

HeatStroke

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July 17 — 30, 1997



Made-up Beauty Queens:

This Summer's hottest ticket is an hilarious musical romp through a crazed beauty contest where the girls are really boys

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

"We are natural-born females, and we're proud!" belt the six Amazonian beauty queens vying for the imaginary title of "Miss Glamouresse" in the opening number of *Pageant*, Phoenix's new musical comedy offering from In Mixed Company.

All these girls really want, they say, is to make the world a better place in which to sell more makeup. And they just know they can do it. They'll be competing for the Glamouresse crown Thursdays through Sundays at the Herberger Center in such categories as formal wear, talent, swimsuit, and beauty-crisis intervention from July 24 through August 17.

Through song and dance, these padded and plastered spokesmodel-wannabes will promote the joys of their simple femininity and

See "Pageant," page 10

Dr. Laura, meet Marianne Moody Jennings:

AZ Republic officials ignore pop advisor's homophobic stance, say liberalism lacks quality writers as newspaper tilts further right

By Karyn Riedell, Staff Writer

Yet another homophobic voice has joined the conservative corps of columnists writing for *The Arizona Republic*.

Dr. Laura Schlessinger, whose counseling advice column is distributed by the *New York Times Syndicate*, has been picked up by Arizona's largest daily newspaper to fulfill what *Republic* management calls a growing public interest in personal counseling.

Schlessinger joins the ranks of other conservative, homophobic columnists regularly featured in the *Republic*, including local writer Marianne Moody Jennings.

Schlessinger (whose "Dr. Laura"

talk show is also featured on local talk radio station KFYZ) was added because "she's a hot personality gaining popularity and fame across the nation," said Richard de Uriarte, reader advocate for the *Republic*.

In her June 17 column, Dr. Laura advised a man on how to tell his two children, ages 6 and 8, that their mother had left him for a woman.

Dr. Laura's advice includes the following tips: "Your ex-wife is in serious denial if she thinks that the children are not affected by her divorcing their father, giving them up and leading a lesbian lifestyle (emphasis added). Look at all

the loss and confusion (emphasis added) they must endure."

Dr. Laura further advised the man to tell the children the truth in such a way that it doesn't "threaten their own hopefulness for their futures as

"The reason we added Schlessinger is because of her rising popularity and America's interest in counseling. . .Not because of her views on homosexuality."

heterosexual, married persons who can sustain an intact family." When he tells the children, he should be sure to "explain that a very small number (this helps allay their likely

fears of perhaps becoming gay) of both men and women feel drawn to someone of the same sex— and one of these is Mommy."

Dr. Laura is part of a trend—the growing popularity of opinion columnists, de Uriarte said. "This is a new element—this proliferation of opinion columns. The reason we added her is because of her rising popularity and Americans' interest in counseling and that kind of

thing. Not because of her views on homosexuality—because I didn't know them."

The *Republic's* columns represent a balance of political thought,

See "AZ Republic" page 4

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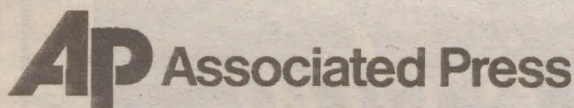
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Horowitz: I'm the gay son

On July 9, Ann Landers' column featured a letter from "Proud Mother in California", a woman who moved in with her gay son and his partner. The author noted that she was raised in a strict Catholic home and had refused to accept for son's lover for many years.

It's a story many gays and lesbians live with and one that keeps many more from coming out to family members. I thought myself emotionally immune to this common tale, yet this letter touched my heart and brought knowing tears to my eyes.

"Proud Mother" became ill and could no longer live alone. Despite her rejection, her gay son and his partner were the only family members willing to take her into their home. She apparently had a simple choice—the gay home or the nursing home.

After only a few months living with her son, she realized that "the love and compassion that held their relationship together for so many years was as valid as that of any heterosexual couple." The column reminded me that households grow—and stay—strongest when they are based on love and compassion.

I used to think there was nothing I could do to shock my genteel, sensible, traditional Jewish mother. I have three older brothers and a sister. My oldest brother married a Jewish woman, but after 19 years they got a d-i-v-o-r-c-e. Divorce creates such a scandal that the word either gets whispered or spelled. My next brother married a Chinese-American Buddhist. My aging grandmother kept telling my mother that she looked black—an even bigger scandal.

My next brother married an Episcopalian woman so anti-Semitic that she made him change his name because "Horowitz" sounded too Jewish. My sister lived unmarried with a Mexican-American Catholic on and off for 17 years. Mom loved and accepted all—despite the fact that her upbringing only prepared her for traditional, Jewish marriages producing many grandchildren.

After breaking my engagement to a "nice Jewish girl", I blew the door off the closet and started dating men. My mother was less than thrilled. She lamented that I would give her no grandchildren. She worried that I would lose my job. She feared that I would get beaten up. She thought she did something wrong. She hoped I wouldn't tell many people. But she loved her children unconditionally and made it clear that nothing I could do or say would make her love me any less. She also got involved and educated—starting in her sixties.

My extended Jewish family has always been big on labels. Children are referred to as "the smart one", "the pretty one", "the shy one", "the fat one", "the single one", etc. Geography and profession also serve as common reference points: "the one in Arizona", "the lawyer", etc. Given names hold little importance in family discussions.

Today, among other labels, I am "the gay one". We've come a long way. Fifteen years ago, it would have been "the queer one" or "the funny one"—accompanied by a sorrowful look and whispered, of course.

Today, my mother lives with me part of the year and spends the rest of her time visiting her children and traveling extensively. She is (a very young) 69. I occasionally meet and take telephone calls from her friends. When I introduce myself, I often get the response, "Oh, you're the gay son!" (said aloud and with a smile) Mom recognizes that my life and my home possess love and compassion. That's good enough for her. I may even "shock" her with another grandchild someday.

"Proud Mother in California" reminded me how fortunate I am. She also reminded me that good fortune takes effort. I had to let my mother see my life, for her to become accepting and proud of it. When we don't tell our families, we shut them out of our lives. We should welcome them in.

David Horowitz is a phoenix attorney and Vice President of the Lesbian and Gay Public Awareness Project.

Editors,

I am writing in regard to the letter that Mr. Doug Klinge wrote to you in the last edition (Issue #17, July 3-16), re: Dr. Ken Fisher. In the first paragraph, last sentence, he states that he is "voicing our opinion". He is not voicing my opinion! Nor is he voicing the opinion of some others that I know.

I liked the story concerning Dr. Fisher, it was very informative. Thanks for keeping the community aware.

You have a very good paper, I enjoy it very much. It is very informative. I usually pick up each issue when it comes out.

It is too bad that Mr. Klinge doesn't want to have your paper at his place of business any longer, because that is where I usually pick it up. Guess I will have to shop somewhere else where I can find HeatStroke. I can't believe that he would deny the community the best "gay paper" in Arizona. What right does he have to deny me of your paper? He doesn't!

Keep up the great work, you have a good thing going!

name withheld by request
Phoenix

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AZ Republic defends homophobic columnists

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de Uriarte said. "I get criticism from both sides. We make both sides unhappy. I probably get more calls saying we favor minority groups. It doesn't say we're perfect. But still that's a work in progress."

Today's *Republic* has improved its handling of gay and lesbian issues, de Uriarte said. Five years ago, the *Republic* was criticized for gay bashing, de Uriarte said, but "that attitude certainly doesn't exist now on our editorial pages. There were certain cartoons that might have given gay people offense, but that was years ago under different management." Today, under editor Paul Schatt, the editorial pages no longer contain gay bashing, de Uriarte said.

Coverage of gay and lesbian issues has also improved, according to de Uriarte. "Several gay groups have complained about coverage we have missed. The last time there was a gay parade, we did have it covered," de Uriarte said.

The *Republic's* goal is to "give wide-ranging, diverse voices in our pages. We don't do it perfectly. We are trying," de Uriarte commented.

The *Republic* does carry liberal columnists such as Don Kaul, Maureen Dowd and Clarence Page, de Uriarte said. The decision to replace liberal columnist Molly Ivins with political moderate E.J. Dionne reflects the newspaper's desire to appeal to the public, said de Uriarte.

Dionne "shies away from this left-right ideological bent— and that's what I think more people are appreciative of," he added.

When asked why the paper does not feature an openly gay columnist, such as nationally syndicated columnist Deb Price, de Uriarte said he was not qualified to respond.

Asked about the newspaper's decision to carry Jennings' column, de Uriarte said that her views are balanced with those of local liberal columnist Steve Tuttle. "Marianne Moody Jennings is a local columnist who writes on a lot of different issues and has views that are wide-ranging. She has been criticized by several different groups. Columnists state their opinion. That's what they're there for," de Uriarte added.

Jennings' homophobic attitudes appear frequently in her columns. For example, in her May 25 column, Jennings made the following statements: "All AIDS activists could volunteer to participate in research on curing AIDS. The research would be called abstinence... Ellen DeGeneres and her fawning media buddies could volunteer to shut up about coming out."

Although the quality of liberal writing has improved in recent years, the problem is that "so much of 60's liberal thought has been discredited." —James Hill

James Hill, editor of the *Republic's* opinion pages said that the paper does not consider sexual preference when deciding which columns to include or exclude. "There's no litmus test for my department according to sexual preference."

The newspaper's goal is to provide a "marketplace of ideas," and the columnists' only duty is to provide commentary, Hill said.

"We respect their (columnists') First Amendment rights of freedom of speech. The opinion pages are just that— mainly political. And there's some lifestyle that's taken into account."

Editorials dealing with gay and lesbian issues are published when they are considered relevant, Hill said. "We have carried articles by writers that are openly gay. Their articles are considered for publication according to what they have to say on relevant issues."

When deciding what columns to include, the editorial staff disregards race, gender and sexual preference, Hill said. The most important factors are quality of writing and balance of viewpoint, he explained.

Although providing a balanced viewpoint is the ideal, this is sometimes difficult to achieve, Hill said, because "liberalism (left-leaning thought) has not had a number of articulate representatives over the years." Although the quality of liberal writing has improved in recent years, the problem is that "so much of 60's liberal thought has been discredited," Hill added.

In addressing gay and lesbian issues, the newspaper does not discriminate, Hill said. "Our policy is in keeping with our mission statement. We are a nondiscriminating employer. We do not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, gender or sexual preference."

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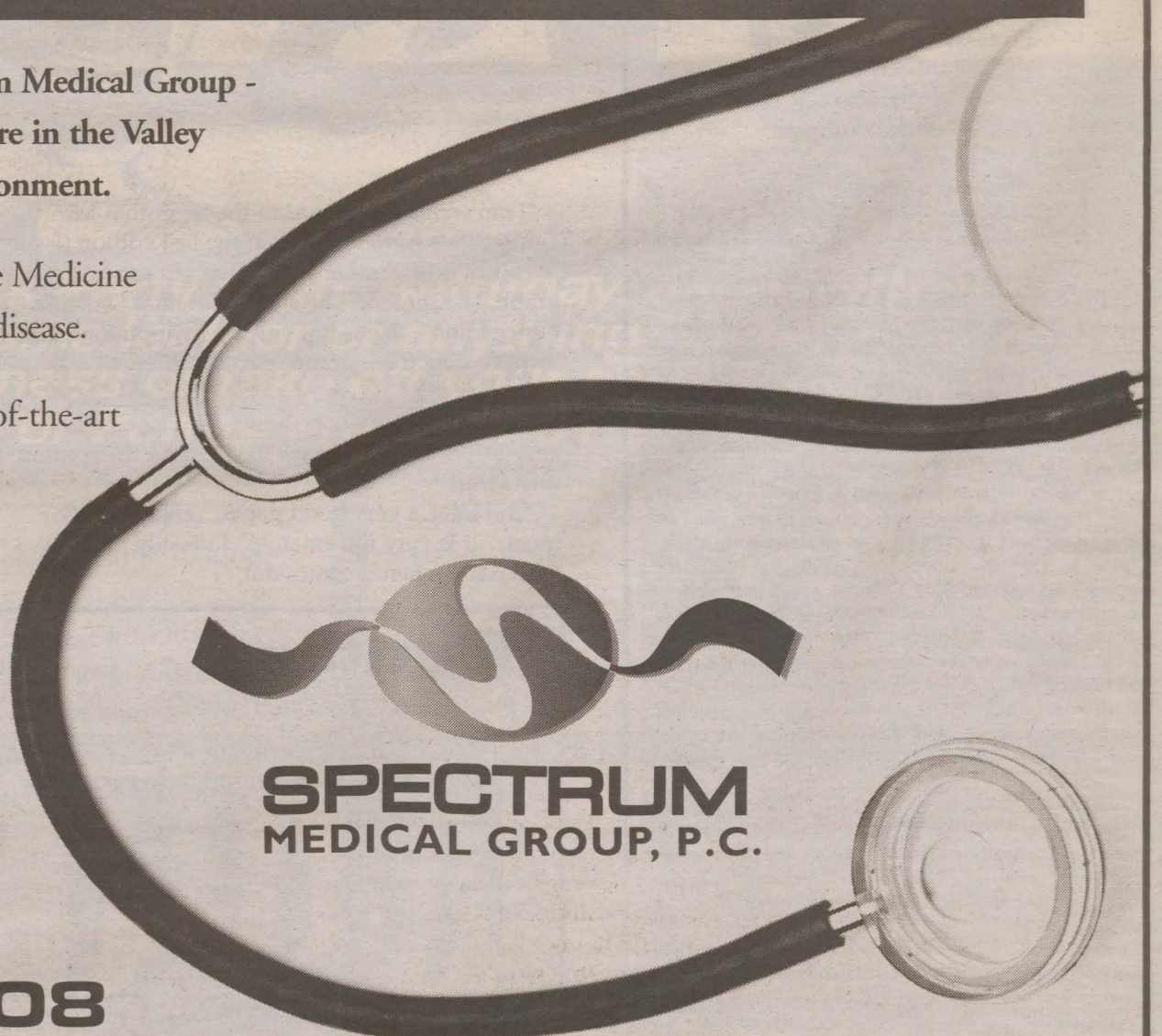
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BOMEX opens another investigation of Dr. Ken Fisher

New complaint filed against gay physician alleges "inappropriate sexual behavior" — regulatory agency hasn't completed its investigation of a pending complaint

By Kelly Reidhead, Managing Editor

Another complaint against Dr. Kenneth Fisher, a local gay physician, has been filed with the Board of Medical Examiners (BOMEX), the state agency that regulates medical doctors. The June 23, 1997 complaint is the third filed against Dr. Fisher this year: to date, BOMEX has dismissed one of the complaints, while the remaining two complaints are under investigation.

BOMEX staff has categorized the June 23, 1997 complaint against Dr. Fisher as "Inappropriate Sexual Behavior." Arizona law forbids the agency from publicly disclosing any further information about the complaint.

Information publicly distributed by the agency, however, provides a general explanation of the complaint categories, along with example characteristics of each category. BOMEX literature provides the following examples for "Inappropriate Sexual Behavior":

- Caretaking beyond professional boundaries;
- Romantic enmeshment with a patient (excluding sexual contact);
- Romantic enmeshment with coworkers or patient's family members (may include sexual contact);
- Rude/abusive/insensitive/inappropriate; verbal comment or solicitation;
- Cultural dissonance which becomes sexualized (i.e. in my culture, sexual compliments are expected, etc.).

According to Ms. Donna Nemer, BOMEX Nurse/Ombudsman, the agency's staff has classified this "Inappropriate Sexual Behavior"

complaint as a level one priority. The agency's Complaint Prioritization guidelines explain that a priority one complaint "has the strong possibility of harm of potential harm to the patient or the public, based on the conduct of the physician." The guidelines also state that "the average time of investigation for a priority



Dr. Ken Fisher — from his 1981 application to practice medicine in Arizona.

level one complaint should be as soon as possible, but no longer than three months duration, unless special circumstances exist."

In addition to the June 23, 1997 complaint against Dr. Fisher, another priority level one complaint is currently under investigation by BOMEX staff.

As previously reported in *HeatStroke*, Issue 15 (June 5 — 18, 1997), BOMEX staff is still in the process of investigating a complaint filed on February 20, 1997, against Dr. Fisher for allegedly violating an Order of the Board.

The Order Dr. Fisher has been charged with violating stems from a 1996 complaint that alleged the physi-

cian had sex with a patient. Dr. Fisher signed a stipulation with BOMEX in April, 1996, agreeing to a number of restrictions on his practice.

Among these restrictions, Dr. Fisher must have a chaperone for all physical examinations performed in his office, and require the chaperone to sign the patient's chart after each exam. Dr. Fisher also must obtain a treating therapist to address "boundary issues," require the therapist to submit quarterly reports to the Board, and to remain in therapy until it is terminated by the Board.

Although BOMEX classified the February 20, 1997 complaint against Dr. Fisher as a level one priority — for which the agency's guidelines require completion of the investigation within 90 days — the February complaint has not been placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Board, scheduled for July 24-

26, 1997.

When asked to explain why BOMEX has not placed the February complaint against Dr. Fisher on the

agenda for the July Board meeting, Tim Keene, a BOMEX staff investigator responded, "I don't know the specifics of Dr. Fisher's case, because it's assigned to other investigators. But I assume that the reason the case hasn't been scheduled for the July meeting is because we haven't received enough information to make a recommendation at this point."

Mr. Keene pointed out that the 90-day provision is flexible, "kind of an internal guide that we established to put the pressure on us to get the investigations of complaints settled as quickly as possible," he said.

"We try to stick to [the 90-day provision] as much as we can, and we give more preference to, and work harder on, priority one complaints because we feel they are, or could be, more serious." Keene added, "in general, most of the priority one complaints are completed within the 90 day period."

According to Keene, it is "very, very unlikely" that either of the two complaints against Dr. Fisher will be placed on the agenda for the Board's July meeting. The next meeting of the Board of Medical Examiners is scheduled for September 10-12, 1997.



Romanian Pediatrician Studying APAZ

A Romanian physician who pioneered efforts to treat AIDS in the thousands of children infected with the disease in her native East European country is in Phoenix to study outreach and prevention efforts at AIDS Project Arizona (APAZ) through July 18.

Dr. Oana Vasiliu, a pediatrician, says Romania has more than half of the pediatric cases of AIDS that exist in Europe.

Dr. Vasiliu, one of the founders of AIDS-prevention efforts in her country since the fall of Communism, is in the US to examine successful programs that may be adapted in Romania.

"It was not possible even to talk about AIDS before 1990," she said.

Romania experienced a rapid spread of AIDS when thousands of children were unknowingly given HIV-infected blood by the Communist government's healthcare system. The Communist regime was

overthrown in 1989. Today, more than 4,000 children under the age of 19 are known to have full-blown AIDS.

"No one knows how great the number really is," Dr. Vasiliu said.

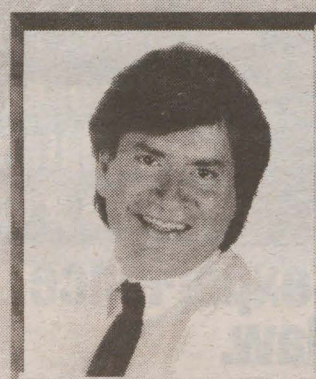
She and her fiancé, Alex W. Drehsler, a former Reporter for the Arizona Daily Star, are working with APAZ, discussing successful preventative education programs in particular. Dr. Vasiliu and Drehsler, now an international nonprofit management consultant, met in Romania in 1994. At the time, Drehsler was a consultant to Dr. Vasiliu's organization—the Romanian Association Against AIDS.

"We are also talking about other ways of helping," said Peter Houle, executive director of APAZ. "It's one nonprofit helping another."

"The treatment of AIDS in Romania today is like it was in the US in 1980," he said. "They just started getting the drugs we have been using for years."

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Barney Frank criticizes Starr over interview with gay official

WASHINGTON (AP)

An aide to Whitewater independent counsel Kenneth Starr denies a charge by a leading congressional spokesman for gay rights that "implicit bigotry" was behind investigators' questioning of a gay White House official.

In a letter to Starr, Rep. Barney Frank complained about an April interview with Bob Hattoy, a former White House liaison for the Interior

Department and a gay activist. Frank, who is gay, said that during the questioning, Hattoy reportedly was asked if he had been successful in helping homosexuals get high-ranking jobs in the administration.

"Were these investigators so lagard in their understanding of American politics that they thought that demonstrating — or perhaps threatening to demonstrate — that the president had hired openly gay and

lesbian employees would somehow give you leverage over him?" he asked Starr in the letter.

"This is one more outrageous example of Kenneth Starr's insensitivity and incompetence," Frank, D-Mass., said in a statement released July 13.

Starr's office said Frank was informed via return letter that the interview with Hattoy was a "routine and extremely cordial interview" in

which Hattoy was asked to "generally describe his job duties. He was not asked specifically if his job involved recruiting or placing openly gay people. In answer to general questions he volunteered this information."

Frank said the "implicit bigotry which this displays is one more reason why it is clear that the time has come for Mr. Starr to wrap up his unsuccessful investigation."

Five companies challenge Hawaii's new reciprocal benefits law

HONOLULU (AP)

Less than three days after it became law, the state's new reciprocal benefits law, intended to head off homosexual marriages, was challenged in federal court.

Five companies filed suit July 11 seeking clarification of specific provisions of the law that they believe are preempted by the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act.

Attorney John D'Amato, who filed the suit, said the federal law clearly prohibits any state from determining who is eligible for health care benefits.

The plaintiffs also believe legal clarification is necessary to assist employers in determining whether existing benefit programs will need to be altered or discontinued to pay any incremental cost increase for the extension of benefits to reciprocal beneficiaries, he said.

The lawsuit is "a responsible reaction by the employers to a very complex benefit administration issue," and is not a comment on the social or moral correctness of the law's intent, D'Amato said. The plaintiffs in the suit are Bank of Hawaii, C. Brewer & Co., Hawaiian Electric Industries,

Outrigger Hotels & Resorts and Theo. H. Davies & Co.

The first-in-the nation reciprocal benefits bill became law July 15 midnight without Gov. Ben Cayetano's signature.


It extends some of the benefits of marriage to same-sex couples and other reciprocal beneficiaries who cannot marry, such as mother and adult son or siblings and roommates.

It was approved by the Legislature this year as part of a package to head off court approval of same-sex marriage. The other part of the package is a proposed constitutional amendment

to ban same-sex marriage. The proposed amendment will be put before voters in November 1998.

The Hawaii Supreme Court in 1993 ruled that the state's ban on same-sex marriage is unconstitutional unless the state can show a compelling interest in continuing it. A state judge ruled late last year that the state failed to do so, and the matter is back before the Supreme Court.

State attorneys have asked the Supreme Court to withhold a ruling until after the vote on the constitutional amendment.



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Yale University rejects endowment for gay studies

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP)

Larry Kramer, playwright and in-your-face AIDS activist, is in Yale University's face now.

The 1957 graduate is accusing the Ivy League school of homophobia for rejecting his multimillion-dollar offer to endow a professorship in gay studies. Kramer, who helped create the Gay Men's Health Crisis support organization in 1981 and founded the confrontational AIDS activist group ACT UP in 1987, said he gave Yale about a dozen proposals and all were dismissed.

"I have no question in my mind that they were rejected because of extreme homophobia," Kramer, 62, said in a telephone interview from his home in New York. "There's no question that Yale is not a friendly place for gay professors or teachers."

In a letter to Kramer, Provost Alison Richard said gay and lesbian studies is too narrow a field for a permanent professorship. Yale also said that there is a freeze on faculty hiring and that the university could not add a professorship without cutting one elsewhere. Richard, an anthropologist who studies lemurs in Madagascar, did not immediately respond to requests for comment Wednesday.

Kramer, who is HIV positive, first approached Yale nine months ago

while he was making up his will, and met with Richard several times. Now he has withdrawn the offer and said he might set up an independent foundation.

As a writer, Kramer is best known for his novel *Faggots* and his play *The Normal Heart*. In 1970, he was nominated for an Oscar for his screenplay adaptation of D.H.

Lawrence's *Women in Love*.

One of his other creations, ACT UP, or the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, has become known for headline-grabbing exploits, such as an interruption of trading on the New York Stock Exchange floor in 1989.

The group shocked Dan Rather on network television in 1991 when members broke into the studio of "CBS Evening News" and one managed to leap in front of a camera at the beginning of the broadcast. At St. Patrick's Cathedral in 1989, members of ACT UP and other groups chained themselves to pews and shouted during Mass.

Kramer said an academic discipline in gay studies would focus on contributions in history, sociology, politics and culture, as well as on aspects of sexual identity.

He would not disclose how much money he offered to Yale but said that it was in the millions and that it would have endowed one or two full professorships. Endowed professorships at Yale cost \$2 million.

Two years ago, Yale spurned a \$20 million offer from Texas billionaire Lee M. Bass, who wanted to create a

program in traditional Western thought. The university said Bass' demand to approve faculty appointments would have impinged on academic freedom.

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—Larry Kramer

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Universities across the country have encountered similar issues as alumni who are members of minority groups gain in wealth.

"If you are willing to teach African-American history or women's

studies, why are you not willing to teach gay studies?" Kramer asked. "As we grow more and more visible, we want to use our money to teach about us."

Kramer said he wanted to help gay students feel more comfortable than he did when he was at Yale. In 1953, during his freshman year, he attempted suicide with pills.

"I tried to kill myself because, as far as I was concerned, I was the only gay kid on the face of the earth," he said.

Homosexual students have some campus resources at Yale, including a Lesbian and Gay Studies Center opened in 1987.

Kramer called the center "a hole in the wall" and complained that most existing courses in gay studies at Yale are taught by non-tenured or visiting professors.

"What I did demand was that what I left be permanent, so I wouldn't have to worry it wouldn't be there after I died," he said. "Whether it be a tenured professorship or a building, I wanted it to be in the form of something that was going to stay."

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\$1.25 Bud, Bud Light and Bud Dry Bottles with Prizes and fun with the MEN OF BUDWEISER!

Wednesday July 23rd

Christmas in July — It'll be COLD!

1/2 Price on everything in the house if you're in a sweater or jacket!

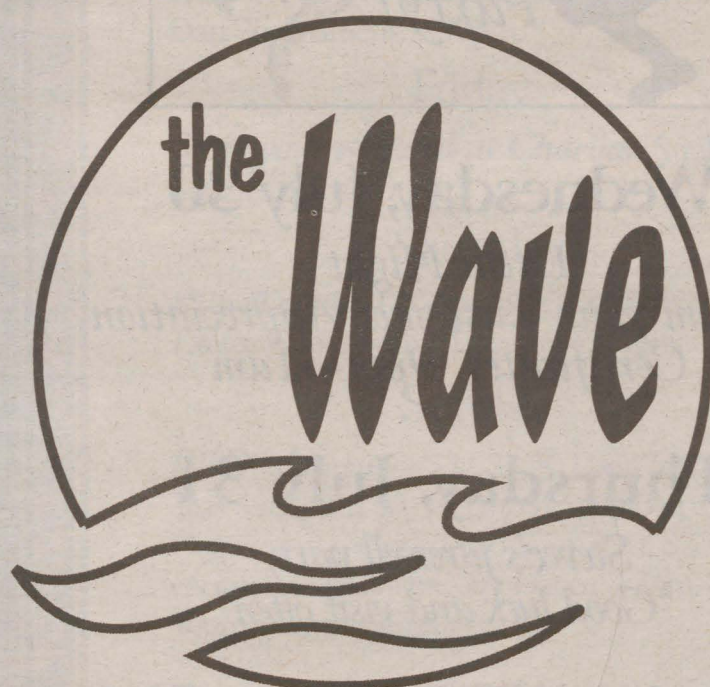
A Christmas Show hosted by Roxy Blue, contestant for Miss AGRA 1998 and a Casino Night benefiting Project Lifeguard at 9 pm.

**New Hours: Mon. - Fri. 3pm - 1am
with 2 for 1 Happy Hour from 3 to 7 pm!**

**New Hours: Sat. & Sun. Noon - 1 am
with "Weekend Blowout Specials" 7 - 8 pm
of \$1 well drinks and domestic longnecks!**

Weekly at the Wave

- Monday:** Splash Night with JR • 1/2 Price Drinks in Swimsuits
\$1.75 Tropical and Frozen Drinks for everyone!
- Tuesday:** **NEW!** Blind Draw Cricket 10 pm
Free Darts 6 - 10 pm on 4 boards thru July 8th
- Wednesday:** Casino Night benefiting your favorite charity
\$1.25 Miller Long Necks!
- Thursday:** Black Out Cruisin' Beer & Vodka Bust
1/2 PRICE IN LEATHER!
- Friday:** Your Favorite Entertainment at 6 & 9 pm
Free Gourmet Hors d'oeuvres • 6 pm
- Saturday:** Goldie O'Brien Show 9 pm
Different Shot Special Every 1/2 Hour
- Sunday:** The Coolest Bar with the Hottest Men!
Show Amateur Strip Contest at 3 pm - Bring your friends!



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*Gold Rush Days!
Find the treasures--
Friday: \$1.75 Miller products,
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Monday, July 21

Project LifeGuard undies night

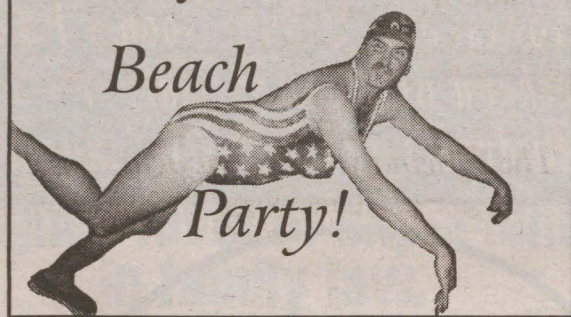
Wednesday, July 23

*Charlie's goes '70s at 10pm
bell bottoms/platform shoes*

Thursday, July 24

Dart league game night

**Friday & Saturday
July 25 & 26**



Wednesday, July 30

*Latin Night
Redeem your Customer Appreciation
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Thursday, July 31

*Steve's farewell party
"Good luck and visit often"*

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Goings On

VOIT to hold Fall formal

Valley One in Ten (VOIT) is set to host Taste the Rainbow: Fall Formal, on Saturday, August 9 at The Community Church of Hope, 4400 N. Central Avenue in Phoenix. The dance will last from 7pm - 11pm.

This Fall formal is being organized to provide a place where people can come together in a non-threatening, diverse and fun environment while raising money for VOIT. Admission is \$20 single, \$30 for youth couples and \$35 for adult couples. Tickets can be purchased at Obelisk books, Unique on Central, Changing Hands bookstore in Tempe and at the Valley of the Sun Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

VOIT is a peer-led group for, by and about gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered youth and their supporters between the ages of 14 and 20. VOIT is a program of the Valley of the Sun Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

DA plans more summer activities

On Sunday, July 20, Desert Adventures will hold their annual Christmas in July pool party. They invite everyone to bring a potluck dish and a white elephant gift wrapped in Christmas paper. Cost is \$5 for members and \$8 for non-members. For the location or more information, call 266-CAMP.

The second weekend in August, August 8 through 11, Desert Adventures will be heading out for their fourth annual Reynolds Creek campout. The temperatures will be very cool among the Sycamores and Ponderosa Pines. Saturday night cocktails and dinner will be provided and so will Sunday breakfast. The fee for the trip is \$20 for members and \$30 for nonmembers.

Then, on Saturday, August 17, DA will make a day hike up Mt. Humphreys, Arizona's tallest peak. The group will meet at the Flagstaff Village Inn at 7am and be hiking by 8am. This trip costs just \$2 for members and \$4 for nonmembers.

Desert Adventures is a social group for gay men and women aged 21 and older, based in Phoenix and geared toward outdoor activities. For more information on any of their trips or to join, call 266-CAMP.

Annual Pride Committee meeting Aug. 3

The annual public meeting of Phoenix Lesbian and Gay Pride, Inc., (Arizona Central Pride) will be held at the Valley of the Sun Gay and Lesbian Community Center on Sunday, August 3 at 1pm. Topics to be discussed include annual financial reports, committee reports, election of the Board of Directors and the Executive Board, and announcement of the 1998 Festival dates and plans.

The public is invited to attend and participate in an open forum regarding the Festival for next year. The Community Center is located at 3136 N. 3rd Avenue in Phoenix. The phone number for ACP is 279-1771.

Kids make cards to raise funds to fight AIDS

A limited-edition collection of greeting cards created by young artists affected by AIDS is being offered by AIDS Project Arizona (APAZ) to raise money for fighting AIDS. All proceeds will benefit APAZ's Family Services.

Featuring ten cards, each with a different design, the set will sell for \$10. The cards are currently available from APAZ and will also be sold in selected local bookstores. The greeting cards are blank inside and a selection of holiday cards will be available in September.

Printing services, paper and envelopes were donated by Omni Media and Pierce Arrow Graphics, said Marcy Gorman, director of Family Services for APAZ. 2,200 copies of each of the ten designs have been printed and assembled into sets. Annie Lopez and Jeff Falk, artists from MARS Artspace in Phoenix, volunteered their time nurturing the children's artistic endeavors.

APAZ Family Services, begun in 1993, helps 78 Arizona families and 151 children infected and affected by AIDS. It aims to provide, among other services, some fun time for families including trips to the Phoenix Zoo, children's birthday parties and an annual summer camp in Prescott. Family Services also sponsors parent-oriented programs such as the Parents Peer Support Group and Women's Circle.

GALORE: new gay employee group

A new organization has formed in the Valley to represent the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender employees of a number of Phoenix area companies and organizations. The group will be known as GALORE (Gay and Lesbian Organization of Employees).

The group held its second meeting on Tuesday, July 8 with representatives attending from US West, AT&T, Charles Schwab, Bank of America, Intel, American Express, The City of Phoenix and area Community Colleges. Still in the planning stages, the organization has formed a subgroup to write a proposed charter, mission statement and to prioritize goals.

Among the proposed goals are: to be a forum for communication between the various participating groups; to promote and facilitate employee participation; to promote community involvement; to offer support and advocacy for GLBT issues; to promote a positive image and visibility within out communities; to help break stereotypes; and to have fun.

The next general meeting will be held Tuesday, August 5 at 7pm. It is tentatively scheduled to be held at Charles Schwab.

Wife of British Prime Minister argues gay rights case in Luxembourg

LUXEMBOURG (AP)

The wife of British Prime Minister Tony Blair appeared before the European Court of Justice Wednesday representing a lesbian couple in a discrimination case against the British government.

Cherie Booth, a leading expert in employment law, asked the court to condemn the British government for denying travel benefits to the live-in lover of a lesbian railway worker.

Booth argued that British policy discriminates against homosexuals and lesbians, since travel benefits are offered to married and unmarried heterosexual partners of railway workers.

"To say that a human being can be penalized for choosing to express their sexual identity, is equivalent to saying that you can discriminate

against a pregnant woman because she could have chosen not to become pregnant," Booth said in court July 9.

Booth made her plea on behalf of Lisa Grant, 29, a railway booking clerk and her long-time partner Jill Percy, 38, arguing that the policy of denying homosexuals travel benefits is a violation of EU anti-discrimination laws.

"The court should reject such pedantry. The right to human intimacy is a fundamental right and I would suggest, a fundamental human need," Booth said.

A preliminary opinion from the court will be delivered in Luxembourg on September 30, with a final verdict expected early next year.

CA audits agency raids of gay bars

SACRAMENTO (AP)

State auditors are investigating complaints that the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control has stepped up raids on gay and minority bars.

Activists from the gay, black and Hispanic communities allege the agency has engaged in discriminatory enforcement.

State Auditor Kurt Sjoberg told the Los Angeles Times that his auditors will compare the number of ABC actions in minority bars to those in other communities to determine if there is an imbalance. They also will conduct interviews of bar employees and customers.

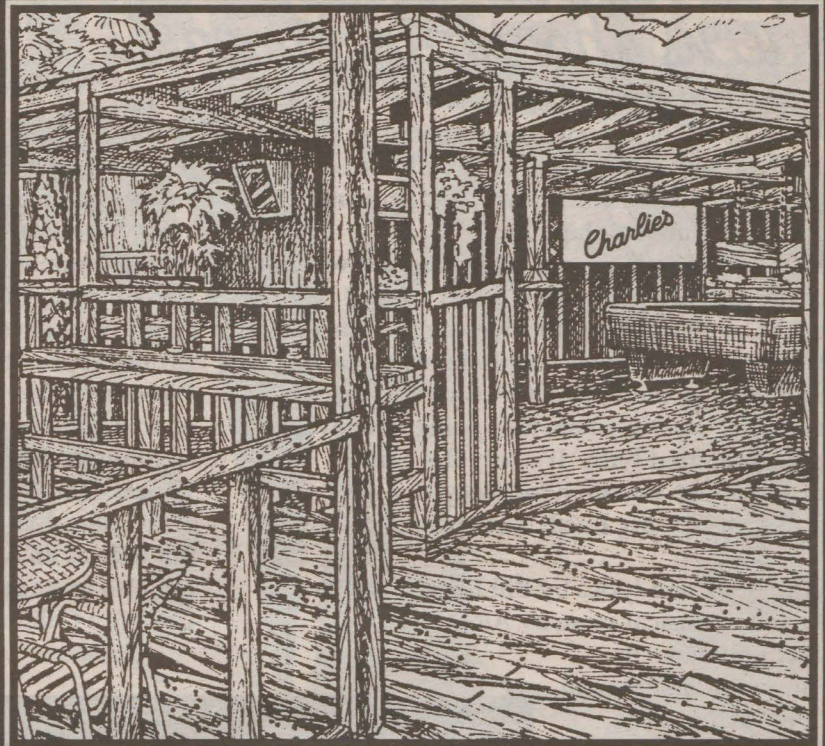
Sjoberg called the \$147,000 audit unusual because of the relatively small size of the agency being investigated and the significant amount of time it will involve — nearly

2,500 hours. It is scheduled for completion in about six months.

Assistant ABC director Carl Falletta said the minority communities are not being singled out and called the audit "wasteful," but activists in the gay and minority communities applauded the audit.

Gay bar owners in the Los Angeles area have said they suspect the raids are aimed at forcing them out of business.

Nearly 100 bar owners from San Diego to San Jose, primarily owners of gay, black and Latino bars, have banded together as the Tavern Guild to legally challenge the regulatory agency. They cite a February Los Angeles Police Commission study that found gay bars make up 1.4 percent of ABC licensees in Los Angeles but were the site of 2.9 percent of law enforcement actions last year.



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Friday-Saturday 7-9pm

75¢ Well/Longnecks

Weekly Specials

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Undie Mondays, 7-12. Party in your underwear & drink anything in the house 1/2 price. Pinball Tournament, 9:30pm; Renegades practice night.

Tuesday

Draft Blowout, 7-12. Miller Lite/Genuine Draft pitchers \$1.50. Sunburst Squares practice night. Volleyball with Michael at 8pm. Pony Express Night—an exciting way to meet new friends. Dart League night & Open Dart Tournament, 9:30pm.

Wednesday

Top Shelf Night, 7-12. \$2 Top Shelf, \$1.25 well drinks. Dance lessons with Troy at 7:30pm.

Thursday

The Original 1/2 Price Night, 7-12. 1/2 Price on everything. Renegades practice night. Dart Tournament, 9:30pm.

Friday

Start your weekend at Charlie's. Sunburst Squares practice night.

Saturday

\$1 well drinks, 12-7pm. Free pool/darts, 3pm. Dance lessons with Marque at 7:30pm.

Sunday

BBQ, 12-6pm for \$3. \$1.50 Long Island Iced Teas until 9pm. \$1.50 Frozen Strawberry Daquiris on the patio noon to 7pm. \$2.50 pitchers noon to midnight. Tea Dance 3-7pm. Dart Tournament, 9:30pm.

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Queens abound in Pageant

Continued from page 1

expound upon their desire to win the world with their girlish wiles. But you won't be fooled. This is comic camp satire at its purest and, in truth, these "ladies" are anything but.

That's right—this is one crazy pageant where all of the girls are guys. And when emcee Freddie Cavalier praises the overeager contestants' obvious attributes—without specifically naming that "something extra" they all possess—you'll know exactly where he's going with every double-entendre lyric. It's only the "girls" themselves who remain hilariously clueless from start to sash-pinning finish, and therein lies the fun.

With book and lyrics by Bill Russell and Frank Kelly and a musical score by Albert Evans, *Pageant* will make its Southwest premiere with this production. The musical dragfest is being presented by In Mixed Company in association with Lyman H. Goodrich, who also handles the show's choreography. Jim Linde directs; Jerry Wayne Harkey is musical director.

A professional dancer, actor and choreographer himself, Goodrich has wanted to produce this particular musical in Phoenix for some time, though he has never before produced anything. "I first heard of the play when it ran at the Blue Angel Dinner Theatre in New York in 1990," Goodrich says. "I loved the whole idea of it, where men perform as women in a musical beauty pageant. All the reviews said it was hysterically funny, and the audience-participation aspect appeals to a lot of people as well."

Throughout the play's run, Goodrich explains, five judges will be selected at random from the theater audience at the beginning of each performance. By those judges' scores, the Miss Glamouresse "winner" will be selected each night. There are a variety of finales possible and each actor must learn the choreography that corresponds to whether he (as a she) wins, loses, or is named a runner-up.

"The script was privately-held for some time, and when I finally got my hands on it I absolutely fell in love with the piece. I knew there had to be some way we could do it here," Goodrich says. He says he approached the production staff at In Mixed Company after viewing their produc-

tion of *Jeffrey* in Phoenix in 1996. "I thought they really brought new insight to what might be considered standard gay repertoire," he says.

D. Scott Withers, Managing Director of In Mixed Company, says *Pageant* was an incredible find for the company. The satirical romp, he says, is just what his group was looking for. "When Lyman approached me with this idea," says Withers, "I said 'yes' right away. We really wanted to do another summer show and this script is so funny and fresh—it's perfect summer fare for Phoenix audiences."

Withers does double duty in this show, acting not only as an officer of the production company but also onstage where he portrays "Miss West Coast", a California golden girl who's as concerned with EST as she is with eye shadow.

"I have to give Lyman a lot of credit for getting this production going," says Withers. "He had to do a lot of calling around and a lot of leg work to get this play produced in Phoenix."

"I get almost afraid, because they are too funny," says director Jim Linde of his cast. "I can't believe the luck we've had in casting this show. The caliber of singing and dancing ability we were able to tap into for a non-equity production is incredible."

In addition to Withers, contestants include Jeffrie Allan as "Miss Deep South", William Badgett as "Miss Texas", Tony Castellanos as "Miss Industrial Northeast", R.

Scott Harnisch as "Miss Great Plains", and David Jones as "Miss Bible Belt". Ben Brittain plays the only "real man" in the show, the leering-yet-lovable emcee.

"None of these guys have performed in drag onstage, and some had never even tried drag before they were cast in this show," says Withers. "There are three of us who are over six-foot-three in our flat feet, so you can imagine what we look like in heels," he laughs. "We are big girls."

Most of *Pageant's* actors will be familiar to Valley audiences from previous roles in local dramas and other musical productions. Most recently, Castellanos and Jones appeared together in The Actor's Group's extended run of Terrence McNally's *Love! Valour! Compassion!* in Phoenix. In McNally's drama, the spare-to-nonexistent costuming left no doubt in theatergoer's minds as to the gender of the participating actors.

The costumer's goal in *Pageant*, however, is quite the opposite. "We are so fortunate to have David Anaya, a.k.a. Hollie Woods, to do all the hair and makeup design for our show," says producer Goodrich. "He has made all of our boys into fabulous girls and he does a remarkably professional job. People are going to be blown away by how good they look." The swimsuits and gowns are all being specially designed by Tiia

Torchia, says Goodrich. "And they are going to knock you out," he adds.

Also knocking audiences out will be the show's wonderfully creative lyrics and music; a stunning, tiered set that includes a "spaceship" landing on Venus; recent ASU-grad Brittain's swaggering sexuality and rich baritone singing; and the boundless energy exploding from each of the contestant's solo pieces, especially the talent routines.

"There are three of us who are over six-foot-three in our flat feet, so you can imagine what we look like in heels," he laughs. "We are big girls."

The hilarious talent segments are spaced throughout the evening and range from a requisite "interpretive reading", so awfully over-inspired that it's outstanding, to a roller-skating accordionist who can scarcely decide what number she'll play. There's a crazed tap routine that celebrates *How the West was Won*; a three-octave rendition of *Camptown Races* sung by one of the lasses and her talented pair of hand puppets; and a high-energy gospel performance that sells the importance of loving Jesus as the key to discovering your own self-righteous beauty secrets.

Each of these talent routines is hilarious, and the play-within-a-play aspect brings out the best of the six actors' formidable talents—the above-mentioned gospel number is nothing short of show-stopping.

"We have a fantastic cast," says Linde, "and it's really been fun to see a little bit of the actors' own personalities shine through in each role. We have the cream of the crop as far as Phoenix talent, and this is going to be one fun, funny show."

With a talented emcee, inspired costuming and hilarious writing behind them, these "gals" covet the "Miss Glamouresse" title with such innocent reverence that you can't help but get caught up in their ridiculous quest. The girls want so earnestly to win that you'll almost forget their true identities and begin to think you are watching a real beauty pageant.

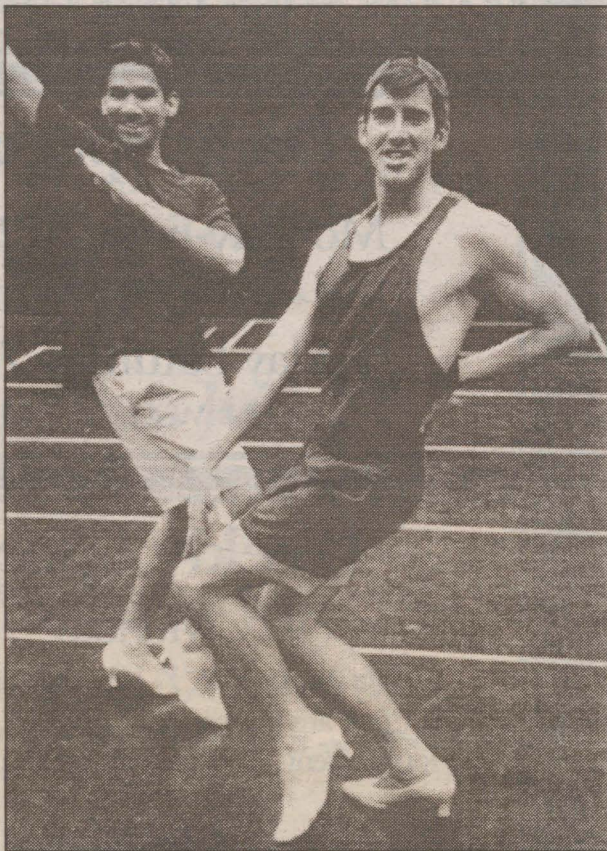
You'll root for your favorites and empathize with the judges' difficult task. As the new "Miss

Glamouresse" is crowned, your heart will go out to the "losers" who stand aside and applaud lamely, blinking back jealous tears with their tongues planted firmly in rouged cheeks. It's this kind of mock sincerity that makes a good spoof work. Delightfully obnoxious, *Pageant* has got it in spades.

This is one summer show you won't want to miss. It slams mom, America, women, men,

religion, and society's views of traditional female beauty, all the while pretending to do nothing of the kind. At a glance, *Pageant* may be the least politically-correct show running in Phoenix this year. But—as with all satire—the lessons to be learned lurk just below this play's pancaked surface.

If you have any preconceptions about drag comedies, check them at the door and come prepared to laugh your wig off. *Pageant* may not be great art, but as musical theater it is artfully pure: pure silliness, pure entertainment, and pure fun.



Tony Castellanos, left, as "Miss Industrial Northeast," and R. Scott Harnisch, as "Miss Great Plains" break in their pumps.



David Jones with his alter ego, "Miss Bible Belt"

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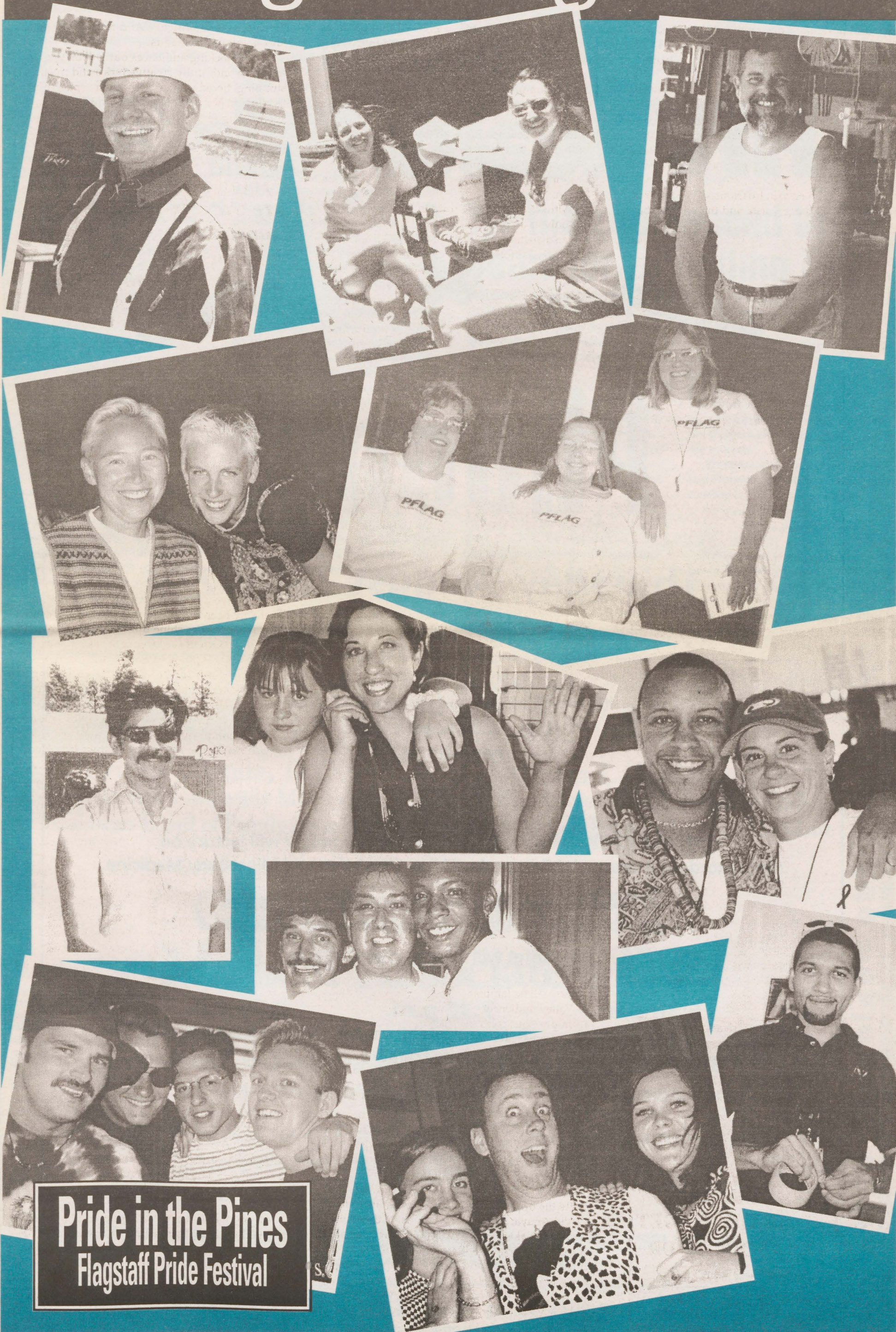
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Government report says deaths from AIDS declining

WASHINGTON (AP)

With death rates dropping and AIDS patients living longer, the challenge now is finding money to care for those living with the disease, advocates say.

"The bad news is more medical providers are being caught in a revenue crunch," with no money for the flood of patients who now need outpatient care, said Dr. Victoria Sharp of St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital in New York.

Worse, says the advocacy group AIDS Action: More and more poor people simply cannot afford the expensive drugs that promise to prolong their lives. The drug combinations, which include the powerful protease inhibitors, cost \$15,000 per person every year.

"AIDS is not over. If we act like it is, it may never be," said AIDS Action's Daniel Zingale.

The government announced July 14 that deaths from AIDS dropped 19 percent during the first nine months of 1996, due partly to a slowing of HIV infections in the late 1980s among white homosexual men — but also due to better therapy.

Deaths among all men dropped 22 percent, but among women dropped just 7 percent, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported.

Deaths among black Americans dropped 10 percent and Hispanics 16 percent, while there was a 28 percent decline among whites overall.

"People of color do not have the same access to quality health care," Dr. Helene Gayle, CDC's chief of sex-

ually transmitted diseases, said in explaining the racial discrepancies.

While deaths from AIDS are declining, new cases are increasing but more slowly than a few years ago. In 1995, about 62,200 people were diagnosed, an increase of less than 2 percent over the 61,200 new cases in 1994. The growth rate from 1993 to 1994 was 5 percent.

Congress this week will debate whether to increase the \$167 million AIDS drug assistance program, which buys medicines for poor AIDS patients who don't qualify for Medicaid. The demand for expensive protease inhibitors has left the program so cash-strapped that 23 states have had to cut patients or restrict their access to the drugs.

But the financial problem is broader, said Sharp. Hospitals get far less reimbursement from either public or private insurance for outpatient care than for admitting the seriously ill — so outpatient AIDS clinics are in trouble, she told a meeting of AIDS experts July 14.

Take St. Vincent's Hospital in New York. Hospital admissions of seriously ill AIDS patients dropped from 110 a month in 1994 to 50 a month last year, while the hospital doubled the people treated as outpatients to 2,000 a month, Sharp said.

That saved insurers \$2 million on hospital admissions, Sharp said. Yet even as outpatient services doubled, insurance payments for those services rose from just \$110,000 a month in 1994 to \$182,000 a month in 1996, she said.

And individual patients are feeling the crunch, too. AIDS activist Winnie Fairchild of Washington said a doctor recently tried to stop her prescription for protease inhibitor.

The doctor "said it was not his policy" to provide expensive drugs to Medicaid patients, Fairchild said Monday. "It's not my policy to die, either."

Denise Stokes of Atlanta described how she went to that city's public

hospital for the poor with a fever and covered in a rash, a side effect from her AIDS medication.

"In that physical condition I was expected to stand in line three hours for medicine" before she collapsed, said Stokes, an adviser to the Clinton administration on AIDS issues. "I made it to the curb, and I laid there in my own urine while ... (ambulance workers) stepped over me and laughed."

NY man sentenced to 14 years for spreading HIV

HELSINKI, Finland (AP)

An American rap artist has been sentenced to 14 years in prison on 17 counts of attempted manslaughter by infecting Finnish women with the AIDS virus.

Stephen Thomas, 36, of New York City, was arrested in January on charges of endangering the women by having unprotected sex without warning them he had HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Five of 17 women involved in the case have since tested HIV-positive.

After closed proceedings, the Helsinki District Court announced July 10 that it found Thomas guilty of attempted manslaughter because he had concealed that fact that he was HIV-positive from the women.

"It is a very stiff sentence," said his lawyer, Aarno Arvelo. "It's certainly up there in the among the

longest sentences ever issued in Finland." Arvelo said an appeal was planned.

The court also ordered Thomas to pay about \$57,000 in damages to each of the five HIV-positive women, and \$4,000 to each of the other 12. The court also took the unusual step of ordering the trial transcript sealed for 40 years to protect the identity of the women.

Thomas, who had been married to a Finnish woman, moved to the country in October 1991. According to the court and investigators, Thomas learned that he was HIV-positive in 1993.

Finland, a country of five million, has one of Europe's lowest AIDS and HIV rates. In all, about 200 people have died from AIDS in Finland since 1982 and some 800 have tested HIV-positive.



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Gay Comedy Jam spreads to Tempe

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

The rain, heat and humidity associated with Arizona monsoons can lead to bouts of grouchiness and irritability among even the best-intentioned Phoenicians. This year, there's a remedy headed toward the Valley. It's sure to restore a sense of humor to your sweat-drenched psyche, and it's blowing in with the lightening and rain from down Gulf of Mexico way.

The cure for those summer grumps is called The Gay Comedy Jam, and its ingredients are a pair of openly gay Houston comedians scheduled to play Tempe's Improv on July 29 and 30. Their names are Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye. When they met on the road a few years back, Kennedy and Maye were two of a handful of openly gay comics working the stand up circuit.

It appears to have been love at first chuckle—the comedic duo now tours together, and they have paired up at home as well. The unconventional domestic partners recently took some time out from their hectic schedule to talk to HeatStroke about their life together, the state of gay comedy, and their upcoming visit to our muggy city.

HeatStroke: Do you guys tell people on airplanes that you are comedians?
Scott Kennedy: No. Ninety percent of the time, I tell people I sell insurance. If you tell them you're a comedian, they tell you all their jokes. Then, they want you to tell them

jokes, so you feel like you always have to perform.

HS: Do you have to be funny all the time?

SK: Yeah, it's the only profession where you have to prove yourself at a party. You don't ask the plumber to go fix the sink when he's diving into the dip. But people expect us to go to work right there.

HS: Scott, when you were growing up in Albuquerque, did you think about becoming a professional comedian someday?

SK: I never thought specifically about doing stand up, though I always knew that I wanted to be a performer. But then the adult-movie thing just didn't work out. Apparently, you have to have a huge...

HS: Anyway...

SK: Anyway, I was looking back at some old yearbooks the other night. In the seventh grade, one of my teachers wrote, "please remember us when you are a big star on Saturday Night Live." She picked up on my performance potential even though I was unaware of it at the time. At that age, I was just the class cut-up.

HS: Is it hard to have a relationship with another performer?

Kevin Maye: It is really hard. I am the first serious relationship Scott has ever had, so for him it's all new. But I

ized with pneumocystis pneumonia. I was put on life support and was near death.

It didn't end up onstage until 1996, so I guess it took about three years before I performed the HIV humor. I went from not wanting anyone to know, to the point where I wanted everyone to know. It's hard to say how that happened.

It had more to do with my family and my friends coming to terms with it. I had to tell people, "I'm positive and I'm going to be doing jokes about it in public." In the process of letting everyone else know, I had prepared myself for where I am now. Which is to perform before audiences and show people—not just gay people, but everyone—that there is hope. This is how I have chosen to live with HIV rather than to die from it.

HS: You guys have played here before, right?

SK: Yes, and we love the Tempe Improv. We've sold it out both times, which we like because my mom lives

there—so it impresses her. We'll actually be recording the Tempe shows for a cd we're putting together, to be released on National Coming Out Day in October.

HS: Kevin, when people find out you two are professional gay comics, do they ever assume that means you do drag?

KM: Sometimes in the straight community, they do. Most of the venues we play are straight, mainstream comedy clubs. When we first started out people didn't know what to expect. They thought we would be bringing in these freak-show audiences full of people with two heads or three hairdos or something. Now it's gotten to the point where the staff and owners love us, because the gay and lesbian clientele make such quality audiences. Gay people are classy, polite, and we tip well.

They ask for us back all the time, which is great. Because it shows that they get our comedy and accept us, and they see that our humor works with both gay and straight audiences, and that we aren't in drag or anything like that.

HS: So what are your dress sizes?

KM: Scott would definitely be a 3X, a very big woman. I'm much smaller, much more petite. I could fit in a size twelve, or a ten maybe. Scott has never done drag, but he is one of those gay guys who kind of keeps the idea in the back of his mind and wonders what he would look like. I'm sure he would love to be someone very glamorous and exotic, like Whitney Houston. We'd have to get hold of him and say, "Sorry, honey. You're Wynonna, and there's nothing you can do about it. So you might as well start croonin' Mama, He's Crazy."



Scott Kennedy, left, and Kevin Maye

had relationships before him. My last, long-term relationship before I met Scott was with a professional singer/songwriter. When that ended, I told myself the problem was we were both performers and there can only be one star in the house. I swore I'd never get involved with someone in the entertainment business again. But now, here I am with Scott. Never say "never".

HS: Is there competition between the two of you?

KM: There is no competition because we are so different onstage. We compliment each other rather than compete. We are really different—I think I found the secret to making a "two star" household work.

HS: Scott, do you two crack each other up at home?

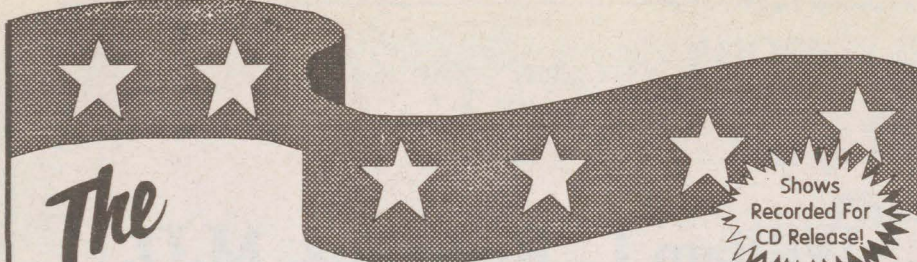
SK: Yeah, we do. We don't try material out on each other, but we do make each other laugh a lot. What makes us laugh doesn't always make the general public laugh. We're both comics so we have a pretty sick sense of humor... we're kind of catty.

HS: Would you be as funny if you weren't gay?

SK: Interesting question. Probably not. I think that, as a group, gay people are funnier than non-gay people. I don't know why that is, I guess we have an extra gene or something.

HS: Kevin, you are one of just a couple performers across the country doing HIV-positive humor. At what point did you realize that being HIV positive could find its way into your stand up act?


KM: I was in a situation where I was diagnosed with full-blown AIDS at the same time I learned I was HIV positive. In July of 1993, I got very ill when we were on tour and I thought it was bronchitis, but I was hospital-



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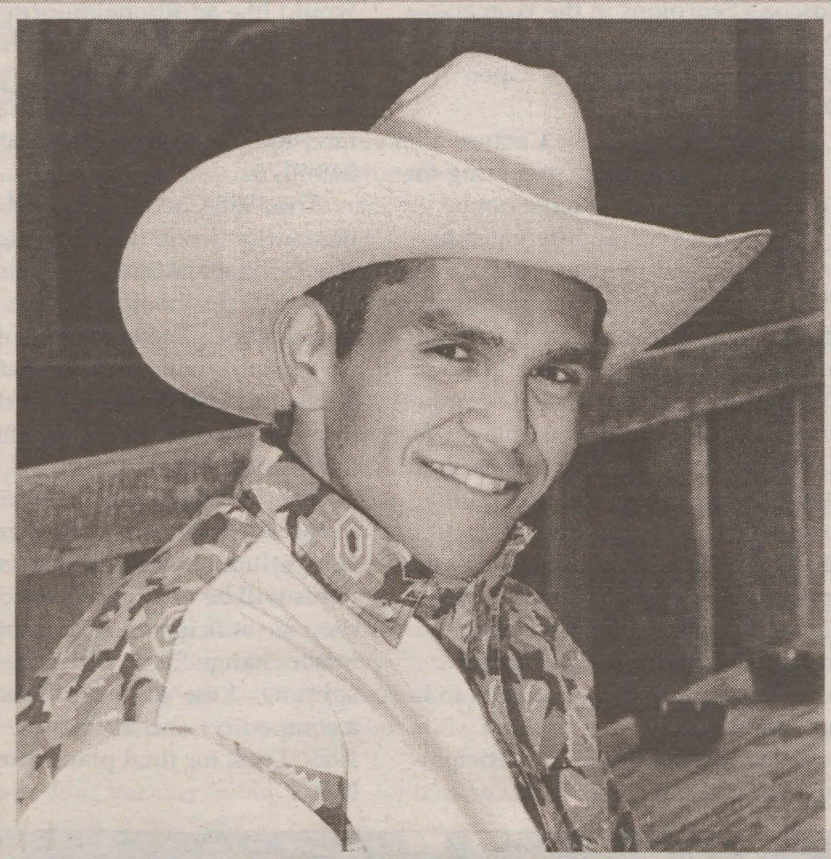
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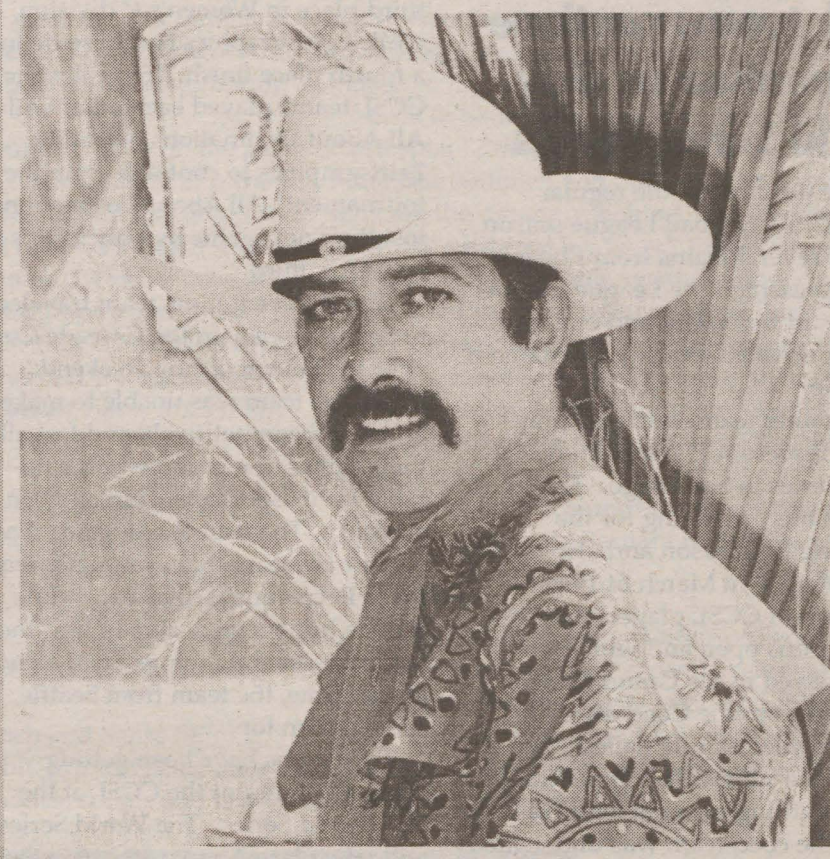
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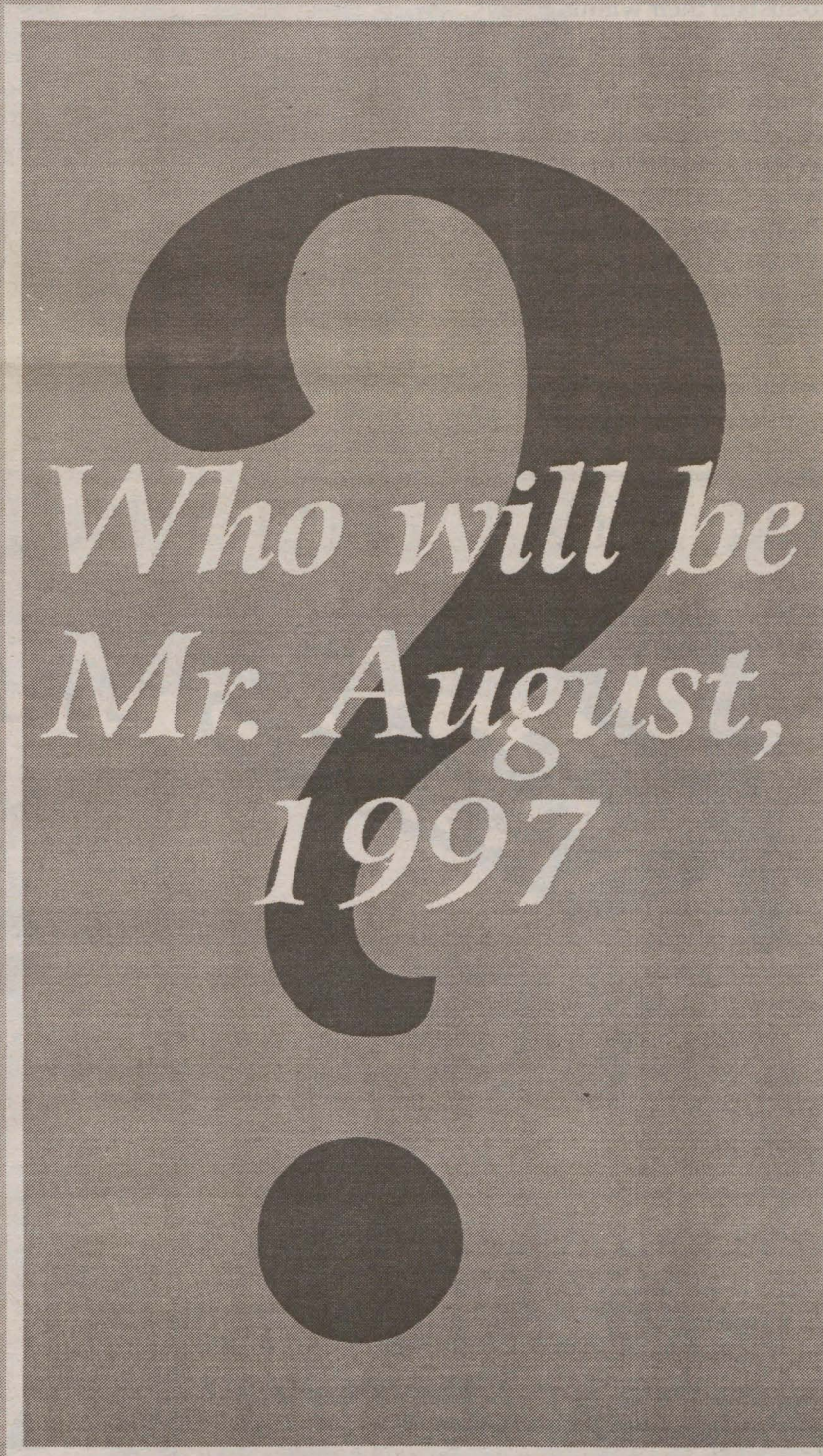
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Queer Sporting News

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CCSL teams continue competition as Gay World Series looms

Since the close of the regular Cactus Cities Softball League season in June, several teams from Phoenix have represented the League in tournaments in the Valley and one team recently traveled to a gay tournament in Seattle.

Five other teams are busy prepping to represent Phoenix in the Gay World Series in San Diego. The CCSL Board is busy planning for the upcoming Fall season and also for the Cactus Cup V in March of 1998.

A team of CCSL players drawn from various open and women's teams played in the Grand Canyon State Games in the Coed division. The team successfully nailed third place in the statewide competition despite battling extreme temperatures. The coed team was undefeated heading into the final two games of the tournament.

However, the CCSL players were unable to sustain their winning ways and lost their final games to finish third. While the team was not identified as a gay team, players stated that many recognized the team as being from the Cactus Cities Softball League.

Two Women's Division teams played in the recent Firecracker Tournament here in Phoenix. All About Destinations was able to claim

third place in Women's C division, while 2girlsgraphics had to settle for a fourth place finish. Ironically, the CCSL teams played each other with All About Destinations defeating 2girlsgraphics to continue on in the tournament. All About Destinations lost their next game by only 2 runs to settle for third.

The Wink's Juniors team traveled to Seattle to play in the Cascade Cup over the Fourth of July weekend. While the team was unable to make an impact competitively and lost all their games, the group was memorable for its sportsmanship and congeniality. The team's best game was against the team that eventually won the C Recreational division. While Wink's Juniors were able to lead the game for several innings, by the end of the game, the team from Seattle came out on top.

Five teams have been getting ready to represent the CCSL at the Gay World Series. The World Series will take place August 10 - 16 in San Diego. Approximately 100 teams will be representing gay leagues from across the US and Canada in 5 divisions.

The opening ceremony will take place at the Organ Pavilion at Balboa Park and the closing ceremony will be at the world famous San Diego Zoo. Sponsors for the World Series include Miller's Lite, International Male and the Gay & Lesbian Times. Teams representing Phoenix will be Unique on Central/FirsTravel and

Roscoe's Scorpions in the Women's Division and Roscoe's, Obelisk and Roscoe's Expansion in the Open Division.

The new Board of the Cactus Cities Softball League is busy preparing for the Fall league. Plans have not be finalized, but several different competitive venues are being considered. The League is planning to continue to offer a developmental league for new and beginning players. In addition, CCSL is discussing running a competitive league for established players. At the present time, the Women's Division looks to be trying to pull together a full competitive season. The Open Division may provide an opportunity for established players to play in formalized games without going to a full competitive season. Look for plans to be announced in the next month.

If you are interested in participating at any of the above levels or

would like additional information about gay softball, Open Division players can call Don at 435-8120 or Jack at 241-9224 and Women's Division players can call Charise at 848-7170.

The 1998 Cactus Cup softball tournament is also in the planning stages. The League has tentatively set March 28 and 29 for the fifth edition of the tournament. The League is planning on expanding the tournament to 64 teams this year to make this the largest gay softball competition after the World Series.

The Tournament will be returning to the same venues as this year's competition, however, additional fields will be obtained to accommodate the anticipated expansion. The major change for 1998 will be the splitting of the women's division into a competitive and alternative division. Look for final plans during the Fall.



Roscoe's Expansion team heading to the World Series in San Diego

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Queer Road Trip: San Diego to Santa Monica

In terms of maritime scenery, there may not be a more dramatic coastal drive in North America than meandering Highway 1, which snakes up California's coast, eventually passing through Oregon and Washington. The southern portion of this route, from San Diego through San Francisco, passes through some of America's gayest vacation destinations.

Where the road takes a turn through some sparsely populated areas, drivers are treated to pristine natural scenery and glimpses of precious wildlife. Each day has been planned out with the amount of time you'll need to spend driving; an attraction no visitor to the region should miss; one neighborhood you should consider wandering on foot (to give your legs some activity after all that driving); a memorable mid-priced lunch, dinner, and lodging suggestion that's popular with queer travelers; and the most popular lesbian and gay night spots.

Begin your journey in San Diego, which is about 20 miles north of the U.S.-Mexican border. Start with lunch or even a late breakfast at one of the most delightfully eccentric neighborhood eateries in the West, the Big Kitchen. It's in the rapidly gayifying Golden Hill neighborhood, just southeast of lush Balboa Park, where you can spend the afternoon. One of America's most remarkable urban oases, the park is home to the famous San Diego Zoo, as well as several great museums.

For an early-evening walk, take in the city's queer hub, Hillcrest, which is loaded with shops, bars, and restaurants along both University and 5th avenues. Of the many eateries you'll encounter, the hugely popular California Cuisine serves tasty New American fare.

Guys can then dance the night away at nearby Rich's, while women should check out The Flame, on the eastern edge of Hillcrest. Spend the night at one of the most charming and affordable B&Bs in the city, the Keating House, a peach-and-sage Victorian 20 minutes on foot from Hillcrest and just a few blocks from Balboa Park.

From San Diego, you actually have to cheat a bit and take I-5 to just north of San Clemente, before you can begin your journey along scenic Highway 1 to reach the jewel of the "California Riviera," Laguna Beach; the whole trip shouldn't exceed 90 minutes.

Grab a light lunch at upbeat Cafe Zinc, which is in the heart of the highly walkable downtown. Art galleries and boutiques abound on the neighboring blocks.

Laze away the rest of your afternoon on the gay beach behind the Coast Inn. Catch dinner at ultra-queer and very trendy Mark's, before heading out for dancing and cocktails at the Boom Boom Room (great for both men and women), which is also at the Coast Inn. This inn is very popular with the party set, but the best gay-friendly accommodation in town is the Spanish Mission-style Casa Laguna Inn, which has exceptional ocean views from many units.

It can take as little as an hour to reach Los Angeles from Laguna Beach, but via coastal Highway 1, give yourself at least three hours to enjoy the drive, which passes through Newport Beach; bustling, semi-industrial, and very queer Long Beach; and several eclectic beach towns in Western L.A..

When you hit Venice Beach and Santa Monica, book a room at the reasonably priced Pacific Shore hotel, which has cheerful modest rooms and is a

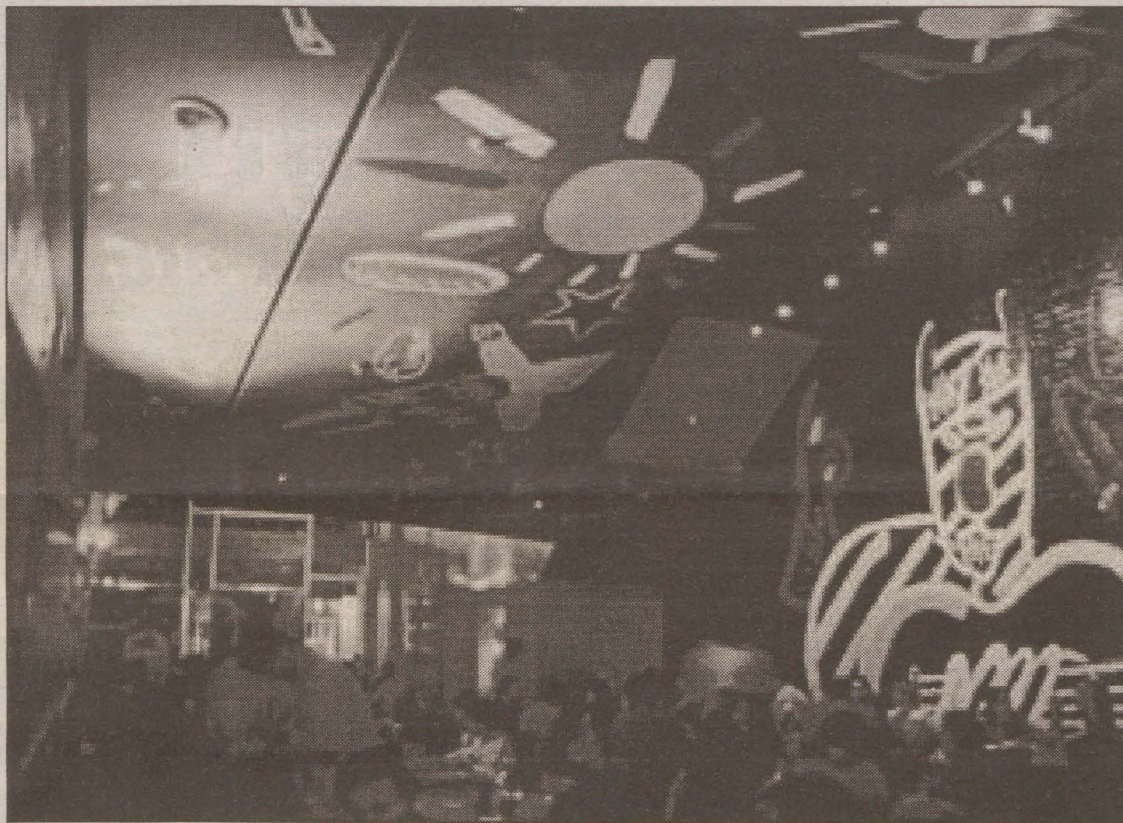
many victims of prejudice over the centuries, including a walkway remembering gays and lesbians.

Back in Santa Monica, enjoy the dazzling (and often spicy) fare at the Border Cafe, which is run by Mary Sue Milliken and open lesbian Susan Feniger; they are the dynamos behind The Television Food Network's hit cooking show, *Too Hot Tamales*.

Later in the evening, venture inland to West Hollywood for dancing at the Axis/Love Lounge, where, depending on the night, women and men either cut loose together or among themselves. Or check out a couple more intimate West Hollywood hangouts, Revolver for guys, and The Palms for women.

Note: The next column continues this road trip north through Santa Barbara to San Francisco.

Andrew Collins is the author of Fodor's Gay Guide to the USA, three recently released gay guides covering the West Coast, and forthcoming gay guides on New York City, South Florida, and Amsterdam. He can be reached care of HeatStroke, or at OutofTown9@aol.com.



Santa Monica's Border Grill

block from the beach. Enjoy a casual lunch at funky Van Go's Ear (it's open 24 hours, in case you want to come back later for a post-clubbing snack).

Wander over to lost-in-the-'60s Venice Pier, before driving back a short distance back up Highway 1 to lower Santa Monica's engaging Main Street - a great source of offbeat shopping and browsing.

Drive inland a bit to Beverly Hills to see the moving and enlightening Museum of Tolerance, behind which is a Memorial Plaza dedicated to the

(652 N. La Peer Dr., West Hollywood, 659-0471 or 659-0472). Border Grill (1445 4th St., Santa Monica, 451-1655). Museum of Tolerance (9786 W. Pico Blvd., Beverly Hills, 553-8403). Pacific Shore (1819 Ocean Ave., Santa Monica, 451-8711 or 800-622-8711). The Palms (8572 Santa Monica Blvd., 652-6188). Revolver (8851 Santa Monica Blvd., 659-8851). Van Go's Ear (796 Main St., Venice, 314-0022).

The Little Black Book

San Diego (area code 619): Balboa Park Visitors Center (El Prado via 6th Ave., 239-0512). Big Kitchen (3003 Grape St., 234-5789). California Cuisine (1027 University Ave., 543-0790). The Flame (3780 Park Blvd., 295-4163). Keating House (2331 2nd Ave., 239-8585 or 800-995-8644). Rich's (1051 University Ave., 497-4588). Laguna Beach (area code 714): Boom Boom Room/Coast Inn (1401 S. Coast Hwy., 494-7588). Cafe Zinc (350 Ocean Ave., 494-6302). Casa Laguna Inn (1441 S. Coast Hwy., 494-2996 or 800-233-0449). Mark's (858 S. Coast Hwy., 494-6711). Western Los Angeles/The Beaches (area code 310): Axis/Love Lounge

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Georgia rockers heading for Phoenix



Clay McBride

To support their newest album, *Disciplined Breakdown*, Collective Soul will appear in Phoenix on Saturday, August 2 at the Celebrity Theater. In 1995-96 the quintet nabbed #1 slots on the rock, alternative and adult alternative charts with the singles "Where the River Flows" and "The World I Know" off their self-titled second album.

Disciplined Breakdown strikes a tonal balance between the riff-based signature of the group's second album and the song-oriented character of their first effort, 1994's *Hints Allegations and Things Left Unsaid*. The band has made multiple appearances on the *Late Show with David*

Letterman, *The Tonight Show*, and Conan O'Brien.

Out of Stockbridge, Georgia, Collective Soul is made up of brothers Ed and Dean Roland on lead vocals and guitars; their across-the-street neighbor Ross Childress on lead guitar; and childhood buddies Will Turpin on Bass and Shane Evans on drums.

The Phoenix show will open with Darlahood at 8pm. Tickets are \$17 and are available through Dillard's outlets and at the Celebrity Box Office. The Celebrity Theater is located at 440 N. 32nd Street in Phoenix, 602-267-9373.

Brad including Tempe on first tour

The Seattle-based band called Brad has just released its second album, though the group had never before performed in public until beginning their current tour this month. Brad will appear in Tempe on Saturday, July 26 at Gibson's.

Interiors follows the band's first album, *Shame*, released in 1993. Brad is made up of Regan Hagar on drums, Shawn Smith on lead vocals and piano, Jeremy Toback on bass and vocals and Stone Gossard of Pearl Jam on Guitar and vocals.

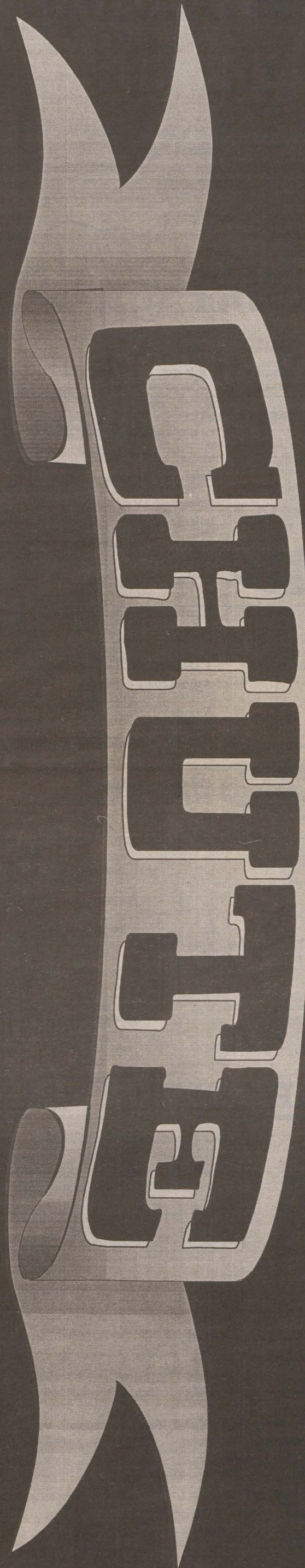
Brad will perform with Verbow. The show is scheduled to begin at 9pm and tickets are available in advance through



Marina Chavez

Ticketmaster for \$10, or at Gibson's on the day of the show for \$12.

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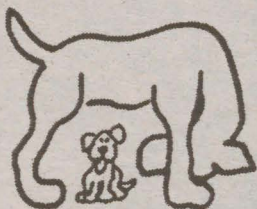
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Dear Cowboy,

I have been seeing a great woman who is very attached to her dog. I can deal with that, even though I am not a big "dog" person myself. But it is old, and in the last few weeks it has been going downhill fast. The humane thing now is to have it put to sleep but she refuses to consider that, even though her vet recommends it.

Should I try to convince her to do what I think is best, or should I let it go and watch her fuss over the thing till it dies? She is really touchy on the subject.

Signed, Unsure

Dear Unsure,

Our cowboy and cowgirl instincts tell us it's our humane responsibility to end the suffering of sick and injured livestock, that's true. But you'd do better to let nature take its course here, or you may be the one who ends up in the doghouse.

Support whatever decision she makes, no matter what your personal feelings are. Let her know you are there for her and the poor pooch, and don't make it into an issue of "right" and "wrong", or you might end up causing scars in the relationship that will last until long after fido is in doggie heaven.

Dear Cowboy,

How do you know if you are a bottom or a top? I am 22 and came out about a year ago. I get asked which one I am and I hear other guys talking about their preferences. I really don't know what I am. How can I find out? Do I have to pick one or the other?

Signed, Inexperienced

Dear Inexperienced,

Nope, you sure don't have to pick one or the other. Different sexual desires and needs are part of what makes each cowpoke unique, and you might find you enjoy both positions, or only one, or maybe even neither.

It also depends on the needs of the cowboy you choose to buddy up with at the time. Desires can change with different partners. To find out, let yourself explore, be flexible, and don't be afraid to try safe things that you find exciting. Sexual gratification is about 99% in the mind, anyway.

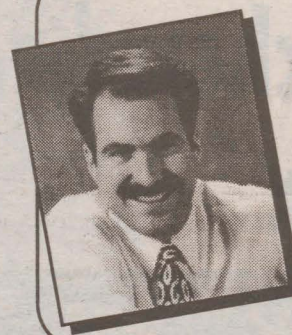
Don't buy into some of those tired, old stereotypes floating around the bunkhouse. It takes a real man to

Different sexual desires and needs are part of what makes each cowpoke unique. . . you might enjoy both positions, only one, or maybe even neither.

ride the range all day and then be ridden himself at night.

Remember, whatever you decide is really only between you, your bedroll and the moon. Sounds like maybe those cowboys who are "talking about their preferences"— and asking you about yours— need another hobby.

Get yourself some lube, then head into town and have fun. And buy your busy-bodied bunkmates a set of checkers.



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4027 E. Lincoln Dr.
Paradise Valley, AZ 85283
840-8400

Gentle Shepherd MCC-285-9020

Goddess Womyn's Network
P.O. Box 17312
Phoenix, AZ 85011 266-4111

Healing Waters Ministries
225 W. University, 105
Tempe, AZ 85281 894-8681

Lutherans Concerned
P.O. Box 7519
Phoenix, AZ 85011 870-3611

Phoenix Light of the Lamb
Christian Church
PO Box 16332
Phoenix, AZ 85011 274-5202

Presbyterians for Lesbians &
Gays
P.O. Box 61162
Phoenix, AZ 85082 275-0506

Southwest Miracles Center
3644 E. McDowell
Phoenix, AZ 85008 244-9001

Valley Unitarian Universalist
Church
1700 W. Warner Rd.
Chandler, AZ 85224 899-4249

Western Orthodox
Catholic Church
241-9776 pasiozi@cris.com

Arizona Gay Rodeo Association
P.O. Box 16363
Phoenix, AZ 85011 265-0618

Music, Sports & Hobbies

Arizona Gay Rodeo Association
P.O. Box 16363
Phoenix, AZ 85011 265-0618

Arizona Lambda Yacht Club
951-9481

Cactus Cities Softball League
254-0648

Charlie's Renegades
727 W. Camelback
Phoenix, AZ 85013 265-0224

Desert Valley Squares
P.O. Box 34615
Phoenix, AZ 85067 252-0048

Gay League Association of Darts
P.O. Box 941
Phoenix, AZ 85013 841-4489

Grand Canyon Men's Choral
P.O. Box 16462
Phoenix, AZ 85011 340-7640

Lambda Car Club
P.O. Box 36211
Phoenix, AZ 85067 409-3160

Our Gang Bowling League
2644 E. Birchwood
Mesa, AZ 85204 969-4629

Spartan Wrestling Club-508-0199
e-mail: mattbims@aol.com

Sunburst Squares
727 W. Camelback
Phoenix, AZ 85013 265-0224

Team Arizona
P.O. Box 36431
Phoenix, AZ 85067 464-1461

Valley of the Sun Comm'ty Band
Jayne: 947-0907; Terry: 954-9244

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel

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THE MOSTLY UNFABULOUS SOCIAL LIFE OF ETHAN GREEN

... By Eric Orner.

Summer House Diary with ethan Green

10:30am
WAKE UP. BYPASS THE COMMUNAL "CHOCK FULL O' NUTS" FOR A FULL POT OF A HOUSEMATE'S PRIVATE STASH OF KONA...

11:15am
DECIDE TO WORKOUT BEFORE YOU GO TO THE BEACH. THEN UNDECIDE. THEN DECIDE AGAIN. REALIZE THAT AS YOU'VE BEEN DECIDING, A HOUSEMATE'S IDIOT WIFE HAS EATEN YOUR WEIGHT LIFTING GLOVES...

11:30am
GRILL ANOTHER HOUSEMATE'S TRICK AS HE'S COLLECTING HIS THINGS TO LEAVE...

9:15pm
DEMAND A HOUSEMEETING BECAUSE NOONE EVER EMPTIES THE DISHWASHER.

10:45pm
SLYLY PRESS "REDIAL" THE SECOND A HOUSEMATE HANGS UP THE PHONE, TO DISCOVER WHO SHE'S BEEN CALLING...

10:46pm
WISH YOU WEREN'T SO SLY..

GLAAD MEDIA ALERT

Time watches transgender custody fight

In the July 7 issue of Time Magazine, Jeanne McDowell examines a child-custody case in California involving a transgender father whose parental rights are being challenged by his estranged wife, not because he is incapable of parenting-but because he underwent sex-reassignment surgery. The article explains Joshua Vecchione's fight to continue co-parenting his daughter, Briana.

Vecchione made the transition to male in 1976, and has been upfront and honest about being transgender with both of his former wives. Kristie Vecchione, who is suing Joshua for sole custody of their daughter (conceived by artificial insemination with Joshua's brother acting as a donor), says that their marriage was never valid-since Joshua was once a woman, their union violated California's same-sex marriage ban, and that Joshua is not entitled to joint custody of Briana.

The story is told in a balanced and fair manner, treating both parents' concerns sensitively. The issue of Joshua's transgender status is dealt with in a matter-of-fact way, relevant to the story. McDowell sees no need to seek the opinion of small-minded bigots, which would give a misguided and ultimately prejudicial angle to the story; instead she lets the players in this human drama speak for them-

selves, with dignity and respect intact.

Thank Time for this responsible and moving story about a father who simply wants to parent his child. Contact: Jim Gaines, Managing Editor, Time, Time-Life Building, Rockefeller Center, New York, NY 10020, fax: 212.522.0323, e-mail: letters@time.com.

Beantown's *Real World* has a real lesbian

The sixth season of MTV's hit show *The Real World* will spotlight a young Southern lesbian as part of the seven young adults who "start getting real," this time in Boston. According to the press release, "Twenty-years old and from Gulfport, Mississippi, Genesis...is very open about her sexuality; she knew from a very young age that she was gay.

Up until she moved in with her new housemates in Boston, she lived with her girlfriend Tammy, with whom she has been involved for two and a half years." The first two episodes of the new season air on Wednesday, July 16.

Please let MTV and creators of *The Real World* know that you appreciate another inclusive season. Contact: Greg Dredin, Programming Vice President, MTV, 1515 Broadway, 24th Floor, New York, NY 10036, fax: 212.258.8718, e-mail:

feedback@mtv.com; Mary-Ellis Bunim and Jonathan Murray, Bunim-Murray Productions, 6007 Sepulveda Blvd., Van Nuys, CA 91411, fax: 818.756.5140.

All My Children's gay kid gets good plot, bad medicine

Throughout the past several weeks, Kevin Sheffield (Ben Jorgensen) on ABC's *All My Children* has begun to develop a storyline involving themes including gay youth and family, homophobia and so-called "reparative therapy."

After Kevin came out over a year ago, his parents abandoned him. Now his mother has returned, and has urged Kevin to see an anti-gay therapist who claims he can "cure" Kevin's sexual orientation. By doing so, the mother hopes to reconcile Kevin with his virulently bigoted father and "make life easier" for Kevin who she fears will have a hard life because he is gay.

Meanwhile, hospital Chief of Staff and beloved AMC Patriarch Dr. Joe Martin introduced the quack therapist Dr. Chapman by calling him a manipulative, unethical "snake oil" doctor whose methods deceive and end up doing far more damage than good. Kevin has begun seeing Dr. Chapman to please his mother.

Kevin's close female friend, Kelsey, has formed a one-sided crush on him,

and is hoping against hope that Kevin will change his sexual orientation. Will Kevin resolve his desire to reunite with his family, make his galpal happy, expose Dr. Chapman's bigotry and maintain his own dignity?

According to GLAAD sources on the show, this story will appear once or twice a week and has the support of ABC's daytime television executives. Still, this is a groundbreaking plot for soap operas and ABC needs to receive clear support from fair-minded viewers.

By opening a dialogue about the pressures placed on gay youth by their families as well as exposing the malicious motives of anti-gay therapists who claim they can "change" sexual orientation, *All My Children's* new plot will undoubtedly be thought-provoking and educational.

Please applaud ABC for Kevin's continued presence on AMC and the ongoing plot about his sexual orientation and the discrimination based on it. It is especially important that women ages 18-49, daytime's main demographic, respond.

In addition, encourage ABC, CBS and NBC daytime to add more lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender characters to their soap rosters. Contact: ABC Daytime, 77 W. 66th Street, New York, NY 10023-6201, fax: 212.456.2381, e-mail: daytime@abc.com; NBC Daytime, 3000 W. Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523, fax: 818.840.4275; CBS Daytime, 6309 N. O'Connor #125, Irving, Texas 75039, fax: 214.869-2653.



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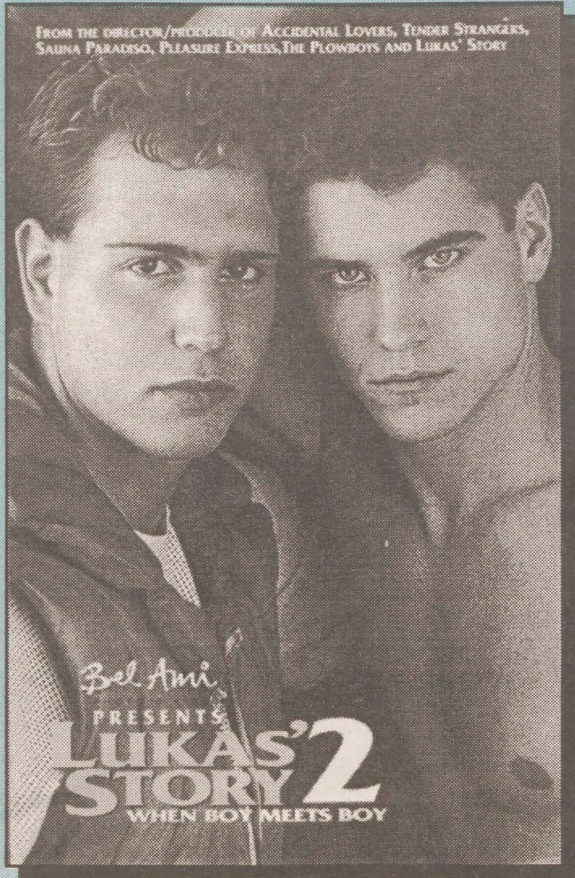
Theatre Locations

- 4029 E. Washington
- 1020 S. 24th Street
- 1838 Grand Avenue
- 3420 S. Central Avenue

Other Locations

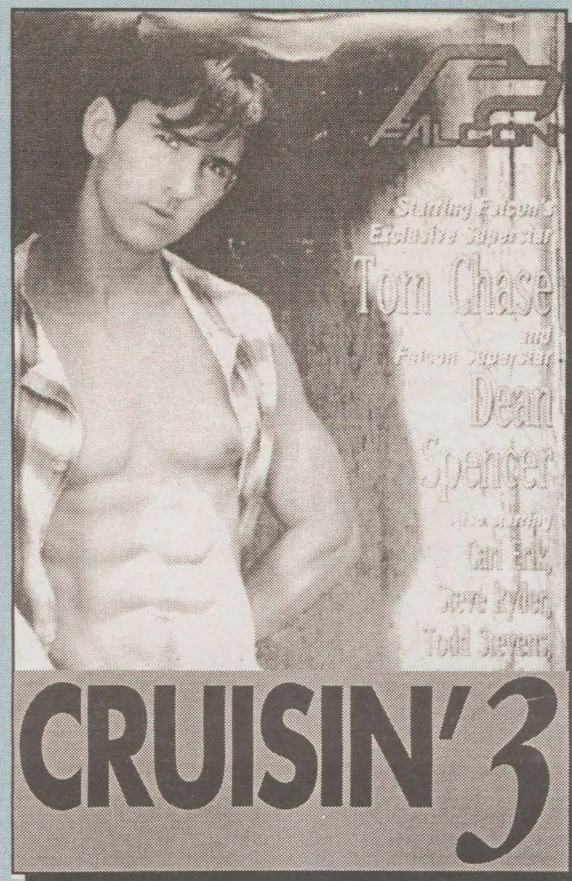
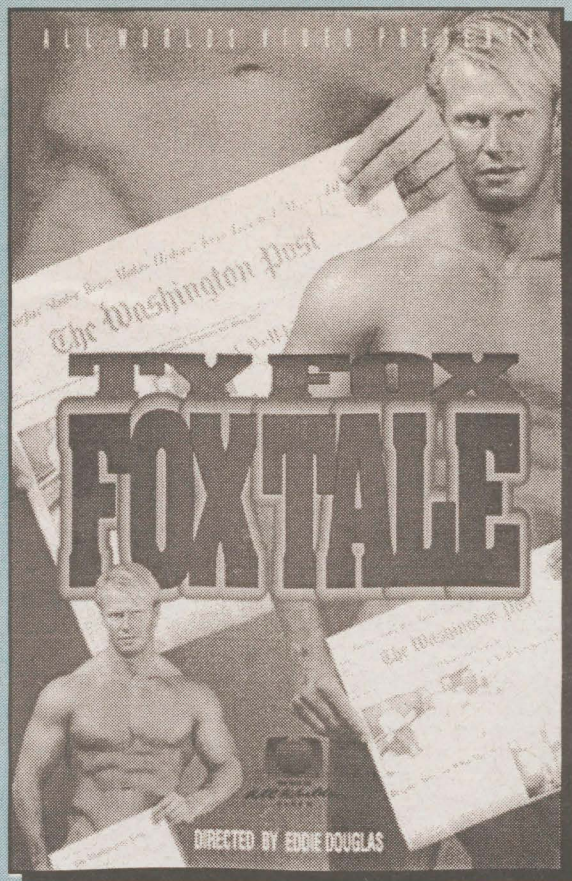
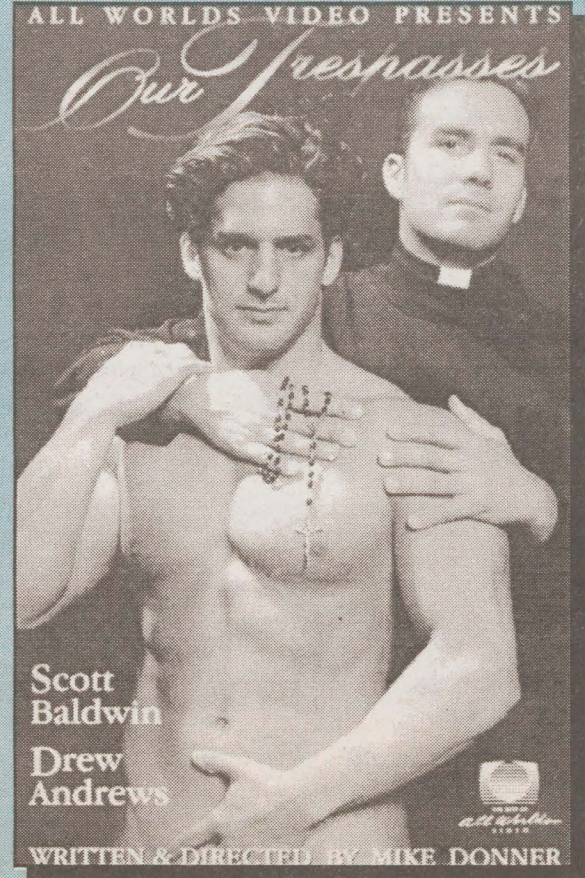
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Phoenix 277-2121

Libations

1. Ain't Nobody's Bizness
3031 E. Indian School
Phoenix 224-9977
2. Apollo's
5749 N. 7th Street
Phoenix 277-9373
3. BS West
7125 5th Avenue
Scottsdale 945-9028
4. Cash Inn
2140 E. McDowell
Phoenix 244-9943
5. Charlie's
727 W. Camelback
Phoenix 265-0224
6. Country Club
4428 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix 264-4553
7. Cruisin' Central
1011 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 253-3376
8. Desert Rose
44301 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix 265-3233
9. Foster's
4343 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix 263-8313

10. Fundy's
15601 N. Cave Creek
Phoenix 493-5123
11. Harley's Club 155
Harley's Too!
155 & 125 W. Camelback
Phoenix 274-8505

12. Incognito
2424 E. Thomas
Phoenix 955-9805

13. JC's Fun One
5542 N. 43rd Ave.
Glendale 939-0528

14. Johnny Mc's
138 W. Camelback
Phoenix 266-0875

15. Marlys'
15615 Cave Creek
Phoenix 867-2463

16. Nasty Habits
3108 E. McDowell
Phoenix 267-8707

17. NuTowne
5002 E. Van Buren
Phoenix 267-9959

18. The Park
3002 N. 24th Street
Phoenix 957-6055

19. The Pumphouse
4132 E. McDowell
Phoenix 275-3509

20. Roscoe's
4531 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 285-0833

21. 307 Lounge
222 E. Roosevelt
Phoenix 252-0001

22. TRAX
1724 E. McDowell
Phoenix 254-0231

23. The Wave
998 E. Indian School
Phoenix 266-5640

24. Wink's
5707 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 265-9002

Staples

25. Arizona Alternatives
Gay, Lesbian & Bi
Matching & Dating
Phoenix 840-5990

26. Astro — Vintage Modern
Furnishings
2403 E. Osborn
Phoenix 957-8770

27. The Barn Adult Shop
5021 W Indian School
Phoenix 245-3008

28. Book Cellar - 8 locations
4029 E. Washington
1020 S. 24th Street
1838 Grand Avenue
3420 S. Central Avenue
2103 W. Camelback Rd.
402 W. Hatcher
1421 E. McDowell Rd.
6527 N. 59th Avenue

29. Castle Boutique-4 locations
5501 E. Washington
300 E. Camelback Rd.
8802 N. Black Canyon
8315 E. Apache Trail

30. Dwellings
24 W. Camelback
Phoenix 248-4959

31. Obelisk Books
24 West Camelback
Phoenix 266-Book

32. Movies on Central
4700 N. Central #121
Phoenix 274-0994

Tubs

33. Chute
1440 E. Indian School
Phoenix 234-1654

34. Flex
1517 S. Black Canyon
Phoenix 271-9011

Culture

60. America West Arena
201 E. Jefferson
Phoenix 379-7800

61. AZ Hall of Fame Museum
1101 W. Washington
Phoenix 255-2110

62. AZ Historical Society
Museum
1300 N. College
Tempe 929-0292

63. AZ Mining & Mineral
Museum
1502 W. Washington
Phoenix 255-3791

64. AZ Science Center
600 E. Washington
Phoenix 716-2000

65. AZ State Capitol Museum
1700 W. Washington
Phoenix 542-4675

66. ASU Art Museum
Nelson Fine Arts Center
Mill Ave. & 10th Street
Tempe 965-2787

67. ASU Gammage Center
Apache & Mill Ave.
Tempe 965-3434

68. Blockbuster Desert Sky
Pavillion
2121 N. 83rd Ave.
Phoenix 254-7499

69. Celebrity Theater
440 N. 32nd Street
Phoenix 267-9373

70. Heard Museum
22 E. Monte Vista
Phoenix 252-8848

71. Herberger Theater
222 E. Monroe
Phoenix 254-7399

72. Orpheum Theatre
203 W. Adams
Phoenix 262-7272

73. Phoenix Art Museum
1624 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 257-1222

74. Phoenix Central Library
1221 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 262-4636

75. Phoenix Civic Plaza
225 E. Adams St.
Phoenix 262-6225

76. Phoenix Symphony Hall
225 E. Adams
Phoenix 262-6225

77. Phoenix Museum of History
105 N. 5th Street
Phoenix 253-2734

78. Phoenix Theatre
100 E. McDowell
Phoenix 254-2151

79. Planet Earth Multi-Cultural
Theatre
909 N. 3rd Street
Phoenix 241-1821

80. Union Hall
512 E. Van Buren
Phoenix 253-7100

Outdoors

81. Desert Botanical Garden
1201 N. Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 941-1217

82. Margaret T. Hance Park
3rd St. to 3rd Ave. between
McDowell & Roosevelt
Phoenix 534-2406

83. North Mountain Park &
Preserve
10600 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 262-6696

84. Papago Park
Van Buren & Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 256-3220

85. Phoenix Zoo
455 N. Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 273-1431

86. Pueblo Grande Museum
4619 E. Washington
Phoenix 495-0900

87. Squaw Peak Park
2701 E. SquawPeak Dr
Phoenix 262-6696

88. South Mountain Park &
Preserve
10919 S. Central Ave.
Phoenix 495-0222

Finding it in Phoenix

