



THE WESTERN EXPRESS

FROM THE SOUTHWEST

VOLUME II ISSUE 13

MAY 25, 1983

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REPUBLIC AIDS CARTOON RAISES PROTESTS PHOENIX - TWE



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Benson, Steve Benson off the job, editorial cartoonist for *The Arizona Republic*, the state's largest daily newspaper, and syndicated by *The Washington Post Writer's Group*, came under considerable criticism for his cartoon on AIDS appearing in the newspaper May 20. The cartoon depicted two men in a single hospital bed labeled "A.I.D.S." with a buxom vision with a bird in hand floating above captioned "I told you it's not nice to fool Mother Nature!" A sign above the bed read, "Warning to hospital personnel: breathing is not recommended." The cartoon was directed at the relationship between anti-immune deficiency syndrome and the fact that gay men have comprised over half the number of victims of the debilitating and often fatal disease.

Labeled in calls to *The Western Express*, complaining about the cartoon, as

cruel, homophobic, uneducated, uninformed and as living under a rock, Benson defended his position in an interview with the newspaper. He was found to be most courteous and affable in the interview and in conversations during following days.

"I'm aware that research does not limit AIDS to homosexuals. I realize others are afflicted, but 80% are in the gay community." "... I understand the concern of the gay community, but while I understand and to a great degree sympathize with AIDS victims, I stand by a position that homosexuality by and large is an aberrational form of behavior." "... A cartoon format by its very nature is definitely one-sided. It expresses one point of view and one point of view only. It's my position that whether we are talking about homosexuality or heterosexuality the point is irrelevant. The point

of importance to me is that promiscuity can lead to high risks. As many (homosexuals) have explained, they lead a varied and exploratory sexual lifestyle. This promiscuity can lead to negative natural biological results, i.e. the transmission of diseases such as AIDS."

Benson drew from that "for the record" position reasoning for the existence and spread of AIDS. Challenges from the medical community to this viewpoint were immediate. Gary Moore, R.N., said that he was aware of no previous direct confrontations nor innuendo regarding gay members of the medical profession and AIDS, but that by publishing material such as Benson's cartoon it could start "affecting my life, the life of my family and could even start affecting me at work." His concern was that the direct connection made between AIDS, gay male sufferers and hospitals could have a negative effect on gay people working in hospitals treating straight patients, or treatment given AIDS victims should anyone give credence to the "unfounded assumption" that AIDS is airborne, which is the contention of the wall poster in the cartoon.

The medical issue raised by the cartoon was carried further by Ken Fisher, M.D., a Phoenix physician who is currently treating AIDS patients and who, it is reported, seems to be the best informed private physician on the subject of AIDS in this area. Dr. Fisher is on the board of directors of the Arizona AIDS Fund.

"He is welcome to his personal opinion, but it's not appropriate to attack people who can't defend themselves. I mean the people who will die from it (AIDS) within the next few months."

"The medical community is positive and receptive to the needs of AIDS patients and there's a movement to become better educated and be up-to-date on AIDS. Negatives will come possibly from the nursing staffs, not physicians. A lot of them get a considerable amount of their information from reading *The Republic* or *Reader's Digest*. I fear people who get information from these sources or from Benson's cartoon. He has to remember the influence it has."

"Some people are going crazy and being reactionary about AIDS. When the

(medical) community is trying to solve the problem it doesn't help to say, 'God is coming down to destroy you.' This can't be compared to the *sending of the Great Flood*. It's not right to look at it that way."

Editorial influence by *The Arizona Republic* in Phoenix is considerable if not the most powerful of any media. Phoenix' other daily, *The Phoenix Gazette*, is owned by the same corporation. The combined influence has been questioned many times over the years since dual operation began. The same question has been voiced again. "Who the hell do we go to that'll print our opinion or print a cartoon that jumps on the government for dragging its feet on AIDS?" asked Robert G. "Do they realize how much damage can be done — especially when there's no way to respond through competitive press because there isn't any? A letter to the editor just doesn't have the same importance as a cartoon or an editorial which a cartoon is. Anyway it's usually a week or more before *The Republic* starts printing rebuttals and in this time a lot of damage can be done. Anyway, the cartoon is the position of the paper or else they wouldn't have hired Benson in the first place. Newspapers are very influential and a lot of people take their word as official and final. There are probably some who now think because they read it in the *Republic* that gay people are responsible for AIDS so when it gets into the straight community there's going to be hell to pay. Also where did that idea come from that it's not safe to breathe in a hospital where there are AIDS patients? All research indicates that this is a viral disease. There's no indication, proof or anyone even working that I know of on this going through the air. That was disqualified two years ago when the research first started."

Deborah Laake is Managing Editor of *New Times Weekly*, the largest circulation weekly in the state. Known for its liberal position and investigative reporting the newspaper has long been a favorite media source for gay people because it has reported across the board and fairly with them and other minorities. Her concern is the singling out of the gay community in a way that is difficult to combat.

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N.Y. GOVERNOR CUOMO ADDRESSES N.G.T.F. 10TH ANNIVERSARY

PHOENIX — The National Gay Task Force celebrated its tenth anniversary in conjunction with its sixth awards of the *N.G.T.F. Fund For Human Dignity* with a \$100 per person benefit dinner at the Plaza Hotel, New York City, on May 16.

The sixth annual awards for the *N.G.T.F. Fund for Human Dignity* were presented following the dinner and an introduction of the founders of the organization. Recipients of the awards, the highest accolade of national gay recognition, were:

— HOLLY NEAR: "An artist of uncompromising artistry and social concern, Holly Near has, as one reviewer wrote, 'nothing to hide,' including her lesbian-

ism. Born in Ukiah, California, she was reared by parents who were involved in both labor disputes and nuclear protests. While traveling with Jane Fonda and Donald Sutherland on the "Free the Army" show, which provided entertainment for soldiers in the Far East, she saw first hand the human suffering which has since informed her writing, her singing, and her comprehensive vision. Her songs address real-life relationships and make explicit anti-nuclear, pro-national liberation, feminist, and peace movement appeals. In spite of criticism from both those who want their cause espoused above all others and from those who would urge her to seek success at the expense of her

social consciousness, Holly Near has retained a bold vision that is both comprehensive and integrated."

— JANE RULE: "Author, teacher, lover and lesbian role-model, Jane Rule has inspired and given courage to thousands of lesbians and knowledge about their lives to the general public through her critically acclaimed books, essays, and literary criticism. Born in Plainfield, New Jersey, she is now a Canadian citizen living with her lover, Helen Sonthoff, on the island Galiano near Vancouver, British Columbia. Among her books are *Desert of the Heart*, *This is Not*

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The Honorable Mario M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State

Photo Courtesy N.G.T.F.



A BI-WEEKLY PUBLICATION

International Report

HEPATITIS CARRIER FIRED

by Lindsay Taylor

London (IGNA) — A croupier in one of London's casinos has been fired because he is a carrier of hepatitis B. Jones Hines, who had worked at Charlie Chester's Casino for fifteen months, was dismissed by manager Kurt Fisher after having been ill and off work for two weeks. Hines claims that Fisher told him: "Your employment here is terminated until you are medically cleared as not a carrier of hepatitis."

Hines first discovered that he was a carrier of the disease last October, after a former lover contracted the disease and advised him to go to the doctor for a check-up. As soon as the diagnosis was confirmed, he told his employers, and provided them with medical certificates that confirmed that he was fit to work and not a danger to his fellow employees. Some of the other staff were not convinced by this, however, and began bringing their own plates and cutlery into the staff canteen. The management appears to have been reacting to these fears when it decided to fire Hines.

Hines is determined to fight the dismissal, and has asked his doctor for further certificates to establish his fitness to work. He has also asked for a confirmation from James Pringle House, a clinic for sexually transmitted diseases where several doctors specialize in the treatment of hepatitis. The certificates will be used as evidence in the event of the case going to an industrial tribunal. Hines is being supported by the National Council for Civil Liberties and by Group B, a self-help group for gay men who are hepatitis carriers.

BRITISH RAIDS ON BATHHOUSES

by Lindsay Taylor

London (IGNA) — The biggest mass arrests of gay men since the mid-1970s took place during two recent raids on bathhouses in England and Wales.

On January 23rd, 32 men were arrested when the police swooped on the Albion Sauna in Wallasey, near Liverpool. On March 27th, 54 men were taken into custody after a similar raid on the Pump House in Newport, South Wales. Both raids were reminiscent of those carried out by the Metropolitan Police some years ago in a determined — and successful — effort to close down all gay baths in London. Since then, the capital has had only a few extremely discreet, and usually mixed, baths, though a number have continued to operate in smaller towns and cities.

Police conduct and intentions in the two raids seem to have varied. Gays in the Liverpool area see the raid on the Albion as part of an anti-gay campaign by Merseyside Chief Constable Ken Oxford. Plainclothes police had apparently been visiting the Albion for two weeks before the raid, and there had also been a crackdown on public toilets around Liverpool.

Of the 32 men arrested, 12 have so far been charged. The Albion's owner, John Lupton, and one of his employees have been charged with keeping a brothel, and 10 of the customers have been charged with offenses ranging from gross indecency to buggery. Some of the charges relate to incidents that occurred over a year ago, and appear to have resulted from unnecessary statements made by the men themselves.

By contrast, Newport police are reported to have told the men arrested at the Pump House that they had little to fear and that the police's main aim was to close the place down. A total of 65 police took part in the raid. After breaking open the door with a crowbar, they went to every room in the building, beginning with the steam room. Customers were not allowed to dress or leave rooms until they had been photographed with the arresting officers. All 32 were taken to the police station, but were released without charge. The police have prepared a report for the Director of Public Prosecutions, who will decide if charges are to be laid against any of the men.

National Report

NGTF TO IDENTIFY AIDS FUNDRAISING ORGANIZATIONS AND RESEARCHERS

PHOENIX — Aubrey Wertheim, National Gay Task Force Crisis Hotline coordinator, in a discussion with *The Western Express*, reported that NGTF has commenced identifying both individuals and organizations working on AIDS and related diseases. This information is to be available through an *NGTF-AIDS Resource Directory*. The organization publishes the *NGTF Crisis Line Directory*, identifying emergency phone contacts throughout the country. The new NGTF-AIDS directory would include the AIDS fund started recently in Phoenix.

The comment was made during research by the newspaper into how various fund raising bodies and amounts raised are communicating one with the other around the country, not only to establish communications but to set guidelines and determine size and financial strength in combined force. There are many AIDS fundraising groups, however the results of their efforts are inestimable at this point. They range from \$250,000 being raised in one event in New York to over \$10,000 being raised in Miami to an amount in

excess of \$1,500, being raised in Phoenix.

Wertheim is to be in contact with fund raising groups in the Southwest. He reported that NGTF is also publishing an AIDS information packet which is available free to organizations and individuals wishing more information on the disease and work being done to combat it. Further information on the AIDS directory and on the AIDS information packet is available through the offices of NGTF, 80 5th Ave., Ste. 1601, N.Y.C., N.Y. 10011. NGTF which works on a broad range of gay issues throughout the country is funded by donations from its membership and through public and private funding. Information on membership is available through the same address.

INTERFERON USED FOR AIDS

Boston (IGNA) — A skin cancer common among patients with AIDS sometimes can be treated effectively with a form of interferon, a new study indicates.

The cancer, Kaposi's sarcoma, afflicts about one-third of all victims of AIDS.

Doctors at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York gave genetically engineered interferon to 12 homosexual men with KS. The disease completely disappeared in three and partly in two. Three patients showed minor, temporary responses.

The researchers cautioned, however, that the treatment seems to have little significant effect on the AIDS itself. Without an effective immune system, AIDS patients remain easy prey to other opportunistic infections.

Dr. Susan Krown, describing the study in the current issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, wrote: "Although interferon treatment does appear to restore some aspects of immunity in some patients with Kaposi's sarcoma, we do not have evidence in this study that interferon consistently or permanently reverses the underlying immunologic defects that characterize AIDS."

Interferon is a disease-fighting material produced naturally throughout the human body. Recovering large amounts of natural interferon from the blood is a slow and difficult process, so scientists have used genetic engineering techniques to insert human interferon genes into bacteria to manufacture the substance.

The experimental technique has also been used with AIDS patients at San Francisco General Hospital. The doses vary from 50 million units to 1.9 million units. Those receiving high doses have experienced fever and chills for a time following the injection or intravenous treatment.

The latest study tested a bacteria-made form of the chemical called recombinant leukocyte A interferon.

The long-term effects of the interferon treatment are still undetermined, and a cure for AIDS itself remains a mystery as of now.

APOLOGY FOR GAY SLUR

Minneapolis (IGNA) — A vice president of a publisher of law reports has formally apologized to the two openly gay elected officials in the Minnesota legislature following a protest by the same individuals about a sneering heading appended to a description of a gay/lesbian rights bill that was printed in one of the firm's publications.

Allen E. Schechter of Commerce Clearing House, Inc. wrote to Senator Allan H. Spear and Representative Karen Clark, saying "Your outrage and indignation over the heading applied to Senate Bill 83 is no greater than ours."

Schechter went on to say that it "was the act of an individual employee, who was disciplined immediately, and in no way represents a Commerce Clearing House position." Schechter did not specify the nature of the discipline.

He did note that a substitute page, correcting the defamatory heading, was mailed to subscribers the same day it was discovered (January 26).

The spokesman for the company added that "We do not regard this issue as frivolous, and we certainly don't consider our initial heading a 'joke.'"

Senator Spear, commenting on the apology, apologized for the two-month delay in reporting it to the press because "our office has been very busy."

The new Commerce Clearing House description of the gay/lesbian rights bill now simply reads: "Sex Discrimination — Prohibits discrimination in employment, sale, rental, or lease of real property, public accommodation, or credit, based on affectional or sexual orientation."

Spear, in a press release, said that he and Representative Clark "now consider the matter closed."

POLICE ALARMED BY AIDS

San Francisco (IGNA) — San Francisco police officials will start issuing plastic resuscitation devices and rubber gloves in response to officers' fears that they might catch AIDS during emergency first-aid work.

The announcement has been greeted by a mixture of hoots and groans from the gay community because of the misinformation about how AIDS might be transmitted implied in the police action.

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Continued from page 2

Health care officials have also said that the police are using ill-judged, alarmist tactics.

The gloves and face masks will be distributed at police stations throughout the city. "We think this should resolve the problem," Deputy Chief James Shannon said. "All we're doing is putting in a little more hygienic practices for officers... And if they use these hygienic practices, they're not going to get AIDS."

Dr. Constance Wofsey of the AIDS clinic at San Francisco General Hospital, said that she had tried to better inform the police about AIDS, but her explanatory session has been reduced to a 10-minute tape shown to police officers.

Wofsey said that she "emphasized that AIDS cannot be spread through casual or professional contact" that does not involve sexual relations or exposure to blood. There are no cases of AIDS being transmitted solely through contact even in hospital or laboratory situations, she added.

The distribution of masks and gloves came after the Police Officers Association issued a misleading bulletin claiming that officers were at risk if they were spit upon or bitten by an AIDS victim. The bulletin also recommended that officers submit a written report if they handled clothing of an AIDS patient.

"One unnamed wag asked IGNA if this meant that Vice Squad officers would not try to entrap their victims while wearing the AIDS-prevention gear.

Spokesman Shannon explained the hysteria by saying, "There's going to be a lot of hysteria when you don't know what the hell is going on. But we're not running at this like a bull in a china shop. We should have made gloves available to officers years ago, just as a matter of hygiene."

Captain Richard Klapp of the Mission Station, which includes the gay Castro District, said, "I've seen no manifestation of wild alarm or panic and I'm out there with the officers every day. 'They just want to know more about it because they're concerned for themselves and their family.'"

Mike Hebel, welfare officer for the POA, said he would like to see better mouth-to-mouth resuscitation devices and ziplock plastic bags in which officers could store evidence from possible AIDS patients without being exposed to blood.

"Let's say an AIDS victim had been beaten up, there's a knife wound and blood on the jacket," said Hebel. "We'd like to see the same kind of plastic bags used that people at San Francisco General Hospital get."

Deputy Fire Chief Charles Cresci said that rubber gloves were also distributed to firefighters two weeks ago. The department had already been using resuscitators equipped with disposable plastic mouth guards.

"The more we were reading in the paper about AIDS," said Cresci, "the more concerned people got. We now take the same precautions with AIDS that we would with hepatitis or any infectious disease. It's all the same with us."

ADULT BOOKSTORES

San Francisco (IGNA) — A federal judge on May 4 ordered the San Francisco police to stop requiring operators of adult bookstores or theaters to obtain a police permit to operate. Many shops featuring both homosexual and hetero-

sexual books and paraphernalia thus no longer are subject to police control. However, a separate police department directive authorizes entry by police officers both in uniform and in plainclothes if "criminal activity" or juveniles are suspected on the premises.

U.S. District Judge Marilyn Hall Patel issued a temporary restraining order against the police permit procedure, saying the regulations may violate due process and equal protection sections of the U.S. Constitution.

Henry Mason, operator of the Palace Theater in the City's Tenderloin District, filed suit to challenge the regulation shortly after the police closed him down on April 12 for operating without a license.

Mason said he planned to reopen his shop immediately.

Attorney Michael Mull of Chicago said that he advised Mason not to apply for a permit because "the permit application requires fingerprinting and questions about the owner's background, which the U.S. Supreme Court has said is impermissible."

The permit procedure also applies an unconstitutional "prior restraint" on free speech and association and treats adult bookstores differently from regular bookstores and theaters, he added.

According to Mason's suit, his business sells books, magazines, novelties and films and also has coin-operated movies and nude female dancers in the theater.

The suit also noted that the police code exempts educational, social, religious and fraternal orders from a permit requirement and thus "a local church, Moose Lodge, or university could show X-rated films without a license," thus violating equal protection provision of the Constitution.

In the past the police has maintained control over such operations because of their legal posture, allowing them to raid gay places such as the Jaguar Bookstore, Savages, and leaving themselves open to accusations of accepting bribes and kickbacks in the issuing of permits.

AIR FORCE TRIES TO USE 'GAY' LETTERS

Los Angeles (IGNA/AP) — The Air Force cannot discharge a man accused of being a homosexual on the basis of letters to his wife in which he discussed earlier sexual encounters with men, a federal judge has ruled.

U.S. District Judge David Kenyon issued a preliminary injunction recently barring the Air Force from dismissing Sergeant Alfred J. Daniels III, a 32-year-old pianist and composer for the Air Force band at March Air Force Base outside Riverside, California.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Herbert Booker, who defended the Air Force, said the government would honor the injunction.

Daniels' wife gave the letters to an Air Force officer after the couple had a disagreement last year.

Using the letters as evidence, the Air Force began discharge proceedings against Daniels, who has been in the service since 1971. On the advice of his military lawyer, Daniels then told his superiors that he had had sex with men in 1976 and 1979.

His civilian lawyer, John Vaisey, argued that the military lawyer had failed to tell Daniels that the letters to his wife were privileged and could not be used against him.

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OASIS M.C.C.

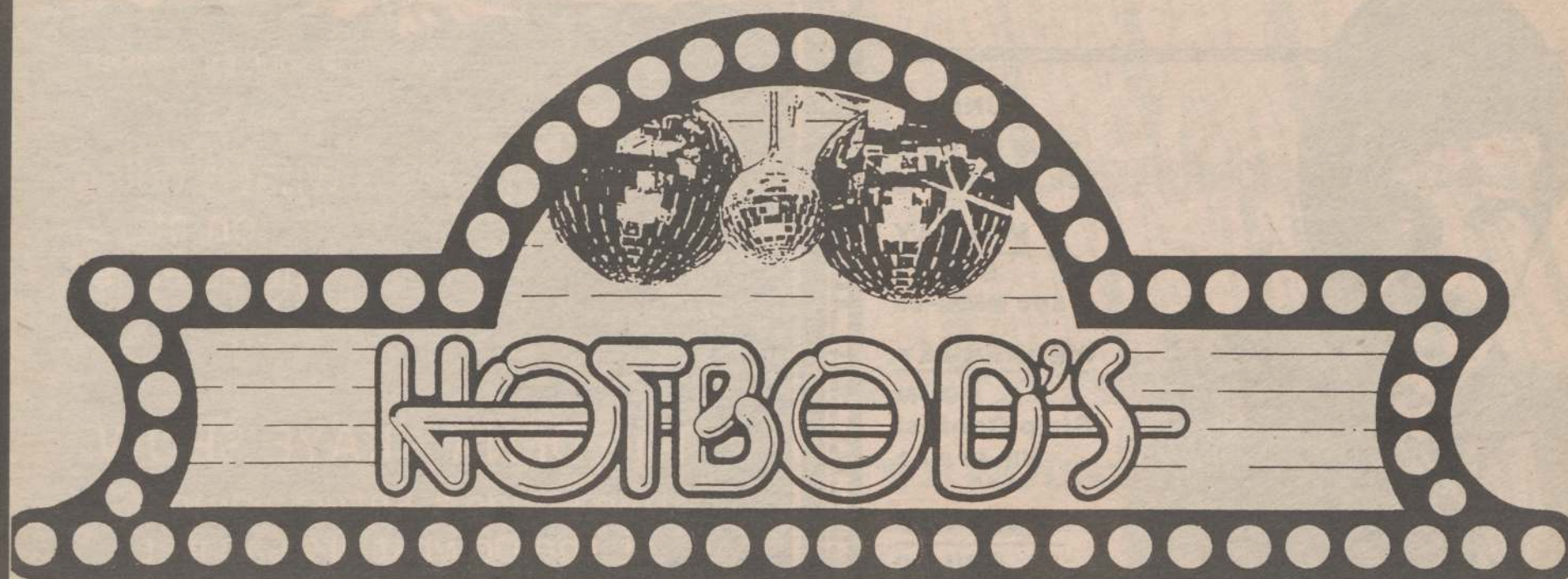
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SATURDAY – After Hours Until 3AM.
Music by Richard Bradley

SUNDAY – Music by Donny Mast Light Show by Matt

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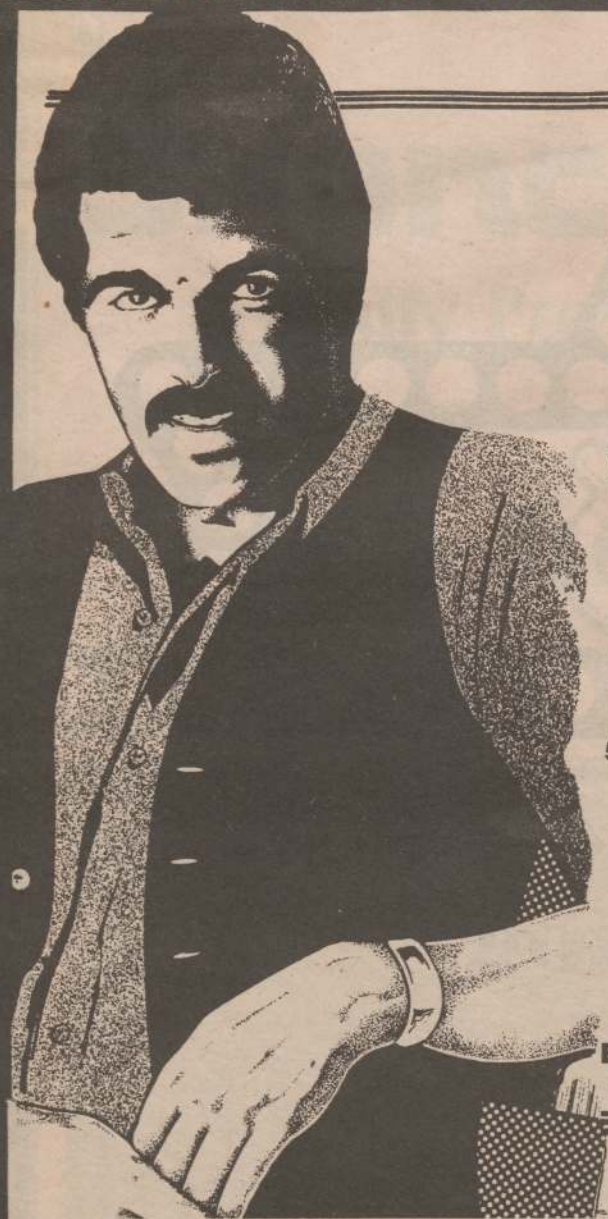
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- "When I see a very good-looking man I tend to think he wouldn't be attracted to me."
- "If I'm rejected it makes me feel really bad about myself."
- "A lot of men tell me I'm extremely attractive, yet I still can't get what I want."
- "When I go home with people I sometimes wind up feeling like a piece of meat."
- "I want to have a long-term relationship but it just doesn't seem to be in the cards."
- "Now that I'm getting older I have more trouble connecting with people."

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- Why being extremely attractive can make it harder for you to get what you want—and how to overcome that.
- How to create more intimacy and pleasure in your sexual encounters.
- Ways to maximize your chances of having a lover.
- How older gay men can successfully connect with people.

Readers of *The Advocate* have long enjoyed Lenny Giteck's writing. Before he wrote *Cruise to Win*, Lenny interviewed scores of gay men about their experiences meeting people, having sex and creating relationships. He also interviewed numerous gay counselors, psychologists, sociologists and sex therapists. The result is a practical guide filled with insights from many sources. For the money you spend in a few nights out at the bars, you can learn to take control of your life and get more of what you want. You can cruise to win!

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Continued from page 4

Kenyon agreed, saying that Daniels "wouldn't have made the statement" to the Air Force if he had known the letters could not be used."

The Air Force, like the other armed services, has a rule that says homosexuality is incompatible with military service.

Attorney Vaisey said that Daniels will ask the Air Force to expunge his statement to his superiors.

RELIGIOUS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN SAN JUAN BAUTISTA

San Jose, CA — Evangelicals Concerned, a task force and fellowship for Christian gays and concerned evangelicals, is presenting its 4th annual Western Region Conference at St. Francis Retreat Center in San Juan Bautista, California on July 1-3, 1983.

The theme this year is Special Deliverance and its intent, reflecting the meaning of the word deliverance itself, is to publicly communicate important spiritual messages and encourage spiritual liberation. As a national task force, Evangelicals Concerned attempts to amend the inaccuracies, misunderstandings and condemnations some Fundamentalists and other Christian regressives promote regarding homosexuality.

The conference will be the most important, most illustrious forum Christian gays and their friends can experience in the West this year. Virginia Ramey Mellenkott, co-author of *Is The Homosexual My Neighbor?* takes traditional religionists head on with her sharp biblical scholarship. Clark Barshinger, former chair of the Department of Psychology at Trinity College (Evangelical Free Church) will talk on spiritual freedom vs. cultural hypnotic trance. Dr. Ralph Blair, well known Christian psychologist and writer and president of Evangelicals Concerned, will also speak.

Reservations for the conference made before May 31, are \$75.00 per person. After that date, cost is \$85.00. Included are all workshops, lodging, meals and much more. Details, including a special poster and a registration form, are available by writing Evangelicals Concerned, 1386 Vernon Avenue, San Jose, California 95125. Locally interested persons may write E.C. at P.O. Box 32441, Phoenix, Az. 85064.

San Juan Bautista, the location of the conference, is an historic mission site and an interesting California tourist attraction just one hour south of San Jose.

TUCSON SEEN

by Jim Shafer

Ah, the winter bowling season is nearing its end here in the Old Pueblo. The Western Express Three are fighting hard for third place. The Bowling Banquet and awards presentation will be at Rita's Rendezvous Monday, May 30. Tickets may be had from the Bowling League officers.

Volleyball is nearly over, too! The last official games will be Sunday, May 29, at the JT/BP.

Other news from JT/BP is the big free bar-b-que on Saturday, May 28. Though the food is free, all who come to eat are encouraged to make a one or two dollar donation for the activities of Gay Pride Week. Yes, that's coming upon us here in Tucson once again. The Gay and Lesbian Pride Committee has been re-constituted and lots of new high-energy bodies are getting involved in the planning for our bigger and better Gay Pride Week.

The scheduled events are as follows: Monday, June 20, a Political Forum in which guest speakers will address issues of import to the gay community, to be held in the Tucson Press Club Room at 101 W. Drachman; Tuesday, June 21, a Sunset Celebration at a site yet to be determined for the spiritual enrichment of our community and as a memorial to those brothers and sisters no longer with us; Thursday, June 23, the summer bowling league welcomes all gay men and lesbians to join them at the Cactus Lanes to see why so many of us enjoy this sport; Saturday, June 25, workshops at 101 W. Drachman from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. featuring self-defense, counseling, therapy, health care, Police/Gay/Lesbian encounter session and much more. (N.B. those wishing to trip up to Phoenix for the march and rally at the Civic Plaza should contact Art or Rene at the Stables if transportation is needed.) And last but not least, Sunday, June 26, *THE PICNIC*, bigger and better than ever.

Keep your eyes peeled for announcements of various fund-raising events for Gay Pride Week.

The Graduate wishes to remind everyone that the 'Great Gay Lunch' is still to be had from Jimmy's Kitchen, therein — the hours are 11-3 Monday through Friday. Blackjack is still being played at the Graduate on Sunday's from 7 to Midnight and Tucson's 'Longest Happy Hour' is there from 11 to 7:30 Monday through Saturday. On Memorial Day there will be a \$1.00 Daqueri Special all day.

Hey, everybody! Support AIDS research!! Buy Reno Gay Rodeo Trip raffle tickets at the Graduate and The Fineline. The \$1.00 donation helps to finance the desperately needed research.

Did you see the list of upcoming activities and performances at 'Plowman's Palace', I mean The Fineline? Dena Kaye is not to be missed and I've got a couple of candidates for that wet jockey short contest — no, you fools, not me!

Keep your eyes open for news of "Your Last Prom". It will be at Rita's and probably will be during Gay Pride Week; but then, nothing is for sure, but death, taxes and those nasty un-wanted weeds in my garden. Speaking of which, I've been spending a lot of time out there lately and am proud to report that the corn, tomatoes and other green things are about two feet high! Ta-da!!

SPECIALTIES OF THE HOUSE

**NUTOWNE
SALOON**

SUNDAY — Brunch 1 to 4 \$1.50,
Beer Bust 3 to 8PM 20¢ per glass.

MONDAY — Pool Tournament starting at 9PM
\$25.00 Cash Prize!

TUESDAY — Beer Bust 9 to 1 20¢ per glass.
Good Sounds and friendly party people.

WEDNESDAY — Tequila Night: All Tequila drinks 75¢

THURSDAY — All Well Drinks 75¢ 8 to 1
Topped off with our famous cocktail hours Monday-Friday
4 to 7 All Well Drinks 90¢

**TRADITIONALLY THE FRIENDLIEST BARTENDERS IN TOWNE
ARE EAGER TO SERVE YOU!**

Randy - Rod - David - Joe - Trish (who also doubles as our fabulous cook)

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND—SUNDAY, MAY 29

Sunday Brunch will be steaks with all the trimmings
prepared to perfection by that fabulous cook Trish!

MEMORIAL DAY, MONDAY MAY 30

Complimentary Hot Dogs and condiments Noon until we
run out, free of course.

**HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY FROM
THE NUTOWNE**

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The Coolest Oasis in the Desert

**Monday — 5 to 8 Well 50¢
8 to 1 Well 75¢**

**Tuesday — California Cooler \$1.25
White or Red Wine Cooler 75¢**

Wednesday — 5 to 8 Well 50¢

**Thursday — 5 to 8 Well 50¢
8 to Mid. Peppermint Schnaps 50¢**

Watch for chilly drinks throughout
the **HEAT WAVE**

**Bobby, Mike and crew
invite you to stop in and stay cool**

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BEERHOUSE IN PHOENIX"**

**HAPPY HOUR DAILY Monday-Friday
5:30 to 7:30 - 50¢ for 16oz Draft-Coors or Bud**

**WEDNESDAY — Ramrod T-Shirt Night
1/2 Price if wearing Ramrod T-Shirt 8-10**

**THURSDAY — Pool Tournament
Starting at 8PM**

1st Place \$25.00 - 2nd Place \$15.00

SATURDAY BEER BUST

9 to Midnight

Draft - 16oz 50¢ - 8oz 30¢

Cans - 80¢ Soda 50¢

**Salted in the shell peanuts FREE
during Beer Bust**

**SUNDAY AFTERNOON BEER BUST
Noon to 5PM**

**NEW RAMROD T-SHIRTS \$5.50
IN BLACK AND WHITE**

NOW!! 16oz DRAFT BEER 75¢

395 N. Black Canyon - 253-0119

DOING AMERICA WITH BOB DAMRON..... Houston

Houston is often referred to as "The City of the Future", "Space City U.S.A." or the "Golden Buckle of the Sunbelt"... and the key to it's phenomenal growth and success has been pure optimism! The population is now over 1,600,000, and 1000 newcomers arrive every week. The median age is a youthful twenty-seven. Not only the inhabitants are young, but virtually everything else is too. Houstonians are justifiably proud of their sleek, ultra contemporary buildings that jet boldly up into the blue Texas sky. At 75 stories, the Texas Commercial Tower is the nation's tallest building outside of Chicago or New York.

The "City of the Future" hasn't completely forgotten it's colorful past. Houston was founded in 1836, and named after maverick Sam Houston, who served as President of the Republic of Texas. Nearby is San Jacinto Battleground, where General Houston defeated the far superior forces of General Santa Anna, thus ending Mexican rule forever. Victorious Texans erected a stone shaft taller than the Washington Monument! Other points of interest are Old Market Square, the port of Houston (third largest in the nation), the Astrodome, Rice University, University of

Houston, and the fabulous Galleria Shopping Center... where you will find everything from Nieman Marcus to a cruisy ice skating rink.

U.S.A.'s fifth or fourth largest city, depending upon who is counting, has just about everything going for gay visitors... especially if you can take the hot and humid summers. The men are hunky, hairy, horny honchos, and women will find whatever they are looking for too. Westheimer Street is the main artery of gay life, with many clubs located on or near it. Numbers, at 300 Westheimer is the current 'in' macho disco, but rumours persist that a new one may be open by press time. Ms. Texas prefers Twins at 535 Westheimer, while the Copa attracts unisex preppies, and hustlers has out at the Midnight Sun. All Houston bars are open nightly until 2:00 a.m.

The Officers Club at 2700 Albany in the Montrose section has dancing, a cruise bar and swimming pool. Montrose Mining Co., at 805 Pacific is one of the cruisiest men's bars, and within walking distance are the Barn, J.R.'s, Grant Street Station and Dirty Sally's, which opens at 6:00 a.m. Nearby Mary's at 1022 Westheimer is a wonderfully sleazy bar and patio which gets many levi and leather

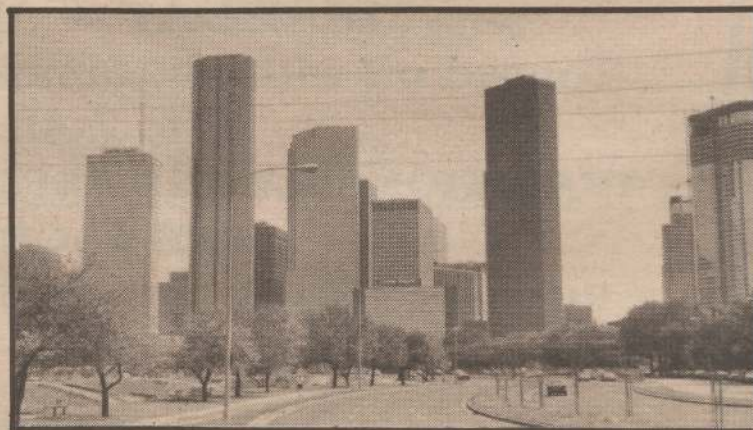


Photo Courtesy Montrose Voice

guys. More purist leather bars are the Drum at 1732 Westheimer and Ripcord at 715 Fairview. Brazos River Bottom, at 2400 Brazos and Miss Charlotte's Dance Hall are 'wear it's hat' for the country and western set. Favorite lesbian bars are Bachus at 523 Lovett and Kindred Spitits at 5245 Buffalo Speedway. The Galleon at 2303 Richmond has a good cocktail hour,

and other men's cruise bars include the Galleon, Venture-N, E.J.'s and Briar Patch.

C.B.C.'s Club Houston at 2205 Fannin is the premier bath and exposes some preppies and young professional types. For kinky, you-call-it abandonment, try the 2306 Club on Genessee. Midtowne Spa at 3100 Fannin

Continued on page 18

**SOLID
COLD**

The Hottest Women's Club in Phoenix

MEXICAN NITE!

**Thurs. May 26th at 8:00 p.m.
Music, Food, & Tequila Specials**

LINDA, CARMELLA & PHASE II

**Sunday May 29th at 8:00 p.m.
\$3.50 cover
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**Happy Hour • Mon-Fri. • 3-7 p.m. • .75¢ well • .75¢ bottles • .50¢ draft
Beer Bust • Mon & Wed. • 9-12 p.m. \$2 at the Door • Dancers on Wed!!
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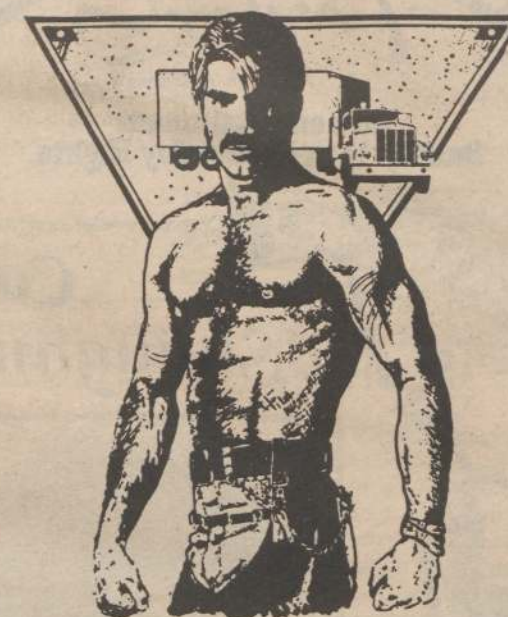


**6th ANNUAL
COUNTRY FAIR
SUNDAY, MAY 29th
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT - ALL DAY**

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CONNECTION'S 6TH ANNUAL COUNTRY FAIR



SUNDAY, MAY 29 **LIVE ENTERTAINMENT—ALL DAY!**
12 NOON ~ MIDNITE



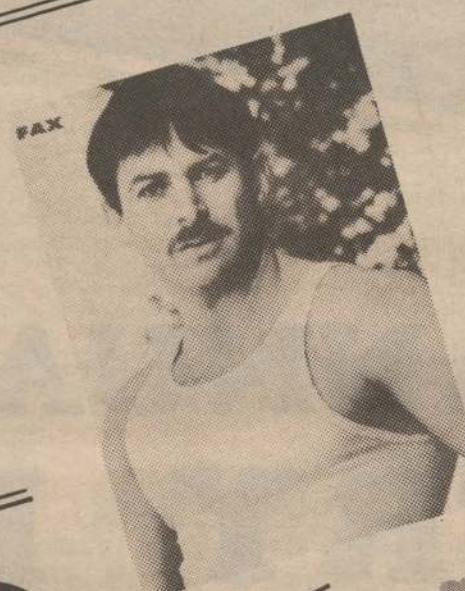
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Ken Sacha
as
Bette Midler



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Vocalist and
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gorgeous orchestration
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ALL NEW GAY
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ONE OF THE
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Chicken to Roosters!



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MCed BY **Ken Sacha!**

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DANCE TO THE MUSIC OF
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**Cream
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Hits from the
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Special Guest Appearance by
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All Welcome!
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**SUNDAY BRUNCH
NOON to 3:00PM**

**DINNER NIGHTLY
6:00PM to 10:00PM**

VINYL VAGABOND

by Rad Bennett

"Double Martini"

HAYDN: Symphonies No. 39 in G, No. 35 in B-Flat, No. 59 in A, "Fire," No. 38 in C, 49 in F, "La Passione," and No. 58 in F. L'Estro Armonico, Derek Solomons, cond. CBS digital master analog 37861, 3 discs; chromium Dolby Cassette box 13T-37861, 3 cassettes.

HAYDN: Symphonies Nos. 93-104, "The London Symphonies." The Berlin Philharmonic, Herbert von Karajan, cond. Deutsche Grammophon digital master analog 274105, 6 discs; chromium Dolby cassette box 3382015, 6 cassettes.

You've got to hand it to Martini and Rossi. They have good taste. First, they feature Angie Dickenson in their TV commercials, now they are funding recordings of Haydn symphonies with Derek Solomons and his original musical group, L'Estro Armonico, that are the epitomes of taste and style. Actually, this is the third installment, but the first two sets on the Sage label are often difficult to come by in the States; so, this is my first sampling.

Solomons takes a generally brisk view of the earlier works recorded here, but his players never sound rushed or harried, just exuberant and lively. A properly-miked harpsichord is used throughout and there is some spectacular high horn playing that makes the players on other sets using modern instruments sound like sissies. In addition, the pungent, dusty sound of old string instruments is ideally captured by the engineers in clear and clean tones.

The tape version is excellent as well, and CBS is to be lauded on its new cassette packaging, which allows three Phillips boxes to fit into a handsome presentation case, affording the buyer a choice as to the method of shelving this prize acquisition. Living up to its promise of two months ago, CBS has included full notes with the cassette version.

Turning to the Karajan box, one hears modern instruments, but when they are played as well as there are on this set, it's hardly a cause for complaint. It comes as something of a surprise that there are few quibbles one can launch against Karajan; his stylish readings are the most suave on disc or tape. In fact, I would put his performance of the "Surprise" symphony at the top of an estimable list, and include among the better readings his symphonies Nos. 96, 98, and 102. The main feature of Karajan's performance (of which the buyer should be aware), is the maestro's favor of slow tempi in third movement minuets. This seems to be neither correct or incorrect; it simply is. I had no trouble adjusting to these speeds, which lend the dance movements a courtly grandeur.

Comparing Karajan's set to others currently available shows that few competitors hold their ground. The only one doing so was Leslie Jones on the Nonesuch label, which is long enough on spirit and infectious good humor to more than make up for its less than perfect playing. Next to Karajan's elan, Colin

Davis and the Concertgebouw seem loutish and scattered, Jochum unduly fast, Dorati rather pedantic, and the bad playing of the New York Philharmonic under Bernstein increasingly bothersome. Unless you are a diehard fast menuet fan, the Karajan set can easily be lived with as a first choice; that is, until Solomons and crew begin to essay later works. Then, we may have to reposition and reassess.

MUSSORGSKY: *The Fair at Sorochinsk.* Soloists, Moscow Radio Chorus and Orchestra, Yuri Aranovick, cond. Eurodisc 88234XHR. Three discs, plot synopsis.

In reviewing the new reissue of Mussorgsky's *Khovanschina* two months ago, I made a plea to Eurodisc, which owns the Western release rights for Melodiya records, to issue the Shebalin version of "The Fair at Sorochinsk," and lo and behold, it appeared.

Now, no one knows exactly what the composer had in mind for his only comic opera, for all he left were sketches for it. What Shebalin has reconstructed is a highly colorful, enjoyable, and, with its hopaks and folk-related material, very Russian work. One passage alone would make it worth hearing: a nightmare the hero has in the course of Act III is set to the music from "A Night on Bald Mountain," scored with far wilder imagination than the usually heard but more safely orchestrated Rimsky-Korsakov version.

A few small quibbles: when the set was available on Angel a few years back, it was presented on only two discs. And, as in its reissue of *Khovanschina*, Eurodisc has failed to supply any translated libretto. These may be small matters when balanced against such a well-sung and well-played performance that is well-processed and an only recording to boot, but both represent concerns that might be addressed in future releases of other Melodiya recordings.

SMETANA: "Ma Vlast." Czech Philharmonic, Vaclav Smetacek, cond. Pro Arte digital master analog 201, two discs, or one Dolby double-play cassette

Smetacek's performance is generally effective, if a bit less than incisive at times, but the sound tends to be edgy and shrill in the upper reaches. I would still go for the Kubelik/Boston Symphony performance on DG, if sound is important, or to Pro Arte's own budget label Quintessence for the ultimate performance, captured in good monoaural sound, by Vaclav Talich and the Czechs.

FANFARES & VAMPS

Mobile Fidelity has announced interesting plans for 1983, which include release of original Master Recordings by Rickie Lee Jones, Chuck Mangione, and a second Rolling Stones LP. MF will release several items in cassette format only, including a half-speed master version of the Christopher Cross debut album, and high-tech versions of Crosby, Stills, and Nash *Deja Vu* simultaneously in disc and cassette formats; also, look for MF's first originally produced Album — "Listen" by the L.A. Jazz Choir, not otherwise available.

MOUNTAIN MOMENTS 1983

Tucson — Mountain Moments 1983 is a workshop designed to promote personal growth while relaxing among cool oak and pine trees. Participants will camp together as they make new friends, relax with old friends and share special moments with lovers. Special activities are designed to enhance relationships, improve communication and problem-solving skills and to renew romance. The workshop will feature a balanced mixture of activities, quiet time for reflection and active time for play. All Lesbians are invited to attend.

Mountain Moments 1983 will be held on privately owned pine forested land approximately 10 miles from Showlow, Arizona. The first session will begin at 8:00 P.M., Friday, June 3. The workshop will end at noon on Sunday, June 5. The cost is \$35.00 per person. Some partial scholarships are available.

Dinner will be served from 6-8 PM, Friday, at an additional cost of \$3.00. The other meals will be community meals with participants providing the ingredients. A menu has been planned and details will be sent upon registration. Participants will camp in their own tents or campers. Motels are nearby in Showlow for non-campers.

The workshop will be directed by Ginnie Weber, M.Ed., a counselor-therapist who is in private practice serving the gay community at 2937 E. 22nd Street in Tucson. Weber was director of the Lesbian Encounter Weekend in December, 1982 and Happy, Healthy and Single in April, 1983. For more information or for registration call 325-4594 in Tucson.

DESERT SKY SINGERS SPRING CONCERT "AMERICA THE MUSICAL" WELL RECEIVED

Once again the Desert Sky Singers proved their worth and the value of long rehearsals when they presented "America the Musical" at the Unitarian Church, Phoenix.

The Singers performed a long and difficult program of music from and about various parts of the country. The selections ranged from *Shenandoah* to *They're Playing Our Song* and to *Battle Hymn of the Republic*.

A most pleasant and well received addition to this concert was provided by the fine soprano voice of Lisa Von Goerken who presented *Vocalise*, by Chenoweth.

Ms. Von Goerken joined the Singers' barbershop quartet for *Lida Rose* from *The Music Man*. The entire chorus joined to back them for a fine rendition of the musical favorite.

"Chaps" the Singer's smaller ensemble presented several selections and members soloed individually throughout the evening.

An encore was demanded and received following the regular program.

Musical Director Barry Stein is to be congratulated for his fine work with the Desert Sky Singers. Fine performances were also provided by Co-Conductor Robert Sampson, and accompanists Eddie Gonzalez, Kim Thompson and Norman Smith.

Little Jim's 307



SATURDAYS

8:00 A.M.

Until Noon

Beer & Well Drinks

75¢

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Chicago - Phoenix -
Ft. Lauderdale

Continued from page 1

for You, Against the Season, Theme for Diverse Instruments Lesbian Images, The Young in One Another's Arms (chosen in 1978 as best novel of the year by the Canadian Author's Association), Contract with the World, and Outlander. She also writes a regular column for The Body Politic, Canada's national gay paper. Twice she has received Canada Council Grants and the Gay Academic Union honored her writing with their literature award. Jane Rule has given voice to lives

once doomed to silence. In doing so she has made a priceless gift to her readers of her unique talents and courage as a writer."

Both Ms. Near and Ms. Rule were awarded The Fund for Human Dignity Award of Merit for their contribution to the education of the American public about the lives of lesbians and gay men.

The Howard J. Brown Award "for the beauty of courage which sustains lesbians and gay men in their struggle for dignity" was presented to PERRY J. WATKINS.

"A sergeant in the United States Army, Perry J. Watkins began his military career, compliments of the draft, in 1967 at the height of the Viet Nam war. During his induction he told the army he was gay and, despite the admission, was found qualified for service. At every step in his military career, two reenlistments, duty in the United States, Korea, Germany, and being granted a security clearance, the fact he was gay was known. However, two months after his third reenlistment the army sought to revoke his security clearance, to discharge him, and finally not to reinlist him. After a long series of court cases, on 5 October, 1982, U.S. District Court Judge Barbara Rothstein, on the basis of equitable estoppel, ruled in Seattle that the army could not use its regulation prohibiting homosexuals from military service to deny Sgt. Watkins his reenlistment. The Watkins decision, while not directly applicable to the situation of many lesbians and gay men, is a useful precedent in limiting the army's termination before retirement of personnel who don't fit the rule book."

The first Humanitarian Award, "In recognition of extraordinary service to the gay community and to American society" was presented to GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS, INC. "For its crucial and compassionate service to all people affected by Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome and its unparalleled work in the area of public education. By its efforts, it has demonstrated that magnanimity of spirit which effectively unites a community in crisis."

Virginia Apuzzo, Executive Director, N.G.T.F., then introduced keynote speaker Mario Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York. In April, Cuomo had declared the month AIDS Awareness Month. In his address Cuomo announced his directive, just made, providing for non-discrimination in sexual preferences in state hiring. Further, he pledged his support to the passage of the New York City human rights ordinance which has failed to pass in that city in several years of attempts. The Governor thanked the N.G.T.F. for supporting his 1982 campaign for Governorship and restated his campaign promises to support rights for minorities.

Representing the Gay Press Association at the dinner were: Mike Rutherford, Executive Director, Washington, D.C.; Joe DiSabato, Director and Founder, New York City; Morgan Pinney, Treasurer, San Francisco; Roy Lindberg, Eastern Regional Director; and, Don Pintacura, Western Regional Director.

[Biographical data courtesy, N.G.T.F.]

NATIONALLY KNOWN ENTERTAINERS TO APPEAR IN ARIZONA MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

PHOENIX — Over Memorial Day weekend Phoenix and Tucson residents will be able to see some of the top entertainers in the music field today. Appearing at Bronco's on Saturday, May 28 and at The Fineline in Tucson on Sunday, May 29, is Ms. Dena Kaye. Ms. Kaye was nominated Female Vocalist of the year by Grapevine Opry Association of Texas and Missouri. The Dena Kaye show provided the entertainment for the National Gay Leadership Conference which was held in Dallas last year.

On Sunday, May 29, the Connection will be presenting Mondo Fax, a vocalist and humorist who is very popular in clubs in Southern California. Also appearing at the Connection Country Fair are St. Tropez, Sharon McKnight and Ken Sacha. St. Tropez is three women with a new and dynamic sound which has delighted audiences around the country. Sharon McKnight and Company are considered to be one of the finest Country and Western Bands performing today.

The MC for all the entertainment at the Connection will be Ken Sacha. Mr. Sacha is best known for his impersonation of Bette Midler, and has performed same in the Cher show in Las Vegas. Ken will soon be headlining a show at Radio City Music Hall in New York City.

4th annual west coast women's music & comedy festival

LABOR DAY WEEKEND SEPTEMBER 2-5

Private wooded ranch near SANTA BARBARA (1 1/2 hours north of Los Angeles)

TICKETS — \$80 to \$100: 4 days sliding scale (if working, please pay top of scale). Children 8 and under free; 8-16, \$20 to help defray food costs. \$60 to \$75: 3 days (Sat., Sun. & Mon.) \$50: 2 Days (Sun. & Mon.) All children must be preregistered. U.S. currency only. NO PERSONAL CHECKS AFTER AUGUST 1: Money order, certified check, cash only. For tickets, send self-addressed, stamped envelope to: WCWMF, Box WE, 3434 Troy Dr., L.A., CA 90068 (213) 851-9479

PRICE INCLUDES: 4 days & nights of music, comedy, crafts, sports, dancing, workshops, camping, food & fun! Showers & portable toilets provided. Everything within walking distance.

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Name _____ State _____
Street _____
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\$80 to \$100 Sliding Scale (camping only) \$ _____
\$125 R.V.; no hook-ups (includes 1 ticket) \$ _____
\$20 Additional for workshift substitution \$ _____
\$20 per 8 - 16 yr. old woman (and 8 - 10 boy) \$ _____
\$60 to \$75 very limited Sat. noon to Mon. passes \$ _____
\$50 Sun noon to Mon. \$ _____
\$70 to \$90 Sliding Scale Craftswomen/Vendors in addition to Festival Fee \$ _____
\$30 Nonprofit Craftswomen/Vendors TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____
How many children (12 and under, boys 10 and under) sex(es) and age(s) _____

WILLING TO HELP

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I CAN LOAN OR RENT THE FESTIVAL A: Van w/ lift to accommodate wheelchairs ☐ R.V. ☐ Pick-up Truck ☐ CB Radio ☐
I WOULD BE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING: To help in L.A. office ☐ To be a regional contact ☐
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Other ☐ I NEED INFORMATION FROM: Disabled Resources _____
I wish to contribute \$ _____ to childcare program.
I wish to do a workshop ☐ (send in a description by Aug. 1)

Thousands of women!

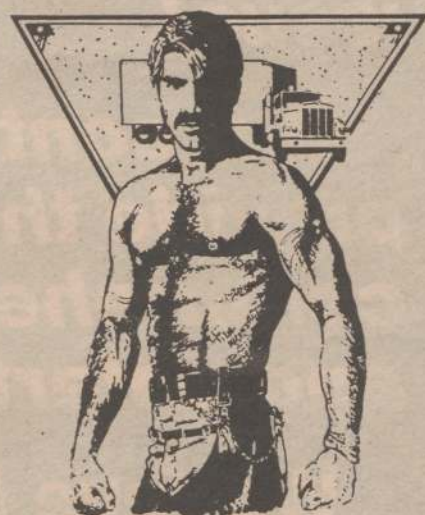
women's music & comedy festival

Send entire form and check (after Aug. 1 Money Order or Cert. Check ONLY) payable to: WCWMF 3434 Troy Dr., L.A., CA 90068 PLEASE enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

LIMIT IS ONLY 3000, SO ORDER EARLY!

CONNECTION

MEMORIAL DAY BBQ MONDAY, MAY 30



**"Where The
Men Are"**

1/2 CHICKEN

with all the fixin's

\$1.50



**DANCE IN
DER DRUKE**

with music by

D.J. MIKE WESTFALL



**EVERY FRIDAY AND
SATURDAY
STARTING JUNE 3rd
AFTER HOURS
UNITL 3AM**



IF YOU LIKE HOT MEN, TORN LEVI'S
THE SMELL OF LEATHER AND 7 TONS
OF DIESEL POWER

**EVERY SUNDAY ON
OUR NEW PATIO—BBQ
AT 6:00 - ?**

BBQ CHICKEN WITH ALL THE
FIXIN'S \$1.50

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Dance in Der Druke to
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Staff of the Directory □

Would like to take this opportunity to thank its advertisers, and the community for making possible our 3rd Anniversary issue!

Our continual pledge is to provide the community with a comprehensive listing of goods, services, and entertainment.

We love Phoenix and are pleased to be a part of its fabulous growth. Keep your gay dollar gay.

LOCAL RENO GAY RODEO CONTESTS BENEFIT LOCAL FUNDRAISING GROUPS

PHOENIX — The contests for the local (Arizona) entries for the *National Reno Gay Rodeo* titles are underway. Several functions including beer busts, bake sales and plant sales have already been held in preparation for the announcement of the candidates to be held at Arizona's sponsoring bar, BRONCO'S, the evening of July 10.

Competition is open for the titles of MR., MS. and MISS *NATIONAL RENO GAY RODEO*. On the local level the candidates for the national title will be decided on the basis of which person in each category raises the most money for charities as selected. The national recipient for fifty percent of the funds is The Muscular Dystrophy Association. The other fifty percent locally will be donated to the *Arizona Aids Fund* in Phoenix.

Phil Ragsdale, President and Founder of *Comstock Gay Rodeo Association*, *National Reno Gay Rodeo*, and Ken Cameron, Coordinator of the *Arizona National Reno Gay Rodeo Contest* and organizer of the delegation from Arizona, provided the following information on fund raising.

From the New Regulations of the *National Reno Gay Rodeo Contest*:

— 50% of total money raised locally will be donated to The Muscular Dystrophy Association;

— 50% of total money raised locally will be donated to one or more local/national gay, non-profit, community services;

— Local/national gay recipients must have been incorporated for at least eighteen months; [Ed. Note: the Arizona AIDS Fund is a member organization of Alternative Relations Center, dba *Metro Phoenix Gay Community Services* which qualifies it under this ruling, the organization being non-profit and tax exempt and in existence the required amount of time.]

— Photostatic copies of each check presented M.D.A. and organizations must be sent certified mail to the *National Reno Gay Rodeo National Director*, in Reno, Nevada, prior to July 25th, 1983.

From the *Local Contest Rules and Regulations*:

— All winners will be determined solely by the most money collected for the local chapter of the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the gay charities as nominated by the Local/National Directors;

— Each contestant shall be provided with, at least, one sealed container. Each contestant will be responsible for all containers for the duration of this contest. Any containers seal that has been broken or tampered with will result in disqualification.

— Each/all containers must be turned in, even if empty, at the conclusion of this contest. Containers not turned in will result in disqualification.

— All funds collected must go to the M.D.A. and approved charities.

— This is a charity contest, no contestant shall derive any personal financial gain from it. This is grounds for disqualification.

— Contestants may raise monies in any legal way they desire. In addition to the contestant containers, they may have Shows, Bar-B-Ques, Beer Busts, Games, Car Washes, Hot Dog Feeds, Dances, etc.

— Local Sponsor/Co-Ordinator, with the help of at least two persons will count all containers in private and enter totals for each contestant separately on talley sheets. These talley sheets are to be kept confidential until the final announcements are made.

— All contestants must turn in their containers on the same day at a designated time to be set by the Sponsor/Co-Ordinator.

— All contestant talley sheets will be available for public inspection, after the announcements of winners.

These are not the entire contents of either the national or local rules, however are those which most directly affect contributors to the contest.

Ragsdale pointed out that a great effort has been made to assure that as in the past the local fund raising competitions are conducted in the most appropriate and responsible manner. "There should be no question as to where the funds are going", he said.

Phoenix sponsored Tish Tanner in 1982 who was named by popular decision MS. *National Reno Gay Rodeo*. The city is

now in the process of selecting from a numerous slate of candidates the persons which will represent it at the 1983 Rodeo to be held in Reno, August 4 through 8, 1983.

Contest organizers urge everyone to support their candidates and the charities selected, Muscular Dystrophy Association and Arizona AIDS Fund.

DESERT ADVENTURES GOES COUNTRY

Members of Desert Adventures will be your country cousins on May 29, at the Connection. They invite you to join them in jail - the Country Fair jail. (Just tell the 'Sheriff' who you would like to share the cell with and he can arrange some time for both of you. All in good fun.) And then to the dunking booth where members will encourage you to send your favorite people for a swim.

Now, on to summer scheduling. The next general meeting open to all will be held Tuesday, June 7, at Taylor's at 7 PM. Slides of the English counter-part of Great Outdoors will be shown. Brian Evitch is presently in England on a Great Outdoors adventure. One of our best inter-chapter trips is being held June 9 - 12. This is the backpacking trip to Havasupai. It is a 12 mile hike into the Canyon which ends at the camp grounds graced by the three large turquoise colored waterfalls and their inviting pools. The trip is nearly filled. If you are interested you must contact Dar at 257-9290 as soon as possible.

The month of July has two main attractions. July 1 - 4 is the Grand Canyon Jamboree. This is an inter-chapter 'camping' event. You can park your car next to your tent. (You can literally bring the kitchen sink if you wish.) The camp will be formed at Mather Campground on the South Rim. Some members have chosen to hike the Bright Angel Trail to Phantom Ranch where they will spend the night. Others may do a day hike in and out. Still others will remain on the rim and enjoy themselves in camp or touring. Call Brian at 257-9290. The July general meeting will be on the 5th at 7 PM at Taylor's. In late July, the 23rd and 24th, a two mile backpacking hike will go to a secluded part of Bear Canyon Lake. This lake is near

Payson and promises to be as good as all outdoors. Contact Larry at 257-9290.

August 2, will be the date for the general meeting at Taylor's at 7 PM. Members will surely be enthused about their trip to the Reno Rodeo on August 5-8. Travel arrangements are being made through the San Diego Chapter of Great Outdoors and Grant Travel in San Diego. Please contact Tom at 257-9290 for details. On August 20 - 21, a backpacking trip is planned to Sulphur Springs. Eighteen people will be hiking into this lush oasis of hot springs, ferns and Sycamores. The springs are the start of the Upper Verde and the area is very tropical. The final trip in August will be to the Tonto Natural Bridge on the 27th. This is just north of Payson where cool caves, swimming and the outdoors are tops. The overnight at the lodge there is just \$7.00 per person, double or more occupancy. Campgrounds are also available for less. Please contact Gary at 257-9290.

All Desert Adventures trips are open to non-members at a slightly increased price at times. Please do attend a general meeting for further details on membership. Find out how all of us can have a good time together with people from both Arizona and California, members and non-members alike.

MPGCS FINDS PERMANENT HOME FOR SWITCHBOARD

Metro Phoenix Gay Community Services (MPGCS) Board of Directors has found a permanent home for the Switchboard (AKA the Lesbian/Gay Information and Assistance Line or Hotline). The permanent office, which is centrally located, has been rented for a very nominal sum.

Presently there are twenty-two volunteers who answer the line from 7 to 11 PM daily. The Board is totally committed to keep costs at a minimum while expanding the hours of the Switchboard along with other needed services for the community. Another training session is in the planning stages. Anyone who is interested in working on the Switchboard is encouraged to do so. Any interested party should call 957-0363 between 7 and 11 PM for further information.



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TRAVEL NEWS UPDATE

by David Starkman

THIS IS THE lowest "no restriction" fare that has been offered by a scheduled airline. The offer from Air Jamaica is midweek round-trip fare from NEW YORK to MONTEGO BAY or KINGSTON, JAMAICA, for \$199 and valid till June 30.

1,200 J.C. PENNEY stores will offer customers a \$25 United Airline travel certificate for each \$50 purchase of luggage. This is a repeat of last year's successful promotion. Offer concludes June 4, 1983. Luggage must be American Tourister or Samsonite.

SHERATON HOTELS, NEW YORK, introduces Sheraton's Big Apple Weekend sale! From \$29.95 per person, per night, based on double occupancy. Included with your accommodations: free V.I.P. gifts; a bottle of N.Y. State red wine and a cheese and fruit tray sent to your room, plus a 'welcome cocktail' at any restaurant or bar in the hotel. Available now 'til September 10, 1983.

STARTING JUNE 1, U.S. Air will offer a new service to CHARLOTTE and GREENSVILLE/SPARTANBURG with a special introductory one way fare of \$99. Travel must be completed by June 21, 1983 with no advance reservations.

CONTINENTAL AIRLINES HAS introduced a \$100 fare on its seven daily LOS ANGELES-HOUSTON non-stop flights and will add another flight between the two cities June 1. The fare is unrestricted on Saturdays and Sundays; on weekdays it requires a round-trip, seven-day advance purchase and a stay over a Saturday night.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 1983, Continental Airlines announces new PHOENIX-ONTARIO, CA. daily service. Booked in "M" class, the roundtrip fare is \$100.

CONFERENCE ON AGING

The Second National Conference on Lesbian and Gay Aging will feature presentations by a large number of respected and highly qualified speakers.

To be held in San Francisco June 24-25 at San Francisco State University, the Conference will be one of the major activities leading up to the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade (Sunday, June 26).

Older lesbians and gay men, early community activists, political leaders, service providers, and a host of

A FARE REDUCTION to DENVER or COLORADO SPRINGS. For Saturday or Sunday departures the one-way fare is \$65 and departures for Monday thru Friday is \$80.

HONG KONG BOUND? For Monday thru Thursday departures out of LOS ANGELES the new low roundtrip air fare is \$820. Advanced reservations not required and maximum stay is one year with no minimum stay required.

"SPOTLIGHT"

WASHINGTON — CATHEDRAL HOUSE: A charming Victorian guest house on upper Connecticut Ave. For guests wishing to prepare meals, a kitchen is available as are laundry facilities. Continental breakfast daily along with a copy of the Washington Post. Parking is available \$3.50 per night in a secure garage. Tax — 7% plus occupancy tax. Credit cards: none. Deposit: 1 night. Cancellation: no refund. Credit is applied to a future stay. Share bath: Single - \$26 - \$34; Double \$39.50 - \$47.50. Private bath: Suite \$59.

VERMONT — ANDREWS INN: Located in Bellows Falls, this Inn is a regional favorite. Disco, restaurant, downstairs bar, friendly relaxed atmosphere combine to give you an enjoyable get away. The downstairs bar is Ladies only on Friday night. Tax: 5%. Credit cards: MC, Visa. Deposit: 1 night. Cancellations are credited to a future stay. Share bath: \$20 single; \$30 double. Private bath: \$30 single; \$45 double.

David Starkman can be reached at 21st Century Travel, 2432 W. Peoria, Suite 1082, Phoenix, Az. 85029, Phone number 234-0542, Monday through Friday 9:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M.

specialists in research, teaching, theater, cinema, and writing will participate.

The Conference will begin with a keynote address and a general session on "The Politics of Aging" and "The Lesbian/Gay Movement in Historical Perspective."

Confirmed presenters include Morris Kight, Del Martin, Phyllis Lyon, Dorr Jones, Harry Hay, Jim Kepner, Harry Britt, Don Clark, and Judge Herbert Donaldson. (IGNA).

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OKLAHOMA AT BRONCO'S

THE PRAISE 'IS AS HIGH AS AN ELEPHANT'S EYE!'



The first weekend of a split billing for *Oklahoma* at Bronco's provided audiences with one of the most professionally done amateur stage presentations yet for Phoenix' gay community.

The reaction was unanimous. Jim Cobb's background scenery set the whole mood for the excellent show. From beginning to end the choreography, dialogue, costuming — and especially the comfort of the cast on the stage were excellent.

Pat Williams, producer and director, also took a lead role in the show as Laurie along with Joe Marshall as Curly. Williams is to be given a great deal of credit for bringing together another good show on the heels of *Best Little Whorehouse* which he produced and directed earlier in the year with much the same cast as *Oklahoma*. Marshall has become a very strong presence on local stages due to exceptionally good stage presence.

To a person the cast did an admirable job. Everyone fit their parts.



The show is scheduled for its second weekend June 10 and 11, with dinner being served prior to the show. Dinner reservations are suggested.

MURPHY'S MANOR

by Kurt Erichsen



Continued from page 1

She pointed out the power of cartooning and the power of innuendo contained in it, and that it must be carried out in a very careful manner. "As soon as you hammer a minority, it yells... However if you're going to gain status you have to take the same shots as the rest."

"The New Times cannot agree with any cartoon that deals with homosexuality as an aberration. We do, however, support the idea that homosexuals, like all other minorities, should be open to satire," said Laake.

Benson in a conversation a few days later related the fact that there had been a great deal of contact with him regarding the cartoon. He stated that he had frankly enjoyed several of the conversations with callers and pointed out some of the main topics which are primarily those dealt with in these interviews. While appreciating them, he obviously remains steadfast in his position on homosexuality and in the right and need to editorialize on AIDS. He has been invited to respond in any future issue of *The Western Express* which he said he will consider. Also the newspaper intends to print position statements received from The National Gay Task Force and the Gay Press Association, both of which have been apprised of the cartoon.

The commentary of readers is encouraged in letters to the editor to both *The Arizona Republic* and *The Western Express*.

EDITORIAL

The Western Express cannot condone actions such as that taken by Benson and *The Arizona Republic* in ridiculing and passing incorrect information about such a tragic subject as anti-immune deficiency syndrome. Whether it be gay people who are singled out or any other minority is not the issue as much as is the fact that AIDS should not be approached in any manner other than sympathetically and constructively. Benson's cartoon exhibited neither quality. We have, can, and will continue to rebound from minority directed slurs. However when death is the issue, the momentary pain felt from the slur is lessened in gravity.

As Publisher of this newspaper, a Director of the Gay Press Association, the Media Fund for Human Rights and of MPGCS, I will address this issue with both the GPA and with The National Gay Task Force assuring that they are aware of the situation.

Mr. Benson has been most cooperative during his conversations with

The Western Express. That has been the case with most who have been in contact with him. However, he is resolute in his position as he has a perfect right to be. Being resolute and having the right to be so does not excuse airing opinions in the manner of this cartoon.

We hope Mr. Benson, his editor and the management of *The Arizona Republic* will exhibit a greater degree of dignity in dealing with issues of this nature in the future.

Don Pintacura,
Publisher

Continued from page 8

appeals to a more mature clientele. Houston is notorious for its book stores, whose cruises 24-hour back rooms offer a lot more to ingest than reading material. Among them are the All-Star, Asylum, French Quarter and Studz.

The best gay lodgings can be found at the new Montrose Guest Quarters Hotel at 104 Avondale or Houston Guest House at 106 Avondale. If you're very well heeled, Houston offers some great straight hotels like the Hyatt Regency, Remington or Warwick Post Oak. I usually stay at the much more modest Rodeway Inn or Travelodge on Southwest Freeway. Hot body builders press iron at Jim's Gym 607 Westheimer. For leather and accessories visit Eagle Leathers at 1625 Rich-

mond, or their stores at Mary's, the Drum, etc. Be sure and pick up a copy of the Montrose Voice or TWT, informative gay weekly newspapers.

Your best bet for gay restaurants are Baja's, Brasserie and Rascals. The House of Pies at 3112 Kirby, known locally as "the house of guys" features 'a la mode numbers after hours. For fairly casual straight dining I enjoy the Anchorage, Brownstone, Old San Francisco, Palm Restaurant, Renata's and Ruth's Chris Steak House. If you prefer to dress and go gourmet, try Brennan's, Che, Courtlands, Maison de ville, Rivoli or Tony's.

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For more detailed information, pick up a copy of the BOB DAMRON ADDRESS BOOK '84 - America's foremost travel guide - available at most better bars, baths and book stores throughout America. Or send \$12.00 for your copy (which includes packing and shipping) to BOB DAMRON ENTERPRISES, INC., P.O. Box 14-077, San Francisco, CA 94114.

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NOTICES

OASIS METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday Services - 6 PM, Danforth Chapel, ASU Campus, Tempe; 10:30 AM, vicinity 46th Ave. & Thomas, Phoenix. Bible study, growth groups, social activities. All welcome. Call 268-5183.

DISCUSSION GROUP - Some members of the former ARC Monday night discussion group have banded together and formed Chat & Chew. We meet on Friday nights at Maxwell's (6-9 P.M.) across from the Public Library. We invite all to join us for conversation, sharing dinner or snacks, planning discussions and enjoying the company of new people as well as old friends. See you at Maxwell's Friday night!

GAYS AND LESBIANS under 21 in the Phoenix area are invited to join Arizona Gay Youth Group for weekly Tues. night discussions and other social events. Call 839-7989 or 234-3559 between 10 A.M. and 10 P.M. for directions, times or just to talk.

"G40+", a social organization for gay men and lesbians 40 years or older meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 P.M. Call 795-7180 in Tucson for details.

CASA de CAFE is a Christian alternative group, open to the public, that meets the 1st and 3rd Fridays of every month at Casa de Cristo, 1029 E. Turney, Phoenix. There's LOTS OF FUN, LIVE ENTERTAINMENT, GAMES, FOOD & COFFEE available for all. Treat yourselves to a real evening & join your Christian brothers & sisters for fun at Casa de Cafe

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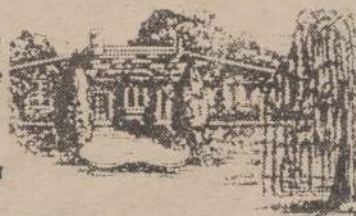
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