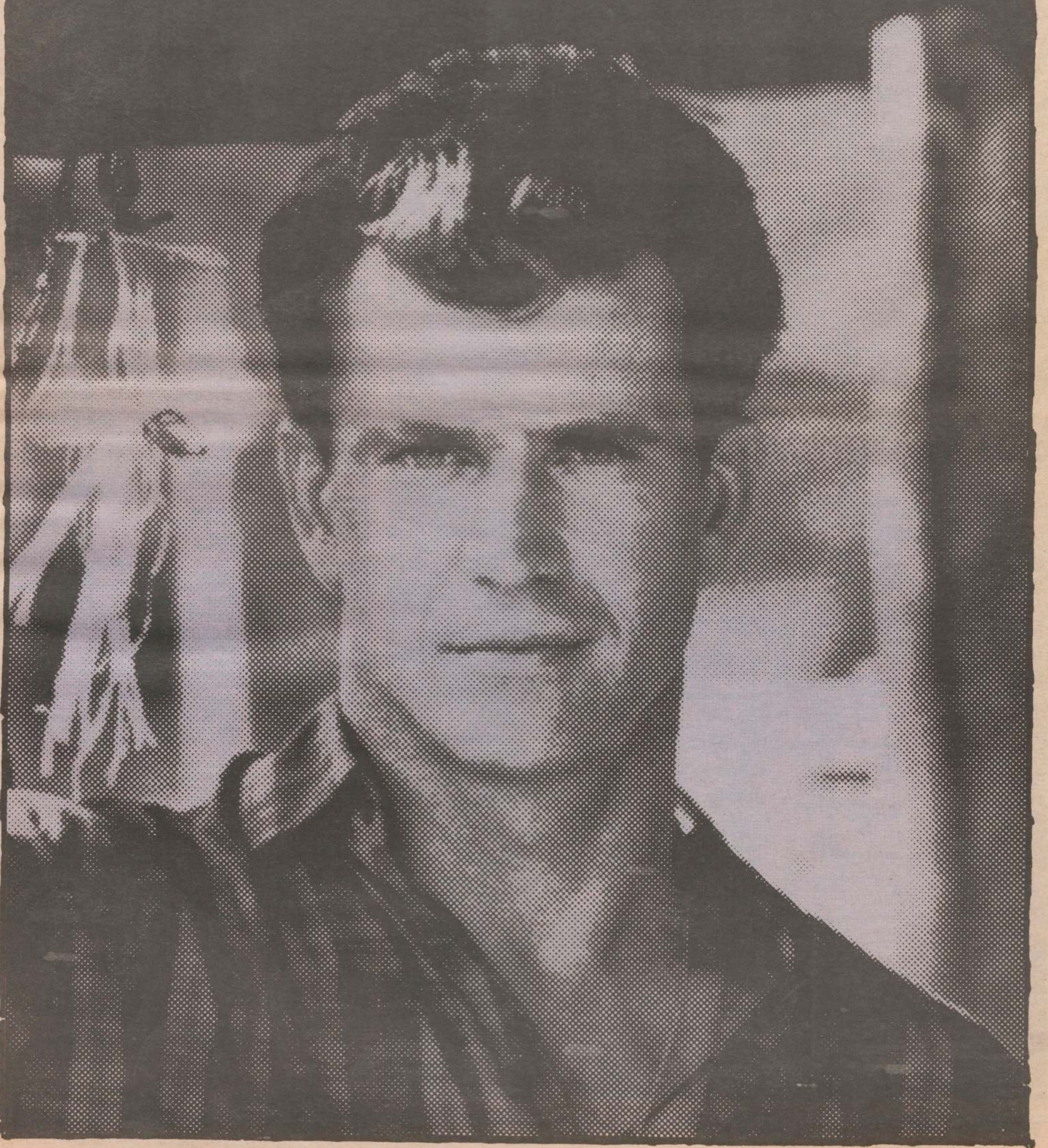




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phoenix resource



GUIDE

RESOURCE

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Phoenix 85060
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AIDS Info Line
234-2752

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Counseling & Education
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461-2437
461-2205

Arizona AIDS Project
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Phoenix 85004
420-9396

Community AIDS Council
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Phoenix 85064
265-2437

Flagstaff AIDS Support
Group
PO Box 183
Flagstaff 86002
525-1199

The Names Project
Phoenix Chapter
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Phoenix 85071-2111

Phoenix Shanti Group
1314 E. McDowell
Phoenix 85006
271-0008

Planned Parenthood
5651 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 85014
George: 277-PLAN

Sedona AIDS Group
525-1199

Valley of the Sun Coalition
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PO Box 16847
Phoenix 85011
224-5486

Veterans Administration
HIV Coordinator &
Educator: Lee Hood
277-5551 Ext. 164

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Alcoholics
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Phoenix 249-1257

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Gay Group Listings
264-1341

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Phoenix
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Ste 121 Box 211
Phoenix 85012

Eagle-US West
PO Box 36702
Phoenix 85067
244-1278

Feminist & Lesbian
Activist Coalition
967-2570
276-5840

Gay Alliance of Northern
Arizona
Info & Referral Line
PO Box 183
Flagstaff 86002
252-1199

Lesbian & Gay Community
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234-2753

Parents & Friends of
Lesbians & Gays
PO Box 37525
Phoenix 85064
942-0417
AIDS related: 939-7807

Phoenix Pride Planning
Committee
PO Box 5948
Phoenix 85010
631-0350

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870-9597

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Tempe 85282
496-9931

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Phoenix 85064

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831-5920

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Phoenix 85001
957-3476

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A.S.U.
Tempe 85287

Lesbian & Gay Community
Youth Group
241-4230

Los Amigos Del Sol
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Phoenix 85061
843-1329

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Scottsdale 85267

People Exchanging Power
5821 N. 67th Ave. Ste
103-276
Glendale 85301
848-8737

Phoenix Gay & Married
Men's Assoc.
PO Box 47811
Phoenix 85068
435-0828

Phoenix Gay Youth Group
PO Box 1075
Mesa 85211

Phoenix Lesbian & Gay
Youth
Artie Michals
938-3932

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Arizona Gay Rodeo Assoc.
PO Box 16363
Phoenix 85011
Artie: 938-3932
Dan: 268-5827

Camelback Business &
Professional Assoc.
PO Box 2097
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Peter Hudson: 225-8509
Pam Holt: 249-1910

Desert Overture
PO Box 16454
Phoenix 85011
Steve: 899-0169

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Owners of Arizona
Contact ITA Members

POLITICAL ACTION

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Progress
PO Box 40374
Phoenix 85067
253-3285

Coalition For Immediate
Action
PO Box 33233
Phoenix 85067
246-8277

Arizona Democratic Party
254-4179

Arizona Republican Party
957-7777

Human Rights Campaign
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Martyn Harris
715 W. Portland
Phoenix 85007

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Paradise Valley 85253
840-8400

Gentle Shepherd
3425 E. Mountain View
Phoenix 85046
996-7644

Healing Waters Ministries
5555 E. Van Buren
Ste A-10
Phoenix 85008
244-1577

Oasis (MCC)
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Phoenix 85008
244-0747

Restoration Church of
Jesus Christ
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Tempe 85285-6601
921-4025

Brethren Mennonites
Council
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Glendale, 85312

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Catholics)
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Phoenix 85036
258-2556

Lutherans Concerned
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& Gay Jews)
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966-5001

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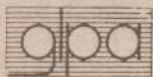
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Pride...



...is an established conviction of one's own paramount worth in some particular respect. Pride works from within; it is the direct appreciation of oneself.

— Arthur Schopenhauer
[1788-1860]

National Hate Crimes Hotline Disconnects Gays

WASHINGTON DC A national hate crimes hotline, set up to collect information on crimes of bias but which originally refused to take "gay bashings" and religious-related reports, is now tracking such crimes following pressure from the National Lesbian and Gay Task Force (NGLTF).

The toll-free hotline, 1-800-347-HATE, was announced by President Bush in April at the White House signing of the Federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act. The hotline is operated by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Community Relations Service and was established to help the DOJ mediate and conciliate incidents of hate violence.

During the ceremony, Bush explained that the Hate Crimes Statistics Act orders the attorney general to collect information on "crimes motivated by religion, race, ethnicity or sexual orientation."

Although the hotline was not mandated by the Hate Crimes bill, at the signing ceremony Bush said, "I am also pleased to announce that today the Department of Justice has established a new toll-free phone number for reporting complaints of these hate crimes."

Gay and lesbian activists were stunned to discover, upon calling the hotline, that operators would not take information on anti-gay and lesbian hate crimes. Robert Bray, NGLTF public information director, called the number to test it and was told to call—at phone-toll rates—the DOJ civil rights office. That office instructed Bray to call the DOJ criminal section, which told him to "write a letter" describing the case.

NGLTF then contacted gay and lesbian activists to "swamp" the hotline, and notified Representatives Barney Frank and Gerry Studds and Senator Paul Simon of the problem. The lawmakers contacted DOJ officials to pressure them to include anti-gay and lesbian hate crimes.

DOJ officials claimed that because sexual orientation is not included in the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the department was not "mandated" to collect such information. A bill now in Congress, the Federal Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Act, would amend the 1964 act to include sexual orientation.

However, following intense pressure from NGLTF and other members of the hate crimes coalition, including the Anti-Defamation League and People for the American Way, the DOJ agreed to add sexual orientation to the hate crimes hotline and track such incidents on DOJ hotline reports.

Furthermore, DOJ officials met with Kevin Berrill of NGLTF, to discuss coverage of gays and lesbians in DOJ operations.

"We were initially outraged that the national hate crimes hotline was hanging up on survivors of anti-gay attacks," said Berrill. "Victims of bashings were being further victimized by bureaucratic runaround. However, we are pleased the Justice Department moved quickly to fix the problem and open a dialogue with gay and lesbian cosponsors."

Berrill emphasized the hotline is not a substitute for the federally mandated data collection effort. Victims must report crimes to local police.

"Sod Squad" Formed

WASHINGTON DC—Sodomy law battles are being waged in several communities across the country as initiatives for repealing anti-gay and lesbian measures are introduced.

Sodomy law repeal activists came together at the Southeastern Conference for Lesbians and Gay Men last March in Raleigh, N.C., to form a new "Sod Squad" aimed at organizing repeal efforts on the grassroots level. Fifteen activists from Florida, New Jersey, Virginia, and six other states formed the squad.

Sod Squad members received sodomy reform training from the country's leading experts in an eleven-workshop track. The track included subjects such as the impact of sodomy laws on AIDS prevention in the Southeast, criminal code recodification, state court challenges, legislative repeal, and statewide organizing. In a post-conference discussion, Sod Squaders enthusiastically endorsed reconvening the Squad at October's Lavender Law Conference and opening it to all interested lesbian and gay activists.

Gay and lesbian activists in Oklahoma have launched the long process of changing that state's crime against nature law as the Oklahoma Recodification Committee agreed to draft a model "crimes against nature" statute that exempts all consenting adults in private.



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Lesbian Denied Employment Sues Police Department

NEW YORK CITY—A suit has been filed against the State of Texas, the City of Dallas, and the Chief of the Dallas Police Department for denying a lesbian employment as a Dallas police officer, solely because of her sexual orientation. The DPD refuses to hire lesbians and gay men, and cites as a basis for its policy of discrimination Section 21.06 of the Texas Penal Code, which criminalizes certain "homosexual conduct." The lawsuit also challenges the constitutionality of that law, which by its terms specifically discriminates against gay people.

In March of 1989, the plaintiff, Mica England, interviewed in her home town of Tulsa, Oklahoma for a position on the Dallas Police Force. At the time, a recruiter told her that being a lesbian would not be a bar to employment, and encouraged her to come to Dallas. Based on that assurance, Ms. England traveled to Dallas to complete interviews. There, Ms. England was subjected to intrusive questioning about her personal life and private sexual activity, and was not permitted to complete the application process because of her statement that she is a lesbian. Police Chief Mack Vines told Ms. England that the DPD "doesn't hire gays."

"The use of the Texas sodomy statute to justify discrimination in hiring the government is a classic example of how these highly intrusive and stigmatizing laws harm lesbians and gay men, even when they themselves are not arrested or prosecuted for violating them," according to Evan Wolfson, an attorney who, along with another lawyer, represents Ms. England.

"The mere existence of these laws is used to justify all kinds of discrimination—from refusing to allow gay people to adopt or keep custody of our kids, to refusing to allow us to serve our country in the armed forces," Wolfson said. "As long as lesbians and gay men can be branded criminals for

ordinary private intimacy, we will always be second class citizens and fair game for any bigot, even when it's the government."

Section 21.06, more commonly known as the Texas "sodomy law," makes it a Class C Misdemeanor for adults to engage in consensual oral or anal intercourse with others of the same gender, even in the privacy of their own homes. Texas is one of twenty-four states (along with the District of Columbia) that still criminalizes such private and personal conduct, and one of the seven that singles out lesbians and gay men.

Lambda's suit contends that the law interferes with Ms. England's constitutional and legal right to be free of unwarranted government intrusion into her personal sexual conduct with another consenting adult in the privacy of her own home. The suit raises claims under the Texas Bill of Rights, and was filed in state court in Austin, the capital of Texas.

Mica England expressed her happiness that Lambda had taken her case. She stated, "I have wanted to be a police officer for many years now. I studied for it in college and moved to Dallas to be able to work here. It hurts very deeply to be denied this opportunity just because of who I am, without regard to my qualifications to do the job. I intend to fight for my right to serve and to be treated fairly."

"Dallas is one of the few large cities in Texas where openly gay people cannot work as police officers," noted William Waybourn, president of the Dallas Gay Alliance, a local advocacy group supporting Mica England's case. "The Texas State Department of Public Safety and the police departments of San Antonio and El Paso, to name just a few, all recognize that anti-gay discrimination is unconstitutional, unfair, and counter-productive to the interests of the taxpayers who need the best officers they can get."

First Lady Addresses Parents of Gays "We Cannot Tolerate Discrimination"

WASHINGTON DC—Barbara Bush has written the head of an organization of parents of gay children that "we cannot tolerate discrimination against any individuals or groups in our country."

The letter was addressed to Paulette Goodman, president of the Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, or Parents FLAG. It came in response to Goodman's plea that the First Lady "speak kind words to some twenty-four million gay Americans and their families to help heal the wounds and to keep these families in loving relationships."

Mrs. Bush replied that "I appreciate...your encouraging me to help change attitudes." Discrimination, she said, "always brings with it pain and perpetuates hate and intolerance."

She said Goodman's "words speak eloquently of your love for your child and your compassion for all gay Americans and their families."

Mrs. Bush frequently has made clear her distaste for discrimination based on sexual orientation, according to an Associated Press report of her letter to Goodman.

Last month, President Bush aroused protests from some conservatives when he invited representatives of gay groups to attend the signing of the

Hate Crimes Statistics Act, which targets bias-motivated violence.

Tim McFeeley, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a lobbying arm of the movement for gay and lesbian civil rights, said Mrs. Bush's letter "reinforces values that American mothers and American families are all about."

THE LETTER:

Dear Mrs. Goodman,

Thank you so much for your letter and for sharing your work with the Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Inc. You sound like a caring parent and a compassionate citizen.

I firmly believe that we cannot tolerate discrimination against any individuals or groups in our country. Such treatment always brings with it pain and perpetuates hate and intolerance. I appreciate so much your sharing the information about your organization and your encouraging me to help change attitudes. Your words speak eloquently of your love for all gay Americans and their families.

With all best wishes,
Warmly,
Barbara Bush

Efforts to Enact Mandatory HIV Testing Rejected

NEW YORK CITY—A New York appellate court in Albany has upheld the dismissal of a lawsuit brought by four physician groups that sought to require the New York State Department of Health to permit testing without consent of those who are suspected of carrying HIV (the virus linked to AIDS) and to collect the names of those who test positive for HIV antibodies.

The New York Appellate Division, Third Department, in a 3-2 vote, upheld the position of Dr. David Axelrod, the Commissioner of Health, who argued that forcible testing and name reporting would do nothing to reduce the spread of AIDS and would, in fact, be counter-productive to the public health.

"The court's decision constitutes a double victory: one for the legal rights of people at risk for AIDS and one for the public health interests of all New Yorkers," said Thomas B. Stoddard, who argued against the physician's groups. "The decision permits a climate in which individuals will feel free to seek testing, counselling and treatment."

The suit, brought by the Medical Society of the State of New York, the New York State Society of Surgeons, and the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, demanded that the Commissioner of Health designate

both AIDS and HIV infection as "sexually transmissible" and "communicable" diseases under the state Public Health Law. Under such circumstances, names of all persons with HIV seropositive results would be reported to the Department of Health. In addition, physicians would have the authority to test anyone suspected of being positive, sexual partners would be notified by the State about the possibility of infection, and isolation and quarantine provisions would be triggered.

In November of 1988, Justice F. Warren Travers of the New York State Supreme Court ruled that forcible testing and name reporting would do nothing to reduce the spread of AIDS and would, in fact, be counter-productive to the public health. The physicians' group requested that a higher court rule on the issue.

In rejecting this appeal, Justice Norman L. Harvey re-affirmed that mandatory testing and contact tracing are not effective in stopping the spread of HIV infection. The Appellate Court agreed that because of the potential for discrimination associated with AIDS, those at risk do not avail themselves of testing and counselling when name reporting and contact tracing deprive them of confidentiality.

PWA Issues Highlighted in AIDS Conference Telecast

CHICAGO, IL—The Chicago-based Physicians Association for AIDS Care (PAAC) has released the programming schedule for their landmark twenty-five hour telecast from the Sixth International AIDS Conference on June 21, 22 and 23rd. In addition to approximately four-and-one-half hours each day of conference news, interviews and speeches, PAAC is launching its National AIDS Education Initiative. This initiative includes twelve hours of programming on current treatment options for the major AIDS-related diseases, as well as social, financial and ethical issues raised by the epidemic.

According to Gordon Nary, PAAC's executive director, "This telecast is the most important AIDS educational event since the epidemic began. It will provide physicians, nurses, other caregivers and persons with HIV virus with the most current information on the management of HIV infection and its opportunistic diseases."

Nary also pointed out that "the telecast integrates critical issues of importance to the PWA (Person with AIDS) community such as reimbursement, quality of life and patient education. PAAC's unique interdisciplinary approach to this epidemic is reflected in such diverse topics as a roundtable discussion of the impact of HIV infection on professional liability insurance; ethical issues in accessing clinical trials by women, children and people of color, and pastoral care."

The telecast will be provided as a public service to any institution with satellite reception capabilities, cable stations and persons with home satellite dishes. While hospitals and educational institutions will not be charged a fee, PAAC is requesting that cable companies and individuals registering for the program make a donation to defray PAAC's costs.

Brochures detailing the program schedule, featured speakers and registration information are now avail-

able from PAAC. All institutions registering for the telecast must agree to provide a demographic report on viewers. Because of staff limitations, Nary requested that persons or institutions interested in receiving a registration brochure write rather than phone PAAC at 101 Grand Avenue, Suite 200, Chicago, IL 60610.

"Partners" Changes Format

SEATTLE, WA—Partners: The Newsletter For Gay and Lesbian Couples will cut its price, double its size, and adopt a bimonthly schedule, according to publishers Stevie Bryant and Demian.

The four-year-old newsletter will lower its annual subscription rate from \$36 to \$21. Formerly an eight-page monthly, the newsletter now will include sixteen pages and be published six times a year. Each issue will feature interviews of two committed couples—one lesbian and one gay male.

"We want to make the newsletter more accessible," said Demian. "Our lower price will help us reach more couples with practical information and ideas to support their relationships."

Bryant claims that the newsletter is the "best single source for news and information about couples issues, such as domestic partnership, court rulings, and gay marriage."

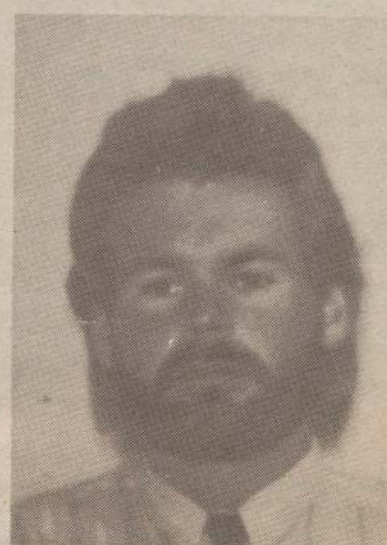
A sample issue of Partners is available for three dollars. The newsletter's mailing list is confidential; never loaned or sold. For further information, write Partners, Box 9685, Seattle, WA 98109.

SUMMER BEGINS
JUNE 21, 1990

COME OUT AND GET US WET!



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Charlie Klee

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BEFORE ENTERING THE CORRIDORS OF POWER, PLEASE CHECK YOUR IDEALS AT THE DOOR

Gay political activists in Arizona face two obstacles: 1) our enemies, and 2) our friends. Many words have already been written about the former; we're going to concentrate on the latter.

Working with politicians in a reactionary backwater like Arizona takes great care. Even those elected officials that our community can count among its supporters often feel they have to downplay their support. And when the elected official is gay or lesbian, you'll most likely find their sexuality in a hermetically sealed closet, if at all.

Here are a few purely hypothetical examples of political behavior in Phoenix, as it relates to the lesbian/gay community. These fictional scenarios illustrate some of the pitfalls of political action, and further explain why the most idealistic gay political activists tend to have such a high burnout rate.

Scenario no. 1

Jane Smith is a Democratic state legislator in a district where voter registration gives Republicans a slight edge. She is heterosexual, but she openly courted lesbian/gay community support during her maiden election campaign, which she won in a squeaker. Smith now faces an often impatient lesbian/gay constituency, and a hostile opposition party which aims to regain the seat it lost to her.

Her biggest fear is that the Mechanite wing of the Republican Party will discover her link to the lesbian/gay community. She imagines Evanistas lurking behind every bush, waiting to snap her picture as she leaves political functions at gay and lesbian bars. At an outdoor function in the parking lot of a lesbian bar, for example, she makes sure her campaign signs are facing away from the busy street. When a local TV news van drives by, she practically dives under a table.

Members of the community are understandably irked by this behavior. They say discrimination will never end as long as our nominal friends refuse to stand up for us publicly; their refusal helps perpetuate the idea that homosexuality is something shameful that should remain hidden.

But Jane's position is ultimately legitimate. The fact of her support of the lesbian/gay community could indeed harm her chances for re-election. Because her continued presence in the state Legislature benefits us, we must continually weigh that fact against protecting our easily bruised sensibilities. Do we really want to sacrifice every pro-gay politician on the altar of principle? Pro-gay sentiments may work for politicians in New York, San Francisco, or West Hollywood, but in a redneck nirvana like Arizona, they can be political poison.

The gay community is thus faced with the choice: noisily promote a series of Don Quixotes, or work quietly in the background, assuaging the frayed nerves of nominally supportive politicians whose hearts and votes, at least, are in the right place.

Scenario no. 2

Mary Jones is a "moderate" Republican running for a seat in the state House of Representatives. Her value to the lesbian/gay community is average—she's pro-choice, but seems woefully undereducated about the other pet issues of lesbians and gay men. Her saving grace is her opponent, an incumbent whose virulently homophobic, right-wing record has made him a favorite target of gay political activists.

Mary may not know much about our issues, but she knows enough to call on the lesbian/gay community for support. Of course, this support must be completely underground. The activists acquiesce readily, expending a large chunk of their resources in an ultimately successful bid to remove the homophobe from office in favor of Mary.

During two years in the Legislature, Mary's support of our community is disappointingly tentative. But when her call comes again, the gay activists readily accept the challenge to help her get re-elected. Why? Because her old right-wing foe is seeking to regain his seat. And because the activists are optimistic that when it really counts they'll be able to call in Mary's IOU.

Others in the community, however, wonder about the prudence of expending so many resources in what they see as a "lesser of evils" contest.

Scenario no. 3

Juan Lopez is a Democrat running in his first race for the state Legislature. He is gay and he is well-known among several high-rolling members of the community, but for the purposes of his political candidacy, he is closeted. His opponents range from potentially supportive of the lesbian/gay community to demonstrably supportive, but none of the others are actually homosexual. No doubt, Juan is counting on the unflinching support of his brothers and sisters in the community.

Unfortunately, a few of his brothers and sisters would rather support one of Juan's opponents. They fear that, once elected, a closeted gay man like Juan would not be free to vote his conscience when such votes might arouse suspicions about his sexuality. Others believe that, should Juan ever cast a questionable vote on a lesbian/gay issue, any number of his gay friends would be prepared to squeal—"outing," as it is now called. The potential scandal could set back the cause of openly gay political candidates by many years.

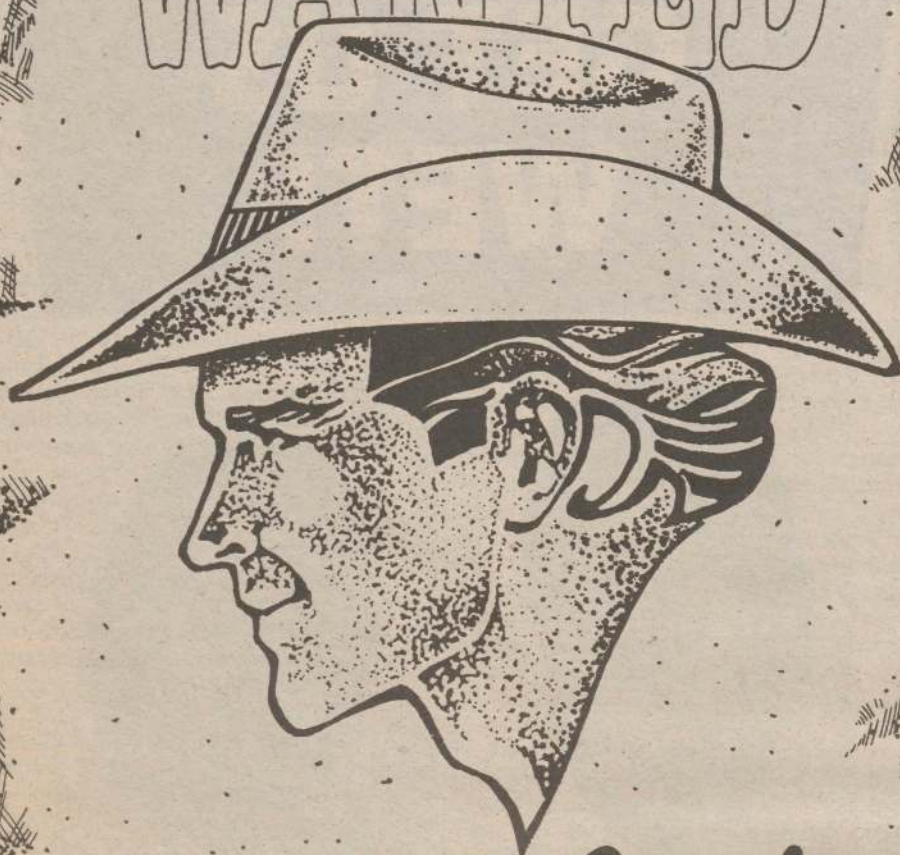
Still, what better way to represent the lesbian/gay community in the Legislature than with a gay candidate?

Ultimately, the decision of lesbian/gay voters must rest on how far out on a limb Juan is willing to go. He must assure the members of his community that he

—cont. on page 14

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IN DEFENSE OF DRAG:

BEWARE OF
COSTUMOPHOBIA AT
GAY PRIDE EVENTS

Dennis McMillan



“I can
just picture
the Dykes
on Bikes
leading off
our parade,
dressed in
tasteful
businesswoman
suits...”

recently read, in a San Francisco gay newspaper, a letter which included the following morsel: “Every time some bearded jerk in a nun’s habit or some transvestite in a tutu flounces across Market Street or the TV screens of Middle America, multitudes suffer.”

This article is written largely in response to letters like the one above, but also in reply to all the dragophobic people out there. You know who you are. Pretty soon now, as springtime segues into hot, hot summer, you’ll realize that it’s almost time for your local Annual Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade.

And, coincidentally, time for *your* annual letter to all the gay media expressing your deep concern and hope that this year, for heaven’s sake and the sense of all propriety, the drag queens will leave their dresses home and march in dignified street clothes. (I assume some of you more radical costumephobics will include cowboy and leather drag in this category of undesirables who lack decorum.)

Or, as Laura G. expressed in a recent letter to me, “Freedom of speech is indeed yours, and you have a right to dress and speak and roam around as you see fit. But, at the same time, I think we all will get a lot further in the area of gay rights if we show that we are not a lot of freaky people waving wands and wearing funny clothes, that we are all normal people who simply want to lead a normal life.”

Yes, Laura, I’m sure you have a point there, as do all proponents of proper dress (and I don’t mean silver lame strapless) code for the gay community at large.

But I’m not certain that the Stonewall Drags would have agreed with you. Allow me to explain.

In June of 1969 in New York City, a group of radical drag queens who hid out at their local gay bar—the Stonewall Inn—decided they would no longer put up with the continual police harassment and arrests that were part of daily homosexual life for these people. At the time—over two decades ago—it was not legal to be gay, so there was no gay pride, no gay politics, and absolutely no gay freedom of speech. Gay was not *respectable*.

One particular night, the Stonewall patrons fought back. For several days and nights, the Stonewall Rebellion raged on, and the so-called sissies beat out the men in blue in a rather violent uprising.

So you see, it was a group of “freaky people wearing funny clothes” back then who made it possible for you and me today to sit undisturbed, casually sipping cocktails and Calistogas, in the bar of our choice. And, for that matter, those nelly fellahs paved the way for every one of our marches—including the big important

ones in Washington DC that never get proper coverage by the mainstream press.

Which brings me to my point: We are, most emphatically, not going back. We are not going to act or dress or speak the way that the majority of straight society might feel comfortable with (and who can judge what that might be anyway?). If that means “waving wands,” then so be it!

Perhaps you anti-costume folks do indeed “want to lead a normal life.” I am sure the suburban closets will suitably provide you with this safe haven. But if you choose to proudly identify yourself as “gay,” you need to get in touch with your roots, and brush up on your gay history.

It will be a sad day when we no longer display our sense of humor, but feel compelled to keep it hidden behind our closet doors, along with our ball gowns and high heels. Next we will have to relegate our leather chaps and cowboy hats to private parties only, safe from the scrutinizing eyes of the public.

I can just picture the glory of the Dykes on Bikes leading off our parade, dressed in tasteful businesswoman suits. And of course the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence will present a winning appearance to the media in their black and white three-piece suits. The name will have to be changed to “People of Perpetual Pleasing” so as not to offend anyone.

We won’t want any Empresses ruining our image, so our floats will feature lots of Emperors and Dukes and male royalty *dressed like men*. Perhaps we can convince some lesbians to put on nice formal gowns, and look respectable and princess-like. Mike the Dyke will call herself Michelle the Lesbian. Past Empress Lily Street will be renamed Market Street and rather than wearing flowers in her hair will be found carrying a brief case in her hand. That is certainly *normal* enough!

All marchers will be requested to wear shirts (for the men) and blouses (for the women). No exposed tops will be allowed (and that includes men—we mustn’t show any signs of sexuality, you know). Before the march begins, all men will be frisked for any contraband costume jewelry or make-up they may be planning to sneakily adorn at the last minute.

The Girth and Mirth Club will be asked to either not be fat or at least not show a sense of humor about it. After all, we wouldn’t want the public to think that a bunch of happy, chubby gays represented our community, would we?

And speaking of representing our community, one last comment in response to Laura’s question, “Why do so many people have to parade around in costume for the

—cont. on page 14

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BOOK REVIEW

■ ■ ■
Meg Umans

Aural Sex and Verbal Intercourse

Isadora Duncan. Burlingame, CA: Down There Press, 1984. \$8.50 paperbound.

Isadora Alman is on the Board of Directors for San Francisco Sex Information and trains new volunteers for its switchboard. She describes her original connection with the switchboard, from the training she took through her relationships with the other volunteers on her shift, and roughly half the book is transcriptions of actual calls.

The training reminds me of the blitz weekend that was part of my graduate courses in sex counseling. We spent two days watching every imaginable variety of porn movies. Alman's group watched a split screen for 45 minutes: quick-acting overload. They spend parts of a few consecutive evenings exchanging personal sex information - we spent parts of class sessions over most of a year. And they got lots of information about sex and sexuality and how to respond to callers. Duncan describes her training with surprising humor—I liked her observation about the genderlessness of anuses.

Duncan is heterosexual, in a committed relationship. Her shiftmates were a single bisexual woman, a single gay man and a single straight man, with occasional backup from another straight man and straight woman. One of the straight men persistently propositioned every female volunteer. The bisexual woman propositioned one gay man and one straight woman, and eventually moved in with the backup man. Duncan recounts all this, and much more, to demonstrate that sex is of personal as well as educational interest to the volunteers.

Some of the transcribed calls are simply an entertaining way of sneaking accurate sex information into the minds of the readers, and there's probably little or nothing that readers of this column don't know anyway. Many of the calls go beyond information to rare compassion and insight, and alternative ways for us to see familiar occurrences.

One call Duncan took was a how-to-do-it. Part of her response was similar to the responses of channeled entities who are asked about sex "where they are." They usually say something like, "If you mean giving and receiving pleasure, and communicating without limits, then yes, we have sex." Duncan said, "There is no one right way to fuck...What sex is about is pleasure—giving it and getting it." Another call, taken by the shift supervisor, concerned a fetish (painted toenails) that the caller was afraid would turn off other people. In the ensuing conversation, the caller accepted the volunteer's conviction that the only preferences that are problems are ones that bother the people who have them.

The calls cover the range of sex-related issues, and the volunteers cover the range of sex-related responses. The volunteers introduce more slang, and more experience, than I expected—they have few restrictions imposed by policy, and few imposed by their inhibitions or mistrust. The work sounds like fun, and this book is fun to read.

—Meg Umans

VIDEO



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- *Now, Voyager*
- *Jezebel*
- *Madame Sin*
- *Death On the Nile*
- *Of Human Bondage*
- *Watchers in the Woods*
- *Whales of August*

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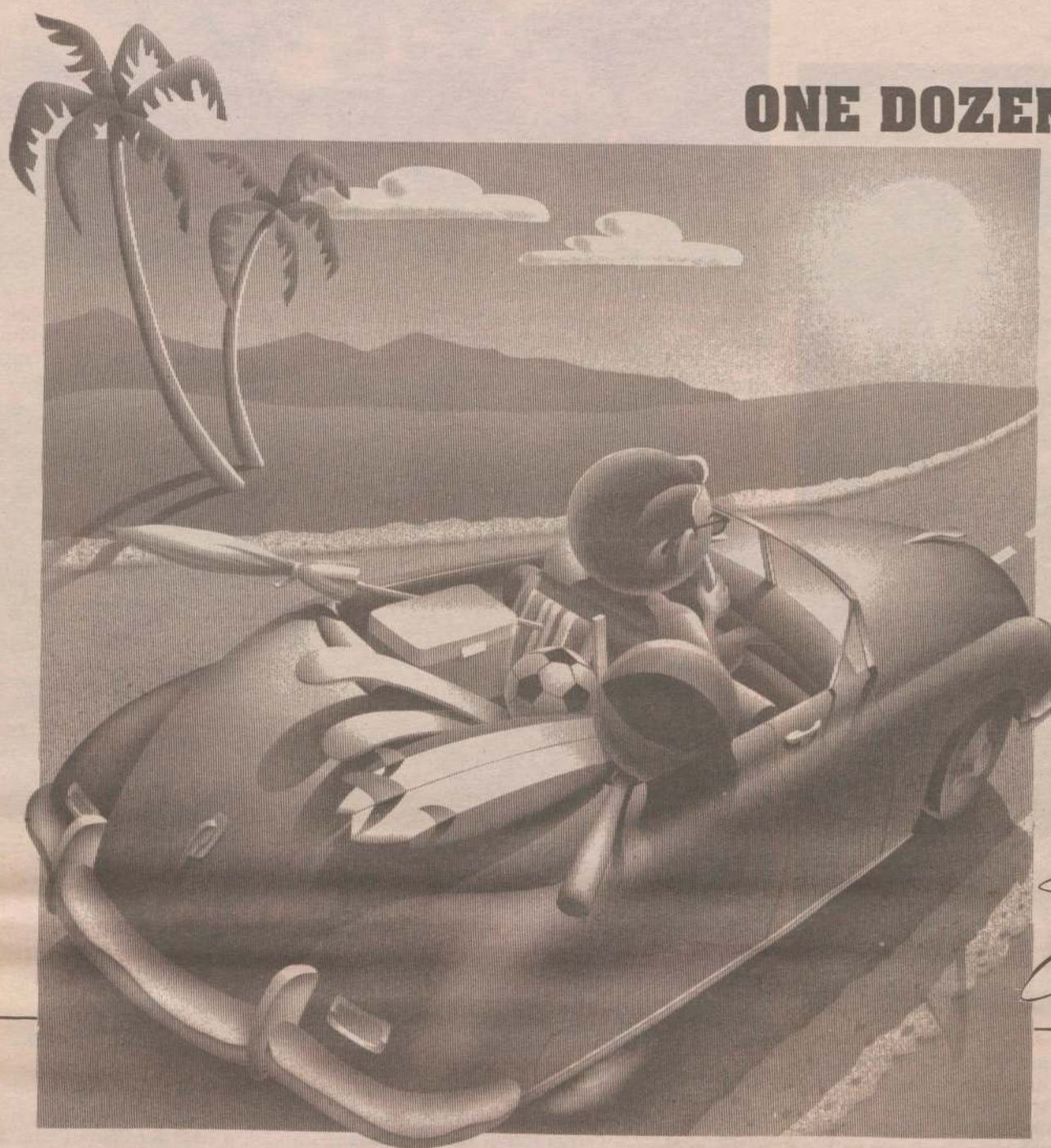
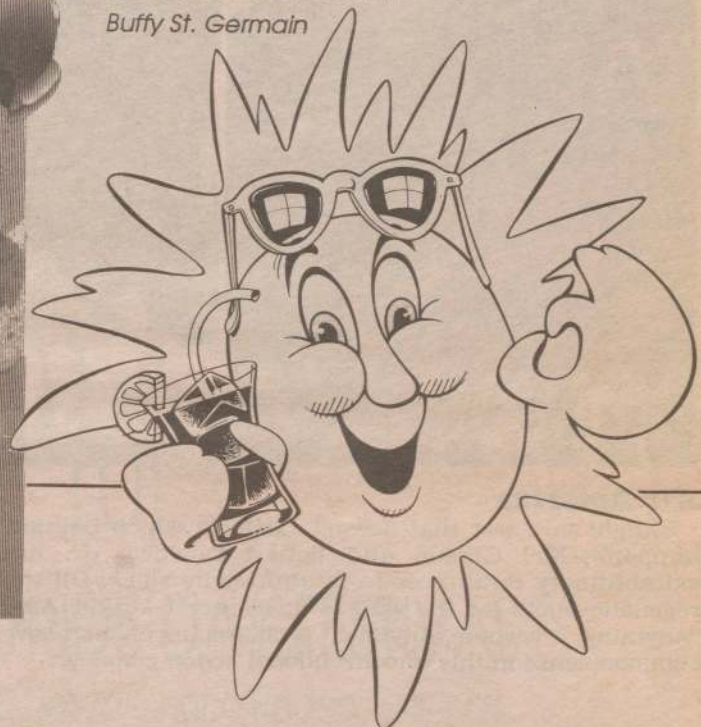


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ONE DOZEN GREAT BIG FUN THINGS TO DO WITHOUT LEAVING PHOENIX THIS SUMMER

Buffy St. Germain



Mill Avenue is
loaded with homos.
Hang around long
enough and you're
bound to get
a date...

Quit your complaining. It's easy to deal with the upcoming Summer heat in Phoenix: all you have to do is leave. But what about those of us who have to stay? What are we going to do? Have you given it much thought? If not, now's the time.

Do you want to end up trapped indoors with the air conditioner cranked to a budget-minded 90 degrees? Let's hope not. There's a whole world of resorts out there, filled with humpy valet parkers to cruise.

To get you going in the right direction, Buffy has prepared a little list for you to clip and stick to your refrigerator door. Let's call it FUN THINGS TO DO THIS SUMMER, or WHERE THE BOYS ARE.

1) *Cruise Mill Avenue.* Hell, spend the day watching people on Mill Ave. in Tempe. There are plenty of shaded patios to consume beverages from, and there are some interesting stores to help deal with the anxiety which comes from being in public and having to spend money. And Mill Ave is loaded with homos. Hang around long enough and you're bound to get a date.

2) *Do the Swap Meet.* If you like your boys dirty, the swap meet is a veritable hunk-o-rama. Go early enough in the day (on weekends, for the best crowd) to avoid the sweltering heat, but late enough to catch everybody with their shirts off. Here's the drawback: *everybody* takes their shirt off here, so it's feast or famine. I find myself alternately muttering, "I'm in love again..." and "Honey, cover it up!"

3) *The Swimming Pool at ASU.* On second thought, never mind. You'd better not.

4) *Fiesta Mall.* See what clueless breeders are doing during the day. You won't be surprised...or particularly turned on. As an alternative, check in on the straight young boys and girls at a bar called Club Rio (formerly the Devil House). Jesus Christ! Where do these kids buy their clothes?

5) *Cherish Your Lifestyle.* Check out the Scottsdale Fifth

Avenue Shops. Looking at all that tacky crap for sale will make you happy you're gay and have taste. Enjoy a five dollar ice cream cone, then leave.

6) *Avoid All Fourth of July Celebrations.* Tell your friends: "I didn't do a fucking thing this Fourth of July, and I never got stuck in traffic once."

7) *Spend Some Time Enjoying Summer Cooking.* Set out a jar of tea in the sun for about eight minutes. Voila! Sun Tea! Then, order a pizza.

8) *Cinema Faux Gay.* See a matinee or twilight movie every Saturday and Sunday afternoon all summer. Let's take over the theaters during this time frame. It's a great time to get out of the heat during the worst part of the day and see a cheap movie. If we all go, we'll all have something to look at afterward.

9) *Don't Go to Mesa.* For any reason. Trust Buffy: you'll be happier.

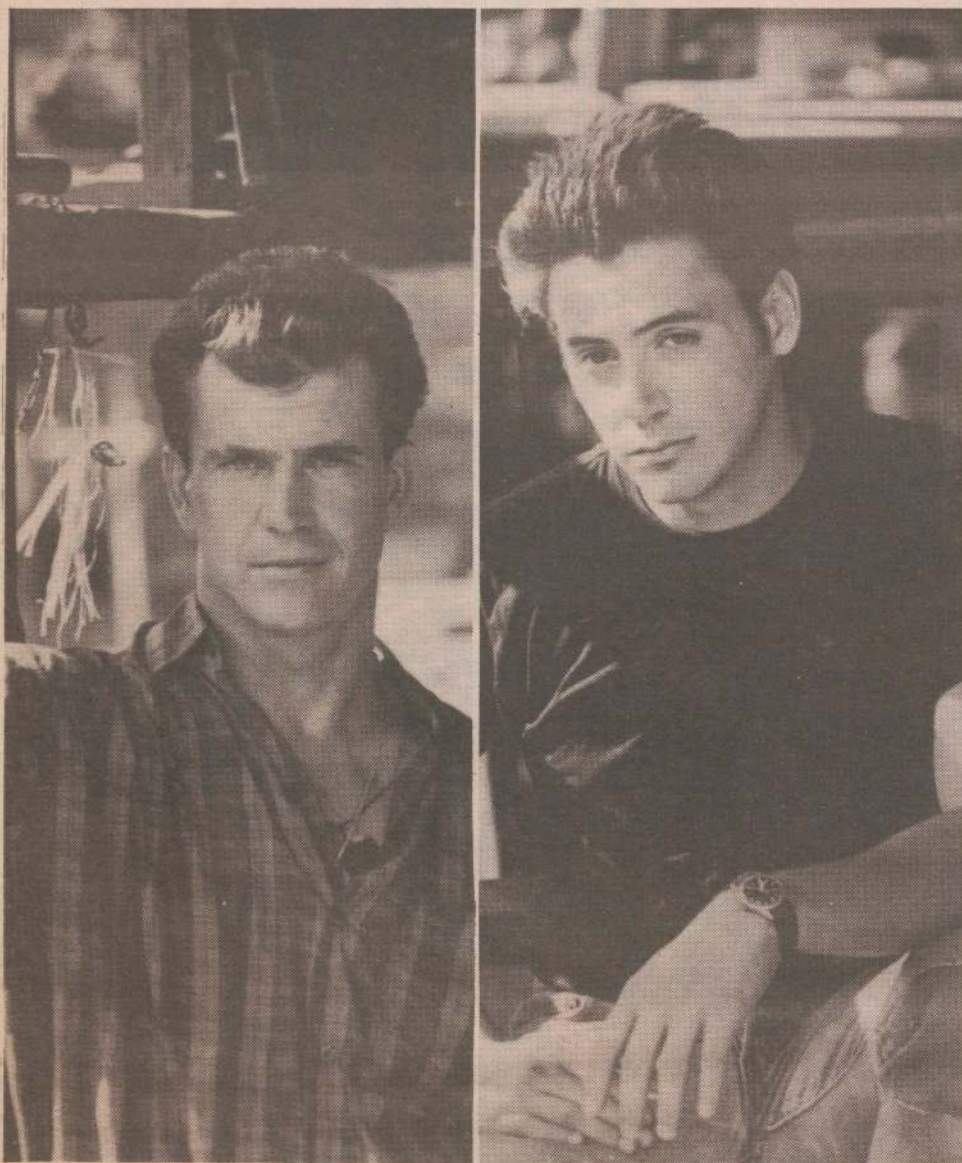
10) *Fall in Love and Fuck Like Crazy Weasels.* You'll lose weight. You'll feel better. Let your romantic side run wild this summer. Wouldn't it be great if our Winter Visitors complained, "Who wants to go to Phoenix? It's full of Homos!"

11) *Join a Health Club.* Why shower alone this summer? You don't have to work out. You could just sit in the bar and swill beers all afternoon and watch the Steroid sweeties trying not to cruise the closeted jocks. (Talk about an exercise in banality! What are these guys waiting for: President Bush to say it's okay to be gay?)

12) *Call All Your Other Friends Who Are Stuck in Phoenix for the Summer and Plan a "Gay Day" at Big Surf.* The word will spread. Once there, converse loudly about past dates with hot young things, and you won't have to worry about the Brady Family camping out next to you, blocking your otherwise pristine view of the lifeguard.

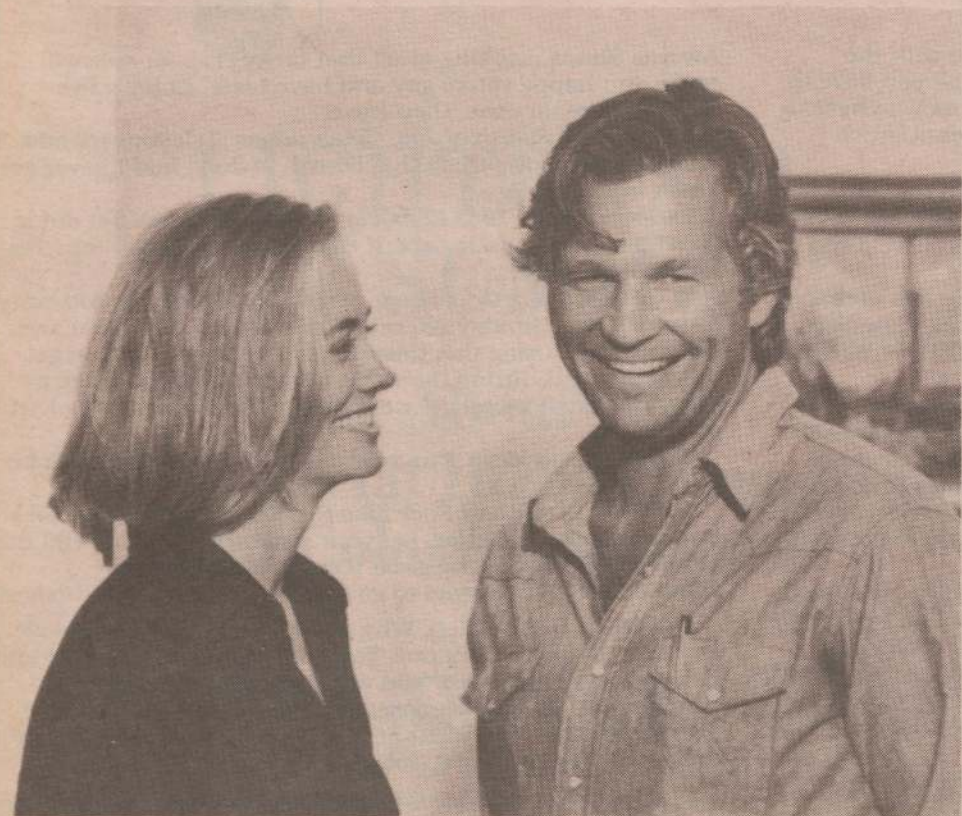
Bring your camera. It's going to be a summer to remember.

Coming Soon...



Air America

Caught in a war that doesn't exist—in which nothing they do ever officially happens—Mel Gibson and Robert Downey, Jr. are pilots in the most extraordinary outfit ever to fly unfriendly skies. Gibson and Downey team as renegade pilots for the world's most secret airline, Air America, whose motto, "Anything, Anywhere, Anytime," promises uncommon adventure for flyers with no common sense in this unconventional action-comedy.



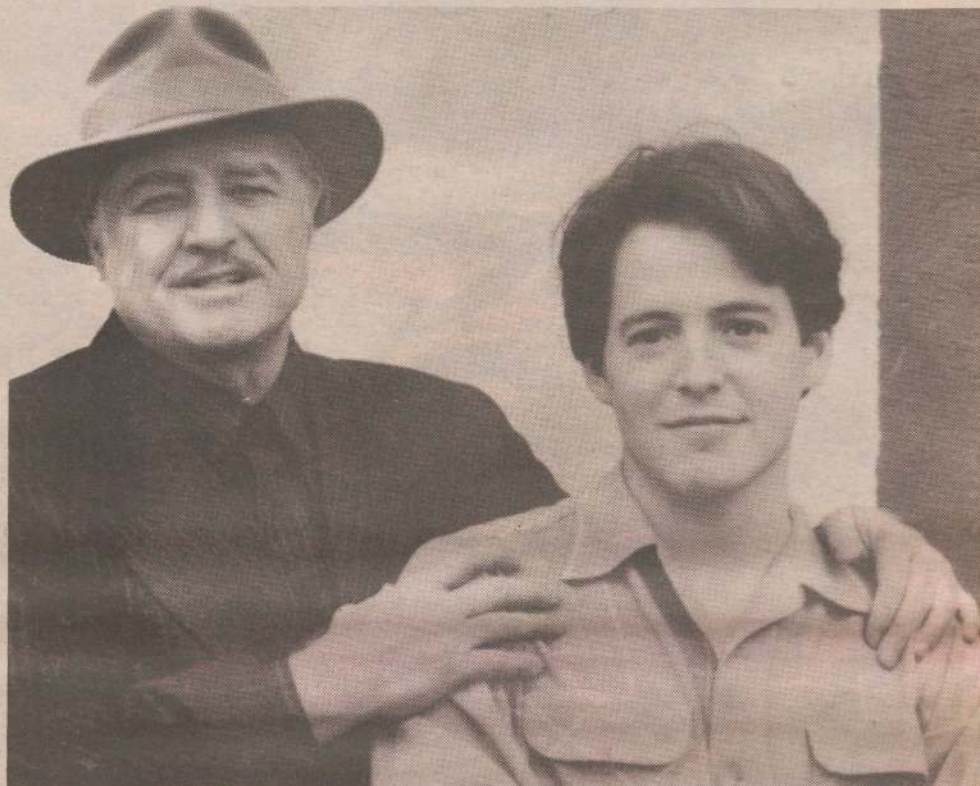
Texasville

Jeff Bridges and Cybill Shepherd star in the sequel to the landmark film *The Last Picture Show*, reuniting director Peter Bogdanovich with the original film's leading cast members. It is based on Pulitzer Prizewinning author Larry McMurtry's novel *Texasville*.



Flatliners

A contemporary thriller about five ambitious medical students who embark on a chilling life-after-death experiment. In their arrogance, they are individually faced with the sins of their past and discover the consequences of daring to tamper with immortality. Starring Kiefer Sutherland and Julia Roberts.



The Freshman

An offbeat comedy following the adventures of a freshman film student (Matthew Broderick) whose college career is dramatically altered when he is befriended by a genial father figure (Marlon Brando), a true gentleman who also happens to be an organized crime leader with an eligible daughter. The result is anything but a typical college education.

Lynn Lavner to Perform at Pride Festival

Ellen M. Young

Somewhere out there, a group of former junior high school students may be wondering whatever happened to that funny teacher they used to have. These days, she spends much of her time on stage in black leather making observations on life as a Jewish lesbian from Brooklyn.

Lynn Lavner, a pianist and composer since age seven, graduated from the piano bars of Manhattan to perform in some thirty-three states and five countries. Through her own company, Bent Records, she has released three albums: *Something Different*, *I'd Rather Be Cute*, and *You Are What You Wear*.

Lavner's performance style ranges from comedic monologues to poignant ballads concerning such diverse topics as AIDS and the life of Anne Frank. Her music deals largely with gay and lesbian themes, with an emphasis on confronting stereotypes. She encourages unity in the gay and lesbian community and refers to the leather she wears on stage as "a symbol of being open."

On June 10th, Lavner will perform at the Phoenix Lesbian and Gay Pride Festival, while also serving as emcee during part of the day. The festival will be held at El Lienzo Charro Rodeo Grounds at 27th Avenue and Baseline Road. For more information, contact the Pride Committee at 631-0350.

Alwun House Addresses AIDS with Art

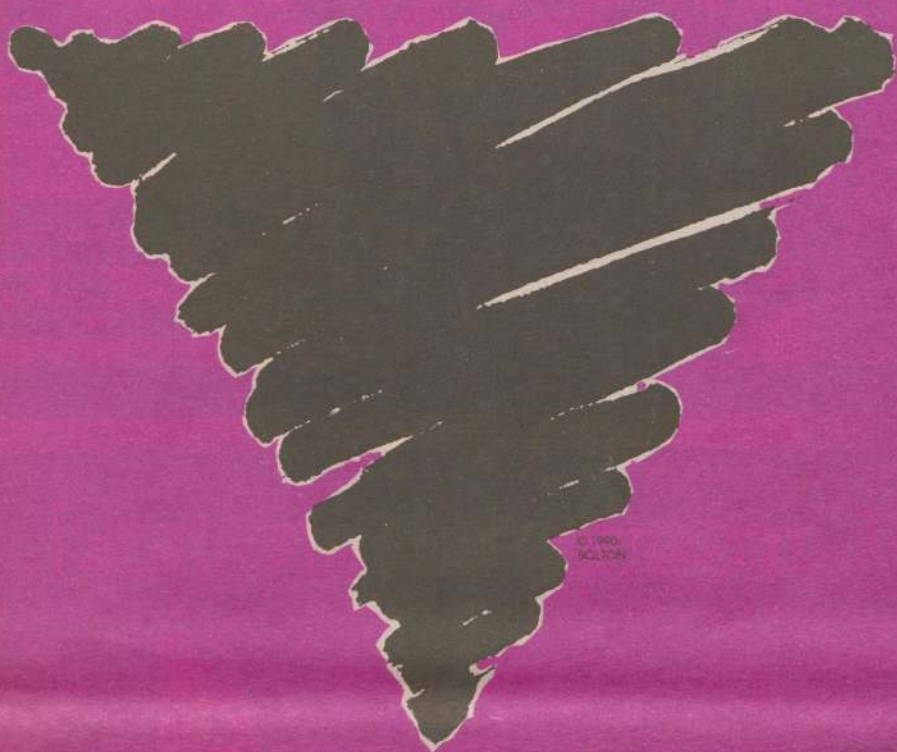
Alwun House, the Valley's first contemporary arts center, will present a pair of programs addressing AIDS during the month of June.

"AIDS and the Art of Human Compassion," an "aesthetic challenge to evoke compassion, whether abstract or figurative," will run through the month of June and will feature artwork in various mediums.

An art and antique auction—with proceeds benefiting the Phoenix Shanti Group—will be presented on June 17 at 4:00 pm. Antiques and art for auction will be presented from various dealers and galleries across the state.

Alwun House is open for public viewing at various times throughout the week; call 253-7887 for information.

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LYNN LAVNER

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Sponsors Leery of "Brothers"

Local Station Reschedules Gay-Themed Show

Ellen M. Young

The former Showtime hit series *Brothers* has made its debut on commercial broadcast television, but not without the usual controversy.

Local Fox Network affiliate KNXV-TV (Channel 15) had planned to run the gay-themed comedy at 10:00 weeknights. But according to one employee of the KNXV programming department, "advertisers weren't buying spots because of the show's content." The spokesperson also described potential sponsors as "feeling real leery about being associated with" the program. This came as a surprise to KNXV, which initially "didn't anticipate any problems." Unable to afford running the series at the 10:00 pm time slot, KNXV moved it to 12:00 am, when some advertisers were more willing to purchase lower-priced late night airtime. Unfortunately, this last-minute change did not make the deadline for TV Guide, which continued to list the show as airing at 10:00 during its first two weeks on the air.

Problems with non-cable television are not new for *Brothers*. The show was originally created for NBC, which rejected it in favor of *Love, Sidney* starring Tony Randall as a kind but highly unobtrusive gay man. In 1980, *Brothers* creator Gary Nardino sold the concept to ABC, which also promptly rejected it after reading the pilot script. It wasn't until Nardino left his position as President of Paramount Television and formed Gary Nardino Productions that *Brothers* found its way to Showtime Cable. Making its debut in July of 1984, the show became the first regular sitcom on pay cable, winning numerous ACE awards (Awards for Cable Excellence). The show has since been sold to television stations in Australia, England, Italy and Canada.

Showtime initially bought the series concept with an attitude quite the reverse of that permeating commercial network minds. "We thought if we could come up with a series that causes genuine word of mouth, we could do more for pay television and Showtime than we could in any other manner," explained Peter Chernin, Showtime's Senior Vice President of Original Programming and Marketing. The producers were also careful to employ gay writers and advisors in order to avoid offensive or inaccurate material. By the end



of the first season, the show could boast some 5.6 million committed viewers.

Brothers began airing on KNXV-TV on Monday, May 28th. A spokesperson for the station predicted that the TV Guide listings would accurately reflect the 12:00 time slot by the week of Saturday, June 9th.



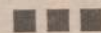
BROTHERS

It was 10:00 pm. My VCR was set on "Record." Suddenly, I found myself taping an episode of *The Beverly Hillbillies*. This was a frightening enough prospect in itself (although I admit to a fondness for the show's theme song). Still, I had more profound anxieties. Suppose the long-awaited resurrection of *Brothers* was not to be after all?

The following day I telephoned KNXV-TV (or, as they prefer these days, "Fox-15"). "What in the name of Quentin Crisp is going on here?!" I wanted to know. I breathed an inconspicuous sigh of relief upon hearing that the show had merely been moved to 12:00 midnight. (I had, however, missed the previous night's episode, over which I shall maintain a steadfast pout for at least a week and a half.)

I had become a *Brothers* devotee from the first episode, which aired back in 1984. Unfortunately, as many of us were without VCRs in those days, the first two seasons had been lost to my collection which, up to the present time, has been limited to a meager 26 VHS tapes. I once wrote to Paramount Television requesting an autographed photo of Phillip Charles MacKenzie, which now hangs on my wall: We all recollect milestones in our lives. Among my own I must surely count falling madly in love with Donald Maltby. (Kelly, the waitress, was okay too, I guess, but what can I say? She was no Donald.)

At any rate, the show is on the air now, albeit late in the evening. Let the sponsors say or do what they will. Let them quiver in their ever-so-masculine boots as visions of fundamentalist boycotts dance in their heads. Let *Brothers* find its audience at midnight. Then let the sponsors try to buy airtime when the price goes up.



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SLUTES

cont. from page 6

will not sell out to homophobia or be forced to issue denials that reinforce the public's notion that homosexuality is a terrible crime.

■ ■ ■

Some day the queer connection may not be so politically fatal in Arizona. Until then, we may have to settle for slow progress while our ideals take a beating.

We can't legislate society's tolerance or acceptance, but we can help elect politicians who are willing to put the government on our side, at least. In the meantime, a few brave politicians may actually acknowledge their support for our community. That's gravy.

DRAG

cont. from page 7

press?" The answer is simple. As one who has been on both sides of the pen—interviewee and interviewer—I can assure you, the media wants to see creative, colorful people. When a man is speaking of gay rights, he is quite apt to be cut from the newscast and totally ignored in his image-conscious financial district business suit.

But the flamboyant queen in sequins who denounces military intervention in foreign countries, the cowboy and leatherman arm-in-arm who call for domestic partnership legislation, two leather dykes holding hands and speaking out against pro-life politics, the clown-faced nuns who demand funding to fight AIDS and ARC—these people, along with their convincing words and impassioned pleas—will be noticed and remembered by the media. And thus our message will reach that crowd of people we are so anxious to have hear us.

In response to Laura and the anti-tutu troops, Debbie M. of Oakland writes: "I'm a gay woman, and every time I see a bearded man in a nun's habit walking down the street, I do not feel viciously caricatured. I feel divinely inspired and filled with joy and laughter."

Sister Dana says, "Amen!"

Dennis McMillan is a syndicated columnist whose alter ego, Sister Dana Van Iquity, is a longtime member of the San Francisco-based Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.

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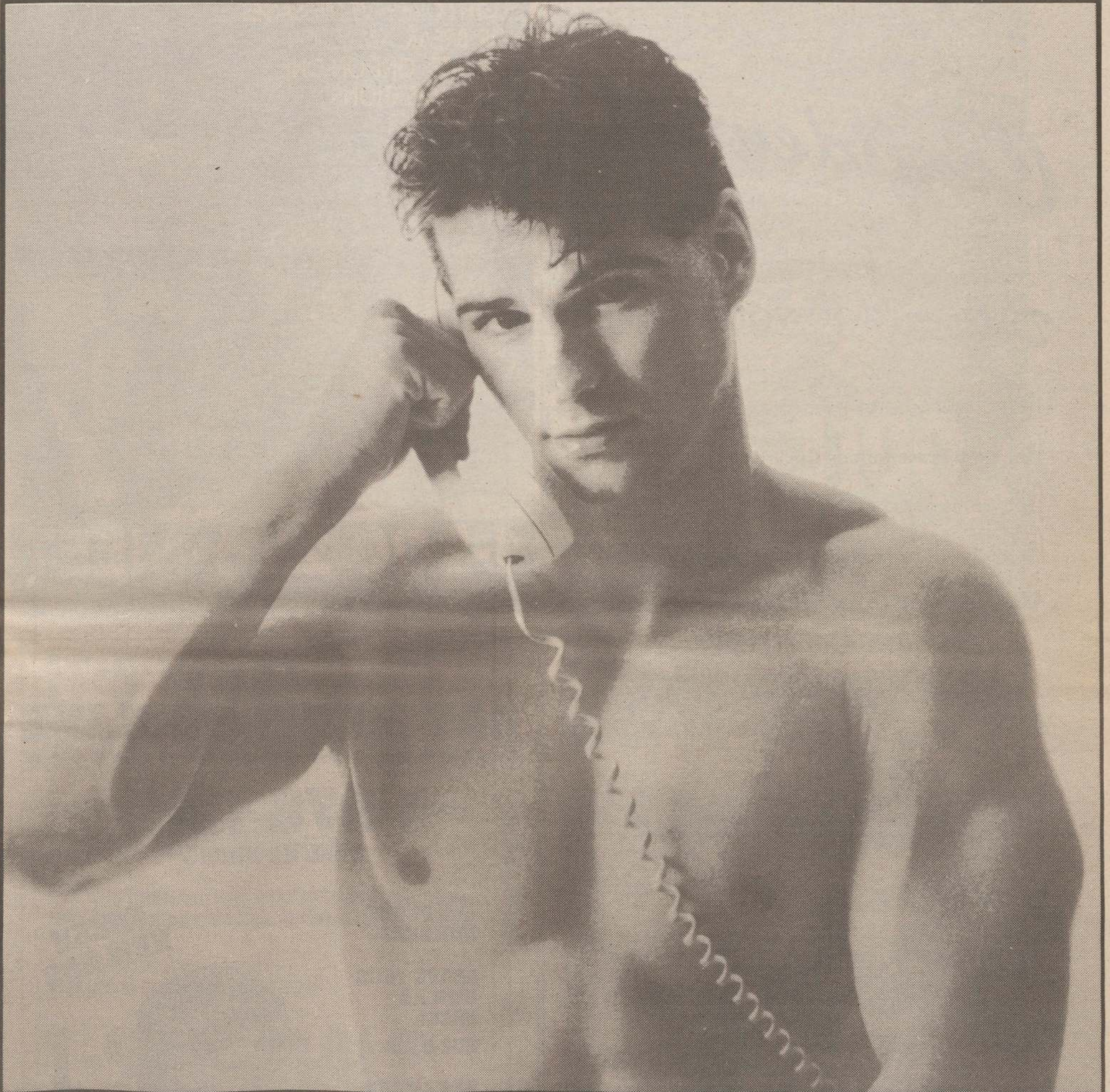
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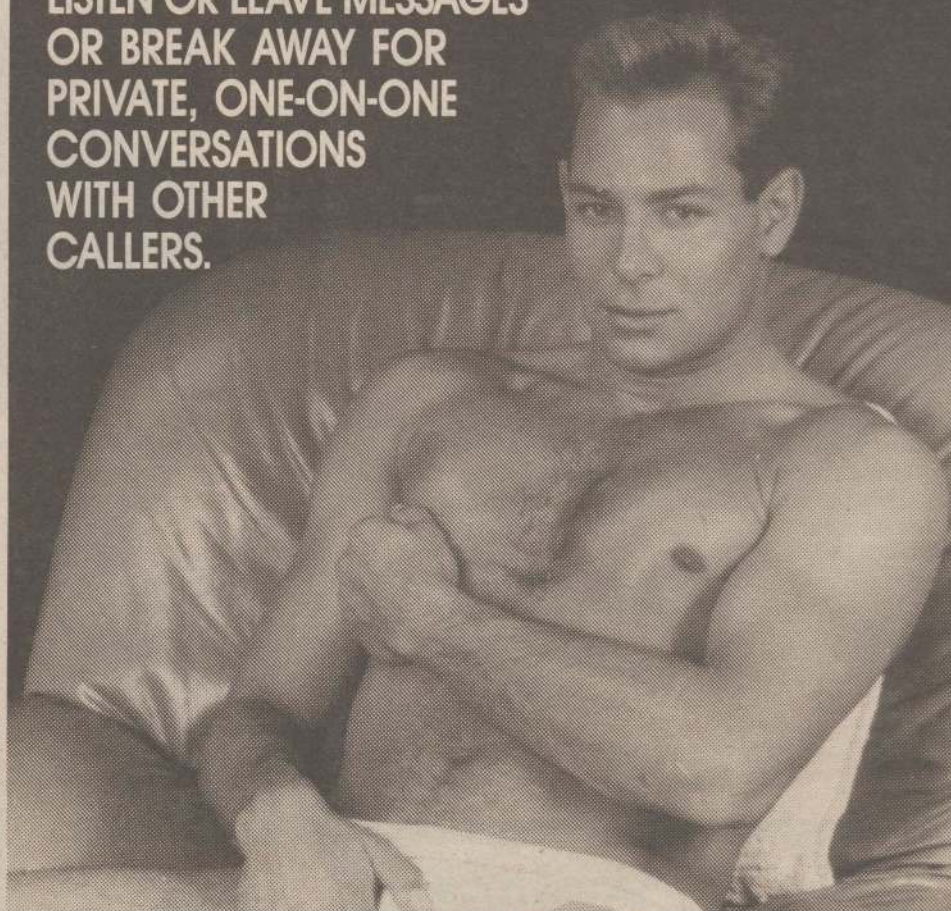
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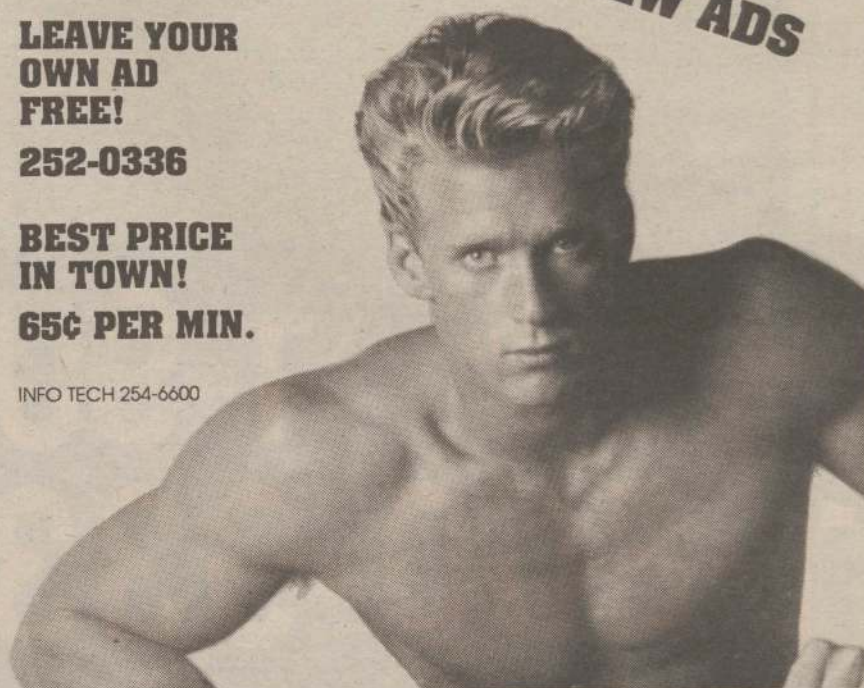
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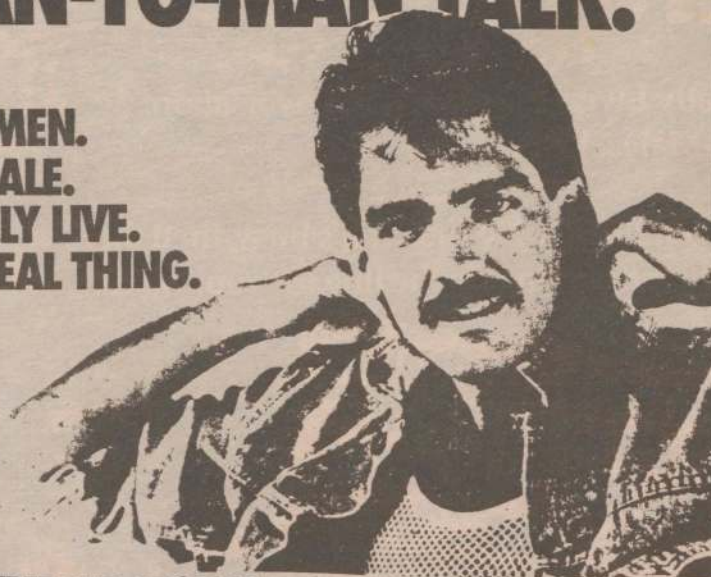
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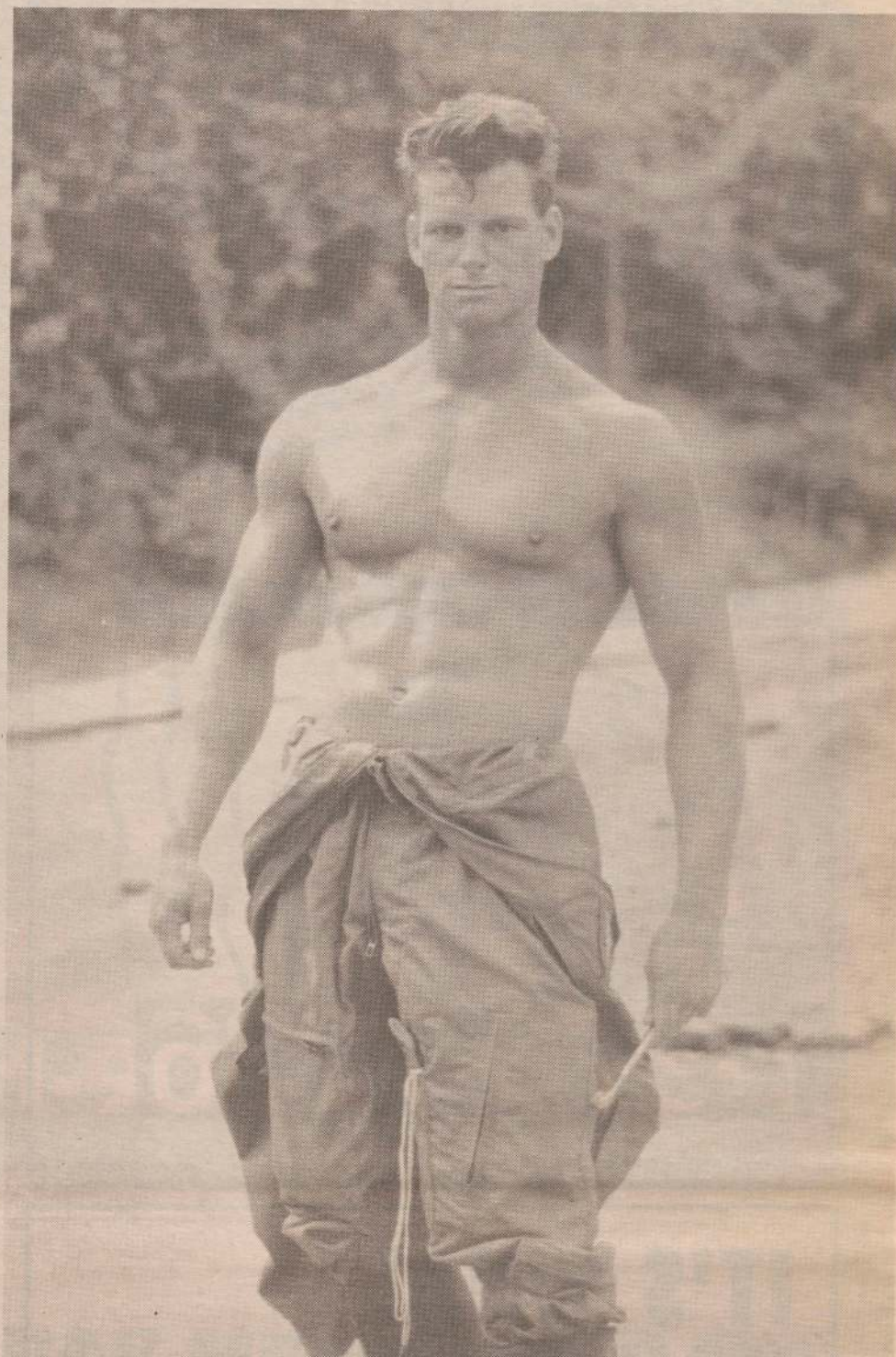
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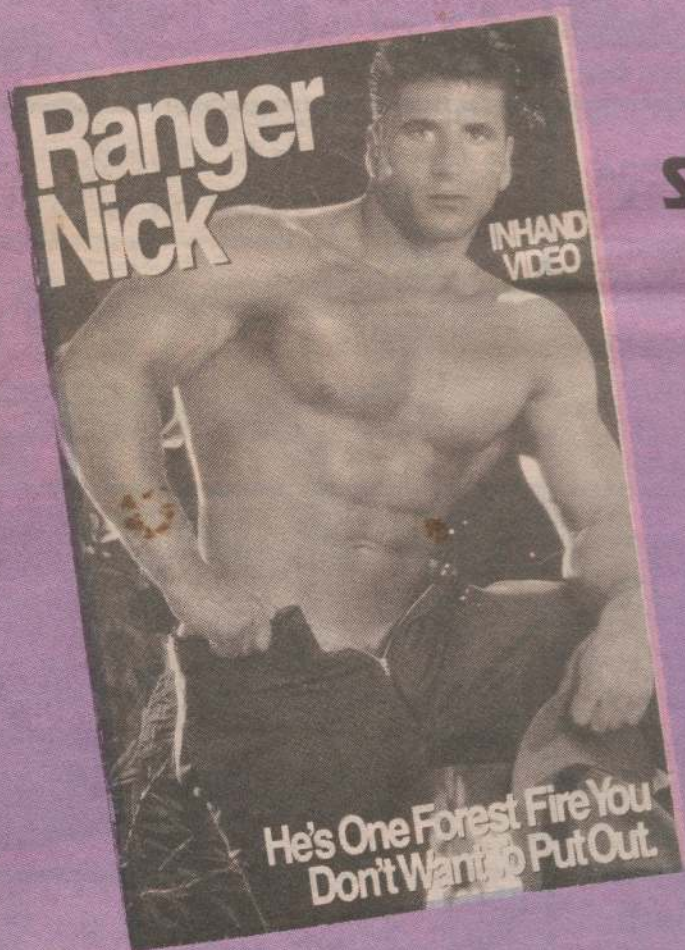
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