

THE

WESTERN CROSS

FROM THE SOUTHWEST

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THE FINAL CLOSET

by Phil Nash

"When people find out you are terminally ill, even with the best of intentions and the greatest love, they begin treating you very differently."

The person whose thoughts and feelings have given life to this article asked that I not use his real name even though he has spent the greater portion of his adult life working as a gay activist in San Francisco. He has gained national recognition for his outspoken and sometimes controversial opinions and persistent work to make life better for gay people. But for this article he has requested anonymity.

I will call him David.

David is struggling to open the door of his final closet: he is dying. If his life-threatening condition is known to some of his friends and associates in San Francisco, he fears he will be shunned by some and pitied by others. He is afraid that he will not be asked to do things he would like to do, and doesn't want anyone to treat him differently now than if he were in stable health.

David is dying of a rare form of cancer believed to be related to the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). The syndrome first reported a little over a year ago has led to several hundred deaths nationwide from Kaposi's Sarcoma and *pneumocystis carinii pneumonia*. Like many of the other victims of AIDS, David is experiencing swollen lymph glands in the upper part of his body. He often becomes nauseated by food, and can barely keep anything in him long enough to give him nourishment. He must sometimes be hospitalized and given hyperalimentation to increase his strength. His doctors have told him to stay away from people who are sick or situations where he could pick up an infection. His weak immune system may not be able to fight off illness. David will probably not die of the unusual cancer in his body. Rather he will be weakened by it to the point where he may succumb to an infection that would not cause illness to most of us.

In San Francisco and New York, it is hard to find someone who has not been touched by the grave illness or death of a friend or acquaintance due to the recently-discovered syndrome. Popularly called "the gay cancer", Kaposi's Sarcoma, which was previously thought to be found almost exclusively in Africa, is only one manifestation of the AIDS illness. KS is characterized by painless darkly colored skin lesions which originate in the capillaries and spread on parts of the body. Few people live long enough to die of KS, even though it is usually fatal if other opportunistic diseases don't cause death first.

In most cases, victims of the AIDS die of pneumocystis carinii, better known as pneumocystis pneumonia. Pneumocystis pneumonia is one of the risks facing transplant patients whose immune systems are intentionally weakened to prevent the rejection of newly-



introduced organs into the body. Now, however, people who have suppressed immune systems due to AIDS are dying at the rate of almost 50% for each one who contracts the debilitating pulmonary disease. Those who spend months recovering from it say they never want to be faced with it again.

David has been plagued with health problems for much of his adult life. Over a year ago, doctors began to speculate that there was something seriously wrong with his lymph system. Last fall, a diagnosis determined that his lymph system was under attack by a rare form of cancer which is not yet named. According to David, a similar cancer has been detected in six other people in San Francisco.

It was not until about ten weeks ago that David was told that he would probably die of the disease. "Doctors are very loathe to give a time frame because they believe they are setting up expectations - if they tell someone they have only six months, the patient may very well

program himself to die in six months. What they told me is that from the onset of the disease, it is generally two to three years, judging from cancers that are closest to it." That means that David may have as much as a year and a few months to live. But he also says that doctors won't ever write the final chapter on anyone because of the possibility of a cure. David has little hope, saying that in his case the chances are highly against it. Doctors said that chemotherapy had been found of little use against cancers of the type David carries. Radiation therapy, he discovered, would have to be done in over a dozen spots on his body where lymph nodes had been invaded. In addition, the possibility for a cure by radiation therapy is low, and the technique would have made him much sicker as well as greatly lowering his resistance to other diseases. He chose not to pursue it because it "would disrupt the quality of my life. I am a firm believer that the quality of life is a hell of a lot more important than the quantity of it, and I did not want to be invalidated by radiation therapy."

On Wednesday evenings, David attends a support group for San Francisco area gay men who have been stricken with KS and other life-threatening immune deficiency diseases. Organized by Shanti, a bay area hospice organization, the group brings together gay men who are confronted with their own mortality. David said he found there "a lot of warmth, a lot of acceptance and a lot of humor." Since David only began attending the group recently, he said he hasn't seen the group experience of a death of one of its members, but some had died prior to his joining. From his talks with others in the group, the death of a member is especially difficult because each of the surviving group members must confront his own impending death as well as the loss of a friend.

"There is no time for bullshit in this group," remarks David. "Denial comes in again and again and again," he said. "Sometimes we are just there to help bring someone out of his escapist illusions." He says the group is not preoccupied so much with the fear of death, but rather the fear of dying - how it will happen, whether they can avoid hospitals and be with loved ones in a familiar environment. For most, David says, the biggest fear is losing independence.

The group helps members come to terms with some issues that make them yet another minority within a minority. Their health has an impact on their existing relationships as well as on the formation of new relationships. For those who remain sexually active,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

TISH TANNER CHOSEN MISS GAY RODEO '82

RENO - Phoenix' representative in the Miss Gay Rodeo Contest, Tish Tanner, was chosen last weekend as Miss Gay Rodeo '82. Approximately 6,000 to 7,000 enthusiastic people watched as Ms. Joan Rivers, Grand Marshal of the Rodeo and one of the judges for this contest, placed the winners sash on Tish. Asked by Ms. Rivers who her dressmaker was Tish replied "Omar the Tent-maker."

One of the purposes behind the Reno Gay Rodeo is to raise funds for Muscular Dystrophy. This years event has raised over \$72,000.00. This brings the total raised over the last three years to over \$108,000.00. Bronco's which sponsored the contest here in Phoenix, reported earlier that the Phoenix community raised over \$2,100.00 for M.D.



GAY CAN ADOPT LOVER

New York — An appeals court has ruled that it is legal for a man to adopt his male lover as a son.

In a 4-to-1 ruling, the appellate division of the state Supreme Court in Manhattan reversed a Manhattan family court decision that had said the adoption sought by the couple would not "result in the creation of a parent-child relation" and was against public policy.

The court ruled that the nuclear family arrangement is no longer the only model of family life in America.

The 32-year-old Mr. S was therefore allowed to adopt his 43-year-old lover, Mr. H. The couple sought the adoption because they wish to remain in the apartment they have had for three years, when the building becomes a cooperative.

The pair feared eviction because H's lease applies only to members of the immediate family.

"This is not a frivolous consideration" the court decided. "Such a material concern is one of sober life reality and should not be regarded by the court as a cynical device to evade the strictures of the parties' leases or the policy of the adoptive law."

In the majority decision, Justice Sidney Asch wrote: "At first blush, it may seem to be a perversion of the adoption process for lovers to adopt one another. However, the adoption has been sanctioned between adults in general and lovers in particular."

In upholding the legality of the adoption, the court said, "The best description of a family is a continuing relationship of love and care, and an assumption of responsibility for some other person. Certainly that is present in the instant case."

The issue of whether such a couple could be prosecuted for incest if they have sex has not surfaced. (IGNA/UP)

"GAY" CANCER HITS HAITIAN REFUGEES

Atlanta — An epidemic of rare and lethal infections, including a type of skin cancer first detected in male homosexuals, is now being seen in Haitian refugees, according to the national Centers for Disease Control.

Thirty-four cases of "opportunistic infections" and Kaposi's Sarcoma have been reported among Haitians in five states. Opportunistic infections are ones affecting people with faulty natural defenses against disease.

The federal health agency termed the development a "new phenomenon" and said "it is not clear whether this outbreak is related to similar outbreaks among gay males, intravenous drug abusers, and others." It appears, however, that the patterns are similar.

"We wonder if there is some connection between the groups, but we haven't been able to prove anything," said Dr. Peter Drotman of the CDC task force on Kaposi's Sarcoma and other GRID ailments.

The outbreaks are normally seen only in individuals whose immune systems are suppressed during treatment of serious diseases. The Centers for Disease Control have begun a major investigation. Drotman said 438 cases have surfaced in the last two years, when ordinarily only a handful of cases would occur. (IGNA)

ADVICE COLUMNIST DOWNGRADES LESBIAN SEX

by Daniel Curzon

In answering a letter from a 16-year-old female, advice columnist Beth of "Dear Beth" has said she strongly urges the person to turn down homosexual sex.

The letter-writer said that a friend she has known since they were 10 has suggested that they have sex together. The writer says that she doesn't feel it's wrong to touch or caress another girl. "What's holding me back in that it's not socially acceptable."

Dear Beth replies, "I am well aware of the trend, and it upsets me. This is not a question of genuine lesbiansim, but of heterosexual girls acting out sexually in order to be 'with it.' It makes no sense."

What neither party seems to acknowledge is the contradiction of lesbian sex being both chic and socially offensive at the same time.

Dear Beth went on to add: "We can test things out in our minds. I do not think it contributes to one's future heterosexual pleasure or competence to have practiced same-gender sex first."

Beth assumed that the letter-writer was not lesbian but only a pseudo-lesbian. (IGNA)

DJUNA BARNES DIES

New York — The woman who wrote one of the first gay novels has died at the age of 90 in her Greenwich Village apartment, following 40 years of self-imposed reclusiveness.

Many contemporaries may not have known of Ms. Barnes, or The Barnes, as she preferred to be called, but she created a literary stir with her 1937 novel, *Nightwood*, which is a story of tormented love and sexual aberration framed in the writer's mordant, difficult style. T. S. Eliot called it "so good a novel that only sensibilities trained in poetry can wholly understand it."

The book did not sell well, but the author achieved a literary reputation. Earlier she had hobnobbed with James Joyce, Eliot, and Gertrude Stein in Paris during the 1920s.

She also wrote *The Ladies Almanack*, a fictional account of feminist Nathalie Barney's lesbian circle.

All together Barnes published only six books during her long life, although her publishers have a new work due out this October.

She once told an interviewer why she chose to become a recluse: "Years ago I used to see people. I had to. I was a newspaperman, among other things. And I used to be rather the life of the party. I used to be invited by people who said, 'Get Djuna for dinner; she's amusing.' So I stopped it."

She was also isolated as a child, privately tutored by her grandmother.

She attended art schools, began a writing and illustrating career on such magazines as *Vanity Fair*, and dabbled in the theater as a playwright and producer.

For a writer who rebelled against puritanism, she never put graphic descriptions of sexual acts in her work. Explicit sex, she said, "has nothing to do with anything and certainly not with literature."

The Barnes refused offers for her memoirs.

Creatures in an Alphabet will be released posthumously, her first book in almost 25 years.

Barnes died June 18 in the small apartment that had been her home since 1938. (IGNA)

Homosexual acts were decriminalized in Russia after the 1917 revolution until Stalin made them illegal again in 1934.

SECOND MARCH ON WASHINGTON NEEDS YOU

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Activists' Union of Gays and Lesbians (NAUGL) is reaching out to Lesbians and Gay men across America. Meeting July 9-11 in Washington, D.C., members of the recently formed grassroots organization decided they would like to see a second March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights to help pass national Lesbian/Gay civil rights legislation in the Congress, to defeat the Family Protection Act, and to reform repressive immigration laws.

Toward those ends, the group is polling individual activists and groups across the country to ascertain if these people will work to organize and financially support a March on Washington II. NAUGL will also be represented at the Aug. 13-15 Dallas National Leadership Conference, and will subsequently organize regional planning conference in the fall of this year.

NAUGL is also organizing local chapters simultaneously with March organizing, planning, and fundraising; inviting existing groups, whose efforts NAUGL intends to support and augment, to affiliate; planning to establish a national hotline to serve as a clearinghouse and a resource for anti-crime and violence efforts based locally as well as medical and legal information; and planning to facilitate the efforts of all Gays and Lesbians and their organizations fighting discrimination and repression.

The activists in Washington discussed several issues of concern and determined that NAUGL shall be an educational and social welfare organization, exempt from federal tax, dedicated to educating and informing the public about social, economic, judicial, legislative and other forms of injustice and the general welfare of the Lesbian and Gay community. Among the issues about which NAUGL hopes to open dialogue are sexual freedom of all sexual minorities, lack of understanding and communication between various segments of the community, boycotts of organizations and businesses that discriminate against or oppress Gay and Lesbian people, and the issue of nuclear disarmament.

NAUGL's headquarters is at the Gay Community Center, 1469 Church Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005, temporary telephone: 703-532-3249.

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RAINBOW WARRIOR — WOMAN OF LIGHT

Diane Mariechild, author (*Mother Wit, Womancraft*), psychic, and feminist psychotherapist will be conducting energizing activities for women during her first Phoenix appearance, August 20 - 22.

On Friday, August 20, Diane will make an evening presentation, "Rainbow Warrior - Woman of Light," addressing our power and responsibility in creating a safe and balanced world. She will include an exercise from *Mother Wit* and discussion. This session is open to both women and men.

Diane will be available for a limited number of private, one hour consultations on Sunday, August 22.

Friday and Saturday sessions will be held at ARC, 2602 E. Clarendon, Phoenix. Consultations will be held at a central Phoenix location.

Costs are: Friday evening workshop only, \$6.00, Saturday celebration only, \$30.00 Combined fee for Friday and Saturday, \$33.00 Individual consultations, \$35.00.

These events are sponsored by Womansplace Bookstore and produced by Ruth Szilagyi. Preregistration is required by August 10. For further information, call Ruth Szilagyi at 279-5666 or Womansplace Bookstore at 956-0456.

GAY COMMUNITY NEWS FIRE

by David John Lamble

Boston — An early morning seven-alarm fire on July 7, virtually destroyed the downtown Boston offices of the nationally circulated *Gay Community News*.

The blaze consumed most of the newsweekly's files and office equipment as well as a ten-year supply of back issues. No *GCN* staff members were present in the office, but three persons were reportedly rescued without injury from artists' loft apartments upstairs in the building.

The fire and efforts to fight it resulted in less severe smoke and water damage to a gay book shop (Glad Day Books) housed in the same structure.

GCN spokesperson Larry Goldsmith said an "amazing response" from Boston area supporters of the paper has allowed a move to temporary quarters. *Gay Community News*, which has a weekly circulation of fifteen thousand and an estimated readership of around fifty thousand world wide, will publish its next regular issue, since the copy was already at the typesetter when the fire broke out.

Goldsmith said that Boston fire officials were not commenting for publication on the possible cause of the fire. Less officially, Goldsmith has heard that "there seemed to have been some chemicals found near the window (where the fire started) which would indicate arson" as well as indications of an extremely high temperature that could mean the combustion was fueled by a solvent.

Goldsmith noted that the fire followed "on the heels of our Gay Pride March and also on the heels of a march of about two hundred people on police headquarters in Boston to demand the abolition of the Vice Squad."

John Kyper, the San Francisco-based correspondent for *GCN*, told this reporter that the paper had started to receive threats about 5 years ago, following the Anita Bryant-led repeal of a gay-rights ordinance in Miami. "During Gay Pride Week in 1977, just after the Miami vote, we received telephoned threats by people who identified themselves as the South Boston Marshals, who are a very violent anti-bussing group from South Boston, alleged to be connected with the Klu Klux Klan. They also took credit for putting some B-B shots through the front window at that time." Kyper adds that there was a break-in and vandalism of the *GCN* offices following an Anita Bryant appearance in Boston, and that the South Boston Marshals took credit for that attack.

Fortunately for gay history, *GCN*'s ten years of back issues have been preserved on microfilm.

Larry Goldsmith said that *Gay Community News* will need help from its friends in the lesbian and gay communities around North America if it is to resume regular publication in new offices.

Goldsmith said that contributions can be mailed to the newspaper care of GLAD, 2 Park Square, Boston, MA 02116. *GCN* can also be reached by telephone at 617-426-1350. (IGNA)

NEW BOARD MEMBERS OF ARC

At a time when the board of the new Alternative Relations Center has much hard work ahead in order to make the new site at 16th Street and Clarendon a success, three people from Phoenix's lesbian and gay community have come forward to put their time and energy into helping with this monumental task. The three new board members are Kirk Baxter, Wayne Goldwater, and Lisa Hendricks.

Kirk Baxter was co-chair of Phoenix's second annual Lesbian and Gay Rights March and is currently involved with the National Activists Union of Gays and Lesbians. His primary focus in joining the ARC board is to help fundraise for the new center. Baxter expressed, "I would like to see the center provide a hotline, a youth program and a unified meeting location for the Phoenix community, and by doing so, I feel we will, in turn, give our gay community a social, economic, and political credibility."

Wayne Goldwater is a businessman, a father of two children, and has been active in the Gay Academic Union at ASU. Goldwater feels that the new center will be a key to developing and unifying the lesbian and gay community of Phoenix and wants to put his energy into making the new site a catalyst in educating the public with a positive image of our community.

Lisa Hendricks has been active in ARC as the youth representative and is very pleased that the board has asked her to join as a full participating member. She feels it is very indicative of their commitment to youth. "I would like the new center to be a place young gay people can come if they're in trouble, if they need to talk to someone or if they want to be with other gay youth," said Hendricks. "I want them to feel comfortable there."

These three new members join Bill Folk, Artie Michaelis, Roger Rea, and Natalie Woodman to compose the present board of the Alternate Relations Center. The board encourages you to participate in planning and developing the new center and invites you to attend their board meetings on August 4 and 18, 5:30 at the center, or to attend the general membership meeting and potluck on August 21, 7:00 at the new center located at 2602 E. Clarendon.

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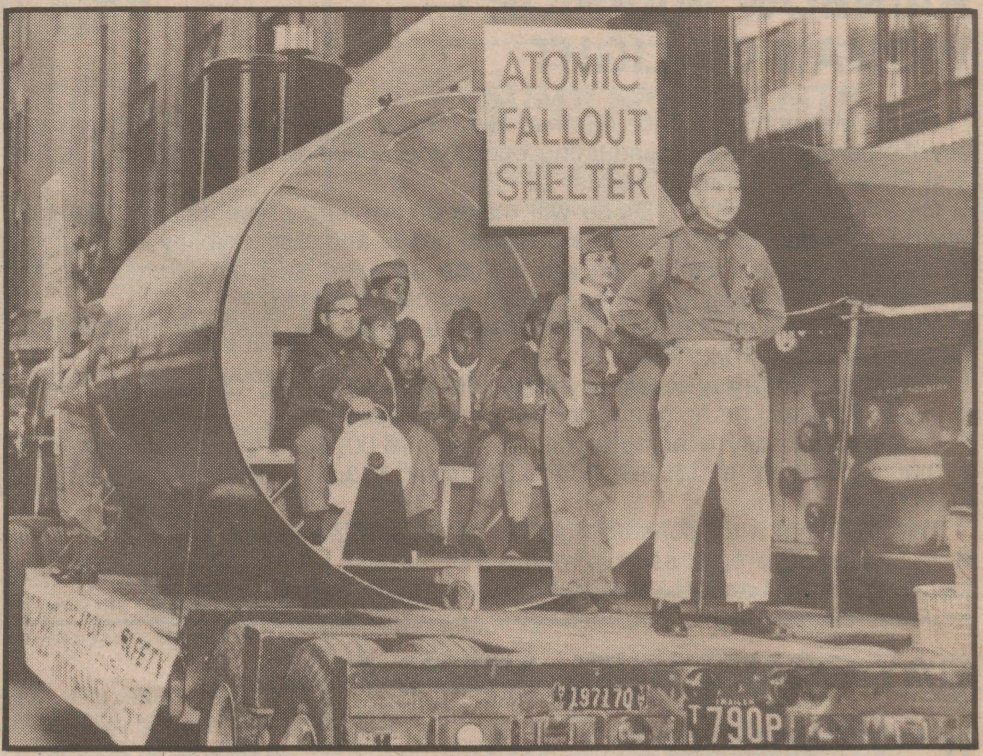
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BENEFIT FOR 'NO NUKES' GROUPS SCHEDULED

A benefit sneak showing of the explosive movie "ATOMIC CAFE" is scheduled for Friday, August 6.

ATOMIC CAFE may well be the most important movie of 1982. It is a feature-length film created entirely from American atomic propaganda of the 1940's and 1950's. With no narration, it tells its story by juxtaposing excerpts from newly-discovered and rarely-seen government and military propaganda, television and radio shows, cartoons, and the now-forgotten "bomb songs" that saturated the airways. The film then turns this material on itself by restitching it to reveal fifteen years of concerted efforts by the U.S. government and media to mislead the American public on the subject of nuclear warfare and atomic weapons testing.

By turns ridiculous and horrifying, "THE ATOMIC CAFE" is a comic nightmare, a "Dr. Strangelove," a nuclear "Reefer Madness." It lays bare government efforts to promote the beauty, accuracy and strategic necessity of the Bomb, and the survivability of atomic war through the use of fallout shelters, while belittling the dangers of A-test fallout and the dead-end finality of nuclear war. Though these films are from the 40's and 50's, it can be argued that many of the very same myths are being advanced today.

The benefit showing on Friday, August 6, includes a Spaghetti Dinner, fixed from scratch by MARIE'S FIRST PLACE, a friend and neighbor of the Valley Art Theatre. Both Marie's and the Valley Art see the necessity for a peaceful end to Atomic Weapons Nightmare and have combined their efforts to benefit the "FREEZE INITIATIVE", as well as local anti-nuke organizations.

The employees of both businesses are donating their time for the event and several regular customers of the theatre and restaurant have asked to help.

Tickets are \$6.00 for the movie and dinner. There will be two shows at 7:00 and 9:15 with dinner being served at 8:30. The Valley Art asks that tickets be bought in advance from any of the following groups:

- PHYSICIANS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
- CITIZENS FOR A NON-NUCLEAR FUTURE
- GROUND ZERO
- PALO VERDE INTERVENTION FUND

For updated ticket information call the Valley Art evenings at 967-9208. Tickets are also available at the Valley Art Box Office (evenings) or Marie's First Place, 709 Mill Ave., Tempe. (days)

"The Atomic Cafe" will be playing for one week only at the Valley Art Theatre, from August 13 through August 19.

POLICE TO LEARN OF GAY LIFE

San Francisco — The San Francisco Police Department has received a \$10,000 grant from the San Francisco Foundation to finance a police training film that would help future officers become familiar with gay male and lesbian lifestyles.

Bay Area filmmakers have been invited to submit proposals for the film, whose production will be overseen by a committee including members of the gay community as well as the Police Department.

Paul Seidler, police community relations officer, said the film will be used to supplement the 10 hours of Police Academy training that recruits receive in dealing with gay lifestyles.

The purpose of the training "is to break down some of the stereotypes that may or may not be prevalent in a recruit class," Seidler said. "The production will have to be acceptable to the gay community, the Police Department and the mayor's office."

One week of a police recruit's 17-week training program is spent in a variety of minority awareness programs that combine classroom study with work in the field.

"What we're looking for is an audio-visual product that will depict things you can't show in a classroom, namely gays and lesbians making contributions through their work and volunteer efforts," Seidler said. (IGNA)

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THE FINAL CLOSET

by Phil Nash

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sexual habits must be changed so that semen is not transmitted from one person to another, it is not known for sure whether semen carries viruses associated with the syndrome.

Suicide is hardly ever discussed among group members. "That puts the lie to the myth that gay people are emotionally unstable -that we cannot handle stress -that there is something constitutionally different about us that makes us fall apart." David says he hopes he can avoid becoming a "complete vegetable" by refusing measures that would keep him alive past his ability to be mentally independent. "As a whole, the group members affirm the time they have remaining by extending it as long as possible."

But in the times of excruciating pain, David says he must only think of that moment. "I don't think I handle pain as well as other people think. I hate pain." While some of his pain is controlled by medication, David has periods when pain engulfs him. During those moments, he says he can only think of the pain existing right then -not something that will still be there in a few minutes, or an hour, or every day for the rest of his life.

David is a person who has lived by a code of rational thought and behavior. But now he must cope with anger which he finds hard to understand. "I know it doesn't make sense, but I sometimes think I have come to accept it, but then other times, I get angry that no one can cure me. I ask myself, 'Why can't somebody save me?' This is very difficult to deal with because in some respects, it is not rational."

And there is sadness. "The other day, we (David and his Denver friend) drove up to Rocky Mountain National Park and one of the things that hit me when I was there was that I probably would not see anything quite that beautiful in nature again. There is an ever-present knowledge that some things are being done, or some people are being seen for the last time. And there is always the sadness that comes with it. I don't think most people are aware of how precious life is until threatened with not having it."

"We probably face life-threatening illnesses in the same way we have lived our lives," David responded when I asked if he had made any changes to enhance the quality of the time he had remaining. "There are some things I have changed though. I am not willing any longer to spend time with people I don't care to spend time with. I won't allow people and situations to bore me. And I also find more humor in life." Ironic as it may seem, David says that he now laughs at how seriously he has taken so many things in the past. "Nothing is as important as the energy I was giving some things in my life."

Without hesitation, David asserted that people are the most important part of his life. He had always thought so, and says that is being confirmed now. "Very often there is not the time to go back and reconcile a broken friendship, or a broken love. Whatever anger you may feel to others should always be resolved in that moment, because the next moment may not be there."

"In many respects, I think my illness is harder on my friends than it is on me. They have to deal with so much more uncertainty than I

have to deal with. They don't really know how well I am doing... At times, one friend who may accept the seriousness of this illness may not accept it in the next moment. In that respect there is no real difference between what they are going through and what I am going through."

There is one point about his illness about which David feels justifiably angry. Through highly-placed political connections he has had direct communication with government policy makers, including Health and Human Services Secretary Richard Schweiker, Congressman Henry Waxman of the House Subcommittee on Health and the directors of the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta and the National Cancer Institute. While the AIDS problem is well known in Washington, some observers are stunned at the lack of public outcry. "One official in Washington said if this had broken out in white, middle class, heterosexual America, the outcry for funds to eradicate this is something you'd hear from San Francisco to New York City. But where is the outcry now? David pointed out that some researchers are being diverted from venereal disease research projects to work on the AIDS syndrome. Currently, however, no funds have been earmarked as a line-item in the federal budget, although over a million dollars is slated for release on October 1. David says, "Why not now? Three times as many people have died from KS as from toxic shock syndrome or legionnaires disease combined. This is a much more threatening epidemic." David continued by stating that most officials he had talked to said that the situation is very serious. "It scares the hell out of them. Until they know what causes this, we are all - straight people and gay people - we are all at risk."

David is also concerned with the lack of mobilized campaign in the gay community to confront the illness. "People are rightfully afraid. The rational response is to help with money and other kinds of support to end it." David laments that so little support has surfaced.

Like many gay people, David is not on good terms with his family. His one attempt to inform his brother of his condition and be reconciled was rebuffed. He concentrates, rather, on being in touch with his friends - even making new friends. "We have to keep moving with the people who are living." But David says he does not have problems making future plans, although he still has some hopes for the time he has left. "What I find difficult is completing tasks that I am working on... even if it's mailing a letter. I'm really reluctant to complete things because it seems there is some danger... some threat. I have always been such a goal-oriented person that I think I am telling myself that as long as I am working on something, then I am going to be okay. It is a disservice to us in life, no matter what the conditions, to become a slave to those hopes... when plans become so rigid there is no flexibility. Once you find out how important it is to be alive at this moment, it becomes very difficult to go back to living in the future."

When he dies, David says he plans on being cremated. If there is a memorial service, he said it was most important that there not be "hypocrisy. Death should not make more glorious people out of us than we were in life." He also said he hoped any service held in his memory would be uplifting and celebratory. "Anybody who knows me and who says they love me and knows the hell I've been through - I can't imagine that those people would want me to live through a lot more of it. I hope at that point they would realize I won't have any more pain. I don't like to think that my death is going to cause a lot of friends an awful lot of pain. That's difficult to contemplate."

I stopped being a religious person years ago. I never stopped being a spiritual person, and to me that is much more important. To me spirituality is a very liberating thing where most organized religion is a very condemning thing."

David says his spiritual beliefs have grown because of his illness. He believes in some form of reincarnation. "We know in physics that nothing is wasted. Energy is not wasted; it is simply converted. It is egotistical on the part of human beings to think that our energy

is different. I personally believe it comes back in the form of another life." David said he could not believe that upon death he will be greeted by the "sexist" images of the "Holy Trinity to cuddle me in its arms and welcome me to The Kingdom."

I asked David if he had any regrets about his life. "There is nothing more important and rewarding than other people. That is what it is all about. There is no final judgment." David briefly alluded to his own regret of sometimes not being as good to others as he could have. "If you read the Bible or the works of any of the other spiritual movements, the message in all of them is about the same -life should be lived directed outwardly to others."

But ultimately, David says that he has much to be happy with about his life. "I keep thinking back on that line from *Auntie Mame* - something like, 'Life is a banquet and a lot of poor sons of bitches are starving to death.' God, I think I have been a glutton."

During our interview, David sometimes spent many moments waiting for the courage to respond to some of my questions. Throughout the interview, I felt anxiety about the probability that I would never see my friend again. When the tape recorder was turned off, we talked about our few times together in the eighteen months we had known each other, the friends we have in common, and what we had meant to each other.

As I prepared to leave, I had to confront my own disbelief that the man standing in front of me might not be there again. My own spiritual side was being taxed to the limit of its ability to believe in finality. I said so to David. He said that that is because spiritually, there are no endings.

Then I left.

From June 1, 1981, to May 28, 1982, the Center for Disease Control reported 355 cases of Kaposi's Sarcoma or Pneumocystis Carinii Pneumonia (PCP). The number of people who have died of these diseases approaches 50% of those who contracted them and officials think that many of the diagnosed now alive will die of it resulting in a still higher mortality rate. The median age of those affected is 36. (David is 39). The areas where most cases have been reported are New York, California, Florida, New Jersey and Texas.

The causes are not known. The high risk factors appear to include people who have a high number of sexual contacts, use recreational drugs frequently, participate in certain types of sexual practices, and have long histories of contracting other sexually-transmitted diseases including Hepatitis B. None of these factors is a cause, per se, but only a reflection of the kinds of lifestyle led by many of those who have the diseases.

The Center for Disease Control fully expects new cases of KS and PCP to be reported in other parts of the country. One of the most significant health issues prevalent with the outbreak of these diseases is an intense community-wide fear reaction in the communities where many gay men know others who have become ill or died of the pernicious illnesses. The phenomenon is similar to the massive fear reaction among black children in Atlanta when more than two dozen children were reported missing and murdered by a silent killer who mercilessly and methodically stalked them in their own neighborhoods.

Prevention is the key word. Doctors and health officials at this time can offer no better recommendation than common sense: take good care of your health, avoid drug use, seek quality rather than quantity in sex partners, and use extreme caution if you engage in anal sex practices that might cause tearing of colon tissue.

Whether these measures can prevent AIDS is still a mystery, but it might reduce the hypothesized risks.

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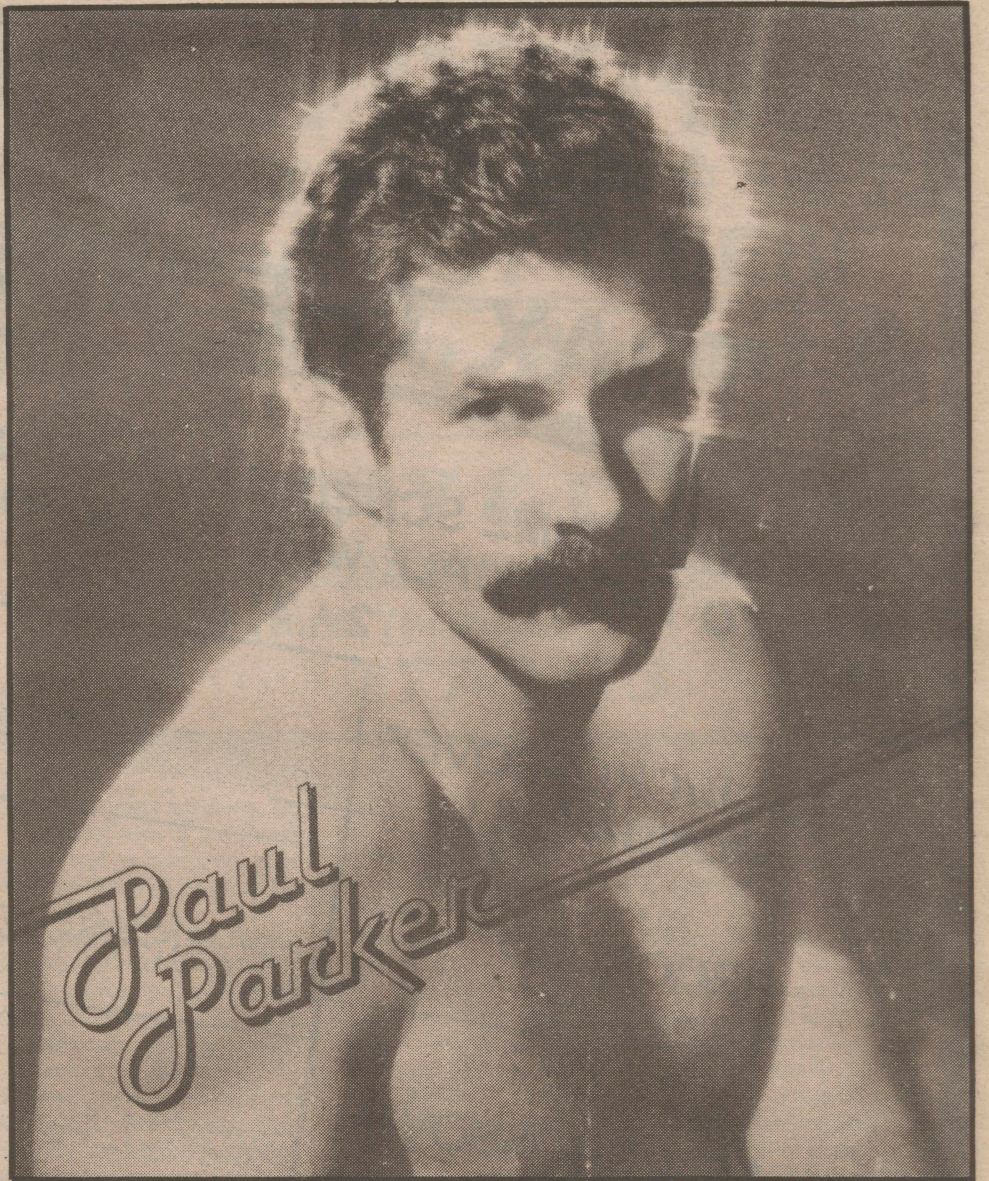
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VINYL VAGABOND

by Rad Bennett

"Terrific Target"

Paul Parker: Right on Target/Pushing Too Hard. Megatone 45rpm single MT-101.

This is perhaps a little off target for the youthful old Vagabond's column, but, then, man does not live by Wagner and Joni Mitchell alone. There's definitely a market for this record, if only for the fact that the photo you see here is reproduced on every cover. It may be a case of the — ahem — face that launched a hundred thousand sales, but the truth of the matter is that Paul Parker isn't just another pretty-faced country rock singer from California waiting to be discovered. The man can sing. More, his discoverer, Patrick Cowley (of "Megatron Man" fame), knows how to package both the man and his voice. "Pushing Too Hard" is, then, a seductive, sensitive, musically expert dance tune with the popular Euro-Disco sound that works. Even if you're not usually one of the target market, there's a lot to enjoy on this disc; and you can always hang the jacket photo on a bedroom wall.

Steel Pulse: True Democracy. Elektra, EL-60013.

Reggae has never truly caught on in the States, but in England it's been popular enough to meet and fuse with punk into a welcome new form. Birmingham-based Steel Pulse comes from that fusion, and in listening to their first Elektra record (there were three previous discs on Island labels), one is hard pressed to find a reason for the lack of reggae in America. This is a vital set, musically, lyrically, and politically. It makes a positive statement for Blacks, for love, and for brotherhood and inner unity, while entertaining and keeping the toe tapping. Disco, spiritual, and funk images have been incorporated in a way that enhances, rather than subtracts from the overall reggae feeling, and every member of the band is a master of his art, the total being entirely the sum of its excellent parts.

Miles Davis: We Want Miles. Columbia C2-38005 (two discs).

After a self-imposed retirement, Miles Davis has returned triumphant with a refined style that seems simplicity itself. In "We Want Miles," a chronicle of last year's concert tour in sound, Davis uses repeated *ostinato* figures to create hypnotic spells over which he places his lonesome, sometimes quarrelsome melodic fragments. He has never sounded better. But he has equal partners in Marcus Miller (Fender bass), Bill Evans (soprano sax), Mike Stern (guitar), Al Foster (drums), and Mino Cennelu (percussion.) The best of Miles' own compositions is "Jean Pierre," presented in two different versions; but the resounding success has to be an 18-minute version of Gershwin's "My Man's Gone Now." Its effect is so spellbinding that what might seem on paper to be a lengthy parcel of time goes by in a moment. The album was recorded live in Boston, New York, and Tokyo, but the mix is so expert that the set seems to stem from a single, beautifully recorded concert. A must for jazz collectors; perfect music for steamy summer weather.

Richard Strauss: Four Last Songs / Zueignung / Vertuehrung / Das Rosenband / Caecilie. Sylvia Sass, soprano. Hungarian State Orchestra, Lukacs, cond. Hungaroton SLPX 12397.

Many consider the *Four Last Songs* to be the ultimate test for a soprano; if so, Sylvia Sass passes her exams with flying colors. Using her extremely flexible voice with great intelligence, she has turned what would seem to be merely songs into mini-dramas of the heart and soul, expressions that strike to the core of what it feels like to be a human being. Though she is certainly never histrionic, some may find these interpretations too dramatic. For my taste, they are just right. Sass should immediately be persuaded to record "Ariadne auf Naxos" — or "Tosca," for that matter. She is a rare singer, one who is at her prime, and her singing sends shivers up the spine. Lukacs gives her vital and important support; he is obviously a maestro who should be heard on his own in the near future.

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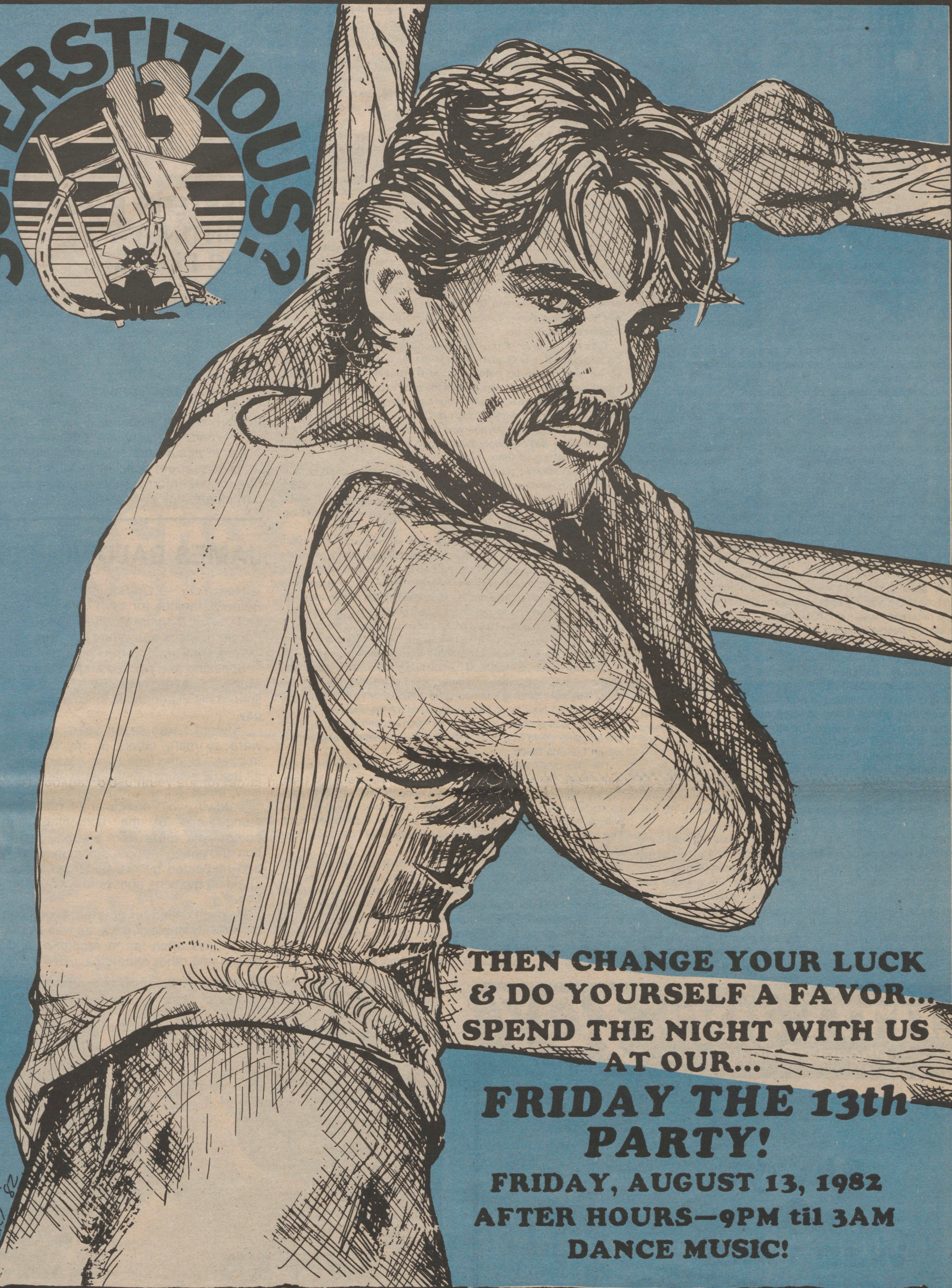
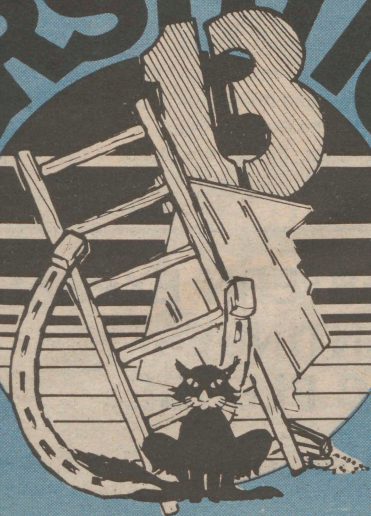
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130 MILES — GAY RIGHTS '82

by B. A. Willson
Part 2

Monday - June 21 - 2:00 A.M. It was so dark and cool that morning, and I was still so sleepy when John woke us for breakfast... Two things had irritated me to no end during the three and a half hours I'd had in which to sleep: one was the ceaseless violent whipping of my tiny pup tent by the vicious desert "devil" winds; the other was a narrow, lumpy airmattress with a slow leak that hissed alarmingly in my ear whenever the mattress and I got into it.

Combine that with stubbornly reluctant stiff muscles and trying to dress, in total darkness, in a tiny, stifling pup tent with even tinier dimensions, and you will consequently find that I was nearly a nervous wreck by the time I managed to stumble out to greet the others in our "dining room". This was a long cement picnic table with tarps stretched over it to house our supplies and shade the people, affectionately dubbed "Fort Faggot" or "Lesbian Springs", take your pick. The tarps, like everything else, were flapping vigorously in the wind.

Someone handed me a cup of hot black coffee; thus fortified my eyes courageously opened and I even attempted to stuff my swollen feet and two pairs of socks into combat boots. This was accomplished on the fourth try although the lacing and accompanying wincing took a little longer. Then I sighed heavily and ventured a glance at my fellow marchers. I was not surprised to see the same grim expression on faces everywhere.

After a quick lantern-lit breakfast Reverend Randy immediately hustled us onto the RV; driver Laurie settled down to his important task, it was 3 AM when we left the base camp.

Monday - June 21 - 4:07 A.M. After a shivering communion taken in the darkness alongside the RV at Mile Marker #86 which is just outside of Catalina, we set off briskly with the best of intentions. The marching that day was a repeat of the day before: the same incredible pace, faster in the early hours of the morning, and when the sun rose there was the same intense heat and the same fatigue. The only difference was more casualties.

One by one people dropped out of the March for the day, either simply incapable of taking another step or grounded, sometimes quite forcefully, by Nurse Josie from Phoenix. Around 7 AM my right knee, previously encased three times, began to function improperly. I developed a protective system of marching two miles and riding one but I continued to experience extreme pain. Then I discovered that double-timing to keep pace, instead of regular marching, made it a little easier. The others, all in varying degrees of agony, were also experimenting and testing personal limits, finding their own methods of persevering hour after hour.

At some point everyone marched, except Nurse Josie, whose indispensable spirit and compassion led the way for us. She really wanted to march but couldn't, limited by medical conditions. Even Laurie marched, bad ankles and all; Nurse Josie piloted the RV with ever-watchful eyes.

Monday - June 21 - 9:40 A.M. My knee finally went out but I went on until Josie pulled me off the March for the day when she saw my rear lose the 4/4 beat. I was reluctant, to say the least (some people say "tantrum" is more like it), but when "Mom" Josie spoke you jumped or suffered the consequences. I was dosed with a pain-killer, given a stern lecture, and installed on a bunk where the combination of everything soon had me unconscious.

I woke an hour or so later. The sun was a blazing fury high in the cloudless sky and there was no breeze; the RV was stopped for a water break at Mile Marker #104. There were still 5.5 more miles to

go before we'd reach the scheduled nineteen for the day, plus the four we'd dropped the day before. There was no fresh energy left within us and we were again faced with getting behind schedule. We were worn out and discouraged.

Then a familiar black truck arrived, out of the blue it seemed like, and there was the smiling and energetic Jim Shafer with his huge multi-colored umbrella and a ton of good cheer. He and Grover and Jerry finished up the marching that was left, kept us on schedule, and generally saved the day.

Monday - June 21 - NOON. The rest of the day was relatively uneventful. The high points were lunch and a long hot shower back at Picacho Peak. The "dining room" became an infirmary; we played hospital all afternoon and well into the evening. The moans of those in pain mingled with the gay-talk jokes and loud laughter of waiting patients. For us joking and laughing and horseplay served as a tension-release from the high pressures of the March - A safety valve, as it were.

Monday - June 21 - AFTER DARK. The "devil" winds came again, nearly driving me to distraction... The laundry wouldn't stay draped over the palo verde tree... Every single muscle in my body ached; twenty miles scheduled for Tuesday... The entire camp was asleep except for Charlene and Greg of security... I limped over to the wildly whipping pup tent, seeking oblivion in dreams. There were 88.3 more miles to go.

Tuesday - June 22 - 2:00 A.M. Everyone had decided in a previous discussion that they liked marching best really early in the morning so we were again up before the birds. Breakfast was a rushed affair; Reverend Randy was always the prod in our hindquarters. On this day we took a shortcut to our beginning point, Mile Marker #110. The shortcut was a rough dirt road that ran cross-country over open range. Our voyage was incredibly fast and stimulating, and everyone was definitely awake upon arrival. (We congratulated Laurie on getting us there in one piece).

And then another repeat of days gone by: fastest pace early in the morning; endless asphalt underfoot, endless desert in every direction, endless blue above; constant pain, intense heat, sweat pouring from every pore in the body. Endless, unending marching, and the miles rolled on.

Shafer again arrived just when we were weariest, around tenish, bringing three fresh visiting marchers with him from Tucson. He also brought along some items that lifted the morale of our little group: there was a card signed by a large number of our supporters with much needed money enclosed, and a Tucson newspaper with an article documenting our intentions, goals, and causes. The article was accompanied by a picture of us taken while on the road. All of it bolstered our pride in ourselves and what we were trying to accomplish; back at base camp that afternoon spirits soared.

Tuesday - June 22 - 4:30 P.M. Lunch had been a hearty affair with all the visitors and eating was interrupted more than once by the usual laughter. Nothing seemed to be amiss. Our visitors departed for Tucson an hour or so later; I departed for the showers. When I returned I was shocked to see the tent that housed our water truck driver going down in a hurry. Nothing was explained and people weren't talking much.

The "hospital" was subdued that afternoon. We were losing our water truck, its driver, her lover (a part-time marcher), and Greg, the youngest member of the camp's support and security team. Since two other team members, John and Tammy, had marched with us earlier we were left drastically short for the coming night. The outlook for the future was indeed desolate but I still knew none of the circumstances behind it.

Tuesday - June 22 - 9:00 P.M. The water truck was long since gone and a phone call had been made to Tucson for help. I managed to piece together a formless explanation for the earlier mysterious behavior from a few remarks during camp talk: vague information about engine difficulties and extreme fatigue. The only thing I knew for sure was that we were without a water truck, an essential item for the continuation of the March.

And then a big blue truck pulled into camp; everyone watched

curiously while Park Ranger Toby checked the situation out for us. The smiles were a sight to behold when a woman named Cheryl and her daughter Chele walked up and announced that they were our new water crew, at least for a day. Relief swept base camp like a flash fire.

Time for bed? Should have been but between the "devil" winds and a new tentmate I got little sleep that night. Hyper-tension, excitement, and many words kept the adrenaline flowing long after it should have been dormant. I knew it would be another endless day tomorrow: there were still 67.7 miles to go.

— to be continued —

WESTERN EXPRESS CONTINUES ARC PLEDGE

In a meeting with Kirk Baxter, newly appointed fund raising chairman of the Alternative Relations Center, Don Pintacura, Publisher of the Western Express renewed the newspaper's donation of one quarter of a page of space per issue. Started with the inception of the newspaper, ARC has used the space for special notices and advertisements.

Mr. Baxter is currently visiting merchants throughout the Phoenix area securing pledges of either money or services, both on a regular monthly basis, to ensure the continued operation of ARC and its headquarters building at 26th St. and Clarendon. For further information on how your business can participate, call 274-0927.

JAMES BALDWIN SPEAKS

New York — On Saturday, June 5, author James Baldwin, famous for such books as *Giovanni's Room* and *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, addressed the Political Forum of Black and White Men Together on the topic "Race, Racism, and the Gay Community."

Speaking to a packed auditorium of more than 400 at the Gay Synagogue, Beth Simchat Torah, Baldwin shared his experiences in America as both black and gay.

"Before I was seven years old," he said, "there were so many labels on my back, beginning with 'nigger.'" By the time I was seventeen, I had survived all the labels, including that of 'faggot.' It wasn't, and isn't, easy."

Baldwin, while critical of the racism in the gay community and of the homophobia in the black community, spoke from a strong sense of identification and caring for both communities. Obviously loved and respected by his audience, the writer received standing ovations both before and after his presentation.

Baldwin called for greater recognition by the black community of black gays, as well as pointing out that white gays often fail to recognize and reach out to blacks and other minorities. (IGNA)

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WOMEN'S CENTER BENEFIT: WOMEN ARE MANY FACES II

Last summer a small group of women quickly, and rather casually, put together an evening of music, mime and comedy by local women performers. The concert's success was beyond their expectations: The audience nearly filled the auditorium at the Phoenix Performing Arts Theatre.

That concert was titled "Women Are Many Faces" and the idea was to present Valley women with different types and styles of performing talents.

Now, what unexpectedly last year turned out to be much more than just an experimental idea has been expanded by the organizing group, members of the Women's Center, to include an even greater diversity of women's talents at Women Are Many Faces II, which begins at 8 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 21, at the Phoenix Performing Arts Theatre, Third Street at Moreland.

This year's theme, "Common Threads of an Uncommon Weaving," indeed includes almost every performing art. There will be classical and chamber music, mountain music, street theatre, sign language, humor, dance, jazz and blues, reader's theater and lesbian folk music. And, fitting with the common threads and uncommon weaving mode, will be the 10' x 12' weaving, made collectively by five Phoenix-area women serving as the backdrop for the performers.

"The evening will present a positive view of women, looking at our differences as well as our commonalities, in our work, humor, heritage, and personal and political changes," says Jill Aiken, concert director.

Performers include Susan Jennings playing mountain music on the dulcimer and providing the background tune for an Irish jig by Peggy Dorsey. Teatro Mujer, a group of four sisters that performed this year at the National Chicana Women's Conference, will portray various aspects of women's lives in street theatre. Comedy will be by Slique Callahan, classical piano by Karen Bernstein, chamber music by Sue Norton and friends, and lesbian folk music will be provided by Just Friends comprised of Jamie Anderson, Sue Norton, and Kathy McDermitt.

"Our concept ties together the many different ethnic backgrounds, musical styles and political perspectives of women. We're each very different, yet we all share some common grounds," explains Ms. Aiken, a Phoenix businesswoman. "The arts have traditionally been a way for cultures to learn to understand each other. Women, too, share and enjoy their diverse interests through music and art."

All proceeds of the concert go to the Women's Center, located at 1634 N. 7th St. The Center is an all volunteer feminist organization which offers a monthly newsletter featuring news on lesbian and women's events in the Valley; and information and referral service; workshops and concerts; and weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Tickets are available from R. Hegyi, Womansplace Bookstore, Changing Hands Bookstore, and Fourth World for \$4.50. Admission will be \$5.00 at the door. The theatre is wheelchair accessible. Child care will be arranged upon request. Call 258-9227 or 839-7989 for more information.

THE SPORTS LINE

By Jim Larrabee

TUCSON — The Community Mixed Bowling League has reached the midpoint of its summer season. Since the last coverage of this activity, several of the top scores for men and women have changed — some dramatically. High series and game for men are now 537-198; and for the women the sensational totals 561-224. High men's average is 175 and the women's 151. With only five weeks left, the men need to get their acts together or face a permanent blush at season's end.

On July 15, the JOSHUA TREE sprouted anew, winning three of four points from top-seeded MAGNUM'S. RUBY'S moved within a game of the league lead after splitting with a feisty 4-PLAY. The B.W.I.'S suffered stomach cramps after tasting ANITA'S ORIGINAL RECIPE and lost three of four. And the SUN DOGGIES II had a "dog-day" evening, running away from MENAGE-PLUS the entire match. It was definitely bone-appetite for the DOGGIES.

After the action July 22, MAGNUM'S, RUBY'S and ANITA'S ORIGINAL RECIPE retained the same top three spots as the week before. MAGNUM'S wasted the B.W.I.'S totally and added four more points to increase their lead over RUBY'S to two games. RUBY'S left the SUN DOGGIES II begging for mercy at the conclusion of their match. ANITA'S ORIGINAL RECIPE proved to be irresistible for the JOSHUA TREE team. While they savored and swooned, they were bowled over four to zip. And 4-PLAY arose from the bottom half of the league in ecstasy after vanquishing the elevator team, MENAGE-PLUS, which was floored.

(As of July 22, 1982)

TEAM	GB	HDCP	WON	LOST	PCT.	HDCP TOTAL PINS	AVG.
MAGNUM'S	—	203	17	7	.708	12849	713.8
RUBY'S	2	196	15	9	.625	12760	708.9
ANITA'S ORIGINAL RECIPE	2	192	15	9	.625	12714	706.3
4-PLAY	5	246	12	12	.500	12482	693.4
SUN DOGGIES II	6	101	11	13	.458	12771	709.5
JOSHUA TREE	6	105	11	13	.458	12384	688.0
MENAGE-PLUS	7	189	10	14	.417	12903	716.8
B.W.I.'S	11	177	6	18	.250	12280	682.2

The setting was field #4 of Himmel Park on Sunday, July 18, for the slow-pitch softball game between arch-rivals MICHAEL'S and the JOSHUA TREE. It was HOT and HUMID, an uncommonly sultry day in the Old Pueblo. The players mingled freely, warming up together, exchanging chatter. But when MICHAEL'S took the field as home team and the first batter for JOSHUA TREE stepped up to the plate, the complexion of the game altered dramatically. It was one team against the other. JOSHUA TREE scored twice in the first inning, MICHAEL'S once. In the second, JOSHUA TREE added three more runs and MICHAEL'S two. It appeared that a tight ball game was in the works. But JOSHUA TREE scored eleven in the third building the lead to 16-3 after MICHAEL'S failed to score in their half. Except for the fifth inning when MICHAEL'S got 10 runs, the defense of JOSHUA TREE held soundly, preventing any chance of a strong comeback. The final score was JOSHUA TREE 33, MICHAEL'S 23.

A rematch of this game will be played Sunday, August 8, again at Himmel Park from 11-3 p.m., but on field #1. It promises to be a blood and guts affair which should draw even a larger crowd than the twenty or so in attendance at the first game. The game will be part of a three-week calendar of events during August to raise money to send Tucson bowlers to the Gay Olympics. Keg beer will be on hand for those who have purchased tickets.

QUAINTANCE ART SOUGHT

The National Gay Art Archives is seeking works by George Quaintance famous gay artist of the 1950's who lived in Phoenix.

Prints, photos, slides, original paintings and drawings and magazines by Quaintance are being collected by the San Francisco based organization. The archives is also interested in the works of other gay artists and photographers — physique photos and films, magazines, works by artists like Etienne and Von Gloeden as well as contemporary gay artists.

The National Gay Art Archives has been formed to research, catalogue, collect and exhibit gay art of the past and present.

Contact: National Gay Art Archives, 724 Fillmore St. San Francisco, Ca. 94117.

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TRAVEL NEWS UPDATE

by David Starkman

WEIN AIR ALASKA brings you affordable ALASKA for only \$448.00 which includes roundtrip air from PHOENIX with a bonus of four days/three nights first class accommodations at the Sheffield Anchorage Hotel. Extra nights only \$44.00 based on double occupancy. Offer expires August 15, 1982.

SCANDINAVIAN WORLD CRUISES is introducing one way sailings on the "Scandinavia" from NEW YORK to GRAND BAHAMA ISLAND. The ship links up with the "Scandinavian Sun" for onward passage to Central Florida. The one-way trip takes only two and one half days. A great way to relax and be pampered. Service starts October 2, 1982.

GEORGE HILL of Trax is inviting all friends and clients to join him for a fun-filled Labor Day Weekend, September 3 - 6. The destination is LAX, the hotel is the Coral Sands, the transportation is Motorcoach (filled with beer). Space is limited. For information call Carl at Trax, 254-0231 or David at 21st. Century Travel, 234-0542. The entire all inclusive package is \$95.00

HAWAII EXPRESS the airline that planned to start low cost \$89.00 one way fares from LOS ANGELES to HONOLULU on July 1, still is not in operation. The question being, can an airline such as Hawaii Express operate a daily schedule with only one plane.

HOLLYWOOD CALIFORNIA'S Sheraton-Universal Hotel value package offered until September 6, 1982 is three days/two nights for only \$67.50 per person. You get a luxurious room with a super view. Complimentary cocktail. Continental breakfast. Buffet lunch. Plus two tickets for the price of one to the exciting Universal Studios Tour.®

CAPITOL AIR last week set a special \$199.00 fare to BRUSSELS and FRANKFURT available from August 9, to September 11, 1982. There is a seven day advance purchase required.

ATLANTA - For one weekend only, August 20 - 22, Eastern Airlines is offering a two-for-one Super Saver promotion throughout its system for travel to ATLANTA to watch the league-leading Atlanta Braves play two games against the New York Mets. Also available at two-for-one rates are rooms at a choice of downtown hotels, and game tickets. All three components must be purchased to qualify for the reduced rate.

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

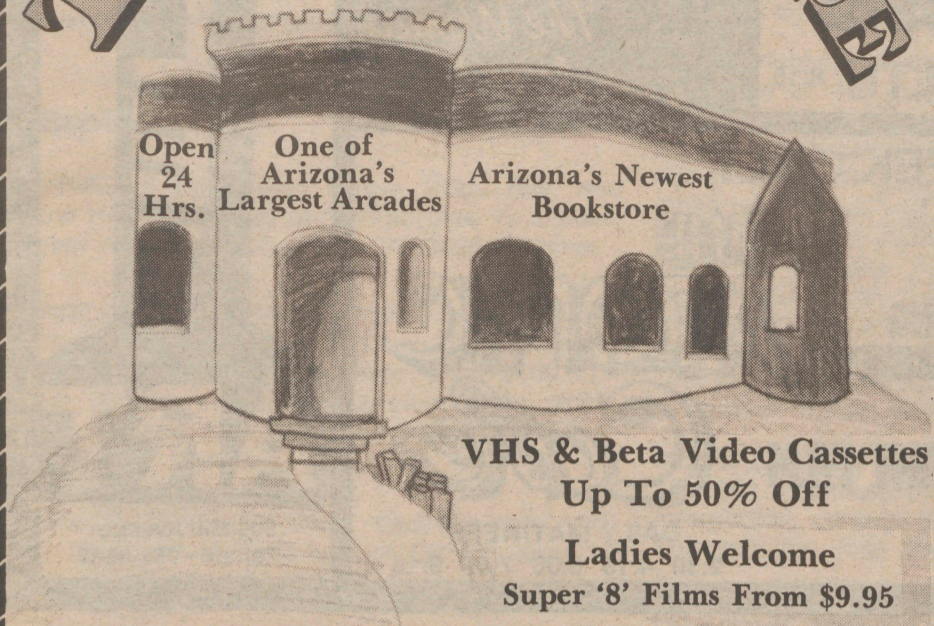
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Profile Phx

by BARRY ALEXANDER

It takes style and organization to do what they did. Yes, David and Dennis of Hot Duds presented one of the hottest nights in Phoenix. "The Hottest Men in Phoenix" contest held July 18, at Hotbods was one of the top events of the year. I really thought there would be about five contestants, but with twenty five entrants, I knew that everyone there was in for a real treat. Hotbods lends itself well to this type of event. Congratulations are also in order for Jimmy Martin, Stan Woodward and the entire staff at Hotbods for keeping things running smoothly throughout the evening...

Tish Tanner's 12th Annual Retirement Party at Michael's in Tucson was a real treat. It only lasted two hours, which in itself was a major accomplishment. Usually these shows go on and on. Probably the only disappointment of the evening was the "no show" of Eddie Florez and Monte-Jon. Is it possible these two performers found other "more important" things to do? It had been advertised that they would be there and they should have been. To Tish's credit, regardless of the setbacks, the show went on. It was one of the best shows I've seen in a long time...

was one of the best shows I've seen in a long time...

For those of you who find this to be a rather unusual column for me, I have only one answer for you. I sometimes get very irritated with things that go on in our community, but I also feel that good performances should be commended.

Well it is vacation time for me. I will be in Texas for a week, so until next time, I appeal to all to help make Phoenix a good place to live, register to vote and help give the gay community what it has deserved for a long time - its rights.

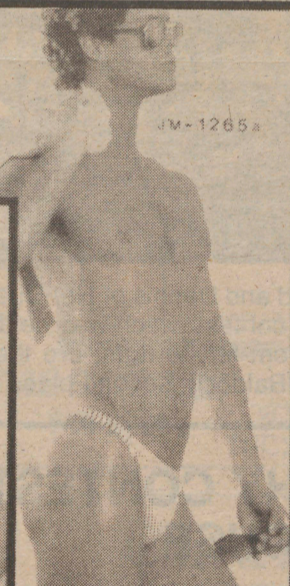
G.P.A. NAMES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Board of Directors of the Gay Press Association has named Mike Rutherford to the newly created position of Executive Director. Mr. Rutherford will commence his duties immediately from the official offices of the association located in Washington, D.C.

By taking this important step, the GPA has confirmed its position in providing support, networking, and assistance for the continued growth and development of the Gay/Lesbian press.

Mr. Rutherford, a resident of Washington, D.C., graduated from Illinois State University in Normal in 1969 with a BA in education. After serving four years in the United States Navy Band, he pursued a career in real estate sales and insurance brokerage. In 1977, he founded *Out Magazine*, a weekly arts and issues publication for the D.C. Gay community, serving as publisher til this appointment.

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<p>FRI./AUG. 6TH</p> <p>Sneak Screening Benefit Show For 'No Nukes' Groups</p> <p>\$6.00 INCLUDES SPAGHETTI DINNER BY MARIES FIRST PLACE</p> <p>THE ATOMIC Cafe</p> <p>7:00 9:15</p> <p>Ticket Info 967-6205</p>	<p>SAT./SUN. AUG 7,8</p> <p>3:30 7:45</p> <p>BLAKE EDWARDS' VICTOR Victoria</p> <p>1:50 "Splendidly Funny." The New Yorker 6:00 THE RITZ 10:15</p>	<p>MON./TUE. AUG 9, 10</p> <p>6:00 10:15</p> <p>A WEDDING PG</p> <p>Plus HEALTH 8:15</p>	<p>WED./THU/ AUG 11, 12</p> <p>Francois Truffaut's The Last Metro 7:30</p> <p><i>The Woman Next Door</i> 9:30</p>	<p>V A L L E Y A R T</p> <p>509 Mill Avenue Tempe - 967-6664</p>
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PHOTOS BY WES AUSTIN

Pictured above are David and Dennis of Hot Duds with the winners of their "Hottest Men in Phoenix" contest which was held at Hotbods on July 18, 1982. With David and Dennis, from left to right, are the winners. First place - Jesse Garcia; third place - Scott Baldock; second place - David Atchison.

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST AT ALWUN HOUSE AUGUST 7

The first WESTERN EXPRESS AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS CONTEST, with over fifty entries from Arizona, Nevada and California, will be held Saturday, August 7 at Alwun House, 12th St. at Roosevelt, Phoenix. Open show from 1 till 3 P.M., awards at 3 P.M., and a reception from 3:30 till 4:30 P.M. is the planned schedule.

Tony's Locker Room

by TONY BARTOLI
Sports South of the Mason Dixon

The theme of this column was going to be the emphasis on sports at the World's Fair in Knoxville, but after touring the fairgrounds, no sign of any sports related exhibition could be found. However, for those traveling East with the intention of going to the fair, the best that can be said is that it is "interesting".

Situated in the heart of Knoxville, just off the campus of the University of Tennessee, the Fair is compactly placed on 74 acres with easy access to the Downtown area. Definitely not on the grand scale as the New York Fair of '64 or Expo '67, I toured practically the entire Fair within five hours. But not to sell the Fair short, many of the exhibitions are good and a festive carnival atmosphere prevails.

Traveling further South, I had the opportunity to stop in Atlanta and see a night ball game between the Atlanta Braves and the St. Louis Cardinals. The stadium was filled to capacity, mainly due to Atlanta's surprising first place standing. The Atlanta fan is really caught up in the spirit. This relatively new stadium, in which Henry Aaron broke Babe Ruth's home run record, sits conveniently south of Atlanta's Downtown area. This ballpark has every convenience imaginable. I was amazed at how easily the management handled a capacity crowd, getting the fans both in and out. Again, I met interesting fans where a beer an inning prevailed. Good friends were made and Atlanta provided the cheers with a 6-2 win, for their seventh win in a row.

Going further South, I had the opportunity to tour the famous Swimming Hall of Fame in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This beautiful "Venice of America" (which I once called home) places its emphasis on water sports. I was late for the A.S.A. Diving Championships held at the Hall of Fame, but had the opportunity to watch a sailing regatta off the shores of this fair city. In addition to water sports, tennis and golf rule supreme in this tropical paradise.

The Miami area, which is quite different from its Sister City, Ft. Lauderdale, just thirty miles north, centers most of its sporting attention on their N.F.L. football franchise, the Miami Dolphins. The Orange Bowl which houses the Dolphins is steeped in football tradition, both collegiate and professional. The Orange Bowl football game is still one of the nation's biggest sporting events held annually on New Year's Day. A town with a definite international atmosphere, this bi-lingual city still possesses its tropical allure.

This is Tony Bartoli, on the road for *The Western Express*.

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Notices

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West - 9735 W. Ironwood Dr.,

Peoria, Sundays 10:30 A.M.

Phone: 956-2797

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 private homes between 8:00 P.M. and 10:30 P.M. and non-alcoholic beverages are provided. Come and make new friends and be a part of your community. Hosts: Saturday, August 7, Rudy, 144 E. Sharon, 993-5756; Saturday, August 21, Artie and Bob, 4902 W. Beverly Lane, 938-3932. 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.

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.

EXCLUSIVE DATING SERVICE: Ladies only, completely computerized! Subsidized community service by Preferred Escorts. Forms at local establishments or call 258-3336.

THE NEXT meeting of Lutheran's Concerned will be held Sunday, August 8, at 4:00 P.M. at the Mount of Olives Lutheran Church, 3546 E. Thomas Rd., Phoenix.

ARC BOARD meetings will be held on August 4 and 18, at 5:30 P.M. at 26th and Clarendon. The public is encouraged to attend. For more information call 967-7689. Phoenix.

MAN WINS SUIT

San Francisco — A 28-year-old man has been awarded a \$27,500 claim against the San Francisco Police Department by the Police Commission for being beaten by police during the May 22, 1979 White Night riots.

The civilian-run Commission approved the claim for Gary Holt, who charged that the actions of three police officers resulted in the loss of his spleen and the loss of several months of income from his job.

Holt contended that the incident occurred on the night after the riot at City Hall when demonstrators protested the jury's seven year prison sentence to double-murderer Dan White.

Holt said he was attacked by police during a second demonstration at City Hall after police raided the Elephant Walk, a Castro area bar, following the first confrontation on May 21, 1979.

The judgment has received scant attention in the press, either gay or non-gay. (IGNA)

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