

the story of a TAMBOURINE MAN

*Living with Honor—
Honored for Living the Dream*

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

If you've ever spent a late night barhopping across gay Phoenix, chances are pretty good you've come across Bob Hegyi.

He's the infamous Phoenix Dancing Man—that graying disco daddy we've all seen moving to the rhythm in the middle of the dance floor and waving glow sticks, finger cymbals, fans or a tambourine over his head.

He's been doing it every week for years, and he's got stamina. Midnight? Two in the morning? As long as there's a deejay in the booth, Bob's on the floor.

"I've been dancing and playing my tambourine that way for so long that I can't stop," he said during a recent chat.

"I'll be on Social Security soon, but I'll probably still be dancing. It's as if the music takes me into a trance—it's very spiritual for me, really. It's my release, and after all this time it's like I almost have to do it."

Away from the flashing lights and the techno beat, the 62-yr-old fancy dancer with the avuncular voice and generous smile has been a pioneer-

ing activist for gay rights for most of his life.

Currently, he's the morning office manager at Phoenix Body Positive. But he's been involved in one way or another with nearly every AIDS agency or effort in the Valley and has been devoted to issues affecting people with HIV/AIDS since the earliest days of the pandemic.

He also started a program to get gay youth off crystal meth, and has inspired countless others to come out of the closet and get involved with the gay community.

Because he's openly gay and holds strong convictions, Hegyi's relationship with the city he's called home since 1962 has at times been an adversarial one.

In the early seventies, for example, Hegyi and

a handful of other local activists tried to open a gay community center here. They pooled limited resources and made a downpayment on an east Phoenix home. But their efforts were thwarted by city zoning officials after a neighbor complained that a gay group was buying the property.

And prior to that, in the early sixties, Hegyi left his dispatching job with the police force to work instead for the city's water department. He transferred because he felt the Phoenix police department was hostile toward gay men and he was sick of hiding his orientation.

"I liked the job but I was scared to death that they were going to find out I was gay," he recalled. "It was very much understood at the

See "Phoenix honors Hegyi," page 14



Judge grants 60-day delay in Fisher case

By Kelly J. Reidhead, Managing Editor

Attorneys for Dr. Ken Fisher have requested—and received—a 60-day postponement of the formal hearing of charges and evidence brought by the Arizona Board of Medical Examiners (BOMEX). Fisher is an openly gay physician—one of the first to specialize in treating HIV patients in Phoenix.

BOMEX filed a written Complaint and Notice of Hearing on Dec. 11, 1998, leveling three categories of charges against Fisher: 1) the violation of a 1996 agreement to obtain a chaperone for all patient physical examinations, 2) sexual improprieties with six former male patients, and 3) allegations of unprofessional conduct.

Arizona law requires a formal hearing of the evidence before the Medical Board may revoke or suspend a physician's license for more

than 12 months. That hearing was originally scheduled to begin Jan. 11 at the Arizona Office of Administrative Hearings.

On Dec. 18, however, Calvin L. Raup, Fisher's attorney, requested a 60-day continuance of the hearing.

In a sworn statement filed with Brian B. Tully, the Administrative Law Judge assigned to the case, Raup said that the Jan. 11 hearing date would have required the attorney to work throughout the holiday season and would have forced the cancellation of a trip to a seven-day continuing legal education program scheduled for the first week of January. Raup also mentioned in his statement that the delay of the hearing would allow Dr. Fisher "to explore settlement alternatives" with BOMEX.

Attorneys for BOMEX did not oppose the request for postponement.

On Dec. 22, Judge Tully granted Fisher's request to delay the hearing, rescheduling the matter to begin on Feb. 22. In his order, Judge Tully also

response to the allegations within 20 days. Fisher has not, however, provided that response.

Asked whether she expected Fisher to provide a response to the Complaint, Melissa Cornelius, BOMEX Deputy Director, replied, "It's his choice. The agency does not have the authority to compel an answer [to the charges] from Dr. Fisher."

According to Cornelius, although

BOMEX is empowered by statute to revoke Fisher's license to practice medicine, nothing requires the physician to participate in the hearing process.

Although BOMEX is empowered by statute to revoke Fisher's license to practice medicine, nothing requires the physician to participate in the hearing process.

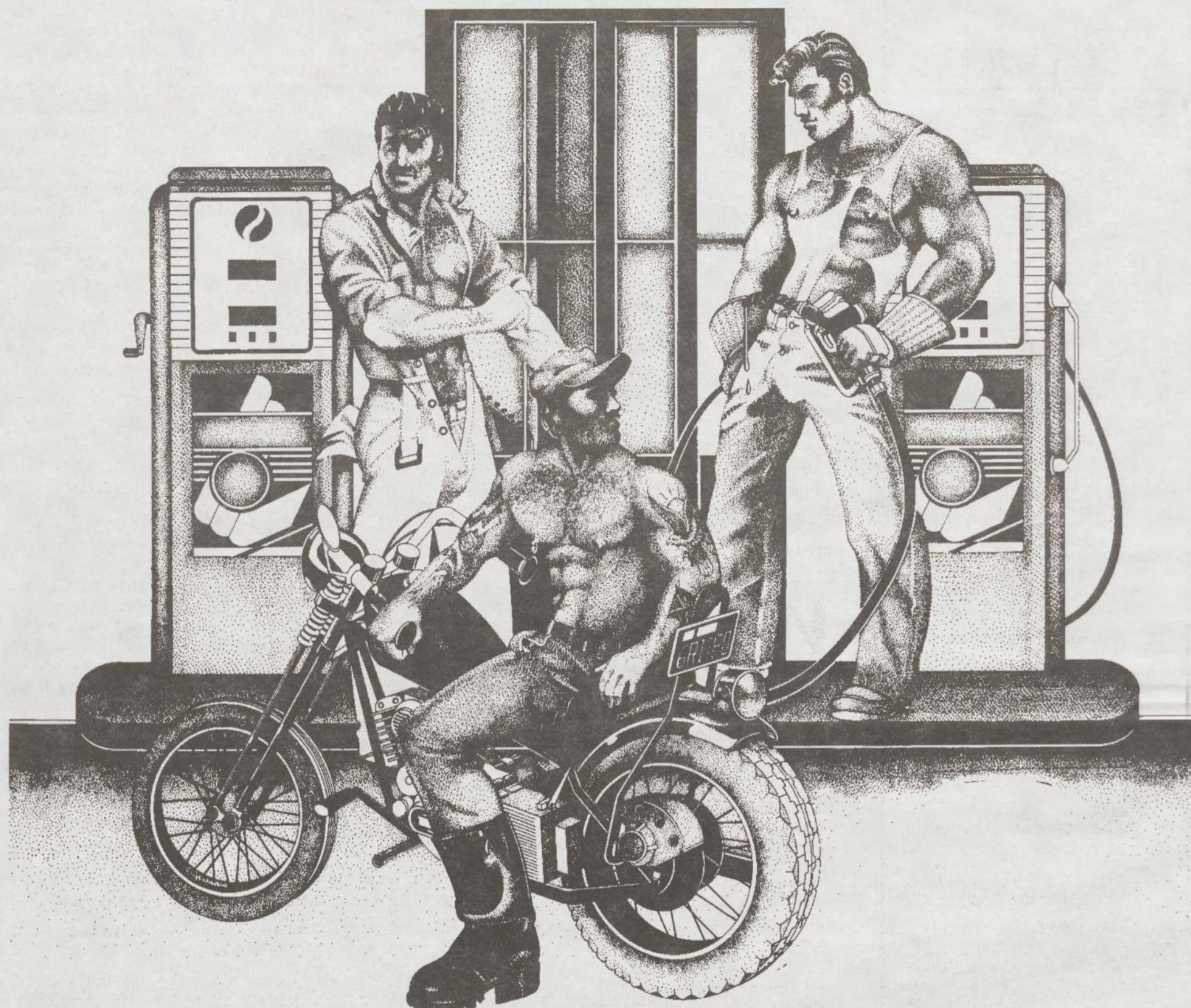
allowed the parties, with prior approval, to provide the testimony of witnesses at the hearing by telephone rather than in person.

The Dec. 11 BOMEX Complaint ordered Fisher to file a written



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Horowitz: See You There

I am not an Arizona Cardinals fan. Of the major sports, football comes in second only to golf as my least favorite.

I never understood the game. Then, someone explained the rules. I still don't understand the game.

I don't see the rationale for giving up hours and hours of time to watch a bunch of grown men run about, wrestle and fall all over themselves trying to gain control of that ridiculously shaped ball.

I think the billions of dollars we spend on professional sports could—and should—go elsewhere. I cringe whenever the *Arizona Republic* runs the latest on the Cardinals on page one, above-the-fold. I can't help but think that there must be some more important news happening.

I think our time, effort, energy and money would be much better spent on college basketball—particularly Arizona Wildcat basketball. Go Cats!

While I have my personal preferences in sporting and other cultural events, I recognize that the main point of any public event is the sense of community that gets built around it. Even I got caught up in Cardinal fever last weekend.

I'll even admit to watching part of the game against Minnesota and holding out hope that Arizona might have a chance to win. I silently taunted the Dallas fans who couldn't have been surer that the Cowboys would destroy the Cardinals the week before. I even thought about going to the airport to greet the returning team.

When I was growing up, I wanted nothing more than to fit in with the other kids. Children cruelly exploit our differences. We attacked people with different looking bodies and different sounding voices. Kids with glasses or braces got teased mercilessly. Unusual names or clothes sparked horrible word wars. I wanted to disappear into anonymity to avoid ridicule.

On the other hand, acting as the bully wasn't so bad. I didn't mind the teasing when it was directed at another child. It meant that at least I didn't have to bear it. Being part of the crowd was better than looking in from the outside.

When I realized I was gay, I truly didn't feel like part of the crowd. Sometimes the cruel exclusion happened without the perpetrator's even being aware of it. Often the ostracism became overwhelming.

I didn't understand the football obsession even after someone explained the rules, but I was enlightened when I attended my first Phoenix gay pride event in 1992. I was part of the "in" crowd. Then I

went to the San Francisco pride parade and celebration and thought I was in heaven. I couldn't even imagine the joy I would feel when I attended the 1993 March on Washington when, for the first time, I was one of a million.

Today I try to find opportunities to become part of a community positively rooting for a team or fighting for a cause. The sense of spirit and common values gives me a huge lift. I've found this kind of fulfillment at religious services, inspirational movies, running events, rock concerts, nightclub dance floors and AIDS fundraisers.

I see kids finding it through VOIT and adults finding it through the wide variety of clubs and organizations in our community. I urge everyone to try some

I urge everyone to try some new community activity and feel the rush. If you're in the closet, come disguised as a straight person. We'll welcome you anyway.

new community activity and feel the rush. If you're in the closet, come disguised as a straight person. We'll welcome you anyway.

I'm not a big fan of gay rodeo. I hate the dust and the noise. I'd be hard pressed to come up with a smell worse than piles of fresh animal waste. And I have some moral problems with using animals for sport, even though I know the gay rodeo association treats them well. I don't like standing in lines. It will probably be very cold at the rodeo grounds.

But if you're there this weekend, I'll see you. I can hardly wait.

David Horowitz is an attorney with the Arizona State Bar Association and is president of the Lesbian and Gay Public Awareness Project.

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On page 1: Bob Hegyi, recipient of the City of Phoenix *Living the Dream Award*

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Legislators seek to ban gay clubs from AZ school grounds

PHOENIX (AP)

A group of conservative Republican lawmakers is backing a bill that would ban support groups for homosexual students from public school grounds.

The measure would require school districts to ban any student organization that promotes a specific sexual orientation, sexual activity or any kind of criminal activity.

"We don't allow Playboy clubs on campus to promote heterosexuality," said Rep. Linda Gray, R- Glendale, one of the bill's backers. "Why should we have gay clubs to promote homosexuality?"

A 3-year-old gay student group at Desert View High School in the Sunnyside Unified School District has not caused any problems, said Alan Storm, the district's director of student services.

The group's five members have helped educate students, teachers and others about discrimination, Storm

said.

"There aren't even discussions about sex," Storm said.

Storm said the bill was a bad idea because it jeopardizes federal funding for schools. The federal Equal Access Act requires schools to allow all extracurricular groups to use their facilities.

Backers of the federal law said it was meant to keep schools from ban-

"We don't allow Playboy clubs on campus to promote heterosexuality.
Why should we have gay clubs to promote homosexuality?"

ning meetings of Bible-study and other Christian groups.

AG says Apache Junction RV park discriminates against men

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

A gender discrimination complaint against an East Valley RV resort was decided last month in a legal opinion by the Arizona Attorney General's Office. The opinion came after nearly two years of review.

The opinion says that the Pueblo RV Resort, at 201 East Southern Ave. in Apache Junction, violates the state's fair housing laws by restricting ownership in the mobile home and trailer park to women only.

The complaint was filed by Debra Collins, a former resort resident, on Feb. 11, 1997.

Collins charged that the resort discriminated against men and that park managers interfered with her ability to sell her lots there by making her remove "For Sale" signs from the properties.

The Attorney General's Office decided that the forced removal of the "For Sale" signs perpetuated discrimination. The AG further determined that park managers had withheld information from potential male buyers or renters, while making the same information available to females.

Park Manager Joan Montana told HeatStroke Jan. 11 that despite assertions people in the Valley's gay community may have heard to the contrary, The Pueblo RV Resort "is not a lesbian resort."

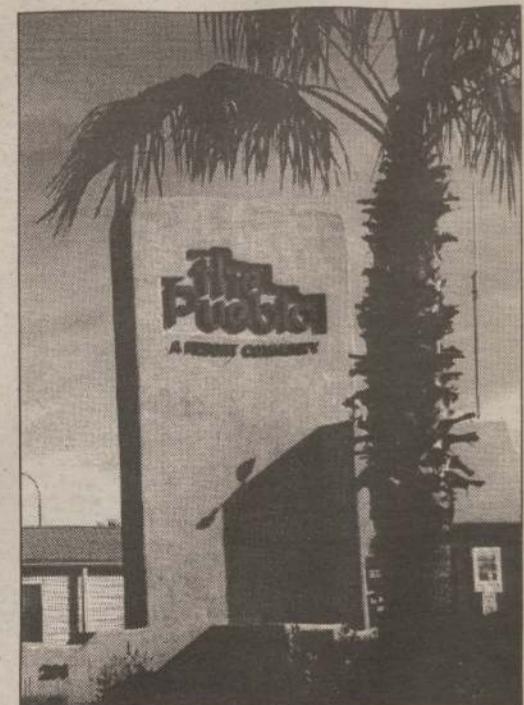
Montana would not comment further, nor would she answer specific questions about the park. "Because we are in negotiations to conciliate this complaint with Debra Collins, we are not at liberty to discuss anything about the case," she said.

She did provide a press release that she said was drafted in November of 1998—prior to the AG Office's decision. The release, on behalf of the Pueblo Homeowners Association, restates Montana's claim that the park is not a gay community.

"Sexual orientation is not and

never has been a criteria [sic] for residence at The Pueblo," it reads. "While there are probably 'gay' residents, there are also 'straight' residents... To characterize The Pueblo as a lesbian community merely because it is composed mostly of women is stereotyping in the extreme."

The release describes the population of the resort as "mostly female. Most of them are retirees, and include retired persons from all walks of life—military officers, lawyers, academics, etc. Many are widowed, others are divorced."



Mario Rodriguez

In closing, the press release states that the resort is "simply, a community of mostly older retired women who have historically shared an interest in RV living. The homeowners association has done its best to comply with fair housing laws and will continue to do so."

Montana declined to comment on how the association will proceed now that the decision has been rendered to Collins' favor.

U.S. Supreme Court again lets 'don't ask, don't tell' stand

WASHINGTON DC (AP)

The Supreme Court once again left intact the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy Jan 11, rejecting a challenge by two former servicemen discharged after declaring their homosexuality.

The court, without comment, turned away arguments by the men that the policy is based on prejudice against homosexuals and violates their free-speech rights.

While not a definitive ruling, it marked the fifth time in recent years that the highest court has rejected efforts to invalidate the policy.

The policy was adopted in 1993 after President Clinton's initial effort

to end the ban on homosexuals serving openly in the military sparked heavy criticism in Congress.

It prohibits inquiries into a service member's sexual orientation but allows discharge for homosexual conduct or for a "propensity" to engage in homosexual conduct. A service member's statement that he or she is gay is considered evidence of a propensity to engage in such acts.

Every federal appeals court that has considered the issue has upheld the policy.

The most recent appeal was filed by National Guard 1st Lt. Andrew Holmes of Sacramento, Calif., and Navy Lt. Richard Watson.

Holmes declared his homosexuality to his commanding officer in 1993. Watson was serving in Bremerton, Wash., in October 1994 when he submitted a written statement to his commanding officer that said, "I have a homosexual orientation."

Both men were discharged and sued in federal courts.

A judge in San Francisco ruled for Holmes and declared the military policy unconstitutional. But a judge in Seattle ruled against Watson.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals combined the cases and upheld the "don't ask, don't tell" policy. The military has a legitimate interest in barring service members

who engage in homosexual acts, the court said.

The government can rationally assume that someone who declares his or her homosexuality is likely to engage in gay sex, the court added.

In their Supreme Court appeal, the two men said the policy was based on the armed forces' "ancient and persistent anti-homosexual bias," adding that it unfairly penalized them for disclosing their sexual orientation.

Government lawyers said the policy "serves the legitimate objectives of prohibiting homosexual acts in the military, promoting unit cohesion, protecting privacy interests and reducing sexual tensions."

Maryland Gov. offers bill to ban discrimination against gays

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP)

Gov. Parris Glendening, prompted by memories of a brother who died of AIDS after hiding his homosexuality throughout a long military career, will sponsor legislation this year to ban discrimination against gays and lesbians.

Glendening has endorsed similar legislation in the past, but this year it will be part of his official administration legislative package. His bill would add sexual orientation to a law that already bans discrimination in housing and employment because of sex, age, race and religion.

Kathleen Nieberding-Ryan, who lobbied for the bill for several years, said the governor's decision to make it part of his program "will help

break down some of our barriers."

"I've worked on this bill for a long time," said Ms. Nieberding-Ryan, lobbyist for Maryland NOW and former lobbyist for the Free State Justice Campaign, an organization representing gays and lesbians.

"Each year we've inched closer and closer, but could not secure the one or two votes needed for passage," she said.

Richard Dowling, head of the Maryland Catholic Conference, said the church has opposed the bill in the past and probably will do so again.

"In our tradition, discrimination against any person in regard to basic human rights is a sin," Dowling said.

He said that includes people whose sexual orientation is homosex-

ual, "but orientation and practice are not the same."

"Whether intended or not, this legislation would have the effect of legitimizing homosexual practice, and that, in our view, is something government should not do," Dowling said.

Glendening said it was difficult for his brother to live with the knowledge that his career in the Air Force would be ruined if his homosexuality had been discovered.

"No one should be in fear of their job, no matter what their occupation, because of their sexual orientation," he said.

Baltimore city and three counties—Howard, Montgomery and Prince George's—have local laws protecting

the rights of gays and lesbians.

Dowling said there is no evidence from the experience in those subdivisions that there is a significant degree of discrimination against homosexuals.

But Tracy Conaty, communications director for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force in Washington, said discrimination "is a fact of life for many gay and lesbian people."

"This law is needed because it is still legal in the state of Maryland to fire somebody simply because they are gay, lesbian, bi-sexual or transgendered," she said.

"Gov. Glendening is showing real leadership, in not only recognizing that fact but addressing it," Ms. Conaty said.

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Law professors join fight against 'don't ask, don't tell'

NEW ORLEANS (AP)

Hundreds of law professors are joining the fight to get gays and lesbians an equal place in the U.S. armed forces.

The battlefield is a 1996 law that lets the government take all federal student aid from schools which refuse to let military recruiters on campus.

Scores of universities had barred military recruiters to protest the "don't ask, don't tell" policy about homosexuals, but let them back after President Clinton signed the law by former U.S. Rep. Gerald Solomon.

"If we had a recruiter who said, 'We won't hire anyone who's black,' there's no doubt about us kicking them off campus," said David V. Chavkin, director and associate professor at American University's Washington College of Law. "The notion that we should treat discrimination against our gay and lesbian and bisexual and trans-gender students as different is an outrage."

"That's become our rallying point."

The law school agreed in 1997 to let military recruiters return after attorneys decided that not only its 1,200 students, but all of the university's undergraduates could lose their federal aid, including low-interest loans and work-study money.

During the weekend of Jan. 8-10, Chavkin was working at a table set up outside the Association of American Law Schools' biggest meeting rooms to sign up people willing to work for repeal of the law.

About 180 people from 35 states

had signed on to the "action network" by Friday, Jan. 8, Chavkin said. He didn't know how many joined Saturday. By noon Sunday, when the AALS meeting ends, organizers hoped to have 100 law schools represented.

There certainly seemed to be more than a few hundred people wearing pink "Repeal Solomon" stickers on

"It is deplorable that Congress has chosen to use its power of the purse to force law schools to engage in discrimination."

their convention badges.

Even though Solomon has retired from Congress—he is now a lobbyist in Washington—it will be hard to repeal the law that bears his name, Chavkin said. "But we're in it for the long battle, just like we were when fighting for academic freedom or for civil rights," Chavkin said.

U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., who plans to lead the repeal fight, thinks the law is very vulnerable, said Alan Minuskin, a Boston College Law School professor who helped organize the drive.

One reason: Solomon proposed the law even though the military hadn't asked for it. Solomon could not be reached for comment, but has said the law is needed to ensure a strong defense.

At one point, 138 campuses barred

military recruiters. By late 1997, the list had dwindled to 18. Seventeen were in Connecticut, where the policy against discrimination was part of state law.

The federal law applies to all colleges and universities. The repeal push is starting in law schools because most either have longstanding rules of their own against discrimination or belong to the AALS, which had a rule since 1990 against dealing with any organization that discriminates. It changed that rule last year, under

protest, because of the Solomon Amendment.

At its meeting, the Society of American Law Teachers voted to work for repeal.

"This law forces law schools to pit

students against students," said Margaret Montoya, head of SALT's repeal task force and a professor at the University of New Mexico law school. "It is, I think, deplorable that Congress has chosen to use its power of the purse to force law schools to engage in discrimination."

Edwin J. Butterfoss, dean and professor of law at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minn., said that his school set up its own repeal task force after reluctantly agreeing in June 1997 to allow military recruiters on campus.

Professors have written to Congress, and set up information tables to give out anti-discrimination and anti-Solomon literature whenever military recruiters are on campus, he said.

"But we have a lot more work to do. It undermines a law school's ability to enforce its own policies—not by attacking the schools, but they're attacking the students."

Pennsylvania teen sues hospital; claims it disclosed he is gay

PHILADELPHIA (AP)

A gay Bradford County teen-ager who attempted suicide last February is suing the hospital that treated him, claiming news of his sexual orientation was leaked by an employee and eventually spread to his high school.

Greg Congdon, 18, said the disclosure made him an instant pariah, forcing him to forego his senior year at Troy High School and study at home by himself.

"I was very popular, I hung out with the popular crowd, and overnight I became an outcast," said Congdon, a former football player and wrestler.

The lawsuit, filed in Bradford County Common Pleas Court, alleges that Troy Community Hospital and hospital employee Cindy Smith breached patient confidentiality, interfered with Congdon's privacy rights and caused him "extreme shame, embarrassment and humiliation." He is seeking at least \$100,000.

Smith could not be reached, but hospital president Mark Webster denied the allegations Jan. 8 and promised to fight the lawsuit.

Congdon's lawyer, Jeffrey P. Osmond of Towanda, said he believes the suit to be the first of its kind in Pennsylvania.

"This has been a springboard for a bunch of health-care providers in the area to doubly safeguard their policies so that this doesn't happen to them," Osmond said.

Congdon said he realized he was gay about a month before the suicide attempt. He told no one, terrified of the consequences of coming out to his parents and to a rural, conservative community.

"The pressures of having to keep this huge secret, not being able to be who I am, the pressure of sports and school—it all really added up," Congdon said.

Severely depressed, Congdon ingested 33 Tylenols in the early morning hours of Feb. 1, went to school, and took 10 more. After his stomach started to hurt, Congdon

went home and told his mother what had happened.

Congdon, who was then 17, had his stomach pumped at Troy Community Hospital. Congdon told the treating physician he tried to kill himself because he was gay.

The lawsuit alleges that Smith—the mother of one of Congdon's football teammates—examined Congdon's medical records and then told "third persons" that he was gay.

Returning to school a few weeks later, "Everybody just stared at me," he said. "I'd get approached by several students and they would say, 'We heard you're a faggot, is that true?' I would just say, 'Believe whatever you want,' because I was afraid I'd get beat up."

Congdon started skipping school,

"I was very popular, I hung out with the popular crowd, and overnight I became an outcast."

something he had never done before. "At that time I was also very stressed out with me being gay and coming to grips with it. It was very overwhelming; it happened all at once," he said.

Congdon left school less than a month after returning. The school district sent a teacher to his house so he could complete his junior year.

Troy High School Principal Bob Grantier said he did not know Congdon was being harassed.

"If that was reported, which it was not, it would have been dealt with. Bottom line," he said.

Now, Congdon studies at home. He expects to take his high-school equivalency exam in the summer and attend college next fall as a criminal justice major.

Congdon's story was featured last month in an ESPN documentary on gay athletes. He also wrote about his experience for a San Francisco-based magazine for gay teen-agers.

"I'm being very public with it to raise awareness. We do have a problem in today's society and there is hate out there toward us and other ethnic and religious backgrounds," he said. "Something has to be done."

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William Graves

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Gay tourists to Costa Rica get official apologies

Phoenix couple issued copy of tourism minister's letter

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

Two Valley residents who were among more than 300 gay and lesbian tourists whose vacations were delayed by an anti-gay protest in Costa Rica Oct. 24 have been issued copies of an official apology from that nation's government.

Alan Ladd and Jake Studebaker of Phoenix received copies of two letters of apology written to Rich Campbell, president of Atlantis Events, the West Hollywood-based touring company through which they had booked a vacation to the northern Pacific Province of Guanacaste on Costa Rica's remote Blue Bay.

One of the letters addressed to Mr. Campbell is from Ian G. Brownlee, consul at the U.S. Embassy in Costa Rica. The other is from Aida F. de Fishman, Costa Rica's Minister of Tourism.

"I am writing to you to express sincere apologies on behalf of the Presidency of the Republic and with the full authority of the Costa Rican Institute of Tourism, for what happened this past October in Guanacaste," de Fishman's Nov. 9 letter translates.

"I do not have sufficient words to explain the conduct displayed by some of our citizens, who showed an intolerant, disrespectful and inconsiderate attitude which is not consistent with the characteristic hospitality of Costa Ricans."

The citizens for whom the minister apologizes were reportedly incited by priests and politicians from the nearby village of Sardinal de Carillo to block buses full of gay tourists on the narrow road that leads in and out of the nearby vacation resort of Papagayo.

The 200-300 protesters were supported by Congresswoman Marisol Clachar of the ruling Social Christian Unity Party. Clachar and other right-wing leaders apparently led the townspeople to believe that some sort

Head of Alabama gay group found dead in apparent suicide

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (AP)

The head of Alabama's best-known organization for homosexuals was found dead in a motel room where police said he killed himself after admitting to stealing from an AIDS advocacy group he ran.

Jay Horton, state coordinator of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Alabama, committed suicide after admitting to taking at least \$5,000 from another group, the AIDS Action Coalition of Huntsville, said Sgt. Barry Pendergraft.

Horton had been head of GALAA, which has lobbied the Legislature on issues affecting homosexuals, since August 1997. He was executive director of the AIDS Action Coalition.

"I just feel so bad," David White, acting treasurer of GALAA, said.

The 37-year-old Guntersville native was found dead Jan. 5 of a .22-caliber bullet wound in a Morgan County motel room that employees had entered while doing repair work.

Coroner Gene Shelton said Horton

left a suicide note, but he would not release the contents.

Pendergraft said David Frederick, chairman of the AIDS Action Coalition Board, told police Jan. 5 that Horton had come to him that day and confessed to stealing at least \$5,000 from the agency's bank account over the last six months.

Horton was not seen again, Pendergraft said.

Horton became executive director of the AIDS Action Coalition in May 1997. He began volunteering in 1992 with AIDS Outreach in Lee County, where he worked as an agricultural scientist with Auburn University.

White said there had been no financial problems with GALAA, and Horton did not have access to the group's accounts.

Horton's death was not the first tragedy for his family. His parents, Dr. James and Bettye Horton, were shot to death in their bed in their Guntersville home in the mid-1980s. The widely publicized case was never solved.

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Politically Speaking



Arizona Human Rights Fund

By Kathie Gummere, HeatStroke
Contributor

Equality Begins at Home.

Possibly a trite, but nonetheless true, statement. How can we expect changes to be made on a national level (such as equality in the military), if we can't work for equality on a local level?

The state governments are the ones that hold the most power over our daily lives. They are the ones that decide our rights regarding adoption, foster

care, civil rights, hate crimes, education, health care, marriage, employment, and housing. The state government can give us the right to live free and with the same rights that our neighbors enjoy—or can force us to

stay hidden, ashamed and fearful that we will lose our jobs, our children, our residences, our basic rights.

The state government, through its laws and rhetoric, creates the climate in which we live. Is it a climate of safety and equality? Or one of hatred and discrimination?

Equality Begins at Home.

It is easy for all of us—myself included—to think that "someone should do something about that." "Why don't they pass a law?" is an old and common complaint. But how and why do laws change?

Local officials are frequently elected by very slim voter margins. A few voters in their district can decide whether they are re-elected. Thus a few people banded together can and often do affect the course of legislative history.

It is because people—ordinary people like you and me—complain enough that the legislators decide that they need to add, change or repeal a law or they will be voted out of office.

It is true that many legislators don't listen to the people, (witness the actions of congress regarding impeachment), but it is also true that when the voters get angry enough, the officials get defeated (witness the last national elections). It is also usual-

ly the case that the more local the official, the more responsive he or she is to the voters.

Local officials are frequently elected by very slim voter margins. A few voters in their district can decide whether they are re-elected. Thus a few people banded together can and often do affect the course of legislative history. That's why lobbies are so successful. "Special interest groups" do get the legislation they want. But special interest groups don't have to be lobbying for legislation affecting a small minority of citizens. They can be working for legislation that affects everyone—such as equal rights legislation.

Equality Begins at Home is the banner under which actions and activities all across the country will be organized the week of March 21-27, 1999. It is hoped that the activities occurring during this week will be historic in their effects on equal rights, especially for the GLBT community.

The efforts in this campaign are being coordinated to show each and every state legislature that we are a community and we expect to be treated with the same dignity and respect as any other group of citizens.

As stated in the national advertising: "There will be lobby days, cultural events, visibility actions and political gatherings. Be a part of history. It has never been easier, because now, equality begins at home."

Please join us and take part in the planning and/or activities. Call (602) 650-0900, leave your name, phone number, a good time to reach you, and which types of activities you prefer.

You will have fun, and you will feel a sense of accomplishment—a knowledge that you helped to change history.



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

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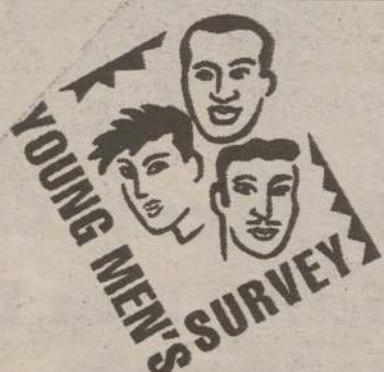
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Pediatricians urge telling children if they have HIV

CHICAGO (AP)

Doctors and parents of children infected with the AIDS virus should tell them and not try to hide the diagnosis, the nation's leading group of pediatricians says.

"It's inevitable that the child will find out and the only question is what's the timing that will be least harmful and most beneficial," said Dr. Alan R. Fleischman of the New York Academy of Medicine.

Fleischman is one of the authors of a policy statement from the American Academy of Pediatrics published in the January issue of *Pediatrics*.

The 55,000-member group urged frankness toward HIV-infected children. It said doctors should try to work with the patient's parents to convince them their child should know the truth.

The authors stopped short, however, of saying doctors should tell the child over parents' objections, unless the patient is a sexually active teen.

The organization said the best way to tell the child is with both doctors and parents present. But it acknowledged some parents may want the doctor to break the news.

Some doctors have gone along with parents who hope to keep youngsters from knowing they have HIV, the group said. The reasons include fear their youngsters will lose their will to live, become angry with parents who infected them or disclose the information outside the family.

The academy has not previously taken a position on the issue. Doctors said the problem is becoming more serious as the number of youngsters with HIV grows and they live longer.

At the end of 1997, more than 8,000 reported AIDS cases were reported in children under 13. The vast majority got the infection from their mothers at birth, and well over half remain alive, doctors said.

The academy cautioned that only preliminary research has been done on the effect of telling youngsters about their condition. But the pediatricians said an initial study shows those who are told have higher self-esteem and parents who are candid with children are less likely to be depressed.

Doctors who did not participate in writing the statement largely agreed.

"Time and time again we have seen that we think we are sparing the children from something and all we have done is make it more mysterious and more frightening because we were unwilling to talk about it," said Dr. Thomas DeStefani, chairman of pediatrics at Loyola University Medical Center.

Dr. Hermann Mendez, a professor of pediatrics at the State University of New York at Brooklyn, echoed the statement's authors in saying that the time and manner of disclosure should match the patient's personality and readiness to know the truth.

"If the child is unable to keep information that belongs in the family within the family, this could result in harm to the family," he said.

The statement said that teens, who may be sexually active, must be told the truth to prevent spread of the infection. It said preschoolers are usually interested mainly in what will happen in their immediate future and don't necessarily need to hear the whole diagnosis.

New research promising for killing HIV remnants

SEATTLE (AP)

Targeting HIV in hard-to-reach lymph nodes, researchers for the first time have curbed the AIDS virus by injecting patients with cells made from their own natural defense systems.

The research published Jan. 4 in the January issue of *Nature Medicine* could lead to new ways of attacking the AIDS virus in parts of the body where it has eluded standard drug treatment.

Researchers were able to suppress HIV by giving a patient injections of cells fashioned from his own immune system. Though scientists say the new method can't be used immediately to treat large numbers of patients, it is encouraging because it appears to curb the virus at least temporarily in lymph nodes.

"An area we want to consider is: Is it possible to rid somebody of infection?" said the study's chief author, virologist Scott Brodie of the University of Washington in Seattle.

HIV propagates by attacking a kind of immune cell known as a helper T-cell. The researchers chose three patients and isolated from their bodies another type of white blood cell, known as a killer T-cell, which destroys HIV.

By cloning and other means, they grew huge numbers of each patient's killer T-cells in a laboratory and genetically engineered some with markers to trace their movement within the body. They then reinjected massive amounts back into each

patient and traced the migrating cells to lymph nodes.

There, the new killer T-cells knocked down the number of infected helper T-cells, in some cases to undetectable levels, according to the researchers.

The effect was temporary; the new cells disappeared within three weeks.

Still, Dr. Roger Pomerantz, chief of infectious diseases at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, who is familiar with the research, called it an exciting early step toward eradicating HIV "where it hides."

While praising the long-term value of the work, Dr. Anthony Fauci, who is working on his own treatment to eradicate virus remnants, cautioned that the University of Washington technique is so advanced that it limits immediate practical use.

"It's too expensive, it's too time-consuming, it's too complicated," he said.

Another AIDS study appearing Jan. 4 in *Nature Medicine* points to a second approach in replenishing the immune system.

Researchers found that an HIV infection shortens the life span of both killer and helper T-cells to less than a third of normal, and production of replacement cells lags behind.

Many researchers have theorized that HIV irreparably breaks down the body's cell-replacement capacity through overuse.

This study, however, suggests that the replacement capacity survives intact and seems to be refreshed by a

standard HIV treatment, known as a drug cocktail. The researchers said

will intensify the search for ways of reviving the body's ability to fight disease once it is damaged by AIDS.

The chief author, Dr. Marc Hellerstein of the University of California, San Francisco, said such research should ultimately show whether later-stage AIDS patients largely cleared of infection through drug therapy can "really regenerate normalcy in their immune systems."

Michael McCune, another member of the research team, suggested such approaches also might apply to cancer and other diseases.

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HIV issues?

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2,798 Dutch couples have registered

Just under 2,800 same-sex couples got hitched under The Netherlands' registered-partnership law in the first 10 months of its existence, reports the Dutch Central Bureau for Statistics.

The law, which took effect in January 1998, grants registered couples all rights of matrimony with the exception that procedures for adoption by same-sex couples have not been fully implemented.

One thousand one hundred ninety-eight of the registered couples are female pairs, 1,507 are male and 1,291 are opposite-sex.

Meanwhile, The Netherlands is also on-track to become the first nation in the world to let same-sex couples marry under the regular marriage laws, with both the government and the parliament now having voiced support for the move.

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

Former Ottawa mayor had female partner

The mayor of Ottawa, Canada, from 1951-1956 and 1960-1964 was apparently gay.

The late Charlotte Whitton's secret life was revealed Jan. 7 when staffers at the National Archives opened a box of her personal papers that she had ordered sealed until now.

It contained love letters to and from her live-in companion, Margaret Grier—including letters Whitton continued to write to Grier for two years after Grier's death in 1947.

"Oh! Mardie, Mardie, how can I go on," Whitton wrote in one missive three weeks after Grier's death. "We must just go on being with each other. ... Ours wasn't love, it was a knitting together of mind and spirit: it was something given to few of God."

Whitton was the first woman

mayor of a large Canadian city. Among her more memorable words: "Whatever women do they must do twice as well as men to be thought of half so good. Luckily, it's not difficult."

Joe Orton toilets to be saved

The Victorian toilets where famed gay playwright Joe Orton cruised for sex will be renovated by London's Camden Council with \$82,000 in national lottery funds, in part as a memorial to Orton.

The 102-year-old underground conveniences—in South End Green, Hampstead and North London—were built by the London and North Western Railway. According to the *London Times*: "The walls are covered with green and white tiles and the cubicles have panelled timber doors and cast iron decorative screens. They featured prominently in *Prick Up Your Ears*, the film of Orton's life starring Gary Oldman."

Orton's sister, Leoni Orton-Barnett, is keen on the restoration.

"It is a very odd monument [to Joe]," she said. "But if they can spend millions doing up the Albert Memorial with gold, why not?"

"Joe frequented cottages [the British term for cruisy men's rooms] all the time," Orton-Barnett said. "It is a place where gays meet and strut their stuff. We know from George Michael's arrest that it is still common practice. It wasn't just the cheap sex. Joe liked to be the fly on the wall. You don't get to know what life is really about by knocking about with BBC directors and Oxford dons. The crudity and sparseness of life is to be found in public lavatories."

The local South End Green residents' association also supports memorializing Orton by restoring his favorite tearooms (the American term for cruisy toilets).

"Joe Orton is a claim to fame," said Chairman Michael Rend.

"There may be some people who are enraged about Orton's connection with the lavatories but I have not met them. We are a tolerant bunch."

A spokesman for The National Heritage Memorial Fund concurred, "There is an added something from the fact that Joe Orton used them."

Gay group sues Canadian government

The organization Foundation for Equal Families sued the Canadian

government Jan. 7 demanding it change 58 laws that define a spouse as someone of the opposite sex.

The group says the laws are discriminatory and conflict with court rulings that have granted same-sex partners spousal rights.

Among the laws targeted are ones dealing with social-security benefits, pensions, income taxes and immigration.

"We are dealing here, in this case, solely ... with principles that have already been clearly established by the courts," said the foundation's lawyer, David Corbett. "The legislature hasn't been listening. We're going to ask the courts to speak again, loudly and finally."

Knighted actor unhappy about outing

Unlike most celebrities who get outed, newly knighted British actor Nigel Hawthorne, star of *The Madness of King George* and TV's *Yes, Minister*, did not find the experience liberating.

"I felt it was a terrible intrusion on my privacy," he told *The Times* of London. "[Gay actor Sir] Ian McKellen always said I should come out. But why? I make my living playing heterosexuals."

"My partner [Trevor Bentham] and I don't want to stand up and say we're gay, because we think [announcing it publicly is] wrong. The best way to get people to accept you is to move about the community and show them there's nothing to be afraid of."

Philippine Catholic hierarchy denounces ads

The Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines has denounced three new TV ads that endorse condom use to prevent transmission of HIV.

"The solution is that husbands should remain faithful to their wives, and then there is no AIDS," said Msgr. Pedro Quitorio, the conference's assistant secretary general.

The ads were funded by the United Nations Population Fund and the local AIDS organization ReachOut.

British anti-gay group dies

Britain's Conservative Family Institute (CFI) is closing down in the face of criticism from the Conservative party which is embarrassed by the organization's anti-gay campaigning.

In announcing the shutdown, CFI head Adrian Rogers said: "[The party's supportive] attitude to homo-

sexual candidates is completely wrong. The central party has done nothing to help support those of us with pro-family views and if the party does not want a Conservative Family Institute to exist it is a terrible reflection on the current leadership."

Global PWA group to meet in Warsaw

The Global Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (GNP+) and The International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS will stage the 9th International Conference for People Living with HIV/AIDS Aug. 13-19 in Warsaw, Poland.

Full details are available at the conference's Web site (www.hivnet.ch/gnp/warsaw/index.htm) or by writing Christopher Park, International Coordinator, GNP+, P.O. Box 11726, 1001 GS Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Phone: 011-31-20-423-4114. Fax: 011-31-20-423-4224. E-mail: gnp@gn.apc.org.

Fijian gays fight to save constitution

Only two countries in the world ban discrimination based on sexual orientation via their constitutions: South Africa and Fiji. But all is not well in Fiji.

Right-wing political forces and conservative church groups have convinced the government to alter the new constitution to ensure that the gay protections do not lead to legalization of gay sex or gay marriage.

Unless strong pressure comes from abroad, Parliament's Committee on Consequential Legislation is expected to override the constitutional protections (which are in Section 28 of the Bill of Rights) with a new homophobic amendment.

It will "remove any doubts and fears about same-sex marriages and unnatural offenses being allowed," said Attorney General Ratu Etuate Tavai.

Fijian activists and the International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission urgently request letters supporting the Constitution's provisions. Write (1) Prime Minister's Office, Parliament Complex, Box 2352, Government Buildings, Republic of Fiji. Fax: 011-679-305-204. (2) Leader of Opposition, Opposition Office, Box 2352, Government Buildings, Republic of Fiji. Fax: 011-679-305-317.

Send a copy to Fiji Women's Crisis Centre, 88 Gordon Street, P.O. Box 12882, Suva, Fiji. E-mail: fwcc@is.com.fj

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Let's Rodeo in Phoenix—Again!

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

Dust off your cowboy hat and polish up your silver buckle—it's time once more for the annual Road Runner Regional Rodeo. It starts Jan. 15 and runs through the weekend at the Corona Ranch and Rodeo Grounds in south Phoenix.

But suppose you don't have a buckle, hat, or even a measly pair of boots. And let's say you think "rough stock" is a designer's reference to a bad bolt of cotton twill.

Never fear—there's plenty to see and do at the rodeo grounds even if you aren't a fan of sawdust and the two step, and no one at this rodeo really cares what you wear or whether you're a real cowboy.

It's a traditional gay community event (this is the rodeo's 13th year, by the way) and even if it's your first time, you'll have a good time.

The festivities will get underway Friday night with the annual Mr., Miss, and Ms. Arizona Gay Rodeo Association's Royalty pageant. There's no charge to head down to the grounds and root for your favorite contestants as they compete for the three prestigious titles and the chance to represent AGRA as a roving rodeo ambassador in the coming season.

Then, on Saturday morning, the arena events will begin. But things in the arena really don't get rocking until the Grand Entry parade commences at noon on both Saturday and Sunday.

That's when the stands start to fill, the shirts start to come off, and the bucking broncs and wild steers start getting the better of those queer cowboys and cowgirls crazy enough to

And then there are the camp events, like the wild drag race, the goat dressing and the steer decorating. It's always fun to see what the well-dressed goat is wearing this sea-

Is shopping on your mind? There will be vendor booths with pride merchandise and western wear for sale in the tent out back, and several community groups will be on hand to put you in touch with your gay and lesbian friends and neighbors in the Valley.

Rebecca West

Your admission gets you into everything, but food and booze will cost you extra. And there's plenty of both on hand—after all, AGRA didn't get a reputation for hosting one of the best and biggest rodeos on the gay circuit without knowing how to throw a party.

And here's something else to bear in mind: each year, the rodeo association channels its profits from the rodeo right back into the community through a series of grants. So by sup-

porting the rodeo, you're supporting everything from P-FLAG to the Human Society.



The Corona Ranch is located on the south side of Baseline Road, just west of 27th Avenue. Tickets are \$15 per day, or \$25 for both Saturday and Sunday. Call the Rodeo Hotline at (602)265-0618 for more information.



slap a number on their backs and call themselves contenders.

You won't want to miss the speed events, like barrel racing and pole bending. Even a novice can figure out who's in the lead, and it's easy to understand the rules. Another highlight is always the bull riding, where women compete atop the ornery animals just like the men do.

son, and the announcer always knows just how seriously to take the competitors in these contests.

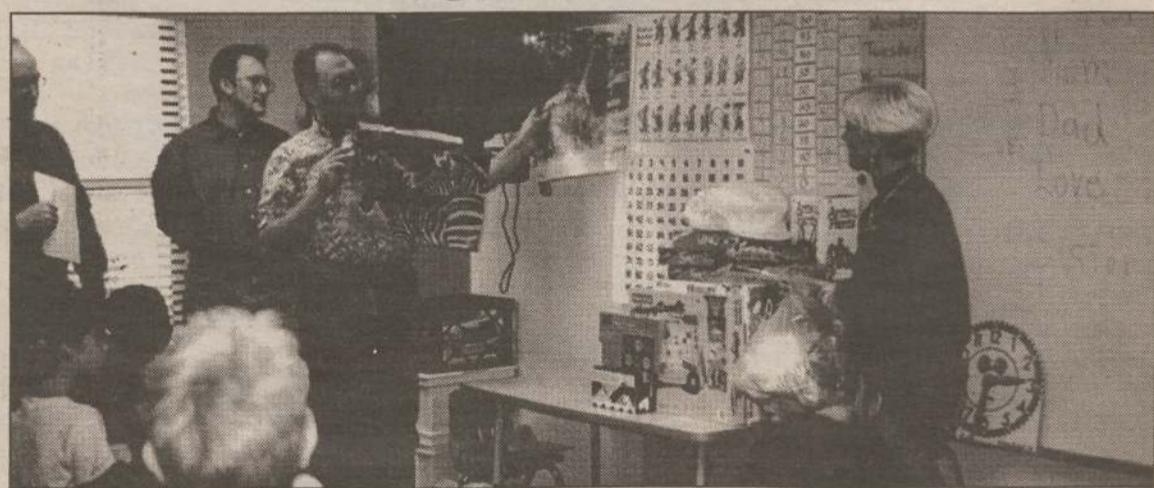
If it's dance and entertainment you're looking for, the roster of singers, dance acts and drag divas rolls nonstop across the stage on Saturday, Saturday night and Sunday afternoon inside the entertainment pavilion adjacent to the arena.

Gentle Shepherd parishioners go back to school

The Gentle Shepherd Metropolitan Community Church adopted a second grade class at the Thomas J. Pappas Elementary School for the Homeless as part of an annual Christmas social justice project.

The mostly gay and lesbian members of the MCC were able to purchase every item on the teacher's wish list, providing the kids with school supplies, games, educational toys and even a fish aquarium.

Each child in the 38 student class received an individual gift as well. The gifts were presented Christmas week at the Phoenix school. The program was so well received that MCC members have already adopted the class for the Spring semester, and undergarments, socks, toiletries and other necessities are being collected by Gentle Shepherd parishioners for the children.



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Goings On

News & Events of Interest to the Phoenix Queer Community

CBPA's January activities

The Camelback Business and Professional Association is the Valley's gay and gay-friendly Chamber of Commerce. This popular social and networking organization for business people in the community has several events planned for January.

The original CBPA Lunch Bunch still meets every other Tuesday at 11:30 am at Pookie's, on 7th Street just south of Highland in Central Phoenix. The next meeting will be on Jan. 26. This is a great chance to network, socialize, meet new friends and associates. The cost is \$10.

An Eastside Lunch Bunch meets every other Wednesday 11:30 am at Minder Binders, 715 S. McClintock in Tempe. This group is looking for everyone east of Phoenix to network and socialize, and the cost is also \$10.

The monthly CBPA Netmix will be held at Eddie's Grill on Jan. 13 at 6:30 pm. New Business Member and restaurant owner Larry Cohn will be the host. Eddie's Grill is at 4747 North 7th Street in Phoenix, and the cost for this networking event is just \$5.

The General Meeting this month will feature Robert Lewis Associates on Jan. 21 at the Phoenix Airport Hilton, 2435 South 47th Street (Hohokam & University). The meeting starts with 6:30 pm no-host drinks at the bar followed by a 7 pm buffet dinner. A presentation on understanding and adapting behavior will begin at 7:45 pm. The meeting, including dinner, costs \$17 for CBPA members and \$19 for guests. Call 225-8444 to RSVP by Jan. 19.

Superparty at the Center for the Superbowl

The Community Center in Phoenix is hosting a Superbowl Party on Jan. 31 for gridiron fans and half-time show aficionados alike, and they'll be kicking things off at 3:30 pm.

Everyone is welcome to come down and watch the big event (it's a pro football game, for those who don't know) on the Center's big screen at 24 West Camelback Road. Bring a snack to share and your own non-alcoholic beverage.

Call Brian Heisterkamp at The Community Center for more info, at (602)234-2752.

Gentle Shepherd MCC doubles up services

The Gentle Shepherd Metropolitan Community Church in Phoenix has begun offering two worship services on Sunday mornings to meet the growing need of the Valley's gay and lesbian community.

The first service is at 9:15 am, and it is a liturgical worship service. Fellowship then begins at 10:30 am and the second worship service starts at 11. This will be a less, formal, more contemporary service.

The church meets in the ballroom of the Quality Hotel at 2nd Avenue and Osborn in Phoenix, while plans are made for their new location. Senior Pastor Rev. Bradley Wishorn extends a special invitation to the new services.

Masks to be made at PBP

Michelle Milne of the Masks For Life traveling art display and memorial will be on hand at the Phoenix Body Positive offices for a day of free mask making Jan. 26.

The masks consist of plaster casts of the faces of people who are living with HIV and AIDS. They are used as part of an ongoing art project that Milne is administrating through Mesa Community College.

The mask making will start at 7 am and last until 3 pm. For information, call PBP at (602)955-4673. The office is located at 4021 North 30th Street in Phoenix.

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Sat:	Country Western Music with DJ "De"
Sun:	Steak & Chicken Fry \$3, 6-8pm Karaoke with Jamie 7-11pm



UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday
Jan. 14:

Happy Birthday, Ré!

Friday
Jan. 15:

Cash Inn welcomes Ladies with an Attitude for a benefit performance at 9pm. Good luck to AJ at the Rodeo, and to all AGRA contestants.

Friday
Jan. 22:

Happy Birthday, Gretchen!

Friday
Jan. 29:

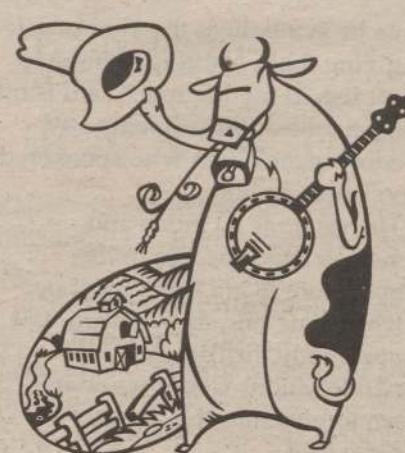
Cash Inn Presents: Diamond Fire. Show starts at 9pm; cover.

Sunday
Feb. 14:

Valentine's Day—join us for a special Dining and Dancing Event at the Cash Inn. Watch this space for details.



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Phoenix honors Bob Hegyi

Continued from page 1

time that you could not be homosexual and work for the police department."

But that's all in the past. These days, the City of Phoenix and Bob Hegyi are on the same side.

As proof of that point, out and proud Robert C. Hegyi will be among seven individuals recognized with the 1999 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. *Living the Dream* Award, presented by the City of Phoenix's Human Relations Commission.

"I've known Bob for 18 years and

the third time a gay Phoenix resident has been feted by the city for his or her efforts on behalf of human rights.

Lesbian pastor and outspoken activist Rev. Charlotte Strayhorn was a *Living the Dream* recipient in 1998. And Mark Colledge, an admired community activist who died last year from complications due to AIDS, was among those selected by the Human Relations Commission in '97.

Jacobson thinks giving openly gay people an award that celebrates diversity in the name of a great civil

rights leader is a small but important step in the city's own journey toward overcoming its prejudices against gays and lesbians.

"I've always believed in gentle pressure, relentlessly applied," he said.

Jacobson said there are heterosexual community leaders on the Human Relations Commission who believe in equality for gays and lesbians and who would even support domestic partnership benefits for city employees—one area of gay rights advances in which Phoenix lags behind many other U.S. cities. But, he said, signifi-

cant social change takes time. Hegyi is thrilled to accept the commission's award and is unashamed to admit he got emotional when he found out he'd been named. "I cried when I opened the letter saying I was a nominee, and I cried again when I got the second letter saying I'd been chosen. I'm really grateful and really stunned."

The son of Hungarian immigrants, Hegyi was born and raised in the Midwest—in the lily white farming community of Elyria, Ohio, to be exact. After high school, he attended nearby Findlay College for a year and then joined the Air Force.

Hegyi's social conscience took root in the late fifties when he found himself stationed in Biloxi, Mississippi during the rise of the desegregation movement.

Until he enlisted and was sent to the Deep South, the impressionable airman had never been out of Ohio. He'd never seen racially separate drinking fountains, cafes, or public transportation. He remembers being shocked and disgusted by the reality of life in Mississippi.

"The back of the bus was still reserved for blacks. But it was mainly black people who used the buses," he said. "So here I was, riding in the front with all these empty seats and a few other white passengers, while people were literally standing in the aisles in the back."

The racial injustice made Hegyi angry. He was once accosted by a white police officer when he offered his arm to an elderly black

woman who was boarding a bus while loaded down with packages during the Christmas season.

"The cop said that if he ever caught me doing that again, he'd throw me in jail and throw the key away." When his stint in the Air Force ended, Hegyi left Mississippi and moved to Charleston, South Carolina.

He was inspired to join the anti-segregation forces being organized at that time by Dr. Martin Luther King and other prominent civil rights leaders. He took part in protests and marches, and he helped to assemble other activists. While he lived in the

South, Hegyi began dating a man but did not realize yet that he was gay.

"You have to understand that in the fifties, we had no concept of what a homosexual was. I didn't, anyway."

Clouding the sexuality issue for Hegyi was a brief, disastrous marriage he'd entered as a way of repressing his attraction to other men. "I thought marrying a nice girl would cure me, but it didn't."

Hegyi lived in South Carolina while his wife lived in Washington, D.C. and their marriage was annulled after three years because it was never consummated. "So I'm a Kinsey Six homosexual, even though I was married to a woman."

In 1962, he moved with his lover to Arizona on a doctor's recommendation—he had asthma—and began the process of accepting himself as a gay man. The couple stayed together ten years. After the breakup, Hegyi started exploring the gay community from a political and social standpoint.

In the early seventies, he joined a levi/leather club and was elected one of the group's officers. "Then Anita Bryant came along and by that time I was out, so I decided to get more involved in the gay community."

Lack of information, Hegyi said, was one of the things that made his own coming out process very difficult. "And so information became very important to me, and trying to let people coming out know that there is indeed someone you can talk to became important."

So he networked, organized and brought like-minded people together.

In 1976, he was one of the founding directors of the Alternative Relations Center, a resource for gays at a time when the community was still very closeted. Hegyi recognized early in his activism that the growing gay and lesbian population required a place away from the bars in which to socialize and share educational and political information.

One element of the ARC that Hegyi started and that still exists today was the Community Switchboard, which gave callers an opportunity to get anonymous information about events, meetings and organizations of interest to gays and lesbians.

"To be honest, I like the grass roots part of organizing," he related. "I like to bring the people together, get them motivated, get them started." Once people start working together, Hegyi prefers to hand over the reins to people who are more business oriented.

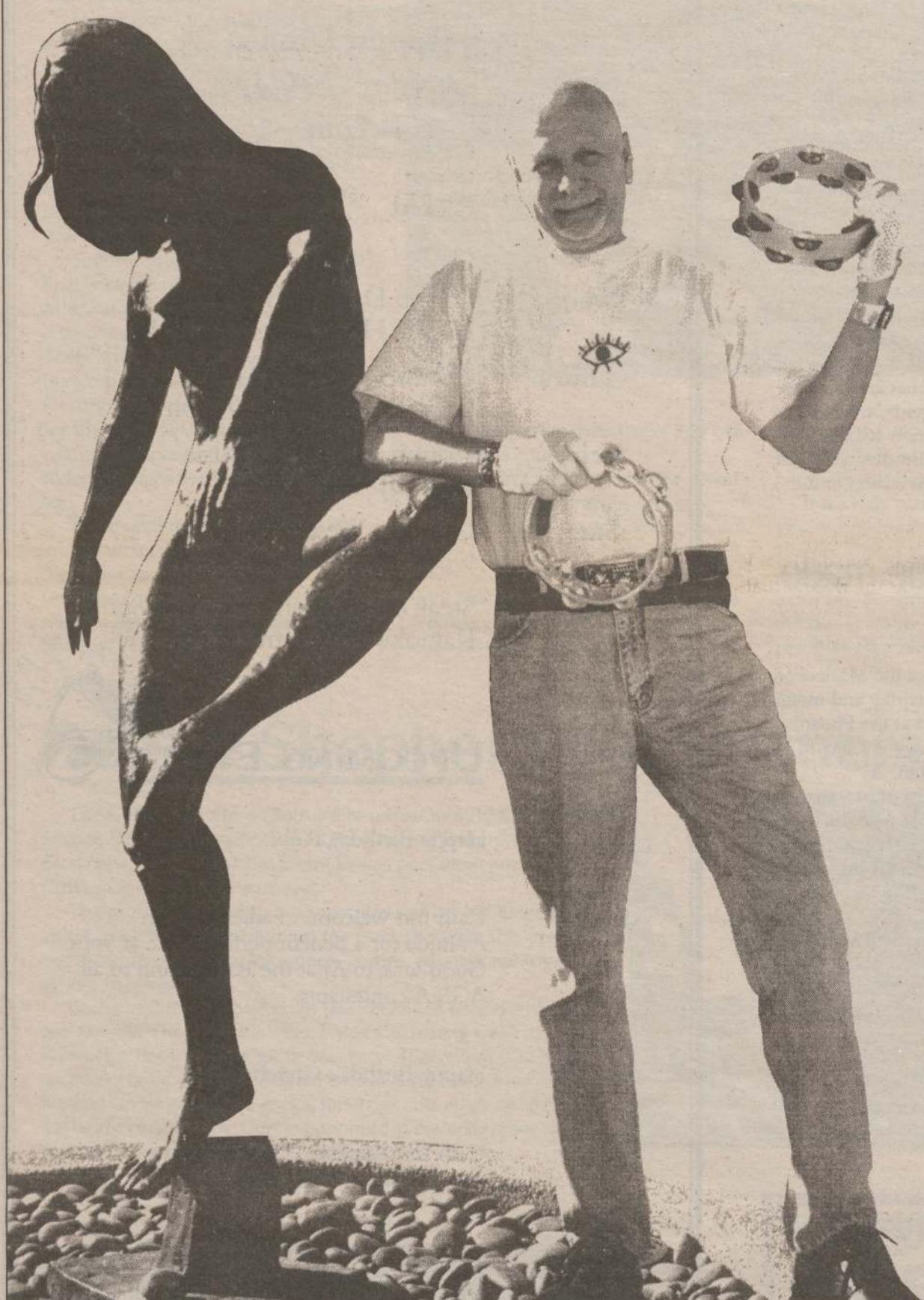
"I'm not well educated and I realize that you can only carry something so far and then it's time to let someone with more experience and more knowledge take it over."

Encouraged by his volunteer work in the community, his work with gay youth and his growing sense of gay pride, he left the water department in 1981 to open a card shop on 7th Street near Camelback. Called simply "R Hegyi," the store was one of the first gay-owned and operated gift shops in the state to cater to a mostly gay clientele.

It was around that time that people began to talk about a "gay cancer" affecting men in San Francisco and New York.

The coming crisis and its explosive impact on the Phoenix community changed Hegyi's life in numerous ways. First, he closed the card shop.

"I probably lost seventy percent of my business because people were afraid to touch the doorknobs or touch the cards. No one knew how



Phoenix Human Relations Commission award recipient Bob Hegyi as we know him best: with tambourine in hand.

for me he symbolizes the kind of selfless giving that I could only hope to accomplish in my lifetime," said Scott Jacobson, one of three openly gay Phoenix businessmen who sponsored Hegyi's nomination.

"He has done so much and touched so many people in this Valley—more than I think most people who know him even realize, and I'm absolutely thrilled that the Human Relations Commission has chosen to give him this award," Jacobson said.

When the Dr. King award is handed to Hegyi on Jan. 15, it will mark

you got AIDS, and it wasn't just the heterosexual community, it was our gay brothers and sisters. People were really scared and paranoid."

Hegyi was instrumental in planning the first Valley fund-raiser for the disease—which brought in a whopping \$1,000. He then asked twelve people he knew to serve as the board of directors for a new organization that would handle the money. "And so the Arizona AIDS Fund Trust was born."

Through several incarnations, that organization has since become AIDS Project Arizona, currently the state's largest AIDS service agency.

He said that only two of those original twelve members are still alive. "We had no idea at that time that AIDS would ever affect us. But it did."

So Hegyi threw all his energies and efforts into the pandemic even as he watched many—indeed most—of his friends and fellow pioneering activists grow sick and die. Almost 900 people that he knew personally have died from the disease. He said he once stopped listing close friends who had died when the list reached 125 and he couldn't stop crying.

And yet he consistently tests negative for the virus. "Don't ask me how." He believes it may be because he's been in a long term relationship, but said that with so many from his generation gone it is still hard to understand why he isn't HIV positive himself. And so he finds himself dealing with survivor's guilt along with the toll the overwhelming loss and grief have taken on him personally.

There are times when it gets to be too much. Several years ago, he took a two-year hiatus from volunteering and organizing and simply rested. "I just needed to get away."

He's been in a relationship with the man he refers to as his husband, Mel Reese, for 27 years. The couple has, over the years, taken three young gay men into their home. Hegyi prefers to call these men his adopted sons.

He's also influenced the lives of other young gays through a program he initiated in the eighties called Crystal Clear. It's a support group for gay men—young people in particular—who are addicted to methamphetamines.

He explained that he was once addicted to crystal meth himself, having discovered drugs relatively late in life.

"I was 44 before I ever smoked marijuana," he said. "And the first time I did, I danced for six hours non-stop." As Hegyi's passion for dancing in gay clubs developed, he began

using drugs as part of his escape.

"I was a functional addict. I never missed work but I was addicted nevertheless." Because of his firsthand experiences with drugs, Hegyi felt he had something to offer youth and he believed he could help them without judgment.

He was also concerned about the "very free and easy way" people behave sexually after using drugs in the bar environment, and he hoped that the Crystal Clear meetings could play a role in curbing high risk behavior among young men who were getting heavily into the bar scene.

After 37 years in the Valley, Hegyi is as much a fixture in gay bars nowadays as he is on the front line of AIDS support and social change.

But today, his attention-getting dancing rituals are inspired not by chemical substances, but by his life experiences, the pounding music itself, and the tribal energy he feels when he's among other gay men on a dark dance floor.

He sees the *Living the Dream* recognition as representative of a trend toward greater understanding between the straight and gay communities in Phoenix. "It means a lot for me personally, especially because of my history in the civil rights movement and my own memories of Dr. King. It's the greatest compliment that I could ever receive from this city."

But, he added, it also means a lot for the community. "This award is not coming only to me. This award is coming to the entire community that I have tried to represent over the years and that I've always been very proud of."

Everyone wants to make their mark, he explained. "You do, I do. We all want to leave our mark, and that has always been my goal. To make things better than I found them, and maybe make it a little easier for the people coming up behind me. That's what this award means to me, and I don't know what else to say about it."

Hegyi may not know what else to say, but the rest of us who appreciate his three decades of selfless activism almost certainly do.

So the next time you see his fans dancing above the crowd, or hear his tambourine behind you, or if you spot him heading in or out of a movie theater (another favorite pastime), walk right over and give Bob Hegyi a hug—he's never been a hand-shaker, he'll tell you.

Offer your congratulations, and while you're at it, tell him "Thanks".

He'll know what you mean.



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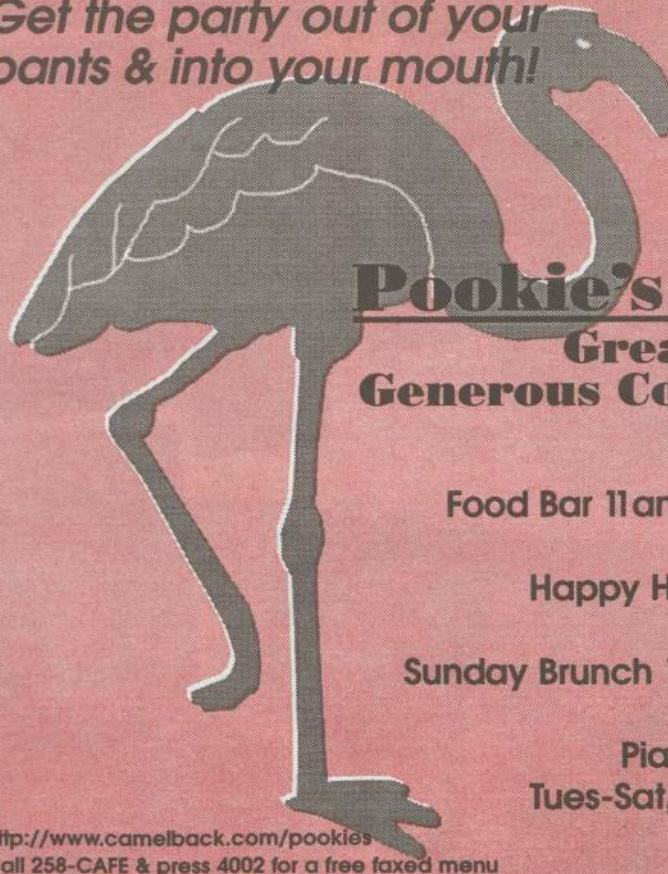
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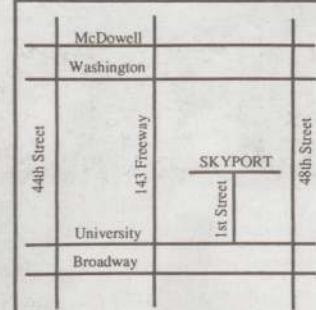
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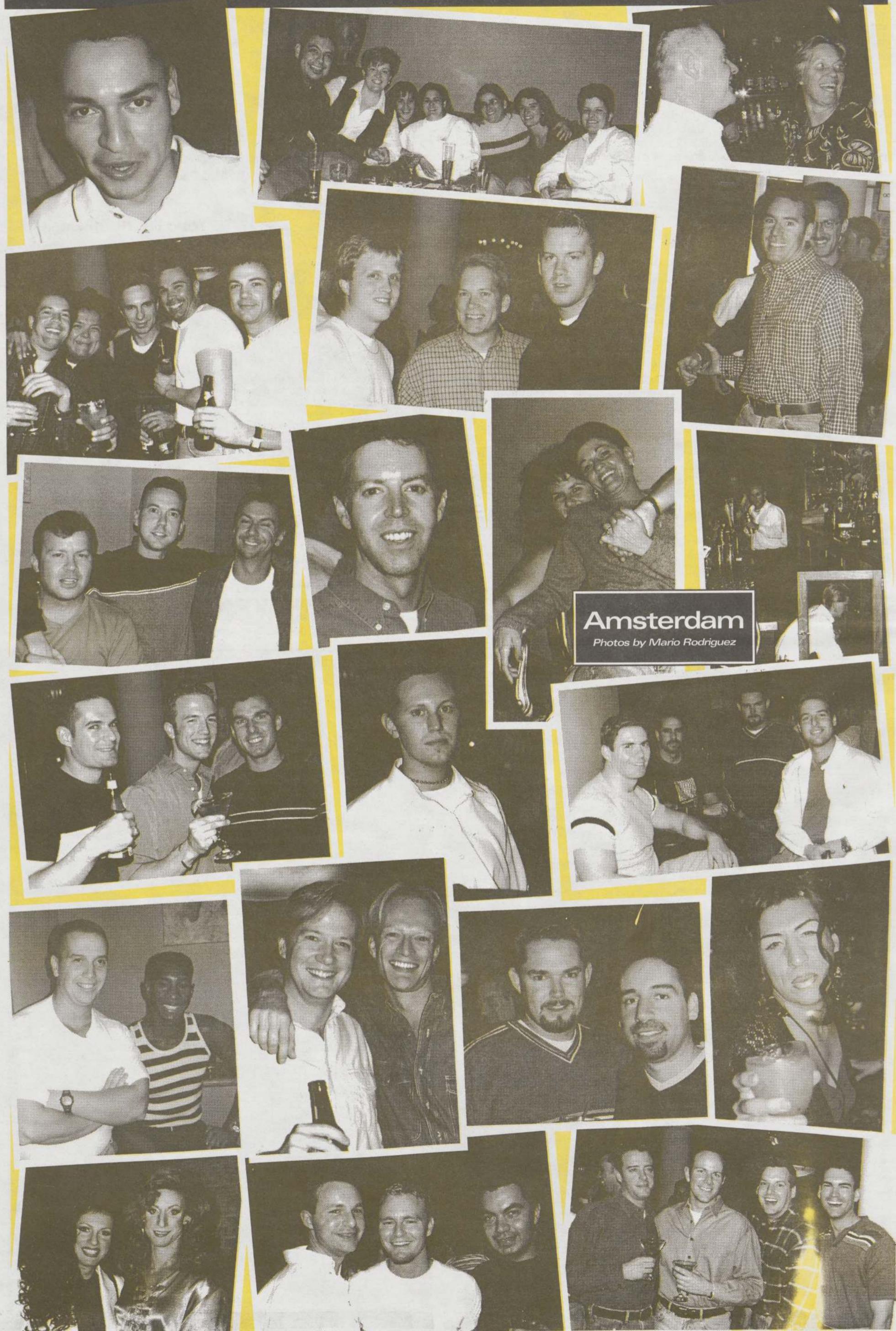
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HILARY AND JACKIE

British cellist Jacqueline du Pre was one of the 20th Century's best loved classical musicians until her untimely death from MS in 1967 at the age of 42.

On stage she brought flamboyance and sensual vigor to the stodgy world



of solo classical music, and off stage she turned heads with the way she indulged in odd, love/hate relationships with both her maestro husband and her instrument.

Her most intense love/hate relationship, however, was with her sister, Hilary. "Hils" was an accomplished young flutist in her own right who traded her performance ambitions for a simpler life in the country with the man she loved.

It's this female familial bond that's at the heart of *Hilary and Jackie*, directed by Anand Tucker and scripted by Frank Contrell Boyce based on a book written by surviving sister Hilary du Pre and their younger brother, Piers du Pre.

The story begins with the sisters as budding prodigies in the '50s. Their strict, middle-class parents struggled to keep them in instruments and clothes while pushing the musical potential of each to the maximum. The contrast between the competition and the respect they have for each other really pulls the opening scenes together.

But when the girls graduate from school, and it becomes clear that Jackie is headed for the concert halls while Hilary is headed for love, the story splits up. The filmmakers describe first

Hilary's version of the major events of the sisters' adult lives, then (40-odd minutes later) they toss in Jackie's view of the same milestones.

Nothing wrong with the story: Jackie tours Russia, marries a high-strung musician and converts to Judaism. Hilary and her hunky hubby hole up in the country and start a family. Then Jackie leaves the

maestro and starts to exhibit erratic behavior, which culminates in an extended trip to Hilary's place. Upon arrival, she begs to sleep with her brother in law and—surprise—Hilary gives her crazed sister the okay. Then, just when Jackie finally gets her head together, her body begins to fall apart.

It's good stuff, until we have to see it again through Jackie's eyes. The She Said/She Said gimmick simply doesn't work. Using such an arty construction in a movie about an artist smacks of overkill, and by the time everything is twice-told, we've already gotten the point.

Nonetheless, *Hilary and Jackie* is worth seeing mainly because it's true, and for its outstanding lead performances. Rachel Griffiths (the plucky best friend in *Muriel's Wedding*) plays Hilary and Emily Watson (*The Boxer, Breaking the Waves*) is Jackie.

Each brings a healthy degree of honesty, depth and complexity to her role, and whenever the two are on screen together, the movie hits high notes. It's too bad they don't last.

THE THIN RED LINE

Hollywood has been buzzing about this war drama for months. It's set during the epic W.W.II battle of Guadalcanal and marks the return to the screen of acclaimed writer/director Terrence Malick, who hasn't made a movie since the glorious though

deeply flawed *Days of Heaven* in 1978. So it's sad to report that this much-anticipated movie isn't half of what it could be.

Malick, who's always been fascinated by nature photography and is famous for the detailed composition of his frames, simply tries too hard to do too much—you can feel the effort behind every scene. The main problem is that he's put 80 percent of his effort into the visual imagery and scarcely bothered with story development.

What should be a movie about the life changing bonds that develop among strangers in an extreme situ-

Watching *The Thin Red Line* is an exercise in patience that will pay off only for those who appreciate Malick's eccentric vision and have no expectations. Most moviegoers, on the other hand, will find it ridiculously long and patently frustrating.

AT FIRST SIGHT

This strange melding of fact and fiction is pumped so full of its own heartfelt adrenaline that its creators have done away altogether with such typical movie constraints as character development and plausibility in their zeal to have you reaching for your hanky by the end of the first act.

At First Sight is the sappy re-telling of the story of a blind man who has his vision restored in a risky new operation in order to get a good look at the woman he loves. She can see, and she thinks life would be just dandy if he could see, too. But what she can't see is that after a lifetime of blindness, her man already has his own way of seeing. See?

Val Kilmer plays Virgil, the blind masseur from the country who falls hard for Amy, an uptight architect from the Big Apple played by Mira Sorvino.

It takes all of ten minutes and a few cute lines before the two are head over heels, and Amy has Virgil twisted around her—well, let's just say she has him making major life decisions before she's even bothered to learn his seeing eye dog's name.

There's no reason to see this silly



tion is reduced to a long, epic poem that offers a fairly basic, "War is Hell" message, something we presumably believed before we entered the theater. Without a message or a story, there's nowhere for the film to go in its nearly three hour running time.

What's left then, is a fascinating, sometimes painstaking look at the way a supremely talented artist views the entire film-making process. It's nearly incomprehensible, unlike any other American movie in recent memory, and unlike any other war movie, perhaps ever.

Normally top-billed actors like George Clooney and John Travolta appear only briefly. Several characters look and sound alike, and we aren't given the opportunity in many cases to learn the soldiers' names, ranks, or even to understand how they relate to each other.

The logistics of the battle, which marked a major turning point in the war in the Pacific, are unclear. The timeline and geographic locations are impossible to track. Huge chunks of information are missing from the plot and backstory. And yet I found much of *The Thin Red Line* strangely enjoyable, merely because it is so stunning, so different, and so well acted.

Nick Nolte is unbearably real as the gung-ho colonel who drives his troops up an impenetrable hill. Sean Penn is excellent as the courageous sergeant who tries to keep the men under his command together, and Elias Koteas is the captain whose conscience prevents him from following orders.



concoction, unless it's to point up all the mistakes in continuity or to track the clichés. Kelly McGillis turns in a one note performance as Virgil's overprotective older sister, Bruce Davison is the unfeeling surgeon and Nathan Lane butches it up for the wacky-but-helpful shrink role that's usually reserved for *Birdcage* buddy Robin Williams.

Apparently even Williams knew enough to stay away from this clunker. Directed by Irwin Winkler from a screenplay by Steve Levitt, and based on a short story by Oliver Sacks, the noted writer/M.D. whose research also gave us *Awakenings*.

Brazilian tango troupe in town Jan. 25

A Phoenix stop will be included on the first-ever U.S. Coast-to-Coast tour of Tango Buenos Aires, Brazil's perfectly coordinated company of Latin dance artists.

The dynamic hoofers have entertained audiences worldwide since the company was founded in the '80s. The tango is South America's signature dance, a sensual form of expression for two that grew out of African and Spanish traditions with a strong influence from the Argentine milonga sung by Gauchos.

Tango Buenos Aires will strut its rhythmic stuff at the Orpheum Theatre on Monday, Jan. 25 at 8 pm. Tickets are \$28 & \$36 and available through Dillard's outlets at (602)503-5555.



Notable Quotes

Newsmakers, Celebrities & Others Speak Out

Compiled by Rex Wockner



"I'm coming screaming out of the closet—I'm a great, screaming queen and I'm glad to be that way."

—Canadian Olympic gold-medal swimmer Mark Tewksbury to the *Calgary Sun*, Dec. 17.

"My life didn't start until I shaved my eyebrows."

—RuPaul to Australia's *Outrage*, January issue.

"Kansas' chief anti-gay nut case Fred Phelps and his screwball family [make] the Addams Family seem like the Brady Bunch."

—Jeff Epperly, editor of Boston's *Bay Windows*, in a Nov. 27 editorial.

"[The average American is] less homophobic than he thinks he's supposed to be and more racist than he's willing to admit."

—Gay U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., to the *Washington Post*, Dec. 18.

"We're not able to go into the Portland Public Schools and we think that's unfair. Portland is the only pub-

lic school in the entire United States to have this ban. What makes them so special?"

—Kenneth Ellis, a spokesman for the U.S. Navy Recruiting Command in Portland, Ore., to *The Oregonian*, Dec. 23. Portland's 10 high schools ban military recruiters because the military bans open gays.

"Life, to be sure, is not worth living, but if you think it is, then buckle up."

—Gay actor, writer, dandy and celebrated wit Quentin Crisp, 90, to the *New York Times*, Dec. 20.

"You guys kept me in beads for 30 years!"

—Cher in a recent appearance at the London gay club Heaven.

"[A] professional homosexual [whose] primary cause is to be a victim. ... They're doing gays a disservice by being crybabies."

—Gay KABC-Los Angeles talk-radio host Al Rantel on actresses Ellen DeGeneres and Anne Heche as quoted in *Frontiers*, Dec. 15.

"If you're not a liberal when you're 25, you have no heart. If you're not a conservative at 35, you have no brain. When you're young it's very natural to be more idealistic and to solve problems from an emotional point of view. That's fine, you need both. You can't be a Vulcan. But as you get older and see how the world really works, it's natural for people to become more conservative. It happened to me."

—Gay KABC-Los Angeles talk-radio host Al Rantel, to *Frontiers*, Dec. 15.

"My whole philosophy is that gay people have to claim the power that we already have. We have to say, 'Guess what? We are equal citizens under the law because we are people; we are protected by the Constitution, as all people are; we are, on average, better educated, on average, better salaried; in a lot of ways our community is above average in how it operates.' And we have to say to people, rather than asking for rights, we have to say, 'Guess what? We don't have to ask your permission for who we love or we spend our lives with. We don't need it. If you don't like it, good.'"

—Gay KABC-Los Angeles talk-radio host Al Rantel, to *Frontiers*, Dec. 15.

"It's as if someone at NBC took Homer Simpson's directive: 'I like my beer cold, my TV loud, and my homosexuals fa-LAMING!' and turned it into the character of Jack. Whether he's toting around his pet parrot Guapo, spurning a secretary's advances ('I took a vow before God and my mother: I'm here, I'm queer, get used to it!') or flirting with a handsome UPS man (when the deliv-

ery guy says, 'I just need a signature, I don't need your phone number,' Jack snaps, 'Don't be so sure'), Jack is out, proud, and in your face."

—The *Philadelphia Inquirer* on Jack McFarland, Will's flaming best friend on the NBC TV series *Will & Grace*, Dec. 14.

"She and Ellen seem so happy together. Ellen came and spent time with her in the Orient while we were filming *Return to Paradise*. I just don't understand why people make her and Ellen's sexuality such a big issue. Reading in the tabloids that Anne and I were having an affair was not only insulting but rude. I have a girlfriend whom I love dearly and I know that Ellen and Anne love each other dearly. How do you think our families feel when they read that crap?"

—Actor Vince Vaughn to Boston's *Bay Windows*, Dec. 3.

"I think Anne Heche's coming out is absolutely remarkable for the film industry in this country. It demonstrates the maturity of the audience to companies like Disney and Universal, that people will just go to her films and accept her in whatever she chooses to do. I just hope this trickles down to younger actors who might still be tempted to listen to the self-interested advice of managers, publicists and agents. Don't believe them! There's no career worth having in which you spend your whole life lying about yourself."

—British actor Sir Ian McKellen to Miami's *The Weekly News*, Dec. 16.

Notable Quotes continues on page 28

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SCANNING MY YEARBOOK

By Carlos Miguel Chavarria,
HeatStroke Contributor

For the last two weeks *y especialmente desde el año nuevo*, my mind has been wondering about this new year and the fact that it is the last before the Y2K.

Each year around the holidays, *pienso en lo que he logrado* and on the things I tried to accomplish but didn't. Then, *me propongo nuevas metas* and the New Year's resolutions start as soon as the digital clock shows 00:00.

Pero este año, unlike the rest, I did not set any new resolutions. It isn't that I am tired of them or that I didn't accomplish last year's.

No, there are no new resolutions because this year, unlike the other 30 I have lived, is the last one of the millennium. *Y como tal*, I have decided to concentrate on preparing myself for the big year 2000. *Y que significa eso*, you ask? *Me gusta que pongan atención*.

Así que seré breve, and for those who might get a little lost, I'll be as clear as possible.

My boyfriend and I spent New Year's Eve with a few friends. During the celebrating, one of them gave me a card. The card also included a letter written in Spanish, and it was the letter that made me think about No New Resolutions. You see, *la carta* described a book I am writing called *Mi propia vida*.

It said New Year's Eve marked the end of yet another chapter of such a book; that some of the content on the pages has been written more than once, that some of the stuff I wish had never happened, and that some pages have been left blank. *La carta* también decía que ahora there was no turning back and those written pages were to stay as they were.

The blank pages were not to be written on, and the ones that had repeated material had to stay untouched. But the best part of all was that no matter what those pages had or did not have written on them, I was the author of the book.

And now, during the last day of

1998, God was giving me the opportunity to finish one more chapter and start a new one.

Entiendo que no todos creemos en Dios, but I do believe most of us believe in a higher being. And if you don't believe in a higher being, then you probably believe that you create

Shakira o Luis Miguel, I will concentrate on my own physical, mental and emotional needs. I will concentrate on positive energy and positive thinking. Material things are not essential, just necessary—and if I can survive without them, I will.

Lo que quiero decir is that in the last few years of my existence, I have noticed most people have struggled to have a happy life by obtaining material possessions, an education, a career and many other things that, in the long run, become secondary. *No me mal interpreten*, all those things are good. A good education means a good job, which in returns means a good career, giving you financial security thus achieving some sort of

you'll find pages que estan manchadas de cosas que no quieras recordar, que te dan pena, o que simplemente tratas de olvidar.

This is the time to go back and read, analyze and allow the pages of your last chapter to create an emotion in you. If you feel like crying, cry; if you feel like getting angry, get angry. If you feel sad, be sad. If you feel guilty, ashamed or confused, allow yourself to feel that way. *Porque mientras haces eso* and while your feeling purge through your inside, you'll learn about yourself, about your life, about what you've done and about how you got where you are today. Only then will you be able to recognize the good and the bad things you have done. *Y solamente de esa manera podrás tomar un paso adelante*.

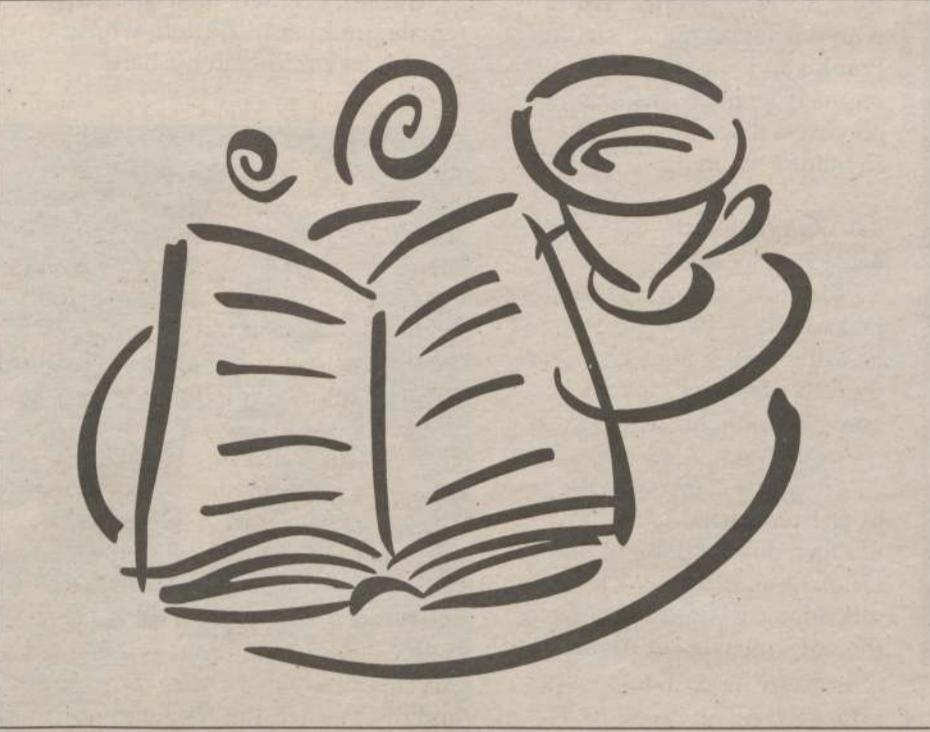
Y cuando hagas eso, you'll understand that material stuff, a good body, a perfect face, a good education, and a great career are only things that helped you survive—but not to be completely happy. To do that, you have to look within. God already has the chapter for 1998; it will be read to you the day you die.

But He is giving you the chance to write a new chapter, so concentrate on writing about yourself from within. That way, whatever you do (write) in this new chapter will be with the purpose of achieving total happiness from within and with the purpose of excelling to a higher ground. *Espero que este año sea de lo mejor para todos*.

I hope my message helps you start the new year with a positive attitude about yourself. *Y también espero que de hoy en adelante nos lleguemos a conocer por medio de estas cuantas líneas que yo escribiré para todos los latinos que leen este periódico. Así que como nos decimos entre muchos amigos al despedirnos: "Besos, abrazos y condones, y muchos hombres para usarlos." Hasta la proxima!*

HeatStroke

Carlos Miguel Chavarria is a freelance writer and educator who lives in the San Francisco Bay area. His work appears regularly in QV magazine.



your own destiny. So either way, that letter applies to you as it applied to me.

With that in mind, I decided that 1999 is the year to prepare myself to become a better human being. *Y esto no significa que me pondre a dieta*; diets are way overrated. It doesn't mean I will volunteer my time to charity—been there, done that. *Tampoco significa que guardare mi dinero*—no matter what I do, the balance in my savings account is always \$25.

What it means is that I will try to be a more positive person, that I will look at things in as many different ways as possible. That when a task needs to be done it will be done at that moment and not "tomorrow."

It means that the negative energy people carry with them will not be accepted within my personal boundaries of self-awareness. *Significa que en lugar de concentrarme en lo ultimo de*

happiness.

Pero para obtener la verdadera felicidad, uno tiene que mirarse a si mismo y ver como o que hemos hecho para estar donde nos encontramos el dia de hoy. I'll bet that if I ask you to go back into your 1998 chapter of the *The Book Of My Life*, you'll find pages that will make you sad, others that will make you angry, or pages that will make you feel ashamed. *Probablemente*

MURPHY'S MANOR

WRITTEN AND
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BY KURT ERICHSEN



Vidal play on Mesa Little Theatre bill

An alien hoping to visit the U.S. Civil War in the 1860s ends up instead in Virginia in the 1960s in Gore Vidal's intergalactic comedy, *Visit to a Small Planet*, on the boards through Jan. 24 at Mesa Little Theatre.

Stephen Arthur directs the production, with Chris Nickerson as Kreton, the visitor. Also featured are Drew Kalen, Larry Landon and Paula Conroy.

The show runs at 8 pm on Fridays and Saturdays, with Sunday matinees at 2 pm. Call (602)834-9500 for reservations and information.



Chicagoland's Jewish jokes heading for Phoenix

Theatre League is bringing the one-woman show *Diary of a Skokie Girl* to the Viad Playhouse on the Park in downtown Phoenix, opening Jan. 22.

The comedy stars Caryn Bark and has played to rave reviews in Chicago for years. It's not so much a show as an invitation to Bark's living room, where she reads from her

diary and reminisces on her Jewish upbringing in the Chicago suburb of Skokie.

The show will run through Feb. 14, with performances at 8 pm Fridays and Saturdays and at 2 pm Sundays. The Viad venue is at 1850 North Central Avenue. Tickets are \$19.50 and available through Dillard's.

Hollywood Deep Inside

By Romeo San Vicente, HeatStroke Contributor

Rah Rah for Lesbians

Busty beauty Natasha Lyonne, who charmed the critics last year with her winsome performance as a buxom-but-tormented teen in *The Slums of Beverly Hills* will be strutting her pom-poms once again.

The talented thespian is starring as



Natasha Lyonne's next big-screen appearance will be as a teenage lesbian in the indie *But I'm a Cheerleader*.

a budding lesbian in the black comedy *But I'm a Cheerleader* which is currently in production in Los Angeles. In this independent film, Lyonne will play a teenager whose parents suspect she's gay, and send her to a "homosexual rehab center" to set her straight (as if!).

Instead, in not-so-classic girl-meets-girl fashion, she hooks up with another adolescent dyke, played by *The Faculty*'s Clea Duvall. Thankfully, romance ensues. Campy co-stars include RuPaul and John Waters regular Mink Stole.

Kiss Me, Guido, I'm a Television Star!

Paramount Network TV and the producers of the 1997 popular gay film *Kiss Me, Guido* are hoping to make a television series based on the comedy about a Bronx pizza-maker-cum-actor and his GWM roomie.

Paramount acquired the film at the 1997 Sundance Film Festival and is talking to original screenwriter Tony Vitale about working on the pilot. Jonathan Axelrod and James Widdoes who work on the ABC sitcom *Brother's Keeper* will executive produce the new show.

No word yet if any of the original cast will continue their roles in the small screen version. But fans of Nick Scotti, who portrayed Italian stallion Frankie in the pic, can find him on the big screen this summer, playing a disco devotee in *Detroit Rock City*.

The Gayest Guy on Dawson's Creek

Teen heartthrob Joshua Jackson, who plays teacher-bedding ladies' man Pacey on the WB's *Dawson's Creek* is going to show his nelly side in his next film.

Cruel Intentions, which is set to open in early March, is a modern-day retelling of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*. Jackson, who already bared his buns in the notorious locker room scene of last year's *Apt Pupil*, will play a gay drug dealer in the \$11 million movie.

If that's not a queer enough reason to go see this flick, keep in mind that *Buffy* star Sarah Michelle Gellar will be getting some Sapphic action in the drama.

If that cast isn't aesthetically pleasing enough to lure you to the theater, note that also co-starring in the teen flick are real-life couple Reese Witherspoon and hottie Ryan Phillippe.

Battle Of the Cross-Dressers

The latest must-have item in Hollywood is a project on cross-dressing virgin martyr Joan of Arc.

Supermodel-turned-actress Milla Jovovich (*The Fifth Element*) is starring in a \$55 million version directed by her husband, Luc Besson about the young French woman who led an army to drive English forces out of France (while sporting men's clothes).

Dustin Hoffman, John Malkovich, and Faye Dunaway co-

star in this Sony release, which is slated for November 1999.

On the television side, teenage actress LeeLee Sobieski, who starred as Elijah Wood's young bride in *Deep Impact* has signed to portray the butch martyr in a CBS mini-series.

Yet another feature version is in the works from the producers of *Clear and Present Danger*, with Mira Sorvino and Jacqueline Bisset expressing interest in the project.

Amen for Showtime

Director/poet extraordinaire Maya Angelou (*Down In the Delta*) is teaming up with Showtime Networks to make a film adaptation of gay writer James Baldwin's 1964 play *The Amen Corner*.

The story centers on a charismatic female preacher in Harlem whose roguish jazz musician husband



Dawson Creek's Joshua Jackson plays gay in *Cruel Intentions*, a retelling of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*.

returns home to die, putting her standing in the church in jeopardy.

Angelou hopes to start production early this year. *To Wong Foo's* Wesley Snipes is producing the project.

Beverly Hills Cock

Gay British pop star George Michael recently revealed that the Beverly Hills cop who busted him for lewd conduct in April was "quite tasty."

He told *Q* magazine, "They don't send Karl Malden in there. We're not talking Columbo with his dick out."

Wham! Bam! Take it like a man, George.

Drew Cares About Gays

Drew Carey, whose eponymous ABC sitcom features a recurring transvestite character, has championed yet another gay cause.

He recently lent a helping hand to raise money for the Trevor Line, a suicide-prevention line for gay teens.

Noticeably absent from the event was fellow Trevor Line booster and former gay teen herself, Ellen DeGeneres (not to mention her other half, Anne Heche).

The reason? Most likely Ms. DeGeneres knew Drew would be there, and after dissing him in her recent *Los Angeles Times Magazine* interview, talking about what a pain-in-the-derriere Mr. Carey is, Ellen most likely decided to lay low for a while.

During the event's auction, Drew purchased a Victorian formal gown. This doesn't mean he's a trannie-in-training, as the dress was a diminutive size six.

Cumming on the Big Screen

Cabaret star and Tony winner Alan Cumming has been commuting from the Kit Kat Klub to work on some feature films.

First up is *Urban Folk Tales*, a black comedy about a man and his lover who are assaulted and seek revenge on the perpetrator of the hate crime. *Object of My Affection's* Tim Daly and Josh Hamilton co-star.

Also forthCumming is *Titus*, directed by Julie Taymor (who is best known for her direction of *The Lion King* on Broadway). The film is based on Titus Andronicus, Shakespeare's tragic tale about the cycle of violence in the world.

Cumming is "thrilled" to be co-starring with Anthony Hopkins in the film, which is being shot in Rome. After production wraps, Cumming will be returning to the Kit Kat Klub.

There's Something About Mary Jane

What hetero Hollywood hunk took time off from location scouting for his latest picture to smoke some of the local grown (I'm not talking about tobacco) with a lesbian journalist? 'Tis a shame she wasn't a photographer.

Romeo San Vicente, who thinks all cheerleaders ought to be lesbians, can be reached in care of HeatStroke or at RomeoDeep@aol.com.

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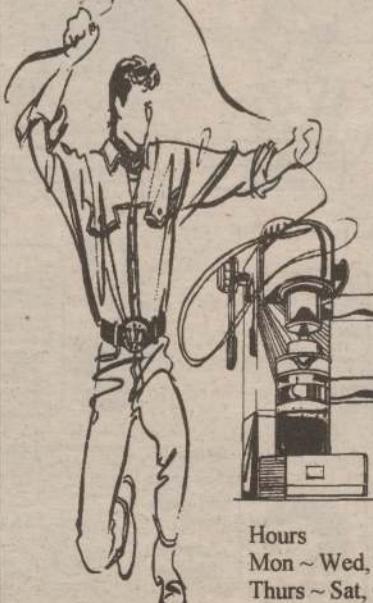
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Out of Town

By Andrew Collins



Kansas City

Although Kansas City is the closest major city to the geographic center of America, this highly underappreciated city is off the beaten tourist path. Ironically, its centrality obscures Kansas City from the rest of the country.

If the United States were a feature film, America's Heartland would be the part where everybody gets up and goes to the bathroom. This lack of attention seems not to ruffle locals, who are far too busy enjoying themselves to care what coastal snobs think of their fine city.

In fact, this is one of the most delightful cities in America. Hilly, green, laced with parks, and with more fountains than any city but Rome, it is blessed with vibrant neighborhoods.

The cost of living is not only reasonable, it's shockingly low. Gays and lesbians maintain clear, if not high, visibility in several neighborhoods and are rarely the target of grandstanding right-wing politicians.

The metro region is the size of Connecticut, but the chunk of Kansas City you'll want to focus on comprises several historic neighborhoods extending south from the Missouri River.

Downtown is near the river, and as you head farther south you'll

The cost of living in Kansas City is not only reasonable, it's shockingly low. Gays and lesbians maintain clear, if not high, visibility in several neighborhoods and are rarely the target of grandstanding right-wing politicians.

encounter the charming and gay-friendly neighborhoods of Westport and the Country Club Plaza.

Although part of the metro area falls

in Kansas, most of the attractions and amusements are in Missouri.

You could easily spend an afternoon exploring the well-preserved warehouse district, which consists of historic Old City Market and its food stalls and cafes, and the Arabia Steamboat Museum, a hulking 1856 paddlewheeler that was found almost perfectly intact in 1988—sunken below 40 feet of river mud.

Downtown is home to the usual office blocks and shops, as well as the neo-Palladian Folly Theater, a salvaged burlesque house, which presents a variety of theatrical and musical productions, and is the frequent host to the gay men's chorus.

For a memorable pretheater meal, dine at the Savoy Grill, a sophisticated Old World restaurant that was featured in the Paul Newman film, *Mr. and Mrs. Bridge*.

The most popular men's nightclub downtown, the Dixie Bell (aka "the DB") moved across the street at the end of 1998 and into a massive new space now called the Dixie Bell Warehouse Complex; it continues to draw a wide range of guys, from leather bears to pretty boys on the make.

A block away, lesbians favor Tootsie's, a cavernous disco set inside an intriguing high-ceilinged historic building.

Kansas City's best-known industry, Hallmark Cards, is headquartered at the Crown Center, a shopping and entertainment complex. You can tour the Hallmark

Visitors Center, a museum and sentimental superstore.

Not far from here, beginning around 23rd Street and Troost

Avenue, you'll come upon the northernmost of the city's queer-identified neighborhoods.

Nicknamed Womyntown in the early '70s, this feminist and lesbian community was founded on a shared vision of cooperative living (and, of course, monthly potluck suppers). In recent years a few groovy gays and

bian-friendly country-western dance hall.

A few blocks south is America's first planned shopping center, Country Club Plaza, a 55-acre Spanish-style district of ornate buildings patterned after K.C.'s sister city, Seville, Spain.

A feast of fountains, sculptures, murals, mosaics, and elaborate archways, the Plaza was designed in 1922 and has been accentuated with new works of art every few years since.

The Plaza overlooks Brush Creek, a 6-mile-long park with a landscaped promenade on either side and bridges.

Of the many fine restaurants around the Plaza, two stand out in particular. Canyon Cafe serves outstanding Southwestern fare such as grilled yellowfin tuna topped with sliced avocado and a piquant chipotle sauce; and romantic but affordable Osteria II Centro offers delicious northern Italian fare, from light pastas to a memorable *panzanella* (Tuscan bread salad with grilled chicken).

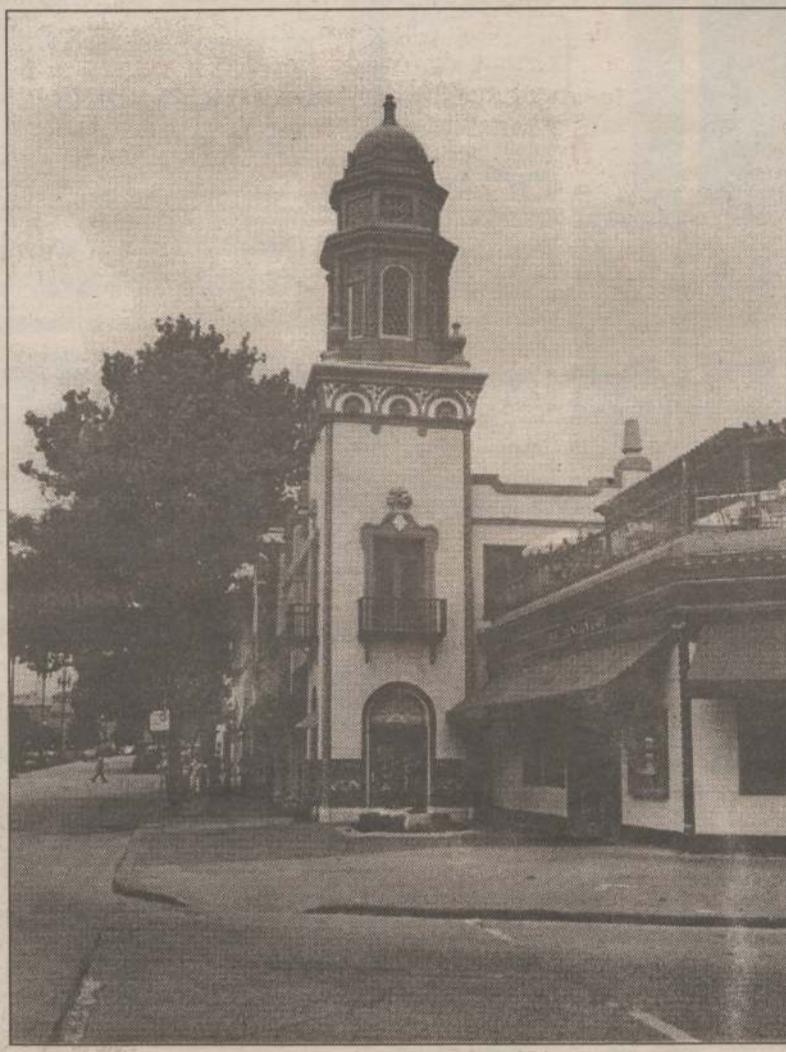
Set in nearby South Moreland Park, the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art has works by Rodin, Rubens, Van Gogh, and Rembrandt; one of the best Asian art collections in North America; and the 17-acre

Henry Moore sculpture garden, which trails behind the Nelson

Across the street is the city's most popular cruise and dance bar (and also the largest gay club in the Midwest), Club Cabaret, the performing home of Flo, one of the funniest drag performers you'll ever see.

When you've had enough dancing and partying, be sure to do as the local queers do and pay a visit to '50s-inspired Otto's Malt Shop, which is open 24/7 and serves the most luscious malted milkshakes you'll ever have the pleasure of sucking down.

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



The dramatic buildings of Kansas City's Country Club Plaza, America's first planned shopping center, were patterned after the architecture of Seville, Spain.

straights have settled here, too.

A bit south you'll enter Lower Midtown, a residential district that includes Westport, the Country Club Plaza, and Brookside Plaza.

Westport is an artsy, picturesque community with old-fashioned lamp posts, Victorian buildings, offbeat shops, bars, and neighborhood cafes, including the queer-popular Corner Restaurant, famous for its hearty breakfasts and lunches, and the funky Planet Cafe coffeehouse.

On Thursday nights, it seems as though every queer in town drops by an otherwise-straight megadisco, Club Atlantis.

Always-gay Westport favorites include Missie B's, a locals joint with lively drag shows; the Otherside, a dishy cocktail lounge that's especially popular with the over-40 male set; and Sidekicks, a mostly male but les-

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He has a completely lovely and sweet natured, on-again off again boyfriend named Doug who is as commitment shy as he is devoted, and a sexy but devious trick named Etienne who's celebrated as a chef in Montreal and wanted in the states for drug possession...



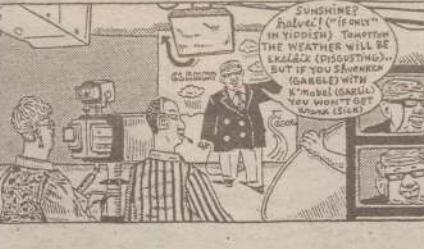
He has a smart-aleck cat named Lucy and a sharp-tongued, lesbian neighbor named Charlotte who loves him, and makes the nastiest lentil soup in town.



He has doting drag queen aunties called the Hat Sisters, a Mom who wishes he would date someone with a financial future...



... and a job working for the city's lowest rated, perpetually inaccurate, Yiddish speaking TV weatherman.

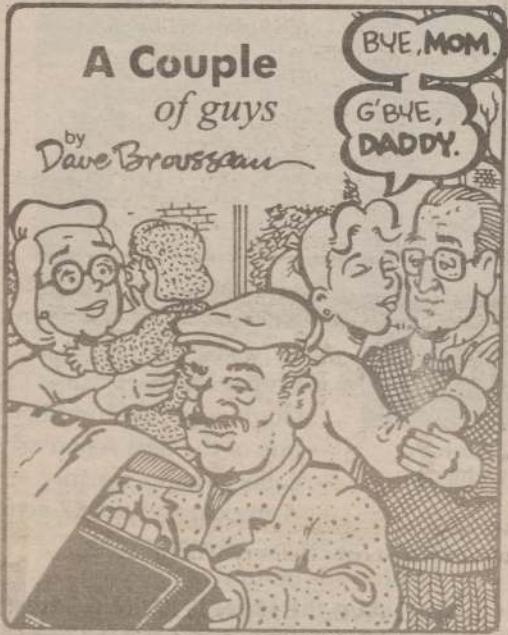


He's happy to welcome you to this space in the newspaper, and hopes to see you here next week in the Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green.



A Couple of guys

by Dave Brussel



e-mail: acplotguys@aol.com

AND YOU'RE WONDERING IF ERIC CAN JUST "GO STRAIGHT," TOO, HUH? I THOUGHT YOU GUYS HAD ACCEPTED THE FACT THAT ERIC...



NOW, NOW, HEAR YEAH, SEE, WE WERE ACTUALLY THINKING THAT IF IT WERE MARY ANN...



WELL, YOU MIGHT WANT TO LOOK INTO IT.



©1999 Dave Brussel

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel

leadership vacuum

HEY, HOW'S IT GOING? LISTEN, I HAVE TO ASK YOU TO BEAR WITH US. WE'RE EXPERIENCING SOME TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES WITH THE STRIP.

THE CARTOONIST SEEMS TO BE SUFFERING FROM A TOUCH OF THE VAPORS.

HA HA! RULE OF LAW!

COUP D'ETAT!

COUP D'ETAT!

COUP D'ETAT!

AM NOT! YOU ARE!

YOU'RE TRAMPING THE CONSTITUTION!

SPLORK

HA!

IT'S BEEN A ROUGH WEEK, WHAT WITH ALL THE BREAKING NEWS.

NINA? COOKIE? CAN YOU HEAR ME?

WHEN WE STARTED OUT, THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE HAD JUST PASSED ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT.

NOT GERMANE!

THWACK THWACK THWACK

CRINKLE

THIS REPUBLICAN LYNCH JOB JUST WANTS PAYBACK FOR EVERY SHRED OF SOCIAL PROGRESS THAT'S BEEN MADE IN THE LAST 30 YEARS!

THEY'RE LIKE, RUNNING AMUCK! LOOK AT THE POPS! 75% OF AMERICANS WANT CENSORSHIP, NOT IMPEACHMENT!

PEOPLE AREN'T STUPID!

THEY'RE LIKE, RUNNING AMUCK! LOOK AT THE POPS! 75% OF AMERICANS WANT CENSORSHIP, NOT IMPEACHMENT!

©1999 BY ALISON BECHDEL 304

BUT THEN CLINTON DECIDED TO BUY SOMETIME BY BLOWING UP BAGHDAD, SO IT WAS BACK TO THE UH... DRAWING BOARD.

ONLY 3 BOMBING DAYS LEFT TILL RAMADAN!

THE MAN'S A SOCIOPATH! LIKE ANYONE'S GONNA BELIEVE HE'S NOT ATTACKING IRAQ IN A LAST-DITCH ATTEMPT TO SAVE HIS OWN BONY ASS!

IMPEACH CLINTON FOR WAR CRIMES!

STOP THE BOMB IN THE WAR!

STOP THE WAR!

PEOPLE ARE IDIOTS!

15% OF AMERICANS THINK THE BOMBING WAS A MILITARY NECESSITY.

AS OUR DEADLINE CLOSED IN, THE NEWS KEPT COMING.

THE SPEAKER-ELECT CONFESSIONS TO AFFAIRS!

HOW'M I SUPPOSED TO TOP THIS?

THE SPEAKER-ELECT RESIGNS!

THE PRESIDENT HAS BEEN IMPEACHED!

THE PRESIDENT'S APPROVAL RATING SKYROCKETS!

ZAP!

TOING!

NUANCE CALIBRATOR

IRONY FUSE

SHAF!

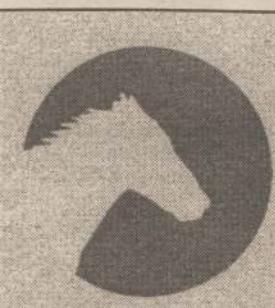
TOING!

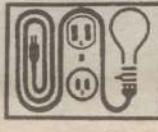
SHAF!

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E-mail: dedangelo@odl.com

Member American Counseling Association

"DEAR COWBOY" A REGULAR ADVICE COLUMN



We've rounded up a real cowboy who's tough as rawhide but gentle as a poet. Ask him anything. Calmer and wiser than most of us, he's full of strong coffee and good advice. And he never squints into the sun. Send your questions to "Dear Cowboy," c/o HeatStroke, P.O. Box 33430, Phoenix, AZ, or e-mail to alkaphx@aol.com — we'll pass them along to the wise one for you.

Dear Cowboy,

I'm dating a guy I tricked with about ten years ago and he doesn't remember it.

It happened at a sex party in LA back in my wilder days. It was basically what you'd call an anonymous encounter, but we definitely did it. He moved to Phoenix last year and we were re-introduced at a party in November. I figured out who he was right away, but since he didn't say anything I didn't either.

He's nice, stable, good looking, and we've been out a few times. I assumed he'd remember me once we got down to the sex, but no—we've

already done that twice and he still has no clue. He's still interested in me. Should I remind him or let it go?

Signed, Wild Past

Dear Past,

By all means, tell him. Secrets are never good for a cowboy's soul, and the secret you've got tucked in your saddlebags affects him directly.

If you aren't interested in him as a potential partner down the long-term trail, then it'll make for a funny campfire story. And if you are both interested in more than just a quick ride around the arena, you ought to start things off openly and honestly

and 'fess up.

Keep it light—no need for a big, dramatic scene. It sounds like he was no less wild than you were, anyway.

Dear Cowboy,

I always hear what a good idea it is to meet people away from bars, but how do you know if someone is gay when you are out in the real world?

Here's a few examples: There's a really cute guy at Home Depot who is always friendly and seems interested in me. There's another guy at the sandwich/coffee house I go to, and he has a rainbow sticker on his car.

Another guy I really like always waits on me at Walgreen's and sometimes I go there just to buy one thing so I can say Hi to him.

My friend says all you can do is keep going to gay bars and see if they ever turn up.

Is there a better way to find out if they are into guys or if they are single and available, without embarrassing myself?

Signed, Lots of Crushes

Dear Crushes,

I think the case of the rainbow flag guy is a pretty sure bet, so muster up some backbone and ask him something simple, like, "I noticed your sticker, but I've never seen you out. What do you like to do when you're not slinging sandwiches?" See where that leads conversation-wise, and go from there.

As far as the other friendly salesmen, how you proceed depends on what you consider "embarrassing yourself". If the guy says he's straight, do you run out screaming and never shop there again? Or can you say something like, "Lucky for your girlfriend, just thought I'd ask," and walk away?

You might try wearing a Pride t-shirt or cap next time you head to the Home Depot, and see if outing yourself that way gets you anywhere.

Like I always say, be yourself wherever you go, hold no expectations, and you'll connect with all kinds of people.

Edibles

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

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

C. Espresso Country
1422 N. Scottsdale Rd.
Scottsdale 994-5110

Libations

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

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

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

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

5. BS
7125 5th Avenue
Scottsdale 945-9028

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

13. Incognito
2424 E. Thomas
Phoenix 955-9805

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

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

16. Marlys'
15615 Cave Creek
Phoenix 867-2463

17. The Mill
3300 S. Price Rd.
Tempe 756-2480
(101 loop & Southern)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

26. TRAX
1724 E. McDowell
Phoenix 254-0231

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

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

29. Scandals
4132 E. McDowell
Phoenix 275-3509

34. Obelisk Books
24 West Camelback
Phoenix 266-Book

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

36. Tuff Stuff
1714 E. McDowell Rd.

66. ASU Art Museum
Nelson Fine Arts Center
Mill Ave. & 10th Street
Tempe 965-2787

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

80. Union Hall
512 E. Van Buren

Outdoors

81. Phoenix 253-7100
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

8. Charlie's
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Phoenix 265-0224

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Phoenix 957-6055

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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

Staples

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

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

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

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

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123. Book Cellar
4029 E. Washington
Phoenix 2

Directory of Community Services

Aids Services

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Coalition of Meal Providers
992-6593

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

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

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

MAITA 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

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HO-HO-HO! SCORPIOS

By Deane Jaye, HeatStroke Contributor

Capricorn (December 21 - January 20)

Sally Bowles had the right idea with that whole bit about life being a cabaret and all, so take advantage of the festive season. Put down your book and your broom and get out where it's all happening. Travel is a great idea this month. Head somewhere exotic where the people have attitudes to match. It's no time to be stingy—you'll recoup your investment tenfold in good will if you plan the trip properly.

Aquarius (January 21 - February 20)

You can screw and you can screw, but if the light bulb is burned out, then no amount of turning in that old socket will get it to light up, not ever again. Think about how this applies to your recent relationships, Aquarius. Then throw away what isn't working and find a replacement the same way you found the last one. You'll be drawn to hearth and home around the 20th—snuggle up with a cup of cocoa and reflect.

Pisces (February 21 - March 20)

Knock, knock, anybody home? You're trying to play the part of the hostess with the mostest but you can't seem to get the place together long enough to enjoy yourself, sit down, and be entertaining. Move those moving plans back a week if need be and you're more likely to see results you can live with. A Scorpio native who rarely seems to be on your level has something interesting to share with you. Pay attention.

Aries (March 21 - April 20)

Grab the remote and press "pause". The people you work with—or some other associates on your periphery—are complaining about your lack of spontaneity these days. But don't make any life altering decisions without weighing your long range goals against the possible—and keep in mind, that's possible—short term benefits. A short trip on or around the 18th could prove to be financially rewarding.

Taurus (April 21 - May 20)

That triangular yellow sign flashing in your head means "Yield", baby. Your normally steady nature is in a weird stop-and-go mode these days. Give up a little of the right of way unless you're prepared to crash. Try to learn from past mistakes, and behave with a modicum of restraint when the argument fails to go your way. There's love and romance in the picture after the 22nd if you're willing to put your pride aside.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

A lot of extra attention may soon be directed your way, either in the workplace or within your circle of friends. So rise to the occasion when the accolades do come, and try to at least act as though you knew what you were doing all along. You'll be in the mood for something reckless and over the top when the celebrating commences, so watch that tendency toward overindulgence and know when to ask for help.

Cancer (June 21 - July 20)

I can't hold 'er much longer, Captain! Your ship is moving toward your goals at warp speed this month (well, it's warp speed for you, anyway) and you may be in danger of getting a little sloppy around the relationship edges along the way. Take time out to breathe deep and regroup before you crash into a Klingon. A Sagittarius friend could help out—if anyone knows about deep breathing and relaxation, it's Sagittarius.

Leo (July 21 - August 20)

You have a great deal of untapped potential in reserve this month, and chances are you'll make an impression on someone special once you tap into the deepest well of your resources. It's probably a good idea to take it slowly so that you remain in control. Speaking of control, your home situation will likely benefit from changes you'll instigate after the 15th. A day trip under a sunny sky should do wonders.

Virgo (August 21 - September 20)

Stand real close to the mirror and squint. Now raise your eyebrows high and look at your forehead. This is what we like to call reading between the lines, Virgo, and your nagging vanity could force you to see some things that you aren't prepared to deal with later in the month. To cure the blahs induced by this shattering brush with self-inspection, try hanging out with people who are in worse shape than yourself.

Libra (September 21 - October 20)

Someone who looks to you for inspiration and advice is in need of your encouragement, particularly after the weekend of the 15th when it appears as though you are in complete control. Don't pull out the glamour length nails and burst their bubble. Instead, apply yourself to the question and provide the answers as best you can. You may surprise yourself. And if it doesn't work out, you can always laugh it off.

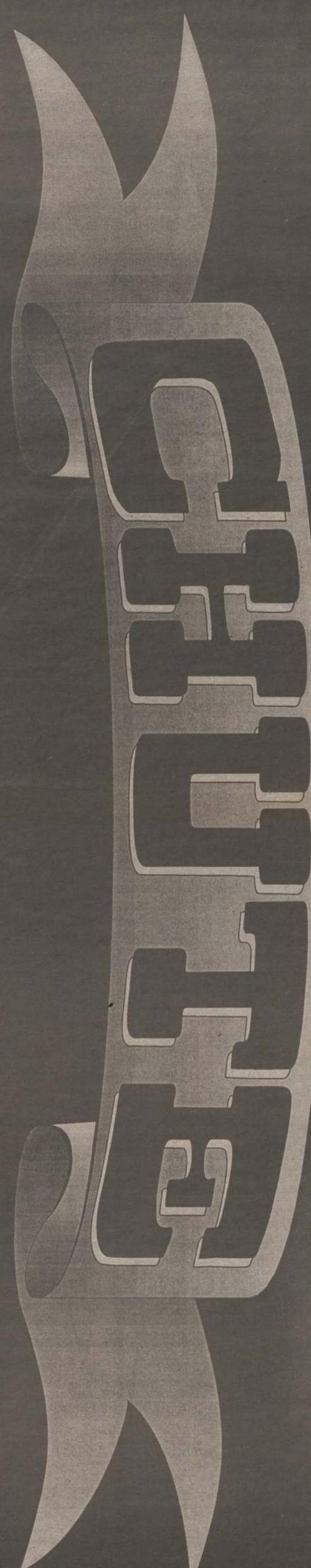
Scorpio (October 21 - November 20)

"Let the sun shine, let the sun shine in," Scorpio. It might be the dawning of the age of Aquarius, but you've been acting your age for weeks now and the payoff is due. You'll be charmed and cajoled by someone you had nearly given up on during the week of the 18th. This could lead to a brand new bond, if you'll go along with it and continue to show off your newfound maturity when it comes to sexual matters.

Sagittarius (November 21 - December 20)

Spending sprees and impulse purchases could be tempting you from all sides this month, Sagittarius, as your hard earned dollars seem to be burning holes in every pocket. Of course, if you'd ever throw a pair of jeans away, you'd be less likely to lose your savings through the splits in the seams. Try to get out more after the 21st, especially when an old friend with a new idea comes to you seeking support.

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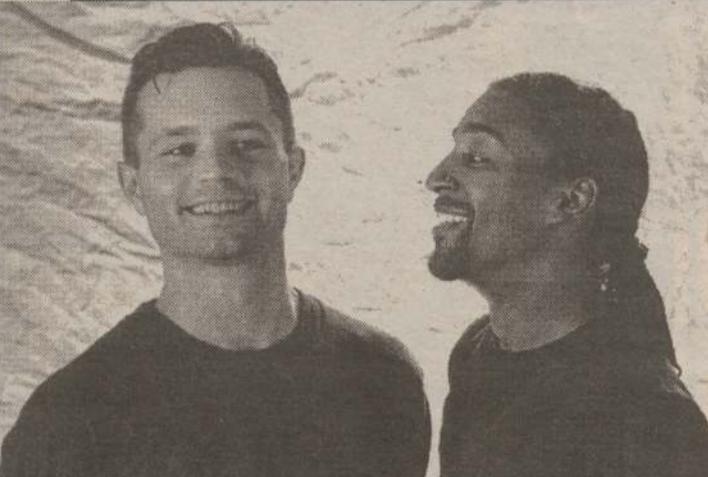
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Notable Quotes

Newsmakers, Celebrities & Others Speak Out

Compiled by Rex Wockner



Continued from page 18

"My boyfriend and I are very realistic about the fact that we're both men. He's much better at monogamy than I am. The agreement we have is that if something happens he doesn't want to know about it. It's Clintonian, I think: I can neither confirm nor deny that I've had sex outside my relationship. Because denying it may not be true, but confirming it would be the same as telling my boyfriend, and I can't do that. I promised."

—Syndicated gay sex-advice columnist Dan Savage to *San Diego's Gay & Lesbian Times*, Dec. 23.

"If we don't tell the truth about our sexuality and our sex lives, they're going to think we're lying. That's when they make up stuff, like we fuck gerbils."

—Syndicated gay sex-advice columnist Dan Savage to *San Diego's Gay & Lesbian Times*, Dec. 23.

"For years, I lived under the curse of AIDS, constantly palpating my glands, fearing fevers, taking endless naps (as much out of a low-level depression as out of genuine weariness), scanning my skin for a dark, raised wine stain, the first sign of Kaposi's Sarcoma, wondering if a cough were the harbinger of pneumonia. I didn't want to lose weight, since I regarded my girth superstitiously as my cushion against infection. Now, looking back over the past 12 months, I notice that I've scarcely thought at all about my imminent death. Instead of fearing a wasting disease, I'm now considering joining Weight Watchers."

—Famed gay author Edmund White writing in Australia's *The Age*, Dec. 26.

any more spiritual. In fact, he's still snorting coke and gobbling Ecstasy — he's just another disco Lazarus."

—Gay author Edmund White writing in Australia's *The Age*.

"I think that George Michael had to be caught with his trousers down because he's made such a big deal of protecting himself. It was almost like it had to be really unceremonious. It had to be really hideous. It had to be so undignified. And it had to be like he was the victim. I can remember people saying, 'Oh, they set him up.' And I was like: 'What are you talking about? He set himself up.' I just think that the whole situation with George in the toilet was really poetic. I definitely believe wherever you are in life is where you're meant to be — however hideous and however fabulous. I think you definitely are the master of your own destiny."

—Gay singer Boy George to London's *Gay Times*, November issue.

"I never take my shirt off in public, ever. Even when I'm slim I never take my shirt off in public. And the day the picture [that ran in the supermarket tabloids *The Globe* and the *National Enquirer*] was taken I was a little overweight. One tabloid headline actually said FAT AND GAY."

—Singer George Michael to the *Advocate*, Jan. 19.

"This is bullshit. ... It is horribly unfair to say we 'ostracize' you. That's like accusing me of racism or anti-Semitism. It's damn unfair."

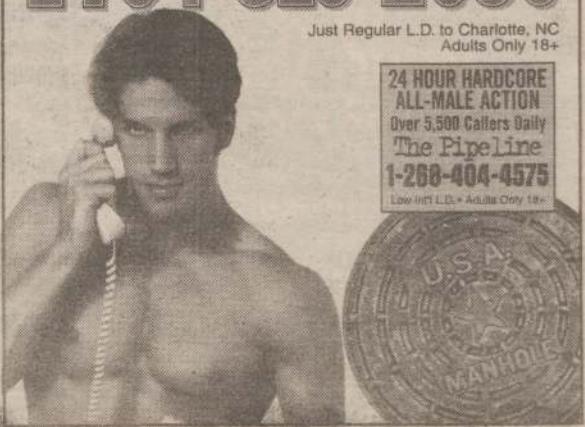
—Walter Isaacson, managing editor of *Time* magazine, in a Dec. 27 letter to activist-writer Larry Kramer after Kramer accused *Time* of ignoring gays in its year-in-review issue.

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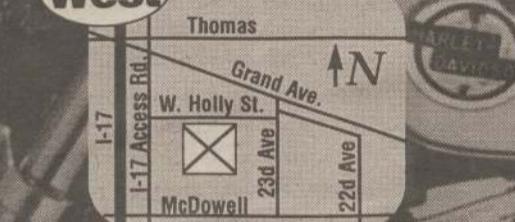
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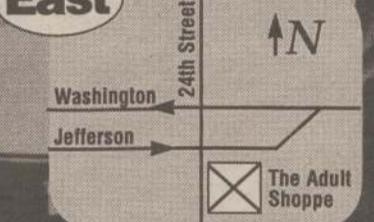


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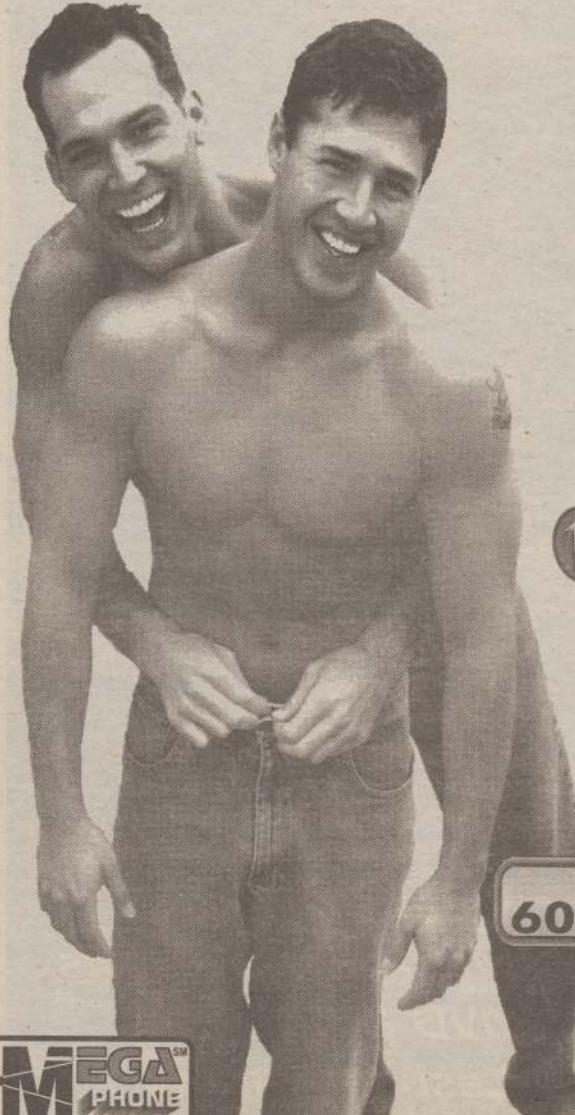
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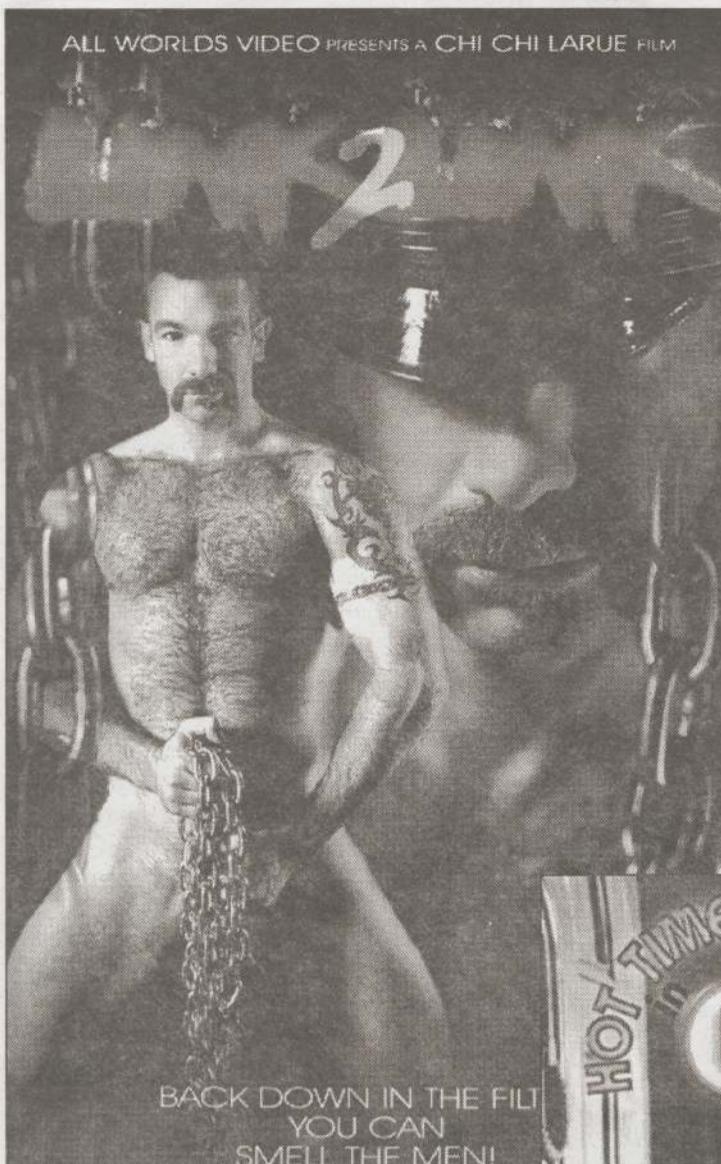
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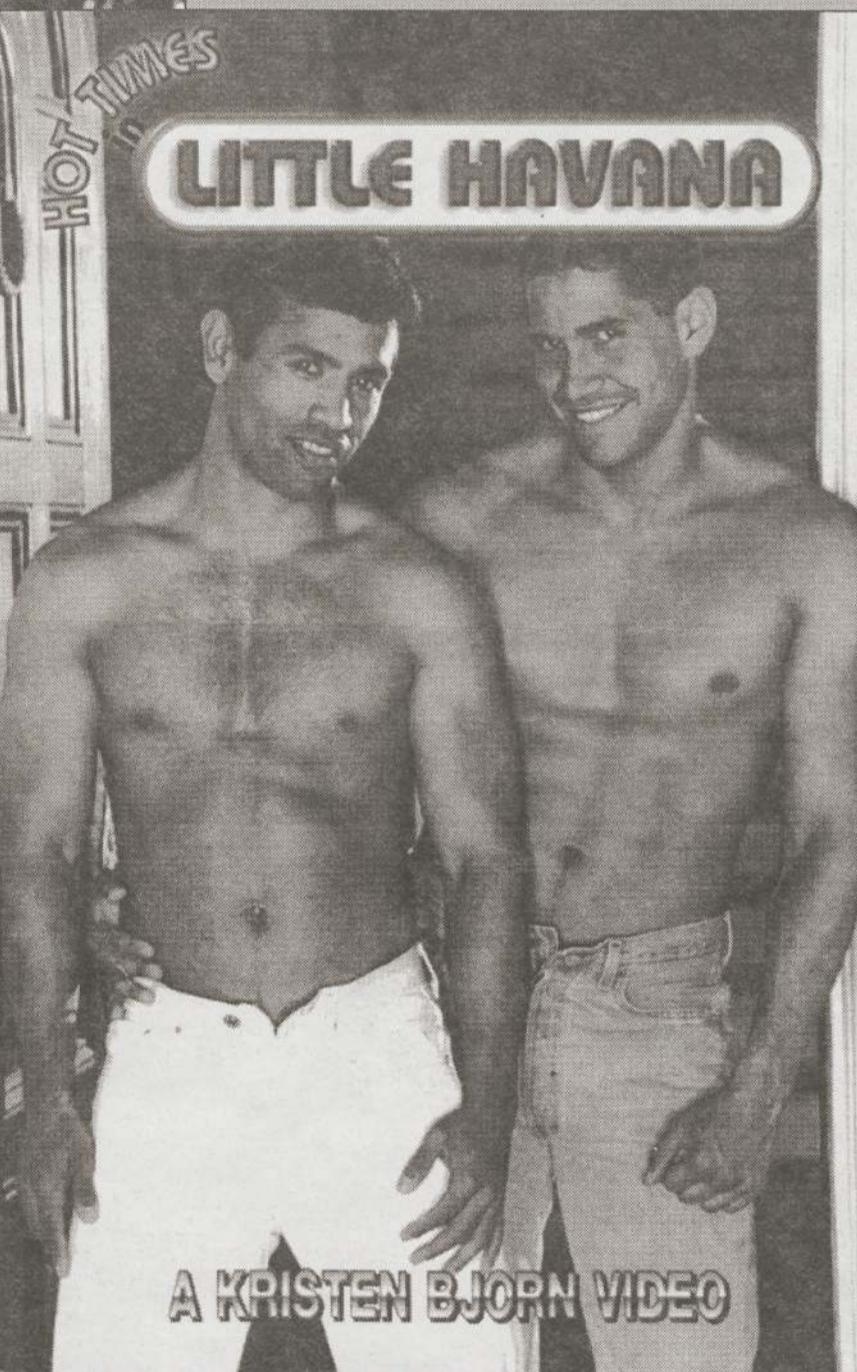
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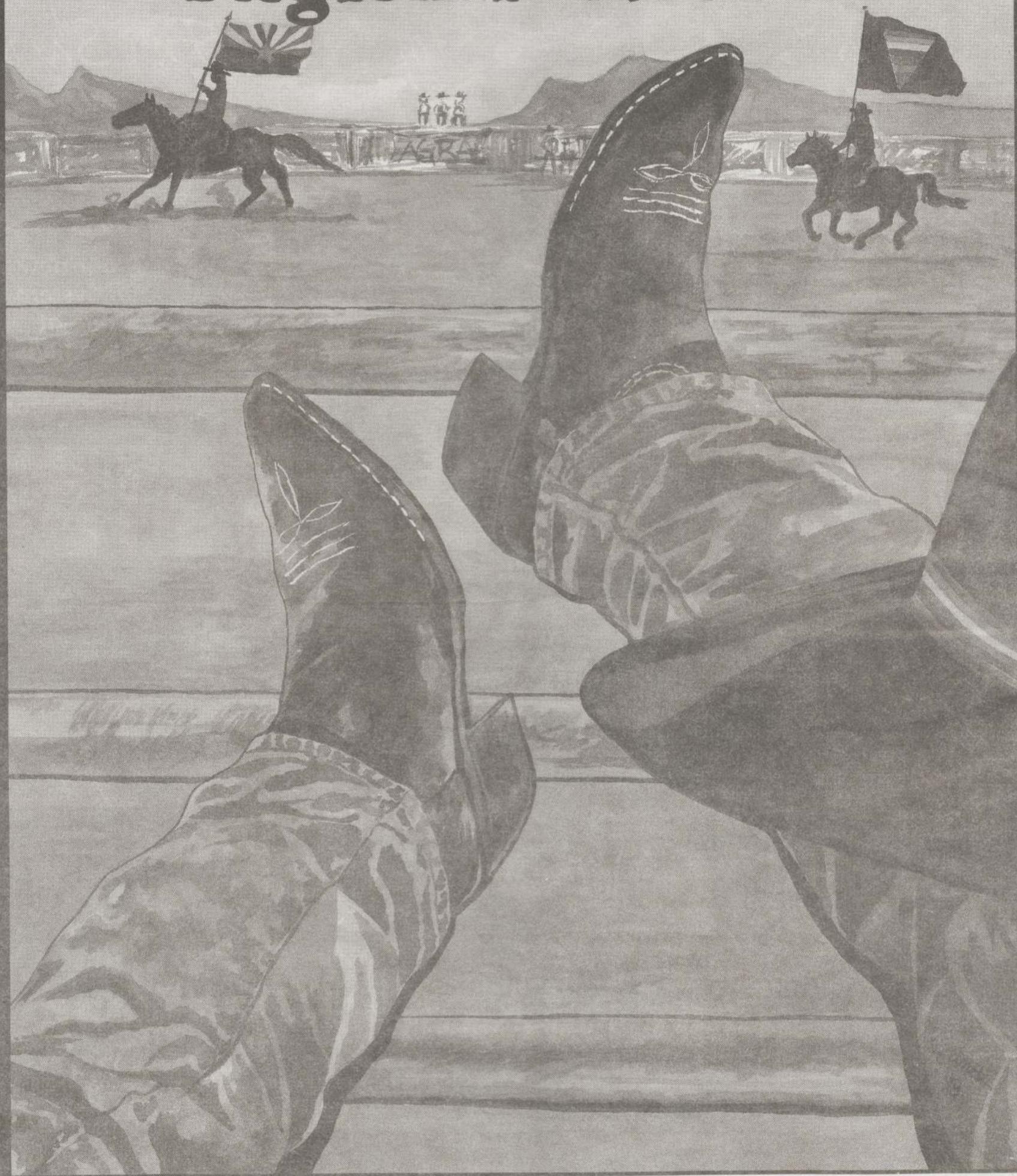
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