

# The Sentinel

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December 23, 1982

TOOTSIE TRIUMPHS See page 10

Midler's Back and McLean's Got Her

Review and Interview, page 8

## PARRIES & THRUSTS

by David Sovereign

**Sacramento, CA** — Circling in on the state capital, three of California's most active nun groups will be convening at Nun Con '83, on January 2nd. The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence (SPI), the Charitable Sisters of Izod (Sacramento), and the Order of the Candle Burnt at Both Ends (Davis) will be having a croquet tournament, a cocktail party, and will also be doing some local "missionary work." They will cast a spell on any disbelievers in the crowd. Sister Florence Nightmare, R.N. says: "This historic event — the first to our knowledge — represents a coalescing of gay energies: spirit, camp, drag, and political awareness." The convocation will admit only gay male nuns in habit. Only the habitually absurd need attend.

**Whittier, CA** — Only kids into getting punished need attend. Sister Louridine Sok has been convicted of a misdemeanor count of child abuse for slugging an 8-year-old boy and slammung a 9-year-old girl against the wall. Sister Sok is being transferred to a library in the Midwest somewhere. Sok gets removed for socking immoderately.

**Memphis, TN** — Searching immoderately. \$35 had been stolen from one of the girls' lockers. Four female teachers were instructed to conduct a thorough search of the girls in the gym class. They made the class strip down. The assistant principal at Colonial Junior High, Palmer Mosby says they went a little too far and violated school policy. "I instructed the teachers to give the search, a thorough search, from top to bottom, but I did not give them permission to do a nude search." Unnecessary search after seizure.

**Peking, China** — Unnecessarily blue after search. Boys are in demand these days in China where the birth rate policy decrees that couples have only one child. Unfortunately, this has made for an increase in infanticide. Premier Zhao Ziyang recently spoke on this, saying: "The whole society should resolutely condemn the criminal activities of female infanticide and maltreatment of the mothers (who give birth to girls)." All babies to remain pink.

**San Diego, CA** — All that's adrift to remain ashore. 10 men and 10 women, that had been assigned to the USS Dixon and USS McKee, are being dishonorably discharged for their homosexuality. The Weekly News reports that the Navy had been conducting a thorough investigation of the practices on board these "two nuclear submarine tender ships." Obviously, too tender for this adventure.

**London, England** — Two years before the divorce. Two years after the ceremony, a judge here has finally granted an uncontested divorce for a marriage which he termed "a farce." Mehran and Denise Derakhshan had been married back in 1980. Two minutes after the ceremony Denise disappeared complaining of a headache. Mehran says he hasn't heard from her since. "Denise never gave me a reason for walking out," said Mehran. Two minutes too much of just about anything will give you a headache.

**Enid, OK** — Too much prayer is just too bad. Juror Harold Moler says that the jury felt the law was absurd, but that they had no choice but to acquit a couple who tried to heal their 9-year-old son. While they prayed, the son died of a ruptured appendix. The law says you can't prosecute someone in an "established" church who tries to heal with prayer. OK: not moving, while praying to move guts, is fine.

**Westland, Detroit** — It just the way fate bounces. Charles J. Borg, Jr., 18, had been having a lousy time at bowling that night and decided he'd just throw that "crummy, old bowling ball" out the window of his friend's car. Later, Charles heard news reports about how his ball had bounced off the hood of Thomas Hart's car, then crashed through the windshield into Hart's head — killing him. Borg, Jr. turned himself in and now faces manslaughter charges. No strikes, one down.

**Greenwood, IN** — Almost one less master to purr for. Dale Davis' cat jumped up onto a coffee table and managed to discharge a .38 into his master's right little finger. Shooting the hand that feeds.

### Exclusive Interview

## Britt: New Partnership Proposal 'Clearly Weaker'

The Sentinel: Supervisor Britt, you met with Mayor Feinstein last Friday afternoon. Can you tell us what happened at that meeting?

**Britt:** I don't know how much of that I can reveal just yet. But I did have a long and intense meeting with the mayor, and it is clear that her problems with the domestic partnerships ordinance is more than just the wording of it. She has a basic reluctance to do anything that would validate non-traditional relationships. She keeps describing the ordinance as being "poorly written," which I find to be an insult to Matt Coles, the finest writer of ordinances that the gay community has. And she gave me a reason has that says can't have children so that's the sort of level our conversation was at.

Yet earlier this week you did propose a number of changes to the original ordinance. Will you explain them?

Well, the new proposal is essentially the same as the original one, only we have eliminated the granting of all benefits. However, it will establish a procedure for registering relationships so that the city or anyone else can have an official record of them.

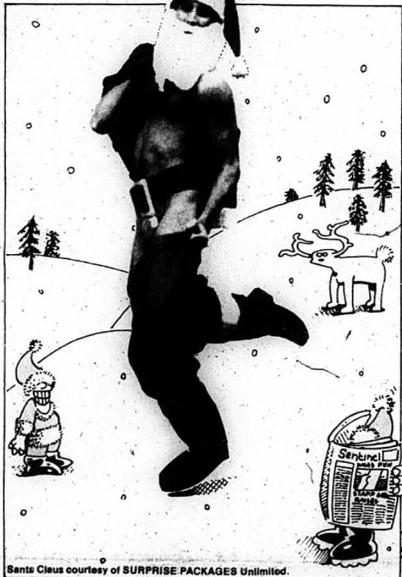
And we have decided to no longer exclude blood relations from the proposal seeing as how the benefits aren't being granted. We're establishing hospital and jail visitation privileges and even extending this to non-city-run

hospitals which the original proposal did not do. Finally, we are asking that Mayor Feinstein meet with the Health Services Board and within one year come up with a proposal to extend benefits to domestic partner relationships. And the Civil Service Commission is requested



to deal with the issue of bereavement leave. Some of these things we never did have the power to do, and we've known that all along. The only way is for the mayor to do them, which she never would if she remains hostile to the whole concept. Clearly this new proposal is weaker than the original one... there is no protection against discrimination in future benefits, for

# Feinstein & Britt Finally Agree: First Benefits Proposal 'Dead'



Santa Claus courtesy of SURPRISE PACKAGES Unlimited.

## Closeted GOP Reps Knocked

California State Assemblywoman Maxine Waters (D-Los Angeles) has urged gay political activists to lobby "homosexual Republican legislators" on behalf of AB 1, a bill which would prohibit discrimination in employment because of sexual preference.

Waters said most Democrats in the Assembly support the bill, but that it is still opposed by Republicans, some of whom she believes are closeted homosexuals.

"What I'm really saying is that from what I have seen, they are dishonest in dealing with this issue," Waters told the Municipal Elections Committee of Los

Angeles. "If I sat up there as a black woman and voted against affirmative action and, you know, whatever, that would be just strange to me. And that's what I feel about people who are gay and who sit in decision-making areas and do not support the gay or lesbian point of view," she said.

The committee she was addressing has emerged as a powerful voice of the gay and lesbian community. It has spent large sums in elections and has been an aggressive supporter of AB 1, which was introduced by Assemblyman Art Agnos of San Francisco.

### Exclusive Interview

## Feinstein: We Must Find 'A Workable Solution'

The Sentinel: What were the specific reasons behind your veto of the domestic partnerships ordinance?

**Feinstein:** They were the arguments I related in my veto message to the Board of Supervisors. (In this letter the mayor wrote, "The legislation itself is vague and unclear. The ordinance neither defines what it will do, suggests its cost or makes clear how it can be administered.")

I deeply believe that an issue like this, which is on the cutting edge of society, demands more discussion, more testimony, extensive public hearings. The ordinance tried to take too much into consideration at one time. And the Health Services System had problems and difficulties with it.

How much did the letter from Archbishop Quinn influence your veto decision?

It is fair to say that it was a factor in my decision, but just one of the factors. Quinn's comments were just one of many statements I received and considered.

But I was disappointed in the gay community's response to Quinn's statement. I was sorry to see St. Mary's picketed. The church has an obligation to speak out on these kinds of issues. I'm not saying I follow everything they say, but it is important to keep an open, on-going dialogue.

What was your reaction to all the gay demonstrations against you following the veto?

by Gary Schweikhart  
Both Mayor DiAnne Feinstein and Supervisor Harry Britt agree that the recently-vetoed domestic partnerships ordinance is "dead." Their comments came in separate interviews with The Sentinel.

"The original legislation for all intents and purposes is dead. But the issue itself isn't dead, it just needs more thought," explained Feinstein.

After what he described as "a long and intense meeting" with the mayor last Friday afternoon, Supervisor Britt has offered some substantial changes to his vetoed ordinance. These changes would include the removal of all references to domestic partnerships that would "put them on an equal footing with marriage," said Britt, who admitted, "Clearly this new proposal is weaker than the original one."

Other changes proposed by Britt include the elimination of eligibility for benefits to domestic partners of city employees, a request that the mayor and the Health Services Board report back in one year with a plan to grant city benefits to relationships, and the fact that blood relatives will no longer be excluded from entering into a domestic partner relationship with one another.

The vetoed ordinance, which was proposed by Britt and passed by the Board of Supervisors on an 8-to-3 vote, would have established a verification procedure for domestic partnerships. It also declared, "Whenever the City and County of San Francisco uses marriage as a factor in making any decision (including, but not limited to, the availability of any service, privilege, or employment benefit), it shall use domestic partnership in the same way."

"The fundamental reason behind (this ordinance) is to challenge the straight world to recognize gay/lesbian relationships and to start dealing with us as human beings and not as second class citizens," Britt told The Sentinel.

The ordinance was vetoed by the mayor on Dec. 9. In her veto letter to the Board of Supervisors, Feinstein wrote, "There is a striking confusion and division about how the legislation will affect the community. Some see the

legislation as 'cosmetic,' some as destructive to marriage, some as recognizing the needs of a large number of single citizens. But it is clear that in the construction of the legislation, there is uncertainty as to meaning, interpretation and impact."

Feinstein particularly objected to "the provision of the ordinance that would permit persons who live together for as little as a day to declare themselves domestic partners... without binding legal obligation or mutual responsibility."

The mayor was also afflicted that "the legislation was drafted and enacted without consulting the public."

The veto brought an immediate angry reaction from segments of the gay community. About 350 to 400 demonstrators shouted "Dump Dianne" at a hastily-arranged protest later that day. And the mayor was then "disinvited" from appearing at a fundraiser in Houston for the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a national organization which funnels money into the campaign coffers of pro-gay rights candidates. (Feinstein was replaced in Houston by Lia Belli, president of the California Democratic Council, who flew to Texas at the last moment.)

Because many gay and lesbian people connected the mayor's veto with a letter she had received earlier in the week from Archbishop John Quinn (who wrote, "To equate a domestic partnership with the lawful and stable commitment of marriage contradicts and imperils the deepest values of our common, public moral heritage and damages the fundamental well-being of society"), several anti-Quinn protests were held outside of St. Mary's Cathedral.

After two of the original backers of the legislation (Supervisors Willis Kennedy and Louise Renne) withdrew their support, chances of a veto override were drastically diminished. The Board of Supervisors then returned the vetoed ordinance to the Civil Service and General Administration Committee for further recommendation.

This committee's scheduled public hearing, for Dec. 30 has been cancelled by Supervisor Britt.

Well, I know now that the negative reaction wasn't unanimous. I keep getting letters and statements of support from the gay community. People keep telling me that they don't support the legislation and that the (so-called) leaders don't speak for them.

But I've also received some



very vicious mail, some accusations and threats, and this saddens me deeply. And I'm also saddened by those with the attitude of "either go along with us or we'll drive you out of office." I'll never succumb to pressure like that. I'll just redouble my efforts to find a workable solution.

We have all been through a lot over the last 12 years, but San Francisco remains an open and tolerant city... and on the subject

of gay rights, this is probably the most enlightened city anywhere.

To reach this "workable solution," what changes in the ordinance would you support?

I'm not an expert on domestic partnerships, or on marriage for that matter, but this is new legislation that widely affects the whole spectrum of society. It can't just be thrust upon us and bingy... anyone who is an adult and shares the economic necessities is eligible. No, there must be more limitations than that. We have to know what the mutual obligations are of both parties, and we don't know at this stage. Is one assuming the responsibility for care and support of the other person? Does joint tenure count? All of these civil responsibilities need to be discussed.

It is true that there are a lot of people (in San Francisco) who have relationships that aren't authenticated, verified or sanctified by the marriage act, and who want to establish a way for authentication of their commitment. But we have to spell out specifics like the amount of time together. As written, any two people could claim a domestic partner relationship even if they had only known one another for just one day. You can't just ignore all implications and let the benefits flow. That would be nonsense.

However, everyone is entitled to a dependent... be it a spouse, a lover, a live-in uncle, an invalid

Continued on page 7

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**BAY**

her former employer for discrimination on the basis of sexual preference. Cherie Buckingham is seeking \$100,000 and an injunction against the lab that would prohibit them from similar discrimination in the future.  
—Gay Community News

**NATION**

**Well, It's About Time . . .!**

**New York, N.Y.** — A new nationwide survey shows 55 percent of registered voters favor a law prohibiting discrimination against homosexuals in housing and employment, says statisticians from Penn and Schoen Associates. Support for lesbian and gay rights is strongest among higher income and young voters. Among Democrats, 57 percent favored such a bill, while only 49 percent of the Republicans would.  
—Lun

**Lampoon Harpooned**

**Washington, D.C.** — The publisher of the *National Lampoon* has sent an apology to Representative Nick Joe Rahill (Dem., W. Va.) for an article that satirically depicted the congressman as intimately involved with a House page. The statement from publisher Julian Weber said, "We are sure there is no basis in fact and not one shred of evidence in our possession that you have been involved in the kind of conduct you described in the editorial." Although Rahill has never been under investigation by the ethics committee, he felt it necessary to demand the apology and hold a press conference exonerating him of accusations of gay sex.  
—Dallas Gay News



**Prison Rape**

**Washington, D.C.** — A federal study of rape in prisons show that gay men who are effeminate are four times more likely to be raped than other men. The study also suggests that strong anti-gay rules in prisons would help ease the problem. Suggesting that "a change in attitude by gays, rather than a change in rapists' attitudes" would ease the situation. The survey recommends an atmosphere of sexual repression and "a sense of sin" regarding homosexuality in prisons.  
—GayLife

**Gay Beats Six**

**Cambridge, Mass.** — The newly elected chairman of the Harvard University undergraduate council is an openly gay man. Michael Colantuono, 24, beat out six other candidates.

**WORLD**

**Gay OK**

**London, Eng.** — The British Parliament has voted to abolish the laws in Northern Ireland against private homosexual acts between consenting adults. The 168-21 vote brings the laws of Northern Ireland into line with the rest of the United Kingdom.  
—Gay Community News

**International Lesbian Year**

**Stockholm, Swe.** — The International Lesbian Information Service (ILIS) has agreed to postpone International Lesbian Year — originally set for 1983 — to 1984, so that it can be held in conjunction with a similar proclamation made by the International Gay Association.  
—Body Politic

**Hey, Gray Gays**

**San Francisco** — The second National Conference on Lesbian and Gay Aging will be held here June 24-25, 1983. The conference will provide communication across generations for lesbians and gay men of all ages. People who would like to give a life history, presentation, paper, exhibit, film or demonstration at this conference, should send a summary of same to Program Committee, National Association of Lesbian and Gay Gerontologists, 1290 Sutter st., Suite 8, San Francisco, 94109.

**STATE**

**Here We Go Again . . .**

**Sacramento, CA** — Thirteen members of the California State Assembly have joined with Assemblyman Art Agnos (D-San Francisco) in sponsoring AB 1, the gay employment rights bill. Majority Floor Leader Mike Roos (D-Los Angeles) became a principal co-author of the legislation which would ban discrimination in employment on the basis of sexual preference. Agnos urges all supporters of AB 1 to begin writing letters to their legislators immediately, with copies to his (Agnos) office.

**Lesbian Nuked**

**Livermore, Ca.** — A lesbian who was recently fired from her security guard post at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory is suing

**Free Feast**

**San Francisco** — The Pride Foundation will host its annual free Christmas dinner this Saturday from Noon to 2:00 P.M. It'll be served at the Pride Foundation, 890 Hayes St. Volunteers are still needed to help serve and clean up. If you have a little extra Christmas cheer to spread around, call 863-9000.

**Coalition Condition**

**San Francisco** — The 18-month old Coalition for Human Rights has appointed a new executive committee. Pat Norman and Randy Stallings are the new co-chairs; Mark Feldman, treasurer; Diane Christensen, administration and information chair; Chris Bowman and Maggie Rubinstein, co-chairs of the education committee; Stafford Buckley and Catherine Cusic, co-chairs of the issues committee; Jackie Winow, chair of the media committee; and Bernice Lee and Al Schroeder, co-chairs of the outreach committee. The CHR is an umbrella group of over 50 predominantly gay, lesbian and bisexual organizations and individuals who are "committed to the human rights of all people and to actively fighting the New Right."

The next general meeting of CHR will be at the New College, 777 Valencia St., Jan. 19, at 5:30 P.M. The public is invited. Call Diane at 864-3112 for more information.

**Horn Veeped**

**San Francisco** — Local gay lawyer Tom Horn has been elected vice-president of the War Memorial Board. Horn, a columnist for *The Voice*, was first appointed to the board of trustees by Mayor Diame Feinstein last year.

**Orphan Andy's**

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# ON THE LEFT

# ON THE RIGHT

## Sick PACs to Go

by Len Evans

Reforming the electoral system is one of those fine liberal notions that belies the never-never land naïveté of that brand of political thinking. It offers a placebo, a quick fix at best to mask the symptoms afflicting a system that is cancerous to its core.

The proliferation of political action committees (PACs) resulted from such reform — a reform that failed miserably in its stated goal to lower campaign costs and limit the size of campaign contributions. The loophole was the PAC. It has allowed the kingmakers to deliver the boodle in a myriad of devious ways, while the politicians continue to sell their wares, though a bit more discretely.

Is it any wonder? It is the politicians, after all, who write the reforms. Those same politicians who last fall fought their way into office in one of the slimmest campaigns in recent memory; who gerrymandered the state into an Orwellian jigsaw puzzle that largely disenfranchises minorities and the poor; and who, like scum, have risen to the top.

It tortures credibility to even hope that those so adept at getting their fingers in the public till could be so highminded and principled as to make getting to the till an honest and forthright endeavor. Expecting our illustrious lawmakers to reform the electoral laws is like handing the key to the liquor cabinet to an alcoholic. In neither case is reform likely.

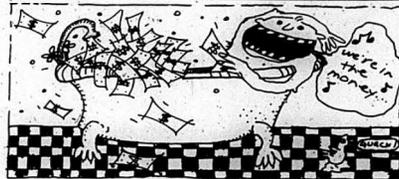
While the election law reform that brought us the heyday of the PACs did nothing to dry up the flow of cash from corporate and reactionary interest groups to receptive politicians, it did have the effect of scaring off contributions to less popular causes.

### Survival of a Free Congress

• The question of the week: Is the mayor's re-election in doubt due to her veto of the domestic partner's legislation? A well-known gay consulting firm is gearing up for an extensive campaign themed "A.B.F." (Anybody But Feinstein). Any bets on who their candidate will be? Speaking of bets, workers in one city department are giving the odds that Supervisor Hongisto will run and win. Assemblyman Art Agnos has categorically ruled out running in 1983 while Supervisors Kopp and Nelder are considering the possibility.

• Sheriff Michael Hennessy is getting off to an early start on his re-election campaign. His administration has been productive and successful on all levels — it doesn't look like he will have to face any serious challenger. The District Attorney's race on the other hand may prove to be an exciting contest among three or four formidable candidates.

• The next Board of Supervisors race is more than 22 months away and there certainly won't be a shortage of candidates from the



The issue under discussion: Should the power of Political Action Committees be regulated?

## Playing PAC, Man!

by Thomas M. Edwards

Responding to a query with a question is an adversarial ploy intended to obfuscate. Such is not my intent when I inquire, "Why, every time an excessive abuse occurs, must it be assumed that government regulation is the only cure?"

Political Action Committees, dating to the outrageous CIO-PAC of the thirties, have obviously gone far beyond reason and control, both in finances and influence. So all invading have they become, in fact, that a few issues back *Time* magazine effectively compared the ideological PACs to the idiot PACs — of the video variety. The latter consumes our free time and the former, whether from right or left (or from economics to religion) consumes our free franchise.

However, irrespective of how offensive or compatible these mental or mechanical cannibals appear, they are but one of the "price-tags" we must pay for the luxury of living in the best possible of all governments.

Respective of any far-reaching motive behind the PAC's entry into our electoral process, they have only one basic reason for existence: to garner, obtain and

otherwise promote special interest legislation. Cosmetized and glamorized though they be by sophisticated computers and media oriented gimmicks, they are nothing more than back-room lobbies.

PACs survive because we the people keep them alive, believing they will lobby our elected representatives on our individual and/or collective behalves. To sustain them, and the corrupting influence they eagerly assert in Congress (and lesser bodies) we mail them funds, elicited via computerized mailings. It is all your vote and your concern over any given issue means to you?

Not so long ago, the United States Supreme Court affirmed the concept of "one man, one vote." In many instances, Election will, speak both individually and collectively as pertains to candidates and issues which are of vital concern.

Further, who needs any more regulatory agencies? PACs, not unlike other industries in the private sector, can be regulated by the very people whom they seek to regulate, and that is precisely as it should be.

Obviously they have the right to exist, and that right must be preserved. The fact that they have become excessive and abusive demonstrates that they, lacking self-control, are neither efficacious nor responsive to the public interest. We need neither them, nor governmental interference, on our behalf to regulate them. That would do no more than open the door for a PAC to assure that government was controlling the PACs. Remember, even as to abuses inherent within our system, "government is best which governs the least."

V.P. spot is still being "worked out." Craig, by the way, is looking for a new job, having decided to quit the Sheriff's Dept. rather than go through the rigorous academy training program.

• Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights officers were installed with the assistance of Senator Milton Marks. New President Bob Bauci called for greater involvement of the club in local hearings and more vigorous participation in the activities of the gay community.

• The Stonewall Gay Democratic Club has a benefit scheduled at Valencia Rose on Jan. 6, 8 P.M., featuring Charles Bush (85).

• Agar Jaicks is resigning his chairmanship of the Democratic Party County Central Committee to "make room for the younger generation." Linda Post, the front runner for new committee chair would be the first woman to hold that position.

• The word going around City Hall is that a grand jury will be looking into the Mission Police station's management procedures. Here's Arlo Smith's chance to

score points with the gay community. Meanwhile, a very lengthy report is available from the Police Commission on proposals for the implementation of Prop. A (Office of Civilian Complaints).

• The Mayor's Task Force on the Homeless-meets on a daily basis to monitor an ever-growing tragedy in our city. A proposal is due to be released soon detailing a long-range plan. The big media in town are forming a coalition to raise large amounts of money to finance the project. Donations can be addressed to Mayor's Help the Homeless Fund, P.O. Box 11020, San Francisco, CA 94110.

• Several San Mateo gays are hoping to organize a Peninsula Business and Professional Guild. The group, which has been meeting for the last 3 months, includes members of *The Advocate* staff.

• Watch for the Dove Club, a well known I.R.A. hangout on 18th St., to be joining the Tavern Guild. Anyone interested in joining a gay bar's team should contact the bar's owner, Paddy Nolan, 552-0774. (How does one play gay darts?)



WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO FIND UNDER YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE?

Asked on Castro Street.



**Bruce, scenic designer, Pacific Hts:** Mike is in San Diego and right now I'm trying to figure out a way to get a little Santa Claus to get me down there to see him... we're both broke. I'm in the desperate throes of love, I guess.



**Pat, bookkeeper, Castro:** Bette Midler because she's such a trip. I didn't get a ticket to her concert, but I've heard from people that have, that she's just great.



**Jason, transportation, Marina:** I think I'd be quite satisfied with my wife and child.



**Dusty, gardener, Duboce:** An old high school friend of mine, named Pete, who was my first infatuation.

## POLITICAL CORNER

### of Coors, Of Course

By Sal Rosselli

• The Adolph Coors Company is attempting to obtain the membership and contributor lists of Solidarity/Lesbian/Gay Liberation in their harassment suit against that group in U.S. District Courts here. The Court Magistrate recently ruled that Solidarity's First Amendment rights were not threatened. A shocking decision! ACLU lawyers for Solidarity strongly disagreed and have filed an 80 page appeal with Judge Spencer Williams. A recent U.S. Supreme Court decision unanimously found in favor of a socialist organization similarly threatened.

The multimillion dollar a year business, which is solely owned and controlled by the right wing Coors family, is stepping up its

campaign to bust the long standing successful Coors boycott by the gay community. Coors is planning an expense paid trip for several gay publishers to go to Colorado where they will be charmed by company heavies. Coors has enlisted the aid of Leonard Matlovich, who recently opened a pizza parlor on the Russian River, to use his influence with the gay press.

Coors seems to want it both ways. While the brewery seeks a larger share of the gay market, it continues to flow dollars to the leading homophobes in Congress, including Jesse Helms and John Russett. The Coors dynasty is also a major bank roller of many viciously anti-gay organizations such as the Committee for the

lesbian/gay community. *Bay Area Reporter* publisher Bob Ross hinted he may run at a party for Jack Campbell in Miami two weeks ago. Also expressing interest are Wayne Friday, Brandy Moore and Greg Day. Dave Wharton hasn't stopped campaigning since last month's race. Former Harvey Milk aide Anne Kronenberg, who had the most solid support from the lesbian/gay community for a seat Harry Britt was appointed to, is keeping her options open.

• The Alice B. Toklas executive board will have some changes next year with several people running for issues. Membership and Political Action chairs, Stonewall Gay Democratic Club officer Greg Day, is among those considering joining Alice's leadership. Club members have a choice for president between Randy Stallings and Brandy Moore, an aide to Supervisor Doris Ward.

• Harvey Milk Club, Vice President Ron Huberman has decided to support Gwern Craig's decision to run for an unprecedented third term for president. He will remain as Political V.P. while the Internal

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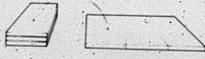
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# LETTERS

## NELDER'S NOSTRUM

I was pulled by Wendy Nelder's interview with Gary Schweikhart. How can any politician be so naive as to believe San Francisco's drinking water is the primary cause of gay cancer and hepatitis. If that were the only problem we could all just switch to Calistoga and Perrier.

It seems to me with her "peppermint personality," and look of "an adorable second grade teacher," this supervisor with a first century mind would be of more service to the community in the Head Start Program.

Nelder's tribute to our *joie de vivre*, and "plus you people are so creative" is like telling the black voters she admires their rhythm.

I think I would respect her more if she admired our "esprit de whore," and reputation for giving the best decorated orgies in town.

Tom Youngblood

San Francisco

## MAYOR CHERED

I oppose the "domestic partnership" legislation passed by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, and I applaud the Mayor's veto.

Imperfect as the institution of marriage and the traditional nuclear family might be, it is still the foundation of our free society. It may be old fashion and unpopular in this modern age to defend traditional family values. But if the gay community would take the time to look beyond their own special interests, and yes, their selfishness, they would find that their freedom to live the lifestyle of their own choosing, exists because the traditional family has been the foundation of individual freedom.

In San Francisco, where many gays have migrated, too many have forgotten their traditional families. Too many gays have forgotten the many sacrifices made for them, by their "traditional nuclear family."

I believe that if the nuclear family is ever destroyed or undermined, so, too, will freedom by destroyed — and without freedom, the gays could not even live the lifestyle for which they have been fighting.

William Tocco

San Francisco

## VERRIDE VETO

It seems that Archbishop Quinn and Mayor Feinstein are determined to finish the job that Dan White started. After the Archbishop opposed allowing all domestic partners equal rights for hospital visitation and to attend funerals, the Mayor vetoed the legislation. The Board of Supervisors, having passed the legislation by an 8 to 3 vote, must override her veto, or be honest and admit that religious bigotry, homophobia, and sexism still dominate supposedly "liberal" San Francisco.

R. Hunter Morey, MSW  
Member, Black and White Men Together

## MARKS FOR MAYOR

I was one who loyally supported the Phil Burton campaign and agreed with the advertisement that ran in *The Sentinel* in Oct. and Nov. — "Not This Time Milton Marks."

In the wake of Ms. Feinstein's veto of our live-in lover's bill, in continually being disappointed by the pseudo-support of our gay community by the mayor I now call *The Most Visible Candidate* to lead us. Now! Milton Marks. Now! We need a true supporter in City Hall. Now! Mr. Marks can count on 95 to 99 percent support of us, along with other progressives who value human rights above political expediency. Our slogan, our advertisements, our support will be: Now — Milton Marks — Now.

John A. Reed

San Francisco

## BOO BRITT

As a gay person, as a humanist, and as a term of the city of San Francisco, I am writing to express my extreme irritation with the divisiveness and personal arrogance reflected by Supervisor Harry Britt's recently proposed (and vetoed) "live-in lover" legislation.

A few points to consider: (1) In reality, this proposed ordinance sought only to further the financial benefits provided to a limited number of city employees. It did not address any significant issues of personal or sexual discrimination in terms of fair employment or housing opportunities or the freedoms of individual expression.

(2) As proposed, this ordinance was legally anemic and unenforceable in terms of the definition of "lover" (or a "significant other") within a homosexual or a heterosexual relationship.

To remedy this situation, two possibilities exist: (a) the state could institute a legally-recognized "marriage" for persons of the same sex; or (b) all single persons (gay or straight) could be given the option of designating a "significant other" as the law's current substitution for the equivalent definition of "spouse."

(3) Harry Britt's conduct in proposing and advocating this measure reflects a noticeable lack of legal sophistication and intellectual depth. Also (and apart from the limited financial benefits which his ordinance promises for city employees), it appears to be primarily self-serving and demagogic in purpose.

In summary, Harry Britt's performance as a political office holder and as a representative of the gay community fails to incorporate a proper and much-needed balance of social compassion with rational intelligence.

To put it more bluntly: Britt is simply another bad politician whose sexuality has little bearing on his lack of professional competence.

Eric Hollman

San Francisco



## NEATO VETO

Once again I speak out in support of our Archbishop, especially on his letter to Mayor Feinstein regarding the rights of Domestic Partners.

The Archbishop did not break separation of Church and State in his letter. He did not request a veto, rather he stated his opinion, which is his right as a citizen and his obligation as a priest.

He stated clearly that domestic partners have needs that should be filled. He objected to the inference that marriage and domestic partnerships are equal.

A stroll down Polk Street is all one needs to see what damage the obsolescence of traditional family structures has done to today's youth.

The recent epidemic of AIDS is all we need to know to show us that something is wrong.

If gays are to make any progress in the Church, we need to stop fighting the Archbishop and start trying to understand his message.

Richard J. Hammond

San Francisco

## DUMP DIANNE

As much as I disagree with Mayor Feinstein's veto of the "domestic partners" ordinance, there is something positive in this development. For now, I and other members of the gay/lesbian community are once and for all psychologically and politically free to totally disavow Feinstein.

Feinstein has finally and irrevocably been unmasked for the homophobic bigot that she is. Our community will simply not accept her lame excuse for the exercise of her veto. Charges by homophobic opponents of gay rights legislation have always included references to *vogue* and *under* language and intent. The New Right has made similar accusations against the Equal Rights Amendment.

But what, in fact, really agitates

Feinstein is the equation made in the ordinance between gay and non-gay couples. She simply does not, cannot, put us on an equal footing with herself.

Next year, we will respond to her actions in kind. The gay community will aggressively declare through the ballot box that the Mayor is simply unequal to the task, indeed the obligation, of representing all her constituents.

John Mahring

San Francisco

## FROM A FAN

My compliments on a terrific newspaper. I have wanted to write many times in the past. Gary Schweikhart's interview with AIDS victim and former *Sentinel* owner, Charles Morris, moved me deeply and I could not put off writing any longer. Mr. Morris has done a brave thing by coming out as an AIDS victim. Particularly important was the precise run down of symptoms ("... night sweats had that I often had to change the sheets...") and the fact that here is a man who did not use drugs, did not sit in the tubs at the Caudron and have sex with miles of people, and yet he got it. This piece stands as a persuasive support for the virus (as put off to the lifestyle) theory of AIDS. Schweikhart's reporting is, as usual, sterling.

I am also a fan of Bobbi Campbell's column, "Well and Good", and await his return to your pages with eagerness. Campbell and Morris are just ordinary guys, like you and me, who have drawn an unlucky card in life. What makes them extraordinary is that they have summoned up the nitty-gritty courage to face the situation publicly, play out their hands and teach us all a lesson about the enduring, indestructible nobility of the human spirit.

Bravo to both men. My heart — and, yes, my prayers — are with you.

John Calendo

Editor, *Blueboy*

# EDITORIAL

## Open Mouths & Open Minds

by Gary Schweikhart

It has been a noisy couple of weeks to say the very least. The decision by Mayor Dianne Feinstein to veto the domestic partnership ordinance, and the subsequent protests from here to Houston, have given birth to both headlines and headaches.

The players in this particular political soap opera are legion, ranging from the crusty, maxim-spouting Archbishop (just expressing his personal opinion, of course) to the feisty, placard-waving protestors (just expressing theirs as well).

There are the lady mayor and the gay supervisor, who both have (and both deny) national ambitions which are, in fact, elevated by this controversy. Feinstein is cementing her good standing with the conservative wing of the Democratic Party (a political necessity for any would-be vice-presidential nominee), while Harry Britt, a definite media hound, gets the opportunity to play wounded fawn in front of sympathetic groups and newspapers from coast to coast.

What has been lost in all of this post-veto uproar is the legislation itself. We happen to believe that Mayor Feinstein had legitimate reasons (as opposed to obviously political ones) for taking the action she did, but we are also convinced that this is a very real and serious issue that needs to be addressed.

In her exclusive interview with *The Sentinel* last week, Feinstein promised to "find a workable solution." And Supervisor Britt, during his interview, admitted, "If Mayor Feinstein really believes that gay and nontraditional relationships need to be recognized by the law, then we can work it out."

We intend to hold both Mayor Feinstein and Supervisor Britt to their words. If this legislation really is meant to rectify long-held wrongs (as both the mayor and supervisor agree), then it is paramount that an effective compromise be reached. If, however, this matter is not meant as legislation but as a cynical campaign posture, then all hopes of such compromise are certain to be dashed against the jagged rocks of political expediency.

Where, then, do the two sides differ? And how can these differences be resolved?

The mayor, in her words, is bothered by the fact that "as written, any two people could claim a domestic partner relationship even if they had never been together."

Mayor Feinstein is missing the facts it seems to us, while Supervisor Britt is just missing the point.

"We work it out," she says, "one day." Supervisor Britt, on the other hand, dismisses this complaint with an airy, "Two straight people can meet, fall in love at first sight, and get married on the same day. Why not gay people?"

The mayor is missing the facts here, it seems to us, while the supervisor is missing the point. There is a distinct difference between establishing a partnership and actual eligibility for benefits. Any partnership, whether gay or straight, can be started after a single day, but the vetoed ordinance specifically required that a relationship "be in existence for one year before any benefit becomes available because of the domestic relationship."

Therefore, this particular snag seems easily solved. But to do so will take open minds as well as open mouths.

The mayor also says she would like the domestic partnership idea to be expanded to include relatives. "That's the way to approach this issue... opening it up to all who are economically dependent," said Feinstein. And both Supervisor Wendy Nelder and a spokesperson for the Archbishop have admitted to us that they would also go along with this change.

The only person objecting to it seems to be Britt, who huffs and puffs that "this would destroy the entire Health Service System... that's what the insurance experts are telling me."

Well, that is not what the insurance experts are telling us. Privately, they admit to having a fear that everyone would sign up their aging parents, and this really would skew the actuarial tables. But barring this farfetched scenario, however, they would have no objections. "In fact, the more people in the pool, the more likely it is that the rates for everyone will decrease," confided one City Hall insurance expert.

When asked about this, Britt bristled. "Is anyone bringing up this relative business when it comes to an issue involving gay and lesbian people? There was all this indignation in the past when they passed measures that discriminated against us?"

While the supervisor's complaint may be emotionally valid, it strikes us as being rather politically petulant. We are not talking about another "you first, me first" squabble, but about achieving some long overdue benefits and legal recognition for a group of unmarried (as opposed to unpartnered) people who make up the majority of San Francisco citizens.

However, if an agreement is to be reached, it must be done by Mayor Feinstein and Supervisor Britt. If either one or both fail to do so, then the gay community will have every reason to reject him, her, or them next year.

In other words, this is the time for reason, not rant... for dialogue, not diatribe.

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# ON LIVE!

## Vetomania

with Randy Allred  
**TOLERATION YES; REGISTRATION NO:** That is the apparent attitude of Board of Supervisors President Quentin Kopp, four of his colleagues, and Mayor Dianne Feinstein, all of whom now oppose Supervisor Harry Britt's Domestic Partners Registration Ordinance.

It's now almost four years since Kopp refused to vote for a certificate honoring lesbian-rights pioneers Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon on their 25th anniversary. He uttered: "Twenty-fifth anniversary of what?" and "Toleration, yes. Glorification, no."  
 It's more than ironic that we are frequently chastised for being incapable of or willing to form long-term relationships, but meet heavy opposition when we attempt to build the institutional infrastructure to support them.

**FIRST AID:** In the meantime, if you are in a relationship and would like to draw up legal documents to give you hospital-visitation and other rights, I strongly recommend *A Legal Guide for Lesbian and Gay Couples* (Addison-Wesley/Nolo Press, \$10.95), by Oakland attorneys Hayden Curry and Dennis Clifford. It contains ready-to-fill-out medical-power-of-attorney forms, sample living-together contracts, and scads of other valuable information.

**SEE ENVELOPE PLEASE:** And now, the Domie Awards. We start with the Exquisite Timing Award, a tie between Feinstein, for vetoing the domestic-partners ordinance the day before she was scheduled to keynote a gay fund-raiser in Houston, and Britt, for making a speaking tour of East Coast cities while the mayor considered the issue.

**Most Intemperate Language by a Cleric:** Most Rev. John Quinn, Archbishop of San Francisco, who wrote the mayor, the ordinance is "severely inimical to marriage and the family" and "contradicts and imperils the deepest values of our common: public moral heritage and damages the fundamental well-being of society."

**Most Intemperate Language by a Politico:** Randy Stallings, issues chair of the Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club, who told anti-veto demonstrators, "The mayor... had better know that we will not put up with four more years of an administration that's key words are bigotry, ignorance and intolerance."  
 "Right-on" language by a Cleric: Sister Boom Boom, who said Quinn thinks the measure "would tear at the fabric of society [but] we're not tearing at the fabric. We're just letting out the seams so we can grow."

**Right-on Language by a Politico:** Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver, who told her colleagues, "those who have 'single' as their designation do not necessarily have 'lonely' as their condition."

And finally, Understatement of the Year: Lady D.F.F., for calling the veto "a setback" in her relations with the gay community.

**PROMISES, PROMISES:** In her 1979 mayoral bid, Feinstein pro-

mised proportional representation of gay people on the city's boards and commissions. She has 178 such appointments at her disposal.

Using the 15 percent figure accepted by her office, there should be about 26 gay men and lesbians serving on these panels. There are only a dozen.

Feinstein also promised to visit the city's high schools to speak out against anti-gay violence. She has not done so. Her assistant press secretary, Bill Straw, says she has had Mission High's student body officers into her office to discuss the problem and has also set up the Inter-group Clearinghouse to reduce minority tensions.

Feinstein strengthened eviction controls but refused to eliminate the vacancy-decontrol clause of the rent law. She has done pretty well on her other promises to gay voters: appointing a lesbian police commissioner; supporting low-interest housing bonds, modest increases in business taxes; and district elections; and maintaining the level of health care. She also requested \$293,000 in city funds this year for research on and treatment of AIDS diseases.

**BRIDGE MIX:** Quentin Kopp wants a permanent, two-foot-wide, concrete, anti-collision barrier installed between lanes 3 and 4 of the Golden Gate Bridge when its deck is replaced next year. Problem is, that'll leave a maximum of three lanes (instead of the current four) available to rush-hour traffic. Why not instead install two, one-foot-wide, steel barriers? Run two lanes southbound, two northbound, and use the middle two for rush hour traffic as needed.

January 5, by the way, is the 50th anniversary of the official start of construction on the bridge, though groundbreaking did not occur until Feb. 26, 1933.

**SUPER:** Super Bowl XIX at Stanford on Jan. 20, 1985, will be the day before the presidential inauguration. The stadium is within crowd-roaring distance of the Hoover Institute, where some of many of Ronald Reagan's advisors. Will they be at Stanford that day as visitors or perhaps as returning residents?

Will the NFL's Raiders title their 1982 season film *Raiders of the Lost Franchise?*

**THE GAY LIFE** on KFSN, 95 FM, features the Dec. 13 supervisory and Toklas Club debates on the domestic-partner ordinance. Dec. 26, 6 A.M.: UC-Med's Donald Catalano and UCSF expert Monika Keough discuss problems of and programs for aging gays and lesbians, Jan. 2, 6 A.M.

**HALLELUJAH** for all the many *Messiah* sing-alongs, but let's get a Handel on this. There are other worthy choral works, why doesn't our musically delicious San Francisco Symphony sponsor an "Ode to Joy" sing-along as part of its annual Beethoven Festival in June?

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL, AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!**



## A WOMAN'S PERSPECTIVE

### Bay Area Career Women

by Corinna Radigan  
 The only lesbian professional organization in the Bay Area, Bay Area Career Women (BACW), was represented at the second annual convention of the National Association of Business Councils (NABC) by steering committee members Vickie Driver and Anita Gherardi.

As the only all-lesbian organization in NABC, BACW received a warm reception at last month's convention in Washington, D.C.  
 In Nov. '79, a group of lesbians and gay men met in New York City to create a national organization of gay business and professional people. Since '74, a gay business movement had been developing at the local level in order to provide mutual support for gay business people. In '80, NABC was incorporated as a non-profit, tax exempt organization representing the interests of its constituent business councils.

The membership of NABC is comprised of thousands of business and professional people — gay men, lesbians, and friends and supporters of the community. NABC is not a political organization and will not participate in partisan politics. They will speak out on issues where the business interests and civil rights of the members and the community are involved. Anyone interested in joining NABC should contact the Golden Gate Business Association or BACW.

BACW will be working with NABC to get more women involved and to bring men and women together. They joined NABC in July and are the second largest organization out of 19. "Belonging to NABC provides a political arm for us and an opportunity to take a leading role in the gay community," said Vickie Driver at BACW's last business meeting. "Gay men and lesbians can work together and have a national network. We will talk with women about how they can be more active and start an organization like BACW. We also plan to participate in NABC's '83 convention in L.A."

Upcoming BACW events include a farewell to Trinity Place dance on Sat., Jan. 8 from 8-1; \$6 for members and \$8 for non-members; and the Feb. business meeting at Kimball's, 300 Grove St., Mon., Feb. 7 at 6:30 same costs. Featured speaker will be Donna Hitchens, chair of the Commission on the Status of Women and an attorney

for the Lesbian Rights Project and Equal Rights Advocates; subject — "Legal Rights of Lesbians in the Work Force."  
 Any woman interested in joining BACW should call 431-5934 for more details.

Kate Elvin, one of the owners of the hottest women's club in town, Clementina's Baybrick Inn on Folsom, says that she is trying to get a permit to keep the Baybrick open all night on weekends... also any women interested in sailing should contact Catherine of the Barbary Coast Boating Club at 751-1576 for more info... they're having a special New Year's Eve cruise to Angel Island that sounds real fun.

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### Britt: Veto Vindicates Archbishop Quinn

Continued from page 1  
behind it is to challenge the straight world to recognize our relationships and to start dealing with us as human beings and not as second class citizens.

Historically, marriage has been the sole and legitimate criterion for dependency, but in the real world of today, thousands of people aren't married. This proposal is a healthy sign that society is now looking beyond marriage for an objective criterion of dependency.

While some of the rights (hospital and jail visitation, bereavement leave) are granted administratively now, gay and lesbian people still need the protection of the law. We can't just rely on the goodwill of the current policy makers.

#### Why do you think Mayor Feinstein vetoed the ordinance?

The perception now is that she is playing into the hands of those who despise us, like Archbishop Quinn and the Moral Majority. Now if Quinn and the rest of the religious right wing want to make moral judgments, that's their privilege, no matter how uninformed or unimpressive their thoughts may be. But government can't make policy based on their morality.

Supervisor Kopp said that the mayor vetoed the proposal to ingratiate herself with the conservatives so that she can move into the national political arena in 1984. I hope that isn't so.

How influential do you think the letter from Archbishop Quinn was in her veto decision?

The Moral Majority has for a long time effectively tried to impose their narrow-minded thinking on the rest of us... and now some of the "respectable" religious leaders are joining in:

They see traditional values threatened by gay/lesbian lifestyles. And these people are given credibility by Feinstein's refusal to make clear that she'll resist their moralisms.

The mayor must have known that her veto, coming right after Quinn's statement, would be construed as a vindication of the Archbishop's comments.

One of the mayor's complaints is that you did not consult with her ahead of time on this proposal. Why didn't you?

I want to express personal resentment that Dianne Feinstein is looking for places to lay blame rather than offering any suggestions (on how to come up with a workable proposal). Checking my schedule book, I had several appointments with her over the summer that she cancelled. I had lunch with her in early November and then met with her for nearly an hour the day after this ordinance was passed by the Board of Supervisors. Furthermore, one of her aides monitored all of our public hearings. At no time did she indicate any interest in influencing the form of this legislation.

One of the mayor's objections is the lack of lead time before a partnership can be formed. Any comment?

This is just another form of homophobia. Two straight people can meet, fall in love at first sight, and get married on the same day.

Why not gay people? Or if the mayor is really insisting on a pre-marriage relationship first for gays, then she is also willing to advocate the same thing for straights?

Besides, under the ordinance, there is a one year stipulation now. This was made at the specific request of the insurance companies, and we went along with it. I think

the mayor's argument is just frivolous and an implicit putdown that gay relationships aren't as serious as straight ones. Anyway, it isn't the job of government to question the motives of couples, it is to protect the public interest.

Is there any room for compromise between you and Mayor Feinstein?

I can't compromise with any law that would make gay/lesbian relationships inferior to those of straights. She said the proposal was unclear, but I don't know how we could have made it any clearer. There were a lot of public hearings on this ahead of time, so no one can say people didn't understand what this proposal was all about.

We are going to have another hearing on this very soon. If the mayor wants to have any input now, let her do so, otherwise we'll come up with our own ordinance to be voted on when the Board of Supervisors takes this matter up again on Jan. 3.

The mayor had expressed interest in expanding your original proposal so that it would include relatives. Why were you opposed to this?

If we bring blood relations into this, it would destroy the entire Health Service System... that's what the insurance experts are telling me. It would have a disastrous effect on the whole matter, and I find it hard to believe that Dianne Feinstein doesn't know that.

And why, for that matter, are people only bringing up this relative business when it comes to an issue involving gay and lesbian people? Where was all this indignation in the past when they passed measures that discriminated against us?

So if Dianne Feinstein or anyone else wants to expand this ordinance to include relatives, let them do so. I won't.

What are your thoughts about the mayor's veto?

Dianne Feinstein had problems with the gay and lesbian community long before this veto. There is her continual failure to appoint gay/lesbian people to major commissions, her inability to deal with our problems with the police, her refusal to ride in the Gay Freedom Day Parade. Her attitude and posture has always been condescending towards us.

So where do you go from here? Well, the ball is now in Mayor Feinstein's court. Yes, the original legislation is dead. I know that. But the issue and the anger of the gay/lesbian community is still very much alive.

And even if the legislation is never passed, the energy spent on it was worth it. In a way, it isn't nearly as important to pass this ordinance as it is to confront the straight community with this issue. And maybe, through all of this enlightenment, even Dianne Feinstein might grow up a little.



Jim Foster and Lia Bell at the Houston fundraiser for the Human Rights Campaign Fund. (Photo courtesy of the California Democratic Council.)

### Veto Voices Pro & Con

• **American Civil Liberties Union, Northern California Gay Rights Chapter:** "The point is not that legally sanctioned marriages and traditionally recognized family relationships are no longer viable or worthy of respect, nor that recognizing the validity of alternatives will destroy such relationships or undermine the social fabric. The point is, rather, that the social fabric is continually changing, and that traditional marital relationships are likely to receive the greater respect they deserve... perhaps in the form of lowered divorce rates and reduced domestic violence... if relieved of being the only socially acceptable and legally recognized alternative."

• **Virginia Apuzzo, executive director of the National Gay Task Force:** "This 'veto represents a cynical posture of calculated indifference to the very structure of prejudice confronting not only lesbians and gay men, but all those who dare to shape and define their own lives."

• **Robert Bacci, president of Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights:** "The ordinance, in itself, is quite innocuous since it would have done really nothing more than allow hospital and jail visits by a domestic partner. Therefore, on its face I suppose the loss to the gay community is only minimal, but therein lies the rub."

• **Lia Bell, president of California Democratic Council:** "As a longtime fighter for the human rights agenda, and out of my very real sense of brother and sisterhood with the movement, I was proud to fly to Houston, not to replace Mayor Feinstein, but to demonstrate our support for the work of the Human Rights Campaign Fund."

• **Catholics for Human Dignity:** "The Archbishop falsely perceives any extension of rights to unmarried domestic partners as a threat to marriage, family and civilization. CHD pledges vigorously to pursue dialogue with our church leaders to dispel these myths so that everyone might work together for reconciliation and justice for all."

• **Coalition for Human Rights:** "We find Mayor Feinstein's 'veto of the domestic partnership legislation unconvincing, contradictory and, ultimately, unacceptable. This legislation attempts to meet real

needs of over 20 percent of the residents of this city and the CHR unanimously and emphatically supports legislation that will protect and insure equity in domestic partnerships."

• **Editorial in the San Francisco Examiner:** "We hope that (Mayor Feinstein) will not feel obligated to let pro-amt. failed ordinance into acceptable form, as some supervisors may try to do. We have no idea how it could be done, so as to include any tangible benefits and still not be hotly divisive and legally questionable. Our advice to the supervisors and the mayor is to drop the matter right now. It is a needless fury."

• **Statement signed by six gay commissioners (Jo Daly, Herbert Donaldson, Donna Hitchens, Phyllis Lyon, Richard Sevilla and Lawrence Wilson):** "We oppose



Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver addressing the anti-Feinstein rally on the steps of City Hall last Dec. 9.

the mayor's veto... (but) we consider it our first priority to serve all the citizens of the City of San Francisco. As lesbian and gay commissioners, we also have a special relationship to our constituency and responsibility to represent the needs of our community. Despite our opposition to this veto, we have no intention of resigning our positions. Rather, we will continue to do our utmost to promote the needs and rights of lesbian and gay male citizens, and to seek passage of such legislation."

• **Peter Nardoza, gay aide to Mayor Feinstein:** "In all the years I have worked with her, I have never seen the mayor agonize more over an issue. While I was personally disappointed with the veto, I sincerely believe her when she says she'll work to come up with a piece of legislation that will work."

• **Dick Nolan, columnist for the San Francisco Examiner:** "In all the media, Feinstein is being praised for making a brave and difficult decision. Disregarding the dreadful consequences, courageous Dianne is simply doing what she thinks is right. All her political advisors, we are told, counseled her not to veto the controversial bill. They were said to have said that it would be almost political suicide if she were to infuriate the gay community by opposing their marriage license measure. If you believe that you'll believe anything, I guess. The only move that made any political sense at all was the veto. If any of her advisors told her otherwise, Feinstein needs some new advisors."

• **Archbishop John R. Quinn:** "To equate a domestic partnership as defined by the amendment with the lawful and stable commitment of marriage contradicts and imperils the deepest values of our common, public moral heritage and damages the fundamental well-being of society."

• **Rev. James Sandmire, pastor of the Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church:** "Public statements like the Archbishop's create an atmosphere of moral judgment that too often filters down to the kind of violence so regularly practiced against gay people on the streets of San Francisco."

• **Carol Ruth Silver, Supervisor:** "I am greatly dismayed at the action of our mayor in her veto of



Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver addressing the anti-Feinstein rally on the steps of City Hall last Dec. 9.

the domestic partnership legislation. Her action is regrettable in that she has acted to deny to many employees of the City and County of San Francisco the basic legitimacy of their families."

• **Kevin Starr, columnist for the San Francisco Examiner:** "This entire conflict is unnecessary. Everywhere in San Francisco, gays and straights are learning to live together in harmony. It ill behoves the radical elements of the gay community, it seems to me, to set up situations that must exacerbate old conflicts and prevent the gradual evolution of new harmonies. In the past few days, many gay San Franciscans have themselves told me this. They are appalled by a confrontational style that seems to luxuriate in pitting one group against another by challenging that group in its deepest social, cultural, moral and legal identity."

### Feinstein: Consensus Important

Continued from page 1

daughter, an aging aunt or whatever. That's the way to approach this issue... opening it up to all who are economically dependent. But you can't be dependent after just one day, that opens too many doors.

How long do you think it will take to reach this "workable solution?"

Well, it can't be done in 15 days over two major holidays. More public hearings are necessary. The proponents of this ordinance need to go out and meet with all segments of this community. Right now, it is fair to say that the legislation took many people in this community by surprise, they just weren't aware of the specifics of the ordinance.

So somehow we need to reach a consensus but still avoid polarization. There's already too much polarization and divisiveness out there, and I'm very concerned

about that. The original legislation for all intents and purposes is dead. But the issue itself isn't dead, it just needs more thought.

Will the uproar against you from some segments of the gay community influence you as mayor in the weeks and months ahead?

I have been hurt and saddened by some of the allegations and comments, but this won't affect me in the future. I have worked with the gay community for 12 years now, and I shall continue to do so.

You see, this really is a bona fide issue... but it shouldn't be settled by emotions. We need to talk more about it, exchange ideas, the usual give and take. This is one of those big issues where no one will wind up getting everything they want... but just trying to achieve a consensus is still very important.

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Dance

### Sugar Plum Fairies Surround the Bay

**THE NUTCRACKER**  
San Francisco Ballet  
Opera House, Dec. 15 to Jan. 2  
Oakland Ballet  
Paramount Theatre, Dec. 17-27

by Mark Woodworth  
'Tis the season to be merry for the *Nutcracker* ballets heaped about the countryside like so many Slavic snowdrifts. Anyone who looks upon Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker* with less than adoration demonstrably hates kids, is a no-sucrose vegetarian, or despises tradition. For the ballet is chock-full of children starting their long apprenticeship in dance; it's a paean to the joys of a sugar high in the Kingdom of Sweets; and it's been a Christmas staple for four decades (though its first performance was in 1892, in St. Petersburg). Long runs of this holiday tradition pull in the hard cash that tide many companies over their full season, so let's thank our lucky stars for it.

Locally, the *Nutcracker* is on display in San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley, San Rafael, Santa Cruz, Los Altos, Stanford, and San Mateo. Clearly, the biggest and the best production is San Francisco Ballet's, staged by Lew Christensen in 1967 and still looking magical, from the opening scene outside a great Victorian house where a toy vendor and chimney sweep warm themselves by the coals of a roast-chestnut man, through the sparkling second act diversissements.

The company fields an immense cast (to say nothing of marshaling hundreds of kids and their stage mamas), and as many as a dozen



TIS THE SEASON: Among the *Nutcrackers* abounding in the Bay Area, S.F. Ballet's is a stand-out.

dancers share each role, leaving you to wonder how the thing doesn't collapse like a house of cards. But since most of the principals cut their teeth as a mouse or a toy soldier, the music's in their blood, and everything dovetails.

The first American *Nutcracker* was choreographed in 1914 by William Christensen, premier director of San Francisco Ballet and, like his brother Lew, a master storyteller. Their versions follow

the Russian original in stressing the community of elders who ritually treat the children with yuletide gifts and fun.

(Interestingly, Ronn Guidi of the Oakland Ballet narrows the focus to one family, intensifying our concentration on three children but diluting the power of characterization that rests in numbers.)

In both productions Herr Drosselmeyer, a friend of the family hosting the holiday party, starts out as a cheap magician, setting

up major tricks (turning the nutcracker into a prince) by minor ones (pulling flowers from his cuff, winding up a dancing bear). You want more mystery, more stealth, more profundity. His transformations must set the stage for Clara's nightmarish dreams in which the toys come alive and she plunges into first love.

Mikhail Baryshnikov's 1977 TV version, with American Ballet Theatre (shown recently on

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## Donald Mclean's Critic's Corner

**BACKSTAGE:** "I'm older, a little tougher, but my heart is the same." Thus says **Bette Midler** the day before the opening of her new revue, **DE TOUR**, at the Golden Gate Theatre. Clad in fire-engine-red sweater and black slacks, the hair blonde and cropped stylishly short, the 5'11" dynamite Miss M holds court with the press and tells it like it was... and is. The pizzazz personality comes in flashes, she actually thinks about a question before answering, and in essence, she comes across as a battle-scarred and slightly weary lady whose sole reason to exist is that two hours onstage in front of an audience each night.

What she is is... and honest... and totally unevils. Small wonder she's *in*zed out, recalling still one more time the horrendous experience of her last film. She can laugh wryly about it now, but it still hurts. Bette Midler is very vulnerable, the brassy "trash with flash" her security blanket as a performer. Offstage, she's a woman of many interests trying to run a product called *The Divine Miss M* as best she can alone, and one gets the feeling **DE TOUR** is just maintaining the status quo while she flounders for some direction and stability in her life.

Goals? She laughs with a sigh — "Yeah, I've done it. I'd die tomorrow and be perfectly happy." And ten years from now? "I'd like to be retired in ten years. I've had enough."

Her life is her work; has been since high school in Hawaii. And she's been working since she left for New York after her freshman year of college — selling gloves at Stern's Dept. Store, opening the Continental Baths summer, as a go-go dancer, as "The Rose," earning an Oscar nomination her first time out in movies. And now, back on the road with **DE TOUR**.

"I like to work," I haven't been on the road for a while. I planned to go last summer but I couldn't get organized enough. You don't see human beings in Los Angeles. I hear people are homeless. I want to see for myself. I want to see what's really going on, folks!"

And her show? "It's very long, over two hours, and very intricate. It's got everything in it. It's not whipping the crowds into a frenzy, it's trying to remember where to stand. I'm trying to broaden my horizons. I wanted to do more than shake a tailfeather and tell vulgar jokes. I've learned a lot and I think it shows." Quizzed about rumors she's become more sedate onstage, the eyes twinkle and she promises, "I'm older but I don't think I'm any more sedate."

Ahhh, the old Bette flashes through right on cue, with wicked gleam and knowing leer. Okay, we know she loves that live audience ("those early crowds are still the best"), how does she feel about movies?

"I like making movies. It's like taking a vacation. You get to catch up on all those books you've been intending to read... and then you go out and



WHY IS THIS WOMAN SMILING? Bette Midler on "Jinxed," her latest film: "I didn't accomplish dick with that thing."

meet this pack of pigs. Staying above it is a huge challenge. It's like they throw down the gauntlet every time you make a movie, they dare you to accomplish something."

And **JINXED**, where director, producer and leading man began bad-mouthing her a year before the film was ever released? What did she accomplish with that? "Not a damn thing!" Bette Midler brays with a sardonic guffaw. "I didn't accomplish dick with that thing. I was lucky to stay alive. After they came after me with brickbats and knives, I'm lucky to be standing here today... I didn't handle it well at all; I just collapsed... It was the little movie that couldn't; it should never have been made. It had half a script. But in Hollywood, they think they can turn chickenshit into chicken salad! I'm not the only one who's had a stiff. I don't particularly think the pictures coming out of Hollywood now are particularly good, do you? I think that picture could have survived if it hadn't had all that negative publicity. It was so cruel. They have no regard for what they do... I worked like a dog; they didn't want to work that hard."

And **THE ROSE**? "Everybody knew what movie they were making. They were committed to it. I understood her and I loved her. It was the best time of my life. I'm afraid I was terribly spoiled and I thought it would always be like that, and it's not... Trying to keep that little person alive who still has fun is a real effort."

Asked if recent experiences have toughened her, she adamantly zeroes right in — "I'm terribly tough! And I have a very bad temper. I pay a lot of money to the people who work for me and I trust them, and if they let me down, I tend to lash out. And I'm hardest on myself... I'm defined by what I present to the public; that's my life, it's my heart. Anybody who pays their money I have some relationship to; they're my bread and butter, after all... I used to have terrible highs and lows but I don't any more. I guess it's a kind of evening-out process that comes with age."

At her highsign, the intercomer speaks. In 45 minutes, she has from the emotional gamut, never dodging unpleasant questions, showing off her

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## Music

### Steve Reich Breaks Through to New Heights

**NEW AND UNUSUAL MUSIC**  
Compositions by Steve Reich  
Japan Center Theatre, Dec. 16

by Bill Huck

Rarely does the music critic get to announce news, but the last New and Unusual Music concert this year contained an important piece of it. Steve Reich has learned to write acrobatic melody. *Tekhillem*, Reich's first music with a text since his tape period, is the substance of this disclosure. *Vermont Counterpoint*, written for flutist Ransom Wilson and composed after *Tekhillem*, proves the new discovery can be integrated into Reich's repetitive style. The concert that included these pieces had an extra edge to its excitement: we were hearing one of the finest musical minds alive today break through to new heights.

The evening began with something old; *Music for Mallet Instruments, Voice and Organ* was completed in May of 1973. Reich had then only recently moved out of his phase period, wherein he had performers acting like tape-loops, and was busy adding Indonesian gamelan styles to his African drumming expertise. It was in this period that Reich first caught the country's attention.

The magic of this music, for Western audiences was that it re-instituted a regular pulse, which Igor Stravinsky had made odd-fashioned in 1913, without apologizing for the regularity of the beat by disguising it with difficult-to-listen-to chromaticism. Reich, as he pits non-Western elements against our preconceived expectations, has always had a refreshing lack of shame. This is probably because the African drums and the Eastern tonalities were not superficial additions for Reich. He did not go to them to hide an inner lack. He found in them objective confirmation of his subjective needs.

Furthermore, in creating the music he wanted to hear, Reich



ONE OF THE GREAT LIVING COMPOSERS, Steve Reich evinces continuity, as well as major innovations, in his latest works.

was willing to proceed slowly. Rather than inherit all at once the large estate available to the 20th century composer, Reich preferred to acquire the component parts in a piecemeal fashion. This reluctance to employ what he had not himself mastered meant that his early music sounded simplistic to the advanced. They called it "minimal."

However, limited in scope, Reich's music from the very start sounded genuine, because the composer was solving problems for himself rather than taking others' solutions on faith. The *Music for Mallet Instruments, Voice and Organ* keeps its captivating charm not only through its lovely surface

but through a thorough working out of its rhythmic propositions.

*Vermont Counterpoint* stands on the brink of Reich's future. Ransom Wilson, virtuoso flutist, commissioned it in 1981 and it was finished early this year. Using techniques originally derived in 1967, *Vermont Counterpoint* looks both forward and backward. Written for a single performer, but involving eleven independent lines of music, this score calls for the flutist to pre-record himself on tape. He thereby sets ahead of time ten of the competing voices. The eleventh one he plays before the audience. The music can, and will by the New York Philharmonic, be played by eleven live

flutists. I would like to hear it so performed. I wonder if its two final incarnations will not be on record with one player and live with eleven.

This music looks back into Reich's past because its major interest is in the counterpoint of different rhythmic patterns laid down on top of one another. It looks forward because these rhythmic cells have now reached the contours of melody. Ransom Wilson, when he came to those little melodic bits, shaped them with delight and stunning clarity. He seemed to enjoy the extra difficulty of integrating the fluid line, which calls attention to itself and thereby impedes progress, into the steadily advancing process. The process is still preeminent for Reich; it is just that the sights along the way are getting more individual and more interesting.

*Tekhillem* is something new altogether. The percussion section keeps up a steady pulse, and of course repeats itself in establishing that regular beat. But the organizing principle is not in the repetitions. It is in the Psalms text that Reich has set. Just that the composer is now working with words—his next piece will be a large oratorio upon some poetry of William Carlos Williams—says that Reich is feeling the need to add another layer to his texture. With words have come song, and with song, melody. It is an age-old combination. Reich has been dancing in his music for years; with *Tekhillem* he has begun to sing as well.

Georgious music in itself, *Tekhillem* is perhaps most exciting for the advance it represents for its composer. No one, I think, wants Reich to abandon his repetitive manners altogether. *Vermont Counterpoint* proves he will not. Yet no one can fail to feel the surge of energy that the breakthrough of *Tekhillem* embodies. Thank you, New and Unusual Music for bringing us this new vision of a great composer.

# Records

## Classic Numbers From Cleo, Carmichael, Dardanelle

After being dropped by RCA after eight years, Cleo Laine has resurfaced, ironically, on no less than three LPs. DRC's Jazz Master series features Cleo Laine, a reissue of a 1957 LP with the orchestra of her musician-husband John Dankworth. Laine is a singer whose voice has improved with age, and here her dusky vocal recalls the breathiness of the "cool school" of singers (June Christy, et al.) without benefit of her later vocal virtuosity. Nor does the material have the eclecticism we have since come to expect from her. Nonetheless, it consists of classic pop songs ("St. Louis Blues," "Stormy Weather," "Mood Indigo") and, at \$5.98 list, is priced right.

On the other hand, *Live at the Wavendon Festival (jazman)*, a domestic release of a British import, from the '70s, is at first glance a shade too esoteric, with poems by Shakespeare, Donne, Rupert Brooke and Robert Herrick set to music. But providing balance are contemporary and vintage pop and jazz, including a haunting "Eleanor Rigby," a heartfelt "Happiness is Just a Thing Called Joe," and a hearty "It's a Pity to Say Goodnight." Her small combo backing includes guitarist John Williams, with whom she recorded an entire album for RCA.

Laine has also recorded albums with Ray Charles and James Galway, and her latest, *Smiles Through (Finesse)*, is yet another collaboration, this time with her former pianist, actor Dudley Moore. Moore is an obnoxious screen presence but proves likeable as an accompanist and occasional partner in song. He fronts a mere trio in this low-key, scaled-down outing, which leaves Laine more room for interpretation, as on a poignant "I'll Be Around," yet ably supports her in lighter moods, as on a vibrant "When I Take My Sugar Tea."

Hoagy Carmichael is one of the few old-school pop composers whose fame as a songwriter is nearly matched by his popularity as a singer; he recorded over 30 vocal sides before 1942 alone. Carmichael wrote music, but too often worked with second-rate lyricists; so his countless standards ("Rockin' Chair," "Lazy River," "Georgia on My Mind") notwithstanding an overabundance of his songs trade on a sentimental down-home folksiness in lyrics that are uninspired.

He was, however, one of his

own best interpreters, and on *Hoagy Sings Carmichael (Passa)*, reissued jazz-flavored recordings from the '50s, his voice, if somewhat unpolished, is amiable, full of charm and warmth. Several standards are featured but, alas, none of his most affecting ballads ("Stardust," "The Nearness of You," "I Get Along Without You Very Well").

In *Hoagland (DRC)* is a tribute to Carmichael (whose last two recordings before his death in 1981 are included) by Annie Ross and George ("Ballad of Bonnie and Clyde") Fame, who offer solos and seven welcome duets. Fame is a good singer with a smoky, blues-inflected delivery, reminiscent of Alan Price. Koss, usually dreadful outside the confines of the legendary Lambert, Hendricks and Ross, fares much better here, perhaps due to the production values and the often jive, brassy accompaniment, which lend a full-bodied sound to the proceedings.

Spitards, 1927-32 (Historical) studios early jazz ensembles which boasted young Glenn Miller and Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, with Carmichael on keyboards and vocals. Seven compositions are his, including little-known items like "March of the Hoodlums" and "Barbaric" (both lyric-less, alas) and an early recording of "Stardust" before its lush lyric was added in 1931. But the sound quality and musical style of the day — even "Stardust" is taken at a brisk pace — make this valuable mostly as an historical document.

Singer/pianist Dardanelle has gone relatively unnoticed since she began making music professionally in the '40s, and even now toils in tiny N.Y. piano bars. But the simultaneous appearance of two albums, *Edwards Sings Ladies (Audiophile)* and *Colors of My Life (Stash)*, recorded with small combos, may finally bring her long-overdue recognition. They are proof that she is, in the most literal sense of the word, a great singer.

On *Echoes* she pays tribute to singers she admires (Ethel Waters, Dinah Washington) and to those who clearly influenced her sound, most notably Peggy Lee, Lee Wiley and Teddi King. Like theirs,

her style is gentle yet direct, her voice small and sweet (but never saccharine). Her singing is a sort of vocal essence, a masterful pairing down to unadulterated sound, swing and sensitivity. Her touch is light and wistful but her ballads brim with meaning. Rare is the song that eludes her grasp; "Something Cool," for instance, requires a greater sense of tragedy than she seems able to muster. On *Echoes* her choices range from the obvious ("Over the Rainbow") to the obscure ("I Can't Face the Music" for Billie Holiday), and *Colors* offers a rich sampling of the likes of Porter, Rogers and Hart, Arlen and Mercer.

While husband-wife duo Jackie Cain and Roy Kral have never become household names, they are among our foremost vocal groups and have recorded steadily since the '50s. Most recently, they are represented by *Jackie & Roy (MCA)*, a specially priced 2-LP reissue of early tracks, both foreign and familiar, and *High Standards (Concord Jazz)*, a collection of — what else? — standards and an occasional unusual offering, such as "Loving You" with lyrics by Judy Holiday. But more than half of the former and nearly half of the latter are not representative of prime Jackie and Roy, being either scat songs (the novelty and interest of which soon wear thin, despite expert handling) or solos by Jackie. Cain skims the surface of a lyric in droning, flat tones which cannot withstand the glare of the limelight; if her sole contribution to music were her solos, she would now be lost in well-deserved oblivion. Yet these same elements lend an appealing modern-jazz edge to their plentiful duets, usually carefuly uptempos, and, tempered by Kral's vocal, the result is bright and breezy pop.

**SHORT CUTS:** In the new Bainbridge label specializes in pop/jazz reissues (such as Chris Connor, Jo

Stafford and Sylvia Syms LPs from Rod McKuen's floundering Slanyan Records). With 1985, they have unearthed eight previously unused sides recorded by Al Jarreau while still in college, long before his success in contemporary jazz. He is backed by a trio on a collection of evergreens ("Sophisticated Lady," "A Sleepin' Bee"), and his now-esteemed scat singing, if more rudimentary, is more judiciously employed. But ultimately, the obvious influence of Johnny Mathis, one of the most affected and trivial of pop singers, places 1965 several notches lower than it should have been.

**Rosemary Clooney Sings the Music of Cole Porter** pairs a classy singer with a classy repertoire, although "Swings the Music of Cole Porter" would better describe the emphasis in this, her seventh Concord Jazz release. Neither material nor interpretation is very ambitious; Clooney never delves beyond the obvious selections, and the tender ballad which she could unravel with emotion and conviction is nowhere to be found. But her vocal, at 54, is still whiskey-warm, pure of style, and here at least, unusually free of rough edges. And she is supported by a more sizzling back-up than one recalls from her previous CJ recordings.

Comparison between Sippie Wallace and Alberta Hunter is inevitable: Both are blues singers in their eighties-and, amazingly, still musically active. Sippie (*Atlantic*) shows Wallace to be the less vital; her diction is muddier, her voice frail. But if the flesh is weak, the spirit is alive in self-penned numbers like "Women be Wise" ("Keep your mouth shut, and don't advertise your man"), "Mighty Tight Woman" and "You Got to Know How," also recorded by her longtime champion and disciple Bonnie Raitt, who shares the spotlight on two songs. Original tunes like "Say It Isn't So" and "Everybody Loves My Baby." Sippie Wallace is endearing and enduring.



## Bette Midler's 'De Tour'

Continued from page 8

new chic shoes, securing a few vulgarities and generally conducting herself like a scowping hostess who's throwing a party where she knows one of the guests is going to steal the silver. Her honesty is endearing, her sense of humor a little chipped about the edges these days, but her performer's ego assures her public that no matter how vicious or arduous the backstage fight, Bette Midler will only present her best side to her paying public.

She's blonde these days, has been for two years, but she tried brown hair very briefly. "I felt kind of dowdy. People don't want to see a mouse onstage, they want to see a peacock!" Stru on, Miss Midler.

### ONSTAGE: Midler's DE TOUR

Bette Midler is an artist who's outgrown her image, with DE TOUR, her latest foray into live communication, the flip, raunchy patter now seems a bit forced, the Sophie jokes aren't funny, and Act One is an overlong, uneven weave from the deliberately vulgar to the genuinely, incisively on target. Her patter about being in San Francisco is inspired ("I'm going to be here for a full week; I guess that qualifies me as your live-in lover"), and a filmed sequence from JINXED is her ultimate revenge upon all the upstart and is very funny to those in the know, but there is too little production value, too much garbled sound where she becomes indistinguishable, and too much pandering to an audience that wants the Bette Midler of the Continental Baths days. She's matured beyond that stage of her career and the strain of trying to satisfy everyone is showing badly.

Act Two is a blockbuster. Closing an overlong first act with her new rockdriving "I've Got My Eye on You" is a grabber, but not a closer. She needs a bigger finish. Act Two opens with The Divine One and Her Harlettes as Dolores del Lago and the Laogettes in motorized wheelchairs doing Busby Berkeley formation to "In the Mood"/"I Will Survive," and it's bona fide showstopper. As she vocally soars through a gospel-oriented solo about the tide and her trademark "Stay With Me" from THE ROSE, you realize Midler is a vocal artist who needs no gimmicks to bring an audience to its feet. She earns her standing ovations with her vocal prowess, not her vulgarity, her brassy attitude, nor anything else. She's a fine singer, and when she tears into a ballad, be it "The Rose" or "My Mother's Eyes," none can touch her.

The show is not CLAMS ON THE HALF SHELL, noticeably lean on pizzazz production value, but her new Harlettes are first-rate singers (Ula Hedwig, Katey Sagal and notably Linda Hart, who is a charmer), and her band under the direction of Bobby Lyle is six of the finest musicians working today. Staging is blah, patter is uneven, but the Midler charm rises above it all. This is a lady who loves to perform, who works full-out, and while her first act needs a lot of work, DE TOUR proves Bette Midler is a master showwoman in the great tradition of Jolson and Garland.

Costumed in basic "Tight Penné," DE TOUR hits de bumpy spots early on... but de Diva overcomes. Isn't it time we all started accepting Bette Midler as a singer of quality, not a camp cult figure? She's matured... her audience has to catch up with her now. Opening night, the audience was a gem, responding rightly to the wonderful and forgiving the second-rate. It was a mutual love affair for all the right reasons.

## Bars Offer Classical Alternatives

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sive sound system, features "Bach to Beethoven," music selected by Lucky, every Monday from 8:30 to 10:30 P.M.

Bartender-cum-DJ John Wise, at the Gangway (841 Larkin at Geary, 885-4441), programs a mixed classical bag each Wednesday and Sunday from 6 P.M. to 2 A.M., with a full-length opera each Sunday beginning at 9 P.M.

**Dining Out**  
will return next issue.

# Dining Guide

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# Films

## Dustin Hoffman Graduates to Little Big Woman

**TOOTSIE**, at Cinema 21  
by Penni Kimmel

To begin with, it takes a consummate actor to portray an actor. Put that actor out of work (despite acknowledged brilliance, he is too contumacious, picky and pushy for the current job market), give him a friend, a mistress, an agent, and ambition. Lay on the ultimate challenge to his artistry — a feature role in a major daytime soap... if he can play it as a woman.

Dustin Hoffman is Michael Dorsey, Dustin Hoffman is Dorothy Michaels, Dustin Hoffman is good. *Tootsie* is great.

The success of *Tootsie* (both film and character) is predicated on the superiority of not one, but all of the elements that go into filmcraft; here there are casting, script, continuity, direction and production values so fine and light as to lift it high above the barren ground trampled by burlesque and bad drag, the sad film history of genderfuck farce — all too much of it foisted on the underserving public in the past 12 months.

Hoffman's Michael makes an appealing, if not vitally attractive, Dorothy, who grows into the role with a dignity and compassion that raises the standards of the melodrama being played in the soap and enriches (as it complicates) his identity as a man. The physical and psychological cross-references are juggled deftly; dual implications of homosexuality are gently (but firmly) dealt with; and the whole is a triumph of collective expertise.

*Tootsie* is fundamentally comedy, which shows what a top-notch filmmaker like Sydney Pollack (see *They Shoot Electric Horsemen, Don't They?*) Pollack can do, given an erudite script chock-full of crackling, plausible, often hilarious dialogue kudos to Murray (93 *M\*A\*S\*H* episodes) Schisgel and Larry Gelbart. Pollack has refined such types as Dabney Coleman (the sexist director who dubs Dorothy "Tootsie"), Charles Durning's heavy father of the beautiful Jessica Lange (and Dorothy's erstwhile suitor), and, astounding, Bill Murray as Michael's avant-garde playwright roommate.

Try not to trip over your tootsies on the way to the box office.

### Short Takes

#### Send It Back

**THE TOY**, at Chivardelli Square

Ever get one of those presents you *knew* you were going to get and have to live with and hate? Ah, but then it fooled you by not being as offensively embarrassing as you thought? Just a simple-minded thing made of expensive materials and crafted with care? Something really dull?

The *Toy* features veteran comedians Richard Pryor and Jackie Gleason without an original or funny line between them, and characters that change motivation as easily as silly putty changes shape. For who they think the idea of a wealthy senior SOB buying a Ph.D. as a slave for SOB, Jr. is a cute one in the first place — and don't much care who's what or why.

#### Unthrilling

**STILL OF THE NIGHT**, at the Northpoint

*Still of the Night* is the stuff of which the standard suspense novel is made: Psychiatrist (Roy Scheider) teams up with a suspected murderer (Meryl Streep), former mistress of his mysteriously slain patient.

The moderate pace is not enhanced by extended close-ups of Streep's distinctive facial bone structure (*French Lieutenant's Woman* and *Sophie's Choice* are enough already, *n'est ce pas?*). A couple of gothic shocks and ominous settings aren't enough to make a thriller, nor is there visual justification for the major plot twists of writer/director Robert Benton.

Neither Scheider nor Jessica Tandy — the analyst and his analyst mother — are given enough to analyse. This once, the film would've made a better book.



ALL AMERICAN: Dustin Hoffman, director Sydney Pollack, cast and crew score a solid triumph with "Tootsie."

## Altman Revisits Three Women in a Welcome 'Come Back'



CHER sparkles in "Jimmy Dean."

**COME BACK TO THE 5 AND DIME, JIMMIE DEAN, JIMMIE DEAN**, at the Surf.

Most have departed permanently from the dying Texas town, but six return to the desiccated Woolworths to reunite as fans of the film star who had made *Giant* (and a posthumous child, some say) 20 years before.

The spotlight is on Sandy Dennis, indomitably neurotic as ever, but the illumination of old mysteries shine from lesser-billed, brighter lights. The stage-like sets frame the angular subtleties of Cher's cheeky Sissy, the town honeypot gone bittersweet. Her mime of Dennis' ticks and twitches is near-Divine. The often-fixed camera captures every artful detail of Karen Black as she lays on a stellar performance in the touchy, challenging role of Joanne, one of the most complex and difficult

this actress has achieved in her mightily underrated 20-film career.

What went gobble-gobble on Broadway, the experienced (*M\*A\*S\*H* to *Nashville*) Robert Altman has transformed into an appreciable period gem of a film, utilizing a number of stage techniques rarely used in movies — cross-fades to flashbacks shot live with computerized lighting and... like the old magician's cliché... mirrors.

Six women withal, there is a pervasive male presence in *Come Back*, underlying the reason, besides euphony, for the repetition of the title names.

Go for Cher's sake — it's a superb "first" — and claim a double reward in Karen. And, while you're up, check out the original *Giant*, just starting a short week's run at the Castro Theatre.

### Sellers Exhumed

**TRAIL OF THE PINK PANTHER**, at the Alexandria II

Peter Sellers died in 1980. It's nice to think he would object to being resurrected in a jumble of outtakes and highlights from all the old P movies... then again, he might have to be reincarnated as Inspector Clouseau for all eternity, a punishment one wouldn't even wish on Blake Edwards, the little-old P-movie filmmaker, he.

Within the outtakes (weren't there reasons they were out-taken to begin with?) is enough hoary bathroom humor to go for a G-rated feature entitled "On Golden Showers." We're not even treated to those fabulous make-up jobs that were the hallmark of these films; just David Niven and Herbert Lom then and now, Sellers then and then, Robert Wagner as a baby, Capucine for a minute that doesn't justify the billing... and a new jewel theft that is never resolved.

R.I.P. — Rest It, Panther.

### Cop Stop

**48 HOURS**, at the Regency II

Not that we needed another SFPD head-banging, ball-busting renege cop, but... while we're in the shoot-em-up genre, why not team Nick Nolte as the dirty-but-honest dick, with Eddie Murphy the all-together, cool con borrowed from jail for a time (forty-eight

hours, more or less) to help get the *real* bad guys? The hilarity — intentional and otherwise — just about balances the violence.

Without the trace of a cable car track — and despite holes in the plot the size and number to accommodate the entire MUNI fleet — our heroes pace a hair-raising chase through San Francisco.

The gunfight at Church Street Platform, the hijacked 30-Streeton bus, the berserk fog-making machine in Chinatown, even the change-of-scene in mid-street to Hollywood and back again are more fun than not; and Murphy and Sellers work uncommonly well off each other (no, please, not *48 Hours, Part II!*)

Director Walter (*The Warriors*) Hill and Emmy-winning cinematographer Ric (Tex) Waite might as well take credit for this expanded TV movie.

### Bumpy Ride

**AIRPLANE II**, at the Royal

Fasten your seat belts lightly, you may want some room to laugh in this moon-shuttle take-off (lift-off, rather) of the one-and-only *Airplane*. Some of the best spoofs in *II* are almost 3-D — single-takes that flash by in the back of the background. Over in the cock-



LOYD BRIDGES mugs for *Airplane II* pit, down in the tower, or out in the never-never flashback land, hundreds of sight-and-sound gags fly by, all too often coming in... clunk, thud... for crash landings.

Robert Hays and Julie Hagerty are back as the inept passenger/pilot Striker and his girlfriend, Elaine; ditto Lloyd Bridges and Peter Graves repeating their harmless, pervasions. Added to the roster, in reverse typcasting, are Bono, Everett, Shamer, Burr, Torn and Connors. Pick your favorites and go with them — mine is Stephen Stucker as Jacobs, the mad-camp (*sic*) controller who gets, again, most of the sane and funny lines.

You won't swallow your gum on this one, but keep a wad handy, just in case.

—P.K.

**"WONDERFULLY ENTERTAINING... A RICH, FUNNY, TOUCHING, INSIGHTFUL FILM."**  
—Shelia Rosen, Los Angeles Times

**"Alman's magic is the real thing... he's in his prime as a director."**  
—Pauline Kael, The New Yorker

**"Fruidly self-assured... Altman uses cinema to celebrate theatre."**  
—David Denby, New York Magazine

**"The perfect match of actress and role."**  
—Shelia Rosen, Los Angeles Times

**"The archetypal Sandy Dennis performance... and it's extraordinary."**  
—Peter Rainer, Los Angeles Herald Examiner

**"The surprise is Cher, who is poignant and effective in her first dramatic role."**  
—Roger Ebert, Chicago Sun-Times

**"Warmly natural... a wonderful screen presence."**  
—Gery Arnold, Washington Post

**"The best performance she has given on screen."**  
—Andrew Sarris, The Village Voice

**"Her extremely assertive femininity makes her almost ideal casting."**  
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**'Veronika Voss' is Fassbinder's 'Sunset Boulevard'... It has the gleam of a well-polished scalpel!**  
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Films

'Before Stonewall' Makers Seek Material, Money

by Steven Saylor  
 "We've run into people who don't know what Stonewall was," says John Scagliotti.

Scagliotti wants those people, gay and straight, to know exactly what Stonewall was and what it meant — and to know what life was like for gay men and lesbians in the decades before. Together with a production team that includes Greta Schiller (co-producer of *Greetings From Washington, D.C.*) and local filmmaker Howard Petrick, he is working to recapture and make sense of those years in a documentary film project called *Before Stonewall*.

Scagliotti, a director, writer, and producer formerly with WNET in New York and WBCN in Boston, was in town recently, meeting with local partners in the project and seeking filmable material. "What we need," he stresses, "is *visual material* — home movies, portraits, slides, artwork — that

can be used to convey a sense of tone, of the times, of homosexual life and history during that period."

*Before Stonewall*, Scagliotti says, will attempt to give a human face to a slice of history largely ignored, not only by the mainstream, but by many gay people not old enough, or wise enough, to remember it. He foresees a strong historical context — a number of historians, including John D'Emilio and Jonathan Katz, are serving as consultants — given life by human stories spanning from the 1930s and the major social changes of the post-war years, though the repressive backlash of the McCarthy era and the civil rights movements of the 1960s. "It's the vitality of the people" that he hopes to show.

The project has received enthusiastic endorsements from the likes of Vito Russo, Kate Millett, Blanche Boyd and Edmund White.

It has also received the first major funding, a grant of \$130,000, given by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting to a film project concerning gay and lesbian issues. When completed, *Before Stonewall* will be offered to the 296 stations of the Public Broadcasting System, many of which choose programming on an independent basis.

While admitting that the finished film may be controversial ("only because it will be something people haven't seen before"), Scagliotti foresees no problems in getting the PBS affiliates to air it. *Before Stonewall* will be aimed at a wide audience and, if the filmmakers' ambitions succeed, will be accepted as a valuable work of history, recounting the fortunes of a certain group of American men and women and the ways they survived — often with humor and a great deal of ingenuity — in a hostile environment.

On PBS, the film will be an

hour in length; a longer feature version is also planned, along with two or three shorter films re-edited for education distribution and community screenings.

The project is still seeking \$60,000 from foundations, public agencies, and individuals to complete its budget. Part of the reason John Scagliotti came to San Francisco was to stump for those needed funds, seeking a West Coast response to match interest in the East. (*Before Stonewall* was recently awarded a \$40,000 grant from the New York Council for the Humanities.)

Scagliotti points out that individual contributions to *Before Stonewall* are tax-deductible, and will aid in securing already pledged matching grants. Donations, as well as information concerning visual material of possible interest (not the material itself), may be sent to the project's local address: *Before Stonewall*, 110 1st Street, San Francisco 94105.

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ERNESTINO, Italy's first (and so far, sole) gay film captured the 1980 Berlin Film Festival Best Actor award for Michele Placido (left) and much praise — after the gasps died down — for director/writer Salvatore Samperi. Placido is the smitten laborer whom the haughty young Ernesto (Martin Hahn, right) screws on his way to the top, until an even younger violin student brings him to heel. Coming to the Lumiere, Jan 5

Sugar Plum Fairies

Continued from page 8

KQED), has a deeply fascinating treatment of Drosselmeyer as a kind of cosmic necromancer who permeates the entire ballet and even helps partner the sugar plum fairy (Gelsey Kirkland). It's psycho-sexually more intriguing than the usual one-dimensional figure.

Oakland has hilarious pink mice in tutus fighting off the toy soldiers with umbrellas, while San Francisco stages a rip-roaring battle with soldiers on horseback, followed by a snow scene of sweep and dash (with Betsy Erickson's queen of appropriate icy brilliance). At Oakland's Paramount Theatre, surrounded by thousands of goggle-eyed schoolkids at a preview, I admitted Richard Chen See's rough zip as a Russian, Gregory Gonzales' spring and immaculate line as Abra Rudissill's prince, and Erin Leedom's rock-solid and gracious sugar plum fairy. Julie Lowe and Mario Alonzo were finely paired and vivacious as the snow royalty,

and Richard Battle's backdrops of snow-covered Russian oniondomes wonderfully evoke the Czarist period.

San Francisco's staging had an especially large-scale set after the Christmas tree grows through the roof, making the mice and soldiers seem the proper size; a sensuous Arabian dance (Jamie Zimmerman with Antonio Lopez); Ricardo Bustamante's brilliant, high-flying candy dancer, twirling long ribbons that uncannily extend his kinetic line; a 12-legged Chinese dragon that's surely a San Francisco original; and a lovely, polished rose ensemble. Tugged at by Attila Fizezer's tired-looking cavalier, Evelyn Cisneros launched her sugar plum fairy solo with a long, perfect balance in arabesque, then proceeded to dazzle the sugar plums off the very boughs. And she's one of ten dancers in the role — surely an embarrassment of riches.

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# Sight & Sound

## In Person

• **Rita Mae Brown** returns to San Francisco to speak in the "American Political Currents" lecture series sponsored by City Arts and Lectures. Herbat Theatre, Jan. 21 at 8:00 P.M. Individual event tickets, \$10. Series tickets, beginning with William F. Buckley on Jan. 11, also available 1431-5400.

## Stage

• **Charles Busch**, gay monologist, brings his one man show, *Charles Busch Alone: With a cast of Thousands*, to the Valencia Rose Cabaret, beginning with preview performances Jan. 6 to benefit Stonewall Gay Democratic Club (reservations, call Ben Gardner at 626-1245), and Jan. 7 to benefit Kaposi's Sarcoma Research (reservations, call 552-1445). For info on the show's regular run, call the Valencia Rose at 552-1445.

• **Charles's Aunt**, Brandon Thomas famous farce of confused gender identity, performed by the Attic Theatre, Little Theatre, Palace of the Legion of Honor, 34th Ave. and Clement, Dec. 26 at 2 P.M. and Dec. 28 and 29 at 8 P.M. Tickets: \$5-17, 221-1440.

• **The Enclave**, by Arthur Laurents, with incidental music by Stephen Sondheim. The self-contained intimacy and trust of a group of close friends is endangered when one of them introduces a new, much younger lover. *Theatre Rhinoceros*, 2940 16th St., Jan. 2 (preview) and Thurs.-Sun., Jan. 6 to Feb. 6 at 8:30 P.M. Tickets: \$7-9, 861-5079.

• **5, 6, 7, 8!**, starring the S.F. Tap Troupe, Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St., each Thurs.-Sat. at 8 P.M. through December. Tickets: \$8 general, \$7 advance, \$5 seniors and students. New Year's Eve Gala, Dec. 31 at 11 P.M., \$15, 863-7576.

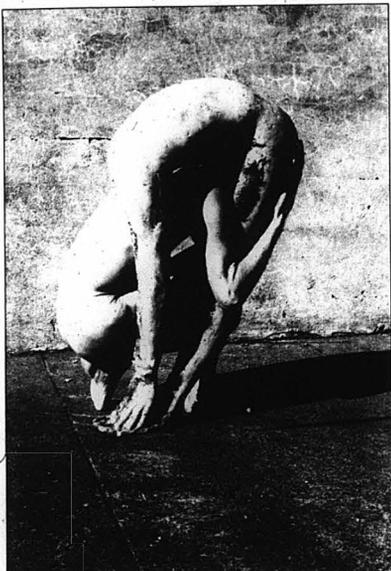
• **Gay Comedy Night**, with emcees Tom Ammann and Lea DeLaria. Valencia Rose, 786 Valencia, each Friday at 9 P.M. Admission, \$4, 552-1445.

• **Gay Comedy Open Mike Night**, with host emcee Tom Ammann. Valencia Rose, 786 Valencia, every Monday at 8:30 P.M. Sign-up for performers, 7:30 P.M. Admission, \$2, 552-1445.

• **Hats! Music**, the songs of Leonard Bernstein and Julie Styne in revue "1177 Cabaret, 1177 California" (in the Gracery Towers), each Friday and Saturday at 8:30 P.M. Tickets, \$10. Two drink minimum: 753-5130 or 775-2100.

• **New Sing With Hearts**, third annual holiday concert by the S.F. Gay Men's Chorus and the S.F. Lesbian/Gay Chorus. Newmark Auditorium, Dec. 24 at 7:30 P.M. Tickets: \$8 reserved, 56 general, 894-0326.

• **Open Mike Night** for women performers. Women's Building, 3543 18th St., each Wednesday at 8:30 P.M. through December. Sign-up for performers: 7:30 P.M. Donation, \$2. Info: Deena, 431-1180, Mon.-Fri., noon to 5 P.M.



NINA GLASSER unveils "New Works" in provocative black and white photography (see Exhibit).

• **Carol Roberts Comedy Night**, each Wednesday in Dec. at 9:30 P.M. at Fanny's Cabaret, 4230 18th St. 621-5570.

• **Son of Gay Open Mike**, comedy hosted by Carol Roberts. Roxy Roadhouse, 601 Eddy, each Friday at 9 P.M. Sign up for comics: 8:30 P.M. Cover: \$2.50 474-7699.

## Screen

• **La Cage Aux Folles**, Edouard Molinaro's camp comedy classic, back-to-back with Philippe Debrou's cult favorite *King of Hearts*, starring Alan Bates. York Theatre, 2789 24th St., Dec. 25. Call 282-0316 for times.

• **S.F. Gay Video Festival '83**, featuring new releases from New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. Cable Channel 25, every Thursday at 9:30 P.M.

• **Trash** (is it or isn't it?) directed by Paul Morrissey and starring Joe Dallesandro, plays with and over, less often seen Andy Warhol production. *Somebody's Cowboy*, Strand Theatre, 1127 Market, Dec. 26. Call 552-5990 for times.

• **Toramas**, Pier Paolo Pasolini's tale of a young student (Terrence Stamp) who visits a wealthy family and seduces the father, mother, daughter, son, and maid before leaving. Shown with Pasolini's *The Gospel According to St. Matthew*. York Theatre, 2789 24th St., Jan. 4. Call 282-0316 for times.

• **Women in Love**, Ken Russell's provocative screen version of the D.H. Lawrence novel, starring Glenda Jackson in an Oscar-winning role. Shown with *Last Tango in Paris*. York Theatre, 2789 24th St., Jan. 1. Call 282-0316 for times.

## Exhibits

• **Nina Glasser**: "New Works," black and white photography. The Upstairs Gallery, Derby and Davidson Antique Store, 1645 Market, Jan. 1-31. Hours: Tues.-Sat., 11 A.M. to 6 P.M.

• **Judith Haney** (paintings and pastel drawings) and **Doug Roesch** (landscapes, portraits, and still lifes). Ronick Gallery, 837 Mason, Dec. 15 through Jan. 28. Gallery hours: Wed.-Sat., noon to 5 P.M. 885-1182.

• **Michael Ritzena**: "Poems," a photographic exhibit celebrating the diversity and pride of unknown people seen in everyday San Francisco. The Bear, 440 Castro, through Jan. 20.

• **Dick Wheeler**, impressionist oil paintings at the Amesbury, 1351 Harrison, Dec. 23 (preception, 7 P.M.) through Jan. 3.

## Notes

• **Gay and Lesbian Literature Courses** will be offered for the spring semester by City College of San Francisco, Evening Division. Teachers are Peg Crutcher (English 55A: a survey from Sappho to the present; Tues., 6:30 to 9:30 P.M.) and Jack Collins (English 55B: American authors, 1948-1984; Tues., 7-10 P.M. or Mon., 6:30-9:30 P.M.) Tuition is free. New students must apply by Dec. 29. Registration info: 238-3384, ext. 238-3381. Course info: 238-3384.

• **S.F. Gay Video Festival** wants to see your VHS productions for possible screening on the Bay Area Cable Network (see Screen above). Gay subject matter not necessary; each production judged on intrinsic merit. Info: John Canally, 152-B Castro, San Francisco 94114, or call 861-0943.

• **Senior Writers Group**, for lesbians and gay men age 60 and over, is being formed by playwright George Birman and Operation Concern Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE). For info, call George at midnight at 431-6254.

Is your event/stage presentation/screening/exhibit listed here? Sight and Sound attempts to present a comprehensive listing of arts and entertainment in the Bay Area of particular interest to the gay and lesbian community. Send press releases, photos, etc. to Sight and Sound, The Sentinel, 500 Hayes, San Francisco 94102. (For return of photos, please enclose SASE.) Deadline is six days before publication date. Next deadline: Dec. 30.



## ... And a Happy New Year

It's the season for celebrations! The finale to the festivities comes on New Year's Eve, with the last big party of 1982 and the first of '83.

From festive dining and cozy cabarets to full-blown extravaganzas, we've assembled a list of some upcoming highlights — but it's only skimming the tip of the iceberg. If you favorite nightspot isn't listed here, give them a call! Chances are, something special is up for New Year's Eve.

• **The Deluxe**, 1511 Haight, will throw a New Year's Eve party with special prices on drinks beginning at 8 P.M., and complementary champagne at midnight. No cover. 552-6949.

• **Lynda Bergen** sings for lovers at Fanny's, 4230 18th St. Gail Wilson and Friends follow up on New Year's day with ballads and blues. Call 921-5570 for details.

• **Peter Cambrs** and Kim Citrino will entertain at a special show at Roxy Roadhouse, with full-course dinner and champagne, beginning at 9:00 P.M. \$25 per person. Roxy Roadhouse, Larkin and Eddy, 474-7699.

• **Pacific Exchange**, 2225 Fillmore between Clay and Sacramento, throws a New Year's Eve Party, with holiday drinks specially priced at \$1.25. Call 563-2219 for details.

• **Dawning at a New Era**, an all-night disco celebration at Trocadero Trans-

fer, 520 4th St. Doors open at 10 P.M. \$25 members, \$35 guests. 495-0185.

• **Exotic Erotic New Year's Eve Ball**, featuring live bands (New Wave, Reggae, Rock and Roll) and male and female strippers on main stage, downstairs cabaret. Costume and nude contest; prizes include a trip to Tahoe. White tie and tails/clothing optional. California Hall, 625 Polk. Tickets (major outlets): \$20 advance, \$25 door.

• **First Light**, disco till dawn, featuring the Ritchie Family. Complimentary champagne and sweet table. 145am, 1748 Haight. Doors open 9 P.M. Tickets \$15 advance, \$20 door.

• **The Galleon**, 718 14th St., hosts a Gala New Year's Eve dinner, 5-10:30 P.M., with Joe Utterback at the piano. Reservations: 433-0253.

• **Hay's Restaurant and Bar**, 398 Hayes, offers New Year's Eve dinner, 5:30 P.M. to midnight. Reservations: 626-3930.

• **A McNight to Remember**, Sharon McKnight at the Plush Room, Hotel York, 940 Sutter. Seating begins at 9 P.M., show at 10 P.M. Free champagne at midnight. \$25 per person, 865-6900.

• **Resolutions**, all-night disco party featuring Thelma Houston, produced by Conceptual Entertainment. No host bar, free champagne at midnight. Galleria Design Center, 101 Kansas. Doors open at 10 P.M. Tickets (major outlets, advance only), \$35.

• **San Francisco Tap Troupe** will present a New Year's Eve Champagne Gala performance of their acclaimed "5, 6, 7, 8" revue. Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St. at 11 P.M. Tickets, \$15, 863-7576.

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## Jobs Offered

**TIMES ARE TOUGH**, and *The Sentinel* wants to help. We've decided to make our **Jobs Wanted** and **Jobs Offered** classifieds **FREE** to help people in the nonsexual community gain employment. We'll give one free 25-word classified ad per person per issue in either the **Jobs Wanted** or **Jobs Offered** category. All ad copy subject to publisher's approval. Offer ends 6 P.M. Thursday Dec. 30, 1982, which is the regular deadline for classified ads for the Jan. 3, 1983 issue.

**EXPERIENCED CHEF**, send resume, Box 510, 500 Hayes St., SF, CA, 94102.

**VIOLIST** wanted to perform with flautist/oboeist and cellist. Must read treble clef. Our goal - to perform regularly in Bay Area. Wiley (639-5678) or Bob (525-9529).

**ADVERTISING SALES PEOPLE** wanted for small West Coast advantage publication. High commission. Experienced preferred. Send resumes to USC, 419 Frederick St., San Francisco 94117.

**COUNSELORS NEEDED** - gay and lesbian volunteers to work with AIDS patients. Training Jan. 29, 30, Feb. 5, 6, 12 year commitment. Shanti Project 558-9644.

**HOUSE BOY**, Santa Cruz, Calif. maintains. Companion to 80 yr old. 4008 428-6048. Eve. or weekends. Room and board, small salary.

**PHOTOGRAPHERS** - Your name on the cover of the *SENTINEL*. We want newsworthy, timely shots of homosexuals. Be creative, be arty. If you shoot and edit by the deadline, you'll be featured in the *SENTINEL* staff, in a year-end competition, you will be awarded \$100.00!

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**MANAGERIAL** - 14 years supervisory position as college lecturer, manager and retail shoe store. Seeking position in professional environment. Call Jim 457-8320.

**REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT**/small business consultant. MCP degree, 8 years program management, seeks project coordinator position in real estate/economic development/sales. Call Doug, 452-0582.

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**The Sentinel**

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Silver Phoenix, Inc. 1982

# An open letter to the gay community on hepatitis B

## Hepatitis B, a serious disease, may be sexually transmitted

Sexually transmitted diseases among the gay community are epidemic. Herpes has recently received a lot of attention; gonorrhea and syphilis are well known; but the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recently issued a major recommendation for the prevention of another sexually transmitted disease: Hepatitis B. In their *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, the CDC stated: "Susceptible homosexually active males should be vaccinated [against hepatitis B] regardless of their age or duration of their homosexual practices."

## Gay men are at a high risk of contracting hepatitis B

In one study, from 51% to 76% of 3,816 gay men seen in five sexually transmitted disease clinics had evidence of past or present hepatitis B infection. Once infected, there's a 6% to 10% chance of becoming a carrier—capable of passing on the virus. The CDC estimated there are nearly 1 million carriers in the United States and that 100,000 of these carriers are gay men.

## The hepatitis B virus can be passed on by contact with contaminated body fluids

Such as saliva, urine, semen, and blood. The hepatitis B virus can be transmitted through tiny breaks in the skin or contact with mucous membranes. This can occur during intimate sexual contact and can lead to hepatitis B for the partner of an infected person. Although most patients recover and over half contracting hepatitis B do not get symptoms, there is no specific treatment and no known cure for hepatitis B infections.

## Hepatitis B may lead to even more serious complications

For those who do get symptoms of hepatitis B, a mild or severe "flu-like" sickness may continue for weeks or months. Ten percent of all infections become long lasting (chronic) with potential complications that are sometimes more serious than those of other sexually transmitted diseases. The serious complications include the chronic carrier state, chronic active hepatitis, chronic persistent hepatitis, cirrhosis, and even cancer of the liver. Every year almost 4,000 carriers die of cirrhosis. In addition, carriers have a risk 273 times greater than that of the general population of contracting a usually fatal form of liver cancer.

## Now this serious sexually transmitted disease is usually preventable by vaccination with the new hepatitis B vaccine

After more than a decade of research and development, a new vaccine is available for prevention, *not treatment*, of hepatitis B. In clinical studies, the vaccine was highly effective in preventing hepatitis B infection and was generally well tolerated. No serious adverse reactions occurred in these studies.

The vaccination regimen consists of a series of three injections, the first two a month apart and the third, six months after the first. To be effective, the vaccine must be given before a person gets hepatitis B. The vaccine helps prevent the disease: It is *not effective as a treatment*. We suggest that you consult your doctor to determine if you should be vaccinated.

**For more information about hepatitis B and the vaccine to prevent it, contact your doctor, clinic, or the American Liver Foundation, 998 Pompton Avenue, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009 (201) 857-2626.**

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The American Liver Foundation

### Why you should consult your doctor or clinic

The vaccine helps protect against infection caused by hepatitis B virus. This virus is an important cause of viral hepatitis, a disease mainly of the liver. Even mild forms of this disease may lead to serious complications and aftereffects, including liver cancer. There is no specific treatment for viral hepatitis.

Vaccination is recommended for persons who have a higher risk of becoming infected with hepatitis B virus because of frequent, close contact with infected people or exposure to body fluids from such people. It will not protect against hepatitis caused by

viruses other than hepatitis B virus.

No serious adverse reactions were reported in over 6,000 individuals receiving the vaccine in clinical trials. The most frequent reaction was soreness at the point of injection; less common local reactions included redness, swelling, warmth, or formation of a hard, lumplike spot. The local effects were usually mild and lasted no more than 2 days after vaccination. Occasionally, low-grade fever (less than 101°F) occurred. When it did, it usually lasted no longer than 48 hours following vaccination. In rare

cases, fever over 102°F was reported.

More generalized complaints including malaise, fatigue, headache, nausea, dizziness, muscle pain, and joint pain were reported infrequently. Rash was reported rarely. As with any vaccine, broad use may reveal additional adverse reactions.

Your doctor or clinic knows what special care must be taken when administering the vaccine and in determining who should receive the vaccine. The vaccine is not intended for persons who are allergic to any of its components.