

HeatStroke

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Phoenix, Arizona

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making it happen in 1999

getting personal
with our public
on the edge of a
new year



By Allen Kalchik, Editor

As is often the case, there are many different answers. And yet there was only one question.

From the gay bar around the corner to the State House on the Plaza, we checked in with a number of people around the Valley (and beyond) and asked each what he or she would like to see happen in the coming year.

These aren't exactly resolutions—we purposely steered our respondents away from the dreaded "R" word. We prefer to think of their answers instead as New Year's Hopes.

And with hope in mind, we approached people both gay and otherwise for our purpose. Among those we surveyed are oft-quoted politicians and some articulate and seasoned activists. But we also bumped into a couple of print-media virgins who were all too happy to put forth a wish.

You'll no doubt note that some folks responded to our query from a very personal perspective, while others chose to share a more global view.

Please bear in mind that this *HeatStroke* survey is neither scientific nor formal. There's no agenda behind any of this, apart from our ongoing interest in exploring the human condition and dissecting the relevant social relationships of those within the gay community as compared to the sometimes antagonistic larger

society as the end of the millennium looms near.

Well, sure. There's that—and blatant curiosity.

Here, then, is what's on the 1999 wish list of some of the friendly faces around you as the new year begins:

"For Tempe, I want the dams to work when the Rio Solado Town Lake is finished and filled—that's scheduled for April or May of this year—and I also want the 27-story Peabody hotel to be built as part of the continuing development at the Rio Solado project.

We're also going to spend a lot of time in 1999 continuing to make the community a safe place for all of our citizens, and for people who visit us in Tempe.

Another thing I'm looking forward to is a one-week trip to Israel in March with a group of other American civic leaders. Because I'm an openly gay elected official, they are trying to set up a meeting for me with some gay community leaders in Israel while I'm there. That will be a great opportunity to see how human rights and other issues affecting the gay community

are progressing in another country, and I hope we can all share experiences and learn from each other."

Neil Giuliano, Mayor of Tempe

"I'd like to see more people get involved in the community this year.



So many organizations can use all kinds of volunteers. People want to see certain things happening in Phoenix but they don't recognize that until they actually get out and help these different groups themselves, it's going to take longer to get the results they want.

So I think it would be really nice if every single one of us contributed at least a little time to the community in 1999—and then we'll all be in the position to do even more by the year 2000."

Ernie Mendoza, President of Phoenix's Arizona Central Pride committee.

"I'm really glad it's 1999 and I'm looking forward to it. There are a couple things I want to work on in the legislature this year.

One thing is extending health care coverage to domestic partners. I think

we can do it by focusing on state employees first. It's time we be human and gracious and offer health coverage to everyone, not just people in same sex relationships but for all unmarried partners.

It's also time we get the archaic sex laws off the books. They only show how backward our state is, that we have these laws that are never enforced.

We were able to get two million dollars for protease inhibitors in the last session and I hope we can do again that this year and maybe get even more allocated, because [state



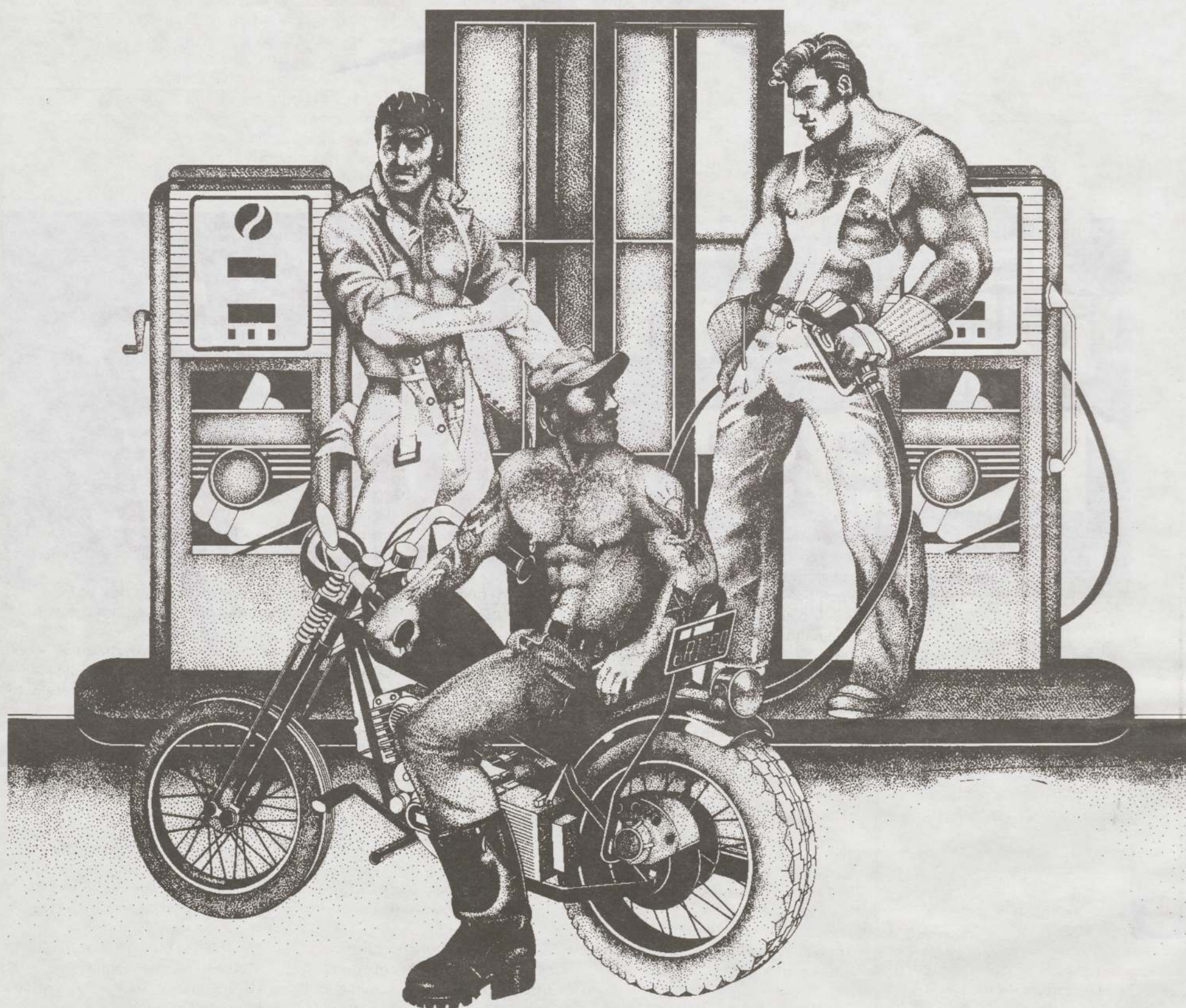
drug programs] really need it. I'm also working with the humane society to sponsor a Service Animal Bill.

That's where animals that are not claimed and that are

trainable are sent to the Department of Corrections instead of being euthanized. Five other states have done this. The non-violent inmates then work with the dogs, and they become service animals which are later turned over to the health department to go to work as companions to the elderly, or to people who are disabled. I'm also

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Horowitz:

Hate makes waste

As I contemplate my personal goals for the coming year, I like to reflect on the previous year's public and personal developments.

The Year in Review perspective helps chart my future course. Last year I wrote that I wanted to become a better person. Candidly, I'm not sure how well that went. 1998 has certainly been a challenging year for me personally and for our community.

My hero President Clinton stands impeached—his legacy forever stained worse than Monica Lewinsky's dress. My relationship with an extremely loving and gentle man ended in February, and I started dating again. My mother fell and required surgery. I dealt with minor surgery and serious illness—and managed health care.

I watched friends die from AIDS. And the nation watched after Matthew Shepard was murdered by two other young men and saw his funeral picketed by anti-gay protesters.

A new openly gay character appeared on a successful network situation comedy. A state supreme court ruled Georgia's sodomy law unconstitutional. The progress toward gay and lesbian marriage came to a standstill. Dade County, Florida reinstated its gay rights ordinance. Arizona elected five women to lead the state. The United States attacked Iraq again.

When I look back at the challenges I faced in 1998, I realize that love and hate come up a lot. My overly simple observation is that 1998 contained too much of the latter and not enough of the former.

Love is an immensely powerful tool, but I get so caught up in hating people and their actions that I forget they are spirits just like me who are trying to find their place in the world and their own fulfillment. Remembering to love and diminishing hate are my personal goals for the rest of the millennium.

Webster's defines hate as "intense hostility and aversion usually deriving from fear, anger, or a sense of injury." Thankfully, there are many more definitions available for love than for hate. My favorite from Webster's is "unselfish loyal and benevolent concern for the good of another."

When I express love as my primary emotion, my heart sees beauty in the universal plan. When I spend

time and energy hating, the hate is all consuming and personally damaging.

People magazine ran a nice piece on Matthew Shepard's murder and its aftermath. People also ran many letters, most of them expressing sadness over Matthew's death and a desire for an end to violence against gay people. Many of the letters vilified antigay protesters at the funeral.

One of the unidentified protesters subsequently wrote, explaining God's hate for homosexuals. She claims that the statement "God loves everybody" is a lie. She says that God's hate is "His divine dealing with mankind" and that "God has given homosexuals up to a reprobate heart, which demonstrates his hate." I say it can't be.

Although I'm Jewish, I am reminded and awed at the teachings of Jesus Christ. Christ's power comes exclusively through love. He never showed hate, anger, fear or a sense of injury. Neither did Gandhi, Moses, Lincoln or Dr. King. Human hate is damaging. Human hate in the name of God truly frightens me. Even biblical stories of God's wrath describe God's extreme value for all life.

Hate gets us nowhere and diminishes our lives. The hatred exhibited toward President Clinton by congressional republicans clearly annoys the American people and damages their ability to govern.

Hatred of gay people detracts from the religious fundamentalists who preach it to do God's work. A group of 18 conservative religious and political groups spent over \$600,000 to place advertisements touting cures for homosexuality. How much could that money have helped poor and suffering children?

As a community, we spend a great deal of time, effort, energy and money battling hate against us and hating those who hate us. I resolve to devote 1999 to love rather than hate. I'll advocate spending our community's resources on helping the less fortunate among us and educating the planet about our simple desire to love one another freely.

Love will win. Hate will lose.

David Horowitz is a Phoenix attorney and president of the Lesbian and Gay Public Awareness Project.

Editors:

I noticed that you have a Directory of Community Services in your publication which has a list in it titled Political Action & Education. And in that list you have the Democratic Party listed.

You should add the Libertarian Party to the list, too. Since its founding 30 years ago the Libertarian Party has always said that the government

has no right to tell consenting adults what sex acts they may or may not do in their private lives.

The Libertarian website is at www.lp.org. The Maricopa County Libertarian Party meets the third Tuesday of each month from 6:30-9 pm at Pizza Bellys on 9th Street and Indian School in Phoenix. Gay men and lesbians are always welcome to attend and find out what the

Libertarian principles are. The phone number for the county party is (602)248-8425 and our web page is at www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/Lobby/8786/mclp.htm.

The good news is that the Libertarian Party in the past few years has been doubling in size every year.

Mark Villa
Phoenix

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Woman pleads guilty in Shepard murder

LARAMIE, Wyo. (AP)

A woman whose boyfriend was accused in the murder of gay University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard has become the first person to be convicted in the case.

Chasity Vera Pasley, 20, pleaded guilty Dec. 23 to being an accessory after the fact to first-degree murder.

"The impetus behind this plea was Ms. Pasley's alone," said her lawyer, Maribeth Galvan, who also told the court her client could testify about what she knew about the attack.

Shepard, 21, suffered 18 blows to the head after he was lured out of a downtown Laramie bar Oct. 7, tied to

a fence and robbed. Earlier testimony indicated Shepard was singled out partly because he was gay.

Ms. Pasley's boyfriend, Russell Arthur Henderson, 21, and another man, Aaron James McKinney, 21, are accused of first-degree murder, kidnapping and aggravated robbery. Both pleaded innocent and will be tried separately next year.

McKinney's girlfriend, Kristen LeAnn Price, 19, was also charged with accessory after the fact to first-degree murder. Ms. Price pleaded innocent and will go on trial May 24. Authorities said the women helped dispose of bloody clothing worn by Henderson.

At the Dec. 23 court hearing, pros-

ecutor Cal Rerucha told District Judge Jeffrey A. Donnell that if Pasley's case had gone to trial, the state would have produced evidence to indicate Henderson and McKinney had attacked Shepard with "premeditated malice," and "inflicted pain and torture on this individual."

"Pleadings for his life fell on deaf ears," Rerucha said.

Rerucha said Henderson and McKinney asked their girlfriends if they would provide an alibi for their whereabouts and "initially they did that."

The alibi was "broken down by investigators" and testimony would have shown that the two women drove to Cheyenne—50 miles east—to

dispose of clothing in a trash container and that Henderson's bloody shoes were later placed in a relative's storage shed in Laramie, Rerucha said.

Ms. Pasley had pleaded innocent two weeks earlier. At the end of the 17-minute hearing, she was led from the court, head down, long hair hiding her face.

No sentencing date was set, but Donnell indicated it would take about 45 days for a presentence report to be completed. Ms. Pasley faces up to three years in prison and a \$3,000 fine.

Rerucha has until Dec. 31 to decide whether to seek the death penalty against Henderson and McKinney.

Utah district won't appeal ruling favoring lesbian teacher

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)

The Nebo School District has decided not to appeal a federal judge's ruling in favor of Wendy Weaver, the lesbian teacher who sued after being ordered not to talk about her sexuality.

"It's always been the school district's decision all along, and the school district has decided not to appeal," Assistant Utah Attorney General Martha Stonebrook, who argued the case for the district, said Dec. 22.

U.S. District Judge Bruce Jenkins ruled last month in favor of Weaver in a civil-rights action against the school district. Weaver filed suit after school officials ordered her not to talk

about her homosexuality and refused to allow her to return to coaching the girls volleyball team.

Weaver's sexual orientation became public after a student asked her if she were a lesbian and she said she was. The conversation took place in 1997, a few months after Weaver divorced her husband of 19 years and moved in with her partner, Rachael Smith.

The school district had argued that Weaver's right to free speech did not supersede Spanish Fork High School's right to be free of disruption.

The judge noted Weaver had continued to teach psychology at the school without incident and that school officials had been unable to

point to any problems since her sexual orientation was revealed.

Jenkins ordered the school district to remove the orders from Weaver's file and allow her to coach during the 1999-2000 volleyball season. Jenkins also awarded Weaver \$1,500, the sum she would have earned had she been allowed to coach the volleyball team.

The Gay, Lesbian Straight Educators Network, or GLSEN, applauded the school district's decision not to appeal.

"I think it's great that the district has decided it is more important to focus on real issues like textbooks for kids rather than non-issues like the private life of a teacher," said GLSEN Utah Co-Chairman Robert Austin. "If anything, this sends a message to the well-qualified gay and lesbian teachers across the state so they can breathe a little easier."

Weaver still faces a civil lawsuit filed by Citizens of Nebo School District for Moral and Legal Values.

The group contends that Weaver is unfit to teach because of her sexual orientation.


That case is pending in 4th District Court.

In another development this week, Rep. Bill Wright, R-Elberta,

"I think it's great that the district has decided it is more important to focus on real issues like textbooks for the kids rather than non-issues like the private life of a teacher. If anything, this sends a message to the well-qualified gay and lesbian teachers across the state so they can breathe a little easier."

announced he would introduce legislation that would strike down or weaken Utah's compulsory education law in light of the ruling.

"Parents need to be able to choose to place (their children) in an educational community that provides them with the environment of their choice. How we need to do that, I don't know," Wright said.



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Hawaii AG says no further laws needed on same-sex marriage

HONOLULU (AP)

No further legislation is needed on same-sex marriage, according to the state attorney general's office.

Attorney General Margery Bronster's office submitted a brief to the state Supreme Court saying the constitutional amendment approved by voters last month validates the current state ban on same-sex marriage and that no further action is required.

After the amendment was approved, the Supreme Court, which is considering an appeal in the case, asked the state and attorneys for three gay couples to submit briefs on how the amendment affects the case.

Civil liberties attorney Dan Foley, who represents the couples, said he will submit a brief with a different

opinion.

Senate Judiciary co-chairman Matt Matsunaga said legislators will have to determine if approval of additional legislation would help or hurt the attorney general's case or make no difference.

The Supreme Court earlier ruled that the state's ban on same-sex marriage is unconstitutional unless the state can show a compelling interest in continuing the ban. During a subsequent trial, Circuit Judge Kevin Chang ruled that the state had failed to show a compelling reason for continuing the ban.

The Supreme Court was considering the state's appeal of that ruling, but put the case on hold pending outcome of the vote on the constitutional amendment.

Two men accused of Texas sodomy violations file new appeals

HOUSTON (AP)

A challenge to Texas's 119-year-old anti-sodomy law has been sent to a Texas appeals court, the latest step in a privacy rights case that could wind up before the U.S. Supreme Court.

A decision by that court could affect anti-sodomy laws on the books in 18 states, including Kansas and Missouri.

In the Texas case, John Lawrence, 55, and Tyrone Garner, 31, were arrested Sept. 17 in Lawrence's apartment and charged with engaging in homosexual conduct, a misdemeanor.

Both pleaded no contest last month, but appealed with a motion to quash the charges. Judge Sherman A. Ross dismissed the motions Dec. 22.

Under an agreement reached with prosecutors, Lawrence and Garner again pleaded no contest. The judge

fined them \$200 each and allowed the immediate filing of their new appeals.

The case may end up before the Supreme Court because Garner and Lawrence's challenges are based on state and federal constitutional questions involving privacy rights.

"I believe in the Constitution of the United States and I believe in the rights of all citizens," Lawrence said. "Would you like someone busting into your house?"

Harris County deputies entered Lawrence's apartment and found the men engaged in consensual sex. The deputies were responding to a false report that someone was going crazy in the apartment and was armed with a gun, according to court documents.

Although on the books for more than a century, the Texas sodomy law is rarely enforced. Gay activists have

worked unsuccessfully for years to overturn the statute there and in 17 other states that have sodomy statutes barring consensual anal or

"I believe in the Constitution of the United States and I believe in the rights of all citizens. Would you like someone busting into your house?"

oral sex. Five of those states, including, Kansas and Missouri, specifically ban sodomy between same-sex partners, according to Lambda Legal

Defense and Education Fund Inc., a gay-rights group based in New York.

The Georgia Supreme Court in November struck down that state's sodomy law, following similar decisions by courts in Kentucky, Montana and Tennessee, and sodomy laws in Arkansas and Louisiana are under currently attack in state courts.

Kansas' law was upheld as constitutional earlier this year after a three-judge panel of the state Court of Appeals refused to overturn a municipal court misdemeanor conviction involving a Topeka man.

Oregon appeals court ruling bans job discrimination against gays

SALEM, Ore. (AP)

An Oregon appeals court has done what state lawmakers have been unable to do for years—ban discrimination against homosexuals in the workplace.

Ruling in a case brought by three lesbians seeking domestic-partner benefits, the appellate court is the first in the nation to interpret a state constitution as requiring a ban on job discrimination based on sexual orientation. Ten other states also have such a ban, but it came from their legislatures.

"This tells Oregonians that discrimination based on sexual orienta-

tion in employment, public and private, is illegal," Deputy Attorney General David Schuman said.

Oregon gay rights advocates had tried and failed since 1975 to get anti-discrimination legislation passed in the Capitol.

The ruling requires the state to provide benefits to same-sex domestic partners of its employees and to the thousands of teachers, police officers and others who work for local governments. Private employers were not specifically required under the ruling to provide those benefits.

Three lesbian employees at Oregon Health Sciences University had sued

to get the benefits for their domestic partners. The university and the state voluntarily began providing the benefits last June, but the court nailed that down as an obligation on Dec. 9.

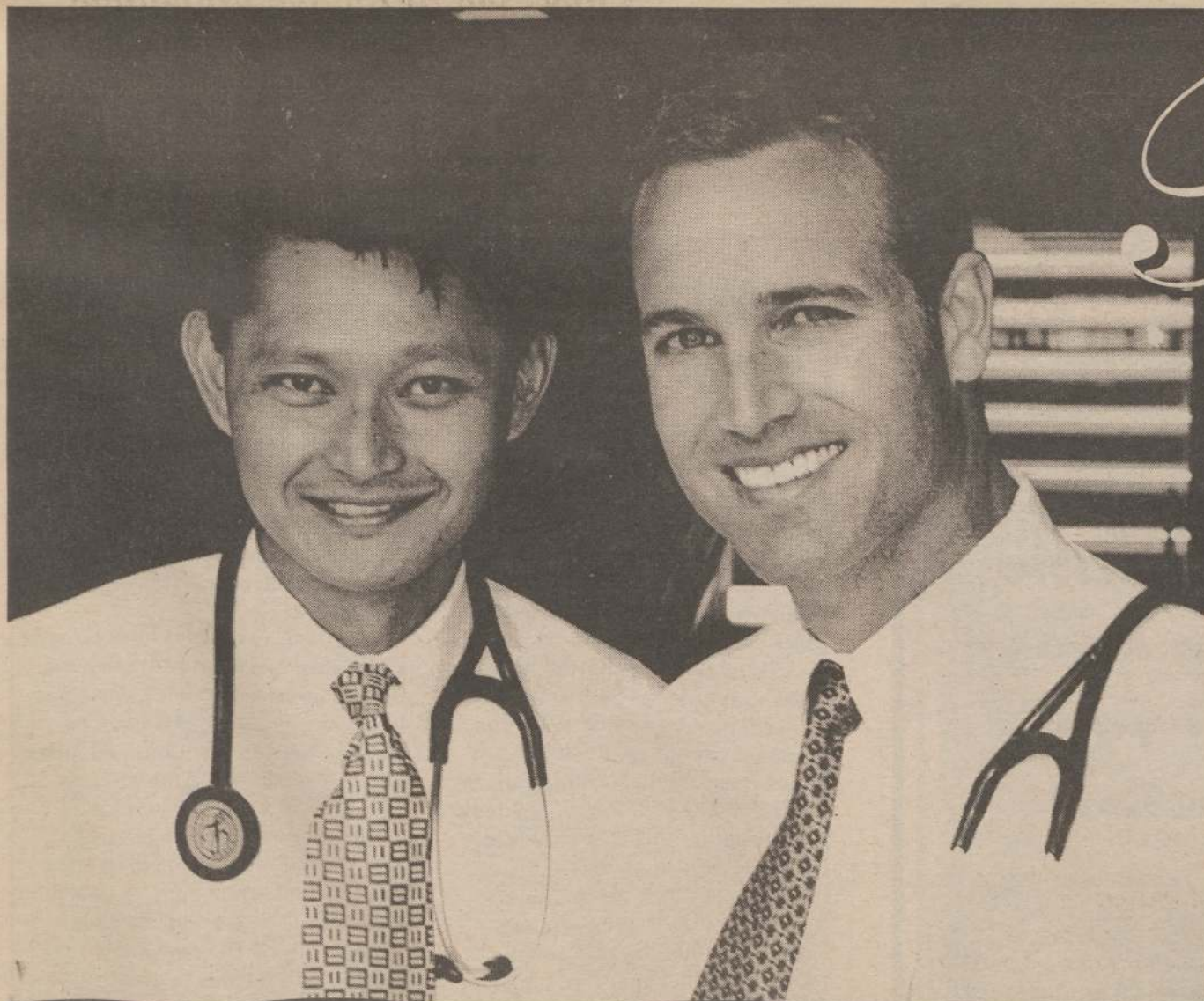
The "denial of insurance benefits to the unmarried partners of its homosexual employees" violated the equal protection provisions of the Oregon Constitution, the three-judge panel of the Oregon Court of Appeals ruled.

The court turned aside the university's argument that it made benefits available on equal terms to all married employees. The judges said that reasoning misses the point because

homosexuals cannot marry.

"Accordingly, the benefits are not made available on equal terms. They are made available on terms that, for gay and lesbian couples, are a legal impossibility," the court said.

The court concluded that homosexuals are a distinct class and that it is beyond dispute that they "have been and continue to be the subject of adverse social and political stereotyping and prejudice" in a state where the constitution requires all "privileges or immunities" to be granted equally to all citizens.



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French gay rights measure accelerating European debate

PARIS (AP)

On the sunny morning of Oct. 1, 1989, Ivan Larsen linked arms with his true love and marched out of Copenhagen's town hall, grinning broadly.

Larsen's wedded bliss had a historic twist: He and his spouse were among 11 homosexual couples married that day in Denmark—the first day any country in the world allowed such marriages.

"It was the best day of my life," says Larsen, a Copenhagen minister. "Everyone should be able to marry the person they love."

Nine years later, gay marriage remains legal in only Denmark, Sweden, the Netherlands and Iceland. But a controversial bill before the French parliament has accelerated the debate across the continent.

"France is at the border of the Protestant north and the Catholic south," said Olivier Duhamel, a Socialist member of the European Parliament and a professor at the Sorbonne in Paris. "If the bill is approved, it could push other European countries, especially those to the south, in the same direction."

The discussion in France, which could lead Europe toward broader acceptance of gay couples, contrasts with a backlash in the United States, where referendums on gay marriage were shot down in two states during recent elections.

France's Socialist-led government has made it clear that the bill, while giving gay couples a series of legal

rights, would not allow them to actually marry—much less adopt children.

Still, opponents say it goes too far. First introduced in October, the so-called Civil Solidarity Pact has triggered fierce debate and street protests by those who fear it could lead to homosexual adoption.

Leading the battle has been Christine Boutin, a conservative lawmaker who argues that the government has tried to sanitize the bill, which also applies to unwed heterosexual couples.

"It was designed for homosexuals and the government has tried to hide that," Boutin said. "That's completely unacceptable."

Even Socialist politicians have failed to rally around the bill. When the proposal was first submitted to parliament, conservatives were able to scuttle it on a procedural vote because so few Socialists bothered to show up.

The lack of vocal support, even from the party behind the bill, shows that homosexuality remains on the fringe of what is acceptable in this Catholic and often socially conservative country.

"It's an uncomfortable topic for a Latin culture," noted Michel Maffesoli, a sociology professor at the Sorbonne.

The government of Prime Minister Lionel Jospin has revised the bill, which would allow a union of two unrelated people to file joint tax returns, gain inheritance benefits and

share social security coverage, among other things.

The major change was to grant some benefits to siblings, an addition some say was meant to deflect conservative criticism. But that amendment is likely to be struck after Justice Minister Elisabeth Guigou said it could be unconstitutional.

Despite the uproar, the bill should

neighbors.

Following Denmark's lead, Sweden, Belgium and the Netherlands have all passed measures granting varying degrees of legal rights to gay couples.

France's proposal, although not as bold as the laws to the north, will likely influence countries such as Italy, Spain and possibly Portugal.

Gay-rights advocates in Italy are watching the French debate closely, hoping it will spur lawmakers there to bring forward a handful of bills currently lingering at the bottom of the legislative agenda.

"Italy has a tradition of following France when it comes to government measures and new legislation," Maffesoli said.

"Spain is also somewhat under our influence."

While Europeans have been slowly moving toward legal recognition of gay couples, U.S. voters have been saying no.

Measures to block gay marriages passed overwhelmingly in Alaska and Hawaii in recent elections. Since 1993, at least 30 states have banned gay marriages.

In California, a proposal to recognize only heterosexual marriages as legal has won a spot on the primary ballot in 2000.

Still, the momentum toward more widespread acceptance of gay marriage could be hard to stop.

"It is not such a problem to be gay and lesbian anymore," Larsen said. "I am sure that in several years' time, same-sex marriage will be accepted in many places, even across the U.S."

"France is at the border of the Protestant north and the Catholic south. If the bill is approved, it could push other European countries, especially those in the south, in the same direction."

become law by next fall. The lower house of parliament adopted it Dec. 9. It now goes to the Senate—probably in March—and will then be taken up by the Constitutional Council, France's highest legal body.

"Gay people are proud their concerns are being addressed," said Thomas Doustaly, editor of the magazine *Tetu*, which focuses on gay issues. "Never before have gays been at the center of a political debate in France."

Germany's new center-left government, taking its cue from France, has also recently proposed granting some legal status to same-sex couples, making it clear it won't give homosexual couples the right to adopt.

"We're not calling it gay marriage," Justice Minister Herta Daeuber-Gmelin said recently.

France and Germany appear timid when compared to their northern

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STATUS OF SAME-SEX COUPLES ACROSS EUROPE

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The following details the legal status of same-sex couples across Europe, in brief:

DENMARK: In 1989 became the first country in the world to allow same-sex marriages. But gay couples cannot adopt children.

SWEDEN: Has allowed homosexuals to register as partners in a sort of civil marriage since 1995. The couples cannot adopt children or have them through artificial means.

NETHERLANDS: New law took effect earlier this year permitting gay and lesbian couples to marry, giving them the same pension, social security and inheritance rights as other married couples. Dutch Cabinet approved a plan in November to let homosexuals adopt children. The proposal will likely go before parliament early next year.

ICELAND: Approved "registered cohabitation" in 1996, which gives gay couples many of the legal rights enjoyed by heterosexual married couples, but doesn't allow adoption.

BELGIUM: A law passed in March gives gay couples inheritance rights and allows them to open joint

bank accounts.

FRANCE: Same-sex couples currently have no legal status. Bill to give some rights to homosexual and unmarried heterosexual couples is currently under heated debate in parliament.

SPAIN: Gay couples have no official status. Northeastern Catalonia region, however, recently passed a law recognizing homosexual couples but barring them from adopting children or receiving inheritance benefits.

ITALY: A few cities have taken the symbolic step of creating a register for unmarried couples, but the measures carry no legal weight.

GERMANY: The new center-left government intends to grant some legal status to same-sex couples, but not the right to adopt children.

BRITAIN: In July, about 100 British legislators voiced support for efforts to give homosexuals the right to receive partner's state pension after death.

HUNGARY: Passed a law in 1996 granting gay couples inheritance rights, but law doesn't allow adoptions.

Nat'l political group joins SF boycott against United Airlines

WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund has joined with San Francisco's openly gay officials in support of a boycott against United Airlines. Organized by the San Francisco-based group Equal Benefits Advocates, the boycott was launched to protest United's discriminatory policies against its gay and lesbian employees, and the corporation's unholy union with Pat Robertson's American Center for Law and Justice in attempting to overturn the city's Equal Benefits Ordinance.

Victory Fund National Co-Chair Anne Derryberry spoke at a United Against United Rally on Dec. 22, at Harvey Milk Plaza in San Francisco.

"As one of the Victory Fund's five San Francisco Board members," she said, "I am extremely proud to stand here with our city's outstanding Victory Fund winners—State Assemblywoman Carole Migden, Board President Tom Ammiano, City Treasurer Susan Leal and Supervisors Leslie Katz and Mark Leno.

"These courageous individuals are our front line of defense against exactly the kind of flagrant discrimination that United is trying to perpetuate. Please join me in expressing

gratitude to them for their efforts on behalf of all of us, of this city, and of fair-mindedness and equality everywhere.

"As we prepare for the 21st Century, the Victory Fund stands with our openly gay officials in the fight to bring United Airlines into the 20th Century. We are disappointed that United refuses to join the thousands of other major companies who recognize the simple fact that fairness and equality are good for business. And we are appalled that the enormous amount of money United has squandered—and has forced our city to spend—on this egregious lawsuit could have been used to provide equal bereavement and travel benefits to all their employees. Instead, United chose to join with radical extremists like Pat Robertson and invest that money in the continued discrimination against gblt people. United's actions are unfair, unacceptable and un-American. And united, we will stop them."

The country's 14th largest non-connected PAC, the Victory Fund has generated more than \$2 million for qualified openly gay and lesbian candidates at all levels of government since its inception in 1991.

CDC's study on HIV reporting conflicts with agency's policy

ATLANTA (AP)

Some gay men are avoiding testing for the AIDS virus in part because they don't want their names reported to the federal government, according to a new study from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The CDC said the survey, released Dec. 23, underscores the need to continue government funding for anonymous HIV testing, even as the agency asks states to start keeping names of people who get treated for the virus that causes AIDS.

Earlier this month, the CDC published new recommendations in which it asked all states to begin reporting HIV cases either with the person's name or an identifying code.

The CDC says the information will help health officials track HIV cases before they become full-blown AIDS. But some AIDS activists believe privacy concerns will steer some people

away from being tested at all.

The CDC surveyed 556 people in nine states in late 1995 and 1996 who were considered at high risk for HIV but said they had not been tested. They included homosexuals, intravenous drug users and heterosexuals recruited from clinics for sexually transmitted diseases.

Nineteen percent said not wanting their names reported was one reason they had not been tested. Only 2 percent said it was their main reason.

Gay men living in states that already report names were more concerned about privacy. Thirty-five percent of that group said name reporting was one reason they avoided testing.

Still, the CDC found the most common reason for not getting tested was that people were afraid of learning they were HIV-positive.

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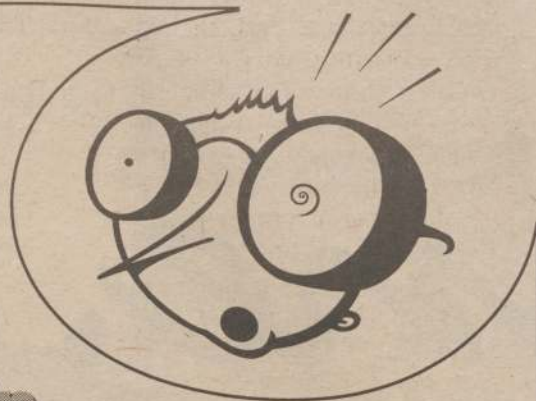
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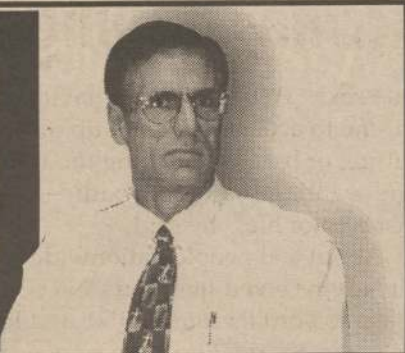
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Mark Hoffman's Positive Perspective



The Good the Bad and the Complacent

The number of Americans who died from the complications of AIDS fell to 16,865 last year, almost half of the number of the previous year and well below the 43,000 deaths in the peak year of 1995.

Increased access to new and effective drug treatments took the death rate from AIDS to the lowest level since 1987, the first year epidemiologists tracked mortality data.

This is truly good news.

Other studies show, however, that the annual rate of new HIV infections, the virus that causes AIDS, has remained stable at about 40,000 in the United States—which means that more and more people are alive with the virus within them.

But longer life and increased infections within the population mean a greater chance for infecting others.

The good news is bringing complacency. As U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala has said, "What this tells us is that we

have serious problems when we have not brought down the rate of new infections."

The reality is that all the prevention programs, behavior modification attempts, education curricula, and condoms in the world are not going to change the rate of infection.

This pesky, problematic, and deadly virus is here to stay. It will always play a part within our community.

The point I wish to make is that AIDS is—first and last—a problem and a challenge for science. We simply do not know enough about this extraordinary virus and we have a great deal to learn. And it seems evident that the only way out of this dilemma must be by research.

This is not to say that education and behavioral change will not be valuable as ways to limit the spread and to slow down the pandemic for a while.

Obviously, we should be instructing all people as to what HIV is and what we know already about how its contagion works, and surely we should be trying whatever we can—including free distribution of sterile needles with the heroin-addicted community.

But these are not the answers for the long run.

If we are to avert what otherwise lies somewhere ahead, we will have to find out how to kill the virus without killing the cells in which it is lodged, or how to immunize the entire population against the virus, or both.

These are scientific problems, very difficult and complex, perhaps the hardest ones ever to confront biomedical science. At the same time, they are not blank mysteries; there has already occurred an exceedingly rapid and encouraging progress in the laboratories now working on this problem.

The reality is that all the preventive programs, behavior modification attempts, education attempts, education curricula, and condoms in the world are not going to change the rate of infection.

It is as close to a certainty as anything in medicine that the AIDS problem can be solved.

This was clearly the feeling in the lecture hall when I attended the 1st Annual International Conference on the Discovery and Clinical Development of Antiretroviral Therapies in early December. The 400 scientists and researchers in attendance had much confidence in their work and in what the future holds for you and I.

For this I am thankful.

But until eradication of the virus

or development of a vaccine occurs, we must remain aware that HIV is continuing to gain a stronger foothold among us.

The only sure "cure" for now is: Respect Yourself - Protect Yourself. Gay and lesbian men and women everywhere must continue, as they did in the early '80s, to demand and support research and scientific endeavors in the quest for eradication of HIV.

Again, AIDS is first and last a scientific research matter, to be solved by basic investigation in good laboratories. No one can predict, at this stage, how it will turn out or where the really decisive answers to our

questions will be found.

But the possibilities are abundant and bright.

This science will only be possible with the support of large expenditures of public money. The commitment will demand pub-

lic support.

It is truly an emergency for science and for the gay and lesbian community.

For each of us, it is an emergency that will continue to require our full attention and our dedication to the improvement and protection of the health and welfare of the entire community.



Mark Hoffman is HIV positive and works as Health Educator and Treatment Advocate for Phoenix Body Positive and A Place called Home.

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NY delays start of HIV reporting program

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)

State Health Department officials said the start-up of a sweeping new HIV-reporting and partner notification program, slated to begin next month, will be postponed until spring.

The delay was prompted by the complexity of the regulations and the large number of groups involved in drawing up a workable plan, state Health Department spokeswoman Frances Tarlton said Dec. 24.

"This involves physicians, clinical laboratories, local health departments and the state health department," Tarlton said. "And the regulations we have to develop are extensive."

Putting off the start of the program will allow for state officials to launch and respond to a 45-day public comment period, Tarlton said. Draft regulations are expected to be released in mid-January and the program is expected to start in April.

The Legislature in June passed a sweeping bill requiring doctors to report the names of people who test positive for HIV to public health officials. Health workers would then be required to notify sexual and drug use partners that they may be infected.

Most advocates for people with HIV had bitterly opposed the legislation saying it violated the civil liberties of those infected

with the virus that causes AIDS. They claim it will deter some people from seeking testing and treatment.

Supporters counter it is needed for protection of public health, similar to existing programs for syphilis and gonorrhea. Notification of partners could stem the spread of HIV, they say.

The bill came on the heels of what is believed to be one of the most widespread cases of HIV infection ever in New York. Authorities say Nushawn Williams was responsible for the infection of some 17 teen-agers in Chautauque County last year after finding out he had tested positive.

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Gay man goes public with AIDS vaccine, hoping to inspire others

NEW YORK (AP)

Troy Masters has lost 15 friends to AIDS in the decade he's lived in New York.

"I had a circle of friends," he said. "They're all gone now."

Masters believes the last, best hope for eradicating the disease lies with the possibility of immunization. And that's why Masters is going public with his own participation in a study of 5,000 people nationwide to test the effectiveness of an AIDS vaccine.

"This is the most important thing we can do right now," said Masters, 37, a few minutes after getting his first injection Dec. 22 from New York University researchers. "This is the new frontier of activism. Any gay man who has lived through what I've lived through has to get involved."

Michael Marmor, a NYU Medical School professor and a lead researcher on the study, said there is no risk that people immunized with the vaccine will develop AIDS. "The subjects are being exposed to a very small part of the virus that has been bioengineered and cannot reproduce in the system and cannot cause infections," he said.

Marmor said the publicity surrounding Masters' enrollment "will help a great deal in getting other people aware of the trial and getting them to take part. ... We're communicating with physicians and putting fliers around but it's a low-budget operation."

Half of the 5,000 volunteers will receive placebos, the other half will get the real thing—seven injections over 30 months. The vaccine will be

considered effective if the rate or severity of HIV infection is higher in the group that got placebos.

Both groups will get counseling and will be urged to practice safe sex. But Marmor acknowledged that "the trial depends on some number of people exposing themselves to HIV. ... In study after study of gay men, slip-ups occur no matter how conscientious or how well-counseled they are. They seem to come out with a minimum of 1 percent of infections per year. We're anticipating that and perhaps more. It seems like an unavoidable outcome."

Masters agreed, saying that he usually—but not always—practices

safe sex. "Whether that behavior is for me to accidentally slip up in the future, or because of being too into it and wanting something badly—that's just part of life," he said.

About 600 people nationwide have already received injections. NYU plans to enroll a total of 150, and has between 20 and 30 people signed up already. Masters is the third to be injected, but the first to go public with his participation.

Mount Sinai Medical Center and the New York Blood Center plan to enroll another 350 in New York City.

Earlier versions of the same vaccine have already been found to induce an antibody response, accord-

ing to Dr. Mary Vogler, co-investigator of the NYU study. "The purpose of this study is to try and find out whether the antibody response is protective," she said. "We are somewhat optimistic."

If the vaccine can be shown to prevent or minimize HIV infection, it would then be licensed by the Food and Drug Administration for mass distribution.

Masters publishes a biweekly newspaper, *Lesbian and Gay New York (LGNY)*, and said he intends to chronicle his participation in the study in a column in the newspaper beginning with the Dec. 30 issue.

Study shows AIDS care costs less than thought

(AP)—Treating people infected with the AIDS virus in the United States costs about \$20,000 per person per year—less expensive than generally believed, according to a study published Dec. 24 in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

The study estimated a total cost of \$6.7 billion annually, or less than 1 percent of all U.S. medical expenditures on patients.

"Compared to what we spend on all kinds of other things, it's just not that much money" for the government to spend, said project co-director Dr. Samuel Bozzette, a health care researcher at RAND, the Santa Monica, Calif., think tank overseeing the government-sponsored research.

The \$20,000 tab is about one-third

of the estimates from the early 1990s, when exact figures were hard to come by, and before AIDS drug cocktails that have proved effective in fending off the disease and keeping patients out of the hospital.

The study was based on interviews of 3,072 people treated in hospitals or doctors' offices in dozens of urban and rural areas around the country.

It was conducted in 1996, just as the combination therapy was coming into widespread use. It found 55 percent of people being treated for HIV were taking one of the newer AIDS drugs by December 1996. Doctors believe use of the new drugs has since risen sharply.

The study estimated that only half

of all American adults infected with the AIDS virus saw their doctor at least once every six months. Many of those not getting care were unaware they were infected.

However, an encouraging 85 percent of those with full-blown AIDS were getting regular care, with most of them seeing AIDS specialists.

Early treatment can slow the disease, extend lifespan and save money by reducing hospitalizations.

"I think the study is going to be very helpful" in better targeting federal programs, said Dr. Joseph O'Neill, associate administrator for HIV/AIDS at the federal Health Resources and Services Administration.

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

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International Gay & Lesbian News Briefs

Compiled by Rex Wockner

Mexico repeals last anti-gay law

Mexico's Chamber of Deputies voted 473 to 0 with two abstentions Dec. 12 to delete a Penal Code paragraph that made "homosexuality" an aggravating factor in the corruption of minors.

The word was replaced with the phrase "sexual practices" thus placing heterosexual and homosexual corruption on equal footing.

Legislators also added a paragraph specifying that education about sexuality or sexually transmitted diseases cannot be considered as corruption of minors.

"With this achievement, Mexico eliminates the last vestiges of discrimination based on sexual orientation from its legal framework," said lesbian Congresswoman Patria Jimenez, for whom reform of the law had been a pet project.

"We consider this a triumph that fills us all with pride."

New Zealand equalizes immigration rules

New Zealand Immigration Minister Tuariki Delamere announced Dec. 22 that the nation will stop discriminating against gay couples in matters of immigration.

"Since the Human Rights Act 1993 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, Government has decided to amend Residence Policy to align the provisions governing the recognition of same-sex de facto relationships with those that currently apply to heterosexual de facto relationships," Delamere stated.

The changes will take effect March 29.

Among several inequalities in the present law, same-sex couples are required to have been together twice as long as opposite-sex couples before the alien partner can immigrate.

Gays picket Israeli Education Ministry

Gays and lesbians picketed Israel's Education Ministry Dec. 16 after officials banned the Lesbian Feminist Community, or CLaF, from staffing a booth at the ministry's annual educa-

tion fair.

At one point, several protesters burst in on a speech by First Lady Rheuma Weizmann, waving signs and balloons and shouting that homosexuals deserve equal rights.

The chair of the ministry's Pedagogical Secretariat, Ozer Schiller, banned CLaF from the fair because the ministry "gives precedence to families who give birth to children."

This year's event was titled "The Right to Respect and the Obligation to Respect."

Minister of Education Yitzhak Levy can be e-mailed at sar@education.gov.il, and dover@education.gov.il. The ministry is on the Web at <http://www.education.gov.il>.

Alleged HIV transmitter jailed for 10 years

A 30-year-old man in Perth, Western Australia, was sentenced to 10 years in prison last week for allegedly transmitting HIV to a teenage boy he had sex with in a railway-station toilet several times in 1995 and 1996.

The boy, who was age 12-14 at the time, testified that the man, Dwayne Ian Rowland, was the only person with whom he ever engaged in anal sex. Rowland did not routinely use a condom even though he was aware of his HIV status.

Dutch blood banks can ban gay men

Dutch blood banks can reject all gay-male donors, the Independent Equal Opportunities Commission ruled Dec. 16.

Five HIV-negative men who were not allowed to donate blood had filed a complaint over the policy.

The commission said blood and sperm banks should be allowed to reduce the threat of HIV transmission to the greatest extent possible.

Sixty-three percent of Dutch HIV-positives are gay or bisexual men.

Brazilian soccer star poses for gay magazine

Vampeta, a star player on Brazil's national soccer team, posed as a cover model for the January issue of the gay magazine G.

In an interview with the magazine, Vampeta said he is straight but has

nothing against gays including those he knows in professional soccer.

Vampeta's coach, Wanderley Luxemburgo, told reporters, "I wouldn't buy the magazine because I think Vampeta is very ugly."

Gay youth center opens in Germany

Germany's first gay-youth center opened in downtown Cologne Dec. 20, financed by local and state governmental agencies.

The "Anyway Center" offers a cafe, social activities and assistance in coming out to people age 14 to 25.

"There was a real need for a center like this because young gays and older people have very different needs," said Karl-Heinz Hagendorf, head of the German Federation of Homosexuals.

Euro Parliament denounces four nations

The European Parliament passed a human-rights resolution Dec. 17 that, among much else, demands that Austria, Greece, Portugal and the United Kingdom equalize their ages of consent for gay and straight sex.

The vote was 211 to 134 with 34 abstentions.

Taiwanese police raid sauna

Police in Taipei, Taiwan, raided the gay sauna AG Club Dec. 20, according to the International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission.

They arrested two men who were necking in a private compartment, charging them with "obscenity in public." The officers also reportedly ordered the couple to demonstrate how gay sex is performed and took pictures of the demonstration.

The manager of the club was arrested later after he refused to sign an arrest report that was not factual, IGLHRC said.

Activists said the sauna has experienced several similar raids in recent months.

IGLHRC urges gentle protest letters to Mayor Ma Ying-jiu, Mayor's Office, Taipei City Government, Post Code 110, Taiwan. Send a copy to Hotline for Lesbian, Bisexual, and Gay People in Taipei, P.O. Box 21-143, Pan-chiao 220, Taipei, Taiwan.

Ukraine institutes HIV ban

The Ukrainian government decreed Dec. 24 that foreign ministries must prove to Ukrainian missions and consulates that anyone planning to visit Ukraine for more than three months is HIV-negative.

Two men marry in Colombia

Two gay men "married" each other Dec. 11 at Notary Office Number 46 in Bogota, Colombia—the same location in which heterosexual marriages take place.

Luis Antonio Arias Bolivar and Isauro Rincon Angarita signed a joint-ownership-of-property contract (patrimonio comun) affirming that they are homosexuals, love each other, and desired economic union. The document was created by gay lawyer and activist German Humberto Rincon.

The men, one wearing a black tuxedo and one a beige tuxedo, sat in captain's chairs across from Notary Judge Rosa Falla Laiseca as she read the contract. Twenty guests—friends and family members—stood nearby.

When the reading was finished, the document was signed by the couple, their witnesses and the judge, photographs were taken, and the attendees departed for a wedding reception.

"This is certainly going to be a precedent," said correspondent David Olson. "There are many other couples who want to do the same thing but nobody wanted to be first."

Canadian Olympian comes out

Canadian Olympic gold-medal swimmer Mark Tewksbury came out of the closet Dec. 15 in an appearance at Toronto's Buddies in Bad Times Theatre and in media interviews.

He made the decision to declare his sexuality after losing a six-figure contract as a motivational speaker for an unnamed financial institution which complained he already was "too openly gay."

"This corporate catalyst ... made me realize it's time to share my whole story, which is still motivating and still exciting," Tewksbury said. "One door closed, but thousands more have opened. I have already been approached by two more companies to speak."

"When I was growing up I used to stand in front of mirrors and think about killing myself because I was gay," Tewksbury stated. "And that's still the number-one motivation behind teen suicide. That little part of me remained locked up for 30 years, and finally at 30, I am free of that. I am open to who I am. I've never felt freer, better, more whole as a human being than in the last couple of days."

"I'm coming screaming out of the closet—I'm a great, screaming queen and I'm glad to be that way."

Tewksbury won three Olympic medals and set seven world records.

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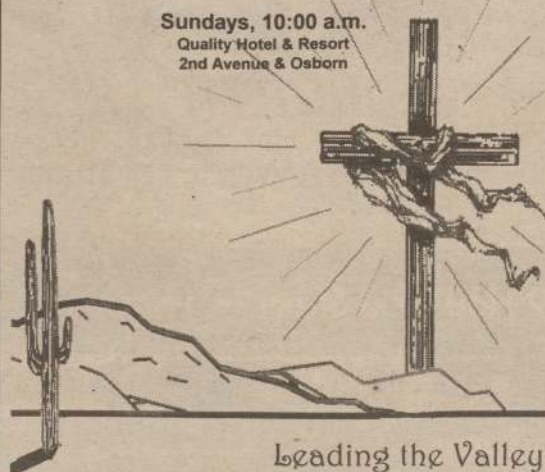
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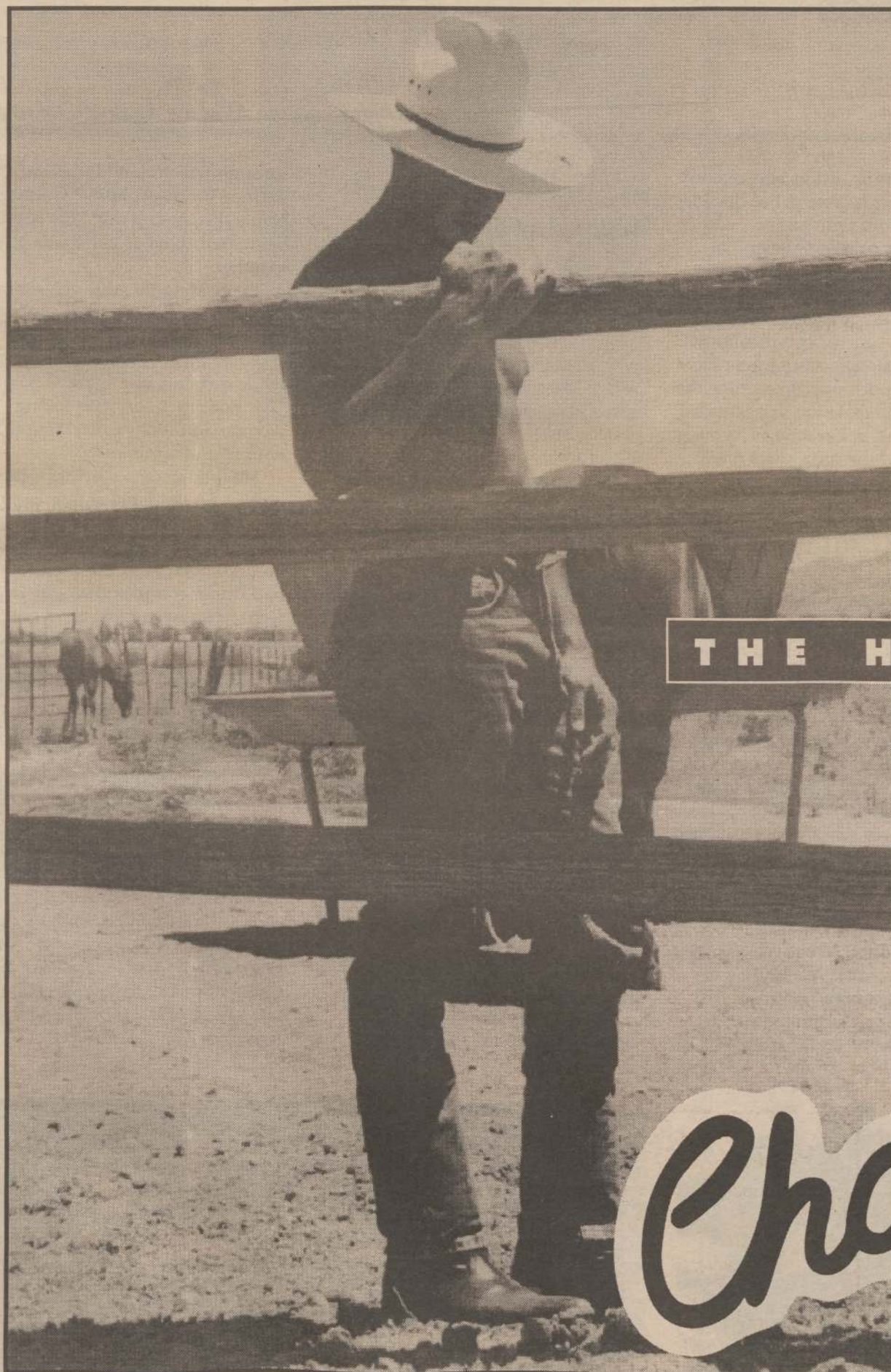
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Wreaths for Life tops \$30k

New fundraising record set for 8th Annual event

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

The annual Wreaths for Life fund-raiser set a new record this year, raising \$31,250 for people in the Phoenix area who are living with HIV/AIDS.

Wreaths for Life, a program of Aunt Rita's Foundation, is held each year at the Biltmore Fashion Park in central Phoenix. More than 250 decorated holiday wreaths are displayed and available for sale at the outdoor shopping center from Thanksgiving week

through Christmas week.

All wreaths and labor are donated, and the proceeds from their sales go directly to Aunt Rita's. The Phoenix-based HIV/AIDS service organization then distributes the funds to individuals in need.

Aunt Rita's board member and Wreaths for Life Chair Tom Snyder said the amount raised in 1998 was slightly short of the \$35,000 he hoped to raise, "but that's okay. I set the goal kind of high this year." He said the total nevertheless sets a new record in

the event's eight-year history and far exceeds the \$25,000 raised in 1997.

New this year was a Door Sponsorship program that allowed corporations and individuals to participate by having a personalized plaque displayed on the red doors on which the wreaths are mounted. Snyder said the additional program was successful and he plans to expand it in 1999.

"We're very happy with the way the entire event turned out and we plan to do even better next year," he said.

GLAAD Alert

Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

Newsweek—Insult to Injury

In the December 21 issue of *Newsweek* magazine, Mark Miller writes "The Final Days and Nights of a Gay Martyr." Instead of Miller using the more than 1,000 words to explore a hate crime that has left a nation still reeling, he uses the space to draw a gratuitous and unflattering picture of Matthew Shepard, with little or no valuable information or analysis added to the discussion surrounding his brutal death.

The article quotes "exclusive interviews with some of his closest friends," who state that "Shepard was drinking more and fighting a slow slide into despair, even though he was taking prescription drugs to control depression."

It then recounts one friend's tale of Shepard's having been sexually assaulted on a trip abroad, and on a night when they went out together, how he had planned to commit suicide by "taking all his meds," finally calming down after hours of talking.

Miller then recounts the stories of a "limo driver" who had driven Shepard to a gay bar in Colorado, and whom Shepard befriended shortly before his murder. Miller describes Shepard as "lonely and eager for human contact," and writes that he may have been an easy target because

of the depression, drugs and alcohol.

Sadly, what *Newsweek* has done is drawn a picture right out of Jacqueline Susann's "Valley of the Dolls," of a young man sliding towards his demise on a road strewn with emotional problems, substance abuse, and a "party boy" mentality.

A more valuable story might have taken the opportunity to examine the loneliness and isolation that Shepard must have felt in Laramie as a young gay man, and the difficulties many gay youth have with these very issues.

The intent of the writer can only be conjectured: did he intend to deflate the "mythology" of Matthew Shepard? Did he mean to tell a cautionary tale à la "Looking For Mr. Goodbar?"

Whatever their intent, *Newsweek* and Mark Miller manage to denigrate and insult the memory of a dead young man who suffered at the hands of two whose hatred knew no bounds, not because he liked to go out dancing and find friends, but because he was gay and not ashamed.

Write to *Newsweek* and tell them this coverage was disrespectful and gratuitous.

Contact: Mark Whitaker, Managing Editor, *Newsweek*, 251 West 57th St., New York, NY 10019, fax: 212.445.4120, e-mail: letters@newsweek.com (be sure to include name, address, and phone

number with all letters)

Village Voice Homophobia Begins At Home

In the December edition of the *Village Voice*, editor Richard Goldstein writes about the intersection of homophobia and masculinity in a fascinating, erudite and exceptionally intelligent essay entitled "The Hate That Makes Men Straight: Psychoanalysts probe the roots of homophobia."

Coming on the heels of the American Psychoanalytic Association's first ever public forum on homophobia, Goldstein takes on the nature of gay-bashing, pointing out the ways in which young heterosexual men take in the culture surrounding them and sometimes reproduce the "background noise" of homophobia in our society.

The writer then goes on to illuminate the psychoanalytic community's history with the lesbian and gay community—the birth of the term "homophobia" in 1972, and subsequent dropping of homosexuality as an illness from the professional diagnostic manual a year later.

The discussion regarding whether the phobia is an actual pathology is still debated by clinicians, and the author asks if it may be a tool

through which boundaries are defined for masculinity? Goldstein posits this, noting that "the fear of being perceived as gay holds guys together."

Explicating this through example (boys on the playground, adolescents and dress codes) the article then explores the idea that homophobia, while certainly enforcing male power, "has nothing to do with loving women. But it has everything to do with fear of femininity."

He then quotes scholars who have written on the topic of homosexuality and gender, and comes to rest with the question: How does one eradicate homophobia? And the answer is perhaps more complex than one might want to know: a more fluid model of sexuality, and one of masculinity that is "normal, [and] nondefensive."

Goldstein ends: "Short of this transformation, perhaps the best weapon against homophobia is to acknowledge it."

Please contact the *Village Voice* and thank them for this deeply thoughtful, and thought-provoking examination of a topic which receives too little attention in the media. Goldstein's very insightful writing of this piece shows the value in doing exactly that.

Contact: Doug Simmons, Managing Editor, *Village Voice*, 36 Cooper Square, New York, NY 10003, fax: 212.475.8944, e-mail: editor@villagevoice.com

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New LifeGuards on watch

Phoenix's Project LifeGuard has seen a number of staff changes in recent months.

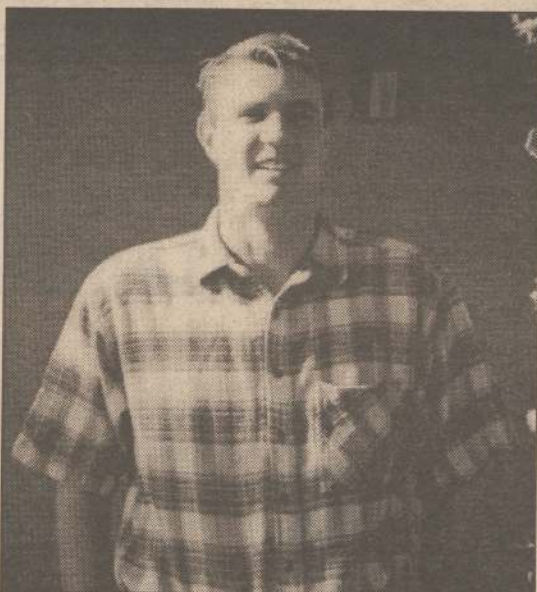
Former Project Q director Frank Repice has moved into a more administrative role as Prevention Services Manager.

Project Q is now being headed by Brett Wilson. He will be organizing all activities for the program, which is geared toward men ages 18-25.

Wilson comes to Phoenix from the Chicago area, where he taught high school and coached the swim team. In addition to handling Project Q, he'll also be coordinating the volunteers for Project LifeGuard.

Bryce Desy has also been hired by the program as the new Outreach Specialist. He is responsible for all bar-related activities, such as outreach events and fund-raisers. He is currently organizing the Fourth Annual Project LifeGuard King and Queen of Safer Sex Pageant scheduled for Feb. 6, 1999.

Project LifeGuard and Project Q are programs of AIDS Project Arizona for gay and bisexual men that focus on HIV prevention, healthy living and social alternatives.



Brett Wilson, above, now heads Project Q; Bryce Desy is LifeGuard's new Outreach Specialist.



Goings On

News & Events of Interest to the Phoenix Queer Community

AGRA Rodeo set for Jan. 16-17

Head on down to the Corona Ranch and Rodeo Grounds located at 29th Avenue and Baseline Road in Phoenix for the 13th Annual Road Runner Regional Rodeo presented by the Arizona Gay Rodeo Association, Jan. 16 & 17.

There will be food, entertainment, liquor and dancing all weekend—not to mention some of the country's top gay and lesbian cowpokes who'll be doing their thing both on and off the livestock inside the arena.

Call the rodeo hotline at (602)265-0618 for ticket prices and other information.

Meet up with G & L Dems

The new Gay/Lesbian Caucus of the state Democratic Party meets the third Tuesday of every month in the 2nd floor conference room at Arizona Democratic Headquarters, 2005 North Central Avenue in Phoenix.

The next meeting is slated for Jan. 20. RSVP to Alma at (602)257-9136 for the time and more information. Everyone is welcome to join and learn how gays and lesbians can affect change within the democratic party and the community.

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- Sun:** Steak & Chicken Fry \$3, 6-8pm
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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday Jan. 8:** "An Evening with Anita Cocktail & Friends." Show starts at 9pm.
- Thursday Jan. 14:** Happy Birthday, Ré!
- Friday Jan. 22:** Happy Birthday, Gretchen!
- Friday Jan. 29:** Cash Inn Presents: Diamond Fire. Show starts at 9pm; cover.



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1999— making it happen

Continued from page 1

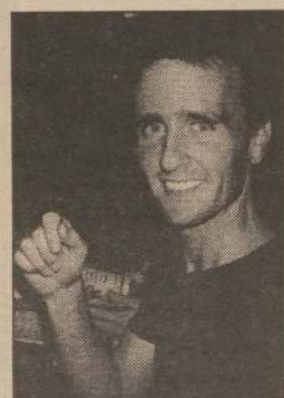
working on cleaning up the air.

It might be a surprise to some people to realize that we can actually get the sex laws repealed in this session, but I honestly think we can. Because even though there is a 40-20 republican majority in the House, there's going to be a lot of infighting within in the republican caucus—I've already seen it happening—and the moderate Republicans are going to side with the Democrats on certain social issues.

We're getting to a point where people are tired of the government regulating sex and the sodomy law in Arizona is just ridiculous.

Of course, everything happens in baby steps. If health care for domestic partnerships doesn't pass this year, I think it will next year. It's long past due. We're going to keep bringing these things up and bringing them up again until they do pass."

Rep. Christine Weason, democratic legislator from Dist. 25, recently elected to a second term in the Arizona House of Representatives.



the year 2000."

Todd Grannis, bartender.

"I would like to see a more cohesive community this year with more bonding, especially between the gay men and the lesbians.

I'd also like to see a hindrance to all the partying and drugs—we need to get past all that. Let's have more of an emphasis on truly gay living and just really enjoy our lives right now."

Ron Neal, bartender, retail clerk, HIV/AIDS volunteer and former Project LifeGuard King of Safer Sex.

"My goal would be to see parents get more involved in their children's education and hold schools accountable for what we're supposed to do. I'm amazed by the lack of involvement today.

The country is well off, and yet the school systems are in much worse shape than we ever could have predicted they would be at this point in our history. When [people my age] were growing up, our parents enjoyed school, and so that positive attitude toward education affected us.

But if you look at the kids in school today—their parents didn't like school and didn't feel like they were getting a good public education. Now those bad experiences and negative attitudes—combined with more drug abuse than anybody is talking about—are really affecting even the youngest kids coming into the school system. And so that's what we are up against.

It would be wonderful if we could turn that around by the year 2000 but I honestly don't think we can do it that quickly. We can start, though."

G. Schiffman, educator and teacher's advocate within the Phoenix Union Elementary School District.

"I just want an entire year where the gay bars in Phoenix have the same name for more than three months in a row so I don't keep getting confused."

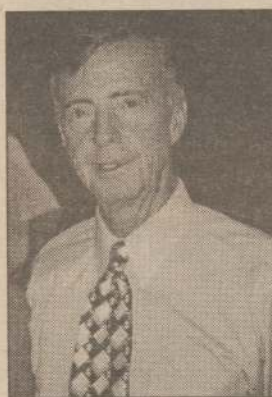
Gary Schuyler, Phoenix decorator, entertainer and bartender

"This year, I would hope that (AZ senate president) Brenda Burns and (house leader) Jeff Groscost call a joint meeting of the house and senate, and that the 90 legislators announce that they are atoning for the 86 years of discrimination against gays and lesbians. And so they are sponsoring legislation to repeal the archaic laws.

That's what I would hope. Now, what will the reality be?

We will again be approaching legislators to sponsor archaic law repeal legislation, for probably the fifth or sixth consecutive year. Our hope is that with Steve May in the republican caucus, we would have a better shot.

And we're working it through the democratic party ranks. So we're fairly hopeful that with all the friends and supporters we have within the republican party, we'll be successful this year.



There's always the judicial way of trying to repeal it. But I would hope that the state legislature will be mature enough to realize that we're facing a ridiculous situation here, and why not put Arizona above the other states that currently have sodomy laws on their books, and be progressive and ahead of the group and repeal it, before being forced to do so by the judiciary system."

Bill MacDonald, longtime political activist, founding member and current Co-Chair of the Arizona Human Rights Fund.

"First, I want to see this whole Clinton mess be over with.

And then I'd like to see the community come together with a resolve that we're all in the same boat. And the faster we realize that, the faster we'll get someplace."



Tish Tanner (a.k.a. Garry Mangum), elder clown princess of the Valley's drag scene, gay rights activist, Pride committee board member.

"My main theme from when I ran my campaign hasn't changed, which was less government with more free-

dom, and better government at a lower cost.

As far as legislative issues of interest to the gay community, I want to work on getting employment non-discrimination for state employees. I'd like to see that happen this year, either through legislative action or through an executive order.



As far as the repeal of archaic laws, I'd like to see a floor vote in the House on that issue. I don't know whether it would pass in the Senate this year, but if we can get it up for a vote in the

House that will be an important step. AHRF (the Arizona Human Rights Fund) has been bringing up the archaic laws repeal for the last five or six years and we are going to get more Republicans on our side on this issue.

Archaic laws and employment non-discrimination—I guess those are pretty ambitious. But I'd like to see both those things happen this year."

Steve May, newly elected State Representative from Dist. 26, to be sworn into office Jan. 11 as Arizona's first out republican state legislator.

"I would like to see a successful youth movement in Phoenix this year, in which school administrators—not just in Phoenix but around the Valley—give [gay students] a space and let them be recognized on their high school campuses.

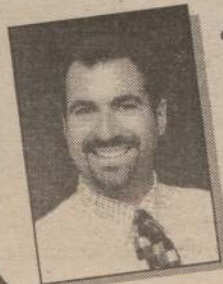
There are a number of youth who want to have gay/straight alliances at their schools but are having problems getting them established. If the youth can come together and can rely on some of the adults in the community to make things happen, gay/straight



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Coordinator for The Community Center in Phoenix.

"First, I want a magic bullet for AIDS so I don't have to work so hard.

Seriously, I think the gay community has come a long way. I see more and more cooperation between lesbians and the gay male community. And this may sound like a very weird thing to say, but one of the things the AIDS pandemic has done is it's made lot of straight people

who were homophobic before a lot less so. When people find themselves in a common boat it does away with a lot of the stereotyping.

My advice in 1999 is get involved

with the community. The gay community, the straight community, the HIV community. Get involved with people."

Artie Michaelis, 68-yr-old AIDS/HIV activist and community volunteer extraordinaire.

"I again hope that the legislature recognizes the incredible need—and its responsibility—and comes through with \$1.7 million for the Arizona Drug Assistance Program. We also hope they recognize the need for some state funding for prevention and surveillance. Because without accurate counts of HIV positive individuals we don't get the amount of federal dollars we should get.

The CDC has cut prevention dollars by a significant amount. So we're hoping the state can come through and help with funding some of the programs that have been proven successful.

We're not anticipating any new legislation that will adversely affect

the HIV community. I've checked with other lobbyists, and none of the major associations that sometimes back legislation that we don't like

are planning anything at this point. So that's good news. It could really be a good year from that standpoint."

BJ Peters, Arizona AIDS Policy Alliance advocate and lobbyist.



Executive Director, HIV/AIDS policy advocate and lobbyist.

"Because I am aspiring to shallowness, my initial thought for the new year is that I wish that Ben Affleck, Jason Beghe, or Bruce Willis would finally realize that I am the funniest man they have ever read, pick up the phone, and CALL me already.

But that seems so... selfish. So I have thought a little bit harder, and here's what I REALLY wish. Given that this past year has been all about invading people's privacy for the sake of politics, spending billions of dollars fighting over what the definition of sex is while people still don't have places to live or enough to eat, and killing people because someone doesn't like who or what they are, the greatest thing I can wish for 1999 is that we all stop worrying about what everyone else thinks and what everyone else does and start worry-

ing about what we can do to create a world where these things are no longer the most important issues.

And once we do THAT, then I won't feel so bad

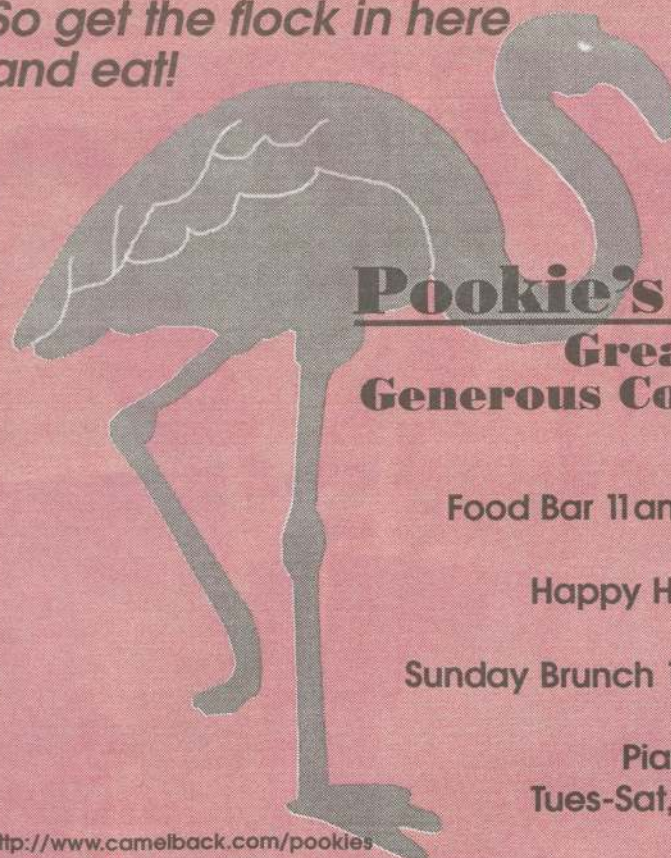
about wanting Ben, Jason, or Bruce to call me.

Michael Thomas Ford, Boston-based writer and humorist, author of *Alec Baldwin Doesn't Love Me* and *Other Trials From My Queer Life*, and the coming sequel, *That's Mr. Faggot To You*.



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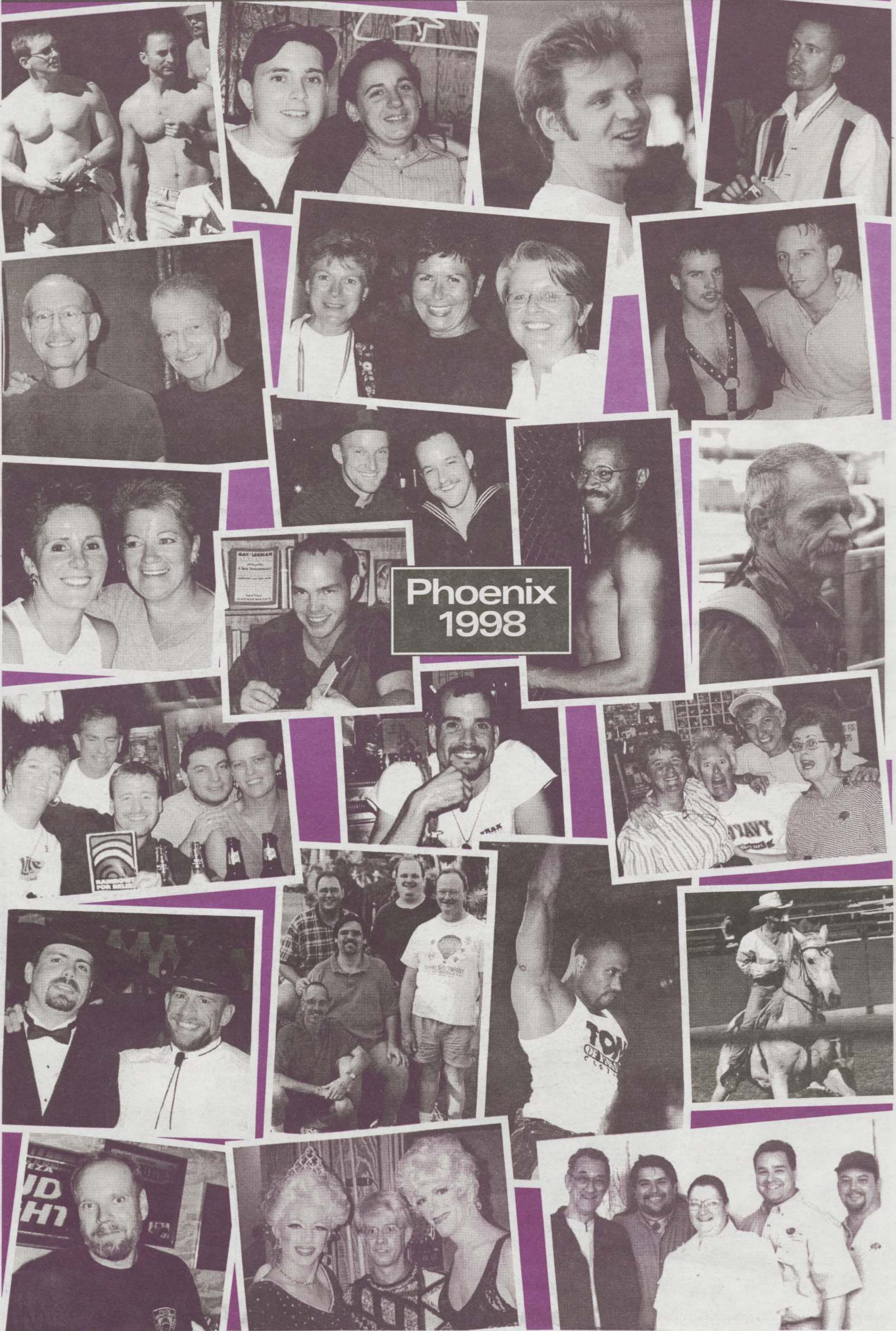
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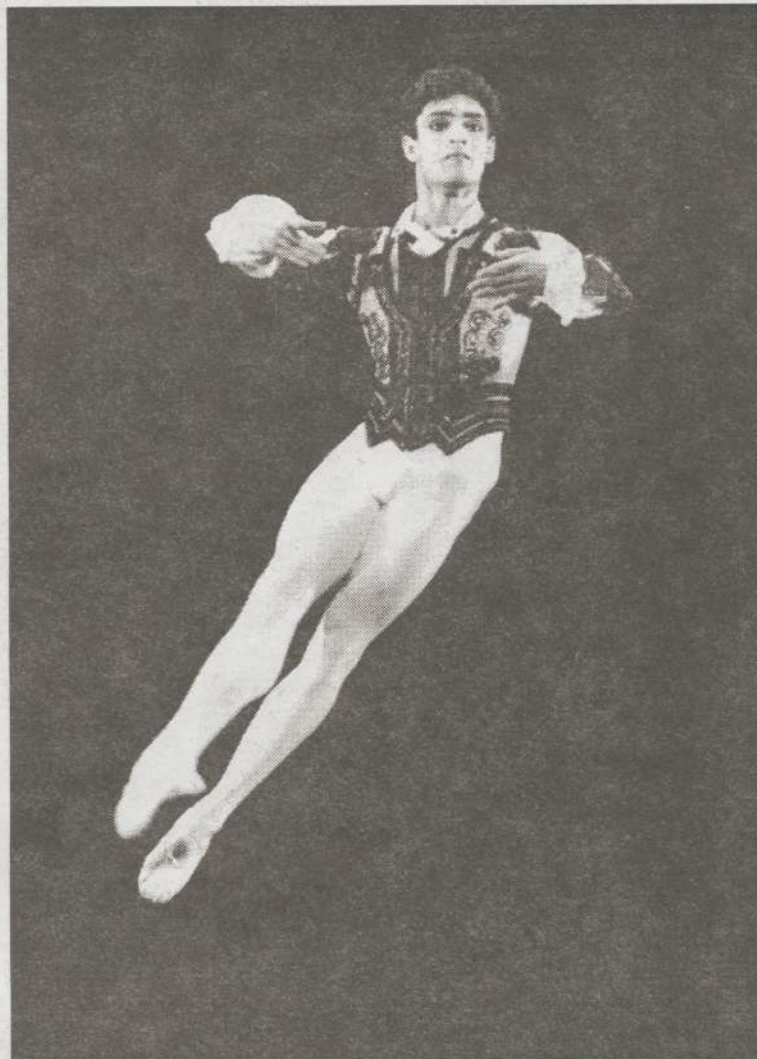




French experts pointe to AZ

Purity of line and perfect execution of movement are the hallmarks of the stars of the Paris Opera Ballet, the acclaimed French dance company once headed by Rudolph Nureyev and now under the artistic direction of Patrick Dupond.

The energetic French troupe will flounce in Phoenix for one show only, at Symphony Hall on Jan. 11. Tickets for the 8 pm performance are \$32 and \$40 and available through Dillard's. Call Southwest Dance at (602)482-6410 for more information.



Fascinating musical taking Phoenix-to- Broadway route

Arizona Theatre Company will present *The Gershwins' Fascinating Rhythm* in Phoenix from Jan. 1 - 17 at the Herberger Theatre. After its Arizona premiere, the show will embark on a national tour heading toward Broadway.

The show was co-conceived and directed by ATC's former Artistic Director Mark Lamos, with vocal and musical arranger Mel Marvin. Choreography is by David Marques.

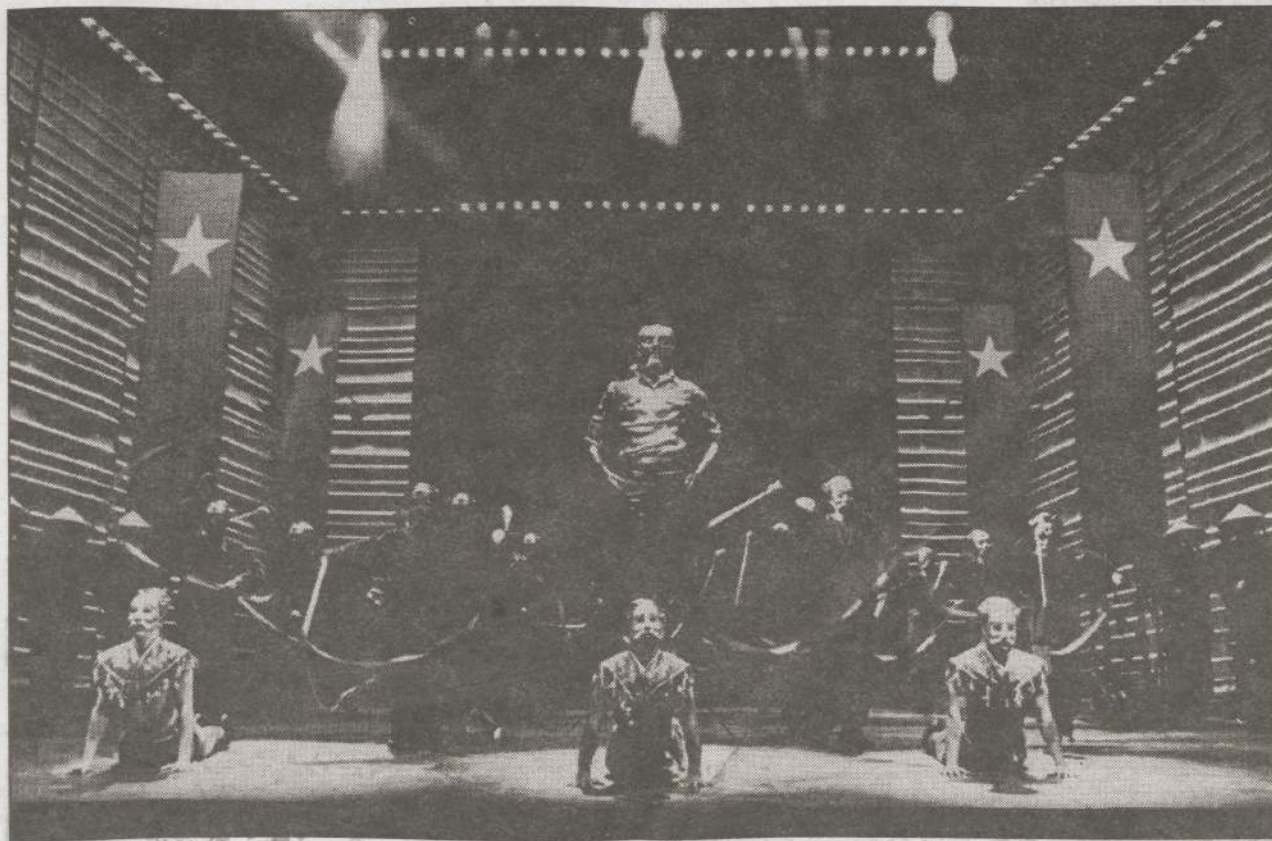
The song and dance production features dozens of George and Ira Gershwin's most unforgettable tunes, including "I've Got a Crush On You", "Someone to Watch Over Me," "Lady Be Good" and "Let's Call the Whole Thing Off."

The show was originally produced by Hartford Stage Company in 1997, and Lamos and Martin have extensively revised it for the Arizona production.

Tickets are \$25-\$38. Call (602)256-6995 for times, reservations and information.



Tim Fuller



Miss Saigon run extended

Talk about popular demand. A month away from the opening curtain, eight performances were added to the Gammage run of the Broadway show *Miss Saigon*, opening in Tempe Jan. 6.

The show will now run through Feb. 13. This will be the Southwestern U.S. premiere of the international hit musical that tells the story of love and self-sacrifice between a young Vietnamese woman and an American soldier during the fall of Saigon in 1975.

This Tony-award winning spectacular from the creators of *Les Mis* features music by Claude-Michel Schonberg, with lyrics by Alain Boublil and Richard Maltby, Jr.

Tickets range from \$15 to \$67.50 and are available by calling Dillard's outlets, or the Gammage Box Office at (602)965-3434.

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Compiled by Rex Wockner



"All the evidence would indicate this is the way people are born. We treat disease, not the way people are. The very existence of therapy that is supposed to change people's sexuality, even for people who don't take it, is harmful because it implies that they have a disease. There is evidence that the belief itself can trigger depression and anxiety."

—Dr. Nada Stotland, head of the American Psychiatric Association's Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

The APA Board of Trustees voted unanimously Dec. 11 to reject therapy aimed at turning gays into heterosexuals.

"The potential risks of 'reparative therapy' are great, including depression, anxiety and self-destructive behavior, since therapist alignment with societal prejudices against homosexuality may reinforce self-hatred already experienced by the patient. Many patients who have undergone 'reparative therapy' relate that they were inaccurately told that homosexuals are lonely, unhappy individuals who never achieve acceptance or satisfaction. The possibility that the person might achieve happiness and satisfying interpersonal relationships as a gay man or lesbian is not presented, nor are alternative approaches to dealing with the effects of societal stigmatization discussed. ... The APA opposes any psychiatric treatment, such as 'reparative' or 'conversion' therapy, which is based on the assumption that homosexuality per se is a mental disorder or based on the a prior assumption that the patient should change his/her sexual orientation."

—From a resolution passed unanimously Dec. 11 by the American Psychiatric Association's Board of Trustees.

"We went to the [ABC] network and we tried to do a spinoff gay show—remember?—where you guys were the gay couple. And you lived next door to RuPaul whose lover was going to be Don Rickles. Remember? And the network would not take it but then three years later they got *Ellen*. ... They said they couldn't have any homosexual characters on TV other than supporting players in a show."

—Roseanne during the recent reunion on her talk show of the cast from her sitcom.

"Somewhere, Ellen DeGeneres is grinding her teeth. Two teenage boys

kissed Sunday night on Fox' *'That '70s Show,'* and as of yesterday afternoon, the world had not ended. Joseph Gordon-Levitt (*3rd Rock From the Sun*), who guest-starred as Eric's cool-new-friend-who-turns-out-to-be-gay, planted a big one on Eric (Topher Grace) in what appears to be the first such kiss *between guys* to air on a commercial broadcast TV series."

—New York Daily News, Dec. 8.

"Why have you both decided that you prefer whining to working?"

—From an open letter to Ellen DeGeneres and Anne Heche by Daily Variety Editor In Chief Peter Bart, Dec. 7.

Georgia: You owe me big time for that.

Ally: Oh, I don't know about that, Georgia. What was with the tongue?

Georgia: I didn't give you tongue.

Ally: I felt it.

Georgia: Oh, you wish!

Ally: I got a little flutter!

—Dialogue on TV's *Ally McBeal* Nov. 23 after Ally and Georgia staged a passionate kiss to dissuade a man who was pursuing Ally.

"People tell me—invariably heterosexuals—that being gay is a choice. I haven't found one heterosexual who remembers when they made the choice. Nobody remembers making that choice. [Besides,] when did it become the rule that it's okay to torment people because you don't like their choices?"

—Gay U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., in a Dec. 2 speech at the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth.

"I have to fight so I don't look impolite because people take it personally when I'm not paying attention. But it's not them it's my attention span, and also people tend to repeat themselves a lot."

—Gay U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., to the Washington, D.C., publication *The Hill*, Dec. 9.

"My favorite person in Congress right now is Rep. Barney Frank. He's a hero—I think he's absolutely a fantastic person."

—Singer Judy Collins to the Phoenix gay newspaper *HeatStroke*, Dec. 3.

"I ... don't like the rise of the Christian Coalition anti-everybody movement. They'd like to get rid of us

Continued on page 28

MURPHY'S MANOR

by Kurt Erichsen



Out on film

THE FACULTY

"Umm. . . I don't think a person should run unless he's being chased," quips decidedly unathletic Casey (Elijah Wood) in the first reel of *The Faculty*, after hyper-macho football coach (Robert Patrick) compliments the young shutterbug's speed and then goes so far as to suggest he try out for the team.

It's a cute line and it's perfectly delivered by the slightly built Wood as an awkward, picked-on teen. Casey's wit could lead a moviegoer to wonder whether the latest film from openly homo Hollywood scribe Kevin Williamson is going to offer gay fans more than an undertone of queerness.

Sadly, Williamson isn't quite ready to make that statement. What he is ready to do is put the sci-fi genre through the same wickedly comic and self deprecating paces he trademarked with the hit slasher flicks *Scream* and *Scream 2*.

The Faculty teams Williamson with indie director Robert Rodriguez, who imbues the script with an angry mood and a rock n' roll edginess that take the thriller to

a level not present in Wes Craven's best *Scream* scenes. Rodriguez knows high school is a pretty scary place even if your teachers aren't being taken over by aliens, and he conveys that fear and angst exquisitely.

With consistent nods toward sci-fi classics like *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, *The Thing* and the *Alien* series, Williamson creates a rag-tag group of disenfranchised teens, pits them against the requisite insurmountable odds, then plays heavily on the inside jokes while Rodriguez keeps the visual punches coming and the slime flying.

The plot centers on a mysterious something that turns up on the campus of Herrington High and

starts taking over the teachers in the fictitious Ohio burg. It's difficult to say more about the story without ruining the surprises.

It's easy, however, to say that the cast is great, the soundtrack is inspired and the script is really funny. Oh, and—by the end—Elijah Wood's character has had plenty of reasons to run, even though he never does go out for that team.

It's too bad Williamson didn't go

all the way with the gay theme and really get into the different aspects of a gay kid's high school alienation. But *The Faculty* satisfies even without delivering that lesson.

Famke Jansen, Salma Hayek, Piper Laurie, Jon Stewart and Bebe Neuwirth are featured teachers. Jordana Brewster, Clea Duvall, Josh Hartnett, Shawn Hatosy and Laura Harris round out the student body.



Albee classic to kick off new year for IMCO

In *Mixed Company* will start 1999 by presenting *A Delicate Balance*, Edward Albee's Pulitzer Prize-winning classic about the balance between self-destruction and survival.

The dark drawing room comedy reveals the emotional savagery of suburbia and the psychological terror of empty lives.

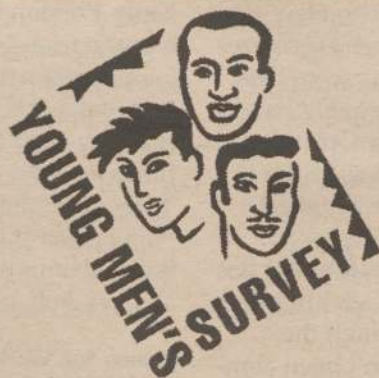
Scott Balthazor, who helmed last season's acclaimed *The Food Chain*,

will direct. The cast features Paul Benchwick, Helen Hayes, Steven Mastroieni, Barbara McGrath, Wanda McHatton and Joan Steen.

The show opens Jan. 7 at the PlayWrights Theatre, 1121 North 1st

Street in downtown Phoenix. Tickets are \$16.50, with discounts available for groups, seniors and students. Call (602)252-8497 for showtimes, reservations or more information.

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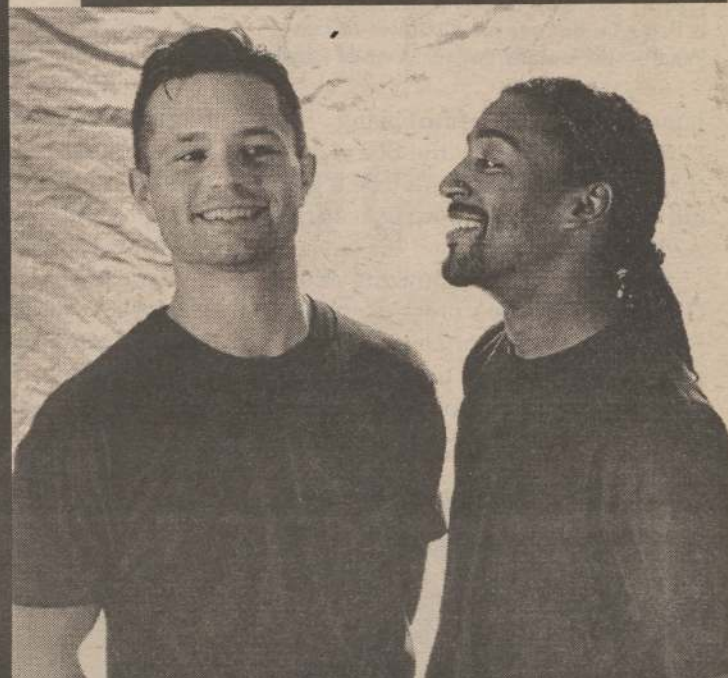
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Photo by Rostra Correia

Hollywood

Deep Inside

By Romeo San Vicente, HeatStroke Contributor

Homo-Schaech-ual

Johnathon Schaech, the gorgeous former Chippendales dancer who played bisexual Xavier in Gregg Araki's film *The Doom Generation* is going gay again.

The Houdini hunk is set to star in *Who's on First?* a romantic comedy about a young man who pretends to be gay so he can rent a room from his dream woman. Meanwhile, his lovely landlord keeps setting him up with other men. Sounds like the film rights to *Three's Company* were unavailable.

Sadly, Schaech seems to be only gay for pay. While the *Welcome to Woop Woop* star claims to be comfortable playing gay characters because he has gay people in his family, he lives in heterosexual bliss with curvaceous TV siren Christina Applegate.

A Gay Oscar?

With *Gods and Monsters* winning the National Board of Review vote for Best Picture and openly gay actor Ian McKellen (who portrays gay director

though.

At the 1982 awards both Dustin (Tootsie) Hoffman and Julie (Victor/Victoria) Andrews were nominated for top awards, but neither won. And Jack Lemmon was nominated for his cross-dressing role in *Some Like it Hot* in 1959.

The Academy Award nominations will be announced on ABC on February 9, 1999.

The Vaginas Are Coming

Any dyke who's ever wanted to hear Kate Winslet, Melanie Griffith, and Calista Flockhart talk about their vaginas should buy a plane ticket to London ASAP.

Eve Ensler's Obie Award-winning one-woman show *The Vagina Monologues* (inspired by hundreds of interviews the playwright had with women about their genitalia) will play at the Old Vic Theatre in the West End for Valentine's Day.

Monologue topics range from a dramatic recollection of rape to a funny account of a woman who looks at her vagina for the first time in a "vagina workshop."

The show was a smash in New York last year when Winona Ryder and Kathy Najimy spoke up in the performance pieces, which Ensler wrote with the intention of freeing women from stigmas of their vaginas and becoming more comfortable with their own sexuality.

Nathan Lane's Honeymoon

With *Encore! Encore!* all but canceled! canceled! Nathan Lane is looking elsewhere for work, turning back to the big screen for his next paycheck.

He has committed to star as comedian Jackie Gleason in a biopic entitled *The Great One*. Gleason is best known as *The Honeymooners* star Ralph Kramden, but the movie is going to focus on darker aspects of the funnyman's life.

Lane is also polishing his dancing shoes. He's negotiating to co-star in Kenneth Branagh's musical adaptation of William Shakespeare's *Love's Labour's Lost*, which will be done '30s

musical style complete with Fred-and-Ginger-like numbers and songs reminiscent of Cole Porter and Irving Berlin. Alicia Silverstone is inked to star.

Elton Talks Dirty

Being in the Rock and Roll Hall of fame isn't enough for our lavender living legend. What Sir Elton John really wants to do is produce movies.



Gwyneth Paltrow's cross-dressing performance in *Shakespeare in Love* wouldn't be the first to be nominated for an Oscar.

The Rocket Man's production company, Rocket Pictures, is going into production of their first feature film, *Women Talking Dirty* next March. Helena Bonham Carter will star in the comedy which focuses on an unlikely friendship between two Scottish women.

Elton's significant other, David Furnish, will take producing duties while his better half settles for the Executive Producer credit, as well as supervising the soundtrack.

The Presidents of South Park

South Park creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone are looking for a new job—kind of.

The wacky duo are lobbying to become co-presidents of the Comedy Central cable network. Doug Herzog, the former network president responsible for airing animated episodes that deal with gay themes from lipstick lesbians to homosexual dogs (remember *Big Gay Al's Big Gay Boat Ride?*), has left his post to go run the Fox network.

Parker and Stone flew to New York to meet with network executives for the job. While the pair seem like unlikely "suits", they arguably have more to do with Comedy Central's success than anyone else since *South Park* is the cable network's highest-rated original series.

In the meantime, a headhunter has been put on retainer to seek out other qualified candidates, though the *South Park* creators haven't been elim-

inated from the running. A new president is not expected to be named until early next year.

Bowie Is Still Hungry

David Bowie, the enduring bisexual icon of the glam music scene, is moving to the small screen.

Bowie, who starred in 1983's vampire classic *The Hunger* will host Showtime's second season of their erotic-horror television anthology based on the movie, replacing last year's host Terence Stamp (*Priscilla, Queen Of the Desert*.)

Stamp fans need not worry, however. You'll be able to see Terence on the big screen next Memorial Day, in the highly anticipated *Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace*.

Streisand Gets Stage Fright

Barbra Streisand may not be partying like it's 1999.

The diva, whose stage fright is notorious, was tentatively booked to perform on New Year's Eve at New York City's Madison Square Garden but has decided to cancel the date.

Reportedly Babs is afraid of Y2K complications which may effect the computer-operated technical equipment required to mount a show and cause it to malfunction.

The excuse doesn't seem too believable, however, since she's talking about performing at the more familiar (and closer to home) MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas on the same night. Hmm... doesn't the MGM Grand have computers, too?

Barbra claims she won't be doing much travelling around the millennium date, and Vegas is indeed within driving distance of Streisand's Los Angeles digs.

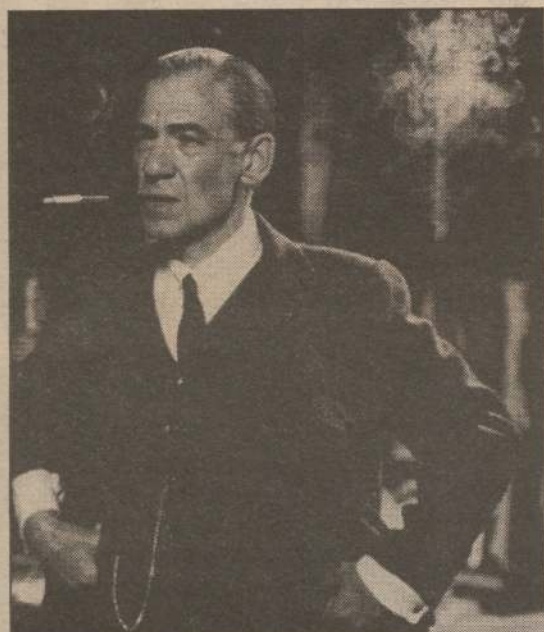
Meanwhile, Mick and the gang (i.e. the Rolling Stones) may take the Madison Square Garden gig instead.

In other Streisand news, she may be starring in a musical with John Travolta. The *Grease* star recently revealed that it is his dream to star in a musical with the talented Mrs. Brolin.

Travolta and his wife, actress Kelly Preston (*Jerry Maguire*) have become friends with Barbra and James since attending their nuptials. Travolta has been working on a musical story with tune-meisters Quincy Jones and the ubiquitous Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds, so the plump *Pulp Fiction* star may be serious about Barbra being the one that he wants.

Ooh, ooh, ooh.

Romeo San Vicente can be reached in care of HeatStroke.



Openly gay (and British Knight) Sir Ian McKellen is being lauded for his portrayal of James Whale—the openly gay director of *Frankenstein*.

James Whale in the film) being named Best Actor by the Board and the LA Film Critics, it may be a gay old time at the 71st annual Academy Awards next March.

Tinseltown is also buzzing about Gwyneth Paltrow's cross-dressing turn in *Shakespeare in Love*. This wouldn't be the first time a transvestite was nominated for an Oscar,

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Out of Town

By
Andrew Collins



St. Louis

St. Louis is a baseball city, a beer city, a working-class city—a place whose attractions appeal to a seemingly straight and kids-oriented crowd.

Look beyond its surface, however, and you'll discover that a number of neighborhoods here are intriguing from a queer perspective, either because of their colorful history or their current gay cachet.

The area most associated with St. Louis is the Riverfront, which has boats outfitted with restaurants and casinos where once there were only tankers and tugs.

Overlooking the action is the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, a rolling green buffer between the city and the river; the park's centerpiece is the 630-foot Gateway Arch. The lines here can be a drag (try to go early in the morning), and the visitor center and museum are hokey, but the tram ride to the top of this sleek tribute to westward expansion is memorable.

French furrier and city founder Pierre Laclede first disembarked in St. Louis at a point just north of the Arch.

Laclede's Landing later evolved into the city's warehouse district and is now a touristy nine-square-block network of cobblestone streets dotted with gas lamps, bars, restaurants, shops, and a goofy wax museum.

Though few gay couples roam these streets today, Laclede himself is said to have spent much of his time here in bed with his young footman.

About 20 blocks west of the riverfront, on Market Street, is the restored, century-old St. Louis Union Station, formerly the world's largest and busiest rail terminal (train service was discontinued in 1979); it now encompasses shops, restaurants, and the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Just west of downtown is Grand Center (Grand Ave. and Lindell Blvd.), the city's theater and performing arts district. St. Louis University

abuts Grand Center on its western edge. Near here, at 4633 Westminster, is the otherwise ordinary brick apartment building in which gay playwright Thomas "Tennessee" Williams grew up; it is the setting of *The Glass Menagerie*.

Following the World's Fair of 1904, which was held in neighboring Forest Park, the Central West End evolved into St. Louis's most fashionable neighborhood.

In the middle of this century, however, the West End fell into abandonment and disrepair. Hippies and counterculturists moved in to the area's undervalued, neglected homes and the neighborhood became something of a gay enclave. It now attracts a broad mix of yuppies, guppies, aca-

including the St. Louis Art Museum, the St. Louis Science Center, and the History Museum. The university also has an excellent collection of American and European painting at its Gallery of Art.

A landmark study on cruising for sex, released as the 1970 book *Tearoom Trade*, was based allegedly on observations made at tearooms and cruising areas around Forest Park and in many of the campus buildings.

Not far from the Central West End is Attitude's, the city's most popular dyke bar. On weekends, queer socialites (mostly guys but quite a few dykes, too) almost always pay a visit to the sprawling Complex, which has a big dance floor, several lounging spaces, and a big outdoor

with stained-glass windows and original architectural details. Although the crowd at the bar is mostly male (think leather-and-Levi's), the attached restaurant (it's quite good) is mixed-gender.

Just south and west of Soulard is Benton Park, home to the Cherokee Antique Row, a six-block expanse lined with 45 shops.

Antiquing tourists rub elbows with workers from the nearby Anheuser-Busch Brewery at the red-brick Sidney Street Cafe, whose ever-changing chalkboard menu ranges from fat, juicy burgers to crab cakes.

Northwest of Soulard, Lafayette Square is an increasingly gay neighborhood. This was St. Louis's most desirable address until a tornado destroyed many of its most beautiful homes in 1896.

The neighborhood's focal point, Lafayette Park, is the oldest park west of the Mississippi (the wrought-iron fence surrounding it is original). Streets fringing the square are lined with historic painted-lady Victorians.

Park Avenue, between Mississippi and 18th streets, has a few good restaurants, including Arcelia's, which has outstanding Mexican fare.

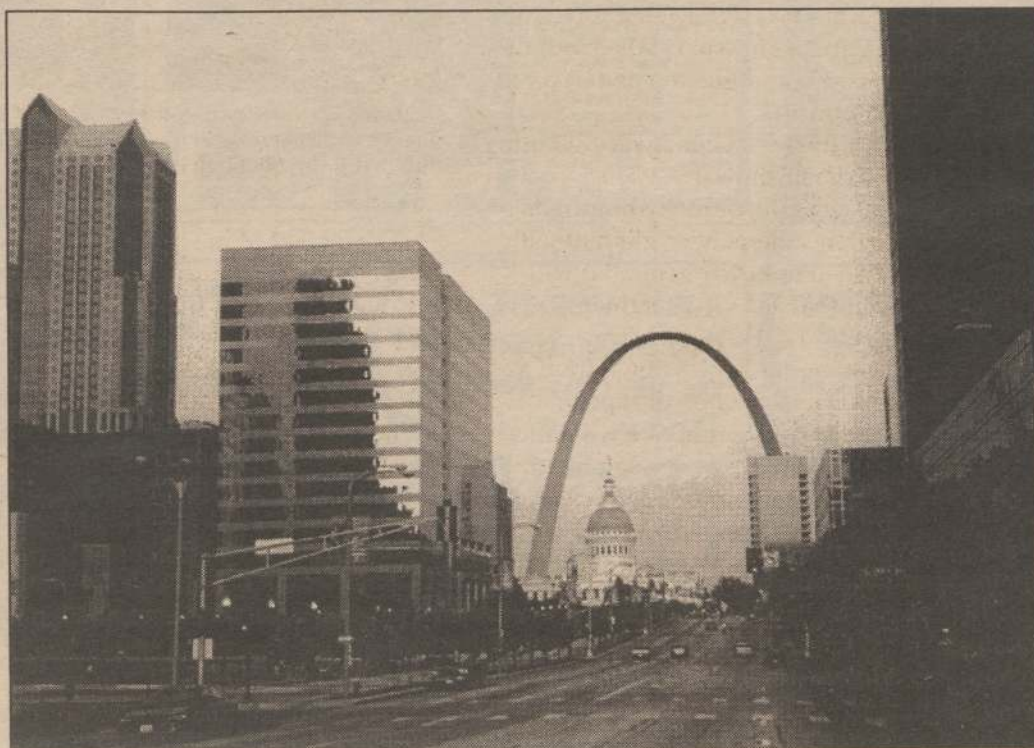
Just west of Benton Park, South Grand is a short stretch of Grand Avenue between Utah and Arsenal streets, which now has many ethnic restaurants and funky shops.

In the past several years, the residential neighborhood just west of here, Tower Grove (a.k.a. Dyke Heights), has begun to attract many lesbians.

In the adjacent Tower Grove Park is the stellar Missouri Botanical Garden, a 79-acre spread created by the said-to-be-gay Victorian horticulturist, Henry Shaw.

Further west is the city's Little Italy, know as The Hill, which is loaded with fine Italian eateries.

Andrew Collins authored the greatly expanded 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.



The 630-foot Gateway Arch looms high above downtown St. Louis and the Mississippi River.

demics, and the like.

Bohemian shops, coffeehouses, and restaurants line Euclid Avenue. Two favorites with an especially gay following are Kirk's American Bistro and Bar, which serves inventive New American fare in an elegant and urbane art deco dining room; and Wild Flower, known for its gourmet pizzas, creative comfort food, and live piano many nights. The one gay nightspot is the Loading Zone, a fairly typical video cruise bar.

Washington University is due west; the hub of its campus is at the northern border of 1,300-acre Forest Park.

This sprawling rectangle has numerous recreational venues and some of the Midwest's best museums,

area with a volleyball court.

A lot of folks wander next door to the Drake Bar, too, which is smaller and more intimate. Magnolia's is the main competitor of the Complex, drawing a somewhat older and more racially mixed bunch, and offering drag shows many nights.

St. Louis's richly hued red, orange, and brown bricks are most evident in the row houses of Soulard, a residential neighborhood south of downtown that is significantly gay-populated.

You can wander among houses, Irish pubs, and bars. The dramatic Victorian 9th Street Abbey is now a restaurant serving very fine New American fare.

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the funnies

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by Eric Orner

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A Couple of guys

by Dave Brusseau



e-mail: acplofguys@aol.com

WELL, FIRST THE ONE GUY STARTED GOING OFF ON THE CD'S YOU WERE PICKING OUT...



THEN HIS FRIEND CALLED ME "LITTLE MARY SHOWTUNES" AND STARTED MAKING FUN OF MY CLOTHES AND HAIRCUT...



©1999 Dave Brusseau

AND THEN THE FIRST GUY CALLED YOUR COLOGNE "EAU DE BUG SPRAY." THEY SAID THIS NEIGHBORHOOD IS OVERRUN WITH TASTELESS QUEENS.



DON'T BOTHER. THEY LEFT BEFORE WE DID.



THEY GOT IN THAT CAR WITH THE "CELEBRATE DIVERSITY" BUMPER STICKER.



Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel

...like it's 1999

©1998 BY ALISON BECHDEL

IT'S NEW YEAR'S EVE. MO AND SYDNEY HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM VISITING THEIR FAMILIES, AND IN CONSEQUENCE ARE FEELING A BIT FRACTIOUS.



GOD, MY KEYBOARD'S ALL STICKY. LOOKS LIKE THEY WERE MESSING AROUND ON MY COMPUTER, TOO.

THEY LEFT THIS INVITATION TO THEIR NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY, WANNA GO?



MEANWHILE, PARTY PREPARATIONS ARE AFOOT...

SYDNEY'S HAVING A VIRTUAL AFFAIR? WHO CARES? AND WHAT WERE YOU DOING ON HER COMPUTER?



...THERE WERE ALL THESE LOGS OF WILD ONLINE SEX WITH ANOTHER WOMAN. SOMEONE NAMED "GOOD THING."



OH. SO IF STUART HAD SOME BIMBO OVER WHILE I WAS AWAY, YOU WOULDN'T BOTHER MENTIONING IT TO ME?



OW! SEJUS, SPARROW!



OH, COME ON! YOU'RE NOT GONNA TELL MO! MAYBE SHE ALREADY KNOWS. MAYBE THEY HAVE AN ARRANGEMENT.



WHAT'S NOT LIKE IT'S A REAL AFFAIR?



'COUNTS?' SPARROW, YOU'RE SO 20TH CENTURY.



UNH. MPH.



LOIS! WHY DON'T YOU SEE IF ANYONE WANTS MORE HORSE RADISH REMOULADE!



I WOULDN'T CALL IT CHEATING. IT'S MORE LIKE REMOTE, INTERACTIVE MASTURBATION.



OW! SEJUS, SPARROW!



DARN, THAT WAS SOME TASTY REMOULADE.



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for you.

Dear Cowboy,

Why can't the gay men and les-
bians in this community get along
better?

I'm a 24 year old gay male. I'm
making some New Year's resolutions
and realized that I have no close
friends who are women. I would like
to make my own effort as far as inte-
grating our community in 1999, but I
don't know where to start. Any sug-
gestions?

Signed, Reaching Out

Dear Reaching,

To answer your first question:

there are plenty of gay men and les-
bians who get along together just fine
and form long lasting friendships. It's
easy to get caught up in the percep-
tion that the opposite is true, especial-
ly if you're hanging out in the
saloons.

But get involved in a sports league,
church group, AIDS service organiza-
tion or some kind of social club away
from the bar scene and you'll get a
look at a whole different arena. Which
I figure ought to answer your second
question about suggestions.

You're on the right trail, cowboy.
Concentrate on your own resolution
and forget about why the rest of the
herd isn't more integrated. Get into a
mixed corral, be yourself, and all
kinds of friendships will develop nat-
urally.

Dear Cowboy,

All this talk about the president's
infidelity has caused a weird situa-
tion in my relationship. Twice in the
last week, when talking in a group of
women, my girlfriend defended Bill
Clinton's lying under oath by saying
that he only lied about sex, and that
she would do the same thing.
Actually, what she said was that she
already has.

I don't know whether she means to
me or not, and I did not ask. We have
been going out for five months. My
last girlfriend cheated on me and I
don't think I can go through that
again, so I have not asked for a fur-
ther explanation. But it's eating me
up. I assumed we had a committed

relationship. Should I look the other
way on this, or should I press the
issue?

Signed, "Hillary"

Dear Ms. C.,

The hitch in your partnership is
not about lying—it is about agree-
ment, trust and communication. You
were wrong to assume you and this
cowgirl have a committed relation-
ship that includes monogamy. Many
committed relationships don't. And
you can't apply the logic (or lack of it)
from the president's situation to your
own.

Don't get into the whens and the
whos and the how-long-agos.

Instead, you need bust open the
lines of communication and tell this
gal what you expect of yourself by
committing to this pairing, and then
ask her to tell you what she's expect-
ing to put into it on her part. If her
answers don't work for you, you're
welcome to move on down the trail.

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- 4. Boot Camp
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Phoenix 212-9888
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- 10. Crowbar
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Phoenix 258-8343
- 11. Cruisin' Central
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Phoenix 253-3376
- 12. The Rose
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Phoenix 265-3233
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- 33. Castle Boutique
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Tubs

- 40. Chute
1440 E. Indian School
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Culture

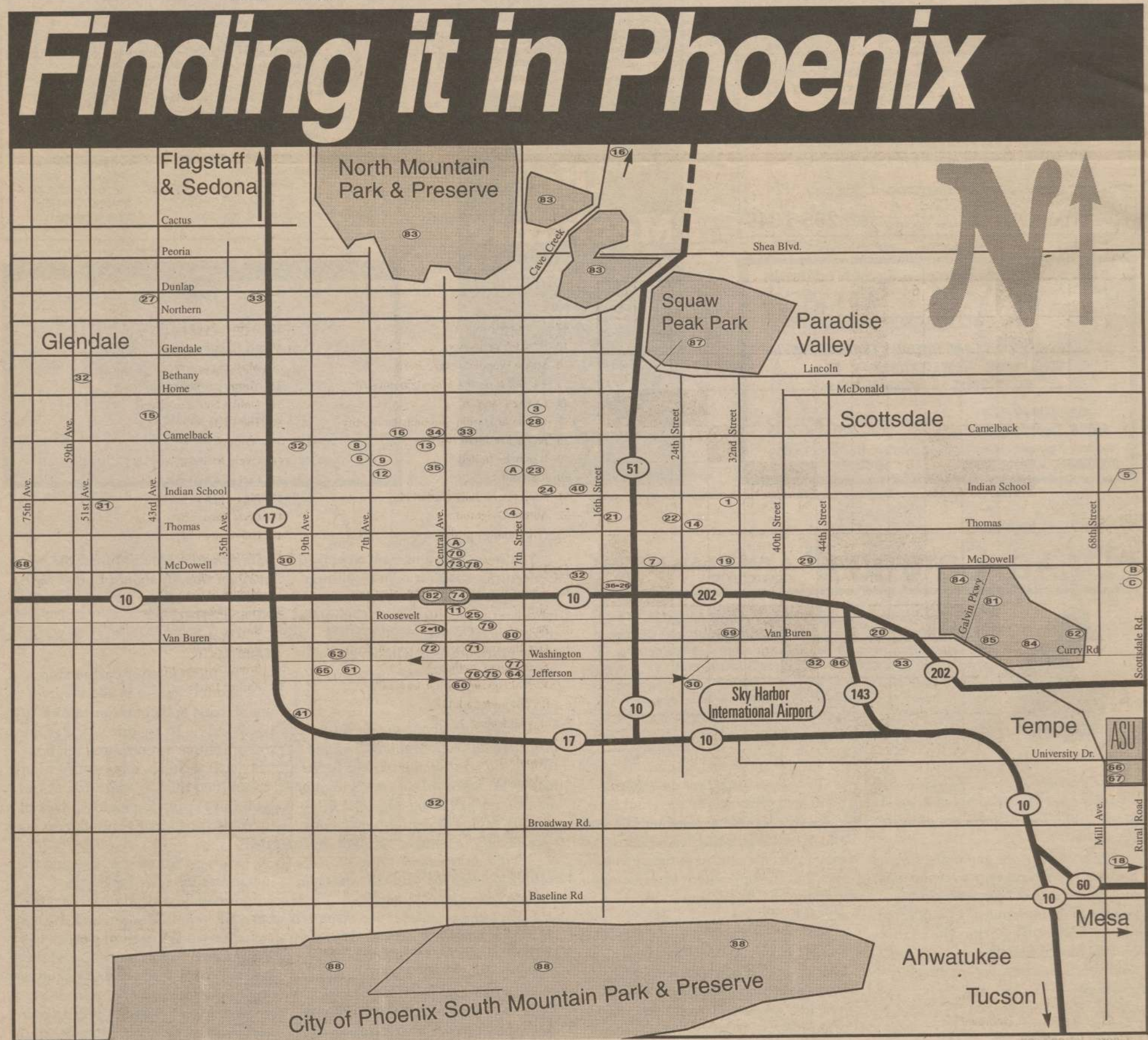
- 60. America West Arena
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- 61. AZ Hall of Fame Museum
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- 62. AZ Historical Society
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- 64. AZ Science Center
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- 76. Phoenix Symphony Hall
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- 78. Phoenix Theatre
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- 83. North Mountain Park &
Preserve
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- 84. Papago Park
Van Buren & Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 256-3220
- 85. Phoenix Zoo
455 N. Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 273-1431
- 86. Pueblo Grande Museum
4619 E. Washington
Phoenix 495-0900
- 87. Squaw Peak Park
2701 E SquawPeak Dr
Phoenix 262-6696
- 88. South Mountain Park
10919 S. Central Ave.
Phoenix 495-0222



Directory of Community Services

Aids Services

AGAPE Network
P.O. Box 32778
Phoenix, AZ 85064 234-6143

AIDS Project Arizona
111 E. Camelback
Phoenix, AZ 85012 265-2437

A Place Called Home
3431 W. Thunderbird #13-403
Phoenix, AZ 85023 942-1572

Arizona AIDS Information Line
24 W. Camelback Rd., Suite C
Phoenix, AZ 85013 234-2752

Arizona AIDS Policy Alliance
6523 N. 14th St., #112
Phoenix, AZ 85014 279-4805

AZ AIDS Services for the Deaf
111 E. Camelback
Phoenix, AZ 85012 265-9953

Aunt Rita's Foundation
5501 N. 7th Ave #215
Phoenix, AZ 85013 279-0716

Coalition of Meal Providers
992-6593

HIV Care Directions
1366 E. Thomas #105
Phoenix, AZ 85014 264-2273

Indian Community Health Serv.
1427 N. 3rd St. #100
Phoenix, AZ 85004 254-0456

Joshua Tree Feeding Program
P.O. Box 7056
Phoenix, AZ 85011 264-0223

MALTA Center
3033A N. 7th Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85013 212-0222

Maricopa County Health Dept.
1825 E. Roosevelt
Phoenix, AZ 85006 506-6900

Planned Parenthood
5651 N. 7th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85016 277-7526

Phx. Body Positive
4021 N. 30th St. #2
Phoenix, AZ 85016 955-4673

Phx. Shanti Group
2020 W. Indian School Rd. #53
Phoenix, AZ 85015 279-0008

Terros, Inc.
320 E. Virginia Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85004 234-8900

Volunteers in Direct Aid
P.O. Box 40476
Phoenix, AZ 85067 279-8432

Wellness Center
1840 W. Maryland, Suite E
Phoenix, AZ 85016 864-0710

Political Action & Education

American Civil Liberties Union
P.O. Box 17148
Phoenix, AZ 85011 650-1967

Arizona Central Pride
P.O. Box 26139
Tempe, AZ 85285 279-1771

Arizona Human Rights Fund
P.O. Box 25044
Phoenix, AZ 85002 650-0900

Arizonans for Fairness
P.O. Box 34766
Phoenix, AZ 85067 265-7283

AZ Democratic Party
Gay & Lesbian Caucus
2005 N. Central #180
Phoenix, AZ 85004 257-9136

Feminist Lesbian Activist
Coalition
P.O. Box 26031
Tempe, AZ 85285 966-4521

Lesbian & Gay Public Awareness
Project
P.O. Box 60881
Phoenix, AZ 85082 351-3080

Log Cabin Republicans
P.O. Box 60994
Phoenix, AZ 85082 428-3596

Maricopa Cty. Libertarian Party
Phoenix, AZ 248-8425

Social & Support Groups

Alpha Zeta—Crossdressers Supp
A Rose—Transgender Support
PO Box 1738
Tempe, AZ 85280 488-0959

APEX-AZ Power Exchange
apex@xroads.com 415-1123

Arizona 2-somes 277-8796

Arizona Nude Dudes
P.O. Box 32776
Phoenix, AZ 85064

Bears of the Arizona Desert
4133 E. Campbell Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85018 345-8755

Copperstate Leathermen
P.O. Box 40472
Phoenix, AZ 85067

Delta Lambda Phi - Phoenix
903 S. Rural Rd., Suite 101-317
Tempe, AZ 85281 248-5270

Desert Adventures
P.O. Box 2008
Phoenix, AZ 85001 266-2267

Entre Nosotras
546 E. Osborn, #22
Phoenix, AZ 85012 285-0970

Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual
Veterans of America, Phoenix
864-6092; pglbva@aol.com

Girth and Mirth of AZ
P.O. Box 16605
Phoenix, AZ 85011 655-8229

The Leatherlords 254-9651

Lesbian & Gay Alanon
2622 N. 16th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85006 548-0936

Los Amigos del Sol (LADS)
PO Box 27335
Phoenix, AZ 85061 997-2411

Parents & Friends of Lesbians
and Gays
P.O. Box 37525
Phoenix, AZ 85069 843-1404

The Phoenix Bears
PO Box 9627
Tempe, AZ 85068 216-8000

Project LifeGuard
Project Q
TRIBE
4700 N. Central, #204
Phoenix, AZ 85012 266-7233

The Community Center
and Youth Services 265-7283
Lesbian & Gay Community
Switchboard 234-2752
24 W. Camelback Rd., Suite C
PO Box 33367
Phoenix, AZ 85067-3367

Professional Organizations

Camelback Business &
Professional Association
P.O. Box 2097
Phoenix, AZ 85001 225-8444

Religious & Spiritual Organizations

Affirmation (Gay Mormons)
P.O. Box 26601
Tempe, AZ 85285

Asbury United Methodist Church
1601 W. Indian School
Phoenix, AZ 85015 279-2369

AVIV of Arizona
4704 E. Paradise Village Pkwy N.
#314
Phoenix, AZ 85032 996-8622

Casa De Cristo
1029 E. Turney
Phoenix, AZ 85014 265-2831

Community Church of Hope
4400 N. Central
Phoenix, AZ 85014 234-2180

Dignity and Integrity
P.O. Box 60953
Phoenix, AZ 85082 222-8664

Gentle Shepherd MCC
PO Box 33758
Phoenix, AZ 85067 285-9020

Goddess Womyn's Network
P.O. Box 17312
Phoenix, AZ 85011 266-4111

Healing Waters Ministries
225 W. University, 105
Tempe, AZ 85281 894-8681

Lutherans Concerned
P.O. Box 7519
Phoenix, AZ 85011 870-3611

Presbyterians for Lesbians &
Gays
P.O. Box 61162
Phoenix, AZ 85082 275-0506

Southwest Miracles Center
3644 E. McDowell
Phoenix, AZ 85008 244-9001

Unitarian Universalist Congreg.
4027 E. Lincoln Dr.
Paradise Valley, AZ 85283
840-8400

Valley Unitarian Universalist Ch.
1700 W. Warner Rd.
Chandler, AZ 85224 899-4249

Western Orthodox
Catholic Church
241-9776 pasisozi@cris.com

Valley of the Sun Comm'ty Band
Jayne: 947-0907; Terry: 954-9244

Music, Sports & Hobbies

Arizona Gay Rodeo Association
P.O. Box 16363
Phoenix, AZ 85011 265-0618

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

Charlie's Renegades
P.O. Box 17602
Phoenix, AZ 85011 277-9142

Desert Adventures
PO Box 2008
Phoenix, AZ 85001 266-CAMP

Desert Valley Squares
P.O. Box 34615
Phoenix, AZ 85067 248-0048

Gay League Association of Darts
P.O. Box 63251
Phoenix, AZ 85082

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Social
Tennis Club 279-0709

Grand Canyon Men's Choral
P.O. Box 16462
Phoenix, AZ 85011 340-7640

Lambda Car Club
P.O. Box 36211
Phoenix, AZ 85067 409-3160

Phoenix Unified Gay Bowling
Alliance (PUGBA)
PO Box 44422
Phoenix, AZ 85064 246-9643

Spartan Wrestling Club-340-8070
e-mail: mattbims@aol.com

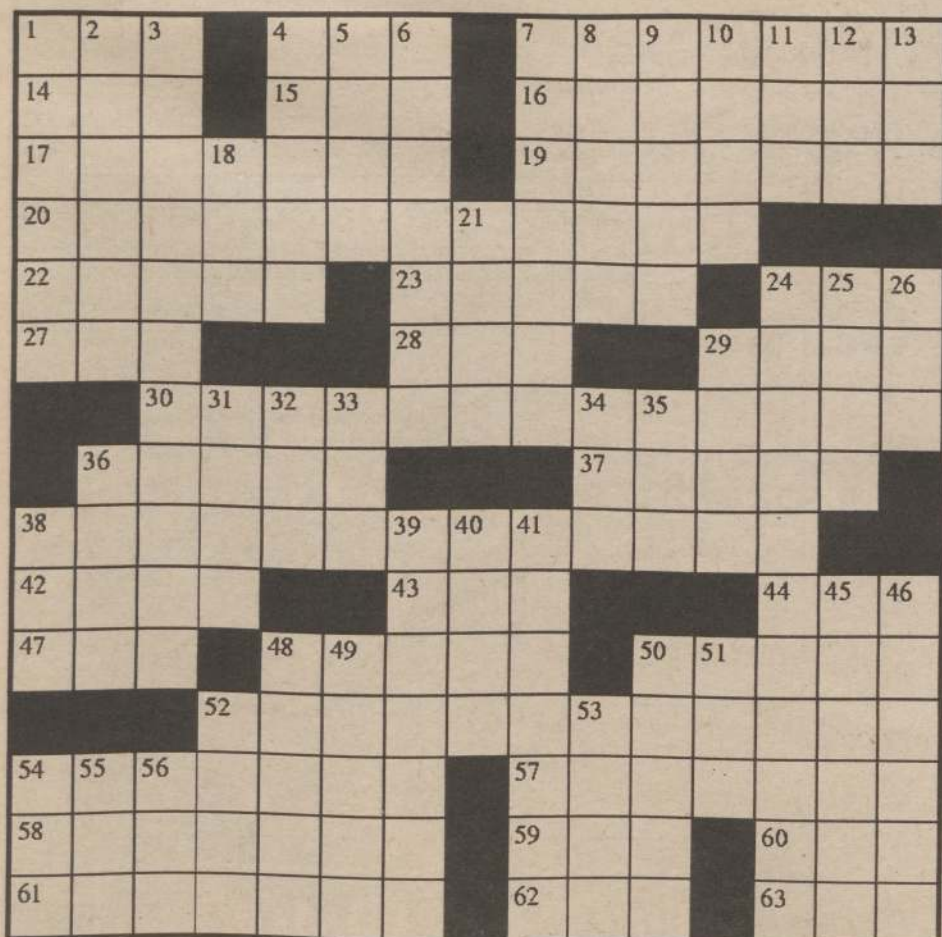
Sunburst Squares
727 W. Camelback
Phoenix, AZ 85013 265-0224

Team Arizona
P.O. Box 36431
Phoenix, AZ 85067 464-1461

TLC Choral
PO Box 37855
Phoenix, AZ 85069 878-5430

Q Puzzle

"The Black Stripe in the Rainbow"



ACROSS

- 1 Having hepatitis, e.g.
- 4 Dam govt. bureaucracy?
- 7 Used lysol, e.g.
- 14 Without a ___ (penniless)
- 15 Erogenous zone, to many
- 16 "Chains of Love" band
- 17 Kudos
- 19 Wood of *Rebel Without a Cause*
- 20 1963 civil rights march organizer
- 22 George Jetson's son

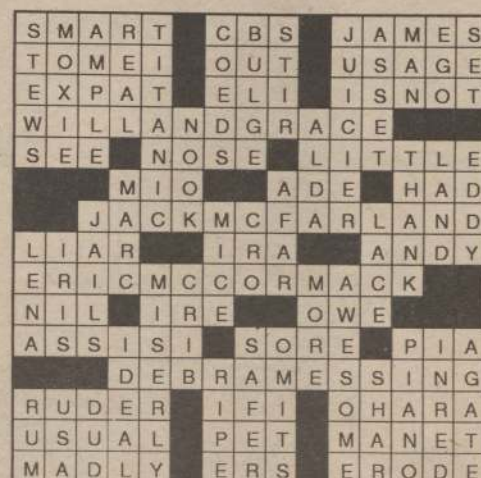
- 23 Sappho's Muse
- 24 Bus alternative
- 27 Garland that doesn't sing
- 28 The Beatles' Pepper, e.g.
- 29 Kappa preceeder
- 30 Harlem Renaissance poet
- 36 ___ Domingo
- 37 Hollywood's Dickinson
- 38 First black state senator in Texas history
- 42 Artist Warhol
- 43 *Red Peony* novelist Yutang
- 44 Tiger Woods's org.

- 47 ___ Speedwagon
- 48 9" x 6", penis-wise
- 50 Stevie Wonder's "My Cherie ___"
- 52 *Go Tell It on the Mountain* novelist
- 54 La Paz's land
- 57 Locale of Hardin-Simmons University
- 58 NOW President Patricia
- 59 It may be pulled
- 60 Rent out
- 61 Subject of a Judy Garland hit
- 62 Author Deighton
- 63 Gym bunny's pride

DOWN

- 1 Sherman's co-star on *The Jeffersons*
- 2 Site
- 3 Ball, on-screen
- 4 Like the audience at the end of *Terms of Endearment*, perhaps
- 5 *Virtual Equality* author Urvashi
- 6 It's out under a limb
- 7 Having feeling
- 8 Whitney's partner in aircraft-engine manufacture
- 9 1:10, for one
- 10 Straight ___ arrow
- 11 Brynner of the stage
- 12 "___ tu" (aria from Verdi's *Un Ballo in Maschera*)
- 13 Lesbian activist Mosbacher
- 18 7 Faces of Dr. ___ (1964 Tony Randall vehicle)
- 21 Libido, e.g.
- 24 Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman when "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" was implemented
- 25 To ___ (perfectly)
- 26 Prohibit, as homosexuals in the military
- 29 Global gay org.
- 31 Dionne Warwick's "Walk ___"

- 32 Actress Hagen
- 33 "... a lender be"
- 34 Mustang or Colt
- 35 Sturm ___ Drang
- 36 Unlike Norman Bates
- 38 The Eagle, in many cities
- 39 "Enough ___!"
- 40 Lively Irish dances
- 41 Part of a billiards rack
- 45 Pig or hen preceeder
- 46 CNN correspondent Peter
- 48 University in Quebec
- 49 Nitrogen compound suffixed to "catechol"
- 50 Make straight
- 51 Middle of the 16th century
- 52 Hill climber of rhyme
- 53 Busy as ___
- 54 Wasn't careful during oral sex
- 55 Bruin Hall-of-Famer Bobby
- 56 Author Tolstoy



Solution to last issue's Q Puzzle:
"Family Viewing."

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HOROSCOPES

By Deane Jaye, HeatStroke Contributor

Capricorn (December 21 - January 20)

Grrrrroowl. . . You're a mama mountain lion protecting her den, an eagle on the edge of the aerie, a daddy whose daughter is out after 3 am on prom night. It's all about protecting the family these next few weeks, and you goat people will do whatever you have to do and butt heads with whomever is in your way to see to it that your loved ones are comfy, safe and happy. Watch out for jealous subordinates after the 3rd.

Aquarius (January 21 - February 20)

Get on your toes and stay there, said the crotchety old ballet teacher to a class of seven-year-olds. You'd do well to take her advice and pay attention to even the smallest details as conspirators could very well be working against you even as we speak. Or, as you read—to put it more accurately. An interesting water-sign native hovering on the horizon could be just the one to help solve a nagging mystery later in the month.

Pisces (February 21 - March 20)

Little fishy blue, come blow your horn. The sheep's in the meadow and the cow's in the—God, this is corny. But seriously, when you Pisceans slide into your blue moods, it is very often your love of music that can pull you out of the doldrums. So put on a favorite CD, sprinkle a hot tubful of water with a nice, scented oil, and give yourself over to aural pleasures. A small gathering on or near the 6th should satisfy some of your remaining senses.

Aries (March 21 - April 20)

Thelma had Louise, Abbott had Costello, Yogi had Boo Boo and Martin had Lewis—oops—until they broke up. Okay—bad example, but the point is: you delightfully demented Arians should be looking for a *sidekick* instead of a lover when you're feeling what you've been feeling. It's as though you need another arm, an extra hand, someone who's on your side and can back you up through the tough times. Even without sex. Think about it.

Taurus (April 21 - May 20)

Oohh, my. Those holiday stresses and strains almost had your psyche bubbling up and over the top of the pressure cooker and now that it's past, you'll notice people have stopped backing out of the room whenever you raise your voice. Now is as good a time as any to recognize that most of the pressure came from within and that you may owe a debt of forgiveness to those who stuck by you through the whiniest moments.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

Siss-boom Bah and a Razz-a-ma-tazz! New Year's Eve and the happy days that follow are a favorite time of year for you Mercurial Geminis because you're already in a continual state of renewal. This whole resolution-making thing offers a convenient opportunity to reinvent yourself once more, and this change is fully sanctioned by everyone you know. Take charge of the party and you'll be in charge of the situation.

Cancer (June 21 - July 20)

Peace and contentment are on your side as short days and long, romantic nights drift along together like happy little canoes up a lazy river, and your home life is much improved over recent weeks. Get out into the scene and see who's waiting for you at the other end of a friendly table, where comforting food and drink are offered and appreciated. Someone you believed was beyond your depth is now on the same wavelength.

Leo (July 21 - August 20)

It all depends upon your perspective, said M.C. Escher's lithographer. And what once appeared to be an unwelcome upheaval may now be viewed as a welcome, even necessary change in locale that is well worth the considerable effort it probably involves. Emphasize outdoor activity and general physical well-being the week of the 4th—consider a gym membership renewal or a new eating regimen and achieve a positive effect.

Virgo (August 21 - September 20)

Now that all the luggage has been put away and the tray tables have been safely locked and stored in their upright positions, you'll have a moment to focus on hearth and home. You can get out the silverware polish, oil the furniture and wash the walls and baseboards, but if the problems in the home aren't coming from the house, no amount of spiffing up will change what needs to be addressed. Look to an Aquarian confidante for advice.

Libra (September 21 - October 20)

Too many cooks can spoil the soup and too many super ideas tend to cancel one another out, messing up all your fabulous plans to get things organized and to accomplish every item on that aging agenda. Sort and sift and prioritize, and weigh one option against the other until necessity points the way. A big bash after the 8th should provide you with an opportunity to shine, so dress to impress and be careful not to overindulge.

Scorpio (October 21 - November 20)

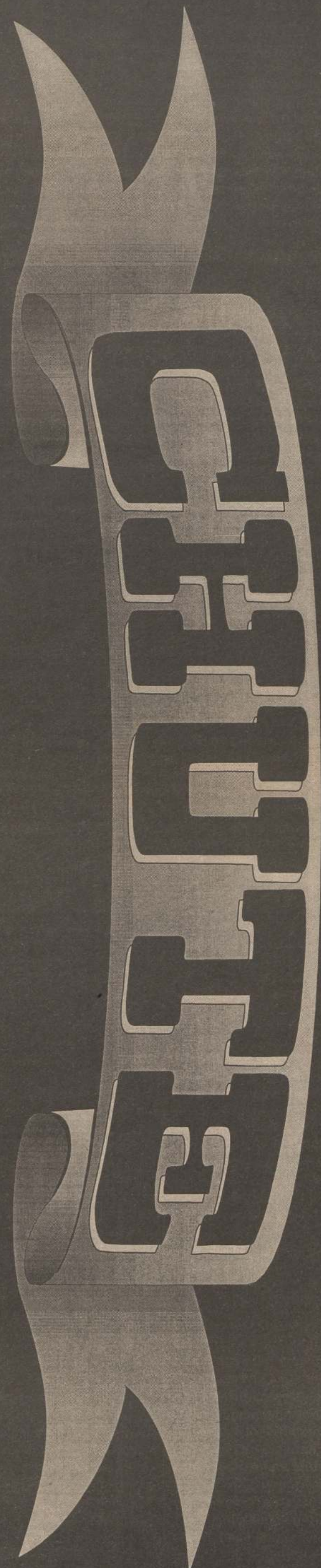
Ho, ho, ho. . . seem to be a running a bit behind, do you, Scorpio? Finishing your shopping and mailing out those cards at long last? Perhaps if you'd been paying attention to every day matters when the hectic days were filling past. . . Ah well. It makes no difference now and you probably got exactly what you wanted in spite of your lack of attention—you so often do. If urges have been satisfied, you may wish to travel around mid-month.

Sagittarius (November 21 - December 20)

Engarde! The swords are drawn and the duel is about to begin as tensions rise in many areas of your life. There's still a way out—but it requires humor, tact and the good graces that you know you possess whenever you set your mind to acting on your better behavior. Diplomacy will win if you let it. Things could remain in an aggravated state through the middle of the month, so it might be a good idea to settle your nerves now.

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WHERE THE BEARS & LEATHERMEN ARE IN PHOENIX...



Notable Quotes

Newsmakers, Celebrities
& Others Speak Out

Compiled by Rex Wockner

Continued from page 18

us all, frankly, and that's very scary. And I think we have to confront this wherever it occurs and do whatever we can. This terrible murder of this boy in Wyoming is a horrifying testimony to what goes on in the name of morality. It's total bullshit."

—Singer Judy Collins to the Phoenix gay newspaper *HeatStroke*, Dec. 3.

"In the aftermath of the Wyoming killing, the same groups that worked overtime to stigmatize gay people have mounted a furious propaganda defense to assert that their words and ads demeaning gay people have nothing to do with any anti-gay crimes. Given that these are the same groups that claim the 'pro-gay' rhetoric of an Ellen DeGeneres or Joycelyn Elders foments homosexuality, it isn't easy for them to argue now that their own words have no consequences. So they instead attack those who call them on their game, hoping we might be intimidated and shut up. As one of their apologists, Hadley Arkes, wrote in a *Wall Street Journal* opinion piece, my columns on this subject are 'vibrant with a hatred of the Family Research Council and evangelical Christians.'"

—New York Times columnist Frank Rich, Dec. 5.

"Inspired by Oral Roberts and his party's high priest, Pat Robertson, he tried to will himself into heterosexuality through prayer—with predictably futile, self-annihilating results."

—New York Times columnist Frank Rich Dec. 9 on the coming out of former Congressman Michael Huffington. Huffington tells all in the January issue of *Esquire*.

"I was recently invited to the 50th birthday party of a gay friend, organized as a surprise by one of his own gay friends. They all looked terrifically relaxed, poised and socially at ease. We straights felt like members of an Albanian choir, touring the British provinces and being given hospitality after the concert. Everyone was terrifically kind and welcoming, though it soon became clear they had nothing

really to say to us, and were quite happy for us to grab a plate of food, and talk among ourselves in our own language."

—Columnist Simon Hoggart in London's *The Guardian*, Dec. 5.

"He didn't like the fact that I was out of the closet in medical school. He worried about what effect being so open would have on my success in life. I had to tell him that I couldn't not be out. The nicest thing about him is, he's so supportive and easy to educate, and he eventually saw things my way."

—Seattle doctor Peter Shalit, on his dad, film critic Gene Shalit, to the *Advocate*, Dec. 22.

"They are very, very excited about having Ray in their ranks. He is a person of excellent reputation, of good stature. He is a Republican. Not only do I feel like they recruited him through their [AOL] chat rooms, I feel like they are the ones responsible for the big, huge media event."

—Edy Brotherton, mother of North Carolina Superior Court Judge Ray Warren, who announced that he is gay Dec. 9. Brotherton's comments appeared in the Dec. 13 *Raleigh News & Observer*.

"Blaming the Internet is like blaming the telephone or the postal service or the automobile that transports you to a friend's house. The technology doesn't do anything in and of itself. The technology allows people to communicate. They will not communicate unless they have something to communicate about. ... There was no recruiting material. There was no 'Come on, let's lure you into a gay lifestyle.' I enlisted. I wasn't recruited."

—Judge Warren in response to his mother (see previous quote).

"What's the point of being alive if you're not silly? Life is too important to be serious. I have this theory that seriousness is the refuge of the shallow. I absolutely believe it with all my heart."

—Lesbian novelist Rita Mae Brown to the Associated Press, Dec. 12.

"I think the way it played out was disheartening because the network executives—I call them the 'admin-

istrivia'—wouldn't really cop to what they were doing. They just wouldn't cop to their cowardice. But the cowardice is not about who's gay and who's straight. The cowardice is about profit. If there's a fear this might affect their profit centers, then they're going to back off. But that won't last. Gay people are getting too smart, and they're coming out."

—Lesbian novelist Rita Mae Brown in reference to the sitcom *Ellen*, to the Associated Press, Dec. 12.

"I wanted to produce a magazine that showed positive images of young gays so that people out there in the country who are isolated—which is most people—would see that there were young gay men out there who were having a nice lifestyle, who were happy, who were leading fulfilling lives, and to kind of dispel negative stereotypes that are present in the country about what young gay men are like and what gay people are like. And it's helped thousands and thousands and thousands of people."

—Peter Cummings, publisher of XY magazine, to the *Contra Costa* (California) *Times*, Dec. 13.

"We have rarely seen anything so appalling in over a decade of gay and lesbian workplace organizing. It is particularly unconscionable that this

airline is fighting bereavement leave for their employees. Clearly, United has redefined corporate irresponsibility and they ought to fasten their seatbelts, because they should expect a great deal of turbulence in the upcoming months caused by their unfair treatment of gays and lesbians."

—Human Rights Campaign Executive Director Elizabeth Birch Dec. 14 endorsing a boycott of United Airlines called by the San Francisco group Equal Benefits Advocates. United has aggressively fought a San Francisco law that requires companies doing business in the city to provide spousal benefits to domestic partners.

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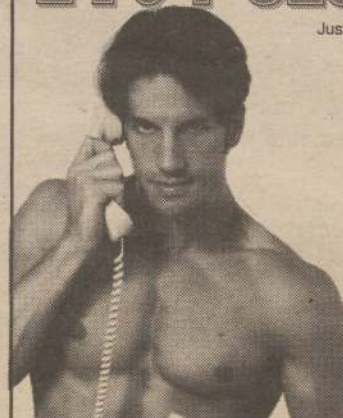
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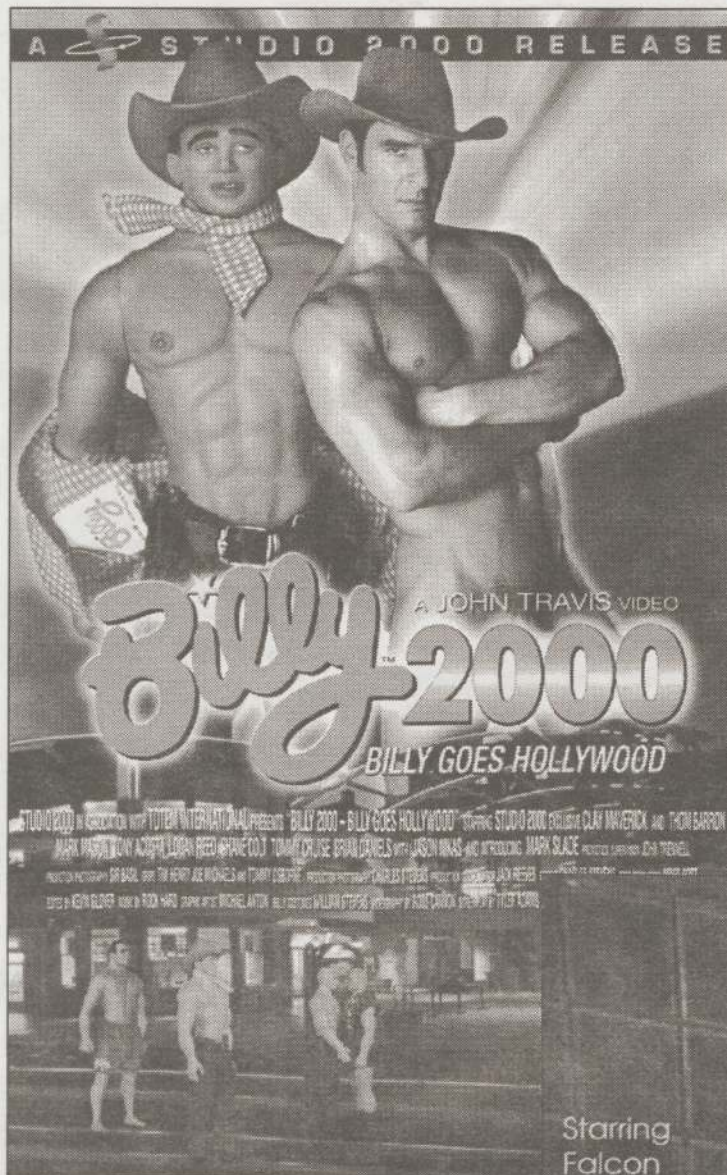
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MUSIC BY MICHAEL B. BASS, BOB TIM HEART, AND MICHAEL W. TERRY (COUNTRY) PRODUCED BY MICHAEL W. TERRY
EDITED BY KEVIN BLUMER, MARK IN ROCK HARD, SHAWN DUBREUIL, MICHAEL ANTON, BILLY GOES HOLLYWOOD, STEPHEN W. HARRIS, CAROLAN STEPHENSON, TONY KOTIS


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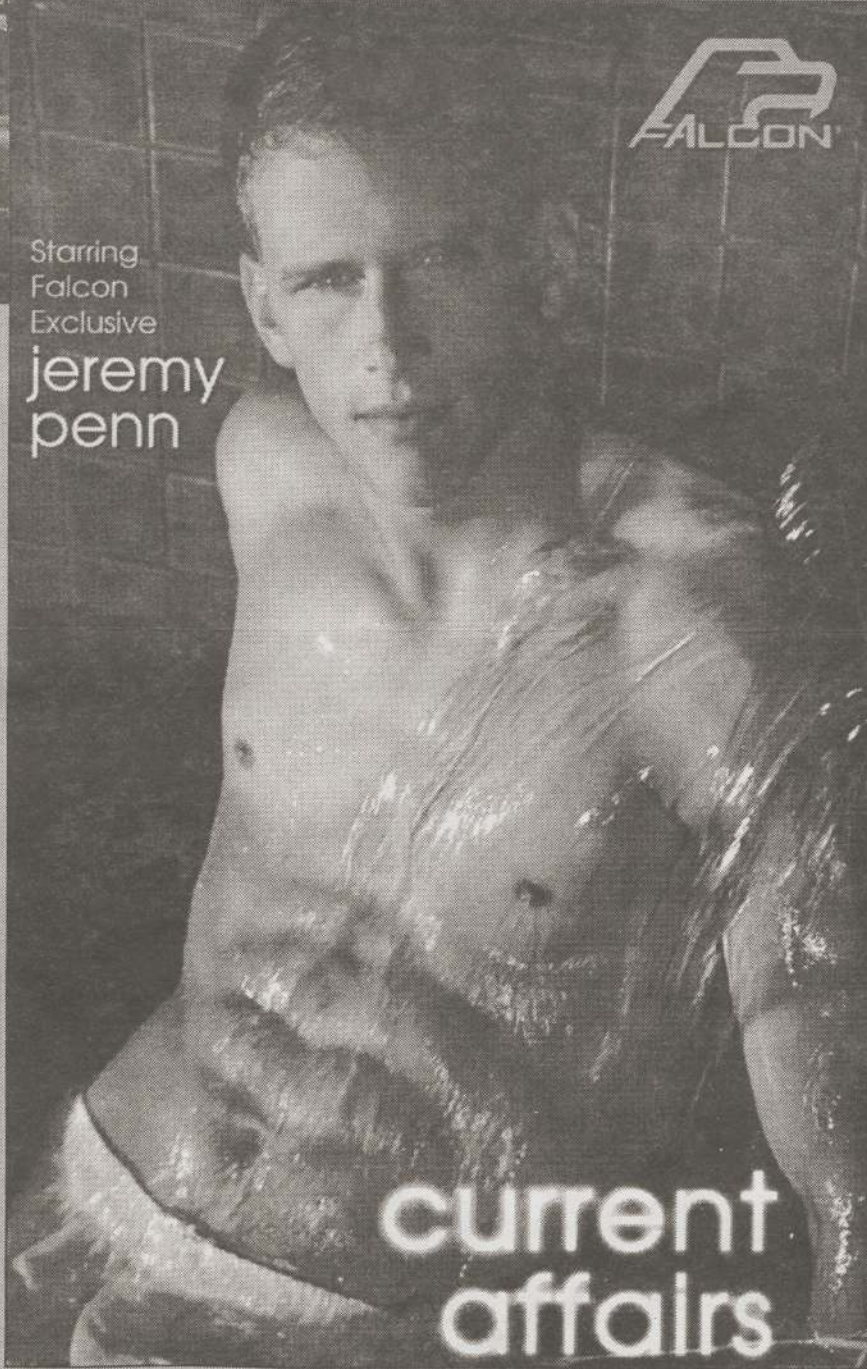
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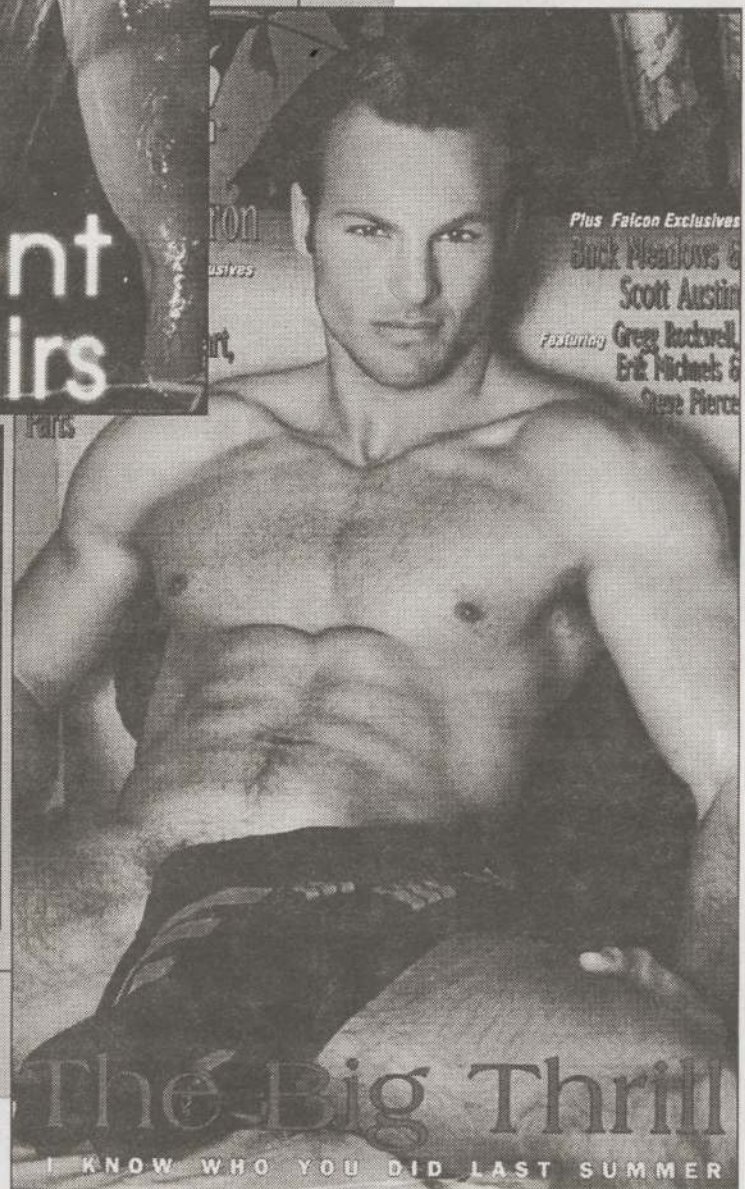
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Theatre Locations	Other Locations
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