



THE WESTERN LEXPRESS

FROM THE SOUTHWEST

VOLUME II ISSUE 7

MARCH 2, 1983

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MANY "FIRSTS" TO HIGHLIGHT THE GAY PRESS ASSOCIATION'S THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION

Philadelphia will be the host city of the 1983 convention of the Gay Press Association. The third annual convention will be held the week-end of April 29, 30 and May 1, 1983. The elegant Warwick Hotel has been selected as headquarters for the convention because of its immediate proximity to the Philadelphia facilities of most interest to conventioners.

For the first time, a major '84 presidential candidate will address the opening Friday evening session of the convention and negotiations are presently under way to finalize details. Other activities of the convention will include: professional development workshops; caucus meetings of the GPA's WireService users, electronic media, and Gay journalist in the non-Gay media; general membership business meeting; annual election of officers and board of directors; presentation of the First Annual Gay Press Awards; and the First Annual Invitational National Gay Leadership Press Conference. Organizers are also planning plenty of opportunities for members of the Gay/Lesbian communications media to network with each other.

The GPA is a non-profit professional trade association dedicated to the betterment of the communications media of the

national and international Gay/Lesbian community. The GPA works to promote high journalistic standards among its members, to increase understanding between the Gay and Lesbian community and the community at large, to foster a healthy business environment, and to protect the rights and integrity of all Gay media.

Caucus meetings are planned to begin Friday afternoon. The first meeting of the GPA's Wire Service Users caucus will discuss operational policy and make recommendations for the continued growth and development of the service. The Electronic Media caucus will have the opportunity to address the problems unique to broadcasting and electronic publishing. And, for the first time, the Non-Gay Media caucus will give Gay men and women working in the non-Gay media the opportunity to discuss the problems of dealing with homophobia in their work place and in editorial policy.

To further GPA's goal of raising the level of professionalism of the Gay/Lesbian media, professional development workshops will again be emphasized during Saturday's events. Workshops being planned include: investigative reporting, creative writing, editing and editorials, design and layout, photography, ad sales, coop advertising, collecting receivables, computer business applications, and GPA's WireService. Many experts from the non-Gay daily press, industry specialists, nationally known authors, and university professors will serve on many of the planned panels.

On Saturday evening, convention attendees will be offered the optional opportunity to make the quick trip to New York City to attend the biggest Gay benefit ever held in that city. The benefit, sponsored by the Gay Men's Health Crisis, is planned to provide for the continued work and research into the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). The entire seating capacity (17,500) of Madison Square Garden has been reserved for a special performance of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus. Special buses are being planned which will travel to New York City

and back to Philadelphia later that night. This optional event will be made available for \$30 (includes \$15 circus ticket and round-trip bus transportation with free bar). For those not wishing to make this trip, a special event will be hosted by *The Philadelphia Gay News* that evening.

After Sunday's regularly scheduled general membership business meeting and annual election of officers and board of directors, the presentation of the GPA's First Annual Gay Press Awards for outstanding achievement in journalism will be made. The board of directors feel that it is extremely important to recognize individual achievement and hope to expand the awards in the years to come.

One of the major highlights of the convention will be the First Annual Invitational National Gay Leadership Press Conference. Presently, (in alphabetical order), Virginia Apuzzo, Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force; Tom Chorlton, Executive Director of the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs; Steve Edean, Executive Director of the Gay Rights National Lobby; Gil Gerald, Co-chair of the National Coalition of Black Gays; Werner Kuhn, Vice President of the National Association of Business Councils; Walter Lear, MD, Founder and Co-chair of the National Gay Health Coalition; and Jean O'Leary, Executive Director of the National Gay Rights Advocates, have all tentatively agreed to participate. Each will comment on the state of the Gay/Lesbian movement from their perspective with an extensive question and answer period so that convention attendees will be able to report on various topics with as keen an insight as possible.

Membership in the Gay Press Association is open to anyone who works for the Gay/Lesbian media as well as to Gay women and men who work in the non-Gay media. Members include writers, editors, publishers, free-lancers, photographers, advertising personnel, typesetters, designers, artists, etc.

The pre-registration fee for GPA members has been set at \$45 (non-members — \$80). Hotel accommodations are available for \$55/single and \$65/double per night. Registration materials and additional information about the 1983 convention including the final schedule of workshops and caucuses and an announcement of the keynote speaker will be mailed in 30 days. The deadline for pre-registration will be April 6, 1983.

Inquiries about membership in the Gay Press Association and/or questions pertaining to the convention may be addressed to: Mike Rutherford, Executive Director, Gay Press Association, P.O. Box 33605, Washington, DC 20033-0605 or at (202) 387-2430. For local Philadelphia information, contact Mark Segal, Chair of the Convention Steering Committee, at 233 South 13th St., Philadelphia, PA 19107 or at (215) 732-3334.

DEATH ROW APPEAL REJECTED

by Patrick Franklin

Robert Sullivan, the Gay man who has been on Death Row for a longer time than any convict in America, recently suffered a severe setback. His appeal to the 11th Circuit Court was rejected summarily, leaving him with the U.S. Supreme Court as literally his court of last resort.

Sullivan, whose conviction rests solely on the testimony of an admitted perpetrator of the crime in question, endured a trial that was a travesty of justice. His "accomplice," Reid McLaughlin, managed to plea-bargain, and in exchange for his testimony against Sullivan served only eight years and is now a free man. Sullivan's first public defender did nothing to investigate the case, and was replaced by another who feared repercussions from the Gay aspects of Sullivan's alibi — he was in a Gay bar at the time of the killing — so never introduced witnesses who could place Sullivan far away from the scene of the murder.

In the meanwhile, Sullivan's Defense Fund has located witnesses who can establish the fact that Sullivan was *not* at that scene, but miles away. However, the specter of homophobia has made some of those witnesses fear to testify for him, even though their statements could save his life. The rejection of Sullivan's latest appeal places him in an extremely dangerous position.

Sullivan, now standing closer to the chair than ever before, is making an urgent appeal to the Gay community of the United States: if you, or anyone you know was in Keith's Cruise Room Bar, in Hallendale, Florida around April 8-9, 1973, and you think you may be able to help Robert, please contact him in care of his Defense Fund, 53 Leicester Road, Belmont, Mass. 02178, or directly at P.O. Box 747, S-2-N-3, Starke, Florida, 32091.



Photo by Campbell-Boulanger

Robert Patrick's drama "JUDAS."

Judas (Bradley Zerst, left) and Peter (Patrick Lyons, right) join Jesus (Michael Jancek, center) in the Lord's Prayer as Jesus' Mother, Mary (Lin Haring), regales him to action against Roman tyranny in a scene from "Judas" by Robert Patrick. Patrick is

directing the play for Janus Theatre Co. for production at Valley Art Theatre, 509 S. Mill Ave., Tempe, March 11-2, 17-19, and 14-26, at 8:00 P.M. Tickets are \$5.00 with discount rates available for groups of twenty or more. Call 258-9773 for reservations.

International Report

BIZARRE DEATHS IN LONDON

London (IGNA/UP) — Scotland Yard sealed off two dilapidated rooming houses in north London on February 10 in their investigation of the bizarre deaths of 16 young men killed by a male mass murderer who chopped up his victims.

Police said that a 37-year-old man, identified as a civil servant with police experience, as the one charged with the murders.

Detectives claim that the killer had been picking up men in pubs over a five-year period, strangling them, then hacking them to pieces to dispose of their bodies.

Two severed heads were found in one of the rooming houses. The last killing may have been just three weeks ago.

It may prove to be one of the biggest murder investigations in British history. Three bodies have been found, with another 13 believed buried in a second location.

Police plan to dig up a garden and the floorboards of a house in Kilburn, northwest London.

"We believe there are 16 victims in all, more than the victims of the Yorkshire Ripper," said a police spokeswoman.

BAN ON GAY ADVERTISING ON UNITED KINGDOM TV

by Lindsay Taylor

London (IGNA) — Britain's Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) has been infuriated by the appearance of a gay ad on British television.

The ad-a-10-second slot broadcast on January 1 for London's *Capital Gay* newspaper - appeared at midnight after an hour-long gay entertainment program. The ad was deemed by the IBA to have offended against the code regulating all television advertising. The IBA has reiterated its ruling that all gay ads are unacceptable, and has demanded an explanation from officials at Thames Television, the company responsible for broadcasting *Capital Gay's* ad.

The IBA's stand has come under fire both from gay groups and from TV executives. Mike Jarrett, chair of the Campaign for Homosexual Equality, commented that it was nonsensical that advertising aimed at gays was banned on Channel 4, when that channel was set up specifically to cater to the interests of minorities. The ban is particularly ironic since Channel 4 is desperate for advertising, having reduced the price in order to make sales.

In reply, the IBA claims that it cannot accept gay ads because it is bound by the terms of the 1981 Broadcasting Act. The IBA's lawyers interpret this Act to mean a ban on all advertising for gay newspapers under the clause that reads: "No advertisement shall be permitted which is inserted by or on behalf of any body who objects are wholly or mainly of a religious or political nature, and no advertisement shall be permitted which is directed towards any religious or political end or has any relation to any industrial dispute."

London's Gay Switchboard has likewise been banned from advertising, as has Benjy's Disco, the latter for having an "indirectly unacceptable product."

It is now felt that *Capital Gay's* ad will make it much harder for the IBA to maintain its stand, especially in view of the increasing number of programs for and about gays. There are also hopes of an amendment to the Broadcasting Act to liberalize its restrictions on ads in general.

National Report

HOUSTON POLICE ANNOUNCE NON-DISCRIMINATORY HIRING POLICY

Montrose Voice/via GPA Wire Service

Capt. E. F. Leija of the Houston Police recruiting section said Thursday, Feb. 3, that the department will no longer require a police applicant to answer questions dealing with sexual preference, which may have the effect that sexual preference will not be a factor in hiring.

The modification was the result of review of recent court decisions regarding the subject, said Leija. "We have modified the section which asked questions on sexual activity of all applicants," he said, "Which means that sexual preference will no longer be a factor."

He said that persons with a history of sexual offenses such as rape or indecency would still be excluded from employment, as well as convicted felons. "But this is true for the heterosexual applicant as well as the homosexual," he said.

"WOULD KARL MALDEN BE OFFENDED?"

San Francisco — A Gay business in San Francisco has just lost its American Express credit card charge privileges because "working with those people" would not be in "the best interests of the company." The Connector, a computerized phone hookup service which put Gay men in contact with others looking for phone sex or later meetings, was given less than thirty days to terminate its American Express services, itself a violation of the contract agreement.

Sex is certainly not the issue here, as a quick glance through the Yellow Pages of the San Francisco phone book will verify. You can call "Penthouse Pets," "Aphrodite's Specialized Service," "Laurie's Showgirl Sex Line," or "Diana's Phone Sex" and use an American Express charge card. There's no doubt that when AMEX referred to "those people," it meant Gay men.

Al Hall, who owns and operates The Connector, plans a multi-million dollar suit against the travel giant. He says, "This is pure discrimination against Gays," and he intends to fight. Hall, blind since birth, is a sort of electronics wizard who is fascinated with the possibilities of his marriage of phones and computers. He feels that his service, linking lonely people with others like them with no cash involvement, "provides a vital link to a world where they aren't abnormal, or even unusual."

Unlike other phone services, which employ men who may even use scripts in order to titillate callers for a fee, The Connector enables a caller to meet other interested callers anonymously so that both parties are into whatever they decide to share. This is made practical by a sophisticated computer-linked phone circuit which matches incoming calls as they appear.

All that sounded good to callers from 35 cities in 16 states, and the business promises to expand. Losing a major credit card might slow that down. The big question is: how does American Express feel about "those people" who use their credit cards?

RESOURCES FOR GAY BLIND IN JEOPARDY

Chicago (IGNA) — The Lambda Resource Center for the Blind is in financial difficulty and may have to curtail its services to the gay and lesbian clients who use its facilities.

According to Director Terry Gorman, LRC for the Blind needs a mere "\$650.00" but even this amount has been hard to come by.

The tape duplicator and two reel-to-reel tape recorders need repairs. The money in the treasury of the organization must be spent for tapes.

Some of the organizations achievements in 1982 were the recording of *Gayellow Pages* and the addition of 16 new titles to its book collection, doubling of the number of subscribers, and expanding its newsletter to individuals in Latin America, Europe, and Australia.

Gorman says that without the Lambda Resource Center, its "blind subscribers would once again become isolated from our community and would cease to have access to gay and lesbian resources and culture."

Those interested in this urgent appeal may contact: Terry Gorman, LRC for the Blind, 3225 N. Sheffield, Chicago, IL 60657, (312) 274-0510 (eve.)

NGN CELEBRATES FIRST ANNIVERSARY

The National Gay Network (NGN) is the only full-time commercially operated broadcast network reporting news about the lesbian & gay communities. The service, a brainstorm of radio producers Bernard Lawson & Tom Post, celebrated a one-year anniversary this February and has already been picked up by several radio stations. Based in San Francisco, NGN offers worldwide coverage. Interested people living in an area where NGN is not aired can call the network (415-664-7010) and listen to a five-minute broadcast which is changed every other day and on Sundays. The phone broadcasts are listened to by more than 16,000 people monthly and include interviews, sports, entertainment reports and commentaries by gay activists.

"BEFORE STONEWALL" GAY FILM SEEKS DOCUMENTARY MATERIAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The producers of "Before Stonewall", the public television funded documentary film on the history of lesbians and gay men in the United States, are pleased to announce two new grant awards: The New York Council for the Humanities has awarded \$40,000, and the New York State Council on the Arts, \$15,000 to the project. In addition, a national call for materials has gone out to lesbian and gay archives, centers for the research of women's history, the feminist and general press and organizations for older lesbians and gay men.

The two new grant awards are significant steps towards realizing the film's total production budget. A new campaign has been launched to meet the challenge set by the major funding agencies to raise the remaining \$25,000 needed to produce the film. Now, all tax-deductible donations from individuals and organizations will be matched by the New York Council on the Humanities.

The filmmakers (Greta Schiller, Director; John Scagliotti, Executive Producer; Robbie Rosenberg, Co-Director and Associate Producer; Harold Petrick, Producer), in collaboration with researchers across the country, are now beginning to compile audio and visual materials which will document lesbian and gay history prior to 1970 and will form the core of the film.

The producers of "Before Stonewall" are currently looking for photographs, home movies, journals and diaries, tape recordings, art work, letters and other materials for possible inclusion in the film. "Before Stonewall" would like to hear from lesbians and gay men who have or know of visual and/or audio materials that might be of interest.

Anyone who has ever saved a snapshot of a lover, relative or friend, or anyone who remembers the one lesbian or gay bar that existed in their hometown before the birth of "gay liberation" is urged to contact the filmmakers. **DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL MATERIAL.** Please write and tell us what you have. All responses will be kept strictly confidential.

For more information concerning tax-deductible donations or the submission of materials to the film, please contact: "Before Stonewall" 630 Ninth Ave. #908, New York City, New York 10036.

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL AGAIN REJECTS GAY RIGHTS

via GPA Wire Service

New York — For the seventh time in twelve years the New York City Council has rejected the bill which would prohibit discrimination against people on the basis of sexual orientation in the areas of employment, housing, and public accommodations. By a vote of 6 to 2 today, the General Welfare Committee of the New York City Council voted not to discharge the latest version of the Gay Rights Bill to the full Council for a vote, thus defeating the chances for passage this year. After the vote, many supporters staged a demonstration in the committee's chambers, and police eventually had to physically remove many demonstrators, charging them with trespassing.

New York City Council President Carol Bellamy said that she will introduce a motion on the floor of the full Council which would seek to set aside the committee's vote and put the bill up for a vote by the full Council. Supporters are not optimistic of the chances of success in this however, since the same attempt was made last year and it failed.



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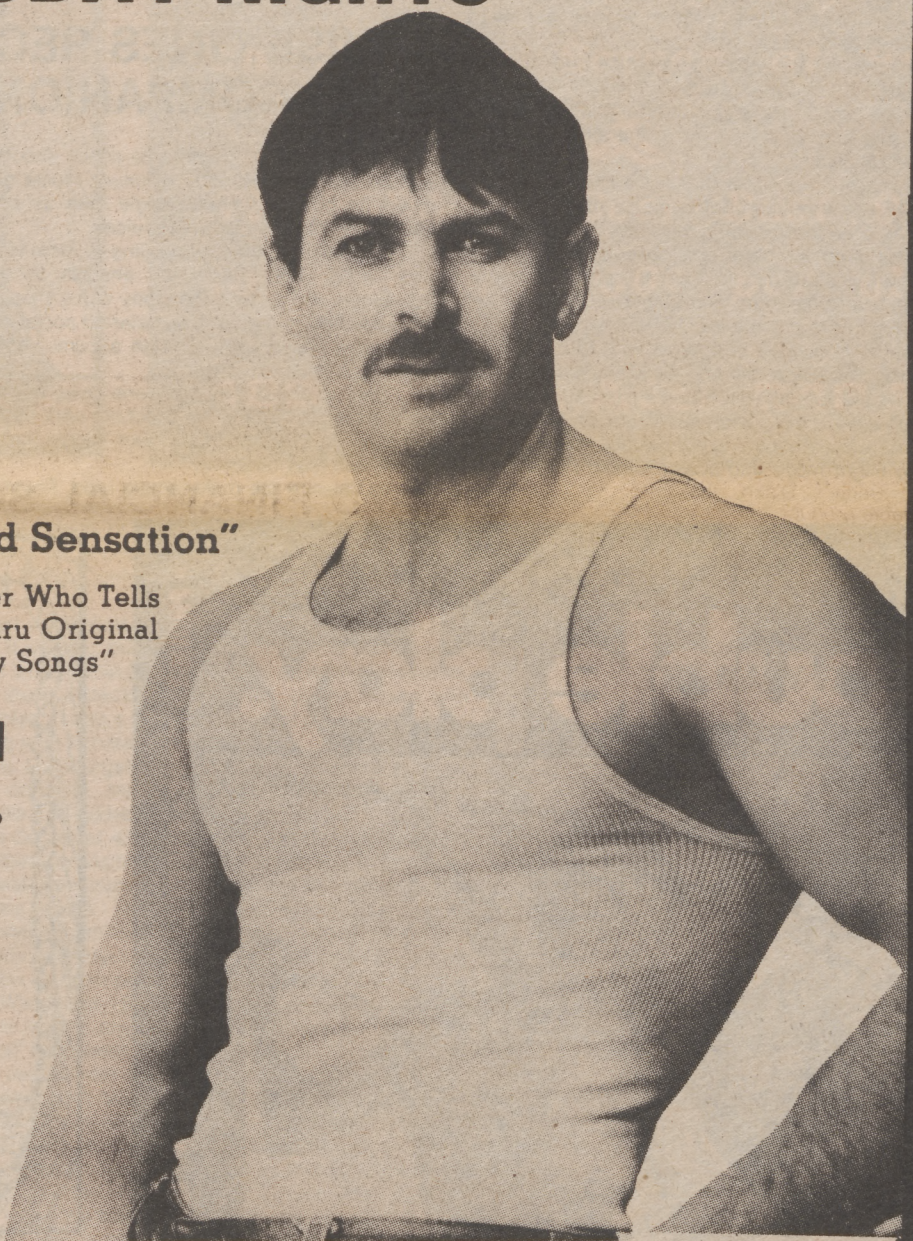
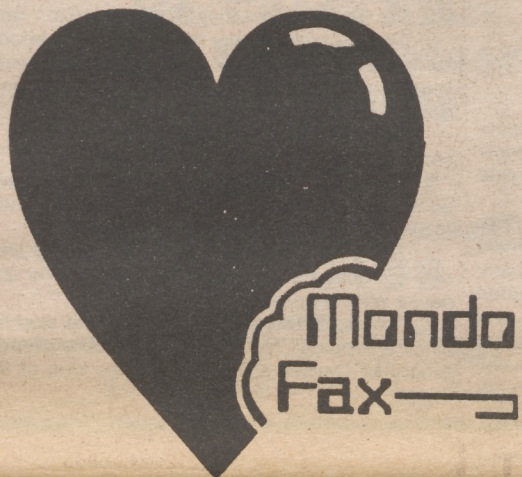
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SAN FRANCISCO MAYOR FACES RECALL

by Daniel Curzon

San Francisco (IGNA) — The mayor of San Francisco must stand for election on April 26 because of a recall measure signed by some 35,000 disgruntled San Franciscans.

Ostensibly the reason for the recall is a petition circulated by the White Panther Party, a pro-gun group, which was incensed by Mayor Dianne Feinstein's push for a gun-control law in the city. (The law passed but was later declared within the state's, not the city's, legislative jurisdiction.)

The mayor and many others feel that it was numerous gay voters who signed the recall petition not because of gun-control, but because of anger over the mayor's rejection of a proposed spousal benefits bill for gays and other non-married couples.

The White Panthers appeared in the Castro District soon after the veto of the live-in-lovers measure and quickly gathered more than the necessary number of signatures (18,000).

The gay community is divided in how to vote in the special election, only seven months before the regular November election. Some feel that gays should vote against Feinstein because she has shown condescension toward gays and their lifestyles. Others feel that this mayor is more sympathetic and liberal than several of the other politicians who might move into power should Feinstein be ousted.

Gay Supervisor, Harry Britt, no ally of the mayor, voted with the other nine members of the Board of Supervisors (one abstention) to express their objection to the recall election.

Feelings run toward approval of the right for citizens to force a recall whenever enough wish to, as well as discontent that an elected official must answer for any specific legislature, approved or disapproved, instead of answering for a whole administration.

CRUISE LINES RECRUIT MALE COMPANIONS

Although it did not state its policy about hiring male companions for male passengers, a luxury cruise company has publicly stated its policy of hiring single men as companions for single women over fifty on its long cruises.

Royal Cruise Line, according to Neal Hirschfield of *The New York Daily News*, has been anxious to attract single female passengers. To assure that they enjoy themselves, the company had added more males to its salaried social staffs or has recruited older male passengers through a combination of free fares and other incentives.

"Isn't it about time someone gives her what she really looks for in a cruise?" reads the brochure sent by Royal Cruise to travel agents. "This winter, give your single lady clients the cruise experience they deserve!"

To balance the male-female ratio, Royal Cruise has recruited

120 "distinguished gentlemen" to serve as unofficial cruise hosts aboard its seventeen winter Panama Canal and Caribbean cruises. The hosts will function as dining, dancing, and card-playing partners on the line's two big ships, the Royal Odyssey and the Golden Odyssey. They also are available as companions for cocktail receptions and excursions ashore. Whether they have more explicitly sexual duties to perform is left unstated.

Most of the hosts are West Coast residents, recommended by travel agents who do business with Royal. In their ranks are retired businessmen, lawyers, military officers, and professionals in their 50s and 60s who are "single," "congenial," and "good travelers."

The issue of whether the cruise line is encouraging gigolos has surfaced. Every attempt is made by the cruise line to give the impression that the males involved are passengers, not hired hands.

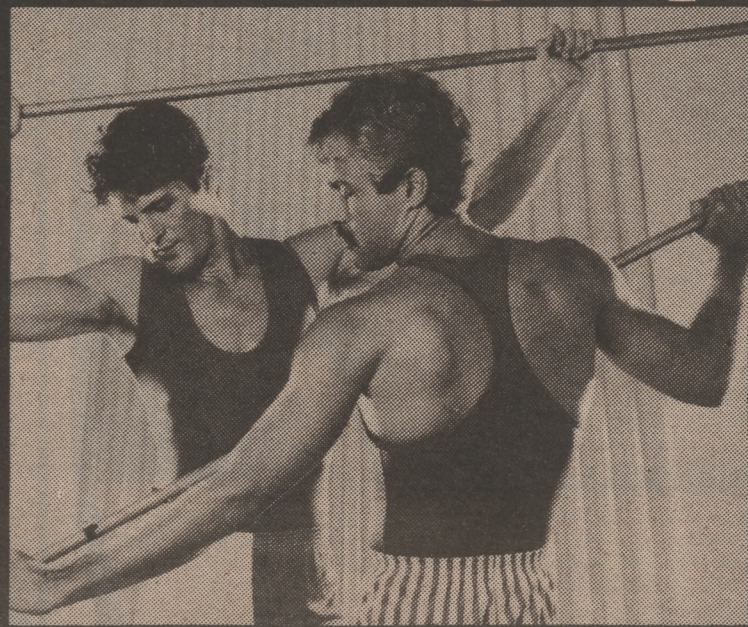
Traditionally gay and bisexual men have been employed as companions in similar circumstances.

The Cunard line goes so far as to have a uniformed social staff on its cruises. Passengers on the QEII are frequently over the age of sixty.

Hosts can be put off the ships for misbehavior, although only one has been put off a Cunard liner, that for illness, not for hanky-panky with the passengers.

The Holland American Cruises line said it was looking into a singles program for its ships, but the president of Norwegian-American Cruises said, "It's not the kind of thing we would do." (IGNA)

Double play.



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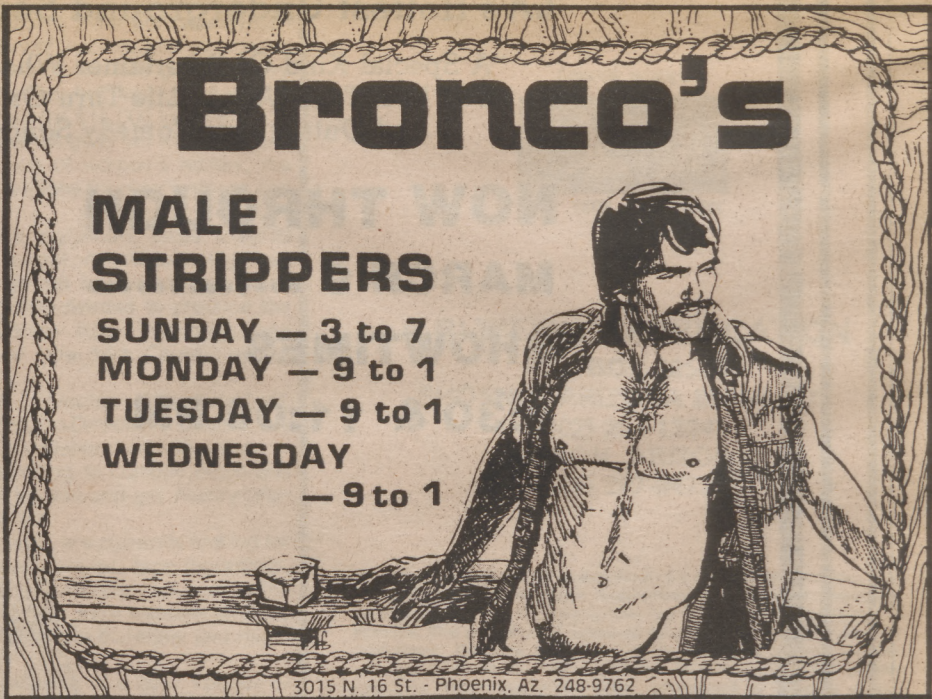
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Saturday,
March 19th
8PM

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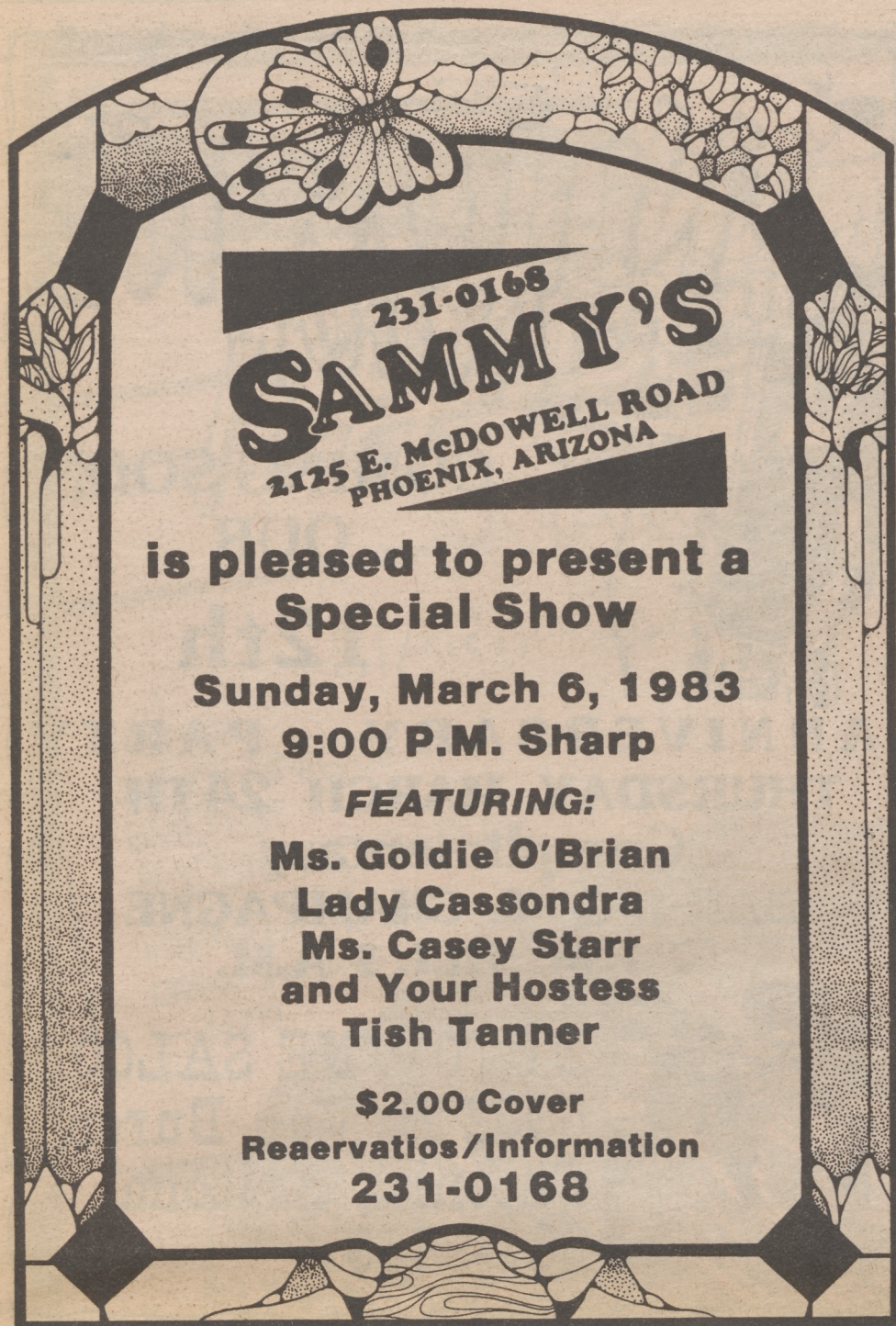
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MONDAY - Video Night 8:00PM



WEDNESDAY - "Dynasty" Night
on the Big Screen at 9:00PM

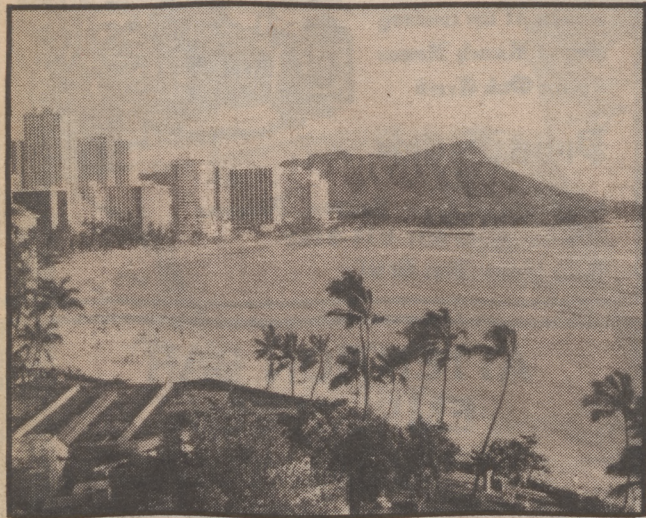


THURSDAY - Beer Bust 9:00PM
to 1:00AM (50¢ per glass)

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DOING AMERICA WITH BOB DAMRON

OAHU



The busy little island of Oahu is, quite simply, paradise in the Pacific! Phenomenal Honolulu, with a population of half a million plus is the capitol of Hawaii, and beautifully situated on the south shore of Oahu. Most tourists head directly for the section known as Waikiki Beach, which houses some of the most expensive real estate in the world. The "Gathering Place" has always had perfect beaches, swaying palm trees, a pounding surf, rainbow covered mountains, out-of-sight sunsets and a year around tropical climate. Add towering skyscrapers, glamorous restaurants, 25,000 hotel rooms, all sorts of sports and cultural facilities, occasional bumper to bumper traffic... and you have over-crowded Oahu!

I prefer not to drive in Waikiki, as you can easily walk from your hotel to the beach, bars, restaurants and shopping centers. Taxis are readily available, as are pedi-cabs (a sort of rickshaw on a bicycle) and in some cases, the attractive young drivers as well. Of course you will need transportation if you want to tour the island and visit Pearl Harbor, Diamond Head, Pale Lookout, Waimea Falls, Mormon Temple, Byodo-In Buddhist Shrine, Polynesian Cultural

Center, University of Hawaii or catch the big waves at Makaha. If you want to live-it-up, rent a Cadillac convertible from Queen-for-a-day Car Rentals in Kuhio Center... and check out the hunks who own it.

Six years ago I wrote that Hawaii was "a great place to take your lover"... and it still is... but you can also have a ball on your own! Hula's Bar at 2103 Kuhio (at Saratoga) is an island institution. This super island disco attracts a multi-racial, unisex crowd with lots of pretty preppies. It has a beautiful outdoor patio with a huge Banyan tree strung with thousands of little lights. Just around the corner on Kuhio is Hamburger Mary's, and in between is 'Dirty Mary's', Oahu's crueziest macho hideaway. They have just expanded their patio and added a small disco.

Pat's Cocktail Center at 435 Atkinson, opposite Ala Moana, is 'the' place for resident or visiting wahines (women). The Question Mark II, Do Jiggy and Blow Hole are neighborhood bars catering to mostly older kanes (men). The original Question Mark at 43 Beretania in downtown Honolulu gets some western / levi guys late afternoons and early evenings. Hawaiian bars are open daily until 2:00 a.m., but if you want to party and boogie later, head for the very mixed Wave Waikiki, at 1877 Kalakaua... the only place open until 4:00 a.m. For action anytime, try the Steamworks at 307 Lewers, the 'hottest' bath west of San Francisco.

The only gay restaurants are the Godmother which features Italian fare and Hamburger Mary's, which offers organic burgers with lots of alfalfa sprouts or whatever. For great, straight dining my favorites remain Michel's at Colony Surf, Bogwell's 2424, Canlis, Chez Michel, Colony Steak House, Hanohano Room, Marrakech, Matteo's, Nick's Fishmarket, Protea, Ships Tavern, The Summit, Third Floor, and at times the Maile Room at Kahala Hilton. Also very good, but somewhat less expensive are Bobby McGee's, Buzz's Steak & Lobster, Chart House, John Domeni's, House of Hong, Hy's, Kobe, L'Auberge in Kailua, The Pottery, Tony Roma's, Trattoria, and The Yacht Harbor. Avoid almost every place else, including luau and dinner boat cruises.

It's a shame but there are still no gay resorts or guest houses on Oahu. Over the years I have stayed at many hotels, including the Hawaiian Regent, Hilton Hawaiian Village, Sheraton-Waikiki, Royal Hawaiian and Hyatt Regency. All are great if you can afford about one hundred per night. When I'm lucky enough, I lease a one bedroom condo for a week or two at Waikiki Shore for about half the price. Of course, lower rates are available at the Reef, or dozens of smaller hotels.

For shopping and cruising visit the new Kuhio Center, next to Hula's and Mary's. You will see some of the most gorgeous numbers in the world along Waikiki beach... but unfortunately, you will rarely find them in the bars. There are gayer beaches, but I like the area in front of the Royal Hawaiian Hotel for swimming, sunning and body surfing.

If I knew I could never return to Hawaii, it would be the same as "Paradise Lost". Beyond Oahu's obvious attractions are the diverse 'neighbor islands'... described by me in an article last winter. You can find grand canyons, waterfalls, rugged coasts, sugarcane fields, and volcanic craters. Over-all, the islands are true 'adventures in paradise', and when Hawaii calls, if I can, I come flying. Mahalo Hawaii for everything, and aloha until next time!

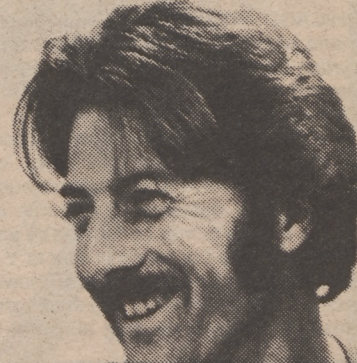
(For more detailed information, pick up a copy of the BOB DAMRON ADDRESS BOOK '83 — America's foremost travel guide — available at most better bars, baths and book stores throughout America. Or send \$11.00 for your copy (which includes packing and shipping) to BOB DAMRON ENTERPRISES, INC., P.O. Box 14-077, San Francisco, CA 94114).

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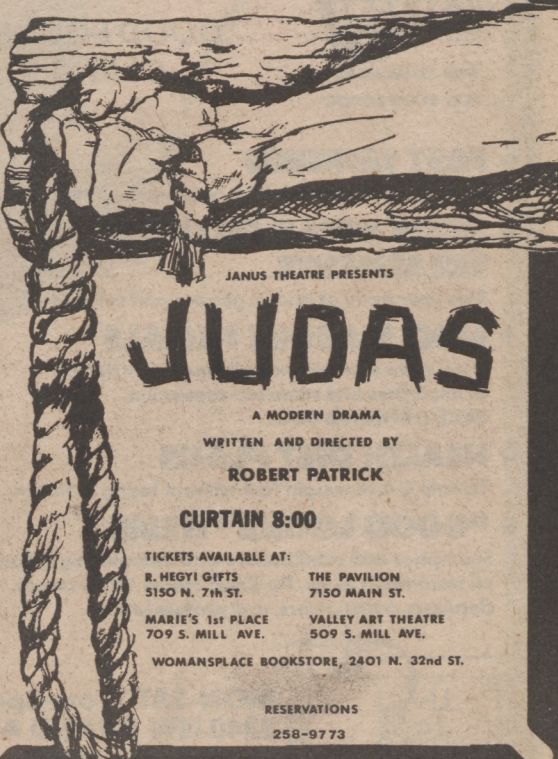
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HEPATITIS B VACCINE: KNOWN SAFETY AND UNKNOWN RISKS

CHICAGO — Two federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) physicians writing in this week's *Journal of the American Medical Association* underscore the safety of the newly licensed hepatitis B vaccine and urge that vaccination of high risk groups continue.

The statement by Robert J. Gerety, MD, and Edward Tabor, MD, comes in the wake of concern that some blood plasma used in making the vaccine is obtained from hepatitis B-positive male homosexuals, who have been the most numerous victims, so far, of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). There has been speculation that AIDS may be caused by an agent that can be transmitted through blood or blood products.

According to Gerety and Tabor, however, "the known risk of hepatitis B for persons in high-risk groups (hospital workers, homosexuals, intravenous drug abusers) far exceeds the risks of

vaccine-induced infection by a theoretical transmissible agent that would have to survive the purification and inactivation procedures applied to the licensed hepatitis B vaccine."

The manufacturing processes to which Gerety and Tabor refer, which include treatment of the donated blood plasma with pepsin, urea and formaldehyde, have been designed to inactivate all known groups of animal viruses by interfering with their ability to reproduce and infect human cells. (The purification and inactivation procedures are more thoroughly described in a letter to the editor appearing in the January 21, 1983, issue of the AMA's weekly newspaper *American Medical News*, written by Maurice R. Hilleman, PhD, and Marvin E. Jaffe, MD, researchers at Merck Sharp & Dohme, manufacturers of the hepatitis B vaccine.)

Only one known case of Kaposi's sarcoma, a tumor characteristic of AIDS, has developed among the more than 19,000 persons who were vaccinated in several clinical trials of the vaccine, according to Cladd Stevens, MD, of the New York Blood Center, New York City, who is quoted in a "Medical News" section article in this week's *JAMA*. Eleven cases of AIDS have since occurred among 3,600 male homosexuals who remained unvaccinated in a Blood Center trial, while the case of Kaposi's sarcoma occurred among the 1,083 men who were vaccinated.

Subsequent to another clinical trial run by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Atlanta, more than 30 cases of AIDS have occurred among 5,986 unvaccinated men, while no cases have appeared among 714 vaccinated men, says Donald Francis, MD, from the CDC branch in Phoenix.

Because the frequency of AIDS among vaccine recipients in the trials is lower so far than that reported in nonvaccinated participants, there has been some speculation that the hepatitis B vaccine may protect against AIDS. But, Francis objects, "We have no evidence for that right now, although it appears that (the vaccine) is not causing the disease."

PROFILE PHOENIX BENEFIT PARTY TO KICK OFF AIDS FUND, HELP ARC

A trust fund to aid persons involved with AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), either as a victim or in research will be established in Arizona with proceeds from *Profile Phoenix*, a party. Several cities and states have already started such trusts with parties and donation drives. Response, due to the rapid spread of the disease throughout gay communities and because so many persons have friends who have succumbed to it, has been very strong throughout the country. One reason for individual communities rising to the need has been attributed to foot-dragging on the part of governmental agencies and Congress in allotting funds to establish research toward finding a cure. In the first year, total public funding was only \$500,000, while recently Congress did pass a special appropriation for an additional \$2,000,000 to continue the programs instituted by Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

Reportedly there have been five confirmed cases of AIDS in Arizona with at least one attributed death in 1982. Other cities have confirmed many hundreds of cases and deaths. The fund for AIDS will go to help find treatment for victims and to further disseminate information throughout the medical community of Arizona. It will be administered by a Board comprised of persons from the medical

profession and members of the community.

The Alternative Relations Center will share in the proceeds of *Profile Phoenix* with a donation to the Center being made to help with expenses. ARC is undergoing a great deal of reorganization and funds are needed to help with the crisis Hot Line, youth programs, and its committees.

The party, being held at Sound Beyond, 943 E. Van Buren, is organized by the proprietors of the business combined with a committee of Honorary Hosts from throughout the community. Stewart Barkal, DJ at The Probe, Los Angeles, one of the country's best known private dance clubs, will be in charge of music at the party which lasts from 10 PM until daylight. Beer and wine will be served until 1 AM with juice continuing all night. Parking and security have been provided.

Tickets are available at R. Hegy, TRAX, and Sound Beyond.

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ATTENTION BAR EMPLOYEES

Several local bartenders have expressed the desire to form a bar employees association which would include bartenders, waiters, bouncers/doormen and managers.

The association would be primarily socially oriented, with the possibility of holding one or two community wide fund raisers for worthy recipients yearly.

Bar owners and managers should be advised that the association in no way shall act as a union of bar employees and will not be politically motivated. It will be strictly social, for the benefit of the bar employees and a clearing house for ideas on how to improve business and relationships between bars.

The first meeting will be Saturday, March 5, at the Alternative Relations Center, 2602 E. Clarendon, Phoenix. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 2:00 P.M. Barowners are invited and even encouraged to attend this first meeting.



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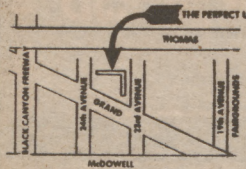
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BASIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT AIDS

by Lawrence Mass M.D.
via GPA Wire Service

Q: What is AIDS?

A: AIDS stands for acquired immune deficiency syndrome. It does not stand for "gay plague," "gay cancer," or "grid," which are medically inaccurate and subject to pejorative misuse. AIDS is a newly documented, still poorly understood disorder, in which part of the body's immune system is damaged in varying degrees of severity. As a result, some victims of AIDS are more vulnerable than others to a large and growing number of serious, often fatal diseases. The two most frequently reported of these diseases continue to be an otherwise rare form of cancer called Kaposi's sarcoma (KS) and a more common protozoan infection of the lungs called Pneumocystis carini pneumonia (PCP) that is not ordinarily seen in immunologically healthy individuals.

Q: What Causes AIDS?

A: The cause of AIDS is not yet known. However, the majority of leading observers currently believe that AIDS is caused either by an infectious agent—probably a virus, by repeated infections with this agent, or by many exposures to several such agents. While observers remain divided in their opinions about the exact cause or causes of AIDS, virtually all of them agree that AIDS is to some degree contagious.

Q: Who is at risk?

A: Although the cause of AIDS remains unknown, there is a rapidly growing body of information about populations at risk. At the present time, these are: (1) gay or bisexual men who are sexually intimate with many different male partners (this risk is highest in New York and other large American cities), (2) those who use shared needles for the injection of drugs, (3) some native Haitians and Haitians who have recently immigrated to the U.S., and (4) individuals with hemophilia A disease and other individuals who receive large quantities of blood or blood products by transfusion. Other possible or interrelated risk factors have been said to include: (1) a history of chronic, recurrent, or multiple communicable diseases, such as hepatitis, herpes, gonorrhea, syphilis, amebiasis, as well as infections with cytomegalovirus and Epstein-Barr virus; (2) genetic predisposition; (3) a background of malnutrition; (4) the use of such recreational or illicit drugs as inhaled nitrates ("poppers"), marijuana, and narcotics such as heroin; and (5) sexual practices which involve the repeated ingestion of or exposure to urine, feces, and/or sperm. Some theorists have suggested that such diverse substances as sexual lubricants, steroid creams, and estrogens might also be contributory in some cases.

Q: Is there a difference between immune deficiency and AIDS?

A: There is considerable disagreement about the exact definition of AIDS. For some observers, only patients who have already experienced such serious complications of acquired immune deficiency as KS, PCP, or other major opportunistic infections qualify for the diagnosis of AIDS. Most, however, believe that persistent laboratory evidence of immune deficiency, accompanied by one or more of the symptoms listed below, may also qualify for the diagnosis of AIDS. What is crucial to emphasize here is that many of those with immune deficiency do not yet have and may never develop KS, PCP, or other life-threatening complications of AIDS.

The federal Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta currently defines a reportable case of AIDS as one in which there has been a history of at least one of the following diseases: "KS, PCP, or other major opportunistic infections. The latter diseases include pneumonia, meningitis, or encephalitis due to one or more of the following: aspergillosis, candidiasis, cryptococcosis, cytomegalovirus, nocardiosis, strongyloidosis, toxoplasmosis, zygomycosis, or atypical mycobacteriosis (species other than tuberculosis or lepra); esophagitis due to candidiasis, cytomegalovirus or herpes simplex virus; progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy; chronic enterocolitis (more than 4 weeks) due to cryptosporidiosis; or unusually extensive mucocutaneous herpes simplex of more than five weeks duration." This information was printed in the September 24, 1982 issue of Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. Physicians may report cases of AIDS - as defined by the CDC - to the AIDS Task Force of the CDC by telephoning (404) 329-3472.

Q: How many of us are immunodeficient?

A: The published and anecdotally reported findings of several ongoing, hospital-based studies tentatively suggest that many sexually active gay men, especially those in such urban centers with large gay communities as New York, San Francisco, and Los Angeles, may be immunodeficient. In public statements, federal health officials have speculated that "thousands or tens of thousands of homosexual men may have varying degrees of the acquired immune dysfunction" and be "at risk" for developing complications of AIDS.

Q: If I have immune deficiency, how likely am I to develop KS, PCP, or other serious complications of AIDS, and over what period of time?

A: The answers to these extremely important questions are currently unknown. However, one study suggests that a

significant percentage - perhaps 10 percent - of gay men with persistent laboratory evidence of immune deficiency and persistent lymphadenopathy (see "symptoms" below) may develop KS over a period of months to years.

Q: What are the symptoms of immune deficiency?

A: In its mildest forms, immune deficiency is not accompanied by specific disease symptoms and may go unnoticed. In more severe forms, the symptoms are those of the rapidly growing number of diseases that patients may develop. Why these particular diseases, medical authorities do not yet know.

There are two roughly designated branches of the immune system. Because AIDS as it is thus far characterized involves defects that appear to be primarily limited to the cell-mediated branch of the immune system, anticipated diseases include wide-spread infections caused by viruses, fungi, protozoa and other parasites. Diseases that are caused by many strains of bacteria and those that are linked with certain kinds of allergies would involve the relatively unaffected antibody-mediated branch of the immune system. The most often observed diseases in AIDS have been KS and PCP. They are the two primary causes of death so far (with PCP having claimed approximately twice as many lives as KS). But many other opportunistic diseases, sometimes occurring in combination with KS, PCP, or both, also have been documented.

Generally speaking, AIDS symptoms may include:

- Profound fatigue, which may be accompanied by light-headedness or headache, that is not explained by physical activity or by a psychiatric or substance-abuse disorder.
- Persistent fevers or night sweats.
- Weight loss of more than ten pounds during a period of less than two months that is not related to diet or activity; loss of appetite.
- Lymphadenopathy or enlarging, hardening, painful or otherwise prominent lymph nodes. Diseased lymph nodes or glands often are found in the neck, armpits, and groin and may be associated with a wide variety of non-AIDS conditions. When persistent for more than three months in at least two different locations, however, lymphadenopathy may be an important predictor of KS.
- Recently appearing or slowly enlarging purplish or discolored nodules, plaques, lumps, or other new growths

Continued on page 10

A Private Party ...

PROFILE

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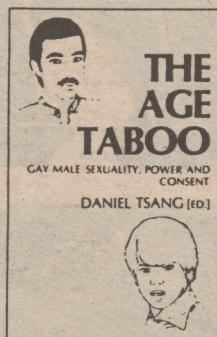
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Basic Questions and Answers About AIDS

by Lawrence Mass M.D.
via GPA Wire Service

Continued from page 8

on top of or beneath the skin or on the mucous membranes (inside the mouth, anus, or nasal passages or underneath the eyelids).

- A heavy, persistent, often dry cough that is not from smoking cigarettes and that has lasted too long to be a cold or flu.
- Persistent diarrhea.
- Thrush, a thick, persistent, whitish coating on the tongue or in the throat which may be accompanied by a sore throat.
- Easy bruising or unexplained bleeding from any orifice or from new growths on the skin or on the mucous membranes.

Q: Besides "amebas" what would cause persistent diarrhea in someone with immune deficiency?

A: There are many common causes of persistent diarrhea in those who are immunologically healthy as well as in those with immune deficiency. However, one of the recently reported causes of this symptom in gay men with AIDS is an otherwise uncommon parasite in human beings called *cryptosporidiosis*.

Cryptosporidiosis can be thought of as somewhat similar to amebiasis. Both these diseases are caused by organisms that are larger and more complex than bacteria. In fact, one of the most intriguing questions about *cryptosporidiosis* is whether it might be responsible for some of the cases of "refractory" or "untreatable" diarrhea - often attributed to amebiasis - that have puzzled gay community physicians in recent years.

The symptoms of *cryptosporidiosis* include loss of appetite, low-grade fever, abdominal cramps, and 5-10 watery, frothy bowel movements a day followed by constipation. (The diagnosis may be strengthened by testing stool specimens for oocysts of *cryptosporidium* using the Sheather's sugar-flotation technique.)

Like certain forms of dysentery, this disease is thought to be self-limiting in immunologically healthy individuals; that is, disease symptoms disappear within a period of several weeks. Because of the rarity of this condition in human beings (it is usually found in such animals as sheep, deer, and cattle), however, very little is known about treatment. In those with immune deficiency, *cryptosporidiosis* may therefore be a serious, life-threatening illness.

Q: Why might easy bruising or bleeding be symptoms of AIDS?

A: There are currently at least 22 cases of an uncommon disorder of blood clotting in gay men, some of whom are immunodeficient, in the New York City area. This disorder is called autoimmune thrombocytopenia purpura (ATP). We don't yet know if ATP is part of or otherwise connected to AIDS.

But the sudden appearance of this abnormality of immune regulation in the same population, at the same time, and in the same principal location as the AIDS epidemic suggests more than coincidence.

The diseases of autoimmunity, the immune system attacks not only foreign invaders like viruses and bacteria, but the actual tissues of the body as well. In ATP, it is the platelets - necessary for normal blood clotting that are attacked and injured by the patient's own antibodies. The symptoms of ATP are easy bruising or unexplained bleeding and many include enlargement of the spleen. The laboratory diagnosis of ATP begins with complete blood count (CBC), which includes a platelet count. Steroids and sometimes splenectomy (removal of the spleen) have been used to treat ATP. In those patients who also have AIDS, however, the safety of using immunosuppressive steroids is less certain. Some observers feel that plasmapheresis (see below) holds promise in the treatment of cases.

Q: What should I do if I have any of these symptoms?

A: It must be emphasized that each of these symptoms may appear in diseases that are not caused by or associated with AIDS. When not easily or otherwise explained, however, the persistence of one or more of these symptoms should be discussed with a health-care provider who is familiar with AIDS.

Sexually active gay men who are without symptoms are currently being advised to reduce risk and to see a physician at least once a year for a thorough physical examination and routine laboratory testing and at least twice a year for sexually transmitted disease (STD) testing.

For additional information contact the NGTF CRISIS-LINE 800-221-7044 for information about services available in your area.

Q: What are the diagnostic tests for immune deficiency?

A: At the present time, there are several routine, inexpensive laboratory tests that may either strengthen or help to rule out a diagnosis of immune deficiency. These include white blood cell and lymphocyte counts, both of which are often low in victims of immune deficiency. Skin testing with common "recall antigens" (substances which, when injected underneath the top layer of skin, produce a small swelling or bump in immunologically healthy individuals) continues to have uncertain diagnostic value.

When immune deficiency is strongly suspected, the diagnosis may be confirmed by several lab tests that are very expensive and not routinely available. These include: (1) lymphocyte subpopulation studies, which measure the relative numbers of "helper" and "suppressor" lymphocytes. In AIDS as well as in some other forms of immune deficiency, these numbers are abnormal and the ratio of helper to suppressor cells has dropped from a standardized number, which is set by measuring this ratio in healthy "control" subjects.

(2) lymphocyte transformation studies, which measure some of the functional abilities of lymphocytes to respond to or be stimulated by foreign substances called antigens or mitogens.

Q: Can AIDS be treated?

A: There are no certain treatments at the present time for the varying degrees of immune deficiency that are seen in AIDS. There are, however, treatments for individual episodes of the opportunistic infections, for KS, and for the other diseases to which AIDS predisposes. These treatments include antibiotics, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, and experimental agents and techniques. Unfortunately, many of these treatments are transient in effect, costly, irregularly available, and not without risks.

Among the experimental agents and techniques, interferon, immunomodulators such as interleukin-2, and plasmapheresis have attracted the most attention. Interferon, which exists in many forms, is known to have antiviral properties and has shown promise in the treatment of some forms of cancer.

Immunomodulators are still highly experimental medicines that are believed capable of increasing, decreasing or otherwise modulating immune responses. Plasmapheresis is a technique that involves removing the plasma (liquid and protein) fraction of a patient's blood. Like the interferons and other immunomodulators, plasmapheresis remains highly experimental, costly, irregularly available, and not without risks. Whatever the promise of these agents, it is most regrettable to have to report that, at the present time, there are no proved mechanisms of prevention or treatment for the kind of immune deficiency that is seen in AIDS.

Q: If I have immune deficiency, what precautions should I take?

A: The following recommendations are adapted from those prepared by Dr. Roger W. Enlow for the forthcoming issue of the GMHC newsletter:

- Avoid intimate contact with individuals who have flu, colds, or other known communicable diseases.
- Limit the number of sexual partners whose good health is not certainly known to you. For many, this will mean fewer different partners. Avoid sexual contact with individuals who themselves have many different partners. Anonymous sexual encounters in baths, backroom bars, and movie theaters are particularly ill-advised.
- Minor injuries such as cuts and scrapes should be cleansed with soap and water. If they don't heal promptly, they should be checked by a physician.
- Be sure your doctor knows you have immune deficiency before accepting any kind of vaccination. Many vaccines have "attenuated" (living but altered) viruses which will not harm people with normal immune capabilities, but which might be a problem for those with immune deficiency.

- Avoid travel to areas of the world where communicable diseases are known to be more common.
- Be sure that foods such as fruits and vegetables are well washed or peeled.
- Be sure all meats, poultry, and fish are well-cooked.
- Avoid exposure to animal wastes, particles of which may be present in very dusty environments. Take extra precautions when handling the wastes of household pets, especially cats. Many cats carry *Toxoplasma gondii*, an organism that can cause serious infections in those with immune deficiency. Wear rubber or synthetic gloves when cleaning your cat's litter and wash your hands thoroughly afterwards. If your cat or other pet appears to be ill, it should be promptly checked by a veterinarian.
- Avoid the casual use of antibiotics. Take them only when your doctor (who understands that you have immune deficiency) directs you to do so.
- Eat a balanced diet with a full measure of vitamins, minerals, proteins, and calories. Some people have recommended unusual or extreme dietary regimens that are of unproved medical value.
- Never allow yourself to receive injections (shots) unless they are administered or supervised by a physician or other health care provider who understands that you have immune deficiency.
- As much as possible, avoid recreational drug use until more information is known about their possible contributions to immune deficiency.
- Avoid using shared toothbrushes and razors.
- If your doctor has told you that your platelet count is low, avoid using aspirin, which may aggravate bleeding tendencies.
- Reduce stress. Some studies have explored stress as a possible rather than primary factor in some cases of immune deficiency.

Q: Is AIDS caused by a single infectious agent or by multiple factors?

A: There are differing points of view on this question.

In the single-agent theory, hepatitis B may serve as a model. Like hepatitis B, AIDS appears to be sexually and parenterally (from exposure of the blood stream to contaminated foreign blood or blood products) transmissible.

In addition, the two subpopulations at high or highest risk for hepatitis B are the same subpopulations that are at high or highest risk for AIDS. If AIDS is caused by a single agent similar to hepatitis B virus, it would be expected to affect some individuals more seriously than others. Most victims of hepatitis B have no disease symptoms; others become moderately ill with jaundice, fatigue, etc., but recover completely within a period of weeks or months; and about 5-10 percent develop chronic active hepatitis, a devastating illness with a high mortality. Many observers feel the AIDS epidemic is unfolding in precisely such a pattern; that is they believe that even repeated exposures to an AIDS-causing agent will affect some individuals mildly or not at all and others very seriously.

The multi-factor theory stresses that each of the affected subpopulations - the gay men, IV drug abusers, Haitians, and hemophiliacs - may have different reasons for developing AIDS.

However, in each of the major theories - single agent vs. multiple factors - AIDS is believed to be caused, to a greater or lesser degree, by infectious processes. All theories thus agree that the greatest risk factors for AIDS are sexual contacts with many different gay or bisexual male partners, and the use of shared needles for the injection of drugs.

Q: Is there any risk of catching AIDS from the new hepatitis B vaccine?

A: The fact that gay men were used as blood donors in the development of the new hepatitis B vaccine has caused some observers to speculate that the vaccine may be contaminated with an AIDS-causing agent. Despite these concerns, the vaccine has received major endorsements from the Centers for Disease Control, the New York City Department of Health, New York Physicians for Human Rights, the New England Journal of Medicine, and Homosexual Health Report, among other medical organizations and publications.

These endorsements were based on the assumption that even if an agent transmissible by blood were found to be responsible for AIDS and even if such an agent were present in some donors of plasma for the hepatitis B vaccine, it would not be expected to survive the physical and chemical inactivation procedures required for the production of the vaccine in the United States.

Continued on page 14

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GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

AN INTERVIEW WITH QUENTIN CRISP

by Bob de Brecht



"Artist of Words", "Eccentric", "Flamboyant", "Shocking", "Courageous", "Guru of Survival", and "The Grandma Moses of the Gay Movement", are all adjectives used by many writers before me to describe their experience with Mr. Quentin Crisp. This seventy-four year old author will be performing his one-man show, AN EVENING WITH QUENTIN CRISP, at Taylor's on March 13 through 16.

In conversation with Mr. Crisp last week, I asked what we can expect to see during his stay in Phoenix. "One long party, I should hope. I'll come out and talk for a while and visit with my audience, then answer any questions that you might have. I should hope it will be fun for all of us." Sounds nice and relaxed, but from reports of others that have seen his performance, Mr. Crisp tends to understate the entire evening.

For those who are not familiar with the legend of Quentin Crisp, he is everything that everyone has ever said about him. His accomplishments include authoring CHOG, A GOTHIC FABLE; ALL THIS AND BEVIN, TOO; LOVE MADE EASY; and, HOW TO HAVE A LIFESTYLE. His autobiography, THE NAKED CIVIL SERVANT, was filmed and televised in 1976 starring John Hurt. His most recent works, HOW TO BECOME A VIRGIN, and DOING IT WITH STYLE, in addition to his on-stage performance in AN EVENING WITH QUENTIN CRISP, are continuations in the increasing saga of one of the world's greatest and most creative minds. That he sees himself as "conservative", "rather mild", and "alarmingly honest", only endear one to this kindly aged, but not old, gentleman. He talks of life, simply and beautifully. He does this in phone conversation, through his typewriter, and on stage. What more can an audience ask. His meager and sometimes scary beginnings as an artist model never dampened his spirit. He has evolved into that overused accolade, "a sheer delight."

"American audiences are much kinder than any other audience in the world.", he proclaims, and therefore continues his love affair with the American public. Arriving in America in 1976, "because somebody paid my fare", was a turning point in his life. He has been "literally everywhere except South

Africa", and loves America, specifically Manhattan, best of all. "America is more like the movies than you've ever dreamed." Other favorite cities are Chicago, and Los Angeles, "which is just New York lying down." Anxious to see Phoenix, Mr. Crisp has no expectations about anything, so is seldom disappointed.

His unkempt living quarters are also part of his legend, and he comments that, "I shall be 112 years old before this place will match my room in England." He declares that he only lives the way everyone else wants to, but can't because their upbringing "will haunt them."

When questioned about his coming out, he simply states, "I was never IN. At the age of six I waltzed around the house in my mother's clothes while every one hoped it would wear off. It didn't, of course, and here I am." He believes that there is much too much emphasis on a gay community. "I want to live in the world. You cannot use the word 'gay' when referring to people, only when describing an action, thoughts, involvements."

"I am a resident alien in America, so I imagine I have already abdicated my throne in England.", he added when questioned about his title as ENGLAND'S OTHER REIGNING QUEEN. "America is wonderful for me. It's always cheering you on, making you a part of it and never letting you actually rule."

Past, present and future were a big part of our conversation, and Mr. Crisp doesn't really care how he will be remembered. "I shall be dead, you see, and I don't believe I'll have any awareness after my death, or I shant actually be dead." "I have no regrets, they don't apply to me, simply because everything I have done is done, I had no alternatives." And, continuing, "I should like to do a big movie, if only to utter the words, 'your carriage awaits'." Admitting that he is completely fascinated with the movie industry, he would just like to see a major motion picture made completely. I sadly reported to Mr. Crisp the death of Tennessee Williams earlier on the day of our conversation. "No, I didn't know that he had died, but, there really wasn't much else he could do now was there? He did most of his great works while he was young." "I don't know why he was so embittered. He sat in a chair one afternoon and realized that while sitting there he had just made six million dollars. I should think living in the South makes everything strange."

Mr. Crisp has portrayed Lady Bracknell and Lord Alfred Douglas in works by the late Oscar Wilde. "These were things I just happened upon. At my age, I don't retain the lines very well, you see, so I did kind of invent my own dialogue." I have a sneaking suspicion he knows at all times exactly what he is saying; and what will work with the audience he is saying it to.

When asked about the many descriptions of him, Mr. Crisp reiterated his earlier description. "The statement that I am flamboyant, eccentric, or even shocking amazes me. I see myself rather conservative, certainly not that different from the way people dress today. I wear a little make-up, even when I am not on stage, and I dye my hair, but I seldom get a second look when walking down 14th Street (New York)."

"Outrageous", not very. "Entertaining", most certainly. Dale Williams, owner of Taylor's, has the insight to bring to us one of the most articulate and clever people we will ever meet. I can't wait. He'll be here March 13 through 16 at 9:00 P.M. While we have only begun to Get To Know Mr. Quentin Crisp, I feel he is just as anxious to get to know us.

OUT AND ABOUT

by Garry Mangum

Just when I thought we were getting it together as gay men and women and on the eve of my twentieth anniversary of opening my closet door, I am finding there are thousands of dark, unseen, treacherous, evil little amoebas around us - waiting to end each of our lives in something as simple as a kiss.

My mother has always been an alarmist. She has made it her bonded duty to alert me of each new catastrophe to endanger my life. For Christmas she gave me a gross of surgical masks - (she says I should wear them when out cruising the bars and discos) - and a matching number of surgical gloves. She finished off the thoughtful gift with a case of Lysol unscented spray disinfectant (which definitely has a scent all its' own).

I've never been an alarmist, but now I'm absolutely freaked every time I read yet another news story concerning the different types of herpes, venereal diseases, hepatitis and not to mention AIDS. It boggles my mind, when I think about how I once had only one fear - on whether lice could really jump off toilet seats. And now I worry about the germs in the air I breathe or a little peck on my lips turning into life-threatening situations.

I don't know about you, but I think I would stay clear of any man wearing a white surgical

mask and gloves, regardless where I met him (unless, of course, it was outside the emergency room of some hospital). And trust me, Lysol does not mix with Polo or Halston.

Wearing that regalia into a bar might start a new type of "kink". (Want to play doctor?) And the mask would make drinking anything impossible. Of course, that may be beneficial in another way, especially with all the germs on the glassware. Next thing you know, bars will be allowing you to bring your own glassware from home.

I find now that I am automatically turning the other cheek, to even my best friends, for fear they are potential "Typhoid Marys" (no pun intended) and theirs might well be the true kiss of death.

I am not trying to make fun of these serious problems in our communities. It scares the hell out of me when I read that the Center for Disease Control estimates between 5 million and 20 million Americans have herpes. That means there are at least 500,000 to 2 million gay people with the same problem. And to think I used to worry about masturbation causing pimples.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

...BRONCO's has made some schedule changes and they've added go-go men on their new \$1.00 Beer Bust nights. On Thursday, March 10, a very special evening will unfold at 9 P.M. as a cast of well-known illusionists display their talents in a "Wild Wild West Revue" in honor of Mr. Vern Nichols. Scheduled thus far are Cissy Goldberg,

Continued on page 13

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Garry Mangum

Continued from page

JoAnne, Ebony, Moosala, Tish Tanner, Ricki Rae, Linda Day, Tamara, Margo St. Jayne, Brandy, Cindy Miller, Erica Erotica, Toby Marshall, Pat Williams and a supporting cast of thousands. Admission is \$2.00 for exciting entertainment, raffles, auctions and pure fun. Vern, a well known rodeo participant, is in the hospital recuperating from a recent illness.

...SHAMOO's will be the site of Phoenix' "Tootsie Look-A-Like Contest" with JoAnne and Tish Tanner as hostesses on Wednesday, March 9, at 9:30 P.M. First prize is \$100, with a second of \$50. Call 956-9937 for information.

...TRAX will show their appreciation to the men of TRAX for making the bar one of the best of Phoenix with a special all night party on Friday, March 4, beginning at 9 P.M. with beer and well drinks at \$.75 from 9 P.M. to midnight - munchies all evening and \$.50 Marys and Screwdrivers at 6 A.M. Saturday. Another hot night, with hot music, hot men, hot times. Admission will be by ticket only - which are free at the bar so pick yours up fast!

...SAMMY'S continues to be the Beer Bust Palace with four nights of suds - Monday and Wednesday are \$2.00 nights from 9 P.M. to midnight and Tuesday and Thursdays are \$1.00 nights from 9 P.M. to midnight with well drinks, Comfort and Schnapps at \$1.00 also. A very special afternoon Jazz Festival featuring the Valley's best known vocalists on Sundays from 3 to 6 P.M. has received acclaim from many local publications and is well worth the \$2.00 cover. Come listen to the Reed Family - Margo, Francine, Laverne, Melody — Linda and Carmella — Heather Whitaker — Alice Tatum — and many more.

...Hope your week is the best and I hope to see you Out and About.

TRAVEL NEWS UPDATE

by David Starkman

EFFECTIVE MARCH 2, United Airlines introduced their new 767 aircraft to PHOENIX with service to CHICAGO. Coach seats are wider and 88% of all seats are on an aisle or by a window.

HERE ARE SOME updated roundtrip discount travel air fares from PHOENIX (per person, subject to restrictions and availability.)

- ISREAL - \$897.00 includes 7 night stay, 5 star hotel and car.
- MEXICAN RIVIERA - CRUISE - 7 nights, 8 days, \$775.00
- EAST COAST - \$198.00
- CHICAGO - \$198.00
- DALLAS - \$198.00
- SAN FRANCISCO - \$100.00
- LAS VEGAS - \$70.00 includes Stardust Hotel 2 nights, 3 days.
- DENVER - \$98.00
- LOS ANGELES - \$50.00

MOST TRAVEL AGENCIES offer insurance coverage against cancellation, loss of personal effects, delayed baggage, travel delay, robbery and burglary of personal money, accident and medical emergencies, accidental death and dismemberment. The all inclusive insurance package is about \$29.00 and should be given serious consideration, especially if you are going on an extended trip.

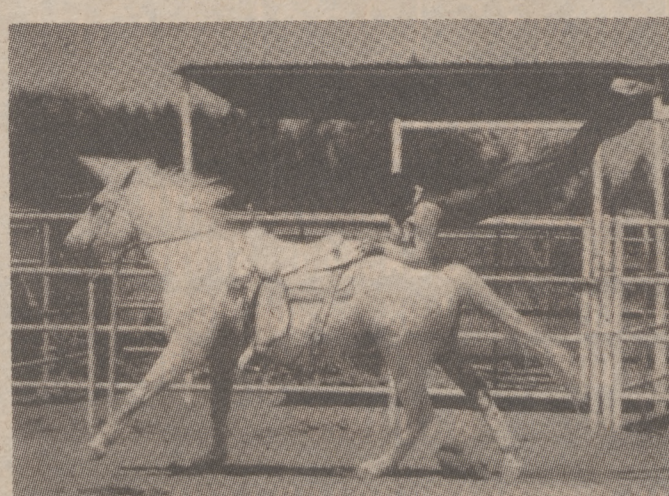
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April 9, 1983 and returning Sunday, April 10, \$179.00 per person based on double occupancy includes roundtrip airfare from PHOENIX, hotel accommodations at the Century Plaza Hotel in LOS ANGELES and a Saturday matinee ticket for "Dreamgirls" at the Shubert Theatre. March 14, is the final day to book this theatre event.

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(2nd article in a series of 6)
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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. Hours are 9:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

John, Bishop of Orleans in the 11th

Century, signed his pastoral letters

"Flora."



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CHARTER MEMBER



Basic Questions and Answers About AIDS continued from page 10

Since hepatitis B remains the most serious and widespread disease problem in the gay community, sexually active gay men who have never had hepatitis B but who are currently at highest risk for this disease are being advised to undergo vaccination.

Q: Should special infectious precautions be taken by hospital personnel in the management of patients with AIDS?

A: "There is presently no evidence of AIDS transmission to hospital personnel from contact with patients or clinical specimens. Because of concern about a possible transmissible agent, however... it appears prudent for hospital personnel to use the same precautions as those used for patients with hepatitis B infection." (From the CDC-MMWR, 11/5/82)

Q: Can AIDS be spread by casual social contact?

A: At the present time, there is no evidence to suggest that AIDS is aggressively contagious. According to the CDC, "airborne spread (as in outbreaks of influenza) and interpersonal spread through casual contact do not seem likely" (MMWR, 11/5/82)

Q: What is the mortality rate associated with AIDS in New York at this time?

A: As reported by CDC in the Sept. 24, 1982 issue of the MMWR "the eventual case mortality rate of AIDS, a few years after diagnosis, may be far greater than the 41% overall case-mortality rate." It is estimated that 2-3 percent of all men in New York between the ages of 25 and 45 who die in the next year will die from an AIDS-related disease.

Q: What is the prediction for the future?

A: Epidemiologic studies so far predict more diseases. The curve has been rising steadily. The CDC reports now indicate that the case acquisition rate has doubled every six months since the reports were made over a year and a half ago. If this is so, and if this continues to be so, we are looking at a possible 10,000 cases in two years time.

Q: How can the risk for AIDS be lowered?

A: Although no conclusive evidence exists, so far as we know, to lay direct blame on any drug, activity, place of residence, or other factor as the cause or causes of AIDS, virtually all leading observers currently believe that the greatest risk factors for AIDS are: (1) sexual intimacy with many different gay or bisexual male partners and (2) the use of shared needles for the injection of drugs. Physicians are currently advising their gay patients, especially those who live in urban centers with large gay communities, to limit their sexual activity by having fewer partners and by selecting partners who are known to be in good health and who are themselves limiting the number of different partners with whom they have sex. One implication of this information at the present time is that, apart from abstinence and masturbation, monogamy represents the lowest risk

potential. It is the increasing number of different sexual partners, not sex itself, that apparently increases the risk of developing AIDS.

If you are known to be immunodeficient, you should protect yourself and others by abstaining from sexual contact with new partners until you are advised otherwise by a knowledgeable health-care provider.

Q: What can each of us do to avoid such reactions as guilt and fear?

A: Do not waste valuable energies on negative reactions to sex. Now more than ever, ignorance, arrogance and hypocrisy about sex are to be repudiated. If anything, be even more genuinely affirmative about your sexuality. At the same time, you can respect without contradiction that we are dealing with a public health emergency in the form of a very serious, apparently new disease that appears to be sexually transmitted. This, on top of the spread of too many other sexually transmitted diseases.

There is nothing "immoral" or "sinful" about celebrating your enjoyment of swimming in the ocean. If, on the other hand, your favorite beaches have posted undertow or oilspill warnings, it is prudent to avoid swimming in those areas as long as the signs are up. Like heterosexual men and women who are sexually active with many different partners, many gay men are currently having to face certain health risks that are increasingly associated with our sexual or lifestyle preferences. In the interest of public health, it is important to know what those risks are and how they can be minimized.

If you want to receive the free newsletter of the Gay Men's Health Crisis, write to: GMHC, Box 274, 132 W. 24th St., New York, N.Y. 10011 or call GMHC Hotling (212) 685-4952.

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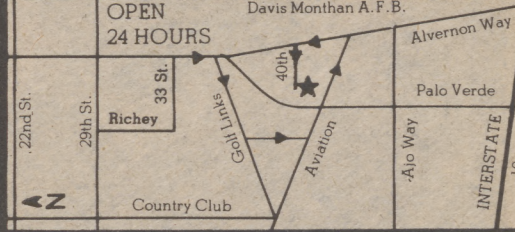
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