Robert Stockman, a teacher in the Palo Alto school district for 22 years, signed up as a member of the NGTF at the Silver Fox lounge in San Jose. When asked why, Stockman explained, "I feel it is necessary for people to get involved with issues and specific groups they can support. As a gay man, I want to support legislation that allows us to be truly equal. Now, more than ever before, action is an absolute necessity.

By Ted Sahl

Hoping that everyone would be in a happy space during the Christmas season, the National Gay Task Force (NGTF) decided to hold a membership drive in the Bay Area. San Francisco and the Santa Clara Valley were the areas targeted for recruiting new members into the national gay rights organization.

In San Jose, the Silver Fox lounge hosted an evening of pleasure, mixing fine hors d'oeuvres and pleasant atmosphere for the occasion. On hand was Rick Rudy, recently elected to the NGTF national board of directors, who surrendered to an interview with this reporter.

The number of people wasn't as large as we would have liked, but most of the people who showed up became members or took a pledge card with them to send in, Rudy said.

OP: This is a two-prong drive. San Francisco is also holding their own program tonight.
RR: That's right. We hope it will be a large turnout. There is a larger potential gay audience in San Francisco than in San Jose.

OP: What is the present membership of the NGTF in the United States?
RR: At the moment, the NGTF membership is 6,500 nationwide — that figure has dropped in the past couple of years, but we're hoping with this drive for new members and membership development, we will bring the numbers up considerably so we'll have a better base to lobby in Washington.

Also, NGTF is attempting to get organizations involved. In fact, High Tech Gays this past week voted to join NGTF as an organizational member for $100.

OP: What, in your opinion, is the most important gain accomplished by NGTF this year?
RR: In terms of lobbying, the most significant effort has been Contained on Back Page
**Xmas Good Time for Givens**

By Ted Sahl

Xmas Good Time for Givens

They came from San Francisco to buy a Christmas tree. Al Smith, and his lover Duke Au-

smar, picked out the one they wanted and had brought to the Interlude on Stevens Creek Blvd. It was a great idea, thought Gary Givens. He asked the Interlude owners if their parking lot could be used. We asked the Interlude owners if their parking lot could be used. The idea became a reality with a big YES.

**Rambo Invades San Jose**

By Ted Sahl

It started out like any other Saturday. My front lawn was covered with leaves and the grass had to be cut. I hopped out the bedroom door and was about to begin mowing leaves into a sack when the sound of screeching tires forced me to look towards the street.

A Ski-le-colored vehicle driving down Campbell Avenue turned right onto Mixture. It was only a glance really. I remember I saw large white stars painted on the vehicle, and antennas ripped leaves from the low-hanging branches.

Suddenly he made a right turn and as he drove past trees, the antennas ripped leaves from the low-hanging branches.

Finally he made a right hand turn on 973 Park Avenue. There was a dark shape in the distance, the feel of my steering wheel was wrong... I can see, he is emerging from the front of the vehicle. No, I can see, he is emerging from the front of the vehicle. Wait a minute, something is wrong... I can see, he is emerging from the front of the vehicle. Wait a minute, something is wrong... I can see, he is emerging from the front of the vehicle.

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Drug Abuse as the Co-Factor in AIDS Deaths

A CDC Coverage or More CDC Bungling

By Stanley E. Beff

Perhaps nothing is more frighten­ng to gay men than the possibility of losing their entire community to AIDS.

One and bisexual men who all too often jeopardize their well­being in the same fashion as the CDC in­dicated. Being classified as homosexual they are lumped in with the heterosexual population. It is apparent that the entire risk group identification schema for people with AIDS need to be escaped by the CDC.

One can only wonder how many gays are classified as heterosexual in any one category and could probably be identified more accurately if specific group classification which would make AIDS a primary risk factor for acquiring HIV.

40% of AIDS Cases Are in White Population

Recently released data from the CDC indicate that 40% of the AIDS cases in the U.S. were among non­Hispanic whites. For the first time, an accounted for staggering 25% of the total AIDS cases in this country.

AIDS Research Agency To Be Key to AIDS Deaths

It is reported from the beginning that IV drug abusers are at risk for acquiring AIDS. However, the reasons they are at risk are not very clear. It is still true that the virus can be transmitted through shared needles used to inject the drug.

This report is completely un­true, the assumption that the drug user can be at risk primarily because of the exposure of needle sticks. This is a virus which was transferred from one person to another by the sharing of contaminated needles, not by some saliva or blood smeared on a needle head used to inject the drug.

The largest unanswered question appears to be finding the reasons why Black and Hispanic men are not at risk for the condition. AIDS can be compartmentalized by the recognition of the virus being found by looking at the types of pre­existing immune system damage. Blacks and Hispanics often live in poor environmental conditions and experience poor hygiene and nutrition. Blacks and Hispanics suffer from high rates of drug and alcohol abuse.

The three cities in this country with the highest rates of AIDS cases are New York, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. All these cities have large concentrations of drug and alcohol abusers. In these three cities in the U.S. and all three cities have high percentages of their populations that come from the high risk groups of Black, Hispanic, and Gay Men.

Why Gay Men May Contract AIDS

The risk that a woman, orally, certainly does not suffer from exposure to AIDS. The oral cavity should not be considered as an entry site for AIDS. How many men do suffer from "social events?" This social function has been predominantly attended by IV drug abusers in the U.S.

To be continued in next issue.

Opinion

"Mad On The Strip"

It's kind of sad to see how the writers of a small pamphlet want it to be a newspaper, keep on staring up in the Comedians who are doing their thing. I've seen the IAP and their stand up act. I'm sorry, it's not funny. This is not for an organization of people who have AIDS. It may be for people who are sick or depressed. I hope you will come to realize this when you are looking at the stand up acts in the future.

Another thing I must inform you. If you have a show that is a show on a show, keep it at an event. I'm sorry, it's not funny. Goodness me, if there's one thing you need to do, it's to respect those who suffer from AIDS. Who knows, maybe you'll be in a wheelchair someday. At any rate, I'm glad to see that you choose to accept that my show is not "On the Strip." I am X. Lizzy. Even if your name isn't weird fantastic, it's still more original than "Reflection of Damsel-Face."
By Ted Sahl

The second annual Winter Showcase sponsored by the Arts Council of Gay & Lesbian San Jose was attended warmly by hundreds of gay men and lesbians as they walked in, through, and around the sculpture by Steve Storz from outer space, watched Raymond Avola create within a steel cage, and literally transformed his own image into an art piece.

Shawn Stuart's bronze works, photographs by Ted Sahl, and photos by Birgit Sandoval, Mixed Media by Todd Cowan were included, and Duane Bousfield showed and did pastel/crayon drawings.

Live music was enjoyed, with Clare Mix singing her own original songs, and Polynesian dancing by Amelia King, always exciting to watch.

San Jose's Liedermann Gay Mens Chorus, under the direction of Dan Jepson, performed flawlessly with towering voices that demanded attention.

The South Bay Womyn's Chorus presentation of Christmas songs put everyone in a holiday mood—a powerful group of womyn who always sing from the heart.

The Arts Council has been busy in 1985, having sponsored the play Execution of Justice, a drama based on the assassination of Supervisor Harvey Milk and S.F. Mayor George Moscone; The Word Is Art, a poetry reading; and The A.I.D.S. Show performed by Theater Rhinoceros.

These events were made possible through the membership and voluntary efforts of many individuals from the gay community. The Council asks you to join them in producing these celebrations of gay/lesbian art. You should have been there...
Well, it’s about time to go back to ‘83. I put my big typo make-over on my big computer, and don’t use a run-down of the New Year’s Eve activities around and about. In addition to my usual problem of making connections with bar owners (which I could have dealt with eventually), I ran into another: as my deadline for this issue, I think I had not yet formed up my New Year’s plans. So, rather than favor the ones who have given me their act together, I’ll give you some of the ideas that people have shared with me and your a bird’s-eye view. But, as a Russian saying goes, “while you pray to God, row for shore.” Stay alert and stay safe. It ain’t fair to the rest of us.

I’ve been helped by both Ruth Thomas of Farmer’s Insurance Company and Tom of Four Seasons Mortgages with a couple of things, and let me tell you, it’s so nice not to have to explain Mortgages and our relationship. Some months back, I was working for a gay woman who owns her own business. I had met with a Prestige Electric who had more than a great job offer. So I’m a firm believer in buying from “homey” women-owned.

Get your ‘86 pocket calendar set? If so, you and your woman can use to note the workshops that you’ve attended. The 1986 Women’s Spiritual Retreat will be held near Stanford. (I should add for a spring weekender, the gay resorts on the Russian River.) Pat Evans of MCC-SoCal is one of the coordinators for the Fourth Annual SoCal Spiritual Retreat. It’s for church for early takers of city had to cancel for more information please call (408) 275-1242.

I’ve had the good fortune to attend a few workshops and workshops and workshops, including the one at the San Francisco LGBT Center and the University of California. The set, which seems to be a combination of new-fangled set and set and set and set, is planned for an intimate theatre; no set but a “Cat of Peace.” At a time when everyone else is putting out artificial.

The supporting cast of five is almost timid, but with a quiet warmth. He directs the play to the kids in the audience, so the youngsters in the audience, so the youngsters in the audience, so the youngsters in the audience, so the youngsters in the audience, so the youngsters in the audience, so the youngsters in the audience, so the youngsters in the audience, so the youngsters in the audience, so the youngsters in the audience, so the youngsters in the audience, so the youngsters in the audience, so the youngsters in the audience.

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A Higher Call to Sisterhood

Stanley I. Hauerwas

Film Review by Dot James

The Color Purple

Film Review by Dot James

Gay Teachers

Breaking Silence

Gay Teachers

Breaking Silence

Breaking Silence

Breaking Silence

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Breaking Silence
Boston's Gay Community Beats Back AIDS Hysteria

In an impressive show of strength, Boston's lesbian and gay community rallied to successfully pressure the Boston City Council not to consider an AIDS-quarantine and mandatory testing measure introduced by homophobic Councillor Albert "Dapper" O'Neil.

Based on Lyndon LaRouche's National Democratic Policy Committee's "Memorial Bill to Stop AIDS," O'Neil's resolution was given no chance of passage by openly gay Boston City Councillor David Scondras.

"I've been working with AIDS experts to educate and keep my colleagues informed," said Scondras. "They know enough to recognize this dangerous garbage."

With less than twenty-four hours notice, Boston's lesbian and gay community generated hundreds of phone calls to Council offices and turned out dozens of activists at the Council meeting.

Lesbian and gay organizers were joined by Boston NOW and other progressive groups in activating phonetrees.

"The phones were crazy," reported an aide to a Councillor representing a traditionally conservative area of Boston. "Everyone was against it."

In the face of overwhelming opposition, O'Neil withdrew his resolution.

"[These] recommendations are a sham that are not related to science, medicine, or good public health policy," said AIDS Action Committee Executive Director Larry Kenner.

"For O'Neil to become a mouthpiece for Lyndon LaRouche further demonstrates that he knows little about AIDS and even less about the politics, the ecology, and epidemiology of this virus and epidemic."

Councillor Scondras pledged to continue working with AIDS experts and other councillors to insure that our policy debates are based on fact not prejudice, compassion not bigotry. The unequivocal opposition to today's measure is a tribute to all those who have been working so hard for an informed, rational AIDS policy."

NGTF

Continued from Page 1 on AIDS funding, which has been very large. NGTF has convinced Congress and the White House to allocate more funds for AIDS funding than ever agreed upon before.

In addition, almost a year ago, NGTF worked with H.E.W. and other governmental agencies to agree on anonymity policies for those people who have taken the HTLV-3 test, so that the pool of people could not then be released, and people be put on quarantine, or be badgered because of possible test results.

The controversy of the HTLV-3 test, past and present, has become somewhat less confusing . . . While the test has gotten better . . . being positive does not mean you have the disease.

Consequently, it is important people not be identified to their employers, police, or insurance companies based on a test that is unclear.

OP: What does the NGTF plan for the future?

RR: The NGTF has just agreed to move its headquarters to Washington, D.C. to be more effective in lobbying.

The areas most concerned are continuing on the AIDS crisis, pointing out the need for more AIDS funding, research, and education.

Another important issue we will be working on is amending the U.S. immigration laws to allow gay men and lesbian women to enter the United States — and finally, to work on security clearances and problems of gay people in the military, those kinds of concerns.

Bye Bye '85!

Happy New Year from Our Paper!