FROM THE SOUTHWEST

Volume I, Issue 13 May 26, 1982



JANUS TO PRESENT "BEST PLAY OF YEAR"

The Boston Globe hails it as "The best play of the year, On or Off-Broadway"; TIME calls it "...a remarkable achievement"; and Newsweek says, "...hilarious and heartbreaking. Fierstein's ability to combine almost non-stop humor with a complex texture of emotional levels is remarkable". The New York Times states "...it is an event to be experienced and savored."

What are all the raves about? Harvey Fierstein's WIDOWS AND CHILDREN FIRST, Part Three of his "Torch Song Trilogy", which has currently taken New York by storm. Janus Theatre Company's production of this gripping comedy opens May 20, starring Bob Cain, John Goldschmid, Greg Lutz, and Ms. Rusty Warren

In New York Magazine, noted theatre critic John Simon describes the play: "Ed is married to Laurel, has had a fight with her and is temporarily bunking 'chez' Arnold, after whom he still hankers; Alan, who had been living with Arnold, has met a horrible, homosexual death; Arnold is trying to adopt legally a problem teenager, David, a tough, street-wise, homosexual kid, chock-full of precocious knowledge and sarcasm, but not without a touching residue of childishness. Into this 'menage', on a visit from Florida, comes Mrs. Beckoff, Arnold's widowed mother. She knows about her son's homosexuality, but cannot really accept it, and keeps needling him. Mother and son try to love each other, but cannot quite make it; their defense, which is also an offense, is wit; her Jewish wit against his homosexual one. When mother accuses son of not knowing how to bring up David, Arnold answers: "What's there to know? Whenever there is a problem, I simply imagine how you would solve it... And then I do the opposite." But in fact - and here lies the play's subtlety -Arnold does the same, or nearly. Alongside the mother conflict are, cunningly and touchingly orchestrated, the David problem, the Ed problem, and even the Laurel problem. The author's ultimate achievement is the perfect blend of hard justice and warm empathy with which he embraces all characters.

Tickets are \$5.00 for each of the May 28, 29 and June 3, 4, and 5 performances. All tickets are General Seating. Reservations are accepted at 258-9773, or tickets may be purchased at R. HEGYI, 5150 North 7th Street, and WOMANSPLACE BOOKSTORE, 2401 North 32nd Street.

All performances are at 1002 East Moreland, at 8:00 P.M.



HOTO BY JEB

CHARLOTTE BUNCH TO BE KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT THE 1982 MARCH

Charlotte Bunch, nationally known lesbian activist, author and organizer, will be the keynote speaker for Phoenix's Second Annual Lesbian and Gay Rights March and Rally.

Bunch, called a "touchstone of the women's movement" by Gloria Steinem, has served on the Board of Directors of the National Gay Task Force (NGTF), and is currently on the Board of the National Women's Conference, and serves as a women's program consultant to NGTF. She was one of the recipients of the 1982 Lambda Legal Defense Fund award, has edited six feminist anthologies, and cofounded the Women's Liberation Movement in Washington, D.C., "The Furies" — a lesbian feminist newspaper, and "Quest: A Feminist Quarterly". In addition, Bunch has written for various publications, including "Christopher Street", "MS Magazine" and "The Washington Post".

In a letter to the Lesbian and Gay Pride Planning Committee (LGPPC), Bunch accepted the offer to by keynote speaker, saying that "marches in cities like Phoenix are very important, and in many ways much more exciting than those in the legger cities"."

Other speakers scheduled at the rally include actor Steve Schemmil, who will preside as MC, Randy Hill from Tucson Gay COS, Lisa Hendrix from Arizona Gay Youth, Brent Turley from the Alternative Relations Center and Ed Parker and Jan Moser from Parents and Friends of Gays. In addition to the speeches, entertainment will be provided by singers Caryl DeGroot and Bill Folk and 2,000 balloons bearing a pink triangle and a quote from the late Harvey Milk will be released.

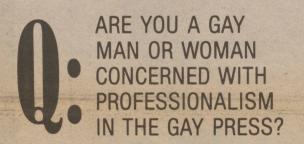
Marchers are requested to meet at the Arizona State Capitol, 17th Ave. and Washington, at 5:30 P.M., Saturday, June 26, where they will be shuttled to Patriot's Park to begin the two mile procession back to the Capitol. Any individual wishing to assist in the planning of the 1982 Lesbian and Gay Rights March, or who would like to become a marshall or help make signs for the march, please call the LGPPC at 967-6940 or 957-1663, or write to P.O. Box 33667, Phoenix, Az. 85067. Meetings are every Monday, 7:30 P.M., at 4225 N. 27th Street, No. 5, Phoenix.

OUR GANG WINTER LEAGUE COMPLETES SEASON

With the final week of bowling completed for the Our Gang Winter Bowling League, Tommy & Clydes #1 finished in first place. They defeated the 2nd half winner, Nu-Towne Saloon in the play-offs. Nu-Towne will happily accept the 2nd place trophies at the awards banquet to be held at the Aloha Inn on June 11, 1982. Shamoo's team gave a good fight all season long and will collect the third place awards. Our late bloomers, Raggedy Ann & Andy's #2 fought to the finish but still ended up in last place.

Summer league begins on June 7th at 6:15 P.M. Bowling will be at Squaw Peak Lanes at 32nd and Indian School Rd. The organizational meeting will be held at the lanes on June 1st, at 7:00 P.M. We are looking for 24 teams with 5 people on each team. This is only a twelve week season and an excellent opportunity to try out your bowling skills, meet new friends, and have a lot of fun. Interested bowlers are urged to attend the meeting on the 1st, and further information can be obtained by calling Bob de Brecht at 274-0405, 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Monday through

The interview previously announced for this issue with Ross Hunter in Bob de Brecht's GETTING TO KNOW YOU has been postponed until a later date. This was due to a cancellation of Mr. Hunter's program to have been held May 15. The regular feature will resume in the next issue. Be sure to watch for interviews with both local and national celebrities.



ATTEND THE **GAY PRESS ASSOCIATION** CONVENTION MAY 28-31 DENVER

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

G.P.A., P.O. BOX 405 DENVER, CO 80201-0405

Dedicated always to the Dot that was...

ELECTRIC BLUE

Such a cynical laugh...

MAY 1982

BA WILLSON

Grounded with a sorrow too deep to explore Anger is not the way through. There are no returns when love is kicked to pieces... This scar tissue will never fade. But my spirit will soar again Higher than ever before Grounded, but not bottomed -Never bottomed out. Where did all the flowers go the balloon hearts the whispered promises? Flew north for the summer,



THE DESERT SKY SINGERS CONCERT A HUGE SUCCESS

by WES AUSTIN

The Desert Sky Singers performing "A Salute To Musical Theatre" played to a full house at the Unitarian Church, Lincoln Drive, on May 16. If you missed the performance, you missed a very fine program of sound from this excellent men's chorus.

Formed in February, 1981, the Desert Sky Singers have grown to a very strong thirty-five voice chorus. Within the framework of the main chorus is a contemporary group called "Chaps"

If you are interested in joining this fine men's

chorus, they hold open auditions the first Monday of each month at Casa de Cristo, 1029 E. Turney, 7:30 P.M. For more information call 248-8384.

WESTERN EXPRESS PHOTO CONTEST **POSTPONED**

The Western Express Photo Contest show and judging originally scheduled for June 6 at the Alwun House has been postponed until June 27. Due to the newspaper staff's attendance at the upcoming Gay Press Association convention in Denver, a conflict in dates for set up of the photo show has arisen, causing the rescheduling.

Final details will appear in the next issue of the newspaper. Additional information is available if needed by calling (602) 254-1324.

NATIONAL RADIO PROJECT READY FOR DISTRIBUTION

A series of radio documentaries investigating three areas of public policy affecting Lesbians and Gay Men will be broadcast nationally this summer. The documentaries, by independent producers Karolyn van Putten and Zane G. Blaney, are part of the National Lesbian and Gay Men's Radio Project. The Moral Majority has targeted the series as part of a 'gay conspiracy''. The radio project was created, in part, to counter this kind of inflammatory rhetoric and inform a general audience about the different treatment gay people face in their daily lives, at U.S. borders and in proposed federal legislation.

The three thirty minute programs, entitled "Litany for Humanity", feature the comments and opinions of fifty gay and straight women and men whose lives have been affected by these issues. Interviews and reports are included from New York City, Washington, Boston, Atlanta, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

The series is being distributed in May to Corporation for Public Broadcasting stations via the National Public Radio Satellite system, the National Federation of Community Broadcasters and the Pacifica Foundation. They will also be made available to interested stations in Australia, England, Canada and Holland. Stations scheduling broadcast of the series in the United States include WGBH, Boston, KPFK, Los Angeles, WUOM, Ann Arbor, WUOT, Knoxville, KPBS, San Diego, KUOW, Seattle and KPFA, Berkley.

Interested listeners should contact their local public radio stations concerning broadcast of the series or the producers at Western Public Radio, Ft. Mason Center, San Francisco where the project was produced. The programs were funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting through National Public Radio's Satellite Program Development Fund. Additional funding was provided by the Golden Gate Business Association and other contributors.

The producers have dedicated the series to women and men everywhere who have suffered because of their lifestyle.

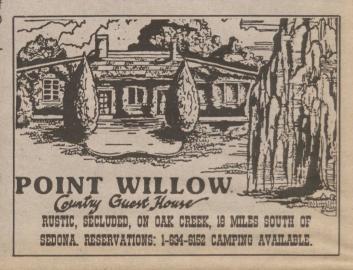
"OH! CALCUTTA! spotlights former DALLAS COWBOY CHEERLEADER Debbie Kepley whose scorching appearance makes you understand why the Cowboys missed the Super Bowl!

"Currently at the Edison Theatre in New York City, OH! CALCUTTA! has become Broadway's sixth longest



PHOENIX SYMPHONY HALL

Reserved Seats: \$13.50, \$11.50 at PHOENIX CIVIC PLAZA BOX OFFICE, all DIAMONDS outlets. Call 262-7272 to charge tickets on VISA or MASTERCARD. Mail check payable to Phoenix Civic Plaza, 225 East Adams Place, Phoenix, Az. 85004. Enclose stamped, addressed envelope. Call 262-7272 for GROUP SALE INFO, minimum order 20 tickets.





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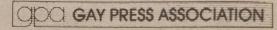
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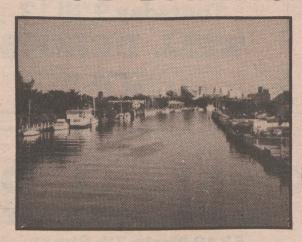
B. A. Willson

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CHARTER MEMBER



DOING AMERICA WITH BOB DAMRON



Miami Rive

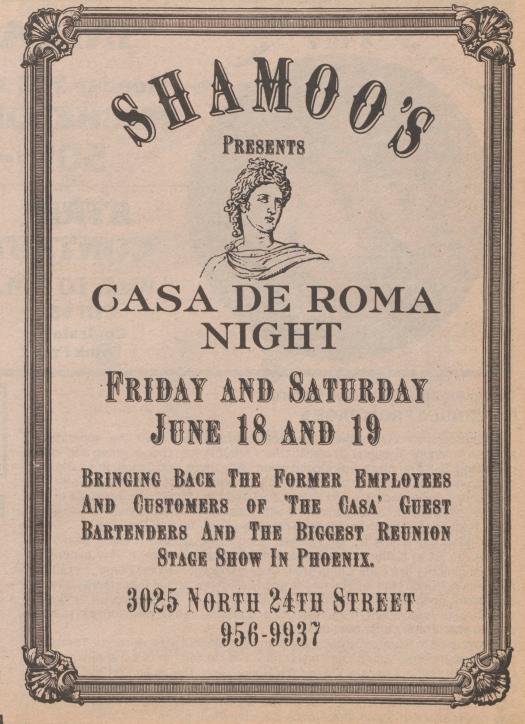
MIAMI

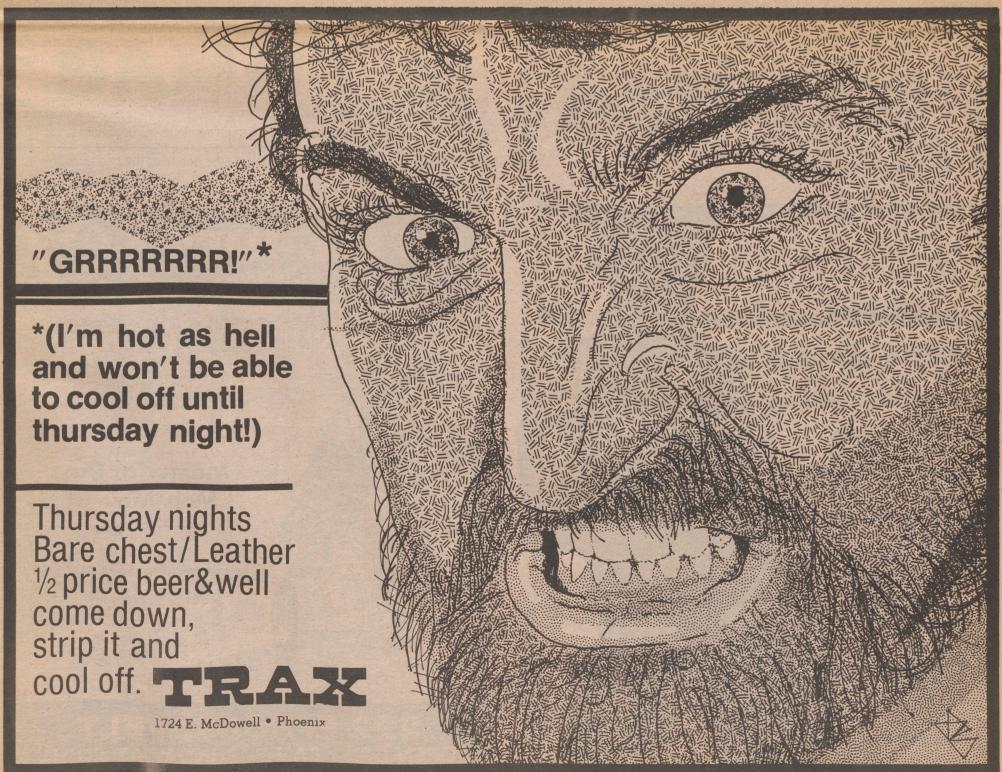
All that giltters is not gold on Miami's fabled sun coast! Economics, politics and a soaring crime rate erode the good life and elusive pleasures. The native alligators, flamingos and parrots are pushed aside by man, who in turn, is his own worst enemy. Dade Countys million or so inhabitants are an unwieldly combination of local Southern Baptists, retired sun-seeking New Yorkers and transplanted Cuban or Haitian refugees. The liberated gay person must be defiant, while still treading very carefully.

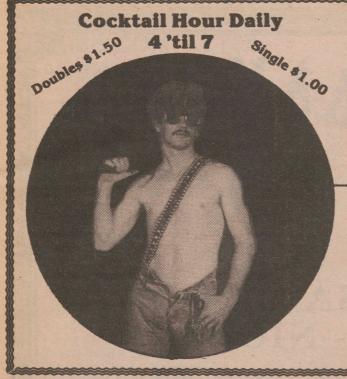
The twin lures of sun and luxury attract millions of tourists annually, and whether you're the mink or bikini type, you'll find your niche here along Florida's 'Gold Coast'. Miami International Airport is the gateway to Latin America and the Caribbean serving some forty or so foreign countries not to mention fabulous Key West. Visitors to this tropical showcase may want to see Hialeah Racetrack, Jai-Alai Palace, Key Largo, nearby Everglades National Park, etc. Don't overlook the layed-back ambiance of village life in Coconut Grove or the hunks displaying their sun-tanned muscular bodies at Virginia Beach.

'Moon over Miami' is not shining as brightly as usual on the local bar scene, and, in fact some owners are privately singing 'gloom over Miami'. Between the national recession, local pressures, and several as yet unsolved gay murders, business could be a lot better. All of the wild and notorious 'back rooms' have closed, save one at The Hole at 1910 Red Road. Downtown Mothers is gone and the once infamous Mineshaft is a mere shadow of it's former glory, and scheduled to relocate soon. The one bright spot near downtown is the Double R at 1001 N.E. 2nd Ave. It's still one of the best macho cruise bars in America. But don't forget, they close at 1:00 A.M. on weekdays and 2:00 A.M. on weekends, earlier than most Miami clubs.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4







"INFLATION FIGHTERS"

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CRUISE 'N BOOZERY

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Doing America With Bob Damron CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

13 Buttons has relinquished their back room too, but is still 'the' super disco for men in Maimi. The new Uncle Charlie's attracts the 'Grove' group and looks promising. San Francisco was closed when I was there, and Salvation's salvation comes on Friday and Saturday nights only. Miami Ms. prefer Sebastian's or the new Chez Louise. Mothers Old Village Pub and the Hamlet are fun spots in the 'Grove', while Karleman's is a favorite with those on the northside. The only good news from Miami Beach is the opening of the Turf Pub and Pin Up 2.

For good gay dining try the Cactus, Coco Plum, Double R Cafe, Studio, or Sunday buffet at Karleman's and 13 Buttons. For excellent, if very expensive straight dining, I like Cafe Chauveron, Chez Vendome, Depot, Forge, Horatio's, Marcella's, Prince Hamlet, Raimondo and Reflections on the Bay. 'Little Havana' has many good Spanish-styled restaurants such as El Baturro, El Bodegan Castilla and Vizcaya where the flavours and aromas tempt your senses, without putting your credit cards over-the-limit.

Miami used to have some gay motels and resorts, but alas, no more! There are however 69 rooms - count them if you think I'm kidding - at C.B.C's very popular Club Miami Baths. I usually stay at the Holiday Inn. This is just off I-95 at 2500 Brickell and is as centrally located as you can get in auto-orientated Greater Maimi. While here, pick up a copy of The Weekly News, one of America's best gay newspapers or David, the Florida entertainment guide.

From the glamorous facade of Maimi Beach's faded hotels, through the Black and Latin ghettos to Millionaires Row on Key Biscayne, the area is a study in dramatic contrasts. Anita 'what's-her-name' is almost forgotten, and so too will the problems of police harassment, racial tension and recession. Miami is a great city and has the natural assets and resources to survive adversity. The Seminoles have an old saying that 'hurricanes pass quickly, and then the sun comes shining thru'.' Here's to a sunny, hot and tranquil Miami.

(For more detailed information, pick up a copy of the BOB DAMRON ADDRESS BOOK *82 - America's foremost travel guide - available at most better bars, baths and book stores throughout America. Or send \$11.00 for your copy (which includes packing and shipping) to BOB DAMRON ENTERPRISES, INC., P.O. BOX 14-077, San Francisco, CA 94114).

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DEAR EDITOR:

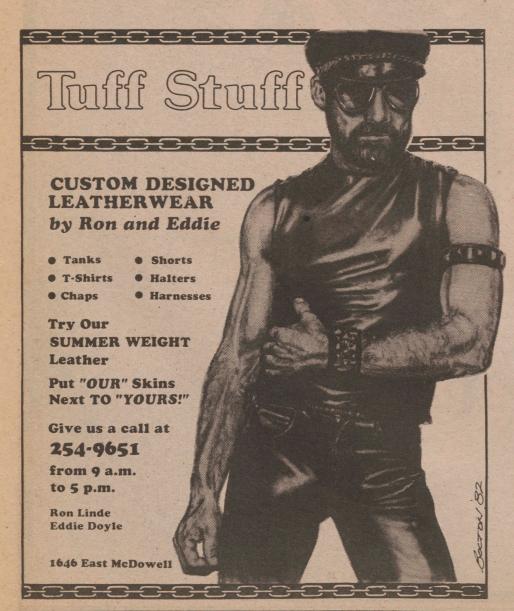
In response to the proposed building for the ARC center, in Phoenix:

I was quite surprised to find the opposition so high for the proposed center. Upon viewing the center several weeks ago, along with other members of the community, I felt a sense of pride of the committments we were all undertaking. Not only does this building tie all the loose ends of the community together, we could finally have a place to call 'home'. The building and its surrounding land seemed ideal for all of the functions, meetings and fundraisers that can happen there. The endless amount of opportunities that will be afforded by leasing this building seemed to outweigh any oppositions or questions for need and future growth of our community.

Those person(s) that are in opposition, quite obviously are blind to the facts. Our community is strong, but its continued growth is threatened by those that deny the need for a gathering point other than the 'bars'. The doubters can only be the ones that lack support within themselves and are truly not interested in bringing our community closer together. Yes, this is a big step, there are many unanswered questions as to where the funding will come from, but I am confident we, as a community, can pull it through.

I totally support ARC, its new board members, its new building and the community that is interested in pulling it off. Perhaps ARC's new board members should take the time to educate those in the community that oppose this building. Phoenix is a growing metropolis and we must continue our growth and strength, if not, we could all be forced to 'closet' ourselves once again. NOW is the time, lets do it and work on educating our people to the needs of the community.

L.P. PHOENIX





Travel News Update

by DAVID STARKMAN

SAN FRANCISCO'S Atherton Hotel, located within a short walking distance from the airline terminal, Union Square and Polk Street, has a charming European style restaurant. The linen, crystal and china service are complimented by an abundance of fresh flowers at every table. Meals are moderately priced and the service is good. The rooms average \$42.00 per night for two people per room. The decor is Spanish style. The hotel is considered one of the best values for accommodations in SAN FRANCISCO.

Another summer special in PHOENIX is being offered by Granada Royale Hometels. For \$29.00 per night you get a full hot breakfast, free cocktails, pool, sauna, steam and jacuzzi. Rooms will accommodate up to four people per room.

Budget Rent A Car in HAWAII has new guaranteed confirmed reservations on weekly rentals split between OAHU, MAUI, KAUAI and HAWAII. Now you can book special weekly rates that can be divided up between the islands. And valuable free gifts and admissions are included that can cut car rental costs to zero. Rates start at \$125.00 weekly with no mileage charge.

Holiday Inn International guarantees comfort at a guaranteed rate at any one of the 57 participating Holiday Inns in eleven countries! All rooms have two double beds and a private bath or shower. Multiple occupancy (one, two, three or four adults) only \$52.00 per room, per night, including local lodging taxes and service charges. The rooms must be pre-paid and reservations are held until 6:00 P.M.

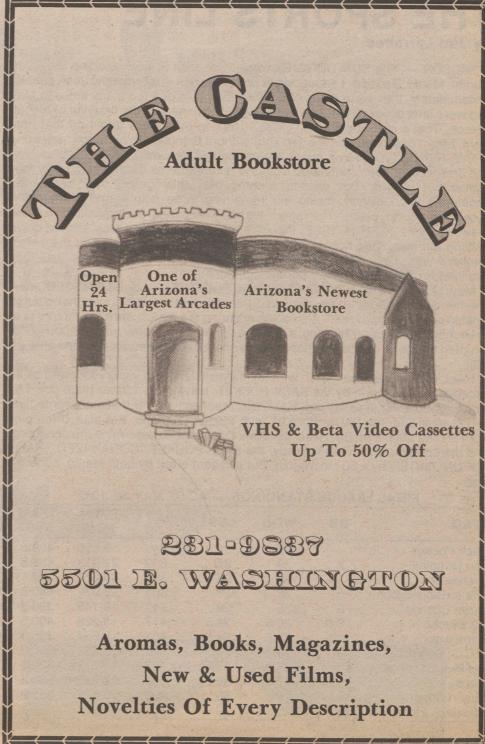
\$120.00 one way fare has been introduced from LOS ANGELES to HONOLULU by United Airlines. American, Western and Continental are expected to follow.

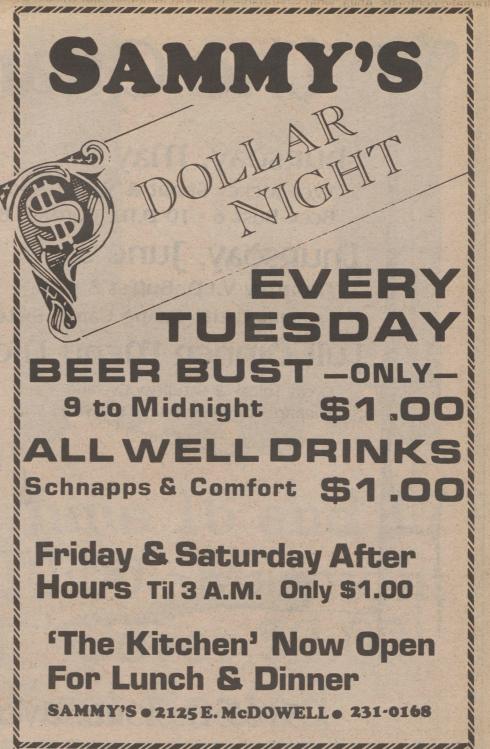
TWA'S PHOENIX to LONDON roundtrip fare has been reduced to \$737.00. Dates and restrictions apply.

Bronco's Gay Rodeo package will depart PHOENIX July 30, and return August 2, 1982. The \$185.00 per person price includes roundtrip air fare, hotel and airport transfers. Of the fifty spaces available forty two all ready have deposits on them per Mr. Cameron at Bronco's.

From 21st CENTURY TRAVEL TO YOU - In appreciation of your business and continuous support I extend an invitation to visit 21st Century Travel or mail me your business card and I will make you two complimentary laminated luggage tags. The tags are completely free and available to everyone.







THE SPORTS LINE

By Jim Larrabee

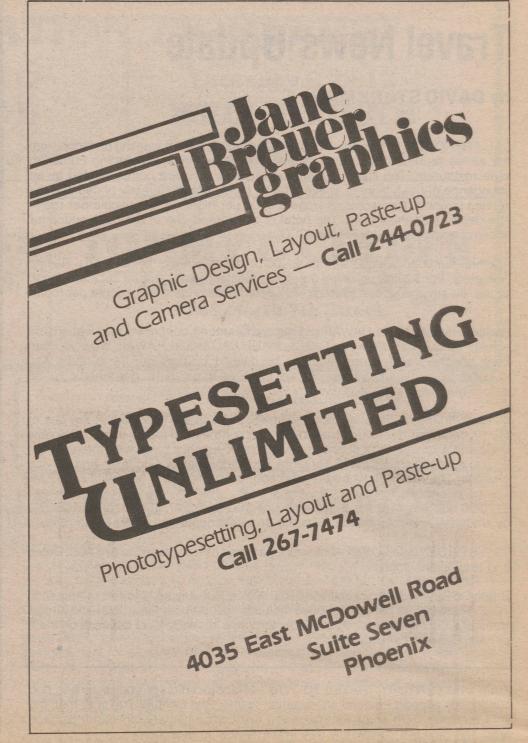
TUCSON — The SUN DOGGIES were flying high in April, leading the Community Mixed Bowling League week after week — seemingly unstoppable. Unfortunately, they were guilty of chasing their tails one too many times in May and were shot down by HALL/NIK UNLIMITED, winners of the first half of the fall season. That's life! The BACK POCKET, trailing by a mere game on that final night, May 10, slipped into the top spot without doing anything fancy, defeating RITA'S RENDEZVOUS in a match where high game was "165". RITA'S, which had erroneously been eliminated from the race the week before, stood only four games out of first. But despite winning the initial game, they proceeded undaunted into oblivion, losing the remaining three points, and finished the season in fourth place. The other teams maintained their positions of the previous week. JOSHUA TREE, though successful in their match, pinned down nothing but last place honors. Ironically, their reaction to becoming the cellar-dwellers was explicity bliss, owing undoubtedly to the knowledge that they qualified for an award at the upcoming banquet.

May 17 was playoff night for HALL/NIK UNLIMITED and the BACK POCKET. The members of both teams displayed the starched countenances that championship competition evokes. Also obvious during the match were the moments of wrenched agony upon blowing a spare or producing a split with a poorly constructed ball; and, of course, those other seconds of total euphoria when all went well

HALL/NIK opened the match with an impressive 42-pin victory followed by an exceptional 94-pin win by the BACK POCKET, leaving the former team down 52 pins for total. But never say die! HALL/NIK reached back for that extra something and buttoned up the BACK POCKET with a 50-pin triumph. But alas, three pins from ending the event. So it was overtime. One game to determine the conqueror and the conquered. Suffice it to say, the BACK POCKET "CONAN-IZED" HALL/NIK UNLIMITED by a 50-pin margin. But a valiant effort by both teams, none the less.

FINAL LEAGUE STANDINGS — AS OF MAY 10, 1982

TEAM	GB	WON	LOST	PCT.	TOTAL	TEAM AVG.
Back Pocket		41	23	.640	19,655	409.5
Sun Doggies	2	39	25	.609	22,013	458.6
Michael's	3	38	26	.594	18,677	389.1
Rita's Rendezvous	5	36	28	.563	23,077	480.8
Three Cochas	6	35	29	.547	19,145	398.9
'63 Buicks	10.5	30.5	33.5	.477	19,226	400.5
Arizonans	11.5	29.5	34.5	.461	18,504	385.5
M.C.C. Schmoos	12	29	35	.453	17,132	356.9
Hall/Nik Unlimited	13.5	27.5	36.5	.429	19,011	422.5
Menage	13.5	27.5	36.5	.429	17,512	364.8
Desert Sons	15	26	38	.406	18,327	381.8
Joshua Tree	16	25	39	.391	17,991	374.8





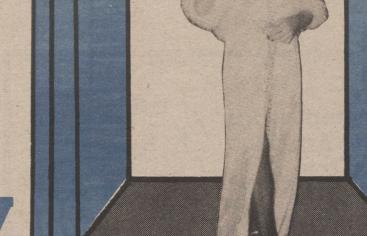
Raggedy Ann 'N' Andy's

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And Reptiles!
Your Second
Skins Are
Showing Here

Leap, Pounce or Slither in and Have a Look

DESERT SQUIRE 5THAVE. SCOTTS PALE

BOOK REVIEW

by JIM SHAFER

A History of Shadows by Robert C. Reinhart, Avon Books, N.Y. 1982. Sons of Harvard; Gay Men from the Class of 1976 by Toby Marotta, William Morrow & Co., N.Y. 1982.

These two books are miles apart in style and time but not so much in purpose. Shadows is a fictional narrative dressed-up as a series of interviews of four men, successful men, who have weathered the past four decades together as friends and sometimes lovers. Even the persona of the interviewer is a fictional creation. Sons deals with the lives of ten gay men who are interviewed by Marotta and who, like the author, are members of the Class of '67 at Harvard University.

Both books explore the ways each of the men recognized and dealt with his homosexuality. The contrast between the time periods covered in the two books makes reading them in tandem (*Shadows* first) rather worthwhile. Though *Shadows* is a fictional piece, it accurately describes the conditions and situations of gay life in the 1930s, '40s, and '50s. The mood and flavor and sometimes shattering truths are excellently captured here. *Sons* is really a political essay as well as a sociological study. There are many passages where the verbiage of Marotta's political and academic jargon get in the way of the reader. It is an extension of his earlier work, *The Politics of Homosexuality*. However, the stories of the men whom he interviews and of himself and his lover, Rusty, bring a warmth and humanity to the work. At the end of *Sons* one doesn't feel as harangued by the gay liberationist/activist/counterculturalist Marotta as one felt only a third of the way through.

Shadows is a fast and entertaining, sometimes painful, read. Sons takes more

effort but is well worth it.

ARC COFFEEHOUSES

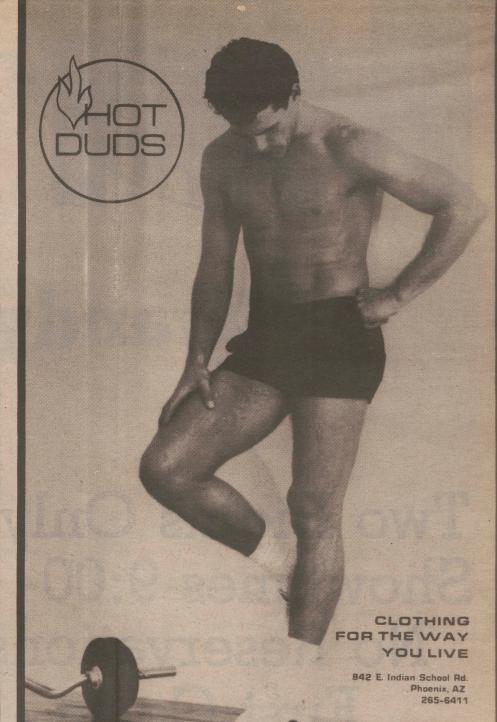
Held on the first and third Saturdays of the month, the Coffeehouses are a service of the Alternative Relations Center. They are hosted in private homes from 8:00 P.M. until 10:30 P.M. and non-alcoholic beverages are provided. The coffeehouses are good places to make new friends and be a part of your community.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

THEY SUPPORT YOU

Hosts Saturday, June 5, are Barb and Jane, 4015 W. Alice, 247-7854. Saturday, June 19, the hosts will be Larry and Robin, 14032 N. 57th Way, 052 2449.

Persons wishing to volunteer to host a coffeehouse may leave their name with the Gay and Lesbian Assistance and Information Line at 274-0927 between 7:00 P.M. and 11:00 P.M. or contact Draffan McBride at 931-3239.



2424 E. Thomas Rd. Phoenix, Arizona



Phoenix, Arizona
MONDAY — Coupon Night. \$.25

- Coupon Night. \$.25 Draft With Coupon 6-10 P.M. MEMORIAL DAY 31, ALL DAY & NIGHT, 1/2 PRICE DRINKS

TUESDAY

— Movie Night Starting at 8 P.M., June 1, M.A.S.H., June 8, Last Tango In Paris. Free Popcorn, 1/2 Price Well Drinks, Draft \$.35, Beer \$.85. \$1.00 Cover.

WEDNESDAY— R & R Request Night with 'Tina'. Tequila & Schnapps \$.75.

THURSDAY — Beer Bust \$2.00 9-Midnight. Disco with 'Ellen'.

FRIDAY — Get Acquainted Night. \$.25 off with Incognito Business Card. Disco at 9 P.M.

SATURDAY — June 5, The Incognito Pool Players, Winners of the Tournament with the Full Moon, Will be Served Brunch by the Full Moon Players.

- Recovery Day. Bloody Mary \$1.00 All Day. Hot Dog & Draft \$.75 Noon to 6 P.M. Look for New Sunday Drink Specials For

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A REVIEW...

...Harvey Fierstein's WIDOWS AND CHILDREN FIRST by Bob de Brecht

The perfectly produced and expertly directed presentation that opened last Thursday for the final production of the Janus Theatre's 1982-82 season is, by far, one of the finest evenings of live entertainment you could ever hope to witness. This reviewer attended the final dress rehearsal on the day before the opening, and I was so taken with this play that I had to go back on opening night, just to see if I had been dreaming or if "Broadway" had come to Phoenix.

Not since Tennessee Williams created WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOLFE has a writer excelled in a four character play the way Mr. Fierstein has. WIDOWS AND CHILDREN FIRST is the final part of a trilogy about Arnold Beckoff, a late 30's, single, homosexual who has elected to adopt a young, gay, street urchin and provide him with a positive environment in the gay lifestyle. The arrangement for the adoption of this young man was instigated while Arnold was sharing connubial bliss with another man who had recently been killed by a gang of young toughs. To add further confusion to an already complicated household, Arnold's ex-lover, Ed, has left his heterosexual marriage partner and is sleeping on Arnold's couch until he finds "something". None of the above will appear to be extraordinary to the average gay person, however, Mr. Fierstein has elected to produce a visit from Mrs. Beckoff, Arnold's "ultimate jewish mother". No groundwork has been laid by Arnold to prepare his mother for the change of events occuring in her son's life. Her unawareness of the relationship between her son and his late lover is one of the most moving discoveries I have ever seen. The heated arguments, along with the light hearted teasing, between mother and son only reinforce the viewer's knowledge of the unconditional love these characters share for one another. The young adoptee, David, combined with Arnold and Mrs. Beckoff provided the opportunity for the writer to create one character and divide this character between three different persons. You will readily recognize the similarities between all parts utilizing the character of Ed to pivot off of and return to a stable base. Ed's role in this production balances the generations and still promotes interesting storyline developments.

The cast of characters chosen to portray these roles is flawless. Bob Cain, in the role of Ed, presents this character in a believable, and warm manner. Mr. Cain's performance is noteworthy and his delivery is sharp and precise. His trauma's are common and his personal interpretation immediately wins the audiences attention.

Greg Lutz, as David, convincingly plays his role as a fifteen year old, street-wise, former punk who really craves a stable home life and genuinely loves his mentor/mother, Arnold. Mr. Lutz brings a freshness to the Janus stage that relaxes the more serious confrontations between mother and son.

Arnold is a little bit of all of us. John Goldschmid exhibits him in a natural tender manner who requires love and respect but tends to neglect to give these virtues to himself. Mr. Goldschmid's personal popularity with the audience is completely forgotten immediately upon his entrance, when the audience realizes they are actually seeing Aronld Beckoff in the exact manner the writer envisioned. I defy any gay male in the audience who has come out to their parents not to identify with this character. Without losing the seriousness of the situation, John continually inflicts the difinitive wit that gay people are known for everywhere. His portrayal of Arnold speaks for all of us, and the Janus Theatre Company could not have chosen a better spokesperson.

In her stage debut as Mrs. Beckoff, the Mother of the Sexual Revolution, Ms. Rusty Warren, highlights her already luminous career with a performance she can be proud of and shows her audience what additional, unexposed, talent she possesses behind the glittering nightclub comedienne exterior we all know and love. Her choice to undertake this role at this point in her career reveals the sincere dedication she feels to the gay community. Removing the sequins and the double entendre from her presentation shows us, once again, what a craftswoman she really is. Being a personal friend of Ms. Warren's, and having seen her in her own environment as a nightclub entertainer and a very special friend to the community, I was personally astounded by the quality of her performance. Her character interpretation comes across as the "ultimate jewish mother" and her delivery and timing is impeccable. Together, with John Goldschmid, they perform in a manner that can't help but be applauded.

The entire performing staff of this presentation works so well together, and the performances are so natural that you will feel a bit like an intruder

eavesdropping into their personal lives. There are no stars to this production, and there is no supporting cast. Bob, Greg, John, and Rusty join with Harvey Fierstein to produce one large five-pointed star that will shine on the stage of the Janus Theatre for a long time. The technical staff have thought of every detail in the engineering of this fine work. The play is currently being performed in New York, Off-Broadway, and in Los Angeles. Phoenix should be flattered to have the opportunity to witness it and should immediately show their appreciation by purchasing a ticket and devoting two hours out of your evening to become a part of an experience that will make national history in the area of gay theatre.

While I became a part of the standing ovation afforded the artists on Thursday evening, I would like to personally extend our own standing ovation to: Bud Guiles, Director; Lin Haring, Assistant Director; Steve Schemmel, Producer; H. W. Miller, Technical Director/Light and Set Design; Shelly Davidson, Stage Manager; Richard Roberts, Sound Engineer; Jeff Dudden, Lighting Technician; Pat Williams, Property Manager; Johnny Doten, Property Assistant; Martha

Kemp, Costumer; Mike Vicksjo, Crew Member; Anne McNulty, Tickets/Box Office; John Morris, Publicity; and Dignity/Phoenix who are acting as ushers. Without these people, the presentation risks amateur status, but with them, as a group, the professionalism is obvious.

While the theatre currently being used for the Janus Theatre Productions is less than elegant, the reception you receive upon entering the playhouse immediately places you on Broadway on any opening night. The energy and time this small group of people have donated to put Phoenix Gay Theatre on the map deserves your support, and is repaid with continually good entertainment. Dip into your stash money and grab a \$5.00 bill and get yourself over to R. Hegyi, 5150 North 7th Street or the Womansplace Bookstore, at 2401 North 32nd Street, and purchase your ticket for one of the remaining performances to be held May 28, 29, and June 3, 4, and 5. See it now because, I predict, this play will be back and you will never be able to see it at this price again.

Thank you, Janus Theatre, for being a part of our gay community.







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TONY'S LOCKER ROOM by TONY BARTOLI

BOXING: A History of Heavyweights

Boxing, with its universal appeal, has proven to be one of the most exciting sports of all time. A sport that you either like or not, boxing has captured the imagination of millions of fans throughout the world. This can be attested to by the millions of dollars that is made annually through promotions, cable television and theatre hook-ups of major championships, especially in the heavy-weight division.

Boxing came of age at the turn of the century when the great John L. Sullivan ruled supreme. Known for his brute strength and stamina, John L. was known to go as many as fifty rounds with brawny opponents in no-holes-barred bare knuckly contests. Always victorious, John L. liked the good life and finally lost his title to Gentleman Jim Corbett in the twenty-first round in New Orleans.

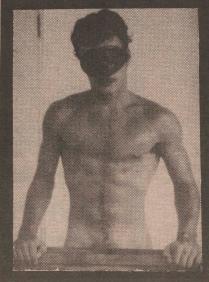
Ever since that first heavyweight championship, many illustrious names have come out of the game including the likes of Tommy Burns, Jess Willard, Jack Dempsey, Gene Tunney, Max Smeling and Jack Johnson. But no one caught the imagination and the Icve of the boxing world as did Joe Louis. Since his first victory over Jim Braddock in 1937, to his agonizing defeat at the hands of Ezzard Charles in 1950 at the age of 36, Joe Louis emphasized the American Dream that any boy from any background could grow up to be a champion in the boxing world. Beset by personal problems and a tax problem over alleged earnings, he lost almost everyti ing in his latter years except his spirit. Louis was a legend in his time.

Again great legends dominated, such as Jersey Joe Walcott, Floyd Patterson, Ingemar Johansson, Sonny Liston and the great Rocky Marciano. Marciano so devastated his opponents with his brute strength that punches thrown from his gloves landing on opponents arms, were known to knock them down. But no one since that time has captured the imagination of the boxing world more so than the man from Louisville, Kentucky, then known as Cassius Clay, soon to be known as Muhammad Ali. At the age of 22, Clay took the title from Sonny Liston with a KO in the seventh round on September 25, 1964. Known for his flamboyancy, Ali lost favor with the boxing world when he refused to be drafted into the armed services. Because of this his title was taken away and on March 4, 1968, Joe Frazier emerged victorious over Buster Mathis in the 11th round of their championship fight with a KO.

While Frazier enjoyed the notoriety of World Champion a young George Foreman was making his mark in the amateur ranks. His highly touted talents proved true, for on January 22, 1973 he made short work of Frazier with a KO in the second round in Kingston, Jamaica. But the storm was brewing. Muhammad Ali was making a comeback. The fight of the decade occurred in October, 1974, in Zaire, when Ali took a resounding victory over Foreman.

Ali was to hold the title for nearly four years, but age began to catch up with him. On September 15, 1978, Leon Spinks, a virtual unknown, won a surprising fifteen round decision over the 36 year old Ali, thus ending one of the greatest reigns of all time. Through technicalities with the W.B.C. Spinks was stripped of his title thus setting the stage for the Norton-Holmes event. After a grueling fight, Holmes won the title on a decision on June 9, 1978 and has been the champion since that time.

This takes up to the fight scheduled in Las Vegas on June 11, 1982. Jerry Cooney, the challenger, is 19-0 with eleven straight knockouts to his credit. Holmes finally contender in this tough, big scrapper. Although Holmes will be the odds on favorite, some feel there may be an upset in the making. Being a rabid fight fan and sports predictor, I am going to go out on a limb and predict a stunning upset with Cooney the winner by a KO in the twelfth round.



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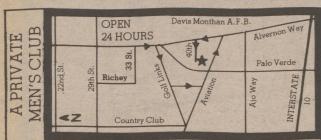
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Tickets are \$13.50 and \$11.50 and are available at Civic Plaza Box Office, Diamonds, or by phone to

The Western Express plans to be there opening night, hope you all join us.

EDITORIAL

Of great concern to me, as an advocate of live entertainment, is the lack of attendance at the majority of performances sponsored by various bars and organizations who have gone to great trouble and expense to bring high quality entertainers to our Valley

I personally applaud: Bronco's; The Connection; Desert Sky Singers; Farrah's; Full Moon Saloon; Grand Camel; Hotbods; Incognito; Janus Theatre; Penquin Productions; Raggedy Ann & Andy's; Regal Productions; Sammy's; Shamoo's; Starbuck Experience; Taylor's; Tommy & Clydes; and Trax. I applaud the people involved with these bars and organizations for their efforts to provide to the community something other than a typical cruise and drink type of

I publicly request that if you don't want to see what they are bringing to you, please write to this newspaper and tell us just what you do want to see. To limit your experience by not attending the performances these people are providing to you, is a shame. Most of the engagements begin and end at a time that still allows you plenty of chance to go out there and find Mr. or Ms. Right. A break from your normal routine will not hurt you, and the worse thing that could happen is that you may enjoy yourself in a new and different environment. If we are to continue to be the recipient of these efforts to expose our city to good live entertainment, we must support them. Take a minute and tell them what you want to see by writing to: THE WESTERN EXPRESS, P.O. Box 32575, Phoenix, Arizona, 85064.

Bob deBrecht Staff Columnist - Entertainment





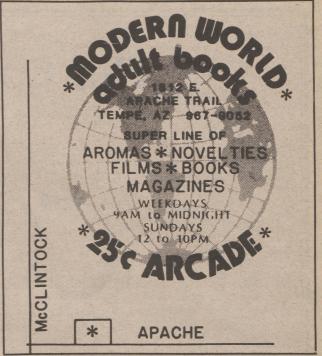
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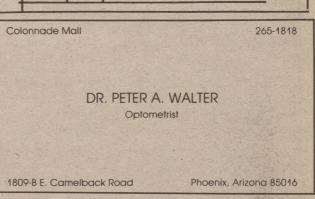
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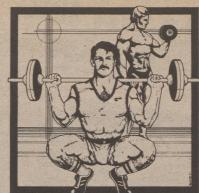




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