

HeatStroke

Volume 9, No. 105

Phoenix, Arizona

November 16—29, 2000

How time flies. Back in November of 1996, the first issue of *HeatStroke* hit the streets. Our debut cover feature was a profile of (then) newly elected—and gay-friendly—State Representative Christine Weason of Phoenix's District 25.

With four years of publishing under our belts and Weason just reelected to her third two-year term, we sat down again to discuss the state of gay equality in our state.

Weason, 36, is an Illinois native and a lifelong Democrat. She moved to the Valley with her mother in 1989 and works part time as an attorney in addition to her duties as a state legislator.

Four Years Later

Christine Weason

A HeatStroke Anniversary Update with Reelected Phoenix Rep.

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

District 25 encompasses most of the city's historic preservation neighborhoods, and the gay and lesbian percentage of its constituency—perhaps the highest among Arizona's districts—has another supportive voice in the house with Weason retaining her seat.

She serves beside openly gay Democrat Ken Cheuvront. Cheuvront and highly respected Democratic State Senator Chris Cummiskey were also reelected this month, giving the minority party a sweep in District 25 for the third election cycle.

"We are very happy to have shredded Wheat as bad as we did," Weason joked, punning on the last name of Milton Wheat, the family-values Republican who ran for the House in District 25 and lost.

A few days after her win and with a special session to address the alternative-fuels crisis looming, Rep.

Weason was still enjoying an election-day high as she tried to relax in a local coffeehouse on a chilly November morning.

She talked enthusiastically about her job at the Capitol as we addressed her ongoing support for gay and lesbian equality, her experiences in office thus far, and her high hopes for the upcoming legislative session.

She's optimistic about what the Democrats can accomplish on behalf of gay equality in both the Arizona House and Senate in 2001, due to the Senate's 50/50 Republican/Democratic split and a four-

seat Democratic gain in the House that came out of the Nov. 7 election.

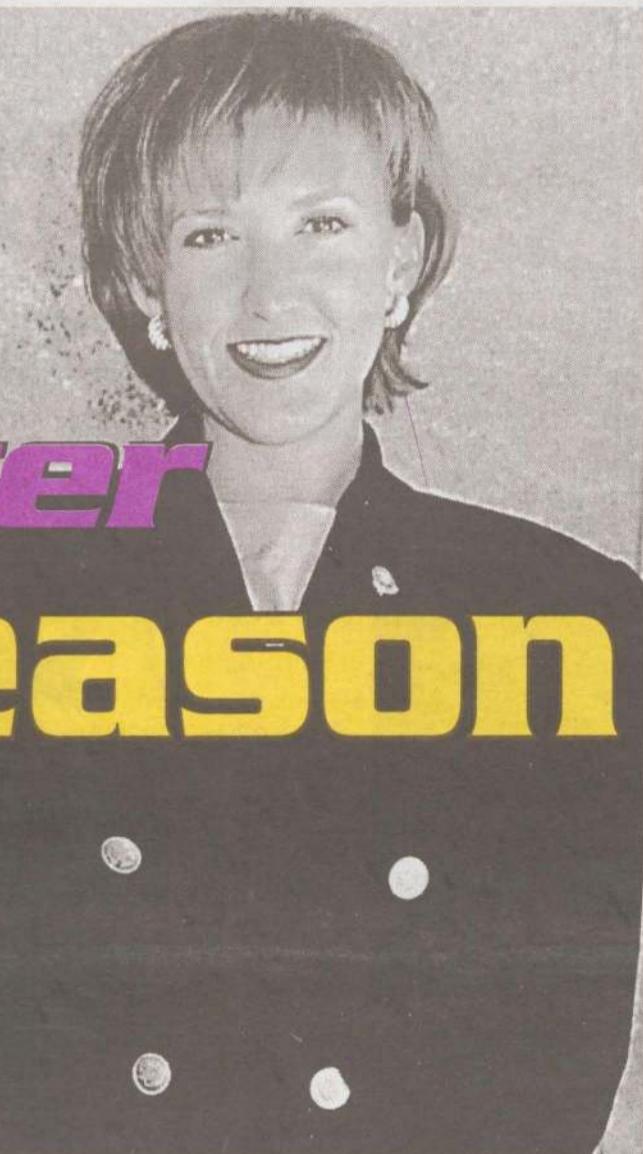
Some promising developments for *HeatStroke's* readership: Anti-gay Republican Jeff Grosco lost his District 30 Senate bid to Democrat Jay Blanchard and also stepped down as House Speaker for the rest of this session; and Ken Cheuvront has already been chosen Minority Leader of the House for next session.

Weason respects both Cheuvront and Cummiskey immeasurably and said she would like to see Cummiskey named Senate President. "It would be great for District 25, and it would be a great launching pad for him to go on to higher office, to Secretary of State or Governor, or whatever that may be." (Weason may not get her wish next term. At press time, Senate leaders were reportedly brokering a deal that would see moderate Republican Randall Gnant taking the chair in exchange for the dems getting some key committee chairmanships.)

Discrimination is an issue

As is the case with many non-gay people who support gay equality, Weason's sense of fairness towards the gay community stems from a personal relationship. "My friend, Craig, is gay, and we grew up together," she stated. "We've known each other for 25 or 30 years."

She advertised her campaign in the gay press and sees the community as an important support base. "Knowing my friends that I've grown up with, I never saw [being gay] as being any different from if you're a Lutheran, or a Presbyterian, or whatever. It's just how somebody's born and how they are—why should they be dis-



criminated against because of their sexual orientation?"

Weason explained that many legislators don't think of

gay discrimination as an issue because they don't realize

that few protections actually exist. "But it turns out that

there is employment discrimination," she says, "and that's the most heinous thing. I'd like to work on a bipartisan [non-discrimination] bill to include sexual orientation so that gay people who are discriminated against can have legal recourse."

With only 14 states offering their GLBT citizens basic equality, many equal-rights advocates don't see conservative Arizona as a logical addition to the list, but Weason disagrees. She said that progress is definitely being made and that the state is often mischaracterized as being

overly conservative.

"With this election cycle, rejecting [noted homophobe Barbara] Blewster, rejecting [ultra-conservative Jean] McGrath, we're showing that we're tired of this ultra-right extremism, and we need to come more to the center. I think a lot of people in Arizona just want to be left alone in their personal lives, and they want to be protected in their public lives—and that's how it should be."

Weason said there should be "fairness across the board, regardless of socioeconomic conditions or sexual orientation. And I'm really excited about this term because I think we can make some good advances."

Key to changing the way gay-positive bills move (or, as in the past, *don't move*) through the House will depend largely upon how the chair positions of the legislative committees are assigned when the session begins in January.

"The Republicans are so split," Weason related. "There are 36 members and you've got the extremist Republicans and the moderate Republicans. What's going to be happening is that the Republicans are going to be reaching out to the Democrats and building a coalition."

The extremists, she said, need to be put in their own corner "so they can argue about creationism or whatever they want to deal with, and the rest of us can talk about education, and public policy that really matters to the State of Arizona."

See "Weason Wins..." page 14

Gay & Lesbian Life, Commentary and Culture

HeatStroke

Phoenix, Arizona

November 20, 1996

Volume 1, No. 1

District 25 elects 2nd gay-friendly Rep.

Pivotal District ousts ultra-conservative Updike

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

"**R**EPUBLICAN UPDIKE WAS ABSOLUTELY THE worst kind of legislator for central Phoenix. He's a thin kind, an embossed, he's anti-war... So says candidate Christine Weason, the 32-year-old attorney who unseated Updike on November 5.

Weason, a Democrat, was elected to one of two House seats in state legislative District 25. District 25 is known to have a large gay and lesbian population and Weason made no secret of courting the gay vote. "I have many gay friends and I truly believe in equal rights for everyone," she says.

The new legislator will be serving next to elected Representative Ken Cheuvront. Cheuvront, also a Democrat, holds the distinction of being Arizona's only openly gay state legislator.

Weason is bright, eager and outspoken. She doesn't hide her distaste for the defeated Updike and his brand of right-wing politics. "He was way out there," she says. "There was a consistent

At the capital that he was an extremist, and this district certainly didn't need to be represented by an extremist. He was really a d**k."

"Christine will be an excellent representative for our District," says Joe Della Rocca, the newly elected Chair of the Democratic Party in District 25. "I wasn't sure at first how she would do, but the results in the September primary were so strong that we knew the Democrats had a good chance of beating Updike and taking both seats."

The Arizona Republic's editorial board recommended Weason and Cheuvront in the election. The Arizona Human Rights Education Fund and the Arizona Human Rights Education Fund (AHRF), a gay and lesbian political action group, Weason says she believes "Equal rights, equal access, equal protection for everyone." She was also endorsed by the Arizona Education Association and the National Organization for Women.

The district in which Weason won has a history of electing polarized candidates from opposite parties who end up working—and voting—against each other. Gay Democrat Cheuvront

has been serving in the statehouse alongside Mormon Republican Robert Updike since both were elected in 1994.

In her regular editorial column after the 1994 election, Kevin Willey, the Arizona Republic's political commentator, attempted to explain how one region could elect two such vastly different representatives.

Willey lauded the election of Cheuvront, calling it "an important victory for the mainstream press for the first time and calling the successful election of a gay candidate in Arizona 'refreshing to see.' She also described shady campaign tactics of which Updike had been accused, including the distribution of gay-bashing leaflets in some precincts. She called Updike a 'Mormon activist and a defender of Falwell's Meathem.' Willey also referred to Updike as a 'controversial district itself as "schizophrenic," having a "split personality."

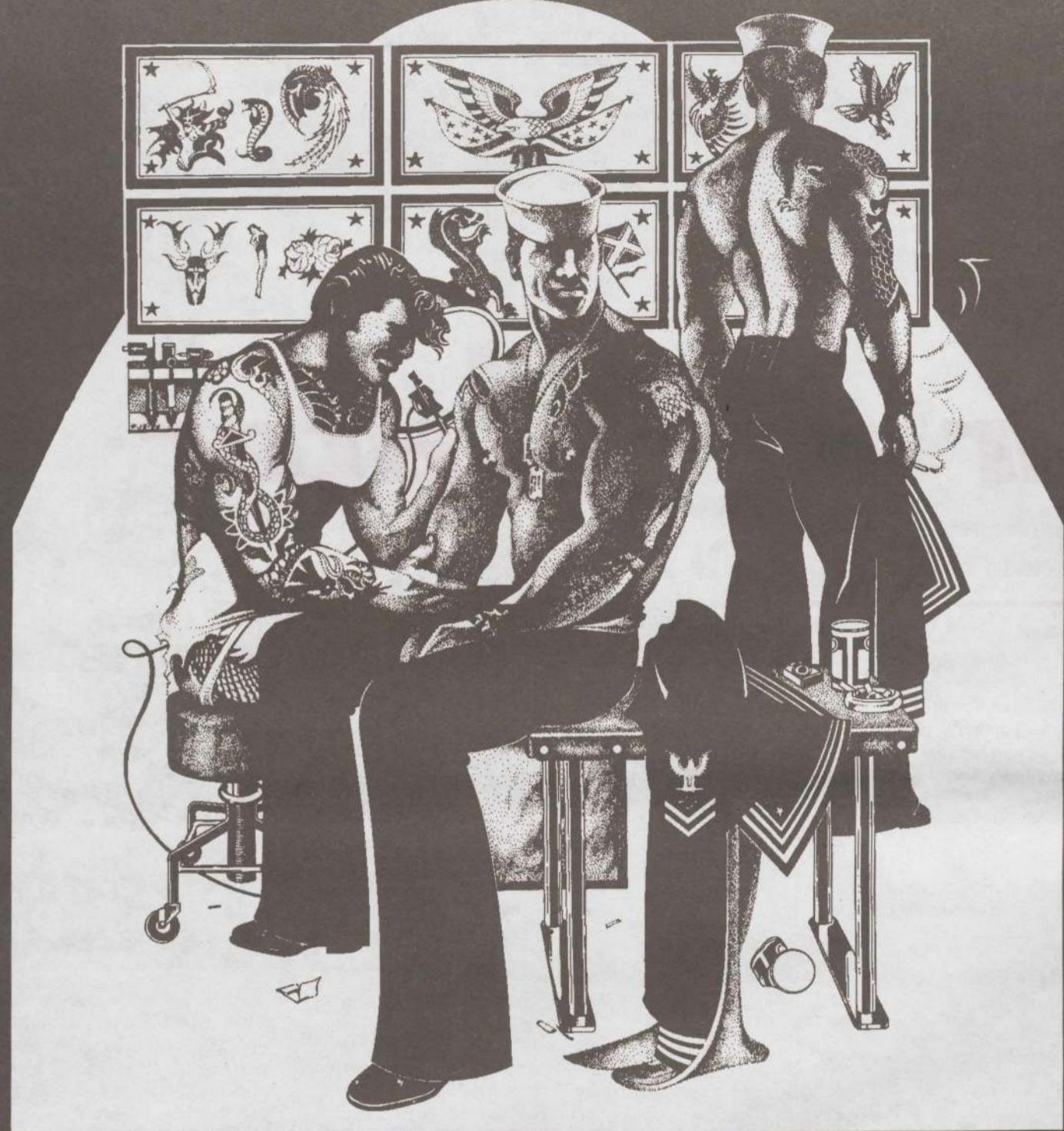
"Yes, that's probably still an accurate description, two years later," says Della Rocca. "I call it the most Southern split myself. The north is more conservative, the south is more progressive."

See "Weason Wins..." Page 5

Newly elected Rep. Christine Weason was featured in the first issue of HeatStroke.

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From our Readers

Pride Slogan Offensive?

Editors:

The Pride committee should be urged to reconsider its choice of next year's logo. (What part of Equal don't you understand?) It is argumentative, antagonistic and provocative.

Slogans and sound bites similar to this have historically been used in confrontational situations. The slogan does not express or reflect the Pride which members of the lgbt community should find within themselves or wish to share with others, it merely offers an "in your face" pose to the world at large.

It's totally inappropriate — lacking in pride, joy or fellowship.

Ken Furtado
Phoenix

Slogan Captures Essence of Pride

[Ed. note: we received the following response to Mr. Furtado's letter from ACP's Ernie Mendoza]

Dear Mr. Furtado:

First, thank you for your opinion. Fear is a normal response to a perceived confrontation of any kind.

The 2001 theme for Arizona Central Pride was chosen unanimously by the Board of Directors. I can agree with you that this years theme can be seen as a "in your face" attitude. But what puzzles me most is your blatant misunderstanding of what pride is.

The history of pride is one of human revolution. On June 28-30, 1969 NY police were confronted by angry patrons of the Stonewall bar. They were tired of being harassed simply because of their sexual orientation. The crowd numbered over two thousand, forcing the NYPD to take shelter in the very bar that they

had targeted. This is our history. This is why there are Pride celebrations worldwide.

In the State of Arizona, we as citizens and taxpayers are in fear of [losing] our jobs, our homes

"The slogan does not express or reflect the Pride which members of the lgbt community should find within themselves or wish to share with others, it merely offers an "in your face" pose to the world at large."

and even, for some of us, our children. It is time to get involved. It is not impossible for us to work with those who do not fight alongside us but against us. But those same individuals must learn that we, as a community, will not go away and that our Human and Civil Rights will not be trampled on.

As the current President of Arizona Central Pride, I do my part by helping to organize a Festival that mobilizes over 10,000 people. By doing so, we are able to help many non-profit organizations distribute information and educate our community

as to the needs and problems that we face on a daily basis. There are many opportunities available to us but we must make ourselves aware, first. Through this annual Festival and Parade we are also able to educate the Community-at-large as to these same issues.

Fear is a strange bedfellow. It can make you passive and submissive, or it can inspire you to greatness (like being a volunteer helping to fight for a cause).

What I truly find inappropriate is the lack of knowledge that one would have about what Pride is about and Why there are Pride Organizations around the world. The reason is to instill a sense of PRIDE in MILLIONS of others so that some of these people find the time and the Pride to fight for what is right: our lives, our dreams, and our basic Human Rights.

My only question to you is, "What Part of equal don't YOU understand?"

**Ernie Mendoza, President
Arizona Central Pride**

**Give us a piece of
your mind!**

Send compliments and criticisms to Editors, HeatStroke, 1 nightstand publications, Ltd., PO Box 33430, Phoenix AZ 85067. Or choose one of the e-mail addresses at left and reach us via computer.

Either way, you'll need to include your full name and address. We'll print only your city, and will withhold your name if you ask us to. Letters may be edited for length, grammar and clarity.

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Deb Price

Equal Protection for Elderly Gays is only Fair

After 42 years together, the lesbian couple needed nursing home care. Their relatives swooped in, put them in separate institutions and refused to let them see each other.

Their tragedy, described in a new report that should serve as a national wake-up call, spotlights the special vulnerability of older gay Americans. At the age when they are least able to protect themselves, gay retirees are cruelly victimized by discriminatory attitudes, regulations and laws.

For example, federal policies tailored to heterosexuals shamelessly pick the pockets of gay elders and push countless thousands into poverty by denying them a fair share of retirement benefits.

"One of the hardest things is getting people, even gay people, not to narrowly define our issues," notes Sean Cahill, an author of *Outing Age*, the welcome new study by the National Gay and Lesbian



public accommodations.

Another essential protection is legalization of same-sex marriage because that would force public and private policymakers to be fair financially to gay couples.

In the meantime, officials who say they support fairness but oppose gay marriage must be pushed to prove their good intentions by updating the definition of "spouse" so gay couples qualify for essential spousal benefits.

A few illustrations of the enormity of the injustice that gay elders are suffering:

- **Social Security.** The surviving gay partner of a retiree receives no Social Security survivor benefits. That contrasts with the more than \$5,000 per year that widows and widowers draw, on average, in survivor benefits. *Outing Age* estimates that, in that one area alone, the federal failure to be fair is costing gay seniors \$124 million a year.

- **Medicaid.**

When a gay elder needs Medicaid-financed nursing home care, his or her partner can lose their jointly owned home because gay couples aren't covered by federal rules protecting the assets of nursing home residents' spouses.

- **401(k) plans.** Surviving gay partners suffer an immediate 20-percent tax bite on inherited 401(k) money. Legal spouses under age 70 can roll the entire amount into a tax-free individual retirement account.

- **Spousal benefits.** Federal law requires that pension plans protect surviving spouses: The worker's legal spouse gets half the pension even after the worker's death. Gay couples enjoy no such protection and very, very few get spousal benefits from private pensions. Plus, Social Security spousal benefits, which make the difference between a comfortable and cramped retirement for millions of Americans, are still out of reach for gay couples.

Older gay Americans helped pay for the multitude of protections that their straight friends and neighbors enjoy.

Isn't it time to treat all our elders with fairness and respect?

Officials who say they support fairness but oppose gay marriage must be pushed to prove their good intentions by updating the definition of "spouse" so gay couples qualify for essential spousal benefits.

Task Force Policy Institute. "Social Security is a gay issue. Medicaid is a gay issue," he stresses.

The report's timely release offers compelling reasons why the next president, the Congress and organizations devoted to serving older Americans ought to face up to and correct the gross inequities being inflicted upon gay elders. (For the full report, go to www.nglft.org.)

Older gays, fearing neglect or outright abuse at the hands of hostile nursing home personnel, often find themselves retreating into the closet after living openly for much of their lives.

Outing Age documents that such fears are well-founded: A resident of one home wasn't bathed because no one wanted "to touch the lesbian." A social worker at another reported, "We don't allow partners of the same sex into the home. (It's) part of the admission requirement."

Meanwhile, a 1994 New York state survey found that gay elders were not welcome at 46 percent of senior centers there.

One urgently needed protection for older gay Americans is federal civil rights legislation that would outlaw discrimination based on sexual orientation not just in employment but also in housing and

assets of nursing home residents' spouses.

- **401(k) plans.** Surviving gay partners suffer an immediate 20-percent tax bite on inherited 401(k) money. Legal spouses under age 70 can roll the entire amount into a tax-free individual retirement account.
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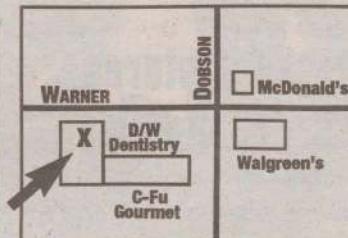
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Deb Price of *The Detroit News'* Washington bureau writes about gay civil rights in this column. Write to Price at GNS Features, 1000 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, Va. 22229-0001.

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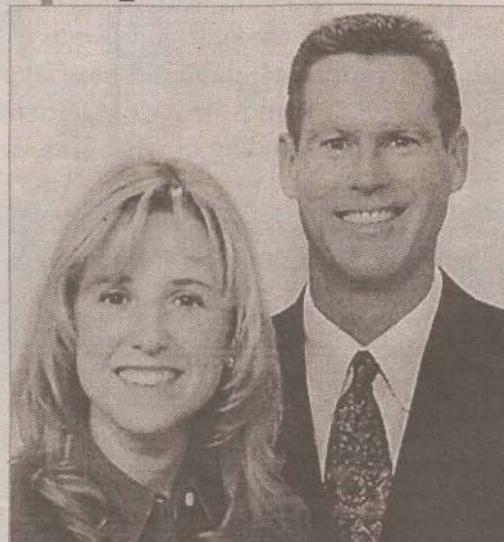
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SLOUCHING THROUGH Gomorrah

BY MICHAEL ALVEAR



Monogamy: A Moral Law or a Strong Suggestion?

Is it possible to be in a deeply loving, committed relationship and still have sex with other people?

Can you look into the eyes of your

things: 1) The opportunity to create new kinds of relationships and 2) The opportunity to see the kind of spectacular chemical reaction the boys at the Manhattan Project jerked off to every night.

It is here, in this petri dish, where you'll get the full explosion of contradictory human responses. It is here where you'll see the delicate tendrils of social custom mix with indestructible biological imperatives and plutonium-grade hypocrisy. A more vivid comedy, a more

shadows after every encounter. Were they the consequences of violating a moral law? Or a holdover of antiquated thinking? More likely the answer is found in my roots—Jewish by birth, Catholic by upbringing.

Meaning, I was going to feel guilt and shame whether I violated a moral law or not.

Either way, I was left with an unanswered question: How could I so deeply and profoundly love my partner and still have sex with other guys?

At first, the answers seemed obvious, at least by society's measure: Because I didn't really love him. If I really loved

a relationship?

I'd say monogamy is not an immutable moral law precisely because society says it is. Society has been wrong on almost everything when it comes to sex and love. What society says is fake, dangerous and sick I often experience as genuine, safe and healthy.

Besides, ask any long-term couple the top five reasons why they're still together and none, I mean NONE, will say "because he's sexually faithful to me."

If sexual commitment is so unimportant in keeping couples together, why is fidelity considered so moral?

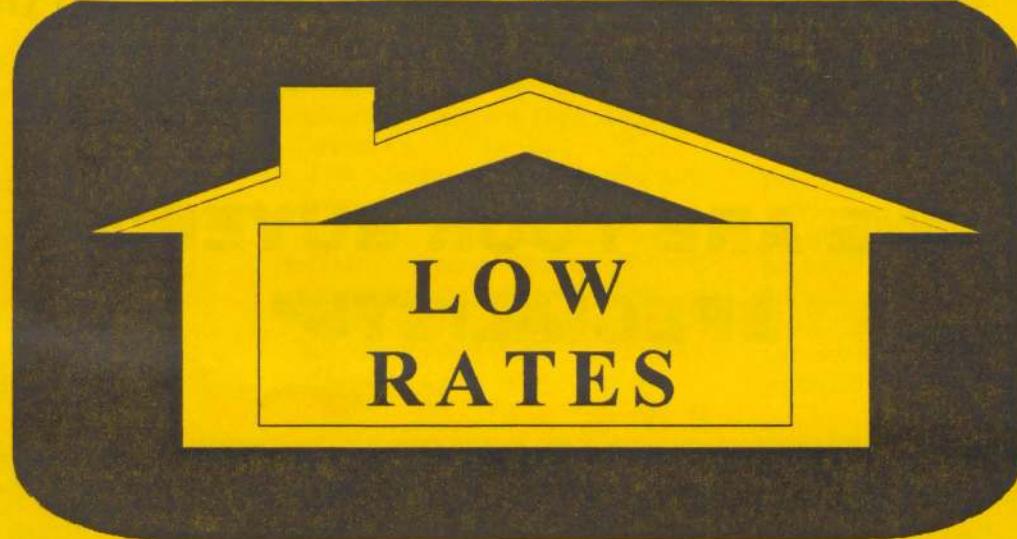
I'm not sure. All I know is that I struggle with the eternal question facing every man: How do you build a meaningful life when your inner pig snorts like there's a feeding around every corner?



Michael Alvear lives with Zoey & Zack, his lesbian Labrador and girlie-boy Vizsla. He can be mikealvear@aol.com

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Deb Price

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Their tragedy, described in a report that should serve as a wake-up call, spotlights the vulnerability of older gay Americans when they are least able to take care of themselves, gay retirees marginalized by discriminatory regulations and laws.

For example, federal policies to heterosexuals shamelessly pocket gay elders and thousands into poverty by taking a fair share of retirement benefits.

"One of the hardest things people, even gay people, define our issues," notes author of *Outing Age*, the study by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

Officials who say they support gay rights but oppose gay rights to prove their good will are not qualified for esse...

Task Force Policy Institute. "Homosexual Security is a gay issue. Many gay issues are gay issues," he stresses.

The report's timely report highlights the compelling reasons why the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and organizations serving older Americans must step up to and correct the gross discrimination being inflicted upon gay seniors.

Older gays, fearing neglect and abuse at the hands of hospital and home personnel, often find themselves retreating into the closet, physically and mentally, for much of their lives.

Outing Age document's findings are well-founded: A residential facility wasn't bathed because no one wanted to touch the lesbian. A social worker, another reported, "We don't want to put any of the same sex into the same room." This was part of the admission requirements.

Meanwhile, a 1994 National Gay and Lesbian Task Force survey found that gay elderly people are welcome at 46 percent of nursing homes.

One urgently needed piece of legislation is federal legislation that would outlaws discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment but also in



public accommodations.

Another essential protection is legalization of same-sex marriage because that would force public and private policy-

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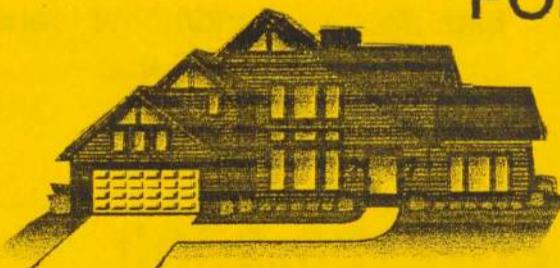
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SLOUCHING THROUGH Gomorrah

BY MICHAEL ALVEAR

Monogamy: A Moral Law or a Strong Suggestion?

Is it possible to be in a deeply loving, committed relationship and still have sex with other people?

Can you look into the eyes of your lover and whisper "I love you; I want us to be together for the rest of our lives" and then bang the new guy at the gym without being a hypocrite?

No, you cannot.

You cannot truly love someone and have sex with other people. You cannot. But maybe others can.

The answer depends on the "you" behind the "can" or "cannot."

But should it?

The problem with ignoring society's moral codes and acting under your own set of values is that it invites anarchy. If you sincerely believe, on moral grounds, that gay men should be crucified on Wyoming ranches, then why should Matthew Shepard's killers be punished? After all, they were operating under their own set of moral values.

Clearly moral relativism (respecting moral values that are different than yours) is wrong when it comes to the public's physical safety. But when it comes to an individual's emotional safety, it's a different story.

Put moral relativism in a petri dish with monogamy and you'll see two

things: 1) The opportunity to create new kinds of relationships and 2) The opportunity to see the kind of spectacular chemical reaction the boys at the Manhattan Project jerked off to every night.

It is here, in this petri dish, where you'll get the full explosion of contradictory human responses. It is here where you'll see the delicate tendrils of social custom mix with indestructible biological imperatives and plutonium-grade hypocrisy. A more vivid comedy, a more anguished drama, you could not create.

I should know. My desire for other men while I was married got me into a lot

Is monogamy a core moral value we violate at our own peril? Or simply a preferred method of having a relationship?

of trouble. Though, I must say, not nearly as much trouble as actually *having* the men I desired. There really is a difference between having lust in your heart and a notch on your bedpost. I've got the bruises to prove it.

I "wandered" in my relationships. If you can call a disciplined, structured, 24/7 cruising campaign "wandering." Not that it happened that often. My insistence on decorum prevented the frequency of my himbo eruptions from reaching Clinton-esque proportions.

Shame and guilt followed me like

shadows after every encounter. Were they the consequences of violating a moral law? Or a holdover of antiquated thinking? More likely the answer is found in my roots—Jewish by birth, Catholic by upbringing.

Meaning, I was going to feel guilt and shame whether I violated a moral law or not.

Either way, I was left with an unanswered question: How could I so deeply and profoundly love my partner and still have sex with other guys?

At first, the answers seemed obvious, at least by society's measure: Because I didn't really love him. If I really loved him I wouldn't be fooling around on the side. Society's second answer is that I truly did love him, but that

there was something wrong with the relationship and I was trying to make up for it with other people.

What society refuses to see is a third possibility. The possibility that human beings are capable of experiencing two contradictory feelings at the same time and that one does not negate the other. Maybe true love doesn't prevent you from wanting casual sex. And maybe casual sex doesn't diminish profound love.

Is monogamy a core moral value we violate at our own peril? Or simply a preferred method of having



Michael Alvear lives with Zoey & Zack, his lesbian Labrador and girlie-boy Vizsla. He can be reached at mikealvear@aol.com

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Politically Speaking

By Kathie Gummere, Contributor

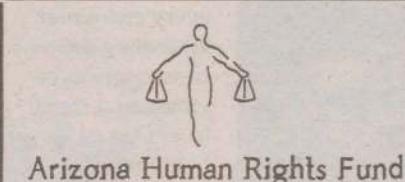
As I write this, the election is over but we still don't know all the winners. By the time you read this, I hope we will know the winners. Did our candidates succeed? Or not? In either case, we can't give up now.

I know that I am tired of hearing the rhetoric and part of me can't wait for it to all be over. But not for the reasons that you might assume.

The other day, a friend said that he knew I would be busy with the campaigns now, but he wanted to see me after the election. What he didn't understand is that the real work actually begins after the election. Whether "my" candidates won or lost, the political process doesn't end with the voting.

Now is the time to contact the winners and start the process of getting our issues "in front of them. If "our" person didn't win in a particular race, then the work of education begins.

Will this person listen to us? How can we educate new legislators? What can we do to remind those we supported that we did much to help them get elected? How do we want to remind others of what we



Arizona Human Rights Fund

are asking and why it is important? Who will work with us? Who will be a lead sponsor on our legislation? Who will be a co-sponsor? Which key legislators need to be contacted? What is the best way to introduce various pieces of legislation? How do we get a majority to support us?

What's at stake? With the Arizona Senate evenly split and with some of our foes no longer in the House, we have a very good chance of getting a repeal of archaic laws passed this session (remember, we got it to a tie vote last session).

We also have other legislation that will be introduced this year. There is talk of an attempt to repeal last session's historic bill that included same-sex partners in the definition of a domestic violence victim, so we may need to fight that battle again. There are also some great possibilities for including same-sex partners in several other areas of the law.

Of course, I don't personally do these things. Much of the actual contacts with legislators are done by others. But we can all participate. What can each of us do? I have a list. (You knew I would).

First, get to know who your state representatives and senator are. Get their phone numbers and/or e-mail addresses. That way, when an important vote is coming up, you can easily contact them and

give your opinion. Remember, they are elected. That means they pay attention to the number of calls they get on each side of each issue. We must be the loudest and most numerous calls they get on each of our issues. We were definitely heard last year, and we need to be even more prominent this year.

Second, we need people in each district to volunteer to coordinate the responses from that district—in other words, a Phone Tree Coordinator. So, for instance, if we need lots of calls from District 1, we need one person who has the names of others in District 1, who has other names, etc. Arizona Human Rights

Legislature Day. We have not set a date yet, but it will likely be in late January. We need lots of volunteers. We need people to coordinate the day, staff the registration desk, deliver the petitions to the legislators, etc., etc. And—most important of all—we need everyone to show up on the appointed day. Please call the AHRF office at 602/650-0900 to volunteer your time.

Are you happy or sad about the election, or just glad it's over? In either case, you cannot afford to be complacent. We have much still to accomplish, and much to protect.

We can't do it simply by voting once every few years and then sitting back. The other side doesn't. Someone sent me an e-mail that quoted a letter to the editor of an Ohio newspaper. The entire letter said: "Why should I vote? Because Matthew Shepherd can't, and because Laura Schlessinger

can." I say the same holds true for what happens after the election.

Matthew can't speak anymore, Laura can. You can, too. Make yourself heard.



Kathie Gummere is co-chair of the Arizona Human Rights Fund and a Phoenix Attorney. She may be reached at kgrn@goodnet.com

What's at stake? With the Arizona Senate evenly split and with some of our foes no longer in the House, we have a very good chance of getting a repeal of archaic laws passed this session (remember, we got it to a tie vote last session).

Fund calls the coordinator, the coordinator calls five people, each of those people calls five people, etc. This is the way our opposition works, and it is very effective. The more calls we can get to the legislators, the more they listen. Volunteer to be the point person for, or a part of, a phone tree in your district. E-mail me if you are interested.

Third, participate in Visit The

And Then There Were Three

Arizonans elect third openly gay man to State House of Reps

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

The citizens of Southern Arizona's legislative District 14 elected Republican Edward M. Poelstra to a two-year term in the State House of Representatives on Nov. 7, bringing the total of out gay legislators in the state to three.

After his swearing-in in January, Poelstra will join Republican Steve May, 26 - east Phoenix/Paradise Valley and Democrat Ken Cheuvront, 25 - central Phoenix, as openly gay men serving in the 60-member House.

Poelstra's sexual orientation was publicly discussed in both the mainstream and gay media in Tucson during the campaign, though his candidacy as a gay man was not mentioned by the press in Phoenix

outside of his quiet endorsement by the gay and lesbian political advocacy group, Arizona Human Rights Fund (AHRF).

Ron Pasarelli of AHRF's Community Action Network said that Poelstra's race was an extremely close one. "We weren't sure we could call it, but it looks like [Poelstra] has it by 27 votes," Pasarelli said after checking the Arizona Secretary of State's website for an official tally on Nov. 14.

Asked about the seemingly strange preponderance of openly gay elected officials in Arizona, Pasarelli said, "I think it's wonderful. Everybody talks about Arizona being backward but at least we've got people down here who are willing to run."

AHRF Co-Chair and *HeatStroke* political columnist Kathie Gummere said that she had not met Poelstra, but that the AHRF board members in Tucson had strongly endorsed him in the race. "It's my understanding that he has not been out [of the closet] for very long," Gummere said.

Pasarelli said that he has met Poelstra and that he is encouraged that he will stand up for gay and lesbian issues when they come up in the legislative session.

Cheuvront became the first openly gay person elected to the Arizona House when he won in 1994. May became the second out gay candidate—and the first out Republican—to win a House seat in 1998. Both men were reelected on Nov. 7.

Gay vets donate military memorial

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

Nearly 50 people gathered in north Phoenix at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 11 to witness the Veterans Day dedication of a new memorial to honor and acknowledge the service of gay men and lesbians in military service.

The rainbow-colored, carved granite memorial, a donation of the Arizona Rainbow Veterans, was installed in the Phoenix National Memorial Cemetery at 23029 N. Cave Creek Rd. An engraving on the memorial reads, "In Memory of All Veterans Who Served With Courage and Pride."

The memorial is the first of its kind in the national cemetery system to be donated by a gay organization. Former Arizona Rainbow Veterans President Wally Straughn said that the memorial is not only for those who gave their lives, "but also those who sacrificed their careers, their honor and their dignity to serve in the military."

Speaking at the dedication were Reverends Patrick Stout of the Community Church of Hope and Charley Coppinger from the state legislature. Arizona Rainbow Veterans President Franc Gaxiola also spoke, as did Jim Jim Donovan, president of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America.

Donovan, who came from Colorado to attend the dedication, said the inclusion of a gay group in the national cemetery system was "a long time in coming."

Following the formal ceremony, Donovan laid a wreath at the new memorial to honor the gay men and women who have served in silence due to the nation's history of excluding gay people from military service.



Jim Donovan, President of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America

Rev. Coppinger's Ordination Revoked

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

Rev. Charles "Charley" Coppinger, Chaplain to the Arizona House of Representatives and the Arizona Senate, was informed on Oct. 27 that his ordination from Christ's Church of the Valley, located in Peoria, has been revoked effective Oct. 22.



Rev. Charlie Coppinger, Arizona's Legislative Chaplain

The Protestant denomination's action came as a result of Coppinger's public acknowledgement on Oct. 10 that he is gay. Coppinger, 36, is a Phoenix native who has served as the official Chaplain to the state legislature for nearly four years.

In a certified letter to Coppinger, the Elders of the church stated that his ordination was being revoked, in part, because he "rejected God's word as the ONLY (emphasis theirs) rule for faith and practice by allowing culture to add and subtract from it" and that he "changed [his] view of God."

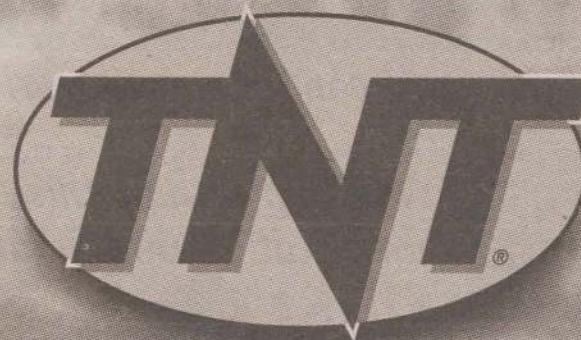
Coppinger responded with a letter denying the Elders' accusations and stating that he would "peacefully protest" the revocation.

Coppinger has said that he serves at the pleasure of the President of the Senate and the House Leader. He has no plans to resign his position, believing that "it would be immoral to do so."

He has said that he will likely pursue an ordination from The Community Church of Hope, a Phoenix-based congregation serving primarily the glbt community.

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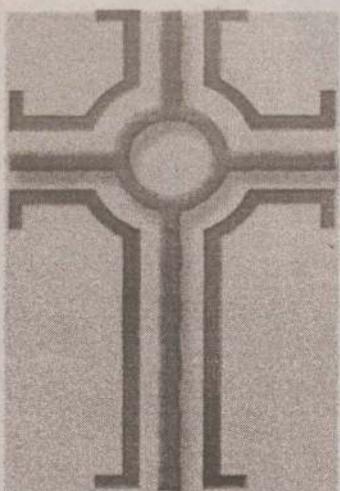
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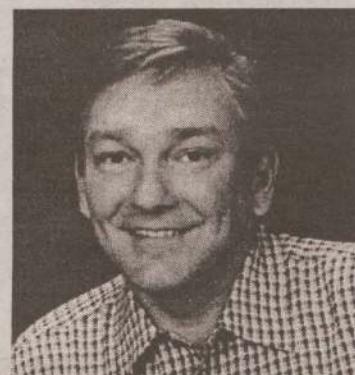


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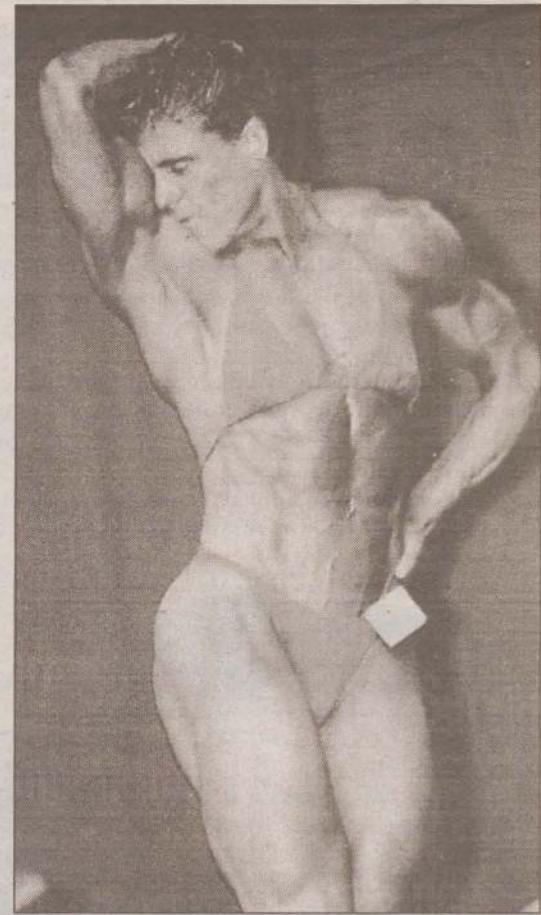
Jerry Cook, Pastor

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Phoenix Woman Wins Ms. USA Competition

Julie Melson of Phoenix won the overall championship of the prestigious Ms. USA bodybuilding competition on Sept. 16 in New York City. Melson was also the only American bodybuilder invited to compete in the Ms. Universe 2000 competition in London.

Melson holds a Ms. Arizona Heavyweight title and the current Ms. Southwest Physique title. A certified personal trainer, she has an extensive background in both competitive bodybuilding and endurance training. She has competed in marathons, duathlons, triathlons and long-distance cycling.



Gay Chamber hosts NetMixes, Lunches

The Greater Phoenix Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce held its best-attended NetMix, ever, on Nov. 8 at The Galleries of Neiman Marcus in the Biltmore Fashion Park.

These monthly evening events offer gay and gay-friendly professionals a chance to meet

and mingle midweek in a social/business setting. The next NetMix will be held Dec. 13 at 6:30 p.m. at Legacy Home Mortgage, 4040 E. Camelback Rd., Suite 200.

The Chamber's Scottsdale Lunch Bunch meets at Leo

Deli, 5101 N. Scottsdale Rd (just north of Chaparral) at 11:30 a.m. on the last Tuesday of the month. The Phoenix Lunch Bunch meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at Pookie's Cafe at 11:30 a.m. The cost for these networking and social lunch meetings is \$11.



Brian Morrow (left), and a colleague welcomed Bill Gemmill and the Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce to the Galleries of Neiman Marcus.

Steve May appeals "don't ask, don't tell" decision

PHOENIX (AP)—State Rep. Steve May, a first lieutenant in an Army reserve unit, has appealed the Army's decision to kick him out because he is gay.

Major Gen. John Scott of the 63rd Regional Support Unit where May is assigned, is reviewing the appeal. May told *The Arizona Republic* he expects it to get bumped up to the Pentagon.

Along with his appeal, May included a letter to President Clinton, signed by 108 members of Congress who are urging him to overturn May's dismissal for violating the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy. It points out May's "exemplary record of service in the military."

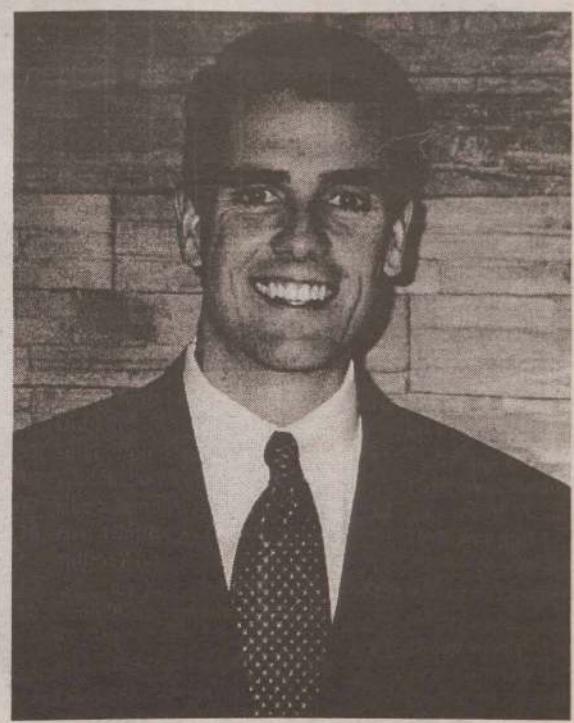
In September, a military panel recommended that May, a Republican legislator from Phoenix, be given an honorable discharge.

The decision was based on comments acknowledging his sexuality that May made during debate at the Legislature. His comments came when he opposed a bill to reverse Tucson's practice of extending health benefits to same-sex partners. He was an honorably discharged civilian at the time, but later was called back to the

Army during the Kosovo crisis.

May said he is determined to fight expulsion from the military and has raised \$25,000 to cover legal research, mailings, e-mails and other court-related costs.

"I am going to fight this thing until I win or the Supreme Court tells me I lost," May said. "They tried to malign my character. They made up lies about my record."



Army Reservist and State Representative Steve May

Religious leaders reject same-sex marriage in declaration

Gay advocates protest; over 100 arrested

WASHINGTON (AP)—A group of national religious leaders rejected same-sex marriage in a first-of-its-kind "Christian Declaration on Marriage" issued Nov. 14 at the U.S. Catholic bishops' fall conference.

The declaration calls for "a stronger commitment to this holy union" and "practical ministries and influence for reversing the course of our culture." The declaration defines marriage as "a holy union of one man and one woman."

About 200 protesters blasted the Catholic Church's stance on gay rights, demanding that the church stop "spiritual violence" against gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered members. About 100 protesters were arrested after they blocked the entrance to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The shrine stands next to the Catholic University of America in Northeast Washington.

"Therefore, as church leaders, we rec-

The bishops' meeting comes as the Roman Catholic church closes out its celebration of Jubilee 2000, the church's marking of the new millennium.

The marriage declaration was signed by Bishop Anthony O'Connell of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, Richard Land of the Southern Baptist Convention, Robert Edgar of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. and Bishop Kevin Mannoia, president of the National Association of Evangelicals.

At a press conference announcing the declaration, neither Mannoia nor Land offered any specifics on how it would be implemented. The declaration said high divorce rates, a rise in cohabitation and out-of-wedlock births, as well as a "diminishing interest in and readiness for marrying, especially among young people," adversely affects society.

"We know we are God's children, and we know we are loved by God," said protester Mark Rumper, 36, of San Francisco. "We want a place at the table."

ognize an unprecedented need and responsibility to help couples begin, build, and sustain better marriages, and to restore those threatened by divorce," the declaration said.

An estimated 200 gay rights advocates quietly protested in a light rain at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Many marchers made the sign of the Cross as they walked in front of the shrine. Others held signs bearing the names of bishops whom they had "adopted," by writing letters urging them to reconsider the church's stance on homosexuality.

Among the arrested was the Rev. William Sloane Coffin, 76, a former pastor of Riverside Church in New York. From a wheelchair, Coffin said the Catholic church refuses to be forward-thinking in its approach to homosexual church mem-

bers.

"The Catholic bishops are steering the car by what they see in the rearview mirror," he said.

Police arrested about 100 protesters after they blocked entry to the shrine from a main thoroughfare. Other protesters cheered as they were led away in plastic handcuffs.

The protest was sponsored by three advocacy groups for gay and bisexual churchgoers: Soulforce, Dignity/USA and Equal Partners in Faith.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says homosexual acts are "intrinsically disordered." It adds, "Under no circumstances can they be approved."

The Catechism also says the inclination toward homosexuality constitutes "a trial" for most gays, adding that they "must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity. Every sign of unjust discrimination in their regard should be avoided."

AGRA donates \$20,000 to charities

At its monthly meeting on Sunday, Nov. 12, the Arizona Gay Rodeo Association (AGRA) donated a total of \$20,000 from the proceeds of its 2000 Road Runner Regional Rodeo to four local non-profit organizations.

The organizations and the amount each was granted were decided by AGRA members at the group's September general membership meeting. The rodeo is held in Phoenix each January.

Receiving \$6,484 was the Phoenix-based Joshua Tree Feeding Program. Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays received a check for \$6,272. The Community Church of Hope in Phoenix was granted \$3,516, and TIHAN, a Tucson-based HIV/AIDS organization accepted a check for \$3,228.

AGRA spokesman Ric Leone said that the organization congratulates all the recipients, and that AGRA is proud to have been able to donate such a substantial amount to charities.

Leone said the grant money is the result of the community support AGRA receives at its annual rodeos. There was a particularly large turnout for the 2000 Road Runner Regional Rodeo, in the contestant field as well as for spectators.

Work is underway for the upcoming 2001 Road Runner Regional Rodeo. Rodeo festivities begin on Thursday, Jan. 12 with the Royalty Competitions and continuing with rodeo competition to be held on Saturday, Jan. 13 and Sunday, Jan. 14 at the Corona Ranch and Rodeo grounds at 29th Ave. and Baseline Rd. in south

Phoenix.

Another reason our Rodeo was so successful was the great work of our volunteers. AGRA depends on volunteers to stage a successful Rodeo. You don't have to be a member of AGRA to volunteer and be a part of the 2001 Road Runner Regional Rodeo.

Anyone interested in volunteering for any number of positions available, may



AGRA President, Ron Trusley (far right) presents a check to Rev. Patrick Stout (center right) and members of Community Church of Hope.

obtain a volunteer form. Call the AGRA Phoenix chapter hot line at 602-265-0618.

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Sunday	Wednesday
Happy Hour 10am-8pm	Happy Hour 10am-8pm
"Booze & Cruise",	"Booze & Cruise",
8pm-12am	8pm-12am
Reduced prices on well	Reduced prices on
drinks, domestic	well drinks, domestic
beer & shot specials	beer & shot specials
Monday	Thursday
Happy Hour 10am-8pm	Happy Hour 10am-8pm,
Beer Bust 8pm-12 am	Beer Bust 8pm - 12am
Domestic Beer \$1.75	Baby Cooks 5-7pm
Draft \$1.25	
Free Pool all day	
Tuesday	Friday
Happy Hour 10am-8pm	Extended Happy Hour
"Vulgar Vodka" Night	10am - 9pm
Well Vodka \$2.00	
Saturday	Saturday
	Happy Hour 10am - 8pm

Upcoming Events

Thurs., Nov. 16	6 - 9 pm	Coors Lite Promo Party
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Fri., Dec. 1	9 pm	Lady Casondra's 47th Birthday Party & Show
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GERMAN PARLIAMENT PASSES PARTNERS BILL

The lower house of Germany's parliament, the Bundestag, passed a two-part gay "life partnerships" bill Nov. 10.

Part one gives registered couples spousal rights and obligations in areas such as tenancy, inheritance, hospital visitation, health insurance, immigration, child custody and alimony. Part one does not need approval from the more conservative upper house of parliament and will become law in a few months.

Part two, which equalizes gay couples in areas such as taxation and welfare benefits, does need approval from the Bundesrat, and faces a tough battle there.

"Our long struggle for equal rights of lesbian and gay partnerships has been acknowledged and has now succeeded," said Manfred Bruns of the German Lesbian & Gay Association. "The debate in the parliament today and all opinion polls prove there is an overwhelming majority among politicians and in the society for the legal recognition of lesbian and gay partnerships. The 10th of November is a historical day for lesbians and gays in Germany."

The Vatican denounced the German parliament for "legitimiz[ing] a moral disorder."

Such laws "disfigure the divine project of matrimony, damage the family, and produce negative effects on society and on new generations," the church said.

Elsewhere, gay couples have nearly all rights of marriage in Denmark, France, Greenland, Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and the U.S. state of Vermont. In January, gay couples in the Netherlands will have access to full marriage under the regular marriage laws.

GAY KOREAN ACTOR WARMED TO NEW ROLE

Hong Suk-chon, the well-known Korean actor who became the nation's first out-of-the-closet public figure in September, is warming to his new role.

"I at least have gotten people talking about homosexuality," Hong said Nov. 3. "I dream of a day when parents tell their kids that homosexuals are not freaks."

Hong, 29, came out in an interview with a monthly publication on the condition that editors hold the story until he had time to come out to his parents. But before he had a chance to speak to them, a daily newspaper broke the story.

Immediately afterward, Hong broke down during a TV interview and said: "I really tried to live properly, but I've failed. I'm sorry. If you find that you don't like me anymore, I don't know what I'll do. I'm so emotionally worn out. I'm so sorry to the audience, who trusted me and feel betrayed."

He's feeling better now.

"I was so sorry at the time for causing concern to the people around me, especially my parents," he said. "In the first few days, the reaction was such that I thought people might attack me when they saw me on the streets. But I have since learned that there are many supporters too."

BELARUS CLUB CANCELS CONTEST

The Minsk, Belarus, bar Reactor cancelled the Miss Diva 2000 drag contest Oct. 27 saying the nation's president and city officials have threatened to close the club if it holds gay events, local activists reported.

The club also refused to return \$1,300 that the Belarus Lambda League had paid to rent the venue, the league said.

In September, city officials banned the gay-pride parade, shut down the pride-week launch event, closed the entire building that houses the pride office, cancelled the gay film festival and shut down other locations where pride events were planned.

Gays protested by holding an afternoon of unauthorized seminars in a city park then marching to a downtown monument and unfurling a large rainbow flag.

GAY GAMES MEAN BIG BUCKS

The 2002 Gay Games in Sydney will pour \$500 million (US \$260 million) into Australia's economy says the Federation of Gay Games (FGG).

Fifteen thousand athletes and 25,000 visitors are expected. The recent Sydney Olympics attracted 11,000 athletes.

"Since we do not use the athletes village, we expect all of the participants and the spectators to go to the hotels in the city, eat in the restaurants around the city, shop in the shops around the city," FGG co-president Bill Wassmer told *The Age*. "Since it is such a far distance to come we expect that most of the participants will stay for two or three weeks to see much more of Australia, so the economic impact will not only be felt in Sydney or New South Wales but all over Australia and New Zealand and the South Pacific region."

Meanwhile, New South Wales Premier Bob Carr has refused to give local Games organizers a \$500,000 (US \$260,000) grant.

Sydney Gay Games head Garrie Gibson said he needs the money to hire staff.

"By not having that immediate cash contribution it is severely limiting my capacity to plan this event, and to achieve the goals because I am not able to employ the people I need to employ," he told the *Sydney Morning Herald*. "The Government has got to appreciate that you can't put on one of the world's biggest sporting events—and make sure that Sydney gets a return on those venues that we have built—without financial support."

PHILIPPINE COPS GO UNDERCOVER

Philippine cops went undercover as homosexuals Nov. 5 to catch strippers dancing naked at the Malabon gay bar Bobelle's Disco.

Ten men were arrested and charged with indecent exposure and illegal public

exhibition.

The bar likely will be shut down, according to the *Philippine Daily Inquirer*.

THAI LADY PARTY DRAWS 400

Bangkok's day-long Lady Party 2000 drew 400 lesbians to the Hera Club on Ratchadaphisek Road Nov. 4.

But it wasn't all fun and games. The lesbian organization Anjaree announced plans to launch a gay-awareness campaign in public schools.

"Homosexuals exist in every age group, but most of those who declare themselves homosexual are teenagers," Anjaree coordinator Chantarak Raksay told the *Bangkok Post*.

The day also included stage entertainment, a fancy-dress contest, a Miss Popular contest and a dance.

POLICE BREAK UP MEETING OF MOLDAVA GAY GROUP

The first public meeting of Moldova's only legal gay organization, GenderDoc-M, was broken up by Kishinev police Sept. 23 at the Public Art Library because activists were unable to produce the group's official registration documents.

"Sexual minorities are not protected in any way," said GenderDoc-M Director Max Anmegikyan. "We are outlawed, the lowest caste possible, pedophiles and criminals."

He hopes Americans might lend a hand.

"Gay and lesbian America has a big heart and their support can be very helpful," he said. "Letters of support sent to genderdoc@mail.md can help because our authorities have a mixture of respect and fear toward America. Established contacts could also help us lobby the U.S. Embassy in requesting some money for our projects. Most important, of course, is moral support. It is very useful sometimes to feel you are not alone and there's somebody to back you up."

Moldova was formerly part of the Soviet Union.

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A program of AIDS Project Arizona. Funding in part by the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, the Health Resources and Service Administration, the Ryan White Care Act Amendments of 1996 and the Maricopa County Department of Public Health Services.

CHARLIE'S

Happy Thanksgiving!

- Enjoy Afterhours Weds., Nov. 22nd, Thurs., Nov 23rd, Fri. Nov. 24 & Sat. Nov. 25th!
- Thanksgiving! Open at 7pm.
- Wednesday, November 29th- Arizona Central Pride Royalty Show
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A Pickles AFFAIR

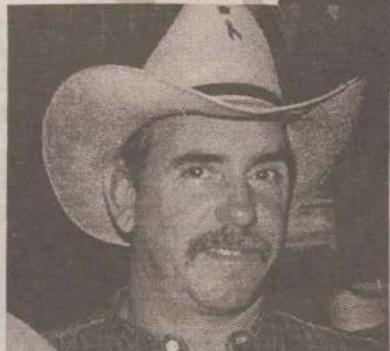
A BENEFIT SHOW FOR DONNIE HINES

Sunday, November 19th at 8:00pm

Hostess: Davee'
Host: Marque

with Guests:

Diane Daniels
Victoria London
Julie Craig
Suzanne Targe't
Erika Alexander
Men in Motion
Dan & Paul
Rolland
Barbra Seville
Kelly Daniels



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GERMAN PARLIAMENT PASSES PARTNERS BILL

The lower house of Germany's parliament, the Bundestag, passed a two-part gay "life partnerships" bill Nov. 10.

Part one gives registered couples spousal rights and obligations in areas such as tenancy, inheritance, hospital visitation, health insurance, immigration, child custody and alimony. Part one does not need approval from the more conservative upper house of parliament and will become law in a few months.

Part two, which equalizes gay couples in areas such as taxation and welfare benefits, does need approval from the Bundesrat, and faces a tough battle there.

"Our long struggle for equal rights of lesbian and gay partnerships has been acknowledged and has now succeeded," said Manfred Bruns of the German Lesbian & Gay Association. "The debate in the parliament today and all opinion polls prove there is an overwhelming majority among politicians and in the society for the legal recognition of lesbian and gay partnerships. The 10th of November is a historical day for lesbians and gays in Germany."

The Vatican denounced the German parliament for "legitimiz[ing] a moral disorder."

Such laws "disfigure the divine project of matrimony, damage the family, and produce negative effects on society and on new generations," the church said.

Elsewhere, gay couples have nearly all rights of marriage in Denmark, France, Greenland, Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and the U.S. state of Vermont. In January, gay couples in the Netherlands will have access to full marriage under the regular marriage laws.

GAY KOREAN ACTOR WARMS TO NEW ROLE

Hong Suk-chon, the well-known Korean actor who became the nation's first out-of-the-closet public figure in September, is warming to his new role.

"I at least have gotten people talking about homosexuality," Hong said Nov. 3. "I dream of a day when parents tell their kids that homosexuals are not freaks."

Hong, 29, came out in an interview with a monthly publication on the condition that editors hold the story until he had time to come out to his parents. But before he had a chance to speak to them, a daily newspaper broke the story.

Immediately afterward, Hong broke down during a TV interview and said: "I really tried to live properly, but I've failed. I'm sorry. If you find that you don't like me anymore, I don't know what I'll do. I'm so emotionally worn out. I'm so sorry to the audience, who trusted me and feel betrayed."

He's feeling better now.

"I was so sorry at the time for causing concern to the people around me, especially my parents," he said. "In the first few days, the reaction was such that I thought people might attack me when they saw me on the streets. But I have since learned that there are many supporters too."

BELARUS CLUB CANCELS CONTEST

The Minsk, Belarus, bar Reactor cancelled the Miss Diva 2000 drag contest Oct. 27 saying the nation's president and city officials have threatened to close the club if it holds gay events, local activists reported.

The club also refused to return \$1,300 that the Belarus Lambda League had paid to rent the venue, the league said.

In September, city officials banned the gay-pride parade, shut down the pride-week launch event, closed the entire building that houses the pride office, cancelled the gay film festival and shut down other locations where pride events were planned.

Gays protested by holding an afternoon of unauthorized seminars in a city park then marching to a downtown monument and unfurling a large rainbow flag.

GAY GAMES MEAN BIG BUCKS

The 2002 Gay Games in Sydney will pour \$500 million (US \$260 million) into Australia's economy says the Federation of Gay Games (FGG).

Fifteen thousand athletes and 25,000 visitors are expected. The recent Sydney Olympics attracted 11,000 athletes.

"Since we do not use the athletes village, we expect all of the participants and the spectators to go to the hotels in the city, eat in the restaurants around the city, shop in the shops around the city," FGG co-president Bill Wassmer told *The Age*. "Since it is such a far distance to come we expect that most of the participants will stay for two or three weeks to see much more of Australia, so the economic impact will not only be felt in Sydney or New South Wales but all over Australia and New Zealand and the South Pacific region."

Meanwhile, New South Wales Premier Bob Carr has refused to give local Games organizers a \$500,000 (US \$260,000) grant.

Sydney Gay Games head Garrie Gibson said he needs the money to hire staff.

"By not having that immediate cash contribution it is severely limiting my capacity to plan this event, and to achieve the goals because I am not able to employ the people I need to employ," he told the *Sydney Morning Herald*. "The Government has got to appreciate that you can't put on one of the world's biggest sporting events—and make sure that Sydney gets a return on those venues that we have built—without financial support."

PHILIPPINE COPS GO UNDERCOVER

Philippine cops went undercover as homosexuals Nov. 5 to catch strippers dancing naked at the Malabon gay bar Bobelle's Disco.

Ten men were arrested and charged with indecent exposure and illegal public

exhibition.

The bar likely will be shut down, according to the *Philippine Daily Inquirer*.

THAI LADY PARTY DRAWS 400

Bangkok's day-long Lady Party 2000 drew 400 lesbians to the Hera Club on Ratchadaphisek Road Nov. 4.

But it wasn't all fun and games. The lesbian organization Anjaree announced plans to launch a gay-awareness campaign in public schools.

"Homosexuals exist in every age group, but most of those who declare themselves homosexual are teenagers," Anjaree coordinator Chantarak Raksayu told the *Bangkok Post*.

The day also included stage entertainment, a fancy-dress contest, a Miss Popular contest and a dance.

POLICE BREAK UP MEETING OF MOLDAVA GAY GROUP

The first public meeting of Moldova's only legal gay organization, GenderDoc-M, was broken up by Kishinev police Sept. 23 at the Public Art Library because activists were unable to produce the group's official registration documents.

"Sexual minorities are not protected in any way," said GenderDoc-M Director Max Armegikyan. "We are outlawed, the lowest caste possible, pedophiles and criminals."

He hopes Americans might lend a hand.

"Gay and lesbian America has a big heart and their support can be very helpful," he said. "Letters of support sent to genderdoc@mail.md can help because our authorities have a mixture of respect and fear toward America. Established contacts could also help us lobby the U.S. Embassy in requesting some money for our projects. Most important, of course, is moral support. It is very useful sometimes to feel you are not alone and there's somebody to back you up."

Moldova was formerly part of the Soviet Union.

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TO BENEFIT AIDS PROJECT ARIZONA'S FOOD PANTRY PROGRAM.

SUNDAY

DECEMBER 10, 2000
FROM 1:00PM - ???

A program of AIDS Project Arizona. Funding in part by the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, the Health Resources and Service Administration, the Ryan White Care Act Amendments of 1996 and the Maricopa County Department of Public Health Services.

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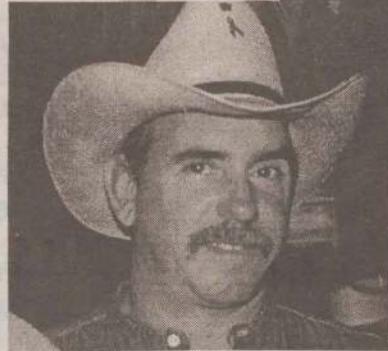
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Goings On

L.A.D.S. events

Los Amigos del Sol (L.A.D.S.) is a long-standing social club for gay men and lesbians based in the Valley. The group gets together often to socialize and to raise money to assist needy groups and individuals in the community.

L.A.D.S. will hold its annual Turkey Basket Trot on Friday, Nov. 17, meeting at Cash Inn at 7:00 p.m. The group will then head to Burkhouse, Johnny Mc's, Apollo's, Nasty Habits and back to Cash Inn to pass out tickets for drawings for free Thanksgiving turkeys and dinners. The group's annual Char Humanitarian Award for outstanding service will also be presented during this event.

On Saturday, Nov. 18, L.A.D.S. will hold its Thanksgiving dinner for members and guests, and the next general meeting will be on Dec. 9 and will include a pot luck dinner, pictures with Santa, and a gift exchange.

To meet and mingle with the friendly folks from L.A.D.S., call 602/997-2411.

Have lunch with Rep. Tammy Baldwin

The Arizona Stonewall Democrats are hosting a lunch with Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.). In 1998, Rep. Tammy Baldwin made history by becoming the first openly gay or lesbian American ever elected to Congress as a non-incumbent. Rep. Baldwin represents Wisconsin's 2nd Congressional District, which includes the Madison area and its surrounding counties.

Other speakers include Christine Kehoe, the first openly lesbian or gay person elected in San Diego, and Jeffrey Prang (Mayor of West Hollywood). The event will be held at The Holiday Inn Old

Town Scottsdale, 7353 E. Indian School Rd. on Saturday, Nov. 18 at 11:00 a.m. The cost is \$50 per person.

Make checks payable to the Arizona Stonewall Democrats and mail to PO Box 39524, Phoenix, AZ 85069. All proceeds will benefit the Arizona Stonewall Democrats. Donations are not tax deductible. For more information call Wally Straughn 602/864-6092.

VSCC Thanksgiving Nov. 19

The Valley of the Sun Community Church will share Thanksgiving dinner on Sunday, Nov. 19 at 6:00 p.m. The church will also host a "Hanging of the Green" holiday decorating party on Nov. 26.

VSCC meets for services on Sundays at 11:00 p.m. at Parkway Inn, 8617 N. Black Canyon Fwy. in Phoenix. For information, call 602/564-7895.

Leathermen holding food/clothing drives

The sponsors of the Southwest Regional Drummer Contests announce Keyth Fitzgerald's (Mr. Southwest Drummer 2000) "Thanks for Giving Project."

During November, non-perishable food items will be collected at approximately 20 locations throughout the Phoenix metro area. All foodstuffs will be donated to VIDA (Volunteers in Direct AID), an all-volunteer organization that assists people living with HIV/AIDS.

In December, clothing and personal grooming items will be collected in the same way. All items will again go to VIDA.

Women's Social Network

The Women's Social Network (WSN) is a weekly program presented by the Women's Center, Inc. Join them every Friday for fun, games, movies, refreshments, networking, and some surprises. It's a great alternative to meeting people at the bars.

WSN meets at the Community Church of Hope, 4400 N. Central (NW corner of Central and Turney), from 7:30-10:00 p.m. Admission is \$5.00. For more information, contact WomensCenterInc@aol.com.

Team AZ plans Sedona shopping trip

The Valley's gay and lesbian athletic organization, Team Arizona, is planning its second annual Christmas Charter Bus Trip to Sedona on Dec. 2. The holiday shopping trip to Tlaquepaque Arts and Crafts Village will depart Phoenix at 2:00 p.m. and return well after dark, so that travelers can enjoy the thousands of glowing holiday luminarias in Sedona that evening.

The trip costs \$25 per person and the money raised will go toward sending local athletes to the 2002 Gay games in Sydney, Australia. For reservations and more details, call Stan at 602/505-7826 or Greg at 602/277-7288.

Outdoor/indoor benefit at Incog

There will be an Outdoor/Indoor Ab/Fab Extravaganza at Incognito on Sunday, Dec. 10 to benefit The AIDS Project Arizona Food Pantry Program.

The event will begin at 1:00 p.m. and will feature a garage sale, raffle items, prizes, dancing, drink specials and more. Admission is \$3, or \$2 with the donation of a food item. Incognito is located at 2424 E. Thomas Rd. in Phoenix. Call 602/253-2437.

Gay socializing at PC

P.A.L.S. (People of Alternative Lifestyles) is an organization for the members and friends of Phoenix College's gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered community. The group meets on Mondays this fall from 12 noon-1:30 p.m., on the PC campus at HC-1.

People are invited to bring lunch and friends to talk and find out about activities on campus and in the community. P.A.L.S. purpose is to provide a social outlet and a sense of community and support for gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered people on the Phoenix College campus, and to educate the campus community on homosexual, bisexual, and transgender issues.

For further information contact P.A.L.S. advisor Dr. Bob Fernie at bob.fernien@pcmail.maricopa.edu or call 602/285-7262.

SAGE changes location

The Phoenix community social and support group for older gay men and women, Seniors in a Gay Environment (SAGE), is now meeting the third Wednesday of every month (except December) at the Parkway Inn in North Phoenix at 7:00 p.m. For information call 480/922-7015.

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Natasha & Boris took first place in the Costume Contest.

Thanks to everyone who helped raise over \$350 with our "custom carved pumpkins" for Pediatric AIDS/HIV.



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You Wear 'em... We Drop 'em!
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DAILY SPECIALS

Check out Allen's Drink Specials every weekday Noon - 8PM.



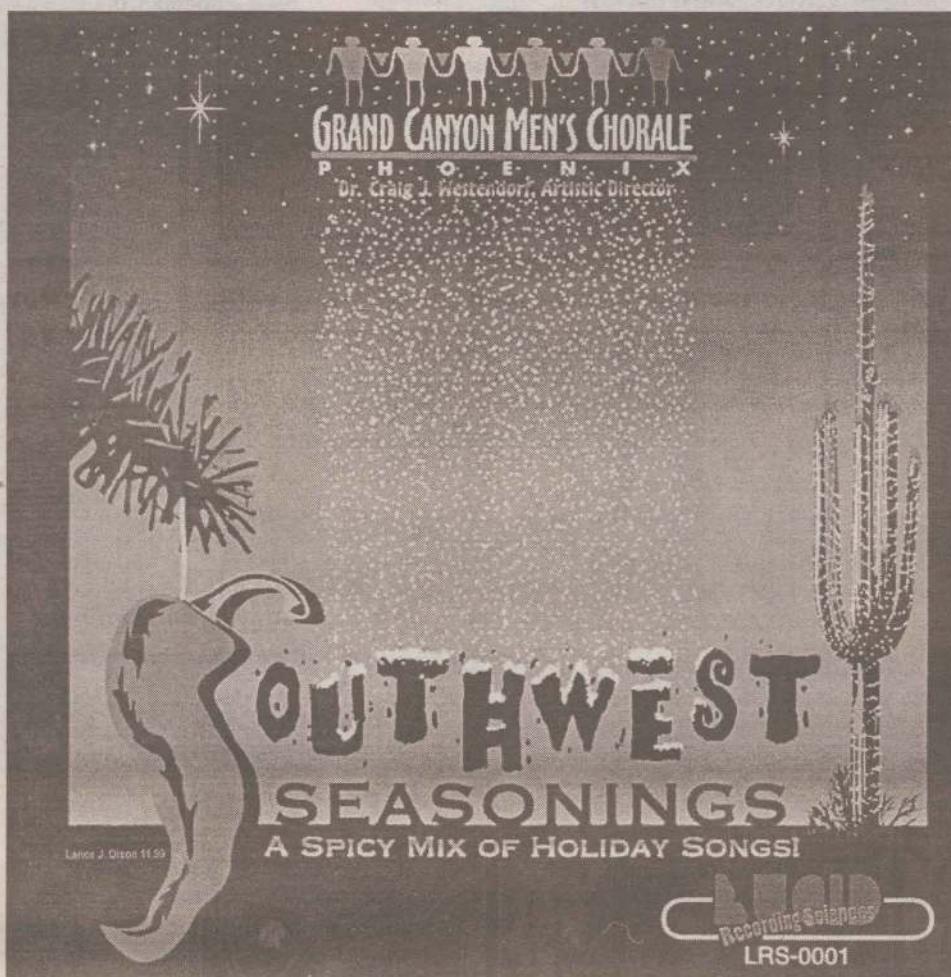
BOOK OUR PATIO FOR YOUR HOLIDAY PARTIES!

NEXT ISSUE: Tips to Make It Through the Holidays!

**News & Events of Interest to the
Metro Phoenix Queer Community**

GCMC CD on sale now

The Grand Canyon Men's Chorale is celebrating its 10th anniversary with its first CD, *Southwest Seasonings*. It's available at Unique On Central and Obelisk, as well as from choir members. The CD will also be available at their winter concert, December 9 and 10 at First United Methodist Church in Phoenix.



**ACP's annual logo
contest is on**

Arizona Central Pride is calling for entries for the Phoenix organization's annual Pride Festival Logo Contest. The theme chosen for the 2001 parade and festival is: "What part of equal don't you understand?" The event is scheduled for April 21, 2001.

ACP is looking for artwork that represents this theme. The winner of the logo contest will receive a \$100 cash prize, two festival tickets, and two of each item (such as hats and t-shirts) that utilizes the logo.

Entries must be postmarked by Dec. 29, 2000. Entries can be submitted as either an 8" x 10" hard copy, or on disc in a pc-compatible format (.tif, .bmp, Photoshop, or .jpeg). Mail to: Arizona Central Pride Logo Contest, PO Box 16847, Phoenix AZ 85011.

charitable donations.

Shanti is encouraging gifts of \$25, \$50 and \$100 to help the non-profit program enhance the lives of its clients. Shanti provides housing, counseling and education for people living with HIV/AIDS. Coming programs include an annual Thanksgiving dinner on Monday, Nov. 20 at 4:00 p.m. at 2020 w. Indian School Rd. in Phoenix.

To find out more about giving to Shanti or to help with the dinner, call 602/279-0008.

Goings On is a regular feature that spotlights the activities of non-profit groups in our community. For inclusion, submit written details to HeatStroke, Attention: *Goings On*, P.O. Box 33430, Phoenix, AZ 85067.

**Reveille announces
season**

The Reveille Gay Men's Chorus of Tucson has announced the schedule of concerts for its 2000-2001 season, and that discounted season tickets are now available. The season will begin with a holiday concert, *Ye Merry Gentlemen!*, on Dec. 15 & 16 at Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Next, the chorus will present *Classically Reveille* on March 23 & 24 at the Pima Community College Campus, followed by *Those Beautiful Girls!* June 1 & 2, also at Pima Community College.

Subscription tickets for all three of these programs are \$30, or \$10 per concert, a savings of \$5 each over the regular at-the-door price of \$15. Call 520/617-3100 to order.

**Shanti seeks year-end
donations**

The Phoenix Shanti Group would like to remind Arizonans of a state tax law that encourages giving by allowing a full deduction from your total 2000 taxes of up to \$200 that you make this year in

PROUD OF BEING GAY?

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FOR HELP**

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TUESDAY-FRIDAY 4-7PM**
Open Tuesday-Sunday 4PM-1AM
CLOSED THANKSGIVING

TUESDAY

•Dart Leagues

WEDNESDAY

•KARAOKE with Denise and Shyla 8PM-???

THURSDAY

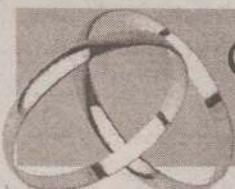
•Clogging Lessons for beginners 6:15-7:30PM
•Country Western Dance Lessons 7:30-9:30PM

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

•Country Western Dance Music 8PM-1AM

SUNDAY

•DJ from 6-8PM



**Congratulations
to JR and Jan!**

Who's the Biggest Turkey?

Karaoke Contest - November 22

Gobble Your Way to Greatness!

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Rep. Christine Weason, center, attended the Arizona Human Rights Fund Banquet last June with Reps. Ken Cheuvront, D-25, and Debora Norris, D-11.

Continued from page 1

Archaic laws for archaic times

In 1996, Weason told *HeatStroke* that she wanted to see Arizona's archaic sex laws—which criminalize oral and anal sex, even between married couples—taken off the books. Though she has repeatedly co-sponsored and/or signed on to bills that would overturn the sodomy laws, none have cleared the legislature.

Since several key right wingers lost their seats and still others lost their credibility in the alternative-fuels fiasco, however, things could be very different in 2001. "A lot of the extremists say that there are too many laws right now. Well, what we need to do is get rid of those laws that aren't being utilized, and [the sex laws are] a prime example."

She explained, "It's a free country, right? And whatever you want to do in the privacy of your own bedroom, you should be allowed to. [Getting rid of] those archaic laws is one of the first steps to advancing personal freedoms."

Weason worked with Republican Rep. Roberta Voss

status. "Ken and I have families. We did not hatch from eggs," Weason said in reflection of Wheat's statements. The *Republic* endorsed Weason and Cheuvront in the race.

[Wheat] was very homophobic and he stressed the traditional marriage of man and wife. What Ken and I stressed was to let people do what they want. That's what being in a free country is all about. The way relationships develop, people are closer to their circle of friends, many times, than they are to their family members. So the traditional family, by its very definition, has evolved."

The House from the inside

Although she has a law degree and knew what to expect as a legislator, Weason said she was still surprised at how much deal-making is involved in advancing a bill through the process. "It can be very frustrating," she admitted. "There's so much procedural maneuvering that goes on."

Weason described her working relationships with other House members as "wonderful. I get along with

Of Johnson's anti-gay notoriety, Weason said, "I certainly don't understand the fact that she's been married five times and yet she's got this agenda of covenant marriages and wants to legislate morality. She should probably be focusing on herself instead of the rest of the Arizona population."

Weason's personal life has changed slightly in her four years in office. She has cut back on her legal practice, retaining only one or two cases during election years and practicing more law when the legislature is out of session. "I practice less law now, but I'm much happier," she summarized.

Being a state representative in Arizona is supposed to be a part-time position, but with special sessions called more frequently and the state's population rapidly increasing, Weason finds it to be a full-time job that she truly enjoys.

She said, "I've really found that I have a passion for legislating and helping constituents—anything from helping someone get their [cosmetology] license to problems with roads, and other local issues. I really do enjoy it when I can make a difference in someone's life."

The job ahead

Weason doesn't know where she'll be serving in four more years. "I just take it one term at a time," she said.

Arizona representatives are limited to four terms, so she will either run again for her House seat in 2002, or she may run for the District 25 Senate seat depending upon what Cheuvront decides to run for in that election cycle. (Both Cheuvront and Cummiskey will have reached their term limits by then.)

Right now, she is focusing not on the 2002 election, but rather on solutions to the alternative-fuels crisis and then on getting some positive legislation passed during the 2001 session.

"We have 27 new members—which is almost half the house," she said. "I think it's a great opportunity to make some advances with the new people. We have term limits now, so we don't have time anymore to sit back and learn. We're going to be jumping in and focusing on the issues that people care about."

Especially true, she said, with the controversy surrounding the alternative-fuels debacle. "We really have to prove ourselves to the public again—that we're not a bunch of raving maniacs, and that we really care about policy and about our children and about the quality of life in Arizona."

Wherever Christine Weason runs in four years, *HeatStroke* will likely be covering the results, and reporting on whatever advances in gay equality occur between then and now. Mark your calendar for November, 2004, and be sure to pick up issue #211 to see what happens.

Weason Wins Third Term

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

in 2000 to attach language to a bill that would have repealed the sex laws. It failed by a close margin. She said she will continue to work to get the statutes off the books.

Challenging the family

When she initially won her seat in 1996, Weason called the incumbent Republican she'd ousted "an embarrassment." Robert Updike, she said, "Was absolutely the worst kind of legislator for central Phoenix."

Although Milton Wheat did not appear to be as overtly homophobic in the 2000 race as Updike was in the 90s, he did make some interesting references to Cheuvront and Weason's marital status (Weason is single, Cheuvront gay) during the campaign.

Weason reported that, during the candidates' interviews with the *Arizona Republic*'s editorial board, Wheat claimed he could legislate better than both his incumbent opponents because he is married and has children, and that there are sacrifices married people have to make that single people could never understand.

She said that when the paper's editors pressed Wheat to describe a particular issue that was a married or single issue, he told them that every issue is affected by marital

the Republicans." She admitted, however, that she did not like Grosco's leadership.

"I found him very homophobic. He had his own cause, and that was helping friends and family and church, and that was about it. He was very slick, very calculating. Everything he did was for a purpose—and that's why this alternative fuels legislation was no mistake. Everything that was in there was intended by him."

She said that the alternative fuels nightmare should signal other legislators that House rules need to be changed. "You can't have these midnight maneuvers where you take a good bill, strip it, put all this horrible, special interest legislation onto it and then, four hours later, vote on it—when it's a 200-page document that no one has time to digest and understand. So those rules will be changing."

Also just reelected to a third term in the House, East Mesa Rep. Karen Johnson is generally considered an anathema to the gay community (see related story, pg. 15), but Weason said she gets along with Johnson by finding a common ground.

"She and I serve on the Appropriations Committee," Weason explained. "Personally, we get along well—although ideologically, we are on opposite ends. I think she's a nice person, but I don't think that she's ever had to live paycheck to paycheck or struggle to make ends meet."

Seceding from Sanity, Saving Her Seat

Karen Johnson reelected in District 30

By Dennis Scott-Bush, Contributor

Fair-minded folks all over the Valley had high hopes that November 7, 2000 would mark the day the sun set on Rep. Karen Johnson's political career.

"I really wanted to call her up and sing 'Ding, dong, the witch is dead' and see what she'd say," quipped Sharon Marsely, a resident of Johnson's legislative District 30. "She has said so many stupid things about lesbians and gays. I think people must be crazy to keep voting for her."

Nevertheless, Johnson was elected for another term. Despite a pair of editorials in *The Arizona Republic* that

favored Johnson's opponents, 33,577 people in District 30 (which includes much of Mesa and Gilbert) cast their support for the incumbent.

The top two finishers in the races for state representative in each district are elected. Johnson finished behind Republican Eddie Farnsworth but approximately 9,000 votes ahead of the candidate in third place.

In spurning Johnson, the *Republic* made references to her ideas that Arizona should secede from the United States and quoted from one of her many diatribes on the House floor and in committee hearings—one in which she stated that "homosexuality is at the lower end of the behavioral spectrum," among several other controversial remarks.

"My new boyfriend lives in [District 30] and he had no idea who Karen Johnson was or how extreme her opinions are. And he's gay. The gay community really has to be more plugged into local races like this."

"The people who vote for her must not know what she's really like," hypothesized Mark Lumette, who lives just outside the District 30 boundaries. "If they knew the kinds of things she says and saw her behave like a raving lunatic, I can't imagine that they'd continue to send her back for another term."

It appears that many of the voters to whom Lumette refers, indeed, did not get the message about Johnson and her antics. In District 30, registered Republicans outnumber Democrats by a two-to-one margin. Eileen Fellner, one of Johnson's Democratic opponents and one of the candidates endorsed by the *Republic*, had campaign signs that encouraged voters to "Stop the craziness!"

Yet, many of the residents of District 30—Republican and Democrat alike—weren't aware of the questionable antics to which Johnson had subjected her fellow legislators.

"You've got to be kidding," remarked Jarred Allen, a new homeowner in Johnson's district, when asked if he knew of Johnson's plan, proffered in a previous legislative session, to have Arizona secede from the union. "Sounds more like she's seceded from her sanity."

"I vote at home in Madison, by mail," noted Helenrae Gossinger, a winter visitor from Wisconsin. "I heard that she (Johnson) has been married five times and she talks about how she stands for family values. My nephew and his friend

have been together for 23 years and they're both wonderful men. Seems to me that they know a lot more about family values than [Johnson] does. She ought to be ashamed of herself!"

Religious connection proves stronger to many voters than an awareness of misguided family values among elected officials.

"Rep. Johnson is LDS (Church of Latter Day Saints—commonly known as Mormon) and we're LDS," Annette (who declined to share her last name) articulated.

"Everybody we know who is LDS and lives in our district votes for Karen Johnson. It's that simple."

The benefit of name recognition and assumption of a job well done has often made upsetting incumbents an uphill battle for challengers.

"She was an incumbent and we didn't know anything about any of the people who were running," Walter S. (who would give only the first letter of his last name) explained. "We figured that if she'd already been representing the district, she must be doing something right."

"The people who need to hear the message aren't getting the message," theorized Bryan Tanner. "My new boyfriend lives in that district (30) and he had no idea who Karen Johnson was or how extreme her opinions are. And he's gay. The gay community really has to be more plugged into local races like this. My boyfriend doesn't read the gay papers and we don't go to bars or anything like that. The only political news he gets comes from TV. If gays aren't aware of who their enemies are, how can we expect straight people to know who the assholes are?"

"I've lived in four or five different places in Arizona and, before that, a few places in Illinois," commented Marilyn Jenkins, a grandmother who recently moved from District 30 to Prescott. "And I don't think I ever knew who my state representatives were. And I'd bet none of my friends or family would know either. It just doesn't seem as important as knowing who the President is, I guess."

While preparing this report, more than 60 people of all ages, genders, sexual orientation and political party preference were interviewed. Of those who self-identified as lesbian or gay, only one in ten could name their legislative district or name their current state representatives or senator. The ratio for those people who self-identified as heterosexual was three in ten. The participants were selected in a random, non-scientific manner.

"What does the state legislature really do, anyway?" Marilyn Jenkins asked. "Do they do anything that's important to me?"

For members of the gay community, the existence of state sodomy laws and the lack of protection against job and housing discrimination based on sexual orientation, among other issues, make it clear just how important the things the state legislature does—or doesn't do—can be.



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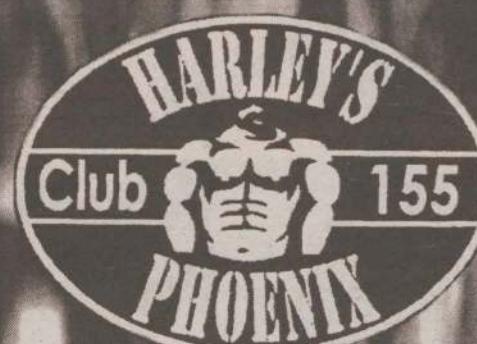
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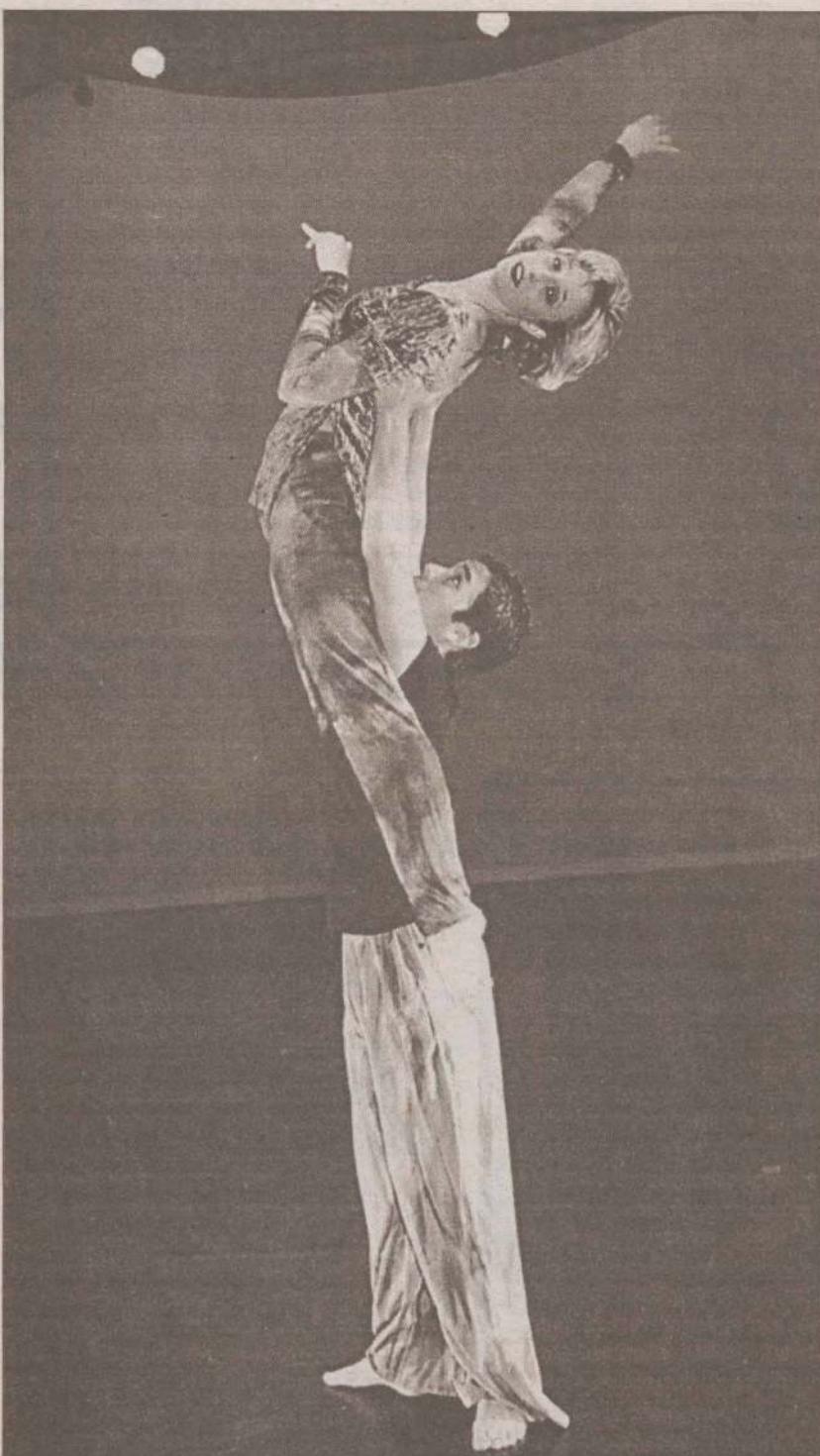
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Jump Into Fall With ASU's Dance Concert, Through Nov. 19

By John Thomas Lotardo, Contributor

A diverse collection of seven dance pieces comprise the ASU Dance Department's latest dance event, aptly titled *Fall Concert*, at the Dance Theatre on the Tempe campus Nov. 15-19.

The show includes the showcase piece, "Double Diamond", by renowned choreographer Susan Rethorst. It is a means of communication, describes Rethorst, "Double Diamond" is an ongoing investigation of how movement communicates and creates worlds of its own. Her ideas come from many of the nuances found in the medium of film.

Rethorst clarifies that "Double Diamond" has been influenced by the rhythms of film; borrowing film's use of montage and juxtaposition, the piece accumulates a sense of narrative that remains open to individual perception. Choreographing all over the world since 1977, Rethorst creates original dance works that are sophisticated as well as rambunctious. Her movement style, considered as complex as it is delicate, is reminiscent of the sensibilities found in the written art of such famed literaries as Emily Dickinson and Virginia Wolf.

Raymond Shaw, choreographer of the male duet, "Duet #4, 2 Men", is excited to be a part of the concert. Shaw is a graduate student and co-founder of Schupp/Shaw, a new dance company he formed with fellow choreographer Karen Schupp. (Schupp narrates for "Duet #4" in addition to dancing as part of the *Fall Concert* performance in "Just Scratching the Surface", a solo that combines tap and modern dance.)

Shaw admits it is unusual to find a male duet on the Arizona stage. Observing that this abyss is not limited to the Valley, he notes that "actually, anywhere, it is hard to find two men on stage dancing—in just a duet."

Partnered with Jared Cardon in the duet, Shaw considers his dance "a little play on society." Acknowledging the quirky title, Shaw explains the name of the piece stems from its being one in a series. He notes, "I have choreo-

graphed a piece for Schupp/Shaw, and we have it named 'Duet #1'. So we are starting a series where we are going to number them and eventually we'll do them for a bigger performance for Schupp/Shaw." "Duet #4" is sans musica. "There's just a narration," Shaw notes, "if you can call it narration—it is more like text. It may change each night of the performance. I may just find a clip in the newspaper that I find interesting and I give to her (Schupp) to read."

Another dance slated to be performed, "Goddess 17," is an eight-minute solo choreographed by graduate student Kenneth Balint and performed by Sofia Laalej-Bernal. Balint describes the piece as "a piece about water," elaborating that "it is a glimpse into the world of hydrogen and oxygen. It actually will start out with a short, 40-second animation of the molecular structure of water. It's really, really effective. The piece will then go into three glimpses of movement. Three different worlds of water."

Balint has been dancing and teaching dance for many years and came to Arizona to return to the art as a student. Completing the three-year graduate program in just two years, he is focusing on his role as pupil. "I have been probably a little bit busier than I should be. But that's the way you should live life."

Other pieces include "Reign" by ASU based Ann Ludwig, the artistic director and namesake of local dance troupe, A. Ludwig, a duet by well-known Cliff Keuter entitled "Prospects of Air," and a duet by Jennifer Tsukayama interestingly named "Bare Essentials."

Fall Concert runs through Sunday, Nov. 19. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. Wed-Sat and 2:00 p.m. on Sunday. It will be at the Dance Theatre in the Physical Education Building (PE) East 132 at 551 East Orange Street on the ASU campus in Tempe. Tickets are \$14. For more information call 480/ 965-6447.



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-Liz Habib
(would say if she saw it)



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their swim-
suit... I was
embarrassed
but could not
turn away"
-Patti Kirkpatrick
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kd in town Nov. 18

Out lesbian crooner kd lang will be in the Valley Nov. 18 for one show only, at downtown's Web Theatre on Saturday, Nov. 18 at 8:00 p.m.

Touring in support of her new, beach-inspired CD, lang has relocated from

Vancouver to California and gotten herself attached (to The Murmurs' Leisha Hailey). Apparently, she has plenty to sing about.

Find out by calling Ticketmaster or the Web Box Office. Tickets are \$37 - \$47.

Women in Tune set December show

The Valley's celebrated women's choral group, Arizona Women in Tune, will hold their annual Winter Celebration, titled *Sisters of the Solstice*, on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 4 at 3:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$12, or \$10 with a non-perishable food item. The Saturday concert

will be held at the Valley Unitarian Universalist Church at 1700 W. Warner Rd. in Chandler. The Sunday afternoon performance will be at the Helen C. Lincoln Center for the Phoenix Boys Choir, 1131 E. Missouri in Phoenix.

GCMC's winter concert slated

The Grand Canyon Men's Chorale will present a winter concert entitled GCMC 10: A Decade of Decembers on Saturday, December 9 at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 10 at 3:00 p.m.

Both performances will be at the First United Methodist Church, Central Avenue and Missouri, in Phoenix. Tickets, available from Chorale members in advance, are \$15 for reserved



seats and \$12 for general admission. They will also be available at the door.



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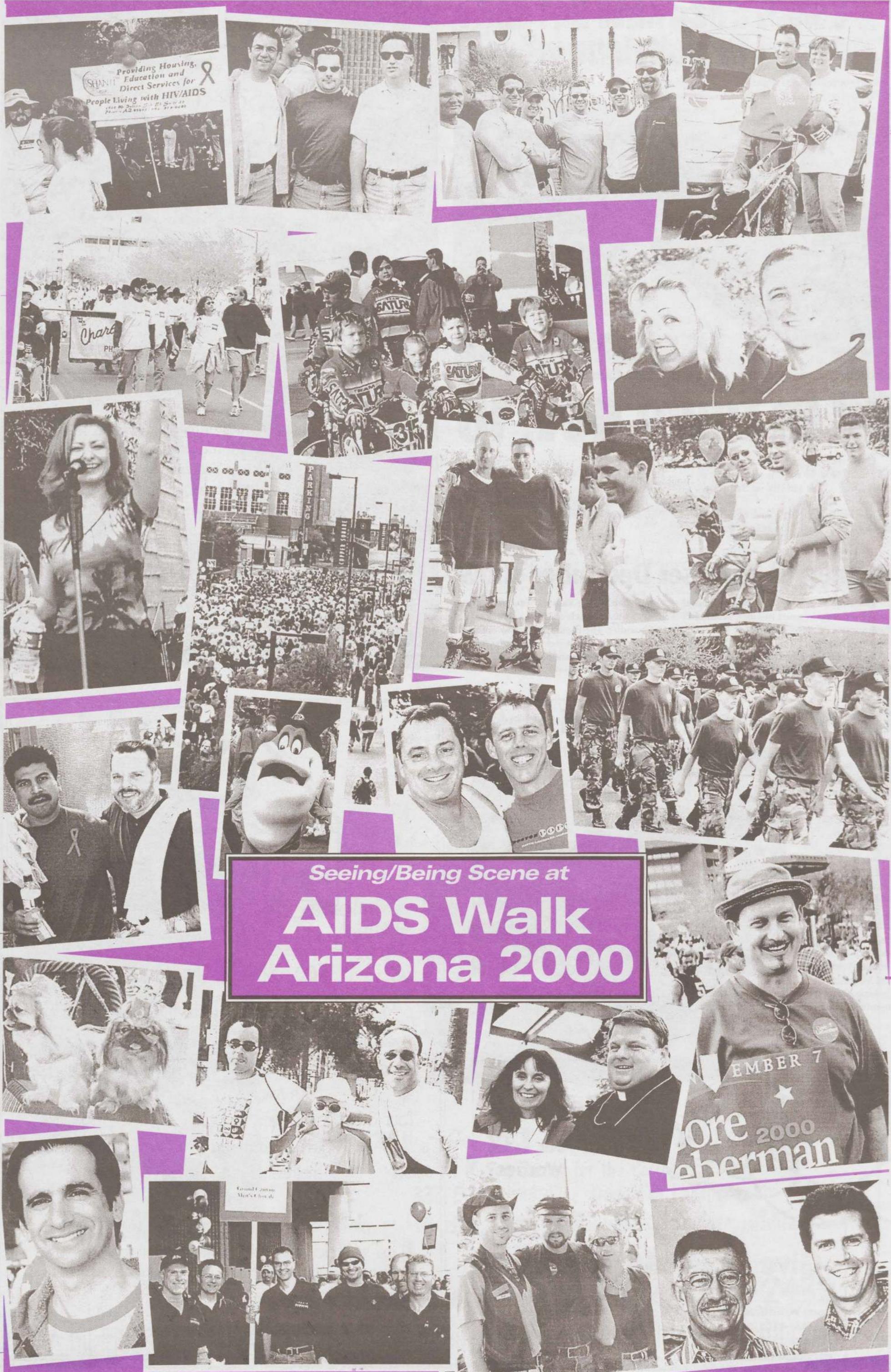
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Second Course *Appetizers and Soups*

Veal Sausage and Braised Escargot, Sweet Garlic and Brie Gratinée Crostini
 Foie Gras with Citrus-scented Figs and 100-year-old Balsamico
 Lobster Bisque with Germain-Robin Brandy and Wild Mushroom Infusion
 Soup du Jour

Third Course *Salads*

Chicken Liver Pate with Lingonberry Relish and Brioche
 Caesar Salad with Parmigiano-Reggiano and Seasoned Crouton
 Butter Leaf Lettuce, Red Onion Confit, Cambozola Cheese Beef Roulade
 Shaved Vegetable Salad with a Roasted Shallot Tomato Confit Vinaigrette

Fourth Course *Intermezzo*

Fifth Course *Prix Fixe \$24.95*

Grilled Salmon with Roasted Portobello, Mango and White Truffle Salpicon, Glazed Asparagus and Lemon Butter Sauce
 Roasted Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Cippolini Onions, Baby Vegetables, Truffle Jus Lie
 Grilled Sirloin, Dauphinoise Potatoes with a Roasted Garlic Tomato Confit Sauce
 Chef's Lesson du Jour • Poisson du Jour

Prix Fixe \$29.95

Rack of Lamb Persillade, Baby Potatoes, Artichoke and Tomato Fricassee, Jus de Viande
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 Maine Lobster, Seasonal Mushrooms, Roasted Artichokes, Chevre Ravioli, Lobster Butter Lemon Confit Sauce

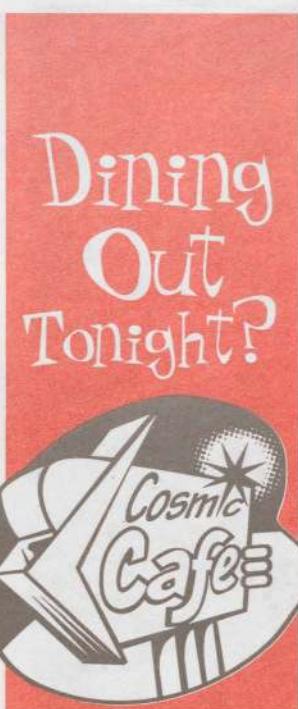
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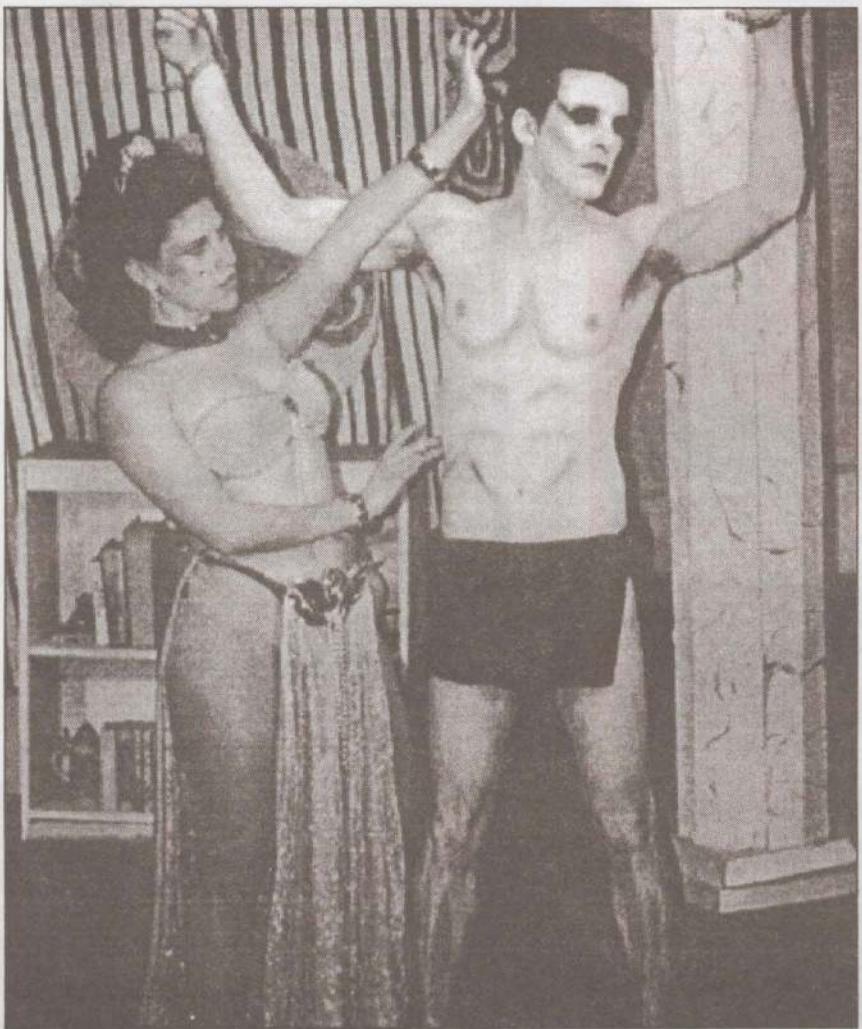
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Nearly Naked goes Wilde for comedy

Phoenix's Nearly Naked Theatre Co. has produced the heady dramas *Lilies* and *Night, Mother* in recent months, and is now turning to comedy with a production it's billing as "the wackiest, craziest, bawdiest show" in Phoenix. And yep, it contains sexual themes and nudity.

Called *Salome's Last Dance*, it's a play about a play by Oscar Wilde, set in a London brothel in 1892. Directed by Damon Dering and with choreography by Alicia Marie Sanderson, the

cast includes Dering, Andres Morales, Tim Butterfield, Mary McGary and Kevin Kleinhanzl.

Salome's Last Dance opens Nov. 24 and runs through Dec. 16 at the Helen K. Mason Center for the Performing Arts, 333 E. Portland in downtown Phoenix. Tickets are \$14 and available by calling 602/274-2432. The troupe is offering an "Opening Weekend" special of just \$10.

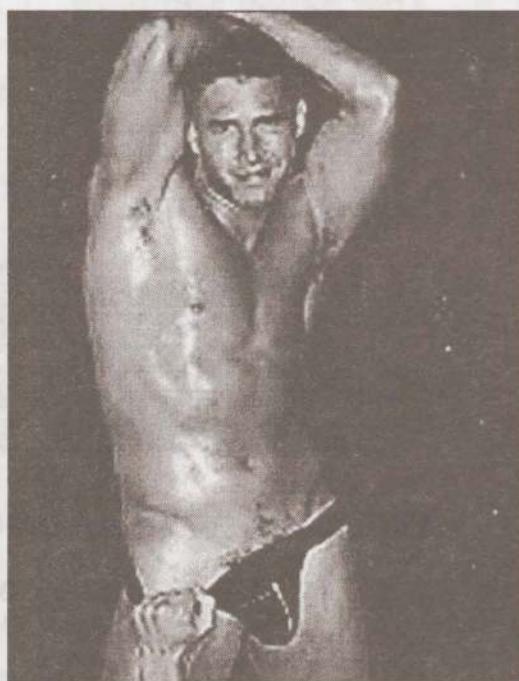
Get naughty & not nice at Boom

Boom nightclub in Phoenix is hosting a model search featuring a bevy of adult model and video photographers and casting agents who are ready to discover Arizona talent. The party is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 17 beginning at 11:00 p.m.

Hosted by Boys Next Door Productions out of Colorado, the event will include guests such as Greg Weiner of *Playgirl*, *Muscle* and *Men's Fitness* magazines; Bill VanBolkin, director of casting for Falcon Studios; Doug McClemons, editor of *Mandate*, *Torso*, *Honcho* and *Playguy*; Dan Byers, agent, and Lee Andrew of Ikarus Entertainment of Switzerland.

Entertainment for the evening will include adult video performers Dean Phoenix and Brett Wilde. Whether you want to be a male fitness model, to pose for a national publication or to become an adult video star, this event could be the place to make your dreams come true.

Boom is located at 1724 E. McDowell Rd. in Phoenix. For information, check out www.boomnightclub.com.



Dean Phoenix will be at Boom

Jesuits rehabilitate Oscar Wilde

VATICAN CITY (AP)—An influential Jesuit publication has rehabilitated Oscar Wilde, the Irish writer once jailed for homosexual acts, praising him for a later turn to spirituality and a deathbed conversion to Roman Catholicism.

The article marking the centenary of Wilde's death came in *La Civilità Cattolica*, a quarterly whose articles are often endorsed by the Vatican, which condemns homosexuality.

The journal noted that it once condemned Wilde and his most famous poem, "The Ballad of Reading Gaol," which was inspired by his imprisonment. Wilde was sentenced to two years in jail in 1895 for homosexual practices revealed during an unsuccessful libel suit against the Marquis of Queensberry.

In the edition released last month, the Rev. Antonio Spadaro said the years spent in jail were "really tough for Wilde, comforted only

by some letters, even of a spiritual nature."

"The time spent behind bars was decisive" for Wilde, Spadaro wrote, in marked contrast to the life of "vanity and silly frivolity" he lived until then.

Wilde, who was born in Dublin to a Protestant Anglo-Irish family, died in Paris on Nov. 30, 1900. Spadaro wrote that the priest summoned to his deathbed was "absolutely sure" Wilde knew he was converting even though he appeared semiconscious.

As further evidence of Wilde's interest in the Catholic church, Spadaro wrote that Wilde wanted to go to a Jesuit retreat upon his release from prison in 1897. The Jesuits asked him to wait a year as a test that his desire was real.

Wilde never went to the retreat and only converted on his deathbed.

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L'Ecole is L'Cool dining experience

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

Are you an uptight, fussy diner who firmly believes that servers are meant to serve, and that paying good money to eat out had better ensure that every aspect of your meal be letter perfect? Then stop reading this.

If, on the other hand, you're looking for a dining adventure that combines excellent, French-based cuisine and a friendly, relaxed atmosphere—and you're willing to forgive the service foibles of nervous chefs-to-be as part of your personal participation in their training process—then head over to the Scottsdale Culinary Institute.

At SCI's L'Ecole Restaurant, Chef Ivan Flowers and his staff of student chefs preside over an outstanding and inventive prix fixe lunch and dinner menu served every Monday through Friday. It's an upscale restaurant that's run solely as a training facility, so students handle everything from taking your reservations to bussing your tables.

The atmosphere is semi-formal, with cloth napkins, round tables and a dimly lit dining room situated on a Scottsdale golf course. But jackets are not required, and there are viewing windows that allow diners a behind-the-scenes peek at the kitchen mechanics.

Here's how dinner works: You're served a series of six courses, with a fixed list of choices to make in most of them. You start with a small, sort of pre-appetizer to get your taste buds moving—a tasty little treat called an Amuse du Jour.

Then, as your main appetizer, you might try Veal Sausage and Braised Escargot with Brie as I did, or, go for either the Foie Gras with Figs, a Lobster Bisque with Wild Mushrooms, or the Soup du Jour. There are a minimum of four selections to choose from in this course, as there are with the salad course,

which follows it.

The fourth course consists of a palate-cleansing sampling of sherbet, then you're served your entree. There are at least eight choices in this category, but you

wonderfully inventive, from a flaming-brandy-and-ice-cream concoction to a cappuccino mousse that's served in a molded chocolate coffee cup.

All the food, in fact, was first-rate. It's

ning smoothly.

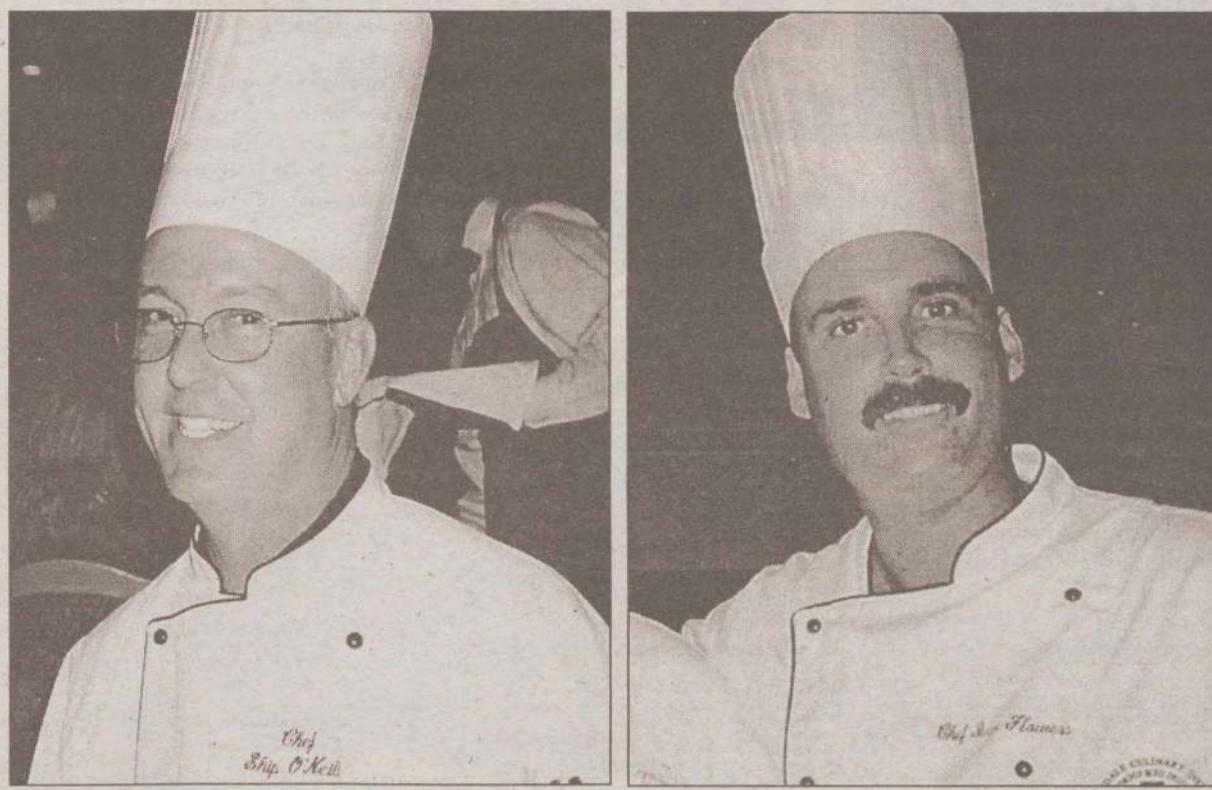
But there can be more serious service mistakes, like courses being served out of order or missed entirely, dishes served to the wrong table, and other major faux pas

that would send many patrons screaming for the management in a professional dining situation. *Don't do that here.* Remember that these folks are cooking students, and that their mistakes—even the big ones—are learning opportunities.

Dining at L'Ecole is a wonderful way to spend a lingering evening with easy-going friends who want to sample five-star, high-end dishes while participating in the training of enthusiastic but still-learning students.

Do go expecting great food and an unusual, informal evening out. Don't go expecting to be pampered, flirted with, and smoothly guided through a complex series of dishes by a coterie of calm professionals.

L'Ecole is located at 8100 E. Camelback Rd. in Scottsdale (just east of Hayden). Call 480/990-3773 for reservations.



Longtime Phoenix activist Chef Skip O'Neil is joined by Chef Ivan Flowers in training up-and-coming food professionals at L'Ecole, the three-star restaurant at Scottsdale Culinary Institute.

only get to pick one, and the one you choose will determine the cost of your meal. Four entrees are listed at \$24.95, the other four at \$29.95. These are the costs for the complete dinner—not including wine or other alcoholic beverages.

I loved the Grilled Sirloin with Dauphinoise Potatoes, while my dining companions both thoroughly enjoyed their Racks of Lamb. Desserts, too, were

in the service that slipups may occur, and where some good-natured patience is required.

Our waitress, for example, seemed terribly shy and referred continually to her notes, while the wine steward broke the corks on two bottles before calling in backup to open a third. These were minor problems, and a sense of humor and a warm word or two kept the evening run-

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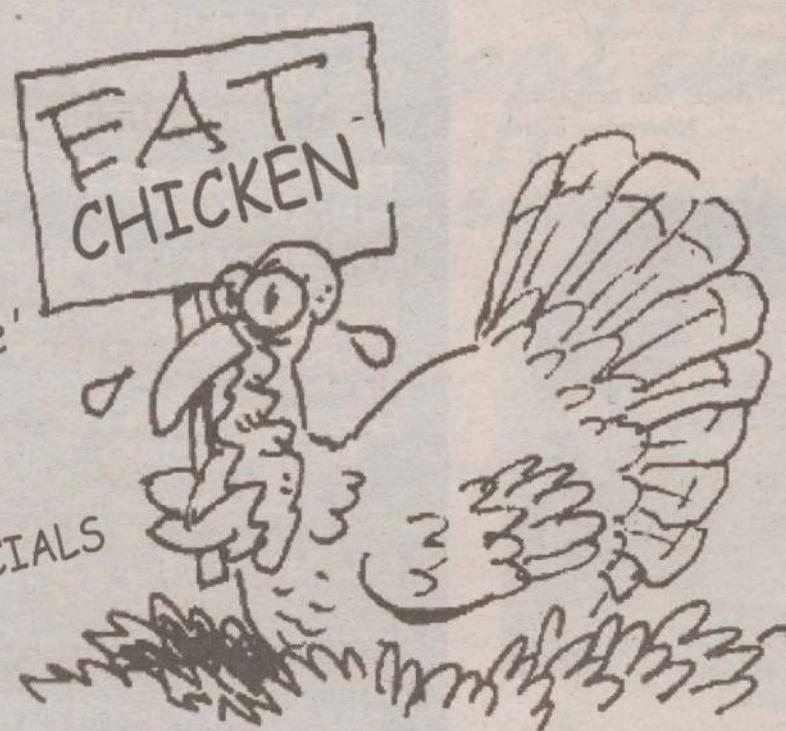
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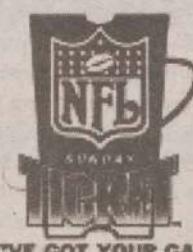
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Notable Quotes

Newsmakers, Celebrities & Others Speak Out

Compiled by Rex Wockner



"Given that almost every other group is already covered by these [employment non-discrimination] laws, why should gays alone be excluded? Jews are covered, Sri Lankans are covered, Scots are covered, Branch Davidians are covered. Why not gays? Since these laws are unlikely to be repealed any time soon, the gay exception seems anomalous in the extreme. When everyone has special rights, they're not that special, are they?"

—Gay author Andrew Sullivan writing at www.andrewsullivan.com, Oct. 14.

"There was a lot of fear about me being on the cover of the *Advocate*. Fear that it would brand me right away as a gay author, meaning that I could not write about anything other than what it means to be gay. The gay life, the gay experience. And at its most worst, gay ghettos and like ... sexual escapades of men in Chelsea. If I read one more of those, I will kill myself."

—Writer Christopher Rice, Anne Rice's son, to the *Texas Triangle*, Oct. 6.

"None. Absolutely none. No, zero, zip, none. I am not a spokesperson for the gay community, I wrote a book."

—Writer Christopher Rice, Anne Rice's son, when asked by the *Texas Triangle* Oct. 6, "Do you have any interest in being an activist?"

"I have so many friends who are [gay] couples in New York. They are in their 30's, their early 40's. Their relationships are what I consider to be a joke. They're open—beyond belief. If we step up to the table and ask for the right to marry, we need to be sure, once we're married, what it means—from a psychological standpoint."

—Writer Christopher Rice, Anne Rice's son, to the *Texas Triangle*, Oct. 6.

"The world is getting more vulgar and horrible by the minute. At my age now, I take a dim view of everything."

—Famed gay composer Ned Rorem, 77, to Atlanta's *Southern Voice*, Oct. 5.

"I don't think life has any meaning at all."

—Famed composer Ned Rorem, who is gay, to Atlanta's *Southern Voice*, Oct. 5.

"At my age, I'm still very horny. I think about sex all the time."

—Famed gay composer Ned Rorem, 77, to Atlanta's *Southern Voice*, Oct. 5.

"We just need people, all the American people, to have the opportunity to interact on a human level—in the work place, in social settings—with gays and lesbians, and know that they're interacting with them. Personal contact—it may sound old-fashioned and naive, it's not a substitute for laws, but it will change attitudes. I'll never forget in the administration's early debate over gays in the military, there was a national poll published which showed that Americans who knew a gay person, and knew they knew a gay person, were 2-1 in favor of changing the policy. So if you believe that most people have goodness in them and will, other

things being equal, treat their fellow human beings in a decent and fair way, then you have to overcome ignorance and fear. And it takes time and it takes contact."

—Bill Clinton to the *Advocate* in an interview conducted Sept. 27.

"You really have to read the interview with Bill Clinton in the *Advocate*, the national gay and lesbian magazine, to believe it. The interview is by 'journalist' Chris Bull, and it reads as if Bull was on his knees, polishing Clinton's shoes with his tongue, when he conducted it."

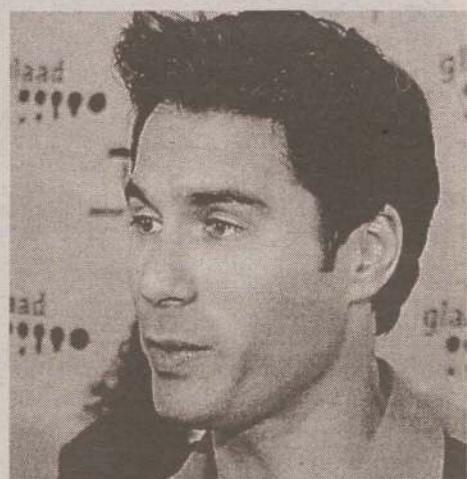
—Writer Andrew Sullivan at www.andrewsullivan.com, Oct. 26.

BANNED FROM THE ADVOCATE: Got an email today from Judy Wieder, editor of the *Advocate*, who only last week commissioned a piece from me about the future of AIDS therapy. After my comments in this space about Chris Bull's tongue-bath of Bill Clinton's shoes in a recent *Advocate* interview ... she emailed to officially disinvite me. It's a free country, I suppose, and poor Judy, who has worked wonders with the magazine, gets mau-maued by the Stalinists for even asking me to write. But it's a pleasure to have formally confirmed what we all know informally. The gay press in general has about the same openness and diversity of views of Pravda, circa 1974. Cheap pot-shots at anyone outside their leftist ranks are permitted; but serious criticism of an interview that failed to meet even basic standards of objectivity makes me persona non grata. Somehow, I think I'll survive."

—Writer Andrew Sullivan at www.andrewsullivan.com, Oct. 30.

"Shortly after Bush selected Cheney as his running mate, the news that Dick's younger daughter was a carpet-munching lezzie (I'm sorry, was that indelicately put?) was leaking like a defective diaphragm. Mary's cunt of a mother (I'm sorry, was that indelicately put?), noted archconservative Lynne Cheney, went postal on ABC News's Cokie Roberts when ol' Coke raised the subject of Mary's lesbianism."

—Writer Dan Savage, *Out* magazine, November issue.



Actor Eric McCormack

"While I'm not gay, I was beat up and called 'fag' from a very early age. I was doing musical theater in the fourth grade. ... I've always been the gay man in a straight man's body."

—Eric McCormack (*Will & Grace's* *Will*) to *Out* magazine, November issue.

"The prejudice against gays and lesbians today is meaner, nastier—a vindictiveness that's rooted in hatred, not ignorance."

—Betty DeGeneres, Ellen's mom, to the *New York Post*, Oct. 24.

"My problem is that I am a gay man who dislikes gay men. I love men and having sex, but all the men I've met in eight years of being out have fallen into two types. One is the guy who has to shop in designer shops, walk a certain way, act as camp and outrageous as possible and have big attitude. The other is into leather, denim, whips and chains. I don't fancy either of these. I just want a normal guy."

—Letter to the advice column in London's *Gay Times*, November issue.

"The taboo for straight actors playing gay is gone. ... My mother was squirming a bit in the theater because she comes from a different generation."

—Actor Dean Cain, one of the stars of the new film *The Broken Hearts Club*, to Boston's *Bay Windows*, Oct. 12. Cain played Superman for four years on TV.

"I want to have fun but do it in a respectful way. I didn't see any need to swish around. I know a lot of gay people who aren't the textbook definition of gay. Are we breaking new ground? I don't think so. Will I kiss another guy? I guess I'd have to be up for it. I've left everything up to the producers."

—Actor John Goodman on playing the gay lead in the new TV series *Normal, Ohio*, to the *New York Daily News*, Oct. 29.

"What is that about? People of color? Black, brown, Jamaican, Native American, Latino, whatever you are, no no no no no, you're people of color. It belittles it, it makes it so small. I think it's racist to take

everyone who's not white and lump them together."

—Lesbian comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer in an October interview with this column.



Lesbian comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer

"I'm an extremely sexual person but I don't have the need to experiment and be crazy. I can't anonymously have sex with someone first of all, because I have to know that they worship me. I think that's important. It's just never been my way."

—Lesbian comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer in an October interview with this column.

"Monogamy is a great way to bond early on, but gay men are dogs, and when dogs go to the park, they sniff the butts of other dogs."

—Syndicated gay columnist Kirk Read writing in Pittsburgh's *Out*, November issue.

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Out of Town

By Andrew Collins



Choosing the Right Gay-Owned Inn

In choosing where to stay during your next vacation, if you're like most lesbian and gay travelers, you may end up considering a gay-owned establishment.

Even if you're not especially concerned with meeting other gay folks or you're blasé about your own orientation, you may appreciate knowing that you can relate to your hosts on at least one significant level and that you can be freely romantic with your lover throughout your stay. Remember, however, that gay inns and guesthouses come in all shapes and sizes, and when considering any such property—especially one with fewer than 12 rooms—a little advance research can go a long way.

First, find out what gay-owned options exist where you're going—guidebooks, web sites, and travel agents are excellent sources of information. Specifically, try one of the hundreds of agents affiliated with the International Gay and Lesbian Travel Association (800-448-8550, www.igta.com).

Once you've narrowed your search, jot down a few things about your circumstances. Are you traveling with a lover, or are you hoping to meet the love of your life? If alone, are you looking for romance, fun without strings attached, or simply some solitary quiet? And if with your lover, are you looking to add spice to your relationship or content to hole up in your room the entire time? Do you see your guest room as a warm and comfy home on the road or as little more than a storage locker with a mattress in it? Are you planning to lounge around by the pool sipping daiquiris or will you be hitting the bars and beaches?

Once you know what you're looking for, e-mail or call places that interest you and ask your hosts a few pointed questions. Rather than asking questions about the inn (How big are the rooms? Where are the nearest bars? Will I have an easy time meeting other travelers?), focus on questions about the guests. (Do you cater more to couples or singles? What's the average age of your guests? Do you get to know your guests very well? Do guests spend much time in their rooms? etc.)

Innkeepers will almost always say lovely things about their establishments, whether true or not. Ask them about their guests and they're more likely to answer honestly. For example, if you're told that

guests spend almost no time in their rooms, you can infer that the rooms themselves are not especially luxurious or spacious. And if the innkeepers appear to know every last detail about most of their guests, you can guess that they'll be interacting closely with you during your visit.

Ask questions about the guests' typical age and relationship status to help you determine what role socializing plays in the dynamic of the inn—a very important factor when it comes to gay accommodations. Some inns strive to provide a bathhouse atmosphere; others—especially if they also cater to straight guests—frown upon explicit fun.

There are no inherently good or bad answers to these questions—you're simply trying to match your interests with the tone, amenities, and style of a given inn. And in addition to listening closely to how innkeepers describe their establishments, find out if they have a web site (or conduct a quick search on the Internet). Of course, scan these sites with a healthy dose skepticism—photos of gorgeous guests, lavish furnishings, and grand amenities are not, alas, guarantees of what you'll truly find in person, up close. But it's safe to assume that innkeepers who put a great deal of care and energy into their web pages invest the same level of attention into running their property.

Don't assume that somewhat, or even acutely, cruisy inns are less sumptuous, clean, or tasteful than average. Some of the most attractive, comfortable getaways in gay meccas like Key West and Palm Springs cater to a sexually forward crowd. By the same token, be aware that frisky inns tend to draw a higher number of young singles. And that young singles are typically less concerned with (and able to afford) opulent furnishings—such as museum-quality antiques or Jacuzzi bathtubs—than older or more established couples seeking a sumptuous retreats.

On a related note, many gay-owned inns and resorts have clothing-optional policies. If sunbathing, swimming, and lounging about in the buff is your thing, you really don't need to read the rest of

this paragraph. But if you're new to such environments, keep an open mind. At all but a few such properties out there, "clothing-optional" truly means just that: you can dress in anything from a tuxedo to a g-string to your birthday suit—whatever makes you happy.

If you're at all concerned, ask the innkeepers ahead of time what percentage of their guests tend to let it all hang out. Also, remember that while virtually all frisky resorts are clothing-optional, not all clothing-optional resorts are frisky—the sexual energy typically depends on the crowd at any given time and also the

the Russian River (California), and several other gay-popular destinations.

As for urban North American destinations, not surprisingly, you'll find that major gay meccas like Montreal, New Orleans, New York, and San Francisco lead the way in terms of gay-owned properties. Surprisingly, Los Angeles has just one gay-oriented resort, Las Vegas none (because B&Bs are illegal there), and Chicago just a handful.

Finally, for any number of reasons, there are a handful of innkeepers out there who are reluctant to give out information about their inn, won't show



by Andrew Collins

The gay-owned Whitegate Inn & Cottage—a meticulously restored 1889 shingle-style retreat in historic Asheville, N.C.—welcomes a mixed gay/straight clientele.

degree to which the owners foster a cruisy environment.

There are a handful of women-only guesthouses in many of the destinations popular with queers in general. Lesbians are also welcome at many small gay resorts that describe their clientele as mostly male, but places that draw an even mix of both genders are relatively rare.

In Fort Lauderdale, for instance, accommodations tend to be exclusively or predominantly gay male; the same goes for Palm Springs, but there you'll also find a few exclusively lesbian resorts. Provincetown and Fire Island have numerous gay-oriented properties, most of them gay male, but a handful of them either mixed-gender or lesbian.

Despite Key West's reputation for clothing-optional gay male resorts (and one well-known lesbian resort), the town also has a number of places that are co-gender or mixed gay/straight—this is also true of Rehoboth Beach (Delaware),

potential guests around for a tour, or act as though they're doing guests a favor simply for booking them a room. The minute somebody balks at one of your questions or appears unwilling to tell you about their clientele or accommodations, you should offer a quick thanks and end your call. If an innkeeper is hiding something from you, it's usually with good reason. And the era when an establishment could justify its high rates, a poor attitude, or shabby decor simply because it was the only gay game in town has ended—travelers have never been more savvy or better educated.



Andrew Collins authored *Fodor's Gay Guide to the USA*, the *Connecticut Handbook*, and six regional gay guides for Fodor's. He can be reached care of HeatStroke or at GayFodors@aol.com.

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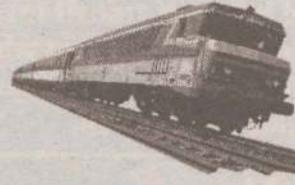
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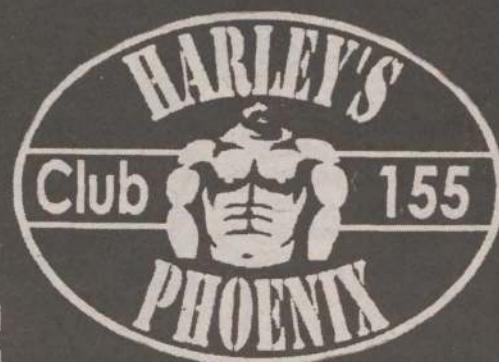
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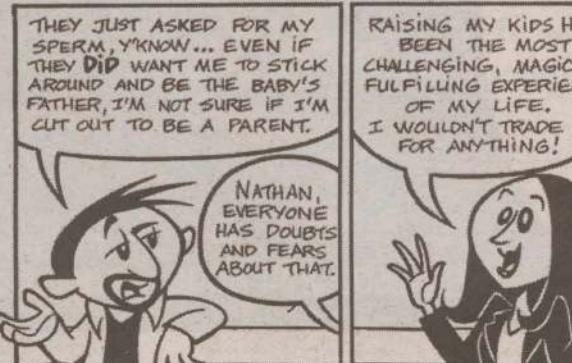
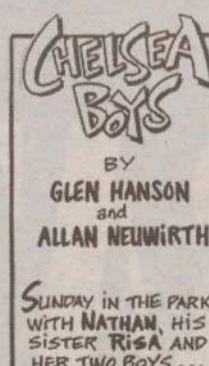
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Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel

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Hollywood Deep Inside

By Romeo San Vicente, HeatStroke Contributor

IZZARD PLAYS THE LITTLE TRAMP

Emmy winner and British transvestite comedian Eddie Izzard has signed on to portray Charlie Chaplin in the feature film, *The Cat's Meow*.

Izzard will join fellow thespians Jennifer Tilly and Kirsten Dunst in the film, which begins rolling before cameras this month in Greece and Germany. *Noises Off* director Peter Bogdanovich will helm the thriller.

Tilly plays 1920s Hollywood gossip columnist Louella Parsons in the story of

envisioned as a sitcom where DeGeneres would play a *Larry Sanders*-type host of a TV variety show, the laffer has been retooled around Leifer's new concept where DeGeneres plays a big city woman who moves to a small town.

Uh, didn't John Goodman just do that in *Normal, Ohio*?

CBS committed to ordering six episodes of the new DeGeneres show back in 1999, and no mention has been made of the lead character's sexual orientation. The Leifer/DeGeneres collaboration could air on CBS as early as next spring.



Transvestite comic actor Eddie Izzard will play silent film star Charlie Chaplin in *The Cat's Meow*.

the scandalous murder and cover-up of one of Tinseltown's power brokers aboard a yacht owned by publishing magnate William Randolph Hearst. Dunst will play Hearst's paramour, Marion Davies.

Lion's Gate films, the releasing company behind Bill Condon's Oscar-winning *Gods and Monsters*, plans on opening the film at the end of next year and sees it as a strong Oscar contender for 2001.

You'll be able to see Izzard dressed in a dress sometime next year when he co-stars in the cross-dressing war comedy *All The Queen's Men* with *Friends* cast member Matt LeBlanc.

ELLEN'S NEW WOMAN

Anne Heche may be history, but Ellen DeGeneres has found herself a new lady partner... producing partner, that is.

DeGeneres has hired former *Seinfeld* scribe Carol Leifer as an executive producer for her new CBS show. Originally

Christopher has zeroed in on *Witching*, while his mother is not yet ready to commit... perhaps she took the time to actually read *A Density of Souls*? Christopher Rice is scheduled to deliver his second novel to the publisher in fall, 2001.

RUDIN REPORT

Billy Elliot director Stephen Daldry may get a career boost from the good reviews and popularity of the gay-friendly boy ballet film.

Daldry is negotiating with queer über-producer Scott Rudin to direct Meryl Streep, Julianne Moore and Nicole Kidman in the big-screen adaptation of Michael Cunningham's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *The Hours*. No word on whether the production, which will take place in the New York, Los Angeles and Great Britain, will begin shooting before the looming Screen Actors Guild strike next year.

SKYE SWITCHES TEAMS FOR THE BIG SCREEN

Lesbian actress Ione Skye (who left her *Beastie Boy* husband a few years back after deciding Sapphic action was more her style) is returning to her roots as a hetero love interest for the sake of the big screen.

Skye, perhaps best known as the brainy babe who was the object of John Cusack's desire in the '80s hit *Say Anything*, will play a dyslexic artist and love interest of the main character in the upcoming indie feature film, *Angryman*. Based on David Baer's 1997 award-winning short film of the same name, Baer will reprise his starring role as a man fed up with the world and on a quest for revenge.

Angryman is set to go before cameras this November, with Debbie Matenopoulos (the co-host of *The View* who

Sellers made famous in *The Pink Panther*, Inspector Clouseau.

Timepiece is set to roll before cameras in February 2001, a date which seems to conflict with persistent Tinseltown rumors that Ms. Heche is "in the family way."

KUDROW IS RUDNICK'S BEST FRIEND

Lisa Kudrow continues to juggle a hit sitcom and a movie career. Kudrow has committed to star in *Marci X*, the latest "fish out of water" comedy from the queer dynamic duo of screenwriter Paul Rudnick and producer Scott Rudin, who teamed up on the gay-themed hit *In & Out*.

Marci is about a dedicated Jewish-American princess (Kudrow) forced to take control of hard-core, hip-hop record label, whose most controversial artist (with a fictional hit called "Shoot Ya")



Lesbian actress Ione Skye will star in the upcoming indie *Angryman*, based on David Baer's award-winning 1997 short film.

Barbara Walters axed) in a supporting role as a former stripper turned veejay.

HECHE MAKES TIME FOR TIMEPIECE

Actress-slash-director Anne Heche, whose high-profile lesbian relationship with Ellen DeGeneres fell apart soon after the former finished making a documentary about the latter's recent comedy tour, will soon be the subject of a documentary... sort of.

Heche will play a woman from a rural community (Fresno maybe?) who is fighting against the urban evils of a nearby big city in the comedy, *Timepiece*.

Austin Powers funnyman Mike Myers is negotiating to star as the documentary filmmaker in the comedy, which has a total budget of about \$20 million. Myers' casting is less secure now that MGM has offered the *Wayne's World* star a hefty \$20 million salary to reprise the role Peter

Teach") has turned into a PR nightmare.

Rudnick and Rudin are close to signing a director on the film and it's expected to start shooting early next year.

JURASSIC JETER

Openly gay actor Michael Jeter, of *The Green Mile* fame, will be seen again on the big screen in *Jurassic Park III*... but not for long. Jeter will play a mercenary who takes on the dinosaurs in the flick, but from what Romeo hears, don't expect him to be around for *Jurassic IV*.



Romeo San Vicente thinks the NBC sitcom *Friends* totally sucks this season. You can reach Romeo in care of HeatStroke or via email RomeoDeep@aol.com.

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Naked Curiosity

By Dennis Scott-Bush

Ignorantly Blissful

"What she doesn't know won't hurt her," Curt announced, leaning against his blue minivan in the adult bookstore parking lot.

I met Curt when I was chatting with the store's manager about the kind of men who frequent his establishment. I'd purchased some ID Glide lube in an effort to grease his information-sharing palm. Curt overheard my questions and—once he was certain I was merely a writer and not a private investigator—opened up like a steamed clam.

Curt was a regular customer. And one with a regular routine. "I make stops at the same three places, every afternoon, to relieve the—you know—tension," he admitted. Curt makes the rounds—in his family vehicle with the "My child was student of the month" bumper sticker—between the time he finishes work and

when he picks up his youngest son from soccer practice.

Can we expect to see this new breed of regular guys marching in the next gay pride parade, behind a "Secretly Cock Sucking Soccer Pops" banner? Are men like Curt doing more than just giving their wives short shrift while they give other men the shaft?

A few weeks ago, I got an epic e-mail



from an old high school friend. Glenn and I had been best friends in school and, after my first year of college (he was a

year behind me), the relationship had become sexual. The transition occurred while I recovered from surgery to both my knees. My parents had asked him to stay with me, while they went on a long-planned vacation. I was pain-killer mellow and immobilized on my back. He was horny and rode me like a crazed cowboy.

During the rest of the summer, we had periodic contact—often in his attic bedroom, lit by a lava lamp he'd won selling magazine subscriptions in junior high. In the fall, I returned to New York and he started his collegiate years, doubly born-again: Christian and heterosexual.

Flash ahead 20 years. He's married. To a woman. They have three adopted children. He's a teacher and choral instructor and enjoys doing home remodeling. He also spends a heck of a lot of time in the local YMCA lockerroom. You guessed it. He's a slut on the sly.

Glenn says, "I have to do it this way, because I want to be married and have children and I know that's not possible if I live the gay lifestyle. None of the gay guys I meet are happy or have normal lives."

Of course, he's missing the point that the only gay men he knows—aside from me—are guys in the same position as he is, so to speak.

So, why has he reached out to me, after all these years? He wonders if I still think about him *that* way. He's curious if I ever muse about the things we used to do. He wonders what he should do, now that some of his previously grunting—and now disgruntled—gym-sex buddies have called his wife and tattled on him.

Glenn and Curt are hardly isolated cases. There are countless chaps who choose to hetero-identify, yet, all the while they're spending hours in M4M chat rooms or camping out in mall johns looking for a quick dick fix.

Are these men who support our community organizations? Do they vote for candidates and causes that will benefit us? Don't count on it.

Curt explained that he's not really gay. He just likes to have sex with other men and doesn't find women attractive. "I fake it with my wife. I am a highly-skilled fantasizer," he boasted.

How nice for him. How nice for his wife. How nice for the children conceived

Glenn wonders what he should do, now that some of his previously grunting—and now disgruntled—gym-sex buddies have called his wife and tattled on him.

while dad was imagining a night of passion with Mel Gibson.

Glenn proclaims, "I love my wife but I need something else." To hear him tell it, he's needed *a lot* of something else—all with the backdrop of The Village People's biggest hit.

Are we giving these men a hand in their betrayal if we let them give us a hand job in the steam room? Are we co-conspirators in a circle jerk of deceit?

"What she doesn't know won't hurt her," Curt promises.

Don't bet on it.



Dennis Scott-Bush is a Phoenix-based writer and public relations consultant. His work has appeared in publications throughout the country. He receives e-mail at NakedCuriosity@aol.com.



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Q-S-C-O-P-E-S

By Jill Dearman, Contributor

ARIES:

The Sun shifts into the most fun-loving sector of your chart on Nov. 21, so let the parties begin, baby! Your career is calling you, but so is a sexy Cancer. It will be hard to be in two places at one time in late November, but if anyone can do it, it's you, you quick-moving queer.

TAURUS:

As the Sun shifts into your house of permanent relationships on Nov. 21, trust the people who enter your life or who are already there. You don't have to make any big decisions, but you do have to be honest with everyone close to you, especially yourself. A Virgo has huge, throbbing... expectations.

GEMINI:

Astrological pressures are building, honey, so don't take on too much during this intense cycle. The new moon on Nov. 25 lands in your house of love, honey, which means that you have to tell your partner just what you need. Be as straight as you can be (you know what I mean) with another Gemini.

CANCER:

Saturn in your friendship house makes you the heavy where your little buddies are concerned. Chill, baby, and do what you know is right. Victory shall be yours if you are planning on conquering in the name of love. A Pisces wants to be rescued.

LEO:

Lay back and enjoy your riches, be they spiritual, material, or sexual (or all of the above), dear Leo. Jupiter is bringing you new allies left and right. Don't get too attached, but enjoy them while they're here. You need some fresh faces in your life. A Capricorn rocks your world.

VIRGO:

The new moon on Nov. 25 could be the catalyst that forces you to make some key decisions. If someone is forcing your hand and inciting a power struggle, you shall overcome! Instead of playing "follow the leader," be the leader. Power is your middle name right now, and an Aquarius knows it.

LIBRA:

Why torture yourself over "ruining" the love relationship of your life? Please, honey, it wasn't all it was cracked up to be. You may have to choose between complicated, deceptive situations and

easy, dreamy good times. Hope you go with the latter and use a Taurus as your guide.

SCORPIO:

Take some time to ruminate on a major love decision. You can achieve some balance and stability in your life if you can put your drug-induced extremes aside for a few weeks! Give yourself a time out, then spend a little getting-to-know-you time with an Aries.

SAGITTARIUS:

You may have to fight off the competition in your love life as the Sun moves into your sign on Nov. 21. Your sex drive and your sharp mind are actually working together, which is pretty incredible. Go after the one who seems most out of reach (a Leo, methinks) and bring home the pirate's gold.

CAPRICORN:

Try to accept the best offer that comes your way when it comes to love, sometime around the new moon on Nov. 25. You've been living in a bit of a fantasy world lately. It's new-beginning time for a work- or home-related project. Nothing gives you more pleasure than making something beautiful and holding it in your hands. A Sag is sincere, but bizarre.

AQUARIUS:

You may have to rush to the aid of a pal who has gotten into hot water. You could rediscover the long-lost hero within you. A little more time spent on the home front, surrounded by your most darling friends, is just what the doctor ordered for you. A Scorpio will put your brain and your body on delicious overdrive.

PISCES:

It's time to tell someone close to you how worried you are. If you've been swallowing your pain and fears for months, now's the time to let it all hang out. Right now, your sense of peace is more important than anything. An Aries can provide some back up if you're feeling all alone.

HeadsUp

Jill Dearman is the author of the best-selling *Queer Astrology for Men* and *Queer Astrology for Women* (both from St. Martin's Griffin). For information on charts and consultations, call 212-841-0177 or e-mail QScopes@aol.com.

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does something about the situation. She says I'll get used to it, but I don't know. Should I try?

—Signed, Being Dogged in Chandler

Dear Dogged,

Stick to your guns. This old cowboy loves his four legged friends as much as anyone (and there are plenty more than two around here), but it sounds like your woman's place is being run by the critters instead of the cowgirls.

You don't say whether she's tried outside help, like obedience classes, or calling in a pro who makes house calls on problem pets. That would be my first suggestion. You could even offer to pay, so she'd have fewer excuses not to try it.

If she won't do that, or if it doesn't work, she ought to consider finding one of her pooches a good home with someone else. Chances are pretty good it's some behavior of hers that's causing the extreme jealousy between the pets.

The only reason this problem continues is because she lets it. Tell her to take charge of the ranch—not just to get you to move in, but because everyone will be happier and healthier when she finally does—including the dogs.

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Dear Cowboy,
I took your advice and tried to meet people away from the bars, because I really want a long term relationship. I'm a decent looking guy with a stable job and I own my own house.

So I went to a meeting of an outdoor social club. There were a couple cute guys there but they had boyfriends, and no one talked to me. I went to a mostly gay church service and no one talked to me there, either.

At least when I go out to a bar, available men ask me to dance and say hello, even though I'm always alone at the end of the night. I think I'll stick to the bars.

—Signed, Unsuccessful Socializer

Dear Unsuccessful,

Suit yourself. Just don't blame me or anyone else for your inability to connect. If you want to catch that winning ride, you have to keep climbing into the chute.

It's hard to be shy, I know, but you can't expect to meet new people when you are waiting for other folks to make the first move every time. Part of the advice I've repeated is not to look for a relationship, but to look for friends. Meet a lot of new people and that one-on-one relationship will eventually follow.

Give it another shot, if you're up to it. Go back to the church or the social group and talk to at least one person, but don't worry whether the person is available—or even whether it's a male. Just find someone who looks friendly and/or interesting, and say howdy. He or she or they will

lead you into meeting more people, and before long you'll be part of a group. And that's a much better place to start than sitting alone at your place after the bar closes.

Dear Cowboy,

I've been seeing my girlfriend for about a year. She has a big house, and the lease on my apartment is almost up. She really wants me to move in with her, and I want to live with her, too.

The problem is her dogs. She has two big mutts that she says will fight to the death if they ever get near each other. To solve this, she has devised this elaborate system of letting one dog in one part of the house while the other is in another part, and only one can go outside at a time. She takes them on separate walks. There is a lot of yelling through the house (to me or her roommate) about what dog is going where at what time, in the awful fear that one of us will "slip" and open the door that accidentally gets these beasts together. She says this whole separation-yelling thing has been going on for four years.

I love her when we are out together or at my place, but I think her home life is crazy. I told her I won't move in until she

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HeatStroke

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Buy it, Sell it, Give it away, Announce it, Look for it, Find it...

CLASSIFIED AD RATES:

INDIVIDUAL AND NON-PROFIT AD RATES

Individual and non-profit ads are \$10 (plus .5% tax) for up to 30 words; each additional word costs 25¢. Shared housing solicitations are considered individual ads; real estate sales or rentals are subject to business ad prices.

BUSINESS RATES

Ads placed by businesses are \$15 (plus .5% tax) for up to 30 words; each additional word costs 50¢.

AD FORMATTING UPDATES

Each Classified Ad is printed in 10-point type and includes a bold headline of up to five words. Additional formatting (all caps, all bold, centered headline) is available at \$1 for each format upgrade. 15-point bold headlines are available for \$5.

This is 10-point type. **This is 15-point bold.**

PLACEMENT, DEADLINE & PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

ALL CLASSIFIEDS MUST BE PLACED IN WRITING

Mail your ads to HeatStroke Classifieds, PO Box 33430, Phoenix, AZ 85067. Fax your ad to 602/294-9695. E-mail your ad to either alkalphx@aol.com or reidhead@idt.net. (Please type "Classified Ad" in the subject line.)

DEADLINES

Classified ads must be received no later than one week (Thursday) before the next HeatStroke street date. **Next deadline: 11/24**

ALL CLASSIFIEDS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE

Payment must be provided at the time the ad is placed. Payment may be made by check, money order or by major credit card (Visa, MasterCard or AMEX).



Greenway/56th St-Pride of Ownership!—Beautiful upgrades; 3bd, 2ba split plan, open kitchen to the family room, newer appliances, cabinets w/pull-outs, vaulted ceilings, desert landscaping, built-in spa. Large screened patio, north/south exposure. Pampered by owners! \$205k Just listed! **Call The Real Estate Consultants Sam Wercinski 602/228-4497 direct, West USA 480/948-5554.**

Brand New in September! Two new homes now under construction in the hot new area of Desert Ridge west of Tatum & north of the 101 freeway. The single story home has 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, greatroom concept. Priced at \$183,500. The two story also has 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths with a loft, ideal for game room or office space. Beautiful views from the master suite. Priced at \$195,500. Both homes have ideal backyard exposures to the NE...no hot afternoon sun! Expect a major value boost when the 101 is completed soon! We can fax you a floorplan. **Call The Real Estate Consultants Sam Wercinski 602/228-4497 direct, West USA 480/948-5554.**

For Rent or Lease

1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments—Gay owned and operated Central Phoenix, remodeled complex. From \$550 to \$750. Call Jason 602/738-6116.

the Story's Villas—Downtown Living! Large 1 bd /1 bath, \$550mo. Story Historic District, upper level, balconies, slate bathroom, pedestal sink, wood floors! Rod Whitt- HomeSmart- 602/230-7600. www.RodWhitt.com

the Story's Villas—Downtown Living! 2 bd / 1 bath, \$685mo. Story Historic District, ground floor, small yard, slate bathroom, pedestal sink, cement floors! Rod Whitt- HomeSmart- 602/230-7600. www.RodWhitt.com

Roommates

Gay Male sought to share large 2 bedroom apartment in gay owned and operated Central Phoenix complex. Smokers o.k. No pets. \$375 plus half of utilities. Available immediately. Call Jason 602/738-6116

Out-of-Town

Give Yourself a Break—Spend a relaxing weekend in the heart of Warm Sands, Palm Springs' gay ghetto. Call for reservations at Bacchanal, an intimate, clothing-optional resort for men. Luxurious accommodations, courtesy kitchens, heated pool and spa. 800/806-9059; www.Bacchanal.net

Services

Straight Teeth Without Braces—With 3D computer graphics, we make removable, invisible appliances that effectively straighten your teeth without conventional braces. No metal. Removable. Invisible. Call Dr. John Cavanaugh for complimentary consultation. 602/971-4200.

Real Estate Sales

Dungeon/Playroom? Got it!

Plus: Nice detached 3 br/2 ba house. Up and coming Sunnyslope area. \$119,000. Jack Addington, Dan Schwartz Realty, 602.228.3145.

N. Scottsdale/Troon North—Located in guard-gated Candlewood Estates, this 1995 custom blt home features granite counters, flagstone floors, enjoy spectacular views of the golf course, city lights & sunsets from inside on the patio next to your negative edge pool. Just listed for \$690,000. **Call The Real Estate Consultants Sam Wercinski 602/228-4497 direct, West USA 480/948-5554.**

Coronado Historic District—Circa 1942-\$144,900! 2 bedroom / 1 bath with tons of character & charm! Wood floors, coved ceilings, slate tile, beautiful landscaping. Rod Whitt- HomeSmart- 602/230-7600 www.RodWhitt.com

The Story Villas . . . a little Melrose Place! \$250,000 Historic 5-unit building, totally remodeled with character & charm, great rental income, Rod Whitt- HomeSmart- 602/230-7600 www.RodWhitt.com

Glendale/7th Ave—East Coast Charmer! Spacious 3bd+den, 2ba with an ALL TILE DIVING POOL! Parquet floors throughout, gas cooktop & fireplace, French doors, 2 car garage with workshop on a large 10,000 sqft lot. Great Central location! Offered for \$220,000. **Call The Real Estate Consultants John Walsh 602/319-0692 direct, West USA 480-948-5554.**

Cactus/32 St—New in 1997, 2100+sqft; 4bd, 3ba; fenced diving pool; large 2G; huge greatroom concept; loads of tile; vaulted ceilings; recessed lighting; guest room w/bath; workshop; truly an incredible home offered for ONLY \$169K; **Call The Real Estate Consultants Sam Wercinski 602/228-4497 direct, West USA 480/948-5554.**

Are your Marketing Expenses getting out of hand?

Every two weeks **HeatStroke Gay & Lesbian News** delivers award-winning features, commentary and humor to Phoenix's most lucrative market. **HeatStroke** offers an exceptionally affordable advertising value—display ads start at just \$29 per issue. Call us. Your bottom line will thank you.

602.264.3646



Misc. For Sale

Travel Trailer—1985 Sunline 22 ft. Dual Axle, self contained minus generator. Nice clean condition. \$4350 offer. Jack @ 602/254-1493.

Three-Station Workout/Weight Machine by Weider. Excellent condition—can deliver. Includes all assembly instructions. \$250 602-451-1563.



SINFUL
Fridays

Strip Show
Autograph Session

Danny Lee
December 8
"All Man" & "Dude"
Coverman

BOOM

1724 E McDowell Road 602-254-0231 boomnightclub.com

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Need Wood?

TIPS FOR GETTING TIMBER

Sex Advice for Gay Men

By Woody Miller, Contributor

Hey, Woody!

The good news is, I live with a guy so hot my dehydrated plants stand at attention when he walks by. But I have asthma, which means I can't have sex without hanging over the bed and coughing my guts up.

How can I get my asthma under control when I'm having sex? Or am I destined to go without being fucked by my beautiful lover?

—Horny but hacking

Dear Horny:

Actually, you are getting fucked, but it ain't your boyfriend driving the point home, it's Mother

Nature. You're living a Greek fucking tragedy, man. All that wood and nowhere to burn it.

Asthma is an inflammatory condition of the airwaves. No, wait. That's Dr. Laura. I meant airways. Anyway, in a recent study two-thirds of people with asthma said their sexual activity was negatively affected by the disease. Well, except for one guy, who used his asthma to great effect whenever he brought a trick home and changed his mind at the last minute. Nothing like coughing up a lung to get someone to leave.

The point, if I ever come around to it—oh wait, it's right here—is that you're not alone. As in 12 million asthma sufferers not alone. They're all trying to get laid without breathing like Jesse Helms when he sees a civil right flaunting itself in broad daylight.

First thing, check your bedding to make sure you don't have dust mites triggering the lung-womping. My docs recommend using a bronchodilator, which relax the muscles in the large and small airways, increasing ventilation. They can be taken as pills, liquids, inhalants, injections or you can mash it into a paste, bake it at 350 degrees and...oh, wait. Wrong inhalant. Scratch that.

Seriously, try changing the time of day you reach for the stick. According to researchers, lungs function best in the late morning or early afternoon. Also, avoid anything that increases pressure on the lungs. That means the missionary position (you know, man on top/man on bottom). Sucks, huh?

If you have asthma, the only way you can assure yourself of regular sex is to be as passive as you can. You have to minimize anything that can cause shortness of breath. How do you have sex without breathing hard? Hell if I know. Ask a Republican.

Hey, Woody!

I'm in my mid-twenties, I'm good-looking and I know it. I work out 5 days a week and you could slice tomatoes on my stomach, my abs are that ripped.

For the past two months I've been dating a great guy. He is all that and a bag of chips. He has just about anything you would want in a man. So what could possibly be wrong? Me, gym bunny, can't come when I'm having sex with this guy. I mean sometimes I can, but mostly I can't, even when he's fucking me. I've always had this problem but it gets worse when I really like a guy. And this guy I really



like.

Do you have any suggestions or helpful hints? I've tried different kinds of positions but nothing really helps.

—Full of muscles and too much cum

Dear Full:

Mid-twenties and ripped abs, you say? Lucky for you I make housecalls. If it weren't for my surly editor ("Why should you go instead of me? I own this goddam paper") we'd both be smoking a cigarette right about now. And trust me, I'd have milked you like a cow.

First, chronic avoidance of ejaculation will not harm you. Your spooge will come out anyway through nocturnal emissions. It will, however, make you temporarily less likely to fertilize an egg. But just between us boys, unless we're talking about omelets who cares about eggs?

You're suffering from "retarded ejaculation." Well, that's what the doctors call it when they're awake and sober. When they're drunk (and ooh, they're mean drunks, too) they call it "ejaculatory incompetence." It's an inhibition of the ejaculatory reflex in the presence of a partner. About 1% to 4% of men suffer from it, according to the NIMH.

With any sexual dysfunction, always check out the possibility there may be a medical condition causing it. You said you could come when you're jerking off alone, so congratulations, there's nothing medically wrong with you. You're just nuts.

Or maybe you're just on drugs. The kind that "retard" ejaculation. Anti-depressants are famous for keeping the baby from burping. So are drugs like guanethidine, which lowers blood pressure.

If there's no medical or drug explanation, experts say the leading causes of retarded ejaculation are: 1) Strict religious backgrounds (can you spell "G-U-I-L-T?") 2) Deeply-grooved masturbation patterns (you can only come if you're doing the one thing you've been doing for years) and 3) Traumatic events (being discovered while masturbating, finding out your lover is cheating, or worse, finding out he's NOT cheating).

If the problem is situational a little mental re-framing can help. You can't "will" yourself into an ejaculation any more than you can will "yourself" to sleep. So don't "try." The harder you try the more inhibited you'll become. The only way to master an involuntary reflex is to stop caring so much about it. If it's not that big a deal whether you ejaculate you'll have more ejaculations. Very Zen, isn't it?

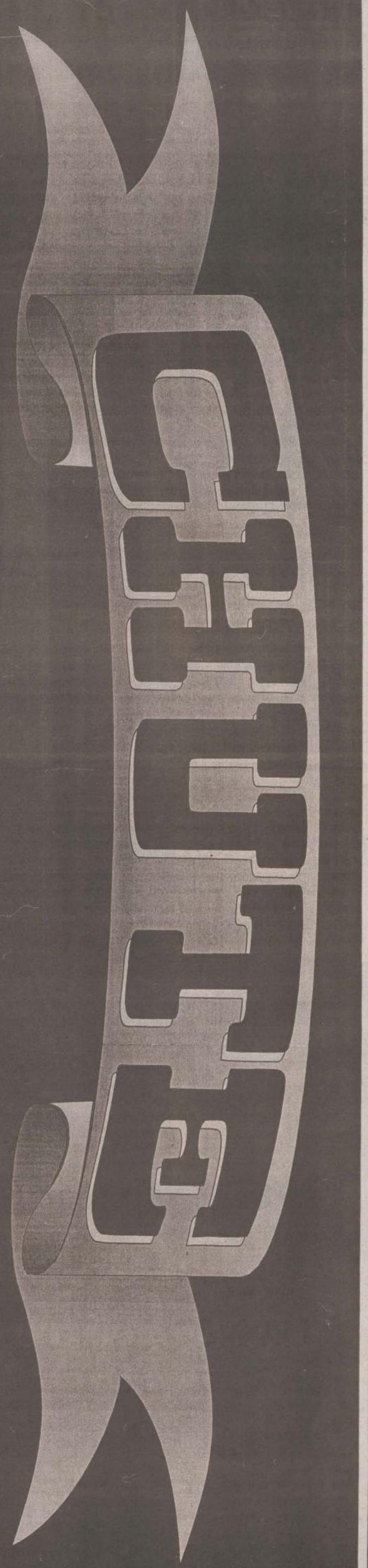
And twisted, too. The only way you can get what you really want is not to want it? How fucked is that? But it's true. It's one of the key components in treating involuntary dysfunctions.

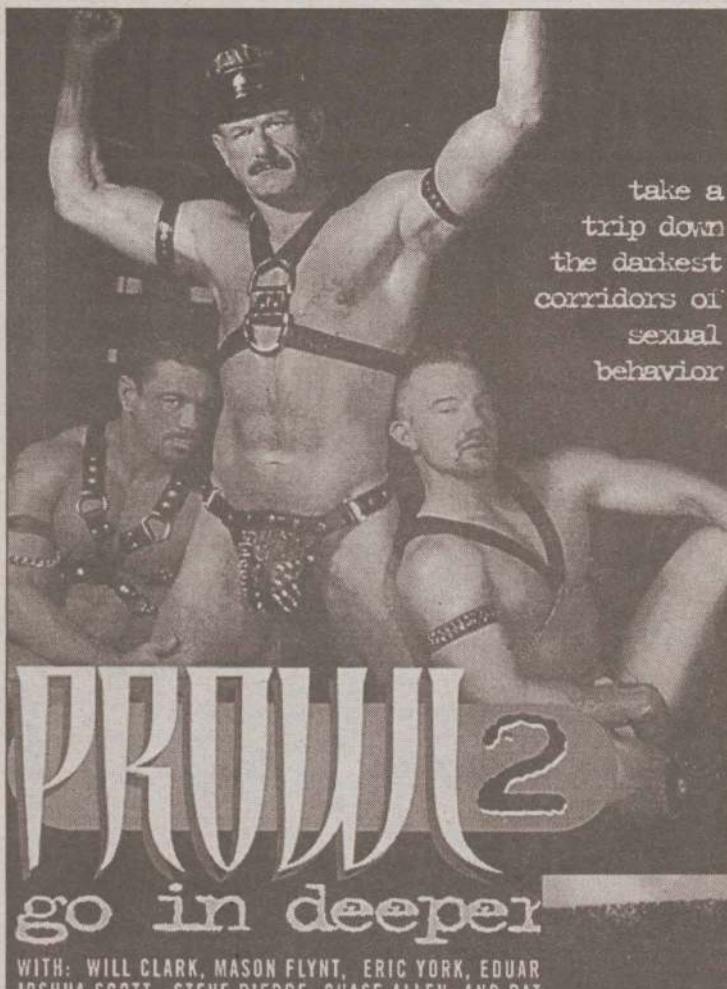
Your problem isn't situational though, it's chronic. And for that you need to get on the couch and figure out what issue you're dealing with. Therapy's success rate is very high, around 70-80% effective in 12-18 sessions if you go to a sex therapist. Don't go to a regular therapist.

Need Wood? Email him at ineedwood@aol.com

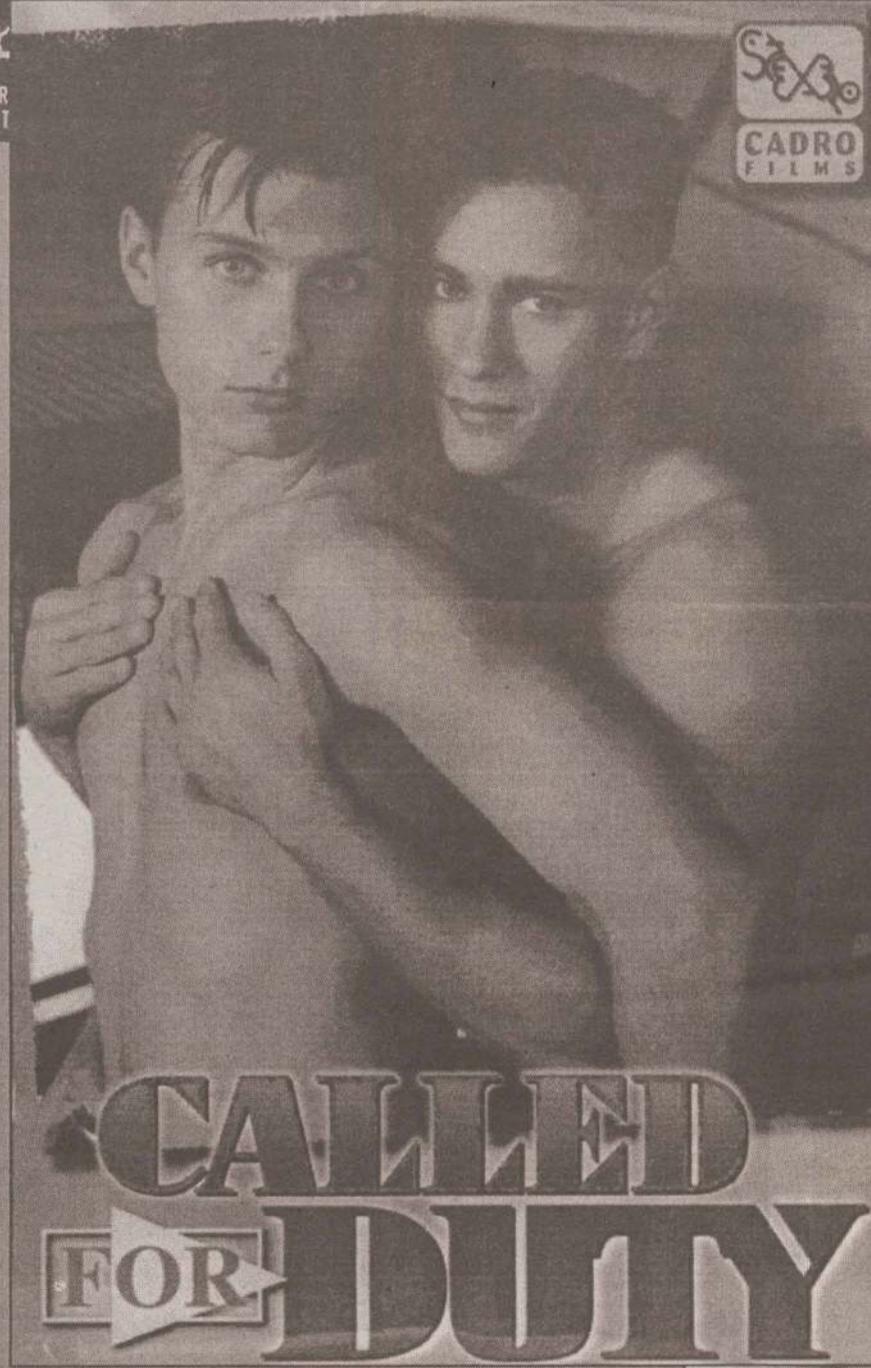
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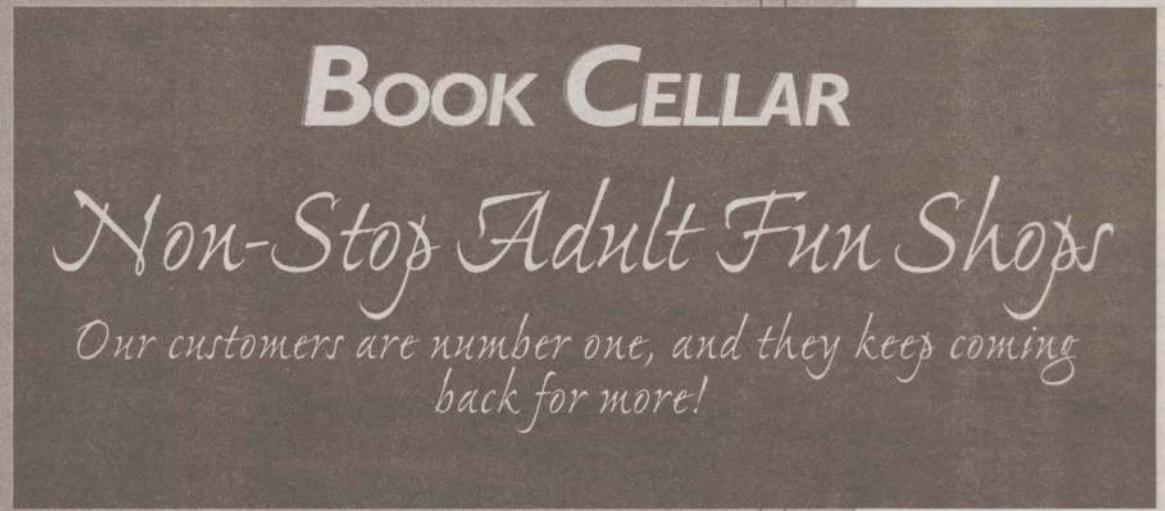
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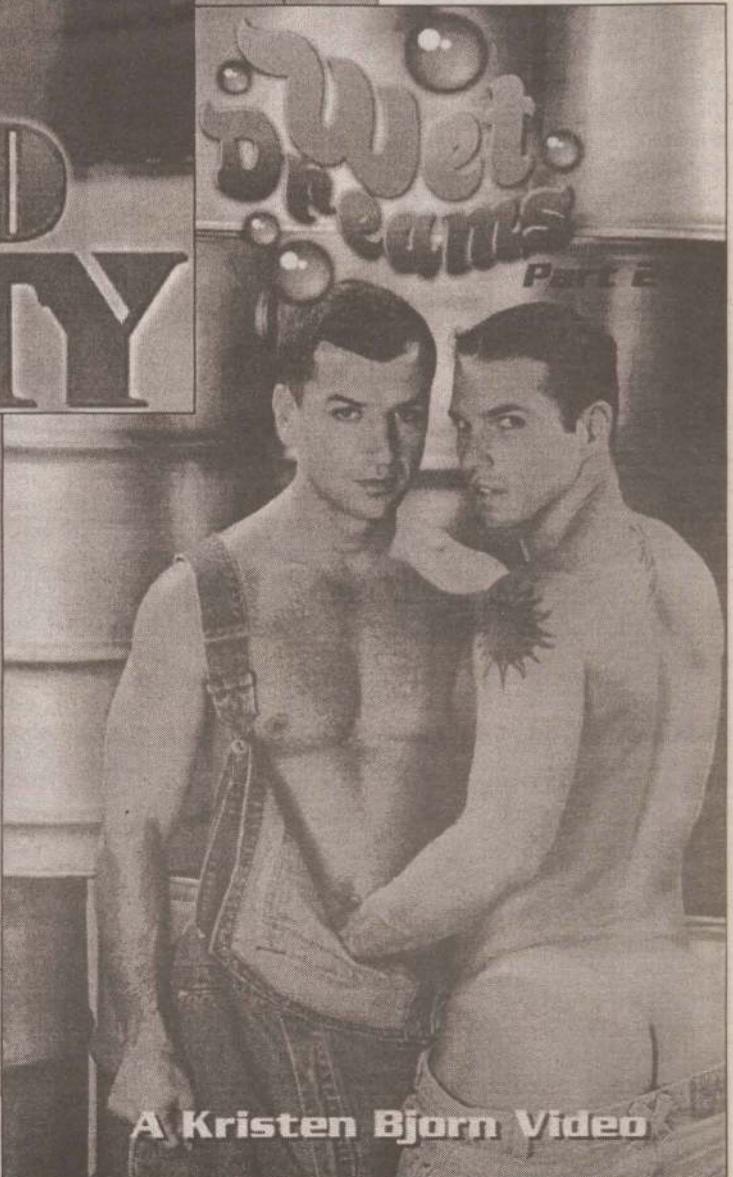
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