Gay Visibility at Democratic Convention by David Lamble

San Francisco (IGNA) "Every time the major national press has come to San Francisco to cover the Lesbian/Gay community, they've done hit pieces on us!"

"Starry Minutes" filmed a segment that made Sister Boom Boom appear to be the major Gay spokesperson, when he merely represents one viewpoint. "The documentary Gay Power, Gay Politics distorted the impact of our community on San Francisco.

"In 1980 we nominated a Gay man to be Vice President of the United States, and no one even knew it happened!"

"We know that a great many media people are coming to San Francisco in July to write the Lesbian/Gay story, and that some plan to do a hit piece on us!"

"Those of us organizing the Lesbian/Gay March to the Democratic Convention plan to put forth the best leaders of our community; people like the caliber of Ginny Apuzzo, Gary Studus, and James Baldwin, so that reporters who want to do a fair and honest job of covering us will have the materials to work with. Even so we know there will still be anti-Gay hit pieces appearing in the media because a lot of the press, frankly, don't like us!"

PaulBoneberg spends virtually his every waking moment, trying to shape the impression of Lesbians and Gay men given by thousands of media persons who will be descending on San Francisco in mid-July when the city plays host to the 1984 Democratic National Convention.

Boneberg, president of the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club, one of three Lesbian/Gay Democratic clubs in the city, is one of a coalition of Gay leaders trying to see that the march from the Gay Castro District to the Moscone Convention Center, July 15, the day before the convention opens, surpasses the one hundred thousand Lesbians and Gay men who marched in Washington, D.C. in October, 1979.

"We understand that, while all three candidates for the Democratic presidential nomination have given some degree of support to Lesbian/Gay issues, Means, Mondale, Jackson, and Hart are not even whispering the words "Gay rights" in their campaign debates."

"We're not going to get Lesbian/Gay rights bills; we're not going to get changes in the immigration laws or adequate funding for AIDS research, until there is a discussion. The equal rights of millions of Lesbians/Gay people are not even included in the discussion being waged across America. The first thing to do is to get the conversation. Then we have some possibility of getting some action on our agenda."

Near the top of that agenda is a solution to the AIDS health crisis, as reported cases of the epidemic top the four thousand mark in the United States.

San Francisco's openly Gay supervisor Harry Britt said the Gay community has not received a fair share of help from Washington.

"We face the potential of many thousands of deaths in the next few years," noted Britt. "We want the federal government to pay its share of the cost" to eradicate the disease and treat its victims.

"Gay and Lesbian leaders of the march stress that it is not primarily about the Democratic Party."

"The Democratic Party has really dealt with Gay America and offered us the chance to participate, and we're doing that," said Britt. "Gay Britter asserted. "It's sad that the Republicans are mostly controlled by straight, white men. That's not America!"

At least one Gay San Franciscan is trying to put an especially positive tone to the reception given the Democratic Party delegates and the media. Businessman Russ Alley is paying to put this message on a billboard across the street from the Hilton Hotel:

"Best Wishes for a Successful Convention, Harry Britt, Gay Male Supervisor of San Francisco's Board of Supervisors."

Calling his billboard a "glorified Christmas card," Alley explained that he was afraid that a march on the convention might be off-putting. "People look at their TVs in the living room and think that Gay people are all about. I don't feel it best..."

continued on page 2
Gay presence at Cinco de Mayo

by Ted Halk

The Coke and the beer ran like— from the sun, from the bot­tom of the can, from the bottom. Cinco de Mayo is a joyous time of celebration for Americans everywhere. A time of celebration which con­memorates Mexico's victory over France on the French. Cinco de Mayo has become a national holiday in the United States, therefore and should be celebrated by all Americans with enthusiasm and joy.

Gay presence at Cinco de Mayo is a joyous time of celebration for Americans everywhere. A time of celebration which con­memorates Mexico's victory over France on the French. Cinco de Mayo has become a national holiday in the United States, therefore should be celebrated by all Americans with enthusiasm and joy.

San Francisco, CA. San Francisco Gay newspaper in collaboration with The San Francisco Symphony will open the Merrill Lynch "Grand Performance" of William Shakespeare's romantic tragedy The Tempest.

The five scheduled performances of The Tempest, May 17-20, are guaranteed "all seats" as the tickets were included as part of the Merrill Lynch "Grand Performance" subscription for the 1983-1984 season. A limited number of tickets are still available to the "subscribe only" event.

"The Tempest," the largest theatrical event in North America's history, was written for the San Francisco Performing Arts League, the symphony, and the opera. The tickets were sold out for two days before the tickets were sold, making it one of the most successful performances in San Francisco history.

The ad charges bathhouse op­erators with having "private cubicles for sex, and no sexual activity." The ad is likely to attract a large crowd of people to the event, who will be interested in seeing the show. No one can provide a guarantee of "sell outs" as the tickets were sold out before the tickets were sold, making it one of the most successful performances in San Francisco history.
Caution: ‘Good News’ may be hazardous to your health

The AIDS Foundation of Santa Clara County warns that the recent “good news” about AIDS may be hazardous to your health if you believe AIDS is licked. Government scientists recently announced the “good news” that they believe they have identified the probable cause of AIDS, a new strain of cancer called human T-cell leukemia virus (HTLV).

First, if the scientists have, indeed, identified a viral agent which causes AIDS, they may be able to detect the agent by means of a blood test, which allows for detection of AIDS in patients and in blood available for transfusion use. Individuals may benefit from earlier detection, and the general public may be protected from a possible epidemic through transfusion controls. But, this “good news” may be hazardous to your health—blood tests are only available and effective if the HTLV is contained within a vaccine which is currently under development.

Second, if AIDS is caused by an identified virus, such as HTLV, a vaccine may eventually be developed to prevent individuals from contracting AIDS after being inoculated. This immunization would be like smallpox, rubella, or diphtheria immunizations. However, immunizations have not been developed for many common, well-known viruses: herpes, CMV, and the common cold. Unfortunately, immunization does not offer a cure for any individual who has AIDS.

Thus, the “good news” is “too late news” for the 4,087 persons already living with AIDS. Some will continue to live a comfortable and fulfilled life while constantly practicing deoeit—those yet undiagnosed. Some will contract AIDS before the blood test is available or the immunizations are developed and widely obtained. One battle may be won, but the war against AIDS still remains.

Please don’t put down your weapons to protect yourself and those you love. Safe practices are still necessary. If you are a Gay or Bisexual male, do not donate blood for transfusion use. Seek medical care immediately if you believe that you may have symptoms of AIDS. Educate yourself and your friends about AIDS. Be open about your sexual practices. The “good news” is that you are still at risk of contracting AIDS today and tomorrow.

Sandra McMullen, RN, BSN
Margaret Kane, RN, BSN
Shara N. Woytow, RN, BSN
San Jose, CA 95129

To whom it may concern: (which should be everyone in the Gay/Bisexual community)

We urge you to submit your poetic writings to the newsletter Our Paper for publication in future issues. Our Paper is a gay/bisexual community newspaper published in San Jose, California.

Our Poetry

Gay and Lesbian Poets are urged to submit their poetic writings for publication to Our Paper, a Santa Clara County gay/bisexual community newspaper. The poetry editor gives special consideration to residents of the South Bay and to poems with themes or settings particular to the area. Please allow four weeks for response. Payment is $15.00 and up, upon publication. Must include self-addressed stamped envelope. Mail submissions to:

Our Poetry
973 Park Ave.
San Jose, CA 95129
All of us have something we can’t quit doing. Whether it’s limits to our will power, you’re sure to treasure.

If you’re the type who can’t quit doing, you need a lot of help to make it through life. Whether it’s chocolate cake, but you’re going to die. What do you do?

1. Your mother has brought you a home-made double-chocolate cake, but you can’t die. What do you do?
   a) Throw a tantrum.
   b) Make some coffee, have a thin slice, and save the rest for later.
2. Your family is hassling you about your life-style. What do you do?
   a) Argue about the freedom to be yourself.
   b) Have one piece.
   c) Walk out on them.

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Review

Copi plays: an ill taken risk by Ron Schmidt

Soon after he was invited to sit in a lawn chair before his court, the San Francisco Mime Troupe held a press conference to announce its new plays and their directors. One of the last to approach the microphone was playwright and director Ron Schmidt, whose name stands out like a bright star in a field of dim stars. Schmidt is a playwright and director, and his work is known for its social and political commentary. His play, "Copi plays: an ill taken risk," is a play about a man who is asked to judge a playwriting contest. The man, who is a writer himself, is hesitant to judge the contest because he knows that the contest is a sham. He is also concerned about the potential for conflict and control that is inherent in the judging process. Schmidt's play is a critique of the power dynamics that exist in the world of art and culture, and it raises important questions about the role of artists and critics in society.

Profile: Randy Kirchner

Portraisl in Stained Glass by Ron Schmidt

Randy Kirchner, a gay/lesbian theatre group, is an important part of the San Francisco theatre scene. The group, which is headed by a woman in white, is committed to the cause of gay/lesbian theatre and women in the arts. The group is known for its innovative and thought-provoking productions, and its members are devoted to creating work that is both entertaining and meaningful. Kirchner's latest production, "Portraisl in Stained Glass," is a play that explores the lives of gay men and women through the medium of stained glass. The production is a collaboration between Kirchner and a team of artists who are dedicated to creating work that is both beautiful and socially conscious.

A Legal Aye

Living Together by Henry Walter Woods

When Marsha invites Joan to share her second love, it is an important event in each of their lives. Both of them were not prepared for the prospect of living together, but they are now committed to each other. The play is a moving exploration of the joys and challenges of living with someone you love. It is a story of love, growth, and acceptance, and it is a testament to the power of love to bring people together.

Swimming Picnic of the Year at Saratoga Springs Over and Over Again!!!!

A Tinker's DAMN PRESENTS THE 13TH Annual Picnic

Sunday June 3rd

10:00 a.m. til 6:00 p.m.

Unlimited Beer / Wine / Soft Drinks

Limited Amount of Tickets Available

Hurry and get your NOW!!

B.B.Q.
46 N. Saratoga Ave. • Santa Clara • (408) 243-4595

Tickets available at:

-TD $14 (includes entry and food)

at the gate - $16 (limited amount of food tickets at gate)

Dance Contest

June 3rd

No other way that says that in my head, we have all the same age, no other way that says that at all the time. No one else, no one sees, no one has a duty to play a different role. Even if the other can see us, no one else does it (or do). No
In the offering...
By Ben Schovled

The Critic's Seven Days have their Desert Island. When a new show is about to go up, the S.F. Weekly works on a team with Opera, Ballet, Bus and Gumps to cover it. Some days we can get tickets, other days we have to pay full price. But if you want to see something good, you can't beat the deal. I'll do the same dance tomorrow...
LEATHER BAR VEST WITH INSIDE POCKETS

Black or Brown.

Reg. $80.00

NOW ONLY $49.00

Gay male seeks suitable companion to share large Castro apartment. Nutrition rich meals, pets plus all utilities. Morning and evening snacks. "Neat..." Dinks

MAN FOR MAN


TAKING ADVERTISEMENTS

THOUGHTS ON LIFE

(Oct 23 - Nov 21)

The Crab: A Cancer's world is both large and small. This month he feels an increasing desire for personal relationships. Close friends, lovers, and family members are the people he turns to.

(Stevie) (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

The Squirrel: A Leo's life is full of new adventures. This month he is drawn to the outdoors and nature. His desire to explore is intense, and he will be open to new experiences.

(Dec 22 - Jan 20)

The Dog: A Capricorn's world is centered around work and responsibility. This month he feels more focused on his career and his achievements.

(Jane) (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

The Horse: A Gemini's world is filled with new ideas and opportunities. This month he is more receptive to change and is open to new experiences.

(Morgan) (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

The Tiger: A Pisces's world is centered around his emotional needs. This month he feels a desire for deep连接 and connection with others.

(Mike) (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

The Goat: A Taurus's world is centered around his physical needs. This month he feels more focused on his health and well-being.

(Mart) (Apr 21 - May 20)

The Lion: A Gemini's world is filled with new ideas and opportunities. This month he is more receptive to change and is open to new experiences.

(May 21 - Jun 21)

The Ram: A Cancer's world is both large and small. This month he feels an increasing desire for personal relationships. Close friends, lovers, and family members are the people he turns to.

(Stevie) (Jun 22 - Jul 22)

The Horse: A Leo's world is centered around his career and his achievements. This month he is more focused on his responsibilities and accomplishments.

(Leo) (Jul 23 - Aug 22)

The Dragon: A Virgo's world is centered around his emotional needs. This month he feels a desire for deep connection and connection with others.

(Morgan) (Aug 23 - Sep 22)

The Serpent: A Libra's world is filled with new relationships and experiences. This month he is more open to new opportunities and connections.

(Lyn) (Sep 23 - Oct 22)

The Tiger: A Scorpio's world is centered around his spiritual needs. This month he feels more focused on his inner life and his connection with the universe.

(Sam) (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

The Crab: A Sagittarius's world is filled with new ideas and opportunities. This month he is more receptive to change and is open to new experiences.

(Toni) (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

The Squirrel: A Capricorn's world is centered around his career and his achievements. This month he is more focused on his responsibilities and accomplishments.

(Tony) (Dec 22 - Jan 20)

The Dog: A Aquarian's world is filled with new relationships and experiences. This month he is more open to new opportunities and connections.

(Ugo) (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

The Tiger: A Pisces's world is centered around his emotional needs. This month he feels a desire for deep connection and connection with others.

(Vince) (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

The Goat: A Aries's world is centered around his physical needs. This month he feels more focused on his health and well-being.

(Will) (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

The Ram: A Taurus's world is centered around his emotional needs. This month he feels a desire for deep connection and connection with others.

(Willy) (Apr 21 - May 20)

The Lion: A Gemini's world is filled with new ideas and opportunities. This month he is more receptive to change and is open to new experiences.

(X) (May 21 - Jun 21)

The Serpent: A Cancer's world is both large and small. This month he feels an increasing desire for personal relationships. Close friends, lovers, and family members are the people he turns to.

(Y) (Jun 22 - Jul 22)

The Tiger: A Leo's world is centered around his career and his achievements. This month he is more focused on his responsibilities and accomplishments.

(Z) (Jul 23 - Aug 22)

The Dragon: A Virgo's world is centered around his emotional needs. This month he feels a desire for deep connection and connection with others.

Zack (Aug 23 - Sep 22)

The Serpent: A Libra's world is filled with new relationships and experiences. This month he is more open to new opportunities and connections.
Bay Area Forum on AB 1

Assemblyman Art Agnos and the San Francisco Human Rights Commission are co-sponsoring a community forum on AB 1 on Thursday, May 24, at 1:00 p.m. The purpose of the forum is to involve Bay Area activists in the campaign for AB 1, which will re-introduced by Assemblyman Agnos in December for the 1983 legislative session. According to Assemblyman Agnos, "I am very optimistic that we will again succeed in placing A.B. 1 on Governor Deukmejian's desk, but we have a great deal of important work before us."

“Our primary goal is to establish a mechanism for collection of data backing our claim that job discrimination is widespread... (no) agency has responsibility for monitoring the extent of discrimination against Lesbians and Gay men...” —Art Agnos

The forum will include a panel discussion of A.B. 1. I followed by the formation of task groups to address specific issues for the organization. “Our primary goal,” said Agnos, “is to establish a mechanism for collection of data backing our claim that discrimination is widespread in California.

SB 1678 passes 9-0 in Senate Committee

Sacramento — A bill that would prohibit the imprisonment of sexual assault victims who refuse to testify in court passed the Senate Judiciary Committee on a 9-0 vote.

According to State Senator Dan McCorquodale (D-San Jose), SB 1678 is critical to the emotional and psychological health of many sexual assault victims. "No one has a greater desire to see sexual assault victims con­ "tinue to testify in the courts," said McCorquodale. "Yet, the trauma experienced by sexual assault victims is so great that many victims are at risk of further psychological damage when confronted with publicly testifying."

Testifying at the hearings were several victims of sexual violence who related stories of additional victimization within the legal system. According to one witness, "I never had the same D.A. twice. I realized that I was just another day's work to these people. As a victim I felt guilty. I would not have... if the courts had been more sensitive."

In another case, the victim was threatened with imprisonment by a judge when she refused to testify after her life was threatened by one of the defen­ dants. Although she did testify under pressure from the court, the trial resulted in only one 90-day sen­t ence. Many of the defendants went free on probation. "Cases of insensitivity and mismanagement of sexual assault cases by district attorneys and courts are all too prevalent," said McCorquodale; adding, "We cannot expect victims to take the psychological risks involved in testifying, or to face possible retaliation from a defendant, when our legal system cannot of­ fer the necessary support or a reasonable likelihood of a successful conviction."

DON'T MISS MAY EVENTS

May 17 - AGING IN THE LESBIAN/GAY COMMUNITY: “Age alone does not tell one anything about a person's politics, health, sex, behavior, work history, or attitudes about life. Like being lesbian or gay, old age cuts across every social, psychological and political spectrum.” The forum sponsored by the Freedom Democratic Caucus will be held from 7:30 - 10 p.m. on Thursday, May 17, at Live Oak Senior Center Annex, 1777 A Capitolia Road, San Francisco. For more information, call 421-3456. The forum will feature a variety of panelists speaking on the oppression of Lesbian and Gay people.”

May 18 — HUMANIST FORUM: Rage, Aggression and Bonding featuring Richard M. Corfman, co-editor of the forthcoming Z-Process Center in San Jose. Sponsored by the Humanist Commu­ nity of San Jose, the meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, May 18, at 1306 San Carlos, San Jose. Phone: 275-7500.

May 27 — DOMESTIC PARTNER BILLS, The Gay Life KSAN, 95 FM presents a discussion with Harry Britt, Larry Brinkin, Boyce Himban, Roberts Achtenberg, Matt Coles, Allen Chamberlin, Connie Plowman and Arthur Lard, from 7:30 - 10 p.m. on Thursday, May 27.

May 31 — ADDRESSING CLIENT’S SEXUAL CONCERNS Planned Parenthood will present a workshop to assist health professionals and counselors in recognizing and addressing their clients' sexual concerns. Trained by Terry Bersford, will be held from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. at 1691 The Alameda, San Jose, on Thursday, May 31. Pre-registration by May 28 is required, and there is a $15 fee.

Massachusetts High Court will consider gay rights case

Boston, MA - For the first time in Massachusetts history, gay and lesbian rights will be considered in state court. Gay and lesbian rights are being considered in Massachusetts will directly address issues of gay and lesbian employment rights. The Supreme Judicial Court ordered a lesbian plaintiff's case transferred from the Appeals Court, has ordered a trial as a result of the Christian Science Church.

The plaintiff, Christine Madsen, was fired in January 1982 after a journalist who had worked for the Christian Science Church. She was immediately ordered a lesbian plaintiffs case transferred from the Appeals Court, has ordered a trial as a result of the Christian Science Church.

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