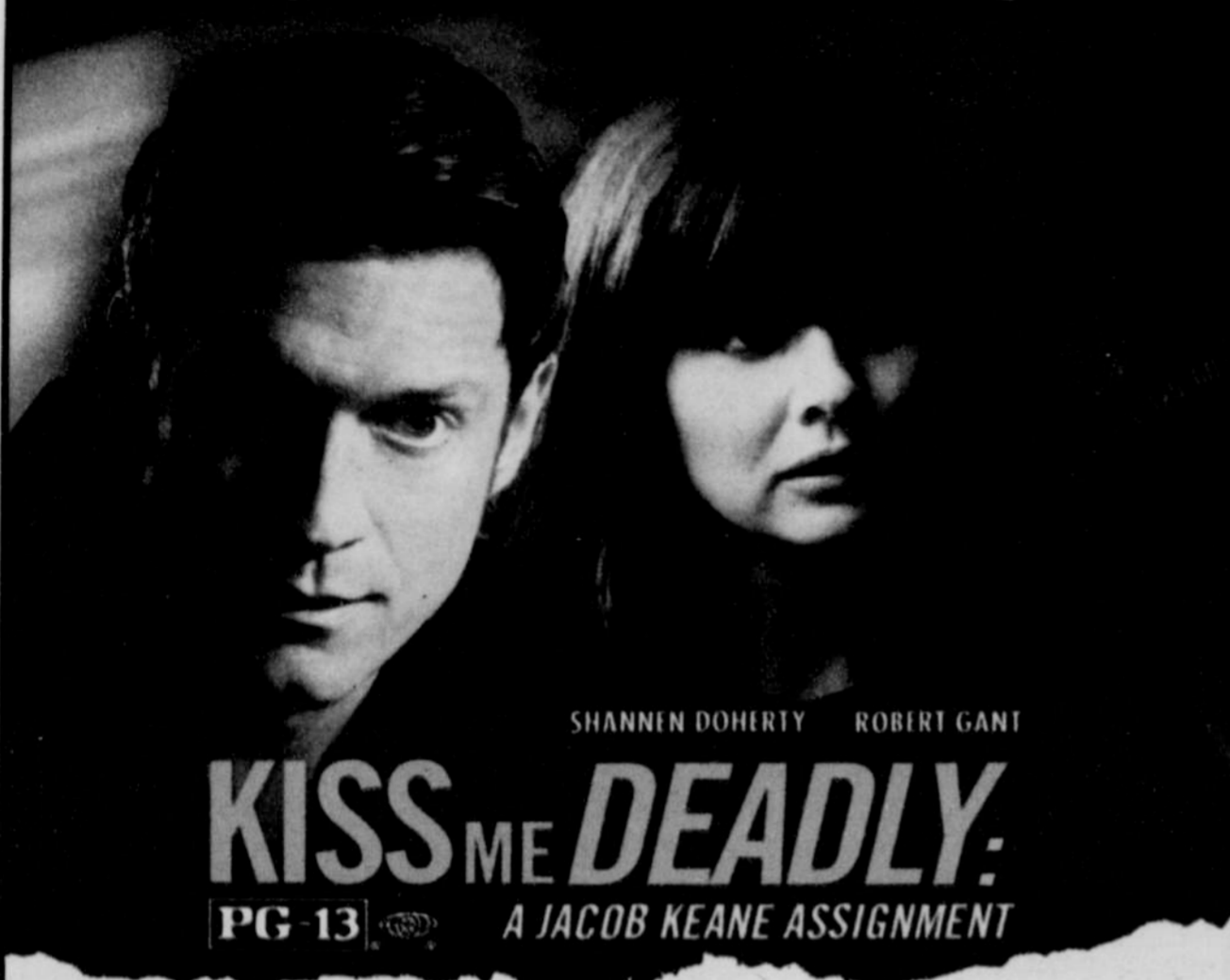


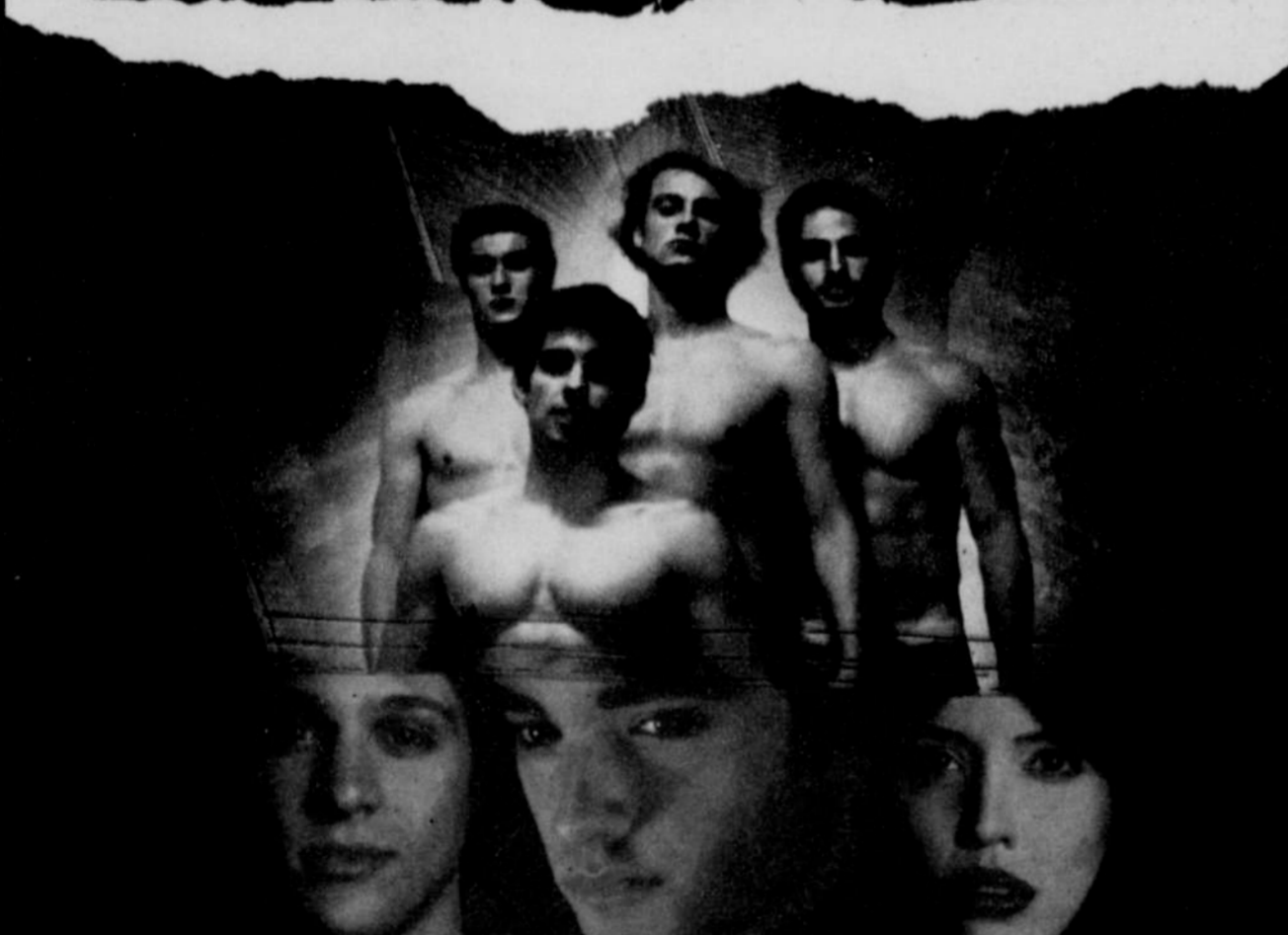
here  FILMS PRESENTS

Double Feature Night at the Movies



SHANNEN DOHERTY ROBERT GANT

KISS ME DEADLY:
A JACOB KEANE ASSIGNMENT
PG-13



Edgar Allan Poe's

HOUSE OF USHER


A FILM BY DAVID DECOTEAU

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television

The Political and the Personal

Films document queer senior citizens,
Tel Aviv clothier, roller derby revival

by Christopher McQuain

As its acknowledgment of Gay Pride Month, Sundance Channel is dedicating its weekly "DocDay" premieres to films centered on queer lives and issues. Their subjects are sometimes fun, sometimes quite serious, but always meaty and interesting. The variety of perspectives and the many examples of queer history and struggle in these films make for a great reminder of one of the principal concepts of queer visibility, activism and pride: that the political and the personal frequently intersect and are never very far away from each other.

Ten More Good Years

Ten More Good Years (9 p.m. June 16) employs a prismatic approach to tackle the oft-neglected issue of queer senior citizens, and its cumulative thoroughness adds up to an impressively wide-ranging take on the topic.

Filmmaker Michael Jacoby uses interview footage with several senior citizens—a New York City artist, a retired San Francisco building manager, an ex-sailor who became a mime and a transgender African American who was at the Stonewall riots—as the film's core. Complementary interviews with queer senior advocates and researchers detail various sociopolitical etiologies of, and potential solutions to, the problems the seniors describe.

Foremost among those problems is the very basic matter of attaining and keeping sufficient income and housing, a difficulty compounded for queer seniors by institutionalized homophobia and the tendency for the heterosexual peers of a queer senior to be "old-fashioned" (read: homophobic). Facts, figures and research underpin the real-life details of seeing one's Social Security income arbitrarily decreased, being left in near-poverty after

a partner dies or being put on a waiting list for decent public housing to open up.

In this way, the film pinpoints where the struggle of queer senior citizens dovetails with the struggle of all sexual minority people, who face direct financial discrimination from our government until same-sex partners are legally recognized at the federal level. For now, these struggles share the same fate: Jacoby follows some specific-action proposals on queer senior issues to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging, where they are stonewalled by the Bush White House.

Against this frustrating background, a picture emerges of the many ways in which our community can function as family, in addition to the ways we can do better; the generational divide between younger queers and their elders is painfully illustrated by interviews with young men who seem somewhat baffled to learn that gay lives really do go on after 30.

Ten More Good Years is "serious" public service programming that's also compelling and entertaining. Beyond the audience of queer seniors that shares the immediate concerns of the film's subjects, this is important viewing for younger queers, who, as the film illustrates, are in danger of neglecting our history by ignoring our elders.

Stefan Braun

The story documented in Itamar Alkalay's *Stefan Braun* (9 p.m. June 23) is like something out of *Dynasty*: It has forbidden love, infidelity, upper-crust glamour and a bitter battle over an inheritance. But the fact that it all happened for real makes the story less frivolous and much more deep and captivating than its soapy events might suggest.

Braun was one of Tel Aviv's most celebrated clothiers, a furrier who moved in the highest so-



Older queers celebrate San Francisco Pride in *Ten More Good Years*.