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# SENTINEL

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## Safe vs Unsafe Sex

### Gays Shun Risk

by Ray O'Loughlin

In what is billed "the first random-sample survey ever taken" of gay San Francisco, seventy percent of gay men interviewed said they have forsaken risky sexual practices in response to the AIDS epidemic. Conducted for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation by Research & Decisions Corporation, a public opinion firm, the project solicited detailed responses from five hundred gay and bisexual men in randomly selected households throughout the city. In addition to providing a demographic sketch of the gay community, the survey also documented considerable success for health education efforts.

The study showed that most gay men have lived in San Francisco from two to ten years or longer, over three-fourths are renters, and most are college educated and employed as professionals, managers and sales people, many with annual incomes between \$25,000 and \$40,000. The estimated population of men openly identified as gay was pegged at seventy thousand, a

figure that organizers said was low and probably did not include the total gay population in the city. The larger part of the thirty minute telephone interview, however, dealt with detailed questions on health concerns and sexual life styles.

The survey documented an extremely high level of sophisticated knowledge about AIDS. When asked to rate the risks of specific sex acts, respondents showed a level of awareness almost exactly paralleling current medical recommendations. "Gay men know as much about AIDS transmission as the average M.D.," said Sam Puckett, one of the designers of the project. "They're entitled to some credit for having learned as much as they have."

Unsafe sex activities appeared consistently low in measures of their use. And while safe sex had yet to capture the gay erotic imagination, it appeared to be accepted and largely practiced.

All unsafe practices were reported to be done significantly less. Seventy percent said they had less anal intercourse involving the exchange of semen; sixty-seven percent had less oral sex involving

cum; and seventy percent had sex with fewer partners. Asked if they intended to further reduce unsafe sex in the future, forty-seven percent responded yes on risky anal intercourse; forty-eight percent said yes on less oral sex; and fifty-eight percent said they would have fewer sex partners.

Highly risky activities, such as fisting and rimming, appeared to decline in practice and in gay men's estimation of their desirability. On the other hand, safe activities, such as kissing and mutual masturbation, were rated fairly high although there was a measurable decline in all forms of sex among gay men. Forty-five percent said they engaged in less oral sex even without exchanging semen; forty-seven percent reported less french kissing; and sixteen percent reported less mutual masturbation. Anal intercourse with a condom was universally voted down as unsatisfying with half of the respondents saying they'd never tried it and few indicating they planned to in the future.

"What we're seeing is dramatically less unsafe sex and some less safe sex," Puckett told Sentinel USA. "The conclusion we've come to is that people are simply having less sex overall."

Although the study verified that most gay men have altered their sexual practices, problem areas were also high-

Continued on page 2

### Peg's Place Trial Opens

by Will Snyder

An ugly moment in the history of lesbian/gay-San Francisco police relations will be remembered on December 10 when two San Francisco lesbians attempt to collect compensatory and punitive damages in Superior Court from two San Francisco policemen and a third person.

Alene Levine and Erlinda Symacko are suing the City and County of San Francisco as well as police officers Daniel Marr and Michael Kelly and a third person, Kevin Guerin, for damages because of a March 31, 1979 brawl in Peg's place, a lesbian bar located at 4737 Geary Boulevard. At that time, Marr, Kelly and Guerin were celebrating the upcoming marriage of a friend, Bernard Shaw, the husband of Patricia Hearst, daughter of newspaper tycoon Randolph Hearst.

The three men forced their way into Peg's in the early morning hours of March 31. Levine, a non-employee of Peg's who was helping to check identifi-

Continued on page 3

## AIDS Victims:

### United Grounds Staff

by Ray O'Loughlin

United Air Lines will not permit flight attendants who have AIDS to continue in their jobs. Dr. Gary Kohn, medical director for United, told Sentinel USA in a telephone interview, "There are enough questions about the transmissibility of the disease that if any flight attendant with AIDS came to me and asked if he should continue to fly, I would say, no."

Kohn acknowledged that there is little evidence that flight attendants with AIDS or passengers were in any danger. But he adamantly defended United's actions, saying, "As a public carrier, we felt we had to take the conservative approach. I'd rather risk the ire of one in-

dividual than put the public at any possible risk." He said he was "real nervous" over the possibility that saliva could transmit the lethal disease since "flight attendants must handle food and beverages and may be called upon to administer first aid such as mouth-to-mouth resuscitation."

Kohn's remarks came as the result of complaints filed by two former flight attendants who were placed on medical leave in 1983 — Gar Traynor, formerly of Los Angeles, now living in San Francisco, and Bruce Hall of Chicago.

When Traynor was diagnosed with Kaposi's sarcoma in December 1982, he immediately informed his supervisors at United that he was undergoing treatment and might require minor re-sched-



Gar Traynor

uling of work. Then, six months later, Traynor was suddenly placed on medical leave. Although he maintains insurance benefits from his former employer, his only income since June 1983 has been Social Security disability. He had been with United for ten years at the time. After getting no relief through

the company's grievance procedure, even with the full backing of the Association of Flight Attendants, Traynor filed a twenty million dollar lawsuit in Los Angeles Superior Court last June.

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SAVAGE PHOTOGRAPHY

**Survey from 1**

lighted. "Now we know where the problem groups are," said Puckett. He pointed to three groups that showed resistance to change — a small number with less than high school education (two percent); those over forty-five years of age (nineteen percent); and those in the \$25-\$40,000 income bracket (thirty-one percent).

Throughout the survey results, the over-forty-five age group countered the trend in the gay community. Although fifty-two percent of all respondents reported that they were involved in a relationship — forty-two percent of those claiming monogamy — only thirty-six percent of older men were in relationships. An astonishing sixty-one percent of men under thirty said they were in relationships, a third of which have lasted from one to three years.

Of all groups, those over forty-five were least likely to personally know someone with AIDS (forty percent) and also least likely to see themselves threatened by the disease. While sixty-nine percent of those who knew a person with AIDS felt threatened, only fifty-two percent of those over forty-five agreed with that statement. They also demonstrated the least impact of AIDS on their sexual behavior. Although their belief in the value of reducing risk was similar to other segments of the gay population, the over forty-five group and the high income group reported both a higher number of sex partners than the community overall and a much greater propensity to engage in high risk, unsafe sexual practices.

The survey indicated that despite changes there was still much conflict going on over those changes. When asked what sex acts they'd engaged in during the last thirty days, responses showed mixed results. Safe activities led the list of those not involved in relationships but a number of unsafe activities also were frequently reported. Asked what sex acts men found enjoyable, unsafe acts generally led safer sex.

At the same time, most (seventy-six percent) rated safe sex as satisfying. And while gay men considered sexual enjoyment a significant factor in their lives, they regarded reducing the risk of contracting AIDS as more important by a significant margin.

Yet, a number of changes that would reinforce the move to safe sex had not been made. Although forty-six percent of respondents said they were less interested in impersonal sex, an almost equal number (fifty-two percent) said they were not experiencing more in-

timacy with sex partners. While sixty-seven percent said they felt more concern for gay people in general, forty-seven percent said they were not getting more affection from sex partners or friends. And fifty-five percent said there was no greater creativity in their sex lives.

Puckett told Sentinel USA that he attributed the conflict to the macho ethic. "Everybody is misreading everybody else's head," he said. "They want to

have safe sex but they also believe their partner doesn't and they're afraid of bringing it up and tell the truth. It's a fear of rejection."

He explained that peer pressure seems to be the stumbling block. "Gay men know what the risks are and most have said they enjoy safe sex even if it's not their preference. But peer pressure — or what they think is peer pressure — is the problem. False perceptions about each other is now the biggest problem

for AIDS prevention."

Summing up the project was AIDS Foundation director Jim Ferels, who said, "We are extremely grateful to the five hundred gay and bisexual men who shared the intimate details of their lives for this study. Their cooperation was wonderful. We can now clearly see that our educational programs have been effective and direct our primary attention to the minority who continue to engage in high risk activities."

# THE SF CITY

**Peg's from 1**

cations at the door, successfully stopped Marr from entering because she felt he was too drunk. But when two other women and a male friend entered the bar, Kelly and Guerin followed.

Symacko, the owner of Peg's Place, attempted to check Kelly's I.D., but the police officer allegedly put a choke hold on her. She landed on the floor with Kelly on top of her. When Levine tried to help Symacko, she was hit in the head with a cue stick during a tussle with Guerin. After other police had arrived to restore order, Marr entered the bar and unsuccessfully attempted to order a beer. Levine pointed him out to the police as perpetrator of the trouble.

Marr left Peg's shortly after that, but not before threatening Levine and slamming the front door on Symacko's upper arm.

Later that year, Marr was convicted of battery and disturbing the peace. Guerin was also convicted of the latter charge. Kelly was not convicted of anything due to what former District Attorney Joseph Freitas termed "a clerical oversight," but both Kelly and Marr were given 90-day suspensions by the San Francisco Police Commission.

The two women are seeking money from the defendants because of injuries resulting from the brawl. Levine told The Gay Community News (June 7, 1979) that "I was hospitalized for five days. I was told by doctors that my head would hurt for only two weeks. Six weeks later, it still hurt and one day I lost my coordination."

Symacko pointed out in a declaration to the Court that she had been hospitalized for "approximately 21 days." She said she was hospitalized 13 times for continuing back problems over the following year. She also had a spinal fusion, although she said her doctors told her that it did not hold.

According to Symacko, there were other kinds of damages, too. These damages were more mental than physical but they served as a source of harassment to the bar owner.

"I had given my phone number out to the police," she said, "and shortly after, I received obscene phone calls. My number is unlisted."

"Also, one night I was coming out of the bar when police stopped me" she added. "They wanted me to walk a straight line. They must have thought I was drunk. But I looked at one of them who knew me and said 'You know I don't drink at all, that I'm allergic to alcohol and that I walk with a limp.'"

Symacko also indicated that business at Peg's dropped off shortly after the incident because of bomb threats. She indicated that business is finally returning to normal.

The incident at Peg's Place was one of many controversial events in Marr's police career. Marr, who received a three-year suspended sentence from Judge Edward Stern for the Peg's incident, also allegedly beat up a pregnant woman at a Hunter's Point pool hall in 1978. He was also one of four officers allegedly involved in police brutality charges by a Bayview family in 1980. In October, 1982, Marr was arrested by the California Highway Patrol and charged with drunken driving after ramming his pickup truck into a car just west of Placerville.

Marr still works as an undercover narcotics officer for the S.F.P.D.

The time for the trial will be determined shortly before its starting date.

**Gay/Lesbian Scholarships Awarded**

The Gay and Lesbian Educational Services Committee of the San Francisco Community College District has announced the recipients of its first scholarships. Ora Anne Hatheway received a \$250 scholarship, and Jack Essig received the \$250 Rick Jacobi Memorial Scholarship.

Ms. Hatheway has been accepted for admission into the University of California College of Environmental Design at Berkeley. Mr. Essig, who is currently working part-time at the University of California hospital in SF, will be studying for the Nursing Board examinations in February. Both scholarship recipients are "re-entry" students who advise other career changers not to worry about their age because "before you start (school), you think you're too old but once you're in class, you realize you aren't." Both recipients have been involved in community service projects, Ms. Hatheway as a peer advisor for Gay and Lesbian support services at college and Mr. Essig as a volunteer helping to relocate Southeast Asian refugees and working with terminally ill AIDS patients.

Two more scholarships will be awarded for the Spring, 1985 semester. Students at the San Francisco Community College Centers, as well as students at City College, are eligible to apply. Applications will be accepted until November 30, which can be obtained by calling Sava Ranisavljevic at 239-3095.

**Suicide Conference**

There will be a one-day conference presented by San Francisco Suicide Prevention, Inc. at Trinity Episcopal Church on Saturday, December 8, 1984 from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm on Lesbian and Gay Suicide. The keynote speaker Eric Rofes, author of the book "I Thought People Like That Killed Themselves": Lesbians, Gay Men and Suicide, is nationally recognized as an expert on this topic. Panel discussions on this and related topics will be given during the day. For more information, call SFSP at 752-4866.



**Santa's Shocked** to find out that San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus has lost their piano. Richard Ray, general manager, and chorus members Bruce Kenyon and Gary Garrison are asking Santa for a

piano. The chorus is asking the community for a piano, or any number of them as it will be possible to use them as trade-ins on something more grand.

**Free AIDS Check-Ups At Haight Ashbury Medical Clinic**

The Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinic is pleased to announce that free AIDS screenings are being offered at the Medical Section, 558 Clayton (at Haight). The seventeen-year-old clinic was selected by the San Francisco Department of Public Health to do three levels of AIDS screenings.

The three levels of AIDS screening the Clinic offers are all free: an "At Risk" Examination, which involves a

limited physical examination and discussion of AIDS with a specially trained clinician. The second category of exam is the Intermediate Examination, which goes further and provides laboratory tests.

Anyone wanting to call the Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinic for an appointment and free screening examination — At Risk, Intermediate, or Comprehensive — should call 431-1714 from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. The Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinic is located at 558 Clayton Street at Haight, three blocks from Golden Gate Park.



**Halloween at Peg's Place**

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Our Free Home Energy Survey	Determine which energy-saving improvements your house needs for weatherization. And it's free!
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To order, send \$5 and \$1 for postage and handling per copy to:

Gay Areas Telephone Directory,  
P.O. Box 14752, San Francisco, Ca. 94114.  
Phone orders: 415-861-3905.  
Visa and Mastercharge accepted.

# Gay Areas TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

## AIDS Safe-Sex Guidelines

June 1984

### SAFE SEX PRACTICES

Massage, Hugging  
Manual Masturbation  
Social Kissing (Dry)  
Body-to-Body Rubbing  
(Friction)

### POSSIBLY SAFE SEX PRACTICES

French Kissing (Wet)  
Anal Intercourse With Condom  
Sucking - Stop Before Climax  
Water sports - External Only  
*Risk Increases With Multiple Partners*

### UNSAFE SEX PRACTICES

Running  
Fisting  
Sexual Intercourse Without Condom  
Sharing S.S. Toys  
Semen or Urine in Mouth  
Anal Intercourse Without Condom

Gay Area Physicians For Human Rights (1984) (415) 673-5189  
Distributed by San Francisco AIDS Foundation  
51 Leath Street, San Francisco 94103

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## East Bay Rainbow Victory

by John Wetzel

Amid ominous predictions of a Democratic "shift to the right" in coming years and, indeed, following a crushing blow to Democrats in Walter Mondale's defeat earlier this month, Alameda County sits undaunted as one of the few bastions of progressive politics in the state. Alameda County encompasses all the east shore cities from Richmond through Fremont, including Berkeley and Oakland.

A Democratic landslide in the county elections bounced Democratic incumbents back into congressional and state houses with huge twenty point margins. Mondale won by almost 90,000 votes. And municipal elections pushed left and far left politicians into an increasingly hospitable legislative atmosphere.

Traditionally conservative Contra Costa County took a hesitant half-step to the left in local elections despite a Reagan win.

If this 1984 election is any indication, it appears that nowhere in California is the new patchwork politics of the Democratic Party, the proverbial "Rainbow Coalition" more in evidence than in Alameda County. More than just political strategy, coalition-building is a political necessity in the county where large numbers of black, Jewish, gay and hispanic voters hold the line in a remarkably delicate political balance.

It was into this highly organized progressive political fray that a new gay voice has emerged, trying to convince party mainliners to do for gays what the party thinks it already has and which in some cases it actually is doing. In an area where gay interests, more or less, are hammered into a broader agenda of progressive strategy, success for gays has relied heavily on effective and charismatic politicking by Democratic party insiders working more as Democrats than as gays or lesbians.

What has become clear in the aftermath of the Mondale defeat is a solid electoral commitment to both progressive politicians and progressive policy in both Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Alameda County produced an especially progressive mandate as usual. But, as usual, the increas-

ingly vocal gay constituencies have received (at best) fuzzy endorsements of gay issues by the electorate at large.

Not true in the cases of incumbent party leaders, like Congressman Ron Dellums, State Senator Nick Petris, State Assemblyman Tom Bates, Assemblyman Elihu Harris, and Assemblyman Johan Klehs, all of whom were bounced back into office, some with unprecedented margins.

All of these incumbents garnered the support of the only gay political club in the East Bay, the highly regarded East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club (EBL/GDC). EBL/GDC publicized its support for the candidates, but none of the candidates themselves made gay rights a particularly visible campaign issue.

Perhaps rosier for gay activists were Berkeley municipal elections. For the first time in nearly twenty years, Berkeley's "Ivory Tower" progressives, the staunchly pro-gay Berkeley Citizens' Action (BCA) coalition, all but stormed City Hall in a surprise overthrow of what had been a moderate majority. BCA corralled eight of nine City Council seats (four were up for grabs) and retained school board leadership, with openly gay president Steve Lustig re-capturing his seat.

Those councilmembers who lost their seats all had voted recently to delay implementation of an historic domestic partners benefits plan for at least two years. Progressive Lustig had supported the same plan when it passed in the school board one week later. BCA has endorsed the domestic partners plan.

In Hayward and San Leandro, progressive feminist Peggy Hora swept to a clean victory for a Municipal Court bench over conservative Republican Paul Bernhardt. Hora has befriended the East Bay gay community. She is a long time civil rights activist, was once pictured on the cover of the Hayward Daily Review in a protest march, and is credited with a successful lobby of state Senator Bill Lockyer for his pro-AB 1 vote, a move seen as critical to that bill's final passage (AB 1 later was vetoed by Governor Deukmejian).

Hora considers herself to be another in a wave of women entering the judic-



SAAVE PHOTOGRAPHY

This weekend marks the sixth anniversary of the assassinations of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk.

mechanisms. He had run on the issue of fiscal management. EBL/GDC has endorsed Gibson for carrying Oakland's hefty gay rights ordinance through the City Council.

While club members expressed regrets at Gibson's defeat, they believe Gibson will continue to support gay causes in the Oakland City Council, even a possible domestic partners proposal such as the one that failed both in San Francisco and in Berkeley. They report that Knox has promised EBL/GDC a "strong voice on the board" at the county level as well.

Perhaps the most important political victory for gays in the East Bay may lie not in election tabulations, but in the possible election of gays into the Democratic party mechanisms. Already the president of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, Armand Boulay, has a good chance of being elected as one of the first openly gay party heads nationally. His bid for the presidency of the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee follows the death of activist Jerry Jackson, a gay man, who was next in line for the presidency.

Her election is seen as an important victory for Hayward's large gay community in a city where police/community tensions are ongoing. Democratic victories did not always translate into victories for gays or gay politics in Alameda County or particularly in Contra Costa County where conservative Democrat Dan Boatwright, for example, took the cake against his even more conservative challenger for a state Senate seat. Boatwright was one of the few Democratic senators who voted against AB 1, which would have accorded equal opportunity employment to gays in California.

In Alameda County's 4th supervisorial district gay activists were disappointed by Oakland City Councilwoman Marge Gibson's loss to businessman and county treasurer Bob Knox. Known as a money man, Knox had received endorsements and support from all the Democratic party

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**A FESTIVAL OF HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT**  
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# THE NATIONAL NEWS

## Job Discrimination

### Court Rules vs Church

by David Lambie

A New York State Supreme Court Justice has ruled that New York City has the power to protect Lesbians and Gay men from job discrimination by social service agencies doing business with the city.

Judge David B. Saxe held that not only was the city's Board of Estimate acting "within the realm of (its) authority" in inserting anti discrimination clauses in contracts with the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York and the Salvation Army, but that its action was supported by the equal protection clauses of the United States and New York State Constitutions.

Ron Najman of the National Gay Task Force hailed Judge Saxe's opinion as quite "radical" in its scope. "If other jurisdictions around the country believed, as does Judge Saxe, that lesbians and gays are protected already under the fourteenth amendment, then it wouldn't be necessary to seek passage of gay rights legislation in Congress. Unfortunately Judge Saxe seems to be in the minority of jurists in believing that we are already protected under the Constitution of the United States."

The opinion by Judge Saxe has no immediate legal bearing on another related case: the challenge to New York Mayor Edward Koch's authority to ban job discrimination by social service agencies under Executive Order 50. Judge Alvin F. Klein held in September that the Mayor had exceeded his authority in issuing Executive Order 50. That ruling faces a further review by a New York State Appeals court. It was after Judge Klein's decision that Mayor

Koch sought and obtained the unanimous resolution by the city's Board of Estimate.

Lee Hudson, Mayor Koch's liaison to the lesbian and gay communities, noted that enforcement of both the Board of Estimate resolution and Executive Order 50 has been suspended pending final appeals in both cases, in regards to their application to contracts signed with the Archdiocese of New York and the Salvation Army.

In an intra church dispute, the Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn, Joseph Sullivan, head of the nation's largest Catholic diocese, has indicated that he has no objections to signing the nondiscrimination provision. New York Archbishop John O'Connor has taken the opposite stand. Both bishops oversee social services agencies with contracts with the city. Both agree that Catholic teaching opposes the acceptance of homosexuality. Both have agreed to disagree about observing the nondiscrimination clauses of the city contracts. A spokesperson for Archbishop O'Connor explained the difference of opinion this way. "It's a question not of underlying philosophy. They've taken a different policy stand."

In a November 7th editorial, the New York Times concluded: "That means Archbishop O'Connor is in court because he chooses to be, not because church doctrine compels his demurrer. Civic harmony would be advanced if the Archbishop would direct his energies to more substantial urban problems."

Lee Hudson, in Mayor Koch's office, notes that the Mayor will continue to press for a speedy resolution of the

dispute in a manner that will protect the rights of New York's gay community. "While that's all being filtered through the courts, the Mayor doesn't want this segment of the population unprotected, and so he's going about it in as many ways as he can: if it can be done through a contract clause through the Board of Estimate then he will do that; if he has to get some legislation through the City Council that would translate his executive order into some other form of a bill, then he will pursue that course of action."

Wayne Steinman, an aide to City Comptroller Harrison J. Goldin (himself a member of the Board of Estimate along with the Mayor), noted that the board's resolution upheld by Judge Saxe, doesn't mandate the job protection clause in every contract, but only in those cases, where in the opinion of Board members it is necessary to pursue a legitimate city purpose.

Andy Humm, a spokesperson for the New York Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights declared that Judge Saxe's opinion "is almost too good to be true. I hope it will be upheld by a higher court. I'd like to further see the Board of Estimate revoke the contracts held by the Archdiocese of New York and the Salvation Army. Those agencies are not just questioning the Mayor's or the board's authority, they are in fact seeking the legal right to discriminate."

Humm charged that John Hale, the lawyer for the New York Archdiocese had been conducting a public relations campaign against the Gay Community in the media. "He's been saying on TV that we all live on Park Avenue and have homes on Fire Island. That's the same tactics that used to be used against the Jewish community, to legitimize prejudice against Jews." Humm said he felt that the Archdiocese of New York and the Salvation Army had both forfeited their rights to administer social service programs for the city.

## APA Establishes Gay/Lesbian Division

The American Psychological Association (APA) has established a new interest-area division, the Society for the Psychological Study of Lesbian and Gay Issues, effective January 1985. Approved by a two-thirds vote of APA's governing Council of Representatives in August, the new division marks continued recognition by psychologists of the importance of research about lesbian and gay issues, and of the need to provide better and more appropriate mental health services to gay and lesbian clients.

In past years, APA has passed policy resolutions supporting gay and lesbian civil rights and the declassification of homosexuality as a mental illness. Almost ten years ago, the Association urged the enactment of gay civil rights laws at the local, state and federal levels, and condemned public and private discrimination in such areas as employment, housing, child custody, public accommodation, and licensing. The sixty-thousand-member Association has called for all mental health professionals to take the lead in removing the stigma of mental illness that has long been associated with homosexuality. The APA has also continuously funded a Committee on Gay Concerns, which has been a regular part of the APA governance structure for the past five years. In addition, the Association has filed amicus briefs in important civil rights cases before the Supreme Court involving gay defendants and plaintiffs. With the establishment of the new division, APA will be able to broaden the psychological focus on issues of importance to the lesbian and gay community.

The new division puts the study of gay and lesbian issues on par with other areas of psychological activity such as educational, clinical, and experimental psychology and the psychological study of social issues. San Francisco psychologist Stephen F. Morin, Ph.D. was elected president of the new division. He noted that about half of the division's five-hundred initial members are gay or lesbian, while the remainder are not themselves gay but are specialists working on gay and lesbian concerns.

## Bands Meet

The Fifth National Conference of the Lesbian and Gay Bands of America celebrated the second anniversary of its founding in Minneapolis/St. Paul on October 13th and 14th, 1984. Two new groups, one from Kansas City and one from Denver, joined the conference, bringing the total membership to eleven bands nationwide. After the business meeting and the election of new officers, a concert was held at Weyerhaeuser Chapel on the campus of Macalester College in St. Paul. Future plans of the members bands include an invitation to perform at the opening ceremonies of the Gay Games II in San Francisco on August 9, 1986.

Archbishop of Sydney as accusing Gays of "having blood on their hands."

Watson reports that other Australian state parliaments are considering similar laws to the one passed in Queensland.

## United from 1

Bruce Hall was diagnosed with pneumocystis pneumonia in September 1983. After recovering, he asked to return to work in January 1984 only to be told by one company doctor to go home and stay there, "We don't have people like you working for us." Hall filed a complaint with the Illinois Human Rights Commission. As a result, United agreed in July 1984 to reassign him to another job. To date, he is still without work.

In a 1983 letter, Dr. C.R. Harper, then United's medical director, told Traynor that he was being let go for his own good to spare him exposure to viruses prevalent in an airplane cabin. Harper also mentioned fears of infecting passengers by handling food.

Traynor disputed both claims, saying he has led a very active life as co-chair of the Los Angeles Shanti project and has not "so much as come down with a cold since I was diagnosed." He said he could "go back to work today as a flight attendant." He added that attendants do not really handle food. "There is no medical evidence that even if we did, there would be any danger to the public," he told Sentinel USA.

In a September 1984 letter to John Lorenzini, of the Alice B. Toklas club, Kohn stated, "In all cases an effort has been made to reassign the employee." But Traynor like Hall has yet to be given a job. "I have heard nothing from the

company about reassignment," said Traynor. "There's been no discussion about working for United in another capacity."

When asked about that, Kohn told Sentinel USA that he was not aware of any promise to reassign Traynor whose grievance claim is yet unresolved. He said Hall had turned down a number of jobs. Hall was unavailable for comment.

Kohn maintained that Traynor might still get his job back as a result of arbitration. But although the federal arbitrator completed his investigation in August, no decision has yet been made in the case. Kohn could not explain the delay.

When asked if United planned, as rumored, to test all male employees for lymphadenopathy, a possible pre-AIDS condition, Kohn said, "Absolutely not. We're not going to go out and look for flight attendants who have AIDS. There's no way we'd know unless they'd come to us and say so." He doubted any would, knowing that they'd lose their jobs.

Having to lie to keep a job angers John Lorenzini, head of San Francisco People with AIDS, who was himself fired for having AIDS. He is proposing a boycott of United Air Lines by gay travellers. Labelling United's actions as "simply discrimination against people with AIDS," Lorenzini told Sentinel USA, "If we allow it to happen there, what's to stop them from doing it at every business." He said he wanted "to make an example of United Air Lines which is vulnerable to pressure" from consumers.

According to Lorenzini, both the Alice B. Toklas and Harvey Milk clubs have endorsed the boycott. He expected other lesbian/gay organizations to follow suit.

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# Question Person

How has the AIDS health crisis affected your sex life?



**Kurt Construction**

It hasn't. My sex life is the same whether there's a crisis or not. Everybody is so worried about it. I believe it's a certain group of individuals with a metabolism so low that they catch just about anything. It's their sex life, too, fisting and the things they do, the heavy sex. When I have sex it's simple. I keep myself clean.

**Kim**

Salesperson, Bottom Half

It has changed considerably. I'm scared to go out and have sex with anyone for fear of getting AIDS. A person should be more cautious.



**John Carpenter**

It's made me more selective. Careful. I am shy in the gay atmosphere. I'm only into oral sex.

**Darren Cashier**

It makes me more cautious about my partner. It's scary. There's nothing we can do about it as yet.

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# STREETLIGHTS

## You're Stars

Robert Cole

November 21 to December 4, 1984

(Note: These forecasts are based on rising signs which are more accurate than sun signs.)

**Aries:** World-travel, higher education, and tantric passion! What more could you ask for?! You are the great she-bop--oh, that rhythm. Keep it up and you'll find yourself bathed in limelight. The key to success in the next two weeks however, is surrender. Stop striving, just let your be bop naturally.

**Taurus:** Sex! Sex! and more sex. That lusty old ox in you begins to sweat and grunt with strong physical desire. It is the season to zero in on your mate, get real intimate, and then stake your claim. The two of you have come a long way together. And the stars indicate that you still have a long time to go. Is there life after sex?

**Gemini:** It's so hard for you to play the role of the snob sometimes. And then there's times like these! You might think you have your nose in the air; others think you've got it somewhere else. A cheap snob is out-of-place in social circles. Stop talking about yourself, it's a dead give-away. Spend your time this week listening and accepting. It gives you much more class!

**Cancer:** After a month of romancing stoned, you and your team finally get some real work to do. Your dabbles are about ready to turn into diamonds, but there's a lot of serious organization that still needs to be done. In this era, being avant garde is risky business. And cooperation now is your only assurance in the future. P.S. If you have health problems, eat beets.

**Leo:** You don't have to be a little slave to anybody anymore. It's time to change your attitude and lighten up a little. Are you having fun yet? The stars foretell a period of happiness and youthful vigor ahead. Now you can either sit around like a spoiled brat or learn how to play the game right. Put yourself in a different league this week. Start playing around with the big boys.

**Virgo:** The Thanksgiving Season always warms your life with tradition. You just love to play house during this time of the year. Cooking meals, Redecorating the home. Entertaining the neighbors. But don't overwork yourself lest you catch the cinderella blues — you know, those feelings of being abused by inconsiderate slob. It's not their fault if you give more than they want.

**Libra:** Careful how you spend that money, honey. Looks like you get to go shopping for the next couple of weeks. And you've got some major items on your list: new housemates, new wheels, and a better paying job. Dream on, fool. Nobody, especially you, can afford to spend on whim. Save your money and your job and your home. Shop for simpler things like sheets and socks. Be real!

**Scorpio:** You are such a pussy cat these days. What has gotten into you? Maybe you've just found a better way to get what you want from your love objects. Who knows! But you are on very touchy ground, and everybody knows that. You've run up quite a bill and it can't be paid with smiles. From here on out you may have to work harder to earn your keep. It's worth it!

**Sagittarius:** You narcissist. While you lie there drooling all over yourself the whole world is passing you by. But you should not be disturbed in your self-love. There are few times when you have the freedom to do whatever you want. As for everybody else, let them chase their own tails for a while. You'll be able to go back to those relationships later with no trouble at all. For now, enjoy yourself.

**Capricorn:** Excuses! Excuses! They're coming at you from all directions in the next two weeks. Cut short your relationships with people who are all talk and no action. Dump the bozos who keep feeding your ego with possibilities. This time will demand leadership from you, and your team must be strong. P.S. When you go forth to explore the cosmos you will find clear symbols guiding your intuition. Follow them.

**Aquarius:** Get ready to nuzzle up to the rich and famous. You are a star and you know it. What makes you so spectacular is your ability to inspire others. Everybody wants to be just like you. Ah, shucks. Well, soon you will have virtually everyone under your spell and then what are you going to do, big shot?

**Pisces:** Spread the icing thick on your cake this next two weeks. You've got the sweet life and you must give yourself more time to enjoy it. Business booms. Society adores you. Grow up and accept your personal worthiness. You've worked hard and you deserve a round of applause. P.S. A wise man will approach you with a great temptation. Do it later.

## Hollywood Canteen

Gary Menger

November 10 at the Kabuki Theatre, the Concert Band once again demonstrated its versatility by opening the "Hollywood Canteen" show with Rogers' "Victory At Sea" and then swinging into a Glen Miller medley. The real instrumental surprise was a new offshoot of the band called City Swing, conducted by Wayne Love; they were great.

A high point was the collaboration of City Swing, the SF Flag Corps and the Vocal Minority in a knock-your-sox-off "In The Mood." The Tap Troupe was exciting, as always, with a couple of extra surprises: Joseph Denney deserted the line to be solo vocalist for "Big City Blues," and the group's accompanist was Scott Singer, possibly the most dynamic keyboard artist in the city.

The crowd-pleaser of the evening — justly so — was a delightfully tongue-in-cheek, Fred and Ginger sendup by tuxedo-clad gentleman and a sailor in dress whites — it was wonderfully executed by Wayne Fleisher and Greg Lynch; their own creation, self-choreographed. Fleisher, by the way, was in charge of orchestrating the whole evening, and was also MC; he did a fine job all the way around.

What makes these evenings so special is that there are always surprises the program doesn't mention — in this case, a Betty Grable lookalike contest with current Empress Remy, Empress I Jose, and Bob Ross as judges. Cocktails were served by volunteers from the Gay Softball Team. These events are more than a concert; more than a show — they're a party... and the party goes on when the show's over.

The next event will be the Vocal Minority's "Kid Stuff," playing for a three-night weekend at Valencia Rose beginning Friday, November 30; their special guest will be **Joe Ross**, this year's winner of the Cabaret Gold Award as Outstanding Male Vocalist. (Earlier, on 11/19, the Tap Troupe will be part of Neiman Marcus' tree-lighting benefit for The Guardsmen.)

Finally, the SF Gay Men's Chorus and the Lesbian-Gay Chorus will wrap up a year of great musical celebrations with the non-traditional holiday concert, "Now We Sing With Hearts Aglow" (Norse Auditorium, 12/22 & 12/24).

If you'd like to become part of one of these merry, ongoing groups (as an alternative to too many evenings of bars or TV), call the Band Foundation at 621-5619 and they'll give you a nudge in the right direction.

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# Editorial

Tom Murray

## Gays at Work

'Tis the season to be surveyed. A variety of studies concerning the gay/lesbian community have been released recently. No survey can be completely accurate or representative, yet interesting patterns emerge. One released this month by Lesbian & Gay Associated Engineers and Scientists focuses on Gays at Work, compiling the results of the workplace questionnaire filled out by four hundred sixty-nine gay people.

Here are some of the highlights:

A very high percentage of gay people work under anti-gay working conditions.

Gay people in California work under significantly better conditions than Non-Californian gay people.

Gay Rights Ordinances and Sexual Orientation Non-discrimination clauses in personnel hand books are highly associated with positive working environments for gay people. Both personnel policy and municipal ordinances are of benefit to them. In addition the personnel policy was strongly beneficial towards the company in employee goodwill.

Significant levels of discrimination were measured and a copy will be sent to California State Governor Duckmejian.

The fact that an out gay was hired was a highly significant positive correlator with all aspects of the workplace environment.

Anti-gay jokes are a key indicator of anti-gay working conditions. Anti-gay jokes had a highly significant negative correlation with almost every aspect of the workplace.

If a gay person spoke up against anti-gay jokes or homophobes at the workplace it correlates very significantly with a workplace that has improved.

Gay people who read gay non-fiction books and literature are more out, less afraid of being fired for being gay, and rebutted anti-gay jokes and homophobes more often.

Engineers work in the most anti-gay environments but blue collar workers were the highest victimized.

There are no great surprises in these results, yet they confirm hunches many of us have not articulated often enough or loudly enough:

Laws make a difference. Marches and parades publicize an issue, but the ongoing uphill battle to protect our human rights by legislation is even more important than before, since powerful, vocal groups are spending millions of dollars to take these rights away.

California continues to lead the way in providing healthy working environment for gay people. Nevertheless, Governor Duckmejian's response to AB-1 was a cop-out. More than adequate amounts of documented discrimination are available.

Professional closets allow homophobia in the workplace to flourish. Speaking up at work confronts co-workers — and employers — with their homophobia. Nipping a joke at the punch line is a good way to flush out bigotry and challenge people to change. It is also an act of great courage.

Learning about one's roots as a gay person through literature and social interaction contributes to a healthier self-image and boosts one's ability to stand up and be counted.

While the survey concludes that engineers work under the worst anti-gay environments, there is still more than enough discrimination to spread around to every profession, every religious denomination, every neighborhood. We are all victimized on some level.

Perhaps the best news is that all of these surveys are being done. Issues are being researched, documented and publicized. We have nothing to lose and much to gain. We must also respond to results in other surveys that call for responsible behavior in our life and sexual expression. If we all look at the statistics honestly, without fear, there's bound to be healthy changes ahead for everyone. ■

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VOICE OF THE NEW GENERATION™

# Repercussions

*"It will be several years before the true implications of President Reagan's victory become evident in the United States, but throughout the world this week there are people who are suddenly being jailed, being tortured or awaiting execution, being targeted for hit-squad killing, being slated for 'neutralization,' because that's how various right-wing regimes have interpreted the American election. If this is not what President Reagan himself intended - and we believe that it is not - then it's up to him to say so, immediately and in the strongest possible terms."*

The New Yorker, November 19, 1984

While many gay and lesbian people fear for their human rights following the Reagan victory, it is important to realize that millions of people throughout the world already feel the repercussions of the recent election. We must ally ourselves with our sisters and brothers and support their fight for justice and freedom which is, in fact, our own.

## LETTERS

### Gay Rescue Mission

Dear Editor:

We have the problem of a bad public image, because we advocate sucking cocks for Jesus. Many interpret this as sacrilegion or a sex trip. It is not. We are devout Gnostic Christians; an ancient and basic tenet of Gnostic Christianity is that the urges of the flesh, such as hunger, pain, cold, fatigue, and lust, must be satisfied or it will cause the body to suffer so much that it will reach in and bring suffering to the Divine Light of the Pleroma (the soul).

MCC's Rev. England told the Examiner we are "flaky" and many believe that we are less than respectable because of our religious beliefs. Part of the problem is people don't really know what we are about.

We suck cocks for Jesus and feed the hungry because food is to hunger as sex is to lust. Lust is sexual hunger. Sex can destroy lust, just as food can destroy hunger. To us, feeding the hungry is just as important a religious duty as sex. We never have sex with those who come to us for food. We end the suffering of the hungry with food, just as we end the suffering of the lusty with sex.

Since the Examiner article, the number of food clients has doubled, and continues to grow because of displaced workers from gay firms, increased visibility and the rainy season, which causes unemployment and financial distress to many. Most of our clients are not eligible for food stamps or welfare, and are unable to utilize the on-site feeding programs. What food they get from us is all they have to eat. At the same time our case load has doubled, our financial situation has seriously deteriorated. We have lost all of the revenues from the sale of bath house passes. The church discontinued the carnal communications because of fears about AIDS, so we have lost the collection from the thrice weekly services. Fortunately, I am not poor, so I have simply been making up the deficit from my pocket, because my conscience would bother me if I turned away a hungry person. But I am not rich, and I can't afford to feed all the hungry of the Gay Community single handed forever.

So I'm writing again to ask you to do an article on our food program. It could go a long way to combat the misinformation and bad public image, and make it easier for us to find the human and financial resources we must have to sustain and expand a desperately needed survival program.

Rev. Donald Jackson  
Director  
San Francisco

### Milk Club

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank you for the marvelous coverage the Harvey Milk Club has been receiving as of late. I must say, I've been favorably impressed with the quality and tone of the paper since you folks arrived on the scene.

It's apparent that you're working hard to improve the paper's image and that your diligent efforts are paying off! A high regard for the new Sentinel USA is emerging in the community as it's become increasingly clear that you're committed to reporting news accurately and to treating people respectfully. Even when we disagree, there are no personalized attacks or gratuitous swipes which I deeply appreciate.

In closing, let me once again offer you my support. I'd be pleased to accompany you on a walking tour or to assist in other ways if needed. Thanks for running my photo last week but please next time, ask the typesetter to spell my name right!

Warmest Regards,  
Carole Migden

### Goodman Campaign

Dear Editor:

Thank you for Sentinel USA's endorsement and the help it may have been to me in the recent campaign.

When I was asked, in mid-August, by an ad hoc group of teachers and administrators, to run for the College Board my first response was negative. Not only was it very late to enter the race, but I knew that incumbents are re-elected 90% of the time and also that these particular incumbents were running as a slate and endorsing each other.

However, I decided to run because I thought that during the campaign I could call the attention of the public to many of the issues which are of concern to college personnel. I am satisfied that I accomplished that.

Thank you again and good luck to you and Sentinel USA.

Cordially  
Dean Goodman

### PS

All letters must be legibly signed originals. Please include a daytime phone number where you can be reached for verification, and a return address. We reserve the right to edit or reject any letter submitted.

# COMMENTARY

## Think Big

Charles R. Roberts, Jr.

## Financial Planning

Last month I received a letter from Deborah Pines of Levine Financial Group. She had read my column on financial planning and invited me to an informational meeting to find out about Levine Financial Group. I accepted because I wanted to be able to tell you about the experience.

Research shows just how much purchasing power we have. A large portion of our population in SF is in the top third financially, garnering over \$30,000 a year. With that income and without the financial obligations family responsibilities bring, we need to be aware of choices we have concerning our finances.

There is a new awareness of money in the gay community. No longer do we feel the need to spend all of it on consumer goods. We are more apt to consider investments. Levine Financial Group conducted an evening seminar on its financial services with department leaders speaking about their respective part of the services they offer. At the end of the meeting partici-

pants filled out a profile analysis on income, debts, current investments and willingness to assume risks.

From this group meeting I was asked to return for a private meeting where we would discuss my financial goals and develop a personal program. This program was developed with the aid of a computer. The computer analyzed my current accumulated investments and present savings patterns to develop my personal financial program. Calculations included financial planning for tax consequences and allowed for willingness or non-willingness to assume risk.

We all know that our government cannot continue its level of spending, running up huge deficits without one of two things happening. One, our taxes increase to pay for the current level of services; or two, we begin to depend more on ourselves, reducing the level of government services. In either event, we need to start planning for ourselves today.

A government study has shown that

of one hundred people starting their careers at age twenty-five...

- ... 29 die before reaching age 65
- ... 13 reach 65 with incomes below the poverty level (less than \$4,000)
- ... 55 reach 65 and have median income of about \$6,000
- ... 3 reach age 65 with incomes in excess of \$25,000

Of the seventy-one people who reach age sixty-five only a very small percentage were financially independent. To be financially independent at age sixty-five requires putting money aside while we are working. There is a greater commitment today to do that.

In my personal analysis I saw how much of my income was going to certain categories and how that relates to certain national averages. By comparing the two I was able to see areas in which I could improve my cash flow, by cutting expenditures. I also learned ways that I could come up with more dollars to invest by reducing the amount of my income taxes. This was my favorite way to increase my income.

Since I work for myself I developed a self-employed individual retirement plan. This plan enables my company to provide a retirement income for myself and my employees using tax-deductible dollars. The thing I like best about the plan is that I can save my own money for higher risk investments while providing dollars for my retirement needs.

With financial plan in hand I now have a road map to obtain my financial



Sentinel USA Publisher  
Charles R. Roberts, Jr.

goals. Some places charge so much per plan; other planners charge a percentage thru the investments you buy from them. Levine does the latter. In today's computerized society we are becoming smarter about how we spend our money. Financial planners are experts. We hire lawyers and tax professionals to represent us, it makes sense to use professionals to advise us on how to plan for our financial future. ■

## A Disturbed Peace

Brian McNaught

## Shared Victory

One week before he was elected as the first self-proclaimed and affirmed homosexual to serve in the United States Congress, Gerry Studds was asked to project how he would feel upon winning.

"I haven't won yet," he dodged in his ever-deliberate way, "and I'm superstitious about talking as if I did. However, I am very aware that I have a lot of emotions about this whole thing which have been bottled up for two years and which will eventually need to be expressed. I only hope that I don't do so in front of the network television cameras."

Seven days later, Gerry made world history when he decisively beat his boyhood friend in one of the most closely watched political contests in the country. In claiming his victory, he was articulate, gracious and in command of his emotions. If he did uncork his bottled emotions later, he did so privately. Yet, gay men and lesbians across the country certainly have a pretty good idea of what feelings and impressions Gerry Studds might have accumulated in his struggle for personal and professional vindication.

I would guess that Gerry Studds today is feeling a little giddy; that he is filled with an intoxicating sense of relief that the ordeal is over. Somewhere along the line, on some occasion, he must certainly have also released a primal scream in the privacy of his beloved Provincetown home; a scream of anger that any human being could be subjected to such degradation, public scrutiny and ill will. And, at the same time, perhaps in the same hour, he must sometimes break into fits of laughter

because he doesn't fully believe that he made it through a winner, both personally and professionally.

There will be times that Gerry will be upset about "losing two years" of his life. (I know that he already regrets the time lost before he affirmed himself as a homosexual to family and friends.) There will be times, too, when he will be overwhelmed by thoughts of how kind people have been to him. He will be proud. He is now excited. He will be energized. He is now exhausted.

It was two long years ago that Gerry first learned that the Ethics Committee planned to leave no stone unturned in its attempt to link him to an alleged "Page Scandal." In those two years, Gerry Studds has been abused by both heterosexual and homosexual. Thrust into the spotlight because of a 10-year-old relationship with a page, he has been quizzed about his professional standards, his personal stability, his effectiveness as a Congressman, his decency as a human being, his manliness, his lineage, his dedication to gay and lesbian liberation, his "cowardliness" for not coming out sooner and any other thing which happened to pop into the head of the reporter, columnist, constituent, commentator and man or woman on the street. He has been picketed, threatened and hounded. He even learned with horror how *Hustler* magazine fabricated a "Personals" ad and gave the telephone number of Gerry's elderly mother. The ad prompted numerous obscene phone calls.

In the last two years, Gerry Studds has realized the worst fears of a gay person who comes out; he has seen the

worst of the human condition. Those are perhaps some of the impressions he hoped wouldn't be uncorked in front of television cameras.

On the other hand, in the last two years, Gerry Studds has also seen the very best of the human condition and it's these experiences about which he most likes to talk.

"If I win," he told me, "I would have to immediately congratulate my constituents for their maturity and their decency. Like wise, I will want to thank the gay community for being so extremely warm and wonderful. No matter where I traveled, I was always quite touched by the warmth of people I had never met."

Immediately after his censure, at a time when he knew his critics would creep in for the kill, Gerry was surrounded by well-wishers, both gay and non-gay, from throughout the country, but, more importantly, from the 10th Congressional District of Massachusetts. Thousands of letters and telegrams poured into his Washington office from gay men and lesbians who felt great pride when Gerry proclaimed on the floor of the House of Representatives that he was gay. They didn't care about the circumstances. They cared that he did so without apology. For several months, these letters, read over and over again to anyone who would listen, were Gerry Studds' daily multiple vitamin.

In the last several months, Gerry has traveled around the country and met thousands of gay men and lesbians at fund raising events. With few exceptions, people have been incredibly enthusiastic and financially supportive. The gay and lesbian community, as Gerry insists, has also been mature and politically sophisticated in its support. Massachusetts and other state and national leaders could have been tempted to take advantage of the extensive media coverage given to Gerry's race and turned the election into an ugly Dade County-type referendum on gay rights. But they didn't and because of that decision, the voters in the district were allowed to consider qualifications without debating Leviticus. This was

very important to Gerry.

Of equal importance to him then, today and for the rest of his life was the outpouring of genuine love by his constituents. Shortly after he was censured by the House, Gerry received an invitation to march, as he had always marched, in the major religious festival parade of the district's largest city. While there were a handful of hecklers, the parade route was lined with hundreds and hundreds of cheering men, women and children. In this, he experienced the greatest dream of a gay person who comes out.

Who are these people who then cheered and later re-elected Gerry Studds as their spokesperson in Congress? Who are these people who provided gay men and lesbians across the globe with a hero, a winner, a role model to whom they can point?

The majority of the voters in Gerry Studds' district voted for Ronald Reagan in 1980 and again in 1984. The majority of the people who sent Gerry back to Congress are devoutly religious, blue collar workers whose economic survival depends upon maintaining the stability of the family. Those are the people who proved to themselves and to the nation that it is possible to respond rationally to the issue of a person's homosexuality.

Gerry Studds is not the only person who has a lot of emotions bottled up over the two year ordeal to which he was subjected. It isn't hard to guess his feelings because it isn't hard to get in touch with mine and with those of every other gay man and lesbian who walked that two year journey with him. When Gerry was censured, we were censured. When Gerry was booted, we were booted. And when Gerry was cheered, when he was applauded, when he was given the vote of confidence, all of us, in some way, were cheered; all of us were applauded and all of us were given a vote of confidence. We saw the worst and best of the human condition. We realized our worst fears and our greatest dreams.

I'm not superstitious. I'll say it. It's fun to win once in a while. It feels great!

(Copyright 1984 by Brian McNaught)

# Cityhood for West Hollywood

## Boys Town Comes of Age



**B**y now you've heard the news from West Hollywood; in the recent elections this small but colorful neighborhood of Los Angeles voted to drop its unincorporated status and become a city. In the process, forty political novices became campaigners for seats on the new city council. Opposition to the incorporation was strong; arguments ran to speculation that cityhood would spark a massive influx of gays, and that permanent rent control — a major plank in the platform — would bring about deterioration of this lively and colorful community. These objections were swept away for once and for all when the measure passed with a whopping sixty-eight percent of the vote.

Worse still for the naysayers, West Hollywood elected three gay candidates to the five seat council. And to top it all, Valerie Terrigno, president of the local chapter of the Stonewall Democratic Club, who is open about her sexual orientation, won the most number of votes of any candidate.

Terrigno's strongest supporter and ally is California's first openly gay mayor, Bob Gentry of Laguna Beach. Gentry has become a role model for his city and the gay community as a whole, earning the respect of gays and non-gays alike. He explains, "The voters in West Hollywood decided two things: one, they wanted local control and two, they wanted to be represented by competent people, and so they elected a city council, three of whom happen to be gay."

"I think the voters felt that sexual orientation did have something to do with competence in an area where there are a large number of lesbian and gay people. It becomes an important dynamic selecting who is going to lead your community, because it says that their sensitivity about particular issues regarding city services (rent control, a break for fixed income seniors) and programs (anti-discrimination is a big concern) is beneficial to the city. I don't say that three openly gay city officials in West Hollywood weren't elected without that fact being part of the reason. I don't discount it because I think lesbian and gay people want representation. That's what we have to strive for everywhere."

Across the United States and possibly around the world gay communities may be viewing West Hollywood as another victory, another San Francisco. This may also be the very same premise that the likes of Reverend Falwell and the Family Protection Act will try to use to their advantage to stop the growth of the community and further clip back so-called 'certain unalienable rights.' West Hollywood is not as some refer to it 'another San Francisco,' 'the gay community's answer to Camelot,' 'Fairyland,' or '... likened to the Castro!'

**W**est Hollywood is a paradise, a contradiction to those who can hardly imagine that in less than two square miles with a population of 35,000 that approximately 13,000 gays and lesbians can live in harmony with nearly 11,500 Jewish senior citizens. These same non-believers are probably shocked to find parenting couples in the minority where forty percent of this same neighborhood between the ages of twenty-five and forty-four are single adults. As if this conglomeration isn't hard enough for the 'outside world' to swallow, eighty-five percent of the voters are registered Democrats.

**U**alerie Terrigno, who seems like a sure bet among her fellow officers for the mayoral seat, would like to put to rest any fears about the much needed rent control squeezing property owners or about a mass migration of gays to the tiny city. "We have some really quick commitments for a strong but fair rent control for strong anti-discrimination ordinances" begins Terrigno, "but, I think it is also our goal to be a kind of showcase for a model city in terms of legislation, attractiveness and property value. I don't find our goals that are related to rent control and ordinances incompatible for the city. I think you're going to see a lot of positive changes in the way we look."

Although he was not elected in this race, independent and gay candidate Don Genhart states, "My interest has always been to preserve the diversity and the uniqueness of West Hollywood; not to let it crumble and deteriorate." Genhart, who was twice elected President of the West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce continued, "I would just like to see the new city council be very responsible and supportive of residents, apartment owners and landowners and not just be totally for the renters."

"We've been getting a lot of press as 'the first gay city' continually and I think it's time to drop some of that. Obviously, we have a lot of pressure to do very well because people are watching us. I think all of us are so proud to be in that position and so we're going to make some major achievements, but we're not the first gay city in that respect (relating to San Francisco). We are one of the only 'walking areas' in Los Angeles besides Beverly Hills and Westwood. We're going to encourage 'class,' outdoor cafes, flower shops and things like that. You're going to find real probable change in our city and that we're all working towards something that stands out. They're going to watch out for what gay and lesbian leadership does and in that respect you're going to see some significant changes."

Nestled safely in a world of its own between the ultra busy, increasingly seedy Hollywood proper and the chic, often cost prohibitive Beverly Hills; West Hollywood was seen years ago as a bright spot for young adult gays and non-gays alike just starting out. The cafes that were there ten years ago are as popular as ever. New specialty shops and boutiques are constantly springing up. Doug Weston's famed Troubadour continues its live entertainment trend that launched many a career in the 60's and 70's. Scott Forbes' Studio One, with many a mention in song lyrics helped put 'D' in disco.

Bob Gentry furthers this same train of thought by adding, "The decision on the part of the voters to become a city is one of local control. It's a feeling, I think, that the



**Valerie Terrigno** "I think you're going to see a lot of positive changes in the way we look. We've been getting a lot of press as 'the first gay city' and I think it's time to drop some of that. Obviously, we have a lot of pressure to do well because people are watching us."

**Bob Gentry** "I don't say that three openly gay city officials in West Hollywood weren't elected without that fact being part of the reason. I don't discount it because I think lesbian and gay people want representation. That's what we have to strive for everywhere."



stay involved! He ran a very good campaign on all of the issues. I think what happened was that the candidates only had three months of preparation to deal with all the issues and were not able to wage a full fledged campaign." Forbes' partner further cited other campaigns which had a year or two for preparation. As Caruthers concludes, "I think Scott will re-run. I also think he learned a very valuable lesson that politics is not a play toy. West Hollywood wanted to evolve as its own entity away from the city and county of Los Angeles and that's what they've got now. It should be very interesting to see what's going to happen. As far as the people who won, I feel we have a very viable, interesting slate of elected officials."

**A**s exciting as the campaign for West Hollywood's own incorporation was with its bevy of gay candidates, the race and its results held a few few more unexpected surprises. Perhaps general consensus among the area's gays 'in the know' certainly expected four different twists when the ballots were tallied. Opinions ran high as to whether Studio One/Backlot Theatre owner Dr. Scott Forbes or former executive director of Los Angeles' Gay & Lesbian Community Center Steve Schulte would become the first mayor of the new city. Certainly, it was felt, Art Guerrero, referred to as 'the father of cityhood', one of the founders of the West Hollywood Incorporation Committee, and Ron Stone, who served as chairman of the committee, would be elected hands down. Ironically and even surprisingly to many, the aforementioned seeds never took root. Forbes, Guerrero and Stone received too little of the vote to make the new council let alone become mayor. Ivy league Yale alumnus and former Colt Studio model Steve Schulte received the smallest percentage and number of popular votes of the five council members elected. John Heilman, considered rather low key, even sedate bested Schulte, placing third in the popular vote between the two non-gay council members Alan Viterbi garnering nine percent and Helen Albert who won seven percent as did Heilman and Schulte.

**N**ow that the five council seats have been filled, speculation runs high that Valerie Terrigno will most likely be installed as the 'First Lesbian Mayor of Boys Town' during the council's November 29 meeting. Bob Gentry, who started out as a council member in Laguna Beach before being chosen as mayor, attests, "The mayoral position in a city is not the important issue because there's no more power. Each council member has one vote. Whoever they decide to be mayor, so be it. It doesn't make any difference in the running of the city." Terrigno herself is philosophical and agrees with Gentry, saying, "Although I received the majority of the vote, that's not what being chosen mayor is based on. You still need three votes out of the five."

If you're excited about West Hollywood's new beginning you may be considering a long visit or possibly a move to Southern California's brightest, most popular spot, laden with golden blonde surfers, physically fit men and women living in openness with pride, where the newest music originates and the boulevards boast fine restaurants and some fantastic shops. Councilwomen Terrigno cautions, "We have very little housing right now. We will be encouraging visitors, that's something we're going to do. But far as people migrating here, we're not going to encourage that. Population shifts are not going to be that great. We have a large mix of gays, lesbians, seniors and families." Valerie concludes rather matter-of-factly, with that laid-back attitude which most Southern Californians affect, "People will visit and some people will stay... and some won't."

Special thanks to the interviewees, Edge publisher Dennis Colby, photographer C.R. Bouley II and Sentinel USA.

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Jeffrey Wilson



# Alicia Bridges & Friends:

## Doing It Their Way The Second Time

Jeffrey Wilson

Alicia Bridges and her partner Susan Hutcheson had only been writing music together for two years when their collaboration "I Love The Nightlife" garnered Alicia a Grammy Award nomination in 1978. She met Susan in 1976 and as Alicia recalls, "the first song we ever wrote together was 'The Broken Woman,' a blues song. It was on my very first album *Alicia Bridges* along with 'I Love The Nightlife.' Once we did that we wanted to write more things together. When I met Susan we went to see Bill Lowery (head of the songwriting/production company The Lowery Group) and played some songs for him and one thing led to another.

"At that time Susan was basically involved in the songwriting but, was also trying to get me on stage. I would and still do confer with her about what looks flattering on me, what shows up good under the lights. Although we received very little credit in the beginning, Susan and I were quite involved in productions of my early albums. In the early stages, after 'I Love The Nightlife' came out we did a lot of recording at home on some tape recorders and then we went in and recorded the album. Susan's very involved with my management at this time. Right now, she's promoting my new single 'Under The Cover Of Darkness' to everyone she can get a hold of on the telephone! Susan and I are both involved in managing 'Alicia Bridges', "which" muses Ms. Bridges, poking fun at herself, "can be a pain sometimes. It's not the thing we would enjoy doing most, I tell you!"

Alicia and Susan have pooled all their energies together writing and producing the nine new songs for *Hocus Pocus*, Bridges' new album on Second Wave/ Olivia Records. If you're a regular reader of *Hot Wax Music* then you may have already followed our lead and checked out "Under The Cover Of Darkness" the first single from the album. As Alicia describes *Hocus Pocus*, "The 'A' side of the album with 'Under The Cover Of Darkness' has sort of an r&b feel with a little bit of rock. And then the 'B' side is more rock oriented, like new rock with a lot of keyboard and synthesizer parts. We also used a lot of electric drums. The music is pretty aggressive and positive."

From the beginning of our interview Alicia's main focal point is on her songwriting and the ability and freedom to be able to express herself through song. The compositions she just described from her soul are so different from the seventies "Nightlife" disco sound I inquired if her talent was maturing or taking a different direction. Bridges put it this way. "I think it's similar, but I think it shows growth. Susan and I have grown as writers and of course, we produced this album. Back in the seventies our producer was actually a guitarist, a session player out of Atlanta. Our publisher Bill Lowery said, 'Let's get him to get the musicians, line up the studio, get things set...' So, Susan and I did that and we went in with him. As I said, this is not our first attempt at production, but the album



Alicia Bridges, and Susan Hutcheson with the author

shows growth and a little more aggressiveness."

With all this talent, a solid songwriting partnership with Susan, and a Grammy nomination, where has Alicia Bridges been for the past five or six years? Although she didn't know it at the time, Alicia sites discrimination as a key factor now, stating, "I came close to signing with a couple of major labels, but the problem was they didn't think a woman should be producing her own material. Sorry, but that's the way it is. Everytime we came along and thought we were getting close to signing a deal with a record company the reply was the same, 'Well, we think you can sing and maybe we would like to work with you, but what we'd really like to do is get you with a producer and let him pick out some material for you.'"

"The toughest career decision I ever had to make was turning down a deal with one of the major labels, holding out to sing what I want and produce my own songs. If I had given in and said, 'Okay, get me with a producer and pick out the material you want me to sing...' I'd have had the deal, but I couldn't say that and that was probably my very toughest decision. I knew that turning the deal down meant more time to wait and maybe something else would or would not come through. I really felt at one point that maybe the reason I wasn't able to find what I wanted and needed in the record business from all the other record companies was, that maybe, there was a little discrimination going on. I didn't know this for years and I want you to know that honestly, I didn't suspect this or know this for a long, long time. It never occurred to me that this was part of the problem. I held myself back by sticking to my guns and seeking out a record company that would allow me to do this, and I found that in Second Wave Records."

Enter eleven year old Olivia Records and its subsidiary Second Wave, tucked away in Oakland, "We both heard of Olivia Records several years ago," Alicia begins, describing her and Susan's quest for a record deal, "We really didn't know their artists or have any of their records, but we did know they existed as an all women's label. I said to Susan, 'Let's send the record to Olivia. They're an aggressive women's record company. Let's see what they say. Let's see if they hear what our music is trying to say.' We sent the music to Olivia's president, Judy Dlugacz, and after doing that, I guess the best way to explain it is, what I saw when I met Judy and when I heard her talk made me believe in the record company. I learned that the people in the company were very involved, very close to the music and that they would take a

personal interest in me and fight for the record and the music giving it all that they had and that makes a lot of difference. We have a real personal type of relationship. They want me to use my own music. They give me artistic control. They want Susan and I to produce it. I'm so thankful for that, you just don't know. It's been a long, long wait but the whole time I've been working on material. I wanted to use the songs that we write because I believe in the material. And because of my singing, I sing them honestly. If you don't believe in what you're singing, your public knows and they know you're a phoney and I didn't want to get involved in that."

Strong women and feminists are often seen as or accused of being lesbians because, perhaps, they don't fit the social mores of the average housewife in the minds and eyes of the average heterosexual male. Many times through the years I have heard Olivia Records referred to as "that dyke label." Alicia's philosophical views are best expressed when she says, "I would have to say in this country there are so many record companies controlled by men. There are some women in executive positions, but you don't find many of these women in what you would call 'a position of power.' Now you have Olivia and Second Wave Records and some other smaller women's labels. I would say it's a strong venture for a bunch of women to go together like this and try to have a record company of their own. I think somebody needed to do it. The fact that it's the exception to the rule rather than being an ordinary thing is kind of sad though."

If anyone wants to say that I'm a feminist because I'm on Olivia/Second Wave that's fine, that's true. I consider myself a feminist definitely and I have a lot of real strong feminist convictions. In my opinion the word 'feminist' means someone who believes that women should be treated equally in society, but I'm not a woman who hates men. I like men. I work with a lot of men on my sessions, through the Lowery Group, through the promotion of my records and in my business dealings. Most of the men I work with I admire and like very much. If people want to say that I'm sympathetic to lesbian causes that's fine too, because it's true. And if they want to say that I'm also sympathetic to homosexual causes fine, it's the truth as well. I'm a feminist, but not a woman that doesn't like men or cuts myself off from people, because I feel we need all of us together to create. My songs are the type of songs that perhaps the feminists of the eighties will be singing; I have to say that, but I don't

think they are political."

Alicia doesn't mind being viewed as a cult figure; she adored David Bowie during his Ziggy Stardust years. She says, with regard to the gay and lesbian community looking to her, "I hope to be viewed as a strong person and an honest person. I hope people will be happy for me that I broke through some of these barriers and went ahead with being able to produce my own records and use the songs I have written. I've been going around recently to play the clubs and I don't see some of the barriers in gay clubs that I've seen in straight places where the people there are trying to 'cool out' each other. It's a type of posture."

"In the gay clubs it seems to be more of an attitude of coming out to hear the music and have a real good time. When I sing with people in these gay clubs I feel love coming from them. I give them my song and they give me some of their love. Then I give them another song and show them my love and they give me some more love back. It's a very happy, shared experience. I can't say there are any straight places where I've played so far and experienced this wave of love."

About her future in the recording industry many years from now Alicia Bridges closes, "I would like to have written much more material, recorded many more records and made many, many more personal appearances. I would have liked to have had a career that sustained the times with enough versatility to go with the flow and yet, still be true to my own soul."

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Film

Ken Coupland

### Talking Heads: Mixing Politics & Religion

Is David Byrne the funniest man in rock? On the basis of his performance in *Stop Making Sense*, Jonathan Demme's concert film of the Talking Heads, he might well be. Filmed in four evenings at the Pantages theatre in Los Angeles last year, *Sense* captures one of the most impressive rock productions of that or any other season; but it's Byrne's stage antics that stay with you. Whether he's using his wry delivery to undercut the stilted rhetoric of the group's earlier compositions, or stressing lyrics that are funny in themselves, Byrne creates a stage persona quite unlike anything we've seen before. Part nerd, part superstar, he's like a cross between Buddy Holly and David Bowie.

Byrne's eccentric body language is something to behold, and it's fascinating to watch the way he capitalizes on his shortcomings. He can't dance, so his choreography is very athletic; he's no mime, but his spastic gestures and falling-down-drunk routines are highly mimetic; he's not an actor, but he can use the simplest props to transform



Who's Your Tailor? David Byrne wears his "big suit" in *Stop Making Sense*.

himself into the characters in his songs.

Some of those shortcomings are more serious. Byrne's voice is a fragile instrument; his range is drastically limited, but a pair of female back-up singers buttress the vocals, belting out gospel-style riffs behind his monotonous wail.

Then too, the Heads' compositional skills aren't all that strong; criticism of the group tends to center around the argument that "all their music sounds the same." Byrne gets around this by starkly contrasting the dramatic mood and musical setting of each song. Building from the opener, a lushly romantic solo of "Psycho Killer", the group's first hit, he proves he can han-

dle a guitar. Then Tina Weymouth, whose surprise hit with Tom Tom Club was still fresh at the time, joins him on stage for the heads' anthem, "Heaven" ("a place where nothing happens"). With each new song, more accompaniment is wheeled on stage, until, with "Slippery People", the group launches a full-tilt, spellbinding assault. There's no question that band members Jerry Harrison, with his spooky, smoking keyboards, and Steve Scales, an incendiary percussionist, drive the sound and put real meat on the bones of Byrne's bare melodic structures.

Byrne's always had a highly developed visual sense, and he uses it to brilliant

effect in this production. Throughout the concert, his work with avant garde artists like Robert Rauschenberg, scenarist Robert Wilson, and Twyla Tharp, is strikingly evident. The influence of Kabuki theatre is obvious in the way he gets dramatic effects with a minimum of props and lighting.

Director Demme's approach is minimal too, in a sense - if you can call the latest advances in camera and sound recording minimal. But Demme manages to stay out of the way as much as possible. In fact, he describes his approach largely in negatives. "I wouldn't want to do the film with a lot of quick cuts," he recalls telling Byrne, and his takes are often long and sustained. "And I didn't want to go the route of constant cutaways to the audience", so we're spared all that teen enthusiasm. There's no backstage footage, either, of the kind that *Spinal Tap* lampoons, and virtually no dialog, so the songs speak for themselves.

What the songs express, Byrne's sardonic humor aside, is a passionate commitment to social justice and political protest, set against a music of exalted, near-evangelistic zeal that's weirdly mystical and animalistic all at once. Byrne has integrated his enthusiasm for the study of trance states and out-of-the-body experiences with the vitality of music as various as African polyrhythms and American street funk to arrive at the common ground between all of them. For rock 'n' roll, this is profound stuff.

You may miss the raw electricity that live sound offers in this film version, but you do catch the subtleties of expression that are all but lost in the vastness of the concert hall, and that's the advantage that rock films as good as this can provide.

■ *Stop Making Sense* screens at the North Point and at the Grand Lake in Oakland; both houses have excellent sound systems to do justice to the film's revolutionary direct-to-digital recording.

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# Cuisine

Bob Nelson

## Food Safari

The Holiday Season is upon you. Determined to be the best host around, you plunge into San Francisco's jungle of bakeries, delis, markets, wine and cheese shops. You hear terms bantered about that were never used back home in Peoria. You fear asking questions and exposing yourself as a culinary illiterate. You are tempted to give up and serve those frozen egg rolls you found last May at Safeway. Don't panic! Help is at hand. A few simple guideposts, and the jungle will begin to become a garden of delights.

Do not be intimidated by foreign terms. French has become the unofficial language of cooking, like Italian is the language of music. But there is nothing mystical about Europe, and nothing that the European terms point to that can't just as well be said in plain English. Here are a few examples:

**Gourmet & Gourmand.** A Gourmand is a person who likes food; a gourmet is a person who knows why he likes it. Until recently, calling someone a gourmand was the same as calling him a glutton. Today, the words are put on any label the manufacturer wants to sell at a higher price. The words, in themselves, are no guarantee of quality.

**Patisserie & Boulangerie.** Pastry shop and bakery. The San Francisco yellow pages contain six pages of listings for bakeries. You can get bread and pastry in almost any language.

**Pate.** In France, this refers to an elaborate meat pie. Here in the U.S., it is usually seen as a ground meat paste served as an appetizer either in a pastry shell (en croute) or on crackers. Don't feel badly if you never had to deal with pate until you arrived here; even San Franciscans were slow in accepting it. Henri Lapuyade, owner of the Marcel et Henri firm, says that when he first introduced pate eight years ago, San Franciscans thought it was meatloaf! Today his company sells 7,000 pounds a year. Goose liver pate (pate de foie gras) is considered quite a delicacy and is sometimes enhanced by truffles.

**Truffle.** Many of you are familiar with those heavenly mounds of chocolate sold by stores like Cocolat or the San Francisco Chocolate Co. But did you know that these chocolate delights are named after a foul smelling fungus that is harvested by hogs? The French Truffle is a distant cousin of our common mushroom with a very pungent aroma and taste. Truffles are found only in southern Europe and defy cultivation; they are subterranean, and so must be hunted by animals with a keen sense of smell. As a result, they are quite expensive (often held in hotel safes in Europe). Used in moderation, they can enhance many dishes, but the true truffle fanatic prefers them lightly sauteed, with of course, champagne. Other fungi that you will see locally are Chinese black fungus, Japanese Shiitake, French Morels and Chanterelles, and Italian Porcini. Many delicatessens and finer markets have fresh supplies, but be prepared to pay well for them.

**Delicatessen.** This is by far the most common term you will see. This title has been adopted by a large variety of stores ranging from plush catering operations like Eichelbaum's to exotic emporiums like Haig's Middle Eastern Delicacies on Clement Street. The word itself derives from the French "delicatesse", or delicacy. It has come to mean any shop selling foods that are ready or require

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Music

### Pops

Mike Mascioli

Sylvia Syms Interview

## Around The Rooms



Shut down in our prime! We've been cut back to once a month and some of this copy's been sitting on the back burner, so it's high time we took it off. Quick, before it melts!...

In her return to the Venetian Room of the Fairmont Hotel, Ella Fitzgerald looked trim and elegant and, as usual, sang mostly prime material. The legendary voice that could hit notes with deadly accuracy was always too smooth to convey genuine emotion, and one longed for some rough edges to at least give it character; but, at sixty-six startlingly tremulous and strident, especially since Ella pushes herself harder than before. She was most successful, and unusually touching, on Cole Porter's "Ev'rytime We Say Goodbye" and Gershwin's "Nice Work If You Can Get It," the latter the title tune of her new Pablo LP with Andre Previn on piano. Some cuts also feature bass, and the spare accompaniment allows for greater sensitivity, or at least intimacy, than in most of her previous LPs. Her vocal's not strident here, but warm and mellow, and she clearly has countless more good albums ahead of her — although, God help us, not another Gershwin collection, since *Nice Work* is her third.

Earlier at the Venetian, every entree on Rosie Clooney's musical menu was in perfect taste, like a saucy "revenge medley" ("I Cried For You," et al.) and a meaty Duke Ellington medley, including "I'm Checkin' Out, Goo'm Bye," an early hit for her. For dessert — a rich interpretation of "What'll I Do," sung with solo guitar. As she sang it, my friend and I were both reminded of Judy Garland; like Judy, Clooney turns her attention to a lyric, particularly a ballad, and quickly, easily pierces its essence. She can bring poignancy, sincerity and substance to the simplest ballad, and "What'll I Do" is the highlight of her new LP... *Sings The Music of Irving Berlin* (her eighth for Concord Jazz). On it, she's in customarily fine fettle, but her Concord LPs tend to lack variety, due to the arrangements and overused large jazz combo backing, expert though it may be.

The Venetian also hosts Sylvia Syms (Dec. 11-16), who won kudos for her engagement there last December, when we had a chance to speak with her about her music. "I'm a singer of standard songs," she explained, "meaning songs that have been around, tried and true, for a very long time, many of them as long as I have. I pick my material primarily for my relationship with it, as a person, as an artist, as a teller of stories, because that's what you are first before you are anything else as an entertainer. A performer who sings songs and tells stories is an actor, and you draw from the material that relates to you personally, and from that material you draw the relationship between yourself and the audience and the truth. . . I come out on the stage and look like somebody's Aunt Tessie from Over-shoes Gulch. I do! I'm hardly what anyone would expect to be the perfect

"I come on stage and look like Aunt Tessie from Over-shoes Gulch. I'm an older woman; I've lived a lot, loved a little and I've got the scars to prove it. . ."

chaannteuuse with the long hair and fingernail polish and the slinky — I'm just not. I'm an older woman; I've lived a lot, I've loved a little. I've got a few 'scars' to prove it. And I couldn't be happier about having acquired them."

Her influences? "Early on in my life I listened to a young woman who was a very troubled young woman, who was black and who was drugged and who was simple beyond all things. I don't mean simple-stupid, I mean simple; somehow she knew the shortest distance between two points. *Innately* she knew it. And she didn't embellish it with a lot of scat singing, and she was a jazz singer, and she was Billie Holiday. Listen to her recordings. Listen to the purity of this woman and the elegance of her lovemaking and the eloquence of her misery — not the kind of misery that made you want to go out and kill yourself. It was an eloquent feeling of suffering: she understood the taste between tears and kisses." She has volumes of praise, too, for Sinatra — who conducted her last LP, on Reprise — and Mabel Mercer. In the words of one of her favorite songwriters, Peter Allen, Sylvia Syms was "taught by experts."

Superstars of another milieu, Mary Martin and Ethel Merman both resigned, for three decades, as First Lady of American Musical Theater. Sadly, Merman died this year, as did Martin's friend, actress Janet Gaynor, who never recovered from a car accident which also crippled Martin two years ago in SF. Martin was taught to walk again, and said her thank-you recently with *Mary Martin at Davies Hall: An Evening With Her Friends*, a benefit for the Trauma Unit of SF General.

Like most benefits, it was a rambling affair plagued by tech problems and underrehearsal. Martin's a warm, gracious hostess but, oh, the company she keeps! — an unevenly talented collection of friends.

Betty Carter, on the other hand, settles into the Music Hall Dec. 14-16 for her annual three-day stint, invariably a sellout — thanks to jazz's newfound mass popularity and to Carter's diligence in continuing to record on her own label, Bet-Car (whose local office, incidentally, is enthusiastic over her considerable gay following). She began singing bebop in the mid-40s but, by the '60s, was taking vocal jazz to "progressive" limits. Her music is difficult and challenging — full of tempo changes and flattened, dissonant notes which rarely suggest the melody line — but rewarding. She's the rare singer who can make the tired gimmick of scat singing sound fresh and genuinely communicative, and while jazz singers as a

whole tend to favor the sound of the vocal over the meaning of the lyric, Carter can deliver a ballad that's intensely intimate and heartfelt without compromising her musical vision.

Bruce Springsteen, too, has a musical vision, which he brought to the Oakland Coliseum for two three-hour-plus, high-voltage performances recently (marred only by the ugly ticket scandal which preceded them). With songs like "Born to Run" and "Jungleland," Springsteen's established himself as not merely the voice of rock & roll but of an entire restless, rootless generation. His seventh smash LP, *Born In The USA* (Columbia) also brims with scenarios of the working class, with characters, locales, drama. They're intelligent and passionate (ablaze with image of fire), many throbbing with the pulse of today's music, and to single out any one would be difficult, unfair and foolish. His vocal has its usual raw urgency, and he's returned to a Phil Spector-like wall of sound (courtesy of his famed E Street Band) under the stark solo backing of 1982's *Nebraska*.

**Record Round-up:** *Very Old Paint* — like *Sunday In The Park With George* (RCA Red Seal), released in August, which continues Stephen Sondheim's move away from the traditional song-filled musical — to which he himself contributed most prominently with *Company*, *Gypsy* and *West Side Story* — toward more ambitious, opera-like

works in which much of the dialog is set to music. The characters include pointillist painter Georges Seurat, and in one of the best numbers, "It's Hot Up Here," the figures in his famous "A Sunday Afternoon On The Island Of La Grande Jatte" come to cantankerous life. I also especially liked the autobiographical "Putting It Together," encapsulating Sondheim's themes — art and its commercialization, the artist and his societal and personal relationships. ("This is the third piece of yours I've seen. They are getting so large!" one character says significantly.) With *Sunday*, Red Seal continues its disgraceful tradition of pool quality pressings; cardboard would sound better.

Out of the shows and into the streets . . . *Sing To Me The Dream* (Redwood), recorded live in the Bay Area during their successful summer tour, unites lesbian-activist singer-songwriter Holly Near and Inti-Illimani, a Chilean folk group exiled from — and whose music is banned in — Chile. Lyrically, Near's always had trouble finding a middle ground between heavyhanded harangues and the bad poetry of less pointed songs. Here the latter prevails: the songs are fraught with simple-minded references to trees, birds, mountains, moon, stars, sea, sky and sun. Melodically and instrumentally, though, *Dream* is spirited and easy to enjoy. ■



These range from the super-chic Italian breads of Il Fornaio and the superb Spanish pasteries of Castellana, to small bakeries like Cinderella on Balboa (how's your Russian?) or the venerable Italian pastry at Stella's on Columbus. Of course, few breads can rival good-ole' San Francisco Sourdough French Bread in taste and consistency, even if it has lost the heavy crust some of us remember from our childhood.

**Charcuterie.** Many shops have begun to use this name, most recently Ryan's on 18th near Castro. The word means "pork butchery" and refers to the process of preparing meat for sausages, pates, rolled smoked ham, and the like. It is also applied to the shops that sell such things. Most of these items are highly seasoned and make excellent appetizers since the spices "wake-up" the palate (taste-buds). Every European nation seems to have its own versions of these spiced meats, and the Holiday Season is a great time to put out a large tray of them.

little preparation.

**Nouvelle Cuisine.** This French/California style of cooking emphasizes light sauces, fresh vegetables, and low calories. Pushed by local restaurateurs such as Jeremiah Towers, it is making its way into the entertaining circuit. There is a new Italian version of this called (no kidding) "Novo Cucina." Stop by Prego's or Ciao's if you want to know what it is all about.

**Cajun.** Louisiana Cajun cooking has become the rage in some circles. This kind of cooking emphasizes the seafood and sausages found in the New Orleans area. Be prepared for a great deal of pepper. I recently made a Jambalya (seafood, chicken & sausage gumbo) that called for seven different kinds of pepper, not counting the spicy sausages!

In the next column we will examine a few of the local gourmet shops and sample some of their wares. Until then, remember that whatever nationality a store is affecting, everyone speaks English. ■

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## Film Shorts

### Repo Man \*\*\*\*

Don't expect wonders from this paean to misspent youth, but do believe the word-of-mouth. This instant cult classic has to be one of the smartest movies of the year, which, considering its unremitting doses of raunch, gore and just plain weirdness, is no mean feat. Even the car chases are kind of witty.

Newcomer Emilio Estevez - a dead ringer for Martin Sheen grown a lot younger - plays a zoned-out punker with a taste for quick sex. He gets involved with a gooball car repossession outfit; Harry Dean Stanton plays to type as the boozing, speed-sniffing lynchpin of the operation. It develops that the repo men are locked in a struggle with a sinister secret government team - and a couple of Latino car-thieves - to capture a sedan driven by a deranged bomb scientist who's taken off with the bodies of two dead aliens in his trunk. Pretty funny.

But this is a dark comedy, played out against a seamy backdrop of sexual anomie, generic brands (a running gag) and failed dreams. The film takes a particularly jaundiced view of relationships and consumerism and too - what else would you expect from a movie produced by an ex-Monkee who got his money from his mother (she invented liquid paper)? This one has been bouncing around between venues locally, but will surely surface again soon in one of those verminous downtown houses.

### Night of the Comet

Never mind the TV ads; this one's a must to avoid.

Earth is unprepared for a lethal comet that visits one night. Everyone who's exposed to it crumbles to dust, everyone who's partially exposed slowly turns into an extra in a cheap Halloween mask, and everyone who happened to spend the night in a steel container survives to bore everyone else to death.

Mary Woronov and Roger Beltran were marvelous together in the low rent masterpiece *Eating Raoul*; it's a mystery why they got involved in this project.

Are there dating problems after the apocalypse? Does the electricity stay on to smooth out the plot? Can you come up with a script that doesn't need a supporting cast? The answer is yes, yes, yes and the verdict is dumb, dumb, dumb!

### A Nos Amours \*\*\*

Maurice Pialat, the director of *Violette*, once again etches a corrosive portrait of modern family life, only this time he's pulled out all the stops. Aided by an expert cast, a taut script, and a steadily escalating pattern of domestic violence, Pialat turns in a stunning, if almost unbearable production.

Sandrine Bonnaire plays a teenage siren with a precocious sex-life and a bitchy disregard for men. As she confides to one of her friends, her father's the only man in her life. Dad's obviously smitten himself, but all she wants to do is flirt; Bonnaire cock-teases her way into a vicious confrontation.

This is the kind of film whose emotional violence makes the usual splatter and gore pale by comparison.

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### Honor

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April 29

Herbst Theatre, 8 pm

Samuel Cristler, Conductor

STRAVINSKY

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Della Voitt, mezzo-soprano

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Willie, Eva & Eddie Discover Lake Erie in *Stranger Than Paradise*.

### Stranger Than Paradise \*\*\*\*

No point giving the plot away here; there hardly is one. This saga of the "last" generation makes its point in other ways. Filmed in black-and-white, which is sure to turn off a large part of its potential audience, short on production values, and long on boredom and alienation, this is nevertheless an involving and very funny film.

Ex-Lounge Lizard Jim Lurie plays Willie, a card-playing racetrack tout who finds himself stuck with his cousin from Hungary. Eva, played by Czech actress Eszter Balint, is a savvy bit of baggage who's understandably unimpressed by the "New World" she encounters; through director Jim Jarmusch's lens, lower Manhattan looks like East Berlin, and when Eva moves to the Midwest she might as well be living on the steppes.

A year after their first brief encounter, Willie and his slow-witted sidekick Eddie (Richard Edson) meet up again with Eva and the three of them go off in search of paradise.

This feature rightly deserves its Cannes Camera d'Or; the cinematography reads like a series of gritty postcards from the desolate Rust Bowl and Florida locales the characters encounter. Not a pretty picture, but an oddly beautiful one.

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Incidentally, it's worth noting that *Amours* and *Paradise* are both playing at the newly-opened Opera Plaza Cinema, a mini-complex that should help a lot in bringing difficult, unusual films here and insuring them a respectable run. Let's hope the programming pursues this promising direction.

— K.C. ■

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Books

Noel Ryan

John Cheever:

## A Traitor to His Sex?

Home Before Dark

A Biographical Memoir

of John Cheever

by His Daughter

Susan Cheever

Houghton Mifflin; 243 pp; \$15.95

"The image he cultivated of a patrician, old-fashioned country gentleman must have been very convincing. He didn't want us to know — and we didn't want to know." Susan Cheever is writing of her father, John Cheever, and the lifelong conflict between his New England morality and his homosexuality. "He found his desires unacceptable — and so did the society he lived in." And so did Susan Cheever. *We Didn't Want To Know* should have been the title of this petulant and selfish book.

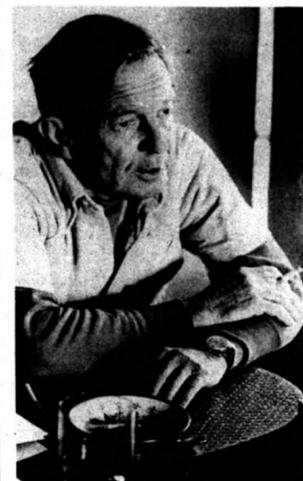
Earlier in life Cheever was betrayed by society, yet it took him nearly a lifetime to question that society's right to betray him. He was born in Quincy, Massachusetts in 1912, his father a well-to-do businessman, his mother a genteel, eccentric vestige of another century. His parents' rectitude, traditions and Christian morality, more social posture than spiritual conviction gave them permanence, stability, respect. The Wall Street Crash of 1929

Early in life Cheever was betrayed by society, yet it took him nearly a lifetime to question that society's right to betray him.

ended all that and at 17, his world in collapse, Cheever moved to New York's Greenwich Village and sold his first short story to *The New Republic*. For the next 25 years, Cheever wrote about paradise betrayed, publishing over one hundred stories in *The New Yorker*, and supported himself, his wife, Mary, then three children on his substantial income. He was a representative WASP, yet he wrote with a combination of rapture, despair and regret about a post-Gatsby world. Beneath the smooth complexion of his language, incongruous passions burned with all of the fierce colors of a New England autumn. He was well into his forties when his first novel — *The Wapshot Chronicle* — was published, and another Cheever began to emerge. That self he could not discuss privately, he questioned publicly in his art.

John Cheever referred to his relationship with his brother, Fred, as "the strongest love of my life." *The Wapshot Chronicle* is a picturesque, funny, lovely work about two New England brothers thrust into the breach between an old Massachusetts river town and the modern world. The novel won The National Book Award in 1957 and gave Cheever, for a time at least, financial security and public acceptance.

Yet, in an otherwise witty and comic novel, a single chapter is filled with darkness and pain. One of the Wapshot brothers, Coverly, finds himself on the verge of a sexual affair with a young



man named Pancras. "...suddenly Coverly felt a dim rumble of homosexual lust in his trousers. This lasted for less than a second. Then the lash of his conscience crashed down with such force that his scrotum seemed injured. . . He wished that instead of going to the MacLhenny Institute he had gone to some school of love." Cheever's conscience lashed him for twenty more years. Susan writes, "...he had gone through poverty and success and alcoholism and collapse and success again and celebrity to become finally established and prosperous. . ." yet the center which should hold all of that together was still missing for Cheever.

Then, in the 1970's, Cheever and family were living in Ossining, N.Y., and Cheever offered to teach a writing course to the prisoners at nearby Sing-Sing prison. Cheever's eyes were finally opened, and so too, the closet doors. "The blasphemy of men creating and building stone by stone hells for other men. . . it seemed to me to the participating in an obscenity," he wrote then, himself walled in by the laws of society, religion, family and tormented by guilt for violating those laws. "Teaching at Sing-Sing made him think again about the wisdom of those laws," says Susan.

What followed was Cheever's *Falconer*, the story of a prisoner, Ezekial Farragut, and his love affair with a fellow prisoner. Cheever's New England relatives were horrified and took the name Ezekial (the original Cheever who arrived in Boston in 1637) from the Social Register. Her father, says Susan, "was delighted."

Cheever delighted no one else. His wife, Mary, was from rigorous, all-American aristocracy. Her father was dean of the Yale Medical School; for a time he was quite fond of John. Cheever had become the darling of the *New Yorker*, enjoying its prestige. "My father turned his back on both these forces of support," Susan says bitterly. She does not argue that Cheever's domineering father-in-law was mercilessly critical, sarcastic and cruel; he was known to have beaten his own children "till they bled." *The New Yorker*, apparently, was high-handed, callous and mean-spirited with Cheever and only after *The Saturday Evening Post* offered to more than double Cheever's pay per story did the magazine's editors agree to discuss matters with him in person.

In fact, Cheever was deeply resented by his forces of support. It is this sort of tunnel-vision in Susan's memoir that sours the book and gives it such a grudging tone. "I wanted to tell the story of a man who fought to adhere to some transcendental moral standard until the end of his life," she says. But it is by his wife and daughter's and society's standards that he failed and by which he stands condemned. Did they believe

that adherence would have magically transformed him into a devoted husband, loving father, a 'normal' man? We currently have a president putting forth this argument on a national level and it is fearsome self-deception and it kills. It almost killed John Cheever.

"All I seem to be able to do is howl;

let me out. . . I am both a prisoner and an addict." Cheever wrote. Held in bondage by ancestral morality and nagging family, he sank down to the bottom of alcoholic despair. In this book's most harrowing section, Susan describes her father's year of teaching at Boston University in 1974. "I had written him off at that point," she says. His drinking was round-the-clock, his lectures incoherent, his family had abandoned him to his vices, and only a few friends, among them John Updike, who found Cheever wandering about naked, and the poet Anne Sexton, who carried tiny ounce bottles of liquor for him in her purse, did not betray him. Sexton, however, committed suicide that year; the University cancelled Cheever's spring classes. Near suicide himself, virtually catatonic from drink, Cheever agreed to enter an alcoholic rehabilitation clinic in Manhattan. He never drank again.

Heterosexuals tend to write about homosexuals in terms of loss, personal or social. Susan Cheever's attitude is no exception. Granted, she lost her father first to celebrity, then to alcoholism, and finally, to his homosexuality. But she is unforgiving, missing the point, perhaps, that she is in no position to forgive. The noonday sun of her writing style is merciless, flat, affectless, as if reciting the story to her analyst. Yet unintentionally, her recital of the events of Cheever's last years (he died June 18,

1982) becomes a glowing love story: Cheever and one of his young students, 'Rip', fall in love and remain lovers until the end. Susan's stony telling of this affair cannot disguise the reconciliation and peace which came to Cheever through his relationship with his new friend.

There's a feeling reading this book that those close to Cheever regarded his value in terms of a work of art or some communally-owned asset, never as anything so vulnerable as a human being. They fought to possess him, yet never seemed to reciprocate with anything like love or compassion. Cheever poured an abundance of his love into his writing and it is a shame that so few directly involved in his life sought or found that love there. In a *Paris Review* interview in 1969, Cheever was asked who the people were that he imagined or hoped read his books. Aware of the great distance between himself and others, Cheever answered, "I don't know who they are, but they are marvelous. . . the room where I work has a window looking into a woods, and I like to think these earnest, loving and mysterious readers are in there." Susan Cheever is also in there, but seems lost in that wood.

And John Cheever? It is welcome to imagine him near the end of his life, securely in love at last, in bed in the middle of the night and listening to the rain on the roof, and, like the narrator of his story *A Vision Of The World. . . then I sit up in bed and exclaim aloud to myself 'Valor! Virtue! Compassion! Splendor! Kindness! Wisdom! Beauty! The words seem to have the colors of the earth and as I recite them I feel my hopefulness mount until I am contented and at peace with the night.'*



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"Khovanshina"

## Opera's Smash Hit

Word is out: *Khovanshina* is the smash hit of the opera season. Its music, though new to most of us, is immediately appealing, with hummable tunes and vivid colors. The drama of the story is gripping, even if a shade chaotic. The singers are outstanding, and our chorus is working with a rare intensity and achieving a result that is most satisfying. The score highlights the orchestra and they are responding with joyful musicality. Perhaps most of all, we owe applause to conductor Gerd Albrecht for his deep understanding of this masterpiece.

When Mussorgsky died, in 1881 at 42, the alcoholic composer left *Khovanshina* unfinished. This vast historical opera had reached the stage of a piano-vocal score, with only two of the numbers in the final scene complete and the rest left in sketches. The disarray of the manuscript has encouraged many commentators to call the score a jumble of ideas, dramatically and musically incoherent. But the truth of the matter is that Mussorgsky did shape his material into a coherent whole, leaving us only the problem of orchestrating the score and filling out those final moments.

Mussorgsky did shape his material into a coherent whole, leaving us only the problem of orchestrating the score and filling out those final moments.

In terms of the plot, Mussorgsky tells the same story four times. The larger picture here was drawing is of the clash between the old regime and the new at the point in Russia's history when the victorious Tsar Peter the Great westernized the country. In its basic form this was the ruling myth held by the intelligentsia of Mussorgsky's time.

The problem is that for Mussorgsky Peter's victory amounted to little more than the exchange of one set of tyrants for another and that the westernization Peter imposed on the country was a betrayal of all that was great in Russian culture. For Mussorgsky, the end point of Peter's "great leap forward" was the conventionally pretty music of a composer like Rimsky-Korsakov. It is the kind of music that accompanies Peter's forgiveness of the Streltsy army as well as his appearance briefly at the end of the opera.

If we disentangle the four parallel plots we see that the downfall of the brute Khovansky gets the title of the opera and the ballet, that the exile of the urban Prince Golitsin allows Mussorgsky the chance to write the great orchestral statement of the theme, and that the mass suicide of the Old Believers assures the opera a spectacular ending. The fourth version of the story is the insane love Marfa, who represents Russia's pure heart and superstitious past, bears for the shallow soldier Andrei Khovansky, himself foolishly in love with a Lutheran girl, who here stands for Western culture in general and German music in particular.

Helga Dernesch as Marfa

The tragedy of the opera is the tragedy of Russia itself. This was aptly seen by Dmitri Shostakovich, who did the orchestration we are hearing at the Opera House. In his "as-told-to" memoirs, Shostakovich lays out what he understood of the dilemma Mussorgsky faced: "I was also caught up in Mussorgsky's certainty that the contradictions between the rules and the oppressed people were insoluble, which meant that the people had to suffer cruelly without end and thus became ever more embittered. Government, in its attempt to establish itself, always decays and putrefies." There is more than a little autobiography in Shostakovich's statement, but it is brilliantly insightful nevertheless.

Sonja Frisell, who directed our production, had no such illumination to offer. This lady may be able to move crowds around effectively and do an adequate job of placing her characters on the stage, but she has only a superficial analysis both of the meaning of Mussorgsky's story and of the ebb and flow of his music.

Probably the central victim of Frisell's limited understanding is Helga Dernesch, who comes to the role of Marfa for the first time. Despite an uncharacteristic stiffness, Dernesch remains the most imaginative artist it is our privilege to see and hear on a regular basis. What we are witnessing this time is Dernesch learning not only a new role, but an entirely new musical style. The Russian language is also a problem for her, since she has learned this role phonetically and is not making music out of the words the way she does in German and even in English. Still, she is bringing to this new assignment her formidable sense of drama, her clear pronunciation even of a language she does not know, her keen musicality, her accurate sense of pitch and that luscious voice, dark and firm in its lower reaches and shimmering beautiful on top.

Matti Salminen, who portrays Ivan Khovansky, is the only character up there on the stage who is really singing the music through the words. He alone is enough reason for a major revival of Russian opera in this town, if we can get him to return annually. Not only can he thunder like the heavens, he can act magnificently. This snarling, ill-bred tyrant comes vividly to life in this hands.

Gwynne Howell, who sings the mythical priest Dosifei, deeply knows how to phrase Mussorgsky's music. If he lacks the aura of religious fanaticism, he makes up for that with a musical finesse that itself has the intensity of religious conviction. The whole show has a well-rounded cast, inspiringly led by Gerd Albrecht, and thus it is difficult to single out everyone for praise. Nevertheless, Timothy Noble as Tsar Peter's agent Shaklovity and Robert Tate as the ingenious scribe deserve special mention. As, of course, does the beautiful work done by the chorus.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## TWICE A MONTH

### Goings On in the Next Two Weeks



Enter Dionysos: Assunta Femia in Arthur Evan's *The God of Ecstasy* 12/4-5.

#### Friday, November 23

Bob Ernst & Wayne Doba at Valencia Rose, 8 pm, \$6. Call 863-3863. Monica Palacios & Marga Gomez go at it for laughs, Baybrick Inn, 7-9 pm, free. Call 431-8334.

Women's Building benefits features Con-juntes Cespedes, Cuban group, and new wave extravaganza The Necropolis of Love, SF War Memorial Building, 8 pm, \$10.

Streamers, David Rabe's hard-hitting drama of barracks life during the Vietnam War; South of Market Cultural Center, 8 pm, \$8. Call 334-3894.

"Normalville", video cabaret with Vladimir Horowitz, Lionel Hampton & David Bowie — needless to say, an unusual mix. Live performance by Sistah Boom, women's percussion ensemble, Russian Center, 10 pm. Call 775-7083.

The Times of Harvey Milk opens at the Rialto, Berkeley. Call 526-6669.

#### Saturday, November 24

Robin Flower Band rocks at Artemis Cafe, 8 pm, \$5. Call 821-0232.

Septeto Leon, a latin jazz group including members of Batachanga, premieres at La Pena, Berkeley, 9 pm, \$5. Call 849-2568.

Bob Ernst & Wayne Doba perform at Valencia Rose, 8 pm, \$6. Call 863-3863.

Gay Comedy Night at Valencia Rose with Suzy Berger, Doug Holsclaw, Mario Mondelli & Marga Gomez, 10 pm, \$5. Call 863-3863.

Last Call features classics of disco & the latest hits; the Galleria, 10 pm to 5 am, \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Tickets at Headlines, All American Boy, New York Man, Ron's Records & Gramophone.

#### Sunday, November 25

SF Frontrunners cover Fort Point to Marina Green (1-5 mi.) 10 am, at parking lot east of toll plaza. Call 821-7300.

Eastbay Frontrunners Club meets at Lake Merritt crew boathouse, 9:30 am. Call 526-7315.

Christmas Caroling meeting with Fraternal Order of Gays. Call 753-6786.

Gamelan Sekar Jaya plays traditional Balinese music, Old First Church, 4 pm, \$6.

Linda Tillery Band heats up at Baybrick, 5 pm. Call 431-8334.

Khevan, Wahid, Cobb Complex combines traditional jazz concepts with contemporary music; New College Gallery, 6 pm, \$4. Call 626-1694.

Jane Dornacker & Michael Greer at Chaps, 7 pm, \$6.

Paul Dubois, composer-performer in concert at Valencia Rose, 8 pm, \$5. Call 863-3863.

Billy Strayhorn tribute at Bajones with Bay Area musicians, 9 pm, \$4. Call 282-2522.

#### Monday, November 26

R&B double bill with Debbie Saunders & Lady Bianca, Baybrick 7-11 pm. Call 431-8334.

Beyond the Fringe, the hysterical British comedy review, returns for one week only, Marines Memorial theatre, 8 pm (low-price preview tonight). Call 771-6900.

Chopin & Schubert piano recital by Mark McCray at SF Conservatory of Music, Hellman Hall, 8 pm, \$5. Call 564-8086.

Reginald McDonald sings cabaret at the 1177 Club, 8:30 pm, \$6. Call 776-2101.

Two Dancing features Duncan Macfarland & Claire Whistler performing dances by local choreographers tonight and Tuesday, New Performance Gallery, 8:30 pm. Tickets call 824-6301.

Tom Ammiano hosts Gay Comedy Open Mike at Valencia Rose, 8:30 pm. Call 863-3863.

Michael Greer at Sutter's Mill, 6 & 7 pm, \$5. (also 11/27)

#### Tuesday, November 27

Acoustic rock at Baybrick Inn with Addie, 7-9 pm. Call 431-8334.

Street Performers in a show of music & comedy at Valencia Rose, 8 pm, \$4. Call 863-3863.

Brass & Woodwind Ensemble with SF Conservatory ensemble, 8 pm, Hellman Hall (free). Call 564-8086.

#### Monday December 3

Jane Freilacher, well known New York School painter, lectures on her work; 7:30 pm, SF Art Institute, \$3. Call 771-7020.

Contemporary Music Players; special Christmas program includes Messiaen's *La Nativite du Seigneur* & Berg's *Chamber Concerto*. First Unitarian Church, 8 pm.

The Singing Machine debuts at 8 pm, Valencia Rose, \$3. Call 863-3863.

Reginald McDonald and his song stylings return to the 1177 Club, 8:30 pm. Call 776-2101.

Gay Comedy Open Mike hosted by Tom Ammiano, 8:30 pm, Valencia Rose, \$3. Call 863-3863.

#### Tuesday, December 4

Two of Us, by Michael Frayn, a tour de force farce; 12 noon, One Act Theatre Co., \$4.50 (also 12/5). Call 421-6162.

The God of Ecstasy, Arthur Evan's translation of Euripede's *Bakkai*; a play about madness & sex roles; 8 pm, Valencia Rose, \$5-\$7 (also 12/5). Call 863-3863.

The Taming of the Shrew, a production of the Oregon Shakespearean Festival; 8 pm, Marines Memorial Theatre, \$14-\$20 (thru 12/16). Call 771-6900.

The Burning Fiery Furnace, one-act opera by Benjamin Britten, performed by Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale; 8 pm, Trinity Episcopal Church, \$6-\$10 (also 12/5). Call 974-6391.

#### Wednesday, December 5

John Ashbery, Pulitzer & National Book Award winning poet, reads from his work; 8 pm, SF Art Institute, \$3. Call 771-7020.

Pam Quinn and the former Oberlin Dance Collective perform two world premiere works; 8:30 pm, New Performance Gallery, \$7-\$8 (thru 12/9). Call 863-9834.

Mamie Van Doren makes an exclusive appearance at Mame's Palazzo thru 12/9. Two shows nightly, \$12. Call for times: 986-4553.

#### Thursday, December 6

The Little Foxes, by Lillian Hellmann, continues at the Victoria Theatre, 8 pm, (thru 12/8). Tickets 893-2277.

Lia De Larja, grand duchess of dykedom, returns in a new show with Jeannine Strobel, 8 pm, Valencia Rose, \$6 (also 12/7-8). Call 863-3863.

#### Need some exposure?

Sentinel USA is expanding its arts & entertainment listings. Let us know about your group's activities. Next deadline is November 30 for December 6 publication. Send to: Sentinel USA, 500 Hayes St., SF., CA. 94102

Fraternal Order of Gays hosts couples night. Call 753-6786.

#### Saturday, December 1

Sam Steward & Phil Andros appearance; both have published new books. Walt Whitman Bookstore, 1-3 pm. Call 861-3078.

Gay Poetry Circle of SF in an evening of song & recitation with Dan Stimmerman; Valencia Rose, 7 pm, \$4. Call 863-3863.

Sharon McKnight performs at Chaps Second Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony for Ward 5-B; 7 pm, \$5 donation. Tickets at Headlines or Chaps.

Martha Alf, visionary realist painter, lectures in conjunction with her current retrospective; SF Art Institute, 7:30 pm. Call 771-7020.

Maura Shannon & Diane Schlectus in concert; 8 pm, Unitarian Fellowship Hall, Berkeley, \$3-\$5. Call 658-6185 or 832-1270.

Gay Comedy Night with Marga Gomez, Karen Ripley & Danny Williams, 10 pm, Valencia Rose, \$5. Call 863-3863.

#### Sunday, December 2

James Donahoe in a music & poetry benefit for Operation Concern; Valencia Rose. Call 863-3863.

Guitar recital by Scott Cmiel of the SF Conservatory of Music, featuring works by Dowling, Bach & others; 8 pm, Hellman Hall, donation suggested. Call 564-8086.

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# The Nightingale of Montgomery Street

## PART THREE

# Soldier Girl

## Conversations with the Widow Norton

By Jose Sarria WITH Tom Murray

This segment of "The Nightingale of Montgomery Street" finds Jose entering the military service. The year is 1942...

Preparations were underway for a big send-off. I was entering the service. While dressing for the party my godfather had a stroke and died. I got a month's extension to be with my family, then departed by train for Fort Ord. I'll always remember my godmother standing at the station waving as the train headed south. I was nineteen years old.

Upon arrival we were issued clothing, none of which fit. Then we were assigned barracks and introduced to the sergeant, who was ancient and crusty. After two weeks at Fort Ord I was sent to Camp Kilmer near Sacramento for basic training for the signal corps. The worst part of basic training was qualifying for use of the M-1. It was longer than I and probably weighed more. The trainer had to sit on my back to get me in the right position to hit the target. After qualifying there was a big party and later it was decided that I would be sent to cooks and bakers school, much more to my liking.

Cooks could get off the post. So, the boys in the barracks decided to send me to town for some liquor. They told me their first choice was bourbon, second choice was whiskey, and third choice was gin. I proceeded into town with a suitcase, finally locating a store that had gin. The owner filled my suitcase with sloe gin. The guys nearly killed me when I returned: "Why in hell did you buy sloe gin?" I didn't know the difference. We read on the label about a special drink made with sloe gin and I invited them over later to the bakery to celebrate. That's all I remember.

The next morning at five o'clock the chefs arrived to discover pie dough all over the kitchen, burnt pies sitting in the oven, dried up pies on the counter ready



to bake, and unconscious people sprawled everywhere. So much for bakers school.

Next I was sent to ASTP, the Army Specialist Training Program, otherwise known as the flaming piss pot, at Oregon State College. There was a shortage of teachers. I was given a part-time job teaching elementary Spanish and French. None of us who was gay wanted to risk getting booted out of the service, so gay activity usually happened away from the base. I met a young artist, Robert Saunders. We had an affair whenever I could get off the campus. One day he took me to Portland and there I met an older gentleman named Robert Patterson. His name in the local gay community was "Mother Pat." He brought me to his home whenever I returned to Portland, introducing me to his parents and friends. Our relationship lasted even after the war ended.

One day at 3:00 pm there was a general roll call. Three hundred and fifty men lined up facing the first sergeant. He was livid. He wanted to know who the son-of-a-bitch was that had crabs, used the toilets and given them to him. No one confessed. The entire company had to be de-crabbed and de-loused, and was restricted to base. It was the damndest mess you ever did see.

The war intensified. ASTP schools closed, and anyone near the age of twenty-one was sent for combat training. I went to Fort Leonard Wood, in the hills of Missouri. The supply sergeant there, a very big man, thought I was cute. He was always putting me on detail to the supply room. I knew what he wanted, but was not enthralled by his looks or his attitude. One day I was alone in the supply room sorting clothes. He chased me up and down and all around, over and under the piles of clothes. I really had to fight for my life and my virginity (which was already gone, but renewed that day!). We were making so much noise that it sounded like the Columbian revolution. Just at a

crucial moment the door burst open and I was rescued by a group of soldiers who heard the uproar. The sergeant was transferred.

Gay life at Fort Leonard Wood centered in the canteens, which were a kind of recreation center for dancing, reading or playing pool. Gay activity happened in the men's restroom. There were glory holes big enough to put a head through, small enough for a pencil or just a peek. One had to be very careful. When things got too busy or too obvious the glory holes were boarded up. On quiet days one could have sex there, or at least meet someone and depart for the barracks' wash area (or under the barracks). Where there's a will there's a way.

While awaiting orders to be sent overseas I get a three day pass and went to Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love. Even in those days I wore fine jewelry, diamond rings, and dressed smartly. The train arrived at the station and I went into the restroom where I noticed a handsome Italian man. He winked. I winked. He said, "Shall we go?" I said, "Yes." He took me to a hotel room in a seedy part of town. After some preliminaries he excused himself and went into the bathroom. He called for me to join him. I hesitated, then followed him. Lo and behold, he assaulted me. I fought back as best I could. He was throwing punches, I was throwing punches and putting on one sock, one shoe, trying to get into my pants. Despite my screams, no one came to my rescue. He reached for my wallet. I grabbed one part, he grabbed one part, and we both pulled. He got the part with the money, I got the part with the cards. Thank God my ticket back to the base was in my part. I ran out of the hotel, found a cab and headed for the station. Upon my return the guys wanted to know all about my black eye, so I concocted a hot tale about a heterosexual encounter. Now I was a "real man."

We sailed for Europe from Boston, aboard the USS West Point. Because there were six thousand men on the ship, we had to sleep in shifts. My "bed" time was during the day. The ship arrived at the entrance to the Mediterranean Sea on December 12, my twenty-first birthday. That night I stood on the deck feeling sad and lonely. A soldier approached me and said, "What's the matter, boy?" He thought I was sad because of the war. I was sad because I didn't get to have a birthday party! We began talking. One thing led to another. The stars shone brighter, the ocean became bluer and your mother got screwed as her ship sailed through the Straits of Gibraltar.



**PART IV**  
The Nightingale of Montgomery Street:  
Over There

FOLSOM  
BY AND LARGE

South of Market



Contestants at the CMC Carnival line up for inspection. Winner was DAVID STOLL, second from right.



Dirty old man inspects a custom leather and chrome codpiece. Inspection proved contents were real.



Contestant shows his best features to an appreciative audience and photographer Robert Pruzan.

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## KISS TODAY GOODBYE... POINT ME TOWARD TOMORROW

It is barely conceivable that we, who are as close to perfect as is allowable, could possibly make a mistake in our last column. And not just one error, but two—both about dates. JOHN PRESTON's appearance at the Studstore was November 17th, not the 10th. Plus the premiere at the NOB HILL of SLAVES FOR SALE is November 21st, not the 11th. Any other corrections you can refer to our (weekend) typesetter, who should know better.

## SO WHAT ELSE IS NEW?

Alright, I assume you are dying for me to talk about the CMC Carnival and if I don't, this won't be a very long column (I get paid by the yard). Pier 45 was an excellent choice, although I began to wonder when we first headed for it through all those touris. Found a place to park in front of the Wax Museum. The \$10 overtime ticket seemed cheaper than the parking lots in that area. Stalking through Fisherman's Wharf in high leather and rattling chains is a trip. But, on arrival, I happily saw both locals and out-of-towners there I haven't seen in a long time. Critique: Next year let's hope for a little more booth coverage. Add a lot to things to do. The sound system at the entertainment end of the cavernous area was as underpowered as the system at the dancing end was overpowered. The Gay Men's Chorus was excellent, yet they couldn't be heard if you were more than twenty feet from them. The very funny Danny Williams couldn't be heard at all. And I worried about the duck they kept throwing at targets.

Winner in the five-contestant MR. CMC CARNIVAL contest was bartender DAVID STOLL who collected more contributions than his four competitors. The afternoon was a lot of fun and a big undertaking. CMC is to be congratulated for putting it all together.

## IN PASSING

It is perhaps in questionable taste to write an obituary while the subject is still alive, but this column in a week away from being printed and time is running out for our friend NORMAN "HOOT" GIBSON. Having waited months to be admitted to the Veterans Administration Hospital last fall, and after being misdiagnosed, the military doctors finally agreed on a diagnosis of AIDS after Hoot lost much weight and ground. In fact, his case prompted a story in THE VOICE about the pentagon stonewalling AIDS in the service and quoted heavily from a CBS NEWS report claiming there was proportionally more homosexuality, along with AIDS, in the military services than the general population. Be all that as it may, the word this morning about Hoot is that he was in the final stages and the doctors were merely waiting for the brain waves to cease to

pronounce him gone. A former Air Force colonel, he was well liked in leather circles and had many friends, among them my lover and I. We have been babysitting his little dog, which now becomes a permanent part of our loveable livestock collection. Good-night Hoot.

## BUMBERSNICKER TIME

The HERBCAEN quote of the fortnight: DIANE FEINSTEIN went over to China to close the Tea Houses.

## SO WHAT ELSE IS NEW

According to RANDY SHILTS (so it must be true!), a study has just been completed and found what we already knew—20% of San Francisco is gay, there are 70,000 of us in a city of 300,000 and over half of us make twenty-five thousand a year or more. Yet we have only one gay on the Board of Supervisors, a couple of appointments in city government and we are the only city to have our bathhouses closed. What's more, the mayor vetoed health benefits to our mates, and SFFD won't tolerate gay firemen and chain stores who hire predominantly non-gays are taking over in the Castro. When I kiddingly suggested the FRANKLIN PANGBORN GAY, LESBIAN, TRANSVESTITE, TRANSEXUAL & HERMAPHRODITE APOLITICAL CLUB, I might have hit upon something. We'd have to shorten the name to FPGLTTH, a little difficult to pronounce but might produce some respect in certain quarters should it specialize in boycotts, picketing and recall elections. Put some balls in the movement.

It is my sad duty to inform y'all that the former WATERING HOLE is no more. Not even the funky old building that we used to pass every day on our way to bigger and better things, like lunch. The City's bulldozers have leveled it, including the almost charming old front with its very faded 7-UP painted sign. Its tenants were never ones to overdo on paint or decor. But now it is a blank space, soon to be overgrown with weeds and Sixth Street refuse. The city probably made the move to keep squatters out. Who knows when they will get around to making the space into their very unnecessary park area. What South of Market needs is some decent new buildings and the fixing up of some of the better old ones. I wouldn't say whether or not those \$50-a-week old fleabag hotels constitute "low cost housing" but who would want to live in them? At least the Watering Hole kept the 6 A.M. drinkers indoors.

I think I told you once that SENTINEL USA tactfully asked me to drop a few names, after all, people like to see their names in print. However, for this item I think it better that no names are mentioned. While AIDS is a scourge that gays are having to contend with, getting plenty of coverage, medically and politically. But stop to think how much more drugs is doing to our community. Do you know of a

gay business that is going down the tubes because the profits are going up someone's nose? Gays are not alone in this, of course, but our community sure as hell doesn't need it. We have to be sharper and more solid than the others. Remind me to do an article on this subject someday. About how we can achieve equality economically. Someday when I am short of names to drop.

## EXECUTIVE DECISION #11739

According to Ad Age, the ADVOCATE has, in its infinite wisdom, decided to abandon its pink pages (aka Trader Dick) next year. Gone also will be publisher Peter Fritsch. On one hand they have taken up pornography (aka Advocate Men) which paid off we assume, and on the other they have dropped one of the main communications in the national community. Good luck in their assault on respectability.

This Saturday's bash at the Galleria Design Center entitled LAST CALL looks like fun. JO LO, two very talented womenpersons are premiering their latest recording by the same name. It may or may not be leather, but it certainly is South of Market.

## MORE NAMES...

WALTER MELLON and NICK WEILER are talking to JOHN (W.) ROWBERRY about a benefit to pick the DRUMMER DADDY and DRUMMER DADDY'S BOY. Probably on Valentine's Day and possibly at the I-BEAM, TROCADERO or the GALLERIA. How is that for pinning it down. There, I've dropped six names and haven't even told you it is for an excellent cause. DRUMMER agreed to sponsor it only if the AIDS Fund people do the organizing. After the first of the year, Rowberry, et al. will have their Drummer hands full with the MR. DRUMMER parties across the land. Culminating in SAN FRANCISCO. THE LEATHER CAPITOL, of course.

It is only a little after five and the redwoods are getting dark, the fire has died down and my cigar has gone out for the fifteenth time. I could say that, as the sun sinks slowly in the west, we say goodbye to the Russian River and head back to The City That Knows How, if only it would. Back to Castro, Polk and South of Market where the sun is also setting and the leathermen are coming out. The EAGLE must be jumping at this very minute and the BRIG is getting ready for its nightly offering of discipline-hungry men. RINGOLD ALLEY will be warming up as well with the pursuing, the pursued and the fuzzi all taking their places, like in a game of MONOPOLY where everyone wants to shack up on Park Place as long as you don't have to pay the rent. From those here in Marvin Gardens, play the game, pay your taxes and stay out of Jail!

ROBERT PAYNE

# GIFT SUGGESTION.

Give a Christmas present to someone with AIDS.

Sentinel USA is accepting gifts for hospitalized & homebound AIDS patients at our offices.



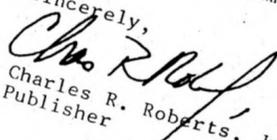
## SENTINEL U.S.A.

Dear Members & Friends of the Gay Community:

Last year many of us knew someone who had been diagnosed with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. This year most of us have known someone who has died of AIDS. The statistics continue to increase with no let up in sight.

This situation make us sad. We feel helpless. There is something I am going to ask you to do: Please buy, make or create a Christmas present and bring it into our office at 500 Hayes Street Monday through Friday from 10 am until 5 pm. We will distribute these presents from you to hospitalized and home-bound AIDS patients.

By helping Santa this year, we can make a difference in our community. Please be a part of our gift.

Sincerely,  
  
 Charles R. Roberts, Jr.  
 Publisher

500 Hayes at Octavia, 10 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday.

# Classified PullOut

## SENTINEL USA

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#### Short Men

Are you a very short, slim, intelligent guy 25-45 who sometimes needs a spanking? Gdkg, bearded, firm, affectionate man 38 understands and has big hands. Box 12222, S.F., CA. 94112. (15)

Cute friendly and intelligent GWM, 32, 145, 5'7", hairy and muscular. Am in a relationship, but seek hot safe-sex partners for occasional meeting. Drop a note S USA Box 580. (15)

#### ★ Black Friends Wanted ★

Athletic GWM, 44, 6', 180, professional, seeks healthy, good-looking GBM for friendship, maybe love. Any age, but no fats or fems. If you're sincere and caring, give me a try. Photo if possible. Reply S USA Box 579. (15)

#### Crew Cuts

drive me wild! Of course it helps if you're reasonably attractive and intelligent, too. I'm not into S&M or kinky sex, just a little off-beat. I'm a nice-looking, smart, friendly W/M, 30. Photo appreciated. Write to: S USA, Box 578. (15)

GWM 245 BLU, 6'3" Br 38 GRP, FPIA, dig rim/enema long/slow sex/message/kissing handsome want relationship with sincere GWM 25-50. Active topman attractive any race 6" + late eves 451-7168 Pete. (15)

#### A Handsome and Unique GWM

(12, blonde, clean-shaven, 5'10", 145 lb) desires a very special gym and romantic partner. In my fantasies he is secure, healthy (a non-smoker), and erotic; we might enjoy dinner and an offbeat movie together and, when the lights go down his thigh might press gently against mine. If anyone knows anyone like this please send photo of him to P.O. Box 421948. All replies will be answered. (15)

Slim, hung, horny top, 28, seeks oversexed, slim, smooth bottom, 18 to 28, especially Latino, for plenty of hot action. Call 673-3869, and Let's Party All night long! (15)

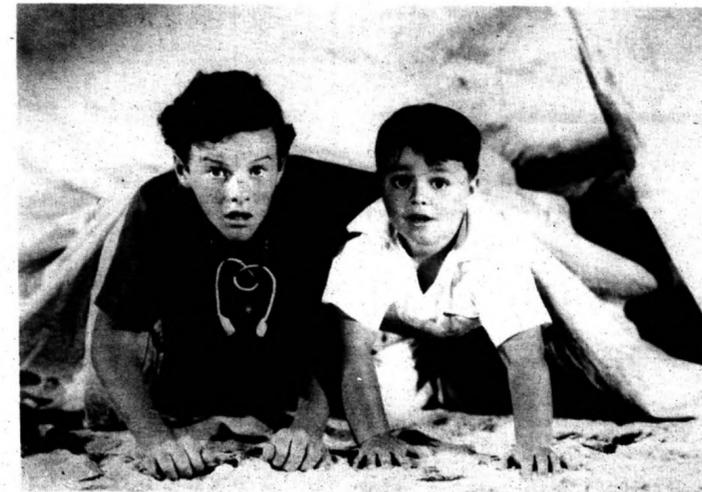
Bik 26 year old male seeks Latin or white hung stud 21 to 30. I am into most sexual sessions. Write Gregory, 11 Broderick St., No. 5, San Francisco, CA 94117. (15)

GWM CCSF Computer student seeks Room/Board for household duties, etc. Able to work evenings/weekends. + Good home extremely important. Write: Bob, P.O. Box 11564, S.F., 94101 - serious inquiries only, refs. (15)

#### Tingles of Pleasure

Handsome professional masseur seeks friendship or romance with someone who loves trading massages. Let's start by exchanging photos (Xerox OK). Jim, P.O. Box 14547, S.F., CA. 94114. (15)

Horny, attractive, married suburban W/M, 6', 164 lbs., 32 years old. Work in city and seeking after work man-to-man play and affection. Enjoy safe sex, J/O, exchange sensuous massage with hot males. Send letter/photo/photo (nude opt'l) to P.O. Box 4243, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. (15)



#### Have A Fantasy

To meet a GWM, attractive, sexually passive, WELL HUNG, slender build, romantic, stable, open to a one-on-one relationship, with a guy 47. I'm 6'1" 165 lbs. gdkgng, gd body, brn hair, beard, blu eyes, dominant, stable, clean cut, healthy, intelligent, romantic, fun loving. Enjoy many things in life, the country, dinners at home, gd wine, a little smoke, sharing, touching, loving. I'm very sincere with this ad. If you relate to the above, then lets meet and talk about it. This is a better way than the bar trip. REPLY: Sentinel USA, Box 577, S.F., CA. 94102. (15)

#### Expert Deep Throat Sought

BGM 50, 5'9", 160 lbs. Attr. Hot Super Hung, Uncut, Healthy, Sincere, Educated, Classical Music, Dining, Permanent Relationship. Desire similar tastes, age, Good French sex. Photo appreciated. No Drugs, Smokers, Fems. Reply S USA, Box 568. (15)

#### He Likes It!

GWM, 38, 5'9", curly brn hair, brn eyes, glasses, intelligent, trim and smooth, with a pretty (and versatile) cock and a behind to match (ignite?) seeks lean, well defined man, 30-40, who loves it long, slow and delicious. Safe sex butt play and fantasy trips make me (and you) squirm with delight. God almighty, do I love hot sex. Prefer weekly get togethers, not one nighters. Light drugs OK. Write S USA, Box 571. (15)

#### Asian Sought

by athletic WM early 50s, 6-2 blue eyes. I'm outgoing like outdoor travel, fine food. You must be sincere, passive, no drugs. Snapshot very much appreciated. Reply S USA, Box 581. (15)

#### Ebony and Ivory

Black top 6 ft 180, 38 seeks white bottom for hot and safe action into home life art video cuddling photo important will exchange same. At this stage of the game quality is what we seek in these encounters so you classy guys lets give it a try. 35 to 55. Write S USA, Box 582. (15)

#### Companion — Lover — Son

Me: GWM, fifties, financially secure seeking companion for home, theater, trips, sex, and whatever. You: GWM, 18-30, stable, self-built, short, cute, slim, nice buns, good cook, housekeeper, and wanting personal relationship built on trust and sharing. One who would value the warmth of touching and cuddling. Should be FRapGRp and not into the bar scene or drugs. Pot OK. Brief letter, photo, phone number to: Robbie, 1245 Dolores, SF., CA 94110. Only Sincere need answer. (15)

#### Massage Exchange and Warm Friendship

Warm W/M, 35, 6'2", 170 lbs., seeks slim or trim guy for friendship and nonsexual massage exchange — or spanking either way. Bob, P.O. Box 14794, San Francisco, CA 94114. Any race OK. Sincere. (15)

#### Asians

W/M, 37, hairy body wants to meet cute, small, smooth Asians for safe fun. Small endow, especially welcome. Photos answered first (nude?). Ron 55 Sutter, No. 121, S.F., CA. 94104. (15)

NEW GUY. Swimmers Build, well hung, safeminded but horny seeks defined hung young slave into body worship for mutual good times. Make your fantasy cum true. Mark 923-9596 serve me! (15)

#### Brazen Husband Hunting Huzzy

I'm also tall, handsome, hairy, professional and lots of fun. It this describes you and you're near my age (33) Let's Talk! Call Rick at 864-2194 (be reasonable puhleeze!). (15)

Looking for friends — not Mr. Right — to share any of the following and more: Dinner, movies, theater, Callistoga mud baths, Russian River, travel, S of M bar hopping, nature, massage, muscle worship. I'm professional, 32, 6', 250 (on my way down). Nautilus, aerobic dance. You should be over 30, financially stable, please. Reply with address/phone to 4 Grand View Terrace, SF., CA 94114. (15)

#### Attention San Francisco Policeman

October 30th, around noon, Castro and 18th you cruised me wearing camouflage fatigues. We stared, then I boarded the bus. I want you more than anything! Bruce, 372 Richland, S.F., CA. 94110. (15)

#### Scat Is Where It's At!

Horny, masculine, raunchy stud, twenties, seeks same. Total oral worship, especially excrement! Dark/mustache definite must! Dig leather, levis, boots, jockstraps, uniforms, and daddies. P.O. Box 5228, S.F., CA. 94104. (15)

Bottom GWM 5'8", 135, average look warm hot horny non smoker drinker grey/hazel shy love cuddling kissing sex people country 45 yr yg. Date you box 136, 100 Valencia S.F., CA. 94103. (15)

GBM 37, 5'11" handsome, sincere, non-smoker, worships extra-big cocks. Seeks men with exceptionally big cocks. Send photo, write: W.P., 474 61st Street, Apt. 4, Oakland, CA 94609. (15)

Novice slave yours for total leather /sm /ws /bd trips. Young, slim, goodlooking blonde, 6', 145, 8" low hung balls train me! Photo details 109 Minna, No. 462, SF., CA 94105. (15)

Chunky "teddy bear", 36, dark hair, trim beard, blue eyes, 6', 218 lbs. Playful, caring, passionate (Gk. passive). Wholistic health conscious. Seeking a monogamous relationship with touching, cuddling, good sex, laughter, communicating wants & needs. Enjoy music, movies, eating out, playing cards, meditating, massage, travel, a roaring fire by the ocean, sleeping late on rainy mornings. Not into bars/intoxicants. Prefer medium or trim build any race; inner beauty more important. David, S USA, Box 575. (15)

Taurean — tall, slim, mature seeks similar for buddy' non-smoker, over 30. Into walks, conversation, old movies, uncomplicated dining, solitude. Active in gay social/fraternal organization. Box 421161, SF., CA. 94142. (15)

Hot W/M 27 wants a hot man to spread his cheeks and sit on my long wet tongue. Deep throat also. Write George, P.O. Box 2107, San Francisco, CA 94126. (15)

Daddy 61, 5'8", 160 lbs., seeks gdkg gay-bi son under 40 for son-playmate. Photo appreciated, all answered. "Dad", 495 Ellis St., No. 1104, San Francisco, CA 94102. (15)

Smooth, muscled swimmer, 37, looking for guys into prolonged tease J/O, exhibitionism in shorts and jeans and other fantasy scenes, wrestling and wild tickling. Brian, Box 881922, SF., CA. 94188-1922. (15)

Natural boyish youth, tall, trim, twenties, boyishly handsome, clean shaven, straight looking, seeks similar cute, clean shaven, tall, trim, masculine, under 30 white male into long sensual mutual j/o sessions. S USA Box 572. (15)

#### Handsome Artist Seeks Boyfriend!

If you are slim, greek passive, a nonsmoker, 21 - 35, lets date. I am 5'9", 135 well hung, well built, and 30. Enjoy safe sex, TV and movies. Write with photo to Michael, P.O. Box 325, SF., CA. 94101. (15)

#### Underwear Fetish

GDLG W/M 34, 150 lbs., 5'9" Looking For A Real Friend who enjoys goodtimes and fun. Who also enjoys long J/O sessions in crusty, piss stained underwear & tight jeans. Please write S USA, Box 576. (15)

Exhibitionists, j/o artists, show your stuff! Long lean W/M, 36, blond, mustache, interested in size, duration, frequency, quantity, technique, whatever. Photo gets first answer. Write S USA, Box 535. (15)

Spankings and safe greek action needed by bright boyish bottom. Seeking sensible, humorous, together top who is hung, AIDS-conscious, healthy, confident, and not out to prove anything. I'm cute, 5'8", 140 lbs., horny, and want pleasure, not brutality. Candid letter, photo to: Kinky, Box 590876, SF., CA. 94159. (15)

GWM, 6', 180 lbs, 48, good ass needs good FF tops. I'm greek passive, french active. Willing to explore and expand my limits. Hot studs call Evenings and Weekends Robert 552-4809. (15)

Healthy handsome bottom non-smoker 28, 140 lbs., likes to meet attractive men safe sex 18-35 hung & thick and prefers being top. David, 2106 Union St., S.F., CA 94123. (15)

Man with crew cut or mohawk wanted. Top or bottom. I'm 37, 6'7", 185 lbs., short hair and beard versatile. Into experimentation — Chuck, P.O. Box 3387, SF., CA 94119. (15)

Leatherman looking for buddy who likes to pierce 6', 170, 44, attr. Write S USA, Box 583. (15)

# Personal Best

## Brazen Husband Hunting Huzzy

I'm also tall, handsome, hairy, professional and lots of fun. It this describes you and you're near my age (33) Let's Talk! Call Rick at 864-2194.

(be reasonable puhleeze!)

**Jogging, Sailing Buddy in Marin**  
GWM 34, BR/BL 5'10", 155 lbs, masc prof AIDS-aware into clothes fantasies, ass-play seeks sexually dominant experienced buddy to jog with, crew for, be handled by. Same age or younger, race unimportant. Photo w/letter to P.O. Box 565, 220 Redwood Hwy, Mill Valley, CA 94941. Straights O.K. (14)

**Three Way +**  
Young handsome athletes wanted for long j/o sessions and cockw/ship. We are two tall handsome trim guys, mid thirties, 6'2", 165 lbs, very well hung. Hot scene guaranteed for right young man or couple. Reply with photo to Box 5962, Stanford 94305. (14)

Athletic together GWM seeks just one guy over 30 who's trim, bright, (non-smoker or drinker) warm, professional, and settles for togetherness. S USA, Box 565. (14)

**Horny and Attached!!!**  
Goodlooking 31 yo. w/m, seeks attractive, friendly, health-conscious Fr/p (or optional) man, genuinely interested in a safe, uncomplicated, and discreet ongoing affair. Photo/phone/fantasy to S USA, Box 566. (14)

**Daddy Seeks Son**  
GWM 50, 5'10" Slim and healthy, interested in relationship and safe sex. Seeks son who is short, slim and under 40. All races O.K. Write with photo: 55 Sutter Street, No. 674, San Francisco, CA 94104. (14)

Responsive GWM, 37, attractive intelligent. GP/FA, seeks unpretentious, sexually dominant man, any age, someone thoughtful, articulate, caring, who likes to take control during sex. Write S USA, Box 546. (15)

GM, 43, professional, 5'10", 180 lbs., new to East Bay seeks friends and a special man with whom to build a life of love and commitment. Write S USA, Box 574. (15)

Wanted Slaves, must be into heavy ass whipping, C/B/T, torture. No phone J/O's. Only heavy M's need call. Total humiliation and subjugation. For instructions call 861-4044. (15)

Young, attractive BiWm likes theatre, sports, nites out. Seeks similar male 18-22 who is clean, easy going, a regular guy who happens to enjoy men. Reply Box 11782, S.F., CA 94101. (15)

How many of these are you? Clean, healthy, sharp, smart, humorous, friendly, trim, muscled, butch gdlkg. If you need and love mouth attention from a fellow 39, 5'10", 150 lbs. kinda like that, pref on regular basis, peninsula or south bay best but other areas OK, here's looking' for ya guy with letter, fantasy, and photo at S USA Box 569. (14)

**Skilled Light S/M Master(s) Needed**  
For Bondage Art, Handball, Enemas, Leather Toys, CBT play, Shaving, Spanking, Dildos, Discipline, Hoods, Wax, UG, GS, Weights, Etc. Please reply to Herb Levy, P.O. Box 99429, S.F., CA 94109. (14)

Let's wrestle — Handsome, white bodybuilder, 6', 188, seeks other athletic men (especially Blacks) to tangle muscles in Leather, Jeans, Jocks, Nude. P.O. Box 42522, SF., CA 94142. (14)

Latin 33, 6'1", 190 lbs., honest, healthy, good looking, versatile, enjoys traveling, sailing, bicycling and friendship seeks alternative mode to meet other young man that shares similar. Box 170, S.F., CA 94101. (15)

**CRITICS' CHOICE**  
"Brilliant, warm, witty!" —LA Times. "One of the year's ten best!" —Chronicle. "I sing of arms and the man!" —the Aeneid. Yes, that's what the critics are saying about me. Well, all right, so I'm lying to meet you. It's not easy getting attention here, surrounded by all these wonderful people. I'm just another 30 year old, handsome, sensitive, nice guy, physically and fiscally fit. Now if only I could find a handsome, intelligent, professional man to share life with. I like working out, the beach, sailing, concerts, movies and 49er's games. Also romance, adventure, excitement. Prefer 28-40. Blue eyes/very hairy a plus, but optional. No smokers, dopers or dependents. After years of playing the field, I'm ready to retire my glove. How about you? Success often comes with a risk. All honest replies with current photo acknowledged. Reply to JW, S USA, Box 560. (14)

Exhibitionists, j/o artists, show your stuff! Long, lean W/m, 36, blond, moustache, interested in size, duration, frequency, quality, technique, whatever. Photo gets first answer. Write S USA, Box 535. (14)

Until I get shipped out to some Caribbean funny farm I will seek my male companionship in the S.F. area. Presumptuous, socially un-disciplined, iconoclastic 28 year old white boy who still maintains a domestic streak and visions of white picket fence. I am considered to be cute. If you find me so, it will facilitate our first encounter. I vision your beauty as black, under 5'9", smooth body, non-smoking, over 35. (car optional) R.J.F., 719 Fillmore, No. 104, S.F. 94117. (14)

**Cute Asian**  
Cute young athletic intelligent fun W/M seeks slim & smooth Asian for special relationship. Photo appreciated. S USA, Box 558. (14)

Butch gdlkg GWM 37 healthy not hung looking for younger top who likes to do housework. If you like to give in bed without attitude send your photo for mine: Patrick, 237 Steiner, No. 3, SF., CA. 94117. (14)

Average looks/build, 36, safe sex aware wants a guy who needs expert head on a weekly basis. One way only. Size not important. 780 Post/No. 52, SF., CA 94109. (14)

**Corsets, Girdles, Nyions**  
Male seeks male lover into B.B. Muscles weight gain J.O. Tit play, corsets, girdles, nyions, panty hoses for sincere relationship. Phone Number to 537 Jones, Box 5136, S.F., CA 94102. (14)

Seeking boyfriend into cocksucking, rimming and more, 18-24, healthy, trim to slim, clean-cut. I'm 32, tall, dark, healthy, no drugs, liquor, tobacco. Photo/Phone to: 257 Laguna, S.F. (14)

GWM seeks gay men born in China, Taiwan or Hong Kong. Goal: friendship and possibly more. Would also like to practice beginning Chinese language. Write Armando, 2230 Derby St., Berkeley, CA 94705. (14)

WM, 37, 6'0, 160 lbs runner and swimmer Brn/Brn, very sensitive. Seek younger men who enjoy being bottom for friendship, fun and ? I enjoy massage too. S USA, Box 563. (14)

Slim, smooth trustworthy Asian seeks GWM who is masculine and who values friendship and good times. Photo/Phone number appreciated. Write 633 Post Street, No. 447, SF., CA. 94109 today! (14)

Relationship oriented man, 24 seeks same. I'm blond, 5'10", 135 lbs, non-smoker, atheist, libertarian, very affectionate. Write w/phone: Mark, 584 Castro St., No. 243, San Francisco, CA 94114. (14)

Handsomeness and Considerate GWM 43 seeks same 34-46 for sharing, affectionate and safe sex. Into movies, music, exploring San Francisco and desire an honest caring relationship. Send photo and write S USA, Box 562. (14)

Very masculine muscular blond 31, 160, sexy, friendly, honest, discreet. Top in current relationship seek change of Pace want to worship service bigger bodybuilder 170 lbs beat me wrestling first my place OK. Photo not necessary if honest. Reply S USA Box 561. (14)

Midwestern farm-upbringing with small-town values, ethics, trust, honesty seeks similar GWM, 21-30. Be real, employed, self-reliant, high self-respect. Please write S USA, Box 586. (15)

GWM, 37, 5'5", 140, runner. Tan, smooth, Nordic, thin hair, boyish look. Seeks aggressive man 25-50. Enjoy safe sex I am healthy, bright, loyal, playful. You are a caring fit, large, hairy dad. Affection counts. Photos returned, all replies answered. George, S USA, Box 559. (14)

**RELATIONSHIP WANTED**  
I am a very handsome GWM 34, 6'0", 165 lbs., dark hair, hairy chest, horny, sexually versatile, positive thinking, financially independent. I enjoy romantic dinners at home, roaring fires, sitting embraced together, reading or talking, classical music, creative projects, movies, travel, river rafting, dogs, crowds, etc. I also need private times to myself, clear communication of mutual wants and needs in a relationship. I am looking for a handsome man age 30-40 under 6'0" under 170 lbs., hairy chest. Sexually passive or versatile, non-smoker. A man with his own personal goals. A man who is proud to be gay and publicly open about it. Send photo and letter to Jim, 720 Tennessee St., S.F., CA. 94107. (14)

Quality men do advertise-and this is an accurate description: Big Ten honors graduate, early thirties, with boyish dark handsome looks, gorgeous smooth muscular build and bright career seek similar quality individual to build a long term relationship. Professional type with active, vigorous, athletic lifestyle, good looks and build most desirable. No frog faces, airheads, pot bellies, sunken chests, drunks, druggies and irresponsible. Reply with photo: S USA, Box 528. (14)

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**Desperately Single?**  
If you are an attractive, articulate, AIDS-aware, successful professional, 25-45, you may already want a date with Mr. Right. I'm a decisively handsome, GWM, 30, 6'1", 180 lbs, clean-shaven, sexually versatile WASP; financially secure, well-educated, world-traveled, multilingual, good-humored optimist, particularly fond of travel, socializing, films, music, people-watching and hyphenated adjectives. Recently relocated from 3 yrs abroad and discouraged with search for a quality companion. You're not in the bars; hopefully you're reading Sentinel U.S.A. If so, reply w/photo to S USA, Box 564. Prefer clean-shaven, nonsmoker. Jonathan, (14)

Russian River Area — Hot hairy bearded deep-throat masculine bottom. W/M 42, 6', 250 lbs, seeking hot butch tops. Am eager to fulfill your needs & fantasies. Ecstasy guaranteed. Have van to travel to SF area or come up & see me sometime. Write/Photo to 35 Magic Mtn. Cazadero, CA 95421. (14)

Latin GWM, 33, 6', 180 lbs, br/green honest healthy not into gay scene, versatile looks for handsome healthy versatile clean lover any race from 18. Please answer with photo, Box 170, SF., CA. 94101. (14)

GWM 37, 5'11" B/B Relationship Oriented. Versatile. No Drugs! Honesty a must. Please write 574 3rd Street No. 206, San Francisco, CA 94107. P.S. Good physical and spiritual life. (14)

I need a real man, who knows where he's at and what he wants. I know where I am, let's see if we click. GWM, 23, 5'10", Blk/brn, 170. Will answer all with photo. Reply to S USA, Box 570. (14)

Beer Bellied Manly Tall GWM 35, Ex-GI with smooth muscled body wants to meet uniform fans or manly dudes. Write P.O. Box 11582, San Francisco, CA 94104. (14)

GWM, 29 wants to meet attractive Asian men under 30 for companionship, affection and sensual sharing. I'm 5'9", 160 lbs, muscular, g-d-looking, wide range of interests, especially outdoors and dancing. Reply with photo (optional) to S USA Box 567. (14)

Kinky Jewish Therapist, rear French expert, seeking to meet remarkable men who are top or mutual. Interested in love, sex, spirituality and relationships. 584 Castro, No. 167, San Francisco, CA 94114. (14)

GWM 30, handsome, warm, seeks same 26 to 40 to share tenderness and prolonged J/O. Prefer gentle socially concerned humanitarian with lots of love to share. S USA, Box 557. (14)

**RAP GROUP FORMING.** Are you tired of the typical Rap Group (Pedantic, psychobabble-sewing circles run by uptight non-sexual eggheads)? Are you a writer, singer, rock musician, or artistic type? We hope to form by the end of November. Call Jon Sugar (Daytime) if interested. 664-2682. (14)

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**Hot, Horny, Hairy and Hunky**  
Sorry, I'm not a member of the 4-H Club. I am young, sensitive, gdlk. You: caring, healthy and breathing. Please write: Occupant 537 Jones Street, No. 9569, SF., CA. 94102. Thank you. (14)

WALT WHITMAN lovers. I'm 35, 6', 180 lbs, goodlooking, bearded, sensual, spiritual poet. Please write & tell me how you discovered and why you like Whitman. Joe, Box 99444, SF 94109. (14)

Handsome, successful, bearded WM 43 loves to suck, rim smooth, slender, cute, boyish young guys. Relax and enjoy slow, sensual oral service. P.O. Box 29602, Oakland, CA 94604. (14)

**Looking For Something More?**  
Attractive Fine Arts Photographer 38, 5'8", 130 lbs., Bl/Bl w/moust. GRa. FRp. who loves movies (old & new) dining, dancing, walking, theater, art, music, seeks friend to share similar interests. Jeff 415-824-3499. (14)

**Let's Spend Some Time Together**  
Slim W/Male 27-39 as boyfriend & perhaps more by W/Male 39 who enjoys nudity, J/O & togetherness. Call 928-3886. (14)

Clean W/M seeks guys under 30 to pose for nude photos. Sex and fun. J/O and "Safe" sex preferred, evenings and weekends. SF. 584-4359. (14)

Professional, stable, friendly, healthy, sensitive "top". I am GWM, 46, 5'10", 155 lbs, Brn/Brn, who is looking for another GWM. 35-55 years old, that would enjoy dating, cuddling etc., etc. Replies from sincere only, please! 552-1444 (evenings). (14)

Nudists! Berkeley student seeks opportunities for non-sexual social nudism. If you know of beaches, house parties, artists modeling, etc., write Eric, 2122 Dwight, No. 8, Berkeley 94704. Female responses welcome too. (14)

I need a real man, who knows where he's at and what he wants. I know where I am. Let's see if we click. GWM 23, 5'10" blk/brn, 170 will answer all with photo. Reply S USA, Box 570. (14)

Wanted young blonds 18 - 30 hung for love affair, sex & companionship. I am 37 bear brown, well hung. Send picture, 706 Polk St., S.F., CA 94109. Bruce Baber (15)

**Gay? Survey!!**  
Want to let the world know your views and how you feel about sex, love, and life? Gay survey. Send \$1.40 in postage to defrey expense for detailed personal 15 page questionnaire to: SIERS ENTERPRISES, Dept. H, P.O. Box 5473, Mesa, AZ 85201. (15)

**GAY LINE**  
Meet New Friends and Lovers.  
At Last! Hear the actual voices of guys replying to your own recorded personal ad. Be as explicit as you wish.  
(415) 546-7744

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## Jobs Offered

**Job Offered**  
GWM, Assistant apartment manager trainee for a large apartment complex — CHANCE FOR ADVANCEMENT — maintenance helpful but not necessary. Apply at 57 Taylor Street or call 474-4118. (15)

**WANTED: DISC JOCKEY**  
Top dance bar for men in Chicago is looking for premiere d.j. Salary commensurate. Full medical available. EOE. Send confidential audition tape, resume, references to Box 199, 806 W. Barry, Chicago, IL 60657. (15)

**Writer: News**  
News journalist wanted by Sentinel USA. We wish to increase our pool of freelance news writers. If you feel you have the talent and time to cover events in the Bay Area, contact our editor, Tom Murray for an appointment. 861-8100 (15)

**ELEGANT MUSIC**  
MAGNOVOX STEREO, AM/FM receiver, turntable and 8 track in elegant hardwood credenza with 4 speakers. \$225. 221-1120 Evenings (15)

**Fuck Flicks For Sale**  
Selling entire collection of gay & straight films (have gone to video). 8 m.m. Super 8 over 300 films. Real Cheap! Call 415 861-8549 Lv. Message. (14)

**FOR SALE**  
Ornately carved upright piano. Very good condition. \$1500. Call Kathy, 771-6288. (14)

**The Ultimate Stereo System**  
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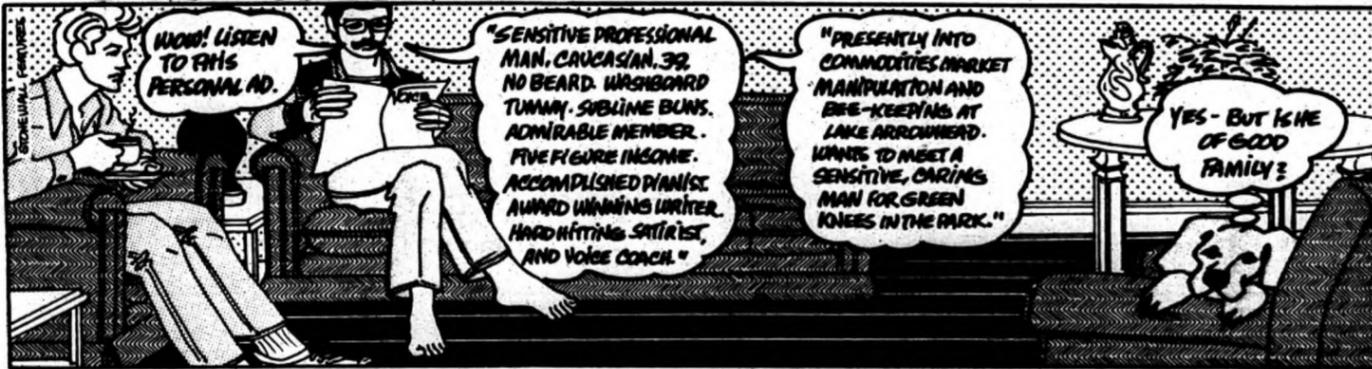
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31	40
41	50

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