Federal Response: Inaction
**ARC/AIDS Vigil Stays Put**
by John Wetzl

After a week of waiting and wondering, the ARC/AIDS Vigil remains firmly entrenched in United Nations Plaza. Federal officials, who had told the protestors to remove two beds chained to the Federal Building doors by Tuesday morning, have not commented on the apparent extension of their deadline. Continued on page 10

**Pope’s Schedule Changed**

**Move to Avoid Gay Protests?**
San Francisco is no longer the final stop on the Pope’s scheduled visit to the United States this summer. Vatican officials announced late this week that the Pope’s tour will wind up in Detroit, where a sizable Polish-American population is expected to extend a warm welcome to Polish-born Pope John Paul II. Continued on page 10
Chosen Family and Relationships

1. Recognizing and celebrating the diversity in family relationships, we demand legal recognition of lesbian and gay male domestic partnerships with all the benefits and entitlements that flow from marriage. These include but are not limited to rights of inheritance, extended medical benefits, visitation and custody rights, insurance rights, parenting, foster care and adoption and immigration, etc.

2. Since gay and lesbian youth are often without societal and familial support, we demand funding for a broad range of social services targeted to them, including, but not limited to, alternative housing, foster care, counseling services, legal aid, etc. All such programs must have significant representation of lesbians and gay men at all levels of policy and implementation.

3. We demand safe sex information and health services for gay and lesbian youth, sexuality and anti-homophobia curriculum in the schools, access to the freedom to organize and participate in all school and related social activities.

Sodomy Laws

Because the sodomy and related laws form the cornerstone of discrimination against lesbians and gay men, the lesbian and gay community of this nation demands a repeal, through federal and local action, of all laws that violate the right to privacy by criminalizing consensual sex between individuals above the age of consent. The term "sodomy" is to be replaced by the term "sexual orientation," and the phrase "sexual activity" be added to the Federal Civil Rights Act to prohibit discrimination against lesbians and gay men in employment. That Congress, through any means available to it, prohibit states from regulating private adult consensual activities that education be done on the definition of sodomy to show that sodomy laws prohibit the majority of consensual sexual activity.

Presidential Action/Executive Order

1. We demand use of the full presidential authority to eliminate all discrimination based on sexual orientation in all aspects of executive branch employment, programs and policies. Specifically, we demand:

   a. Issuing of a presidential executive order banning discrimination based on sexual orientation in federal employment, the military, federally-contracted private employment, the granting of security clearances and all federally-funded programs.

   b. Inclusion as the exclusion of gays and lesbians is not medically or scientifically valid, the public health service shall resume its policy of non-enforcement of the gay/lesbian medical exclusion under the immigration law.

   c. Repeal of all military regulations discriminating against lesbians and gays, including sodomy regulations, upgrade of all less than honorable military discharges for reasons of homosexuality with full restoration of benefits, including retirement with no statue of limitations.

2. A presidential order guaranteeing unanswering access to information for gay/lesbian prisoners, equality of visitation and protection from discrimination based on AIDS and/or sexual orientation.

3. The Justice Department shall cease and desist from the interpretation of laws in manners which are oppressive and destructive to the civil rights of lesbians and gay men and all other people; including repeal of their interpretation discriminating against workers associated with AIDS.

Discrimination Against People with AIDS and People with ARC

1. End discrimination against people with AIDS/ARC, those testing positive for the HIV virus or those perceived to be in any of those categories.

2. The special discrimination suffered by people of color; prisoners, persons on active military duty, veterans and IV drug users.

3. Stop discrimination in the delivery of health care, insurance, social services, housing, employment, public accommodations and education.

4. End discrimination in immigration related areas.

5. Criminalize discrimination by any corporate or governmental entity.

6. End federal funding for organizations (or corporate tax breaks) or governmental bodies which practice discrimination.

7. We demand compassionate, comprehensive health care services both in and out-patient services without regard to ability to pay, based on the San Francisco model. We must give special attention to health care services for people of color and those in low income areas.

8. We demand the federal government immediately implement legislation which would prohibit any individual from invading the privacy of any person that has tested positive for HIV or has been diagnosed as having AIDS/ARC by revealing said information to employers, landlords, educational institutions, governmental agencies, or any other individual without the written informed consent of said person with AIDS/ARC.

9. We demand that education be provided at the government's expense specifically geared to gay and lesbian youth.

10. Support for all research on AIDS.

Funding For AIDS

1. We demand complete federal funding of all health and social services for all people with AIDS/ARC; that the federal government underwrite and insure all research for a cure and a vaccine; that the federal government fund a massive AIDS education and prevention program that is explicit, culturally sensitive, lesbian gay affirming and sex positive.

2. That funding come from the military budget, not already existing appropriations in the social services budget.

Other Demands

1. Lesbian and gay people shall be included in the National Holocaust Commission and its administration.

2. We demand the right to control our bodies and practice our sexuality freely. This includes an expansion of reproductive rights, an end to sterilization abuse and free abortions and contraceptives on demand to persons of all ages.

3. We demand that the Federal Government fund a nation-wide educational campaign to counter the wave of hatred, violence and misinformation being directed against lesbians, gay men and youth. This fund shall support the FRA. (This demand, we feel, may be either a demand or an incorporated principle.)

4. The lesbian and gay community shall support the ERA. (This demand, we feel, may be either a demand or an incorporated principle.)

5. The system of apartheid in South America is racist and violates all human rights. We demand the freedom of Black gay activists Simon Nkobi, facing treason charges, and all South African political prisoners. We support the South African freedom struggle and demand an end to U.S. governmental and corporate support of South African Apartheid.

National March On Washington For Lesbian & Gay Rights

October 11, 1987
Brett for Congress

Continuing a Tradition
San Francisco has a history of progressive leadership: Phil and Sala Burton, George Moscone and Harvey Milk. That tradition is needed now more than ever. Harry Britt, the preacher from Texas, is our best choice — our best voice — to speak the words we want Washington to hear. He knows our needs and the needs of our city.

Part of Our History
Harry Britt has been a major part of our community, our history, for a decade. He has marched with us, overcome with us, shared in our victories and our defeats. As a member of the Board of Supervisors, he has introduced controversial legislation and tackled complex issues that allow for no simple solution. He never backs away from a fight.

Beyond the Ghetto
Like many of his gay constituents, Harry Britt has grown beyond the gay ghetto. He has networked with other grassroots groups, neighborhood and ethnic communities, sensitizing himself to their concerns while also educating them about us. Although not a natural at kissing hands, Harry has grown during his eight years as a supervisor. Today, a gay supervisor to a supervisor in gay — from the unlikely inheritor of the Milk legend to a respected politician capable of garnering votes from many segments of the city.

Making History
We have an historic opportunity in April to elect an openly gay member of Congress, to send Harry Britt as our representative to a body hostile toward us and our rights. Electing Harry will give the nation a clear message: Gay people do have power. Our votes count. In the midst of an epidemic, with the righteous right using AIDS to fuel society’s homophobia, a sane, informed, openly gay voice in Washington is essential. Brett’s victory will be ours, one more point we score against the Gipper.

A Strange and Ugly Business
Politics can be a strange and ugly business. Victory is won frequently through backstopping, bargaining, and behind-the-scenes deals. The political arena is no place for a virgin. Brett the politician has been seasoned through conflict, survived controversy, and ripened with political experience. He knows our needs and the needs of our city.

Other Faces
To the Editor: I wish to thank you for your timely articles concerning AIDS and the black community. President Reagan’s cutbacks concerning the AIDS epidemic are tantamount to murder. The National Institute of Medicine recommends that we spend $2 billion annually on AIDS research and education. The 1987 Reagan budget asks for one-fourth this amount while AIDS experts predict the number of AIDS cases will increase by 1991. I urge all San Francisco readers to write to Jim Wright, Speaker of the U.S. House, and to Speaker of the U.S. Senate, requesting that the National Institute of Medicine fund its recommendations for AIDS be met. You may end up saving your own life or that of a loved one.

Socialite Chicanery
To the Editor: Congratulations to David M. Low for his clear-eyed reporting on the right-to-work issue in the Sentinel. (Feb. 6), though emotional, effectively brought home the tragic never-ending misconception that one can only be white and homosexual to be a victim of AIDS. Emile de Sarthe

Time to Write
To the Editor: I want to thank you for your timely articles concerning AIDS and the black community. President Reagan’s cutbacks concerning the AIDS epidemic are tantamount to murder. The National Institute of Medicine recommends that we spend $2 billion annually on AIDS research and education. The 1987 Reagan budget asks for one-fourth this amount while AIDS experts predict the number of AIDS cases will increase by 1991. I urge all San Francisco readers to write to Jim Wright, Speaker of the U.S. House, and the National Institute of Medicine concerning AIDS be met. You may end up saving your own life or that of a loved one.

The government and medical establishment’s inability to deal with the AIDS epidemic demonstrates flaws in our health system. In fact, the United States and South Africa are the only two industrialized countries without national health insurance. Congressmen Ron Dellums has proposed a comprehensive national health insurance program (HR-2049) which ensures medical care for everyone. Contact Dellums’ office for a copy. It’s time for us to stand up and demand our rights.

I understand that the first hearings by a House committee will take place the first Thursday in March. I look forward to making more of your good reporting of the developments in this case in your rejuvenated and excellent newspaper.

Ach von Wolfen
Private Pissos
To the Editor: With all the problems with police entrapment in public restrooms, why don’t we get back at these unjust arrests by having our own private restrooms. If some enterprising individual or company would take a look at the many choice locations available, they could see the market for private, gay restrooms.

For the price of admission, you could have all sorts of sexual activity on the premises without fear of finding anybody because only those interested would pay to go into such places. Since these private restrooms, the police would not be entitled to come in and peek about making unjust arrests. We have been victims of restroom entrapment too — it’s about time that private enterprise took over and made things right.

Andrew J. Betancourt

The Other Side
To the Editor: I was one of the 56 people arrested at the Marina Green restroom in December. I read the editorial in the Sentinel and was very disturbed at the homophobic and ineptitude attitudes and opinions expressed. Let me relate what happened in my case.

I went into the men’s restroom about 3:20 in the afternoon. There was one other person in there, standing in the last stall facing the toilet. Since there are no doors on the stalls, I could see both his hands down by his crotch, as if urinating or perhaps something else. I immediately stood up to look around to see if I over him shoulder, as I stepped into the stall next to his. His eyes followed me and he continued to look around, yet he looked round all the room. We were plainly demands, mid-thirties, and seemed nervous. An older man briefly stepped into the men’s room, looked around, and left. The man in the stall next to me said, “That old guy walking keeping in and out.” I said, “Creeps.” I didn’t respond, but I assumed he meant he was nervous about being in a restroom crucial when people entering and leaving. I was about walking for the 5th Congressional District of congressional campaign worker.

San Francisco Sentinel · February 20, 1987 3

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By Lisa M. Keen

By the time the 100th Congress took its first recess last week, more than 1,500 bills had been introduced. Of that number, a dozen are aimed specifically at gays, and another handful could have special interest to gays. The majority of these dozen bills are AIDS-related and unlikely to emerge from their subcommittees for a variety of reasons, including the federal gay rights bills — in the House and the Senate — could see action for the first time in seven years. And an immigration reform bill to prevent gays from being automatically excluded from the U.S. could get its first vote.

That's what's in the hopper — plus several proposals from three different gay groups, the Reagan administration, and various members of Congress — on what the level of AIDS funding should be for FY 87.

On the Hill to lobby for these bills and for AIDS funding is one full-time lobbyist, two or three volunteer lobbyists, and a half-dozen activists who plan to lobby every chance they get.

The Dannemeyer 'Six-Pack'

California Republican William Dannemeyer has introduced six AIDS-related bills this session, most of them leftovers from last session. One bill would prevent any state from ever assessing unusual sexual activity as gay, or anyone in a high risk group for AIDS, to "intentionally discriminate against or impede the activities of an organized religious body" or "an organized group or other entity dedicated to the performance of religious, charitable, educational, or scientific functions." A second bill would declare any state which requires residents of the U.S. or anyone incarcerated in a federal prison, to be tested for the time waiver specifically for people with AIDS.

Hearing on the Rights Campaign

The Human Rights Campaign is taking up the task in seeking public hearing in the first session this year, even though it has a full-time lobbyist, hired only seven months ago, has recently recruited three new staff members of partners of people who test positive for the AIDS antibody. A fourth would make it a federal offense for AIDS education resources that are steering the new partners of people who has AIDS to engage in sexual activity which could transmit the virus.

The final pair of Dannemeyer bills calls for an investigation of the failure to provide of the DC AIDS insurance law passed last year, and 2) the need for states to take action against such as requiring the antibody test for marriage licenses and encouraging "directed" blood donations at hospitals.

Three of these latter two, if passed, would have no real impact since they deal with areas of the country that are already hostile to gay people. Of the four, three are sure to die. The fourth, under the current new tax law, would merely be expressing a "sense of solidarity with people with AIDS."

And Who Will Lobby?

The Human Rights Campaign is taking the lead in seeking public hearings in the first session this year, even though it has a full-time lobbyist, hired only seven months ago, has recently recruited three new staff members of partners of people who test positive for the AIDS antibody. A fourth would make it a federal offense for AIDS education resources that are steering the new partners of people who has AIDS to engage in sexual activity which could transmit the virus. In a press release sent out last Friday, the gay political action committee says, "the climate is not favorable" for committee hearings on the federal rights bills. The House version, introduced by Weisman and Waxman, was accompanied by a record number of initial co-sponsors — 50 in all, including new Congressmembers Constance Morella (R-MD), John Lewis (D-GA), and Peter DeFazio (D-OR). The Senate version, introduced by Senator Alan Cranston (D-Calif.), included the same four sponsors as last session. HRCF's bearing its hearings toward the House where the bill bills in the Civil Rights subcommittee of Rep. Don Ed- ward (D-Calif.) Edwards, thought not on the co-sponsor list this year, has been a co-sponsor in the past and has received contributions from the gay PAC.

Herald Tributes

Frank and some other members of Congress have introduced bills which would benefit AIDS patients, but it's not clear even they were clearly not introduced for that purpose.

One bill introduced by Frank for AIDS patients which would benefit two different categories of people with AIDS.

Bills before 100th Congress of interest to Gays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill No.</th>
<th>Brief Description</th>
<th>Chief Sponsor</th>
<th>Subcommittee</th>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S. 43</td>
<td>Establish a National Commission on AIDS</td>
<td>Stevens (R-AK)</td>
<td>FedSer. Civil (GVTAFF)</td>
<td>Pryor (D-AK)</td>
<td>Pryor (D-AK)</td>
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<td>S. 310</td>
<td>Make federal funds for person in high risk group available to states which make discretionary allowances</td>
<td>Dannemeyer (R-CA)</td>
<td>HealthRep. (GNDOM)</td>
<td>Warras (D-CA)</td>
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<td>S. 319</td>
<td>Defer federal funds for AIDS to states which don't test for HIV</td>
<td>Dannemeyer (R-CA)</td>
<td>HealthRep. (GNDOM)</td>
<td>Warras (D-CA)</td>
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<td>S. 345</td>
<td>Make federal funds for person in high risk group available to states which make discretionary allowances</td>
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<td>HCR 8</td>
<td>Congress to express concern by name state to AIDS</td>
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<td>Prohibit discrimination or base of employment on apparent or actual HIV infection</td>
<td>Dannemeyer (R-CA)</td>
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<td>HR 797</td>
<td>Prohibit state from removal of HIV positive rights for people with AIDS</td>
<td>Stevens (R-CA)</td>
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Congressman William H. Gray III, (D-Pa.), Chairman of the House Budget Committee, has appointed his Advisory Board to head a special Budget panel Task Force on AIDS. Gray made the appointment official at a Budget Committee hearing held in Los Angeles on Saturday, pointing out

Continued on page 12
Contraceptive Ingredient Kills AIDS Virus

French Scientists Say Non-Prescription Compound May Lessen Chance of Spreading Disease

by Robert Ruby

French researchers have found that a non-prescription compound used in various contraceptives available outside the United States kills the virus that causes AIDS and holds promise of lessening the chance of the virus being spread.

If laboratory findings by the Pasteur Institute are confirmed by human tests, the researchers suggest that use of contraceptives containing the compound could help prevent people infected with the acquired immune deficiency syndrome virus from passing it sexually.

The compound, benzalkonium chloride, is widely used by hospitals in the United States and Europe as an antiseptic. Since 1970, it has been used as a spermicide in contraceptives developed by a French pharmaceutical firm, Pharmelac. The compound is undergoing clinical trials for approval as a spermicide in the United States.

In 1985, U.S. researchers at the federal Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta published findings that another spermicide, nonoxynol-9, inhibited growth of the AIDS virus under laboratory conditions when used in relatively high concentrations. Nonoxynol-9 is used in several vaginal foams and in spermicides used with a diaphragm.

Tests with benzalkonium chloride were conducted at the Pasteur Institute by a team led by Jean-Claude Cherueille. The French researchers, and one of the co-discoverers of the French researchers, and one of the co-discoverers of the virus, said Helene Queuille, director of development at Pharmelac.

"We know benzalkonium chloride has many anti-viral properties, because we tested them beginning in 1968," Cherueille said. "It's a rather banal product that has quite encouraging results for the laboratory."

"We cannot say it has an interesting effect in the laboratory against the AIDS virus," said Helene Queuille, director of development at Pharmelac.

"We have to be very careful before saying it will work in the human body. We must be very prudent," Queuille said.

Pharmelac uses benzalkonium chloride as a spermicide in vaginal tablets, creams and sponges, and also as a coating on condoms.

Pharmelac, which uses the brand name Pharmatex for its contraceptives, reports that its sales have doubled since the Pasteur Institute's lab tests were published in the French press.

Robert Ruby is a reporter for the Sentinel.

AIDS Virus

American Arrested for Allegedly Spreading AIDS Virus

by John J. Vischansky

In the first case of its kind in West Germany, an American has been arrested and imprisoned for allegedly and knowingly spreading the AIDS virus. The 45-year-old suspect is being held without bond in a West German jail pending trial.

He has been charged under federal German laws that make knowing how to use AIDS and knowingly spreading the AIDS virus a criminal offense and "the individual could be charged with causing bodily injury by negligence, or with assault with the intent to do grievous bodily harm," according to the Bavarian Minister of Justice Manfred Berghaus-Weichner.

Delta Airlines senior vice president James W. Callison told members of the SF Human Rights Commission about his company's efforts to educate employees about AIDS. Commission members asked Delta to add sexual orientation to its non-discrimination list for employment, and criticized the airline's AIDS education program as inadequate.

Delta employment official Boyd M. McKenzie, Jr. looked on during hearings before the Lesbian/Gay Advisory Commission of the SF Human Rights Commission.

American Arrested

SF Increases AIDS Funding by 35%

The San Francisco Health Commission will hold a special meeting on March 10 at 2 p.m. to vote on the proposed 35% increase in the City's AIDS budget. The budget then goes to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor for final approval.

SF public health officials say the 35% increase won't be enough to keep up with an exploding caseload. The recommendation for the 1987-88 fiscal year would be an increase of $3.3 million to fight the AIDS epidemic. Of that money, about $1.7 million would go to the Health Department projects, including research, education, mental health and other support services. Another $1.2 million would go for the anticipated increased patient load at SF General Hospital. The rest would be used for out-patient and other services.

The Health Department is also asking the City for about $600,000 to continue substance abuse and AIDS education.
Gay Business Speaks Out

Interview by Bob Marshall

With more than 600 members throughout San Francisco and the East Bay, the Gay and Lesbian Business Association (GGBA) is the largest group of gay- and lesbian-owned businesses in Northern California. GGBA’s new president is 36-year-old Rod Palmer, a vice-president of San Francisco. Originally from Southern California, Palmer moved to Eugene, Oregon, for four years before the University of Oregon, Pattern stayed in Eugene, where he worked for U.S. Steel, and then joined the Republican politics. In 1978, he mounted an unsuccessful campaign for the state’s second congressional district, which also saw the defeat of Eugene’s gay rights ordinance.

Say, I need some construction work. I can go down to the GGBA office, which is GGA-affiliated, and know that it is going to represent itself in a professional and ethical manner. You can get fair market value. By going to such a business, the consumer knows that he’s not going to be ripped off. Things done in the way he wishes, and also, he’s supporting the gay community. I would much rather do business with a gay-owned business, especially one that’s a member of GGBA, than a much number of merchants.

Another major advantage. By keeping our money in our community, we are keeping our community strong. Doesn’t that lead to isolation? Oh, no, I can’t be everything to everybody. It would be wonderful if we have a member business in every field imaginable, but we don’t. We offer a whole range of businesses.

We all have to be intelligent consumers to look for that bottom dollar. Can we afford it here? That’s a question we have to ask ourselves. If it is, then it is, but if not, that’s just consumerism, and there’s nothing wrong with that. Sometimes I find that I wouldn’t spend the extra because I know I’m supporting either a friend who’s in the association or a business. But I do support a business, especially if it’s a member of the GGBA. We’ve seen the community change in recent years. It seems that there is a lot of activity in gay business in our community now.

Gay cable network fades to black

Gay Cable Network (GCN) is set to return to the community. "I'm not planning on receiving any salary at the same time," said GCN founder Jon Canalli, "but there simply weren't the financial resources available to do that." GCN viewers who tuned in to Vice President's Channel 68 on this Tuesday evening would see a shop-by-shop program instead. Canalli said his show would remain off the air for at least two or three months while he recruits a new board of directors.

Funding and grantwriting will be top priorities for GCN. Canalli hopes to raise between $75,000 and $100,000 for operating expenses in the next year, a major increase from GCN’s $20,000 budget for the 1986 season. The extra money would be used to pay the salaries of two full-time employees and re-
A Beginner’s Guide to Healthy Foods
by Larry Duplechan

It’s time to wake up and smell the herb tea. It’s a new day! Health food doesn’t mean bean sprouts and plankton at every meal, and it’s not just for long-haired, bearded, latter-day druids or muscle-headed gym-rats with gallon-a-day raw milk habits. Health food is simply healthy food.

Food doesn’t have to be in its natural state as possible, with minimal processing and little if any non-essential additives. Raw chicken is healthy, food especially if the chicken was raised at a farm where it was fed no hormones or additives). Chicken is in fact the only raw vegetable is healthy food. The same vegetable boiled in milk gravy anxiously is not.

Now that we know what health food is, what difference does it make to life in the Big City? The difference between eating food highly conducive to health and eating food that is highly conducive to disease is that of our collective health being what it is today, doesn’t make sense to eat food that is conducive to disease and RAD-calorie growth and repair vital processes and furnish energy at least/half of the time. As long as you’re going to be AIT, but couldn’t be right?

Fresh Fruit

We’re talking apples, bananas, kiwi, pomegranates, etc. Eat them daily. Many of these fruits are processed into raw milk in earth to digest and their contents (especially the fibre) can draw down to simple sugars may promote, which makes fruit possibly the best low-calorie, high-fibre, low-sodium food you can get. Next, however, that since fruit does digest so quickly it shouldn’t be eaten as a dessert. You’ve already found it tempting to fight its way through the ever-changing, and it’s a nifty fighter.

Vegetables

Eat them often. Eat them raw. Or close to raw as you can deal with. You’ve got the best vegetable food in the world. Of course, the ideal vegetable is freshly picked, spinach, that sort of stuff into salads.Pair or stir, and don’t ever boil or cook ER! For the sake of the earth you raised in home, where a vegetable wasn’t considered done unless it was white, and barely cooked veggie can be a wonderland of discovery.

Quickie Recipe

Larri’s And-Don!’t-Even-Like-Carmen’s

Allowing at least a good-sized car-rot per person, cut carrots into thin sticks (paw them if you like; I never do). Store in carrots cut sticks until just of dente. Drain off the water and pop the carrot back into the pot. Mix a couple of pats of unsalted butter, add some fresh lemon juice and some garlic (you almost certainly don’t have a dish of honey if you want. Slosh your carrots around in the lemon/garlic mixture and you’ve got a filling that people will say, “Wow, these carrots are great. And I don’t even like carrots!”

Broads and Grains

The thing is, you can’t eat too much White can be beautiful, but in breads, flour, or grains. The process of turning a hybrid of a grain into a white bread (or that is left in white flour food also turns a "natural" food into something considerably less natural and healthy. And that goes for rice, too.

Breakfast Cereals

Old fashioned oatmeal, shredded wheat, bran, or whatever else is sweetened with fruit juice are healthy food: Cap’n Crunch, Fruit Loops, Lucky Charms, Mr. T., Pop-Man, that stuff Milka and, anything else whose list of ingredients begins with sugar, and anything else containing something unpronounceable are not.

Milk & Dairy Products

As with many other darker-skinned people, I find milk and milk products to be rather like sugar in the body’s gas tank. And “gas” is the operative word here, if you get my drift. Something about lactose and enzymes, and anything else that’s in the form of milk’s milk (be the same sex as the molecule of your mommy’s). And then there the Raw Milkers or the Pritzkars. Frankly, I’ve seen the Raw Milkers. Or the one (and only) time that I’ve been to a fair, (it was a natural one, after all) but then all those raw food diets consist of dropping dead of double-bond:s: something and, I said, “Boil it!” Then there’s the school of thought that says, “Once you’ve weaned, why bother?” The bottom line here is that dairy products have a lot of the same quality proteins, calcium, and scads of vitamins; so if you can digest them, I say, why not? Whether it’s milk, cheese, or yoghurt, for low-fat or non-fat whenever. Why not? If you washboard belly under a layer of buttermilk?

Eggs

America used to eat a lot more of them, but then somebody decided eggs dropped their arteries faster than just about anything else. Bulking-up bodybuilders used to sell “em raw by the glassful. [Just then somebody thought up selenium poisoning. Now they're not sure if they were right for the cholesterol in that egg fat. I suggest fillet night. Please note that most meats, cuts of poultry (chicken breasts, turkey tom­ doles, and such), and firm fish are best broiled, with a bit of seasoned butterfat. I suggest filet mignon.

Meat, Poultry & Fish

I’m not even going to get into the carnivores vs. vegetarianism broohaha. I’m a pollof学会-and-fish-but-paleo-of-no-red-meatist, but I’m not into proselytizing. If you do eat the red stuff, be aware that “marinating,” one of half­ waves of a kinder, a steak of tender, is composed of fats of the meat. One of them is beef, fillet night, etc. Please note that most meats, cuts of poultry, (chicken breasts, turkey tom­ doles, and such), and firm fish are best broiled, with a bit of seasoned butterfat or oil on the poultry or fish. In case you haven’t heard, now they’ve decided that charcoal broiling is carnivore­ic. I, for one, am willing to take the chance. Also note that most of the fat in poultry is in the skin. Remove it before broiling. Why hide that washed-over under a layer of chicken schmaltz?

Beverages

Water is healthy food. Coffee, tea, Coke the whole family), Pepsi (drinks), Chardonnay, Cabernet, maritins, root beers, the 100% real orange juice your grandmother left you, those ghastly looking blue things with the parasols, etc. are not. Sorry.

Drugs

Garlic oil capsules might be a healthy food. Cocaine is definitely not.

Some Tough Talk About Tofu

Tofu is actually soy bean curd or soy cheese, both of which sound as disgust­ ing as “tuff,” which sounds like something you’d eat if you were the same sex as the molecule of your mommy’s. As for the locals of the meal, and it’s a nifty fighter.

A Few Words About Health Foods

Wholemeal, natural, “healthy” foods can be purchased in any market worth the title, provided you have the time and inclination to read every label on every item you purchase to make sure they haven’t stuck the odd mono­ glycerides in on you. It’s much easier if you can find a “ natural” or "natural" health food store, where, ideally, they’ve done the homework for you. I say, "natural." If you’re going to buy the red stuff, be aware that “marinating,” one of the half­ waves of a kinder, a steak of tender, is composed of fats of the meat. One of them is beef, fillet night, etc. Please note that most meats, cuts of poultry, (chicken breasts, turkey tom­ doles, and such), and firm fish are best broiled, with a bit of seasoned butterfat. I suggest filet mignon.

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Just before I arrive, I realize I haven’t been in a church basement since the summer of 1960, when I endured fourteen consecutive days of Vacation Bible School at the Hayes Avenue Church of Christ. It wasn’t pretty.

Before I step into the church, I glance across Diamond Street at the former confectioner that will soon be: Coming Home Hospice. Much of the money to renovate the building has come from the games I am about to attend. For this reason, I like to think of the hospice as the “house that bingo built.” I walk into the dank room of the church and select ten bingo boards. Some of them are labeled: Irish City Foodliner, Inc., South Main St., Presque Isle, Maine.” Well, at least I won’t be the only object in the place that requires a rather circuitous route.

It’s only 6:30 and the games don’t start until 7 pm, so I head for the concession stand run by senior citizens from Holy Redeemer. I order nachos until 7 pm, so I head for the concession stand run by senior citizens from Holy Redeemer. I order nachos start until 7 pm, so I head for the concession stand run by senior citizens from Holy Redeemer. I order nachos start until 7 pm, so I head for the concession stand run by senior citizens from Holy Redeemer. I order nachos. The early-bird specials, from Holy Redeemer. Although there are some regulars, the players themselves are different every week. Sometime’s they’re loud and boisterous, sometime’s they’re quiet. But every week, about 20% of the wagers get there, douse back to the hosptial. Ron suggest that I talk with the one remaining volunteer who has AIDS; two previous FWA volunteers have died. He is a tall man, this. There are visible KS lesions on his arms and neck and he smiles easily and often, speaking in an animated fashion. He tells me that the bingo games are his way of making a contribution to the community on a regular basis. He can fun and socialize with the crowd while doing something important.

Several games later, the announcer shyly proposes a variation on an old theme. “The next game is Tops and Bottoms. You have any questions about what’s a top and what’s a bottom, ask the runners.”

“I think I’ve got that one down. Cherries. Cherries anyone?”

Several blasts, four door-prizes, and ten bingo boards, I wander about. The evening has lasted from 6:30 until almost 11 pm and I’m not exactly sure what I’ve experienced. I was not a winner this evening, at least I didn’t get a bingo. But something special is going on here, something I can’t define. The evening sticks in my mind, caught in the debris of undigested experience that continuously digs my thought process. After rolling it over and over in my head, I finally schedule a meeting with Ron Black to talk about Bingo Thursdays.

Several weeks have passed since my first visit. Ron and I sit behind the bingo board while he prepares for another evening as eratic Vanna White. He informs me that the games raised over $1,000 for Coming Home Hospice last year with an additional $5,000 contributed by two gentlemen who volunteer for the concession stand, every week. The 33 volunteers on the staff spend five hours a week, or more, working on the bingo games. They represent a cross-section of the gay community and the laypersons of Holy Redeemer. Although there are some regulars, the players themselves are different every week. Sometimes they’re loud and boisterous, sometimes they’re quiet. But every week, about 20% of the wagers get there, douse back to the hospital. Ron suggest that I talk with the one remaining volunteer who has AIDS; two previous FWA volunteers have died. He is a tall man, this. There are visible KS lesions on his arms and neck and he smiles easily and often, speaking in an animated fashion. He tells me that the bingo games are his way of making a contribution to the community on a regular basis. He can fun and socialize with the crowd while doing something important.

“...AIDS clarifies a lot of things—eliminates the bullshit in your life. Things that are not very important drop out of your life and are replaced by other things. Communication becomes touch more direct, you get right to the heart of what you’re all about. AIDS has been really positive for me in many ways. I’ve learned a lot about myself that I might not have realized any other way. There’s been a lot of growth.”

I spent the rest of the evening just observing the volunteers and the way they relate to each other. There is a true sense of camaraderie between both young and old, straight and gay volunteers. Five years ago, this group would probably not have enjoyed ten minutes in each others’ company. But whatever might have kept them apart, then, no longer exists.

“Cherries. Cherries. Want to buy my cherries?”

“We have a valid bingo. Pay the winner $350 to $100 to each of the good neighbors.”

The evening also gets a polite round of applause, but it is nothing compared to the ovation that comes later in the evening. When an alleged Bingo is not confirmed, the announcer’s voice comes across the room like a boom. “Sorry, it was a good Bingo.” Can we talk applause?

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“Cherries. Cherries anyone?”
On the Circuit
by Flame

Well, another election for the coveted title of Emperor and Empress of San Francisco (a project of the San Francisco Tavern Guild) has drawn to a very climactic end. This past weekend saw vans, limos, antique cars, free brunches, etc. as enticement to get voters to the polls.

The winners will be crowned Saturday, Feb. 21 at the Gifthouse, 8th & Brannan. Doors open at 6 pm. This Imperial Coronation has the makings of best to date. Although no official winner is yet announced, my crystal ball sees frontrunner Tina Tanner elected Empress, but not without a strong showing of dark horse Lily Street, a new face in the royalty trip worth watching in the coming months.

I see Emperor candidate Pat McGonigle upsetting frontrunner Rich Manring for Emperor of San Francisco. A victory brunch for the winners is planned for Sunday, Feb. 22, Crystal Ballroom, San Franciscan Hotel, 11 am, $12 donation. The upcoming weeks see the return to San Francisco of theatrical producer Chuck Largent in his open auditions for Once Upon a Mattress, March 1, 2-5 pm at the California Club, 1750 Clay. Nice having you back, Chuck.

Slidecast 87, a Coits ski trip to Mount Rose and Reno is scheduled for March 6, 7, and 8. Cost $115 per person with lots of surprises included. For you title seekers the Coits will be holding their 7th Annual Queen of Southshore Contest on the trip.

Sunday, March 8, Sonoma County AIDS Network is planning an auction, “Face to Face,” 2 pm at the Santa Rosa Inn. Priced, auction, entertainment, food and fun are planned. A $5 donation with 100% of donations to “Face to Face.” This is a real worthy cause, so please attend.

See you next week with lots more news.

Dinner guests enjoy the $50 per plate dinner with drinks at the AIDS Emergency Fund Dinner held Monday night at the Warehouse. The season opening event for the Fund raised over $10,000.

Supervisor Richard Hongisto gives away the City at the AIDS Emergency Fund Dinner.

1987 AIDS Emergency Fund Co-chairs Sharon McKnight and Mr. Marcus pose for photographers at the AIDS Emergency Fund Dinner.

Second Send-off
Joe Sarra, Empress 1 of SF, will make his/her final departure from San Francisco on Sunday, February 22, 1987 from SF City Hall at 1 pm. The send-off ceremony featuring characters from the Wizard of Oz will feature Joe departing from the Polk St. steps in a hot air balloon. Sarra’s Swan song originally scheduled for earlier this year was postponed to coincide with the crowning of SF’s new Empress and Emperor on Saturday, February 21.

FREE AIDS HEALTH ASSESSMENT

"No matter how healthy you feel, you need to take care of yourself and those with whom you care enough about to be sexual."

- Complete physical
- Complete blood testing (HTLV3 optional)

There is not a more comprehensive testing anywhere in San Francisco. Free. Call afternoons 431-1714. We’re the Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinic. We’re here to help. Call.

YOU’RE CHANGING
WE’RE CHANGING

NEW TIMES. NEW GROUPS. NEW SKILLS. NEW WAYS TO STAY HEALTHY.

Call for more information: 626-6637.
Initial health consultations are always free. Groups are low-cost and no one is turned away for inability to pay.

let’s stay healthy...together!
Vigil Gets New Tents

The San Francisco ARC/AIDS Vigil at United Nations Plaza was completely re-outfitted yesterday with twelve new all-weather geodesic tents donated by The North Face, a well-known manufacturer and retailer of outdoor equipment and apparel in the Bay Area.

Vigil members had asked for new tents because the foundations of the Vigil’s current tents had rotted away. The new tents will allow Vigil members to continue living at their encampment near the Federal Building.

The tents were erected in response to a request by the Vigil in Herb Caen’s February 11 column seeking one dollar donations to repair the Vigil’s leaky tents. The tents, measuring 10 x 10 feet, were donated by The North Face, a well-known manufacturer and retailer for outdoor gear.

The Vigil’s encampment at the Federal Building is a well-known fixture in San Francisco. The Vigil members have been living at the site for several years, and their presence has become a symbol of their commitment to the cause of AIDS awareness and support.

The new tents will allow Vigil members to continue their work, and they are grateful for the support of The North Face.

Murder Suspect Killed

Victim Gives Life to Stop Killer

San Francisco police are trying to identify one of two men who died Monday evening in a knife fight following an apparent sexual pickup.

Homicide detective Jeff Broich told the Sentinel that he is investigating links to other gay murders in recent months.

People have to check out the person or the pickup. They’re going home with. It has to be that way. You need to reconsider what you’re doing.

We may never know what happened, said Broich. “Victim Rick Ellis had a history of picking up men on the street. Both men were found in the bedroom.”

Police responding to a call about a fight in Ellis’ apartment in St. Francis Place found Ellis and the unidentified man dead. The two had apparently stabbed each other to death.

“This is a pattern of robbery-assault after bar pickups,” said Diane Christiano of the Shanti Project.

MAKE DINNER
MAKE FRIENDS
MAKE A DIFFERENCE

AIDS is a hard fact of life for many of us in San Francisco, but we don’t have to be helpless in the face of it. Since 1983, volunteers of the Shanti Practical Support Program have been making a difference. As a Practical Support Volunteer you’re your gift of time means cooked meals, clean laundry and a clean place to live for someone with AIDS. It also means making friends and knowing how much you matter.

Tip the scales.
Be a Shanti Practical Support Volunteer.
CALL 558-9644

SHANTI PROJECT

Shanti Project is a community volunteer agency dedicated to helping people cope with the effects of AIDS. We provide support, education and resources to those affected by AIDS and their families. To learn more about our services, please visit our website or call us at 558-9644.

Community United Against Violence. “People have to check out the person they’re going home with. It has to be almost second nature to automatically think, Is this person safe? If you’re too drunk or intoxicated on whatever, to do that, you need to reconsider what you’re doing.”

The unidentified man is in his mid-20s, has blonde hair and a moustache, was wearing a black Harley-Davidson T-shirt, had homemade tattoos on his body and was missing his upper teeth. Police are asking anyone who knows who the man was, or has information on the killing, to call the Homicide Division at 555-1145.
BEYOND THE BAY
DION B. SANDERS

B’klyn Catholics Ban Pro-Gay Groups . . .
NEW YORK — Groups that support gay civil rights or condone homosexual activity have been banned from using the facilities of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn.

Bishop Francis J. Mugavero, in a letter last Friday to 850 priests in the diocese, ordered them to "withdraw any support which may have in the past been given to Dignity or similar groups."

Dignity, the national organization of gay Catholics, and other pro-gay groups are prohibited from using the diocese’s churches, hospitals, schools or colleges for meetings or religious services.

However, Courage, a Catholic group which urges gays to be celibate, will continue to be allowed to utilize diocesan facilities.

A similar ban is likely at facilities operated by the Archdiocese of New York, in apparent compliance with a Vatican letter directing that the Catholic Church not support any organization that advocates gay civil rights.

. . . While NJ Episcopalians Ready to Ban Gay Couples
NEWARK, NJ — In an unprecedented move, the Newark Episcopal Diocese announced today that it will support and fund groups that work for the acceptance of gay civil rights and against those who work to oppose them.

The move is in response to a letter sent by the Archdiocese of New York to all New Jersey priests and lay leaders, ordering them to cease all support for gay rights organizations.

The Newark Episcopal Diocese said it would establish its own policies on the issue, and that it would support groups that advocate for the rights of LGBT individuals.

CHICAGO Mayor’s Race May Hinge on Gay Votes
CHICAGO — Voters in this city’s heavily-gay Lake Front section may prove the decisive factor in Tuesday’s heated and racially-polarized mayoral primary.

Incumbent Mayor Harold Washington and his challenger, former Mayor Jane Byrne, have been blasting the lake Front lake voter for decades.

Support opinion surveys have shown Washington, the city’s first elected black mayor, capturing nearly all of the black vote (60% of all Chicago voters), Byrne winning most of the white vote, and the two splitting the Latino vote.

Gay political watchdogs report that gay voters are divided between Byrne and Washington, but that Washington may have an edge because many of Byrne’s supporters in the city council voted to defeat a gay rights bill last fall.

Washington, who ousted Byrne in 1983, would, if reelected, face his political archenemy, Alderman Edward Vrdolyak, in the April general election.

New Effort to Repeal Maryland Sodomy Law . . .
ANAPOLIS, Md. — Last Thursday, in Maryland’s state senate, a majority introduced legislation to repeal the state’s sodomy statute.

State Sen. Julian Lapides (D-Baltimore) introduced the bill to remove sections of the statute outlawing oral sex or “any other unnatural or perverted sexual practice” between one person and another “person or animal.”

The current law prescribes penalties of up to 10 years in prison and fines of up to $1,000 for these acts.

Lapides said that the new bill was in direct response to last summer’s decision by the Supreme Court that states can make and enforce laws prohibiting homosexual activity.

“It is absurdly unreasonable for a state to be a democracy to try to control the lives of adults in that way,” Lapides said of the high court ruling.

Lapides introduced similar legislation in 1982, which passed the Senate but was killed by the Judiciary Committee of the House of Delegates.

. . . While Court KOs Minnesota Statue
MINNEAPOLIS — A Hennepin County district court judge has struck down Minnesota’s sodomy statute as an invasion of privacy protected by the state constitution.

Judge Pamela Alexander, while noting the Supreme Court’s ruling is the Horne v. Bowers case last July, ruled that the state constitution “affords greater protection of individual rights than does the federal constitution.”

The ruling stems from a case against Gordon Gray, Jr., who was charged with engaging in sex — sometimes for pay — with a 16-year-old boy.

Because the case involved a minor, gay rights activists declined to take the case.

The district attorney for the city of Shorewood declined to say whether he would appeal Alexander’s ruling.

The Minnesota sodomy law provides penalties of up to a year in prison and a $1,000 fine.

Shuttleworth Wins Florida AIDS Bias Settlement
GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Todd Shuttleworth, a gay man with AIDS, whose legal battle against Broward County made headlines nationwide, reached an out-of-court settlement with the county, the ACLU has announced.

Shuttleworth, who lived in San Francisco for several months while his case was being litigated, was fired by Broward County in 1984 after he disclosed he had AIDS.

The settlement calls upon county officials to reinstate Shuttleworth and award him $190,000. The county also agreed to comply with AIDS antidiscrimination policies.

Allen Tet, vice president of the Florida ACLU chapter, said that the Shuttleworth case “brought to its knees the government agency that saw fit to terminate his employment instead of doing compuson.”

Get the facts.

AIDS is not spread by casual contact. AIDS is transmitted through intimate, unprotected sexual contact or through sharing IV needles when shooting drugs.

AIDS is not spread by sharing pencils, telephones, toilet seats, clothing, eating utensils, or by breathing the same air.

Get the facts and reduce your risk.

For more information about AIDS and how to reduce your risk, call us at (415) 420-8181.

We’re here to help.

AIDS PROJECT OF THE EAST BAY
409 48th Street, Suite 200
Oakland CA 94609

Volunteers Needed


AIDS & ARC SWITCHBOARD

The AIDS & ARC Switchboard is staffed by men and women with AIDS & ARC.

We created it to serve the needs of people with AIDS & ARC and their friends, family and lovers.

Please call us if you are—

in need of advice

looking for information

cosmopolitan confused and anxious depressed

We want to help.

861-7309

TUESDAY 1987

SWITCHBOARD

DRUNK DRIVING

We fight for your rights!

You are innocent unless proven guilty!

So don’t go into Court without knowing your rights.

When facing a serious criminal charge it pays to have an attorney represent you.

With a successful defense you may avoid fines and penalties of as much as $925.00 and jail time of 48 hours to 6 months, or more.

A negotiated settlement of your case may reduce fines and penalties and avoid jail time. Take the first step to relieving your problems by calling Medlin & Potstada for a free consultation.

MEDLIN & POTSTADA 421-0828

PERSONAL INJURY • DRUNK DRIVING • TRIAL WORK • WILLS

Get the facts.
Planning for Death

Allen and John spent many hours discussing what should be done in the event that Allen’s illness reached the point where he could no longer take care of himself. John knew exactly what to tell the doctors when the moment came. Unfortunately, the doctors had to listen to Allen’s relatives from Arkansas. The funeral arrangements Allen preferred gave way to a Christian burial in an Arkansas church. No, I don’t know what to tell the doctors. But I do know of some of the true events being witnessed in hospitals and funeral homes.

This column will get right to the point: your doctor or me hints that no legal power to carry out your final wishes unless you give him or her that power while you are still reasonably fit and healthy. That means now, Medicaid or no Medicaid; whatever will not do, don’t want to deal with issues of disability or terminal illness, funeral, burial, and wills. That’s why the horror stories can be told of fights over the body, ex-wives meddling at the funeral, stranded creditors, and some very, very sad lovers and friends left behind, trying to do the things they know you would have wanted, but powerless against your legal executor, who is the legal “next-of-kin.”

Our laws do not recognize the lover relationship in these matters. It is possible, however, for you to make arrangements for your wishes to be carried out. If you are thinking about the point where you can no longer take care of yourself, you will try to set you on the right path toward that, even though you are the one that is actually going to have to initiate a plan.

Most of us have concern for what will happen to us in the hospital when we are no longer able to decide for ourselves. Our next concern is for what is done with our body after death, and finally for what is done with our property. Those who are parents will face the future of their children as a top priority.

There is a way to empower someone you trust to take charge of your hospital care. You can also make another arrangement. Provision of your body and your property. Wills and durable powers of attorney will be discussed next week.

Many of us care a great deal about these matters when we face death. Some feel that it isn’t something to be concerned with since they won’t be around to care. In the first group, I inquired into some “pre-planning” arrangements available in the Bay Area. Funeral homes traditionally have been available for those who wish to plan their services, and do not need to contract out with the Neptune Society.

But what happens when you die and do not have a will? The poisonous words “heirs at law” are written in your designee who will have to select the funeral home, the memorial service, and according to the instructions in your pre-planning documents. Some services are as light or serious as desired by the deceased’s request. Other services are as light or serious as desired by the deceased’s request. Other services are as light or serious as desired by the deceased’s request. Other services are as light or serious as desired by the deceased’s request.

Just as the other attorney was leaving, saying “Thank you, I won’t do it again.” The other cop was brusque and after ticking me with a notice to appear, threw my licence back in my face. The first cop returned to the car saying he was going to pick up “another one” and told me to go back to my car, and “You can’t say anything without saying to anyone “If you make any noise or go anywhere near that restroom, I’ll arrest you for obstructing the law and I’ll run you in.” His face was red, he had his mouth yanked. “Do you understand me?”

When I didn’t immediately repeat, he said, “Do you understand me? You can’t say anything without saying to anyone “If you make any noise or go anywhere near that restroom, I’ll arrest you for obstructing the law and I’ll run you in.” His face was red, he had his mouth yanked. “Do you understand me?”

I held that thought as I tried to explain to my editor, “This is the conduct of a normal person,!” in a way that usually called “the-moment I captured his attention.”

I wish I could promise that the tales I’ve written in these columns for nearly a decade will not become the good stuff for another column. I don’t. Let’s continue.

At Boxer’s invitation two outstanding San Francisco physicians testified at the AIDS hearing before Congress. Dr. Lennart Amman and Dr. Paul Volberding, clearly pointed out to the Committee that the roughly 2,700 people here in the United States that have the AIDS virus will contract the disease, and that of the roughly 2,700, less than 10,000 are currently on medication. Of course, the only “vaccine” is education. The Committee recommended $100 million for AIDS research and prevention.

My editor spoke with a sort of rising voice as he asked, “Are you sure you can write about this for publication? We reserve the right to edit or reject any letter submitted. Brevity is a virtue. Our world needs help, not entrenched armaments. 

At our society’s pub-
Vu Decreases In Gay Men

Excempt for Veneral Warts

VD rates among gay men have de­
creased dramatically in the Bay Area
during the last few years. This is largely
due to outstanding AIDS educational
programs and positive condom use.
Probably at no time in history has a
population responded so dramatically
to a disease threat.

Veneral wart cases do not seem to be
a part of the decreased VD rate. In fact,
only one case has been reported in the
last year. These cases have nearly doubled
from 1985 to 1986. One reason for this
trend may be increased use of oral sex,
which spreads the wart virus. Another reason
may not necessarily pre­
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HEALING RESOURCES

VAN R. AULT

Breakthrough Book on AIDS Holistic Treatments

A single resource volume on holistic approaches to AIDS, Psychoimmunity & The Healing Process, is not only a groundbreaking, pioneer effort, but a life-affirming and mind-opening challenge to the belief that AIDS is a death sentence. Packed with as much information on restoring the immune system imaginable, it offers practical, empowering treatments and healing modalities that are a far cry from the hands of those diagnosed with, or at risk for, AIDS and shows them their choices.

"Surrounded by contradictable belief systems," writes the Holistic Group in a statement: "AIDS must see beyond the tunnel vision of medical/media/mass-myopia which variously seeks to bottle up the grief you want to talk about with the contact with the community."

This is the major challenge that Psychoimmunity & The Healing Process offers the reader to face. It articulates an article call to arms in the battle for our dignity, our wholeness, and our lives.

Edited by Jason Serinus, Psychoimmunity & The Healing Process features an impregnable array of writers, all of them outside the western medical mainstream, but most with credentials as considered as the somatic therapists in their respective fields. There are essays by Jack Schwarz, internationally recognized in the study of consciousness, and the human energy system and holistic medicine; Paul Lee, founder of the Phoenix Academy of Herbal Studies, and Dr. Elizabeth Kubler-Ross, a pioneer in the field of conscious dying; Margo Adair, a social activist who won our community's love & respect; and Lynn Johnson, who has developed "Applied Meditation" for infusion agents to unlock the energy field. This is the work of John Smith, who began a new area of bodywork for the catastrophic ill; and, of course, Kevin Ryan, well-known channel trance.

Each of the above writers explores the idea of psychoimmunity — and the means for restoring physical/mental/spiritual balance — from the vantage point of their own disciplines. These writings vary from the pragmatic to the technical to the metaphorical. There is a wealth of practical ideas one can implement.

For instance, the Holistic Group offers a regimen of holistic treatments for the body, which includes major changes in diet, the addition of specific nutritional substances, physical detoxification, and meditative techniques. In probing the psychosomatic nature of AIDS, the Holistic Group states, "We consider the stresses placed upon gay individuals since childhood, combined with the rise of anti-gay judgement and oppression, to be the key causal factor of the rapid rise in this illness in the 1980s."

Margo Adair's essay, "Cancer Recovery," could be a great psychic shot in the arm, or a construction to go against the wind (depending on what's needed) for anyone struggling with the "victim" label in this epidemic. "If self-pity is an emotion you allow yourself," she asserts, "you are taking the position of being victimized by something happening to you; a posture of total powerlessness is something you cannot afford." Adair adds, "If you can imagine healing, then you are capable of it.... No matter what has gone on or how you feel, you are just as powerful as a not a victim. This essay is followed by scripts of visualizations for handling AIDS on inner levels (available on cassettes which were reviewed in this column February 6).

Possibly the most controversial part of the book, guaranteed to horrify a number of traditional western physicians, contains the transcriptions of Kevin Ryan's trance channeling. The well-known psychic says several entities speak through him, dispensing insights and information on AIDS-related subjects in response to questions by holistic health experts. This section is quite lengthy and detailed. While the idea of communicating with the dead in this manner seems definite among some of the dead, in the book, there is no question that these entities speak through the psychic to the listener.

The book includes several contributions by Robert Cole, a member of the Phoenix Academy of Herbal Studies, and an articulate call to arms in the battle against AIDS. Cole asserts, "you are taking the position of being a victim!" If self-pity is an emotion you allow yourself, you are taking the position of being victimized by something happening to you; a posture of total powerlessness is something you cannot afford. Adair adds, "If you can imagine healing, then you are capable of it.... No matter what has gone on or how you feel, you are just as powerful as a victim."

This volume will scare the hell out of — and infuriate as many people as it will nourish. It is from such an understanding that the present work arises. A question posed to one of Ryan's entities was, "Why have so many people with AIDS chosen to leave the body as opposed to living with the disease, healing and ignorant of a unity of body, mind and spirit?" The spirit, answers: "Because it becomes a mechanism perhaps to escape an order of things from which they feel distanced, and they associate that with a leap to the next — the physical body — that allows them to participate in the experience."

The fact that AIDS has allowed so many gay men to finally, at long last, be loved by others and freed for love, bought home not only Ryan's channeling but also much of the other material in the book. The spread of the disease is seen, not just as a biological occurrence, but as a symptom of widespread alienation from human's true spiritual and emotional nature.

Editor Jason Serinus has done an enormous and important service in bringing this material. The book includes several interviews and articles by him, which provide valuable and insightful material. Best known as a vocal holistic health activist and indefatigable promoter, Serinus' sheer relentlessness has served him well in making this volume an important gift to the public. I have no doubt it will scare the hell out of — and infuriate as many people as it will nourish. It is clear that the reader is expected to subscribe to the standard way of dealing with this epidemic, and is the first major work to bring important alternative therapies into prominent view.

Psychoimmunity & The Healing Process should be required reading for everyone diagnosed with AIDS, at risk for the disease, or interested in dealing with this problem. It may be an empowering tool for growth and transformation and is a reasonable challenge to the beliefs that AIDS is not a dying disease, that there are no treatments that work. There is much more to it. It is from such an understanding that the present work arises.

Psychoimmunity & The Healing Process is available at your health food store or bookstore, or by mail from The Holistic Group, P.O. Box 2873, Oakland, CA 94669. Send $18.00 for $5.00 postpaid for California residents and $5.70 for racers.
Living Clean and Sober

Christopher Eskeli

Addresses the Other Epidemic

by Van R. Ault

Christopher Eskeli had a dream: to open a chemical dependency treatment program specifically for gay men and lesbians. If anybody had the credential to do it, he did. He was a director of the drug recovery programs at SF General Hospital, St. Mary's, and Ross General Hospital in Marin. As a gay man, and a recovering substance abuser himself, he had seen and experienced first hand the challenges gay people (and particularly) face in most recovery programs. Eskeli’s dream of a center and a team of professionals to assist gay people in turning their lives around became a reality last October with the emergence of Right Step, an Oregon-based day treat chemical dependency treatment program.

Right Step is the second gay oriented recovery program in this country. The first is in kind on the west coast. The center is located far along the Williamette river, 13 miles from northwest Portland. Back in San Francisco on business, Eskeli talked with the editor about this unique program, about drug use in the gay community, and what’s needed to help gay men and lesbians.

What’s the difference between Right Step’s program and other drug recovery programs? We need a special one for gay people?

I would see what would happen to gay men and lesbians going to treat programs. As gay sensitive as a staff member may be, if you’re not brought up to a certain point, you don’t know the lifestyle, and you’re not comfortable with same sex relationships. Gay men and lesbians are usually there because they need help, not because they want help. They need to be approached differently. They need to stay clean and sober. And we’ll do that as close as we can get in our intervention and aftercare. So if we set up somebody from SF in our program treatment, we will never meet them. We never will allow them to stay clean and sober. And we’ll do that as close as we can get in our intervention and aftercare.

What are the challenges and rewards of doing this work? Isn’t there a danger of getting drained? What does your staff do to take care of themselves?

Part of this dream that I have is that now a reality in my staff, we’re from all over the country to work with me, because there’s so much enthusiasm, the right dream or desire to work in a gay program. This gay community, who’s using, has a dream to help other gay people, but they bring a professional expertise with them. And we’re aware that we need to take care of ourselves. If we don’t take care of ourselves or we get too emotionally involved in what’s going on with the patients, we will not be effective. We support each other, and we have open meetings, and we have counseling, and we have peer counseling, and we have peer staff.

We see miracles. Too. To see how sick the people are when they come in, and how they come 21 days later! You wouldn’t believe they’re the same people. ’’I thought they had changed physically, emotionally, spirituality, it’s incredible. There’s the magical part of it. Chemical dependency is a disease that we put in the same category as cancer. Because if you’re an alcoholic, it’s genetic, running families, and can jump generations. If not treated, it will eventually kill you. If you use drugs, like carbon of the liver, passionate cancer, of the esophagus, and all kinds of things that are treated, but it is treatable. It’s never cured. That’s why you hear people say they’re recovering. It isn’t said they’re recovered, because you don’t recover until you’re in the cancer unit for a while before they say they’re cured. That is a 24 hour period, one day at a time, they learn to stay clean and sober.

To see that miracle happen in some one’s life— they come in feeling their life is over, they’re in despair, hopeless, on the brink of losing home, lover, job, bank account—to see them pick up that semblance of self-esteem and to go out and say, ‘I’m gay, I’m proud, I’m clean and sober’— that’s what it’s all about.

Are there any specific substances gay people are drawn to the most?

They come in feeling their life is over, they’re in despair, hopeless, on the brink of losing home, lover, job, bank account—to see them pick up that semblance of self-esteem and to go out and say, ‘I’m gay, I’m proud, I’m clean and sober’

Alcohol is always in use. It’s legal, the others aren’t. A lot of gay men are into speed, cocaine and free base. If people do stimulants, they usually don’t drink or smoke. If you drink, you’re going to smoke. We do not get someone whose drug of choice may be speed or cocaine and have abused alcohol or valium, so we have to get them from all three.

Do you find that different drugs are used to medicate different illnesses, to deal with different situations that aren’t classed acceptable?

Yes, but then there are drugs that are used to medicate different illnesses. I lived in the ‘70’s for 15 years in the height of the ‘70’s. And on weekends you would get a reanimation of the free base, believe it or not, and you’d get your drugs lined up, and spend a weekend of drugrunning, yes, and everybody was doing that in those days. So there are the ‘sexy drugs’ like cocaine or speed, but then when you get addicted, you can’t get an erection, or have an orgasm or you have no interest in sex at all, your body just isn’t responding. That’s one of the things that is a motivating factor for a lot of gay men who have done a lot of cocaine or speed but their sex life is absolutely the pis. So they will also show up in treatment to get that part of their life back into place.

Or lovers, partners, will call in, indicating their lover or friend is using drugs or alcohol and need help, so we will deal with them, or the employer who calls about their employee coming in. So we set up an intervention to get the employer involved.

What if we have friends or lovers who are addicted, and don’t know how to help them?

Call us. One of the things we’re equipped to do, and through Mimi Eskeli, he set up, is to work with the people concerned on setting up an intervention program. That’s a staggered, re-occurrent situation. There are four concerned people will get together, one of whom is the person’s who’s using. Collectively, they will sit down with the person and rationally talk about what you have to say because something serious is happening to you.” And then the rest of the people will do a separate line.

Tell me about your own struggle with chemical dependency.

Yes, I've never heard it described that way. Remember when acid started? People were talking about that as a religion. They said they didn’t have a chemical dependency problem until all of a sudden he showed up in a treatment program and they got an invitation come to the family program and that’s what’s happened. So that chemical dependency problem needs to be dealt with. And, let’s say, it’s that in a relationship, you’ll have a gay lover, accept the lover, and that another wall that needs to be broken down. Then, let’s say, God forbid, he’s diagnosed with AIDS or ARC, and that’s another wall. Those are some extremely important issues that need to be dealt with

In 80-90% of the AIDS cases there is a history of substance abuse. That’s got to say something to us!

Christopher Eskeli of the Right Step Recovery Program.

On Fridays so you can have a long drug weekend, the frequency of seeing a physician for psychosomatic illnesses, the decrease in the use of drugs will plan a drug weekend, for a period of time, building up a tolerance, particularly with cocaine or speed, and when that comes one’s physical appearance because with some you don’t eat and sleep and those deprivation affects you physically, mood shifts often can’t go to work on Monday because you haven’t come down from the weekend, or you take off with it to continue to stay loaded. Or step. In order to stop you have to admit you have a problem, and the denial sets in. And if you’re geometrical and speed, you have no point of departure. So you have your ego get in the way. So then you say, “Well, I can’t get any help because if I do everything, I’ll lose my job.” That is that after awhile everybody knows you’re using anyway.

Do you think that people with this disease are victims, that they have no choice whether to accept it or not?

Sure, they’re a victim while they’re still under the control of the drug or alcohol. But when they seek help, they’re no longer a victim. If they don’t choose, they’re victims of drugs abuse.

Do they still have the ability to with draw the power from that drug to control it?

With help, yes, they can do it themselves. They’re like the addict and the alcoholic. “Co-aine was my problem but I’m still drinking.” There’s such a thing as cross addiction, too— one drug, one addiction, you’re addicted to everything. It’s a fault to think that once you’re off speed or cocaine you can continue to drink or smoke dope.

What kind of education do you think the culture needs to drug that’s needed from the drug community?

We’re so focused on AIDS right now, and yet there’s been an epidemic in our community long before AIDS and that was chemical abuse. In 80-90% of the AIDS cases diagnosed there’s a history of substance abuse. That’s got to say something to us! It’s got to make us stop and look at what role drugs and alcohol play in our lives. When I get home from work, is the first thing I do have a couple of drinks? Can I hardly wait for the weekend to hit the bars? How anybody ever told me that I’m drinking too much? Can I have sex with a bottle of poppers or a line of cocaine? If you look at it, you see that everybody does that, and see that everybody who_string to drugs has an alcohol or a part of that, then maybe you have a drug dependency problem or you’re on your way to it. People say, “Well, I’m not that bad, I’m holding down a job,” etc., my God, do you want to get that bad?

I continued on page 10

San Francisco Sentinel • February 20, 1987
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VAN R. AULT

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Heart of Healing Series to Begin

Exploring the Heart of Healing, a series of four events reflecting on life-changing situations, including AIDS, will be presented by the ACCESS Group during February and March. Presenters include Buddhist Abbey Acharya Sumedho; Jack Komfield, Ph.D.; Stephen and Ondra Levine; Robert Hall, M.D.; and Roger Walsh, M.D., Ph.D.

Participants will be encouraged to explore the possibility that healing is more than changing the nature of the body, and that work on one's self is where the heart of healing lies.

The series may be subscribed to as a whole, or individual sessions may be registered for as space permits. Registrations for the entire series is $90. Persons on fixed incomes, 821, Disability, GA, etc., may deduct $20 from this total. All proceeds will go toward filming the events for the Metaphysical Alliance. Sally Fisher will present alternative methods of healing based on her experiences as a dynamic workshop leader. The creator of the AIDS Mastery Workshop, she offers techniques designed to unleash creative power, self-healing, and self-love, by means of group interaction, visualization and emotional expression.

The service will be held at the First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin Street at Geary, San Francisco, on Tuesday, February 24, at 7 pm. It is free and open to the public. Donations will be welcomed.

This event will be the 16th monthly healing service co-sponsored by the Metaphysical Alliance and the AIDS Interfaith Network.

The Metaphysical Alliance is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to healing AIDS. For further information, phone Michael Zonta (415) 431-4708.

Sally Fisher Speaks at Healing Service

At the February 24 Healing Service of the Metaphysical Alliance, Sally Fisher will present alternative methods of healing based on her experiences as a dynamic workshop leader. The creator of the AIDS Mastery Workshop, she offers techniques designed to unleash creative power, self-healing, and self-love, by means of group interaction, visualization and emotional expression.

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NOT SUCH A LONELY HUNTER

Bands, Comics & Glitterati Mix to Raise Cash for Coming Home Hospice

By Don Baird  Photographs by Marc Geller

An MC dressed for The Eagle, two brash gay comedians, an eclectic pop group on the verge of major success, and a saucy, voluptuous South of Market pop group on the verge of major success, the benefit organized by a group of lawyers and a saucy, voluptuous South of Market pop group on the verge of major success, the benefit organized by a group of lawyers and law students. But these attractions — and more — performed at the recent event and allowed Carolan a cut in billable hours schedule of the evening’s agenda. He time to sit down and write out a complete time to sit down and write out a complete

Carolan even tracked me down in the rooms at the Best Western Motel across the street. Throughout the evening Mr. Carolan even tracked me down in the crowd to remind me of these opportunities. Towards the end of the night, I hope Voice Farm gets a strong bite from a label in New York because what I’d most like from them is some new material.

Kevin, Kirk, Patti, and Shanna, a great group to talk to if you’re slightly tongue-tied or nervous when speaking to performers. One member talked on a play telephone as she pulled various objects out of a large suitcase, like broken sunglasses and stuff. Another recited high-speed spelling of all their names (which was so good I had him repeat it). Reference was made to the Golden "Scabaret" Award, then the conversa-

Mark Bennie, SOMA impresario.

Heart to Art benefit at the relentlessly hip Club Nine.

The benefit for Coming Home Hospice was the second in what most certainly will become a long series of successful benefits organized by Lawyers For Life. The group’s first benefit last October, Art Attacks LaRouche, raised $6000 for the No on 64 campaign, set a standard for future

Suzy Berger and Tom Ammiano, a cappella group The Flips, and Patrick Toner as MC. Also included on the bill were a variety of old army training films. Eventually, local rocker-on-the-rise Chris Isaak donated his lights and sound equipment and bands; Beatnick Beach, Ms. Kitty’s Psychic Souls, and the top-billed Voice Farm donated their time and talents, making the benefit’s roster a promising agenda of comedy, music, and impressive acts (thank you Patrick and Kitty), and some important, the event raised $7000 for Coming Home Hospice.

Bruce Carolan met me at the back door of Club Nine an hour before the doors opened and ushered me into a well-controlled, fast-paced circus of sound checks, introductions, and tying up last minute details. Near the soundboard was a large video set up. The event was being documented by Lawyers For Life to encourage other performing artists to participate in future AIDS-related benefits. I’m sure the video ably captured the entire show, judging by the number of times everyone made way for the cameraman and his “excuse me, excuse me” cable holding assistant. By the end of the night, they earned the nicknames Captain Video and Miss Cables. The slight annoyance was definitely excusable, considering the final purpose.

Mr. Carolan works for the law firm, Thelan, Marrin, Johnson and Bridges, which purchased many tickets for the event and allowed Carolan a cut in billable hours so he could work the benefit. Work the benefit is exactly what Bruce did, whisking from place to place like an engineer checking gauges and meters on a finely tuned machine. No detail was ignored as Bruce sold photographer Marc Geller and I our tickets, then found the time to sit down and write out a complete time schedule of the evening’s agenda. He also informed us that all the bands would be available to talk at certain points in two rooms at the Best Western Motel across the street. Throughout the evening Mr. Carolan even tracked me down in the crowd to remind me of these opportunities. Towards the end of the night, I ran into Mark Rennie, owner of Club Nine and the Billboard Cafe, upstairs overlooking the motel rooms. The host of that night’s benefit has the title of ambitious entrepreneur looming heavily over his head in this sister city of the “I’m on the list” bohemian lifestyle. You seldom

Continued on page 20
Lisa Kernan Talks with Lizzie Borden, director of ‘Working Girls’

Working Girls views prostitution from the vantage point of “women who work.” This pointedly non-sexy film about sex takes place in a high-class Manhattan brothel on a day when the main character, Molly (Louise Smith), is forced to work a double shift. Lucy, the madam (Ellen McElduff), who is one of the great screen villains, functions as an expert traffic controller who knows “how to make men feel special.” Her line to every single customer: “what’s new and different?”

LK: I loved the film, and the way you used prostitution as a metaphor for exploitation. It reminded me of my word processing job.

LB: That’s exactly what I wanted — that feeling that it could be waitresses, or secretaries or stewardesses — all of those jobs where you’re there to serve men, where it’s built in that you’re taken advantage of a bit, that you have to be “nice” to people.

We’ve all been trained to be nice to people. That’s the thing that spoke to me when I was researching the film, you’d hear these conversations: “Hi, can I get you a drink? Sit down; make yourself comfortable. What kind of work do you do?” You know, that kind of “perkiness” we’re all taught to have in relation to men.

LK: What have been some of the responses to the film?

LB: Somebody from Coyote was talking about how gay men wouldn’t be interested in this film at all. I always thought gay men might be interested in prostitution — the world of gay male prostitution is such a different thing, such a different framework. There are very few films about it. One gay critic from Toronto saw the film and liked it, and asked why is there not a gay male brothel? However, the question is whether that kind of orderliness would appeal to men. I don’t know how much of the thrill of anonymous gay male sex has to do with the element of danger, which the brothel takes away completely. Here it’s all about the idea that there are regular return customers for the women.
Especially someone like Molly — she is somewhat like a girlfriend, but a very safe girlfriend for them. The sex is actually minimal in the sessions. It may be ten minutes out of a half-hour, or maybe twenty minutes out of an hour, and the rest of it is talking. That's the kind of customer she would encourage to keep coming back. If some guy was out of rough sex she'd never see him again. Anybody who'd be physically abusive, or things of that sort, she'd never forget. It's almost like a drawing room where these men can come and feel very safe, and the environment is familiar to them from their homes and their pasts.

I'm curious as to how strong a man see it. I was looking to see if there was any kind of prurience to it and there isn't — Molly's body seems so vulnerable when she's naked, but yet it's okay because she's in charge; like she's renting it out, but on the other hand, I'm just trying to bring into question the moralizing that so quickly happens about it, so that people don't automatically stereotype prostitutes. They are very, very many not prostitution. For women it's not about sexuality at all, and people seem to have this image of prostitutes as nymphomaniacs (of course Johns have to think of prostitutes as nymphomena...). I'm curious as to how straight men will respond, because they are all cardboard men. It's almost like a drawing room where the environment is familiar to them and the transformation and the hope and the optimism and the idealization does with all its derogatory references.

Born in Flames was a theory and this film is its practice. In some ways it seems to be a polar opposite of the same telescope; one is the macrocosm and the other the microcosm. What is that macrocosm of women doing when they're busy fighting the revolution? How are they supporting themselves, and what kind of jobs do they have in between their speeches on the radio station? Some women who love Born in Flames are very upset with Working Girls — they're thinking, where are the big heros, where are the guns and the transformation and the hope and the optimism and the fire and the revolution? Well for all those women you know, you've gotta pay the rent. The idea of trying to explore the language of self-definition is extremely important: to be able to define one's own image and present them. The idea that you can show nudity without its usual connotations, or have an image of a woman body that transcends this is wrong, you can't make this movie go out of the movie just thinking that, I'll be happy if you do what those women were saying?

LB: That's interesting, you really get this film, a lot of people don't. It's all about language and how language is dealt with. Even the word "whore" — what does the word whore mean? Molly and the women keep trying to define what this work is that they're doing. "Working girl" — what does that mean? Or "prostitute"? It's a way to show that the word, in practice, doesn't have to mean what it traditionally does with all its derogatory references.

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LK: What effect would you like to see in your films having on people?
LB: I don't think a movie can actually do very much in terms of changing anything. It's just a drop in the bucket, an attempt to change a piece of legislation. What I think is the strongest thing about the movie is the images they present. With Born in Flames it was an image of white and black women together. If that just enters the consciousness as a possibility: "Oh yeah, that's possible. Period. Okay, that's all I get from this." Born in Flames is all about: "Oh, this woman, I can relate to her." If they go out of the movie just thinking that, I'll consider it successful — that's all I hope to do at best. Because I don't think movies operate in terms of direct change. I think all they do is allow a possibility to happen in the sense of an image or an idea or the way you think about things ever so slightly, especially a movie like this. The other thing I believe is in grass roots politics, and a grass roots kind of cinema — you know, you do things on a small scale, on a one to one level and that little bit. On an external level all that happens is a lot of argument and debate.

Born in Flames there were women arguing about arms or not arming, and women in England saying: "No, this is wrong, you can't make this movie because you're white, and that's wrong." There was all this controversy because it was a focal point for discussion. The more dis­ junction the better, because that gets a lot of the issues.

Double duty: A client rings up while a new customer buzzes at the door.

Working Girls opened with a benefit for the prostitutes' organization COYOTE (Call Off Your Old, Tired Ethics) and is currently at the Opera Plaza (771-0102).

So many times we as women are forced to identify the environment is familiar to them. So. There are few movies where men have to identify with the women, because there's usually a strong male character for them to identify with.

LK: Getting back to the making of it — a woman I've always been interested in movies, yet always afraid of directing. I felt like you really have to be in control, and I wasn't brought up to tell people what to do. Have you found it difficult to boss people around and set up everything?

LB: I don't think a movie can actually do very much in terms of changing anything. It's just a drop in the bucket, an attempt to change a piece of legislation. What I think is the strongest thing about the movie is the images they present. With Born in Flames it was an image of white and black women together. If that just enters the consciousness as a possibility: "Oh yeah, that's possible. Period. Okay, that's all I get from this." Born in Flames is all about: "Oh, this woman, I can relate to her." If they go out of the movie just thinking that, I'll consider it successful — that's all I hope to do at best. Because I don't think movies operate in terms of direct change. I think all they do is allow a possibility to happen in the sense of an image or an idea or the way you think about things ever so slightly, especially a movie like this. The other thing I believe is in grass roots politics, and a grass roots kind of cinema — you know, you do things on a small scale, on a one to one level and that little bit. On an external level all that happens is a lot of argument and debate.

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working Girls opened with a benefit for the prostitutes' organization COYOTE (Call Off Your Old, Tired Ethics) and is currently at the Opera Plaza (771-0102).
Supporters of the Heart to Art benefit, at which I was a volunteer last year, have scheduled a fundraiser to help raise money for the annual Hospice benefit show. The event's organizers, Bruce Carolan and Mark Rennie, have lined up a great list for this fundraiser. People like that Ms. Kitty's Psycho Souls, the band with the ever-changing name. A five-piece configuration, including guitarists Paul Robinson and the ever-charming, ever-talented Craig Shapiro aka Ricky Rinkle, played a set with their always brightly colored Sergio Leone western-type jackets with a gaudy Laura Ashley-like print. The band slid into a catchy blues intro as Ms. Kitty entered from the rear of the club on the back of a motorcycle. The Diva was lifted onstage with a bouquet of flowers in her arms, which she tossed into the audience. She looked great, wearing a tighter-than-tight long black skirt, a high-necked sweater cut at the midriff, a black jacket, and several chains and earrings hanging from her neck. Ms. Kitty's voice is good but no means extraordinary. What is extraordinary is the range of emotion you see on her face as she speaks lines from any number of movies. With body language and feeling, she works a phrase for what it's worth, with the dramatic flourish of a mysterious chantress crossed with the down-home charm of your favorite diner waitress.

Midway through that set we returned to Room 66 where we met the members of Voice Farm. I was a bit tongue-tied with the prospect of meeting these performers whom I've followed and enjoyed for some time now. Perhaps, it's because Voice Farm seems poised on the edge of major success. On March 3, the day after Hospice opens, the band will play their first showcase in New York, a prize for winning the local Battle of the Bands Contest. In the audience will be representatives of the five record labels interested in signing the band. The scene in the room was very hectic and the most interested in signing the band. The scene in the room was very hectic and the most relevant bit of information I gathered was that vocalist Charly Brown's first record is due out in March with the down-home charm of your favorite diner waitress.

By the end of their set, I was exhausted, but probably only half as tired as Bruce Carolan or Mark Rennie, who I saw at one point behind the bar pouring drinks. It was nice to see Mark manning the bar. He works, and Club Nine works, soaring above the other South of Market clubs in many ways.

A hearty congratulations goes to all the organizers of this event, especially Bruce Carolan for his thorough and meticulous way of doing things right. Voice Farm, Ms. Kitty, Beattie Beach, The Flips, Tom, Sury and Patrick all set a tremendous example for fellow Bay Area performers, and I expect we'll be seeing many more benefits for similar causes popping up around town. The Heart to Art benefit completed its short-term goal by raising $7,000 for Hospice. The success of the event practically ensures the long-term goal of several more benefits in the future.

For further ticket information call (415) 826-2999 or (415) 421-3060

MARC GELLER
Rate It 'G' — for Generic

After I tore up my fourth sheet of paper trying to write the introductory paragraph for this review, it came to me, not like a lightning bolt but rather like a dull thud, that I really didn't like Rate It X and that I felt guilty about not liking what is a well-meaning and often amusing documentary.

The real problem was that I didn't dislike it, either. It finds it easy to write about films I dislike; there's always so much to say. When faced with this film about sex, however, I wanted to jump on the bandwagon but couldn't.

Part of my problem with Rate It X is that I don't enjoy features films or documentaries that confront what I already know or suspect in an interesting way, especially as is the case here — by using material with which I'm more than slightly familiar. I learn nothing from them. Being politically correct and socially aware isn't enough for any work. Innovation, novelty — a certain freshness — also have to be present.

That's why this picture, directed by filmmakers Lucas Winer and Paula de Koenigsberg, is that the freshness is lacking. What they've chosen to document is in many cases old hat. We've seen or heard about the X-rated cakes, the inflatable dolls, the sexist computer ads. Ugly George's cable TV show, the cardboard cutout people, the music videos, the讓我老是忍不住會喜歡的 movie interviews. (The video game manufacturer's statement that Custer's goal is "to reach the inner child" is that I don't enjoy feature films or documentaries that confront what I already know or suspect in an interesting way, especially as is the case here — by using material with which I'm more than slightly familiar. I learn nothing from them. Being politically correct and socially aware isn't enough for any work. Innovation, novelty — a certain freshness — also have to be present.

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With the big house dark from December to September, now more than ever, San Francisco opera enthusiasts are driven to seek their entertainment in cut-down series. One way to save money and still put on an opera is to give it in a concert version. That way you get the music and the voices, a semblance of the drama and, often, a chance to hear works that a conservative impresario is unwilling to risk staging.

Kathryn Cathcart's Concert Opera has been using this format and attempting to wedge it in as into San Francisco opera's consciousness for the past three years. Though the company began badly with an ill-conceived Lucrezia Borgia and thereby hindered its own acceptance immeasurably, slowly but surely it has regrouped and finally seems to be on a successful track.

This season's first offering was Giuseppe Verdi's rarely performed Giovanna d'Arco performed in Davies Symphony last Thursday. This Giovanna is a very distant cousin of the historical Joan of Arc and no blood relative at all in the intriguing heroine created by George Bernard Shaw. Given the exuberance of the material, it is all the sorrier that this Giovanna suffers from a clumsy libretto which shifts its point of view with almost every scene. Nevertheless, the score does contain some of Verdi's finest early music. Here we get not only the um-pa-pa choruses that quicken the heartbeat, but some long, sinuous melodies that delight the imagination as well. Giovanna's music especially contains some lovely brushed passages and her contribution to the great trio that ends Act II would not be equaled by Verdi until Violeta rang out her chagrin in the big party scene in the same place in La Forza!

In the role of the soldier maid, Cathcart chose Adriana Maliponte, who made her SF debut on this occasion. Maliponte, a stayer at the Met for the past twenty years, possesses an intrinsically beautiful voice, with enough range and agility to manage Giovanna's intricate leaps and bounds. But for me, the old problem of expense cast its shadow over her work.

Maliponte was simply not prepared or rehearsed enough to make something of her music. Jean is the center of interest here; she needs to possess fire as well as pathos, she must captivate by the power of her utterances as well as seduce by the innocence of her beauty. Cathcart is keeping off into merely tentative book-work. Her rendition of the prayer in the last act shone so strongly probably because she is more familiar with the aria than the title role but for the tenor, who was Carlo Bergonzoli.

In the reality of the music business, however, this Giovanna was not mounted for the soprano who has the title role but for the tenor, who was Carlo Bergonzoli.
words can tyrannize the senses and transform our experience without enhancing our lives. We must learn what to do with them. When they mean nothing, when words drain away the vitality of thoughts, desires, passions — what is left for us?

These concerns dominate Harold Pinter's The Birthday Party, a seminal work in the Theatre of the Absurd. Pinter's depiction of totalitarianism out of the most ordinary language. On another level, this Party — originally performed in 1957 — is an unrelenting assault on conformism, more relevant now than ever before. Pinter's despair, absence of comfort and frugality. The men circle their intellectual victim like vultures hovering over carrion. The context defines the action; it doesn't matter what's being asked or demanded. One might say that Stanley literally loses his mind after such a barrage. In any event, kind-hearted Meg is thrilled at the prospect of having a birth-

modern drama, all of them proceed to ignore and avoid Stanley as they make profoundly meaningless conversation. In a sense, the party is a mockery of the traditional urge to celebrate what anthropologists like to call "rites of passage," such as birthdays, graduations, etc.

But Pinter openly mourns the loss of conventions represented in the widespread postwar disintegration of social frameworks and institutions. This Party is genuinely tragic as opposed to farcical.

What finally happens in the play is less important than the harrowing sense of loss we're left with. This is heavy material, to be sure, but it should be the centerpiece of the curiously unchallenging work of most recent playwrights. The Birthday Party is a modern classic alongside such plays as Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? and Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

The Berkeley Rep production is that rarity of creative convergence one hopes for in live theatre. All of the actors are peerless in their respective, difficult realizations of Pinter archetypes.

Virginia Woolf? And Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? And Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

The direction never calls attention to itself — a high compliment in the theatre. Other members of the impressive technical crew for The Birthday Party deserve a special word. Scenic designer John Bonard Wilson has created a set piece with just the right balance of comfort and fragility. The lighting by Derek Duarte, costumes by Jeffrey D. Erickson, and sound design of James Breech are all perfectly worthy.

The Birthday Party will run at Berkeley Repertory Theatre through March 21. For tickets and further information, call (415) 844-7400.
Wynton Marsalis

**Horn with Man**

O kay, okay, I promise to give jazz a rest soon. With Peggy Lee, Betty Carter, and Carmen MacRae all appearing in this column within the last month, I realize I may be bordering on journalistic ennui by covering Wynton Marsalis. Like the Venetian Room, someone needs to sit and take notice. Like Wynton Marsalis turns up in a place that Yehudi Menuhin is a fixture to win back to back Grammys for Jazz (for 'Think of One') and Classical Grammys again. He repeated this amazing feat in 1985, winning both Jazz and Classical Grammys again. Last week Marsalis was joined by pianist Marcus Roberts and bassist Bob Hurst, with Jeff 'Tain' Watts on drums and Donald Braden on sax. Together they played a 75-minute set including "J Mood," "People in Paris," "Phrasing Four," and "Do You Know What It Means to Miss New Orleans." Despite the reference to New Orleans, Marsalis offered neither Dixieland music nor classical selections. It was an evening of straight-out jamming with a non-stop bass that kept toes tapping throughout the night.

The musicians shared the stage almost equally, taking solo turns in the spotlight to the delight of the packed opening night crowd. But Marsalis was clearly the star of the evening, blowing jazz hot and cool with a remarkable command of his instrument and a unique personal style. The proverbial young man with a horn has finally arrived on the American music scene, a little quirky and idiosyncratic like most jazz musicians, but undeniably brilliant.

Just before leaving the stage, Marsalis tried to explain jazz to the audience. It was a nicely executed attempt that probably served no useful purpose. You either "get" jazz or you don't. Any attempt to pass on an intellectual analysis of this music is doomed to failure.

The second star of the evening, no less remarkable in form and content, was the Fairmont's Venetian Room. Looking like it was decorated by Liberace in a state of depression, the place exudes the kind of grandeur worthy of a European palace or a first-class whorehouse. Gilt rococo plaster work adorns forest green walls, and large murals appear in the arches lining the north and south ends of the room. The velvet curtains that drape two-story windows are adorned by dark red carpeting and pale pink tablecloths. And in a rare stroke of incongruity, a large mirrored ball hangs like a dangling non sequitur from the ceiling, casting a spray of light throughout the room when rotating in a single white spotlight. All in all, it's the kind of room Marilyn Monroe would have played in her 'Some Like it Hot' incarnation of the lead singer of the all-girl band, "Sweet Sue and her Society Syncopators.

The room's major disadvantages are its price and the fact that it draws a rather sedate, stuffy crowd. Any minute you turn around, a large mirrored ball hangs like a dangling non sequitur from the ceiling, casting a spray of light throughout the room when rotating in a single white spotlight. All in all, it's the kind of room Marilyn Monroe would have played in her 'Some Like it Hot' incarnation of the lead singer of the all-girl band, "Sweet Sue and her Society Syncopators.

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The small size of the room (capacity is 450 people) and its wide doors are truly no bad seats. And the city will lose an entertainment jewel.

When one of your favorite entertainers turns up on the Venetian Room schedule, I suggest you bite the bullet, fork over the dough, and go enjoy an evening in one of the best possible venues for a concert performer.
Old Objects, New Ideas

The objects of everyday life are often those that are most revealing about a culture. In a museum context, the isolation and preservation of these objects at once render them precious and impotent — no longer is their original purpose intact. The object develops a life of its own in a world of representation rather than actual use.

The object and its representational display is the subject of Nayland Blake's thought-provoking show, *Inscription* (at Media through February 28). The show is a challenging, museum-like collection of fabricated objects that defy a momentary glance. The pieces often have a seemingly impeccable, intellectual exterior, that rewards the viewer who looks beneath it.

With an elegant economy of materials, Blake recycles cast-off items into pseudo-relics with the full weight of history. These pieces take on layers of meaning out of personal experience. I stumbled over its incongruity between the object and the idea presented in its inscription is what makes most of these pieces so thought-provoking. The label turns the object into something else, and vice versa.

Blake's work also has roots in the recent image/text movement. I find the majority of this type of work often makes a vague use of language and image that leaves the viewer cold and disinterested. Blake avoids this pitfall by finding his textual inspirations in more time-worn areas.

The pieces here often have a short title/inscription engraved on a metal name plate, as does the "Monica Lisa." In his choice of words, Blake mirros his visuals — they play off of each other in strange juxtapositions; the words are as interesting in their sound and written pre

**"H/O/S"** is a gay porn novel (House of Studs) picked in a phallic bell jar — a sour specimen of a successful sexual formula. The book's pages are preserved at the first signs of decay. They float in limbo, ready for study. It's easy to imagine this object, dust-covered, on an out-of-reach shelf in a laboratory. Although the book is not open to a particularly graphic passage (the groaning climax is probably on the next page), a raunchy tone is clearly expressed. Here the object and the idea become one in their archival impotence.

The idea of sexual attitude as a relic is particularly pertinent, especially in the wake of AIDS. AIDS is also explored in one of the show's more powerful pieces. Blake innovatively addressed the subject with a game of tossing cards into a hat. In "500 Kisses," the sexual energy of the object is5

The viewer is invited to toss the cards, to engage in this game of sexual yearning and risk. There is a hieratic aura, an insurmountable barrier to the realization that no one really wins — the jackpot will be disease or a limited number of opportunities. The piece is a subtle but powerful statement.

Inscription is a large body of work, and inevitably, some pieces work better than others. Those which falter fail to strike a good balance between label and object. "Housing Shortage" has the perfect visual tone of the show, but its inscription is too smug and clever to go beyond its surface. Likewise "Kissing Nixon," is an object far more interesting than its famous title would suggest. In this case, the title is too incongruous and serves only to trivialize the object. At other points, as in "Vern's Dilemma," the artist insufficiently clues the viewer to his intent. The piece is pared down to the point that it seems something has been left out. Blake's subtleties sometimes go too far.

With *Inscription*, Nayland Blake has created a challenging entertainment. As a whole, the show takes on the form of many of its pieces: It seems like one thing, but really is another. What appears to be a museum of eccentric objects of science and daily life from a bygone era actually offers us the opportunity to think about the most disturbing and entertaining aspects of modern life.

Inscription, Works by Nayland Blake, continues through February 28 at Media, 360 Ninth Street, San Francisco. 864-0308.
Etta James

**Blues Legend Still Burns It Up**

It was the year 1954 when sex, rhythm and blues first came burning out of radio stations and into the homes of mainstream America. Raunchy and compelling, R&B had already been hip for several years in urban "Negro communities," but white teenagers had never heard anything like it before. While half the nation started dancing to the new beat, another half raise their eyebrows in disgust.

In that same year, a young, black San Francisco girl named Etta James, co-wrote and recorded a raucous sound—song called "Roll With Me, Henry!," sporting uninhibited sexuality on stage that is as honest as it sometimes embarrassing, especially to members of the audience more prone to blushing.

James exudes a raw, basic sexuality on stage that is as honest as it is sometimes embarrassing, especially to members of the audience more prone to blushing.
**It was National Condom Week this week, and a happy surfeit of condomalia glutted the print and visual media in celebration thereof:**

**Newsweek**, the **Chronicle**, **KRON**, **Herb Caen** and **Jon Carroll**, to name a few, all featured the once shushed sheaths. Even the networks, in their galumphing way, promised to “consider” running condom ads.

It was all too much for me to cover; suffice to say that while we lose the occasional battle, we are winning the war.

**A Condom Mating**

My own little run-in with Nat. Con. Va., occurred a week ago, when, at a Haight St. booth dispensing condoms, balloons and free advice, a hot little number manning the helium tank sized me up with an evidently practiced eye and said, “I bet you want a really big balloon.” When I asked how he knew, he said he could tell “by your hands — and your mouth.”

Pleased my predilection so readily showed, I was in addition enamored of the lad’s attitude: to what a pretty pass we’ve come to when straight-looking boys distributing rubbers on the street flirt outrageously with the men passing by? I was only aggrieved to learn he didn’t conduct private condom how-to tutorials; he was busy blowing, as it were, balloons up.

**I Am Pro Am**

“I didn’t know it was going to be the fucking most-watched season,” groused Endup special events coordinator John Kass in the bar’s office Thursday, Feb. 12, explaining the sparse and rain-splashed turnout for the Erotic Red ’87 Party, a Valentine’s version of the weekly jock strap competition.

As bad a weatherman as he is, Kass is evidently a worse judge of character — after all, he’d asked me, hadn’t he, to join a host of other sub-luminaries judging the Mr. Erotic ’87 competition. Never one to turn down free drinks, I paddled my canoe south of Market, where in the company of moneymonger Wilf Meier I watched a baker’s dozen of decidedly amateur strippers suck their wraps and shake their cheeks for a shot at the $300 grand prize. What fun it was too, especially when I convinced the brunette half of a truly dear young couple standing next to me to try his luck on-stage, only to be regaled with a performance of alarming bravity. I like a man of mystery, don’t you? Still, I only gave him a $7.

Afterward, MC Desiree, a blinding drag queen obviously charmed by my suavity (when you’ll pull me onstage to introduce me as a judge, she said, “You look like you’re having fun,” to which I’d urbanely replied, “Grrrrr”), took the stage to announce winner Mark Miller, a Florida ringer of decidedly Flashdance tendencies. Second runner-up Jason (“he’s bashful”) said he was leaving on a morning flight for Washington, DC, taking his astonishing chest with him: “That’s why I did this tonight,” he shrieked. Runner-up Rob proved the true artist, judging by the tattoo on his left as cheek; it read: “Pissaro.”

I like a man of taste, if only because he confirms my consistent lack of it.

**Alarmed Forces**

Heterosexuals are getting a taste of the big A now; **Time** (Feb. 16) and **The Atlantic**’s (February) featured covers on heteros and AIDS; predictably enough, **Newsweek**’s was a simplistic overview (with a lascivious additional piece on AIDS in Africa), while **The Atlantic’s** was lengthy, well-researched and elegantly written.

For our high-minded purposes, the most telling element of these pieces (and the Feb. 16 teens ’n condoms **Newsweek** covers) are “straight” attitudes towards homosexuality. **Atlantic** reporter Katie Letheam, a fair-minded journalist, writes: “The myth persists that gay men wouldn’t be interested in joining the army, when in fact the army has traditionally provided a place for young gay men . . . to make their first contacts.” But we knew that, didn’t we? Letheam quotes a young Fort Bragg, N.C. recruit: “[This situation] creates a lot of homosexual behavior, which is the one subject nobody wants to talk about around here . . . What do they expect? Put four guys together sleeping together in a tiny room, the very same guys you work with all day. It is too much for some people.”

Induding me: just think of the exponential possibilities.

**Straight to the Doghouse**

Not to mention the conversion potential — save for those so afraid of homosexuality they’d rather die than switch.

“They’re terrified of getting AIDS and being labeled homosexual,” a high school sex-ed counselor says of her young charges in **Newsweek**. “That’s the issue — they are more afraid of having people call them gay than they are of dying.”

And **Dr. Joyce Wallace**, president of the New York-based Foundation for Research on Sexually Transmitted Diseases told **The Atlantic**: “In my experience, many men will say they’ve had sex with a dog before they’ll admit to having had sex with another man.”

“Now fellas, is that any way to talk about your wives?”

**Going, Going, Gonzo**

“Safe sex should be fun; indeed, if we could convince people that safe sex is fun, there’d be a lot more of it going around,” wrote columnist Jon Carroll in the Feb. 4 **Chronicle**. This heartening attitude, however, would apparently only occasion a grandiloquent gnash of the teeth by writer: Hunter S. Thompson, who in his Feb. 9 column called safe sex “the meanest oxymoron of our time.” He continued, tackling the great condom debate: “Robbers are big business these days, along with ‘rehab,’ D-rings, and other forms of punishment associated with the Republican mentality.”

Thompson’s a liberal and generally funny writer (“I like him, he’s spacy,” my friend Emily recently said of him). But his assumption that death-defying sex acts are “Republican punishment” is wrong-headed and politically dangerous.

Hunter, sweetheart, fire your dealer.

**Lee Club**

You could feel the wheels of sanitization turning, turning immediately after Liberee’s death. But it came out (unlike Liberee himself) anyway: Lee died of AIDS.

Typical coverage was right where you’d expect it: People painted the pursed performer as a pampered princess petrified of “the real world,” plagued with “emotional problems.” Still, the mag focused on Liberee’s homosexuality — and his refusal to publicize it.

It’s a wonder Liberee so resolutely stayed in the closet; you’d think he’d have suffered fewer deaths under all these fucking furs.

**Bowie Gored**

“ . . . Hollywood, concerned that he does not have heterosexual appeal, has always been wary [of David Bowie],” writes Henry Edwards in the March **Spin**. Edwards, who Less Talk regularly will recall wrote the...
Chatting with Radical Women

January 13, 1987, Karen Brodine discovered an unexpected message on her answering machine. It was Oprah Winfrey. Would Karen fly to Chicago the next day — all expenses paid — to appear on a show about male chauvinism? Karen borrowed a suit from her friend Merle Woo whose daughter, Emily Woo Yamasaki, was flying from NYC to appear on the same show.

"They found our Radical Women number in the Encyclopaedia of Organizations," Brodine says. "Emily was actually the one to go on the panel. She's a very strong speaker. It was a no-brainer for me to go, too."

One man, Brodine said, wore a disguise because he claimed women on the street spit at him. "Instead of seeing AIDS as a disease that needs a scientific cure, " Woo adds, "many have made it a moral issue. It's an old capitalist trick to blame the victim, to scapegoat minorities."

"Instead of seeing AIDS as a disease that needs a scientific cure," said "Perhaps women in the mouth. Pro-

feminist men he characterized as wimps and sissies. "So this men's movement has turned anti-gay, too," Brodine says. "Bly used to be anti-nuke and pro-environmentalist but lately he's turned reactionary to make extra bucks as a right wing guru."

(Sentinel readers might want to keep this in mind since Bly is scheduled to lead off proceedings at the San Francisco National Poetry Week Conference in April. This might be a wonderful opportunity to warm up for the Pope's visit.)

I next asked Karen and Merle what they thought about the rising interest in spirituality and holistic health in the gay community.

"We Marxists don't negate spirituality," Woo said. "Who knows what people are capable of doing or dreaming. Poetry and meditation are good. But spirituality shouldn't be a retreat from social issues. It's a matter of emphasis. In these critical times we need to set an example of political organizing."

Brodine, who's recently had breast cancer, tied the issue to AIDS. "Cancer and AIDS are a big business to the medical establishment," Brodine said. "One of ten women have suffered breast cancer. That's a rising epidemic, too. But conservatives don't care about diseases that affect gays, women or minorities. For two years, Reagan wouldn't put one penny into AIDS research. I think the holistic doctor I saw in Seattle was more scientific than most in the medical establishment because he took the best knowledge from the East and from Native American medicine, too."

"Instead of seeing AIDS as a disease that needs a scientific cure," Woo adds, "many have made it a moral issue. Somehow we'll be 'safe' if we act like heterosexuals. It's an old capitalist trick to blame the victim, to scapegoat minorities."
DON BAIRD

Three O'Clock and Julian Cope

This is a curious bill. It seems that Julian Cope should be headlining instead of Three O'Clock. After all, Cope was instrumental in the post-punk resurgence of psychedelic music in the late '70s with his group, The Teardrop Explodes. Without Cope, the headliners possibly wouldn't have that folksy, paisley, Byrds/Junior psychedelic sound of theirs. Three O'Clock has a certain charm, with their jangly guitars and Monkees-like vocals. They've recorded a few LPs and gained a large college following. Julian Cope has recently come out of a lengthy period of inactivity with the release of two impressive EPs, World Shut Your Mouth and Framedine. He's a madcap genius who takes lots of acid and claims that he's levitated on stage before. I'm sure he'll do his best. (Wolfgang's, 2/20, 9 pm, $10.50/$11.50)

Shiva Dancing

I still haven't seen Shiva Dancing, but I continually hear and read good things. This group, featuring guitars and crafty songwriters, are reportedly psychedelic and reminiscent of The Gere side of this duo is Gere who's played with Specimen, Magik. I don't know who Jennifer Yet another column with yet another gig. Hats and G-strings from this band in the near future. (Nightbreak, 2/20, 10:30 pm, $3)

Voice Farm and The Tong Gang

Quick, folks — grab your glad rags, dress up to the nines, and you stand a chance of winning your very own Yamaha scooter from Dr. Winkie's sub-free way den of faux and trend. The best-dressed contestant will ride home on a Ride by Yamaha. (If any of you have seen me around town lately, you probably know that I prefer a much bigger machine between my legs — preferably one that's American-made, not to mention chauffeured.) At any rate, The Tong Gang is Winston Tong's newest group, and your guess is as good as mine on what to expect. This event also marks Voice Farm's last show in the area before they hit the stage of The China Club in New York on March 3 for a showcase. After this NY date, it's practically over for Voice Farm will win the support of a very lucky record label. See them now if you haven't. They're quite captivating. (DV8, 2/20, 9 pm, $8)

Gere and Jennifer

The Gere side of this duo is Gere Pennell, keyboardist about town who's played with Specimen, Deborah Iyall, Voices, and now has her own configurations. By Magik, I don't know who Jennifer is, but together they'll be doing a piano/vocal lounge-type performance à la Linda Ronstadt, at The Paradise Lounge, formerly Feelies. Now do I have your attention? This new club at 11th and Fulton features acts almost every night. This one bears looking into. (The Paradise Lounge, 2/21, call 881-6906 for details)

Buck Naked and The Bare Bottom Boys plus Radical Puppies

Yes, here they are again, gracing yet another column with yet another gig. Hats and G-strings off to Buck Naked and the Boys for moving closer and closer to the Hardest Working Band of the Month award. This time they hit a relatively new club in my neighborhood, the Chatterbox, formerly Feelies. If you haven't seen these guys yet, I strongly suggest it. They'll turn this tiny venue into a steaming hot party. (The Chatterbox, 2/21, 10 pm, $3)

Non-fiction

I heard a cut by Non-fiction on KUSF called "Lightnin' Rod" and it really rocked. The song is from their first LP on England's Demon Records. At some point, the label's distributors went bankrupt, making it impossible to find a copy of this record. Non-fiction whetted our appetite for more vinyl with their first single, "Dead Into West Virginia." They've been playing a fair amount around town, and I expect before long this record fiction will be cleared up. A band this good deserves a vinyl representation for their fans to adhere to. (Club Nine, 2/20, 10:30 pm, $5)

Crowded House

Ho-fucking-hum. Have you heard this band? Slick, lilting, album-oriented rock by the brother of Tim Finn, former driving force behind Split Enz from Australia. As if Olivia Newton-John wasn't enough! Why can't people like Crowded House and Colin James Hay (formerly of Men at Work, now solo, from Australia) just stay home? (Wolfgang's, 2/23, 9 pm, $10.50/$11.50)

fIREHOSE, Slovenly and Spot 1019

fIREHOSE consists of the two

Continued on next page

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Continued from previous page

After a two year absence, the $6)
(I-Beam, 2/23, 10:30 pm, only
Camper Van Beethoven. Sounds
has been steadily improving and
Slovenly is a local band with two
a bit excited about the show.
a long while, and I'm more than
he's not hard on the eyes. Their
voice full of character. I also hear
a complex guitar, and possesses a
jump around. This is very busy,
their latest LP,
picked the megahit-making team
Human League bounced back
and APB
done by white new wave pop
LAUGHS.

Continued from page 07
scapegoat minorities. I say we
need to pressure the government
to act.

Merle Woo's no stranger to
applying political pressure. In
June of 1982 she was fired from
her UC Berkeley job as a lec-
turer in the Asian American
Studies Program. She fought to
regain her job through the courts
claiming the firing was a result of
her outspoken radical views and
her sexual preference. In January 1984 she was
erased. Not only was the Universi-
ty forced to rehire her, she was
also awarded $48,554 in cash
and $20,000 in attorney's fees.
"The freedom to speak your
mind is not a luxury but a con-
stitutional right," Woo said
afterwards. "If we don't use it,
we'll lose it."

Now UC Berkeley has re-
egaged on its agreement to review
Woo for reappointment so she's
taking them to court again.
Nancy Cato is coordinating her
new defense committee and the
American Federation of
Teachers has backed her cause.
"You can't depend on the court
system alone," Woo says. "It's
important to use it but you have
to organize community support
as well." She currently teaches
at San Francisco State.

Karen Brodine and Merle
Woo have shown how we can be
poets and gay and politically ac-
tive, too. Anyone wishing to
find out more about their
group, Radical Women, can call
864-1273 or write, c/o 523-A
Valencia St.), BASS and all other agen-
encies. For information call (415)
392-4400.

Adrienne Rich
Schedules Talk
Post/Activist Adrienne Rich will
appear as part of City Arts &
Leisure's ongoing "On Art &
Politics" series to benefit the
Women's Foundation on Thurs-
day, February 26 at 8 pm at San
Francisco's Herbst Theatre.
Tickets are available at $10
and $12.50 through City Box Of-
fice (at Sherman Clay, 141 Kear-
ny at Market) and all other agen-
cies. For information call (415)
392-4400.

SECOND GLANCE
Continued from page 07

The Naked Intro
The Naked Into are nearing the
we've-done-them-to-death title
Here at the Somnol. But like Pray
For Rain and Buck Naked, they
are a great band, worthy of every
review and mention they've pre-
viously received in this hallowed
rock section. I'm gonna keep
mentioning them until you read-
ers get it through your thick
mind is not a luxury but a con-
stitutional right," Woo said
afterwards. "If we don't use it,
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20 FEBRUARY FRIDAY

Van Ault's Visiting Circle explores inner space though deep trance visualization at its new location, 4111 18th St. (at Castro), Suite 2.8 pm, $10-15 sliding scale. Info: 864-1362.

Michael Onsi speaks on Racial Identity and Racial Politics. Omn-co-authored with Howard Winant of Racial Formation in the United States from the 1960s to the 1980s, discusses how political movements in the US have challenged and radically transformed the meaning of race in institutional and everyday life. 7:30 pm, Modern Times Bookstore, 969 Valencia St., SF. Info: 282-9346.

Black Women in the Arts — an Evening of Conjuring: a celebration of Bay Area theatre artists, hosts their Game Fest, an exciting evening of card and board games in a cozy atmosphere. 8 pm, 621-1887.

The Pick Up Company with David Gordon performs at UC Berkeley's Cerricher Hall tonight and tomorrow night at 8 pm. According to Allan Ulrich, Gordon's whimsical, inventive style creates "moments of enchantment second to none on the contemporary dance scene." Tickets are $16.50, $14, and $11.50 ($3 student discount). Info: 642-9948.

Website Events:

San Francisco Early Music Society presents the ensemble TAPESTRY in its farewell concert at Heilman Hall, 19th Ave. at Ortega St., SF. Admission is free; with a voluntary donation suggested. Info: 564-8086.

Night Workers Anonymous: organization for Lesbians who love too much: workshop explores obstacles to attraction to passionate, unfulfilling relationships. Learn what you can do to recognize, understand and change the way you feel 11 am-2 pm, 320 6th Street. Info: Marilyn Omi, 864-1362.

Whitman Bookstore, 2119 Market St., SF, 8 pm, $3. Info/res: 461-3071.

Sensing the Spirit of Place: learn how to channel Earth energies, attune to Earth spirits, the four elements and directions. Workshop/field trip led by Feather Anderson. 10:30 am-5 pm, $50-75 sliding scale. Info/res: Westcoast Institute of Sacred Earth, 548-3342.

The SF Jacks are still making a joyful (and safe) evening performance for a paltry five bucks. Call 864-3330.

Jule Anderson gives a lecture. "We Wear the Mask," on black/lesbian gay history for the San Francisco Bay Area Gay and Lesbian Historical Society. 7:30 pm, Bldg. C, Room 165, Fort Mason Center, SF. $5 general admission, free to SFBGALHS members.

The Centerpiece, a student production group, presents "A Latent Image," a ninety minute fusion of original works in film, theatre, music, design and dance created by undergraduates in each of the respective fields. The piece will culminate with the simultaneous projection of three motion images into a rotating six-sided screen. 8 pm, McKenna Theatre, San Francisco State University, SF. $5. Info: 464-6156.

Louie Brooks fans get a rare treat tonight when the seldom screened Showgirls is threatened when she falls in love with an actor (Robbie Butlerfield) in the A.C.T. production of Tom Stoppard's "The Real Thing." Now through March 6. Call 771-3880.

San Francisco Metropolitan Community Church: worship and communion at its new location, 4111 18th St., SF. Doors are open 7-8:30 pm, $6 admission. Mandatory clothes check — but hold onto your footwear!

21 FEBRUARY SATURDAY

Lesbian and Gay Contingent joins the Pride of Resistance in a march on the Presidio (US Army headquarters) to protest war in Central America. Gather at 11 am at Laguna and Chestnut under the LAGL banner. Contingent sponsored by Lesbians and Gays Against Intervention. Info: 831-9067.

LESF San Francisco meets at Saw Lake houseboat in Golden Gate Park at 9 am. No-host brunch follows. Welcome: Info: 673-7303 or 337-8704.

SF Conservatory Chamber Orchestra, conducted by David Ramadaniouf, presents a program of works by Stravinsky and Brahms. 8 pm, Hellman Hall, 19th Ave. at Ortega St., SF. Admission is free, with a voluntary donation suggested. Info: 564-8086.

"Dances of Passion and Fire" by Rosa Montoya Bailles Flamencos takes world premieres by Montoya and Carlos Carvajal, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 20 and 21, Herbst Theatre, SF. Call 392-4400.

22 FEBRUARY SUNDAY

Gay/Lesbian Narcotics Anonymous Group, 8 pm, Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord. Info: 655-6675 or 431-8708.

Lesbian Who Love Too Much: workshop explores emotions to attraction to passionate, unfulfilling relationships. Learn what you can do to recognize, understand and change the way you feel 11 am-2 pm, 320 6th Street. Info: Marilyn Omi, 864-1362.

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23 FEBRUARY MONDAY

Gay/Lesbian Narcotics Anonymous Group, 8 pm, Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord. Info: 655-6675 or 827-3960.

The SF Jacks are still making a joyful (and safe) evening performance for a paltry five bucks. Call 864-3330.
Tenor Carlo Bergonzi — pleasing sounds from the gleaming sunset of a distinguished career.

in the ensemble singing could she completely impress her ideas on her colleagues, but unlike many conductors who know how to follow, she proved she could also lead when required.

TGhope for Concert Opera is rising. But, to my ears, Cathcart should dispense with the services of her baritone Andrew Smith. Smith creates a big and beautiful sound, but he has such a wobble in the middle of his voice that he often obscures rather than illuminates Verdi's music the two alternating pitches in his vibrato do sound well together; that is what makes the voice sound so beautiful. But to my ears, neither one of them is the pitch Verdi asked for and that makes it musically chaotic.

Let me end with a brief note that Donald Pippin's solution to the dramatic problem of concert opera is to translate the work into English, hire singers who can sing that language easily and then dress the whole up with a little bit of staging. It is a solution that works wonderfully well, because it keeps the drama of the music clearly in focus. I heard a rehearsal of Bellini's masterpiece Norma that Pippin will unveil this spring with Vicky Van Dew arck as Norma and Wendy Hillhouse as Adalgasia. When this production is announced, run, don't walk, to the box office to secure your tickets. It will sell out fast and it's going to be dramatic.

Glide Church Plans Black History Fest

Zulu Spear, Lady Bianca and the rap group Lady Lovers' Association are some of the musical groups that will join the Glide Ensemble in a four hour Black History Festival at Glide Church. The event is planned for Sunday, February 22 from 3 to 7 pm.

The program will be an entertaining and educational review of the black experience through music, dance, poetry, historical video footage and food. There will be simultaneous presentations on two levels of the Glide Church complex.

The Glide Ensemble, the noted gospel choir that performs at Glide Church, is also on the program.

Throughout the afternoon there will also be readings of poetry and speeches from noted black leaders.

An integral part of the festival will be the serving of a wide variety of soul food. Black eyed peas, chilis, corn bread, greens and ribs will be served.

There will be a $5 donation requested for adults. The donation for seniors and students is $2. Children under 12 are free.

Glide Church is located at 330 Ellis Street (at Taylor) in downtown San Francisco. Rev. Cecil Williams is the Pastor. Further information is available by calling 771-6300.

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NO ACTORS

DIAL
(415) 976-8500
You must be 18 or over to call this number.
The Live Action Network provides only an
automated telephone service. The subject matter of conversations, exchange of
personal information, or personal meetings are solely at the discretion of the caller
and the Live Action Network will accept no responsibility. A $2.50 charge will be
billed to your telephone.