

FREE

AGN

Volume 5

WEEK OF AUGUST 15 1980

ARIZONA GAY NEWS

Serving Arizona and the Southwest

Issue 33

500 attend GAYRUN '80



SAN FRANCISCO - Pictured above are first place finishers in this year's GAYRUN '80 held here. See full story below. Front Row (1 to r): Russell Knudsen, Maryann Truitt, Henni Williston. Rear (1 to r): Mark Hollingsworth, Clifton Yu, Frank Smith, Marylyn Galastis, Janis Wambaugh, Malcolm Robinson.

PHOTO: Cindy Charles

SAN FRANCISCO - GAYRUN '80, the first Gay-organized, AAU-sanctioned footrace was held in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park July 27. Five hundred runners from 10 states, Canada and England competed for honors in five and ten-kilometer events. The event was blessed with perfect San Francisco weather and was, by all runners' accounts, a huge success. GAYRUN '80 was sponsored by The Advocate, the Bay Area-based national Gay newsmagazine, and Frontrunners, San Francisco's Gay running club. Sanctioning of the race by the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) was the first ever granted to a Gay-organized running event. The race was open to everyone and attracted runners from age 15 to 63, some with past race victories and many for whom GAYRUN '80 was their first race. About one-quarter of the runners were women.

First place honors in the Men's Open Division (Age 20-39) were taken by Russell Knudsen in the 10-kilometer race and John Morrissey in the 5-kilometer race. Firsts in the Women's Open were won by Janice Wambaugh in the 10-kilometer and Marylyn Galastis in the 5-kilometer. Malcolm Robinson, president of the New York City chapter of Frontrunners took top honors in the Men's 40 and Over Division in the 10-kilometer race. Among the high points of the day was the announcement by Tom Waddell of plans for an international "Gay Olympics" to be held in San Francisco in the summer of 1982. Waddell, who also ran in the 10-kilometer event, is a San Francisco physician who competed in the decathlon at the 1968 Mexico City Olympic Games. He has been active in the growth of the gay amateur athletic movement in recent years. Competitors in the Gay Olympics will represent cities, not countries, from around the world.

GAYRUN '80 was conceived by Advocate publisher, Peter Frisch, and associate editor, Scott Anderson, both active runners and members of Frontrunners. Scott Anderson was the Race Director for the event. Said Frisch, "Seeing 500 mostly Gay men and women set off on a footrace was, for me, a new kind of high. It shattered yet another myth about who Gay people are. I'm proud to have been a part of GAYRUN '80 and look forward to many races in other cities where Gay people will have the opportunity to compete and have fun." Scott Anderson had the following comment: "Our attempt in GAYRUN '80 was to provide another way for Gay people to express and feel good about themselves. The real excitement for me was not only the number of Gay people who told me this was their first race and they loved it, but also the wide

CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE

The Cubans Are Coming.....

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW IN THIS ISSUE....

TUCSON - An initial contingent of Cuban refugees, some of whom are Gay, has arrived in Tucson. A lengthy, exclusive, interview was held this past week with one refugee. This interesting insight into Cuba and the Gay lifestyle there appears on pages six and seven of this issue.

Thomas is a male Cuban, one among the 117,000 refugees that escaped their homeland in the latter part of the spring. He and his lover, Roberto, were able to leave the country by telling the Castro government that they were Gay. Fidel Castro's government attempted to discredit the massive wave of Cubans who were escaping his brand of "Communism" by placing a large quantity of homosexuals and others who were thought of as undesirables on the so-called "freedom flotilla".

He is twenty-seven years of age, knows no English, and is presently trying to make a life for himself in Tucson. His lover is still at the Refugee Relocation Center, one among many established, that is located in Florida. They have had a very stable and loving relationship for five years and Thomas and Roberto are in touch by writing to each other every week.

Thomas is of medium height, slight of built. He has a winning smile and a charming way about him, which impresses, if not provides a reason for others who meet him to be attracted to him. He is a masculine Gay and stated that he has enjoyed his first month in Arizona and truly hopes to be able to make his home here.

The following interview and stories were gathered from information in the press (verified by both Thomas and the other refugees in the city) and through the actual process of interviewing Thomas. Grateful acknowledgement is made to Gary Clark, Bob Ellis, Bern David, and George Rederus--their comments and questions were most helpful. They were present at the interview and helped to provide an atmosphere conducive to good conversation. Of course, the entire story could not be told without the assistance of Thomas.

Please keep in mind that the identities of all of the people described were changed to protect the probationary status of their passports in America. Because of the linguistic problems, Thomas answers should be considered more the essence of his thought than his actual words.

Unfortunately, as others in the Gay press have found, we were unable to contact any Cuban Lesbians for this piece. We will make every effort in the future to cover their story also.

Referendum to settle Va. issue

Compiled by Bennett Klein

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA (GCN) - A non-binding referendum which would ban from public libraries all publications which "depict or advocate" homosexual acts will appear on the November general election ballot here. A petition drive launched on July 2 by Rev. Rodney Bell of the Tabernacle Baptist Church (TBC) has been successful in collecting the 6200 signatures necessary to place the referendum on the ballot. The referendum occurs amidst a controversy over the distribution of the Gay newspaper *Our Own Community Press* at the five branch libraries in Virginia Beach.

Our Own, published monthly by the Unitarian Universalist Gay Community (UUGC) in Norfolk, was distributed free in libraries until March when City Manager George L. Hanbury banned it due to protests by two city council members and several fundamentalist groups. After the city council was unable to resolve the issue, Mayor Patrick Standing on June 24 implemented a library board recommendation that one copy of *Our Own* be placed in the

CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE

News Briefs

80 ARRESTED IN HUSTLING SWEEP

LOS ANGELES, CA (Update) - Eighty men were arrested on suspicion of soliciting acts of prostitution recently by Hollywood vice officers in sweeps of Sunset Boulevard. The undercover police squad known as the "Trick Task Force" worked along Sunset near West Hollywood and used three female officers who acted as decoys, and two male officers who made the arrests.

"We took 38 men into custody one night and another 42 suspects, including three juveniles, the following night," said Lt. George Tawes of the Vice Bureau. According to Sgt. Leslie Wilbanks of the Hollywood Vice Bureau, "We will do these things from time to time as long as the need to do it arises. We want to maintain a balanced approach to the prostitution problem."

MISS. CONGRESSMAN REVEALS CHARGES

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) - Rep. Jon Hinson, (R-Miss.) disclosed last weekend that he had been charged with "committing an obscene act" in 1976, and was injured in a 1977 fire that killed nine people at a Washington, DC theater frequented by homosexuals. Hinson, 38, said the obscene act charge, filed in September 1976 in Arlington, VA, was dismissed and he was convicted of creating a public nuisance. He said he was fined \$100. He did not elaborate on the allegations.

Hinson made the disclosures in a prepared statement he read to reporters in his Jackson office. He then walked out without answering questions and did not say why he was making the revelations. He said he would remain a candidate for re-election in a three-way race with Democrat Britt Singletary and independent Leslie McLemore.

Hinson, first elected to Congress in 1978, and a candidate for a second term in November, said he was one of four survivors of the October 1977 fire at a theater showing X-rated films. He said he was not hurt seriously.

ANITA BACK IN TULSA

TULSA, OK (AP) - Anita Bryant is seeking refuge in her hometown from publicity about her anti-homosexual-rights stance and her pending divorce. The 40-year-old singer, religious activist, citrus industry spokeswoman and former Miss Oklahoma has been in Tulsa since June 19, searching for a house. Miss Bryant and three of her four children - Gloria, 15, and William and Barbara, both 10, are staying at her parents' home. Her son, Bobby, 16, has returned to Florida.

Miss Bryant filed for divorce on May 22 from her husband of 20 years, former Miami disc jockey Bob Green. She alleged that Green had tried to capitalize on her fame. She has since resigned from Anita Bryant Ministries.

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QUOTE OF THE MONTH.

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-- Rob Allanson in "Cutting Through the Cream Cheese: The Damage Dairy Does to Our Bodies and Minds," published in the East West Journal, June, 1980.

STATISTICS ON PRISON RAPE

ST. LOUIS, MO (GayLife) - People Organized to Stop Rape of Imprisoned Persons, an organization for prisoners, has published some shocking statistics. "There are 568,000 persons imprisoned in the U.S. with 200,000 others in jails awaiting conviction. That is one of every 260.4 people in jails and prisons. Of Americans living today who have never been arrested, 4,700,000 will be sooner or later, and 1,000,000 of those will be raped while confined."

"With one of every 4.7 prisoners being subjected to rape and sexual assault, there are about 153,000 rape victims in the prisons in this country." The organization can be contacted by writing P.O. Box 3001, St. Louis, MO 63130 or call (314) 721-4028.

LESBIANS SEEK HELP

DEERFIELD, MA (GayLife) - Bunny King, the Lesbian mother who recently lost a court case requesting that her two daughters be returned to her, has received notification that the Massachusetts State Supreme Court will hear the case. Ms. King's attorneys are asking the State Supreme Court of Massachusetts to rule in support of the fact that homosexuality per se does not make a parent unfit.

Briefs have been filed by the Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders from Boston, The American Civil Liberties Union and Custody Action for Lesbian Mothers from Philadelphia. The Franklin County Lesbian Alliance, where Ms. King resides, needs \$700 to pay back loans for appeal. Donations can be sent to: FCLA, P.O. Box 235, Deerfield, MA 01342.

BOB GREEN MINISTRIES

HOLLYWOOD, FL (GCN) - Bob Green, estranged husband of Anita Bryant, has sent out a fundraising letter announcing that Anita Bryant Ministries "will carry on with a new name, Crusade for Morality." The letter doesn't directly mention that the reason for the name change is Bryant's filing for divorce from Green. It says merely, "After praying to God for guidance in this matter, I know we must follow His leading. And so, I'm writing you today to share with you our ministry. Our enemies are clapping! They are talking as though they have won some sort of victory! I can assure you that our work has not stopped for one moment. The need is too great!"

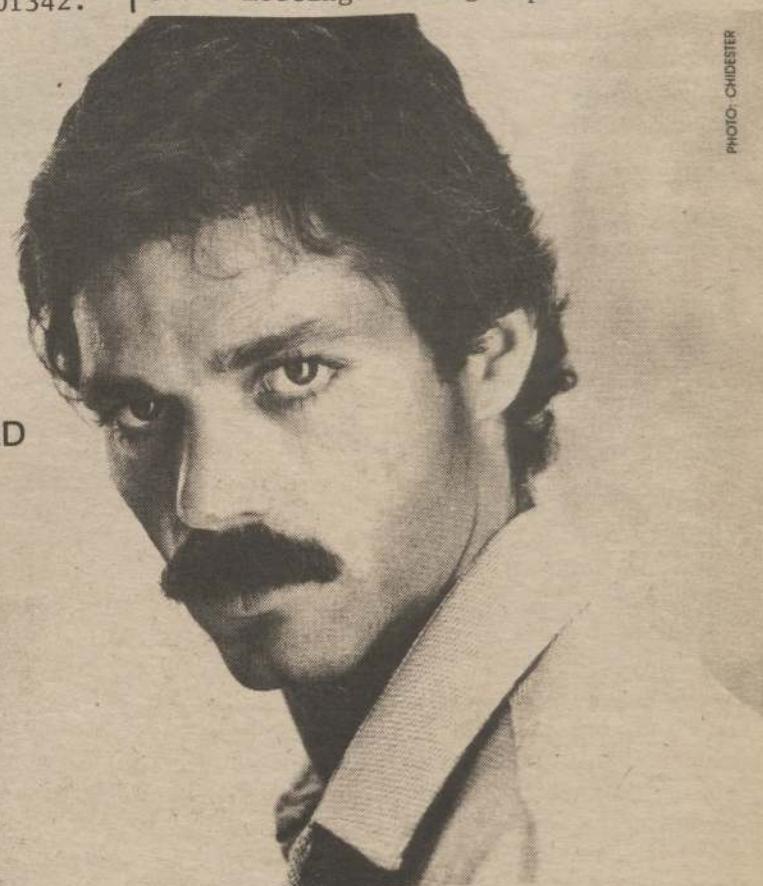
Green's letter says that "the three major issues that we're fighting for and for which this ministry stands" are to oppose passage of legislation "allowing self-announced homosexuals to teach in public, private or religious schools, or to be ordained a minister"; "to support stricter controls governing sex and violence on TV and in the mass media"; and to support prayer in public schools. It does not mention preservation of the American family.

Green says that the ministries counseling offices, whose purpose is to "cure" homosexuals, is "swamped" with "new people arriving each day. . . asking for help," and that the offices have recently added two new counselors. He also cites as an example of Crusade for Morality's targeted work the campaign against a Lesbian and Gay newspaper in Virginia Beach (see related story this issue AGN).

The letter also includes a form for an "opinion poll" on the three issues targeted by the organization. The form includes a space for the respondent to indicate whether they are sending a "special gift" for \$10, \$25, \$50, or more.

PHOENIX BOWLING LEAGUE FORMING

PHOENIX - the People and Person's Bowling League is scheduling a general meeting for this Sunday, August 17 at Thunderbird Lanes, Indian School Road and the Freeway. The meeting is called for noon. In addition there will be another meeting at the lanes on Thursday night, August 21 at 7 p.m. Any and all interested persons who would like to join this fun bowling league please try to attend one of these meetings to sign up.



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TIN seeks more participation

PHOENIX — The last TIN (Information Network) meeting, Aug. 2, had to be cancelled due to a lack of participation. The only conclusion which can be drawn is that leaders in the Gay community have lost interest in the significance of TIN.

TIN and its predecessor, The Arizona Gay Community Council, was formed to provide a network for the Gay organizations in the Valley. The only way TIN can perform its function is if every organization consistently sends a representative to the meetings. Providing an opportunity to disperse information and to meet the other organizations is essential if TIN is to show any stability and continuity for the local Gay community.

All the organizations exist to help Gay people and the best way to help members of the organizations is to be aware of the other services provided locally. There are over 30 Gay organizations in the Valley that should be sending representatives to TIN which meets the first Saturday of every month at 2:00 p.m.

TIN is not an organization, per se. It is an information clearing house and has served as arbitrator between conflicting groups, connected people with a need to people who have the needed resources, and informs the help-lines and publications of attending organizations' activities. The next meeting of The Information Network (TIN) is Saturday, September 6 at 2:00 p.m. They will meet at the Alternative Relations Center new location 519 W. Willetta.

4 day revival in Tucson set

TUCSON — The Rev. Fred Pattison, former pastor of Faith Baptist Church of Tucson, and currently pastor of Casa de Cristo MCC church in Phoenix, will be conducting a revival/spiritual renewal August 20, 21, 22 and 23 at Holy Trinity Community Church of the Desert, 4831 E. 22nd Street in Tucson. Topics covered will be "What is the Gospel?"; "What is the Church?"; "What is the New Birth?"; and "What is a Gay Christian?". There will be a free seminar on Saturday afternoon, the 23rd, at 3:00 p.m., on the subject of "Sexuality and the Bible." The evening services will begin at 7:30 p.m. each evening.

A benefit dinner will be held prior to each service at 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the church recreation room. Light refreshments will follow each service. For information on the services or dinners telephone the pastor of Holy Trinity the Reverend James C. Rice at 323-2424.

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Tucson supervisors snub moral majority

TUCSON — Pima County's Board of Supervisors has refused to answer a survey by Moral Majority of Arizona seeking elected officials' position on issues such as homosexuality, abortion school prayer and crime. "We choose not to answer a series of questions which, by their very nature, question our commitment to morality, justice, freedom and patriotism," the supervisors said in a letter to local Moral Majority chairman J.C. Joiner. "We find the questionnaire covers a variety of issues over which we have no direct control," the supervisors said. "If you care to know where we stand, we suggest you examine our voting records and our community activities." The letter was co-written and signed by the county's five supervisors, Democrats E.S. "Bud" Walker, Sam Lena and David Yetman and Republicans Conrad Joyner and Katie Dusenberry.

Joiner, minister of the New Testament Baptist Church at 2855 N. Craycroft Road, organized the Arizona chapter of Moral Majority three months ago. Nationally, the conservative, fundamentalist group has a \$5 million budget and a mailing list of 300,000. Joiner said the purpose of the 48-question survey was to tell Arizona voters how all political candidates stand on "political and moral issues."

Survey questions include: "Do you favor equal rights for persons involved in homosexuality?" "Are you in favor of the Equal Rights Amendment?" "Have you supported the legalization of abortion?" "Do you believe the United States was disadvantaged upon the signing and ratification of the Panama Canal Treaties?" The supervisors said they were "interested in a strong public school system" and "committed to the principles which are embodied in service to our fellow man, regardless of whether we do or do not go to church on a regular basis." Joiner has said he will oppose any candidate who does not agree with his philosophy.

GAYRUN '80 CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

representation of women and minorities, young and old, Gay men and Lesbians as well as straight runners. I was really pleased with how well the race was managed and by all the support we got from the non-Gay running community. I am sure that next year's GAYRUN '81 will be even better."

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REFERENDUM CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

periodical section of each library. At present the single copy is kept in a file box labeled "community newsletters" rather than with the other current periodicals. Describing *Our Own* as "evangelistic," a spokesperson for Rev. Bell told GCN that it "solicits attention to the viewer or reader to bring his attention around to what homosexuals call an alternative lifestyle, however old they may be. We as Christians do not believe that is right. God has spoken on this issue. The newspaper should not be in public libraries where it's tax funded."

The petition, which does not mention *Our Own*, asks, "Shall a publication whose primary purpose is to depict or advocate, by pictures or words, homosexual acts be displayed distributed or received in the public libraries of the city of Virginia Beach?" Gary Hankins of the UUGC told GCN that "given the way it's worded, it's guaranteed of passing. It's carefully worded so that to oppose it would be to oppose mom and apple pie. They're wording it as if it's a referendum on *Our Own* when in fact it's not." Hankins told GCN that the UUGC response to the referendum will be to ignore it and "minimize its publicity unless it becomes a real direty campaign against homosexuality." He added that he views the referendum as pertaining more to pornography than to homosexuality or *Our Own*. The TBC spokesperson said that the church would place double-paged ads in area newspapers to show that *Our Own* is pornography "in its cartoons and literary makeup. We plan to print in the paper all the cartoons depicted in the sodomite newspaper to illustrate exactly what it is."

Bob Green, separated husband of Anita Bryant and director of the former Anita Bryant Ministries in Hollywood, Florida (now called Crusade for Morality), indicated in a July 8 newsletter that he would go to Virginia Beach to campaign in favor of the referendum. Stating that "We cannot let the moral menace that is now at work in Virginia Beach contin e to grow in our nation," Green went on to write t^t am flying to meet with them to help form a group to come this kind of attack on morality." When contacted by GCN, however, Green said that he would have to check his file on the issue to respond to questions, and did not respond to further calls. In a related event, UUGC announced that the American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia plans to file suit to restore the free and unlimited distribution of *Our Own*.

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THE CUBANS ARE COMING ...

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AGN: WHEN DID YOU FIRST LEARN OF YOUR FEELINGS FOR MEN?
THOMAS: I knew as a little boy that I had an attraction for men, that I liked them better than women. I never found out this was something unusual until my parents found out.

AGN: WHAT WAS THEIR REACTION?

THOMAS: This was about the time that I was approaching puberty—I really can not remember the actual year. When my parents learned of my inclination, they attempted to find a medical cure for what they considered my 'condition'.

AGN: A MEDICAL CURE? WHAT DID THIS CONSIST OF?

THOMAS: In Cuba, the Castro government provides an excellent treatment for homosexuals. It is supported and funded by the state. I was first sent to a general practitioner, who said that there was nothing he could do. He recommended that my parents take me to see a psychiatrist.

AGN: THE TREATMENT CONSISTED OF SEEING A PSYCHIATRIST?

THIS WAS SOME FORM OF ANALYSIS?

THOMAS: Yes. I was still living with my family. The treatment did involve some injections and medications, but the bulk of the work was analysis. Regular treatment, counseling, therapy of sorts. This was generally acknowledged as the very best means of changing the citizenry into socially acceptable heterosexuals.

AGN: WHAT KIND OF INJECTIONS AND MEDICINE WERE YOU GIVEN?

THOMAS: The injections were male hormones. We were given both pills and liquid, but of what type and sort I do not know.

AGN: TELL US MORE ABOUT THE TREATMENT?

THOMAS: Well, we talked a lot about my childhood, what it was that possibly could have made me a homosexual. The psychiatrist would attempt to have me placed in a masculine role. He tried to redefine and enhance my masculinity by making me do occupations that were associated with the masculine role and by constantly showing us pictures of women, in many modes and types of poses.

AGN: HOW LONG DID THIS LAST? WHY DID IT STOP? OBVIOUSLY, THE TREATMENT WAS NOT VERY SUCCESSFUL?

THOMAS: No, (he laughs) it was not very successful. The consultations took place over a period of two years. They stopped at the doctor's suggestion. He told my father that he was getting negative results with me. I had not reacted in a normal manner for someone my age.

AGN: WHAT WAS THE REACTION OF YOUR PARENTS TO THE TERMINATION OF THE ANALYSIS? DID THEY FEEL ANY REJECTION OR ATTEMPT TO DISOWN YOU AS THEIR CHILD?

THOMAS: My parents were both upset. I understood why and there was a barely perceptible change in the way my father acted towards me. But this was nothing that ever gave me great concern. I was always my mother's favorite and this never changed. She still loved me as much as always. Both of them were able to cope with my homosexuality because I was not ostentatious about it. They felt a certain shame, but it was a private shame, not a public one.

AGN: WHEN DID YOU FIRST BECOME SEXUALLY ACTIVE AND UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES?

THOMAS: I was eight years old when I had my very first experience with sex. It was with a cousin of mine, he was also only eight years old. This occurred in the basement of my aunt's house. He had made the first advance.

(THOMAS DESCRIBED THE ENTIRE EXPERIENCE AS A VERY SIMPLE ONE, SIMILAR TO WHAT ALL CHILDREN GO THROUGH AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER. HE AGREED THAT IT WAS SOMETHING LIKE PLAYING POSTMAN.)

AGN: HOW ACTIVE DID YOU CONTINUE TO BE AFTER YOUR FIRST TIME? AND HOW DID YOU FIND THE OPPORTUNITY TO INDULGE IN THIS TYPE OF SEXUAL ACTIVITY?

THOMAS: Oh, it was very easy to find someone with whom to have sex. I continued to be very active at age ten, eleven, twelve, sixteen, all the way up to now. Almost all homosexuals in Cuba understood that this was something we had to hide from the public at large. I never had sex in my house, while I lived with my mother. It was always at a friend's house, or at my relatives. As I grew older, we went to a hotel room. When I met my lover, Roberto, we always found time to get together at his house. Public places were forbidden, unless you were desperate. I never tried it, but I was always lucky enough to have a place to go to. I never needed to use the parks or streets. This is where the police would pick you up to put you in jail.

AGN: BUT HOW DID YOU FIND YOUR SEX PARTNERS?

THOMAS: They usually made the first move. I rarely had to make an advance. But after the first move, I wanted to be in charge of the situation. I wanted to get to know him, talk a little. I have never liked to have sex for the simple reasons of filling a physical need. These were all part time sort of affairs, but this had more to do with necessity than with our own feelings. Roberto was one of the few men I felt strongly enough about and with whom I had the opportunity to have more than just an hour here or an hour there. My partners and I were always very careful. Others got caught and received a terrible punishment for doing the only act of love that made sense to them. But we were among the lucky few that escaped the government's watchful eye.



AGN: HOW LONG HAVE YOU AND ROBERTO BEEN TOGETHER?

THOMAS: For five years. I even remember the exact day that we started living together. This was on the sixth day of May in 1977. We were always together, and saw each other without fail. This separation (of coming to America and being in different parts of the country) is the longest we have ever faced. But our feelings for each other have never been stronger. When we first were together, the relationship was more physical, intensely so, in fact. Now our intimate life together (at least, before we were separated) is more spiritual. Our love for each other is still as strong as it was at first, only it is a different manifestation of our affection for each other.

AGN: HOW WAS YOUR LIFE TOGETHER, AS FAR AS DEALING WITH OTHER PEOPLE, YOUR FAMILY, ET CETERA?

THOMAS: It's a hard life for Gays in Cuba. The ones who are very ostentatious are highly resented. Therefore, they are the ones who bear the brunt of the government's attack and the public's outrage. Even if you are not a homosexual you can be considered guilty by association. Just taking a walk down the street or speaking in public with an openly Gay man or woman can be reason enough to put you in jail, fire you from your job, or force you to drop out from school. Roberto and I never had it as bad as others who we knew or heard about. We were simply very lucky though. We had to be careful. We never showed any affection to each other, in any form, unless it was in the privacy of his house. And even then, this was only when we were both alone. My mother knew, but we never even held hands in front of her. It was the same thing with my wife. This protected both of us, in the university and our careers.

AGN: BUT WHY DID YOU LEAVE CUBA AND YOUR LIFE TOGETHER?

THOMAS: It was not a good life in Cuba. Here in America,

THE CUBANS ARE COMING

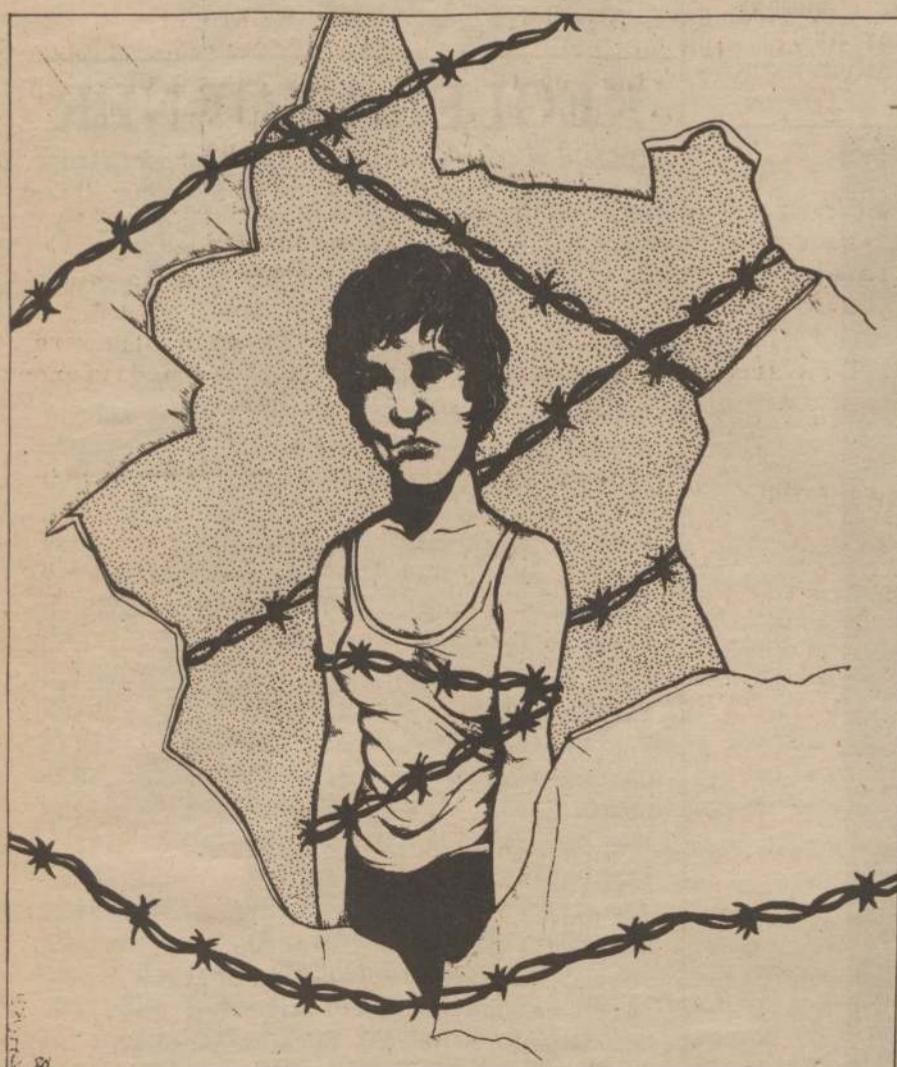
EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH ONE CUBAN MALE WHO HAS ARRIVED IN TUCSON AND A PLEA FOR HELP FROM THE GAY COMMUNITIES TO ASSIST IN THEIR FORMIDABLE PROBLEMS IN THEIR NEW LAND.

we do not have to hide, we do not have to feel fear every day of our lives. Yes, there are problems in America for homosexuals, but it is still a tremendous land of opportunity for Gays from Cuba and everywhere. There is more liberty here and we do not have to feel ashamed in the U.S. I knew what we faced in Cuba and had heard from Gay Cubans who visited Cuba during the twentieth anniversary of the Revolution. They brought articles and stories of freedom and opportunity for homosexuals in America. This inspired both Roberto and me to come to America and make a new home for ourselves.

AGN: WHAT KIND OF LIFE DO YOU ENVISION FOR YOURSELF HERE?
 THOMAS: A future where my lover and I can live in peace. Where we can carve a life out for ourselves that is both productive and happy. A life where we can both have our jobs and ourselves. A life where we won't be harassed and where others will leave us alone. Roberto and I had a private life in Cuba and that is how I would like it to be here in the United States. We both understood each other very well. But there was always that fear. Even in the privacy of your own home, you could never be certain that the state would not touch you. It was a gentle, peaceful existence and I want more of this in America.

Growing up Gay in Cuba can be no better or worse than growing up Gay in Southern Arizona or Mexico. The experience that a Gay man or woman has in the Latin American culture is very similar. Where it differs is in the terrorization that homosexuals can feel if they are very open in their mannerisms and their affections. The stereotypical role of homosexuals as limp-wristed, highly feminine men is alive and well in Latin literature, television, and other media forms.

The experiences of Latin Gays are as different as those of American Gays as it is for a homosexual brought up in Tucson as opposed to a Gay child raised in New York City. The opportunity for expression is limited and the identification with the concepts of Gay pride, unity, and brotherhood are hard for the Cubans to understand. The idea that two lovers can hold hands in a bar or even walk down a public street showing affection are radically new for the refugees. The dream and illusions of liberty and justice for all are very real and very important for them. The simple fact that they are here and no longer in jail is proof enough that America is still the promised land.



Thomas got married to a woman in Cuba while he was Roberto's lover and, in fact, living with him. He would live with his lover and Monica would live with her mother. They were married two years. It was only a year ago that Monica learned that Thomas was Gay and that he had been living with Roberto all this time. Even though she was both visibly upset and jealous, she did not ask for or demand a divorce. In fact, every time Thomas had been with Roberto, she would always take him back, somehow afraid she had lost him. It was not until her sister from America claimed her that she divorced Thomas, and this was only after Thomas gave her the option of divorcing him or leaving their son behind in Cuba with his father. It was he who left her and asked for the divorce. Unlike America, where wives can be publicly upset and demand both custody and divorce in most cases, the lifestyle that Monica and Thomas had was an accepted one in the Latin culture.

The horrors stories that many newspapers, both Gay and straight, have published--of torture and brutality inside of Castro's Cuba were confirmed by Thomas and the other Cubans we spoke to. But it should be made clear that the Gays were separated from the straights in the prison system. Only those Gay prisoners who were 'out of line' were beaten and punished. There was never any brutality for no reason at all, as some of the media reported. Of course, it should be realized that by human rights standards, the treatment of all prisoners in Cuba was bad--but it was not bad simply because you were a homosexual. The ostentatious ones were imprisoned because the state viewed these homosexuals as a threat to the system. They were condemned under the ley de peligrosidad because they were thought to be literally dangerous to the country.

Castro lied. There are homosexuals in Cuba. Some were treated badly, as their scars and stories have proven. Many lost their jobs, education, and liberty because of the fact that they tried to be true to themselves and the knowledge they knew they had inside. This happens everywhere in the world, especially to those who stick their necks out, daring to be free. Those who dare to be courageous in public--the ones who wore a dress and put makeup on their faces got hurt. But this could happen anywhere. That is the lesson we must learn from the refugees.

Ten Speed - Tucson

by Rev. Bern David

TUCSON - I have spent nearly every day for the past three weeks in Tucson with some Gay Cubans seeking amnesty in this country, including the young person who interviewed for this issue of AGN.

I have read and heard statements like "Puta Go Home", "I will not help those criminals and lunatics" or "They should have stayed home." I certainly hold the view that it is immoral for a country to ship their criminals and insane off to another country for care. I also hold the view that it is the right of every individual who is oppressed to seek that condition for life where oppression is at a minimum and that is what many of these both young and old people have done.

I believe that there are immediate needs that our community can meet to give dignity and meaning to the lives of these people who had to come out of their closets and give up everything to leave oppression behind. Some of these immediate needs include money for bus passes, soap, shampoo, phone calls; decent clothing and most importantly of all - jobs.

As a long-range goal we would like to start a fund also for housing and would like to interest people to provide housing, in those cases when they are sure that they can follow through with this commitment.

These people have come here to make new lives for themselves. Let us help to make new life, "Vida Nueva," possible for them. If you are interested in helping or seek further information, make your checks payable to "Vida Nueva" in care of AGN, P.O. Box 5002, Tucson, AZ 85703 or contact Rev. Bern David at 293-4326 or Bob Ellis at AGN, 622-7176

MCC Tucson Greetings in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ our living-risen Savior. Truly we here at Truth Chapel are blessed people. We continue to rejoice at the prospects of a new pastor - the Rev. Randy Hill, who is here through Sunday, August 17, actively candidating for our vacant pulpit.

Friday August 15th, there is to be a swim party at the home of two of our members from 6 p.m. til ??? Come join us and get to know Randy. For directions call 884-8186. Those of you who missed his message at the August 10th Sunday worship service, are warmly invited to come hear Randy preach this Sunday, August 17 at 10:45 a.m.

After worship service this Sunday, there will be a special congregational meeting for all members and registered friends of Truth Chapel on whether to accept Rev. Randy Hill as our new pastor. Please plan on attending this most important meeting.

All our church activities are held at 2460 N. Dodge unless otherwise noted. We assemble for worship each Sunday at 10:45 a.m. and each Wednesday for Bible Study Rap at 7:30 p.m. Church phone is 884-8186. Love and Peace - Steve and Dennis.

HTCC Last Sunday, we were happy to have the pastor candidate of Truth Chapel, Rev.

Randy Hill, visit us and take part in our services. It was a time of real sharing, loving, and the spirit of the Lord was truly evident. We hope he accepts the pulpit, and that we can together reach all of the Southern Arizona community.

This Sunday we have some surprises in store during our services. You will miss something special if you aren't there. We are thrilled at the way God has been blessing and would like to share this with you.

Don't forget! The Spiritual Renewal/Revival begins at Holy Trinity NEXT WEDNESDAY. That's the 20th through the 23rd. Pastor Fred from Casa de Cristo MCC in Phoenix will be in charge. There will be lots of exciting events so don't even think about missing a single service. Each service starts at 7:30 p.m. preceded by a dinner beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Have you been looking for companionship not into drugs, alcohol and

other more base areas of life? Do you feel you are alone, that there is no one else like you in all the world? Try Holy Trinity -- one trip and you will never be the same, and you will find many others who think like you. We meet every Sunday night at 7:30 p.m. at Unitarian Church, 4831 E. 22nd St. Remember that God loves you and so do we. Pastor Jim 323-2424.

MCC Phoenix Tubing down the Salt River will be the featured outing this Saturday morning beginning at 9 a.m. The group will meet at the church parking lot and then car pool up to the Salt. At 4 p.m., the same day, Casa de Cristo's brand new volleyball team will play their first game. The team, "Fred's Volleys," will be playing the team from the LADS group. Everyone is invited to participate in this time of fun. For the location of the game call the church office at 265-2831.

Have you ever attended an old-fashioned "down South" revival meeting. Such a service will be featured this Sunday morning at Casa de Cristo, 1029 E. Turney at the 10:55 a.m. service. This Sunday is Old-Fashioned Day. Members and friends will be bringing various old items to the service. This is a very different type of service and everyone is most welcome to join in the activities planned. Pastor Fred L. Pattison will be continuing the study in Romans Chapter eight.

A Pot Luck Dinner will be held at 6:00 p.m. followed by a Congregational Get-Together and Sunday Evening Vespers.

Casa de Cristo is presently actively working on plans to help resettle Gay Cubans in the Valley of the Sun. Several from the community have indicated an interest to help in the outreach program. Information may be obtained by calling the church office.

Our Tucson friends are especially invited to hear our Pastor Fred Pattison, preach at the Holy Trinity Community Church (meeting at the Unitarian Church on 22nd St.) this Wednesday thru Saturday. Services are to be held each evening. Pastor Fred formerly pastored the Faith Baptist Church in Tucson for a number of years. He has been pastor at Casa de Cristo MCC Phoenix since January, 1977.

AUGUST 20-21-22-23
7:30 P.M.
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CONDUCTED BY THE WELLKNOWN PASTOR
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THUR: "WHAT IS THE CHURCH?"
FRI: "WHAT IS THE NEW BIRTH?"
SAT: "WHAT IS A GAY CHRISTIAN"
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FOR INFORMATION CALL PASTOR JIM 323-2424

SANTA CRUZ

Metropolitan Community Church

TUCSON - Greetings in the name of Jesus. This Sunday worship will be held jointly with Truth Chapel as we continue to meet with the Reverend Randy Hill and get to know him better.

Fellowship for Santa Cruz will follow the worship service at the pastor's home following the service at Truth Chapel at 2:00 p.m.

We have some new people fellowshiping with us from Cuba. If you would like to meet them, join us.

If you are interested in joining us for worship, fellowship or Bible study give us a call for location and directions.

Remember our District Coordinator will be visiting us Labor Day Weekend.

PAS DE CRISTO

The Rev. Bern David - - - - 293-4326
Deacon Cecilia Bracamonte - - 624-0906



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Ph.323-2424

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Tucson, Az. 85717

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7:30 P.M. Sunday
4831 E. 22nd St.

Rev. James C. Rice
Pastor



884-8186

SUNDAY SERVICES
10:45 a.m.

METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY
CHURCH
of
Tucson

KEGLERS KORNER

TUCSON - There still exists uncertainty regarding the final team positions after the kegling action Thursday, August 7. With three weeks remaining in the season, several teams have a chance for the top three spots.

The outcomes of last week's contests were the following: The Empire defeathered Coco's Angels and they fluttered to third. The "doctor" rallied OSWMA from bacchian oblivion to a split with The Strikers. The Family "mothered" The Odd Squad as they bowled even, and The Rovers "darthed" The "New" Force. The present league standings are:

TEAM	W	L	PCT.
The Strikers	27	9	.750
The Empire	22	14	.611
Coco's Angels	21	15	.583
OSWMA	19	17	.528
The Rovers	17	19	.472
The Family	17	19	.472
The Odd Squad	16	20	.444
The "New" Force	5	31	.139

Pair-ups for August 14th, (6:30 at Cactus Bowl) will be: The Odd Squad vs OSWMA; Coco's Angels vs The Rovers; The Strikers vs The "New" Force; and The Family vs The Empire.

in TUCSON is it true.....

...Someone was heard to say, "Well, with the show on the 20th, they'll see the 'Entertainment of the Year.'"
 ...Phil C. has discovered that Katie C. is a sex maniac!
 ...Skinny Mark S. claims that Charles N. and he are only sisters, especially in bed.
 ...Gene Z. was seen trying to super-glue three large carrots together.
 ...Coors Ralph was seen showing Del S. that his buns are just like his wallet - old but tight!
 ...Phil H. came to town with his new lover, Merv from Phoenix, but spent most of his time talking to Merv's lap.
 ...Phil J. discovered that the only way he would have a daughter was if he gave birth and God knows he's trying.
 ...Bill C. likes to play with Louis' leg - all three of them.
 ...While Larry is in the "Windy City," Jim is blowing away in Tucson!!
 ...Bob and Walter haven't used their air-conditioner at home, it's been so chilly there lately!
 ...If Monte-Jon knew that Matt M. was going to try and move Jimmy in, he wouldn't have replaced the bathroom fixtures.
 ...Irene decided she didn't do all those things they said she did because you-know-what isn't sore.
 ...Stuart S. and Tommy S. discovered something most of Tucson already knows, they are both getting old.
 ...David T. brought Russel to the "Pink Party" and all Russel did was look through the sheets - of music that is.
 ...For the first time in his life, someone actually ran after Doc!
 ...Brent F. discovered that it is his actions and not his age that makes Kevin chicken.
 ...While working on the new Toole Box, Louis' whole was ready for anything.
 ...As he hung up the phone, Father John thought Mother Johnny was staying home to take a bath. Instead Mother went to the Stables Baths!
 ...Don N. and Bob W. proved that after several cocktails they really are rotten at bowling.
 ...Jeff O. said, "We don't get along as it is, so don't print what I just said."

**REGISTER
TO VOTE
TODAY**

KLUB KNEWS

DESERT ADVENTURES

PHOENIX - In the past few months Desert Adventures has grown from just a few friends getting together to over 175 people. If our growth continues as it has in the past, we will have over 300 people on our mailing lists by the end of the year.

We are proud of our group because it is Arizona's first attempt at serving the whole community. Our group is made up of both men and women of all ages, and they come from all types of backgrounds.

Currently, Desert Adventures plans only one event every four weeks. As our organization grows and as more people volunteer their time and ideas, we will try to organize more activities. If you wish to help organize an event or if you have any suggestions for new events just give us a call. We'll be glad to talk to you.

Tomorrow, Saturday, August 17 we will go Salt River Tubing. This will be our second Salt River trip. All people should meet in the Los Arcos parking lot near the Los Arcos sign at the corner of Scottsdale Road and McDowell Road at 8:30 a.m. At 9 a.m. we will proceed to Blue Point Bridge where we will begin the float. The float will start promptly at 10:30 a.m. and end at the Phon Sutton picnic area about 2½ hours later. Tubes should be inflated and munchies purchased prior to the 8:30 departure time.

Other upcoming events include a San Diego bus trip in Sept. Camping at Verde Hot Springs in early October; Backpacking event late October; Roller skating in early November, a 50's dance in late November and New Years at Grand Canyon. For those events you are interested in, please call 257-9290. A detailed bulletin will be mailed to you in ample time prior to the scheduled events of interest. This bulletin will have the necessary information on each event. Desert Adventure T-Shirts are now available at a cost of \$7.25 each. Order now, our supply is going fast.

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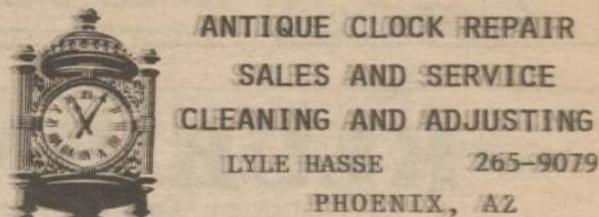


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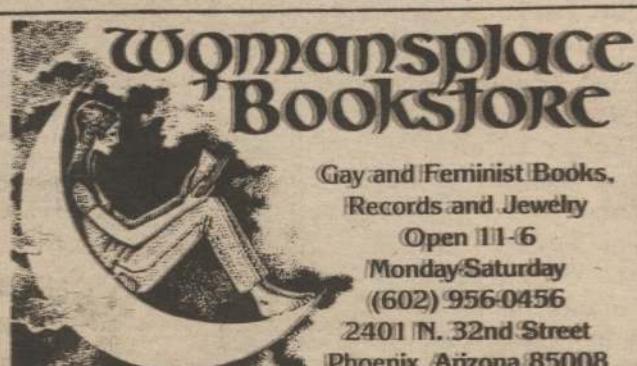
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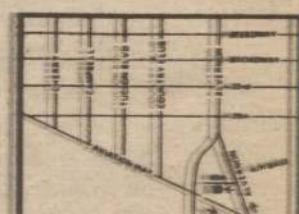
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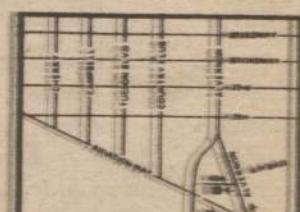
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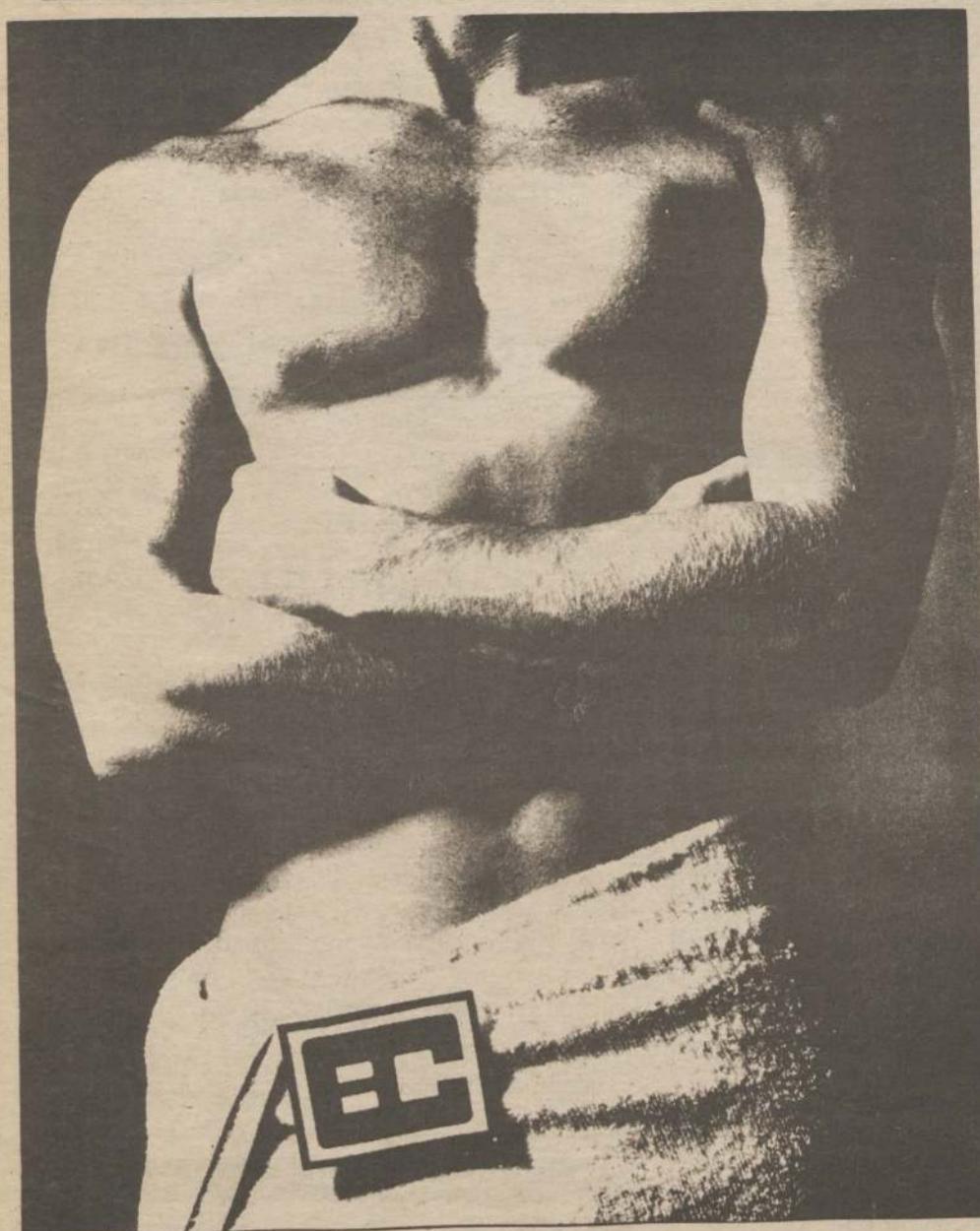
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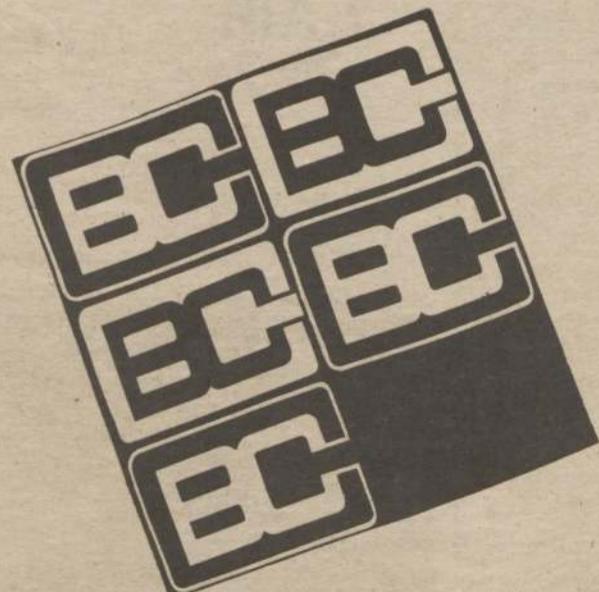


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in TUCSON is it true.....

- ...Lloyd B. said he purchased his TKO vest at Lerner's dress shop, downtown store.
- ...Bart has all the new information on the current popular T-room at the U. of A.
- ...On opening night of Bobby F's new bar, John H. plans to greet everyone with a warm and Gay handshake!
- ...Michael J. is having a difficult time teaching Ray A. how to tell time.
- ...Mike E. was surprised to find out that the truck he bought from Big George really does run on Crisco and baby oil.
- ...Gary Y. recently joined the Pima County Country Club, but was pleased he didn't have to room with Dee McK., She was in the men's holding tank!
- ...Danny 2 tried to extend Ina Road and Remodel his car last Friday night.
- ...H/T Tom has been singing "Torn Between Two Lovers" these past few days.
- ...Keith D. is now holding court and other things up in Phoenix at the Connection now.
- ...Jim S. was doing "The Flight of the Bumble Bee" last Saturday night and wanted to sting Jay!
- ...Quote of the Week: "It is behind the bar at Jekyll's and we should get someone to steal it!"
- ...After seeing Real Estate George, Norma Jean suddenly wants to buy a house!
- ...Roy H. did all his entertaining in his bedroom last Saturday night and ended the weekend with a crashing blow.
- ...Peter said he has 12 inches and Roger B. wondered where he kept the other 8.
- ...Penny H. couldn't understand why she had fallen asleep on the BP/JT Patio. Was it that quart of Southern Comfort she drank?
- ...Cindi D. has given up her crutches and is now letting Eddie F. and Don M. carry her around.
- ...Tim O. can't believe how well behaved Jeff O. has been acting lately.
- ...Michael S. does not like to play waitress and bartender at the same time.
- ...Little Dan (Miss Kitty) pushed all of his meat last Sunday, but promises to have more to push this Sunday.
- ...Vinny C. was so excited about Rita C. returning from California that he went out and celebrated with her.
- ...Scott B. has been wearing his Ed W. drag at the JT/BP every day now.
- ...Dani R. lost some weight and Lady C. found it!
- ...Mark L. wants to be the drive-up window at Little Dan's kitchen.
- ...Wilma didn't say a word last week and the outside temperature of Tucson dropped 10 degrees!
- ...Scott U.R. has a secret promise that he made to Coors Ralph.
- ...We wonder if Eddie F. will be shown the same respect by the high school sophomores in his school district as grandparents attending Pima College?
- ...Stuart S. was giving up his car to buy a motorized wheel chair.
- ...Don P. finally heard the words he's always wanted to hear. Too bad Henry was too drunk to remember what he said.
- ...Bus drivers in Tucson certainly have diversified taste. Bus driver Al is into chicken; George is into Kitty Litter and Joe H. is into anything he can complain about.
- ...Tony C. turning in his "Please Take A Number" sign for one that reads "You Are The Sunshine Of My Life."
- ...See Miss Polly, you didn't make it this week!

DANCE!!!!!!

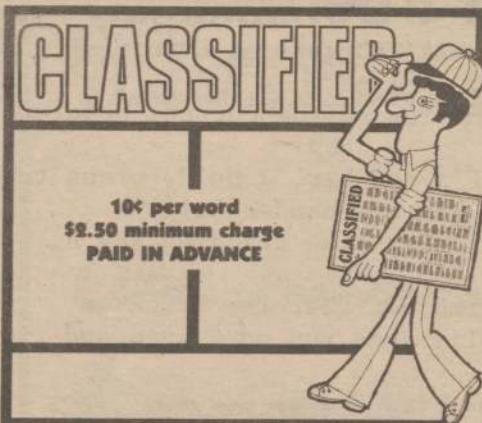
RICK STAMPER - RAY APPLEMAN - CURTIS LOOKER
AT THE JOSHUA TREE

1. UPSIDE DOWN / I'M COMING OUT - Diana Ross
2. FEEL LIKE DANCIN' / HEART TO BREAK - France Joli
3. S-BEAT (LP) - Gino Soccio
4. EMOTIONAL RESCUE / DANCE - Rolling Stone
5. LEAVE THAT BOY ALLONE - Poussez
6. DO IT TO ME - Peter Brown
7. BULLSHIT / LOVE IS THE DRUG - Grace Jones
8. I AIN'T NEVER - Issac Hayes
9. JUDY IN DISGUISE - Silicone Teens
10. BEYOND - Herb Alpert
11. KEEP SMILIN' - Carrie Lucas
12. GIVE ME THE NIGHT - George Benson
13. REBELS ARE WE / 26 - Chic
14. FOR YOUR LOVE - Idris Mohammed
15. EURO-VISION - Telex

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