

HeatStroke

Volume 4, No. 49

Phoenix, Arizona

September 24 —October 7, 1998

How We Meet

Follow these examples & maybe you'll form a partnership



It was nothing exotic, Marty (r) says, when he met Mark, his partner of 21 years. "I just turned around on a barstool and there he was."

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

"I go out all the time but I can never meet anybody." Sound familiar? Plenty of us have been there. When we're single and don't want to be, we do love to complain.

"What do other people in the gay community do to connect?" we wonder, "where's the magic?"

It's relatively easy to get caught up in the idea that everyone else at the bar/party/whatever is coupled off, while others among us seem predestined for another evening alone.

But experts say destiny has nothing to do with it. Phoenix Psychologist Conrad Egge agrees. He says that when it comes to meeting people it's really about taking a chance, and knowing what you want.

"It takes some risk to go out there and meet somebody," Dr. Egge says.

Egge, an educator at Phoenix College and openly gay practitioner who sees "about 90 percent" gay and lesbian clients in his private practice, also doesn't buy the idea that gay people are somehow less equipped to be effective in the dating world than non-gays.

"In my practice I work with people who meet everywhere, just like straight people do. Walking the dog, in a grocery store—it's not that different from the non-gay world." Egge thinks the gay dating world may even be more manageable than the non-gay world, in some ways, because it's a tighter community.

He says the key is to be open to meeting anywhere and not to look for a specific type of person.

People complain and wish they

were in a relationship, he says, but ask them what they mean by that, and it turns out they haven't really defined it. "Ask yourself what kind of relationship that would be."

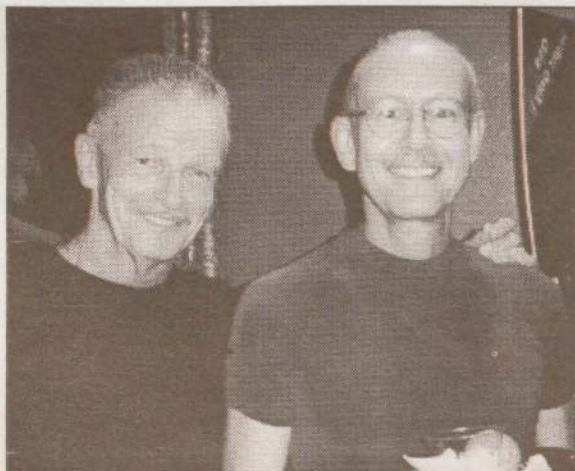
He says knowing what you want emotionally and romantically from another person and then doing away with physical requirements such as height, age, and hair color is an important step in connecting.

"I tell people not to look for a mate," he says, "Instead, look for a friend."

Egge always advises people who want relationships to build their social networks. "Look into professional organizations, join a social club, explore non-bar venues where people can meet."

It could happen hiking, it could be while bowling, he says, but when you are looking for friendship, period, you are far more likely to connect with people. "I think our community today offers lots of places to play," he adds.

When it comes to the doctor's own



Dr. Conrad Egge (l) with his partner, Dr. Bob Fernie. Dr. Egge made his move in 1991 at a professional convention in San Francisco.

relationship status Egge practices what he, um, practices.

"I first met Bob at a Desert Adventures meeting," he relates. Bob is Dr. Bob Fernie, a Phoenix Psychologist who shares not only a home with Dr. Egge, but a practice as well (the couple's counseling partnership also includes Dr. Jean Parsons).

"We met and said hello, but didn't connect until about three years later." Not until both were attending a convention of the American Psychologists Association in San Francisco. "I walked into a room where Bob was listening to a presentation. The attraction was there and I thought, 'Why haven't I ever asked him out?'"

That was in 1991. Egge approached and did the asking. Fernie accepted. The men went out for coffee, which Egge says lasted about three hours. "He asked me a lot of questions and we really got to know each other. And that's where our relationship began."

Want another example? Good. How about 15?

We asked more than a dozen real-life, same-sex

couples to share the stories of where they met and who approached whom.

There's a lot of variety in the status of these relationships. One pair of respondents was on their first date. Others taking part in our entirely unscientific and decidedly informal survey are celebrating 20 year-plus commitments.

The locations probably won't surprise you. For the most part (and despite Dr. Egge's great suggestions) a lot of gay men and lesbians are apparently still meeting in bars.

What is somewhat surprising is the universality of the stories.

In most cases, there was no strong sense of romance or destiny at work. Instead, someone was simply willing to answer a glance, cross the room or make that basic introduction. And someone else responded in kind.

Check out their examples and maybe you'll be inspired to stop complaining, forget about looking for that magical Mr./Ms. Right, and start looking for friends. And don't be afraid to risk the first "Hello."

These folks weren't:

Deb, 38, Stock Broker
Kim, 33, Travel agent
Status: Together two years
How they met: At San Francisco Pride

Deb noticed Kim at the huge festival with a group she recognized from Phoenix. "I thought she was cute, so I went over. It turned out she lived

See "That first meeting," page 12

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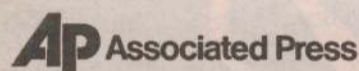
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Horowitz:

Dear Mr. President

I cried when I heard you on the campaign trail.

You spoke to gay and lesbian leaders in Los Angeles prior to the 1992 presidential election. Until that day, I never believed that a politician with a chance of winning a national election would court the gay vote, much less make specific promises to our community.

You said two things during that speech that moved me beyond measure. You said that this great country didn't have a single person to waste. You also decreed, "I have a vision for this country, and you are a part of it." I wrote a check for all I could afford and promptly sent it off to your campaign.

That was my first campaign contribution ever.

I followed the campaign with interest and passion. I watched the Democratic National Convention and wept

You are more morally fit to lead this nation than Ronald Reagan or George Bush, who passively watched while thousands died of AIDS

again when you uttered the words "gay" and "lesbian" from the podium. Your courage inspired me, and I sent off another campaign contribution.

On Election Day I voted first thing in the morning. I remember a hopeful and electric energy in the air as I waited in line for over an hour to cast my vote for you. I worked all day unable to concentrate on anything but getting home to watch early returns. By dinnertime in Arizona, two of the three networks had declared that you the winner.

Before I knew it, I wept tears of joy. You were the first president that I voted for, and I knew in my heart that you would be my president.

You intended to keep your promises to the gay community, and you started out with a bang by overturning the ban on gays in the military within the first 30 days of your presidency. I know that things didn't work out the way you intended, but I really believe that you did the best you could under the circumstances.

You have done more for human and civil rights than any president since Kennedy. If Kennedy had survived two terms, I don't know if he would have left the great legacies he did or if he would have been nailed for sexual indiscretions.

The troubles you currently face disappoint me deeply. I have such mixed feelings about the entire series of events. Until more recently than I like to admit, I believed every word you said—even that you didn't inhale.

I thought it impossible that you would cheat on Hillary with the likes of Paula Jones or Monica Lewinsky. I thought Ken Starr and Linda Tripp personified pure evil, and I still believe that no person could survive a hatchet man with \$40 million available solely for the purpose of bringing you down. I absolutely hate that you lied.

You lied regardless of the legal maneuvering, which I completely understand. You went against the specific advice that I've given every client I represented in a deposition or court proceeding. I tell my clients, "Just tell the truth. There's no mistake or error in judgment that we can't deal with as long as you tell the truth." Anything else constitutes pure stupidity.

As a result of your stupidity, many people believe that you are not fit to continue as the moral leader of the United States. I vehemently disagree. You are more morally fit to lead this nation than Ronald Reagan or George Bush, who passively watched while thousands died of AIDS. I am unwilling to cast stones, because you made a series of incredibly human mistakes. Your humanity makes you less perfect than many think the president ought to be.

Your humanity also makes you the most successful and inspirational leader of the free world in a long time. Recent reports indicate that the African-American community firmly stands behind you. I hope the gay and lesbian community does the same. Come as clean as you can as quickly as possible and finish out your presidency with as much dignity, honor and grace as you can muster.

"President Gore" sounds wonderful to me. But I'd just as soon wait until the next regular presidential election to cast my vote for him.

David Horowitz is a Phoenix attorney and President of the Lesbian and Gay Public Awareness Project.

Editors:

In regard to the article (issue #48, Sept. 10-23) about Coffee Plantation's new policy on reading material distributed in their stores:

I am the owner of a coffee house in downtown Phoenix, The Willow House. We too are concerned with displaying material that may appear pornographic. We simply do not think, with our large juvenile clientele, that our coffee house is the appropriate outlet for questionable material.

However, we gladly display HeatStroke and Java magazine among our free reading selections. We do not find these publications to be questionable or offensive.

We provide reading material that represents the lifestyles of our customers. More importantly, we try not to interject our politics upon our establishment. It is our

responsibility to support our community. We believe The Willow House and its contents represent that community.

Jennifer J. Pfeifer
Phoenix

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Either way, you'll need to include your full name and address. We'll print only your city, and will withhold your name if you ask us to. Letters may be edited for length, grammar and clarity.

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Seeing/Being Scene, page 17

Victory Fund candidates win 10 out of 14 races in Sept. 15 primaries

Washington, DC—

Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund candidates nationwide won their primaries and exhibited large margins and a great show of support from

ing in the footsteps of San Diego City Councilwoman Christine Kehoe, who won the Democratic nomination for California's 49th District seat in June, and Wisconsin State Assemblywoman

Council At Large] in his bid for reelection. In a stunning special election upset last December, Catania was elected as Washington D.C.'s first openly gay councilmember defeating

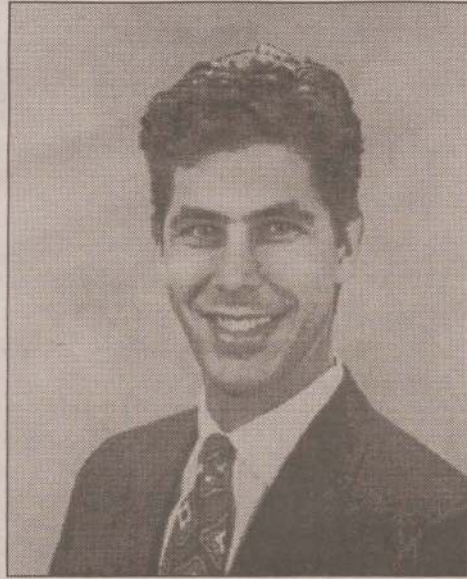
climbs in his bid for Massachusetts State Auditor. Upon election, Duffy would become Massachusetts' first openly gay statewide official and only the second openly gay statewide offi-



Wisconsin Democrat Tammy Baldwin

voters around the country.

Among the winners was Grethe Cammermeyer who won the Democratic primary for Washington's 2nd District seat by a margin of more than 2 to 1. This historic win makes Cammermeyer the Victory Fund's third openly lesbian Congressional candidate to advance to this year's November 3 general elections, follow-



Massachusetts Democrat Jarrett Barrios

Tammy Baldwin, who the Democratic primary for Wisconsin's open 2nd District seat.

In addition, Democrat Jim Graham, Executive Director of the Whitman-Walker Clinic, won the hotly contested race for Washington, DC City Council [Ward 2]. Graham joins Victory Fund endorsed Republican David Catania [DC City



Washington DC Republican David Catania

his well-known Democratic opponent in a city where Democrats outnumber Republicans 11 to 1.

Massachusetts voters also came out in strong numbers to support Victory Fund candidates. Democrats Liz Malia and Jarrett Barrios won their respective primaries in the race for Massachusetts State House while Republican Mike Duffy's popularity

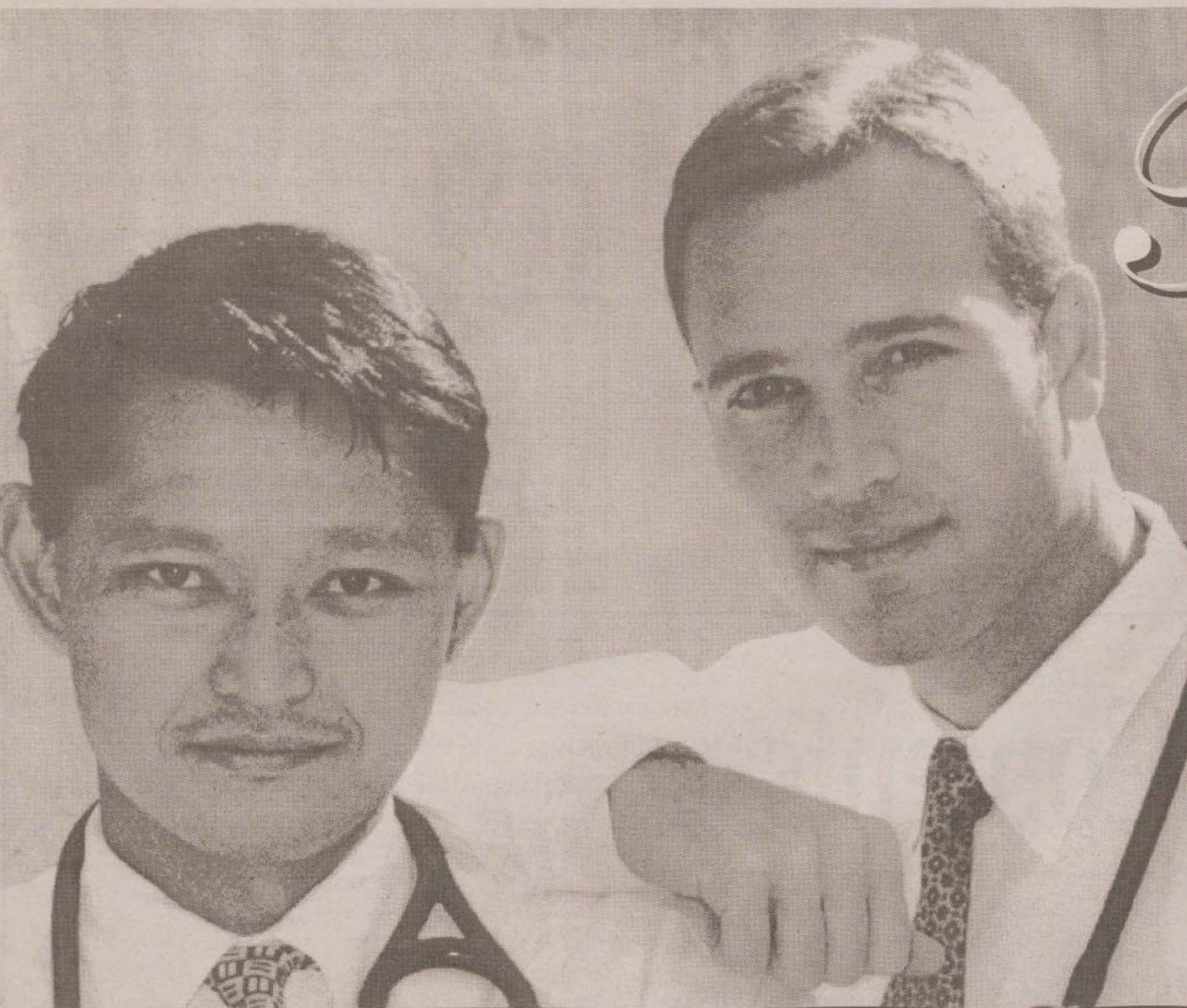


Massachusetts Democrat Liz Malia.

cial in the country.

Other Victory Fund candidates who won their September 15 primaries are: Tom Duane [D] for New York State Senate; Mike Pisaturo [D] for Rhode Island State House; Evelyn Mantilla [D] for Connecticut State House; Karen Clark [D] for Minnesota State House.

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unique opportunity to elect qualified and effective individuals to public office," says Victory Fund Executive Director Brian K. Bond. "If the results of the primaries are any indication, fairminded voters nationwide intend to be heard. Common concerns and getting the job done, not sexual orientation, are today's issues."

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund is the only national organization whose sole mission is to increase the number of qualified



Washington DC Democrat Jim Graham

openly gay and lesbian candidates in public office. The country's 14th largest non-connected PAC, the Victory Fund has generated more than \$2 million for qualified openly gay and lesbian candidates at all levels of government since its inception in 1991.

Early Victory Fund Winners (elections as of 9/15):

Neil Giuliano [R], Mayor of Tempe, Arizona; Liz Malia [D] Massachusetts State House; Gary Resnick [D] Wilton Manors (FL) City Council; Kevin Dowling [D] Hayward (CA) City Council; Bonnie Dumanis [R] San Diego Superior Court; Ken Hahn [D] Los Angeles County Assessor; Victoria Sigler [D] Dade County Court; Scott Bernstein [D] Dade County Court.

Victory Fund Candidate Elections on November 3:

Christine Kehoe [D] for U.S. Congress [CA-49]; Michael Quint [D] for Maine State House Mark Leno [D] for San Francisco Supervisor; Tom Ammiano [D] for San Francisco Supervisor; Peter Kreysa [D] for Los Angeles Municipal Water District; Tammy Baldwin [D] for U.S. Congress [WI-2]; Steve May [R] for Arizona State House; Mark Pocan [D] for Wisconsin State Assembly; Mike Duffy [R] for Massachusetts State Auditor; Margarethe Cammermeyer [D] for U.S. Congress [WA-2]; Tom Duane [D] for New York State Senate; Mike Pisaturo [D] for Rhode Island State House; Evelyn Mantilla [D] for Connecticut State House; Jarrett Barrios [D] for Massachusetts State House; Liz Malia [D] for Massachusetts State House; Jim Graham [D] for Washington D.C. City Council; David Catania [R] for Washington D.C. City Council; Karen Clark [D] for Minnesota State House.

PBP honors top volunteer

Phoenix Body Positive presented its Randy Rothfus Volunteer of the Year Award to Tom Gustafson in an afternoon ceremony at the Phoenix Art Museum Sept. 17.



Tom Gustafson was honored with PBP's Randy Rothfus Volunteer of the Year Award on Sept. 17.

The 2nd Annual Volunteer Recognition Evening began with guided tours of the museum's Phoenix Triennial exhibit. Guests then moved into the museum's

Arizona Taste cafe for the volunteer of the year presentation.

Planners kept Gustafson's name secret until the last possible minute. Executive Director Brian Spicker called the recognized volunteer, "Someone we can always count on in a pinch." He added that Gustafson's "talents are really unlimited" and said he is "conscientious and dedicated."

CBPA earns spot on Journal's list

The Camelback Business and Professional Association, a Phoenix area gay and lesbian organization, made number 9 on the *Arizona Business Journal's* list of the Top 25 Networking Organizations in Arizona. The list was released Aug. 28.

"This is the first time CBPA has been on the list and it's a good indication of our growth," said CBPA President Gregg Edleman. "It's important because the *Business Journal* has always been kind of con-

servative, so to see the words 'gay and lesbian' in there shows people that we are organized and visible in the business community."

Edleman said the list was based on membership, and that CBPA came in ninth place overall with 230 members. He said it is good for the group to become more visible in the non-gay community, and expects both the membership and recognition of the organization to continue to grow.

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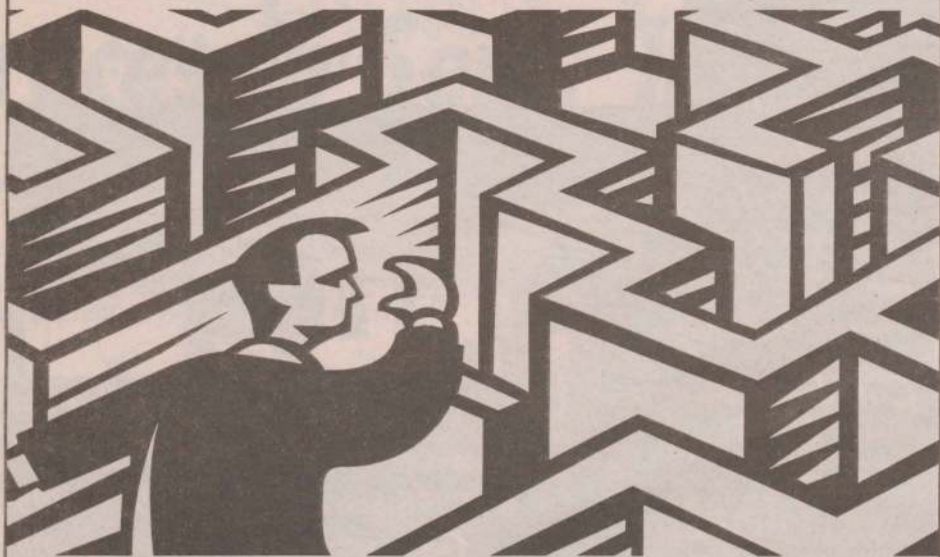
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Politically Speaking



Arizona Human Rights Fund

By Kathie Gummere, HeatStroke contributor

The primaries are behind us and candidates endorsed by the Arizona Human Rights Fund (AHRF) did very well. Of 74 candidates supported, 67 won. That's a very good showing, and an indication that we can make a difference.

Many gay men and lesbians helped to make that happen. From fund raising to pamphlet distribution, from phone calling to registering voters, many in our community got out and supported candidates that have been friends to us and/or are supportive of our rights.

This is where the real political power comes from. When politicians see that a certain group of people can and do vote, raise money and

**Now is not the time to
back off. We must
continue to campaign
and get out and vote in
the general election.**

volunteer time, those politicians pay attention. They listen to what is being said, and by whom.

It is easy to sit back and criticize the officials elected from the extreme right wing, but they get elected due to the hard work and financial contributions of the people who believe in the "values" they espouse. Those politicians then listen to the constituency that elected them.

We can have the same effect. We can elect people who believe that we should be treated as equal citizens in every way. We can do that by: registering to vote, volunteering to work on campaigns, volunteering at AHRF to prepare mailings or staff phone banks, telling our friends and acquaintances which candidates are supportive of the GLBT community, supporting our candidates financially, and finally, getting out the vote.

Steve May's recent primary win is an example how we can make a difference. Steve May, an openly gay man running for the office of State

Representative for Dist. 26, not only won the primary but received far more votes than any of the 6 other candidates in that race.

There are many people who said that Arizona would never elect an openly gay Republican to state office. They were wrong.

Considering that Dist. 26 has never elected a Democrat to that office, it appears likely that Steve will also win in the general election. If Ken Chevront also wins re-election in Dist. 25, (as it appears he will), that will mean the "conservative state of Arizona" will have two openly gay men in the legislature, and one in each party caucus!

But now is not the time to back off. We must continue to campaign and get out and vote in the general election.

There are many candidates and issues that AHRF is supporting in the general election, and all of them would appreciate your support. Janet Napolitano's campaign for Attorney General is just one of the races that may be close. She is strongly endorsed by AHRF.

AHRF and AHRF-endorsed candidates need your help prior to the election. Please consider volunteering a few hours of your time between now and election day. It is lots of fun, and may change your perspective on the election process.

It is a very different feeling watching election results when you have a vested interest in one or more of the candidates. Please call AHRF at 650-0900 and volunteer. Or call the campaign headquarters of any candidate or issue that particularly interests you.

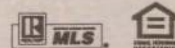
Being visible as workers, voters and contributors is the best way to get the attention of any governmental official.

Kathie Gummere is a Phoenix attorney practicing in the area of wills, trusts and estates for the gay & lesbian community. She receives e-mail at kgrn@goodnet.com

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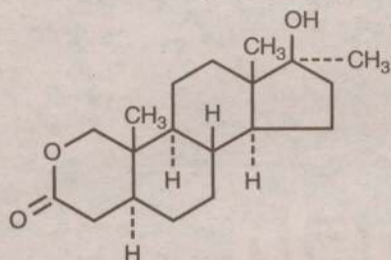
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4. Nephrosis, the nephrotic phase of nephritis.
5. Hypercalcemia.

WARNINGS

PELIOSIS HEPATIS, A CONDITION IN WHICH LIVER AND SOMETIMES SPLENIC TISSUE IS REPLACED WITH BLOOD-FILLED CYSTS, HAS BEEN REPORTED IN PATIENTS RECEIVING ANDROGENIC ANABOLIC STEROID THERAPY. THESE CYSTS ARE SOMETIMES PRESENT WITH MINIMAL HEPATIC DYSFUNCTION, BUT AT OTHER TIMES THEY HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH LIVER FAILURE. THEY ARE OFTEN NOT RECOGNIZED UNTIL LIFE-THREATENING LIVER FAILURE OR INTRA-ABDOMINAL HEMORRHAGE DEVELOPS. WITHDRAWAL OF DRUG USUALLY RESULTS IN COMPLETE DISAPPEARANCE OF LESIONS.

LIVER CELL TUMORS ARE ALSO REPORTED. MOST OFTEN THESE TUMORS ARE BENIGN AND ANDROGEN-DEPENDENT, BUT FATAL MALIGNANT TUMORS HAVE BEEN REPORTED. WITHDRAWAL OF DRUG OFTEN RESULTS IN REGRESSION OR CESSATION OF PROGRESSION OF THE TUMOR. HOWEVER, HEPATIC TUMORS ASSOCIATED WITH ANDROGENS OR ANABOLIC STEROIDS ARE MUCH MORE VASCULAR THAN OTHER HEPATIC TUMORS AND MAY BE SILENT UNTIL LIFE-THREATENING INTRA-ABDOMINAL HEMORRHAGE DEVELOPS. BLOOD LIPID CHANGES THAT ARE KNOWN TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH INCREASED RISK OF ATHEROSCLEROSIS ARE SEEN IN PATIENTS TREATED WITH ANDROGENS OR ANABOLIC STEROIDS. THESE CHANGES INCLUDE DECREASED HIGH-DENSITY LIPOPROTEINS AND SOMETIMES INCREASED LOW-DENSITY LIPOPROTEINS. THE CHANGES MAY BE VERY MARKED AND COULD HAVE A SERIOUS IMPACT ON THE RISK OF ATHEROSCLEROSIS AND CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE.

Cholestatic hepatitis and jaundice may occur with 17-alpha-alkylated androgens at a relatively low dose. If cholestatic hepatitis with jaundice appears or if liver function tests become abnormal, oxandrolone should be discontinued and the etiology should be determined. Drug-induced jaundice is reversible when the medication is discontinued.

In patients with breast cancer, anabolic steroid therapy may cause hypercalcemia by stimulating osteolysis. Oxandrolone therapy should be discontinued if hypercalcemia occurs.

Edema with or without congestive heart failure may be a serious complication in patients with pre-existing cardiac, renal, or hepatic disease. Concomitant administration of adrenal cortical steroid or ACTH may increase the edema.

In children, androgen therapy may accelerate bone maturation without producing compensatory gain in linear growth. This adverse effect results in compromised adult height. The younger the child, the greater the risk of compromising final mature height. The effect on bone maturation should be monitored by assessing bone age of the left wrist and hand every 6 months (See **PRECAUTIONS: Laboratory tests**).

Geriatric patients treated with androgenic anabolic steroids may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hypertrophy and prostatic carcinoma.

ANABOLIC STEROIDS HAVE NOT BEEN SHOWN TO ENHANCE ATHLETIC ABILITY.

PRECAUTIONS

General:

Women should be observed for signs of virilization (deepening of the voice, hirsutism, acne, clitoromegaly). Discontinuation of drug therapy at the time of evidence of mild virilism is necessary to prevent irreversible virilization. Some virilizing changes in women are irreversible even after prompt discontinuance of therapy and are not prevented by concomitant use of estrogens. Menstrual irregularities may also occur.

Anabolic steroids may cause suppression of clotting factors II, V, VII, and X, and an increase in prothrombin time.

Information for patients:

The physician should instruct patients to report any of the following side effects of androgens:

Males: Too frequent or persistent erections of the penis, appearance or aggravation of acne.

Females: Hoarseness, acne, changes in menstrual periods, or more facial hair.

All patients: Nausea, vomiting, changes in skin color, or ankle swelling.

Laboratory tests:

Women with disseminated breast carcinoma should have frequent determination of urine and serum calcium levels during the course of therapy (See **WARNINGS**).

Because of the hepatotoxicity associated with the use of 17-alpha-alkylated androgens, liver function tests should be obtained periodically.

Periodic (every 6 months) x-ray examinations of bone age should be made during treatment of children to determine the rate of bone maturation and the effects of androgen therapy on the epiphyseal centers.

Serum lipids and high-density lipoprotein cholesterol determinations should be done periodically as androgenic anabolic steroids have been reported to increase low-density lipoproteins. Serum cholesterol levels may increase during therapy. Therefore, caution is required when administering these agents to patients with a history of myocardial infarction or coronary artery disease. Serial determinations of serum cholesterol should be made and therapy adjusted accordingly.

Hemoglobin and hematocrit should be checked periodically for polycythemia in patients who are receiving high doses of anabolic steroids.

Drug interactions

Anticoagulants: Anabolic steroids may increase sensitivity to oral anticoagulants. Dosage of the anticoagulant may have to be decreased in order to maintain desired prothrombin time. Patients receiving oral anticoagulant therapy require close monitoring, especially when anabolic steroids are started or stopped.

Oral hypoglycemic agents:

Oxandrolone may inhibit the metabolism of oral hypoglycemic agents.

Adrenal steroids or ACTH:

In patients with edema, concomitant administration with adrenal cortical steroids or ACTH may increase the edema.

Drug/Laboratory test interactions:

Anabolic steroids may decrease levels of thyroxine-binding globulin, resulting in decreased total T₄ serum levels and increased resin uptake of T₃ and T₄. Free thyroid hormone levels remain unchanged. In addition, a decrease in PBI and radioactive iodine uptake may occur.

Carcinogenesis, mutagenesis, impairment of fertility

Animal data:

Oxandrolone has not been tested in laboratory animals for carcinogenic or mutagenic effects. In 2-year chronic oral rat studies, a dose-related reduction of spermatogenesis and decreased organ weights (testes, prostate, seminal vesicles, ovaries, uterus, adrenals, and pituitary) were shown.

Human data:

Liver cell tumors have been reported in patients receiving long-term therapy with androgenic anabolic steroids in high doses (See **WARNINGS**). Withdrawal of the drugs did not lead to regression of the tumors in all cases.

Geriatric patients treated with androgenic anabolic steroids may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hypertrophy and prostatic carcinoma.

Pregnancy:

Teratogenic effects—Pregnancy Category X (See **CONTRAINDICATIONS**).

Nursing mothers:

It is not known whether anabolic steroids are excreted in human milk. Because of the potential of serious adverse reactions in nursing infants from oxandrolone, a decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother.

Pediatric use:

Anabolic agents may accelerate epiphyseal maturation more rapidly than linear growth in children and the effect may continue for 6 months after the drug has been stopped. Therefore, therapy should be monitored by x-ray studies at 6-month intervals in order to avoid the risk of compromising adult height. Androgenic anabolic steroid therapy should be used very cautiously in children and only by specialists who are aware of the effects on bone maturation (See **WARNINGS**).

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The following adverse reactions have been associated with use of anabolic steroids:

Hepatic: Cholestatic jaundice with, rarely, hepatic necrosis and death. Hepatocellular neoplasms and peliosis hepatitis with long-term therapy (See **WARNINGS**). Reversible changes in liver function tests also occur including increased bromsulfophthalein (BSP) retention, and increases in serum bilirubin, aspartate aminotransferase (AST, SGOT) and alkaline phosphatase.

In males:

Prepubertal: Phallic enlargement and increased frequency or persistence of erections.

Postpubertal: Inhibition of testicular function, testicular atrophy and oligospermia, impotence, chronic priapism, epididymitis, and bladder irritability.

In females:

Clitoral enlargement, menstrual irregularities.

CNS: Habituation, excitation, insomnia, depression, and changes in libido.

Hematologic: Bleeding in patients on concomitant anticoagulant therapy.

Breast: Gynecomastia.

Larynx: Deepening of the voice in females.

Hair: Hirsutism and male pattern baldness in females.

Skin: Acne (especially in females and prepubertal males).

Skeletal: Premature closure of epiphyses in children (See **PRECAUTIONS: Pediatric use**).

Fluid and electrolytes: Edema, retention of serum electrolytes (sodium chloride, potassium, phosphate, calcium).

Metabolic/Endocrine: Decreased glucose tolerance (See **PRECAUTIONS: Laboratory tests**), increased creatinine excretion, increased serum levels of creatinine phosphokinase (CPK). Masculinization of the fetus. Inhibition of gonadotropin secretion.

OVERDOSAGE

No symptoms or signs associated with overdosage have been reported. It is possible that sodium and water retention may occur.

The oral LD₅₀ of oxandrolone in mice and dogs is greater than 5,000 mg/kg. No specific antidote is known, but gastric lavage may be used.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Therapy with anabolic steroids is adjunctive to and not a replacement for conventional therapy. The duration of therapy with Oxandrin (oxandrolone) will depend on the response of the patient and the possible appearance of adverse reactions. Therapy should be intermittent.

Adults: The usual adult dosage of Oxandrin is one 2.5-mg tablet 2 to 4 times daily. However, the response of individuals to anabolic steroids varies, and a daily dosage of as little as 2.5 mg or as much as 20 mg may be required to achieve the desired response. A course of therapy of 2 to 4 weeks is usually adequate. This may be repeated intermittently as indicated.

Children: For children the total daily dosage of Oxandrin is ≤0.1 mg per kilogram body weight or ≤0.045 mg per pound of body weight. This may be repeated intermittently as indicated.

HOW SUPPLIED

Oxandrin 2.5-mg tablets are oval, white, and scored with BTG on one side and "11" on each side of the scoreline on the other side; bottles of 100 (NDC 54396-111-11).

Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.

Revised: Aug. 30, 1996

Manufactured for
 BTG Pharmaceuticals by:
 G.D. Searle & Co.
 Chicago, IL 60680

Address medical inquiries to:
 BTG Pharmaceuticals
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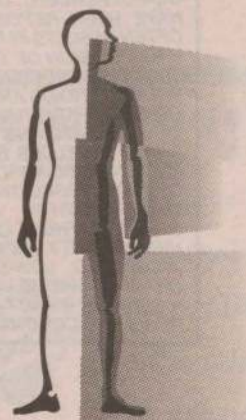
Precautions and Warnings from the OXANDRIN® (oxandrolone, USP) CIII Package Insert

In patients receiving androgenic anabolic steroid therapy, 1) peliosis hepatis, a condition in which the liver and sometimes splenic tissue is replaced with blood-filled cysts, has been reported; 2) liver cell tumors are also reported; 3) blood lipid changes that are known to be associated with increased risk of atherosclerosis are seen. See Warnings and Precautions sections of complete prescribing information.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: 1) known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate or the male breast; 2) carcinoma of the breast in females with hypercalcemia (androgenic anabolic steroids may stimulate osteolytic bone resorption); 3) pregnancy, because of possible masculinization of the fetus. Oxandrin has been shown to cause embryotoxicity, fetotoxicity, infertility, and masculinization of female animal offspring when given in doses 9 times the human dose; 4) nephrosis of nephrotic phase of nephritis; 5) hypercalcemia

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Please see important information on the following page.

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*After weight loss due to extensive surgery, chronic infection, severe trauma, failure to gain or maintain normal weight without definite pathophysiologic reasons, or protein catabolism due to prolonged corticosteroid administration.

FDA approves new AIDS treatment

WASHINGTON (AP)

AIDS patients got an easier-to-swallow drug Sept. 17 as the Food and Drug Administration approved a new once-a-day medicine that offers the first good alternative for patients who cannot take today's best AIDS treatment.

DuPont Pharmaceuticals' Sustiva appears to be about as effective as protease inhibitors, the landmark medicines that have helped thousands of HIV patients rebound from their disease, the FDA said. And because it's taken only once daily, Sustiva could significantly cut the number of pills AIDS patients now swallow.

"It really gives some flexibility and some new options for patients," said Dr. Heidi Jolson, FDA's antiviral chief.

But the FDA warned that patients shouldn't race to switch to Sustiva if they're doing well on other AIDS medications.

The HIV virus relentlessly mutates to overcome drug treatment, meaning patients must take a drug until it quits working—not switching on the spur of the moment—so they don't exhaust their options too quickly, stressed AIDS expert Dr. Anthony Fauci of the National Institutes of Health.

But for newly diagnosed patients, or those whose current cocktail of AIDS medicines is failing or causing too many side effects, Sustiva offers a good option, he said.

In a six-month study of 450 patients taking the standard drugs

AZT and 3TC plus either Sustiva or the most popular protease inhibitor, Crixivan, both therapies were equally effective.

The FDA approved Sustiva, known chemically as efavirenz, for both adults and children. It is to be taken with a protease inhibitor and/or older AIDS medicines.

The Sustiva portion of that cocktail will cost almost \$4,000 a year. DuPont says the price is midrange for AIDS drugs, and that Sustiva therapy could save up to \$500 a year over Crixivan cocktails. DuPont also promised a treatment assistance program for poor patients, but would not reveal details.

But some AIDS activists attacked the price; the group Act Up wrote DuPont threatening protests to "reveal your greed."

Sustiva "addresses some important issues in the lives of people with HIV, including the complexity of taking a large number of drugs," said Daniel Zingale of AIDS Action. "But I don't think the company went far enough in fair pricing. ... They could price it lower and still make a profit."

Typical HIV patients swallow some 20 pills throughout the day to combat the virus, timed carefully to take some with meals and some without. They may also take additional medicines to prevent HIV-caused infections. Missing even a few antiviral pills, however, allows the HIV to mutate and become more difficult to treat.

Sustiva is taken just once a day, in three capsules, whenever it's convenient. DuPont also is developing a

formulation that will require only a single tablet a day.

Easing patients' "pill burden" may be Sustiva's main advance. With it, some patients may get by on just five pills a day.

"I have some patients who absolutely will only take medicine twice a day," said Dr. Donald Poretz of Virginia's Inova Fairfax Hospital. "This is a nice addition."

Half of Sustiva patients suffer dizziness, insomnia, impaired concentration, abnormal dreams and drowsiness. Therefore, patients should con-

sider taking Sustiva at bedtime, the FDA said, and definitely avoid driving or operating machinery if they suffer the side effects.

These are milder side effects than many AIDS drugs cause, and unlike other drugs they usually disappear over time, the FDA said.

But FDA's Jolson cautioned that Sustiva can also cause some severe side effects, and that it has been studied for only six months. Longer use of AIDS drugs typically turns up more problems.

Rita's reaches out with rainbows

Every September, Aunt Rita's Foundation teams with Miller Brands of Phoenix in order to raise awareness and money for people living with HIV/AIDS through the Rainbows for Relief program.

Most of the Valley's gay bars take part by selling individualized "Rainbow" stickers for \$1 each throughout the month. A series of parties are also held, rotating at each of the bars and featuring specials on Miller products and the sales of the stickers.

There are three more parties this month (see the ad on pg. 16 of this issue for details) and the final party bash will be held at Cash Inn Country on Oct. 16. The

sales of the stickers goes directly to Aunt Rita's, a Phoenix-based non-profit organization that provides assistance to people with HIV/AIDS.

A portion of the sales of Miller products in all the participating bars throughout the month also goes to the organization. The final tallies and the bars that sold the most rainbows will be announced at the final party.



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- HIV 505 - Continuing Education through POSITIVE EVENTS

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Goings On

News & Events of Interest to the Phoenix Queer Community

Castles n' Coasters Oct. 4: Don't miss it

Gentle Shepherd Metropolitan Community Church is bringing "The Invasion", a day of play for Valley gays and lesbians (and anyone else who knows how to have fun with us), to the Castles n' Coasters theme park in north Phoenix on Sunday, Oct. 4.

This new community outing is sponsored by the same folks who host the annual "Our Day at Big Surf" party in the Valley every summer, and organizers are looking for another great turnout. The park, near Metrocenter at I-17 and Dunlap, features nine acres of unlimited rides and putt putt golf.

Planners say the park will be open to everyone during the event (hence the "invasion" label) but that if things go well, they'll be able to guarantee numbers for next year and reserve the facility exclusively for the community in coming years, a la Gay Day at Disneyland.

Tickets are \$15 and that's a savings of \$8 off the regular admission. The event is co-sponsored by HeatStroke and Desert Rose Chiropractic. Call Gentle Shepherd at (602) 285-9020 for more information.

CBPA will host Chief Hurtt Oct. 15

Phoenix's new Chief of Police, Harold L. Hurtt, will speak to members of the Camelback Business and Professional Association (CBPA) at the group's general membership meeting on Oct. 15. CBPA is the Valley of the Sun's gay, lesbian and gay-friendly chamber of commerce.

The meeting will be held at the Phoenix Airport Hilton, 2435 South 47th Street in Phoenix. Refreshments at 7 pm will get things started, with Chief Hurtt scheduled to speak at 7:30.

The cost is \$15 for members and \$17 for guests. To RSVP, mail a check to CBPA, PO Box 2097, Phoenix AZ, 85001. Or call (602) 225-8444.

Wellness Center site for mask making

The Life Mask Project is a mask-making art project designed to promote HIV/AIDS awareness. HIV-positive people are invited to participate by having masks made of their faces for a traveling, on-going art display.

The Wellness Center in Phoenix, a program of AIDS Project Arizona, will host the project on Oct. 7 at its offices, 1840 West Maryland in Phoenix. Life Masks will be created from 9 am to 7 pm. Call Malcolm at (602) 864-0710 for an appointment.

6th Annual OUToberfest Oct. 11

The Community Center will once again celebrate National Coming Out Day with a picnic at the South Mountain Park Activity Complex. The party will last from noon until 4 pm and will feature live music and all-you-can-eat food and drink.

Tickets are \$15, or \$12 for Community Card holders. Youth 18

and under can get in for \$5. Tickets are available at The Community center and at Obelisk: The Bookstore in Phoenix. Call (602) 234-2753 for more information.

Face to Face V

AIDS Project Arizona will host a weekly discussion group for those living with HIV/AIDS on Monday evenings from 6 - 8 pm. The discussion, called "Face to Face V", will begin Oct. 5 and will be facilitated by Dr. Gerrie Mayer-Gibbons.

Previous Face to Face support groups discussed "Dating and Disclosure", "Self-Defeating Behavior" and "Letting Go of the Shame". Face to Face V will put all these pieces together so participants can help one another to live healing, whole and full lives.

The workshops are free, and seating is limited. Call APAZ at (602) 265-2437 to register.

Action Growth Workshop scheduled

Join the Hand of Love Ministry for an Action Growth Workshop on Columbus Day Weekend, Oct. 10 & 11 from 10:30 am - 4 pm.

Psychic & healer Roderic Vickers will discuss the spiritual connection with psychic and healing abilities, and how to develop and improve healing skills through meditation and other methods. Rev. Tom Lee will lead a discussion on religious origins and developments in light of New Age practices.

The workshop will be held at the Hand of Love Ministry, 6605 North 14th Street, Phoenix (between Maryland and Glendale). Prior registration is required and people interested in all disciplines of healing therapy are welcome. For more info, call (602) 264-1470.

IGRA Finals return to Phoenix

Get outside and get some sun the weekend of Oct. 22 - 25 when the International Gay Rodeo Association's Finals Rodeo 1998 comes to town.

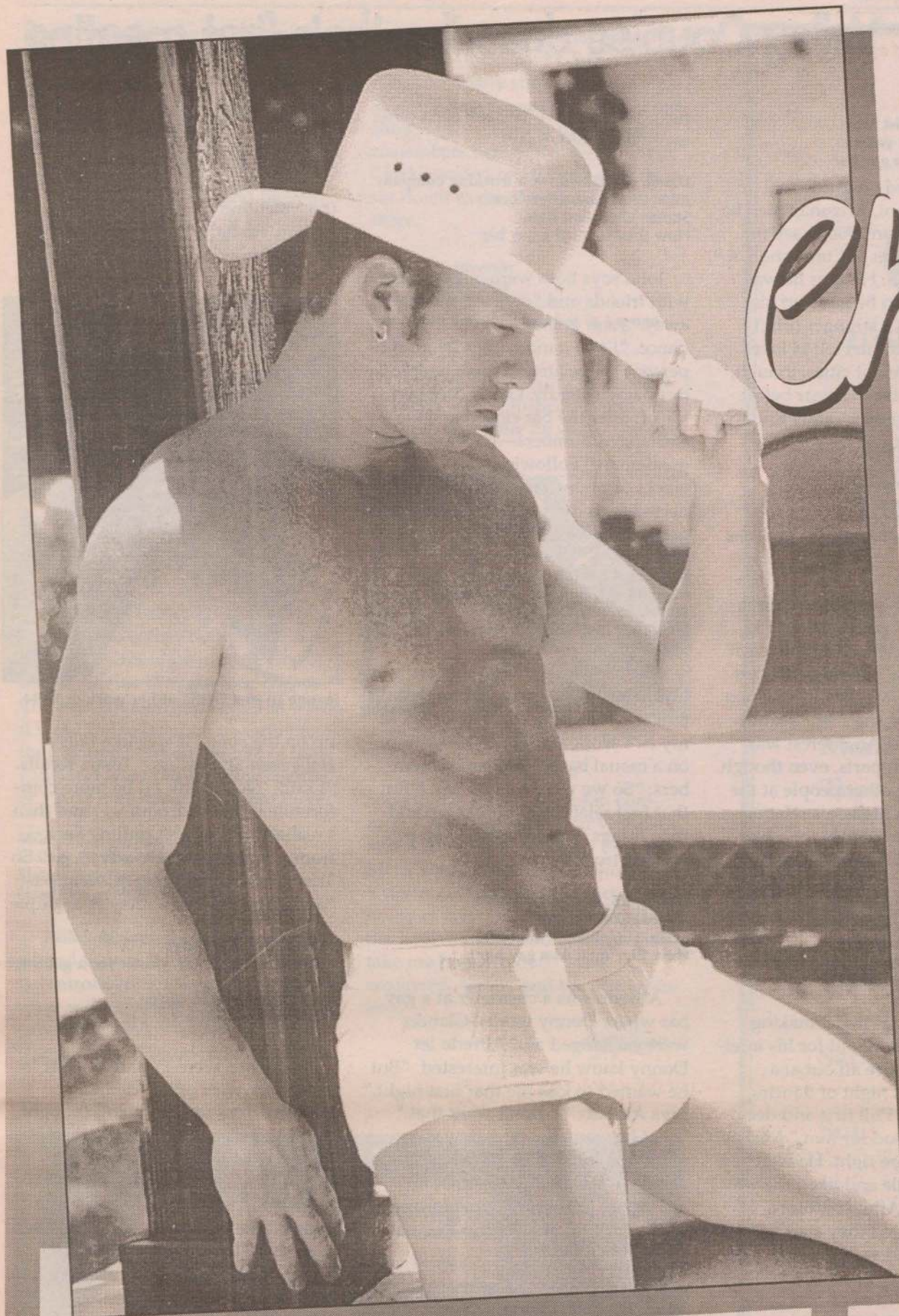
The rodeo event will be held once again at the Corona Ranch & Rodeo Grounds near 29th Avenue and Baseline in Phoenix, with hundreds of contestants from the international circuit flocking to Phoenix in hopes of winning buckles and titles.

For information, contact the Arizona Gay Rodeo Association-Phoenix Chapter at (602) 265-0618. Or check their website at www.agra-phx.com

Walk the AIDS walk

Walkers that raise at least \$500 in sponsorship money for AIDS Walk Arizona on Sunday, Oct. 18 will qualify for a drawing for a 1999 Saturn, courtesy of Saturn of Arizona. For each additional \$500 raised, walkers will get another chance to win the car.

Last year, the AIDS Walk raised more than \$900,000 and participants numbered over 14,000. To register for the walk, call 265-WALK, or register online at www.apaz.org.



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"Don't get dressed for us"
Underwear Party Night.
Everything we pour is 1/2 price
while partying in your underwear 7p-1am
Renegades Practice 7:30 pm

Tuesday
"Bare Chest Night" Show us yours
for 1/2 price drinks, or just quench your
thirst with \$1.00 pitchers, 7p-1am

Wednesday
Top Shelf Night, 7p-1am
All call liquor \$2.00
Dance Lessons 7:30 pm

Thursday
New!! 2-4-1 on everything we pour
Renegades Practice 7:30 pm
Free Pool from 7:00 pm

Friday
\$1.00 Pitchers of Miller Lite,
MGD, & Bud Light
Extended Happy Hour, 7-9pm with
75¢ Well/domestic bottled longnecks
Desert Valley Squares Practice 7:30 pm

Saturday
\$1.00 Well & Pitchers, and
\$1.50 Long Island Teas 1-7pm
Happy Hour, 7-9pm with
75¢ Well/domestic bottled longnecks
\$2.00 Pitchers of Dos Equis 7-11pm
Dance Lessons 7:30 pm

Sundays -
"That's my fun day!"
You'll find the best
action in town on our patio!
BBQ \$3.00 1-6pm
Open Volleyball starts at 1pm
\$2.50 Pitchers of Miller Lite, MGD, & Bud Light
and \$1.50 Long Island Iced Tea 1-7pm
\$1.00 Pitchers of Miller Lite, MGD,
& Bud Light 7pm 'til closing
Knights Practice 12:30-2:30pm
Free Darts 7 'til close

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Sunday Sept. 27th
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Friday Oct. 2nd
Mr. Charlie's Contest

Sunday Oct. 4th
Mr. Charlie's Fundraiser
BBQ 1-6, Carwash, and Raffles on a '50's
Theme Night'

Wednesday Oct. 7th
Bill Travis Show - Contestant for
Mr. AGRA benefiting PFLAG

How they got together: Valley Couples describe their first meeting

Continued from page 1

here and we knew some of the same people." They talked a while, exchanged numbers, then got separated for the rest of the weekend. "I thought she wasn't interested," Deb says. Not true. "She called that Tuesday and asked if I remembered her from the weekend." The answers was a big, "Yes", and has been for both women ever since.

Chuck, 39, Wholesale distributor
Jim, 43, Wholesale distributor
Status: Together almost 9 years
How they met: On a cruise ship

Chuck was living in San Francisco and Jim lived in Phoenix when both boarded ship for a Caribbean cruise produced by the gay travel company RSVP. They were introduced by mutual friends and began a romance on the seas. "We saw each other every weekend for six months after the



Jim (l) met Chuck on a cruise ship in 1989.

cruise," recalls Chuck.

A follow-up week's vacation in Hawaii "cemented the relationship," then Chuck picked up and moved to Phoenix, where the men now run a business together.

Jake, 37, I.S. Director
Alan, 39, Sales/student
Status: Together 6 years
How they met: At a party

Jake first met Alan at a pool party. They got along well but Alan was there with a date. Jake started asking around. He soon found they had mutual friends, a couple, who happily invited both Alan and Jake over for dinner. Don't be closed to the idea of blind dates and set-ups, Jake says, because they can work. "We consider that dinner our anniversary," he adds. He and Alan have been together since—although ironically, their matchmaking hosts have since spilt up.

Dave, 37, Teacher
Eric, 40s, Hair Stylist
Status: Together 12 years
How they met: At a gay bar

Dave lived and taught school in the wilds of Miami, Arizona when he visited the Valley in 1986 to see the late Divine perform at Connection, a then-popular club. He says he was "being nice" when he gave up his seat at concert to a stranger (Eric), and they met and then fell in love. "We lived in different cities, though, so we dated for about a year before we moved in together," adds Eric, "we took it slowly."

Melissa, 33, Self employed
April, 28, Hairdresser
Status: Together 1.5 years
How they met: Families went to the same church

Melissa first met April in church when she was 17 and April was 12. Years later, the women ran into each other at a Melissa Etheridge concert in Phoenix. "She was beautiful when we were kids and she's still beautiful," Melissa says. An interest was rekindled on both parts, even though they were seeing other people at the time. Then when Melissa's relationship ended, she called up for a hair appointment and wooed April from the chair.

Phil, 49, Corporate Exec
Michael, 28, Entertainer
Status: Together for one year
How they met: At a gay bar

Michael says his matchmaking friends were looking out for his interests when they were all out at a Phoenix bar for a night of dancing. "My friends met Phil first and decided I would be good for him," Michael recalls. They were right. He watched Phil dance a while and liked the way the guy moved. After chatting a while, he suggested they start dancing together, "and we've been together ever since."

Steve, 32, Sales Manager
Brett, 25, Teacher
Status: Dating two weeks
How they met: At a gay bar

Brett was on duty at a Phoenix bar where he works part-time when Steve noticed him. "There was a definite physical attraction right away," Steve says, though it was Brett who initiated the conversation. "He was just nice and friendly." They got together that night and then had a date the

next day, "and we've seen each other every day," Steve says.

David, 33, Works for a trucking company
John, 29, Human Services
Status: On a first date
How they met: At a gay bar

John says both were out partying with friends and "dancing the night away." John grabbed David for a dance. "I'm a dancer-friendly kind of person," he relates. "I meet people by just being friendly. David dropped me off after the bar closed and we exchanged numbers—he was a total gentleman." Following a couple weeks of phone tag, the men re-connected for a dinner date. "And it's going very well," David says.

Richard, 42, AT&T Customer Service
Michael, 49, America West Travel
Status: Together four years
How they met: Through Richard's ex

Michael worked with Richard's ex lover and it was through him that the pair were introduced. "I saw him at my ex's work and got to know him on a casual basis," Richard remembers. "So we were friends first." But that first relationship broke up and then things with Michael, "Just progressed from there."

Donny, 25, Bartender/waiter
Alfredo, 24, waiter
Status: Together 11 months
How they met: At a gay bar

Alfredo was a customer at a gay bar where Donny works. Glances were exchanged and Alfredo let Donny know he was interested. "But he wanted to kiss me that first night," says Alfredo. "I didn't want that." What he wanted, and got, was an afternoon lunch date. "We had lunch and then ran around together all afternoon, until it was time for me to go to work," adds Donny.

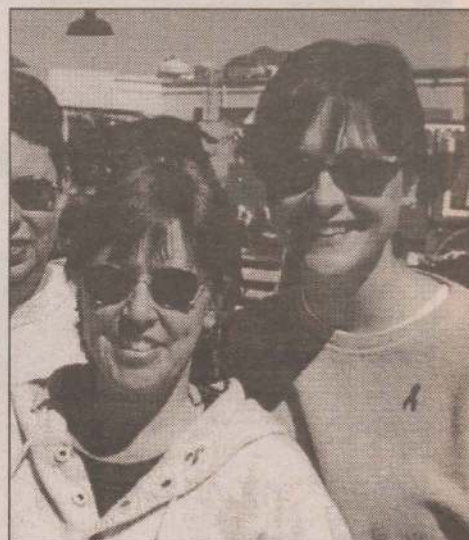
Trisha, 31, Graphic Designer
Jeanne, 40, Office Manager
Status: Together 3.5 years
How they met: Through Jeanne's work

Trisha had just moved to Arizona. Jeanne worked for a West Valley arts council, where Trisha volunteered as part of her job search. They formed an instant friendship—but a same-sex relationship was brand new to Jeanne, who was going through a divorce.

Trisha, meanwhile, was dating a guy who lived back East. "I'd had a couple relationships in college that

were so dysfunctional, I decided I was not a lesbian. But then I fell in love with Jeanne and I knew."

After three months of friendship (on Valentine's weekend) Jeanne invited Trisha to stay the night and was planning to put her new friend



Jeanne (l) met Trisha at her work in 1994.



up on the sofa. "It was like Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss," Trisha recalls. "I said, 'No, I think I'd be more comfortable in the bedroom,' . . . and then I realized she wasn't pulling back from my ever-so-slight advances." So Trisha took a deep breath, went past "advances" and now they're a couple.

"Little" Jim, 40, Buyer
"Big" Jim, 40, Cellar Master for a gourmet grocery
Status: Together 19 years
How they met: At a gay bar

Both men were 21 and in a bar in New York with other friends. "I looked across the room and thought, wow, there's someone taller than I am," recalls Little Jim, who's 6'2". Big Jim looked back. "This went on for a while, and I finally thought, dammit, he's not going to come over here so I'll be the one to make the move." Little Jim asked his friends to clear out, then approached the 6'6" object of his affection, saying his friends left him and he needed a ride. He got not only a ride, but 19+ years of companionship.

Bridget, 29, Warehouse worker
Maria, 36, Teacher
Status: Together 5 years
How they met: They worked together

Bridget was exploring the notion that she might be attracted to women when she signed on for a summer job as a landscaper back in Wisconsin. "I

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knew these other women (working there) were lesbians so I thought, this will be good. I'll meet some lesbians and find out about this." It was there she met Maria. Maria was not Bridget's type at all, but she says that after the two worked together and talked a lot, she found herself smitten. One thing led to another and, "after a month and a half, we did the U-Haul thing," she says of their move west five years ago.

**Mark, 35, Health Care
Adrian, 30, Sales
Status: Together 1.5 years
How they met: Fixed up by a mutual friend**

They'd seen each other around and asked a friend to do the intros, then set up dinner and a movie. "It would have been a very regular date," Mark recalls. "Except I freaked out at the last minute and blew him off." Adrian was pissed and Mark felt foolish. "A month and a half later we ran into each other and set up another dinner date. I thought it would be just the two of us but Adrian brought four friends." The pair got along so well that when it was time to head on to a movie, they skipped out on the rest of the gang and went bar-hopping together. "And it all happened from there."

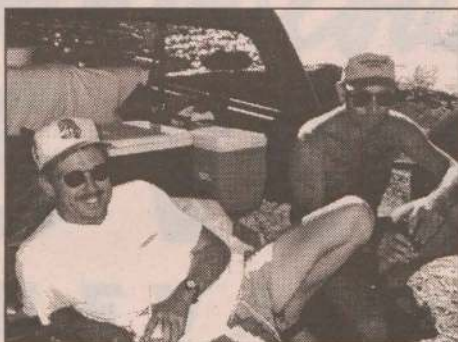
**Mike, 38, Business Owner
Clarke, 28, Travel Agent
Status: Together 14 months
How they met: Personal ads**

Mike answered Clarke's personal ad and they met for coffee. The initial introduction was casual and went well. "He left it up to me, so I called him afterward and set up a dinner date," Clarke remembers. But

the date almost didn't happen. "He was really late," says Clarke, "and when he finally showed up, he was in a tank top. Meanwhile I had gone shopping just for our date." Mike remembers being "fashionably late." Clarke waited it out and when they sat down to eat, the connection was there.

**Marty, 53, Investor
Mark, 46, Investor
Status: Together 21 years
How they met: At a gay bar in Laguna Beach**

It was nothing exotic, according to Marty. "I just turned around on a barstool and there he was." The men



Marty (l) and Mark have been together since 1977.

soon found they had a lot in common. "We were both from Virginia and were both supposedly bisexual." Mark was, in fact, engaged to a woman at the time. After a couple hours of conversation, Marty pressed the issue. "I said, 'are you going to take me home or not?' Mark answered, 'yeah', and the rest is history."



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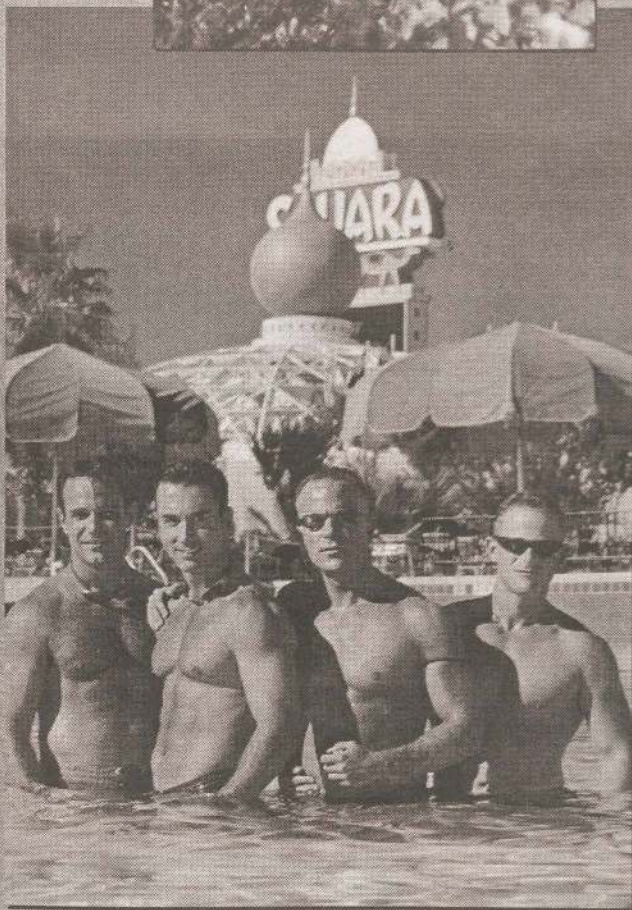
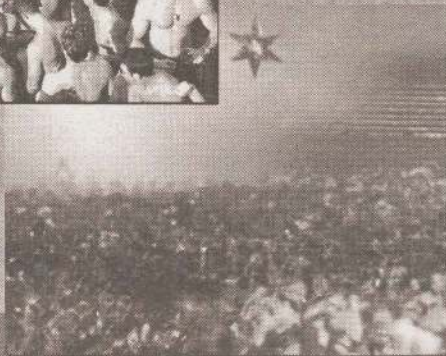
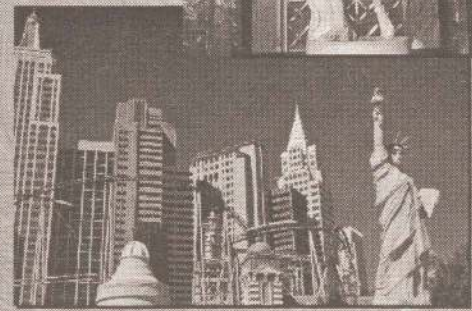
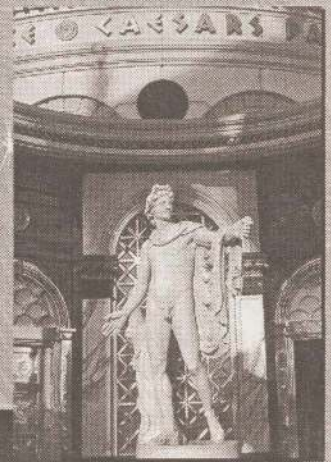


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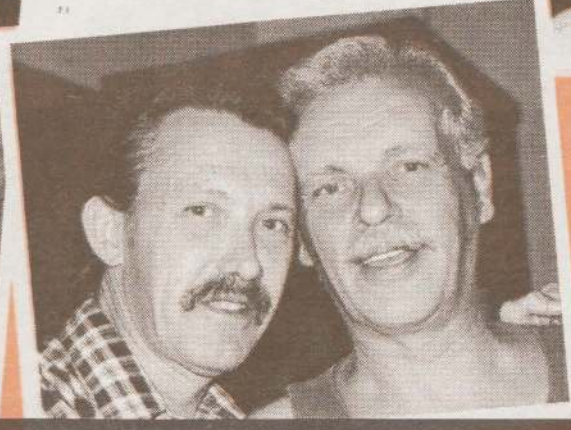
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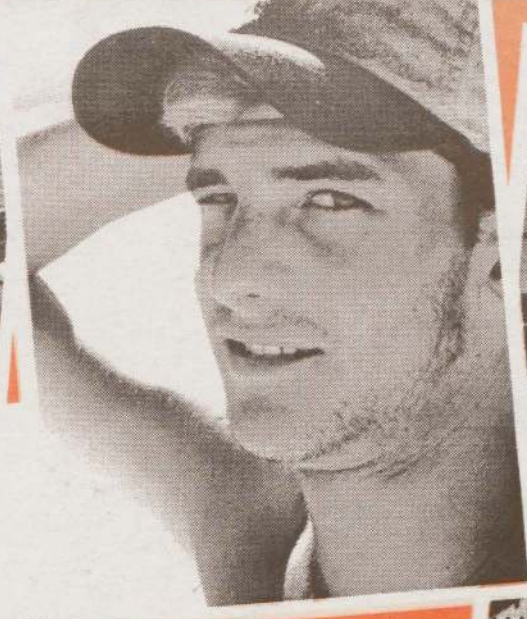
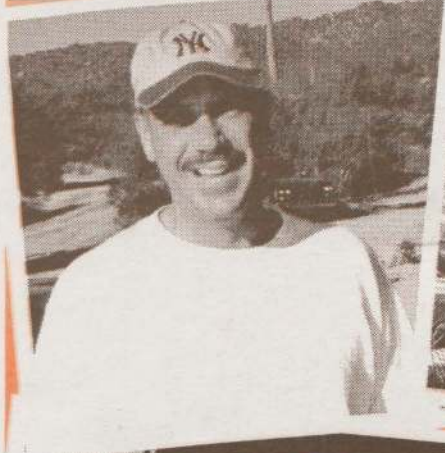
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Brands of Phoenix will donate a percentage of beer sales during September.



Cash Inn Country
Photos by Mario Rodriguez



Seeing/Being Scene



Bartlett Bash

My Queer Life Sticker Shock

By Michael Thomas Ford, HeatStroke contributor

One afternoon a few weeks ago, my roommate pulled up to the house in a car that wasn't his.

"What's that?" I asked from my perch on the front steps, where the dog and I were sitting.

"It's your new car," he said, tossing me a set of keys.

"I didn't buy a car," I said.

"I got a great deal on it at the garage," he explained. "You need a car, and I figured this was a good way to pay you back for when I was out of work and couldn't pay rent."

And just like that, I became a car owner.

As it turned out, before I could actually get into the car and take it anywhere, I had to register and insure it. This involved standing in sixty-three different lines and filling out five hundred forms, none of which I did correctly.

I didn't know what the exact mileage was on the odometer. I couldn't trace the succession of owners back to the day the car rolled off the assembly line. I drew a blank when the insurance salesman asked me if I wanted blanket collision coverage or a per-item deductible based on standard industry scales.

Somehow I managed to get through it all, and ended up with a

car that was registered, insured, and inspected. But before I could actually consider the process finished, there was one final decision to be made. One that was more crucial than all of the others combined.

"What kind of sticker are you going to put on the bumper?" my friend Diane asked as we stood looking at my newly-insured and approved conveyance.

"Sticker?" I said.

"Sure," she said. "You need a sticker. It's your statement about who you are. Otherwise it's just a car."

Suddenly, the whole notion of car ownership took on an entirely new dimension. Before I'd simply thought of it as something to get around in if need be. But now it was an accessory. I had a reason to be interested.

I knew I wanted a gay-themed sticker. On the few times I'd been riding around in some unfamiliar territory while traveling, seeing a pink triangle or other identifying sticker on another car had always been reassuring. So off we went to the local gay bookstore, where I discovered a dizzying array of stickers, all in rainbow colors.

"How about this flag?" I suggest-

ed. "It's simple and to the point."

Diane scoffed. "That is so last year," she said. She picked up a rainbow peace sign. "How about this? Two messages in one."

"I don't think so," I said. "It's too Grateful Dead."

I wanted to find just the right sticker—one that would make a comment about some part of gay culture that I had an interest in. Something that would be me. We looked at rainbow triangles, rainbow Mars symbols, and rainbow cowboy boots. We considered and rejected stickers shaped like rainbow-tinted states of Massachusetts, a rainbow dog paw, and a sticker that said "Butch" in rainbow letters.

I was just about to give up and set-

family on the road, and I imagined people noticing my rainbow bear and nodding in solidarity.

But what I was really waiting for was the chance to use it as date bait.

Then one day, when I drove the dog to the park for his evening swim, a man parked near me in a pickup stuck his head out of his window.

"Hey," he said. "Nice sticker."

"Here we go," I thought excitedly, noting his outdoorsy look and flannel shirt. "It's working."

"It's great to see that," he said, smiling. "Makes me feel right at home."

I noted his hairy forearm where it rested along the window's edge. I tried to get a closer look at his open shirt, to see just how bear-like he real-



ly was. I unearthed a rainbow sticker shaped like a bear. Having something of an affinity for hairy men, I thought it would be just the thing to let them know an admirer was driving along in front of them.

I put the rainbow bear on my rear bumper, where it looked very proud indeed next to the Southern New England AAA sticker. I had visions of some day needing a tow and discovering that the studly truck driver, clued in by seeing my rainbow bear sticker, was playing on my team.

I began to drive the car around, tentatively at first. I was a little shaky after more than a decade of being a simple pedestrian. But after a couple of days, when nothing really awful had happened, I started to loosen up.

It was kind of nice to be able to go to the grocery store when I wanted to, and not to have to carry the laundry down the street. Best of all, I started to notice all of the rainbow stickers affixed to bumpers and rear windows as I drove around. It was great to see

ly was. "Well," I said. "Most guys are still into that smooth look. But that just leaves more hairy men for the rest of us."

He gave me a weird look. "Hairy guys?" he said.

"Yeah," I answered. "You know, bears. Hair. Bears."

"Oh," he said after a moment. He sounded disappointed. "I get it now. Sorry. I thought it stood for gay guys from Maine. I'm visiting from Bangor, and I thought you might be from around there too."

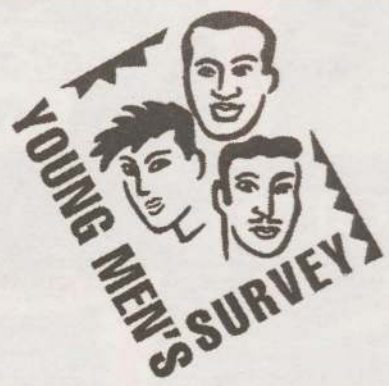
With that, he rolled up his window and left, before I could even offer to pack up my things and move further north with him. Dejected, I turned to let the dog out of the car.

But I couldn't. In my excitement, I'd shut the door and left the keys inside.



Michael Thomas Ford is the author of *Alec Baldwin Doesn't Love Me & Other Trials from My Queer Life*. He always obeys the speed limit.

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Notable Quotes

Newsmakers, Celebrities & Others Speak Out

Compiled by Rex Wockner



"For some time I have suggested that the worst thing to happen to the gay movement was the collapse of Communism. It doesn't take a Ph.D. in either history or political science to recognize the direct correlation between the fall of Communism and the increased attacks on America's gay men and lesbians. The political right argues that the attacks are in response to our increased visibility, our activism, and, of course, our agenda! But we need to understand that the attacks are based on their essential and desperate need for an opponent."

—Openly gay former U.S. Congressman Steve Gunderson, writing in the Sept. 1 *Advocate*.

"I've been seriously offended by the lack of decent jokes on the subject, and believe me, if there were any more out there, I would have heard them."

—Singer George Michael on his arrest in a Beverly Hills "tea room," in an online chat on the Microsoft Network, July 16.

"If anyone was ever in love with me, it must have been a well-kept secret, because I never heard of it. Love is a mistake."

—Author Quentin Crisp writing in the Sept. *Out* magazine.

"[He's] a wretched twit who never should have been let out of England."

—Author Larry Kramer on James Collard, the new editor of *Out* magazine, to the *Village Voice*, Aug. 25.

"Larry's such a sweet old thing, isn't he? Like Quentin Crisp, he's a living treasure—and we should cherish him."

—James Collard, new editor of *Out* magazine, on Larry Kramer, to the *Village Voice*, Aug. 25.

"There's nothing incompatible with fashion and delivering in other issues. ... We have to do all of those things. Once you make the decision to come out, that makes you automatically a different person in the way that you read popular culture, the

way that you shop. We're very conscious of exciting new things. In a way, that is part of being gay. It's not sinful. It doesn't mean that we're less serious."

—James Collard, defending his changes as the new editor of *Out* magazine, to *Philadelphia Gay News*, Sept. 1.

"We had a heated discussion and he insulted my sensibilities and it made me so angry I threw water in his face. They did not want me to write biting commentary and opinion. They wanted me to do more feature-driven work and I refused to do that because my column in *Out* has always been a space where I could do commentary, political analysis, features, whatever I wanted. I think it's important to have commentary and

solidly researched journalism in the same forum. He told me I should tone down the column and said it had lost passion, which is ludicrous."

—Writer Michelangelo Signorile explaining why he threw a glass of water at new *Out* magazine Editor James Collard and quit his job. The incident took place Aug. 20.

"It's just a feminist, progressive, generic agenda. Anti-racist, economic justice, anti-unbridled capitalism. My character 'Mo,' for example, is probably the last vegetarian!"

—Alison Bechdel on her "Dykes To Watch Out For" comic to Denver's *Out Front*, Aug. 12.

Notable Quotes continues on page 29

§ MCC in AZ §
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<p>MCC Flagstaff 6093 Snowflake Dr. Flagstaff, AZ (520) 526-5419 Sunday Services at 10:00am</p> <p>§ Marsha Stevens in concert Oct. 20, 7:00pm at NAU Ballroom</p>	<p>Water of Life MCC 3269 Mountain Ave. N Tucson, AZ (520) 292-9151 Sunday Services at 10:45am</p> <p>§ Two Sunday Worship Services beginning Oct. 4, 9:15 & 11:15 am</p>	<p>Gentle Shepherd MCC Quality Hotel Ballroom 2nd Ave. & Osborn Phoenix, AZ (602) 285-9020 Sunday Svcs-10:00am</p> <p>§ Day Out at Castles-N-Coasters Oct. 4, 12noon - 9:00pm</p>
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Hollywood Deep Inside

By Romeo San Vicente, HeatStroke Contributor

Show Me the Manuscript!

The tabloid headlines sounded a warning bell a few weeks ago. But there's no Tom Cruise outing in the works.

David Ehrenstein's forthcoming book, *Open Secret: Gay Hollywood 1928-1998* (William Morrow & Co.), features a chapter titled "Tom Cruise," which fueled a story in the *National Enquirer* speculating that the very married mega-star was about to be exposed as gay.

But instead of rehashing rumors about the star's sexuality, the book, due in October, uses Cruise as a metaphor to discuss our fascination with the bedroom habits of celebrities.

The book will also discuss the fascination over the sexualities of Richard Gere and John Travolta. But no, don't expect Ehrenstein (a former *Advocate* columnist) to make any revelations about gerbils.

Blank and Bobby McGee

Melissa Etheridge won't be Janis Joplin after all. The lesbian rocker has long dreamed of playing the legendary soul singer, but word has it she just doesn't have the acting chops to pull off the role.

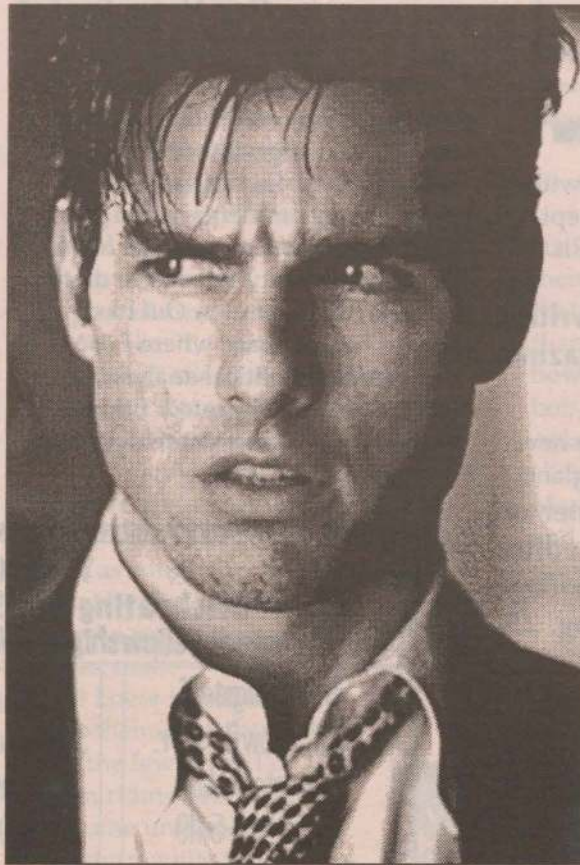
However, Melissa's partner, Julie Cypher, will remain as a producer of *Piece of My Heart*, which she also co-wrote. *Kiss the Girls* director Gary Fleder has been brought in to helm the film and help find a new actress to play Joplin. Lili Taylor (*I Shot Andy Warhol*) has previously been mentioned for the role.

Gay on Broadway

Openly gay actor Anthony Rapp (*Rent*) will star as the title character in the Broadway revival of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. B.D. Wong, who made a convincing woman in *M. Butterfly*, co-stars as Linus.

Meanwhile, Terrence McNally's upcoming play promises loads of controversy, with the conservative Catholic League planning to bus in true believers for opening night protests when *Corpus Christi* premieres Oct. 13th. In the play, Jesus is depicted as a gay man.

Expect to hear a lot more about this one, including word of a vocal counter-demonstration organized by



He's still not gay: tabloid rumbings about Tom Cruise's supposed outing in David Ehrenstein's new book were off the mark.

gay playwrights Craig Lucas (*Prelude to a Kiss*) and Tony Kushner (*Angels in America*).

Dreamgals

Comebacks are all the rage in Hollywood, so Diana Ross's return should come as no surprise. Besides, all these pseudo divas like Mariah Carey need to see a real queen in action.

Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds and his wife Tracy are developing an untitled feature film for Fox 2000 set to star Miss Ross along with L.A. Law alum Blair Underwood. No details about the subject matter are available yet, but the project looks to be Ross's highest-profile acting role since *The Wiz* (1979).

Meanwhile, director Joel Schumacher is considering casting an unknown in the feature film adaptation of *Dreamgirls* (which was based loosely on the rise and fall of The Supremes). Singer Kelly Price, whose debut single "Friend of Mine" topped the R&B charts, may be the one to fill the shoes of Effie, a gifted singer held back by her weight. Jennifer

Holliday became a star playing the role on stage. *Dreamgirls* begins filming early next year.

The Ten Best....and One Worst

Everyone else is doing it, so why not me? What follows is my opinion of the 10 best queer-themed films of all time, along with the one worst.

10. *The Bird Cage*: The film isn't great, but Nathan Lane's performance is. He and writer Elaine May were a match made in celluloid heaven.

9. *Longtime Companion*: No movie better captures the dawn of the AIDS epidemic. Everything else about it is solid too, from the acting (especially Bruce Davison) to the writing to the directing.

8. *Mommie Dearest*: Some say it ruined her career, but Faye Dunaway's portrayal of Joan Crawford captured just the right note in this hilariously over-the-top take on the private life of the movie queen. Who among us hasn't shrieked: "No wire hangers!"

7. *Tootsie*: Dustin Hoffman may not have made an attractive gal, but this crowd-pleaser was a throwback to studio clas-

sics while remaining very contemporary. And Jessica Lange can make a man "consider" heterosexuality.

6. *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?*: You couldn't have a queer top 10 list and not consider camp classics like this one, starring battling bitches Crawford and Bette Davis, whose eerie and hilarious performance of "I've Written a Letter to Daddy" served as inspiration for frumpy drag queens everywhere.

5. *Dog Day Afternoon*: Back when Al Pacino was subtle, he acted the hell out of great material like this. Director Sidney Lumet was also at the top of his form in this strangely moving story of a man robbing a bank in order to pay for his lover's sex change.

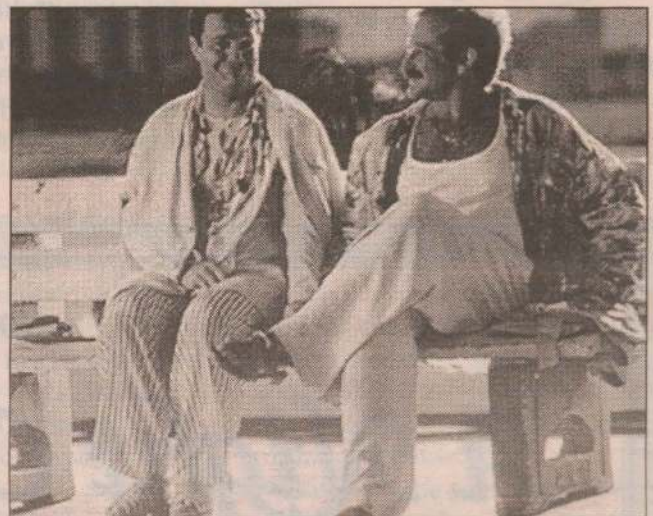
4. *The Wizard of Oz*: We've all traveled long roads looking for men who never turn out as advertised. And, of course, what friend of Dorothy's can't relate to Judy Garland walking in those shoes.

3. *My Own Private Idaho*: How things have changed since 1991. River Phoenix was still alive, Keanu Reeves was still desirable and gay director Gus Van Sant was still making singularly original films like this one, a visual masterpiece one-upped only by a mesmerizing performance by Phoenix.

2. *Some Like It Hot*: The first studio film to highlight men in drag is also the movie that made Marilyn Monroe a star. I think those are pretty clear criteria for the list, not to mention the film is funny as hell (written and directed by the legendary Billy Wilder). And Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon made far more convincing women than, say, Patrick Swayze and Wesley Snipes (more on them later).

1. *Midnight Cowboy*: Everyone was talking about gay director John Schlesinger's X-rated masterpiece, which starred Jon Voight as a small-town male hustler out of place in New York City. More than that, it's a great non-sexual love story between two men, wonderfully played by Voight and Dustin Hoffman.

And now, the worst, which was much easier to pick than the ten best. It's hard to figure out what's more awful in this film: the acting (save for Stockard Channing) or the writing



One of Romeo's ten best: a fine performance by Nathan Lane in *The Birdcage* rescued this otherwise dismal film.

(more than 100 cliches, I counted). But there's no doubting that *To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar* was an embarrassment on all counts. Thanks for nothing!

Romeo San Vicente, who is always looking to break "home run" records, can be reached in care of HeatStroke or at RSVicente@aol.com.

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Out of Town

By Andrew Collins



Boston—by Night

For gay and lesbian visitors, Boston's dining and clubbing revolves around the South End and the neighboring Theater District, although there are also discos in the Fenway area and in Cambridge, and excellent eateries all over town. The city's culinary offerings have improved dramatically in recent decades, to the degree that this is one of the hottest restaurant scenes in North America.

It happens that many of the eateries now making news are in the historic South End.

One of the first venues to attract serious diners to the area was Hamersley's Bistro, which has both a cafe and a more formal dining room. Notable is the duck confit with a garlic, fennel, and white bean napoleon.

Just down the street, Appetito rises from a slew of similar looking eateries in the vicinity with attractive outgoing waiters; a festive color scheme of mustard, plum, emerald, and cobalt; and well-prepared, reasonably priced Northern Italian fare.

Boston's once downright-unpredictable nightlife scene has become unexpectedly volatile in recent years, as some longtime favorites have closed and others have opened or moved into new digs.

Neighborhood dining doesn't get much better than at the friendly Franklin Cafe, a warm cozy spot in the increasingly hip lower South End, where dishes like seared soy-marinated chicken liver and roasted turkey-meatloaf with spiced fig gravy are among the winners.

Boston's gayest upscale restaurant, the Club Cafe has good New

American food (such as grilled swordfish with a mango and toasted-almond salsa and a cilantro-lime aioli), a nice wine list, and friendly but sometimes absent-minded service.

A happily bizarre source of excellent pan-Asian food, including innovative sushi rolls, Jae's Cafe has branches in the South End, on Stuart Street near the discos, and over in Cambridge.

Known for hearty breakfasts and lunches, Geoffrey's is one of the most queer-friendly hangouts in the city. The bright dining room is completely informal (it was refurbished after a fire in 1996). Try the grilled chicken sandwich with corn and black-bean salad, or filling side dishes like garlic-mashed potatoes.

Be sure to stop by nearby Mildred's for espresso, desserts, and a bit of local ogling.

Around the corner, the chic art-filled On the Park is another favorite for brunch, as well as for reasonably priced dinners.

Boston's once downright-unpredictable nightlife scene has become unexpectedly volatile in recent years, as some longtime favorites have closed (most notably Quest and Paradise) and others have opened or moved into new digs.

Some steady favorites remain, however. The Boston Ramrod, sort of a Disneyesque vision of what a leather bar should look like, remains a fixture in the Fenway neighborhood. Although it's not hardcore anymore, the place still draws edgy butch guys. At the opposite end of the fashion

spectrum, Club Cafe/Moonshine pulls in upscale guppies of both genders. The front end of the bar, beside the restaurant, is a sophisticated little cocktail lounge and cabaret that's popular with suits after work. In back is a larger, crowded, somewhat attitudy video bar, Moonshine.

Popular with club kids, Avalon/Axis comprises two adjacent

warehouse discos near Fenway Park (this is as close as you'll probably ever get to playing center field for the Red Sox), which join forces on Sunday for the biggest gay party in Boston.

One of the longest-running cruise bars in New England, Chaps moved into spacious, slick new digs in the theater district in December 1997. It remains a hot choice for dancing and lounging.

Around the corner is another



The South End's On the Park, a favorite spot of moon-eyed same-sex couples for dinner or brunch.

Andrew Collins

and head to neighboring Cambridge for two more fine nightlife options: Man Ray, a cozy Cambridge disco with two dance floors, stages the mostly gay and lesbian Campus on Thursday nights—a perennial favorite of students—and Saturday's mixed gay/straight '80s New Wave party, Liquid.

Boston's a great hotel city, with several historic properties, a solid range of high-end and budget hotels, and accommodations in every neighborhood.

If being close to nightlife matters, your best bet is a hotel around Copley Square. Cambridge has plenty of great hotels, and rates here are often lower than in Boston proper.

The knowledgeable staff at gay-owned Citywide Reservations Services can help you find rooms elsewhere in Boston, on the Cape, and throughout New England; they represent everybody from major hotels to

major see-and-be-seen spot, the Fridays-and-Saturdays-only disco, Buzz. It's a handsomely decorated two-level club with a slick industrial ambience.

In the same vicinity is the dependable and always cruisy Luxor/Jox, a two-story compound consisting of a mediocre Italian restaurant (Mario's), a downstairs sports bar (Jox), and an upstairs video bar (Luxor).

Once a fixture of the city's leather scene, the Boston Eagle has gradually shifted into a low-key cruise-and-chat bar drawing local South End guys, most of them in their 30s and 40s. The cheap and potent drinks are a plus.

Nearby Fritz, on the ground-floor of the Chandler Inn, is a handsome neighborhood bar, often described as Boston's gay Cheers, drawing a mostly male, over-35 crowd.

The Napoleon Club, which dates to 1935, is thought to be the oldest continuously running gay bar in the nation; they have piano music most nights.

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Near Fenway and the South End, the 16-room Oasis Guesthouse, which appeals mostly to gay men, is one of the best options for social butterflies.

Andrew Collins recently authored the greatly expanded second edition of Fodor's Gay Guide to the USA, as well as six gay guides covering the West Coast, New York City, South Florida, and Amsterdam. He can be reached in care of HeatStroke or at gayfodors@aol.com



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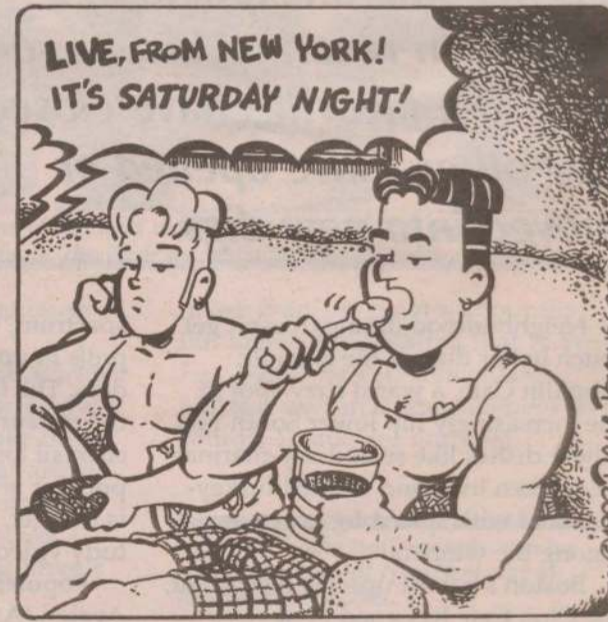
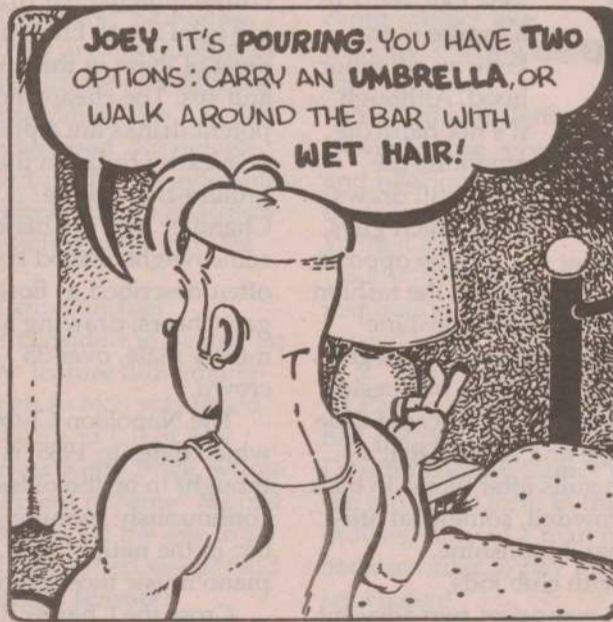
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Dear Cowboy,
All my lover does anymore is complain. He doesn't like Phoenix. He hates his job. He hasn't been getting along with his family. I hear it all. Whenever I ask what I can do, he says our relationship is the one thing in his life that is going good. He really loves me and says there is nothing I can do to help with these other problems. I asked him to see a psychologist and he said I was crazy. I want to say, okay, if you aren't going to do anything, at least stop complaining to me all the time. But I

haven't because I'm scared if he keeps it inside, it'll just get worse. So I let him sound off to me even though I hate hearing it. Help!
Signed, Bad Listener

Dear Listener,
Just because the two of you have hitched your wagons together doesn't mean you're supposed to play doc, nursemaid, trail boss and roping partner all at once. Tell him you're glad he's happy with the way things are between you but that his complaining is taking the

fun out of your rodeo. From here on in, you will no longer listen to it—if it bottles up inside and he gets more depressed without using you as his sounding board, that's his problem and not yours. Support him, but stand firm and continue to encourage counseling.

Dear Cowboy,
I'm 32 years old and have had sex with only one person—the guy I've been seeing for the last two months. He has no idea that he's my first. I've let him go on thinking I'm experienced, mostly because it's just too hard to explain and anyway, no one ever understands or believes me. If I tell him, he might freak out and think I'm some kind of sexual

weirdo. But then I feel like I'm lying if I don't tell. What should I do?
Signed, Practically a Virgin

Dear Virgin,
Tell him. These days it is very important that all sexual partners—especially male/male teams—be completely honest about everything they have done, or not done, in the bunk. You know your reasons for waiting this long for a roll in the hayloft. If he's a good guy, he'll listen and understand. If he's not, he'll "freak out". So what? You're still the same guy, either way. I've said it before but it bears repeating: your partner's reaction is not your responsibility.

These days it is very important that all sexual partners be completely honest about what they have done, or not done, in the bunk.

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Phoenix 234-1654
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Phoenix 255-2110
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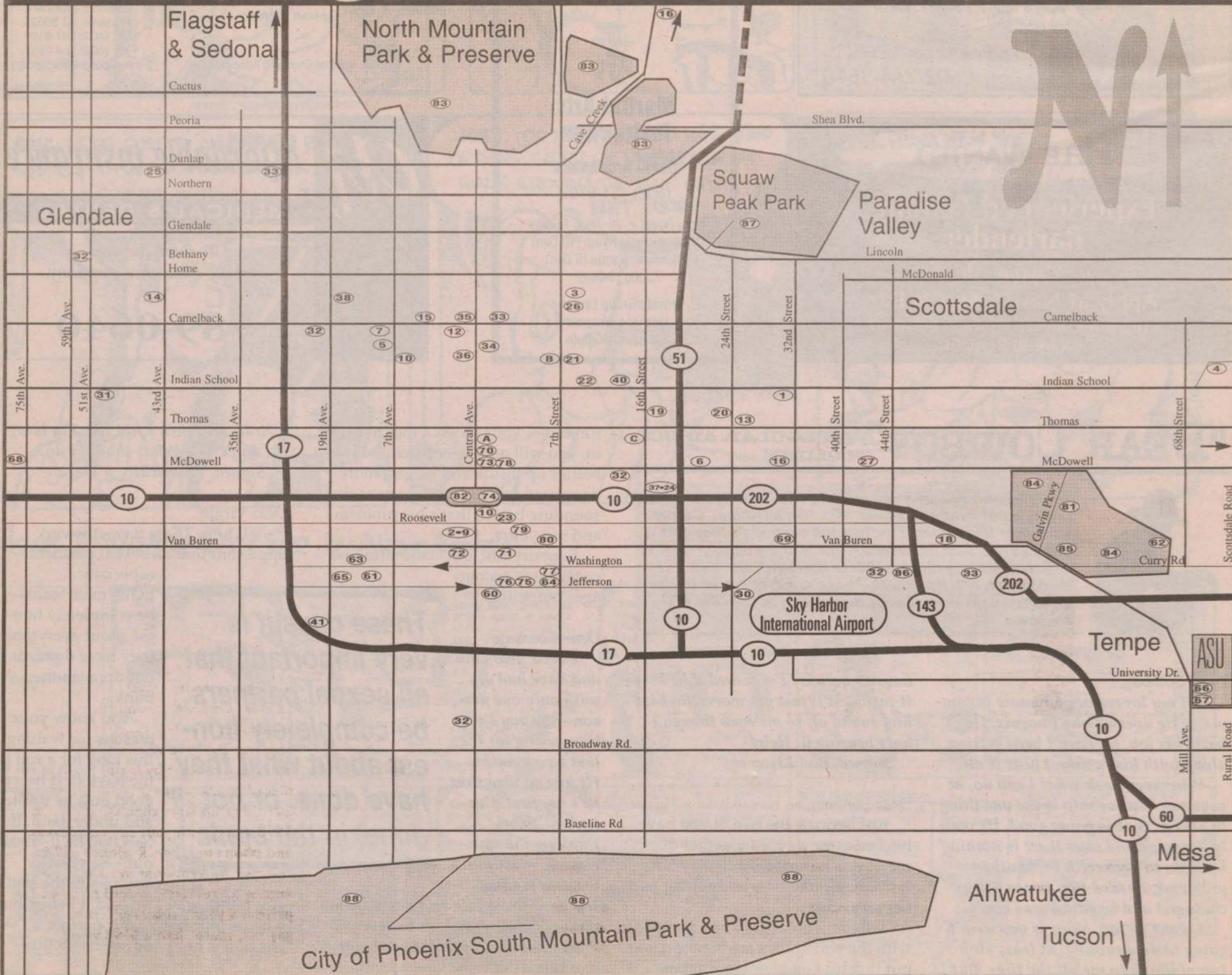
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Q Puzzle

"Relatively Speaking"

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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ACROSS

- 1 Get ready to shoot, perhaps
- 6 Strikebreaker
- 10 Paper purchase
- 14 A former Mrs. Trump
- 15 Lymph ___
- 16 ___ Stanley Gardner
- 17 *The Prince of Tides* actor, and son of its director and star
- 19 "Stop right there!"
- 20 ___ de France

- 21 Charming snake?
- 22 One playing the field
- 23 GLAAD's former Entertainment Media Director, and daughter of a *Silkwood* star
- 25 Hemispherical home
- 28 ___ Video (gay porn producers)
- 29 Coward of the theater
- 30 Woman warrior
- 34 ___ Rheingold

- 37 1995 National Coming Out Project spokesperson, and half-sister of the Speaker of the House
- 40 Put two and two together
- 41 Homophobes, e.g.
- 42 Canyon comeback
- 43 Turf
- 44 Gathered leaves
- 45 *All God's Children* filmmaker, and daughter of Bush's Secretary of Commerce
- 52 His cube made him famous
- 53 Dazzling success
- 54 Gene-splicing need
- 57 First fratricide victim
- 58 Possible title for this puzzle
- 60 It may come down to this
- 61 Sign of the future
- 62 Viagra target
- 63 Cole Porter's "___ Do It"
- 64 "Hey, you!"
- 65 Glorify

DOWN

- 1 Pacific republic
- 2 Racetrack shape
- 3 Attorney's assignment
- 4 Numero ___
- 5 ___ Panza (Don Quixote's squire)
- 6 Thurston Howell III types
- 7 Martina Navratilova's milieu
- 8 Statesman Stevenson
- 9 Sex site
- 10 Places where even gay people leave straight
- 11 Sappho's Muse
- 12 Poet Ginsberg
- 13 D.C. subway, with "The"
- 18 ___ few rounds (spar)
- 22 Kicking the bucket
- 23 Like a terrible lover
- 24 Kiss-a-___ (fun fundraisers)
- 25 Ancient Peruvian
- 26 Incite
- 27 Loan
- 30 HIV killers

- 31 Sister of Amy, Beth and Jo
- 32 Gone by
- 33 High-school horror
- 34 62-Across, more crudely
- 35 Be reminded of a vigorous sex session
- 36 Not barefoot
- 38 "I could write ___!"
- 39 Backside
- 43 Expresses happiness
- 44 Key in again
- 45 Speak Southern-style
- 46 Jazz pianist Blake
- 47 Siskel's co-critic
- 48 Expresses happiness
- 49 Pinnacles
- 50 Eastwood or Black
- 51 Country singer Ketchum
- 54 Actress Merrill or Spybey
- 55 Tennant of the Pet Shop Boys
- 56 D.A.'s aide
- 58 Dandy
- 59 ___-Mex

Solution to last issue's 1998 Contest Crossword:



We'll publish the solution to the 1998 Contest Crossword in our next issue, which hits the streets on October 8. Meanwhile, if you've solved it you may enter the contest by faxing your completed puzzle attn: Q Syndicate to 310-201-5972 no later than October 1st, 1998 along with your name, address, and phone number. A winner will be selected by a random drawing from among all correctly solved puzzles. The prize is a year's subscription to gay.net, more than a \$100 value.

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H O R R O R S S C O P E S

By Deane Jaye, *HeatStroke* contributor

Libra (September 21 - October 20)

At this time of year you feel the need to take a big bottle of emotional Windex to the foggy mirrors of your life and get things shipshape and crystal clear. The things most important to you are on your mind every day, so set goals, prioritize, organize—then enjoy the benefits of your squeaky clean outlook. Food and drink will play a significant role in celebrations early this month, don't let others rush you through the party.

Scorpio (October 21 - November 20)

Like a mountain in Italy that is about to erupt, you Scorpions have the power to blow away small villages when your tempers explode. Some odd and unmanageable events are due to occur toward the end of the month that could leave you exasperated and looking for blood—you'd do well to simply walk away and accept the fact that you don't have all the answers. A calm Cancer native is on your side—let that influence carry you through.

Sagittarius (November 21 - December 20)

Dreams and plans and schemes may be coming to fruition soon. Don't indulge those impulses toward excess and you'll land on your feet and remain in charge. Your interest in nature could lead you outdoors around the 28th. Take advantage of travel opportunities involving water or woodlands as the weather cools. Resist the urge to make fun of people who can't keep up with your sense of humor at a small gathering in the next week or so.

Capricorn (December 21 - January 20)

You goat-people are searching up and down just like little Goldilocks, in search of that perfect fit. You don't want it too hard, too soft, too hot or too cold. You want it juuusst right, and if you stay focused and direct, satisfaction may indeed come your way. It's when you rush into things and forget the way your driven behavior affects others that results get sidetracked and resentment builds. Be wary of friends playing rough around the 25th.

Aquarius (January 21 - February 20)

Hey kids, let's put on a show! You Aquarians will do the makeup and the costumes and the acting and the scenery and... Whoa, there. Don't forget when you're in your Barnum & Bailey mode that a bit of make believe goes a long way in the real world. Your tendency to alienate your audiences will be running stronger than ever as the new month begins, so step out of the footlights and simply be yourself if you want to see things change.

Pisces (February 21 - March 20)

What looks to allies like a dive off the deep end is just a darker exploration of that Piscean intuitive side, so don't worry about those warnings. Do what you have to do—you know your limits better than anyone else. Your generous nature could lead you to new insights around the 6th, when you give just the right amount to the right person in your life. Don't get mad when your memory fails; get a diary and get even.

Aries (March 21 - April 20)

Travel could lead to trouble after the 3rd or 4th, and indications are you'll do well to stick close to home. Perhaps a trip down memory lane will satisfy your wish to wander: get down the photo albums, screen home movies and compare where you are now to where you've been for a nice weekend project that will leave you centered and refreshed. A Sagittarian with a seductive influence may have something special to share.

Taurus (April 21 - May 20)

Okay Bullwinkle, there *is* something up your sleeve and it shows. Nobody really believed you could pull that rabbit out of your hat (we were all just humoring you). You Taureans are kicking up your mischievous heels as the month draws to a close, believing you're in control of every situation. Take it easy or your lack of patience will take over, your temper will flare and everything you've been building up will come crashing down.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

Throw back your head and let out your best "Xena" yell—there are trails to be blazed and you are just the torch-swinging, spear-toting warrior needed for the job these days. You won't be able to explain your actions so don't bother trying. Just set your sights on the goal ahead and do whatever you see fit to reach it. An interesting fire sign native could lead you astray and force you to question your moral priorities. Don't go there.

Cancer (June 21 - July 20)

Lighten up, Professor. Your tendency to become absorbed in work and worry may be running at an all-time high as the month ends. Slow down, relax, live a little. Sit out by the Lagoon and enjoy a martini or two with Thurston and Lovey—now *there's* an attitude you Cancers could learn something from. Believe it or not, the business will take care of itself until you get back. A sexual itch arising around the 1st deserves scratching.

Leo (July 21 - August 20)

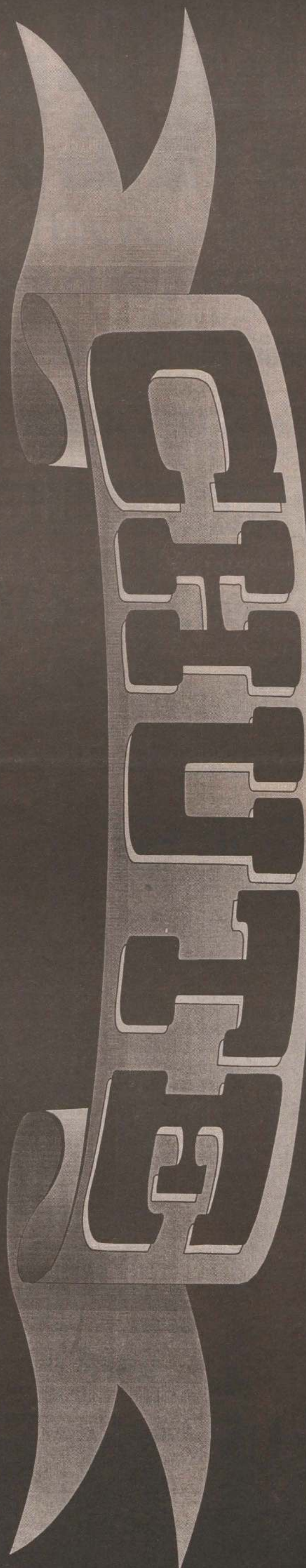
Like the little mouse in someone's college science experiment, you're zipping in and out of a winding maze looking for the proper path—one that will lead you to something sweet. Plans will take shape on or near the 30th that could point the way to the prize. Pay attention to those who wish to guide you. A big party or social gathering in early October could offer you a new chance to shine—avoid that tendency to overindulge and you'll make out fine.

Virgo (August 21 - September 20)

Now that things are settling back into a familiar routine, it's time to let your more imaginative and creative sides run free, and to loosen up a bit. Someone that at first seemed mysterious, even cold, could become a friend if you'll let your guard down a notch or two and allow some sharing in your latest project. Don't take your health for granted, particularly around the 2nd when a little inner voice will be saying, "Be careful. Be careful."

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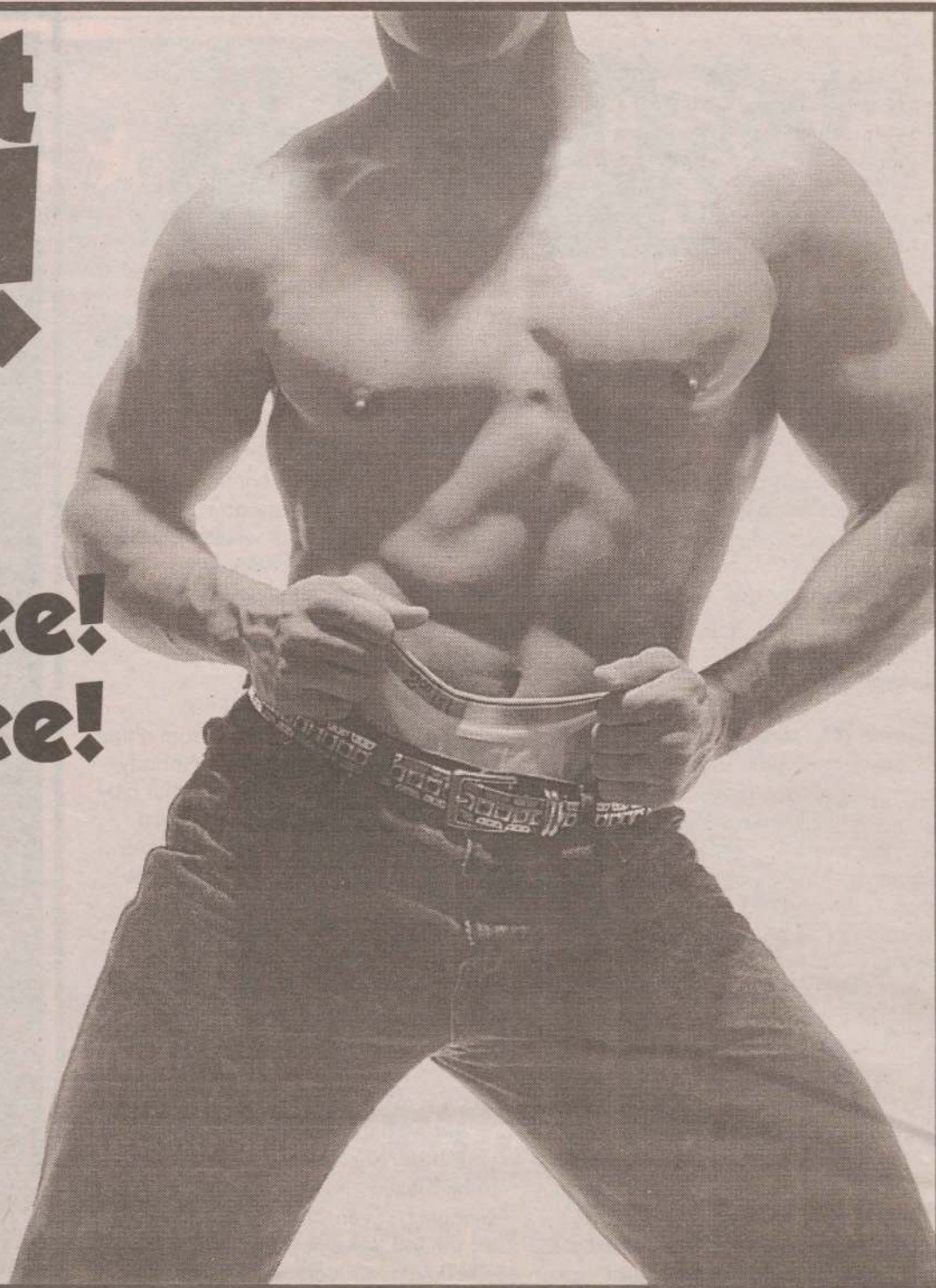
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Notable Quotes continued from page 19

"I just vacationed in P-Town with the boyfriend, and let me tell you: gays are just as boringly suburbanized as straights. ... The place was swarmed with lesbian couples vacationing with the kids and gay men clothed head to toe in Nike swooshes, Gap Khakis and HRC equal sign logos—all of them chomping down on artery-clogging, tastes-like-acoustical-ceiling-tiles, deep-fried processed fast food."

—Former NGLTF Communication Director Robert Bray, who now works with the Independent Media Institute, in an Aug. 26 interview with this column.

"You can put in there if you want that I'm still on the market. We're just dating."

—E! News Daily anchorman Steve Kmetko on his relationship with Olympic gold-medal diver Greg Louganis, in an interview with this column, Aug. 31.

"I think it's so important for young gay people to see a band that's made up of people who are like they are, and to see that being openly gay is not an issue any more. It's not an issue for us. In our individual, personal lives it may have been at one point, but it's not at all for either of us now."

—Heather Grody of the band The Murmurs to Michigan's *Between The Lines*, Aug. 19.

"I saw on the 5 o'clock news that I was pregnant. Why couldn't they pick up the phone and find out if I'm pregnant? If the news doesn't check something like that, they're probably not checking their stories about the White House either, so we really have no idea what's going on. They'll just go and report anything."

—Actress Anne Heche, Ellen DeGeneres' lover, to Vancouver's *The Georgia Straight*, Aug. 13.

"My mother remembers clearly the first time she thought I was gay. 'You were about 11, and we were in Paris. We all decided to play dress-up and take silly pictures. You dressed up in my black leather jacket and slicked your hair back, '50s-style. I thought, 'Oh, my God.' ... It was the last choice of how I wanted you to be.'"

—Chastity Bono quoting Cher in Bono's upcoming book, *Family Outing*.

"Tammy [Wynette] taught me how to sing. The voice you hear today on stage singing rock 'n' roll came from Tammy Wynette—'Your Good Girl's Gonna Go Bad' and 'D.I.V.O.R.C.E.'—it came from that. After I heard her, I never sang softly ever again."

—Lesbian rocker Melissa Etheridge to AP, Sept. 3.

"Well, actually, he did call me 'Missy' one time [during the interview]."

—Newsweek reporter John Leland on "ex-gay" poster boy

John Paulk, to the Boston radio program "One in Ten," as quoted in *Bay Windows*, Aug. 20.

"We must rid the world of the destructive notion that tragedy awaits unless we rigidly control sexuality with harsh, arbitrary rules; instead, we must demand that sexuality be governed by love and responsibility. This is gay liberation's enduring message."

—Editorial in the Sept. Boston-based magazine *The Guide*.

"Hate crime laws are patently unconstitutional; they violate the guarantee of equal protection under the law as well as punish expression protected by the First Amendment."

—Editor's response to a letter in the Sept. *The Guide*.

"It's odd that [gay writer] Eric Rofes, a long-time leftist activist, and [gay writer] Andrew Sullivan, known for his conservative views on gay issues as well as on affirmative action and feminism, would be in the same camp. But that's how AIDS denial works. It knows no political ideologies—it only knows the will to run away from reality, to forget the pain and the madness, to convince us that all is well and good. In the case of [AIDS researcher] David

Ho, a smart and well-meaning man, it's fueled by his desire to defend his positions to date and his role in getting us to this place [of protease-inhibitor successes]. For Andrew Sullivan, it's about proving to the world—and to himself—that all is under control and that his life (and thus everyone else's) will be fine and normal. For [syndicated sex-advice columnist] Dan Savage, it's about closing himself off in his relationship and pretending AIDS does not exist. And for Eric Rofes, like many who don't want to face prevention realities for similar reasons, it's about protecting gay sexual culture as it now exists, at all costs."

—Michelangelo Signorile in his September *Out* magazine column, his final work there.

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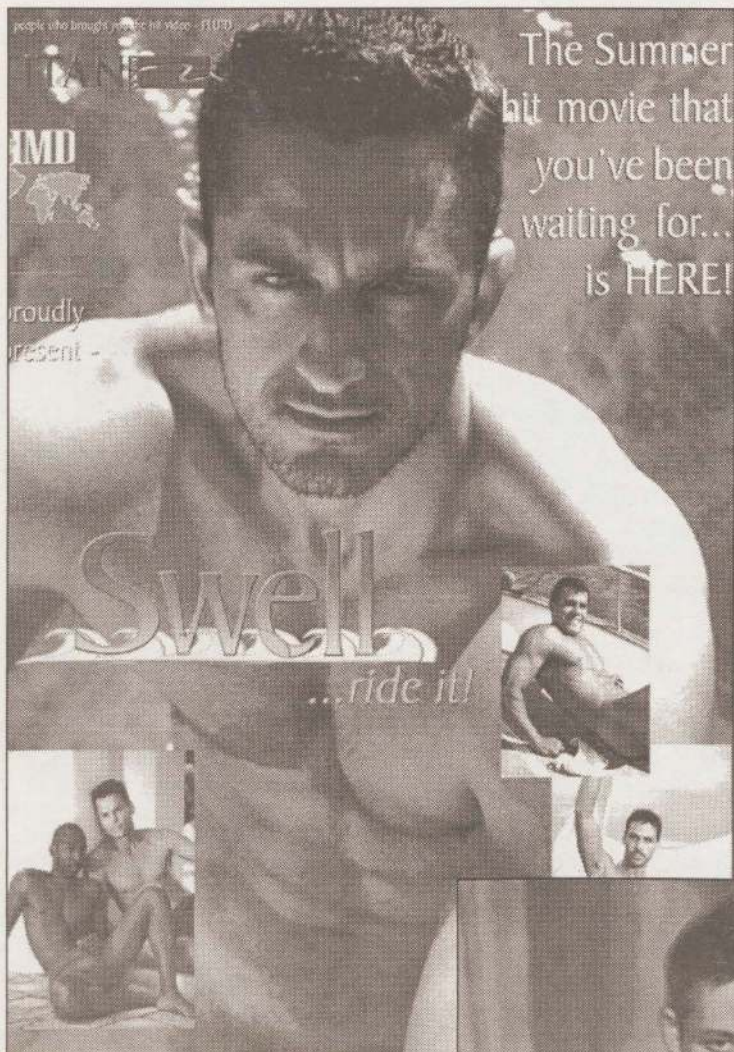
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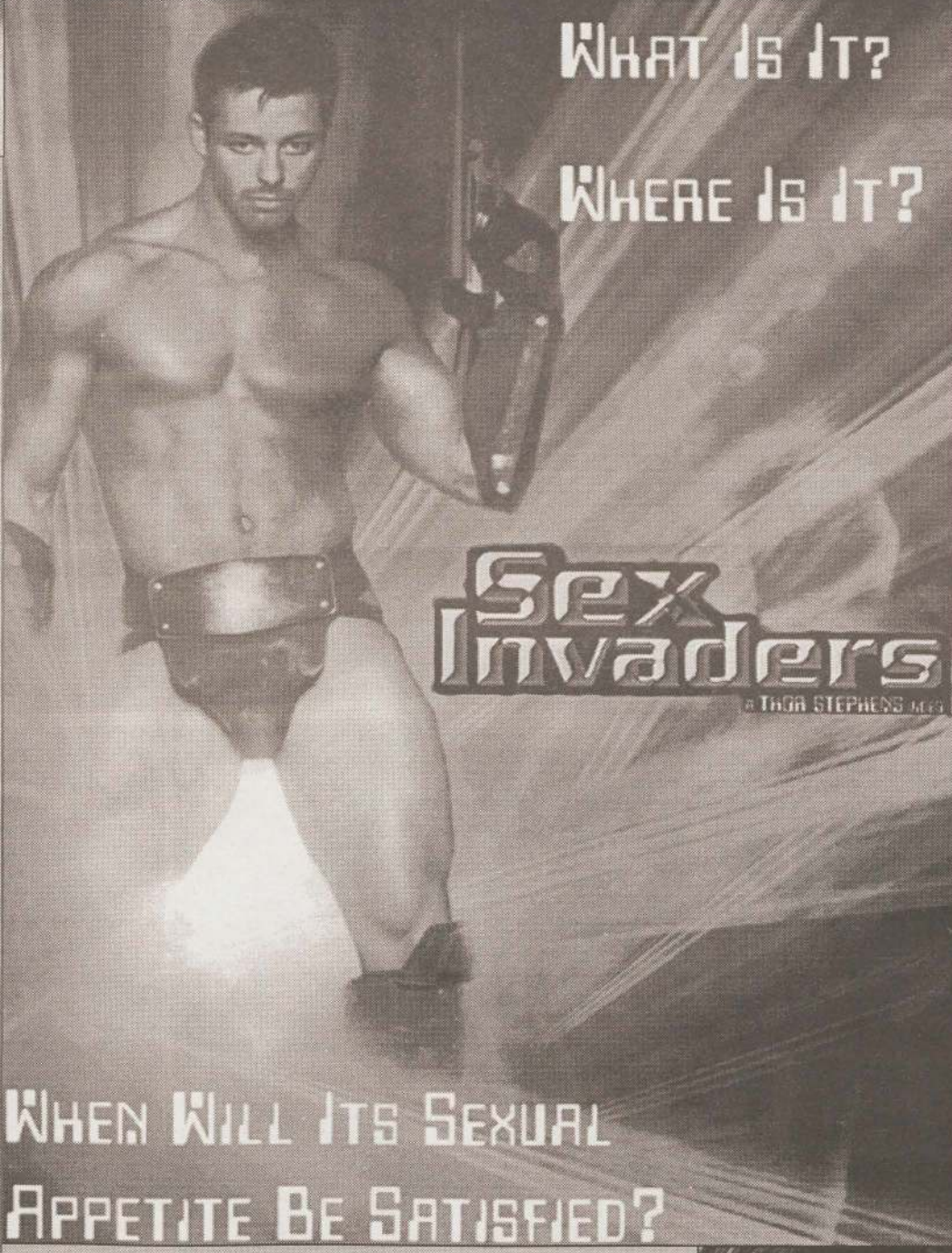
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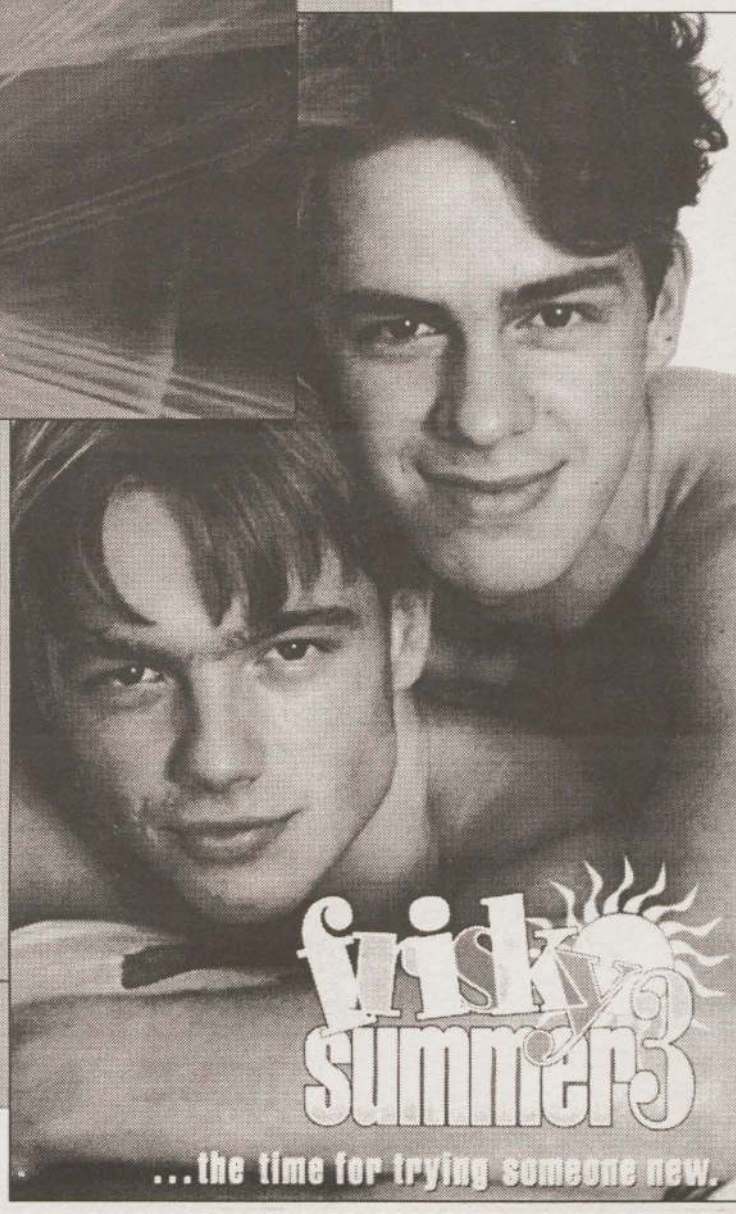
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