

THE

WESTERN EXPRESS

FROM THE SOUTHWEST

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JULY 7, 1982

OVER 1,000 ATTEND ARIZONA'S SECOND ANNUAL LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS MARCH

by Shari Hearn

After June 26, one thing has become clear to hundreds in the lesbian and gay community: "We Are Family" is not just a song to disco to.

On that day, over 1,200 lesbians, gays, their families and supporters rallied under the theme "We Are Family" and marched to the Arizona State Capitol for Arizona's Second Annual Lesbian and Gay Rights March. Following the march was a rally that included an historic release of 2,000 "balloons for freedom", and nationally and locally-known speakers calling for unity and an end to lesbian and gay oppression.

Speakers and entertainers at the rally included, in order of appearance, Lesbian and Gay Pride Planning Committee co-chairs Donna Umstead and Kirk Baxter; Steve Schemmel, who acted as MC; Brent Turley, representative from the Alternative Relations Center; Lisa Hendrix, representative from Arizona Gay Youth; singer/songwriter Bill Folk; Charlotte Bunch, nationally-known activist, author and organizer who delivered the keynote speech; singer/songwriter Caryl DeGroot; Joan Moser and Ed Parker from Parents and Friends of Gays; Randy Hill from Tucson Gay COS, and organizer of the 130-mile march from Tucson to Phoenix; and Patricia Jackson, who delivered the 13-year gay history since Stonewall.

The rally started late due to no electricity being provided by the Capitol. A generator was brought in, and the rally began with a welcome and the release of balloons bearing a pink triangle and the quote from the late Harvey Milk - "No more dreaming, the time has come to awake." March organizers said an apology from the Capitol Police will be appearing soon in the local gay presses concerning the lack of electricity.

Noting the increase of hundreds of participants from last year's march, Donna Umstead welcomed the crowd and said the reason for the increase was due to the success of last year's march. Kirk Baxter echoed her sentiments by adding that "if we have one more than we did last year, then we did something."

Many speakers capitalized on the theme of the march, "We Are Family" while speaking to the audience.

"All of us here tonight are family," Steve Schemmel said. "Even the timid rabbits who wouldn't leave their safe nests to march with us."

"We believe the gay community is our family," said Lisa Hendrix of Arizona Gay Youth. "And in that sense you gay adults are our parents, and we are your children. We look to you for our role models. We look to you to find out that nothing is impossible, no matter what our sexual preference is."

Hendrix added that gay youth also look to adult gays for guidance in relationships.

"When we see you in a long-term relationship, we see you caring about each other, and sharing. That shows us that a gay relationship doesn't have to be a trick. It can be meaningful, and it can work," Hendrix said, adding a thank-you to the gay adults "who came here tonight and showed us how open you are and how willing you are to fight for gay rights."

Charlotte Bunch, who was given a standing ovation by the crowd before her keynote speech was delivered, addressed numerous issues, including remembering the gay organizers of the 50s, right-wing tactics, coalitions with other oppressed groups, and the proposed Family Protection Act.



Photos by Wes Austin

1982 Lesbian and Gay Rights March and Rally

"It's important to remember the 50s," Bunch said, "not because we're going to return to them as many of our opposition would like to think. But because we forget how far we've come since the 50s, since the Daughters of Bilitis and Mattachine and Society for Individual Rights began organizing the lesbian and gay movement. We have a proud history that has been buried, and it is up to us to remind ourselves that our movement didn't just begin 13 years ago."

Bunch added that it was the "very, very bravest" who began organizing the early gay civil rights groups and gave lesbians and gays today hope for the future.

"In just two decades we have changed the world," Bunch exclaimed. "Although we have a long way to go, we have already created the first stage of a revolution, and there is no turning back, ever!"

Bunch said the first stage of the revolution put gay rights on the agenda of the world, and that in many of the cities where gays have organized a significant voting block, politicians know they have to take seriously what they say about gay rights, or they may be voted out of office.

Bunch interpreted right-wing backlash as an indication that the lesbian and gay movement has been successful.

"We have to remember that that backlash wouldn't exist if we hadn't been so incredibly successful in our first two decades as a movement," Bunch explained. "And, contrary to our enemy's fantasies, we will not disappear, for we are no longer afraid, and we are not going to give them the victory that they can't get politically by returning to closets of fear."

"I believe that a lot of right-wing terrorism and violence that we're experiencing today is aimed not at stopping us directly, but at making us stop ourselves," Bunch added. "And, if we don't stop ourselves, nobody else can stop us. What Jerry Falwell and the rest of them don't get is that once you've come out of the closet of self-hatred and fear, and breathe the air of freedom and dignity, you can't stop breathing."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

JOHNNY MATHIS TELLS ALL ABOUT SELF

GAY NEWS

Chances are you missed the interview with singer Johnny Mathis that appeared in the June 22 issue of US Magazine. Guess no more about Mathis's sexual preference - he has bared all! At 16 he told interviewer Alan Petrucelli, he fell in love with "the best baritone sax player in the world and HE supported me when everyone else was saying I was too young."

"Over the years I've had little infatuations. But I finally met two people - one in Los Angeles, and the other in Louisiana," Mathis said. "I love them both very much but I don't see them very often - maybe twice a year..."

ERA BITES THE DUST JUNE 30

No one can say the work wasn't done nor the time spent to try to gain passage of the Equal Rights Amendment before it went down at midnight, June 30. However, and not for the first time in history, it went down with a majority of Americans in favor of its passage. A reported 70% of American voters were represented by those states which passed the amendment. Does this mean it failed? Only for the time being. Rep. Morris Udall, D-Az, stated in an interview on June 30 that the measure will again be brought to the floor of the legislature on July 14, reactivating the years' long struggle anew, and hopefully attaining eventual passage.

Phyllis Schlafly, the acknowledged anti-ERA leader, has already pledged herself to continue the battle anew, however is planning on adding several new projects for her followers and supporters in addition to the anti-ERA work.

The known problem is to retain the support of those states which passed the ERA the first time around while wooing the support of an additional three the second time. It will be difficult as there was a tremendous amount of reported wavering even among the most outwardly ardent original supporters.

WESTERN EXPRESS TO COMMENCE FEATURE, "INTERNATIONAL EXPRESS"

The Western Express has recently joined the INTERNATIONAL GAY NEWS AGENCY, headquartered in San Francisco, for the purpose of gathering news information from a wider scope and of interest to a broader cross section of readers. The information provided in the organization's statement of purpose best describes the service provided. "International Gay News Agency is an association of reporters, commentators, and photographers, organized to provide a world-wide exchange of newsworthy information relevant to the Gay/Lesbian liberation movement.

We are dedicated to the gathering, recording and dissemination of news of national and global events largely ignored or distorted by conventional news agencies.

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PHOENIX REPRESENTATIVES CHOSEN



Tish Tanner and Crawford Taylor

Photo by Wes Austin

Crawford Taylor and Tish Tanner have been chosen to represent Phoenix at the National Reno Gay Rodeo to be held between July 30 and August 1, in Reno, Nevada. Crawford will be competing for Mr. Gay Rodeo and Tish will be competing for Miss Dusty Spurs. The First Runner Up for Mr. Gay Rodeo was George and the Second Runner Up was Jim. For Miss Dusty Spurs, First Runner Up was Zien and Second Runner Up was Oona.

The winners were determined by the amount of money that had been collected in each of their names over the past month. All the money collected was donated to the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Figures for each contestant were not disclosed, but the grand total donated to M.D. was \$2,150.00.

Bronco's, which sponsored this contest in conjunction with the National Reno Gay Rodeo, will be having a barn dance and steak fry on Saturday, July 24, as a send-off for Crawford and Tish.

According to Ken Cameron, Bronco's owner, there are still a few seats available on the tour that has been put together to go to the rodeo. The price for the trip is only \$185.00 and includes roundtrip airfare and accommodations for four days and three nights. Anyone interested should contact Ken at 248-9762.

A NIGHT OF SIZZLING MEN

Hot Duds, in an effort to bring the best to Phoenix, will be hosting their first search for Phoenix's hottest men. This "sizzling" event will be held on July 18, at HOT BODS, 35th Street and East McDowell. The evening will be co-hosted by Bob de Brecht who will be presenting the men of "Cheeks" and the Desert Sky Singers ensemble "Chaps" for your entertainment. Tickets are \$4.00, with \$1.00 per ticket being donated to the A.R.C. Tickets are available through Hot Duds and R. Hegyi and will be available at the door. Advance table reservations are highly recommended, and should be made through Hot Duds, 842 E. Indian School Road.

Men interested in competing for the title of "Hot Duds Hottest Men" should pick up entry forms at Hot Duds. Three finalists will be selected to represent Hot Duds in their fall advertisement program. Each finalist will receive a \$200.00 gift certificate, plus a very impressive trophy. David and Dennis, owners of Hot Duds, state the contest is designed to benefit their business, support A.R.C. and for the entertainment of the community as a Thank You for your support. Judging will be done by a panel of five, *encouraging the judges will not be tolerated.*

Come and enjoy a "HOT" summer night of "SCORCHING" entertainment and "SIZZLING" men, you won't be disappointed!

AZYGOS Men's Fragrance to be Marketed in Gay Communities

For the first time the initial marketing of a planned major men's fragrance line is scheduled for gay communities throughout the country. AZYGOS, the brain child of two former top executives of ARAMIS, will be marketed and advertised only in gay communities and gay press. Twentieth Century Fox recently utilized the gay market to promote "Making Love", and even though the percentage of advertising spent gay was only 2% of the total budget, it was acknowledged to have been well spent.

Sales representatives for AZYGOS are due to start calling on men's clothing stores, gift shops, hair cutting salons, and boutiques which cater to gay men. National advertising campaigns are planned for the fall.

DESERT SKY SINGERS TO SING AT SAN FRANCISCO GAY OLYMPICS

Members of the Desert Sky Singers of Phoenix will sing in a combined performance with other choruses at the closing ceremonies of the Gay Olympic Games at Kezar Stadium in San Francisco, Sunday, September 5.

While attending the Western States Choral Festival over Labor Day weekend, the chorus will also perform at Norse Auditorium on Saturday, September 4, in addition to participating in weekend choral workshops.

New member auditions for Desert Sky Singers will be held Monday, July 12, at Casa de Cristo, 1029 E. Turney at 7:30 P.M. "This will be the last opportunity for new members to join until mid-September," explained general manager Mark Niswander. "We have many performances scheduled from now through December and limited rehearsal time to integrate new members into the group."

New members and friends of the chorus may still sign up for the San Francisco trip which includes round-trip air fare and hotel accommodations at a special reduced price. For information call Mark Niswander at 248-8384 or 867-7191.



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GAY PRESS ASSOCIATION

TRAVEL NEWS UPDATE

by David Starkman

CITING a recent study by Kodak, it notes that certain high-speed and color films are especially sensitive to X-Ray radiation and can be damaged by airport screening devices. The study also noted that X-Ray exposures are cumulative and that a vacation traveler who passes through several airport screenings might end up with fogged film.

"THE LIFESAVERS" is a complete medical history on microfilm that gives emergency personnel vitally necessary information in case of an accident or illness. The microfilm card gives every necessary detail including present illnesses, allergies and medication. The cost is only pennies a day and tax deductible. I personally have seen this wallet size card and feel it is a must for everyone, especially when travelling to a foreign destination.

LAS VEGAS SPECIAL - Roundtrip flights on Republic, accommodations at the Sahara Hotel, transfers and taxes included: \$89.00 per person, based on double occupancy.

BERMUDA hotels have traditionally not accepted credit cards, however, the practice has been changing in recent years. Today about twenty hotels honor cards. Unless you are sure your credit card will be honored, bring CASH!

CONTINENTAL AIRLINES is offering vacation excursion fares in the U.S. no higher than \$398.00 for adults and \$278.00 for children, roundtrip, all through the long hot summer.

REPUBLIC has announced the following new roundtrip fares from PHOENIX: SALT LAKE CITY - \$149.00; OMAHA - \$336.00; GRAND CANYON - \$130.00; WICHITA - \$360.00.

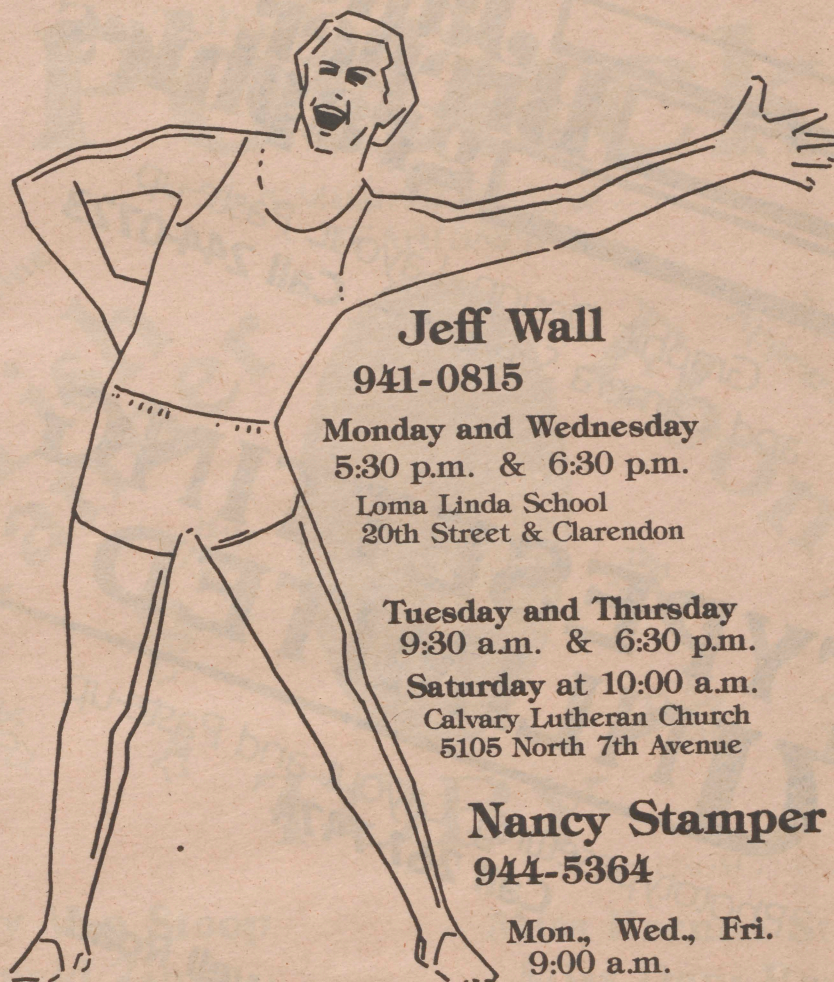
FLY U.S. AIR unlimited mileage, thirty day maximum \$549.00 per person.

UNITED AIRLINES new HAWAIIAN fare roundtrip from PHOENIX, starting July 16, 1982: \$408.00.

GRAND CANYON RAFT TRIPS advises that due to cancellations a limited number of spaces have become available.

To answer any questions or to assist you with your travel plans Mr. Starkman can be reached through 21ST CENTURY TRAVEL, 2432 W. PEORIA, SUITE 1082, PHOENIX, AZ 85029. PHONE (602) 234-0542 or the home office number (602) 996-9007. Hours are 9 A.M. until 5 P.M., Monday through Friday

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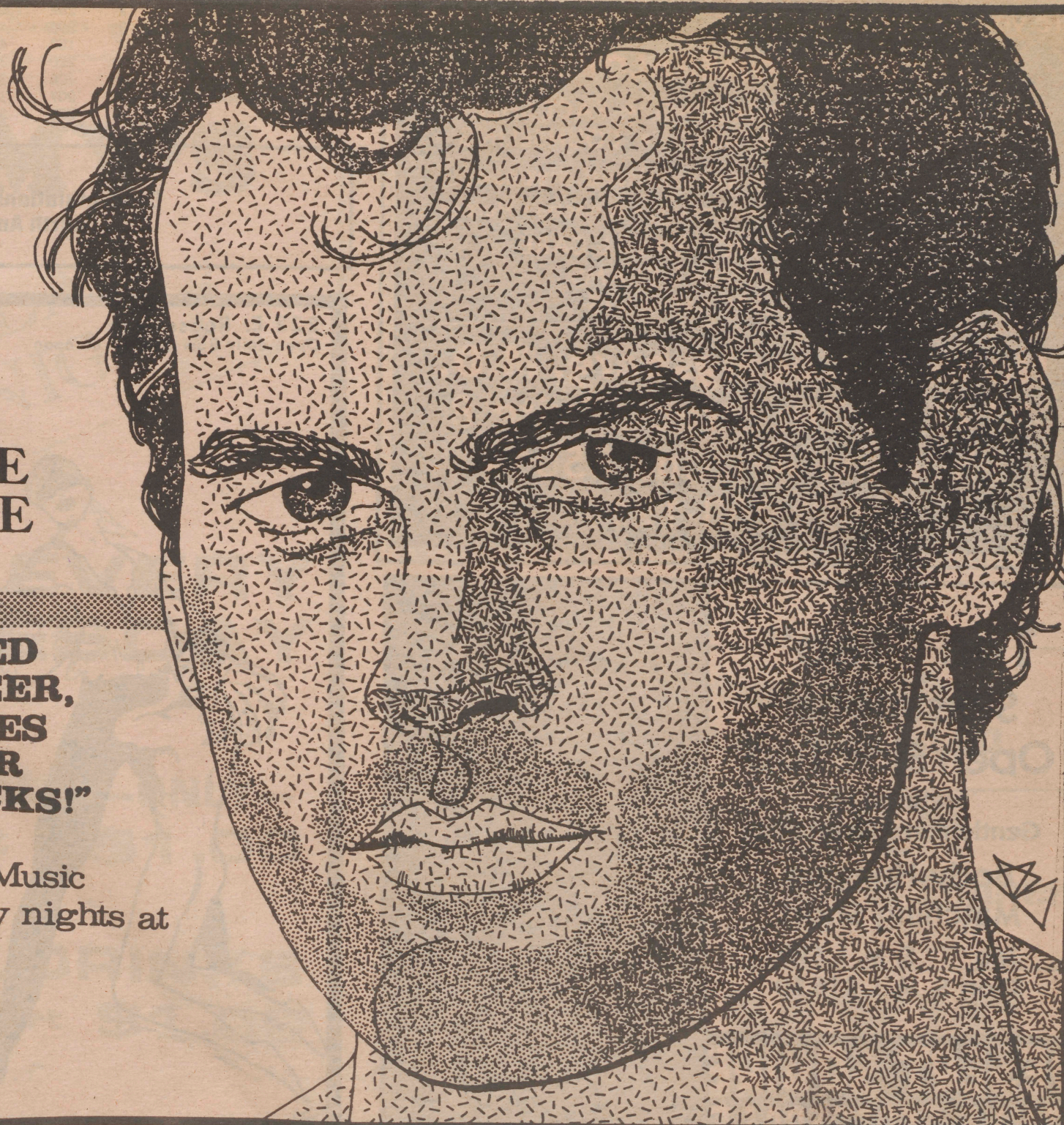
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FUND-RAISER SCHEDULED

On Tuesday, July 13, Trax will be having a special Beer Bust from 8:00 P.M. to midnight. The cost of the beer bust is only \$2.00, with the proceeds going to the Phoenix Volleyball team which will be representing Phoenix next month in the first ever Gay Olympic Games that are going to be held in San Francisco.

At this point, the players are paying all costs, such as lodging and transportation, individually. It is hoped that enough funds can be generated from the community to help defray some of these costs. Other benefits are in the planning stages, but dates and places have not been confirmed as yet. These will be announced as soon as possible. Anyone who wishes more information about the Gay Olympics should contact Richard Rose at 252-3337.

THE SPORTS LINE

by Jim Larrabee

TUCSON — The 1982 Spring Volleyball League officially concluded its season with an awards ceremony Sunday afternoon, June 20. The Back Pocket/Joshua Tree hosted the event, providing food and beverages. The 25 league members and guests present utilized the hours together for camaraderie and reflections of the league season.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS received first place trophies for the league championship while **MICHAEL'S "A"** was awarded trophies for winning the tournament held after the regular season had ended. Both **JOSHUA TREE AND MICHAEL'S "B"** members were given volleyball medallions to commemorate their participation in the league. A special honor, a "Most Dedicated" plaque, was bestowed on Beckie Strahan.

The Community Mixed Bowling League commenced its summer season Thursday, June 17 at Cactus Bowl. Eight teams of four members each competed enthusiastically. Eleven of the 32 bowlers in the league are totally new to the scene — having never bowled in any of the previous four seasons.

On that first evening, **MAGNUM'S** doused the gem-light of **RUBY'S**, the **B.W.I.'S** abbreviated victory over the **SUN DOGGIES II**, **JOSHUA TREE** overshadowed the extra in **MENAGE-PLUS**, and **4-PLAY** sent **ANITA'S ORIGINAL RECIPE** back to the kitchen.

The season continued on June 24 at 6:30. **ANITA'S ORIGINAL RECIPE** found one of the ingredients missing the week before, but had to scrape the bowl to tie **MENAGE-PLUS**. **JOSHUA TREE** proved that **4-PLAY** doesn't always lead to successful climax, taking all four points and leaving the other team vermillion-faced. The **SUN DOGGIES II** regained some of their canine-composure while scratching a draw from a heavily-handicapped **MAGNUM'S**. And **RUBY'S** shone brilliantly in their match against the **B.W.I.'S** who were apparently blinded by the light.

(As of June 24, 1982)

Team	GB	HDCP	WON	LOST	PCT.	Handicapped Total Pins	Average
JOSHUA TREE	—	81	7	1	.875	4335	722.5
MAGNUM'S	2	252	5	3	.625	4247	707.8
RUBY'S	3	206	4	4	.500	4194	699.0
B.W.I.'S	3	162	4	4	.500	4152	692.0
MENAGE-PLUS	4	220	3	5	.375	4204	700.7
SUN DOGGIES II	4	108	3	5	.375	4163	693.8
ANITA'S ORIGINAL RECIPE	4	207	3	5	.375	4076	679.3
4-PLAY	4	255	3	5	.375	4032	672.0

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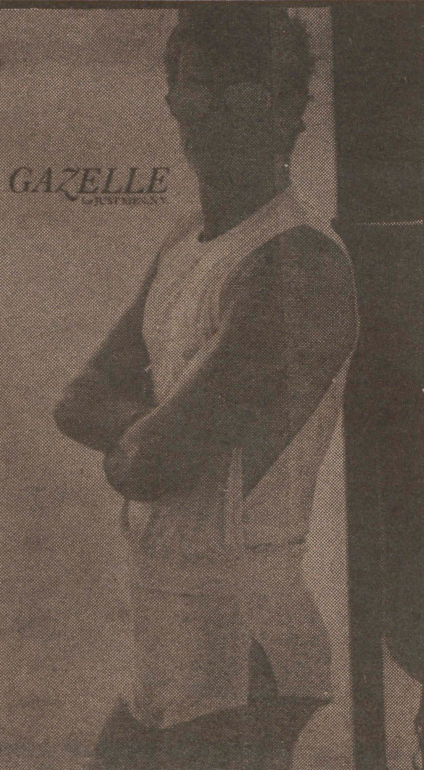
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The Lesbian And Gay Pride Planning Committee Would Like To Give Special Thanks To The Following People And Businesses Who Helped Bring You The Second Annual Lesbian And Gay Rights March:

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7

COMMENTARY

by Paul R. Consales

ATTENTION - TAX PAYERS ONLY

If citizenship and the age of 21 provide the ticket to vote, then surely, participation in a system of taxation is the vehicle of transportation. So let's take a ride! That is, if you're not already being taken for one. You are aware of how your tax dollar is spent... of course. Probably, of course not, as is the case with a great number of us. Therefore, I would like to alert you to what one group has to report on the recent increase of literature censorship in our tax paid schools and libraries.

In the June issue of the "American Personnel and Guidance Journal", a lengthy article warns counselors of the new "radical right", a McCarthy-ism movement which is organized, well funded and out to 1) censor the distribution of heretofore acclaimed literature in public schools and libraries, 2) besmirch the rapport, integrity and validity of secular humanist groups, 3) promote the compromise of civil liberties, and 4) work to sustain its pattern of growth. The Movement To Resotre Decency (MOTOREDE), a group affiliated with the John Birch Society, firmly believes that "humanism" is too complex to be taught in the schools, and that when it is taught, it is done so by conditioning techniques, used simultaneously to condition pro-communistic values. The very notion that humanism is taught with ANY ulterior motive is ludicrous. However, they have successfully based their campaign on the side issue of "communism", a subject volatile with emotion and confused by semantics.

The thought of literature censorship infuriates me. What could follow that kind of freedom restriction terrifies me. Nevertheless it is happening nationally. If you have read any of these books, you may be part of history in the making.

The Catcher In The Rye
Nineteen Eighty-Four
The Grapes of Wrath
Lord of the Flies
Brave New World
To Kill A Mockingbird
Of Mice and Men
Black Like Me
Hawaii
Manchild in the Promised Land

The Journal article which prompted this writing states,

As in the 1950s, it seems to be a time to organize. Jenkinson (1979) estimates that over 200 groups are involved in censorship activities and states that this is a conservative estimate reflecting only the larger national groups. Marshner (1978) claims that at least one parent group network exists in every state and in some states as many as 50 such groups have been formed. Many groups come and go as local issues arise, but some have been active over the years. One of the latter, the American Education Association, was founded in 1938 and, according to Jenkinson, current concerns of the group include: secular humanism, sex education, phonics, a return to the McGuffey Readers, Man: A Course of Study, school prayer, and the Equal Rights Amendment (Marshner, 1978, p. 126).

The John Birch Society, the Eagle Forum, the Phyllis Schafly Report, the Heritage Foundation, the Barbara Morris Report, the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), the National Congress for Educational Excellence (NCEE), the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress, the Conservative Caucus, and the American Conservative Union must also be counted among those groups that would have an impact on educators. The goals of the groups are many and varied but Crawford (1980), writing on the rise of the New Right, suggests that "the New Right now constitutes the fourth most powerful political force in America behind the two major parties and organized labor." Crawford, a conservative alarmed at the growth, tactics, and ethics of the New Right, goes on to state, "By the 1970s the Right has been transformed into an institutionalized, disciplined, well-organized, and well financed movement of loosely knit affiliates. Collecting millions of dollars in small contributions from blue collar workers and housewives, the New Right feeds on discontent, anger, insecurity and resentment, and flourishes on backlash politics. (p. 5)."

Enough said. Please consider this issue among the many others that effect you when you vote at the next election. Find out where your candidate stands on this issue before you vote.

MARCH Continued from Page 1

One task facing lesbians and gays, Bunch stated, is to expand our power base and common visions in coalition with other disenfranchised groups.

"If you look at the Family Protection Act, and you look at the rightwing and the way they attack us, believe me, they understand that our freedom and dignity is connected to the freedom and dignity of all racial minorities, to all women, to all groups who have been oppressed and dominated in society," Bunch explained. "If you look at the Family Protection Act as just a symbol of their agenda, you see that it is an omnibus for all the kinds of hatred and fear and prejudices that we want to bring an end to."

The Family Protection Act (FPA) is currently before Congress, and would cut off federal funds to any individual or groups that recognize homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle. In addition, the FPA contains provisions which would negatively affect women, racial minorities, and children.

The necessity for an Arizona Gay Rights Ordinance was called for by LGPPC co-chair Kirk Baxter and Rev. Randy Hill of Tucson Gay COS. Hill was the originator of the 130-mile march from Tucson to Phoenix, of which 17 walked.

"I'm tired of hearing that we do not have oppression in this state," Hill said. "Baloney! You have oppression coming from all sides and you've just been lulled into a sense of false security. And it's time now to stand up to let this state know that we are going to demand an Arizona Gay Rights Ordinance."

The rally ended with the lighting of 13 memorial candles to commemorate the 13 years since Stonewall.

March organizers emphasized that the spirit of the 1982 Lesbian and Gay Rights March didn't end Sat., June 26. Hopefully, they said, the next day hundreds of Arizonans who said they never met any gays found pink balloons in their yards with the following inscription - "No more dreaming - the time has come to awake."

Bronco's

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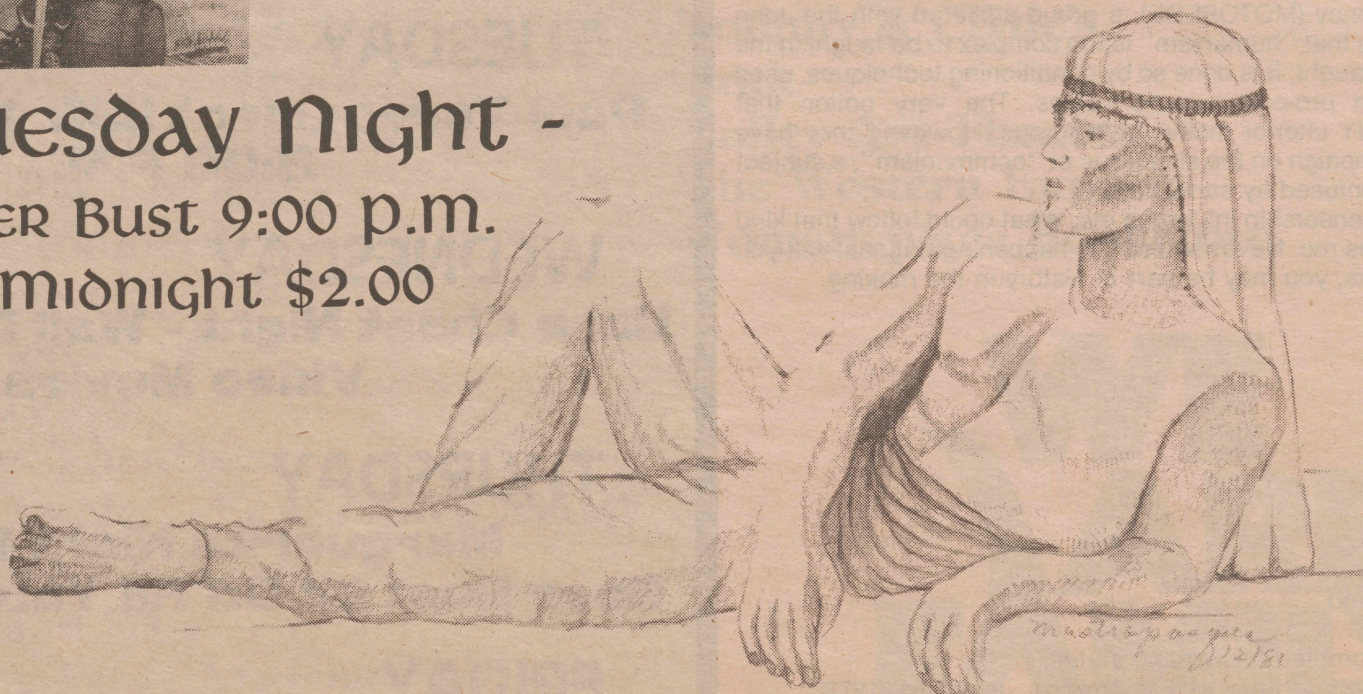
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A REVIEW

by Bob de Brecht

... Boys Town Gang, Hotbod's July 1st

What I saw of this group was good, and what I saw of the people there was good, but, once again Phoenix we have cheated another entrepreneur of live entertainment out of a good capacity crowd. This time we got burned, too. Hotbod's Desert Dance Palace, Jim Martin, Stan Woodard, and staff went to great expense, time and trouble to bring to Phoenix one of the finer singing groups currently making hit records and turning out good dance music.

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- Fri.** - **"Oldies But Goodies"** every Friday with Ellen, Ms. Sharon & Tina. **(Free Albums)**
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The Boys Town Gang

Photo by Wes Austin

Anticipation for this event was high, and when I arrived at the bar to begin to party, I was disenchanted by the small showing of people who turned out for this performance. Trying not to let it get me down, I patiently waited for the on-stage arrival of Boys Town Gang. With much fanfare, they arrived on-stage "looking good." Their high-energy first number gathered the small audience into their clutches and got the place jumping.

The sparkle in the guys' eyes (Tom and Bruce) was generated into a warm reception from them to us, and returned with warm appreciation from us to them. Little Jackson Moore, lead vocal, let loose with a voice that can literally shake a disco down. Her stage presence did not appear as polished as the gentlemen, but her talent made up for it. After some fifteen to twenty minutes of hot and heavy song and choreography, Ms. Moore introduced "her boys" and herself. The reception, though small, was good. Ms. Moore then went into a better known soft ballad, "Can't Take My Eyes Off Of You," and signed her personal signature to it. Nice break in the frenzy, huh? Wrong, that was it for the first show. Upon leaving the stage we heard the announcement that they would be back for the second show at 11:30. People just began looking at each other in disbelief. We were just beginning to cook.

After much deliberation and careful reassurance from the management, I decided to stay for the second show. They hit the stage with one of their better known hits, "Ain't No Mountain High Enough," and it was definitely time to have fun. Boiling on a high burner, Ms. Moore announced that we were going to put everything aside and be "ourselves." They continued to keep the place going for about another twenty minutes and then low and behold she cut back into her soft song and that was it. I was proud of the crowd when they screamed for more, and I was proud of the group for giving it to us, however, they came back with "Ain't No Mountain", etc." one more time. I was looking for "Cruisin the Streets" or "You're the One" or something equally dynamic. I'm still looking for it.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

GETTING TO KNOW YOU . . .

. . . An Interview with Charlotte Bunch

by Bob de Brecht

One of the many highlights at the recent Phoenix Lesbian and Gay Rights March and Rally was the appearance of the keynote speaker, nationally known lesbian activist, author and organizer, Charlotte Bunch.

Grabbing an open opportunity, I talked with Ms. Bunch following her address. I met what appeared to be a confident, secure woman who is definitely comfortable in her lifestyle. Having already heard her political views and having become relatively familiar with her previous work, I wanted to concentrate on Charlotte Bunch, the person, and what she felt about our March and Rally. "This is a little more spirited than others that I have attended," she told me. "This is not to say that this is wrong, but I find it a refreshing combination to come in to a city like Phoenix and be exposed to a spirited group of lesbian and gays who are all after the same thing with very little inner turmoil or conflict present."

Ms. Bunch was born in a small town in New Mexico, (Artesia), to a "Professionally Methodist" family. Raised with the guidance to be your own person and do your own thing, left her family little recourse when her lesbianism was exposed. "It's more what's not said than what is said around my family. They support me 100% and I know different things I am active with bring problems their way, but they just overlook them and don't mention their own feelings." Ms. Bunch has always been a prominent spokesperson for her causes. Her early exposure to the public was in her leading fight for feminism, prior to her awareness of her sexuality. "When I made the discovery about my lifestyle, it was only natural to funnel my energies for feminist rights to gay and lesbian rights. I am able to do this and still not lose my values and morals in regards to rights for all people."

With a lover in Australia, there is a definite vulnerability in Ms. Bunch's appearance. What we see on stage as the very effective public spokesperson for our cause in a strong, determined plea for our rights melts into a soft spoken, genuinely feeling person when the subject of her personal relationship is brought up. "Anytime you are away from someone you love very much, it is difficult. I was able to go to Australia and be with her earlier this year, and it was wonderful. It also gave me an international outlook on our cause, and I was able to see the way our lifestyle is becoming more acceptable worldwide as well as nationally."

The subject of the absence of costumes at our March and Rally was approached with caution. "You will still see the outrageous costumes, be it leather, drag, or whatever as the public statement of some individuals when these marches are held in other cities. While it is nice to see this many people giving off positive vibrations, those people need to be recognized as well for their courage to come out for the cause no matter what they decide to wear." I mentioned that an appearance, as well as participation, in these events was a very personal thing to me, and Ms. Bunch agreed. "It is growing every year. More and more people are electing to make a showing for their lifestyle. It is rewarding to see this many people, with this much spirit come out publicly for something they believe in."

I find it "rewarding" and feel very fortunate for our community to attract speakers of Ms. Bunch's caliber to participate in our public statement for gay pride. Thank you, Charlotte Bunch, for letting us get to know you.

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POPULAR TEMPE BAR UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

The Annex 1043, located at 1043 E. Lemon in Tempe, has recently been purchased by Mr. John Lauro. John, who moved here from Oregon about six months ago, has many exciting plans for the bar. In the short time that John has had the bar he has already put in a dance floor. A video arcade is also planned and in a month or so John will also be serving food. The Annex will be having after hours on Fridays and Saturdays. In addition to some of the coldest beer in town, John will soon be serving wine cocktails.

David Van Wagner, the former owner, will be staying on to help John manage the bar. *The Western Express* welcomes John to our community and wishes him much success with the Annex.

PROFILE PHX

by Barry Alexander

I was there, were you?

It was a great day for the 1982 Lesbian and Gay Rights March and Rally. An estimated 1,000 people marched from Patriots Square to Wesley Bolin Plaza at the State Capitol. The marchers had a loud and clear message for the general populace — gay rights; we want them now!

Now that the march and rally are history, we need to sit back and reflect on the whole impact of the day. We listened, but did we really hear what the various speakers, especially Charlotte Bunch, had to say. Ms. Bunch pointed out that the Family Protection Act now before Congress is dangerous for all gays and could even effect the families and friends of gays. Passage of this act could mean the possibility of parents of gays losing social security and medicare benefits if it was shown that they approved of their children's lifestyles. This kind of insanity must stop.

But how can we stop it? As was pointed out repeatedly at the rally, gay people must register and they must vote. Local officials are finally starting to realize that they can not ignore gay people or sweep them away. We are a force that will be heard from and we can and must act for change because we have few defenders.

One of the moving moments of the rally was the release of nearly 2,000 pink balloons, a symbol of gay pride. The blue skies of Phoenix have never seen a scene like it before.

Commendation to our Tucson friends is certainly in order. About seventeen people marched the 130 miles to Phoenix. It was a momentous occasion. They did not have one incident of harassment or trouble until they reached the city of Phoenix. Prior to this the marchers had police escorts in Mesa and Tempe. The incident in Phoenix occurred when the motor home accompanying the marchers was ticketed while giving first aid to one of the marchers.

The Lesbian and Gay Pride March and Rally truly was an event of courage and determination. It made me feel good to see so many people with conviction who carried the banner for all gays, in and out of the closet. Every gay person in Phoenix owes Kirk Baxter, Donna Umstead and the entire committee sincere congratulations and thank you. Once again, despite their meager numbers, the planning committee proved it could be done. Businesses bars and organizations should be commended for their contributions and support.

Let each of us be determined to register to vote, cast our ballots and stand up to be counted like the 1,000 marchers did. Excuses are no longer acceptable. I am gay and proud of it, are you?

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Phone: 956-2797.

MEN'S GROWTH GROUP: Beginning Monday, July
19, 1982. Explore/expand your self/relationships. For
information contact Susan 949-0730 or Chuck at
Sammy's 231-0168. Phoenix.

ARC COFFEEHOUSES are held on the first and third
Saturdays of the month and are a service of the
Alternative Relations Center. They are hosted in
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non-alcoholic beverages are provided. Come and
make new friends and be a part of your community.
Hosts: Saturday, July 17, Eric, 12801 N. 47th Drive,
978-3223; Saturday, August 7, Rudy, 144 E. Sharon,
993-5756. Persons wishing to volunteer to host a
coffeehouse may leave their names 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.

TUCSON L.G.P.P.C. still has a few souvenir "Say it
with Pride" T-shirts available at Antigone and New
West Trails, also a limited number of "Say it with
Pride" buttons are available at Antigone, Books
Brothers, M.C.C. of Tucson and The Stables.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULED

From July 16, to July 19, 1982, Evangelicals
Concerned, a Gay Christian organization, will hold its
annual Western Conference at the Monte Toyon con-
ference grounds south of San Francisco, California.

The conference, entitled 'Pressing On', will feature
Ken Medema, nationally known Christian composer-
singer, James R. Dickey, Psychology Professor,
Michigan Hope College, Phyllis Hart PhD, Clinical
Psychologist, Rosaland Rinker, author of *Conversing
With God*, Father Daniel O'Conner, Ralph Blair,
Wayne Smith and others.

The conference will include seminars, workshops,
music, worship, fun and an opportunity to meet other
gay Christians. Conference fee is \$75.00. Send
registration to: Western Connection '82, P.O. Box 495,
Seattle, Washington 98111.

For further information, call 265-2831 in Phoenix.

DIGNITY/PHOENIX SETS ACTIVITIES FOR JULY

During July, Dignity/Phoenix has scheduled the
Women's Support Group meeting for Thursday, July
29, at 6:30 P.M. An outing in Sedona is planned for
July 10 and 11, and an evening of Prayer will take
place on Thursday, July 15, at 7:00 P.M. The regular
monthly Potluck and Home Mass will take place July
18, at 3:00 P.M. For more information as to location of
these events or questions about Dignity/Phoenix,
phone the Dignity/Phoenix Information line at
866-1035.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

... Boys Town Gang, Hotbod's July 1st

This brings up the question of who is to blame. Is it
shame on them or shame on us. I think we should
share it. To come into a city to entertain requires a
certain amount of chutzpah and a large amount of
self-confidence. Hitting that stage, hot and heavy, and
looking out on a half-full house will discourage the
majority of entertainers and melt anyone's self-confi-
dence. With a larger audience they would not have
gotten away with such a short first show, but with a
larger audience I wonder if they would have tried.
Everybody agreed they were good, and we wanted to
see more of them. Evidently we were not great
enough in number to give them the confidence to
stretch it out a little bit more. When I referred to Ms.
Moore's stage presence earlier in this article, that
was only during the first show. After the break and
with the level of intensity of the second show, she was
right on target. The two men sparkled during the first
show, shined during the intermission introductions to
the locals, and beamed during the second show. The
potential of being dynamic is there. The inspiration
was not.

I personally applaud Hotbod's with a standing
ovation to Stan for his hard work in bringing this group
to Phoenix. I will continue to support live entertain-
ment and encourage people to get out and witness
these events. And, I will add to my list of causes the
plea to entertainers when they come to Phoenix to
give us the show they are capable of producing. Even
if there are only a few hundred of us, we deserve to
see your best and we will leave that establishment
and tell all of our friends what they missed. On your
next trip here, you will see a better crowd, and we will
see a better show. Common Sense and Good Busi-
ness, speaking.

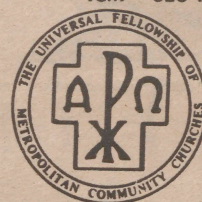
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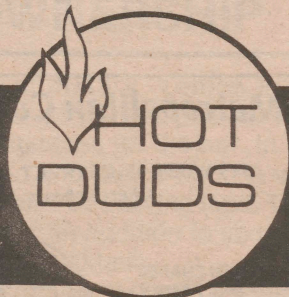
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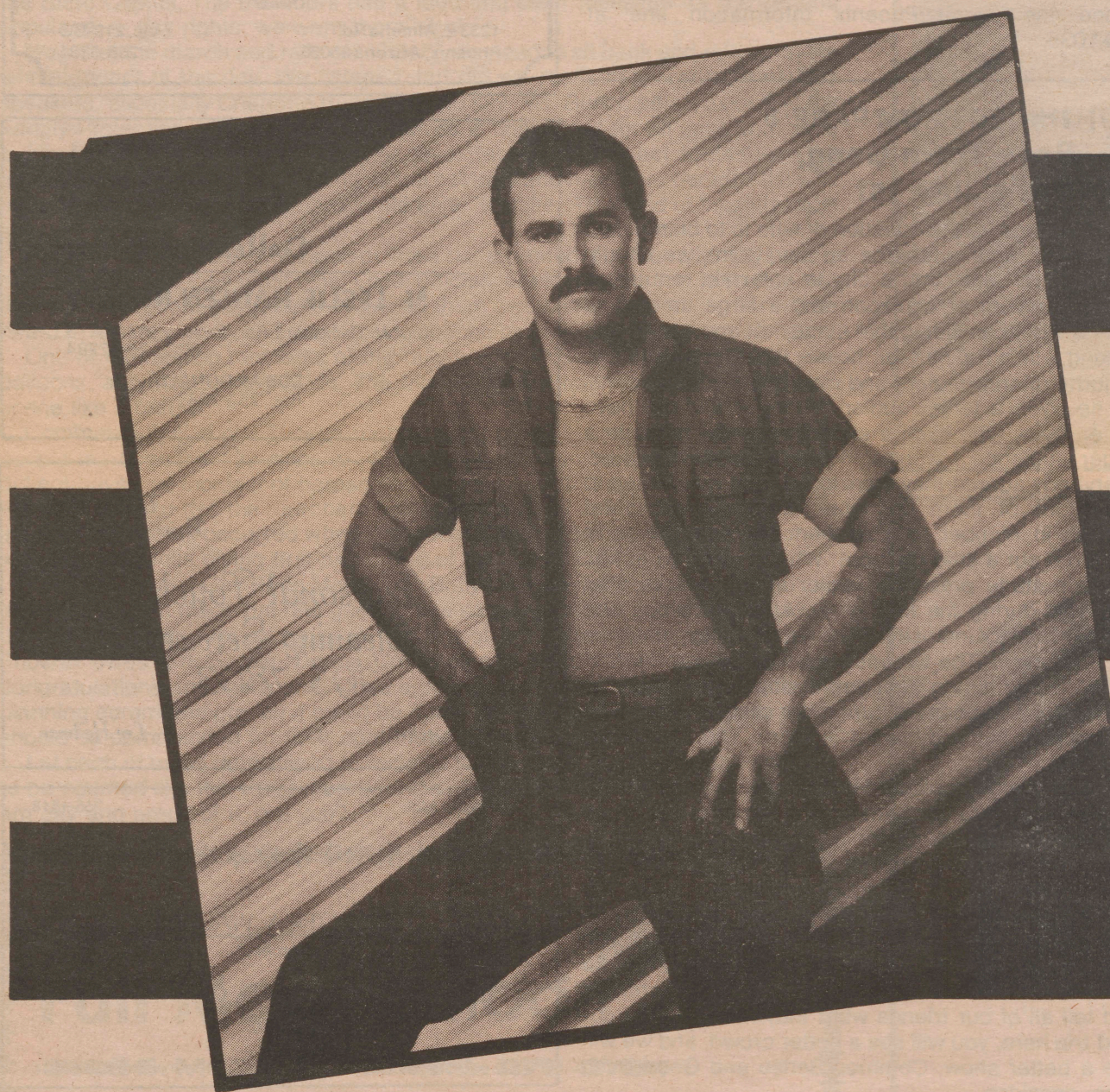
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