

HeatStroke

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Phoenix, Arizona

February 27 — March 12, 1997

Spunk Talk

**Tough breaks & stiff
hype pointed this
rocker back to
what makes him
happy — his music**

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

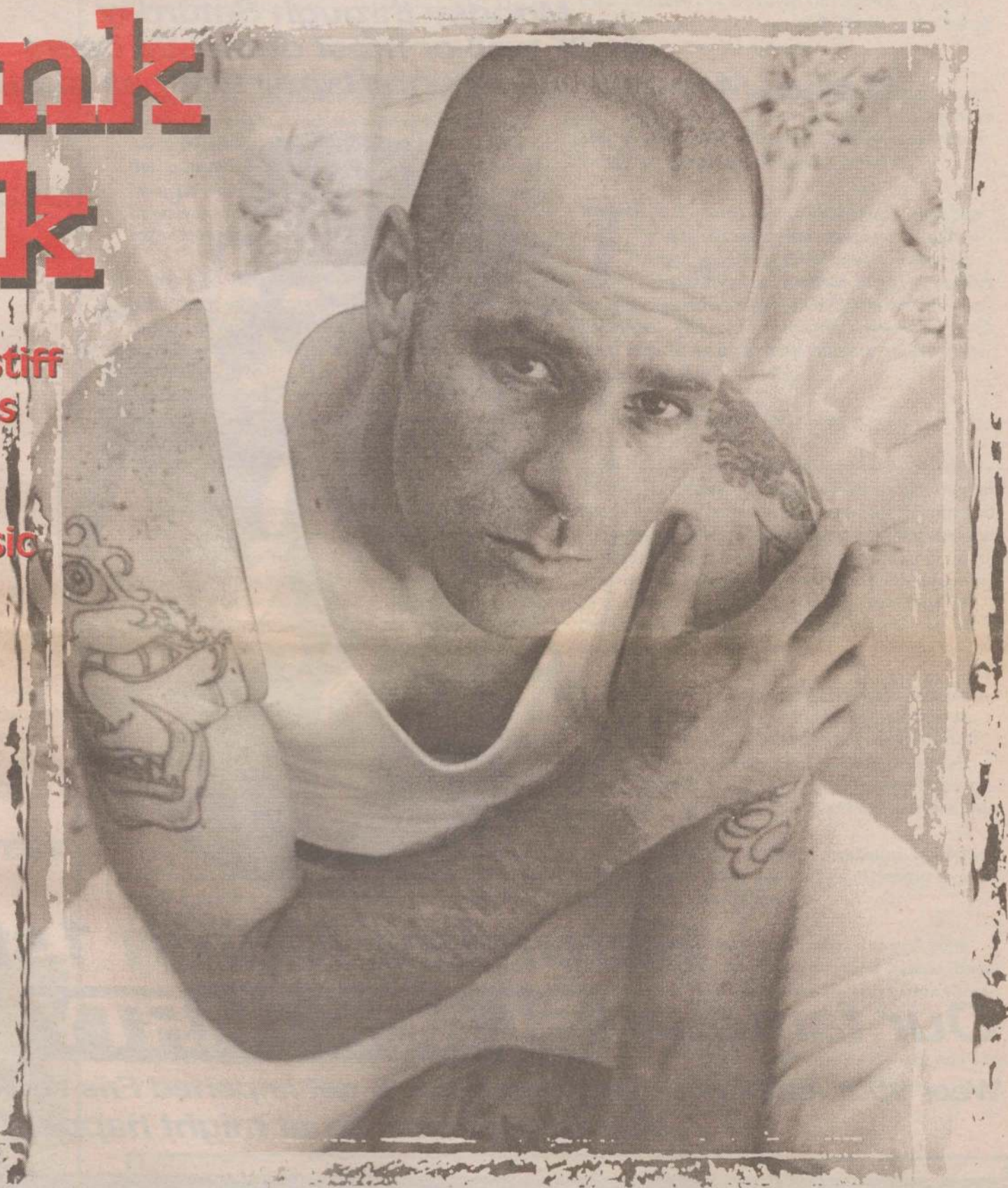
A friend of mine sometimes refers to "getting high" as tweaking. As in, "that guy was definitely tweaking on something." I remembered that phrase recently, after an intense chat with this issue's coverman. Brian Grillo is the lead singer and founder of the LA-based rock band, Extra Fancy. *Wow, I thought, this guy is definitely tweaking on something.* And he doesn't even do drugs.

Instead, Grillo achieves his "high" discussing his art, by writing songs, and in the hard-core performances he puts on with his band. He's a true showman, as known for stripping off his shirt and rocking-out while beating a 50-gallon oil drum as for his big, rock & roll vocals.

Grillo has the face of a movie star and the thighs of an Adonis. Tattoos, piercings, a shaved head and a fierce attitude are not some put-upon, music-industry gimmick to this man; at 35, he's been living his life and doing music his own way for a long time.

But don't even try to shape the story of Extra Fancy into the story of the studly, in-your-face gayboy who's fronting a punk band. In Grillo's eyes, that sorry whine has been covered to death. *That was last year's news.* He, his manager and his bandmates are over it.

He doesn't need LA music critics to tell him he's good at what he does (though plenty do) — he just knows it. "What can I say?" he asks, "We rock." D.A. Foster, Michael Hately and Derek O'Brien make up the other three quarters of the band, and would



Sweet Music Man — Brian Grillo fronts Extra Fancy, a smokin' band with a sinful reputation. So why is he such a nice guy?

be very satisfied if the mainstream press and the music industry could manage to focus more on their music and less on their image.

The sound they produce is described by the Extra Fancy guys themselves as sexy, surf-core "spunk" rock. It may be hard to define, but that's all right with them. The boys in this band have made it clear that they are not fans of being labeled, anyway.

Last year, Extra Fancy suffered its greatest setback when it was shown the door by its record company shortly after producing one, very well-received album (*Sinnerman*, on Atlantic). Despite accolades for the

music and— especially — for Grillo's powerful lyrics, no single was released. No slick video was produced and lobbied into rotation, no tour promoted, virtually nothing was done on the label's end to push this band.

1997, says Grillo, is going to be a great year for Extra Fancy. He's excited about the new material the band is working on. Percussionist/drummer O'Brien has recently added a conga sound to the mix.

The highlight of our interview (for me, anyway) came when Grillo played me a tape of something they had just written. The song fea-

tures the congas, and a tribal rhythm. It sounds very different from anything on *Sinnerman*. I asked Grillo if he wanted my initial, gut reaction...

HeatStroke: *I'm not incredibly familiar with your music. You want me to tell you how that new song strikes me anyway, right off the top of my head?*

Brian Grillo: Of course!

HS: *It makes me horny. That sounds like music to... umm...*

BG: Music to fuck by? I know! Isn't it hot? We have about six songs in the works, with that sound. I'm

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NU TOWNE SALOON

"Your Service Station"

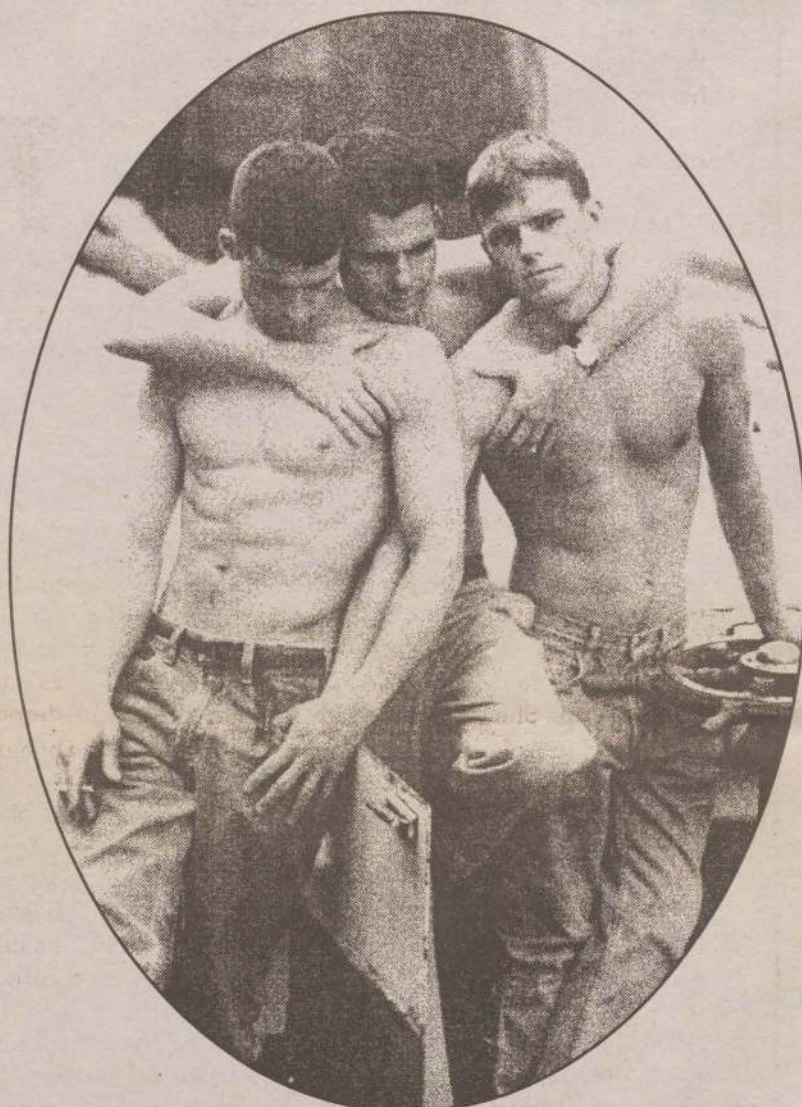
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Horowitz: *Mental health care for gays & lesbians is getting better — slowly*

A large part of my workday is spent evaluating the qualifications and skills of mental health professionals. I run an assistance program that requires me to maintain a database of mental health care providers, to whom I feel comfortable referring clients. Almost exclusively, my clients are lawyers.

Lawyers present unique circumstance, and often have mental health issues requiring special attention. So do gays & lesbians. I have had negative experiences with mental health counselors on more than one occasion — encounters that jolted my senses.

I first sought help when I was a student at The University of Arizona. I went to the student health counseling service, and made an appointment to see a therapist. At our first and only session, I told the counselor I thought I might be gay. She would hear none of it. She cut me off midstream, saying there was nothing she could do for me. She referred me to a nutritionist!

My next venture in counseling came several years later, when I was engaged to be married to a woman. I explained the details of my life — including the fact that I was a successful attorney and planning to marry in a few months — to the psychologist provided via my managed health-care plan. She said I appeared to be mentally healthy, and asked what the problem was. I told her that I was gay.

She said that we had a total of six sessions — including that one — to deal with the situation. During those six sessions, I managed to get up enough courage to break the engagement, but we hadn't begun to deal with any other issues. Our time was up. She encouraged me to place a "personals" ad in order to meet someone, and sent me on my way.

These incidents are part of my own experience. But they are not unique. Nor do they come close to the horror stories many other gays & lesbians tell about bad experiences with the mental health profession.

According to a national survey, conducted by the University of Washington and presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1 in 4 lesbians and/or gay men who saw mental health care providers reported receiving poor or inappropriate treatment. Also frightening is that the dissatisfaction rate for gays & lesbians is forty percent higher than the dissatisfaction rate for involuntary mental health patients — those people who are, literally, forced to seek counseling.

After the disappointment of my own initial counseling experiences, I was reluctant to seek professional mental health care. I turned instead to the gay & lesbian community for support and fellowship. The community resources available proved to be valuable — yet they could not substitute for appropriate, professional assistance.

Our issues are real. They can be complicated and serious. Support from friends and community is good, but sometimes just doesn't cut it. I have a great deal of hope for the mental health profession. Change takes place slowly, but surely. At least homosexuality no longer finds itself on the list of diagnosable mental disorders.

My own more recent therapeutic experiences have been superb. The counselors I've used have been professional, educated about — and willing to look at — sexual orientation issues.

Today, more and more mental health professionals seek education and enlightenment regarding these issues. There are also increasing numbers of gay & lesbian (and gay-friendly or gay-aware) therapeutic professionals. The conferences that I attend for work often feature seminars on treatment affecting the gay & lesbian community.

But we still have a long way to go.

In the University of Washington survey, forty-six percent of gays & lesbians who sought mental health services reported encountering a homophobic therapist; thirty-four percent reported that their therapists had refused to acknowledge their sexual orientation, or had dismissed their homosexuality as a temporary condition. Many more reported derogatory comments and inappropriate sexual behavior.

As out gays & lesbians, we must help to educate the mental health community and improve services. If you have experienced inappropriate behavior or comments from a licensed mental health professional, report it to the state licensing authority. At the very least, get another therapist.

And let your insurance representatives know that you want to see gay and gay-friendly therapists on company plans.

We have mental health issues like everyone else. Our sexual orientation is not a mental illness or defect. We should demand respect from those we pay to help us.

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

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Making Mary: young fiddler hits town

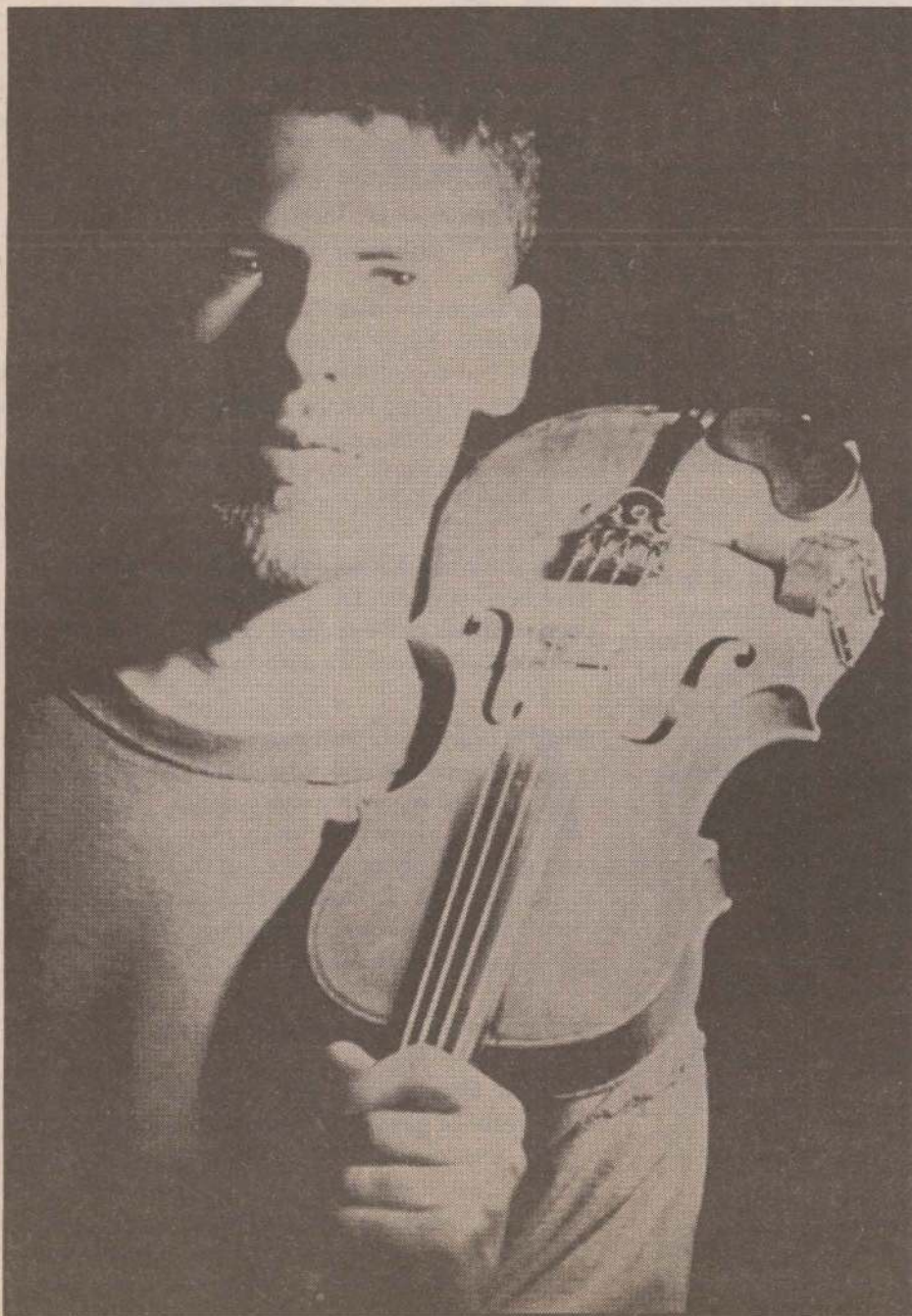


Photo: Derek Shapton

It's a long way from the frigid streets of Creignish — a village on the island of Cape Breton, off the coast of Nova Scotia — to sunny Tempe. Queer Canadian fiddler Ashley MacIssac, a native of that tiny, Celtic satellite community somewhat east of here, will be making the trip on Friday, February 28 as part of his current tour.

The tour is to promote the U. S. release of MacIssac's debut album, *HI, How are you today?* The album has made the Top 10 on Soundscan's Alternative New Artist chart. The first single, *Sleepy Maggie*, is getting heavy airplay in markets across the country. In Phoenix, the single reached #1 in phone response at KZON, an alternative rock station, in late January.

Now 21, MacIssac has been playing the fiddle since the age of 9. He has become a legend in his hometown, and throughout eastern Canada. MacIssac grew up in a village that has been called a, "transplanted Scottish highland," where the fiddle and bagpipes are the only instruments anyone really plays. He never even watched television until about three years ago, and has used the influence of TV in recording the songs for his album.

The good-looking, young fiddler created a minor sensation while appearing on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* in January. During the taping the fiddler kicked, his trademark kilt flew up and the age-old question, "what do Scots wear under those things?" was answered in an instant, amid gasps from the studio audience.

NBC censors, however, were able to act in time to keep all of MacIssac's "secrets" covered for home viewers.

MacIssac has been open and candid about his homosexuality, after he was outed by the Canadian magazine *Frank* last year. On tour with his band, the Kitchen Devils, MacIssac garners rave reviews for his high-volume, high-energy shows. His stage presence and act are hard to define, as the Highlander meets the Grungeboy and integrates it into one, cohesive package. Dripping sweat and working himself into a fiddling frenzy, he can go through a bow every five minutes.

The music sets are as eclectic and dramatic as the recorded album, according to his publicist at A&M records. "If you liked his album," she promises, "you're going to love Ashley MacIssac live." The debut album fuses a strikingly original blend of industrial/grunge, traditional Scottish music, and soothing, alternative ballads. The vocal and musical arrangements feature a number of guest artists, including the eerie, Gaelic crooning of Mary Jane Lamond on the hit, *Sleepy Maggie*.

MacIssac promises even more variety for his next studio effort, including the possibility of a hip hop track, a Ramones-sounding fiddle track, and at least one high energy dance track, for which he hopes to be paired with disco diva RuPaul.

Catch his act, with the Kitchen Devils and Tara MacLean, on February 28 at Gibson's, 410 S. Mill in Tempe. The 21 and over show starts at 7pm.

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

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extra fancy

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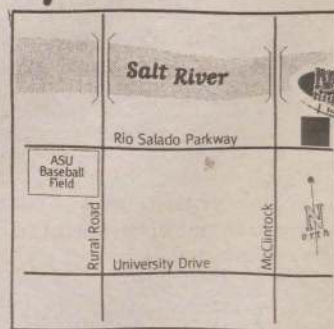
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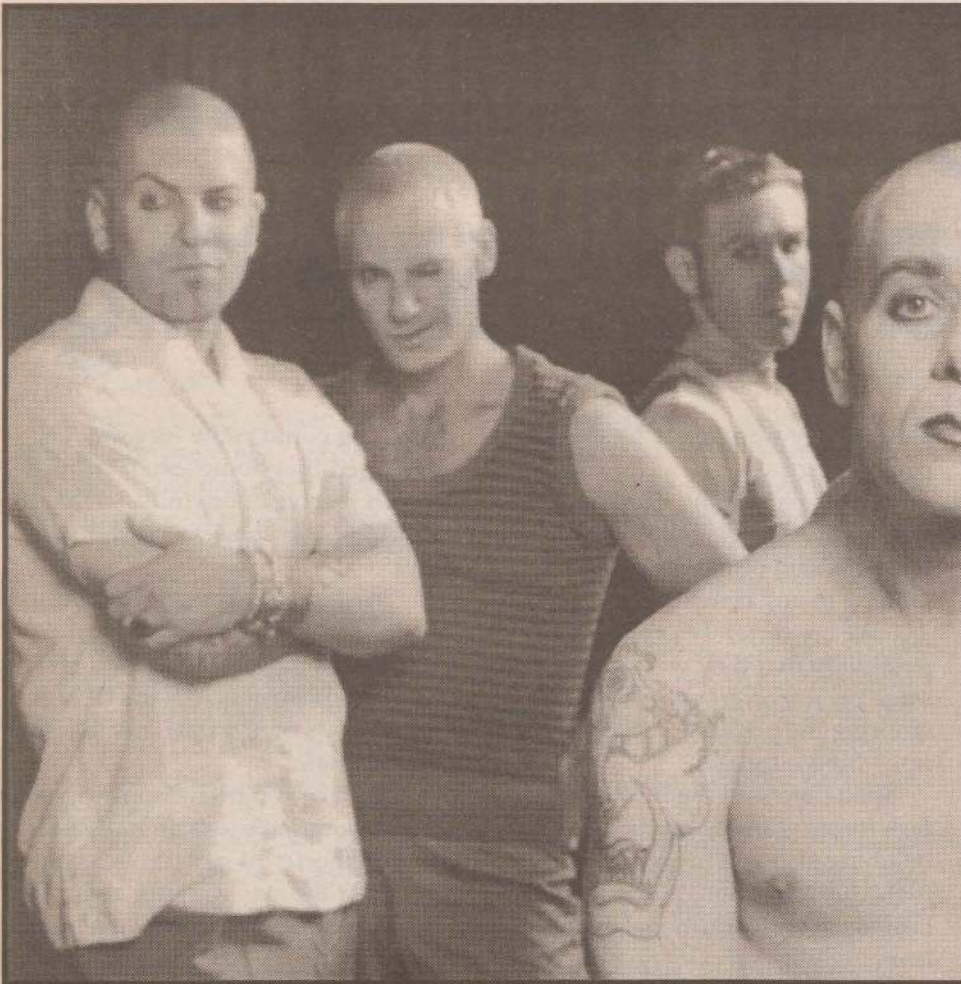
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SATURDAY, MARCH 8

PANSY DIVISION

* with THE DRAGONS *



Extra Fancy's *Sinnermen* include (l-r) Mike Hately, D.A. Foster, Derek O'Brien & Brian Grillo

Continued from page 1

really getting into what is almost a hip-hop groove. I don't know if they'll all be on the album, but we'll definitely have something representing that feeling. I love it.

HS: *Sinnerman* covered quite a spectrum.

BG: The next album will be even more diverse. I'm listening to a lot of different stuff, including rhythm and blues. My head is always changing, my attitude toward the stuff going on around me and the shit we went through last year (getting dropped by Atlantic only eight weeks after *Sinnerman* was released). For example, I have gone back to work, cleaning houses. I had to. You'd think that would bring me down, but that's part of what I have to do.

HS: *But, just one year ago, you were on the verge of the big time...*

BG: I know now that it (record-sales success with Atlantic) was not meant to be. I see how things happened the way they did for a reason. I am getting it together in a lot of ways, and that includes spiritually. That sounds hokey, but it's true. We are going to make this band work because we all care about the music and because it is one helluva band.

HS: *You sound practically giddy.*

BG: What really picks me up is doing our live shows, and working on this new stuff. I am happy and excited right now, and that changes things. I could never write another *Violator* again.

HS: *Violator is very angry song — are you saying you've gone soft?*

BG: I still have an angry side, and I'll always write from that part of me. But I'm in a different place now, I have a much more positive outlook. I am definitely more mature. The music I write changes accordingly. It has to, in order to be honest. Which is not to say, we don't still rock!

HS: *Who comes to your shows?*

BG: In LA? All kinds. Hard-core rockers, punks and gay leathermen... kids who want to slam... gay men who normally would listen to older rock and roll... we reach out to a lot of different people. If there's anything good about my being known for being gay, that's it. It expands our audience.

HS: *And when you play out of town?*

BG: That depends. Usually, it's more of a college crowd or alternative-type audience. Which is great, too. We'll rock wherever we are, whoever shows up.

HS: *What strikes me about your technical album, *Sinnerman*, is the technical proficiency. It has these subversive elements, and the punk/garage-rock sound is there. But it seems very skilled at the same time.*

BG: Thanks. We are very proud of our musicianship. It's just the way we work. We have been in this for awhile and work together very well at this point. I know that if we stick to what we are good at and just keep doing it right — not worry about where it is going to end up, but just do it to please ourselves — we can put out the sound we want and continue to get even better.

HS: *Will Extra Fancy ever do a dance song for the gay clubs?*

BG: It would be hard for me, because people hear that I'm gay, they see our name, and then they assume that's the kind of music we probably do. It isn't as if I don't like techno and dance music. We have talked about doing remixes of some of our stuff, but it has to be done right and I haven't got the vibe yet for how we're going to pull it off.

HS: *You've been doing this awhile, while other bands have come along*

and become more commercially successful.

BG: Yeah. Take the Garbage album. It isn't terrible, but it drives me crazy. They're trying to jump on something that other bands are doing a lot better, and have been into for a lot longer. You can see the dollar signs in their eyes. And the new song from U2. My friends are like, "this is so cool" — well, I hate it. You can see exactly how their A&R people approached it, thinking, "this is something that is hot right now and here is how we are going to get in on it."

HS: *You wrote all the lyrics and a good portion of the music for *Sinnerman*. Now you're sharing more of the duties with the other boys?*

BG: Right. This is what's pulling us closer, after the problems we went through last year. And it's fantastic. I still write the lyrics, but in the past, I would bring in most of the musical ideas myself, in order to get the sound I wanted.

HS: *You're telling me you're basically a Control Queen?*

BG: Yeah, kinda. But I don't apologize for it. I'm good at it and I know what I want. I've been in music a long time, and I've learned that a total democracy in a band can never work. In our case, we've been together long enough and know each other so well, that a collaboration is working.

HS: *You're 35. When you were a teenager, did you think you'd be doing this now?*

BG: No way — there's no fucking way that I thought I would still be in rock & roll at this age. I thought maybe I'd end up a writer or a painter. Honestly, I expected I would be dead.

"I don't see how other queer musicians can pretend they aren't gay."

HS: *C'mon. You're very much alive, and you don't look your age at all.*

BG: Seriously. I never pictured myself at this age, so I really never had any plans for anything beyond 30. It always sounded so old.

HS: *What kind of man attracts you?*

I have no type, I like everybody.

HS: *Bullshit*

BG: It's true! I am into personality — guys who have a lot of self-confidence, who aren't looking to attach themselves to me, just because I'm "Brian Grillo." A nice smile is extremely important. Physically, it doesn't really matter. Not a bit. I'm not turned on by what most gay guys think of as hot. You know how queers usually are: they think a hot

man can only be good looking, with a big, hard, gym body — that kind of thing. But I never cared about that.

HS: *Sure, whatever. I believe you. So, are you seeing anybody now?*

BG: Actually, I have been dating someone for about four months and it's going very well, because he is totally his own person, with a very secure life, a good job, his own set of friends. And he never hangs on, following after the band, because he has no need to. That is what turns me on.

HS: *What's he look like?*

BG: Actually, (starts laughing) he's a very good looking guy, with a big, hard, gym body- (really laughing, now) guess I never realized that.

HS: *You've been on several magazine covers, including POZ. Where did your poster boy image come from?*

BG: Everyone else made a big deal of my being a queer, rock musician. Not me, and not this band. We worked that issue out a long time ago. It was the record company and the press that did it. It pisses me off — the idea that testing positive is some sort of gimmick? That is so fucking insulting. We made many mistakes, letting [Atlantic Records] set us up as the next, big, gay thing the way they did. I never asked to be a queer role model. I'm a rock musician. They are going to have to get a new, HIV+, queer poster boy for 1997. I am not doing it any more.

HS: *You'd rather be portrayed as a role model for aspiring oil drum players?*

BG: Exactly! That would be great.

HS: *Then shouldn't you have kept your mouth shut about your sexuality from the beginning?*

BG: The beginning was so long ago for me. When we first started, it (staying closeted) was not a choice for me. I don't see how other queer musicians can pretend they aren't gay. Then, there's this thing where they figure they'll wait until they "make it big" to come out. That's really insulting, especially when you're talking about someone who's already fucked half the men in Hollywood.

HS: *And you have?*

BG: Let's just say... I've been kicking around this town a long time.



Extra Fancy consists of Brian Grillo on vocals, D.A. Foster on bass and backing vocals, Michael Hately on Guitar and backing vocals, and Derek O'Brien on drums, percussion and backing vocals. Extra Fancy will perform with Wingnut Supreme at Nita's Hideaway in Tempe on Thursday, March 6. Nita's Hideaway is at 1816 East Rio Salado Parkway.

Agents examining similarities in lesbian nightclub & clinic bombings

ATLANTA (AP)

Two federal agencies are investigating possible links between Friday night's bombing at a gay & lesbian nightclub, and one at a suburban abortion clinic last month.

"There are some distinct similarities between the devices," FBI spokesman Jay Spadafore said Sunday. "But there are still some distinct differences, which makes it impossible to conclude that the bombings were committed by the same individual, or individuals."

"We have the possibility of a serial bomber; we also have the possibility of a copycat," Atlanta Police Chief Beverly Harvard said today on ABC's "Good Morning America."

"Nothing at this point has been excluded," she said.

Two bombs were left at the abortion clinic and two at the nightclub, one of which police detonated Friday night using a remote-controlled robot.

Both bombings used large nails as shrapnel. Officials say the bombing seven months ago at Centennial Olympic Park appears to have more differences than similarities with the other two.

Federal agents were back at the nightclub today, combing the area for the tiniest bits of evidence.

"Two weeks from now, we might have a much better idea if these bombs are made by the same person," Spadafore said. "More clues are left behind each time a device is discovered or detonated. We now have five separate devices."

Mayor Bill Campbell was asked today whether last week's sentencing of three Georgia militia members on pipe-bomb conspiracy charges could be related to the latest bombing.

"There is no doubt that that raises questions in the minds of the law enforcement officials that are investigating," he said on NBC's "Today" show. But he added, "It's impossible to determine at this time."

ABC News reported Sunday that investigators had linked the January bombing at the Atlanta Northside Family Planning Services clinic with the attack at The Otherside Lounge Friday night, which injured five people.

The network said a number of components in the bombs — specifically the wiring, timing and dynamite — were so similar that officials

believe they were made by the same person or group.

Spokesman Bobby Browning of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms said officials have not jumped to any conclusions.

"We are certainly exploring the possibility that they were made by the same person or group but we are not ignoring the possibility that they were not," Browning said.

Spadafore said the multi-agency task forces working on the clinic bombing also will investigate the nightclub explosion, but will be beefed up with additional agents from the FBI, ATF, Georgia Bureau of Investigation and local police.

The Olympic Park investigation will remain separate. Campbell said today that Atlantans aren't living in fear of a serial bomber. "The people in Atlanta are moving forward," he said. "There is no sense of panic here. People are very calm."

Earlier, the mayor called the nightclub bombing a hate crime and ordered extra police protection for other such nightclubs in the city.

"Anyone who plants an explosive device that targets a particular group is expressing hatred," Campbell said. "Gays and lesbians were targeted in the first bomb. Law enforcement officials were targeted with the second one."

Campbell met with gay & lesbian activists Sunday to discuss how potential witnesses to the nightclub

bombing could come forward. He promised that homosexual witnesses would receive anonymity, so that they would not be subject to discrimination.


"We have concerns that need to be addressed, and (Campbell) has assured us they will be," said Harry Knox, a spokesman for the Georgia Equality Project, a state gay & lesbian organization.

Candace Gingrich, House Speaker Newt Gingrich's lesbian half-sister and supporter of gay rights, spoke at a rally at the state Capitol about the lack of public outcry over the bombing.

"If you recall when the (clinic) bombing happened in Sandy Springs, within minutes ... the president and my brother were denouncing what happened," she said. "Considering this is the speaker's adoptive home state, it's rather — I think — embarrassing that we have not heard a word from his office."

Later, Gingrich issued a statement condemning the bombings as "inexcusable acts of terrorism that should outrage all Americans and cannot be tolerated."

Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., called on Attorney General Janet Reno to have the Justice Department investigate the latest bombing as a hate crime.



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Seattle schools accept grants to buy gay & lesbian family books

SEATTLE (AP)

On the cover of *Daddy's Wedding* by Michael Willhoite are pictures showing a wedding cake, a man with his arm around another man, and the two men giving each other pieces of cake.

That's one of the books being provided to public grade school libraries throughout the city, under a \$6,150 grant from the Fund for Lesbian & Gay Families with Children, endowed last year by City Council member Tina Podlowdowski and her partner, Rochelle Mileur.

The books are part of a project designed to increase understanding of different kinds of families and "dispel myths and stereotypes," according to the school system's grant application.

The project amounts to promoting homosexuality, said state Sen. Harold Hochstatter, R-Moses Lake, who supports a bill to bar discussion of homosexuality as a normal or acceptable lifestyle in the public schools.

"It is very, very subtle," Hochstatter said Friday. "The subtlety is the poison in this whole thing. It is the kind of thing these children would be vulnerable to, and needs to be resisted."

Tracy Flynn, a school system health curriculum specialist, denied that the schools were promoting any lifestyle. "We are just acknowledging what already exists," Flynn said. "Our goal is to support all families. Gay and lesbian families exist in our district."

AMFAR pulls national ad campaign after Texas complaint

DALLAS (AP)

An AIDS charity yanked a nationwide ad campaign after receiving complaints that messages such as "Prayer won't cure AIDS. Research will" insulted people who believe in the power of prayer.

The American Foundation for AIDS Research said objections to the campaign focused on two of three ads that ran on public buses: "Prayer won't cure AIDS. Research will" and "Sexual abstinence won't cure AIDS. Research will."

City transit agencies in both Dallas and Fort Worth already had heard objections and canceled the bus ads earlier this month.

"AmFAR seeks to educate, not offend the public," said Dr. Mathilde Krim, chairwoman of the board of directors of New York-based AmFAR, a pet charity of actress Elizabeth Taylor.

"Since the complaints over two of the ads distract from our crucial mes-

sage — that only medical research can generate true solutions to AIDS — we have agreed to discontinue the campaign," she said Wednesday.

The AmFAR campaign, launched Feb. 1, was due to run through the spring. The other ad in the campaign read: "Red ribbons won't cure AIDS. Research will."

KCBI-FM news director L.B. Lyon said a caller to the Dallas Christian radio station complained about the ads, and he followed with a news story. That generated more protests, he said.

Christian leaders in the Dallas-Fort Worth area stressed Wednesday that they didn't disapprove of research to find a cure for AIDS. They just felt that prayer and sexual abstinence shouldn't be slighted.

"That's just a swipe in the face of praying people," said David Miller, executive director of the Tarrant County chapter of the American Family Association. "It's almost as if ... they were trying to offend people.

It's certainly catching people's attention. And anybody that believes in prayer is going to be offended."

The vast majority of AIDS victims are infected because of "immoral or illegal behavior," Miller said.

"Research is not going to stop the AIDS epidemic. It's changes in behavior," he said. "That's the ad that needs to go on the side of a bus."

Misleading children into believing that abstinence or prayer won't make a difference is "irresponsible," added John J. Dwyer, editor and co-publisher of The Dallas/Fort Worth Heritage, a monthly Christian newspaper.

The in-house marketers for Kenneth Cole Productions, a shoe manufacturer, created the ad campaign. Kenneth Cole is director and chairman of the communications and marketing committee of AmFAR.

Cole, who said the first complaints were from Texans, said the ads were not meant to demean prayer, but to battle indifference to the deadly disease. He hoped the controversy

would have the residual effect of promoting the message, even though the ads are gone.

"Right now people have become dangerously complacent," he said. "We've basically all become so desensitized over time. We need to startle people, to grab their attention."

Thomas Bruner, executive director of Tarrant County's AIDS Outreach Center, said North Texas is known to be conservative, particularly when sexuality and religion are involved.

But he didn't object to pulling the ads if they offended. He just doesn't want the research message to be obscured.

"There is no substitute for this country's political will to fund basic biomedical research to find a cure for AIDS," Bruner said. "Not laughter, not hope, not compassion, not prayer, not anything."

SF business group wants benefits limited to gay partners only

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)

Straight, unmarried couples should be excluded from San Francisco's domestic partners law because they can legally marry, a business lobbying group said.

The city has passed an ordinance requiring companies with municipal contracts to provide benefits to domestic partners, and affected companies are seeking to soften the financial blow.

Meeting with Mayor Willie Brown and three members of the Board of Supervisors, Committee on Jobs representative Doug Shorestein proposed Thursday that companies be required to provide benefits only to gay couples if married workers receive them.

Mark Mosher, executive director of the Committee on Jobs, said paying for benefits is an expensive proposition for businesses and noted that opposite-sex domestic partners can legally marry, unlike gays, and get benefits that way.

"It's a big difference," Mosher said. "Some of (the reason for the proposal) is definitely money, and some of it is the principle."

The domestic partners ordinance, which takes effect June 1, requires companies and organizations doing business with the city to provide the same benefits to workers with registered domestic partners as they do to married employees.

The law has upset companies including United Airlines, which had a 25-year lease at San Francisco

International Airport held up while supervisors exacted a promise that the company would at least show a good-faith effort to implement domestic partners benefits within two years.

During negotiations, United said providing benefits meant changing policies for 80,000 workers nationwide, not just in San Francisco.

Business leaders at Thursday's meeting also said the ordinance could be amended to allow workers in cities without official domestic partners registries to sign an in-house affidavit with the companies confirming their partnerships. That way, they could receive benefits.

Brown hasn't formed an opinion on either proposal, said spokeswoman Kandace Bender, but is hopeful a compromise can be reached.

"The mayor's office and the Board of Supervisors are in consultation on both of the issues," Bender said. "We all understand it takes some time to

reorganize the way the companies do business. We believe a compromise will be reached."

No agreements were reached during the closed-door meeting. But Supervisor Tom Ammiano, who was there, said the city ordinance was intended to benefit straight, unmarried couples as well as gays and should not be watered down.

"It's not a second-class marriage; it's an alternative marriage," Ammiano said.

He added, however, that he could probably live with a provision that would allow companies that offer benefits only to married and gay couples an extension to comply fully in offering the same benefits to partners of straight workers.

As for the affidavit plan, Ammiano wouldn't rule it out but said he wanted to make sure it wouldn't dilute the legitimacy of domestic partners registries.

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ORAL HEALTH: THE WINDOW TO HIV. Dr. Aki, McDowell Clinic

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DISCLOSURE and DATING and RELATIONSHIPS. Glenn Gaylord, author, columnist, AIDS Project Los Angeles

NUTRITION & HIV. Jennifer Jensen. Nationally renowned HIV/AIDS nutritionist, author, lecturer.

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AIDS PROJECT ARIZONA

APAZ to open Wellness Center

Being Alive, the early intervention program of AIDS Project Arizona, will be opening a program satellite facility in mid-March at 1840 West Maryland Avenue, Suite C. The new offices will be part of what will now be called the Being Alive Wellness Center.

Dr. Steve Karpiak, Ph.D., is the director of Being Alive. "We are very excited to be able to offer this, and we owe a debt of gratitude to Community Hospital," Karpiak says. "They have very generously leased this suite of offices, including furniture and utilities, to Being Alive for only \$1 per year."

The primary new program at the Wellness Center will be the Being Alive Clinic, sponsored by Dr. Ian Bier of the Southwest College of Naturopathic Medicine and Health Services. Dr. Bier was a member of the Immune Clinic at Bastyr University in Seattle. "Dr. Bier and his staff will provide nutritional, chiropractic, massage and acupuncture therapies for Being Alive," says Karpiak. Initial, qualifying participants will not be charged for these services. As the program grows, a sliding scale of fees will be developed.

Karpiak says the mission of the new Clinic is to treat HIV positive and AIDS patients with preventative and natural medicine, in order to improve the patient's quality of life and to empower the patient as a

partner in his or her own health care. He explains that the expansion of the program is the result of APAZ's effort to provide additional support to people infected with HIV who are already using Being Alive's services, and to increase enrollment in the program.

In addition to Dr. Bier and his staff, other chiropractors and massage therapists will offer their services for free at the Wellness Center. The Being Alive Buyer's Club will set up a satellite facility at the Wellness Center as well, expanding its inventory of products to include items required by naturopathic physicians.

Being Alive has also added a new, part-time health care professional to its program. Counselor Brady Dalton, CMSW, will be based at the new Wellness Center. Mr. Dalton will be taking appointments for individual, group-focused and peer group-facilitated counseling sessions.

Karpiak says that people interested in learning more about the role of naturopathic medicine in the management of HIV/AIDS would do well to attend the free, Positive Living for Us (PLUS) weekend (see their ad, this page), on March 15 and 16 in Tempe. "There will be seminars given by naturopathic physicians, and all PLUS attendees will be able to get free acupuncture, chiropractic and massage therapies."

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Goings On

Aviv recommends *Shabbos for Dummies*

Shabbos for a Novice, a presentation of the American Jewish Committee, will take place on February 28 at 6pm. The event will be held at a private home. Call 248-8845 to make reservations and get the exact location.

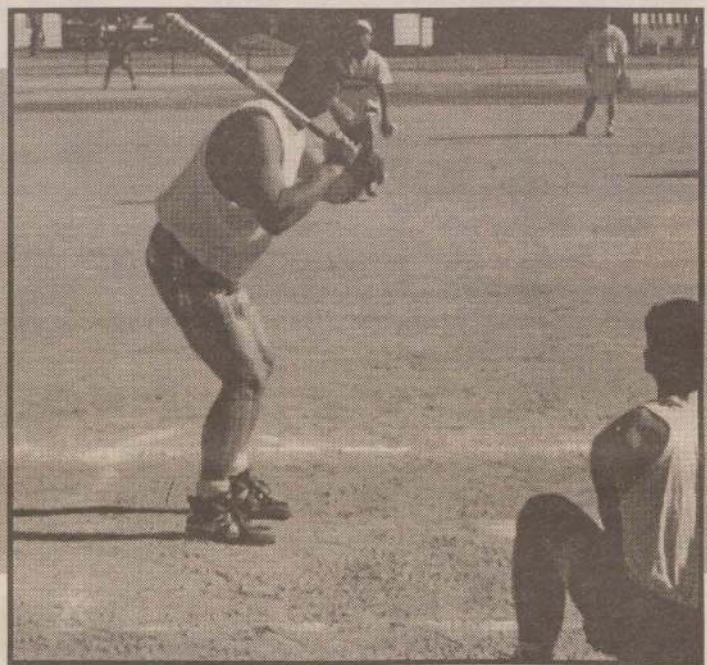
AVIV of Arizona is the new Jewish gay & lesbian organization in the Phoenix area. AVIV President, Gene L. Koenigsberg, says that Shabbos for a Novice is offered for Jewish people who haven't been to a Friday night service in a while, or have a partner/significant other who may not be Jewish and would like to know more about the rituals surrounding the Sabbath.

The evening will begin with cocktails, then move to a dinner. Explanations will be given throughout the meal for the blessings on the bread and wine. Then, the program will take apart the Friday night service and explain the reasons behind the rituals and prayers of the service.

The Shabbos for a Novice program was offered last year. Those who attended from AVIV all reported it to be a wonderfully spiritual and educational evening, according to Koenigsberg. To get involved with AVIV of Arizona, or to find out more about the organization and its events, call 996-8622.

1997 Softball season underway

Spring is in the air, and the men and women who make up the Cactus Cities Softball League in Phoenix are ready to play ball. A number of league teams met on Sunday, February 23, for a day of warm-up play. The season officially begins on Sunday, March 2 and will run through May.



CCSL Opening Commissioner Jack Pruitt explains that there are 3 divisions of play for teams in the league. They include the women's division, and two levels of co-ed play: recreational and competitive. "We have about fifteen teams participating this year. This weather has been great, and many of the returning players can hardly wait to get going."

Pruitt says the best thing about having the teams divided the way the CCSL does, is that it encourages new players to join. "People who maybe haven't played much softball, or who are out of practice, can join one of the recreational teams," He says. "So, there's less pressure on new players than if they had to play on an competitive team right away. Players find their own level—that keeps it fun, and makes everybody happy."

The league plays Sunday mornings at Monterey Park in Phoenix, located on Oak street between 3rd and 7th streets. HeatStroke captured the action on the 23rd, as one of Roscoe's two teams played a team sponsored by First Family Medical Group.

DA plans camp out at Usery Mountain

The first Desert Adventures camp out of the season is coming up. Join the gay & lesbian, outdoor recreational group at Usery Mountain Recreation Area on the weekend of March 14, 15, and 16 for a springtime weekend in the desert. The group site reserved by DA has plenty of RV hookups, flush toilets and hot showers.

Usery Mountain is located 12 miles north of Mesa. Check in anytime after 2pm on Friday, March 14. The trip fee is \$12 for members and \$22 for non-members. There is also an entrance fee of \$5 per vehicle/per night. Activities scheduled include hiking, a Sunday night dinner, and a showing of all 3 episodes of Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City* from the PBS mini-series.

The mountain itself was named for King Usery, a cattleman in the area between 1878 and 1880. In 1891, Usery and Bill Blevins (after whom the Blevins' Trail is named) held up the Globe-Florence stagecoach and stole two bars of silver. Usery was captured at his ranch and served 7 years in the Territorial Prison at Yuma. He was pardoned after serving 2 years, and later convicted of horse-stealing, for which he received a light sentence. Usery later disappeared.

To find out more about the camp out, or to join the organization, call Desert Adventures at 266-CAMP. The group plans many trips throughout the year and holds its regular membership and core-group meetings on Tuesdays. Men and Women 21 years of age or older may join, the annual dues are \$25.

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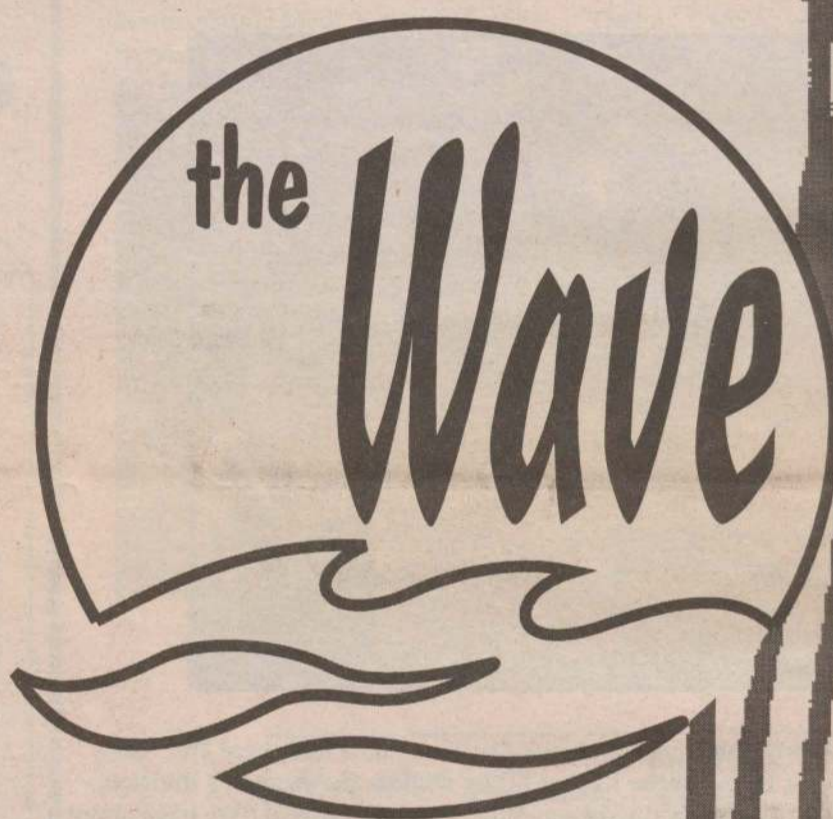
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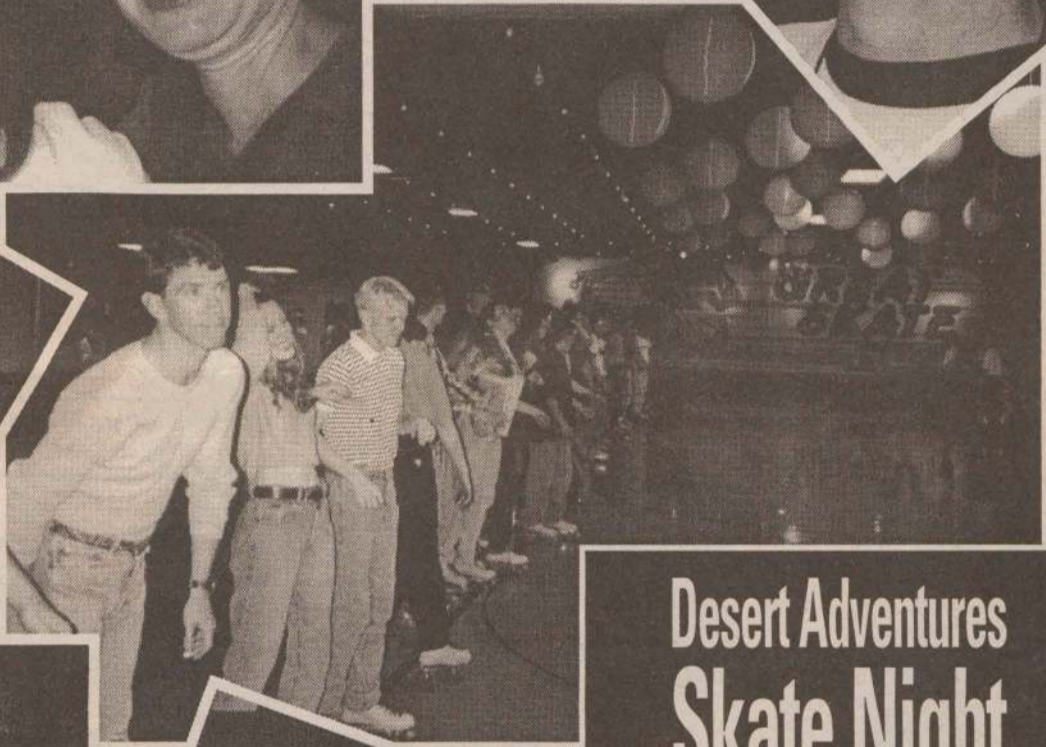
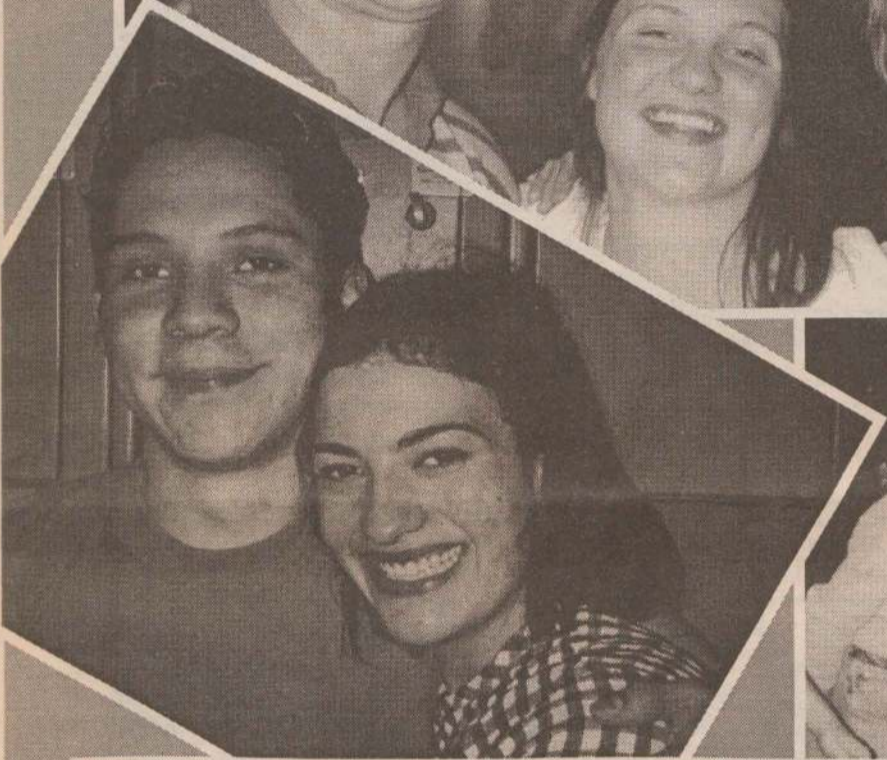
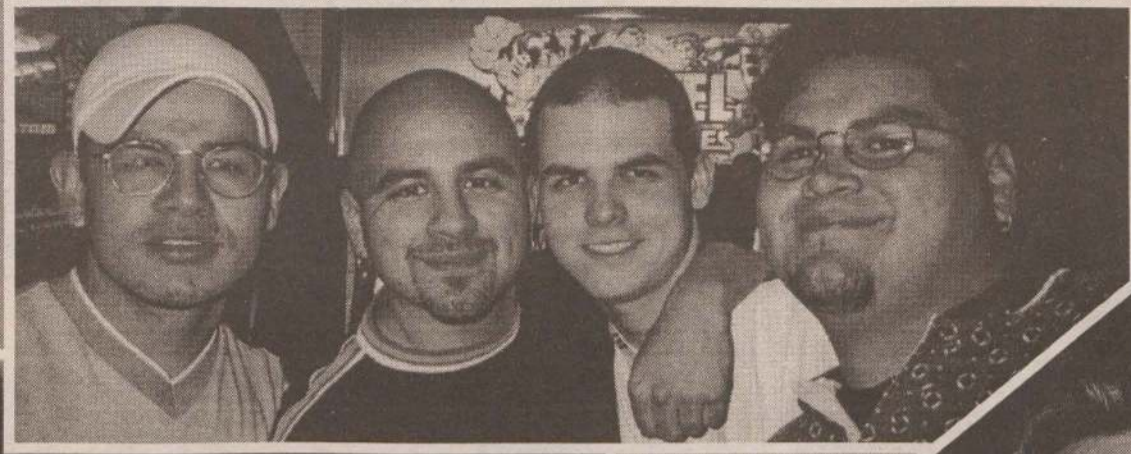
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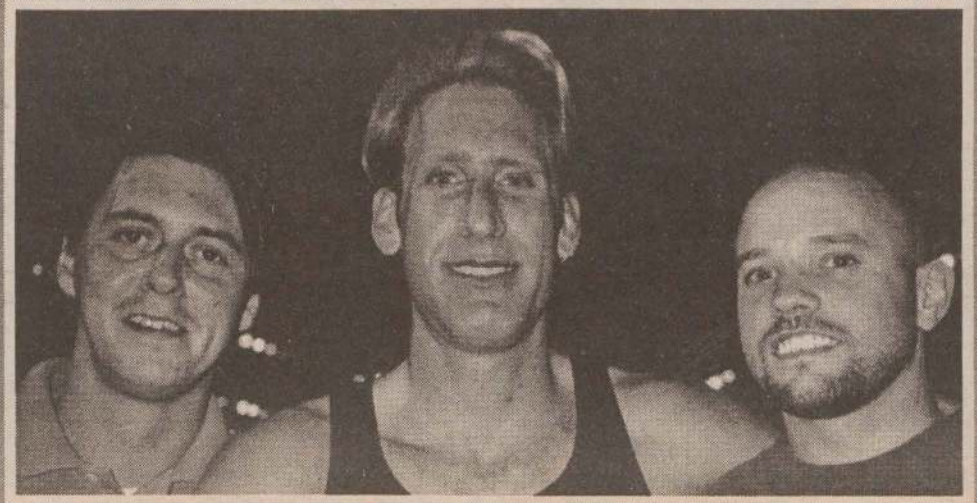
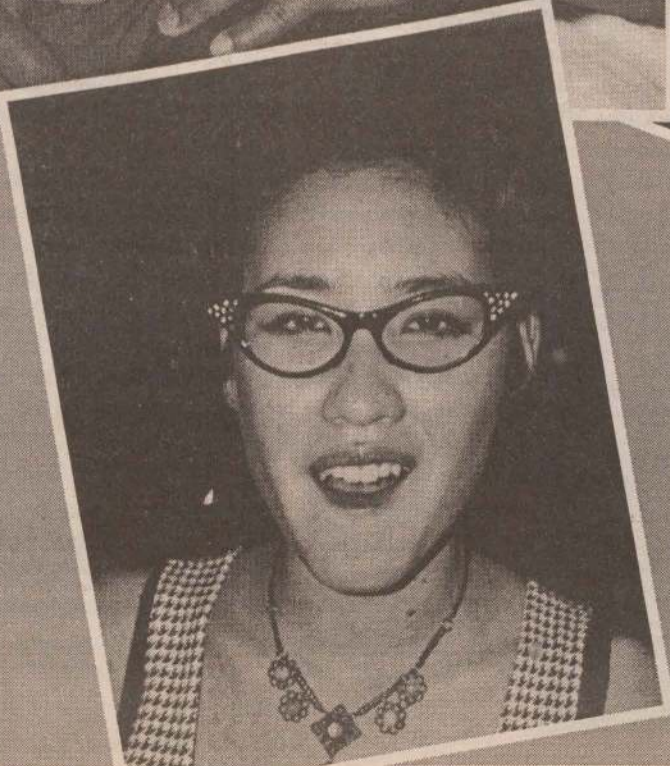
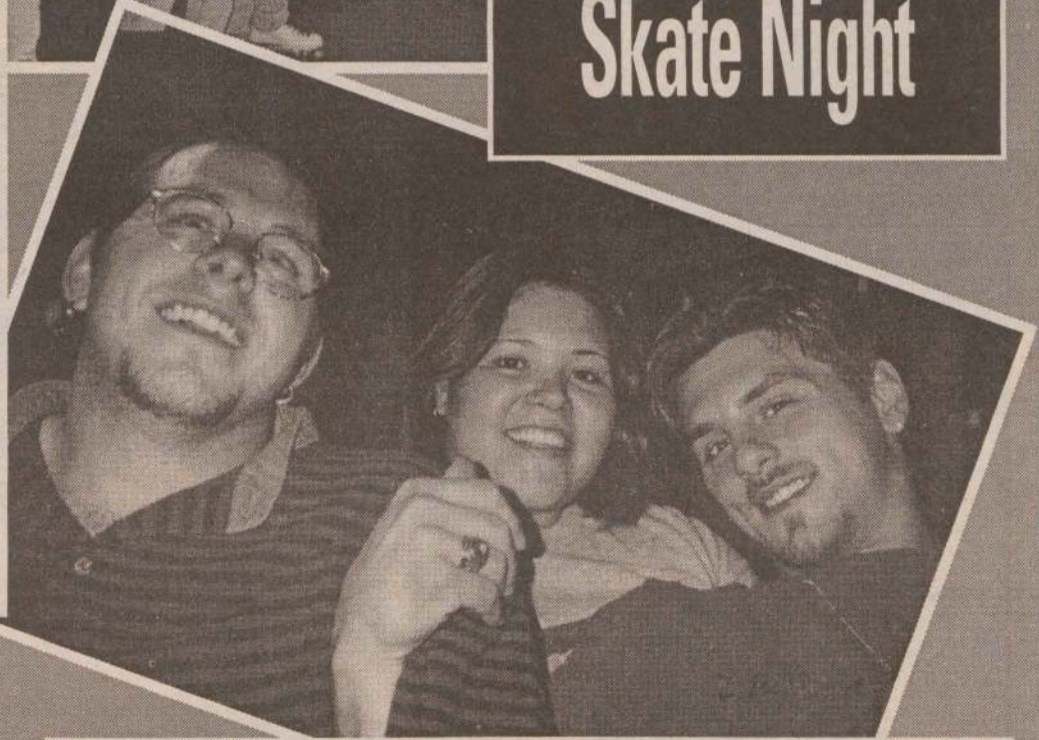
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Photos by Bill Throckmorton



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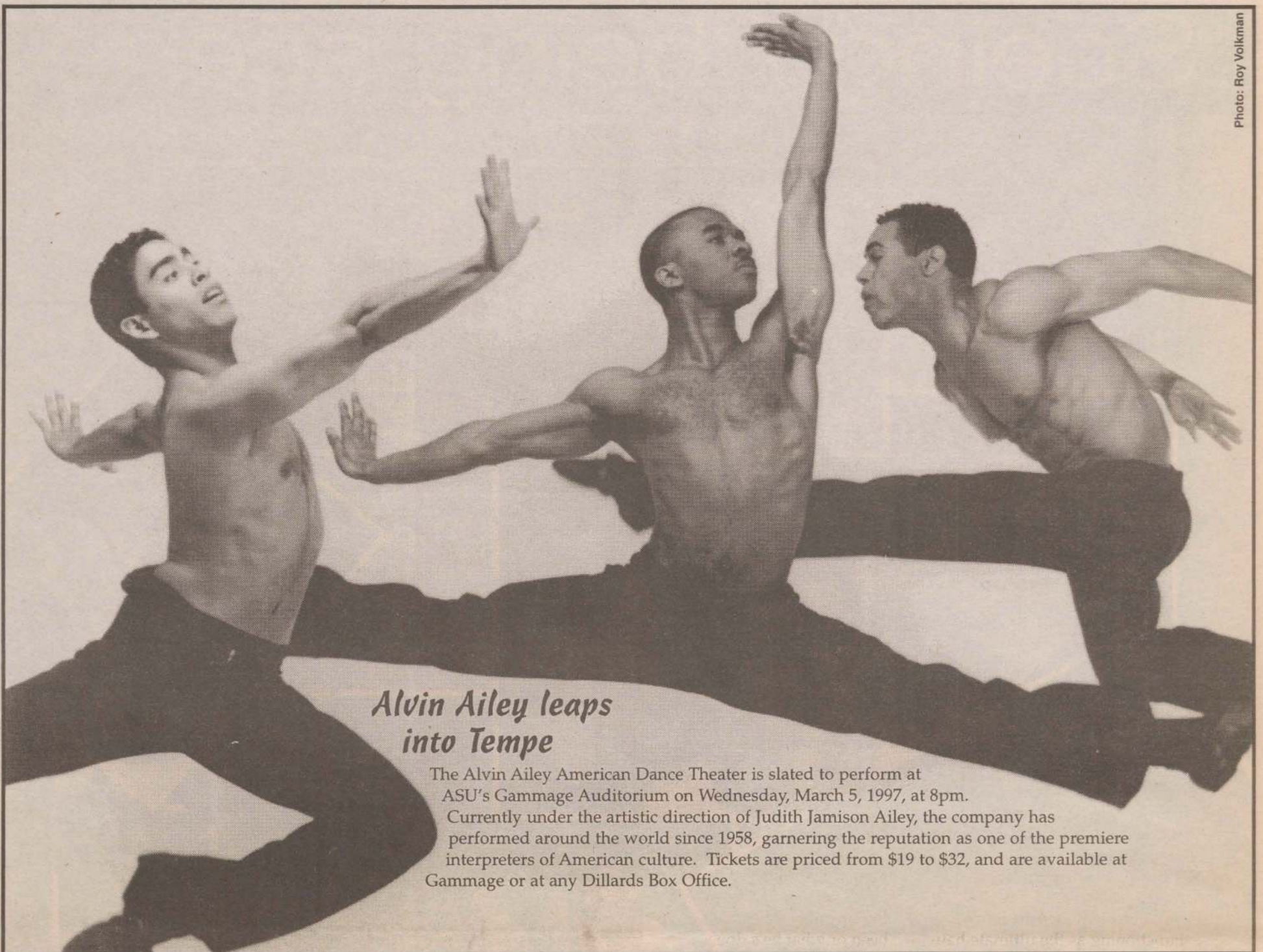


Photo: Roy Volkman

Alvin Ailey leaps into Tempe

The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is slated to perform at ASU's Gammage Auditorium on Wednesday, March 5, 1997, at 8pm. Currently under the artistic direction of Judith Jamison Ailey, the company has performed around the world since 1958, garnering the reputation as one of the premiere interpreters of American culture. Tickets are priced from \$19 to \$32, and are available at Gammage or at any Dillard's Box Office.

We are the whirled — dancers Guillermo Asca, Matthew Rushing & Richard Witter in Alvin Ailey's *Revelations*



Photo: Peter Lindbergh

Soul Diva Tina Turner to play Phoenix

Tina Turner has announced that the U. S. leg of her world tour will include a May 7 performance at America West Arena in downtown Phoenix.

Turner's career spans nearly 40 years, beginning in St. Louis with Ike Turner's band, the Kings of Rhythm. She married Ike Turner in 1960, and the two formed the Ike & Tina Turner Review. The duo recorded a string of classics in the '60's and early 70's, including *Want to Take You Higher*, *Proud Mary*, and *Come Together*.

After enduring his physical and emotional abuse for 16 years, Tina split with Ike in 1976, and struck out on her own; unfortunately, the music industry wasn't interested.

With four kids to support, Tina lived for a time on food stamps. In 1979, she met Roger Davies, who helped Tina revamp her career. This collaboration led to a new record deal, Tina's 1982 comeback cover of Al Green's *Let's Stay Together*, and, in 1984, *Private Dancer* — an album that sold 11 million copies.

Advance tickets go on sale March 15 for the May 7 performance, and are available through Dillard's and the America West Arena Box Office.

She's got legs: Tina Turner heads for America West Arena in May

Outonfilm

Did he, didn't he, or... is it he?

By Allen Kalchik

To call *Lost Highway*, the new film from David Lynch, a roller coaster ride would not only be cliché, but inaccurate. One can at least see the end of a roller coaster coming, and the adrenaline rush is fairly constant, after topping the first hill.

There is probably no one currently working in Hollywood who presents camp better than David Lynch. And *Lost Highway* — Lynch's first wide-release feature flick in over 4 years — may be his finest camp effort yet. Despite it flashes of brilliance and incredible style, the film is also deeply, even ingeniously, flawed.

Functioning as the ultimate haute-tour, Lynch has thrown the message out the window. He's handed us tons of form, with absolutely no function. The convoluted, eerily beautiful result is both fascinating and infuriating by turns.

Best known as the creator of *Eraserhead*, *Twin Peaks*, and *Blue Velvet*, Lynch also directed *Dune*, *The Elephant Man*, and *Wild at Heart*. By shucking conventional narrative, the director (with co-writer Barry Gifford) presents a quirky, dreamlike film that is as frightening and dark as it is visually stunning.

Lost Highway takes place in an odd, Los Angeles-like city where the past, present and future seem to exist simultaneously. Jazz Musician Fred Madison (Bill Pullman) lives in big, white house on a quiet street with his laconic, auburn-haired wife Renee (Patricia Arquette). He finds himself being terrorized at parties by a creepy, pimp-like guy (Robert Blake) and also by an anonymous weirdo with a video camera.

It seems someone is taping Fred and Renee's boudoir from inside the house, then dropping off tapes of the couple, asleep at night, on their own doorstep every morning. Renee gets a bad case of the yuckies and calls the cops; Fred just gets pissed.

He gets even more pissed when he realizes Renee may (or may not) have been hideously murdered and that he may (or may not) have killed her, himself. The fact that he's talking to her in the next room apparently has no influence — remember, this is Lynchland. Renee is definitely dead and chopped up into little pieces somewhere. And yet, she is alive and well. *Maybe*.

Hang on, it gets even weirder and juicier than that. Fred is arrested and

sentenced for the murder, then placed into solitary confinement, where he promptly gets a severe headache. But instead of turning to aspirin, Fed turns into an entirely new person and *Lost Highway* turns into a new movie. As youthful auto-mechanic Pete Dayton (Balthazar Getty), our lead character is released by his perplexed guards and returned home to his job and family, unable to remember where he's been or what he's done.

Patricia Arquette shows up again, only now she's a vivacious, blonde bombshell named Alice Wakefield. This spirited, hooker-turned-gun expert has only to waggle her perkies in Pete's adorable face before the lad is completely smitten (it's always amazing to learn what a well-fitting, push-up bra on a gorgeous actress can accomplish in comic-book, hetero-sexist movie worlds like the ones Lynch creates. Indeed, put a nice booty in a satin skirt, and the entire plot changes), no dialogue required.

A little macho lasciviousness is more than acceptable, however, because the movie becomes a lot of fun at this point. The young lovers have plenty of steamy sex while planning to escape the clutches of the wealthy gangster Mr. Eddy (Robert Loggia), who is Pete's mentor and (of course) Alice's main squeeze. The film races toward a climax that we never see coming because we're still trying to figure out where we've been.

It is Patricia Arquette, in her dual role, that pulls Lynch's obscure vision together. The talented actress manages to give us dumb/smart, sexy/naive and lazy/driven at the same time. Both her characterizations in *Lost Highway* owe as much to Russ Meyer's crazed vixens as they do to classic, film noir babes-with-brains from the likes of Douglas Sirk. Arquette always brings something special to her work, and Lynch was able to tap into it.



Don't look down: Balthazar Getty and Patricia Arquette star in David Lynch's *Lost Highway*

Gary Busey does a great turn as Pete's befuddled father, and Michael Masee is very effective as a sleazoid porno producer — one of a scant few characters who turns up in both of the film's semi-separate worlds. The soundtrack is exceptional; the sound design, also credited to Lynch, is superb.

Much has been made of the influence of television on Lynch's feature films. In *Lost Highway*, that influence is present and palpable. The lighting, color and costuming create a kind of 1970's, television-movie mood. Every nuance is covered. The actors even deliver much of their dialogue in a formulaic cadence that appears borrowed from predictable, stale police dramas like *Streets of San Francisco*, or even those with the cheezy intensity of *Charlie's Angels*.

It would be easy for someone with Lynch's abilities to poke fun at his inspirations, and he tries to do so. There is a difference, however,

between camp and parody. Part of Lynch's makeup is that he pretends to be about humor, while taking himself so seriously that no one else gets the joke. Camp, style, wry humor, those he can do. But parody? Nope. He is paying homage here, something that is very hard to do effectively (especially in 135 minutes) without boring the viewer. And therein lies *Lost Highway's* flaw.

If the roller coaster is considered the ultimate ride, it should be duly noted that — though it comes close — *Lost Highway* is no roller coaster. It's exciting and well-crafted. But it's spasmodic. Like eating a double serving of fry bread and then riding the Zipper, the Top Spin, or even the giant Ferris wheel, it's the pauses that get to you. And you find yourself wondering just when this damned ride is going to end.

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GLAAD MEDIA ALERT

No love lost for gay people on MTV's *Loveline*

On *Loveline*, MTV's late-night call-in sexual advice program for young people, a disturbing trend has developed involving both co-hosts Dr. Drew and Adam Carolla that is creating an atmosphere of alienation for lesbian, gay and bisexual youth.

On the December 27 program, Dr. Drew referred to anal sex as "not a very loving act," and said that it was not worth the health risks.

On an early January show, a caller said that he'd performed fellatio on fraternity brothers as part of hazing, that he liked it, and that he was beginning to think about sex with men.

Dr. Drew said he might be gay but hadn't dealt with it, but essentially ignored any discussion of bisexuality.

On January 17, a young man called with concerns that he was having sexual fantasies about men. Dr. Drew told him that either he had suffered some sort of trauma, perhaps in childhood, or that he was gay and needed to deal with it. A guest host suggested that the man could be bisexual, which Dr. Drew shot down, saying essentially that bisexuality is very rare and that most people who call themselves bisexual are suffering from "sexual ambivalence" and need to deal with what "caused" that.

On February 6, a student called about being pressured to join his father's fraternity, which, at his college, was now a gay frat. Carolla said, "Lord knows what goes on in their hazing!" The laughter continued, and by the time Dr. Drew suggested that "there's nothing wrong with being gay, you're just not into that," everyone had already spent a great deal of time smirking about gay sex, straight discomfort with gay sex, and the idea of a straight person rushing a "gay" fraternity.

It was akin to making fun of African-Americans for five minutes and then, at the end, saying, "Of course, there's nothing wrong with being black..."

While MTV has almost always been an industry leader in its representation of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, *Loveline* needs to review some very basic realities about being sensitive to gay and bisexual sexuality.

The information Dr. Drew, the supposed voice of authority, espouses about both anal sex and bisexuality is flatly inaccurate, and the general atmosphere of mocking and giggling about lesbian, gay and bisexual orientation is the *Loveline* norm.

When approached by GLAAD, both representatives from MTV and *Loveline* Producer David Sittenfeld, who is openly gay, expressed a desire to address the issues GLAAD cited and a willingness to have an open dialogue about issues with the show.

Please write to MTV and *Loveline* and let them know that for a show that professes an openness and knowledge about sexual matters, *Loveline* can sometimes be insensitive and ignorant. Also, if you hear something you disagree with, call them on air about it.

Contact: Judy McGrath, President, MTV Network, 1515 Broadway, New York, NY 10036, fax: 212.258.8303, e-mail: Feedback@mtv.com; David Stanley and Scott Stone, Executive Producers, *Loveline*, 1040 North Los Palmas, Hollywood, CA 90038, call-in line: 213.520.LOVE, fax: 213.860.2532, e-mail: Feedback@mtv.com.

TV Guide Says Citizen Ruth may be Ellen's girl

On February 20, *TV Guide* leaked inside information about the *Ellen* show, indicating that on the proposed hour-long April 30 coming out episode, Ellen's love interest (yes, she will have one) will be played by Laura Dern (*Citizen Ruth*), and, as GLAAD previously reported, Oprah Winfrey will be playing Ellen's therapist.

ABC and Touchstone Television, however, still refuse to saying any more than that ABC Entertainment President Jamie Tarses still has not seen or approved the actual script.

In the February 22 *TV Guide*, "The Couch Critic," Jeff Jarvis, expressed his own exasperation over ABC's foot-dragging about letting *Ellen* out of the closet. "Ellen DeGeneres' game of sexual-preference cat and mouse has gone on too long," he writes.

"So why doesn't she just open the closet door, already? She is treating lesbianism as a shameful tittle, a dirty secret. I thought we were past that by now." He criticizes the show, but has faith that it will be stronger for the decision to come out: "The show and the star should both just decide what they are, announce it, and be proud of it. Enough rambling."

ABC's attempt to continue hyping the "will she or won't she?" has many viewers, GLAAD and the media frustrated and puzzled. With sponsors willing to endorse an out *Ellen* and fans of the show eager to see the development of the character, it is beyond comprehension why ABC Entertainment President Jamie Tarses does not give her endorsement to a coming out story line that is clearly already well into development and set to air April 30.

Write ABC and tell them it is time that Tarses review the script and get on with the show. Also, please thank *TV Guide* for keeping pressure on ABC.

Contact: Jamie Tarses, Entertainment President, ABC, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90067, fax: 310.557.7679, e-mail: abcaudr@ccabc.com; Steven Reddcliffe, Editor-in-Chief, *TV Guide*, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036-8701, fax: 212.852-7470.

Homer's phobia?

Despite his favorite song being "It's Raining Men," his friendship with an assistant played by Harvey Fierstein, and a recent show in which he inadvertently called a "GBM" from the personals, Homer confronts a newfound homophobia during the February 16 episode of the Fox series *The Simpsons*.

Special guest John Waters provides the voice for a gay antique dealer who befriends the Simpsons after seeing their campy house.

Bart begins to idolize Waters, and Homer panics. Marge and Lisa think Homer is being absurd, but can't dissuade him from taking Bart on a hunting trip to attempt to "straighten out" his son.

In the end, Waters saves Homer from certain death at the antlers of angry reindeer that he tried to force Bart to shoot as a right of passage into "manhood." Homer says he'll always be Waters' friend, and his friends, Lenny and Moe try to figure out how they'll ever live down having been saved by a "sissy."

On a show that has always been overwhelmingly positive and admirably inclusive of lesbians and gay men, "Homer's Phobia" stands out as a shining example of how to bring intelligent, fair and funny representations of our community onto television.

Even closeted Smithers has a brief appearance as a jealous friend of Waters who, upon discovering him hanging out with the Simpsons, says, "So THIS is the sick friend you're visiting?" Such little touches make *The Simpsons* one of the best and most gay-positive shows around.

Please congratulate Fox and Gracie Films for another sensitive, hilarious and quality episode of *The Simpsons*.

Contact: Chase Carey, Chairperson/CEO, Fox Broadcasting Company, P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90123, fax: 310.369.1433, e-mail: askfox@foxinc.com; James L. Brooks, Producer, c/o Sony Film Corp., 10202 W. Washington Blvd., Culver City, CA 90233, fax: 310.280.1530.

Cool stuff for kids online

A new Web site offers education and entertainment for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender people and their children.

Open Prairie Syndicate, located at <http://www.visi.com/~oprairie>, is a Minneapolis-based collective that showcases cartoonists who work outside of the mainstream press, including Alison Bechdel's *Dykes to Watch Out For* and Jennifer Camper's *SubGURLZ*. A new addition to the site is an online picture book for children with gay and lesbian parents.

If *The Sun Were Queer*, written by Open Prairie founder Joe Hoover, a political cartoonist whose work has been published in 23 gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender publications nationwide, is inspired by the Sharon Bottoms case as well as other cases where children have been taken away from parent's homes because of the parent's sexual orientation.

Please thank Joe Hoover for his wonderful book and for making it available to all via the Internet. It is appreciated and will certainly touch the lives of children with gay and lesbian parents everywhere.

Contact: Joe Hoover, Open Prairie Syndicate, P.O. Box 8117, Minneapolis, MN, 55408; e-mail: oprairie@visi.com.WWW: <http://www.visi.com/~oprairie/hover/book/book.html>.

Four boys kissing

Two recent sitcom episodes featured reluctant male same-sex kisses.

On the January 23 episode of NBC's sitcom *The Naked Truth*, two straight men posed as gay and engaged in lip-locking.

Two regular characters, Nick (Jonathan Penner) and Dave (Mark Roberts), are "outed" as gay to their boss, Les (George Wendt) by a co-worker. Les tells the two that he wants them to sit with his father at the Superbowl to educate him about gay men.

To get the tickets, Nick and Dave play along, acting affectionate, but a co-worker almost blows their cover.

Les says they have to prove they are gay by kissing. They do after a little protesting, and to Nick's surprise, Dave won't let go. When Nick reacts to Dave's passions, Dave responds, "You loved it and you know it."

On ABC's *Spin City*'s February 11 episode, Carter's (Michael Boatman) dreams of reconciliation with an ex-boyfriend (Luke Perry) are dashed when Perry tells Carter he has "decided he is straight" and is getting married to a woman.

In response, Carter drags Mike (Michael J. Fox) into a charade in which the two of them act as if they are a couple, and includes a kiss between them. Mike acts shocked by the kiss and goes over the top in his discomfort, but in the end lets Carter know that he'll always be there for him.

The shows represents network television's progress towards networks allowing gay male same-sex kissing.

While lesbian couples have recently broken through the barrier, in made-for-TV movies such as *Serving in Silence: The Margaret Cammermeyer Story* and *Two Mothers for Zachary* and on ABC's drama *Relativity*, gay men, such as Matt on *Melrose Place*, still settle for hugs.

First it was two straight men, then a straight man and a gay man who are pretending to be partners-maybe next time it can be two gay or bisexual men who really mean it. The presentation of male same-sex kissing is critical to our community's realistic representation, and destigmatizes portrayals of our love.

Write NBC and ABC and let them know that this sexual charades and sexual orientation play is appreciated, and encourage them to expand portrayals of same-sex kisses to characters expressing true love and affection.

Contact: Warren Littlefield, President, NBC, 3000 West Alameda Avenue, Burbank, CA 91523-0000, fax: 818.840.3247, e-mail: nbc@aol.com; Jamie Tarses, Entertainment President, ABC, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90067, fax: 310.557.7679, e-mail: abcaudr@ccabc.com.

GAY CHAT LINE

SIZZLING LOCKER ROOM ACTION
JOIN IN OR JUST EAVESDROP
PHONE TALK FOR THE GAY 90'S
1-900-745-1050
MORE ACTION AT 1-900-745-2391
EXTRA HEAVY 1-800-714-4865



LIFESTYLES' DATELINE
ALL LIFESTYLES • LOCAL AND NATIONWIDE
REAL PEOPLE **1-900-435-6517** REAL #S
\$2-3.99/MIN • VISIT US AT WWW.HIJK.COM • 18+YRS

Zimbabwe judge rules ex-president forced police aid into gay sex

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP)

In a country known for gay-bashing, sensational trial testimony revealed Monday that former President Canaan Banana forced an underling into 3 years of homosexual acts.

The graphic, emotional testimony from a policeman charged with murder was certain to shock Zimbabweans used to anti-gay rhetoric and threats of a crackdown on homosexuality from President Robert Mugabe, a close political ally of Banana.

Policeman Jeffa Dube, 36, said he shot dead a colleague who teased him about his three-year homosexual liaison with Banana, 60, a Methodist preacher, theologian and African peacemaker.

Judge David Bartlett sentenced Dube to 10 years in prison for murder, but said the evidence of Banana's sexual abuse was a mitigating factor that reduced the penalty.

Prosecutors had asked for life imprisonment, though the maximum penalty for murder is death.

The case was the first official disclosure of Banana's long-rumored homosexuality, and came after Mugabe led an outspoken campaign against homosexuals, describing them as "lower than dogs and pigs."

Homosexuality is illegal in Zimbabwe. Gay activists have been put under surveillance, but none has been arrested or prosecuted.

In a ruling that took 3 1/2 hours to read Monday, Bartlett said the court must accept evidence including expert psychiatric testimony that Dube suffered from post-traumatic stress, caused by his revulsion to homosexual acts with Banana, when he shot a colleague in the head in September 1995. A news blackout on the trial that began Jan. 27 was lifted with the reading of Bartlett's ruling, which quoted shocking excerpts of Dube's testimony about oral sex, kissing and rape by Banana.

There was no comment available Monday from Banana, Mugabe or official government spokesmen.

Bartlett said he would recommend that Attorney General Patrick Chinamasa and police investigate possible criminal charges against Banana, who is married with four adult children and is the author of four books on theology.

"It is important no one is seen to be above the law," Bartlett said.

Byron Hove, Dube's lawyer, said he would pursue civil damages and criminal charges against Banana, and appeal Dube's conviction and sentence.

"What my former head of state was doing is an embarrassment to me, but it would be more embarrassing if nothing was done about it," Hove said. "If it wasn't true, he was free to come forward and clear his name. . . He was on trial by society, he remains on trial."

Some of the testimony quoted by Bartlett portrayed Banana as a sexual predator, when Dube was assigned as an aide at the presidential residence from 1983 to 1986.

In one incident, according to Bartlett, Dube testified he was given a drugged drink by Banana, who then caressed and kissed him and started removing his trousers.

Dube told the court he awoke later wearing only a shirt to see Banana smile and tell him: "We have helped ourselves."

But because Dube, a married man, was afraid of losing his job, he "unwillingly succumbed to Banana's sexual advances when on weekend duty," Bartlett said.

Dube first reported the sexual abuse to his police superiors; he was eventually transferred to a provincial police detail in the western Midlands province.

Former senior assistant police commissioner John Chademana told the court he was not surprised by

Dube's formal complaint against Banana because "there were numerous intelligence reports of a similar nature."

Banana was Zimbabwe's non-executive president for 7 years after independence from Britain in 1980, while Mugabe was prime minister and effective leader of the country.

He was appointed an "eminent person" by the Organization of African Unity to help negotiate peace in Liberia and Sierra Leone in 1986. In 1989, Banana investigated international business contacts with apartheid South Africa when it faced worldwide economic sanctions.

Mugabe's anti-gay campaign began when the government banned a gay rights exhibit at an international book fair in Harare in 1995. He won widespread support among fellow politicians and ruling party supporters, who assaulted gay rights activists and torched their exhibit a year later — after a court upheld their right to put up the display.

Mugabe earned international censure when he also described homosexuals as perverts who engaged in bestiality, and called on citizens to report them to the police.

"DEAR COWBOY"

A REGULAR
ADVICE
COLUMN



Back when Arizona was still a territory and cattle ranged all over the high desert, the big ranches were worked by real cowboys. In those days, a man out on the plains had a lot of time to himself. He'd use that time to sing, write poetry and reflect on nature and life; to study his place in the society he was so far removed from. When he finally returned to the ranch, his cohorts found him to be calmer and wiser. If they ran into trouble, they'd seek out the lone cowboy's advice. Thus started a fine western tradition.

We continue that tradition here with our regular advice column. We've rounded up a real cowboy who's tough as rawhide but gentle as a poet. Ask him anything. Calmer and wiser than most of us, he's full of strong coffee and good advice. And he never squints into the sun.

Send your questions to "Dear Cowboy," c/o HeatStroke, P.O. Box 33430, Phoenix, AZ, or e-mail to alkalphx@aol.com — we'll pass it along to the wise one for you.

Dear Cowboy,

The woman I'm seeing keeps pressuring me to move in with her. After my last relationship, I made a personal rule to date someone for one year before taking that step again. "Kim" says that's ridiculous, and that if we both want to be together we should just go for it. I see her point, but I'm nervous. I have a great roommate and I like things the way they are now. Kim and I have been together 7 months. Should I continue to make her wait, or should we take the plunge and move in?

Signed, Jumpy Jennie

Dear Jumpy,

Suppose you asked two decent riders to warm up their ponies in the same, small corral. One cowgirl wants stay along the rail in a slow, comfortable jog — while the other is ready to gallop around, hellbent-for-leather.

What would happen? It's pretty obvious they would be in each other's way in no time at all. One of them would have to adjust her ride to match the other's.

And, in this case, it's my opinion that "Kim" should rein it in a little on this romance until she matches your speed. Tell her that she's right, that there is a time to let loose and go for it. But for you, this ain't it.

There must be a good reason you made that commitment to date awhile before galloping off into that big, unpredictable arena of cohabitation. Tell your gal what that reason is. Ask her to help you keep your commitment to it, and to let your relationship develop at its own pace. Then, when you're ready, give the nod for the gate. Be prepared to give it all you have and hang on!

Dear Cowboy,

In a lot of the advice you give people, you mention rodeos as a fun

social outlet, a place to meet people, a good association to join, etc. I assume you are talking about the gay rodeos.

My question is— how can you condone this rodeo activity, which is obviously a celebration of cruelty to animals? Who wants to see a bunch of gay hicks acting like straight people, running around and sticking electric prods into innocent cows? Don't you think that organized cruelty is something lesbian & gay people should be rejecting?

I am so tired of people in Phoenix, especially, making a big deal of this gay rodeo thing. We should be ashamed of it, not proud as you seem to be.

You can call me Doctor Doolittle

Dear Doolittle,

You have every right to your opinion. Here's another. First, the rodeo

is not a celebration of cruelty to animals. If it celebrates anything, it is the tradition of the cowboy's ability to herd and train cattle and other livestock, all in the interest of caring for them. Though methods have changed, the meat and dairy products we eat, the shoes, handbags, belts and clothes we wear are evidence of that tradition.

Second, the animals used in the rodeos have grown accustomed to these activities in their daily lives. Rodeo is what they are bought for, hauled from place to place for, in many cases bred for and, in some cases, delayed from going to the slaughterhouse for.

Third, the International Gay Rodeo Association has very specific rules against real or perceived cruelty to the stock by any contestant. Excessive force, use of electric prods,

...the rodeo is not a celebration of cruelty to animals...

and other abuses that were once part of rodeoing are all prohibited by the IGRA. Health certificates are required on all horses admitted to the grounds. Also, some events— calf roping, for example— have been altered by the gay rodeos in order to reduce stress to the animals.

Directory of Community Services

Aids Services

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

AIDS Project Arizona
265-2437

Arizona AIDS
Information Line
3136 N. 3rd Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85013
234-2752

Arizona AIDS
Services for the Deaf
4460 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85012
265-9953

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

Coalition of Meal
Providers
922-6593

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

Indian Community
Health Services
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
2000 N. 7th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85006
340-1881

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

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

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

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

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

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
530-1660

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

AZ Democratic Party
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
837-2936

Social & Support Groups

Alpha Zeta
P.O. Box 24459
Tempe, AZ 85285
246-1966

Alternative Young
Adult Alliance
P.O. Box 40472
Phoenix, AZ 85067
202-7973

Arizona 2-somes
905-1898

AZ Bisexual Network
5501 N. 7th Ave.
#1054
Phoenix, AZ 85013
352-4023

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

Battered Lesbians
Support Group
361 N. 4th Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85003
258-5344

Concillo Latino Y
Alianza Latina
3136 N. 3rd Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85014
285-0970

Copperstate
Leathermen
P.O. Box 40472
Phoenix, AZ 85067
274-8194

Couples of Arizona
P.O. Box 7144
Phoenix, AZ 85011
831-6432

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

East Side Social Club
P.O. Box 7681
Mesa, AZ 85246
807-9737

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

Lesbian & Gay Alanon
2940 E. Thomas
Phoenix, AZ 85016
581-8850

Lesbian & Gay Comm.
Switchboard
3136 N. 3rd Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85013
234-2752

Lesbian & Gay
Seniors Group
241-1604

Lesbian Moms
5608 N. 29th Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85017
249-4559

Lesbian Resource
Project
3136 N. 3rd Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85013
266-5542

Los Amigos del Sol
P.O. Box 27335
Phoenix, AZ 85061
843-1329

Parents & Friends of
Lesbians and Gays
P.O. Box 37525
Phoenix, AZ 85069
general information:
843-1404
gay/straight marriage
support: 241-0456

Phoenix Social
Couples
391-0085

Valley One in Ten
3136 N. 3rd Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85013
234-2752

Valley of the Sun Gay
& Lesbian
Community Center
3136 N. 3rd Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85013
265-7283

Professional Organizations

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

Valley Career Women
P.O. Box 33393
Phoenix, AZ 85067
460-4481

Religious & Spiritual Organizations

Affirmation
(Gay Mormons)
P.O. Box 26601
Tempe, AZ 85285
433-1321

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 21091
Phoenix, AZ 85036
222-8664

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

Gentle Shepherd
MCC 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

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

Western Orthodox
Catholic Church
Fountain of Life
Mission 241-9776
pasisozi@cris.com

Music, Sports & Hobbies

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

Arizona Lambda
Yacht Club 951-9481

Cactus Cities Softball
League 254-0648

Charlie's Renegades
727 W. Camelback
Phoenix, AZ 85013
265-0224

Desert Valley Squares
P.O. Box 34615
Phoenix, AZ 85067
252-0048

Gay League
Association of Darts
P.O. Box 941
Phoenix, AZ 85013
841-4489

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

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

Our Gang Bowling
League
2644 E. Birchwood
Mesa, AZ 85204
969-4629

Spartan Wrestling
Club 508-0199

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

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

the funnies

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel

<http://www.visi.com/~oprairie/>



Cocktails Dining Diversions

Edibles

Options
5111 N. 7th St.
Phoenix
263-5776

Pookie's
4540 N. 7th St.
Phoenix
277-2121

Country Club
4428 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix
264-4553

Cruisin' Central
1011 N.
Central Ave.
Phoenix
253-3376

Desert Rose
44301 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix
265-3233

Detour
4102 E. Thomas
Phoenix
224-9471

Foster's
4343 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix
263-8313

Fundy's
15601 N. Cave Creek Rd.
Phoenix
493-5123

Harley's Club 155
155 W. Camelback
Phoenix
274-8505

Harley's Too!
125 W. Camelback
Phoenix
274-7117

Incognito
2424 E. Thomas
Phoenix
955-9805

JC's Fun One
5542 N. 43rd Ave.
Glendale
939-0528

Johnny Mc's
138 W. Camelback
Phoenix
266-0875

Marlys'
15615 Cave Creek
Phoenix
867-2463

Metro Dance Factory
4102 E. Thomas
Phoenix
224-9471

Nasty Habits
3108 E. McDowell
Phoenix
267-8707

NuTowne
5002 E. Van Buren
Phoenix
267-9959

The Park
3002 N. 24th Street
Phoenix
957-6055

The Pumphouse
4132 E. McDowell
Phoenix
275-3509

Roscoe's
4531 N. 7th St.
Phoenix
285-0833

307 Lounge
222 E. Roosevelt
Phoenix
252-0001

TRAX
1724 E. McDowell
Phoenix
254-0231

The Wave
998 E. Indian School
Phoenix
266-5640

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

Staples

Chemistry
4532 N. 7th Street
Phoenix 277-8625

Obelisk Books
24 West Camelback
Phoenix
266-Book

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

Unique on Central
4700 N. Central, #105
Phoenix
279-9691

Libations

Ain't Nobody's Bizness
(The Biz)
3031 E. Indian School #7
Phoenix
224-9977

Apollo's
5749 N. 7th Street
Phoenix
277-9373

BS West
7125 5th Avenue
Scottsdale
945-9028

Cash Inn
2140 E. McDowell
Phoenix
244-9943

Charlie's
727 W. Camelback
Phoenix
265-0224

Tubs

Chute
1440 E. Indian School
Phoenix
234-1654

Flex
1517 S. Black Canyon
Phoenix
271-9011

The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green

BY ERIC ORNER

On the off chance that you are re-thinking those monastic vows you made after that last guy broke your heart, the Ethan Green Public Service Dept Presents this...

Dream Date alphabet

Moshe is Mad.



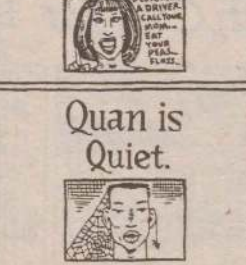
Nils is Nosey



Otto is Ostentatious.



Pierre is Preachy



Rueben is Risk-prone



Sunni is Social climbing.



Theo is Thoughtless



Umberto is Unfaithful



Woody is Windy.



Xerxes is Xenophobic

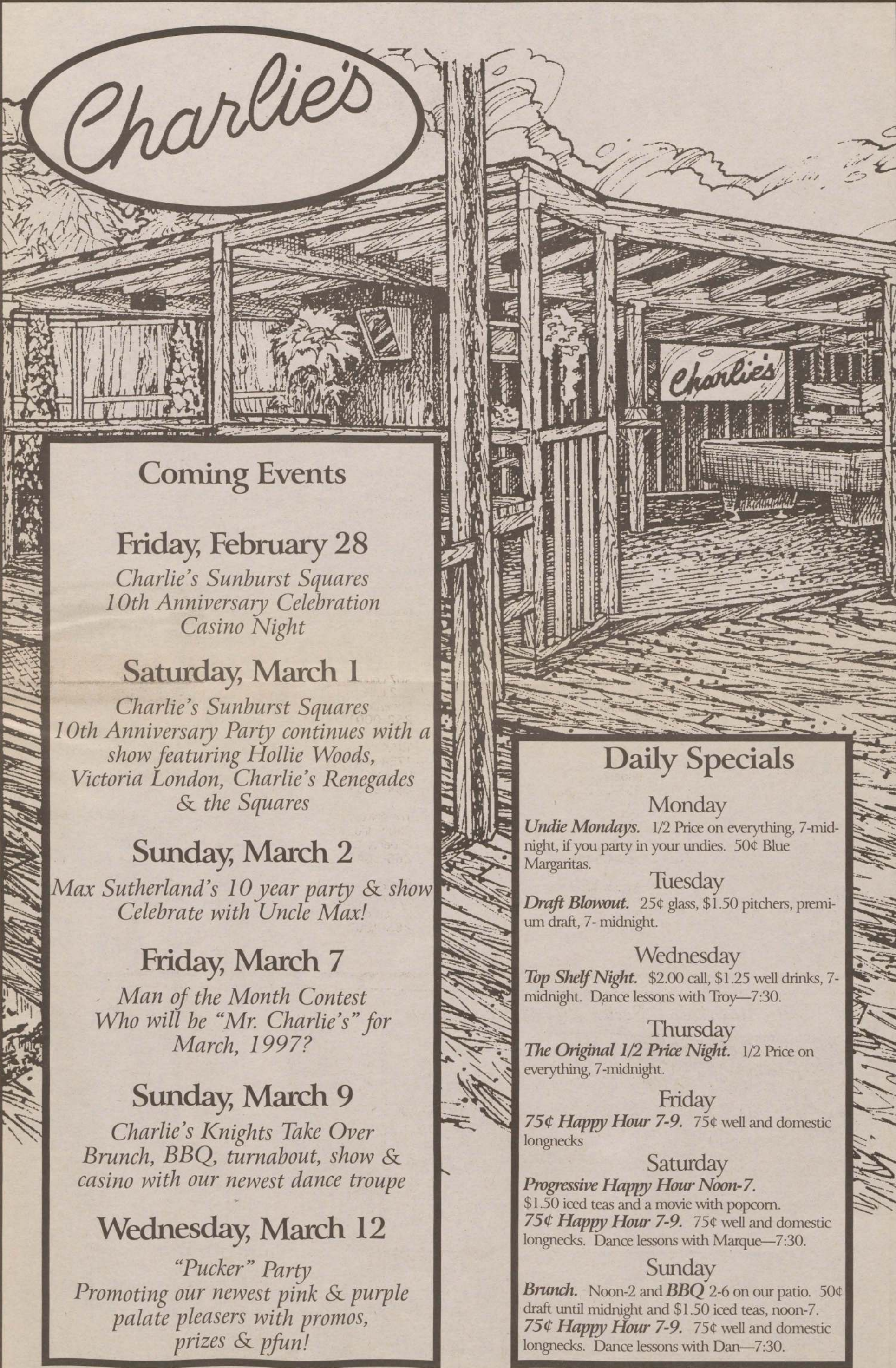


Yaegel is Young...



...and Zack is Zombiesque.





Charlie's

Coming Events

Friday, February 28

*Charlie's Sunburst Squares
10th Anniversary Celebration
Casino Night*

Saturday, March 1

*Charlie's Sunburst Squares
10th Anniversary Party continues with a
show featuring Hollie Woods,
Victoria London, Charlie's Renegades
& the Squares*

Sunday, March 2

*Max Sutherland's 10 year party & show
Celebrate with Uncle Max!*

Friday, March 7

*Man of the Month Contest
Who will be "Mr. Charlie's" for
March, 1997?*

Sunday, March 9

*Charlie's Knights Take Over
Brunch, BBQ, turnabout, show &
casino with our newest dance troupe*

Wednesday, March 12

*"Pucker" Party
Promoting our newest pink & purple
palate pleasers with promos,
prizes & pfun!*

Daily Specials

Monday

Undie Mondays. 1/2 Price on everything, 7-midnight, if you party in your undies. 50¢ Blue Margaritas.

Tuesday

Draft Blowout. 25¢ glass, \$1.50 pitchers, premium draft, 7- midnight.

Wednesday

Top Shelf Night. \$2.00 call, \$1.25 well drinks, 7-midnight. Dance lessons with Troy—7:30.

Thursday

The Original 1/2 Price Night. 1/2 Price on everything, 7-midnight.

Friday

75¢ Happy Hour 7-9. 75¢ well and domestic longnecks

Saturday

Progressive Happy Hour Noon-7.
\$1.50 iced teas and a movie with popcorn.
75¢ Happy Hour 7-9. 75¢ well and domestic longnecks. Dance lessons with Marque—7:30.

Sunday

Brunch. Noon-2 and *BBQ* 2-6 on our patio. 50¢ draft until midnight and \$1.50 iced teas, noon-7.
75¢ Happy Hour 7-9. 75¢ well and domestic longnecks. Dance lessons with Dan—7:30.



See

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Basic Internet Services from

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