

HeatStroke

Volume 4, No. 40

Phoenix, Arizona

May 21 — June 3, 1998

Diary of an Outing

Exploring Arizona with
one of the Valley's oldest gay clubs

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

Friday, 2:00 pm

I've lived in Arizona for 12 years and have yet to see a live rattlesnake in its natural habitat.

This is one of many thoughts jumbling through my mind as I drive south on I-10 past Tucson and then head east to Benson and Willcox, eventually climbing toward the Coronado National Forest in the Chiricahua Mountains of southeast Arizona.

I'd love to see a big snake, I'm thinking, with a hefty rattle and an intricately patterned skin.

I want to encounter a top-notch specimen, worthy of some gaudy cowboy boots or a PBS nature program taping with Alan Alda. Rattlesnakes, I'm told, are especially plentiful this year. The chances are excellent and I'm hoping for a good, long look.

From a safe distance, of course.

Snake or no snake, this should be a fun trip. Everyone says the Chiricahua National Monument is spectacular and after more than a decade in Arizona I'm anxious to see this part of the state for myself.

I'm also looking forward to spending a weekend outdoors with members of Desert Adventures, a Phoenix-based social club for gay men and women that emphasizes outdoor activities.

DA has been around for more than 18 years, providing the community

with hiking and camping excursions like this one. Part of my goal is to learn what makes the group work and what accounts for its longevity.

Most of my gear is borrowed. Unsure what kind of food to bring, I packed a cooler and cardboard box with easy-to-fix stuff like granola bars, sandwiches and fruit, and made sure to bring twice as much water as I thought I'd need.

Now I'm hoping I haven't overpacked or forgotten anything.

The foray into the Chiricahuas is an annual spring event for DA and most of the campers are longtime members and friends. I'm just a guest who was lucky enough to make his reservation early.

Lucky, because the forest service restricts the number of campers allowed to use the group campsite at this park. DA, therefore, limits participation in this campout to 24 people. Several members who called too late were turned away or advised to take their chances renting a single-space campsite nearby.

Our trip is scheduled to last two and a half days and two nights, including a daylong hike on Saturday. I'm not sure yet whether I'll join the hike because: 1) I'm really out of shape and had painful back problems only a year ago; and 2) I don't have proper hiking shoes.

Friday, 4:00 pm

I've carpooled down with a guy named Phil Litson, a longtime DA

member. We stop to stretch our legs and buy ice in Willcox. From here, it's 36 miles up a twisting, wildly dipping road to the reserved campsite on the western edge of the Chiricahuas. Standing outside the Circle K, we can see the dramatic mountain range rising in the haze before us.

Friday, 4:30 pm

We're here! Bonita Campground is nestled into a deep, pine-filled Valley surrounded by prominent buttes. It's relatively small so there's no problem locating the group site and other DA'ers that arrived earlier. One tent sports a rainbow-flag windsock that helps point the way.

Friday, 6:00 pm

I've pitched my tent, spread out my stuff, taken a nap and met my neighbors.

Eight miles. That's like walking from my house to downtown Scottsdale, I keep thinking. It's too damned far, even if it is mostly downhill.

Danielle, to my right, hasn't been "out" long and doesn't drink alcohol. At 23, she's the youngest on the trip. She recently joined DA as a means of meeting people away from the bar scene and has enjoyed all the activities she's participated in so far. But she wishes more single women were involved.

On the other side of me are Craig Jones and David Carson, platonic

friends who have belonged to DA for six years. They share a large tent with an attached cabana and have tons of trendy gear—I soon notice that nearly everyone brings chairs, tables, lanterns, stoves and multiple chest coolers.

Phil, my carpool companion, sets up camp nearby, as do trip leader Ben Koontz and his companion, Bob, when they arrive an hour later. Also in our area is a 20' x 10' dance pavilion of a tent belonging to Mark and Marty. They are gregarious guys who have been together, I'll later learn, for 21 years.

Friday, 7:30 pm

Dinnertime. I've prepped and cooked plenty of gourmet meals on previous camping trips but decided not to bother on this one. Now I wish I'd bothered.

All around me, people are cooking. I wolf down a couple of sandwiches, an apple and a granola bar.

The campsite smells wonderful. There's an aroma of sizzling steaks and roasting vegetables mixed with grilled onions and

garlic. There are rice and pasta dishes, and all these smells combine in the crisp mountain air. By comparison, my peanut butter tastes cold and snack-like.

The temperature drops quickly once the sun goes down and several campers go to bed early. Someone lights a fire in the central firepit. I

See "Desert Adventure" page 14



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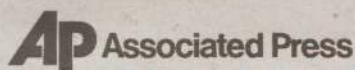
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Horowitz:

Prayers & Anger

I just finished reading *Prayers for Bobby* written by Leroy Aarons.

The book tells the story of Bobby Griffith, a gay teenager who leapt to his death from a highway overpass because he couldn't take it anymore. Bobby left diaries delineating his long-term agony over coming to terms with being gay in a less-than-accepting environment.

Bobby's mother Mary, the Christian biblical fundamentalist spiritual leader of the Griffith clan couldn't even begin to accept her son's homosexuality because she really believed he was going to hell.

When Mary found out that Bobby was gay, she did everything she could to "cure" her son. He went to therapy. They spoke to ministers in their church.

Mary recognized the fundamental conflict very early on. If homosexuality was such a great sin, why was her son Bobby afflicted? How could God send Bobby to hell? Mary knew she loved Bobby, but just couldn't bring herself to let him know that her love was unconditional.

She constantly put bible verses throughout their home. She and Bobby grew further and further apart.

When Bobby threw himself in front of a speeding tractor trailer, he caught everyone by surprise.

No one knew the depths of his despair and self-hatred until they read his diaries. His entire family was filled with remorse and regret.

Mary was beside herself with grief over the son for whose death she felt responsible. As she read Bobby's diaries, she became even more despondent. She also became driven to find a way to reconcile her religious beliefs with her sense of love and loss for her son.

She finally turned to the Metropolitan Community Church in her community. The minister offered an explanation of biblical doctrine based on love and acceptance instead of fire and brimstone. He explained so many things to Mary that enabled her to recognize that the beautiful child she gave birth to and raised was no less beautiful because he loved men.

Mary went from preaching the values of biblical fundamentalism to embracing the values of unconditional love and care for all of God's creatures. She also became a civil rights activist—intending to reach out to other parents and educators and let them know how much damage we do when we don't just love our children.

The Arizona legislature refused to vote for a legislative amendment sponsored by Rep. Elaine Richardson to prohibit employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. The bigots and hatemongers who belong to and support our legislature couldn't possibly have any comprehension of the evil they perpetrate when they fail to act to prevent discrimination. How many of God's children will have to die before people who claim to be followers of God get it?

While I am angry and distressed at the legislature's action, I am also gratified at the progress we've made in Phoenix and in Arizona over the last several years.

Dianne Post of the Arizona Human Rights Fund and Arizonans for Fairness has worked tirelessly and effectively at getting us closer than ever to victory in our unfriendly legislature. I believe that we are on the brink of some huge breakthroughs in our community.

We are making too much progress to be stopped. Love will win.

The big changes we seek will only happen with an even bigger level of participation by gays and lesbians in our political process.

I called my legislators last week. Did you? If not, it's time. Our lives are at stake.

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

Editors:

Senators John Kaites and Brenda Burns have put forth spurious reasons for their opposition to the bill to end job discrimination against gays and lesbians in state jobs (the amendment was defeated in the Arizona Senate May 15).

Kaites equated the proposed legislation with even more lawsuits by gays and lesbians. He must then believe that reason for lawsuits exists (in the form of sexual orientation discrimination) and that if the discrimination were made illegal, suits would follow.

He must believe this, else a law prohibiting such discrimination would just be another empty law against nothing.

If such a law did exist discriminators could be identified. This would reduce the possibility of lawsuits in two ways:

One, in a properly written statute the state could take measures against these discriminators, nipping potential lawsuits in the bud.

Two, potential discriminators could see their role models in the harsh light of reason for what they are, hatemongers with less than desirable traits. The allure would then fade for these would-be discriminators, deterring them from a similar path and, again, greatly alleviating the possibility of future suits.

As a bonus, the need to take any action against future discriminators would be significantly reduced, thus freeing job resources for other tasks.

Senate President Burns sees a problem with identifying sexual orientation in these cases. She thinks it would lead to a lot of questions.

Her position is vague at best, but she seems to be saying that if a person is called a faggot, dyke, or other perjorative in a hostile environment or situation, then it would have to be proven that the victim is indeed gay or lesbian.

I would suggest that focusing her energies on a properly written law would result in legislation which would also protect a heterosexual from being mistakenly harassed by the perpetrator who thinks the victim doesn't exactly fit the standard role model.

The law should be about defining the perpetrator, not determining who is or is not gay or lesbian. It should be

about protecting people from yet another group of hatemongers in the workplace.

Workers could become more productive, not having to spend time defending themselves against workplace bullies. The bullies would, in turn, become more productive due to better use of the time they previously spent bullying.

Assuming these two legislators are logical people, they must be homophobic. They may be in denial of their homophobia, but I believe it exists as I can see no other reason for their opposition.

Chuck George
Glendale

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AZ Senate refuses to protect gays from discrimination

The Arizona Legislature killed a plan to protect gays and lesbians in state government from job discrimination on May 15.

"What we're saying is that it's OK for the state of Arizona to discriminate against gays and lesbians," Senator Elaine Richardson, D-Tucson, sponsor of the amendment, told the *Arizona Republic's* Ruben Navarrette Jr.

Arizona's only openly gay legislator, Rep. Ken Chevront, D-Phoenix, was out of the country when the issue was killed but offered this statement on his return to the Capitol:

"It's a disappointment. You have some individuals who are concerned about the conservative right and are acting out of their own religious convictions rather than taking a stand against discrimination and letting something pass through the legislature that clearly had the support of both the Senate and the House."

Senator John Kaites, R-Glendale, and Senate President Brenda Burns, R-Glendale held up a pair of bills designed to continue the enforcement of civil rights law until the attached amendment protecting gays and lesbians from job bias was scrapped.

"Many of us don't support giving gays and lesbians any new rights to sue the state," said Kaites, a candidate for Arizona Attorney General. "And so this bill cannot move forward with the Richardson amendment."

Once Sen. Richardson gave her assurances that she would not fight attempts to kill the amendment to HB 2392, that bill was discarded. The other civil rights bill in stalemate, HB 2099, was then scheduled to go before the Senate Judiciary Committee on May 18.

Burns said that gays and lesbians

"It's a disappointment. You have some individuals who are concerned about the conservative right and are acting out of their own religious convictions rather than taking a stand against discrimination . . ."

Rep. Ken Chevront

should be differentiated from other minorities partly because sexual orientation is difficult to determine. "It just opens up a myriad of questions," she said.

Gay & lesbian fund-raiser nets \$17k for local candidate

Victory in this election (if it comes), won't actually come until November.

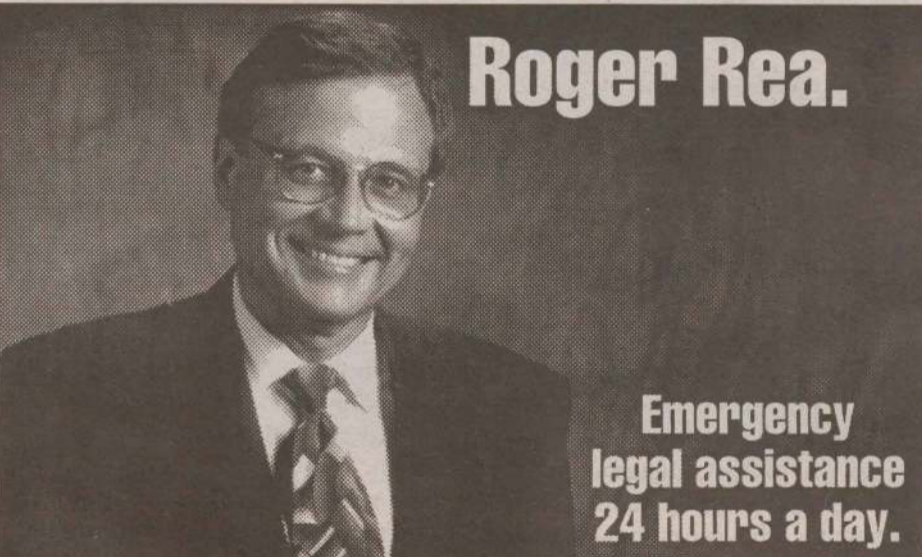
But Steve May already has reason to celebrate—a recent fund-raiser for May's legislative campaign set an Arizona record, raising more money for a single candidate than any previous fund-raiser in the local gay and lesbian community's political history.

The reception raised over \$17,000 for May's campaign. An openly gay Republican from east Phoenix, May is running for one of two open house

seats in District 26.

The event, held May 7 at the east Phoenix home of David Lacy, was co-sponsored by Log Cabin Republicans of Central Arizona, a gay Republican group, and the Arizona Human Rights Fund, a non-partisan political action organization based in Phoenix that advocates legislation and supports candidates who are supportive of gay issues.

May's candidacy was recently endorsed by The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, a national organization based in Washington, D.C.



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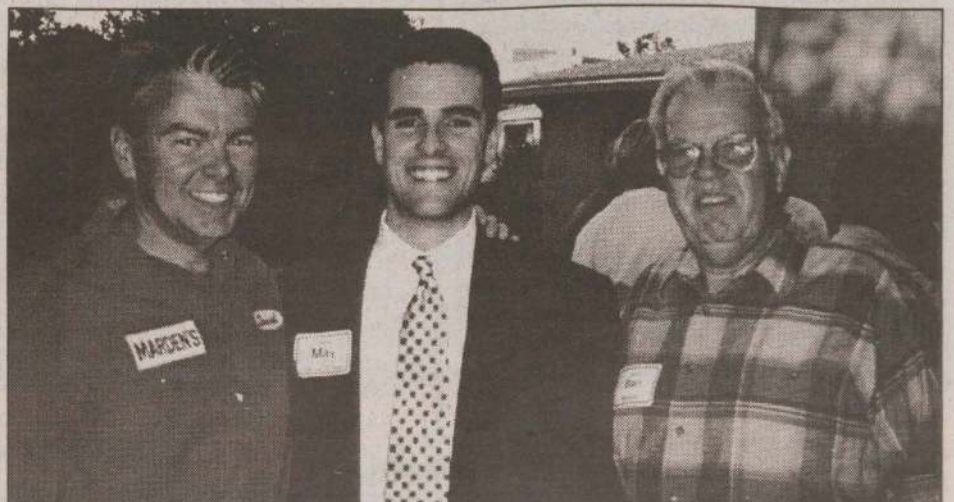
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(l-r) David Lacy, District 26 House candidate Steve May, and John Barr at the May 7 fundraiser co-sponsored by the Log Cabin Republicans and the AZ Human Rights Fund.

NYC legislation would cement rights, benefits for gay partners

NEW YORK (AP)

In what is touted as an important advance in gay and lesbian rights, New York City plans to ensure that unmarried couples are treated the same as married ones on everything from housing to parking permits to burial rights.

The legislation "moves closer to the ideal of human rights, and treating everyone fairly," said Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, a Republican whose office drafted the proposal.

"New York is setting the pace for the rest of the country," he said.

For years, the city has been recognized for accommodating policies toward gay and lesbian couples. A series of directives, at least one of which dates to 1989, extended to domestic partners the rights once reserved for spouses and family members, such as visitation in city jails and hospitals, and succession for city-supervised housing.

Giuliani's legislation, proposed May 13 and written in cooperation with advocates for gay rights, would make those policies permanent by writing them into law. It would apply to heterosexual and homosexual domestic partnerships registered with the City Clerk.

There are about 8,700 registered domestic partners in the city, and at least 55 percent are heterosexual couples, according to the mayor's office.

The proposal is likely to receive quick passage in the Democratic City Council, where it has the support of Speaker Peter F. Vallone.

Since the settlement of a lawsuit in 1993, the city has provided health and

dental benefits to the domestic partners of city workers. Under the proposed legislation, labor negotiations would be required to extend to employees' partners the same benefits provided for employees' spouses, potentially opening the way for those benefits to be expanded.

But the legislation also would venture into new areas, like allowing domestic partners of police and other uniformed employees to be eligible for death benefits if the employee is killed in the line of duty.

A domestic partner would also have the right to be buried with a partner in the city-owned Canarsie cemetery, a right now reserved for spouses. Other changes involve rights to parking permits and disclosure statements filed by city employees.

"The thing that's really important in this law is it does as much as the city can do to recognize domestic partner relationships. That's not what other cities have done," said Matt Foreman, executive director of Empire State Pride Agenda, a gay and lesbian advocacy group that worked on the bill.

Similar issues have been debated around the country.

After a five-year fight by gay activists, Philadelphia's City Council approved a measure to extend health and pension benefits to same-sex partners of city workers. San Francisco has faced court challenges in its attempt to force the roughly 6,000 companies doing business with the city to offer the same benefits to employees' unmarried domestic partners—gay or straight—as they pro-

vide to spouses.

At a time when some states have been passing laws barring same-sex marriage, New York is sending a powerful message, advocates said.

"We applaud Mayor Giuliani for taking this important step," said Kim I. Mills of the Human Rights Campaign, a national lesbian and gay political organization.

Giuliani fulfilled a campaign pledge in proposing the bill, but the legislation is likely to hurt him among conservatives. The mayor has

been trying to raise his national profile in recent months, and aides have said he could be a candidate for national office.

The mayor "has done a swell job cleaning up the streets, but the real problem is in the culture," said Robert H. Knight of the Family Research Council, which lobbies on conservative causes. "He is marginalizing himself, and will not be taken seriously as a national figure by introducing radical proposals like this."

Navy promotes sailor it tried to oust for being gay

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (AP)

When the Navy accused him of being gay, Timothy McVeigh went from chief of a nuclear attack submarine to paper-pushing desk clerk.

So he took his fight to the courts—and won.

McVeigh, assigned to submarine duty in Hawaii, was promoted May 13 to the Navy's highest enlisted rank—master chief petty officer.

"I feel great," said McVeigh, who was chosen from a pool of 168 sailors. "I have worked extremely hard for 18 years to keep Navy submarines mission ready and make them a better place for sailors to work."

The promotion came months after the service lost a federal court battle aimed at forcing McVeigh's discharge on the grounds that he is gay. The 36-year-old McVeigh has never discussed his sexuality publicly.

Military personnel can be dismissed for disclosing their homosexuality, but the armed forces can't raise the issue without sufficient cause.

The Navy began investigating McVeigh after he was linked to an anonymous America Online profile page suggesting he was sexually interested in young men. Despite glowing performance reviews, he was ordered dismissed in December on charges he engaged in sodomy.

McVeigh successfully sued to block the dismissal. A federal judge ruled that the Navy violated the 1986 Electronic Communications Privacy Act by obtaining confidential information from America Online without a warrant or court order.

While his lawsuit progressed, McVeigh was reassigned to a clerical job ashore. A judge later ordered him reinstated to nuclear submarine duty.



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AGRA divvies '98 rodeo profits among community groups

The Phoenix chapter of PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays) and Joshua Tree, a Phoenix-based food bank for people affected by HIV/AIDS, were each recipients of more than \$6,000 in grants from the Arizona Gay Rodeo Association - Phoenix Chapter on May 10.

At the organization's May general membership meeting at Charlie's,

Artie Michaelis accepted a check for \$6,293.50 on behalf of Joshua Tree and Ruth Grove, co-president of Phoenix PFLAG, accepted a check for \$6,806 that she said would assist the group with educational outreach programs in the Valley.

"We are not a big organization with a lot of money," Mrs. Grove said, "so we really do appreciate this." She said PFLAG is "just a group of parents and gay people" who want to make a difference.

Other organizations receiving grants from AGRA-Phoenix were Arizona Central Pride (\$4,018); Tucson Interfaith AIDS Network (\$1,476); and the Valley One in Ten youth group, a program of the Valley of the Sun Gay and Lesbian Community Center (\$1,960).

Ron Trusley, AGRA secre-

tary, spoke to the membership after the checks were handed out. "We are very happy that we can put this money back into the community every year," Trusley said. Much of the money comes from entry fees to the 12-year-old organization's annual spring rodeo, held in south Phoenix each January.



AGRA's Ron Trusley (center) and Bill Travis (right) presented a \$6,806 check to Ruth Grove, co-president of Phoenix PFLAG

Journalists in Slovakia branded child molesters for opposing local government

BRATISLAVA, Slovakia (AP)

A journalist whose reports have embarrassed Slovakia's ruling coalition was targeted Thursday by a leaflet campaign that accused him of being a homosexual who preys on young boys.

The leaflets — stuck to lamp posts, doors and buildings in Karol Lovas' neighborhood — showed pictures of Lovas, who works for Slovakia's independent radio Twist, and his roommate, Slavo Klikusovsky, a columnist for the daily Novy Cas.

"Beware: these two homosexuals who sexually abuse little boys live in your neighborhood," read the leaflets, signed by "an unhappy mother."

Lovas, who shares an apartment in Bratislava with Klikusovsky and a young woman, strongly denied the accusations.

Slovak Interior Minister Gustav Krajci told private TV Markiza the

case was under investigation. No other government comment was immediately available.

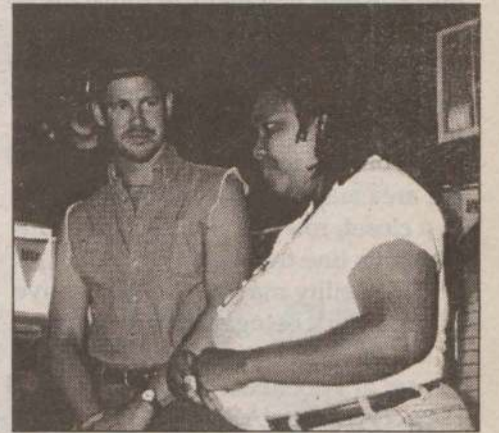
Over the past two years, Lovas' coverage of political rallies and statements by Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar and members of his ruling coalition have often embarrassed the government. Last month, a report quoting government spokesman Jozef Krosiak intimated Meciar had a mistress.

Other journalists have also come under attack following reports critical of the Meciar government.

Journalists Eugen Korda and Peter Toth had their cars destroyed. Dasa Matejickova, who wrote a series of articles critical of intelligence service head, Ivan Lexa, said she had received intimidating telephone calls and the windows of her home had been broken.



Ernie Mendoza (left) and Linda Hoffman accept a \$4,018 contribution on behalf of Arizona Central Pride



The Center's Lyle Miller (left) and Donna McHenry received \$1,906 for the Valley One in Ten youth program

Trusley said that although net profits from the 1998 Roadrunner Regional Rodeo were down slightly from the year before, the association was still able to put \$20,500 back into the community. "You should all be very proud of that," he told the assembled AGRA members.

Landmark steak house raises \$75k for AIDS

The 60 employees of Durant's restaurant in central Phoenix pitched in to raise \$75,000 as part of AIDS Project Arizona's second annual Dining Out for Life fund-raiser May 13.

Durant's employees donated 100 percent of their wages and tips to the cause and the restaurant's owners and management handed the day's entire gross sales to APAZ. The

eatery opened for breakfast that day, for the first time in its five-decade history.

More than 50 restaurants throughout the Valley participated in the event, most donating a portion of their evening sales to the Phoenix-based AIDS service organization. The total amount raised was \$100,000.



Durant's co-owner Marti McElroy takes a break from serving customers during Arizona's second annual Dining Out for Life AIDS fundraiser on May 13

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Natural healing is shared at Wellness Center

By Ty Robins, HeatStroke Contributor

It doesn't look like much. Tucked into a corner of a medical office building on the grounds of Community Hospital, it is marked only by a paper sign that appears to have been scotch-taped to the door.

It consists mainly of a simple waiting area and four examination rooms. In a closet, rows of vitamins and supplements line the shelves.

The facility may not be impressive but the work being done here certainly is. This is the Being Alive Wellness Center in Phoenix, a program of AIDS Project Arizona (APAZ).

Here, a group of dedicated doctors and medical students volunteer their time to improve the lives of people living with HIV/AIDS using many "non-traditional" methods of care and by tapping into the power of natural healing.

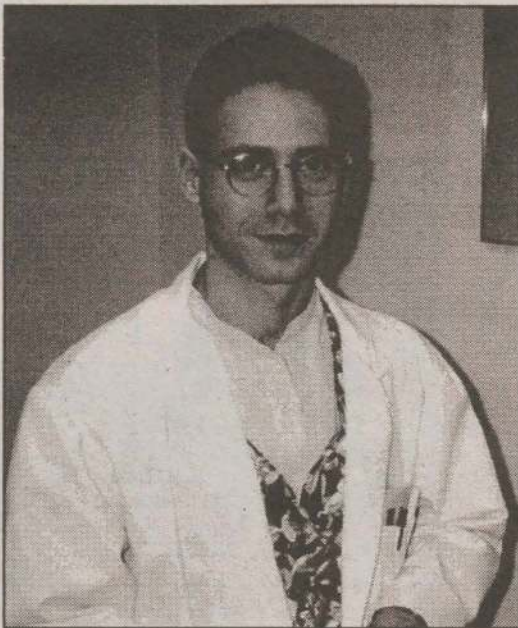
Opened just over a year ago, the clinic provides the services of naturopathic physicians, acupuncturists, chiropractors and massage therapists.

From the outset, a patient or client will find the Wellness Center to be quite different from what might be expected at a conventional doctor's office. "A first office call is an hour and a half," explains Medical Director Ian Bier, N.D. M.S., Dipl.Ac., "and a return office call is an hour."

Adds Malcolm Ridener, Program Assistant for Being Alive and coordinator of the Wellness Center, "You go see an HIV doctor, you're in and out in ten minutes. You have all these

questions, and they can't answer them. We answer everything for you."

"Last week we had somebody in who was diagnosed three days before," says Dr. Bier, "so we had a



Dr. Ian Bier is the Medical Director of APAZ's Being Alive Wellness Center

really good opportunity to spend an hour and a half with them and say: Okay, you have a PCP (primary care provider) already. Let's talk about what your options are, what your feelings about this are, how you are handling it. Fine? Fine is easy to say.

"No one is fine these days after a positive test. So let's talk about that and how we can make sure you're mentally and emotionally handling

this well. And then, we can also do the supplements."

The Wellness Center patient is also assured of having access to the best social services available, thanks to the clinic's affiliation with APAZ.

"Having APAZ here allows us to really bring in the social service aspect. So it's not just, 'Okay, here's your drugs, here's your supplements,' but 'Okay, here's where you need to go to get Medicare or AHCCCS so that you're covered for all of this, and here's where you need to go for a support group.'"

Seeing to a patient's mental and emotional health as well as his or her medical needs is in perfect harmony with the precepts of naturopathic medicine.

As explained by Dr. Bier, the naturopath is far from being a pill pusher. "Naturopathic medicine is built on five principles," he says, "one of which is the healing power of nature. The body has an inherent ability to heal, we just need to work with

it. So it's not: you have HIV and the virus is killing you and that's it.

"Your immune system has a reserve in it and if we give it the right things, it can function. We know this from both clinical experience and also from controlled studies."

He adds, "Clinical trials have shown that Vitamin C can increase T-cells. Beta-carotene can increase CD4 cells. Vitamin A can reduce mother-

to-child transmission of HIV during birth. Vitamin E enhances the effectiveness of AZT and lowers its toxicity. Selenium, Zinc, B-12: all are shown to be correlated with increased immune function in HIV-positive individuals.

"So we have what we call Basic Protocol—which we try to get everybody on. Nutrients that are really important to keep their health going. And we work with them also on their diet."

Naturopaths also put a new light on the old law of the Hippocratic Oath, "First, do no harm."

"Use the least invasive therapy possible," Dr. Bier continues, "when you can. If we can use acupuncture or vitamins to decrease neuropathy, instead of going to a painkilling drug which has side effects, we're going to do that. If you need to go to the drug, well, then you need to go there.

"But if we can control it with something that's less invasive and has less of an effect on the body, then we're only increasing your chances of having a higher quality of life and possibly longer as well."

Another principle of naturopathic medicine is to "treat the whole person," according to Bier.

Rather than sending a patient to one specialist for diarrhea and another for a herpes outbreak, for example, "Look at the person as a whole, because they're related. If your immune system is working well and your digestion is working well then

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A program of AIDS Project Arizona

your diarrhea is going to go away and you're not going to get the herpes outbreak as often."

Next, "Find the cause. Treat the Cause," Bier says.

While the traditional response to a symptom such as diarrhea might be to prescribe a drug to stop it, the naturopath looks deeper. "In fact, maybe the diarrhea is happening because the protease inhibitor is inflaming your gut. And though we

like that, they'll come in for improved quality of life instead of another outbreak or hospitalization. I'd much rather see people for that."

The results of this type of treatment can be as dramatic as the best medical advances. As reported in *The Impact*, APAZ's newsletter, one female patient who was treated at the Wellness Center for neuropathy (a sometimes painful deadening of the nerves to the extremities) described her experience as "a miracle."

Early intervention is a key element. "It's a lot easier to treat somebody who comes in saying, 'I'm diagnosed, what should I do? Should I do the pharmaceuticals or not?' Than someone who's really ill."

"I have my patients who have gone from C3 status (opportunistic infections and T-cell

counts below 200) up to no opportunistic infections and T-cell counts over 500—all with natural medicines. But I can't say that's a daily occurrence. That takes a lot of work on both our part and on the person's part to change his or her diet and lifestyle, and to continue the therapies," says Bier.

Patients are closely monitored for wasting (one of the most devastating effects of HIV infection) and colon hydrotherapy is offered to counter the toxic effects of the commonly prescribed drugs.

The volunteer staff also includes Dr. Chad Schroer from Spectrum Medical Group, chiropractic physician and acupuncturist Dr. Elva M. Gamino, and Gary Dreger, N.D. Dipl.Pc.

There is no formal funding process for the Wellness Center. The physical space located at the corner of 19th Avenue and Maryland was donated by Community Hospital. Tempe's Southwest College of Naturopathic Medicine donates Dr. Bier's time and that of its medical students.

This low overhead allows the

Wellness Center to offer services free of charge or on a sliding scale. Although, as Ridener points out with a laugh, "Donations are very welcome!"

Laughter is something you're likely to hear often at the Wellness Center. Staffers can frequently be seen giving each other some good-natured ribbing or chatting with clients about a dinner party or social situation.

It all seems to be a part of staying well.



Malcolm Ridener, Program Assistant for Being Alive and coordinator of the Wellness Center

can't take you off the protease inhibitor or you don't want to go off the protease inhibitor, there are things we can do to increase the inflammation as opposed to just stopping the diarrhea while the inflammation is still going on."

And finally, "Doctor as Teacher. It's our job to educate people to take care of themselves as much as possible. We're happy to see them come back, we're happy to treat them."

"But if we can teach them how to [eat right], how to shop, get them in the habit of taking care of themselves

Man + Plus: new at Phoenix Body Positive

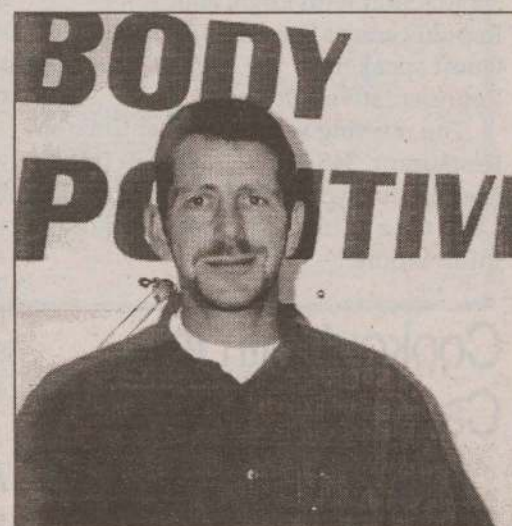
Phoenix Body Positive has hired Zach Sobol as Prevention Project Coordinator. Sobol will be initiating a program called Man Plus for the Phoenix-based organization.

"I'm thrilled to be here," Sobol said. He is anxious to begin the program and excited about its possibilities. "It used to be you were handed a positive HIV diagnosis and that was it—you figured it was over. But now we have more to offer."

Man Plus will interact with other Valley HIV/AIDS prevention programs, such as APAZ's Project LifeGuard, to reach and educate people about the risks of HIV.

Sobol has worked as a paramedic, a firefighter and an HIV

counselor. Most recently, he worked for TERROS in Phoenix.



Zack Sobol has joined PBP as Prevention Project Coordinator.



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Goings On

News & Events of Interest to the Phoenix Queer Community

LRP seeking manager

The Lesbian Resource Project in Phoenix is looking for a part-time volunteer coordinator to manage office functions for LRP. The candidate must be detail-oriented, personable, and reliable. Training will be provided. Lesbian preferred. NW location probable. Hours are negotiable. Leave a message at (602)266-5542.

Log Cabin chapters unite to host Kolbe May 26

The May meeting of the Log Cabin Republicans of Central Arizona will be held Tuesday, May 26 in Tucson, in conjunction with Log Cabin Republicans of Southern Arizona. Guest speaker for the event will be Representative Jim Kolbe.

The meeting will be held at Coco's Restaurant, 345 West Drachman (at Main), starting at 5:45 pm. Call LCR/CAZ at (602) 428-3596 for more information.

Cookout with the Casa

Casa de Cristo Church in Phoenix will be hosting a Weekend of Fun, May 30 & 31.

First, on Saturday, May 30, there will be an "Old Time Church Social &

Picnic" at Encanto Park in central Phoenix from 3 pm to 7 pm. The party will feature horseshoes, 3-legged races, volleyball and a community choir. All donations and proceeds will go toward the church's international outreach.

The next event will be an "Old Time Singin' & Dinner on the Ground" on Sunday, May 31. This pot luck (bring a covered dish) is scheduled for 4 pm at the Church grounds, 1029 East Turney in Phoenix.

Spartans will host Strapped Jock party

The Spartan Wrestling Club of Phoenix will conclude its third season with an exhibition and fund-raiser on Sunday, May 31 at Incognito. The evening will include exhibition wrestling, an auction or raffle, massages from trained and licensed masseurs and a Spartan slave auction.

Boot-black Buck and the wrestlers will be on hand from 5:30 pm during the afternoon beer bust, with wrestling to begin at 8 pm. Admission is free. Incognito is at 24th Street and Thomas in Phoenix. For more information in the event or Spartan Wrestling, call 1-888-728-6050 and leave a message.

AzAPA encouraging home voting

The Arizona AIDS Policy Alliance

was formed a year ago to influence AIDS policy in the state legislature and one lesson its leaders have learned during that time is that constituent voices are indeed heard.

Starting in June, AzAPA is launching a voter registration drive. The organization is hoping many concerned organizations within the HIV/AIDS community and in the gay community will participate.

AzAPA will establish a data base of participating voters, will provide information and collect forms, and may offer a contest for the most voters registered from among the participating organizations.

To help distribute voter registration and home-voting forms and materials and to get your group involved in the program, contact AzAPA at (602) 279-4805.

AGRA '99 Poster Contest

Arizona Gay Rodeo Association-Phoenix Chapter is sponsoring a poster contest for the 1999 Roadrunner Regional Rodeo. The rodeo will take place January 15-17 at the Corona Ranch and Rodeo Grounds in Phoenix.

Judging will be by vote of the members present at the monthly AGRA meeting on June 14, 1998 at Charlie's in Phoenix. All entries must be received by 5 pm that day. Entries may be delivered either in person or by mail to: RRRR Poster Contest c/o Charlie's Phoenix, 727 West Camelback, Phoenix, AZ 85013.

Entries must be 17" x 22" finished size with the only lettering being "1999 Road Runner Regional Rodeo."

Exception to the size rule will be made for computer-generated artwork with the original on Mac-compatible CD or ZIP disk. Sufficient space must be left within the design or border for dates, hotel information and sponsor logos.

The artist's name and phone number must be on the upper right-hand corner on the back of the each entry. Entries received with the artist's name on the front will be disqualified.

The winner will receive a \$200 prize and the winning artwork will become the property of AGRA-Phoenix. Contact Ed Powers at (602) 265-0618 for more information.

APEX hosting piercer & ritual branding

Fakir Musafar, an internationally known body piercer and modifier, will visit Phoenix as a guest of the Arizona Power Exchange on June 15 at 7 pm.

Musafar, known worldwide for his 50 years of research and personal exploration of "body play", will be exploring the dynamics of power exchange, SM experiences and body modification in a first-ever appearance in Phoenix. A ritual branding will take place.

APEX calls this event a must-see for the curious and open minded. Call for recorded information on this and other APEX issues. Call (602) 415-1123.

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Chad Allen met fans and helped out Projects Q and LifeGuard, May 8

TV sheriff rides with Phoenix's outreach gang

Chad Allen, the celebrity host, was late. But the drag queens' quips were right on time, the wine was free and there were plenty of cute boys milling around. So nobody got too upset over the uncloseted TV actor's tardiness.

More than 300 gay and bisexual men showed up to meet the co-star of *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman*, to mingle and enjoy the spread at Project LifeGuard's House Party on May 8 at the Camelback Towers clubhouse in central Phoenix.

Frank Repice, program coordinator for

LifeGuard's Project Q, said the organization was very happy with the turnout for the party.

An outreach tour of several local bars with Allen in tow that followed the event was also very successful. "On our outreach, we signed up more than 70 new people for LifeGuard programs and workshops," Repice said.

Project LifeGuard, an HIV education and prevention program in Phoenix, is a program of AIDS Project Arizona.

CCSL's mid-season revenge

As the Cactus Cities Softball League hits the mid-season mark, the return of sun-drenched weekends has sparked close divisional races.

While the Women's division continues to resemble a cat fight, high drama has intensified with the sweet taste of revenge igniting both the Competitive and Recreational divisions.

Bas Bleu saw their divisional lead shrink when a game with third place 2GirlsGraphics ended in a tie. Cash Inn is now clawing at Bleu's heels with only a half-game advantage separating the two.

However, the divisional leaders shouldn't get too comfortable because a dark horse lurks in the middle of the pack. The Castle Boutique Players have quietly climbed to fourth place and savor the thought of being the Women's Division spoiler.

After taking revenge on Wink's Cosmos for an earlier season loss, the

boys from Roscoe's again lead the Competitive division. Though Wink's has vowed to capture the elusive divisional championship, one has to wonder if history will repeat itself.

The up side to Wink's team again being the runner up is that instead of buying new bridesmaid dresses, players can just re-accessorize the ones hanging in their closets.

Speaking of closets, not even the Extreme's slinky uniforms could distract scorned First Family from avenging an earlier season loss. Though the Extreme still leads this race, First Family has sent a message that they will not relinquish their tiara easily.

Thoughts of a crown also tantalize Wink's Warriors, BunkHouse Scorchers, Gay Yellow Pages and BS West Express. As the end-of-season tourney draws closer, these teams continue to strengthen with one thought in mind—that two teams

CCSL LEAGUE STANDINGS—AS OF MAY 7, 1998	
WOMEN'S DIVISION:	11/All About Destinations/0-10
Rank/Team/Record	
WOMEN'S DIVISION	OPEN DIVISION COMPETITIVE
Rank/Team/Record	Rank/Team/Record
1/Bas Bleu Productions/10-0-1	1/Roscoe's/8-1
2/Cash Inn/11-1	2/Wink's/7-1
3/2GirlsGraphics/Page Whitney/9-2-1	3/Pookie's/0-8
4/Castle Boutique Players/5-4	
5/Roscoe's Heat/5-5	OPEN DIVISION RECREATIONAL
6/Nasty Habits/5-6-1	Rank/Team/Record
7/Desert Reproductions/4-6	1/Roscoe's X-Treme/7-1
8/Movies on Central Renegades/4-6	2/First Family Medical/6-1-1
9/The Mavericks/3-7-1	3/Bunk House Scorchers/4-4
10/The Biz/Experience This/2-9	4/BS West Express/3-6

from the Recreational division will be awarded berths to the Gay World Series in Atlanta.

The CCSL invites the gay and lesbian community to come out and support our athletes. League games are played on Sundays from 9 am to 4

pm at El Dorado Park located on Miller Road north of McDowell in Scottsdale.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact the CCSL Hotline at 848-8562, or visit our website at www.aau.net/ccsl.

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Tuesday

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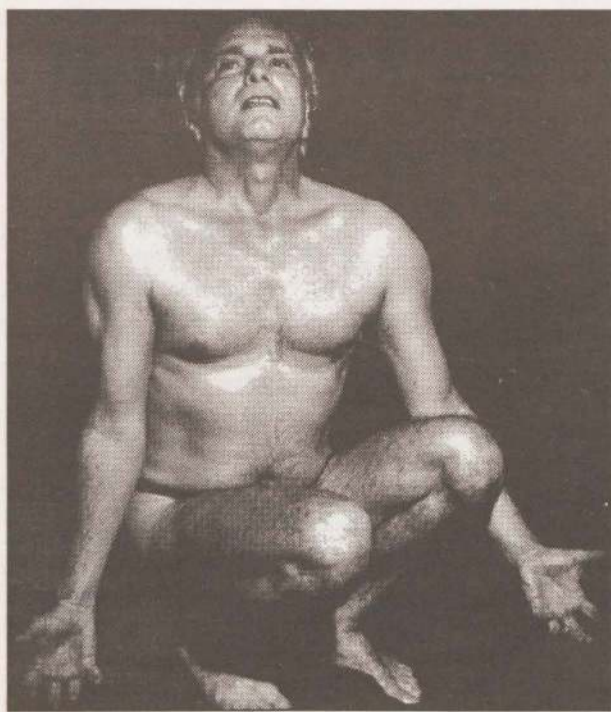
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Bold company to finish season with little-seen Williams play

The final show of the '97-'98 season for In Mixed Company, a professional theater company in Phoenix that was formed a few years ago by several former students from ASU's theater department, will have a strong connection to the Tempe university.

Out Cry, a little known play by Tennessee Williams, stars ASU theater professor Barbara Acker and will be directed by ASU theater professor David Barker. The two-character drama opens May 23 and also stars Steven Mastroieni.

In the play, reality and fantasy are interwoven with terrifying power as two actors on tour—broth-

er and sister—find themselves deserted by their troupe in a decrepit "state theater in an unknown state."

Faced by an audience expecting a performance, they enact "The Two Character Play," an illusion within an illusion, an out cry from panic, isolation and fear.

The show will run through June 6 at the Herberger Theatre Center in Phoenix. Tickets are \$16.50 and available by calling Dillard's or the Herberger Box Office, or call IMCO at (602) 252-8497. Groups, Senior and student discounts are available.

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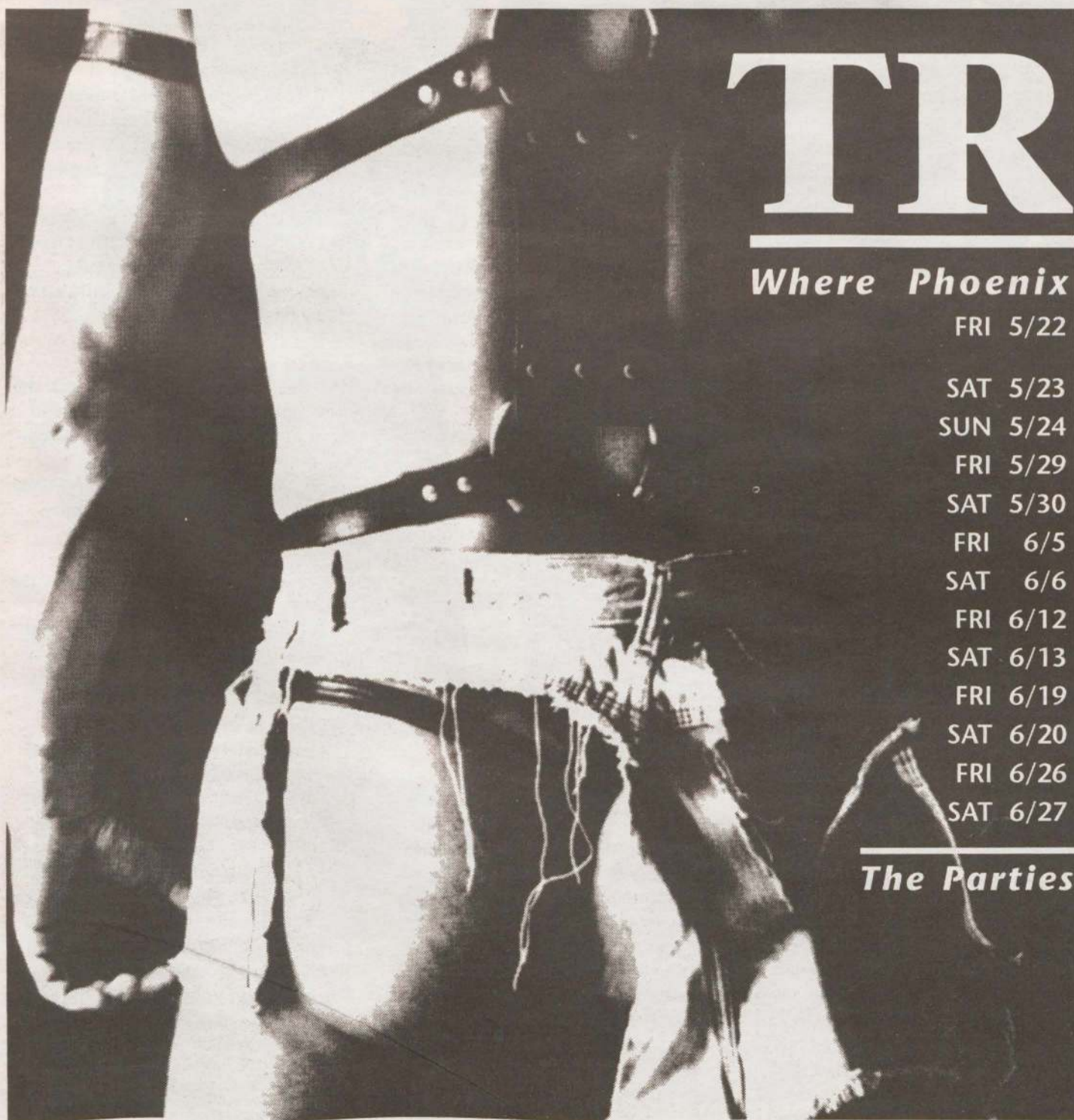
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- FRI 5/29 New Moon Madness
- SAT 5/30 Sweat & Muscles
- FRI 6/5 White Knights
- SAT 6/6 Full Moon Bash
- FRI 6/12 Blackout Party
- SAT 6/13 June Birthday & Underwear Party
- FRI 6/19 Juneteenth
- SAT 6/20 Bud Night
- FRI 6/26 New Moon Madness
- SAT 6/27 Uniform Party

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A Desert Adventure in Arizona's Chiricahua Mountains

Continued from page 1

drink several beers and rotate before the flames, chatting with other campers until well after 11.

People are enthusiastically discussing the eight-mile hike down the mountain planned for Saturday, an adventure I'm pretty sure I won't be joining. Eight miles. That's like walking from my house to downtown Scottsdale, I keep thinking. It's too damned far, even if it is mostly downhill.

I'm not the only one who thinks dinner smelled good. Our late evening social hour is interrupted by a marauding skunk, who wanders over coolers and under tables not three feet from us in search of leftovers. He even scratches and sniffs at the sides of several tents, many of which have people sleeping inside.

The pungent weasel hits paydirt when he discovers a whole baked potato left on the ground, and gobbles it up while people run around screaming and holding their noses.

Friday, 11:30 pm

I crawl into my sleeping bag. It's really cold. People in one tent are eating late. They drink and laugh and talk for hours. A wicked snore—with reverberations that can no doubt be felt in New Mexico—emanates from another tent every 20 seconds.

Our striped mascot, satisfied by the hot potato, retreats into the surrounding woods and is gone for the night. I'm glad somebody's sleeping.

Saturday, 2:00 am

I've somehow pulled the sleeping bag's zipper apart and the temp is in the mid-40's. I don't have a pillow and can't feel my fingers or feet. I'm definitely not going hiking tomorrow.

Saturday, 11:00 am

We pose for group photos in a parking lot at 6870 ft. before beginning our eight-mile hike.

I managed an hour's sleep after the sun came up and decided to tag along for at least the first half of the trek. Hiking this trail is the only way to view many of the area's famous rock formations and besides, I still want to see a rattlesnake.

Saturday, 11:03 am

A rattler! Well, sort of. We've traipsed less than 50 yards along the first trail and someone has already spotted a snake. 20 people are marching single file and I'm next-to-last. By the time I reach the spot where it reportedly slithered into the dense pines and cacti, there's nothing to see.

Saturday, 1:00 pm

We've reached a midpoint near the Heart of Rocks and have already trekked as high as 7010 ft. This section of the trail features dozens of gargantuan rock formations carved into weird and humorous shapes by millions of years of wind and rain.

Everything about the place is spectacular and I'm glad I came.

Hiking in a large group provides an incredibly relaxed setting for meeting other people. We've shared water and we've shared knowledge, but it is the sense of shared discovery that really bonds us as we round each new corner and encounter every new vista together.

Along the trail, we've discussed careers, life goals, family backgrounds, coming out, even sex—and we've laughed every step of the way. These DA'ers are some of the nicest, most grounded and genuine people I've had the pleasure of spending an afternoon with in some time.

People of all ages, body types and economic backgrounds make up our group, but there's no pressure on any of us to impress or conform.

Oldest among us is Dale, a retired photographer who's proud to say he'll soon be 62.

Patrick McElroy, 59, lives in Tucson. He's a former forester who raised a family in Seattle before coming out and relocating to Arizona. Patrick knows a great deal about the area's geology and plant and animal life, and we all appreciate his hiking expertise.

There're a couple of friendly guys in their thirties who moved to Arizona from Wisconsin a year ago. Another cute male couple, twentysomethings with tattooed biceps and military haircuts, turn our collective heads when they smooch and hold hands along the trail.

Shy Danielle brings up the rear throughout most of the hike, clacking along with a walking stick as tall as she is. It's a wonderful mix and everyone seems to enjoy the diversity.

Saturday, 1:30 pm

The fairy godmother of camping must be working overtime on my behalf today. I'm right up front of a group of seven or more guys—we are ascending the rocky hill that begins

Whirrrrrr. . .tk, tk, tk. Something bright and squirming and noisy darts across the narrow trail just ahead of me. The instant I realize it's a rattlesnake, I'm launched three feet backward by my own adrenaline.

the loop through Heart of Rocks when suddenly, my big wish is granted.

Whhhirrrrr... tk, tk, tk. Something bright and squirming and noisy darts from left to right across the narrow trail just ahead of me.

The instant I realize it's a rattlesnake, I'm launched three feet backward by my own adrenaline. I might have landed directly on David, but he's seen it, too and has jumped

back onto whomever was behind him.

We both scream. Or yell. I don't remember exactly.

It's a large western diamondback, at least 30 inches long. I count seven rattles.

He settles onto a knee-high rock and curls round and round himself, hissing and spiraling as we snap his picture and take turns pushing to the front of our giggling and gasping pack of boymen.

The snake is parked mere inches from the trail. There's no way around him and he won't move. Someone pitches a pebble. Two guys decide that another view of unusually

shaped rocks is worth neither a snakebite nor a heart attack and head back toward the main trail.

The rest of us want very much to see the special rocks ahead. Or so we claim. More to the point, we are unwilling to admit defeat by a legless reptile.

Finally John, one of the most outdoorsy types in the group (I believe he's actually described how to gut an elk at one point) tosses the fierce diamondback into the brush with a whisk of his walking stick. We move on.

Saturday, 4:30 pm

Back at camp, all the hikers are proud and congratulatory. Completing the long trip from the peak, around the Heart of Rocks loop and down to the Visitor Center was not easy, and there are several stories to be told and shared.

Saturday, 7:30 pm

Ben and Bob host a spaghetti dinner and wine tasting for everyone on the trip. These organized Saturday night dinners are a tradition on DA campouts, included so there is at least one activity where everyone comes together socially.

The sun sets and I gather comments about the organization from several DA members. I ask Ben, a

Ben has been involved in DA for five years and this is his fourth trip to the Chiricahuas.

At another table, David Carson tells me the diversity of the group is a selling point. "You get all types of people on the outings and you form a lot of close friendships," he says.

Exploration is another motivating factor for members. "This state is really beautiful and DA helps you constantly realize that," says Craig Jones.

There's also the potential for romance. "You actually do meet people on the trips," Craig says.

My tablemates then tell me of one gay couple who met on a DA campout and are still together after four years.

"It's my reality check," adds David, who's been on dozens of DA outings. "All day long it's asphalt and concrete. I get out here and I say to myself, 'this is what's real' and I love it."

"Look at the stars," says Joe, sitting across the picnic table from me. "You don't get skies like that in the city."

We all look up and no one talks. You'd never find a half-minute in a bar setting where eight gay men are thinking the same thing at the same time.

But I'd be willing to bet we were all thinking alike at that moment, gathered around a table in the Chiricahua National Monument, staring up at the starry sky with a fire crackling nearby.

Saturday, 10:00 pm

It's ten degrees warmer than the night before when I hit the sleeping bag (I managed to re-thread the zipper!) and I'm at least thirty degrees more tired.

There's no late-night chat tonight and our hungry skunk's visit is much shorter—he scans the perimeter, angrily shakes a full but tightly sealed Hefty bag and then pads off.

Sunday, 8:00 am

I sleep soundly and wake with the sun, ready to pack up the truck and head north to Phoenix and my waiting responsibilities.

To say the Desert Adventures campout was "fun" would be a gross understatement. I learned a lot. About the mountain terrain, the native vegetation and the wildlife, for example.

But also about the inimitable gay spirit and the way it—and humor—hold us together in this community, though we may often appear to be strangers in every way.

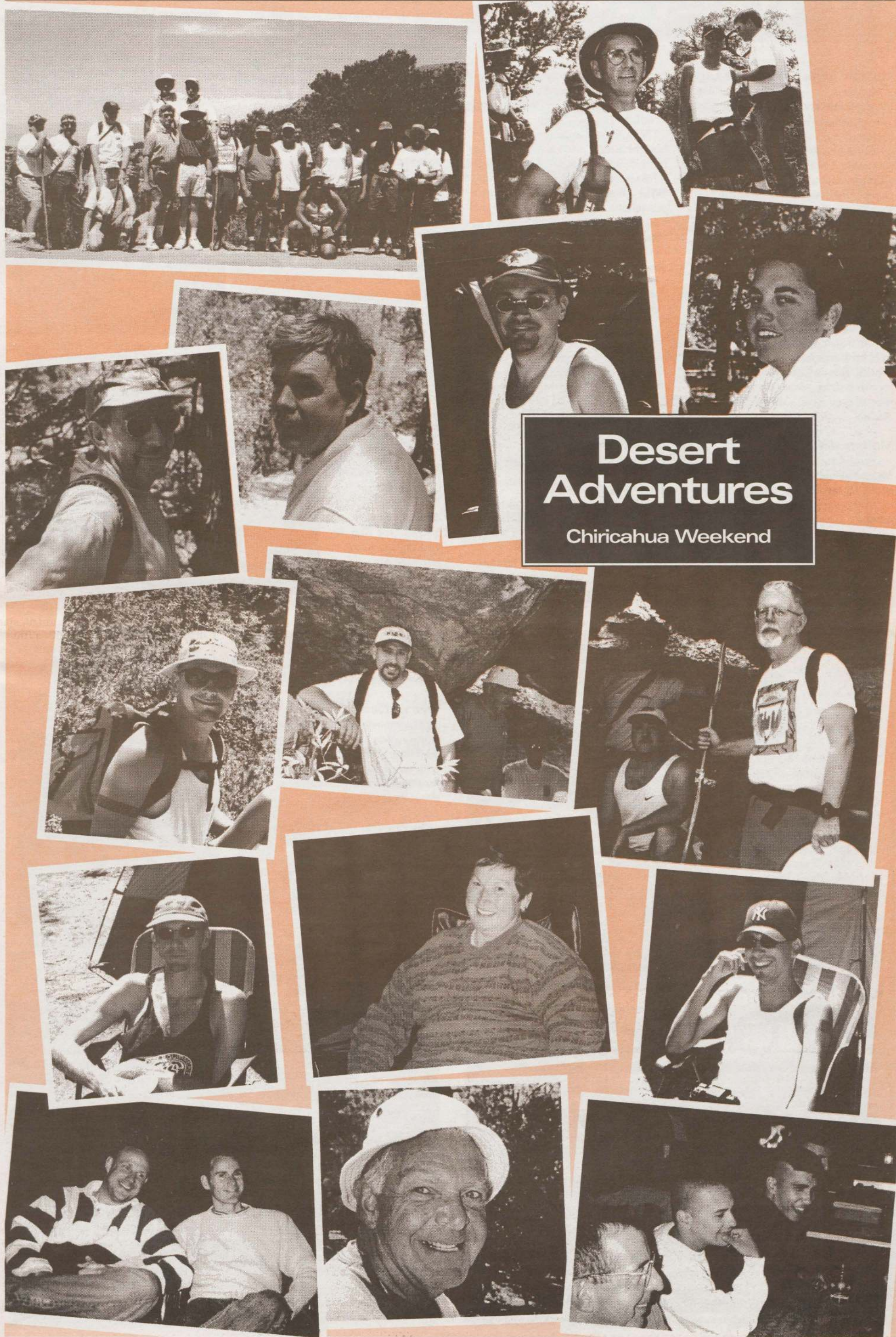
Immediately after leaping out of that big serpent's way on Saturday afternoon, I jerked my Nikon free of its case and told myself, "This is going to be the highlight of this trip."

Then I picked up the prints Sunday night and found three photos of a snake among nearly two dozen pictures of my diverse comrades in weekend discovery. I looked at those happy, dirty, sunburnt faces and realized I was wrong.

The rattlesnake was not the highlight.



Seeing/Being Scene



**Desert
Adventures**
Chiricahua Weekend

Hollywood Deep Inside

By Romeo San Vicente, HeatStroke Contributor

Must Be Something in the Lava

All those on-set explosions must have made some impact on the heroines from last year's "volcano movies."

Anne Heche started dating Ellen soon after *Volcano* wrapped, and now a London newspaper is reporting that *Dante's Peak* star Linda Hamilton is shacking up with stuntwoman Cindy Deerheim, who was her double in that disaster flick.

Deerheim's husband claims that Hamilton "stole" his wife, who is reported to be living in a gated community in Southern California where the Terminator is said to be a frequent visitor.

Of course, this must be some blow to Hamilton's husband, "King of the World" James Cameron, who is now reported to be seeing Suzy Amis, who played Rose's daughter in *Titanic*.

Multimedia Mizrahi

Famed fashion designer Isaac Mizrahi is going Hollywood. Mizrahi, whose life was chronicled by his boyfriend in the 1995 documentary *Unzipped*, recently sold an idea for a comic strip character to DreamWorks and a script he conceived to Disney.

Sandee the Supermodel is a mock comic look at a supermodel who has just been discovered by a Mizrahi-like

designer. DreamWorks is planning to turn it into a live action movie and possibly an animated TV series aimed at adults.

Mizrahi's feature script was bought after a pitch he made to *Men in Black* director Barry Sonnenfeld while vacationing in the Hamptons. *Wild About Harry* is described as a screwball comedy about a New York-based ad exec who gets involved in a "confused" love story. Mizrahi wants to star in the film, though no word on whether Disney will go for that.

Queen Nancy

Gay producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron, who scored a blockbuster hit with last year's *Cinderella* remake for television, are developing a four-hour miniseries for ABC on the life of Nancy Reagan.

The unauthorized look at the former first lady will focus on her role in the Reagan White House, one which Meron describes as more active than anyone might have assumed.

HBO's got Milk

HBO is producing a biopic about San Francisco supervisor Harvey Milk, the gay rights pioneer who was assassinated in 1978. Mark Christopher, who recently wrapped production on this summer's *54* (about New York's Studio 54), will direct.

Several years back, a script based on Randy Shilts' biography *The Mayor of Castro Street* bounced from director to director and studio to studio, but that project remains in limbo. No word yet on who will play Milk in the HBO project, though Robin Williams was long rumored to be interested in the role as a feature project with queer director Gus Van Sant (*Good Will Hunting*).

Norman, is that you?

Speaking of Van Sant, casting has begun on his terribly ill-advised directorial remake of *Psycho*, scheduled to begin filming this summer.

The role of Norman Bates has been offered to *Swingers* stud Vince Vaughn (I wish you could hear me laughing) while Nicole Kidman is being pursued to fill the role originated by Janet Leigh.

Who says Hollywood doesn't have any new ideas?

The Bitch is Back

Joan Collins is returning to the big screen in *Cascade*, an 18th Century period drama which pairs her with gay actor

Nigel Hawthorne (*The Object of My Affection*).

Speaking of *Object*, you can put those Paul Rudd fantasies to rest. The handsome actor, who plays queer in the film, is dating his co-star, Jennifer Aniston.

Expecting

Pop star Melissa Etheridge and her partner Julie Cypher are expecting their second child, conceived through artificial insemination. The baby is due in November.

Web of Lies?

The internet has been the source many rumors about many a star's sexuality, and lately it's been buzzing with word that *Home Improvement* star Jonathan Taylor Thomas is gay and about to come out of the closet in an *Advocate* interview.

Eleven-year old girls everywhere can keep their fantasies intact, however. Thomas, 17, vehemently denies the whispers, and *The Advocate* claims such an interview never took place.

Parting Shots

It's been an ugly finish for *Ellen* at ABC. DeGeneres has been lashing out at network execs, claiming they sabotaged her show because of pressure from right-wing groups.

Her show's producer, Tim Doyle, accuses the network of being ashamed of *Ellen*, and the ugliness reached a head at a wrap party for the series finale. *Ellen* and partner Anne Heche reportedly verbally assaulted the suits, in particular ABC Entertainment President Stuart Blomberg.

For his part, Blomberg apparently feels that the network supported the show but that it sacrificed humor in order to become issue-oriented, causing ratings to drop.

In the end, it seems that *Ellen* may have been a little naive. Her ratings were way down, and networks aren't in the business of sacrificing profit for political statement.

It is a shame that viewers seemed less inclined to watch a "lesbian" *Ellen*, but it's also a reality that she

can't ignore. After all, hers isn't the first quality show that got the axe.

Waiting for Mr. Grant

Mary Tyler Moore and Valerie Harper are looking for new writers, indicating that their ABC sitcom may be in trouble. *Mary and Rhoda* was considered a cinch for the troubled network's fall schedule, but production delays mean the show won't debut until mid-season, if then.



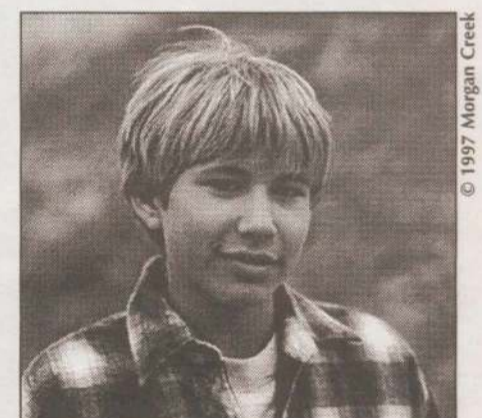
Vince Vaughn is slated to play Norman Bates in Gus Van Sant's updated version of the Hitchcock classic



The Object of My Affection's Nigel Hawthorne (l) will star with Joan Collins in the period drama *Cascade*.

I'll Spin for Ya

Boy George, who is mounting a comeback tour with his mates in *Culture Club* this summer, is trying to pay the bills by offering his services as a DJ. His price: \$20,000 a gig.



Home Improvement's Jonathan Taylor Thomas has quashed internet rumors that he is gay.

Whoizit?

It's hard to say what's most beautiful about one young Hollywood stud: his eyes, his face, his body.... you get the picture. Though not quite a household name, his role on a short-lived but critically acclaimed TV drama made him an object of fantasy for girls (and boys) everywhere.

His sexual orientation has been as mysterious as the character he played on said show, but recent spottings around LA with other famous young studs have shed some light on the speculation, particularly the candlelight dinner he shared with the queer star of a long-running TV drama.

Romeo San Vicente, who denies internet rumors that he is straight, can be reached care of HeatStroke or at RSVicente@aol.com.



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Out of Town

Gay-friendly LA Hotels

By Andrew Collins, HeatStroke Contributor

Although Los Angeles has earned a reputation for being car-dependent, it's actually one of only a few American cities with more than a dozen excellent hotels within easy walking distance of the main gay dining and clubbing district, West Hollywood's Santa Monica Boulevard.

Should, however, your priorities involve proximity to downtown offices, sandy beaches, or tony Beverly Hills shopping, rest assured that the City of Angels has gay-friendly properties in virtually every desirable part of the city.

Location is the most important consideration in choosing an L.A. accommodation. If staying in the heart of West Hollywood is important, bear in mind that few rooms here run for less than \$100 nightly.

Hollywood has scads of affordable options, but many are dumpy motels in questionable areas. Beverly Hills and West Los Angeles have beautiful rooms but among the highest hotel prices in the nation.

Downtown isn't a long drive from West Hollywood, and it's close to Silver Lake restaurants and bars, but most lodgings are characterless business hotels. They're also expensive on weekdays, but keep in mind that several of them offer deep weekend discounts.

The retro-looking motor lodges near Farmers Market are not far from L.A.'s nightlife and if not exactly fancy are inexpensive and clean—this is an ideal place to stay if you're on a budget.

Prices at chain hotels in the San Fernando Valley are lower for the same size and quality of room in L.A. proper, but it will take you from 20 to 45 minutes to drive over the hills into West Hollywood.

Of West Hollywood hotels, if money is no object skip the overhyped and snotty Mondrian in favor of the elegant and low-key Argyle, a 16-story, 64-room, 1920s art deco tower, formerly home to such glamorous stars as the Gabor sisters and Errol Flynn. Rooms contain stunning period reproductions and afford some of the best views in the city; each has

a VCR and CD player.

The hotel's esteemed fenix restaurant serves outstanding New American cuisine in a stately dining room or out by the swimming pool that was featured prominently in Robert Altman's *The Player*.

Similarly elegant and just steps from the fabulous Beverly Center shopping mall (a five-minute drive

Fronting Santa Monica Boulevard is perhaps the most gay-popular chain hotel in America, the slick Ramada West Hollywood. Rooms have a sleek art deco look and guests have access to a cruisy pool and sun-deck. Most of the stylish and spacious suites have sleeping lofts (these rooms are a relative bargain).

Budget travelers seeking easy

foliage-choked lanai and buffed and in-the-buff men lying around a pool. Accommodations are either in large suites or detached cottages with tasteful contemporary furnishings.

If you're willing to forego convenience to West Hollywood, and you're looking for truly special accommodations elsewhere in the city, start off by considering the highly underrated but supremely sumptuous Wyndham Checkers, in the heart of downtown. This intimate 1920s charmer was fully refurbished with Asian and European antiques, and marble baths.

In Beverly Hills, you simply can't beat the swank Hotel Bel Air. Secluded rooms are impeccably decorated and ridiculously expensive. If you wish to linger amid royalty, this is the place. The experience may leave you feeling intimidated, not so much because you're with a same-sex lover, but because you're not famous (unless you are).

You simply must have a view of the ocean? Shutters on the Beach is not your typical urban hotel experience;

it's set directly on Santa Monica's beachfront, only a short blade or bike ride away from the gay beach at Will Rogers State Park. Rooms are spread among three posh buildings, and in each of the marble baths you can lie back in a large whirlpool tub.

Some visitors to L.A. are so determined to stay by the beach and also in a gay-oriented property, that they base themselves 90 minutes south of the city in the tony seaside community, Laguna Beach.

Here you'll find the Coast Inn, a full-service gay resort for more than 30 years, which sits right on the beach and has gay bars, a restaurant, and clean, comfortable rooms. The fanciest accommodations have private sundecks, fireplaces, and wet bars, but you can get simpler ones with ocean views for as little as \$60. Though all kinds of guys and even a few women stay here, the place attracts its share of sculpted L.A. types and a smattering of porn stars.

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 care of HeatStroke or at gayfodors@aol.com



Shutters on the Beach, one of L.A.'s most glamorous hostels, offers guests direct access to the beaches and rollerblading paths of Santa Monica

Andrew Collins

from WeHo nightlife), the Hotel Sofitel has a strong gay following; from top to bottom this is a first-rate property with a distinctive facade and upscale French furnishings.

Still a bit pricey but offering full

Right by the colorful and cruisy Farmers Market is the Beverly Laurel Motor Hotel, which looks like something Lucy and Ricky might have chosen during their fabled Hollywood voyage.

suites with kitchenettes, fireplaces, and other deluxe amenities, Le Montrose and Le Parc have long been favorites of visitors to Boys' Town—they're steps from the action on Santa Monica Boulevard, but on quiet residential streets.

Le Montrose has a rooftop pool and hot tub offering spectacular skyline views, while Le Parc has a pool out back and tennis courts on the roof.

proximity to West Hollywood nightlife should consider two fine options.

A short drive away, right by the colorful and cruisy Farmers Market, is the 52-room Beverly Laurel Motor Hotel, which looks like something Lucy and Ricky might have chosen during their fabled Hollywood voyage; it's changed little in 40 years, inside or out. Attached is the hip little late-night coffee shop Swingers, which helps the Beverly Laurel attract all manner of visitors—fashionable (but low-budget) genXers, plus families, queers, and budding actors.

If you really don't mind basic clean furnishings (some of which have kitchenettes), the cheap but cheerful Holloway Motel is a fine option; it's steps from bars and businesses in the heart of Boys' Town.

L.A. has never cultivated the plethora of gay guest houses typical of nearby Palm Springs, but West Hollywood is home to one outstanding guy-oriented resort, the San Vicente Inn. This place is quintessentially Californian, complete with

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the funnies

The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green

by Eric Orner



So Here you ARE, ANOTHER DAY ON THE JOB AS PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO TV WEATHERMAN Monty Poole.

WELL HOW'R YOU YOUNG LADY?
DID YOU KNOW ITS MY BIRTH DAY, I'M 57!

LAST WEEK AT A SENIOR CITIZEN'S EVENT
MERCY! I THOUGHT YOU WERE SWEET 16... ETHAN! GIVE THIS LADY A HAND

YES MONTY (CROWD)
ONE YOU AL (BANNED)

Actually, MONTY is OUT OF THE COUNTRY ATTENDING A WEATHERMAN'S CONVENTION IN BANGKOK..

GARY GREENWAY VANCOUVER TV WEATHERMAN

... And The regular Sub, Weekend Anchor, DAPHNEY HANDY, IS HOLED UP AT A PADRE ISLAND resort SPA WHILE Her LAWYERS NEGOTIATE THIS WEEK'S CONTRACT DISPUTE..

PISSEY, THREATENING TO QUIT, CONSIDERING SEPARATION FROM HER HUSBAND STATE SENATOR JIM HANDY

THE SPORTS GUY IS IN JAIL FOR VIOLATING A RESTRAINING ORDER, AND SERGEI, IN MAINTENANCE, ONLY SPEAKS UKRAINIAN, ALL OF WHICH MEANS THAT NEWSCENTER 12 MANAGEMENT HAS TURNED TO YOU TO DO THE WEATHER.

WHAT I'M WONDERING IS, GREEN, HAVE YOU EVER BEEN BEFORE THE CAMERA?

YOUR FRIEND JAY IS THE NEW STATION MANAGER

OK! WHERE TO FIND COOL WHISTS?

HAVE!! YESSIT I GOT TAINLY WHY IN THE 5TH GRADE I WUZ THE LEAD ON OKLAHOMA-MOM FILMED THE WHOLE PRODUCTION!

This is big news in The Ghetto, where your FRIENDS THROW A LITTLE PARTY TO TAPE your 15 MINUTES..

MRS. GREEN

AND SINCE YOU ARE BEING CRITIQUED BY EVERY QUEEN IN THE CITY, MYSTERIOUS FORCES OF THE COSMOS CONSPIRE TO MAKE YOU LOOK UNATTRACTIVE, DESPITE THE BEST EFFORTS OF MICHAEL, CHANNEL 12'S STYLIST, YOU'VE APPARENTLY GROWN A HAIR OUT OF THE TOP OF your ear...

HEY CHECK OUT THE NEW GUY-EAR HAIR--

15 SECONDS TILL GUY--

GASP

OMGOD

A Couple of guys
by Dave Broussau

I COULDN'T FIND A SITTER SO I BROUGHT APRIL ALONG.

THAT'S QUITE ALL RIGHT, MARY ANN. DESIRÉE HAS THE DAY OFF, SO APRIL CAN SIT IN HER CHAIR....AND MATISSE WILL KEEP HER COMPANY.

e-mail: apcloiguy@aol.com

HELLO THERE. SAY, AREN'T YOU BIG AND WARM AND CUDDLY.

I BEG YOUR PARDON?

AND THOSE BIG BROWN EYES! YOU ARE SO CUTE!

REALLY, MISS, I--MMGF--DON'T THINK YOU'RE QUITE--UNGH--MY-TYPE.

I COULD JUST HUG YOU AND KISS YOU AND EAT YOU UP. HEY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

SOMEONE GET THIS GIRL AWAY FROM ME.

REMINDS ME OF MY SENIOR PROM.

©1998 Dave Broussau

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel

www.visi.com/~oprairie/

deferred Interest

©1998 BY ALISON BECHDEL

...AND WITH AN ADJUSTABLE RATE MORTGAGE, YOU WANT TO BE CAREFUL OF NEGATIVE AMORTIZATION, OR DEFERRED INTEREST, BECAUSE AT THE END OF THE YEAR, YOU COULD BE FURTHER IN DEBT THAN WHEN YOU STARTED.

GOD, MY HEAD'S SWIMMING. I'M SO GLAD WE'RE BUYING HOUSES AT THE SAME TIME, I DON'T KNOW IF I COULD FIGURE ALL THIS OUT ON MY OWN.

YOU'LL GET THE HANG OF IT. IT'S ACTUALLY REALLY INTERESTING. SO FOR A 30-YEAR FIXED-RATE LOAN, YOU NEED TO PAY 20 PERCENT DOWN, OR YOU HAVE TO BUY MORTGAGE INSURANCE, WHICH...

I THINK IT'S GREAT, IT'S A MUCH MORE RADICAL ACT FOR TWO WOMEN TO CHALLENGE THE STATE BY GETTING MARRIED THAN TO STAY AROUND MURDERING ABOUT THE PATRIARCHY.

BUT WE DON'T WANT RAFFI GROWING UP NEXT DOOR TO A CRACK HOUSE.

OKAY. THE BEST DEAL IS A 15-YEAR LOAN. YOU END UP PAYING WAY LESS INTEREST, BUT OF COURSE THE MONTHLY PAYMENTS ARE HIGHER.

I DON'T THINK I COULD AFFORD THAT. BUFFALO LAKE IS ONLY GIVING ME A PITY FANCE.

HOW'D YOU DECIDE TO TAKE THE JOB? DIDN'T YOU SAY TEACHING AT A MOSTLY WHITE, SMALL-TOWN STATE COLLEGE SOUNDED LIKE THE NINTH CIRCLE OF HELL?

WELL, HELL STARTED LOOKING PRETTY GOOD. IT'S NOT EXACTLY A BUYER'S MARKET OUT THERE. 463 PEOPLE APPLIED FOR THIS JOB!

LOOK WHAT I GOT, GINGER!

WHOA, RAFFI. THAT'S VERY UH...LETHAL LOOKING.

SO MUCH FOR 'NO MORE WAR TOYS.' SYDNEY GOT HIM THAT. SHE AND MO TOOK HIM TO TOYS R US LAST NIGHT WHILE I WAS AT A FREEDOM TO MARRY MEETING.

HEY, DO YOU HAVE ANY INTEREST IN VOLUNTEERING? IT'S SUCH IMPORTANT WORK!

UM...ACTUALLY, MARRIAGE ISN'T REAL HIGH ON MY AGENDA RIGHT NOW.

TONI, NOT EVERYONE WANTS TO FIGHT FOR THE DUBIOUS RIGHT OF HAVING THEIR DOMESTIC AFFAIRS LEGITIMIZED BY THE PATRIARCHY.

LISTEN, CLARICE, IT'S A MUCH MORE RADICAL ACT FOR TWO WOMEN TO CHALLENGE THE STATE BY GETTING MARRIED THAN TO STAY AROUND MURDERING ABOUT THE PATRIARCHY.

UM... COULD YOU EXPLAIN THAT STUFF ABOUT "POINTS" AGAIN, AND HOW THEY AFFECT THE INTEREST RATE?

THWACK!

RAFFI!

LATER THAT EVENING...

I LOVE THAT WE'RE FRIENDS WITH GINGER. IT MAKES ME FEEL SO SOPHISTICATED, LIKE WE'RE IN A NOEL COWARD PLAY. WHEN WAS IT YOU TWO HAD THAT AFFAIR? TEN YEARS AGO?

CLARICE?

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Dear Cowboy,
My boyfriend of ten months just informed me that he had a nose job a few years before we met. Now he plans to get his eyes lifted, whatever that means. He is only 38 and looks great. I've seen "before" pictures and believe me, there was nothing wrong with his old nose.
Gay men seem to be getting more and more vain and it bugs me that he is so worried about his appearance. I'd like talk him out of another surgery but I don't want my argument should be.
How long before he starts thinking I could look a little "better" with a nip and a tuck? I wish he could just

be happy with himself as he is.
Signed, Aging Naturally

Dear Natural,
Riding the range in the sun and the wind can take its toll on a wrangler, and there's no real harm done getting a little help from the Doc in recapturing a younger appearance.
Sure there are deeper issues at work, and parts of gay culture are too wrapped around how a guy looks. It's great you recognize that, and are well-adjusted as far as your own looks and your sense of self-worth.
But trying to make all the other bulls buck the same way you do is not part of your job. If your dude

suggests getting a little work done yourself, all you have to do is say no.
If he really wants these fix-ups and can afford them, I say your best bet is to support him and tell him he looks great every day—before and after.

Dear Cowboy,
I have a huge crush on President Clinton and I don't know why.
It all started about the time Monica Lewinsky first made the news. It doesn't matter if I'm in the car, at home or at work—every time I hear a new accusation about his clandestine activities I get turned on.
I even taped the State of the Union address and it works better than any

porno I've seen.
Suppose these rumors of his affairs were created by his own staff to portray Clinton as a womanizer, in order to cover up the fact that he is really gay. Do you think I have a chance? I don't mean now, but maybe after he's out of office in a few years.
Signed,
Waiting for Bill

Dear Waiting,
Cowboy, you need to get outside and find some honest, hard work to keep your mind occupied. Enjoy your video in secret and don't even think about bothering the man with this, now or ever.

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- C. That's a Wrap!
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Phoenix 252-5051
2765 N. Scottsdale Rd
Scottsdale 941-0484

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- 1. Ain't Nobody's Bizness
3031 E. Indian School
Phoenix 224-9977
- 2. Apollo's
5749 N. 7th Street
Phoenix 277-9373
- 3. BS West
7125 5th Avenue
Scottsdale 945-9028
- 4. The Bunkhouse
4428 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix
- 4. Cash Inn
2140 E. McDowell
Phoenix 244-9943
- 6. Charlie's
727 W. Camelback
Phoenix 265-0224
- 7. Crowbar
702 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 258-8343

- 8. Cruisin' Central
1011 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 253-3376
- 9. The Rose
44301 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix 265-3233
- 10. Harley's Club 155
Harley's Too!
155 & 125 W. Camelback
Phoenix 274-8505
- 11. Incognito
2424 E. Thomas
Phoenix 955-9805
- 12. JC's Fun One
5542 N. 43rd Ave.
Glendale 939-0528

- 13. Johnny Mc's
138 W. Camelback
Phoenix 266-0875
- 14. Marlys'
15615 Cave Creek
Phoenix 867-2463
- 15. Nasty Habits
3108 E. McDowell
Phoenix 267-8707
- 16. NuTowne
5002 E. Van Buren
Phoenix 267-9959
- 17. Paco Paco
3045 N. 16th St.
Phoenix 263-8424
- 18. The Park
3002 N. 24th Street
Phoenix 957-6055
- 19. Roscoe's on 7th
4531 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 285-0833
- 20. Shooterz
998 E. Indian School
Phoenix 266-5640

- 21. 307 Lounge
222 E. Roosevelt
Phoenix 252-0001
- 22. TRAX
1724 E. McDowell
Phoenix 254-0231
- 23. Waterhole
8830 N. 43rd Ave
Glendale 937-3139
- 24. Wink's
5707 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 265-9002
- 25. Yanks
4132 E. McDowell
Phoenix 275-3509

S**taples**

- 30. The Adult Shoppe
111 S. 24th Street
Phoenix 306-1130
- 31. The Barn Adult Shop
5021 W Indian School
Phoenix 245-3008
- 32. Book Cellar
4029 E. Washington
Phoenix 275-0015
(other Valley locations)
- 33. Castle Boutique
5501 E. Washington
Phoenix 231-9837
(3 other Valley locations)
- 34. Community Florist
4747 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 266-6648
- 35. Obelisk Books
24 West Camelback
Phoenix 266-6648
- 36. Movies on Central
4700 N. Central #121
Phoenix 274-0994

- 37. Tuff Stuff
1714 E. McDowell Rd.
Phoenix 254-9651
- 38. StatScript Pharmacy
5501 N. 19th Ave.
Phoenix 433-1100

T**ubs**

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

C**ulture**

- 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

O**utdoors**

- 81. Desert Botanical Garden
1201 N. Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 941-1217

- 82. Margaret T. Hance Park
3rd St. to 3rd Ave. between
McDowell & Roosevelt
Phoenix 534-2406

- 83. North Mountain Park &
Preserve
10600 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 262-6696

- 84. Papago Park
Van Buren & Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 256-3220

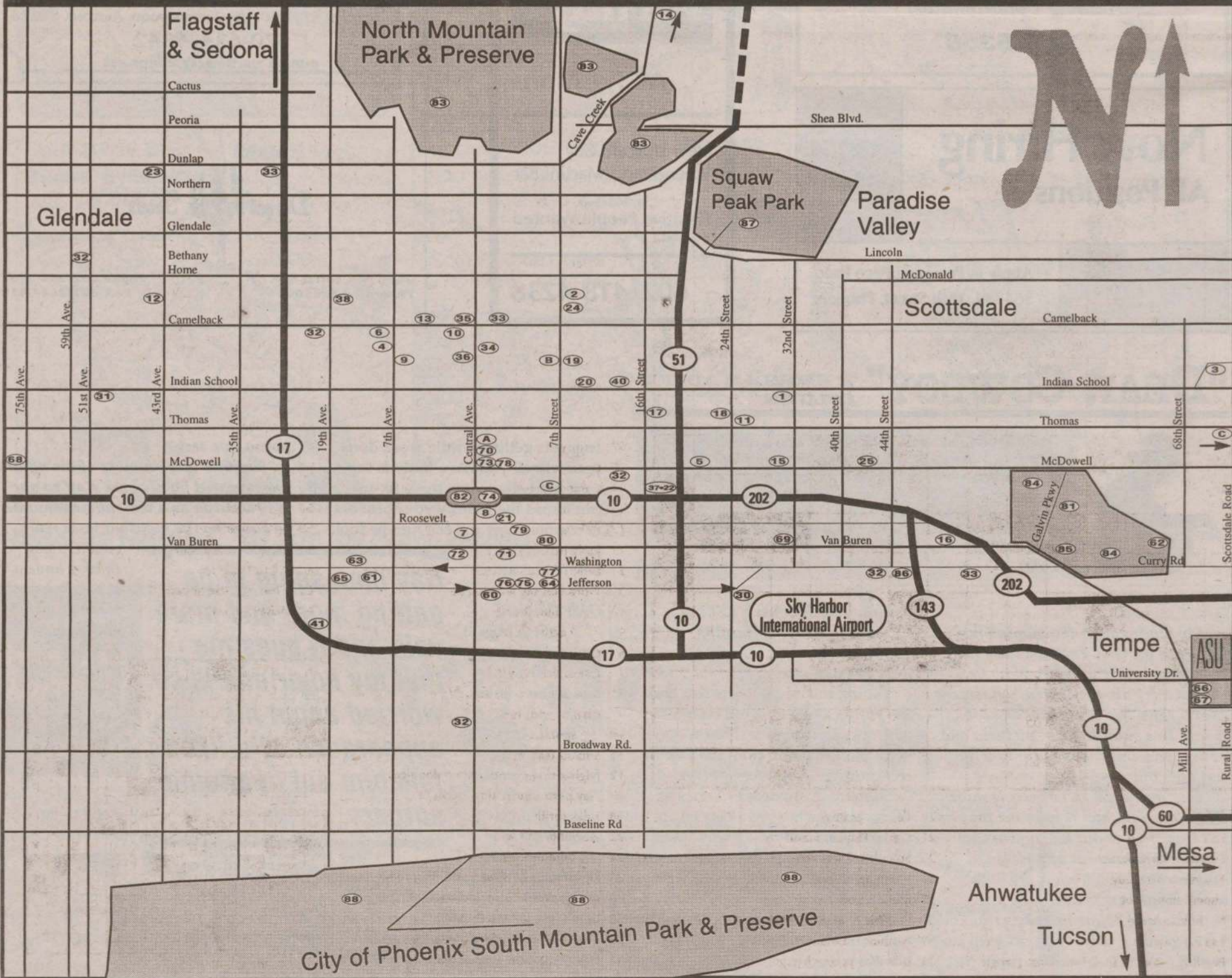
- 85. Phoenix Zoo
455 N. Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 273-1431

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

- 87. Squaw Peak Park
2701 E 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

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 530-1660

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

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

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

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

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

Social & Support Groups

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

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

Arizona 2-somes 678-4568

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Leatherlords 254-9651

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

Lesbian Resource Project (LRP)
PO Box 1917
Tempe, AZ 85280 266-5542

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

Valley of the Sun Gay & Lesbian
Community Center and
Youth Services 265-7283

Lesbian & Gay Community
Switchboard 234-2752
24 W. Camelback Rd., Suite C
PO Box 33367
Phoenix, AZ 95067-3367

Womyn 2 Womyn Connection
singles & couples 941-3513

Professional Organizations

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

Religious & Spiritual Organizations

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

Asbury United Methodist Church
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-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

Arizona Lambda Yacht Club
951-9481

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

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

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

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

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

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

Q Puzzle

"Coming Out Comebacks"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14			15						16			
17			18						19			
20							21		22			
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	30					31				32		
			33							34		
	35	36	37					38	39	40		
41							42					
43				44	45	46				47	48	49
50				51				52				53
		54	55							56		
57	58				59		60	61	62	63		
64					65						66	
67					68						69	

ACROSS

- 1 HIV research gp.
- 4 Exercises for Liberate
- 10 Kindergarten study
- 14 Superdome shout
- 15 No holds barred
- 16 Zsa Zsa offense
- 17 Possible response to "Mom, Dad, I'm gay"
- 19 Bitchy queen's term for women

DOWN

- 20 La ___ Tar Pits
- 21 Golfer Palmer, familiarly
- 23 Soap-filled scrubber
- 26 Yearn painfully
- 27 Make a boo-boo
- 30 Possible response to "Mom, Dad, I'm gay"
- 33 Nothing, in Madrid
- 34 Brazilian soccer legend
- 35 Possible response to "Mom, Dad, I'm gay"

- 41 Give the go-ahead
- 42 Director Preminger or conductor Klemperer
- 43 Possible response to "Mom, Dad, I'm gay"
- 50 Scottish refusal
- 51 Milanese money
- 52 Cuts off
- 54 Bikini ___
- 56 "___ Him on a Sunday" (Shirelles song)
- 57 Gay sex supply
- 59 Possible response to "Mom, Dad, I'm gay"
- 64 "Time ___ My Side"
- 65 US Airways alternative
- 66 Queer ___ three dollar bill
- 67 Smutty
- 68 Gets Out more?
- 69 Composer Rorem

DOWN

- 1 Body lice
- 2 Leopold and Loeb trial lawyer Clarence
- 3 Word you say for a smile
- 4 ___ Paulo, Brazil
- 5 McQ actor Gulager
- 6 Gore and Green
- 7 Comical Costello
- 8 Amtrak's overseas equivalent
- 9 Chafing-dish fuel
- 10 ___ spumante
- 11 Sinatra feature
- 12 High-kicking dance, when doubled
- 13 Gay porn film setting, perhaps
- 18 Talks shrilly
- 22 Neighbor of Calif.
- 24 ___ time (never)
- 25 Sigourney's *Gorillas in the Mist* role
- 26 Disc jockey's illegal kickback
- 28 Leon Jocky, for Martin Mull
- 29 McClanahan of *The Golden Girls*
- 31 HIV replication is inhibited when AZT links to this protein

- 32 Antipollution org.
- 35 Gay-friendly furniture chain
- 36 #1 Madonna hit of 1995
- 37 Thesaurus offering (abbr.)
- 38 Pt. of NATO
- 39 School orgs.
- 40 Anus, e.g.
- 41 Edmund White's *A Boy's ___ Story*
- 44 "Evil Woman" band, for short
- 45 Mr. Ed's master
- 46 Actress Dahl
- 47 *Metamorphoses* poet
- 48 ___ lion (Hercules' conquest)
- 49 Crisco, e.g.
- 53 Valuable violin, for short
- 55 Look after
- 57 ___ Abner
- 58 Take advantage of
- 60 Stray from the straight and narrow
- 61 Piggied out
- 62 "The ___, the proud..."
- 63 Advocate staffers, briefly

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

Solution to last issue's Q Puzzle: "Wham! Caught Ya"

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H O R O S C O P E S

By Deane Jaye, HeatStroke contributor

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

If you catch the shadow of something big tumbling toward you out of the sky in the next couple of weeks, brace yourself for an impact you may be unable to avoid. It's probably too late to drastically change your ways, so your best bet is to curl up your toes and wait, then move on down the magical path you'll discover after the landing. The real prize will come later in the month when new doors open for you and everyone appears to be on your side.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You Cancers tend to go through life certain that you know your limitations and if you err, it is frequently on the side of caution. So stop doing that. Push yourself up to the edge, do something on a dare, go over the top and see where that gets you. The exciting results could turn sexual if a clear-eyed Scorpio is involved. Your stomach will point out the answer to a vexing question if you are willing to give in to a craving around the 2nd.

Leo (July 21-August 20)

Truth and loyalty and honor are not just meaningless words to you but often are the driving forces behind your wonderful sense of discovery. Unfortunately, they can also lead you to loss and frustration when others fail to measure up to expectations. When this happens in a particular relationship early next month, you may think it wise to try to hide your disappointment. But you Leos never can hide your lion eyes—it's probably best to make a clean break.

Virgo (August 21-September 20)

Eenie, meenie, miny, moe. It's hard to know which way to go or behind which curtain the prize is hiding when everyone around you seems to be competing for your attention at once. Things will relax after the 4th, so stick to your well-made plans until then and focus on the people you can always count on. Vacation breezes are beginning to blow and travel is well-advised, particularly if that forceful Capricorn in the family has anything to say about it.

Libra (September 21-October 20)

You are looking to make an impression these days and, like a meteor hurling toward the Earth, you are not aware of those who may or may not be directly in your path. Stop and say, "excuse me" every once in awhile and you'll get further along with less bloodshed. There are big doings planned for the weekend of the 22nd that will require your best behavior. Rely on someone with a better sense of direction than your own if you can't find the place.

Scorpio (October 21-November 20)

Sensual, sexual, it's all the same to you. Where is the love? That's what you've been asking yourself since another emotional connection you were counting on failed instead to materialize in past weeks. Push your bad side aside and use your humor to make a new attachment, the way you always do. Your costume will prove to be the key to getting the attention you need at a soiree on or around the 30th. Listen to what an athletic Aries has to say without words.

Sagittarius (November 21-December 20)

What is this, a party or an intervention? You may be asked that later in the month when your outspoken opinions are suddenly unwelcome at a sensitive social event. Prepare in advance by looking into a mirror and repeating: I will not say what is on my mind... I will not say what is on my mind... Of course, if you arrive to find everyone else dreadfully attired and the chef doing terrible things with seafood, you'll simply have to speak up.

Capricorn (December 21-January 20)

The problem with being excited by danger, as you often are, is that it you can also be prone to accidents when you start seeking those thrills. You are about to enter a cycle of dramatic ups and downs so keep one hand on the wheel and the other on the door handle until the car comes to a rest. Your tendency toward making snap judgments about people may cause a problem at a gathering on or around the 25th, so withhold comment 'til morning if you can.

Aquarius (January 21-February 20)

If a tree falls on a florist and there's no one else around to tell him how fabulous his arrangements are, will he be gurneyed to the hospital with a smile on his face? If he's an Aquarian he will, because you water-bearers know it's all good when you finish a creative project and the opinions of others come in second. Or third. Your take it or leave it stance is often derided by others but an opportunity to prove you are indeed a team player will arise near the 27th.

Pisces (February 21-March 20)

If you're feeling alone in the world, maintaining an even lower profile may not be the best way to improve your relationships or draw new friends into your sphere. You may need to stop defending yourself and step out from behind the scenes. A happy occasion at the end of the month could provide you with a chance to take the stage. On the job, there may be pressure to conform in the air—ignore it and document any discrepancies between fact and rumor.

Aries (March 21-April 20)

Patience is one of your better virtues and if you've recently been passed over, the best tack may be to register a complaint quietly but forcefully to the proper authority—without giving any ultimatums or causing any big scenes. You may be upset with yourself for becoming too sedentary in recent weeks, but there is plenty of time to rectify that with a new diet and exercise plan. A quiet weekend with a special someone will bolster your confidence.

Taurus (April 21-May 20)

Accidents and disruptions are seldom your friends, but something wild and unexpected may occur early in the next month that will shake you up and toss some heavy reevaluation your way. It will feel as though your image has been tarnished by this turn of events, when in reality people will think higher of you after the change. Travel is on the horizon and the more playful and childlike the plans, the more fun you'll have by the time you re-board.

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HEALTHY

Glaad Alert

Ellen says goodbye, but not in Texas

In Texas, Waco's KXXV-TV banned the last episode of *Ellen*, denying many viewers the opportunity to say goodbye to this cultural milestone.

Instead the ABC affiliate ran a rerun of NBC's *Seinfeld*. Ironically, on the season finale of *Dharma and Greg*, the show preceding the *Ellen* finale, the plot revolved around heterosexual couples having sex in public during the *Seinfeld* finale. Yet KXXV found *Ellen*, with its tame language and non-sexual subject matter, inappropriate to air.

In regard to print coverage of the finale, *Detroit News* columnist Deb Price had this to say in her May 14 column: "The finale serves as a reminder that creativity is a fragile commodity... Week after week, *Ellen* had fought to keep her show fresh, alive, real and, yes, gay. And week after week, ABC tried to drag her down to bland mediocrity—all too familiar territory where the star's vibrant lesbianism would be shoved back off stage... She somehow managed to keep pulling exceedingly watchable rabbits out of her battered magician's hat. But, in the end, she was just too bruised to locate one last rabbit."

Later, Price, adds, "Of course, she should have been renewed. ABC sandbagged her tame, sensitive explorations of being gay with 'parental advisory' warnings while aggressively promoting raunchy sitcoms where homosexuality is the butt of jokes..."

In her flawed finale, Ellen portrayed an ex-ventriloquist. The episode didn't work; the image does. When she came out of the closet, Ellen stopped throwing her gay voice into a straight character. And she gave those of us who're gay every single week a gift we'll always cherish."

Please let KXXV-TV know that for many viewers, being denied the chance to see the finale was heart-breaking. Let the *Detroit News* know that Deb Price brings a valuable sensitivity to the demise of the much-loved *Ellen*. Contact:

• Judy Fauth-Edens, Program Director, KXXV-TV, Channel 25, 1909 South New Road, Waco, TX 76711-1829, phone: 254.754.2525.

• Jennifer Harsha Carroll, Managing Editor, *Detroit News*, 615 West Lafayette Blvd., Detroit, MI 48226-3197, fax: 313.222.6417, e-mail: letters@detnews.com

Sweeps month hidden camera hype hits rock bottom

An article by Richard Goldstein in the May 19 *Village Voice* tracks the disturbing trend by ratings-hungry local news affiliates of using hidden camera "exposes" of public sex between men.

"If you think interrupting a cartoon show for live coverage of a man blowing his brains out on the freeway is as sleazy as TV news gets, guess again," Goldstein starts. "On Monday

[May 11], Fox 5 [in New York City] treated its viewers to hidden-camera footage of men cruising in rest rooms."

He notes that the department stores targeted did not give Fox permission to film, and would have refused if asked. "But in the limbo between what is legal and what is proper, the hot hand of tabloid-TV news is free to roam—especially during sweeps month," he writes.

Goldstein notes that police surveillance of rest rooms, including filming, ceased for the most part in the mid-1960s, when a number of court cases found it unconstitutional.

"But it's unprecedented for TV crews to sneak cameras into public toilets," Goldstein states, adding that over the past three months, over 20 affiliates nationwide have done similar stories, "airing lurid reports that focus on the threat to children who might come upon men performing a sexual act."

Goldstein continues, "The real news here is the ratings race. The wave of rest room reportage first crested in February—at the height of the winter sweeps—and then died down, only to arise again during the spring sweeps in late April."

He tracks the story back to KOMO, the Seattle ABC-affiliate that first used the story in its latest incarnation—with an Internet hook about a Web site that gives locations where men gather for anonymous public sex across the country.

"Once the media turn up the heat it's hard to know where a gay-sex panic will end," he concludes. "Stay

tuned for the summer sweeps."

GLAAD has actively criticized this kind of gay-baiting and sleazy journalism since late 1996, when KENS-TV in San Antonio aired graphic hidden camera footage during the November sweeps. It is high time for a larger discussion within the media profession of the social costs of this kind of hardcore hidden camera hype and sweeps month sleaze.

The situation has become so bad that the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association (NLGJA), for only the second time in their history, issued a news release condemning the local news affiliates for "exceeding the bounds of journalism standards and taste."

In the release, NLGJA President Karen Boothe states, "NLGJA in no way condones illegal sexual activity in public places. But nor do we condone exploitative coverage that panders to sexual curiosity as a way of pumping up ratings."

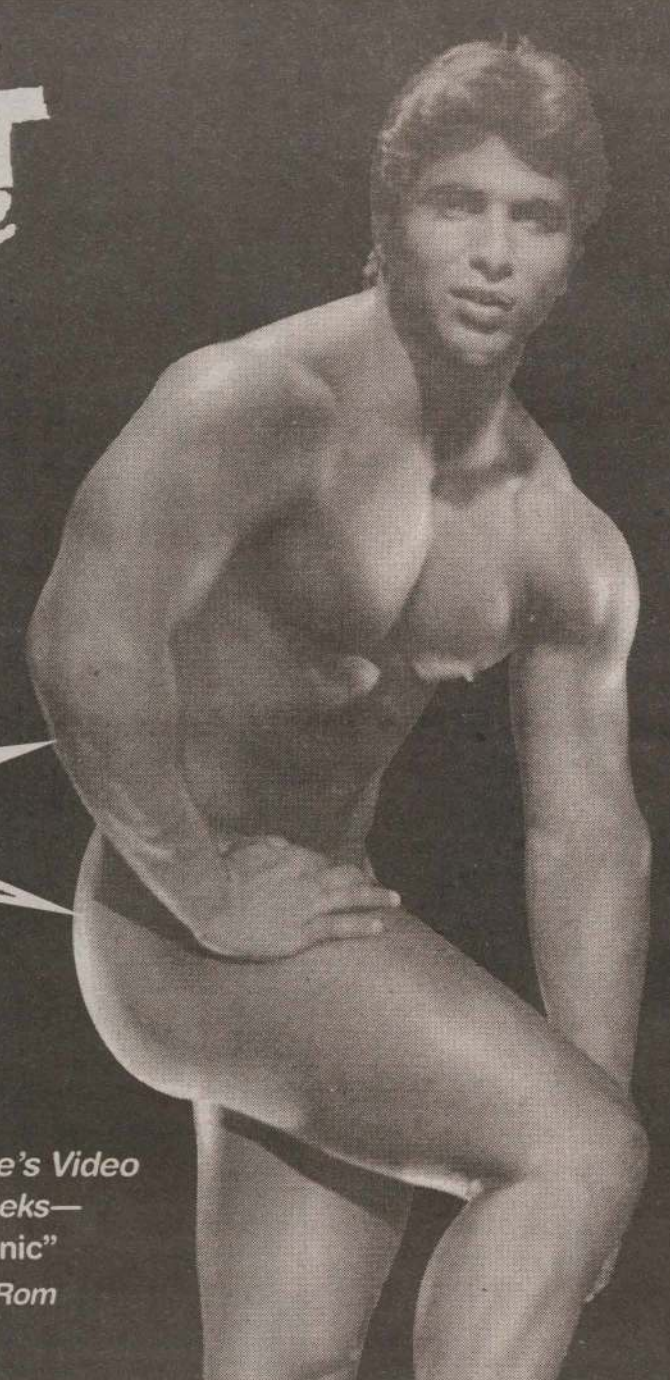
It also adds, "Such stereotypical stories rarely examine the societal pressures that push people to have anonymous sex. What's more, day-to-day coverage on these stations often fails to present an accurate portrait of gay people living healthy and productive lives."

Please let Fox 5 know that such shoddy journalism is unacceptable and commend the *Village Voice* for raising these kinds of serious ethical and professional questions regarding this kind of coverage.

Be sure to call your local news affiliates to voice concern on such sweeps sensationalism when it occurs

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**Gay and Lesbian Alliance
Against Defamation**

and report it to GLAAD (1.800.GAY-MEDIA or www.glaad.org). Contact:

- Susan Sullivan, News Director, WNYW-TV, Channel 5, 205 East 67th St., New York, NY 10021-6002, or call 212.452.5555 and ask to be connected to Viewer Services.

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

**Newsweek features
poignant journey of
lesbian wife**

The May 18 *Newsweek* features a "My Turn" column by Carren Strock, a lesbian who came out to her husband after 25 years together.

"Until I was 43, I had lived a comfortably settled lifestyle that I thought would last forever. My universe revolved around my husband and two children...One year later, I fell in love with my best friend," she writes.

When she finally told that friend, it "destroyed our friendship...For the first two years of my discovery, I cried more than I had in a lifetime. My tears were many things: the tremendous void caused by the loss of my best friend, the isolation my silences condemned me to, my own internalized homophobia...and the realization that I had betrayed my husband and children and was living a lie."

After going to therapy, joining a consciousness-raising group, and buy-

ing a lesbian-themed book at a women's bookstore, Strock "eventually found women to talk to.

I found that many women have remained in their marriages; some living a dual life, others coming out to their families and coexisting in redefined relationships," she says. "While my journey was initially painful, it became cathartic and exciting. I discovered the real me...and reached a new level of growth and understanding."

Still, she writes, coming out to her husband was very hard. "We were on the brink of parting several times," she says, "but something deep down kept reminding me what a nice guy he was, and I became determined to try to find some way to make my marriage work in a more realistic light."

There had been real struggle, but, she says, "When our 30th anniversary arrived, we shared it with family members. We acknowledged the difficult times we had gone through and thanked our loved ones for their support. We raised our glasses to the new friendship that much talk and open communication has helped us establish. It was a landmark occasion and deserved to be celebrated."

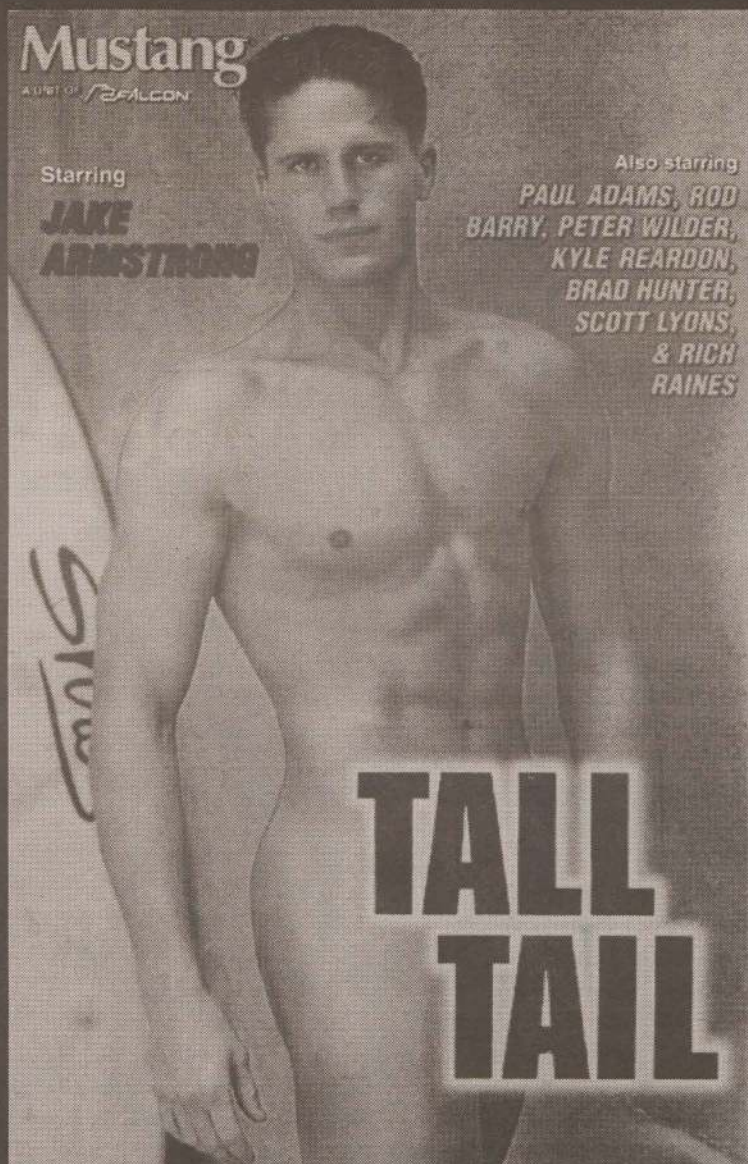
Please thank *Newsweek* for featuring such a personal discussion of an under-addressed topic and in turn being respectful of all kinds of families. Contact:

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

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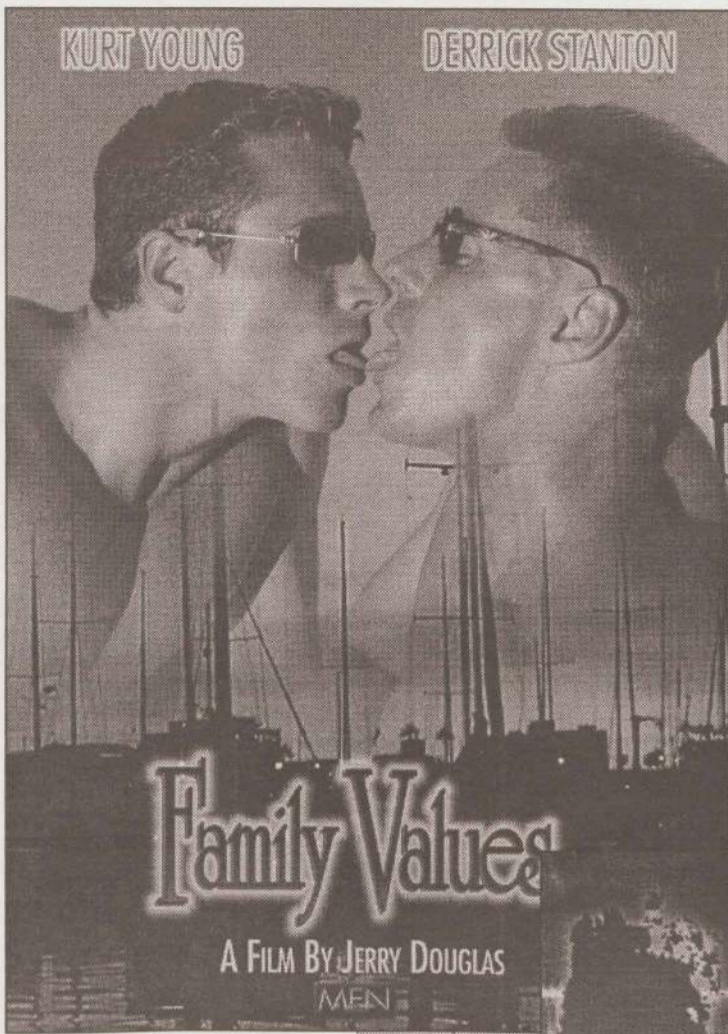
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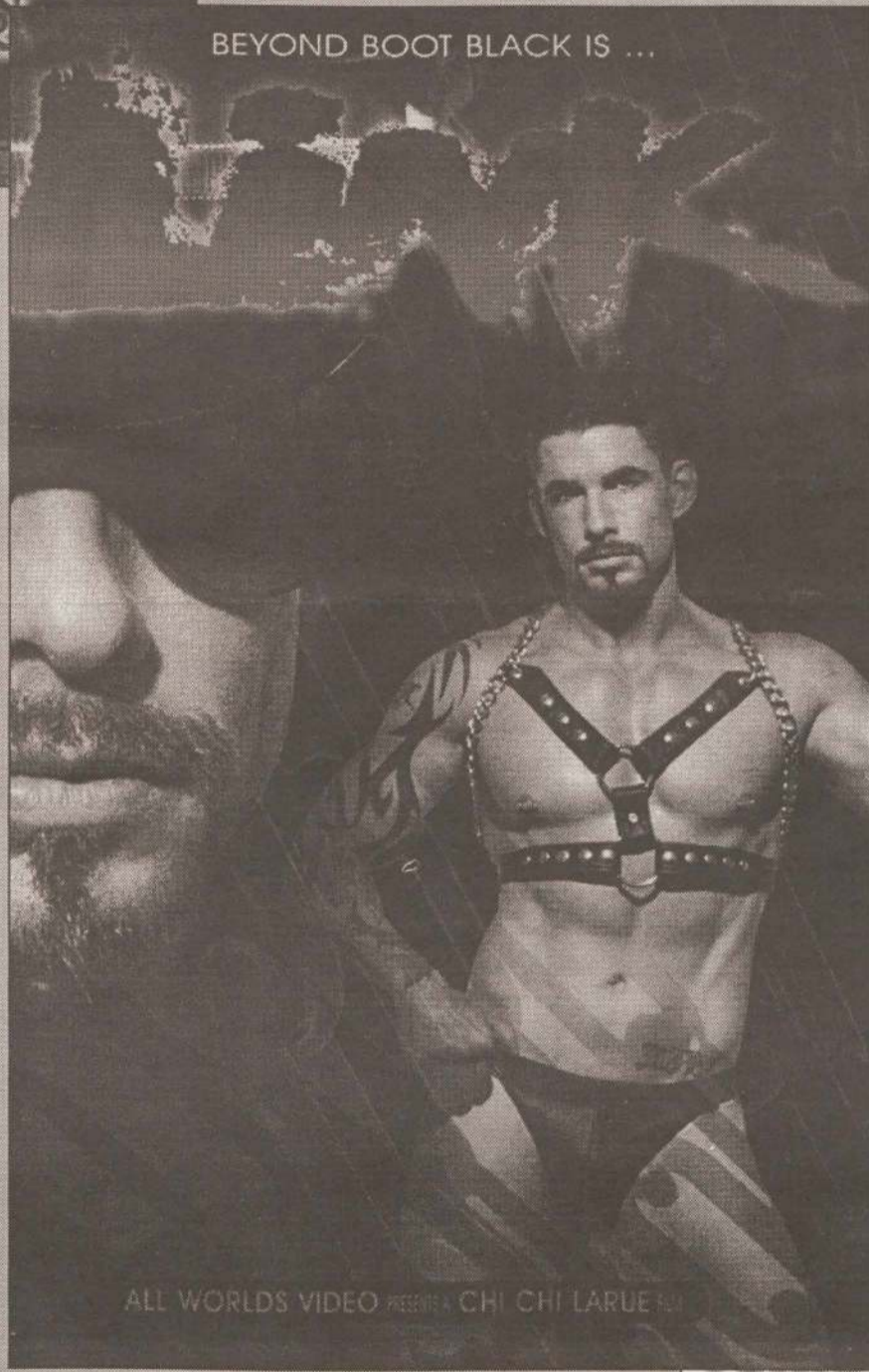
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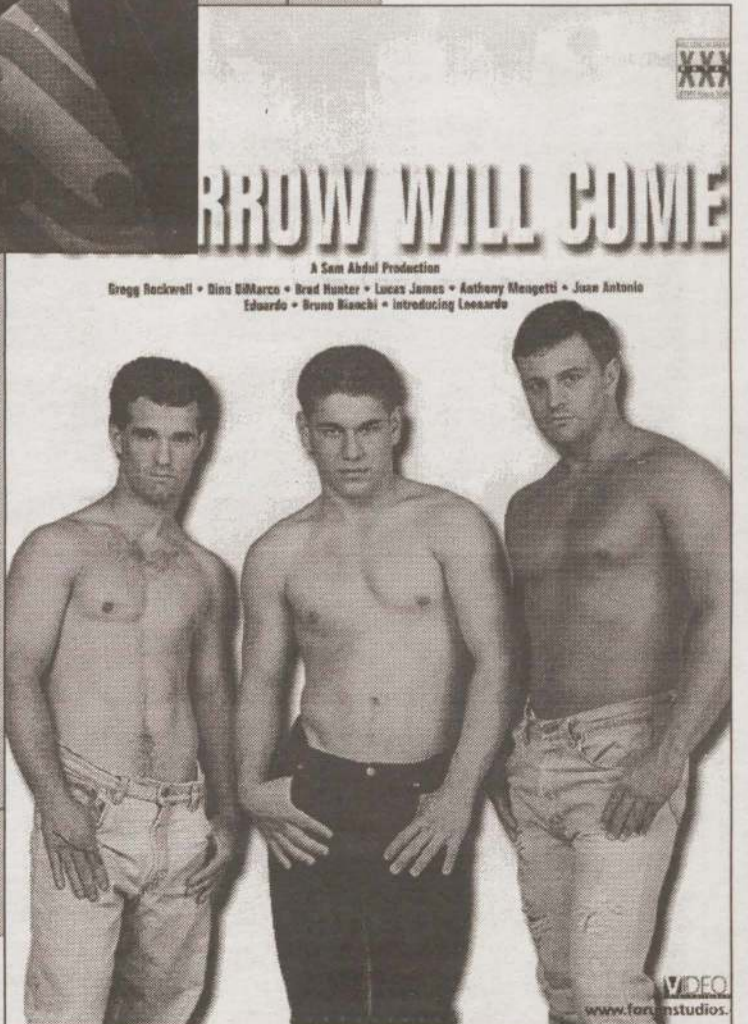
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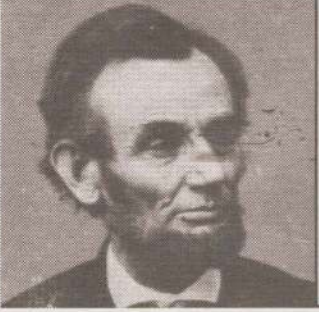
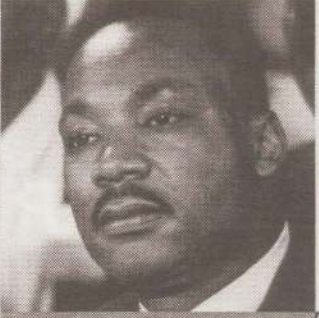
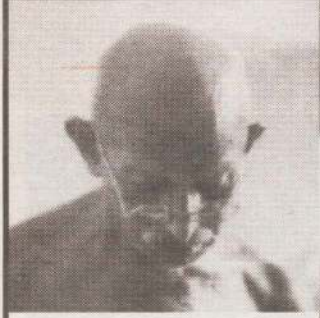
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Other Locations

- 2103 W. Camelback Road
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- 1421 E. McDowell
- 6527 N. 59th Avenue





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