



THE WESTERN EXPRESS

FROM THE SOUTHWEST

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SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 11, 1983

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Dignity Rains on Seattle

by Steve Warren

Seattle — Dignity Inc. moved toward a more prophetic role in dealing with the Roman Catholic church on behalf of lesbians and gay men at its sixth biennial international convention, held here Labor Day Weekend. Feminism, social justice, sexual ethics and racial minorities were issues signaling the shift from a conciliatory stance to a more aggressive vanguard position.

A new commitment to feminist issues and a supportive stand toward the San Francisco task force which developed the report "Homosexuality and Social Justice" were accomplishments this convention could boast of. The road to the future was marked by the creation of a task force on sexual ethics and the unofficial formation of Dignity/Third World, a committee to increase the effectiveness of the organization's ministry to racial minorities.

It was evident that change was in the air from the warm welcome given the roughly 700 registrants by Raymond G. Hunthausen, archbishop of Seattle. He authorized the use of St. James Cathedral for a Saturday night eucharistic liturgy and prepared welcoming remarks which had to be delivered via videotape when the archbishop was — by a suspicious coincidence — called to Rome.

(This was contrasted with the 1981 convention in Philadelphia where not only was Dignity forbidden to use church facilities, but clergy were warned to have nothing to do with the convention — although many did anyway.)

Archbishop Hunthausen spoke in his address of some Seattle Catholics for

whom "... your (the conventioners;) presence here is a source of wonderment and confusion, even anger and resentment. They find it difficult, if not impossible, to understand why the church should engage in a special ministry to persons of homosexual orientation..."

Sure enough, about a hundred of those people (who had expected 500) held a prayer vigil across the street from St. James during the Dignity mass, carrying signs, singing hymns and saying a rosary. The peaceful protest was welcomed by the 1,260 lesbian and gay Catholics and their supporters — including about 100 vested priests and other religious — inside the cathedral, who thanked the demonstrators for their prayers and prayed for their enlightenment.

A full-page ad in that morning's Seattle Times, headlined "Don't Be Misled," was a source of excellent publicity that the convention could hardly have afforded to buy. While refuting them with official church teachings and the worst translations and paraphrases of the standard Bible verses, it presented excellent statements of Dignity's point of view from its newsletters and the published words of major convention speakers.

The ad also said, in part, "We are... saddened that 'Dignity' will be allowed to use our St. James Cathedral (NOTE: The Christians who give you trouble are those who think churches belong to them rather than God) for its 'major liturgy'... We believe this convention to be not only an occasion of confusion, but also of scandal... We join... in the prayer that all



Photo by Steve Warren.

(l.-r. rear) Bruce Hyland and Bob Fischella of Tucson, (l.-r. front) Shelley Hogan and Rudy Bustamente of Phoenix at the Dignity convention in Seattle.

those homosexually oriented may lead chaste lives in accordance with the church's teaching..."

Sponsoring the ad (and requesting donations) was a group of "Roman Catholic laity of the Archdiocese of Seattle" calling themselves "National Parents League Inc." All that is known of Chairman (sic) Mary Royer is that she is neither the Mary Royer who was registered for the convention nor the wife of Seattle mayor Charles Royer, who extended a welcome at the opening general assembly which was both warm and funny. ("The last religious convention we had here came with a \$10 bill in one hand and the Ten Commandments in the other and never broke either one of them!")

Press coverage was generally good with both daily papers reporting on the

convention and two TV stations sending film crews to the cathedral Saturday night. Even if they were hoping to shoot a confrontation which never happened, their stories were balanced, one station leading off the 11 o'clock news with the event.

Elected to succeed Atlanta activist Frank Scheuren as president of the international (U.S. and Canada, with affiliated groups in England — Quest — and Australia — Acceptance) organization was John Hager of Washington DC. The most important thing about the convention for him, he told us, was "the kind of sharing experience that renews and gives new life to everyone in the organization... a celebration of love..."

While the idea of Dignity/Third World

Continued on page 16

ALGTF to launch voter registration drive

Phoenix — Having successfully organized the 1983 Lesbian and Gay Human Rights March and Rally, the Arizona Lesbian and Gay Task Force has moved onto bigger and better things. Following the formation of its Political Advisory Committee, the task force submitted thirty names representing a group of its current members who were interested in becoming deputy registrars. Since that time, only a month ago, ALGTF has registered just over 500 voters and has launched a major voter registration drive scheduled for the first week in October. Corresponding with the 1983 Phoenix City

Council Elections, ALGTF has delivered volunteers to the most critical campaigns, furthering its strategy for passage of a Phoenix Lesbian and Gay Rights Ordinance.

Building for a successful '84, ALGTF began by establishing a Political Action Committee, designed to build the economic and political clout of a unified Lesbian/Gay Community by massing the Lesbian/Gay dollar and vote. In addition, the ALGTF mailing list has topped 300 with the political phone tree growing right along beside it. ALGTF has set its goals with the established Arizona political par-

ties and is looking forward to kicking off its political impact campaign with a January conference. Recognizing the importance of working in coalition with other groups, a schedule for determining ALGTF issue stands has been set up. Discussion and consciousness raising debates on pertinent issues are scheduled as follows:

- Right to Choose..... Oct. 3, 1983
- The Equal Rights Amendment..... Oct. 10, 1983
- Separatism between

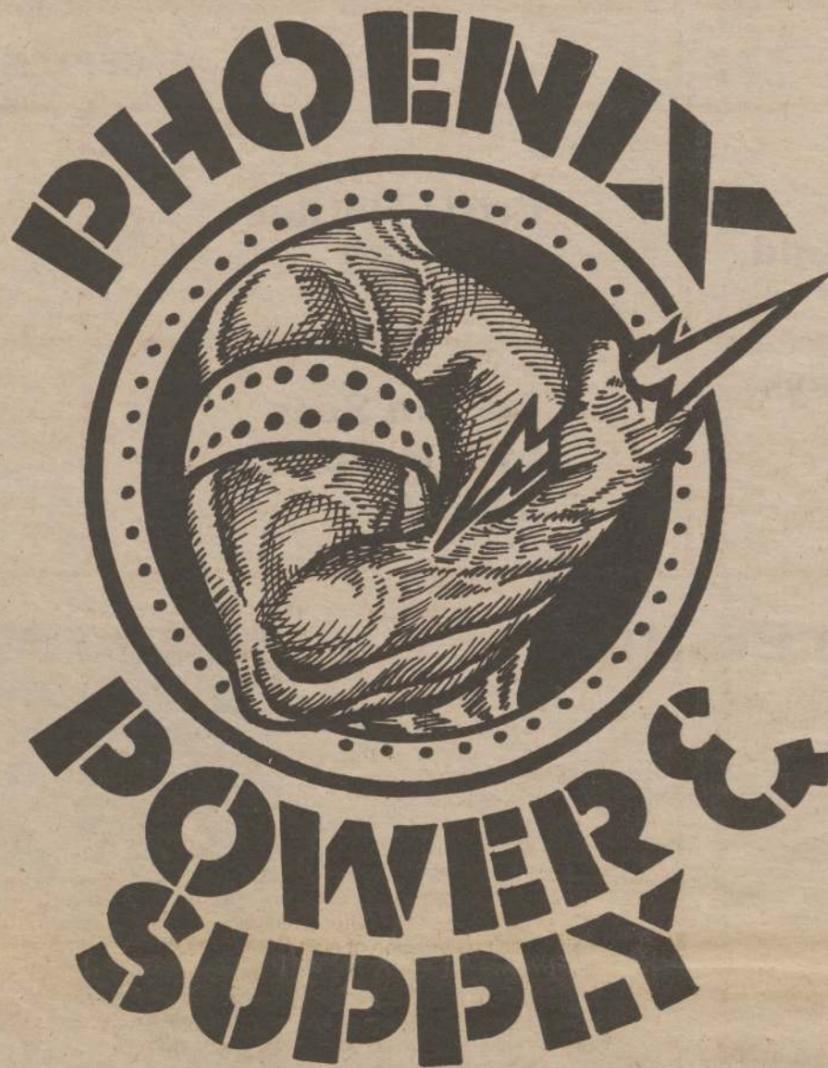
- Arizona Lesbian and Gay Community..... Oct. 17, 1983
- Racism in Arizona..... Oct. 24, 1983
- OPEN..... Oct. 31, 1983

Meetings for the month of October will be held at 8:00 p.m. on Monday nights at 730 W. Lewis Avenue in Phoenix. All input as well as individual skills and energy are welcome and certainly encouraged. Be watching for the ALGTF candidate endorsement list as well as the upcoming First Annual Arizona Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights Conference. If there are any further questions, please call Carol or Mickie at 968-2542.



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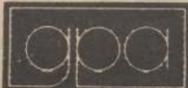
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International Report

AIDS phobia in England

London (IGNA) — Fear of catching AIDS is causing more harm in Britain than the disease itself. People are literally worrying themselves sick with little reason and may need psychiatric help, say doctors and voluntary workers.

People are so frightened by newspaper and television reports of the disease that one London hospital alone, St. Mary's of Paddington, has reported hundreds of patients suffering from AIDS-related anxiety, some to the point of being suicidal.

Three cases of "severe psychiatric illness with fear of AIDS as the dominant feature" were reported in August in the *British Medical Journal* by Dr. Jonathan Weber and Dr. David Goldmeier of St. Mary's.

All were unable to work because they feared they might pass on the disease. None had any of the physical abnormalities associated with AIDS, of which there are only 14 confirmed cases in Britain.

The anxiety cases were the following:

- A 35-year-old academic was in good health until he watched a Horizon documentary on AIDS. He then developed "an irrational conviction that he was incubating AIDS and complained of night sweats, weight loss, and malaise." Although he was a sexually active homosexual, he had no high-risk factors, such as intravenous drug abuse, contact with an AIDS patient, or a history of sexual contact in the USA.

- A 40-year-old gay man "developed an acute agitated depression" after reading newspaper article. He still does not completely accept that he is not suffering from AIDS.

- A heterosexual man, 30, who claimed he was sexually assaulted by a homosexual man six months earlier, watched a video recording of the Horizon program about AIDS more than 30 times and developed an intense anxiety that he had the disease.

Worst hit by this new stress syndrome are gay males, respondign to reports that they are most at risk from the disease.

Tony Whitehead of the Terrence Higgins Trust, a London-based organization set up to fund AIDS research and support sufferers, said: "Very often people are simply being sensible and checking just what the risks are and what they can do to reduce them. But where you have people who haven't accepted their sexuality, the combination of guilt feelings, scaremongering reports, and general anxiety can be explosive."

Not all anxiety-ridden people are gay men, however. Gay Switchboard has had frantic calls from grandmothers who fear they may catch the disease after learning their grandsons are gay. One married woman telephoned a hospital to ask if there was any chance her husband might be secretly bisexual and pass AIDS on to her.

National Report

NGRA presents oral argument in military case

San Francisco — The United States Court of Appeals in Washington D.C. will hear oral arguments in a case involving the rights of lesbians and gay men to serve in the military. National Gay Rights Advocates, the San Francisco-based public interest law firm, is making a constitutional challenge to the Navy's exclusionary policy.

The military requires that all homosexuals be discharged solely on the basis of their sexual orientation, without regard to an individual's fitness to serve. Leonard Graff, NGRA Legal Director, said: "The Navy's mandatory discharge policy violates the constitutionally protected rights of privacy, due process and equal protection of the laws."

NGRA Executive Director, Jean O'Leary, said: "The only legitimate qualification for serving in the military is the ability to do the job. The Navy's policy is an irrational discrimination against lesbians and gay men."

Stephen Bomse, a partner in the San Francisco law firm of Heller, Ehrman, White & McAuliffe, will present the oral argument. Mr. Bomse's role in the case is a significant achievement for NGRA as it illustrates the ability of NGRA to attract top notch legal counsel for its test cases.

This case was chosen for a challenge because of Dronenburg's exemplary record over nine years in the Navy. He was an expert in Korean cryptology and was given a \$12,000 re-enlistment bonus shortly before the Navy discovered he was gay and discharged him.

NGRA filed the lawsuit in the D.C. Circuit because, by reputation, it is the most liberal. And, a victory in Washington would be of benefit to all service members, regardless of where they are stationed.

The Navy's rationale for their position is that: "The presence of a (homosexual) member in a military environment seriously impairs combat readiness, effi-

ciency and security." The District Court agreed in ruling that "maintenance of the effectiveness, discipline, and morale of the nation's naval forces is a legitimate Navy policy."

The Navy's policy and its rationale are strikingly similar to its former policy with regard to blacks. The Washington D.C. law firm of Covington & Burling filed an *amicus curiae* brief, on behalf of the A.C.L.U., which illustrates the parallel use of stereotypes presumptions to justify the exclusion of homosexuals.

Freeway killer sentenced

Santa Ana, CA (IGNA) — "Freeway Killer" William Bonin, already facing execution for 10 tortures and murders of gay men in Los Angeles, was given the death penalty again recently for the sex slayings of four more young men in suburban Orange County.

A jury ordered that Bonin die in San Quentin Prison in the gas chamber.

After a six-week trial, the same jurors had deliberated three days before convicting the former truck driver and ex-Marine of four counts of first-degree murder and four counts of robbery.

Bonin was found guilty of murdering Lawrence Sharp, 17, in November 1979; Glenn Barker, 14, of Huntington Beach, and Russell Rugh, 15, of Garden Grove, both in March 1980; and Frank Fox, 17, of Bellflower, in May 1980.

All the victims were hitchhiking when Bonin picked them up.

Bonin was convicted last year and sentenced to die. In arguing for the imposition of a second death penalty, prosecutor Bryan Brown told jurors that he wanted to be sure that Bonin would not go free should his Los Angeles conviction be overturned on appeal.

Bonin originally was linked to the slayings of about 40 boys and young men in five Southern California counties between 1972 and 1980. Authorities now say that many of those cases will never be solved.

NGTF addresses national meeting of health officials on the local response to AIDS

Washington, D.C. — The National Gay Task Force, on September 15, outlined a program of action on AIDS for local governments to a joint meeting in Washington of the U.S. Conference of Local Health Officers and the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials. NGTF Washington representative Jeff Levi praised the more than 100 officials in attendance for their generally "positive and supportive" response to the AIDS crisis and urged their support for increased efforts nationally and locally.

Levi told the public health officers that they "must use (their) credibility at all levels of government to support adequate funding" for AIDS research and services. He urged that the localities provide financial support for the community-based efforts to deal with the AIDS crisis. Levi pointed to some of the services already being provided by gay community groups and said, "As you can see, we in the gay community are not asking that you do the job for us; but we are also asking that you do not make us do the job alone."

Levi said that "the public must see that the government is taking clear and decisive steps to address this crisis." He suggested the creation of interdepartmental task forces comprised of all affected groups, government officials, people with AIDS, and the medical community to oversee the public response to AIDS and to be involved in all aspects of policy review.

The health officials were urged to direct their public education drives at four specific groups for whom different approaches are required: the general public; those at apparent high risk for AIDS; those who, in their professional capacities, come in close contact with persons with AIDS and high-risk groups; and those who actually have AIDS. Levi stressed the importance of such education efforts and observed that "one feeling that the gay/lesbian community shares with most public health officers is the frustration of spending so much time overcoming misconceptions about AIDS — and the hysteria that often results."

The gay/lesbian community's concerns about confidentiality in reporting on AIDS were emphasized again. Now that the Centers for Disease Control are no longer collecting names of people with AIDS the responsibility for preserving the confidentiality of information rests with local jurisdictions. Levi presented model language that would protect confidentiality in regulations and legislation making AIDS a reportable disease. Drafted by the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, it forbids release of identifying information without the written consent of the individual in almost all circumstances.

The gay/lesbian community "could not be more interested in the gathering of accurate information about AIDS," Levi said. "But... we also firmly believe that reporting mechanisms must guarantee the confidentiality of the information gathered."



COLD FACTS ABOUT WARM BEER

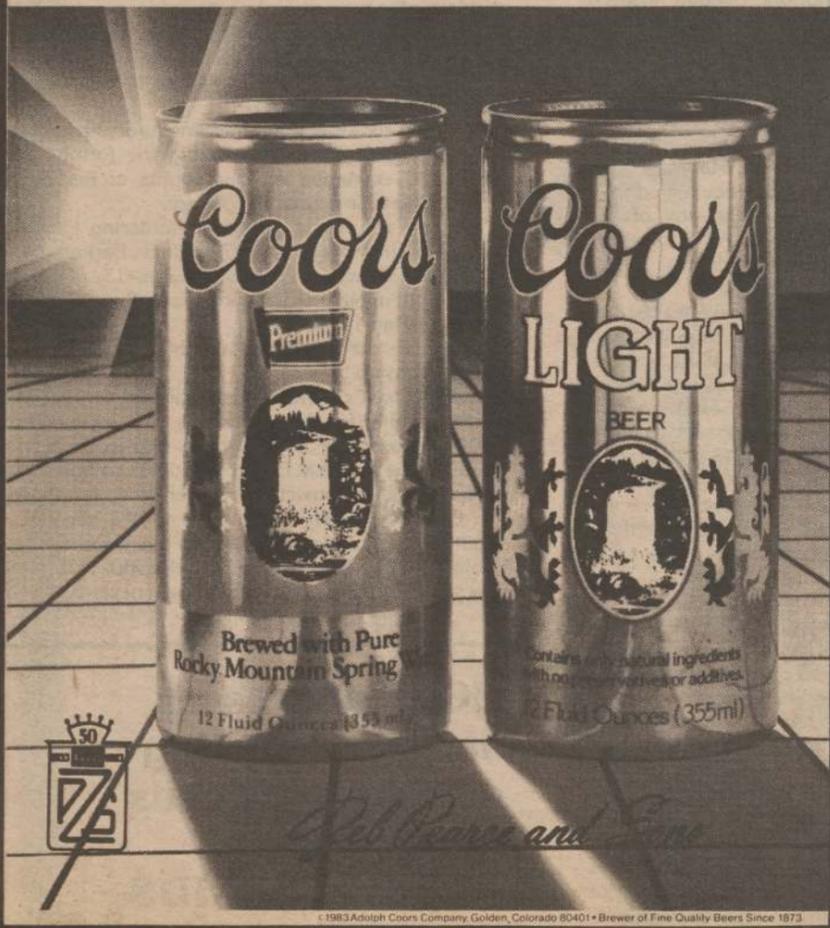
You've been hearing a lot about Coors beers. Especially that they have to be kept cold to be good.

Well, the truth is, Coors beers are no more affected by heat than any other beers.

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So when you buy Coors and Coors Light warm, don't worry. They will always have a head start on freshness.



Phoenix Symphony to play outdoors

Phoenix — The Phoenix Symphony, led by Associate Conductor Clark E. Suttle, will launch its 1983-84 season with an outdoor performance in late September. The program, *Concerts Under the Stars: Galactic Movie Music*, will be presented on Friday, September 30 at 7:30 p.m. at the Mesa Amphitheater.

The program of popular music will include many of the themes from current cinema releases. *Star Wars Suite*, the main themes from *Superman* and *E.T. (The Extra-Terrestrial)* and *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* by composer John Williams headline the performance. The Symphony will also perform selections from Gustav Holst's *The Planets* — Mars and Jupiter.

Clark E. Suttle is one of the fastest rising, young conductors in the United States. At age 30, Mr. Suttle has already earned a national reputation for excellence with such major orchestras as the St. Louis Symphony, the National Symphony in Washington D.C., the Denver Symphony and the Grand Rapids Symphony.

As Associate Conductor of the Phoenix Symphony, Mr. Suttle will conduct seven subscription concerts this year. He will also work directly with the Education and Outreach programs of the Symphony, and will appear as a guest lecturer with the Pre-concert Lecture Series before Classics and Chamber performances of the Symphony.

For the Mesa concert, tickets are priced \$6.00: general admission and \$4.00: students age 17 and under.

Tickets are available at all Diamond's ticket outlets and the Phoenix Symphony Main Ticket Office, 6328 N. Seventh St., Phone 264-4754.

Flagstaff gays organize

Flagstaff — A group of twenty gay men and lesbians recently got together to form the first gay support group in the Flagstaff area in recent years. It was decided at the organizational meeting on August 31, 1983 that the group will be called the Gay Alliance of Northern Arizona (G.A.N.A.).

Also at the August 31 meeting it was discussed that G.A.N.A. will be an organization without a lot of structure and that anyone interested in the group would be able to come to the meetings at anytime.

One of the main functions of G.A.N.A. will be to coordinate the gay support group meetings. The support group, it was decided, will meet every other Wednesday (Sept. 28, Oct. 12, etc.) at 7:00 p.m. at 519 N. Leroux Street in Flagstaff. All gay men, lesbians and friends of the gay community are welcome to attend the meetings.

Another function of the group will be to organize a gay outreach in northern Arizona. "Outreach is presently working pretty well on the Northern Arizona University campus" said G.A.N.A. member Terry Kampf, "but we need to get a few more permanent residents involved."

Kampf also stated that G.A.N.A. will work closely with some of the other organizations in Flagstaff that might be sympathetic to the gay cause.

Anyone wanting more information on G.A.N.A. can call 779-3817 or write to G.A.N.A., P.O. Box 266, Flagstaff, AZ 86002.

Connection plans major day-long AIDS benefit.

Phoenix — *The Connection* has announced plans for what they hope will be one of the major events in the drive to raise funds for the AIDS Foundation. An auction is planned for Sunday, October 30 to run from Noon till Midnight at the bar. Guest auctioneers will include people from the community. Then to treat those coming out for the auction, *Saint Tropez*, the internationally popular recording stars who knocked everyone out with their performances at the *Connection Country Fair* will perform two shows that evening at 7 and 11 PM. No cover charge will be assessed.

The auction already includes a truck and artwork. Dale Williams, owner of *The Connection* said a drive is now on to collect as much material as possible to auction. He urges anyone to donate anything they want from a used toaster on up. Also auctioneers are needed to run a volunteer shift. Several businesses have already donated both goods and auctioneer time and both are open to individuals as well. Anyone wishing to donate goods or time should contact *The Connection* 248-9730.

Gay men's couples group to begin

Phoenix — Park Central Counseling has announced that a gay men's couples group will be getting underway in mid-October. The group will deal with issues of typical concern to gay couples, such as views of a monogamous relationship vs. an open relationship; allowing for individuality; "balance" in the relationship; gaining better communications; and dealing with age differences.

It is not uncommon for a gay couple to need to deal with a variety of stresses. Pressures for maintaining "cover" of the relationship, social and family guilt trips, and trying to deal with normal stresses of any relationship all at the same time can build tensions to a breaking point. The couples group is intended to provide a relief for stress and assist in working out problem areas in a protected setting, with professional assistance, and a sharing by other couples who are working out similar "kinks" in their relationships.

Those couples interested in joining this couples group may call the Park Central Counseling office at 274-0327 for further information. If you have a question of any kind, it's better to call and at least check out an answer.

New home for MCC-Tucson

Tucson — On Sunday, October 2, Metropolitan Community Church of Tucson (MCC) will officially take up residence in their new home at 560 South Stone Avenue. The new location is the former Temple Emanu-El, which was the first Jewish synagogue in the Arizona Territory when it opened in 1910. The building housed Temple Emanu-El until 1949, when the congregation moved to their present location at 225 N. Country Club Road. Since then, a number of Christian congregations have used the building. It was designated as a historical site on November 14, 1982.

For the past three years, MCC has been meeting in a facility at 349 West 35th Street in South Tucson. The new location will double the worship area and will also provide additional class room and meeting space. "It is my hope", said Reverend David Gunton, Pastor of MCC-Tucson, "that we can offer space to a variety of community activities not just our own Christian ministry." Already plans are underway to house the Arizona Gay Youth meetings in the MCC building.

Official dedication services will be held on Sunday, October 2 at 10:45 A.M. The Reverend Robert Arthur, District Coordinator for the Southwest District of the U.F.M.C.C. will be the guest speaker and other MCC clergy from around the state have been invited to participate. This service will also be the official installation service for Reverend David Gunton, who has been pastoring in Tucson since June 12, 1983. The gay community and general public are cordially invited to attend. Reverend Arthur will also be preaching the 7:30 P.M. service.

"We are excited about the possibilities that this move has placed before us", said Gunton, "and hope that the Tucson lesbian and gay community will join with us in our celebration."

Regular worship services are held every Sunday at 10:45 A.M. and 7:30 P.M. Various mid-week activities, both church and secular in nature, are also held and are open to the community. Information on these and the other ministries of MCC is available by calling the church at 622-4536. In addition, a 24 hour Hotline is also maintained to provide information and referral to various agencies serving the Tucson lesbian and gay community. The Hotline number is 792-3772.



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Connection

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 9:30 PM - 11:30 PM
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 "Deja Vu" 9:30 PM & 10:30 PM
 Sunday October 9 —
 RASTA 9:30 PM - 12:45 AM

Coming October 13,
 Linda & Carmella



DANCING IS NOT MY LIFE

by Sharon McDonald



To me, there is no more awesome sight than a dance floor filled with human twosomes moving in time to a common beat. I know Eleanor Roosevelt said no one can make you feel inferior without your consent, and I believe it. *Situations*, on the other hand, can frequently make me feel inferior without my consent, and having to perform on the dance floor is one of them.

It's during adolescence that dancing first rears its ugly head, along with other timely delights like menstruation and body odor. As a teenager, I was blessed with only moderate acne and a personality bland enough to spare me overt social ostracism. By some quirk, I was a non-descript swan, secretly waiting to turn into my true ugly duckling self. I watched those around me who fell as casualties of the teenage social scene, and knew that there but for a set of braces, 30 pounds, or four square inches of pimples went I.

Those excruciating years introduced me to the particular despair endemic to the dance floor. But what I felt then, at those awkward high school dances, was just the tip of the iceberg. In retrospect, it was relatively easy — if anything in those days could be described as "easy" — to bluff my way through social obligations without ever really learning how to dance. My high school years, and several that followed, were years of dancing with heterosexual men, who are notorious for having invented the Brick Wall School of Dancing. This is closely akin to their Brick Wall School of Emoting. No men I ever danced with thought my erratic swoops and lunges on the dance floor were the least bit odd; they were plunging about with equal abandon and equal ineptitude.

Later when I came out, I entered a politically active circle of feminists, whose last brush with fashion occurred a decade before. De-emphasizing personal appearance was a feminist statement. We hung around one homey women's bar, lurching our way through our favorite songs, unper-

turbed by prevailing community standards about what constitutes a dance.

Lesbian life before feminism was never like this, I am told. You had to know how to dance, drink, and shot pool to win the woman of your dreams. Anyone doubting this should have seen the two 60-year-old lesbians I saw clear the floor one night waltzing wonderfully to an old, old tune, showing the youngun's how it's done.

It seemed like I'd only been out of the closet a few months when dancing, *real* dancing, experienced a revival that has yet to subside. No longer did shuffling around face-to-face with your chosen victim suffice; suddenly couples were kicking and twirling on cue. In a matter of months, the happy camaraderie of the local bar became the close scrutiny of anxious eyes looking to pick up dance pointers. And I'll admit it, this change did not exactly cause my contemporaries to dance a path to my door. OK, so I'm not so light on my feet, but I have a *great* personality. But people are so fickle. My friends stopped asking me to dance with them altogether, and my lover started pretending she was dancing with the woman to my left. Dancing now meant you had to do a predetermined series of steps, in sequence, and in time. Well, forget it.

A wiser woman than I would just resign herself to learning how to move it with the big kids. No me, boy. You won't catch me in a gym full of third graders going, "One, two, three, turn!" I ignored TM, est, and macrame, and I can outwait this silly and tenacious preoccupation with actual skill on the dance floor. Alright, so I don't have rhythm. I'll wait till the Old Values come back around: Money, Looks, and Power. They're a lot more versatile, and easier to acquire.

Revival of the name "Happy Gardens" brings crowd out to new bar opening.



Laura, Jim, Moon, Dennis & Pat celebrating the Grand opening of Happy Gardens.

Moon, well known woman bartender 'bout town and a former employee of the old *Happy Gardens* bar which closed in 1974 has brought back a lot of memories with her opening of the new *Happy Gardens* at 4631 N. 7th Ave., formerly *Buddies*.

An opening celebration was held on Sunday Sept. 25 with a packed house on

hand to congratulate the staff. Also on hand was well-known musician Mary Stewart playing the piano and singing just as she did at the former *Happy Gardens*.

The bar will be open Monday through Friday, 2 PM till 1 AM. Saturday and Sunday from Noon on. And for you sports fans, Big Screen TV Football Games every Sunday!

Here comes Phoenix Power and Supply

Hosts Archie and Larry are readying an entry into the Phoenix bar scene at 1810 E. McDowell. A masculine bar known as Phoenix Power and Supply is being created from chain link fence, corrugated aluminum, conduit, stove pipe, a steel bar and *lots* of black paint. Construction is being directed by the same who created C. C. Construction Co. in Palm Springs.

The bar is due for a Grand Opening on Thursday, Oct. 6 at 9 PM with lots of specials to celebrate introduction of the bar and staff. It promises to be a hot evening according to plans set by Archie and

Larry.

Asked what the direction of the bar will be, Archie referred to it as a "masculine bar with video presentation" to enhance the decor which will be a new look in Phoenix. Arrangements have been made with C. C. Construction to exchange video material. There will be a DJ on hand 7 nights a week featuring rock and new wave music. Free pool will be offered by the house on Saturdays and Sundays from 2 to 5 PM. Daily drink specials will be featured. Hours of the bar will be from 2 PM till 1 AM daily.



20% OFF HALLOWEEN SALE

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Costumes (as marked) - Jewelry - Props - Men's & Ladies EXOTIC Garments

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DW'S at TAYLOR'S Well Received



Phoenix — The much anticipated inside portion of DW'S, Dale William's new food service at Taylor's opened on schedule and to many continuing nights of packed houses. Especially well received was the house's on-going specialty Prime Rib, available in either an eight or sixteen ounce size. The shrimp, steaks and all the rest received excellent comments.

The outside dining area is not due for completion for a little while, but will offer dining under the stars in a handsome area adjacent to the restaurant. Also this will increase the table seating capacity considerably. Those remembering the former food service area will be surprised at the changes in the inside restaurant which have been made to accommodate more tables. Actually even with the added capacity the room is much easier to get around in and is more comfortable.

In honor of the opening of the restaurant and the success it was enjoying Williams held over Harriett Leider and Ed Linderman at the great pleasure of the audience which had seized the opportunity to hear this duo perform. They must be ranked as two of the most well-received, and deservedly so, entertainers ever brought from out-of-town to perform in a gay club in Phoenix. This writer caught four acts and would be back today if they were still in town. And they are coming back to town in a February/March time slot. Be sure to watch for the announcement. Also be sure to treat yourself to the fine food and atmosphere available at DW'S.

"Lil' Abner" coming to BRONCO'S

Phoenix — Another Pat Williams production is in the making. Following his presentations of *Oklahoma* and the show performed before capacity crowds at the Reno National Gay Rodeo, *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, Pat will once again attempt another first by presenting this time a LIVE musical in a bar. *Lil' Abner* will be presented at Bronco's for the Christmas season and will be a totally live show. Pat related that he has reviewed the script and the musical score and believes it can work, however "it'll take a lot more planning and that's one of the reasons we're starting this early. Although rehearsals probably won't start till mid-October, I want to cast the show and arrange the music. We have a lot of talented people in our community and I want to get them to the stage. After 'Whorehouse' I was swamped with requests to do another show but a live one. I believe there's a real desire in our community to get involved in these types of shows, both on stage and off. The cast of the show is quite large so I've had to do some re-writing to cut out the really non-essential characters, but all-and-all, the show is still pretty much in tact and there are a lot of roles to be filled and not all of them require singers and dancers."

Auditions will be held at Bronco's October 1 at Noon, October 2 at Noon and October 3 at 7 PM. You can bring your own material to audition with if desired. This is really a good chance to get involved in what looks to be another great show for Phoenix.

Halloween Ball plans set

Phoenix — The Fourth Annual Empire Ball is approaching and co-producers Regal Productions and B.A.B.E.S. are expecting a record turnout for this year's festivities which will unfold October 30 at the Phoenix Hilton.

Tickets for this yearly tradition are on sale at Hot Dud's, 4745 N. Central and R. Hegyi, 5150 N. 7th St. This year, proceeds from the costume extravaganza will be donated to Janus Theatre Co. and The Arizona AIDS Foundation.

Any and all persons interested in the costume contests that evening, which includes King and Queen of the Ball, as well as Most Original Costume, should be advised that for the first time Regal Productions and B.A.B.E.S. are asking all contestants to pre-register. An information/entry form is available in this issue of *The Western Express*.

B.A.B.E.S. Dinner/Show Sold Out!

S.R.O. was an understatement when used to describe B.A.B.E.S. Great American Spaghetti Dinner and Extravaganza. Featuring 16 entertainers following a dinner where over 200 were served the event raised over \$1600 toward offsetting costs of the Empire Ball, a benefit for the Arizona AIDS Foundation and Janus Theatre Co.



50¢

WELL DRINKS Cruise n' Booze Night

Thursday's 9 - Midnight Sunday's 5 - 8 PM

2 for 1 Cocktail Hour 4 - 7 Monday - Friday
Well - Call - Top Shelf

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Wed. 10 P.M.

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They're
LIVE
IN
OCTOBER



NAKED PREY
October 5
ASH ALLEY
October 20

101 W. Drachman
882-4953

Out and About

by Garry Mangum

Rambling about town... I was fortunate to catch the closing night of Harriet Leider and Ed Linderman at *Taylor's* Saturday night. And fortunate indeed was the packed house that listened intently to this wonderful entertainer and brilliant pianist. I felt truly lucky as Dale Williams normally schedules his entertainment Sunday thru Wednesday at this popular bistro, so it was a real treat for me to find this top notch entertainment on a Saturday night. I hope there is more of this in store for those of us who work or otherwise can't see the regular shows... Speaking of *Taylor's*, don't forget the new dining room with fine food. Serving after hours till 3 AM on Friday and Saturday as well as daily from 11 AM till Midnight!... There is one location on the near west side that holds the current record for having the most names on it's outside sign in a year. *Phillip's!*, *The Alternative*, *Buddies*, and now *Happy Gardens!* For some old timers this new name will bring back memories of a previous bar of the same name. I think this one may catch with the expert assistance of the one and only Moon and the staff she has assembled. Please stop by and say hello!... Meanwhile, Dennis Kelly, owner of the aforementioned establishment has evidently made plans to re-open *Buddies* in another location! This town is getting sooo busy!... Anniversaries are in store this week (Sammy's 3rd this past Sunday) with Little Jim's 307 this weekend celebrating



Tish helping to celebrate Sammy's anniversary.

on his way from his digs in Ft. Lauderdale and bringing the managers of his Florida and Chicago to meet all of us and help celebrate... Even though I'm a part of the group, I send thanks galore to all those that made B.A.B.E.S. Spaghetti Feast and Variety Extravaganza the success it was! I think this was an eye opener for everyone... see you at the Empire Ball, October 30 at the Phoenix Hilton!!!...

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 28 - *Shamoo's* "Talent Night". Cash Prize. Info., call 956-9937.

Sammy's - "Italian Buffet" 7-8 PM. \$2 for all you can eat.

SATURDAY, OCT. 1 - *Little Jim's 307* "Third Anniversary Party!" Buffet at 6 PM.

Bronco's Auditions for "Lil' Abner" at Noon.

SATURDAY, OCT. 1 - *Little Jim's 307* "Third Anniversary Show!" 'A cast of thousands!' from 8 PM

Bronco's - Auditions for "Lil' Abner" at Noon.

MONDAY, OCT. 3 - *Bronco's* - Auditions for "Lil' Abner" at Noon.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 5 - *TRAX, MILLER'S BEER & THE WESTERN EXPRESS* host a benefit for Phoenix crisis hotline. \$2 at the door with beer specials! 9 PM on-

THURSDAY, OCT. 6 - *Phoenix Power and Supply* opens it's doors to the community. A man's bar with lot's goin' for it and a lot of plans in store. 1810 E. McDowell Rd.

Grand Camel - "V.I.P. Night" featuring the infamous Grand Camel Sisters!! 9 PM.



Deja Vu, Winner of Shamoo's 1st New Faces Contest.

three years of spirit consumption with two days of fun and games in this popular downtown hide-away! Heard Little Jim is

Bronco's

In Cooperation With
The Western Express
Present

"Country Night"

featuring

Shepard's Flock
Thursday, October 20
9 PM - 1 AM

**\$2.00 Donation at the Door to Benefit
The Lesbian & Gay Switchboard and
The Media Fund For Human Rights**

**\$25.00 Cash Prize for the Best
Western Outfit - Male & Female**

3015 N. 16th Street - 248-9762

Janus' P.S. Your Cat Is Dead plays to good houses

P.S. Your Cat Is Dead, book by James Kirkwood, directed by Judy Rollings, starring Reggie Coats, Michael Jancek, Vickie Stockwell and John Goldschmid. 1002 E. Moreland St. theatre. Sept. 29, 30, Oct. 1 at 8 PM.

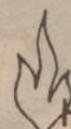
Phoenix — Janus' Theatre's leadoff for the season, *P.S. Your Cat Is Dead*, opening to mixed media reviews, was by the end of that opening weekend receiving nothing but the positive from theatre goers. Steve Schemmel, Janus founder, said "face it, the performance that night wasn't that good and we happened to have five papers in the audience." That should alay those who felt Michael Maza's Republic review, et al, might be overly critical of the community's theatre company. What the cast did was turn that right around, and throw back performances which are obviously getting stronger and stronger by all accounts of persons seeing later showings or those who are already repeating their visits. Whether it is a lack of rehearsal time thereby not allowing a person to develop stage presence in his/her given role and making it up in actual performance time or whether it is the shot in the arm a 'less-than-glowing' review can produce is hard to analyze, however something obviously happened.

Schemmel was most pleased that for a second year running Janus is turning down ticket sales at the door. Such wasn't the case in the first weekend, however by

the end of the second, it was. And, the third and closing weekend is assured to be three straight 'sold outs'. He was pleased with the reaction coming from viewers and feels it is correct - that the four performers have fit their roles very well. "Our audiences are just as sophisticated and intelligent as any other theatre audience." He went on to say that while reviews are necessary, they're not the only decision making factor.

Schemmel's biggest concern now is that tickets be bought early for the final week by anyone who is really planning on going. He feels a large number are again going to be turned away at the door. He made a plea for future performance dates in asking that more people consider attending in the first week as second and third weeks always present a problem.

Janus' next presentation, in November, will be *Thanksgiving* by Loretta Lotman, former publicity director of the National Gay Task Force/turned palywright. Lotman, from Los Angeles, it is hoped, will be on hand in Phoenix for the production. It's the story of a lesbian confronting her whole family at Thanksgiving after they have found out about her lifestyle.

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October 1st & 2nd

BUFFET
Saturday 6 PM

SHOW
Sunday 8 PM

Saturday & Sunday
Drawings Hourly 10 AM to Midnight

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Ginger Peaches Mr. Danny Reid Pussy Le Hoot

Magnolia Oona Rosie Tamara

Cruizettes

& Special Surprises

Pooh Bear At The Piano

Saturday & Sunday Afternoon

Drink Specials



Part Two in the Series: The Assault on Gays

IS IT A SIN TO BE GAY?

by Tom Richards

The main difficulty posed today by the fundamentalist movement is that, despite their loud claims to being Bible-believers, they implicitly refuse to accept and believe what the Bible actually has to say. Years of conditioning, false preaching, and acceptance of man-inspired books and commentaries have muddied scriptural understanding in these circles to such an extent that all a popular preacher has to do today is say, "Thus saith the Lord!" and it is believed by most of the sheep.

When Jesus Christ was walking the earth, He spent most of his time with the "sinners" and saved His greatest Condemnation for the religious leaders and teachers of the Scriptures. He repeatedly stated that they were worse than anyone else, calling them vipers and blind fools among other things. They not only were hypocrites, but they deliberately misread the Scriptures and taught the masses to do the same.

Two thousand years later, nothing has changed. And it is especially fascinating to note that the religious groups that cling the most tenaciously to the doctrine of Biblical inerrancy are the very ones who distort and twist the Bible mercilessly out of shape to justify their own cultural background and political persuasion.

To these people love is a word much talked about, but little practiced; the main gospel injunctive to them is judgement. Anyone different than they are — usually conservative, white, and middle class — are suspect in some way of being unchristian. Lip service is given to racial equality (and all equality in general for that matter) but anyone who has spent any time at all in the fundamentalist community knows that this is rarely practiced by the rank and file. Prejudice and judgement are rampant toward anyone and everyone not fitting



precisely in to their particular lifestyle and having their exact viewpoint.

The situation today is much the same as it was in Jesus' time. The religious leaders — spewing forth hatred in the name of God — are leading millions of people astray. These unwitting people simply believe that what they hear in church is right. And, unfortunately, it is very true that you can make the Bible say what you want it to say. This basic ignorance on the part of the flock allows the preacher or religious leader to preach whatever he wants in the name of the Lord — even hatred and bigotry. And because the leader is the "shepherd", many consider him to be God's spokesman on earth. After all, the pastor certainly must be teaching correct doctrine. If not, who can you believe?

Answer: It might help to do more listening to the Lord Himself and less to human beings. It might help to throw away all preconceived ideas and concepts and read the Bible for yourself in context and in its cultural significance.

One of the most heralded issues to these types of religious people is their bias against homosexuals. Frequently quoting the scant mention of the subject in the Scriptures, they equate homosexuality with murder, incest, bestiality, idol worship, orgies, witchcraft and anything else they can throw in that is despicable and wicked. To them it is the basest of all conditions. And while it is easy to prove conclusively from the Bible that they are wrong, it makes you wonder why there is such great antagonism and vivid horror toward anyone who is gay.

The religious fundamentalist's refusal to read and accept the Bible, while all the

time laying claim to being the only group who does so, smacks of Phariseism of the worst degree. Were Jesus here today, He would be the first to condemn these leaders who do so much to ignite hatred, bigotry and division. The direct result of these unscriptural teachings leads to distrust and animosity among people, which manifests itself in acts of physical violence, murder and suicide, which are usually justified by the fundamentalists as being "scriptural".

It has been reported that Anita Bryant's campaign against homosexuals resulted in an explosion of muggings, murders, and suicides. It is hard to believe that anyone — especially those who claim to be speaking for God — could feel that the hate-inspired preaching of an Anita Bryant or a Jerry Falwell has anything remotely to do with the teachings of the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ.

One hundred twenty-five years ago, the vast majority of fundamentalists were teaching that the enslavement of black people was the only Biblical stance that could be taken. The black man was simply destined by God to serve the white man because everyone knew that black people were genetically inferior in every respect. In fact, it was the religious fundamentalists who shouted the loudest and finally went to war to preserve the "Christian" way of life — slavery. Of course, anyone who cares to read the Bible in totality will understand this is not and never has been a Christian concept, but millions of uninformed church-going people accepted it because it was taught from the pulpit and supported by isolated Bible texts taken completely out of context. Today this is being done again. And the subject is homosexuality.

It is almost universally accepted today among Bible scholars, even those in the conservative camp, that there is no Biblical doctrine or bias against homosexuality. The Old Testament verses, frequently quoted by the religious leaders, would certainly be acceptable and applicable to our lives today if everything else in the book of Leviticus is regarded as being applicable and binding. But do these religious leaders teach that men must wear beards of a certain prescribed length? Do they teach it is a horrible sin for women to wear red? Do they rail against the inges-

tion of rabbit meat and pork? Do they preach that clothing may not be made of mixed material; that it must be only one fabric? Do they get on the nation's airwaves and warn women that they are defiled because of menstruation and must go through extensive purification ceremonies? Do they warn men that seminal emissions make them unpure? Do they preach that absolutely no work at all may be done on September 25th? Just how many religious leaders are teaching these and the dozens of other levitical commands? But they do teach **one** injunctive from the book of Leviticus. Can you guess what it is?

The New Testament reference in Romans 1 is also clear. The Apostle Paul is writing about people (both heterosexual and homosexual in orientation) who are so depraved that they give up any love or knowledge of God to live completely self-centered and pleasure-seeking lives. Paul in this chapter was associating this type of homosexuality (as he did heterosexuality in numerous other New Testament passages) with pagan practices such as idol worship, clearly noting its degrading nature in this context.

John J. McNeill, S.J., writes concerning Romans 1:

"Paul apparently refers only to homosexual acts indulged in by those he considered to be otherwise heterosexually inclined; acts which represent a voluntary choice to act contrary to their ordinary sexual appetite."

In actuality, Paul writes much more about **heterosexual** sin than he does homosexual sin. He never condemns either if used in the right way but condemns both when used in the wrong way. He writes in this chapter that it is wrong to leave one's natural affection. Now, homosexuals do not leave their natural affection unless they try to become heterosexual. Their natural affection **is** homosexual.

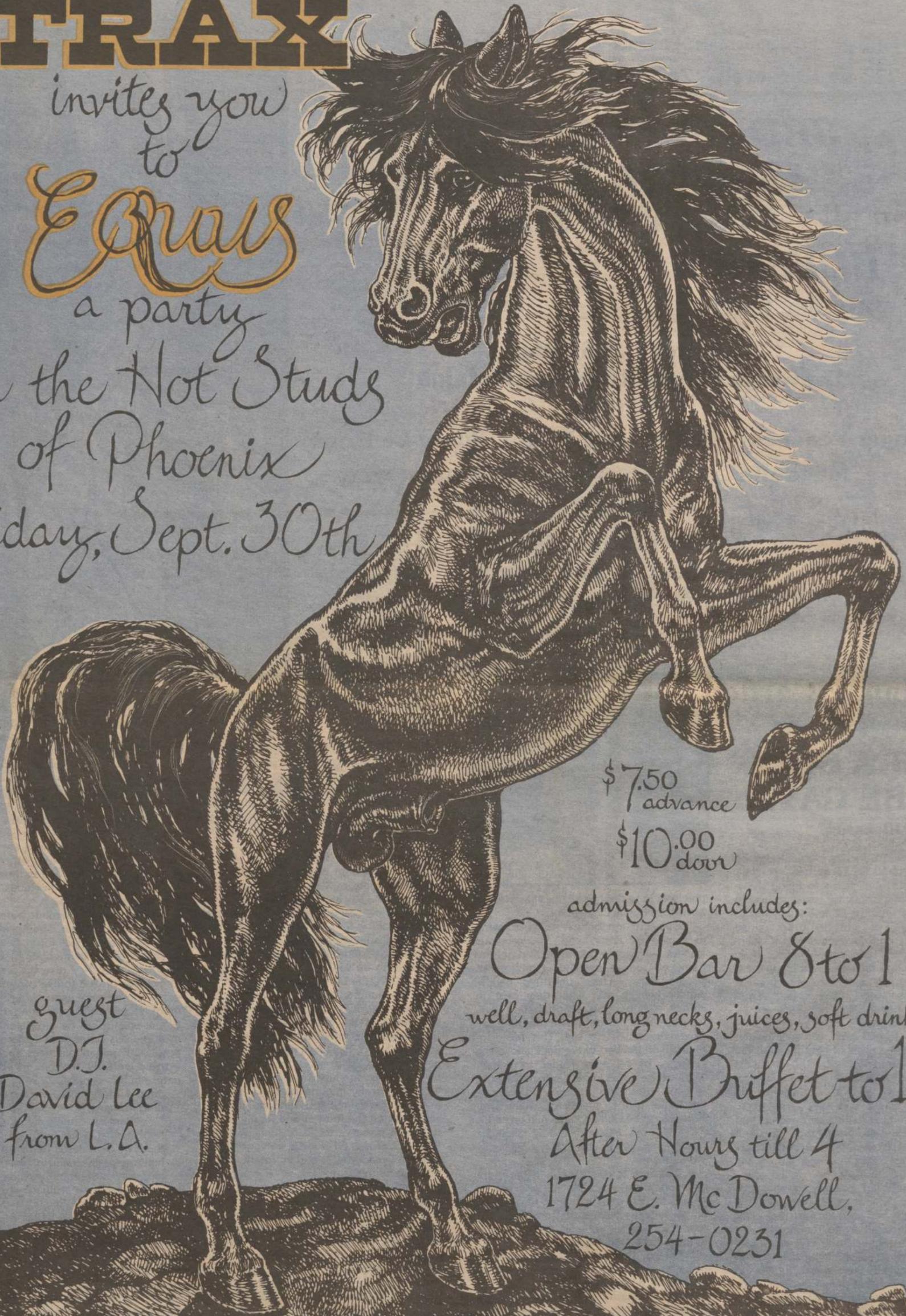
If we were to use the garbled logic of the fundamentalist on this issue, it would be much easier to make a case against heterosexuality from the Bible. However, the Scriptures do not inveigh against either one. They **do** address the issue of

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Friday, Sept. 30th



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Open Bar 8 to 1

well, draft, long necks, juices, soft drinks

Extensive Buffet to 10

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Little Jim's 307
NuTowne Saloon
Sammy's
Shamoo's
Tommy & Clyde's
Trax

TUCSON:

The Fineline
The Graduate

AGBA

Arizona Gay Barowners
Association

**OCTOBERFEST
83**

South Mountain Park

Oct. 23

4-11 pm

donations to A.I.D.S.

\$ 3.00

**TICKETS ARE LIMITED -
NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD
AT THE GATE**

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Monday - Beer Bust 9 PM to 1 AM
\$2.00 Your DJ - George Hill
Wednesday - Cocktail Madness!!
Canned Beer 50¢, Well Drinks 25¢
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Friday & Saturday Afterhours
Until 3 AM - \$2.00 Cover
Friday's DJ George Hill
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Friday, September 30
A Drawing for Two Tickets to
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October 2, 1983

Open Nightly 8 PM
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Hotbods is now available for private parties

FROM THE EDITOR

Voter Registration Ends October 2

First Primary Crucial to New Gay Movement Held November 1

In the estimation of many community watchers organization and structuring of the gay communities of Arizona is taking place at a pace never before equalled. In only the past eighteen months we have witnessed the establishment of the Arizona Gay Barowner's Association (AGBA), Community Performing Arts League (CPAL), Bar and Business Employees Society (BABES), Arizona AIDS Fund Committee, Desert Overtures band, the Political Advisory Committee of the Arizona Lesbian and Gay Taks Force (ALGTF), and others designed to provide a more well-rounded lifestyle for the residents.

Included with the benefits provided by the above is the necessity now more than ever to make statements and declare positions on issues and in the selection of candidates for political office. We have gotten a lot further, however we can't just work from our side of the coin. We must take the journey to the other side and establish contacts and liaisons with the straight community and political organizations and movements or we'll just be 'half well-rounded'. Recently major steps were taken by those persons and groups to establish liaisons with the gay community in recognition of our community's latent power of the vote. This will be covered more extensively in the October 12 issue of *The Western Express* as some contacts are still in the process of being made and meetings are yet to be held wherein positions will be formulated.

It's nice to read of advancements of the gay community. It's nice to read of contacts to the gay community coming from straight politicians seeking support. It means nothing if we don't establish an identity for our voter strength. We must all register to vote in order to carry our voice beyond our own community and friends. We are not effective now but we can be. We are the most politically unorganized identifiable minority in the state. Nationally we are faring better. Arizona's gay communities are on the bottom rung of a political ladder which many other states' communities are approaching mid-point on. We are, however, moving faster in our formulative period than did most, gaining annually the progress requiring several years in other areas. We are not to be faulted for any failure, but we must prod ourselves to continue.

Few Registration Locations

It is very important for unregistered persons to do so as quickly as possible as there is always a general last minute rush and there are few locations still available. Registration is available weekdays from 8 AM to 5 PM in the lobby of the Municipal Building, 251 W. Washington, Phoenix and at the Maricopa County Elections Department, 111 S. Third Ave., Phoenix. Other locations can be found by calling 262-1511.

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR & THE GAY COMMUNITY

Recently I stood beside a hospital bed in Phoenix, watching my friend die. There was absolutely nothing I could do for him but hold his hand and keep a cool towel on his head and a few encouraging words. His name was Charles Stanley, better known to his friends as "Charlie". I had known Charlie for many years. He was the owner of a very popular bar in town, Bullwinkles, which later became Trax.

Charlie had struggled for many years to be his own boss. I could certainly relate to that because I too, for many years had wanted my own business.

Things finally seemed to be going well for Charlie and then one day he woke up to a spot on his eyelid. That was the beginning of a long losing battle for him. Within the next few months, Charlie was to have five hospitalizations. Although his medical care was superior, (I had never seen such concern and care by medical doctors, nurses and staff over a gay brother), his six month battle with Kaposi's sarcoma, AIDS, was finally over.

I watched as his loving sisters, Linda, JoAnne, Pat and Grace tried to give him the encouragement to go on, hoping like I, that his heaving chest would stop soon. Charlie had developed pneumonia. His breathing was the most difficult I had ever seen, and this had been going on for three days.

I also watched as I saw another friend in the same room with me. He was an AIDS patient also and had only been diagnosed about two weeks ago. I kept wondering what he must be going through inside, knowing what this hideous disease was doing to his brother.

Over the years Charlie Stanley never said no to me with my involvement with the Alternative Relations Center and the Phoenix Levi Leather Club, as well as several other community organizations. He usually never waited to be asked but donated his money, his time, his bar, his concern, to the community.

Charlie Stanley is gone now. His spirit will go on, our friendship is still there. The things he stood for will go on. Charlie was very involved with the AIDS effort here. Giving time to newspapers or anyone wanting information from an AIDS victim, he helped right up to the end. Charlie had to resign his position on the Arizona AIDS FUND-TRUST BOARD a couple of months ago because of his declining health, but we kept in touch.

He was very aware of the efforts here, not wanting another person to have to go through this thing he was going through.

To Charlie's family I would like to express my sincere sympathy. I promise you, Charlie's death made a lasting impression on my life and I will do whatever I can to help in the fight of this disease.

On Wednesday, September 28th from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., Trax will be having a benefit for another brother of mine, Tony Hipsher.

There will be a \$10.00 cover charge, all of this going to Mr. Hipsher. Coors and Coors Lite bottled beer will be 50¢ from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

If you believe what I believe, if this is the community I think it is, Trax will be bursting with his friends, brothers and sisters, all trying to give a helping hand. Tony was diagnosed in July of this year and he has had already two hospitalizations. This creative artist has given so much to the community in the form of his creative glass work from Emerald City Stained Glass to his inspiration in developing the Desert Sky Singers.

Another brother has been stricken and needs our help. Who knows how many more there will be. Tony needs our help now!! I'll be there and I hope I see every face I know there also.

Please, members of the Arizona gay community, let's come together, forget our petty squabbles and work together and help defeat this common enemy, AIDS.

Goodbye Charlie, I love you. You have been a true brother to me. Tony and Scott, whatever you need, you let us know.

To the Arizona community, please, I urge you again to come to Trax on Wednesday September 28th, 1983 and show your support for these people with AIDS.

*Please believe me when I say,
 I love you all,
 Bob Hegyi.*

THE GRAND CAMEL CLUB

"TRY OUR MEATS"

DINNERS NIGHTLY 6 - 10 PM
SUNDAY BRUNCH NOON - 3 PM

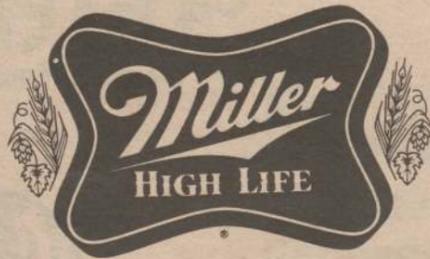


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PRESENT A BENEFIT FOR
THE LESBIAN AND GAY SWITCHBOARD

PHOENIX' CRISIS HOTLINE RESPONDING TO THE EMERGENCIES AND AIDS INFORMATIONAL NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY, A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION.

AND

THE MEDIA FUND FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

A NON-PROFIT FOUNDATION DEDICATED TO THE COORDINATION AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION THAT AFFECTS THE GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITIES ON A NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVEL.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5

9:00 PM TO 1 AM

\$2.00 DONATION AT THE DOOR

MILLERS & MILLERS RESERVE

LONG NECKS 50 CENTS

1724 E. McDOWELL - 254-0231

SAMMY'S

Presents

THE EARLY SHOW!!

Starting This Sunday &
Every Sunday

Showtime

at 7:30 PM Sharp

(Dancing at 11 PM)

Starring

Goldie O'Brien

K. C. Starr

Tamara

& Your Hostess

Tish Tanner

Reservations/Information

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2125 E. McDowell - Phoenix

**'Broadway Review'
definitely not
the usual drag**

Tucson — The three day, sold out, run of 'Broadway Review' is over, but the excitement it generated in the cast and crew and in Tucson's Gay and Lesbian community is not! Occasional "live" performances are becoming a little more common in Arizona. All but a few of the numbers were performed live with instrumental accompaniment.

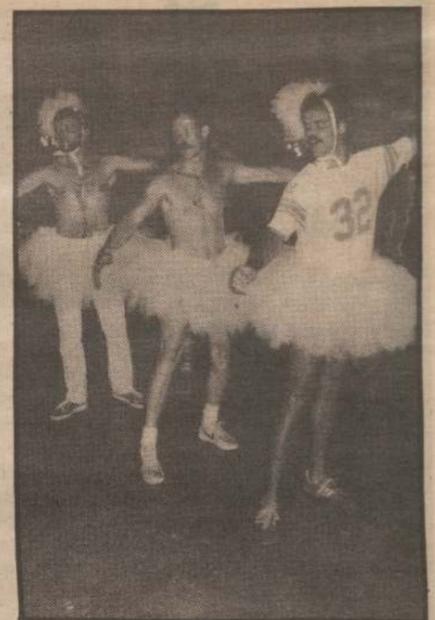
While the purpose of 'Broadway Review' was to raise money for AIDS research and treatment at the University of Arizona Hospital and for the Gay Men's and Women's Health Clinic in Tucson, the show was a success on its own merits, for its high production values and because it gave a platform for the heretofore hidden or under exposed talent that lives in Tucson.

The financial report will be released as soon as possible.

Continued from page 9

morality in any relationship and its effect on the individual's love and service to God.

Another New Testament reference is found in Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. The passage in question states that "Sodomites" will not inherit the Kingdom of God. Note that the original Greek says "sodomite" and not homosexual as many Bible revisers (or should we say rewriters?) have mistranslated it. Here again what the fundamentalists teach is clearly foreign to the Word of God. To find out what a "Sodomite" is according to the Bible, one simply needs to look up every passage to Sodom, Gomorrah and their derivatives. Anyone who truly takes the time to do this is usually quite surprised. **There is not a hint in Scripture that sodomy has anything even remotely to do with homosexuality.** It is fascinating to note what the prophet Isaiah and the Lord Jesus Christ said on this subject. As Biblical scholars attest (and as can be plainly seen), sodomy is a reference to inhospitality, idol



Swan Lake Trio in rehearsal

worship and promiscuity of all kinds. Not one word concerning homosexuality is ever mentioned.

It is also interesting to point out that Jesus Himself never spoke a word against homosexual love.

It is tempting to turn the tables on the fundamentalists who refuse to accept the Word of God and say that because of this refusal they will go to Hell when they die and burn forever in the Lake of Fire. After all, that is what they are continually saying and preaching about homosexuals and anyone else who disagrees with their narrow (and usually fallacious) interpretations.

We can't play the game that way though. That would be stooping to a level inconsistent with what the Bible has to say. God is Love and we can only hope that the fundamentalists who are doing so much to turn people away from the truth will read the Scriptures that they claim to believe in so much, turn away from their preconceived and erroneous philosophies, and begin living a life that is positive and attuned to what God really desires.

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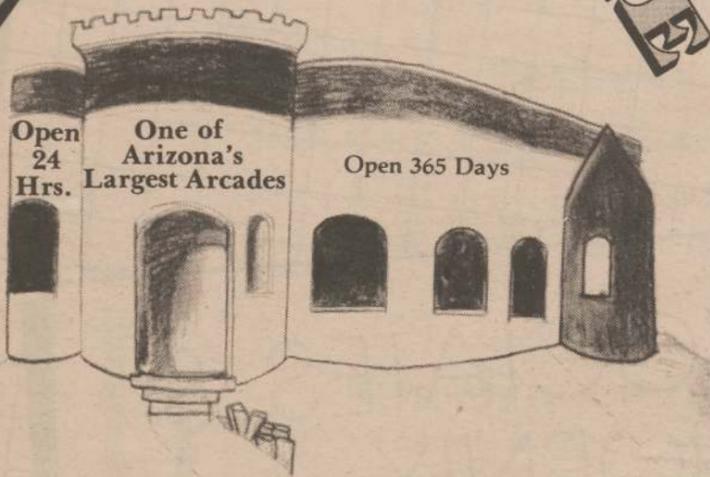
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TUCSON SEEN

by Jim Shafer

Well, my dears, I shall make the effort to churn out another observation of Tucson doings. I'm semi-exhausted this time due to hearty and serious partying following the close of the three day run of 'Broadway Review', the Tucson AIDS research and treatment and men's and women's health clinic benefit show that (pardon my modest blush) has set inverted Tucson upright and then upon its collective ear. This entertainment was a milestone in the history of such cabaret events in Arizona and I'm infinitely proud to have been a part of it.

Tommy Schelling of *Rita's Rendezvous* sends greetings to all and the current crop of Birthday Boys, as well (these were all recently mourned... I mean celebrated): Mel L. on the 19th; John R. & Bruce formerly of the B.P. both on the 20th. Tommy tells me he doesn't have any brave souls to list for birthdays September 28 to October 12, so to all you birthday boys and girls out there: Our deepest sympathies!

Ron of *The Graduate* wants you all to know that if any of you come to his emporium to lunch upon one of Jimmy's famous sandwiches you get a free soda or your first drink at 1/2 price with that meal.

The Finline with Tucson's largest and poshest disco arena and three bars (soon

to be four) continues its use of live bands Downstairs. Rare Breed, a women's band, plays on Friday and Saturday nights. They're sounding more and more together and attract a nice mixed audience with their rock and country-western specialty. Naked Prey will play Wednesday, October 5, Ash Alley will play Thursday, October 20.

A new gift shop will soon occupy the space at the J.T./B.P. where once exceptional soups were brewed and tasty steaks were grilled. Phil Santhon via The Bookseller will stock the shop with periodicals, adult toys and novelties and greeting cards. Come do your Christmas shopping early.

Great Outdoors - Tucson, will hold its next regular business meeting October 6, 7:30 PM Downstairs at *The Finline*, 101 W. Drachman. Those of you wanting to take a more active part in the group in a leadership capacity plan now for the January training sessions in Phoenix.

MCC of Tucson will be moving soon to its new home at 560 S. Stone Ave. in the historic building which once housed the first Jewish Synagogue in Arizona (1910-1949). I'm honored and flattered to have been asked to sing at the dedication services, Sunday, October 2, 1983.

MAHOGANY HEAT

by B. A. Willson

The first night I watcher her, my eyes hungry and amused - She was so poised... still... compellingly arrogant...

Aware of my desire. I watcher her acting the social charade, as her eyes sought mine - Pools of deep mahogany heat, intensely proud... I wanted her.

The second night I watcher her, frightened of her innocent fragility - She was lost to another world, untouchable and unconcerned...

Aware of my desire. I wanted to touch the etch of her lips, the line of her jaw - Sculpt her body with my agony of ecstasy... I wanted her.

My jailbait innocent: I want you. Such perverse mind games we play... you and I... You love the mental sparring as much as I do. You respond to my challenge with wisdom beyond your years - Easily - What are your stakes? I'll lose nothing when the hand folds.

SEPTEMBER 1983

Continued from page 1

was not officially presented to the convention Hagar was aware of it. "It's about time," he commented. "We've been fighting being a 'male organization.' (Now that we've addressed women's concerns this year.) that's the next step... The number of minorities here is incredibly small."

Dignity/Third World is the project of Clyde Sams of Philadelphia, who intends to formulate a plan to present to the 1985 convention in New York. In an exclusive interview he told us he has the unofficial support of seven chapters in his effort "to be recognized that we (of the Third World) are a people, very much a part of Dignity as a whole." Being black, Sams seems more concerned about ministry toward blacks than the much greater potential in the large gay Hispanic population; but he promised that Dignity/Third World would include Hispanics, Asians, Native Americans and other minorities as well as his own race.

The question of women was dealt with through the addition of a fifth "area of concern" to Dignity's Statement of Position and Purpose:

Feminist Issues. We shall dedicate ourselves to develop the potential to become more fully human; and to work toward the eradication of all constraints on our personhood based on the ascribed social roles of women as well as men.

The Task Force on Sexual Ethics will develop a report based on "Fifteen Principles for a Renewed Sexual Theology" which relate to heterosexuals as well as homosexuals. A statement in relatively final — though not inflexible — form is to be presented to the 1989 convention, incorporating feedback evoked by a preliminary version in 1987.

Dignity's present policy, in line with the teachings of Vatican II, according to Frank Scheuren, is that "Sexuality is a personal thing. Your conscience should be your final guide." Some have accused him, he says, of giving out the wrong information from which a conscience choice is to be made. "We do not endorse celibacy," he adds; "we do not endorse promiscuity; we do not endorse any particular lifestyle."

Rev. Troy Perry, founder and moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, addressed Dignity's House of Delegates on behalf of the idea that their organizations should hold simultaneous conventions in the same city in 1987, including a day of joint activities. The concept was approved and Dignity's Board of Directors authorized to work with MCC's Board of Elders on site selection (St. Louis has been mentioned most often) and planning. Other gay religious groups will be invited to join the two largest ones.

Continued on page 17

B.A.B.E.S.

PRESENTS

HALLOWEEN '83

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Continued from page 16

Though carefully worded in a positive manner, the San Francisco resolution is probably the strongest stand Dignity has yet taken against the church:

"... Dignity Inc. applauds and endorses 'Homosexuality and Social Justice' as an historic and prophetic accomplishment of lesbian and gay theological reflection... (and) commends the gay and lesbian groups that have returned 'Ministry and Homosexuality in the Archdiocese of San Francisco' as theologically inadequate and therefore unacceptable..."

The former report was prepared by the Task Force on Gay and Lesbian Issues of the Commission on Social Justice, Archdiocese of San Francisco, Kevin Gordon chairman; the latter was the priest senate report written as a negative response to it. The archdiocese disbanded the task force but Gordon is reorganizing it independently on a national basis as the Consultation on Homosexuality, Social Justice and Roman Catholic Theology.

Among the points of the resolution passed here it was noted that the action was being taken "with a love for the church which honors its teachings but also exercises the right and duty of responsible, respectful and informed dissent in the pursuit of dialogue and possible change."

Besides Pres. Hagar, new officers elected at the convention were Judy Carton of San Diego, secretary; and Elinor Crocker of Washington DC, treasurer. Crocker had formerly served as secretary.

Dignity Inc. claims 4500-5000 members in 106 chapters in the United States and Canada. Each has the autonomy to operate in a manner appropriate to conditions in the area it serves. More than half of the chapters have permission to meet on church property.

The principal speakers at the convention were Ginny Apuzzo, Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force, and authors Matthew Fox, O.P. and Mary S. Calderone, M.D./M.P.H.

Calderone, who enjoys being described as "a 79-year-old sex lady," discussed everything from fetal erections and how to explain sex to very young children to the

sources of our oppression: "People who hate homosexuality and homosexuals are people who love to hate... It's difficult to be homosexual. I know. I've shared your pain with you. It's difficult to be heterosexual too. It's difficult to be *sexual* in this society." Her biggest ovation came when she told about answering the questions of schoolboys who were especially concerned over masturbation. "There isn't such a thing as too much," she finally told them. "When you get tired, just stop."

Fr. Fox summarized his concept of "creation centered spirituality," calling it the "oldest Western tradition," starting from the original blessing rather than the original sin. "The homosexual has had to create his or her own lifestyle," he said at one point. "It was not given in a package."

Apuzzo, introduced as "just another dyke from the Bronx," described the process through which lesbians and gays achieved representation in the August 27 march on Washington. "If we ask minority groups and women to address homophobia in their ranks," she cautioned, "are we prepared to seriously address the issue of racism in our own?"

Concerning the convention theme, "Let Us Build a City of God," Apuzzo pondered other "cities of God," saying that Jamestown perished because the people wouldn't dirty their hands to dig sewer systems and thus died of dysentery, but "Plymouth grew in grace until today they are represented by Gerry Studds!" She praised the gay community for its response to AIDS, which she called "the second step in coming out — reaching out... If our objective is simply to make it okay to be gay, then I ask you how much faith we have in our potential... Our agenda must be to make it a better world... (or) be relegated to a nostalgic footnote in history."

Seattle withheld its famous rain from the conventioners as they went through a weekend of worship, business, social activities and professionally run seminars. They returned to their local chapters with a new agenda — to initiate dialogue within the church rather than maintaining a defensive responsive posture. The degree to which this can be implemented will vary from one area to another, but I would hate to get in the way of the city-builders who left Seattle on Labor Day.



Halloween '83



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by Kurt Erichsen



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GWM looking for a job as a live-in housekeeper. Have references. Call Dan between 4 PM & 10 PM. 956-3444. Phoenix.

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Two Leathermen looking for young dude (19-29) for good times in S/M-B/D. Novices welcome. Top or Bottom. Limits respected. Write P.O. Box 4442, Phoenix, AZ 85030.

"Gay and Lesbian Twins" needed for gay-related research. Call Fred, 962-7955 evenings or weekends. Phoenix.

SPECIAL MAN SEEKS SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP.
Tall, blonde, attractive 25 year old male professional student of very sincere, mature, loving character seeks man of complimentary qualities for special relationship. Write: P.O. Box 5751, Glendale, AZ 85312

BOY BITTEN - Blew Chew checked into Happy Dog Nude Ranch for observation.

I'm friendly, outgoing, honest, 24, blue eyes and brown hair. Enjoy good conversation, body building, raquetball, traveling and movies. Am straight looking professional, discreet and no drugs. Seek person to share similar interests while developing a one to one caring relationship. Write: P.O. Box 5263, Phoenix, AZ 85010

NOTICES
OASIS METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH. Sunday Service 6 PM Danforth Chapel, ASU Campus, Tempe. Bible study, growth groups, social activities. All welcome. Call 268-5183 for information.

GAY AND LESBIAN MORMONS - "Affirmation" is here for you! For information write P.O. Box 25227, Tempe, AZ 85282 or call 861-2649.

A new chapter of Black & White Men Together, (BWMT), is forming in the Phoenix area. Its focus is both social and political. If interested call 257-1540. Ask for Lloyd or Lance.

The Gay Parents Group, Phoenix and the Children of Gays, Phoenix, cordially invite all gay parents and their children to a night of miniature golfing and pizza. We will car-pool from Casa de Cristo, MCC, 1029 E. Turney, Phoenix, at 7 PM, October 15, 1983. For more information call 265-2831.

A new chapter of the National Coalition of Black Gays (NCBG) is forming in the Phoenix area. Its focus is political and educational. If interested call 257-1540. Ask for Greg or Lloyd.

The Phoenix chapter of Gay Parents would like to invite all parents and their spouses to join with us for informal raps, socials and to hear informative guest speakers. Gay Parents meet the third Saturday of every month at Casa de Cristo-MCC, 1029 E. Turney at 7 PM. For more information call 265-2831 or write to Parents Support Group, P.O. Box 32441, Phoenix, AZ 85064.

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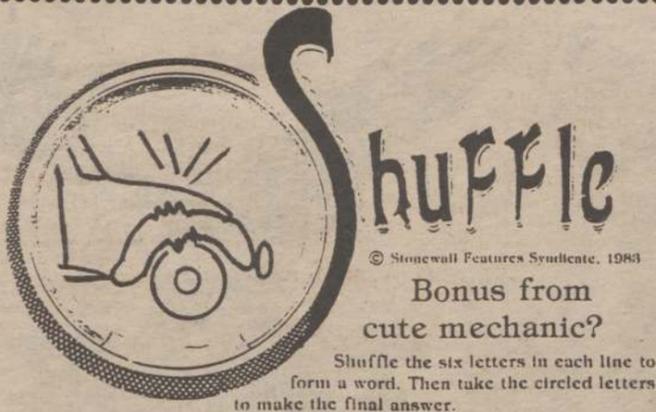
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Western Express Puzzle Contest #3 results

Mooneyan of *Womansplace Bookstore* captured the prize of dinner for two, up to \$20, at DW's the new restaurant at *Taylor's*. Coincidentally *Womansplace* was the business chosen for the next puzzle, #4, included in this issue. The prize is a \$20 gift certificate for merchandise at *Womansplace*.

To enter, simply fill out the puzzle below and return it to The Western Express - Puzzle, P.O. Box 32575, Phoenix, Az. 85064. The correct puzzle received with the earliest postmark will win. In case of a tie in postmark dates, one will be chosen at random as winner.



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Bonus from cute mechanic?

Shuffle the six letters in each line to form a word. Then take the circled letters to make the final answer.

SHYOIB

DRIFEN

REEKES

DEWKLA

RHITTY

SKLOBC

ANSWER HERE:

Solution to last issues Crossword

	A	S		A	P	C	
	L	E	S	B	I	A	
	L	E	A	S	E	D	
	I	M	P	U	R	E	
	E	S	P	R	I	T	
P	U	S	S	H	D	S	G
A	G	E	P	O	I	M	A
T	H	E	B	E	S	T	I
	R	E	L	I	E	F	
	E	R	A	E	R	A	
	D	E	N	S	E	R	
	A	D	D	S	E		

Voter Registration Deadline for the City of Phoenix Primary Election is October 2, 1983. YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT - PLEASE REGISTER AND VOTE!!!

Park Central Counseling adds staff

Phoenix — Beginning on October 1, two new people begin their Private Practice at Park Central Counseling and Rehabilitation Services - Donna Lee and Joe Bluth.

Donna Lee is a Clinical Social Worker who earned her Masters Degree from the University of Utah in 1975. She has her accreditation from the Academy of Certified Social Workers, is a Certified Alcohol Counselor, and Certified Marriage and Family Counselor. Donna was formerly the Executive Director of the Center Against Sexual Abuse, and most recently a therapist with the Westside Mental Health Center. At Park Central Counseling she will be available for individual, group, and family therapy, with special attention

to lesbian issues and relationships.

Joe Bluth has a Masters Degree in Psychology from California State College and has been involved in diagnostic and therapy work for the past eight years. He was associated with the Department of Economic Security Developmental Disabilities Program before his move to Park Central Counseling. Joe will be spending time in diagnostic and consultation work, and also individual and group therapy. He will be giving special attention to men's relationships and alcoholism and drug related issues.

Dr. Ron Peterson continues on at the Park Central Counseling offices. Appointments can be made with any of the three staff by calling 274-0327. Late afternoon and evening appointments are available.

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*STAGE CRAFT DESIGNER/BUILDER CARPENTER

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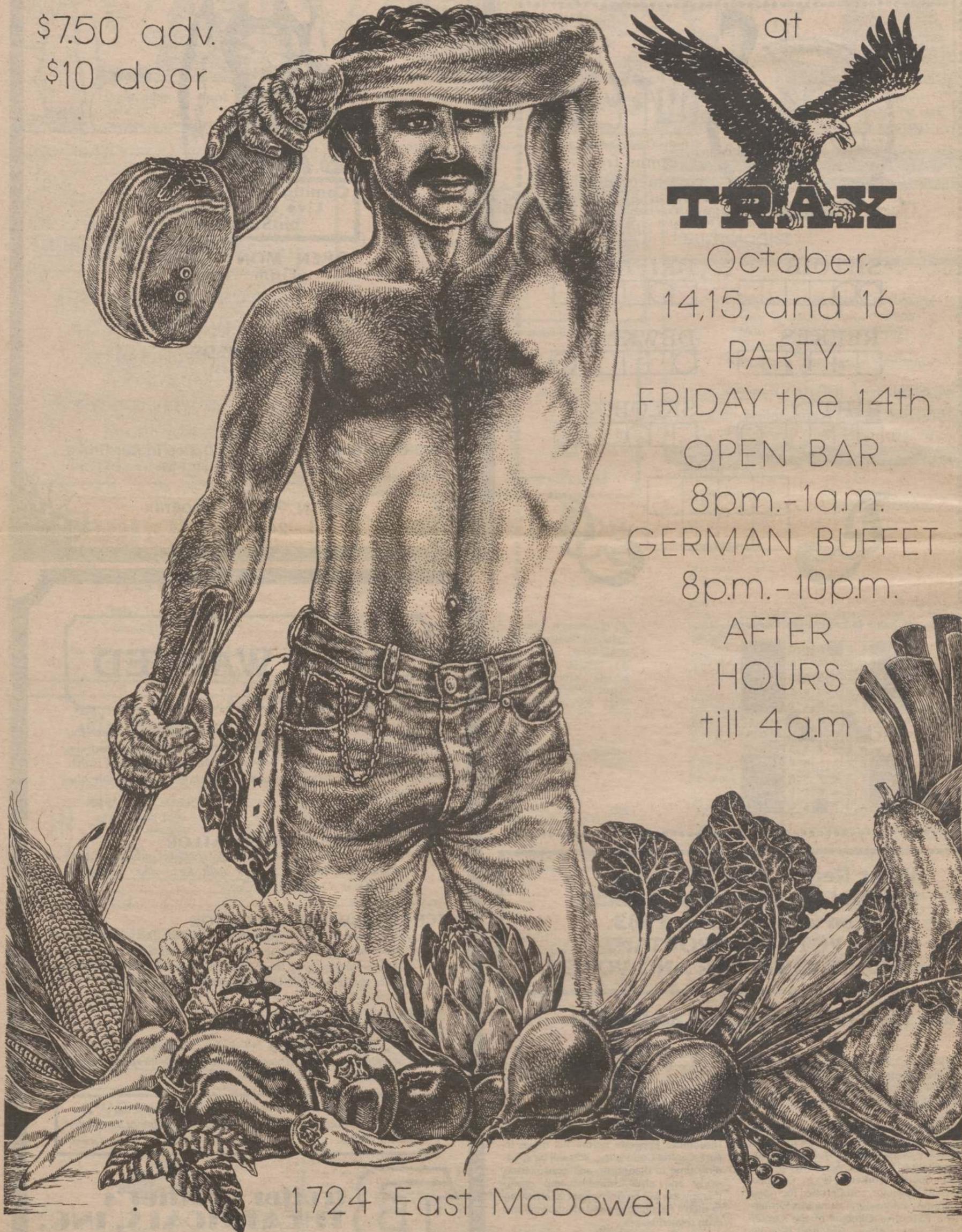
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