The Gay Tribe

A thin silver loop. A Sanskrit poem. Thick steel rods attached to looping chains. Gay men & lesbians are adorning their bodies with all of these things, and the trend is growing. Why the interest in body modification? Some say that we are in the midst of a natural evolutionary step towards increased self-identification within our community, our tribe. We meet with two local artists for their thoughts on piercing and tattooing as it enters the mainstream.

Gregory Larouxe (left) can promote acceptance of his sexuality and sense of aesthetics without uttering a word. Larouxe's face glints of stainless steel barbells and thick-gauge wire.

When asked how he got started, in piercing, Larouxe explained how he saw a shirtless man ("A really hot looking guy") who had his nipples pierced with gold jewelry. "I didn't know any better, so I took a safety pin and..." Larouxe grimaces at the memory, then jokes, "Not the recommended method."

Now Larouxe is a piercer by trade. He runs a small shop in the loft above the Outer Edge salon in downtown Monterey. Larouxe has 40 piercings thus far, 20 of which he maintains with jewelry. Among them are a double (once a triple) Prince Albert, a ring or barbell that enters through the urethra and exits below and behind the head of the penis. Ballybuttons are the most common piercing in Monterey, according to Larouxe. For facial and nipple piercings a 20 gauge needle is used; for Prince Alberts a 10 gauge is more common.

When asked about piercing, seemingly overnight leap in popularity, Larouxe said, "Piercing is popular now because it's more easily removed, less expensive, and generally less of a commitment than a tattoo."

"Piercing" continued on page 5

Steve Hoskins (pictured below) is a 26 year old Prunedale man who knows what it's like to both give and receive a tattoo. His arms, torso and legs are laced with symbols and designs, most of which he applied himself.

Hoskins received his first tattoo, a Mayan snake along the side of his arm, at age 17. "My good friend Christy bought it for me. I don't see her very often now," explained Hoskins, "but the snake is always with me and I'll always remember her and our friendship."

The intimate link between getting a tattoo and memories of the tattooing itself or events which lead to the tattoo are almost universal. Hoskins likened them to a photo album: "Like a photo album, they're there all the time, but you only remember when you choose to look at them. They become like the hair on your arm; you forget that they're there."

"People used to ask 'what do they mean?' said Hoskins, who is used to being barraged with fatuous questions about his many tattoos. "They thought they were satanic; people had never seen it before, the tribal stuff. It's more commonplace now so the most common question is 'does it hurt?'".

Hoskins is special in that most of the tattoos on his body were self-administered. He occasionally tattoos others, but only if he feels he knows them. When asked why he choose skin as the canvas on which to create his artwork Hoskins explained that, for him, tattooing is a much more personal and inherently intimate choice.
Publisher's Note

Corogs, Monterey!

There are moments, albeit fleeting, when the travails of community organizing give way to the revelry in seeing it all come together. When I marched down the sidewalk of Lighthouse Ave. with 200 of my queer peers in Monterey County's first gay pride march, it was the finest moment of my life here in Monterey.

The gay pride festival the following day drew 800 from near and far, and was no less inspiring. Both events drew attention to the existence and untapped strength of our community, and thanks to expanded news coverage both on TV and in print, the message was spread far and wide.

Planning for next year's event begins on Tuesday, August 13th. Call Scott at 655-9568 if you're interested in helping. The Paper would like to recognize once again the extraordinary contributions of Scott Steinman to the peninsula's gay community. It is one thing to talk about community activism, another to actually do it.

Tribal Instincts

At some point in your life, you may have heard a line that goes something like this: "If every gay person in this city suddenly turned purple for one day, everyone, including other gay people, could finally see how many of us there are."

Too often, we fail to recognize members of our own community, family, tribe or whatever term you've chosen as your own. This issue of The Paper deals with how lesbian and gay people are using body modification to identify themselves as different, and how it provides them with a permanent reminder of their place in society.

The Paper Wants You

The editorial staff has finally gotten far enough ahead to start recruiting writers again. After a long break, The Paper will hold its editorial meeting on Friday, July 19th. The Sept/Oct issue will focus on older lesbians and gays: what their lives were like before the start of gay liberation and how it to provide friends with a permanent reminder of their place in society.

The Paper Establishes Computer Link to National AIDS Databases

For Monterey County residents only: The Paper recently requested and received a password to the National Library of Medicine's database.

The national AIDS database is one of the most comprehensive clearinghouses for HIV/AIDS treatment information. It also includes countless studies on specific opportunistic infections and their treatment.

Please call or e-mail The Paper if you would like to use our access key. You will need to be computer literate enough to operate the terminal emulation software on your own, since we are still learning to use it ourselves. Any charges you incur become your responsibility.

Contact wes@mby.net or call 655-3756.

Editor's Note

Congratulations, Monterey!

There are moments, albeit fleeting, when the travails of community organizing give way to the revelry in seeing it all come together. When I marched down the sidewalk of Lighthouse Ave. with 200 of my queer peers in Monterey County's first gay pride march, it was the finest moment of my life here in Monterey.

The gay pride festival the following day drew 800 from near and far, and was no less inspiring. Both events drew attention to the existence and untapped strength of our community, and thanks to expanded news coverage both on TV and in print, the message was spread far and wide.

Planning for next year's event begins on Tuesday, August 13th. Call Scott at 655-9568 if you're interested in helping. The Paper would like to recognize once again the extraordinary contributions of Scott Steinman to the peninsula's gay community. It is one thing to talk about community activism, another to actually do it.

Tribal Instincts

At some point in your life, you may have heard a line that goes something like this: "If every gay person in this city suddenly turned purple for one day, everyone, including other gay people, could finally see how many of us there are."

Too often, we fail to recognize members of our own community, family, tribe or whatever term you've chosen as your own. This issue of The Paper deals with how lesbian and gay people are using body modification to identify themselves as different, and how it provides them with a permanent reminder of their place in society.

The Paper Wants You

The editorial staff has finally gotten far enough ahead to start recruiting writers again. After a long break, The Paper will hold its editorial meeting on Friday, July 19th. The Sept/Oct issue will focus on older lesbians and gays: what their lives were like before the start of gay liberation and how it provides friends with a permanent reminder of their place in society.

The Paper Establishes Computer Link to National AIDS Databases

For Monterey County residents only: The Paper recently requested and received a password to the National Library of Medicine's database.

The national AIDS database is one of the most comprehensive clearinghouses for HIV/AIDS treatment information. It also includes countless studies on specific opportunistic infections and their treatment.

Please call or e-mail The Paper if you would like to use our access key. You will need to be computer literate enough to operate the terminal emulation software on your own, since we are still learning to use it ourselves. Any charges you incur become your responsibility.

Contact wes@mby.net or call 655-3756.

Mission Statement

To inform and give voice to the concerns of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender groups and individuals of Monterey County in order to contribute to the growth, stability, and cohesiveness of that community to the benefit of all its members.

Submissions Policy

Opinions, articles and views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of The Paper. Ownership of all submissions reverts to the originator upon publication. All submissions are subject to review and may be edited for length or content.

Errata

The Paper would like to apologize to Ernie Sanchez of Franco's Norma Jean in Castroville. The Paper inadvertently listed the Marilyn Monroe contest in the calendar under June 3rd instead of June 1st, the actual date of the contest. Also, we misidentified our Yucatan subscriber. His real name is Gustavo Cabrera.

Big Misunderstanding of the Month

"It must take a lot of people to put together something like this." - Gay Pride Festival attendee in reference to the march and festival June 8th and 9th.

Openly Gay Candidate Runs for S. C. City Council

A gay candidate will be walking the entire city of Santa Cruz in hopes of swaying voters to support him during the upcoming elections for Santa Cruz city council. David Silva, a longtime political activist, will run in November on a platform that supports gay issues, environmentally sound solutions for local problems, union rights, and will promote his office as a "beachhead" for HIV/AIDS activism.

A Fresh Look at S. C. Politics

"The council responds to issues defensively," said Silva when asked to describe the current political climate. According to Silva, the city council is often at loggerheads with the city manager's office.

Silva also hopes to institute "proportional representation", which puts all 7 seats on the council up for reelection at once. Voters choose their top three candidates. Anyone with 1/7 of the vote is elected, with the remainder chosen in order of popularity. The council's infamous marathon meetings, which can last for over 12 hours, are indicative of how much needs to change, explained Silva.

Kickoff Party

There will be a gathering at the Medical Marijuana office at 207 Maple St. downtown Santa Cruz on July 15th to kick-off Silva's campaign. Call 429-5284 or e-mail him at dsilva@cruzio.com.
All in the Family: From left: Matthew Friday, Devena Wilson, Trish Charles, Autumn Unck. The CSUMB group is becoming a visible part of student life on campus.

CSUMB Gay Club Out & Wired

Visit their website at http://InfoTech.monterey.edu/~unck/proj4.html

by George I. Goddett
Contributing Writer

A fledgling gay association on the California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) is well on its way towards making a name for itself both on and off campus.

"All in the Family" became an official campus student organization during this, CSUMB's inaugural academic year.

"We wanted to be able to say that were here from the beginning," said club President, Autumn Unck, a marine biology major who transferred into CSUMB from Colorado State. Unck has managed to juggle writing the bylaws of the group and other duties with a full class load.

Out on Campus

As an official campus organization, All in the Family will be listed among all of the other clubs in the campus brochures and bulletins. The group also set up a table at the recent student orientation days.

The group met 10 times over the course of the past semester and has 7 student members. Four faculty members serve as advisors.

CSUMB's reliance on the Internet and computer technology has proven invaluable to the group. They use it to post meeting announcements, correspond with members, and inform the rest of the student body about gay issues, even during school breaks when many students move back home.

All in the Family plans on organizing events on campus to help publicize their group with students and the community. The first event will most likely be an evening of comedy and theater from FatLips, a lesbian theatrical troupe.

Devena Wilson, the group's treasurer, and Matthew Friday, their community liaison, organized a panel on gay, lesbian, and bisexual issues earlier this year, before All in the Family was organized. The event drew the largest crowd for any workshop yet held on the CSUMB campus.

First Impressions

Unck's first impression of Monterey's gay community was that it was hidden, inaccessible and closed, which is something she would like to see change. "The biggest wall is that I was new to the community and didn't know where to go," said Unck, who has heard that students were calling the campus police department and student center out of desperation when looking for local gay groups.

Wilson's approach will be to promote being gay or lesbian as a culture, and plans to hold cultural workshops to help others better understand the gay community. The group has received support from the local community. A woman approached Trish Charles, one of the group's advisors, at Santa Cruz's pride festival and made an unsolicited offer to silk-screen the group's T-shirts at cost. Matthew Friday and other locals have offered to help publicize the group at Peninsula Professional Network and other local social gatherings.

Unck summed up the group's attitude in a rallying cry: "Closets are for clothes; come on out!"

You can contact All in the Family by calling Autumn Unck at 372-3002 e-mail autumn_unck@otter.monterey.edu.

Coming In the Next Issue...

Older lesbians & gays tell us how it was and how it is to be over 50 in the gay world • The local angle on the International AIDS Conference in Vancouver • Gay marriage bill updates • More movie, music and restaurant review including a visit to the Carmel Bach Festival • The best spots for hiking on the central coast • Plus the community calendar, our resource guide, personal & classified ads, and news from Monterey's G/L/B/T communities.
Transpeople Left Behind on Hate Crimes Again
from Press Release

Washington, DC - President Clinton has signed the Church Arson Prevention Act of 1996 passed by Congress on June 26, which reauthorizes the Hate Crimes Statistics Act. The HCSA, originally enacted in 1990, mandates FBI collection of data on hate crimes based on "race, religion, sexual orientation or ethnicity." Despite the fact that the HCSA does not cover transgendered persons, GenderPAC helped a broad coalition of civil rights organizations urge Congress to reauthorize the HCSA after its original mandate expired in 1995.

Limited Coverage

In effect, HCSA will cover genderqueers if, and only if, they can demonstrate the assault on them occurred as a result of their being "perceived" as gay or lesbian. The difficulty of this can be seen by the recent brutal slayings of transpeople like Brandon Teena or Deborah Forte. Even in such horrific cases, local officials have been notoriously reluctant to label them "hate crimes," while correspondingly eager to blame the victim's alleged gender "deception" as the cause.

GenderPAC's Response

Said Riki Anne Wilchins, GenderPAC's Executive Director, "In the face of the terrible incidence of trans murders in the past few years, including Brandon Teena (NE), Christian Paige (IL), Deborah Forte (MA), Chanel Picket (MA), Janice Ricks (OH), Harold Draper (NJ), Cameron Tanner (CA), Marsha Johnson (NY), Jesse Santiago (NY) and her sister Peggy Santiago (NY), it is simply unconscionable that people still haven't gotten the message that hate crimes against gender people must be tracked."

Dana Friesen, GenderPAC's Congressional Advocacy Coordinator who had worked hard for trans-inclusion: "This is a bittersweet event for transgendered people. We're pleased to see the Hate Crimes Statistics Act reauthorized and for our gay, lesbian and bisexual brothers and sisters who are once again covered by the Act. And we're pleased to have contributed to the reauthorization process."

Gay & Straight Together in NCBI

by Sue Parris
Chapter Director, NCBI Monterey Co.

We know that everyone has suffered from the barriers of prejudice and the pain of oppression. The mistreatment can come from being a child in an adult world, a woman in a man's world, a person of color in a white society, or a gay man or a lesbian in a heterosexual world. Through workshops and other interventions, the National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI) provides an opportunity for individuals to take leadership to effectively change institutionalized discrimination.

The National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI) is a non-profit leadership development organization dedicated to ending discrimination and intolerance of every kind: against race, gender, sexual orientation, class, religion, age, physical difference or life circumstance. NCBI trains individuals from diverse backgrounds to become leaders in the communities in which they live. NCBI International, based in Washington DC, has been training individuals and organizations in prejudice reduction and coalition building for nearly 20 years in the United States, Canada, Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

NCBI's motto is "All for One; One for All." We believe that no group can be free of oppression unless every group is valued, respected and fought for. Gay men, lesbians, and bisexuals work alongside heterosexuals with the knowledge that together we can accomplish more than any one group could hope to achieve alone.

Sadly, when any group of people is systematically targeted for mistreatment, the members of that group will often turn that external mistreatment against themselves, and other members of their group. Our work around sexual orientation includes opportunities for healing from "internalized" oppression, as well as from oppression that comes from the outside.

Some of our greatest learnings have come out of our relationships with each other. As gay men, lesbians and bisexuals, we have had to look at the ways in which internalized oppression gets in our way as leaders, and at how we can fully welcome heterosexuals as allies. Heterosexuals have had to face our homophobia, and learn what it means to be powerful allies for our homosexual sisters and brothers. It has been important for us to examine the links between homophobia and sexism.

Sometimes our relationship building has been uncomfortable, even scary. Often it has been fun, even joyous.

The Monterey County Chapter of NCBI, one of 45 local chapters throughout the USA, Canada and abroad, was founded in 1992. To date, Monterey County NCBI has reached over 3,500 individuals in more than 90 schools, businesses, government and non-profit agencies with Prejudice Reduction workshops and related services.

Our next community workshop, co-sponsored by the YWCA of the Monterey Peninsula, will be held on Thursday, July 25, 9 a.m. - 4 a.m., at the Elks Lodge in Monterey. Call (408) 373-4606 for information, or to add your name to our mailing list.
What was the “Lavender Menace”? What was the first gay TV movie?

By David Bianco
Contributing Writer

What was the “Lavender Menace”? In the late 1960s and early 1970s, some straight feminists, most notably National Organization for Women founder Betty Friedan, worried that feminism’s public image would be marred by a too-visible lesbian presence in the movement. In Friedan’s phrase choice, lesbians represented a “lavender menace” to American feminism. It was a loaded slogan. From the perspective of the mid-1990s, it is easy to forget the mindset of the Cold War, and the hysteria linked to such phrases as the “red menace.” Although Friedan later backed off and said the lesbian issue was just a “lavender herring” to divert attention from the real issues facing women, lesbians understandably felt stung by both phrases.

Complicating Friedan’s statements was evidence of actual discrimination within NOW, where lesbians in positions of leadership were being silenced or forced out of office. A group of women from the Gay Liberation Front felt that the feminist movement needed some consciousness-raising, and planned an incident that would mark a turning point in the relationship between lesbians and the women’s movement. It would also be one of the most creative direct actions in the early history of what was then called the “gay liberation movement.”

On Friday night, May 1, 1970, the lights went out on the hundreds of women gathered for the second annual Congress to Unite Women. When they came back on, twenty women in purple T-shirts which proclaimed “Lavender Menace” stood in front of the auditorium, and there were signs along the walls which read, “Take a Lesbian to Lunch” and “Is the Statue of Liberty a Lesbian?” The “Menace” demanded the microphone from the stage and accused the women’s movement of internalized sexism, and of discriminating against lesbians.

The rest of the scheduled speakers were canceled, and the assembled women spent the rest of the evening listening to the concerns of lesbians. Although the event had its angry and emotional moments (such as when some lesbians came out publicly for the first time), for the most part the “Lavender Menace” kept a sense of humor about what they were doing, which helped relax many women present within the lesbian movement.

Lesbians in the early 1970s were feeling increasingly like tokens or showpieces in male-dominated groups...

As for the Lavender Menace themselves, they did not disappear after their highly public debut. They marched in that summer’s first-ever New York City Christopher Street Liberation Day Parade, and (under the name Radicallesbians) published an influential essay, “The Woman-identified Woman.”

What was the first gay-themed TV movie? “That Certain Summer,” which aired November 1, 1972 on ABC. The movie stars Hal Holbrook, whose 14-year-old son comes to spend the summer with him and discovers that Dad is in love with Martin Sheen. It appeared at a time when television was beginning to explore controversial topics, including later that month, the decision by the title character on Maude to have an abortion.

Sheen and Holbrook played the very model of an “acceptable” gay couple — they never touched, denounced open displays of affection, and wondered out loud if homosexuality was a sickness. At the end of the film, the son leaves his weeping father, and, unlike in the original script, doesn’t even show any regrets.

Gay and lesbian reaction to “That Certain Summer” was mixed. Some gays and lesbians were thrilled to see any portrayal of their lives on television. Others were offended, such as the man who wrote the New York Times to complain that Holbrook’s character’s tears at the end of the film were a “repudiation of the life he had chosen for himself.”

“That Certain Summer” also provoked the usual protests from offended religious conservatives. But it was probably more important for alerting gays and lesbians to the power of television to shape straight perceptions of gays and lesbians. Two years later, the Gay Activists Alliance and the National Gay Task Force were protesting a homophobic episode of “Marcus Welby” before it even aired — and the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation continues such activities today.

David Bianco, M.A., teaches gay and lesbian history at the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. If there’s anything about the history of gays and/or lesbians you’ve always wondered about, contact him care of this newspaper or through E-mail at ArBlanco@aol.com.

“Lavender Herring?”
Cori Mauch
Contributing Writer

Monterey's gay community
leapt into the spotlight during
Monterey's Gay Pride March
and Festival this past June 8th
& 9th. The two events drew over 1,000
locals and visitors in this, the first public
gay pride festival in Monterey County.

The theme of this year's event was
"Conquering Invisibility". The pride
march lead the local TV newscasts on
KCCN-TV and KSBW-TV, who also pro­
vided live coverage of the event. The
Monterey County Herald ran its coverage
on the front page of their Sunday edition,
as did the Monterey Times. "Pre-event
publicity was the key," said Wes
Kashiwagi, march coordinator. "We had
listings in the Coast Weekly and announce­
ments on several radio stations, and on all
three local TV stations."

Two hundred lesbians, gays
and gay-friendly support­
ers walked down the sidewalk
of Lighthouse Ave. from Reeside to David and back.
Flags in the colors of the gay
flag shone brightly in the late
afternoon sun.

"I was very surprised at how
many people decided to come
out for the march," said
Kashiwagi. "The only thing I regret is that
there are still people who couldn't be there
with us because they fear for their jobs or
are in the military." Supporters honked
their car horns and cheered the two-block
long procession as it made the 1/2 mile cir­
cuit.

The gay pride festival and BBQ the fol­
lowing day at Window on the Bay park in
Monterey was equally successful at bring­
ing people out. A crowd estimated at 800
enjoyed music, dancing, information
booths from local organizations, and a
community awards program. A BBQ
helped defray the cost of the event, the
funding for which came out of the pockets
of MPA co-founders Scott Steinman and
Wes Kashiwagi.

Local businesses and individuals donat­
ed their time and goods to help make the
festival a success. Tom Crudo and Danny

Azevedo spent much of Saturday and all of
Sunday preparing the tri-tip BBQ. Griffin
Works owner Meg Brooks helped store and
move the festival stage. David Beckwith of
Il Fornaio restaurant in Carmel donated
breads, and After Dark owner Weldon
Webb donated all of the drinks.

The Monterey Pride Association will
meet on August 13th to start planning for
next year's march and festival. Call Scott
Steinman at 655-9568 for time and location.

Get involved early in next year's pride. The first meeting is August 13th. See the Community Calendar for details.
Continued from page 1

Many who have considered a piercing are put off by memories of Richard Harris hanging from elk antlers in *A Man Called Horse* or simply find the idea too frightening. "The most painful part of the piercing is actually the clamping [Larouxe uses hemostats to hold the skin in place] and not the piercing itself," said Larouxe.

Ecstasy, No Agony

Sometimes the pain gives way to a special bonding between piercer and piercee. On his seventeenth piercing, the one through the bridge of his nose, Larouxe found that special bond for the first time. "It used to be a painful experience I endured because I wanted the end result; at long last I discovered what an endorphin was," laughed Larouxe. "For me it's more than just taking a needle and poking a hole; it was a rite of passage, a turning point. Now some people want a shortcut to what I have; they want battle scars to show off."

Some first-time piercers experience the same sensation. One woman came in for a piercing and began to writhe, almost as if in a sexual or drug-induced state of ecstasy. The piercing was in her eyebrow.

As with all body modifications, Larouxe strongly recommends finding someone qualified to perform the procedures. After the piercing, cleanliness and careful handling are of the utmost importance to stave off the risk of infection or rejection.

You can contact Gregory Larouxe at the Outer Edge salon in Monterey 372-6806.

Empty Bed

Slumber lies a long way off
As Sarah sings to me lovingly
In the sweetest tones of
Blue sincerity.

And yet she only reminds me
Of how alone I truly am.
My bed is empty.
My heart if only full
Of memories could tell
All the tales of an empty bed.

Longing solely for gentle warmth
To simply remind me my love has a name
For it seems the space has forgotten
The one who so long held it fast
In soft, warm slumber.

The summer has forgotten her regrets
And fall looms not far off
And all I seek is you to
Find your place at my side
Before crackling warmth ablaze.

Still slumber waits a million years away
And Sarah sings her sweet melody
In sweet blue sincerity and fading
Whispers of remembrance
Of an empty bed.

- e. boddy

The Paper welcomes local poet e. boddy as a regular contributor
Breaking Taboos

by Randolph Shannon
Contributing Writer

A presentation explaining the basics of S/M was presented by the Man-to-Man program in Seaside June 21st as part of the Hot and Healthy series of safer sex workshops. Frank Strona of Scarlet Letter Services, an S/M education, outreach and exploration group out of San Francisco, lead the 3 hour demonstration and discussion on toys, terms, and the culture that has grown up around sexual fetishes.

"There's nothing more boring than watching someone else's fetish," said Strona, remarking on how many are disappointed when they begin exploring S/M. "When it comes to sensation and erotic pleasure, we are all arranged differently. Some people are more developed; they're either born that way or learn to be that way."

A New Sensation

The fascination with new sensations is a normal part of everyone's childhood explained Strona. He asked the men who attended the event if, as children, they had ever taken a pin and seen how close to the surface of the skin of their finger they could push it through. That same interest is what drives fetishists to try bondage, flogging, mutilation, and other experiences.

Demystification

Hollywood depictions of S/M tend to be either tongue-in-cheek (Eating Raoul) or open to misinterpretation (Cruising). Strona's goal is to present S/M in such a way as to de-mystify it.

Part of the workshop included Strona explaining how simple objects you might find at a hardware store can be used in S/M play without a large investment: a pot scrubber becomes a skin sensitizer, a length of Sarah Wrap becomes a restraint. The mistake most people make when they start out, according to Strona, is that they either do things too hard or too fast.

When the time comes for more professional S/M equipment, Strona eschews "cookie cutter" items found at dirty book stores for sturdier items made by craftsmen who actually understand how they will be used.

Some practical tips followed. When using restraints, two fingers should be able to be pushed in between the harness and the skin. Cockrings can be fun, but overuse of them could result in a dependence on them to maintain an erection.

In S/M, "bottoms" (the passive partner) have all the power, according to Strona. A vocal signal, commonly based on traffic lights, lets the "top" know when to quit.

Part of the problem with the acceptance of S/M practices may come from its own popularity among non-fetishists, or as Strona refers to them "A-Gays". A-Gays only become involved with S/M because they find it fashionable. What results is a boring scene and the possibility of serious injury for the bottom.

S/M play is safe when practiced wisely. Any items that are inserted should be washed thoroughly and put in a sterilizing solution.

For more information on Man-to-Man events including Hot and Healthy parties, call Justin Larson at (408) 772-6202. You can contact Frank Strona at (415) 621-4145.

Frank Strona showing the workshop audience a urethral sound, a set of increasing large solid metal bars designed to be inserted into a man's urethra.

The Paper, July/August 1996
August

Saturday, 3rd

Members Night at the Monterey Aquarium
Time for a crowd-free evening froyy for card carrying Aquarium members. 641-4880 for more information.

Sunday, 11th

“All That Glamour”
A 3M Foundation show where anything goes musically. At the After Dark. 214 Lighthouse Ave., Monterey. 572-7628. Call Scott for more information 655-9568.

Monday, 12th

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser
Meat and vegetarian sauces, garlic bread and salad (The Paper especially likes the spicy meat sauce). Sponsored by the Grande Cypress Empire. At Title IX, 281 Lighthouse Ave., Monterey. 214-7488. Call the Empire at 633-6481 for more information.

Tuesday, 13th

Gay Volleyball on Carmel Beach
In the courts near the packing lot. Starts at 6 p.m.

Blind Doubles Poor Tournament at Title IX
Pool your billiards skills with a stranger. Every Tuesday night. $5 entry fee, winner takes home the kitty. At Title IX, 281 Lighthouse Ave., Monterey. 373-7828. Call Scott for more information. 655-9568.

Wednesday, 13th

Peninsula Professionals Network Meeting
Call 659-2446 for more information

Saturday, 17th

Monterey Pride Association Meeting
The first meeting to plan 1997’s march and festival. Call Scott for time and meeting place 655-9568.

Sunday, 21st

3M’s Pink Party
Pink underwear, pink hats, pink shirts, pants, anything pink. $1 donation or $1 in pink attire. At the After Dark, 214 Lighthouse Ave., Monterey. 373-7828. Call Scott for more information 655-9568.

Friday, 23rd

Deadline for The Paper
Articles are due. The focus of the Sept/Oct issue is older lesbians and gays: their coming out process, how their lives have changed, and how they are treated or perceived within the gay community now. Mail or e-mail your articles to Wes Kashwagi, 787 Laine St. #5, Monterey, CA 93940, or wes@mbay.net.

Sunday, 25th

People’s Choice Awards
Food and fun and drag by the Grande Cypress Empire. At the American Legion Hall on Delores between 8th & 9th in Carmel. $10 in advance, $12 at the door. Doors open at 7 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m. Call 633-6487 for more information.

Dancing at the After Dark
Sunday dancing is back. Starts at 8 p.m. in the front bar. 214 Lighthouse Ave., Monterey. 373-7828.

Submit your events to The Paper by Aug. 27th to be included in the Sept/Oct issue.

Wigstock Wows

by Those Two
The Paper’s Traveling Correspondents

An appreciative San Francisco crowd filled the Fort Mason Pavilion for the first Wigstock West event May 25th. The Lady Bunny, known from her role in Wigstock the movie, presided over the evening’s mix of camp, spectacle, and really big hair.

The event, which benefited the STOP AIDS Project and the Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center of San Francisco, was a condensed version of the annual Wigstock festival in New York City, which runs for several days.

Highlights from this year’s event included a remarkable acrobatic drag act, with two performers in Esther Williams one-pieces hanging high above the crowd from side-by-side trapezes. Equally entertaining were acts famous from the movie, including the Dueling Bankheads, Candice Kane, and an eerie Joni Mitchell tribute.

Those still hungry for more gaiety left for an aftershow dance party at Club Universe. The Paper’s raving newsteam decided to bail after being served upon repeatedly by half-naked muscleboys on the dancefloor.

You can visit the Wigstock website at http://www.at-beam.com/Wigstock/

The Bovine Miss M.

The Lady Bunny at a pre-Wigstock wig auction benefiting S.F. AIDS agencies.

The Standings

Jota
Queen, as in “be is such a...”

Basura
Trash, tramp, trollip, slut, yuck

Hottie
Sexy, desirable, de-able

To list your events in the community calendar, call Wes at 655-3756. It’s easy and it’s free.
Western Stage
Has Ambitious
1996 Season

"Yankee Dawg You Die" & "Pippin" Open '96 Season

T he Western Stage's 1996 season of repertory theater opens July 11 with the contemporary comedy "Yankee Dawg You Die" by Phillip Gotanda, one of America's leading playwrights. "Yankee Dawg You Die" in an inspired look at the plight of Asian-American actors in contemporary Hollywood. The play centers around two Japanese-American characters. "One is representative of the young guard, who have trained and worked all their lives in Asian-American theater," said Gotanda. "There are certain roles he will never play — the Ching Chong Chinaman houseboy, the evil Japanese WWII general, the Fu Manchu villain from outer space." The other character is from the old guard, continued Gotanda, "... who will take any role because they were actors and they were going to survive."

Musical Magic

On July 19th, Bob Fosse's well-known Tony award-winning musical "Pippin" fills the main stage. The show, with a score from by "Godspell" composer and lyricist Stephen Schwartz, will play for 11 performances through August 31.

Other Offerings

Also on this season's schedule are "Evita", the British director Alfred Hitchcock, and the work from co-stars Diane Keaton, Anjelica Houston. Who can ask for anything more?

The Lesbian Alliance

"The Newsletter is a forum for a visible lesbian community which is social, supportive and empowering, encouraging action, freedom of expression and connection for Monterey County."

for additional information on events and subscriptions call 648-4338

The Paper, July/August 1996

Meanwhile, Back at the Video Store...

Murder Most Fun

Looking for a good mystery to curl up with? Check these out.

David O. Selznick, still basking in his Gone with the Wind success, set his sights on another trashy bestseller, Daphne DuMaurier's Rebecca (1940). As in GWTW, solid production values and fine performances triumphed over purplish-tinged and earned Selznick Studios their second consecutive Oscar for Best Picture. Selznick imported British director Alfred Hitchcock, and the master's meticulous craftsmanship is evident throughout. You can feel Hitch chuckling in satisfaction every time you wince or shudder.

Dame Judith Anderson's hypnotic performance is one of those treasures of television, and rightly so. As the sinister cackler bringing his young bride into his creepy museum of a house. (Olivier's prominence as a classical actor obscures the fact that he could be as sexy as hell.) Joan Fontaine is fine as the young bride who needs assertiveness training. Scary, creepy, romantic — this film is everything a great Gothic mystery should be.

From PBS's Mysteries! to the mega-star extravaganzas, adaptations of Agatha Christie's work like their original, with their past clues and bloodless deaths, tend to be as plodding as a formal afternoon tea. Not so Witness for the Prosecution (1957). Billy Wilder brings Dame Agatha to the screen with biting wit and delicious suspense. Stuttering Charles Laughton gives another super performance as the witless defense attorney. The Dietrich mystique is in full force, as the Marlene Dietrich gives one of her best performances and even gets to sing.

This is one of the several films Laughton made with wife Elsa Lanchester, and his scenes with her are a delight. One senses that, whatever carnality their marriage may have lacked (Laughton was notoriously homosexual), they had an ardent enjoyment of one another's company.

Those of you who love Joan Crawford (don't we all?) can't miss Joan's Oscar-winning performance as Mildred Pierce (1945). Crawford is at her wide-eyed best in this saga of housewife turned waitress turned self-made millionaire in two easy reels, only to find money can't buy happiness! The movie opens with a shot of Crawford — spaded shoulder-length glasses, coiffed like the movie legend she always will be — in a form-fitting apron, baking in her kitchen, as the husky Crawford voice narrates, "I felt as though I'd been born in a kitchen and lived there all my life." Movies just don't get any better, you say to yourself. Oh, but this one does. Watch as Ann Blyth, the Teenager from Hell, hisses, "My own mother — awaitress!" Eve Arden, that Ever-Ardent stealer of scenes, yanks the rug out from the other players with lines like, "Alligators have the right idea; they eat their young." (Truly, this movie has more quotable lines than anything Shakespeare ever wrote.) Let your pesky friends in Carmen rent Gandi or read Proust. Grab your Coors, hit the on-button to the swamp cooler on your single-wide trailer, sit back and find out how good a bad movie can be.

Can a middle-aged actor with dour, average looks and a speech impediment rise to superstardom in the third remake of a low-budget B film? Can he if he's Humphrey Bogart and the movie is The Maltese Falcon? Bogie's the epitome of the hardboiled gumshoe: toughtalking, canny, intrepid. (He had those qualities onscreen and off; Bogart was one of the winning performance as that creepy, romantic — this film is everything a great Gothic mystery should be.

The Lesbian Alliance

"The Newsletter is a forum for a visible lesbian community which is social, supportive and empowering, encouraging action, freedom of expression and connection for Monterey County."

for additional information on events and subscriptions call 648-4338

The Paper, July/August 1996

Meanwhile, Back at the Video Store...

Murder Most Fun

Looking for a good mystery to curl up with? Check these out.

Rebecca
Witness for the Prosecution
Widow's Peak
 Klute
 Laura
Manhattan Murder Mystery
The Lady Vanishes
The Postman Always Rings Twice
 Dial M for Murder

What is the quintessential "gay" movie? 

Klute (1971). Jane Fonda won her first major award playing a hooker. In 1963 the Harvard Lampoon honored her as the Worst Actress of the Year for A Walk on the Wild Side. By the early 70's, Fonda was back with a vengeance. She's touching and infuriating and simply fascinating as the tough New York call girl teamed with detective Donald Sutherland on the trail of a psycho. 

Laura (1944). From the opening shot, as the naked Clifton Webb flashes tough-guy detective Dana Andrews from his marble bathub, through the nerve-wracking climax, there's not a dull moment. Toxin-tongued Webb all but sweats the audience as he impugns the film's central character — a character in a cast that includes lovely Gene Tierney and the ever-electrifying Judith Anderson. For films buffs, see a young and foppish Vincent Price before he'd found his niche in the horror market. 

Manhattan Murder Mystery (1994). Woody Allen's homage to the mystery genre is one of his best efforts, no thanks in small part to his clever script and fine work from co-stars Diane Keaton, Anjelica Houston. Who could ask for anything more?

The Lady Vanishes (1938). Patient film buffs will adore this early Hitchcock. Dame May Whitty has been kidnapped from the train, only Margaret Lockwood knows it, and only Michael Redgrave believes her story. Redgrave is ravishingly good looking, talented, classy, and bisexual, truly a fantasy man for those of us who love handsome men with British accents. And check out Catherine Lacy as that creepy nun in high heels.


For the men, Ray Milland plots to kill wealthy wife Grace Kelly in Dial M for Murder (1954). It's a fine if slightly soporific Hitchcock; the master's emphasis on a single set gives the film a stage-bound quality that betrays its theatrical origins. [The Editors note that a possible reason for this is that a 3D version was also filmed.] A number of mystery series from the 30's and 40's have made it to video, including Charlie Chan, Sherlock Holmes, and the Thin Man. My own favorite series detective is Hildegard Wolters, spinster schoolteacher turned sleuth, played by the formidable and funny Edna Mae Oliver. Also, these films are available in illegal printed editions, but few things are more worth breaking the law for.

Alan Brains is a regular contributor to The Paper, which does not encourage copyright infringement. But that's between you and your VCR.
Take Five: Aussie Tours Fun, Exotic & Affordable

Love Sydney

by Dan Presser
Travel Columnist

In 1994 this reporter attended his first International Gay Travel Association Meeting. It was held in Washington, DC where the IGTA was wined and dined by the Australian Ambassador with an unforgettable party at his Embassy. As we entered the Embassy on a quiet spring evening we were treated to an honor guard of handsome, rugged Aussie lifeguards clad in thin brightly colored swimsuits with long, flagpoles extending from the center of their slim swim jims. That quiet Australian enclave rocked all night long. The object of the Aussie's attention was to get us to vote to hold our 1996 Convention in Sydney. They succeeded.

Some of us began our Australian experience with an Aboriginal Dreamtime tour. We were taken to the top of a mountain filled with ancient Aboriginal carvings in the exposed rock not far from Sydney. There, in this exquisite national forest, a young Aborigines man played the Yidaki, the real name for the didgeridoo. It was a fantastic, moving experience.

If you're ever fortunate enough to make it to Australia, be sure to include an Aboriginal experience.

Another spot we visited that is a must stop is Koala Park. There you can actually pet soft, cuddly koalas. They have the disposition of a docile cat. At the park you can rub your paw on kangaroos, dingoes and wombats. Australian "Biology 101" comes alive at Koala Park.

If you like to picnic or merely breathe in a magnificent view, then

Without a doubt the best hotel for location during Mardi Gras (which comes in our winter, their summer) is the Oxford Koala Hotel with a brochure that is much better than the property; the inn is dark and old, and in need of immediate sprucing up. Oxford Street is the center of gay life in Sydney and the Koala Hotel's patio overlooks it. As far as location goes this hotel gets 5 stars. For comfort it gets 1-1/2 stars, and that's generous.

One lodge that earns 5 stars for elegance, comfort and beauty is The Observatory Hotel, a member of the Orient-Express Hotels. It's located on a hill overlooking The Rocks, Walsh Bay, and Circular Quay. For location The Observatory earns 3-1/2 stars, but this is Sydney's chic, quaint hotel experience.

After a full day of sightseeing and hotel site inspections, we were treated to a wonderful cocktail party and tasty dinner at the Waterfront Restaurant on The Rocks, a lovely tourist spot at the water's edge. The highlight of the evening was a splendid fireworks display in Sydney Harbor. The finale of which said in fiery blazing colors "Sydney Welcomes the IGTA." A spectacular evening.

One of the keynote speakers was an Australian member of Parliament. A bill had come up rejecting discrimination of anyone based on sexual orientation, but he was pressured by his church to defeat the bill. "As a Christian," they told him, "you must not support this bill. If you support this bill we will make sure you will never get elected again to Parliament." He told them, "I shall support this legislation because I consider myself a good Christian." He did vote for the bill and saw it passed into law. As an aside he told us his support has grown, not dwindled.

The last official business was to travel to Newton, Australia, a suburb of Sydney. There we saw the Priscilla Show at the Imperial Hotel, the location where Priscilla, Queen of the Desert was shot. A curious item to keep in mind when in Australia is that many pubs have the name "hotel." At one time the only way to get to a liquor license was to own a hotel with a minimum of six rooms and have a bar attached to it. It was very confusing at first, but when you're thirsty you find the nearest watering hole be it a bar, pub or hotel. Many of these "hotels" now use their sleeping rooms for storage.

Once the magic of the IGTA came to a close I flew up to the Great Barrier Reef for relaxation and diving. Beautiful crystal clear waters, colorful fish and a friendly 500-pound Wrasse made Queensland, Australia a delight.

Gay Australia is spectacular and not as expensive as you'd think. Great Barrier Reef for relaxation and women from the San Francisco Bay Chapter and the Loma Prieta Chapter converged at the high meadows in Yosemite National Park.

We put up our tents and let down our hair. On July 4th, those who got to camp by 3 p.m. shared an easy hike to the top of Lambert Dome. During the day on Friday and Saturday we had a choice of 5 hikes each day, covering the range of difficulty. Friday night was one huge gay potluck with a big roaring fire and too many mosquitoes. Saturday night was The Follies. I was, needless to say, skeptical about The Follies. Exhaustion from the hike to Mono Pass allowed me to influence my new friends to attend. I laughed and ginned. I also got to see a rare if not unique show: ABBA (male drag), background powered with a cigarette lighter, WITH NO MAKEUP! Lanterns lit the dirt "stapgy" and the sequined outfits. They sang that tired "Waterloo" song to death. Members of the SF Gay Men's Chorus performed silly singing sketches, while at the next group campsite, a troop of grade school girls with too much Fashions luggage sang Queen & Madonna songs, really loud.

The real star of the weekend was the combination of the setting and the weather. The day hikes were well led, well attended, and well described. Hot weather allowed for dipping into cold lakes.

For more information on GLS Loma Prieta, call Meg, Membership Chair, at (415) 326-8174, or call their InfoLine at (408) 450-0402. There are also chapters in SF Bay Area, LA, Sacramento & San Diego.

See you on the trails!


---

Gay & Lesbian Sierrans Camp It Up

by John Brennan
Contributing Writer

Gay & Lesbian Sierrans, part of the Sierra Club, held its 5th Annual Toulumne Meadows Campout on the Fourth of July weekend. We had a blast! One hundred and twenty gay men and women from the San Francisco Bay Chapter and the Loma Prieta Chapter converged at the high meadows in Yosemite National Park.

I was, needless to say, skeptical about The Follies. Exhaustion from the hike to Mono Pass allowed me to influence my new friends to attend. I laughed and grinned. I also got to see a rare if not unique show: ABBA (male drag), background powered with a cigarette lighter, WITH NO MAKEUP! Lanterns lit the dirt "stapgy" and the sequined outfits. They sang that tired "Waterloo" song to death. Members of the SF Gay Men's Chorus performed silly singing sketches, while at the next group campsite, a troop of grade school girls with too much Fashions luggage sang Queen & Madonna songs, really loud.

The real star of the weekend was the combination of the setting and the weather. The day hikes were well led, well attended, and well described. Hot weather allowed for dipping into cold lakes.

For more information on GLS Loma Prieta, call Meg, Membership Chair, at (415) 326-8174, or call their InfoLine at (408) 450-0402. There are also chapters in SF Bay Area, LA, Sacramento & San Diego.

See you on the trails!

---

Lavender Road Metropolitan Community Church

"A Christian Church Affirming Gay and Lesbian People"

Rev. Jean Hart, Pastor
P.O. Box 1764
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
408 355-0466

Wes Kashiwagi

Interactive CD-ROM Software Design
Website Creation & Management
Desktop Publishing

ph: 655-3756
e-mail: wes@nbay.net
http://www.nbay.net/~wes/wesshome.html

The Paper Loves to Travel. Take Us Along on Your Next Exotic Vacation.
The Political Climate:

Same Sex Marriage

Bill Clinton, Bob Dole, and Us

by John Laird
Political Writer

President Clinton's position on same sex marriage has rocked my political world. As someone who strongly supports both domestic partnerships and Bill Clinton — and who will be a Clinton delegate to the Democratic National Convention as well as an active member of the lesbian and gay caucus there — I've been struggling with the question of how to react, as have progressive gay men and lesbians across the country.

On the civil rights front, a major long term goal is equal rights for lesbian and gay couples. I have watched situations where the partner of a dying gay man has been excluded from medical decisions by a family that had estranged from that dying man for years. Or watched as a house jointly purchased and willed to the surviving partner is contested by family members who were not around as that man was dying. Or seen someone struggle to pay medical insurance for his partner while all his co-workers have their partners' insurance picked up by the company.

Yet whenever an emotional issue like this hits the public stage, the political dimensions move to the fore — and day to day reality takes a back seat. When the gays in the military issue was being debated, the question of militarism was shunted aside because the equal rights principle was of more importance. And the issue of fairness was set aside in the interest of political gain.

The same is true in the current debate. I don't think the legal consequences of community property have been explored. The equal rights side of it has pushed that issue into the background, and yet once again the potential political gain is edging out any real debate over equal rights.

The Hawaii Supreme Court will rule on the issue sometime in the next two years, most likely legally recognizing same sex marriage. Even though that ruling will come long after this November's election, conservative politicians across the country are scrambling to gain political benefit.

Ten states have already enacted laws to nullify recognition of same sex marriages legally made in another state, even though no such law has yet been approved. Similar legislation is pending in seven other states, including California, where such a bill passed the Republican state assembly but stalled in the Democratic state senate.

At the federal level, the "Defense of Marriage Act" has been introduced in the House and Senate — and, if enacted, would prohibit same sex marriage. The chief sponsors of this bill in the House and Senate, Senator Bob Dole and a first-term House Republican, have five marriages between them — probably the reason they believe so strongly in defending marriage. They do it quite regularly.

It is likely that this legislation will be declared unconstitutional, yet the point won't be tested until long after this November's presidential election — in which Dole will be the Republican candidate for President.

Openly gay Democratic Representative Barney Frank indicated that he was not willing to let President Clinton sacrifice his Presidency, which has been so important to gay men and lesbians, on the altar of same sex marriage.

In a recent national poll, 38% of those polled say gay marriages should not be legally sanctioned. 33% are pro-gay marriage.

President Bill Clinton has said he will sign this anti-marriage legislation, although at the same time he states "I will do everything I can to stop this election from degenerating into an attempt to pit one group of Americans against another group of Americans." When asked what he would tell gay Americans who disagree with him on this issue, he said "Look at my record, there has never been a President so committed as this one to fighting for gay rights and gay men across the country. We cannot rest until full rights are recognized. We have to pick our battles and recognize it's a long term struggle.

In the meantime, I have to play the hand we're dealt. We have been dealt Bill Clinton and Bob Dole in this campaign. Progressive voters casting ballots for third party candidates help Bob Dole, who introduced this bill, and is counting on anti-gay sentiments to boost his campaign. He returned Log Cabin gay Republican contributions. He has to placate the religious right to keep his political party unified.

Bill Clinton has appointed the first openly gay Cabinet Assistant Secretary and federal judge, as well as 100 other openly gay or lesbian officials, banning anti-gay discrimination in the Executive branch; eliminated sexual orientation as a means of denying federal security clearances; and gathered experts to examine lesbian and gay teen suicide.

I'm not happy about Clinton's stand on this issue, but electing Bob Dole is not the solution. He would appoint at least one Supreme Court justice before the court could rule on the "Defense of Marriage Act".

I remind you of the poll results that 54% of Americans say they know someone who is lesbian and gay. 80% of Americans are more likely to support equal rights if they know someone who is lesbian or gay. That's where change comes from — deciding what we stand for.

It is frequently forgotten that John F. Kennedy was not in the forefront of the African-American civil rights movement prior to his election as President. But he was able to be pressured and convinced, and his legacy includes standing up to racist southern governors who tried to block integration of public schools.

Bill Clinton is in the same position. We need to continue to create the climate for politicians to do what is right. And of the two major candidates running for President, Clinton is the only one who is capable of doing the right thing, as we change that climate.

One of the best statements was made by, of all newspapers, the Charleston Gazette, in an editorial titled "Hating Gays: Dole Seeking Votes": "Human rights evolve slowly. Society takes a while to accept changes. Centuries ago, homosexuals were put to death. A generation ago, they were locked in prison. Gradually, grudgingly, society came to tolerate the notion of consenting gay adults living together as committed couples without marriage. A generation from now, gay marriage probably will be common and hardly noticed."

So don't let Bob Dole's scapegoating get you to cast an indirect vote for him this November, and allow him to appoint a Supreme Court justice who will uphold the "Defense of Marriage Act".

Write Bill Clinton letting him know you think he's really blown it this time, but you're counting on him the next. And isn't it about time you came out to that neighbor, co-worker, or family member who may be slow to accept someone who knows someone openly gay or lesbian? They are going to play a key role in our long struggle for change, and they need to know it now — rather than being surprised at the chapel.

AUC-NC Calls for Letters Protesting Defense of Marriage Act

The ACLU-NC is distributing a press release urging gays and lesbian to write letters to President Clinton urging him not to oppose the Defense of Marriage Act and support the Employment Non-Discrimination Act.

The ACLU-NC cites several reasons why Clinton should be urged not to sign the bill:

1. It would deny lesbians and gays the federal benefits of marriage which heterosexuals now enjoy, with no legitimate government purpose.

2. It would allow one state not to recognize a same-sex marriage performed in another state; this would be a blatant violation of the Constitution's Full Faith and Credit clause (Article IV, Section 1).

3. It violates the equal protection guarantee of the Due Process clause and discriminates on the basis of sex; one's ability to marry would be dependent on one's gender.

Write to:

Sen. Diane Feinstein
331 Hart Senate Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510-5304
(202) 224-3941, FAX (202) 224-3934

Sen. Barbara Boxer
112 Hart Senate Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510-5305
(202) 224-3903, FAX (202) 224-7071

Protest Gilroy’s Anti-Gay Marriage Referendum - All That Garlic Has Finally Gone to Their Heads
New Antiviral in the Pipeline
by Jules Levin
National AIDS Treatment Advocacy Project

Glaxo-Wellcome is currently developing a new and promising antiviral AIDS drug called 1592U89 (1992, for short). This drug is a nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (as are AZT, ddi, ddC, d4T and 3TC). Early but limited human trials of the drug suggest that it may come to play an important role in HIV management.

Current Trials
The small human trial currently underway is studying four different dosages of the drug, ranging from 200 mg three times per day to 600 mg three times per day. There are some promising early results from the low-dose regimen. After four weeks of monotherapy with 1592, the drug produced an average increase in CD4 cells of 98, and viral load reductions were significant. Subsequently, participants were randomized to add AZT or AZT-placebo to 1592 and CD4 increases and viral load reductions were well sustained at twelve weeks.

The high-dose study (600 mg three times per day) may still be recruiting, since some of the available slots have not yet been filled as of July 1. For further information about participation, contact Dr. Bill Lang, VIRX, San Francisco.

Claims from Glaxo-Wellcome about the efficacy of 1592:

- Shows significant penetration to the Central Nervous System (CNS); it effectively crosses the blood-brain barrier (BBB);
- In vitro (in test tube) it has good synergy with AZT, 3TC, ddi and ddC, as well as with two protease inhibitors (saquinavir and Glaxo’s not yet FDA approved 141W94);
- There’s apparently no AZT cross-resistance;
- The drug has more than 70% bioavailability.

Because of the drug’s significant central nervous system (CNS) penetration, Glaxo is planning a study of 1592’s effects on AIDS dementia (set to begin sometime this summer). The company is also planning a pediatric study and further adult studies. Pre-accelerated approval phase II trials are expected to begin in the fourth quarter of 1996.

Although the data accumulated to date are promising, more research is necessary to confirm the efficacy and safety of this drug. Also of great interest is the indication that 1592 is not cross-resistant with AZT, and has very limited cross-resistance with ddi or ddC. This raises a vital question: will individuals who have developed resistance to AZT (or ddi or ddC or 3TC or d4T) thereby eliminating any benefit from these drugs, be able to transition into 1592 with full efficacy? It would be very important for individuals who have few or no treatment options left to be able to combine 1592 with protease inhibitor treatment.

Reprinted (edited for length) from the June issue of the Being Alive Newsletter. Being Alive is an organization by and for people with HIV/AIDS. They can be reached at (213) 667-3262 or by writing 3526 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA, 90026. Website - http://www.mbay.net/~bngalive/

Informal Poll of Protease Inhibitor Side Effects

Saquinavir (Invirase):
Most respondents taking saquinavir reported no side effects at all. One person felt these reactions to be "extreme nausea" and a burning sensation while having bowel movements. Another reported "depression."

Indinavir (Crixivan):
There was no clear pattern of side effects reported by those taking indinavir. About 20% reported no side effects whatsoever. No respondent quit the drug.

The other side effects reported: "dry mouth," achiness in the large muscle groups (quads, biceps, shoulders) "as if I'd spent too much time at the gym the day before"; insomnia; nausea, tender abdomen shortly after taking the drug; taste alteration (a somewhat metallic taste in the mouth); headaches.

No one felt these reactions to be debilitating, and most people reported that these side effects decreased significantly or subsided altogether within two weeks. One person reported "flu-like symptoms" and high spiking fevers resulting in hospitalization, but a drug interaction (with rifabutin) is probably responsible. One person was also "diagnosed with MAC during this time, so his experience of indinavir is complicated by other issues."

Ritonavir (Norvir):
Everyone responding to our survey who had experience with ritonavir reported significant side effects. (It is important to note that one person who had experienced significant and serious side effects but who stayed on the drug reported the disappearance of "95% of the symptoms" after three months and several beneficial results. After over four months on the drug, his "problem with wasting" had been reversed; he'd gained over 10 pounds, and had stopped having fevers and getting oral ulcers. "I have energy again," he wrote.) Certain reactions were shared by all ritonavir respondents: a "tingling" or "burning and numbness" of the lips and in the mouth, which was sometimes accompanied by a burning sensation of "rawness" in the throat. (This reaction tended to lessen but not disappear over time.) One person reported "brittle and bleeding gums." Several experienced a heightened sensitivity to changes of temperature in the mouth. Some reported a skin irritation of one kind or another. "Colds and numbness in face and hand," "skin felt sunburned all over," "burning skin like I had a fever but I didn't," "otherwise unexplained blister on my lip, odd scaling on my knees and elbows, as if they'd been burned, unaccompanied by any pain or irritation." Other reactions were: bloating; food and nausea, malaise; fatigue; joint pain; vomiting; headaches. Most people who stayed on the drug reported the lessening of these symptoms over time.

Reprinted (edited for length) from the June issue of the Being Alive Newsletter. They can be reached at (213) 667-3262 or by writing 3526 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA, 90026. - http://www.mbay.net/~bngalive/
Monterey Bay Gays Discuss Gay Issues with Rep. Farr

Several representatives from Monterey and Santa Cruz met July 2nd with Rep. Sam Farr (pictured above with the director of Medical Marijuana) at his offices in Santa Cruz to discuss gay issues and Farr's opinions on how best to reach local and national politicians.

Farr described his support gay issues as "unlimited" and used his voting record in Congress to backup his gay-positive stance:

Two of the most far-reaching issues facing the current Congress are the Republican-sponsored Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and a non-discrimination bill that has been stalled in Congress for several years. DOMA is an anti-gay marriage act that could damage the chances for the legalization of gay unions on the state level should it pass.

Farr repeatedly advised those in attendance to continue their work at a grassroots level, stating that congressional representatives are more easily swayed by those within their districts.

Monterey Bay Gays Discuss Gay Issues with Rep. Farr

Monterey's Gay Homepage
http://www.mbay.net/~web/mcentre1/
Website for Monterey & the neighboring communities. Coming soon: The Paper in Intact in Acrobat format.

Santa Cruz L/G/B/T Community Center
http://www.scrub.net/~lcq/sctobec/ The happenings in Santa Cruz. Includes a digital version of Santa Cruz LGBT Community Center CSUMB's their newspaper. http://InfoTech.monterey.edu/ Up to date HIV/AIDS Information. Maintained by http://www.mbay.net/-bngalive/ To add your URL here, e-mail it to wes@mbay.net.
Be Proud, Monterey!

Monterey’s 2nd Annual Gay Pride Festival &
1st Annual Gay Pride March

The Monterey Pride Association
would like to thank everyone who participated in
or helped sponsor this year’s pride festival.

Below is a list of volunteers & donors we would
especially like to thank:

Weldon Webb
Kevin Hartley
David Goering
Tom Crudo
Danny Azevedo
Joe Beale
Martin Maxi
David Beckwith &
Il Fornia Restaurant
Andy Handler
Nique Marchus
April Anderson
Jeff Hammons
Vikki Prater
Kelvin Wright
Laura Peck
Rob
Barbara Bentley
Mary Ann Untalan
Dave Zaniewski
Miss Freddie Woodford
Bernice Labelle
Lori Serrano
Ramona Grammatico
Debbie Deloi
Kent Thornell
James Meams
Marion Pech
Flanders Ewing Setchel
Anna Bacler
Kirsten Tagami
Deno Darby
David Harness
Brandy
Justin Larson &
the Man-to-Man Program
Nancy, Maggie & Title IX
Trixie Capone
Javier Jimenez
Meg Brooks & Griffin Works
Mayor Dan Albert
City of Monterey
Mayor Pro Tem Bob Davis
City of Pacific Grove
Mayor David Vociodka
City of Marina
Monterey Parks &
Recreation Dept.
Capt. David Fortune &
the Monterey Police Dept.
Hector De Smet Bakery
Kool, Inc. Entertainment
Troia’s Ice Distributing
Sheila Keuhl
Rusty Ares
Fred Keeley
Rev. Jean Hart
Matt Friday
Jane Wynn
Autumn Unck
The Women of Title IX

And the many others whose contributions
we couldn’t have done without! See you June 7th & 8th, 1997!

OUR MAJOR SPONSORS

After Dark
The Paper

3M Foundation of Monterey County

The Back Page

Top 10 Incoherent Ramblings from a
Drunken Straight Woman at a Gay Bar

10. You should go to New York...and stand.
9. I’m heterosexual. Is that okay?
8. I’ll see you on a cold Tuesday.
7. Put this in your diary: they’re going to bite me.
6. For heaven’s sake, get them off the carpet.
5. Those guys are a couple of loafers and I asked for sandals.
4. I’d like to take your seats out to a ballgame sometime.
3. Stand there with your hand in your jacket like Napoleon...ice
cream. It’s black and it’s white, but I like the strawberry the best.
2. He’s as much of a woman as she is.
1. I’m not gay because my tits are tattooed on my forehead.

Coming Soon to
Monterey’s Gay Homepage

A Complete Digital Version of
The Paper
in Adobe Acrobat format
PLUS on-line subscription forms

Subscriptions!

Subscription Rate:
• 1 year (six issues): $12

The Paper is delivered in a fashionably plain envelope.

Name

Street Address
City State Zip

Home Phone ( )

E-mail address (optional)

NOTE: Subscription rates apply only to mailing addresses within the continental United States. The Paper cannot fulfill your subscription without the above information. It will be kept strictly confidential. Enclose check(s) made payable to MCAP. Mail to P.O. Box 2081, Monterey, CA, 93942-2081. Subscription requests not accompanied by payment will not be accepted.