



Price Fixing

A chat with America's most widely read lesbian columnist

By Dennis Scott-Bush, Contributor

Don't let fear choose your path," Deb Price urges her readers. It's a particularly appropriate exhortation.

Price's weekly opinion column appears almost exclusively in mainstream publications across the country (HeatStroke being a biweekly, gay-oriented exception). Her straight readers have many preconceived notions about gay people and the lives we lead—ideas often predicated on fear and lack of understanding. Her gay audience includes many people who are deeply closeted or who are questioning their sexuality. Fear is a primary motivator on both sides of the sexuality coin.

From her column's first appearance in newspapers from Rochester to Palm Springs on May 8, 1992, Price has sought to open her readers' minds and, in the process, has changed countless lives.

She has received thousands of let-

ters from gay people who acknowledge that her column was what inspired them to come out. Her efforts to educate the "fair-minded middle" of our society have resulted in folks clipping her columns and sending them to estranged friends and family members, thus beginning a dialogue that has often led to a healing of contentious rifts.

Such powerful results could easily turn her into Pollyanna Price, if she wasn't so keenly aware of the struggles our community has survived and the challenges we still face. From the very start, Price's column had as many detractors as it did supporters and the former tended to be far more vocal in their opinions.

While working in the Washington bureau of *The Detroit News*, she pitched the idea for a column written from the gay perspective to the paper's management in Detroit. Her concept was nothing less than revolutionary. There had never been a

See "Price," page 14

Frank & Outspoken: An Election-year Interview

Gay lawmaker Barney Frank will speak in Phoenix Sept. 8

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

When Barney Frank proudly acknowledged his sexuality in a 1987 *Boston Globe* interview, he sealed his place in gay history as the first U.S. Congressman who chose to publicly come out while in office.

Thirteen years have passed and Frank still represents his Massachusetts district in Washington. He's won reelection three times and is widely recognized as one of the leading liberal voices within the Democratic party.

Whether speaking from the House floor or as a guest on *Politically Incorrect*, Frank's wit, commitment and tenacity are

always evident. He boldly continues to address issues like homophobia, right-wing hypocrisy, and the federal government's baby steps toward advancing equal rights for gay Americans.

Frank will be in Phoenix Sept. 8 to speak at a fundraising reception. The event is hosted jointly by the Arizona Stonewall Democrats and the Arizona Human Rights Fund.

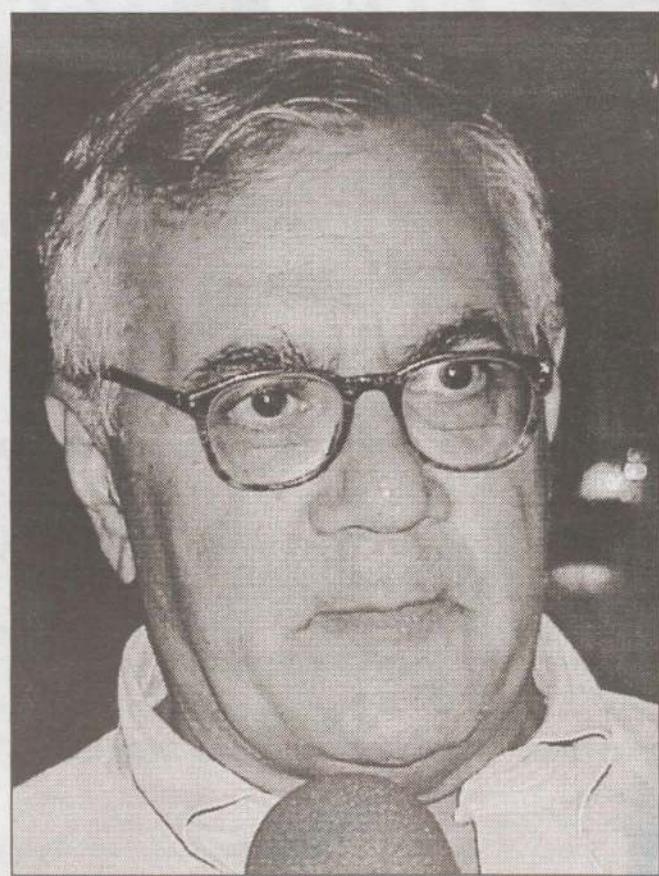
The Congressman spoke to *HeatStroke* from his suburban Boston office shortly after his return from the Democratic convention in Los Angeles.

HeatStroke: What's your take on the convention?

Barney Frank: For one thing, it clearly marked the full integration of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people into the Democratic Party. I wish it also marked our full integration into the politics of the country—unfortunately, the Republicans continue to be terrible.

The Republican platform is just an embarrassment. Having Jim Kolbe stand up there and not talk about gay rights with that vicious anti-gay platform doesn't do anything for me.

The Democrats, on the other hand—we lost count of the number of gay and lesbian people who spoke and who spoke about gay and lesbian rights. And the integration

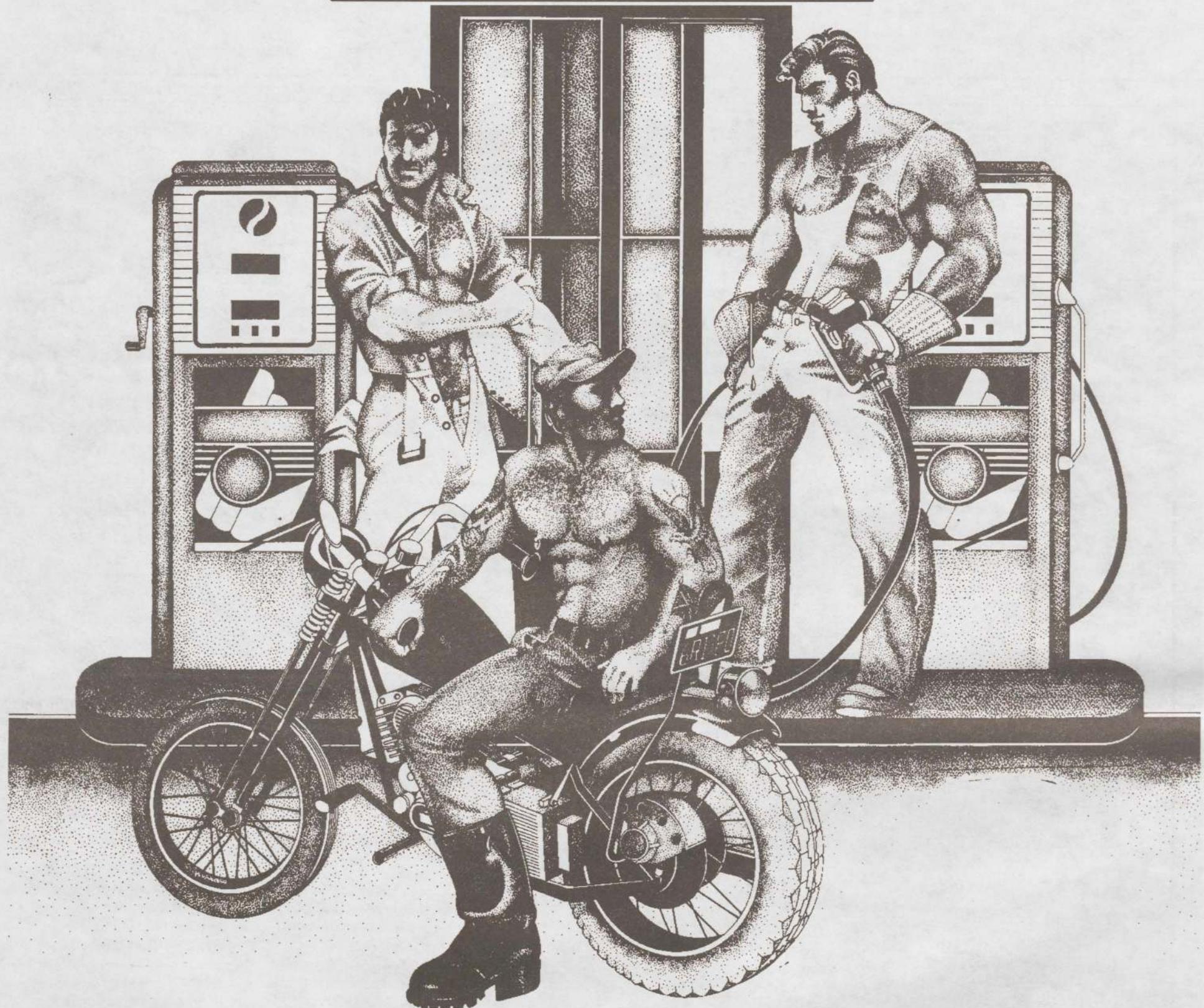


Rex Wockner

See "Frank," page 15

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Voice
602/264-3646

Fax
602/294-9695

Managing Editor
Kelly Justin Reidhead
reidhead@idt.net

Editor
Allen Kalchik
alkalpx@aol.com

Contributors
Alison Bechdel, Eric Orner,
David Horowitz, Karyn Riedell,
Andrew Collins, Jill Dearman,
Glen Hanson & Allan Neuwirth,
Mario Rodriguez, Michael Thomas Ford,
Dave Brousseau, Kathie Gummere,
Rex Wockner, Romeo San Vincente,
Deb Price, John Lotardo

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Horowitz:

The children's war

I took a call last week that came into my office from a grandmother concerned about the welfare of her three-year-old grandson.

The child stays with his grandparents from time to time when his mother and stepfather need a break. The boy's father and his new wife don't often have the time nor the inclination to care for him.

During the youngster's last visit, his grandfather clapped him on the back as congratulations for a chore well done, and the three-year-old recoiled in pain. Taking a closer look, the horrified grandparents found bruises and welts up and down his back and buttocks.

The little boy responded, "I guess daddy spanked me kind of hard this time." The grandparents realized that the marks were at least six days old. Thankfully, they took the child to a pediatrician who was obligated by law to report suspected child abuse.

As I consoled the grandmother while telling her that she had almost no legal rights in this kind of situation, I commented on the quality and depth of her love for this child. And I surprised myself at how violent I thought I might be, given ten minutes alone with the boy's abuser. What kind of creature could do this to a child?

Having worked in the Protective Services Unit of the Attorney General's Office, I am all too familiar with the cycle of abuse. No doubt this man had parents who beat him.

What any CPS case worker sees in a day—let alone a career—remains one of the biggest blotches on the United States' claim to being the best country in the world. Child abuse is the horror that politicians mostly ignore. For all the talk at the national political conventions about children and our future, no one mentioned abuse or neglect during prime-time coverage.

While we build more prisons to keep violent criminals off the streets, the census of children in detention steadily grows. We respond to violent youngsters by trying them as adults. We lock them away for as long as we can because the crimes they commit are so horrible. Can we even begin to imagine the crimes committed against

them?

Senator John McCain is rightfully considered a hero because he suffered abuses at the hands of strangers sworn to be his enemy. As the United States discusses strategies to maintain our international military readiness, war heroes are trotted before the cameras to build the case for more defense spending. One never knows what foreign aggressors will do to threaten our security.

But our national security is far more threatened by the war our unprotected children must fight daily. The reported cases of physical, emotional and sexual abuse appall me—the ones that go unreported defy imagination. These children are not tortured by enemy soldiers, but by parents whose primary obligations should be to love and care for them. The anger generated by this kind of abuse translates into mental illness, drug addiction and violent crime.

Nothing should be more important to the gay rights movement than stemming the silent tide of child abuse. When our society learns to love all its children, perhaps we will learn to love all of our adults as well.

David Horowitz is a Phoenix attorney and activist. He can be reached in care of HeatStroke, or at DashingDav@aol.com

We want to hear from you!

Send compliments and criticisms to Editors, HeatStroke, 1 nightstand publications, Ltd., PO Box 33430, Phoenix AZ 85067. Or choose one of the e-mail addresses at left and reach us via computer.

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

Editors:

I have just read in your publication that the representative of the local Log Cabin Republicans wants us to believe that the Republican Party is the party of individual responsibility [Not Just for Breakfast: Gay Republicans seek a seat at the GOP table, issue #99].

I have to ask: Might this message have more credibility if it were delivered by a person not known for having relied for years on a much older man for his income, housing, and living expenses?

Elizabeth A. Haynes
Tempe

Editors:

Just wanted to thank you for the great article on the Grand Canyon Men's Chorale and our trip to San Jose for GALA [GALA 2000: In Their Own Words, issue #99, Aug. 24]. I didn't get to go, and the article makes me even sadder that I didn't! Oh well.

HeatStroke is a great publication, one that I read from start to finish each time and thoroughly enjoy. I wish you all the best as you carry on.

Jon K. Thompson
Founding Member,
Grand Canyon Men's Chorale
Phoenix

Editors:

I really like the "Naked Curiosity" column that you have in HeatStroke. I sent an e-mail to the guy who writes it but I wanted to send you an e-mail, too. I like all of HeatStroke but "Naked Curiosity" is my favorite.

James Hicks
Phoenix

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Deb Price

Gore ticket holds promise of equal rights for gays & lesbians

Gay allies of Al Gore are wisely rushing to capitalize on the Democratic convention and the healthy bounce it's given him in the polls to energize and mobilize the sizable gay vote.

The National Stonewall Democratic Federation, for example, is launching an all-out blitz at gay restaurants, festivals, neighborhoods and bars to register voters and hand out scorecards comparing Gore and Republican presidential nominee George W. Bush. Meanwhile, the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) plans to gear its annual National Coming Out Day on Oct. 11 to registering gay college students nationwide.

"We have a lot of work to do to counteract what the Republican Party and gay Republicans have been trying to do ... blur

Since a great many potential gay voters are too young to clearly remember the bad old days before Clinton became the first gay-friendly president, activists are making a special effort to educate them. HRC spokesman David Smith says one top message will be "two words: Scalia and Thomas."

the positions of the candidates," says Michael Colby, executive director of Stonewall Democrats, which is distributing Gore-Lieberman buttons, yard signs and bumper stickers that include the gay rainbow flags or pink triangles (www.stonewalldemocrats.org).

Since a great many potential gay voters are too young to clearly remember the bad old days before Clinton became the first gay-friendly president, activists are making a special effort to educate them.

HRC spokesman David Smith says one top message will be "two words: Scalia and Thomas." He's referring to Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas, the anti-gay Supreme Court justices who Bush says are the models for the kind of justices he would pick.

Already, "It's the Supreme Court, Stupid!" pins are showing up on gay lapels. Memories are still fresh of this summer's painful 5-4 Supreme Court defeat allowing the Boy Scouts to discriminate against gay troop leaders. Gore has vowed to pick progressive justices.

The turnout rate of gay voters, a key voting bloc for Democrats, could be critical to Gore's chances. In the 1998 elections, 4.2 percent of voters identified themselves as gay, lesbian or bisexual, a voting bloc nearly as large as Latinos (5.3 percent) and

larger than Jews (2.6 percent), VoterNews Service exit polls found.

Democrat Bill Clinton won 72 percent of the gay vote in 1992 and 66 percent in 1996. But gay Republicans think Bush will draw gay voters away from Gore.

"A lot of gay Republicans were turned off by the anti-gay rhetoric of the past and voted Democratic. But now I think they'll come back," predicts gay Republican Carl Schmid.

Yet an interactive Harris Poll conducted in June found that in a head-to-head contest between Gore and Bush, gay and lesbian voters would support Gore over Bush, 83 percent to 16 percent.

Gore's gay boosters are stressing that Gore wants to build on the gay-rights ground broken by Clinton. Gore vows to work to get rid of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law, which only allows gay soldiers to serve if they are closeted and celibate. He's also promised to create a commission to study the inequities gay couples face because we can't legally marry — exclusion from Social Security spousal benefits, for example. His platform supports an "equitable alignment of benefits" for gay families.

Plus, Gore wouldn't need on-the-job training as president on gay issues. He would be able to approach them with familiarity and commitment, no differently than, say, environmental or foreign policy issues.

The first vice president ever to address a gay group, Gore told HRC in 1998, "The cause we celebrate tonight is not some narrow special interest. It is really the cause that has defined this nation since its founding: to deepen the meaning of fundamental fairness, ... to build a good and just society on this bedrock principle: equal opportunity for all, special privilege for none." (Gore's speech and gay record are available at www.algore2000.com.)

Gore backers point to his choice of running mate Joe Lieberman as a sign of his commitment to fairness for gay Americans. Lieberman is one of the lead Senate sponsors of the bill to outlaw anti-gay job discrimination. In front of more than 200 gay delegates, Gore vowed in his convention acceptance speech to make its passage a priority.

For eight years, gay Americans have counted on Al Gore. Now he's counting on gay voters.

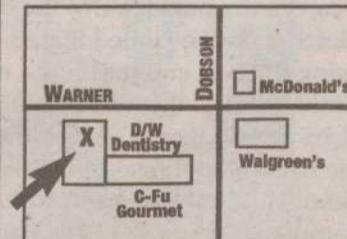
(Deb Price of The Detroit News' Washington bureau writes about gay civil rights in this column, which is distributed by Gannett News Service and syndicated by the Los Angeles Times Syndicate. Write to Price in care of HeatStroke).



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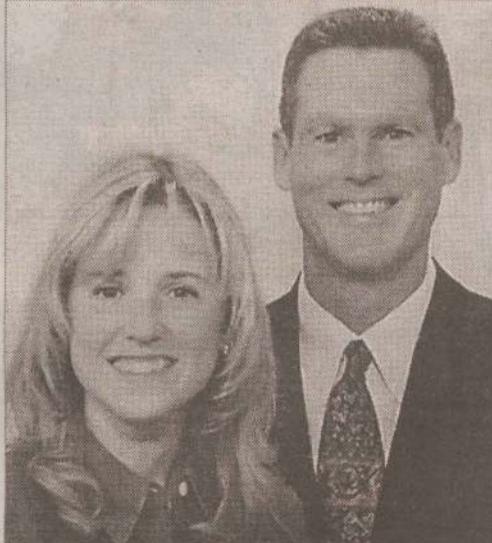
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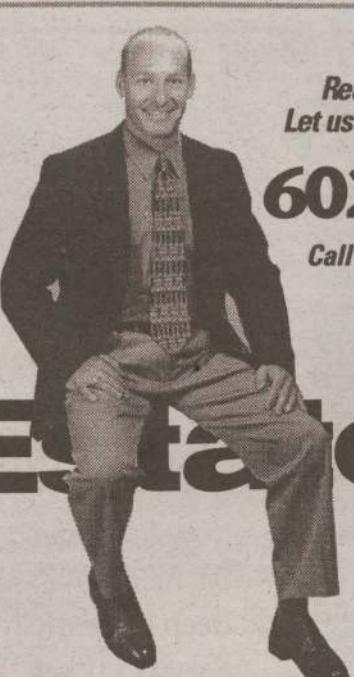
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SLOUCHING THROUGH Gomorrah

By MICHAEL ALVEAR



Bloom & Doom: the Life and Death of a Romance

My boyfriend and I broke up after six or seven years. That I couldn't remember exactly when we met or how long we'd been together was a constant source of irritation to him. Enraged at my memory lapses, he would introduce me as "my boyfriend, Ronnie Reagan."

People with photographic memories should not date people with pre-Alzheimers.

It only sounds like fun.

We fought for all the reasons people fight—money, misunderstanding, lust, and trust. Eventually, he left, not just me, but the city. I miss him, but not half as much as the traffic between home and work, where there were regular sightings of a tiny white convertible with a Faberge egg of a head sticking out from it, stopping at every traffic light for a ceremonial brushing of hair. It was the only thing that made rush hour bearable. My boyfriend didn't just have great hair. He had important hair. The kind that keeps couples together six or seven years.

At first, problems came at us with all the weight of mid-summer snowflakes. They melted before we even had the chance to flick them off. But winter crept in and suddenly nothing would melt. There was no avalanche, really. I guess the snow just built up and caved the roof in.

We drifted into a trial separation. He got more clarity and I got more distant. One day the phone rang. He looked at the caller ID.

"Who is it?" I asked. "You," he answered.

Confused, I walked over and saw what the caller ID flashed: "UNAVAILABLE."

I wonder if men are really capable of working things out in a relationship. We have what it takes to love but do we have what it takes to stay? Straight men can barely stay with women; what are the odds gay men can stay with each other?

I wonder if men are really capable of working things out in a relationship. We have what it takes to love but do we have what it takes to stay? Straight men can barely stay with women; what are the odds gay men can stay with each other?

We want our relationships to last like trees, stately oaks with deep roots that last forever. But our relationships endure more like perennials, barely scratching the topsoil, coming back again and again in bloom-and-doom boomerangs.

My relationship with the long-suffering one boomeranged from one end of the spectrum to the other, but our love didn't. It was so palpable, so present. But people who think that's all you need to keep a relationship going are wrong. And single, too. Only the unmarried think you can save a relationship with more love.

My love never changed, but my dreams did. And so did his. The steady-

ness of our affection and the changes in our aspirations met like an irresistible force crashing into an immovable object. The only thing left standing was our dogs.

In the final moments before he left, we hugged and cried for so long I didn't think we'd ever let go of each other. I told him I was crying because I felt so bad for him, that I knew how hard it would be to live without me. He said he was crying because I was holding him so tight.

As he pulled away in his rented truck, I realized what happened in his rear-view mirror is what happened in his heart. I got smaller and smaller until I was no longer there.

I waved until the truck pulled out of sight. Only once before, at my brother's funeral, had grief overwhelmed me with such force. I didn't want anybody knowing, so I told my friends I hadn't cried that hard since the final episode of *Mary Tyler Moore*. It's easier to admit your grief for the dead than the living.

Now I'm single, at an age where I remember thinking "I could never date anyone that old." But I'm also at the point where I can appreciate the deal brokered between age and wisdom. Life does not take youth and beauty away from you; you are released from them. And one of the things this bittersweet freedom allows is the capacity to experience profound love. Like I did, for six or seven years.



Michael Alvear lives with Zoey & Zack, his lesbian Labrador and girlie-boy Vizsla. Write to him in care of *HeatStroke*.

Goal: to raise \$100,000 by October 11 to qualify for an additional \$100,000.

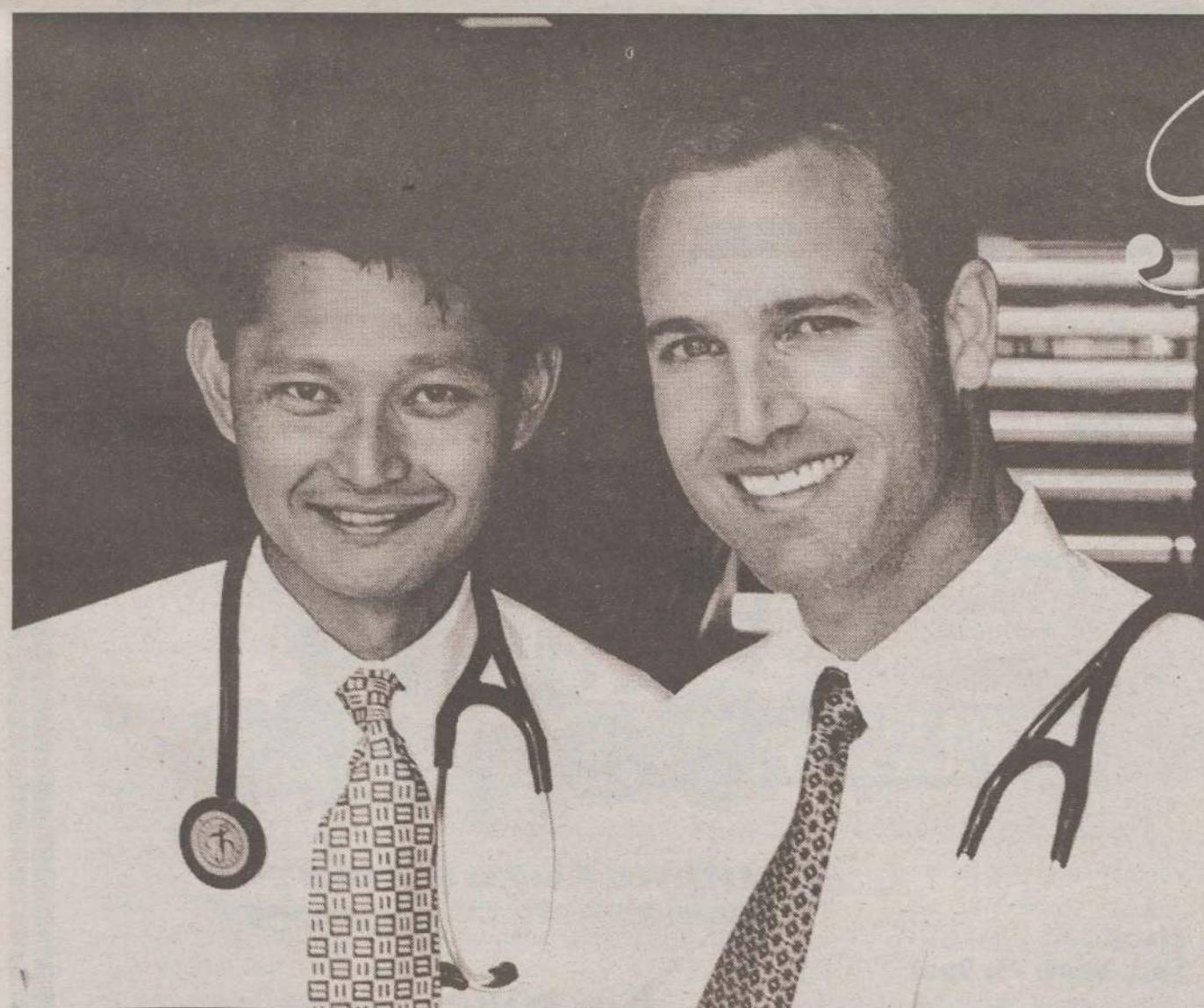
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Candidates on the issues: where the presidential hopefuls stand on gays in the military

By The Associated Press

Three days a week, The Associated Press picks an issue and asks presidential candidates a question about it. Today's question and the responses: Gays in the Military—Do you support the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy on gays in the military?

Pat Buchanan, Reform Party: No answer.

George W. Bush, Republican: "I support the current 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' policy."

policy crafted by General Colin Powell regarding homosexuals in the military.

We are blessed and fortunate to have had so many men and women fight so valiantly for our liberties in America. I respect and admire anyone who has served in any branch of our military and put his or her life on the line for our freedom."

Al Gore, Democrat: "The 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' policy has not worked. Furthermore, I believe that, as a matter of basic fairness, the policy should be

changed.

It is unacceptable that patriotic men and women who serve their nation with distinction are not only discharged, but suffer persecution and even violence. They should be allowed to serve their country without discrimination."

John Hagelin, Reform and Natural Law parties: "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" is a recipe for discrimination. Gays should be allowed to defend our country, as they indeed always have, without censure or silence.

Naturally, sexual promiscuity—he sexual or homosexual—has no place in the military."

Ralph Nader, Green Party: "No I do not. The current system is discriminatory against homosexuals who wish to serve their country."

All members of our society should have equal rights and responsibilities. Gays have served in all military branches innumerable foreign countries and, to be told, have given their lives serving the U.S. armed services throughout

Dr. Laura protested in Phoenix

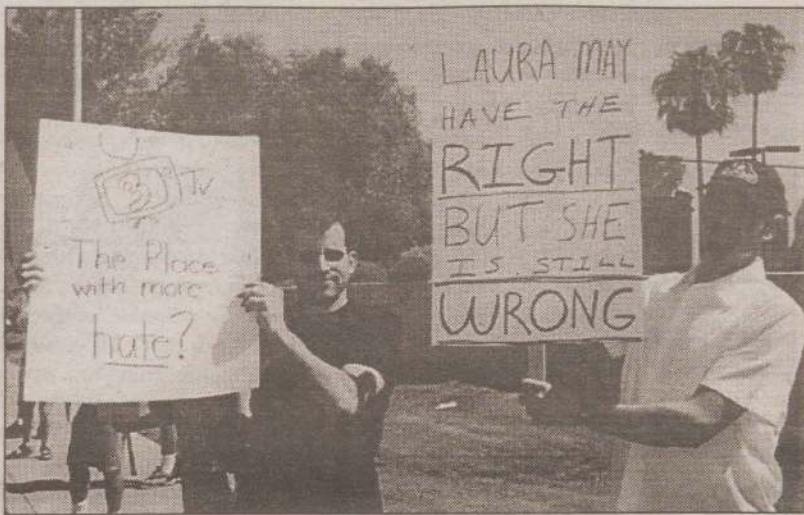
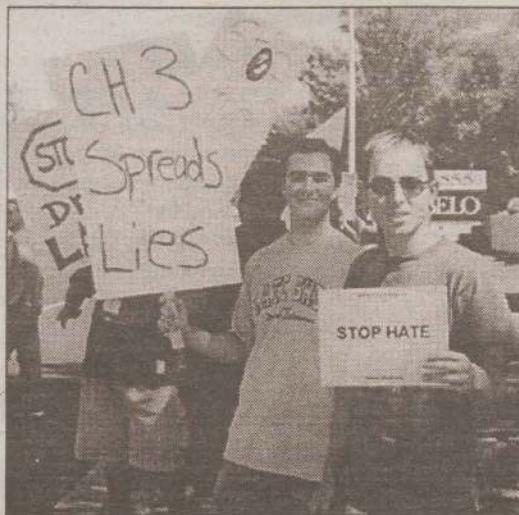
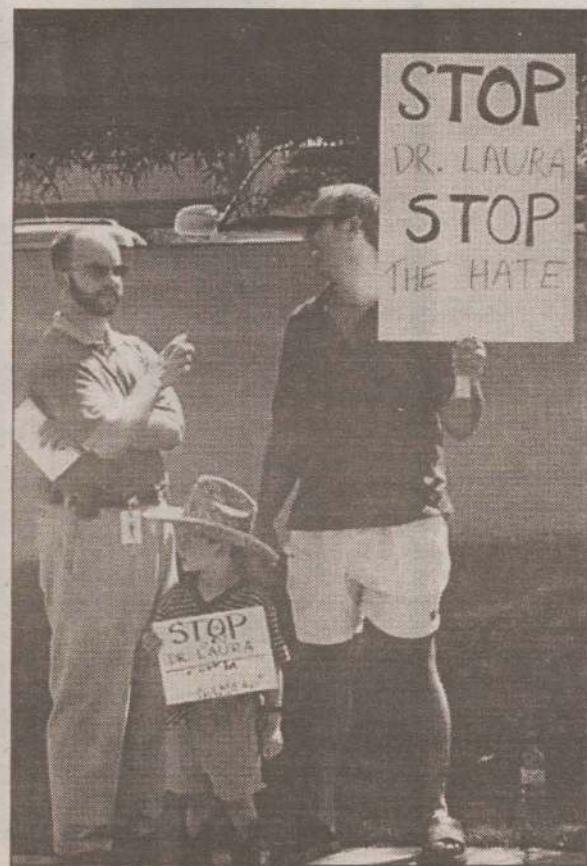
More than 40 people demonstrated outside the offices of KTVK Channel 3 in Phoenix on Aug. 26, protesting the local station's decision to air a new TV show hosted by controversial radio personality "Dr." Laura Schlessinger.

The on-air advisor is well known for her repeated anti-gay remarks and has recently lost numerous advertising sponsors due to her rhetoric.

The Phoenix protest was organized by Amy Culver of

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays in cooperation with the national group stopdrlaura.com.

"This is a broad spectrum of the community," Culver said. "There are straight people, gay people, grandmothers, children, and we all want Channel 3 to know that we are not going to go away and that the message of hate needs to stop."



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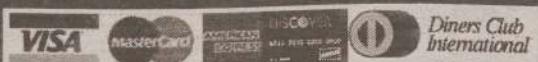
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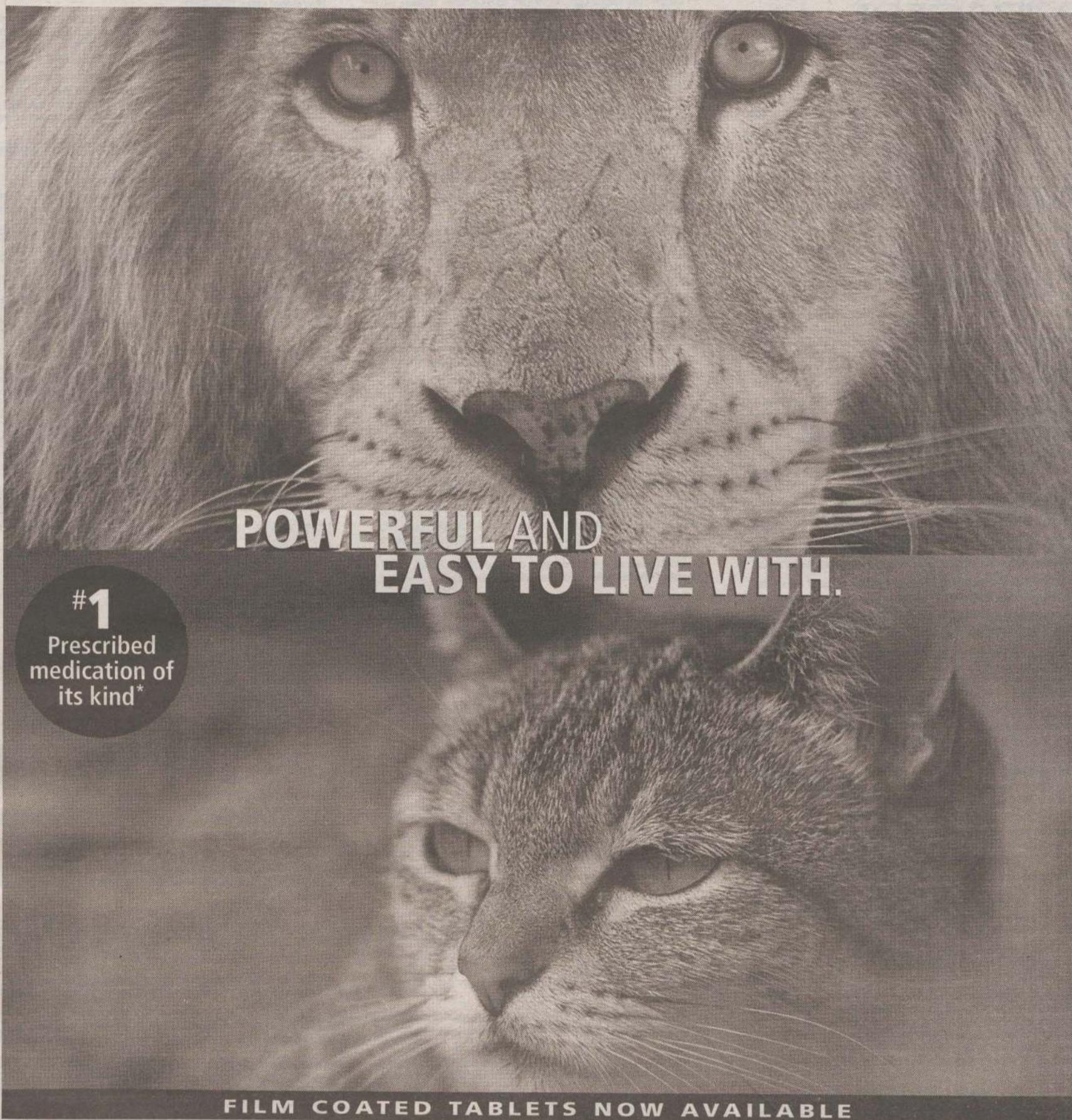
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taking. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus and hyperglycemia, changes in the distribution or accumulation of body fat, and increased bleeding in patients with hemophilia. For more information, call toll free 1-888-VIRACEPT or visit www.viracept.com. (Refer to the important information on the next page.)

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VIRACEPT

nelfinavir mesylate
tablets and oral powder

Information for Patients About VIRACEPT® (Vi-ra-cept)
Generic Name: nelfinavir (nel-FIN-na-veer) mesylate

For the Treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection
Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

What is VIRACEPT and how does it work?

VIRACEPT is used in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. You should be aware, however, that the effect of VIRACEPT on HIV in the blood has not been correlated with long-term health benefits. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in the number of CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT is usually taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), Epivir® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zerit® (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

Does VIRACEPT cure HIV or AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of VIRACEPT are not known at this time. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, Mycobacterium avium complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

It is not known whether VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that may occur.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Who should or should not take VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking protease inhibitors. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs and arms may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

Can VIRACEPT be taken with other medications?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Drugs you should not take with VIRACEPT:

- Hismanal® (astemizole, for allergies)
- Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)
- Cordarone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
- Quinidine® (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglute®, Cardiogquin®, Quinidex®, and others
- Ergot derivatives (Cafergot® and others, for migraine headache)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Versed® (midazolam)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

- Rifampin® (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®

This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with:

- Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

- Phenobarbital
- Phenytin (Dilantin® and others)
- Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)

These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.

- Oral contraceptives ("the pill")

If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

Special considerations

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with VIRACEPT, talk to your doctor about possible drug interactions and side effects. If you take Viagra and VIRACEPT together, you may be at increased risk of side effects of Viagra such as low blood pressure, visual changes, and penile erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, you should seek immediate medical assistance to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

It is not recommended to take VIRACEPT with the cholesterol-lowering drugs Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zorcor® (simvastatin) because of possible drug interactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between VIRACEPT and Lipitor® (atorvastatin) and Baycol® (cerivastatin); talk to your doctor before you take either of these cholesterol reducing drugs with VIRACEPT.

How should VIRACEPT be taken with other anti-HIV drugs?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

- Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)
- Epivir (lamivudine, 3TC)
- Zerit (stavudine, d4T)
- Videx® (didanosine, ddI)

If you are taking both Videx (ddI) and VIRACEPT:

Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Viramune® (nevirapine)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be reduced. Studies are now taking place to learn about the safety of combining VIRACEPT with Viramune.

Sustiva™ (efavirenz)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. A dose adjustment is not needed when VIRACEPT is used with Sustiva.

Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Crixivan® (indinavir)

The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Norvir® (ritonavir)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Invirase® (saquinavir)

The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

What are the side effects of VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 14-20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily or 1250 mg (five tablets) two times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include abdominal pain, asthenia, nausea, flatulence, and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

How should I take VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. Your doctor may prescribe the light blue VIRACEPT Tablets either as 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or as 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. **Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.** The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, **you should not miss any doses.** However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 to 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to be Administered Three Times Daily				
Body Weight Kg	Lb	Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Teaspoons†	Number of Tablets
7 to <8.5	15.5 to <18.5	4	1	—
8.5 to <10.5	18.5 to <23	5	1 1/4	—
10.5 to <12	23 to <26.5	6	1 1/2	—
12 to <14	26.5 to <31	7	1 3/4	—
14 to <16	31 to <35	8	2	—
16 to <18	35 to <39.5	9	2 1/4	—
18 to <23	39.5 to <50.5	10	2 1/2	2
≥ 23	≥ 50.5	15	3 3/4	3

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

*1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

†1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your Pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic foods or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

How should VIRACEPT be stored?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and stored at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

Call 1.888.VIRACEPT

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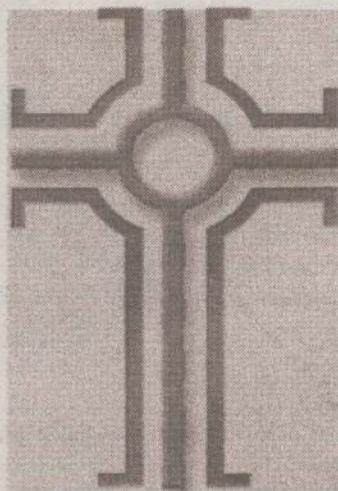


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Republicans attack Interior Dept. memo on gays and Boy Scouts

WASHINGTON (AP)—An Interior Department attempt to clarify its relationship with the Boy Scouts of America in light of the group's ban on gays has prompted sharp responses from Republicans, with the issue quickly surfacing in the presidential race.

The Interior Department acknowledged Aug. 31 that it is reviewing its ties with the 90-year-old scouting organization because of an executive order by President Clinton in June that prohibits government participation in education activities with groups that discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

The department's solicitor recently asked the Justice Department for advice on the matter and directed all Interior agencies to produce detailed information on their activities—everything from agency involvement in the national Scout jamboree to awarding of conservation merit badges.

The information is needed "to determine which activities and programs ... as they relate to the Irving, Texas-based Boy Scouts of America are consistent with" the president's executive order on discrimination, Interior Solicitor John Leshy wrote.

The memo, when it surfaced, brought immediate response from Republicans, including GOP presidential nominee George W. Bush, who questioned whether the Interior Department was on the verge of throwing the Scouts off federal land, which for years many Scout troops have used for camping.

"I'm troubled by this memo appearing to suggest that the Clinton-Gore administration might sever the federal government's long-standing relationship with the Boy Scouts of America," Bush said in a statement.

The White House had little to say, but a spokesman for Vice President Al Gore's campaign sought to make clear Gore has no intention of ousting the Scouts.

"In a Gore administration Boy Scouts will be allowed to use federal land," Gore campaign spokesman Douglas Hattaway said.

Interior spokesman Jon Wright said the department has no intention of severing its ties with the Scouts, characterizing the Leshy memo as part of an attempt to get clarification from the Justice Department on how the presi-

dent's June 23 executive order might affect the relationship.

"We have a long history and tradition with the Boy Scouts and we look forward to continuing that relationship," said Wright, adding that Scouts often help clean up campgrounds and trails and the department helps Scouts work on conservation merit badges.

Clinton issued his executive order on discrimination only five days before the Supreme Court ruled that the Boy Scouts were within their constitutional rights to ban homosexuals as scoutmasters.

Rep. J.C. Watts of Oklahoma, chairman of the House Republican Conference, accused the Clinton administration of "investigating" the Boy Scouts and of "political pandering" to gays.

Justice spokeswoman Kara Peterman said that while the department is continuing to develop general guidelines for the president's order, it has issued no advice to Interior or anyone else specifically involving the Boy Scouts.

"We haven't even looked at it," she said, adding that when Justice received the request, Interior was told to produce more information on what involvement the scouting organization has with them.

On Aug. 15, Leshy, the department's top legal officer, asked all agencies to provide details on their activities involving the Boy Scouts so that he could forward that information to Justice.

The memo sought information on Interior's involvement in next year's Boy Scout Jamboree as well as the department's involvement in "all activities, events or programs" involving the Scouts, any monetary or non-monetary assistance, sponsorship of any Scout troops or events, and involvement in any award, certificates, patches, merit badges or other forms of recognition of Scouts.

All of this has caught the Boy Scouts of America, incorporated in 1910 and chartered by Congress six years later, by surprise.

"I'm stumped," spokesman Gregg Shields said. He said as far as he knows the Boy Scouts have had little dealing with the federal government except "we camp on some federal land. ... We get almost no financial support from the federal government."

California school district to reverse ban on gay student club

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP)—The Orange Unified School District announced Sept. 5 it plans to settle a federal lawsuit by reversing an earlier decision to ban a gay-tolerance club from meeting at an area high school.

The district's board is expected to formally approve the agreement Sept. 7, the first day of classes for the system's high schools, spokeswoman Judy Frutig said.

As part of the settlement, the board will vote to change its policies on school clubs before approving the gay organization, Frutig said.

The new rules will prohibit student clubs from discussing sexual activity and create a system that will allow parents to object to a child's participation in any school group, she said.

Two members of the board have rejected the agreement, and five have supported it—enough to win approval, Frutig added.

The board unanimously rejected the Gay-Straight Alliance Club in December, prompting a federal lawsuit from the two students trying to found the organization at El Modena High School.

Anthony Colin and Heather Zetin accused the school board of discriminating against them and violating their rights to free speech. They said the board violated the Equal Access Act, which

prohibits public schools that take federal money from excluding particular non-curricular clubs if they allow others.

El Modena already allows student groups that represent Christians, ethnic minorities and even aficionados of 1980s culture.

The students involved in the club are happy their fight with the school board has ended, said their attorney, Myron Dean Quon, of Lambda Legal Defense.

"What it comes down to is, we're happy to be able to dispense of costly litigation and we're happy the kids can go back to being regular school kids and not under such great public scrutiny," he said.

There is no financial settlement included in the agreement, he added.

A temporary injunction issued by U.S. District Judge David Carter earlier this year allowed the club to meet on the 2,000-student campus while the lawsuit proceeded.

School district officials previously justified banning the club because the organization would have covered issues taught in the curriculum, specifically sex education.

Colin has said the club was designed to be a forum for gay students to discuss discrimination.


PATRONS OF SOWETO GAY BAR SHOT

Dozens of patrons were injured in an Aug. 20 shooting at a bar frequented by gays in Soweto, South Africa, according to Johannesburg's *OUTright* magazine.

Three gunmen blocked the exit of the Get Ahead Shebeen club while other assailants declared that the invasion was not a robbery and opened fire.

Patrons claimed two people died in the attack but the owner of the bar said there were no deaths. The incident has received minimal news coverage in South Africa, *OUTright* said. Soweto is a largely black area.

The attack took place the same night a car bomb exploded outside the Cape Town gay bar Bronx, injuring the doorman and shattering the club's windows.

In an e-mail, *OUTright* Editor Daniel Somerville said: "It is disgusting and disgraceful [that the media has not covered this]. This is an attack against our community. It doesn't matter if it was Soweto or Klerksdorp or Cape Town—lesbian and gay people, be they English, Afrikaans, Zulu or Xhosa must stand in solidarity against homophobia."

Another Cape Town gay club, Blah Bar, was bombed last November. Nine people were injured in that blast.

GAY MURDER POSTERS APPEAR IN BRAZIL

Posters appeared around Curitiba, Brazil, in mid August showing a hooded figure with a pointed gun below the caption, "Make your day happy—put an end to homosexuality."

The words "Resistance 88" appear at the bottom of the poster.

Curitiba, the capital of Parana state, is

approximately 160 miles (256 km) south of Sao Paulo.

To assist local activists in responding to the hate campaign, contact Beto Kaiser, president of the Paranese June 28th Institute at 011-55-041-324-9501 or inpar28dejunho@ig.com.br.

POLICE RAID THAI SAUNA

Police from Thailand's Immigration Bureau and Children's Welfare Protection Division raided Bangkok's Colony Sauna Aug. 28 and arrested two men.

According to the Bangkok Post, the officers found about 100 foreigners drinking and partying in the company of naked Thai boys and teenagers. Several patrons were taken to a police station for questioning.

Sauna manager Nikorn Nianthong and British citizen John Richard Duffy were charged with procurement of prostitution and lewd conduct. Duffy was reportedly celebrating his birthday and told police the boys were hired to keep his friends company during the festivities.

Another gay club was raided on Aug. 18. More than 20 Thai youths were arrested



ed and a French man was charged with lewd conduct.

PRIDE PLANNED IN THAILAND

Thailand's second gay pride celebration will include a Mardi Gras-style parade in Bangkok on Nov. 5 and another one in the southern resort city of Phuket Island on Nov. 12.

According to organizers, last year's parade in Bangkok drew a crowd of about 40,000 and this year's event could attract "hundreds of thousands of onlookers."

The official pride tourism organizer can be reached at www.utopia-tours.com.

LESBIANS SUE BURGER KING

Two lesbians who were twice kicked out of Auckland, New Zealand's Swanson Street Burger King for kissing have filed a complaint with the nation's Human Rights Commission.

"They are trying to say we were all over each other but we couldn't act that way in public," said 22-year-old Sonia Smithson. She said the two had their arms around each other as they stood in line to place their order and pecked each other on the cheek as they sat down to eat.

"We don't mind a peck on the cheek, but if it goes further, then we are a family restaurant and we have to think about our staff as well, some of whom are 15-year-olds," said area manager Andy Larsson.

OPEN GAYS IN U.K. NAVY CAUSE FEW PROBLEMS

There have been few problems since Britain's Navy dropped its ban on gays in January, personnel policy head Admiral James Burnell-Nugent told *Western Daily Press* on Aug. 31.

The British military was forced to stop discharging homosexuals by a ruling of the European Court of Human Rights.

"I think it has caused less of a ruffle than the issue of women at sea did 10 years ago," Burnell-Nugent said. "Although some did not welcome the change of policy, it has not caused any great degree of difficulty."

"There are issues to do with sharing

accommodation and so on, which we shall deal with using our normal management mechanisms," he said. "On the whole it has not caused a great upset among the services."

Gay relationships are permitted on Navy ships as long as they do not affect the performance or morale of other servicemembers, a Navy spokesman said.

GERMAN MILITARY EQUALIZES GAYS

Gays will be treated equally in the German military from now on. The government told parliament Aug. 31 that homosexuality is not "a separate entry criterion" for military service.

The announcement came as a result of a discrimination case filed by an officer who was demoted after it was learned he is gay.

The Ministry of Defense plans to issue a brochure on proper handling of gay servicemembers and will make it clear that discrimination based on sexual orientation is forbidden, a spokesman said.

RUSSIAN BISHOPS CONDEMN HOMOSEXUALITY

The Russian Orthodox Church's 146 bishops have adopted a new "social doctrine" that officially condemns homosexuality, reports the Russian Web site www.gay.ru.

Discussions about the so-called sexual minorities in the modern society tend to recognize homosexuality not as a sexual perversion, but only as one of the 'sexual orientations', one that has an equal right for public demonstration and respect," the document says. "Bearing pastoral responsibility for people with homosexual inclinations, the church at the same time decisively opposes attempts to present this sinful tendency as a 'norm' and even more, a subject of pride and an example to be followed."

The bishops added that persons who "propagate" a homosexual way of life should be banned from teaching school or holding positions of authority in the military or prisons.



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WILD WEST SALOON DAYS



Sunday, September 10th
CHARLIE'S -
Denver • Chicago • Phoenix
Annual Volleyball Tournament
7pm, followed by Pussy LaHoot's
20th Anniversary Show & Party!
AGRA General Meeting at 5pm.
BBQ Hosted by Men in Motion.

Wednesday, September 13th
**Woody's 5 Year
Anniversary Party**
Mr. Charlie's Game Night

**Friday, Saturday & Sunday,
September 15, 16 & 17th**
Charlie's "Run for the Border Weekend"

Sunday, September 17th
BBQ Hosted by The Men of Charlie's
Suzanne Target' show - Candidate for Miss AGRA

Wednesday, September 20th
Lava Party - 9pm. Check it out -
Giveaways, Games - Party! Party! Party!!!
Open Dance Lessons 7:30pm with Dan.

**Friday, Saturday & Sunday,
September 22, 23 & 24th**
Charlie's "Wild West Saloon Days"!!!

Charlie's

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• MEN IN MOTION • AGRA

Goings On

Register on the web

Register to vote over the Internet. Forms are available to download and print at the secretary of state's home page, at www.sosaz.com. The forms must be filled out, signed and mailed in to the Secretary of State's Office at the address given on the site.

Arizona Human Rights Fund Co-Chair Kathie Gummere reminds *HeatStroke* readers that candidates for local and state offices "want our support" and that they "know [the glbt community] can make a difference." But, Gummere warns, "nothing can be done at all if you are not registered."

The online registration forms make it easier for more voters to take part in this year's process. Registration forms can also be requested by calling 1-877-THE-VOTE.

Out on campus at PC

There will be a Pizza Party at Phoenix College on Monday, September 11 from 12 noon -1:30 p.m. in room HC-1. This event is sponsored by P.A.L.S. (People of Alternative Lifestyles).

P.A.L.S. is an organization for the members and friends of Phoenix College's gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered community. Its purpose is to provide a social outlet and a sense of community and support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered people on the Phoenix College campus, and to educate the campus community on homosexual, bisexual, and transgender issues.

For further information contact P.A.L.S. advisor Dr. Bob Fernie at bob.fernien@pcmail.maricopa.edu or call (602) 285-7262.

Square dance classes start Sept. 10

Dancing in Phoenix since 1983, Desert Valley Squares is Arizona's premier gay and lesbian social square dance club. The group has memberships in the IAGSDC, Greater Phoenix Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, and the Arizona Gay Rodeo Association. Desert Valley Squares is also a founding member of the Grand Canyon Square Dance Association.

Everyone is invited to be a part of the Desert Valley Squares, and new beginner classes are scheduled to begin September 10, 2000. For more information contact Desert Valley Squares, Gordon Macaw, President, 602/331-8839.

Upcoming Center events, meetings

The Community Center, located at 24 W. Camelback Rd. in Phoenix, has released its calendar of scheduled coming events and meetings. Call to confirm times and dates.

The Youth Creating Change Planning group will meet at 7:00 p.m. every Thursday, followed by the Horizons youth program (ages 18-22), meeting Thursdays at 9:00 p.m.

Lesbian Night Out meets every Friday from 7 - 10:00 p.m. The Valley One in Ten (VOIT) group for youth aged 14 - 18 meets Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

The Center's Discovery Support Group for newly out gay people meets Mondays from 7 - 10:00 p.m., and Light of the Lamb Church holds services Sundays at 10:00 a.m. Delta Lambda Phi meets at the Center every Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

The Center's board of directors will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 11 at 7:00 p.m.,

and Seniors in a Gay Environment (SAGE) will meet on Saturday, Sept. 16 at 10:00 a.m. BiNet Arizona meets Tuesday, Sept. 19 at 7:00 p.m.

On Saturday, Sept. 9, the Center will hold a Library Volunteer Work Day from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Volunteer Training is scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

For more information on organizations and meetings, or to find out how you can volunteer at The Center, call 602/265-7283.

PBP Open House in new offices

Phoenix Body Positive will celebrate its recent move to a new suite of offices in central Phoenix by hosting an Open House for the community on Tuesday, Sept. 12 from 4 - 6:30 p.m.

The office is now at 1144 E. McDowell Rd., Suite 200, on the northwest corner of 12th St. and McDowell. Parking is in the north lot. The McDowell Health Care Clinic will also be holding an Open House during this time in their offices, located on the third floor of the same building.

To RSVP this event and to learn more about PBP's programs and services, call 602/307-5330.

Women in Tune need musical members

As the premier lesbian vocal group in the state, Arizona Women in Tune are currently seeking women with an interest in music. The group meets at 7:00 p.m. every Thursday at Augustana Lutheran Church, 2604 N. 14th St. in Phoenix.

"We need women singers of any voice

range, anyone who can play an instrument or anyone who has a desire to meet some great women and have some fun," says soprano and board president Terry Gunn.

The group sings a broad range of music and can be seen at many community events, such as AIDS Walk Arizona and area Pride festivals. For information, contact Barbara Wodrich at 623/878-5430.

GPGLC Events

The September Calendar for the Greater Phoenix Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce includes the following events and activities:

The Chamber's regular Lunch Bunch gatherings afford an opportunity for gay and lesbian (and gay-friendly) business professionals to network, exchange business leads, and socialize. The cost for these lunches is \$11.

On Tuesday, Sept. 12, The Tempe Lunch Bunch will take place at 11:30 a.m. at ASU's University Club.

On Wednesday, Sept. 13 at 6:30 p.m., there will be a NetMix at Mountain Memories, 1121 W Joy Ranch Rd., Desert Hills. The cost is \$5.

On Tuesday, Sept. 19 at 11:30 a.m., the central Phoenix Lunch Bunch will meet at Pookie's Cafe. This meeting will include a presentation on Prop. 108, having to do with telecommunications rates. This is one of the initiatives being proposed on the November ballot. More ballot initiatives will be discussed at the two Lunch Bunch meetings in October.

On Saturday, Sept. 23, there will be a GPGLC Chinese Feast/Pool Party at Doris Milton's home at 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$10.

For information about the organization or to join, call 602/225-8444.

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WEDNESDAY

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• Country Western Dance Lessons 7:30-9:30PM

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

• Country Western Dance Music 8PM-1AM

SUNDAY

• 70's, 80's & 90's Retro Dance Music 4-8PM
• Dance Lessons with Molly 6-8PM

*News & Events of Interest to the
Metro Phoenix Queer Community*

**L.A.D.S. annual campout
Sept. 22**

Los Amigos del Sol (L.A.D.S.) is one of the oldest social clubs for gay men and lesbians in the Phoenix area, and the group has a long and proud history of bringing men and women together for fun and philanthropy.

From Sept. 22 - 24, the L.A.D.S. group will hold its annual fall camping trip in the Upper Wolf Creek area near Prescott. The cost of the trip is \$20 for members and \$30 for nonmembers. Call 602/997-2411 for information on the campout, or to learn more about this active group.

Get out & exercise

Arizona Frontrunners is a running and walking club serving the greater Phoenix area gay & lesbian community and their friends. The group welcomes runners and walkers of all abilities.

The mission of the club is to promote physical fitness and provide a way for gay men and lesbians interested in running and walking to meet and socialize. AZ Frontrunners currently holds several weekly runs (including trail runs) and a walk in Phoenix, participates in community races, and sponsors social events.

For more information leave a message on the Team Arizona hotline, 602/408-4311, or contact azfrontrunners@hotmail.com.

**OUToberfest scheduled,
moved to zoo**

The Community Center has announced the date of this year's National Coming Out Day celebration and picnic. The eighth annual OUToberfest will be held October 7, 2000 at the Phoenix Zoo.

Event planners promise food, drinks and a wild time, with proceeds going to benefit the Community Center's programs. Tickets are currently on sale.

**Tucson's Pride event
set for Oct. 14**

OUToberFEST 2000, Tucson's Pride festival, will take place Oct. 14 at the Old Pueblo's Reid Park. Produced by Tucson's Lesbian and Gay Alliance, the event features an extensive lineup of performers and activities. For more information, consult the ad on this page or call 520/620-3200.

**Gay AZ Reps. debate
canceled**

The planned debate in Phoenix between out Reps. Ken Cheuvront (D - Dist. 25) and Steve May (R - Dist. 26) has been canceled, according to organizers. The event was scheduled for Oct. 11.

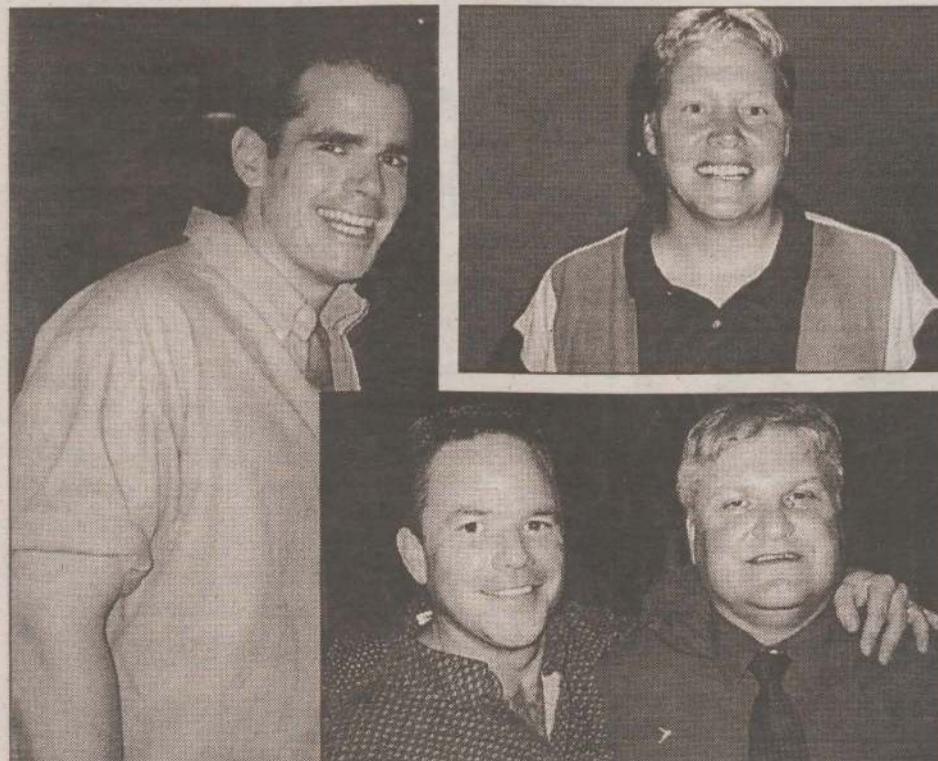
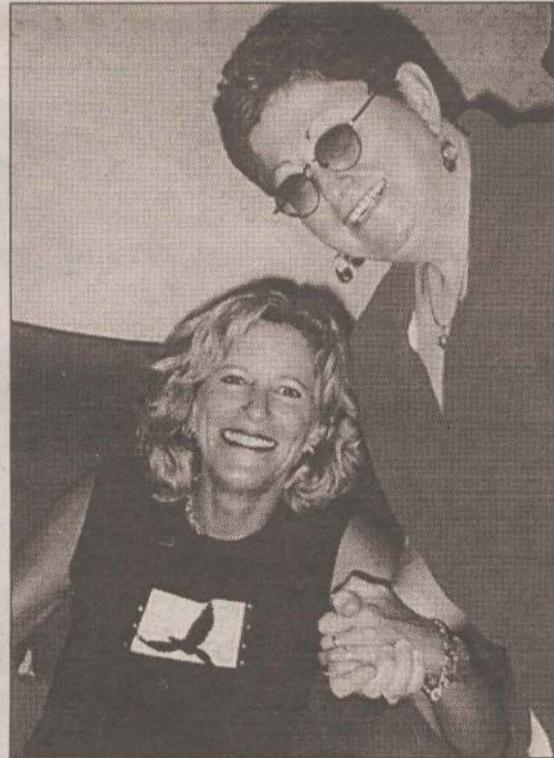
A Night of Community Center Support

The Community Center netted just under \$10,000 in its largest yearly fund-raising event, according to the early and unaudited figures released Sept. 5 by the non-profit organization.

The annual concert, called *A Night of Comedy*, was held this year on Aug. 26 at the Orpheum Theatre in downtown Phoenix. More than 790 people attended, enjoying the stand-up routines of out comics Kit Stewart, Eddie Sarfaty and Michelle Balan.

The box office was down slightly from last year—more than 900 people attended *A Night of Comedy* in 1999. The figures released show that the 2000 event generated \$21,738 in revenue and cost \$11,800 to produce, for a profit to The Center of \$9,938.

The proceeds will be used to support the Center's programs for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people and youth.



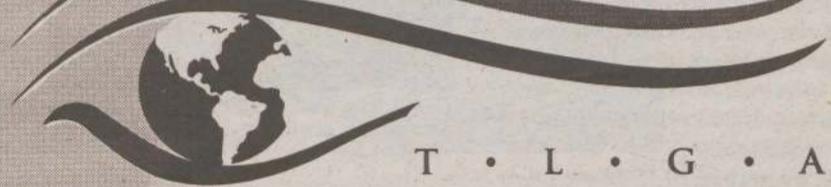
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- QUEER VOICE
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Deb Price: America's Lesbian Columnist

Continued from page 1

regular column of that type in a mainstream publication in the United States.

Not only was the column approved for inclusion in *The Detroit News*, it was made available to all other publications owned by media conglomerate Gannett (which recently purchased *The Arizona Republic*).

Overnight, Price went from relative lesbian obscurity to having her column appear in a variety of newspapers in cities and towns from coast to coast. Eight years later, more than a million readers get a weekly dose of Price, either through the Gannett wire service or the *Los Angeles Times Syndicate*.

Based in Washington, DC, Price is steeped in the politics that often form the basis for her columns. Yet, her approach is not one of didactic diatribe. Instead, she gives glimpses into the lives of the policy makers and shines a light on the people and places impacted by those policies. She is also ever mindful of a desire to empower her readers by giving them information and insights to which they might not otherwise have access.

Price's partner of 15 years, Joyce Murdoch, is also a writer. The couple met while both were working for *The Washington Post*. Murdoch is an active participant in the creation and sustenance of the column.

From being a sounding board for ideas to commenting on the final draft, Murdoch shares in the process. She has also taken responsibility for sorting through the correspondence Price receives from read-

ers. She separates the supportive letters from those that are nothing short of hate mail, assuming the role of protector and taking it very seriously.

Murdoch has written, "Most of us in journalism chose our profession because of high ideals but tend to end up spending our days cynically focused on the worst in people."

"When being gay is turned into an accusation, the result—regardless of the intent—is to make homosexuality seem shameful."

ers. She separates the supportive letters from those that are nothing short of hate mail, assuming the role of protector and taking it very seriously.

Price attributes her own ability to

keep her column from slipping in the mire of pessimism to Murdoch's encouragement to stay positive. "[Joyce] has a huge affect on the tone of optimism" reflected in the column, Price acknowledges.

Sharing the stories of her life with Murdoch, Price provides her readers with a window into their relationship. She doesn't see herself and her partner as role models but

rather sees her column as the role model—the example of a couple that does ordinary things like buying furniture. In short, readers can see themselves in Price and Murdoch's union. Straight people relate to them as people, not as lesbians, and gay folks see that a long-term coupling can survive and thrive.

"Living openly has resulted in so much love coming into our life,"

Price explains. She encourages her gay readers to come out and coaxes her straight audience to support their gay friends, co-workers and family members as they strive to emerge from the closet. "All of us, we collude in these little jokes and reasons why

people shouldn't be out. We support each other for not being out. We need to change that—and it is changing. But what we need to do is create a supportive environment to help people come out."

Price is quick to clarify that she believes people must come out on their own terms, not be outed by those with an agenda. "When being gay is turned into an accusation, the result—regardless of the intent—is

to make homosexuality seem shameful," Price has written.

She sees a bright future for the gay community but thinks there are issues of particular significance that we need to tackle. "The elimination of sodomy laws is so important because they put an onus of criminality on all of us, whether we live in a state that has them or not."

She believes that we also need to "find common ground with evangelical Christians because studies show that many of them support job rights and hate crimes legislation." She stresses that we need to concentrate on areas where we can agree and put aside the scriptural bickering. She cites the progress made in the Middle East in recent years as an example of how people with vastly different religious perspectives can work together toward a peaceful resolution.

Price points to a need to reform the Republican party as another critical challenge. She recognizes the work of the Log Cabin Republicans in helping to move the party in a more moderate direction. Her personal political ideology, though, remains clearly in the Democratic camp and she has penned recent columns in strong support of the Gore/Lieberman ticket.

When they find a rare moment of free time, Price and Murdoch enjoy a variety of activities. "We love to go camping," Price exclaims. "We love the whole getaway experience." She also gleefully describes the thrill of hockey skating and admits that their lack of skill makes no difference in the fun they derive from it. They've taken to learning the history of the stock market and will jump at any opportunity they can find to go to the movies.

In 1996, their book, *And Say Hi To Joyce: The Life and Chronicles of a Lesbian Couple*, was published. The style of the book reflects the intertwined nature of their life together. Murdoch writes about the column's effect on their lives, at various points, followed by a collection of Price's columns written during that same time period.

For the past four years, they've been working on a history of the Supreme Court and how it has impacted gay and lesbian issues. That book is scheduled for publication in June of 2001.

Follow Deb Price's fearless path and say hi to Joyce, in every edition of HeatStroke.



Dennis Scott-Bush is a Phoenix-based writer and public relations consultant. His work has appeared in a variety of publications throughout the country.

Don't Forget to Vote!

The Democratic and Republican Primaries are Tuesday, September 12.

- For questions about your district or polling place, call the County Elections Department: 602/506-1511.
- For questions about gay-friendly candidates, call the Arizona Human Rights Fund: 602/650-0900.

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Congressman Barney Frank

Continued from page 1

into the party is just, obviously, complete. And that's very historic. At this point, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons are as much a part of the Democratic coalition as African Americans, labor union people and environmentalists. It's very important.

HS: Prior to the 1996 defeat of Bob Dole, gay issues were addressed by the

There were some events that were primarily gay and lesbian, but then you had gay and lesbian people at all the events. The *Washington Post* even ran a picture of my boyfriend and I hugging, at the conclusion of my speech, on the stage.

HS: Then you are not currently single?

BF: No I'm not. I've been dating a man since October of 1998.



Above: Rep. Barney Frank (left) shares a laugh with the Vice President (and Presidential candidate) Al Gore. Right: Congressman Frank greets President Bill Clinton.

major political parties and discussed in the media in relation to that presidential race. Then, as soon as the election ended, so did any outright reference to the gay vote. It was as if our support for Clinton/Gore had no effect on the outcome of the race.

BF: That's true after any election. Electoral considerations tend to get mentioned more during the election. But in terms of public policy [following Clinton's reelection], there was certainly no slip-page.

HS: But, given the still-higher visibility of gay people and our issues this year, do you think gay voters will once again be ignored by the media after the election if Gore wins?

BF: You mean will gays get credit if Gore wins?

HS: Yes, exactly. If we'd gotten more credit for the last win, we might have gotten more respect from lawmakers once the new term began.

BF: Oh well, the other thing you need to remember is that Clinton won by so much that it didn't have an impact. I think

HS: Earlier, you mentioned Arizona Congressman Jim Kolbe. When he came out publicly while in office in 1996, one of the Republicans who immediately issued a public statement supporting him was our senior Senator, John McCain. What did you think about that?

HS: I was glad that McCain supported him personally. I wish that was accompanied McCain's support for some gay-rights legislation. John McCain opposes, as you know, every single [gay supportive] public policy proposal ever advanced—including his vote against the Hate Crimes Bill.

In particular, I think it could be very helpful if John McCain would join those of us who are trying to keep Steve May from being thrown out of the Army.

HS: When Kolbe came out, McCain probably should have issued a statement saying that Kolbe is unfit to be a congressman because he's gay. He's shown by voting against the Employment Non-Discrimination Act that he doesn't think gay people are entitled to being protected on the job, yet he made a public statement

John McCain opposes, as you know, every single [gay supportive] public policy proposal ever advanced—including his vote against the Hate Crimes Bill. In particular, I think it could be very helpful if John McCain would join those of us who are trying to keep Steve May from being thrown out of the Army.

that if Gore wins now, then yes—people will be very aware of the gay and lesbian vote. In 1996 people didn't talk about any specific vote because it was such a large margin.

There's also a concerted effort that we have got to take back the House for the Democrats. That's equally important, because if you have continued Republican control of the House, you don't get any gay legislation.

HS: How has society progressed in the last four years with regard to the acceptance of gay issues and adjusting to our increased visibility?

BF: It's getting better and better. At the Democratic convention, once again, there was just a complete, personal integration.

supporting Kolbe that proves that, personally, he has no problem with gay colleagues.

BF: Right, right. Well, it's not a good thing when politicians make exceptions for their friends.

HS: And yet that's all the conservatives seem to do—demonstrate their hypocrisy.

BF: Yes, yes.

HS: How big a distraction is Ralph Nader's Green Party candidacy going to be for gay voters?

BF: I think that's a serious threat. Ralph Nader has never in his life—until now—spoken in support of gay and lesbian rights. Or on the right of a woman to have an abortion. Or gun control, or any other,

really, of the social issues.

He's now saying he's for gay rights because he wants the votes of people on the left. But it's an election-year conversion. And more important, when he says there are no important differences between Gore and Bush, he's implicitly trashing gay rights as an important issue, as well as abortion.

It would be disastrous. Bush is terrible on gay and lesbian rights, and, to the extent that Nader is indifferent as to whether Gore or Bush wins, it's really a continuation of his indifference to gay rights.

there but it's purely symbolic. But it won't have any legal effect for anyone outside of Vermont, I believe.

But it's very, very important. It's important because, among other things, once Vermont's had that for a few years, we'll be able to show people how silly are these fears that it's going to lead to dissolution of marriage.

Now the problem is that the Republicans are trying to undo it. So this is another very important election where the Republicans are on the wrong side.

HS: Gore rose in national polls immediately after the convention. What's your take on his chances for winning the election now?

BF: Very, very tight race. Very close.

HS: What can gay and lesbian and bi and transgendered people do to make a difference?

BF: A, vote. B, get all their friends to vote. We still don't vote enough.

We're doing much better in the intellectual and cultural battle against homophobia than in the political battle. The right wing still votes more than we

do, as a percentage.

Plenty of gay and lesbian people think that it's more important to march than to vote. It is not. If there are other things you want to do, fine, but voting and getting our friends to vote—that's the key.



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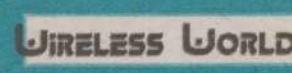
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Out, Proud & Courageous

Political activist David Mixner talks about his new book, *Brave Journeys*

By Tim Miller, Contributor

Just in time for the 2000 election season, David Mixner—once called by *Newsweek* “the most powerful gay man in America”—has offered us an astonishing new book *Brave Journeys: Profiles in Lesbian and Gay Courage*.

These inspiring life narratives written by Mixner (with collaborator Dennis Bailey) provide a bracing challenge to lesbian and gay citizens as we face our political reality in the new millennium.

Brave Journeys focuses an in-depth eye on seven examples of lesbians or gay men facing their fears and fighting for justice, from Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon (the San Francisco couple who founded the first lesbian organization, The Daughters of Bilitis) to Tracy Thorne, the U.S. Navy fighter pilot who outed himself on national television and was forced to leave the military.

As Mixner says in *Brave Journeys*, “These dedicated trailblazers never set out to be heroes. Rather, they felt that circumstances left them no choice but to stand up and be counted, to join selflessly in the fight against bigotry and discrimination. In espousing human dignity, championing the disenfranchised, and confronting injustice, these leaders embody the best of American values—honesty, compassion and tolerance.”

Mixner knows what he is talking about. Since the 1960's he has been an active participant in the fight for human rights in our country. From his involvement in the anti-war movement to his leadership of the Great Peace March to his unique position as a long time friend and ally of Bill Clinton, Mixner has been at the center of the struggle for justice.

Perhaps because of the political acumen derived from his long history of activism, Mixner is able to tell the stories in *Brave Journeys* with great drama and a finely honed eye for the social history and context of the time.

I spoke with Mixner about his book at a birthday tribute to Torrie Osborn, former head of both the L.A. Lesbian and Gay Center and NGLTF, and another of our community heroes. With the lights of Los Angeles basin spread out before us, we began a

conversation about the power of individual lesbian and gay people to claim power and effect change.

HeatStroke: The lesbian and gay community has so many stories and lives that are filled with courage and vision. It must both inspiring and daunting to choose only seven. What guided your decisions for the profiles in *Brave Journeys*?

DM: You are absolutely right.

to put in the book. I realized that this tribe, this community, has evolved from a magnificent history.

In our research, we found that lesbians' roles had been underrepresented and we wanted to help correct that. For example, almost everyone in the community knows of Harvey Milk's vision and courage and sacrifice but their knowledge of [Boston Councilwoman]

taking up the banner, but we only had so much space.

HeatStroke: You have witnessed firsthand many of our movement's advances and defeats. How different is it now to fight for justice for gay and lesbian people, as compared to Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon founding the first lesbian organi-

zations could themselves have had a chapter in our book.

HeatStroke: Your own life has required you to find courage and resolve from within. Your role as both a crucial friend and gadfly of President Clinton is surely one of the major challenges you have faced. How do you see the legacy of Clinton in relation to the lesbian and gay community?

DM: It is no secret that I have differences with this Administration over gays and lesbians in the military and DOMA. But, like any other group, we can have differences with our leaders without being blinded to see the overall picture. President Clinton's work on behalf of Gays and Lesbians will be one of the great legacies of his Presidency.

Everything he has done on behalf of the community has been a 'first' and 'historic'. He has done more for our community than all the Presidents combined and I predict that future generations of Gays and Lesbians will be hanging his picture in their homes and in our community centers.

HeatStroke: As I finished your book—with the scary GOP convention on TV in the other room—I was reminded of what a truly charged historical moment we are all in. What kind of heroism should look for inside each of us as we face the new century and this significant election?

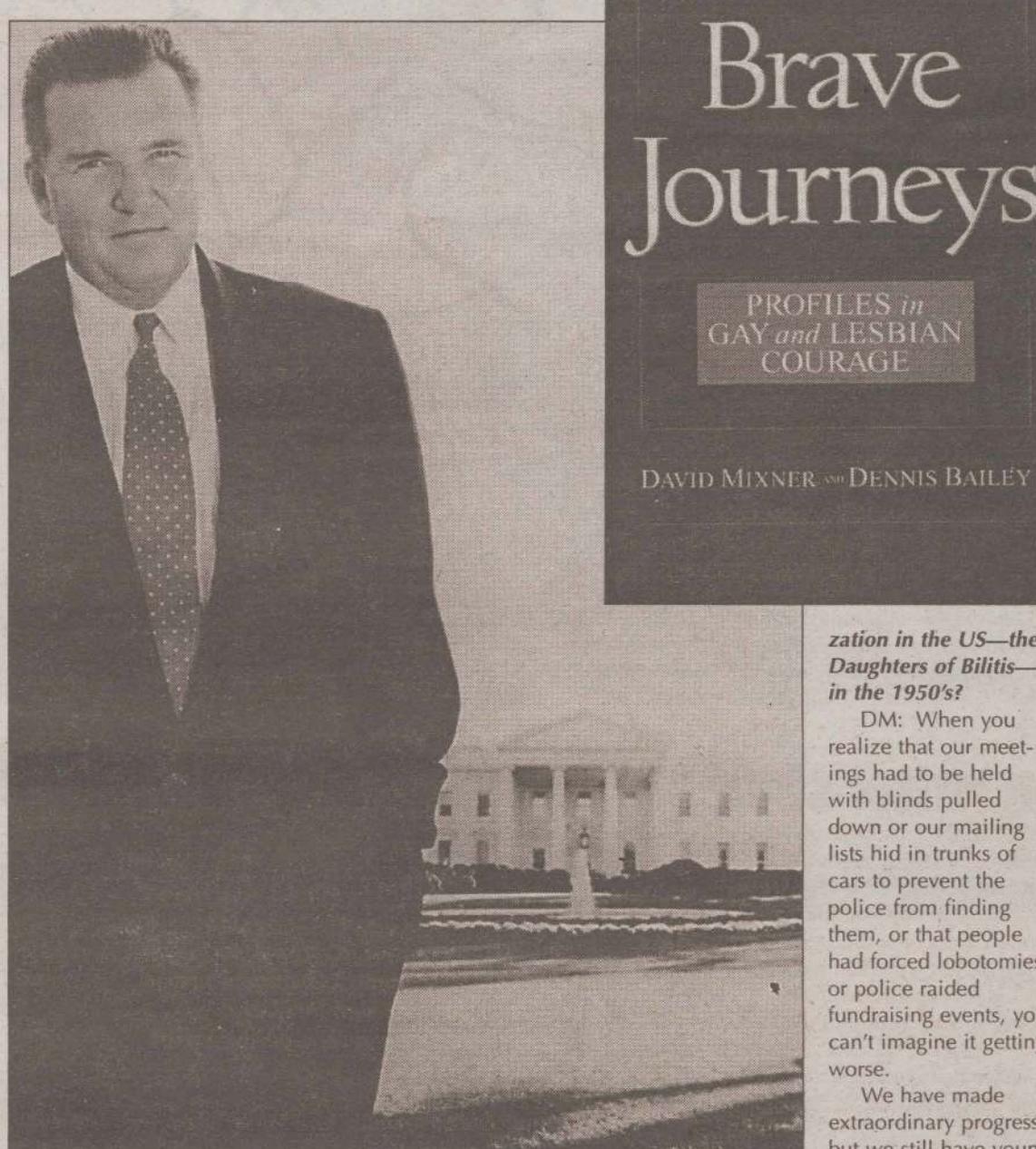
DM: This election year is one of the most important of my lifetime. Never before can I remember a moment when the US Senate, The House of Representatives, The Presidency, and The Supreme Court have all been up for grabs. We could wake up the day after the election with all those institutions in the hands of a party hostile to our community or one that is flawed but basically friendly.

It takes no courage to hide one's head in the sand and not to vote. It takes individual courage to become involved, to come out to family and friends so they are aware that the politicians are talking about their family, to give up time to protect our young and future generations. Many of my friends who have died of AIDS, some from the neglect of the Reagan Administration, would give anything to be here to fight, to vote and to obtain our freedom. It is totally cowardly to be sit on ones hands and commit the crime of silence. This election is crucial.

Like the subjects in the book, all individuals have to do is step forward and say, "Count me in". Then that individual has to organize, talk to their families and friends and give their time. I promise them that if they do step forward they will experience the most amazing thing in their life...an incredible community, a powerful inner peace, a new dignity and the honor of being a participant in the history of their times.



Tim Miller is a solo performer and the author of *Shirts & Skin*, published by Alyson.



There are so many stories of courage, and that is why we wrote the book—to pass on to future generations that this world that they live in was created at great price by some heroic individuals. I was astounded myself at the number of choices and stories that we had to narrow down

Elaine Noble, who was elected before Supervisor Milk, is not as well known. We also picked stories that chronologically tell our story from mid-century on.

HeatStroke: Were there life stories that were particularly hard to leave out?

DM: We actually had written an entire story on Bayard Rustin, the famous African American civil rights leader, and I loved it. Unfortunately, our publisher took it out because so many great books are about to be released on his life. We also left out many incredible stories that have been told in one form or another. I really wanted to include one of the young students who in high school are

zation in the US—the Daughters of Bilitis—in the 1950's?

DM: When you realize that our meetings had to be held with blinds pulled down or our mailing lists hid in trunks of cars to prevent the police from finding them, or that people had forced lobotomies, or police raided fundraising events, you can't imagine it getting worse.

We have made extraordinary progress but we still have young students being beaten in high school, people losing their jobs, the numerous cases like Matthew Shepard and so many things to keep fighting. Hate doesn't take a holiday or know a decade. We always must be vigilant against it.

HeatStroke: As you researched these stories, what did you discover about the particular chemistry of what manages to call up courage in an individual?

DM: I think individuals deciding they can't live in the closet any longer or live with fear. They'd rather face danger and an undecided fate than live a lie, live in fear or deny their gifts to society. It is sheer determination to live life honestly with great dignity. All of our subjects we interviewed were filled with dignity and integrity. We were so fortunate to have been able to hear first hand their stories. The other common thread we found with all of them was that they were surrounded by incredible people.

As we interviewed people—and we did extensive interviews—many of those who were involved in battles with our sub-

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Rodgers and Hammerstein reborn--as karaoke classic

By MATT WOLF,
Associated Press Writer

LONDON (AP)—Let's start with the goody-bags containing party poppers, swatches of drapery and a cardboard image of the will-o'-the-wisp. That last item gets waved during "How Do You Solve a Problem Like Maria?"

Then there is the audience, many of whom are attired in wimples or military garb. After all, the London institution that is the *Singalong-a Sound of Music* is hardly the time to be sedate.

"It works because it's fun, and there are very few things nowadays that are just fun," says Ben Freedman, a co-producer of the captioned event that celebrated its first birthday Aug. 13 at the Prince Charles Cinema in London's West End. (Freedman, 38, is among those who runs the cinema.)

Twice a week for nearly 13 months, everyone from Julie Andrews junkies to karaoke clowns have filled the 480-seat Leicester Square movie house, in the process putting a new slant on a beloved 20th Century Fox classic.

Based on the 1959 Rodgers and Hammerstein Broadway musical, which originally starred Mary Martin, the film won five Academy Awards, including best picture and best director (Robert Wise).

On Sept. 6, the *Singalong-a* goes global, minus the final "a," premiering at New York's Ziegfeld Theater. An American *Singalong* couldn't be better

timed: A first-ever DVD of the movie has just been released, while its stars—Andrews (aka Dame Julie, as of this year) and Christopher Plummer—remain as beloved now as in 1965.

Still, when it comes to letting it all hang out—or dressing up as a lonely goatherd—it's hard to outdo the British. Licensing laws allow alcoholic drinks to be taken into the cinema. That, coupled with the British fondness for eccentricity, makes for some lusty vocal accompaniment to the celebrated score, not to mention fierce infighting over each particular screening's best costume.

As a result, it's hardly surprising that the *Singalong-a* spectacle is well under way before the film even starts.

Outside the theater come the costumes on parade, from the inevitable nuns' habits to one "Chris the plumber." One fan repeatedly came attired, in accordance with the song lyric, as "ray, a drop of golden sun"—"first in a sunburst headdress, the next time in a huge yellow caftan, then with candle embroidery," recalls David Johnson, an initial *Singalong-a* co-producer. "It just got weirder and more wonderful."

Prizes are awarded for best garb, voted on by shouts of approval (or not) from the audience. At each showing, a guest emcee explains the rules to the uninitiated; one recent Sunday afternoon, it was Candy von Floss, a drag artiste hailing, or so s/he told us, from Schloss Floss.

"Don't do it," shouted one audience member, as Andrews' Maria shyly enters the palatial Austrian manse of Plummer's icily sexy Capt. von Trapp.

Later, making his apologies to the governess he ends up loving, the captain confesses to Maria, "I behaved badly." "Spank yourself!" was one ran-

Jeremy Smith, who will be 40 next month. The appeal, he said, is in "being able to be a bit silly occasionally."

Dressed in what he called "edelweiss braces," his wife Diana sporting a Tyrolean headdress, the Smiths were among a group of 20 attending from an east London suburb. Their inter-

package tied up with string"—just one of Maria's "favorite things."

Why? "I haven't watched the film since 1966, when I was a little girl." Besides, Lawford adds, "we're all camp at heart."

Offering a one-man commentary was 59-year-old Neil Cowan, a San Francisco architect

whose impromptu shouts at the screen were themselves worth the \$12 admission. "It's Edel-spice," he cried out, catching the fever of a capital in perpetual thrall to one-time Spice Girl, Posh.

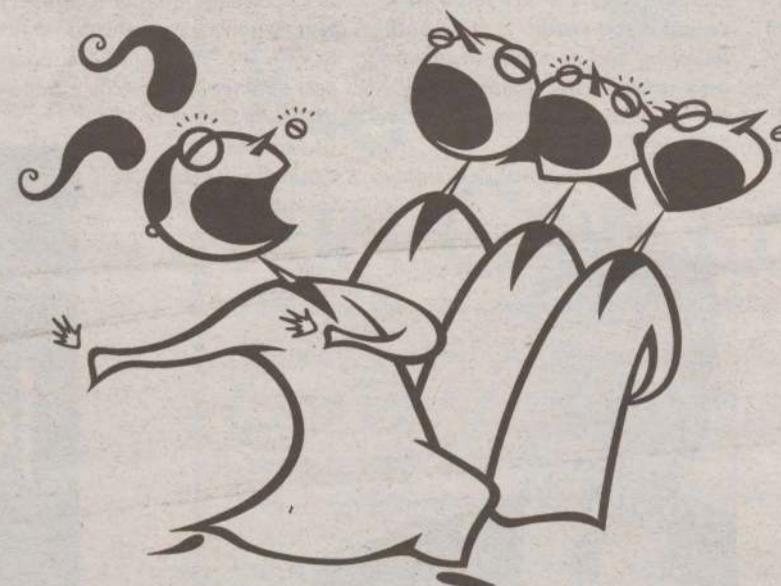
How will his fellow Americans respond to the event back home? "It will translate wonderfully," says Cowan.

"There are so many frustrated writers in the States."

To date, neither of the stars has attended the *Singalong-a*, although representatives from the show's creators have given it their approval.

"We all thought, what is this, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*?" said Theodore S. Chapin, president of New York's Rodgers and Hammerstein Organization, who has attended the *Singalong-a* twice.

"By intermission, I was screaming at the top of my lungs."



dom retort from the crowd.

In a break during the film intended not least to revisit the bar, an audience encompassing gay couples, families and sizable tours from suburban Essex all paused to reflect on the phenomenon unfolding around them. Indeed, it's not often that the same event is regularly listed in the kids' and gay sections of various London publications.

"It's such clean-cut fun," said

est in the film extended to having themselves performed the stage show—for the Ilford Operatic and Dramatic Society, where Diana sang Sister Sophia and Jeremy was Max, the droll concert promoter and friend to Plummer's Georg.

Paula Lawford, an Englishwoman in her early 40s, went to her local shop that morning in Wimbledon and later emerged as "a brown paper

Life of gay Cuban writer shines in *Before Night Falls* at Venice Film Fest

VENICE, Italy (AP)—The gay Cuban writer Reinaldo Arenas had a terrible life, a blazing talent and a heartbreaking death in exile after years of sexual and political persecution.

Before Night Falls, making its world premiere at the Venice Film Festival, conveys it all, along with Arenas' humor, humility and defiance.

The "buzz" started as the credits rolled at the first screening Sept. 4; *Before Night Falls* is a top contender for a Golden Lion. Ditto for Spanish actor Javier Bedem for his performance in the lead role.

Before Night Falls is New York painter Julian Schnabel's second movie and he had great raw material to work with—Arenas' highly acclaimed memoirs.

Before Night Falls was pub-

lished in 1993, three years after Arenas, suffering from AIDS, committed suicide in New York. Schnabel said he saw the writer in a TV interview the same year and "he put a hook in me."

"He was so humble and funny and what he had to say was so profound," Schnabel said.

Arenas was a neglected, unwanted illegitimate child born into poverty and neglect in rural Cuba. A teen-ager when Fidel Castro rose to power, Arenas got an education thanks to the Cuban revolution.

That may have been the last thing he had to thank it for. A pariah because of his homosexuality and his deeply original writings, Arenas was relentlessly persecuted.

Only the first of his more than 20 books—novels, poems,

short stories—was published in Cuba. The rest, many of them smuggled out, were published abroad to high praise and major awards.

The Castro government imprisoned Arenas several times and confiscated his manuscripts when it could find them. He was tortured, spied upon, consigned to labor camps, coerced into signing "confessions" and promises to write books glorifying the revolution.

"Always the drums of militarism stifling the rhythm of poetry and life," Arenas lamented in his autobiography.

Desperate to escape Cuba, he once tried to reach Florida on an inner tube. Another time, he tried to swim across Guantanamo Bay to the U.S. naval base. He finally got out in the

1980 Mariel boatlift, along with more than 100,000 other "undesirables," but the United States was no promised land.

An outsider at home, he was also an outsider in exile. Arenas was just 47 years old when, impoverished and dying of AIDS, he killed himself.

Schnabel skillfully weaves Arenas' own words into the film. *Before Night Falls*, shot in New York and Mexico, also does an excellent job of capturing the look and feel of Castro's Cuba. It also features nice cameos by Sean Penn as a peasant driving on oxcart and Johnny Depp in two roles—a transvestite and a cop.

According to the entertainment daily *Variety*, the film's debut in Venice was capped with a U.S. distribution deal with Fine

Line Features for around \$1 million.

Schnabel is a rich and famous painter whose works are in places like the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Tate Gallery in London and the Centre George Pompidou in Paris.

Schnabel the director is another story. Despite praise for his debut film, the 1996 *Basquiat*, he had to finance *Before Night Falls* himself.

"There's a lobby for stupidity in Hollywood," complained Schnabel, who showed up for the prescreening news conference in a paint-stained vest, a red-and-yellow sarong and sunglasses.

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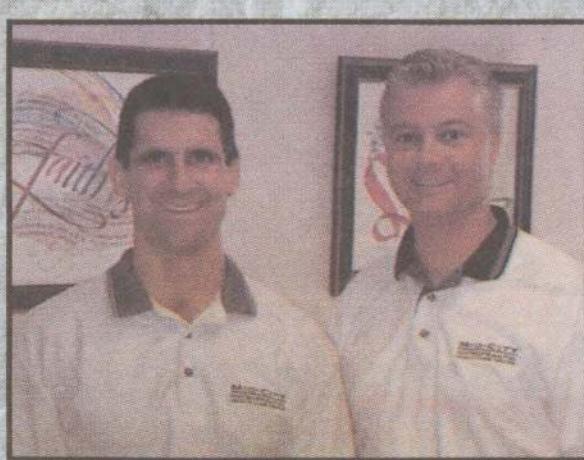
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Give a Hoot for Pussy's 20th Anniversary Tour

By John Thomas Lotardo

Arizona's own Pussy LeHoot (a.k.a. Kevin McSweeney) is celebrating 20 years of entertaining audiences with a three-night extravaganza at various Phoenix locations Sept. 8-10.

Describing herself as one of the "last of the Red Hot Mommas", LeHoot will have other female impersonators joining her to commemorate this

thought this would be a good time to do it." The show coincides with LeHoot's 40th birthday later that same week.

There's a web page being created that she hopes to have running soon. The website—set to wow her admirers and curious fans—is www.pussylehoot.com. Proud of its creation, LeHoot explains, "it's pretty exciting. It's going to have a lot of pictures.

addition to the typical show, Devina and Barbra "will get to tell our stories about Miss LeHoot."

Devina won't divulge the scandals she will share about her comrade in heels, but hints, "I would say that the most common story we will tell—not to be bold—is her eating and drinking habits. That's usually the basis for all our stories about Miss LeHoot, in a nutshell."

Born and raised in Flagstaff, LeHoot now calls Cottonwood home. "The first thing I ever did on talent night was a straight Dolly Parton, and that was at Casa de Roma," she says. "I ended up losing to another up-and-coming entertainer, Penelope Poupe'. This was, while I lived in Flagstaff, right out of high school. I did not come down [to Phoenix] for another year."

A year later, LeHoot returned to the Valley and competed again. "Casa had closed and Harpo's was open. By then I was in beauty school. I came down, brought an entourage, and won that night. The day I graduated from beauty school, I moved to Phoenix. I started going to



Harpo's and that's where I met Tish. Tish said 'I want to be your drag mother, I want to put you in the show, etc.'"

The rest is herstory. LeHoot fondly remembers some of her early songs, among them Marie Osmond's "Paper Roses". LeHoot may or may not put "Paper Roses" in the show. "I listened to it for the first time in a few years the other day and it just didn't touch me like it used to!"

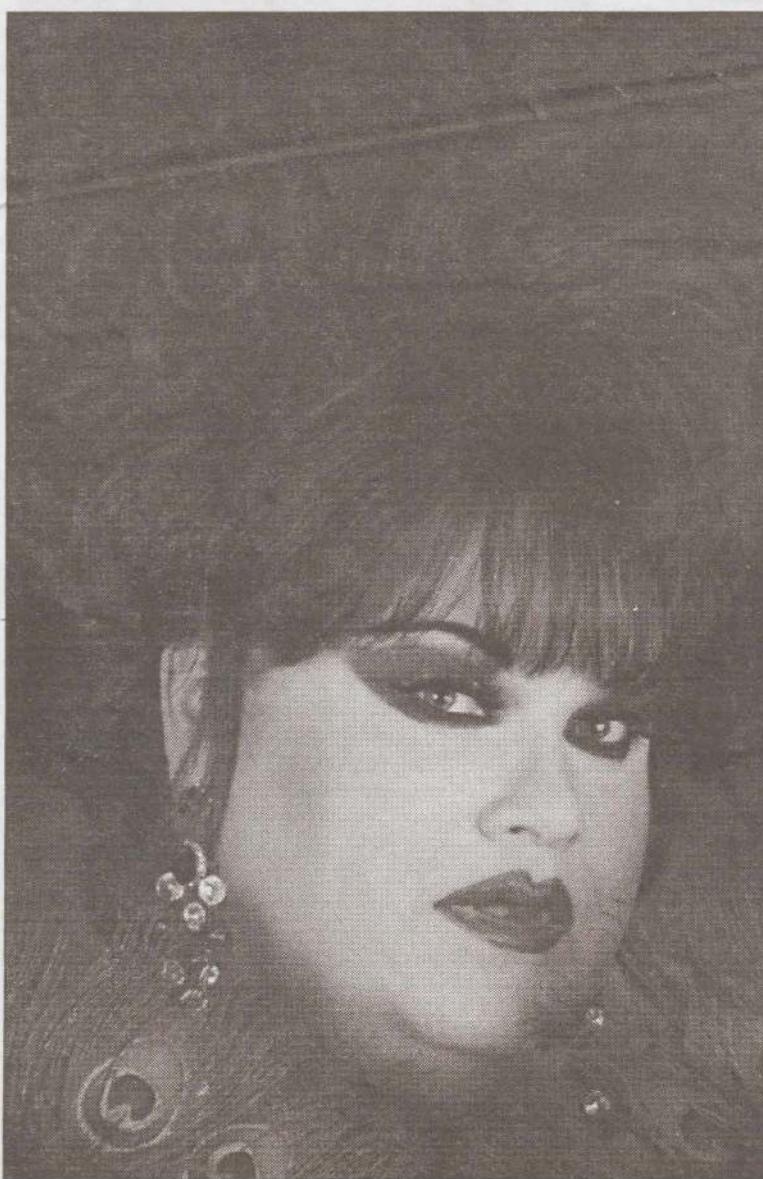
LeHoot has nabbed several local drag awards, including Ms.

Gay Phoenix (1989), Ms. Gay Arizona (1992), Ms. Arizona Gay Rodeo Association (1996) and Ms. Arizona Central Pride (1997).

LeHoot won't reveal *everything* about the anniversary, but does say she'll be talking about turning up in the wrong places. "At almost every show I do, something happens!" She's been stopped by the police in drag, stopped at the Phoenix airport in drag and caught in Las Vegas at the airport in drag—with no purse and no ticket!"

Laughing about the show, she says many of the funniest antics in the life of a drag queen occur behind the scenes. She hopes to let us in on those, too.

The Pussy LeHoot 20th Anniversary Tour will be at Wink's on Friday Sept. 8 for a show beginning at 10:00 p.m.; at Pookie's on Saturday, Sept. 9 at 9:30 p.m.; and she'll wrap it up on Sunday, Sept. 10 at Charlie's, starting at 9:00 p.m. For more information or to send good wishes, e-mail Ms. LeHoot at pussylehoot@yahoo.com.



milestone. LeHoot says, "The idea just came to me. It will be 20 years since I started working professionally doing drag at Harpo's."

It's the right time for something like this, as she explains, "This year, with Tish Tanner passing away, you never know what's going to happen. So I

It's going to tie in to anything I'm doing. It's going to be really nice."

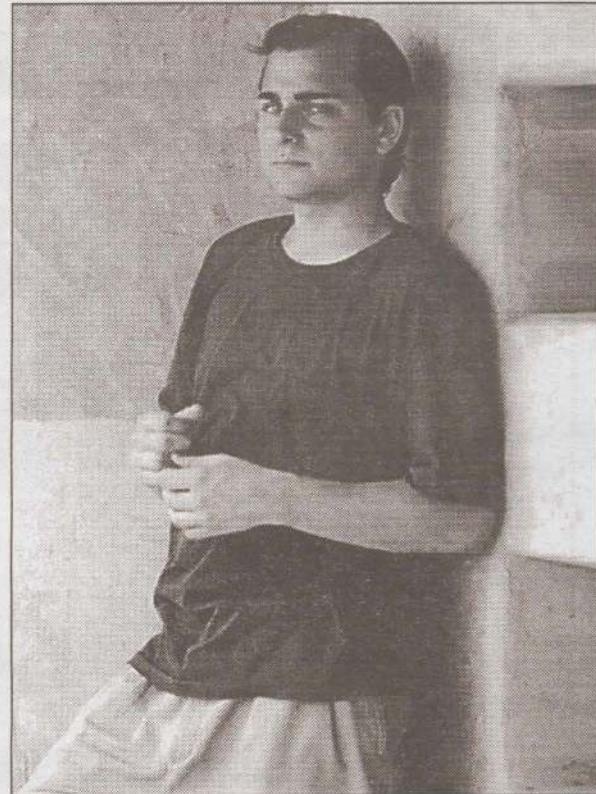
Fellow performer Devina (a.k.a. Ted Rodriguez) is tickled to be part of the festivities. Explaining that she and Barbra Seville will join LeHoot on Friday at Wink's to start the festivities, Devina says that, in

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Brian Borowka, ASU student playwright, wrote *The Madagascar Plan*.



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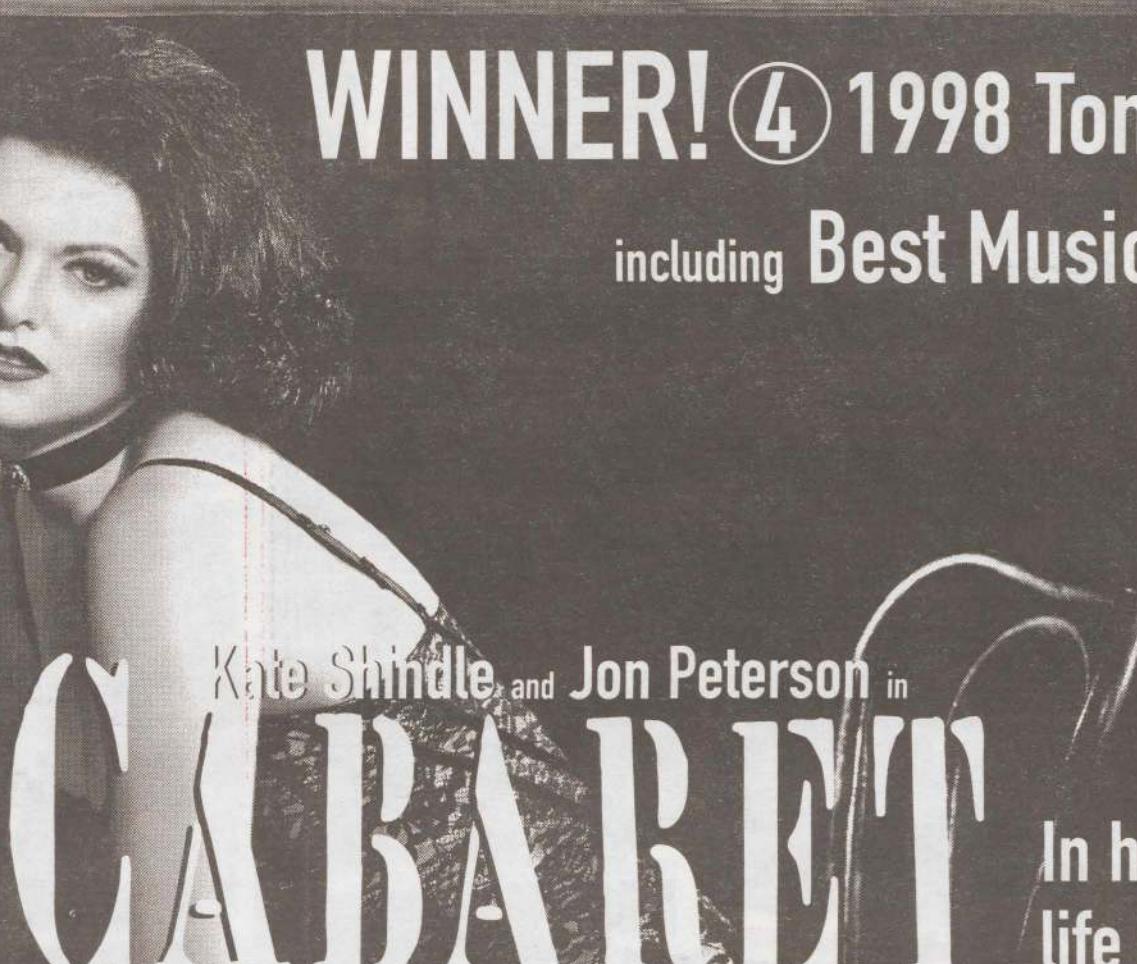


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By Jill Dearman, Contributor

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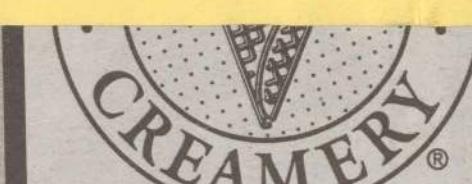
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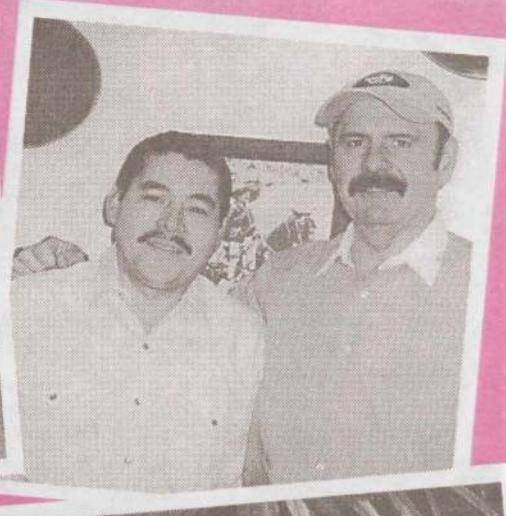
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Q S C O P E S

By Jill Dearman, Contributor

ARIES:

While the Sun travels through your house of daily work and health, it's up to you to discover the beauty of routine and consistency. You are learning how to slow down and open up. Not easy for you, dear. But oh-so-tantalizing for a Cancer who loves this uncomfortable phase you're going through.

TAURUS:

The full moon on Sept. 13 falls in your house of friends, so try to take it easy on yourself if pals put you through the ringer. You need to actively seek out some fire in your life, Taurus. Passion is in short supply, and you need to up the heat quotient. Focus your emotional energy on a Leo.

GEMINI:

You can renew a sense of trust with your family members during this cycle. Instead of demanding something from them, allow them to be themselves. The universe is telling you that you need to take a breath, pull back and get some perspective on your *vida loca*. Escape your own world for a while with an Aquarius.

CANCER:

Business and pleasure mix remarkably well, and everybody wants to get your attention. Go out even when you feel like just playing on your computer or watching TV or reading. You've been acting like a crazy person over the past few weeks, but things will stabilize in mid-September. You can rock steady with a Pisces without ever getting bored or tired.

LEO:

Join the human race and admit that you made one or two bad emotional investments. Then cut your losses and move on. Someone you once loved is a freak. It's time to get rid of the fluff and anything non-essential. A Libra may be the one luxury that you can allow yourself.

VIRGO:

The full moon on Sept. 13 falls in your house of love and may push you to really listen to your own desires and emotional needs. Vow to find yourself again—the part of you that would give it all away for love. A Sagittarius wants you to fly and be free!

LIBRA:

You may not understand the changes you are being compelled to make during this cycle, but have some faith that there

is a rhyme and reason to it all. Take a chance and go where you've always feared to tread. A Gemini will hitch a ride in your chariot.

SCORPIO:

There's a certain dramatic feeling surrounding you during the full moon on Sept. 13. It may be time for you to create something wondrous with your vivid imagination. You can learn a lot by the way people react to you and your strong and spicy personality. Chances are you will wow and woo many, beginning with a Virgo.

SAGITTARIUS:

Saturn goes retrograde in your house of love on Sept. 12, which means that you may have to slow down the pace of a torrid affair or obsession. A Taurus needs to catch his or her breath. You may not be able to make sense of a romantic partner's behavior during the days to come, and you don't have to. Stop trying to turn complexity into simplicity. Let go of the easy clichés.

CAPRICORN:

Mars in your serious relationship house may push you to hook up with somebody who reminds you of a family member or a past lover but miraculously... isn't! Don't psych yourself out too much by trying to read the mind of a potential lover. Instead, delve deeper into your own lurid fantasies. Enjoy them with an Aries.

AQUARIUS:

Your avid desires and overwhelming needs are what make you human, baby. So please stop playing the role of Mr. Roboto and express yourself fully and madly. The full moon on Sept. 13 falls in your money house and should inspire you to put childish notions of the beauty of poverty aside. A Scorpio likes it when you share the wealth.

PISCES:

You may be called a genius or a freak or both during mid-September. Just don't expect people to have a mild reaction to you. Take all your feelings with a grain of salt and do not judge yourself, doll. A Leo judges you as fit for sensual consumption. Accept the verdict and the sentence that follows.

Jill Dearman is the author of the best-selling *Queer Astrology for Men* and *Queer Astrology for Women* (both from St. Martin's Griffin). For information on charts and consultations, call 212-841-0177 or e-mail QScopes@aol.com.



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Notable Quotes

Newsmakers, Celebrities & Others Speak Out

Compiled by Rex Wockner



"I think so. Generally, the society is more tolerant today than it used to be, and the party is reflective of that tolerance."

—Republican vice-presidential candidate Dick Cheney when asked by the *Washington Post* "if he thought the country and the Republican Party have evolved on the issue of gay rights," Aug. 6.

"That's not what you asked me. I've gone as far as I'm going to go on this subject."

—Republican vice-presidential candidate Dick Cheney when asked by the *Washington Post* on Aug. 6 if the GOP platform reflects the evolution of the country and the Republican Party on the issue of gay rights. The platform denounces gay Boy Scouts, gay adoption, gay marriage and gay-rights laws.

"I'm not going to get into that. Mary's private life is her own business and nobody else's. And it's not a subject I'm going to talk about. ... I think inclusiveness is a good thing. I think if we're going to have a viable party, it's got to be able to appeal to everybody. And we want to encourage folks of every background, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender to participate in the party."

—Republican vice-presidential candidate Dick Cheney on his openly lesbian daughter to the *Los Angeles Times*, Aug. 7.

"How can Cheney run on a party platform that denies his own personal experience with at least two thoroughly honorable homosexuals—his trusted aide [former Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams] and his loving daughter? The platform approved by the same convention that nominated Mary Cheney's father would bar her from military service, deny her civil rights protection from discrimination and prevent any legal recognition of the five-year relationship she has had with her partner."

—Robert Scheer writing in the Aug. 10 *Los Angeles Times*.

"We actually met at Home Depot in the power-tools section. Mark is very friendly and very at ease with people. I was looking at a drill and he just started telling me 'you should get this' and 'look at this one.' I thought he was cute and we

sort of hit it off and started talking. Gaydar activity was definitely going on there. We walked out of the store, and we exchanged numbers, and we've been together four years now."

—Guitarist Keith Strickland of the B-52s to San Diego's *Update*, Aug. 3.

"I don't think that I have any homophobia, or ever [did]. I came to New York city in the mid-seventies to be an actor when being gay was considered cool—bisexuality was looked at as something really great. I went to Studio 54 as a kid and a lot of the best partying was at gay clubs, [so] I just never really had too much of an issue with it."

—Actor Kevin Bacon to the AIDS magazine *A & U*, August issue.

"I could live in Chicago. I think it's a great city because it's cold all the time and I hate hot weather. And the boys are really cute here. Some of the cutest boys always live in Chicago and they don't want to go to New York or L.A. I like that."

—Filmmaker John Waters to Chicago's *Outlines*, Aug. 2.

"New York has less edge than anywhere now. Baltimore has more edge."

—Filmmaker John Waters to Chicago's *Outlines*, Aug. 2.

"Obviously the University of Hawaii is not a gay institution, and it's inappropriate for the school to keep using what has essentially become a gay design. They're not gay. Why should they be using a rainbow? It's like the rainbow apple, which I always think means the people in the car with the sticker are gay. But they're not. They're just Apple people. It's confusing."

—San Francisco Bay Times news writer Ann Rostow, Aug. 3.

"I was ... just tired of seeing [lesbian-themed] movies where the femme is the accomplice, the weaker one that the butch gets. I wanted to make a move about the inverse of that."

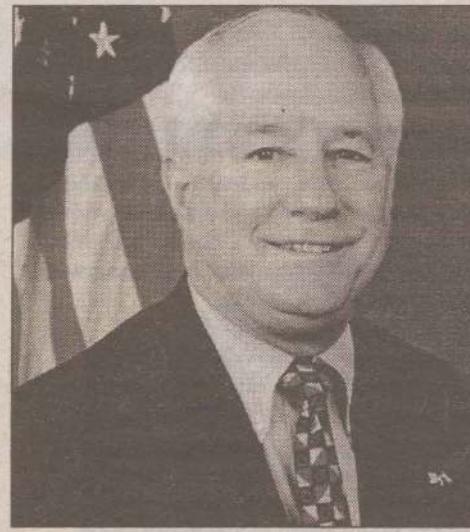
—Jamie Babbit, director of *But I'm A Cheerleader*, to Florida's *The Weekly News*, July 27.

"I do consider myself an activist as far as making art that's political and I've certainly been political in my lifetime. I think

just in the nature of making a queer film, it's political. There are certainly other films I could have made that could have closeted myself and not been where my heart is."

—Jamie Babbit, director of *But I'm A Cheerleader*, to Florida's *The Weekly News*, July 27.

"I've always said the person I was before I came out is the same person I am now. ... I'm not a reluctant warrior. When the time comes, and the chips are down, I



will speak out, and I have, to expand our party."

—Openly gay U.S. Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz., to *Roll Call*, Aug. 10.

"While marches, demonstrations and rallies are important means of emotional expression, they do little to move the political process. What moves people is to call their congressman and say 'You do this and I'll vote for you.'"

—Openly gay U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., speaking at the National Stonewall Democratic Federation convention Aug. 10 in Palm Springs, Calif.

"I can't really get a grasp on what she's up to or what she's doing. It doesn't seem to ever really make any sense. I just hope she finds a little bit of peace of mind. She seems like she's pretty tortured."

—Actress Sandra Bernhard on singer Sinéad O'Connor to San Diego's *Gay & Lesbian Times*, Aug. 10. In recent months O'Connor said she was a lesbian, then said she wasn't, then said she prefers sex with women but is celibate.

"The reality is that I don't believe in gay or straight and I am neither gay or straight. I prefer having sex with women, I prefer making love with women, I find that sexier, I'm more suited to going out with women. However, I'm celibate and choose to be celibate. I have gone out with men and find men sexy as well, but if it comes down to the bottom line, I prefer making love to women."

—The latest from singer Sinéad O'Connor, to the British lesbian

magazine *Diva*, August issue.

"In the year 2000, everyone marvels that a Jew is a candidate for vice president. ... If we are the democracy that we pretend to be, then we should have already had a president who is Jewish, black or gay."

—Actor Woody Allen to France's *Le Monde* newspaper, Aug. 16.

"Right now, I'm on my three-drug combo, I'm doing great, I'm undetectable for the first time, I have more T cells than ever. And I don't believe for a minute that it's going to last. I'm on Sustiva, and for all we know, a year from now my dick is going to fall off or I'm going to have brain tumors. I'm pretty much assuming I'll get a two-year run. So, I'm healthy. I have a beautiful home. I have the possibility of a future, and I find it all quite incomprehensible. So who knows? A year from now, I might be a daddy. I might be running for mayor of Palm Springs. Or I might be dead. You just don't know. But bring it on, baby. Bring it on."

—Cleve Jones, founder of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt to *POZ* magazine, September issue. Jones is looking into the possibility of becoming a father thanks to a technique that removes HIV from sperm.

"Is he Green or pink? ... Of course, I don't necessarily have that information, and I certainly don't want to say anything libelous or unreasonable. All I'm saying is that we believe he has strong ties to the community—and has for years—and hasn't been forthright about it."

—Lesbian California state Assemblywoman Carole Migden on presidential candidate Ralph Nader, as quoted in the Aug. 16 *San Francisco Chronicle*.

"The answer to her inference [that I'm gay] is no."

—Green Party presidential candidate Ralph Nader in response to lesbian California state Assemblywoman Carole Migden's statement in the San Francisco Chronicle Aug. 16 that Nader "has strong ties to the [gay] community—and has for years—and hasn't been forthright about it."

"If he was sabotaging gay rights, I could see some point [in outing him]. I mean, what is this? The old 'he's over 40 and single' profile? ... I tell you what. If Ralph ever calls me for a date, you'll be the first to know."

—Gay San Francisco Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano on lesbian California state Assemblywoman Carole Migden's suggestion (reported in the San Francisco Chronicle Aug. 16) that Green Party presidential candidate Ralph Nader is a closeted homosexual.



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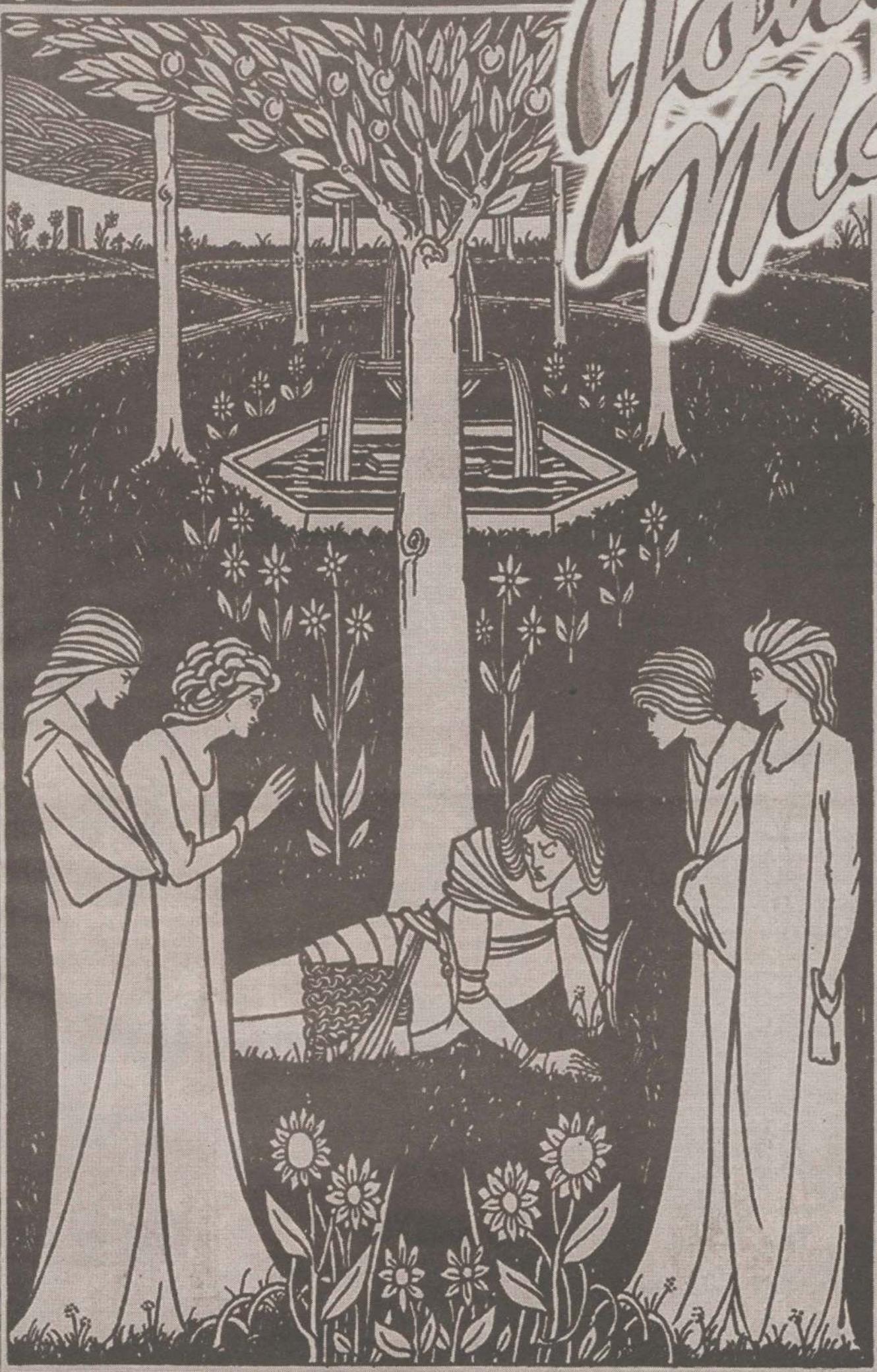
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Out of Town

By Andrew Collins



Ogunquit, Maine

When somebody mentions the phrases "gay resort" and "New England" in the same sentence, you probably think of one place: Provincetown. But the mother of all queer beach hubs is not the only name in seashore frivolity in this part of the world.

Ogunquit, Maine, is a great little town just over the New Hampshire border—it's packed with gay-owned accommodations, festive lobster shacks, and tasteful shops and boutiques, and it contains 3.5 miles of glorious sandy beach. Ogunquit is hardly a secret among folks living in the northeastern United States or Quebec, but for the uninitiated, here's a quick primer on this enchanting getaway.

In the early 20th century, landscape painters began spending time in tiny Ogunquit (pronounced Uh-gun-kwit), infusing it with an artsy, slightly bohemian personality that it still retains. The Ogunquit Playhouse, one of the country's first successful summer theaters, opened in 1939, and the gay presence continued to grow steadily over the next few decades. Things really took off in the '70s, when the first gay guest houses and a gay disco opened. There are now several gay inns and three gay bars.

There's not much to see and do here (beyond tanning and swimming, of course), and therein lies a good bit of Ogunquit's appeal. Nearly everybody walks or takes the trolley through the commercial district extending from the village center along Routes 1 and 1A, where well-kept shops in mostly clapboard storefronts proffer beach wear, nautical bric-a-brac, saltwater taffy, ice cream, and such. The region's arts heritage is revealed at the small but excellent Ogunquit Museum of American Art, which enjoys a stunning setting on a meadow by the ocean.

Plan to spend one evening taking in a play at the Ogunquit Playhouse, and at least one sunny afternoon strolling along the mile-long ocean-side footpath, Marginal Way. Here you'll be treated to numerous photo-ops, and in several places you can scurry right out along the rocks. The path ends at Perkins Cove, a collection of shops and eateries and an ideal spot either for a pre-stroll breakfast or post-stroll cocktail.

If you stay for more than a couple days and thoughts of discount clothing and household goods get your blood pumping, drive 15 miles south to Kittery,

which overflows with both mid-range and high-end outlet shops. Closer by is York, where in 1991 a couple named Jonathan King and Jim Stott started selling their fabulous jams, mustards, relishes, and sauces at a local farmers market. They soon formed Stonewall Kitchen, a now-internationally renowned emporium and mail order company of delicious gourmet foods. You can visit the shop inside the huge new company headquarters, right on Route 1.

As for eating in Ogunquit, the dining scene spans several price ranges, but no matter where you end up, neat but casual attire is perfectly suitable. Arrows is on every critic's short list of the top restaurants in Maine (reserve a week or more ahead on summer weekends). A dinner of lobster risotto followed by grilled salmon and radicchio with marinated fennel and baked polenta inspires awe. Another wonderful find for a first-rate romantic meal is 98 Provence, set in a characterful farmhouse and serving such sublime creations as braised spring lamb shank with cumin and tabouleh.

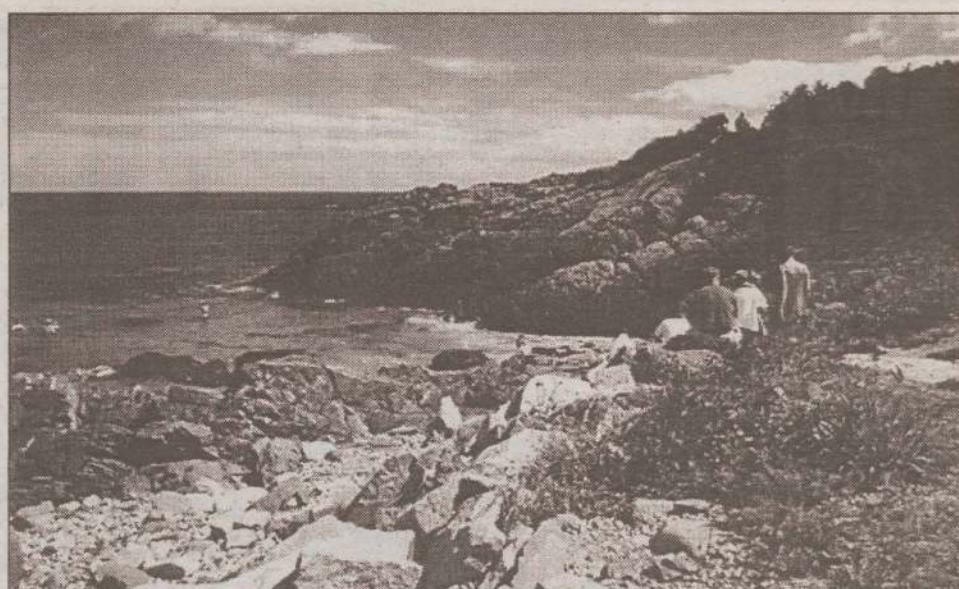
Arguably the best, though the most touristy, seafood house in town, Hurricane has an unbeatable setting in Perkins Cove overlooking the ocean. The lobster chowder is much-celebrated; a typical entree is the Cuervo-and-lime-glazed swordfish. A former stagecoach stop near Perkins Cove, Poor Richard's features a menu of true New England classics. It's also a nice place to stop in for a beer and chat with locals, though you should call for dinner reservations, as it fills up quickly in season.

The tres gay Front Porch Cafe is a cheerful little space with a dependable, eclectic menu of burgers, pizzas, pastas, steamed mussels, nachos, and the like. There's live piano most afternoons and evenings. With a festive deck and a bright and cheerful dining room, the Atlantic Cafe is a great option for any meal; this would be a good place to try those lobster rolls you've been craving or drop by at breakfast for yummy omelets and pancakes.

Many visitors staying at nearby guest houses rub shoulders at Fancy That either for lunch or to pick up fixings for a picnic at the beach. They serve about 20 creative sandwiches and wraps in addition to wines, cheeses, coffees, bagels, and sweets. Cozy, women-operated Cafe Amore serves tasty breakfast (try the lobster eggs Benedict) and lunch fare (plus coffees), and the elegant Bread and Roses bakery serves espresso, plus exquisite fresh-baked tarts, cookies, and other sweets with Parisian flair, and gourmet sandwiches and pizzas, too.

When the urge to socialize strikes you, consider the aforementioned Front Porch. It's where many people go early in the evening, for cocktails and cabaret before or after dinner, or to get warmed up before going out to one of the discos.

Also good for drinks is the bar and restaurant at the Admiral's Inn. The Club has long been the town's main gay disco. On the first floor is a recently expanded



Marginal Way hugs the Ogunquit coastline for about a mile, offering strollers an up-close glimpse of the rugged surf, and even a few opportunities for swimming.

dance floor; upstairs is a video bar. New on the scene is the Maine Street Video Bar and Cabaret, a smartly decorated and trendy cruise and chat space with a friendly staff, a weekend tea dance in season, a menu of bar munchies and light fare (served 'til 11 p.m.), and great dancing.

Ogunquit has more than a dozen gay-friendly inns, a sampling of which follows: If you have trouble scoring a last-minute room, don't give up—the Ogunquit Chamber of Commerce can help find you a room at one of the numerous mainstream motor lodges and hotels in town.

None of these places markets specifically to the community, but the chamber staff are generally very good at matching gay visitors with properties where they'll feel comfortable (the whole town is quite tolerant, but keep in mind that this is also a major families-with-kids destination). The gay/lesbian properties tend to be cheaper—but also less fancy—than those in Provincetown, and all but a couple of them welcome straights also.

One of the more recently opened inns, the Black Boar is also perhaps the most upscale, with working fireplaces in most bedrooms, modern tiled baths, and attractive wallpapering and antiques. The core of the house dates to 1674, and it retains its historical character. Lush gardens surround the house, which is right in the center of downtown. The upscale Yellow Monkey is a large, venerable guest house consisting of five characterful buildings; it's long been a favorite choice of lesbians and gays. Accommodations range from romantic private cottages with fireplaces and ocean views to smaller but still-charming motel and inn rooms—the beach is very close.

But not all the best inns are named after colorful animals. A favorite for many years is the mostly gay Inn at Two Village Square. Set high on a bluff overlooking downtown and the ocean, this 1886 house has cozy, whimsically furnished rooms and a beautiful front sundeck overlooking the village and water. Activities center around the pool and the sprawling wood-

en deck, and informal get-togethers are held many nights.

With an eclectic mix of motel units, efficiencies, and guest-house rooms, the Admiral's Inn strikes a convivial note with its six-person hot tub, clothing-optional pool and deck, and cocktail bar and full-service restaurant. Rooms range from cozy and simple to large with refrigerators, and all have fairly simple but pleasant resort decor.

Moon Over Maine is a cheerful guest house in the center of Ogunquit, run by a friendly owner and his cute cat Squeak. It's a fine option, in part because it's just steps from shops, dining, and the beach. The fully restored 1830s Cape-style house is period decorated, each room named for a different planet, and some of them with balconies. All have quilted bedspreads, well-chosen art, and upscale bath amenities.

A couple of nice but lesser-priced options include the Leisure Inn, a peaceful 1915 complex comprising a main house and some cottages and apartments in back, and the neighboring Ogunquit Beach Inn, a handsome little compound dating to 1929 and consisting of a main guest house plus two fully equipped cottages. On a quiet residential street and a 15-minute walk from both downtown and Perkins Cove, the contemporary but Victorian-style Heritage of Ogunquit has spacious guest rooms rented on a weekly basis in season and brightened with smart fabrics and hand-stenciling (many of the touches executed by hostess Rica Shepardson). Each room is named after a famous woman, such as Lily Tomlin or Gertrude Stein. The clientele is mostly lesbian, and guests have use of the main kitchen.



Andrew Collins authored Fodor's Gay Guide to the USA, the Connecticut Handbook, and six regional gay guides for Fodor's. He can be reached in care of HeatStroke or at GayFodors@aol.com.

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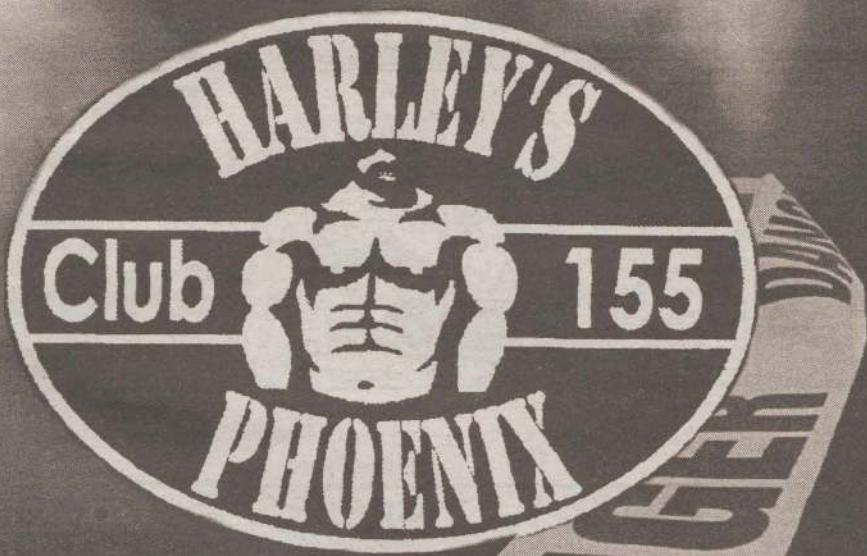
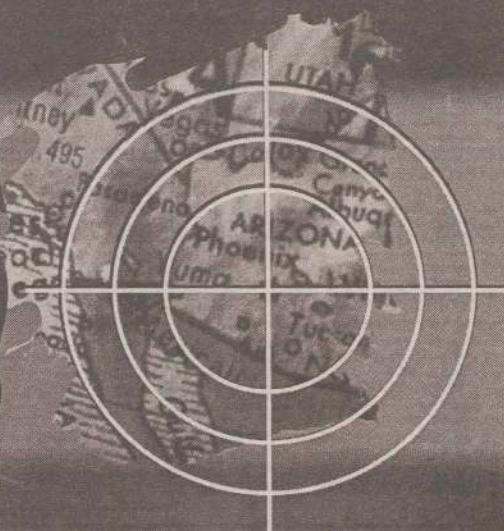
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LESBIANS DO THE "TIME WARP" AGAIN

Broadway hipster-producer Jordan Roth has cast his revival of *The Rocky Horror Show* with a gender bending twist—lesbian comic Lea DeLaria will play the Eddie-slash-Dr. Scott role, which was originated by chunky rocker Meat Loaf way back in 1975.

Pee Wee Herman auditioned for the cross-dressing roll of Frank N. Furter, but balked at the \$2,000-a-week salary. But you will be able to catch *Rent* alum Daphne Rubin-Vega as Magenta and *muy caliente* Raul Esparza in the role of Riff Raff when the show opens at New York's Circle in the Square theater on Nov. 13.

Rock chick Joan Jett will show she still loves rock n' roll when she makes her Great White Way debut as Columbia. Old-time talk-show host Dick Cavett will be the show's narrator. I wonder if tickets are available for the Halloween performance?

HERE'S TO YOU, MRS... CHER!

With Babs too busy trying to get Al Gore elected to the Oval office, *La Streisand* has passed on starring in the Craig Zadan/Neil Meron telefilm of the musical *Mame* and will be involved strictly as a producer.

The queer producing team has made a short list of actresses they want in the role, and would you "Believe" crooner Cher is their top pick?

Zadan/Meron still hope to have the project finished in time to air during February sweeps in 2001, but they aren't the only ones who want the former Mrs. Bono to exercise her acting chops.

The diva-slash-actress-slash-icon is also rumored to be the top pick for the role of Mrs. Robinson in the upcoming Broadway mounting of *The Graduate*, based on the über-brilliant 1967 flick (and Romeo's favorite film).

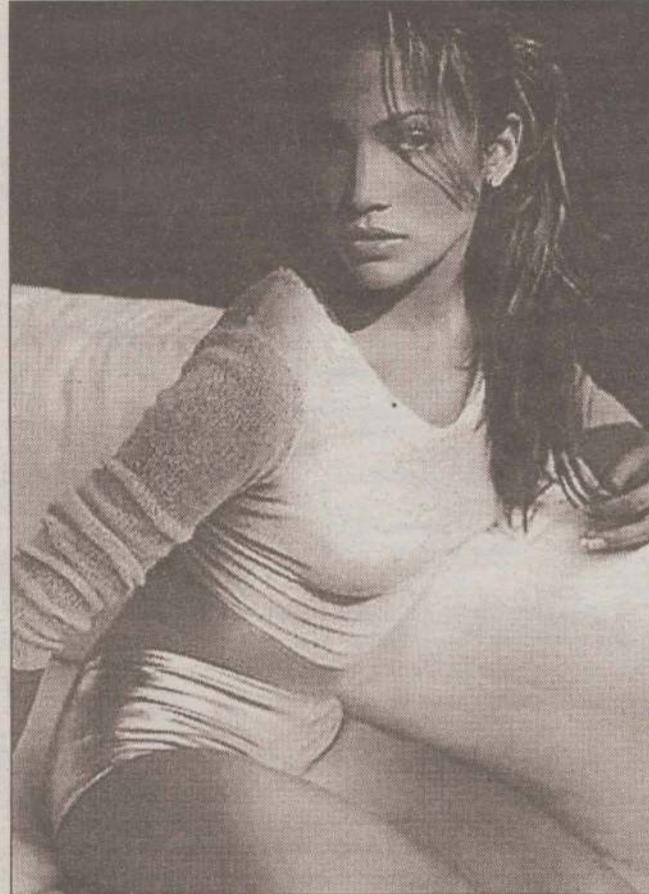
Mick's ex, Jerry Hall, is now playing the seductive role in London's West End, but the former model has been sufficiently bashed by stage critics to ensure she won't be continuing in the role when the play comes stateside.

GAFFNEY JOINS GOODMAN'S FAMILY

Comedian Mo Gaffney, who played a shrink on the hit sitcom *Mad About You*,

has signed on to portray John Goodman's ex-wife in the gay-themed sitcom *Normal, Ohio* (formerly called *Don't Ask*). The show is about a gay dad who moves back to his Ohio hometown after living an openly gay life in Los Angeles for four years.

Gaffney's character will still harbor feelings for her ex. The project has under-



Jennifer Lopez is slated to play the famed Mexican painter Frida Kahlo in an upcoming biopic of the artist.

gone several name changes during the development process and may air this fall under a different name entirely.

OLYPHANT AND CLARKSON MAKE IT TO SAFETY

Powerhouse lesbian and indie-film producer Christine Vachon is set to bring A.M. Homes' collection of short stories, *The Safety of Objects*, to the big screen under the able direction of writer/director Rose Troche (who is best known for her 1994 lesbian-themed flick *Go Fish*).

An awesome indie cast has signed on for roles in the film, which will be a series of interrelated plots about the unhappy and boring lives of neighbors in a suburban community. (Hmm... didn't we already see *American Beauty* and *Short Cuts*?)

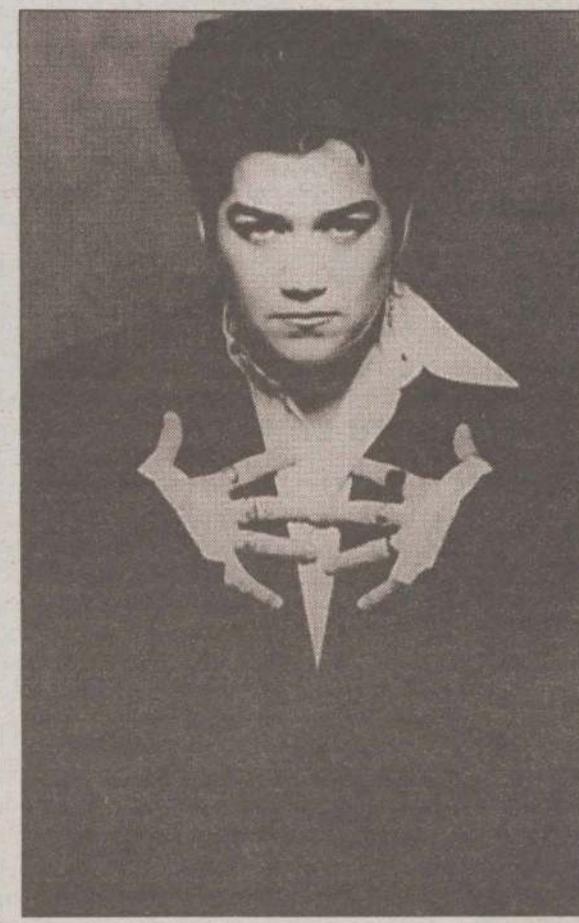
Broken Hearts League hottie Timothy Olyphant, diva Glenn Close, and High

Art star Patricia Clarkson will appear in the film, which is slated to go into production this September in Canada.

CUCKOO FOR KAHLO

Former fly girl (and Puff Daddy's better half) Jennifer Lopez is close to finalizing a deal to portray cross-dressing Mexican painter Frida Kahlo in a new film from United Artists.

Luis Valdez, who directed the 1987 *Richie Valens* biopic *La Bamba*, will direct the film based on his own script, inspired by the book *The Two Fridas*. Francis Ford Coppola will executive produce the project,



Comic Lea DeLaria has signed on to the Broadway revival of the 70s camp classic *The Rocky Horror Show*.

about the Mexican painter and wife of influential artist Diego Rivera. Kahlo was known for darkening her facial hair and dressing as a man before going out in public.

While the ink isn't yet finalized on Lopez's contract, the film is currently expected to go into production early 2001. This isn't the first time Lopez has portrayed a Latina icon—the Bronx-born beauty played slain Tejano singer Selena in the eponymous flick.

It's likely that Lopez will work for below her market price for Valdez's film, which is a decade-old labor-of-love for the filmmaker. Valdez previously tried to make the movie in the early '90s with actresses Laura San Giacomo and Madonna, but the studio pulled out due to criticism of casting a non-Latin actress in the titular role.

With the Lopez project ramping up for production early next year, luscious Latina Salma Hayek's long-in-the-works Kahlo biopic at Miramax is under serious pressure to get a director signed and their

competing Kahlo film rolling before the competition's. In the meantime, don't expect Hayek to be on the guest list for any of Puffy's parties.

DIMENSION CURSED BY WILLIAMSON

Scream scribe and *Dawson's Creek* creator Kevin Williamson has committed to write and produce the thriller *Cursed* for Dimension Films.

The project is on the fast track and is described as in the vein of *Silence of the Lambs*, with a plot that centers on a serial killer on the loose in New York City and is rumored to contain "a unique twist," according to industry rag *The Hollywood Reporter*.

The studio wants Williamson to finish up his work on the project before the proposed Writers Guild of America strike next spring and hopes to have *Cursed* in theaters by January, 2002.

COMING LESBIAN ATTRACTIONS

Actress Dominique Swain, who played the title role in the remake of *Lolita*, will have a luscious lesbian lip lock in the upcoming comedy *Happy Campers*, about a group of college freshmen who spend their summer vacation working as camp counselors.

Swain gets it on with the very female supermodel James King. But dykes need not get too psyched up about it. King is only acting; in real life she's dating that disgusting and untalented Kid Rock

person. *Happy Campers* should hit theaters in February 2001.

MORE DICK ON MTV

Bisexual comedian and *Newsradio* alum Andy Dick has gotten the go-ahead from MTV for the upcoming comedy pilot *The Andy Dick Show*. Dick's show is one of the 10 new projects MTV okayed for the new season. Dick's show will be a spin-off of the goofy segments the actor has done for the MTV Movie awards and will have three short films in each episode.

Splendor director Gregg Araki has also gotten a thumbs up from the network, and his twisted teen show *This is How the World Ends*, which MTV describes as "Dawson's Creek on acid," will also debut sometime this season.

Romeo San Vicente works out at the same West Hollywood gym as Kevin Williamson. You can reach Romeo in care of HeatStroke or via e-mail at RomeoDeep@aol.com.

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Naked Curiosity

By Dennis Scott-Bush

What the Hell?

Episcopalians are moving toward accepting us. A few congregations from various denominations are breaking with their national organizations so that members of our community can be leaders in their churches.

Are some religious groups beginning to see gay people in a new light? Or are they merely trying to fill their collection plates with our perceived disposable incomes?

If, as it's been said, organized religion is the opiate of the masses, are gay people

and sisters. They're singing their hearts out and, one imagines, turning a deaf ear to the fire-and-brimstone tirades about the abomination of homosexuality.

Why are gay people so easily duped into feeling that we need the approval of any of these churches?

Hours and hours of sermons by ministers who are no more than politicians selling religion rather than road improvements take their toll. The stakes are high to retain and increase membership. If they don't engender their congregation's favor, preachers are dumped like a pile of uneaten communion wafers. If they don't keep the money rolling in, they hear

about it from the district and national offices.

Some gay people use the argument that "our sin is no worse than a lot of things everyone else does." Sin by whose determination?

The arbiter of sinfulness is a book containing the words and thoughts of a male-dominated society in which women were treated as possessions and slavery was happily condoned. These men desperately wanted to increase their ranks and anything that didn't further that purpose was deemed unacceptable.

Do these perspectives reflect anything close to our current culture—or even that of our recent past? When's the last time we saw Fred Phelps and his family protesting the brazen presence of female teachers in our school systems? Ludicrous, you say? Timothy 2:12 makes

it clear that women should never teach "nor usurp any authority over the man." Oh, dear—I guess that means all female bosses need to hop on the express bus to Hell, too.

And—while we're considering the absurd—let's set up detention camps for all the men who've seen their wives naked while they were having their period. According to Leviticus 20:18, "both of them shall be cut off from among their

But that doesn't matter to the zealots who are no better than the leaders of an adolescent clique who determine what is cool and what isn't—but in this case, the ruling is about what is or isn't sinful.

And it doesn't stop there. Each religion believes they're better than the others—that they are the one true way. It seems more Jets-and-Sharks than "love thy neighbor" and "judge not, lest ye be judged." And gay-run churches aren't

much better, in terms of politicking and fighting among its members.

Do we really need someone in a pulpit to explain the difference between right and wrong? Are praying and singing hymns required to have morals and ethics?

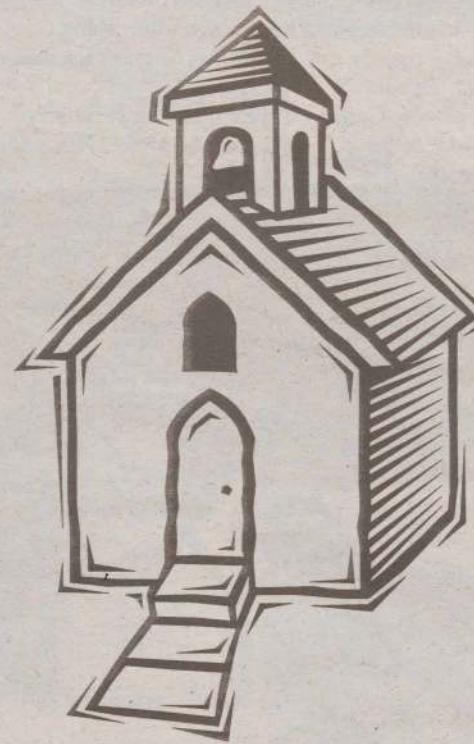
Organized religion doesn't have to be a bad thing. For those who choose to use it as a means to explore and celebrate their spirituality, it can be very valuable. Most of the time, though, it's a hating, stained-glass version of high school. And, when its proponents use erroneously interpreted scriptures like weapons, they should have their non-profit status removed and be fined heavily.

The ultimate blow, of course, would be for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender

and gay-friendly people to leave any and all churches that interpret being gay and expressing same-sex love as sinful. Then, the only thing going to Hell would be the quality of their Sunday shows.



Dennis Scott-Bush is a Phoenix-based writer and public relations consultant. His work has appeared in publications throughout the country. E-mail may be directed to phxwordsmith@home.com.



When I moved from the East Coast to San Francisco to be with my partner, there were gay men of his acquaintance who referred to me as his "little white boy" and "his piece." I was not amused.

any less vulnerable to the narcotic?

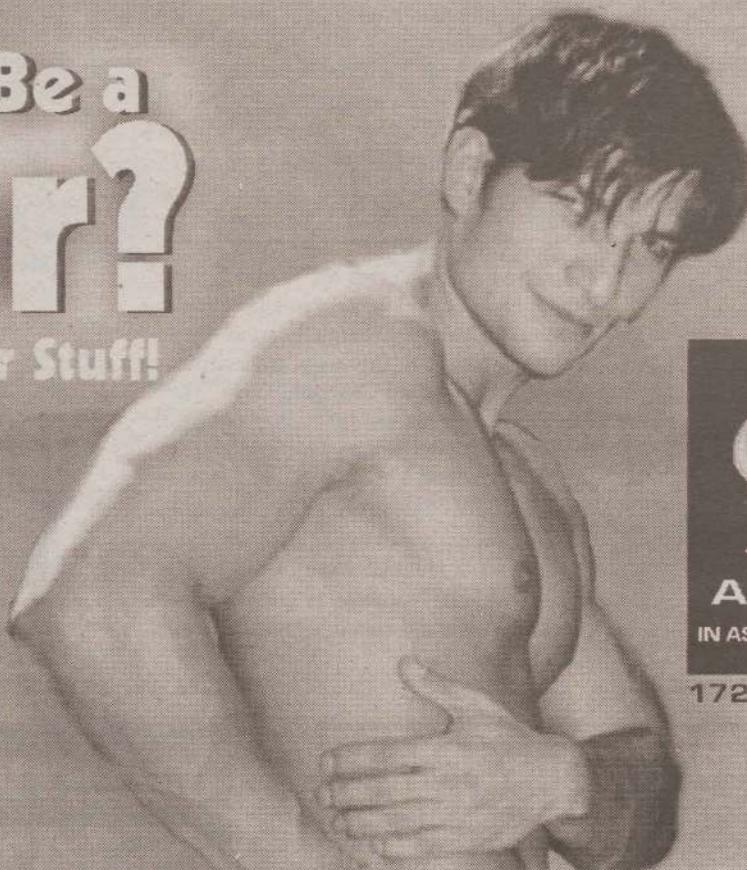
There's a Sunday show going on—with music, costumes and mood lighting—and gay people want to be part of it. I had a friend in New York who left a career in the theater to go into the ministry. "The work is more dependable, the benefits are better and it's essentially the same gig," was his logic.

Scan the ranks of any television evangelist's choir and you'll see our brothers

people." There's also the transgression of wearing clothes made of more than one fiber (Leviticus 19:19). Off to damnation we'll go, wearing poly/cotton blend shirts.

Scriptures have been interpreted and translated over and over again throughout the centuries—and always by people with a purpose for a particular viewpoint. Do the arched interpretations of ancient writings reflect the modern type of gay relationships? No, of course, not.

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Dear Cowboy,

After reading the advice that you gave to "Geeky and Getting It" in the last installment [issue #99, Aug. 27], I had to write and tell you how far off base you were.

The gay community has enough problems getting respect from the rest of society. Encouraging promiscuity among ourselves does nothing to help our cause. Instead of giving this very confused guy tips on how to pick people up in bars as opposed to meeting "tricks" online, any reputable advisor should have explained how meaningless and empty one night stands are, not to mention dangerous.

You blew it.

Signed, A Reader in Mesa

Dear Reader,

What you call "meaningless" promiscuity, I call a good time. I see nothing wrong with a cowpoke's having a healthy appetite for sex that doesn't require any emotional commitment in order to achieve physical satisfaction, so long as no one is getting hurt.

If you've got a problem with casual sex, then don't have it. But ascribing your own discomfort to what other people (gay or not) do in a healthy, safe, sane and consensual way, and then labeling it an overall "community problem" is plum crazy.

There's a big, wide-open range of folks out there with all different ways of experiencing each other between the bunkhouse sheets—and in their own, agreed-upon

love relationships—too. Let them worry about theirs, and aim your sights right back at your own. If you're happy with yourself, that's all you need to worry about.

Dear Cowboy,

What do you do when you are saying your good-byes to a group of gay men after a party or whatever, and, instead of giving you a little peck on the lips like any normal person, one of them (who you don't even know very well) opens his mouth and presses his wet lips over yours? Yuck!

This has happened to me recently with two different men. I could not figure out in either case if that is just how they think people normally kiss good-bye, or if they were trying to get romantic—like I was supposed to slip them tongue or something. Again, Yuck!

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this, or am I too sensitive? So far I have just smiled and then wiped the slime off my mouth as soon as I got out the door. Signed, Closed-Mouthed

Dear Closed,

I've been the victim of a fish-kisser myself once or twice, and I'll second that "yuck".

I suspect these old boys didn't mean anything frisky by their wet lip pressing, they're just a mite confused on what is and isn't acceptable in demonstrating a friendly how-de-do in a physical way. If you keep ignoring the fish kissing, they'll keep on doing it.

Before you lean your face in next time, tell each of these boys to close their mouths, but do it in a good-natured way. You'll know from their reactions whether they were unaware of the foible, or if they really are trying to latch onto your Wranglers.

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25. **Pumphouse II**
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26. Roscoe's on 7th
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27. **Waterhole**
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Glendale 623/937-3139

28. Wink's
5707 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 602/265-9002

29. World
710 N. Central
Phoenix 602/258-8343

30. The Adult Shoppe
111 S. 24th Street
Phoenix 623/245-3008
(other Valley locations)

31. **Book Cellar**
4029 E. Washington
Phoenix 602/275-0015
(other Valley locations)

32. Castle Boutique
5501 E. Washington
Phoenix 602/231-9837
(other Valley locations)

33. **Obelisk Books**
24 West Camelback
Phoenix 602/266-Book

34. Paradise Adult Boutique
130 W. Osborn Rd
Phoenix 602/266-5869

35. Movies on Central
4700 N. Central, #121
Phoenix 602/274-0994

36. **Tuff Stuff**
1714 E. McDowell Rd.
Phoenix 602/254-9651

37. Unique on Central
4700 N. Central
Phoenix 602/279-9691

38. **Chute**
1440 E. Indian School
Phoenix 602/234-1654

39. **Flex**
1517 S. Black Canyon
Phoenix 602/271-9011

40. **Culture**

41. **Staples**

42. **Tubs**

43. **Paradise Valley**

44. **ASU Art Museum**
Nelson Fine Arts Center
Mill Ave. & 10th Street
Tempe 480/965-2787

45. **ASU Gammage Center**
Apache & Mill Ave.
Tempe 480/965-3434

46. **Blockbuster Desert Sky**
Pavilion
2121 N. 83rd Ave.
Phoenix 623/254-7499

47. **Celebrity Theater**
440 N. 32nd Street
Phoenix 602/267-9373

48. **Heard Museum**
22 E. Monte Vista
Phoenix 602/252-8848

49. **Herberger Theater**
222 E. Monroe
Phoenix 602/254-7399

50. **Orpheum Theatre**
203 W. Adams
Phoenix 602/262-7272

51. **Phoenix Art Museum**
1624 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 602/257-1222

52. **Phoenix Central Library**
1221 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 602/262-4636

53. **Phoenix Civic Plaza**
225 E. Adams St.
Phoenix 602/262-6225

54. **Phoenix Symphony Hall**
225 E. Adams
Phoenix 602/262-6225

55. **Phoenix Museum of History**
105 N. 5th Street
Phoenix 602/253-2734

56. **AZ Hall of Fame Museum**
1101 W. Washington
Phoenix 602/255-2110

57. **AZ Historical Society**
Museum
1300 N. College
Tempe 480/929-0292

58. **AZ Mining & Mineral**
Museum
1502 W. Washington
Phoenix 602/255-3791

59. **AZ Science Center**
600 E. Washington
Phoenix 602/716-2000

60. **Paradise Valley**

61. **ASU Gammage Center**
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Tempe 480/965-3434

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Tempe 480/965-3434

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Phoenix 623/254-7499

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Phoenix 602/252-8848

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Phoenix 602/254-7399

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Museum
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Phoenix 602/255-3791

109. **AZ Science Center**
600 E. Washington
Phoenix 602/716-2000

110. **Paradise Valley**

Outdoors

81. **Desert Botanical Garden**
1201 N. Galvin Pkwy
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82. **Margaret T. Hance Park**
3rd St. to 3rd Ave. between
McDowell & Roosevelt
Phoenix 602/534-2406

83. **North Mountain Park & Preserve**
10600 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 602/262-6696

84. **Papago Park**
Van Buren & Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 602/256-3220

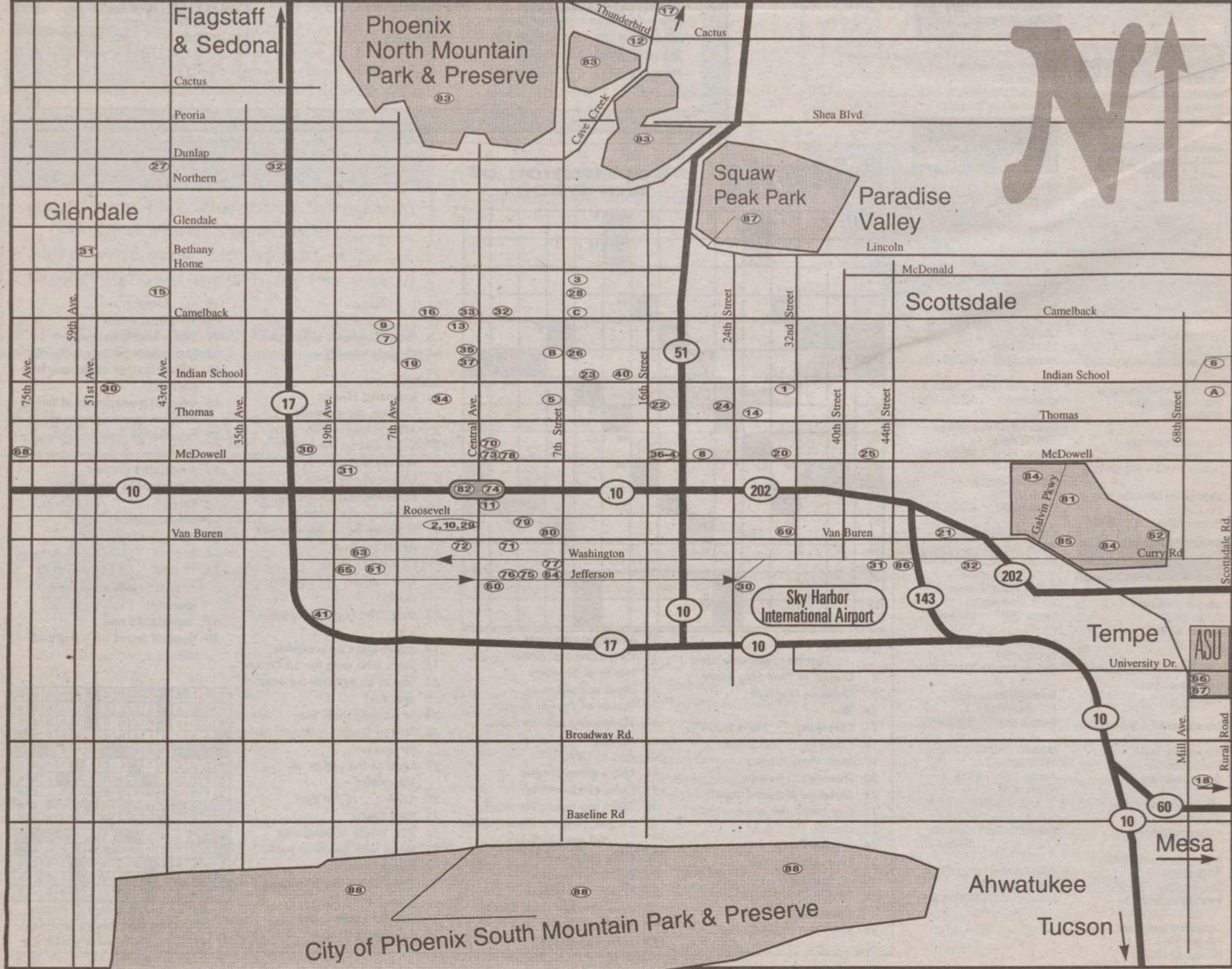
85. **Phoenix Zoo**
455 N. Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 602/273-1431

86. **Pueblo Grande Museum**
4619 E. Washington
Phoenix 602/495-0900

87. **Squaw Peak Park**
2701 E. Squaw Peak Dr.
Phoenix 602/262-6696

88. **South Mountain Park**
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DEADLINES

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Mummy Mountain—Town of Paradise Valley—Updated in 95-96, approx 3500 sqft; 4bd+den/game room; 3ba; pool; 26; greatroom kitchen; slate flrs; expansive views of N. Scotts, the McDowells, Pin. Peak, Saddleback & Mummy Mountain; last home in neighborhood sold for \$1MIL & was TORN DOWN!! Great Neighborhood. Offered for \$864,000; Call The Real Estate Consultants Sam Wercinski 602/228-4497 direct. West USA 480/948-5554.

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N. Scottsdale/Troon North—Located in guard-gated Candlewood Estates, this 1995 custom bilt home features granite counters, flagstone floors, enjoy spectacular views of the golf course, city lights & sunsets from inside on the patio next to your negative edge pool. Just listed for \$690,000. Call The Real Estate Consultants Sam Wercinski 602/228-4497 direct, West USA 480/948-5554.

Glendale/7th Ave—East Coast
Charmer! Spacious 3bd+den, 2ba with an ALL TILE DIVING POOL! Parquet floors throughout, gas cooktop & fireplace, French doors, 2 car garage with workshop on a large 10,000 sqft lot. Great Central location! Offered for \$220,000. Call The Real Estate Consultants John Walsh 602/319-0692 direct West USA 480-948-5554.

Cactus/70th Street—Almost an Acre! Ranch style beauty with 4 bedrooms, 2baths, 2 car garage & double carport, on a cul-de-sac. Ceramic tile through most of home, open kitchen/family room with vaulted ceiling in living/dining room. Berber carpet, brick fireplace. Remodeled homes in the area sell for \$350k+. Get in before the next big price jump for only \$279,000. Call The Real Estate Consultants John Walsh 602/319-0692 direct West USA 480-948-5554.

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The two story also has 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths with a loft, ideal for game room or office space. Beautiful views from the master suite. Priced at \$195,500. Both homes have ideal backyard exposures to the NE . . . no hot afternoon sun! Expect a major value boost when the 101 is completed soon! We can fax you a floorplan. Call The Real Estate Consultants Sam Wercinski 602/228-4497 direct. West USA 480/948-5554.

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High Rise Living! Condos downtown \$75,000 to \$2,500,000. Yes, you can live in Phoenix in *Style* Studios, 1, 2, 3+ bedrooms 300 to 4,000 sqft. Rod Whitt HomeSmart Real Estate, 602/230-7600.

Affordable Living—Downtown sleeping room. Private entrance, laundry area and share bath \$295. Call 602/253-5332

The Story's Apartments—1 bedroom/1 bath, 2nd floor, wood floors, F.Q. Story Historic District, balconies, slate in kitchen & bath. \$550 mo. Rod Whitt, HomeSmart Real Estate, 602/230-7600.

Out-of-Town

Give Yourself a Break—Spend a relaxing weekend in the heart of Warm Sands, Palm Springs' gay ghetto. Call for reservations at Bacchanal, an intimate, clothing-optional resort for men. Luxurious accommodations, courtesy kitchens, heated pool and spa. 800/806-9059; www.Bacchanal.net

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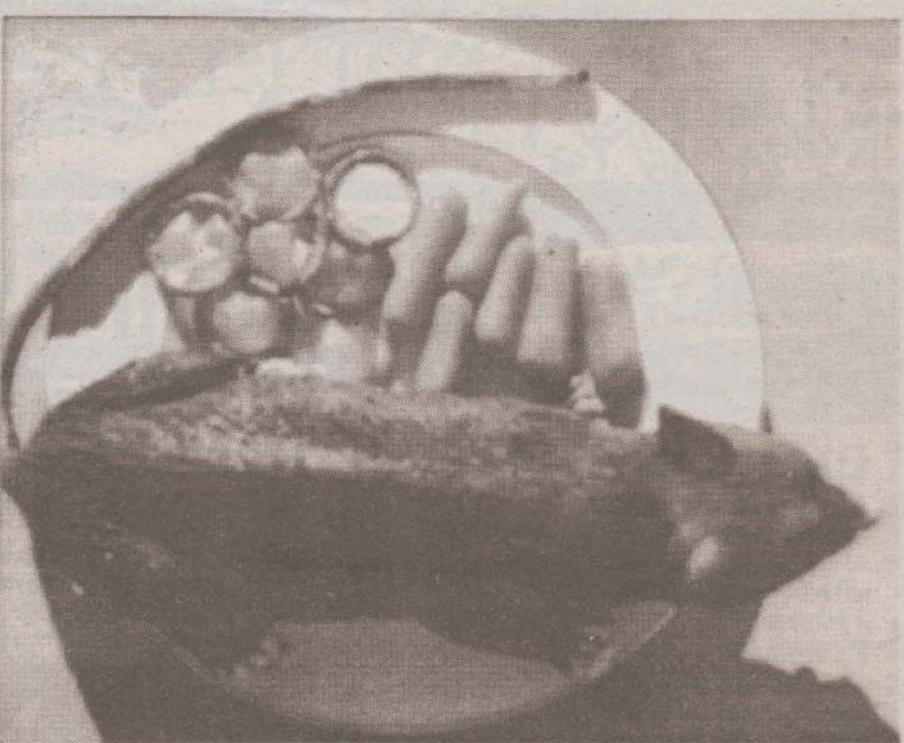
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Need Wood?

TIPS FOR GETTING TIMBER

Sex Advice for Gay Men

By Woody Miller, Contributor

Hey, Woody!

I've been thinking of getting a penile augmentation procedure to give me a bigger cock. Only thing is, it scares me to go under the knife. What if they cut the wrong thing? Still, I feel like making myself bigger is the only way to compete with all the pretty boys. Should I do it?

—Uncut

Dear Uncut:

When are we gay men going to learn that what's between our ears has more to do with sexual satisfaction than what's between our legs? We're like Republicans who make a living flogging the welfare system even though it represents maybe 3% of the gross national product. Penis size represents even less than that of our gross sexual pleasure but that's the only thing we pay attention to.

That's not to say that big cocks aren't a turn-on; they are. But so what if you're not big? The hottest sex rarely involves size. It's about how someone touches you, looks at you, feels to you; it's how they woo

you, how they shtup you, how they kiss you; how they move in bed, how they move on you; how they move the earth. If you think having a bigger dick gives you a better sex life, forget it. Research shows no difference in reported sexual satisfaction between men who have sock-eyed salmons swimming against the current of their jeans and men who have tadpoles lapping up their boxers. According to men with big dicks, men with big dicks are not more sexually satisfied than men with small or medium-sized dicks.

Yet, the emphasis on size in the gay community is overwhelming. It's like a run-a-away eighteen-wheeler careening down an icy hill. It slams everything off the road, especially the people who try to slow it down. We insist that "bigger is better" and snidely brush off the possibility that cock size isn't important.

There is profound misery in the gay community about "measuring up." And the irony is that some of the bigger specimens among us are the loudest complainers. "During routine physicals I've seen some of the biggest penises in captivity," one of my medical advisors told me. "And it's pitiful because these guys are convinced they're small."

What's even more pitiful is what urologists say: Most of the men seeking penile augmentation have normal-sized dicks! Urologists also report that many men don't care about their erections getting bigger; they just want to attract more attention in the locker room (there's actually a procedure for making your flaccid penis bigger without impacting the size of your erect penis).

So do I think penile augmentation is desirable for you? Yes, if you're one of the 2.5% of the male population who has a "micropenis" (believe it or not, that's the clinical term). But even then, urologists report you'll actually have less sensation than you do now. And it's not uncommon for a tectonic shift—having the additional



fat and skin slide over to one side. Hmm, that's attractive.

As for the other 97.5% of the population I have a different piece of advice: Get your head out of your ass. There's better things to put up there.

Hey Woody!

Every time I take a shower at the gym I get real embarrassed because my pup doesn't measure up. When I'm erect, I'm actually pretty normal-sized, but when I'm not, it's pretty small. Why does my penis shrink to a cigar stub when I need to impress the most?

—Small in the stall

Dear Small:

Tell you what. The best way to grow your penis is to get into a gay chat room on America Online. Everyone there is 8 inches. Just ask them.

You can't tell how big someone really is by seeing their flaccid penis in the locker room. A recent study at the University of California at San Francisco confirmed what Master & Johnson told us decades

ago: There is no correlation—let me repeat that—there is no correlation between flaccid penis size and erect penis size. If your penis is unusually large when its flaccid it does not mean it will be unusually large when it's erect. The reverse is also true. You're a "grower, not a shower."

Hey, Woody!

Please do something about the torso shavers! It wasn't enough that we all became obsessed with removing body hair in the early '90s, but almost nobody does it right. Torso stubble is NOT, I repeat, NOT attractive, and it's nearly impossible to avoid it. So why isn't a little trim (in the clipping sense) enough for these people? Are they afraid guys won't find them attractive for who they really are?

—Will trim 4 sex

Dear Will:

Asking why gay men go through certain grooming routines is like asking Madonna why she wears skimpy halter-tops. So you can see more, silly. All in all, I'm with you on this one. There's nothing worse than trying to get to the middle of the dance floor and having your chest butchered by the claws of death hanging off shaved torsos.

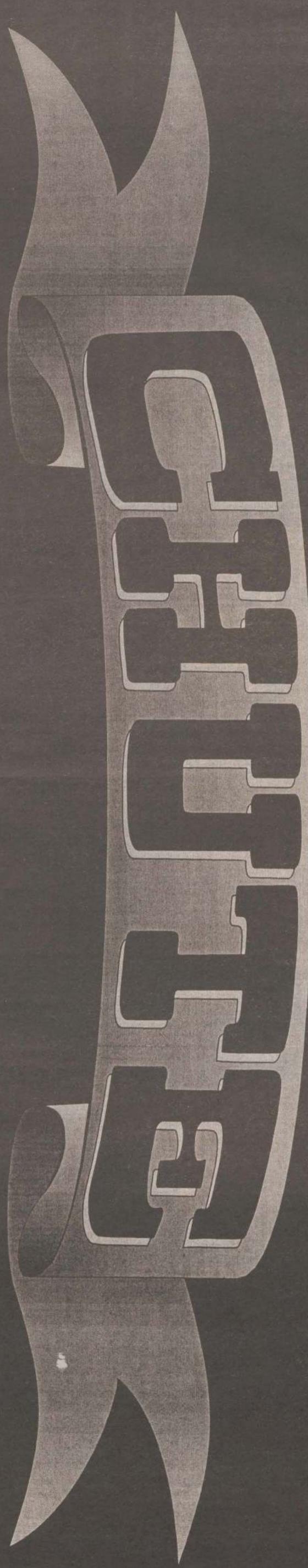
Guys shave their torsos because they're frustrated that body hair is covering their hard work at the gym. Wait, let me put that in a different, more truthful way. Guys shave their torsos because they think it'll get them laid more often. I do think there's a little bit of body nazism going on when everybody feels like the only way they can get laid is to look like everybody else.

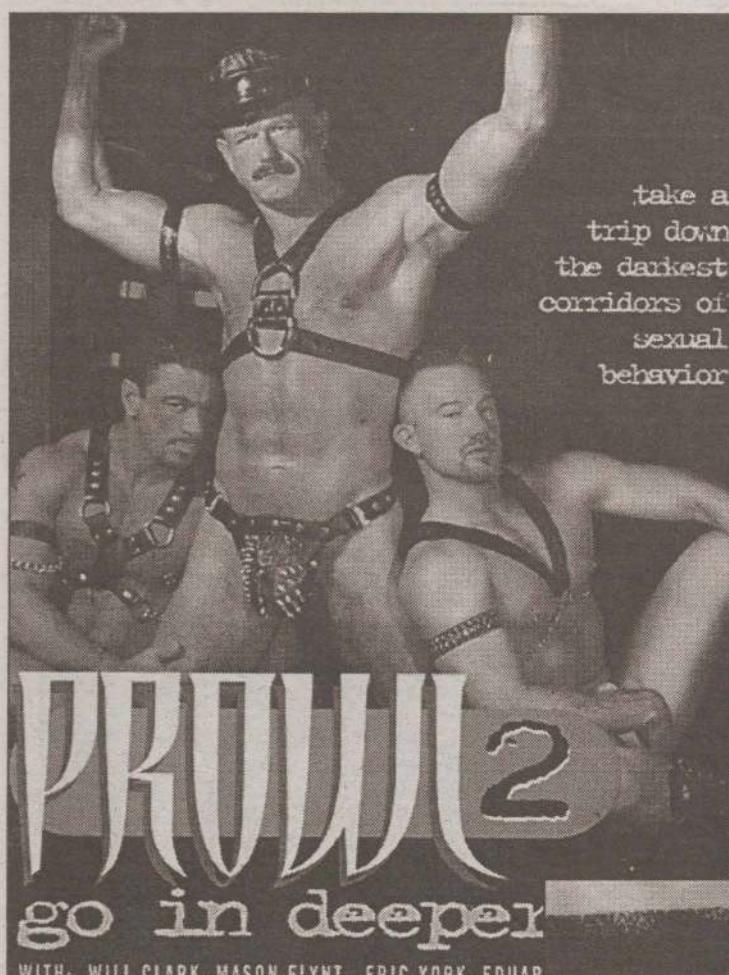
I like your trimming suggestion. That way, you get a better view of your pecs, without criminally assaulting anybody who accidentally rubs up against you.

Need Wood? E-mail Woody at kneadwood@aol.com.

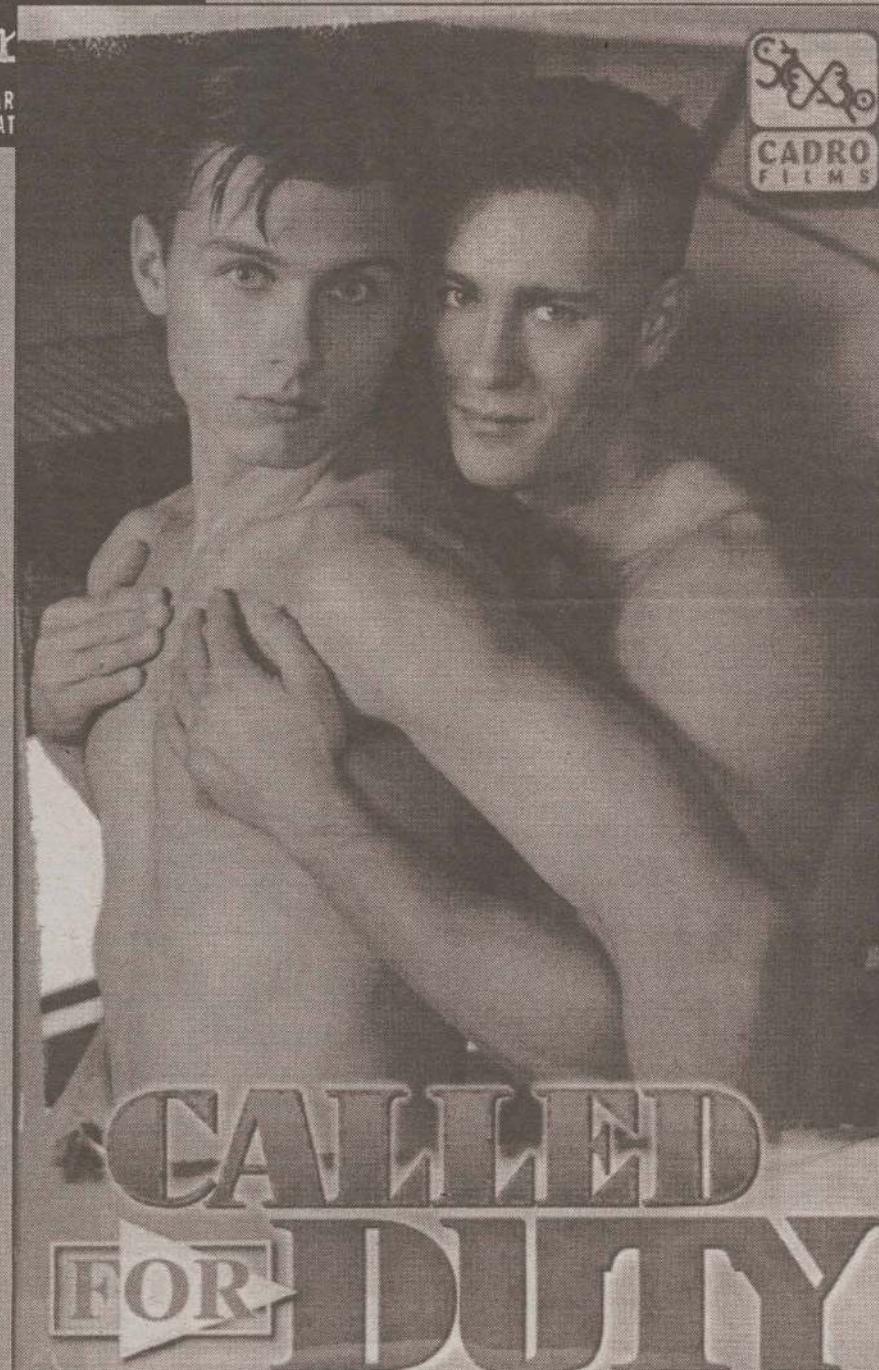
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