

# Rufus Wainwright

**Singer-songwriter  
Rufus Wainwright talks  
about his prodigious  
talent and aiming  
for success from way  
outside the closet**

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

**A**t twenty-five, Rufus Wainwright has long understood the rigors of life on the road.

"With touring all the time, and shows constantly, and making records—you really have to build up a wall to sustain yourself," he says, on the phone from his hotel room somewhere in Ohio.

He appears to be sustaining himself quite well. Wainwright's self-titled debut album hit record store bins last May to immediate, glowing reviews. The Basset-eyed, scruffy-cheeked entertainer has been touring practically nonstop since its release.

The son of folksingers Loudon Wainwright III and Kate McGarrigle of The McGarrigle Sisters, Rufus and his three sisters were raised by their mom in Montreal, but he's been traveling and performing with his family throughout Europe, the U.S. and Canada since he was a kid.

In the last six months, a seasonal commercial he did for The Gap (that was Rufus at the piano crooning the standard, "What Are You Doing New Year's Eve?") and a taped concert for PBS' *Sessions at West 57th* helped introduce the young performer's intricate-yet-intimate Modern Cabaret style to the masses.

Wainwright's visibility within the gay community has also been steadily growing. He grabbed some attention with a candid *Advocate* interview & photo shoot he did last September. He's also been deliberately open at his label since he first signed on (David Geffen's DreamWorks) and his career progress has consistently been covered in the gay regional press.

The interest and support of this country's gay community are much appreciated by the sexy and talented original—who's been out since he was 14.

Wainwright is up for the Gay and Lesbian American Music Award for 1998's Best Male Album, to be given

out later this month in New York. He's also been nominated to receive a music award from GLAAD, and earlier this year he garnered a Juno (the Canadian equivalent of the Grammy) Award for Best Alternative Album.

He'll be performing here in the Valley, at the Bash on Ash in Tempe, on April 13.

**D**uring our interview The Montreal Kid, as he calls himself, was tired but still eager to talk. He's as bright and serious as one would expect after hearing his exceptional, introspective cd. He's also witty, quick to laugh and refreshingly direct.

**HeatStroke: First things first. What were you doing New Year's Eve?**

Rufus Wainwright: Oh God, I had the worst New Year's ever. I went to Germany. For some stupid reason I decided two nights before New Year's Eve to fly to Berlin and have some kind of crazy—I think I was looking

for *Three Penny Opera* or something.

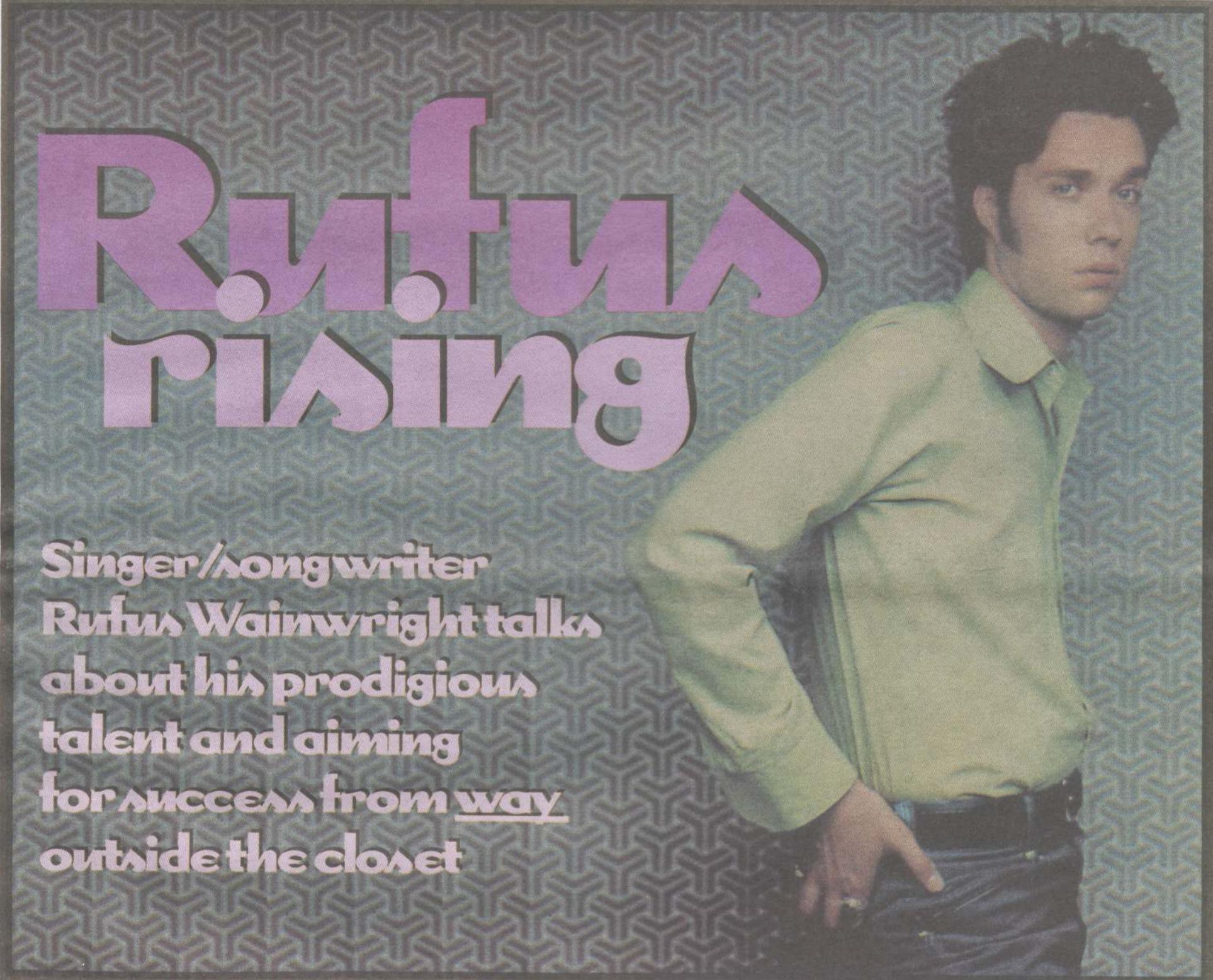
I didn't see anybody and I actually stayed in my hotel room because I was afraid of drunken German teenagers throwing bottles at people. Europe is lovely. I love it and everything, but they're all waiting to kill each other sometimes. You get that feeling, especially on New Year's Eve when they're partying. So I didn't have a good New Year's Eve at all.

**HS: Your Christmastime Gap ad and that cute guy on the ski lift singing about "Old Navy's Performance Fleece"—I hope you realize those commercials were the only two things a lot of us secular gay boys missed about the holiday season as soon as it was over.**

RW: Awwww.

And it was stupid too, because I was offered a gig—though it really wasn't my fault that I couldn't do it, because they were late on coming

**See "Rufus" page 18**



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# Horowitz: Which comes first?

I find it very easy to preach to people about the desirability of coming out and publicly acknowledging who we are.

I am a big fan of gay pride festivals, gay and lesbian film festivals, marches, parades, and every possible opportunity to show our colors. I am and have been out at home and at work for years. I am inspired by young people like Jesse Evans,

convince any rational person that two large men posing as homosexuals, luring a 5-foot-2, 105 pound, 22-year-old out of a bar, kidnapping him, pistol-whipping him and leaving him tied to a fence in freezing cold weather had motives other than hate on their minds.

The prosecutor's remarks enraged me even more. The state's attorney, Cal Rerucha, suggested to the potential jurors

that Matthew Shepard was "not the same as you and I," but still found him deserving of equal treatment under the Constitution. What the hell does he mean by saying "not the same as you and I"?

How can we expect the community at large to treat us with equality when our internalized homophobia keeps us from considering ourselves equal? After years of coming out—including television, radio and newspaper interviews—I still find myself withholding the information (or at least the affection I would otherwise be willing to show).

I grudgingly admit that there are times and places where I fear

for my safety enough to be temporarily in the closet. It's easy to kiss another man at a gay bar or to hold hands at gay pride. It's a lot more difficult to do so in downtown Phoenix on a workday. It's unthinkable to publicly show affection in South Phoenix after dark.

My own hypocrisy eats at me from the inside. I find myself in a chicken-and-egg quandary.

We'll get to the point when we feel physically and emotionally safe to come out in all circumstances when enough legal and social safeguards are in place to protect us. We'll get enough legal and social protections when we all come out of the closet and become a visible thread in the fabric of society.

**O**n the same day as the trial began, almost one hundred Arizona gay rights advocates lobbied the state legislature. We stood up in the gallery of the Arizona House of Representatives, home of Karen Johnson and Barbara Blewster, and laid claim to our rights as taxpaying citizens. I felt proud, confident and safe.

I wish I felt that way at all times and in all circumstances. I still believe that time will come.

David Horowitz is a Phoenix attorney.

***The prosecutor's remarks enraged me even more. The state's attorney suggested to the potential jurors that Matthew Shepard was "not the same as you and I," but still found him deserving of equal treatment under the Constitution.***

the founder of the controversial gay student support group in Gilbert.

Coming out is an essential step on the road to freedom and equality. It can also be dangerous to our health, jobs and lives.

On March 24, Russell Henderson went on trial for the murder of Matthew Shepard whose death has led to many calls for action on antigay violence and hate crimes in general. Wyatt Skaggs, Henderson's defense attorney, addressed the "gay lifestyle" issue head on during jury questioning. I found his remarks and accompanying case strategy quite disturbing.

Skaggs told the Laramie, Wyoming jury that the case was not about lifestyles. He said, "This case is not about hate. All crimes . . . aren't about hate. They all come down to some real simple motives."

The bullshit quotient here is incredibly high. In law school, we were told that all legal arguments ought to at least be able to pass a "straight-face test." What an ironic choice of words!

I would like to see Skaggs



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# Pride '99 is upon us: join Miss Watley on April 17

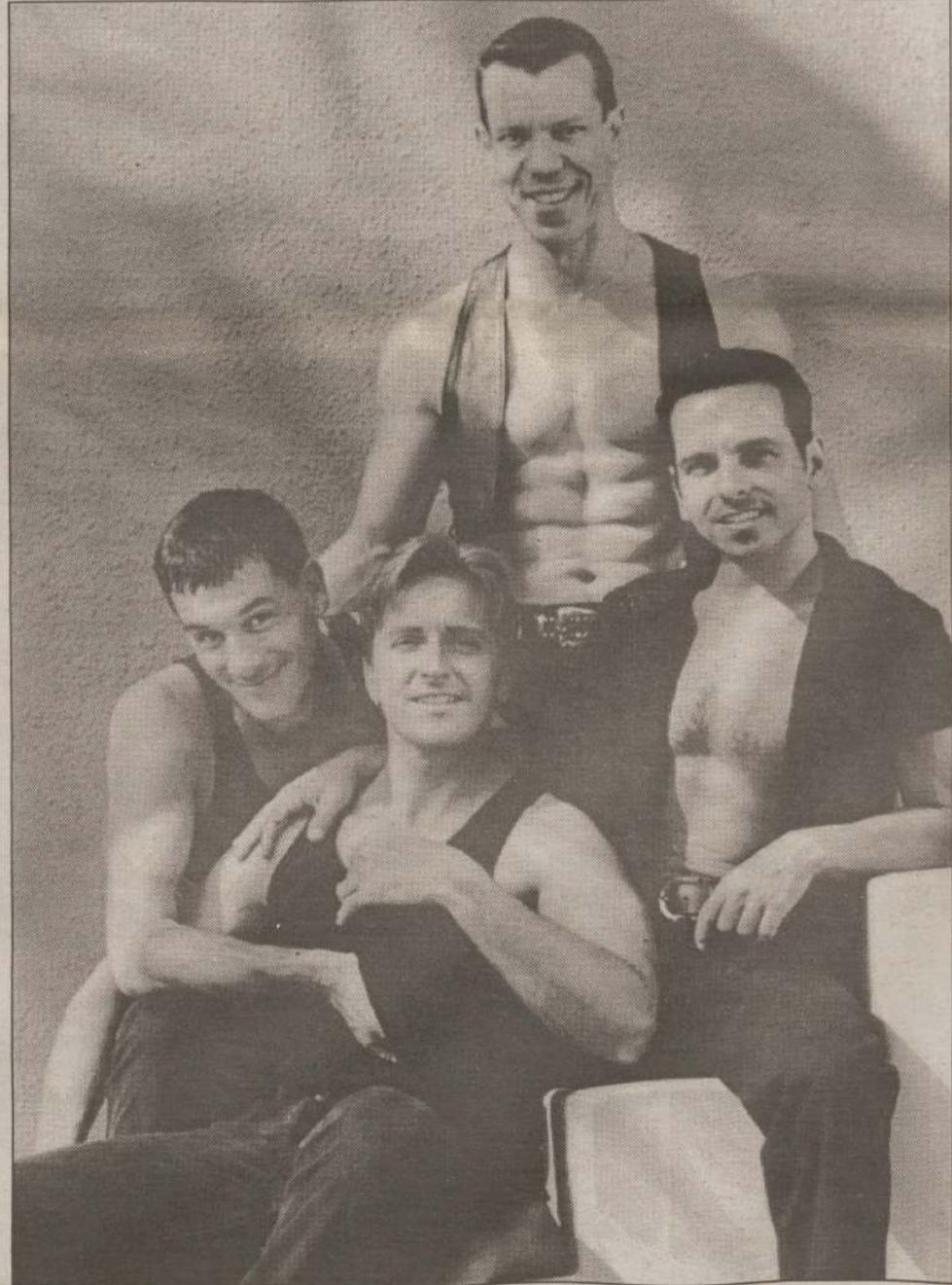
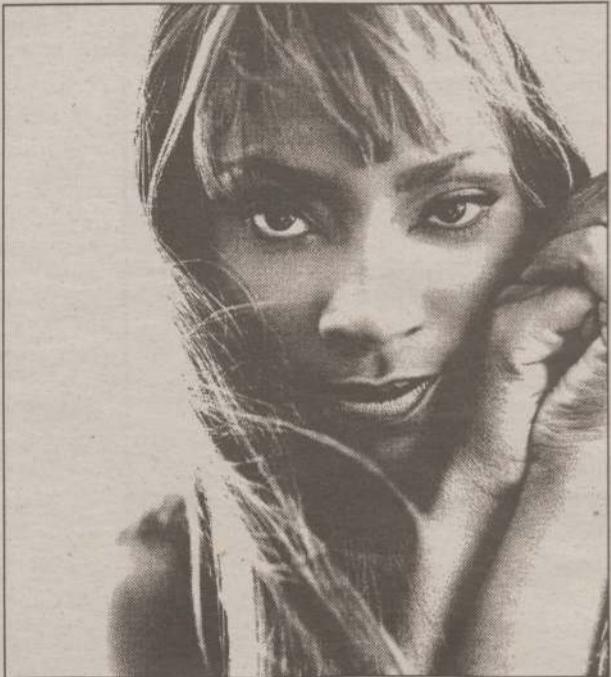
Arizona Central Pride, the committee that produces the Phoenix area's Gay Pride events, is inviting everyone to this year's pride parade and festival, scheduled for April 17, 1999.

Disco diva Jody Watley, known for the '80s megahits "Looking for a New Love," "Friends," and "Real Love," will headline the entertainment offerings at the event.

Also set to perform at the festival, entitled "Millions of Lives, 1 Voice in Pride," are perennial favorites Men Out Loud from L.A., comedian Lorne Newman and comedian/singer Linda Lavner. Charlie Pacheo, "The Castro Cowboy," will also be appearing, as will the musical duo White Light.

The festival in down-

New this year will be a 5k run, set to kick off the pride day with a 5:30 am start. This year's Mr./Ms. /Miss Gay Pride pageant will take place at 8 pm on Friday, April 16, also in the



town Phoenix's Margaret T. Hance Deck Park will once again follow a parade down Central Avenue, slated to step off at 10 am at Thomas Road and proceed down Central Avenue to the festival grounds.

The festival gates are set to open at 10 am, and will close some time after midnight.

Grand Marshal for this year's parade will be former Army Sergeant Miriam Ben-Shalom, a lesbian activist who was honorably discharged from the military in 1976 for truthfully answering questions pertaining to her sexuality.

Deck Park and starting at 8 pm.

To reduce parking problems, shuttle service between several local watering holes and the festival has been added this year. The cost of the shuttle is just \$1—see the ACP ad on page 21 of this issue for participating locations. Service begins at 9 am on Saturday. Also, a lot at 2nd Street and Moreland will be available for motorcycles and handicapped parking.

Tickets for the festival are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the gate. The parade viewing and the Friday night pageant are free. Call (602)279-1771 to get involved or for more information.

# Louisiana gay rights bills uncertain after sodomy law wins

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—After winning back-to-back court victories striking down the state's sodomy law, Louisiana's gay rights supporters have suffered a political setback.

Gov. Mike Foster doubts two bills to protect homosexuals from job discrimination will fare well when they are considered by lawmakers during the current legislative session.

"I don't think either one will go very far," Foster said during a press conference last week after being asked about the future of the gay rights bills and a right-to-die bill. "They don't sound like Louisiana-type bills."

Foster's spokeswoman, Marsanne Golsby, insisted later that the governor has taken a neutral stand on the gay rights bills. But Golsby declined comment when asked to elaborate on what Foster meant by saying the bills probably aren't right for the state.

A supporter for a gay rights group backing the bill said he was pleased the popular Foster didn't actually say he opposes the bills.

"I disagree with him that they are not Louisiana-type bills," said Chris Daigle, chairman of the Louisiana Lesbian and Gay Political Action Caucus. "At the same time, we are happy he hasn't announced the bill dead on arrival by announcing plans to use his veto."

But the leader of the Louisiana Christian Coalition predicted the bills will never reach Foster's desk.

"Our reading of the Legislature is that these bills will definitely be defeated," said John Hogue III, the group's chairman. "We think they are

inconsistent with traditional family values." He added that businesses could face huge legal bills defending themselves from discrimination claims.

The separate bills were filed by Rep. Melinda Schwegmann and Sen. Jon Johnson, both Democrats and from New Orleans, home to one of the country's largest concentrations of gays.

Supporters say Louisiana needs the legislation because the state is one of 40 where it is legal for employers to fire workers because of their sexual orientation.

Last month, supporters tried to drum up support with multicolored billboards reading, "Louisiana Says It's OK to Fire People Because They Are Gay. Is that fair?"

They also expressed confidence that the bills might go forward this year because a state district judge and an appeals court in separate cases recently struck down an 1805 Louisiana law making consensual oral and anal sex a felony crime.

Gays say the law criminalized their only sexual option, making it easy for legislators to oppose bills brought forward by unindicted felons.

Schwegmann's bill would make it illegal for an employer with more than 15 full-time workers to subject employees to different standards of treatment or otherwise discriminate in employment or employment opportunities on the basis of actual or perceived sexual orientation.

Religious groups would be exempt unless they run private businesses.

Workers claiming discrimination would have to prove the charge by a higher burden of proof than in other lawsuits.

Johnson's bill is similar, but does not provide an exemption for small businesses or the higher burden of proof standard for discrimination claims.

Gays have enjoyed some political successes in Louisiana, particularly in New Orleans.

Discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations on the basis of sexual orientation is banned. The city also allows same sex couples to register as domestic partners, and permits gay and lesbian city employees to get benefits for their partners.

And last year, the state Legislature passed a hate crimes law spelling out penalties for people who attack others

because they are gay. State legislators also defeated a proposal to let voters decide whether the 1803 law banning same sex marriages should become part of the state constitution.

But a gay rights bill introduced in the Legislature in 1997 died a quiet death when a committee recommended studying discrimination against homosexuals before supporting legislation. Daigle said the study was never conducted.

Daigle acknowledged that many Louisiana politicians remain uncomfortable taking a stand on the gay rights bills, but says they have a better chance of passing in Louisiana than elsewhere in the South.

"We need to be cognizant of the fact that Louisiana, compared to the rest of its sister states in the South, has shown very progressive trends," Daigle said.

## Gay rights bill passes Nevada assembly

CARSON CITY (AP)—A bill to prevent job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation—authored by Nevada's only openly gay state lawmaker—passed the Assembly April 1 on a 30-11 vote.

AB311, by Assemblyman David Parks, would expand the existing law that prevents on-the-job discrimination based on race, color, creed, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

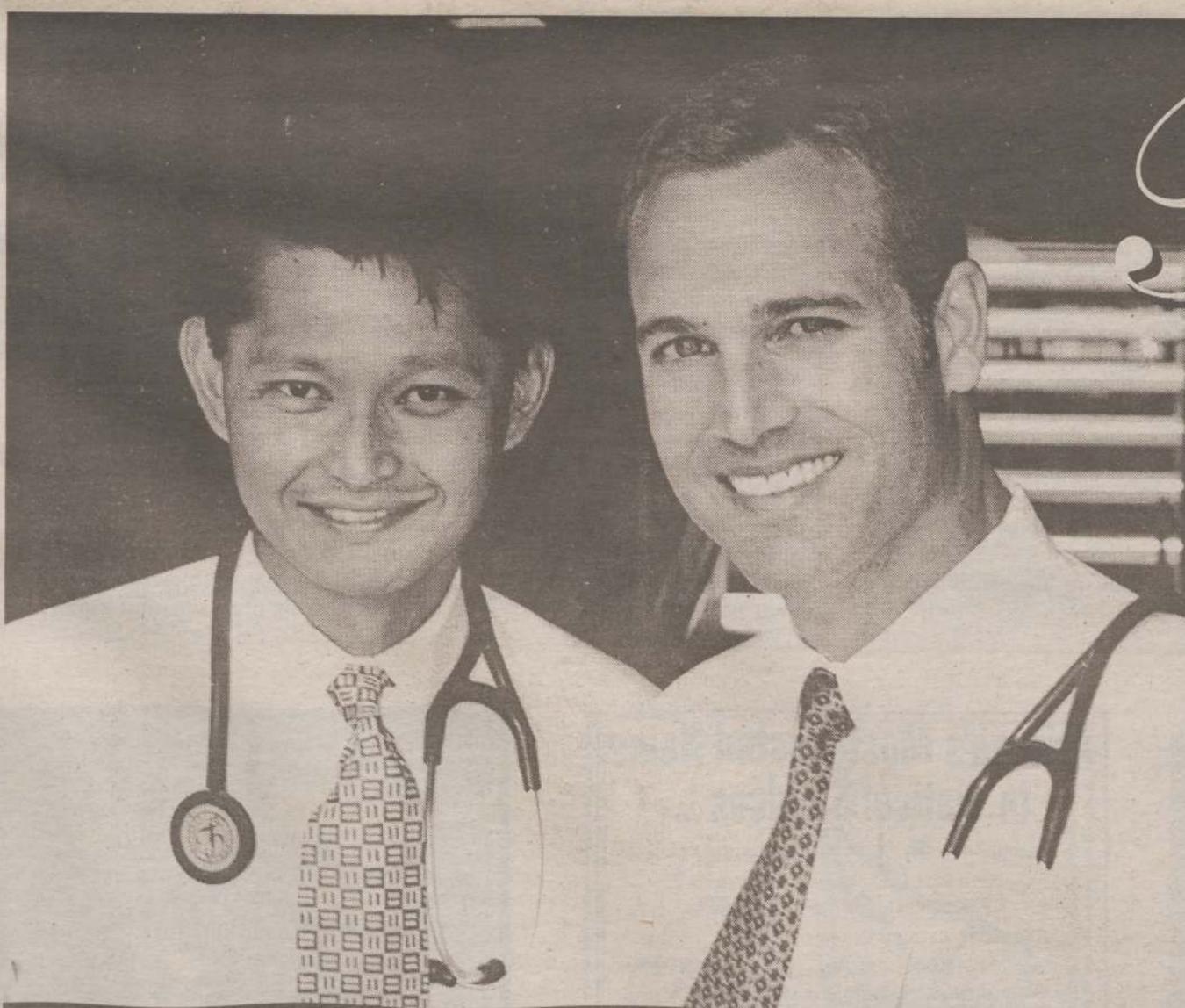
The bill now moves to the state Senate and, if it survives there, on to the governor.

"AB311 is a modest bill. It does not mandate use of quotas or preferential treatment and does not apply to reli-

gious organizations unless they participate in businesses that require them to pay taxes," Parks, D-Las Vegas, told the Assembly just prior to the vote.

The bill has been blasted by conservative groups who say Park's legislation is an inappropriate expansion of gay rights. One, the Nevada Eagle Forum, termed the measure part of the "world expansion of homosexual influence."

Assemblywoman Chris Giunchigliani, D-Las Vegas, urging her colleagues to support AB311, said most of the opposing comments were "filled with ignorance."



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# BOMEX adds new charges to case against gay doctor

Judge admits polygraph results despite BOMEX objections; Fisher calls his admissions of sexual misconduct fictitious

By Kelly J. Reidhead, Managing Editor

The state agency that regulates medical doctors has expanded its case against Dr. Kenneth Fisher to include new allegations of sexual misconduct with his former patients. Fisher, 48, is a local gay doctor who was one of the first clinicians in Phoenix to treat patients with HIV.

The physician, who has admitted being evaluated at a Texas institution that specializes in treating sexual addiction, is currently defending his right to continue practicing medicine before the Arizona Office of Administrative Hearings.

The formal hearing of charges and evidence against the doctor began Feb. 22. After five days the proceeding recessed until May 3.

By amending its complaint against Fisher on Feb. 12, the Arizona Board of Medical Examiners (BOMEX) added two new complaining witnesses—patient C.K. and patient A.M.—to its case for terminating Fisher's license to practice medicine. (See the accompanying sidebar for the specific allegations of the BOMEX complaint).

With the addition of these witnesses, BOMEX's complaint now contains the allegations of eight former patients who claim that Fisher engaged in improper sexual conduct during examinations.

BOMEX also incorporated a new charge against the physician in its amended complaint. The new charge accuses Fisher of being a "danger to the public" because of his alleged sexual improprieties. Specifically, the amended complaint states that Fisher "has admitted that he violated sexual boundaries" in the course of "investigational interviews, medical or psychiatric examinations and evaluations, and in other settings."

Because of the confidential nature of the proceedings against Fisher, *HeatStroke* was unable to identify the specific evidence that BOMEX will present to prove the new charge when the hearing resumes May 3.

*HeatStroke* has learned, however, that during a stay at a Texas institution called Sante, Fisher admitted to officials that he was guilty of sexual misconduct with various patients. He has since characterized these admissions as "fictitious."

During a Jan. 18, 1999 recorded conversation between Fisher, his attorney, Calvin Raup, and a poly-

graph examiner named Cy Gilson, Fisher described Sante as an institution "which deals specifically with sexual addiction." Fisher also stated that he had completed a series of exercises at Sante designed to "develop a prevention program for after care—a relapse prevention program."

In the 80-page transcript of that conversation—which preceded Gilson's administration of a polygraph examination to the physician—Fisher said that these exercises included writing "confessions" and "letters to each one of these people as if I had done it . . . I had to admit doing all of these in an exercise to write out what should I have done differently in my office . . . At what point in time did I first think about it." Fisher then expressed his con-

actual questions and Fisher's responses.

After analyzing the results of the polygraph examination, Gilson concluded in his written report to Raup, "it is my professional opinion that Dr. Fisher was being truthful when he answered these relevant questions."

BOMEX objected to the admission of the polygraph at Fisher's hearing. In a written motion, the agency argued that the polygraph was a "friendly" examination because Fisher not only selected and hired Gilson but also "participated in the development of the questions he would be asked during the polygraph examination."

BOMEX offered Fisher the opportunity to sit for a polygraph administered by an examiner selected by the

gation that Fisher used sexually suggestive language while examining his former patients. Fisher claimed that although some patients might find his sexually explicit language offensive, other HIV treating physicians would agree that such language is appropriate. In other words, Fisher believes that his use of sexually explicit language is clinically necessary to perform his patient examinations.

Specifically, Fisher said, "you can't talk about a penis and ejaculation and stuff like that to somebody who has a bit of dementia, somebody who has—is perhaps—you know, depending upon their socio-economic and their educational background. You use more street terms." Fisher goes on to say, "I probably won't talk about your penis. I'll probably talk about your dick. I won't ask you: do you have anal intercourse? I say: when it comes to butt sex, are you—do you participate? Are you top or bottom? Do you pitch or catch? I never would ask you: Do you participate in anilingus, I would ask you: do you rim?"

Raup interjected with his own analogy to demonstrate to Gilson the need for Fisher's explicit language.

"Yeah, Cy, this would be the equivalent of

having a prostitution practice where you don't talk about sex with your patients. If all of your patients are prostitutes, you're going to talk about their johns, you're going to talk about where they take it, how they do it," Raup added.

Fisher then told Gilson that, although he believes the sexually explicit language is necessary for his patient exams, he nevertheless has changed his examination methods. In the past, Fisher asked a patient about his sexual activities and urogenital functions at the same time he performed a genital exam. This method, Fisher said, "was an efficient way of doing a review of systems and an exam at the same time."

But Fisher has since changed his mind about the appropriateness of the simultaneous procedures.

"Specifically with a genital exam, I



Dr. Ken Fisher, from his 1981 application to practice medicine in Arizona.



Claudia Foutz, Executive Director of BOMEX, was appointed by Governor Hull in May, 1998.

cern about the effect these "fictitious" admissions would have on the results of the polygraph examination—commonly referred to as a lie detector test.

According to documents filed by Fisher's attorneys, the physician voluntarily submitted to the polygraph in an effort "to provide objective evidence of his truthfulness." Cy Gilson, the former Chief Polygraph examiner of the Arizona Department of Public Safety, administered the test after an extensive discussion with Fisher and Raup about BOMEX's case against the physician.

As the transcript of the conversation makes clear, Raup, Fisher and Gilson carefully considered and discussed various questions, finally arriving at four very specifically worded queries for the examination. (See accompanying sidebar for the

agency—an offer Fisher declined. According to BOMEX, "Dr. Fisher's refusal to take an independently administered polygraph casts doubt on the reliability of his purchased polygraph that cannot be overcome."

Brian Tully, the Administrative Law Judge presiding over Fisher's case, admitted the Jan. 18 polygraph into evidence at the hearing over BOMEX's objections. Judge Tully's rationale was not contained in the public portion of the hearing record and was not available to *HeatStroke*.

Aside from Fisher's "fictitious" admissions to the Sante staff about alleged sexual improprieties, the pre-polygraph transcript provides insight into Fisher's position regarding many of the specific BOMEX allegations against the physician.

Fisher, Raup and Gilson spent a great deal of time discussing the alle-

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now ask that differently and at a separate time from when I'm doing the exam, because I can see where a patient will, if I'm examining their genitals and I'm asking them, what is their sex life with their partner, do they screw or get screwed, do they just masturbate, what do they do when they get off, are they safe, do they wear condoms, do they give blow jobs, do they get blow jobs—that is very suggestive," Fisher explained.

Fisher also addressed the allegation of patient R.G., who complained that prior to a rectal exam, Fisher said to R.G., "just pretend that this is a big black man." According to Fisher, he made such statements in order to indulge a patient's fantasies—which he believed would make difficult exams easier for his patients.

Fisher said, "I believe the original direction of that remark came from the patient making a joke about having to get through [the rectal exam] . . . that the only way he could get through this was to fantasize . . . and I just took it from there and made a comment jokingly that, okay, pretend it's this, and went on with my exam. I mean I followed his cue to make light of it. I did not initiate that line of talk and I did not make that suggestion to turn him on. I made it jokingly to defuse his discomfort in having a rectal exam."

Fisher also denied telling his patients, while performing a genital exam, that they were "lucky to have a partner"—a contention made by former patient R.C. He did, however, admit referring to the partners of some patients, but not during an examination. Specifically Fisher said, "I oftentimes tell gay men about their boyfriends, lesbians about their girlfriends, men about their wives. It's a sort of an affirmation as I'm leaving . . .

[I tell them to] go home and tell your wife what a lucky woman she is. And it's usually when the patient is dressed, the 'scripts are written, the chart is in the hand, and they are on their way out the door."

Fisher consistently denied that he intended to sexually arouse patients during an examination. He explained, however, that some of his patients nevertheless became aroused by certain medically necessary procedures—such as prostate massage—and that Fisher was "fascinated" and "flattered" by their sexual arousal.

Raup added that Fisher received "emotional gratification" from the sexual arousal of his patients, and that Fisher's response to that arousal was inappropriate. "Here's what Dr. Fisher has learned about himself. When he would do a medically appropriate examination on a man, a man became aroused. What was going on in his head is that [the sexual arousal] was something that was gratifying to him. He's interested in me. That makes me feel important," Raup said.

"What he has now learned is it doesn't matter," Raup continued. "That's inappropriate. You walk away from that. You don't watch it, you don't look at it, you don't think about it. . . . What [Fisher] didn't do was to say 'hey, I'm your doctor, put that thing away.' But was it his purpose to arouse the patient? No. But he didn't leave when he saw the patient aroused."

"[Fisher] would receive some emotional gratification from seeing that—'I can make this guy aroused,' instead of saying, 'I'm a doctor, it's not part of what's going on.' That's what the therapy has been designed to do—to say that's not appropriate in your office. So don't stick around when that happens," Raup continued.

"I feel like Jimmy Carter," Fisher said. "Once these guys got an erection, yes, I lusted in my mind. You know what I mean? It's like, yeah, I notice that. Yes, I appreciated what that meant. Was that my intent? No. And—arousal was—from my standpoint, the arousal was patient driven, not doctor driven."

The hearing of BOMEX's charges against Fisher is currently scheduled

to reconvene on May 3. Additional hearing days have been set for May 4, 18, 19, 20 and 21.

At the conclusion of the hearing, Judge Tully will prepare written findings of fact and conclusions of law for the consideration of BOMEX. The regulatory agency will then decide whether Dr. Fisher's license to practice medicine should be maintained, suspended or revoked.



## In the matter of Kenneth Fisher, M.D.

### BOMEX amended complaint details allegations of sexual misconduct with 8 former patients

The following passages have been reprinted directly from the BOMEX amended complaint against Dr. Fisher. Because of confidentiality laws, the complaint refers to each patient only by his initials. BOMEX added patient C.K. and patient A.M. to the complaint on Feb. 12, 1999.

#### Patient S.H.

#### Patient S.H.

S.H. was a patient of Fisher's from April, 1994 to October, 1996. While treating, Fisher fondled S.H.'s testicles in a manner inconsistent with standard medical practice. Fisher also improperly performed a prostate exam, pushing his finger in and out of S.H.'s rectum several times.

#### Patient C.K.

#### Patient R.C.

Patient C.K. was a patient of Fisher from 1986 through 1993. C.K. became HIV positive through intravenous drug use. While treating, Fisher insisted that patient C.K. remove his clothes and have his genitals examined regardless of patient C.K.'s symptoms. Fisher also routinely hugged and kissed patient C.K. and grabbed his buttocks; also routine were Dr. Fisher's sexual comments to him.

In February of 1993, R.C. went to Fisher's office with his partner, who was also a patient of Fisher's. R.C. agreed to a physical exam by Fisher. During the exam, Fisher grabbed R.C.'s penis and testicles and held them in front of his face. While holding R.C.'s genitals, Fisher said, "You're lucky to have a partner."

#### Patient A.M.

#### Patient J.T.

Patient A.M.'s first visit to Fisher's office was on August 6, 1997. A.M. made an appointment to meet Fisher to decide if he wanted to select him as his primary care physician and did not contemplate any physical examination.

J.T. was first seen by Fisher in October, 1995. At the initial physical examination, Fisher fondled J.T.'s penis and testicles in a medically inappropriate fashion. Fisher also rubbed J.T.'s prostate gland until J.T.'s penis became erect. During other examinations, Fisher fondled J.T.'s penis and testicles. J.T. was made to disrobe each time he went into the patient examination room no matter what his physical complaints or symptoms.

#### Patient R.R.

#### Patient R.R.

Patient R.R. On or about September 6, 1994, Fisher conducted a physical examination of R.R. at Fisher's office. Fisher examined R.R. after instructing him to remove all his clothes and to put on a gown. During the examination, Fisher manipulated R.R.'s penis until R.R. had a full erection. Fisher then told R.R. to stand up and Fisher positioned himself on a low stool directly in front of R.R.'s genitals. During the examination, Fisher made sexual comments about R.R.'s penis.

#### Patient D.B.

#### Patient D.B.

Patient D.B. D.B. was a patient of Fisher's from June, 1990 to December, 1996. During office examinations, Fisher frequently made sexually suggestive remarks to him. At one office examination, while giving D.B. an injection in the buttocks, Fisher reached around D.B. and grabbed D.B.'s genitals. Fisher kissed D.B. on the buttocks after the injection.

## In the matter of Kenneth Fisher, M.D.

### The polygraph questions and answers

The following questions were put to Dr. Fisher by Cy Gilson—a polygraph examiner retained by Fisher—on Jan. 18, 1999. Fisher, Gilson and Fisher's attorney, Calvin Raup, extensively discussed and developed each question before the exam. (See main story.) Fisher's answers follow.

1. Regarding the six patients listed in the BOMAX [sic] complaint, did you ever use explicit sexual language with the intentions of sexually arousing those patients?

Answer: No.

2. Regarding the six patients listed in the BOMAX [sic] complaint, did you ever

touch any of them in a manner to purposely sexually arouse them?

Answer: No.

3. Regarding the six patients listed in the BOMAX [sic] complaint, did you ever talk to a patient about his life partner for the purpose of sexually arousing that patient?

Answer: No.

4. Regarding the six patients listed in the BOMAX [sic] complaint, did you ever perform a medical examination that you knew was not necessary?

Answer: No.

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# AT YOUR SERVICE

## Pioneering veterans activist chosen Grand Marshal for '99 Pride Parade

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

The word soldier is a verb in the militaristic lingo of former Army sergeant Miriam Ben-Shalom.

And why not? The usage makes sense when the person talking spent 18 years attempting to prove herself as capable an employee as any other in the Army's ranks, and to rejoin the service after she was discharged for being a lesbian in 1976.

To soldier, she says, was a job was good at and one she fought to continue doing. A soldier was never the complete definition of the person she wanted to be.

"I know who I am," she told *HeatStroke* from her home in Milwaukee during a recent telephone interview. "I'm a woman. I'm a dyke, and I'm a Jew. That's me, take it or leave it, you know?"

As the first American to successfully sue the U.S. Government to re-enlist in the armed forces after being discharged for homosexuality, Ben-Shalom has been at the front lines of the battle for equal rights in the military for more than two decades.

She was a founder of the Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Veterans of America and has served as that organization's president. Her story was featured in the studies *Profiles in Courage, My Country, My Right to Serve*, and in Randy Shilts' landmark

work, *Conduct Unbecoming*.

On April 17, Ben-Shalom will be in the Valley to support the fundraising efforts of the local chapter of the GLBVA and to ride in Phoenix's Pride Parade as the Saturday morning event's Grand Marshal.

It will mark her first trip to the Southwest and she said she is eagerly looking forward to her Phoenix visit. A dual citizen of the U.S. and Israel, she has spent a great deal of time in the Middle East and appreciates the desert climate as compared to the wintry chill of her native Milwaukee.

Ben-Shalom now works in vocational and adult education. She is also happy to serve the nation's gay and lesbian community wherever she is needed.

Back in the 1970's, she chose to serve her country in a way that many young people do—by enlisting in the military.

Her father was a W.W.II veteran of the Marines who fought in the Pacific Theater. The eldest of six, she was the only child in her family to enter the service. The choice she made to enlist seemed natural at the time she joined.

"I felt it was a good way to serve my country and I took a great deal of pride in serving. My family was a patriotic family and I took service very seriously," she said.

And yet she would not recom-

mend that young gay men and women who are considering a military stint today make the same choice she once did.

She believes they should not sign up. "The price if they are found out that they will pay is a price that nobody should be made to pay."

The investigative branches of the military, she explained, have no sys-

tem that they will get them where they want to be."

Ben-Shalom ought to know. The government, she said, spent \$7 million keeping her out of the service. Her main adversary throughout much of her lengthy lawsuit was none other than Kenneth Starr, now in the headlines as the Independent Counsel who initiated Clinton's impeachment.

"Truly there are some people in the investigative branches whom I believe are of honor and integrity. But generally, I would have to say that they are the most amoral group of people that it's ever been my displeasure to come in contact with."

Ben-Shalom said that the military's current Don't Ask Don't Tell policy toward gays and lesbians is "an abomination", much worse than the policy under which she was discharged in 1976.

"There were no guidelines given to commanders, and as we see, the discharge rates have actually gone up." Regarding the military's argument that discharge rates have gone up only because more people are falsely claiming,

"I'm gay" as a way to be released from service, Ben-Shalom commented, "that's balderdash."

The old policy, she said, was very



tem of checks and balances. "They will lie. They will manipulate. They will misrepresent. They will sell their mothers up the creek for a quarter if

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clear, "but this policy is perversely amorphous in the sense that there are no clear-cut guidelines. One would think, don't ask, don't tell—I mean, leave it alone, right?"

The commanders, however, are not leaving the issue alone. "Given the military mind, they will try to find loopholes and they have been doing so. It's a totally perverse piece of regulation. If you say nothing, you indict yourself. If you say something, you indict yourself. It's a lose/lose situation."

Despite the military's clear message that gays and lesbians are not wanted, Ben-Shalom still argues for the right to serve.

She said that to serve in the military is a "right and privilege" offered to every citizen apart from convicted felons and those who are physically unable to do so. "I therefore see my citizenship as being second class."

Ben-Shalom does not say that everyone should serve. "I never have and never will. However, it is a privilege and I believe as a born American citizen that if I agree to abide by the rules and regulations then I should be allowed to serve."

She works on behalf of the GLBVA's goals, one of which is to actively espouse the rights of gay veterans. "To help the vets get whatever they are entitled to."

The organization also supports people who are currently going through a discharge process. "And more than anything else, we are there to advocate the rights of service people, whether they be gay or straight." She also said it is GLBVA's job to "speak out as American citizens and keep in the public eye."

Ben-Shalom supports NATO's cur-

rent military action in Kosovo. "As a Jew, I know what ethnic cleansing means," she explained. "I'm so glad that someone is doing something because Milosovic is a madman."

How many holocausts, how many genocides is it going to take before action is taken, she asked, adding, "I would go there and serve to protect those people."

Unlike another well-known ex-military lesbian, Col. Margarethe Cammermayer, Ben-Shalom has no political aspirations. "Not one."

She supported and voted for Clinton in his first election, then saw his abandonment of the gays in the military issue and his sexual dalliances as a betrayal. "I met with him and trusted him . . . I'll never trust a politician again."

Ben-Shalom also said that she has too often seen how being elected or running for office can sway gay activists to compromise their principals. She would rather stay true to herself and continue her activism from outside public office.

"To me, politics is about being something or someone you are not and I can't pretend to be anything other than myself. I'll stay in education because that's where I really believe I can make a difference."

Ben-Shalom hopes her presence in Phoenix during the Pride Parade and Festival will help raise awareness of veterans issues. At the time she spoke to this newspaper, she had not yet received her itinerary.

"I think I'm speaking at a fund-raiser, and I understand they want me in the parade," she said. Then, like a true soldier, she added, "I'll do whatever is asked of me. I'm coming there to serve."



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- Mind/Body Connection
- Legal Issues
- Community Resources

# Politically Speaking

By Kathie Gummere, HeatStroke Contributor

## Tribute to the Troops

This column is dedicated to the people who were willing to put actions behind their words and attend the Equality Begins At Home Day at the Legislature on March 24.

The day was a great success. EBAH banners and tables were set up in the plaza outside the legislative buildings and the volunteers showed



Arizona Human Rights Fund

up in mass. No one could ignore us! 83 people signed in, from all over the state.

We sat in the visitors' section of the House of Representatives and were acknowledged by openly gay Rep. Ken Cheuvront and formally introduced by openly gay Rep. Steve May, who spoke of the discrimination against us, and read our petition aloud. As we stood, we were welcomed with applause by all Reps.—with the notable exception of Karen

Johnson, who just stood there with her arms crossed.

The individual petitions, (which had been sorted by district), were delivered to the legislators throughout the day. Many would not meet with the delegation from their districts, but the petitions were nonetheless delivered. Despite the fact that many committees were still meeting, about 20 legislators attended our reception that afternoon, which was very encouraging.

The banners in the plaza, the delegation that stood up in the session, the individuals who at least attempted to visit each legislator, combined with the petitions, clearly stated that we would not be silent. Eighty-three people delivered 1195 petitions that day, and an additional 1160 were delivered the beginning of the next week. 2355 petitions representing 2355 people willing to openly state that they support equality for all.

## Together, we can make a difference.

None of this would have happened without the work of many people—those who signed petitions, circulated petitions, or organized the event. And, most important of all, those who showed up and stood up—literally—for their rights.

All of us at EBAH and AHRF sincerely thank the following people who came to the legislature, and with their presence said they would not be ignored. If you were not there on March 24, for whatever reason, and you know someone on this list, please take the time to thank them for standing up for all of us.

Patricia Abraham, Dorothy Arnold, Robert Arnold, (Andrew) Rowe Babcock, Sharon Balzer, Coletta Barajas, Kirk Baxter, Talyne Belka, Brad Brauen, Barry Brents, Jerry Brundage, Jamie Carr, Karla Carr, Frances Carreon, Robert Clark, Clara Cohan, Beth Connolly, Joele Connolly, Eric Constantino, Dwight Cook, Joyce Lynn Cook, Amelia Craig Cramer, Carla Darby, Art Dupont, John Edwards, Jesse Evans, Caitlin Flaherty, Ted Fusby.

Thom Gendet, Bill Gemmill, Michael Gilbert, Lisa Gillotti, Jayne Goldstein, Alexander Goodrum, Daniel Goodrum, Jason Green, Jimmy Gross, Juan Guzman, Mary Lou Hagen, Del Harr, Randy Harrison, Jeffrey Hartley, Connie Hayes, Monica Helms, Thomas Hines, Pam Hopkins, David Horowitz, Travis Hussey.

Shawna Kemppainen, Mark Kerr, Roger Keyes, Amy Kobeta, Royce Kohler, Jerry Kuehl, Steen Lawson, Dan Lies, Bill MacDonald, Larry Mack, Victor Merino, Lyle Miller, Roger Moore, Ron Passarelli, Paul Putz, Jeff Ofstedahl, Bill Orovan, Ron Owen.

Buena Reed, Sharon Robertson, Ben Rolfe, Eugene Rueckoldt, Susan Schmidt, Bill Sheppard, Amanda Shrader, Garry Smith, Wes Soule, Mike Steinmeyer, Wally Straughn, Keith Susman, D.J. Thompson, Bruce Trethany, Robert Weiss, Joseph Wilson.

Thank you!



Kathie Gummere is a Phoenix attorney practicing in the area of wills, trusts and estates for the gay & lesbian community. She receives e-mail at [kgrn@goodnet.com](mailto:kgrn@goodnet.com)



NGLTF's Paula Ettelbrick (l) and Kathie Gummere attended the EBAH event at the Arizona Legislature on March 24.

# APOLLO'S

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Happy Hour 10am-8pm  
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### Monday

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Beer Bust 8pm-12 am  
Domestic Beer \$1.75  
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### Tuesday

Happy Hour 8am-8pm  
"Vulgar Vodka" Night  
Well Vodka \$2.00

### Wednesday

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"Booze & Cruise"  
8pm-12am  
Reduced prices on well  
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### Thursday

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Beer Bust 8pm - 12am

### Friday

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### Saturday

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### Serbian gays denounce NATO and Milosevic

Yugoslavia's Campaign Against Homophobia (CAH)—a project of the gay group Arcadia, the European Youth Association of Serbia and the Humanitarian Law Fund—has denounced both the NATO bombing of Yugoslavia and Yugoslavian leader Slobodan Milosevic.

"[We are] disgusted at the attacks of NATO," the activists said in an English-language press release. "NATO has created a situation which only empowers Milosevic's communist-fascist regime and directly supports further continuation of his terror against both the Kosovo Albanians and every genuine, authentic . . . opposition in the Republic of Serbia."

The group said that "the coordinators of the Campaign Against Homophobia are directly endangered by these attacks both by the NATO bombs and by the revenge of the local population, as well as of the police, who consider us to be the American 'agents' which, in the Republic of Serbia, means people who fight for democratization of the country. Because of the NATO attacks, every activity toward the democratization

of the country had to come to a halt. Which is to say that bombs falling in the Federal Republic in Yugoslavia are not directed against the regime, but on the contrary, paradoxically, against its opponents. Our activities, due to the NATO attacks, are entirely stopped. While the bombing is in process it is impossible to fight against the regime of Milosevic and his wife or to advocate human rights of sexual minorities, or any other human rights.

"We resolutely condemn the Serbian regime, the one indeed responsible for the current situation, which refuses to stop the war by signing the accord. We as well condemn NATO which with its attacks directly undermines our activities toward the democratization of the Republic of Serbia and endangers our lives."

The press release was signed by CAH's chief executive coordinator, Dejan Nebric (e-mail: gay2camp@ptt.yu; telephone: 011-381-13-515-077) and vice chief executive coordinator, Dusan Maljkovic (e-mail: camp@beotel.yu; telephone: 011-381-11-105-277).

### Britain to welcome gay asylum seekers

A March 26 ruling by Britain's highest court, the House of Lords, opened the door for foreign gays seeking asylum from persecution based on "sexual identity."

of the country had to come to a halt. Which is to say that bombs falling in the Federal Republic in Yugoslavia are not directed against the regime, but on the contrary, paradoxically, against its opponents. Our activities, due to the NATO attacks, are entirely stopped. While the bombing is in process it is impossible to fight against the regime of Milosevic and his wife or to advocate human rights of sexual minorities, or any other human rights.

The Law Lords' 4-to-1 ruling came in the case of two Pakistani women who sought refuge to escape flogging or stoning for adultery.

The court said women from Islamic nations and gays from various countries could seek asylum in the United Kingdom under the "particular social group" provisions of the 1951 Geneva Convention on Refugees.

Anti-gay persecution could be direct, as under anti-sodomy laws, or indirect, as when a government fails to protect homosexuals and heterosexuals equally, the Lords said.

### Gay amnesty activists form network

Gay Amnesty International activists held their first international meeting March 26-28 in London and formed a committee to combat human-rights abuses based on sexual orientation.

Delegates from 25 countries on five continents attended the gathering.

"This meeting represents a major step forward in the status of LGBT [lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered] human rights across the world," said one of the activists, Francisco Olivera of Argentina.

### Albertans are gay-friendly

More than a few people were surprised by a new poll which found that 76 percent of Albertans support a ban on anti-gay discrimination and 51 percent think gay marriage is OK.

Alberta is frequently referred to as Canada's most conservative or red-neck province.

The poll was conducted by the University of Calgary and the Calgary

Herald newspaper.

Among Conservatives (Tories), 60 percent of women and 55 percent of men support gay marriage. Among members of the Reform Party, however, only 37 percent of women and 30 percent of men think gays should be allowed to tie the knot.

### Kellogg attacks gay youth group

The Kellogg cereal company has ordered the Toronto queer youth cabaret Fruit Loopz to change its name, reported *Xtra!*.

The Battle Creek, Mich., company says the kids have infringed on its Fruit Loops copyright.

"We're sympathetic to the festival's predicament but . . . we have to do what we have to do to protect our trademark," said Jacki Nelson, Kellogg Canada's manager of corporate communications.

Fruit Loopz spokeswoman Janis Purdy said if the corporation refuses to back down, the group may rename itself Queerios and "then we can have a fight with General Mills."

In 1988, Kellogg suffered an extended attack from gay activists who said a TV commercial for the company's Nut 'N' Honey cereal promoted anti-gay violence.

The commercial showed several cowboys drawing their guns on their trail cook after he told one of them there was "nuttin', honey" ("Nut 'N' Honey") for breakfast.

Activists said the cowboys drew the guns because one man referred to another as "honey." Kellogg maintained the cowboys were upset at getting "nuttin'" for breakfast. The dispute was never settled but later Nut 'N' Honey ads abandoned the play on words.



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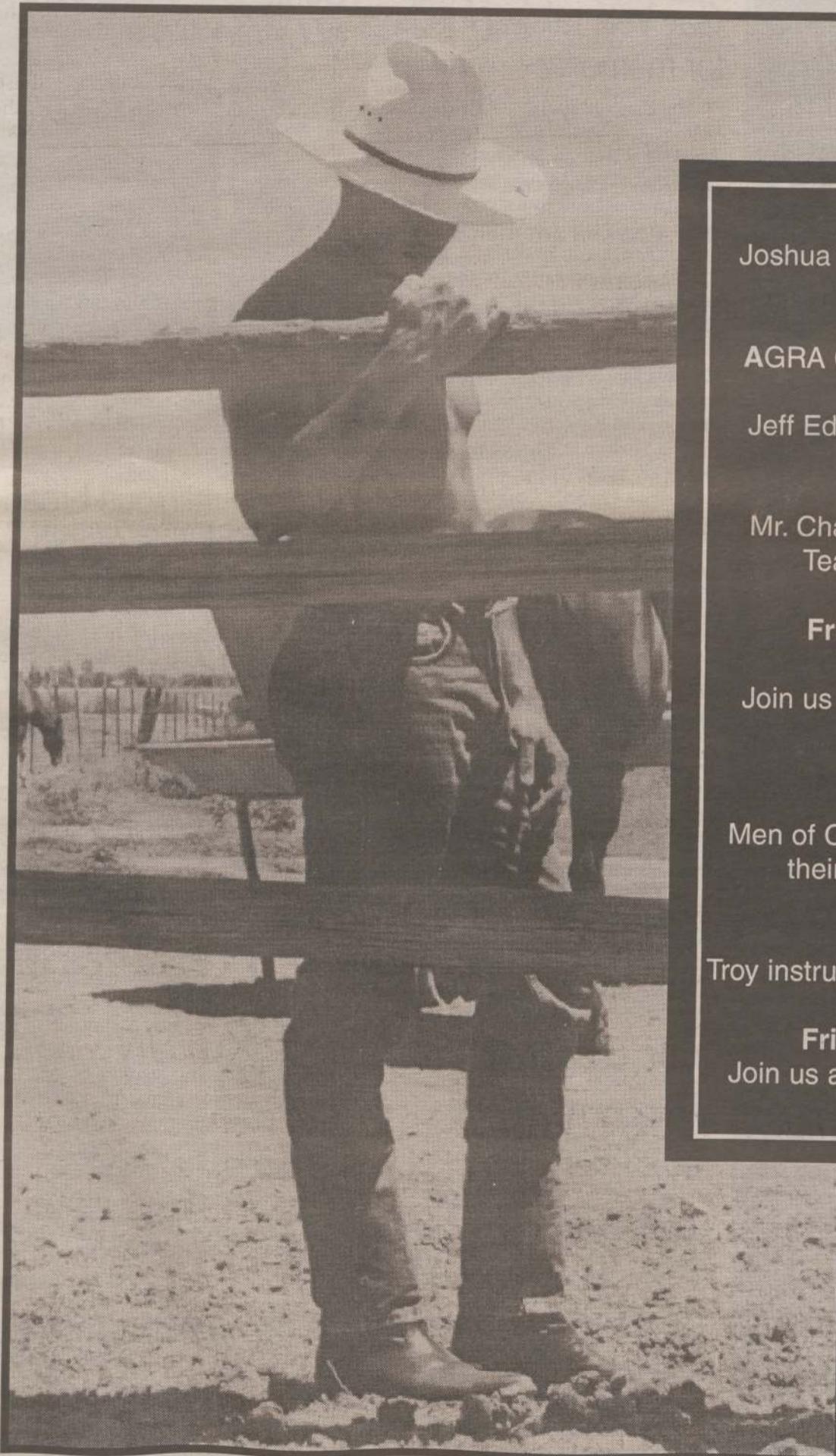
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## Goings On

News & Events of Interest to the  
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There will be refreshments and entertainment, an art & book sale, and faith, guidance and healing with leading Psychics, astrologers and alternative healers. Admission is \$20 and includes one reading.

Hand of Love's Alternative Healing Workshops & Network Meetings continue to be held the third Tuesday of every month. The next meeting is April 20 from 7 - 10pm. Admission is by good-will donation.

Adepts of all disciplines of healing therapy as well as willing patients are welcome. Reiki, Chiropractic and other practitioners work and learn together. The ministry is located at 6605 North 14th Street in Phoenix. Call (602)264-1470 for information.

### Center's annual *Night of Comedy* set

The Valley's Community Center will sponsor *A Night of Comedy* featuring Sabrina Matthews, Scott Silverman and John McGivern on Saturday, August 28 at the Orpheum Theatre in downtown Phoenix.

The benefit performance will be followed by a "Meet the Entertainers" reception. Tickets will be available starting July 15 through the Phoenix Civic Plaza and Dillard's Box Offices. reserved seating tickets will cost \$22 in advance, or \$40 in advance including the reception.

Contact The Center at (602)265-7283 for more information.

### Historic religious broadcast to air this month

After decades of anti-gay religious broadcasts by the radical right, The Dallas-based Cathedral of Hope will air in April its own Christian program produced by and for lesbian and gay people.

"For too long homophobia and religion have been synonymous on TV in this country," said Rev. Michael Piazza, the church's senior pastor. "Although the Cathedral's first broadcast is only a small drop in a sea of oppression, we have discovered that a drop of hope can neutralize oceans of hate."

The Cathedral of hope began production on its program nearly four years ago. Originally titled *Holy Homosexuals*, the title and much of its content had to be changed to satisfy broadcasters who feared a backlash from the radical right. After almost two years of struggle and a nine-month legal battle, the program will air nationwide on Chicago Superstation WGN.

The air dates on WGN are April, 8, 9, 12, 16 and 22. Consult local listings for times.

### G-jello wrestling returns

The second annual jello wrestling fund-raiser for Phoenix's Being Alive Wellness center will take place on May 2 at the Park, 3002 North 24th Street.

The event will last from noon to 10pm. Amateur wrestlers, bachelors, bachelorettes and several volunteers are needed to make this event as big a success as it was in 1998. To help out or sign up for wrestling, see the ad on page 17 and send the form to AIDS Project Arizona by April 18.

Call 265-2437 for more information.

### Psychic Garden Party

The Hand of Love Ministry will host a Psychic Garden Party on Sunday, April 18 from 11 am to 5pm.

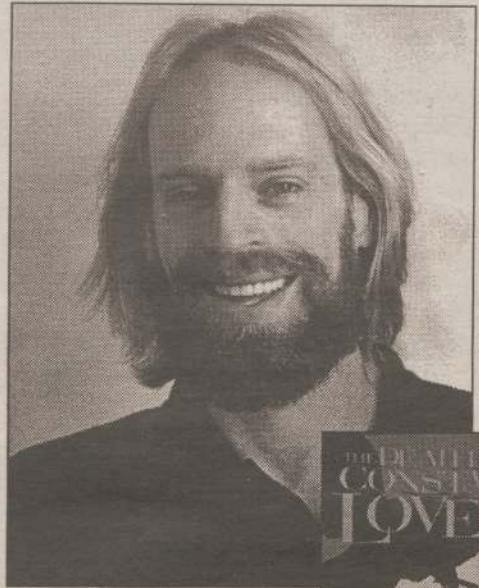
# Constant Lover/constant laughter

Lev Raphael heads to the Valley to promote his snappy new mystery

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

Everywhere Nick Hoffman goes on the expansive campus at the State University of Michigan, he runs into murder.

But by nosing around where he isn't welcome and ignoring the advice of his hunky lover and well-intentioned friends (who wish he'd simply stay out of it), Hoffman, a mild-mannered English teacher, manages to figure out whodunit every time.



The sleuthing academic with a weakness for Edith Wharton novels is the creation of award-winning gay writer Lev Raphael.

In his third Nick Hoffman mystery, *The Death of a Constant Lover* (1999, Walker & Co., \$23.95), Raphael continues to explore and satirize the mid-western university setting while providing his readers with yet another criminal caper full of richly drawn characters and brimming with his biting wit.

A native of New York, Raphael is the son of Holocaust survivors. He garnered national attention with serious fiction that looked at gay & Jewish issues, first in the short story collection *Dancing on Tisha B' Av* (winner of a Lambda Book Award) and then with his semi-autobiographical 1992 novel *Winter Eyes*.

After publishing *Winter Eyes*, which took nearly twelve years to write, Raphael opted to let his humorous side and his love of a good mystery shine through. The Nick Hoffman series began in 1996 with *Let's Get Criminal* and continued with 1997's *The Edith Wharton Murders*.

"The mysteries get easier and more fun to write after you finish the first one," Raphael told *HeatStroke* in a recent interview. "Now I know the characters and I know that world they inhabit pretty well."

Now living in Okemos, Michigan, Raphael will be in Phoenix on April 12 to sign his latest book at Obelisk Bookstore.

He said that, compared to other books he has published, dreaming up Nick Hoffman's continuing exploits is satisfying. But in a different way. "My literary fiction is a lot more serious. So it's a nice break for me to be writing comic mysteries that use my experiences in the academic world."

Raphael taught for a stretch at Michigan State University in Lansing, the setting for which "SMU" is a

stand-in in his mystery series. He now writes full time.

And just as his real life spills over into his fiction, Raphael has chosen to carry individual characters along, even as his writing progresses through different genres.

One example: In *Winter Eyes*, the coming-of-age tale of a gay youth whose parents survived the Holocaust, the main character is a boy named Stefan Borowski. In the Nick Hoffman series, Stefan Borowski is the name of Nick's lover.

The writer acknowledged that the characters are indeed one and the same. "Some other authors play with that, and I really always liked it, when characters turn up in different settings and situations," he said.

Also, because *Winter Eyes* was somewhat heavy and dark, Raphael decided that having an adult Stefan turn up on SMU's campus as Nick's relatively well-adjusted and buffed lover would show readers that the kid turned out all right. "I wanted to give his story a happy ending."

Raphael explained that on the surface, fictional lovers Nick and Stefan reflect his own long term partnership with writer Gersh Kaufman. "But on a deeper level they are actually two sides to my own personality."

In part, he began the series as a way to bring his optimistic and pessimistic sides together in one story. What better way to do that, he reasoned, than with a satirical murder mystery?

As an Edith Wharton scholar himself and a former university-based academic, Raphael's books are filled with literary references—some obvious, others more obscure. But whether people get the references isn't paramount to the tales he's chosen to tell.

"I'm not writing a genre mystery. I'm writing a novel about a murder and its pretensions, with rich characterizations and with psychology—the throughline is the murder, but that's not all it is. These are really academic satires. They're also a portrait of an evolving gay relationship."

Too many gay novels, he said, portray unhappy and self-hating gay men. "I know many perfectly happy, well-adjusted gay people who are doing pretty well for themselves . . . I wanted to show gay people who are in a relationship that is strained but is also solid."

And the relationship in his fiction, just as in life (Raphael and Kaufman are about to celebrate 15 years together) continues to evolve. "I just finished the outline for the fourth book and sent it to my agent. I'm hoping it will be out next year around this time," he said.

Any hints as to what his fans can expect in number four?

"It's hard to give a preview. More strain on their relationship because of careers. A family health crisis, and some more murder—of course!"

Lev Raphael will be at Obelisk at 7 pm on Monday, April 12 to read and sign *The Death of a Constant Lover*. The store is located at 24 West Camelback, Phoenix. Call (602)266-BOOK for more information.

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## Find a diamond in the desert Annual softball tourney will draw hundreds to Phoenix

By Warren G. Richards, HeatStroke  
Contributor

With softball teams expected from all over the Southwest, the Pacific Northwest, the South, New England and south of the U.S. border, Phoenix's *Cactus Cup VI* on April 10 and 11 should prove to be one of the largest and most successful gay and lesbian sporting events ever held in the Valley of the Sun.

Hosted each year by our local gay and lesbian softball organization, the Cactus Cities Softball League (CCSL), the Cactus Cup has steadily grown each year.

The popular weekend-long event now draws more than 70 men's and women's softball teams to compete in four divisions, while players enjoy the Phoenix climate and the sights and hospitality the area has to offer.

"It's neat to say that we've got an International tournament now," said Kevin Whitenack, tournament co-Director and first baseman for the local league's A Division team. "We've got teams coming from Tucson, New York, California—lots of places. And there's even a team from Mexico for the first year," he said.

Whitenack spoke during a break at a recent fund-raiser he put together to benefit the tournament, a chili cook-off held at Wink's. Judge's Awards and Prizes for Audience Favorites were awarded for the best chili, best salsa and best booth display.

"Phoenix as a whole is a great destination for anybody to visit," Whitenack said, "whether they're coming for vacation, to visit family, or just for a long weekend."

Involved with the Cactus Cup for three years, he added, "This is such a great event that after a while you lose track of exactly how long you've been doing it. It is one of the best-run tournaments in the country, and wherever people are coming from, they'll get

great way to showcase the different people of our community, too," she said.

Keefe explained that the Cactus Cup is a preliminary tournament, leading up to the Gay World Series of Softball, which will be held this year in Kansas City, Missouri in August.

Jack Pruitt, CCSL Open Division Commissioner and a catcher for his Phoenix team, said that the annual tournament is significantly larger compared with previous years.

"The Cactus Cup has grown quite a bit," Pruitt said. "The first year there were between twenty five and thirty teams. It's expanded so much, it's amazing. This shows members of the gay community that there are things to do besides going to the bars."

He said CCSL is expecting four teams from Seattle, "a couple of teams from Boston, some from Texas and some from California—oh, one of those is from West Hollywood, of course."

Some out-of-state leagues, Pruitt said, postponed their own seasons or made sure the April 10-11 weekend was an open date, specifically so players could attend the Cactus Cup here in Phoenix. "Now we're recognized all over the country, if not the world, for hosting a phenomenal softball event," he said.

The Corporate Sponsor of *Cactus Cup VI* is Coors Brewing Co., and local sponsors include Club BS, Roscoe's on 7th and Wink's.

CCSL members and tournament organizers encourage spectators to get outside and enjoy the weekend event alongside the many players who will be participating.

Pruitt said the Cactus Cup should provoke other people to join a softball team, because they'll see how much fun it is.

There will be different skill levels of play in separate divisions. The

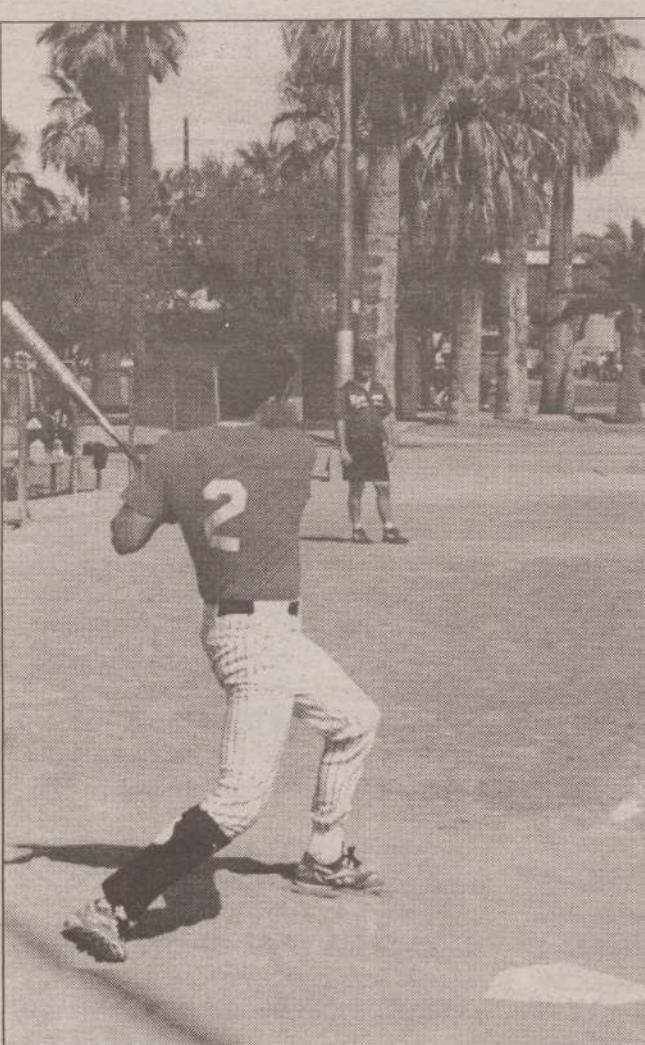
Women's Division (with 16-20 teams expected) and the A Division (at least eight teams) will play at the Papago Park Sports Complex in Scottsdale near 62nd Street and Oak.

The B Division (24 teams) will play at Rose Mofford Field near I-17 and Dunlap in Sunnyslope, and the C Division (also 24 teams) will play at Desert West Park near 64th Avenue and Encanto in the West Valley.

"If we have sixteen women's teams with at least ten for each team, that'll be at least 200 women all right here in the Valley," said Keefe. "That sounds like a whole lot of fun in the sun to me!"

"We would love for people to come out and watch," Whitenack said. "There's no charge or fee, most parks will let you bring your own food and drinks. It should be a really good time."

And hot men? "Absolutely."



their money's worth."

Co-Director Melissa Keefe, agreed. "We'll have men and women here from all over the country and it's a



# Rebuilding Phoenix History

## Coronado benefits from gay restorers/owners

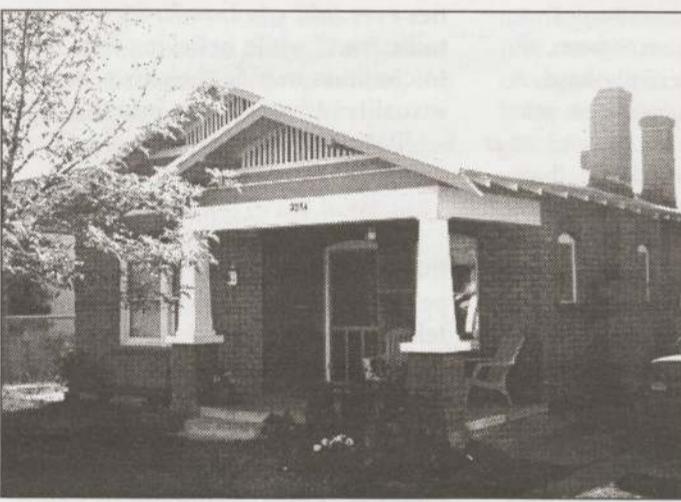
By Bobbi Dugan, HeatStroke Contributor

Jacques Le Blanc is so proud of the 1927 house he is renovating in Phoenix's Coronado Historic District, he is inviting everybody to come and see it.

Le Blanc's home is one of several to be featured in this year's edition of the annual Coronado Historic Home Tour, scheduled for 11 am to 4 pm April 18.

The Coronado Historic district is bounded on the west and east by 7th and 16th streets, by McDowell Road to south and Thomas Road to north. Many of the 5000 homes in the area were built in the 1920s and '30s.

Not that long ago the Coronado district was run down and unattractive. But since it was declared an historic district in 1986, the neighborhood



has changed.

People are buying old homes in the once blighted area and restoring them into show places worthy of the tour.

Le Blanc, a local architect, says he bought an old house instead of building his own because, "I liked the historic character [of the Coronado district], the neighborhood feeling. I love the integrity of this house. And the front porch. That is sort of a romantic notion, to sit out on your front porch."

Le Blanc is from Canada, where houses are older, he explains. He and his partner, Jackson Huggins, are working hard to return their find to its original condition.

"The main portion of the house was built in 1927 with an addition in 1933." Still, the house is less than 1000 square feet, a reminder that our forebears lived much differently than we do today.

Before World War II, most families had one breadwinner, no government-backed mortgages, and houses were hand-built brick by brick. They were small and lovingly crafted, models of space-saving efficiency.

Le Blanc enjoys showing visitors the built-in ironing board that folds up into the wall. He swings out a rounded wooden arm attached above the board. "I didn't know this was for ironing shirt sleeves," he marvels.

Le Blanc and Huggins search specialty stores and even neighborhood demolition sites to find restoration materials. When Le Blanc bought the house, it had no interior doors. He rescued old doors from a nearby house that was being torn down.

The kitchen's modern stainless steel sink has been replaced by a 1920s-style porcelain one. The faucets have fat, round porcelain handles. They are new, but "look the part" according to Le Blanc. He uses authentic materials when he can, and reproductions when necessary.

Restoring the house is fun, Le Blanc says. Sometimes his home yields surprises, like when he removed a fireplace mantle only to find the original painted concrete mantle underneath.

Renovating old houses can be expensive, but buyers in historic neighborhoods receive help in the form of a considerable tax break. All the owner needs to do, Le Blanc points out, is register the house with the State Historic Preservation Office. A house must be 50 years old or more to qualify. Once a house is registered, the owner can paint, repair and remodel, but he or she cannot alter the facade or the historic character of the building.

To encourage urban renewal, the city offers grants to homeowners in historical neighborhoods for the repair of roofs, windows, plumbing and other major structural problems.

The kind of people who buy in historic districts are those who "really care about this kind of house," Le Blanc relates. "It's people who want to make their home their hobby."

Gay men and lesbians are often in the forefront of urban renewal, Le Blanc says. Coronado has long been considered among the most gay-friendly of neighborhoods. In fact, both his next door neighbors are also gay, according to Le Blanc. "Three of us, right in a row!"

As part of the Home Tour, the Central Arizona chapter of the gay-oriented Lambda Car Club will have historic automobiles on display.

The cars will be located at Coronado Park, on the southwest corner of 12th Street and Palm Lane. The Metropolitan Car Club also will be present, and Lambda Car Club spokesman John Hill said that some Coronado residents have promised to bring in their own older model vehicles to add to the atmosphere.

"In the past we have parked them in the driveways of the houses," Hill said, "But they sort of got in the way and were hard to protect." When asked about the types of cars Lambda will display, Hill replied, "Lincolns and such. Big, old American iron." There will be car club members at the park to answer questions about the vehicles, Hill said.

Old cars and older houses set the mood for nostalgia. Historic home tours are popular with history buffs as well as people interested in buying in the neighborhood.

Le Blanc encourages others to do as he has done. "This is rebirth [of the neighborhood]. It is regeneration." For five hours on April 18 he will throw open his house to anyone who wants to take a peek, "Because I'm proud of it. It's fun to show people what you can do."

The Coronado Home Tour will encompass Coronado Road to Oak Street, 11th Street to 14th Street. Tickets are \$10 or \$9 with a donation of canned food. Tickets will be sold at Coronado Park before the tour. Visitors will be supplied with maps and a description of each house. A trolley will run the tour route at regular intervals.

**May 2, 1999 ■ Noon to 10pm  
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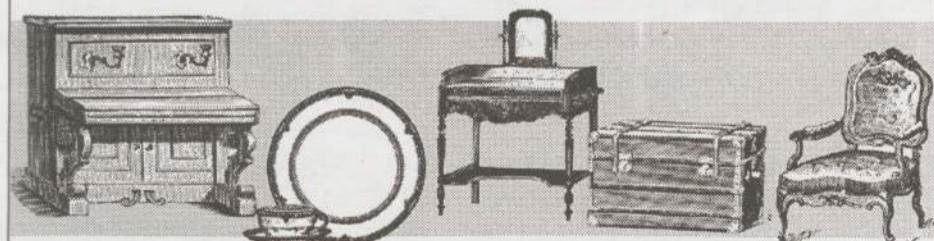
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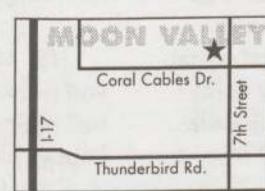
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# The Brilliance of Rufus Wainwright

Continued from page 1

back to me—but I was offered a gig to sing with Eartha Kitt on New Year's Eve. That would have been much more fun.

**HS: You now live in L.A.?**

RW: No. I have a place in Montreal but I'm on the road pretty much all the time. I lived in L.A. when I made the record and that was like a three-year process. I have tons of friends in L.A. and I certainly have connections there, and I might very

of wild on the piano. She just wanted to make me as good as possible so that I wouldn't get shot down.

**HS: What about criticism from your father?**

RW: I think he was more critical of stage stuff. My father studied acting at Carnegie Tech in Pittsburgh for a while and he really wanted to be a great actor, that's sort of where his passions lie. He gave me a lot of pointers on how to deal with the audience, like



possibly—once I become a huge star—buy a mansion there or something. But at the moment I'm living with my mother.

**HS: You've said that strong criticism from your mother helped shape your style. Can you give any examples of how her advice helped you on the record?**

RW: Well, not so much with the album. When I made the record I was on my own, pretty much. I was on the West Coast, she was back home, and at that point I knew what I wanted.

But growing up and stuff, she was extremely—well, I think for one, she knew I was gay. And she knew that where I was going musically was bizarre. She really insisted that, whatever I do, to have it be totally solid. Totally, I would say, accessible—but still-great. To make sure that I'm communicating something.

And I think she did that just because she didn't want to see me get shot down, 'cause I had a lot of points against me. So just with things like: to sing clearly. And she was always a big fan of my voice. She would tell me not to crowd my voice with too much stuff from the piano, 'cause I used to be kind

not talk down to them and stuff like that.

**HS: Your album is somewhat melancholy. But L.A. doesn't seem a very melancholy place—did living there change the album or affect the songs?**

RW: I was snatched up, really, by DreamWorks and transported to L.A. without even knowing it. And it affected the record a lot. Of course it affected the record. It was the record. A lot of the sort of Beach Boys-esque, Brian Wilson harmonies—being on the West Coast, that was all a new experience for me when I was making the album. So it did affect it in a lot of ways.

**HS: What about how it affected you personally? Did you become less melancholy because L.A. is just such a happy, sun-shiny place?**

RW: Oh no. Less melancholy? My God, I think if anything I became more. I mean I love Los Angeles and stuff. But California—on one hand, on the surface, it's sort of bright and shiny. But there's certainly a dark undercurrent running through. Especially in Los Angeles. So, no. I just got more and more unhappy! (big laugh)

No, I had a great time. But what it did make me is a lot stronger and knowledgeable of what happens in the business, and of what I have to do. A lot of people think, "Oh, you get signed and you go make a record and then you're a Rock Star making a million dollars." But living in L.A. and being around a lot of other people who were struggling, I learned that it's not like that.

**HS: Much of the critical praise for your debut album has to do with how sophisticated your songwriting is, given your age. Where do you think that sophistication comes from?**

RW: I'm brilliant!

**HS: You're brilliant?**

RW: Where else?

**HS: I don't know. Genetics?**

RW: There's a combination of many things. What it comes from, if anything, is I just work really hard. A lot of the songs themselves took years to write. What I like in music and art is something that has many layers that one doesn't hear on the first listening, or that one doesn't think of.

My favorite records are the ones that you don't necessarily understand when you first hear them, and then it sort of grows on you. And that's what I tried to do with this one, have many layers. Depth.

**HS: In addition to its depth, the album has a very theatrical feeling to it and I know that you love opera. I wonder if you have any plans to do something more directly theatrical?**

RW: Yeah, I definitely do. I love pop music, I love the rock world, but my heart is in the balcony at the theater. I'd love to write an opera. And I'd love to write a musical, and I'd love to be in a musical, actually. Definitely. As soon as possible.

**HS: Is there any other singer you would like to hear cover your songs?**

RW: I've always loved Annie Lennox. I thought she would be kind of cool to work with. And it would definitely get her out of that, "I'm a Soul Singer" kind of mode. That sometimes gets on my nerves with her. There's this sort of theater piece that I'm writing where I imagine her singing. She would be good singing one of the songs, playing sort of an insanely rich and demented mother.

And I had this idea of making this kind of crazy, weird, unplugged, totally left-wing record with Celine Dion. Which would be funny, like something completely avant-garde. That would be funny.

**HS: On stage, you smile a lot more than I guess I expected. Are you aware of that?**

RW: Yeah, I know. A lot of people sort of assume that in performance I would be depressed and melancholy but I'm really not.

**HS: Your show is also much more than just you sitting at a piano—you stand up and harmonize, play guitar and interact more than I presumed you would.**

RW: Yeah. There's a lot to me. The record industry and the pop world right now are so tough. And cutthroat. And very business oriented—that often I do believe that I was put through

some kind of pressure to make it more palatable, you know? The idea of being The Next Billy Joel or being The Next Elton John, at the piano—that's something that people can relate to. But in fact almost half my set is at the guitar, and that's an important thing.

**HS: Does anyone in your record company or in marketing ever warn you to chill out on the openly gay thing? Are they concerned that being out of the closet will hold back your career?**

RW: They're letting me do whatever I want to do. And I would never change it. I'm pretty overtly gay in my show. And I actually kind of like toying with it, you know, in terms of if anybody tells me not to, I'll sort of pour it on, you know?

**HS: Have any closeted gay celebrities ever told you how lucky you are to be "out" while believing they have to continue to hide their own homosexuality? I bet you run into that a lot.**

RW: Well yes, I do actually. Of course, I can't mention any names.

**HS: I just find it interesting when that happens. I publish a gay newspaper and I consistently have people telling me they wish they could be out of the closet at work like I am, and my answer is: You can. I wondered whether you run into that same thing.**

RW: I've met a lot of people like that. The verdict's still out on whether it's good to come out in terms of your career. But I mean, I had no choice. I don't have anything against people who want to stay in the closet. If they're performers or whatever, it's their choice. And sometimes it is better for their careers. It's unfortunate, but it's true.

I wanted to get it all done and over. You know, I wanted that whole drama to just happen in the beginning, and then just eventually dissipate. I mean for those for whom it was a problem.

But it's a double-edged sword. Because there are lots of people I know who say, "Yeah, it's so great that you are doing this, and you're out of the closet, and I'm not, and it's hard for me."

But then again, a lot of those people are selling a lot more records than I am. And they're also not pigeonholed as much sometimes. I'm not really pigeonholed, but—whatever. I think it's still an experiment. I'm happy that it's an issue and I'm happy to talk about it. I think it's important and stuff but I'm certainly—I wouldn't call myself a crusader or a saint.

There is a side of me which is really happy to be helping people. I have had experiences where I have young gay people coming up to me, and I've really changed their lives. In terms of them being proud of something and not feeling—you know, feeling like they can do it. And that is very important, for me.

**HS: Did you consider yourself effeminate as a child?**

RW: Umm—I don't—I mean, I've always had a pretty effeminate side, in terms of like dressing up and stuff. I would dress up in my mother's clothes sometimes. Is that what you're getting at?

**HS: No—**

RW: I'm kind of effeminate but it's

not—I'm actually pretty tough.

**HS:** No, what I'm wondering is whether being the son of successful recording artists kept you from being picked on.

**RW:** Oh, well I was more, sort of—bizarre—than effeminate. I think kids didn't quite know what to do with me. They didn't know whether to pick on me—but I was also very funny and charming. And so they might have wanted to beat me up, but I would charm the pants off them first. And then they'd forget about it.

**HS:** Charm the pants off them—but not literally. Right?

**RW:** Well sometimes. Yes it was very sexual—I was a cunning little vixen.

I dunno. I never had a problem with that at all. But I also never asked for any trouble, you know? I had a good sense of what situations to not get into. Which you have to have, I think.

**HS:** Did you see the film *Rushmore*? It takes place at a fictional, upscale New York prep school, I'm assuming very much like the Millbrook Academy that you attended.

**RW:** No, I'm really not doing anything but just sitting in my hotel and singing to myself.

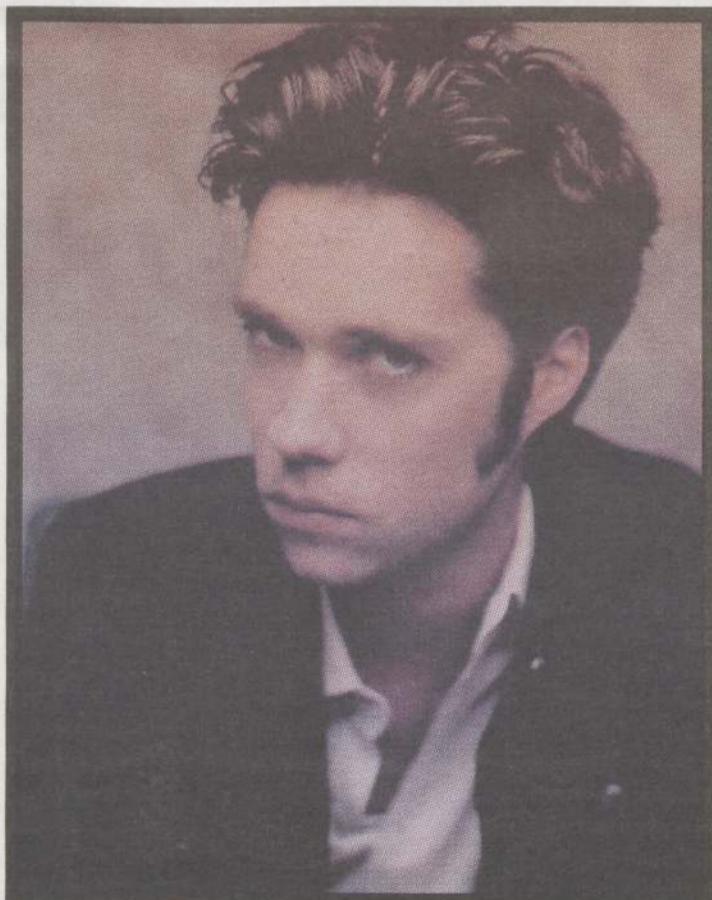
**HS:** That is so sad.

**RW:** No it isn't.

**HS:** You're perfectly fine?

**RW:** Perfectly happy.

**HS:** Other openly gay songwriters get much more explicit with their lyrics and I wondered if you have written any songs that are more—



**RW:** No, I'm not really into that. I don't want to be sexually explicit in lyrics. I think for some people it's great. But I don't want to be some smutty performer. (big laugh) I want to be a class act.

I can get pretty explicit on stage with things I say, and I can act kind of sexy. But like great, old movies and like things in general, people look a lot better when they have a little bit of clothing on. In most cases, I don't want to see them all naked.

**HS:** Your album is intensely personal in many ways, and you even

made all those artful collages for the lyric sheets. So who's the cute guy, the bass player whose photo appears under the lyrics to "Sally Ann" (track 11)?

**RW:** That's Danny. "Danny Boy" (the name of the album's 2nd track, about an unrequited love). The one I was in love with. A beautiful—little—loser.

**HS:** Apart from that, you've never had a long term relationship. Now how does your perception of your own sexual desirability change as you become more famous? For instance, are a lot of guys wanting to get in your pants now that you are better known?

**RW:** Yeah a lot of guys want to get in my pants. And it certainly has changed, and in many ways it's bizarre. But.

**HS:** But?

**RW:** But, I don't know if it's a problem, but where I have a problem is—you know, after so many years of performing, even as a child and also with [the current tour], you have to be kind of vaguely a Zombie at times and really be numb to a lot of things. To just get through the gruel of it. 'Cause it's very grueling.

And so to show someone—even to show yourself and to be aware of what you are actually feeling or how you're doing, gets harder and harder as you get sort of further into this thing. And that's more where the danger lies. You know, I'm kind of afraid to open up to anybody, 'cause I don't know if I want to see what's in there, myself.

**HS:** Don't you have to go deeper inside yourself in order to continue writing the same kind of personal songs that you put on your album?

**RW:** Not necessarily. (laughter) A song is a song. I have to have certain experiences and I have to go through things as an artist, but a song is not necessarily written so—it's not a truthful thing.

**HS:** But it seems like very honest album.

**RW:** It's honest, and it's honest about what I feel. But it's also creation. And it's also make-believe.

It's not therapy, you know. It's a weapon. (big laughter) Remember that!

**HS:** Has anybody ever been affected by this weapon? Does it work?

**RW:** Well—it depends who I point it at. Unless I point it at myself, which I hardly ever do. But no, I consider myself more of a craftsman than some sort of Bearer of Truth or anything like that. I just try and write wicked songs.



*Catch Rufus Wainwright live on April 13 at the Bash on Ash, 230 W. 5th Street in Tempe. Call 966-8200 for more information.*

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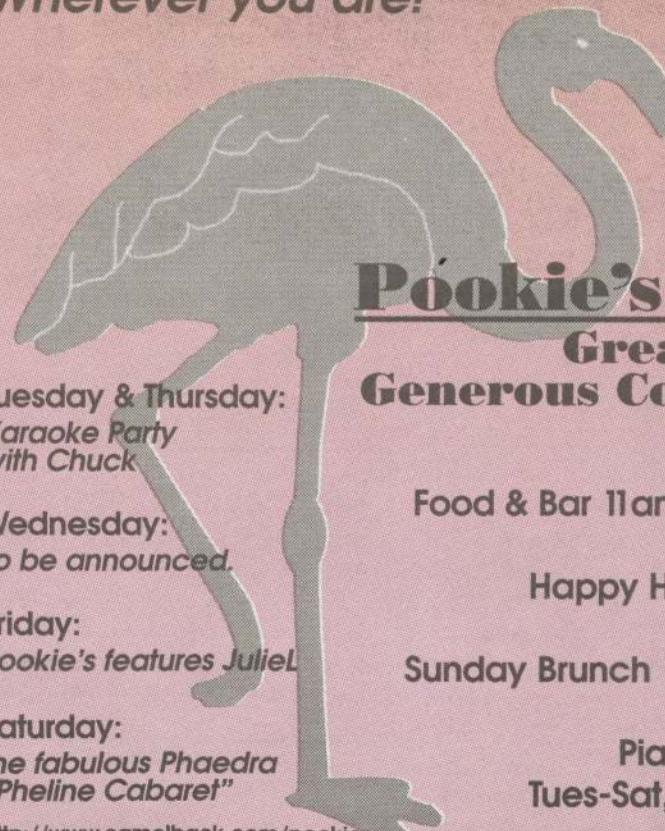
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## My Queer Life: Size Matters

By Michael Thomas Ford, HeatStroke Contributor

Researchers at the Kinsey Institute recently announced, after a study of some 1500 male college students, that the length of the average man's penis has been downsized from 6.16 inches to 5.2 inches.

As you can imagine, this reevaluation of the male member is of no little importance. Around the world, men are rejoicing in the fact that they have now become either closer to average or another inch or so beyond it. Not since the release of Viagra has male self-esteem been at such a high.

But I'm not so sure it's all good news, especially to those of us who have a special interest in the rating system for male endowment. I am speaking, of course, of size queens. I must confess I am one.

I know, it's shameful and wrong. But there you are. I like big ones.

Not that I have anything against little ones, medium ones, or sort of big ones, mind you. They're all fine in my book, and I welcome their company. But the really big ones have, well, a special appeal. And after years of exacting scientific research, I have come to one undeniable conclusion: men lie about how big they are.

I have yet to meet the man who has never checked to see how he measures up. It's one of those things that guys just do, like drinking right out of the milk carton and not asking for directions.

At some point in every man's life

there is a moment when he just has to know just how many inches he's packing. And inevitably, he's disappointed at the results.

Before measuring, you can look at your pride and joy resting in your hand and think about how impressive it looks all puffed up and at the ready. But then out comes the tape measure, and you realize that an inch is a lot longer than you thought it was.

Staring down at the numbers, you convince yourself that surely there's something missing. Maybe a number was left out by accident during the production process. Or perhaps inches are shorter in Taiwan or China or wherever the measuring apparatus was manufactured.

So you measure again.

Maybe you try

forcing more

blood down

there, hoping the exertion will push you past the magic number you have in your head. If that fails, there's always measuring from different angles, or holding in your stomach to give you an extra half an inch or so.

According to the Kinsey researchers, the proper way to measure the length of a penis is along the top, from the point it joins the body to the tip. I'm glad they set some ground rules about this, because some of the men I know clearly have been using most unusual methods.

One gentleman of my acquaintance claimed to log in at 9 inches which, after getting a look at him, I knew simply wasn't true. Finally,

after pressing, he admitted that he had measured along the bottom, apparently starting at his prostate. "Maybe the tape measure slipped back a little," he said sheepishly as I docked him three inches.

For size queens, the biggest controversy surrounding this average length question concerns the descriptive phrase "well-hung." Carrying with it a sense of mystery and adventure, this classification can elicit enthusiastic reactions when used judiciously in personal ads, general conversation, and chat rooms of the sexual variety.

For most of us, it implies that the user's penis stretches significantly over that magic average mark. But how far is far enough, especially now that the Kinsey people have lowered the bar?

Is a man hefting 10.3 inches of joy

more well-hung than one waving 6.9? Or is it simply a question of degree, with anything over 5.2 being technically equal to 11.8? You can see the dilemma, and those of us concerned about this matter are lobbying for clarification.

Yes, this obsession with size isn't very healthy, and I admit that bigger doesn't always mean better. I've met more than one well-endowed fellow who thinks he's done his duty simply by being blessed with generous proportions. This type generally lies back as if you've come for an audience with the Pope, waiting for you to kiss it and ask for a blessing.

And then there's the whole maintenance issue. I once dated a wonder-

ful fellow who was simply huge all over. The only problem was, it took all the blood in his body to maintain his erections. Whenever he got hard, his eyes glazed over and getting him to process even simple sentences was impossible. I was always afraid that in his effort to keep it up he would pass out and I'd have a lot of explaining to do to the paramedics.

Frankly, I think this decreased penis length figure is all a new marketing strategy. Condom manufacturers have long known that making men think they're bigger than they are will increase sales. So they make their regular condoms smaller, forcing their once average-sized customers to instead buy the "King Size" or "Magnum" varieties, and gladly.

What guy wouldn't be proud to slap a box of "Stallion Super-Duper Extra Wides" on the checkout counter? Little does he know that the contents are the same 6-inch condoms that used to appear in the plain old blue box he was mortified to be seen buying.

In the end, I suppose guys can call themselves whatever they want to. It's not as if you can hide a length deficiency when the actual unveiling comes. And really, once you've gotten to that point, how many men are actually going to get up and leave because of a slight size exaggeration? I know I wouldn't. Probably. But be warned: until there's a stricter rating system, I'm carrying around a tape measure, and I know how to use it.



Michael Thomas Ford's new book, *That's Mr. Faggot to You*, will be invading stores shortly. He welcomes e-mail at [Shopiltee@aol.com](mailto:Shopiltee@aol.com).

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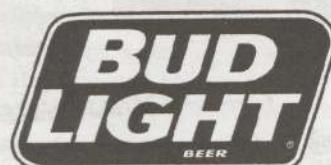
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Broadway's Tony-Award winning ensemble musical, *Bring in 'da Noise, Bring in 'da Funk* is coming to ASU's Gammage Auditorium for one week only, May 4-9, and tickets are on sale now through Dillard's and the Gammage Box Office.

Conceived from an idea by tap master Savion Glover and George C. Wolfe, *Bring in 'da Noise, Bring in 'da Funk* utilizes the rhythms and energies of tap to celebrate the history of the beat. Tickets are going for \$27.50 to \$45.50. Call (602)965-3434.

## Woolf re-introduction in downtown Phoenix



Revisit Edward Albee's most lauded hit play when Phoenix Theatre presents *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* April 9 through April 25 on the main stage at 100 East McDowell in central Phoenix.

Directed by Gary Griffin, the production stars Wendie Robie and Kim Bennett as the eloquently battling couple Martha and George. Matthew Mazuroski and Maggie Hunts play Honey and Nick, the young couple who drop by for a nightcap.

It's a fabulous, nasty bloodfest of wit and feeling that both shocked and delighted audiences when it premiered in 1962. Tickets are \$23-\$25 and available by calling (602)254-2151.

## NEW COMEDY LOOKS AT BARRIERS & BELIEFS

New comedy looks at barriers & beliefs

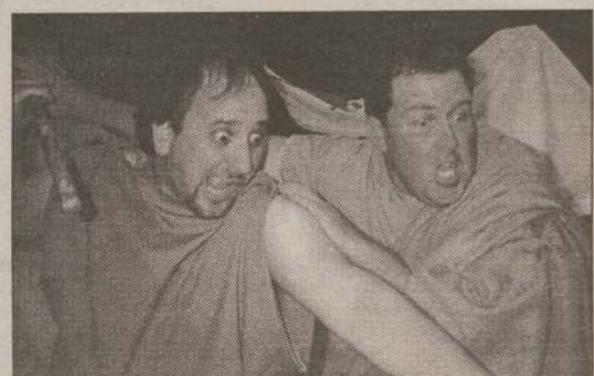
Local playwright Brenda Edwards has written a satire that redefines the words "prehistoric" and "cultural diversity".

*Wall War* is set to have its world premiere at Phoenix's premiere new-plays space, PlayWright's Theatre, opening April 9.

In the play, directed by Wanda McHatton, Edwards shows how walls are drawn between people by language barriers, ignorance, and religious beliefs. It's a sardonic look at the lives of two couples in a world that might be pre-Columbian, or maybe even-

post millennium.

Julie Whelihan, Jackie Masei, Roy Hunt, Ron Stevens, Anthony Nelson and Glenn Parker star. Set design is by Jere Luisi. Tickets are \$12 and available by calling (602)253-5151. *Wall War* runs through April 25.



## Notable Quotes

Newsmakers, Celebrities & Others Speak Out

Compiled by Rex Wockner



"I first met Anne and Ellen at last year's Lilith Fair. I had decided wouldn't it be fun to treat a small group of my female friends to an afternoon celebrating women. Now, it was a hot day, and it proceeded to get even hotter as we sat in the bleachers amongst the predominantly female, predominantly lesbian crowd. And I started to get my first feel ... for the appreciation—I will say 'appreciation' is a good, safe word—for what this community feels for the character of Agent Dana Scully that I play on TV. Now, a lot of people have accused Scully of being gay. She's single, she's strong, independent, she's a suit-wearing female who chooses not to shack up with whom some people consider the sexiest male on TV. And all I have to say to this is, thank you.

... Now as I said, it was getting increasingly hotter out there in the bleachers, and my companions thought wouldn't it be a good idea for us to make our way towards the celebrity safe-zone. So we did, and there stage left, right beside us, stood two fabulously sexy, fabulously entwined women bumping and grinding along with us to the Indigo Girls. And they were so open and so in love and so free—shame-free, care-free—that needless to say, I was distracted from what was going on onstage and I kept peeking over at their bliss and thinking, 'Ahhh, isn't that nice.' After a while, they took pity on my pathetic gawking and they tore themselves away from each other—just for a moment—to introduce themselves and we were, in that moment, initiated as friends."

—Actress Gillian Anderson presenting the Creative Integrity Award to actress Anne Heche at the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center's Women's Night '99, March 6.

"When I fell in love with Ellen, it mattered to people, it just mattered. It mattered to the people who were working with me, it mattered with my family, it mattered with my friends. It fucking mattered. I lost my family, which I know a lot of you have lost, just because I fell in love with a woman. I lost my friends, who no longer knew what to do with me, just because I fell in love with a woman. All this needs to change. I just want to tell you—and I guess I want to promise you, as I have been told for the last two years of my life to shut up—I am not going to shut up. I will continue to say as much as I want to say and as loud as I want to say it for the rest of my life. I have only just begun to speak about the injustices and discrimination against a group of the most incredible people I have ever met in my life."

—Actress Anne Heche accepting the Creative Integrity Award at the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center's Women's Night '99, March 6.

"*God and Monsters*. Lynn Redgrave. Georgie Girl plays a Nazi fag-hag in a French maid's uniform. What's not to love?"

—Frank DeCaro, movie reviewer on Comedy Central's *The Daily Show*, on the March 8 broadcast.

"[T]he directions to it are remarkably similar everywhere in the world. Follow the path to the end of the beach, park, promenade, pier, mall, tracks, tunnel. Cross, climb, duck under, hop over, go around or through the boulders, trees, wall, hedges, dunes or caves. ... Coast on your instincts, scope out the action."

—Writer Reed Hearne on gay cruising spots, *Salon* magazine, March 11.

"[T]he degree to which you need directions [to find gay cruising spots] is proportional to the absence of knowing what to do when you get there. Straight men learn early to hide their primordial lust behind 'lines' and strategies acceptable to women. Gay men don't have to. Whether they're highly selective, sport major attitude or discriminate according to rarefied fetishes, they always know at the most basic level how the other guy's clock is wound. The word, recently sanctified by Webster's, is gaydar: a powerful symbiosis etched into our collectively horny unconscious."

—Writer Reed Hearne, *Salon* magazine, March 11.

"Minneapolis (March 8, 1999) Hyatt Regency, downtown, second floor restrooms. A very hot undercover vice cop is coming onto cruisers then arresting them. I was arrested after a cop stood at the urinal flaunting his dick, looking over at me asking me to show him mine. I played it very cool, but he pursued me outside the restroom and wanted to know if I had learned about the location from this website. I even asked him if he was a cop and he said absolutely not. I said why should I believe you and he then reached down to my crotch and started feeling my bulge. I never returned his advances. He continued asking questions and asked if I would follow him back into the restroom so we could play around. I told him that I would like to mess around but not in there and decided to leave. As I was exiting the building he and another undercover officer arrested me for solicitation. I have learned that I am literally one of hundreds this has happened to in the last few months. These rogue homophobe cops will do just about anything to get you to make an advance, including jacking off, making verbal advances, and even physical groping."

—Posted on the Web site [www.cruisingforsex.com](http://www.cruisingforsex.com) March 18—one of thousands of such stories catalogued there.

"We're sort of having our cake and eating it too for a while. But we can't do that forever. There's no doubt in the second season Will's going to have to start dating. Down the road, if they keep writing Will as single, we're going to take a lot of heat and we're going to lose a lot of fans from the gay community because they're going to eventually want to see some action, and so do I. I don't want to keep playing a lawyer who can't get a date."

—Actor Eric McCormack, Will on TV's *Will & Grace*, to the *New Zealand Herald*, March 12.

"There was something striking about the public's reaction when a

character in *Dawson's Creek* came out as gay at the same time the show's creative leader revealed his homosexuality in real life. Striking, because the reaction was virtual silence. No loud protests from outraged church or conservative groups. No 'Yep, I'm Gay!' magazine cover. No celebrities treating it as a crusade. No ponderous essays about what it means to society. Nothing."

—Associated Press television writer David Bauder, March 16.

"I can fall in love with a man and I can fall in love with a woman. I have fallen in love with a man, or more than one man. And I have fallen in love with a woman, or more than one woman. ... At the end of the day, the important thing is to be true to yourself. True to your integrity, to your morality, to your dreams, to your very essence. An artist who is afraid of the truth is not an artist. An artist who only worries about selling cannot be an artist, an artist who is afraid of criticism—what kind of artist can that be? That is not an artist, that is a salesman."

—National Spanish-language talk-show host and Miami-based author Jaime Bayly to the *Miami Herald*, March 14.

"If you love someone, you love them. It doesn't matter if they have an illness. What kind of person would I be if that mattered to me? Besides, Greg takes such good care of himself. He is so strong. When we go on a bike ride, I absolutely cannot keep up with him!"

—E! Entertainment Television reporter Steve Kmetko, who is HIV-negative,

on his boyfriend, diving champ Greg Louganis, who is HIV-positive, to the *Advocate*, March 30.

"It's [my doing an *Advocate* cover interview] about what happened to Matthew Shepard. I think—as someone who has a fairly high profile and someone whom people have seen on TV for more than 20 years now—by making this simple statement, maybe people will think twice about other gay people they encounter. Hopefully they'll look at me and say, 'Well, he's succeeded, and he's got a pretty good life, and he's not out to hurt anybody.'"

—E! Entertainment Television reporter Steve Kmetko to the *Advocate*.

"I am not against sex. I am not telling each and everyone, You must live like this and this. I do not believe every gay person should be married, should be monogamous, should not be promiscuous. I am accused of being some puritanical modern Mather who forbids the joys of the flesh. And here I thought I'd spent all these years just trying to get us a cure so that we could go on living."

—Author Larry Kramer writing in the *March 30 Advocate*.

"When I saw that issue of *POZ* magazine with Tony Valenzuela—a gorgeous, buff, nude man mounted bareback on a stallion—that is glamorizing this [sex without condoms]. They say they were just trying to start a nonjudgmental discussion, but that cover was across the line."

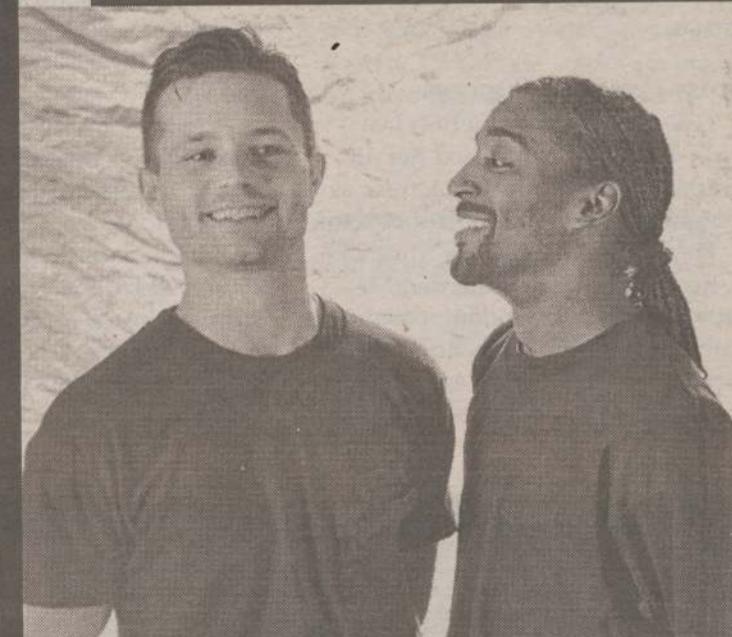
—Gay writer Michelangelo Signorile to the *Seattle Gay News*, March 12.

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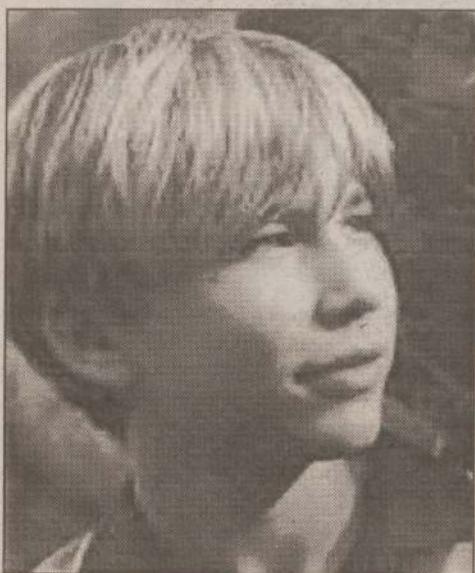
# Hollywood

## Deep Inside

By Romeo San Vicente, HeatStroke Contributor

### Homo Improvement?

Look for squeaky-clean teen hottie **Jonathan Taylor Thomas** to add fuel to the "is he or isn't he" question with his next film role (I guess only his hairdresser knows for sure).



Jonathan Taylor Thomas isn't letting rumors about his personal life keep him from playing controversial roles—he's been cast as a bisexual hustler in a film executive produced by gay director **Gus Van Sant**.

Thomas plays Steven, a bisexual hustler, in *Speedway Junky*, a film executive-produced by gay filmmaker **Gus Van Sant**, who's been down this road before with *My Own Private Idaho*.

Thomas's character is described in the screenplay as "buy-sexual - buy him something and he'll have sex." Also look for him to speak such non-*Homo Improvement* lines as, "Suck it baby!"

The movie, which may be released this summer, focuses on a young runaway who turns tricks in Las Vegas while he pursues his dream of becoming a racecar driver. *Romeo + Juliet's* **Jesse Bradford** and **Daryl Hannah** co-star.

### Cross-dress for Success

**Gwyneth Paltrow**, who's last cross-dressing turn earned her an Academy Award for best actress, is contemplating yet another butch role.

**Harvey Weinstein**, the Miramax co-head who has shepherded Ms. Paltrow's thus-far brilliant career (he didn't have anything to do with the perfectly crappy *Perfect Murder*) has approached her about starring in the

film version of lesbian author Jeanette Winterson's *The Passion*.

The story is a romance about Napoleon's cook, Henri, who falls madly in love with the daughter of a Venetian gondolier, Vianelle. She, however, is a cross-dressing pickpocket with webbed feet who prefers action of the Sapphic variety.

The material, which Miramax bought in 1997, is admittedly difficult and likened to the *The English Patient* in complexity. But in the very capable hands of lesbian producer **Christine Vachon** (*Velvet Goldmine*), it could result in naked gold man No. 2 for Gwyneth.

### Mohr Gays on TV

**Jay Mohr**, who goes gay in *Go*, is starring as a Hollywood producer in a hot new sitcom pilot with some interesting gay characters. The show, called *Action*, is being developed at Fox Television and includes a subplot about a closeted gay media mogul (calling **Barry Diller**?) who marries Mohr's character's ex-wife as a beard.

One of Mohr's employees, played by *Gods and Monsters* actor **Jack Plotnick**, is also gay. The pilot is pretty randy; it includes a penis-size gag, a hooker (played by the ever-charming **Illeana Douglas**), and a gay party complete with lots of Speedo-sporting studs.

### Rowe, Rowe Kevin's Boat

**Gay writer and Hollywood power-house Kevin Williamson** has cast some cuties in the ABC pilot *Wasteland*, a one-hour drama about twentysomethings who went to college together and are now trying to find themselves in the city that never sleeps.

Considering how good-looking the cast is, let's hope they find themselves in the city that never sleeps alone.

Look for **Brad Rowe**, the hunk from *Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss*, to play a former campus hotshot who can't hold down a job.

That makes two television careers launched by *Screen Kiss*, the little gay film that could—for both Rowe and **Sean P. Hayes** (*Will & Grace*).

**Jawbreaker** sex kitten **Rebecca Gayheart** will play an NYPD detective.

tive—she could be the most exciting thing to happen to chicks with badges since **Angie Dickinson**'s stint on the force years ago.

### The Thank-You Speech That Wasn't

Just days before the Academy Awards, **Sir Ian McKellen**, nominated for his stellar performance in *Gods and Monsters*, was feted at a Tinsel Town fundraiser for the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund, which raises money to put queers in positions of power (that does sound like fun).

Among the luminaries toasting McKellen at the swanky Hollywood Hills gathering were *Relax, It's Just Sex* star **Mitch Anderson**, *Dr. Quinn*'s resident homo **Chad Allen**, and *My So-Called Life*'s **Wilson Cruz**.

And this being Hollywood, you can't throw a gay-themed fundraiser without semi-pro fag hag **Judith Light** showing up (now that there are 200 channels, can't somebody find this poor woman a real job?).

The gay knight accurately predicted his defeat by **Roberto "I'm-a sooo-a Italian" Benigni**. But if he did have the chance to thank the Academy, Sir

### A "Feel Good" Musical About Incest?

MTV's film department is in negotiations to acquire the rights to British writer **Tim Murphy**'s book *The Breeders Box*, a dark and racy tale about drugs, gay sex, and incest.

The plans are to turn it into a made-for-MTV movie musical set in the club-kid world of New York. The book takes place in the early '90s, but expect an update; MTV wants a red-hot soundtrack it can squeeze into heavy rotation on its video channels (a somewhat different form of incest).

### Spacey Lubes It Up

Academy Award-winner and megatalent **Kevin Spacey**, who played gay in *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*, will reteam with *L.A. Confidential* costar **Danny DeVito** in the film version of *Hospitality Suite*, from **Roger Rueff**'s play of the same name.

**DeVito** and **Spacey** play salesmen who meet at an industrial lubricants convention (we're not talking KY and Motion Lotion, folks) in Wichita, Kansas and wind up in a hotel hospitality suite swapping war stories and discussing life.

Playing new salesmen on the block is *Can't Hardly Wait* stud **Peter Facinelli**. **Spacey** is also producing the film, which should be out by year's end.

### John Waters Turns to Kidnapping

**Gay director John Waters** (who made a drag queen a superstar years before most of you could walk in heels) is working on a new film about some desperate filmmakers who kidnap an A-list Hollywood actress and force her to star in their low-budget flick.

**Waters** has reportedly approached (nonviolently) both **Sharon Stone** and **Meryl Streep** to star.

The indie director, famous for such crude-and-lewd masterpieces as *Pink Flamingos*, recently observed,

"I've always felt the ultimate crossover would be Meryl Streep doing a Baltimore accent."

No doubt veteran former Symbionese Liberation Army kidnapping victim—and Waters veteran—**Patty Hearst** will have a part in the project.

San Vicente can be reached in care of HeatStroke.



Ian McKellen doing his impersonation of Roberto Benigni at a party to benefit The Victory Fund.

Ian said, he would talk about how coming out is the most important thing gay actors can do for themselves and those who love them.

Sir Ian's dead-on Benigni impression was an award-worthy performance in itself. (Unlike the *Life Is Beautiful* star, McKellen didn't say anything about wanting to make love to everyone in the Academy.)

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**Out of Town**  
By Andrew Collins



## Atlanta by Night

Since the mid-1980s, the rapidly expanding city of Atlanta has grown from a regional center of arts, dining, and nightlife into one of America's cultural and entertainment meccas.

It's no exaggeration to say that the city's variety of trendsetting eateries and clubs has propelled it into the national spotlight, or that gays and lesbians have played an integral role in Atlanta's meteorlike rise—many of its hottest dining venues have opened in neighborhoods first rejuvenated by queer urban pioneers.

And the slick Midtown area is a disco diva's dream, booming on weekends with cavernous danceterias that in many cases inhabit a hazy borderland between gay and straight, black and white, uppity and down-market.

There are a few things to keep in mind before throwing yourself into the frenzy of Atlanta's cruise-and-booze scene. This is a driving town—it's been driven to unprecedented sprawl over the past two decades, and so unless you plan things carefully you may find yourself driving and driving and driving between cafes, bars, coffeehouses, and wherever it is you're staying.

A cluster of the most popular queer clubs, however, are in Midtown within an easy walk or cab ride of one another, so serious nightcrawlers should try to land a hotel room here.

***It's no exaggeration to say that Atlanta's variety of trendsetting eateries and clubs has propelled it into the national spotlight, or that gays and lesbians have played an integral role in its meteorlike rise.***

There are several excellent gay-friendly choices in this neighborhood, ranging from the affordable 63-room Midtown Manor, which comprises

three linked Victorian houses, to the ultraposh Four Seasons Hotel Atlanta, which offers a number of terrific weekend deals. For instance, "Artful Weekend" packages begin at \$125 a night (based on availability, so book well ahead) and include inside assistance from the hotel's well-connected concierge in scoring tickets to top shows and art exhibits at nearby theaters and museums.

Midtown also has an abundance of Atlanta's favorite eateries, from lively late-night hangouts like Einstein's (don't miss the black bean and goat cheese quesadilla or the spicy chicken tandoori salad) to super-trendy Nickiemoto's, which specializes in pan-Asian fusion fare and creative sushi rolls.

Quieter and more romantic, you and your date might prefer an intimate meal at Zoë, renowned for its fresh Mediterranean fare. Along an unassuming street behind the Four Seasons, you'll find wonderful Cuban—and Caribbean-influenced American fare (black bean cakes, jerk chicken) at Vickery's, which happens also to be ideal for brunch the morning after a night of partying.

If a light bite or caffeine pick-me-up is all you seek, try the delightfully festive java joint at Outwrite, Atlanta's excellent lesbian and gay bookstore.

Little pockets of great queer-popular dining exist all over the city, especially east and southeast of Midtown.

Drive over to Virginia-Highland for the stellar New American seafood at Indigo Coastal Grill and at Dish. Famous for seasonal, prix-fixe "feasts," Babette's Cafe is a modest storefront bistro in Inman Park that captures the essence of Southern European farmhouse cooking.

Nearby Cafe Diem serves light Continental fare and is open 24 hours, making it nice for après-disco dessert and cappuccino. And, south of I-20, you'll find the cheap and cheerful

ful Heaping Bowl and Brew, an eclectic hot spot in trendy East Atlanta Village neighborhood.

Where bar-hopping is concerned,

Atlanta is strong with every element of the gay-club market.

Women have a small but visible presence at some of the mostly male clubs but tend to favor the Otherside, whose large dance floor offers disco or country-western music, depending on the night.

Loretta's is a major dancing and drinking hangout among the gay-male African-American community,

zone in on Metro, a major strip stop on the gay porn-star circuit—and also a favorite of transsexuals and drag queens.

For dancing and cruising, guys of all ages and styles end up at the Armory late most evenings, where there's a drag bar, great dancing, and a tropical-inspired roofdeck that'll might make you think you're in Miami Beach.



Atlanta's inviting Outwrite Bookstore, a great spot for sipping espresso, book-browsing, and conversation

while Bulldogs attracts an evenly mixed black-and-white crowd in a city that is sometimes unfairly characterized as racially segregated.

Regular joes shoot pool and dish at the friendly Burkhardt's video bar, hard-core leather studs rebel at the Heretic and the Atlanta Eagle, and two-steppers and line-dancers strut their stuff at Hoedown's.

Beloved among Atlanta's well-dressed guppies is Blake's, one of the prettiest pretty-boy bars you'll ever find. A newer addition to the stand-and-model scene is Mary's, a convivial cocktail bar in East Atlanta Village.

Atlanta excels when it comes to serious warehouse-style nightclubs, and the gay community has a few great ones to choose from.

If sleaze is your thing, you should

The most diehard revelers, however, head straight for the four-level Backstreet, which is open 24 hours on weekends and offers everything from dancing to shopping (in a homey erotica and leather boutique).

On the top level, you'll find one of the South's favorite show lounges, where a good number of straight folk join the dykes and fags to catch the notoriously bawdy drag act of Charlie Brown, Lily White, and their acid-tongued friends.

Andrew Collins authored the second edition of Fodor's Gay Guide to the USA, as well as six gay guides covering the West Coast, New York City, South Florida, and Amsterdam. He can be reached in care of HeatStroke or at [gayfodors@aol.com](mailto:gayfodors@aol.com).

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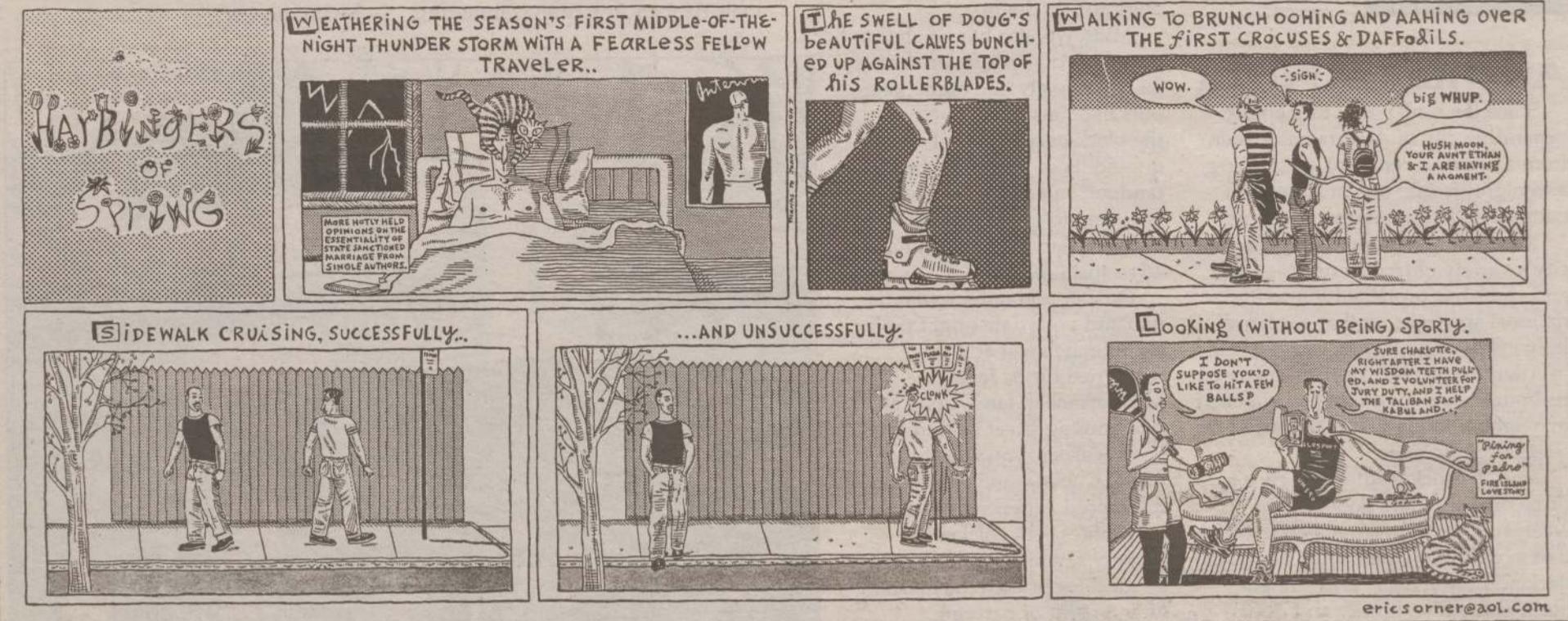
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# HeatStroke's Funny Page

## The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green

BY ERIC ORNER



ericorner@aol.com

## Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel



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## "DEAR COWBOY" A REGULAR ADVICE COLUMN



We've rounded up a real cowboy who's tough as rawhide but gentle as a poet. Ask him anything. Calmer and wiser than most of us, he's full of strong coffee and good advice. And he never squints into the sun. Send your questions to "Dear Cowboy," c/o HeatStroke, P.O. Box 33430, Phoenix, AZ, or e-mail to [alkaphx@aol.com](mailto:alkaphx@aol.com) — we'll pass them along to the wise one for you.

Dear Cowboy,  
I don't know how to have sex anymore and I don't know what to do about it.

Let me explain. For most of my 20s, I was what we'd commonly call a "top". But I'm almost 40 now and things have changed. I'm not saying I'm exclusively a bottom. I have to admit that I really don't know what turns me on anymore.

The last two times I slept with a man, I started going through the usual motions and then lost interest. As you can imagine, both those attempts were pretty disastrous.

Being on top just seems like more pressure and less excitement now that I'm older. I'd honestly rather cuddle with someone all night than worry about what's going on. Is this normal?

Signed, Unsatisfied

Dear Unsatisfied,  
I don't know how "normal" your situation is, but it's all too common.

I've said it over and over again, but many of you cowboys (and gals, too) never seem to get the importance of communication (that's actual talking, bucko, not "body language" or

anything else) when it comes down to planning your bunkhouse fun.

Would you take off out of the team roping chute without asking your partner in advance whether he's planning to go for the head or the heel? Hell no—you'd crash smack dab into each other

before your ropes were even thrown. So why do you jump into the hay with another man without first talking about what each of you expects to happen once you get there?

Stop worrying about whether you are normal. Stop trying to impress your partner, or live up to some kind of label. Stop going through motions, and start talking.

If all you want to do is cuddle, fine. If you want to get plowed like a cotton field in springtime, fine (but don't forget the latex). If you want to skip the top/bottom event altogether and keep everything oral—or even manual—fine. And if you really don't know what you want to do, that is absolutely fine, too.

But you need to express whatever it is you're craving or not craving while your boots are still on, and (here's the tricky part) be prepared to spend the night alone if he isn't into the same style of ride you are.

Keep your zipper closed until after you've open your mouth, and I suspect you'll find your satisfaction soon enough.

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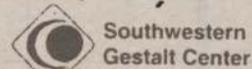
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Stop worrying about whether you are normal. Stop trying to impress your partner, or live up to some kind of label. Stop going through the motions and start talking.

(here's the tricky part) be prepared to spend the night alone if he isn't into the same style of ride you are.

Keep your zipper closed until after you've open your mouth, and I suspect you'll find your satisfaction soon enough.

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Phoenix, AZ 85082 428-3596

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Phoenix, AZ 85011 655-8229

The Leatherlords  
254-9651

Lesbian & Gay Alanon  
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Phoenix, AZ 85006 548-0936

Los Amigos del Sol (IADS)  
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and Gays  
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Lutherans Concerned  
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Gays  
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Phoenix, AZ 85082 275-0506

Asbury United Methodist Church  
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AVIV of Arizona (Jewish Group)  
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## Professional Organizations

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## Music, Sports & Hobbies

Arizona Gay Rodeo Association  
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Phoenix, AZ 85011 265-0618

Cactus Cities Softball League  
PO Box 45101  
Phoenix, AZ 85064 848-8562

43 Fashion designer #4

48 Goes soft

49 Suffix in the *Guinness Book of Records*

50 Limerick locale

53 Stonewall events

55 Revised versions of software, e.g.

58 Turn over \_\_\_\_ leaf

59 Fashion designer #5

62 It was free in the '60s

63 Good way to be gay

64 Dir. from San Francisco to Salt Lake City

65 Gay porn filmmaker Halsted

66 "Good things come to \_\_\_\_ who wait"

67 It may be safe

### DOWN

1 \_\_\_\_ date (makes wedding plans)

2 Gators' cousins

3 How RuPaul performs

4 Manicurist's tool

5 Show embarrassment

6 Cigar dropping

7 "Beulah, peel \_\_\_\_ grape"

8 O'Neill's *Desire Under the* \_\_\_\_

9 Gain entry to

10 "Mississippi Queen" singers

11 Cocksure novelist Richler

12 "Bravo, bullfighter!"

14 \_\_\_\_ Jones industrials

17 *Raging Bull* star

21 Make it in the hole satisfactorily

24 Cocktails of orange juice and champagne

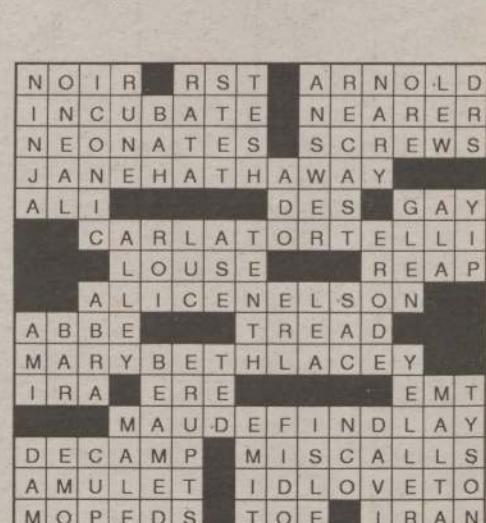
25 Part of the eye containing the iris

27 Stimpy's sidekick

29 \_\_\_\_ Lingus (Irish carrier)

30 Pester persistently

31 Ball between the legs, maybe



Solution to last issue's Q Puzzle:  
"TV Butches"

## Q Puzzle

### "Fashionable Five"

#### ACROSS

1 \_\_\_\_-fi (Samuel R. Delany's

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# QSCOPES

By Jill Dearman, HeatStroke  
Contributor

**ARIES:** Your passionate planetary ruler, Mars, is retrograde as we speak, so tone down the hot and heavy M.O., but go out and conquer. On the job, you could finally get the autonomy you desire and deserve if you demand it. You may have to sublimate your sex drive into your work—for just a little while!

**TAURUS:** The Sun in the house of endings and new beginnings could make you think about getting back with one of your exes. Forget it, sweetie. Get your own act together instead. Develop your talents and stop moping over the past. Set a career deadline for yourself, and stick to it. There's no time like the present.

**GEMINI:** This is a week for friends, frolic and foursomes. So get out of your head for once and explore the world. A double date could turn intriguing when you and your platonic pal suddenly get the hots for each other. Break it to the others gently.

**CANCER:** Jupiter is spreading good cheer in the career sector of your chart, so stop making like a hermit and start cozying up to people who can help you achieve your goals. Your love life is quiet and complex, but with Mars retrograde in your house of creativity, now is the time for artistic expression—if you can make the extra effort it demands.

**LEO:** The outermost planets are still playing puppet-master with your heart, forcing you to deal with your deepest romantic fears. Basically, you need to trust yourself enough to take a real emotional risk with someone who's worthy of you. Get out and meet new people who can give you a greater perspective on your life.

**VIRGO:** The Sun and Jupiter are adding fuel to your fire when it comes to long-term relationships and business collaborations. In both work and play, talking is a turn on, especially to a Libra. Life is getting more serious. Consider using some found money to invest in your future.

**LIBRA:** Saturn in your long-term partnership house is pushing you to make room in your *real* life for "the ideal relationship" you always fantasize about. Why do you put every other priority above love? There's someone who longs to spend quality time with you. Don't just "phone in" this relationship.

**SCORPIO:** Pluto, your ruler, is still retrograde in your financial sector, so do some deep thinking about your own very complex relationship to money, honey. In your home life, don't just settle for security; push your own limits—and your lover's.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Venus is in your house of health and service now, my friend, so put some energy into doing for others, in every sense. It's a good time to indulge your creative side, but be extra diligent on your day job; the boss is in a neurotic mood. Payback for your patience comes this summer.

**CAPRICORN:** If you've been obsessed with work and ignoring your home life, now's the time to get your priorities straight, darling. Fix up your pad and invite a friend over to check out the ambience. But avoid the urge to cut to the chase, in life and in bed.

**AQUARIUS:** You could increase your income by doing more writing or public speaking, as communicative Mercury transits your house of money. Make contacts with a lot of unusual business associates. You never know who will call you with a freelance opportunity.

**PISCES:** After a period of wildness, it's time to come back down to earth and organize your life. "Reality" doesn't have to be boring, especially if you actually articulate your thoughts and dreams, instead of complaining about being misunderstood! Tell people who you really are and the world will be at your, um, feet.

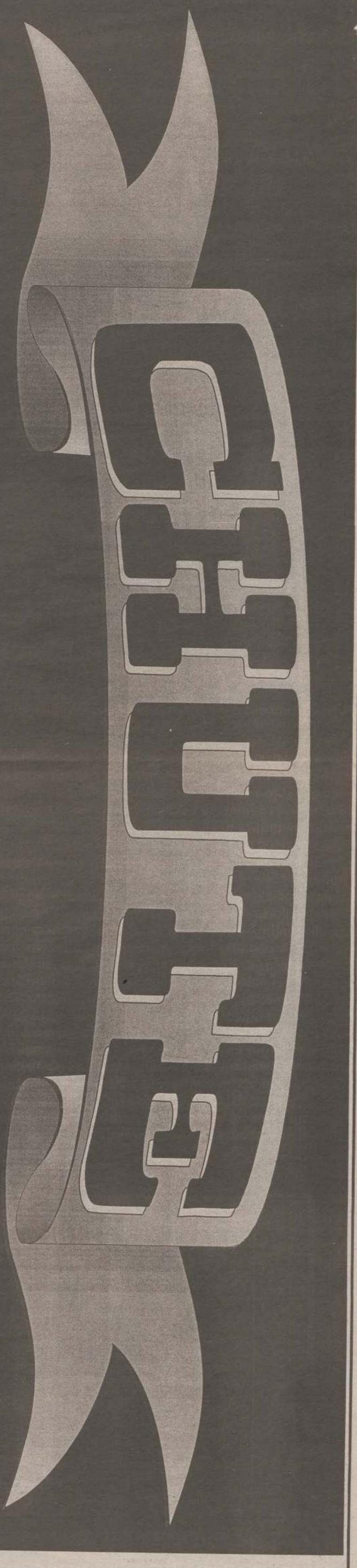
Jill Dearman is the author of two new books from St. Martin's Griffin, *Queer Astrology for Men* and *Queer Astrology for Women*. For charts or consultations, contact her at 212-841-0177 or [QScopes@aol.com](mailto:QScopes@aol.com).



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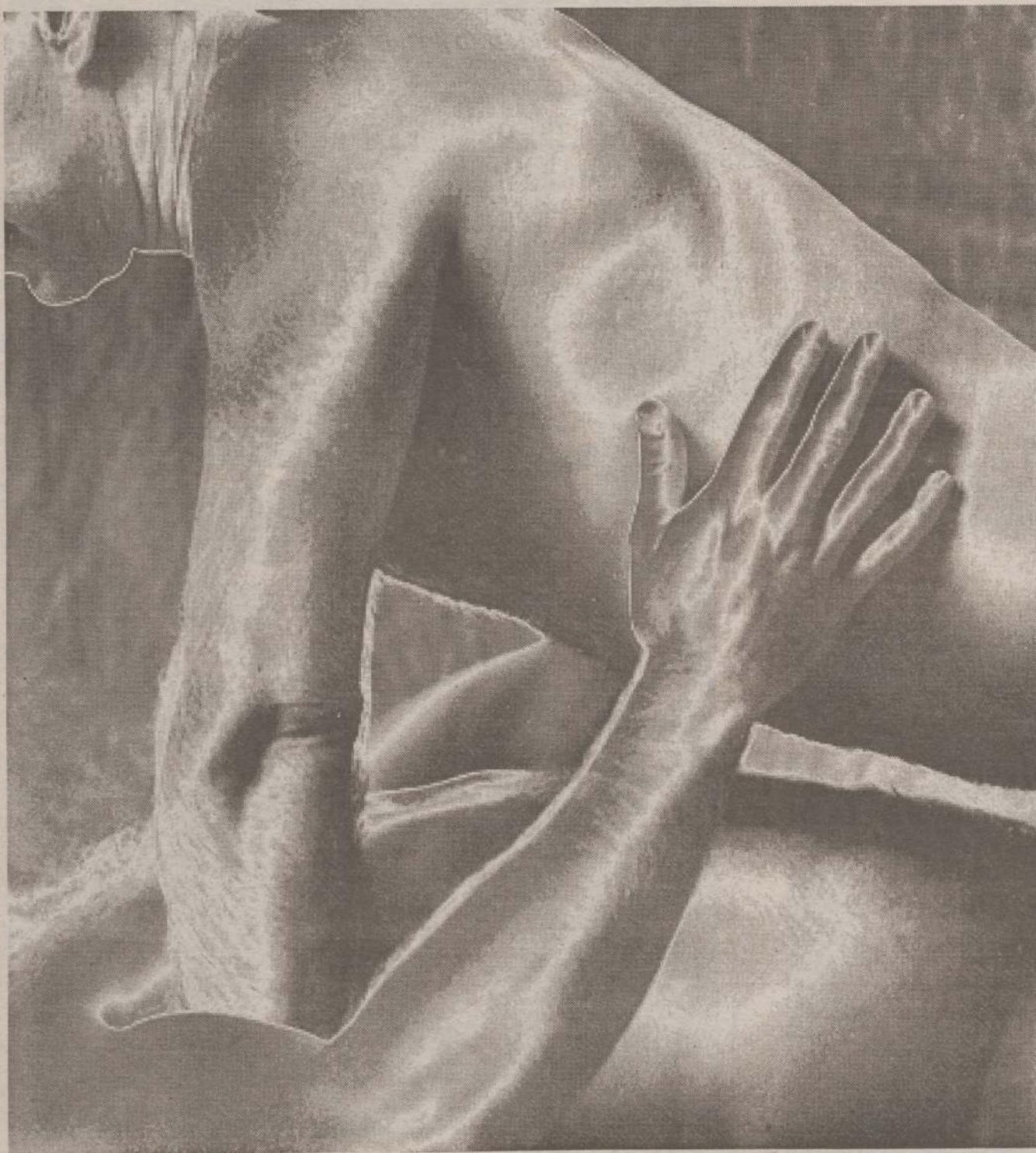


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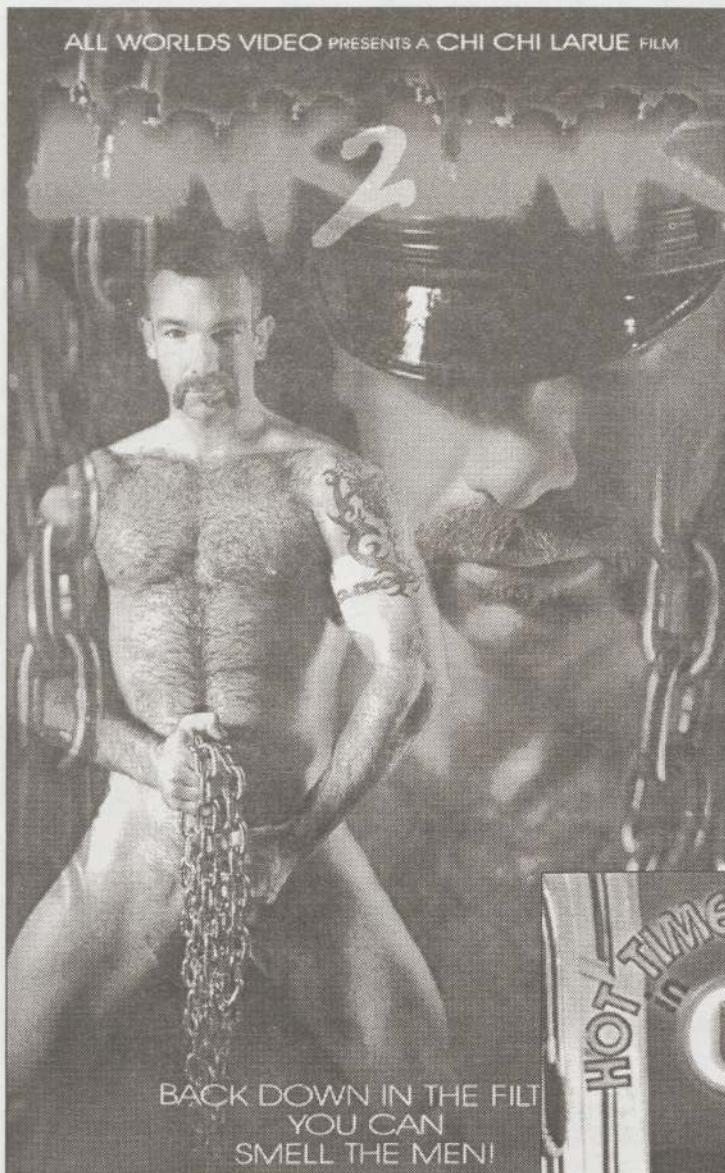
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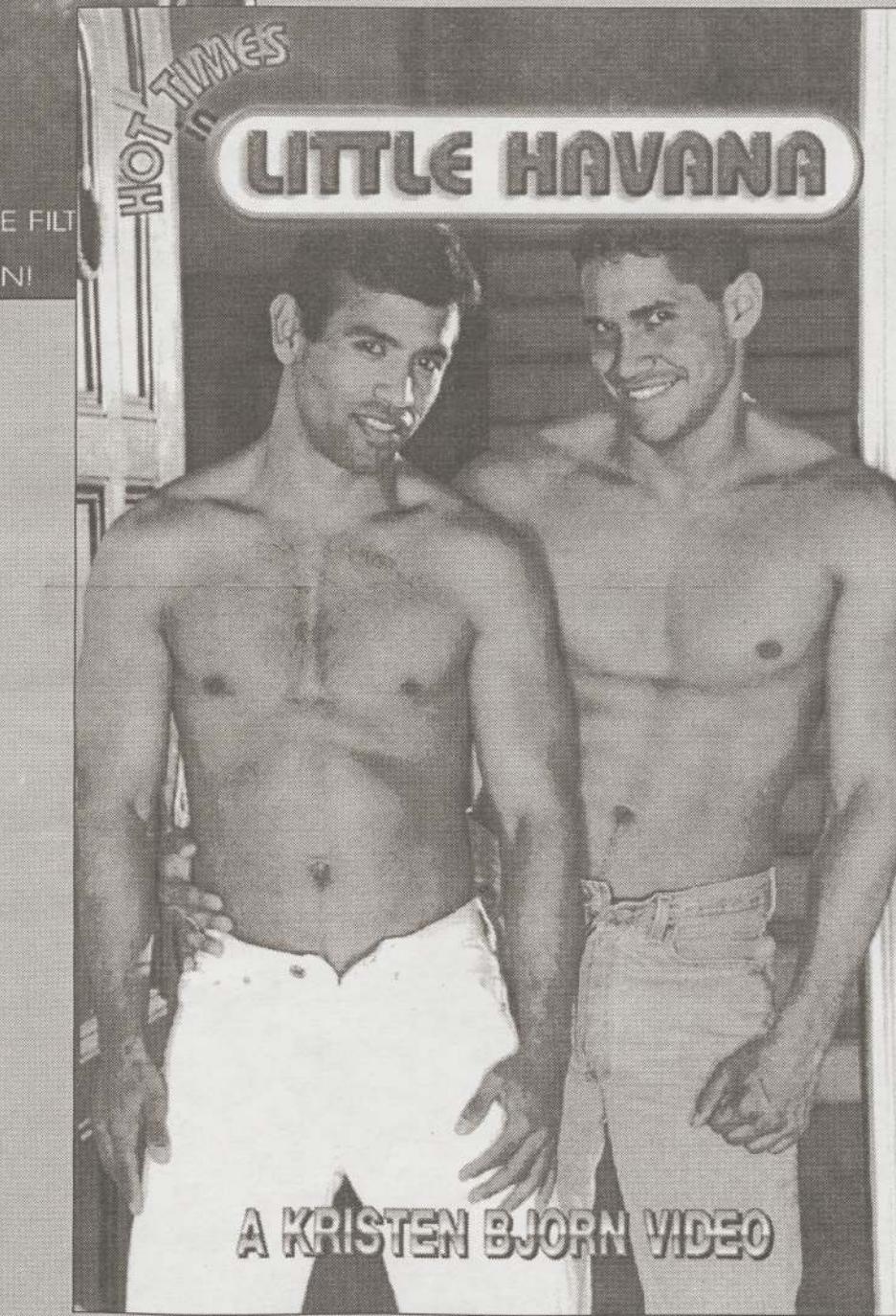
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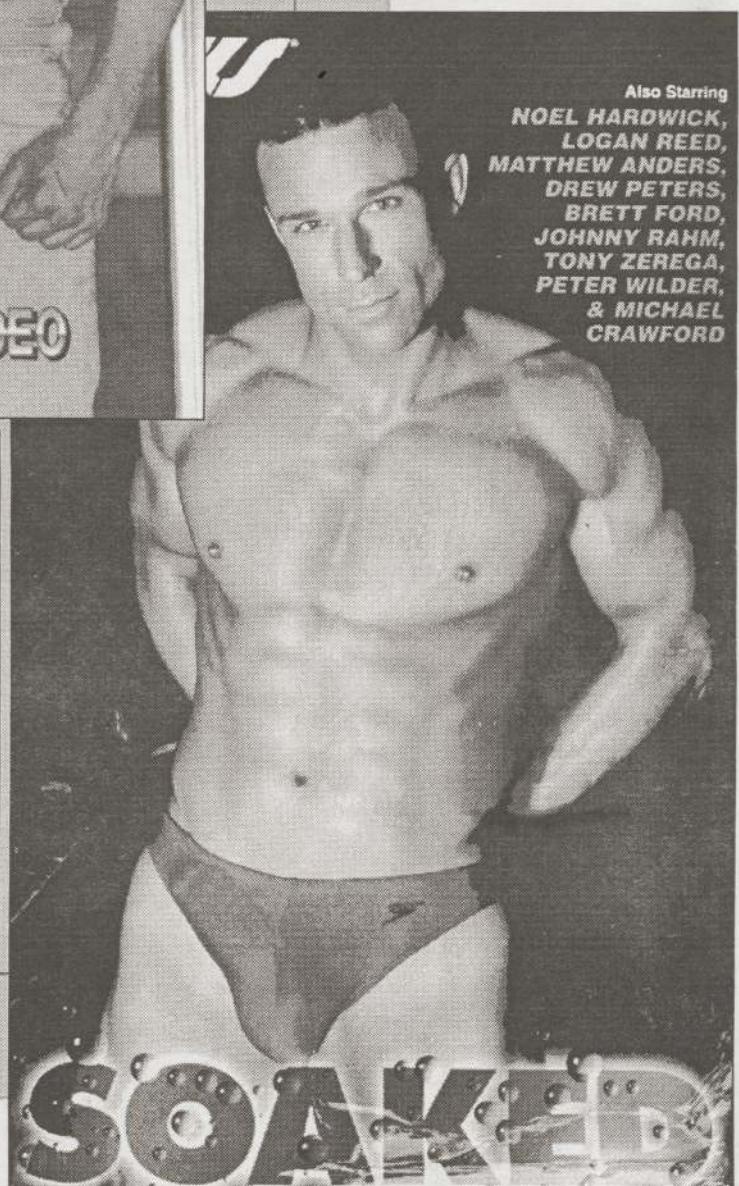
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