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.
Last Thursday I was really horny, so I dialed The Connector.

Jerry must have called about the same time...

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PHOTO: B. Murrillo
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 her questioning of attorneys for the National Gay Rights Advocates that she was not convinced they presented a credible case to justify letting the case proceed.

Forest 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. One 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 delays.

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 "inreparable injury" involved.

"Every day, 35 people die of AIDS," argued Hainline, noting that one administrative remedy NGRA faced was a "citizen's 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

AIDS Prompts Euthanasia Initiative

by Charles Lineburger

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 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 Yamell is a 44-year-old presbyterian 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 Yamell, "I'm a member of the Hemlock Society, and I would resist to the intermin method of rational suicide if the quality of my life were totally destroyed by this disease. But that's an intermin 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 attempts," added Yamell, "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 than an infec-

And the winner of the Sentinel's Superstore to Mexico is... Norman Bailey. Presenting the Readers' Poll grand prize is - Mike Eggert, Sentinel sales director (l) and Donald Lloyd, owner of Cruise Holidays (c). Nine runnerup 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-N.C.), has successfully used this and other positive 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-S.F/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 Less, 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
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 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 methamphetamines and psilocybin.

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 said they found another man in Wilson's apartment, 33-year-old John Nester, hiding in the bedroom closet. Nester 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 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 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 Board of Supervisors, has been suspended from his job and has resigned his position on the mayor's Committee on Elections.

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 it acknowledges the Catholic prescription 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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The Women's Foundation Grants Awards

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, $7,000 to help open San Francisco Chinatown's only thrift shop; California Women's Commission on Alcohol and Substance

Continued on page 10
Amsterdam International Conference:

‘Homosexuality Beyond Disease’

by Mark Schoks

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 convention taking place in Amsterdam’s Hotel Intercontinental, directly across from the Royal Palace, it was easy to believe that Holland’s tolerance was the rule, not the exception. However, even trumped in other countries which showed that most of the world has not passed the concept of homosexuality as a disease, and these events changed 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 the manual does not list homosexuality as being field tested—and the proposed 1991 disease definition, which would eliminate gay people forever—in its human manual. The question is an old one, and experts have been trying to eliminate it for decades. Our understanding, whether homosexual or heterosexual, is not an either or, but rather a spectrum.

The lecturers well understood this proposition, 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.

It is not so easy to see 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 Tatofa, a Tanoan from the United States, stated that this state of affairs did not represent the berdache.

During the conference, deeply moved by the sight of the women cowering from the TV cameras, sent a copy to them as well.

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.

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Terrorism Peruvian Style

One by one they were shoved out of the bar into the crowded street and the glare of television cameras. The crowd mocked and jeered as all the women were arrested, but they added insulting epithets and comments if any women were wearing a skirt. Even the television camera panned for the women wearing skirts, zooming in for close-ups of the shaved pubic hair.

The film was a Peruvian news clip of a police raid on a lesbian bar in Lima, and it was shown as a visual representation of the reactions of homophobia. Reporting on 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 June 6, 1987, the police kept the 70 trapped inside for over an hour while the television crew arrived. When the police broke the doors open, they found 70 women had broken with some women being arrested, stabbing and punching the police officers.

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, Grupo de Autodefensas de Lesbianas Feministas (GALF), did write letters to the government. Three letters, as well as GALF’s findings, have been attached to the report, below is a step-by-step guide to the human rights violations.

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Continued from previous page

amendment is expected to pass by a wide majority. The conference sent collective letters to both Amnesty International and the British Parliament expressing outrage and urging the reversal of these decisions.

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 Hidy d’Ancona expressed outrage at state 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 and gay men always been against homosexuals.”

Ironically, the conference itself did not escape charge of oppression. During the final session, Diane Richardson lectured to the conference. “I am very angry at the conference. I am very angry at the conference. "There are no scientific reasons whatsoever to call homosexuality a disease." — van Londen

One political activist from Sweden found herself not only a mover and shaker in the movement, but also a speaker at the conference. "There is no doubt that the conference sought to attain respectability. Pro- member Rob Telman, 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 even on homosexuality.

Nevertheless, van Naerssen admitted that the organizers had made a mistake.

It is considered one of the most important events in the gay rights movement, and its impact is still felt today. The conference was a platform for the voices of those who had been silenced, a place where they could share their experiences and ideas. It was a moment of triumph for those who had fought against oppression and discrimination. The conference was a symbol of resistance, a testament to the power of solidarity and unity.
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 pro-life success is that positive presentation equals propaganda. Such legislation could lead to the banning of any gay books in schools. No distinctly visible 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 Hillsen 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 years end, gay people in most places are still working hard to tread water and simply survive.

**LETTERS**

Baffled Reader To the Editor: I don’t understand reactions like yours to an attack on best selling Book Placed On. "Accurate, maybe. Responsible, I wonder, Hair. You would think Reedy Shils had invented Gaetan Dugas to make us squirm. If the portrait is truthful, then what’s the beef? It’s not impossible to say "Forst" in a crowded theater if in translation of Shils “passing nod” at nowhere does Shilts imply that Patient Zero is emblematic of all gay men, who would sanitize or suppress the story. Why should we make excuses for a scoop, the least in a party not one among us? Lying when we all know better is what gave us the years of reassurance that AIDS was only a fast-burn hazard. If it’s our image we’re worried about, is the equation start with the last few pages of every Sentinel, “Seeking But Not Finding," “Get a Bigger Woman Pose Nailed?” Now there’s a parade ticket. It baffles me too to hear Shils blamed for his mere “passing nod” at long-term AIDS survivors and holistic therapists. You might as well ask for a chapter on the Harmonic Convergence, which isn’t what the book’s about.

Patrick Block

Kinnard Honored

To the Editor: The AIDS Task Force of Black and White Men Together — San Francisco Bay Area is pleased 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 an artist, he raised $109 through the weekly卡通, Catholic Comics, featuring the Brown Bomber, which went directly to the AIDS Task Force. This at a time when our work is not only unique to the Community, but also the direct AIDS education 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 gay and lesbian non-right of San Francisco. Reggie Williams and Larry Barnett

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, and after 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, one is reminded that a hostile world confronts 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 of the meeting have not been available to explain the rationale for rejecting the Dutch proposal. Apparently if a person is arrested for unpopular political activity, 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 answers are forthcoming that gay and lesbian rights matter to that organization and are being acted upon, we will urge our community to withdraw support.

The Congregation Shara'Ar Zahar 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 available 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.
A Short Honeymoon?

Just when you thought it was safe to go back to the waters of polite politics, here comes the battle for SF Agnos' replacement in the state Assembly. 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 famed "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 on someday following her in two unsuccessful races for the Board of Supervisors, is also putting out exploratory calls to martial support. Other names have been mentioned, most notably 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 referred to as "the community leader who lacks character, integrity and intelligence," Hongisto told the Sentinel.

The first endorsement of a candidate on behalf of lesbian/gay and bisexual/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.

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 Burton ten would walk in without serious opposition from our community.

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

FROM THE DESK

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 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.

At the last minute, Hongisto reiterated her commitment to stepping aside for a united community candidate should Pat Norman or Tim Wolfred choose to run. However, it made it clear that her offer to withdraw would only remain open "within reason" and that "time was running out" 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 these 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/Brit

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

NO, DEAR FANS... WE'VEN'T FORGOTTEN THE BROWN BOMBER IS INDEED ABOUT TO TRAVEL UP A TOURNAMENT ROAD, AND WHAT A WONDROUS, WHIMSICAL WORLD OF GAY MALE DATING!...

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

B.B. WILL MOST LIKELY ENCOUNTER THE TRAUMA OF BEING STOOD UP, DAY AND NIGHT, AND REPEATEDLY, ENSURING THAT EVEN THE MOST VIGOROUS, ACCURATELY CUTTING GIRLS OF (AND THIS INCLUDES THE LADIES CALLED INTRODUCTION TO GAY MALE DATING BEFORE HE STARTS OUT!

"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 lied on the political world this week. I was surely taken by surprise. To sum up the event, I defer to Hunter S. Thompson who reported for the Denver Post.

"I think I'd rather take a course in watercolor painting than face what a guy like Hart had done this year."

Continued on page 11

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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 Lesbian and Gay Couples. You can get it for $19.95.

Since the Christmas gift-giving season is here, I thought I’d share my satisfaction with the Nolo Press books that I have owned and suggest that some of them can 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 includes 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. By having a durable power of attorney for health care I can provide routine legal services.” For instance, a lawyer who couldn’t get paid by the hour once I was incapacitated couldn’t bill me for doing the paperwork. My lawyer would have to work with me to get the paperwork done and I would have to pay him for his time. With a durable power of attorney for health care the money would come from the insurance company, so there would be no need for a court battle.

I also offer 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, Baron’s Real Estate Handbook, from Baron’s, of course, as well as many others. Their own books come with an update service, too.

The newest books include the Simple Will Book with a 30-minute audio tape that helps remove the mystery surrounding writing a will. Also relatively new is the second edition of Williams, a software program and 380-page manual providing an overview of probate avoidance and tax planning techniques.

On book is our Do-it-yourself bankruptcy, small claims court, name change, separation squabbles, parenting, adoptions, landlord-tenant, deeds and other real estate matters, and We Want Sex Revisions Not To Go to Law School. You can order a book or the complete catalog by calling Nolo at 848-7970.

Remember this caveat, however. Many legal matters are more complex 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 materials in the book the lawyer will know what to look for and what needs to be considered.

Now alone will save you a lot of time and money. Also, you will be able to present the changes, and to make a videotape on breast self-examination; how grant money might help at-risk populations. Also, you will be able to write your own will and a power of attorney for health care.

The 9- to 12-member Allocations Committee also looks at how prospective grantees address issues of — and in some cases more 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 their target populations.

Grant staff sometimes suggest that there is no magic bullet for social change, but very few would fund an organization that specifically served lesbians, Ross

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

— Ross

“Many times we find that the groups we want to fund have problems that are not theirs.”

Many times we find that the groups we want to fund have problems that are not theirs. “We could stay a small foundation,” Guy says, “but we want to be a bigger foundation. We want to increase our grants and we can’t do it at our present size.”

“We get five times more requests than we can honor each year in our present budget.”

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

Since the Christmas gift-giving season is here, I thought I’d share my satisfaction with the Nolo Press books that I have owned and suggest that some of them can save you hundreds, if not thousands of dollars.
Impersonating Raisa 
WASHINGTON, DC — During the round of pre-conference briefings on arms control, news media from all far as west were German and England and Germany will shift their sights from nuclear arms to a Capital Hill gay bar after news surfaced that the bar stag ed a Gomper conference book-style contest.

Owners and employees of Remington argued that this report was an example of competition for all news services and national news magazines after the Washington Post reported a conference.

"I'm not even sure all of them know this is a gay bar and the people entering the contest are not as interested in the contest," said Remington's manager Bill Heilig. "Entertainment Tonight" filmed the event for future broadcast.

Soviet Embassy spokesman Igor Bulay was unaware of the contest. "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 1984 Florida State Fair has agreed to include an exhibit which will document the history of the gay rights movement.

The preceding-setting exhibit, 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 everybody will be proud of."

Mandatory Testing Proposed in NYC 
NEW YORK — NY City Health Commission Surgeon General Joseph Sobel introduced 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 expanded New York State law that defines 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 to be made to close commercial establishments such as St. Mark's and Bingham gay bathhouses, the attorneys for the sex offenders and the heterosexual club Plateau's Retreat.

Last month, Joseph angered AIDS activists when he suggested that gay bars should be regulated to follow traditional standards of patient confidentiality and alert sex partners of any reproductive 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, this month, a church leader said, "Your elders do not want to bar anyone from attending our assemblies. But for the sake of those who would possibly be exposed, we do not want to know the possibility might be. We are known AIDS victims to voluntarily refrain from attending our gatherings."

White House Say No to Gay Parents 
WASHINGTON, D.C. — A White House task force has recommended that adoptions by lesbians and gay men "should not be supported."

The statement, which summarises the preliminary findings of the President's Intergency 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 parent; however, homosexual adoption should not be considered."

The task force's conclusions about adoptions come after the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the San Francisco-based Lesbian Rights Project jointly submitted a 22-page memoran dum calling for a rejection of "outed" 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 First Amendment 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 Dave "Pep" Conover, an alumna 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.

AIDS Testing Sites 
Call AIDSrine 800-845-9226 (in California) 510-545-8000 (outside California)

AIDS TESTING SITES

ALAMO SQUARE SALOON 
ALAMO SQUARE SALOON and Odds & Ends Cafe
600 Fillmore St. 552-4494

GRAND OPENING PARTY
Dec. 18th, 19th, 20th
Door prizes, drink specials
(2) Two for the price of one dinners for the first 20 cowfolks, after 8 pm

SEE THE ALAMO LIKE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE!!!
against the Reagan Administration's government property after he chained Vigilers, the beds and their location on AIDS policies.

Since November 1985 as a protest has kept chained to the building's doors Building to draw attention to the himself to the doors of the old Federal

Friday when federal officers booked Randy Welch for obstructing federal

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 arrests began 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 Vigil. The first arrest occurred at 6 am last Friday. Welch, who was involved in the Vigil for the past year — against what they see as a dilatory and increasingly murderous public works. Deputy Mayor Hadley Britt, called to inquire whether the city

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

Since the pushing and shoving between the Vigil and DHS 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, Sudbury, gloves were worn by Vigilers when they handled the beds.

Diversity!

Now Voyaging the Great Barrier Reef in July. On the 18th-century clipper "Lady Washington," explore the beautiful islands of the Great Barrier Reef. Departing from Sydney, Australia, this 7-day voyage will take you to the picturesque islands of the Great Barrier Reef. You'll have the opportunity to explore the stunning coral reefs, snorkel, and take in the breathtaking views. This is an unforgettable experience for nature lovers and adventure seekers alike. Book your trip now and join us on this amazing voyage!
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 "Vigilans" finally occurred early on the morning of Friday, December 11, 1987. Vigil participants responded by offering more bodies to the cause, I decided the event called for participatory journalism, and 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 way. 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 batons cutters. In came standard Vigil fashion, we chained to the doors — and the police cut the heavy, shiny designer chain. So far, my chief impression of arrest was that it is all terribly dull, the

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 hot 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 morning, our hours on the floor of the cell at Northern Station aggrauated a cold I had been grieving for a couple days. I became slightly

450 Golden Gate Avenue, the new

selves. The other complied and were

ficer removed the chains from around

the comer. (The Vigil, like any good

event called for participatory journal­

courtesy barely imaginable 20 years ago

committed to confronting the AIDS

when civil disobedience emerged as

majof force of political change.

The federal police asked quite polite­ly

room on the first floor. A

planned for this, and I, for my part,

South American Vigil fashion, we

the walls of the tank. For further

s年第 few hours dozing with only

the wimp cops if they had just uncuffed

the population of the room had

over next several hours. Why doesn’t the

and from the various knockings about,

or merely the understanding, of the

room. None of us on either side had

the wimp cops if they had just uncuffed

though he was back in the only home he

or civil values. But the action began to

one of political prejudice and passion.

the past several hours. Why doesn’t the

thought: what will happen if some

had deep-dicked. Elliptically, they

mattered.

museum-like. It was with a twinge

imagination 20 years ago when civil

the federal police asked quite polite­ly

the wall outside the entrance to the
district court. I grew even more anxious as the officers

room. I had, only three hours earlier, sent a letter to

whether he might have been drunk. His hands were

he might have been drunk. His hands were

in the class. He might have been drunk.

something embarrassing and dangerous when

timidly, to go out, his arms still cuffed behind his

matters call the Queen’s House, one of

the Anita of the wagon.

in the notice, or merely the understanding, of the

tench. There was a little, dark-skinned guy

David named with us at this side. He

magnified by the cold and hard. Only the cops

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REGULAR TANNING
$4.99 per visit

GREAT GIFT IDEA

Body

Face

Passive

Massage

Regular

$25

$25

$25 Value

package prices

Continued on page 15
r

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 gays, 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 Viaxon 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 KNOR's Wayne Shannon, Ray O'Loughlin and Mary Richards of the BAR, Charlie Linebaugh of the Sentinel, Riki Stenrich, Rita Rockett, Pat Norman and others who rallied around Electric City to fight bigotry and censorship with Viaxon 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 gay and lesbian rights in 1988 and beyond.

Any lesbian/gay group sponsoring benefits, fundraisers and events to be published or filmed can reach us at 86-7131 or write to 113 Collinswood, 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. I believe the ACLU Executive Director Ira Glasser has not used the word "gay" even once in his recent membership solicitation notes. This amounts 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 other causes, I am going to try to make a contribution restricted to the Lesbian and Gay Rights Project. The ACLU membership office has issued me a new membership certificate that is not tied to a political issue.

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.

You own "personal" solicitations even take pride in the ACLU having argued Bowers vs. Hardwick before the Supreme Court, a case that effectively legalized sodomy statuses is 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 gay and lesbian people. 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 paralleled the writings of a French thinker whose name arose in almost every lecture, Michel Foucault. Foucault's mention was poignant and 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 about his memories of the NAMES Project Quilt.

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

To Professor Talley'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, the absolute freedom is never attainable in this world, for new systems of knowledge do not liberate but merely shift the stric-
Two volunteers representing the SF Eagle pore in more people to help the AIDS Emergency Fund provide direct financial assistance to PWAs. The penny drive began by the Gate restaurant and bar has raised $16,000.

Diluted
Continued from page 3
organizations "that promote or en
courage directly or indirectly, homo­sexual sexual activity." The Court held that the language threatened to defendant 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 negotiators, a word "indirect," and congressional aides say that change and other clarifications to the legislation will protect any groups from loss of federal funds. Even with that modification, however, the amendment had already had a chilling effect on federal and state funding agencies, according to Steve Martin, an aide to Rep. Nancy Pelosi. Morin noted that the Centers for Disease Control and the state Depart­ ment of Health Services are now ex­ amining the content of safe sex materials more critically, and have begun to introduce into the editorial con­ tent of AIDS prevention brochures. "The whole idea of self-help will help to a certain extent," Morin said, "but it's still harmful. [Congress] should not support programs that do­ ing such good work, rather than subtracting funds from other AIDS research and treatment proposals." Other legislation pending includes Rep. Henry Waxman's proposal to establish a national registry for AIDS testing and counseling programs. His proposal also includes antirecur­ rence 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 ap­ propriations 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 pro­ posals would pass. Rollins said, "The political fear (of Helms) is high." He added that the scenario that both sets of proposals would pass indicated the con­ ditions of the minds of lawmakers over what direction AIDS legislation should take. It also set the stage for disadvantageousness by lawmakers to cast a controversial vote on AIDS in an election year, he said. Senate Cruz's bill was supported by Vic Busche of the Human Rights Campaign Fund who said, "We need to do a bet­

Arrested
Continued from page 13
that I heard a moan of glee, 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 worked.
He proved to be friendly. He explained to me now that he had been trying to consummate a deal on that earlier occasion. I told him I hadn't known that, I thought he was just being in awe.
He was in custody now for possession of a syringe. Although he has been meaning to, his SSD was revoked, then re­ instated, but he has not received a check in four months, so he makes by deal­ ing dope. He showed me his SSD 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 shop­ keeper was interested in me until he heard I was there only because I refused to cite out, then his interest turned momentarily to sleep and he walked away.
X gave me a cigarette. The shop­keeper 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 matress 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 court and then to the courtroom. The four of them escorted me from the court and back to the VIG.

Conference
Continued from previous page
turn of control. Which means that even if turbinators and gay men succeed in mov­ ing homosexuality beyond disease, they will not have completely escaped domination.
Nevertheless, some forms of domina­ tion 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 Ballough concluded at the end of his talk on the history of studying homosexuality, "The most honest research has come when the gay move­ ment was at its weakest,...for example, Germany in the 1920s and '30s. What we can learn from this is that gay people have always been the targets of research into homosexuality. Politics and science go hand in hand. In the end, it is gay ac­ tivism which determines what research we will ever hear about gay people."
San Francisco Sentinel • December 18, 1987

DONALD CURRIE

Third Eye vs. Third Leg: Balancing Sex and Spirit

Does the body rule the mind or the mind rule the body? I don't know. Monarchy, The Smiths

The other day while I was choking the chicken, I had a profound spiritual revelation. I say, life, sex-and-delirium, 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 turkeys: "roots in the mud, flower reaching towards heaven" or some such thing. Sex and spirituality, body and mind, even if you could go, we'd drag this ball and chain with us most of the time, jumping from 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, well, sex-negative. This is an unfortunate result of centuries of Judeo-Christian politics, which has used the body to do with social control and almost nothing to do with personal development 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 feelings are neither sex nor spirituality get into bed together or anyone (we may even be someone) who's gotten onto a spiritual path is easily renounceable — pain and anonymity are the rewards. The answer to this question will come from the mass confusion so you can get a clue as to what you're reading this article? The answer is "no" — the answer is: "I don't know."

The Kundalini energy is often seen as a fire, erupting from a push of energy flowing and harmonious, to not to let any one of those aspects overcome the other.

This is the context in which Chinese medicine is practiced to keep the body's energy flowing and harmonious, not to stagnate or burn or create an ex cess where there should be a balance. It's medicine as gardening, the maintaining of a serene and pleasing bodily landscape. The answer is not in renunciation and analytic control or the path of This-Face-Sits-Five, but rather in a balanced life, the Greek ideal.

Continued on page 18

LEBRAS, THE SHARK (Dec 22 - Feb 18): You're a great leader, a natural-born boss, and you like to be in charge. You might want to try to stop all the fighting in your circle of friends.

AQUARIUS, THE BUCKET (Jan 20 - Feb 18): You have a creative mind and you're always looking for new ideas. You might want to try to stop all the fighting in your circle of friends.

PISCES, THE SHARK (Mar 21 - Apr 19): You have a great leader, a natural-born boss, and you like to be in charge. You might want to try to stop all the fighting in your circle of friends.
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 under way. In one study, patients 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 cite this documentation as follows:

"AZT and Acyclovir combination therapy may be the first published data on the AZT and acyclovir combination, which includes several possible preventive treatments for serious Immune deficiencies. The combination is useful. We will work on the subject of the effectiveness of various drugs used in this combination.

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

"One patient in the test group died of a reaction to farsanid. However, the drug combination can be given to the patient only if the side effects are tolerable.

"FATALITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE ADMINISTRATION OF FANSIDAR HAVE OCCURRED"

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 from the FDA's AIDS Research and Treatment Fund. The money is given to each state on an annual basis. The funds are used for research and treatment of AIDS and ARC.

"The money is given to each state on an annual basis. The funds are used for research and treatment of AIDS and ARC.

DUE TO SEVERE REACTIONS, INCLUDING STEVENS-JOHNSON SYNDROME AND TOXIC EPI-DERMAL NECROSIS, FANSIDAR PROPHYLAXIS SHOULD BE DISCONTINUED AT THE FIRST APPEARANCE OF SKIN RASH, IF A SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN THE COUNT OF ANY BLOOD ELEMENTS IS NOTED, OR UPON THE OCCURRENCE OF ACTIVE BACTERIAL OR FUNGAL INFECTIONS.

"Paying for AZT" by a US company, Burroughs-Wellcome, incurred the following statement: "In San Francisco, the Health Department reported a case of Stevens-Johnson syndrome, which took place on November 17. The panel included nine medical professionals.

ON GUARD

John S. James

San Francisco Sentinel • December 18, 1987
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ON GUARD
Continued from previous page

As we continue our series, we'd like to briefly mention two important points: First, the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle and regular exercise. Second, the significance of getting enough rest and sleep. These factors play a crucial role in keeping your immune system strong and your body healthy. Remember, it's never too late to make changes to improve your overall well-being.

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The SF Sentinel • December 18, 1987

18
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

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 obituaries — in death.

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?

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?

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

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 love 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 gaiety 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 or discussed in public interviews. Similarly, the leaders of the literary establishment who 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 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 manhandled by the "saint," 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, as author and as emerging gay witness. The novel's success enabled him to follow up with a powerful collection of essays on the black experience and the gay experience, why is he so little known to gays, and so gingerly handled by blacks?

Continued on page 22
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 jin the dressing rooms.

All I can think about is what it must be like in the dressing rooms.

In conversation we listen with one ear and 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 a 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. Most 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.

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Even children become hard to please at an early age. Where "Pirates of the Caribbean" was once entrancing, "Space Moun-
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 ab­s­
sent) 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 souvenier stands, hurry­
ting 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 ex­
cruciating misery she is now confronting.

I stand frozen in place for a few seconds
while sympathy is replaced by under­
standing. 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 audi­
torium, 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 "lived" in 1948, enraged by the blatant racialism he lived with daily in Harlem. Early writing in The Parisian 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 Vital's book fresh

We're 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.

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 peaks and valleys with them but the frequency modulation of her umbrella hat gets repeatedly jacked up, 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 housewife turned 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.

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.

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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 definition 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.

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 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.

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, eating 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 putting themselves on their collective backs. They are right.

I know this because I probably have one of the more academically 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 of the literature, but 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 evidence 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 Development Theory." Nichols writes: "I think that many lesbians are threatened [by bisexuality] because they are afraid that, 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 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 beunchosen."

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 number 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."
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 a deeper understanding of the origins and development of music. The computer composer-audience. After the Second World War when the computer audience. After the Second World War, composers seemed to get farther and farther from the people they were writing for. They were more interested in exploring the ground rules under which the orchestra is still light-years ahead of a computer-generated tape as a source of music.

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. Having been expertly played by the San Francisco Symphony last week at the Palace of Fine Arts, plays a computer like an instrument, partly because he was first excited by the sound of a Theremin radio, There is a way in which as a composer Waisvisz gives the impression that he is faced towards his audience, while Reynolds gives the impression that he is facing away.

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

Unbearable Lightness of Being: "Anyone whose goal is 'something higher' must expect to suffer vertigo." After meditating on this sentence for a while, Waisvisz got down to the matter 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... Instead of fragmenting and reordering musical materials into a new tradition usually involves the reverse process, building totalities out of motivic fragments, a way of producing disorientating perspectives is by augmentation." Within this structural principles, Reynolds succeeded in completely frustraring any sense of what he was doing. As the movement ended, I discerned much more meandering, middle-ended. 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 a reason alone, he was more than half a century too late. Much of what we heard in Reynolds' symphony seemed

An Urgent Appeal from Shanti Project

With more than three new cases being diagnosed in San Francisco each day, Shanti Project is in critical need of volunteers to provide emotional support to persons with AIDS and their loved ones. Currently, all of our 600 volunteers are at their full capacity. In order to avoid a waiting list for the people we serve, we need a minimum of 70 new volunteers for each training.

One way to show that you care about what is happening in our community is to volunteer a few hours of your time each week at Shanti Project.

Volunteers Needed

The next Emotional Support Training is scheduled for the weekend of December 4th and continues on December 11th. An additional Training will be held the weekends of February 5th and 12th. A Practical Support Training is scheduled for January 30th. To volunteer, please call Shanti Project at 777-CARE.
John Woodall's 'Gimcrack'

John Woodall's 'Gimcrack':

Aesthetics Pleaser

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

Aesthetics Pleaser

Voice intones, and that about the objects and people as a running commentary about our Bay Area melting pot or some such) you'd never know it if the program were directed to you and not around to tell you.

What makes Gimcrack not just...er, free associate along a voice-overs add to the piece's technical design. "N O  P I N K Y R I N G S, N O  POLYESTER!"

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. 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 miniature drone stage set of a fully ramshackle style conceived by Woodall and designed/con-structed by Woodall with his two fellow performers and Rick Dula. At the start, one trench-coated, scarecrow-like figure is mounted on a pulley track jut-ting toward the audience while his more clearly human drone stands frozen in the distant back-ground. In the middle stage space, a third figure (Tom Ford) rotates endlessly on a stool, mak-ing and undoing cat's cradles with twine. This initial tableau is broken by blackout and a brief unverifying burst of wartime noise and imagery.

Most of the remaining piece is strongly reminiscent of the play-full dislocated humor of Waiting for Godot and End-game — nomadic figures eng-ag ing in frequently slapstick, inevitably inextricable combat and camaraderie on a landscape both alien and familiar. Woodall and Tracy Bykle, having ditched their film-noir getups, become leap-over objects and people as a running commentary, speaking in multi-lingual gibberish and diving through trapdoors to escape the sneaky illicitings of the persist-ent outsider Ford.

Gimcrack is, on its most sur-face (but only clear) level, "about" the way these three figures conflict, cooperate or are oblivious — both among them-selves and toward their active surroundings. It is a surprising, often humorous way to try-© door "hole" repeatedly sucked up objects and people as a running gag. A dummy double for the gnomish Ford appears to pro-vide him with a ventriloquist's partner. Slide projections and the cooly spoken non sequiturs of occasional male and female voice-overs add to the piece's trabecula, yet compact weave.

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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, but not that there weren't ample reasons already.

Each has just released a grandiloquent 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? A screening of Spielberg's Empire of the Sun, I sat in front of two women who spent several minutes disputing which film they were going 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 a memorable in spite of itself. Empire capitalizes on a few moments of classic delicacy and profundity such as Spielberg has never before displayed, and an extraordinary lead performance by young Christian Bale.

Bertolucci's The Last Emperor alienates the already factious audience of Pu Yi, who was crowned the absolute ruler of China in 1908 at age 3, and ended his days as a public works gardener in the 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 outlandishly hyperbolic score, it complements its opulence with a quotient of real philosophical depth. For most audiences this film will simply be an unusually lush costume drama-morality play. It's not entirely bonafide 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 ultradimensional 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 reference in artistic mission between 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 be 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 captured 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 it. Jimmy dominates his film in a way Pu Yi never does; through Bale's hyperkinetic appeal, Spielberg's practiced manipulation of pacing and motion and dramatic score, Jimmy's infuses the surrounding film fabric with a force that can seem suffocating. This is likely to render Empire of the Sun the more popular of the two, but it also points to fundamental differences in artistic mission between their directors.

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 the "lives as parts" of the city's Western financial elite. (Before the war starts, we're introduced to Mr. Aleister Crowley, a Nationalist coup at age 7, Pu Yi is 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 narcissism and imperialist powerlust.

While Bertolucci's morals may not be the same kind as Spielberg's, he certainly knows how to punish characters who transcend against the code. Pu Yi is duped by the Japanese into ruling the emperor in the wartime puppet state of Manchukuo. Blackmailed into acting as the ruler, he is entirely 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 perceived identity when he's neutered. 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 narcissism and imperialist powerlust.

Continued on page 28

Survival strategies: Basle (John Malkovich) gives young Jim Graham a little lesson in how to ward off starvation in Empire of the Sun.
Continued from previous page

Royalty Will Reign

It’s the week before Xmas, and you’re almost done on your own. I’m peeling out Friday with Memphis Mark on a pilgrimage to the promised land, with a special treat: sort of a prologue: a visit to the 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 appropriate anarchic hands. Don’t doubt the boy any more than you trust him and don’t make any moves on his boyfriends. Bobo has the playful eyes and instincts of a pit bull.

Gospel Hummingbirds

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

Sandra Bernhard, TBA

The too-believableditz from The King of Comedy made sounds of sympathizers with last year’s ecstatic Rickie Lee J.P. Since then she’s been romantically linked with Theresa of the Butthole Surfers — or was it Gibby? — and planned to record with them. OK? So, I’m baffled too, and tempered (Millennium, 12/18, 8 & 11 pm, $14)

Kats & Kitten

Last shot at the ever improving, hard-driving, work-combo-in-SOMA’s big stage cabaret run (DNA, 12/19, 10 pm, $4)

Boho Juv Jones, Birdkillers, Lawn Vultures

The headliners, with their legacy—goes-swamp-lick, are gravy. It’s the lead rooms for the Killers and the Vultures (each sexy, authentic, bastard sons of Elvis) who raise this to a wicked bill. (Paradise, 12/19, 10 pm, free)

Sister Double Happiness, Dog Boy

The Vultures have a sensational, salacious, Yahoo frat-funsters. (Paradise, 12/20, 9 & 11 pm, free.)

Seashags, Hangmen, Birdkillers

The combo does its bit, asking that you bring a "toy for a toot" (not your old dildos, 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 Screen Club anthology, and a chance to watch whether Chrysalis had a clue when they signed that promising trio. Can Ex-Mary’s employees playing retardo-Aerosmith be rock ‘n roll’s future? (I-Beam, 12/21, 10:30 pm, free)

Spot 1019

The combo that brought you “Gnarly, Gnarly Surf Machine” is back again. God knows what to put in the local must-sees for ’87. (Ken- nell Club, 12/18, 10 pm, $5)

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Carnival in Rio

Join the festivities in Brazil when the Carnival in Rio departs for Key West and Cozumel in February or Nassau and Jamaica in March.

Carnival in Rio

Join the festivities in Brazil when the sixth annual gay tour heads for Carnival in February 7.

4111 18th Street at Castro, S.F. 621-8300

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)

Fenelli, Statue & Trish

The cozy club offers Xmas drinks, free popcorn and this eddy 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 the City Hall. (Paradise, 12/24, 9 & 11 pm, free.)

Clostrophobic, and desolate early scenes of Jimmy living alone in his parents’ deteriorating house, waiting for nothing to happen, surpass 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’s Schneider and unsafesex in Last Tango in Paris, and Spielberg is seeking to con-}
Summit Effluvia

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

It’s Christmas in twenty column inches.

Has Bean

Donald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev’s evident bonhomie (and, incidentally, their INF treaty) at the Summit last week landed in a heap of postmarital recriminations.

In the Big Chair; and Madonna and Sean Penn landed in the hills; Art Agnos landed and, incidentally, their INF treaty during) 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 spokesman in Nancy Reagan’s press office said Thursday, “We didn’t give out any information.

But why? “The White House has a policy of not endorsing one product over another,” she said, politely but firmly.

Then, in confidentiality, the first lady confided as usual, “If it was between, say, Maxwell House and Folgers, we’d be a lot less as a nation seeing one as better than the other.” The point, of course, is moot: both are served.

I asked if the First Ladies had drunk domestic coffee, or had, for instance, enjoyed a hearty espresso or latte. “Well, they had the choice of coffee or orange juice,” the spokesman said. She declined to say which Mrs. Reagan 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 was asked to write a story swept away by Summit effluvia last week. A digest of press accounts reveals that the media’s eye for telling trivia:

In Vitro Disaster

The December 4 New York Times reported that after waiting two weeks, Mrs. Gorbachev accepted Mrs. Reagan’s invitation to afternoon tea. American ambassadors fired off a cable saying, though not in so many words, “Shut up or get off the pot, lady.”

Said Nancy Reagan (Chiron, December 6): “It got to the point where I said I have to know, so I said, ‘I have to know.’”

Of Mrs. 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 reportedly very popular), referring to a previous encounter between the two First Ladies: “After the 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 Times reported that Nancy Reagan told reporters the day before that Mrs. Gorbachev “seems very nice.”

Rift Rita

The December 9 Times featured a host of key details. It reported: On 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 “stiltless.” She also quoted Mrs. Reagan as saying she found Mrs. Gorbachev to be “very nice.”

Said Mrs. Reagan had the short meeting with Mrs. Gorbachev (before their hubbies signed the big treaty) “very pleasant.”

Now Museum

No You Don’t

Things tenued 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, laconically replied, “It’s an official house. I would say that humanly it’s smaller today.”

The official White House biography said Mrs. G was born in 1934, which makes her 53.

Now Museum, however, New York Times reported that Nancy Reagan told reporters the day after that Mrs. Gorbachev was 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 official­ity says Mrs. G was born in 1930 — which would make her 55.

The official White House biography said Mrs. G was born in 1934, which makes her 53.

Western news media contend she’s 55.

Said Nancy Reagan (Chiron, December 6): “It got to the point where I said I have to know, so I said, ‘I have to know.’”

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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 snap­ ping about her clothes.” Even the Times’ Elaine Sciolino got into the act; she wrote: “A bit cock-tailish, don’t you think?”

Said Mrs. Gorbachev’s outfit: a black crepe dress with satin collar and cummerbund and rhinestone buckle, black suede sltilo 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.

Key Witness

The night before, I got lucky at a gay and Lesbian Task Force/Community United Against Violence benefit at USF. Speaking onstage about “straight” gay bashers, MC Ben Dhong quipped, “We don’t like them because they’re trendy batch of sweating boylets — but not this time.”

The December 10 Times reported that Nancy Reagan told reporters the day before that Mrs. Gorbachev “seems very nice.”

Of course, as the story also reports, Nancy Reagan is no stranger to age conflicts while she maintains she’s 54, 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 Heartbeats

Style Warriors only comprised a handful of the happily semi-­trendy batch of sweating boyles crowding the December 5 Boy Party.

The oh-so-exculcico — held this time in a humungous, two-story SOMA warehouse — lived down past charges of a racist and agist door policy: shoulder to shoulder, the “boys” looked older, if colder (after a 30-minute wait in the outdoor SOMA chill), and the ethically balanced mix boasted “no guns” 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 youngish Pee-Wee Herman lookalike dressed in yester­day’s sleeve brackets. Down­stairs, a raft of party workers dressed as choirboys walked through, transcending altered states. Upstairs, the toilet over­flowed. Downstairs, the dance floor overflowed. Upstairs, shirts came off, revealing perfec­tens. Downstairs, fists got rough, reveling in prefab sex.

And everyone loaded my Robert Smith big hair; they were dispelled, but I had The Cure.

At 2 am, publicity shy choy­boy Ben Dhong shouted party­goers into the street, sighing, “Now I get to party!” He re­fused to acknowledge that the only real selling point to his feitile disk is in the goddamn quote he lifted from my column six months ago and has used — uncredited — on every invoice since. But he lets me pay for beers, so I don’t begrudge him the theft.

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several younger sisters and brothers as their lives matured. Just As 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 cen­
tury, 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 bet­
er. — Another Country

I

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 gingly 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 himself, he permit­
ted 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 move­
ment gays," he said with some winkfulness.

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

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 move­
movement gays," he said with some winkfulness.

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 that strike 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. It shows that this hero is re­
quired in all of them.

Baldwin himself, asked on that sunny UCLA afternoon why the black movement re­
cived his unflagging 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

terms that blacks have been. My gay family needs me more than my gay family, and there's

In spite of that, he was and is a major figure for gays; he showed that coming out means

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 eve­
ing'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 their feelings, to demand account­
ability from a system that doesn't allow people to be free.

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DECEMBER SATURDAY

CURAS (Community United in Response to AIDS/SIDA) is an organization advocating AIDS-related services in the gay Latino/a community. Tonight they present their Pima Awards to deserving individuals working within that community. 8 p.m.-12 am. Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St., SF. $10 adv/$12 door. Tickets at Esta Noche, Los Potrales 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: New Sing with Hearts Aflame. Under the direction of Greg Tuzman, this year's concert includes scripture scenes from London's Covent Garden in 1887 and from Union Square today. Featuring Men About Town and the Chamber Singers, ensembles of SFGMSC. Tonight and tomorrow at 8 pm. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Ave., SF. $10-$15. Tickets: 552-3096, 863-8396 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 of their own. 5 pm. For directions to the dinner or more info, call 636-1351.

Or comes to Or. 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. Or: 1, 5:15, 9:30; Rain: 5:15, 7:30 pm. Castro Theatre, 429 Castro St., SF. $4.50 general/$3 students, children.

December TUESDAY

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 1 pm. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St. (at Geary), SF. Free. Info: 552-1997.

December WEDNESDAY


An Open Forum on Healing takes place tonight with panelists Rev. John McCormick, Lorne Grafenot, Lee Glickstein and Michael Zotta. 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: 431-8706, 934-HCPE.

December FRIDAY

The SF Gay Men's Chorus appears again tonight for its traditional Christmas Eve Sing-Alone. The program includes excerpts from their holiday concert (see entry under Dec. 19), and the chorus in vivo audience participation in caroling. 7 pm. First Congregationalist Church, Post & Mason Sts., SF. $5. Tickets: 863-8326 or at the door.

Or if you prefer your caroling in a hip, gay-friendly restaurant atmosphere, Teddy Bear Lounge hosts a Christmas Eve Dinner and Sing-Alone. No cover, complimentary champagne. Reservations are required. 131 Gough St., SF. Info: 821-6766.

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

Women are invited to observe the winter solstice with a ritual and celebration with Judy Grabs. Reservations are suggested. 7 pm. Manna Bean, 6516 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. $5-$7. Res/Info: 426-9694.


Old First Church presents its Christmas Eve Candlelight Concert with a performance by the Christmas Winds Chorus and Orchestra, under the direction of Carol Negri. Carols and dances from Renaissance Europe and a collection of 17th-century European monophonic songs celebrating the Nativity enhance the program. 11 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: 476-1608.

23 DECEMBER WEDNESDAY

GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders) offers a Wednesday Matinee for seniors — an afternoon of movies, discussion and refreshments. 2:15-4:30 pm. A No. 3 Market Senior Center, 313 Turk St., SF. Free. Info: 626-7000.

Christmas Pipe Dreams — a concert featuring the magnificent Ruffatti Organ played by John Balka and Lorna Grafenot. Through Jan. 3. Tues.-Sun., 2 pm; no performances on Dec. 24 or 29. Theatre on the Square, 400 Post St., SF. $12-$16. Tickets: 431-5000, STBS.


Christmas is really all about — in ACTs production of Charles Dickens' timeless tale. Through 12/26 at the Geary Theatre, SF. Call 771-3880.


An Open Forum on Healing takes place tonight with panelists Rev. John McCormick, Lorne Grafenot, Lee Glickstein and Michael Zotta. 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: 431-8706, 934-HCPE.

December FRIDAY

Celebrating Christmas with the Fraternal Order of Gays when they open the doors of POG House in Diamond Heights and welcome all to a Christmas party. Festivities include a buffet dinner, drinks, gifts and singing. Drop in at any time between 5 and 11 pm. 504 Cold Mine Dr., SF. $14.


The Sentinel welcomes submissions of community and arts events for possible inclusion, as space permits, in our weekly calendar. The deadline is right days (Thursday at 5 p.m.) or more in advance of Friday publication. Send items to: Calendar Editor, San Francisco Sentinel, 500 Hayes Street, San Francisco, CA 94112.
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Leave adult messages. See if there's one for you.
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• Gay
• Rendez-vous
• Introductions
• Personals

Continued from previous page
**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.

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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.

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Continued from page 35

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SENTINEL CLASSIFIEDS
**SENTINEL CLASSIFIEDS**

**MASSAGE**

Continued from previous page

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