1 *New York Times* front-pager on the "circumcision controversy."

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Notes on Camp

Four all-time gay icons exhumed in a week — and none of them at venues specifically catering to the homo dollar at that. Over-scheduling and a lack of morbid attachment to the Judy Garland mythos forced me to skip Jim Bailey's apparently so-good-it's-really-depressing "tribute" at the Plush Room. But imagine your own Bailey review, insert it along with the Mae West, Oscar Wilde and Tennessee Williams incarnations below, and you've got yourself a sort of Warholian Mount Rushmore at the theatre this week.

'Diamond Lil'

If ACT's choice to provide us with the first staging of Mae West's *Diamond Lil* in 37 years is an undeniably bizarre one on artistic grounds, there's no question about the commercial horse sense behind it.

The excuse claimed here is to treat the work for the first time as simply "dramatic literature." This is sheer jargon, since *Lil's* author made no bones about it being strictly a slim vehicle for one very specific star who was interested only in writing the most flattering frame for her own overwhelming persona. Also, Paul Burke and Dennis Powers' new adaptation underlines the obvious real intentions here by padding the original material with irrelevant songs and lines lifted wholesale from West's entire career. The bottom line is that West's built-in mythological pull and the novelty of this postmortem revival guarantee ACT the campy hit that last year's more adventurous *Faustus in Hell* was too quirky to become.

So, who cares? Brassy and affectionate, ACT's *Diamond Lil* sure isn't "literature," and it's barely even "drama," but it delivers the goods. The new version retains the original basic setup and maze of subplots, if little of the film version's (*She Done Him Wrong*) genuine pulp-seller grit — this is the (straight) Gay '90s as seen through the mildly bawdy, rinky-tink nostalgic glaze of *Hello, Dolly!*

Diamond Lil (Gretchen Wyler) is the song-and-dance grande dame of Gus Jordan's (Peter Donat) Bowery honky-



Tasty hands: Spanish Toreador (Michael Scott Ryan) sweeps Diamond Lil (Gretchen Wyler) off her feet in ACT's revival of Mae West's 1928 comedy-melodrama.

tonk. She's Gus' mistress and the master of one-upmanship (and lay-downmanship) to the raft of colorful types who pass through — crooked politicians, gigolos, scorned lovers, missionaries, rural ingenues pursued by white slavers, silly chorines, et al. Lil's wit, diverse entertaining (ahem) talents and sheer va-va-voom triumph over all obstacles in the script's cluttered, vaudevillian 90 minutes.

As Lil/West, unlegendary Broadway star Gretchen Wyler manages a most respectable compromise between imitation and innovation. She's no great singer, but neither was West; and

if that vocal drawl and some gestures border on mimicry, there's probably no way to play the role without a certain *deja vu* creeping in. Where West was unflappably languid when faced with a stiff of either the boudoir or cemetery nature, Wyler is just as flamboyantly lewd, though in a more agitatedly farcical way. One gets the feeling she'd love to kick off those constricting period gowns and shimmy around in a mini. (And look great doing it, at 54.) Wyler has the right grandstanding confidence to pull off something better than a mere homage to a bigger star, even if the show is frequently stolen by supporting players having fun with their generic roles.

Under Paul Blake's direction, and with splendid costumes and sets, *Diamond Lil* is a highly concentrated frivolity. The only momentary sags occur when West's repartee doesn't age well,

Theatre. Written by and starring Steve Alexander as O.W., the show is partly dedicated "to Dr. Leo Buscalgia, whose lectures and books explained to me the value of love."

In the face of that statement I am loathe to rain too hard on Mr. Alexander's parade. The contradictions and basic masculine strength underlying Wilde's dandy image are not exactly evident in Alexander's stilted reading, though his rather overwhelming costumes and makeup do achieve a notable sort of Alice Cooper-meets-Liberace effect. His monodrone doesn't make this standard selection of epigrams sparkle anew, and when he livens up a bit, narrating the fairy tale "The Nightingale," it's in a throat-clutchingly lachrymose way that one suspects would not have pleased the original author.

A *Portrait* also "features the

seems to have spent his well of genius by a certain point, then embarked on a long winding road toward artistic regression and thematic redundancy. *The Seven Descents of Myrtle*, currently at SF Actor's Theatre, is later and definitely lesser Williams. Still, it's nice to see an obscure work revived, rather than yet another restaging (or re-filming) of his acknowledged classics.

It's goodbye-to-mental-balance time again in the decaying South as Fey, tubercular Lot (Timothy Spence) returns to the Mississippi farmhouse of his dear dead mama. In tow is his wife by virtue of a two-day-old and highly unconsummated marriage, Myrtle (Este Gardner), a cheerfully vulgar veteran of some rather lowbrow "show business" credits. Less than pleased by their arrival is Lot's mulatto half-brother Chicken (Ron Dorn), a surly brute who's just waiting for Lot to croak so he can claim the estate as his own. Before the long stormy night is over, we get lots of yelling, torrential rains that threaten to flood the house, threatened rape and murder, a seduction and ye olde demented-crossdressing-descent-down-the-staircase climax.

Crudely melodramatic and misanthropic, *The Seven Descents* is a *Streetcar Named Desire* gender-bender without

poetry or compassion, and little concern for character cohesion. Lot is a Blanche DuBois sans the dignity of otherness; pathetically selfish, he's an ethereal pain in the ass. Chicken is "an animal," the whiteboy's stereotype of a born-bad halfbreed. Myrtle, the only character with some redeeming human warmth, is made the butt of vicious misogynist cracks one fears Williams doesn't entirely disagree with. The text's familiar, half-realized themes have been basically exhausted by intermission; what's left is by turn tedious and grating.

The Actor's Theatre manages a considerable triumph under the circumstances, milking the piece for far more raw tension than it's worth under Maria Mazer's direction. The excellent performers function in a necessarily broad style, with Este Gardner's Myrtle providing welcome notes of comically desperate distraction from the not wildly interesting hate between Lot and Chicken. Steve Coleman's attractive three-tier set is also a plus. If *The Seven Descents of Myrtle* takes Williams' tragic palette unpleasantly close to self-parody, this production earns respect for pumping something close to life into his stale mechanics.

Diamond Lil continues at ACT, 450 Geary, SF, through March 19, Mondays through Saturdays at 8 pm, with selected matinees. Call 673-6440 for ticket info.

A *Portrait of Oscar Wilde* plays an open-ended engagement at the Music Hall Theatre, 931 Larkin, SF, Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8 pm, Sundays at 7 pm, and Saturdays and Sundays at 2 pm. Tickets are \$18-\$20. Call 776-8996 for further info.

SF Actor's Theatre's *The Seven Descents of Myrtle* runs through March 6 at Trinity Church, 1666 Bush at Gough, SF, Fridays through Sundays at 8 pm. Tickets are \$7-\$11. Call 543-3154 for info.

and when some of the added musical numbers come across too obviously as padding. ACT's production doesn't give *Diamond Lil* any reason to be dusted off again any time in the future, but it's certainly a delightful curio.

'A Portrait of Oscar Wilde'

Another pastiche show afflicted with the mad desire to stuff an entire lifetime of well-remembered witticisms into one package is *A Portrait of Oscar Wilde*, currently, and no doubt briefly, playing at the Music Hall



guess, but I'm not sure which and it really doesn't matter... I am not here to be coy."

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, February 13, at 3 pm, at Bethany United Methodist Church in Noe Valley, 1268 Sanchez at Clipper. ■

performance arts of" Teh Kittikul and Linette Burton. The latter is a mime who, as used here, proves only that the less you give a performer to do, the more profoundly uncomfortable they appear doing what little they're allowed. Kittikul plays guitar and sings songs of his and Alexander's perilous devising. One of them is not about Wilde or anything else on this earth, and the chorus goes like this: "Happiness is in the air/ Happiness is everywhere/ Happiness is to love and care/ Happiness is to give and share."

This was followed by an intermission. Stunned past the point of communication skills, my companion and I stared wildly at our programs and discovered that there were *two more acts*. (We also found out that Kittikul has "toured New England for two years in *Mark Twain and Teh in Concert*." Blurring an apology to the first available staffperson, we fled into the afternoon sun. In this world anything is possible, and it is not inconceivable that *A Portrait of Oscar Wilde* had second and third acts of multifaceted professional brilliance. If it did, perhaps the four persons remaining in the audience last Saturday afternoon will write us and tell.

'The Seven Descents of Myrtle'

Some artists don't need misguided fans to parody them; they can do it themselves. Like so many great American playwrights, Tennessee Williams

WEEK AT A GLANCE

13 FEBRUARY SATURDAY

The Fabragen Fiddlers — whose music is an innovative blend of traditional Jewish Klezmer and American bluegrass, country, dixieland, folk and jazz — appear in their West Coast debut at Congregation Beth Shalom, 8 pm, 14th Ave & Clement St., SF. \$15 general/\$10 students, seniors. Tickets: 221-8736.

Troc's tenth annual **Red Party** will be in full swing tonight with the theme "Red Hot Hits." Programmed by DJ Steve Smith, the musical format consists of nothing but the hits, old and new, all night long. 10 pm-dawn. Trocadero Transfer, 520 Fourth St., SF. \$10. Info: 495-0185.

North Beach is more than just pizza, Washington Square Park and he-she love acts. And the North Beach Chamber of Commerce proves it by offering a series of **walking tours**. The first one, "Art, Artists and Antiques," is a 2½-hour tour of galleries, public art, studios, and antique and specialty shops. Meet at Las Delices, 1402 Grant St. (bet. Green & Union), 11 am. Reservations are a must. \$10. Res/info: 673-3228.

A cheap champagne opening celebrates the premiere of SF filmmaker **George Kuchar's** latest blockbuster *Insanitarium*, a twisted tale of mad scientists, baller dancers and Bigfoot romances. Beginning the program is Kuchar's first perversion of melodramatic clichés, *Corruption of the Damned* (1965), 8:30 pm. Artists' Television Access, 992 Valencia St., SF. \$4.

Metropolitan Opera mezzo soprano, **Elvira Green**, recently returned from her Australian tour, is joined by Hungarian cellist **Csaba Oneckay** and the **Berkeley Symphony Orchestra** in a concert featuring the works of Grieg, Ravel, Canteloube and Shostakovich. 7:30 pm. Masonic Auditorium, 1111 California St., SF. \$21, \$17. Tickets: 527-3622, Ticketron.

Bay Area Bisexual Network sponsors a **Valentine's Eve Dance**, 9 pm-1 am, at 890 Folsom St., SF. Sliding Scale: \$7-\$10 general/\$4-\$5 BABN members. Info: 522-5553.

Another in Tom O'Connors' series of **Living with AIDS** seminars takes place today at MCC. Participants explore "Integrating Alternative and Traditional Healing" methods. Bring paper, pen and a cushion for comfort. 9 am-5 pm. 150 Eureka St., SF. Low-income, \$12 adv/\$17 at

door; regular, \$25 adv/\$30 at door. Info: 626-0469.

Fellini's *Satyricon* jumps off the screen and into GlasHAUS Productions' **Rome Antique Valentine Dance**. In an ambience created by massive, crumbling marble busts and swarthy gladiators, celebrate the downfall of the empire with Ms. Kitty (behind bars), performance artist Barbara Lui clothed only in chocolate, and dancing to DJs Gregory Cruikshank and Doc Martin. Expect the unexpected. 10 pm-3 am. Pacific Center (aka The Apparel Mart), 22 Fourth St., SF. \$12 adv/\$14 at the door. Tickets/info: 552-9577.

14 FEBRUARY SUNDAY

The SF Symphony Chorus presents **Love Notes, a Valentine's Day Concert**, featuring 14 musical valentines from the works of Handel, Purcell, Mozart, Debussy, Strauss and others. Instrumental accompaniment is provided by Marc Shapiro on piano and chamber organ and by members of the SF Ballet Orchestra. 8:30 pm. Davies Symphony Hall, Grove St. at Van Ness Ave., SF. \$11.50. Tickets/info: 431-5400, 762-BASS.

BART it to Berkeley for **Chrysanthemum Ragtime Band's** special Black History Month concert and record release party, with ragtime dance lessons. 4-6 pm. Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. \$5.

Seth Montfort performs George Gershwin's complete works for solo piano in a 4 pm recital at MCC, 150 Eureka St., SF. \$5.

EVENT OF THE WEEK

Seven bands for seven bucks! **Personality Crisis** presents **Love Dance**, a benefit for the Shanti Project, with emcee Lu Read, the Psycho Souls with Ms. Kitty, Bohemian Luv Jones, Love Club, She Devils, Pray for Rain, Naked Into and American Music Club. 4 pm. SF Music Works, 2140 Market St., SF. \$7.

Bay Area Gay Fathers (not necessarily to be confused with "daddies") host their annual Valentine's party, **Hearts on Hats**. 7 pm. Bring a friend! Info, location: 841-0306.

Used bookstore junkies won't want to miss the Friends of the SF Public Library's **Mini Book Sale**. Books are 30¢ each or four for a dollar, and the money goes to help fund free library pro-



Dinner companions: A preliminary etching for Picaasso's *The Frugal Meal (Le Repas Frugal)* is one of numerous drawings included in "Cheers! Prints and Drawings on the Subject of Drinking," an exhibit sponsored by the Achenbach Foundation and on view at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor through 2/28.

Harp happy: Boris Goldmund, harpist, will perform a Valentine's Day concert, benefiting **Radiant Light Ministries**, on Sunday, 2/14, at 7 pm, at the Swedish American Hall, 2174 Market Street, SF. Also joining Boris for the evening concert will be Joseph Hebert, cellist, and Alan Lornie, violinist. Call 648-1899 for more info.



grams, book acquisitions and special projects. 11 am-4 pm. Fort Mason Bldg. A, SF. Info: 558-3857.

15 FEBRUARY MONDAY

SF Conservatory of Music hosts a concert by the **New England Conservatory of Music Youth Symphony**, under the direction of Aaron Kula. The program includes works by Beethoven, Brahms and others. 2 pm. Hellman Hall, 19th Ave. (at Ortega), SF. Free. Info: 564-8086.

16 FEBRUARY TUESDAY

Mary Richards' **Master Your Mind** support group for PWAs, PWARCs and the worried well meets today at noon-2 pm. The group's focus is on meditation, visualization, empowerment and health. 333 Valencia St., SF. Not affiliated with SF AIDS Foundation. Info: 945-0941.

17 FEBRUARY WEDNESDAY

Critically acclaimed as one of the top five ballet companies in the country, the **Dance Theatre of Harlem** comes to the Bay Area for a series of performances beginning tonight. For 18 years, this vibrant company has set new levels of artistic mastery with an eclectic mix of ballet, Broadway jazz and Afro-Caribbean dance. Through Sunday, 8 pm, with 2 pm matinees on Sat. and Sun. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. \$18.50-\$25. Tickets: 642-9988.

18 FEBRUARY THURSDAY

Celebrating Black History Month, Boston's Underground Railway Theatre presents its production of **Sanctuary: The Spirit of Harriet Tubman**. This puppet-and-mask musical work draws connections between the underground railways of the 1850s and the plight of today's Central American refugees in the sanctuary movement. Proceeds go to the Committee for Health Rights in Central America (CHRICA). Tonight and tomorrow, 8 pm. Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St. (at Mission), SF. \$10, Thurs./\$12, Fri.. Tickets available at the door. Info: 431-7760.

Today's Artists Concerts series continues with a performance by pianist **Sergei Edelmann** of three sonatas, D. 958, 959 and 960. 4 pm. Old First Church, Van Ness Ave. at Sacramento St., SF. \$7 general/\$5 students, seniors/\$3.50 OFC members. Tickets: STBS or at the door. Info: 474-1608.

Starhawk, feminist peace activist and author, discusses her newly published *Truth or Dare: Encounters with Power, Authority and Mystery*, which explores resistance and renewal. In tonight's event, she will touch on how to counter

the structures of domination surrounding us and how to build alternatives rooted in liberating concepts of power. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., SF. Info: 282-9246.

19 FEBRUARY FRIDAY

The Studio at Theatre Rhino presents **In Circles**, a "circular musical" written by Gertrude Stein, with a score by the composer of *Promenade*. Al Carmines. Through Mar. 20. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. (bet. Mission & So. Van Ness), SF. Call theatre for time and ticket info at 861-5079.

SF's own **Idiot Savant, Schizophrenia** and the **Casual Italians** head a benefit rock concert for Rest Stop, SF's only "home away from home" for PWAs, PWARCs and their families. 8 pm. Palace of Fine Arts, 3301 Lyon St. (bet. 8th & 9th), SF. Tickets: Headlines or at the door. Info: 621-REST.

Robert Black performs on the double bass and bass guitar a selection of works by Cage, Xenakis and Stuart Smith, as well as his own compositions. Black has toured extensively in the US and Europe and has been awarded an NEA solo recital grant for the 1987-88 season. 8 pm. New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom St. (bet. Eighth & Ninth), SF. Tickets/info: 626-5416.

San Francisco Performances welcomes the **Australian Chamber Orchestra**, which is on a US tour in conjunction with the Australian bicentennial celebration. Pianist **Jeffrey Kahane** joins the orchestra for the Mozart Piano Concert No. 27 in B flat Major, K. 595. Completing the program are Haydn's Symphony No. 49 in F Major ("La Passione"), Mozart's Symphony No. 40 in G minor, K. 550, and, in keeping with the orchestra's commitment to Australian composers, Peter Sculthorpe's "Port Essington." 8 pm. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Ave., SF. \$18, \$14. Tickets: 552-3656, STBS.

SF Macrobiotic Network sponsors a **Vegetarian Buffet**, followed by a talk on metaphysical healing by Michael Zonta, director of the Metaphysical Alliance. 6:30 pm. Zen Guest House, 273 Page St., SF. Res/info: 431-2122.

Old First Concerts presents pianist **Paul Bempchat** in his SF recital debut with an all-Schubert program, featuring the composer's last three sonatas, D. 958, 959 and 960. 4 pm. Old First Church, Van Ness Ave. at Sacramento St., SF. \$7 general/\$5 students, seniors/\$3.50 OFC members. Tickets: STBS or at the door. Info: 474-1608.

The Sentinel welcomes submissions of community, political and arts events for possible inclusion, as space permits, in our weekly calendar. The deadline is seven days (Friday noon) or more in advance of Friday publication. Send items to: **Calendar Editor, San Francisco Sentinel, 500 Hayes Street, San Francisco, CA 94102.**

Sam D'Allesandro Dies at 31

Sam D'Allesandro, the innovative poet, prose writer and performance artist, died last week at his home in San Francisco, aged 31. Born in Southern California, D'Allesandro attended UC Santa Cruz, arrived in San Francisco in 1979 and became one of the most promising writers of his generation.

D'Allesandro's book *Slippery Sins* (Ice Press) attracted a lot of attention when it appeared in 1983 and was followed by a series of superb stories, half-memoir, half-fiction, each dazzling.

"Nothing Ever Just Disappears" came first, its narrator a survivor in a world of loss, regret and Wordsworthian consolation. It remains one of the best stories about AIDS and its aftermath, and was nabbed by writer

George Stambolian for his influential anthology *Men on Men: Best New Gay Fiction*.

As D'Allesandro began to garner top-flight critical reaction, his canvas broadened and deepened, but lost none of its intensity. His last stories are the finest of all. Lily Pond published "Jane and Sam" in *Yellow Silk*, and Howard Junker of *Zyzzyva* printed "The Zombie Pit," Sam's longest piece. Only last month, though terribly ill, he managed to sit for Robert Giard's camera and became part of Giard's epic project of photographing America's top gay writers.

"Fate can be such a bastard," Sam wrote to a friend. "It's out of my control. Then again, sometimes I need to mess things up a little, just to satisfy my own view of reality. Fate. Design. Betrayal. Wrath of circumstances. One of those is responsible, I

Cosmic Return

Staggering — that's what it is — a cosmic conjunction to humble even the most hardened cynics. And you can almost taste it, like the scent of sex, well before a boy erupts on the scene. It is a calendric coincidence unique in history: this year, *this week*, two days after Valentine's Day, Sonny Bono's birthday coincides with Mardi Gras.

Whole cosmologies quake at the prospect. And here in San Francisco, with satanic ravens music-industry hordes descending for the Gavin Convention while bands stack up showcases desperate to tempt their attentions and skateboarders circle bonfires in the 'burbs, I have returned (Lestat-like) to face the music. I trust you'll join me.

the opening LA duo boast the biggest buzz, with impossibly rich licks that left *Wax Trax* dubbing their debut LP, *Monkey on a Chain Gang* (Rhino), "the first cool LP of '88." Arrive early. (2/12, Kennel Club, 9 pm, \$8)

Beatnigs
Canny and crazed postindustrial voodoo from World Beat's daunting delinquents. Harrowing hams at a cool and cozy club. (2/12, Nightbreak, 10:30 pm & midnight, \$4)

Big Dipper, Richard Barone, House of Freaks
Neo-pop hopefuls face off. BD is a Boston-based quartet whose debut LP, *Heavens* (Home-stead), is getting more notice than praise for its quirky lyrics and rhythms. Barone crawls out of the Bongos to try again, while

Oingo Boingo
Zany manure targeted at hapless teens and tots. The kind of vacuous, IQ-eating palaver that the PMRC ought to be appalled

by. Bring back DEVO! (2/12, Kaiser Auditorium, 8 pm, \$16.50)

Hosecoat Project, American Music Club
Bobo Baird, the Zippo-toting boy chef, recklessly prophetic rock writer and colleague critic, commends this pairing of perennials and claims that the club has finally installed a sound system able to do them justice. Optimists are encouraged to investigate. (2/12, Firehouse 7, 10 pm, \$5)

Volor
Vengeance opens on Friday; Deliverance does the duties Saturday; all three are billed as Christian/metal combos making their stand in the sinful gizzard of Broadway. I'm hoping that Pat Robertson's Crusaders will register voters in the lobby, while youth advocate Howie Klein darts about striving to lead the salvageable astray. Don't fear the reaper. (2/12, Mabuhay on Broadway, 6 pm; 2/13, 10 pm, \$5)

Timmie Hesla and the All-Star Converse Orchestra
Swing classics keep company with charts for "With or Without You" as 15 players offer a "nerd's guide to elegance." Top hat and tennies. Right. (2/12 & 13, DV8, 10 pm, \$6)

Boy Party
The fact that the I-Beam is exploiting the name to successfully go homo on Wednesdays is a tribute to the rep established by the renegade originators of these events. Welcome these back-to-back nights of respite for the young and rowdy. Saturday is a trad "Red Party" in SOMA. Sunday, it's a pricey, black-tie-optional benefit in NOMA, with the entire door going to the SF AIDS Foundation. Nightlife as nervy, noble and nasty. (12/13,



Great expectations: Tackhead plays Monday, 2/5, at the I-Beam.

444 De Haro, 9 pm, \$7; 2/14, 405 Mason, 9 pm, \$20)

Nanci De Ross Band
Smart souls swear that this singer is spectacularly special. Star producer Elliot Mazer has been cutting her demo, and players from Translator, Green on Red and C. Isaak's band will back her at SOMA's way-cool cabaret. Intriguing. (2/13, Paradise Lounge, 10 pm, free)

Spot 1019, Buck Naked, Terminators of Endearment
The Camper Van cohorts of "Gnarly Surf Machine" notoriety headline over Bobo's frat/raunch faves and unknown openers. Irresponsible alcohol ingestion advised. (2/13, SF Music Works, 10 pm, \$5)

Fay-Tell Attractions, Treat Her Right
RCA Records was so anxious to showcase their act that they scored the opening slot behind this local folkie quartet at the most casual cabaret in town. Friday the 12th they sold their act cold before Kats and Kittens, but this looks to be their slot to make up for lost time and enlighten the oblivious. See if I'm wrong. (2/14, Paradise Lounge, 10 pm, free)

Dead Marilyn
At 30 minutes, this sordid, predictable goth-drag skit runs 25 too long. Bring a wooden stake. (2/14, Kennel Club, 9 pm, \$5)

Tackhead, Gary Clail
The UK's legendary dub-inconoclast Adrian Sherwood is the boss in this band, but he'll be performing behind the mixing board. DJ Clail is the recently recruited rapper and vocal arranger. For the first hour-and-a-half he will scratch, spin and rap to the band's LPs, then join them for some live improvisation. On their last visit, they floored Bobo, and he's already confiding that this promises to be the "show of the year." Even if I ante up for that, and I haven't seen them yet! Earplugs and dancing shoes obligatory. (2/15, I-Beam, 10 pm, \$11 adv, \$12 day)

Mardi Gras with Big Bones
One club promises to give Mardi Gras its due by illuminating those last hours of pre-penance libertine lunacy with a bitter-sweet celebration featuring the itinerant local bluesman calling down terror and glory and a buffet of complimentary Creole eats crafted by the chefs at Cha Cha Cha. Raise a toast for birthday boy Sonny Bono and savor the scene. (2/16, Kennel Club, 8 pm, \$2)

Grateful Dead
All four concerts sold out before an ad was inked, but if that doesn't daunt you, be apprised that on Mardi Gras (the 16th), the miraculous Dr. John will open the show, and that is a mighty incentive. (2/13, 14, 16 & 17, Kaiser Auditorium, 8 pm, \$17.50)

Benefit Festival for Shanti
Seven bands have signed up for a show to help the folks who put their hands and hearts into helping PWAs to be broadcast live on KALX. SOMA sex goddess Miss Kitty headlines, introducing new material and a new band. Check the *Sentinel's* Week at a Glance for the full, fascinating roster, then haul your sorry self down to join in. (2/14, SF Music Works, 4 pm, \$7)

Spot 1019
The neo-naif children of Jonathan Richman prove that they ain't no Wild Tchoupitoulis as they usher out Mardi Gras. (2/16, Paradise Lounge, 10 pm, free)

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DANGEROUS CREATUREZ by Gentry Johnson

STELLA - OCCUPATION: REGISTERED NURSE
AGE: 34
STELLA IS ACTUALLY A PRINCESS FROM THE PLANET ZVORPAZ NINE. SHE IS UNAWARE OF THIS FACT HOWEVER, AS SHE WAS ORPHANED WHEN HER PARENTS' SHIP CRASH-LANDED ON EARTH. SHE WAS RAISED BY A LES-FARGO, NORTH SHE CAN ALSO COMMUNICATE SPECIES OF FISH, IS ALSO NOT SHE WAS BIAN ROET IN DAKOTA. PSYCHICALLY WITH CERTAIN A FACT SHE AWARE OF.

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY
To all my wonderful friends: Tim, Gordon, Gary, Michael, Michael, Michael, Kevin, Ed, Ron, John, Bill, Kip, Geoffrey, Rick, Don, Glenn, Rodger, Henry, et al. May we all find what we need! Love you all, Jim Reid.

RYAN R.
So fabulous. So indispensable. So missed! Life is meaningless without you. Be be Baby!
MAMMOTH RICKEY RAY

SWEETNESS
Nothing could be good as loving you. Through the years fate has proven that our love was meant to be. No one in the world could ever love me like you do... you're my joy. All my love, all my life. Swee'pea.

RANDY LOVES DAVID
"Hi stranger — are you looking for a meeting? I'm a little familiar with that book" — if that 'line' brings back memories, I hope they're good ones. To my lover, friend and little boy. I love you. Randy.

CLARK KENT
The last 4 months have been super. Let's try for more. Will you be my Valentine?

FRANCOIS, ADRIENNE, JOHN & KAREN — You've all been Sweethearts for helping out so generously. Keith from the Library.

Ito — querido, no puedo vivir en soledad. Mi alma grita por los dias contigo. Vuelve a mi, mi vida! Vamos a tener una casa del corazon. Mi amorcito. Su amante, Robert.

GENE PHELPS
Happy Valentine's Day. I hope for many more. Love, Paul.

Gary — You're the only one I could ever snorkle my life away with in Hawaii!
Love Otter Pup Ronny

To Dotty: Dinner Parties. Chris Isaak. Red wine. Toilet bars. "Oh L'Amour." Beatnik Beach. Toddles. Courtney. Train Rides. Miss Pimp. Miss Kitty. Restaurant. Fun. Love. Brenda Starr, Cub Reporter.

Kurt — So it's new, so what. Perhaps we're here to help each other — learn, live and love — the rigel of my life, a blazing star — we will find out. Formidable? Yes, comfortable? Yes — my Valentine? Yes! xox Steven.

TO TOM
Roses are red
Violets are blue
The Beaner and I
Will always love you.

BOB GOLOVICH — On this Valentine's Day, I want to tell you that you are the best thing that has ever happened in my life, and I do truly love you!!!
Robert Carl Stern

C.S.J.
Roses are red
Violets are blue
The Magnet is still working
I belong to you.

"Love... all alike
No season knows nor clime,
Nor hours, days, months
Which are the rags of time"
For Bill

TO:
Ann W., Diane G., Tony P. and Maryann.
Be mine! Be mine!
Be my Valentine!
Sentenella

NANCY & LESLIE: This separation has been terrible for our menage a trois. Miss you after a year. Looking forward to a most close encounter.
Tim

The Story
of the Queen and the Cow Prince:
Norma once sat at her piano to play
Every love song she knew that is "mooving" and gay:
Loudly she could be "herd" (such a bovine-like word)
Singing, "Happy Fourth Valentine's Day!"

JAMES BAYT
I've got a crush on you!
You are always on my mind!
The best of luck with TLC!
I love you,
Doug

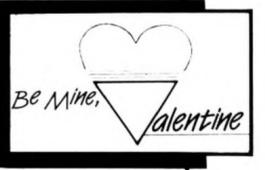
Ted Kendall.
Hair in my face, you know that's all you'll ever be... of course I'd undress in front of you, & when I'm naked what shall I do? The HUGS are what I miss the most! Won't you be mine? Poodle with a mohawk.

LJ
what if we had missed paths somehow in these crazy days?...would I have found another as wildly creative, as silly, as sensual? impossible.
the art doctor conjures up images from God.
the puppeteer, recently released from quarantine, performs an animal dance.
together they invent the theatre of the sublime.
xox R Bought

I HEART
Tony, Max, Martha, Richard, Chris, Taylor, Alyson, Tede, Jack, Chuck, Ron, Mike, Elissa, Charlotte, John G., Cecilia, Jeff, Kelly. (I knew I'd get your names in print sooner or later.)
Love, John

MARJA, YOU HOT TICKET
My C. is blue for you. Some weeks just creep by. Will you be my Valentine Sunday night? K.

Jan — Thanks for your love, generosity and much moral support.
Chris & Tom



Timothy — Despite everything I am that I am. I've fallen for you completely.
I want to be with you everywhere.
Love always,
Jeff

Sexy Hot Blond
Who drives the Red Nissan. I don't want you for a Valentine. I want you for much much more!
You are the greatest fantasy of my life!
Love, Matt

Ray:
To the most special man in my life. I am so fortunate to be with you. Our souls are intertwined together, and no matter what happens, you are part of me. Happy anniversary and Valentine's Day. Love always, Johann.

Tim Higbee — there's someone out there many miles away who cares. You're a special person, kind and loving — wish the weekend could have lasted forever. Keep in touch as my life has begun to see if you will. Ta ta!

SENTINEL CLASSIFIEDS

STRICTLY PERSONAL

DAYTIME BUDDY
24 HRS., 7 DAYS A WEEK, MEET THE MAN OF YOUR DREAMS \$2.00 + TOLL IF ANY 415/213 976-3937.

LIKE YOUNG GUY?
If you like chicken, write! Let's exchange ideas, fantasies, experiences, etc. Discretion respected and assured. Let's have some fun via phone/tapes/letters! Reply Boxholder P.O. Box 196, Berkeley, CA, 94701.

MASTER BAIT
Handsome W/M, youthful 39, needs heavy-hung W/M Dad for prolonged j/o discipline sessions. If the thought of never permitting your boy to shoot gets you hard, write Sentinel Box 5A, and maybe we can work something out.

REGULAR HOT ACTION
WM, 36, 6'1", trim, hung, always horny, with a hot bottom. Versatile, discreet, your lover will never know. Into diddles, your fantasies. Leather & Levis are a turn-on. Safe but hot. You, in control. 18-36, uninhibited and ready to explore. Photo & descriptive letter. Tom, Sentinel Box 8A.

BODY BUILDERS
Who like to get tied up and experience erotic bondage. I have been tying men for 8 years; respect limits, discreet, safe. 638-8007.

PAIN TRAINER
For monogamous lover by composer. 43, 5-11, 150, very good looking, intelligent & wild. Into tit torture, ball slapping, whipping, etc. for 4-12 hour scenes. Write today with phone to Paul, Sentinel Box 6A. Ouch!

EROTIC GLORYHOLE VIDEO
Seek men willing to act as cocks for creative filming. Age/looks are not important, but donkey dongs/decent bodies are. No faces filmed but mine. Professional set. Private with just you and me. The whole experience is worth doing once just for fun. Take home a free copy and watch the HOT service you got and the big load you shot. Tom, 285-4196. The pleasure alone is worth it! (09)

FIT TO BE TIED
Spreadeagle! This boy and use him for your pleasure. Clamp his tits. Weight his balls. Enjoy the tensing and flexing of his muscles as you warm his butt with your belt, then make him beg to lick your boots and service your body. Healthy, handsome, 35 year-old W/M boy sincerely seeks to serve dominant, commanding, but safe, sane and responsible Top. Sentinel Box 7C.

FREE CONFERENCE CALLING
(415) 394-1015

LIKE TO COOK?
Non-Profit group interested in cooking Potluck. Plus, Share Recipes, Meet People. Call Steve 864-2236, 6-9 pm 1st. mtg in Feb.

SMOOTH BOYISH LOOKS
24, blonde/green, goodlooking, bodybuilder, kinky, nice ass! Upon release from prison, moving to CA. Seeking older lady for hot sex relationship live in. McKinley, 913840, Box 888, Monroe, WA 98272.

LATENIGHT/DAYTIME BUDDY SOUGHT
You live in San Francisco, are a cute/goodlooking, GWM, under 35, under 5'8", mustache, healthy, in good physical condition, enjoy kissing, cuddling, touching and crave the buddyship/friendship of another masculine man who will meet your hot bottoms desire. I am all of the above and more. The only exception is: I'm a cut + well endowed (safe) top, that will leave you begging for more. So send your photo and phone # to: Boxholder, P.O. Box 4219, San Francisco, 94101-4219. You'll be glad you did.

MAKE YOUR MATCH ON THE HOTTEST GAY PARTYLINE CONNECTION \$2.00 + TOLL IF ANY 415/213 976-1881.

TENNIS PLAYER
Attractive, WM, 29, 5'9", brbl, athletic, sense of humor, new to area, seek 19-32, friends for companionship, must be straight, acting/appearing, clean-cut appearance, let's be friends, send photo to Sentinel Box 13A. Discretion assured.

SEEKING CHICKEN
Bi WM, 40, friendly, sense of humor, disease free, but passive and low sexual and emotional energy seeks similar guy. I need to be alone most of the time but would like to meet a compatible guy for sex and friendship. I like only (repeat only) very young (18-30), thin, clean guys. Photo a must (I'll return). PO Box 22201, SF, 94122.

DAYTIME DADDY
You are 40-60, hung, uncut and horny in AM, I am 34 and eager to please. For safe sex home service with no strings, drugs, just someone who likes to get fully serviced and stroke it off. Rob, Suite 213, 564 Mission, SF 94105.

FRIENDSHIP — PLUS — OFFERED
GWM wants to meet and/or correspond with other men with an interest in music — opera — symphony — musical theatre — play group — quiet times — talking — walking in the country. Please write: Suite 179, 584 Castro St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

LET OUR ADVERTISERS KNOW
Say you saw it in the *Sentinel*

NEED A DAD?
GWM's kids grown. Want 18-35 y.o. to advise, guide and hug. I care. No oav. No S&M. Firmness is required. Sex only if mutual. Jim, 204 E 2nd Ave., San Mateo 94401.

YOUNG PLAYMATE WANTED
Seeking boyish guy (18-26) with a slender and small build. Must be eager to oil my hot tool while I'm pumping your rod in ecstasy. Prefer to meet at your place. I'm tall, trim and handsome. 979-4504.

SLIM OR SKINNY?
Warm-hearted WM, 38, 6'2", 170 lbs., trim, blue eyes seeks slim or skinny 22-37, warm-hearted, any race, for sincere friend or lover. I'm a good listener, healthy (HIV negative), nonsmoking Libra. Open to many interests, including music, massage, swimming, psychology, meditation, Asian food. Plus if you are smooth or somewhat "boyish" in looks or build. Bob, P.O. Box 14794, San Francisco, CA 94114.

AMBITIOUS HUNKS
Are you good looking and well built, but not well financed? Honest but not satisfied? Hot and hunky, but not profiting from it? If yes, check me out. I am an attractive, successful, 37 year old, GWM, looking for a hunky good looking GWM, 18-40, to do fun things with, such as travel, dining out, theater, etc. Safe sex at your place in exchange for financial assistance. Reply with photo and STEVE, 584 GASTRO ST., SUITE 642, SAN FRANCISCO, CA, 94114-2588.

STRAIGHT MEN
I'm not tall, dark and handsome, but I give excellent head to straight guys 18-35 with good body. Call until 11:30 pm, 647-7775 or 282-0081. Ask for Danny. Let's talk.

WS/IF
W/M, 35, brown hair, moustache looking for top(s) into FF, WS, hot nasty fun, no safe sex home service with no strings, drugs, just someone who likes to get fully serviced and stroke it off. Rob, Suite 213, 564 Mission, SF 94105.

FRIENDSHIP — PLUS — OFFERED
GWM wants to meet and/or correspond with other men with an interest in music — opera — symphony — musical theatre — play group — quiet times — talking — walking in the country. Please write: Suite 179, 584 Castro St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

GREG — THE PROGRAMMER
We met at the Steamworks 1/17. I didn't ask for your ph. #. Want to see you again! David from the bank — 864-6448.

HELP HOMELESS GAYS
35% of S.F. homeless are Gay. Winter clothing, blankets, sleeping bags and money urgently needed. Please drop off or send tax-deductible donations to Gay Rescue Mission, 1080 Folsom, SF 94103. Your inspection of our Community Center is invited.
863-4882

BLOND BUTCH MOUSTACHE LEATHER
5'9", 190 lbs., husky, robust, non drugs. Want slender or husky bottom for B/D, C/B, tit, toys, etc. all nighters. Also, like to meet small hung, husky, macho leathermen into J/O, humping, kissing. Must have facial hair. "Husky" means 30-50 lbs. overweight. 553-8196 till 11 p.m. only. Nonsmoker.

MARRIED OR LIVING WITH A WOMAN
and have had male partners? If You Are WORRIED ABOUT AIDS For Yourself or Your Female Partners, our Research Study can help. We offer free confidential antibody testing and support for you and your partner(s). Call Toll Free 800-252-2430. -Confidentiality Guaranteed.
CALIFORNIA PARTNERS' STUDY

CHICKEN
Want young boyish W/M - O/M under 25, short 5'9" or less. Clean shaven, hung small, w/cute buns that likes to be screw'd by daddy type. A weekend companion or much more for right one. I'm W/M, 45, 165 lbs., balding, rough looking merchant seaman, not into bars. Serious only.
834-7766 Mickey

NARCISSISTIC BLACK?
Good looking white wants to meet a sexy black guy who enjoys really being into himself. You like being admired, praised, showing yourself off, wearing it tight! Excites me to treat you like an Adonis.
Loren 861-6238

LOOK FOR OLDER MAN
Good looking Chinese gay boy look for older gay man. I'm 23-year, 5-10, 150. Interested in meeting an older man about 47-65 for relationship. Call (415) 771-0527 ask for "Danny".

TOP SEEKS BOTTOM
GWM 29, 6'1", 155 lbs., very goodlooking, good mind & body seeks passive fuck buddy who is young and eager for safe sex. Asian, white, Latino, late teens to early twenties, short and thin are all pluses. Call 923-0278. Leave a message with return phone.
Continued on next page

FEBRUARY 1988

Sixth at Harrison South of Market

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
12	13	14	15
FRIDAY NITE	THE GARDEN	THE ALL DAY	PRESIDENTS DAY
BOY PARTY	PARTY	VALENTINE	TEA DANCE
8PM - 2AM	6AM - 8PM	6AM - 2AM	6AM - 9PM
DOOR \$4.00	DOOR \$2.00	DOOR \$2.00	DOOR \$2.00
1.25 Budweiser			1.25 well
FRESH HOT PEOPLE	FRESH HOT MUSIC	FRESH COOL AIR	

GRAPHICS: PAUL VARDA

SENTINEL CLASSIFIEDS

STRICTLY PERSONAL

Continued from previous page

BAY AREA COCKSUCKERS

FREE info-send SASE: BAC 584-Castro #395, S.F. 94114

WORKSHOPS

SPIRITUAL METAPHYSICS TECHNIQUES

Alternative truth, to explore inner abilities and talent potential. Visualization, psychic healing, self-esteem, improve exchange goals. Overcome stress, fears, drugs and alcohol, even sexual problems. A 7 evening class, given every Tues. & Wed. for 5 weeks. Begins Feb. 16 — for location and information please call

Bro. Anthony (408) 225-9119

HEALING THE BODY EROTIC LEVEL 1

A CLASS WITH JOSEPH KRAMER Come play in this weekend of EROTIC explorations where you will learn a complete self-erotic massage using warm oils, acupressure, breath, movement, stretching, and affirmations. You will also learn to give and receive a complete Taoist erotic massage. You will also experiment with Tantric and Taoist approaches to energetically and pleasurable connect with other men. This hands-on class is done nude. Honor your sexuality. Feb. 27-28, 10 am-5 pm, \$125. The Body Electric School. Call 415-653-1594 for reservations and free brochures.

MASTER YOUR MIND

Continuing support group led by Mary Richards for PWAs & PWARCs taking charge of their own healing. Focus on clearing blockages from the past through meditation, moving toward empowerment and health. Warm, supportive people in peaceful environment. This group could change your life. 333 Valencia St., 4th Floor, SF. Noon-2:00. Next session 2/16/88. Not affiliated with the SF AIDS Foundation. No fee. Info: 945-0941

PERSONAL GROWTH

WHY NOT LOSE SOME? AT: ALWAYS TAN AND TRIM NO EFFORT — MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!

626-8505

ECSTATIC SEX, HEALTHY SEX

A SEMINAR WITH JOSEPH KRAMER Begin to heal yourself and others with EROTIC ENERGY. Information and techniques in this seminar come from TANTRIC and TAOIST traditions and from the work of WILHELM REICH. Topics include: Masturbation as self-healing, six steps to full body orgasm every time, separating ejaculation and orgasm, healing the heart-mental connection, enhancing and prolonging orgasm. There is no sex or nudity in this class but you receive plenty of creative pleasurable homework assignments. Come hear what everyone is talking about and prepare for the Gay 90's. Feb. 25-26, 7:30 pm-10:30 pm, \$45. The Body Electric School. Call 415-653-1594 for reservations and free brochures. (08)

Counseling

Individuals, Couples, Groups Depression/Self-Esteem/Aging Health/Grief/Stress/Relationships

HAL SLATE MFCC

SF and East Bay (415) 832-1254 MFWD23205 Siding Scale Fees Insurance

MASTER YOUR MIND

Audio Cassettes by Mary Richards, M.D. that empower you. AIDS... A Self-Healing Process. Strong Immune System Your Inner Healer. Start your day in a positive way. Also Support Group (no fee) at AIDS Foundation, 333 Valencia, Jan. 19, 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 12-2 pm. Call 945-0941 (10)

PSYCHOTHERAPY

ONGOING PSYCHOTHERAPY GROUP FOR GAY MEN

We have openings in a small, long-term, professionally guided, interactive group. With compassion and support, we challenge our own and each other's self-limiting attitudes, feelings and behaviors. Members work on issues such as loneliness, sexuality, self-esteem and grief. Facilitating Bay Area Gay Men's Groups for 9 years. Meetings are Thursday evenings, 7:30-10 pm. Call now for an interview. Insurance.

Dave Cooperberg, MA 431-3220

Pedro Rojas, MA 841-9198

HIV + IN-DEPTH PSYCHOTHERAPY GROUP

For Gay and Bisexual men who do not have AIDS or ARC. Use the fears from testing positive to open your heart to yourself and others. Learn to give and receive support, to live more your own values and priorities and to get moving with life-long concerns such as relationships, building self-esteem and emotional confusion. Limited to eight members. Meets Tuesdays, 7:30 pm-9:30 pm. Call Dave Cooperberg, MA 431-3220. Individual, group & couples work available.

ROOMMATES

OAKLAND/LAKE MERRITT GWM, 34, seeks quiet MF, any race/age to share large two-bedroom apartment. Sunny room. No smokers, drugs, Republicans. Near lake and BART. 250/mo. 452-9479

EAST BAY ROOMMATES

for compatible, trustworthy roommates in: • Oakland • Contra Costa • Berkeley • Hayward • Alameda • San Leandro 533-9949

\$450 FIRST AND LAST

GWM offers beautiful Twin Peaks apartment with sundeck — washer and dryer — also bus service (MUNI) to front door — parking available — Safeway nearby — fully furnished — electric kitchen. Piano — stereo — color TV — must see — Great. BOB — 285-1273

PWA NEEDS HOUSING PWA who is quiet, neat, attractive, non-smoking, positive, and feeling pretty well would like to share a house or spacious apt. with other very positive person(s). Former landscaper would like yard and reasonable rent. Call John at 861-7611.

HOUSEMATE ENVISIONED

GWM seeks very responsible male to share 2 bedroom house in Hayward. You are neat, considerate, employed. Quiet area with few neighbors. \$325 monthly less monies earned for lite yard work. In-clothes utilities washer/dryer. Jerry 794-0949.

CASTRO FLAT

Large 2 bedroom Victorian, yard, deck, washer/dryer, hardwood floors. Share with quiet, responsible GWM, 34. \$442 & utilities. No drugs, pets. Mark 863-5256

SPECTACULAR VIEW — OAKLAND

Large four-bedroom, two-bath home, oversized living room and fireplace, sweeping bay views, very quiet, storybook Japanese gardens, fish ponds. Room with a view and k.p. one Vietnamese, one French Canadian and one American guy looking for a 4th roommate. Friendly guys. BERNARD 530-4829

GAY SHELTER

A shared room, all meals and immediate work is available now at the U.S. Mission. 2 Locations 788 O'Farrell 86 Golden Gate Avenue Or. call 775-5866 or 775-6446

NEW IN CONCORD

Share new 2 br/2ba townhouse w/athletic GWM, 35. F/P, D/W, micro, disp, washer, patio, pool, central A/C. Walk to stores. \$350 & sec. dep. Gar avail. Prefer non-smoker. PHIL 686-1546 evens.

MOVING TO SAN DIEGO

GWM, 37, educator/athlete, has 2 BR/2 Bath apt. to share in S.D., \$300 mo./\$300 deposit, 1/2 util, near gay Hillcrest area. Steven (619) 296-6967

GM, 26, energetic and easygoing life

vegetarian into poetry, music (esp. Eno/Bryant/Dave), working out and life without TV seeks inexpensive (\$300-325/mo.) living space in the city ASAP. Prefer Haight, Inner Sunset, USF, Duboce Triangle; will consider other areas. No hard drugs, alcohol abuse, couch potatoes. I'd also appreciate space for my cat. BRUCE 747-0530

RENTALS

RENTAL: Oakland - Adams Point

325 LENOX AVENUE. Luxury one bedroom condo. New paint, paneled. Built-in appliances including microwave. Planted patio with picnic table, benches. Cable ready. Quiet building, security garage. Coin laundry. Sauna. Half-block lake, bus. Small well-mannered pet ok. \$650. Deposit. Lease. Phyllis. 433-4737, 893-2942.

Four Room Victorian Apartment

4-room apt. on good block in convenient Civic Center-Hayes Valley. Recent renovation. Double parlor, bath, bedroom, eat-in kitchen with new appliances & greenhouse window. W/W carpet, levelers, cable, coin laundry. Parking nearby. Clean, quiet, secure owner-occupied building. \$715/month. Available 5/1.

SOUTH HAYWARD

Looking for mature, quiet, GWM to rent 1 bedroom apartment in our home. Use of decks, hot tub, laundry. \$450/mo includes utilities. \$200 deposit. 487-4683 evenings

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Say you saw it in the Sentinel

Bunkhouse Apts.

Office: 419 Ivy Street San Francisco Mon.-Fri. 1-6 PM

Commercial Space Available for Retail

\$600 — 1 Bedroom, 419 Ivy, #17 AEK and W/W carpeting, tiled kitchen and bath, southern exposure. Unique.

\$600 — 1 Bedroom, 514 Hayes, #3 W/W carpeting, curtains and shades, quiet secure building.

\$550 — 1 Bedroom, 419 Ivy, #4D AEK and W/W carpeting, tiled kitchen and bath, curtains and shades.

\$550 — Studio, 554 Hayes, #5 W/W carpeting, fireplace, great southern exposure.

\$500 — Studio, 501 Octavia #3 W/W carpeting, curtains and shades, quiet secure building.

Stove, refrigerator included. Cable ready. First and last months rents required. No deposits. Must be employed. 863-6262

FINANCIAL SERVICES

FINANCIAL PROBLEMS?

BANKRUPTCY CHAPTER 13

FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION WITH EXPERIENCED ATTORNEY

864-0449

Walter R. Nelson Law Offices

FRESH-START BANKRUPTCY SERVICE

1304 CASTRO - NOE VALLEY (415) 641-7620 FLAT FEE \$95

Read the Sentinel for complete coverage of this weeks stories.

TAX PREPARATION and bookkeeping services for individuals and small businesses. Prompt and professional service. Castro area location. By appointment only. Licensed tax preparer. Ron Shelly Accounting Services 861-1019

AIDS BULLETIN BOARD

THE V.I.P. GROUP a social gathering of H.I.V.+, PWAs and PWARCs meets Sundays, 6:00-9:00 pm at MCC, 150 Eureka. Listing of personal ads available at meetings. Bring a friend, make a friend. For info call: 337-1194 PETER

CLEANING SERVICES

EUROPEAN HOUSEKEEPER

Efficient, hardworking, young man seeks steady housekeeping clients in San Francisco. Excellent local references. \$10.00 per hour — negotiable Lupus — 558-8078

HOUSEKEEPER

Busy schedule, no time for housecleaning? Hire me: energetic, reliable, efficient, flexible, housecleaner. \$10/hr or by the job/negotiable. References. ILENE 552-5648 if no answer call 921-0880 leave message

LET OUR ADVERTISERS KNOW

Say you saw it in the Sentinel

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

PLAYING WITH YOURSELF?

Don't know any other way? Check out my 100 share Lotto pools for California, Australia, and Canada. Who knows — You may be a winner! At least, give yourself a chance. Send SASE with 44¢ stamp to: DHF, 995 Howard, SF 94103.

RODENT & ANT Season IS HERE!

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Sentinel

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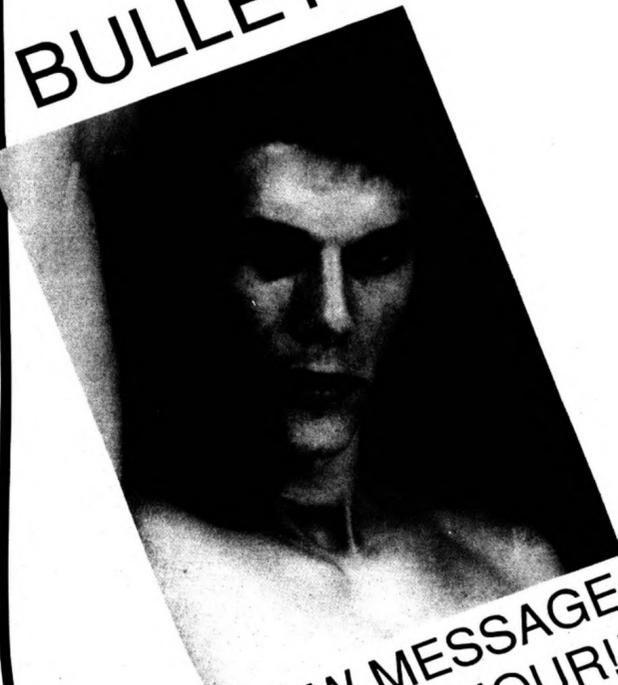
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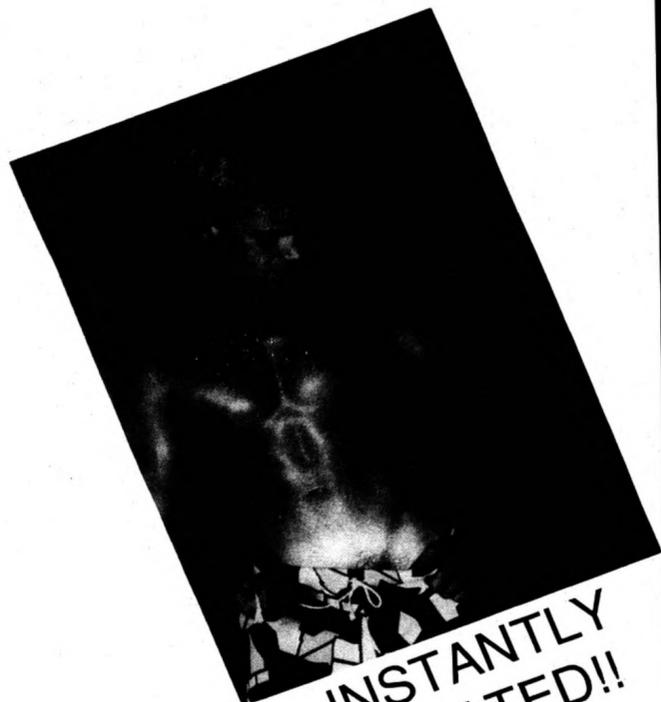
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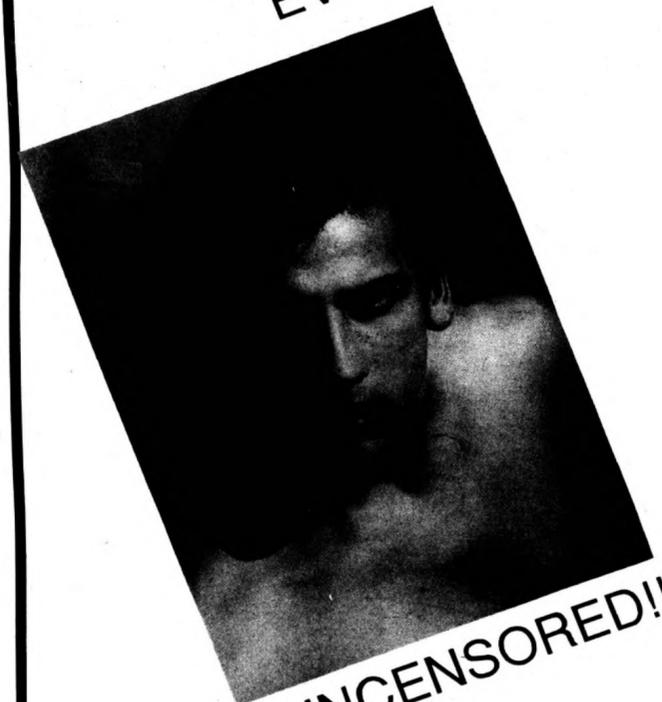
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Continued from page 33

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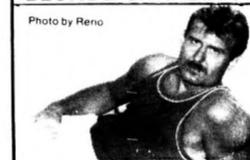


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* Bill! 441-1064 Massage etc *

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Continued on page 38

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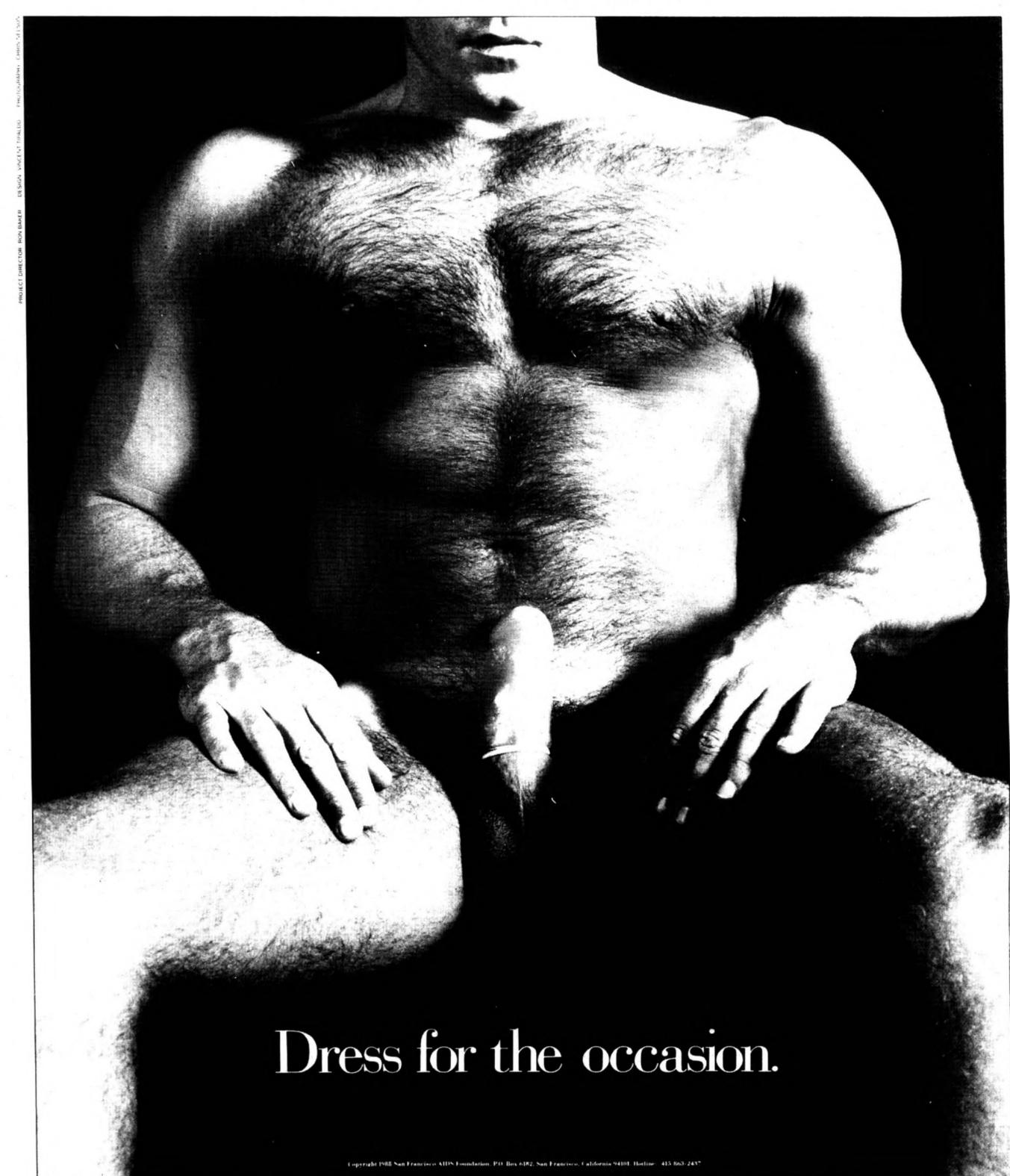
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