

- HOLIDAY GREETINGS -



OUR PAPER
YOUR PAPER

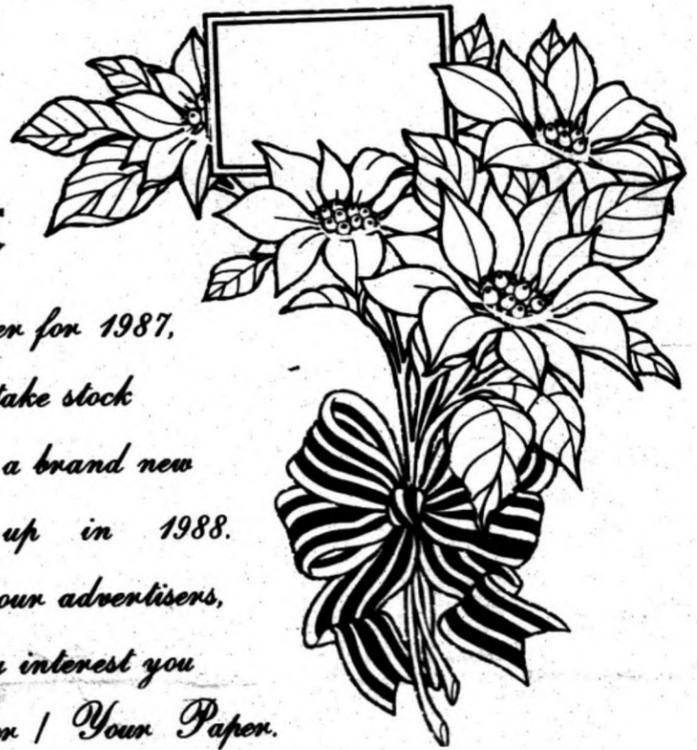


Volume VI, Issue 24

Next Deadline: Jan.6— Next Issue: Jan.13

December 16, 1987

Happy Winter Solstice
and
A Merry New Orbit



*With this last issue of Our Paper for 1987,
we give ourselves a little break to take stock
of our past efforts and to focus on a brand new
year of publishing coming up in 1988.
We thank you, our readers and our advertisers,
for your support and the friendly interest you
have always shown in Our Paper / Your Paper.
We look forward to serving you in the New Year.
Till then, have a Happy Holiday Season!*

— Staff of Our Paper

**Discrimination case
coming to a head**

National Gay Rights Advocates and the Employment Law Center filed for summary judgement against Great Republic Insurance Company on November 30.

Last year, the two legal groups filed a \$10 million discrimination suit charging Great Republic with discriminating against gay and single male applicants.

In August of 1986, a judge ruled in favor of the plaintiffs by holding that California and San Francisco laws prohibit anti-gay insurance discrimination, and set the stage for a trial to determine whether Great Republic had discriminated.

In their motion for summary judgement, NGRA and the ELC maintain that a trial is unnecessary because undisputed facts prove that Great Republic discriminated against applicants considered gay in order to avoid AIDS-related claims.

In 1985, Great Republic sent a memo requiring agents to distribute a special additional questionnaire to unmarried male applicants who work in stereotypically gay occupations such as florists, interior decorators, or jewelry or fashion designers.

The questions asked of these men were so broad that it was virtually impossible for them to obtain insurance.

ELC attorney Chris Redburn

said: "We believe we can win without going to trial because the facts against Great Republic are absolutely clear.

"Great Republic is completely unable to point to any legitimate basis for their AIDS-related underwriting guidelines.

"In fact, we have learned that they came up with them essentially off the top of their heads."

Benjamin Schatz, director of NGRA's AIDS Civil Rights Project, said: "Great Republic's crude attempt to screen out gay men is based only upon stereotypes, and is completely inconsistent with accepted practices.

"To reject all gay applicants because a small percentage will develop AIDS is like excluding Blacks, because they, as a group, have a high risk of heart disease."

According to NGRA executive director, Jean O'Leary, "Our lawsuit sends a strong message to all insurance companies that they cannot scapegoat the gay community in response to AIDS.

"We believe that other insurers who are considering discriminatory measures will be deterred by this litigation."

The lawsuit, NGRA vs. Great Republic has been filed on behalf of the members of National Gay Rights Advocates and David Hurlbert, a resident of

**AIDS Action Council
compares policies**

In dramatic testimony before the House Subcommittee on health and Environment, chaired by Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA), Ann McFarren, executive director of the AIDS Action Council, lowered the house lights and ran a video of government sponsored AIDS spots from various foreign countries.

The testimony and video were shown on September 21 to a packed house on Capitol Hill.

McFarren's speech was critical of the U.S. relatively small contribution to federally funded

San Francisco who was rejected by Great Republic after he refused to fill out their supplemental questionnaire.

The Employment Law Center is a project of the Legal Aid Society of San Francisco, which has addressed significant problems affecting minorities and under represented groups for over 50 years.

Through the ELC, which was founded more than 15 years ago, the society has devoted extensive resources to important work-related issues.

NGRA is a public interest law firm which initiates precedent-setting lawsuits around the country on issues concerning the rights of lesbians and gay men, as well as people with AIDS and related conditions.

public education programs as compared to the countries on tape: Switzerland, Australia, Great Britain, Canada, Uganda, Brazil, and France.

"I do not say that all of these are appropriate for our country or even that I personally like all of them; rather I show them to demonstrate the kind of support these foreign governments are providing for their citizens," McFarren said.

Fencing off some potentially explosive questioning from Rep. Dannemeyer (R-CA) about the failure rate of condoms vs. the certainty of sexual abstinence, McFarren took the wind out of his sails by replying that when compared to certain death, a small percentage failure is a lesser of two evils.

McFarren's testimony closed with a somber reminder that "each day we wait before implementing educational programs—additional people will be infected with the virus.

"Inaction today means that

we are signing the death certificates of people who will die in the next decade of the epidemic," she said.

McFarren was followed by Elizabeth Taylor who also found herself defending a healthy sex life, "even at age 50."

When Rep. Dannemeyer began to grill Taylor, stating "if you had children who could potentially be affected," she interrupted him and said, "I have grandchildren who can be affected," or words to that effect.

The full text of Ann McFarren's testimony is available from The AIDS Action Council, 729 8th Street, SE, Washington, D.C. 20002.

The AIDS Action Council is a national public policy and lobbying organization comprising more than 300 groups which provide AIDS services and education.

Its mandate is to insure that the federal government adopts an adequate response to the AIDS crisis, including allotting \$2 billion by 1991, \$1 billion for AIDS research and \$1 billion for AIDS education.



BAYMEC/HTG Fundraiser

by Ted Sahl

Gays and lesbians attended a fundraiser for Supervisor Susanne Wilson at the home of Ron Taylor on December 6, filling themselves with wine, cheese and lots of political conversation.

Supervisor Wilson spoke briefly, reminiscing her political career in San Jose (since 1973).

Wilson said she got in trouble back in 1977 when she took an up-front stand with Jim Self on San Jose City Council "daring to vote for Gay Pride Day" which was the same as any other group's day in the community, adding, "you just don't discriminate."

"From where I stand, I try to do what's right to do for my political philosophy—then people have to decide whether or not to vote for me and support me," said Wilson.

Wilson played down her role in the AIDS Task Force, "my supporting the efforts of the AIDS Task Force is not anything that doesn't have to do with just what's right for the community—that's what I try to do when governing," she said.

Looking ahead, Wilson hopes

the gay and lesbian community while battling the new LaRouche initiative, will find time to work with the supervisors in defeating the sheriff's initiative on jails.

She explained that if we have to spend all our money on the jail system, we won't have money for the health system, subsistence for children and subsistence for AIDS people.

Clearly with the proposed department of corrections San Jose will save 2 million at the start and by the 8th year, we could save 7 million dollars annually, because it's going up each year.

Wilson also plugged supervisor's McKenna and Lofgren who are coming up for re-election.

Speaking on politics in general, she described it as always something for someone else—until it catches you directly—then you realize politics is important.

"You can't lose if you are all out there fighting—the only thing that can beat money is people—bodies working; we've proven that over and over again," added Wilson.

Wilson closed by thanking the community for its continued support of her and by announcing that Helen Miramonte will replace Ken Yeager as new chairperson of the AIDS Task Force (appointed by Wilson).



left to right H. Miramonte, Wiggy Sivertsen, Supervisor Susanne Wilson and Ginny Hagopian at the Susanne Wilson Fundraiser held at Ron Taylor's home. Photo Ted Sahl



Left to right Ken Yeager, Supervisor Susanne Wilson, Ron's Mom and Ron Taylor Photo Ted Sahl

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United Way and Combined Health Appeal of California will both direct your payroll contributions to the Aris Project if you tell them that is what you want. You choose where your gift goes.

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AIDS Support Services in Santa Clara County

A Member Agency of Combined Health Appeal of California

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We intend our New Year Celebration 1988 to be the event of the season.

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Thursday Evening December 31. 10:00 at the Door. Doors Open 8pm

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Letters

AIDS: It's Syphilis!

Dear Editor:
An astounding theory of AIDS is being reported in January's *Atlantic*: it's not the AIDS HIV virus which is killing people, it's syphilis. Some basics:

Syphilis suppresses the immune system the same way as HIV.

Syphilis tests have become increasingly unreliable, especially in persons with a suppressed immune system.

Persons diagnosed with AIDS may (instead) have syphilis, perhaps in a new form; yet lab tests may not show it.

Penicillin therapy on some fifty AIDS patients here and in Germany has produced dramatic results.

AIDS is 'incurable'; syphilis isn't.

Imagine the impact on the medical and drug (and insurance) industries if AIDS turns

out to be a form of age-old syphilis! Imagine being able to tell those diagnosed with a 'fatal' disease that there may be a cure!

I am a public "Person with AIDS" and a gay activist (founder of Black and White Men Together).

I am the author of two books (Black Men/White Men, and Colorful People and Places) and numerous magazine and newspaper articles.

I am also one of the fifty or so patients whose medical condition has improved with anti-syphilis therapy.

I'm enclosing in dialogue form a true account of my experience with AIDS/Syphilis. Please read it and if you find it informative enough, publish it as is or edited. We may save some lives.

Sincerely,
Michael J. Smith

(Editor's Note: Following is the first part of Mike Smith's story the end will appear in the January 13 issue of Our Paper)

The New Syphilis

by Mike Smith

"But I've never had syphilis," Tom said, putting the magazine down.

"Are you HIV positive?" I asked insistently.

"You know I am."

"Then you may have had syphilis," I argued, picking up the magazine. "According to this article in the January *Atlantic*, you may have syphilis now." I handed him the magazine again. "What's more, it may be syphilis that's killing you, not HIV."

My last remark came too quickly, I could tell. It was one thing to ask Tom to believe that, in addition to HIV, he had syphilis. It was too much, though to expect him to believe it was syphilis alone.

"But, but," he sputtered, so many questions trying to get out at one, "What about HIV? Did scientists discover the wrong bug?—And if I have syphilis, why hasn't my doctor picked up on it? The last time I went to the clinic my VD tests were negative... Well?"

I paused. Was I ready to beat my head against the wall again? A year of reading medical journals, talking with medical researchers, doctors and clinicians had taught me one thing at least. You've got to separate the know-it-all from those with an open mind or you'll go crazy. One doctor at the VD clinic had not read an article on syphilis in fifteen years. He didn't even know that syphilis invades T-cells and suppresses the immune system.

"Tom," I ventured patiently, "I'm not saying HIV doesn't exist. But its deadliness has been challenged right at the top. A famous molecular biologist at Berkeley, Dr. Peter Duesberg, argues in the *Cancer Research* (March 1, 1987) and *Bio/Technology* (November, 1987) that HIV is basically harmless."

"C'mon. Everybody knows—"

"—Yeah, and that's where all the money is too. But when you look into the background of the 'discovery,' things get a little shaky. For example, to demonstrate that HIV could invade cells, they used damaged cell lines from leukemia patients. Later, in order to prove they

could infect healthy cells, they had to whirr-up—centrifuge—cells so drastically, you could have invaded them with peanut butter." I waved the *Atlantic* article again. "It's all in here."

"Well," I continued hopefully, "theorists suggest HIV may be just a component of syphilis. You see, the syphilis you and I were taught is not as simple as we thought. Remember the three stage thing? You know, the primary stage of a lesion, followed by secondary and tertiary stages where syphilis progresses from a skin rash to a wholesale invasion of your vital organs?"

"Yeah, I read all that."

"Well, I had that kind of syphilis when I was 19," I said almost casually. "I got a lesion, got tested then treated with the standard shot of 2.4 million units of penicillin G benzathine. Imagine my shock when I learned just six months ago that the treatment may have been inadequate. That it might only have masked the syphilis, driven it underground. There's a latent form of the thing, you know, that can sit around in your tissues, biding its time, waiting to go back to work."

Tom stared at me, silent. "Did you know," I continued, my voice getting louder, "the Russians take two years to treat a case of syphilis, the Italians one year? Europeans have long criticized our short-term approach."

"There's one thing that doesn't quite fit, though," Tom said at last. "If this disease has been around for, what, a few hundred years—"

"—a few thousand."

"—whatever. If it's been around, why this sudden explosion?"

"That was one of my questions too. From what I've learned, we may be dealing with a virulent strain brought back from Southeast Asia by the Vietnam vets. Or it may be that syphilis has mutated since we first went after it with penicillin back in 1945."

"Our individual blood chemistry is just that—individual. Let's say I catch syphilis and my immune system produces antibodies to fight it. Well, then my blood chemistry becomes altered. Now suppose I

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infect you. Well, your immune system has to deal not only with the syphilis, but with my altered blood. Or, say the syphilis is dormant but my blood is still altered with it hits you. Might that blood carry a sub-form of syphilis, a mutation?

"The most successful parasite is the one best disguised. 'Atypical syphilis' it's called, and medical literature is reporting more and more of it."

"Well, I suppose it's possible."

"Then take the sexual revolution. Look at the sudden wholesale sexuality of the 60s, 70s and 80s. Gay men were getting syphilis 14 times as often as non-gay men. Take drug abuse. Recreational and medical. What did that do to our bodies?"

"Things were wide open."

"They sure were. On the other hand, the 'explosion' may not have been so sudden. Remember, if your immune system is caving in to syphilis, just like AIDS, all kinds of opportunistic things can come aboard. So if AIDS people come down with, say, tuberculosis—"

"—Tuberculosis!"

"Yeah, AIDS people are saying of TB. Well, syphilitics used to die of TB. Only on the death certificate, you might have see 'TB' instead of 'syphilis'. People were ashamed. Or ignorant. Often, doctors or patients didn't even suspect syphilis."

"Hmmm."

"Another thing, turn your question around."

"How?"

"Instead of challenging, 'syphilis', why not ask, 'A new disease? Why a NEW disease?' That's a much tougher question to answer. Look at that kid in St. Louis."

"You think so?"

"doctors preserved his blood and tissue, and now 18 years later, they say he had AIDS—another tough one for the HIV crowd to explain when they claim it didn't reach the U.S. until 1976. I asked a reporter to find out if the boy had ever been tested for syphilis."

"—and?"

"Nope. Not even tested."

Tom paused then shrugged. "So why can't we just go to the clinic and get tested? I don't see the big deal."

"Another dilemma," I announced, eager to share what else I'd learned. "It seems the standard syphilis tests are increasingly unreliable. The *Journal of the American Medical Association* last January 16th suggested that such test may no longer be valid, particularly in persons with... compromised immune systems. Sound familiar?"

"yeah."

"Standard syphilis tests don't really measure syphilis per se. They measure the immune system's ability to fight the disease, to produce antibodies. Well, kid, if you ain't got no immune system, it's not going to make antibodies and you're going to

test negative. Or there may be a mutation. Either way the folks at the clinic, well-meaning souls that they are, will tell you you ain't got syphilis, and send you home."

"Though it may that syphilis suppressed your immune system in the first place."

"Right! Remember, everything that AIDS people are dying of is also found in syphilis. No exceptions. It's called the great masquerader. They've just reported a case of a guy with KS who at first tested negative for syphilis (*Annals of Internal Medicine*, 1987:107. But he had this syphilitic rash all over his back and they thought, 'Well, this guy's got to have syphilis.' So after getting negative tests again, they biopsied one of his skin lesions and used a silver staining test to show syphilis spirochetes. But," I continued, exasperated, "if the guy had not shown the rash—and many people don't—they'd never pursued it and he might have died of syphilis. Another thing: in the few autopsies they're performing on AIDS people, they're finding all kinds of undiagnosed syphilis. Scary, huh?"

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Personal Safety/Crime Prevention

In an effort to keep San Jose one of the safest cities in the country, the San Jose Police Department Crime Prevention Unit is offering another way to help citizens help themselves. In light of the recent personal assaults against women, and in view of the care and concern about everyone's personal safety, they invite the community to participate in their upcoming personal safety seminars.

Members of the Crime Prevention Unit will conduct seminars which will cover such important issues as safety while at home and work, the 911 system, simple self-defense measures ad how to develop an individual personal safety game plan.

With safety during the holidays of utmost importance, the first seminar will be held Wednesday, December 16 at 12 noon and 7 p.m.. Reservations are required—to make a reservation, please call the Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit at 277-4133.

There are many steps one can take to reduce the chances of becoming the victim of any crime. Personal safety is everyone's business. Prevention is the answer, but the community's help is needed. Call today!!!!

Calendar

NOTE: All telephone numbers are Area Code 408, except as noted.

Nonprofit/Social Organizations

NOTE: To list your organization meetings or other functions in Our Calendar, send press releases / flyers to Our Paper, 973 Park Avenue, San Jose, CA 95126. Next deadline: JAN 6.

Dec 16/Jan 6, 20: Lesbians of Faith: Discussion/support group, interdenominational, meeting 1st and 3rd Wednesdays each month, 7:30 - 9:30 pm at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Wesley Parlor, 405 So. 10th Street at San Salvador, San Jose.

Dec 17: Peninsula Business and Professional Association: Holiday Season Social. Bring snack or beverage and two "white elephants" gift-wrapped for exchange. Call 733-5753 for directions.

Dec 17, 22, 24, 29/Jan 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28: El Camino Reelers: Beginner's class on Thursday nights, advanced group on Tuesday nights. Call for details: Marilyn 408/996-3788 or Jim 408/984-8132.

Dec 17, 24/Jan 7, 14, 21, 28: Men's Support Group: An informal support and social group, meets every Thursday at 7:30 pm at the Billy DeFrank Lesbian/Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave, San Jose. Call 293-AGAY.

Dec 17/Jan 20: Peninsula Business and Professional Association: Meets 3rd Thursday each month, 8 pm at the Social Hall, Unitarian Fellowship of Redwood City, 2124 Brewster Ave, at Lowell.

Dec 18: Sisterspirit: Desert Hearts, large screen video movie based on novel by Jane Rule. Followed by explicit women's erotic films, adults only. Doors open 8:00 pm at 1040 Park Avenue, San Jose. \$3-7 sliding scale. Call 293-9372.

Dec 18: Humanist Forum: The Great Scambini, a professional magician, featuring comedy and card tricks. 7:30 pm at Saratoga Library, 13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga. Public invited, no charge. Happy Winter Solstice! Call 923-3774.

Dec 19, 26/Jan 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: Dignity/San Jose: Meets each Saturday at 6 pm for Mass at the Campus Christian Center, corner of 10th and San Carlos Streets near JSU. Dignity also holds rap sessions, social gatherings and occasional outings. Call 977-4218.

Dec 20, 27/Jan 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Youth Group: Slightly Younger Lesbians and Gays: An informal support group for men and women under the age of 36 meets every Sunday from 1:30-3:30 pm at Billy DeFrank Lesbian/Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave, San Jose. Call 293-AGAY.

Dec 20, 27/Jan 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Holy Trinity Church: A Christian Church for All People, member of the Independent Christian Church network, meets every Sunday from 10:00 am to noon at the Billy DeFrank Lesbian/Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave, San Jose. Rev. Randy Hill, pastor. Call 292-3071.

Dec 20, 27/Jan 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Sunnyside United Methodist Church: Proclaiming grace and freedom for all. Sunday morning worship at 8:30 am and 11 am, Sunday school at 9:30 am, at 355 Dixon Road, Milpitas. Call 262-1486.

Dec 20, 27/Jan 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Calvary Metropolitan Community Church: Sunday worship at 5:00 pm at 2124 Brewster Ave, corner Brewster & Lowell, Redwood City. Call 415/368-0188.

Dec 20, 27/Jan 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Metropolitan Community Church of San Jose: Sharing God's Love with All People. Services every Sunday at 6:30 pm at Grace Baptist Church building, corner 10th & San Fernando Streets. Rev. Denis Moore, pastor. Call 279-2711.

Dec 20, 27/Jan 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Peninsula Gay & Lesbian Youth Group: Meets 2 pm every Sunday at Fireside Room, University Lutheran Church, 1611 Stanford Ave, Palo Alto.

Dec 20: Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group: Fantasies. Meets 1st and 3rd Sundays at 7:30 pm at the Old Firehouse at Stanford. Call Marilyn 415/969-1260.

Dec 22: Slightly Older Lesbians: White Elephant Exchange: Wrap up that wonderful toe warmer of widgee you've been dying to give to someone and join a hilarious evening of gift exchanges. 7-9 pm every Tuesday at 1040 Park Avenue, San Jose. Call 293-4525.

Dec 22, 29/Jan 5, 12, 19, 26: AIDS Support Group: All are welcome. Meets 7-9 pm every Tuesday at Christ The Good Shepherd Church, San Jose. For details, call ARIS Project 370-3272.

Dec 23, 30/Jan 6, 13, 20, 27: El Camino Reelers: Square dance classes in Palo Alto. Professional caller Mike Luna teaches Wed eves from 7:30 to 9:30. Small fee. Meet at St. Andrew's United Methodist Church, 4111 Alma Street, Palo Alto. Call Jim 984-8132 or Ann 415/326-7093.

Dec 23, 30/Jan 6, 13, 20, 27: Peninsula Woman's Group: A support and networking group for Lesbians meets Weds at 7:30 pm at the United Church of Christ on Arroyo St. in San Carlos (2 blocks west of El Camino), second floor, first room on right. For info and a calendar, call Diane 415/349-5189.

Dec 29: Slightly Older Lesbians: How the L.P.G.A. began, a presentation by professional golfer Betty Hicks. 7-9 pm every Tuesday at 1040 Park Avenue, San Jose. Call 293-4525.

Jan 3: Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group: Relationships... What makes them work? Meets 1st and 3rd Sundays at 7:30 pm at the Old Firehouse at Stanford. Call Marilyn 415/969-1260.

Jan 5: Slightly Older Lesbians: Create a Woman, discussion of womanly qualities and attributes. SOL informal support/discussion group meets every Tuesday from 7-9 pm at 1040 Park Avenue, San Jose. 293-4525.

Jan 8: Sisterspirit: Sylvia Scarlett, large screen video movie featuring Katherine Hepburn in a role masquerading as a boy with a band of thieves. Doors open 8:00 pm at 1040 Park Avenue, San Jose. \$3-7 sliding scale. Call 293-9372.

Jan 9: Feminist Lesbian Social Group: Monthly potluck. 7 pm at Maris' house in Mt. View. Call 415/961-3710 for directions.

Jan 12: Slightly Older Lesbians: Basic financial information for women, guest speaker. SOL informal support/discussion group meets every Tuesday from 7-9 pm at 1040 Park Avenue, San Jose. 293-4525.

Jan 13: BANGLE: Monthly meeting of the South Bay Chapter of the Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators, 6:30 pm on 2nd Wed each month at Billy DeFrank Center, 1040 Park Avenue, San Jose. Call Bryan at 978-5751 or Ron 737-0214.

Jan 13: P-FLAG: Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets 2nd Wed each month, 7:30 pm in Fireside room of the First Congregational Church, Leigh and Hamilton, San Jose. 270-8182.

Jan 15: Sisterspirit: Brown Bag Reader's Theatre focuses on women and alcoholism, using music and humor to share their personal experience and hopes for continued recovery. Doors open 8:00 pm at 1040 Park Avenue, San Jose. \$5-8 sliding scale. Call 293-9372.

Jan 17: Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group: Adventures in the HET world: How out are you and how well does it work? Meets 1st and 3rd Sundays at 7:30 pm at the Old Firehouse at Stanford. Call Marilyn 415/969-1260.

Jan 19: Slightly Older Lesbians: A Different Approach to Spirituality, guest speaker Carol Newhouse. SOL informal support/discussion group meets every Tuesday from 7-9 pm at 1040 Park Avenue, San Jose. 293-4525.

Jan 22: Sisterspirit: Inga Hoogerhuis, former lead vocalist for the jazz quintet, Swingshift. Tracy Stark on piano. Doors open 8:00 pm at 1040 Park Avenue, San Jose. \$3-7 sliding scale. Call 293-9372.

Jan 23: Moonstruck Productions: Crystal Ball, semi-formal dance for women, 8 pm - 1 am at Elks Lodge, 444 Alma Ave, San Jose. \$15 advance, \$20 at door. 297-5132 or 287-1340.

Jan 30: Slightly Older Lesbians: SOL monthly social and potluck, 7 pm at Madelon's house in San Jose. Call 272-3279 for directions. SOL informal support/discussion group meets every Tuesday from 7-9 pm at 1040 Park Avenue, San Jose. 293-4525.

Political Organizations

Jan 8: Friends of Santa Clara County Human Relations Commission: Deadline for nominations for 8th Annual Awards Banquet, honoring community members who have contributed to the promotion of positive Human Relations in Santa Clara County. Banquet scheduled for Feb 25. Forms available at 70 W. Hedding or by calling Betty Sellers at 299-2206.

Gay and Lesbian/Feminist Radio/TV

Dec 18: Threads of Love: First Bay Area showing of the National AIDS Memorial Quilt, 8-9 pm on Ch. 5 and KQED 88.5FM simulcast, with live call-in at 415/864-1100.

Dec 20, 27/Jan 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Women's Radio Hour: With Mary Jeffries, every Sun. 11 am - noon, KKUP 91.5 FM.

Dec 21, 28/Jan 4, 11, 18, 25: Closet Free Radio: Programming for the Santa Cruz lesbian and gay communities, from 8:30-10:30 pm on KZSC 88.1 FM every Monday.

Dec 23, 30/Jan 6, 13, 20, 27: Fruit Punch: Gay radio every Wed. 10-11 pm, KPFA 94.1 FM.

Gay Events/Night Life

Dec 16: First Day Chanukah

Dec 19: Marta Hiatt's Birthday. Happy Birthday, Marta!

Dec 22, 29/Jan 5, 12, 19, 26: The Landing: Way Out West Band! 9 pm - 1 am at 448 W. Santa Clara St., San Jose. \$2 cover. 287-1535.

Dec 21: The Cruiser: 10th Annual Customer Appreciation Day, presented by Dan and Sam, noon till 2 am, complimentary buffet at 7 pm. A Polynesian Feast, Christmas in the South Pacific. 2651 El Camino Real, Redwood City. 415/366-4955.

Dec 21, 28: Club St. John: Sounds of the 60's on Monday nights at 170 W. St. John St., San Jose. The Chiffons, The Ronettes, The Four Tops, The Temptations. Well Drinks 1.75. 947-1667.

Dec 22: First Day Winter

Dec 25: Christmas Day

Dec 31: Pacific Friends/South Bay: New Year's Eve Potluck & Dance Party at 1040 Park Avenue, San Jose. 7:30 pm. \$5 at door. Call 379-7170.

Dec 31: The Watergarden: 11th Annual New Year's Waterbaby Contest. Over \$2000 in prizes. Buffet, entertainment. Regular admission plus \$12 cover. Call 275-1242.

Dec 31: Bay Area Career Women: New Year's Eve Dinner Dance, 7:30 pm to 2 am at the Grand Ballroom of the Meridian Hotel, San Francisco. \$65. Charge by phone 415/495-5393.

Jan 1: New Year's Day. Happy 1988!

Jan 15-17: Arizona Gay Rodeo: In Phoenix at the El Lienzo Charro Rodeo Grounds. Call Andrew Axelrod 602/266-5390 or 602/938-3932.

Dec 18-20: San Jose Dance Theater: The Nutcracker, Center for the Performing Arts. 942-0728 or 277-5277.

Dec 21-23: San Jose Symphony: Messiah, conducted by Maestro George Cleve at CPA (12/21, 22) and Flint Center (12/23). 298-2300.

Dec 17-Jan 10: San Jose Rep: Relatively Speaking, by Alan Ayckbourn, a rollicking comedy. Montgomery Theater. 294-7572.

Jan 8-Feb 6: City Lights Theater Company: Hold Me! hilarious modern comedy by Jules Feiffer. 70 N. Almaden Ave, San Jose. 295-8318.

Jan 8-23: Palo Alto Players: Three Sisters, Anton Chekhov's timeless masterpiece of comic drama, directed by Thomas Tyrrell. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. 415/329-2623 or 329-2652.

Sports

Jan 10-May 22: Southbay Gay & Lesbian Volleyball: Courts available for both competitive level play and recreational level play. Open to individuals and teams. Sundays 1 - 4 pm at San Jose High School Girls Gym. Fee \$2 per person each week. Call Tom 732-2306.



Get Centered Dreams and Goals

Once a month, High Tech Gays meet at the DeFrank Center for a sumptuous and pleasantly rowdy pot-luck. After business is conducted, a guest speaks to the gathering on a timely topic.

The topic for the October meeting was the DeFrank Center and the speaker was its new chairperson of the board, Ginny Hagopian.

Ginny whom we usually recognize in a tool belt and work boots, wore real make-up instead of plaster dust and was quickly recognized by her attentive audience—Ginny held them captive with her vision of the evolving Center for about 25 minutes.

Did you know our Center is the only gay community center in 5 counties and the only center available to over 200,000 gays in those counties?

Or that the Center is funded primarily by membership and grants—that there is no good fairy out there with money?

Some have noticed that we're outgrowing the Center and need to start a building fund.

Have you heard that the Center is looking to move and needs to know what the community wants?

There is a Center committee generating a poll to find out what individuals and groups like, dislike and want—their goal is to learn how to serve the community more.

The Center needs more meeting space, more room for the switch-board—it's greatest service—and more room for some offices where business can be conducted.

The Center needs people with no special qualifications—people who will serve on committees, who will take on small responsibilities to implement ideas, and who will help network into the gay business community.

As per Ginny, the Center needs people "who make a commitment which works for them."

The DeFrank Center needs your time, your energy, your ideas—the problem of funding is ever present—the Center needs to tap resources from the gay community as well as the general public.

Says Ginny, "The Board does not want to be so lost in survival we lose sight of dreams and the future."

After her presentation, Ginny responded to questions, following is a sample:

Q. With such money problems, why consider a larger space? A. We not only can create revenue with more space, we can rent for a better price.

Q. Are donations and membership fees tax deductible? A. Yes

Q. Do we seek hetero groups to use the Center? A. We're not clear about our

direction here. The new board is to explore this issue.

A member of the weekly men's group thanked Ginny for the Center and the fact that it provides a place for them to meet.

Rick, the HTG president, stated that San Francisco has NO gay community center, that New York has a dilapidated rat trap of a center, and that we should appreciate what we have and work to preserve it and not take the DeFrank Center for granted.

Ginny appealed to the audience again for input and admonished that "it is not good for 11 board members to decide the fate of the Center."

An audience member added that "The Center provides a healthy, non-predatory environment—not like bars where people are in altered states."

So what is the dream and goal of proponents of the center? That the DeFrank Center become the center of the community.



Force V Thanksgiving



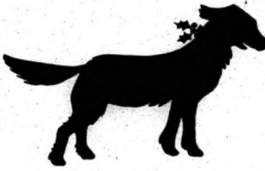
Turkey winners at Force V annual raffle. Left Andy Cunha, Center Pam Johnson, Vice President Force V and Right Craig Rockwell at Renegades 11/22/87 Photo Ted Sahl



Left Robert Morison, Center Craig McGuire, President of Force V and Right John Cermac at 641 Club 11/22/87 Photo Ted Sahl

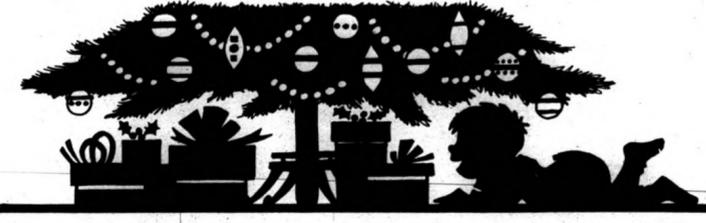
Happy New Year!

Advertisement for a New Year's party with various activities like Friends, Party Favors, Fun, Noise Makers, and Free Champagne at Midnight. Includes dates for 1988 and 1987.



Advertisement for Teresa Kasza, Licensed Realtor-Associate, Notary Public, offering real estate services.

Advertisement for Grubb & Ellis Residential Brokerage Services, located at 289 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California.





Fairy Dust supercedes acting in Peter Pan

Theatre Review by Rick Rudy

The lovely 1954 musical version of Peter Pan has opened in a new holiday production at TheatreWorks in Palo Alto. The production is energetic, fun and visually stunning, but too superficial.

The story about Peter Pan, his fairy companion Tinkerbell, the three Darling children, and the villainous Captain Hook flowed magically from the pen of J.M. Barrie back in 1904, and has been a hit in play, movie, Disney cartoon, and Broadway musical versions since that time.

This musical adaptation by Mark Charlap and Carolyn Leigh, with additional music and lyrics by Jule Styne and Betty Comden and Adolph Green, featured Cyril Ritchard as Hook and Mary Martin as Peter; and this cross-gender casting has been the rule until this TheatreWorks production, which features 14 year old Johnathan Wilson, a real boy, as the ever youthful Peter.

It is a nice idea, but this boy Wilson, though talented for a 14 year old, hasn't the voice or acting ability to hold up his end (over 50 percent) of the show. And so to compensate, either consciously or unconsciously, the whole cast has come down to his level; mumbling dialogue, paying little attention to clear vocalizing, and providing only the most cartoon-like characterization.

Of course director Robert Kelly knows that a "holiday production" draws lots of children and their parents who care little for these details so long as the show keeps kids' attention and is entertaining, which this certainly is.

Wall Street

Movie Review by Steve Warren

After Salvador and Vietnam (Platoon), Oliver Stone has found an even more brutal setting for his new film.

It's Wall Street, where men buy companies the way I buy hamburgers and devour them with equal relish.

I specify "men" because the women in this picture are wives, secretaries and Daryl Hannah, who became a decorator by being a successful whore.

Young broker Charlie Sheen's ambition overtakes his ideals when he starts doing business with Michael Douglas, whose motto is, "What's worth doing is worth doing for money."

He doesn't mind if other people get rich along with him, but he hates to lose and will sacrifice anyone to avoid it.

Sheen is seduced into the world of insider trading, and gets his first tip from, his unsuspecting dad, Martin Sheen, the union representative for a small airline.

It shouldn't surprise the regular moviegoer that Charlie will eventually have to choose between father figures.

Wall Street is a fascinating look at our most respectable form of legalized gambling.

Its pace rarely lets up and it was over before I realized I'd been suckered into enjoying a slick potboiler that Harrold Robbins might have written.

Having once flunked economics I appreciated being made to think I understood what was happening.—It's a well made film with a good cast.

The Sheens work well together and Douglas is so convincingly evil you'll come away thinking he deserved everything he got in Fatal Attraction.

Holiday Gifts for PWA

There will be gifts under the tree for AIDS patients who are part of the Visiting Nurses and Hospice of San Francisco program at Coming Home Hospice and living at home. There will be more smiles on Christmas morning thanks to the generosity of these businesses: Rolo, Buck's, High Gear, On The Rack, G.W. Finley, Castro Streetwear, New York Man, All American boy, The Record House and the S. F. Symphony.

James Baldwin and what Peter Jennings wouldn't say

by Ron Schmidt

I've had a crush on Peter Jennings since Uncle Walter retired. His suave good looks and the crisp Canadian liguature in his pronunciation of out and house add a sensual, almost academic demeanor to his digest of daily events that charms my trust as Dan Rather has never succeeded in doing. . . did, at least, until December 1 when I tuned in Jennings for the obituary on literary giant James Baldwin.

Peter acknowledged the passing, of course, of the New York native who died of stomach cancer at age 63 at his home in France, then turned the focus over to a literary analyst who summarized Baldwin's stride across America's racial conscience without ever once mentioning that the man was homosexual, without a single allusion to Giovanni's Room or Another Country, without an iota of credit for his candid advocacy of Gay Rights that cost him the

favor of less committed civil rights proponents.

I was stunned, angry at Jennings, enraged at Channel 7. Baldwin, I've decided, would simply have nodded.

I dug out old issues of The Advocate, found the may 27, '86 interview in which Baldwin told Jere Real, "I think Americans are more uptight about homosexuality than about any other subject." And I shook my head because I can't be as philosophical as Baldwin was.

I thought of Wendell Ricketts' article in the December 3 Bay Area Reporter asking: Why did Time, Newsweek ignore the National March? And I knew that both silences were the same sin of omission. What isn't mentioned must not be so. Ignore it and maybe it will go away. Don't let queers in the closet think they've got company.

Baldwin's great eyes watched me from news photos strewn on my desk. "I think," he told Jere

Real, "anyone over 25 who has really tried to live—white or black, male or female, rich or poor—knows one thing about his or her life, which is that if you try to cling to safety, then you have no life at all. Our responsibility in this, our life, is to try to deal with each other and work toward each other's freedom."

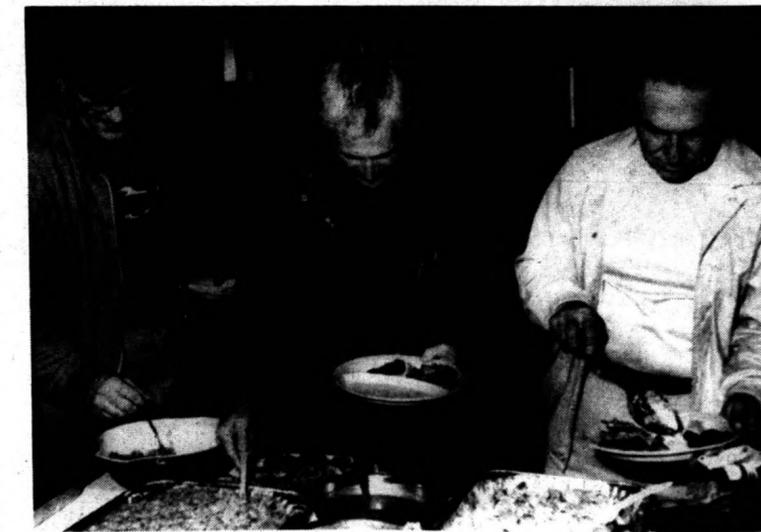
Baldwin concluded that Advocate interview, saying, "It's not important to be gay. . . or important to be white. . . or important to be black. What's important is to be YOU."

In June 1986 President Francois Mitterand named James Baldwin a commander in the Legion of Honor, France's highest award. In his native country, this land of the free, this home of the brave—on the night of his death—Peter Jennings would speak Baldwin's name but fail to mention who he was. It's an omission, albeit articulate, that still rings in my ears.

Thanksgiving Dinner(s)



Men's Support Group Thanksgiving Dinner at the DeFrank Center. Photo Ted Sahl



Dale's Annual Thanksgiving Dinner at the Renegades. Photo Ted Sahl

Desert Adventure

A Desert Adventure begins January 15 and continues through the 17th in Phoenix, Arizona. The 3rd Annual Arizona Gay Rodeo will be held at the El Lienzo Charro Rodeo Grounds. Transportation, hotels and fun all await your call to: Andrew Axelrod, 115 W. Camelback Rd., Phoenix, Az 85013—602/266-5390.

Don't miss this weekend of Adventure and fun!!! The host hotel is Holiday Inn, Phoenix Financial Center, 3600 N. 2nd Ave., Phoenix. Now is the time to ask Santa for a Desert Adventure of your own or give one to someone you know!!! The New Mexico Gay Rodeo Association is the proud co-sponsor of this Wild West Desert Adventure.

A Magic Summer Remembered

University of California Gay and Lesbian Alumni Association presents: Author Samuel Steward (aka Paul Andros) who will speak on his long friendship with Alice B. Toklas and Gertrude Stein, and his acquaintance with Lord Alfred Douglas, Andre Gide, and other figures of the European gay literary scene.

Refreshments will be provided at (Y-House) University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, across from UC Berkeley on Wednesday, January 27th at 7:30 p.m. The admission is \$5 general and free to members.

Different Light Helps AIDS Fund

Castro newcomers Different Light Books are asking their patrons to "Share the seasons bounty" with AIDS patients helped by the AIDS Emergency Fund by displaying a heart-theme Christmas Tree. The unique tree was created by Pick Me Ups Interior Plantscapes with heart shaped ornaments donated by Macy's.

The AEF greeting card, created by renowned local artist Noal Betts is also available at the store in the former Obelesk location on Castro.

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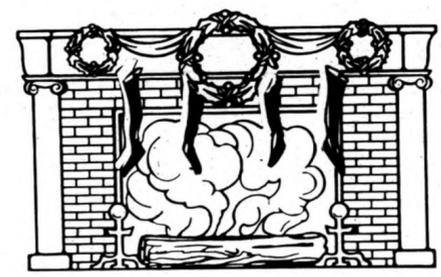
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VISA-Clipping to continue

The "Clip Your VISA" campaign, protesting VISA's support of the anti-gay U.S. Olympic Committee, will continue through next year, the organizer says.

Gay publisher Sasha Alyson, who began the campaign in August, explained that originally he saw it as a short-term project.

"My first thought was that we should simply register our disgust with them, then move on to other things," he said, "but VISA's response has been appalling."

"They have steadfastly refused to address the issue of homophobia—furthermore, they've announced that their support of the Olympics will go at least through September 30, 1988."

Alyson began the Clip Your VISA campaign after reading in a VISA ad that "every time you use VISA, we'll contribute to the 1988 U.S. Olympic Team."

He explained that, "After the viciously homophobic way the U.S. Olympic Committee had treated Tom Waddell and the Gay Games, I had no intention of using my VISA card again, and I decided to encourage others to join me."

"Already, several hundred people have sent in half their card as a sign that they agree."

The clipped cards are being used to make a banner memorializing Gay Games founder,

Tom Waddell.

"This banner is a way of visually symbolizing our disgust with VISA," noted Alyson.

"We displayed it at the March on Washington, and will continue to display it at other events."

"VISA paid millions of dollars for this Olympic tie-in—yet, for literally hundreds of thousands of people, 'VISA card' now has a negative connotation."

"That," noted Alyson, "is our real strength."

"We can significantly lower the value of the Olympic tie-in, and that will hit the U.S.O.C. right in its wallet."

There's already one sign that the campaign is having the desired effect.

"We called the USOC recently to ask who else was sponsoring it and were told that, 'We don't give out that information anymore.'"

"I can't imagine any reason for such a change in policy—except that being an Olympic supporter isn't the unmitigated plus it once was."

Alyson asks VISA card holders who want to participate in this campaign to cut their card in half—one half should be returned to VISA with a note explaining why it is being cancelled—the other half should go to Sasha Alyson, Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton St., Boston, MA 02118.



Joe Chapple clips yet another VISA card, which will become part of banner protesting VISA's support of the anti-gay U.S. Olympic Committee. The banner also memorializes Gay Games founder Tom Waddell, who died of AIDS in mid-1987. Photo Raymond Proutx

NGLTF gathers statements on violence

The Anti-Violence Project of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) announced the release of a publication entitled "Official Statements on Anti-Gay Violence."

The 12-page document gathers statements condemning anti-gay violence made by law enforcement and government agencies, religious leaders and organiza-

tions, public officials, civil rights groups, political and professional organizations and newspapers.

"The statements-packet is a useful tool for local organizers working on a range of gay rights issues because it contains some of the strongest official positions to date against the pervasive violence gay men and lesbians

endure," observed project director Kevin Berrill.

"In today's climate of fear and intolerance of homosexuality, these supportive statements serve a vital organizing purpose."

The new NGLTF publication can be ordered from NGLTF at 1517 U Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009 for \$2.00 postage and copying fee.



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THE MOVIE LOVER, by Richard Friedel, \$7.00. Burton Raider's problems begin in high school when he realizes he's in love with his friend Roman. As he gets older, the problems increase, in what Christopher Street calls "the funniest gay novel of the year."

THE BOILED FROG SYNDROME, by Marty Rubin, \$8.00. Stephen Ashcroft managed to escape from the United States just before the anti-gay persecution began in earnest. His lover, Troy, wasn't so lucky. Now Ashcroft fights to return freedom to his homeland, and to rescue the one he loves.



LONG TIME PASSING: Lives of Older Lesbians, edited by Marcy Adelman, \$8.00. In their own words, women talk about age-related concerns: the fear of losing a lover, the experiences of being a lesbian in the 1940s and 1950s; and issues of loneliness and community.

THE LOVE OF A MASTER, by John Preston, \$8.00. The third in Preston's popular S&M Master series.

COMING TO POWER, by Samois, \$9.00. The book that broke the silence on the subject of lesbian S&M: essays, photos, safety tips, stories, and more, in a newly updated edition.



WE CAN ALWAYS CALL THEM BULGARIANS: The emergence of lesbians and gay men on the American stage, by Kaiert Curtin, \$19.00, cloth. A groundbreaking history of the many plays with gay or lesbian roles that were produced on Broadway during the first half of this century. Curtin documents the reactions of theatergoers, critics, clergymen, politicians and law officers to the appearance of these characters, as well as describing the actual plays. Photos.

THE MEN WITH THE PINK TRIANGLE, by Heinz Heger, \$6.00. Of the thousands of gays thrown into Nazi concentration camps, only one has ever told his story. Here is a vivid recollection of that terrible chapter of our gay past.



THE LAW OF RETURN, by Alice Bloch, \$9.00. After a summer vacation in Israel, American-born Ellen Rogin settles in Jerusalem and begins exploring her Judaic roots, as well as her own feelings about relationships and sexuality, eventually coming to grips with her own love for women.

DEATH TRICK, by Richard Stevenson, \$7.00. A widely-praised detective novel by one of the best gay mystery writers around. [Stevenson's On The Other Hand, Death, is also available from us, in hardback, at the special sale price of \$5.00.]

TO ALL THE GIRLS I'VE LOVED BEFORE: An AIDS diary, by J.W. Money, \$7.00. What thoughts run through a person's mind when as he is brought face to face with his own mortality? J.W. Money, a person with AIDS, gives us that view of living with this warm, often humorous, collection of essays.

PLAGUE: A novel about healing, by Toby Johnson, \$8.00. An experiment in Africa went wrong — horribly wrong — and an engineered virus escaped into the jungle, then into the world. When Jon Stiers discovers what's going on, he faces some seemingly impossible choices. Toby Johnson, also the author of In Search of God in the Sexual Underworld, here combines a chilling plot with a philosophy of death and dying, and a holistic approach to healing, that make this more than just another thriller.

DANCER DAWKINS AND THE CALIFORNIA KID, by Willyce Kim, \$6.00. In Bangor, Maine, Little Willie Gutherie renames herself The California Kid, stocks up on Rubbles Dubble bubble gum and her father's best Havana cigars and heads west. "A wonderful, rip-roaring Western lesbian adventure... I loved it," writes Judy Grahn.



CHROME, by George Nader, \$8.00. It is death to love a robot. But two centuries ahead in Earth's future, Chrome and the warrior King Vortex form a forbidden bond... a bond that will explode in intergalactic violence and hurtle Earth to the brink of the abyss.

CHOICES, by Nancy Toder, \$8.00. In one of the best-selling lesbian novels of all time, Nancy Toder explores the joy, passion and conflicts of love between women.

LETHAL SILENCE, by John Preston, \$5.00. Here is the sixth of Preston's Alex Kane series. Alex and his lover Danny take on a mega-businessman whose bigotry threatens thousands of gay rights marchers.



KAIROS, by Zalmon O. Sherwood, \$7.00. A gay priest describes his life in the closet and his difficult decision to come out.

A HISTORY OF SHADOWS, by Robert Reinhart, \$7.00. Through the eyes of four older gay men, Reinhart vividly depicts gay life during the Depression, World War II, the McCarthy period, and the Sixties.

MURDER IS MURDER IS MURDER, by Samuel M. Steward, \$7.00. This unusual mystery sends Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas sleuthing through the French countryside, attempting to solve the mysterious disappearance of a man who is their neighbor and the father of their handsome deaf-mute gardener. A new and very different treat from the author of the Phil Andros stories.



ROCKING THE CRADLE: Lesbian mothers, a challenge in family living, by Gillian E. Hanscombe and Jackie Forster, \$7.00. The first book to thoroughly explore the social and personal aspects of lesbian motherhood. One chapter looks at the implications of artificial insemination, and tells how women can administer it on their own terms.

COWBOY BLUES, by Stephen Lewis, \$7.00. Jake Lieberman is a gay detective in the typical California tradition. When a 45-year-old cowboy comes into his office to report that his partner is missing, Jake's first impulse is to gently explain to the guy that he's been dumped. But soon his investigation shows that Andy Jones's disappearance is only part of a much wider scheme. The only question is: Will Jake live to uncover it all?

THE LITTLE DEATH, by Michael Nava, \$7.00. An idealistic public defender investigates the suspicious death of a man he has loved — and finds himself pitted against a wealthy and ruthless dynasty.

EXTRA CREDIT, by Jeff Black, \$6.00. Harper King has a boring teaching job and a tank full of fish named after ex-lovers dying in the same order their namesakes were seduced. Enter Mick, a lover from the past talking about their future; Garrick, a first-year teacher looking for conjunctions, and not necessarily in the classroom; and young Dean, an oversexed Dennis the Menace making all A's in some very advanced biology.

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THE GAY BOOK OF LISTS, by Leigh Rutledge, \$7.00. This entertaining and informative collection of lists ranges from the historical (Seven gay or bisexual popes) to the political (Sixteen outspoken anti-gay politicians) to the outrageous (Fifteen famous men, all reputedly very well hung)

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Here We Go Again...

Rev. Randy Hill

Another Christmas season—for some GAG!, for others, selfish materialism and for others, hopeful anticipation.

I remember as a little boy on the farm in Oklahoma, I counted the days before Christmas. It seemed as though they would never pass.

I tried desperately to be "Especially Good!" (maybe it made up for the times I forgot to be good). I'd gather the eggs, slop the pigs and bring in firewood without being asked. The days moved so slowly—it seemed to never arrive.

I wrote my yearly letter to Santa with care (after all, it took lots of work to not appear greedy)

What happened? It now appears time has taken a complete reversal. Somehow in my 46 years, time became shorter and the season has appeared out of nowhere to DEMAND my attention. Ornaments, wreaths, lights—Christmas carols through the stereo—Thanksgiving is almost a thing of the past—I barely get the turkey eaten before Santa is coming down my chimney!

What happened? Was I sleeping somewhere down South when the world changed? Perhaps I was working or being "Too Gay" when gaiety passed me by?

Isn't there a reason for this madness somewhere? Why are we such a masochistic people to inflict such self-flagellation upon ourselves yearly? (You can tell Drummer is one of my

favorite magazines can't you, Sir?)

For most, this season is a sentimental milepost where memories of Christmas Past flood our thoughts and time is measured from Christmas to Christmas.

Christmas is a very lonely time when loved ones, relative and friends have gone on ahead.

We too have lost many dear friends this year. Yet, we learn that this too is in God's perfect will and life goes on for us. It's hard to "feel good about ourselves" when the closest loved one we had is gone.

As we face this season I have a few suggestions that might help us all:

1. Try to stop the thought process of "if only I had done this or that" just replace those guilty feelings and burdens with memories of the good times together—of the simple life, watching the snow fall, walking on the beach, back packing, etc.

2. Make up your mind now that it's ok to cry it out and get angry and shout it out as "unfairness"—it's ok to get depressed and wish for better days. However, it's not ok to keep on and on to the degree of desperation or the point of harming yourself.

3. After you've done all of this, make a promise to yourself that you will share your feelings with someone else. You are too important to God, yourself and others to go it alone!

Share with your friends—if you feel you don't have any true

friends, start looking NOW! In your search you will always discover those in worse shape than yourself—people just waiting for you.

People who have desperate feelings of loneliness and need you—there is an old mental health adage: "You help yourself only when you start helping others—for when you start helping others you are getting outside of yourself."

After all, who else is better qualified! You've been there! There are many who want to know how you faced it and what worked for you.

It's very important that you force yourself to go out—be among people—yes, it is extremely difficult and hard as memories flood your mind.

It won't be the same as it was before—those were special moments just for you—but new special moments are waiting for you.

You must mix, make yourself available to meet others and not

feel badly if you fail to meet someone everytime you walk out after all, none of us are getting any younger.

There is, believe it or not, someone looking for someone like you. Easy to say! Hard to do!

Nothing is as bad on you this season as sitting at home by yourself going it alone!

Perhaps you just aren't thinking clearly—ever think of that? After all, your departed loved one would want the very best for you—you are not being unfaithful by going out and sharing with others.

Go out to dinner with someone, invite someone out to dinner, go over to someone's house for a sandwich—notice where I'm heading—EAT! Take care of yourself, and that leads to 5.

5. Don't try to drink your problems away—it's so easy during this season to have too much Christmas Cheer to try to forget. Contrary to popular

belief, drinking brings on depression—don't be a fool! Don't let well-meaning friends force you to forget by making you do things against your will or principles.

6. Try to go about your Christmas season the same way as you did in the past—buy your tree, trim it, throw a party, observe advent, attend Christmas Eve services, send out cards. Admit you are lonely, but also that you are trying.

7. Keep Hotline Numbers posted where you can find them easily. These are people who are willing to help you through this season. Our Hotline Number is (408) 293-2437/24 hours per day.

8. You likewise are invited to participate in the many activities we offer. In spite of it all—Jesus is the reason for the season! Through prayer, loving support and unconditional Love we can all make this season meaningful and memorable. God Bless You—Love You!

Necessities & More Progress Report

submitted by Rev. Randy Hill

This month has been the best financially, since the beginning of N&M—largely due to the hard work and efforts of so many within our community. Total receipts were \$2,776.03/Total expenditures were \$2,085.00 leaving a balance of \$546.53 in the general fund.

Appreciation goes to Chris Gow, the Savoy, Toby and Steve and all the performers in the show on 21 November. Total income from the show was \$2,121.00. Ten AIDS patients received Thanksgiving Dinner baskets, turkey and all the

trimmings plus \$180.00 cash each.

Appreciation goes to Joseph Mead, Marvin Werner and the 641 Club for donating \$41.62 to the AIDS Hospice Holding Fund. They plan to start collecting on a regular basis for the Hospice Holding Fund and for the N&M general fund.

More appreciation to Rescue Rooter employees who have donated turkeys for AIDS people this Thanksgiving and have already collected \$400.00 for Christmas presents and turkeys for Christmas.

Thanks to Gary Givens and

the Pumpkin Lot, \$649.41 was raised for the Hospice Holding Fund. The \$41.62 from the 641 Club brought the Holding Fund balance to \$691.03.

Gary Givens and many volunteers have opened the Christmas Tree Lot on the corner of the Alameda and Keeble (next to the Watergarden).

Thanks to Gill Cable for free ads—Tony Mello, U-Haul Co., Empire Lumber Co., Security Contractor Services, Sal Accardi and The Watergarden for making the lot happen.

24 Hour Hotline Begins! We need more volunteers for the Hotline. The calls come to your phone at home in the 408 area—call the Hotline 408/293-AIDS if you can help.

Appreciation Gifts!

To show its appreciation for allowing us to minister to our community for the past 2 1/2 years, Holy Trinity Community Church has a free gift for you at several locations in the San Jose area.

A FREE easy to read and understand Bible is waiting for you at the following locations: OUR PAPER office, 973 Park Avenue; The Savoy, 3546 Flora Vista in Santa Clara; Billy DeFrank Center, 1040 Park Avenue; The Watergarden, 1010 The Alameda; Mac's Club, 349 South First Street in San Jose; The Renegades and 641 Club on Stockton in San Jose; and The Landing, 448 W. Santa Clara in San Jose. Our apologies to the other bars, we ran out, but will contact you soon.

In addition to the Bible, there are various pamphlets to help you discover the Scriptures, a calendar, pamphlets about who we are and our Necessities & More ministry to people with AIDS and ARC.

If the location is out or you would like a packet, please contact us at 408/292-3071 or our Hotline: 408/293-AIDS.

This is part of a new ministry for Holy Trinity—we call it our "Scripture Distribution Ministry"—needless to say, this is an expensive ministry and all donations are welcomed.

Thank you so very much for allowing us to minister to our community these last 2 1/2 years! We love you and stand ready to help with your needs. Remember you are not alone! Call our Hotline just to talk—anytime.

AEF Benefit nets \$5000.

On Monday, December 7, "An Evening At Hereford Hall," hosted by Tim Curry at the Comstock Club, netted over \$5000 for the AIDS Emergency Fund

An evening full of surprises included appearances by the Pearlite King and Queen and Ursula Smith (the Duchess) from "Me and My Girl," a musical greeting outside the Comstock by members of the Gay Freedom Day Band.

After a brief performance Mr. Curry expressed his desire to tour AIDS wards and hospices to greet and chat with patients.

Event producers Don Johnson, Michael Vita and Ed West announced that other "celebrity" evenings were being planned to benefit local AIDS charities.

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Holy Trinity Community Church
(A Christian Church for All People!)
Sunday Morning Service - 10:00 a.m.
Billy DeFrank Center, 1040 Park Avenue, SJ
Rev. Randall (Randy) Hill, Pastor
1449 Hester Avenue
San Jose, CA 95126-2513
(408) 292-3071

Sunnyhills United Methodist Church
Pamela D. Cummings, Pastor
Morning Worship: 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
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Fairness Fund expands with new coordinators

Washington, D.C.—Lee Bush, the first staff member and a principal organizer of the 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, has been named National Field Director for the Washington, D.C.-based Fairness Fund, the organization announced.

"Lee brings to the Fairness Fund expertise, commitment, and a wealth of fresh contacts with some of the best organizers in our movement from his experience with the tremendously successful March," said Kate McQueen, Chair of the Fairness Fund board of directors.

"The Fund is pleased that Bush has accepted responsibility for organizing our field program, including securing partici-

pation in our National Mailgram Campaign, and we're confident his efforts will be every bit as successful as his tireless work with the March," McQueen added.

One of Bush's first moves as the new National Field Director was the selection of 20 State Coordinators, many of whom played key roles in local March organizing efforts.

The new State Coordinators will work with Bush on the Fund's grassroots programs—the remaining coordinators will be selected by the end of the year.

The Fund also announced the appointment of Steven Dwyer-Chigos as the organization's Administrator.

Dwyer-Chigos, a former bank

officer, was the office manager for the March on Washington.

He has also been active in the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches where he was involved with the financial administration of the 1985 UFMCC general conference in Sacramento.

"October 11 was the beginning of the March on Washington, not the end," Bush said.

"The event spawned a 'new generation' of activists, and a new, energized spirit of activism."

"I view the Fairness Fund as the best and most logical step to build on the momentum of the march," Bush added.

"With the appointment of a full time Field Director, we believe we're now poised to more effectively and professionally implement both old and new mobilization strategies," Steve Endean, Fairness Fund Executive Director, said.

"We've been able to accomplish a surprising amount thus far, even with limited resources and staff—with our hiring of a full-time Field Director and selection of local organizers, many of whom were key players in the March on Washington, will make a big difference in the kind of pressure and mail we can generate on AIDS and fairness issues," Endean said.

Fairness Fund State Coordinators will identify local Congressional district organizers, known as Field Associates, who coordinate lobbying and the development of the Fund's National Mailgram Campaign in their districts.

A similar system of local organizers had previously proven very effective for the then-vigorous Gay Rights national Lobby and is often adopted by a range of lobbying groups.

However, the strategy has been noticeably absent from the

lesbian and gay lobbying scene for the last few years, Endean noted.

The Fairness Fund's National Mailgram Campaign is focused on generating Public Opinion Mailgrams (POMs) to Congress on AIDS and fairness issues.

The Fund sponsors toll-free Action Hotlines on these issues.

In addition, it has now established a pre-authorized subscription mailgram strategy, where individuals authorize the Fund to send mailgrams at key times in their names to their representatives in Congress as lesbian and gay lobbyists identify the need.

"The National Mailgram Campaign will build on the efforts of the Washington-based lobbyists for the Human Rights Campaign Fund and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force," the two primary lobbying groups for lesbian and gay issues," Bush explained.

Lambda Legal Defense hires two attorneys

Lambda legal Defense and Education Fund, the senior legal organization in the United States dedicated to the rights of lesbians and gay men—and the first to bring and win an AIDS-related discrimination suit in this country—announced the hiring of two new full-time lawyers to staff the organization's AIDS Project.

Mickey J. Wheatley, a lawyer formerly practicing in Los Angeles, will coordinate Lambda's AIDS-related litigation, and David Barr of New York City will coordinate the organization's AIDS-related education activities.

Lambda's AIDS Project, established in 1983 and managed by Lambda's Department under the supervision of Legal Director Abby R. Rubinfeld, is the formal name by which Lambda's legal and educational work on AIDS is known.

Because of the growing legal emergency occasioned by the AIDS epidemic and the increased demands being placed upon Lambda on account of AIDS, the organization's Board of Directors voted in September to expand the Project to encompass two full-time professionals.

"Now that we have two full-time lawyers to work exclusively on the civil rights issues surrounding AIDS, we will be in a much stronger position to counter AIDS-related discrimination in America," said Rubinfeld.

"We will also be able to expand our public education program on AIDS, the National AIDS Information Clearinghouse."

"AIDS now accounts for almost half of all the legal and education work that we do," she added.

Barr, who will manage the Clearinghouse, comes to Lambda from the New York City Civil Court, where he served as a trial assistant to Judge Margaret Cammer.

As one of his primary responsibilities, Barr will oversee Lambda's AIDS publications program, which now includes the second edition of the *AIDS Legal Guide*, written for lawyers, and *Living With AIDS*, a booklet for non-lawyers on the legal problems of people with AIDS.

He will also become editor of *AIDS Update*, published eleven times a year, and will help develop the organization's library of AIDS related resources.

Barr is a graduate of the City of New York School at Queens College.

During his student years, he worked with the ACLU as both

an intern and summer associate.

Barr also carried out a wide variety of research projects for the Center for Constitutional Rights and the National Law Journal.

"David Barr is particularly well-suited to the job of managing and developing Lambda's education work as it relates to AIDS," said Thomas B. Stoddard, Lambda's executive director.

"In 1985 and 86, David worked with Lambda as a law clerk, assisting Abby Rubinfeld in creating *AIDS Update*, which was the first newsletter of its kind in the country. David will bring to Lambda both a special understanding of AIDS and considerable legal talent."

Wheatley, who becomes Lambda's first staff attorney to deal exclusively with the organization's AIDS-related litigation, has moved from California to New York City for Lambda, leaving his position in Los Angeles as an associate with the firm of Leroy S. Walker.

Wheatley is a graduate of Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, where he was active in the Lesbian and Gay Law Union and editor of the *Loyola International Law Journal*.

While in law school, Wheatley served as both a constitutional law tutor and supervising professor, and worked as a law clerk with the ACLU, where he specialized in litigation dealing with AIDS, gender and sexual orientation discrimination.

Said Abby Rubinfeld, "We are very pleased to have someone on staff with Mickey's experience with AIDS cases who also has a broad-based knowledge of the more traditional areas of lesbian and gay rights law."

"Mickey's addition to the staff will greatly enhance our capacity to litigate in all areas of concern to lesbians and gay men, as it will allow more flexible allocation of our legal resources."

Lambda's AIDS Project now accounts for approximately half of the organization's annual operating budget.

It is funded primarily by individual contributions—in 1987, however, a number of public-spirited foundations have contributed substantially to the project.

Among them are the Veatch Program of the North Shore Unitarian Church, The J.M. Kaplan Fund, the Design and Interior Furnishings Foundation for AIDS, and the Joyce Mertz-Gilmore Foundation.

Lesbian Rights Project and NGLTF on adoption—

In a paper submitted to the Presidential Task Force on Adoption, the Lesbian Rights Project (LRP) and the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) urged the Reagan Administration to remove obstacles to adoption by lesbians and gay men.

The paper, authored by LRP Directing Attorney Roberta Achtenberg, was submitted to the Presidential Task Force on October 19th.

The Interagency Task Force on Adoption was created on August 24th by President Reagan, and was scheduled for report to the White House Domestic Policy Council on November 22.

The Task Force is charged with making specific recommendations on how adoptions can be encouraged, through federal legislation, regulatory change, and state and local action.

"Our ideas about whose fam-

ily is legitimate tend to be based less on clear perceptions of the many ways in which families are now constituted, and more on what our families were like when we were growing up," noted LRP's Roberta Achtenberg.

"Lesbians and gay men have not been viewed by society at large as people with families, or as people interested in creating families or as people who value family life."

The LRP and NGLTF comments cite recent social science research to debunk some of the most commonly held myths about lesbian and gay parenting.

The comments conclude, "There is no competent social science data developed in the last twenty years which indicates anything other than that homosexuals are as qualified as heterosexuals to parent children."

"It is crucial that this be understood if society is to avoid relying on prejudice, misunderstanding and stereotype, to the

detriment of not only the homosexual seeking to parent but, more importantly, to the child in need of that parent's love and home."

"In submitting this paper to the Presidential Task Force, we wanted to challenge stereotypes with the reality of social experience," said NGLTF executive director, Jeffrey Levi.

"Lesbians and gay men do have stable, healthy, loving relationships and families—many of us do have the desire and commitment to be excellent parents."

Since 1977, the San Francisco based LRP has worked through the courts, the legal system, and community-based efforts to promote the rights of lesbians and gay men to legal equality and justice.

The NGLTF was founded in 1973 to advocate, educate and organize politically for the achievement of lesbian and gay civil rights.

The 13-page paper and 9-page bibliography are available from LRP at 1660 Mission Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103.

KQED FM Notes

KQED 88.5 FM joins co-sponsors KPIX Channel 5 and the San Francisco Examiner in supporting the first Bay Area showing of the National AIDS Memorial Quilt, created by San Francisco's Names Project, with a radio simulcast of KPIX's live broadcast, "Threads of Love," on Friday, December 18 at 8-9 p.m.

The live special focuses on outstanding examples of AIDS volunteerism in the Bay Area, chronicles the lives of family members who have lost loved ones to AIDS, features a historical background from the quilt's sewing workshop on Market Street, and profiles Names Project Director Cleve Jones.

The program is hosted by KPIX anchors Dave McElhatton and Wendy Tokuda.

In addition KQED is providing a phone bank, at 415/864-1100, during "Threads of Love."

KPIX on-air personalities staff the phone bank to respond to viewer inquiries about AIDS volunteer possibilities in the Bay Area.

A KPIX directory of volunteer AIDS agencies throughout the nine Bay Area counties will also be distributed.

For further information regarding "Threads of Love" please call KPIX Channel 5 at 415/765-8874.

Entertainers Wanted

West Hollywood—Christopher Street West/Los Angeles is seeking individuals and groups to provide entertainment at the 1988 Gay & Lesbian Pride Festival, to be held in West Hollywood, on Saturday and Sunday, June 25 and 26, 1988. A wide variety of entertainers are being sought, from Country Western to Blues, from dancers to rock n' roll bands.

Entertainers should submit audition tapes (audio cassette or VHS video) to Christopher Street West/Los Angeles, Entertainment Committee, 7985 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 109-24, West Hollywood, CA 90046. The deadline for consideration is March 1, 1988. For more information call Entertainment Committee Chair, John Logan at (213) 737-2672.

Christopher Street West/Los Angeles is the producer and host of the annual Gay & Lesbian Pride Parade. Christopher Street West is also active as a community support organization, having provided substantial funding for the National March on Washington for Lesbian & Gay rights and the Greater Los Angeles AIDS Hospice Foundation (GLAAHF), among many others. For more information call (213) 656-6553.

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Dignity/San Jose

Dignity/San Jose now meets weekly at the Campus Christian Center for Mass each Saturday. Mass begins at 6 p.m. In addition to weekly Masses, the group holds rap sessions, social gatherings and occasional outings. For further information call 408/985-1822. The Campus Christian Center is located at the corner of 10th and San Carlos Streets in San Jose near the San Jose State University campus.

Our Paper News/Ad Deadlines

The following is the schedule of Our Paper copy deadlines for Volume VII (1988 calendar year).

PLEASE NOTE that because we publish two issues each month, there will occasionally be THREE weeks between issues, instead of the usual two.

This happens when there are five Wednesdays in the month, instead of four. The paper is NOT a week late when this happens - we are following a schedule that was set up at the beginning of the year for the whole year.

We realize this may create confusion for some readers, but it also gives us a reasonable schedule with an occasional break from the pressures of production.

Our deadlines for the next issue are published on the front page below the banner of each current issue; this is a good place to consult when in doubt about the deadline.

We hope you enjoy reading OUR PAPER and will feel free to contribute any news from your group or business. Press releases should be typed, double-spaced, and dropped off or mailed to OUR PAPER, 973 Park Avenue, San Jose, CA 95126.

Since we do not have a staff of reporters, we are unable to take news releases over the phone, although we do appreciate your calling us to keep us informed or to call our attention to newsworthy events.

Our photographers also appreciate being notified of events which may have a visual impact or interest. Since our photographers work freelance, you may call them direct if you wish.

Here are the deadlines:

Issue No.	Copy Deadline	Publication Date
	Volume VII (1988)	
1	January 6	January 13
2	January 20	January 27
3	February 3	February 10
4	February 17	February 24
5	March 2	March 9
6	March 16	March 23
7	March 30	April 6
8	April 13	April 20
9	April 27	May 4
10	May 11	May 18
11	May 25	June 1
12	June 8	June 17
13	June 29	July 6
14	July 13	July 20
15	July 27	August 3
16	August 10	August 17
17	August 31	September 7
18	September 14	September 21
19	September 28	October 5
20	October 12	October 19
21	October 26	November 2
22	November 9	November 16
23	November 30	December 7
24	December 14	December 21

Thanksgiving



Thanksgiving at the home of Dennis Andrews (of Silver Fox and auctioneering fame) with close friends and pets. Photo Ted Sahl

the entire staff at "The Landing" (San Jose's only Gay Country Western Bar) 448 W. Santa Clara St. San Jose (408) 287-1535

wish to extend their thanks to the gay community for all the wonderful support in 1987

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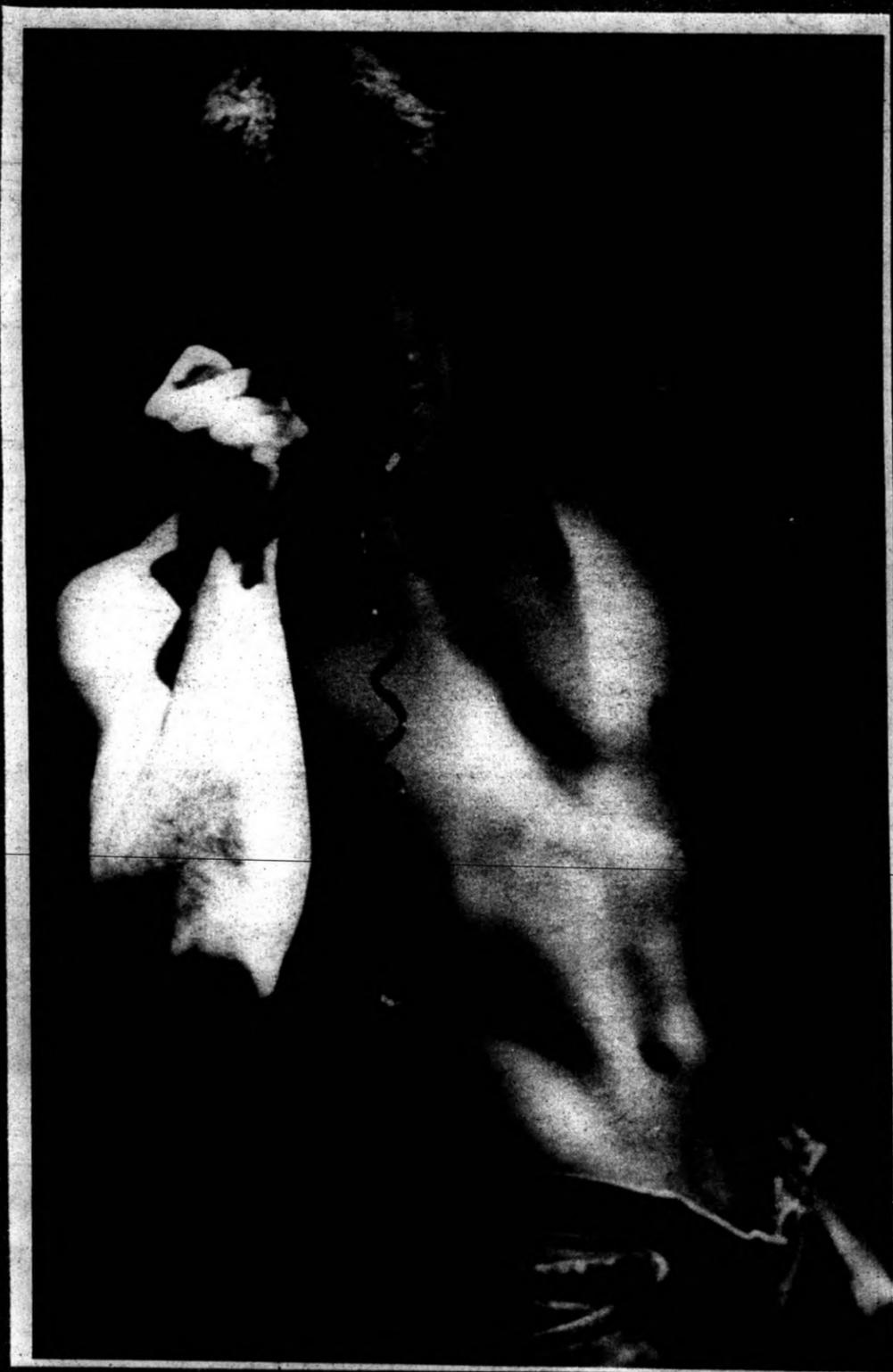
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