

VOLUME 1 Issue 8

JUNE 14 - JUNE 27, 1985

**MIGHTY REAL: THE MUSIC REPORT
SPEAKS WITH SYLVESTER**

**PARADIZE GRAND OPENING
CELEBRATION UNDER WAY**



Taylor's



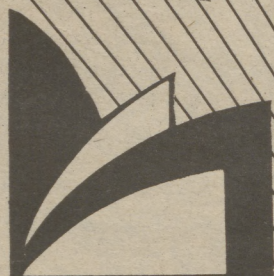
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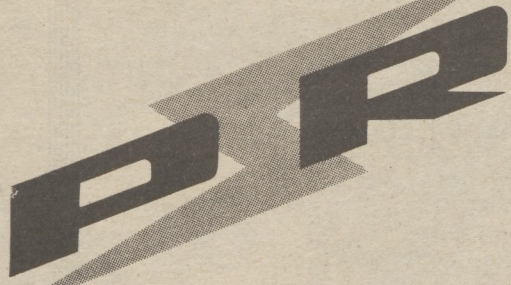


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VOLUME I, ISSUE 8



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Publishers: Ed Brick, Larry Kramer
 Editor: Ed Brick
 Associate Editor: Larry Kramer
 Photography: Larry Kramer
 Advertising Manager: Larry Kramer
 Contributors: Ed Brick, Covina, Ed Doyle, Larry Kramer, Ron Linde, Jesse Lujan, Chris Manzano, Joe Marino, Robrt Pela, Sourdough Productions, P. King.

For Information: **275-8810**

PUBLISHED BY BRICK DIMENSIONS INC.
 P.O. BOX 5948, PHOENIX, AZ 85010
 (602) 275-8810

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Dear Readers,

We wanted to use this space to prompt those out there with "extra time" on there hands to get busy! Now we know "extra time" does not exist for most of us—but we can all squeeze out a little time here and there to help. Help who? All of us! Many of our all squeeze out a little time here and there to help. Help who? All of us! Many of our service organizations are in great need of assistance. So if we ever squeeze out that little bit here and there—we'll get a hell of a lot accomplished.

What kind of assistance are the service groups looking for? Anything and everything—phone time, fund raising, physical labor—any skill or talent you have could be useful.

Have we got you thinking? Good now pick up the phone!

Arizona A.I.D.S. Fund-Trust (A.A.F.T.) needs volunteers for an endless list of things to do, including the upcoming All-Night Party-Fundraiser at Hotbods on September 14th.

The Arizona Lesbian & Gay Task Force (A.L.G.T.F.) is always looking for people interested in bettering conditions in our community.

The list goes on and on, just set that little bit of time aside and get involved. Call the Hotline, they always need volunteers and might be able to direct you to other organizations in need of people.

Remember, the investment of time in YOUR community is also an investment in yourself.

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SACHA TALENTED MAN

Kenny, Kenny, Kenny... so good to see you... and Carol, and Cher, and Marlene, and Ella, and Bette, and Bette, and all the other wonderful personalities accompanying you on your recent stint at Taylor's. Such pleasure we derive from your assent above expectation in weaving contemporary material with classic camp. Shall we join in thanking our mutual host, Dale Williams, for his continuing good taste in bringing together the best in entertainment with the best in audiences? Yes? THANK YOU, DALE!

Regardless of whomever may be appearing under the spotlight at Taylor's, one can count on an evening of sensual (gratification of the senses... audio, visual, and your little tastebuds too, if you have the foresight to precede showtime with a fine meal at D.W.'s) delight. Kenny, you satiate me.



TAYLOR'S DELIVERS MORE FINE ENTERTAINMENT WITH PENNY HAMILTON

Describing her act as the WASP version of MAHOGANY and her body as USDA Choice, Penny Hamilton from the start lets her audience know just who and what she is. The vocalist/actress is an ample-bodied beautiful girl gifted with a "10" personality, as well as a voice. Her rapport with her fans is unequalled by any of the talent seen at Taylor's this season. That's right, Taylor's is the place, Penny is the talent, and you are the audience when Penny opens her June 19th through 23rd engagement. She'll be assisted by the pianistic talents of Brian Schucker, who has written songs for not only Penny, but also Kenny Sacha, Carol O'Shaughnessy and a soon to be release musical.

Penny's impersonations of Judy Garland, Barbara Streisand, Ethel Merman, Julie Andrews (Julie Andrews?), Jeanette McDonald, and Eartha Kitt will certainly make you laugh.

Penny is no stranger to the legit stage either, having played the likes of Ethel Merman, Gypsy Rose Lee, Peter Pan, and The Bay Area Critic's Circle Award for Best Performance Lead, Musical, in the 1979 San Francisco production of Beach Blanket Babylon Goes to the Stars, playing Snow White.

Penny admitted to our staff of reporters that while Maybelline has made her what she is today, she will not be conducting make-up seminars during the show.

SHAMOO'S TALENT SEARCH



Ted Mack might have fainted, but few of the patrons of Shamoo's Talent Search Finals seemed so inclined.

Pity the judges who, after witnessing turns by our four sequin-clad finalists, were then asked to choose but one of these girls as the winner.

Tamara played hostess to the talents of Coco, Devina, Jennifer, and Rose Trellis, each of whom wowed the audience with camp and style. Judges Zenobia, Penelope Poupe', John Weller, David Wiess, and Gregry of the Grand Camel concurred... and Mme. Trellis (who's searing rendition of "Dead Puppies" so captivated everyone present) was named Lady of the Evening.

Congratulations to Rose... and thank-you's to everyone involved in presenting an entertaining evening.

GENE R. STRATFORD

Attorney At Law

526 East Portland

Phoenix, Arizona 85004

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PR PERSONAL PROFILE



"JIM AND SHELLEY"

After their recent engagement at Taylor's, we had the privilege of sharing a few casual hours with Shelly Taylor Kiss and brother, Jim Fredericks. Young, successful, levelheaded people who have retained values gained on each rung of the ladder on their way up, Jim and Shelly are inspirational figures in this world of ups and downs. Not that they are shielded from day to day pressures, genuine open minds and hearts such as these sometimes open the wrong doors, however through a serious dedication to their work and comfort in sibling bond, they practice the fine art of keeping too busy to dwell too long on life's letdowns. In their professional lives, they set realistic goals for six to twelve month periods, once these have been attained, they implement new, well thought out plans. In five years time, this practice has taken them from their training grounds, a tiny upstairs lounge at a neighborhood pub in New Haven, Connecticut, to California recording studios by way of a multitude of cabaret appearances for a wide variety of audiences. Shelley's beautiful and versatile voice along with that of Jim's and his talented fingers on keyboard, have delighted the young and old, gay and straight with Pop music, ballads and a healthy dash of 'Nuevo-Camp' (Bette Midler non-offensive humor) and pave the way for their current break into 'underground dance' (look for a review of 'Seduction' in next issue's Music Report).

Present goals have Jim spending more time in the studio exercising his genius as producer, writer and arranger... the technical aspects of their launch into the recording industry. Shelly, with background in theatre and psychology (as well as retail experience) is a natural to the promotional side of this new phase. As they complement one another in music, so do they complement one another in business. No longer just 'Jim & Shelley' working the cabaret circuit as a duet, their positive growth together has achieved the growth of individual strengths as well.

Off stage, real life is quickly separated from theatre (so I'm told, though their apparent ease on stage and sincere audience interaction leaves Shelley's absence of stage makeup as primary indicator to the untrained eye). When working together, they travel as a family unit accompanied by Shelley's daughter, Lauren, and pussy cat, Othello. In Arizona, they find an 'incredible life force'. Strong audience contribution furthers their inspiratin to perform. Phoenix is somewhat of a hub of their more serious working world, just far enough removed to allow for positive rejuvenation before continuing their pursuit of current aspirations. As any artists breaking into new territory, they are anxious for honest reponse to their work. They value the Phoenician opinion, so if you are not familiar with their work, ask your D.J. to play "Seduction" and let him or her know your reaction so that it might be passed on ultimately to those most concerned, Jim Fredericks and Shelley Taylor Kiss.



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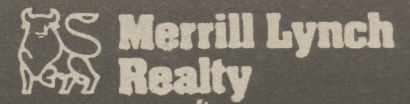
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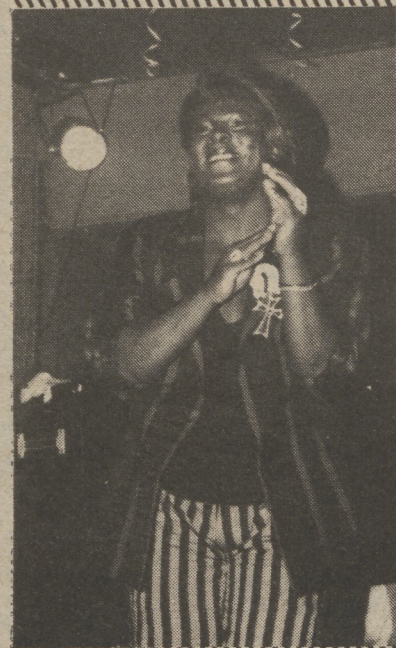
STARS SHINE BRIGHT IN PARADIZE

A week long Grand Opening Celebration at ParadiZe began on Friday, June 7th with the appearance of Sylvester (see the Music Report this issue) in the first night of his two night engagement. Sylvester treated the crowd to some of his most popular dance music hits and also included the fan-dancing talents of Linda Fizdale and the golden voice of Sherry Kimmerling.

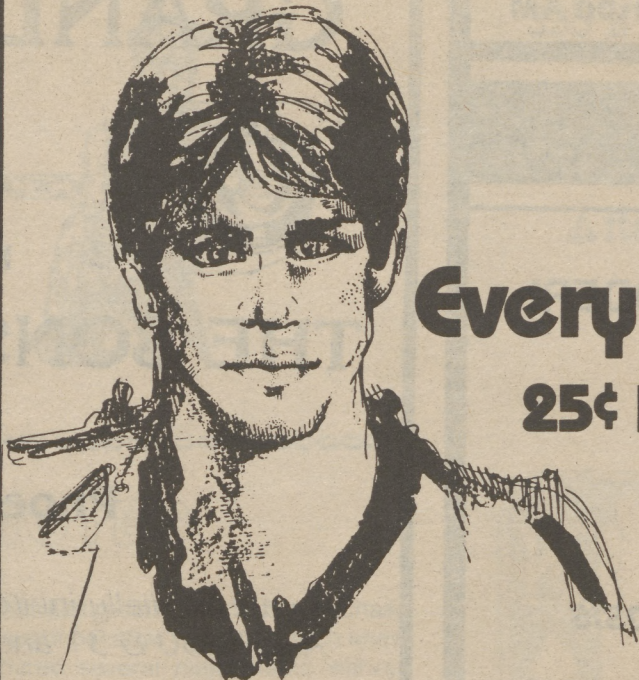
As the week progressed, ParadiZe presented patrons with the Joan Riversesque humor of songstress Wendee Winters. Wendee possesses a mastery of the fine art of ripping a subject to shreds while building it (or him, or her) up, inducing audience laughter to fill the fine line in between.

This weekend purchase tickets in advance (\$3.50) or at the door (\$5.00) for your chance to catch Pamela Stanley in the intimate cabaret atmosphere provided by ParadiZe. Pamela is known for such smash songs as "Comin' Out of Hiding," "I Don't Want to Talk About It," and "Looks Could Kill." Don't let these ridiculously low prices fool you, these performers are the REAL thing. Watch for Pamela in the ParadiZe contingent of Saturday's Parada.

It's all part of ParadiZe's way of welcoming you to their unique, casual establishment. The bar, under the direction of Michael Rouse, has developed a character all its own, offering a wide spectrum of entertainment ranging from afternoon videos to evening dance music, live performances to "Charlie's Nite" on Thursdays. If you haven't already, join the gang at the mid-town fun spot, ParadiZe, located at 727 West Camelback.



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FROM THE
ACCOUNTANT'S DESK

It's time to make another estimated tax payment June 15th (deadline Monday June 17th) for self employed individuals or if sufficient deductions were not made from payroll in April and May.

Form 1040-ES must accompany each payment. If you did not pay estimated tax last year, you will have to get a copy of the form from IRS or tax last year, you will have to get a copy of the form from IRS or your favorite accountant. After you make your first payment, you should receive a Form 1040-ES package in the mail.



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VII



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* \$10.00 discount for Sons of Apollo M.C. Associates	

Bike Not Necessary for Participation. Applications Available at Apollo's.

**JIM RODGERS
WOULD LIKE TO
THANK JIM, JOE,
AND THE STAFF
OF LITTLE JIM'S
307 FOR THEIR
INCREDIBLE
EFFORTS WITH
THE BENEFIT
SHOW AND
AUCTION HELD IN
HIS BEHALF... A
SPECIAL THANK
YOU TO THE
COMMUNITY OF
PHOENIX FOR
THEIR
CONTRIBUTIONS.**



BENEFIT AUCTION AT LITTLE JIM'S 307 BOOSTS JIM RODGERS' HEART FUND

Ginger Peaches, Roxanne, and Lady Cassandra in dual roles as entertainers and auctioneers, did some serious wheelin' and dealin', and gave a new perspective on the term "auction." Bidder turnout was good and all transactions were more than fair for both sides of the auction block. The final tally of sales brought in a hefty \$1390 for the heart fund established to assist the financing a heart transplant for Jim Rodgers. This, combined with monies raised at a recent benefit show, add up to nearly \$2200 gained through the efforts of Jim, Joe, and the rest of the family at Little Jim's 307.

That is an excellent beginning, however, Jim is looking at a final bill topping the \$40,000 mark. On Sunday, June 30th, Par Excellence Hair Dresser (3743 East Indian School Road, 955-7850) will be the site of a "Hair Cut A Thon" and Bake Sale. Hang on to your locks for a couple more weeks as a mere \$10 donation will leave you with a new "Do" and bring Jim a little closer to his vital surgery.

Jim has established the "Save a Life Heart Fund Foundation" (First Interstate Bank account #71190070) help out those in similar need after the installation of his new ticker. Your participation in these fund-raisers and your donations are gifts of life. To understand his appreciation, contemplate role reversal... many thanks to and from all those involved.

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LEATHERNOTES

We had a customer in the store last week who has just recently started to purchase leather. He had obviously been giving it a lot of thought because he pretty much knew what he was looking for design-wise and ordered several major items without hesitation. I asked him a couple of times what his friends thought of the additions to his wardrobe and just why he was buying leather now. His answers were never very clear and he didn't seem to take my questions seriously. Maybe he thought I was just making conversation. But I wasn't. It is interesting to talk to someone fresh into leather and discover their particular path to leather and the variety of reactions their journey has produced in those close to them. Each of us that have decided leather, and the feelings that go along with it are important, have our own stories to tell. Where or who or why is interesting but not vital. What is vital is the fact that we have decided, for whatever reasons, that we will demand a certain amount of respect and a firm observance of our shared masculinity.

Leather attitude. Now there's a couple of words. We have a number of people who stop by the shop to "shoot-the-shit" and don't even wear leather. Strange? not really. Leather attitude - masculine attitude - self-assurance. None of it really has much to do with what you wear. The clothing, the jeans, the chaps, harness or vest are just our way of communicating with strangers our attitudes toward ourselves. A way to show how we view ourselves and a desire that they view us the same way. A visual image of our public selves. But the attitude, the belief in ourselves, the self awareness must come from within. A leather vest might enhance your masculine nature but it cannot create it. We take input from friends and family, from things we read and things we see and work them into our daily lives. But ultimately, what we are, especially as adults, is our own responsibility. If we find something lacking, some facet of our character undesirable, we must take whatever action is required to improve our own feelings towards ourselves. Leather is but one of many ways to make a public statement of masculinity. When used in private, leather becomes a personal statement of commitment. But our masculinity, our commitment to our lifestyle must be our own.

Look at that man on the other side of the bar. Yes, his leather looks good, fits well and has definitely caught your eye. But what will maintain your interest? How tight he wears his chaps? If you cross the bar to be next to him and find his conversation to be negative and childish, it won't matter how the leather looks. But if he is open, honest, communicative, the leather he wears is but an addition to his nature. We all complain. We all have our pet peeves. And we use our interaction with others at public places to air our points of view. I'm not saying that a masculine man does not have his good and bad days. But leather attitude, masculine attitude demands enough self-awareness to recognize the positive in ourselves and those we interact with.

Viewing ourselves as masculine, with a desire to share our time with others who view themselves the same way, leather is a way to attract similar points of view. Life is a series of experiments. Never fall for the easy way. Never settle for the calm ride. Leathermen, men capable of working towards mutual understanding and mutual pleasure share a strength of commitment that is unique. Join us.

P. S. Congratulations to Jay for representing Arizona in Chicago so well and happy birthday to you.

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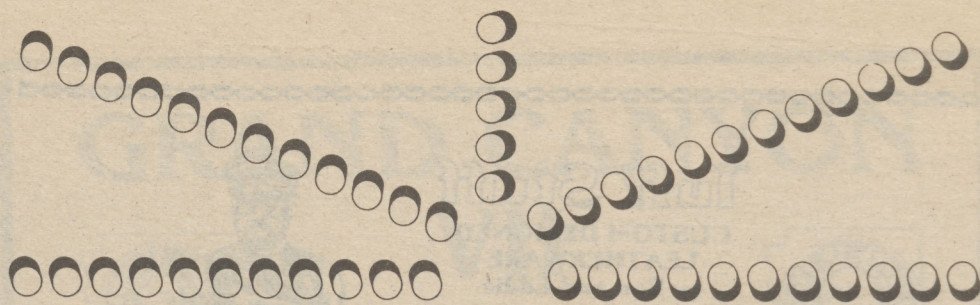
A G B A MEMBER

THANK YOU TO DALE WILLIAMS
& THE STAFF OF TAYLORS, ALL
OUR SPECIAL FRIENDS, AND THE
COMMUNITY OF PHOENIX.

MUCH LOVE & THANKS,
JIM FREDERICKS &
SHELLEY TAYLOR KISS



Jim & Shelley



PR ENTERTAINMENT REVIEW

The movie section is so much more interesting now. Lots of pictures and poses and drawings and 'bold' type and bold 'hype' and an occasional brief quote of critical comment, favorable of course. Better known locally as the "Leisure and the Arts", the title belies the fact that a person needs a pair of jet-powered roller skates and the constitution of an ox to make it around to all the new openings. A body has to be a true die-hard or seriously indiscriminate to accomplish such a feat. To help simplify matters, some make a distinction between the films they dash out and see on the big screen and those they wait to view at home on videocassette. An admirable idea at first glance. Considering some of the unabashed "gulping gourmets" and "chatty Charlies" that I have had to endure being seated next to, I might be the first to embrace the comfort of your living room sofa as a peaceful alternative. Goodness knows I didn't think anyone would need a blow-by-blow description of the likes of "View to a Kill." (No truth to the rumor that I told the guy to hush - I simply turned around and stared daggers.) All in all it must be remembered in the event that you invite me over for an evening of video viewing - it just might be old stuff by then - puff, puff.

Time was that suffering the indignity of standing in long lines was an acceptable part of the whole adventure of movie-going. That was when the moguls of moviedom would pick a release they deemed worthy of a single screen showing. It made it all somehow special. It generated excitement - and lines. Apparently nothing rates that sort of treatment this season. And indeed it has been some time since anything remotely resembling a "blockbuster" has appeared to coerce me into camping out for a good seat. There are no Lucas spectaculars on the horizon. (Even Mr. Spielberg has taken life a little easier by letting others do most of the work while he writes the stories and attaches his name to the productions.) (Re-releases of 'Gremlins' and Groan Home - 'E.T.' do not count.) More on him another time. At any rate, there are movies coming out of the woodwork, ladies and gentlemen. I soon wearied of the assortment of male idols over the age of twelve that there is to choose from. So when in doubt I blindly pursue the 'imported' stuff. And if it features a classy 'dame' - that's even more incentive. And if she - and the production, obviously - are British, that means I'll understand 'most' of what they are saying. I tend to wax poetic sometimes. Even more so after listening to the Queen's language for more than a few hours. Before I launch into the following, I think I shall imbibe a calmativie so as to mellow oneseif.


'A Private Function' stars Michael Paline and Maggie Smith. He is better known for his 'Monty Python' gigs. Thankfully his character here is totally in control. Ms. Smith plays his wife. If her upper lip got any stiffer it would crack her face. He plays with feet for a living and is content. She wants more out of life and is not content. The story is set just after the War and pork is still a rationed item. A few of the wealthier guys in town are secretly fattening up a pig for an upcoming 'private function' (private party). Michael and Maggie steal the pig and keep it in their two-floor flat (apartment.) This will be their ticket to respectability. I don't know about you, but sometimes the British are just plain, well, strange. Maggie's live-in Mum (Mom) wanders around trying to eat anything in sight and the pig gets tummy trouble (squirts). It is a credit to all concerned that it 'is' funny. 'Private Function' is a very cluttered, authentic little piece of British life. Don't worry about those words that whiz by unrecognized - they're only speaking English.

'The Return of the Soldier' has four very interesting folks in the leading roles. Who could resist Alan Bates, Ann Margaret, Julie Christie and especially Glenda Jackson? Welllllll, unless you really get off on these actors and actresses a word of caution. Steamy, dramatic storytelling it ain't. In a nutshell: Alan is a rich guy who lives in a mansion. He is married to Julie. His spinster cousin, Ann Margaret, lives with them. He gets called to do his duty in the War. Julie lounges around the mansion longing for his return. Ann-Margaret wanders around the mansion longing (lusting) for his return. When he finally shows up it is with a real bad case of shell-shock. He is now lusting after Glenda, a lower class girl he screwed in his younger, more carefree days. Julie is not entirely happy with this situation but tolerates the 'other woman's' presence because the shrinks say it might help. Okay fine. There is a little more to the story, but not much. (You know you are in trouble when you go to the snack bar to find out how long the film runs only to realize there is an hour more to sit through.) Glenda is wonderfully 'in character' as usual. Everything else is very low-key. I appreciate calm, dry approaches to a story. This one is hardly breathing. It is very nicely photographed. And you won't miss any of the dialogue because there is so little to trip over. Maybe I'm just jaded. Maybe I'm not romantic enough. Maybe I'm not into 'soaps' that take all night to get to where they are going. Maybe I should have done a Valium before I went.

REEL RUSHES

Did you catch the performance by Sylvester at the local pub last week? Were we really deserving of his scolding? Just checking. * Rumor has it that the one-and-only Rona Barrett will be joining Entertainment Tonight-EEEEKKK. * Anyone want to take bets on how long our finest theatre will survive on that very competitive corner - Camelback and 24th Street? I say we should pick it up and move it whole. * Dorothy Parker is known to have put down a pushy drunk during her period of 'Hollywood blacklisting' by commenting: "With the crown of thorns I wear, why should I be bothered with a prick like you?" * Is an evening out with the boys considered 'entertainment'? If you have a good time and don't spend a fortune and don't get arrested and make it to work on time the next day - maybe *





Janus Theatre Co. presents

VISITRIAMERISI

by David Rabe

June 21-30

VISITRIAMERISI

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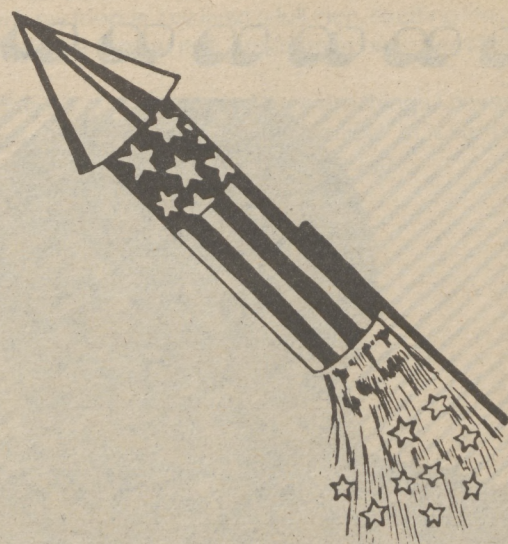
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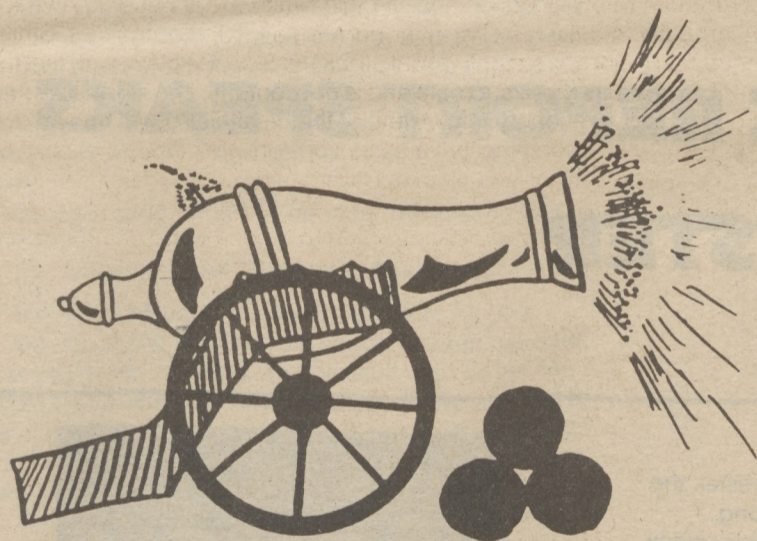


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THE MUSIC REPORT

ROBERT PELA

Do you feel that your association with gays, or your Gay-Disco tag has hindered your crossing over, or the success of your records?

Not at all. My sexuality doesn't enter into it. When I'm having sex, I'm not thinking about music. When I'm singing, I'm not having sex.

My music is more than disco. I have a certain style that my audience has come to expect. I have no problem with Program Directors, or anyone else in this business... it's all about respect. I give it, and I get it in return.

I am quite amazed with what I've gotten away with. In the beginning, people told me I was crazy. I was told that being black was obstacle enough, but that being black and openly gay was craziness. I never thought of these things as limits that I was placing upon myself. I was - and am - being me. And as a result, I get a lot of respect. A great deal more, I think, because of my truthfulness.

What about the commercial "death of disco" in the early '80's? Did you worry about your fame fading?

Not in the least. You must remember, I got into the disco end of things rather late. About 1979. I was in South America when it all happened.

me about an hour - and I was done. Very unglamorous.

There's not much in print about your exit from Fantasy Records. Was yours an amicable departure? What's the story?

It was... a fantasy... (laughs)

In 1983, Fantasy released Sylvester's Greatest Hits. How much input did you have into the production of that LP?

None whatsoever. They (Fantasy) put it together. For me, it was just a business deal.

Fantasy had a song, "Band of Gold," that I had recorded for them but never released. I had gone in and destroyed all the tapes of unreleased things that I had done while with Fantasy. I don't want anybody releasing all this old stuff after I'm dead, you know!

Anyway... I had recorded "Band of Gold" for them, and they had it, and I wanted it. So we worked out a little deal... I gave them permission to include "Do You Wanna Funk" on the Greatest Hits album, if I could release "Band of Gold" on Megatone.

I did, and they did, and it all worked out so nicely... "Band" was a huge hit, and now the vaults are clean.

MIGHTY REAL: THE MUSIC REPORT SPEAKS WITH SYLVESTER

Upon hearing that I had arranged to interview Sylvester, an associate of mine informed me, "You do not interview Sylvester. He interviews you." I was later to find this forewarning completely unfounded, but in the meantime decided I'd better brush up on my Sylvester... just in case.

Listening to his early recordings, I reminded myself that while Sylvester has always been a man of many stylings, he is known primarily for his dance-floor hits. That while he recorded a number of very diverse albums for the independent Fantasy label between the years 1977 and 1982, he was promoted primarily as a disco singer.

"You Make Me Feel (Mighty Real)", "Dance (Disco Heat)", "Fever." And of course, "Do You Wanna Funk?" Each of them certified hits. But how many remember his splendid re-working of "I (Who Have Nothing)"? Or his renditions of "Loverman" and "Cry Me a River"?

Most of us know him as Disco Sylvester. Many of us are aware that he occasionally performs in drag. But what of the man himself? What is the motivation behind his success? And what about the title of the current Sylvester album, *M-1015*?

Sylvester: My lover pointed out that the part number was the same as the release date. We decided that that must mean something... thus the title.

You mean...

I came back to the states and was Sylvester the Disco Star. I'd been giving them dance all along...

At the time of the Death to Disco campaign, many Disco artists attempted to alter their style in order to appeal to a wider audience. While your music has always progressed, I've felt that your style has remained consistent. Do you consider yourself a purist, musically?

I don't know about that. I do know that there was a dry period. All the really hot dance music was coming from overseas - imported stuff. Nobody here was making that kind of high energy dance music. I was the only one. I gave them what they wanted - and I must say, I made a fortune!

How do you feel about disco's current "re-birth," i.e., Madonna, Shannon, etc.?

These children need to wake up and smell the coffee. Disco is not back - it's always been here. Really, it makes me quite sick.

The whole disco thing, when it was a fad, was really tiresome. It's been kind of like a volcanic eruption, you know? We're still feeling the earth tremors of disco's commercial period. You listen to the dance music of today... it's all thump, thump, thump. It's the same music we used to call disco.

Last year, you appeared on the The Boystown Gang's "Cast of Thousands" LP, which brought together many of the artists from disco's high period. How did it feel to work with all those people again?

Are you kidding? I never saw any of those people. I rode my bicycle over to the studio. I did my part - took



You obviously prefer being associated with a dance-oriented label. Do you find that you receive better promotion, better "care" than at a full-line label?

Well... I do own a portion of Megatone. Therefore, I have more input, more control over what is done with my music.

I really prefer smaller labels. I've turned down offers from the majors. I'm just not interested.

Back at Fantasy I did a lot of what they wanted. And I hated it. Now, I am more completely doing what I want. I'm doing it to my Virgo satisfaction, with no thought to label heads or critics.

You're not concerned with your critics?

No. I don't read my reviews. I don't care. I'm more concerned with my audience... with the people, you know? I can party with them, get to know them. Real people. Who parties with their critics?

And I say, who are these people anyway? Just a bunch of judgemental assholes. When they critique me, they're actually judging themselves. "Do not judge lest you be judged yourself." It's in the bible. Check it out.

So I say, "Fuck them!"

I am a music critic by profession...

You asked, honey.

Did you feel; a sense of loss, a sort of "end of an era", with the Two Tons becoming The Weather Girls and going on to record for CBS?

Not at all. I've started many people on their way... but where they go from there is up to them. I've always felt that way.

Marty and Izora... I'm so happy for them. They have a new album all wrapped up. They're doing "Big Girls Don't Cry." You know, their whole concept: Big women, Big songs.

Martha still sings with me. I'm not worried about my back-up singers. Honey, I've got chirpin' children for days! Jeannie (Tracy)... and Nanthaniel Best, he's killer...

You are able to separate your personal and your professional relationships, then.

Certainly. I can admire Patti LaBelle, but I can also sit and eat fried chicken with her.

You don't really eat fried chicken...

Hell, she cooks it!

Whose music have you been listening to lately?

I love Whitney Houston's album. I'm so proud of her. You know, I've known her since she was a tiny thing, singing gospel with her mother. Cissy Houston... she's one of the greatest voices of our time. Whitney, now, she's going to happen. She tells me, "Oh, Syl, I just love you. You're so very..." and I tell her, "Child, you're the one now."

Of your own albums, do you have a personal favorite?

The live album. and "Too Hot to Sleep."

Your next album is a kind of departure for you...

Yes. I'm doing fabulous old songs - songs I've been wanting to do for ages. Period stuff, you know. Very jazzy. I'll probably tour with the album. They want me to do Europe, but I'm trying to hold them off. I'd like to wait a little bit and tie the tour in with my vacation... business, you know...

You're not worried about the album's reception?

I'm excited about it... I'm satisfied that my fans will be pleased. As for the Critics...

Fuck them.

That's right.

You've produced Jeannie Tracy, The Two Tons. Do you plan more production in the future?

Definitely. I'm tired of singing. There are other things I want to concentrate on right now. Studio production is definitely one of those things... I've just finished work on Aretha's new album; I'm finishing up my next LP; doing some production work for others.

Does this signal an unofficial retirement from singing?

Oh, no. I'm just taking a little break from singing... I'll

never give it up. Retirement?

Well, there's finishing up the new album... and the possible tour. I've been offered the lead in La Cage Aux Folles on Broadway. I'm negotiating with Alan Carr... let me stress that I've been offered the lead, not the part of the maid! (laughter)

There's so much for me to do. I look back on everything I've accomplished and see it as the base, the foundation for what I'm about to do. All of the work has been worth it.

I've gone from idolizing certain people - Dionne

Aretha, Patti LaBelle - to where these people are now my peers, my friends. I've lived a full, rich, exciting life... If I were to die tomorrow, it all would have been worth the effort.

And there's more to come. There are things I haven't done yet. Accomplishments I'm capable of. Like I've always said, "Ain't no hairdo high enough..."



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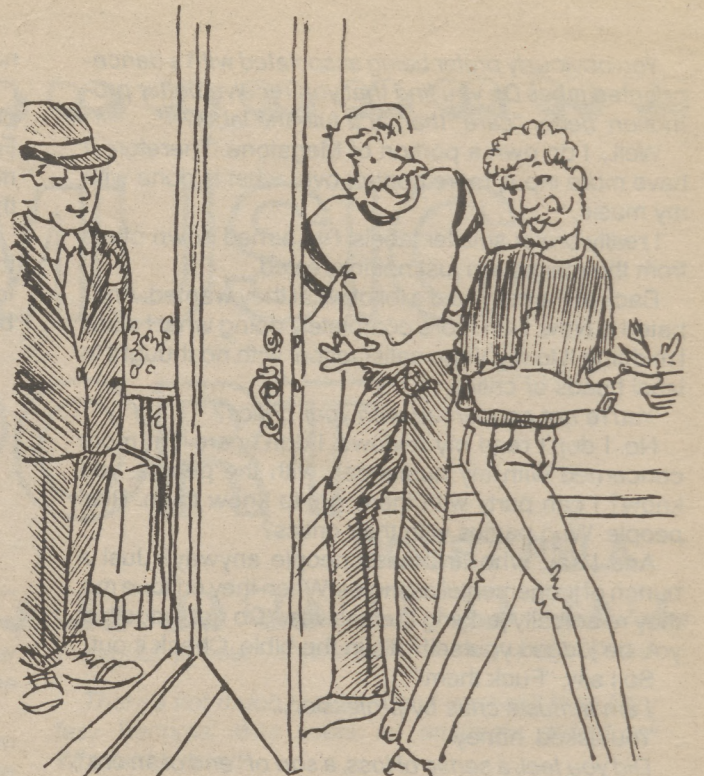


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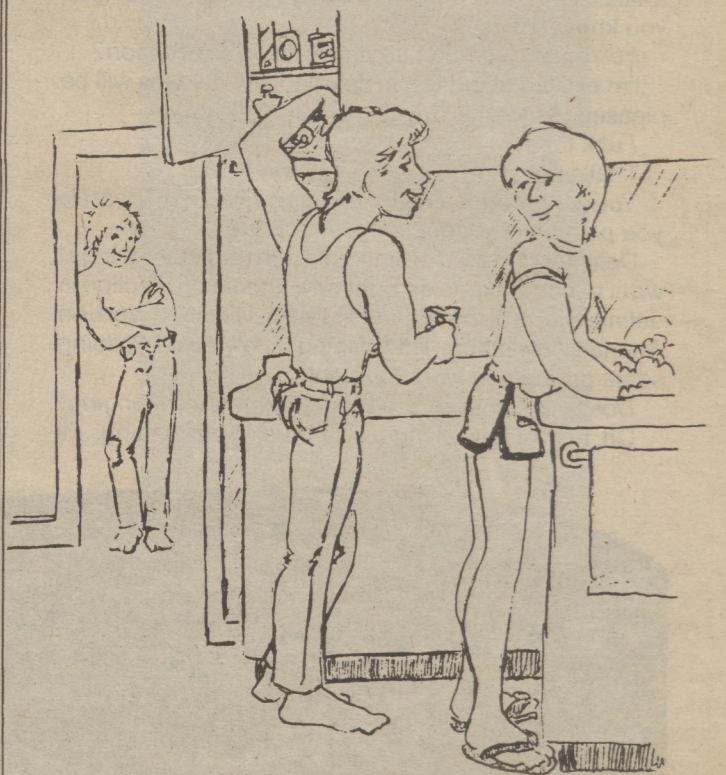
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Covina Says...

Dear Covina:

First, the story: My mate and I have separated, and it looks like it's going to be a permanent arrangement. We both agree that it's time we lead separate lives. There are hard feelings, but we both agree that we should part.

Now, the problem: It seems that our mutual friends feel obliged to choose sides. Both my soon-to-be-ex and myself have found ourselves snubbed by persons whom we felt were our friends. These same people are pleasant to one or the other of us, but seem unable to be friendly to both. I am concerned and confused.

Lisa

My Dear Lisa:

Would that Covina had a twopence for each and every time she has heard this sad, sorry tale. Would that Covina could sweep you up into her arms and with mere words make everything 'all better.'

However, Covina is sorry to report that your unhappy situation is one of those nasty affairs which Life, in all its cold glory, perpetually visits upon us.

As often as Covina has found herself presented with this issue, she has yet to equip herself with a ready solution. Indeed, what is one to do?

Covina can only venture to suggest that you, and others like you who find themselves in similar straits, summon all courage and meet the battle head on.

Confront these purported 'friends' and inquire of them, point-blank: "Why?". Be as gentle as possible... it is likely that none of the persons in question mean any real harm. Chances are that they are just as unsure of exactly how to handle your break-up as you yourself.

But keep in mind one thing, my pet: if any of these people were truly your friends, there would be no question, in either your mind or theirs, concerning how properly to handle you and your newly acquired status.

Be brave, dear Lisa. And remember: Covina is rooting for you.

Dear Covina:

I'm perplexed! My ex-boyfriend has had a squabble with his current beau and has told him that he (my ex) and I have 'seen' each other recently.

I know how my ex can be... he has surely told this yucky lie in order to hurt his lover. It's just not true!

Anyway, I am concerned that all of this will get back to my husband. I can barely sleep at night... what to do?

A Damsel in Distress

My Dear:

The solution to your unfortunate little problem is quite simple. So, apparently, is your former lover.

Take your current flame aside and inform him of this wrong which has been so very unjustly done you. Caution him that he may hear that you have been unfaithful, and explain the circumstances. In so doing, you prevent any cause for alarm on his part.

Meantime, do not even for one moment consider poisoning your former suitor. Murder is unpleasant and perfectly improper. Keep in mind that all things come to those who wait. Probably something dreadfully heavy will fall upon the man in question.

Patience, my darling

Dear Covina

She doesn't know I'm alive. I see her socially, but always in a group of our mutual friends. I have a feeling that if I were to wear my dress upside down and paint my hair blue, she still wouldn't notice me or even acknowledge me beyond a polite "hello." Do you have any suggestions?

Carmel

My Darling:

Covina hesitates to suggest that perhaps you are, if you will excuse me, 'trying too hard.' Relax, my pet, and then consider the following:

Would the object of your regard be any less appealing if she were to suddenly pay you a great deal of attention? And are you truly interested in this maiden, or more actually provoked by the challenge of acquisition?

In the event that none of Covina's musings ring true, contemplate a turning of the proverbial table. Arrange to be alone with mademoiselle, and then set about ignoring her with all the energy you can muster.

If within one week you have not received flowers from your fancy, it is reasonably safe to assume that she is either unimpeachably disinterested or hopelessly brain dead. In either case, she is certainly not worth your time.

Regards.



Write to Covina Norfleet c/o Previews and Reviews, P.O. Box 5948, Phoenix, Arizona. Letters submitted are subject to editing.

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OASIS MCC

Oasis Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) of Tempe/Phoenix has officially announced their ambitious building fund campaign. The \$10,000 goal has been set for Memorial Day, May 26, 1986. The fund will enable the church to place a down payment on their own permanent home or structure in the valley area within the year.

Oasis MCC has been conducting services at Danforth Chapel on the Arizona State University campus for approximately five years. Due to the rapid growth of church membership in the past year, it has become necessary to re-evaluate the current use of the smaller chapel space.

Reverend Kay Paolin, founding pastor of Oasis MCC, remarked, "God is calling us to move. There are many gays and lesbians in the valley who do not even know that the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC) exists. Our primary outreach is to the gay community with the message that God loves them — unconditionally — just as they are. This is crucial, especially now. People with AIDS are dying and being told that it's God's punishment. We need to provide a place for reaffirming the message that being gay is not a sin. We cannot spread this message and effectively grow until we have a place to call our own."

In the past year, the church has increased the size of its Board of Directors, doubled the number of deacons and student clergy, and has had a 75 percent increase in church attendance.

UFMCC, an international church group that includes over 200 gay congregations in nine countries, recognizes three classifications of churches within its organization — study group, mission and chartered. Oasis MCC began as a seven-member study group in 1979, and now has an average of 35 people in attendance as a mission. To obtain charter status, 35 official members and a commitment to pay a full-time pastor are just two of the prerequisites.

Throughout the year, there will be a number of efforts to raise monies for the building fund, said members of the ad hoc committee charged with this purpose. "The primary goal is to obtain the commitment from our own members to financially support this venture. Concurrently, we will be seeking help from the gay and lesbian communities through outreach programs and solicitation of donations from individuals and organizations."

Currently operating on an annual budget of over \$10,000, Oasis MCC will probably double the figure in its next fiscal year, solely for its operating expenses.

Individuals and organizations who wish to contribute to the Oasis MCC building fund may send their tax-deductible donations to: Oasis MCC Building Fund, P.O. Box 10272, Phoenix, AZ 85064, or call the church phone at 268-5183 for more information.

INTERFAITH ALLIANCE WORSHIP SERVICE

The Arizona and Lesbian and Gay Interfaith Alliance in observance of Gay Pride Day, will be holding an inter-denominational worship service on Saturday, June 15 at 1:00 PM. The service will be conducted at the Casa de Cristo Metropolitan Community Church 1029 East Turney, in Phoenix. The service will be signed for the hearing impaired. Following the service will be a panel discussion entitled, "Lesbians and Gays, Keeping the Faith". The panel will answer questions from the audience.

COMMUNITY

BULLETIN BOARD

The Community Bulletin Board is offered FREE of charge. The spirit of the column is to provide space for fun oriented community interaction. We are unable to accept phone numbers, addresses, or items for sale in this column. Please limit CBB items to 25 words or less per item. CBB submissions will be published on a first received, first printed basis according to space available. Send to: PR, P. O. Box 5948, Phoenix, Arizona 85010.

Twas the night before Gay Pride Parade and all through the city, people sittred in yards and carports, gluing, stapling, nailing, painting, taping, a fluff here and tuck there — all works of art from the heart — you bet we're PROUD!

Julie: Congratulations on the new job! I guess this means more dresses?!

Don't stop now, I'm only in season once every 96 days.

Laurie: Vamos a la playa. Oh - oh - oh - oh - oh.....

Larry: Get well real soon... or, or, or I won't let you spray glitter on my face again. We hope you are back to causing trouble soon!

Larry & Ed

Reggie: Thank you for your support. It means more to me than I can put into coherent words.

Deer

Dear Ms. Snatch: Cindy, Cindy, Cindy — your cartoons are simply YOU! Love it.

Bill L. of Farrahs: What you said that Wednesday eve. was the best thing you could have done. I guess I made a miscalculation. Thank you.

John T. — You're such a bimbo! It's true, but I hope you're new plan goes great. We're behind you!

Acquanetta: In belated acknowledgement of your little gift: Nobody sends me a bowel movement and expects to live!!

Robrt

Accounting Plus — Boys, Congratulations on the new office! Much continued success!

L & E

P.S. Those partitions are fabulous! You must have had a big name designer do them for you.

Copperstate Leathermen: You worked your buns off (what buns!). Thanks brothers, for a great Memorial Day weekend at Fr. Waldorf.

Dick S.

Mike & Bobby — Was that big shoe you were making for somebody's mouth? I can't imagine who??!! But I think it will fit.

Robrt: Good people can't help but shine! However, you, my friend, are "glowing." Endless thanks!

The Things That Haven't Been Named Yet

Jessie — Thanks for coming to my rescue! Tank cleaning isn't always that disorganized and absorbs.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads may be purchased at the rate of \$4.00 for the first sixteen words and 25¢ per additional word. Sales tax is included in these prices. Please keep these ads in good taste as we reserve the right to edit or reject any submission. All ads must be prepaid and received at least one week before requested publication date. Ads will be accepted *only* by mail. Send to: PR, P. O. Box 5948, Phoenix, Arizona 85010.

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DESCRIPTION:

The Grape Ivy is a vining variety of the grape family, with soft brown stems, coiling tendrils, and glossy-green quilted leaves. As a hanging plant, shoots rise about 18" before cascading down over the sides of the container. The tendrils will grab just about anything for support. This plant makes a great trellis plant since you can train it to grow in just about any shape, i.e. setting the pot in a windowsill and running a couple of pieces of string around the window frame and—with a little help running the new vines on the strings—before you know it your window will have a lush frame of foliage.

CARE:

Light:

The general rule is medium to light light with no direct sun. However, my experience is to maintain high light levels for the Grape Ivy. There are people who very successfully maintain these plants in low light, so try it where you want it and if you start seeing a problem, change the light situation.

Water:

Keep the Grape Ivy moist, not soggy, just moist. These plants grow slowly and leaves will brown if kept too dry.

Feeding:

The Grape Ivy does not require a lot of food, so use half doses monthly or just a dash each watering.

NOTES:

Grape Ivies can be used as a hanging, table or climbing plant, making them very versatile. If you like the viney look, let them go but if you like a tailored look, tip-pruning keeps the plants full and less wild. Also, once you have a thick mound of foliage, Grape Ivies are shapeable. Have at it, it just takes patience. Grape Ivies also work on covered patios as long as they are watered frequently.

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277-9373

RETAIL

Accounting Plus
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254-6555

Brick Design
275-8810

Castle Bookstore
5501 E. Washington
231-9837

Cindy's Blacksmith Shop
309 N. 6th Avenue
256-7675

First Travel
5150 North 7th St.
265-0666

Gay Roommate Service
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Lightning Bolt Plant Co.
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Maintain All
840-1273

Merrill Lynch Realty
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956-5100 Office
994-0616 Home

Prime Cuts
Lawn Care
Barb & Dave
266-1634

Rabid Graphics
898-1394
274-2159

Royal Villa
1102 E. Turney
266-6883 or 963-0702

Socio (Salon)
6962 E. 5th Ave.
Scottsdale
947-4848

Trendsetter
4116 North 7th Ave.
266-9926

Tuff Stuff
1714 E. McDowell
Phoenix
254-9651
630 N. 4th Avenue
Tucson

Dennis Turnage, Atty.
Gene R. Stratford, Atty.
526 E. Portland
254-4770

WILLOWNE SALOON

WEEKLY POOL TOURNAMENTS

MONDAY 9:00 PM

\$2 ENTRY

\$50 FIRST PLACE

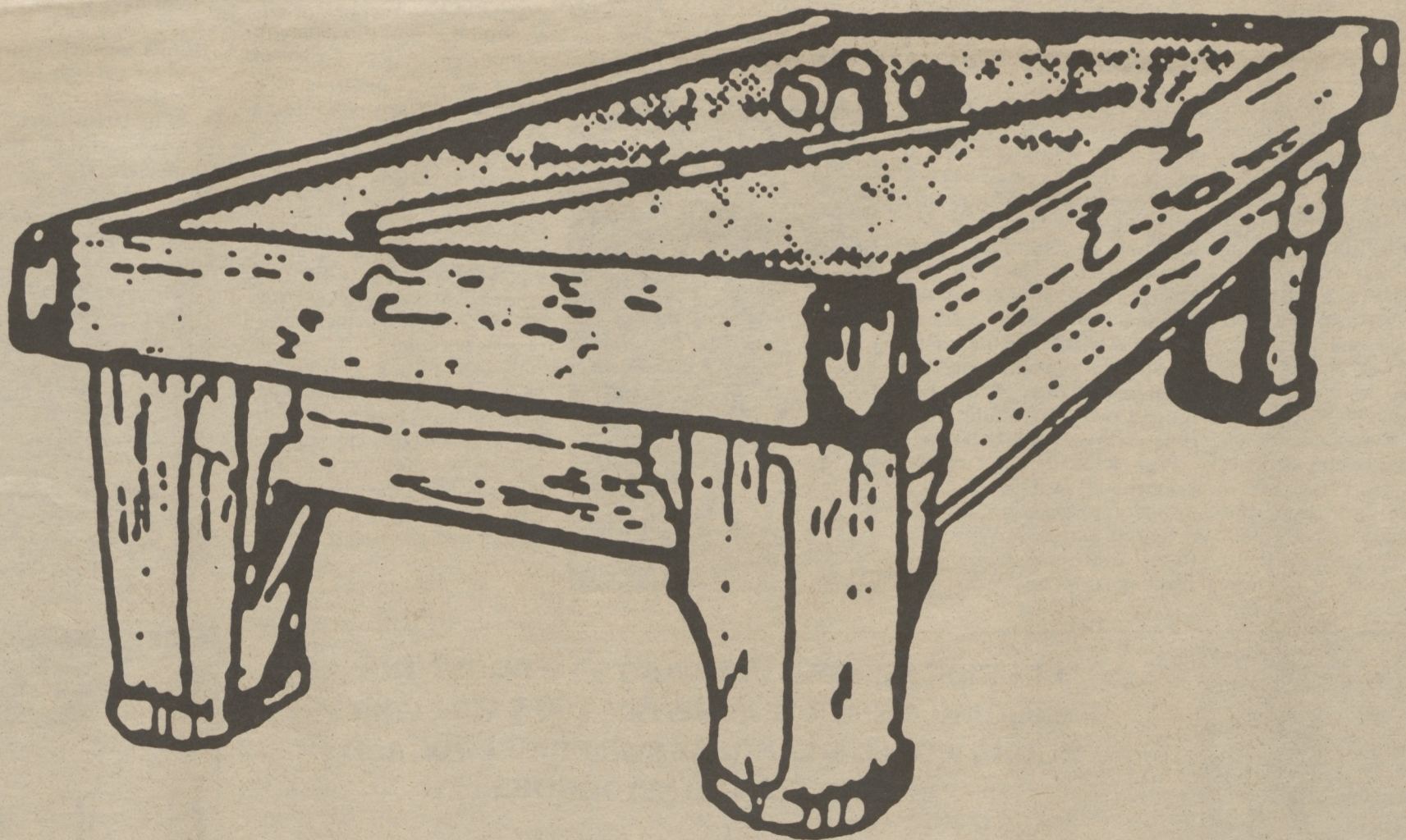
\$25 SECOND PLACE

SATURDAY

\$2 ENTRY

\$50 FIRST PLACE

\$25 SECOND PLACE



276-9959

5002 E. VAN BUREN, PHOENIX

Connection Courier

Friday, June 14, 1985

SERVING THE GREATER PHOENIX AREA

Free

DISCO SISTERS KICK OFF GAY PRIDE CELEBRATION AT CONNECTION

Saturday night, June 15th marks the opening of THE DALE WILLIAMS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, in Der Druke at the Connection with the introduction of Phoenix of new world class talent using the interestingly common name, THE DISCO SISTERS (who will have just completed an afternoon engagement waving from Connection's 40 foot float pulled by the 7 ton truck, John LaNoue at the wheel). Mr. Dale Williams, producer of many of Phoenix' most memorable extravaganzas, reports that these young vibrant stars are turning in rave reviews from as far away as Nogales and should prove to be this cities' biggest surprise since the announcement that Margaret Hance would not seek reelection.

The staff of the Connection announces that the festivities will commence at 10:00

PM on Saturday, June 15th with the first Phoenix appearance of THE DISCO SISTER followed by dancing and fun of the first magnitude with the help of DJ Alan Rector (more on him in this issue) and all the gang headed up by the internationally known beverage expert, Mr. Tom Warner. Warner assures patrons of a packed week of drink specials, after hours and much more. Dale and all of this enthusiastic staff invite the community, men and women, to start their Gay Pride Week Celebration at the Connection. Dale reminds the older members of the community to stop in and see SISTERS, a much older, more seasoned group who will appear at Taylor's that same evening. They will commence their nostalgia trip at around, or at least close to 11:00 PM (Mountain Dragtime). *Not much is known about these old gals.*



SCIENTISTS ANNOUNCE CONNECTION'S BOY WONDER D.J. FOUND TO BE YOUNGEST IN WESTERN HEMISPHERE

That cute little smiling face, which Connection fans have been seeing behind the lucite panel at Der Druke for the past 2 years is Alan Rector, a 23 year old former bubble gummer with experience and talent far beyond his years.

Having done his apprenticeship at Gatsby's in Phoenix and Odessey in L.A., Alan has learned his craft well and his personal observations about the music scene in Phoenix would fill several newspapers. His efforts to educate the Phoenix Disco aficionado has proven successful in some areas, but Alan is pushing for more variety, combining not only TOP 40 tunes but also some new sounds, which can often sound

on the experimental side.

Given the number of years this guy has worked at his learning experience, one would not need a calculator to know that he must have started at age four, but his youth has served him well. At the last Big Surf function, a repair of one of the turntables was accomplished by the use of bubble gum. This revolutionary repair job has been reported in all the D.J. magazines and made front page headlines in VARIETY that week.

Alan joins the rest of the Connection staff in an open invitation to the community to celebrate Gay Pride Week with them. You'll learn some new tricks or find a new one.



COURIER SCOOP... IN EFFORTS TO BOOST THE SAGGING SWIMSUIT INDUSTRY, DALE WILLIAMS BOOKS WORLD'S LARGEST SWIMMING POOL AND INVITES ALL THE NEIGHBORS.

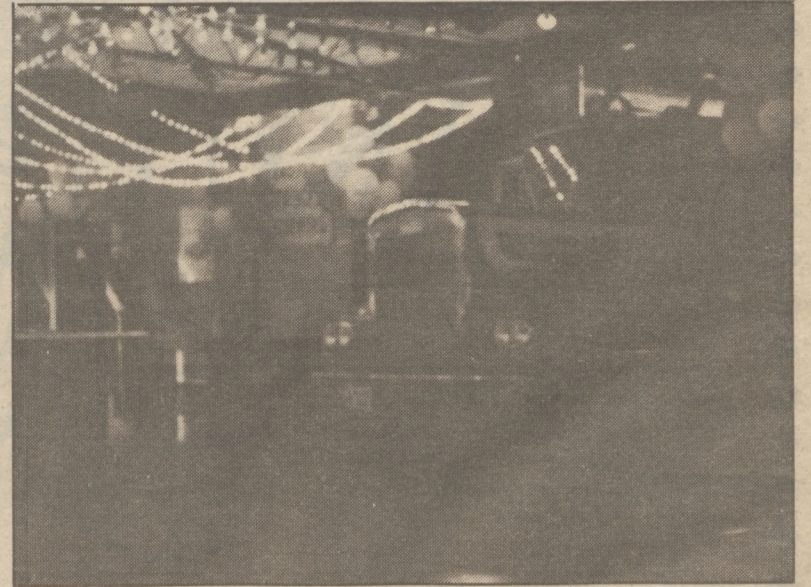
Sunday, July 21 (6 pm - midnight) is the date set for another Big Surf Extravaganza. Arizona temperature's promise to be well over the 100° mark, just right for a moonlight swim or surf, games, food & drink, and dancing with Connection's own,

world renowned disc jockey, Mr. Alan Rector.

Again, to insure a safe, hassle-free evening, Free Bus Service will be provided hourly between the Connection and Big Surf. Tickets will be \$6 in advance or \$7 at the gate.

The entire gay community is invited to help top a record attendance (1800) people) set last May 12 — *Thanks Again Arizona!!*

The tradition continues on Sunday, September 22, Noon 'til 10 pm — watch for details.



WARNER RINGS THE WHITE HOUSE

"It's about the 4th, Ronnie"

Tom Warner, well known party giver and public servant, has angrily phoned President Reagan regarding the inconvenient placement of July 4th on a Thursday. After checking with his staff and conferring with presidential aids, Warner has decided to go against existing Federal laws to celebrate the independence of our country on Saturday, July 6th. This is a big step and plans are in the works to keep publicity to a minimum so as not to irritate J.E. Hoover's replacement.

Therefore, patrons are requested to confidentially make plans to attend the 6th of July Celebration of Gay Independence Day '85. Theme colors for this event are "pink," white, and blue and while dress is optional, these colors should prove popular for summer.

Warner invites patrons to dance, drink, enjoy the new lighting, and keep cool in the Connection patio before he appears in Federal Court, Monday, July 8th. Activities commence at 9:00 p.m. with Schnapps specials and don't forget afterhours.

CONNECTION BBQ

Sunday Socials just wouldn't be complete without the infamous (Free) Connection BBQ. One cannot be at ones social peak without a (Free) good meal (Did I say FREE?). Normally the Courier's Fashion and Food Editor, Donnie Hines, would have written this but he's much to busy chasing (oops), I mean studying his favorite bartender and cook "Chuck" flexing his muscles (oops), I mean cooking his weanies.

Don't forget now, BBQ (and Chuck) every Sunday... 7:30 'til...?

Courier Staff

Publisher:
Dale Williams

Beverage Editor:
Tom Warner

Fashion & Food Editor:
Donnie Hines

Sex Therapist:
John LaNoue

For Subscription Information:
PHONE 248-9730
WRITE 4211 N. 7th St.
PHOENIX

