Gay & Lesbian Life, Commentary and Culture

HeatStroke

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families that Play together



Cowgirl Claire Miller, left, is a self-described "adrenaline junky;" her life partner, Ginger Reilly, also rodeos and serves as this year's Ms. AGRA.

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

"Claire was the first person who ever tied me onto a steer," says rodeo contestant Ginger Reilly of Phoenix, thinking back to the first time she met fellow rodeo rider Claire Miller, the woman with whom she now shares her life.

But Claire doesn't remember the incident. "I've helped a lot of people," the experienced rough stock rider relates. "I'd seen you around the rodeos for a while," she tells her partner, "but I don't remember specifically when we met. Sorry, Honey."

They'll agree, however, about what brought them together: gay rodeo.

Ginger and Claire represent one of a handful of same sex couples that both live together and rodeo together on the International Gay Rodeo Association's circuit, a circuit that today includes more than 20 rodeos a year held throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Sharing a home and spending nearly every weekend together immersed in gay rodeo competition might make that Significant Other seem a little too significantly present for many couples.

"It can definitely work, but it's not for everyone" says Shawn Eddings of Albuquerque. Shawn and his lover, Ken Badsgard, have been living and rodeoing together for four years.

The pair met when both were competing in a Phoenix gay rodeo. Ken was in town from New Mexico and Shawn was living in California at the time. He later moved to Albuquerque to be with Ken.

Shawn says the partnership works from every angle, as far as he's concerned. Both he and Ken compete in all the roping and rough stock events, including team roping. Both qualified for the IGRA Finals in Phoenix Oct. 23-25.

"It works for us because Ken and I have a lot in common and we're best friends. We're doing what we love to do." Participating in rodeos with your lover, he says, offers an opportunity to "travel all over the country with your best friend."

Chuck Browning and Ricardo Pacheco are two Phoenix men who have been living together for a couple of years. Ricardo followed Chuck's lead in getting into the rodeo spirit, entering his first gay rodeo in August of 1997.

The relationship works so well that they've fully embraced a western lifestyle—recently moving from a townhouse in central Phoenix to the west Valley suburb of Laveen, where they share a ranch with five horses and a dog.

Do they get tired of being around each other? Not at all, says Ricardo.

"When we started dating, we were working out together at the gym," Ricardo says. "Then Chuck started working for the same company as me. So at one point we worked together, lived together, went to the gym together and went to rodeos together."

He continues, "We have more fun at the rodeos where we are together." Ricardo doesn't compete in as many events as Chuck does, so he only goes to rodeos that are close enough for the men to haul their horses.

"We enjoy ourselves more when we are together," Ricardo explains, "when we apart we are missing each other and calling each other."

Ricardo competes in the horse events and is learning to rope. Originally from Caracas, Venezuela, he never considered getting involved in rodeos until he met Chuck, who was raised in Montana and had some exposure to the traditional western sport as a child.

Both Ricardo and Chuck have qualified for finals in their events. Chuck has been rodeoing for four years, has won many buckles in the rough stock events, and is currently president of the Arizona Gay Rodeo Association. Ricardo just completed his first year on the circuit and recently became AGRA's treasurer.

"This is the first relationship in my life where I can be totally honest and that is what makes it work," Ricardo says when asked how he and Chuck get along. "We have a ranch together and horses together, so we are working to create ties."

Chuck adds, "In my past relationships it's been easy to run when there's a conflict. At this point we've made a commitment that regardless of what happens, we're not going anywhere. We have to deal with it, resolve it and take care of each other."

Physical danger and the threat of injury are always part of the picture on the IGRA circuit, so a commitment

See "Rodeo Couples," page 18



Phoenician Claire Miller indulges her adrenaline addiction at an IGRA-sanctioned rodeo.

NU-TOWN

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

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from our readers...

Editors:

I am thrilled with Mark Hoffman's new column, and especially enlightened by his most recent article entitled, *Response and Responsibility* (issue #50, Oct. 8-22).

After reading his column, is was evident that Mark did his homework, carefully gathering the historical information on the Walk's humble beginnings. And yes, Mark, times certainly **have** changed!

I would like to go on record by stating that I totally support Mark and his continued proactivity in Arizona. We are lucky to have him. However, I have heard some growling in our community about Mark's commentary. Come on, for crying out loud. If we all thought the same way, this stint on earth would be pretty boring.

What I culled from Mark's thoughts was a simple message of a "call to duty." Being a believer in walking the walk (no pun intended) instead of just talking about how I wish change could happen, I **will** be at the Walk on Sunday, and I do volunteer and join committees hoping that I can make a little bit of a difference.

Laura Kroger
Phoenix

Editors:

It was encouraging to read the column by Mark Hoffman regarding the fund raising of activities of AIDS Project Arizona.

Oftentimes we read of charitable organizations who solicit vast sums money for a cause, yet the public never knows where this money is allocated, or what salaries are paid to the staff, or how much of this money is used for administration purposes.

Too often, the money given for the benefit of the clients is misused or misappropriated for other purposes. This year, when APAZ strives to raise over one million dollars, we wonder where all this money is going. Who is the recipient of these funds and how much is to be spent for the people who really need these services?

Maybe it is time for APAZ to publish their financial records so we can see exactly where our dollars are being spent. This would be commendable on the part of the Board of Directors of APAZ, unless they have something to hide.

Mark Hernandez
Phoenix

Editors:

In response to Mark Hoffman's recent article concerning the AIDS Walk and accountability, I must say I could not agree more. The AIDS Walk is the single most important fund raising event of the year.

I also questioned how AIDS Walk funds were distributed and monitored. After many phone calls and meetings involving agencies with similar issues, the Arizona Republic Charities were gracious enough to listen to our concerns. For the first time this year, area agencies applying for AIDS Walk money were given an opportunity to provide a presentation to The Walk Committee responsible for deciding which agencies will be funded. What a significant improvement from last year!

The success of the Walk is determined by community support. The men, women and children in the Valley affected by HIV are the reason we will participate in the AIDS Walk. We have a right to know who's benefiting and how. Living with HIV, I have seen first-hand too many struggle for their most basic needs to be met. There is a shortage of food, clothing, shelter and medical help due to a lack of funds. Or are funds not being used effectively or as promised?

Many agencies benefit but how many clients actually will? Each dollar must be utilized to the fullest extent possible in meeting the needs of those with HIV who truly need help. Recipient agencies must provide full accountability. My affiliate agency meets the criteria of matching every dollar with direct client assistance. I can only imagine why some agencies would have a problem reporting details like this.

Let us guarantee honesty and remove all doubt by complying with the following: publish percentage of funds to be distributed to each agency, strictly monitor Walk expenses to ensure every dollar raised goes back into the community, verify agency's spent funds where promised, and disqualify agencies that conceal Walk expenditures. It would be wonderful to know how each agency benefited our community and improved the life of someone struggling with HIV.

Diane Wilson
Board Member
Volunteers in Direct Aid
Phoenix

Editors:

I am writing this letter to reinforce Phoenix Body Positive's role as a firm supporter of AIDS Walk Arizona. The views Mark Hoffman expresses in his *HeatStroke* column are his own perspective. PBP is very pleased with the effort of all those who have made the Walk a broadly accepted and community organized event. PBP has a rich history in playing a part in the Walk's successes.

The Walk has provided hundreds of thousands of dollars to help those men and women confronted with HIV/AIDS in our community. This has only been possible due to the personal sacrifice those volunteers, community leaders and HIV+ individuals have made to make the Walk happen.

PBP supports all of the efforts of those involved in the Walk. The Walk Steering Committee and others have been receptive to criticism and ideas for improvement. They have made the allocation of funds a very open process with heavy community involvement. PBP has been pleased with the specific details on distribution of Walk monies and is impressed with the allocation process undertaken this year by AIDS Walk Arizona 1998. It is PBP's opinion that many of the issues listed in Mark Hoffman's column are now resolved. All of us in the trenches are proud of the goodwill engendered in our community as a result of the AIDS Walk.

We look forward to continued success with the Walk and the successful and heartfelt use of those dollars so generously given to those serving the HIV community. Countless men, women and children have benefited directly in what has become the largest community-wide event for HIV in the State of Arizona. Thank you to all of those who continue to make this happen.

Brian F. Spicker
Executive Director
Phoenix Body Positive

Editors:

This letter is in regard to the recent column by Mark Hoffman that discussed the questions regarding AIDS Project Arizona's accountability over AIDS Walk funds and money disbursement to the other AIDS service agency organizations in the Valley.

As a member of the HIV community, my assumption has always been that, although I may not seek out that information (financial statements, etc.), it is being published or made available somewhere, should I care to do so.

If Mr. Hoffman is correct, I find it rather unsettling that one AID organization in town can raise and then control that amount of money with such an arrogant, paternalistic attitude. I thought it was just common business practice in this kind of situation that all parties involved had the same knowledge and access to financial information to which they were entitled. This is either an example of gross mismanagement of funds or just plain politics.

My feeling is that either APAZ should be fiscally and morally responsible by being accountable to all involved, including the clients they serve, or it should realize that, although it provides a valuable service to the HIV community, it is not the only game in town. The powers that be at APAZ should realize that the only reason that they are in existence is due to people like me and other positive individuals who took the initiative to mobilize and start groups like APAZ.

Although APAZ is much larger than most other AIDS organizations in Phoenix, there are many others who could take up and provide those same services. Those same people who got together to support APAZ can just as easily provide their support and dollars somewhere else.

My hope is, now that this issue has been raised, APAZ will so the responsible thing and resolve the matter by becoming accountable for both the money that is has raised and by publishing a detailed account of both the revenue and expenses for the 1998 AIDS Walk AZ as quickly as possible.

Name withheld by request
Phoenix

Editors

Congratulations for creating a forum for HIV/AIDS activism in your newspaper (*Positive Perspectives*). Mark Hoffman's column is a long-needed voice for those with HIV in our community. Unlike large metropolitan areas in the U.S., Phoenix has no visible, vocal group of individuals living with HIV/AIDS who can educate us as to their needs and concerns as members of our community. HIV/AIDS agencies take community monies, municipal funds, federal grants and corporate support. They use the backs of those with HIV/AIDS as their pulpit. But every so often they do not allow or seek, or even tolerate, the voices of those whom they serve. Often they *settle* for voices that only nod their heads in agreement.

Mark's column is one of the voices that must be heard. He has worked hard to bring quality HIV/AIDS services to this Valley. He helped produce powerful educational forums like PLUS weekends, Medical Town Halls, the recent POZ Expo, and the Immune Power HIV Fair. He built one of the best and largest Buyer's Clubs in the U.S. He brings pharmaceutical support funds to agencies; invites and arranges for nationally renowned HIV specialists to speak; and was one of the only HIV positive individuals form Phoenix to attend this year's HIV/AIDS World Conference in Geneva.

I am proud to have Mark as a staff member at A Place called Home. When Mark speaks, we should listen!

Stephen E. Karpiak, Ph.D.
Executive Director
A Place Called Home

(Editors' note: Horowitz will return in our next issue, #52).

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Reno advocates expanded hate crimes legislation

WASHINGTON (AP)

The killing of gay college student Matthew Shepard shows the need to revive a stalled effort to expand current hate-crimes laws, Attorney General Janet Reno says.

The legislation, Reno said Oct. 18 on CNN's *Late Edition*, ``should give people the opportunity to have a forum in which justice can be done if it is not done in the state court.''

Existing federal hate-crimes law applies only to crimes motivated by race, color, religion or national origin and requires the government to prove additional circumstances existed besides this motivation. Proposed legislation that dies with the conclusion of this session of Congress would expand the categories to cover gender, disability or sexual orientation, and make federal prosecution easier.

The beating death of Shepard, a University of Wyoming student, has sparked renewed interested in the bill. President Clinton has urged its consideration and Reno last week promised gay-rights groups to press for congressional action.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, said he would hold hearings on the subject next year.

Hatch, interviewed on *Fox News Sunday*, said he was sympathetic to arguments on both sides. He noted that some liberals were against expanding the law out of First Amendment concerns, while others were worried about singling out specific groups or putting suspects in double jeopardy.

But he added that ``sometimes you may need something like that so everybody in this country realizes there's a penalty, that there's a punishment that comes from being vicious and vindictive against people who you might not agree with.''

Reno said the legislation was not meant to pre-empt the states. Thirty-nine states and the District of Columbia have hate-crime statutes, and 22 of those include sexual orientation among categories covered.

``It is the balance that we try to achieve in all that we do with respect to violence,'' she said. ``If the state can do it, fine. If the state after consultation cannot do it and says that the federal government should proceed, this is too important for this nation not to let justice take its course.''

Gary Bauer, head of the Family Research Council, said his and other conservative groups— blamed for inciting an anti-gay atmosphere with their campaigns to get homosexuals to become heterosexual—were the victims of smear campaigns.

Bauer said on CNN his group will not change its opposition to gay marriages and other lifestyle choices and said it was ``terrible that the murder of this young man is being exploited''

Shepard claimed rape only weeks before fatal beating

LARAMIE, Wyo. (AP)

The gay college student who was beaten to death reportedly told police he was raped by three men near Yellowstone National Park two months ago.

Matthew Shepard later dropped the complaint, saying alcohol had impaired his memory. Authorities said Shepard was actually knocked out by a bartender angered by his advances.

Shepard, a 21-year-old University of Wyoming student, died Monday after he was pistol-whipped and left tied to a fence outside Laramie last week.

Police say robbery was the main motive for the attack, but Shepard was singled out in part because he was gay. Four people have been charged in the slaying, two of them with first-degree murder.

The slaying has been condemned by people across the country, including President Clinton, and renewed calls for anti-hate legislation to protect homosexuals. It also has sparked some outbursts of anti-gay hatred.

Shepard told friends he had been beaten twice in recent months, attacks he attributed to his homosexuality. One of those attacks occurred Aug. 18, *The Cody Enterprise* reported Oct. 14.

According to a Park County sheriff's report, Shepard was in Cody with his parents and younger brother on their way to Yellowstone. He contacted police the morning of Aug. 19 to report the alleged rape.

Deputy Scott Steward told the weekly newspaper that tests done on Shepard at West Park Hospital showed no signs of sexual assault. He said Shepard's only visible injury was a bloody lip.

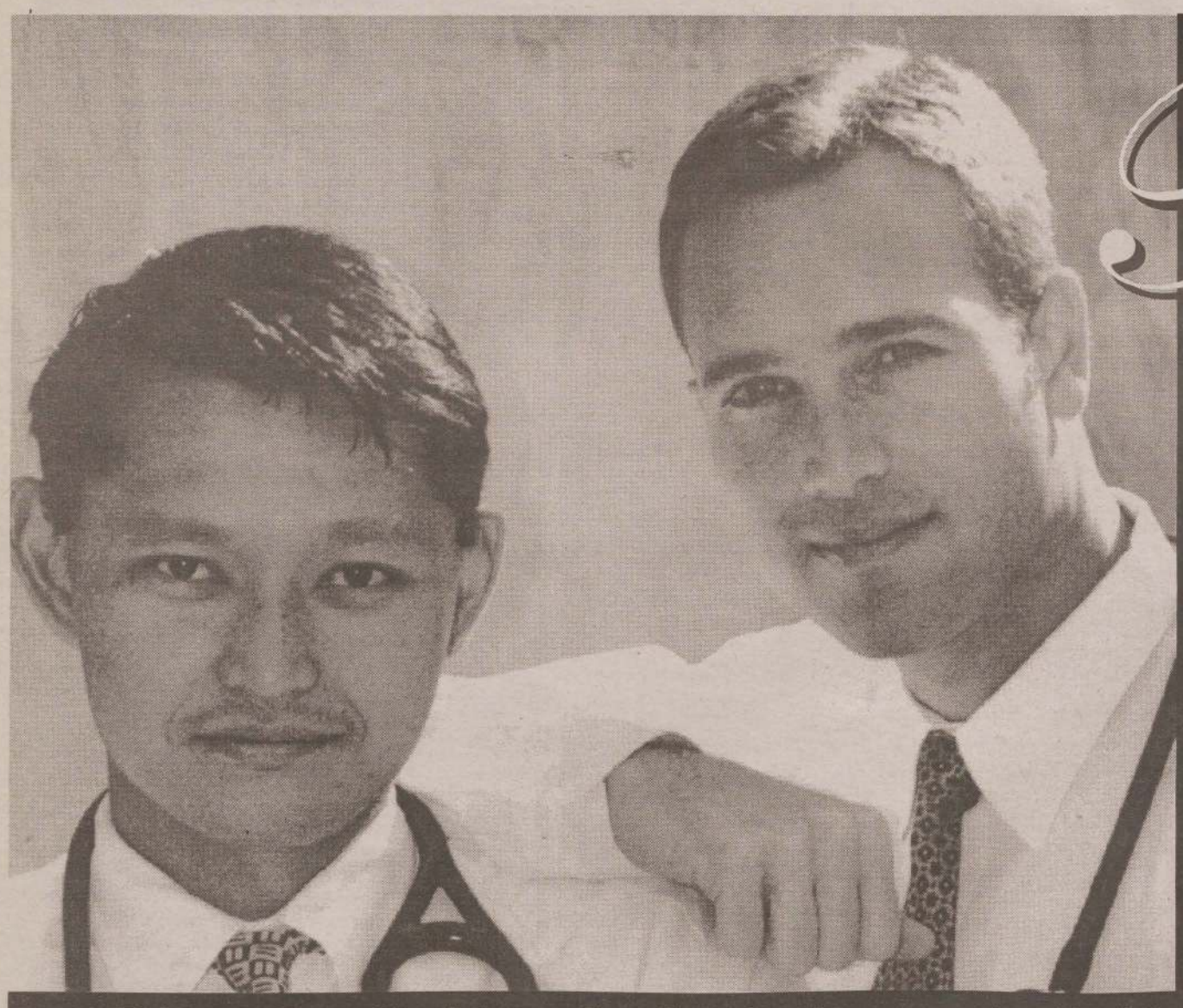
Shepard decided to drop the complaint because he could not remember details of the incident because of the amount of alcohol he had consumed, the report said.

Steward's investigation showed that Shepard had been at a bar and was punched out by a bartender after the student made an unwanted advance.

``He kept asking the perpetrator to go for a walk and when he put his hand on the perpetrator's arm and asked him to go around to the back of the car, the perpetrator hit him in the jaw,'' Steward said.

The bartender, Cris Hoogerhyde, said he knocked Shepard unconscious for a couple minutes with the second of two punches.

``He wouldn't leave me alone,'' said Hoogerhyde, who added he apologized to Shepard once he regained consciousness. ``He was just looking for someone to swing with. He seemed kind of naive.''



ASU vigil remembers Matt Shepard

Approximately 400 people assembled in Tempe on Arizona State University's Hayden Lawn Thursday, Oct. 16 for a sunset candlelight vigil honoring slain University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard.

"Enough is enough," declared Rev. Charlotte Strayhorn of Phoenix in reference to Shepard's death. The 22-yr-old student was brutally assaulted, then tied to a fence outside Laramie and left to die. Police say two young men beat and killed Shepherd because he was gay.





"As gay people, we are not safe nor are we protected," Strayhorn reminded the crowd, which was largely made up of ASU students.

Lyle Miller, Executive Director for The Community Center in Phoenix was among the speakers. Miller called for the passage of national hate crimes legislation. Openly gay ASU faculty members and students also spoke.

The opening address was made by Jesus Trevino, Director of ASU Intergroup Relations. "Yes, [Shepard's murder] is an attack on the gay community, but the overall construct is one of hatred. And hatred knows no boundaries," Trevino said.

Matthew Heil, co-Chair of ASU's Lambda League, said after the event that he was happy with the turnout and felt that the vigil, "was very useful to a lot of people."

This is a busy time of year on campus, Heil said, and a sensitive issue, so it was encouraging to see so many students participate. "Students had to expose themselves somewhat" to join the memorial, he added.

Lambda League is a coalition of lgbt students that sponsored the vigil, together with local church and community organizations and with Ubiquity, an organization of ASU faculty and staff supporting lgbt issues.

AIDS Walk '98 grosses $1 million

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

A record 20,000 walkers participated in AIDS Walk Arizona Oct.18 in downtown Phoenix, raising more than $1 million for AIDS agencies here.

"It went very well—everything came off incredibly smoothly," said AIDS Walk co-Chair Marc Kellenberger. "To have that many people involved was really exciting."

Kellenberger said that each year it becomes more acceptable to participate in the huge fundraiser. "We break down a little of the barrier with each Walk, inch by inch," he said. That barrier, he said, is the stigma still often associated with the disease.

The longtime activist said the support and involvement of prominent people within the corporate and political worlds has helped change the way AIDS is viewed in Phoenix today. He said having leaders like *Arizona Republic* Publisher John Oppendahl and Mayor Skip Rimza visibly taking part in the Walk helps raise HIV/AIDS awareness.

A prayer and memorial service started things off at 8 am, with special Celebrity guests Beth Broderick of *Sabrina, The Teenage Witch*, Malcolm Gets of *Caroline in the City* and Dave Foley of *News Radio* on hand. The sitcom stars flew in from Hollywood to lend their support.

The Walk then began promptly at 10:30 and the train of walkers spanned more than five blocks throughout most of the 10 kilometer route.

With plenty of dogs, kids and placards in line, the Walk from Monroe, up Central to Thomas, then back down Third Street to the plaza took an average of 2 1/2 hours to complete. Volunteers stationed along the route provided water, fresh fruit and entertainment.

The site of the before-and-after festivities was moved this year to roomier Phoenix Civic Plaza, outside Symphony Hall. The plaza was covered with a large entertainment tent and stage, and many corporations and public service agencies set up information booths. Numerous food vendors were on hand to feed the hungry crowd.

The band Sister 7 performed a free concert, a highlight of the continuous entertainment that took place in the plaza following the Walk.

"We're very excited about the turnout," said Louise Bowden of AIDS Project Arizona, the HIV/AIDS agency that organized and hosted the Walk. "It was incredible to see so many people in our community show up and lend their support to the fight against AIDS."

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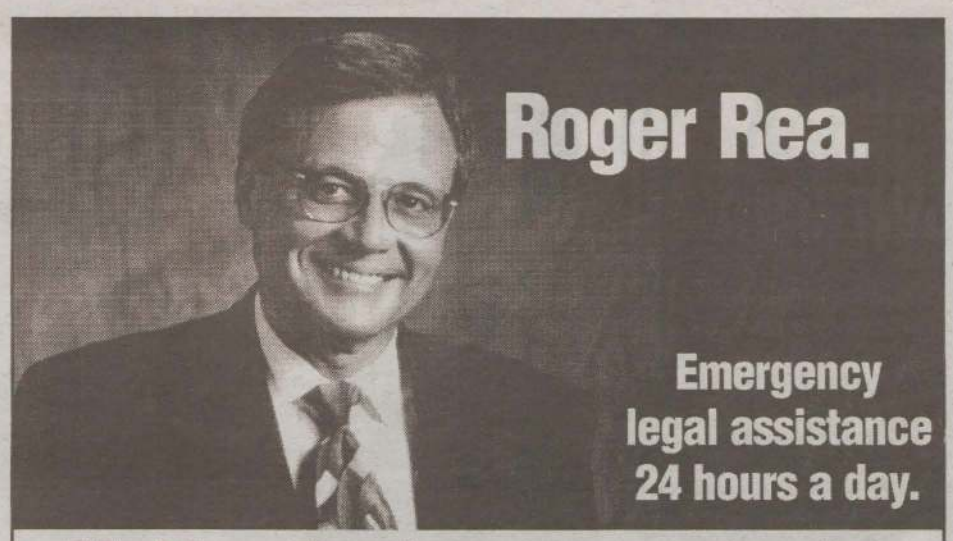
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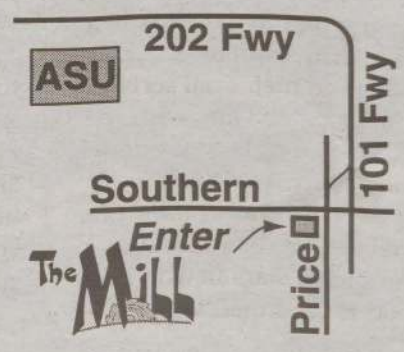


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Politically Speaking

Arizona Human Rights Fund

By Kathie Gummere, **HeatStroke Contributor**

Many of us are tired of the "investigation" going on in Washington, DC, and frustrated with the entire political landscape. But the election process marches on. Candidates will be elected whether we participate or not.

Decisions will be made that could affect our lives for many years to come, whether or not we make our wishes known. The question is, will we stay away and allow bigots to be elected, or will we participate and show that we can make a difference?

Tuesday, Nov. 3 may be one of the most critical election days in Arizona history. The face of Arizona politics may take a sharp turn, from right-wing dominated to balanced.

Three district races have been targeted by the Arizona Human Rights Fund as particularly important. If the AHRF-supported candidates win those seats, the ultra-conservative hold on the legislature will be broken. This result could be crucial to passing legislation beneficial to the GLBT community, and in protecting the rights we currently have.

As an example, last legislative session, representatives empathetic to our issues had the votes in the legislature to pass a state ENDA, (employment non-discrimination act). Knowing that, the right wing would not allow the bill to be read, debated or voted upon. If the composition of the legislature changes, the leadership changes and there will be more people who support our issues. Bills will be heard, debated, allowed out of committee and voted upon. Bills which are vital to our futures will be passed, without the stranglehold the current right wing has on the leadership.

Three key state senatorial candidates that could effectuate this change are: Stan Furman in District 16, Herb Gunther in District 5, and Harry Mitchell in District 27.

Furman, Gunther and Mitchell are all moderate Democrats. If all three are elected, the Republican majority in the Senate will be gone, and new leadership will prevail.

Another critical contest is the race for Attorney General. Remember that the Attorney General has a great deal of influence over the legal climate of the state.

Janet Napolitano, currently with the U.S. Attorney General's office, is facing Tom McGovern, currently with the Arizona Attorney General's office. Napolitano is a strong supporter of civil rights for all. McGovern is an extreme conservative. The choice was clear for AHRF. Please support Janet in any way that you can, and most important of all, talk to your friends and acquaintances and all of you get out and VOTE!

Tuesday, Nov. 3 may be one of the most critical election days in Arizona history. The face of politics may take a sharp turn, from right-wing dominated to balanced.

It is crucial that we vote, but additionally, we need to give. We need to give money (in whatever amount we can afford) to help pay for the campaigns. We also need to give of our time. There are so many things we can do which could make the crucial difference.

Making a few phone calls for a candidate might take only a few minutes of your time, but those phone calls could sway voters, or encourage someone to get out and vote who otherwise wouldn't.

Talk to your friends, tell them how important it is to vote in this election. Inform them of the issues and candidates that are supportive of our community. Take the AHRF voter guide, (see page 14) into the booth with you. Call a candidate of your choice, or AHRF, (650-0900), and volunteer just a little of your time and/or money.

HeatStroke

Kathie Gummere is a Phoenix attorney practicing in the area of wills, trusts and estates for the gay & lesbian community. She receives e-mail at kgrn@goodnet.com.

Malta dinner to honor Fr. Joe

Father Joseph O'Brien, formerly of Phoenix, will receive a Humanitarian Award at Malta Center's annual fund-raising dinner, "Night of a Thousand Lights", at Marriott's Camelback Inn resort on the evening of Nov. 6, 1998.

Fr. Joe, as he is known to many in Phoenix, served as the HIV/AIDS service agency's executive director for several years. As such, he guided Malta Center through a period of growth and change. Fr. Joe left the Valley in June of 1998 to start a similar agency for the Diocese of Las Vegas.

Also honored at the Nov. 6 dinner will be longtime AIDS activist and volunteer Marc Kellenberger. Kellenberger was also honored earlier this year by the Arizona Human Rights Fund, a statewide political advocacy group.

The Malta Center, a spiritual outreach to those infected by HIV, has been providing individual and group counseling, prayer services, therapeutic massage, "open door" dinner gatherings and more, for over ten years in the Valley. The agency works through the Catholic church and all its services are free of charge.

Individual dinner tickets to the November dinner are $150. Corporate underwriting and table hosting is encouraged. Attendance is expected to be near 400 and a silent auction will be part of the evening. For information call the Malta Center at (602) 212-0222.

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Mass. HIV patient taken off drugs in experiment

BOSTON (AP)

A patient infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, has been taken off drugs to determine whether his system can continue fighting the infection without them.

If the volunteer's immune system continues fighting the virus the way it has since he began taking drugs 18 months ago, it could bring changes in the battle against AIDS.

It could mean that patients would have to take the three-drug treatment for a shorter period of time, reducing the cost and debilitating side effects.

This could make the treatment more available in developing countries, where the treatment is prohibitively expensive.

And, it would emphasize the benefit of the earliest possible detection of HIV in patients.

The researchers believe that cells that can recognize and fight HIV are killed early in the infection.

The idea is to fight the infection before the HIV kills those cells that can help.

Researchers at Massachusetts General Hospital are conducting the experiment with one of about 20 patients who began treatment almost immediately after becoming infected.

``We believe the risks are minimal, but we're closely, carefully monitoring the situation,'' Dr. Bruce Walker, director of Partners AIDS Research Center, told the *Boston Herald* Oct. 18.

If tests show the patient's level of HIV increases, he will be put back on the three-drug treatment.

``We believe that any virus that comes back will be susceptible (to the drugs),'' Walker said.

Researchers knew of a man in Germany who was treated for HIV soon after he was infected, but gave up the treatment six months later against the advice of doctors.

Two years later, the HIV had not returned to detectable levels.

Researchers also studied patients who had been infected with HIV but did not get sick, although they were not treated.

They asked doctors in Boston to send them patients who complained of flu-like symptoms soon after risky sexual encounters, and quickly tested them for the HIV virus, rather than for antibodies which take time to accumulate.

The researchers found that the HIV level dropped in patients who began treatment soon after they were infected, and their counts of T-cells, which help fight infections, rose.

Walker reported last year in the journal Science that patients who did not begin treatment until long after they were infected did not have such results.

The researchers found the HIV can produce a T-cell response, but the virus killed the T-cells before they could begin to work.

Their plan is to begin HIV-fighting treatment before the virus can begin to kill the T-cells.

The three-drug treatment prevents the virus from replicating, but does not eliminate it from the body.

Study finds different HIV strains in blood, semen; some mutating

CHARLOTTE (AP)

Antiviral drug therapy can lead to the development of drug-resistant strains of the AIDS virus in patients' semen and blood, according to a new study involving a North Carolina researcher.

The study released Oct. 14 urged development of new therapies designed to attack blood- and semen-based viruses separately.

The authors concluded that the male reproductive organs and the bloodstream acted as separate ``compartments,'' which had to be dealt with independently in AIDS therapy because they do not react to the drugs in the same way.

The study, which focused on 11 HIV-infected men in North Carolina and Switzerland tested over three years, was conducted by Dr. Pietro Vernazza of St. Gall Cantonal Hospital in Switzerland and Dr. Joseph J. Eron of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The findings are to be published in the Oct. 22 issue of the journal *AIDS*. The Swiss and American researchers concluded that new therapeutic strategies may have to be adopted to ensure all traces of human immunodeficiency viruses are exterminated from a carrier's bloodstream and genital tract.

``This paper is important because it clearly documents that sexual fluids or genital secretions do contain resistant virus, so the fear that there is some spread of resistant HIV is founded on logical scientific evidence,'' Eron said Wednesday.

Dr. Oren Cohen of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases called the study ``mostly confirmatory'' of previous studies that determined the disease can be compartmentalized in the body.

``It also shows there are potential reservoirs of virus that can persist even when they are at undetectable levels,'' he said. ``It's a red flag that we can't become too complacent.''

"The study shows there are potential reservoirs of virus that can persist even when they are at undetectable levels."

While Cohen expressed concerns about the small number of subjects included in the study, he said he understood why it was conducted that way.

``These studies are awfully labor-intensive,'' he said.

Eron said some of the men were treated with antiviral drugs before the study, and they had evolved an HIV strain in their blood and genital tract that decreased the effectiveness of antiviral drugs.

Over time, he said, the men with drug-resistant HIV in their blood and semen ``continued to acquire higher levels of resistance while receiving antiviral therapy.''

In most of the volunteers with resistant viruses, researchers found different viral strains in their sperm and in their blood.

Protease inhibitors did not penetrate the male reproductive organs, or only with great difficulty, the researchers wrote. In another patient, AZT resistance was encountered in the sperm viruses, but only later in the blood viruses.

The accepted notion of a single virus population must be questioned in light of the findings, the researchers said, adding it is unlikely the viruses found in the reproductive organs were imported from the blood, as previously thought. The authors did not theorize how the HIV manages to reproduce in the reproductive organs.

They advocated future treatment that will destroy both the blood and sperm viruses.

``Our observations may have substantial consequences for newly infected individuals and for public health,'' the authors wrote. ``Therapeutic strategies that fully suppress HIV-1 in the genital tract should be a public health priority.''

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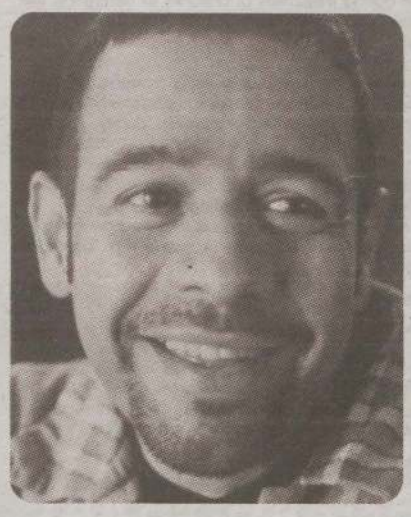
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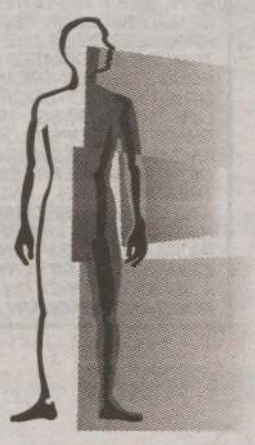
Precautions and Warnings from the OXANDRIN® (oxandrolone, USP) CIII Package Insert

In patients receiving androgenic anabolic steroid therapy, **1)** peliosis hepatis, a condition in which the liver and sometimes splenic tissue is replaced with blood-filled cysts, has been reported; **2)** liver cell tumors are also reported; **3)** blood lipid changes that are known to be associated with increased risk of atherosclerosis are seen. See Warnings and Precautions sections of complete prescribing information.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: 1) known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate or the male breast; **2)** carcinoma of the breast in females with hypercalcemia (androgenic anabolic steroids may stimulate osteolytic bone resorption); **3)** pregnancy, because of possible masculinization of the fetus. Oxandrin has been shown to cause embryotoxicity, fetotoxicity, infertility, and masculinization of female animal offspring when given in doses 9 times the human dose; **4)** nephrosis of nephrotic phase of nephritis; **5)** hypercalcemia

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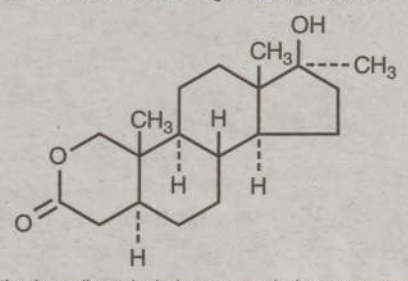
OXANDRIN®

(oxandrolone tablets, USP)

Revised: Aug. 30, 1996

DESCRIPTION

Oxandrin® oral tablets contain 2.5 mg of the anabolic steroid oxandrolone. Oxandrolone is 17β-hydroxy-17α-methyl-2-oxa-5α-androstan-3-one with the following structural formula:



Inactive ingredients include cornstarch, lactose, magnesium stearate, and hydroxypropyl methylcellulose.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Anabolic steroids are synthetic derivatives of testosterone. Certain clinical effects and adverse reactions demonstrate the androgenic properties of this class of drugs. Complete dissociation of anabolic and androgenic effects has not been achieved. The actions of anabolic steroids are therefore similar to those of male sex hormones with the possibility of causing serious disturbances of growth and sexual development if given to young children. Anabolic steroids suppress the gonadotropic functions of the pituitary and may exert a direct effect upon the testes.

During exogenous administration of anabolic androgens, endogenous testosterone release is inhibited through inhibition of pituitary luteinizing hormone (LH). At large doses, spermatogenesis may be suppressed through feedback inhibition of pituitary follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH).

Anabolic steroids have been reported to increase low-density lipoproteins and decrease high-density lipoproteins. These levels revert to normal on discontinuation of treatment.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Oxandrin is indicated as adjunctive therapy to promote weight gain after weight loss following extensive surgery, chronic infections, or severe trauma, and in some patients who without definite pathophysiologic reasons fail to gain or to maintain normal weight, to offset the protein catabolism associated with prolonged administration of corticosteroids, and for the relief of the bone pain frequently accompanying osteoporosis (See **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

Oxandrolone is classified as a controlled substance under the Anabolic Steroids Control Act of 1990 and has been assigned to Schedule III (non-narcotic).

CONTRAINDICATIONS

1. Known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate or the male breast.
2. Carcinoma of the breast in females with hypercalcemia (androgenic anabolic steroids may stimulate osteolytic bone resorption).
3. Pregnancy, because of possible masculinization of the fetus. Oxandrin has been shown to cause embryotoxicity, fetotoxicity, infertility, and masculinization of female animal offspring when given in doses 9 times the human dose.
4. Nephrosis, the nephrotic phase of nephritis.
5. Hypercalcemia.

WARNINGS

PELIOSIS HEPATIS, A CONDITION IN WHICH LIVER AND SOMETIMES SPLENIC TISSUE IS REPLACED WITH BLOOD-FILLED CYSTS, HAS BEEN REPORTED IN PATIENTS RECEIVING ANDROGENIC ANABOLIC STEROID THERAPY. THESE CYSTS ARE SOMETIMES PRESENT WITH MINIMAL HEPATIC DYSFUNCTION, BUT AT OTHER TIMES THEY HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH LIVER FAILURE. THEY ARE OFTEN NOT RECOGNIZED UNTIL LIFE-THREATENING LIVER FAILURE OR INTRA-ABDOMINAL HEMORRHAGE DEVELOPS. WITHDRAWAL OF DRUG USUALLY RESULTS IN COMPLETE DISAPPEARANCE OF LESIONS.

LIVER CELL TUMORS ARE ALSO REPORTED. MOST OFTEN THESE TUMORS ARE BENIGN AND ANDROGEN-DEPENDENT, BUT FATAL MALIGNANT TUMORS HAVE BEEN REPORTED. WITHDRAWAL OF DRUG OFTEN RESULTS IN REGRESSION OR CESSATION OF PROGRESSION OF THE TUMOR. HOWEVER, HEPATIC TUMORS ASSOCIATED WITH ANDROGENS OR ANABOLIC STEROIDS ARE MUCH MORE VASCULAR THAN OTHER HEPATIC TUMORS AND MAY BE SILENT UNTIL LIFE-THREATENING INTRA-ABDOMINAL HEMORRHAGE DEVELOPS. BLOOD LIPID CHANGES THAT ARE KNOWN TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH INCREASED RISK OF ATHEROSCLEROSIS ARE SEEN IN PATIENTS TREATED WITH ANDROGENS OR ANABOLIC STEROIDS. THESE CHANGES INCLUDE DECREASED HIGH-DENSITY LIPOPROTEINS AND SOMETIMES INCREASED LOW-DENSITY LIPOPROTEINS. THE CHANGES MAY BE VERY MARKED AND COULD HAVE A SERIOUS IMPACT ON THE RISK OF ATHEROSCLEROSIS AND CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE.

Cholestatic hepatitis and jaundice may occur with 17-alpha-alkylated androgens at a relatively low dose. If cholestatic hepatitis with jaundice appears or if liver function tests become abnormal, oxandrolone should be discontinued and the etiology should be determined. Drug-induced jaundice is reversible when the medication is discontinued.

In patients with breast cancer, anabolic steroid therapy may cause hypercalcemia by stimulating osteolysis. Oxandrolone therapy should be discontinued if hypercalcemia occurs.

Edema with or without congestive heart failure may be a serious complication in patients with pre-existing cardiac, renal, or hepatic disease. Concomitant administration of adrenal cortical steroid or ACTH may increase the edema.

In children, androgen therapy may accelerate bone maturation without producing compensatory gain in linear growth. This adverse effect results in compromised adult height. The younger the child, the greater the risk of compromising final mature height. The effect on bone maturation should be monitored by assessing bone age of the left wrist and hand every 6 months (See **PRECAUTIONS: Laboratory tests**).

Geriatric patients treated with androgenic anabolic steroids may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hypertrophy and prostatic carcinoma.

ANABOLIC STEROIDS HAVE NOT BEEN SHOWN TO ENHANCE ATHLETIC ABILITY.

PRECAUTIONS

General:
Women should be observed for signs of virilization (deepening of the voice, hirsutism, acne, clitoromegaly). Discontinuation of drug therapy at the time of evidence of mild virilism is necessary to prevent irreversible virilization. Some virilizing changes in women are irreversible even after prompt discontinuance of therapy and are not prevented by concomitant use of estrogens. Menstrual irregularities may also occur.

Anabolic steroids may cause suppression of clotting factors II, V, VII, and X, and an increase in prothrombin time.

Information for patients:
The physician should instruct patients to report any of the following side effects of androgens:

Males: Too frequent or persistent erections of the penis, appearance or aggravation of acne.
Females: Hoarseness, acne, changes in menstrual periods, or more facial hair.
All patients: Nausea, vomiting, changes in skin color, or ankle swelling.

Laboratory tests:
Women with disseminated breast carcinoma should have frequent determination of urine and serum calcium levels during the course of therapy (See **WARNINGS**).

Because of the hepatotoxicity associated with the use of 17-alpha-alkylated androgens, liver function tests should be obtained periodically.

Periodic (every 6 months) x-ray examinations of bone age should be made during treatment of children to determine the rate of bone maturation and the effects of androgen therapy on the epiphyseal centers.

Serum lipids and high-density lipoprotein cholesterol determinations should be done periodically as androgenic anabolic steroids have been reported to increase low-density lipoproteins. Serum cholesterol levels may increase during therapy. Therefore, caution is required when administering these agents to patients with a history of myocardial infarction or coronary artery disease. Serial determinations of serum cholesterol should be made and therapy adjusted accordingly.

Hemoglobin and hematocrit should be checked periodically for polycythemia in patients who are receiving high doses of anabolic steroids.

Drug interactions

Anticoagulants:
Anabolic steroids may increase sensitivity to oral anticoagulants. Dosage of the anticoagulant may have to be decreased in order to maintain desired prothrombin time. Patients receiving oral anticoagulant therapy require close monitoring, especially when anabolic steroids are started or stopped.

Oral hypoglycemic agents:
Oxandrolone may inhibit the metabolism of oral hypoglycemic agents.

Adrenal steroids or ACTH:
In patients with edema, concomitant administration with adrenal cortical steroids or ACTH may increase the edema.

Drug/Laboratory test interactions:
Anabolic steroids may decrease levels of thyroxine-binding globulin, resulting in decreased total T_4 serum levels and increased resin uptake of T_3 and T_4. Free thyroid hormone levels remain unchanged. In addition, a decrease in PBI and radioactive iodine uptake may occur.

Carcinogenesis, mutagenesis, impairment of fertility

Animal data:
Oxandrolone has not been tested in laboratory animals for carcinogenic or mutagenic effects. In 2-year chronic oral rat studies, a dose-related reduction of spermatogenesis and decreased organ weights (testes, prostate, seminal vesicles, ovaries, uterus, adrenals, and pituitary) were shown.

Human data:
Liver cell tumors have been reported in patients receiving long-term therapy with androgenic anabolic steroids in high doses (See **WARNINGS**). Withdrawal of the drugs did not lead to regression of the tumors in all cases.

Geriatric patients treated with androgenic anabolic steroids may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hypertrophy and prostatic carcinoma.

Pregnancy:
Teratogenic effects—Pregnancy Category X (See **CONTRAINDICATIONS**).

Nursing mothers:
It is not known whether anabolic steroids are excreted in human milk. Because of the potential of serious adverse reactions in nursing infants from oxandrolone, a decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother.

Pediatric use:
Anabolic agents may accelerate epiphyseal maturation more rapidly than linear growth in children and the effect may continue for 6 months after the drug has been stopped. Therefore, therapy should be monitored by x-ray studies at 6-month intervals in order to avoid the risk of compromising adult height. Androgenic anabolic steroid therapy should be used very cautiously in children and only by specialists who are aware of the effects on bone maturation (See **WARNINGS**).

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The following adverse reactions have been associated with use of anabolic steroids:

Hepatic: Cholestatic jaundice with, rarely, hepatic necrosis and death. Hepatocellular neoplasms and peliosis hepatis with long-term therapy (See **WARNINGS**). Reversible changes in liver function tests also occur including increased bromsulfophthalein (BSP) retention, and increases in serum bilirubin, aspartate aminotransferase (AST, SGOT) and alkaline phosphatase.

In *males:*
Prepubertal: Phallic enlargement and increased frequency or persistence of erections.
Postpubertal: Inhibition of testicular function, testicular atrophy and oligospermia, impotence, chronic priapism, epididymitis, and bladder irritability.

In *females:*
Clitoral enlargement, menstrual irregularities.

CNS: Habituation, excitation, insomnia, depression, and changes in libido.

Hematologic: Bleeding in patients on concomitant anticoagulant therapy.

Breast: Gynecomastia.

Larynx: Deepening of the voice in females.

Hair: Hirsutism and male pattern baldness in females.

Skin: Acne (especially in females and prepubertal males).

Skeletal: Premature closure of epiphyses in children (See **PRECAUTIONS: Pediatric use**).

Fluid and electrolytes: Edema, retention of serum electrolytes (sodium chloride, potassium, phosphate, calcium).

Metabolic/Endocrine: Decreased glucose tolerance (See **PRECAUTIONS: Laboratory tests**), increased creatinine excretion, increased serum levels of creatinine phosphokinase (CPK). Masculinization of the fetus. Inhibition of gonadotropin secretion.

OVERDOSAGE

No symptoms or signs associated with overdosage have been reported. It is possible that sodium and water retention may occur.

The oral LD_{50} of oxandrolone in mice and dogs is greater than 5,000 mg/kg. No specific antidote is known, but gastric lavage may be used.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Therapy with anabolic steroids is adjunctive to and not a replacement for conventional therapy. The duration of therapy with Oxandrin (oxandrolone) will depend on the response of the patient and the possible appearance of adverse reactions. Therapy should be intermittent.

Adults: The *usual adult* dosage of Oxandrin is one 2.5-mg tablet 2 to 4 times daily. However, the response of individuals to anabolic steroids varies, and a daily dosage of as little as 2.5 mg or as much as 20 mg may be required to achieve the desired response. A course of therapy of 2 to 4 weeks is usually adequate. This may be repeated intermittently as indicated.

Children: For children the total daily dosage of Oxandrin is ≤0.1 mg per kilogram body weight or ≤0.045 mg per pound of body weight. This may be repeated intermittently as indicated.

HOW SUPPLIED

Oxandrin 2.5-mg tablets are oval, white, and scored with BTG on one side and "11" on each side of the scoreline on the other side; bottles of 100 (NDC 54396-111-11).

Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.

Revised: Aug. 30, 1996

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OXANDRIN®
(oxandrolone tablets, USP)

Researcher says oral vaccine shows promise in monkeys

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP)

A virologist at the University of Kansas Medical Center is hoping that promising results of a new oral vaccine given to monkeys with the AIDS virus can be repeated in humans.

The results, scheduled for publication in November's *Journal of Virology*, are significant because the vaccine gave the monkeys long-term protection against the AIDS virus transmitted sexually, the most common method of human transmission.

Being able to administer the vaccine in a single oral dose would make it simpler in underdeveloped countries with limited resources for health prevention, said Bill Narayan.

The vaccine, which contained a mild form of the virus, allowed the monkeys to build resistance by producing antibodies.

``It's a blueprint for making the human vaccine,'' Narayan said.

Twelve monkeys were given vaccinations, six orally and six by an injection in their arms, Narayan said.

The monkeys were then infected with the AIDS virus vaginally, Narayan said. None of the six monkeys given the oral vaccine was infected, but two of the six vaccinated with the injections were.

The oral vaccines were stronger than the others, and helped the monkeys develop immunity to the AIDS virus, Narayan said.

"It's a blueprint for making the human vaccine."

``This is a significant first demonstration of the plausibility of this vaccine,'' said Alan Schultz, a research chief at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. ``He's done this very intelligently, thinking of its ultimate application.''

Narayan said he is also developing a vaccine that could kill the AIDS virus in people who already have the disease.

He and his team of 20 researchers receive most of their $1 million annual budget in grants from the National Institutes of Health. A small amount also comes from BioStratum Inc., a biomedical company.

Several research teams are working to create AIDS vaccines. But only one vaccine, AIDSVAX, has reached the final stage of testing on people. Five thousand volunteers are being recruited nationwide.

Broken Condoms: SF unveils new ads for HIV "morning after" drug

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)

AIDS researchers hope new ads—one featuring a broken condom accompanied by a boldfaced expletive and a second showing two men in bed together—will tap into a different kind of ``morning after'' concern: not pregnancy, but HIV exposure.

Scientists conducting a first-of-its-kind study on the risks of providing preventive HIV therapy after exposure to the AIDS virus hope the ad campaign in San Francisco will encourage minority gay men to take the regimen of pills.

The first ad is posted in as many as 400 bars, dance clubs and sex clubs in the city that cater to gays, while the other appears on city buses, bus shelters, billboards and in newspapers.

``We get a little desensitized living in San Francisco,'' said Dr. Tom Coates, who is directing the Post-Exposure Prevention program at the University of California, San Francisco. ``It's a little provocative. It's designed to attract attention and I think we need to do that.''

"It's a little provocative. It's designed to attract attention and I think we need to do that."

The $40,000, three-month ad campaign begun Tuesday was funded by private donations, he said.

The ads were designed with nonwhite gay men in mind—a group considered vulnerable to HIV but not reached by programs targeting the city's largely white gay population. The bus advertisements feature a Hispanic man and a black man.

The ads direct readers to the UCSF study, begun a year ago, which provides a month's worth of anti-viral drugs that researchers believe may prevent HIV infection. The same drugs are used by many AIDS patients, Coates said.

The therapy is believed to be effective only if started within 72 hours of exposure to HIV.

Of the 225 men who have taken part in the program so far, 73 percent are white. Twenty-two are Hispanic and 11 are black.

Researchers are trying to determine the feasibility of getting people exposed to HIV into the treatment program and whether the availability of the drugs might encourage unsafe sex.

They are still trying to find a way to measure whether the drugs actually work to prevent infection, Coates said.

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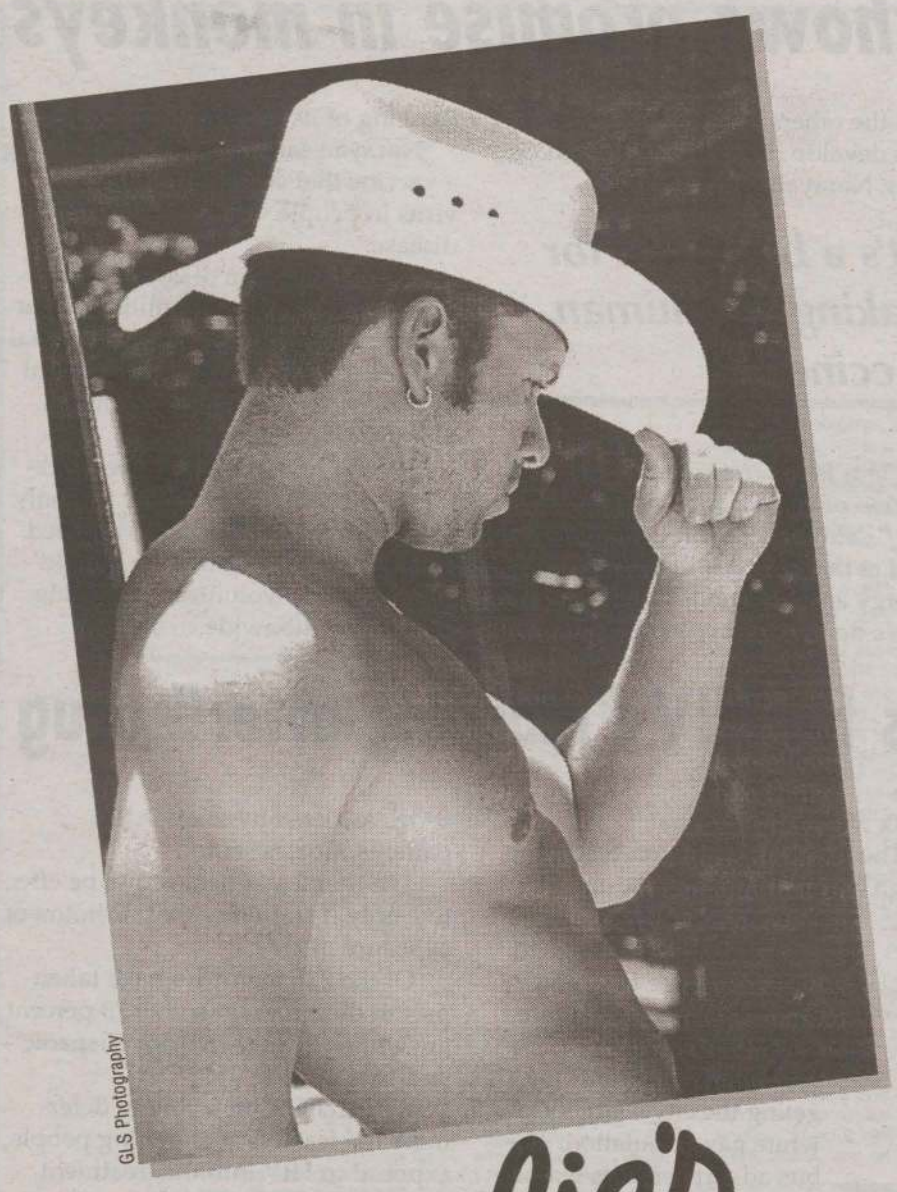
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HIV 303 - NUTRITION: You ARE What You EAT
HIV 404 - BACK TO YOUR FUTURE: LIVING Long and Well With HIV
HIV 505 - POSITIVE EVENTS bring you the NEWEST Information about HIV

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Monday
"Don't get dressed for us" Underwear Party Night.
Everything we pour is 1/2 price while partying in your underwear 7p-1am
Renegades Practice 7:30 pm

Tuesday
"Bare Chest Night"
Show us yours for 1/2 price drinks, or just quench your thirst with $1.00 pitchers, 7p-1am

Wednesday
Top Shelf Night, 7p-1am
All call liquor $2.00
Dance Lessons 7:30 pm

Thursday
New!! 2-4-1 on everything we pour
Renegades Practice 7:30 pm
Free Pool from 7:00 pm

Friday
$1.00 Pitchers of Miller Lite, MGD, & Bud Light
Extended Happy Hour, 7-9pm with 75¢ Well/domestic bottled longnecks
Desert Valley Squares Practice 7:30 pm

Saturday
$1.00 Well & Pitchers, and $1.50 Long Island Teas 1-7pm
Happy Hour, 7-9pm with 75¢ Well/domestic bottled longnecks
$2.00 Pitchers of Dos Equis 7-11pm
Dance Lessons 7:30 pm

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- *Men of Charlie's*

International Gay & Lesbian News Briefs

Compiled by Rex Wockner

French partners measure faces Nov. 10 vote

A French measure allowing registered partnership between any two unmarried people will face a vote in the National Assembly Nov. 10 and new debate beginning Nov. 3.

The bill was abruptly dismissed by legislators Oct. 9 after opponents noticed that scores of MPs from the majority Socialist party, which supports the bill, were absent from the Chamber.

If the proposal passes—which is likely—it will grant spousal rights to registered couples in areas such as inheritance, taxation, housing, property, workplace benefits, social security, and social-welfare programs.

Numerous religious leaders have condemned the plan as a threat to marriage. Prime Minister Jospin responded that the measure does not legalize gay marriage and will not permit homosexuals to adopt children or access artificial-conception services.

Nearly 2,000 couples have registered in The Netherlands

Since The Netherlands' gay-partnership legislation took effect Jan. 14, 1,814 gay couples have registered under the law.

The statute grants same-sex couples every right of matrimony, including the right to adopt children.

The Dutch Central Bureau for Statistics said 1,045 of the couples were male and 769 female. Eight hundred forty-one heterosexual couples also have taken advantage of the law.

The figures reflect only the first six months of 1998.

Denmark, Greenland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden have gay-only registered-partnership laws. In general, the laws grant all rights of matrimony except access to adoption, artificial insemination and church weddings. Hungary recognizes a type of common-law gay marriage, withholding only the right to adoption.

More controversy over gay Jesus art

Artist Elisabeth Ohlson's "Ecce Homo" exhibit continued to attract hostility as it opened Oct. 10 in the city of Jönköping, Sweden's "Jerusalem," reports correspondent Jon Voss, editor of the gay paper *QX*.

The showing received a bomb threat "in the name of Jesus" and Lutheran ministers involved in bringing the exhibition to the city received threatening phone calls.

The paintings, which have the blessing of Archbishop Karl Gustav Hammar, head of Sweden's state Lutheran Church, depict Jesus and the apostles in drag and as leathermen—and a nude, largely endowed Jesus being baptized.

British posters urge murder of gays

Posters showing a drawing of a boot stomping on a man's head accompanied by the caption "Make sure you stamp out your fag properly" have appeared in the British seaside resort of Bridlington in east Yorkshire, reports *The Pink Paper*.

In Britain, "fag" also refers to a cigarette.

Police believe the Manchester-based fascist group The Third Position is behind the posters, which began appearing after news spread that a gay pub might open in the town.

Australia counts nearly 10,000 gay couples

More than 19,000 Australians acknowledged to census officials that they live with a same-sex partner during the 1996 census, new data reveals. The count found more than 11,000 men and about 8,000 women living in gay relationships.

Gay groups called the figures a serious undercount but a good beginning. They urged the government to consult them next time for help in writing better questions. The census did not count single homosexuals.

London gay activists disrupt memorial service

London gay activists breached the Prime Minister's security net to stage a silent protest during a memorial service for former Daily Mail Editor David English Oct. 15.

Five members of OutRage! walked to the front of St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church in Trafalgar Square and held up posters accusing English of being a "gay baiter," "queer basher" and "homo hater."

The protest was viewed by Prime Minister Tony Blair, Leader of the Opposition William Hague, and former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who were in the front pews.

The demonstrators were intercepted by a priest and church stewards and hustled from the building. There were no arrests.

"Sir David encouraged news stories and editorials that stereotyped, vilified, misrepresented and demonized the homosexual community," said OutRage!'s Ray Harvey-Amer. "Sir David and the Daily Mail have queer blood on their hands. This memorial service was a sham. It ignores the pain and suffering inflicted on lesbian and gay people by a man who was a shameless propagandist for homophobia."

Rev. Nicholas Holtam, vicar of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, called the protest "wholly inappropriate."

"It was at the wrong time and in the wrong place," he said. "People were hugely angry. The thinking behind it was very one-dimensional. It happened just minutes before Sir David's three children were about to talk. It was very disrespectful."

Gays in Western Australia fear pedophile purge

The Health Department in the state of Western Australia is screening its 25,000 employees for criminal records to weed out pedophiles and gay groups have expressed concern because the state's age-of-consent for gay sex is 21.

"Western Australia's archaic anti-gay laws state that all gay men under the age of 21 are considered to be criminals, and face up to five years in jail," said John Derry, spokesman for the group Gay and Lesbian Equality. "This means a 22-year-old gay man in a consenting relationship with his 20-year-old boyfriend can be charged with sexual offenses against a minor, branded as apedophile, and sacked from his job if he works for the WA Health Department."

Denver can offer same-sex health benefits, court finds

DENVER (AP)

Denver can extend medical benefits to the same-sex partners of city employees, according to a Colorado Court of Appeals ruling.

The court upheld a Denver judge who last year threw out a lawsuit filed by Paul Schaefer and Irene Tuder, two city residents who argued that the city violated state law when it granted benefits to gay and lesbian couples.

``The power to grant group health insurance benefits to spousal equivalents is a matter of local concern subject only to the limitations imposed by the city charter,'' wrote Appeals Court Judge Arthur Roy for a unanimous three-judge panel Oct. 15.

Attorney James P. Rouse, who filed the suit, said he expects to appeal the ruling of the Colorado Supreme Court.

He said he needed time to confer with his clients.

It was a victory for Mayor Wellington Web who had pushed for the change in medical benefits.

The City Council approved the medical coverage in 1996, and it went into effect Jan. 1, 1997. At that time, 46 city employees had registered their unmarried partners for benefits.

Sue Anderson, executive director for Equality Colorado, praised the ruling.

``When you have employees working side by side, one who gets benefits and the other who doesn't simply because of sexual preference, that's not fair,'' she said.

The court rejected the claim that issuing benefits to spousal equivalents was in conflict with the traditional definition of ``family'' and would impact the requirements that a marriage be a union between a man and a woman.

Mormon activists oppose church's donation to anti-gay marriage campaign

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)

An Internet-based group calling itself MormonAid is countering the Mormon church's $500,000 donation to an Alaska initiative campaign aimed at stamping out same-sex marriage.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints made the donation in late September to the Alaska Family Coalition, which previously had just $100,000 to work with.

The coalition is urging residents to vote Nov. 3 for Proposition 2, which would amend the Alaska Constitution to provide the legal definition of marriage as being between one man and one woman.

Some angry members of the Mormon church, however, have turned to cyberspace to raise donations for opponents of Proposition 2.

``The church needs to realize that an increasing number of faithful Mormons don't agree with the goals of the Christian Right,'' said Jake Johnson, a Salt Lake City-based spokesman for the fledgling MormonAid.

Barely a week old, MormonAid had received some 60 donations for No On 2 by Friday totaling more than $4,000. The donations have come from church members both gay and straight.

``I'm an active Mormon. I hold a leadership position in my ward, I'm happily married, I have children, I'm completely heterosexual,'' said Johnson, who declined to more specifically identify his ward.

MormonAid contributor Jay Christensen, of Eugene, Ore., described himself as both Mormon and homosexual, but also underscored MormonAid ``is not just a gay movement.

``It's not so much an issue of same-sex marriage as the church is trying to exert its control by putting its mark on this,'' he said in a telephone interview.

Trang Duong, co-chairwoman of the Anchorage-based No On 2, said the Mormon church's donation could prove pivotal.

``It was the largest contribution to any ballot measure campaign in the history of Alaska,'' she said. ``The other side definitely has much more of an advantage financially, and we feel an unfair one as well.''

Christensen noted that the church's $500,000 donation tipped the scales heavily in favor of Proposition 2 proponents. Each side previously had about $100,000 for the campaign.

``Now, instead of being one-to-one in resources, it's six-to-one. And it was done so late in the campaign that there's really no way for No On 2 to counter it,'' he said.

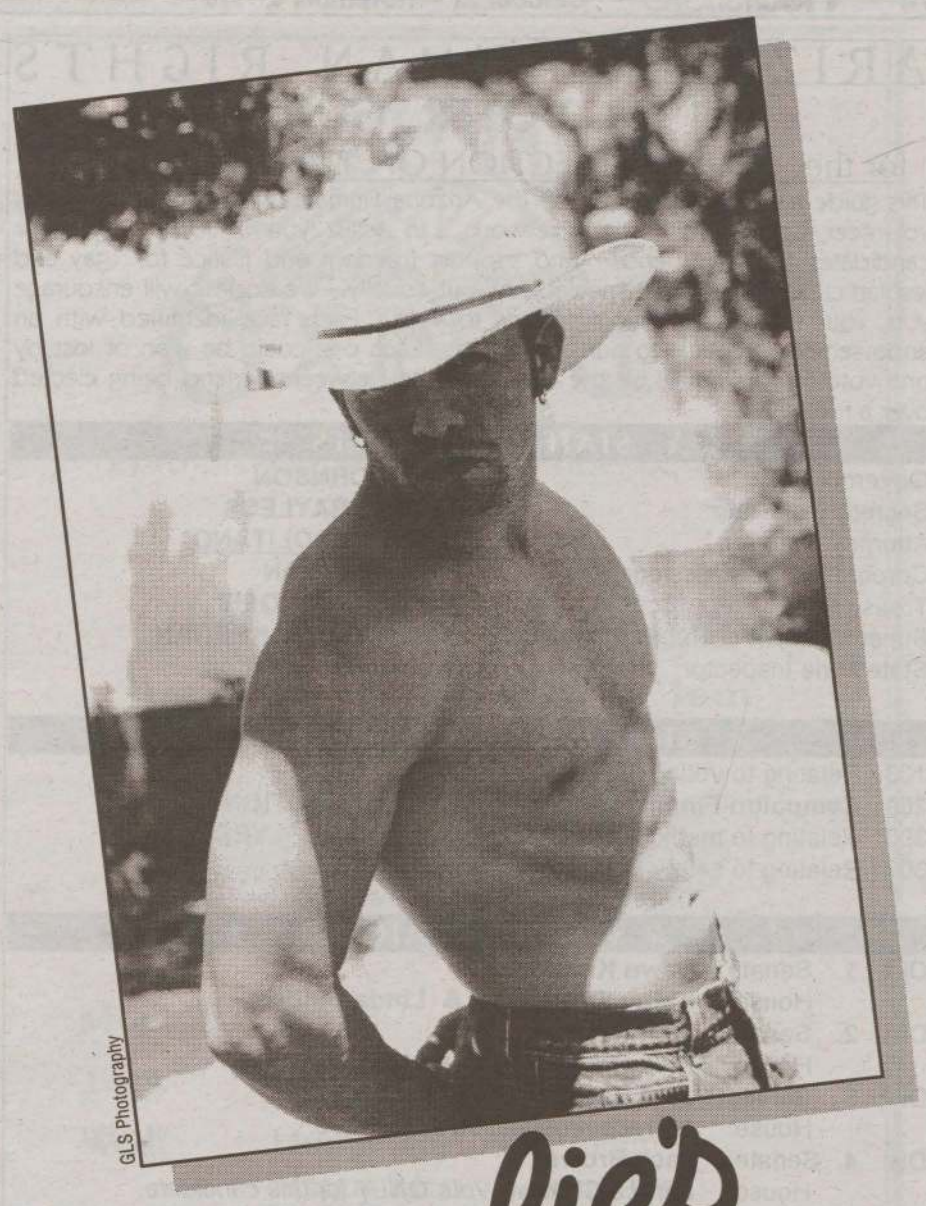
That appears to have been the idea behind the church's contribution, defended by Mormon officials who note the faith has 24,000 members in Alaska. The church has 10 million members worldwide.

"The church needs to realize that an increasing number of faithful Mormons don't agree with the goals of the Christian Right."

The Salt Lake City-based church also came out strongly against same-sex unions in Hawaii five years ago, and more recently fought legalized euthanasia in Oregon.

Church spokesman Don LeFevre said Mormon leaders acknowledge that members have the right to follow their political convictions.

``However, the church remains steadfast behind the position expressed by the First Presidency back in 1994 (opposing) any efforts to give legal authorization to marriages between persons of the same gender,'' LeFevre said.


GLS Photography

Charlie's
265-0224
727 West Camelback, Phoenix
http://www.Charlies-bars.com

Friday, Saturday & Sunday
Oct. 23rd, 24th & 25th
IGRA Finals Rodeo
Rodeo & Party Your Butt Off
at Phoenix's Only
Rodeo Party Bar!

Monday Oct. 26th
Undies Mondies Contest
Hosted by Ms. Markus & Jeff Edwards

Saturday Oct. 31st
Halloween Weekend
Nightmare in the Barnyard
Costume Contest / CASH Prizes!

Sunday Nov. 1st
Erica Alexander Show
Contestant for Miss AGRA @ 9:30

ARIZONA HUMAN RIGHTS
1998 VOTER GUIDE
for the GENERAL ELECTION ON TUESDAY, Nov. 3rd

This guide has been prepared by the Arizona Human Rights Fund, through its volunteer Community Action Network, to assist you in identifying those candidates that are friends who support freedom and justice for gay and lesbian citizens – not in a special way, but equally. We hope it will encourage you, your families, and your friends to vote. Each race identified with an endorsement is critical to our community. Each one could be won or lost by one vote. Yours could be the deciding vote between a friend being elected over a foe... *SO VOTE!!!*

☆ STATE WIDE OFFICES ☆

Governor:	**PAUL JOHNSON**
Secretary of State:	**BETSEY BAYLESS**
Attorney General:	**JANET NAPOLITANO**
Corporation Commission:	**PAUL NEWMAN**
Treasurer:	**CAROL SPRINGER**
Superintendent of Public Instruction:	**LISA GRAHAM KEEGAN**
State Mine Inspector:	***No recommendation.***

☆ STATE WIDE PROPOSITIONS ☆

103: Relating to voting in Primary Elections **YES**
200: Campaign Financing Reform – CLEAN ELECTIONS YES
300: Relating to medical use of schedule one drugs **YES**
302: Relating to salary for State Legislators **YES**

☆ STATE LEGISLATURE ☆

Dist. 1.	Senate:	**Dawn Knight**
	House:	**Kathy Fredericks & Linda Binder**
Dist. 2.	Senate:	**John Wettaw**
	House:	**Richard Swanson & John Verkamp**
Dist. 3.	Senate:	**Jack Jackson**
	House:	*No recommendation in this race.*
Dist. 4.	Senate:	**Jack Brown**
	House:	**Janice Chilton** *Vote ONLY for this candidate.*
Dist. 5.	Senate:	**Herb Gunther**
	House:	**Bob McLendon & Jim Carruthers**
Dist. 6.	Senate:	*Do not vote in this race.*
	House:	**Tom Kennedy & Richard Kyle**
Dist. 7.	Senate:	**Peter Rios**
	House:	**Rebecca Rios & Harry Clark**
Dist. 8.	Senate:	**Gus Arzberger**
	House:	**Bobby Lugo & Mark Maiorana**
Dist. 9.	Senate:	*Do not vote in this race.*
	House:	**Lou-Ann Preble** *Vote ONLY for this candidate.*
Dist.10.	Senate:	**Victor Soltero**
	House:	**Sally Gonzales & Ramon Valadez**
Dist.11.	Senate:	**Elaine Richardson**
	House:	**Debora Norris & Carmine Cardamone**
Dist.12.	Senate:	**Ann Day**
	House:	**Andy Morales & Steve Huffman**
Dist.13.	Senate:	**George Cunningham**
	House:	**Andy Nichols & Kathleen Dunbar**
Dist.14.	Senate:	**Ruth Salomon**
	House:	**Herschella Horton & Marion Pickens**
Dist.15.	Senate:	**Edward Cirillo**
	House:	**Bunny Goldfarb** *Vote ONLY for this candidate.*
Dist.16.	Senate:	**Stan Furman**
	House:	**Robin Schneider & Dorothy Schultz**
Dist.17.	Senate:	*Do not vote in this race.*
	House:	**Kenneth Thomas & Leonard Clark**
Dist.18.	Senate:	**Marc Spitzer**
	House:	**Susan Gerard** *Vote ONLY for this candidate.*
Dist.19.	Senate:	*No recommendation in this race.*
	House:	**Roberta Voss** *Vote ONLY for this candidate.*
Dist.20.	Senate:	**Mary Hartley**
	House:	**Kathi Foster & Bill Brotherton**
Dist.21.	Senate:	*DO NOT vote in this race!*
	House:	*DO NOT vote in this race!*
Dist.22.	Senate:	**Joe Eddie Lopez**
	House:	**Richard Miranda & John Loredo**
Dist.23.	Senate:	*No recommendation in this race.*
	House:	**Leah Landrum & Mary Carr**
Dist.24.	Senate.	**Sue Grace**
	House:	**Tom Horne & Barbara Leff**
Dist. 25.	Senate:	**Chris Cummiskey**
	House:	**★ KEN CHEUVRONT & Christine Weason**
Dist.26.	Senate:	*No recommendation in this race.*
	House:	**★ STEVE MAY** *Vote ONLY for this candidate.*
Dist.27.	Senate:	**Harry Mitchell**
	House:	**Paul Valach & Mike Gardner**
Dist.28.	Senate:	**Randall Gnant**
	House:	**Carolyn Allen** *Vote ONLY for this candidate.*
Dist.29.	Senate:	**Edward Gaudreau**
	House:	*DO NOT vote in this race.*
Dist.30.	Senate:	*DO NOT vote in this race.*
	House:	**William Luck**

★ = openly gay candidate ☆ underline = strong advocates & friends.

Paid for by AHRF PAC, 602:650.0900 Amelia Craig Cramer & William MacDonald, Co-Chairs. Not authorized by any candidate or candidate's campaign committee.

Goings On

News & Events of Interest to the Phoenix Queer Community

Relationship seminar slated for Oct. 24

A Seminar that will include presentations and discussions regarding: how to make a relationship grow and flourish, giving financial and medical decision-making rights to partners, protecting property, protecting parenting rights and much more will be held Oct. 24 from 9 am to 12 noon at The Community Center.

Speakers at the event will be Shannon Arriola, M.C., Mediator and Counselor, Denise Daup, M.A., C.P.C., Counselor, and Kathie J. Gummere, RN, J.D., Attorney.

The cost is $10 and all proceeds will go to VOIT, the Center's youth program. Call the Center at (602)265-7283 for information.

Old homes showcased Oct. 25

The Halloween season in Phoenix traditionally brings about the annual Roosevelt Neighborhood historic home tour, and this year's event is set for Saturday, Oct. 25 from 11 am to 4 pm.

The tour will feature 13 lovingly restored homes in the Phoenix neighborhood, as well as downtown's historic Trinity Cathedral. The tour costs just $8, or $7 with a can of food. Tickets will be available that morning at the Kenilworth School, on 5th Avenue just south of Culver.

HIV/AIDS Prevention Symposium Nov. 5-6

The 11th Annual HIV/AIDS Prevention Symposium, called "Creating the Future," will be held in Phoenix Nov. 5 - 6 at the Airport Embassy Suites.

The symposium is sponsored by the Arizona Dept. of Health Services; Arizona AIDS policy Alliance; Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona; Arizona Dept. of Education; Indian Health Service: Arizona Public Health Association; and the American Red Cross Statewide AIDS Network.

Thursday, Nov. 5 will be AIDS Research Day, with registration and networking at 8:30 am followed by a full day of sessions including presentations from many AIDS service organizations in the state.

Friday, Nov. 6 will be HIV/AIDS Prevention Day, with registration and exhibits at 8 am, followed by a number of important lectures and discussions featuring six workshop areas: Prevention Essentials; Rapid Testing/Testing Technologies; Harm Reduction/Needle Exchange; Impact of New Treatments on Prevention; Youth Issues; and Cultural Competency.

1998 Outstanding Service Awards will be presented during the symposium to individuals, groups and agencies for exceptional service contributions in the field of HIV.

Registration is $25 for Research Day only, $30 for Symposium Day only, and $55 for both days. Lunch is included. Make checks payable to The American Red Cross/Statewide AIDS Network, 6135 North Black Canyon Highway, Phoenix AZ 85015. Call the AZ Dept. of Health Services at (602)230-5819 for more information.

Steve Schalchlin in Phoenix for AIDS Vigil

Steve Schalchlin, whose on-line diary *Living in the Bonus Round* has detailed and documented his experiences living with HIV, will be in the Valley Nov. 13-15 to take part in Gentle Shepherd MCC's 1998 AIDS Vigil.

Schalchlin tours nationally to present a program through stories and music that tells of his experiences with AIDS, musical theater and religious bigotry. His musical, *The Last Session*, played off-Broadway to rave reviews form the New York press.

On Friday, Nov. 13, Schalchlin will participate in a forum for Valley teens with the Valley One in Ten youth group and Horizons young adult group at the Community Center, 24 West Camelback in Phoenix at 7 pm.

On Saturday, Nov. 14, he will be a guest at a Songwriters & Musician's Forum at the gentle Shepherd offices, 3201 North 16th St., #4, at 10:30 am. That evening, Schalchlin will perform in concert at Trinity Cathedral, 100 West Roosevelt in downtown Phoenix. The free concert will begin at 7 pm.

Finally, on Sunday, Nov. 15, Schalchlin will participate in Gentle Shepherd's worship service at the Quality Hotel and resort Ballroom, at the corner of 2nd Avenue and Osborn, at 10 am. Everyone is invited. For information, call the church at (602)285-9020.

Tom of Finland line revealed at Crowbar

Crowbar will team with *OUT* magazine and Tom of Finland clothing Company for a special fashion event on Oct. 23.

The show is called "A Study in Masculinity" and will introduce the new clothing line based on the homo-erotic artwork of the popular gay illustrator.

There will be a $10 cover—doors open at 7:30 and the show starts at 9:30 pm. Crowbar is located at 702 North Central in downtown Phoenix.

Women's chorale seeks members

The only all-women choral group in Phoenix, TLC Chorale, is seeking new members for the '98-'99 season. The non-profit group offers members and the community a variety of songs and concert dates.

"We sing some feminist music, as well as traditional seasonal standards—everything from P.D.Q. Bach to Broadway show tunes," says Terry Gunn, Membership Chair.

TLC is open to any woman with an interest in music. No formal auditions are held—anyone who sings, plays an instrument or enjoys camaraderie with women is encouraged to attend a TLC gathering. The group provides a forum for lesbians while participating in community events.

Upcoming events include the IGRA Rodeo in town Oct. 22-25, where TLC will perform the U.S. and Canadian anthems at opening ceremonies. On Nov. 14 at 7 pm, TLC will join artist/songwriter and environmental feminist Carol Eagleheart for a concert at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 4027 East Lincoln Drive. Then, on Dec.

12, TLC will present its annual holiday concert. The show will feature Valley soloist Tracy Cruz—watch coming issues of *HeatStroke* for details

Chorale practice is held every Thursday at 7 pm at Augustana Lutheran Church, 2604 North 14th Street in Phoenix. For information, contact Conductor Kim McCreary at (602)246-2545 or Operations Mgr.. Barbara Wodrich at (602)878-5430. Or e-mail tlcchorale@hotmail.com.

LifeGuard's Halloween Extravaganza Oct. 30

The national gay holiday is here, so don your best Monica & Bill duds, or let the devil inside you show for a night.

Then step on out to The King & Queen's Masquerade Extravaganza at The Park on Friday, Oct. 30 at 8 pm.

This costume party is the latest event in a series of happening house parties held every few months by Project LifeGuard of Phoenix, a program of AIDS Project Arizona.

LifeGuard is asking for a donation of $3 per couple or $2 per person to attend the soiree, which will offer prizes for Best Costumes. Proceeds will benefit the agency and its TRIBE program for African Americans as well as Project Q, a gay & bi young men's outreach and education program.

The Park is at 3002 North 24th Street in central Phoenix. Call Project LifeGuard at 266-7233 for information.

Flagstaff G&L group putting on Halloween party

You can head for the cool pines of northern Arizona and enjoy the fall season while supporting an organization that brings rural gay men and lesbians together in the Flagstaff area.

Northern Arizona Pride Association is hosting a Halloween dance at the Radisson Hotel in Flagstaff on Friday, Oct. 23 and everyone is welcome.

Doors open at 8 pm and there will be $5 cover, with a costume contest, raffles, cash bar and more. Call (520)522-7894 for more info.

Renegades casino/leather night

Charlie's Renegades will be in their finest leather for an evening of fun and games at Charlie's on Friday, Nov. 5 from 9:30 - midnight.

The award-winning clogging troupe will also be holding a casino games party with a 50/50 raffle to raise money for the group. Prizes will be awarded for Best Leather and for the top casino winners.

Come out in your leather and show support for the Renegades. Charlie's is located at 727 West Camelback Road in Phoenix.

Xena group screening "Lesbian Big Chill"

The movie *Everything's Relative* is a sexy romantic comedy about a group of women reunited after their college years. It's been called the "Lesbian *Big Chill*" and was a hit at lesbian/gay film fests.

The Xena fan group for lesbian and bisexual women will host the video presentation of the film on Saturday, Nov. 14. An added treat will be the showing of a provocative short called, *Peach* that features *Xena*'s Lucy Lawless as a lesbian tow truck driver.

The films will be shown starting at 8 pm at Augustana Lutheran Church in Phoenix, at 14th Street and Virginia. A $4 donation is requested. Call (602)813-8681 for info.

Rainbows for Relief records banner year

Officials from Aunt Rita's Foundation reported Oct. 16 that the organization raised nearly $14,000 through its annual Rainbows for Relief effort held during the month of September.



Aunt Rita's traveling trophy was presented at the Rainbows wrap-up party, held at Cash Inn Oct. 16.

"The 1998 total far exceeded our expectations due to the generosity of the entire Phoenix bar community," said Lisa Harville, who directed the program. "Bar employees, customers and even the bar owners really got behind this effort."

Rainbows for Relief is held annually by Aunt Rita's in cooperation with Miller Brands of Phoenix. Rainbow stickers are sold at participating Valley gay and lesbian bars for one month. Each sticker costs $1. The buyer then writes his/her name on the sticker and it is posted in the bar throughout the run of the program.

A yearly contest is held to see which Phoenix gay or lesbian bar can generate the most "Rainbow" sales. This year, the title and a traveling trophy went to Wink's. Wink's also wins the opportunity to host the kickoff party for next year's effort.

Second place went to Johnny Mc's and third place was awarded to The Park. The top-selling bars and individuals won a variety of prizes. Eighty four bar employees participated this year.

Miller Brands got involved by advertising the event and promoting Miller products through the program, and then donating a portion of Sept. sales to Aunt Rita's.

The Phoenix-based foundation will steer the money to persons living with HIV/AIDS through its individual direct client assistance program.

"Individual requests are up 60-70 percent," explained Aunt Rita's Don Chambers. He said that Aunt Rita's has used its financial resources to help local AIDS agencies in the past, but is now assisting only individual clients on a weekly basis because the need is greater there.

"Many of the agencies are now quite large and with organized fundraising they are able to exceed our efforts, but not a lot of foundations help individuals," he said.

CASH INN COUNTRY

2140 E. McDowell Rd • Phoenix, AZ
244-9943

OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK

Tuesday—Sunday, 4pm to 1am

Happy Hour
Tuesday-Friday
4-7pm

Mon: Closed
Tues: Darts
Wed: Hump Day: remember Happy Hour starts at 4pm!
Thurs: Country Western Dance Lessons with Geri 7-9pm
Fri: Country Western Music with DJ "De"
Sat: Country Western Music with DJ "De"
Sun: Steak & Chicken Fry $3, 6-8pm Karaoke with Jamie 7-11pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday
Oct. 23: Ladies with an Attitude perform at the Cash!

Friday & Saturday
Oct. 30-31:

Cash Inn's Halloween Howling Hags Weekend
Friday, Oct. 30: *Diamond Fire performs & hosts the Howling Contest! Cash Prize. Cover.*
Saturday, Oct. 31: *Come as your favorite wailing dead guy/gal entertainer. Costume Contest & Cash Prize! No Cover. Howling Drink Specials!*

Starting in November:

Along with Country Western, Cash Inn offers free Swing dance lessons! Watch for our 3rd Annual Turkey Shoot—the first three Thursdays in November.





GLAAD Alert

Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

SPECIAL EDITION: THE DEATH OF MATTHEW SHEPARD

ABCNews.com: online news the way it should be

ABCNews.com's coverage of Matthew Shepard's death was a tremendous illustration of the strengths of online journalism.

The web page, which features a map depicting states with and without hate crimes legislation, also includes links to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender organizations; a scrolling list of comprehensive statistics on anti-gay violence; a video clip of reactions in Wyoming to the murder; and a sidebar discussing whether the anti-gay ads launched last week contribute to a climate of intolerance.

Unfortunately, in its first version, the piece was gravely flawed by an inexcusable poll on their home page, which asked "If a gay person made a pass at you, would you feel flattered, humiliated or angry?"

When GLAAD contacted ABCNews.com to point out how reprehensible the question was, they quickly replaced it with the more appropriate "Do you think hate crimes laws should be passed?"

Contact: ABCNews.com via the WWW:

http://www.abcnews.com/service/abc_contactus.html

TIME: "He was just himself"

In the October 19 issue of *Time*, Assistant Managing Editor Howard Chua-Eoan writes sensitively about the Wyoming murder in a surprisingly personal voice, drawing the reader into a quietly resonant piece examining Shepard's short life in Wyoming and his last hours alive.

The piece, entitled "That's not a scarecrow," [referring to the fact that Shepard was initially thought to be a scarecrow by a passerby, who discovered him tied to a fence] opens: "Matthew Shepard was not openly gay. He was just himself. If people asked and he felt comfortable in their presence, he'd say, 'I'm gay.'"

The frank and terrible description of what was done, now so familiar to most, still chills the reader as Chua-Eoan paints the picture of the field on which stood the fence to which Shepard was tied. From this image, he goes on to discuss the "dissonant debate over sexual orientation" which is taking place in the United States.

He points out the anti-gay ads launched in national newspapers this summer and just released in broadcast form last week, and how they give "a license to hate", in the words of GLAAD's Communications Director Jennifer Einhorn.

It ends hauntingly: "He wanted to find love. But as he lay near death, Matthew Shepard, through no fault of his own, had found martyrdom."

Contact: Walter Isaacson, Managing Editor, *Time* Magazine, Time-Life Building, 1271 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020, fax: 212/522-8949, e-mail: Letters@time.com (include phone and address with all correspondence)

Casper Star-Tribune: local newspaper rises to tragic occasion

The *Casper Star-Tribune* is to be commended for doing what journalism, in times of trial and need, does best: informing a community about events and adding perspective, telling both personal and official stories, bringing people together with words and pictures.

The regional paper, which may have had found little reason in the past to cover lesbian and gay issues or bias crimes, ran extensive coverage of Shepard's futile fight for life, death and the ways in which his loss has changed and transformed the region where he lived.

In addition to its extensive hard news coverage, the paper published a supportive editorial, and—in a gesture of support for the community at large—printed the symbol being used to remember Matthew: a yellow background with three green rings symbolizing peace, to be displayed in readers' windows as a sign of solidarity with (in the editor's words) "the gay community that mourns and is terrified at his passing. Display it in honor of his family's loss."

Contact: Mr. David Hipschman, Editor, *Casper Star-Tribune*, 170 Star Lane, Casper, WY 82604, fax: 307.266.0568, e-mail: letters@trib.com

Denver Post: in the midst of the storm

Reporters J. Sebastian Sinisi and Coleman Cornelius of the *Denver Post* wrote some of the best "hard news" coverage of the attack on Matthew Shepard attack, his subsequent death, and the role the tragedy has played in galvanizing the lesbian, gay bisexual and transgender community in the area.

They have covered both the Shepard murder and an incident which occurred at Colorado State University during its homecoming parade, at which a scarecrow with a sign that read "I'm gay" was placed on a float during the homecoming parade, just days after Shepard was found.

In seeking out students, residents, officials and even those who oppose equality for the community, the *Denver Post* served its readership well in informing them and framing issues with which they will most certainly struggle.

Contact: Ms. Jeanette Chavez, Managing Editor, *Denver Post*, 1560 Broadway, Denver, CO 80202-5177, fax: 303.820.1369, e-mail: letters@denverpost.com

Boston Globe: live from the Fireside Lounge

On October 12, *Globe* reporter Bob Hohler filed a report from Laramie, Wyoming, having spent a night at the bar where Matthew Shepard had been when he was lured to his death.

APOLLO'S

Daily Specials

Sunday
Happy Hour 10am-8pm
"Booze & Cruise"
8pm-12am
Reduced prices on well drinks, domestic beer & shot specials

Monday
Happy Hour 8am-8pm
Beer Bust 8pm-12 am
Domestic Beer $1.75
Draft $1.25
Free Pool 6pm-close

Tuesday
Happy Hour 8am-8pm
"Vulgar Vodka" Night
Well Vodka $2.00

Wednesday
Happy Hour 8am-8pm
"Booze & Cruise"
8pm-12am
Reduced prices on well drinks, domestic beer & shot specials

Thursday
Happy Hour 8am-8pm,
Beer Bust 8pm - 12am

Friday
Extended Happy Hour
8am - 9pm

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Upcoming Events

November 13th
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Hohler writes: "'The fag bashing starts later,' a young man said, sneering as he clutched a beer bottle in one hand, a pool cue in another. No sooner did the words leave the man's mouth … than three of his friends charged him, shoved him backward and berated him for his incendiary rhetoric."

In writing the thorough piece, Hohler also spoke to a University of Wyoming professor, the director of the Wyoming chapter of the ACLU, and an activist friend of Shepard's, as well as bar patrons, painting a picture of a town struggling with itself and the world around it.

Contact: Mr. Gregory L. Moore, Managing Editor, and Mr. Bob Hohler, *Boston Globe*, 135 Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester, MA 02125-3338, fax: 617.929.2098, e-mail: letters@globe.com

Lincoln Journal Star: it can happen here

Cindy Lange-Kubick, writing for the *Lincoln Journal Star*, covered the reaction of Nebraskans to Matthew Shepard's death.

In capturing the essence of the reaction, Lange-Kubick spoke to lesbians and gay men, including some from the University of Nebraska, which was celebrating Coming Out Week on campus.

She then tells of the 1993 murder of Harold Grover, who was killed by two men who had left a local gay bar with him; the 1989 murder of J. Eric Jones, who was shot outside a party after anti-gay epithets were made to him, as well as the murder of Brandon Teena, a young Lincoln man who was murdered in an act of transgender bias.

Lange-Kubick includes the comments of the co-sponsor of the Lincoln High Gay/Straight/Bisexual Alliance, who tells of the violence her students speak to her about and often don't report, and of the president of a local chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG).

Contact: Ms. Kathleen Rutledge, Managing Editor, and Ms. Cindy Lange-Kubrick, *Lincoln Journal Star*, 926 P St., Lincoln, NE 68508-3615, fax: 402.473.7291

USA Today: cover story

USA Today's hard news coverage of Shepard's death was commendable.

An excellent October 13 cover story by reporter Charisse Jones likened Shepard's murder to the Jasper, Texas incident, and featured extensive discussion on hate crimes including important statistics and quotes from lesbian, gay and progressive community activists including GLAAD Director of Community Relations Cathy Renna.

Contact: Mr. David Mazzarella, Editor, Ms. Charisse Jones, *USA Today*, 1000 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA. 22209-3901, fax: 703.247.3108, e-mail: editor@usatoday.com (include name, address and phone)



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Sat. Nov. 14th..BUDdy Night
Fri. Nov. 20th..Black Out Party
Sat. Nov. 21st..Nov. Underwear/Birthday Party
Wed. Nov. 25th..Thanksgiving Party- DJ and Afterhours
Fri. Nov. 27th..New Moon Madness
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Uniform Party

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Excitement outweighs the risk for rodeo couples

Continued from page 1

to "taking care of each other" applies pretty directly when you're talking to rodeo couples.

When Ginger first competed in the rough stock events (which include steer riding, bronc riding and bull riding), she approached danger with a carefree attitude. "I had just been diagnosed with cancer and figured I was gonna die anyway. I had a sense of urgency to do every stupid thing I'd ever wanted to do. Steer riding was something I'd always wanted to try, so I did."

Ginger, 29, grew up in Flagstaff and attended rodeos as a kid. She's recovered from the cancer and no longer craves the danger level that riding rough stock provided a couple of years ago. She qualified for finals in 1998 in a much safer event, one she's become quite good at: calf roping on foot.

Claire, on the other hand, lives and breathes for the rough stock events. She grew up in Ohio farming country and now earns her living in Phoenix as a mounted park ranger. It was a lesbian friend—a former college roommate who'd been rodeoing her entire life—that turned Claire onto the IGRA scene six years ago.

"Yeah, I do get nervous. But rough stock riding is something she loves to do. . . How could I tell her not to?"

She's been seriously injured more than once in the seasons since, and qualified for the 1998 finals in steer and bronc riding.

"I'm kind of an adrenaline junky," she says. "Riding rough stock is my thing. It's what I love to do."

Claire, at 37, should be the older and wiser of the two. One has to wonder how Ginger feels about her life partner's dangerous addiction.

"I get nervous," Ginger says. "I knew that Claire had been seriously hurt before we were together. Then after we got together, we went to one rodeo where she got stepped on and—even with a helmet on—she got a minor concussion and totally forgot who I was for about five hours."

Claire finds humor in the accident now. She remembers looking at her lover that day and saying, "Who are you, and why are you trying to hold my hand?"

"So yeah, I do get nervous," Ginger continues. "But [rough stock riding] is something she loves to do. When I met her and decided to pursue her—well, I knew going into it she loved doing it. So how could I tell her not to? It was one of things I fell in love with."

By the same token, and with Ginger's health problems in mind, Claire recalls being nervous watching her new girlfriend ride steers back when the relationship began. "I'd seen her get beaten up. But I also knew it was her choice and there's no way I was going to try and stop her from doing that. I didn't like it a whole lot—but it was still okay."

Today Claire is relieved that Ginger has discovered calf roping and is doing well with the event. "I thought, good, I'm glad she found something that's less taxing on her body and that she's successful at, so we can still continue to compete in the rodeos together."

Ginger says the point came when she had to face facts. She wasn't doing well in the rough stock events and she recognized that her body could not physically take what she was doing to it. Without a horse and unable to ride steers, she considered getting out of rodeo altogether.

But she would have missed the camaraderie that comes with the lifestyle, so she stayed active. Today, she holds the title of "Ms. AGRA", raising money and promoting gay rodeo as kind of a lesbian ambassador for the organization.





Above: Claire Miller holds tight in the bronc riding event; right: the rodeo takes its toll.

Ginger credits Claire's encouragement with helping her continue, pursuing the title and switching to the roping events. "She still supported me and that's one of the best things that you can have, ever."

Neither Shawn nor Ken compete in rough stock events, preferring to concentrate instead on roping and the horse events. They often participate in straight rodeos in New Mexico, and Shawn says they don't run into many heterosexual couples in which both partners compete in rodeo events.

Teaming up in life as well as in the arena is a good idea if you don't take your frustrations home, he says. "We even have a motto that if one of us has to get beat by the other one, at least the checks are coming into the same household."

For Chuck and Ricardo, their combined interest in rodeo competition and their move to the ranch proved key to keeping the household together.

"It would not be easy to split up. We have common interests and common responsibilities, and that helps us stick together. We have to rely on each other," Chuck says.

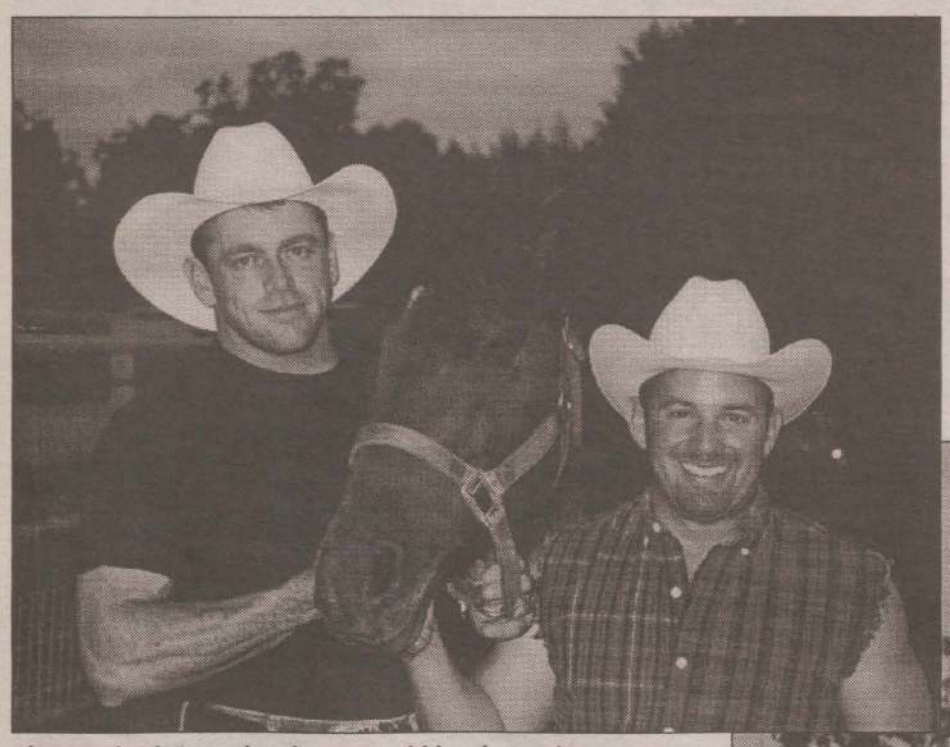
After they started dating, Ricardo's introduction to the sport that was already a big part of Chuck's life came gradually. "I went first as a spectator. Then I entered one event, and I won using Chuck's horse. Then later we bought Meg, the horse that I use."

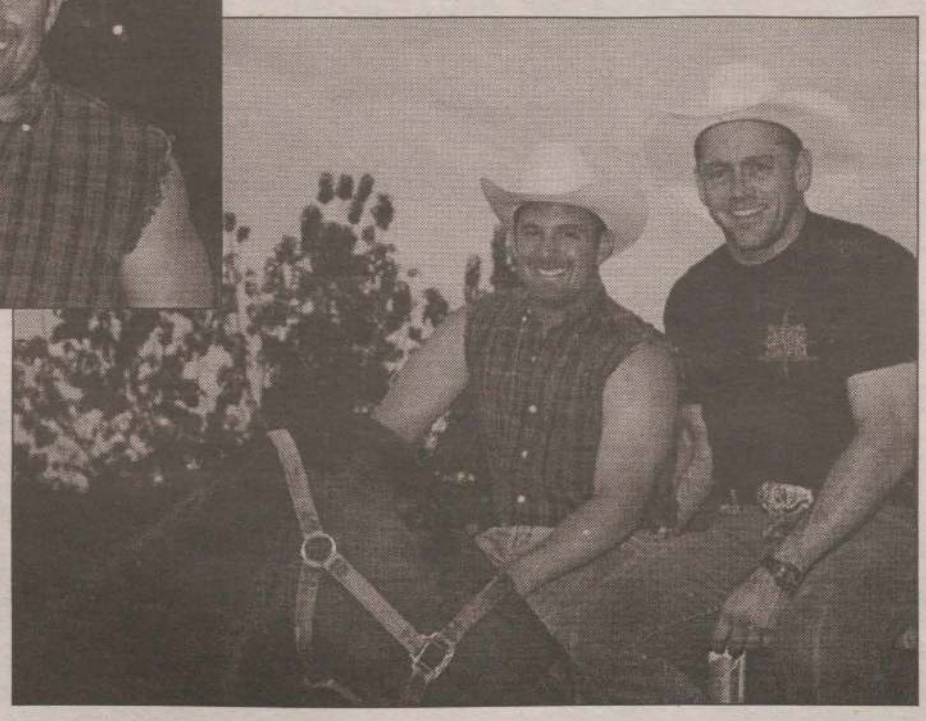
He was initially drawn to the riding aspect and the interaction with horses, then realized the rodeos—and the speed—were a lot of fun.

"When I ran my first horse event, I was so excited and so thrilled." Ricardo says Chuck used the opportunity to explain how he feels about bull riding. "He said, 'you know the rush you're feeling right now? Multiply that times ten and that's how I feel when I complete a bull ride.'"

The prize money to be had in gay rodeo may not match the big purses offered on the PRCA circuit, and most of the IGRA contestants are pursuing a hobby rather than a way of life.

But same sex couples have an advantage over their nongay counterparts in the rodeo world when it comes to sharing the adrenaline-raising experience with a spouse.





Above: Chuck Browning (l) was an old hand at various events when he met his partner Ricardo Pacheco, a rodeo novice; now they both compete on the IGRA circuit.

Curious as to what your rodeoing "husband" or "wife" is going through inside the chute or out in the arena? In this gay and lesbian association, you're welcome—encouraged, even—to experience it for yourself.

It's up to you, of course, to decide the level of that experience.

Take Chuck and Ricardo:

In only four years, Chuck's love of the sport has cost him several head injuries, dozens of stitches, a fractured left arm, two broken bones in his right arm and a fractured ankle.

After the finals, Ricardo plans to add events to his repertoire but has no interest in rough stock riding.

"Definitely not," he says, "that's not for me. Anyway, somebody has to stay well to take care of Chuck."

Spousal support notwithstanding, it's clear that—whether straight or gay—some attitudes toward the thrill and the danger remain the same.

The International Gay Rodeo Association's 1998 Finals Rodeo will be held Oct. 24 & 25 at the Corona Ranch and Rodeo Grounds, 29th Avenue & Baseline Road in Phoenix. Tickets are $12 per day. For information, call AGRA at (602)265-0618.

Fetish & fantasy: not for men only

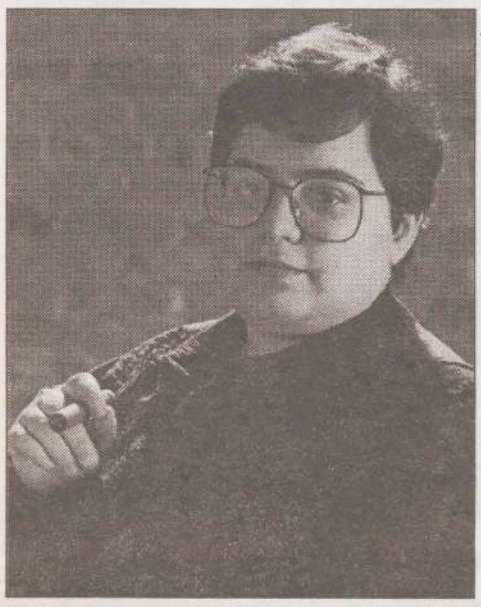
By Allen Kalchik, Editor

"I never use the term, 'erotica'," says author and leatherwoman Laura Antoniou. "I'm a lesbian porn writer."

Antoniou rejects the erotica label because it's inherently pejorative. "What is erotica to one person is someone else's porn, and vice versa. People can say, 'Well, what *I* like is erotica. But what *you* like is pure porn.'"

The accomplished SM writer is speaking to *HeatStroke* by phone from Queens, New York. She was born and raised in the borough and still lives there with her partner and publicist Karen Taylor. "I'd never want to live anywhere else," she says with a laugh. "I'm one of those New York snobs."

Antoniou will head to the Southwest Nov. 1 to read some of her newest SM stories at Obelisk, Phoenix's gay and lesbian bookstore. She'll also be the special guest at an



Myko

Lesbian porn writer Laura Antoniou will be in Phoenix Nov. 1 and 2.

Arizona Power Exchange (APEX) meeting Nov. 2. APEX is a Phoenix-based leather/SM educational and social group.

Known primarily for her Marketplace Books (*The Marketplace, The Slave, The Trainer*), Antoniou has also edited the popular *Leatherwomen* anthologies as well as the dominant/submissive collections *By Her Subdued* and *No Other Tribute*.

Her nonfiction anthologies include *Some Women* and *Looking for Mr. Preston*. On the fiction front, a new collection of short stories called, *The Academy: Tales From the Marketplace*, is scheduled for publication in 1999.

As a woman in the sado/masochism world and someone whose fiction is well known in the erotically alternative community, Antoniou's perspective on lesbian sexuality differs from that of many of her Sapphic sisters.

The current national sex-positive debate that's raging over sex in society and sexual responsibility within the gay community centers on male/male sex. Yet it's her view that lesbians are no less interested in sexual visibility issues. She says that for lesbians it's the focus that is different.

"A lot of the debate in the gay male community, especially right now, is about drug use, unsafe sex and public sex." Antoniou says that traditionally in the lesbian community, discussion has been more about *how* women have sex. "The real difference is that, for lesbians, whatever we're doing we are doing in private."

She adds, "Lesbians do hire professionals. They do go to clubs, they do go to sex parties. But not in the same percentages that men do."

Antoniou says accepting female devotees of SM exploration within the lesbian community is continually improving.

"It's definitely not the way it was is 1980, when the Lesbian Sex Mafia in New York almost closed down the Barnard Feminist Conference because they were going to do a presentation on sado-masochism. Now there are even lesbian SM conferences and there are more groups than I can even keep track of."

Why the change?

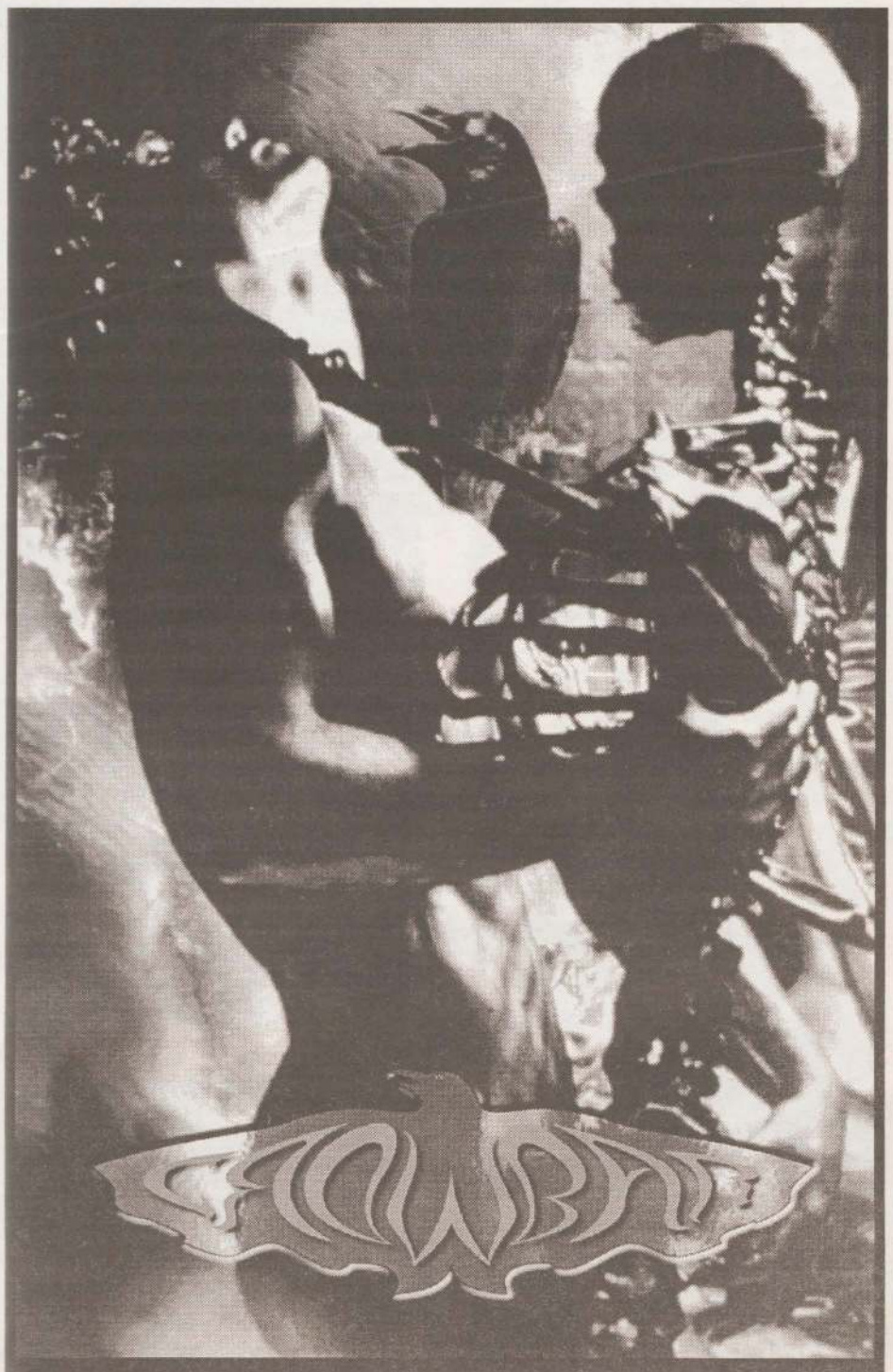
"This new, younger generation of Queer Girls—with their mulitple piercings, body modifications and everything else—are not shy at all about their sexuality."

Antoniou agrees that many young people in general are freer today about exploring sex and sexuality, be it gay, straight, bi or anywhere along the spectrum. "It's kind of a new twist on an old hedonism."

At both Phoenix appearances, the author will sign her published books and read from the upcoming *The Academy*, followed by question and answer sessions.

"I prefer to read from works in progress," she explains. "Generally speaking, once the work is published I've grown tired of it, and what I'm most excited about is the next thing I'm working on."

Laura Antoniou will appear at Obelisk Books on Sunday, Nov. 1 from 6-8 pm. Obelisk is located at 24 west Camelback Road—call 266-BOOK. For information about the APEX meeting featuring Antoniou, call 415-1123.



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

HALLOWEEN 1998

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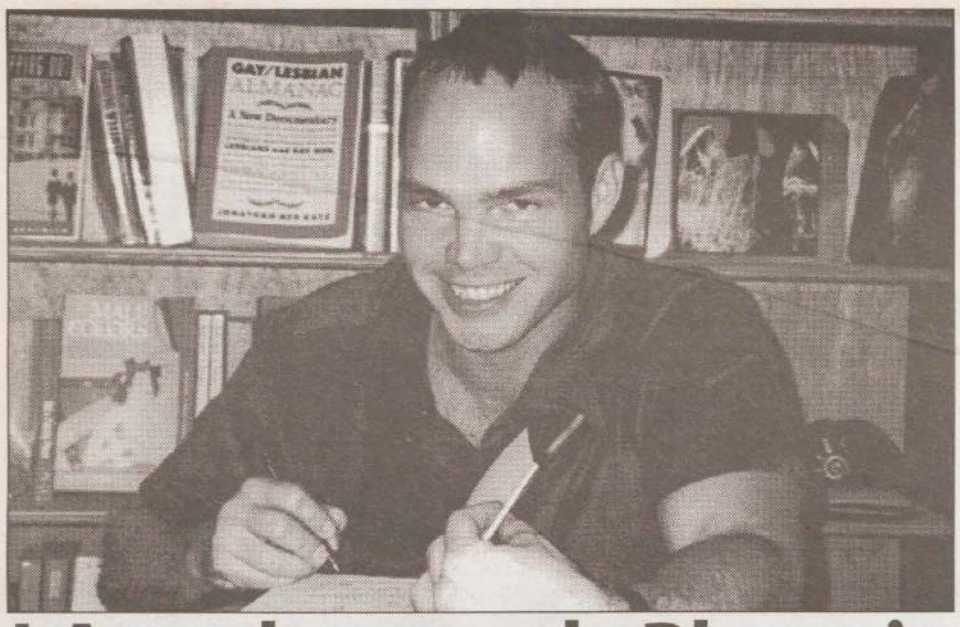
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LA author reads Phoenix

Writer Dennis Hensley dropped in on the Valley the weekend of Oct. 9-10 to read from his dishy debut novel, *Misadventures in the (213)* at Obelisk bookstore and at Borders in Phoenix.

The Arizona native and ASU alum's byline regularly appears in *Movieline* and *Detour*. He's lived in LA for ten years and frequently covers queer happenings in the entertainment world for gay publications like *Out* and *Instinct*.

Hensley reports that *Misadventures* has just been optioned for televison and he's currently working on a pilot script for NBC.



New club's goal to urbanize Scottsdale

Upbeat parties and fashion shows that are right on the edge. An everything-goes atmosphere, original artwork and great Lebanese/Italian inspired food.

That's what you'll find at Industria Supper Club, a hot new Scottsdale nightspot.

"We're going for that total New York experience," says co-owner and manager Tom Peters, an East Coast native. The club caters to an eclectic crowd and welcomes gays & lesbians, drag, and every alternative.

The club is open noon to 1 am Monday through Saturday and serves lunch and dinner (Tom's mom oversees the kitchen).

Industria is at 7170 East McDowell.

New men's cruise bar opening this month

One of the first things noticed by many "out" gay men who are newly located in the Valley is the lack of a full-time leather bar in Phoenix.

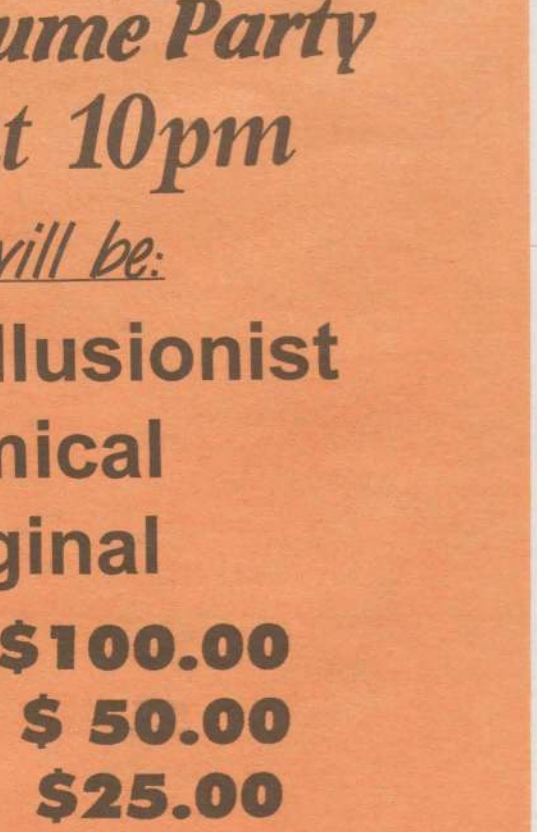
There are nearly thirty gay & lesbian bars in town, but not since the Bum Steer on 7th Avenue closed has the men's leather community had a club to call its own.

That's all set to change on Oct. 28 with the opening of Boot Camp at 3702 North 7th Street. The club will be installed in the historically appealing building on the northwest corner of Weldon and 7th (south of Indian School) that formerly housed the Esquire lounge.

"It's going to be totally redone, geared for comfortable, laid back cruising as well as the men's levi/leather crowd," reports manager Steve Calenzo. Calenzo has been managing the leather nights currently held Thursdays and Sundays under the name "Black is Back" at the Incognito lounge on East Thomas.

Calenzo will handle all club operations at Boot Camp and he's been working with the owner on the Esquire remodel. "There's plenty of parking, it's a great old building, and the location—near Pookie's, Roscoe's and not that far from Charlie's, Harley's, Apollo's and Wink's—is going to be a big draw," Calenzo says.

Boot Camp is not just for guys dressed in leather or military garb, Calenzo stresses, but for every man interested in a comfortable gay man's atmosphere. "We'll have pool tables, darts and video. It'll be pretty casual and the staff is really hot and friendly." He says Boot Camp will also continue to host the clipper parties, entertainers and demos popularized by Black is Back.





Harley's Club 155
Halloween Costume Party
November 1st at 10pm

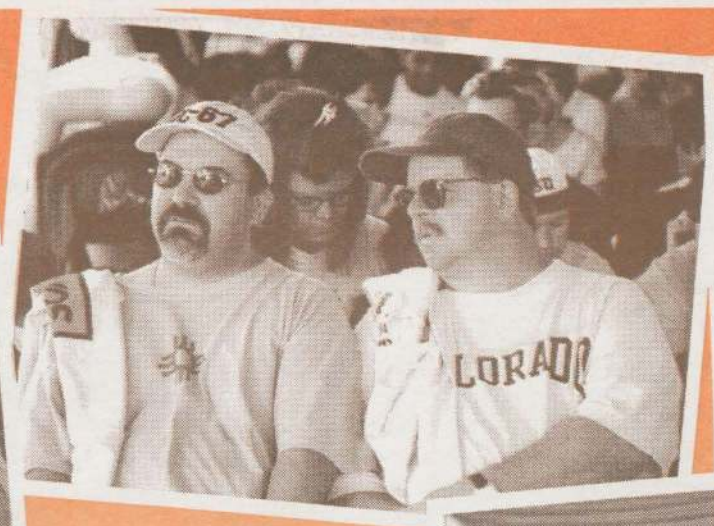
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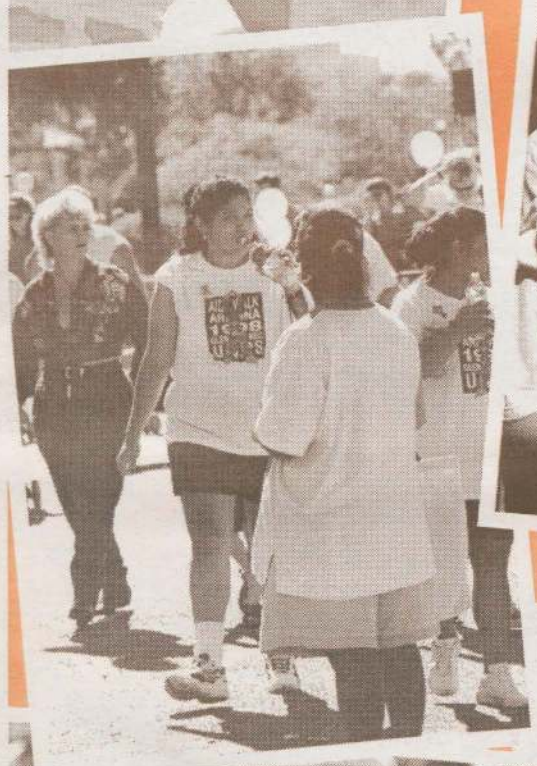






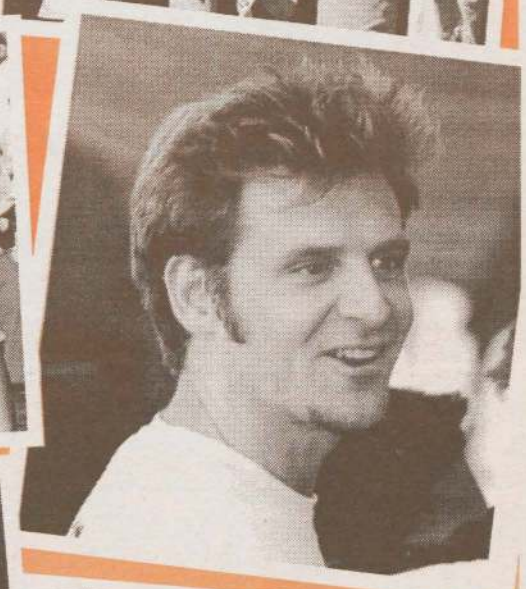




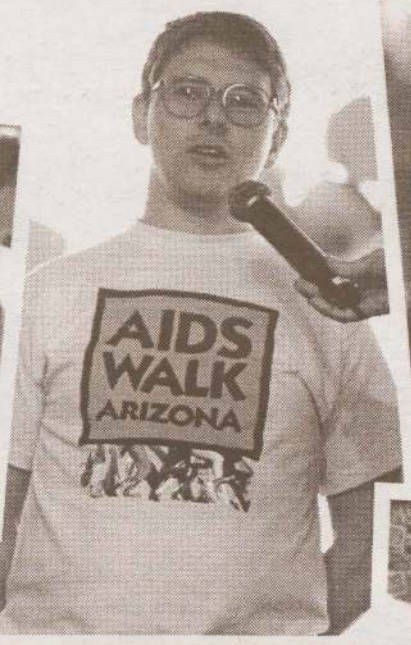




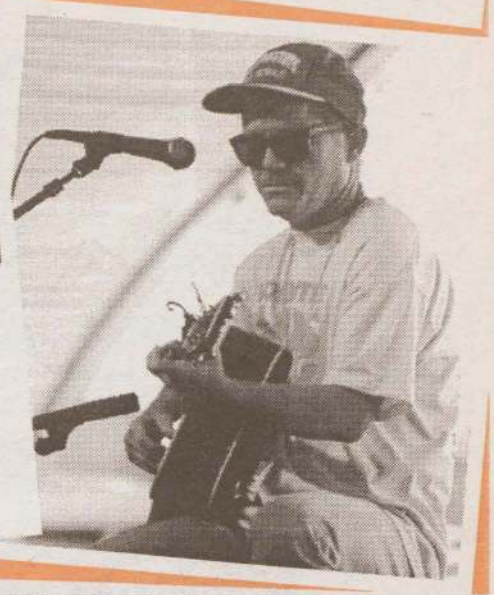








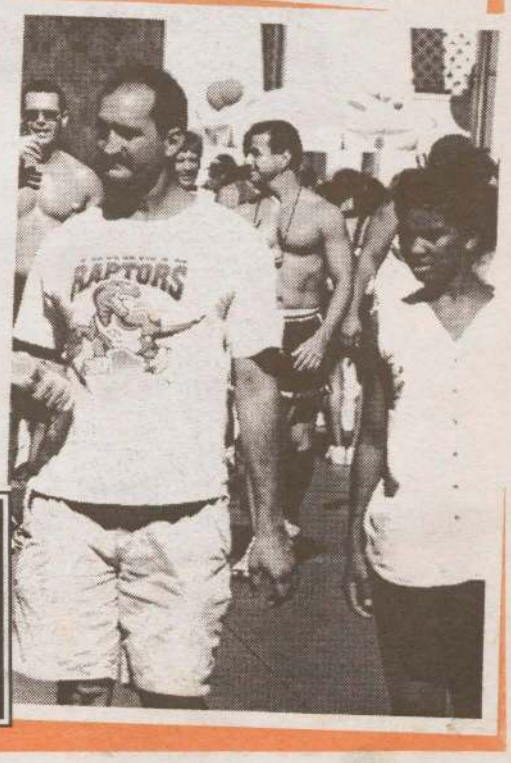


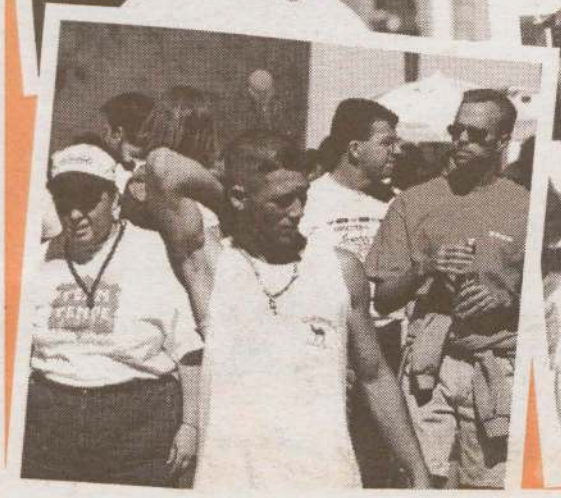












AIDS Walk Arizona

Photos by Mario Rodriguez

Reality dances back into the Valley

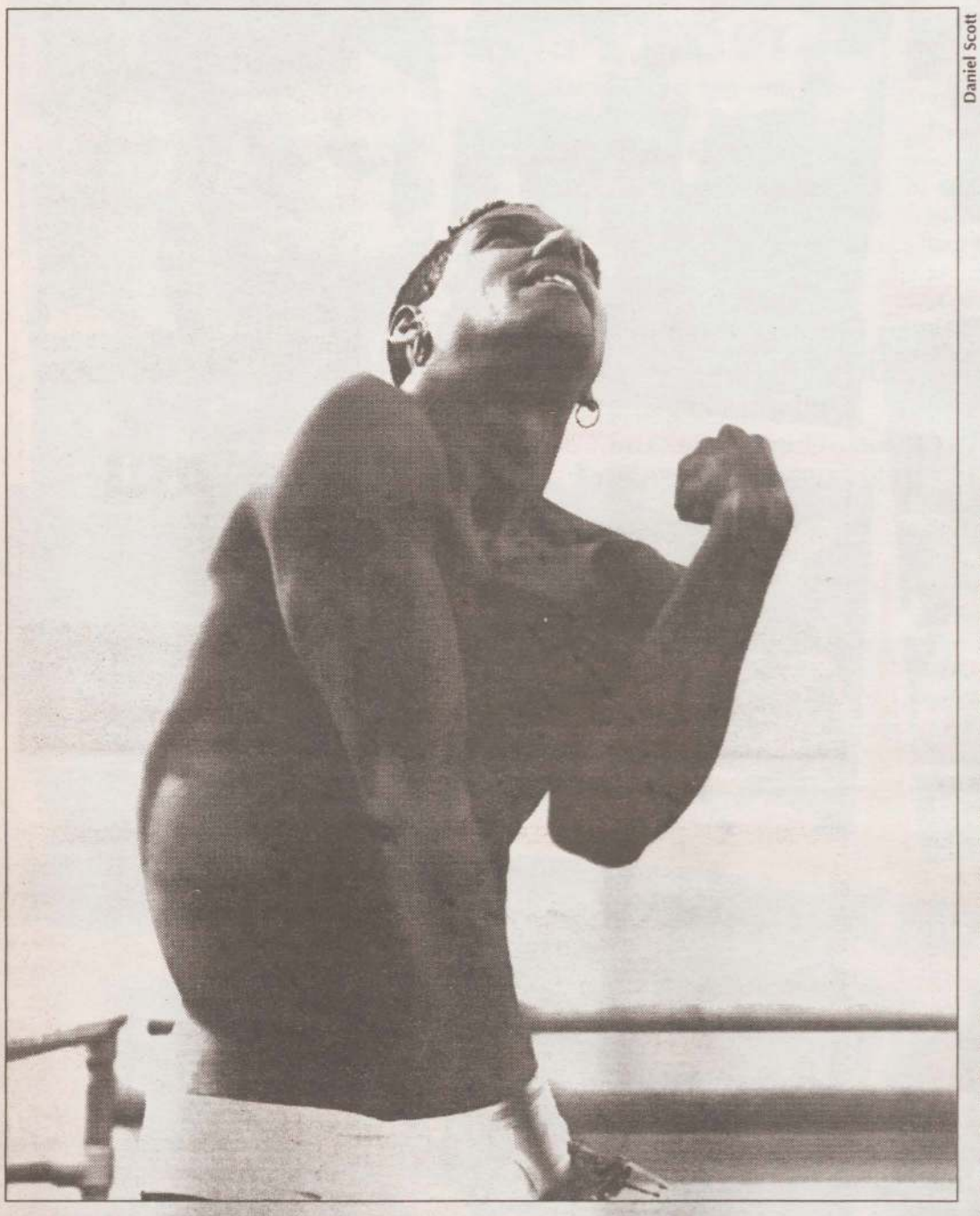
By Allen Kalchik, Editor

The last time David Rousseve choreographed a major dance work for his touring company, he turned for inspiration to his roots as a gay African American raised in the Louisiana bayou.

That was in 1994, in an acclaimed production called *Urban Scenes/Creole Dreams* that came to the Valley's Gammage Auditorium.

his company, Reality, have put together another original production called *Love Songs*. Co-commissioned by ASU Public Events, *Love Songs* will be presented at Gammage in Tempe Nov. 7.

The message of the new piece is remarkably in touch with social issues of the moment. And as before, it is not only this country's changing society but Rousseve's personal experiences that inform and inspire his work.



Daniel Scott

The piece juxtaposed modern dance movement, classical and modern music and folkoric texts. The stories were culled from the life experiences of Rousseve's grandmother combined with the tragedy of AIDS as it affected his own life.

For his current tour, Rousseve and

"It's a dialogue on love, and the loss of love and compassion in contemporary society," the energetic choreographer explained during a recent telephone interview from the road.

Rousseve and the other dancers in his seven-member troupe collaborated to create a piece using disparate elements. *Love Songs* combines arias from German and Italian operas with surreal visuals and texts that feature a powerful main story. "It's the 18th century story of two slaves named John and Sarah, and the restrictions that were placed on their ability to love each other."

The resulting piece is woven together from a lot of different worlds, he explains, "Worlds that are combined—not on a surface level—but on a subtextural level."

As is often the case with Reality's work, expressions of same-sex relationships are included. "All the men in the company are queer," Rousseve says. "The dancers are really instrumental in the development. We use a lot of text and images from our own lives. So of course, there were a lot of same-sex love stories."

Sometimes the gay love stories included are quite literal and even humorous. One example is a contemporary theme portraying two gay men comparing their muscles. "They're kind of commenting on all of our infatuations with having that gym-boy body," he says with a laugh.

In other passages, the gay themes are less literal and more subtle. "One thing that's interesting is that John and Sarah, the main slaves in the narrative, are a black man and a black woman. But we all play them."

John's character is represented by a shirt. Sarah is represented by a particular scarf. So as the props change hands among the dancers—from black to white and male to female—an important underlying message comes through.

"One of things I wanted to do was to comment on homophobia, on who can love whom, on the restrictions placed on gay love and on our desire to love each other." The work subtly compares slavery in the 18th century to oppression in today's society.

Rousseve's lover is a former dancer named Conner McTeague, whom he met in New York, Reality's home base. Together eight years, they now live in Los Angeles, where Rousseve is on the faculty at UCLA when he isn't touring with Reality.

After to moving to LA in 1996, Rousseve says, a legal aspect of his life as a gay man made an impression that partially inspired *Love Songs*. When filling out the forms for benefits offered by the university, he realized that McTeague would not and could not be covered. Had his spouse been female, she would automatically have been eligible for benefits.

"I started to see the complications legally. I had never thought about whether we could be married or whether I even wanted to be married. But after the move to Los Angles, the fact that we couldn't be legally bonded sort of became a huge issue to me, which started to feed the piece."

Rousseve began to compare his relationship with McTeague to the opposite-sex relationships and marriages of heterosexual colleagues at UCLA. "That was the original impulse that led to the idea of creating a piece about love and restrictions on love."

Even for those unfamiliar with modern dance, Rousseve's show promises an entertaining and inspirational evening. For those who love dance and know Rousseve's work, *Love Songs* will be particularly appealing.

"This is our most adventurous piece compositionally," its creator explains. "The blend of music by Wagner—racist, sexist pig that he was—meeting the slaves of Africa, that blend of cultures makes it theatrically really unique and unlike anything we've ever done or seen before."

HeatStroke

David Rousseve and Reality will perform *Love Songs* at Gammage on Saturday, Nov. 7 at 8 pm. Tickets range from $9 to $29 and are available by calling 965-3434.

Up to 20 extras will be cast locally for the presentation. Performers and non-performers 18 and older are invited to audition—a $200 stipend will be paid to those cast. Extras must be available for an extensive rehearsal schedule. Auditions will be held Monday, Oct. 26 at the Nelson Fine Arts Center at ASU in Tempe. Call 965-5062 for information.

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Leading the Valley

Rollins to flex his oral muscle in Phoenix Nov. 5

Look up "Attitude" in the dictionary and you're liable to find Henry Rollins' scowling face. "I refuse not be fascinated. I refuse not to be obsessed," writes the musician/performance artist and author by way of explaining and promoting his current Spoken Word tour.

And check out this bit from Rollins' press brief: "A wife and children is not going to cut it for me. I'd rather have confrontation, exhaustion, failure and glory. Am I self righteous? Why not? It's not like I can count on you to be righteous for me."

Now 37, Rollins was the force behind the alternative band Black Flag in the '80s, later forming the aptly named Rollins Band. He's spoken out against homophobia and acknowledged his own gay appeal while shunning orientation labels.

The poetic, post-punk hunk is touring solo this year, "telling stories and railing off the top of my head," as he puts it. "To me it's like being in a jazz band without the band. It's like a long version of *A Night in Tunisia*."

He'll be in Phoenix for one righteous performance Nov. 5 at the Celebrity Theatre, 440 North 32nd Street. Show time is 8 pm and tickets are $16 in advance, $17 day of show. Call Dillard's outlets, or the Celebrity at (602)267-9373.



IMCO on Laugh Track with Orloff Comedy

In Mixed Company, a Phoenix theater troupe known for doing a fabulous job with offbeat material, is aiming for another success by producing Rich Orloff's *Someone's Knocking* as the next offering in the company's fall season.



The IMCO run will mark this play's Southwest premiere. The story takes an absurdist look at an agoraphobic housewife, whose marriage and life change drastically when opportunity knocks.

The play features Cathy Dresbach, Terry Gadaire, Ginny Harman, Robbie Harper, John Hauber, & Mel Reid. IMCO Artistic Director Kevin Kerrigan will helm the production.

Someone's Knocking opens Nov. 5 and runs through Nov. 15 at PlayWrights Theatre, 1121 North 1st Street in downtown Phoenix. Tickets are $16.50 and available by calling (602)252-8497.

Intrepid civil servant returning to Valley

Writer/rancounter Quentin Crisp will turn 90 on Christmas Day. Before that, he'll be in Phoenix to present his world famous one-man show, *An Evening With Quentin Crisp* Nov. 7 & 8.

The renowned wit and British expatriate, whose work includes his daring autobiography, *The Naked Civil Servant*, performs this solo stage show with no director and no script. He simply speaks extemporaneously for the first half, then conducts a question and answer session with the audience for the second.

Mr. Crisp will perform two shows only: Saturday, Nov. 7 at 8 pm and then Sunday, Nov. 8 at 2 pm at the Phoenix Theatre's Little Theatre, 100 East McDowell Road in Phoenix. Tickets are $15 and available by calling (602)254-2151.

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Gammage Auditorium

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Half-price for students with I.D.

Free Brown Bag Open Rehearsal
Friday, November 6
Noon • Gammage Stage

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This show depicts explict themes and nudity that may not be appropriate for young audiences.

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ASU Main Campus • Mill Ave. and Apache Blvd. • Tempe

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Amsterdam Halloween '98
Saturday, October 31

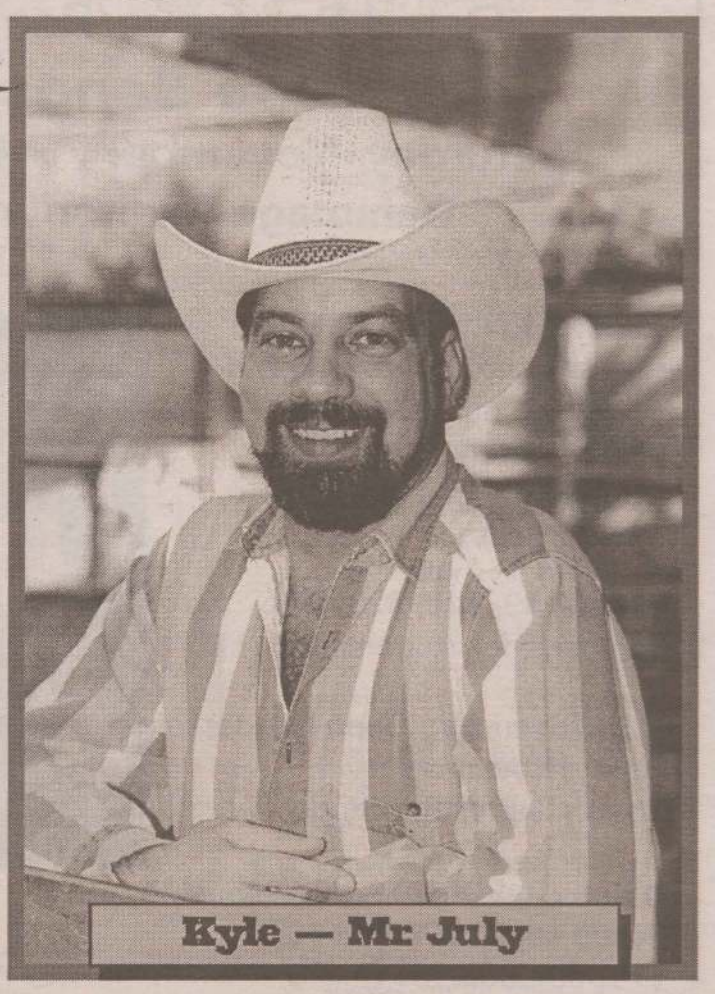
Live Performances
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Kyle — Mr July

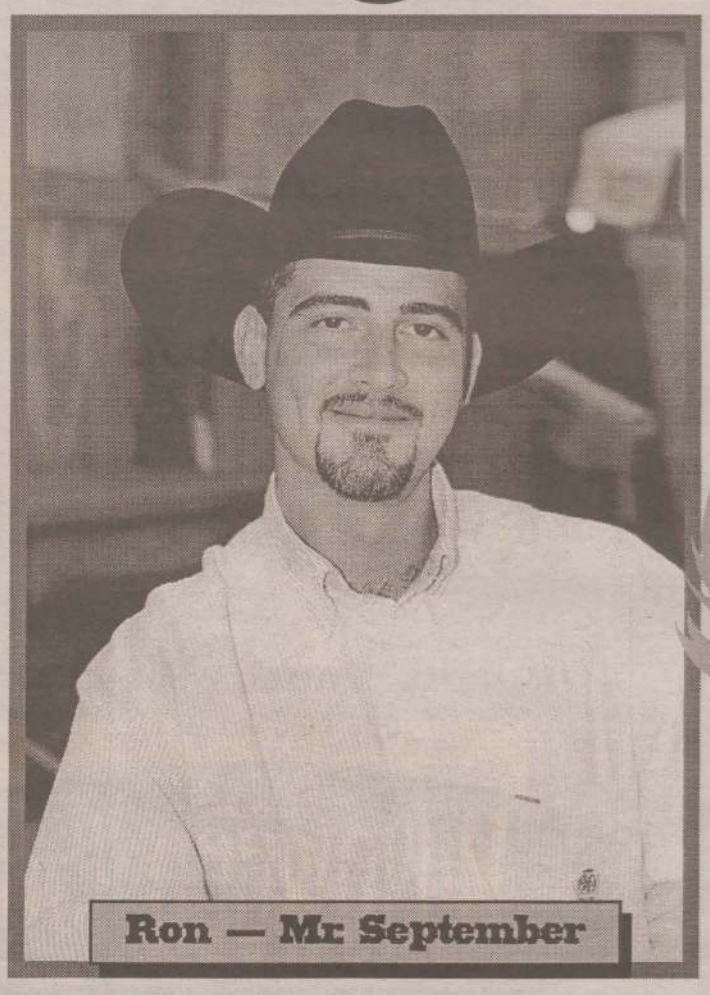


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Ron — Mr September

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my queer life overeducated consumer

By Michael Thomas Ford, **HeatStroke Contributor**

I can't buy anything anymore, and I blame all of this on little Mufara Burapti.

Mufara Burapti is seven years old and lives in Indonesia, presumably in one of the bleaker parts where there is no food, no schools, and basically nothing useful apart from a small patch of dirt and a bedraggled chicken. At least that's what I can determine from the bio of Mufara which was sent to me by the child sponsorship organization.

Last year, I decided it might be a good idea to sponsor a child. After all, I have it pretty good.

I'm not rich by any stretch of the imagination, but at least I don't have to wait for a Red Cross volunteer to hand me a plastic pail full of old rice. I don't work eighteen hours a day sewing clothes for discount stores, and only once has anyone shot at me for voicing my political beliefs.

Besides, what else can you do with twenty bucks a month that actually achieves something.

So Mufara came into my life. I did a lot of research before I sponsored her, making sure the sponsorship organization was legitimate, delving into the percentage of sponsorship dollars actually given to the communities being served, and, most important, satisfying myself that they had nothing whatsoever to do with a religious institution.

I want my money going to build a child's life, not teach her to recite Bible verses before someone hands her some food like a trained seal.

Once I started sponsoring Mufara, I was very pleased with myself for doing something socially responsible. But being one of those foolish people who can't leave well enough alone, I then decided to see what other areas of my consumer-based lifestyle might need attending to. So I began to look at the products I was using, and researching where they came from and who made them.



Within days, I discovered that I was doing just about everything wrong. The food products I dumped in my shopping cart came, I learned, from hideously evil megacorporations that not only loaded up their products with every harmful chemical known to science, but inevitably used cheap labor to make it all.

Even when their business practices were borderline acceptable, a little more digging revealed that they had given enormous sums of money to anti-abortion groups, anti-gay groups, or anti-environmental groups. At the very least, they had killed bunnies to test their products.

The end result in that now I can't eat anything. If it doesn't have some kind of suspicious cancer-causing agent or dye it, then it's probably packaged in something that can't be recycled, rendering it unfit for purchase.

And even if it says it's made by Mother's Kitchen Natural Foods, a little scratching beneath the surface will reveal that behind the smiling maternal face on the box is really Big Ass Fake Food Manufacturers, Inc.

They can't fool me.

As if all this isn't enough, the whole gay issue makes consumerism based on principles nearly impossible. First we couldn't drink Coors beer because the company had anti-gay leanings.

Then we all stopped going to Cracker Barrel restaurants because they were mean to us. And most recently, we've had to stop flying American Airlines because the company's president agreed, after pressure from religious groups, to stop advertising in gay periodicals and offering gay-themed vacation packages.

Even if it says it's made by Mother's Kitchen Natural Foods, a little scratching beneath the surface will reveal that behind the smiling maternal face on the box is really Big Ass Fake Food Manufacturers, Inc.

Disney is particularly problematic. As most gay folks know, the Religious Right has been boycotting Disney for some time because of their policy of extending domestic partner benefits to their gay and straight employees. For this reason, it seems fitting that we should reassure the company that, as queers, we appreciate their support.

Except there's the *Ellen* problem. See, Disney-owned ABC is the network that dumped Ellen and her show when it became clear that being too gay was causing a dip in ratings.

If they're willing to axe one of our own just because she's not going over well with advertisers, do they really deserve our dollars? All I know is that I skipped *Mulan*, but I'm not sure that anyone noticed.

You can see the potential problems all of this ethical consumerism stuff presents. Once you start, it just snowballs.

I have enough guilt about driving a Volkswagen (the company once made war machines utilized by Nazis), but at least that was given to me, so I don't feel like the manufacturer actually got any money from me.

Still, I have to fill it with fossil fuels, and that makes the part of me concerned about the oil monopoly and the exploitation of natural resources a little edgy. Every time I fill up the tank, I imagine another penguin giving up its little soul so that I can drive to the grocery instead of taking the bus.



So I recycle. I compost. I don't buy something unless I really need it. I eat organic cookies and drink juice made only from fruit grown by cooperatives. I boycott companies that are destroying the rainforests and contributing to human rights abuses, and I write letters of protest so that everyone knows just what I think about everything.

On the days when I'm sure that I can't live without eating an Oreo (too much dye and packaged in non-biodegradable plastic), I work my frustrations out by walking fifteen miles to the co-op and loading up on chocolate Rice Dream and tofu pups, which I eat while watching *Seven Years in Tibet* and thanking the Goddess that at least one penguin can swim free because I didn't cave in to the evil advertising tactics of Nabisco.

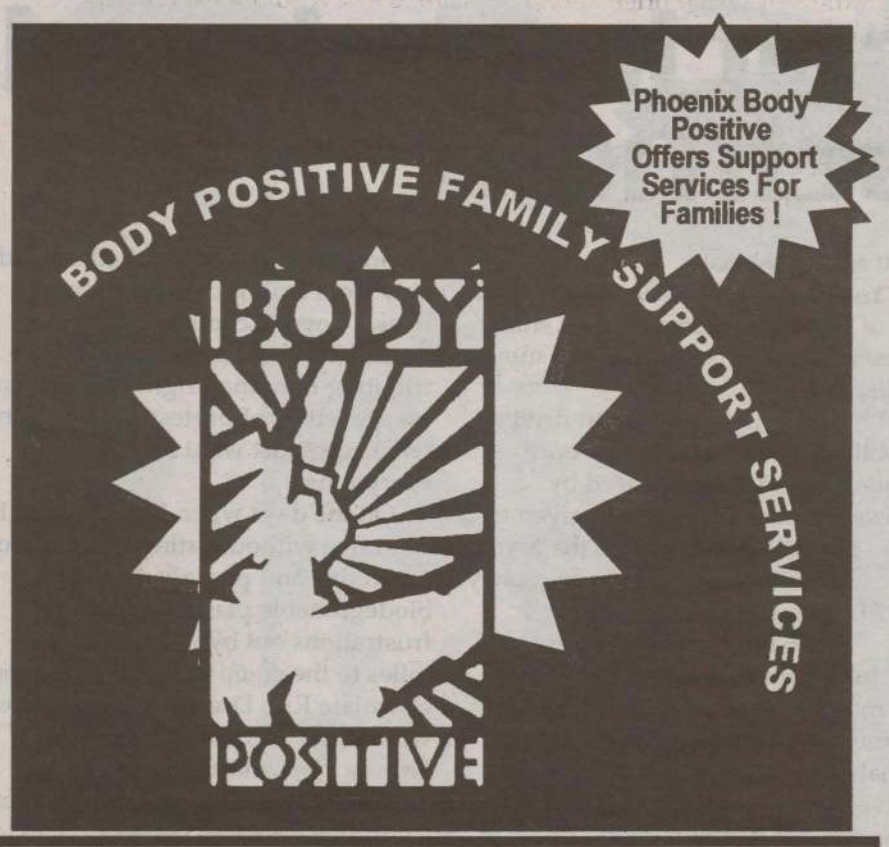
The scary thing is that, more and more, my life is starting to look a lot like little Mufara Burapti's.

My friends say I have a haunted look about the eyes. I haven't moved into a hut yet, but I'm living with less and less stuff around me. Yesterday I swear a chicken ran across the front lawn.

I think I'll draw the line at the little plastic bucket, but who can say? I'll have to see if it's recyclable first.

Michael Thomas Ford is the author of *Alec Baldwin Doesn't Love Me and Other Tales From My Queer Life*. He lives in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts.





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Notable Quotes

Newsmakers, Celebrities & Others Speak Out

Compiled by Rex Wockner



"The gay movement was pretty square in the '60s, until drugs. Drugs made gay men much hipper. I used to go to the riots because all the boys with the bombs were so cute. I was against the war in Vietnam, but I was more interested in the parties. I remember the first gay liberation speech I ever heard. It was at Yale. We'd crossed state lines, to riot basically. None of us had jobs, the whole thing. It was to free Huey Newton. There were big riots, fires, tear gas — a wonderful weekend. This guy got up and gave a gay liberation speech and everyone, Abbie Hoffman, was horrified. They weren't against it, but the Black Panthers were taken by surprise. It was a new thing, off the coattails of women's liberation, which was also a new thing to them. These women were getting sick of cooking for all those radicals while they were out throwing bombs."

—Gay filmmaker John Waters to *Salon* magazine, Sept. 24.

"I'm happier in my life at 52 years old. At 25, when I made Pink Flamingos, I was more insane, angrier maybe, but still happy. It's 1990 now, not the '60s, when there was a cultural war going on. Now I'm rooting for the president to get blow jobs! It's very different. [My new film] *Pecker* has some of the edge of my earlier movies but a sweeter spirit. The sense of humor is the same. *Pecker* is a feel-good movie for lunatics."

—Gay filmmaker John Waters to *Salon* magazine, Sept. 24.

"I was in my house down in Orange County. I was all by myself and I was nervous because I don't like to be alone. It's kind of scary. Somebody knocked on my door and it was a fan. He started shrieking, 'Bathhouse Betty! Bathhouse Betty!' and I thought, 'Oh my God! How mortifying.' It was pretty scary, but I said, 'I'm going to call the cops!' and he ran away. But he left me with Bathhouse Betty, and how could I forget that? He was giving me an homage to my days playing the [gay] bathhouses."

—Bette Midler on how she chose the name for her new album, to *Billboard*, Sept. 24.

"She's fine [work-wise]. She will not have to go sell clothes at the Gap."

—Betty DeGeneres on her daughter Ellen to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, Sept. 28.

"I went ballistic. ... Down, dirty, holding my breath till I turned blue, screaming and yelling, firing everybody—relatives, people who worked for me—I just went around the house screaming and yelling. There's a difference between always feeling [your child is gay] and then having it be, this is the deal—having the internal feelings but then having it be, yes, this is the way it is. Also ... everybody in the universe seemed to know [already] except me. So it was a combination of it being the real thing, everyone knowing but me, and then feeling really bad because Chaz couldn't come to me and say it."

—Cher on her daughter Chastity Bono's coming out, to Oprah, Sept. 28.

"I wanted her to grow up, get married, have a child, get divorced and live happily ever after."

—Cher, on her initial disappointment when her daughter Chastity Bono came out, to Oprah, Sept. 28.

"I stand by what I said. I think that she [Ellen DeGeneres] probably went a little too fast [with the lesbian material on her sitcom]. It kind of got bombarding. A lot of gay people got bored with it. And certainly straight people in Middle America thought, 'This isn't a show for me. I'm not gay.' I think the show reflected the coming-out process, especially when you come out so late in life. You finally realize all the injustices of the world, and you want to do something. I think Ellen used the show as a means of doing that. Having never been an activist before, she didn't understand that you have to take baby steps."

—Chastity Bono to *The Advocate*, Oct. 13.

"Because I am in favor of same-sex marriage and monogamy, it does not follow that I have a punitive or dismissive view of other ways of expressing oneself sexually, or a negative view as to civil liberties. The choice is not between crazy sexual libertinism on the one hand and puritanism on the other. There is a middle ground in which public institutions and culture can encourage certain behaviors while allowing others to continue, if that is what people want. Is that so hard to grasp? It is a situation heterosexuals have enjoyed in this country for decades. Why should it not be available to gay people? ... What we alleged 'neo-cons' are arguing for is simply a genuine choice."

—Gay writer Andrew Sullivan in Sept. 23 comments to this column.

"The most successful marriages, gay or straight, even if they begin in romantic love, often become friendships. It's the ones that become the friendships that last. Let's face it. Erotic desire—passion—is not an enduring thing. It fizzles, or it becomes something else. Or it transcends to something else. And outside of romantic relationships, I think there are other relationships that gay men

have, and gay women have, and that straight men and women have that historically have been given short-shrift."

—Gay author Andrew Sullivan to Atlanta's *Southern Voice*, Sept. 10.

"I think we [gays] must stop our incessant belief that somehow, if we haven't found the love of our life, that our lives are somehow less meaningful. Our friendships are as deep and as important and fulfilling in many ways as the man of our dreams."

—Gay author Andrew Sullivan to Atlanta's *Southern Voice*, Sept. 10.

"Whether dubbed the 'New Puritanism,' 'Sex Panic,' or simply seen as escalating attacks on gay men's sexual cultures, events of the past year make it clear that increased organizing and activism are demanded. When public health concerns are used to justify crackdowns on gay bars, sexclubs, bathhouses, and other spaces in which men meet and have sex, and an increasingly assimilationist gay rights movement continues to vilify gay male sex cultures, how do we organize resistance? ... When journalists, police, and even some gay activists target and victimize public-sex participants, what kinds of oppositional organizing is effective? We see our work at this summit as a way to continue the strain of the gay liberation movement which focused on sexual freedom and the creation of new models for gay male relationships and communities. ... We view this summit as an example of gay liberation work which has been exiled to the margins of [gay] community life during the late 1990s."

—From the announcement for "Sex Panic Summit II," to be held in Pittsburgh Nov. 13-15 in conjunction with NGLTF's Creating Change conference.

"I come before you with a simple message: that the cause we celebrate tonight is not some narrow, special interest. It is really the cause that has defined this nation since its founding: to deepen the meaning of fundamental fairness, to make real the promise of our self-government, to build a good and just society on this bedrock principle: equal opportunity for all, special privileges for none."

—U.S. Vice President Al Gore addressing the Human Rights Campaign annual national dinner, Sept. 19.

"It is an outrage that today, in 1998, in 40 states of our union, it is 100 percent legal to fire a hard-working employee just because they are gay or lesbian. That is profoundly wrong. Everyone deserves the basic freedom from discrimination."

—U.S. Vice President Al Gore addressing the Human Rights Campaign annual national dinner.

"Our Founding Fathers spoke of the pursuit of 'life, liberty and happiness.' And no one in our nation today should have to be exempt from these basic rights. That means that all people, regardless of sexual orientation, should be able to be a part of a loving relationship and raise a family without fear of recrimination or discrimination. It also means that all people should be able to live their lives openly and honestly, without fear of losing their jobs, being harassed or worse. I'm not sure that the Founding Fathers anticipated all of the times that we would have to test their statement of basic human rights by writing into law the understanding that women's rights and civil rights and gay and lesbian rights are all a part of human rights!"

—Tipper Gore, wife of U.S. Vice President Al Gore, addressing the Human Rights Campaign annual national dinner.

"It depends on what the meaning of 'is' is."

—You know who.

"I got in trouble in the 'Bear' community because I sort of was amazed there was such a thing—that we have to eroticize everything! Pretty soon there's gonna be porno old age homes. You wanna bet? Old age homes with fuck rooms and glory holes, I promise you there will be that. Because my generation, the Baby Boomers, is getting old and has to eroticize everything."

—Gay filmmaker John Waters to Chicago's *Outlines*, Sept. 23.

"It's another tribe. It's like Ubangis! You know, I look at it [the circuit party set] as completely foreign but I'm not against it. It's the same way I would look at Ubangi lips in National Geographic, especially those [circuit boys] who have these incredibly developed legs which won't walk, practically banging into each other they're so developed, and to top it off, the voice of a Nell box! That's the thing—it's when they look so masculine and have the voice of, I don't know, Grace Kelly!"

—Gay filmmaker John Waters to Chicago's *Outlines*, Sept. 23.

"I don't think I ever want to fall in love again—if I do I'm open to it, but to me it's another job, and a hard one. It's better being a filmmaker than in love."

—Gay filmmaker John Waters to Chicago's *Outlines*, Sept. 23.

"Lea DeLaria really went after me [when I suggested *Ellen* had moved too quickly with gay subject matter. She said] that I had the IQ of a sea sponge and 'Chastity Bono can bite my ass,' which is probably the most repulsive thought I can think of. There's no danger of that happening."

—Gay activist-writer Chastity Bono to *The Advocate*, Oct. 13.

"I absolutely believe in assimilation. I don't believe I'm any different from straight people. My wants and needs are the same as theirs. I don't look at sexual orientation as that big of a deal. It's just an orientation."

—Gay activist-writer Chastity Bono to *The Advocate*, Oct. 13.

Notable Quotes continues on page 37

A SHOW so BIG, so BAD,
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HollyWood Deep Inside

By Romeo San Vicente, *HeatStroke* Contributor

Buffy the Lesbian Seductress?

Tongues were wagging in New York's Central Park when onlookers spotted teen queen **Sarah Michelle Gellar** (TV's *Buffy, the Vampire Slayer*) liplocked with another gal.

But sorry to burst your bubble, ladies, she was just acting. Gellar stars in Original Films' *Cruel Intentions* a story with a *Dangerous Liaisons* spin set in the Big Apple's high school prep world.

Unlike that movie, however, *Intentions* will have a strong dyke subplot, with Gellar's character not just manipulating the "competition" but seducing them as well.

My Kind of Town

So what's the deal with Miramax's stage-to-screen adaptation of *Chicago*, set to star **Madonna** and **Goldie Hawn** with top director **Nicholas Hytner** (*The Object of My Affection*) also on board?

Rumor had it that egos weren't meshing, and Hawn was out the door. Apparently not. Though tired of the long wait, Goldie says she's still a go, and Madonna is also showing patience.

The delay came because producers weren't happy with the first script from **Larry Gelbart** (*M*A*S*H** and *Tootsie*), opting instead for a draft from famed New York City playwright **Wendy Wasserstein**, which is said to be hipper, darker, and all those other adjectives Hollywood types use to make their projects sound cutting-edge.

So now it could come down to scheduling, what with the entire movie set to be filmed on London sound stages.

This Encore Is More Like It

Taking time off from his lackluster NBC sitcom, **Nathan Lane** will return to the theatre, sort of, in the big-screen adaptation of *Schmucks*. The **Jon Robin Baitz** screenplay concerns two washed-up producers who try to salvage their careers with one last screen deal. Stage veteran **Joe Mantello** directs.

Family Fun

What's this preoccupation **Disney** seems to have with queer folk? First *Ellen* and now this: *The Wonderful World of Disney* which airs family-oriented movies on ABC Sunday nights, will address the delicate issue of—get this—transgendered basketball players with the film, *Honey Thunder Dunk*.

Supermodel **Tyra Banks** stars as a WNBA guard who must fend off advances from a teammate (sounds believable enough). However, this teammate is actually a man gone undercover as a woman to fulfill his hoop dreams. The telepic is scheduled for next year.

In addition, openly gay producing team **Neil Meron** and **Craig Zadan** are signed to produce one musical a year for the next for years for *Wonderful World*. The pair scored big with *Cinderella* last year.

Taking it Like a Man

Hillary Swank, who played the female *Karate Kid* in the final installment of that Reagan-Bush-era series, will go against gender roles again in the independent film, *Take it Like a Man*, the story of **Brandon Teena**.

A documentary about the life of Teena, who lived secretly as a man in rural Nebraska before being murdered, is already playing in selected cities. **Kim Peirce** directs Swank, who most recently appeared on TV's *90210*.

Fine Line Pictures was planning a Teena pic of its own, with **Drew Barrymore** rumored to star. Word on when and if they'll proceed with filming is unknown.

The "It" Couple to Show "It" Off?

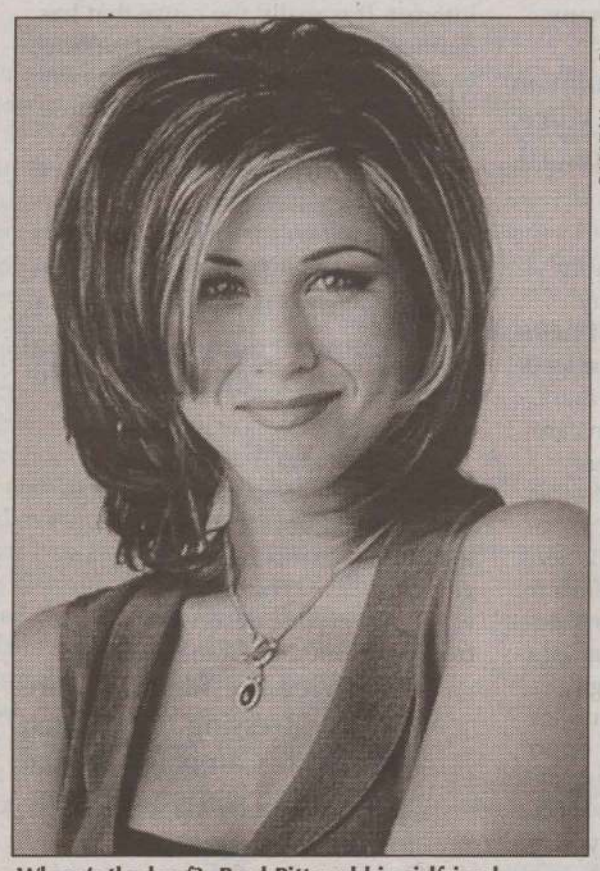
Brad Pitt, after rejecting earlier overtures, has reportedly agreed to be Calvin Klein's next high-profile underwear model. And he'll have a mega-watt co-star, the object of his affection **Jennifer Aniston**.

The *Friends* star, who, rumor has it, has always wanted to model, apparently convinced her man to show off his bulge (though those who saw those famous pics of Brad in the buff are prepared for the disappointment). One stipulation: the couple will appear in all of the ads together.

From the Runway to Tinsletown, and Vice Versa

Queer fashion designer **Isaac Mizrahi** is leaving the business, though not voluntarily. His New York City fashion house has been closed after Chanel Inc., which had been funding Mizrahi since 1992, decided to pull the plug on the non-profitable venture.

But Mizrahi had been making noise about changing professions, particularly after the success of the 1995 documentary *Unzipped*, which chronicled his life and career. In a statement, the slimmed- down New Yorker said he was going to concentrate on acting and screenwriting.



©1997 Warner Bros.

Where's the beef? Brad Pitt and his girlfriend, Jennifer Aniston, have agreed to be Calvin Klein's new underwear models.



© Warner Bros.

Meanwhile, *NewsRadio* star **Andy Dick** is seeking to make the transition to directing, beginning with a short film debuting on the VH-1 Fashion Awards, premiering Oct. 27th (with **Ellen** as host).

The Andrew Taylor Movie centers on an eccentric fashion designer (played by Dick). The erstwhile "Nancy Boy" hopes to turn *Taylor* into a full-length feature.

The Dream is Over

Gay luminaries **David Geffen** (producer) and **Joel Schumacher** (director) had some disappointing news recently when Warner Bros. announced they were shelving the duo's planned feature adaptation of *Dreamgirls*.

The decision was said to be based on the poor performance of the studio's Frankie Lymon biopic *Why Do Fools Fall in Love?* Officially, WB is saying the film was postponed for a creative overhaul, which has to be a big disappointment for Schumacher, who had a tentative cast with singer **Lauryn Hill** set to play backstabbing diva Deena Jones (said to be modeled after **Diana Ross**) and *Out of Sight's* Don Cheadle pegged as singer James "Thunder" Early.

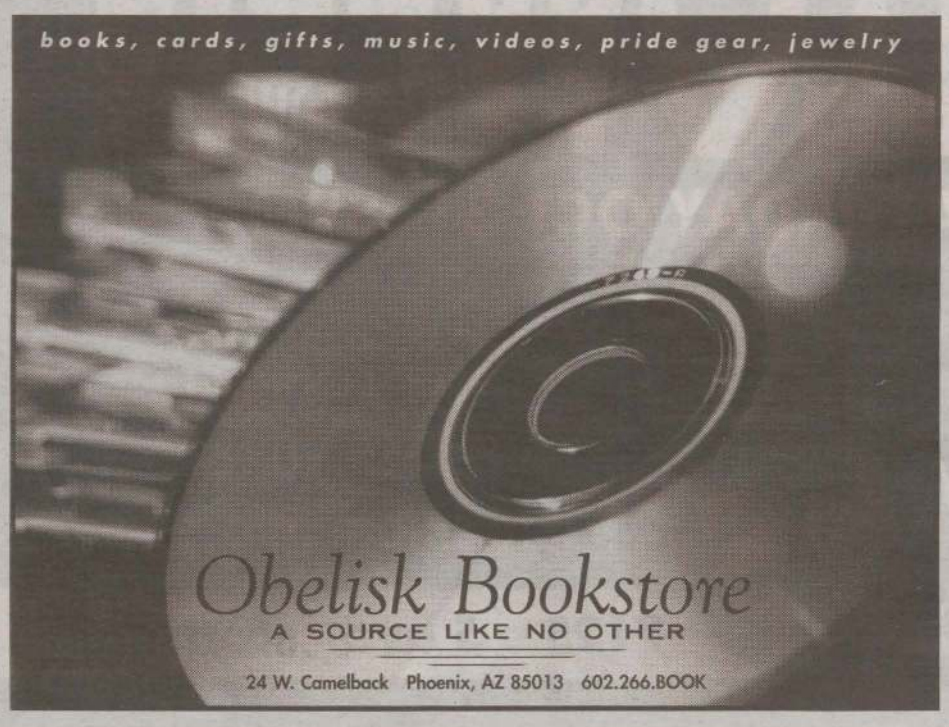
Speaking of films in trouble, Fine Line's *Orgazmo*, starring *South Park* co-creator **Trey Parker**, is fighting with the MPAA ratings board over their apparent decision to brand the porn industry spoof with an NC-17, which is a financial kiss-of-death. The movie was scheduled for release later this month but is on hold until producers can secure an R rating.

Lesbians Have Stalkers, Too

Pop star and dykon **Melissa Etheridge** can breathe a little easier now that Heather Schleig, 32, has been committed to a state mental hospital in Florida. Schleig, who called herself Heather Etheridge, was sentenced after attempting to steal a plane and fly to the singer's Kansas City, Mo. home.

Comeback of the Week

Yes, it's Chastity's mom's turn to be back in the spotlight, returning to her controversial roots in the new film, *The Breakers*. **Cher** plays an unscrupulous mother who hustles wealthy men into marriage, then enlists her daughter to seduce her stepfathers. The duplicitous duo then split the lucrative divorce settlements. Filming is set to begin later this year.





Out of Town

By Andrew Collins



Cincinnati

Cincinnati has earned an infamous and somewhat unfair reputation for being both narrow-minded in its attitudes towards gays and lesbians, and prudish to almost an obsessive degree.

In the 1970s, and again recently, the city went after *Hustler* magazine publisher Larry Flynt for selling pornography. Groups like Citizens for Community Values (CCV) have tirelessly ranted about gays and lesbians, going so far as to demand that public libraries not carry *The Advocate* magazine.

And in 1990 the city pressed charges against the Cincinnati Contemporary Arts Center for hosting a controversial exhibition of Robert Mapplethorpe photos.

Most troubling for the gay community was the passage in 1993 of a city ballot proposition not unlike Colorado's Amendment 2, which sought to prevent the enforcement of an anti-discrimination measure introduced by the City Council a year earlier. *(Ed. note: the U.S. Supreme Court recently refused to strike down the Cincinnati proposition.)*

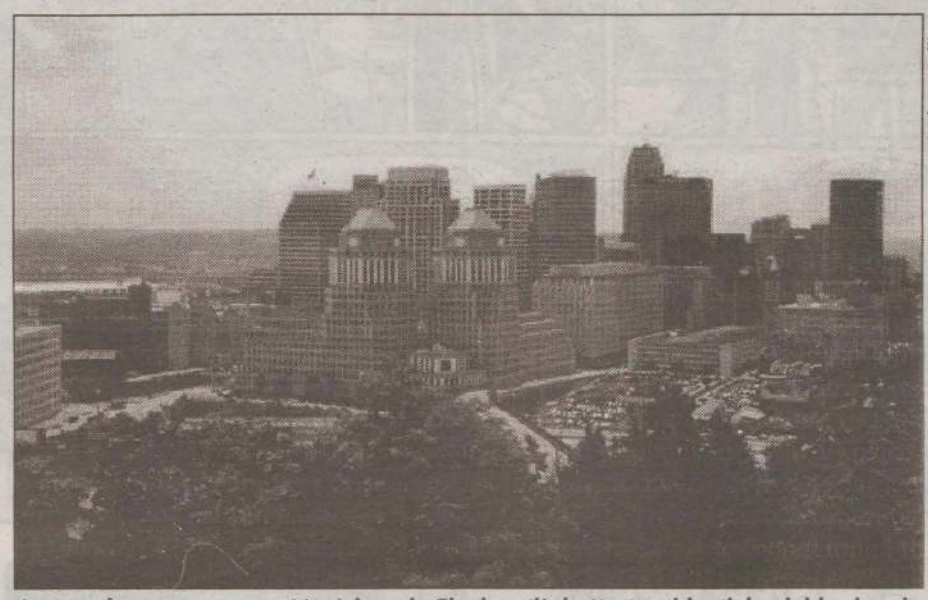
For all the negative publicity these controversies have generated, Cincinnati's gay community has proven itself to be coherent and close-knit, with a well-utilized community center and a successful political group that has helped win mainstream acceptance from the vast majority of Cincinnatians.

For all the negative publicity recent controversies have generated, Cincinnati's gay community has proven itself to be coherent and close-knit, with a well-utilized community center.

Most areas interesting to visitors are within a 15-minute drive of downtown, a relatively compact district of office towers on the north bank of the Ohio River.

The city's skyline is a bit Jekyll and Hyde: dull and monochromatic by day, it comes alive at night and was the first city in America to illuminate its buildings with exterior floodlights. The several fine art deco structures downtown are especially dramatic in this setting.

This a highly walkable downtown, punctuated by a high number of outdoor sculptures and fountains. Towering above the city, just a block southwest of the fountain, is Cincinnati's tallest building, the art deco Carew Tower, from whose 49th-floor observation deck visitors are afforded panoramic views of the region.



Andrew Collins

Among the many reasons Mt. Adams is Cincinnati's hottest residential neighborhood are the fine views of Downtown and the Ohio River.

Walk to the eastern edge of downtown to explore the Taft Museum, an 1820s home originally owned by Charles Taft (the half-brother of U.S. president William Taft), one of the nation's leading 19th-century art collectors.

The southern edge of downtown, near the river, is dominated by old warehouses, many of which have been turned into nightclubs and restaurants. The city's largest and most happening gay dance bar, The Dock, is here.

On the western side of town, the Cincinnati Museum Center definitely deserves a visit if for no other reason than to admire one of the finest art deco structures in America, the 1933 Union Terminal. This 500,000-square-foot former rail station has been completely restored and now contains an Omnimax Theater, the Museum of Natural History and Science, and the Cincinnati History Museum.

On your way over here, you might stop for a meal at Mullane's Parkside cafe, a hip queer hangout where you can peruse an art installation, listen to live music, and enjoy the terrific healthful fare.

Quite a few of Cincinnati's queer-popular bars, restaurants, and art galleries are in the northern half of downtown, near or in the Main Street Historic District and, just north, in the up-and-coming Over-the-Rhine neighborhood, which has blossomed in recent years with music clubs, coffeehouses, and microbreweries. Among them, Carol's On Main is a great dinner option, with juicy burgers and a dishy upstairs cabaret to match.

New Plum Street is an always-buzzing video bar, country western-flavored Shooters specializes in line dancing and two-stepping, and Spurs is the favorite among leather aficionados.

One of the prettiest and hilliest urban neighborhoods in the Midwest, Mt. Adams rises precipitously above the eastern edge of downtown and comprises a compact jumble of trendy businesses and pricey homes.

The main draw here is adjacent Eden Park, a trail-laced bluff of greenery offering spectacular city and river views. Within this urban oasis are two lakes; the Mt. Adams Observatory; the Playhouse in the Park, which presents 11 theatrical works annually; the Classic Revival Cincinnati Art Museum, known for both its fine and decorative arts, and fine Native American and African collections; and the Krohn Conservatory, a mammoth glass-enclosed rainforest with 5,000 varieties of exotic tropical and desert flora.

A short drive northwest of downtown is Cincinnati's fastest-changing neighborhood, Northside. What was for many years a lower-middle-class minority neighborhood began to attract a sizeable lesbian crowd in the late '70s and has become increasingly trendy among gay men and alternative-minded straights in recent years.

The few blocks at the foot of Hamilton, just north of I-75, have a few gay bars, some cafes, and the long-running feminist/lesbian bookstore, Crazy Ladies.

Boca, an airy bistro with a peaceful patio behind it opened in 1997 and helped secure Northside's reputation as a serious dining neighborhood. Sample such tantalizing nouvelle international fare as house-smoked double-cut pork chops with a wedge of tamale pie on mole black beans and tomatillo salsa.

The lesbian bar Bullfish's is a prime spot for dancing or shooting pool, while the mixed gay/straight Colors pulls in an unpredictable mix of grungers, college students, and trendoids for cruising, chatting, and sipping exotic beers.

Andrew Collins recently authored the greatly expanded second edition of Fodor's Gay Guide to the USA, as well as six gay guides covering the West Coast, New York City, South Florida, and Amsterdam. He can be reached in care of *HeatStroke*.





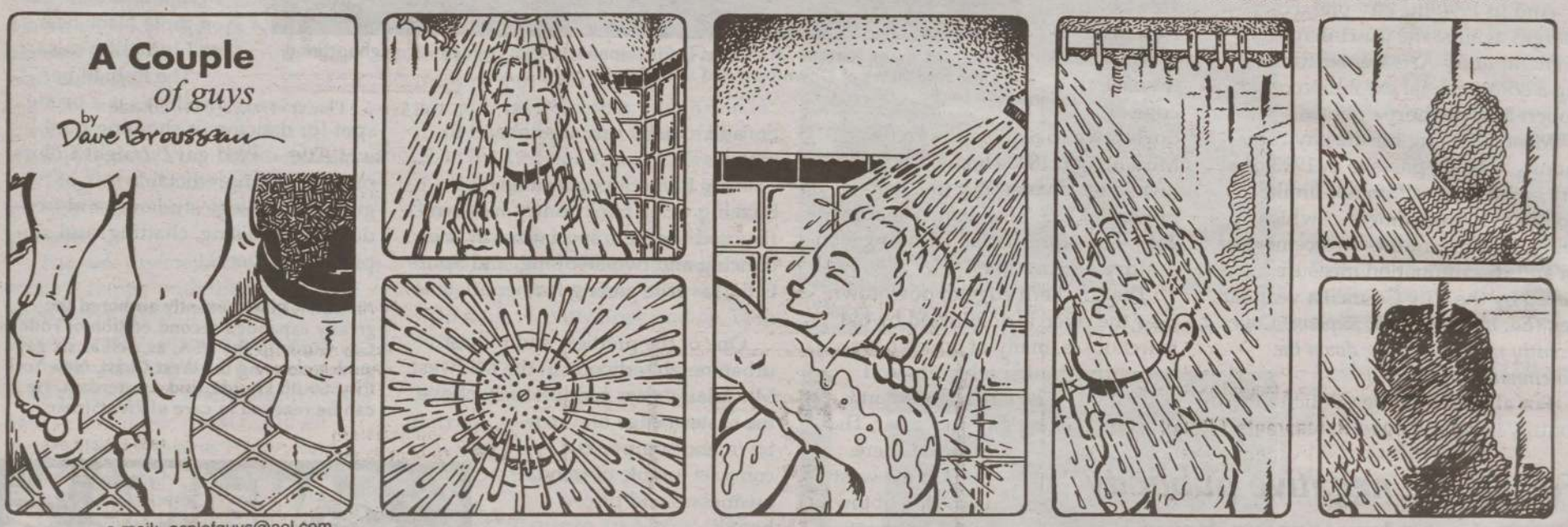


the funnies

The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green

by Eric Orner





Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel



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"Dear Cowboy" A REGULAR ADVICE COLUMN



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

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

Dear Cowboy,

The guy I'm dating wants to try Viagra and he just got hold of a couple pills. I read where Viagra can cause bad reactions in combination with other substances and is not supposed to be used as a recreational drug or experimentally.

He won't take it unless I approve, but he really wants me to lighten up and go along for the fun of it. I think our sex life is fine and I wish he'd give them to someone else. Am I being too whiny?

Signed, Playing Without Pills

Dear Playing,

No cowpoke should be doctoring himself with pills he somehow "got hold of"—not ever. I checked with some Docs, who confirmed what you read about the drug. They also mentioned a few side effects that can be pretty bothersome, if not downright dangerous.

Toss those tablets and continue to come up with non-chemical ways to keep your bunkhouse romps frisky. And tell your pard how much you appreciate the respect he's giving you by going along with your firm. "no."

Dear Cowboy,

Why are gay men so phony? It seems like you have to wear the right clothes, have the right body, or eat and drink in all the right places on certain nights of the week to fit in with this community.

I can't tell you how many times I run into queens I've already met who don't remember me from the last time and say, "Nice to meet you," like they have no idea who I am. I feel left out. What am I missing?

Signed, Genuine Guy

Ask yourself what kind of person you are trying to attract, and why it's so important that you fit in with people you call names and think are phony.

Dear Genuine,

You aren't missing anything except sense. Ask yourself what kind of person you are trying to attract, and why it's so important that you fit in with people you call names and think are phony. Those other guys probably don't remember you because they're also too worried about who's noticing them.

If you can't be friendly and offer a "howdy" because you think it's someone else's job to remember you first, then you're just another steer in that great big arena of phoniness.

Hang out in places you really like and wear the duds you're most comfortable in. Stop worrying who's looking at you, or where everybody else is. It's where you are that matters.

Edibles

A. Coffee Central
2825 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 274-8433

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

C. Tony & Maria's
Trattoria & Pizzeria
2814 N. 16th Street
Phoenix 266-7173

D. Industria Supper Club
7107 E. McDowell
Scottsdale 874-2585

Libations

1. Ain't Nobody's Bizness
3031 E. Indian School
Phoenix 224-9977

2. Amsterdam
718 North Central Ave.
Phoenix 258-6122

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

4. Boot Camp
3702 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 212-9888

5. BS
7125 5th Avenue
Scottsdale 945-9028

6. The Bunkhouse
4428 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix

7. Cash Inn
2140 E. McDowell
Phoenix 244-9943

8. Charlie's
727 W. Camelback
Phoenix 265-0224

9. Club Roxy
4343 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix 285-9200

10. Crowbar
702 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 258-8343

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

12. The Rose
44301 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix 265-3233

13. Harley's Club 155
Harley's Too!
155 & 125 W. Camelback
Phoenix 274-8505

14. Incognito
2424 E. Thomas
Phoenix 955-9805

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

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

17. Marlys'
15615 Cave Creek
Phoenix 867-2463

18. The Mill
3300 S. Price Rd.
Tempe

19. Nasty's Sports Bar
3108 E. McDowell
Phoenix 267-8707

20. NuTowne
5002 E. Van Buren
Phoenix 267-9959

21. Paco Paco
3045 N. 16th St.
Phoenix 263-8424

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

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

24. Shooterz
998 E. Indian School
Phoenix 266-5640

25. 307 Lounge
222 E. Roosevelt
Phoenix 252-0001

26. TRAX
1724 E. McDowell
Phoenix 254-0231

27. Waterhole
8830 N. 43rd Ave
Glendale 937-3139

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

29. Yanks
4132 E. McDowell
Phoenix 275-3509

Staples

30. The Adult Shoppe
111 S. 24th Street
Phoenix 306-1130
2345 W. Holly St.
Phoenix 253-7126

31. The Barn Adult Shop
5021 W Indian School
Phoenix 245-3008

32. Book Cellar
4029 E. Washington
Phoenix 275-0015
(other Valley locations)

33. Castle Boutique
5501 E. Washington
Phoenix 231-9837
(3 other Valley locations)

34. Obelisk Books
24 West Camelback
Phoenix 266-Book

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

36. Tuff Stuff
1714 E. McDowell Rd.
Phoenix 254-9651

Tubs

40. Chute
1440 E. Indian School
Phoenix 234-1654

41. Flex
1517 S. Black Canyon
Phoenix 271-9011

Culture

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

78. Phoenix Theatre
100 E. McDowell
Phoenix 254-2151

79. Planet Earth Multi-Cultural
Theatre
909 N. 3rd Street
Phoenix 241-1821

80. Union Hall
512 E. Van Buren
Phoenix 253-7100

Outdoors

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

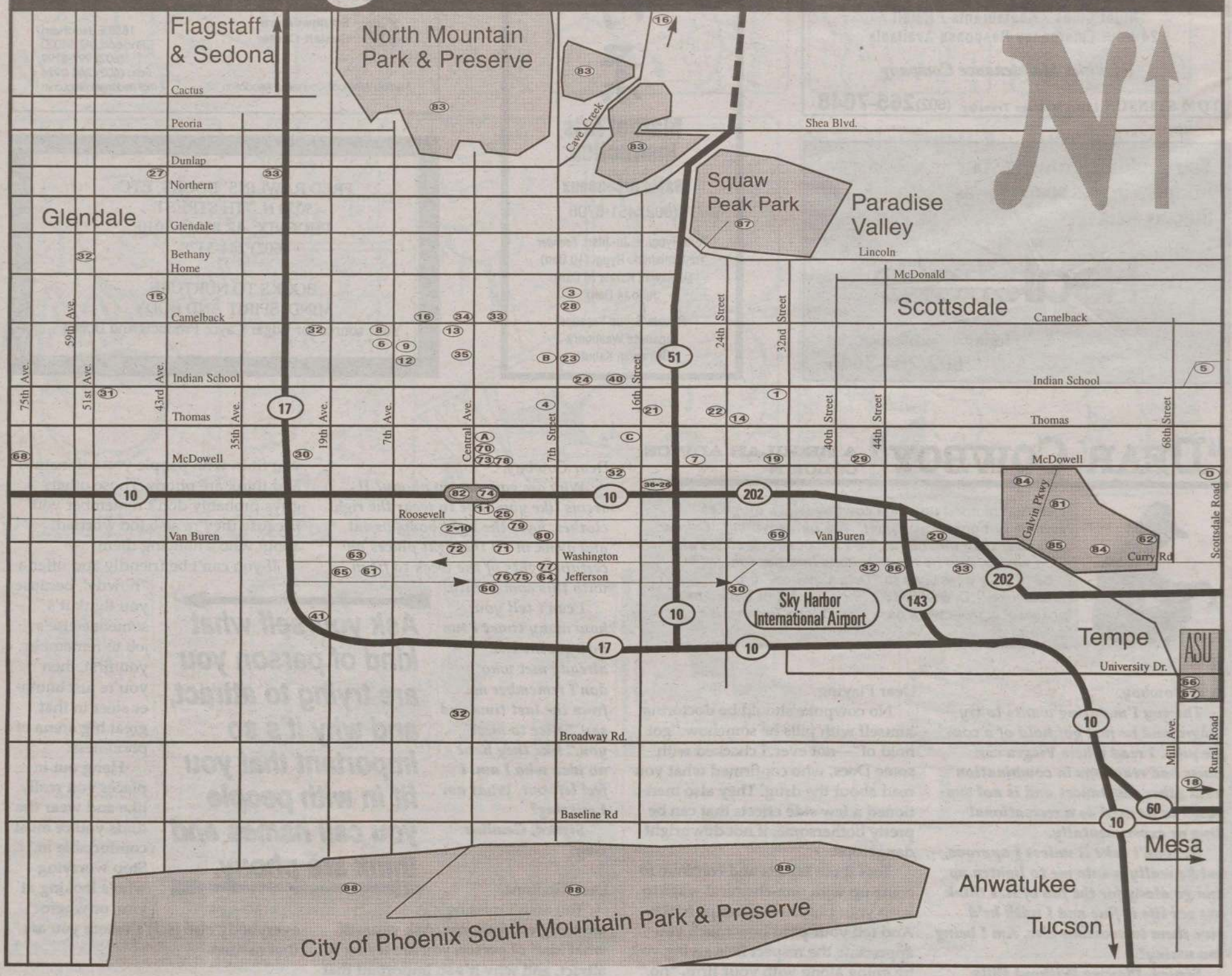
85. Phoenix Zoo
455 N. Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 273-1431

86. Pueblo Grande Museum
4619 E. Washington
Phoenix 495-0900

87. Squaw Peak Park
2701 E SquawPeak Dr
Phoenix 262-6696

88. South Mountain Park
10919 S. Central Ave.
Phoenix 495-0222

Finding it in Phoenix



Directory of Community Services

Aids Services

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Coalition of Meal Providers
992-6593

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Political Action & Education

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

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

Arizona Human Rights Fund
P.O. Box 25044
Phoenix, AZ 85002 650-0990

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

AZ Democratic Party
Gay & Lesbian Caucus
Rolando Betancourt, Coordin.
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

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

Arizona 2-somes 277-8796

Arizona Nude Dudes
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Phoenix, AZ 85064

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

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

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Tempe, AZ 85281 248-5270

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

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

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

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

The Leatherlords 254-9651

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

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

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

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

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

Professional Organizations

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

Religious & Spiritual Organizations

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

Asbury United MethodistChurch
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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Music, Sports & Hobbies

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

Cactus Cities Softball League
PO Box 45101
Phoenix, AZ 85064 241-9224

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

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

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

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

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

Phoenix Unified Gay Bowling Alliance (PUGBA) 503-0974

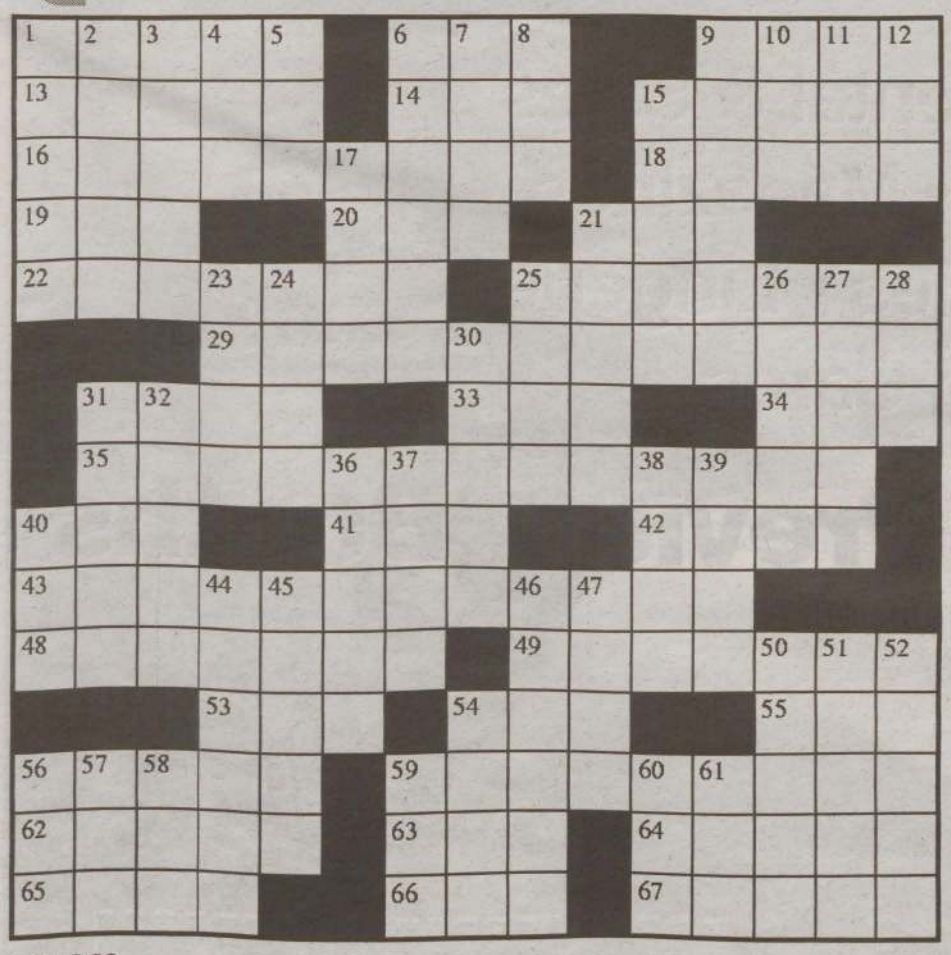
Spartan Wrestling Club-340-8070
e-mail: mattbims@aol.com

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

Q Puzzle "Shades of Gay"



ACROSS

1 Asks for an encore, perhaps
6 Fraternity letter
9 Tour ___ (ballet leap)
13 Prefix with cassette
14 Captain Jean-___ Picard
15 Sex slave's reply
16 Gay "Village"
18 Felix's roomie
19 Slithery swimmer
20 The ___ Ridge Boys
21 Campy pronoun
22 Capital of Saxony
25 Temporary substitute
29 1996 Tony Ward/Bruce LaBruce film
31 Proton's place
33 Affirmative vote
34 Rest-stop location, for short
35 Part of a circuit queen's itinerary
40 Tony-winner Hagen
41 Hockey legend Bobby
42 Crying baby sounds
43 Symbol of gay pride
48 Like the flesh behind Cher's ears
49 Down Under dwellers
53 Novelist Rand
54 Troop group (abbr.)
55 Providence-to-Boston dir.
56 Hart Crane's output
59 AIDS awareness symbol
62 Brad's *Rocky Horror* fiancee
63 ___ nutshell
64 Lambda Award-winning poet Edward
65 Suffix with trick
66 ASAP
67 Coke and Mountain Dew

DOWN

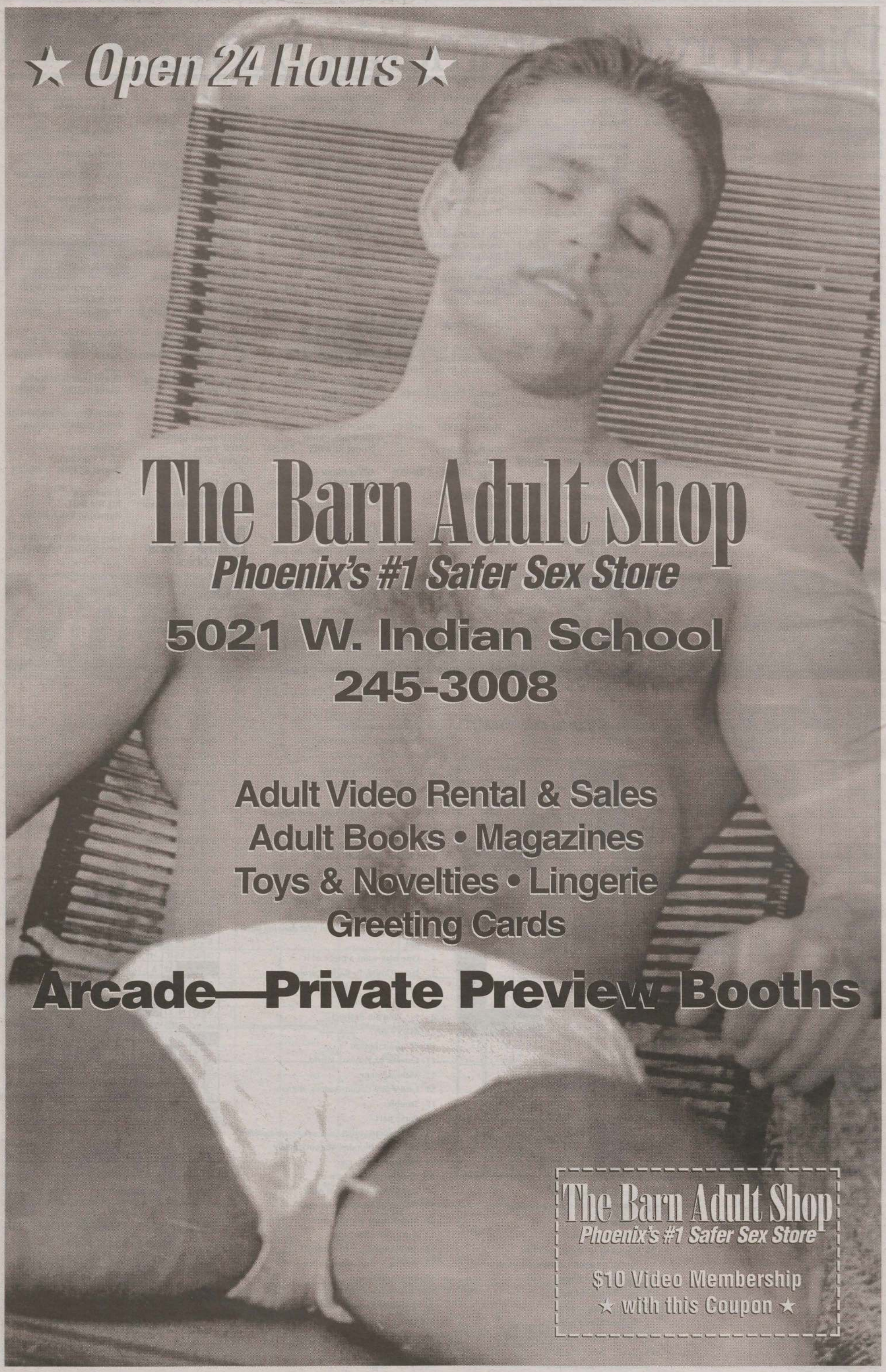
1 ___ *Heat* (film about a women's prison)
2 Siren
3 Fred Astaire's sister and first dancing partner
4 One may want a piece of it
5 Jason Gould, to Barbra Streisand
6 Able to bend over backwards
7 Porno command
8 "___ bin ein Berliner!"
9 Mary's guy
10 PC panic button
11 Carrere of *Wayne's World*
12 Make a boner
15 Under any circumstances, slangily
17 Troubles
21 Purse part
23 Fetish focus, often
24 Like some blondes, stereotypically
25 Husband-hunt, e.g.
26 Chubby chaser's turn-on
27 Roy Cohn and others: Abbr.
28 Participate in water sports
30 Material for bicycle shorts
31 Area above the closet
32 "Is it bigger ___ breadbox?"
36 Sophia of the screen
37 Dry as a bone
38 Leather-piercing tools
39 Actresses Charlotte and Dawn Chong
40 FedEx rival
44 *The Normal Heart* playwright
45 Meeting of closet clases, often
46 NYSE relative
47 ___ gum (food-thickening agent)
50 Under the covers
51 ___ Gay
52 Uses 40-Down, e.g.
54 What willows do
56 Alternative to sleeping naked
57 Granola-bar bit
58 L.A.-to-N.Y.C. direction
59 Confetti-throwing Taylor
60 Stipulations
61 Prefix with degradable

G	E	M	■	A	S	S	■	■	M	I	T	C	H	
A	V	A	■	S	H	A	M	E	■	A	D	E	L	A
P	A	R	■	P	E	T	E	R	G	R	I	M	E	S
E	D	I	E	■	■	■	R	I	O	T	■	P	O	P
D	E	A	T	H	I	N	V	E	N	I	C	E	■	
■	■	■	C	A	T	O	■	■	■	N	O	R	T	H
A	M	U	■	D	E	L	T	A	■	■	S	A	R	A
B	E	N	J	A	M	I	N	B	R	I	T	T	E	N
B	O	N	O	■	■	E	T	H	E	R	■	E	K	G
A	W	A	S	H	■	■	■	O	N	A	N	■	■	■
■	■	T	H	E	W	A	R	R	E	Q	U	I	E	M
S	T	U	■	R	O	U	E	■	■	■	T	R	E	E
C	U	R	L	E	W	R	I	V	E	R	■	A	R	T
A	N	A	I	S	■	A	N	I	T	A	■	T	I	A
B	E	L	L	Y	■	■	■	P	A	Y	■	E	E	L

Solution to the 1998 Contest Crossword. Only five correct entries were received, with the top prize going to Ken Westhasser of Medford, MA.

G	E	M	■	A	S	S	■	■	M	I	T	C	H	
A	V	A	■	S	H	A	M	E	■	A	D	E	L	A
P	A	R	■	P	E	T	E	R	G	R	I	M	E	S
E	D	I	E	■	■	■	R	I	O	T	■	P	O	P
D	E	A	T	H	I	N	V	E	N	I	C	E	■	
■	■	■	C	A	T	O	■	■	■	N	O	R	T	H
A	M	U	■	D	E	L	T	A	■	■	S	A	R	A
B	E	N	J	A	M	I	N	B	R	I	T	T	E	N
B	O	N	O	■	■	E	T	H	E	R	■	E	K	G
A	W	A	S	H	■	■	■	O	N	A	N	■	■	■
■	■	T	H	E	W	A	R	R	E	Q	U	I	E	M
S	T	U	■	R	O	U	E	■	■	■	T	R	E	E
C	U	R	L	E	W	R	I	V	E	R	■	A	R	T
A	N	A	I	S	■	A	N	I	T	A	■	T	I	A
B	E	L	L	Y	■	■	■	P	A	Y	■	E	E	L

Solution to last issue's Q Puzzle: "Opera Queen."


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HORROR SCOPES

By Deane Jaye, *HeatStroke* contributor

Scorpio (October 21 - November 20)

Quiet intensity and a strong line of defense will get you far in coming weeks, especially if you surround yourself with more outgoing allies who'll carry much of the burden when things get crazy. The next year holds much promise but you must be willing to get rid of all the glittery stuff you've been clinging to that you probably no longer need. A Virgo friend or family member may prove crucial to the sorting process.

Sagittarius (November 21 - December 20)

Aaheeeaah! Watch out for that tree, you lovable, vine-swinging nut. The tail end of this month will find you Sagittarians wildly winging your way from place to place in all kinds of jungles—the jungle of love, the workplace jungle, even the social jungle. You're often at your most entertaining when you're crashing into things, so put that wacky charm to good use and see if humor will help you find the Tarzan or Jane you're seeking.

Capricorn (December 21 - January 20)

Is that you, Charlie Brown? You're the picture of wishy-washy this month as concrete answers to complex decisions seem more and more difficult to come by—particularly after the 3rd. Maybe you'll learn to trust your impulses and instincts, and soon you'll see that the answer was with you all along. Nahhh, I doubt it. Still, it might be a good idea to experiment a little in both the kitchen and the bedroom if the stress gets too intense by mid-month.

Aquarius (January 21 - February 20)

When you can't stand the heat, you timid Aquarians are the generally the first to jump out of the kitchen. A relationship problem or conflict at work arising around the 27th could be giving you the familiar signal that it's time to bail. By holding your ground instead, you could come out on top and even learn something damaging about your adversary. Not that you nice water bearing folk would actually *use* something like that. . . But you never know.

Pisces (February 21 - March 20)

There's a chill in the air and suddenly things you've rarely worried about seem all too important—things like being popular at work and whether you'll make more money next year. Don't dwell on what you can't control and don't waste today's good mood with worries about tomorrow. Happenings around the home could be important around the 25th—perhaps you'll host a party or be paid a late night visit by that certain someone.

Aries (March 21 - April 20)

Outlines, deadlines and organizational problems could be bugging you and pulling at your psyche just like a loose thread on your favorite old foot ball jersey. It's all causing no end of stress and strife, possibly even screwing up the next two or three Fridays. Meanwhile, your potential for new romance and a deeper connection in your love relationship is on the upswing. So make no judgments until after sunrise when the fog has cleared.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

Set your phasers on "stun" because you are likely to be facing alien forces at some point in the near future, and when the confrontation comes there won't be any "beaming up" to save your butt—you'll need to do some fast talking to get out of this one. Speaking of "fast", you zippy Geminis are looking for instant gratification in many areas these days and the tendency to overindulge could be harmful, especially around the 31st.

Cancer (June 21 - July 20)

Woof! Like a playful little pup who just woke up, you crave attention and petting and even a little spanking all at once, and you aren't feeling particularly particular about who satisfies your needs. Stability isn't in the picture for the time being, which normally would send you stability-loving crab-cakes right over the edge. But your sense of peace these days comes from the inside and you're able to cope with all sorts of changes well into the month.

Leo (July 21 - August 20)

You've been very bad while Master's been away. Now get back into your bottle and stay there. For at least a week. Okay, a few days then. Well all right then—only for overnight. Damn, you Leonine charmers are far too persuasive for your own good. Don't you get tired of having your way all the time? I didn't think so. Well, after things blow up on the 2nd you'll need to treat Master right, or it'll be back into the bottle for sure.

Virgo (August 21 - September 20)

Yeah, yeah. You don't *want* to wear a costume. Yeah, yeah. You don't *feel* like going to the party. Yeah, yeah. It's not your turn to be on top. You Virgos just don't feel like doing anything fun these days, and the rest of us are getting a little bit tired of hearing you whine about it. Buck up and get into the spirit before you forget how to have fun altogether. Allow a Scorpio friend or lover to point the way to a more festive mood.

Libra (September 21 - October 20)

Like a broken fan, you're clicking and clacking and oscillating on a zillion different levels, and without a helping hand to steady you, you're likely to tip right on over. Get a grip on the talents and attributes that have served you well in the past and learn to take a nap when you're tired, especially around the 24th and 25th when the reins seem to slip right through your hands. Don't force yourself into unwanted situations



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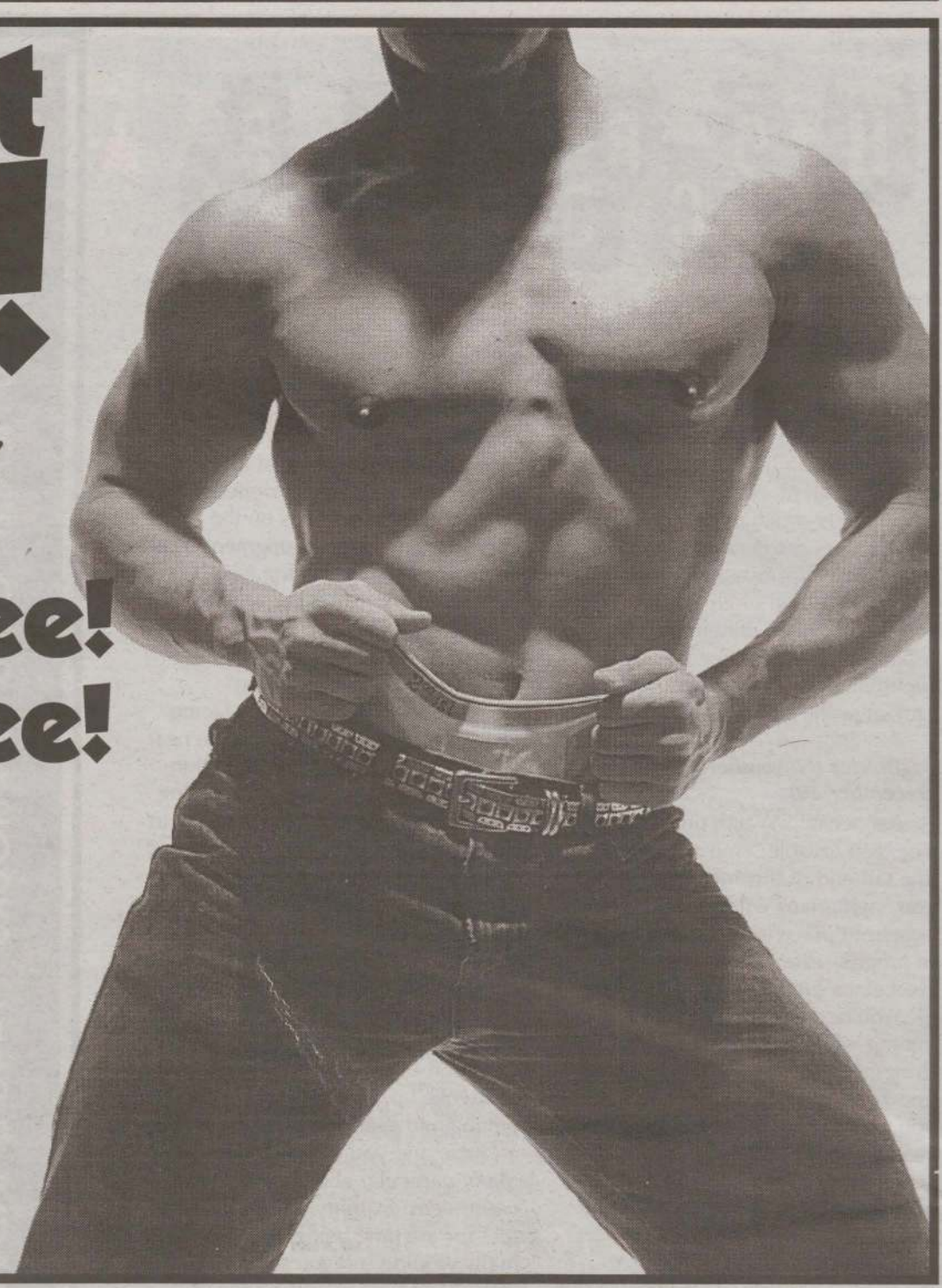
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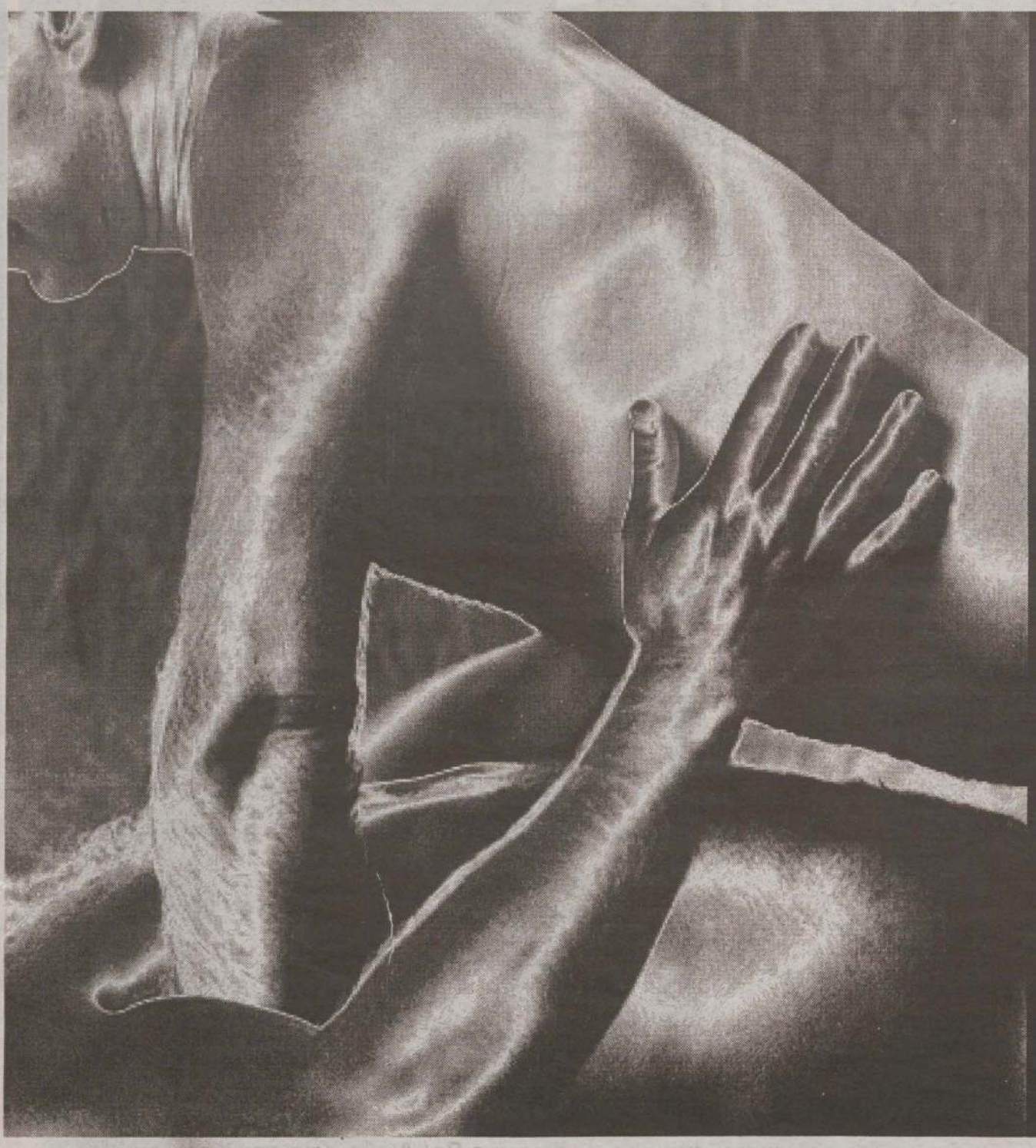
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Notable Quotes continued from page 27

"I never came out as I was never in anything. True, my generation was taught not to discuss in public private life, no matter what it was. Today's Oprah world is like one vast AA meeting where people with nothing to say can go on about their resentments and sufferings. They would be better occupied overthrowing the decadent police state that the United States has so rapidly become. But, you know, I'm a universalist and subversive — not a sectarian conformist."

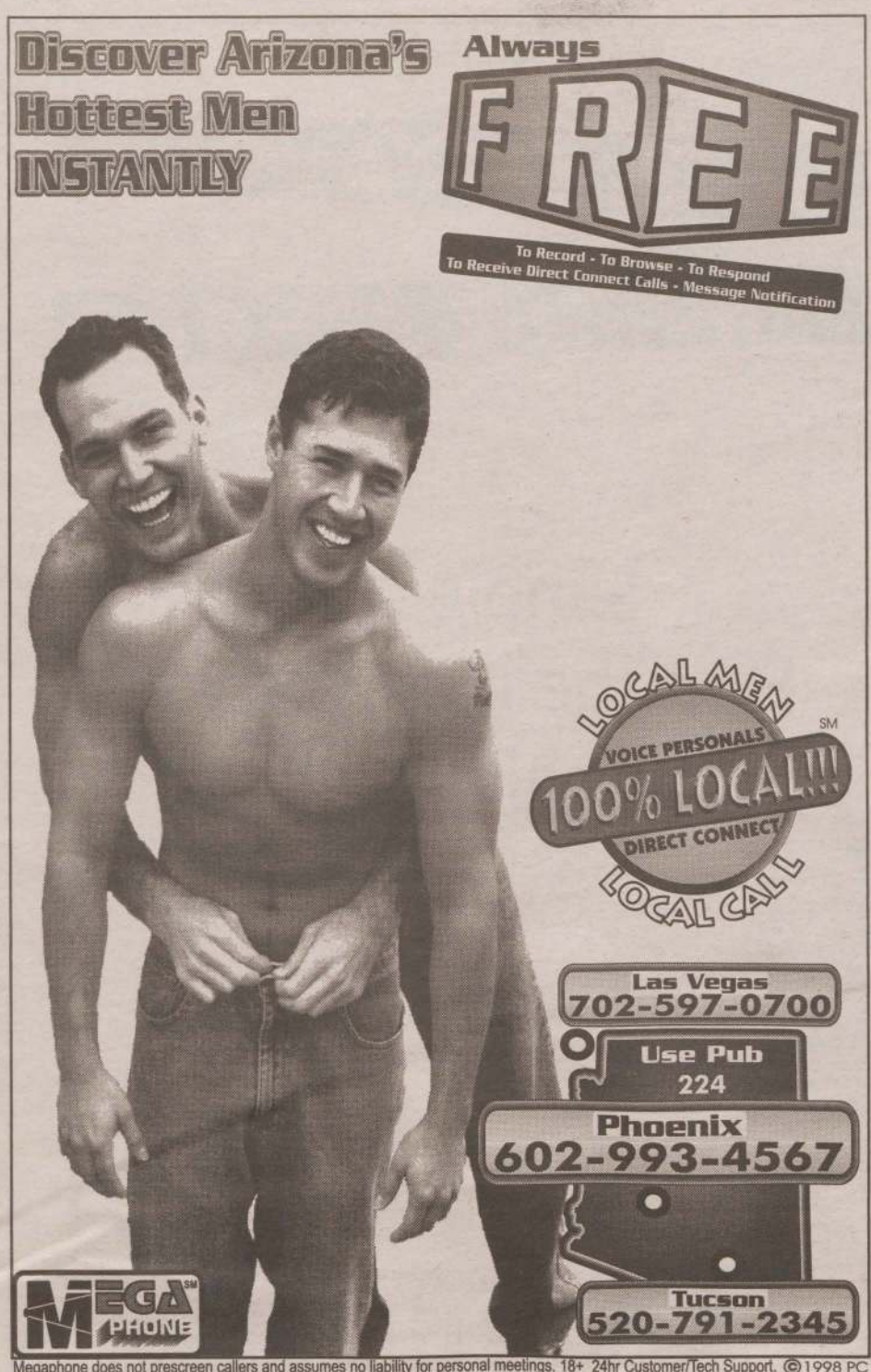
—Author Gore Vidal to *The Advocate*, Oct. 13.

"If I have one regret, it's that [due to our rift over gay issues] I didn't speak to my father before he died. It took his death to make me realize how much he meant to me. I have yet to find a blessing in disguise about his death. I just wish this incredible love we had for each other was the taste left in my mouth, instead of the distance."

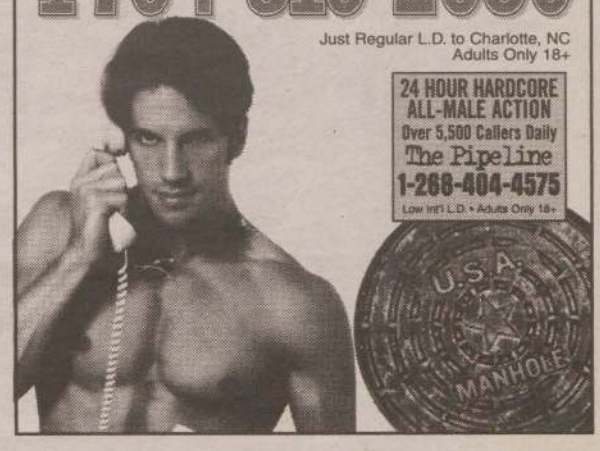
—Gay activist-writer Chastity Bono on her late father, singer/TV star/Republican Congressman Sonny Bono, to *People* magazine, Oct. 12.

"If only Chastity Bono had stuck to writing about her own life. I mean, the lesbian daughter of Cher? Whom Cher chastised for wearing 'mannish clothes'? What's not to be interested in? I would buy a Chastity autobiography if only to read about liberal, feminist Cher's difficulty with having a daughter who didn't wear makeup—or Sonny's decision to dress her, as a young child, in a miniature version of his own Pierre Cardin suit. Unfortunately, Chastity decided to write an edifying book in which she interviewed dozens of terrifically boring gay people and their parents in order to shed light on everyone's gay experience, not just her own."

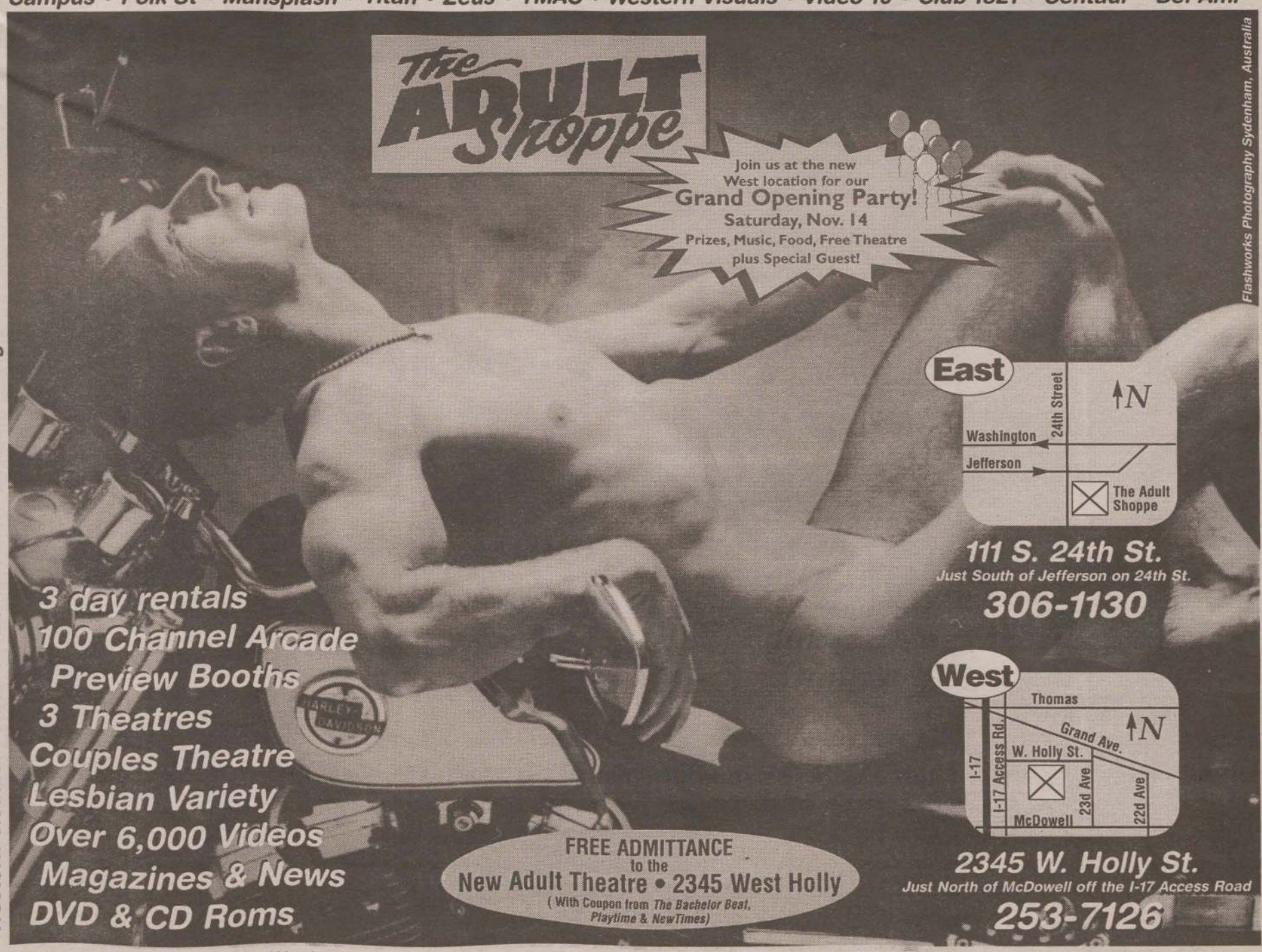
—Donna Minkowitz reviewing Chastity Bono's new book, *Family Outing*, in *New York Newsday*, Oct. 4.



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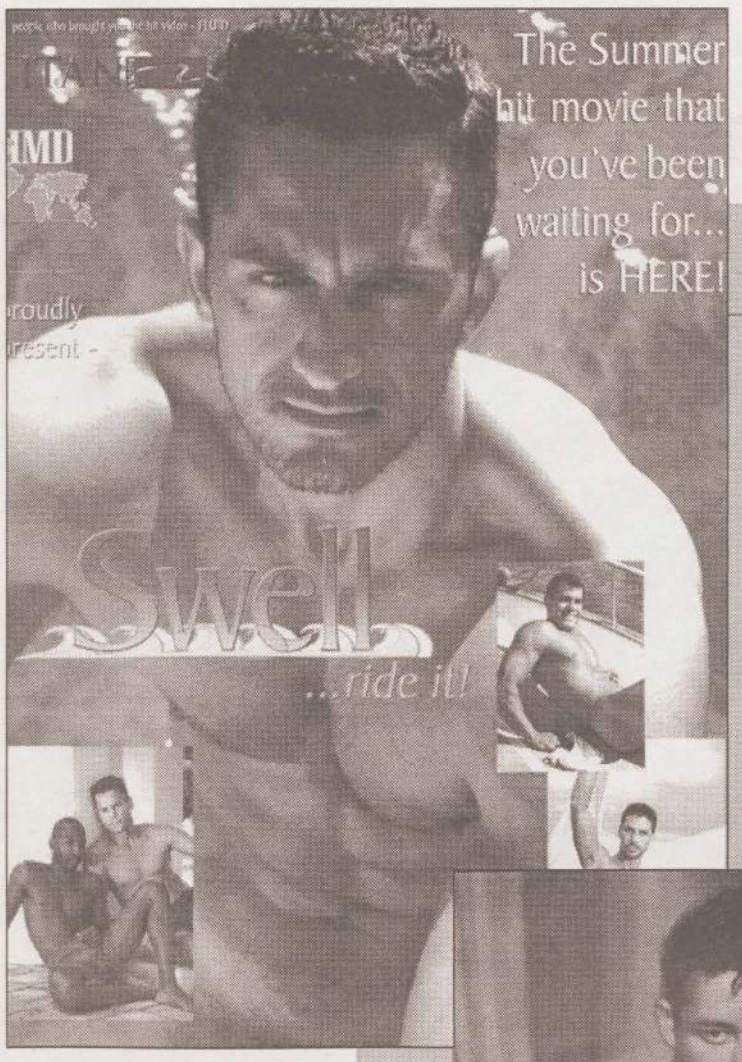
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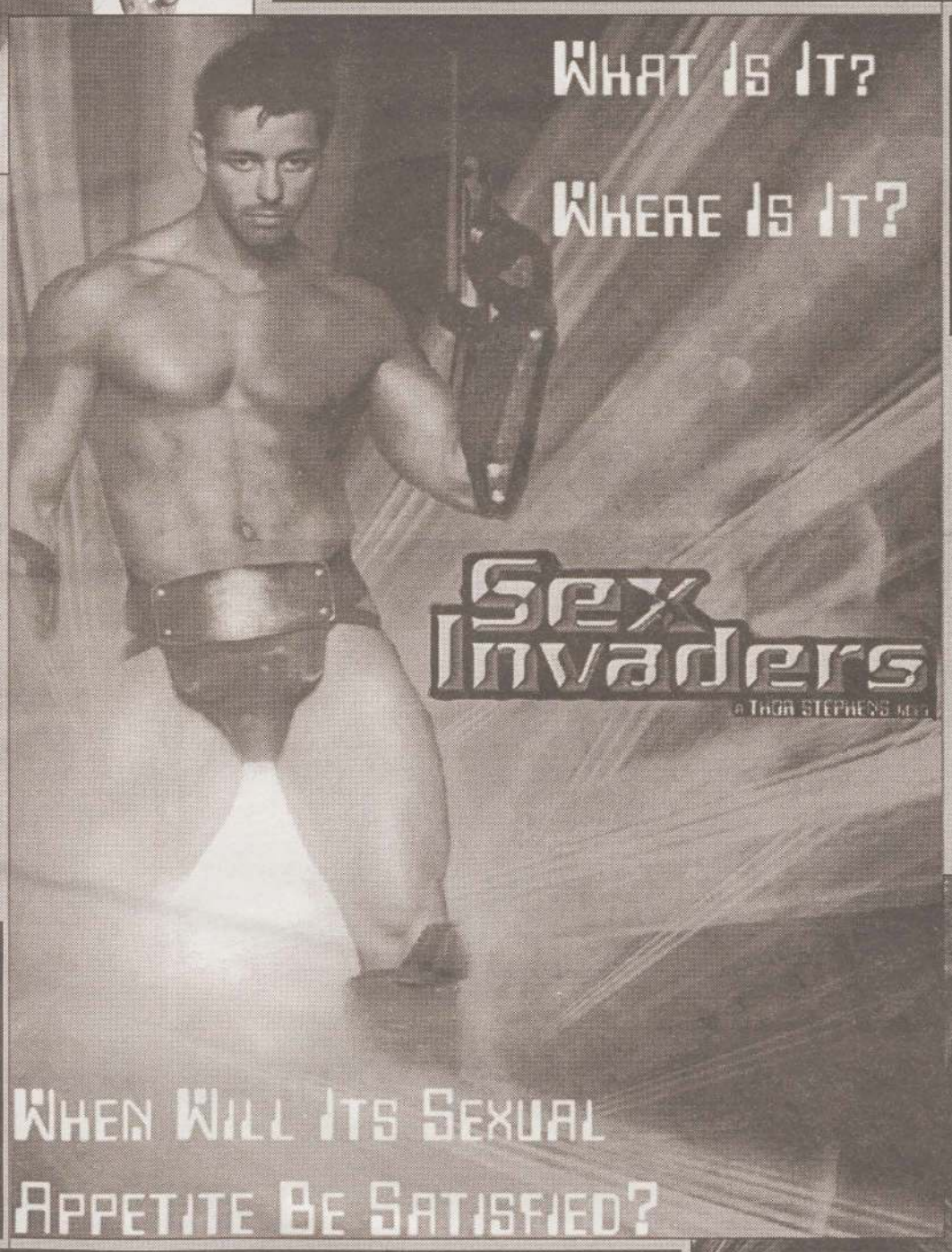


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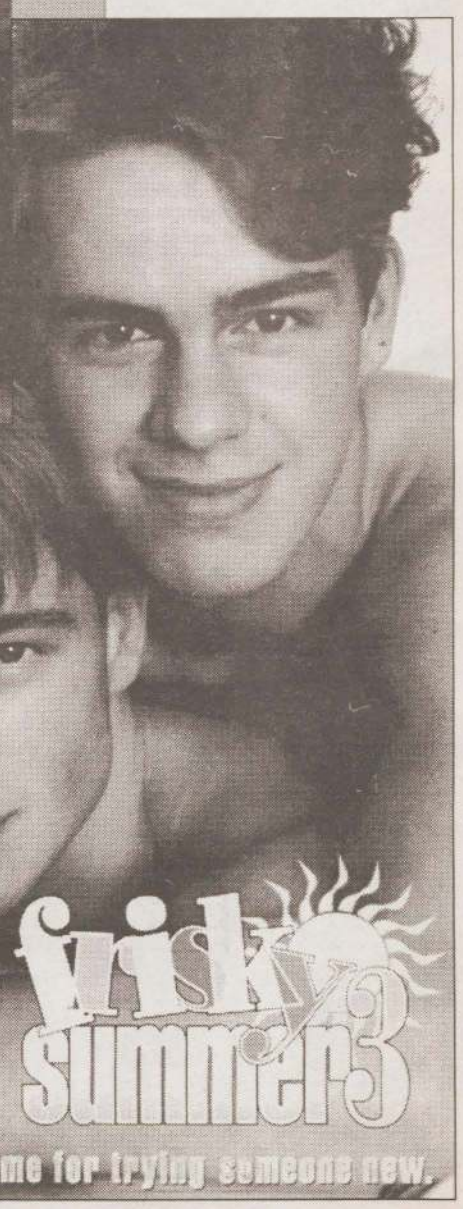


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