

HeatStroke

Volume 3, No. 29

Phoenix, Arizona

December 18 — 31, 1997

Check out
the

'98 Calendar Boys:

Project features
local models,
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Project LifeGuard's Undie Mondays 1998 calendar is available now, featuring the winners of a monthly contest at Charlie's. The winning boys were snapped in their underwear by Phoenix photographer Gary Shiffman.

Aspiring calendar models sign up for the

contest on the second Monday of the month, then strip down to their undies and collect money individually for Project LifeGuard.

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The money raised during the contest and proceeds from sales of the calendar go to help Project LifeGuard's outreach programs.

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LifeGuard reels in major funding through ADHS

Phoenix's outreach program for gay/bi men will stay afloat, thanks to new grant

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

A mild tremor jarred one of the Valley's main AIDS/HIV service agencies last March, when Project LifeGuard lost its major source of funding: a federal grant administered through the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

Then, things looked even shakier at the Phoenix-based organization when the announcement that the CDC grant would not be renewed was closely followed by the departure of Project LifeGuard's Project Director.

Things are steadier now, with a

committed staff in place, a new grant on the way, and a major survey in the works. These combined developments will help the agency plan its future and see its outreach efforts continue into the next millennium, according to LifeGuard administrators.

"We made a commitment to fund Project LifeGuard with our own development budget for as long as necessary," said Peter Houle, Executive Director of AIDS Project Arizona (APAZ), LifeGuard's parent organization. "We've been able to do it without the CDC grant, and APAZ

would have kept the program going just as smoothly even if we had not received this new funding."

The new funding to which Houle referred—\$124,000 per year over a three-year period—will be coming Project LifeGuard's way in the form of a grant through the State of Arizona's Department of Health Services, HIV Prevention Services Division. The grant cycle begins January 1, 1998.

Houle said he and other APAZ execs are thrilled to be getting the grant, but it won't mean any big changes at the non-profit agency,

which directs HIV/AIDS education and prevention efforts toward Men who Have Sex with Men (MSM) throughout Maricopa County.

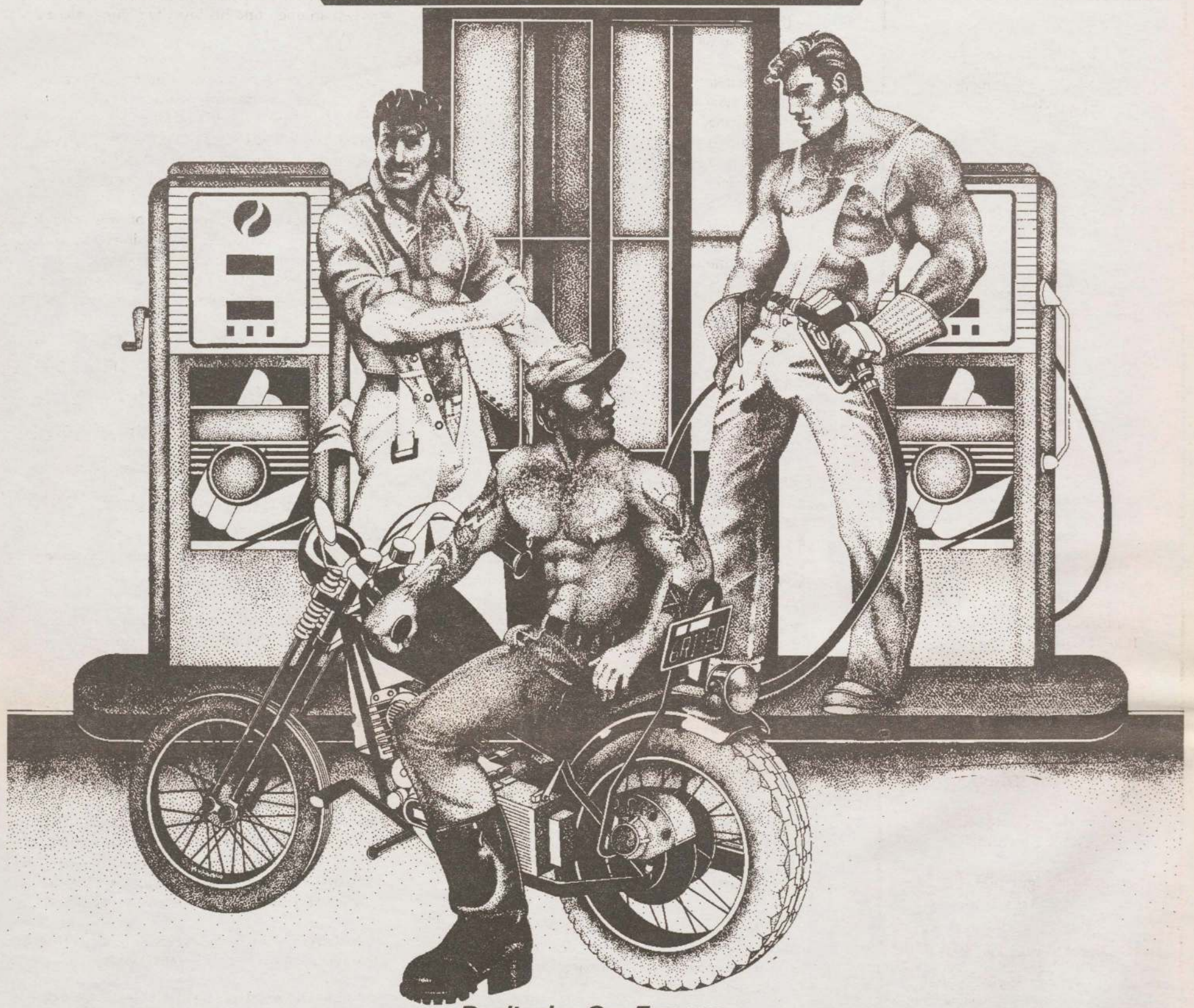
Project LifeGuard's Project Coordinator, Sam Van Leeuwen, agreed with Houle. "There won't be any additions or changes to our administrative staff, he said, "and no major changes are planned as far as our programs. We didn't get quite as much money as we asked for, but almost.

"So we may have to scale back a little from what we proposed in our

See "Grant" page 8

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Horowitz:

looking back at '97

Several weeks ago I lost a dear friend and loving companion—my dog, Cindi. Cindi lived with and loved me unconditionally for almost fourteen years.

I've never had a relationship with a man last that long, but I'm working on it.

Cindi's death at this time of year inspires me to reflect on the watershed events in my life and community during 1997. The holiday season is also the perfect time to give thanks and pay tribute to those people who selflessly gave of themselves year-round. So let's call this column my "1997 Year-In-Review."

My heartfelt thanks to the Human Rights Campaign, the Arizona Human Rights Fund, and all the volunteers and contributors to these and other political activists organizations. ENDA hearings, a White House Conference on Hate Crimes, and a valiant battle against the Defense of Marriage Act and other activities of right-wing conservative groups were all products of their efforts in 1997. We are changing the world each moment and making progress we barely dared to dream of ten years ago.

Thanks to Ellen DeGeneres and all my brave brothers and sisters who came out in 1997. Coming out of the closet remains our most effective tool for living powerfully. I've met gay schoolteachers, physicians, construction and child-care workers who amaze me with their courage and conviction. From the TV Star to the star teacher who provides a safe place for a confused teenager in the classroom, we are showing our true colors and they are beautiful.

Contribute and thanks to those who fight the battle against AIDS. Today, I again have hope that this disease will be conquered soon. The new drug protocols and research results offer so much hope. Friends who were on death's door are making long-term plans for living.

The AIDS crisis still looms large, and carelessness would be dangerous and stupid. I can, however, see a small light at the end of our very long and dark tunnel.

My tears and joyful remembrance to those who lost the battle against AIDS this year. The world is a better place because you were here, and a lonelier place without you.

A special thanks to my family and friends who love me exactly as I am—or at least keep quiet about not loving me exactly as I am.

My partner and I just got back from the first family wedding I've been to in more than fifteen years. We were welcomed with open arms and open hearts. The temple didn't cave in when we joined other couples on the dance floor. No one grimaced when we held hands romantically during the ceremony. The couple's marriage vows included their

desire to welcome all people — regardless of differences into their lives.

Years ago, attending this wedding together would have been a political statement. In 1997, it was just an uncle and his lover wishing a niece and her new husband well.

Kudos to co-publishers Kelly and Allen for having the inspiration and courage to start HeatStroke. While I certainly appreciate the opportunity to voice my opinion issue after issue, I most appreciate the attention to detail and fine reporting and writing that go into every edition.

You've tackled controversial stories courageously and accurately. Too often, gay businesses expect patronage solely based on membership in the gay community. It's a pleasure to see an enterprise succeed based on merit and a quality product.

From the TV Star to the star teacher who provides a safe place for a confused teenager in the classroom, we are showing our true colors and they are beautiful.

Thanks also to all the entrepreneurs who serve our community through generous donations of time and money.

High praise also for gay and non-gay elected officials who have the guts to stand up for equality. Ken Chevront, Ted Kennedy, Al Gore, Bill Clinton, James Jeffords, Barney Frank, Sheila Kuehl and countless others fight the good fight day after day. To continue in the face of backlash from the right wing and criticism from within the gay community itself takes incredible fortitude and conviction.

Thanks to all who read this column. I appreciate your feed back and support. See you next year.

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

Editors' note: Heck. We were planning to grab some space in this very issue to congratulate Mr. Horowitz on having completed his first year of scribing op/ed columns for HeatStroke, but he turned the tables and thanked us before we had the chance.

In any case, we hope readers will join us in thanking David for contributing his fine pieces to these pages every two weeks for the past 27 issues. He's discussed religion and hassled the media, gotten both personal and political, and encouraged attendance at community programs and events. We appreciate his variety, insight and style—and we're sure his regular readership does, too.

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Vinnie, photographed for the LifeGuard Calendar by Gary L. Shiffman

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The lease is up and there's nowhere to go:

Eviction notice served to Phoenix's Community Center

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

The Board of Directors for the Valley of the Sun Gay and Lesbian Community Center has been notified that the building housing The Center is in escrow and The Center, together with all its programs and sublessors, must vacate the site by January 1, 1998.

The board was notified by landlord David Nowell on Wednesday, December 10 that an offer has been accepted for the property at 3136 N. 3rd Avenue in Phoenix. The buyer wants to be in the 7,000 sq. ft. building after the first of the year.

What sounds like very short notice to make a complex move actually came as no real surprise to board members and The Center's staff, who knew for months that their lease on the current space, which expires 12/31, would not be renewed.

"One big misconception we want to refute is that our landlord is somehow homophobic, or is trying to kick us out because we are a gay and lesbian organization. That is not the case at all," said Jon Gates, board member and Chair of the Facility Committee for The Center.

"I have met with David and his wife," Gates said, "and he has expressed many times that we have been great tenants. He enjoyed us thoroughly for the three years we were there and he wishes we could stay. But he wants to sell the building and we can't afford to buy it, so he opted not to renew our lease."

Nowell has found a very serious buyer and his lawyer and real estate agent have asked The Center to vacate as soon as its lease is up. "David has apologized to us. He feels bad for Lyle (Lyle Miller, The Center's Executive Director) and he feels bad for the Board. He really thought we would have a good 60 days of escrow, and we were hoping to stay in the building—at least through January—on a month-to-month basis. But the new buyers have to be out of their present build-

ing by Dec. 31, so they want in right away," Gates said.

The problem at this point is that The Center has nowhere else to go, with just two weeks—during the holiday season, no less—to pick up and relocate.

"We are looking at one property, but it's

that is the case, only The Center's own programs will be housed there, such as the Community Switchboard and Valley One in Ten.

the Lesbian Resource Project and the Light of the Lamb Church. Those organizations and many other community groups have been renting space at and regularly utilizing the

3rd Avenue location since it opened its doors in 1994.

"We have been in conversation with all those people all along, so they know what we are up against," Gates said. "It just takes time, and we have hardly any money at all to play with."

Gates said the timing is unfortunate, but called the eviction problem, "A situation where, on the outside, a lot of people have no idea what is going on. But on the inside it's just a typical, everyday thing that is happening. And we just got caught up in it."

"Honestly, we haven't done that much of a push for the moving fund like we wanted to," he added, "but hopefully, now people will see the need for a gay and lesbian community center in Phoenix."



taking some time to put a package together because it's a

lease with a purchase option," Gates said. Gates said the building, at 1111 North First Street in Phoenix, offers 7,700 sq. ft. and is an ideal facility. But The Center will probably not be able to lease it without showing intent to purchase. "That is going to be very difficult, because we don't have that kind of money. We really don't have any money to speak of," he said.

Gates said one idea is to assemble a group of ten gay and lesbian community leaders and form an LLC to purchase the new building, with The Center then renting while agreeing to buy it from the LLC further down the line. "That's what we're working on, but the LLC takes time, the Letter of Intent takes time, and we are dealing with a bank from Great Britain," Gates said.

If a deal on the First Street property doesn't come through, Gates said The Center may be forced to rent a much smaller location temporarily. If

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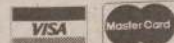
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NAU student columnist's flyer criticizing gays sparks debate

FLAGSTAFF (AP)

When the editor of Northern Arizona University's student newspaper rejected Harmony Ierley's column criticizing the campus' gay and lesbian group, the conservative writer went over her editor's head.

Outraged, Ierley and her ideological allies with "The Underground Press" turned her disposed column into 900 one-page fliers.

The leaflets ended up on car windshields across the Flagstaff campus in late October and eventually cost her the unpaid writing position she held for three semesters.

The incident also shook up the normally quiet university of 17,000 students and has prompted a debate over the extent of free speech and political correctness.

The 200-member Lesbian Gay Bisexual Alliance is demanding an apology from an unapologetic Ierley, the newspaper is defending itself for firing Ierley and against her censorship charges, and NAU officials are trying to figure out if Ierley should be punished for speaking her mind.

"Talk about shutting down intellectual thought and intellectual speech," the 22-year-old speech communications major said Dec. 10.

"I wasn't attacking homosexuals. I don't agree with homosexuals. If you say anything against homosexuals, you are automatically called a bigot."

The fliers, claiming that gays are promiscuous and want legalized sex with children, naturally angered the

LGBA, which saw it as noting more than rehearsed homophobic rantings.

"(It) was narrow-minded and confrontational, and its message was one of hate," said Rich Machold, a graduate student in psychology and an alliance member. "When she apparently put this on 1,000 cars, not only did she violate the student code of conduct, she also forced her extremely discriminatory viewpoint onto people who would normally not choose to read this."

University officials are investigating the incident to determine if Ierley violated two campus policies, said Art Farmer, NAU's director of Student Life.

Farmer said Ierley appears to have violated the school's policy barring advertisements from being distributed via fliers on car windshields. Farmer said the problem with such fliers is that they turn into litter.

The other policy is the student Code of Conduct, which includes the school's Safe Working and Learning Environment policy.

The policy includes a section on discrimination, which can include "behavior that creates an environment which is intimidating, hostile, or offensive for individuals of one group, and thus interferes with a person's ability to work or learn."

Farmer would not say whether Ierley violated the Code of Conduct because the case is under review.

"We are supporters of free speech and will protect those rights from time to time," Farmer said. "But in this case, we have to be very cautious."

Ierley said she has hired an attorney and is ready to file suit against the university if she is punished by NAU.

The homosexuality debate began in *The Lumberjack* on Oct. 15 when Ierley wrote a column on the subject. Namely, she alleged that homosexuals are promiscuous rather than monoga-

to rebut an LGBA letter that questioned the sources cited in her first column. LGBA charged that Ierley got her data from "an ultraconservative lobbying organization."

Ierley said she was so incensed, "I had to defend my sources."

"The bottom line is that LBGA knowingly and purposely tried to dismiss the evidence I presented to create a 'truth' more to their liking," she wrote in the second column.

Tracie Williams, editor of *The Lumberjack*, defended her decision to kill the second column and to later fire Ierley for distributing the leaflets.

"It's not right to bait someone with a column, to draw someone in to write a letter to the editor and then attack them,"

Williams said. "I didn't run the col-

umn because I didn't think it was fair and ethical. I just didn't want to get into a tit-for-tat."

Lumberjack faculty adviser Warren Weber said he consulted with Williams over the column and Ierley's subsequent firing on Nov. 6. He said he agreed with both decisions.

"She was terminated because of the flier bit," Weber said. "We considered it to be unprofessional."

"Talk about shutting down intellectual thought and speech. I wasn't attacking homosexuals. If you say anything against homosexuals you are automatically called a bigot."

mous, and that homosexuals "demand that sex with children be legalized."

She also said that only 3 percent of Americans are gay, as opposed to a 10 percent figure used by many gay activists. She cited several sources, including Planned Parenthood and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "All sources available at *The Lumberjack*," she concluded.

After two weeks, Ierley submitted a second column she said was needed

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KY Court says domestic protective orders apply to same-sex couples

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP)

A Court of Appeals ruling that says domestic violence orders may be obtained by one member of a same-sex couple who faces abuse from the other could inflame legislative debate on the topic.

One state senator has already proposed a change in the law to prohibit the issuance of domestic violence orders to members of a same-sex couple.

The appellate decision Dec. 12 reversed a Fayette Circuit Court ruling, which had taken the position that the law applies only to a married couple or a heterosexual couple.

Judge David Buckingham of Murray, who wrote the majority decision, said the statute applies to couples engaged in an intimate relationship and would not apply to roommates.

"The language of the statute is unambiguous, even though it is gender-neutral and does not specifically include or specifically exclude same-sex couples from its scope," Buckingham wrote. "The General Assembly has not given preferential treatment to same-sex couples or homosexuals; rather it has provided for equal treatment under the law for same-sex or homosexual victims of domestic violence."

Judge Joseph Huddleston of Bowling Green joined Buckingham's opinion.

Judge Rick Johnson of Mayfield dissented. He said the legislature intended to allow domestic violence orders for couples that are composed of members of the opposite sex.

The statute now allows "any family member or member of an unmarried couple" to petition a court for a domestic violence order to refrain from any contact with the partner. It has generally been applied to unmarried couples who live together, for-

merly lived together or have a child in common. It also covers spouses and some other relatives.

According to the court case, John W. Ireland and Blake Allen Davis were homosexual males living together in an intimate relationship. Ireland sought a protective order, alleging he had been abused by Davis.

Sen. Tim Philpot, R-Lexington, has proposed a revision that would add

to the definition of an unmarried couple, limiting that category to people "of opposite sex."

Philpot said prior to a hearing on the proposal in August the legislature intended to protect women and children from abuse and protect a traditional family unit.

Philpot said he is open to the possibility of providing protection to homosexual victims of domestic violence if gays prove there is a problem.

System to collect names of every HIV-infected Georgian advancing

ATLANTA (AP)

A system to collect the names of every Georgian with the HIV virus should be in place within two years, says Dr. Kathleen Toomey, the state's director of public health.

The plan causes consternation among AIDS and HIV patients and their advocates, who fear public disclosure would lead to discrimination.

"Confidentiality is something we all think has to be paramount," Ms. Toomey said.

"You can't repair the loss of confidentiality," said Marj Plumb of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association.

The state currently reports names of people diagnosed with AIDS. Officials say having names of those

with HIV — which can lead to AIDS — will lead to better tracking and treatment of those with the virus.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is calling for mandatory reporting of HIV infections. Although the CDC hasn't decided the best way to do that, agency officials say the current method of reporting AIDS cases by name has worked well.

Routinely, patients must waive their right to privacy to get their medical bills paid. And that includes tests for HIV. People who might want to err on the side of caution by being tested must give up confidentiality in order to be reimbursed.

The government goes to great lengths to protect the identities of

those with HIV or AIDS, including sex offenders who could pass the illness on. New York health officials recently named a man with HIV who they said knowingly infected scores of women, but the move was highly unusual.

"It is somewhere between the hilarious and the added to say that we have privacy," said Arthur L. Caplan, a medical ethicist at the University of Pennsylvania.

Over the years, AIDS and HIV patients have been afforded a specific right to privacy under state and federal laws. The special protection was in recognition of widespread discrimination against those patients.

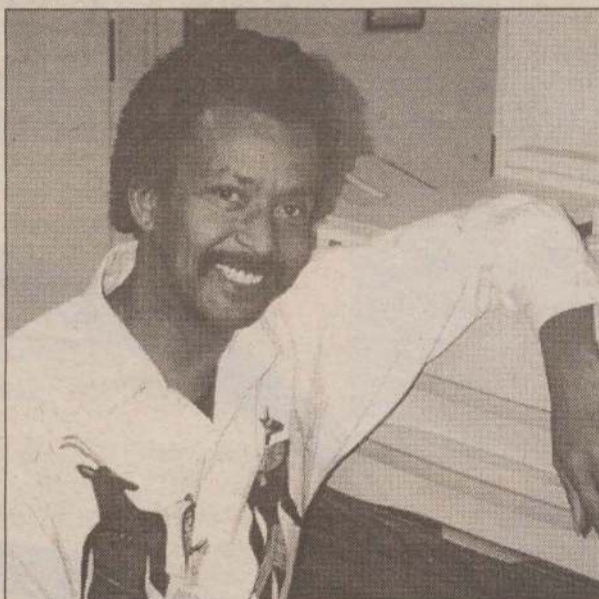
APAZ names new TRIBE Coordinator

Garry Robinson, formerly a peer counseling supervisor and early intervention program manager for the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation in Tucson, has been appointed the new coordinator for TRIBE in Phoenix, effective December 15.

TRIBE stands for Together, Responsible, Informed, Black and Empowered, and is AIDS Project Arizona (APAZ)'s outreach program to the African-American community in the greater Phoenix area.

"Garry is an advocate and well-spoken educator on HIV/AIDS," said Peter Houle, Executive Director of APAZ. "As an HIV-positive individual, Garry will be an exceptional role model for clients and a talented addition to our staff."

Prior to moving to Tucson three years ago, Robinson was a Staff Sergeant in the United States Air Force. While in the military, he established HIV testing and counseling programs for the Air Force in both Germany and the US for eight years.



Garry Robinson, TRIBE's new Coordinator

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Salt Lake approves ordinance protecting gay city employees

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)

The City Council has voted 5-2 to approve an ordinance protecting gay city employees from discrimination.

One opponent, Councilman Bryce Jolley, said the law will be repealed in January by the new council.

"If you choose to pass this, it will be for two weeks only," he said Dec. 9. "This vote will be symbolic. This ordinance will be repealed."

Council members Tom Godfrey, Mary Mark, Lee Martinez, Joanne Milner and Deeda Seed voted for the new law. Jolley and Councilman Keith Christensen opposed the ordinance. Godfrey, Mark and Martinez are lame ducks. They will be replaced by Carlton Christensen, Tom Rogan and Roger Thompson.

Carlton Christensen said he would support Jolley's efforts to repeal the ordinance. Rogan supports the new

law. Thompson would not say what he thinks about the issue.

Salt Lake City is the first Utah municipality to adopt such an ordinance. Salt Lake County and the University of Utah have similar policies. Many businesses have similar protections.

Two hours of vitriolic public debate preceded the council's vote. More than 30 residents argued for and against the new law.

Gay city residents pleaded with council members to approve the ordinance that protects city employees from job discrimination based on their race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, sexual orientation or disability. They say it's a matter of fairness and equity.

University of Utah Law School professor Terry Kogan said he is grateful the university has a similar

nondiscrimination policy that protects him from job discrimination.

"My life would be miserable if I had hanging over my head the worry that my superiors could fire me based solely on my sexual orientation, something totally unrelated to my job performance," Kogan said.

Employment attorney Erik Stringberg urged adoption of the law and cited the case of two Utah lesbians dismissed from their jobs when their sexual orientation was discovered.

"Employees are repeatedly and regularly fired from their jobs because of sexual orientation," Stringberg said. "This proposed ordinance would not give any special rights to gay employees. It would merely ensure that employees are given a fair chance and are not discriminated against based on something that has

nothing to do with their job performance."

Others at the meeting disagreed. Some claimed a parental right to know if gay city employees might have contact with their children. Some argued the law was giving gay city employees special protections not afforded other workers.

A few attorneys contended the city ordinance was too vague. Some said the law could be extended to include all businesses in the city.

Other speakers raised religious arguments against the ordinance.

"Homosexuality is a perversion," said instructor Brian Fetzer. "It always will be an abomination before God."

9th Circuit Court upholds officer's discharge for homosexuality

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)

An Air Force officer's request for reinstatement after a 1989 discharge for homosexuality, 11 months short of his 20-year pension, was refused by a federal appeals court.

The Air Force had substantial evidence of homosexual acts by Lt. Col. Kenneth L. Jackson, such as a greeting card in which he called his male roommate "a beautiful and sensitive lover," said the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in its ruling Dec. 9.

The court also rejected Jackson's claim of unconstitutional discrimination.

Jackson, now of Los Gatos, Calif., enlisted in the Air Force reserves in 1967 and began active duty in 1970. Transferred in 1974 to Norton AFB, east of Los Angeles, he was assigned to high-security missile duties and became head of the base's Small ICBM Guidance and Control Division in 1986, according to his lawsuit.

In 1988, police in nearby Redlands suspected Jackson's civilian roommate of child molesting, and searched their home, accompanied by Air Force officers.

The court said the search turned up evidence of Jackson's homosexual activity, including a "gay pride" button, an American Civil Liberties

Union handbook called "The Rights of Gay People," several magazines and videos, and six greeting cards from Jackson to his roommate.

In the cards, as quoted by the court, Jackson called the roommate a "beautiful and sensitive lover" and said, "The nights are lonely and I really miss holding, cuddling and looking at you."

Jackson's suit said one of the policemen had threatened to arrest him unless he revealed his sexual orientation, then falsely promised not to tell the Air Force. Jackson attended the search at the orders of the Norton base commander and said he was detained there by Air Force officers during their search.

He was discharged honorably but involuntarily in September 1989. The discharge cost him a pension worth \$500,000, his suit said.

Jackson's discharge was upheld by U.S. District Judge William Ingram, whose ruling was affirmed in a 3-0 appeals court decision.

Disregarding Jackson's police statement and other disputed evidence, there was still "substantial evidence of homosexual activity," the court said. It cited the language in the greeting cards, saying that "holding and cuddling," if done for the pur-

pose of satisfying sexual desires, is "a direct admission of homosexual activity."

In rejecting the discrimination claim, the court cited its ruling in a case last February finding no discrimination in a discharge for homosexual conduct under the current "don't ask, don't tell" policy. Jackson was discharged under the previous policy, which made homosexuality itself grounds for dismissal, but the court

said his discharge was for homosexual activity.

The ruling was signed by Judges Pamela Rymer — author of the February opinion — and A. Wallace Tashima and visiting Judge Harlington Wood of the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Jackson's lawyer, Richard Gayer, could not be reached for comment.

The case is Jackson vs. U.S. Air Force, 96-15949.

Filmmaker Ken Burns urges end to intolerance at Michigan commencement

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP)

Filmmaker and historian Ken Burns urged University of Michigan students during a commencement address Dec. 14 to fight bigotry and divisiveness.

"So I ask those graduating today — male or female, black or white or yellow, young or old, straight or gay — to become soldiers in a new 'union' army, an army dedicated to the preservation of this country's ideals, a vanguard against separatism and disunion," Burns said.

Burns also warned students not to

forget their history, both personally and collectively.

"If you don't know where you have been, how can you possibly know where you're going?" he said.

Burns, best known for the award-winning PBS series "The Civil War," grew up in Ann Arbor. He spoke to about 2,000 graduates at the school's winter commencement ceremonies.

Burns, Nobel Prize-winning chemist Richard Smalley and social activist Gwendolyn Calvert Baker received honorary degrees at the ceremony.

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State grant awarded to HIV service agency

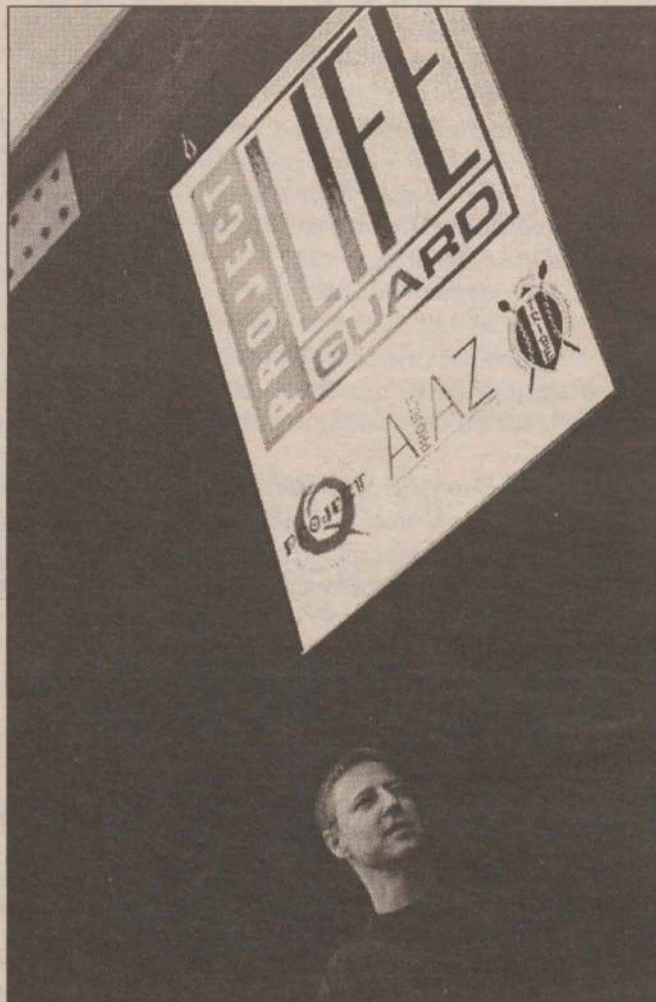
Continued from page 1

budget— two house parties per year instead of four, things like that. But we'll continue to provide the same services we've been providing all along."

LifeGuard administrative salaries covered by the state grant include Van Leeuwen's Program Coordinator position; Volunteers & Activities Coordinator Jack Addington; and Peter Lepley, who serves as Program Assistant.

Two other coordinator's positions at LifeGuard are covered by other sources of funding, largely through grants from Maricopa County. They are Frank Repice, Project Q Coordinator (young men's programs) and Garry Robinson, TRIBE Coordinator (African-American outreach programs). The TRIBE program also employs two female outreach specialists.

Clay Spillman, former Program Coordinator for LifeGuard, stepped down in March, 1997 after APAZ acknowledged the CDC grant had been discontinued. It was a belt-tightening move, both



Sam Van Leeuwen continues to act as Program Coordinator. He'll also manage Project LifeGuard's Man to Man program after the new grant kicks in.

Spillman and APAZ director Houle said at the time. Inside APAZ, Spillman had few detractors but his resignation was nevertheless offered and accepted in order to save the non-profit agency some money during the crunch.

Even with the new state funding, there won't be another Project Coordinator hired to replace Spillman, according to Van Leeuwen. "I will continue to act as Program Coordinator and to manage the Man to Man program (a LifeGuard counseling program that had its own coordinator until a few months ago) myself," he said.

Van

Leeuwen said that although the lack of a Program Coordinator and the combining of some positions makes it appear that LifeGuard's staff is operating in a bare-bones situation, that is not actually the case.

"Clay's job was mostly overseeing budgets and a lot of paperwork, and that is now being handled by Peter Houle, Audrey Broner (APAZ grant specialist), and the staff at APAZ," Van Leeuwen explained. "That's works because it frees the rest of us (LifeGuard staffers) to manage the volunteers, run testing and counseling programs, and to concentrate on the outreach and education work we've been doing since the program started."

Project LifeGuard was incarnated several years ago as the Gay Men's Sex Project (GMSP), then a division of the Community AIDS Council. When the Community AIDS Council became part of APAZ in 1996, GMSP was renamed Project LifeGuard and continued to operate on GMSP's founding grant from the CDC. The idea behind GMSP from the beginning was to provide education and counseling to the population most affected by HIV/AIDS.

Having a county-wide program for MSM, managed by MSM, was an important part of HIV/AIDS service when it started and it's still important, Houle said. Important because MSM currently make up the vast majority of new HIV/AIDS cases in Maricopa County, and gay and bisexual men are more than ever in need of current education and information.

"Despite the fact that the disease is changing, and that people are living longer with AIDS than ever before, there is still a big segment of society that is missing vital information about HIV and its transmission, and Project LifeGuard exists to provide that. It's absolutely vital," Houle said.

"We are now hearing about how bare-backing (having anal sex without a condom) is getting more and more popular among gay men, and that is pretty scary. It also turns out that a higher number of new, reported cases is among a younger population of gay men, men aged 22 and under. These are people who grew up with AIDS and should absolutely know better than to have unsafe sex."

Houle said he believes Project LifeGuard is particularly needed to reach out to those younger men in Arizona's most populated county. "They do such a good job of getting the message and information to the younger population," he said, "we are behind this program one-hundred percent and will keep it going no matter what. And I'm very proud to say we've managed to do so for the past nine months, even without the CDC grant."

The new funding from the state will provide enough money to keep all of LifeGuard's current outreach activities going, Van Leeuwen said. In addition to testing and counseling, current programs and activities include outreach at bars and bath houses, house parties, a monthly calendar party (see page 1), participating in community special events (gay rodeos, pride festivals, etc.), and holding a yearly pageant to elect a King and Queen of Safer Sex.



Volunteers & Activities Coordinator Jack Addington (L), manages yet another LifeGuard outreach function — this one with local impresario Hollie Woods, LifeGuard's reigning Queen of Safer Sex.

The state is also requiring LifeGuard to implement a new needs-assessment survey, the first major survey the agency has undertaken in four years. The results will help APAZ and LifeGuard administrators plan any new programs and activities that may be added to what LifeGuard is already doing. None of the new programs, the directors said, will require major changes.

"We might add a Couples Counseling group," said Van Leeuwen. "It's something many service agencies in other cities, like Los Angeles, are currently offering." He said another likely new program will be Internet Outreach—a way for LifeGuard to provide HIV information and MSM chat groups on the worldwide computer network.

"It depends on what the community is asking for, so we really encourage people to fill out the surveys and let us know what they are

thinking," he said. The surveys will be available throughout the county in upcoming weeks, as the terms of the contract with the state require LifeGuard to report its needs assessments within 90 days of the new grant taking effect.

Van Leeuwen said he and the other coordinators at Project LifeGuard are very excited and thankful

Continued on following page

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OR school allows Williamson & Fure to perform at theater

CORVALLIS, Ore. (AP)

A private school has reversed its decision against letting a lesbian folk duo perform at its theater.

The Ashbrook Independent School announced Dec. 8 it would rent the 402-seat theater to the group for a March 6 concert by singers Cris Williamson and Tret Fure.

The school had denied the duo use of the theater because the Corvallis Folklore Society had refused to change promotional materials that referred to the singers as "life partners."

Even though promoters maintained the duo's act contained no references to homosexuality, the school's headmaster, Dave Gore, questioned whether the concert qualified as "family-style entertainment."

The Folklore Society complained, saying the school's action violated the city's anti-discrimination law.

In a news release Monday, Gore said, "Our policy against promotion of sexuality in a school theater was interpreted as anti-gay, and we felt the need to make this offer."

"It is a good thing to provide a

beautiful place where people can show their love and reaffirm their humanity. We have a new appreciation of how important this is to members of a minority."

Even after the school's about-face, the concert may not happen. Another show featuring the duo has been set for Feb. 28 in the 300-seat Majestic Theatre, producer Mike Meyer said.

It was Meyer who complained to the city about a possible violation of

its four-year-old anti-discrimination ordinance. The law applied to the private school because of its policy of renting the theater for non-school activities.

"It's probably too late for (the Ashbrook show)," Meyer said. "The damage has already been done."

Even with the school's willingness to change its policy, Meyer said, "I'm still very frustrated by what happened."

AT&T Wireless employee awarded \$405k in AIDS discrimination case

WEST PALM BEACH (AP)

A jury awarded \$405,000 Dec. 11 to a man who said he was reprimanded for taking too much sick time after telling his bosses he has the virus that causes AIDS.

Roger Kwiatek, who worked in the support services office at the West Palm Beach branch of AT&T Wireless, said he was first reprimanded in 1993, the day after he told his bosses he was HIV-positive.

In the months following his announcement, Kwiatek's bosses told him his work needed improvement and he needed a doctor's note to justify his absences.

Kwiatek's attorney, Scott Warfman, said the AT&T Wireless and its subsidiary, McCaw Cellular, were trying to lay a foundation to fire Kwiatek.

In 1994, the company told Kwiatek he'd be fired if he didn't improve and gave him the option of taking long-term disability. Kwiatek, who was then on a reduced work

week, said he could do the work and continued in the \$23,500-a-year job.

He eventually accepted the long-term disability in 1995, when he became too weak to work.

The jury awarded Kwiatek \$180,000 for past and future psychological counseling and lost wages. He also received \$125,000 for pain and suffering.

The jury also said AT&T should pay \$1 million in punitive damages, but by law that amount would be reduced to \$100,000, Warfman said.

AT&T spokesman Shawn Camp criticized the jury's award.

"It's a Christmas verdict," told the Palm Beach Post Thursday. "We never discriminated against Mr. Kwiatek in any way... There was never any type of punitive action here."

Camp said the company is still paying 60-percent of Kwiatek's salary and accommodated his request to reduce his work week.

Project LifeGuard

Continued from previous page

that the state came through with the money, and that the APAZ staff has been extremely helpful and supportive. Now, he said, they look forward to getting the survey out and processed, and to another year of serving the community.

"Research has shown that when gay men feel like they are part of a community, they are more likely to practice safe sex and to seek education about HIV and AIDS, and less likely to become infected. So our goal is to provide that," Van Leeuwen said.

"We go about that in many different ways, including coun-

seling and providing testing, but the main thing is to give people a place where they feel they can get the information and get tested in a safe environment.

"One of our philosophies is this: If you like yourself and feel good about yourself, you are going to take care of yourself."

HeatStroke



Robert (L) and Jeff were the entries for December in LifeGuard's most recent "Mr. Undie Mondays" Contest at Charlie's. Jeff won, earning a page in the 1999 calendar.

Controversy brews over Times Square recruiting station

NEW YORK (AP)

Mayor Rudolph Giuliani says Times Square is a fitting location for a "landmark" military recruiting station and will fight efforts by gay activists and business leaders to have it moved.

"At this point, they can forget about any plans of removing it because I wouldn't approve it," Giuliani told the New York Post.

Tom Duane, D-Manhattan, an openly gay member of the City Council, says the station has no right to its rent-free location on city-

owned land because the military discriminates against gays and lesbians.

Duane's proposal to move the station, established in 1946, has the backing of the Times Square Business Improvement District, which said it wants to turn the location into open space for pedestrians.

Duane, chairman of a City Council subcommittee on land use, is to hold a hearing on the recruiting station on Tuesday.

The mayor said he would consult with veterans and the Defense Department about the station.

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Gay & lesbian clergy and supporters challenging policies on homosexuality

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)

He hardly looks the part of a renegade, this clean-cut pastor who hums to himself as he walks through the sanctuary of his tiny church with his black lab Murphy trotting at his side.

But there is something about the Rev. Jeff Johnson that many church leaders would rather you didn't

know — something that led them to reject Johnson and the 55 members at San Francisco's First United Lutheran Church.

Johnson is openly gay. He also refuses to take a vow of celibacy. And that is unacceptable in the eyes of the leaders of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America —

and the majority of faiths, Christian and otherwise, in this country and many others.

"As far as they're concerned, I no longer exist," says Johnson, one of a growing number of pastors who are challenging their churches' stances on homosexuality.

Leaders in many faiths are struggling with this question: what does it mean to be gay or lesbian and a person of faith?

The question seems particularly precarious when applied to pastors and rabbis.

"Twenty or 30 years ago the bold move would have been for a white church to hire a black pastor," says Rita Nakashima Brock, a religious expert and director of the Bunting Institute at Radcliffe College in Massachusetts. "These days, it's the church that hires an openly gay or lesbian pastor that is scrutinized."

Until recently, it was the norm for lesbians and gay men, both pastors and parishioners, to hide their sexuality or to leave their faiths altogether.

These days, a very few lesbian and gay pastors — in the United Church of Christ, Metropolitan Community Church and some reformed Jewish synagogues — have the church's blessing to be openly gay without requiring celibacy.

Other pastors and rabbis are willing to come out to their congregations. But the majority maintain a "don't-ask-don't-tell" policy with the higher ups, knowing that divulging too much would have swift and costly consequences.

Even those who consider themselves the equivalent of married rarely tell their bishops or other church elders.

"If I came out publicly — for example, in the press — I would be fired," says one Protestant pastor, who doesn't hide her long-term relationship with a woman from her San Francisco congregation and peers, but has not discussed it with church leaders.

Living openly has not always been easy for the 35-year-old Johnson and his church without moral — not to mention financial — support of the greater Lutheran church. They receive financial support from a Washington-

based nonprofit that supports gay and lesbian Lutheran pastors.

But, if they have any regrets over supporting him, his parishioners don't say so.

"He is who he is, and we love him for it," 75-year-old May Vignola says of "Pastor Jeff," known as much for his ready laugh as his ability to quote

"I don't think it's fair or right. A Christian ministry of word and sacrament is still being carried on and it has nothing to do with their sexuality. And we're losing a lot of fine people because of it."

any number of Biblical passages that will.

Vignola, a member of First United Lutheran Church for more than 45 years, was one of several members who stood behind Johnson when the ELCA ordered the church to fire Johnson or be thrown out.

"The few people in the church who didn't agree, well," Vignola says, pausing, "They left."

That was in 1995.

But Johnson's troubles began long before, in 1987, when he and two lesbians decided to come out to their bishops while in seminary at Berkeley.

"It was gut-wrenching," Johnson says. "As far as we knew, no one had ever come out and survived."

His bishop at the time was the Rev. Lyle Miller, a man Johnson had known since his childhood days in Simi Valley, Calif., and who was a close personal friend of Johnson's parents.

"Part of the reason I became a pastor was because of him," Johnson says of Miller.

That made it all the more painful when, in 1988, Miller called Johnson into his office to ask him to sign a life-long vow of celibacy.

"What about unconditional love, unconditional grace?" Johnson asked Miller, who had spread newspaper clippings about the three seminarians across his desk.

"There was no religious motivation behind what he was doing," Johnson said. "He wanted to save his political butt."

Discussing the matter is still difficult for Miller, now a Lutheran pastor in Tacoma, Wash. He has recently rekindled his friendship with Johnson's parents but not Johnson.

"It was very painful and Jeff is a fine person.... He has good gifts and is a dedicated person," Miller says. "But if a person is gay, he or she is not to be sexually active as a gay person. Sexual activity belongs in the commitment of marriage."

Sex outside of marriage has, in fact, been the focus for many faiths when it comes to gay clergy, making for often contentious church conventions and disciplinary hearings as a growing number of pastors — both gay and straight — break their silence.

There also are a growing number of straight pastors who are speaking on behalf of their gay and lesbian counterparts. One of those is the Rev. Walter Bock, a retired Lutheran pastor in San Francisco who has spoken on Johnson's behalf.

"I don't think it's fair or right," Bock says. "A Christian ministry of word and sacrament is still being carried on and it has nothing to do with their sexuality. And we're losing a lot of fine people because of it."

It was that sort of opinion that led a small group of San Francisco pas-

"I perceived erroneously that the church was one of the greatest agents of social change. But my goal is not institutional change because that will happen long, long, long after real change has already taken place"

tors to ordain Johnson and the two lesbian pastors he graduated with in 1990 against the church's wishes. The church still considers the ordinations illegal.

In another move of defiance, Lutheran pastors in San Francisco have continually elected Johnson as their dean to represent them in the Sierra-Pacific Synod — 218 Lutheran congregations in Northern California and Nevada.

"There's a very clear intention to send a message to the church," says Bishop Robert Mattheis, who now oversees the Sierra-Pacific Synod.

Mattheis — who calls Johnson "very gifted and capable" — says the

synod has not challenged Johnson's election, though he cannot participate in official church business, such as ordinations.

But, beyond that, some sense a shifting in the synod's views on the matter.

Unlike his predecessor, for example, Mattheis opted not to punish St. Paul Lutheran Church, a large congregation in Oakland whose pastor is openly gay and in a long-term relationship.

"I chose to say I'm just going to not deal with that and let it take care of itself," Mattheis says. "My sympathies lie more on the open and accepting side. The issue is not settled for me but my sympathies are there."

The issue is also hardly settled for the ELCA or any other number of churches — both in terms of clergy and parishioners.

Last year, for example, the American Baptist Churches of the West voted to expel four churches in the San Francisco Bay area for a policy of welcoming gay and lesbian members without attempting to reform them.

With all the discussion and the infighting has come change — albeit slow moving — for some churches, including the Chicago-based ELCA.

"I sense that there is less and less resistance ... and more of a willingness to think seriously about the question," Mattheis says of his

faith. "It won't happen tomorrow...."

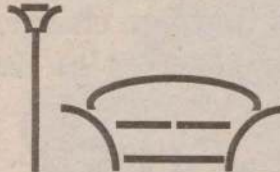
"But God's timing surprises us, almost always."

In the meantime, Johnson is happy to continue to challenge the system by serving as dean. But his most important work, he says, remains in the day-to-day workings of his own parish.

"I perceived erroneously that the church was one of the greatest agents of social change," Johnson says of larger Lutheran church. "I still believe that to a point."

"...But my goal is not institutional change because that will happen long, long, long after real change has already taken place."

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun., Dec. 21: Pictures taken with Santa 2-5pm — Kids welcome!

Cash Inn will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 25: Merry Christmas!



Wed., Dec. 31: New Year's Eve Party, \$5 Cover no reservations; includes party favors, Champagne toast at midnight followed by a catered breakfast; formal portraits by Just Once Photography available at a separate charge.
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Goings On

News & events in the Metro Phoenix Queer Community

The Center needs help moving

The Valley of the Sun Lesbian and Gay Community Center needs help clearing out of its present building by December 31 (see related story, page 4).

Center officials are asking for donations from throughout the community to help with the relocation. Mail or drop off your tax-deductible donation in person to: The Center, 3136 North 3rd Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85013.

Trucks, boxes and time to help with the moving and packing are also needed. For information or to volunteer, contact Lyle Miller at (602) 265-7283.

APAZ looking to fill position

AIDS Project Arizona has an opening for a Peer Counselor/Program Assistant to assist Being Alive Wellness Center program clients and provide administrative support to clinic staff.

Applicants for this 20 hrs/wk position must be HIV-positive, with excellent interpersonal skills and strong organizational abilities. Prior experience is required and applicants must be able to provide their own transportation.

To apply, fax resume and salary requirements to: (602) 265-9951, or mail to: Edgar Rivera, Being Alive Program Coordinator, 111 E. Camelback Road, Phoenix, AZ 85012.

AGRA membership renewal; annual banquet

The Arizona Gay Rodeo Association reminds all members they must renew their dues before

December 31 to get the renewal rate of \$20. People who renew after January 1 will be charged the new member rate of \$40 per year. Champion memberships cost \$150 per year.

In other AGRA news, the Annual State Banquet will be held Saturday, December 27 at the T-Bone Steakhouse in South Phoenix. The evening will begin at 7pm with a no-host cocktail party followed by dinner at 7:30.

To reserve a space at the banquet, call (602) 265-8166. To renew your membership, get an application by calling the above number or pick one up in *The Branding Iron*, AGRA's monthly newsletter. Mail it with your check to: AGRA State Office, PO Box 40465, Phoenix, AZ 85067.

PBP to hold benefit at AZ Design Center

Phoenix Body Positive will benefit from a very special evening event and silent auction at the Arizona Design Center in Scottsdale on Thursday, January 15 from 6-9pm.

Called "Design For Life," the showcase will offer an opportunity for the public to join interior design professionals from across the Valley when they preview new fabrics, furniture, lighting and floorcoverings at the center. The Arizona Design Center is normally open to the design trade only, but will be open to the public for this benefit.

The silent auction will feature items from individual designers, manufacturers, suppliers and design center showrooms. There will be special design demonstrations and food & entertainment.

Tickets are \$50 for individuals and \$75 for couples, available through Phoenix Body Positive, (602) 955-4673 or Caring for Arizona, (602) 247-3905.

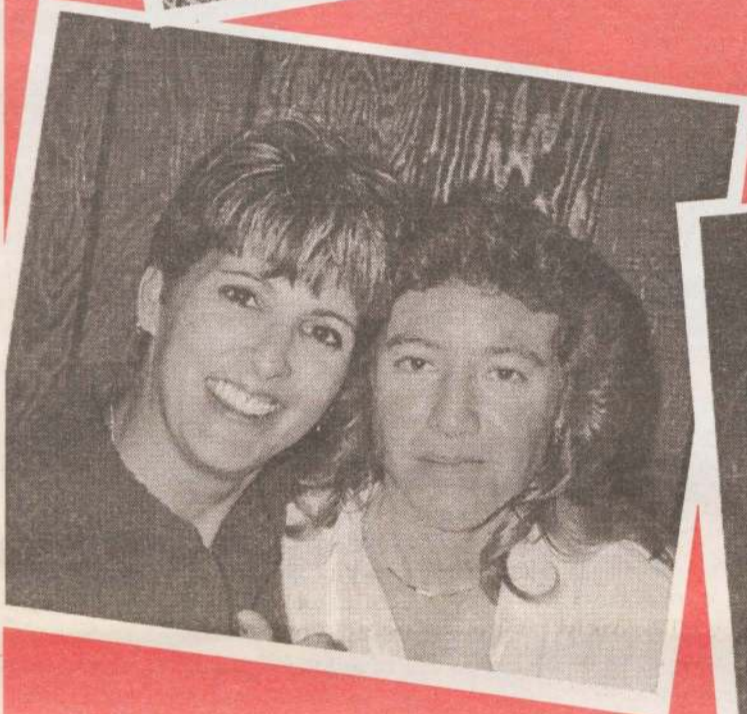
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Seeing/Being Scene



Lucky Stars

By Kelly Reidhead, Managing Editor

Matt Damon and Ben Affleck are two lucky — and talented — guys. Both are rising stars who got their start with critically acclaimed performances in independent films — Affleck's work has included *Chasing Amy*, *Going All the Way*, *Dazed and Confused*, and *School Ties*; Damon is currently featured in *The Rainmaker*, and has appeared in *Courage Under Fire* and *School Ties*.

But these guys are more than just good actors. Damon and Affleck are also talented writers: they share the screen writing credit for their latest film.

"*Good Will Hunting* showed me that it's actually possible to make the thing that you really want to have happen, happen in your life," Affleck says. "In the beginning, it was just two struggling actors sitting down to try their hand at writing; the thought that all of this would lead us to work with Gus Van Sant or Robin Williams never crossed our minds," Damon adds.

Friends since the third grade, Damon and Affleck grew tired of reading mediocre scripts and decided to take a stab at writing a good one. Although the two had never written a screenplay, they had things that were more important than experience: talent, a great character to write about, and lots of good fortune.

While a student at Harvard, Damon wrote a 50-page short story for a creative writing class

about a character called Will Hunting — a working class townie from South Boston who shakes up the fusty academics at MIT with his photographic memory. This character became the nucleus for the script that took Damon and Affleck two years to write.

Once the screenplay was finished, their luck started to kick in, big time.

Originally slated to be produced as a low-budget independent film, the buzz created by the circulating screenplay ignited a studio bidding war for the rights to the project. Eventually, *Good Will Hunting* evolved from an bare-bones indie to a full-scale project of Miramax films, who enlisted Lawrence Bender (*Pulp Fiction*) as producer. (The credits list nine people as producer, executive producers, and co-executive producers — all of whom became associated with the project at some point during its development.)

Then Gus Van Sant, the openly gay director of *To Die For*, *My Own Private Idaho*, and *Drugstore Cowboy*, agreed to direct the film after being shown the script by Affleck's brother, Casey — a

cast member of *To Die For*. And, in another stroke of luck, Robin Williams signed on to play the pivotal role of Sean — the therapist who attempts to break through Will Hunting's emotional shell.

With the backing of high-powered producers, a critically acclaimed director, and one of the industry's most bankable stars, the project had every reason

to succeed. That *Good Will Hunting* lives up to its promise of excellence is the most remarkable aspect of the film.

Director Gus Van Sant deserves the much of the credit. He has wisely restrained the sentiment



From left, Cole Hauser, Casey Affleck, Matt Damon, and Ben Affleck in *Good Will Hunting*

Photos: George Kravchik

Out on film



On location: Robin Williams, director Gus Van Sant, and Matt Damon

tal script — essentially a take on the classic Cinderella tale — from degenerating to a cloying mush. As a result, the film's emotional peaks are biting and effective without gushing over the top. Van Sant also manages to reign in the manic rantings of Robin Williams, who can easily upstage everything that shares the screen with him.

Van Sant's strong direction is matched with high-caliber performances by Matt Damon as Will Hunting, Ben Affleck as his buddy Chuckie, and Minnie Driver as Skylar, a medical student with whom Will falls in love.

Although this is one of Robin Williams' best performance since *The World According to Garp*, he doesn't measure up to the rest of the cast. For example, his character is supposed to be from South Boston, yet Williams doesn't bring any of that distinctive accent to his role. Miramax could and should have footed the bill for a dialect coach for Williams. His flat, California drone is glaringly out of place here — especially if you've ever met a real Southie.

Williams' performance aside, if you find yourself looking for an excuse to escape the relatives over the holidays, you won't go wrong with *Good Will Hunting*. It's a strong, well-made film that will appeal to nearly everyone. Heck, you could even bring the relatives.

Rockband known for gay lyrics calls it quits

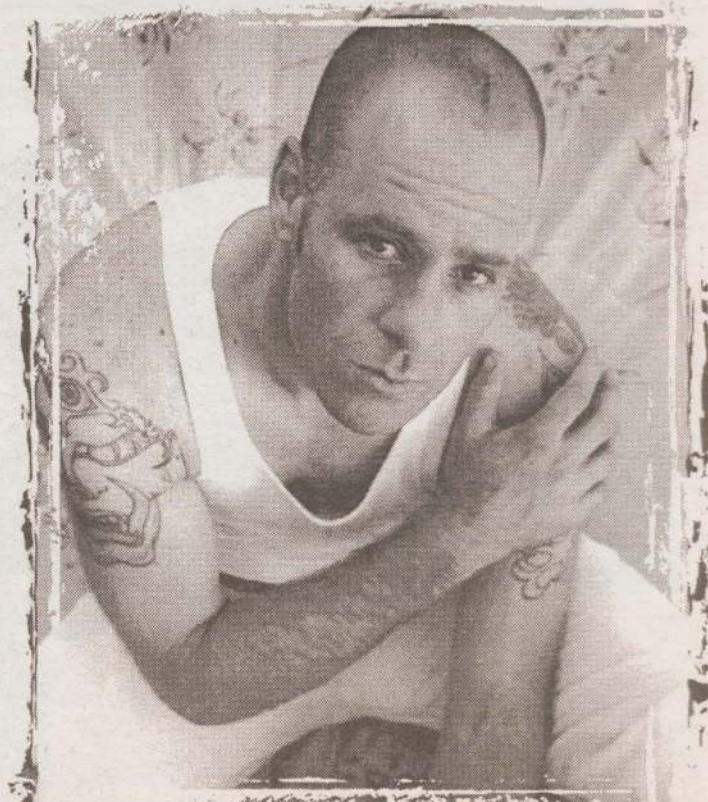
Extra Fancy—the LA-based surf-punk quartet featuring out-and-proud gayboy singer/oil-drum banger/songwriter Brian Grillo—is no longer, Grillo's manager and publicist announced in early December.

The band, maybe best known for Grillo's charisma and his unapologetic, queer-positive lyrics, landed a major label contract (with Atlantic) in 1996, but found its contract canceled after just eight weeks and the release of one album (*Sinnerman*). The cancellation was blamed on label downsizing.

Before the breakup, Extra Fancy was doing all right for itself in 1997. In April, Grillo & Co. were presented with Album of the Year honors,

for *Sinnerman*, at the GLAAD media awards in Washington, DC. Then Extra Fancy's version of "Sell Your Love" was included on the Iggy Pop tribute CD released in September and the in November the boys released *No Mercy*, their newest (and now last) CD.

Grillo was featured on the cover of *POZ* magazine in September, 1996 and was our *HeatStroke* coverboy in Issue #8 (February 27 — March 12, 1997.) The band played its last Phoenix show in March. Frontman Grillo has already written several new songs and says he plans to continue making music with some new players, including Extra Fancy bassist D. Foster.



Brian Grillo, lead singer of Extra Fancy from *HeatStroke* #8

Give yourself a trip to the movies for Christmas

by Allen Kalchik, Editor

It's time for that old holiday rush, not just in the malls and on the roads, but in the cineplexes as well (and we've suddenly got, like, a hundred new ones in the Valley, don't we?).

Yep, it's time for the Hollywood studios to ram the remainder of their biggest films into the theaters before New Year's Eve. Some late-year openings are aimed specifically at qualifying for Academy Award nods in time (a release by December 31 is the deadline), while others are hyped in hopes of boosting the studios' (or the studios' parent companies') year-end bottom lines.

In either case, for movie lovers like me, this is kid-in-a-candy-store time. But with everyone and their brother throwing around "Oscar nominee-this" and "Oscar nominee-that," it isn't easy to cut through the hype and figure out where to spend what's left of that holiday cash.

So here are my tips—four of the better, "Big " December flicks I've caught in the past couple weeks:

Amistad

Steven Spielberg directed this compelling, fact-based drama about a group of African slaves who overthrew their captors aboard a Spanish slave ship in American waters in the 1830's and the defense trials of the



mutineers that followed. It's a moving experience, with standout performances from studly newcomer Djimon Hounsou and Anthony Hopkins.

The flick is quite good, but—given the historical significance of the subject—it's too bad it isn't great. As usual, Spielberg can never leave well enough alone and let an interesting tale unwind at its own pace. Every frame in *Amistad* is gorgeous. Too gorgeous—that's the problem. Even the most horrific shipboard scenes end up being more about visual imagery (skin tones & oil & muscles in chains, ooohh!) than about the inhumanity of slave traders.

The trial scenes are so stunningly lit, over-misted, and underscored that we don't for a minute forget it's a movie. "This actually happened," Spielberg tells us over and over, and isn't it terrible? Of course it is. But the message would have a greater impact if he'd worried less about pointing up the drama and heroism, and simply filmed *Amistad* as if it was happening now, on the screen.

Deconstructing Harry

The newest comedy from veteran laughmaster Woody Allen is delicious Holiday fare. It features a zillion memorable one-liners in the inim-



itable Allen style and is a continuous crack-up (albeit a very adult one—this is Allen's most profane script, for sure).

Allen plays a condescending New York writer (nothing new there) beset by the various demons he's created over a long career of cruelly fictionalizing his family, friends and lovers—all for the sake of a laugh. Or is there a message in his method? Facing accusers both real and imagined, Harry tries to get a grip on his life while defending every aspect of it from sex, parenting, Jewish identity, success and inspiration to aging and death.

In casting *Deconstructing Harry*, Allen assembled another of those stellar comic ensembles he's become known for; this one includes Billy Crystal, Robin Williams, Julia Louis-

Dreyfuss, Demi Moore, Judy Davis and Elisabeth Shue. Kirstie Alley steals big scenes as Harry's foul-mouthed ex, and Hazelle Goodman earns rookie-of-the-year honors as one of those clear-eyed, world-wise hookers who knows how to pull everyone together at the perfect moment.

Despite the quirky overuse of jump cuts—an editing experiment used throughout that irritates more than adds interest—*Deconstructing Harry* is far and away among the funniest movies made this year.

Scream II

Don't you hate it when a movie trailer looks great, but suspicious? Like maybe six or eight of the film's best parts have been strung together, just to get you into the theater, and you're sure there's no way it can hold up to what the slick commercials promise?

Well, the enticing trailers blasting us from all sides for *Scream II* are not just a lot of hooley—it's actually as funny and scary as it looks. If you liked *Scream* (did anybody not like it?), you'll be happy to know director Wes Craven's follow-up to that '96, low-budget horror hit delivers plenty of the same, and then some.

It's a great scare, and the blood-and-guts will in no way disappoint. But what makes both installments work so well is the warped, self-effacing humor running through their scripts and Neve Campbell's strong performances in each sequence as the girl most likely to... find the killer or die.

David Arquette, Courtney Cox and several other key players (of those left alive) return for the sequel, and the college campus setting works better than the high school milieu did in #1. Jada Pinkett and Heather Graham get two of the better cameos; Laurie Metcalf is always a delight, especially in a juicy character role like the one she gets here; and toothy Jerry O'Connell (TV's *Sliders*) is damned sexy as the new suspect/boyfriend.

If you missed the first one, you'll want to go out and rent it before plunking down admission for *Scream II*. It's worth having seen #1 just to make the *Tori Spelling* connection in #2. Hey, if *Tori* can laugh at herself, we ought to be able to, too. With this

film snagging a record opening weekend for a December film release (a reported \$40 million), Wes Craven is already laughing—or screaming—all the way to the bank.

Jackie Brown

She's bossy, she's beautiful and she's baaaad. She's Jackie Brown, a jaded flight attendant turned smooth-operating money launderer in the happening new flick from



Hollywood's favorite legend-before-his-prime director, Quentin Tarantino.

The influence of 70's TV action series' on Tarantino's movies is so obvious, it's often hard to tell whether the guy is spoofing the genre or paying homage. With this seamless effort, it doesn't matter. Tarantino gets the mix of humor, violence and suspense exactly right and *Jackie Brown* positively delivers—from the very first scene to the last.

In the title role, Pam Grier proves herself an amazing actor. Her performance is extraordinary and extremely watchable, and not just because it's so unusual to see her demographic (a size 12, over 40, African-American Woman) as a movie lead. Acting-wise, it doesn't hurt that the talents of Samuel L. Jackson and Robert DeNiro share Grier's screen, playing the quick-tempered but slow-witted gun dealers she's hoping to outfox.

Bridget Fonda reminds audiences once again that she's all that as a ganja-loving surfer chick, and Michael Keaton plays the showoff ATF agent who wants to bring them all down. Equally good and especially believable is stone-faced Robert Forster, the streetsmart bondsman who aims for Jackie's heart and wins her trust.

If you plan to see only one movie over the holidays, see *Jackie Brown*. It rocks. Or better yet (to gel with the movie's top-notch, dashboard-thumping, retro R & B score), it *grooves*.



TIM FULLER

FIVE MOE GUYS ON ATC STAGE

Arizona Theatre Company will present the hit Broadway musical *Five Guys Named Moe* January 3-25 at the Herberger Theatre Center in Phoenix. The spectacular song and dance production features the music of early rhythm and blues great Louis Jordan.

Jordan's most famous hits help tell the story of Nomax, a lovesick character whose radio bursts to life one night with a quintet of singing, dancing Moe's in tent on chasing his blues away. The production will be directed by Kent Gash and star Teren Carter, Robert Chew, James

Doberman, Darren Lee Frazier, Steven X. Ward and David White.

Tickets are priced from \$24.50 to \$37.50 and are available at the ATC Box Office, Herberger Theatre Center and all Dillard's outlets. Tickets to a special, New Year's Eve preview performance are \$50.

Showtimes are at 8pm Wednesdays - Saturdays, 7pm Sundays, with selected matinees. The Herberger Theatre is located at 222 E. Monroe in Phoenix, call ATC at (602) 256-6995 for more information.

Out of Town:

Las Vegas

By Andrew Collins,
HeatStroke Contributor

Everybody knows Las Vegas is ground-zero for fans of gambling, but this vibrant booming city has begun increasingly to resemble a giant theme park with fantastic, exotic, and often campy amusements nearly on par with those at Disney World.

Furthermore, laws that allow virtually every business to operate 24 hours a day make Las Vegas a hot spot for gay nightclubbing.



New York, New York Hotel and Casino

The \$460 million New York, New York Hotel and Casino comprises 12 Gotham-inspired skyscrapers and more than 2,000 hotel rooms

Thanks to the low cost of living, strong job growth, and mild climate, the population here has more than tripled since 1970 (about 450,000 people live here today).

Among these transplants, countless lesbian and gay newcomers have worked hard to earn the support of local politicians and to elevate the community's visibility.

In fact, the National Gay and Lesbian Journalists Association recently announced Las Vegas as the site of its October 1998 convention.

Las Vegas has dozens of casino resorts, ranging from spectacular compounds inspired by chic world capitals and ancient civilizations to shaggy dives that date from the early '50s.

These larger-than-life compounds typically have hundreds of hotel rooms, elaborate shopping malls, glitzy show lounges, and a bounty of buffet lines and full-service restaurants. The most glamorous ones are along The Strip, the common nickname for six-lane Las Vegas

Boulevard from about Hacienda Avenue north to Sahara.

Among the dozens of possibilities, a few of these fortresses truly stand out.

Caesars Palace is a favorite of big spenders, thanks to its ritzy Ancient Rome-inspired shopping plaza and luxurious hotel rooms.

The sleek, uncharacteristically intimate, and gay-popular Hard Rock uses indirect lighting, minimal glitter, slots with guitar-neck handles, and music memorabilia (P.J. Harvey's guitar, touring costumes from Elton John and Chris Isaak) to attract a young, stylish, and sexy crowd.

The Wizard of Oz-themed MGM Grand, the world's largest casino, is exceptionally well-designed, with several fine restaurants and a spectacular 33-acre theme park that re-creates Hollywood's back lots and buzzes with rides and attractions. Friends of Dorothy can't go wrong here.

The latest casino to take Las Vegas by storm is New York, New York, a remarkably detailed and impressive re-creation of Gotham, with a miniature Greenwich Village complete with a

steaming manhole, graffiti-strewn newspaper dispensers, a great pastry shop, and takeoffs on Sheridan Square and Christopher Place (which, alas, make no reference to the Stonewall Inn). Outside, a rollercoaster zooms over the mock Manhattan skyline.

Bette Midler and Richard Gere are just two celebrities alleged to have exchanged vows (not with each other, of course) along Las Vegas's nearby Wedding Chapel Row, which is just north of The Strip.

Liberal divorce and marriage laws were instituted in Nevada in 1931 in an attempt to lure tourists. The laws have never changed, so today a man and a woman can get hitched faster than you can fry an egg.

As for same-sex unions, while gay weddings are not legally sanctioned by the state of Nevada, the Metropolitan Community Church performs commitment ceremonies. Some of the casinos welcome such rites; check with the MCC.

No trip to Las Vegas is complete without a quick tour of the precious and much heralded Liberace Museum, a giddy tribute to the late entertainer, filled with photos, costumes (including Lee's beloved Czar Nicholas uniform), mannequins, and pianos.

Film buffs should not miss the Debbie Reynolds Hollywood Movie Museum, where rotating portions of Ms. Reynolds's \$30 million private collection are on exhibit.

The city's dining scene was abominable until recently, when celebrity chefs from across the nation began opening high-profile eateries, most of them inside the newer casinos. A favorite is the MGM Grand's Emeril's, a nouvelle seafood restaurant presided over by the charismatic TV chef Emeril Legasse.

At the Rio Hotel, world-renowned chef Jean-Louis Palladin, formerly of Washington, DC's, Watergate Hotel, recently opened Napa, a supremely sophisticated Cal-French restaurant.

Spago, the outpost of Wolfgang Puck's famed Los Angeles eatery, anchors the Forum Shops at Caesars.

For cheap inexpensive grub, such as fajitas, burgers, lime chicken, and thick milkshakes, try Mr. Lucky's 24/7 at the Hard Rock.

Just southwest of The Strip, along Paradise Road, a small patch of gay bars and businesses have come recently to be known as the Gay Quarter.

In addition to hanging out at the cozy java house, Mariposa, gay men and lesbians flock to a pair of night-

clubs: Angles, a classic cruise bar with a fireplace and loads of slots, and Gypsy disco, a big hit with the younger set, UNLV students, and guppies.

Across the street, the bare-bones Buffalo draws a mostly male and quite cruisy mix of locals, students, bears, hustlers, older guys, jocks, and video poker addicts.

Elsewhere in town, Backstreet is tops for country-western dancing, the laid-back Las Vegas Eagle has a cruisy leather-and-Levi's ambience, the neighboring Tropical Island is a friendly dyke lounge, and the usually sleepy Goodtimes has attained near cult-status for its wildly popular Monday night parties. Serious vogueurs and poseurs head to Inferno, which has a chain-link fence dance floor, exposed airducts, and pulsing music.

At Debbie Reynolds Hotel and Casino, you can catch Kenny Kerr's drag extravaganza, "Women of Hollywood," and at the Riviera Hotel, Joan Rivers-impersonator Frank Marino and a cast of fellow Betties, Lizas, and Whoopis puts on the highly regarded "Evening at La Cage." Las Vegas is the capital of over-the-top revues and these two exercises in high camp are not to be missed.

Andrew Collins is the author of *Fodor's Gay Guide to the USA* and five recently released gay guides covering the West Coast, New York City, and South Florida. He can be reached care of *HeatStroke* or at OutofTown9@aol.com.

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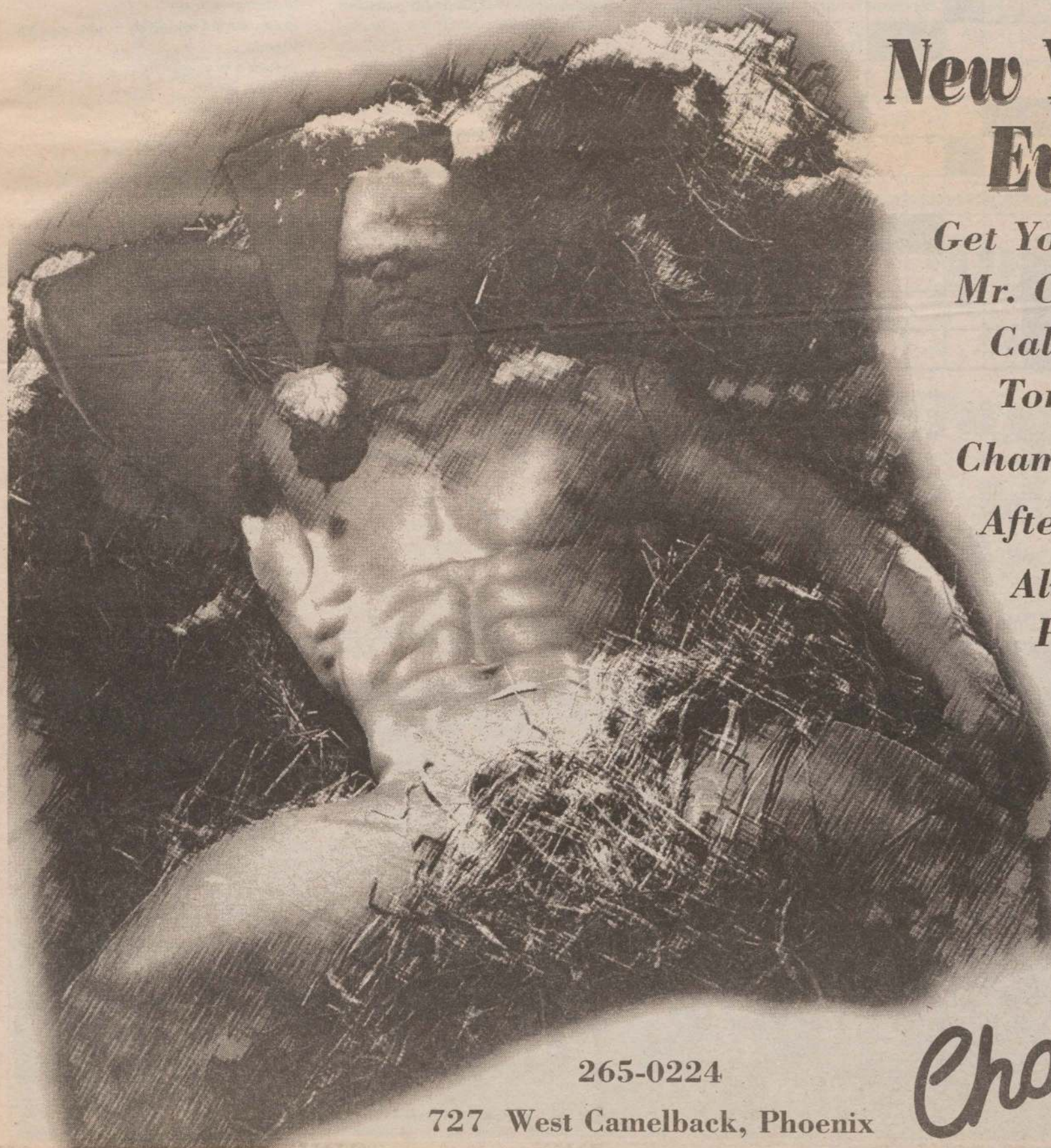
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Hollywood Deep Inside

By Romeo San Vicente, HeatStroke Contributor

A Fish Tale

One of the top entries at this year's Sundance Film Festival will be *Gods and Monsters*, a film about the last days of director James Whale, who made *Frankenstein* (1932) and *The Bride of Frankenstein* (1935), among other early horror classics.

Openly gay horror impresario Clive Barker is producing the film, which stars openly gay British legend Sir Ian McKellen (who plays Whale) and openly straight leading man Brendan Fraser, who plays Whale's gardener and friend (but not lover).

The story merits telling for Whale's openness about his sexuality, a rare thing in 1930s Hollywood. And his death was a mysterious one — conflicting accounts of Whale's untimely demise in 1957 include suicide, murder and an accidental drowning.

Barker says he considers *Bride of Frankenstein* to be the greatest horror movie ever made. Una O'Connor played the first diva on film, and in the movie Lynn Redgrave plays Whale's maid, whose eccentric behavior was considered an inspiration for the monster's bride.

I Love the Nightlife

Location shooting has begun in New York for *54*, a drama about the glory days of New York's famed disco, Studio 54.

Mike Myers (*Austin Powers*) plays gay nightclub owner Steve Rubell, who maintained a cadre of cute boy employees.

Playing one of those boys is Ryan Phillippe, the blond stud from *I Know What You Did Last Summer*, who recently filmed an outdoor nude scene that went deep into the cold New York night. Something to look forward to when Miramax releases the movie later next year.

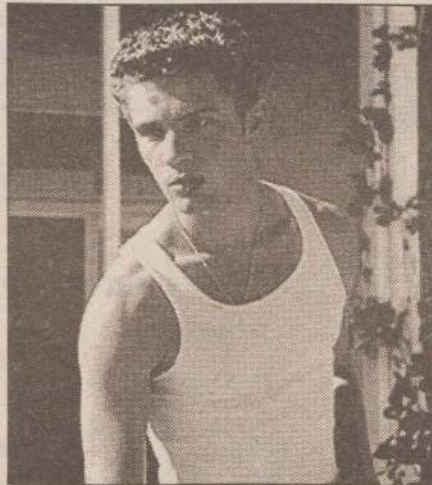
Needs More Seasoning...

The buzz on *Spiceworld* isn't too good, and if that comes as a surprise, consider yourself clueless. The Spice Girls' take on a *Hard Day's Night* sounds instead like a hard damn movie to sit through.

The film reportedly involves three plots: the first tracks a documentary crew seeking to get a behind-the-scenes look at "the real girls." The

second follows a gossip magazine desperately trying to dig up dirt on Short, Posh, Baby, Sexy and Scary Spice. On top of it all we have George Wendt (Norm from *Cheers*) as a Hollywood producer and Mark McKinney (*The Kids in the Hall*) as a screenwriter trying to come up with an idea for a film involving the girls.

Word has it they are also visited by aliens in the film, which makes me



Ryan Phillippe, slated to appear in an upcoming film about Studio 54

wonder whether this is based on an actual event (thus explaining their success).

Elton John has a cameo and *AbFab* creator and star Jennifer Saunders was involved as a writer, though it's not yet known how much involvement she had in the final product. So far, a release date has not been announced.

No More Wire Hangers!

RuPaul's upcoming Christmas special on VH-1 includes an homage to *Mommie Dearest*, a movie Atlanta's most famous drag queen lists as an inspiration.

If you've noticed a slimmer Ru, she'd be happy: she credits a no-sugar, no-salt, no-wheat diet for a 40-pound reduction down to a svelte 160 pounds.

Around the Dial

It appears that the Divine Miss M is seriously entertaining offers to star in her first sitcom.

Mega-producing team Carsey-Werner seem to have the inside track, reportedly luring *3rd Rock from the*

Sun creators Bonnie and Terry Turner to help develop the show and sway Midler to make the transition to the small screen.

The money is expected to be huge, and an almost-unheard of two-year network commitment may be in the offing. A show featuring Midler is viewed by Hollywood insiders as a sure-bet, but she hasn't made a decision yet. Stay tuned...

Meanwhile, Mary and Rhoda — two oft-overlooked queer icons — are coming back next year on ABC.

The show will chronicle Mary and Rhoda's 10-year romance and the raising of their adopted son, Lou. Just kidding. However, Mary Tyler Moore and Valerie Harper have indeed agreed to return to the roles that made them famous.

Mary and Rhoda will be reunited in New York (probably) as widows who each have a twentysomething daughter. ABC has already made a 13-episode commitment for next season, so expect to see the show premiere next fall.

And there's even more good news for show tune queens from the world of TV. Ratings were so high for last month's *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella* remake that Disney has asked openly gay producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron (*Gypsy*) to develop one major TV musical a season.

ABC told Zadan that the pair may have saved the concept of the TV miniseries, not to mention musicals.

Are They Trying to Tell us Something?

Nathan Lane is set to re-team with *Mousehunt* producers Alan Riche and Tony Ludwig in *The Lipstick King*. The

Warner Bros. film is set to star Lane as a divorced man who becomes a huge success in door-to-door cosmetics sales.

In *Mousehunt*, Lane plays a harried interior decorator.

"Get Bent!"

Mick Jagger's getting some heat for missing the Hollywood premiere of *Bent* last month. Writer Martin Sherman expressed disappointment about Jagger's absence, and indeed his presence could've helped garner more publicity for his movie about the Nazi persecution of homosexuals.

Kidman to Best the Material Girl?

Madonna was none too happy with playwright Douglas Carter Beane for selling his play *As Bees in Honey Drown* to Universal instead of Miramax.

It should be noted that Madonna has a good relationship with the folks at Miramax and was very interested in playing the gorgeous socialite/con artist who woos a young novelist into writing a screenplay about her life, then proceeds to steal a fortune from the smitten scribe.

Now it's more likely the part will go to one of the other actresses reportedly interested in the role — Nicole Kidman prominent among them.

Universal distributed Beane's disappointing *To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar*, but hey, if Burt Reynolds can get another chance, anyone can.

Romeo San Vicente's holiday plans include chicken, ahem, turkey, at David Geffen's estate. He can be reached care of HeatStroke or at RSVicente@AOL.COM.



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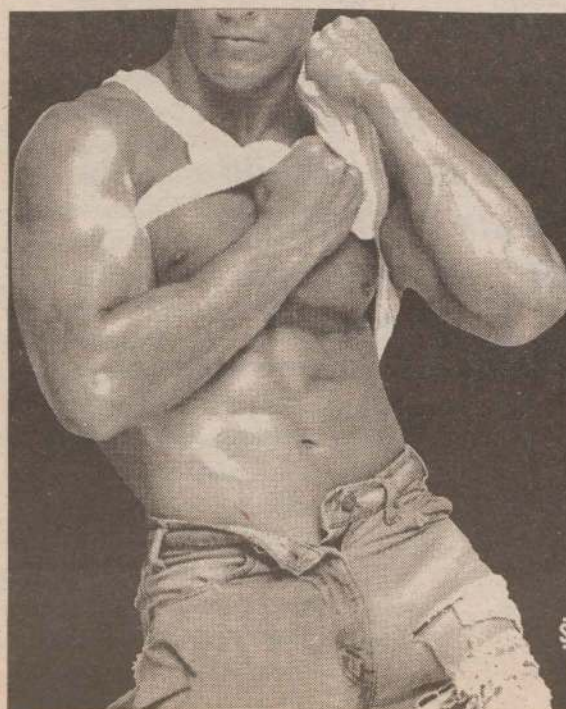
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Dear Cowboy,
In a bar the other night, I met this cute guy who is new in town. We just started talking when another guy I've known for years moved in on our whole conversation. He sat right between us, so I got pushed aside while the other two flirted for about two hours and I finally left. I could not think of one good thing to say or do to get the second guy to butt out. What can I do if that situation comes up again, without being really rude and obvious?
Signed, Kinda Shy but Pissed Off

Dear Pissed,
I've said it before: it takes two to two-step. Your old pal might have been rude when he butted in, but it was up to the wrangler who's new in town to say, "Excuse me, pard, but I was already in the middle of a nice conversation with this fine gentleman here." He didn't. Instead, he continued to flirt with your competitor. The point is, you can't control other people's actions or behaviors and if a third person wants to wrangle his way into any relationship (old or new), he can and will anytime one of the members of the roping team lets him.

Handle these situations like a true cowboy, with politeness and dignity. With those solid character attributes, you'll make a better impression on any guy in the saloon than you would with a clever remark or witty put-down.

How can I get her to open up about this without looking like a really suspicious person?

Signed, Chemical Free

Dear Free,
No big surprise your gal isn't

Dear Cowboy,
I just learned that the woman I've been seeing for about six months is on Zoloft. I can't say how I found out, but I know it is true even though she didn't tell me.

I just learned that the woman I've been seeing for about six months is on Zoloft... I never take so much as an aspirin.

I am really surprised—she doesn't seem depressed at all. I never even take so much as aspirin and this is really freaking me out. I also think she is seeing a shrink and keeping that a secret, too.

acting depressed if she's on an anti-depressant. I believe that's the idea.

The real surprise here is that you are getting so fired up about it. Taking care of the mind in these stressful times is just as important as body-doctoring, so cool it with the judgmental attitude. When she does share more about what's going on with her well-being, support her and don't let on that you already knew.

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

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

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

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

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

Coalition of Meal Providers
992-6593

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Political Action & Education

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

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

Arizona Human Rights Fund
P.O. Box 25044
Phoenix, AZ 85002 530-1660

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

AZ Democratic Party
2005 N. Central #180
Phoenix, AZ 85004 257-9136

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

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

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

Social & Support Groups

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

Arizona 2-somes 678-4568

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

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

Delta Lambda Phi - Phoenix
903 S. Rural Rd., Suite 101-317
Tempe, AZ 85281 227-3370

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Phoenix Bears
PO Box 25951
Tempe, AZ 85285 216-8000

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

Valley One in Ten
3136 N. 3rd Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85013 264-5437

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

Womyn 2 Womyn Connection
singles & couples 941-3513

Professional Organizations

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

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

Religious & Spiritual Organizations

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Gentle Shepherd MCC-285-9020

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

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

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

Phoenix Light of the Lamb
Christian Church
PO Box 16332
Phoenix, AZ 85011 274-5202

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

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

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

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

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

Arizona Lambda Yacht Club
951-9481
Cactus Cities Softball League
254-0648

Cactus Cities Softball League
PO Box 45101
Phoenix, AZ 85064

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ask Anita Life!



Editors' note: for the past year, San Francisco comic Karen Ripley has been channeling Anita Life in the form of an advice column for Bay Area publications. According to Ripley, Anita is "your basic post-menopausal, white, working class, pagan, recovering alcoholic/dope addict, lesbian pervert." We plan to run Anita's off-the-wall ruminations for the next few issues. Let us know if you like her — we'll add Anita to our regular HeatStroke line-up if the reader response is positive.

Dear Readers:

The gay film festival is one of the most exciting annual events around. As you probably know there are many, many talented gay, lesbian bisexual, transsexual, vegan filmmakers. I had the rare opportunity to view some of the films that didn't make it into San Francisco's festival this year. Here are just a few:

The Amazon is Wet — PMS Sisters Productions. A documentary on two lesbians in the rainforest looking for a cure for cramps.

Let's do the Fuzzy Bump — Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Watch Productions. A drama about two men who meet in the navy and realize they are both obsessed with succulents.

Jesus Saves, but I Recycle — We Once Lived in Caves Productions. A true story of a Christian Fundamentalist named Fanny who donates her kidney. When she finds out it went to a big ol' dyke, she tries to get it back. The film follows Fanny chasing the dyke through the midwest screaming, "Don't you dare defile my organ, you pervert."

Sittin' on a Happy Face — Ben Dover and Willy Kraka-Smile Productions. A porno-comedy about a Northampton woman cab driver who has seat covers with little yellow happy faces printed on them.

There's no Penis Between Us — Barbie M'Tail Productions. An animated short between two Ken dolls.

The Origin of the Rainbow — Color-Blind Productions. This was a very sweet film about the creation of a rainbow. Unfortunately, due to budget restraints, it was in black and white.

e-mail Anita with your questions and problems: askalife@aol.com or write to Anita Life, c/o HeatStroke PO Box 33430 Phoenix, AZ 85013

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- B. Pookie's
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Phoenix 277-2121
- C. That's a Wrap!
2022 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 252-5051
2765 N. Scottsdale Rd
Scottsdale 941-0484

L

ibations

- 1. Ain't Nobody's Bizness
3031 E. Indian School
Phoenix 224-9977
- 2. Apollo's
5749 N. 7th Street
Phoenix 277-9373
- 3. BS West
7125 5th Avenue
Scottsdale 945-9028
- 4. Cash Inn
2140 E. McDowell
Phoenix 244-9943
- 5. Charlie's
727 W. Camelback
Phoenix 265-0224
- 6. Crowbar
702 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 258-8343

- 7. Cruisin' Central
1011 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 253-3376
- 8. The Rose
44301 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix 265-3233
- 9. Foster's
4343 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix 263-8313
- 10. Harley's Club 155
Harley's Too!
155 & 125 W. Camelback
Phoenix 274-8505
- 11. Incognito
2424 E. Thomas
Phoenix 955-9805
- 12. JC's Fun One
5542 N. 43rd Ave.
Glendale 939-0528
- 13. Johnny Mc's
138 W. Camelback
Phoenix 266-0875
- 14. Marlys'
15615 Cave Creek
Phoenix 867-2463
- 15. Nasty Habits
3108 E. McDowell
Phoenix 267-8707
- 16. NuTowne
5002 E. Van Buren
Phoenix 267-9959
- 17. Paco Paco
3045 N. 16th St.
Phoenix 263-8424
- 18. The Park
3002 N. 24th Street
Phoenix 957-6055
- 19. The Pumphouse
4132 E. McDowell
Phoenix 275-3509

S

taples

- 30. The Adult Shoppe
111 S. 24th Street
Phoenix 306-1130
- 31. The Barn Adult Shop
5021 W Indian School
Phoenix 245-3008
- 32. Book Cellar
4029 E. Washington
Phoenix 275-0015
(7 other Valley locations)
- 33. Castle Boutique
5501 E. Washington
Phoenix 231-9837
(3 other Valley locations)
- 34. In Furnishings
6307 N. 7th Street
Phoenix 263-9003
- 35. Obelisk Books
24 West Camelback
Phoenix 266-Book

- 20. Roscoe's on 7th
4531 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 285-0833
- 21. 307 Lounge
222 E. Roosevelt
Phoenix 252-0001
- 22. TRAX
1724 E. McDowell
Phoenix 254-0231
- 23. The Wave
998 E. Indian School
Phoenix 266-5640
- 24. Wink's
5707 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 265-9002

- 36. Movies on Central
4700 N. Central, #121
Phoenix 274-0994
- 37. Sheepskin World
4800 N. 7th Street
Phoenix 277-6226
- 38. Tuff Stuff - Custom Leather
1714 E. McDowell
Phoenix 254-9651

T

ubs

- 39. Chute
1440 E. Indian School
Phoenix 234-1654
- 40. Flex
1517 S. Black Canyon
Phoenix 271-9011

C

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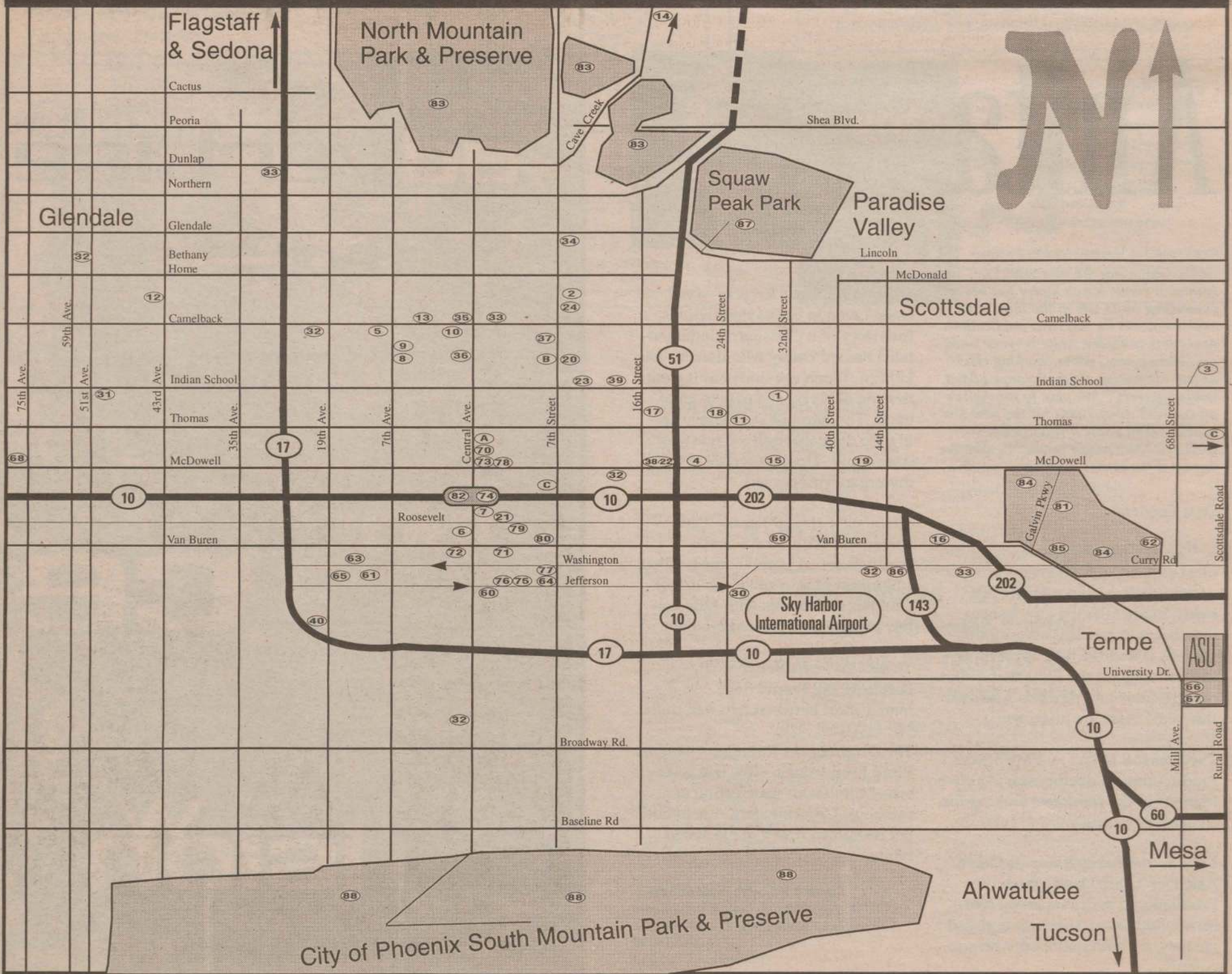
- 60. America West Arena
201 E. Jefferson
Phoenix 379-7800
- 61. AZ Hall of Fame Museum
1101 W. Washington
Phoenix 255-2110
- 62. AZ Historical Society
Museum
1300 N. College
Tempe 929-0292
- 63. AZ Mining & Mineral
Museum
1502 W. Washington
Phoenix 255-3791
- 64. AZ Science Center
600 E. Washington
Phoenix 716-2000
- 65. AZ State Capitol Museum
1700 W. Washington
Phoenix 542-4675
- 66. ASU Art Museum
Nelson Fine Arts Center
Mill Ave. & 10th Street
Tempe 965-2787
- 67. ASU Gammage Center
Apache & Mill Ave.
Tempe 965-3434
- 68. Blockbuster Desert Sky
Pavillion
2121 N. 83rd Ave.
Phoenix 254-7499
- 69. Celebrity Theater
440 N. 32nd Street
Phoenix 267-9373
- 70. Heard Museum
22 E. Monte Vista
Phoenix 252-8848
- 71. Herberger Theater
222 E. Monroe
Phoenix 254-7399
- 72. Orpheum Theatre
203 W. Adams
Phoenix 262-7272
- 73. Phoenix Art Museum
1624 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 257-1222
- 74. Phoenix Central Library
1221 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 262-4636
- 75. Phoenix Civic Plaza
225 E. Adams St.
Phoenix 262-6225
- 76. Phoenix Symphony Hall
225 E. Adams
Phoenix 262-6225
- 77. Phoenix Museum of History
105 N. 5th Street
Phoenix 253-2734

O

utdoors

- 81. Desert Botanical Garden
1201 N. Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 941-1217
- 82. Margaret T. Hance Park
3rd St. to 3rd Ave. between
McDowell & Roosevelt
Phoenix 534-2406
- 83. North Mountain Park &
Preserve
10600 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 262-6696
- 84. Papago Park
Van Buren & Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 256-3220
- 85. Phoenix Zoo
455 N. Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 273-1431
- 86. Pueblo Grande Museum
4619 E. Washington
Phoenix 495-0900
- 87. Squaw Peak Park
2701 E Squaw Peak Dr
Phoenix 262-6696
- 88. South Mountain Park
10919 S. Central Ave.
Phoenix 495-0222

Finding it in Phoenix



GLAAD Alert Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

Should Media Respect Orientation of Closeted Gays?

In the December 4 *Miami Herald's* "Outlooks" column, staffer Steve Rothaus examines the evolving challenges for media outlets in covering closeted lesbian and gay community leaders.

"When heterosexual community leaders are profiled in newspapers and on television, it is routinely reported whom they are dating or married to," Rothaus begins.

"But this information is seldom revealed about prominent gays and lesbians, making them seem two-dimensional. Few issues are more sensitive than whether the news media should respect the privacy of gay people in the closet. Many are still horrified at the suggestion of outing public people who spend their personal lives in complete privacy."

Rothaus interviews local editors and journalists, who seem to feel that while each instance should be considered case by case, "If you have a person who has devoted a significant portion of his life to gay and lesbian issues, you would want to reflect on that," said *Herald* managing editor Larry Olmstead.

The journalists "agree, though, that sexual orientation plays a major role in who a person is, regardless of how open (or closeted) the individual," Rothaus writes. "Thus the quandary: Whether to mention sexual orientation in detailed profiles, news stories and obituaries of gay men and women."

He adds that among lesbian and gay activists, there is hardly a consensus. And that the issue becomes particularly complex when dealing with closeted members of the media itself, such as "one gay South Florida newsman, who says he keeps his personal and professional lives apart. The broadcasters, who often contribute to network news stories, said he would 'prefer not to take the chance' that coming out would destroy his career."

Please let the *Miami Herald* know that as this important and controversial debate continues to evolve, Rothaus contributes a valuable article to the mix.

Contact: Larry Olmstead, Managing Editor, *Miami Herald*, One Herald Plaza, Miami, FL 33132-1693, fax: 305.376.8950, e-mail: HeraldEd@aol.com.

Larsen Blames Gay Activists for AIDS

In the pantheon of anti-gay AIDS diatribes, syndicated columnist Leonard Larsen's December 7 column, "Gays Still Mostly Responsible for Ongoing AIDS Epidemic," will earn its own plaque on the wall with its specious reasoning, outdated statistics and blame-laying.

Larsen's column, which was written in response to World AIDS Day, maintains that "gay activists" have

hidden the "real" culprits behind HIV (i.e.-gay people) by pushing pictures of women and children to the forefront.

The columnist goes on to point to a Washington, DC ceremony where President Clinton delivered a message to young people encouraging them to "keep yourself safe," and to a HIV-positive six-year-old girl who read a statement which said, in part, "AIDS can affect everyone, but so can ignorance." Larsen sees these as examples of deflecting blame from the gay community, whose "ceaseless gay-bar hopping and orgies of anonymous gay sex...helped launch the epidemic."

He goes on to say that "gay activists seem to have successfully sold [the idea] that AIDS is a no-fault epidemic, not associated with any segment of society or sexual conduct," and that with the cooperation of the media and politicians, "leery of offending a loud, affluent and demanding constituency," assist the gay community in "erasing evidence."

In his closing sentence, Larsen makes explicit what he only hints at prior to that: "the responsibility-the blame—for the ongoing epidemic is still theirs [gay activists]."

Larsen's scapegoating of the gay community for the HIV epidemic is nothing new. His ignorance of the changing face of AIDS is nothing new either: Those who are simply looking for an excuse to hate the community have a ready excuse in a virus which, obviously unknown to the writer, has become the fourth leading cause of death for women between the ages of 25 to 44; has been diagnosed in 7,902 children under the age of 13 as of June 30, 1997; has now become more prevalent in communities of color than in white communities; and is primarily transmitted heterosexually in other regions of the world.

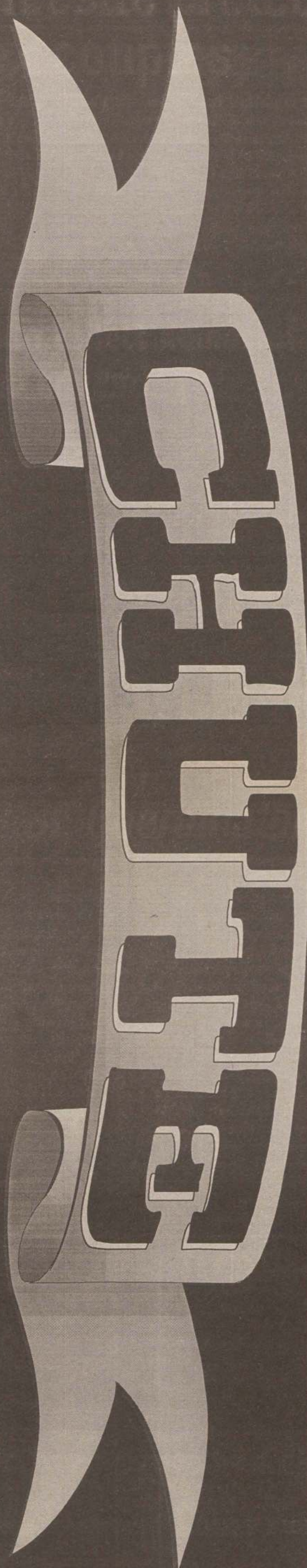
Larsen's willingness to put aside reality in his quest to pillory the lesbian and gay community detracts from the very real issues facing people with AIDS: access to health care, treatment and research initiatives, a vaccine and the continuing societal ostracization of those with HIV.

It's also incredibly insulting to those women and children who are living with HIV—Larsen paints them as patsies of "homosexual activists," unwittingly used to further an agenda which exists only in Larsen's head.

Please write to Leonard Larsen, and Scripps Howard News Service, and tell them that this hateful rhetoric harms many people and serves only to make Larsen's intense (and poorly reasoned) bigotry obvious to fair-minded people who know the truth about AIDS, and about the gay community as well.

Contact: Marvin West, Managing Editor, and Leonard Larsen, Columnist, Scripps Howard News Service, 1090 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20005-4905, fax: 202.408.5950, e-mail: shns@shns.com.

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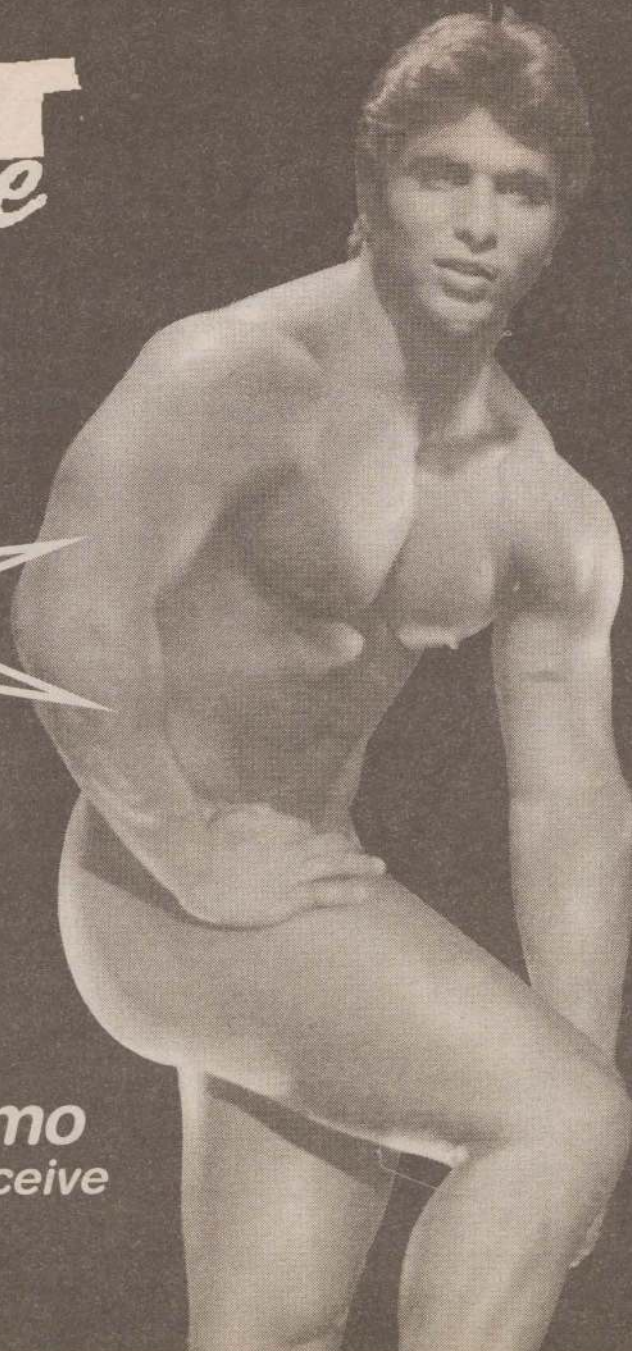
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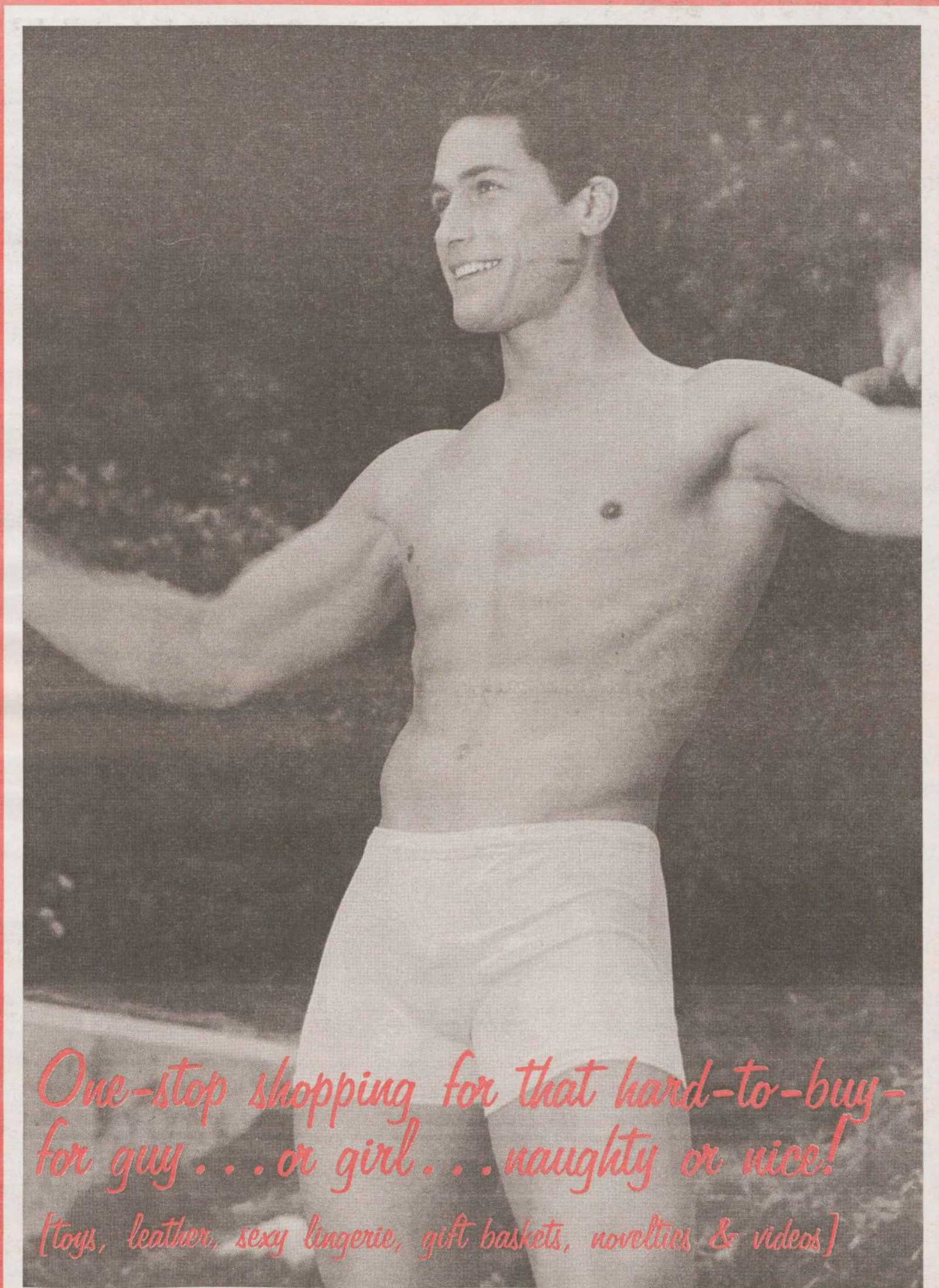
Theatre Locations

- 4029 E. Washington
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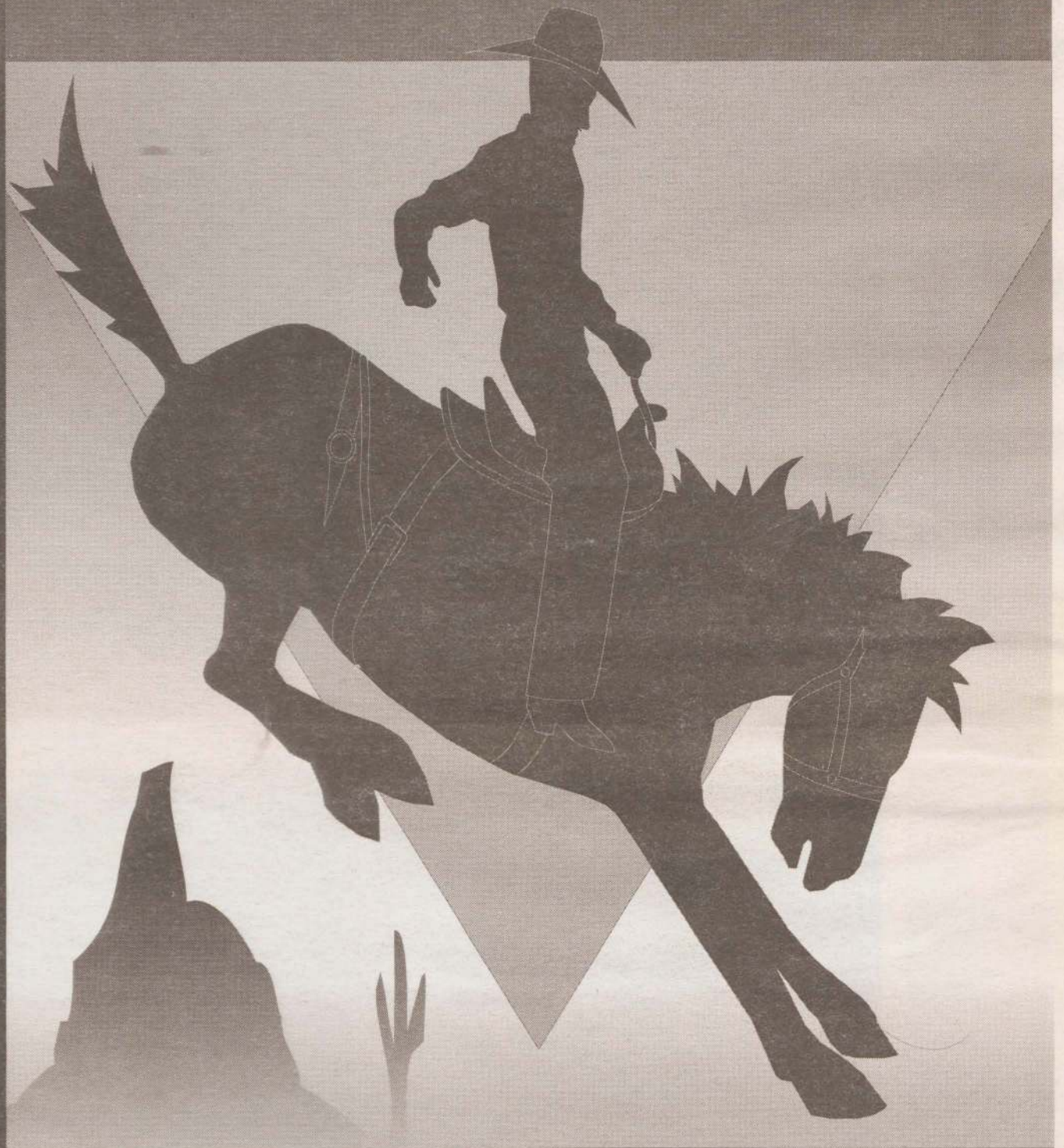
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