

directory =

AIDS REFERRAL

AGAPE Network P.O. Box 15826 Phoenix 85060 244-0747

AIDS Info Line 234-2752

AIDS Referral, Counseling & Education 508 W. 10th St Mesa 85201 461-2437 461-2205

Arizona AIDS Project 919 N. 1st St. Phoenix 85004 420-9396

Community AIDS Council PO Box 32903 Phoenix 85064 265-2437

Flagstaff AIDS Support PO Box 183 Flagstaff 86002 525-1199

The Names Project Phoenix Chapter PO Box 82111 Phoenix 85071-2111

Phoenix Shanti Group 1314 E. McDowell Phoenix 85006

271-0008 Planned Parenthood 5651 N. 7th St. Phoenix 85014

George: 277-PLAN Sedona AIDS Group

525-1199 Valley of the Sun Coalition for PWAs PO Box 16847 Phoenix 85011

224-5486

Veterans Administration HIV Coordinator & Educator: Lee Hood 277-5551 Ext. 164

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Alcoholics Anonymous Central Office Gay Group Listings

264-1341 American Gay Atheists 3003 N. Central Ave. Ste 121 Box 211

Phoenix 85012 Eagle-US West PO Box 36702 Phoenix 85067

244-1278

Activist Coalition 967-2570 276-5840 Gay Alliance of Northern

Feminist & Lesbian

Arizona Info & Referral Line PO Box 183 Flagstaff 86002 252-1199

Lesbian & Gay Community Switchboard 234-2753

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays PO Box 37525 Phoenix 85064 AIDS related: 939-7807

Phoenix Pride Planning Committee PO Box 5948 Phoenix 85010 631-0350

Relationship Discussion Group 870-9597

The Women's Center PO Box 26031 Tempe 85282 496-9931

ORGANIZATIONS

Arizona Rangers PO Box 13074 Phoenix 85002

Copperstate Leathermen PO Box 44051 Phoenix 85064

Couples of Arizona PO Box 7144 Phoenix 85011

831-5920 Desert Adventures PO Box 2008 Phoenix 85001

957-3476

Desert Valley Squares PO Box 34615 Phoenix 85067 968-7184

Lesbian & Gay Academic Union A.S.U. Tempe 85287

Lesbian & Gay Community Youth Group

241-4230 Los Amigos Del Sol PO Box 27335 Phoenix 85061

843-1329 Our Gang Bowling League PO Box 12131 Scottsdale 85267

People Exchanging Power 5821 N. 67th Ave. Ste 103-276 Glendale 85301 848-8737

Phoenix Gay & Married PO Box 47811 Phoenix 85068 435-0828

Phoenix Gay Youth Group PO Box 1075 Mesa 85211

Phoenix Lesbian & Gay Youth Artie Michals 938-3932

PROFESSIONAL **ORGANIZATIONS**

Arizona Gay Rodeo Assoc. PO Box 16363 Phoenix 85011 Artie: 938-3932 Dan: 268-5827

Camelback Business & Professional Assoc. PO Box 2097 Phoenix 85001 Peter Hudson: 225-8509 Pam Holt: 249-1910

Desert Overture PO Box 16454 Phoenix 85011 Steve: 899-0169

Independent Tavem Owners of Arizona Contact ITA Members

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Arizona Committee For PO Box 40374 Phoenix 85067 253-3285

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246-8277 Arizona Democratic Party 254-4179

Arizona Republican Party 957-7777

Human Rights Campaign Fund: Martyn Harris 715 W. Portland Phoenix 85007

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248-7921 David Russo 15648 N. 35th Ave. Suite C-112 Phoenix 85023

843-5993

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Jones Tax & Accounting 137 S. MacDonald #3 Mesa 85202 834-4306

Bruce McLeod 123 N. Centennial Way Ste. 220 | & J Mesa 85201 969-9110

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945-5072

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6166 N. Scottsdale Rd. Scottsdale 85253 991-6999

INSURANCE:

Farmers Insurance Agency 2307 S. Rural Rd Tempe 85282

LIVING SPACE:

Gay Roommate Service Artie Michals 938-3932

Roomies of Arizona 841-0583

Royal Villa Apartments 1102 E. Turney Phoenix 85014 266-6883

Westways Bed & Bath PO Box 41624 Phoenix 85080 582-3868

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Firstravel 5150 N. 7th St. Phoenix 85014 265-0666

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Etienne Type Shop PO Box 17298 Phoenix 85011 997-9433

Rabid Graphics 898-1394 997-9433

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Homespace Ltd. 522 S. Mill Ave. Tempe 85281 966-0736

Parr of Arizona (Custom Swimwear) 4532 N. 7th St. Phoenix 85014 230-2133

Tuff Stuff (Custom Leather Work) 1714 E. McDowell Phoenix 85006

RELIGIOUS **ORGANIZATIONS**

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First Unitarian Universalist Church Of Phoenix 4027 E. Lincoln Dr. Paradise Valley 85253

840-8400 Gentle Shepherd 3425 E. Mountain View Phoenix 85046

996-7644 Healing Waters Ministries 5555 E. Van Buren Ste A-10 Phoenix 85008

Oasis (MCC) 2405 E. Coronado Phoenix 85008 244-0747

244-1577

Restoration Church of Jesus Christ 1-800-677-RCJCC

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Brethren Mennonites Council PO Box 5613

Glendale,85312

Dignity/Integrity (Epicsopal & Roman Catholics) PO Box 21091 Phoenix 85036

258-2556

Lutherans Concerned PO Box 7519 Phoenix 85011 870-3611

Mishpachat Am (Congregation of Lesbian & Gay Jews) PO Box 39127 Phoenix 85069 966-5001

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Mecca Center 424 E. Colter

Phoenix 85012-1425 Moon Goddess Coven PO Box 48918 Phoenix 85075

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945-9028 Bum Steer 4620 N. 7th Ave. Phoenix

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Gentry 4523 N. 16th St Phoenix 274-1288

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J. Bee's 155 W. Camelback Phoenix 264-4921

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Rocky RacKoon's 4622 N. 7th St. Phoenix 248-9609

Talk of the Town 4301 N. 7th Ave. Phoenix 248-0065

1724 E. McDowell Phoenix 254-0231

5707 N. 7th Street Phoenix 265-9002

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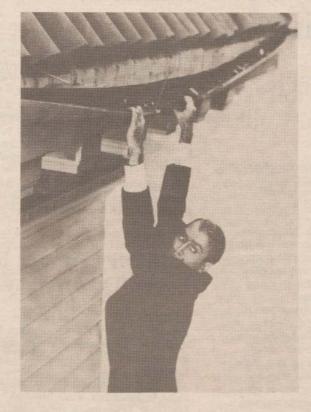
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It takes plenty to get me excited. My standard composure borders on catatonia; I am rarely moved by much. I'm convinced that inertia is innate; that it is the only thing all of us have in common: the ability to sit and wait.

I anticipate tedium. I am rarely disappointed.

I've enthused recently,
though, over a couple of
worthwhile events here. Like
the gradually decreasing
temperatures. And the
zoomy new entertainment
section we're introducing in
this issue. And a groovy
Charles Busch play starring
the hottest Italian man on
the planet.

A plethora of amusement.

Réy Hoffman, known

mostly for his work with the

Lesbian and Gay Community
Switchboard and his
boisterous hair-colors, has
joined our revolving-door
squad of writers. His "culture
club" file gives the skinny on
what it is and where it's at.
Documented proof: There's
fun stuff going on out there.

Like Psycho Beach Party.

Phoenix Little Theatre's Tom
Oldendick has come to our
rescue again; his take on
Charles Busch is the
ginchiest. It's Gidget Meets
the Drive-in Cliche, replete
with Crawford drag and fun
faggy humor. Aficionados of
retro theater, take note:
There are little pockets of
hip in the valley, and PLT's
Theatre One is among them
this winter.

Along with chilly sweater
weather has come the Attack
of David Parker, our new

photography editor and resident Tallulah Bankhead impersonator. Parker takes exceptional snapshots with a Brownie Swinger camera, but his real claim to fame is having lunched once with Steve and Eydie. He did the cover shot for this issue; look for more of his work in forthcoming editions.

As you can see, my
ennui has been sorely tested
just lately; I'm begging for a
respite from all this
excitement. Despite a
promising remainder-of-thetheater-season and the
upcoming holidays, I'm
certain that things will return
to their usual drollery any
moment now.

Meantime, maybe I can get J.J. Giannantonio to teach me to *surf.*

- Pela

number 24 november 23 december 6 1990

on the cover

the cast of Psycho Beach Party, now playing at phoenix little theatre.

page 10

Smithsonian Acquires First Gay Memorabilia

Civil Rights Struggle Documented There

by John Zeh

The Prestigious Smithsonian Institution formally acquired political memorabilia from "the cause of gay rights political activism" documenting the struggle of gay men and lesbians, working together to gain equality.

working together to gain equality.

"The gift represents a significant part of the political history of our time," said Roger G. Kennedy, director of the National Museum of American History at the Smithsonian.

Veteran gay activist Vernon C.
Mitchell of Marina del Rey, California,
donated to the museum personal
items from his years of activism.
Included in Mitchell's cache was a
banner from the April 9, 1989 March
for Women's Equality and Women's
Lives, organized by the National
Organization for Women (NOW). Mark
J. Tullai, also of Marina del Rey,
carried the banner in the march. Both
Mitchell and Tullai are confrontive
activists and members of ACT UP and
the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against
Defamation (GLAAD), Los Angeles.

"History is our future," Mitchell said, "and unless it's preserved for posterity, the gay and lesbian quest for equality is seriously hampered."

Edith P. Mayo, who initiated the new acquisition, stated, "This represents an additional aspect of the larger movement of human rights and equality we have tried to represent in the museum since the 1960's civil rights movement."

everywhere. This formal acquisition is one more milestone in gaining equality. Our history has found another safe harbor, and we are grateful."

Dempsey praised Edith Mayo and the landmark acquisition as "the first acknowledgement and formal acceptance of articles by the Smithsonian that have come out of the gay and lesbian political movement."

lesbian political movement."

"History is incredibly important to pride," Mitchell continued. "Where our history is covered up, it's taken much longer to come into a sense of self-empowerment. The banner is a very significant symbol of what was a tremendous coming together of all Americans, particularly lesbian and gay Americans, joining in support of the women's rights movement."

"It's been a very conscious strategy of people in power to bury the history of a variety of groups—gay and lesbian individuals and their movement being the most apparent, along with the women's movement, and blacks," he said. "You can just go right down the line of oppressed peoples, and see how their histories have been covered up."

In addition to the banner, other items donated by Mitchell included a full set of COLAGE published by the Los Angeles March on Washington Committee to promote the 1987 Gay and Lesbian March; a poster designed by Robert Birch and John Lewallen,



Smithsonian curators display a photo by Al Stephenson taken at the 1987 March on Washington. The posterization is among the memorabilia the museum acquired from activists in late October.

Dr. Keith E. Melder, supervising curator of the Political History Division, said, "It's a significant acquisition. It adds a new dimension to the whole field of the civil rights movement. Preservation of such things are important in and of themselves because objects of this kind tend to get lost or destroyed over time."

"It's very exciting," said Rosemary Dempsey, NOW Vice President. "When such a widely known and honored museum publicly accepts—and begins to build—what I hope will become an extensive collection that will someday see the light of a public exhibition, we will be here in the Nation's Capitol,

pridefully viewing our history."

Mitchell agreed. "Knowledge of our history and our heroes are the prerequisites for pride. We have existed in every culture. We are

300 of which were carried by the Los Angeles lead-off contingent in the March on Washington; buttons that mark historical events in the gay and lesbian movement; brochures, dated from 1966 through 1971, from the Committee for the Eradication of Syphilis; a poster reading, "If your son is old enough to shave he is old enough to get syphilis and gonorrhea;" a "No on (Lyndon) LaRouche" poster; and placards retrieved from garbage cans after the National March on

Washington.

"The Smithsonian has formally opened their doors to us," said Mitchell. "Hopefully, they will continue to create space and acquire memorabilia that reflects the gay and lesbian rights movement as well as other aspects of our history."

General Motors Chair Apologizes For "Faggot" Commercial

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—In a letter of apology to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, the chairman of General Motors said the use of the word "faggot" in a promotional video was a "singular unfortunate incident."

The supervisors protested in a formal letter to GM after learning that the video, made to be shown only to GM personnel, referred to a Japanese-made vehicle as "that little faggot truck."

The use of the term violated a city human rights ordinance, being offensive to San Francisco's gays and lesbians, the supervisors said. They threatened to cancel a \$500,000 city contract with the U.S. auto giant.

"I fully understand your concern, and I want to assure you that this singular unfortunate incident does not reflect General Motors policy toward lesbian and gay people," Chairman Robert Stempel wrote. "The excerpt...is offensive and, therefore, had no place in any General Motors activities."

in any General Motors activities."

The company stopped using the video immediately after the San Francisco protest.

Kowalski Should Be Allowed to Live with Lover, Doctors Say

DULUTH, MN—Two of Sharon Kowalski's former doctors have testified that the accident victim wants to live with her lover and should be al-

lowed to do so.

"I think (Kowalski) should have the right to have her wish fulfilled," Dr. Matthew Eckman, a rehabilitation specialist from Duluth, said. "There's no question in my mind that Sharon was a close companion of Karen Thompson. I have no reason to doubt they were in a lesbian relationship."

Eckman's testimony came at what could be the final court hearing in a five-year guardianship dispute that has sparked widespread interest among feminists and gay rights advocates.

But St. Louis County District Judge Robert Campbell said he still had concerns about giving guardianship to Thompson.

If Kowalski were eventually allowed to live with Thompson, Campbell said, she could be emotionally hurt by romances that Thompson may have with others.

The judge also said that Kowalski, perhaps without being fully able to consent, may be used in public appearances with Thompson as a symbol for gay rights or the rights of the handicapped to choose their own destiny.

Kowalski, a former physical education teacher, was left a braindamaged quadriplegic after a car accident in 1983. She became the center of a nationally reported guardianship battle between her parents, Donald and Della Kowalski, who live near Nashwauk, and Thompson, a professor at St. Cloud State University.

The Kowalskis have said they no longer have the energy or the money to fight for their daughter.

The second portion of the two-part hearing will be in Minneapolis Dec. 5.

hearing will be in Minneapolis Dec. 5.
Thompson said she's angry that she has to keep fighting for custody of Kowalski, even though she no longer has formal legal opposition from Kowalski's parents.

According to testimony, Kowalski has conveyed her wish to live with Thompson through a marginal ability to speak, combined with the use of communication devices.

communication devices.

"When is this going to end?"
Thompson said. "I'm spending \$20,000 for this hearing and it's totally unnecessary. That's \$20,000 that I can't spend on care for Sharon."

Campbell said he wants to try to get a better sense of whether Sharon Kowalski would be hurt by a decision that went against her parents' wishes, and which could result in their refusal to visit her.

Donald Kowalski was his daughter's legal guardian for the three years she spent in a Hibbing nursing home. But after Thompson and others raised questions about the quality of care Kowalski was receiving, the court ordered her transferred to Duluth, then to a nursing home in Robbinsdale.

Soviet Editor Looks to U.S. Gays for Advice

MINNEAPOLIS, MN—Like other Soviets looking to the West these days, the editor of the Soviet Union's only gay and lesbian newspaper attended a national conference recently to get ideas on how to lessen oppression of homosexuals back home.

"The homophobia in Soviet culture is very severe," the editor, Roman Kalinin, said as he spoke about being gay in the Soviet Union as part of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's four-day "Creating Change Conference."

Nearly 700 gay and lesbian activists from at least 35 states, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, Mexico and Canada attended the conference.

"This is the largest political gathering of gay and lesbian national and grass roots activists in the country and possibly the world," said Robert Bray, a task force spokesman.

Homosexuality is illegal in the Soviet

Union, and Kalinin said one of his goals is to try to change that.

To do that, Kalinin founded the Moscow Union of Gays and Lesbians and publishes his gay and lesbian newspaper, *Tema*, once every two or three months.

About 10,000 copies are sent to subscribers in "very sealed envelopes with no return address," he said.

Communicating with other gays and lesbians in the Soviet Union will help form a base of support from which people can begin to look at problems such as AIDS, Kalinin said.

"It's very important to combat isolation," he said.

Jim Toevs, co-chairperson of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, said the Soviet law making homosexuality illegal deters people from coming forward to be tested.

Survey Shows Most Twin Cities Gays Out of Closet

MINNEAPOLIS, MN—A survey of gays and lesbians in the Twin Cities said that more than 75 percent are open and comfortable about their sexual identity.

"Gays and lesbians are here. We're out. We're active. We're healthy and happy," said Ann DeGroot, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Community Action Council, which released the study. "That's the overall message the survey brings to the broader community."

However, three of four survey respondents said they have experienced at least one significant cost of being gay, such as emotional, physical and sexual abuse, suicide attempts, discrimination and harassment.

Among other findings, 49 percent of gay men and lesbians in the Twin Cities area are "out" to their siblings, 44 percent to their mothers, and 31 percent to their fathers.

DeGroot said she was surprised at the age of sexual awareness shown in the survey. More than half said they were conscious of their sexual identity before they were 13 years old. She said such awareness ranged from age 3 to 51.

Gay activists say the survey results provide a first profile of the community in the seven-county metropolitan area and will prompt them to seek greater legal protection and better social services.

It included 1,864 responses from 8,500 questionnaires distributed in the Twin Cities area, in which an estimated 100,000-plus gay men and lesbians live. The survey asked 94 questions.

On personal "costs" of being lesbian or gay, 76 percent of the respondents said they have experienced at least one significant social, economic or psychological effect on their lives. Most common was emotional abuse, at 76 percent. Ten percent reported experiencing physical abuse, 7 percent sexual abuse.

The second most commonly reported effect was rejection by friends, family, church or synagogue. About 43 percent of lesbians had been rejected by friends, 39 percent by their families, and 19 percent by a religious institution, the study reported. Fewer gay men were rejected: 31 percent by friends, 27 percent by their families, and 24 percent by their church or synagogue.

About 27 percent of those answering the survey reported considering suicide, with 7 percent reporting suicide attempts.

Nearly all surveyed said they knew about "safe-sex" techniques, and 93 percent of the men said they have changed their sexual behavior and attitudes because of AIDS, compared with 39 percent of lesbians.

Activists Greet Bill of Rights

Objections Voiced Over Sponsor Philip Morris

More than two dozen gay rights activists demonstrated outside the New Haven Coliseum last week, where the Bill of Rights went on display as part of a nationwide bicentennial tour.

The activists were critical of the sponsor of the 50-state tour, the Phillip Morris Cos. Inc., and the Bill of Rights itself.

The demonstrators complained about Phillip Morris' contributions to Sen. Jesse Helms, R-NC, who openly criticizes lesbians and gay men and votes against legislation to protect their rights.

The protestors marched across the street to the coliseum entrance, chanting "Everyone's bill of rights, not just for the straight and white!" They also carried placards with such slogans as "Phillip Morris equals Helms, Helms equals Death."

Inside the coliseum, protesters continued shouting while they passed through an enclosed display area before entering the viewing chamber. "Two, four, six, eight, the Bill of Rights discriminates!" the activists

chanted.

The shouting ended when about 20 protesters and students entered the viewing chamber and encircled a bulletproof glass encasement.

Protests by gay rights activists and anti-smoking demonstrators also occurred at the first five stops on the tour, said Guy L. Smith, vice president of corporate affairs for Phillip Morris, which markets many popular cigarette brands.

"They very much have a right to their point of view. But they do not have a right to disrupt," Smith said.

More than 2,000 people, mostly schoolchildren, viewed the Bill of Rights on the opening day of the visit. The bill, on loan from the Virginia State Library and Archives, is one of 12 original copies which still exist. Only two are on public display.

Pro-Gay School Texts Protested

MONTGOMERY, AL—Gov. Guy Hunt's appointees to the State Textbook Committee are protesting the panel's approval of books they claim would encourage teen suicides, homosexuality and Eastern religions.

During the past year the panel considered about 1,200 textbooks, teacher's editions in math, vocational education, health and physical education

The 23-member committee recommended a proposed list of texts to the State Board of Education over the objections of nine members. Eight of the nine were appointed to the committee by Hunt.

The texts which drew objections contained information about homosexuality, AIDS, birth control, meditation techniques of Asian religions and suicide.

Among their objections:

•Five health education textbooks for

secondary students were opposed for failing "to give the failure rates of contraceptives" or understating the failure rates, the minority report solid

failure rates, the minority report said.

"Married and Single Life," a home economics text, was deemed unacceptable, according to the report, because it "tries to present homosexuality in a favorable light."

The report also criticized the book for portraying homosexuals as law-abiding citizens in a state where sodomy is against the law.

Debbie Ward of Decatur, the lone Hunt appointee not in the dissenting group, said local school systems can further screen out books and materials they find inappropriate for their students.

"It would be great if we could put together the perfect textbook," Mrs. Ward said. "But it would be a shame to withhold education. It could save their lives."

Lawmakers Lack Backbone to Protect Gay Rights, Studds Says

MINNEAPOLIS, MN—U.S. Rep. Gerry-Studds, a frequent advocate of homosexual rights, says fellow lawmakers lack the backbone to pass laws protecting gays against discrimination. Studds, D-MA, was the keynote

speaker at the opening of a national conference to protest the military's ban of homosexuals.

"About Face: Combatting ROTC's Anti-Gay Policy" was organized by the American Civil Liberties Union's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project. It was scheduled to coincide with the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's annual "Creating Change" conference.

In his speech to an estimated 200 national student leaders, gay veterans and other activists assembled at the University of Minnesota's Coffman Memorial Union, Studds conceded that the military is a strange place to plant seeds of social progress.

"If you think that the military is the last place on earth to look for cutting social change, think about race and think about race and

think about gender," he said.

"Harry Truman ordered the (racial) integration of the armed forces in 1948. At that time every single voice that was raised...was uttering verbatim the same thing you hear today about gay people and lesbians: 'Nobody will take orders, discipline and morale will go to hell, the whole place will fall apart.' Well today, every man and woman in uniform takes orders from a black (Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Colin Powell)."

Studds added that he thought legislation granting equal rights to homosexuals, which has been before Congress since 1975, would pass easily if a secret vote was taken.

"The House has demagogues just as the general population does," Studds said. "What we also have, in less supply than the general population, is vertebrae, backbone."

Conference organizers said that they are directing their attack at ROTC, in

which students are given scholarships in exchange for their commitment to a branch of the armed forces, because that's where the military gets 70 to 80 percent of its young officers.

percent of its young officers.
Also, ROTC's frequent affiliation with state-run universities, which often prohibit discrimination, provides gay-rights groups with leverage against an otherwise self-regulating military.

Officers at Navy and Marine recruiting offices on campus refused to comment on issues of policy. But gay veterans say that all prospective enlistees are asked if they are homosexual. They said the problem arises when the young men and women don't realize that they are gay until they have begun the ROTC program.

One such person is former ROTC

One such person is former ROTC cadet James Holobaugh, a speaker at the conference. He was ordered to repay \$25,000 in scholarship funds after he—and the Army—discovered his homosexuality during the course of his ROTC training. That order was later rescinded, but Holobaugh was still denied his commission.

The mood at the conference was buoyed by a U.S. Supreme Court decision just four days before not to review a lower court decision forcing the military to re-enlist Perry Watkins, an openly gay soldier.

Before the conference's opening luncheon, members of militant group Queer Nation staged a "kiss-in" in front of the ROTC building.

Queer Nation member Robert Jacobson said that, although the exclusionary policies are set in Washington, they wanted to discourage discrimination by cutting off the military's supply of young officers.

But Chris Lindberg, a Minnesota sophomore and ROTC cadet, objected to the focus of the attack.

"By kicking ROTC off campus they're discriminating against us just as much as we're discriminating against them," Lindberg said.

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In the classic film *The Time Machine*, Rod Taylor's character chose to discover the world of the future. I have always loved the concept of time travel, but not for a fictional glimpse of the world yet to come. I would have gone back.

When I was a child, the word "Victorian" always attracted my attention. The name Oscar Wilde had special meaning for me even before I had learned who he was. In the back of my mind, I associated this name with humor before I had ever read a Wilde play.

It was as a teenager in the 1970's that I first watched a BBC series called Lillie about the actress Lillie Langtry. At that age, I was not paying strict attention to every word, but around the third or fourth episodes I noticed that Lillie was keeping company with a very interesting young man. He had long brown hair, a charming personality, and a very deliberate air of self-confidence. He was always noticed upon entering a room, and that room seemed to lose its vitality with

first editions—and every year I commemorate the day he was born and the day he died. During my senior year of high school, on May 19th, I brought a plate of homemade cookies to my English class to celebrate Oscar's release from prison. The teacher, obviously an openminded sort of woman, was happy to oblige this. As I recall, we spent at least half the class period honoring a man about whom most of the students knew little or nothing.

Century

It was in 1891 that Oscar met Lord Alfred Douglas, a young Oxford undergraduate known to his friends as Bosie, a mispronunciation of the childhood nickname "Boysie." The following four-year period, from 1891 to 1895, was the height of Oscar's professional career. His most famous plays—The Importance of Being Ernest, Lady Windermere's Fan, etc.—were written and produced during this time. These years were not the best

Wilde About

I have committed much of Oscar's life to memory. If I had a time machine, I would first transport myself to the latter 1870's when he graduated from Oxford University and became known as an amusing conversationalist in London society. These were the days before he had achieved tremendous wealth

for his health, however, due to excessive smoking and an overindulgence in both food and drink; but Wilde enjoyed himself

immensely.

There are those, I am sure, who would wish to visit this time in order to save Oscar from the tragedy he was to suffer in 1895. It is a tempting thought, since Oscar certainly did not deserve to spend a day in prison, let alone two years at hard labor. There are two points in time when history could have been set on a different course. His downfall began when he sued Bosie's father, the eighth Marquess of Queensberry, for libel. Queensberry had accused Oscar, in writing, of "posing" as a "sodomite"—although, ignorant as he was, he managed to misspell the word-and Oscar

Time Travel

his departure. He was portrayed by a good-looking British actor named Peter Egan.

Intrigued, I began to pay closer attention, waiting for a mention of this character's name. Finally, someone called him Oscar, and I seated myself firmly before the television screen. So this was Oscar Wilde.

After so many years of lov-ing the name, I journeyed to the library and went about studying the man. Nothing I read surprised me. I have since amassed a fairly respectable "Wildeana" collection—biographies, works,

or fame. In modern vernacular terms, he was a fun guy to hang out with.

The 1880's were a decade of marriage, children, and a fair amount of domestic bliss. It was a happy time for Oscar, although professionally frustrating; he loved his wife Constance and their two sons, but he had yet to write his most famous and successful works. With the aid of my trusty time machine, I believe that I would skip over this decade and visit again what, for Oscar, were truly the gay '90s of the Nineteenth

Ellen M. Young

decided to prosecute. Had he not done so, the details of Oscar's personal life probably would not have come to the attention of the public or the court system. There were those at the time who attempted to talk Oscar out of these proceedings, and they might have succeeded had Bosie not been so adamant that Oscar continue. Bosie hated his father, a violent man who had been abusive to his wife and children for years, and this was an opportunity for revenge.

Once embroiled in the lawsuit, Oscar's only chance to avoid his own prosecution was to leave the country. His friends urged him to do so, but he lingered in a state of indecision until his arrest on a charge of committing indecent acts. When the first trial against him ended with a he was released on inry bail until the second trial was to begin. Again, Constance and his friends begged him to leave for France, but he refused. His mother and his brother Willie had advised him to stay, and he did not wish to live as a fugitive.

The natural inclination for a sympathetic time traveller would be to go back and drag Oscar out of the country— against his will if necessary. It is likely he would have remained out of prison, but his life never would have been the same. The legal system had, by then, auctioned off his property and his family had gone to live with distant relatives. His books were no longer sold, his plays no longer produced. What would he have done with his life at this point?

Suppose a time traveller attempted to prevent Oscar's first lawsuit against Queensberry. Oscar's own friends and advisors were unable to dissuade him; and even if they had, Queensberry would have continued his harassment of Oscar and Bosie. The only real solution would have been the murder of Queensberry, which I cannot advocate. Some would.

Many of Oscar's modern-day admirers would love to go back and meet him—to witness a brilliant entertainer, for that's what he so often was in Victorian society. Perhaps the duty of a time traveller, could there ever be such a thing, would be the gentle art of observation.

The soul we remember as Oscar Wilde is not dead; it lives today with a personal history, as we all do. Our past experiences have made us who we are, and wherever Oscar finds himself today, he carries those memories with him. Changing his past would surely change his present.

We must leave Oscar to be himself. But we must not forget him. His experiences have taught the world at least as much as he had learned for himself.

Some philosophers would have us live in the present and forget the past. Living for today is all well and good, but I would still go back to visit 'Oscar if I could. I would require two machines, however—one for time travel and one for molecular alteration. Somehow, I think I would have more fun back there as a young English gentleman in a tailcoat than as a young American woman in jeans.

Oscar Wilde died on November 30, 1900.



OSCAR WILDE'S PLAYS ARE IMMORTAL. SO WHY IS HE BEST REMEMBERED FOR DIDDLING BOYS?

A SECOND CHANCE

Uh-oh. It looks like J. Fife Symington III, once and future Republican candidate for governor, is pursuing a certain special-interest group.

special-interest group.

It is now widely believed among the politically oriented in our community that Terry Goddard, who was expected to walk away with the gay vote, instead did poorly. Why?

Because Terry gave gay and lesbian Republicans, especially in Maricopa County (where they flourish), no compelling reason to cross party lines. People in

by Don Slutes

the Goddard campaign, perhaps too cautious about fostering more homophobic rumormongering, were skittish about providing any such reason. For example, despite the candidate's own enthusiasm for the idea, Goddard's campaign never availed itself of the opportunity to visit lesbian and gay nightclubs, either in Phoenix or in Tucson. (During his 1989 mayoral re-election campaign, Goddard visited several Phoenix gay bars. At a meeting with gay community leaders three weeks ago-one week before the General Election—Goddard described his reception at those clubs as among the best he saw

during the 1989 campaign.)
Meanwhile, Symington has become a hero of sorts for fending off an attack by his former opponent (and now nominal ally), Ev Mecham. During the pre-Primary Election campaign, Mecham accused Symington of wanting to create a "homosexual haven" in Arizona. This, because Symington told a conservative women's group that he opposed further government sanctions against homosexual behavior. Symington's original stance, as well as his response to the Mecham attack, were hardly inspirational. Still, it could be that thousands of gay and lesbian Republicans, who might otherwise have been persuaded to vote for Goddard on a human-rights basis, latched onto the episode to rationalize their vote for the Republican candidate.

Unlike many of his partisans,

Symington is not stupid. He may even know what happened with the gay vote. Who knows, he may even show up in gay bars before the runoff election. In a way, having Goddard and Symington fight over the gay vote is the best thing that could ever happen to our community. For voters accustomed to having to choose between the lesser of two homophobes, the Goddard-Symington match-up is a treat. However, Goddard is still the

However, Goddard is still the better candidate for our com-

munity. Why?

*If nothing else, Goddard has pledged to be accessible to our community. He could promise more, but unrestricted access is the key to having the governor's office on our side. Symington, while he may sound good today, as governor would nonetheless be surrounded by an administration and staff that might not be inclined to roll out the red carpet for lesbian/gay activists.

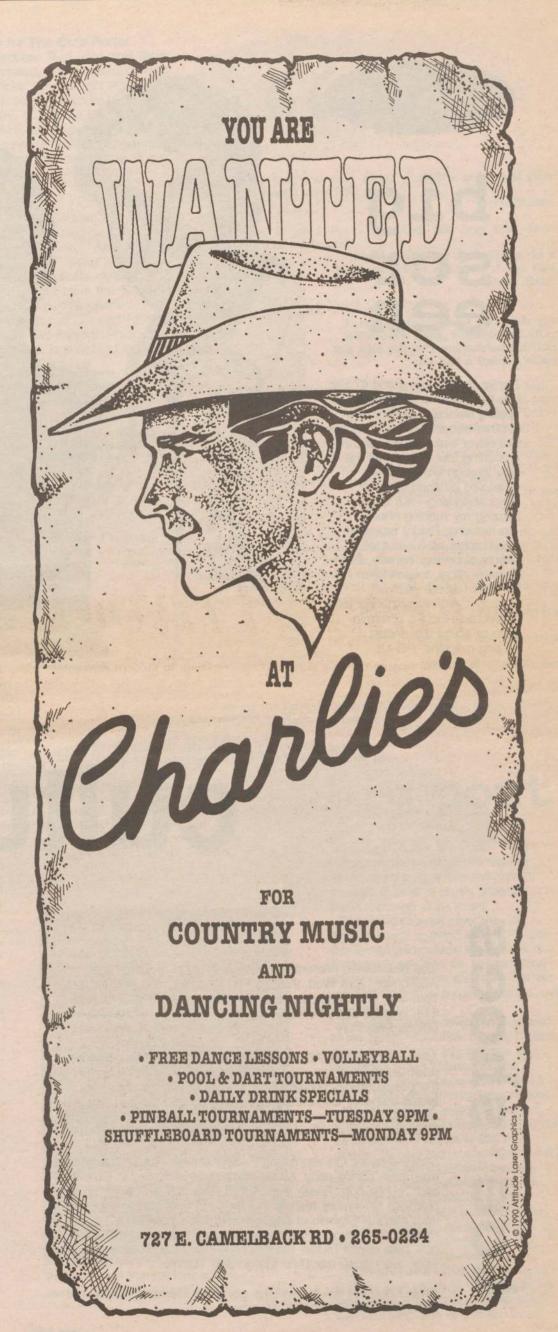
*A Gov. Symington, as titular head of Arizona Republicans, would have to do something to bind up his fractured party. The anti-rights right-wingers are not going to cooperate with a Republican governor who embraces lesbian/gay issues. If Symington doesn't realize this now, he would soon find out.

*Symington's own campaign, from the first day after the Primary Election, has employed homophobia against Terry Goddard. He has used constant references to his wife and numerous children as none-too-subtle reminders that his opponent is a 43-year-old bachelor. How can Symington, with this track record, have the gall to turn around and solicit gay votes? Because voters have short memories.

*Finally, Goddard's political party is vastly more supportive of lesbian/gay issues. Thus, a Gov. Goddard would have less trouble mustering support for our agenda than would Symington, or any Republican governor for that matter.

Lesbian/gay Republicans get a second chance. They have an opportunity to vote for the candidate who offers the most promise on lesbian/gay issues.

Or they can vote for Symington again.



good riddance dept.

As we mentioned last issue, the 1990 campaign provided some real progress for Arizona's lesbian gay community, as much for who lost as who won.

For the record, here is a list of the gay community's biggest foes who either retired or were beaten this year:

Left Voluntarily
Rep. Jim Skelly, R-Scottsdale
Sen. Pete Corpstein, R-Paradise Valley

Eradicated in the Primary Election Sen. Jerry Gillespie, R-Mesa

Sent Packing in the General Election Sen. Jeff Hill, R-Tucson Sen. Wayne Stump, R-west Phoenix

big scr een

Rocky V: Can you stand it? Sly has the nerve to showcase rippling musculature in yet another sequel. I'm proud to say I've never watched any of the preceding four Rockys all the way through without being distracted by something far more absorbing—like alphabetizing my running shoes.

In this one, Rocky moves to Philadelphia as a result of ill effects of boxing: namely, brain damage. That doesn't keep him from his favorite pastime: training. Certainly someone will appreciate Rocky's determination to sculpt the perfect fighting machine. PG-13.



Three humpy men, one cute kid, and a treacly Disney movie. Tom Selleck, Steve Guttenberg, and Ted Danson star in Three Men and a Little Lady, now showing at the Ciné Capri, 24th St. and Camelback.

culture

shoes

toe

The Nutcracker, presented by Ballet Arizona at Gammage Auditorium, 7pm Wed. through Fri., Dec. 5-7, and at 2pm and 7pm Sat. and Sun., Dec. 8 and 9. Tickets are \$24, \$19, and \$14, on sale at Gammage, Activity Center and Dillard's box offices. 965-3434

Men Dancing: The ASU Dance production features solo guest artist Gregg Lizenbery at 8pm Thurs. and Fri., Dec. 6 and 7, in the Dance Studio Theatre. The 75-minute performance celebrates the work and artistry of eight American modern dance masters. Tickets are \$7 (\$5 students), on sale at the Fine Arts, Gammage, Activity Center and Dillard's box offices. 965-6447

Dance-a-rama: On alternating Fridays, Alwun House features an alternative dance party. Music will include the latest in Euro-tech and Techno-pop. Friday, Nov. 23 at 8pm, \$3 (\$2 before 9pm). A premiere November feature: "Vidiodicy," hyper-interactive video from Michael Sigmon of Network 23 (Remember Max Headroom?). Phoenix's progressive alternative, post-industrial new beat dance music. Underground videos and visual arts too. Exclusive House mix DJ's: Calvin and Tommy.

Note: Keep the downtown beat going on alternating Fridays at Gallery X/Club ID, 800 W. Madison.

With Hammer and Chisel: The Berlin Wall continues through Jan. 13. The timely multi-media installation incorporates large-scale photo/text collages by ASU School of Art faculty member Tamarra Kaida and Pulitzer Prize-winner poet Rita Dove, with videotapes by German novelist/artist Fred Viebahn.

Still Life: Rose Johnson's oils and mixed media works will be on display through the end of November, Tues.-Fri; 12-6pm at Alwun House. \$2 donation for non-members.

Alwun House: A Twenty Year Reflection: Dec. 1-30, with opening reception and awards, December 1, 8pm; Tues.-Fri. 12-6pm. \$2 donation. 253-7887. Silent Bid Auction to benefit ACT UP Phoenix: Through Nov. 30 at 11 East Ashland Gallery, 3-9pm Mon.-Fri., Noon-5pm Sat. 11 East Ashland, Phoenix. 256-0647

Erté on Display: A special showing of rare graphic works from the archives and art-towear by the immortal Erté. Circle Gallery, 7051 Fifth Ave. at Marshall way in Scottsdale. 947-9302

Metropolis: Through Dec. 15, paintings of runners passing through the Southwestern landscape by Bill Austin and portraits inspired by Patrick Nagel and Dennis Mukai by John Sharp. The Salon Gallery, 5220 N. 7th ST. 277-8089

art

ultu

Paul Anka: Sunday, Dec. 2, 2pm at the Sundome. Tickets are \$23, \$20, and \$17 on sale at Sundome, Gammage, Activity Center and Dillard's box offices. 975-1900

The Andy Williams Christmas Show: Wednesday, Dec. 5, 8pm. Celebrate the holiday spirit with the popular singer; enjoy his rendition of traditional carols, seasonal music and popular Christmas standards. Tickets are \$22, \$19, and \$16, on sale at Sundome, Gammage, Activity Center and Dillard's box offices. 975-1900.

The Call: Monday, Dec. 3, 8:30pm at After the Gold Rush, 1216 East Apache Blvd. Tempe.

Look for The Cole Porter Collection: Red, Hot and Blue (Chrysalis), a long-overdue effort by rockers in the fight against AIDS. Includes works by Neneh Cherry, U2, Annie Lennox, Erasure, kd lang and Sinead O'Connor. A television special based on the recording is due

Folksinger, the 1985 debut disc by our own Phranc, has been reissued, featuring her classics "One o' the Girls," "Amazon," and "Lifelover" along with an unreleased outtake of "Everywhere I Go (I Hear the Go-Go's)." It was five years between this album and I Enjoy Being a Girl (Island); Phranc's third album is promised in shops by February.

in/out

66 99

I'm everything you were afraid your little girl would grow up to be-and your little boy.

Bette Midler

Sweating is good for a boy and will help him avoid homosexual tendencies.

Baptist minister Jack Hyles, in a 1982 pamphlet entitled "Jesus Had Short Hair"

It's not contagious. I didn't catch it.

Larry King, husband of tennis pro Billie Jean King, interviewed after his wife publicly acknowledged that she had a lesbian affair

I became not merely a self-confessed homosexual, but a self-evident one. That is to say I put my case not only before the people who knew me but also before strangers. This was not difficult to do. I wore makeup at a time when even on women eye shadow was sinful...From that moment on, my friends were anyone who could put up with the disgrace... To survive at all was an adventure; to reach old age was a miracle.

Quentin Crisp, in The Naked Civil Servant, 1978

I have to admit that basically I am gay. Homosexuals go through a lot of pain, and I would support anyone who is totally frank, because it's not ever easy. My mother was the first person I told that I was gay (sic). She was understanding, and still is. That made it easier for me. I've always had a good relationship with her.

Elton John, in a 1983 interview

You will never be rid of us because we produce ourselves out of your bodies.

Writer Martha Shelley

Excerpted from Unnatural Quotations by Leigh Rutledge, ©1988 by Alyson Publications

Peter Rolland, winner of 1986, '88, '89 and '90 Arizona Adult Fiddling Championships and Twin Fiddling Championships, will perform "Beautiful and Rare Traditional Fiddle Tunes" Nov. 25. 3pm at ASU's Kerr Cultural Center. Seven-time Arizona

state guitar backup champ Marshall Racowsky will provide accompaniment and Gail Rolland will join the duo on piano and bass. Tickets are \$6.50, on sale at Kerr, 6110 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale, and the Gammage, ASU Activity Center and Dillard's box offices.

965-5377

center stage

Psycho Beach Party: Theater One's wacky spoof of surf, sand and sex continues through December 8 upstairs at Phoenix Little Theater, 25 E. Coronado. Thurs., Fri., and Sat., 8:30pm. Tickets are \$8 and \$10. 254-2151. See review and related story, pages 10 and 11.

Cinderella: Lyric Opera Theatre's production will be performed at 7:30pm Sat. Dec. 1, Wed. Dec. 5 and Fri. Dec. 7; 3 and 7:30pm Sat. and Sun. Dec. 8 and 9. Music Theatre at ASU. Tickets \$10 (\$5 students), on sale at the Fine Arts, Gammage, Activity Center and Dillard's box offices. 965-6447

Nunsense: Wednesday through Fri. 8pm; 6pm and 9pm Saturdays; 2pm Sundays through Dec. 30. Tickets are \$15 for Wed., Thurs. and Sun. shows; \$17 Fri. and Sat. Actors Lab, 7223 East 2nd St. 990-1731

The Immigrant: A warm drama following a Russian Jewish outlander's life in the Texas frontier, presented by Actor's Theatre of Phoenix at the Herberger. Nov.23-Dec.9. Tickets \$15-

in

- ·Buyers Clubs
- Trysting Ceremonies
- •Mentioning Devon Clayton in the "Acknowledgements" section of your new book
- Mood rings

out

- Antique Malls
- •Latex
- Expecting Max McQueen to appreciate anything hip
- Stone-washed anything



Psycho Beach Party is now playing upstairs at Phoenix Little Theatre.

big pout

The rumors are true: Milli Vanilli _ those dreadlocked, hunky dudes Rob and Fab never actually sang on their multiplatinum debut album or its hit singles, according to the producer-arranger of the record.

"The record company never knew that. I never told them anything," said Frank Farian, the German producer who turned a pair of anonymous pretty boys into an international phenomenon. "Later on, after the record was out, there were some people who raised some

The questions were never really answered as the Vanillis won a 1989 Grammy for Best New Artist (an award they may now lose). Rob Pilatus and Fab Morvan became international stars, lip-syncing their way through television and concert appearances.

Late last week, the performers said in a statement: "We have insisted since 1989 that we be allowed to sing on all Milli Vanilly records. We have been ready, willing and able to record our own vocals and have been prevented by Frank Farian from doing so." They also expressed their "reluctance to participate in that kind of misrepresentation. Through a variety of coercive maneuvers, our wishes to creatively participate in our recordings have been denied."

"Girl You Know It's True" and "Blame It On the Rain" were both huge hit singles for the band. At the MTV awards, the boys boasted they were better than Elvis or Bob Dylan.

In a holiday theater season filled with Nutcrackers and symphonic carol fests, it's nice to know there's a tall man in an evening dress strangling a Girl Scout onstage at Phoenix Little Theatre. And, while PLT's current production of Charles Busch's Psycho Beach Party relies on the hipness of its audience, even the squarest among us can nab the big picture.

Psycho Beach Party is less a send-up than a blow-up, an explosion of genres and campy cinema innuendo that plays like a laundry list of fifties B-movie allusions before a Malibu backdrop.

Florence "Chicklet" Forrest wants to learn to surf (Gidget), while her best girlfriends—one boy crazy, the other nerdy (The Trouble With Angels)—and her mother (Faye Dunaway as Joan Crawford in Mommie Dearest) try to dissuade her. Chicklet reveals that beneath her giggly exterior breathes a slew of personalities (The Three Faces of Eve; The Thing With Two Heads), among them a homicidal dominatrix (Leslie Powell in The Gore-Gore Girls).



While Chicklet woos the waves, her studly beach-bum pals fall in love—with each other (Suddenly, Last Summer). Finally, Mrs.

Forrest reveals her sordid past and the cause of Chicklet's neuroses, a la Tippi Hedren in Marnie. Sewn up neatly between each of these devices are several hundred additional tributes to cheesy cinema.

Therein lies Psycho Beach's dubious defect:
The assumption that audiences will spot
countless references to bad cinema and

beach party burlesque. While most folks will recognize allusions to Whatever Happened to Baby Jane and Psycho, wholesale borrowings from Gidget Goes Hawaiian and Beach Blanket Bingo are surely lost on anyone unfamiliar with these epics. It is largely thanks to Psycho Beach's cast—and Tom Oldendick's direction—that the jokes play to those not up on their Frankie and Annette.

Psycho Beach Party is crowded with solid performances. Linda Lieberman scores big as a swimsuited ball of teen angst. (Her beached wail, "I want a motherfucking, cocksucking surf board!" recalls Sally Field doing Gidget and Sybil simultaneously.) Kirby Holt is splendid as Berdine (I had to remind myself that the actor was a man playing a prepubescent girl), and J.J. Giannantonio steals scenes and breaks hearts as a facile beach stud. It's a credit to Giannantonio's talents that his performance isn't overshadowed by his generous good

In fact, the only substantial distraction from Giannantonio's presence onstage is Christopher Wynn's hilarious portrayal of Mrs. Forrest, a larger-than-life Mildred Pierce with a penchant for cutlery. Wynn shamelessly devours scenery in enormous Adrian knock-offs that put Charles Pierce to shame.

Valiant attempts by Steve Woglom and Ronald K. Stevens are eclipsed by those of their cast mates. Elaine Boothby assays a superbly pouty Marilyn Clone; unfortunately, she is given little to do and appears out of place here.

Psycho Beach Party cops out occasionally: The kissing scene between two men is fudged, and only the female characters played by real women end up with boyfriends in the end. (Is this subtext or coincidence?) But any production which rips off both Summer and Smoke and The Horror of Party Beach is worth witnessing.

Psycho Beach Party is now playing at Theatre One, upstairs at Phoenix Little Theatre. See Center Stage listing, page 9. for further details.

Sotheby's Auctions

Garbo Laughs

The surroundings of Greta Garbo's very private life were sold early this month for higher than expected prices during the last of three auctions.

The sales at Sotheby's brought an estimated \$20.7 million, including the auction house commission.

"The family is ecstatic," said Ted Kurz, lawyer for the Garbo estate. He said the auction showed "the public remembers Greta Garbo and appreciates the fact that she was a great collector and had a good eye."

The sale had been expected to draw about \$700,000 to \$1 million, but

brought \$2.5 million.

The final hours of "The Greta Garbo Collection" auction brought \$18.2 million, with Renoir's 1889 portrait of his nephew fetching \$7 million, the highest price of any one piece. In addition, Renoir's "Leontine and Coco Reading" brought \$5.7 million and Bonnard's "Corn Poppies" sold for \$3.2 million.

The auction was not about great works of art; it was about the film legend herself and the elegant, serene world the actress created in her Manhattan apartment for 38 years.

None of her personal articles was for sale—no slouch hats, dark glasses, Art Deco cigarette holders or turtleneck sweaters.

The paintings of rose-filled vases, the gracefully carved Louis XV chairs,



the pretty porcelain and enamel boxes and the leather-bound books by Emerson, Hawthorne, Shelley, Goethe and Schiller make the life of the film legend tangible.

"This is a personal collection. It reflects totally one person's taste, vision, preference," Gray Reisfeld, Garbo's niece and the sole benefactor

Mourning Eve

Our Miss Brooks Exits

Eve Arden, who delivered zingers in a crisp, sophisticated voice on stage, in the movies and as the star of television's Our Miss Brooks in the 1950's, has died of heart failure at age 82.

The comic actress, who had cancer and heart problems and died at home Monday, November 12, received an Oscar nomination for the classic film Mildred Pierce but was probably best known as the saucy English teacher on "Our Miss Brooks."

Born Eunice Quedens, Miss Arden was the daughter of a stage actress and first acted on a grammar school stage at age 7. She changed her name about 1934 after seeing the names "Evening in Paris" and "Elizabeth Arden" on cosmetics labels.

She made a career out of a role she often said she didn't much like: the best friend who brightened the dramatics with deadpan humor.

"She had a great sense of humor," said Bob Hope, who got his break in films after he sang a love song to Miss Arden in the Ziegfeld Follies in 1936. "I just loved her. She had that kind of sarcastic delivery."

"She established a character I do not think will ever be duplicated," said Milton Berle, who also appeared with Miss Arden and Hope in the Follies.

Our Miss Brooks started first on CBS radio in 1947 and moved to television in 1952, running for four seasons. Connie Brooks was an extension of the wisecracking but delightful characters Arden had played in films for

"I've never cared for the character I generally played in films," she once said. "I certainly don't think it was me. I really think I'm kinder than that. My friends will tell you that I'm a very mild person."

The Eve Arden Show followed, but lasted only a season. She then appeared in The Mothers-in-Law with Kaye Ballard in 1967-69.

Miss Arden was propelled to stardom with the 1937 film Stage Door, in which she took a relatively minor role and nearly stole the show from Katharine Hepburn, Ginger Rogers and

Her next big film role came as Joan Crawford's friend in the 1945 movie Mildred



Pierce, which earned Miss Arden an Academy Award nomination for best supporting actress. In the film, Arden utters the immortal line,

"Veda's convinced me that alligators have the right idea: They eat their young.

Miss Arden played on Broadway with Danny Kaye in Let's Face It and in such hits as Very Warm for May and Two for the Show.

Later, she made appearances in Steven Spielberg's TV series Amazing Stories and on Faerie Tale Theater, as well as the films Grease and Grease 2.

Her husband of 35 years, Brooks West, died in 1984. They had starred together in plays and the 1959 film Anatomy of a Murder.

and executor of her estate, wrote in the auction catalog. Garbo died April

Small paintings and little porcelain boxes that were estimated to sell for \$100 to \$200 sold for 30 times that amount. An oil painting of a white terrier, valued at \$600 to \$800, sold for \$17,000. An oil still life of flowers in a basket, valued between \$100 and \$200, sold for \$3,000.

The highest price paid for a painting at the sale was \$170,000 for "A Woman in White, Seated," an oil on canvas dated 1912 by Albert Andre.

"She was mystical and exciting and extremely gifted," Constance Ford said of Garbo, after placing a winning bid of \$2,250 for a pottery figure of a

Many Garbo fans were disappointed

by the auction's high prices.

"I think she would have wanted someone like me to have something, instead of the people who have all the bucks," said Sherry Ostrow of West Orange, N.J.

Garbo bought most of her paintings, furniture and objets d'art on her legendary walks through Manhattan; in the art and antique shops she frequented, she was known as "Mrs. Brown" or simply "G.G."

She chose her own colors—mostly roses, salmons and greens-arranged her furniture and hung her paintings

"She had created this refuge and was proud of it," Gray Horan, Mrs. Reisfield's daughter and Garbo's great-niece, wrote in the auction

Research of HIV Leading to Advances

Cure Remains Elusive

A treatment for AIDS remains elusive, but more is known about the HIV virus that any other virus and the technological advances from such research are providing important peripheral benefits, a scientist says.

Moreover, researchers at Utah State University are pursuing therapies for AIDS itself and the opportunistic infections associated with it, virologist Robert W. Sidwell, professor of animal, dairy and veterinary sciences, said. Sidwell said the deadly disease is

spreading rapidly and more cases are expected among heterosexuals, infants, hemophiliacs and transfusion recipients than among high-risk groups such as homosexuals or bisexuals and intravenous drug abusers.

He said the federal government began its research into the disease slowly, but now more money is being budgeted for AIDS than any other disease, including cancer.

"The government's massive basic and clinical research response to this disease has yielded dramatic advances and will benefit us in control of other illnesses." Sidwell said

illnesses," Sidwell said.

"The AIDS research effort has begun to mature, and without question, no other virus has had so much learned about it so quickly. More is known about HIV than is known about any other virus," he said.

"Unfortunately, the virus is so complex, and the disease manifestations so extensive and challenging, that much more needs to be learned before the disease can be controlled or adequately treated," Sidwell said.

The USU research is focusing on approaches to AIDS treatment, he said. About a dozen or so USU researchers are collaborating with scientists from the National Institutes of Health, Baylor College of Medicine, SRI International and Roche Institute for Molecular Biology.

They are attacking on two fronts: therapy for the opportunistic infections that often lead to death in AIDS patients because of the failure of their immune systems, and animal studies to develop new therapies for acquired immune deficiency syndrome itself.

In the first instance, USU scientists are evaluating new drugs synthesized at SRI International of Menlo Park, Calif., for their potency against infections and their potential toxicologic

"Much is yet to be done in the development of these materials as drugs," Sidwell said.

The other research is challenging because the AIDS virus will not produce a disease in animals other than primates, so the USU scientists are using specially developed mice and inducing a disease that has many analogies to AIDS.

Sidwell said the mice have defined genetic characteristics that enable their use as an AIDS animal model, and that the drug zidovudine, or AZT, which is use to inhibit the HIV virus in humans markedly inhibits the AIDS-like disease in the mice.

In a forthcoming article, Sidwell and colleagues J.D. Morrey and K.M. Okleberry report that infected animals treated with AZT may appear to be "cured," that is, free of all signs of the disease, 35 weeks after virus inoculation.

However, latent virus can still be seen when extraordinary means are used for detection, he said.

"Such results lend credence to the cry for new, better drugs for treatment of AIDS," Sidwell said.

He added that a possible approach for improving the effectiveness of an anti-viral drug such as AZT is to add a second drug to bolster the fading immunity resulting from the HIV infection.

AIDS Risk From Medical Waste Minimal

Better Management Urged

ATLANTA, GA—The Centers for Disease Control has issued a report saying that the risk of getting AIDS from contact with medical waste is relatively small. But the federal health agency nevertheless recommended that hospitals try to reduce the amount of waste generated.

The waste report was based on a study presented to Congress earlier this fall by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, an arm of the Department of Health and Human Services.

The ATSDR report, which measured the health impact of medical waste, estimated that a maximum of four AIDS cases a year occur among health care workers who suffer injuries from needles or other "sharps" in waste from hospitals and doctors' offices. That would represent .01 percent of the AIDS cases reported to the CDC in 1989.

The study also estimated that as many as 160 hepatitis B cases a year, about .1 percent of the total, may

occur because of contact with medical

The CDC said the risk of these diseases from medical waste is particularly small for the general public, which usually is not in contact with these materials. Federal health officials in the past have urged health care workers to take precautions, such as wearing protective clothing, when dealing with medical waste.

Though the ATSDR report downplayed the health risk, it and the CDC stressed the need for better management of medical waste, which comprises about .3 percent of the 158 million tons of municipal solid waste created each year in the United States.

"The most effective way of reducing medical waste is to reduce the amount of waste created, on a small scale in homes and on a large scale in health care operations," the CDC report said.

The CDC urged more emphasis on recycling, reuse and reclamation of medical waste.

Convicted Activists Charge Judge Unjust

NEW YORK—A spokesman for six AIDS activists who demonstrated inside St. Patrick's Cathedral on Dec. 10 said that the judge who heard their trial without a jury convicted them "for trying to save lives."

The six were convicted by Manhattan Criminal Court Judge JoAnn Ferdinand on charges of disorderly conduct and disrupting a religious service. They were accused of disturbing a Mass by shouting, throwing condoms at worshippers, lying in the aisles, and handcuffing themselves to

The demonstrators claimed their protest was an emergency action justified by the church's position on homosexuality, AIDS, abortion and sex education.

The defendants face possible jail terms of six months to a year when Ferdinand sentences them on Jan. 7.
"The judge found them guilty for

trying to save lives," said Shraga Lev, spokesman for the activist groups ACT UP and the Women's Health Action and Mobilization.

"Even during the closing statements, the judge did not allow defendants to talk about AIDS or why they demonstrated inside the church," Lev said at a news conference outside the courthouse where the six were convicted.

One of the defendants, Ann Northrup, said the judge "took an extremely narrow-minded view of the facts. We will appeal."

Another defendant, the Rev. Charles King, accused the judge of declaring, "one, there is no emergency, and two, the value of the lives we were trying to save did not outweigh the harm done by disrupting a church service."

All the defendants were charged with resisting arrest, disorderly conduct, interrupting a religious service and trespass.

Panel Delayed Announcing News of AIDS Steroid Treatment

NEW YORK, NY—A federal panel waited five months before announcing its finding that steroids can halve the death rate from the pneumonia that is the leading killer of people with AIDS, The New York Times reports.

The panel withheld the announce-

The panel withheld the announcement until Oct. 10 because members could not agree on how to word their statement, the newspaper said.

Part of the reason they could not agree, said panel vice chairman Dr. Paul Meier, was that the findings had not yet been accepted at a prestigious medical journal, and they feared an early announcement would jeopardize publication.

Many medical journals have a policy of not publishing studies that have been reported in the popular press. The journals say the policy is aimed at ensuring that studies are subjected to scrutiny by disinterested scientists.

AIDS activists have attacked the policy as a barrier to the release of life-saving information.

The panel of 16 AIDS specialists and statisticians convened by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases had concluded on May 15 that a steroid hormone treatment can be effective against pneumocystis carinii pneumonia.

The finding, and the delay in releasing it, came to light in the Nov. 2 issue of AIDS Treatment News, a San Francisco-based newsletter.

The delay has angered members of the AIDS treatment and research communities.

"When the lives of people are in the balance, it is totally unethical not to release information immediately," said Dr. Mathilde Krim, a founder of the American Foundation for AIDS Research, a non-profit group in New York

Dr. Jerome Groopman, an AIDS researcher at the New England Deaconess Hospital in Boston, said it is time to set new ground rules for the release of potentially life-saving information.

"One of the things we're learning from AIDS is that the situation has to change and adapt to all life-saving situations," Groopman said.



Don't just worry about HIV. Do something about it.

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HIV is the virus that causes AIDS.

High School Students Appear Informed About AIDS

SPRINGFIELD, IL—Illinois high school students appear to be generally well-informed about AIDS, but they hold some misconceptions in the same areas where adults lack correct information, a study shows

Almost all of the nearly 1,200 ninth-graders surveyed by the Illinois State Board of Education last spring understood the two major means of transmitting the human immuno-

deficiency virus.

About 98 percent of the students, who participated in the study at 34 state schools, knew it is possible to get AIDS from sexual intercourse with an infected person. Nearly 99 percent knew that the disease can be contracted by sharing needles or syringes

with an infected person.

Most of the students also were aware of the major ways of preventing the spread of AIDS. About 83 percent said they knew the chances of contracting the disease are reduced by abstinence, and 90 percent knew that using condoms helps prevent the spread of the disease.

About 80 percent knew that the chances of becoming infected can be reduced by having sex with only one person, and 79 percent knew that not having sex with intravenous drug users will also reduce the risk of becoming infected.

Fully 97 percent said they did not believe the statement "only gay men can get AIDS."

But the survey did reveal some widespread misconceptions about AIDS. Many students answered "yes" or "don't know" when asked if a person can get AIDS by having a blood test, being bitten by a mosquito, or giving blood. Only a little more than half believe blood transfusions are generally safe.

"To a large extent, the AIDS know-

ledge and attitudes of Illinois ninth graders reflect those of adults nationally," reports the study, conducted as part of a grant program funded by the national Centers for Disease Control.

"Even misconceptions are shared," the report states. "For instance, 27 percent of the adults participating in the last quarter of the 1989 National Health Interview Survey answered that it was 'somewhat likely' or 'very likely' that a person could get AIDS from mosquito bites. This misconception is shared by 23 percent of the Illinois ninth graders.

The study also found that while 97 percent of the students surveyed know a person cannot get AIDS from shaking hands, only 73 percent said the same thing is true of using public toilets. Only 59 percent realize that AIDS cannot be spread by kissing on the mouth.

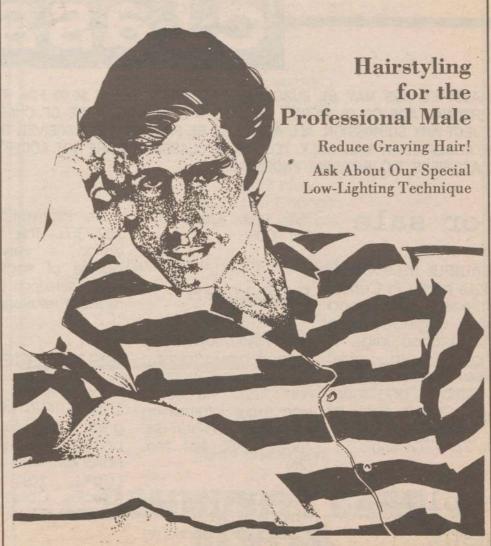
About 63 percent of the respondents said they know where to go to get reliable information about AIDS, but only half said they know where to get tested for the disease.

White, non-Hispanic students tended to be better informed than minority ninth graders. Students in northern Illinois outside the Chicago area were

more knowledgeable about AIDS.

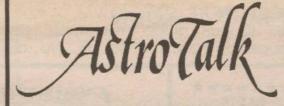
The study also showed that attitudes about people with the diseases have improved since a similar survey was taken in 1989.

"While, in 1989, only 69 percent of the ninth graders surveyed believed that a student with AIDS had a right to go to their school, 79 percent of the ninth graders surveyed in 1990 held this opinion," the study reported. "Similarly, only 64 percent of the 1989 ninth graders were willing to go to class with a student with AIDS; but, in 1990, that percentage had climbed



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Major Condom Manufacturer Expands

Safe Sex Practices Cited

TROY, AL-Ansell Inc., a major condom manufacturer, is responding to the AIDS epidemic by expanding its Troy condom plant and adding 35 employees.

Plant manager Greg Martin said the \$800,0000 expansion will be mostly inside the plant's existing structure and will focus on improving manufacturing technology. Chemical storage tanks will also be added.

He said the expansion will boost total

employment at the plant to about 190. The 15-year-old plant used to make condoms and latex gloves, but switched exclusively to condoms as the number of cases of acquired immune deficiency syndrome grew.

"The AIDS epidemic unfortunately is here, but for a business like ours it's had a tremendous impact," Martin said. "Not just for Ansell, but for our competitors as well."

Ansell does not release any production figures for the Troy facility, but describes it as "the largest condom manufacturing plant in the world."

"Our biggest customer is the U.S. government, which ships them nationwide and around the world to many third-world countries," Martin said. The Troy plant is part of Ansell

International, a subsidiary of Pacific-Dunlop, an Australian conglomerate.

Inmate Sues Guard for Allegedly Spreading AIDS Rumor

LAS VEGAS, NV-A state prison inmate has sued a guard for allegedly telling prisoners that he tested positive for the AIDS virus.

Anthony Sims claims in the federal civil rights suit that Ely State Prison Lt. Michael Scheel fired him from his job in the prison kitchen and informed other kitchen workers that he has AIDS.

Sims said a memorandum was posted in the kitchen saying Sims was not allowed in the dining area except to eat.

Sims, who is serving a life sentence as an habitual criminal, is asking for \$1 million, claiming mental anguish, embarrassment and discrimination.

The attorney general's office, which is defending Scheel, contends Scheel was acting at all times within his official capacity and cannot be sued for performing his duties.

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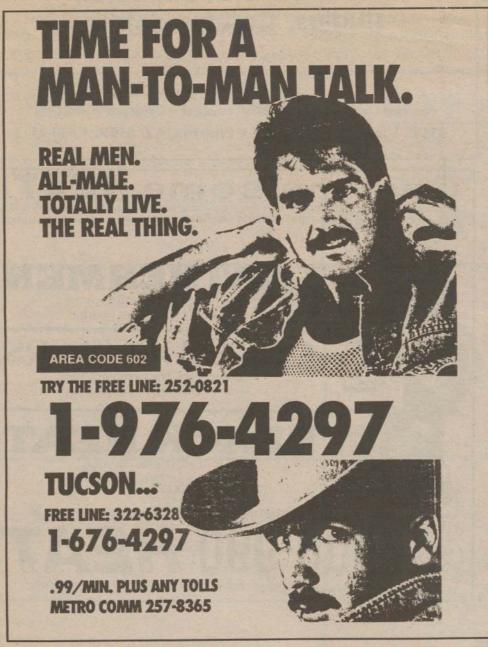
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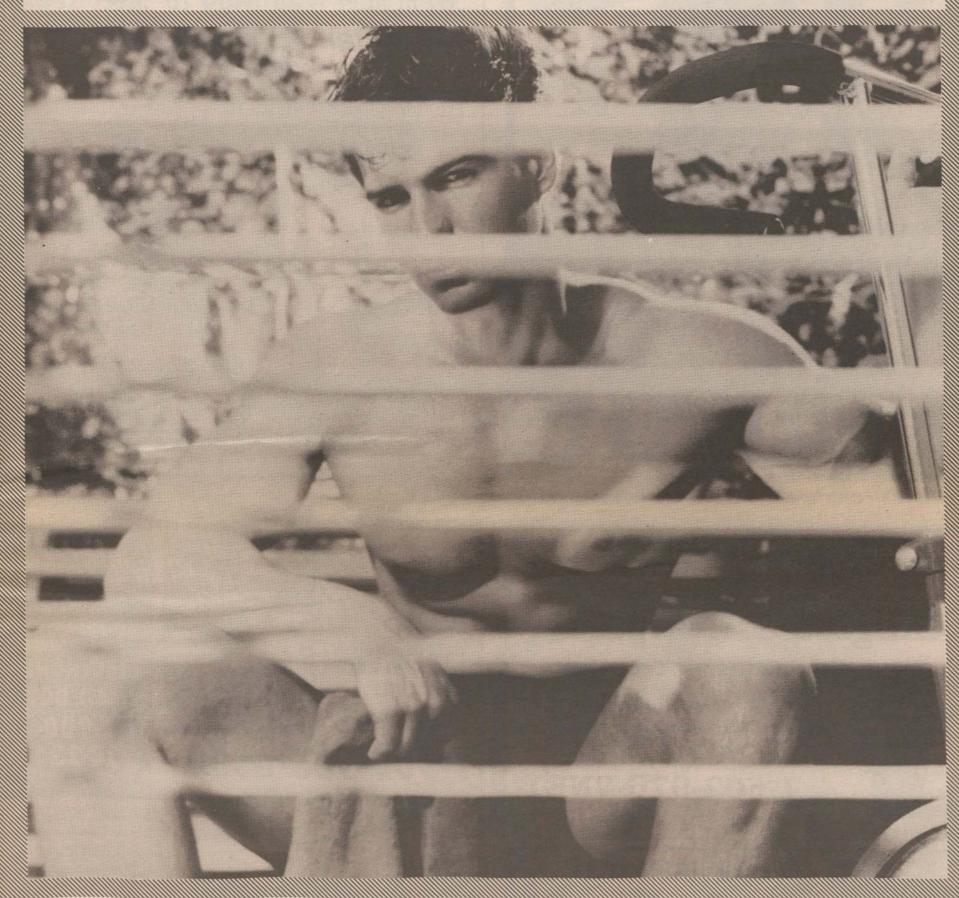
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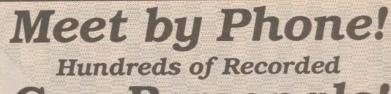
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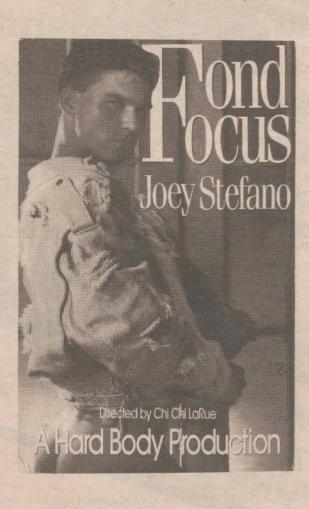


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