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8 photo-
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1 editorial by
don slutes

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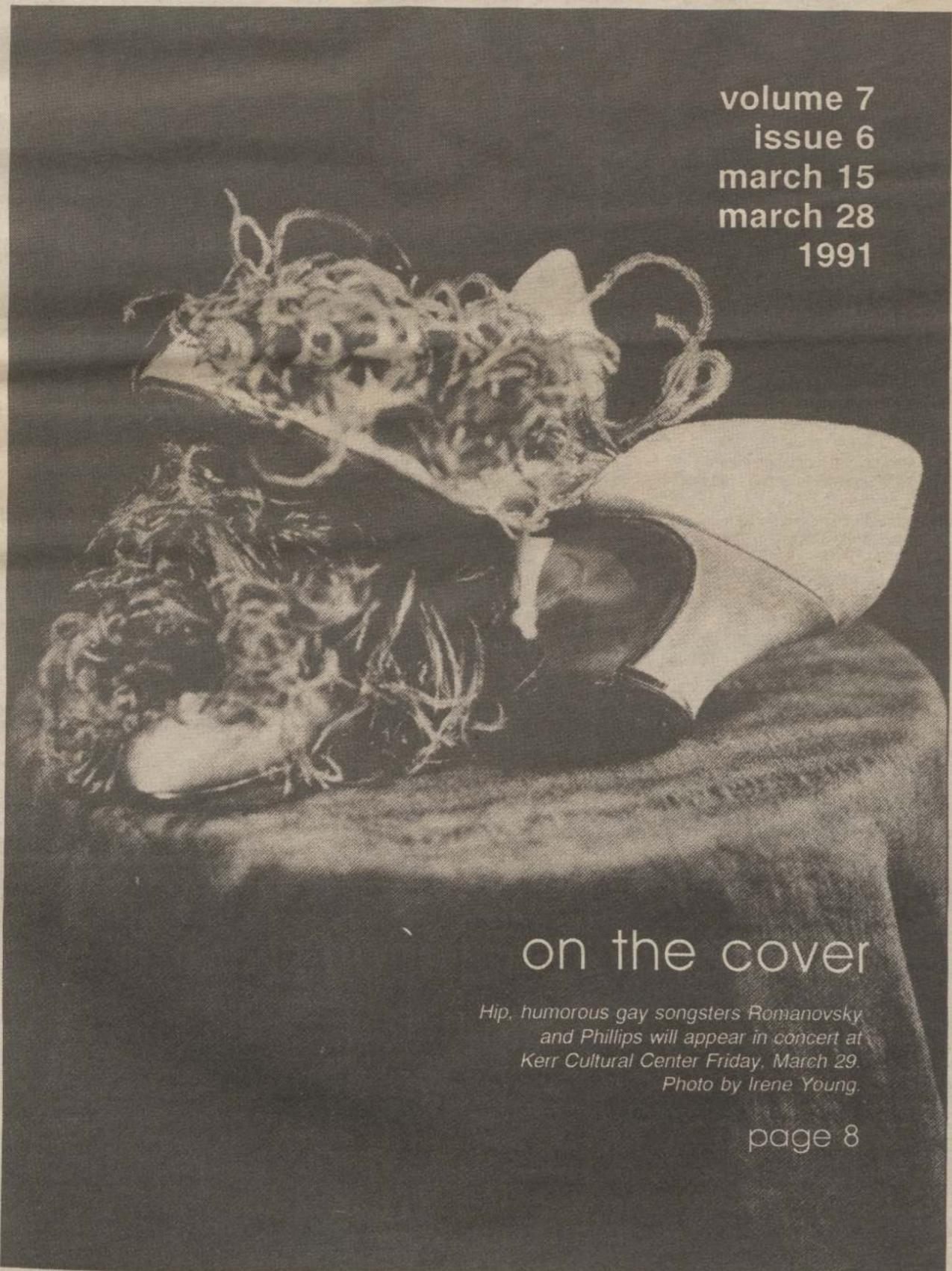
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on the cover

Hip, humorous gay songsters Romanovsky
and Phillips will appear in concert at
Kerr Cultural Center Friday, March 29.
Photo by Irene Young.

page 8

Gloria Swanson's Shoes from Kenneth Anger's Hollywood Babylon ©1978 Harper Books

Couple Fights for Recognition, Marriage

Marriage Vows Not Enough

BOSTON, MA—When Tim O'Connor was married in 1989, he went the traditional route: tuxedo, Bible readings, rings and a honeymoon. The ceremony reflected his Christian upbringing and a desire to have family and friends celebrate the lifelong commitment he was making.

But O'Connor did not have a marriage license, because in addition to the same hopes and dreams, he and his beloved share something else: their gender.

In their own eyes and in the eyes of their church, O'Connor and Jeff Stolz are married, but in the eyes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts they are not. O'Connor says he is being shortchanged as a result.

"It's clear we are missing out on things straight people can get very easily," O'Connor said. For example, Stolz cannot take advantage of O'Connor's health benefits, including dental care.

Across the country, gay and lesbian couples argue they are being denied basic rights because they cannot legally marry. Some have claimed successes; more than 550 San Franciscans became the first legally registered domestic partners in the city on Valentine's Day.

"The piece of paper they're getting does not itself create any obvious economic or legal benefits," said gay San Francisco Supervisor Harry Britt. "This is a statement from the people of San Francisco that we are part of the family, part of the community. We need that kind of statement from the people of Boston, Burlington and Butte, Montana."

But others are fighting in the courts for the right to wed, a right guaranteed only by Denmark. In Hawaii, three gay couples denied marriage licenses are awaiting hearings on their complaint filed against the state.

And when the District of Columbia court clerk refused to issue them a marriage license last fall, Craig Dean and Patrick Gill appealed.

"Marriage is a basic civil right all people have," said Dean, a 27-year-old attorney representing himself and his lover. "The fact we're not allowed to marry is oppressive and discriminatory."

Ivy Young, director of the Families Project at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, said the ban on same-sex marriages can be devastating.

"The impact is pretty severe, from issues around the workplace to parenting and custody to determining health care for a partner...to bereavement leave, to inheritance and property rights to pensions to social security," she said.

Others see the issue in political and symbolic terms. Gay attorney Katherine Triantafillou said the reverence for heterosexual marriage and the family is an enormous stereotype for gay people to overcome.

"Straight people and the law mostly consider gay people to be just sexual beings," she said. "There's a glaring misreading of what gay people are looking for. It reduces them to a genital activity." Marriage might help

gay people gain acceptance from a predominantly straight society, some say.

"This demonstrated to our families that being gay isn't just a phase," O'Connor said, describing his wedding in a Unitarian Universalist church. "This was helpful for our families to understand what we were doing. If we had done something completely non-traditional, they might not have understood."

But other gay activists are not enthusiastic about the push for same-sex marriages precisely because of the traditional nature of marriage.

"We must not fool ourselves into believing that marriage will make it acceptable to be gay or lesbian," wrote Paula Eitelbrick, legal director for the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund in New York.

"There's a deeper problem than the inability to marry," Eitelbrick said. "What I push for is a much more dramatic reform of the way we recognize family in society," without a reliance on marriage.

Eitelbrick has won inheritance rights to a rent controlled apartment for the gay lover of the deceased renter. She coerced a major airline to allow partners to use frequent flyer benefits previously granted only to family members.

Marriage "would be a troubling term not only for straight people, but also many in the gay community," said Tim Drake, chairman of the Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

"There are many in the community who think buying into the general concept of marriage is buying into a system that discriminates against them," he said. The group's legislative priority is to win passage of a gay civil rights law, similar to bills approved in Massachusetts and Wisconsin. Those two states prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment, housing, insurance and credit. Similar legislation is pending in Hawaii.

But Illinois gay activists continue to advocate domestic partner bills that would allow couples to register. Strategically, Drake and others believe a domestic partners registration may be more politically acceptable.

"Realistically, we're not expecting it to pass any time soon," Drake said. "This is to keep the debate alive."

For some couples who do not consider themselves activists, registration would be a pale substitute for marriage: They love each other, plan to spend their lives together and want family and friends to celebrate the joyous news.

"We love each other and want to get married," Dean said. "I don't like to think of us a test case."

"Let people define their own relationships," O'Connor said. "Our relationship fits in with the tradition of marriage—we're monogamous, live together and will take care of each other for the rest of our lives. We understand some people—gay and straight—don't buy into that. But this happens to be the structure we've chosen to take on for ourselves."

New Mexico Gay Rights Bill Fails

SANTA FE—The first attempt by gay rights groups to have legislation enacted to ban discrimination against homosexuals has been rejected by the Senate.

It failed earlier this month on a vote of 15-24. There is no similar bill in the House.

The bill, sponsored by Sen. Thomas Rutherford (D-Albuquerque), would have amended the state's human rights law.

Backed by a number of religious and civic organizations, the bill would have made discrimination against homosexuals illegal in the areas of employment, housing, public accommodations and consumer credit. "Discrimination is immoral, and that's all there is to it," Rutherford said during lengthy and sometimes emotional debate on the Senate floor.

Among supporters of the legislation were the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce and the Legislative Review Board of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, Rutherford said.

Opponents had a variety of objections to the bill. Several said it would not accomplish its purpose of reducing discrimination, nor would it promote tolerance.

Some said the phrase "sexual orientation" was too vague. Others said the proposed law would be burdensome to employers or infringe on the rights of landlords.

Sen. Raymond Kysar (R-Farmington) said homosexual behavior should not be elevated while drug addicts and alcoholics are put

behind bars.

Sen. Victor Marshall (R-Albuquerque) said the proposed law could have the undesirable effect of invading the privacy of employers or co-workers who might be asked to state their own sexual orientation when a homosexual worker complained of discrimination.

"It politicizes and publicizes matters that should indeed be private," Marshall said.

Supporters of the legislation argued that discrimination of all types should be eliminated and that it is the task of lawmakers to protect the rights of constituents.

"Discrimination is discrimination. Period," said Senate President Pro Tem Manny Aragon. His gay constituents face discrimination daily, the Albuquerque Democrat said.

"A person who has never been discriminated against can never understand what it feels like," said Sen. Mary Jane Garcia (D-Dona Ana) who said she had been discriminated against as a Hispanic.

Sen. Janice Paster (D-Albuquerque) who voted for the bill, said the issue was a difficult one because of the differing opinions in her district on the issue.

"Whatever your personal position may be about...sexual orientation, it is important for all of us to remember that this is a land of choice," she said.

"It's a question of fairness; it's a question of equal access to employment," said another Albuquerque Democrat, Shannon Robinson.

Gay Group Plans Restaurant Boycott

NASHVILLE, TN—Gay men and lesbians upset with what they view as discriminatory employment practices by the Cracker Barrel say they plan a national protest against the chain's 100 restaurants.

About 20 members of the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance picketed Nashville's busiest Cracker Barrel one Sunday last month, about the time the usual after-church crowds began arriving.

TGALA co-chair Abby Rubinfeld said later that more protests are in the works.

"We're planning a nationwide protest with the groups in Atlanta and Washington, D.C.," she said. "We never got any response to our request for a meeting (with Cracker Barrel president Dan Evins)."

The planned boycotts are to protest the Lebanon-based company's recently modified personnel policies to follow "traditional American values," which allow store managers to fire workers who do not demonstrate "normal heterosexual values."

Country Music Star Randy Travis Denies Queer Rumors

NASHVILLE, TN—Country music star Randy Travis has denied a story in a tabloid publication reporting that he is "secretly a homosexual."

"It made me angry," Travis says about the report. "I usually let things slide, but I couldn't this time."

He told a convention of radio station executives that there is not "a man alive on this planet" who could validate the story, which appeared in

TGALA sent a letter to Evins last week requesting a meeting to help executives develop an anti-discrimination policy. The meeting never materialized. Evins did not return telephone calls by the Associated Press.

TGALA has been working with Queer Nation in Atlanta and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force to persuade Cracker Barrel to change its personnel policies.

Earlier this year, Cracker Barrel headquarters issued a policy stating "it is perceived to be inconsistent with those of our customer base to continue to employ individuals...whose sexual preferences fail to demonstrate normal heterosexual values which have been the foundation of families in our society."

A handful of workers, most of them in Georgia, were fired.

The company later backed down from that policy, saying that it was a well-intentioned overreaction to the perceived reaction of Cracker Barrel customers to gay employees.

the March 12 edition of *The National Examiner*.

Evelyn Shriver, Travis' publicist, says the report unnerved the normally easygoing singer.

"I've never seen him so upset about something like that," she says.

Travis, who is single, is known for hit records such as "Forever and Ever, Amen" and his current "Heroes and Friends."

Candice Nagel Resigns

Former Legislator Cites Ill Health

PHOENIX--The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors has yet another vacancy to fill in the Arizona House. Phoenix Republican Candice Nagel, who was implicated but not indicted in a police political corruption sting, resigned on Thursday, March 7 in a letter to House Speaker Jane Hull (R-Phoenix), saying she had "never fully recovered" from a serious illness last summer.

"One thing ill health does is make you realize the importance of your family and personal well being," Ms. Nagel said in her letter of resignation. "Therefore, at this time it becomes necessary for me to abdicate my position in the House of Representatives."

Ms. Nagel, who represented District 24 in northeastern Maricopa County, was the target of a recall campaign stemming from the police corruption sting.

She has not been charged with any crime. According to police transcripts of meetings involving her and undercover police informer Joseph Stedino, Ms. Nagel initially agreed to accept a campaign donation of more than \$2,000 but later changed her mind and turned it down.

Thomas Baker, a key organizer of the recall drive, said he was "very pleased" with Ms. Nagel's resignation.

He said the group had collected more than 5,000 of the 7,200 signatures needed to force a recall election and that he had intended to file the petitions with the secretary of state's office in about two weeks.

Baker also said the recall

committee had "served notice" on the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors "that we would want a little input into who is selected as our next legislator."

He said he had no particular candidate in mind, but wanted the position to go to "a conservative Republican."

Baker also said that if the group did not approve of the county board's selection it would attempt to recall that person as well.

Ms. Nagel was out of town and not available for comment.

Several of her House colleagues expressed surprise and sadness at her resignation.

Rep. Bill Mundell (R-Chandler) said he believed her physical condition had been aggravated by the stress of the police investigation and recall.

"It's a very stressful time for all of us," Mundell said. "A lot of people are re-evaluating their whole political involvement."

Mrs. Hull said she had been told by Ms. Nagel that she was considering resigning because of her health.

"I think she had to do what was best for her family," Mrs. Hull said.

The county board has 10 days to appoint Ms. Nagel's successor, who is the fourth House member to resign this year.

Earlier, Phoenix Democrat Earl Wilcox resigned to accept an appointment as a justice of the peace. And Reps. Bobby Raymond (D-Phoenix) and Don Kenney (R-Phoenix) both resigned after they were indicted in the corruption probe.

Gay Soldiers Fight War on Two Fronts

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—A few days before her unit was sent to the Persian Gulf, Army reservist Donna Jackson told superiors she was a lesbian who was proud to serve. She was promptly discharged.

Jackson spent the war in front of her TV set, worrying about her old unit, the 129th Evacuation Hospital, and wondering why the military decided she was unfit to serve.

"I was ready to go and willing to go," said Jackson, who received an honorable discharge in January. "I don't see why we can't be who we are."

Jackson is not alone, say gay rights advocates who estimate that 20,000 to 50,000 homosexuals served in Operation Desert Storm, based on their assumption that about 10 percent of the adult U.S. population is homosexual.

"Gay men and lesbians are fighting two wars," said Allan Berube, author of *Coming Out Under Fire*, a book about homosexuals in World War II.

The secret of homosexual soldiers extends to the home front, as lovers keep up the charade with carefully worded letters and messages that won't betray their partners, advocates say.

"People in the gulf have difficulty communicating with loved ones at home. Their mail is open to censor. They have to be very careful. The phone calls home you see people making on TV—we can't do any of that," said William B. Rubenstein, director of the New York-based Lesbian and Gay Rights Project of the American Civil

Liberties Union.

So, Tammy becomes Tommy; Christy becomes Chris.

"It's like a game," Jackson said. "You just have to be sure and get the pronouns right and not slip up."

Pentagon officials have declined to discuss the situation, citing previous statements that gay soldiers impair the military's ability to foster mutual trust and maintain discipline. Advocates say this is unfair and clearly mistaken.

"People who are gay will be coming back who fought and the military will have a hard time explaining why that happened because our presence is supposed to be disruptive in the military," according to Paul Di Donato, executive director of the San Francisco-based National Gay Rights Advocates.

Miriam Ben-Shalom, an Army reserve drill sergeant who fought her dismissal up to the U.S. Supreme Court, is among those trying to get Congress to lift the ban.

Ben-Shalom fought her ouster from the mid-1970s to 1990, when the high court declined to hear her case.

Now, as head of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America, she hopes controversy over the Persian Gulf will further the fight for recognition.

"What was a very singular and rather a lonely fight caught the nation's attention and so I believe that we may have lost a skirmish in terms of going to the Supreme Court, but I think we're going to win the war," she said.

First Openly Gay Texas Legislator Makes Promises

AUSTIN—Texas' first openly gay lawmaker says he's a "total political animal," active for more than 20 years in civil rights, environmental and peace movements.

But Glen Maxey said he was afraid to campaign for gay issues because it might hurt his political future—"until a disease put a face on that fear."

"All of that became secondary to dealing with friends dying. I go home every day, every night and see friends who I know won't be here a year from now."

"Most people, in their lifetimes, take their Rolodexes and pull out the people who have moved away. I've pulled more people out who've died, in the last three years."

When Maxey is sworn into the Texas House, he intends to wear a pair of cowboy boots borrowed from a friend dying of AIDS.

"They're symbolically some awful big boots to fill. That's people who need a representative," Maxey said.

Maxey won a runoff election in March against Austin lawyer David Rodriguez to fill the House seat vacated by former Rep. Lena Guerrero, who was appointed to the Texas Railroad Commission.

Maxey is the past director of the Lesbian-Gay Rights Lobby of Texas. He has been a schoolteacher and a legislative aide.

The son of working-class Baytown parents, Maxey said he first became interested in civil rights issues while working for his sister's touring rodeo company in Louisiana in the late 1960s. The integrated company was the target of prejudice, including being refused service in restaurants.

In college, Maxey got involved in many issues of the day—protesting the Vietnam War, protecting the environment, registering students after the voting age was lowered to 18.

"I'm a total political animal. I have carried every sign—you name it. I marched for the ERA, I marched against the war. I was in the first Earth Day parade. I fought to save the whales

and the baby seals," he said.

But it took the AIDS crisis to start him working on gay issues, Maxey said.

In November 1985, he began organizing opposition to a proposal to allow quarantining of people with AIDS. That brought his personal life into the spotlight.

Gov. Ann Richards, a friend of Maxey's, and House Speaker Gib Lewis said they'd be surprised if his sexual preference poses a problem in the House.

Former state Sen. Kent Caperton, whose 1980 Senate campaign Maxey helped run, agreed.

"If Glen had openly acknowledged his homosexuality back in '80, I think it would have affected his credibility a lot," Caperton said. "But I think we've seen a lot of change in the political climate, and I think he'll be an effective voice."

Perhaps a bigger issue is that Maxey is the first non-Hispanic in 17 years to represent the heavily student, minority and working-class district. He follows Ms. Guerrero and now-state Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos.

"At the end of this legislative session, I will have to ask myself and I expect the Hispanic community to ask me to find the single time that I had voted any differently than a Hispanic legislator would have done," Maxey said. "I will challenge them now, because I intend to be perfect on the issues of that community."

Ms. Guerrero said, "There isn't any doubt that the Hispanic community and the liberal community of the district have selected representation that is amenable to both, and in this case they chose Glen."

Maxey said he intends to focus on education, the environment and primary health care, especially Medicaid reform and AIDS funding.

"I have a new job. I'm not the lobbyist for the gay community, I'm the representative for my district. But I will never deny my community and who I am," he said.

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FIERCE STATISTICS SHOW
VIOLENCE IN THE

AN INCREASE IN ANTI-GAY
UNITED STATES

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ay bashing has reached a national extreme, according to hate crimes statistics sampled from around the country.

Cases of anti-gay violence and harassment rose 42 percent last year, a survey of six major U.S. cities found. The poll, compiled by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute, was released in New York on Wednesday, March 6, which

the organization designated "National Awareness Day on Anti-Lesbian and Gay Violence."

The Washington-based institute found 1,588 reported incidents of anti-gay violence in 1990 in New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, Boston and Minneapolis-St. Paul. They ranged from verbal assaults and police abuse, to arson and murder.

The task force collected its statistics from gay service organizations in each metropolitan area. Statistically, they found: New York had 507 incidents in 1990, up 65 percent from 1989; San Francisco 425, up 29 percent; Los Angeles 199, up 20 percent; Chicago 198, up 11 percent; Boston area 147, up 75 percent; and Minneapolis-St. Paul area 112, up 133 percent.

Among these, five percent of the total involved anti-AIDS epithets, the same percentage as in 1989. But the report also noted that AIDS and HIV "are used as an excuse for anti-gay and anti-lesbian violence."

BUCOLIC BASHING

Additional reports from rural areas of North Carolina and Wisconsin claim that an increase in gay bashing is due in part to a new openness about homosexuality and the fear of AIDS.

Acts of violence and discrimination against homosexuals in North Carolina averaged four a day in 1990, according to a report from the Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equality.

The report was based on calls to hotlines run by gay and lesbian community-service agencies and from documentation projects in Greensboro, Charlotte, Asheville and Winston-Salem. The report lists 1,530 acts of harassment, threats, vandalism, assault and discrimination. That total does not include 376 acts of violence toward homosexuals by members of their own families. The report calls for several actions by state and local government to reduce acts of violence against homosexuals, such as prosecution of hate-related crimes and the addition to anti-discrimination statutes of the freedom of sexual orientation.

VISIBILITY A FACTOR

Activists who compiled the report agree with their rural counterparts. They concur that the greater visibility of homosexuals in America has opened social doors for them, but it also has made more of them targets of abuse.

"Greater visibility...has been enormously empowering and has opened doors to understanding and acceptance," the report said. "However, it also has triggered hostility and made gay and lesbian people a more identifiable target for potential assailants."

"People who hate us are striking out against that visibility to drive us back into the silence and invisibility of the closet," according to task force spokesman Robert Bray.

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Kevin Berrill, director of the task force's Anti-Violence Project, also attributed the increased numbers partly to greater awareness and willingness of victims to come forward.

"However, such large increases, especially in the number of physical assaults, indicate that the severity of the problem has grown as well," he said.

POLICE REPORTS REBUT

While police departments in the six primary cities also reported a huge jump in anti-gay crimes, their figures were not anywhere near those found by the service agencies.

In 1990, New York police recorded 265 incidents, compared with 156 in 1989, according to the report.

"More people are willing to come forward and talk to us than are willing to get involved with the criminal justice system," said Matt Foreman, head of the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project, in explaining the differing numbers.

In addition, he said police are often reluctant to classify crimes as bias-related, or lack the training to recognize and deal sensitively with such incidents.

"Most local police departments do not monitor hate crimes, and fewer still do so in a competent and sensitive way," Berrill said. "We need to make sure that the resources and the will are there to do this properly."

"Only when we have official data on the problem, will we have an adequate official response to it."

QUEERS CHEER, JEER

Public acknowledgement of "National Awareness Day" was spirited, as officials in most major cities organized communal demonstrations.

"Gay bashers beware, because we are not going to tolerate your vicious activities in this city," San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos told a gathering of 50 gay rights advocates on the steps of City Hall.

"Listen up, Jesse Helms," San Francisco School Board member Tom Ammiano said as he urged the group to blow plastic whistles in a protest designed to draw attention to gay bashing and illustrate a form of self-defense.

In Los Angeles, Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy announced his support of a bill to double sentences and eliminate the \$30,000 award ceiling in civil suits for hate crimes against minorities, including homosexuals.

New York state Attorney General Robert Abrams told a news conference in New York City, "These crimes are intolerable, not only because of the suffering they cause to innocent victims, but also because they are uniquely destructive to the social fabric."

Ann Sanders, Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn's liaison to the lesbian and gay community, called police-related incidents in particular "alarming." She noted that Boston Police Commissioner Francis Roache has said repeatedly that he will discipline officers found guilty of discriminating against any minority group.

At the San Francisco demonstration, Andrea Palash, an attorney with National Gay Rights Advocates, was among the whistle blowers.

"I think this is an extremely significant event," Palash said. "It is always nice when we have an opportunity to gather and we can see our own strength," she said. "It is really important that we are being taken seriously."

The Hating Game

by Don Slutes

An indication of the changes in Arizona politics resulting from the 1990 elections may be found in the progress of a statewide "hate crimes" bill, now making its way through the state Senate. The measure, Senate Bill 1183, is being promoted by a vigorous new Attorney General, and stands a good chance of being passed by a somewhat more moderate Legislature.

S.B. 1183, sponsored on behalf the AG's office by Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman David Bartlett (D-Tucson), defines crimes of hate, classifies any such crime as a felony, compels the collection of data about hate crimes, and prescribes awareness training for law enforcement agencies.

Hate crimes legislation is a response to a perceived increase in the number and ferocity of crimes stemming from racial, ethnic, and "lifestyle" animosity. A recently enacted federal version of the legislation compels the Justice Department to collect statistics on violence, vandalism, and terror perpetrated by skinheads, neo-Nazis, gay-bashers, etc., against African Americans, Asian Americans, Jews, lesbians and

gay men, etc.

Critics of the concept of "hate crimes" point out that assault and vandalism are already considered crimes. Adding this category of criminal behavior is unnecessary at best, and, at worst, threatens to turn law enforcement officers into thought police, they say. Who's to say in many cases whether a person bashes another person out of racial hatred or simply out of pure, spontaneous anger? And why should someone who spray-paints Nazi slogans on a synagogue be treated differently from someone who spray-paints meaningless obscenities on some other building?

The answer lies in the chilling nature of a crime that stems solely from hatred of a category of people. When a Chinese-American church is vandalized and spray-painted with xenophobic slogans, it's not just the minister's problem; it causes a ripple of fear through the entire Chinese-American community. When a man is brutally beaten outside a gay club, another entire community begins to fear for its safety. In contrast, when a white male attacks another white male and steals his wallet, you do not see white males across the city suddenly paralyzed by the thought that merely being white and male makes them targets of crime. Hate crimes have a significantly negative effect within the communities in which they

occur, ultimately depriving the victimized communities of their right to exist freely.

As originally rendered by Attorney General Grant Woods' office, Arizona's bill followed the federal hate crimes standard which included violence based on the victims' sexual orientation. During its initial hearing in the state Senate Judiciary Committee on March 5, only one concerned citizen spoke up against inclusion of sexual orientation. Cathi Herrod of Concerned Women of America, a conservative, pro-"family values" lobbying group, first questioned the need for any hate crimes measures, citing some of the usual arguments. However, the bulk of her criticism concerned the "sexual

including Niemann and Kurtz, and agreed to add gender and disability to the bill's categories.

The revised bill was approved by the Judiciary Committee by a party-line vote of 5-4 on Tuesday, March 12, and now faces a vote by the full Senate before moving over the state House of Representatives. Voting to recommend the bill were Bartlett, assistant committee chairman Chuck Blanchard, Sens. Lela Alston, Stan Furman, and Manuel Peña—the five Democrats on the committee, all from the Phoenix area. All four Republican committee members voted against: John Greene, from north Phoenix; Lester Pearce, Mesa; Jim Buster, Yuma; and Bob Denny, Litchfield Park.

Who's to say whether a person bashes another person out of racial hatred or pure, spontaneous anger?

orientation" clause; she declared that unlike race or ethnicity, homosexuality is a behavior or lifestyle and as such is not worthy of comparable protection. She told the committee that hate crimes legislation is a "cornerstone of the homosexual political agenda," pointing out that never before in Arizona had homosexuals been recognized as a protected class.

About the last point, Herrod is correct. A law that equates fag-bashing with interracial violence goes a long way toward establishing that gay men and lesbians constitute a legitimate minority group. And the idea that the once-neolithic Arizona Legislature could actually put its stamp of approval on this law is nothing short of revolutionary.

During the March 5 committee hearing, a few other concerns were raised. Several people—including Dianne Post, of the Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and Marcia Niemann, of the Tucson Women's Commission—came forward to ask that hate-based violence against women be included in the bill. Bruce Kurtz, of ACT UP Phoenix, argued that violence against the disabled (which, by the federal definition, includes people with AIDS) should also be included.

Louis Rhodes of the Arizona Civil Liberties Union attacked some sloppy language in the bill that could conceivably suppress free speech. Everyone has the right to be a bigot and to make bigoted remarks, Rhodes said; the emphasis should be placed more explicitly on the actions, not the words. (His other reservation concerned the addition of yet another felony classification to Arizona's criminal justice menu.)

Following testimony, the Judiciary Committee wisely remanded the bill to the Attorney General's office to address the free-speech concerns. And while the bill was undergoing revision, the AG's office met with some of the other concerned parties,

The Attorney General's office expects a rough time in the full Senate, and gay-community activists are bracing for floor amendments designed to strip out the sexual orientation language. The AG's office expects to fare better in the state House of Representatives, where the office's polling shows that the measure should pass easily. Still, as long as right-wing stalwarts like Rep. Leslie Whiting Johnson (R-Mesa) exist, we must expect pernicious amendments to bog down the debate.

A comprehensive hate crimes law would benefit not only the individual groups it aims to protect, but could also begin the healing process for a state that has too long seemed like a haven for bigotry.

Armchair Activism

Arizona's Hate Crimes bill may come up for a floor vote in the state Senate as early as Wednesday or Thursday, March 20 or 21. Anyone interested in helping pass this legislation can do so by making a few phone calls:

The first call should be to the Capitol switchboard, at 542-4900. The operator can tell you how to find out about the progress of the bill, as well as the name and number of your elected representatives.

Next, when the bill is about to come to the floor of either the Senate or the House of Representatives, call the appropriate legislator(s) from your district and express your support for S.B. 1183 ("Crimes of Hate"), and your opposition to any amendments which may remove the "sexual orientation" language.

Finally, you should call your friends and have them do the same.



4093-97



They don't know it, but Ron Romanovsky and Paul Phillips helped me through the longest, most arduous gay male relationship in the history of homosexuality.

In the summer of 1985, my sister abandoned her hot boyfriend and her crumbling Volvo and headed for Oceanside, to walk in the waves and eat potato knishes and, as it turned out, have her uterus removed. Pre-hysterectomy, she'd grown weary of her shiftless paramour, her job at the soda fountain and her tacky apartment on Bethany Home Road. She wanted out, and she left me with a kiss on the forehead, a wrecked automobile, and a baffling admonition: "Quit this writing jazz and meet some nice guy." I'd rather she'd left me her boyfriend.

by perry shurtz photography by irene young

The Volvo didn't run, but there were a lot of cassette tapes in the glove box. One of them was Romanovsky and Phillips' *I Thought You'd Be Taller*. I played it ceaselessly, until the hot number next door pounded on my door, yelling profanities and threatening to turn me in to management. I invited him in, cooked him dinner, and made him listen to these two sissies singing about guilt and homosex and Frances Farmer. He moved in the following day.

Three months later Dishy Neighbor had discovered gay bars and I was dying a thousand deaths, in love with an odious wastrel who'd forsaken me for carnal ritualization. By this time, Ron and Paul had released their second album, and I was attempting a new identity, fueled by a desire to forget my asshole lover by forgetting myself. "What Kind of Self Respecting Faggot Am I?" I asked myself, quoting the lyrics to what would become Romanovsky and Phillips' Big Career Hit. Ron and Paul's glib, politically correct liner notes caused me to reflect on the state of my affairs, and after pitching my pseudo-sweetheart out on his lecherous ear, I joined Save the Gay Whales, a group of queers whose aim was to disenfranchise hetero-fascist assassins of sea mammals and expose Ronald Reagan, Jr. as a queer.

But that was eons ago. I hardly ever think of my ex-lover or whales or Nancy Reagan's ballerina son any more. Today I am a self-empowered ecology activist drag queen (Ron and Paul's third album featured a song about cross-dressing) with a new cause. I chair a local twelve-step program designed to heal hollow, insincere fags who worship gay musical icons. My life is complete.

Ron Romanovsky and Paul Phillips will appear in concert at Kerr Cultural Center Friday, March 29 at 8pm.

Perry Shurtz is a freelance writer whose work has appeared in gay journals Look Ma! No Hands! and Outlines. His collection of short stories, Please Don't Let Them Take Toto Away, will be published by Window Woods Press in May.

I recently went to a mortgage-burning party at some women's land. Forty women, child to crone, trooped along the muddy road that ran up a grassy sloping hillside ringed with small houses. There was bulb planting and folk dancing and dinner in one home and dessert in another. At dark the women converged on a star-high bonfire to tell tales of the land and to sing. That triumphant evening took me back twenty years to other fires, other groups of women, other songs. To the Girl Scouts.

I was kicked out of the Brownies, voted president of my Girl Scout Troop, spent two years as a counselor at an overnight camp, and another year at the closeted professional level. And I've found that the only thing more common than lentils at a lesbian potluck is former Girl Scouts.

In no way do I want to imply by my story that the Girl Scouts are a lesbian organization. I do think the separatist experience of working and playing with women and girls presents options the patriarchal status quo might consider dangerous, but that's an innocent by-product of Scouting.

I'd like to think that my expulsion from the garden of Brownies was due to a suspicion of my sinister tendencies, but if so, it wasn't voiced. I didn't fit in and missed too many meetings.

It took a few years to recover from this humiliation and join another troop. The presidency was a surprise, since I was still awkward, tongue-tied and couldn't sing, a talent as handy in Scouting as it is now for lesbian circling. The female adults, though, kept telling me I had leadership qualities. I suspect that was my first exposure to the Straight Girl Syndrome. Shhh! They're all secretly attracted to androgyny.

by lee lynch

Girl Scouts was the first time in puberty that I fell in love. She was the leader, a married mother who made me light-headed when she was near. I wanted to impress her so much I slathered my uniform sash with badges. It didn't work.

Years later, as a counselor, I was suddenly cloistered with a dozen dykey-looking peers. But I'd been out for four years, had played in the seamy streets of Greenwich Village, drunk in its bars and had certainly not been "clean in thought, word and deed." I felt like a raving bulldagger let loose in a Girl Scout camp.

Of course I fell in love first thing. She was Catholic and I really did feel like one of those filthy creatures I'd read about in the drugstore books, one of those mannish women who was sick and headed for drunkenness and suicide. How could I lay a hand on a girl who was considering a nunnery?

When I realized at age 26 that being a big city cab driver wasn't after all my life's ambition and was offered a position as a field executive with a Girl Scout Council, I grabbed it. Incidentally, I'd also fallen in love at the interview.

But the closet is professional Scouting's most popular badge. I learned that red noses were a good tip-off to the dykes. Sadly, the more a professional drank, the more likely that she was queer. It was the closeted dykes who were dying of drink, while we raving bulldaggers were doing fine.

And still are doing fine, raving and singing and falling in love around our fires. On triumphantly woman-owned land.

Lee Lynch's eighth book, That Old Studebaker, has just been released by Naiad Press.

big screen

Class Action: Gene Hackman and Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio play father-daughter lawyers with vast political differences who also oppose each other in the courtroom. Directed by Michael Apted.

New Jack City: First-time director Mario (son of Melvin) Van Peebles puts his own spin on the gangster movie. Wesley Snipes is a drug lord brought down by an undercover cop (rapper Ice-T) in the very best good-guy-vs.-bad-guy tradition.

The Hard Way: A wildly successful movie star (Michael J. Fox) wants to land a tough-guy cop role. To research the part, he hooks up with an NYPD detective (James Woods) who is investigating a series of murders. Directed by John Badham.

Oscar: Sylvester Stallone gives comedy another shot (remember *Rhinestone*?) as Snaps Provolone, a mobster who tries to clean up his act. He starts by moving from New Jersey to Long Island, and it's all downhill from there. John Landis directed.

FX 2: A special effects sequel with beefcake (Bryan Brown and Brian Dennehy) and red herrings galore. Directed by Richard Franklin.

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles II: The Secret of the Ooze: Some things should remain secret. Those zillionaire turtles are back with two new mutants created by the late Jim Henson's Creature Shop.



blanco/aurora

Acclaimed gay minstrels Romanovsky and Phillips will perform big hits and new material in one show at Kerr Cultural Center, Friday, March 29

The Price of Our Blood: Hard-to-kill (at least at the box office) Steven Seagal co-wrote and stars in this new cops-and-killers action thriller.

Hollywood: Yesterday and Today: You think you know Southern California. Think again. This film, produced by Clay Francisco, offers a revealing look at the people and sights of one of the world's most famous places. March 26 at the Sundome, 8pm. Tickets are \$5, on sale at the Sundome, Gammage, Activity Center and Dillard's box offices. 975-1900.

The Doors: Val Kilmer as sexy dead rock star Jim Morrison? Okay. Meg Ryan as Pamela, his common-law wife? Maybe. But Crispin Glover as Andy Warhol? We can't wait. Directed by Oliver "Master-of-the-light-touch" Stone.

video

Flatliners: A charismatic medical student convinces his classmates to "flatline"—temporarily shut down their heart and brain functions to experience clinical death. The experiment is a success, until the students realize that although they come back alive...they haven't come back alone. Starring Keifer Sutherland, Julia Roberts and Kevin Bacon. Directed by Joel Schumacher.

State of Grace: Critics unduly dismissed this movie as a failed star vehicle. Sean Penn stars as a well-intentioned New York Irish punk who runs errands for a Westies-type gang and ends up anguishing about ratting on his friends. Director Phil Joanou has a refreshingly offbeat take on gangster movies, blending the gritty, mundane scenery of *Good Fellas* with the operatic family tragedy of *The Godfather*. Despite its rep, this movie offers impressive star turns by Robin Wright, Ed Harris, Hoh Turturro and especially Gary Oldman as a greasy but virtuous loser who religiously pursues the bottle as his only deliverance from Hell's Kitchen.

Darkman: Enough visual panache for three movies and right up there in DC Comics

Roberts Gallery: Through March 31, exotic feather masks and sculpture by Southwestern artist Virgil M. Walker. 34505 N. Scottsdale Rd., el Pedregal, Carefree. 488-1088

Alwun House: "The Terrible Dance of Power: Artists Respond to War," through March 24. Viewing hours are 11am to 6pm Tuesday through Friday; donation is \$2 (free to members). 1204 E. Roosevelt.



Novena Trail: Nonsense, which copped a wimple-full of Zonie Awards, nears its eleventh month on the boards at Actors Lab. Amen.

Phoenix Art Museum: "4,000 Years of Chinese Ceramics" exhibit, featuring new acquisitions and major works from the museum's Wong Collection continues throughout 1991. "Swords of the Samurai" showing continues in the Asian Gallery through July 7. "Face to Face" showing selected portraiture from the permanent collections remains on view in the lower-level Art Attack Gallery through May 19. 1625 N. Central. 257-1880

Scottsdale Artists' School: Fifth Annual Best and Brightest art show and sale, March 15 and 16. Exhibition hours for the show and sale are 9am-4pm, Friday, March 15, and 10am-4pm Saturday, March 16. Admission is free. 7031 E. Camelback Rd., Suite 201, Scottsdale. The school is in the Camelback Mall at Camelback Rd. and Goldwater Blvd., two blocks west of Scottsdale Rd. For more info about the show, call S.A.S. at 990-1422.

Scottsdale Celebration of Fine Art: Through April 15, arts festival featuring oils, watercolors, ceramics, jewelry, sculpture, glass, wood, photography and weavings, along with a restaurant and fast-food, from 10am to dusk daily. Scottsdale Rd. and Highland Ave., Scottsdale.

Leslie Levy Fine Art Gallery: Limited Edition serigraphs by young Chinese artist Chase Chenoff. 7135 Main St., Scottsdale. 947-2925

Gammage Auditorium Designer Exhibit: Through April 8, an exhibition of work by members of Arizona Designer Craftsmen. Displayed in the main floor and

grand tier galleries will be quilts, weavings, ceramics, mixed-media works and jewelry. Exhibit hours at Gammage Auditorium are noon to 4pm Mon. through Sat. except for holidays. For special tours or more information call 965-5062.

Norman's Fina Cocina: Through Mar. 22, "MARS Detour '91," a group exhibit of new work by member artists. 130 N. Central. 258-5315

The Joanne Rapp Gallery: Through March 31, new jewelry forms by Cornelia Roethel; porcelain boxes and carved, celadon-glazed boxes by Janel Jacobson; an installation of new works by Eddie Dominguez; and turned-wood vessels and bowls by Ed Mouthrop and Philip Mouthrop. Also, jewelry forms inspired by Picasso portraits of women by Wendy Ramshaw. 4222 N. Marshall Way, Scottsdale. 946-4529

Arizona Museum of Science and Technology: Through May 27, robotic ice-age models of brilliantly crafted beasts have not been seen in the state before and will be displayed with fun, interactive exhibits about the ice age. 80 N. 2nd St. 256-9388

Scottsdale Center for the Arts: Frank Lloyd Wright "In the Realm of Ideas," New Directions Gallery, now through April 7. 7383 Scottsdale Mall. 994-2787.

culture buzz

Romanovsky and Phillips: The only gay singing duo that matters will perform one show at Kerr Cultural Center, 8pm Friday, March 29. The boys will present R&P standards plus brand new never-before-heard cuts from their forthcoming album. Tickets are \$14 at Dillard's, Gammage, Kerr Center, or ASU Activity Center. 6110 N. Scottsdale Rd. 965-KERR for more details. See related story, pg. 8.

Melanie Morrison Band: Sunday, March 17, 2pm. A free outdoor concert at Scottsdale Center for the Arts Sunday A'faire. Bring a blanket, lawn chairs and lots of friends. 438-1157

Neil Young and Crazy Horse: March 23, 7:30pm. Desert Sky Pavilion, 2121 N. 83rd Ave. 968-2323

The Kentucky Headhunters: Thursday, April 18 7:30pm. Celebrity Theatre. 440 N. 32nd St. 244-0404

Zapp: Featuring Roger with Mellow Man Ace 7:30 Sunday, March 17. Celebrity Theatre, 440 N. 32nd St. 244-0404

Los Lobos: Saturday, March 23, 7:30pm. Scottsdale Mall Amphitheater. Tickets \$12 advance, \$14 day-of-show. Bring blankets or beach chairs.

Frank Sinatra with Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme: Thursday, April 18, 8pm. Tickets \$38.50 reserved, \$15 concert greens; limited number of Golden Circle and box seats available for \$75. Performing at the Desert Sky Pavilion, 2121 N. 83rd Ave. 968-2323

Living Colour: Sunday, March 24, 5pm. Mesa Amphitheater.

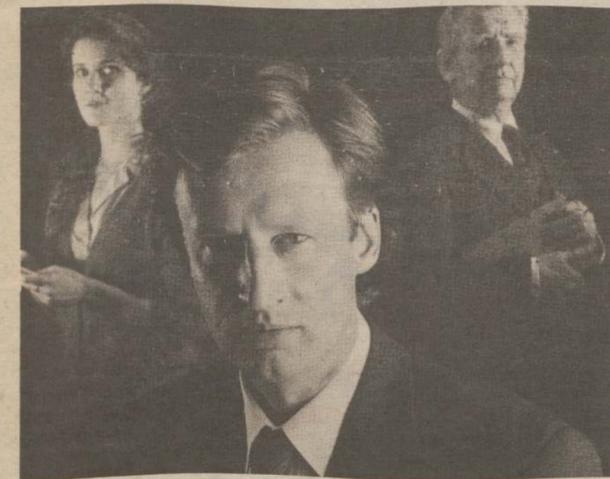
Shirley MacLaine: Friday and Saturday, April 19 and 20, 8pm; Sunday April 21 at 6pm. Celebrity Theatre, 440 N. 32nd St. 244-0404

Rita Buglass: New Age and light jazz music on Saturday, March 23 at 8pm at Science of the Mind Center in Phoenix. Tickets are \$8 in advance, available at Humanspace, Changing Hands, and by contacting CB productions at 438-1157. \$10 at the door day-of-show.

Centersounds Spring Concerts: 2pm to 4pm Saturdays and Sundays, The Shops at Arizona Center Grand Staircase, 455 N. Third St.

Fountain Hills Concerts: 2:30 to 4pm each Sunday through May 5. Fountain Park. 837-9660.

Out to Lunch Concert and Art Series: Noon to 1pm every Tuesday in March. Mesa Community Center Plaza, 201 N. Center St. 644-2242.



tim tuler

Daniel Gerroll, Tracy Sallows and George Hall behold a Holy Terror in Arizona Theatre Company's production of Simon Gray's drama.

Jazz Week at ASU: Free performances will be given nightly at 7:30pm in the Music Theatre. 965-TUNE

Three B's Festival: Not backpacking, biking or boofing boys. Try Bach, Beethoven and Brahms. You'll hear them via the Phoenix Symphony Orchestra at 8pm Sat. Mar. 16. Guest artist will be violinist Andres Cardenes and cellist Gary Hoffman. Tickets are \$35, \$25, \$17.50, \$12 and \$8, on sale at the Phoenix Symphony box office, 3707 N. 7th St. 264-6363

Tanya Tucker: Celebrity Theatre, Sunday April 7, 7:30pm. Tickets \$17.50. 230-9112

toe shoes

Dance-a-rama: Experience for yourself progressive alternative dance music, industrial Euro-techno beat music and new underground videos. Lotsa homosexuals. \$3. Alwun House, 1204 E. Roosevelt. Must be 18.

center stage

The Holy Terror: Arizona Theatre Company presents the world premiere of Simon Gray's production at the Herberger Theatre Center, through March 23. Showtimes are 8pm March 21-23, and 1pm March 17. Tickets are \$14-\$23 via the Herberger box office. 252-8497

Don Giovanni: Arizona Opera concludes its 1990/91 season with Mozart's classic. Performances will be held March 21st, 23rd and 24th in the Phoenix Civic Plaza Symphony Hall. Thursday and Saturday performances begin at 7:30pm and the Sunday Matinee begins at 2pm. All performances are sung in Italian with English translations projected above the stage. Tickets are \$9-\$40 and are available through Dillard's box offices, or Civic Plaza Box Office at 262-7272.

South Pacific: Musical Theatre of Arizona presents Rodgers and Hammerstein's time-honored

classic. March 21-24 at Gammage Auditorium and March 28-30 at Sundome Center. Tickets \$19-\$24. Gammage 965-3434. Sundome 975-1900.

Grand Hotel: Winner of five Tony Awards, including Best Direction and Best Choreography. Presented by ASU Public Events and PACE Theatrical Group. Playing March 26-31 at Gammage Auditorium. Tickets on sale at Gammage, ASU Activity Center and Dillard's Box Offices or charge by phone: 965-3434.

Les Miserables: Phoenix premiere! Tickets are on sale now for the world's most popular musical, scheduled to run through June 1. Tickets from Gammage and Dillard's and ASU Activity Center. 965-3434.

Skimpies: Terry Earp's outlandish musical send-up plays Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings at 8pm and Sunday matinees at 2pm. Big music and tiny garments by Robert X. Planet. Playwright's Workshop Theatre, 21432 N. Central Ave. 582-4054.

Nonsense: Extended through March 31. Wednesday through Friday 8pm; 6pm and 9pm Saturday; 2pm Sunday. Tickets are \$15 for Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday shows; \$17 Friday and Saturday. Actors Lab, 7223 E. 2nd St. 990-1731

larfs

A.M.U.S.E.: The Adobe Oven Coffeehouse offers original improv performances via the Improvisational Theatre Society. 8pm, 9:30pm and 11pm every Saturday. 5520 N. 7th Ave. \$5. 242-2808

other stuff

Moontree Coffeehouse: Friday, March 15, 8pm. Liza's Cafe, 1945 W. Baseline, Mesa. \$2 at the door, sliding scale. More info by calling Tammy at 961-1970 or Kathy at 833-2293. Women only.

The Magic of David Copperfield: Monday, April 1, 5:30 and 8:30pm. Symphony Hall. Tickets \$22, \$20.50, \$19. 965-3434 or 829-5555.

Adult Acting Workshop: Actors Lab Arizona, home of the Actors Lab School for the Performing Arts, will hold a beginning Acting workshop for adults through April 8, 7-9:30pm. The six-week class will cover theory, techniques, improvisation and character development. Call Actors Lab for registration info at 990-7898.

Guilty By Suspicion: Irwin Winkler directed and Robert De Niro stars in a rugged yarn about blacklisting in Hollywood. Be on the lookout for girl-of-the-moment Annette Bening.

by rey hoffman

CLUB

True Colors: It's friendship and betrayal, early 80s-style—how retro. *Gritters* grad John Cusack is the opportunistic law-school pal of James Spader. And, of course, they're in love with the same woman (Imogen Stubbs). Herbert Ross directs a screenplay by Kevin Wade (*Working Girl*).

some people

David Tuller
Matt Groening
Ann Boppart
Sandra Gould
Doug McNeil
Kyle Krikac
Virginia Woolf
Donald Collins
Max Sutherland
Patty Hearst
Mr. T
Lucille Porter
Chuck Matthews
Barnard Hughes
Judy Schultz
Wilson Pickett
Mark Thompson
Mary Clemente
Jeffrey J. Vitale
Heidi
Donna Taylor
Richard Frahm
J.J. Giannantonio
Debra Kwan
Bob Damron
Perry Ellis
Jenny Wilson McKenzie
Tom Oldendick
St. Jude
Debbie Gibson
Candice Nagel
Terrence Mikelson
Capodimonte
Teri Jagermeister
Brian Cassner
Cher
Deputy Dawg

some places

Walgreen's
The ticket office at
Diablo Stadium
Cumberland, Wisconsin
The Herberger
Austen Books
Psychic Fair '91
Romance Ads
Small Claims Court
Under the toaster
ASU West
South America
Autoville

Total AIDS Cases Rise by Nearly 11,000

Global Total Exceeds Quarter Million

GENEVA (AP)—Nearly 11,000 new cases of AIDS were reported to the World Health Organization during February, increasing the global total to 334,215 since the start of records.

In its monthly update published earlier this month, WHO said the United States accounted for 6,497 of the new cases. The United States has notified the health agency of 161,288 cases of the disease since 1981.

Zambia reported 542 new cases, raising its total to 4,036. Uganda is the worst-hit country in Africa with a total 17,422 cases, but many cases on the continent go unreported.

In Europe, France recorded 651 new cases to give an overall total of 8,277. The Bahamas reported a total of 599 cases, 45 higher than its previous notification. The island chain has the world's highest per capita rate of AIDS with 68.6 cases per 100,000 people.

The rate in the United States, by contrast, is 14.1 per 100,000.

It is not known how many of the people with AIDS reported to the agency have died.

WHO says there have been no recorded cases of AIDS in 20 of the 159 countries reporting to its Geneva headquarters. Albania, North Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan and Iraq are among those reportedly free of the disease.

WHO reports cover only people with AIDS and not people infected with HIV. The health agency estimates that 9 million to 11 million people may already carry the HIV virus. The organization forecasts that 25 million to 30 million people will carry the virus by the end of the century, including 10 million children born to infected mothers.

San Francisco Records 10,000th AIDS Case

Valentine's Day marked a sad milestone in the city where the 10,000th case of AIDS was reported with little public notice.

By the end of February, the epidemic's toll reached 10,058 in the city, said George Lemp, San Francisco's public health epidemiologist.

And Lemp estimates 20,000 to 24,000 San Franciscans are infected with HIV but are not yet sick.

"We have at least two-thirds of the epidemic left to go," he said. So far, 6,941 of those diagnosed with AIDS have died.

San Francisco continues to

have more AIDS cases per capita than any other U.S. city. It is the leading cause of death among men there, after heart disease and cancer.

Preliminary studies indicate up to 20 percent of the city's gay men between ages 16 and 24 might be infected. The figures indicate a second, smaller wave of AIDS could hit as this first wave ebbs.

"It's possible AIDS could become one of those persistent, endemic diseases in San Francisco, around for decades," Lemp said.

First Large-Scale AIDS Test Taken on Medical Specialists

ANAHEIM, CA—Orthopedic surgeons who attended a national conference on AIDS are volunteering for the country's first large-scale AIDS testing of medical specialists.

The country's largest organization of bone and joint surgeons also advised AIDS-infected members to tell patients of their condition and to stop performing surgery. Similar policies have been adopted by the American Medical Association and the American Dental Association.

Officials believe as many as 3,000 members of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons had taken the tests by the time the conference ended. The results will be used "both for research to help determine the incidence of AIDS in one medical specialty...and as a service to individuals to let those who are infected know of their condition," said CDC epidemiologist Dr. Mary Chamberland.

While collective figures will not be known for months, doctors will be able to learn their own results within two days through an anonymous coding system. The notification system protects confidentiality by using numbers instead of names.

The study is the latest development in the debate over the risks HIV-infected physicians may pose to their patients and the related issue of physicians' rights to require testing of patients.

The CDC has been formulating national guidelines for health-care workers infected with the HIV virus since it was learned that a Florida dentist infected at least three of his patients. The dentist died of AIDS.

"There is so much we simply do not know about AIDS," Chamberland said. "We hope this (survey) will tell us a little more."

The risk of passing the virus to a patient during a surgical or dental procedure is believed to be small, but exact figures are unavailable. The CDC recently estimated that between 1981 and 1990, between 13 and 128 Americans were infected by dentists or surgeons.

The American Dental Association tried to determine the number of AIDS-carrying dentists. But only about 1,500 of the country's more than 160,000 dentists participated in the program. Figures were not released to the public.

AIDS Education Backers Dubious of Success

(AP)—A bill requiring AIDS education in Arizona's schools passed its first hurdle, but its backers remain dubious that it will make it all the way into law. A similar measure lost out last year.

The Senate Education Committee voted 5-3 on Monday, March 4 in favor of a requirement that some form of AIDS education be taught in each grade from kindergarten through high school.

The bill's guidelines say the approach must be appropriate to the grade level and the information medically accurate. The guidelines also say the program must promote sexual abstinence, discourage drug use and dispel myths as to how AIDS is transmitted.

Brenda Henderson, the state Education Department's comprehensive health director, said she believes more AIDS education is needed in the schools but doubts the bill will survive.

Barbara Robey, a lobbyist for the Arizona School Boards Association, said she feared it would be amended heavily as was last year's version.

Sen. Matt Salmon (R-Mesa), who voted against the new bill in committee, predicted it will not pass in the House.

"I feel real strongly that one of the reasons we elect school boards is to make those kinds of policy decisions for their districts," Salmon said. "There are parents who do not want their children to have that kind of education, and I think we should respect their wishes."

"...Arizona Should Step Up AIDS Education in Schools"

Any time a state task force comes up with a set of recommendations, lawmakers tend to laud the ideas but bemoan the fact that there simply isn't enough money to put those ideas into action.

That's more true than ever, with Arizona facing a \$100 million budget deficit this fiscal year and a projected budget shortfall of \$400 million or more next fiscal year.

But there's no reason the state can't step up AIDS education in public schools by tapping existing resources.

It wouldn't cost much for school nurses and health teachers to incorporate information about AIDS into present school health programs.

It wouldn't cost a dime to have health professionals come into the schools to talk about AIDS. The county health department periodically provides free AIDS education programs and might be willing to take them into the schools. The Red Cross and other agencies have free educational material about AIDS.

Medical groups also might be willing to send volunteers into schools, or train teachers to do the task. Advocacy groups have a wealth of information about AIDS that could be adapted for schools.

Crying "hard times" is nothing more than a flimsy excuse for ignoring what needs to be done. The best way to stop the spread of AIDS is to teach young people the facts before they become sexually active. MARK HILLMAN, AP

Condom Company Donates \$100,000 to School AIDS Program

NEW YORK, NY—A condom manufacturer has announced that it will give the Board of Education \$100,000 for health and AIDS education programs.

The donation is to show support for School Chancellor Joseph Fernandez's new condom distribution program, which was approved last week, said Mark Klein, vice president of marketing for Trojan products at Carter-Wallace Inc.

The money will be used for developing and implementing AIDS education programs to be taught by teams made up of parents, teachers, students and school administrators.

Carter-Wallace is also providing condoms for use under Fernandez's plan to make condoms available to high school students.

The firm's donation is the first for the new Health and AIDS Education Fund for the New York City Public Schools.

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Hairstyling for the Professional Male



ERIC BUSTAMANTE

Top of the Mark

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**Don't just worry about HIV.
Do something about it.**

If you think you are at risk for HIV infection, now's the time to consider counseling and testing. If you test positive, work with a doctor to make decisions that are right for you. The earlier this happens, the more medical care can help.

Talk to a doctor, your health department, or other local AIDS resources. Or call your State or local AIDS hotline, or the National AIDS Hotline at 1-800-342-AIDS. Call 1-800-243-7889 (TTY) for deaf access.

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RESPONDS
TO AIDS

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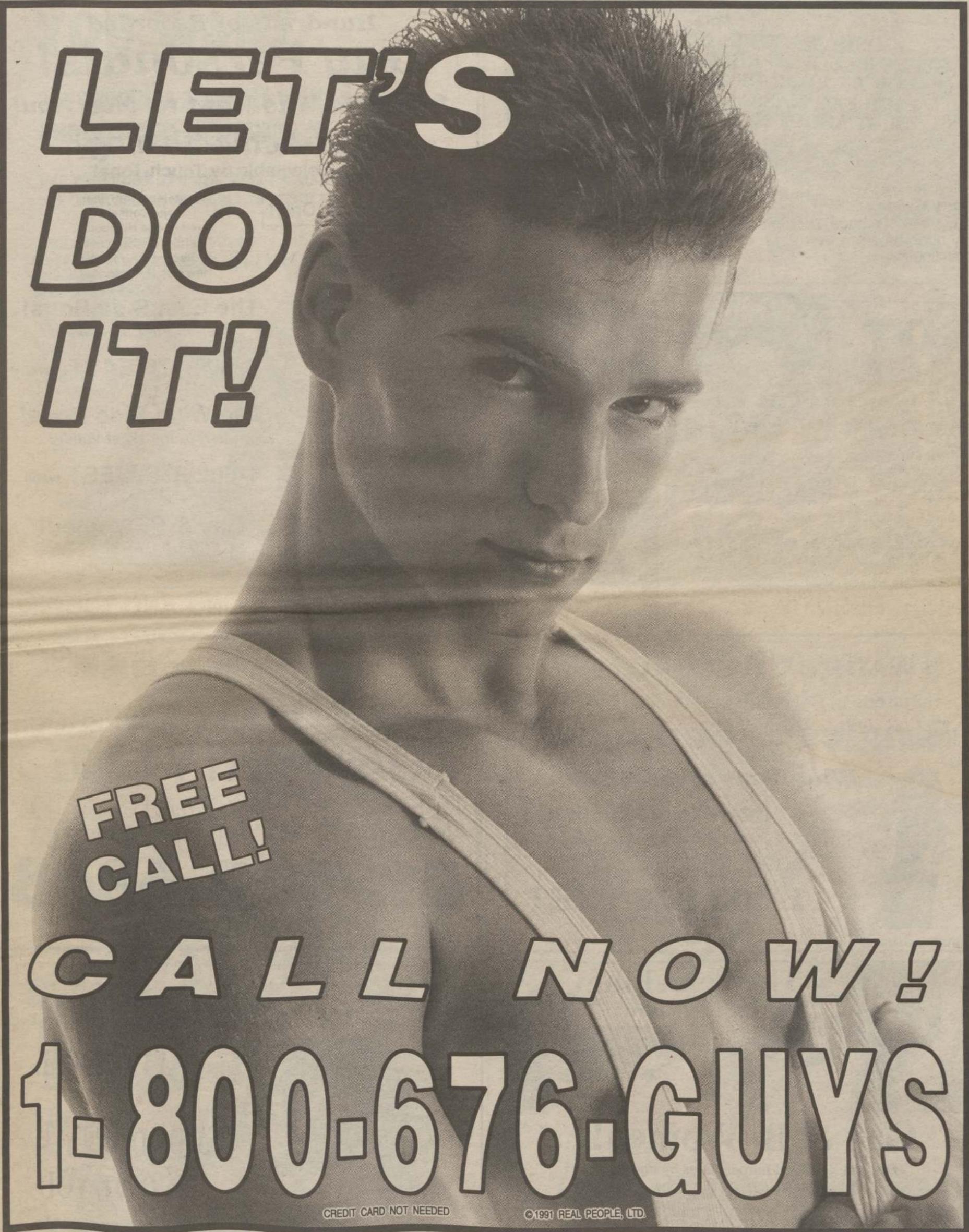
YOU DIDN'T THINK IT WAS POSSIBLE. WE'RE HERE TO PROVE TO YOU THAT IT IS. YOU'VE BEEN LED TO BELIEVE THAT WHAT YOU'VE GOT IS WHAT YOU'RE STUCK WITH. YOU KNOW THAT YOU WANT MORE, BUT NEVER THOUGHT YOU COULD REALLY HAVE IT. YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE DOOMED TO LIVE WITH AN AVERAGE SIZED PENIS, AND WE'RE QUITE THRILLED TO TELL YOU HOW WRONG YOU WERE. THE IMPOSSIBLE DREAM? NOPE. WITH OUR SYSTEM, NO MATTER WHAT SIZE YOU ARE TO START WITH, THE POTENTIAL EXPANSION IN YOUR CIRCUMFERENCE IS UNLIMITED. ADD INCHES TO YOUR LENGTH, TOO. THE POWERFUL, CONSTANT

VACUUM OF OUR PENIS TO EXPAND AT A UNLIKE WITH HAND WHICH REQUIRE HARD WITH OUR CONSTANT ARM WON'T FALL OFF. THE ONLY SAFE, EXPAND YOUR PENIS

**BIG
BIG**

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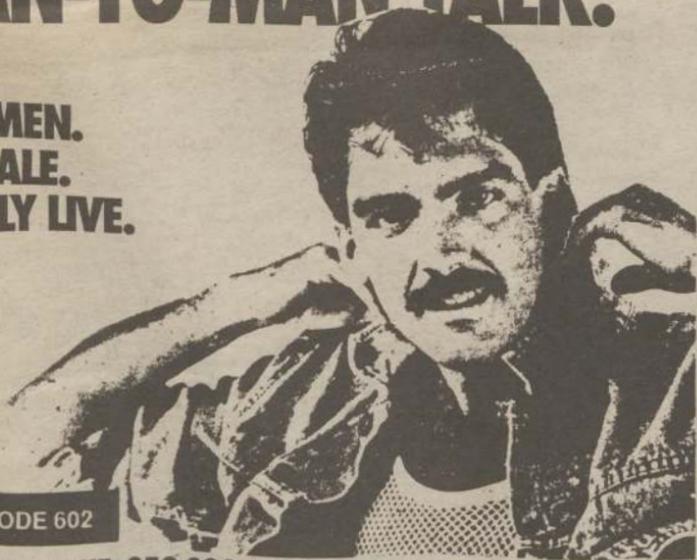
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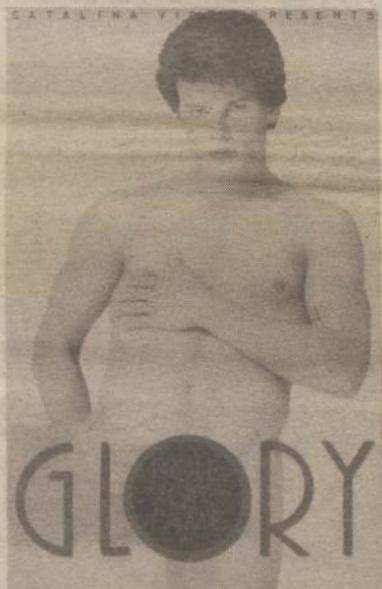
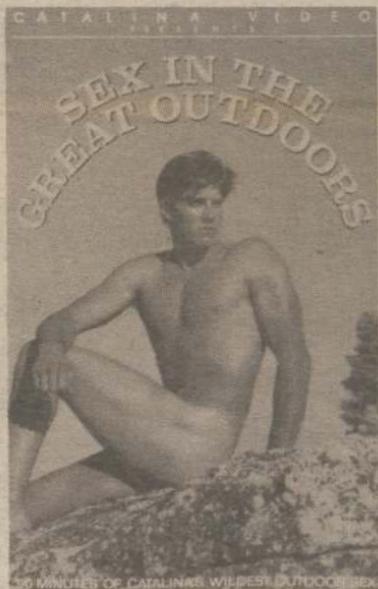
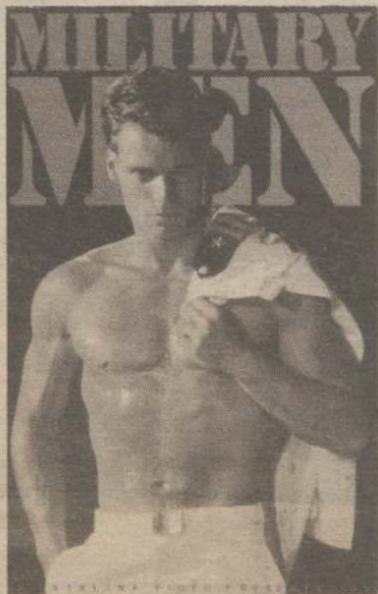
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