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PART TWO

MOBILIZING AGAINST DESPAIR: THE DAWNING OF A DIFFERENT DAY

by Karen Everett

In Part 2 of the Sentinel's series on "The Year of Hope," a San Francisco-based AIDS activist describes her new and unprecedented "strategy of hope." Mobilization Against AIDS director Paul Boneberg and co-chair Lori McIndoe believe that glimmering government projections about AIDS deaths are dead wrong—and they are convincing medical authorities like Anthony Fauci and Paul Farmer to quickly, boldly document this message of hope to the American public.

ivory McIndoe's thirty-something face splits into smile lines for the camera, then turns solemn as small talk grows political. Glaucoating occasionally to the side of her glasses at her friend and colleague, Paul Boneberg, she leans into the tape recorder, baring her heartfelt agenda for the coming year. Boneberg, in turn, talks at a surprisingly comfortable decibel for a career activist. But his sentences come quickly, crafted with a historian's breadth and a statistical precision.

Paul and Lori have been putting their activist heads together since 1984, organizing Candlelight Memorials, lobbying for AIDS dollars and hastening FDA regulations. This year, however, the two leaders are singing a more hopeful— if equally urgent—tune.

Pointing to the success of early medical treatments employing newly developed drugs, they single out and then soundly refute the illogical assumption that every person with HIV disease will die. In a nutshell, what is the guiding belief behind Mobilization's agenda for the coming year?

Paul: The government's plan on AIDS is a strategy of doom. An alternative plan must be put forward that tries to educate HIV-infected people about the value of early treatment, in addition to providing access to treatment regardless of their ability to pay. The early treatment strategy involves speeding up drug research, expediting drug licensing processes and funding treatment programs.

Lori: The core of Mobilization's work is to forge the government to change what you call to "defensive strategy."

Paul: That is to say—tomorrow, (Dr. Anthony) Fauci said, "Here are these drugs; we think they'd save lives," but his strategy of doom, and the emphasis on treatments that can assume it's inevitable that these people..." Rutherford said 219,000 people will die from AIDS by 1991—but in that year alone, more people will die of AIDS than did in the war in Vietnam—that 110,010 people will be diagnosed in that time period. It is on those estimates which not only federal policy is based but state policy and local policy for many, many cities across the country. Given that assumption, where the funding goes into hospice care and into long-term research, because they assume it's inevitable that these people will die. What we're trying to do is put the emphasis on treatments that can keep these people alive and not only get them through, but viability, to provide access to that, so current studies in monitoring patients with AZT and some of the other drugs they are testing in clinical trials. Those studies are not ready for release yet. They are making educated guesses, and therefore they cannot come out and make absolute statements about data that hasn't been finalized. Paul: The problem is that if tomorrow, (Dr. Anthony) Fauci said, "Here are these drugs; we think they'd save lives," but his strategy of doom, and the emphasis on treatments that can assume it's inevitable that these people..."

What are some of those projections of doom?

Paul: The Public Health Service estimate is that 219,000 people will die from AIDS by 1991—but in that year alone, more people will die of AIDS than did in the war in Vietnam—that 110,010 people will be diagnosed in that time period. It is on those estimates which not only federal policy is based but state policy and local policy for many, many cities across the country. Given that assumption, where the funding goes into hospice care and into long-term research, because they assume it's inevitable that these people will die. What we're trying to do is put the emphasis on treatments that can keep these people alive and not only get them through, but viability, to provide access to that, so current studies in monitoring patients with AZT and some of the other drugs they are testing in clinical trials. Those studies are not ready for release yet. They are making educated guesses, and therefore they cannot come out and make absolute statements about data that hasn't been finalized. Paul: The problem is that if tomorrow, (Dr. Anthony) Fauci said, "Here are these drugs; we think they'd save lives," but his strategy of doom, and the emphasis on treatments that can assume it's inevitable that these people..."

Lori: In this city we're very fortunate to have representatives (Barbara) Boxer and (Nancy) Pelosi, who have an incredible mastery of the AIDS crisis and AIDS legislation. They're willing to work with community activists at every level. They're going into budget hearings fully prepared to ask for the things that they need. The core of Mobilization's work is to forge the government to change what you call to "defensive strategy."

Paul: We need to reach a consensus with other activists both in the city and on a viable initiative strategy. The state legislature is not going to let this go through the normal legislative process the funding provided to take care of the hundreds of thousands of Californians who need treatment. So what we have to do is increase the size of the revenues in the state of California through the 1990s.

Lori: Eventually we're going to need to put some initiatives on the ballot that will provide and create funding, at least for this year, at the HIV treatment centers that we need. This year, which is an off-election year, we're looking at the possibility of doing some city-by-city initiative campaigns which might be even more effective than national initiatives. We believe that AIDS treatments should be made available.

We're all a lot more blanket, positive statements fly before we get into a full-blown initiative. It is the time we are proactive as a community, instead of fighting reactivity, facial behavior.

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Continued from previous page

Also responding to a long anxious call from Booeberg was the normally con-
servative Dr. Paul Volberding, chief of
AIDS activities at San Francisco
General Hospital. He wrote in late
January a long and encouraging letter,
concluding, "As a whole, my mood has
recently been very optimistic."*****

You've been asking medical experts to
deliberately document your message of
hope. Last week, one of those experts,
Dr. Paul Volberding, told the Sentinel
about early tests on a new drug from
China which "apparently has no side
effects and has been shown to wipe out
the virus in one injection." Paul: We've not heard about the drug
even from China and that obviously would
be a dramatic change if something like
that occurred. But the idea that there
are lots of drugs with hope doesn't sur-
prise us at all. That's what the research-
ers all have said to us. Yes, there's a whole bunch of drugs coming down the
road; by all means don't think that
everyone with HIV infection is going to
die.

Mobilization is the conduit. The
researchers are in their labs where they
should be. We're the lobbyists, the peo-
ple who stand up to the elected officials
and say, "Wait a minute, you're wrong!
Here's what the researchers are saying.
Predicate your decisions on this."

And the elected officials of course
say, "Prove it. You're not a doctor."
And hence comes our trying to force the
researchers to document as boldly as
they can what they've been saying to us
in off-the-record meetings.

And frankly what you've got here (in
last week's Sentinel cover story) are
very strong statements from Paul
Volberding. That's really very good.
That will help us enormously in trying
to convince legislators.

Did Mobilization play a role in getting
Dr. Anthony Fauci to re-argue the FDA's
recently to remove two drugs, aerosol
perinatidin and glyceron?
Paul: Yes, we do. We intend to use
them to convince legislators we're not in
some sort of wild goose chase... Part of
what we've realized is that you can't
organize people, particularly the
American public, to fight a losing bat-
tle. It's like supporting protest can-
didates. Americans like winners. We
probably would have had a hard time
getting the NASA space program if we'd
said, "We're not going to beat the
Russians to the moon, but we're going
to fund it anyway."*****

Mobilization Against AIDS is concen-
trating its public educational efforts on
the 1989 International Candlelight
Memorials, to be held May 28th in
more than 150 locations worldwide.
In past years, Mobilization has helped
coordinate the world's largest grassrots
response to AIDS.
The sixth annual Candlelight Memorial
will focus on creating new
contacts in Third World countries.
Committing $41,500 of its budget,
Mobilization is providing organizing
kits to participating cities and coor-
dinating international press outreach.

I question whether the Candlelight
March — which we see sort of like
the Names (built in that it evokes grie-
ving and loss) — can truly inspire a
message of hope.

Lori: I think it can. One of the images
we're working on for the promotional
kit is the spokes of the wheel, sym-
bolizing different communities coming
together to a common hub. No com-
monality in the AIDS epidemic alone,
and we need to symbolically act that
commonality.

Paul: We have through the Candlelight
Memorials probably the largest AIDS
connection with different communities
that exists in the world. We realize that
we are not trying to get these drugs just
gay men in the Castro who have medical
insurance... It's tragic that as
we've been able to develop some of these
drugs, for cost reasons they are not
made available to our friends in
Guatemala or Uganda.

Continued on next page
S.F. General Poised
For Phase I Trials

SPECIAL BULLETIN:
MORE ABOUT GLQ223...

by Michael Gansatz

The Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is moving quickly to approve the promising new anti-AIDS drug GLQ223.

According to Elizabeth Ade, spokesperson for Genentech of Redwood City, California, the FDA is doing everything possible to get the initial Phase I trial of GLQ223 in motion.

"We realize the urgency of the situation. We hope that the drug will be approved within 3 months," Ade said. Gansatz helped develop the drug which was patented in 1987. Ade said that major newspapers are now preparing articles on GLQ223. She declined to say which papers, but according to unconfirmed sources, both the San Francisco Chronicle and the major publications on the East Coast are preparing the articles.

According to an undisclosed source within San Francisco General, Dr. Paul Volberding, Chief of AIDS Activities, and Dr. Michael McDaniel, who helped develop the drug, had hoped to begin injecting the GLQ223 into AIDS patients in January. However, the FDA asked for further toxicity results before giving the final approval.

GLQ223 is a drug that is derived from a Chinese plant. It has shown in the test tube the ability to HIV-infected white cells while simultaneously leaving unaffected cells alone. Furthermore, scientists hope the side effects will be minimal.

The drug has already been injected into laboratory animals. And more importantly, a course of the drug GLQ223 has been tried in China on pregnant women to induce abortion.

The drugs, Dr. McDaniel helped to develop feature a new and varied formulation. There is hope among researchers that the drug could wipe out the virus in one single injection. However, it may take many injections: it is simply not known at this point in time.

According to a cover story in the March 9 issue of The Sentinel, Dr. Volberding stated that he "hoped" the drug will act in that manner. Once the FDA approves the drug Phase I trials will begin immediately at San Francisco General.

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AIDS IS NOT THE FATE SENTENCE IT ONCE WAS!
WHEN HIV INFECTED PEOPLE ARE FREE TO LIVE, WORK, PLAY & EXPLORE LIFESTYLES THAT MEAN SOMETHING TO THEM

Continued from previous page

In Mobilization: the only AIDS activist group other than Project Homosex who is consciously embarking on a strategy of hope?

Paul: Yes. To our knowledge we are the only (other) group that is urging people — if they're at risk for HIV — to find out and to get themselves under care.

To what extent is that opinion catching on in San Francisco's gay community?

Paul: Half the gay men in San Francisco have been tested. The other half has not. To a large degree, the gay community has not accepted yet that there is medical treatment that can save their lives.

Lori: The message of hope is a unifying and energizing theme. It's like a door has opened. I feel that from a very emotional place — an opening of the door, of not having to continue to pace ourselves emotionally throughout the term of this disease, of not having to just continue to cope with loss and grieving.

We don't have a silver bullet. But there's definitely a different kind of day dawning.

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Cable Cars Miss One
To the Editor:
Each year I look forward to the Cable Car Awards with anticipation. Really, I appreciate the recognition they give to such a wide variety of contributions both within and to the gay/bisexual community.
This year, I was disappointed to see that the category for photography/photojournalism and been dropped. The San Francisco Bay Area gay/bisexual community is very fortunate to have a number of fine photographers who chronicle our many newsworthy and noteworthy events and keep a vivid record of our history. I am sure that few people realize that most of this is done at their own considerable expense with little monetary compensation.
When there were arguments over the number in attendance at the March on Washington, our photographers had the images to support the fact that we were over 500,000 strong. They have also brought events such as the March, the Quilt parachute, street fair, and sporting events to those who were unable to see them in person. And it is quite likely that the outstanding journalism that was recognized by the Cable Car Awards would have had less impact without the accompanying photographers.
M. Janet Allen

Full Accountability
To the Editor:
On behalf of the Board of Directors for International Ms Leather, Inc., I would like to thank Kathleen Gage of MIST Enterprises and Audrey Joseph of Fantastic Realities, for their donation of $2,840.00. These funds were used at the Mt San Francisco Leather Contest held on January 30, 1989, and before the sun came up on January 21, 1989 the final accounting had been completed, bills were paid, and International Ms Leather, Inc. had the donation in cash handed over personally by these two women. This kind of accountability should be what every fund-raising organization in this town should aspire to.
Sky Bracho
President, International Ms Leather, Inc. 1988-89

Chron Out Of Line
To the Editor:
For about 25 years I have been an out-front gay activist, and find myself again enraged at public health officials, whose views of sex are still based on politics, not on medical science. In Dawn Garcia's SFC Chronicle article of March 16, several so-called authorities are quoted, directly and indirectly, as stating that oral sex is a high-risk activity, presumably — and indirectly, as stating that oral sex is a high-risk activity, presumably — a cause of the transmission of the AIDS virus by oral sex. I hope to God the Chronicle is not going to be drawn willy-nilly into the creation of another anti-gay witch-hunt.
Donald L. Miers

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LOOK FOR OUR FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE MARCH 23rd!
by Dennis Coaklin

**NEEDLE RING IS BLACK GENOCIDE, SAYS GRAY**

The political controversy over the clandestine needle exchange ring that has been operating in the Tenderloin and other high AIDS risk neighborhoods deepened this week when Health Commissioner Mark Gray called the program a "primary cause to commit genocide." Gray also called for the arrest of members of Prevention Point, the network of AIDS activists who conduct the needle exchange program.

Gray says the facts that Prevention Point runs AIDS clinics, conducting such a program points to the failure of publicly funded programs providing treatment and other AIDS prevention materials to the city's IV drug users. "It's the bleak distribution programs, Breichman, all that other nonsense that I never approved of, don't work. If they don't work, why should they?"

Public health experts point out that needle sharing is far from the only way the drug users can spread AIDS and hepatitis C.

"They are a feeling among black activists and others that this is a conspiracy to commit genocide in the black community. It's a serious problem we have here. I'm convinced that we ought to do it. We're always looking for a quick fix," Gray said.

According to the data, needle exchange programs have failed to stop the spread of AIDS. In support of the concept of needle exchange as a part of a comprehensive program. It must have a strong educational component and include access to drug treatment and general health care," said David Wedger, MD, Health Department director.

He called the actions of Prevention Point courageous and said that needle exchange programs could happen in San Francisco in "a matter of months." But first, Wedger said, the state must approve of such programs — and they must have community support. He also pointed out that Dr. Leonard Fried, director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and a black physician, supports such programs.

Gray's contention that bleach distribution programs have failed are hotly disputed by AIDS and substance abuse experts citywide. They call her comments unfounded and confusing. They also call most of the needle exchange programs as an important part of a comprehensive prevention strategy. "The Mid City program is a most evaluated prevention program for IV drug users in the world. The results of the studies have been presented at numerous scientific and AIDS conferences. This also means that the city's thousands of IV drug users, opposition from former Mayor Diane Feinstein, gambled the possibility of their implementation during her administration. Feinstein, who also favored the end to anonymous testing for HIV and hepatitis C, also opposed needle exchange programs called the ideas of needle exchange programs "truly offensive." "There were two primary concerns," says Haadley Roif, Feinstein's spokesman. "If needles were given and people overdosed, there would be an increase in the liability of the city. If there's going to be a real impetus on the epidemic of drug abuse, there has to be a recognition on the part of users or be users not continue the abuse," Roif said.

"I don't have any moral or philosophical opposition to needle exchange programs. I just want to make sure that they will be effective. I want to stop the spread of AIDS and the spread of drug use," Mayor Agnos told the Sentinel. "The experience of other cities with regards to needle exchange programs seems to be that it does not lead to decreased drug use and may help get more people into drug treatment. That's a double win," Agnos said.

With an estimated 15,000 heterosexual IV drug users in San Francisco, there are only about 5,000 city-funded slots available for treatment. The majority of the Health Department's $1 million drug treatment services goes to heroin treatment services, even though AIDS and substance abuse experts have long argued the past five years that the city has ignored the problems of IV stimulant abuse. Just this year, the Health Commission declared the epidemic of crack cocaine abuse a funding priority.

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**BRISS KEEPS BILL'S FOCUS ON GAYS**

The eloquent testimony before the Human Rights Commission and Mayss Art Agnos, Supervisor Harry Britt spoke last Wednesday of the need for domestic partnership legislation that would end discrimination against gay and lesbian couples.

Britt surprised many who expected that he would introduce specific legislation as promised last week when he restated that he would testify to the commission in front of the HRC first and then have a bill ready within 10 days.

"The human rights issue I am concerned about is the fundamental freedom of every human being, man or woman, gay or straight, to form primary relationships." Britt said.

"The central form that discrimination takes against us is denial of the ability to have relationships that are publicly recognized, which are part of the system that advances and benefits economic interests in our society."

"The right of people to form primary relationships and to select primary partners is a fundamental human right in my judgment, and that's what the gay and lesbian community is all about," Britt said. He told the crowd that the American family is changing — and that while legislation he will introduce will address some of those issues, he wanted to keep the focus on the need for the recognition of domestic partnerships.

Britt noted that such legislation was a gay issue — and portrayed the situation of Karen Thompson and other high AIDS risk neighborhoods exchange rings that has been operating in the Tenderloin and other high AIDS risk neighborhoods. It's a serious problem we have here. I'm convinced that we ought to do it. We're always looking for a quick fix," Gray said.

According to Watters, the data shows that San Francisco has created "very major changes in needle use behavior by out-of-treatment addicts."

"The epidemic among IV drug users is predicted to double every six months. San Francisco leads the country with IV drug users complying with the needle exchange program," said Dr. Harvey Feldman of Mid City Consortium to Combat AIDS.

"I would hate to respond with the kind of hysteria that Commissioner Gray has," said Jerry De Jong, executive director of St. Mary's Services.

"I'm very disturbed that the commissioner would use words as strong as those," De Jong said. As a group meeting in an epidemic, I can understand her fears of drug use," Mayor Agnos told the commission.

"It is within the power of the board of supervisors to outlaw discrimination on the basis of family status, just as the city has refused to tolerate discrimination based on race, ethnicity or sexual orientation. It can and must fend discrimination based on family status insurmountable," Goldstein said.

Goldstein also said that registration of "family partnerships" should operate independently of such legislation because of the potential for discrimination against those who seek such partnerships. She also called for the commission to have broad enforcement powers of whatever legislation is passed by the board of supervisors.

"If you can and set Martin, who has been a lesbian couple for 38 years, spoke of the kinds of discrimination they have experienced. We have had to draw up and sign numerous legal documents for benefits that married partners take for granted," Del Martin said. Lyon and Martin cited examples ranging from spousal insurance benefits to home ownership. "We still have reservations about the registration of domestic partners at City Hall. The public record can be abused by homophobes," Martin said. She said such affidavits should be confidential.

"As long as treatment centers are in front of the HRC first and then have a bill ready within 10 days."

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Britt keeps Bill's Focus on Gays

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The eloquent testimony before the Human Rights Commission and Mayss Art Agnos, Supervisor Harry Britt spoke last Wednesday of the need for domestic partnership legislation that would end discrimination against gay and lesbian couples.

Britt surprised many who expected that he would introduce specific legislation as promised last week when he restated that he would testify to the commission in front of the HRC first and then have a bill ready within 10 days.

"The human rights issue I am concerned about is the fundamental freedom of every human being, man or woman, gay or straight, to form primary relationships." Britt said.

"The central form that discrimination takes against us is denial of the ability to have relationships that are publicly recognized, which are part of the system that advances and benefits economic interests in our society."

"The right of people to form primary relationships and to select primary partners is a fundamental human right in my judgment, and that's what the gay and lesbian community is all about," Britt said. He told the crowd that the American family is changing — and that while legislation he will introduce will address some of those issues, he wanted to keep the focus on the need for the recognition of domestic partnerships.

"It is within the power of the board of supervisors to outlaw discrimination on the basis of family status, just as the city has refused to tolerate discrimination based on race, ethnicity or sexual orientation. It can and must fend discrimination based on family status insurmountable," Goldstein said.
PEOPLE OF COLOR MOBILIZING AGAINST AIDS
by Marcy Reim

By now AIDS prevention/education is accepted and established in the gay community, almost taken for granted. Not so in communities of color. The most basic efforts are barely in place as Blacks, Latinos, Asian-Americans and American Indians increasingly bear the brunt of the crisis.

A march and rally is planned in Oakland for April 1st, to call attention to the need for AIDS awareness and education in minority communities— one of the first actions ever to take this form. "People of Color Mobilizing Against AIDS" is fueled by a familiar urgency, one born of watching the disease die, and the response sputter and stall.

"Against AIDS" is fueled by a familiar beginning of the epidemic, people of color, unrecognized and unreported. Since the beginning of the epidemic, people of color have been grossly overrepresented among PWAs with AIDS. Nationally, 42% of all PWAs are now people of color; in Alameda County, it's 46%; in San Francisco, 17%. Far lower than that, according to surveys done in the inner cities, four in five of these drug users are black or Latino. The majority community will never see this face loss of the next generation.

"From the beginning there's been neglect in delivery of AIDS-related services to people of color," said Rodrigo Reyes of Chinese American AIDS agency, and "certainly at this time it is not commensurate with the amount of need." The neglect—and lack of access to too-scarce AIDS funds—remains the primary obstacle to adequate education/prevention for communities of color.

But the difficulties are compounded by competition from too many other social crises; by homophobia, because stereotypes aside, a substantial portion of people of color with AIDS are gay and bi-sexual men; by denial in some instances, discounting and cultural taboos around open discussions of sexuality in others.

The planning committee for People of Color Mobilizing Against AIDS sees the April 1 demonstration as a means to bring together a multiracial network of groups and individuals to keep agitating and educating past April 1. Initiated by BWMT's early core also included people from the Rainbow Coalition, Glide Church, and Allen Temple Baptist Church, the largest black church in Oakland. On the steadily expanding committee "you've got straight, gay, black, white, Asian, everybody... people that have never worked together before," said Louis Ashley, committee contact person.

The first outreach was to lesbians and gays of color, minority health initiatives, and AIDS groups; now they are zeroing in on ways to hook up people of color who have not previously been involved with AIDS. Endorsements are still coming in, but the first ones are encouragingly varied, including the Third World AIDS Advisory Board on AIDS, the Love Center Church, Oakland City Councilmember Wilson Riles, Jr., San Francisco Supervisor Doris Ward, Pat Norman, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the Women's AIDS Network, the California Nurses Association, Randy Burns of Gay American Indians, and Fran Miller of the Lyon-Martin Clinic.

Though initially planned as a regional action, the mobilization is picking up momentum statewide and beyond. For more information, contact BWMT/San Francisco Bay Area, c/o Louis Ashley, 292 E. 20th St., #2, Oakland, CA 94606. (415) 532-4330.

GAY ASIANS
GAIN VISIBILITY
by Karyn Janowski

Joy Asian Pacific Alliance was formed in July of 1987. The men gathered at the Pacific Center in Berkeley recognized the necessity of their gay Asian men's support group "of going beyond rap and actually doing something about it, doing things in the community, because there was no community." Twelve founding members proposed an organization that would stress education, networking and communication skills. By providing a service model and resources, the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance develops a positive identity among its members, who gain valuable skills which enable them to take on leadership roles in the community.

In two years, GAPA has expanded from a membership of 12 to a membership of 65. GAPA is an organization for gay men of all Asian/Pacific backgrounds; immigrant and American born. Hoover Lee and Donald Masuda currently co-chair GAPA and as Lee states, "We are dedicated to changing that perception. We are really encouraging minorities to get involved."

"People of color are suffering, and the response is sputtering and stalling. We are in a community that's already got poverty and drugs. It's going to be compounded by all the things minority communities have to deal with already." This concern is echoed by many activists. Between AIDS and drugs, they say, urban minority communities face loss of the next generation.

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Where is Dr. Spock now?

LESBIAN PARENTING BOOM GENERATES PERPLEXING CHOICES
by Timothy Sirtin

In her late thirties, Peggy felt this was her last chance to carry a child. But resolution who, still left how unanswered. Peggy and Teri suspected that the solution was donor insemination. But knowing that Peggy could become impregnated with a donor's semen still left them dizzy with a lot of complicated and perplexing questions.

Do lesbians have access to donor sperm? Who would the donor be? Could they do their own insemination? How much would it cost? Would the donor have parental rights? And because they were in a relationship, both Peggy and Teri wondered if Teri, as co-parent would have any legal rights or responsibilities.

In search of answers to these questions, the women joined a lesbian mother support group. "The group," says Peggy, "is made up of women with... there were other women who felt like us. It's like we were the lone wolves.

The reality is that more and more lesbians, like Peggy and Teri, are finding that motherhood is not incompatible with lesbianism. At a growing number of clinics, gay couples learn about the complexities of donor insemination, adoption and foster parenting. They hear the heartfelt concerns of lesbian couples about the joys and demands of parenting, and they learn from the teenage children of lesbian parents that children have the emotional capacity to deal with their parents' homosexuality. As seminar speaker Cherri Pies points out, "We're in the midst of a lesbian baby boom."

Fertility Problems

Mayberry and Cherri Gagke hope to contribute to the lesbian baby boom someday. What they've found, however, is that wanting a child and going through the insemination process is no guarantee of carrying a child. Like many heterosexual couples, they're experiencing fertility problems.

To resolve her anxiety Cherri sought counseling, and also joined a support group for women who were considering bringing children into non-traditional family situations. Through counseling, she was able to focus on what she really wanted. And what she wanted, says Cherri, was a child that she also needed more time to pursue her career. With that in mind, they pushed back their time table to start having kids. When they were ready, however, Cherri couldn't get pregnant. In retrospect, incorporating a lesbian sensibility into her work is that she boldly corrects those who call donor insemination artificial insemination. "Artificial impregnation means there is something not normal or natural. For lesbians, insemination is a perfectly normal, natural way of getting pregnant."

Legal Snare

While the sheer mechanics of shooting a syringe full of semen into the cervix may be simple, there are a host of horror stories about women who failed to protect themselves legally, and unwelcome relationships with their baby's biological father. Furthermore, no matter what any couple may take to ensure the child's co-parent has some legal parenting rights, like guardianship of the child in the event of the biological mother's death, the eyes of the court the co-parent has no legal claim to the child at all.

According to attorney Roberta Ackerman of the Lesbian Rights Project, gay parents are between a rock and a hard place. "We're usually better off when the law doesn't contemplate our existence, because when it does... it tries to constrain our behavior in extremely inappropriate ways."

In many ways the wrangling that surrounds lesbian parenting issues shows how gay parents are redefining family. That so much of what affects these families is being decided in the courts doesn't mean the families fail short... it simply means they are different and don't fit the legal models. Says Cherri Pies, "There are as many different kinds of families as there are lesbians creating them." And for many lesbians, that will include choosing children.
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I'm against the cops, including failure to interview Smoot's neighbors or to collect physical evidence from the killer's home, laughing loudly during the investigation of Smoot's murder following his murder, and the OCC accepted as a possible cause of the cops' action homophobia.

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Laughing Over Murder
COPS IN SMOOT MURDER CASE GO ON TRIAL
by Charles Lineburger

In November 1987 a 53-year-old gay man, George Smoot, was murdered by his 17-year-old neighbor, Kali Smith. Smith stabbed Smoot through the heart with a butcher knife, forcing six inches of cold steel into Smoot's chest. Smith was consequently found guilty of involuntary manslaughter. However, the revelations from the Smoot case continue. The four cops who investigated the case went on trial this week for allowing homophobia to bias their work.

Two of the officers, Frank McCoy and Marvin Dean, were charged with neglecting duty and engaging in conduct reflecting discredit on the Police Department. Antonio Calzadilla and William Kidd are charged only with neglect of duty.

Last July the Office of Citizens' Complaints (OCC) upheld three of four charges that had been brought against McCoy, who was in charge of the investigation.

"The death of George Smoot has produced a feeling of uneasiness in our neighborhood... If George Smoot's character is being drawn into the investigation of his death, why haven't the police questioned any of his neighbors, except the boy and his family?... The story told by the boy to his sister related a struggle for his life..." (At the trial Smith's younger sister related a complicated story about Smoot's trying to strangle her in her living room before his murder).

"I just don't think it would have been like that if he hadn't been a gay man.
Traditionally the punishment for killing a black or Latino man has been much less. It's always a more grievous crime if it's a white victim. I think that like blacks and Latinos, gays are also treated as second-class citizens."

Paul added, "This isn't just the work of a few activists. First there were the neighbors. Then Tom (Ammiano) and Hank (Wilson) got involved and brought it to the Gay Community Forum, who was involved as a representative of Stonewall and we arranged the community forum. Smoot's murder showed us that we can be murdered at random and our murder covered up or disavowed, and/or justified. We are dealing with a very severe form of the devaluation of human life here."

Considering how much was at stake in this case, the only wonder is that hundreds of gay men and lesbians didn't crowd the courtroom for Smoot's trial. Unfortunately only a handful did and we were vocally overwhelmed by a group of Smoot's friends from McAteer High School days after Smoot's murder. But Bill Paul particularly was determined that justice would be done in this case. He and other activists organized a community forum on the murder. He filed complaints against Wemeten's statements, against defense attorney Burgh for releasing Smoot's diary to the media, and against the cops for their inadequate investigation.

Bill Paul and others took the case to the OCC. The OCC upheld the complaints against the cops. Chief Frank Jordan also upheld the complaints against the cops. Bill Paul told the Sentinel, "They (the cops) didn't collect any evidence. They didn't even search the kid's room.

The kid just drove a butcher knife through this man and they didn't even search his room. On top of that they didn't search the main room in Smith's house to find evidence of the struggle he had with his victim."

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Blockade By Operation Rescue Rebuffed

by R. Day

In San Francisco, this was the first time that Operation Rescue has tried to organize for a clinic blockade the next day," said Marianne Jensen of the Bay Area Coalition Against Operation Rescue. "Not the church, not the state; women will decide our fate!" was the angry chant of the picketers who moved quickly from one site to another at the block-long church, creating a human barrier against the so-called right-to-lifers. At one time, about 50 of the demonstrators invaded the church parking lot until they were pushed out by the 50 cops on the scene.

About 36 demonstrators were sprayed with the chemical "Mace" by one gray-haired cop thought to be a sergeant. The number sprayed on the street was not available. The cop was standing behind the first row of police near a barricade. Some of the pro-choice people were knocked to the ground right behind the first row of police. Those who had been gassed were grateful for the rain, as young women leaned over the rain puddles trying to wash the staining chemical from their faces and eyes. "We're angry. We're going to take it to the Dolores Huerta decision on Wednesday." Jensen continued in referring to the police actions on Friday night. She referred to the decision of the Police Commission on Wednesday, the 8th, to not hold a disciplinary hearing on the cop who beat Huerta. "We feel it basically gave a green light to the SFPPD to do anything they wanted to any demonstrator," said Jensen.

She also compared the SFPPD's reaction on Friday night to its massive show of force by the cops in "protecting Operation Rescue physically, then turn and look at what occurred in Oakland the following day when it took four hours to get a response from the Oakland Police Dept, to arrest people who were breaking the law." Planned Parenthood recently sought and received a court order forbidding all members and supporters of Operation Rescue from trespassing on clinic property and yet it took the Oakland cops four hours to enforce the court order.

A quoted picket of about 300 people crowded in front of the Women's Building, one huge command center Wintheight, circled the Police Consultation Center on Bush twice and, no doubt noting the 150 pro-choice supporters who had lined up to try to defend the clinic at 5:30, rolled on to the Oakland Planned Parenthood. "We hold that clinic for 45 minutes in a pitched pushing battle. There were 25 defenders at the front door and that door was never threatened by Operation Rescue," said Ms. Jensen.

Operation Rescue claims to use nonviolent civil disobedience tactics to shut down the clinics. "When they came up to the clinic at 7:30, they had big men charging forward against a defensive line of pro-choice men and women," said Jensen in calling their non-violent claims lies. This is reinforced by the fact that on Friday night all of the Operation Rescue security men at St. Dominic's who could be seen consulting with the cops and trying to push demonstrators away, were hefty, muscular, short-haired 200 pounders.

Marianne Jensen said that most of the funding for Operation Rescue comes from large fundamentalist churches. She said the viciously anti-gay Jerry Falwell's church had given $10,000 to the organization. The conventional wisdom among progressives about Operation Rescue is; "Sure they care about human life, right up until the moment of birth. Then they couldn't care less."
EDITORIAL

POSITIVE LEGISLATION FOR PWAS NEEDS TO GET BY HOMOPHOBES

Bay Area assemblyman has introduced legislation which would provide comprehensive testing, counseling and treatment programs for people who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Developed with AIDS experts throughout California, the bill proposed by Assembly member Jacki Speier (D-South San Francisco) is being hailed as the next step to build on a measure carried last year by Assembly Speaker Willie Brown Jr., which created six health screening programs for HIV-infected people.

Speier's bill, AB 1600, is being sponsored by the LIFE AIDS Legal Project, which is endorsed by gay and lesbian organizations as well as the Bay Area's many AIDS service organizations. The new bill would establish Early Intervention Projects which would expand the program statewide and increase the services available as well as provide medical treatment and case management.

It would also require the state Department of Health Services to evaluate different approaches to early intervention and to collect data on the services provided and the success or failure of various methods of treatment. A committee of experts would be convened by the department to ensure that the Early Intervention Projects keep pace with advances in medical and behavioral research. Backers of the bill hope that the test can be spread among private and public health care providers. The bill makes it impossible to charge a fee for the test.

A dangerous movement has been building ground in our country that bodes increasing injury to the lives and rights of women. A small but well-organized band of religious fundamentalists and their allies in the Radical Right have been relentless in pursuit of an agenda that seeks to roll back the social gains made by women in this century. They have scored some frightening defeats for women — and all Americans.

They blocked ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, narrowed anti-discrimination protections, and implemented economic policies that have dropped millions of women through the social safety net into the ever-expanding pool of poverty and human despair. Over the past eight years, they busily went about partitioning half of the federal judiciary with a conservative ideology. Now, with a Supreme Court more to its liking, the Radical Right is within striking distance of achieving its most pressing goal: to outlaw abortions.

Some of the Supreme Court judges with men holding tight of nine seats — may decide to overturn the landmark Roe v. Wade case, which permits women access to safe and legal abortions. The Bush Administration has been urging the court to do just that when the justices decide this June the case Webster v. Reproductive Health. Some men have long been active in the struggle to defend and expand the rights of women. Others have been in the forefront of the movement to do legal, judicial and social injury to women. Most have been content to ride on the back of the assault against the lives of women who have waged the battle for women's rights.

We are silent no more. We have come together as Men Who Care About Women's Lives. We have organized a national call to action to urge men to support the movement for autonomy of women. We see the denial of constitutional rights for women as a breach of a national promise; a denial of the rights of all Americans and our sacred trust. We see the infringement on the privacy rights of women as an intrusion into the very lives and free will of all women.

We do not say abortion is a good thing or a bad thing. That determination belongs only to the woman and, if she chooses, her health care provider. We do say women should not have an abortion. But we do emphatically insist on the rights of women to have this option.

Whatever a woman decides is best for her, we support the choice she makes. We do so because we affirm her right to control her own body, her own life, her own future. And let us reaffirm her humanity and personhood.

We invite all men to join us in this important and crucial work to defend abortion rights. Before Roe v. Wade in 1973, botched abortions and pregnancy-related complications were the leading cause of death of women of child-bearing age. Today, it is automobile accidents. We must work tirelessly to ensure that women will continue to have access to safe and legal abortions. We must never return to the days when women were branded criminals and forced to seek out back-alley abortionists bearing coat hangers and knitting needles. We must never surrender our constitutional rights to privacy to the satisfaction of the Radical Right.

We are inspired and uplifted by the leadership of women whose sense of justice embraces all. We take strength from the experiences and struggles from those among our numbers. This includes a woman who lost both legs in order that people in a nearby land might keep their integrity. Those of us with AIDS who give their remaining strength to this campaign as women will never again endure the ravages of back-alley abortion.

Today our numbers are in the hundreds. Tomorrow we will grow by thousands. We have been self-sufficient, but soon our voices and energy will need to be amplifed. We are angry about the treatment of women, and we are turning that rage into meaningful action.

Supervisor Dick Hongisto is the next step to boldly assert our rights. As the next step to bold action, Men for Women's Rights has been called into action.

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Bar Association Shows Favorable Response

ENTHUSIASM FOR SAME SEX MARRIAGES

by Ken Cady

proponents of "same-sex" marriages report an enthusiastic response to the efforts of the San Francisco Bar Association to lobby for a change in state law defining marriage. Bar Association president Peter Keane says "A lot of people have called up and said thanks." I've also received many favorable letters, some of them very touching."

The Bar Association wants state law to be amended so that marriage is not defined as a relationship between a man and a woman, but as one between "two people." It's Board of Directors voted unanimously to recommend such a measure be approved at this fall's Conference of Delegates to the State Bar convention. Ninety delegates from the local bar associations will then vote to either make the proposal a formal offering from the S.F. Bar or to allow a group of ten delegates to put the proposal forth independently. "Either way it's going to be before the conference," Keane says.

 Attorney Laura Goldman, who drafted the proposal, has also received positive feedback on the idea. She said theSenate/ that this was prompted to begin the endgame when she became educated to the discrimination against homosexuals and the deprivation of rights she observed. Her gay and lesbian clients all "loved" the proposal, she says, and she received complimentary letters as well. Nonetheless, Goldman is aware that the proposal faces an uphill battle. She has already been on several radio talk shows pushing the idea, and intends to lobby extensively before the September convention where the decision will be made," she predicts.

Not surprisingly, the president of the California Bar group has said that he hopes his organization will oppose the measure, and the Bar Association has had a "halo-effect" reservations over the matter, according to Keane.

Following up on another recent column, the San Francisco Police Officers Association has filed a formal complaint with the State Bar against Attorney John T. Serra for a remark attributed to Serra in the Recorder. The

"The remarks of the dreadful disease AIDS hovered over the trial. . . . The trial judge refused to exercise it," according to the justice. "It is notfacetious that the jury, observing the gloves, thought it better in any event that Wiggins be withdrawn from public circulation and confined in an institution with others of his ilk."

The victim of the murder had been in fact diagnosed as having AIDS. Defense attorneys objected to the wearing of gloves, but, according to the New York Times, the judge said "I have no reason of ever removing their gloves." Wiggins is expected to get a new trial.

Geoffrey Stokes, writing for New York's Village Voice, has asked his readers to help C. Woolsey Howe, executive editor of the Omaha World-Herald. It seems that Mr. Howe has issued a memo to staff stating that "We should not refer to homosexual sex partners as 'lovers' as we did in a recent recent about Jack Kuhn.

The memo explains that many people think that men having sexual intercourse is not love but a deviation of the word. Stokes suggests that readers should send Howe suggestions for "accurate and appropriate" terminology to the World-Herald at Omaha World-Square, 14th and Dodge, Omaha, Neb. 68102.

Woo writes that he doesn't view this as a content, but the most accurate and appropriate suggestion will be suitably rewarded. "Of course, to enter, you should send him a copy of your letter to Mr. Howe. His address is Press Closed, Box 398, Woodstock, VT 05091.

Wig’s in the D.A.’s office are calling the copy machine "Three Mile Island" after papers contaminated with radioactive materials were copped on the machine. What advice do you have for law enforcement agencies? Instead of monetary contributions, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Food Bank was contributing food and money to the Bay Area AIDS Project, according to Hope and her colleagues.

Woo signed a settlement agreement by placing her in a "dead-end" job and by refusing to grant her review. "This is not farfetched that the jury could be in serious trouble, since he said, "We have once again won on the point."

The cost of AIDS is not always clear. In Maryland, it turned out to be a waste for taxpayers' money. The Maryland Court of Appeals last week ruled that Judge Jacob J. Levin should not have allowed court officers to wear gloves at the murder trial of Bernard Wiggins.

There was no conclusive evidence that Wiggins had AIDS or ARC, yet curate and appropriate" terminology to the World-Herald at Omaha World-Square, 14th and Dodge, Omaha, Neb. 68102.

Woo was the first name to come to the minds of those looking into the case from the 60's. The judge refused to exorcise it," according to the World-Herald at Omaha World-Square, 14th and Dodge, Omaha, Neb. 68102.

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State Senator David Roberti (D) gets high marks from most gays.

**POLITICS**

**NYC MAYORAL FREE-FOR-ALL**

by Daniel Wilson

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*For information about mandatory commitment meetings, women & minorities are encouraged to apply. Some work study money is available.*
Give Me Your Gays, Your Lesbians

GAY IMMIGRATION BILL YEARNING TO BREATHE FREE

Washington, D.C., . . . The Immigration Exclusion and Deportation Amendments Act of 1989, which would ban punishment against gays and lesbians seeking to immigrate into or visit the U.S., was introduced into the House of Representatives Tuesday by Congressmen Barney Frank (D-Mass.).

The bill, designated H.R. 1280, would remove the current "sexual deviation" exclusion used to block gays and lesbians from entering the U.S. The bill affects tourists, resident aliens or immigrants who wish to become citizens.

"It's time the Statue of Liberty started openly personal more of those wearing the pink triangle," said Robert Bray, Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) communications director. "For too long many gays and lesbians have been denied entry into our country, while America has denied the skills, talents and energies of gays and lesbians from around the world."

Although the exclusion of gays and lesbians is rarely enforced — many persons and couples have been allowed into the country — the law is still on the books and is used to reject uncles or deviate or deport some individuals.

"Customs officials can and have made inappropriate and intrusive the queries of tourists and immigrants," explains Steve Smith, HRCF lobbyist. "More than 1,000 gays and lesbians in separated families, retired careers and political perspectives," to the House Appropriations Committee.

The bill also repeals or revives many other grounds for exclusion. Most of them, being based on moral or cultural era, bar immigrants — including communities and anarchies — on political and ideological grounds. The current law, for example, allows exclusion for any person the State Department believes is "presumptively insane.

The bill would not change the current exclusion of people with AIDS and HIV infection, but it would grant the Department of Health and Human Services authority to waive the exclusion of persons with communicable diseases. HRCF lobbyists said they would seek to broaden the waiver provision.

"At a minimum, persons with communicable diseases should be admitted on the same terms as people with other disorders," said HRCF's Smith. "If you can show that you are not "dangerous" you should be able to come into the country. There certainly is no basis to think that immigrants are bringing AIDS in the U.S., which still has the world's highest number of reported cases."

Congressman Frank has been joined by 45 original bill cosponsors. The bill has been referred to the Judiciary Committee, where it is expected to be referred to the Subcommittees on Immigration — chaired by Rep. Bruce Morrison (D-Conn./3). Morrison is an original sponsor of the Immigration Act of 1990, which is to be the centerpiece of the new law.

The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1989 bars discrimination against persons with disabilities, including persons with AIDS and HIV infection. It applies to virtually all housing in the United States.

According to Captain Richard Crispin, Sherwood and Pecard succeeded to accommodate persons within the housing needs of the Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Bill. HRCF's Field Division urges gay men and lesbians to contact their congressional representatives to thank them for support of the bill or encourage them to sign on. Concerned individuals are urged to contact their Representatives at U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515. If you are a resident in a congressional area, call HRCF's Field Division. Gay and lesbians may also send a message by enrolling in the HRCF pre-authored Speak Out mail program. For more information, write HRCF Field Division, 1012 14th St. NW, #407, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Under current immigration law, the "sexual deviation" exclusion may be used to deport or deny entry to any foreign gay man or lesbian. However, in 1979, the Public Health Service (PHS) declared to certify visa applicants as homosexual on medical grounds.

Nonetheless, the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled the "sexual deviation" exclusion is meant for blacks and gays. Under former President Reagan, the Justice Department instructed the PHS to enforce the "sexual deviation" exclusion.

In anticipation of the effectiveness date, the ACLU AIDS Project today issued a special 50-page guide to the new law to facilitate use by lawyers and AIDS patients against such discrimination.

We hope that the new law will be vigorously enforced and the government and used extensively by private lawyers," said said Fred Dobbins, ACLU AIDS Project lawyer who wrote the report and was extensively involved in Congressional work on the bill. "While it would be wonderful if no new cases of housing discrimination against people with AIDS or HIV infection went forward, it is clear that we are in a new era.

The House of Representatives failed to amend the housing provision to exclude people with AIDS before passing the bill last June. It was then passed by the Senate without amendments. The bill provided for an effectiveness date of 180 days after it was signed by the president.

"The coalition effort of the disability rights and civil rights groups that helped move this law through Congress and that kept it intact for people with AIDS was critical," added Dobbins. "We hope that this report will now serve as a useful guide to let lawyers know what new protections today's law provides for people with AIDS and HIV infection."

PARADE MOURNS LOSS OF KEY MEMBERS

The gay community is mourning the deaths of Joe Pecard and Wayne Sherwood, two key members of the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day committee, who perished on March 11 in an early morning fire at their home on Howard Street.

Sherwood had been selected as the 1989 co-chair of the parade and of the celebration's safety committee. Pecard, was to continue with his post of several years as the supervisor who ensured that float drivers had insurance, safety monitors, and that they passed breath-analysis tests.

According to Captain Richard Crispin, Sherwood and Pecard succumbed to the blaze while cooking dinner during the fire in the residential quarters of Worn Out West Clothing store.

Damage to the building from the 5 a.m. blaze was estimated at $70,000. One person, Timothy Althauser, survived the fire and is in intensive care at Pacific Presbyterian Hospital. The Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Committee immediately declared the 1989 Parade and celebration to their memory. According to Fio Tumulo, a Committee member.

A memorial service will be held Sat. March 16th at 5 p.m. at Mt. Tamalpais in Marin County. For more information contact the LGFD Committee at 867-7723.

HUMAN RIGHTS ORDINANCE PASSES IN CHICAGO

Chicago's Human Rights Ordinance officially became law Feb., 1989, and Acting Mayor Eugene Sawyer — who is credited with pushing the measure through the City Council — declared it "Human Rights Day in the city."

Activists connected with the Gay Lesbian Town Meeting, who fought a two-year battle for the ordinance, gathered the evening before at Sidetrack bar on heavily gay Halsted Street for a "Burn the Bylaws" party.

Just as the "gang of four" — activists Arthur Johnson, Louise Ditman, Rich Garcia and Jon-Henri Damski — finished torching Town Meeting's bylaws, according to Doblin, made a late entrance into the party.

She bent down, scooped up some ashes off her fingernails and put it on her forehead in the sign of the Cross and said, "Take that, Cardinal Bernardi."

Chicago Roman Catholic Cardinal Joseph Bernardin had fought the ordinance fiercely in 1986, but had retained relatively aloof from the political battle in his last campaign before finally passed the City Council 26-21.

Activists said they were dissolving Town Meeting because its single, self-defined goal had been the passage of a gay rights law in Chicago.

Anyone discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation in the city can now be fined $500 for each day the discrimination continues. The ordinance, according to one government official, will "last night at five after twelve, it kind of sank in and I called many friends to say that we had finally done something."

"With this ordinance, and the increasing visibility and economic and political support of our community," added Johnston, "We can now see it is that every day is Human Rights Day in Chicago. I really feel that Chicago is the most exciting place in the country today to be queer."

With the ordinance in force, Chicago activists say they will begin the push for enforcement of the law and for progress on other important gay rights issues.

"We want anti-gay violence addressed," said Garcia. "We want a hate crimes statute act. We want the Chicago health department cleaned up; we demand an effective program to address AIDS in Chicago."

"We want openly gay and lesbian people on commissions and boards in the city. We want Mayor Sawyer's Committee on Gay and Lesbian Issues expanded and strengthened so it will have more influence and its staff will be paid."

And, finally, we want domestic partners benefits. Well, I shouldn't say 'finally'. There are a wide range of issues that will be addressed and these are just some.
Only KGO Credits Conkin

**CHRON BEEFS UP GAY COVERAGE**

by Charles Linebarger

The Chronicle seems to be consciously filling the Friday through Wednesday gap for this city's gay viewers. This week, for example, Chron reporter Dawn Garcia played the part of a George Mendehall or Gregory Douthwaite with stories on Domestic Partnership (DP) and unsafe sex South of Market in four of the week's seven daily editions.

Garcia's stories this week on DP were models of objectivity, a nice change of pace from an earlier piece on the subject — in which another writer's prejudices came through too clearly. Of course, it could be that the Chron has made the smart editorial decision that some kind of DP is going to pass this year anyway, and pretending that San Francisco is saturated. Regardless, Garcia did a good job.

A photo of lesbian couple Phylis Lyon and Del Martin, who have been together for 36 years, appeared on Wednesday's page four story on DP. And the article's highlighted sentence gave away a new Chron disposition to be fair on the issue: "The goal is to give rights to families that do not fit the 'Father Knows Best' definition."

Garcia gets my thumbs up. She talks about other cities with DP already in effect on the books or thinking about it. She brings in concrete examples showing why the law may be needed. Unfortunately the piece ends with a confusing quote by Peter Keane, the President of the San Francisco Bar Association, and I came away unsure where Keane stood on this issue.

Garcia played gay reporter again on Thursday with a one column follow-up on DP. The story showed that DP had not added to government costs in Berkeley and had the truthful headline, "Support In San Francisco For Extending Health Benefits." Anyone who remembers the shell cries from the mass rallies the last DP time was up to vote (1982) must breathe a sigh of relief. As they say in the cigarette commercial, "You've Come A Long Way Baby." I mean we all have.

Garcia dozed her lavender pantsuit on Friday for a thrilling traveler's titlized "South of Market, Private Sex Clubs Flourishing Again." A follow-up appeared on Saturday titled "New Fees, San Francisco Guys Relying Into Unsafe Sex." Unfortunately I came away from both National Enquirer-type headlines uncertain about whether Garcia was talking about the jerk off clubs we've all heard about for years, or something new. If it's really a new phenomenon she should have differentiated it from the JO clubs.

Monday at the Chron is of course the day Randy Shilts' AIDS column appears. I can remember when he was the only reporter writing about AIDS in 1982. People accused him of spreading hysteria. Actually he may have saved my life, and many of his detractors are now dead from that virus that doesn't give a shit about hysteria.

KGO LEARNS A THING OR TWO FROM THE SENTINEL

Television station KGO (Channel 7) picked up on several stories that appeared in last Thursday's Sentinel, which is sort of grindng to us in the community press. KGO did a two-parter on the freelance exchange in the Tenderloin and kindly gave reporter Dennis Conkin credit for breaking the story here. They also did a piece on the AIDS drug Foscarnet, which I wrote about in my last investigations column.

In the same evening newscast they did a piece on forced testing for AIDS, a hot line issue Prop. 69 passed. Anybody accused of sex crimes or being a cop can now be forcibly tested for AIDS. (Actually I think a lot of gays and lesbians probably in their hearts don't have a problem with the sex crimes part of the law. I know if I was raped I'd want someone's blood rushed to the lab.)

NEWSFLASH

The Sentinel has learned that the Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club of San Francisco has spent $2100 on a publicized this year, Allen White, Gay journalist Wally Parks, and Melvin's publicist during the mayor's race. Melvin, of course, dumped White during the election campaign and, with much of the rest of his staff.

NEWSFLASH II

By Monday, the Chron was at it again with a cover story by politics reporter Randy Shilts on the history of the gay movement. The Post-Stonewall primer for straight was marginal, but otherwise the story which greatly underestimated the 1983 March on Washington participation at 50,000.

Aze Investigator Loni Gruszewski had the day's lead with a headline titled, "S.F. Volunteers Giving Addicts Clean Needles." Does that ring a bell? Well, all good stories have a life of their own. But when the San Francisco Press Club gives out its annual awards for investigative journalism I hope they remember it. But don't hold your breath.

LET'S GUARD AGAINST THE DANGER OF ATTACK

It's dangerous out there.

We know you already know that, but there never is such a thing as too much security when we're talking about bodily harm or even worse.

Violence against gays is on the rise even here in our open-minded city, and it has become apparent that many of these are not just random, spur-of-the-moment attacks, but rather deliberate stakouts and premeditated pickups that end in robbery, humiliation and at times even worse.

We have reports of specific incidents in the Colonnade Park area where men wait for gays to come cruising, allow themselves to get "picked up" and proceed to their homes, then at knifepoint force them to strip, throw their clothes out the window, and rob them blind — even take their cars.

The perpetrators of these crimes — be they gay or straight — are not your usual criminals. They know what they're doing, and they have decided that gay men cruising the parks or the streets are easy targets. There have been many stories over the years about such incidents which end in violent death, and with the increase in these types of occurrences in certain areas of San Francisco, we know that killings are inevitable here if gay men continue to put themselves in such vulnerable positions.

There is no doubt that the use of drugs, or theft as a means of supporting drug use, play a large role in this gay bashing. Every day it is a cruel game, a meaner, cruder world in the sense that some people will do anything to get what they feel they need, and unfortunately gay men have always been easy targets because of the hatred some people feel for us.

All we ask is that you be cautious. It is dangerous out there, and the last thing we need with such things happening is a false sense of invulnerability.

We all can be targets of any crime at any minute, so let's not put ourselves in any situation out of lust or stupidity that we know without a doubt will get us in serious trouble — including, maybe, our own lives.
The Gift of Gratitude

A Ritual For Personal Concern
by Van Ault

One of the greatest ways to expand the beauty in your life is by meditating on gratitude. By consciously focusing on what you are grateful for, you experience the good that you have and enjoy it more vividly. Giving thanks moves you beyond the self-attacking thoughts of "I don't deserve" or "there's not enough for me." With gratitude, you also rise above tendencies to take things for granted and leap into a stronger state of consciousness that feels truly nourished. Such a leap can be catalyzed by using the following Ritual of Gratitude.

Designed for a universal form of spirituality, the Ritual of Gratitude can be adapted easily to align with your particular spiritual tradition, belief system or meditation style. Its effects can range from subtle to profound, depending upon how deeply you allow yourself to experience gratitude, and how you integrate the consciousness of gratitude into your daily life.

You will need the following tools: an altar or table, a large white candle, a bouquet of your favorite fragrant flowers, and a gemstone or quartz crystal cleared of other energies. (Do this by placing it in sea salt for one to three days.) Incense is discouraged.

Set up your altar with the items listed above. Make yourself completely comfortable and let your eyes gently close. Allow your breathing to slow down and deepen. Ground yourself, by imagining a cord extending from the base of your spine down into the earth. Imagine this cord goes deep into the very core of the planet. Feel the stability and security of the earth below you. Use any techniques you already employ for going fully relaxed with each number you count.

Opening to Beauty

Allow your heart to gently open. Let yourself become very soft, gentle and vulnerable. Inhale, and let any resistance to feeling vulnerable be released as you exhale. Put your hand over your heart... feel it beating. Just be with the heartbeat for a brief time, feeling it express the life force that animates you. You are instantly connected with that life force. It is one with you now.

This is the real gift of the Ritual of Gratitude: it facilitates a shift in the way you direct your attention, thereby uplifting virtually every positive aspect of your existence.

Let your attention flow from your heart directly toward the Source of all life, whether you call it God, Godess, Higher Self, the Christ, Tao, or whatever. Speak to this Source—imagine it to expand powerfully within you during this ritual. Open up to it. When you feel connected to your Source, open your eyes and light the candle. Say, "I am one with the Source of all life." Relax—keep breathing. Go deeper.

Gather the bouquet of flowers into your arms. Contemplate the idea that the life force animating you also animates them. You and the flowers come from the same Source. Smell the flowers... let the fragrance move gently through you. Imagine the scent's vibration flowing into the center of your heart.

Let your eyes rest softly upon the vivid colors of the blossoms. Touch them gently with your fingertips. Let the feeling of pleasure the flowers give you rise, as do you see, Surrender yourself totally into that feeling of pleasure and beauty.

Then feel the gratitude that naturally arises... the heartfelt appreciation for this exquisite pleasure. Keep breathing. Say, "I give thanks to the Source of all my world. With this gratitude, all that I am and all that I shall ever be is uplifted into beauty. I lovingly share this beauty and allow myself to experience even more of it. All is well. So it is!"

Weary or carry your gratitude talisman with you for the next seven days or longer. It can help anchor and integrate this expanded awareness of good in your life. You can draw on the crystal for energy "hits" when you need them and use it as a reminder to focus on the beauty of your world.

You probably will have several ideas on what to do with the ritual flowers. You might want to distribute them, one to one to individuals you'd like to share your abundance with. Imagine that as you give each flower away the love you experienced in the ritual ripples out into your immediate world. Watch as that energy then take other forms and returns to you multiplied.

This is the real gift of the Ritual of Gratitude: it facilitates a shift in the way you direct your attention, thereby uplifting virtually every positive aspect of your existence.

Let your mind now reflect upon other elements of your life for which you are grateful. Say inwardly, "I am grateful for..." and what that element is. If you stay relaxed and centered, these elements will probably spontaneously come to mind. The more spontaneously the process moves, the more powerful it will be. After each element you grateful...
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**ASTROLOGICAL GUIDE**

By Mary Ellen Doty

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 19): OK, Aries. You've had 3 weeks to get off dead center and come to terms with that financial transaction. If you have, congratulations! If not, the stars give you one more week. Don't cry "chicken woman" if you lose this time.

TAURUS (Apr 20 - May 20): Has anybody ever told you that you're head-full? (Where do I get that you get the Taurus name?) This week somebody in your immediate zone has something to say and you're not listening. They're right. You're wrong. Period. Turn page.

GEMINI (May 21 - Jun 21): Been hestitating at day's end to end for the castle? That's because you don't know that's honestly offensive at the castle. Talk about it with the offender. If you get nowhere, make plans to end it. A Gemini with so bold roots at home becomes aactivateing.

CANCER (Jun 22 - Jul 22): That soft-bodied crab grows a shell (or finds itself) early in life if housed early or if you think you can't find the tender touch that's been lacking you for 3+ Turn around, Cancer. You're about to be loved.

LEO (Jul 23 - Aug 22): By your own choice, Leo, you've seen it all. You've been a master builder for years. Now this week may overcome a sense that you kept a wound in yourself by bonding because she holds you - you get held. Understand: everybody holds something. This is a pre-emptive for the depth of relationship appearing in late Mer-

VIRGO (Aug 22 - Sep 22): There's a so-

LUCHA (Sep 22 - Oct 22): Someone's holding a pot hand with a poker face. Dig a little deeper. Like, there's a red flag up about your financial security. The secret is revealed by next's end. Surpise advisor well.

LIBRA (Oct 23 - Nov 22): How long has

SCORPIO (Oct 23 - Nov 21): How long has

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22 - Dec 21): Your

CAPRICORN (Dec 22 - Jan 19): What's

AQUARIUS (Jan 20 - Feb 18): Think it over a long time. If you

PISCES (Feb 19 - Mar 20): A technique you
depends on what's going to happen and whether you are connected to a goal beneficial to the masses. If you are run

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Satcurday, March 25, 1-4 p.m. (panel 7-9 p.m.) will be
Alive From L.A./a videotape screening of highlights
from the recent Advanced Immune Discoveries
Symposium 1989, held last month in Los Angeles;
held at Metropolitan Community Church, 150
Eureka Street, San Francisco.

Laurence Badgley, M.D., a physi­
cian practicing in San Bruno in Nor­
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the symposium, says, "It's imperative
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Dr. Badgley is also concerned that
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Young, talented, rich, famous, Jewish and gay. A laundry list of adjectives is about all the public has to identify the irreplaceable David Leavitt who has taken the literary world by storm. The emergence of Mr. Leavitt as a major talent has been startling. In five short years the 28-year-old writer of novels and short stories has become an instantly recognizable celebrity — especially among gay men and women, the audience his campaign publicists back in New York have effectively won over with "slick" presentations that portray him as the invincible knight who rides effortlessly from one victory to the next. Leavitt, reveals in private that the ride has, at times, been bumpy.

His triumphs, of course, are well known: Leavitt was published in the New Yorker at the age of 20. His first novel, Family Dancing was universally acclaimed by critics. His second novel, The Lost Language of Cranes further enhanced his popular prestige. Both books were purchased by the prestigious mega-giant Knopf. His work has entered our schools, libraries, and our homes. His book has become a part of their subconscious. Over 100,000 copies of his third important novel, Equal Affections adorns the bookstore windows of America. His choir-boy face smiling seductively from the dust cover. His presence pervades our schools, Libraries, and our homes. On nightstands next to beds, on the shelves of dens, on kitchen tables can be found a David Leavitt's books which have been embraced and welcomed into the intimacy of the homes of people he will never meet but who feel as though he is an old friend. More importantly, Leavitt has persuaded the minds of his readers... his thoughts and characters becoming a part of their subconscious.

"Writing a best-selling novel must be like having psychological intercourse with 30 million Americans. In between the public literary triumphs there has been a flood of private pain. It is this pain which Leavitt believes is the source of his depth and compassion as a writer. "I grew up in a family that knew a lot of sickies," he says. "I remember caves back into a chair at the posh Blue Plate restaurant in San Francisco. "You gain a lot of understanding surrounded by that kind of suffering," he says. Even now he is surrounded by suffering. Several of his dearest friends are sick and dying of AIDS.

Leaving his lovely home by the ocean in Easthampton, Long Island to promote the new novel, Leavitt is completing a "brutal" tour which began in Boston before proceeding to Milwaukee, Chicago, Houston, Dallas, and San Francisco. Mr. Leavitt is the end of the line and then it's off to Europe for a brief respite in Spain and July before returning to the States.

"I am a citizen of the world, not just America..." he says.

The waiter brings a garden green salad and potato leek soup. Immedi­ately Leavitt begins stabbing the salad with his fork. "I am really hungry," he says. "I love green salad. It is one of the best meals I never get to eat." He begins to eat and then he says, "You know, I don't think people could read my books and not come away with the thought that I didn't have depth or understanding or compassion," he says in response to a question regarding the image that has been portrayed of him in the press.

The idea that his life has been one continuous ride on a roller-coaster named success is quickly corrected. "I couldn't write the books I did if I wasn't vulnerable. It has been a hell of a life in many ways over the past five years. Too much has happened.

"Much more is going to happen... Leavitt is currently at work on several short stories and a screenplay for acclaimed Hollywood film director John Schlesinger whose movies include Midnight Cowboy, Day of the Locust. Leavitt's second novel, The Lost Language of Cranes is currently being made into a low-budget film. He is also hard at work on a journalistic piece for the New York Times Magazine. He squirms in his chair. Wisely, he says, "I wish I were 18 again..." At that age, Leavitt was entering Yale and no one had ever heard of him. Leavitt views his "celebrity" status with a raised eyebrow. He laughs as he recalls his friend who jokingly said to him: "David, just how big of a star do you want to be? Do you want to be a really big star?"

His writing has always been of the greatest importance to him and not necessarily those things - money and acclaim — which accompany a unique gift. Down-to-earth, approachable and unflappable, Leavitt keeps his life and talents in perspective. "I wish I could have done more but obscure writer. I want the novels I write to become famous but I do not wish to become famous," he says, though he would literally have to disappear from public view tomorrow to negate that fame he has already garnered. It is an idea he toys with. His first promotional tour would then become his last. He commutes moving to Spain, specifically Barcelona which he has fallen in love with. Presently he lives less than two hours from New York. "I hate New York," he says, impa­tiently tapping his spoon against an ice tea with lemon.

"I just HATE New York," he says again, shaking his head in disgust. "I never go to gay bars in New York City. I only go to bars in small towns." Later, though, he has been making regular forays into the Big Apple to attend ACT-UP meetings. As his contribution to the AIDS crisis, this well-known writer, who happens to be gay, is working on a lengthy piece for the New York Times magazine. ACT-UP is the group which plans civil disobedience to force negligent politicians and health authorities into action regarding AIDS policies. "They serve a psychological function. They give power to people who have felt powerless. Their methods work. They are very creative," Leavitt observes.

"I like attending the weekly ACT-UP meetings. It has become the new cruising place. No one goes to bars to cruise anymore. Everyone is doubled-up. Last week there were 300 people there. It's a big social thing now," he says.

While he is the first to acknowledge that AIDS is "scary" he does not believe it is a particularly bad time to be gay. "The age of decadence, the late '70s, has burned out. Young gays are emerging into a much more welcoming atmosphere. There is a remarkable sense of community. I think it's important to remember that AIDS has to do with being sick and not being gay."

Susan Sontag's book AIDS and its Metaphors impressed Leavitt. "I found the book compelling," he remarks. He himself is writing a non-fiction piece on AIDS and a movie script but declines to write a novel or even a short story and chooses to not explain why. While his major literary efforts have all included gay characters in leading or secondary roles, the topic of AIDS itself is rarely mentioned. One time in Equal Affections he refers to it indirectly as an "indiscreet invasion." Perhaps the topic is too painful to yet illuminate with his powerful pen.

"At first I was very nervous writing about gays. But I've learned not to let the garbage of the world interfere. My family has been great. They are very supportive. All that illness made them understand."

Because he incorporates gay characters into his novel, Leavitt consciously resists being labeled a "gay" writer. "Ideally there should not be a gay literary tradition. I challenge the notion of a gay story."

"While he does not believe there is a "gay" story, he does realize there is a "gay" audience. "Gay's read a lot and publishing houses are aware of the potential profit."

It is one of the reasons Leavitt recently parted company with Knopf which published his first two novels and went to the smaller publishing house of Weidenfeld and Nicolson. "At a place like Knopf it is less likely that a writer like me would get as much attention as I am given at Weidenfeld and Nicolson. Besides, they mischievously, "they are paying me more money."

Now he learns forward in his chair and adjusts a blue blazer that looks careworn enough to be from his days at Yale. The jacket with open shirt, Levi's, and white sneakers look as though he has consumed for the role of a writer in a Hollywood movie. Especially contributing to the image are the wire-rim glasses. "Hey," he protests with a smile. "I wasn't the first writer to wear these glasses."

An excellent conversationalist, Leavitt pauses as the waiter takes away his plate and silverware. He begins talking about the reception his new novel has received before making a painful confession.

"It hurts," he says, like a little boy who has scraped his knee. He is talking about the review Alan Hollinghurst wrote of Equal Affections for the New York Times Book Review. Leavitt had long admired Hollinghurst's book Swimming Pool Library and he was crushed when Hollinghurst did not have similar feelings for Equal Affections.

It was, in every sense, an unequal exchange of "affection" for each other's work. Leavitt, however, has himself fulfilled the sentiment behind W.H. Auden's poem The More Loving One with the lines:

"If equal affection cannot be, let the more loving one be me."

A deeper understanding of Leavitt demands that another word be added to the laundry list of what we now know about him. It is the word that best describes him — "thoughtful." He is always thinking about others and he fills his books with these thoughts. Escaping the slings and arrows that come with literary success, Leavitt can always restore himself through his lover walking along the beach, contemplating the works that are yet to be.
n the long string of novels destined to emerge from David Leavitt's smoking typewriter, it is his third book, "Equal Affections," which will be remembered as the point in his remarkable career where he finally achieved artistic maturity.

This statement is made even though the first half of the book is flawed by Leavitt's tedious meandering in setting up an entanglement of several relationships. It is the second half of the book where he reaches a new level of sophistication. At this point, at Knight-like speed, sparks flying everywhere. Here the book ignites and goes up in flames as the reader races tear-eyed from which has been in remission for over a painful revelations to rise to the surface.

Expected news dramatically sets in motion with craft, and filled with the wit and a chain reaction of events which causes towering poet W.H. Auden. The book is rich in symbolism, styled with craft, and filled with the wit and wisdom that have become the hallmark of Leavitt's remarkable voice.

At the core of the book's premise is the simple yet noble thought from the poem "The More Loving One" by the towering poet W.H. Auden.

"If equal affection cannot be, Let the more loving one be me..."

All of the relationships in the book are marked by this "unequal" exchange of affection. It is Louise's eminent death that proves to be the great equalizer. The knowledge that she will soon be gone forces her family to come to grips with their differences. More importantly, it empowers Louise to return the affection of her two children — April and Danny — who are slightly alienated.

The 252 pages which comprise this book are broken up into tiny three and four page chapters, like shimmering pieces of shattered glass in which are reflected haunting images of people learning to love each other. It is definitely written for a generation weaned to gripping on a single reading, he runs the risk of physically killing off his most avid fans.

The one area where Leavitt's writing ability is least apparent is his descriptive prose. He spends little time describing physical characteristics of people and places. His emphasis instead is on what's happening psychologically between his characters and inside their own heads. But his potential for fine descriptive prose exists. His calling the sky "nervous" and the few paragraphs capturing the atmosphere of San Francisco show promise for future endeavors.

Leavitt is always pulling surprises on his readers; it is one of his greatest strengths as a writer. April, the lesbian, has a baby through artificial insemination. Danny's lover Walter has an affair behind his back and is quickly forgiven. Nat, the father, begins to openly date the woman he was having an affair with shortly after Louise is dead. Nothing is easily predicted in this story.

Though Mr. Leavitt himself is openly gay and each of his major works contains gay men and women — sometimes indirectly — it is extremely important to remember that he is not a "gay" writer in the sense that his writing is universal. Not unlike James Baldwin or Alice Walker who happen to be black and happen to write about the black experience but are universally embraced by all races, color and persuasion. David Leavitt is not a "gay" writer; he is a great, young writer whose literary efforts are creating a deeper understanding of the human experience.
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THE GAY CONNECTION

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San Francisco Sentinel  March 16, 1989
James Broughton is a very unusual character, even for an artist. He is the philosopher of a special viewpoint: the world as a playground. He is the physical and a peculiar anatomy: the body as an unbridled pleasure center. He is the theologian of a pantheon unnamed in any religious literature. For him, gods and spirits are immediate presence incapable of "shall not" and encroaching of any path that leads to ecstasy. All of this is in the very essence of his films, as is in the nature of his poetry.

So read Broughton’s point of view and his art now more than ever, as we are all at risk of becoming damaged, destroyed and even incapacitated by the pressing (and depressing) present of AIDS. And, as with all the conveniences of video, we can take a dip when we need to in the stream of special consciousnes that is Broughton’s four-decade-long film tribute to the Truth he knows. Prepare to laugh, to be amazed, delighted and shocked, but also enrected and even eradicated by his work, we grow up, generation after generation, ashamed of what is pleasant, and untrained in love, learning, work, we grow up, generation after generation, ashamed of what is pleasant, and untrained in love, learning.

James Broughton Films On Video

ECSTASY IN THE LIVING ROOM
by Joseph W. Bean

...eighteen of James Broughton’s films are now available on video tape. If you don’t think that’s great news, you probably haven’t seen the films, despite numerous recent retrospectives and festival showings.

For anyone who doesn’t already know Broughton’s films, there is almost nothing to compare them to — except his poetry — that will help you understand what to expect. Maybe, though, it is enough to say that Broughton has been called “America’s Jean Cocteau,” meaning he is considered the pre-eminent poetic filmmaker of the United States. Besides, he and his later subjects are quite clearly and gladly gay, which undoubtedly adds some interest.

Of the seventeen available films, sixteen are in a new, five-volume set appropriately called The Films of James Broughton (Facets Video, Chicago). The other, “Dreamwood,” was released on tape some time ago by Mystic Fox Video. The films from Facets are grouped by subject in each volume and, since the five tapes are sold separately, you can choose the titles you prefer to have Broughton address.

Tape one, Erotic Celebrations, is made up of the first four of Facets’ most richly developed language, the vocabulary of the human spirit at play in its own-bred body. All of these films were made in barely more than a decade: The Red, 1964; Exodus, 1976; Song of the Godhead, 1977; and Hermes Bird, 1979. The last of these is a late, but not the last, confession to our culture's most accessible film, although it does "grow on you" with successive viewings. In it there is only one shot, a close up of a dick, going from rest to readiness in slow motion, while the narrative voice praises it.

\[Continued from page 19\]

James Broughton: Forty years of genius on video.

Rithuals of Play, tape two, is compos ed of Mother’s Day, the 1948 master piece that put Broughton on the map with a list of film/art critics, plus Four in the Afternoon and Loony Tom, both 1951 works. The London Times described Loony Tom as "half Rabelais, half Mark Sennett with the spirit of a love lyric." Actually, in 1989, it looks like an impossible combination: fully Rabelaisian, full-scale Keystone Kops, and burning with lyrical love. So, obviously, it’s tough now, think and act later. The Pleasure Garden, at 31 minutes, is the longest film in the collection, and many critics and lovers would say also the finest. This film appears alone at tape three. Allen Ginsberg said, "It’s on the side of the angels. It’s such a great testimony for love out in the open." True, Acid, as such, it is also one of the clearest expressions of Broughton’s most enduring theme: Love can be learned and taught. Sadly, as we learn from life and elsewhere in Broughton’s work, we grow up, generation after generation, ashamed of what is pleasant, and untrained in love, learning, and instead, trained in all its opposite. Five films make up tape four under the title Parables of Wonder. In this set we see Broughton as philosopher, even religious, from The Water Circle (1973), a Zen-eccosy visualization dedicated to Lao Tzu, and to High Kukus (1973), shifts the ascent from world to idea, from the visible surface to the ineffable reality, from nature to the supernatural, as though there were no boundaries being crossed. Other titles included are The Garden of Eden (1981), The Golden Positions (1970), and There Is 10 (1971). The last volume of the Facets Video series is Autobiographical Mysteries. It includes Broughton (1971), writing with P. Adams Sitney, worthy of Pictorial Film, called “one of the most remarkable films ever produced within the American independent cinema.” Broughton throws himself into this film with all the real of living care you’d expect in the farewell film of one of the world’s most respected indie cinema artists. Then, when he met Joel Singer, the filmmaker and singer, and a new, collaborative career in film began. Devotion (1983), the second work in the autobiographical set, examines the many ways that 45 pairs of men are devoted to one another. Along the way, the still-developing devotion between Broughton and Singer is revealed, explored, and focused. Scattered Re­mains of James Broughton, filmed by Joel Singer in 1988 — a marvelous film of praise and review — is also included.

Taken as a whole, the Facets Video set of The Films of James Broughton is an incredible thing: 40 years of genius, art, and insight in a take-out package you could squeeze into a full grocery bag. Somewhat, more powerfully than the collected memories of Broughton films you may have seen over the years, the art comes as dramatic proof of Alan Watts’ summation of the poet laureate of the State of Ecstasy: “Broughton ... he said, “is both holy and nonsensical.” And on another occasion he wrote, “In the contemplation of lofty themes most people are serious, though not always sincere. Broughton, however, is always sincere but hardly every serious. Indeed ... in company with the angels, Broughton laughs with God rather than at him.”

The Films of James Broughton and Dreamwood are available locally at A Different Light on Castro.
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Dr"ndra... By Mario Mondelli

Jenny, a k o Fibber McGee character, is the producer who has cashed in big on making fun of trademarks

Sterling Silver, who wears San Fran on her head in every paper displays their work. Most of the pros... banned the Cable

Awards . . . except of

report that she had two photos published in that other paper (worth about 30

amateur killers are a fact.

Every paper displays their work. Most of the pros... banned the Cable

that singer

by Lee Hartgrave

FILM HIS(& HER)STORY

by Mario Mondelli

RETURN TO

FM| HIS(& HER) STORY

b y Mario Mondelli

Fags & dykes on film, with a tip of the hat to Von Rosen's classic Cathedal Closet

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2. Acquiescent word

3. Creole

10. To end

13. Beat it

20. Acute Digitor

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31. Jazz

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33. Gramarye

34. Faggot and Derek

35. Dekker's L.A.

36. E. F. •

37. A.D.,... "Actin's•

38. Rarely

39. Joe

40. Piano

41. The dollhouse

42. Karen, type...

43. 1964 Strikes, spurt

44. The theme... Martin

45. Whored... "Actin's•

46. Dandy

47. Décor

48. Actor, type...

49. Director

50. Axi's computer

51. Faggot

52. Welling

53. Outwardly, not...: "...the
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54. Qualitee

55. Washington town

56. Mule

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59. Star

60. Occupation

61. Mule

62. A.D.,... "Actin's•

63. Engineering aide

64. E. F.

65. English

66. Author Doighion

67. Anthropologist

68. Man and Pa

69. Actress Joenne

70. Stage whispers

71. Japanese sash

72. Reporting

73. Lunch... (end of the track)

74. Bike conversation

75. A. D.,... "Actin's•

76. E. F.

77. A.D.,... "Actin's•

78. Mule

79. Caper

80. Pearl

81. A.D.,... "Actin's•

82. A.D.

83. Mule

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last week offered concert-goers two orchestral programs that were tonic in music-loving soul. Yo-Yo Ma joined Herbert Blomstedt and the San Francisco Symphony in Benjamin Britten’s Cello Symphony on a program that included Richard Strauss’s Death and Transfiguration and Olly Wilson’s Lumin. Then Colin Davis brought the Bavarian Symphony Orchestra for an evening of Sibelius and Mussorgsky.

The centerpiece of the San Francisco series, Britten’s 1963 Cello Symphony, was originally written for Mikhail Kopprasch, and the work has a bleakness to it that suggests the dark, wintry landscape of Russia. So much modern music likes to bristle with difficulties that the listener frequently wonders if the problems or the music most concerned the composer. But Britten in this tortured score is not mindlessly showing off. You sense in this music that the composer’s dark vision necessitated the raggy language of the opening movements, with their clipped melodies and their startling transi-
dions.

The music begins to open out in the third movement Adagio, where the cello sings an eloquent, if plaintive, song, which is interrupted in the midst of the recapitulation for a dazzling cello cadenza that Ma took easily and dexterously in his stride. This cadenza leads directly into the Finale, which further relaxes the mood in a spirited set of variations. What each dance is attacked, boggles the brain. (Mine, anyway!) (so to speak), is obvious. The starting athleticism and fervor, with the lot.

The most impressive playing came in the encore: Hector Berlioz’s Berenice overture. Davis is almost singlehandedly responsible for the late 20th century revival of interest in Berlioz. In this performance, he showed why. There was a zest, a motor energy in his work here that caught exactly Berlioz’s rhapsodic romanticism. Would that Davis and his orchestra had skipped Pictures and given us more Berlioz.

RUSSIAN DANCE TROUPE WINS OVER AMERICANS

Those Russians have done it again! A standing ovation for their opening night performance of folk and character dances at the Orpheum. The Moiseyev Dance Company has been around for a little over half a century, having done international tours since 1955. Their founder, Igor Moiseyev, was practically brought up on theatre and weaned on the Bolsihoi, and it is obvious. The stirring athleticism and fervor, with which each dance is attacked, boggles the brain. (Mine, anyway?)

However, it’s the technique and the years (not just hours, days or weeks) that have gone into the production of that skilled creature, the Russian classically-trained dancer, that shines here. It is evident in everything they do: each nuance, each twist and inclination of the head, wrist, toe, combined under the tutelage of an expert choreographer. But yes, there is one thing more. Hasn’t it ever bothered you, that as we sit there, it seems to be something lacking in the dancers we produce? Is it the discipline, devotion to practice, what? Well, obviously, these are not questions that can be fully gone into here, but maybe, just maybe, could it be, the true means is cost. The Slavs definitely have it. No dancer who is an example of his or her art, merely

The Moiseyev Dance Company perform at the Orpheum Theatre

Conductor Colin Davis opened strong with the Bavarian Symphony. Some of his most engaging, most humane performances. Yet not even genial music-making, and the glorious orchestral playing that went with it could put enough of this score to balance the caggy greatness of the Britten. Colin Davis and the Bavarian Symphonic Orchestra had much the same theory of programming. The first half of their concert contained the 16th century's meat and potatoes, while the second half had the liquors and dessert.

When the great trombone incantation came to break the spell of darkness, one of the players entered a beat early and so destroyed the solemn effect. Yet still Davis’s insightful reading of this score managed at least partially to come through. This great conductor understands the immense drama of Sibelius’s Seicento; he understands its tension and its release. Would that he had an ensemble worthy of his conception.

The Mussorgsky half was better. Played once, the strings simmered, but also once again the winds and brass consistently threw away their glamorous star turns with a missed note or a blurred ending. Ravel’s orchestration of Pictures at an Exhibition is all about orchestral virtuosity. The only reason to play it is to show off your ensemble. In this performance only the saxophone justified its existence.

What is most strange about the Russian’s foibles is that one would think that the tuteledge of an expert choreographer would never stand for this level of sloppiness. It has been a long and grueling tour for the Bavarians, and perhaps they are tired, but the problems did not sound like simplicity — they sound like habitual carelessness.

The most impressive piece came in the encore: Hector Berlioz’s Berenice overture. Davis is almost singlehandedly responsible for the late 20th century revival of interest in Berlioz. In this performance, he showed why. There was a zest, a motor energy in his work here that caught exactly Berlioz’s rhapsodic romanticism. Would that Davis and his orchestra had skipped Pictures and given us more Berlioz.

through Mar. 19.

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Luisa’s — A Little Bit of Italy in the Castro
by Gary Merger

It was an odd thing about Italian restaurants — people land on one favorite and wear it by, and will go to no other. People who crave Oriental or Mexican food, or seafood, are always eager to discover a new place, but Italian is different; once people find a place that suits them just right, they seem to feel the same loyalty to their dentist or hairdresser or fortune-teller, and they only share this wonderful, secret place with very special friends. Maybe that explains why I’ve heard so little, over the last decade, about Luisa’s.

Luisa is a very attractive, expressive, but shy lady who moved her operations from Polk to Castro Street some ten years ago (and surprised all the neighbors by opening with a full liquor license when everyone said one couldn’t be brought into that location). I was just moving out of the neighborhood at the time — I remember stopping in a few days after her opening and liking the food but finding the atmosphere uninviting and the prices just so-so... I still made a mental note to go back on a warm day when the little patio hidden in the back could be enjoyed. That turned out to be my only visit until two weeks ago.

I was running errands in the Castro, and as is often the case my hunger alarms went off about 4:00, too late for lunch and too early for dinner. Luisa’s brunch board was still propped up in the street, and a hand-lettered sign in the window announced that brunch was being served. Not true, as it turned out, but it provided that early dinner was available, and I found the idea appealing of having a window table and being the only diner in the room. (That lasted less than half an hour before a substantial number of early diners started pouring in.)

The other people seemed to fall into two groups — those who visit frequently enough to be on a conversational basis with the waiter and let his suggestions guide their choices, and those parties who are one person visits and an enthusiastic regular paying the check off to friends who hadn’t been there. It was a lively and interesting collection of people, and I decided my long-ago impression that the room was boring had probably been formed when there were no people in it. Even the proximity (at first the tables had seemed too close together) suddenly seemed cozy.

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Manu Lain at work in her kitchen on Castro St.

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Answers to FLM HIS/64ER/STORY Crossword

Too Ais and frc Scham (they are not friends
Aide the door open
Nolo Bome Quarry
Answers to FLM HIS/64ER/STORY Crossword

Mama Lain at work in her kitchen on Castro St.
ACT'S SAINT JOAN: SUBLIME SHOW!

by Aeric Lockerbie

SAINT JOAN by George Bernard Shaw, presented by the American Conservatory Theatre, through April 7, 1989. Directed by Michael Smuin, with Andrea Marcovicci as Joan. Ticket information: (415) 447-4460. Tickets: $10.00 to $29.00.

George Bernard Shaw's Saint Joan is a masterpiece of English literature, history, and politics — and A.C.T.'s production is majestic, effervescent, and convincing. The play is almost three hours long, but it is so well paced and so captivating that I would have gladly sat through six hours with no intermission. When classic theatre is lovingly brought to life, the mind and soul spring into action and the body totally forgets how numb your funny gets. Every aspect of this adventure in art is sheer joy!

As the lights dim, the mood is perfectly set by the powerful music specially composed for this production by Stephen LeGrande and Eric Drew Feldman. The melodies and subtle tonal effects evoke the period and stir emotion, thus laying a groundwork upon which the actors build. The scenery is at once practical and graceful, fully in keeping with the sweep and simplicity of the story — designer Ralph Funuccio knows how to keep things moving. The unusual and creative costumes by Sandra Woodall complement and define the characters, and bring focus to the unfolding saga.

Each role or cape seems to bleed from a vibrant and carefully selected color starting at the actor's chest, fading to pastel, and almost to white as it reaches the floor. I've read a bit about the production values, but the visuals and special effects are stunning, and they frame and uplift the text, direction, and beauty of the play.

Michael Smuin assured the gargantuan task of staging Saint Joan. His background in dance and music has served him well in skillfully controlling the heavy stage traffic and bringing a picture to each bit of the action. His love of language and respect for Shaw are also evident in the direction; he has a keen ability to command emotion and orchestrate feeling.

The acting is A.C.T.'s repertoire best! All the artists involved easily handle the poetry of the words and the scope of the drama. The demanding and marathon role of Joan, portrayed as both country girl and saint, is given remarkable clarity and warmth in the hands of Andrea Marcovicci. I had the pleasure, many years ago, of seeing Ms. Marcovicci create the role of Queen Nefertiti when the musical previewed in Chicago, and this production of "Joan" proves her talent is more than equal to this historic heroine. Her Joan is simple, pious, likable, funny, tragic, and admirably lovely. She brings a feeling of youth, and the wisdom of maturity to the role and is wonderful in both quiet and volatile moments. I have never seen, nor could I imagine seeing, a more noble and convincing Joan of Arc.

The bevy of men, both friend and foe, who stream through Joan's life are perfectly cast from among A.C.T.'s finest. It would take a long time to take note of all the honors due, but notable among the notables are: Stephen Weigandt as DeBlauvichten, Martin Kildares Robinson as Podgerleyn, Howard Swan in the meaty and challenging role of the Dauphin as he grows from total withering to haughty monarch, and an absolutely magnetic Daniel Reichert as Joan's friend and warrior Danois the Bastard. Peter Donat is perfectly cold and calculating as the Earl of Warwick, and William Paterson brings special depth and color to Bishop Cauchon.

As Derek Deane's mood lighting shifts us from place to place and time to time, I sat bolt-upright and at full attention. When savoring an excellent rendering of art as this, one is careful not to miss one phrase or movement — the time flew by, and at the final bows I would have been happy to see it all begin again. The trial of Joan of Arc has held me spellbound since I was a young teen. I've read extensively of her mystic voices and heroism — everything I could find from Mark Twain's romantic and sentimental novel to the grandeur of Anouilh's The Lark. Shaw, however, has done well by capturing the many facets of the Maid. This play is ripe with metaphysical and social commentary, and easily penetrates lessons applicable to our time and history. If rich and poignant theatre is what you need in, A.C.T. is offering a perfectly realized staging of Saint Joan's epic story.
ART
MINDSET — Last weekend, March 16-18, that FOURFIVEFIVE-TENTIESTREET is transformed into a playground of sight, texture and sound. Onsights brings forth a lifesize chessboard where 17 artists create pieces that honor great thinkers from the past. 8 pm to midnight, 456 10th St (between Harrison and Bryant). Admission $4.


BEINEFFIT
MR. BUNNY 1989 — Tony Mento (aka Bertha Butts) invites you to a fundraiser, 8-10 pm at The Mint, 1942 Market. Benefits Tenderloin Tessie Easter Dinner, MC: Inga. Entertainment by Davida, Ivy, India, Lana, L. Swish.

FORUMS, SEMINARS
FEDERAL EMPLOYEES — With AIDS or ARC. Information on available benefits packages. Conducted by Department of Health and Human Services. 11 am March 16, 5 pm March 23. SF AIDS Foundation Client Services Office, 25 Van Ness Ave, 6th floor. Information, 864-5855. Pre-registration by phone is required.

PROP 96 — Just what does it mean. 7 pm, SF Women's Building, 3543 18th St. Donations $3-$5. No one turned away. 826-1941.


MEETINGS
FREEDOM DAY — SF Parade & Celebration Committee. Publications Subcommittee. 1519 Mission, 7 pm. 864-FREE.

MIXERS
DANCE PARTY — Every Thursday and Saturday, mixed club for gay men and women, 9 pm to 2 am. 83-84 Thursday, 85-86 Saturday. The Box, 628 Divisadero.

PERFORMANCE

SUPPORT
GAY AND LESBIAN — Ongoing sessions every week, presented by Ministry of Light, 1000 Sir Francis Drake, San Anselmo, Marin County. For information, call 457-0854.

HOSPICE — By the Bay. Weekly support group on loss, grief and recovery. 6-8 pm Thursdays. Free. 1550 Sutter, near Octavia, third floor, 673-2020.

VIDEO
COMMUNITY ACTION NETWORK NEWS — Bigotry hits the airwaves — KSJO Shock Radio and Stuart McDermald, profile of a hunger striker. New time: 8:30 pm, SF Cable 6.

SUPPORT
PARENTS — Fran Miller, executive director of Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, and a representative of the SF and East Bay Lesbian and Gay Parenting Project's advisory committee will discuss the possibility of joining their network. 7:30 pm. First Presbyterian Church, Stewart Room (use back entrance to church), 1510 Fifth Ave, San Rafael. Potluck BENEFIT
WEIRD — San Francisco and Weird Amsterdam, double video weirdness by Charles Gatewood. Artist's Televison Access, 8:30 pm, 652 Valencia. (415) 348-4045.

DANCE
DAY AND AGE — B-Street Dance Prod. on St. Patrick's Day. $5 cover. 236 S. B St., San Mateo. (416) 348-4046.

SUPPORT
PARENTS — Fran Miller, executive director of Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, and a representative of the SF and East Bay Lesbian and Gay Parenting Project's advisory committee will discuss the possibility of joining their network. 7:30 pm, First Presbyterian Church, Stewart Room (use back entrance to church), 1510 Fifth Ave, San Rafael. Potluck BENEFIT
WEIRD — San Francisco and Weird Amsterdam, double video weirdness by Charles Gatewood. Artist's Televison Access, 8:30 pm, 652 Valencia. (415) 348-4045.

WESTERN ROUNDUP — Fundraiser for Living Sober '89. A Woman's Dance, 9 pm to 1 am at First Unitarian Church, 1187

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GARAGE SALE — Bay Area Bisexual Network, proceeds to benefit 1990 International Bisexual Conference. 3964 18th St., at Noe, 10 am to 3 pm.
DANCE — House music club for people of all colors and sexual preferences. Dressed to sweat, 21 and older, $7 admission. 567-8968, 620 4th St.

AMERICA'S GOES COUNTRY — DJ Dorian spins two-steppin' tunes all night, followed by dance class with Alane Frey at 7 pm. Wear C&W duds and receive $1 off regular $6 cover. Call Desert Moon Productions, 821-7746.

PERFORMANCE — PEOPLE WITH AIDS, ARC - San Francisco Arcadia Theatre, 2 pm, Howell Studios, 68 Sánchez St. Actors with AIDS or ARC who express aspects of living with AIDS through the medium of theater. Free. Wear comfortable clothing and soft-soled shoes. 282-3961.


PROTEST — NATIONAL CALL — To stop the U.S. War in El Salvador. Gather at Dolores Park at 10 am and march through the Mission/Castro to a rally at the Federal Building. 641-9935.

WORKSHOPS, SERVICES — WOMEN OF COLOR — Addresses cross-racial hostility and internalized racism, 11 am to 4 pm. 280-840 sitting scale, 720 Church St., (415) 631-9600, 630-6441.
CHURCH OF AMRON — Celebrate the Vernal Equinox with ritual communion and refreshments, 7 pm, 2254 Van Ness.

OTHER CINEMA — ‘Demon Lover’s Diary,’ 8:30 pm, 85. Artists’ Television Access, 992 Valencia. 824-3890.

GAY AND LESBIAN (GALS) SHOW. Diego Rivera Gallery, 1930 Folsom (btwn. 14th & 15th). 12:01-1:00 AM.

19 SUNDAY
ART
GAY AND LESBIAN — Students (GALS) Show. Diego Rivera Gallery, 1930 Folsom (btwn. 14th & 15th). 12:01-1:00 AM.

20 MONDAY
SUPPORT
OLDER GAY MAJIN — 60 and over, 7-9 pm, Operation Concern, 1995 Market Street. Free. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call GLOE, 626-7000.

LESBIAN GROUP — In Marin County, beginning today, 7-9 pm, Operation Concern, 1853 Market Street. Free. Sponsored by GLOE. 626-7000.

TYPHOID VACCINE — Using Catapax Protocol in the treatment of AIDS. 6:30-8:30 pm every Tuesday at AIDS Benefits Counselors office, 1547 California St., between Polk and Larkin. 771-8280.

GAY MEN’S SUPPORT — Group meets 9-9:30 pm Tuesdays at 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Room 18, San Anselmo, 457-9854, 457-1115.

SERVICE
AMRON — ‘Expressing the Christ Self, 7 pm, presented by the Rev. Andrew Roseman, Amron Metaphysical Center, 2254 Van Ness. 774-0227.

GAY MALE DROP-IN — Group for alcohol, substance abuse and HIV concerns. Individual and group process available. 7-9 pm Tuesdays. Operation Concern/Operation Recovery, 1853 Market Street, 626-7000.

FORUM — “How We Heal Ourselves.” Sharing experiences between people with chronic illness: AIDS, cancer, arthritis, Epstein Barr, hepatitis, etc. Tuesday afternoons, Metropolitan Community Church, 2-3:30 pm, 160 Eureka St. 771-8280.

OLDER WRITERS — Gay and lesbian group, 50 and older, every Wednesday, 6-8 pm. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St. Free. Sponsored by GLOE. 826-7000.

ASIAN/PACIFIC SISTERS — “Substance Abuse: Is This an Issue in the Asian Community?” 8 pm, Asian Inc., 1670 Pine (near Franklin). Call Lori, 750-3385.

GAY MEN’S SUPPORT — Group meets 9-9:30 pm Tuesdays at 1000 Sir Francis Drake’s Blvd., Room 18, San Anselmo, 457-9854, 457-1115.

LITERATURE WORKSHOP — Creative Writing for PWAs, PW-ARCs and those who have HIV issues. 2nd of eight weeks, 2 pm. Rest Stop, 134 Church St. (across from Safeway). Facilitated by Michael Thompson, executive director of Palimpsest Press. Free. Contact Michael, 255-1852, or Paul, 621-6637.

OPERATION RECOVERY ALUMNI — Group of gay males with at least one year of commitment to recovery from alcohol and drug abuse. 6-8 pm every Wednesday. Call 550-8561 betweem 8 am and 8 pm for location and information.

SETH GROUP — For people with concerns about AIDS/ARC/HIV issues. Weekly, 6-8 pm Wednesdays, Rest Stop, 134 Church St.

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For many reasons, Miss Madonna has always been dear to my heart, so it was with great grief that I sat down to watch her vid as "Like a Prayer." The Chronicle reviewed it, and Pep's upset people will con fus it with her,* because the people are very upset. Well, I saw it and I really don't see what the fuss is about. I mean, those cuts on the palms of her hands aren't necessarily signa­ toric; she's not bleeding from the side of her foot or crying blood or anything like that.

Madonna looks great in this video; she's a brunette, without the makeup and jewelry that clutters up her earlier videos, and her dance is also simpler, looser, and much more attractive than her old step-step-lunge cheerleader choreography. She's still Madonna, but it's the plot (and I use the term loosely) that makes the video a little more com­ plicated than, say, "Material Girl." The video revolves around Madonna simultaneously being saved by and sav­ ing a man wrongly accused of attacking another woman. He's also a statue in the church where a gospel choir is sing­ ing a man wrongly accused of attacking another woman. (I know I would be). No, this was not an accident. Madonna gets down on her knees in the church. Madonna and the same woman stand apart from the group and dance together, with more smiling, more meaningful glances — and then Madonna gets down on her knees in front of the woman, who now smiles. (I know I would be). No, this was not just my imagination.

Far more offensive than the religious imagery is the violent attack on the Madonna look-alike. Seeing her stab­ bed and beaten is more disturbing than the split-second shot of Madonna's blinding palms or the kiss she gives the statue/saint in the church. The immediate feminist response might be "Well, what do you expect from a woman who used to wear "Boy Toy" beibi buckle?" But what is the difference between anti-feminist misogynous vi­ olence and "politically correct" vi­ olence? Michelle Shocked's video for "When I Grew Up" is equally as vio­ lent and perhaps even more disturbing than "Like a Prayer." In this video, Shocked and a friend are sitting in an oceanfront gazebo, like two little girls playing dress-up... and as Shocked sings, "I want to have 120 babies," she and her friend repeatedly smash the heads of baby dolls. I sup­ pose one could argue that she is actually attacking women's oppression, but women are forced to bear children, or she is smashing the patriarchy as mas­ culinized in men's objectification of women and children, all of which are valid arguments. But the image of the baby's face being smashed is too horri­ ble to rationalize with rhetoric, whether it's feminism or patriarchal violence. Violence is, regardless of the source. And it was both of these videos that reminded me why I stopped watching MTV.

Two Nice Girls, on the other hand, embody everything that's great about women's music, without being violent, dull or preachy. They have a sense of humor. This trio from Austin, Texas — Kathy Kernschild, Gen­ chen Phillips, and Laurie Ferebee sharing vocals, guitar, song writing and arranging — strike a perfect bal­ ance. The mood of the album is folksy, strong, hairy man has turned my head I won't depress you to tears. They just won't depress you to tears. They just win­ dow of everyone from politically correct and everything that's great about women's music, without being

The Nuns return to San Francisco

The Nuns return to San Francisco for a week, and I have two favorite songs from it. "I Spent My Last $10.00 On Birth Control and Beer" is an ab­ solutely hysterical tongue-in-cheek country-and-western ballad that makes fun of everyone from politically correct dykes to men who love women. The chorus alone is great: "My life has been so much simpler when I was sober and quiet! But the love of a strong hairy man has turned my head! And made me spend my last ten

Joe Higgs, Babylon Warriors, Papa Casley, Lamborough, 3/18, I-Beam, $13.50 advanced/$15 door, 9:00. This killer reggae show kicks off the I-Beam's new "Saturday-Live." You get everything from Joe Higgs, the man who taught Bob Marley the racketsm vibration, plus local faves Lamborough plus great videos from KPOO's Doug Wendt, and more. Dress to move. (1748 Haight, 668-6006).

Lazy Lester, Katie Webster, 3/22, Slim's, 9:00; Katie Webster is the Swamp Boogie Queen and she is amaz­ ing and deserves your attention (333 11th, 621-3339).

The Nuns, 3/22, I-Beam, $1, 10:30: For the given hits in the choir. They are the women who book the I-Beam and they've come up with yet another winner of a show. (1748 Haight, 668-6006).
Rosanne Cash, with her father, has a recording with a long list of hits, two of which are from the album "Seven Year Ache" that Cash has brought national attention to. Cash's third album, "Right or Wrong," yielded the number one hits from "Kings Record Shop," to date Cash's most acclaimed and successful album. One major flaw in "Hits 1979-1989" is the fault of Rosanne Cash but of Columbia Records instead. With the inclusion of the hits missing from this 'greatest hits' collection and a little filler material, this would have made a distinguished and deserving two-record set in the "fittest" of series.

The combined talents of Rova and Taiko Dojo were first heard in a concert last year at the Palace of Fine Art. Taiko Dojo, led by Master Drummer Seiichi Tanaka, are renewing their cross-cultural musical partnership of Taiko's pulsing tension and Rova's avant garde synthesis of composition and improvisation in a four-night run co-presented by Rova and Theatre Artaud at Theatre Artaud, 450 Florida Street in San Francisco, on March 22, 23, 24, and 25, 1989, at 8:30 p.m.

The combined talents of Rova and Taiko Dojo were first heard in a concert last year at the Palace of Fine Art. Their upcoming appearance at Artaud is the eighth Rova PreEchoes collaboration, a series of unconventional concerts involving musicians, composers, and other artists from the international arts community. The PreEchoes Series, presented annually at various venues since the first in 1986 with the Soviet Ganelin Quartet, will be in residence at Theatre Artaud this season, supported in part by a grant to Theatre Artaud by the National Endowment for the Arts Music Program and by grants to Rova from San Francisco Grants for the Arts and the California Arts Council.

Tickets for the Rova/Taiko concerts are $13 for Friday and Saturday, $15 for Friday and Saturday. They are available at Theatre Artaud Box Office (415/621-7777), all BASS outlets (415/763-BASS) and STBS, Union Square, San Francisco.
Sports

Sportscope

by Jack 'Irene' McGowan

Over the next fifteen months it is going to be very difficult to pick up any gay paper in the United States without reading about the upcoming Gay Games III Celebration '90, being sponsored and organized by the Metropolitan Vancouver Athletics and Arts Association to take place in Vancouver, B.C. for eight days Saturday, August 4 to Saturday, August 11, 1990.

While the games are still about a year and a half away Barry McDev and Mary Brookes and hundreds of other Vancouverites have been hard at work for the past two years to repeat the success of San Francisco in 1982 and 1988. Their work is truly impressive. Having spoken at length to both Barry and Mary I must say the success of the upcoming Celebration can be assured if their dedication is any measure of the rest of the Vancouver Board.

Comments made to me by Barry both on and off the record clearly show him to be a man of principle and devotion to the original aim of the games. He, unlike many of the San Francisco Gay Games' leaders can understand the fear of many gay athletes with regard to the possible over-shadowing of athletes and the question of competitive versus social aspect of gay athletes. He has strived to ensure that that won't happen while strongly stressing the importance of Celebration '90 as a platform for Gay Artists and Performers.

There is one question however, that still sticks in my craw. The 'Inclusive Principle' is referred to over and over again, in all the releases covering both the past and future games. Inclusive without regard to ability is what gay athletes and teams are told to expect. That is fine if that is what the athletes want. But should it be forced upon them? Would there be anything wrong with requiring a certain ability level in individual sports? Surely the Arts and Cultural participants set certain standards for their entries. Monotones are not invited to sing in Gay Choruses. Three footted sloths like myself are not allowed in any dance programs... Writers who have little knowledge of system or sentence structure will surely not be invited to share their essays. And since this is true, why are athletes not required to meet the same standards of ability... Just asking!!

Message from the Commissioner — who actually smiled at me — of the Gay Softball League, Donna "Jane Fonda". Opening day, showcasing the Women's Teams vs. the Galloons at 11:00 a.m. and following with the Opening Division Game featuring Uncle Ben's Bandits vs. the Off-Castro St. Cleaners/Pendulum at 2:00 p.m. of the Gay Softball is Sunday April 2, at Lang Field (Gough & Turk Sts.). The league in 1989 will consist of twenty-four teams divided into three divisions — Competitive Open and Women's as well as an open-recreational unit. The opening day will be dedicated to ex-Commissioner Francis Medeiros and other GSL'ers we have lost in the past years and will be highlighted by a Between the games fashion show in Francisco's honor. The S.F. Gay Marching Band will perform for the first time in a few years. Mayor Agnos and other dignitaries will be attending, along with what is hoped to be the largest GSL opening day crowd in years.

April 2 will also be the opening day for the newly re-born CSL as their opening games were postponed this week because of unplayable fields. The CSL will be following an unusual format this year in that they will be playing every other weekend thus allowing their players a little free summer schedule. Hopefully it will also enable more gay players to participate in both. The Rawhide's CSL team is looking for gay players and anyone interested can contact yours truly.

 Till next time keep winning. And remember if you can't play a sport, be one.

New Pool Rules

Be Aware And Beware!

by Rick Mariani

The San Francisco Pool Association is looking into three rules changes which will have a great effect on the game and how it will be played by current league members.

Toni Macante of the late Palace Billiards is behind these changes and is adamant that the SPPA adopt them. Macante feels that we should follow strictly the Billiard Congress of America (BCA) rules of play. These proposals might be voted on soon by league members unless new by-laws which give the board the power to change the rules are passed. With new by-laws the board can do as it wishes. Either way there seems to be a ground swell of support for these changes. League members must BE AWARE that this is happening.

Rule Change: An eight ball break made on the break with or without a scratch will be re-rolled.

Analysis: Many people believe an eight ball break is lucky and to win or lose the game without it being played is unfair.

Recommendation: Giving up the entry of an eight ball break is tantamount to having a kickoff return in football nullified and re-kicked. It is a highly exciting and motivating occurrence which happens very seldom. It should be kept, why deride the game?

Rule Change: Opponent has the option of cue ball in hand anywhere on the table following a foul.

Analysis: This rule would definitely speed up the game as the practice of fouling intentionally will be cut down. It might encourage more safety attempts however as the players would benefit greatly by causing their opponents to foul.

Recommendation: This is a major change in the game as we have been playing it. The experienced player will be considerably helped by this rule. If the league are comprised of a majority of professional or advanced players it would be a good change. The league players of that calibre only make up a small percent of the membership. If this change causes a decrease in competition, then it may be a good change. Otherwise, keep the rule as it is.

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Continued on next page
small percentage of the total membership so the majority of players will have a harder time against their advanced opponents. Another reason for not adopting this rule is that it gets our league further away from "bar rules" which already had been a major complaint for some. This is a bar league.

Rule Change: Make player call the pocket into which they are attempting to sink the ball.

Analysis: Most people play this type of game throughout the week and it is a good way to play the game. By getting rid of the "slop" shot you eliminate a bit of luck and theoretically the better player wins.

Recommendation: Over the eight years I have been involved with the SFPA one rule which has caused the most banter has been this one. The reason we have shied away from adopting it in the past is a good one and must be recalled to mind. We have had incredible fights, arguments, and bad feelings just by having to call the eight ball. By having to call every shot I would imagine that we might need to call in the National Guard. We owe the sponsors a better show of sportsmanship. By adopting a rule which may cause more turmoil is dangerous to the playing conditions we have established. Change it for the playoffs which have a referee — yes — but during regular season BEWARE!

Summary: The current rules have evolved over the years, been refined and work well. It is important to remember we are not professionals. The majority of league members want to compete in a fun environment, meet new people and become better players. We need to encourage lesser players not make it more difficult for them. We need to keep an atmosphere of fun and competitiveness not create one of anger and frustration. We need to keep some excitement in the game not eliminate Lady Luck, after all isn't it a great feeling to draw a Royal Flush once in a while?

(Rick Marianni and the Sentinel Sports Editor invite responses from those supporting these proposed rule changes.)

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**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PLAYOFFS BEGIN**

The San Francisco Slammers, regular season champions, lead off the 1989 S.F. Recreation & Park Women's Basketball championship playoffs against the Hamilton Stars at Mission-Rec. Gymnasium on Thursday March 16 at 7 p.m. The gymnasium is located at 2450 Harrison St. and all Sentinel readers are welcome to cheer Susan Kennedy and her Slammers on to victory.

**Final Regular Season Standings**

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<th>Team</th>
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<td>SLAMMERS</td>
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<td>Blazers</td>
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<td>Hamilton Stars</td>
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<td>Rainbow</td>
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**First Round Playoff Schedule**

- **Thursday, March 16, 1989**
  - S.F. Slammers vs. Hamilton Stars
  - Mission-Rec Gymnasium
  - 2450 Harrison St.
  - 7:00 p.m.

**Women's Basketball Playoffs**

- **Mission-Rec. vs. Blazers**
  - Hamilton Gymnasium
  - Geary & Steiner St.
  - 8:00 p.m.
Galy Games III in August

1990 is going to be more than a giant sports meet. It will be an eight day long celebration enjoyed by 20,000 gays and lesbians from around the world.

From the Opening Ceremonies' parade of participants to the Closing Ceremonies' gigantic party, van courier will sparkle as the host of a huge array of events that will celebrate the lesbians and gay lefstyle. These will include such activities as an international film festival, dance and theater performances, cabaret and drag shows, art and photography exhibitions, a folk festival and craft fair, and performances from major name entertainers.

Celebration '90 organizers have long been committed to giving this third Gay Games a major cultural component. At international planning conferences held ever since the last Gay Games these plans were reviewed so as to be wide open to sports and cultural leaders that the Cultural Festival has been given an emphasis equal to sports at Celebration '90.

An international chorus made up of invidivuals from around the world is being developed for several major performances during Celebration '90. Organizer Carol White, previous direcor of the Dynamic Women's Chorus, will be sending sheet music for about eight songs to the participants six months in advance so that singers can rehearse.

A group from Calgary is preparing a theater production with the working tile of "Butterflies and Butterflies," a series fictional vignettes involving athletes who compete at Gay Games III.

Other plans the 450-strong Gay and Lesbian Band of America for performances guaranteed to "knock our socks off"; those from Squares Across the Border (square dancers); Toronto's Camtown Dancers; the Aller B. Tolkin cheerleader group from Seattle; Diane A Dance from New York.

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quals members also compete in the Gay Tennis Circuit with tournaments in Atlanta, Dallas, Seattle, Los Angeles, San Diego, Denver, and Houston, as well as in the Northern California Tennis Association Circuit (NCTA).

For the beginners and tennis hopefuls out there, several GTF members offer instruction. Here's your ticket to a lifetime sport.

And last, but not least, for the social butterflies, the social calendar includes but is not limited to a Russian River Weekend, Awards Banquet, Christmas Party, and Gay Freedom Day Parade. Membership meetings are held the third Monday of every month at Community Rentals, 470 Castro Street, at 7:30 p.m. The next meeting is Monday, March 20. For more information, attend the meeting, contact Chris Walkey, president (415) 563-8568, or write to GTF, 2215-Market St. Suite 109, SF 94114.
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NEW FICTION WRITERS SOUGHT

Allyson Publications, publisher of Shadows of Love American Gay Fiction, is planning two anthologies of short stories. There will be one for men, as well as an anthology of short stories by women. Like Shadows of Love, the books will highlight the work of writers who have not been widely published, although they will not be limited to such writers. The editors are especially hoping to include the work of Members of minority groups, and of writers living outside in the major metropolitan areas. Inquiries and submissions accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed return envelope are welcome. More information can be obtained by writing Allyson Publications, 40 Pumplum Street, Boston, MA 02118.

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