

Redford, Newman together again

The Sting, Universal's Christmas season release, reunites three of the talents from *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*—Paul Newman, Robert Redford, and director George Roy Hill.

Set in Chicago and Joliet, Ill., of 1936, *The Sting* is a colorful story of two confidence men and their elaborate setup to part a New York racketeer from \$400,000 in retaliation for the murder of one of their buddies by the gangster. The 'sting' of the title is underworld parlance for separating a sucker from his money.

Newman and Redford play the con men, with British actor Robert Shaw as the mobster. The plot line is very detailed, sometimes even overinvolved to the point of confusion, but when it threatens to get too heavy, a dose of very welcome humor evens it out. The supporting cast, except for Ray Walston and Eileen Brennan, are mostly recognizable from their history of fine character roles, rather than prominent names.

Robert Redford has the flashiest part, but it is Paul Newman, looking older than his years and more submerged in his character, who gives the best portrayal. He is thinner than in previous pictures, and with the small moustache looks a little like Vincent Price from certain angles, but it is just the right image



ROBERT REDFORD

for his role of a retired conman making a comeback.

The rapport between the two stars and their director, apparently a carry-over from having worked on *Butch Cassidy*, is obvious on the screen and makes for a lively film—fun for both the audience and the actors. It isn't a movie that will get the repeat viewers, as *Butch Cassidy* did, because the involved

seriousness leading to the surprising finale only plays well the first time. But once should be enough, the picture is that entertaining.

Edith Head's costuming is slavish in attention to detail, as is the art and set decoration by Henry Bumstead and James Payne. Some location shooting was done in Chicago, but the majority of the picture was filmed in Southern California and on studio sets. Marvin Hamlisch's music adaptation is perfect, consisting mostly of ragtime piano themes, contributed by Scott Joplin.

The whole movie evokes the 1936 period beautifully, including the visual style used throughout. It has been made to look just like a movie from that era that one would see on the late show, including the old Universal trademark (which the preview audience applauded!), credits showing the cast and identifying them as 'the players', plus old-fashioned wipes and iris effects instead of modern dissolves. The tone of the film is set immediately, something to have fun with while all the vintage rascals cavort on screen for the next two hours.

Harold Fairbanks

TV show features 6 Gays

"Takes All Kinds," a public affairs program aired by Los Angeles TV Channel 2, will focus its show of Sunday, Dec. 16 (at 5:30PM) on the lives of six gay men.

Producer Pat Dunovan, who filmed the program over a two-day period at the Gay Community Services Center here, said the show "deals with the idea that everybody in Los Angeles is part of a minority of some kind. We try to get beyond the stereotypes."

The gay men participating in the program are:

Rand Schrader, 27, who recently passed his California bar exam and who expects to be admitted to the bar as an openly gay person.

Bill Sheen, 25, a privately employed landscape architect.

Paul Mathison, 52, an artist, who conducts gay growth groups at the center.

Ritchie Fields, 20, a black gay man who recently ended a two-year stretch in the U.S. Navy.

Dr. Ben Teller, 35, medical director of the center. He was recently admitted to residency at the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center as an openly gay doctor.

Bob Blaustein, 23, a law student and director of the center's arraignment intervention program.

Dunovan said "Takes All Kinds" will have a similar program featuring lesbians on a date to be announced.

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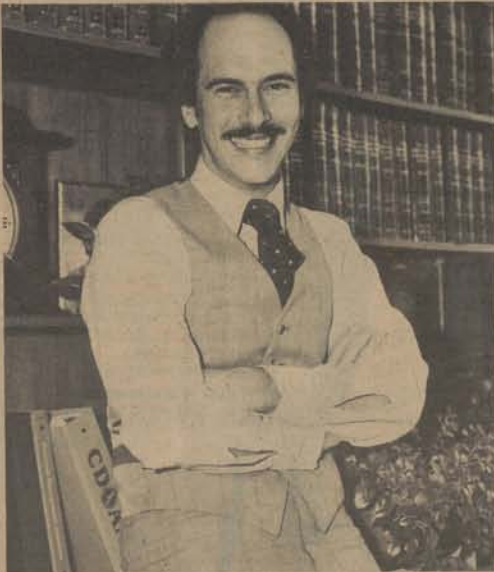
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The New Breed of Political Animal

BURT PINES



RAND SCHRADER

Openly Gay and Moving Back into the Mainstream

What's an openly gay attorney doing working in the Los Angeles City Attorney's office—the same office that successfully brought in a "guilty" verdict for alleged gay violations of the state's local lewd conduct laws by a former deputy mayor?

For one thing, according to Randy Schrader's boss, George Eskin, who heads the office's criminal branch, Schrader is doing a damn good job. City Attorney Burt Pines, who is rapidly becoming one of the most respected prosecutors in the country, puts it differently, "He is doing a very fine job," but the message is the same: Randy Schrader, 31 years old, openly gay, founder of the city's radical '60s Gay Liberation Front, is on the way up.

Schrader photograph by Sandy Kaplan

by Sasha Gregory-Lewis

Critics of the American scene describe politics as an impossible balancing act between overwhelmingly powerful forces. Eventually, in this tug-of-war scenario, elected officials are supposed to succumb to one or another of those forces. The curtain for democracy is then dropped as the play ends with the corruption of the politician's unique personal vision.

Until recently, most politicians have been following their stage directions and succumbing on cue. That's how they get re-elected, and the play is re-run.

Los Angeles City Attorney Burt Pines, one of a new breed of politicians and not one to follow directions anyway, is—much to the amazement of many people—managing to please the electorate; run virtually unopposed for re-election; and maintain his integrity—all at the same time.

Meanwhile, the back-stage power cliques tugging at Pines's integrity haven't changed at all—gay Angelinos and the Los Angeles Police Department, for example.

Gay people want an end to lewd conduct and solicitation prosecutions, but Pines's office continues to prosecute under these laws—and does a good job getting con-

victions.

Police, on the other hand, nearly rioted when Pines became the first public attorney in the nation to conclude, as unequivocal city policy, that the LAPD was legally required to hire qualified gay people. The opinion nearly triggered the police-gay feud into all-out war once Police Chief Ed Davis discovered he couldn't do anything about it, but was finally accepted by the civil service commission and quietly rubber-stamped by the city council.

Pines's opinion on gay people secured civil rights protections for Los Angeles citizens that their elected legislative branch would, it seemed, never have the guts to pass. Gay people appreciate that.

The police have their own debts to Pines. He is a tough prosecutor, and although as committed to law and order as the most conservative precinct sergeant, shapes the law in his own fashion. The cops appreciate Pines's toughness.

Both police and gay people have come out in favor of Pines's reelection.

Pines is making similar inroads with other traditionally opposed interests, and although the news often is buried on the back pages of the local press or never quite grasped by the broadcast media, a lot of changes have been coming down in the way the city's attorneys work:

Los Angeles now has one of the nation's first consumer fraud prosecuting sections, which was tough enough to bring in \$2.5 million dollars in restitution and penalties last year.

• The office was one of the first in the state successfully to bring criminal prosecutions of nursing home abuses.

• The image of the office has been revamped and it now attracts talented, young lawyers to its training programs actively and often successfully.

• The office has actively and often successfully tried to shape the existing body of law in areas such as environmental protection, consumer fraud and victimless crimes.

Pines is proud of these and other achievements, saying, "We think they're important, and we think the public is receptive." The public will have a chance to turn in its verdict April 5, and Pines is expecting a favorable vote.

It's not as if Pines had an easy time bringing change to what is generally the most staid and backward public agency. The sheer weight of the bureaucracy was against him: with a staff of 233 attorneys and more than 200 support staff, the office handles 180,000 complaints each year. Pines has managed the transformation well—bringing more minority people into top-level spots, more women to top-level spots and even two openly gay attorneys—all without bureaucratic trauma.

Although Pines refuses to comment on opposition to his policies

Continued on page 44

It's a long climb from the picket lines and demonstrations of GLF's early days to the plush, 16th-story office Schrader now occupies in L.A.'s City hall East. And it's a climb that few people have the tenacity or talent to make without compromising their integrity: Schrader is the nation's only openly gay public prosecutor.

It wouldn't have been possible without Burt Pines's dedication to full human rights for everyone, but Schrader's work record shows he's more than a token gay person. Though only on the job for three years and fresh out of law school, he's already been writing appeal briefs for state appeals court cases, put in six months as one of the office's trial lawyers and had a good look at policies and practices of criminal law as staff assistant to George Eskin in the office's criminal branch.

Back in the days of GLF, the public prosecutor's office was viewed as a kind of extension of the city's police department homophobia. For Schrader, then a student at the University of California in Berkeley, joining up with the public prosecutor was still something that promising, young law students turned away from—"We looked on it as the lowest thing we could do," Schrader recalls.

What happened to change those images for Schrader?

"I don't find the killing and demoralizing attitude here that I ex-

pected," says Schrader. "I found an aware commitment from some at the top to change the way prosecution is normally run. Under Pines's administration, we have good, excellent attorneys doing the best job they can."

Although Schrader in the mid-'60s lumped the prosecutors in with the bad guys, "being around them has changed my mind. You don't really want to leave prosecution to people you don't like or to second-raters if you want the power exercised the way you believe it should be. I no longer look at prosecuting as the lowest thing."

"The public prosecutor is the people's attorney. The way to get justice done is to have input into the prosecution system . . . that's the way you stop the wrong people. You don't want to leave the job to a bunch of turkeys."

"Maybe the reason we're unhappy about how justice is practiced is that we've left the job to someone else."

So far, Schrader has not been confronted with what could possibly be the ultimate test of his moral convictions—being required to prosecute a gay person under laws that are unfairly enforced and constitutionally unsound: the lewd conduct and solicitation laws.

Labeled "harassment-laws" by some attorneys, these two laws are often used by homophobic police to persecute gay people, and they can ruin the careers and lives of men and women for the most in-

nocent, sometimes accidental and often non-existent grope or touching of a vice officer.

It's obviously a moral dilemma Schrader has faced before. In contrast to his relaxed and rambling answers to most other questions, his comments on this are brief, well-defined. Prefacing his statement by saying that he has never been asked to prosecute a gay person for violations of those laws, he carefully comments, "An attorney who isn't enthusiastic about a case isn't the best one to handle it." Schrader appears reluctant to be drawn out, seemingly content with all of the implications of his short statement.

Randy (or Rand, as some people call him), is obviously someone who's given a lot of thought to the dilemma of how to be gay and function within the system not only successfully, but openly as well. It's a large consciousness-leap from the radical days of anti-war protest to a successful career in what rhetoric-mongers describe as the "bely of the monster"; from gay confrontation politics and a gay collective to what other rhetoric-mongers describe as "the middle class."

By his presence as an openly gay public prosecutor, Schrader has helped to raise his co-workers consciousness about gay people, but is he satisfied with this contribution to the gay rights movement?

"Being here and being openly gay is another type of activism," Schrader concludes, "but I'm beginning to feel the need to become more involved." ■

Interview

STANDS OF PINES

Up on the 17th floor of an immense, old, marble-and-brass edifice improbably called the "Subway Terminal Building," looking out over the almond-colored skies of downtown Los Angeles, the Friends of Burt Pines are fighting a losing battle with the telephone. One ringy-dingy, it's fellow Democrat Tom Hayden; two, it's Washington, D.C.; three, it's Studio One, L.A.'s favorite gay disco, where a fund-raising tea dance (at \$10 a head) is being staged for Mr. Pines.

For the past five years, Pines has been L.A.'s city attorney. Now he wants to be California's attorney general, maybe—who knows?—our next governor. The secretaries cannot make up their minds about those Studio One invitation cards: should it be "Burt Pines asks you to . . ." or "Mr. Burt Pines invites you . . ." or should they be pushy and say "Our next attorney general . . ."? They settle for just plain Burt.

Meanwhile, in a dingy office across the hall, a weary Pines, just back from a long ride on the campaign trail in San Diego—tough territory for liberals—is downing his nth cup of morning coffee. Burt Pines is 38, tall and dark, with a tendency to glower like Laurence Olivier overdoing it as Heathcliff. He's a Californian born and bred (Burbank: Los Angeles High School; USC, Magna Cum Laude, philosophy). Married, with three children (Adam, Ethan and Alissa), he lives in a \$77,000 Studio City home and makes about \$48,000 a year as City Attorney, with no other sources of income. Since a man may be judged by his handouts, he gave (his financial disclosure shows) \$400 to United Jewish Welfare, with lesser sums to such groups as the L.A. Free Clinic, Sierra Club, ACLU, Committee for Soviet Jews, etc.

What is he to the gay community? A friend. One of the first Southern Californian politicians to recognize gay people as a social force and court their vote (in '73), Pines has become—possibly inspired by some sharp clashes with ex-police chief Ed Davis over such questions as the hiring of gay people by the LAPD—an ever-stronger backer of gay rights. Not that his office doesn't still prosecute gay offenders under the lewd conduct and solicitation laws. But Pines believes he has won the right to expect California's gay voters to turn out for him on June 6.

In what ways have you helped the community during your five years in office?

First, I've always tried to stand for equal enforcement of the law. Soon after I became city attorney, I realized that different standards were being applied to gays and, uh, others. I felt this was wrong. The LAPD was bringing us cases of alleged misconduct in gay bars that certainly wouldn't have been offered for prosecution had they occurred in straight bars.

For example?

Well, a vice officer would pretend to be a patron in a gay bar and get into conversation with someone. And if the guy suggested sex in a private place, he would be arrested. Now, clearly that kind of conversation goes on all the time in straight bars, but no similar cases involving straights were brought to my office. So here we had a double standard of justice, and that couldn't be tolerated. In the same way, kissing and dancing together goes on all the time in straight bars; and so obviously we couldn't prosecute things like that in gay bars.

But you do prosecute "lewd conduct"—whatever that may be.

Of course if there is lewd exhibition, that would be an offense wherever it occurred and regardless of the sexual persuasion of those involved.

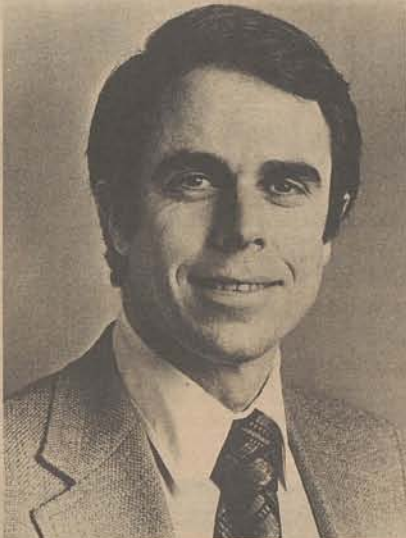
How many gay sex cases brought to you have you refused to prosecute?

We don't keep those kinds of figures, but we have certainly rejected a number of cases where our filing standards have not been met. We've adopted stringent standards regarding offenses under 647A [lewd conduct]. Besides, these cases are extremely difficult to prosecute successfully—so simply from that standpoint, we're wasting resources.

Are there other changes you'd like to see in this area?

Yes, there's a registration requirement now for 647A offenders. I think it's onerous and unnecessary and should be eliminated. We're not talking about rape or child molestation here, but about your average 647A offense—usually some kind of consenting conduct between adults. No real use is made of these registration lists, but because people still do have to register, that 647A charge is a very oppressive thing. It can affect a person's life forever.

This sex-in-public issue is debated quite a lot by gay peo-



A Legal Light in the Anti-Gay Forest

by W.I. Scobie

ple. For instance, John Rechy has written a best-selling book in which he talks about this as "an act of revolution." I don't doubt that a majority of gay people disagree with him totally, but he says—I quote—"How can you say our sexual presence intrudes on your lives? Even when we have sex on the streets we are invisible to you. It's just us and the cops. Have you ever seen us, once, make out?"

I'm not sure what he's referring to.

To screwing in the streets. He's saying it's seen by no one except gay people and cops out looking for it.

No, it can be visible. We sometimes get complaints from citizens that at such-and-such a spot they've been offended by people having sex in public. I don't see why gays need to have sex in restrooms or parks.

Some militants defend it. They just don't believe the horses are frightened.

The horses?

The English actress Ellen Terry said she didn't care what people did sexually, so long as they didn't do it in the street and frighten the horses.

Yes, well, we do prosecute such offenses, straight or gay, and I just don't see why anyone should advocate that sort of behavior.

The real question is: how far should gay civil rights legislation go? Many want to go in the opposite direction from the Rechys and become more bourgeois. For instance, they want gay marriage legalized.

Do gays really want to go through the ceremonial bit, or is the basis of this more practical? For example, the ability to file joint tax returns, or secure mortgages based on joint earnings, or avoid some form of persecution based on the lack of a legal bond between them? I think there can be some kind of legislative relief to deal with what I see as the real concerns here, perhaps even through existing laws.

How about adoption? Some gay couples would like to adopt children, but the courts prevent them.

Hmm . . . This is a subject I really haven't considered. I'd need to give more thought to it. But all my efforts as city attorney have been to apply equal law enforcement for the gay community, not just in one or two areas, but across the whole spectrum.

A crucial issue for gay people today, thanks to Anita Bryant and John Briggs, is the right to work as teachers, especially elementary teachers. What's your view of the Briggs initiative?

I think it's one of the most blatant pieces of political opportunism I've witnessed in my brief time as a politician. It's outrageous that someone running for high office should try to use a minority in this fashion for his own ends. But I think the electorate is sophisticated enough to see through Briggs.

What do you think of the recent Supreme Court refusal to review the case of a Washington State schoolteacher who

was fired purely because he acknowledged his homosexuality?

I think it was a mistake, a step backwards.

You provided a major opinion to L.A.'s Civil Service Commission that gay people could not be discriminated against, for employment by the police or wherever, simply on the basis of sexual preference. But the police haven't done much about it, have they? Our new Chief Gates recently made some very negative remarks about the idea of gay people on the force.

As I recall, he said they'd "have a hard time" or words to that effect. But he did acknowledge that he can no longer refuse to hire gay people. I think that's very significant. Prior to our opinion, you wouldn't have seen that statement.

How many gay people are on your own staff?

Again, we don't keep statistics. We're not concerned, in my office, with anyone's private sex life. What matters is his ability to do the job. I believe we have five or six attorneys in the office who are willing to say they are gay . . .

Out of how many?

We have 240 attorneys. Rand Schrader was the first to openly acknowledge he was gay. I remember the first time he came into the office there was real concern on the part of some of our staff as to what this would mean. But they were quickly surprised and impressed by Rand's performance—more so than by any articles or rhetoric they might have read about gays. Of course, there was also concern in the LAPD and other quarters. But I didn't see why that should stand in their way. The gay attorneys in this office have made substantial contributions.

I've seen Schrader described as "the nation's only openly gay public prosecutor." Is that correct?

I have no way of knowing. It's probable.

A frequent argument put forward by anti-gay spokespeople is that ordinances outlawing discrimination, like the one recently passed in San Francisco, would encourage the spread of homosexuality and "undermine family life." What's your view?

I think that's a lot of nonsense. If someone is trying to peddle his or her own philosophy and that's not part of the responsibilities of the job, there may be cause for discipline. This applies whether they're trying to persuade children to be Communists or Democrats or whatever. But I think it's absurd to believe that gay people, in one occupation or another, are going to be determinedly inducing others to follow their lifestyle. It simply hasn't been our experience, past or present.

Yet thousands believe it happens.

I feel it's a myth; it's something used as a basis for discriminatory practices against gay people.

So I guess you'd support Federal legislation such as the bills promoted by Ed Koch of New York or Don Edwards of California?

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“... it's absurd to believe that gay people, in one occupation or another, are going to be determinedly inducing others to follow their lifestyle.”

I'm not wholly familiar with the language of these bills, but I would certainly support measures barring discrimination against gays.

A lot of politicians are terrified of the gay rights issue. It's an untouchable, no-win cause. Are they correct, or is there political mileage in seeking the gay vote?

I support equal rights for gay people because I believe it's right, not because I see in it some political advantage. The dangers are there, but if you start weighing your decisions on political advantage or disadvantage, then you become simply an opportunist.

Governor Brown seems very nervous about the subject.

Mmm. I think it should be obvious to everybody that gay communities around the country have become well-organized and exercise a lot of political muscle. I just hope they'll do more in that way and get more involved in the political system.

You see growing social approval of homosexuality?

I think so...

Yet a Gallup poll says about half the population supports equal job opportunity for gay people, and two-thirds don't want them teaching their kids.

I can only say there has been a marked change in the five years I've been in politics. In my first election campaign, my opponent Roger Arnebergh tried to smear me by saying I supported gays and had advertised in The ADVOCATE. That backfired. I was elected by 15 per cent of the vote. And today, politicians don't fear that backlash. When I ran in '73 I was the only one seeking gay support. Today, you can find any number of candidates seeking that support.

What was the reaction to your opinion about hiring gay people on the LAPD?

Some people feared it was going to be my Gittelson ruling—you know Mark Gittelson, the busing judge who was knocked out of office by his integration ruling. But we had very few hate letters. The signs were that the vast majority accepted it as right. I see a real growth in tolerance and understanding over the past five years.

Some gay leaders fear a new backlash over the Anita Bryant crusade.

I don't think she's picking up major support at all. She's preaching to the converted, the people who thought like her in the first place.

Would you like to sum up? Anything to add?

I think I've stood up and been counted. I was one of the few public prosecutors to support the Willie Brown bill—in direct opposition to Ed Davis's position. I haven't given favored treatment to gays because they haven't asked for it. All that the community has sought is equal treatment and equal opportunity under the law. ●

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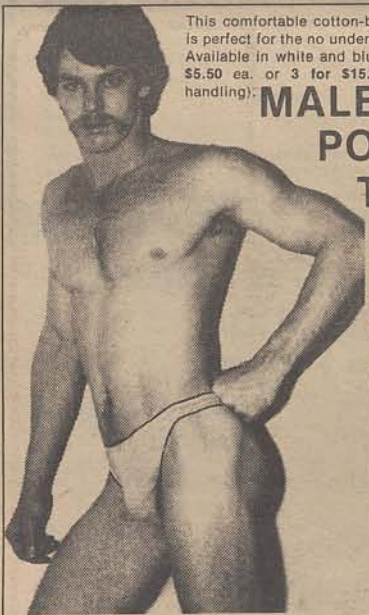
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Dispatch

establish the rights, needs and obligations of gay health providers on the job; to define the current federal impact on gay people's mental and physical health and to suggest future changes."

Registration made before March 31 costs \$20 for a working professional and \$5 for a student. The charge for late registration will be slightly higher. Checks are payable to National Gay Health Conference, 55 West 26th St., No. 402, New York, NY 10010. For additional information, call Caitlin Ryan, director/coordinator, (212) 725-0114. In California call Ann Polivka, (415) 524-6625.

Twin Cities Gay Rights Body: Business Slow

Minneapolis, one of 40 American cities with a gay rights ordinance, has also had a gay woman and man as members of the Civil Rights Commission since late 1978.

The appointments were originally made by Mayor Al Hofstede in response to pressure from the Minnesota Committee for Gay Rights and the Lesbian Feminist Organizing Committee. The gay commissioners are mental health counselor Pat Schamus and attorney Dan Hanson. Though Mayor Hofstede signed the gay right ordinance into law in 1974, he has grown noticeably cool toward gay rights since that time. Commissioners Schamus and Hanson both report that no gay-related human rights violations have been brought to the commission.

Awareness of gay issues is low among the other commissioners, according to Schamus and Hanson, who say they have focused on educating their colleagues. To assist in this, the commission is sponsoring a survey of the gay community under the direction of Gay Community Services of Minneapolis.

—John Chester

Head Quits LAGCSC

Dick Hingson, director of the Los Angeles Gay Community Services Center since 1977, has announced his resignation effective June 1, 1979.

Rand Schrader, president of the center's board of directors, praised Hingson for the growth of the center under his leadership. "The GCSC is now one of the largest social service organizations for gay women and men, if not the largest. More than 4,000 people are assisted each month with health, housing, employment and legal problems," said Schrader.

Candidates to replace Hingson must have administrative experience and be capable of handling a staff of 80 and a large budget. Applicants may submit resumes to Rand Schrader, president, Board of Directors, GCSC, Box 38777, Hollywood, CA 90038.

Gay Court Martial Suit Filed by ACLU

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) filed a complaint March 6 in U.S. District Court in San Francisco asking for reversal of a court martial conviction in a homosexual sodomy case.

The ACLU is asking that charges against Army Lt. Joseph Hatheway, who was dishonorably discharged for sexual misconduct 10 days before ending his tour of duty,

be declared unconstitutional.

The ACLU claims the court martial conviction was based upon unconstitutional grounds, including abridgement of privacy and sexual privacy, and discriminatory prosecution. The ACLU will argue that not only are sexual acts between consenting adults protected by the Constitution, but that Hatheway was convicted of violating a section of the military code—prohibiting all acts of sodomy—that is never enforced against heterosexuals, thereby denying homosexuals equal protection of the law.

The complaint also charges that the government illegally used electronic and non-electronic surveillance against both the defendant and his attorneys.

Voeller Answers Charges

Recent allegations made by the Gay Activist Alliance of New York that Bruce Voeller was using a series of debates with California state Sen. John Briggs for self-aggrandizement and to give Briggs free publicity drew a response from Voeller, former co-executive director of the National Gay Task Force and a founding member of GAA-NY.

Voeller maintains that the debates educate conservative, heterosexual audiences about homosexuality. "Each time I speak I observe the audience shift from coolness toward me to openness and then supportiveness," said Voeller.

"My experience is not that I provide Sen. Briggs with a platform," said Voeller, "but rather that Sen. Briggs provides me with an audience to educate—one I could not pull into the room by myself."

S.F. Newcomer's Group

A new service for gay men relocating in San Francisco has been opened by two men after research into the needs of newcomers.

"It's a stressful time for many," says Peter Carleton, who founded the service with Bob Reps. "We focus on key resources for finding employment, friends, a place to live, medical service and so on."

Group workshops and individual counseling are available. A premove pamphlet called *Be Prepared for San Francisco* is also available. For information write Box 31668, San Francisco, CA 94131. For local inquiries call (415) 648-5948 or (415) 221-3333 ext. 468.

Openly Gay Rabbi In San Francisco

The members of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav in San Francisco appointed Allen B. Bennett March 2 to serve as their rabbi.

Bennett, who is the first rabbi to publicly acknowledge that he is gay, was ordained at the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati (Ohio). Before coming to San Francisco, Bennett served as rabbi in Rochester (Minnesota) and as Jewish chaplain to patients in local hospitals and clinics.

In addition to his new duties at Sha'ar Zahav, Bennett is pursuing a doctoral degree at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. (An interview with Bennett will appear in the next issue of THE ADVOCATE.)

Houston Study Seeks Data on Antigay Bias

Evidence to be used in testimony later this year before the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Commission is being sought by

Operation Documentation, a project of the Houston Gay Political Caucus.

The program is designed to solicit reporting on alleged activities on the part of the Houston Police Department, including harassment, entrapment, raids or illegal surveillance.

To participate call the Operation Documentation office at (713) 526-2879; the American Civil Liberties Union at (713) 524-5925; or the Houston Human Rights League at (713) 523-6969. Case numbers, not names, will be used in the presentation of testimony.

Ottawa Center Guttled

A fire which destroyed several retail businesses in Ottawa (Ontario) Feb. 17 also gutted the Gays Of Ottawa headquarters.

The blaze—one of several recent local fires—burned the gay group's office equipment and furniture, as well as seven years' of files.

For information contact Gays Of Ottawa, Box 2919, Station D, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5W9, Canada.

Nevada Antigay Bill Now in Committee

A bill currently before the Nevada state senate Judiciary Committee would add a \$5,000 fine to conviction for same-sex consensual acts. Conviction is now a felony with a penalty of one to six years.

The antigay provision is part of an omnibus criminal revision bill. Committee members have reportedly agreed not to discuss any "substantive changes" in the bill. Members of the committee include chairperson Mel Close (D-Las Vegas), vice chairperson William Herntstadt (D-Las Vegas), Don Ashworth (D-Las Vegas), Jean Ford (D-Las Vegas), Mike Sloan (D-Las Vegas), Carl Dodge (R-Fallon), William Raggio (R-Washoe).

If the bill is passed by the senate, it will go to the Assembly Judiciary Committee, chaired by Karen Hayes, an opponent of gay rights.

Agnos Urges Calif. Commission on Gays

California state Assemblyman Art Agnos (D-San Francisco) has called on Gov. Brown to create a high-level commission on the status of gay people.

The purpose of the commission, along the lines of similar bodies set up by the governors of Oregon and Pennsylvania, would be to "conduct factual research and set down an unbiased account of the issue of gay civil rights," Agnos said.

Agnos said the commission was necessary because of "the continued distortions, misconceptions and stereotyping of gay people initiated in the mass media by Anita Bryant in Miami and brought to California by Sen. Briggs through Prop. 6." Agnos told the governor that the California Commission on Sexual Orientation "would provide a dignified, prestigious forum" for discussions of homosexuality.

Agnos's action was prompted in part by a recent committee defeat of a gay jobs discrimination bill in the state senate. Agnos is sponsoring an identical measure in the assembly (see story this issue).

Capitol sources said Gov. Brown would probably be unwilling to name such a commission. "We're now in the era of the New Discipline," said the source, "and anything that costs taxpayers money is out."

The ADVOCATE, April 19, 1979

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claimed that the book, a classic depiction of sadomasochism by Pauline Reage, "reinforces and interlocks with other acts of violence against women."

Bookstore co-owner Arleen Olshan said that the book was part of a large range of material on all aspects of sexuality that the store is committed to carrying. "We attempt to create a non-oppressive, nonjudgmental gay liberation and women's liberation bookstore, considering all the alternatives and realities within our community," Olshan said. She added that the store does not claim that everything it carries is "politically correct." "We attempt to stock everything available," Olshan said.

"I am angry," Olshan told WAVAW members at a meeting. "We are preached to as if we do not embrace feminist goals, visions or aspirations... We carry 'The Story of O' because lesbians, feminists and gay men use it."

San Jose Supe Probes Gay Fundraising Ploy

Santa Clara (California) Supervisor Dom Cortese has asked the county grand jury to investigate a fundraising scheme within the San Jose area gay community.

The plan, called "10 for 10," asks gay entertainment businesses to donate 10 per cent of their profits to defend local gay rights ordinances that face a repeal in June (see feature, Issue 288). Cortese was the only supervisor to vote against adopting the laws.

The 10 for 10 plan was initiated by Sal Accardi, owner of San Jose's only gay bathhouse, and it has split the gay community about evenly between those willing to donate to the cause and those who aren't. Accardi claims businesses that are supported by the gay community are obliged to support that community in return. "The time when businesses can come in and make profits off the gay community without supporting our rights is over," Accardi said.

Supervisor Cortese launched the probe after learning of a letter signed by a county human relations commissioner who urged a boycott of gay businesses that did not support the 10 for 10 plan. The commissioner, David Steward, wrote the letter on stationery of the California Association of Human Rights Organizations, of which he is president. Steward also listed himself as a human relations commissioner, and said there was nothing improper about his use of the official letterhead and title.

MECLA Dinner Draws Biggies, Nets \$110,000

If one of the goals of the gay political movement is to eventually become a non-issue by melting into the mainstream, then the annual MECLA fundraiser in Los Angeles March 6 was a success.

A well-heeled, sophisticated, bipartisan crowd of about 700, mostly men, attended the second annual \$150-a-plate dinner of the Municipal Election Committee of Los Angeles at the posh ballroom of the Beverly Wilshire Hotel in Beverly Hills. State and local government was well represented by several dozen elected officials and candidates, including Assembly Speaker Leo McCarthy. McCarthy assured the crowd that human rights for California's gay community are on the agenda for the 1980s. "There should

be gay representation throughout this state," he declared.

Gov. Jerry Brown had been scheduled to address the group, but instead flew to Wisconsin to resume his presidential campaign. Brown sent a telegram and a representative. Messages of support were also sent by presidential contenders Ted Kennedy and John B. Anderson.

MECLA Board Member Rand Schrader said in his closing remarks that "open gay participation in politics is what MECLA is all about." The dinner netted about \$110,000 to aid in that participation. The money is to be distributed among political candidates who support gay/lesbian rights issues. Among the officials attending the function were State Senators Alquist, Alan Robbins and Alan Sieroty, Assembly members Art Agnos, Richard Alatorre, Robert Cline, Mel Levine, Michael Toos, Herschel Rosenthal, Sally Tanner and John Vasconcellos. Also present were members of the Los Angeles City Council, community college board and school board. Receiving one of the warmest greetings of the evening was Superior Court Judge Stephen M. Lachs, a gay appointed by Gov. Brown last year.

Expressing the sentiment of MECLA members as a whole, Rand Schrader told all the politicians who were present, "You've earned our respect and support, and we shall not forget." He continued, "We are not alone in our bid for human rights, and we don't support only our own. We support all victories for human rights."

—Steve Holley

Koch Calls on Carter To Issue Progay Order

New York Mayor Ed Koch has asked President Carter to issue an executive order forbidding discrimination against homosexuals in federal jobs not covered by the 1978 Civil Service Reform Act.

The agencies in question are the FBI, CIA, National Security Agency, Foreign Service Officers of the State Department and all branches of the military.

"There is no question but that there exists prejudice and discrimination against a substantial number of women and men based solely on their sexual orientation," Koch said in his letter. "It is time for a strong response to these citizens' call for a redress of policies and practices that treat some Americans unequally."

As mayor, Koch issued such an executive order within New York City government. While a member of Congress, he introduced national gay rights legislation which has still not been approved.

SF Gay Band Wins Award, Expands

The San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps has been named first-place winner for civilian bands in 1979 by the Northern California Parade Sponsors Association. The honor is determined by the numbers of awards won throughout the year in association-sanctioned parades.

The band, composed of 150 musicians, twirlers and guard corps, received awards in the San Francisco Chinese New Year, St. Patrick's Day and Columbus Day parades, and in the Redwood City Fourth of July Parade.

A Busby Berkeley tap dance line is now being added to the band. The tap-

The ADVOCATE, April 17, 1980

Brown Names Second Judge Who Admits Homosexuality

LOS ANGELES (AP) — For Rand Schrader, being appointed a judge Thursday had nothing to do with being gay. The deputy city attorney is the second admitted homosexual judge appointed by Gov. Brown.

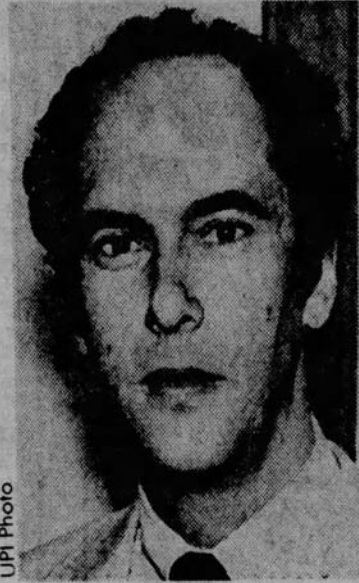
"Being gay is not going to make me a better judge — and it's not going to make a worse judge," Schrader said. "I have worked hard and I intend to work hard as a judge. I enjoy it."

Schrader, 34, began with the city attorney's office in 1974, moving up from prosecutor to administrator and a specialist in criminal law. He heads the appellate division.

"His experience, keen mind, and compassionate temperament will make him an excellent judge," City Attorney Burt Pines said.

Schrader, appointed to the Municipal Court bench, earned his law degree in 1972 at UCLA, which he also attended as an undergraduate.

He is president of the Gay Community Services Center board of directors. Stephen M. Lachs, who became the nation's first admitted gay judge



LPI Photo

RAND SCHRADER

... "I came out . . . it freed me"

with his appointment last September to Superior Court, also serves on the center's board of directors.



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Tue, Feb 22, 2022

Being Gay Hasn't Hurt His Career

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Rand Schrader, the second openly gay judge appointed by Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr., says that despite the discrimination homosexuals sometimes encounter, his homosexuality has not hurt his legal career.

"It hasn't hindered my career. I have managed to be judged by the work I do as a lawyer. And I am more than willing to stand on that," the 36-year-old deputy city attorney said in an interview Thursday after his appointment.

Schrader, began with the city attorney's office in 1974, moving up from prosecutor to administrator and a specialist in criminal law. In 1979, he was named to head the appellate division.

"His experience, keen mind, and compassionate temperament will make him an excellent judge," said City Attorney Burt Pines.

Schrader, appointed to the Municipal Court bench, earned his law degree at UCLA in 1972. He also attended UCLA as an undergraduate.

He is president of the Gay Community Services Center board of directors. Stephen M. Lachs, who became the nation's first openly gay judge with his appointment last September to Superior Court, also serves on the center's board of directors.

"I 'came out' when I was in law school," Schrader said. "I think it freed me. It gives me more energy because I don't use it to hide the fact that I'm gay. You pay a price when you do — and I won't do that."

But he added that being gay will not affect his work as a judge.

"Being gay is not going to make me a better judge — and it's not going to make a worse judge," Schrader said. "I have worked hard and I intend to work hard as a judge. I enjoy it."



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Tue, Feb 22, 2022

Gays Find Acceptance Is Growing

By KEVIN RODERICK,
Times Staff Writer

Rand Schrader, a Los Angeles Municipal judge who is gay, surveyed the packed Beverly Hills ballroom one night last fall and had to feel good about the state of the homosexual community.

About 900 people, mostly professionals and mostly gay, had paid \$200 each to dine and dance and raise a bundle of money for the Gay and Lesbian Services Center of Los Angeles, the nation's largest social agency run by and for homosexuals.

It was the best turnout ever at a center fund-raiser, and Schrader was introducing his parents to friends. "My parents haven't missed a center dinner in five years," he said proudly.



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Tue, Feb 22, 2022

Rand Schrader, 38, was named to the Los Angeles Municipal Court by former Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr., who appointed five openly gay judges in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Schrader was popular in school—president of his senior class at Venice High School. He was graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, at the height of the anti-war era, and found himself uncertain about his sexuality while at UCLA Law School.

"I didn't want to be gay, although I think I knew that I was. I'd been resisting it for the last four years.

"I didn't see any people who seemed like me. That's what I was looking for. I believed in the civil rights movement. I believed in the anti-war movement. But I wasn't comfortable because being gay was always gnawing at me and those movements were not necessarily hospitable for openly gay people.

"I wanted to find gay people who were like me. It was going to be very hard for me to say that being gay meant I had to be with a whole different class or type of person."

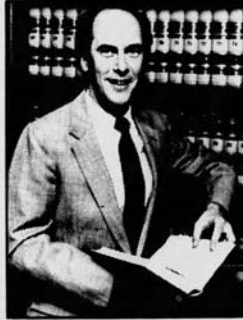
His coming-out process was eased when he discovered that he could be gay and still have intellectual friends who felt the same way he did about life, the law, the Vietnam War.

"I found there are all kinds of gay people. They're some of the brightest, most able people I know."

Schrader began living in gay men's collectives around Los Angeles. The men at one collective had decided that Los Angeles needed a gay services center and proceeded to start one that has become a prototype for gay community organizing.

When he was designated as spokesman for a gay protest against Barney's Beanery, a West Hollywood landmark which at the time displayed a sign saying that gays were not allowed, the time came to tell his parents.

"They were wonderful about it. They have been and



FITZGERALD WHITNEY / Los Angeles Times
Judge Rand Schrader

are wonderful."

After law school, he was hired by Los Angeles City Atty. Burt Pines as the first openly gay staff lawyer in the office.

Like many gays, Schrader considers it important to be open and to show society that gays are not like their stereotypical image.

He and his lover at the time held a cocktail party at their home for judges, and the gay issue was so non-controversial that one of the judges sent a note asking Schrader to thank "Mrs. Schrader" for such a nice party. He has also held parties for gay law students to show them that there are happy, successful gay attorneys and judges in Los Angeles.

"We're raised to think that homosexuals are sick, to fear they will compromise your virtue in the area we are most uncomfortable with, our sexuality. It's just like, I suppose, all of those things in generations past that white people were told about black people, 'They'll do all those terrible things to you.' Well, of course that's not true, nor is it true about gay people." Choosing to live a homosexual life is far more than deciding with whom to have sex. Schrader says it is deciding how to organize your life, with whom to socialize and whether to be truthful with the people in your life.

"Most people don't advertise they are gay," Judge Schrader said. "They don't go around and say, 'Hello, I'm gay.' They say, 'Hello, I'm Randy.' But you usually reach a point in a friendship where it must be told.

"If it's something social, it eventually comes out.

"Wherever I've gone, I've been open about being gay. And when I leave, people may not like me but they're not afraid of me."

Laura Esquivel, 25, has a daughter, Andrea, who just started kindergarten in the San Fernando Valley.

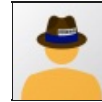
She had gotten pregnant at age 18 when she and her lover decided that they would stay together forever. They were proud to be lesbians and very much in love.

"It was the *big one*. We were going to stay together forever and ever, 'til death do us part,' and we wanted a family. You know how at 18 you think you are so in love? I had always wanted to be a mother, so there was never any question about who was going to get pregnant."

The relationship with her lover broke up when the baby was three months old. But she has few regrets.

"The hardest part about getting pregnant was how to do it."

Like many other single women who decide to have babies, she found a friend whom she considered a suitable father. He came from a large family and was willing to impregnate Esquivel and give up rights to



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JUDY GRAEME

Leaders of the Los Angeles gay community at Beverly Hilton benefit are, left to right, Duke Comegys, Bel-Air art collector and major fund-raiser; Sheldon Andelson, banker and University of California regent; Teresa de Crescenzo, chairwoman of the California Board of Behavioral Science Examiners; Stephen Schulte, former director of the Gay and Lesbian Community Service Center; Betty Berzon, Studio City therapist; Stephen Lachs, Superior Court judge, and Rand Schrader, Municipal judge.



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Tue, Feb 22, 2022

Municipal Court Judge Faces the Challenge of AIDS

■ **Disease:** Rand Schrader says he's going public to show that stricken people can live productive lives.

By TRACY WILKINSON
TIMES STAFF WRITER

As one of the few openly gay judges in California and chairman of the Los Angeles County AIDS Commission, Rand Schrader has been a ground breaker, an outspoken champion of gay and lesbian causes, a leader in his community.

Today the Municipal Court judge is facing a new challenge, the most daunting of his life: He has AIDS.

Schrader, one of Southern California's most prominent gay activists, disclosed in an interview that doctors recently diagnosed his disease. Last month, he developed Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia, a sign that the deadly disease is taking its toll.

Speaking frankly and at times with emotion, Schrader, 46, said he decided to go public with the news to show that men and women who contract AIDS can continue to

work and live productive lives.

"It's tremendously important that people who are suffering from HIV, people who have AIDS, don't get the message that they have to give up," Schrader said. "Or retire. Or hide from the world. They can't feel that others won't accept them."

In a world where discrimination and misinformation about AIDS abound, Schrader said he hoped his continued presence on the Municipal Court bench will show people that AIDS sufferers need not be segregated in a corner but that "we are right here in the midst of everybody."

The disclosure of his illness is yet another sign of how the disease has crept into all walks of life. And Schrader's announcement, his supporters say, is likely to have an impact beyond the gay community because the judge is active and well known in a number of other circles: local politics, United Way fund

raising, the legal profession.

Schrader, in an interview last week in his chambers at the downtown Criminal Courts Building, said his doctor expects him to recover fully from the pneumonia that landed him in a hospital for six days last month. He returned to part-time work last week, and planned to resume full-time duties today.

"As long as I feel that I can do it, as long as I feel I can listen to cases and apply the law and be impartial, then I will continue to do this," Schrader said.

At its busiest, his calendar can be packed with 20 cases, most of which are felony preliminary hearings.

AIDS takes an unpredictable course. Sometimes those who contract it live in good health for years; in other cases, they struggle from disease to disease.

The pneumonia was the first opportunistic infection to hit Schrader since he tested positive for the human immunodeficiency

Please see SCHRADER, B7



Los Angeles Times

Municipal Court Judge Rand Schrader, who recently learned that he has AIDS, plans to continue his work on the bench.



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Tue, Feb 22, 2022

SCHRADER: Judge Hopes to Show That People With AIDS Can Still Be Productive

Continued from B6
virus, which causes AIDS, more than two years ago. Schrader said he and his companion of nine years, businessman David Bohnett, decided to have themselves tested then as a precaution. Bohnett is healthy, Schrader said.

Schrader said court administrators and other colleagues with whom he has shared the news have been "150%" supportive. These are uncharted waters for court officials because this appears to be the first time in California that a judge has served on the bench with AIDS.

"I commend Judge Schrader's decision to step forward and announce his AIDS diagnosis," Municipal Court Presiding Judge Karl W. Jaeger said in a prepared statement. "He has demonstrated great courage in his willingness to speak out on behalf of all persons with AIDS."

For the last four years, the Municipal Court has had an anti-discrimination policy that includes AIDS sufferers. Court officials are hoping that the policy, and educational programs provided to employees, will help to prevent any prejudicial or negative reaction to Schrader's announcement.

Schrader, a thin, slightly balding man who wears glasses, said he hoped his confrontation with the disease will serve as a "learning

experience" for staff members, bailiffs, attorneys, police and others with whom he meets daily, but for whom AIDS may still seem a distant, unfamiliar threat.

"Just maybe it will be a little less foreign to them," Schrader said. "I think it makes a difference to have a picture of someone in your mind who you've been connected to in some way, and who you've talked to, and I think that makes it more real."

Schrader, a Los Angeles native, has long been active in gay rights causes. He earned his law degree from UCLA in 1973, after an undergraduate career at UC Berkeley, and went to work in the Los Angeles city attorney's office as its first openly gay staffer.

He was appointed to the bench in 1980 by Gov. Edmund G. (Jerry) Brown Jr., largely at the urging of Sheldon Andelson, a gay activist with political connections.

Andelson and Schrader had developed a lasting friendship over the years before Andelson's death in 1987 of complications from AIDS.

Schrader describes himself as one of only five openly gay judges in California, all Brown appointees.

In the early 1970s, he became involved with the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, a leading social service

agency for homosexuals, and joined its board of directors in 1977.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Ed Edelman appointed Schrader to the AIDS Commission when it was founded four years ago, and Schrader was chairman of the panel for two years until June. Two other members of the commission have died of AIDS.

As commission chairman,

he may just beat this." Schrader credits the unflinching support of family, friends and colleagues.

Yet, Schrader recounted difficult moments, the brutal reminders that he might not live to see the year 2000, the pain of facing mortality.

"There are a lot of tears when you really first get this information, when you start taking it in," Schrader said. "It changes your life to feel you're standing at the edge of the abyss."

He said he has become more serious, more caring, and more aware that life is a gift.

With his decision to go public, some activists say Schrader is opening himself to prejudice and irrational fears that the disease can be transmitted through casual contact.

"I can't imagine he won't face [the ignorance and biases that] most people who have AIDS face," said Torie Osborn, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center. But "the more people who are prominent who come out, the stronger the statement [and] the more we can cut through the myths and the AIDS phobia."

Despite the potential hardships, Schrader said his decision to go public came naturally. After his

hospitalization last month, the rumors started. He felt it was an "appropriate" moment to begin telling his family and close associates. For months, he had not talked much about having tested positive for HIV; it was another matter once he began experiencing symptoms of the disease.

"You've got to accept what it means, and what it means is that you're moving in the wrong direction health-wise," he said.

Moreover, Schrader said he decided that being less than candid about his condition would be like building a wall around himself, leading to a double life that gays have fought for years to overcome. It would have left him more alone and isolated.

Finally, he said, he felt an obligation to the men and women who have died of AIDS, and to those who live with the disease.

"It became clear to me that there is a responsibility to other people with AIDS and HIV to not make it look like I'm frightened or ashamed or that I'm going to be intimidated by the consequences of being open about this disease."

"And, ultimately, keeping it to myself somehow suggests that, if it doesn't come out until you're dying, or you're dead, [then] that's what people are left with."

'It changes your life to feel you're standing at the edge of the abyss.'

RAND SCHRADER
Municipal Court Judge

Schrader fought a sometimes-resistant Board of Supervisors to pay for increased AIDS research and to supply bleach to intravenous drug users.

"When Rand Schrader speaks, you've got to listen," Edelman said. "He got the board to listen and, most of the time, agree with him. Not always, but most of the time. He speaks with an eloquence and sincerity and a persuasiveness . . . not with bitterness."

Edelman and Schrader have known each other since the 1960s, and the supervisor recommended the judge for his job with the city

working as a way to help educate people.

Friends and colleagues, saddened and dismayed by Schrader's illness, say the judge has been able to cope largely because of an inexhaustible sense of humor and spirit of optimism.

"He's always been up," said Municipal Judge Patricia Collins, who has worked closely with Schrader for the last 2½ years.

"After he told me, I looked for signs to see whether it was affecting him psychologically. He was just very upbeat, very optimistic. I think he is still of the opinion that



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Tue, Feb 22, 2022

LOS ANGELES

Clinic Named for AIDS Activist Rand Schrader

The AIDS clinic at the Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center has been named in honor of Rand Schrader, a Los Angeles municipal judge long active in AIDS work.

The county Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a motion Tuesday to call the clinic, known as "5P21," the Rand Schrader Clinic in tribute to "his courage, his vision and his tenacity."

The motion notes that Schrader pushed for the establishment of the clinic and has served on the boards of a number of community organizations.



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Tue, Feb 22, 2022

Rand Schrader, Judge and Gay Activist, Dies at 48

■ **Law: AIDS claims Municipal Court jurist. He is remembered for eloquence and tact in fight for equal rights.**

By **BETTINA BOXALL**
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Rand Schrader, one of the first openly gay judges in California and an eloquent champion of gay and lesbian causes, died Sunday. He was 48.

Schrader died at Century City Hospital of complications from AIDS, according to family friends.

A Los Angeles native, Schrader was appointed to the Los Angeles Municipal Court bench in 1980 by former Gov. Edmund G. (Jerry) Brown Jr. and continued to preside there until April.

Schrader's gay activism and determination to be open about his sexuality dated from his days as a law student at UCLA in the early 1970s.

"I went to the dean of the Law School at UCLA and asked him: 'Will I be admitted to the Bar if I'm openly gay?'" Schrader recounted in an interview with The Times last year. The dean, though hardly enthusiastic about the

Please see SCHRADER, B3



ROBERT GABRIEL / Los Angeles Times
Municipal Court Judge Rand Schrader, who died Sunday.



Clipped By:

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Tue, Feb 22, 2022

SCHRADER: Openly Gay Judge Who Was Activist Dies at 48

Continued from B1

idea, replied that he would.

"That's how frightened we were," Schrader said, recalling the early years of the gay movement, when society and its institutions were considerably less tolerant of homosexuals.

Schrader did not retreat into the closet. After law school he was hired by former Los Angeles City Atty. Burt Pines as the first openly homosexual staff lawyer in the office.

"He was a real pioneer," Pines said. "There was a lot of pressure on him being first. I was sure at the time that the Police Department was scrutinizing him. People in the office were nervous about the situation."

But it did not take long, Pines added, for Schrader to dispel the worries. "He was a star performer. . . . In a relatively short period of time he had the respect of everyone he worked with, including real conservative prosecutors who thought they could never work with a gay."

Schrader headed the office's criminal appellate section before his appointment to the bench, all the while practicing his own brand of gay activism.

"He brought tact, rather than 'in your face,'" said Morris Kight, a veteran gay activist. "He simply went out and acted out the role of an upwardly mobile,

achieving person."

Schrader believed that it was important to be openly gay not just for his own sake, but for other gay people as well. He held parties for gay law students to show that there were happy, successful gay attorneys and judges in the city.

"Wherever I've gone, I've been open about being gay," Schrader told The Times in 1984. "And when I leave, people may not like me but they're not afraid of me."

At the same time, he worked with a number of ground-breaking gay and lesbian organizations. He joined the boards of the Municipal Elections Committee of Los Angeles, the first gay political action committee, and the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, helping it win public funding. He was named one of the first members of the Los Angeles County AIDS Commission, serving as chairman for two years.

"He spoke with great eloquence and dignity on causes that he believed in," said County Supervisor Ed Edelman, who appointed Schrader to the commission. Schrader was a driving force in the establishment of the AIDS clinic at County-USC Medical Center, and the clinic was recently renamed in his honor.

"One of his great impatiences dealt with the fact that the county was very slow in recognizing the immensity of the [AIDS] epidemic and in taking care of those who could not afford service in the private sector," said Rabbi Allen I. Freehling, who served on the commission with Schrader and lobbied the Board of Supervisors with him.

When Schrader was found to have the AIDS virus in 1991, he maintained his openness, going public with his illness and continuing his judicial work. Just as he had wanted to be a role model as a gay professional, he sought to show that those with AIDS could lead productive lives.

Even when he became so weakened he had to use a wheelchair, Schrader's passion for the gay cause endured. At the end of April he traveled to Washington with his longtime companion, businessman David Bohnett, to take part in the largest gay rights march in the history of the nation.

Schrader also is survived by his mother, Hildy Lustig of Camarillo; his father, whose name was not provided by friends; a brother, Jon Schrader of Aptos, and a sister-in-law, Marcy Schrader of Aptos.

Interment will be private. A memorial service will be planned.



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Tue, Feb 22, 2022

Event Brings an Outpouring of Pride, Love

By MICHAEL QUINTANILLA
TIMES STAFF WRITER

During an emotionally charged evening of celebration and pride that included tributes to friends and lovers lost to AIDS, supporters of the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center were honored Saturday at a gala that raised more than \$450,000.

The center is the largest organization of its kind in the world, tending to the health, legal, employment, educational, cultural and social service needs of more than 18,000 clients every month, said Glenn A. Baldwin, the center's executive director.

More than 1,100 people—gay and straight—turned out in tuxedos and gowns for the center's 28th anniversary ball at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in downtown Los Angeles.

In a moving, and rousing, acceptance speech, David Bohnett, recipient of the Rand Schrader Distinguished Achievement Award—given to one who has championed and enhanced the visibility of gays and lesbians—brought people to their feet, many wiping away tears.

(Schrader, who died of AIDS in 1993, was the first openly gay lawyer in the Los Angeles city attorney's office and one of the state's first openly gay judges. He also was Bohnett's partner. Schrader was the first recipient of the center's Distinguished Achievement Award; it was later named in his honor.)

"Eight years ago I sat at the back of a ballroom as Rand accepted this award," Bohnett recalled. "I loved Randy with all my heart. He was my beacon of truth. When he died, I did not know how I would go on. But I did."

Less than two years after Schrader's death, Bohnett founded the Internet site GeoCities, which provides free home pages to Web users. This year Media Metrix, an Internet ranking firm, named the site as one of the four most trafficked on the Web. Six months ago, Yahoo Inc. acquired GeoCities for \$4.5 billion.

Receiving the Corporate Vision Award for combating homophobia in the workplace and contributing to gay and lesbian communities was MAC Cosmetics, founded in 1985, and now owned by Estee Lauder. "MAC is more than a makeup company," said John Densley, M.A.C. president. "We're a company with soul and a strong supporter of individuality—all races, all ages, all sexes."



Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center
David Bohnett accepts an achievement award from the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center on Saturday.

He added that in the last five years, MAC has raised more than \$13 million for its MAC AIDS Fund through sales of its popular "Viva Glam" red lipstick and its "Kids Helping Kids" greeting cards program.

Guests included singers Lorna Luft and Nell Carter, state Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica), Police Chief Bernard Parks and City Councilwoman Jackie Goldberg. Comedy writer Bruce Vilanch hosted; entertainment was provided by singers Taylor Dayne, Sam Harris, Michele Lee and female impersonator Charles Busch.

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File Photo
Attorney-judge Rand Schrader, who died in 1993.

“

Eight years ago I sat at the back of a ballroom as Rand accepted this award When he died, I did not know how I would go on. But I did.

”

DAVID BOHNETT

Rand Schrader Distinguished Achievement Award Recipient



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