

International Conference on Homosexuality pg. 6

S A N F R A N C I S C O

Sentinel

Third Eye
vs.
Third Leg
pg. 16

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VIGIL SURVIVES!



Eight days ago federal marshals swooped down upon the ARC/AIDS Vigil and removed two beds chained to the doors of the old Federal Building at UN Plaza. Since then the Reagan Administration's attempts to end a 25-month protest against its ARC/AIDS policies has met renewed resistance. Bodies have replaced the beds, and over 20 people have been arrested during federal assaults that now occur three times daily. Sentinel reporter Alex MacDonald was among those arrested and carted off to jail after he chained himself to the door. For the inside story on how the gay prisoners were treated, turn to page 12.

A T E A S E

WINTER



Shouts and Whispers

Lawrence Reh
Uncovers the Legacy
of Literary Lion
James Baldwin

19



Books	24
Classics	25
Film	27
FullFrame	29
Less Talk	29
Pop	25
Rock Previews ..	28
Theatre	26
Week at a Glance	.31

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Judge Questions Validity of Lawsuit Against FDA

NGRA Charges Feds with Delays in Approving AIDS Drugs

by Lisa M. Keen

WASHINGTON, DC — A lawsuit seeking to ensure that all promising AIDS drugs are investigated by the federal government with the same speed as AZT appeared to hit rough waters here Wednesday in federal district court.

US District Court Judge Norma Johnson, who heard arguments on the Justice Department's motion to dismiss the lawsuit, indicated in her questioning of attorneys for the National Gay Rights Advocates that she was not convinced they presented ample evidence to justify letting the case proceed.

Forrest Hainline, an attorney for NGRA, attempted to refute in court Wednesday the government's contention that NGRA had not exhausted all its administrative remedies before taking its case to the court. Hainline noted that while the law requires plaintiffs to exhaust all administrative remedies before suing in court, it also allows exceptions. On such exception, he said, was when an agency's position on a matter is "so well known it is unlikely to change" through administrative

remedies. Hainline argued that concerns about how efficiently the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health were developing AIDS drugs had prompted the state of California to begin its own drug research and testing program, and that the White House AIDS Commission had even expressed its concern about "new drug approval mechanisms" in its preliminary report released December 2.

Saying that Hainline had introduced "nothing to support the assessment" that the FDA was not moving quickly on all AIDS-related drugs, Johnson asked the attorney to repeat his evidence. She then noted that there was no specific language in the California law to indicate it had been implemented in response to any failure on the FDA's

part. She also said that she did not believe the White House AIDS Commission report implied "that they are saying FDA is so well known for its delay."

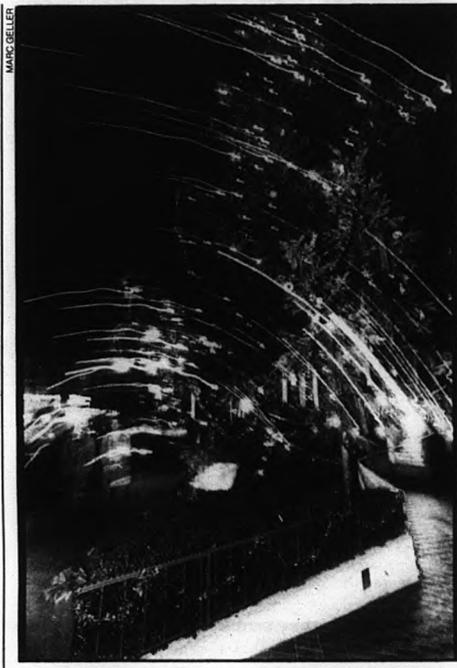
Hainline also argued that the case should be allowed to proceed now because of an exception which allows cases to circumvent administrative remedies when there is "irreparable injury" involved.

"Every day, 35 people die of AIDS," argued Hainline, noting that one administrative remedy NGRA faced was a "citizens' petition" to the government, which then gives the government agency 180 days to decide whether to take action.

"In those 180 days," said Hainline, "6,300 people will have died."

But Johnson replied that although she was "also very concerned" about AIDS, "AIDS is a disease just like many other diseases," including cancer. Researchers, she noted, have yet to find a cure for cancer, too.

Continued on page 11



The Castro Christmas Tree lights up the night at the corner of 18th and Castro. This year's annual offering honors those who have lost their life to the AIDS epidemic and celebrates the time they spent with us.

AIDS Prompts Euthanasia Initiative

by Charles Lineberger

The specter of death hangs over tens of thousands of Californians as the AIDS epidemic continues to take its toll in lives. Some gay men are saying that they should have the right to decide when their lives will end when faced by the usually fatal disease.

A right to die initiative will be placed on next year's statewide ballot if enough Californians agree with the initiative's backers that no one should be forced to live without dignity.

That gay men at risk for AIDS are already taking their own lives is a recognized fact to the people working in the city coroner's office. San Francisco

coroner Dr. Stephen Boyd told the *Sentinel* that he believes that AIDS-related suicides began appearing three to five years ago when the epidemic began its progress through the gay men's community.

Relying on perceptions rather than hard statistics, Stephens said, "The total number of suicides is up. There are

more people involved, there are more people at risk [for suicide], and people who have AIDS are at risk for suicide.

"With AIDS you are dealing with the same conditions that you see with a patient who has cancer," said Stephens. "As a physician, I have to tell them that I don't know whether they will live for six months or five years, but certainly they will die. While there is a natural cycle to the rate of suicides, there is the perception of a problem that is real and may need some attention."

Stephen Yarnell is a 44-year-old psychiatrist who has retired from his profession because of his diagnosis with

AIDS pneumonia last year. He is one of the gay men who is behind the right-to-die initiative.

Said Yarnell, "I'm a member of the Hemlock Society, and I would resort to the interim method of rational suicide if the quality of my life were totally destroyed by this disease. But that's an interim measure. Patients who are very ill shouldn't have to face this act alone, nor should their family or friends. Doctors should have to help with this because they are experts in doing this painlessly and cleanly without complications.

"I've known of too many botched at-

tempts," added Yarnell, "people who were ready to die but woke up with complications. Abandoned by the medical profession, people may resort to measures that are extreme."

An example of such an extreme measure was offered by a man who wished to remain anonymous. "My lover was dying of AIDS lymphoma, a fast-growing cancer of the lymph system. He could hardly walk toward the end, the chemotherapy had caused his blond hair to fall out, and he had to wear an eye patch to see clearly. Every day he was in more pain from an infec-

Continued on page 12



And the winner of the *Sentinel's* Supercruise to Mexico is... Norman Baizley. Presenting the Readers' Poll grand prize is Mike Eggert, *Sentinel* sales director (l) and Donald Loyd, owner of Cruise Holidays (c). Nine runner-up winners won a free subscription to the *Sentinel* and qualified for a special rate on a cruise of their choice from Cruise Holidays.

Ban on Safe Sex Materials 'Diluted'

by Tim Taylor

Congressional aides and gay-rights lobbyists believe a proposed federal ban on gay-related safe-sex education materials will be "diluted" to assure that gay-identified service organizations do not lose their federal funding.

However, the author of the amendment, Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC), has successfully used this and other punitive amendments to stymie passage of important, proactive AIDS legislation.

A joint Senate-House committee met Wednesday and Thursday to approve a final spending plan for AIDS that doubles the federal appropriation to approximately \$1 billion. The funds, set aside in the Department of Health and Human Services, are earmarked for research, education and treatment programs.

Efforts by Rep. Barbara Boxer (D-SF/Marin) to acquire \$7 million in

renovations funds for the Public Health Service Hospital were successful, but other attempts by California lawmakers to appropriate operating funds for the planned subacute care facility for PWAs were deferred until June.

Jeff Levi, the executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, said, "We have come out way, way ahead in funding. We have suffered setbacks in education."

When the appropriations bill was first before the Senate in October, Helms successfully passed an amendment to bar giving federal funds to

Continued on page 15

Law Wilson Busted for Drugs

Resigns Position as Mayor's
Commissioner on Elections

by Charles Linebarger

Lawrence (Law) Wilson, a prominent member of the city's gay community who served as the attorney to the Office of the Chief of Police, was arrested on Thursday, December 10, on nine felony narcotics counts.

Wilson, who acted as police liaison to the Board of Supervisors, has been suspended from his job and has resigned his position on the mayor's Committee on Elections.

Wilson was arrested and taken into custody after police armed with a search warrant found a variety of drugs in his apartment, including a quarter pound of marijuana, plastic bags of heroin and cocaine, as well as Valium, MDA, methamphetamines and psilocybin.

Wilson was charged with the possession of narcotics for sale and maintaining a residence where drugs are sold. He was also charged with the possession of drug paraphernalia, including needles and syringes.

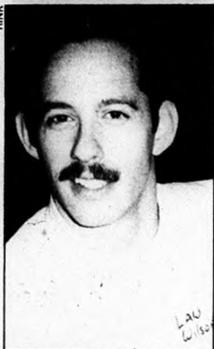
Wilson has worked for the police department since 1978 and was making

\$52,500 annually when his arrest took place.

According to the police report, undercover agents posed as United Parcel Service (UPS) employees. When the police identified themselves, Wilson allegedly tried to shut the door to his apartment, but was stopped by the officers.

Police say they found another man in Wilson's apartment, 33-year-old John Nestor, hiding in the bedroom closet. Nestor was charged with possession of narcotics for sale, according to Sergeant Jerry Senkir of the department's press office.

Police said that the telephone rang throughout the three-hour raid. "While they were searching, these people called up and said they wanted to come over



Law Wilson.

and buy some dope. The police invited them over and arrested them when they arrived," said Senkir.

Three men showed up at Wilson's apartment while the police were there, and all three were charged with visiting a place where narcotics are sold and possession of narcotics.

Wilson, who entered a plea of not guilty at his arraignment Wednesday, December 16, refused comment to the *Sentinel* and referred all inquiries to his attorney Michael Gaines. "The charges are very serious," acknowledged Gaines. "Above all, it is extremely embarrassing because of the position he

Continued on page 11

Conservative Prelates Squawk The Bishops' Statement on AIDS

The statement by the United States Catholic Conference that AIDS education materials should include information about condoms has some conservative prelates squawking. But a spokesman for the San Francisco Archdiocese endorsed the policy and said it would apply to local church-run institutions.

The 30-page statement goes to great lengths to condemn safe sex practices and continues to promote marital monogamy. But the statement acknowledges that the Church's ban on condoms is widely ignored. "We are not promoting the use of prophylactics," the statement says, "but merely providing information that is part of the factual picture."

The statement further states, "Because we live in a pluralistic society, we acknowledge that some will not agree with our understanding of human sexuality. We recognize that public educational programs addressed to a wide audience will reflect the fact that some people will not act as they can and should, that they will not refrain from the type of sexual or drug abuse

behavior which can transmit AIDS." "In such situations," the statement said, "educational efforts, if grounded in a broader moral vision, could include accurate information about prophylactics." The statement was immediately condemned by New York Cardinal John J. O'Connor, one of the Church's more doctrinaire conservatives and a member of the presidential AIDS commission.

According to O'Connor, the policy would create "confusion" among Catholics who have been taught that all contraceptive devices, including condoms, are evil. O'Connor said that schools, hospitals and youth programs administered by the New York archdiocese would ignore the national guidelines. He added that his view was shared by bishops in Philadelphia, Boston, Pittsburgh, Newark and Los Angeles.

The United States Catholic Conference is the umbrella organization for the nation's 300 bishops. Most policy statements are adopted by vote at the conference's annual meeting. In an unusual move, however, the policy statement on AIDS was issued by the conference's smaller administrative board.

O'Connor said he found it unusual that a statement of significance, such as the AIDS policy statement, would be released without the approval of the entire membership, and suggested that it would have been defeated if put to a vote by the full body.

The statement found strong support from the San Francisco archdiocese. Deacon Norman Phillips, the archdiocese's director of information, said, "We will honor the letter as it was published."

He noted that factual information about condoms is a far cry from an endorsement of their use. "The letter does not say, 'Hey, Catholics, let's all run out and use condoms.'" But he acknowledged the Catholic proscription is widely ignored and said, "Let's not stick our heads in the sand."

According to Phillips, the guidelines in the conference statement, which are not binding on bishops, were already in effect in San Francisco. Because Archbishop John Quinn is on sabbatical, Phillips was unable to comment on the stance Quinn would take on criticisms from O'Connor and others. ■

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Honig Appoints Committee on AIDS Education

by Tim Taylor

A new statewide AIDS advisory committee was formed recently to advise state Superintendent of Public Instruction Bill Honig on the development of AIDS education programs in the public schools.

The membership of the 21-member advisory committee was determined by Honig. Asked by the *Sentinel* to identify gay community representation on the committee, flustered education department officials balked, saying that ethnic and minority group representations were accounted for, even though they did not ask prospective committee members whether they are gay or take it into consideration when making appointments.

Members were drawn from the health and education professions, parent groups and the offices of public officials, but representation from community-based care providers who have expertise in education programs is scanty.

The first task of the panel is to oversee the distribution of \$700,000 in state and federal grants for the development of training programs for school personnel involved in AIDS education programs.

The grants from the state Department of Health Services represent the first commitment of state monies for school-based programs.

According to panel member Stan Hadden, an aide to Senate President Pro Tem David Roberti (D-Los Angeles), state education department guidelines call for expanding the number of junior and senior high schools that offer AIDS education programs. The first-year target entails assuring that programs exist in 90 percent of the state's 259 junior high schools and 821 senior high schools.

The AIDS advisory committee will be responsible for setting up a mechanism to evaluate and monitor implementation of the programs. Superintendent Honig said of the expanded education effort, "Since the only sure method we have at this time for controlling the spread of [AIDS] is to inform and educate the public — schools are the logical place to focus our efforts."

Superintendent Honig said of the expanded education effort, "Since the only sure method we have at this time for controlling the spread of [AIDS] is to inform and educate the public — schools are the logical place to focus our efforts."



The TROCADERO TRANSFER 10th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION drew a crowd of hundreds intent on "Dancing the Decade Away" in celebration of ten years of San Francisco nightlife at 520 Fourth Street. Congratulations to Mr. Dick Collier for providing the community with a great place to party with the best.

The Women's Foundation Grants Awards

by Cathy Cockrell

The San Francisco-based Women's Foundation, which funds and assists organizations working for social change, has just awarded \$85,000 to 14 organizations serving Northern California women and girls.

"We look for groups that understand that women's and girls' position in society is affected by the various isms [racism, sexism, etc.] and who are working to change those dynamics," says the foundation's coordinator for

allocations, Paula Ross.

Grants for the foundation's fall funding cycle range in size from \$2,500 to \$10,000. The recipients include: Asian Women's Resource Center, \$4,700 to help open San Francisco Chinatown's only thrift shop; California Women's Commission on Alcohol and Substance

Continued on page 10

AIDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

JUDY BECK

President, California School Nurses Organization

RITA BERNARD-HARRIS
Health Educator, Beverly Hills Unified School District

RAY CORTINES
Superintendent, San Francisco Unified School District

DONALD FRANCIS, MD
Centers for Disease Control

THELMA FRAZIEAR
Chief, Office of AIDS

STAN HADDEN
Associate Consultant for State Senator David Roberti

KRISTIE HALSTEAD, MD
Pediatric Infectious Diseases, UC, Davis Medical Center

SISTER ROSE MARIE HENNESSY
Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Oakland

DR. STERLING HUM
School Psychologist, Los Angeles Unified School District

SOCORRO LITEHISER
Parent and District PTA President, San Francisco Unified School District

W.J. BRANDY MOORE
Assistant to Assembly Speaker Willie L. Brown

SUSAN OWENS

State Board of Education Student Representative

ALISSA RALSTON
Health Educator, Marin AIDS Support Network

DAVID STANTON
Attorney and Board President, Bakersfield Unified School District

DAVID WERDEGAR, MD
Director, Health Department of the County and City of San Francisco

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

EDWARD FLETCHER
Director, Health Services, San Diego City Unified School District

JOAN HASKIN
Health Programs Coordinator, San Francisco Unified School District

DR. RUTH RICH
Specialist, Health Education, Los Angeles Unified School District

BOB RYAN
Manager, Special Health Projects, California Department of Education

JACQUI A. SMITH
Consultant, Health, Nutrition and Physical Education Programs, California Department of Education

DR. SHIRLEY THORNTON
Deputy Superintendent, Specialized Programs, California Department of Education



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Amsterdam International Conference:

'Homosexuality Beyond Disease'

by Mark Schoofs

Our "layer of civilization" is still very thin, cautioned the deputy mayor of Amsterdam at the opening ceremonies of the international conference titled "Homosexuality Beyond Disease."

But the deputy mayor's warning sounded almost out of place and unnecessary; after all, the conference had attracted more than 200 academics and professionals from at least four continents as well as a whole battery of high-ranking Dutch officials. And with the conference taking place in Amsterdam's poshest hotel, directly across from the Royal Palace, it was easy to believe that Holland's tolerance was the rule, not the exception. However, events transpired in other countries which showed that most of the world has not passed beyond the conception of homosexuality as a disease, and these events charged the conference with a sense of urgency.

Sponsored by the International Lesbian and Gay Association and organized by the gay and lesbian studies department of the University of Utrecht, the conference focused on one particularly threadbare layer of civilization, the World Health Organization's (WHO) classification of homosexuality as a diseased mental condition. This classification has been used to rationalize a multitude of injustices, from electroshock therapy in the past to modern immigration laws.

Two segments of the conference,

positive prospects for the future. Although the WHO's next disease classification manual will not be formally adopted until 1993, it is already being field tested — and the proposed manual does not list homosexuality as an illness. "There are no scientific reasons whatsoever to call homosexuality a disease," van Londen started.

"But health is more than the absence of disease," he continued. "Health includes leading a full cultural life, and if societies allow homophobia to persist, then these societies risk injuring the mental health of their lesbian and gay citizens." Van Londen concluded by proposing that governments go beyond mere tolerance and set an example for their populations by becoming "homofriendly."



Sentinel editors Mark Schoofs (l) and Tom Murray (r) interviewing Dr. Ed van Thijn, the mayor of Amsterdam.

"Homosexuality and Mental Health" and "Theories of Homosexuality," criticized the illness model of homosexuality and proposed more humane and scientific understandings. The third segment of the conference, "Homosexuality: Politics and Law," explored strategies for aligning government policy with these new understandings.

Professor Joop van Londen, president of the WHO's parliamentary body, gave a lecture which stressed the

Every lecturer agreed that culture influences the expressions of one's sexuality, whether homosexual or heterosexual, but disagreement raged over the power and profundity of that influence. Most of the debate centered around the terms "essentialism" and "constructionalism," five-dollar words that mean, basically, nature and nurture. Is homosexuality an inborn, essential feature of a person's nature? Or is it instead a construct built through the in-

teraction of an individual with his or her environment?

The question is an old one, and emotionally charged. Many people oppose even asking it on the fear that if a cause for homosexuality is found, those in power will use the knowledge to eliminate gay people forever. *Journal of Homosexuality* editor John De Cecco did not actually condemn the inquiry, but he did voice the caveat on the minds of many at the conference: "The laboratory is never as far from the ovens of World War II as one might like to think."

The lecturers well understood this connection, and did not focus so much on looking for a cause as on how particular people in particular cultures come to identify themselves. Professor Vern Bullough of the United States outlined a history of theories about homosexuality, and noted that the word — and therefore the very concept — "homosexuality" is barely 100 years old.

This is not to say that before the late 19th century that women did not have sex with women or men with men. Rather, the lecturers stressed the extravagant differences between how people who have same-gender sexual relations have thought of themselves.

In a talk during the preconference, Tore Hakansson of Sweden reported that many Native American tribes revered "berdaches," men who cross-dressed and had sexual relations with other men. However, both Hakansson and Professor Terry Tafuya, a Taos Pueblo Indian from the United States, pointed out that this statement misrepresents the berdache.

Even though berdaches were what we would consider biological males, they and their cultures considered them

members of a third gender. Hence a berdache never engaged in sex with another berdache, only with male-identified men or, in some cultures, with female-identified women. The point is that what modern Westerners may view as "homosexuality" might be given a completely different interpretation by those involved.

Professor Tafuya compared the Western model of the homosexual-heterosexual continuum to a stick. According to our way of understanding, no matter what your sexuality — homosexual, heterosexual or bisexual — you are still somewhere on the stick. We need to conceptualize human identity in terms of a circle, Tafuya asserted, for in contrast to a stick a circle has no end points. A circle is a metaphor for the whole. Therefore, people are not stuck between only two possibilities, but free to be any of an infinite number of identities.

Although these theories seem to veer off into the abstract, their consequences are real. Western AIDS researchers often ask health officials of Third World nations about the incidence of homosexuality, only to be met with indignance. According to Tafuya, Dutch educator Jan Husken and others, these officials may well be telling the truth — as they see it. Husken related his own lively example. After having sex with a Moroccan man, Husken asked his partner about homosexuality in Morocco. "There is none," this partner replied. "Well," Husken said, "what about us?" "That's not the same thing," countered the Moroccan. "We're friends."

Erotic friendship or homosexuality? Or berdache of a third sex? The answer depends on your cultural point of

Continued on next page

Terrorism Peruvian Style

One by one they were shoved out of the bar into the crowded street and the glare of television lights. Terrified of being recognized, the women shielded their face with their hands or covered their heads with sweaters or jackets.

The crowd roared and jeered at all the women being arrested, but they added leering whistles and comments at any women wearing a skirt. Even the television camera harassed the women wearing skirts, zooming in for close-ups of the shapeliest bare legs.

The film was a Peruvian news clip of a police raid on a lesbian bar in Lima, and it served as a vivid demonstration of the realities of homophobia. Rebecca Seville, a Peruvian lesbian activist who was arrested at the disco, gave a presentation which told what the film did not show.

When the police raided the bar on June 6, 1987, the police kept the 70 women trapped inside for over an hour until the television crew arrived, whereupon the police forced the women out of the disco. In Peru, attitudes toward homosexuality are vehemently hostile, and most of the women were terrified of being recognized by their friends, employers or, especially, by their families. The television station aired the video clip three times, twice that week and once again after the feminist movement in Peru had written a letter protesting the homophobic attitudes of the TV station.

The women had to endure other forms of abuse as well. As they were being led to the police bus, the women were not only verbally mocked and degraded, but shoved, hit — and some were thrown to the ground. When they arrived at the police station, their troubles were far from over. There they were sexually harassed and detained until one o'clock in the morning. At that time, they were given the choice of either leaving or being transferred to the custody of the police division against terrorism.

In this case freedom was a dangerous choice. Lima was then under a standing curfew enforced from one o'clock until five o'clock in the morning. People on the street during these hours were subject to being shot on sight. Despite these dangers, most of the women chose to leave, hiding or sitting near the police station until the curfew broke.

None of the women arrested took legal action after the raid. Peru simply does not recognize the right of people to have homosexual relations. Attempting legal redress probably would have incited legal and social reprisals, and against a government infamous for its human rights violations, most likely would have accomplished nothing.

Some of the women, in concert with the lesbian rights organization in Lima, Grupo de Autoconciencia de Lesbianas Feministas (GALF), did write letters of protest to the government. These letters, as well as GALF's other activities, represent important first steps of the inchoate lesbian and gay rights movement in Peru. The participants in the conference, deeply moved by the sight of the women covering from the TV cameras, sent a collective letter of protest to the president of Peru. GALF requests that you do the same, sending a copy to them as well.

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reference.

Unless you're a member of the essentialist camp. They will tell you that, indeed, the ways one expresses his or her sexual orientation can differ widely. Nevertheless, that orientation constitutes an essential and unalterable feature of a person's makeup. After all, homosexuality in some form has existed in every culture in all places and in all times. If homosexuality were culturally bound, then we would expect it not to appear in certain societies, especially those like our own which strongly condemn it.

Although not himself a strict essentialist, Dr. Kenneth Plummer of the United Kingdom pointed out that constructionist theories simply do not resonate with the experiences of lesbians and gay men. Studying the biographies of lesbians and gay men reveals over and over that gay people knew they were homosexual from early on.

Usually children's vocabularies lack the word "gay" or "homosexual"; hence, "different" is used most often to describe the feeling of growing up gay. "I knew that somehow I was different from other boys and girls" is a theme whose variations recur in thousands of life stories, and essentialist proponents cite this common theme to cast doubt upon theories claiming that homosexuality is sociopsychologically constructed.

Whether one believes that being gay is a matter of nature or nurture, the real task is, according to Dr. Michael Ross

MARK SCHOOPS



A view of Amsterdam's new Homomonument, unveiled on September 5, 1987. The relationship with its surroundings is emphasized by the "podium triangle" which points to the nearby center for the struggle for gay and lesbian liberation, the COC. The "memorial triangle" with its line of poetry points to the nearby Anne Frank House, the center for the struggle against fascism, anti-Semitism and racism.

amendment is expected to pass by a wide majority. The conference sent collective letters to the president of Peru, denouncing the raid and the treatment of the women.

The possible effects of these kinds of homophobic developments were

which otherwise could have seemed remote. The conference sent a third collective letter to the president of Peru, denouncing the raid and the treatment of the women.

During her lecture to the conference, Dutch member of the European Parliament Hedy d'Ancona expressed outrage at these developments. Asserting the close ties between oppression of women and oppression of homosexuals, D'Ancona said she was "shocked" at the decision by Amnesty International, an organization long known for its protection of women. She also roundly condemned the British Parliament for its homophobic legislation. "They are using AIDS as a weapon against homosexuals, but AIDS is only an excuse. They have always been against homosexuals."

Ironically, the conference itself did not escape charges of oppression. During the final session, Diane Richardson of Great Britain read a statement signed by almost all of the women attending the conference. Noting that the organizing committee consisted solely of men, the women decried the male bias evident in the dearth of female speakers and in the exclusion of lesbian feminist theory. Dr. Lex van Naerssen, a member of the all-male organizing committee, responded that the committee had attempted to include women, but that many had refused the invitation. Nevertheless, van Naerssen admitted that the organizers had made a mistake.

Women were not alone in their criticism of the conference. One of the very few black participants expressed disappointment at the lack of Third World participation, and yet another participant, this time a white male, deplored the "conventionality" of the conference. "I am very angry at the assumption that you are the teachers and we are the students. This conference is not egalitarian enough." Then, referring to the panel sitting up on stage behind a long skirted table, he added, "Look, we can only see your

first of many international conferences," some of which might be more appropriate for the people who felt disgruntled at the way this one was structured. Tielman also remarked that it was an "important" achievement to have the visible support of politicians.

And indeed, in addition to the president of the WHO's parliamentary assembly, an impressive array of high-ranking officials delivered lectures or speeches: the mayor and deputy mayor of Amsterdam, the Netherlands' top minister of health, a member of the European Parliament and the president of the University of Utrecht. Each of these dignitaries spoke with knowledge and intelligence on the matters at hand — the mayor of Amsterdam, for example, spoke of the need to protect the rights of people who cruise in public parks and restrooms, debunking the argument that these people incite their own harassment by comparing it to the argument that a woman incites her own rape. The presence and intelligence of these dignitaries gave the conference a legitimacy that would be almost unthinkable in most other Western nations.

But it was this very legitimacy which incited fertile discussions about the future of the gay movement. Validation from the heterosexual majority may come only at the price of the very freedom which lesbians and gay men seek to gain, argued the more radical participants in the conference. The danger of integration is conformity, wherein lesbians and gay men would themselves become oppressors. Those who choose not to live monogamously, for example, or those who cross dress or engage in sadomasochism could become the scapegoats of the newly legitimized bourgeois homosexuals.

"There are no scientific reasons whatsoever to call homosexuality a disease."

— van Londen

heads, cut off from the rest of your body, which is symbolic of the way this conference has been too brainy!"

There is no doubt that the conference sought to attain respectability. Professor Rob Tielman, a member of the organizing committee, explained that the conference was intended to be a "professional" conference. He added that the conference was by no means intended to be the only one ever on homosexuality.

Instead, it was intended to be "the

One political activist from Sweden feared that the AIDS crisis may be taming the gay movement. The epidemic has created "professional homosexuals" whose livelihood depends on their collaboration with government. If these people step too far out of line, they risk losing their jobs. Hence the government has succeeded in "buying off" leaders of the gay movement, even if it never explicitly intended to do so and even if gay leaders themselves never intended

Continued on page 15

MARK SCHOOPS



Condomerie, a full-service condom store in Amsterdam, draws many visitors. It is located near the famous Red Light District where sex shops and female prostitutes operate legally.

of Australia, to understand our own paradigms and their consequences. The way science thinks about gay people profoundly influences the way gay people think about themselves.

In the past, gay and lesbian scientists have tended merely to react to old negative models: homosexuality is not a sin or a sickness, they would argue, neglecting the development of independent, positive models. In the future, suggested Dr. Ross, gay scientists will need to develop their own models. However, gay people must be aware that any new model will have limitations. In the words of Professor Tafoya, "Any system of knowledge is always also a system of ignorance."

Currently in the West, ignorance seems to have the upper hand. During the conference two distressing events transpired which animated the discussions with the urgency of reality. Amnesty International announced that once again it has decided not to protect or assist people persecuted because of their sexual orientation. Incredibly, Amnesty International cited lack of evidence of persecution against homosexuals as the reason for their decision.

In an unrelated event in Great Britain, an amendment to a bill was introduced by the Conservative Party, and supported by the front benches of the Labor Party, to ban the teaching of any positive image of homosexuality in schools and to forbid national and local governments to subsidize any gay or lesbian organization. The bill with its

depicted by a video tape shown twice at the conference of a police raid on a lesbian bar in Lima, Peru (see sidebar). The raid, which occurred only six months ago, included harassment and beating of women, and the graphic video bestowed an immediacy on events

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Treading Water

During a recent meeting with gay activists in Jerusalem, I asked one man how people met one another in his city. He paused thoughtfully and replied, "Well, there's the park." In Tel Aviv there is one bar and one sauna (bathhouse). In Israel gay people must continue to meet in dark places and sometimes risk arrest for socializing with one another. This situation stands in sharp contrast with Amsterdam, where the mayor, educators and community leaders publicly welcome gay visitors. Another tragic extreme has been recorded poignantly on video: a police raid on a lesbian bar in Lima, Peru. Women are dragged into a van, frantically attempting to cover their faces to avoid recognition. Harsh male voices can be heard in the background taunting the terrified women. [See story page 6.]

When one looks beyond the relative safety of San Francisco, there remains a mostly hostile world confronting gay people. We still must deal with homophobia here, with political threats and physical violence, yet we have the tools and the strength to stand up and fight back. As 1987 ends, the sad reality is that most of our sisters and brothers in other cities, other countries do not.

Amnesty Rejects Us

Last week Amnesty International rejected a Dutch proposal urging the organization to include gay and lesbian rights in its agenda. Amnesty is a human rights group that has done fine work in Central and South America, Africa, Asia and the Soviet Union to secure freedom for political prisoners. The Dutch proposal was discussed at a meeting in Brazil, but to date representatives who attended the meeting have not been available to explain the rationale for rejecting the Dutch proposal.

Apparently if a person is arrested for unpopular political activism, Amnesty would attempt to procure his or her freedom; yet if a person is arrested for socializing in a gay bar (as in Lima, for example), Amnesty would not offer assistance. The *Sentinel* will be interviewing representatives of Amnesty, and if acceptable assurance is not forthcoming that gay and lesbian rights matter to that organization and are being acted upon, we will urge our community to withdraw support.

Backsliding in England

Legislation has been introduced in the British Parliament that would make it illegal to discuss homosexuality as a positive lifestyle in classrooms. There is a good chance that the proposed law will pass, and the perk offered to prod its success is that positive presentation equals propaganda. Such legislation could lead to the banning of any gay books in schools. No distinction has been drawn between informing and "propagandizing." Students needing accurate information to destroy myths and stereotypes would not be able to get that information in a classroom either from a teacher or from a book.

The recent Helms Amendment passed in our own Congress is tepid in comparison to the British proposal, and although homophobia remains strong in England, activists there anticipate further setbacks if Parliament votes to keep students in the dark about gay life.

Bishops Okay Condoms

The Roman Catholic bishops of the United States stated last week that they would not object to public education programs that include information about condoms. They emphasized that their approval is limited to programs teaching that abstinence from sex outside marriage and fidelity within are the "only morally correct and medically sure ways" to prevent the spread of AIDS. Yet the bishops oppose mandatory testing for the AIDS virus and the "indiscriminate quarantining" of AIDS patients. They also condemned negative attitudes as well as acts of violence against gay and lesbian people.

The statement from the bishops clashes with current Vatican policy but shows belated signs of common sense and compassion after several skirmishes between gay rights groups and local bishops who refused to cooperate in education programs.

Small victories continue to accumulate alongside major setbacks, and as the year ends, gay people in most places are still working hard to tread water and simply survive. ■

Publisher:
Robert Michael Golovich
Assistant to the Publisher:
Robert Carl Stern
Editor-in-Chief: Tom Murray
Art Director: Rupert Kinnard
News Editor: David M. Lowe
Arts Editor: Eric Hellman

Copy Editor: Patrick Hotel
Assistant News Editor:
Tim Taylor
Photo Editor: Thomas Alleman
Holistics Editor: Van R. Ault
Book Review Editor:
Jim Van Buskirk

Sports Editor: Duke Joyce
News Staff: Cathy Cockrell, Caden Gray, Georgia Harris, Corinne Lightweaver, Charles Lineberger, Alex MacDonald, George Mendenhall

Arts Writers: Steve Abbott, Don Baird, Adam Block, David Gadd, Dave Ford, Dennis Harvey, Glen Helfand, Eric Hellman, Bill Huck, Robert Julian, Lisa Kernan, Andrew O'Hehir

Contributing Editors: John Birdsall, Ken Cady, Robert Cole, D. Robert Foster, Patrick Hotel, John S. James, Arthur Lazere, Daniel Mangin, Camille Roy, Mark Schoofs, Steve Silberman, James Tushinski

Photographers: Marc Geller, Anne Hamersky, Barbara Maggiani, Stan Maletic
Design Associate: Myrna Chiu
Production Assistant:
Geoffrey Gamble

Typesetting Supervisor:
Amy Beinat

Typesetters: Russ Conrad, Sylvie Malich

Advertising Manager:
Michael G. Eggert

Office Manager: John Frank
Classifieds Manager: Bob Reed
Librarian: Keith Clark

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505 HAVES STREET, SF. CA 94102
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LETTERS

Baffled Reader

To the Editor:
I don't understand reactions like Patrick Hotel's to *And the Band Played On*. "Accurate, maybe. Responsible, I wonder." Huh?

You would think Randy Shilts had invented Gaetan Dugas to make us squirm. If the portrait is truthful, then what's the beef? It's not irresponsible to yell "Fire!" in a crowded theatre if in fact the theatre's on fire. And nowhere does Shilts imply that Patient Zero is emblematic of all gay men; that implication comes from those who would sanitize or suppress the story. Why should we make excuses for a sociopath, or pretend there is none among us? Lying when we all knew better is what gave us the years of reassurance that AIDS was only a fast-lane hazard. If it's our image we're worried about, let the expurgation start with the last ten pages of every *Sentinel*: "Seeking Butt Buddy," "Got a Beard? Wanna Pose Naked?" Now there's a PR headache.

It baffles me too to hear Shilts blasted for his mere "passing nod" at long-term AIDS survivors and holistic therapies. You might as well ask for a chapter on the Harmonic Convergence: it's not what the book's about. Patrick Mulcahey

Patrick Hotel responds:
If Mr. Mulcahey had read my review more closely, he would've seen the section where I question the accuracy (or truthfulness) of Shilts' depiction of Gaetan Dugas. That my criticism of Shilts' "passing nod" at holistic therapies and LTS is a book that charts the history of AIDS is

equated with asking "for a chapter on the Harmonic Convergence" doesn't deserve comment. Unfortunately, in these two cases, accuracy and responsibility were, to use Mulcahey's words, "not what the book's about."

Kinnard Honored

To the Editor:
The AIDS Task Force of Black and White Men Together — San Francisco Bay Area is proud to announce that Mr. Rupert Kinnard, art director of the *Sentinel*, will be a recipient at our chapter's annual awards ceremony this year.

Mr. Kinnard is being honored for his commitment to AIDS education and outreach. As you know, he raised \$109 through the weekly cartoon, Cathartic Comics, featuring the Brown Bomber, which went directly to the AIDS Task Force. This at a time when our work is to not only be advocates for the People of Color communities, but to also do direct AIDS education when and wherever possible.

We feel that Mr. Kinnard is very deserving of this award and that he is an asset to the *Sentinel* staff. He continues to confront issues of racism in the gay and lesbian communities of San Francisco.

Reggie Williams and Larry Barnett
Co-chairs, AIDS Task Force

"Our" Seat?

To the Editor:
In reading the pieces by Tim Taylor and David Lowe in the 12/11 issue of the *Sentinel*, I was struck by



The Congregation Sha'ar Zahav Board of Directors lights the menorah celebrating Chanukah. Also known as the Festival of Lights, Chanukah was first celebrated in 164 BC after the Jews overthrew their oppressors who had desecrated the Holy Temple and prohibited worship. According to legend, only enough consecrated oil was found to keep the temple candelabra aglow for one day. Miraculously, the oil lasted for eight days, long enough for new oil to be prepared. Chanukah is celebrated December 15-22.

the apparent sense of entitlement which the writers believe to be the lesbian/gay/bisexual community have to the soon-to-be-vacated 16th Assembly District seat.

We have never "owned" that seat before; only historical revisionists could suggest that we have and base their claims to that seat on such spurious foundations.

None will argue that our community has AIDS education, research and prevention at the top of its agenda. That is as it should be.

That priority should be clearly enunciated to every legislator in

Sacramento with fierce, determined and unending regularity.

I question the usefulness and efficacy of "demanding" that Art Agnos, about to vacate the seat to assume office as San Francisco's next mayor, endorse an unnamed would-be assemblyperson for that seat on the dubious basis that one's affectional orientation qualifies someone for office.

We don't "own" that seat. If we can provide a qualified candidate for the seat from our community who can and will represent our community and its legislative priorities, that would be

the best choice, clearly.

But if we cannot agree on who that candidate should be, or if we face the reality that we don't have a collective acceptance of leadership within our community that would bring us to support one candidate for this position, then we should be prepared to support someone from outside the lesbian/gay/bisexual community who will do what we need them to do.

I hope that we have the leadership we need. But if we demonstrate that leadership by running to Agnos, fatuously demanding something as a

Continued on page 14

FROM THE PUBLISHER

ROBERT M. GOLOVICH

A Short Honeymoon?

Just when you thought it was safe to go back to the waters of polite politics, here comes the battle for Art Agnos' replacement in the state Assembly. And it is now apparent that John Burton will be the great white shark destroying everything in his path.

Having served in both the Assembly and Congress for many years, having his golden name and having the backing of the fabled "Burton machine," with its financial and organizational advantages, John Burton may be unbeatable by any candidate, gay or nongay.

This prospect is disheartening to those of us who believe that the election of lesbians or gay men to high office is not only an important blow against centuries of discrimination, but also is especially crucial at a time when we need passionate advocates in the fight against AIDS. Finally, ever since Harvey Milk was defeated by Art Agnos for this same seat back in 1976, gay people have kept an eye to someday

filling that slot with one of our own.

That prospect seems next to impossible now. In fact, against such great odds, there is only one scenario in which a lesbian or gay candidate can win. He or she must meet both of the following criteria:

1) *The candidate must have the backing of virtually the whole lesbian/gay community.*

There are currently at least two or more candidates who have expressed active interest in running for the seat. Roberta Achtenberg, a renowned advocate on behalf of lesbian/gay and women's civil rights, has the backing of the leadership of the Harvey Milk Club. Pat Norman, who has built a loyal

following in her two unsuccessful races for the Board of Supervisors, is also putting out exploratory calls to marshal support. Other names have been mentioned, most noteworthy that of Tim Wolfred, the executive director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and a member of the Community College Board. Wolfred has twice been elected to citywide office, demonstrating an electoral success that neither Achtenberg nor Norman can claim.

The other potential candidate — and the one that would be the strongest candidate by far — is Harry Britt. Britt, however, is not expected to go up against Burton, having lost last spring to Burton machine-backed Nancy Pelosi and having been weakened by his support of John Molinari against Burton machine-backed Art Agnos.

The worst possible case, of course, would be for more than one of these candidates to enter the race. The gay vote would inevitably be split, and Bur-

ton would waltz in without serious opposition from our community.

2) *The candidate must have the backing of Art Agnos.*

Although Agnos was elected with tremendous gay support, this is even less likely than the first criteria. Agnos and Burton are long-time associates and members of the same machine that now holds virtually every position of power in San Francisco above the level of the Board of Supervisors (State Senators Milton Marks and Quentin Kopp are the two exceptions). For Agnos not to back Burton would be highly unlikely.

To add to that unlikelihood, consider the qualifications for a candidate that Agnos reportedly laid down in a three-hour meeting with a delegation of his lesbian/gay supporters. Agnos apparently said that the candidate must meet three criteria:

• He or she must be acceptable to Sacramento insiders (read Willie Brown);

• He or she must be a skilled legislator who can deliver the goods to San Francisco;

• He or she must be able to represent all the diverse racial and ethnic groups in the city.

That makes it kind of tough on candidates from our community. For reasons of his own, Willie Brown is reportedly not predisposed to favor a lesbian or gay candidate. Because there

have been so few openly lesbian/gay candidates elected to any public office, finding one who has demonstrated legislative clout is pretty hard. And, presumably by mentioning the criteria at all, Agnos harbors a belief that a gay or lesbian candidate is not likely to be able to represent other ethnic or minority groups — or perhaps straight people, for that matter.

The difficulty that Agnos' backers in the gay community are having in persuading Agnos to back a lesbian or gay candidate or in putting forth a winning candidate on their own may be the first dark cloud on the horizon since their victory in the mayoral race. They can win elections, but can they govern? And those lesbians and gays who supported John Molinari on the premise that the machine will never back a gay candidate, are watching from the sidelines, quite ready to console their defeat with that old balm, "I told you so."

So, as Art Agnos recuperates on the sandy shores of Hawaii, perhaps sipping a mai-tai, soothed by the serene sibilance of the Pacific waves, the aspirations and apprehensions of San Francisco's gay community may be the last thing on his mind. He will have to face them soon enough, however, upon his return. And while his honeymoon with the city at large is sure to last for many months, his love affair with the gay community may be headed for its first serious marital spat. ■

FROM THE DESK

DAVID M. LOWE

Hongisto Comes Out

Roberta Achtenberg, the first and only candidate to declare for the 16th Assembly seat, this week picked up the endorsement of SF Supervisor Richard Hongisto.

The first endorsement of a candidate by a major player in SF politics came during a Pacific Heights reception held Wednesday night at the candidate's apartment.

"I'm sick and tired of people holding office who lack character, integrity and intelligence," Hongisto told the *Sentinel*. "Roberta has more than demonstrated that she is a very competent person dedicated to human rights and social justice. We're lucky to have a person of her caliber running for the Assembly."

Attending the Assembly hopeful's affair was a broad cross-section of lesbian/gay community politicians, some of whom pledged their time and financial support.

Achtenberg reiterated her commitment to stepping aside for a united community candidacy should Pat Norman or Tim Wolfred choose to run. However, she made it clear that her offer to

withdraw would only remain open "within reason" and that "time was drawing short" for the other candidates to make a decision.

At this point it appears Achtenberg is on her way to becoming the new "darling" of lesbian/gay political insiders. Whether those feelings will translate into the necessary votes to defeat John Burton outside the lesbian/gay community is yet to be seen. It's not hopeless, but at this point it seems doubtful. However, things could change!

Norman/Wolfred/Britt

Norman has met with Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, and John Burton but probably won't make a final decision on whether she will seek the Assembly seat until she meets with Mayor-elect Agnos next week.

No word on Wolfred except that he's being urged to remain at the SF AIDS

Foundation and the Community College Board.

Is Harry Britt really thinking about running?

Big Winner

The Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Alliance

at UC Berkeley is celebrating a great victory. Recently they garnered an impressive showing by helping elect Mike Powell as the first openly gay member of the student senate.

Powell placed fourth out of a field of dozens seeking the 15 available seats. Reports from the ballot-counting session included widespread murmurs of "I can't believe he made it" and "Oh my God, he's winning." The response from the winner's camp was

"That's right, ASUC establishment, here we come." Good job and good luck.

Shocker

I don't think anyone was prepared for the news that Gary Hart laid on the political world this week. I was surely taken by surprise. To sum up the event, I defer to Hunter S. Thompson who analyzed whether Hart had done the

Continued on page 11

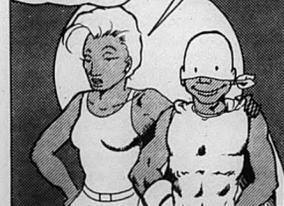


Agnos leaves DIFI in the dust.

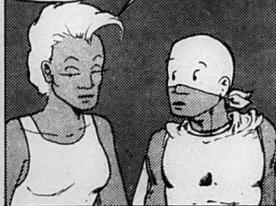
CATHARTIC COMICS

Featuring THE BROWN BOMBER and DIVA TOUCHÉ FLAMBE by Prof. I.B. Gittendowne

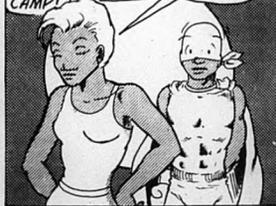
NO, DEAR FANS... WE HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN! THE BROWN BOMBER IS INDEED ABOUT TO EMBARK UPON A JOURNEY THROUGH THE WONDERFUL, WHIMSICAL WORLD OF GAY MALE DATING!



SURELY SUCH AN ADVENTURE COULD EASILY PROVE TO BE AN INCREDIBLY LIBERATING AND REWARDING EXPERIENCE, BUT IT IS NOT WITHOUT POSSIBLE PITFALLS!



B.B. WILL MOST LIKELY ENCOUNTER THE TRAUMA OF BEING STOOD UP, GAY MEN WHO FANCY THEMSELVES STRAIGHT ACTING, KILLER DESIGNER QUEENS AND THE ABRASIVELY CUTTING GIRLS OF CAMP!



BUT, OF COURSE OUR LITTLE BROWN BUDDY WILL HAVE THE BENEFIT OF A CLASS CALLED 'INTRODUCTION TO GAY MALE DATING' BEFORE HE STARTS OUT!



I THINK I'D RATHER TAKE A COURSE IN NUCLEAR PHYSICS!

AT THE COURTHOUSE

KEN CADY

Nolo Press for Noel Gift Ideas

Last month I finally got around to drafting my will and a durable power of attorney for health care. If you remember, about a year ago I wrote two columns detailing the reasons why we should all have these things prepared before they are needed.

I was able to draft the documents without a lawyer, sort of. I mean, I am a lawyer, but don't practice that kind of law, so I needed legal help. I got it for \$17.95, considerably cheaper than the \$125 some lawyers charge to draft these documents. Actually, I got it for free, since Nolo Press in Berkeley had sent me a copy of their *Legal Guide for Lesbians and Gay Couples*. You can get it for \$17.95.

Since the Christmas gift-giving season is here, I thought I'd share my satisfaction with the Nolo Press books that I have seen and suggest that some of them could save you hundreds, if not thousands of dollars.

The *Legal Guide for Lesbians and Gays* is the one I like the best, since it covers just about every legal topic that could arise between two people in a gay relationship. It included a form for the durable power of attorney for health care, so I just ripped it out, copied it and filled in the blanks. Now my lover has a legal right to visit me in the hospital if I should go, as well as make medical decisions for me if I become incapacitated.

Of course, by having a will I minimize the chances of a fight over my vast estate, including my clown collection. Now everybody knows who I wanted to stick with it.

The book can assist you in drafting contracts, living together agreements, handling debt and insurance problems, separation squabbles, parenting, medical emergencies and estate planning. It's written in the understandable language that Nolo authors are famous for and worth much more than its price.

Nolo started modestly enough as an alternative to expensive lawyers for people who weren't poor enough for a free lawyer and weren't rich enough for one in a three-piece suit. Their *Nolo News*, published quarterly, is full of valuable legal information and consumer tips, as well as jokes making light of stuffed shirts with law degrees.

Ironically of course, many, if not most, of their books are written by lawyers. Attorney Ralph Warner, who authors many of the texts, proposes deregulating the legal profession — "throwing it open to nonlawyers who can provide routine legal services." For starters, he would "toss out the numbered paper and legal format, toss out the arcane language, toss out the hostile clerk, toss out the robe, toss out the throne and, where there is no contest, toss out the judge and use a less intimidating administrative procedure."

Nolo offers not only their own publications, but other books which can be had at a discount, including *The Legal Side of the AIDS Epidemic*, from Yale University Press, *Barron's Real Estate Handbook*, from Barron's, of course, as well as many others. Their own books come with an update service.

The newest books include the *Simple Will Book* with a 30-minute audio tape that "helps remove the mystery associated with writing a will." Also relatively new is the second edition of *Willmaker*, a software program and 200-page manual providing an overview of probate avoidance and tax planning techniques.

There are books on do-it-yourself bankruptcy, small claims court, name changes, *How to Fight Your Ticket*, divorce, adoption, landlord-tenants, deeds and other real estate matters, and even *29 Reasons Not to Go to Law School*. You can order a book or the complete catalog by calling Nolo at 549-1976.

Remember this caveat, however. Many legal matters are more complicated than they seem. Some matters really need the assistance of an experienced attorney. So, unless you are really sure of yourself or the matter is pretty simple, consult a lawyer. By using the Nolo book first, you will come into the lawyer's office educated. That alone will save you a lot of time and

money. Also, you will be able to participate intelligently in the legal decisions you are asking your lawyer to assist you in. (You didn't expect me to write this column without a little fine print, did you?)

By the way, I don't get a dime for plugging these books. But I do want to use one of the lawyer jokes in the current issue of *Nolo News*. It seems a Mexican bandit made a specialty of crossing the Rio Grande from Texas to time and robbing banks in Texas. Finally, a reward was offered for his capture, and an enterprising Texas Ranger decided to track him down.

After a lengthy search, he tracked the bandit to his favorite cantina, snuck up behind him, put his trusty six-shooter to the bandit's head and said, "You're under arrest. Tell me where you hid the loot or I'll blow your brains out."

But the bandit didn't speak English, and the Ranger didn't speak Spanish. Fortunately, a bilingual lawyer was in the saloon and translated the Ranger's message. The terrified bandit blurted out, in Spanish, that the loot was buried under the oak tree in back of the cantina.

"What did he say?" asked the Ranger.

The lawyer answered, "He said, 'Get lost you turkey, you wouldn't dare shoot me!'"

And who said lawyers don't share a sense of humor! ■

Grants

Continued from page 5

Abuse, \$2,500 to develop an educational media campaign aimed at black women; the Child Assault Prevention Program, \$10,000 for the East Bay organization to develop its fundraising program; the Davis-based Institute for Musical Arts, \$5,750 to help support the participation of women, particular-

ly women of color, in the music industry; the Berkeley-based Keys to Introducing Disabilities in the Schools Project, \$5,000 for its effort to educate schoolchildren about issues of disability; and the Oakland Youth Corporation, \$7,000 to recruit young female heads of households for apprenticeship programs.

Other grant recipients are the Santa Cruz Women's Health Center, \$9,200

for an education projects coordinator and to make a videotape on breast self-examination; Sonoma County Women Against Rape, \$4,900 toward a teen assault-prevention program; Resources for Independent Living, \$5,000 for the Sacramento-based agency for the disabled to do fundraising; Women Empowering Women, \$6,000 for the Albany-based organization to fundraise; Women's Cancer Resource Center in Oakland, \$6,000 for the information and resource center to develop fundraising; Wry Crips, \$6,000 for the Berkeley-based disabled women's theatre group to do outreach and organizational development; and Youth Power, \$5,000 toward an oral history project for San Francisco youth.

In 1987, the Women's Foundation evaluated 50 to 60 funding proposals and awarded a total of \$170,000 to groups it felt best met its criteria. The foundation seeks out organizations that serve its "target populations," which are low-income women and girls, women and girls of color, single mothers, lesbians, rural women and girls, women over 40 and the disabled. The 9- to 12-member Allocations Committee also looks at how prospective grantees address issues of — and include — members of that target population; how grant money might help attract additional funding, stabilize or expand the organization; and what other funding sources that group may have access to.

"Most of the groups we fund tend to have smaller budgets," Ross explains, "and most lack access to more traditional funding sources. . . . The majority of foundations say they support social change, but very few would fund

an organization that said it specifically served lesbians. We encounter surprise, discontent and a variety of responses when we ask organizations how they're serving lesbians," Ross says, and she reports similar reactions when they ask groups how they serve the other target populations.

Besides awarding grants to Northern California organizations, the Women's Foundation each year raises its own operating budget of some \$215,000 and the monies it in turn distributes to grantees. Much of those funds come directly from the community. More

doing or that there would likely be a recession," explains Guy. The strategy, however, is to go ahead as planned, trying first to line up several "lead gifts" of \$50,000 and up. "We could stay a small foundation," Guy says, "but we want to be a bigger foundation. We want to increase our programs and we can't do it at our present size."

"We get five times more requests than we can honor each year in our grantmaking," says co-director Marya Grambs. A short-term goal is to raise the grant program's budget from \$170,000 to \$250,000 annually.

"The majority of foundations say they support social change, but very few would fund an organization that specifically served lesbians."

— Ross

than 5,000 people have contributed to the Women's Foundation, in amounts from \$5 to \$100,000, since it began operating in 1981.

Now the foundation is kicking off a new five-year effort to raise a \$2.5 million "Trust for Women's Future," "so we won't have to raise our budget starting from zero every year," says co-director Roma Guy. With such an endowment, the foundation could invest its assets and operate off the interest. At present the fund contains \$70,000; another \$100,000 has been pledged by four donors.

"We came up with this plan last year. We didn't know then that the stock market was going to do what it's

"Many times we find that the groups we most want to fund have problems that are not money," Grambs comments. The foundation recently received a grant to strengthen the program of technical assistance it offers such groups. "We want to offer a solid technical assistance program and a strong allocations program, too." ■

CORRECTION

The *Sentinel* story on the campaign for the 16th Assembly District misstated the name of a member of the Community College Board. It should have read Chuck Ayala.

HAWAII

WEEK IN WAIKIKI

YOUR HOLIDAY INCLUDES:

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BEYOND THE BAY

Impersonating Raisa

WASHINGTON, DC — During the recently concluded superpower summit on arms control, news media from as far away as West Germany and England shifted their sights from nuclear arms to a Capitol Hill gay bar after news surfaced that the bar staged a Mrs. Gorbachev look-alike contest.

Owners and employees of Remington's were besieged by inquiries from news services and national news magazines after *The Washington Post* reported the contest.

"I'm not even sure all of them know this is a gay bar and the people entering the contest will be drag queens," said Remington's manager Bill Hedvig.

"Entertainment Tonight" filmed the event for future broadcast.

Soviet Embassy spokesman Igor Bulay was unaware of the contest. Told the event involved men dressed as women in an effort to impersonate the Russian first lady, he said, "Well, it's a matter of personal taste, really. Anything which will happen in these visits is up to the Americans to decide, not us."

Sunshine State's Gay History

TAMPA BAY, FL — The 1988 Florida State Fair has agreed to include an exhibit that will document the history of the gay rights movement. The precedent-setting exhibition,

sponsored by the Tampa Bay Business Guild, will "showcase the contributions gay people have made throughout history."

According to the successful application for the display, "an exhibit like this will help dispel myths and promote understanding of gay people everywhere. The exhibit will be tasteful, factual and educational — something everyone will be proud of."

Mandatory Testing Proposed in NYC

NEW YORK — NY City Health Commissioner Stephen Joseph called for mandatory HIV-antibody testing of convicted prostitutes and sex and drug offenders as a way to stop the spread of AIDS.

He also called for expanding New York State laws that define "high risk sexual activities" to include vaginal intercourse. Current guidelines limit the definition to anal intercourse and fellatio.

Under regulations promulgated by the New York State Public Health Council, citations of "high risk" activities have been used to close commercial establishments such as St. Mark's and Everhard gay bathhouses, and the after-hours club The Mineshaft and the heterosexual club Plato's Retreat.

Last month, Joseph angered AIDS activists when he urged doctors to abandon traditional standards of patient confidentiality and alert sex partners of

seropositive people that they may be at "risk of infection."

PWAs Urged to Leave Church

SAN ANTONIO, TX — Elders of a fundamentalist church are urging people with AIDS to stay away from services because they fear that others may be exposed to the disease.

At a Sunday service of the Northside Christian Church earlier this month, a church leader said, "Your elders decided not to bar anyone from attending our assemblies. But for the sake of those who would possibly be exposed, no matter how minute the possibility might be, we ask known AIDS victims to voluntarily refrain from attending our gatherings."

White House Say No to Gay Parents

WASHINGTON, DC — A White House task force has recommended that adoptions by lesbians and gay men "should not be supported."

The statement, which summarizes preliminary findings of the president's Interagency Task Force on Adoption, says children often remain in foster homes too long while seemingly qualified parents are denied adoption privileges.

According to the task force, "marital status, age or handicap should not preclude individuals from consideration

as adoptive parents; however, homosexual adoption should not be considered."

The task force's conclusions about adoptions comes after the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the San Francisco-based Lesbian Rights Project jointly submitted a 22-page memorandum calling for a rejection of "outdated" notions that lesbians and gay men are unfit adoptive parents.

Gay Couple Makes Reunion Yearbook

COSTA MESA, CA — The publisher of an Irvine high school reunion memory book must include the photos of gay couples, according to an Orange County Superior Court Judge.

Judge Tully H. Seymour said a refusal to include the photo constituted a violation of the state's Unruh Civil Rights Act, which has been interpreted to protect lesbians and gay men from discrimination by private businesses.

Seymour rejected an argument by Dan Worthington, owner of Worthington Reunion Photographers, that the constitution's first amendment gave him the right to determine what he would publish.

Worthington was sued by David Engel of New York City, an alumnus of University High School who attended the school's class of 1977 reunion.

Items from this week's column were compiled from the Washington Blade, the Miami Weekly News, the New York Native, the New York Times, and Insight Magazine. Beyond the Bay was edited by Sentinel Assistant News Editor Tim Taylor.



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Busted

Continued from page 4

was in."

Tom Madding, the assistant district attorney handling Wilson's case, would not comment on the charges facing Wilson, but noted the gay attorney could face years in the state penitentiary.

Wilson was a friend and associate of many important San Franciscans. "I first met him when he was a student at Hastings Law School ten years ago. I'm

very surprised by the arrest and I'm concerned about my friend," said fellow attorney and city commissioner Jerry Berg.

Jim Hornel, of the KQED Board of Directors, said, "I want to see him treated fairly."

Wilson, a former political action chair of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, was also a respected fundraiser who supported many community causes. "He's one of those reliable gay people who is known for putting his money where his mouth

is," commented Toklas President Roberto Esteves.

Noted Peter Fowler, the cochair of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, "I worked with him on a number of things and always enjoyed working with him. He was the kind of activist who accomplishes things that were not in the public spotlight. He had a great sense of humor, and he was very articulate. He was very human."

Other longtime friends of Wilson refused to comment about his arrest. ■

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AIDS Drugs

Continued from page 3

While Johnson took on an active, combative approach in questioning NGRA's Hainline, she had no questions at all for the government's counsel, Malcolm Logan.

Logan argued that the lawsuit should be dismissed because the issues brought by the case involve the evaluation of "medical, scientific matters," not legal ones, and therefore the courts had no judicial review over the regulations the FDA used to decide which drugs were approved and when.

Repeating a number of times that the Justice Department's "hearts go out to

them," Logan said the federal agencies in question were not causing "irreparable injury" to people with AIDS.

AZT, the only drug approved thus far for the treatment of AIDS, said Logan, "sailed through [the approval process] in record time because it worked. Drugs are different and have different success rates."

NGRA filed the suit in June, saying that the FDA and NIH have acted "arbitrarily and capriciously in failing to treat all AIDS-related drugs under the same standard established for AZT." AZT was approved in March of this year, one year after its first test results were published.

Plan to Defederalize?

The *New York Times* revealed Wednesday that officials of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) have proposed to defederalize the National Institutes of Health and make it into a private research center funded with both federal and private donations. The *Times* report said the proposal may be included in President Reagan's 1989 budget. The reasons behind the proposal, according to the OMB, are to permit more collaboration with private industry, increase salaries and reduce bureaucratic constraints. ■

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FROM THE DESK

Continued from page 9

right thing. Thompson surmised that if Hart was wrong he had nothing to lose, but if he was right he would be president. True.

Agnos Picture

Photographer Marc Geller was responsible for the great photo of the Agnoses at the Fairmont party last week honoring Mayor Feinstein. He entitled the scene, "Agnos Leaves DiFi in the Dust." I think it looks like Sherry Agnos is reminding the mayor that it won't be long before they'll be taking over her office and that when the mayor-elect returns from Hawaii, she'd like to come over to City Hall and begin redecorating. Okay, Dianne? It's okay by me. ■



Sentinel
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Feds Continue Vigil Bashing

by Alex MacDonald

The arrests which began last week at the ARC/AIDS Vigil continued on a daily basis this week with a total of 18 arrests as of noon on Wednesday.

The first arrest occurred at 6 am last Friday when federal officers booked Randy Welch for obstructing federal government property after he chained himself to the doors of the old Federal Building to draw attention to the removal of the two beds which the Vigil has kept chained to the building's doors since November 1985 as a protest against the Reagan Administration's AIDS policies.

According to Welch and other Vigilers, the beds and their location on

According to Mary Filippini, a official of the General Services Administration (GSA) which acts as the custodian of federal properties, the GSA removed the beds on orders from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) because they were "abandoned trash." The beds at the time of the removal had not been slept in on a regular basis for several months.

The removal of the beds raised concern among Vigilers that the small tent encampment which grew up to support

was involved in any way with the DHHS action.

In January of 1986, the Board of Supervisors officially endorsed the Vigil and its goals. The Vigil subsequently received public support from City Attorney Louise Renne, who described it as a protected expression of the First Amendment right of free speech. Renne made her comments at the time of a request from DHHS Regional Director George Miller to Mayor Feinstein. In a letter to the mayor, Miller called the Vigil a blight on the UN Plaza and asked the mayor to have it removed. Officers of the San Francisco Department of

proach," Bush said. "We support strong federal action on AIDS and AIDS discrimination as well as efforts to call attention to those issues. We have never wavered in our support of the Vigil."

No arrests occurred over the weekend. On Monday, a small rally took place at the Vigil site. Steve Morin, a UCSF professor of clinical psychology and aide to Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, was the main speaker. Morin called on the community to start "acting up" in protest of federal AIDS policy. Following the rally, four persons chained themselves to the door and

Vigilers say, will be released as soon as ten minutes after arrest. Fines have amounted to \$25 or less. The Vigil maintains a fund to cover the cost of the fines.

Since the pushing and shoving between the Vigil and DHHS began with the removal of the beds on December 10, federal officials have changed their procedures in only one important respect: During the removal of the beds, custodians wore gloves. Vigilers contend the gloves were latex surgical gloves. GSA spokesperson Mary Filippini claims the gloves were ordinary utility gloves which are routinely worn

"We support strong federal action on AIDS and AIDS discrimination as well as efforts to call attention to those issues."

— Bush

federal property are the very heart of the Vigil's protest — now in its third year — against what they see as a dilatory and increasingly murderous course of inaction by the Administration on funding for research towards a cure for AIDS, dissemination of AIDS information, and indifference to discrimination against people with ARC or AIDS and people at risk for HIV infection.

the people who originally slept in the beds might also be removed. Unlike the beds, however, the support camp sits on property owned by the Department of Public Works. Deputy Mayor Hadley Roff told the *Sentinel* that the city has no intention of interfering with the Vigil, nor did city officials know anything of the federal action until Jean Harris, an aide to Supervisor Harry Britt, called to inquire whether the city



AIDS activist John Belskus addresses demonstrators attending a protest rally at the ARC/AIDS Vigil last Monday at noon.

ment of Public Health then surveyed the site and gave the Vigil a clean bill of health.

On the occasion of the present DHHS action against the Vigil, Larry Bush, an aide to mayor-elect Art Agnos, assured the *Sentinel* that Agnos' office was not consulted or informed by anyone at DHHS. "We would not have supported this ap-

proach," Bush said. "We support strong federal action on AIDS and AIDS discrimination as well as efforts to call attention to those issues. We have never wavered in our support of the Vigil."

No arrests occurred over the weekend. On Monday, a small rally took place at the Vigil site. Steve Morin, a UCSF professor of clinical psychology and aide to Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, was the main speaker. Morin called on the community to start "acting up" in protest of federal AIDS policy. Following the rally, four persons chained themselves to the door and

for trash removals. During the arrests on Monday however, this reporter saw federal police wearing surgical gloves. By Wednesday, the arresting officers used only their bare hands. AIDS activists contend that the use of surgical gloves gives the public the false impression that AIDS is contagious by casual contact.

Euthanasia

Continued from page 3

tion in the brain. He tried to commit suicide with sleeping pills. But I found out what he was doing when he fell down in the bathroom. I called 911, and the police and paramedics came out."

This young man had his stomach pumped in the emergency room of a local hospital before being sent to the hospital's involuntary psychiatric ward for observation. Said his lover, "A man dying of a painful and fatal disease had

to sit in a psych ward for hours waiting to talk to a shrink in order to go home and go back to bed. It was horrible. He died three weeks later. Three painful weeks later."

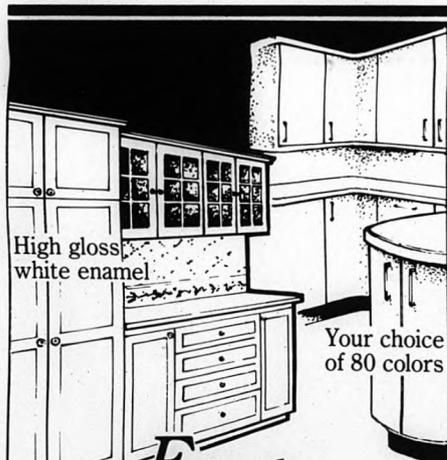
Marion Shaw of the Hemlock Society told the *Sentinel* that the right-to-die initiative must have 385,000 signatures collected in the next 150 days to qualify for the November 1988 ballot.

According to Shaw, two doctors would have to certify that a patient is terminally ill, that he will die within six months, before a patient's request that his life be ended can be acted upon.

"Then he can set a time with his doctor to have his life ended," said Shaw. "He can say I want my parents and my minister there, or he can say I want to do it all by myself. The doctor can be requested to just leave the lethal pills with the patient."

If the initiative makes the California ballot, it will become the first attempt to enact a right-to-die law in the United States. In Holland a physician's right to help a terminally ill patient die has been accepted for the past decade, although technically suicide is still a crime there. This winter an attempt has begun in the Netherlands to put a right-to-die law on the books. In France the French Assembly passed a law on December 15 banning the dissemination of information on how to commit suicide.

Noted Yarnell of the initiative effort, "It's a big chore, and there's no money on our side. On the other side, there is the Catholic Church. The National Conference of Bishops is collecting money across the country to fight this initiative in California. They want the right to decide what we will do with our bodies."



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The Inside Story Sentinel Reporter Arrested at ARC/AIDS Vigil Protest

by Alex MacDonald

For more than two years, protesters at the ARC/AIDS Vigil have waited for the federal government to lose patience and begin arresting demonstrators chained to the old Federal Building at the United Nations Plaza.

The anticipated confrontation between "The Feds" and "Vigilists" finally occurred early on the morning of Friday, December 11, 1987. When vigil participants responded by offering more bodies to the cause, I decided the event called for participatory journalism. I joined the ranks of those willing to participate in continuing acts of civil disobedience on Monday, December 14, at noon.

For the first time in my life, I decided to be arrested along with three others committed to confronting the AIDS policies of the Reagan Administration. When that moment of confrontation finally came, it was with a civility and courtesy barely imaginable 20 years ago when civil disobedience emerged as a major force of political change.

The federal police asked quite politely if we would leave the doorway. We refused. They informed us that we were in violation of a many-digit number in the federal code. We agreed. We were in violation. Out came the bolt cutters — in standard Vigil fashion, we were chained to the doors — and the police cut the heavy, shiny designer chain favored by Vigil planners.

Freed, as it were, we were led inside to an empty room on the first floor. A pile of chain from previous arrests lay in the corner. (The Vigil, like any good neighbor, wants its chain back.) An officer removed the chains from around our waists and tossed them onto the pile. He then asked us for ID. Ross Pritchard and I declined to identify ourselves. The other complied and were released. The police frisked Ross and me, handcuffed us, and took us away to 450 Golden Gate Avenue, the new Federal Building. The others were released immediately.

Something began to stir in me when a well-scrubbed bruiser was pushed into the tank along with a sullen-looking buddy bellowing about the bitches he had deep-dicked.

I was not pleased when I entered the offices of the US marshals and saw, first thing, the faces of Ronald Reagan and Ed Meese smiling at me from an eye-level perch on the wall. No matter: one can protest only so much in one day.

Here we identified ourselves and answered a few questions such as: Are you suicidal? a drug addict? Do you have AIDS? I gave my social security and driver's license numbers to verify my identity and to allow for a check for any outstanding warrants.

They then put us into the cell, which, lore has it, held Patty Hearst after her arrest. After a two-hour wait, during which we saw Gary Harmon and Frank Richter being released from arrests made on Friday, Ross and I were taken to some sort of communications room on a lower floor. Except for the lack of a back-lit world map, it bore some resemblance to the Pentagon's War

MARC GELLER



Sentinel reporter Alex MacDonald (second from right) joins three other demonstrators who chained themselves to the old Federal Building at UN Plaza to protest the Reagan Administration's inaction during the AIDS epidemic.

Room in Dr. Strangelove. There were to sign our citations, or "cite out."

For reasons best known to the gods and my childhood programmer, I declined to sign the citation. Curiosity can do that to me: this is all too easy, I thought; what will happen if some bureaucrat has a bad night, starts feeling dyspeptic, and decides to give the screw a turn without telling anyone in advance of the event?

None of us on either side had planned for this, and I, for my part,

facilities cold and hard. Only the cops themselves demonstrated any humane or civil values. But the action began to pick up about 5 pm when the SFPD put me and another prisoner, as we were called, into the paddy wagon for the ride back to the Hall of Justice.

A circuitous ride ensued, full of sharp stops and starts and hairpin turns at high speeds. We went to Safeway to pick up a couple of other prisoners. And then to the Chinatown Station to drop them off.

There was a little, dark-skinned guy named David with us on this ride. He might have been drunk. His hands were cuffed behind him. He kept saying he was tough. To prove it, he repeatedly beat his head against the roof and the walls of the wagon. For further proof, he badmouthed the driver, a fellow about 6'1", 205 lbs., blond, blue-eyed, tough and with a mouth to match David's. Short-tempered, too. He stopped somewhere along the way and slapped David across the face hard enough to send him flying to the far end of the wagon.

Strangely, David did not complain. He seemed to muse on this for a while, and then began beating the walls of the wagon with his feet as well as his head. He also upped the rhetoric.

We stopped again. This time the driver grabbed David by the throat, flattened him against the floor of the van and punched him once, hard it seemed, in the stomach. Lying on his back, David looked the driver in the face, an astonishing expression of gratitude on his own face, and said, "Okay, man."

Somehow, in spite of the lurching wagon, David pulled himself onto the narrow bench opposite and stretched out, his arms still cuffed behind his back. A sudden sharp turn in traffic sent him flying the width of the wagon.

He landed at our feet. Cuffed together, we couldn't do much for him. He asked for nothing. As the van rolled into underground parking at the Hall of Justice, I felt what I never thought I would feel: relief that I was about to enter a jail.

In the elevator up to the holding tank of the Hall of Justice, David took another chop. Unsteady on his feet from whatever he was on, if anything, and from the various knockings about, self-inflicted and other, the little guy staggered. Annoyed, the escorting officer gave him a backhanded swat which sent him flying one more time, his last for that day. Once inside the holding tank, he was with friends he knew and who knew him. It was as though he was back in the only home he had found in San Francisco.

By early evening, my hours on the floor of the cell at Northern Station aggravated a cold I had been gestating for a couple days. I became slightly

had deep-dicked. Elliptically, they gravitated, like errant asteroids, towards me, the faggot. Would I move? Yeah, but not as far as they liked, and I dozed as I had been doing faggotly over the past several hours. Why doesn't the faggot sleep on the floor? Too uncomfortable, I said, not mentioning that I had tried it and found it wanting.

The bruiser's buddy got up and crossed to the other end of the tank: he didn't like my faggot smell (probably the lanolin in my sweater; it's made from unwashed wool so as to repel water). The bruiser himself got into a conversation with a suited businessman in on a drunk driving charge.

A little bit of biography followed from the bruiser: Riordan High, football, USF, presently an Army MP. He had just pounded a Vietnamese's head in, a gook who had attacked him, an MP, and the police arrested the wrong guy, the right guy being in the hospital. But it was okay. His buddy's father was a sheriff's deputy and would get them out. A while later, a deputy came to tell him there was no chance of that: his assailant had too many skull fractures.

Another of the bruiser's buddies entered the tank. He displayed the lacerations he received during his arrest — after he was handcuffed, he said, and related to the unimpressed through the injuries he could have inflicted on the wimp cops if they had just uncuffed him.

I was fully awake now. So far, I had crossed three jurisdictional lines. The paperwork on my case mounted accordingly. By the time I left the holding tank at 1:30 am, David was long gone, and the population of the room had turned over at least twice, a progressive-tougher crew as the night wore on.

Processing my case — that of a federal prisoner being held for an appearance before a federal magistrate — went much like the processing before the US marshal's, with the difference that an astute San Francisco sheriff's deputy made me remove from my lapel the pink triangle I usually wear.

Apparently, it had eluded the notice, or merely the understanding, of the marshals. The questions were pretty much the same as before: addiction, alcoholism, suicide, medical needs, medical condition, allergies, pricing-gang affiliations. They also took my blood pressure: 118 over 80, not bad considering, among other things, my low fever, my congested breathing and my pounding head.

Then off to what I understand the inmates call the Queen's House, one of two large chambers set aside for gay and transsexual prisoners. For the second time that night, I felt, as I entered

Continued on page 15

HOLIDAY GIFT IDEA



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LETTERS

Continued from page 8

right which we do not have and may not honestly claim yet, then we demonstrate no true leadership at all.

I'd love to see a bisexual person or a lesbian woman or gay man in that seat. But I'd like to see us there because we've earned it, not for dubious and debatable reasons.

Rabbi Allen B. Bennett

Mom's Warning

To the Editor:

My son has been in a San Francisco hospital for a month. This includes 15 days in an intensive care unit. He has AIDS.

Before finally being so sick that he went to a doctor, he went to a so-called "nutritionist," who put him on a diet of practically nothing but rice to cure his most obvious symptom, candida. When he told her he was getting weaker and sicker, she told him he was going through a "healing crisis."

Valuable time was wasted. If he had been treated by traditional medicine earlier, he would not have had to go through all the suffering of the past month.

I am writing to warn you brave and wonderful guys, traditional medicine is improving every day in fighting this plague, and for your sake and your family's, as difficult as it is, you must seek qualified help, early.
A grieving mother

Thanks from Electric City

To the Editor:

Electric City wishes to thank those who have supported us this past year. Superstar Video, Patrick Henry and his people top the list.

This past month we were canceled by Viacom 6. Without the support of the lesbian/gay community, Electric City would have been without any broadcast facilities in San Francisco. We intend to continue showing our community as we are, not as the right wing would like to see us. Thanks to

KRON's Wayne Shannon, Ray O'Loughlin and Mary Richards of the BAR, Charlie Lineberger of the *Sentinel*, Rikki Streicher, Rita Rockett, Pat Norman and others who rallied around Electric City to fight bigotry and censorship with Viacom 6.

This past year has been a struggle, but we have grown into a legitimate production company, open to all lesbian/gay talent. Electric City is now in many cities in the East Bay with plans to broadcast in others. We intend to be here fighting for our rights in 1988 and beyond.

Any lesbian/gay group sponsoring benefits, fundraisers and events to be published or filmed can reach us at 861-7131 or write to 133 Collingwood, San Francisco, CA 94114. Stay tuned, we'll be right back.

McCarthy and AIDS

The following letter was sent to Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy:

Dear Leo:

You undoubtedly have my vote for US Senate this November. Still, I am

greatly bothered by your failure to address perhaps the issue in the 1988 campaign: AIDS.

You have taken the politically expedient way out. In a plea for money I received today you list your issues in 1988 as aging, education, clean air and water, and jobs. Not a real tough arena to do political battle.

Leo, you can't get AIDS from simply saying it, or even by printing it in your campaign literature. Your fear of raising the issue and aligning yourself with the likes of Robert Dole ("AIDS is not an issue in '88") makes me question your ability to tackle tough problems.

I hope you incorporate your stance on AIDS research and education into your campaign platform. In the meantime I will cut a check with your campaign in mind — only the money will go toward PWA support.

David Reid

Window Dressing

The following letter was sent to Nan Hunter, director of the Lesbian and

Gay Rights Project for the ACLU.

To the Editor:

It has disturbed me for several years now that the mailing I receive soliciting membership renewal for the ACLU make little mention of any work you are doing for gay rights. ACLU Executive Director Ira Glasser has not used the word "gay" even once in his little "personal" solicitation notes. This astounds me even more when I know that I have registered with the ACLU as being interested specifically in working on gay-related issues.

Rather than renew my membership this year and have those monies diverted to causes I care less about, I tried to make a contribution restricted to your Lesbian and Gay Rights Project. The ACLU membership office has issued me a new membership contrary to my explicit written instructions that I do not want to be a member of the ACLU. It is clear from the endorsement that my check went to the ACLU General Fund and was not deposited to the credit of the project. I have instructed my bank to bounce this check.

It seems to me that the ACLU is simply trying to put window dressing on its response to gay rights issues. It seems that you are nothing more than a means to raise money from the gay community for other ACLU causes. Your own "personal" solicitations even take pride in the ACLU having argued *Bowers vs. Hardwick* before the Supreme Court, a case that effectively legalized sodomy statutes in half of the states.

It is time the ACLU addresses publicly and forcefully two questions: When is the ACLU going to address homophobia within its own ranks? Do you really expect the gay community to support your project when the ACLU does not acknowledge gay rights issues to its own members, let alone publicly?

If you cannot do this, you might as well close up shop before you do any more damage to gays and lesbians. I am looking forward to seeing your personal answers in the general press. If that is beyond you, try the gay press. In the meantime, cancel my membership and remove me from all ACLU mailing lists.

C. Theodore Tucker

All letters must be typed and legibly signed originals. Please include your complete address and telephone number. Deadline is the Friday prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or reject any letter submitted. Brevity is a virtue.

Conference

Continued from page 7

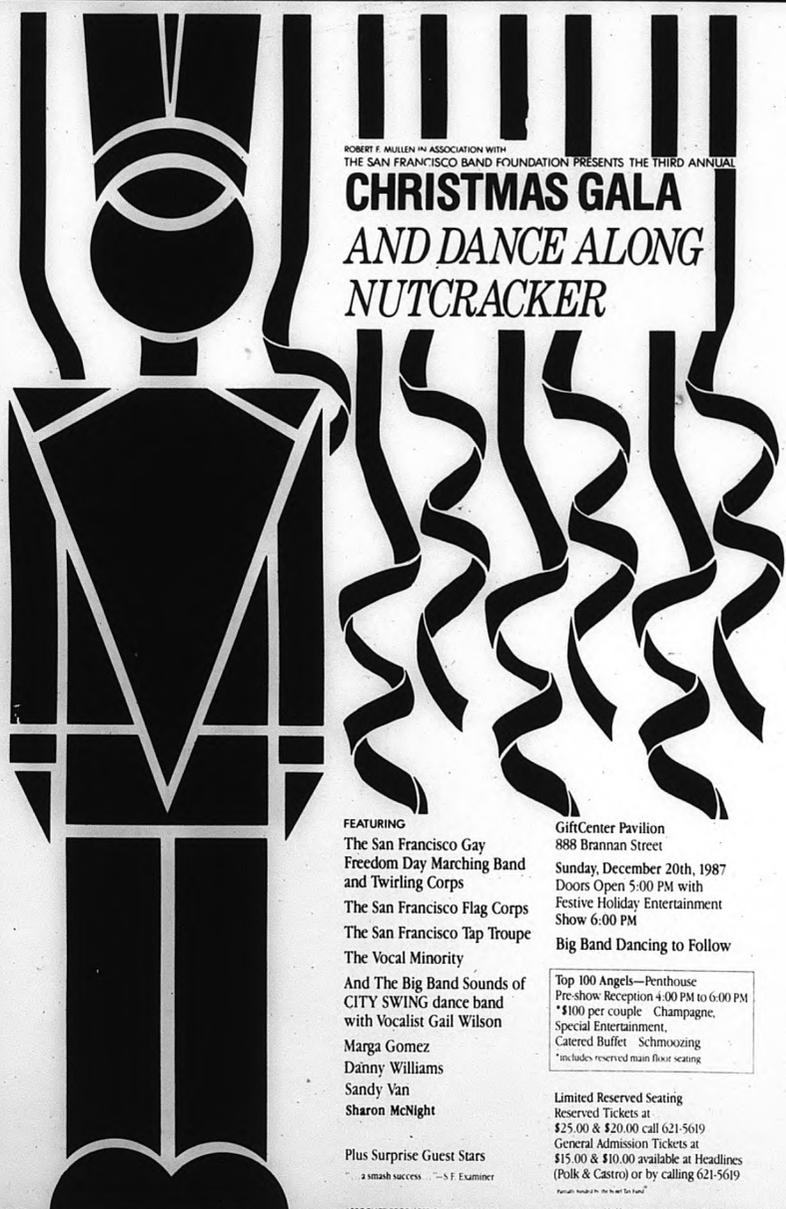
to sell out.

These concerns about the future of the gay movement strongly parallel the writings of a French thinker whose name arose in almost every lecture, Michel Foucault. Foucault's mention was poignantly appropriate. Generally thought to be gay himself, he died of AIDS just after finishing *The History of Sexuality*, his last and most monumental work. A quotation from that work adorns his memorial panel in the NAMES Project Quilt.

Foucault theorized that power permeates every human relationship — economic, sexual, political, linguistic, etc. — and he focused on the power relations immanent in systems of knowledge.

To Professor Tafuya's principle that every system of knowledge is always also a system of ignorance, Foucault would add the following corollary: Every system of knowledge (or ignorance) is always also a system of domination. If this is true, then absolute freedom is never attainable in this world, for new systems of knowledge do not liberate but merely shift the strict-

Continued on next page



ROBERT F. MULLEN IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE SAN FRANCISCO BAND FOUNDATION PRESENTS THE THIRD ANNUAL

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Landscape provided by American Built Classic Decorations.

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER BILL MC CARTHY

Arrested

Continued from page 13

that room full of gay men, a touch of the feeling of coming home that David seemed to show when he entered the holding tank.

Every one of the 40 beds was taken, and most of the guys were asleep, but a small huddle was going on at the far end of the room. I went towards it, and there I found X. I had once thrown X out of the hotel where I work.

He proved to be friendly. He explained to me now that he had been trying to consummate a dope deal on that earlier occasion. I told him I hadn't known that: I had thought he was just being an asshole. He was in custody now for possession of a syringe. Although he has AIDS, his SSI was revoked, then reinstated, but he has not received a check in four months, so he makes do by dealing dope. He showed me his KS lesions and then he introduced me to a young latino, the shopkeeper of the Queen's House. He deals out the cigarettes and whatever else gets dealt. The shopkeeper was interested in me until he heard I was there only because I refused to cite out, then his interest turned momentarily to scorn and he stalked away.

X gave me a cigarette. The shop-



Two volunteers representing the SF Eagle pour in more pennies to help the AIDS Emergency Fund provide direct financial assistance to PWAs. The penny drive begun by the Gate restaurant and bar has raised \$16,000.

keeper returned, friendly again, and said he was just having a laugh at my expense. X showed me to a spot next to his bunk where I could put down my mattress and bedding. Before I fell asleep, I heard him say that breakfast would be served at five.

By five, my cold was worse, my throat was sore and my headache had

not abated. After breakfast, I slept with a break for lunch, until a deputy came to return me to federal custody; the trip back to 450 Golden Gate Avenue followed.

I did not have to wait this time. The federal officers took me straight to the courtroom of Federal Magistrate Brazil. The magistrate explained that I

could plead in his court or elect to go before a judge of the federal district court, the next higher level, where my judge would be chosen by lot.

Some people prefer the district court, he told me, because they feel that political passions will carry less weight with judges who sit for life than with magistrates who are elected for eight-year terms by the judges of the higher court. I thought of Judge Jensen and decided to stay where I was.

I pleaded guilty, and took the opportunity afforded by my arrest to make a statement explaining that I acted as I did because I believe that the civil disobedience of the Vigil helps to educate the public by relieving some of the public's fears around AIDS as well as to nudge federal policy on AIDS toward a rational course.

The magistrate thanked me for my succinctness and said that he approved of my goals. He waived the \$25 fine.

Richter and Harmon chanced to be present in the courtroom in support of the disabled activist Jane Jackson, who had been arrested earlier in the day at the old Federal Building. Jackson had cited out, and her case had been heard just before I entered the courtroom. The four of them escorted me from the court and back to the Vigil.

Diluted

Continued from page 3

organizations "that promote or encourage directly or indirectly, homosexual sexual activities."

The sweeping nature of the language threatened to defund gay AIDS service organizations, even though most safe sex education materials, such as the AIDS Foundation's brochure "Can We Talk," are supported with private funds.

A compromise worked out by Senate and House members deletes the word "indirect," and congressional aides say that change and other clarifications in the legislation will protect gay groups from loss of federal funds.

Even with that modification, however, the amendment has already had a chilling effect on federal and state funding agencies, according to Steve Morin, an aide to Rep. Nancy Pelosi. Morin noted that the Centers for Disease Control and the state Department of Health Services are now examining the content of safe sex materials more critically, and have begun to intrude into the editorial content of AIDS prevention brochures.

"Their clean-up [of language] will help to a certain extent," Morin said, "but it's still harmful. [Congress] should be congratulating agencies for doing such good work, rather than establishing criteria that hinder them."

Morin cited studies by the University of California at Berkeley and the San Francisco Department of Public Health

as proof that explicit safe sex education materials prevent the spread of AIDS.

San Francisco AIDS Foundation spokeswoman Holly Smith agreed that the Helms measure was interfering with public health initiatives to address the epidemic, and she suggested that lawmakers were trespassing on the turf of health educators by limiting the scope of safe sex materials.

"Lawmakers are not people who know how to change behavior to fight the epidemic," Smith said. Even in its diluted form, she added, the amendment still "casts a shadow on the need to be explicit. We cannot be restricted in the types of words or the delivery of services."

Helms has introduced a battery of 14 AIDS amendments that include imposition of criminal sanctions for blood donations by people with evidence of AIDS infections, mandatory contact tracing of sexual partners of seropositive people, requirements that family planning clinics emphasize the ineffectiveness of condoms and requirements that states keep records of people who are seropositive.

Helms was able to tack onto a veterans hospital bill an amendment that antibody testing and counseling be offered to all patients under the age of 40. That amendment, which passed overwhelmingly, was a far cry from his original stringent proposal for mandatory testing of all hospital admissions. But congressional observers saw that vote as another successful example of muscle-flexing by Helms in his effort to control the debate over AIDS policy.

With two successes under Helms' belt, supporters of affirmative AIDS legislation have been reluctant to bring their bills to the floor because of the likelihood that his other amendments would also pass.

Tom Rollins, an aide to Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA), said, "We ended up in a stalemate with Helms on AIDS policy." Kennedy has introduced legislation that would require federal agencies to expedite grants for AIDS research and treatment proposals.

Other legislation pending includes Rep. Henry Waxman's proposal to establish federal support for AIDS testing and counseling programs. His proposal also includes antidiscrimination provisions on the basis of an AIDS diagnosis or antibody status.

On Saturday, Senators Helms and Kennedy agreed neither would offer floor amendments to the federal appropriations bill. The decision not to press affirmative AIDS legislation was reached after a survey of Senate Democrats indicated it was likely that both the Helms and the Kennedy proposals would pass.

Rollins said, "The political fear (of Helms) is high." He added that the scenario that both sets of proposals would pass indicates the confusion in the minds of lawmakers over what direction AIDS policies should take. It also reflects an unwillingness by lawmakers to cast a controversial vote on AIDS in an election year, he said.

That assessment was shared by Vic Basile of the Human Rights Campaign Fund who said, "We need to do a bet-

ter job of educating Congress on the significance of the Jesse Helms amendments."

Also lost in the stalemate was a proposal by California Senators Alan Cranston and Pete Wilson to set up a special demonstration grant program for AIDS services.

The \$15-million proposal would have helped steer funds to the Public Health Service Hospital in the Presidio, which the city recently acquired to provide subacute care for people with AIDS or ARC who do not require the intensive and expensive services provided by in-patient hospital care.

Sources familiar with the negotiations said other lawmakers viewed the Cranston-Wilson proposal as "pork barrel." Paying for the demonstration grant proposal would have required subtracting funds from other AIDS programs, a proposition the Senate-House committee was unwilling to accept. Reported efforts by Wilson to shift funds away from research failed, sources said.

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Conference

Continued from previous page

tures of control. Which means that even if lesbians and gay men succeed in moving homosexuality beyond disease, they will not have completely escaped domination.

Nevertheless, some forms of domination are less heinous than others, and it was this cautious yet definite optimism that characterized the conference and lingered as the dominant impression after the participants had dispersed.

As Vern Bulough concluded at the end of his talk on the history of studying homosexuality, "The most hostile research has come when the gay movement was at its weakest — for example, Germany in the 1920s and '30s. What we can learn from this is that gay people have set the terms of research into homosexuality. Politics and science go hand in hand. In the end, it is gay activism which determines what researchers say about gay people."

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PERSONAL BEST

DONALD CURRIE

Third Eye vs. Third Leg: Balancing Sex and Spirit

Does the body rule the mind
or the mind rule the body?
I dunno.

— Morrisey, The Smiths

The other day while I was choking the chicken, I had a profound spiritual revelation. There I lay, sex-fixated and delirious, when suddenly the thought occurred to me, "Jeez, if I could kick this energy up to crown chakra, I'd really be seeing stars."

The human dilemma, no? It's like that phrase about the lotus: "roots in the mud, flower reaching towards heaven" or some such thing.

Sex and spirituality, body-mind dichotomy, ape and essence. (I could go on), we drag this ball and chain with us through most of life, jumping from

and I like it.

Ah, Kundalini! The fire down below, the itch you just can't scratch. Coiled like a snake in your genitals, Kundalini energy unwinds in successive gradations of light, bursting forth as a fiery sun at the top of your head. My dear, it's the ultimate orgasm: Samadhi! Nirvana!

**"The hell with eternity, let's fuck"
is an idea which has intruded on many
spiritual quests, putting the seeker
between a rock... and a hard place.**

one extreme to the other and never seeming to settle on a happy medium.

Sex is often seen as spiritual, which of course it is. Spirituality on the other hand has a reputation for being chaste, and even sex-negative. This is an unfortunate result of centuries of Judeo-Christian politics, which has everything to do with social control and almost nothing to do with personal revelation and evolution.

So let's get down to basics. Can sex and spirituality get into bed together or are they eternally at war with one another like the (hetero) sexes? My feeling is that though there may be some important differences between the two, at the root of it all it's only Kundalini.

The Big Bang!

The problem is that this great moment of enlightenment happens only rarely, and for some it never happens at all. The ascent to the higher chakras involves years of patient, mostly boring work, and no small amount of blind faith. Little wonder that most of us settle for the lesser estates.

Sex is the most commonly used alternative. At its simplest it only requires a free hand and a vivid imagination. From there the variations are endless, all the way from intimate passion with one person to mass gang-banging — the former a romantic dream, the latter resembling those wildly baroque temples in India with thousands of

cupulating couples rising tier upon tier to the sky.

From one end of the spectrum to the other, sex is holy in its way — and certainly divine.

But the problem with sex is that the ecstasy of it doesn't last. We all cum and then that's that. Suddenly what was burning with the fire of an eternal presence, incarnate and palpable, has vanished like a mirage. There's an afterglow of course, as with any fire, but soon enough it's embers and ash, and like one who lives to eat, the hunger is there again and with it the endless search for the perfect piece of meat.

Sex is too often and too easily addictive, but so is spirituality. We all know someone (we may even be that someone) who's gotten onto a spiritual path and become impossible. This queen is always meditating and acting holier than tao. "It's my last time on the wheel of karma," he says, and all his friends are thinking, "Thank God for that."

He may even have renounced the "lower planes" and become celibate, which is a pity if he happens to be a "delicious piece of eating stuff" as the Reverend Boyd McDonald so drolly puts it.

Though it's easy to laugh at such a person, there is something to be said for being "drunk on the divine." I mean sometimes you just can't get enough of that funky stuff. As Franklin Merrell-Wolff says about reality beyond the senses, "There are Deeps beyond Deeps beyond Deeps, and, on the surface, this little culture of egotistic man to which he clings like a beggar to a crust."

It seems to be every living thing's destiny to merge with the Big Heartbeat in the Sky. Mystics have always said so, and even modern technology bears witness to it. People who have been resuscitated from near-death experiences tell the same story: physical death is the soul's true birth into the harmony of the universe.

This is one of the tantalizing glimpses we are offered within the confines of this physical incarnation. Is it any wonder then that having peeked through the veil, one could become mad for it,



The Kundalini energy is often seen as a fiery, serpent image, uncoiling from the base of the spine during meditation or sexual expression. This image, drawn from the Dakini Oracle, was designed by Nik Douglas, Penny Slinger and Meryl White.

obsessed and driven as any lover would be?

But we are within the confines of the body, and it is a nagging and persistent companion. Much of the body's allure is easily renounceable — pain and anxiety, for instance. Sex, however, is an enticement which can make life seem worth living. "The hell with eternity, let's fuck" is an idea which has intruded on many spiritual quests, putting the

most practical race, for a way out of this dilemma. I don't mean the modern Mainland Chinese, who feel that sexual excess means holding hands too much. I'm speaking about the older, traditional Chinese outlook on physical and mental health.

In their view of the cosmos, life is a balancing act between contrasting patterns: light and dark, hot and cold, yin and yang. The purpose of life is not the struggle between these opposites but the balancing of them into a harmonious pattern of interpenetration.

There is nothing which is not contained in everything else; the universe is an inextricable web of correspondences. To be whole, to be in harmony is to be in touch with all aspects of yourself, but not to let any one of those aspects override any other.

This is the context in which Chinese medicine is practiced to keep the body's energy flowing and harmonious, to not let it stagnate or burn or create an excess where there should be a balance. It's medicine as gardening, the maintaining of a serene and pleasing bodily landscape.

The kidneys are the root of the bodily system in Chinese medicine. They store the essence without which nothing develops or grows or flows. Once you have depleted your kidney essence, it's bye-bye, baby. And guess what depletes it just about more than anything else? Uh huh... sex. Too much sex, that is.

Another important organ is the spleen, which not only creates blood but is fundamental in creating chi or dynamic energy. Guess what depletes the spleen? To much contemplation or

**The answer is not in renunciation and
anal retentive control or the path of
This-Face-Sits-Five, but rather in
a balanced life, the Greek ideal.**

seeker between a rock... and a hard place.

So what we are to do, we poor humans? We're like the cartoon character with the good angel on one shoulder and the devil on the other. Must we choose, renouncing one and taking our chances with the other? Who's made us choose anyway, and why should we spend our lives as a cartoon character?

I suggest we turn to the Chinese; that

meditation.

So there you have it — the way out of the age old conflict! (Aren't you glad you're reading this article?) The answer is not in renunciation and anal retentive control (the Phyllis Schlafly way) or the path of This-Face-Sits-Five (the good old days), but rather in a balanced life, the Greek ideal.

Obviously, it is not healthy to fuck

Continued on page 18

ASTROLOGER

R O B E R T C O L E

December 18-24, 1987

WEEKLY ALMANAC: The Winter Solstice is upon us. This ancient holiday is a celebration of darkness in the hope that the light will return. Monday night will be the longest night of the whole year. It is a tradition to keep a fire burning, even if only a candle, for the entire night. May you enjoy the mystery of darkness and may you rediscover the light of peace safe in your heart.

♈ ARIES, THE SHEEP (Mar 21 - Apr 19): You are the light which shines brightly through the night. The power of your personality gives hope to those who wander lost in their fears. Let your cocky attitude overwhelm your friends at several holiday parties this week, but save the real sparkle for your sweetie pie. Cuddle through the long cold nights and share dreams about the future when the light will return. Snuggle like babes in a manger.

♉ TAURUS, THE OX (Apr 20 - May 20): This solstice marks a moment of conversion for you. Your traditional religious beliefs have lost their meaning and a radically new morality has sparked

your life with excitement. Your tidings of great joy will sound weird to old friends who expect you to putter along in mediocrity, so be gentle with those who are close to you. Preach your priorities to the masses while reassuring your lover with cozy comfort. Together you are destined to save the world.

♊ GEMINI, THE WOLF (May 21 - Jun 20): Your darling lover will rescue you from the terror of darkness just in time for the solstice. Looming fears of being lost will be banished by the revelation that your full commitment is the only gift he/she truly desires. Speak the magical word, say "yes" from the bottom of your heart. Then sneak off to your favorite passion pit to prove the point. You have permission to avoid everyone else for the holidays.

♋ CANCER, THE CRAB (Jun 21 - Jul 22): In the darkness of the solstice you'll crawl out of your shell of defensiveness just long enough to enjoy the hugs and kisses of someone you once hated with a vengeance. Free from the comments and expectations of others,

you two will arrive at a common conclusion. You'll fall madly in love with each other all over again, realizing that you're the light at the end of each other's tunnel.

♌ LEO, THE SNAKE (Jul 23 - Aug 22): The dampness and cold of the coming week could be a major strain on your health. Stop running around shopping madly. Stop going to work. Stop stressing yourself out with expectations of performance. Cuddle up next to your lover who's been standing by just waiting for this special moment. The holidays have no practical profits for you. Go rest ye, merry gent!person!

♍ VIRGO, THE PIG (Aug 23 - Sep 22): You are a great parent for the youngsters who gather around the tree for the holidays. They look up to you with admiration and incredible love; you make their lives meaningful and secure. Therefore, you must not look down on their childish frivolity from a level of great expectation. Let them crawl up on your warm lap, listen to their simple wishes and whisper your words of wisdom with a kiss on the cheek.

♎ LIBRA, THE LEOPARD (Sep 23 - Oct 22): The relatives are going to make your holidays a major diplomatic challenge, especially when warring factions show up at the same time carrying identical gifts. You must not choose sides! You have the advantage of shuffling your visitors off to Buffalo if the tension gets too overwhelming. Most importantly, always consult your lover before suggesting solutions. Family differences cannot come between you.

♏ SCORPIO, THE SCORPION (Oct 23 - Nov 21): Go ahead and try to cram all your shopping into the next seven days. The bargains can't be beat although the selection is limited and the traffic is incredible. Nobody else enjoys rubbing shoulders with the crowds like you do; it makes the holidays seem normal. But when you head for home, don't be surprised to find there's no room in the inn, no room at least for strange friends. Your family must have you all to themselves.

♐ SAGITTARIUS, THE HORSE (Nov 22 - Dec 21): Money's going to be tighter than usual this season, so spare yourself the anxiety of being generous with relatives and strangers. Don't be afraid to put all your resources into making the holiday super special for yourself and your housemate. The economics of this coming week is a clue to the economics of the coming year, so don't waste your money on partridges in pear trees.

♑ CAPRICORN, THE WHALE (Dec 22 - Jan 19): Hyperactive friends and crowded shopping malls will test your patience in the coming week. Schedule several periods of privacy away from the mass confusion so you can get a grip on yourself. After all, this is your birthday time and you deserve a little peace and quiet for yourself. And for goodness' sake, watch that diet! For your astrological chart, send birth-date/time/place and \$1 to Robert Cole, PO Box 884561, San Francisco, CA 94188.

♒ AQUARIUS, THE EAGLE (Jan 20 - Feb 18): A mysterious feeling of power wells up in your soul this week. Like the wise men from the Orient, you are on a great quest to find the lover of your dreams and you know that he/she is not far away. Follow your star even if it means risking old security and even older friendship. Doubts can be banished with faith. Fear can be banished by love. This week you're going to find your babe in a manger.

♓ PISCES, THE SHARK (Feb 19 - Mar 20): Tell Santa Claus you want a deck of tarot cards and an astrology chart, some I Ching coins and a past-life reading. Santa might not understand your interest in the occult mysteries, but neither do you, really. Ultimately you will gain the power of the ancient magicians and you will discover how to create a new universe. Until then, honor the darkness with sacred rituals and burning candles. Your dreams hold all answers. ■

ON GUARD

JOHN S JAMES

AZT and Acyclovir Combination

Acyclovir (Zovirax), a readily available prescription drug, appears to work synergistically with AZT, meaning that the combination may be a better AIDS treatment than either one alone.

Several studies of this combination are now going on; for a list of the studies, see *AmFAR Directory of Experimental Treatments for AIDS and ARC*, published by the American Foundation for AIDS Research, (212) 333-3118. Trials are planned or underway in France, Italy, Sweden, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Denmark, Australia and the US.

Meanwhile, a number of physicians and patients are using this drug combination — sometimes as a half dose of AZT combined with a full dose of acyclovir — but few physicians are willing to speak publicly about it because the combination has not been approved, and according to the October 1987 edition of the *AmFAR Directory*, no confirmatory data is available.

The *Sentinel* hereby releases what may be the first published data on the use of this combination in the treatment of AIDS and ARC.

Project Inform, in San Francisco, filed a Freedom of Information Act request and obtained extensive internal documentation of the large double-blind, placebo-controlled AZT trial with 282 patients. One paragraph of this documentation concerned the combination of AZT and acyclovir. We reproduce the paragraph here:

"Seventy of the 282 patients enrolled in this trial (25%) received acyclovir (ACV) in addition to their study medication. Thirty-four were patients randomized to receive AZT...no evidence of increased hematologic toxicity... Only 2 of the 34 patients (6%) who received ACV in addition to AZT developed opportunistic infections over the course of the trial compared to 22 of 111 (20%) of the AZT recipients who did not receive ACV during the study." Researchers should consider the possibility that the benefit of including acyclovir with AZT in the treatment of AIDS or ARC may be even greater than the above figures suggest. For the AZT patients who also received acyclovir presumably had an infection which the acyclovir was being used to treat, so as a group they were probably sicker to begin with than the AZT patients who did not receive acyclovir. Even so, they did much better.

It is too early to know for sure that the combination is useful. We will report more information as it becomes available.

Paying for AZT

James Palazzolo, who is writing an article on AZT, brought the following to our attention.

(1) Family Pharmaceuticals in South Carolina, a company which specializes in low prices for expensive prescription drugs for chronic diseases, sells AZT at what is reported to be one of the lowest prices in the US. In early December 1987 (before the 20 percent price reduction announced in mid-December by Burroughs-Wellcome), it quoted \$204.85 per 100, about \$6,000 per year for a full dose, two capsules every four hours. For the current price or for more information, call Family Pharmaceuticals at (800) 922-3444.

(2) The Federal AIDS Drug Reimbursement Program appropriated

\$30,000,000 to pay for AZT for persons who cannot afford it. Unfortunately, however, some states are not yet ready to disburse the money.

This program, traded off in Senate dealmaking for AIDS testing of immigrants, pays only for FDA-approved, anti-HIV agents, meaning only AZT.

Income eligibility is about \$11,000 per year for a family of one.

The only medical eligibility is a valid prescription by one's doctor. This means that asymptomatic seropositive persons may qualify, as well as persons with AIDS and ARC. (Some physicians want to use AZT early for persons who

California sets up an office to administer the program. At that time the San Francisco AIDS Foundation hotline, 863-2437, will have information on how to apply.

Fansidar Danger

Last October we heard that someone had died of side effects of fansidar, one of several preventive treatments for pneumocystis. Recently, we heard of two more cases of serious reactions to this drug. One happened to a friend of this writer who used fansidar because he was unable to obtain aerosol pentamidine in San Diego. He had not realized that fansidar must be stopped if a skin rash occurs and almost died as a result.

We repeat the following warning from the *Physician's Desk Reference*, which also includes other precautions. This part of the warning is printed twice in all caps and set off in separate boxes for additional emphasis.

"FATALITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE ADMINISTRATION OF FANSIDAR HAVE OCCURRED

One reaction happened to a friend of this writer who had not realized that fansidar must be stopped if a skin rash occurs and almost died as a result.

are not only HIV antibody positive but also show clear evidence of HIV activity, even before symptoms develop.)

The money is given to each state based on its number of AIDS patients. The Burroughs-Wellcome AZT Information Hotline, (800) 843-9388, may know whom to contact in your state.

In San Francisco, the Health Department will issue a press release when

DUE TO SEVERE REACTIONS, INCLUDING STEVENS JOHNSON SYNDROME AND TOXIC EPIDERMAL NECROLYSIS, FANSIDAR PROPHYLAXIS SHOULD BE DISCONTINUED AT THE FIRST APPEARANCE OF SKIN RASH, IF A SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN THE COUNT OF ANY FORMED BLOOD ELEMENTS IS

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NOTED, OR UPON THE OCCURRENCE OF ACTIVE BACTERIAL OR FUNGAL INFECTIONS."

Persons with AIDS or ARC may be more likely to have these reactions than other people. (Fansidar is usually used as a preventive for malaria.)

Use of this drug may be justified in some cases. But patients should make sure to get the warnings from their physicians — or look them up themselves in the *Physician's Desk Reference*, usually available in public libraries.

Fansidar seems to be used infrequently in San Francisco — probably because aerosol pentamidine prophylaxis is more available here.

Important Articles from Project Inform

The October 1987 issue of *PI Perspectives*, the newsletter of Project Inform, has two articles which are proving influential.

"Evaluating New Treatment Alternatives" urges a cautious approach to proposed treatments. It provides checklists of questions for rationally evaluating the available evidence of efficacy when there isn't full scientific proof. No available drug, mainstream or alternative, gets a perfect score. The point is not to reject them all, but rather to weigh the evidence properly.

"False Hope: Smoke and Mirrors from the FDA" reviews the new rules approved by the FDA in June of this year, rules supposed to provide easier access to experimental treatments which were safe and probably effective although they had not yet achieved full mass-market approval. The article analyzes why these rules have failed to

work.

A section titled "Questions for the FDA" caused annoyance at that agency, as reporters from around the country have found that the FDA is indeed unable to answer eight simple questions which Project Inform suggested. Some of the questions are:

- What is the procedure by which a physician may apply to receive an experimental drug for a life-threatening AIDS or ARC patient? Where can we get the forms?

- Are there any drugs for AIDS or ARC, immunomodulators or antivirals, that the FDA feels would currently be eligible for release under the new regulations?

- What criteria will be used to determine the effectiveness of a drug so that it can be released under the new regulations? Where are those criteria spelled out?

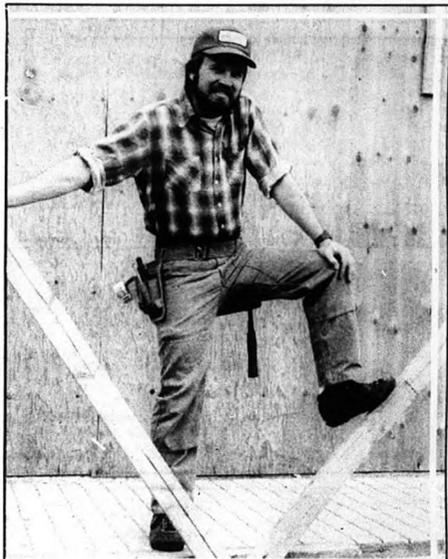
- What, if any, role is there for the private physician under the new regulations?

To obtain the October issue of *PI Perspectives* and to get on the mailing list for future issues, call Project Inform, (800) 822-7422 US outside of California, (800) 334-7422 in California, or (415) 928-0293 from anywhere.

Columbia Symposium Tapes, Transcript Available

Tapes and transcripts are now available from the Columbia Gay Health Advocacy Project panel on treatments for antibody-positive persons, which took place on November 17. The panel included nine medical

Continued on next page



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ON GUARD

Continued from previous page
doctors experienced in treating AIDS and two other persons (including this writer).

This panel could only start on its main purpose: finding consensus among knowledgeable physicians about recommendations for preventing the development of AIDS or ARC by early treatment of antibody-positive persons, even before symptoms appear. The main bottleneck is the reluctance of physicians to recommend treatments without final proof of effectiveness — proof which will take many years to obtain because of the slow speed with which the disease develops. However, much useful information about treatments in general did come out of the meeting.

Tapes and transcripts can be ordered from the Columbia Gay Health Advocacy Project, Columbia University, John Jay Hall, New York, NY 10027, or call (212) 280-2878. The videotape is \$100; audiotape, \$25; transcript, \$20. PWAs with problems paying can call and discuss — or see if the local AIDS service organization can order this material.

New Book: Strategies for Survival

This book, by three authors including the two founders of Project Inform, gives workbooklike checklists and exercises concerning strategies for one's own health and for the health of the gay community. It also has annotated lists of community services as well as relevant books, articles and videotapes. The authors designed the book not to tell the reader what to do, but to provide information on ways to assess one's situations and make one's own choices.

The authors made major efforts to keep the price down; the book has 310 8 1/2" x 11" pages and sells retail for \$10.95. It is available in bookstores or from St. Martin's Press, New York, NY.

PERSONAL BEST

Continued from page 16
everything that moves, but neither is it wise to sublimate and run from doing what comes naturally.

So with meditation and things of the spirit. They are extremely helpful and life enhancing in moderation, but too much of a good thing can make one both unhinged and tiresome. So be reasonable, girlfriend.

To conclude, I defer to the Reverend Boyd McDonald, who can turn a phrase better than most. Yesterday while thumbing through one of his many inspirational volumes, I came across a picture of a stud who was something' srumptious. Under the pictures are words to live by: "I am not just a beautiful human being. I am also a piece of meat."

Amen, Reverend. And have a nice day.

Do you have a personal growth story to relate, spiritual insights or self-healing strategies to share? Personal Best is an open forum for writing on these topics, and we especially encourage personal essays that are unusual, controversial or constructively critical. Preferred length is six pages, typed, double-spaced; submissions are due the Friday before the next week's publication, and a self-addressed stamped envelope must be enclosed. For further information, a set of writer's guidelines, or to submit your essay, contact Van Ault, Holistics Editor, SF Sentinel, 500 Hayes St., San Francisco, CA 94102, 864-1362.

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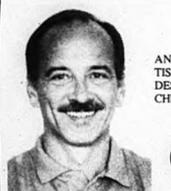
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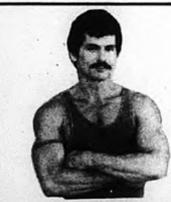


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Shouts and Whispers

The Legacy of James Baldwin

by Lawrence Reh

You've got to be truthful about the life you have. Otherwise, there's no possibility of achieving the life you want.

— Another Country

MAX PETRAS

They're trying to build a closet around him.

James Baldwin, a raging lion of gay literature, fought his entire life against oppression and deceit and bigotry. Now he is being sanitized — denied his individual identity — in death.

Baldwin ranks with the 20th century's greatest gay authors, sometimes even surpassing Tennessee Williams, Truman Capote and Gore Vidal in terms of the clarity and honesty with which Baldwin presents the gay experience. But you'd never know that from reading his obituary, the accounts of his funeral service or the eulogies that blossomed in the wake of his passing.

The *New York Times* noted briefly that Baldwin touched on "homosexuality" in his novels. (The *Times* only recently began to use the word "gay," just as for years it shrank from using "black.") But *Times* reporter Lee Daniels, a black man himself, failed to mention that Baldwin is survived by a long-term male partner. Or even that Baldwin was himself openly gay.

In services at New York's Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, more than a dozen speakers failed to note this central fact of Baldwin's painful pilgrimage, nor was his lover acknowledged.

One should scarcely be surprised. Outraged, yes. Surprised, no. Of that famous literary quartet whose notoriety

predates the "liberation" era, Williams and Capote are dead, and Vidal is failing. When Tennessee and Truman died, only the excesses of their lives prevented their gayness from being whitewashed, obliterated.

Baldwin, though, lived his 63 years as the very public and very prickly conscience of the black civil rights movement, but otherwise was very private and intensely personal. There was no pussyfooting about sexual orientation in his novels, but it was not a topic that he either invited

of the book, Baldwin describes the influence on John of hero-figure Elisha, an already "saved" 18-year-old minister ("so much bigger and stronger and as a wrestler so much more skilled"); the book closes with Elisha bestowing a "holy kiss" on John's forehead, and John, newly mantled by the sunrise, declaring, "I'm ready, I'm coming. I'm on my way."

Baldwin indeed was on his way with *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, an author and as emerging gay witness. The novel's success enabled him to follow up with a powerful

Alfred A. Knopf and Beacon, respectively), Baldwin moved over to Dial Press, which remained his publisher most of the rest of his career.

Were it not for Dial's fever to capitalize as quickly as possible on the Baldwin boom, *Giovanni's Room*, with its blatantly gay eroticism and positive regard for same-sex relationships, might never have seen print. It was, after all, the middle of the Eisenhower Administration, more than a dozen years before Stonewall — not a promising time for a sympathetic gay novel. Vidal broke ground almost ten years earlier with *The City and the Pillars*, but that was hardly an immediately popular (that is to say, financial) success — though it was destined to become an underground classic.

Giovanni's Room sank like a stone when first released. It was not Baldwin at his best, but it was brave and true and inspiring. It too became a cult success, rarely out of print, selling modestly but regularly as gays continued to rediscover it year after year. Initially though, it seemed like a mistake and an embarrassment, according to Dial editor Jim Fitzgerald (now with Doubleday).

Dial had its professional pride and judgment at stake, or Baldwin might have been a brief flare in the black night. Five years elapsed, but his publisher ultimately brought forth *Nobody Knows My Name*

Continued on page 22

If Baldwin's achievement was so great in illuminating both the black experience and the gay experience, why is he so little known to gays, and so gingerly handled by blacks?

or discussed in public interviews. Similarly, the leaders of the literary establishment have been co-conspirators down through the years in the silence on Baldwin's sexuality, and they remain so today.

Ironically, Baldwin first cracked open the door of his own closet with *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, hinting that the born-again religious ecstasy of 14-year-old John Grimes (Baldwin's alter ego) may owe as much to a fixation of the flesh as to a fervor of the spirit. In the opening pages

collection of essays on the black experience in America, *Notes of a Native Son* (1955). No one doubts that his racial background was a great wellspring for Baldwin's literary efforts. But it is ludicrous that the equal influence of Baldwin's sexual orientation has been ignored.

If Baldwin hinted at that sexuality in his first novel, he burst the jamba in his second, *Giovanni's Room* (1956). Having won critical acclaim and a reading audience with the early books (published by

LAWRENCE REH



It is intermission. The house lights go up in San Francisco's Civic Auditorium and a man riding a small tractor begins sweeping the ice. Two other men follow on foot with large white plastic buckets containing ice shavings. They fill holes made by the skates, packing the ice down tightly with the soles of their boots. As the tractor approaches my seat on the edge of the rink, I first notice the young driver's blue cotton overalls, then I recognize his face with its thick layer of pancake makeup. A member of the Ice Capades chorus is doing double duty.



WINTER

by Robert Julian

The evening's theme is "The Best of Times" and the opening song is from *La Cage Aux Folles*. When the number is over, the lights go out and dozens of attractive young skaters from the production number move in darkness toward the edge of the rink, forming two lines and silently disappearing behind the curtain. All I can think about is what it must be like in the dressing rooms.

Later, in the Land of Grundo, a giant bear named Teddy Rixpin leads a sweet young girl through the woods as lots of colorful Grundo creatures emerge. Little ice-boats, pushed by skaters, carry children from the audience through the Mushroom Forest and return them just before the villain is vanquished and justice is fulfilled. A taped chorus sings "Believe in Yourself" and a voice-over explains that "the magic is confidence. If you really believe you can do something, you can do it." The photographer remarks, "Does anyone buy this stuff anymore? Even the little kids don't believe it."

Jane Torvil and Christopher Dean, Olympic gold medalists, are followed by a big production number with a Nubian Firebird, a Prince, a Princess, and two dozen white doves that fly upstage and perch on top of a mythical castle. It is Las Vegas on skates, complete with vendors selling cotton candy, snow cones, pennants and flashlight swords throughout the intermission. During the final curtain call, two of the featured skaters, only few feet away from me, can be heard complaining about the size of the audience.

It has all been so beautiful — and so cold. There is the sterility of the house, the requisite field of ice and the silence of the

skates, but there is also something else. The smiles of the chorus contain a distracted insincerity that belies a preoccupation with other things, and the stars of the show seem, more than anything else, resigned to their fate. As headliners in the *Ice Capades*, they will travel around the country as long as they can keep their balance, or until the next Olympics turns out new gold medalists, making Torvil and Dean yesterday's news.

But the real chill is in the faces of the children. They are bored. It's not that they're unhappy, it's just that nothing magic is happening for them here; they would rather be somewhere else. When doves fly overhead or flaming torches glide across the ice, they are momentarily amused, but a sense of wonder is absent in even the youngest. Almost everyone intuitively senses the situation, but neither the audience nor the performers are willing to accept responsibility for it.

As a culture, we seem caught up in being where we are not. When we aren't worrying about where we have to go, or how we're going to get there, we're looking back at where we've been. It takes increasingly greater expenditures of time and money to attract or, more appropriately, *distract* our attention. We can "be here now," but there'd better be a good reason. Even children become hard to please at an early age. Where "Pirates of the Caribbean" was once entrancing, "Space Moun-

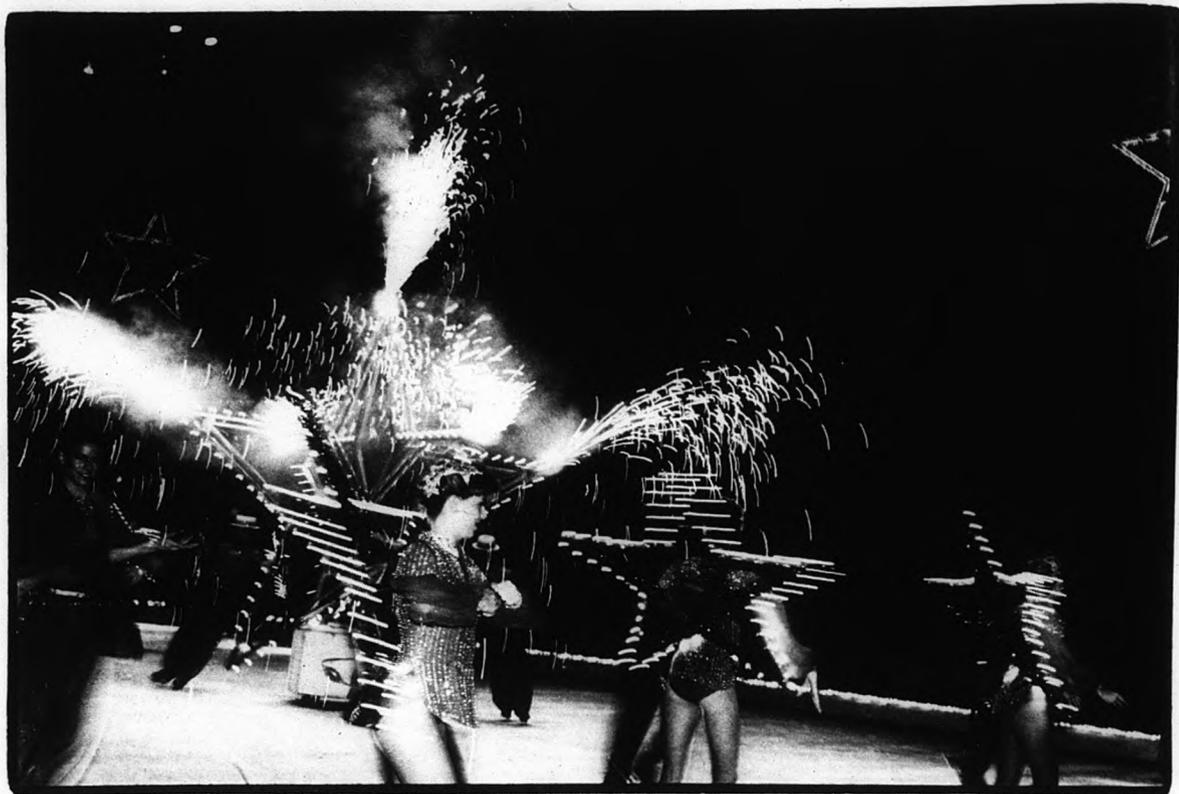
tain" and the 15-million-dollar "Captain E-O" are already approaching obsolescence. By common consent, a beautiful form, floating gracefully on ice is now insufficient distraction.

The *Ice Capades* are expensively produced and lavishly costumed but, like baseball and the circus, they have fallen victim to the fast-paced pseudo-sophistication of life in the eighties. There is no joy in Mudville tonight. On both sides of the ice, we are bored with it all, moving about in a perpetual state of aggravated ennui, daring someone or something to penetrate our facade while subconsciously denying access to any and all.

In conversation we listen with one ear while our mind, and eye, drift to a stray thought or passing stranger. As a result, conversations start and stop, jerking back and forth without continuity, until they finally grind to a halt and unravel with the utterance of a meaningless seasonal platitude like, "It's good to see you. We must get together before the holidays. Call me." The situation is not endemic, but epidemic.

If we take no pleasure in the moment, it must be to a great extent due to our willingness to concentrate long enough to recognize the simple perfection of nature's order or the enduring beauty of





WONDER

Photographs by Anne Hamersky

friend's smile. At this time of year we cut down a healthy tree, load it with tinsel and twinkling lights, and pile at its base a variety of colorfully wrapped distractions that we use to evaluate our present (or absent) success and happiness. They will serve us in different ways, for varying amounts of time. But none of them will permanently fill in the blanks because the answer to our dilemma will not be found outside ourselves.

As I leave Civic Auditorium I rush past the vendors and souvenir stands, hurrying toward the car, thinking only of my next destination. My attention is suddenly drawn to a two-year-old girl standing in the lobby beside her father. She is dressed in a little flared skirt and Buster Brown shoes, with a heavy overcoat and mittens dangling from elastic bands clipped to her sleeves. Oblivious to the crowd, the show, the souvenirs and her father, she screams fury at the top of her lungs as rivulets of tears roll down her face and empty onto her overcoat. She entertains no thoughts of any life, time or place beyond the excruciating misery she is now confronting.

I stand frozen in place for a few seconds while sympathy is replaced by understanding. With a broad smile, I push open the lobby door and step out into the cold night air. Still smiling, I pass a half-dozen Peterbilt trucks parked outside the auditorium, impatiently waiting to be loaded with props and scenery so the show can move to its next stop. As the damp chill of the winter evening penetrates my sweater, my smile turns to laughter. ■



JAMES BALDWIN

Continued from page 19

(1961), another collection of provocative essays daring to challenge the complacent white majority on its treatment of blacks. Baldwin was once again bankable.

Baldwin's first three books were written in France, where he had "fled" in 1948, enraged by the blatant racism he lived with daily in Harlem. Early writing in *The Partisan Review* and other "little" magazines had already established Baldwin's promise, and he used a small publisher's advance to make good his "escape." It was no accident that he landed in Paris, though he occasionally remarked that he could have ended up anywhere. In 1948, with Vidal's book fresh

It is likely that *Giovanni's Room* was in manuscript before *Notes of a Native Son*, and that Baldwin intended the second novel to follow immediately on the heels of the first. The feisty author made no bones about the fact that he considered himself primarily a novelist. But just as *Notes* may have made possible the publishing of *Giovanni's Room*, it is likely that *Nobody Knows My Name*, written for the most part back in America late in the '50s, paved the way for publication of Baldwin's third novel and greatest financial success, *Another Country* (1962).

Bombshell. Baldwin now had a reputation as a rabble-rousing black radical (the irony of this label became rapidly apparent as the tumultuous '60s raced forward), and had written a "big" book in which scarcely any of the male characters did not either openly concede a gay orien-

Were it not for Dial's fever to capitalize as quickly as possible on the Baldwin boom, *Giovanni's Room*, with its blatant gay eroticism and positive regard for same-sex relationships, might never have seen print.



on the scene, Baldwin was acutely aware of his sexual limbo as well as his racial disadvantages.

But in Paris, gay apologist Andre Gide had just won the Nobel Prize, and the recent works of Jean Genet (*Our Lady of the Flowers*, *Funeral Rites*, *Querelle of Brest* and *Miracle of the Rose*) were still sensations, and their author a *cause celebre*, just reprieved from "preventive life detention" in prison as a habitual criminal, through the intercession of France's literary establishment. Paris must have seemed very liberated.

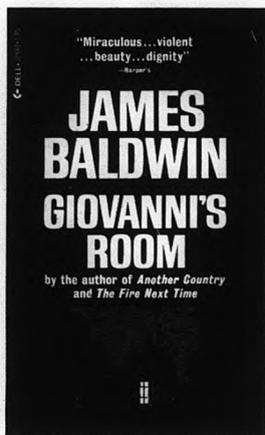
People do not take the relations between boys seriously, you know that. We will never know many people who believe we love each other. They do not believe there can be tears between men. They think we are only playing a game and that we do it so shock them.

— Another Country

tion, or experiment with male-male sex, or wonder aloud — sympathetically — about the gay experience.

It was not all moonlight and roses; Baldwin was too honest a writer. *Another Country* perhaps reveals more of the naked pain of relationships than any other modern novel. It explores the coming to terms of both whites and blacks who knew Rufus, the central character who dies within the first 90 pages. And if sex were to sensationalize the marketing of *Another Country*, it was the affair between Rufus' sister Ida and his white friend Vivaldo which would do it. In 1962, same-sex relationships were mostly invisible, but an interracial affair was truly shocking.

"America didn't realize that *Another Country* was first and foremost about love and loving," Baldwin explained 15 years later, "irrespective of gender or race."



The book soared to a hardcover sale of over half a million and confirmed in the minds of then-ascendant liberals that Baldwin was the legitimate spokesman for blacks. He was briefly a bridge between societies that were rapidly moving apart and a herald of racial troubles to come.

Neither Baldwin nor black movement leaders were comfortable with this election thrust on him by white society. Baldwin himself disclaimed the role of either leader or spokesman — others for whom he had high respect were better qualified, he believed. He considered his job to be "witnessing to the truth," and keeping both sides honest.

"America didn't realize that *Another Country* was first and foremost about love and loving," Baldwin explained 15 years later, "irrespective of gender or race."

His unflinching critical stance toward both camps did not endear him to the likes of Eldridge Cleaver, Rap Brown, Stokely Carmichael and Malcolm X, the most radical black movement leaders of the time. Nor did his involvement with and acceptance by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Martin Luther King's nonviolent marching army. Yet Baldwin found good to say about most of them; he especially admired the early Black Panther Party movement, Bobby Seale in particular. (He also had great respect for both King and Malcolm X, two leaders who were poles apart in philosophy, strategy and style.)

Baldwin was temporarily in residence in Hollywood, working on an ill-fated, never-to-be-produced film script of the life of the slain Malcolm X, when King was assassinated; ironically, Baldwin was engaged in writing a biography of King when he himself died. Two of King's entourage who knew Baldwin in those days were Andrew Young, now mayor of Atlanta, and Jesse Jackson, past and future aspirant for the presidency.

In response to recent inquiries, Young stated, "Baldwin's work represents some of the best literature produced in our time. He will be sorely missed by all those who benefited from his insights on modern society." Pressed about Baldwin's experience as both gay and black, Young's press secretary, Nehi Horton, said Young would not wish to comment in that area.

Jackson was more forthcoming, but very careful in the statement he released through his Chicago headquarters. "Baldwin was honest and courageous," Jackson said, "and Dr. King had great respect for him. Jimmy and I did not always see eye to eye, but he was an important window on what it meant in America — and still means — to try to live, to survive as a persecuted minority when the majority is blind, indifferent or unequivocally your mortal enemy."

I was considered an "integrationist" — this was never quite my own idea of myself. . . . I was, without entirely

realizing it, the Great Black Hope of the Great White Father.

— No Name in the Street

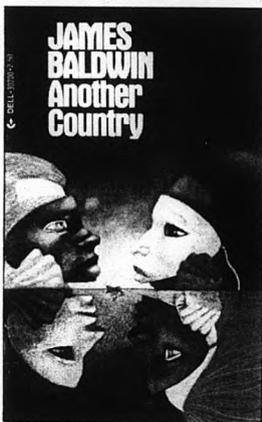
Another Country was followed promptly by *The Fire Next Time* (1963), a polemic which set the tone for the entire civil rights movement of the next decade, a decade which also saw the rapid-fire publication of ten more Baldwin volumes. Two plays (*Blues for Mister Charlie* and *The Amen Corner*) and the Malcolm X screenplay (no competition for Tennessee Williams; Baldwin was only adequate as a playwright), a volume of short stories (*Going to Meet the Man*); another collection of essays (*No Name in the Street*), three collaborations (with Richard Avedon, Margaret Mead and Nikki Giovanni) and two more novels.

Most of these had only modest success; many critics wondered if Baldwin had burned up his talent in politics. The novels were quite readable, but disappointing in their lack of punch. Nor did they have significant gay themes; had he gone too far afield from his own experience in *Tell Me How Long the Train's Been Gone* and *If Beale Street Could Talk*? Was he trying merely to remain a best-selling popular author?

Baldwin's success continued to go downhill with the '70s, and he became less and less visible. During a decade of racial unrest, he had truly been a citizen of the world — his base might have been in France, but he traveled constantly and wrote wherever he found himself: San Francisco, London, Seattle, Rome, Oakland, Hamburg, Beverly Hills, Istanbul, Memphis. As success dwindled, he retired more and more to his modest home in St. Paul de Vence in the south of France and

there produced what is probably his last hurrah.

Just Above My Head (1979) took him back to the gay sensibility that so effectively limned his earlier successful fiction. His most ambitious novel, it follows a Robeson-like black singer, world-famous for his rich and powerful voice and in demand for his liberal and humane politics. Arthur Montana is also gay — not



blatantly, but more and more openly as the time of the story advances through the '40s, '50s and '60s.

Baldwin reached his peak of sensitivity in delineating the terrible insecurities, fears, needs and passions that bind all human relationships — family as well as friends and lovers. If *Go Tell It on the Mountain* exposed the horror of Baldwin's real-life family background, *Just Above My Head* may tell of family love and loyalties as he wishes they could have been — or perhaps as they came to be for him. The oldest of nine children, Baldwin found a special closeness with

Continued on page 30

Tomlin Does Wagner at the Curran Art or Soup?

In 1985, Lily Tomlin performed at The Great American Music Hall in a show called *Works in Process*; by the end of that year a revised version of the same show opened on Broadway as *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe*. Three years, many awards and hundreds of performances later, *Search* opens in San Francisco — more mature and professional than the earlier *Works*, but a little short on personality.

When you consider that Lily Tomlin is alone on stage for two and a half hours, playing twelve distinctly different individuals, it may seem hard to imagine how *Search* could be short on personality. But Tomlin and author/director Jane Wagner worked out the material on the road for almost two years, then played Broadway for a year and Los Angeles for eight months before opening at the Curran. The resulting show is a technical marvel with one of the best scripts in years, but the process of refining the play has created a production that is, amazing as this may sound, both brilliant and boring.

The most endearing character of the piece is Trudy, the bag lady. She pushes a shopping cart, wears panty hose rolled down to her ankles, and uses an umbrella hat as a receiver to tune in interplanetary thoughtwaves. *Search* opens with Trudy showing a group of aliens around earth, trying to explain some basic facts of human existence for the extraterrestrials; like explaining the difference between Campbell's tomato soup and Andy Warhol's replica of the same. She wants to share life's peak experiences with them but the frequency modulation of her umbrella hat gets repeatedly jolted, and the audience meets a variety of other characters as a result.

Agnes Angst is a 15-year-old Greenwood, Indiana, rebel in chains and black leather, whose antics confound her grandparents, Lud and Marie. Kate is a bored-with-it-all housewife, Chrissy is an airhead aerobics bunny, and Brandy and Tina are two 46th Street hookers. We meet all of these characters, and others, in a succession of vignettes that may seem unrelated, but are actually interwoven in an incredibly skillful way by Jane Wagner's literate and amusing script. Their lives intersect in little moments that subtly illustrate the commonality of human experience, suggesting a unity of spirit as the basis of life in this, or any universe.

Although it is delicately presented, the metaphysical content of the play is impossible to ignore. But regardless of your beliefs about God and spirit, *Search* is so full of pithy observations about life and hysterically funny one-liners, you could laugh yourself right into enlightenment. I'm particularly fond of a conversation between the hookers where Tina claims to be a good listener. "That's the first thing you learn after fellatio — how to listen." I can't imagine



The genius and her jester: Jane Wagner (above) is the author and director of *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe*, starring Lily Tomlin.

any prostitute disputing the absolute truth of that statement.

Tomlin's characterizations are wonderfully executed and clearly defined without the aid of props or different costumes. Ann Roth has designed pants, shoes and a blouse Tomlin wears for both acts of the play. The outfit, in muted greens and purples, is a perfect utilitarian compliment for portraying a variety of male and female characters. Neil Peter Jampolis' set design employs two basic chairs and a small flight of stairs on an empty stage. But his lighting plot contains a multitude of effects which add depth and drama to the action. Flashpots explode on cue, a universe of



Search is so full of pithy observations about life, and hysterically funny one-liners, you could laugh yourself right into enlightenment.

stars appear upstage on the backdrop, and blackouts come and go, assisting Tomlin with her transitions from scene to scene. But it is Debby Van Poucke's meticulous sound design that is the Achilles' heel of *Search*.

Lily Tomlin's performances have always been characterized by her incredible gift for comedy and an amazing ability to give life to characters with minimal technical assistance. Back in 1985 with *Works in Process*, Tomlin was experimenting with these same characters and situations in an informal and relatively unstructured setting. Some of the transitions were fuzzy and the material was less fully developed, but you actually got a

glimpse of the creative process at work. The show was a living piece of theatre where the actress would try new things, breaking in and out of character in a relatively unpredictable fashion. It was exciting.

But *Search* arrives with Tomlin wearing a body-mike and accompanied by a full complement of complex sound cues

that are quite dazzling. There are musical interludes as well as the sounds of rain, thunder, telephones and matches. On stage, Tomlin silently mimes a host of movements, all illustrated by Poucke's amplified sound track. Unfortunately, the sound restricts Tomlin's performance.

Each gesture has been carefully rehearsed and synchronized with its corresponding sound effect. The timing is perfect and the aural effect always appears at precisely the right second. Although the sound does clarify the action, it also forces Tomlin to repeat herself in an identical fashion each night. This process is the antithesis of spontaneity and its cumulative effect is more negative than positive. Everything has become a little too "set."

The premeditated nature of this one-woman show is also not assisted by its running time. An eight o'clock curtain lets the audience out of the theatre at eleven pm. Even with material this brilliant and a performer as talented as Tomlin, that's a lot to ask of an audience.

Jane Wagner's script for *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe* is now available in paperback, with illustrations, for \$7.95. Those of you who want to savor her dialogue or who can't afford the price of a seat at the Curran, may want to consider owning the book. Your absence will certainly not diminish the overwhelming popular success of this current engagement.

With the money you save, you can take yourself and a friend to see *Big Business*, Tomlin's new film with Bette Midler which is due to be released next year, and even buy some popcorn and a soda. Although the upcoming film took several months to shoot, the spontaneity quotient of the evening should be significantly higher than what you will experience at the Curran. ■

The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe continues Tuesdays through Sundays at the Curran Theatre, 445 Geary St., until February 21. Tickets are available at the box office, all Ticketron outlets and major agencies. To charge by phone, call 243-9001.



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A Woman's Mind

Lesbian Psychologies: Explorations and Challenges
edited by the Boston Lesbian Psychologies Collective.
University of Illinois Press, Urbana and Chicago, 1987
375 pp., paper, \$12.95.

One day during the difficult time when I was coming out, my friend, Linda, advised, "Don't let them own the definitions of 'lesbian.'" I knew exactly who she meant: Some vocal members of the women's community made it clear who they thought the 'real lesbians' were — certain courageous individuals who lived in women-only enclaves, had monogamous, perfectly egalitarian relationships, ate only vegetarian food, and devoted themselves round-the-clock to working for the overthrow of the patriarchy. Unfortunately, perhaps, I didn't completely fit the bill.

That's one of the reasons why the recently released *Lesbian Psychologies* is such a welcome publication. Not because it doesn't talk about the overthrow of the patriarchy (it does, a bit) but because it promotes diversity

introduction. "Indeed we have chosen to use the plural form, 'Lesbian Psychologies,' in the title of this book to emphasize the diversity of the ways of being a healthy lesbian." It's about time.

Nichols writes: "I think that many lesbians are threatened [by bisexuality] because they are afraid that they, too, may need to reopen the issue of their choice of partners."

in a way not often seen in the lesbian community in the late '70s and early '80s.

"There is no single lesbian identity, nor is there a single lesbian identity development," the book's authors write in the in-

This long-overdue recognition of lesbian diversity is not the only reason to celebrate the appearance of this book, which comprises 20 essays on topics that include bisexuality, alcoholism, incest, motherhood, eat-

ing disorders, sexuality and sex therapy.

It is also the first volume I've seen with a psychological perspective that focuses exclusively on lesbians and does not consider lesbianism to be pathological. When the authors, members of the Boston Lesbian Psychologies Collective, write in their introduction that they are filling an important need because this type of literature is scant, they aren't just idly patting themselves on their collective backs. They are right.

I know this because I probably have one of the more academ-

ically oriented coming-out stories around: I was in grad school studying clinical psychology when I had my first romance with another woman, and I plunged into researching a paper on "lesbian identity formation." I read a considerable amount on the subject (though I never wrote the paper).

Among the handful of journal articles and chapters in books that focused on gay men, I found very little that reflected my own experience and that of the lesbians I knew. And this is why I was pleased with the opening essay in this collection, Carla Golden's "Diversity and Variability in Women's Sexual Identities." There is a wide range of how women experience their sexual identity, she writes; some feel it is fluid and changeable ("Then I was heterosexual and now I'm a lesbian"), but for others, it is essential and fixed ("I'm a born lesbian"). Although her evi-

with women rather than men for reasons that are part emotional and part political, while at the same time we believe that we were always lesbians. It is uncomfortable for us to realize that what is chosen can be unchosen."

Nichols, clearly, does not shy away from controversy. In this article (she has another on sex therapy) she argues "we cannot simply reject physical attractiveness and our response to physical beauty as somehow politically incorrect." She also tries to account for what researchers report is a dramatic decline in the frequency of sex for lesbian couples after a two-to-four-year period.

While I don't always agree with her — for instance, she speculates that lesbianism may reflect an unconscious decision made at an early age to rebel against gender roles, and I'm dubious about that — she addresses some of the most crucial issues facing the lesbian community. I do agree with her conclusion:

"This is the time for lesbians to explore our passion and the paths down which our sexual desire leads us, and to do this exploration without judgment except when absolutely necessary. . . . Now is the time to affirm that anything that lesbians do sexually really is lesbian sexuality, to affirm all our sexuality as politically correct sex."

Other thought-provoking articles are Sarah F. Pearlman's "The Saga of Continuing Class in Lesbian Community, or Will an Army of Ex-Lovers Fail?" and Francine Lea Rainone's "Beyond Community: Politics and Spirituality." Pearlman discusses the sociopolitical, historical and psychological roots of conflict in the lesbian community, while Rainone takes issue with the idea of community building as desirable. Rainone calls instead for the development of a "communal spirit" through spiritual practices such as meditation.

As in any anthology, not all the articles reach the same standard. I was particularly disappointed by Buffy Dunker's article on aging lesbians, which I found to be awash in clichés: "For lesbians, prejudice and

This long-overdue recognition of lesbian diversity comprises 20 essays on topics that include bisexuality, and sex therapy.

dence is anecdotal and based on a small survey (95 students at a women's college), it rings true to me.

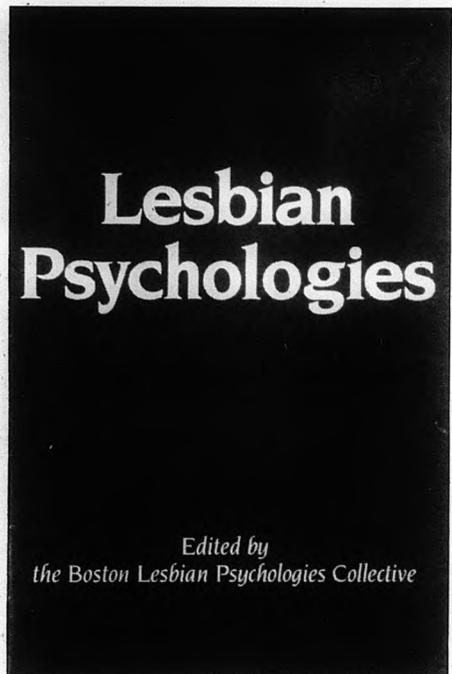
Golden's article has some elements in common with Rebecca Shuster's "Sexuality as a Continuum: The Bisexual Identity." While Golden writes about the fluidity of sexual identity for some women, Shuster argues, among other points, that bisexuality is threatening because it reopens the issue of sexual choice. This theme is again picked up in Margaret Nichols' "Lesbian Sexuality: Issues and Developing Theory." Nichols writes: "I think that many lesbians are threatened [by bisexuality] because they are afraid that they, too, may need to reopen the issue of their choice of partners."

"The issue of choice is a sensitive one for lesbian feminists. Many of us would like to believe, on one hand, that we chose to be

harassment are common, so we've had to develop a degree of solid, stubborn self-confidence." Also, Sally Crawford, writing on lesbian families, belabors the obvious: "When there is some differential between the partners' levels of interest in embarking on [a] new phase of family life, it must be discussed."

But this book is meant to be a beginning, not an end. And as that, it is successful. Other individuals will undoubtedly respond to its more controversial points, and that debate will expand our knowledge of ourselves and awaken us to new possibilities. This is a book that is of value not only to clinicians, but for all who are interested in the future of the lesbian community. ■

Deborah Bergman is an editor at the San Francisco Chronicle and mother of an eight-year-old daughter.



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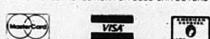
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Computers and New Music Suffering Vertigo

Computer music, featured last week in a festival by the San Francisco Symphony's New and Unusual Music series, is a kind of litmus test for the sensibilities of art in the last half of the twentieth century. Before jumping into a discussion of the music presented, let's look at the broader historical implications behind this new sound source.

The road to computer music begins in the break between the myth of the artist-as-craftsman that prevailed in European society up to the end of the 18th century and the myth of the artist-as-genius that came into vogue with 19th-century Romanticism. The latter outlook prized the artist who could shock his audience, who could lead us to ever newer vistas and ever richer sounds. It, of course, led to one of the most fertile periods in the history of the music.

The apex of the old system might be said to have come on that night in Paris in 1778 when a *Concerts Spirituels* audience, tickled by a particularly ingenious transition in Mozart's new symphony (K. 297), burst into spontaneous applause. The listeners had immediately recognized the art that the composer put into the passage, partly because they understood all of the ground rules under which he was working. Mozart in his letter

composers who had despaired of the general audience and offered them a haven in which they could work out their more advanced ideas. Many of these new ideas involved relegating to the computer some of their compositional decisions. This put the music at still once more removed from the audience's comprehension.

This history leads directly to the psychology that produced Roger Reynolds' *Symphony [Vertigo]*, played by the San Francisco Symphony last week in its subscription concerts. As the program note Reynolds contributed makes clear, in this piece the composer was consciously breaking up the elements of his music and recombining so as to create disorientation in the listener.

The composer began his note to the *Symphony [Vertigo]* with a self-consciously, self-congratulatory quotation from Milan Kundera's novel *The*

What I did come away with from Reynolds' music was a feeling that the orchestra is still light-years ahead of a computer-generated tape as a source of music.

to his father about the experience said that he had anticipated their delight, in fact, that he had consciously engineered it.

Under the new system, the general audience was never again to understand the formal rules of composition so clearly and so immediately. Greatness became innovation. Each new innovation required study before it could be comprehended; the more profound the advance, the more study it required.

Simplifying excessively for the sake of argument, one could say that the next important change occurred when Arnold Schoenberg created twelve-tone theory, for in the works written under this plan the organizing principles of the music were not readily available to the general audience or even to a good deal of the sophisticated audience of Schoenberg's time. This does not mean that Schoenberg's music is bad or boring, for much of it is extraordinarily beautiful and, 70 years later, even comprehensible. But it means that most of its immediate audience was denied the moment of delight that Mozart had put into his symphony.

As the 20th century progressed, composers seemed gradually to get farther and farther ahead of the concert-going audience. After the Second World War when the computer arrived, it encountered many

Unbearable Lightness of Being: "Anyone whose goal is 'something higher' must expect to suffer vertigo." After meditating on this sentence for a while, Reynolds got down to the meat of the matter: "I wanted to explore the listener's sense of orientation, his ability to perceive where he is, in a reconfigured continuity. But [the listener's] task now is additionally complicated. Unlike a traditional theme and variation, the source continues here (the 'themes' of these algorithmic variants) are not always readily available. . . .

"Beyond fragmenting and reordering musical materials (our tradition usually involved the reverse process, building totalities out of motivic fragments), another way of producing disorientating perspectives is by augmentation."

In terms of his structural principles, Reynolds succeeded in completely frustrating any sense I had of what he was doing. As the music went along, I discerned neither beginning, middle nor end. When it was over, I could begin to map out the shape of the whole, but certainly not while it was going on. Yet if Reynolds thought he was creating a new concert-hall experience, one that would invite an audience's interest for that reason alone, he was more than half a century too late. Much of what we heard in Reynold's symphony seemed



Composer/performer Michael Waisvisz "plays" the computer using remote hand controls.

completely traditional, at least within Reynolds' own tradition.

Frustrating (or more positively put, "expanding") expectation can create a kind of wonder that is in itself a most enjoyable aesthetic experience. It is a very modern experience. But except for some tricky juxtapositions within the orchestral music, few of Reynolds' experiments invited awe. Some lovely and unusual orchestral sonorities piqued interest, but most of Reynolds' symphony established little that was abiding.

What I did come away with from Reynolds' music was a feeling that the orchestra is still light-years ahead of a computer-generated tape as a source of music. But then, I love the world of classical music because I love the sound of the instruments of the orchestra. At one level, it is really that simple: it's all in the overtones.

□ Performer/composer Michael Waisvisz, whose music was featured on Saturday night's concert at the Palace of Fine Arts, plays a computer like an instrument, partly because he was first excited by the sound of a shortwave radio. There is a way in which as a composer Waisvisz

In The Archaic Symphony, Waisvisz, to my way of thinking, built his music in order to juxtapose different tuning systems.

gives the impression that he is faced towards his audience, while Reynolds gives the impression that he is faced away.

Personally I enjoyed Waisvisz's performance enormously, partly because I thought I understood the music's structural components. In *The Ar-*

chaic Symphony, Waisvisz, to my way of thinking, built his music in order to juxtapose different tuning systems. Each of the three movements of the work presented a different archaic example, which Waisvisz introduced into his computer via a digital process such as are used to make CDs. The first movement, after a great deal of electronic meandering that was nevertheless dramatic, finally settled into a few moments of Mongolian music that Waisvisz had found incorporated into a work by Karlheinz Stockhausen. These songs clarified the texture of the first movement remarkably. And then the movement ended.

The second movement was a meditation on the "Lovefeast" theme from Wagner's *Parsifal*, which is itself one of the most profound meditations on the modern European tuning system. Waisvisz played wittily with Wagner's inspired idea, creating almost a theme and variations movement. Though I enjoyed Waisvisz's maneuvers enormously, I did recognize that the greatness of this music owed more to Wagner than to Waisvisz.

The last movement continued to meander in space-age idioms, until it introduced some bells turned for Javanese gamelan music — another of the most in-

ventive tuning systems known to man. By then Waisvisz had me enthralled. But I did wonder why, if Waisvisz was so intrigued by electronic sound, he had used these man-made sounds to underpin his symphony. But still, I wasn't sorry that he had. ■

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John Woodall's 'Gimcrack' Aesthetics Pleaser

John Woodall's resumé file has a classic purity in living up to our stereotype of the contemporary avant-gardist. He migrated from somewhere eastward to study at the Art Institute in '66 and dropped (from the SFAI roof, actually) his plastic art of choice (sculpture) in favor of multimedia work by the end of That Turbulent Decade.

He's maintained that "early '70s purist aura" (not *my* phrase, man) right through the unfriendly '80s by regularly emerging from his honest-to-God SOMA loft space to offer performance works of diversity and merit. His works' respectfully soft-voiced reception ("one of his more accessible works" is about the highest praise the mainstream press has generated to date) has guaranteed that "crossover"

find rather absurd and entirely useless.

Sometimes enjoying a performance piece is as simple/complex, subjective and inexplicable as the whys and whats of one's own aesthetic sense. Do the shapes, color combos, juxtapositions of particular media, the use of sound stroke your fur or rub against it? Does the atmosphere achieved strike a harmonic or discordant tone in your brain?

What made Gimcrack click has little to do with time-honored critical standards like pacing, focus, thesis, narrative and the like.

success is unlikely to imperil him.

It's such a perfect picture that one is struck by how atypical it must be: not just in the details, but in the rather astonishing fact that Woodall is still at it, never having stopped or significantly jumped tracks. This makes him something of a local grand old man of performance art, an honor one suspects he'd

Would moments that seemed funny or poignant or beautiful or annoying or self-indulgent have seemed otherwise if you'd arrived at the theatre in a different mood?

These observations, or wafflings, came up in the context of watching Woodall's *Gimcrack*, which played last weekend at Theatre Artaud as part of this



Headphones but no music: Tron Bykle listens to no avail in John Woodall's *Gimcrack*.

year's American Inroads series. For me, the hour-long performance was funny, beautiful, tender, at times magical. For my companion and probably a fair number of audience members it was, well, boring.

Both responses are on the money. It's legitimate to feel balked when an evening at the theatre offers scarcely a clue as to what it's supposed to be about. On the other hand, there's no denying (and why would you want to?) the pleasure that can be had when an artist creates exquisite atmospherics and reverberating images you can just... free, free associate along with. While the '60s and early '70s "happenings" have clearly had a profound effect on the direction of experimental theatre since (and the increasing stagnation of conventional theatre forms), every performance of this sort still challenges our uncertain ability to let a mystifying theatre experience just "happen" to us.

Gimcrack's "action" occurs on, over and around a mini-proscenium setting of artfully ramshackle style conceived by Woodall and designed/constructed by Woodall with his two fellow performers and Rick Dula. At the start, one trench-coated, scarecrowlike figure is mounted on a pulley track jutting toward the audience while his more clearly human clone stands frozen in the distant background. In the middle stage space, a third figure (Tom Ford) rotates endlessly on a stool, making and undoing cat's cradles with twine. This initial tableau is broken by blackout and a brief unnerving burst of wartime noise and imagery.

Most of the remaining piece is strongly reminiscent of the playfully dislocated humor of *Waiting for Godot* and *Endgame* — nomadic figures engaged in frequently slapstick, always inscrutable combat and camaraderie on a landscape both alien and familiar. Woodall and Tron Bykle, having ditched their film-noir getups, become leaping, furtive underground creatures, speaking in multilingual gibberish and diving

through trapdoors to escape the sneaky inquirings of the persistent outsider Ford.

Gimcrack is, on its most surface (but only clear) level, "about" the way these three figures conflict, cooperate or are oblivious — both among themselves and toward their active surroundings — in surprising, often humorous ways. A trapdoor "hole" repeatedly sucks up objects and people as a running gag. A dummy double for the gnomish Ford appears to provide him with a ventriloquist's partner. Slide projections and the coolly spoken non sequiturs of occasional male and female voice-overs add to the piece's trancelike, yet compact weave.

"Everything connected and disconnected at the same time," a voice intones, and that about

ly humanistic rather than tony-wonder. The whimsical physical presence of the performers communicates much of this; Woodall, in particular, has the magnetic otherness of a not-quite-domesticated exotic animal here.

After I'd slowly warmed to the work and was thoroughly engaged, a guilty thought occurred: Beyond the superficial differences in design sensibility, scale, etc., there was precious little difference in the things I could say about this piece I liked and those of my least favorite local purveyor of impenetrability, George Coates.

Like Coates' most recent shows, *Gimcrack's* canvas is textual rather than narrative, its primary interest far more in making flowing, mutational stage pictures rather than any legible statements. It mixes the quirky, otherworldly and mundane in generally similar ways for comic and puzzling effects. The language it sporadically permits its actors is the postmodernist stereotype of pure or Zen-like nonsense fragments that imply satire or profundity in a way that quickly turns my audio perception dial to Off.

Woodall's work shares Coates' vague humanism tempered by faint jabs at man's inhumanity to man/disharmony with Ma Earth/the ever popular Collapsing Modern World. *Gimcrack* is supposedly about the nature of friendship, but (just like *Actual Shō's* claimed commentary about our Bay Area melting pot or some such) you'd never know it if the program notes or interview quotes weren't around to tell you.

What a hypocrite! My critical standards, whatever they are, were left flapping in the progressive wind. The reality of the matter is that what made *Gimcrack* click and *Actual Shō* (at least in its New Performance Festival form last summer) thud has, for me, little to do with time-honored critical standards like pacing, focus, thesis, narrative and the like.

I could pick at straws about how *Gimcrack's* earth tones and Beckettisms are inherently less

There's no denying the pleasure that can be had when an artist creates exquisite atmospherics and reverberating images you can just... er, free associate along with.

sums things up. Woodall's sculptural sense makes much of *Gimcrack* a sublime comedy of unexpected physical connectings. Headphones, ropes et al. spring at will from the set to tie these maybe-humans to their environment, to technology, to implied social conventions.

Near the end, Woodall and Bykle "connect the dots" in the most spectacular way imaginable, crisscrossing striped cord back and forth until the whole stage is one enormous cat's cradle. Then, with all sections secured and taut, they pluck each strand, and the picture becomes a blur of countless vibrating strings. It's an effect of utter simplicity and oddly transcendent, mystical charm.

Gimcrack's technical design — note should also be made of Sandra Woodall's costumes, Jack Carpenter's lighting and Tom Dannenberg/Bill Carrico's sound contributions — is intricate and remarkable. But fortunately, the sum effect is warm-

alienating than Coates' new age psychedelic surrealism... but why bother? Essentially we're spooning at the same post-modernist soup here; chew at this stuff too much and it's suddenly indigestible.

The majority of performance art has long frustrated observers who prefer to walk away with something more than a fog of moods and implications. A narcotic spectacle like *Gimcrack* or *Actual Shō* depends mostly or entirely on the particular aesthetic sympathy of the audience member — hit the right chord and it's "evocative" rather than "empty."

Accessibility isn't everything, or shouldn't be. Sometimes it (er, um) doesn't hurt. Still, there can be bliss in the indecipherable mutterings of the subconscious, and *Gimcrack's* dream was one I was reluctant to leave. That this stuff still germinates in South of Market lofts is a source of comfort as mysterious as Woodall's own art.

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Bertolucci's 'Emperor' and Spielberg's Empire Collision Course

Two of the most eagerly anticipated films in recent years have arrived, seemingly on a collision course like runaway trains. Bernardo Bertolucci and Steven Spielberg must hate each other just now — not that there weren't ample reasons already.

Each has just released a grandiose epic about an overprivileged boy cast adrift in the maelstrom of Chinese power politics earlier in the century, and each film's title refers to the concept of "empire." Now, how is the mass audience really expected to tell the difference? At a preview screening of Spielberg's *Empire of the Sun*, I sat in front of two women who spent several minutes disputing which film they were about to see. We're talking some seriously flawed marketing strategy.

Let's get it straight: *Empire of the Sun* is an adaptation of the autobiographical novel by British science-fiction cult hero J.G. Ballard about his childhood survival in Japanese internment camps in Occupied China during World War II. In many ways a frustrating and self-defeating work, it's memorable in spite of itself. *Empire* capitalizes on a few moments of filmic delicacy and profundity such as Spielberg has never before displayed, and an extraordinary lead performance by young Christian Bale.

Bertolucci's *The Last Emperor* allegorizes the already fabulous tale of Pu Yi, who was crowned as the absolute ruler of China in 1908 at age 3, and ended his days as a public works gardener in Mao's People's Republic. Filming in Beijing's imperial Forbidden City — Bertolucci is the first Westerner permitted to do so — is a bit like raising the Titanic. It's magnificent, but what do you do for an encore? While this movie suffers from an outlandish hype job, it complements its opulence with a quotient of real philosophical depth. For most audiences, it will simply be an unusually lush costume drama-cum-morality play.

It's not entirely facetious or mean to speak of these films being confused with one another. *Empire* and *Emperor* have pronounced structural similarities in addition to sharing some historical and geographical territory. In

terms of cinema history, these movies represent their directors' homage to an ultratraditional filmmaking ethos that emphasizes purely visual factors — enormous scope and exotic design. In a more general cultural context, the existence — and apparent success — of these two films indicates the point of mesmerized fascination we in the West have reached in our attraction/repulsion relationship with the "alien" Far East.

Both films in effect begin with remarkable *tableaux* and proceed through gradually reductive narratives. Early in *Empire of the Sun*, 12-year-old Jimmy travels along the teeming Shanghai waterfront, separated by the windows of his family's limousine from the polyglot culture into which he will shortly

plunged. Pu Yi's coronation in *The Last Emperor* presents a huge abstract image not of chaos but of immense inaccessible order. The child meanders uncomprehendingly through the color-coordinated kowtowing phalanxes of monks, guards and eunuchs in the courtyard of the grand imperial palace. His attention is drawn not by the vast pomp and circumstance but by a chirping cricket that one of the court chamberlains keeps in a carved cylindrical box.

There's a cool detachment to Bertolucci's film that opposes the subjective immediacy Spielberg insists upon. We see all the theatre of life in the Forbidden City but are never certain how the young emperor apprehends

some extent reveals the origins of his bizarrely self-enclosed world view. Try as Spielberg may to do battle with the most complex and dangerous elements of the novel, as adapted in an excellent screenplay by playwright Tom Stoppard, he is naturally drawn to the most literal narrative levels — the ruptured family, the plucky lad on his own.

What results is a parable of survival and lost innocence that incorporates some potent psychological exploration in spots, but ends with the requisite heartwarming family reunification. Jimmy is a bit like an earlier boyhood wanderer, Huck Finn: he's similarly subject to misinterpretation by sentimentalists, and the knowledge he gains makes

Bertolucci's saga of Pu Yi is formulated as a way of posing questions, not as a channel for directing audience sympathies. The young emperor — played by a succession of actors until John Lone takes over at adulthood — is a kind of inverse cipher of what he's supposed to be. Deposed by a Nationalist coup at age 7, Pu Yi retains imperial privilege but becomes powerless, a prisoner in the Forbidden City. Educated by a British tutor (Peter O'Toole shows up to give the film some marquee value), he is entirely ignorant of human society. Surrounded by people, he's friendless.

In a number of interviews, Bertolucci has spoken of going to China in hopes of leaving all Western philosophy behind, only to discover he couldn't escape his influences. While the Marxist angle on Pu Yi's story is too obvious to require discussion, he plainly also is a Freudian symbol of the infantile "imperial" self. Like Freud's model of the child psyche, Pu Yi loses his perceived omnipotence and becomes obsessed with regaining it. In a specific reference to the classic childhood rejection, the emperor loses his wet nurse — when he's ten. Once he is finally exiled from the Forbidden City in the '20s, Pu Yi lapses into Western self-indulgence, leading an idle playboy existence. For Bertolucci, this signals the character's simultaneous decline into bourgeois decadence, infantile neurosis and imperialist powerlust.

While Bertolucci's morals may not be the same kind as Spielberg's, he certainly knows how to punish characters who transgress against the code. Pu Yi is duped by the Japanese into ruling as sham emperor in the wartime puppet state of Manchukuo. Blackmailed into acting as the rubber stamp for increasingly egregious policies, he loses his wife (the gorgeous Chinese actress Joan Chen) to opium, as well as any shreds of self-respect and popular support he might have retained. Captured by the Soviets at war's end, Pu Yi is

Continued on page 28



Their imperial majesties: puppet Emperor Pu Yi (John Lone) and Empress Wan Jung (Joan Chen) in the new Bertolucci epic.

returning to his old life impossible. No matter how much an audience wants to believe Spielberg, even he can't make the conclusion of history's most atrocious war seem much like a happy ending.

By the time the Japanese invasion of Shanghai separates Jimmy from his family, Spielberg has already developed a tone of elegant BBC-style drama documenting their idyllic lives as part of the city's Western financial elite. (Before the war starts, we're approximately in *Jewel in the Crown*; after the prison camp locale is set, it's *A Town Called Alice*.) As in *E.T.*, *Pollergeist* and even *The Color Purple*, his theme is both the primacy of the family unit, however it's defined, and the destructive power the adult world wields over childhood (and more generally over imagination). There's no point in excoriating Spielberg for the conventionality of his moral code; whatever you think of it, it's neither phony nor simplistic.

It is also unfair to compare a film to the book it's "based" on (whatever that means), but more dissimilar aesthetic sensibilities than Spielberg's and Ballard's would be hard to imagine. Ballard is a minatory technopoeist of the desolate urban and suburban landscapes of the late century; *Empire of the Sun* to



Survival strategies: Basie (John Malkovich) gives young Jim Graham (Christian Bale) his first lesson in how to ward off starvation in *Empire of the Sun*.

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Royalty Will Reign

It's the week before Xmas, and you're almost on your own. I'm peeling out Friday with Memphis Mark on a pilgrimage to the promised land. Seattle will be a stopover: sort of a proto-papal courtesy call to sanctify the Space Needle, to belt bourbon on the holy waters of Puget Sound and to charitably offer an audience to my pagan parents.

For the daunting duration of my absence, boy-wonder Bobo Baird will craft this column, leaving loyal readers in appropriately anarchic hands. Don't doubt the boy any more than you trust him and don't make any moves on his boyfriend. Bobo has the playful eyes and instincts of a pit bull.

Goddess willing, rad reader, you and I will reunite under this masthead next year. Until that glorious day, I humbly ask that you be granted megahappy holidays, that you forgive any bad tips I've offered, revere all prescient pointers, and pencil me into your will for the lion's share of your estate.

Sister Double Happiness, Lawn Vultures, Bad Boys

The Vultures have a sensational, sexy singer who makes marvels of their rough covers. SDH torque out with ZZ Top. Gary, their singer, is an unparalleled rock-homo: an unlikely apparition buoyantly breaking. The openers better burn if they hope to live up to their name — or this bill. Rank the top two teams with the local must-sees for '87. (Kennel Club, 12/18, 10 pm, \$5)

Gospel Hummingbirds

Jon Carroll insisted they were white and ear-shattering in the *Chron*. Maybe he stumbled into a Seahawks show at DNA. The combo calls down heaven. (Paradise, 12/18, 9 & 11 pm, free)

Sandra Bernhard, TBA

The too-believable ditz from *The King of Comedy* made suspects of sympathizers with last year's ersatz-Ricki Lee LP. Since then she's been romantically linked with Theresa of the Butthole Surfers — or was it Gibby? — and planning to record with them. OK? So, I'm baffled too, and tempted. (Fillmore, 12/18, 8 & 11 pm, \$14)

Kats & Kitten

Last shot at the ever improving, hardest-working-combo-in-SOMA's big-stage cabaret run. (DNA, 12/19, 10 pm, \$4)

Boho Luv Jones,

Birdkillers, Lawn Vultures

The headliners, with their Iggy-goes-swamp shtick, are gravy. It's the lead crooners for the Killers and the Vultures (each sexy,

authentic, bastard sons of Elvis) who raise this to a wicked bill. (Music Works, 12/19, 10 pm, \$4)

Lydia Lunch, Henry Rollins, Hubert Selby III

An inspired troika take on the spoken word. Negative-charisma-queen Lunch resembles Sylvia Plath via *The Exorcist*. Rollins, Black Flag's tattooed brawn-flasher, radiates friendly ferocity, but it's Selby who's daddy to them both and the richly intriguing opener. (DNA, 12/20, 8 pm, \$7)

Capitol Records Party

You got a shot at a Chili Pepper's skateboard, rad T-shirts or maybe an adventurous dude-reveler. (Kennel Club, 12/20, 7 pm, free)

Fillmore Four

Young whitebreads do '60s hits a cappella. (Paradise, 12/20, 9 & 11 pm, free)

Seahags, Hangmen, Birdkillers

The Beam does its bit, asking that you bring a "toy for a tot" (not your old diildoes, please) in place of a door charge. One more shot at catching the BK's new vocalist, the awesome Okie Gary, if you arrive early. Next up are the generic garage gonzos off LA's Scream Club anthology, and a chance to fathom whether Chrystal had a clue when they signed the headlining trio. Can ex-Mary's employees playing retarded-Aerosmith be rock 'n' roll's future? (I-Beam, 12/21, 10:30 pm, free)

Spot 1019

The combo who brought you "Gnarly, Gnarly Surf Machine" pursues infantilism into pathology. (Paradise, 12/22, 9 & 11 pm, free)



Cosmetic wonder: Sylvester goes to heaven and back, Wednesday, 12/23, at the I-Beam.

Flying Color, Buck Naked, Flophouse

The openers feature JC Hopkins — tagged as an '80s Arlo Guthrie goin' electric — followed by the bare-butt, sophomorically salacious, yahoo frat-funsters. (Kennel, 12/23, 10 pm, \$4)

Sylvester, Tremaine

Royalty will reign and the heavens delight when Syl soars and struts beneath his fiery new do: forty and still flaming. The disco thrush from the Hawkins' gospel dynasty will prepare the lucky for the legend. (I-Beam, 12/23, 10 pm, \$7 adv/\$8 day)

Jerry Sheffer, Carnival Law

The big man bleeds for you one more time. God bless the humble wonder. (Music Works, 12/23, 10 pm, \$3)

Fanelli, Shapiro & Trish

The cozy club offers Xmas drinks, free fresh popcorn and this eclectic combo as a tempting alternative to being alone, convinced you are a failure and a pariah on Xmas Eve. Just a possibility — the line may stretch all the way to City Hall. (Paradise, 12/24, 9 & 11 pm, free)

ITEM

Continued from previous page

eventually delivered to the newly installed Mao regime for judgment. Rather than facing the firing squad he expects, he is remanded to a reeducation camp, where ten years later he will be declared cured. Contemptuously he tells his interrogator, "You only keep me alive because I am useful to you." "Is that so terrible?" comes the reply. "To be useful to someone?"

Some critics have remarked that Bertolucci accepts the value of Maoist indoctrination without question; it's clear to me he wishes to contrast it, for better or

worse, with the Occidental religion of psychotherapy. His Pu Yi begins as the one man who represents all China — but is totally isolated — and ends as one man who accepts that the collective must represent him. Lone's performance, which seems a little distracted when the emperor is young, comes beautifully into focus in the film's latter scenes. Pu Yi the aging gardener confronts the harsh ironies of the neo-imperialist Cultural Revolution, and his return visit to the Forbidden City as a ticket-buying visitor I won't spoil, except to describe it as a moment of incomparable poignancy and serenity.

It should go without saying

that Bertolucci and star cinematographer Vittorio Storaro produce many shots and sequences of surpassing beauty; so in fact do Spielberg and his cinematographer Allen Daviau in *Empire of the Sun*. So who needs beautiful images? You can find them in television commercials. Each of these films has a little trouble recovering from its grand pictorial impulses; I think the difference appears because Bertolucci doesn't depend upon beauty to produce an emotional reaction in the viewer. As a politically aware European, he knows better than to trust in beautiful images. Spielberg's background, on the other hand, works against him: he is a

tremendously talented director who has been trained in the most manipulative kind of hack work.

Again and again in *Empire of the Sun*, he'll hold a particularly pretty shot — two kamikaze pilots framed against the setting sun, a crashed Zero Jimmy finds in a field — just long enough that it becomes thoroughly drenched in Williams' heavenly-choir score. It's a maddening experience; as if Kurosawa has allowed some Hollywood hacks to reedit and score his film. For indeed, his work with actors Bale and John Malkovich, in the role of an avaricious, predatory American seaman whom Jimmy allies himself with, indicate what Spielberg is capable of, and the

claustrophobic, sad and desolate early scenes of Jimmy living alone in his parents' deteriorating house, waiting for nothing to happen, surpasses what you might expect from his director.

Both Bertolucci and Spielberg have made their new efforts a bit too grand for my tastes — Bertolucci is trying to resuscitate a career in decline ever since Brando and Maria Schneider and unsafe sex in *Last Tango in Paris*, and Spielberg is seeking to continue his as a "serious" auteur. These are certainly momentous movies, and while one of the filmmakers is too good to be bad, at least the other is too sharp to be dull.

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LESS TALK
D A V E F O R D

Summit Effluvia

Last week was a newshound's dream: Raisa and Nancy landed with a clunk at the Summit; PSA landed in the hills; Art Agnos landed in the Big Chair; and Madonna and Sean Penn landed in a heap of postmarital recriminations.

It's Christmas in twenty column inches.

Has Bean

Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev's evident *bonhomie* (and, incidentally, their INF treaty) at the Summit last week paled compared to the secrecy surrounding the early (and enduring) frost chilling the Nancy Reagan-Raisa Gorbachev coffee klatch.

For instance, the brand of coffee the two First Ladies downed Wednesday morning remains, to this day, a closely guarded state secret — despite Less Talk's best efforts to get the scoop.

Asked about the First Ladies' Summit blend, a spokeswoman in Nancy Reagan's press office said Thursday, "We don't give out that kind of information." But why? "The White House has a policy of not endorsing one product over another," she said, politely but firmly. Then, in confidential tones, she added, "I mean, if it was between, say, Maxwell House and Folger's, we wouldn't be seen as saying one is better than the other." The point, of course, is moot: both are rancid.

I asked if the First Ladies had drunk domestic coffee, or had, for instance, enjoyed a hearty espresso or latte. "Well, they had their choice of coffee, tea or orange juice," the spokeswoman said. She declined to say which Mrs. Gorbachev drank.

I asked if she'd heard this question before during the Summit. "Actually, no," she said. "You're the first. Now, when the ladies met in Geneva, they had tea, and all the reporters wanted to know what kind of tea it was. But not this time."

Press Hawks

I wasn't the only one swept away by Summit effluvia last week. A digest of press accounts reveals the media's eye for telling trivia....

Invite Disaster

The December 4 *New York Times* reported that after waiting two weeks for Mrs. Gorbachev to accept Mrs. Reagan's invitation to afternoon tea, American ambassadors fired off a cable saying, though not in so many words, "Shit or get off the pot, lady."

Said Nancy Reagan (*Chron*, December 8): "It got to the point where I said I have to know, so I said, 'I have to know.'"

Said a Nancy Reagan friend: "The Russians were acting wacky."

Said another Reagan friend, of Mrs. Gorbachev: "I suspect we're dealing with a very difficult woman."

Said yet another friend (Mrs. Reagan is apparently very popular), referring to a previous encounter between the two First Ladies: "After their meeting, Nancy felt that Mrs. Gorbachev was a Communist through and through and that she just wanted to spout doctrine."

Heart o' Tact

The December 8 *NY Times* reported that Nancy Reagan told reporters the day before that Mrs. Gorbachev "seems very nice."

Rift Raft

The December 9 *Times* featured a host of key details. It reported: • On Mrs. Gorbachev's "mystery shrouded sightseeing tour" of the capital (during which her limousine simply sped by monuments, not bothering to stop and talk to various groups assembled to greet her). One National Academy of Sciences official said: "In a word, it's gross."

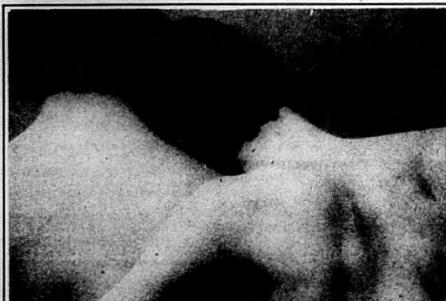
• That Mrs. Gorbachev's "muted" wardrobe was redundant. Wrote reporter Elaine Sciolino: "She wore the same silver and gray fox jacket and gray skirt that she wore in Reykjavik."

• That Elaine Crispin, Mrs. Reagan's press secretary, called rumors of rifts between the two First Ladies "silliness." She also quoted Mrs. Reagan as saying she found Mrs. Gorbachev to be "very nice," and said Mrs. Reagan found her short meeting with Mrs. Gorbachev (before their huddles signed the big treaty) "very pleasant."

Now Museum, No You Don't

Things tensed up with the highly charged coffee klatch and White House tour, however. The December 10 *Times* reported that Mrs. Gorbachev, asked how she liked the White House, tactfully replied, "It's an official house. I would say that humanly speaking a human being would like to live in a regular home. This is a museum."

Guiding Mrs. Gorbachev into the State dining room, Mrs. Reagan said, "This is where we were last night." Mrs. Gorbachev tactfully replied, "It seems to be smaller today."



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This is no way to make friends in high places. By the end of the visit, according to the *Times*, White House aides were so miffed by Mrs. Gorbachev's tact that "they were reduced to sniping about her clothes." Even the *Times*' Elaine Sciolino got into the act; she wrote: "A bit cock-tailish, don't you think?" said one White House aide about Mrs. Gorbachev's outfit: a black crepe dress with satin collar and cummerbund and rhinestone buckle, black suede stiletto shoes and clutch bag, and rhinestone appliques on her baggy hose. Mrs. Reagan wore an understated Oscar de la Renta Glen plaid dress and a simple gold collar necklace and earrings."

Crock of Ages

It appears the White House tried to hit Mrs. Gorbachev where it hurts on one key detail. According to a December 10 Reuters report run in the *Ex*, Soviet officials say Mrs. G was born in 1934, which makes her 53. Western news media contend she's 55.

The official White House biography said Mrs. G was born in 1930 — which would make her 57.

(Of course, as the story also reports, Nancy Reagan is no stranger to age conflicts: while she maintains she's 64, school records say she's 66.)

Making a Past

Perhaps the First Ladies' little tiff can best be explained by background differences. A December 11 *Ex* story pointed

out that Nancy Reagan used to be an actress; Raisa Gorbachev used to be an intellectual.

Now, of course, they're both Style Warriors.

Party Hearties

Style Warriors only comprised a handful of the happily semi-trendy batch of sweating boylets crowding the December 5 *Boy Party*. The oh-so-excloo do — held this time in a humongo, two-story SOMA warehouse — lived down past charges of a racist and ageist door policy: shoulder to shoulder, the "boys" looked older, if colder (after a 20-minute wait in the outdoor SOMA chill), and the ethnically balanced mix boasted "boys" refusing to look black in anger.

"This party is a bust," sniffed one lounge lizard upstairs. "There just aren't as many pretty people as last time." This from a young(ish) Pee-Wee Herman lookalike dressed in yesterday's slave bracelets. Downstairs, a raft of party workers dressed as choirboys waltzed through, transcending altared

states. Upstairs, the toilet overflowed. Downstairs, the dance floor overflowed. Upstairs, shirts came off, revealing perfect peecs. Downstairs, flirts got rough, reveling in prefab sex.

And everyone loathed my Robert Smith big hair; they were displeased, but I had The Cure. At 2 am, publicity shy choir-boy Ben Dong shooed partygoers into the street, sighing, "Now I get to party!" He refused to acknowledge that the only real selling point to his febrile fetes is the goddamn quote he lifted from my column six months ago and has used — uncredited — on every invite since. But he lets me pay for beers, so I don't begrudge him the theft.

Key Witness

The night before, I got lucky at a National Gay and Lesbian Task Force/Community United Against Violence benefit at USF. Speaking onstage about "straight"-boy gay bashers, MC Danny Williams quipped, "We don't like them because they're

Continued on next page

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JAMES BALDWIN

Continued from page 22

several younger sisters and brothers as their lives matured.

Just Above My Head didn't stimulate, the way *Giovanni's Room* did, nor impress with the power of *Another Country*, but in dealing with the whole of Montana's life, and exploring his family's handling of his death, Baldwin traced the trend of attitudes toward gay people over more than a quarter century, and ended on hope. He once again told his readers something secret and real about himself, and very likely about themselves, and in a most elegant and satisfying way, Baldwin closed the circle of his gay fiction.

Perhaps if you can accept the pain that almost kills you, you can use it, you can become better.

— Another Country
If Baldwin's achievement was so great in illuminating both the black experience and the gay experience, why is he so little known to gays, and so gingerly handled by blacks?

A slight, spidery man with a ragged face and protruding, penetrating eyes, he could make a person uncomfortable with a look, never mind the power of his thoughts and words. No less than honest himself, he permitted neither deceit nor self-deception from others. In other words, a difficult man to be with, day to day.

In a private conversation in Los Angeles in the late '70s, when he was lecturing at UCLA, Baldwin said he often felt he was anathema to both



black and gay communities. "I was too queer and too pacific to be easily accepted by movement blacks — too black" and too radical to be embraced by movement gays," he said with some wistfulness.

He smiled at the memory of the angry reception he once got



in the mid-'60s when he arrived at a black radical "war council" with a white male lover on his

arm. "That was me; they had no choice but take me or leave me. Most left me, but despite that, they knew my voice was heard after their stridency had shut them out."

While his open gayness made him suspect as too "weak" for the awesome battles over racial equality, his consistent choice of the black movement over the gay movement distressed many gay leaders and infuriated others. "He was often asked to

many things, involves many issues, and that honesty is required in all of them."

Baldwin himself, asked on that sunny UCLA afternoon why the black movement received his unflinching support and gay politics got little or none, said simply, "Blacks don't have the choice of being invisible. I don't advocate invisibility for gay people, but historically they have not been shut out in the same absolute

Just Above My Head took him back to the gay sensibility that so effectively limned his earlier successful fiction.

lend his voice or name or presence to a gay cause," recalls curator Jim Kepner of the International Gay Archives in Los Angeles. "He nearly always declined, or failed to respond. In spite of that, he was and is a major figure for gays; he showed that coming out means

terms that blacks have been. My black family needs me more than my gay family, and there's only so much of me to go around."

So was black America ungrateful when, in the final hours before laying Baldwin to rest, they omitted mention of his gay

life? *Times* reporter Daniels thinks not. "It was so commonly known and accepted as fact that there seemed no need to say it. I don't think it was a deliberate omission on anyone's part."

Maya Angelou certainly brought into focus the central message of Baldwin's life and work in her eulogy: His legacy, she said, is that "the task of the living is to try to love each other, to try to hold on to each other." She noted that Baldwin was exceptionally sensitive to the roles and needs of women, and that his female characters were strong and complex.

Closer to expressing Baldwin's gay sensibility without using those words, Toni Morrison's funeral encomium for Baldwin cited him as "a loving spirit whose unflinching honesty was informed by a delicate yet durable tenderness — a tenderness and vulnerability that asked everything of us, expected everything of us."

Well and good, but not good enough, according to San Francisco Supervisor Harry Britt, who was angry that straight media failed to make any mention of Baldwin's sexuality or his lover-companion. Britt was first introduced to Baldwin's liberal social thought through the writer's essays, and only later discovered *Giovanni's Room*, and the fact that this hero was also gay.

"The specific quality of his impact on civil rights was informed by his gay sensibility," Britt said. "He influenced me politically before I had even begun to deal with being gay myself. His was a call to test, to examine, to demand accountability from cultures that don't allow people to be free." ■

LESS TALK

Continued from page 29

brain dead, and they don't like us because we're — flawless." A

flawlessly loose-lipped source whispered that NGLTF award-winner Cleve Jones "is absolutely paranoid about the things you

write about him." I can't see why: he is, according to the evening's program, "able to leap tall obstacles with a single bound of faith." I'm short.

In the lobby, organizer Bruce Carolan perfected his plumbing skills, while upstairs, select guests plumbed the depths of cheese spreads and fruit platters. Backstage after their two-encore set, gay singers Romanovsky and Phillips signed posters and talked to fans. "Oh, look," I said to Paul Phillips, who was scribbling his name across a placard, "a picture of you when you were young!"

I realized I was getting senile, though, when I discovered I was missing my keys. Out in the lob-

by, NAMES Project poohbah Mike Smith said he'd found them and given them to Cleve Jones. Cleve spotted me, screamed and ran; I chased him out onto a balcony, where he gleefully dangled the keys over the abyss. "Finally!" he shrieked. "Now listen. You're a journalist. I'm running for supervisor. Let's talk deal."

Instead, we got real: he gave me my keys, and I went home to think up sweet things to say about him. (But I'm not going to plug the NAMES Project Quilt, which is on display at Moscone Center today, 10 am-10 pm; tomorrow, 10 am-6 pm; and Sunday, 10 am-6 pm.) ■

Original Essays Sought for 'New Writing' Series

The *San Francisco Sentinel* invites Bay Area writers to submit essays on any cultural, social or political topic of particular significance for lesbian and gay readers. We are especially interested in writing that explores either the historical significance of gay people or contemporary responses to the AIDS crisis. Writers should telephone Eric Hellman (415/861-8100) to discuss ideas prior to submitting a manuscript. All inquiries are welcome. ■

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WEEK AT A GLANCE

EDITED BY JOHN FRANK

19 DECEMBER SATURDAY

CURAS (Community United in Response to AIDS/SIDA) is an organization advocating AIDS-related services in the gay latino community. Tonight they present their **Prisma Awards** to deserving individuals working within that community. 8 pm-12 am. Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St., SF. \$10 adv/\$12 door. Tickets at Esta Noche, Los Portales and La India Bonita (all on 16th St. near Mission). Info: 821-4425, 431-6021.

The SF Gay Men's Chorus presents its ninth annual holiday concert, **Christmas Is Love: Now Sing with Hearts Aglow**. Under the direction of Gregg Tallman, this year's concert includes scripted scenes from London's Covent Garden in 1887 and from Union Square today. Featuring Men About Town and the Chamber Singers, ensembles of SFGMC. Tonight and tomorrow at 8 pm. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Ave., SF. \$10-\$15. Tickets: 552-3656, 863-8326 or at the door.

Gay and lesbian vegetarians host a **Holiday Potluck Get-Together** — a yuletide meal with a meatless menu. Open to everyone who brings a beverage or a food dish sans meat. 5 pm. For directions to the dinner or more info, call 626-1351.

Oz comes to Oz. Follow the yellow brick road to the Castro Theatre to be swept away from Kansas once more. We've all seen *The Wizard of Oz* dozens of times before, my pretties, but to see it at the Castro is bound to be a special treat. Double bill with *Singin' in the Rain*. Oz: 1, 5:15, 9:30; Rain: 3:15, 7:30 pm. Castro Theatre, 429 Castro St., SF. \$4.50 general/\$3 seniors, children.



Back again: Liza's former hubby turned chanteuse, Peter Allen, hits the burbs in a special one-man show. Saturday, 12/19, Circle Star Theatre, San Carlos, 7:30 pm. Call 762-BASS.

20 DECEMBER SUNDAY

Chorus Director Vance George leads 160 voices from the SF Symphony Chorus in their **Candlelight Christmas Concert**. The program includes a seasonal repertoire of traditional carols and Renaissance and Baroque works. 8:30 pm. Davies Symphony Hall, Grove St. & Van Ness Ave., SF. \$15. Tickets: 431-5400.

Everyone's invited to G40+ Club's annual **holiday celebration**. Meet some people, have a few laughs. Beginning at 2 pm. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St. (at Geary), SF. Free. Info: 552-1977.

EVENT OF THE WEEK

The SF Band Foundation hosts its third annual **Christmas Gala and Dance-Along Nutcracker** featuring all the groups comprising the Foundation: Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps, Flag Corps, Tap Troupe, Vocal Minority, and City Swing. Special guests include Marga Gomez, Danny Williams, Sharon McNight and Sandy Van. Your tutu's at the cleaners? No problem — tutu rentals are available so you can pirouette the night away. Big-band dancing follows the concert with City Swing and vocalist Gail Wilson. 6 pm. GiftCenter Pavilion, 888 Brannan St., SF. \$20-\$25 reserved/\$10-\$15 general admission. Tickets: 621-5619 or at Headlines.

York Theatre and the Jewish Film Festival sponsor a screening of Manfred Kirchheimer's *We Were So*

Beloved, an insightful, often painful documentary about the Jews who fled Germany to escape the Holocaust between 1933 and 1939. 12, 2:45, 5:30, 8:15 pm. York Theatre, 2789 24th St., SF. \$4/\$3 seniors and first matinee.

The Healing Order of K'thar Sissies celebrates the winter solstice with **Bring Back the Light: A Ceremony of Wands**. Partake in the "tribal fire of men's mysteries" with erotic healing and myth; rediscover "pathways to the Cosmogasm." All this and more for the low, low price of \$8. Doors open for admission 7-8 pm. Costumes encouraged, nudity optional. Clothes check and light refreshments are provided. 890 Folsom St. (at Firth St.), SF.

SF United Methodist Church's 1987-88 concert series continues with **Christmas at the Opera**, a performance by a quartet from the SF Opera. Soprano Lola Watson, mezzo-soprano Shelley Seitz-Daarni, tenor Jim Croom and baritone Frederick Matthews sing ensemble works by Haydn, Rossini, Verdi and Puccini, as well as familiar seasonal pieces. Wheelchair accessible; childcare provided. 3 pm. Temple United Methodist Church, 1111 Junipero Serra Blvd., SF. \$7 general/\$3.50 students and seniors. Tickets/info: 751-3331.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav hosts its annual **Chanukah Party** — a holiday bash that includes a talent show, music, dreidel playing, latkes, drinks, a silent auction, menorah lighting at nightfall and a raffle. 2-6 pm. Lake Merced Boathouse, SF. \$7. Info: 861-6932.

Lyn Elder's **Festival Consort** perform early fantasies and carols in true Renaissance spirit in a concert sponsored by Old First Concerts. Playing hurdy-gurdies, lutes, shawms and crumhorns, the Consort features works by Hassler, Praetorius and Gabrieli. 4 pm. Old First Church, Van Ness Ave. & Sacramento St., SF. \$7 general/\$5 students and seniors/\$3.50 members. Tickets: STBS or at the door. Info: 474-1608.

22 DECEMBER TUESDAY

The **Chinese Magic Theatre** returns with jugglers, tumblers, contortionists, magicians and — my own favorite — sword swallowers. Through Jan. 3. Tues.-Sun., 2 pm; no performances on Dec. 24 or 29. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post St., SF. \$12-\$16. Tickets: 433-9500, STBS.

An **Open Forum on Healing** takes place tonight with panelists Rev. John McCormick, Lynn Grasberg, Lee Glickstein and Michael Zonta. Sponsored by Metaphysical Alliance and AIDS Interfaith Network. Signing for the hearing impaired provided upon advance request. 7 pm. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St. (at Geary), SF. Donation suggested. Info: 431-8708, 938-HOPE.



Invitation to a dance: **Comic Danny Williams** and members of the SF Band Foundation host a "Christmas Gala and Dance Along Nutcracker." For details, see listing for Sunday, 12/20.



Christmas classic: The ghost of Jacob Marley reminds Ebenezer Scrooge (and the rest of us) what Christmas is really all about — in ACT's production of Charles Dickens' timeless tale. Through 12/26 at the Geary Theatre, SF. Call 771-3880.

Women are invited to observe the winter solstice with a **ritual and celebration with Judy Grahn**. Reservations are suggested. 7 pm. Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. \$5-\$7. Res/info: 428-9684.

23 DECEMBER WEDNESDAY

GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders) offers a **Wednesday Matinee** for seniors — an afternoon of movies, discussion and refreshments. 2:15-4 pm. North of Market Senior Center, 333 Turk St., SF. Free. Info: 626-7000.

Christmas Pipe Dreams — a concert featuring the magnificent Ruffatti Organ played by John Balka and James Welch. Soprano Nancy Wait-Kromm adds her voice to the entire audience in a carol sing-along. 8:30 pm. Davies Symphony Hall, Grove St. and Van Ness Ave., SF. \$11-\$19. Tickets/info: 431-5400.

24 DECEMBER THURSDAY

The SF Gay Men's Chorus appears again tonight for its traditional **Christmas Eve Sing-Along**. The program includes excerpts from their holiday concert (see entry under Dec. 19), and the Chorus invites audience participation in caroling. 7 pm. First Congregational Church, Post & Mason Sts., SF. \$8. Tickets: 863-8326 or at the door.

...Or if you prefer your caroling in a cabaret-restaurant atmosphere, Teddy Bears Lounge hosts a **Christmas Eve Dinner and Sing-Along**. No cover, complimentary champagne. Reservations are required. 131 Gough St., SF. Res: 621-6766.

Old First Concerts presents its **Christmas Eve Candlelight Concert** with a performance by the Christmas Winds Chorus and Orchestra, under the direction of Carol Negro. Carols and dances from Renaissance Europe and a collection of 13th-century Etruscan monophonic songs celebrating the Nativity enhance the program. 8 pm. Old First Church, Van Ness Ave. & Sacramento St., SF. \$7 general/\$5 students and seniors/\$3.50 members. Tickets: STBS or at the door. Info: 474-1608.

25 DECEMBER FRIDAY

Celebrate Christmas with the Fraternal Order of Gays when they throw open the doors of FOG House in Diamond Heights and welcome all to a **Christmas social**. Festivities include a buffet dinner, drinks, gifts and singing. Drop in any time between 5 and 11 pm. 304 Gold Mine Dr., SF. \$14.

SF FrontRunners sponsor a **Christmas Day Run** in Golden Gate Park. Meet at 10 am at McLaren Lodge at Stanyan & Fell Streets. Info: 647-3227, 337-8704.

The *Sentinel* welcomes submissions of community and arts events for possible inclusion, as space permits, in our weekly calendar. The deadline is eight days (Thursday at 4 pm) or more in advance of Friday publication. Send items to: Calendar Editor, *San Francisco Sentinel*, 500 Hayes Street, San Francisco, CA 94102.

SENTINEL CLASSIFIEDS

STRICTLY PERSONAL

VISIT HAWAII

If you are a very sexual bottom 21-40, HIV-pos, who plans to visit Hawaii or wants to visit Hawaii please write to Dave, Box 4488, Hilo, HI. 96720. I'm tall, nice looking, affectionate, test-pos, top. Safe, of course. I don't snore, nor have alcohol or drug problems. I'm an easy-going, pleasant GWM who loves Hawaii and enjoys company of same. I'm a former model who now enjoys the peace, quiet, sun, surf and mountains of Hawaii and enjoys having someone to cuddle with for a day, a week, or a lifetime. If you are warm, fun, sexual and at least fairly "together" (who's perfect?), I would enjoy seeing you in this, the most beautiful place on earth.

SACRAMENTO AREA ONLY

GWM, 43, 5'11", 185#, brown hair and eyes, clean, stable, no drugs, nonsmoker, not into bar scene, loves home life, seeks same for companionship, possible relationship. Box 340151, Sacramento CA 95834. (02)

MR. NICE GUY

I'm a good man whose looking for the same. You're the type guy who generally wouldn't respond to a newspaper ad. This is my first ad. I'm looking forward to being 40. I have sandy hair with blue eyes and a medium build of 150 lbs. I'm happily employed. I love the romance of holding someone close and sharing the warmth. I was diagnosed with PCP last March. I feel wonderful and look fabulous. I would love to be with you and have you as a friend or possible lover. Sentinel Box 51H.

Meet Students and Beach boys on the best gay connection. Rings till connected. \$2 + toll, 18+.
415/213 976-1881

HELP HOMELESS GAYS

35% of S.F. homeless are Gay. Winter clothing, blankets, sleeping bags and money urgently needed. Please drop off or send tax-deductible donations to Gay Rescue Mission, 1080 Folsom, SF 94103. Your inspection of our Community Center is invited.
863-4882

YO! CHASERS!

Chubby GWM seeks a medium-built chaser of quality for whatever develops. I'm 5'11", 285 unexercised lbs, 43 years old, brown curly hair (some gray), friendly (Hi there!), medium-furish, absolutely not into pain, and horny. You're 38-50 years, weight proportionate to height (please), into chubby guys, functional dick, in charge in bed, tobacco-free, and horny. Committed relationship, shallow romp, whatever. Write: Cramped Resident, Box 156, 2215-R Market Street, 94114.

EAGER COOKSUCKING BUDDY WANTED

Handsome, masculine, warm and sensitive prof. — 37, 5'8", 155 lbs — wants to connect with a younger buddy who's eager to slurr/suck/lick. I'm healthy, lustfully affectionate and excessively horny with dark, full beard, deep blue eyes and hung/thick/cut. I really want it often — you probably do too! Photo preferred. Sentinel Box 51A.

SEEKING CHICKEN

WM, 40, friendly, sense of humor, clean, but passive, very low sexual, emotional, physical energy seeks similar guy. I need to be alone most of the time but would like to get together occasionally for very safe, low key sex. I like only (repeat only) very young (18-30), thin, smooth, clean guys. PO Box 22201, SF 94122.

HOT CHOCOLATE!

GWM, 28, seeks horny young blacks for fun, sex, massage, companionship. Nothing serious. Just a good time. Please leave message at:
JIM 979-5740

BE DARING!

Video Documentation of your Xmas party special event, "private" affair anywhere you like, household treasures for insurance verification. Makes a special gift for yourself or friends. Call Mike at 753-0687, personal and confidential.

I need to be provided for emotionally and materially. Tommy, Sentinel Box 52B.

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I NEED A BUDDY

To share holidays (age not important, but looks count). GWM grad student locked away for semester, just set free! I'm 29, 6'1", brown/brown, 170 lbs, healthy/handsome, with lots of life/love/interests — got it all except lots of money. Let's have fun — long term relationship desirable. Letter and photo to RR, Sentinel Box 51B.

LEARN TO PLAY CHESS!

Tadd Waggoner, Director of Quicktricks Bridge club, announces a ten-week series of fun, low-key beginner's lessons aimed toward the establishment of a gay chess club. Classes to be held at 7 pm, Friday nights, beginning January 8, at Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka (between 18th/19th Streets). Non-smoking, but plenty of breaks. Free coffee/cookies. \$40, course/\$5 lesson. Call Tadd for more info:
626-1049

AIDS CURE IS IT POSSIBLE?

RESEARCH IS BEING CONDUCTED BY AN INDEPENDENT SCIENTIFIC TEAM ON A SOLUTION TO THE AIDS EPIDEMIC. WE ARE NOW RUNNING TESTS ON A PREVENTIVE SUBSTANCE FOR LEGAL REASONS WE ARE UNABLE TO PROMISE A CURE. HOWEVER, WE ARE NOW IN THE PROCESS OF COLLECTING DATA, SHOULD OUR TESTS PROVE SUCCESSFUL WE NEED VOLUNTEERS. COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL. FOR INFORMATION OR AN APPLICATION, SEND \$1 TO: CONTROL STUDIES, PO BOX 2195 OREM, UTAH 84057.

Meet a hunk, on the gay 1 on 1. Rings until connected. \$2 + toll. 415/213 976-3937, 18+.

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BODY BUILDERS

Who like to get tied up and experience erotic bondage. I have been tying men for 8 years; respect limits, discreet, safe. 638-8007.

ALL NIGHT LONG

Good looking, well hung bodybuilder wants to meet good looking, well hung men (20's-30's) who keep in good physical condition. Photo not necessary. Prefer phone number, brief description and best time to reach you. Sentinel Box 52A.

SEEKING ASIANS FOR SEX

Are you Asian? Want passive oral action? I'm looking for Asians who like to have sex! Open to anything. (No pain!) Suggestions? Any age. Me: GWM, 34, 1716 Ocean Ave., #76, SF, 94112.

FUN TIMES

Attractive bottom seeks attractive tops for hot, safe action. Reply Sentinel Box 51E.

SEEKING WHITE BUDDY

Quiet, shy and butch, 32, black, 5'8", 175 lbs, recently divorced, no kids, tough, sexy, and cold looking, underneath, he's a very nice, honest and intelligent guy. Very independent, honest and bisexual. Likes guys that are proud to be guys. Likes football, running, hiking and music. He likes butch, muscular, hairy white Euro/Med men 25-40. He's raised around tough badass attitudes, has own place and car, needs to come out of his shell. He's a very good friend, his name is TC (415) 647-0619.

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STRAIGHT MEN

I'm not tall, dark and handsome, but I give excellent head to straight guys 18-35 with good body. Call until 11:30 pm, 647-7775 or 282-0081. Ask for Danny. Let's talk.

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REWARD

REWARD NOTICE
If the person who snatched a zipper case from a prominent San Francisco Gay Freedom Pioneer at Geary and Leavenworth Streets, approximately 9:30 pm Dec. 8, returns the key ring and identification wallet intact to either Alvin's Bar (Geary near Leavenworth) or the 222 Hyde St. Club, a reward of \$50 will be left for him on the day following recovery, no questions asked.

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MANAGEMENT
Marketing/field rep for SF area 6 unit pizza franchise. Flexible hours, some eves. & weekends required. Need College degree. Spanish bilingual and marketing experience useful. No previous restaurant experience necessary. Non-smoking environment. Yearly salary \$18,200.00, full benefits and company vehicle. Call Monday and Thursday ONLY between 10-2 pm.
MR. WILCOX 588-3708

TYPESETTER WANTED

Experienced on CompuGraphic Editor-writer 7700 (or equivalent) preferred for part time work at SF Sentinel. Call Amy Mon-Thurs at 861-8100.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Community United Against Violence, a gay victim's assistance and anti-violence organization has an opportunity for the position of director. The successful candidate should have: a minimum 3-5 years experience in fund-raising, grant-writing, demonstrate the ability to organize and effectively manage staff and to implement policies adopted by the board of directors. Resumes to K. Alexander, Suite 317, 2261 Market St. SF, CA 94114.

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Continued on next page

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FOR MURDER

This clown flagrantly stabbed to death, his wife and her alleged lover in front of more than fifty witnesses. Reward for information leading to his arrest and conviction. Armed and extremely dangerous (to your eardrums, if nothing else). Sentinel Box 200.

MEN CALL NOW!

San Francisco's

LIVE TALK LINE

Talk with up to 5 other guys all at once.

CALL NOW (415) 976-1221

\$1.75 charge plus toll is any



DIAL 213 976-LOAD

The number says it all!



A different horny hunk every time you call.

\$2 PLUS TOLL IF ANY. ADULTS ONLY.

SENTINEL CLASSIFIEDS

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

LIBRARY ASSISTANT
The *Sentinel* library is the only such facility among the lesbian/gay press in America. We are in the process of compiling and indexing the 13 years of our publishing history to provide our news staff and our community an invaluable resource. If you're good at organizing with an eye for detail and would like to help with this important project (4-5 hours a week), please contact Keith Clark at 861-8100.

JOBS WANTED



HIGH PRIEST

40 years experience in the cult of Isis. Also experienced in embalming. Presently unemployed pending lawsuit over religious discrimination. Best offer, Sentinel Box 200.

LANDSCAPE SERVICES



NILSSON GARDENS INC.
Has your back yard fallen onto rough times? Is it overgrown with weeds? Filled with refuse? Then call the Nilsson Sisters. We will turn your backyard into gardens that even Wotan, Fricka and their brat (what's that screaming kids name?) would be right proud to have at their country cabin, Valhalla. Sentinel Box 200.

AUDIO & VIDEO SERVICES

VIDEO HOLIDAY GREETING
It's not too late to send personal video greetings to friends and loved ones. If you can't be with them this holiday. You star, we produce. Send this unique gift they'll love it. (PWAs free)
652-6603

25 DIFFERENT 60-MINUTE JO VIDEOTAPES

Transferred to tape from private film collection. Dozens of hunky young models, huge equipment, great blastoffs every 5 or 6 minutes! Good image, good color, soft rock music. All safe sex! Let these videos on your VCR become your favorite home companion! Sorry, no brochures or stills on these. But look into this bargain collection. Each \$24.95 plus tax. VHS in stock, Beta made up on order. Ask for Adonis Cockplay series, ADONIS VIDEO, 369 Ellis, San Francisco 94102. (415) 474-6995. Open Noon - 6 pm daily. Upstairs over Circle J Cinema. See Hal Call. MIC-Visa OK.

MANY THANKS

Sylvie Malich

Thank you for being so special. Thank you for all the little "extras" that have made my job so much easier. Thank you for being so sweet, kind and caring. Most of all, thank you for being you. Good luck on your next job, but you won't need that, you're too good. I will miss you.

Bob Reed

UPKEEP AND RENOVATIONS

RON MacNEAL
THE HANDYMAN
626-7632

CLEANING

BY
RICK
Reasonable Rates
Rick Schultz (415) 346-4365

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

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TELEPHONE
BULLETIN BOARD
INSTANTLY UPDATED
LEAVE ADULT
MESSAGES
SEE IF THERE'S ONE
FOR YOU

(415) 976-6677
\$2.00 Plus Toll If Any

Continued on page 37



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ENDUP
BUNS CALENDAR
NOW AVAILABLE \$12
\$1 Off With Ad

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It's for you.

Just remember **976-HERS**

Must be 18 years old to call. \$2.00 + tolls if any.

Ride Me

Let Your Erotic Imagination Run Rampant!

(976-7348)
X-POSE • IT

Dial (415)

The Hottest Erotic Message In Town!

HOT PHONE NUMBERS

*Six Messages
Phone Numbers
with each call!!

New messages
every hour!!

Instantly updated!!

Uncensored!!

GAY MESSAGE EXCHANGE

213
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415

976-6747

*NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR EQUIPMENT MALFUNCTIONS

Each call \$2.00
plus any tolls.

SENTINEL CLASSIFIEDS

MOVING AND HAULING

Continued from page 35



Granny's Movers
EST. 1973
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VISA • MASTERCARD
LOWEST LEGAL RATES
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be sure that your move
is right"

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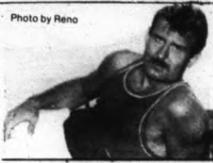
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MOVING — DELIVERY
HAULING
Fast and efficient
reasonable rates
DAVID 821-2691

MASSAGE

BLONDE CANADIAN

Photo by Reno



Blonde/Blue Eyed Yng Man
Mascul. Hard Tan Body
Full Nude Erotic Massage
RON 775-7057
45in 60out

AFTERNOON MASSAGE
Castro location. By a fit man for a fit man.

CHRISTOPHER
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Hard working — Good looking — Stress
reducing — Safe — Perfect for men on
the go. 1st class, clean apartment,
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mind, body, spirit, 5'11", 160 lbs., brown,
green, smooth, uncult.
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For Men Only

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Goodlooking young guy rubs you the
right way; head to toe, back and front,
top to bottom, and everything in be-
tween. Special day rates, available eve-
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Come to my massage! Full body —
buns & legs my specialty! Hot man 6',
160#, Br/Bz, moust. Call Russ anytime.
In/out \$40/50, add \$5.00 for VISA/MC.
847-0944. Try me!

• CASTRO MASSAGE •
Young handsome student with magic
fingers. 90 minutes you'll never forget.
\$45 Body Electric Certified
PHIL 864-0649

HOT & HAIRY

Full body massage for pleasure and
relaxation by hot and hairy male.
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SAN MATEO

\$40.

ERIC 570-5216

DO YOU NEED TO BE TOUCHED?

Why not call me and enjoy the deepest,
most sensual massage in town? 5
years experience. In or out, anytime!

ALEX 861-1362

AMMA MASSAGE

Enjoy the nurturing and revitalizing ef-
fect of touch through this form of tradi-
tional Japanese bodywork. AMMA uses
no oils, can be done clothed, and is ef-
fective in reducing physical and emo-
tional stress. Treat yourself! Certified,
non-sexual

75 minutes \$20
JOHN 626-1569

WANNA MELT?

The hands of an angel in the heart of the
Castro. A superb Swedish/Eastern oil
massage plus chakra balancing. Gift
certificates available. Certified. 18th
and Noe.

JIM 864-2430

A NATURAL MAN

Gives an erotic massage. Handsome,
masculine, hung and healthy. Strong
but sensitive. Andy, 24 hrs. 864-6097.

LOVING MASSAGE

Gene Williams
921-5177



TRAVERSABLE, QUIESCENT AGGRIEVIUS, MASSAGE

By hot, hunky, youthful, athletic BB
Russian Bear. Extremely handsome.
My special technique: you are frozen in
a block of ice, I crack it open with
Karate chops. You'll be so relaxed, you
won't walk for years. Voted MR.
KREMLIN of 1987. Sentinel Box 200.

RELAX IN CLASS A RELAXING MASSAGE

by a handsome, masculine blonde
6', 190, beautifully nude
muscular body, summer tan
Firm, Erotic Swedish Massage
Massage Lotion & Table, Hard to Beat !!
\$40 In/\$55 Out 75 min.
Mike 931-0149 24 hrs.

SENSUAL PLUS!

nude professional
Deep Muscle w/oil
Swedish/Reflexology
29, ATTRACTIVE
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The best massage of your life by profes-
sional, certified masseur, seven years
experience. Sensitive, caring, very
handsome hunk relaxes your body —
mind — spirit. Specializes in deep, firm,
hot-oil Swedish massage. A Christmas
gift to yourself! Castro area. 9 am-9 pm,
weekdays and weekends.
WILLIAM 626-6210 PWAs welcome

THINK BIG "Danish Built"

6', 180#
Blue eyed, Masculine beauty
Hard Chiseled Body
Hung, Tantalizing 9"
Extra Handsome,
Always a Top Man
Nude Erotic Massage
\$50 In • \$70 Out
Friendly & Fun Man
HORST 931-0309

SOMETHING SPECIAL

Take the time to pamper yourself with a
massage which is both relaxing and
therapeutic. 75 minutes of individualized
attention in an environment designed
specifically for massage using soothing
music, warmth and positive energy.
Neighborhood location. Enjoy benefits that go
beyond the moment. Only \$30.00

STEPHEN 668-9318

* \$25-Hot Athlete. Hung nice *
* Bill 441-1054 Massage, etc. *

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I'm a certified, experienced, profes-
sional and an instructor at the
Body Electric Massage School. I
GIVE EXQUISITE MASSAGE! Sen-
sual. Relaxing. Nurturing.
Charlie 821-7607

FULL BODY MASSAGE *
Done by experienced Massage
Therapist in Oakland Call after 4:30 pm.
Fees: \$25/hr. \$35/1 1/2 hrs.
MARK 261-3319

Fatal or Romantic Attraction

HAVE FUN

Great Nude Massage

I am a V-Handsome Nordic Man
Summer, BB 8" Cut Blonde/Blu
6' 185. Especially Like Small,
Cute Asian & Latin Yng Men.

40/in 50/out 931-3263 Ron 84 hrs.

Continued on next page

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THE BIG CONNECTION

24 HOUR TALK LINE
SEVEN DAYS A WEEK
LIVE ACTION LINE
TALK WITH THE MEN
WHO HAVE MEN ON
THEIR MINDS!



SAY WHAT YOU FEEL
OR JUST LISTEN IN
HOT, SAFE SEX
CALL US... YOU'RE
GONNA LOVE IT!

213
415
619
818

976-3800

You must be 18 years or older. This service is an
automated telephone network connecting callers
for live uninhibited open forum conversation. We
are not responsible for the conversation of callers.
A \$2.00 charge will be discreetly posted on your
phone statement

SENTINEL CLASSIFIEDS

MESSAGE

Continued from previous page

DREAM MESSAGE

Hung 9", bisexual, exceptionally handsome, muscular, speedo tan, blond/blu. Are you a young Asian or Latin guy, sensitive and nice? I have a special rate for you

RON 931-3263

ATHLETIC MALE

Masculine male available for Swedish Esalen massage. Evenings and weekends. Out only.

TOM 431-2830

FOR YOUR WELL-BEING

- Ionic Bath
 - Reiki/Energy Balancing
 - Acupressure
 - Swedish/Esalen
- \$3000 min. Session
Non-sexual
MARC 863-1785

MOVE UP TO QUALITY,
NOT PRICE

RICHARD OF S.F. 821-3457

TOM ADVENTURESOME

Built tight, muscular & hung.
Very friendly gentlemen
over 30 preferred.

Sensual massage in the buff.
\$40 in \$60 out 24 hrs.

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EXCEPTIONALLY HANDSOME

Masseur, straight appearance. Professional, clean-cut young man, 30, athletic. I will massage you in the nude on my massage table for 1 hr.

NICK 771-6731

REMEMBER TO GIFT YOURSELF

Revitalizing bodywork by skilled, loving, athletic masseur. From the sensuality of Swedish to the meditation of acupressure, I help you to experience the vitality that is your birthright. When you want massage with feeling —

GLENN 841-8753

Berkeley

MIKE

Offers a 70 minute oil massage in the nude. Plus a complete erotic ending. Handsome, masculine with a beautiful athletic build. 6', 165, 34 years, experienced and friendly, all ages welcome.

\$45 in, \$60 out.
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ONE OF LIFE'S REWARDS

A healing massage blending strength and sensitivity. I am a certified Swedish/Shiatsu bodyworker with an intuitive and nurturing touch. My style combines gentle and deep work in a flowing massage to release tension, ease discomfort and balance energy. 90 minutes, \$35. Castro location

DAVID BLUMBERG 552-9473

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SINCE 1986 WITH
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PRIVATE OR BUSINESS
STANDARD RATES
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Models Available Around Town or Around the Bay

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STAY HEALTHY WITH

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Applicants Needed
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VERY SPECIAL ALL DAY or ALL EVENING RATES

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VIRILE SEXY ITALIAN

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A man really into the scene! Expert B&D — S/M. Your fantasy — my talent. Two playrooms — one South of Market — other East Bay. Lots of equipment. Hoods, ropes, gags, leather straightjacket, handcuffs, chains, leg irons & lots more. RCA Camcorder available, slave available.

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Scott 26, 5'10", 160 lbs, 44 °C. (Hairy) 30" W. Brown Hair, Green Eyes, Available 24 hrs SF, East Bay, South Bay

RICHARD OF S.F. 821-3457

HUNKY SWED

Hairy, masc., hung, big hangers. 6'3", 195 lbs., bin/blu, round the clock action

AXEL 863-0252

College Jock

Luke: Warm, sincere, friendly, engaging smile
24 Hours Weekends

Richard of S.F. 821-3457

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Cum pray with me
Gentle Top, Safe
30, 5'5", 136, hairy, hung
MARK 444-3204

BEST BUNS IN TOWN

DREW 29, 5'10", Smooth Body, EVES/WEEKENDS
RICHARD OF S.F. 821-3457

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Mirrored bord-assage in a garage-master suite-workout-playroom: strong, gentle, deep, sensuous touching, non-oil massage by Non, handsome BB, 50, in Davis. Call 6-9 am or pm. Second BB 25, when available, add \$20. (916) 756-8120.

Tall Lean Texan

Mark: 24, 6', 170 lbs, 40 °c 31" w, hairy body, mustache
Richard of S.F. 821-3457

I LAY BACK FRENCH PASSIVE 8 1/2 EXTRA THICK CUT

Handsome, Clean-Shaven
Boish Good Looks
6'1", 160, 26 yrs.

MIKE 664-2057
Pager 896-7815 (enter your phone #)
fast call-back

IT'S LIVE!



HOT TALK

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ONE ON ONE
PRIVATE CONVERSATION
SHARE YOUR FANTASIES
YOU

MAKE THE CONNECTION

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\$2.00 + toll, if any. Must be over 18.

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TO MEET



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SWEAT WITH
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OTHER
MEN**

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THREE MINUTES OF UN-
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CALLING AT RANDOM. FULFILL
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