

HeatStroke

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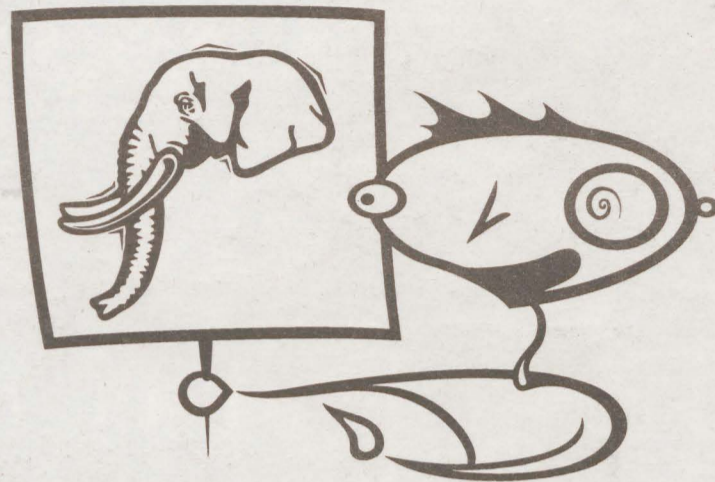
Tired of Politics

as usual
in

Arizona?

Don't give up—community activists have some

Capitol Ideas



By Allen Kalchik, Editor

It's obnoxiously hot.

You're up to your ears with the President's sex life and any further discussion of seemingly lost-cause legislative anagrams like ENDA and DOMA holds all the excitement of another It's-New-to-You rerun of *Suddenly Susan*.

But the state primary elections are just around the corner and activists working on behalf of gay rights in Arizona say that now is definitely *not* the time for the state's gay men and lesbians to embrace complacency when it comes to our politics.

Whether you're a registered Democrat or Republican, local leaders and advocates see a light at the end of Arizona's conservative tunnel and they are encouraging you to vote your gay (or gay-friendly) conscience right down the line when the polls open Sept. 8.

"In many legislative races in Arizona, the decision is actually made in the primary and not in the general election," explained Bill MacDonald, Chair of the Arizona Human Rights Fund (AHRF), the state's largest political advocacy organization working for the rights of gay and lesbians.

As the Phoenix-based organization does before every election, AHRF has distributed a list of endorsements in the upcoming primary. The group's endorsements appear on page 8 of this issue and are made based on several important factors.

"One of our major committees is the Community Action Network," MacDonald said. He explained that the committee met several times under the chairmanship of Ron Passarelli. The group sent questionnaires to candidates and thoroughly researched the voting records of incumbents with regard to AIDS and human rights issues.

"Ron did a very professional job. His dedication and the hard work of this committee have provided the community with the best list of recommendations we've ever had, by far,"

MacDonald added.

MacDonald also said that although the committee recommended more Democrats than Republicans, it should be noted that AHRF is

"Certainly making some very key Republican endorsements." He stressed the fact that a number of gay Republican activists are involved in the organization and that AHRF is, and always has been, non-partisan by design.

Party politics take a back seat to gay issues for voters within the gay

community, believes AHRF board member Bill Lewis, one of the organization's founders. "Gay people look at human rights and AIDS issues and the other things that really affect us as being tantamount," Lewis said.

In many parts of the country, the focus on advancing gay rights is tied almost exclusively into advancing Democratic candidates over Republicans but that is not the case in Arizona.

"We are not going to get the job done just being narrow-minded and focused on one side (the

"We are not going to get the job done just being narrow-minded and focused on one side (the Democratic side) of the fence. We need to be in both pastures."

Democratic side) of the fence. We need to be in both pastures," said Lewis.

Indeed, much of the fund-raising effort by the local gay community in recent months has been directed at Republican contenders for state legislative offices. Because several



Maricopa County districts vote almost exclusively Republican, the primary race often becomes an issue of a moderate facing a more right wing member of the GOP.

In such cases, AHRF endorses Republicans that demonstrate support for human rights and a willingness to listen to gay issues. Significant money has been raised for the Senate campaign of Robin Shaw in Dist. 26 and for Rep. Susan Gerard's re-election bid in Dist. 18. Both women are Republicans and are heartily endorsed by AHRF.

But the Republican candidate that has received the greatest financial assistance from the gay and lesbian community is without question Steve May, the 26-year-old contender for one of two available House seats in Dist. 26. May is an Arizona native who has long

been active in the GOP and is one of two openly gay men running for the House of Representatives.

John Barr, President of Log Cabin Republicans of Central Arizona (LCR/CAZ), is particularly excited about May's candidacy. His organiza-

See "Primary Election" page 7



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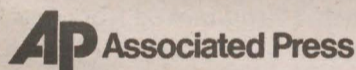
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Horowitz: 10 Observations on Clinton's Coming Out

1. Denial becomes so pervasive that the truth gets lost.

Clinton calls himself "legally accurate" when he denied having "sexual relations" with Monica Lewinsky. Yet he knew full well that he misled the American people. We know we are actually lying to people when we pretend to be straight. Some of us might even come to believe we could change if we wanted to.

2. The danger of being outed constantly looms.

Once you have sex with someone, at least one other person knows you've had sex. He or she may reveal your secret—intentionally, or otherwise. Someone that your sexual partner confides in may turn out to be a vengeful bitch who feels the need to shoot you down for her own personal gain.

3. Lying to the people you love never feels right.

When push comes to shove, we are most concerned about the people closest to us, yet they are the folks we lie to and hurt the most. No matter how angry or betrayed anyone else may feel, our families need and deserve our utmost attention in this highly personal, but strangely public process.

4. Some supposed friends will tell you to keep the secret for your own good.

When you are considering finally telling the truth, people will urge you not to for their own sakes and out of their own fear. When you come out, they feel vulnerable to attack. They will point out the pains of coming out and the perils you face. They always miss the fact that the truth is liberating.

5. Some people will judge you harshly no matter what you do.

The folks who dislike you will continue to dislike you. Revealing yourself will only give them additional ammunition to say, "See? I told you what he was like!" You know in your heart that your own pride and peace of mind matters more. Any moral authority you may have comes from God or from within anyway.

6. It's easier to get your job done without this hanging over your head.

Concentrating on the everyday rigors of a career becomes almost impossible when you have a huge secret. You always look over your shoulder to see if someone is listening or keeping track of your whereabouts or office visitors. You think that these people should have better things to do, but they don't. It's easy to blame them if you get forced out of the closet.

7. Most people already know.

Upon coming out, many gay people are greeted with, "I'm so glad you finally told me. I've known for years." The folks who were surprised that you actually had an inappropriate relationship with Monica are the same people who seemed shocked when Martina came out. Polls showed for months that people knew. But...

8. Most people don't give a shit.

We knew you had an affair, and we gave you high job approval ratings anyway. You balanced the budget. You hold the presidency in a time of unprecedented peace and prosperity. Other than to decry your lousy taste in women, I have no comment on your sex life. It's none of my business. Guess what? My sex life isn't government's business either.

9. The people who love you will still love you.

Hillary and Chelsea both adore you. Anyone can see that from the way they look at you. You may go through a difficult period of adjustment, but love ultimately wins out over fear and anger. Now that the truth is out in the open, you can really speak to each other with honest hearts. It's possible it won't work out, but more than likely, your relationships will be stronger and happier.

10. You can move on now.

Sure, detractors will continue to annoy you. Someone will always have something to say about your private life. Yet when it's just free and available information, it will cease to be such a big deal. Most people realize that they wouldn't want to cast the first stone. Don't worry about your legacy right now. Just do the best you can each day. That's all we can do anyway.

Coming out isn't easy, is it, Bill?

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

Editors:

Thank you for helping to make Phoenix's first POZ Life Expo an overwhelming success. We're glad to have been able to bring the Expo to Phoenix and hope that it was informative and inspiring.

If you have any suggestions on how to make future POZ Life Expos even more effective, please feel free to drop me a note or e-mail. Each year we've been able to improve the Expos, largely based on community feedback.

Thanks once again for your efforts and we look forward to working with you in the future.

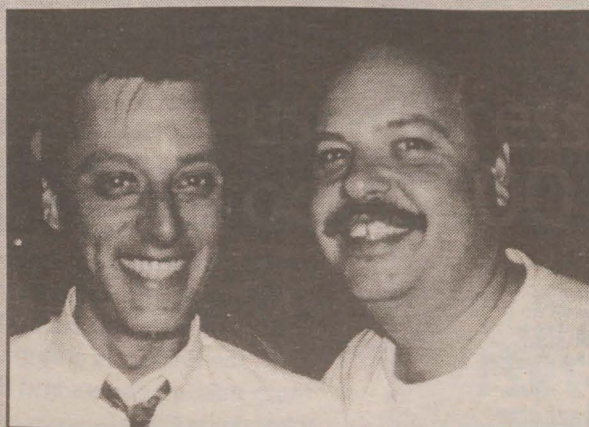
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POZ Magazine

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VA man convicted in gay slaying similar to 11 unsolved murders

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. (AP)

A man was convicted Aug. 21 of a gay sex slaying similar to 11 unsolved murders. The jury recommended a life sentence.

The murder of Andrew D. Smith, 38, was similar to the others in southeastern Virginia over the past decade, but Elton M. Jackson was charged only with Smith's death.

Jackson, 43, had sex with Smith at Jackson's Portsmouth home, strangled him and dumped his nude body near a dirt road in Chesapeake. The body was discovered July 22, 1996, more than 24 hours after authorities say Smith went to Jackson's home, where the two had consensual sex.

Jurors were never told of the other slayings. Jackson was convicted of first-degree murder and will be sentenced Oct. 27.

"We're disappointed in the verdict, and he still maintains his innocence," said Jackson's attorney, Pamela Hampton.

Jackson has not been ruled out as a suspect in the other cases.

The bodies, all nude except for

the first, began turning up in 1987. Many of the victims were gay, some were hustlers, and nearly all were drifters or transients and last seen in or near gay bars in Norfolk or Portsmouth.

Smith's body was the last to be discovered. There have been no other similar slayings since Jackson's arrest in May 1997.

Court documents indicate Jackson had contact with some of the other victims and the blood of one, Reginald Joyner, was found in Jackson's bed along with the blood of Smith, authorities said.

Prosecutor Nancy Parr said Jackson could be a future threat, noting that three men testified he tried to choke them during sexual encounters.

Jackson spent about an hour testifying in his own defense Thursday. He said he had sex with Smith but initially lied to police about knowing Smith because he was afraid.

"I'm black, I'm gay and he and I had a nice time. ... Then he turns up dead," he said.

Utah ranchers and foreman accused of harassing neighbors

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)

Two lesbian ranchers in Boulder and their foreman have been accused of harassing their neighbors. They say they only have been trying to scare off unidentified vandals who have been harassing them, possibly because of their lifestyle.

Jan Belnap, a retired nurse disabled from multiple sclerosis, said she woke up just after midnight on July 27 to find a flaming cross lying across the lawn and the words "Get Out" were scrawled on the front door.

She said that over the next few days, a gun was fired more than once into the ground as a warning to possible vandals.

Following complaints from her neighbor, lodge owner Mark Austin, and a police investigation, Belnap, 46, and her companion, Sunny Gilbert Hardy, 53, were charged with felonies.

Belnap contends she is the target of a malicious prosecution.

"I'm trying to stop the problem, and the most immediate problem is the shooting," Garfield County Attorney Wallace Lee said. "We are not picking on them. You can't have gunfights, that's all there is to it."

Belnap and Hardy are each charged with three third-degree felonies: discharge of a firearm in the direction of a person, building or vehicle; aiding and abetting; and stalking. Their charges also include the misdemeanor offenses of maintaining a public nuisance, threats and disorderly conduct. Their foreman, Joe Parker, is charged with the same misdemeanors and misdemeanor stalking.

Belnap was among beneficiaries

who inherited the ranch after her father, the purported polygamist author Henry Austin Belnap, died in 1996.

She moved to Boulder to manage the property, known as Eagle Star Ranch. Hardy moved from Las Vegas in March to start a bed and breakfast in one of the ranch's four homes.

The ranch abuts property belonging to Austin.

A feud developed between Austin and his neighbors after he began building his home close to Eagle Star's property line, according to Belnap.

The ranchers' decision to build a greenhouse and a hog farm near the edge of the property has escalated the discord.

"We are not picking on them. You can't have gunfights, that's all there is to it."

Austin, who is traveling in Europe, could not be reached for comment.

Belnap contends the cross burning was the culmination of months of harassment, much of it anonymous. She complained sheriff's deputies are doing nothing to protect her.

The Austin family told police that bullets were directed at Mark on two occasions in late July and early August, Lee said. He also said a dead cow was dumped near Austin's home.

GOP candidate's strategy to court gay & lesbian vote in Illinois Governor's race unearthed, activists view it positively

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP)

Far from feeling exploited by tactics revealed in a George Ryan campaign memo, a leading gay rights activist calls it good news that the Republican candidate for governor sought to use gays to beat his opponent.

"They have a plan of action to get gay and lesbian voters, so the positive thing about it is it recognizes gay and lesbian groups are an important constituency group whose vote they want," said Rick Garcia, director of the 2,000-member Illinois Federation for Human Rights, a statewide gay rights group.

The internal memo apparently was prepared months ago and surfaced in mid August. It details how Ryan's campaign could drum up letters of support in Chicago's gay community and create a new gay political organization.

At a Statehouse news conference Aug. 21, Democratic candidate for governor Glenn Poshard said he would call for a state police investigation of indications in the memo that state equipment and manpower were being improperly used for political purposes.

"The section concerning gays and lesbians shows that rather than a spontaneous uprising by gay and lesbian leaders over my real record, it has been instead an orchestrated criticism, directed and supported by secretary of state employees," added Poshard, a Southern Ill. congressman.

The memo was faxed from one

state office to another and makes frequent references to state employees, including some who work for Republican Gov. Jim Edgar, being involved in campaign strategy.

The Ryan memo includes strategies for reaching a variety of voting blocs, including senior citizens and union members. The union section suggests trying to publicize Ryan's organ-donor and anti-drunken driving campaigns in labor newsletters.

The memo refers to Glenn Good, who works in Ryan's secretary of state office as a liaison to the gay community, as having "plotted" a strategy to win support for the GOP candidate in the gay community.

Psychological study shows violence against gays & lesbians socially acceptable

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)

A new study has found that one in 10 community college students admit to violence or threats against people they thought were gay. The survey of nearly 500 students—said to be the first of its kind—was presented Aug. 23 at the American Psychological Association convention. Previous studies had mostly focused on the victims of such crimes.

The University of Washington study by forensic psychologist Karen Franklin also found that 24 percent admitted to anti-gay name calling. And the numbers were even higher for men. Eighteen percent said they had physically assaulted or threatened someone they thought was gay or lesbian. Another 32 percent admit-

ted they were guilty of verbal harassment.

Ms. Franklin's study, which did not identify the colleges of those surveyed, also found that most people who assault or bully homosexuals do not set out to harass gays but instead find themselves in a situation where they can.

"Indeed, assaults on gay men and lesbians were so socially acceptable that respondents often advocated or defended such behavior out loud in the classrooms, while I was administering my survey," Ms. Franklin wrote.

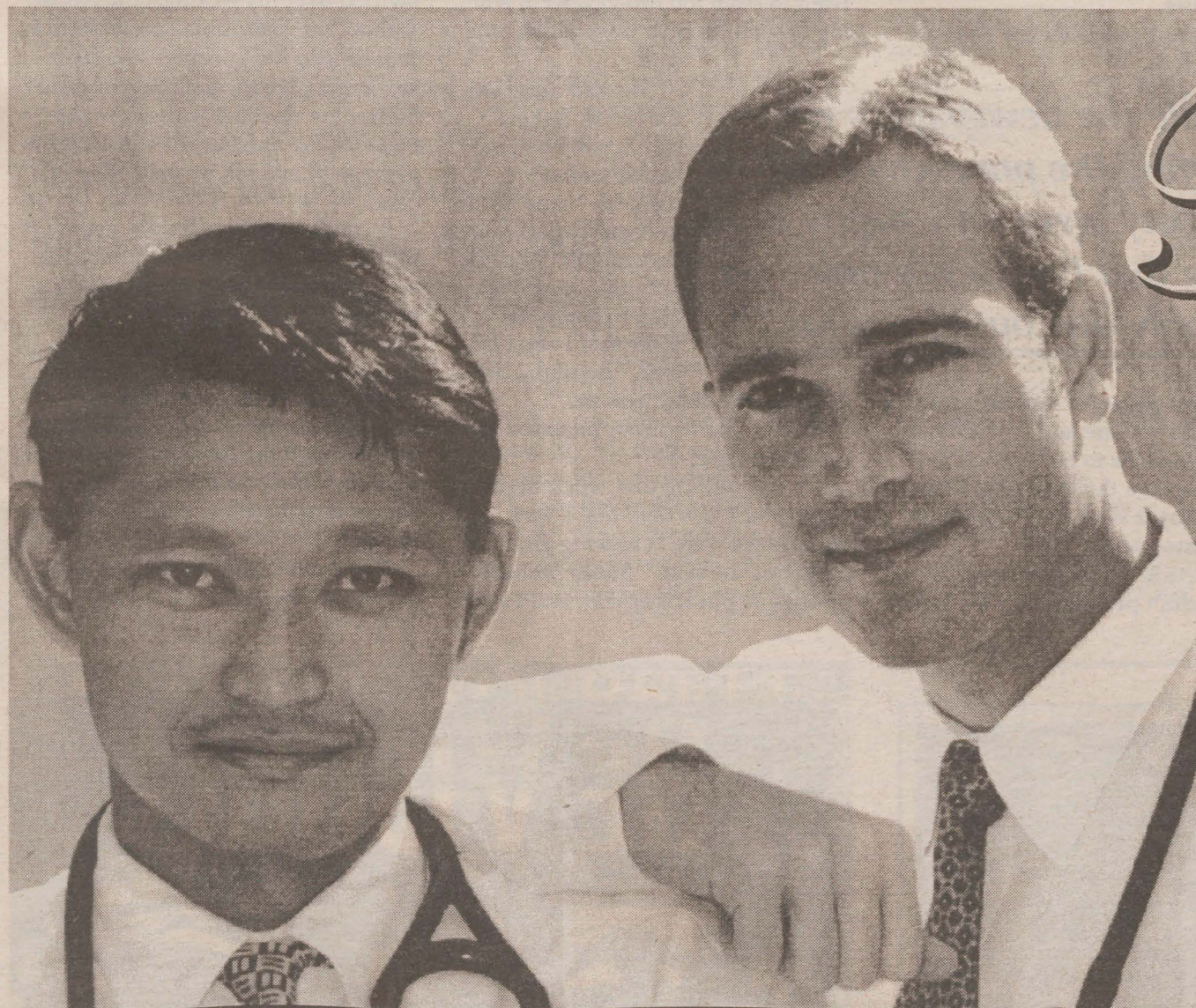
She said almost half the assailants reported a likelihood to assault again in similar circumstances and either lacked remorse or did not see any-

thing wrong with their behavior.

The largest number of assailants explained their actions as self-defense, which Ms. Franklin found was based on their perception that gays are sexual predators. Often a friendly gesture was interpreted as an unwanted sexual advance—and a legitimate reason for assault.

Others were thrill seekers or simply went along with their peers. But all the groups shared a sense that their actions were reasonable. Students who held back from attacking or harassing gays did not necessarily show more tolerance than the assailants. Many feared getting in trouble.

"They don't have any strategy or outreach with the gay community other than to ignore us or avoid us," Garcia said.



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Politically Speaking



Arizona Human Rights Fund

By Kathie Gummere, HeatStroke contributor

NOW IS THE TIME TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

As many of you may have noticed, the extreme right has stepped up its campaign for its agenda, and is publicly attacking G/L/B/T rights and candidates who support those rights.

The pressure is on to get the supporters of the far right to get out and vote for candidates endorsing that agenda, and against those who support basic freedoms. In an election that traditionally has a low voter turnout, (primary election in an off year), every vote counts—and a high voter turnout of those supporting one issue or one agenda may turn the



AHRF endorses State Senate hopeful Robin Shaw, from District 26.

election.

It is imperative that everyone vote for those candidates that support the issues important to the G/L/B/T community. The Arizona Human Rights Fund (AHRF) has compiled a list of candidates supportive to the issues of our community. An ad, placed by AHRF, is running on page 8 in this issue. Please refer to the ad,

make your choices carefully, and then get out and vote!

The 26th District race is one of particular concern to AHRF. AHRF has strongly endorsed Steve May, an openly gay man. His opponents have attacked him mercilessly and he needs our support. If you are registered in that district, and are registered Republican, please show your

support for Steve. Your vote will count even more if you do not vote for anyone else in this race. AHRF is also strongly supporting Robin Shaw, Republican candidate for senate, in Dist. 26.

Others that AHRF strongly supports in the Republican races include Rep. Kyle, incumbent in Dist. 6 and Rep. Gerard, incumbent in Dist. 18.

Democratic candidates strongly endorsed by AHRF include: Sen. Richardson, Democratic incumbent in Dist. 11; Rep. Nichols, incumbent in Dist. 13; Rep. Pickens, incumbent in Dist. 14; Sen. candidate Furman in Dist. 16; both Schneider and Schultz, representative candidates in Dist. 16;

the candidates supported by AHRF are still looking for volunteers. As the election approaches, activity increases. Every hand will be welcome.

Volunteers are needed to hand out flyers, hang "door knockers" and man phone banks, among many other activities. If you have even a few hours that you can donate, or are willing to have a sign on your property, your help will be much appreciated and may very well make the difference in whether one of our "friends" gets elected.

Please consider calling AHRF, at 650-0900, and volunteering your time, space, or other help to this important election.

In an election that traditionally has a low voter turnout (primary election in an off year), every vote counts—and a high voter turnout of those supporting one issue or one agenda may turn the election.

Armstead, senate candidate and Landrum, house candidate in Dist. 23; Sen. Cumminsky and Rep. Chevront, (an openly gay man) and Rep. Weason, incumbent, in Dist. 25; and Mitchell, senate candidate in Dist. 27.

In addition to voters, AHRF and

Again, please refer to the AHRF ad on page 8 in this issue and support the candidates that support us!

Kathie Gummere is a Phoenix attorney practicing in the area of wills, trusts and estates for the gay & lesbian community. She receives e-mail at kgrn@goodnet.com

ACLU Chief says he apologized over 'outing' remarks

ALBUQUERQUE (AP)

The new director of the New Mexico American Civil Liberties Union denies threatening to expose gay lawmakers in North Dakota during a fight over same-sex marriages, but admits an article he wrote sounded that way.

Keith Elston and the ACLU's national director, Ira Glasser, both apologized for the remarks Elston made while ACLU director for North Dakota and South Dakota.

Elston wrote in a Grand Forks, N.D., arts guide in February 1997 that he would expose legislators if they supported the proposal to ban homosexual marriages.

"That's not a threat," Elston wrote. "It's a promise."

Elston said Aug. 20 he meant not to out homosexual lawmakers, but rather "expose the hypocrisy of a politician going to gay private citi-

zens to raise money" then working against those same citizens in the Legislature.

In a short article for the weekly

"While the newspapers were decrying the practice of outing, they were only happy to write that I am a gay man. So the only one outed was me."

alternative paper, he said he wrote, "I know who you are and that kind of hypocrisy needs to be exposed."

"It wasn't a threat to 'out' them, but the way it read, it sounded that way," Elston said.

His article focused on people who would admit privately that the same-

sex marriage ban "wasn't the right thing to do, but because they didn't want to seem too pro-gay, were willing to sacrifice their own beliefs," he said.

He also criticized the North Dakota media, which he said seized on his remarks. "And while the newspapers were decrying the practice of outing, they were only happy to write that I am a gay man," he said. "So

the only one outed was me."

Elston said he never intended to expose anyone.

"I was writing that article at midnight, and I was tired and angry because we weren't making any progress," he said. "It was probably a mistake to put it that way, and I apol-

ogized to the Legislature."

But, he said, while the controversy swirled over his writings, the North Dakota Legislature passed measures that he said hurt people—the same-sex marriage ban, a bill that made it harder for disabled workers to get benefits and another that raised the average phone bill by up to 40 percent.

"All those things hardly made a blip on the screen because the focus was on something that was hardly relevant to what was going on," Elston said.

Elston, recently hired to replace Jennie Lusk as executive director of the New Mexico ACLU chapter, said he discussed the furor over his article with the local board and doesn't expect it to have any bearing on his new job.

"Quite honestly, I consider it a nonissue," he said.

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Activists stress importance of Sept. 8 Primary Election

Continued from page 1

tion represents the local chapter of the national gay and lesbian Republican organization and May, as an openly gay fiscal conservative, represents what amounts to a Log Cabin ideal.

Barr said many of the gay community fundraisers held this year were joint efforts of AHRF and LCR/CAz, including a reception benefiting May's campaign and held in early June that raised \$17,000, a gay community record in the state.

But Barr's group supports non-gay Republicans as well. "As AHRF has worked with the legislature, I think they have found that there are a number of Republicans already in the legislature or Republican candidates who either are outwardly friendly to the gay community or at least acknowledge our concerns," he said.

"And so I think it's fairly natural, especially considering that Arizona politics are dominated by Republicans, that AHRF would identify Republicans who are supportive and then, in turn, would support them."

The second uncloseted gay candi-

"We don't have a choice. The far right still controls the state and unless we (gay voters) become more active, they are going to slowly start whittling away our rights."

date in this fall's race is Rep. Ken Chevront, a Democrat. He is presently the only openly gay legislator in state government and is seeking to retain his House seat in Dist. 25. Chevront faces opposition from

former gubernatorial candidate John Buttrick, who is running for the House of Representatives in Dist. 25 as a Libertarian.

The central Phoenix district Chevront lives in and represents encompasses part of downtown Phoenix, as well as most of the city's historic

neighborhoods, and is home to a significant gay and lesbian population.

Dist. 25 is also represented by Rep. Christine Weason, a gay-friendly Democrat seeking her second term and by Senator Chris Cummiskey, another multi-term Democrat long considered a friend to gay issues. Weason, Cummiskey and Chevront (naturally) have all received strong endorsements from AHRF.

Chevront said he has been very pleased to see the growth of AHRF year by year, and sees the gay community continuing to take action in the political arena.

"The community really mobilized to help Steve May. He's been able to raise significant amounts of money and I think the gay and lesbian

community has been significant in that support," Chevront said.

Despite the philosophical and party differences between himself and May, Chevront sees an advantage for the gay community should May

succeed in his attempt to become the first out gay Republican in the legislature.

"I think it's been shown that the electorate is willing to elect openly gay individuals," Chevront said, pointing out that both the only gay Republican U.S. Congressman (Jim Kolbe) as well as a gay Republican mayor (Neil Giuliano of Tempe)

were supported by the GOP in Arizona after their orientation was made public.

"It just amazes me when I hear somebody say, 'my sexuality is just one component of my life,'" Chevront observed.

"Well, it's a major part of our lives. Because it really defines who we are. It's not the only thing in our lives, because we are much more than that. And if we allow people to treat us as second class citizens, then we really have no respect."

Our community is earning more respect in the state by being out there and putting our money into certain races, said Chevront. "I think the religious right's having control of the Republican party is a passing phase. But we have to be very vigilant."

Electing people like Giuliano and May helps the community, Chevront said. "Having openly gay Republicans like Neil and

Steve in office is really going to help us all. And I'm saying this as a

"It just amazes me when I hear somebody say, 'my sexuality is just one component of my life.' Well, it's a major part of our lives. Because it really defines who we are."

Democrat."

Bill MacDonald said it's a big mistake for people in the gay community to let elections like the Sept. 8 primary slip by without taking part.

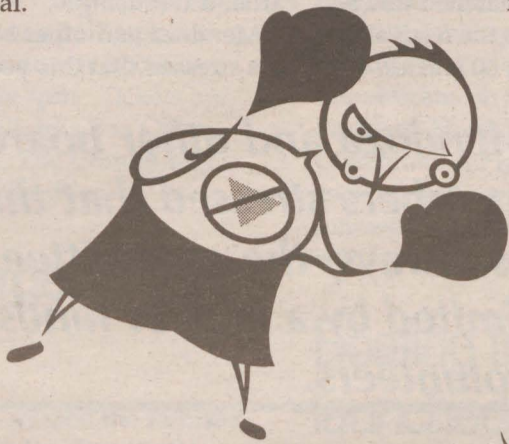
"When people sit back and say that it doesn't matter, that why we get what we get," he said.

"People in the right wing go out and vote religiously—their voices are going to be heard. Unless those of us who are more moderate or progressive are willing to step up and be counted," he added, things will remain unchanged. "I would encourage all of HeatStroke's readership to get out and vote and to use the AHRF endorsements as a guide."

As Rep. Chevront put it, "We don't have a choice. The far right still controls the state and unless we (gay voters) become more active, they are going to slowly start whittling away at our rights."




Ed. note: for more information on individual endorsements or to learn how you can help individual candidates between now and November, see "Politically Speaking" by Kathie Gummere on page 6 of this issue.



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ACP is back in the black

Pride Committee sets '99 festival date, considers adding Friday evening activities to Saturday events

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

At its annual meeting in August, Phoenix's gay pride committee announced that the organization has recovered from the \$20,000 deficit it reported one year ago. The non-profit group now has more than \$17,000 in its treasury.

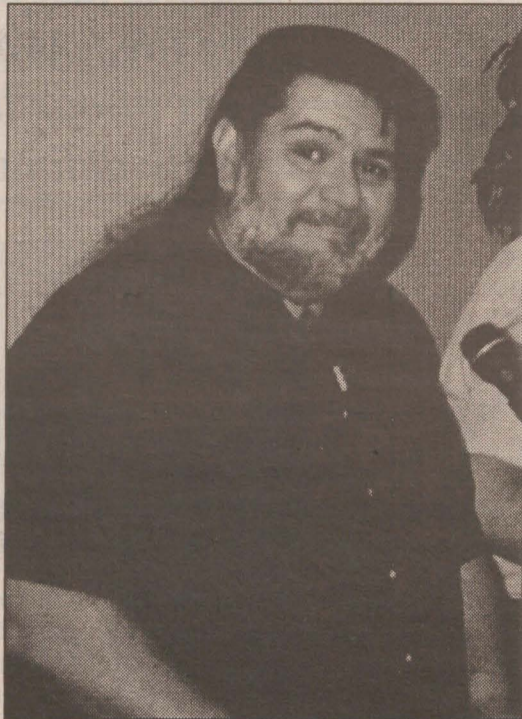
Arizona Central Pride (ACP), the all volunteer committee that produces official gay pride events in the Phoenix area, also announced the date for next year's festival and parade and elected officers for the coming year at the meeting, held Aug. 23 at the Airport Embassy Suites in east Phoenix.

"The state of the organization is pretty good right now," ACP President Ernie Mendoza told those assembled for the meeting.

The hotel's meeting room was set for a lunch for 40 guests but only 13 people apart from the sitting board attended. The low turnout was something Mendoza called, "disappointing, but typical." He said several community leaders were specifically invited but failed to show.

Mendoza was re-elected to serve as President. Vice President and long-time festival volunteer Linda

Hoffman resigned during the meeting, saying she will be available to help with the 1999 festival and parade but that she can no longer devote the time an ACP board position requires.



Newly re-elected ACP President Ernie Mendoza addressed volunteers at the committee's annual meeting.

Treasurer Roger Rice also stepped down. Newly elected to the board were Dannie Bregman, Jan Rice, Pat Breneger and Wayne McKinley.

In other business, the committee presented its Volunteer of the Year Award to Tim Dougherty of Mesa. Dougherty aided Hoffman in staging and organizing the '98 Pride Parade this past April, which marched down Central Avenue prior to the festival and featured more than 60 entries.

Most board members and others present pronounced the 1998 one-day parade/festival combination in downtown Phoenix to be a success, though much time was used to discuss how best to increase attendance and community participation in 1999 for a larger event.

ACP announced that the parade and festival will again be held the same day, on Saturday, April 17, 1999 at the Margaret T. Hance deck park in Phoenix. The committee is exploring the idea of expanding the festival's length by holding the royalty pageant on the Friday evening prior to the parade, but those plans have not been made firm.

Other discussed changes included planning more gates for entering and exiting the day-long festival and increasing the entertainment budget in order to bring in a "name" headlin-

er next year. ACP also discussed the importance of lining up the parade's Grand Marshal earlier in the game, reaching out to the bar community and increasing awareness through earlier advertising.

Mendoza and other board members stressed that this year, as always,

Mendoza and other board members stressed that this year, as always, the committee is limited by a lack of funds and volunteers.

the committee is limited by a lack of funds and volunteers.

He noted that in San Diego and in several other cities, corporate sponsors underwrite a portion of Pride festival expenses. "That kind of sponsorship is something we have been looking into," he stated.

The Phoenix festival and parade, held this year on April 18, drew an estimated 7,000 people. By contrast, a Pride celebration in Denver June 29 drew 65,000 people while celebrants numbering in the hundreds of thousands flocked to festivals in San Francisco, Los Angeles and New York.

THE ARIZONA HUMAN RIGHTS FUND

Endorses the following candidates in the 1998 Primary Elections

VOTE Tuesday, September 8th

DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY

Governor: JOHNSON
Attorney General: NAPOLITANO
Corp. Commission: No Recommendation
Secretary of State: No Recommendation
State Treasurer: No Candidate Filed
Mine Inspector: No Candidate Filed

LEGISLATIVE RACES

DISTRICT #	CHAMBER	CANDIDATE
1	senate	KNIGHT
1	house	FREDERICKS
2	house	SWANSON
3	senate	JACKSON
4	senate	BROWN
4	house	GUGENBERGER
4	house	HEGLIE
5	senate	GUENTHER
5	house	MCLENDON
6	house	KENNEDY
7	senate	RIOS, Pete
7	house	RIOS, Rebecca
8	senate	ARZBERGER
8	house	MAIORANA
10	senate	SOLTERO
10	house	GONZALES
10	house	VALADEZ
11	senate	RICHARDSON, Elaine
11	house	CARDAMONE
11	house	NORRIS
12	house	MORALES
13	senate	CUNNINGHAM
13	house	FAGIN
13	house	NICHOLS
14	senate	SOLOMON
14	house	HORTON

REPUBLICAN PARTY PRIMARY

Governor: HULL
Attorney General: DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT VOTING FOR KAITES!
Corp. Commission: No Recommendation
Secretary of State: BAYLESS
State Treasurer: SPRINGER
Mine Inspector: No Recommendation

LEGISLATIVE RACES

DISTRICT #	CHAMBER	CANDIDATE
1	senate	BARRETT
1	house	BINDER ●
2	senate	WETTAW
2	house	VERKAMP ●
4	senate	Do not vote in this race!
4	house	Do not vote in this race!
5	senate	No recommendation in this race.
5	house	No recommendation in this race.
6	senate	Do not vote in this race!
6	house	KYLE ●
8	house	No recommendation in this race.
9	senate	Do not vote in this race!
9	house	PREBLE
12	senate	DAY
12	house	HUFFMAN
12	house	ULM
13	house	DUNBAR
15	senate	CIRILLO
15	house	Do not vote in this race!
16	house	Do not vote in this race!
17	senate	Do not vote in this race!
17	house	Do not vote in this race!
18	senate	SPITZER

DISTRICT #	CHAMBER	CANDIDATE
18	house	GERARD ●
19	senate	Do not vote in this race!
19	house	VOSS ●
21	senate	Do not vote in this race!
21	house	Do not vote in this race!
23	house	CARR
24	senate	GRACE
24	house	HORNE, Tom
24	house	LEFF
26	senate	SHAW
26	house	MAY ● ▲
27	house	GARDNER
28	senate	GNANT
28	house	ALLEN
29	senate	Do not vote in this race!
29	house	Do not vote in this race!
30	senate	Do not vote in this race!
30	house	Do not vote in this race!

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Goings On

News & Events of Interest to the
Phoenix Queer Community

Annual benefit for The Center Aug. 29

The Community Center has scheduled its annual summer fundraiser for August 29.

"A Night of Comedy" will feature comedians Kate Clinton and Jason Stuart at the beautiful Orpheum Theater in downtown Phoenix.

Showtime is 7pm. Tickets are available at Dillard's Box Office, Obelisk Books, The Community Center and at the door.

Don't forget to vote Sept. 8

In case you missed the information contained elsewhere in this issue, here's another reminder to vote in the Arizona state primary elections on Tuesday, Sept. 8.

For a list of candidate endorsements compiled by politically knowledgeable leaders in the local gay community, check out the Arizona Human Rights Fund display ad on page 8. Clip the ad and take it to the polls with you.

PBP to benefit from Bowl-A-Thon

Strike it up at Squaw Peak Lanes on Sunday, Aug. 30 for the Fourth Annual Bowl-A-Thon to benefit Phoenix Body Positive. The bowling alley is located at 3049 East Indian School Road in Phoenix.

The tourney is sponsored by Wink's and registration begins at 12:15 pm with bowling from 1-3. Organizers are looking for four-person teams and there is a \$15 charge per person which includes games and shoe rental. Individual bowlers are also welcome.

To sign up ahead of time, call (602)955-4673.

Log Cabins to host AZ Republic Editor

The next monthly meeting of the Log Cabin Republicans of Central Arizona will feature Keven Willey, Editor of the *Arizona Republic's* Editorial Pages, who will share some

inside stories of state politics.

Willey has been with the daily newspaper since 1989. She became their political columnist in 1989 and earlier this year was named Editor of the editorial pages. A popular and entertaining speaker, she is also a regular panelist on the KAET news magazine show, *Horizon*.

Willey will speak before the organization of gay and lesbian Republicans on Sept. 9 at the Radisson Hotel Midtown, 410 West Clarendon in Phoenix. A no-host cocktail party will begin at 5:45 pm followed by dinner at 6:30. The cost is \$15.

Boating tradition re- launched at Bartlett

The Pride Committee is no longer the main sponsor and the Lambda Yacht Club has disbanded. Nevertheless, the annual Bartlett Bash—a weekend boating party enjoyed for years by adventurous gay men and lesbians in central Arizona—will go on in '98.

The upcoming installment of this camping/boating/water skiing extravaganza is set for Sept. 18 - 20 at Bartlett Lake, northeast of Phoenix. The SB Cove site will once again be booked for the gay group. For more information, call Apollo's bar in Phoenix at (602) 277-9373 and ask for Bill.

Big ANDES gathering coming up

Arizona Nude Dudes (ANDES) has announced its Eighth Annual Southwest Gathering for the weekend of September 25-27, in Phoenix.

Planned events include a welcome/cocktail party on Friday night, a day-long pool party on Saturday at a local resort and a farewell brunch on Sunday.

Cost to attend the entire weekend is just \$50 for ANDES members and \$60 for non-members. Larry's Bed & Breakfast has rooms available for the weekend from \$50-65 per day (602) 249-2974. ANDES will also provide hosted housing for non-Valley residents.

For more information, call Don at (602)967-3688 or write to ANDES, PO Box 32776, Phoenix AZ 85967.



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- Thurs:** Country Western Dance
Lessons with Geri 7-9pm
- Fri:** Country Western Music
with DJ "De"
- Sat:** Country Western Music
with DJ "De"
- Sun:** Steak & Chicken Fry \$3, 6-8pm
Karaoke with Jamie 7-11pm



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday
Aug 28:** Anita Cocktail's Party: come support Anita, candidate for Miss Gay America! With Devina, Ms. Markus, Phaedra & Tiffany Rose. The fun starts at 8:45 with door prizes, a 50/50 raffle & more!



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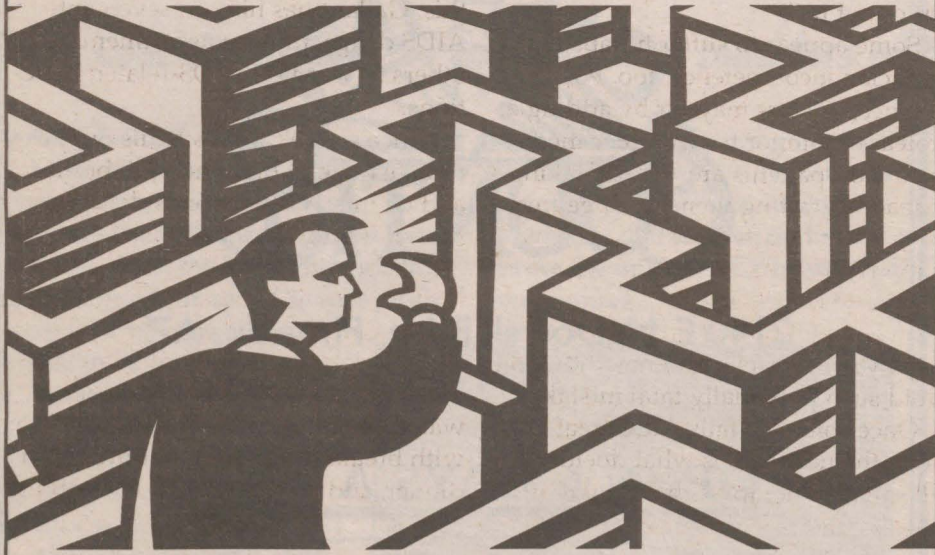
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Ominous rise in virus levels haunt many who benefit from AIDS drugs

BALTIMORE (AP)

The first time Dr. Joel Gallant laid eyes on Michael Willis, he was struck by how truly awful his new patient looked. "A skinny little emaciated creature" is what the doctor remembers.

Willis was in the full grip of AIDS, covered with eczema, partially paralyzed by a herpes infection of the spine, 140 pounds and falling. Death within a year seemed almost certain.

That was 2 1/2 years ago. Now Willis, at 37, exudes energy. He is toned and trim and handsome enough to model two or three times a week at the Maryland Institute College of Art.

As stunning as Willis' turnaround seems, it is hardly unique. He is one of the thousands of Americans rescued from the edge of death by the AIDS cocktail, the combination of pills that changed a uniformly lethal disease into a treatable one.

However, Willis' story is commonplace for another reason as well.

Despite his look of health, he clearly has not escaped HIV. In the brutally precise language of medicine, Willis is a treatment failure.

Estimates vary, but perhaps 30 percent to 60 percent of all people taking the AIDS cocktails are considered treatment failures, because HIV can still be found on standard tests that are sensitive enough to spot as few as 20 copies of the virus in a milliliter of blood. Either their viral levels never got that low or they rebounded after a promising start.

When Willis first learned of his disease, 600,000 bits of virus circulated in every milliliter of his blood. At the time, he had been sick for a year, often so exhausted he could not get out of bed. He felt oddly relieved to learn the cause, even though it turned out to be HIV.

While he steadily got better on a combination of the protease inhibitor Crixivan and two other drugs, the lowest his virus level ever fell is around 1,000—far from the zero that defines success.

Most of his friends with HIV have seen their virus vanish. The failure of treatment to do the same for him is obviously disappointing.

"Sometimes I cry about it," he admits. But mostly he focuses on his good fortune. He enjoys the pleasure of playing and singing with his rock band, the Radiant Pig, enjoys feeling well, enjoys being alive.

"I just try to ignore it," says Willis. "I wish somebody would tell me what is going to happen, but I don't want to ask, either."

But even if he asks, there are no clear answers.

No one knows for sure what will happen to those whose virus stays stubbornly visible despite all-out treatment. From the start of the epidemic, the amount of virus has been the surest barometer of the disease's course. The higher the level, the faster it kills. Experts believe that if there's enough HIV to measure, it's probably continuing to damage the immune system, even if more slowly than before.

"Right now, we are seeing people like Michael who are having less than satisfactory virological responses. Yet clinically he is doing wonderfully and is as healthy as he has been in years," says Gallant, an AIDS expert at Johns Hopkins University. "We don't know how long that will last. But our assessment is that without complete viral suppression, it won't last forever."

The doctors wonder: Will these people start to go downhill in two years? Five? Ten or even longer? They worry that the dramatic decline in AIDS deaths of the past two years is a honeymoon, a lull before the epidemic reawakens.

"We are winning many more battles than we won before, but we still haven't won the war," says Dr. Michael Saag of the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

His program averaged 10 to 15 deaths a month among its 700 AIDS patients in 1995. Then came the cocktail. In 1996 and 1997, there were just

"You still see wonderful, wonderful things happening with this therapy. People come into the clinic and they think you're God. Their symptoms melt away before your eyes."

one to three deaths a month. But this year, the figures are creeping up again, averaging five to eight deaths a month.

For now, though, many like Willis continue to thrive despite stable or even rising viral levels.

"You still see wonderful, wonderful things happening with this therapy," says Dr. Lori Fantry of the University of Maryland. "People come into the clinic and they think you're God. Their symptoms melt away before your eyes. The people aren't failing yet. It's the numbers."

The numbers.

Scientists estimate that for every unit of virus in a milliliter of blood, somewhere in the body between 100,000 and 150,000 infected cells are making HIV. A viral load of 1,000, like Willis', suggests between 100 million and 150 million virus-making cells.

Over time, these viruses may elude AIDS drugs by doing a sloppy job of reproducing themselves. No unit of HIV is exactly like its parent. With each copy it makes, HIV introduces an average of one error into its genetic code. Chances are, everyone with HIV carries a virus with a random mutation that makes it capable of resisting whatever drug comes along.

When patients start treatment, doctors give them three drugs—typically a protease inhibitor and two older medicines—that they have never taken before. The idea is to hit the virus hard, knocking its production so low that lurking resistant versions never have a chance to be made in quantity.

When treatment pushes the virus below detectable levels and keeps it there, doctors feel fairly certain that patients will stay healthy for several



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years. If treatment fails, it's because swarms of drug-resistant viruses have been produced.

Doctors list three main reasons for treatment failure: Patients neglect to take their medicines on schedule; they already have lots of resistant virus because of earlier exposure to medicines, or their doctors treated them inadequately.

Failure to take medicines consistently is probably No. 1. Missing just a few doses allows resistant viruses to grow explosively. Once that happens, there is no guarantee that switching drugs will do any good, since the virus may be immune to them, too.

However, staying on treatment isn't easy. It often means taking 15 or 20 pills a day on a precise schedule. Some must go down on an empty stomach, some on a full one. They must be taken at just the right time around the clock.

Many trigger nasty side effects, such as diarrhea, headaches, insomnia, stomach pains, numbness in the fingers and toes and an odd-looking rearrangement of body fat that leaves people with potbellies and wasted arms.

As the medicines do their job, HIV symptoms disappear. In time, people feel perfectly well except for the side effects of their pills. This makes sticking with them even harder.

"It was never so easy to be adherent as when I was on the brink of serious illness," says Sean O'Brien Strub, 40, of New York City. "I couldn't wait for my next dose. As I felt better longer, the treatment became more of an intrusion, and the side effects were more bothersome."

Strub, who is publisher of Poz, a magazine for HIV-infected people,

went on a trip in June and forgot his pills. So he decided to stop taking them for a couple of weeks, just to see what would happen. Within 10 days, he felt sick again. A blood test showed his virus level, which had been undetectable, spiked to over a million.

Back on therapy, it's now down to 30,000. "I definitely made a mistake," he admits.

Some people are resistant to individual components of the AIDS cocktail, often because they took them as single drugs before the cocktail was created. Many are long-infected treatment pioneers, eager to try each new drug that comes along.

For instance, Nick Houppis, 43, of Boston, has taken 10 of the 11 approved AIDS medicines. The lowest his viral load ever dropped was 37,000. Now it's 440,000, and this summer he had his first bout with an AIDS-related illness.

CA activists worried about AIDS bill

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)

AIDS activists are concerned about a bill that would make it a felony for a person to deliberately infect another with HIV, the virus that causes the disease.

The bill passed both the Assembly and Senate this week with almost no opposition, and needs the signature of Gov. Pete Wilson.

"We were hopeful that it would just go away," said Fred Dillon, state policy director for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, which has been fighting the measure since it was introduced last year by Senator Richard Rainey, R-Walnut Creek.

"There are an awful lot of us who are just a little bit too late," he says. "I don't think they will come up with something that will make miracle stories out of us."

Some appear to suffer because of physician incompetence, too. For instance, doctors may err by adding a protease inhibitor to two other medicines their patients are already taking, instead of starting them on three fresh drugs. This greatly increases the risk of rampant resistance. AIDS care has become so complicated, many believe, that it now should be done only by specialists who know how to avoid such potentially fatal mistakes.

Once someone fails AIDS treatment, the next step is what doctors call salvage therapy—the art of crafting a second attempt to knock down the virus. They may prescribe five or six drugs at once.

"You end up with a kitchen sink approach," says Dr. Kenneth Mayer

of Brown University. "You try to pull together every possible combination to keep the virus in check."

Willis is an extreme example of this. Gallant has him on seven anti-AIDS drugs, plus an assortment of others to ward off AIDS-related infections.

Once a week, Willis hauls out an orange crate of big white pill bottles and counts out his week's dosage: Norvir, zalcitabine, 3TC, hydroxyurea, ddI, abacavir, adefovir, Sustiva, Bactrim, acyclovir and Zithromax, plus a shot of testosterone.

He starts each day with two packets of ddI dissolved in a glass of water. Then he takes a fistful of pills with breakfast, another handful with dinner, and a couple more at bedtime, 35 in all.

"I've just made it part of my life," Willis says. "I don't really have any options. If I'm dead, I know that my options are limited."

Dillon said the bill unfairly implies that society needs special protection from people who have HIV.

But Rainey contends his bill will criminalize conduct that has escaped prosecution under current law.

"If this protects just one person, it's worth it," said Rainey aide Cory Salzillo.

The bill makes it a felony, punishable by up to eight years in prison, for a person to purposely have sex to infect another with the virus.

But opponents softened the measure to make it difficult to prove intent. A defendant would either have to admit guilt or demonstrate a pat-

tern of such reckless behavior to be convicted.

Prior to the amendments, a person could be prosecuted if he or she had unprotected sex while knowing they were HIV positive.

Eileen Hansen of AIDS Legal Referral in San Francisco said the bill is unnecessary because current "assault with a deadly weapon" statutes could be used to prosecute someone who deliberately infects another with any deadly disease.

The Legislature this week is expected to take up the issue of reporting HIV infections to state public health authorities.

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Saturday Night - ATV Races & Taco Hut

Sunday - Shrimp Cook-Out & After Hours

Sunday Sept. 13th

- Charlie's Knights Fundraiser Day
BBQ 1-6 pm, Bartend 2-8 pm, Games
3-9 pm, and Showtime at 9:30 pm
- AGRA General Meeting 5pm

Wednesday Sept. 16th

- Rainbows Party 7-9 pm
- Erica Alexander contestant for Miss
AGRA Show and Fundraiser at 10 pm

Wild West Saloon Days

Friday, Saturday & Sunday
Sept. 18th 19th & 20th

Saddle up for a Party Weekend

Friday Night - Bing and a Bang Nite

**Saturday Night - Old Time Photos, Dunk
Tank, and a Show Stating at 9:30 pm**

**Sunday Night - Mr. & Miss West Coast
International Pageant at 7 pm**

International Gay & Lesbian News Briefs

Compiled by Rex Wockner

Gay group proposes official cruising area

Claiming the idea has worked in Copenhagen and Amsterdam, the London gay group OutRage! proposed Aug. 16 that a section of London's Russell Square be set aside for outdoor gay cruising and sex.

The group said establishing a "zone of toleration" would reduce public complaints and police harassment arising from nighttime activity in the square.

"One third of Russell Square could be sectioned off with a high fence and thick shrubbery," said OutRage!'s John Beeson. "Entrance to the area would be marked with a warning sign. A similar system has worked well in the main parks in Copenhagen and Amsterdam for many years.

"If local people don't like gay sex in Russell Square, they should stay away," Beeson said. "No one is forcing them to go there. They can use Bedford Square or Coram's Fields instead. In any case, what are these heterosexual whingers doing wandering around Russell Square at 2 a.m.? They should be at home looking after their children."

OutRage! blamed local authorities for increased complaints about sex in the square.

"The Council increased the lighting in the square and cut down the thick shrubbery, making the sex more visible," the group said. "No wonder public complaints have increased. ... Camden Council should turn off the lights and replant head-high dense bushes around the outer perimeter of the square, the borders of the flower beds, and the sides of the cafe. That would cut the visibility of sexual behavior and minimize public complaints."

Kenyan President denounces homosexuals

"Kenya has no room or time for homosexuals and lesbians," President Daniel arap Moi told the *Daily Nation* newspaper, the Sapa-Panos news agency reported Aug. 14.

"Homosexuality is against African norms and traditions, and even in religion it is considered a great sin," he said.

Meanwhile, Kenyan Health Ministry spokesman Maina Kahindo has written off gays who are at risk for AIDS.

"Taking into account other modes of transmission of HIV/AIDS, homosexuality is negligible and should not take up our resources and time," Kahindo said. "We have other, far-more-pressing areas which affect the majority of our people and therefore need urgent attention."

The leaders of Zimbabwe and Namibia also have denounced gays.

Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe has called homosexuals "repugnant to my human conscience ... immoral and repulsive" and said, "I don't believe they have any rights at all."

Namibian President Sam Nujoma has said: "Homosexuals must be condemned and rejected in our society. All necessary steps must be taken to combat all influences that are influencing us and our children in a negative way."

Canadian ruling redefines 'spouse'

Canadian federal Justice Andrew MacKay ruled Aug. 17 that the federal government is discriminating against gay employees with its "separate but equal" benefits program for "same-sex partner relationships."

Instead, the word "spouse" must be redefined so gay employees and their partners are included in the regular benefits scheme, MacKay said.

He called the dual system "appalling," explaining, "It is no more appropriate for the employer in this case to have established a separate definition for persons in same-sex relationships than it would have been for the employer to create separate definitions for relationships of persons based on their race, colour or ethnicity."

Partners of Canadian public servants began

receiving benefits in 1996 following a human-rights tribunal ruling in a case brought by Stanley Moore, a foreign-service officer who had been denied spousal moving and housing benefits.

MacKay's ruling also granted human-rights officials the power to order the federal government to rework all laws, regulations and directives that discriminate against same-sex couples in the area of job benefits.

5,000 gays flood Canada's wonderland

Five thousands gays and lesbians flooded into Ontario's Wonderland amusement park Aug. 8.

"It's a chance to be a kid again," said organizer Richard Silver.

Twenty fundamentalist Christians protested at the entrance carrying signs reading, "Ban Nudity and Buggery from Wonderland."

"Last year, there was a man wearing a G-string and his testicles were hanging out," Family Council regional director Terry Ruddell cautioned families about to enter the park.

Only a few families turned around.

Swiss activists picket justice ministry

Activists set off 60 alarm clocks outside the Swiss Justice Ministry in Bern Aug. 17 to protest the government's failure to issue a long-overdue report on the situation of gay/lesbian couples.

The protest was designed to serve as a "wake-up call," organizers said. The report was due in 1994.

Swiss gay couples face routine discrimination in such areas as accessing disability benefits and transferring a lease after a death, the protesters said.

Gay TV show launched in Toronto

Toronto's all-news TV station, CablePulse 24, has launched a one-hour weekly program on gay issues called *The Q-Files*.

The show "celebrates non-conformity through the eyes of gays and lesbians," the producers said. "*The Q-Files* will prompt viewers, straight and gay, to take pride in their individuality. Viewers will get up close with a range of issues: where to eat, dance, find God, save taxes, stay healthy, appreciate art, create family [and] reconcile differences (or not)."

CablePulse is owned by Canadian media mogul Moses Znaimer.

Belfast gays heckle Gingrich

Gay protesters in Belfast, Northern Ireland, heckled U.S. House Speaker Newt Gingrich Aug. 11 as he visited a Habitat for Humanity housing project.

Gingrich ignored the demonstrators who chanted and waved placards. Later, a group of children tried to grab the protesters' signs.

Gingrich, who regularly votes anti-gay, was leading a delegation of congressmen on a three-day trip in advance of President Clinton's upcoming visit.

B.C. gays get equal car-insurance rights

The Insurance Corporation of British Columbia has extended spousal benefits to same-sex partners in common-law-type relationships, the *Westender* reported.

ICBC insures all cars and drivers in Canada's westernmost province.

Regulations state that a gay relationship must exist for two years prior to an accident in order for the partner of an injured or killed person to claim benefits.

Filipino gays gain strength

Filipino gays are becoming very public, *Asia Week* reports.

"Manila's homosexuals are not just out of the closet," the magazine said. "They are in the street, on TV and in the media. They hold flamboyant gay pride marches, and the Santo Niño Club, a largely homosexual association of fashion types, stages an annual religious parade featuring a statue of the child Jesus in designer robes.

"Homosexual Filipinos participate in public life with a verve unmatched anywhere in the region," the magazine said, adding that several A-list gays have become fixtures in the social circle of former First Lady Amelita Ramos.

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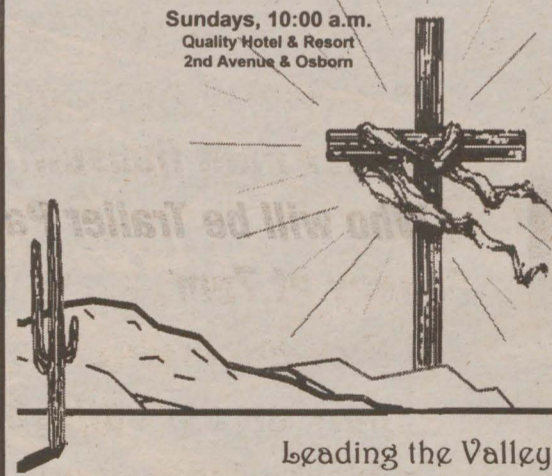


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30 Years of Reaching Out

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

Reverend Troy Perry didn't get where he is today by being pushy.

Tall and rotund, with a Good Ol' Boy's redneck drawl and a bristled head and beard of silver, he certainly cuts an imposing figure.

But this Bubba is a gentle giant—a southern preacher who trained for his collar in the purest of Evangelical traditions and then recognized early in his ministry (after acknowledging his own homosexuality) that most gay men and lesbians don't want to be preached to.

Instead of pontificating, the man who wrote the book on gays and Christianity became the best known gay spiritual activist in the U.S. during the past thirty years by using humor, grace and political savvy to get his point across.

Where he is today is at the helm of one of the world's largest gay organizations—a Christian church denomination known as the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, or MCC.

Perry founded the church himself in 1968, before Stonewall and at a time when few could fathom a gay Christian movement of any kind, let alone one that would evolve into the social and political benchmark MCC has since become.

Rev. Perry visited the Valley from

church headquarters in Los Angeles in August. He was here for a week-end-long MCC conference hosted in part by Phoenix's own Gentle Shepherd MCC congregation.

Afterward, he found a few moments to chat with *HeatStroke* about the current state of his ministry.

Leadership Conference and our theme for this year was, "Excellence in Ministry." We're pushing toward the 21st Century and we want MCC to position itself on the cutting edge of ministry, to continue the growth that we've had for thirty years.

We've never had a year where we

of three dollars and eighteen cents thirty years ago, to this year—our member churches in North America and the U.S. contributed about \$15 million to their local churches.

There were more than 500 delegates from nearly every state as well as from six countries represented here.

We had people from the U.S., Australia, Canada, Great Britain, Mexico and we even had a member from Sri Lanka.

Our weekend here was wonderful. This is one of our best leadership conferences. We really enjoy the Pointe, which is an absolutely gorgeous resort. Our theme was Excellence in Ministry and so we always tell our people not to settle, to accept the very best.

After the weekend we were saying, "Well, we should probably switch and in two years hold our leadership conference somewhere on the east coast, to be fair to the Easterners."

Then there was a group sitting around the pool suggesting we have the conference in Phoenix again in two years and everyone cheered.



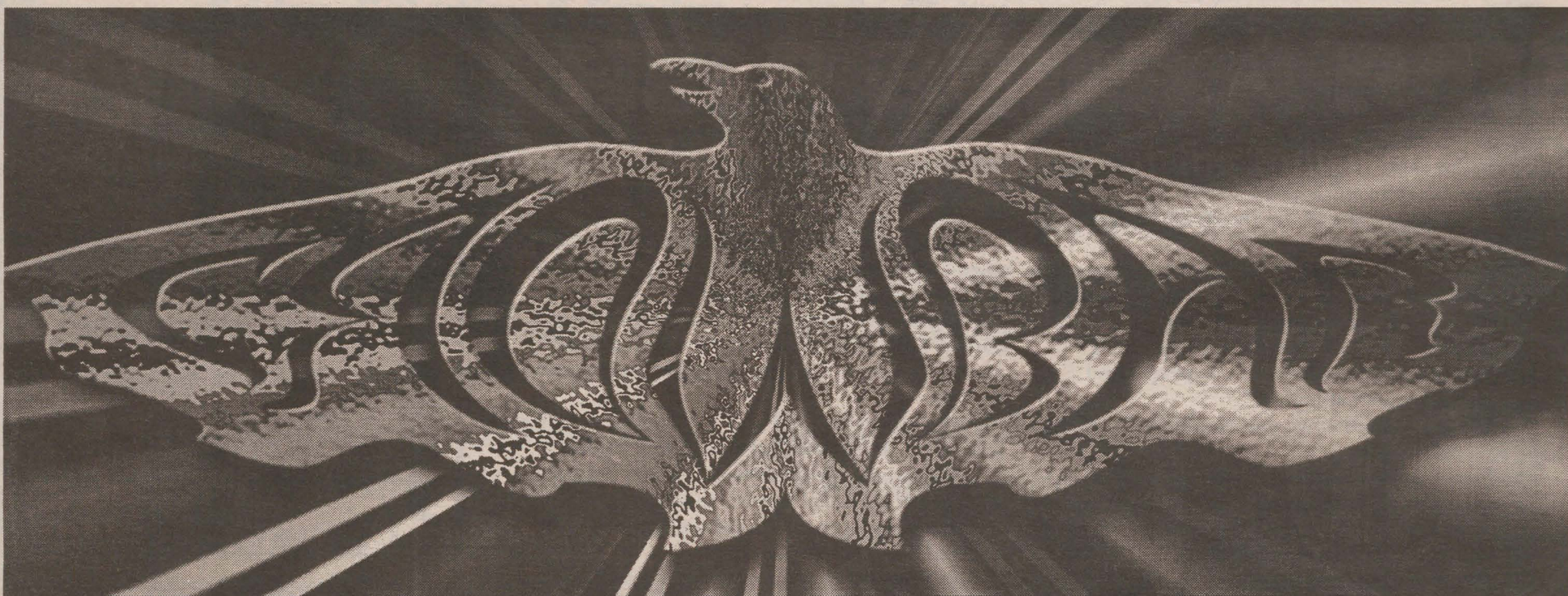
Rev. Brad Wishorn (l) of Gentle Shepherd MCC welcomed MCC founder Rev. Troy Perry at the church's National Leadership Conference held in Phoenix.

HeatStroke: Tell us about the conference MCC held in Phoenix this past weekend.

Reverend Troy Perry: We call it our

haven't grown, both in members as well as in finances. We've been able to do that in an incredible time.

We've gone from our first offering



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When I made the comment about being fair to the people on the east coast, they said, "That's okay. We are from the east coast and we don't mind paying the air fare to come back to Phoenix."

You have a beautiful city and I have old friends here. This, by the way, was one of our earliest churches. The Phoenix church was one of the first five churches in the Universal Fellowship.

HS: MCC has existed how long?

RTP: On October 6 we'll celebrate our 30th anniversary.

We're getting ready for a huge celebration in Los Angeles. Willie Brown, the Mayor of San Francisco, will be the main speaker and there will be several other politicians there.

We celebrate the 30th anniversary at the end of this year and then into next year culminating with our big general conference in Los Angeles. We're expecting 5,000 people at that conference, July 19-25, 1999. It will be the first time in twenty years that we've held our general conference in L.A.

At that time, we also plan to dedicate our relatively new Fellowship Headquarters in West Hollywood, California. We bought three-fifths of a block there—a five story office building, the building next door that contains our church, and we own about two acres of land there. It looks like [South Africa's] Archbishop Desmond Tutu will be there to preach and to dedicate that.

HS: You're own early background was in an Evangelical denomination?

RTP: Yes, I always tell people I was the product of a mixed marriage. In the South, that means one parent was Baptist and the other was Pentecostal. They're both extreme fundamentalist movements, but different sides: one speaks in tongues, one doesn't.

"I always tell people I was the product of a mixed marriage. In the South, that means one parent was Baptist and the other was Pentecostal."

HS: How disappointed were you with the recent anti-gay vote by the Anglican church's world leadership at that group's conference in England this summer?

RTP: I always tell people it's the first vote they've ever taken on the issue. And I can remember all kinds of religious organizations that—when they took their first votes—were lopsided even worse than that. And yet, of course, it's disappointing.

You have to realize that the vote is not binding on any of the Anglican communities, such as the Episcopal Church in America. It may be a gauge from their world body but it is not binding here. One third of all the (Episcopalian) Bishops in America still ordain—knowingly—gays and lesbians and that is not going to stop. I know how it works, and that's the way it's going to be.

Two days after that announcement, of course, the United Methodist Bishops' Meeting also declared that there would be no more same sex marriages in the Methodist Church and that they will either discipline or

excommunicate any pastor who performs them.

Does that mean they are going to stop? I doubt it. I just know how it works. The genie's out of the bottle, as we say sometimes, and there are a lot of people in those religions who have a lot of feelings of support for the gay and lesbian community.

And they point to MCC as the instigators. Here in my opening address, I

"I came out of the closet as a homosexual and I'll be damned if I'm going back in the closet because I'm a Christian. It is very important for me as a religious person to state that."

said, "It's all our fault." The historians now say that because the Metropolitan Community Church started, church and religious groups worldwide—whether Jewish, Islamic, Christian, Buddhist—can't get away from this issue. It's constantly there. And people of all those faiths now raise gay and lesbian issues and so it's a very, very important discussion.

HS: In the national arena, "Christians" are often lumped on to one side of the debate over gay rights while "Homosexuals" are always on the opposite side. Very little media coverage represents the concept that there are actually many Christian Homosexuals.

As the founder of MCC, does that ongoing lack of recognition irritate you?

RTP: Of course it irritates me.

If you would have told me the largest organization touching the lives of gays and lesbians under one umbrella would be a church, I would have called you a liar back when I founded Metropolitan Community Church in 1968.

A lot of kids are still beaten up, I'm sorry to say, by religion. Not just in the Christian tradi-

tion, although in this culture it's the Christian tradition that's taken the lead on that—the religious right, especially. But in Iran, it's the Islamic fundamentalists. You have to vary what you say because I've talked to Islamic scholars and Jewish scholars and I know that in every culture it is not part and parcel the Christian movement, the way it is here.

It really does irritate me when someone like Jerry Falwell claims everything. That he claims to be the source of all truth—or Pat Robertson, or any of that group.

Having said that, go to any Gay Pride celebration today and you'll see at least a third to half of the groups present are religious groups. It is just mind-boggling—and yet, it doesn't surprise me.

Gays and lesbians are interested in spirituality—not necessarily religion, but in spirituality—as much as any other culture. And we have everything from gay Buddhists to Wiccans to Christians to Islamic people that march in the gay parades. And that's as it should be.

So when I see everything happening the way it is today, when I see Trent Lott get on national television and try to describe my behavior along with kleptomaniacs and pederasts I just shake my head. Some days, I just shake my head.

But I believe with all my heart that we will continue to make strides if we continue to struggle and to fight over this—if we don't back off. This is not the time to back off.

I'm one of those persons who has called for an International March on Washington in the year 2000. I think that we're really positioned now, with our state marches next year and our March on Washington, to say to Americans, "We're not asking for special rights. We're asking for equal rights."

I don't expect any more than anyone else but I'll be damned if I'll settle for anything less. My lover and I pay taxes, we send everybody else's kids to school. We pay higher taxes because the government doesn't recognize our relationship. I don't mind doing that but, by God, I'm going to be treated like everybody else.

HS: Talk a little more about your personal relationship.

RTP: My other half's name is Phillip Ray DeBlicke. We recently celebrated our thirteenth anniversary together and we're just thrilled. We are very happy and there's a 24-year age difference between us. Phillip is a ticket agent for an airline.

We're very thankful for both our families—he has as good a relationship with his family as I do with mine. His mother gave me a supreme compliment on our anniversary by saying that of all her kids, Phillip had "married well".

HS: Is there discrimination within the gay community against MCC?

RTP: I honestly don't see that.

There are gay people who are anti-religion, sure. They're not really anti-MCC but they're anti-religion, period. But that doesn't bother me. My struggle is not with other gay people.

My struggle and fight is with the enemy out there, and I keep myself focused. And I have never taken the time to attack folks who don't like me because I happen to be a Christian. That's not where I'm at.

I came out of the closet as a homosexual and I'll be damned if I'm going back in the closet because I'm a Christian. It is very important for me as a religious person to state that. I don't believe in conversions with guns pointed at heads, and people who know me know that I'm very clear on that. That's not where MCC is at and that's not how we operate.

My work is to still carry the good news to our community. I tell them that if they don't hear anything else, to listen to this: God didn't create you so that God could sit around and have something to hate.

If people will just hear that and reclaim their spirituality—don't throw the baby out with the bath water because somebody told you one time that God didn't love you.

If people hear that one little message, then they've heard everything I have to say.



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With friends like these...

By Kelly Reidhead, Managing Editor

Much of the straight world has long dismissed and condemned gay men as hedonists—sexually promiscuous and obsessed pleasure-seekers. Unable to reproduce or legally marry, hets think that we have nothing better to do than hop from partner to partner, always look-

ing for that perfect—but unattainable—orgasm.

At the same time, these straight people would have us believe that they are immune to this unseemly drive for physical pleasure. They are, after all, too burdened with the immense responsibilities of reproduction to be concerned with mere sexual fulfillment. Are we dogs rutting in the street, they ask smugly, or are we human

Out on film

beings?

Neil LaBute's new film, *Your Friends & Neighbors* offers an exceedingly refreshing response to that question. According to him, people are rutting dogs—rude, vicious dogs who do nasty things to their friends and loved ones to get what they want. And what they want is sex.

Your Friends & Neighbors follows a circle of six friends—three men and three women—as they manipulate and deceive each other. Like LaBute's first film, *In the Company of Men*, the brutality of some of the characters is hair raising. But his script is so finely wrought that the characters never slip off the edge of reality. These are people that we know—people that we may have been. And that recognition is startling.

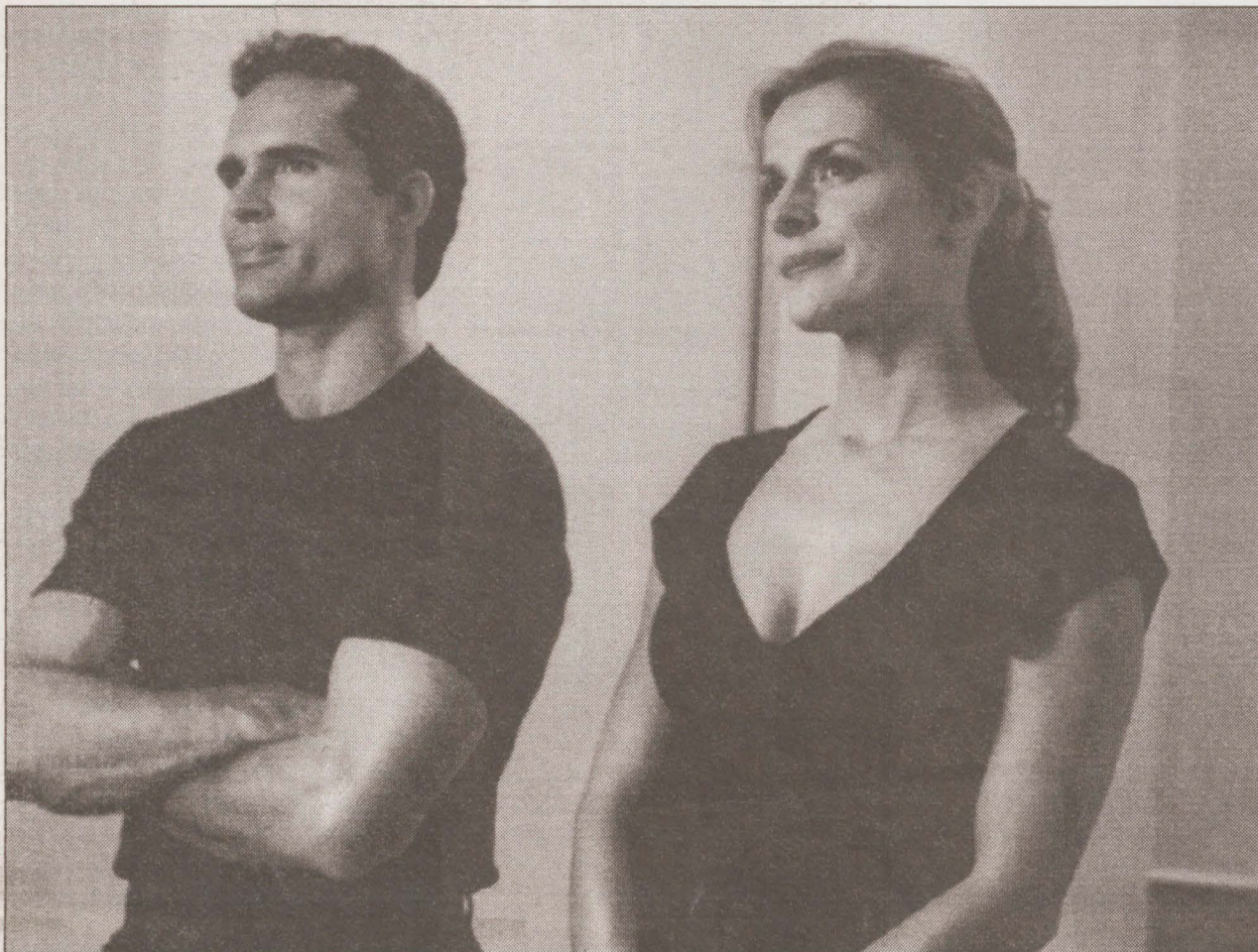
It's not all serious, though. The film is generously peppered with very funny bits that provide much-needed comic relief from the darker material.

In addition to LaBute's strong writing, *Your Friends & Neighbors* has a terrific cast. Particularly notable is Jason Patric's chilling portrayal of Cary, a woman-hating, womanizing physician who has no qualms about using his medical license as a tool for revenge against former lovers. Cary is a very bad man, but a very beautiful one; Patric makes the most of the contrast.

The genius of *Your Friends & Neighbors* is its universality: it resonates with all people—regardless of their sexual orientation or gender.

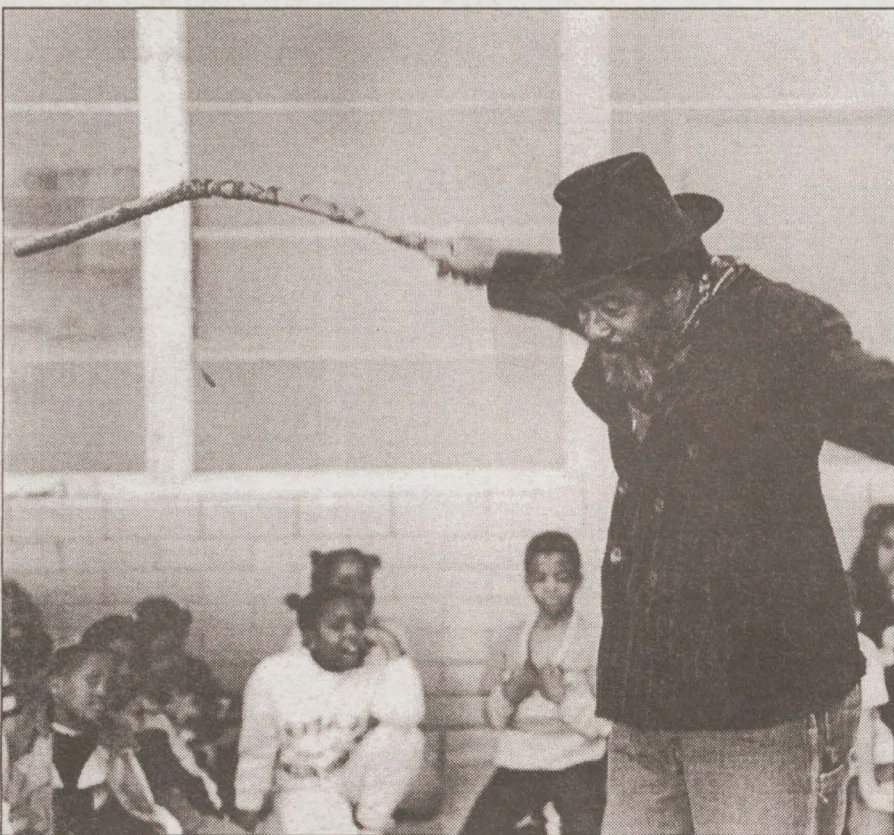
Many heterosexuals who see this film are going to be highly offended—they will maintain their self-righteous denial and moral superiority: they are humans, not dogs, after all.

Most gay people, however, will see *Your Friends & Neighbors* as a confirmation of what we have always known: we're all human, but we do spend a lot of time sniffing crotches.



Bruce Bermelein

Jason Patric and Nastassja Kinski admire a painting in *Your Friends & Neighbors*.



Folklore & music to mix at ASU

Junebug Productions, a New Orleans-based theatrical and storytelling troupe, will perform its original work, *Gumbo Pot*, at ASU's Gammage Auditorium on Friday, Sept. 11 at 8 pm.

In *Gumbo Pot*, the renowned

African American company creates various characters who come alive through original, traditional and folkloric stories and music.

Tickets are \$15 and are available by calling (602) 965-3434.

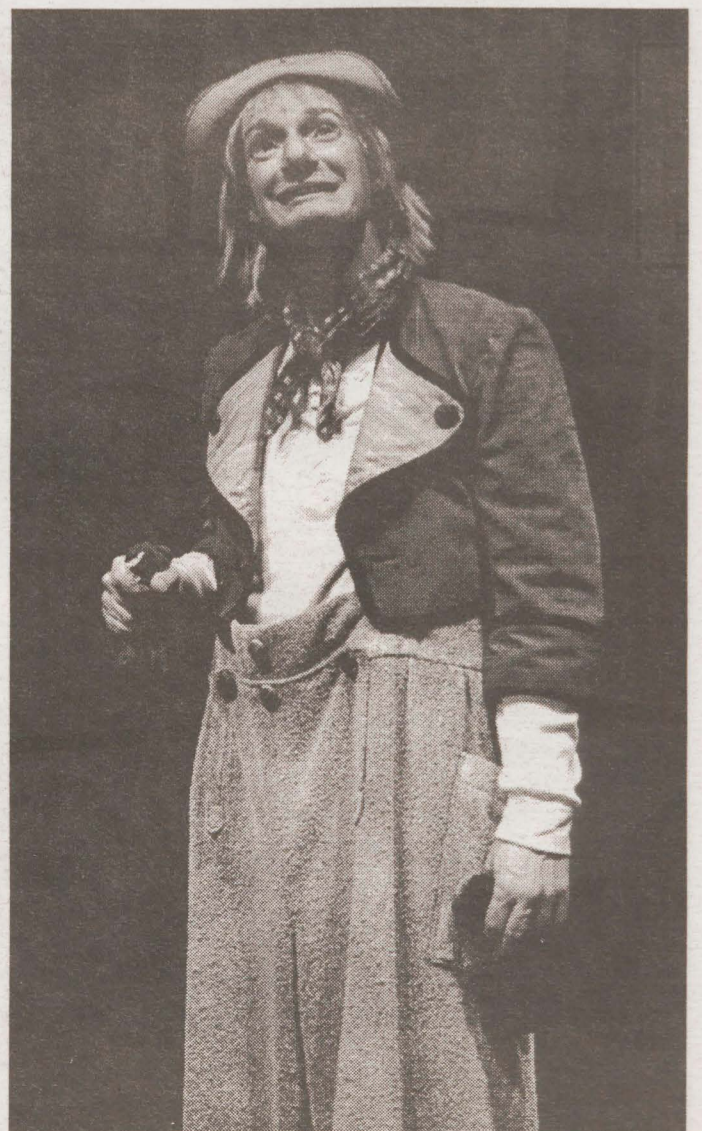
Desert "Tonys" bestowed at annual awards ceremony

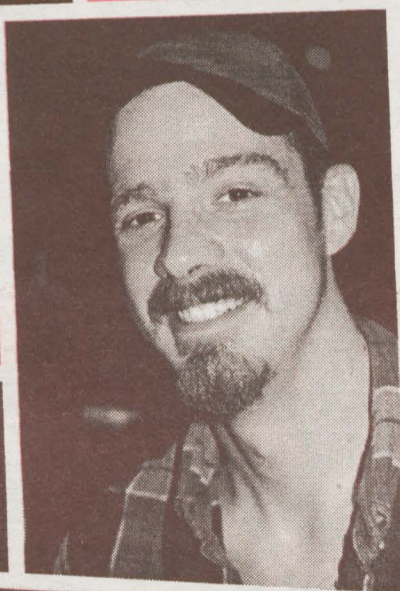
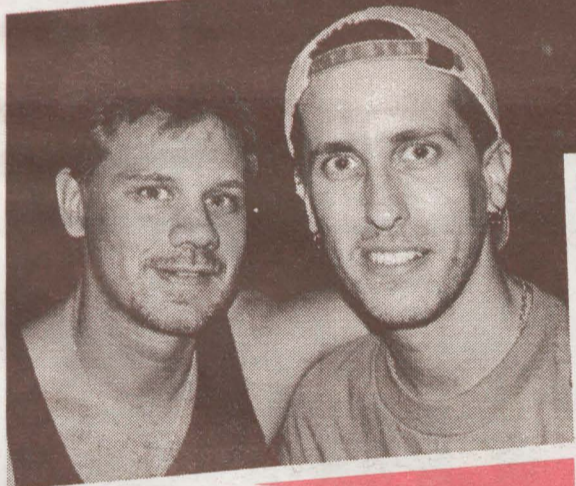
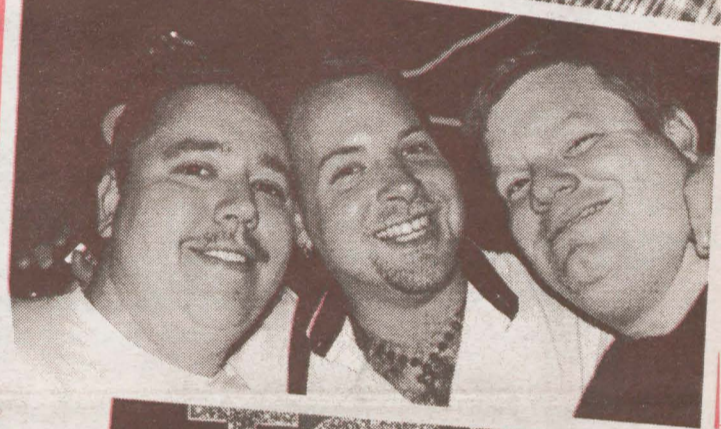
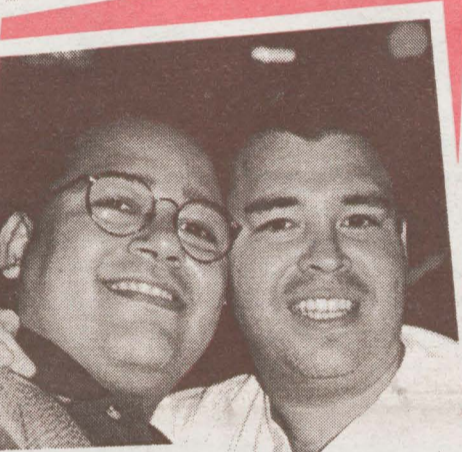
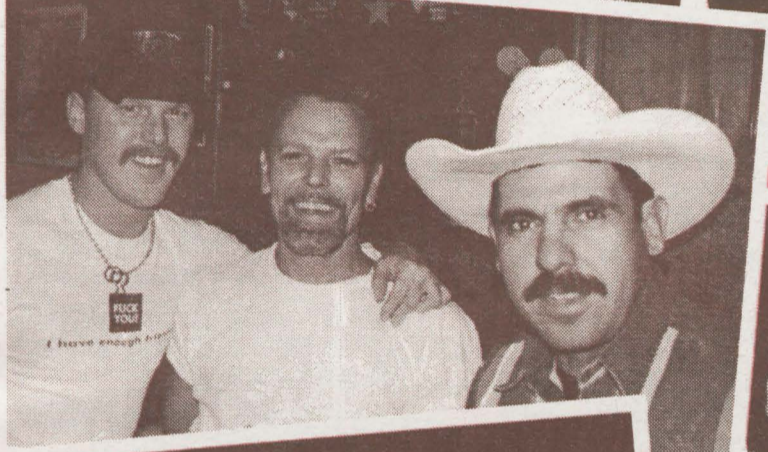
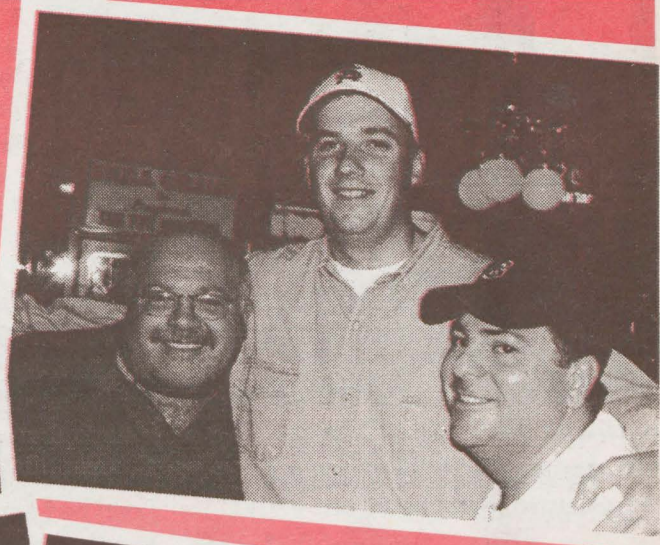
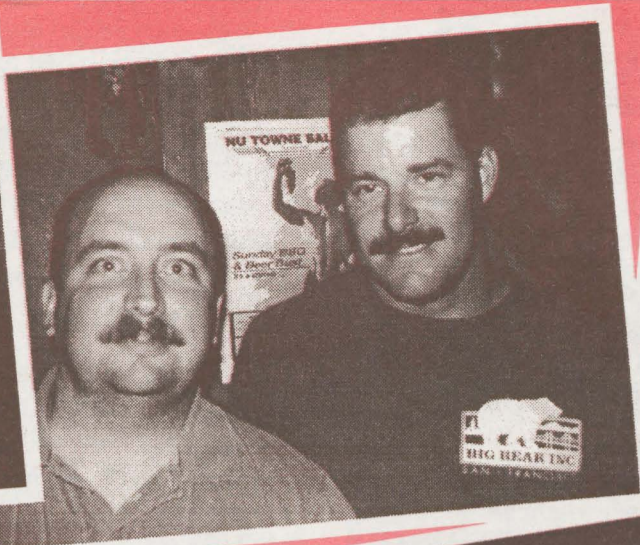
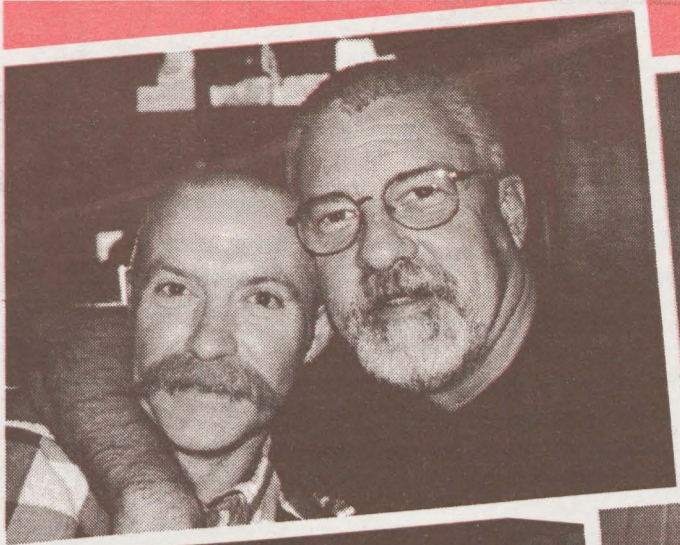
Rosie O'Donell won't be hosting and there won't be any production numbers from *The Lion King*.

But local theatergoers can expect the ariZonies to generate near-Broadway levels of excitement among the actors and techies nominated for their work on Valley theatrical productions last season.

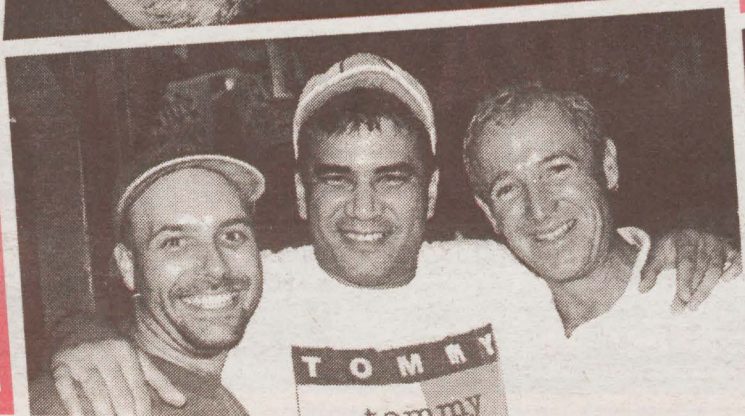
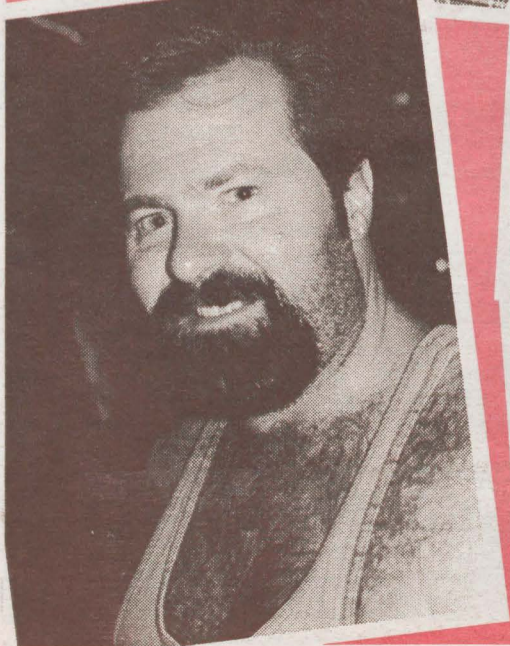
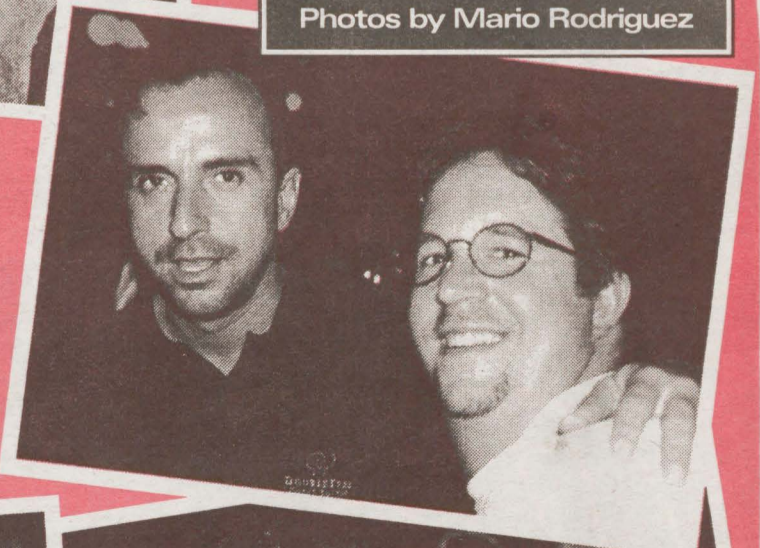
Check out the fun and root for your favorites at the Eighth Annual ariZoni Theatre Awards of Excellence, to be presented on Monday, Sept. 14 at 7:30 pm at the Herberger Theater Center, 222 East Monroe in downtown Phoenix. Tickets are \$12 each, call (602) 252-8497.

Arizona Theatre Company's production of *Scapin* received 15 ariZoni award nominations, including Best Actor for Bob Sorenson's performance in the title role.





NuTowne Saloon
Photos by Mario Rodriguez



Congressional candidate Tammy Baldwin, Aug. 3. Baldwin is being gay-baited by a fundamentalist-Christian opponent.

"Gay activist tactics of derision and intimidation about orthodox Christianity arouse needless animosity without producing fundamental change: Viciously silencing opponents simply guarantees that when the backlash finally comes, it will take massively reactionary form. No authentic dialogue is possible with gay activists, as I know from experience. Their minds are closed: They think in starkly Manichaeian terms of good vs. evil, with themselves cast as the angels. Hence they and Christian fundamentalists are made for each other, in a nonstop cyclic melodrama of hysterical mutual torment."

—Lesbian academic/writer
**Camille Paglia in her Aug. 4
Salon magazine column.**

"[T]he claims that homosexuality is innate are based on questionable and minuscule evidence. ... The PC parrots who are squawking that view all over the media don't seem to realize that their vaunted body of data simply suggests thus far that gay men are developmentally defective—that is, that they were incompletely masculinized in the womb, perhaps because of emotional or environmental stresses on their pregnant mothers. Is this really where we want gay rights to be heading?"

—Lesbian academic/writer
**Camille Paglia in her Aug. 4
Salon magazine column.**

"The religious right has been trying to shop around a story to the media for a few years now. It's the story of 'ex-gays' who are 'healed' through new, ground-breaking Christian 'therapies.' They've found few takers. Why? Even in today's media environment of fake sources and spotty fact-checking, journalists who spent any time on it recognized that the story was a flimflam. Anti-gay activists and the religious right's spin-thugs have grown so frustrated in their effort to promote their dubious ex-gay theories and fishy 'conversion' stories that they've finally decided to pay for what they couldn't pitch. Their full-page ads debuted this month in the *Los Angeles Times*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post* and *USA Today*."

—Columnist Christopher
Calhoun in the *Los Angeles Times*, July 29.

"The drugs and alcohol took over. I went out a window. I was drinking gin. I never used to drink gin. It totally took me over. I don't remember jumping out the window, but all evidence points to that. I never contemplated suicide before. It was a little out of character."

—Gay porn star Ryan Idol
**(Marc Anthony Donais) on his
March 20 jump from a fourth-
floor window in New York City,
to the *Miami Herald*, Aug. 5.
Idol survived because he
bounced off an awning.**

"That was an education [performing in Texas recently]. Houston was very good. San Antonio was good and bad. I had some great shows; I had some other shows where half the audience walked out. But my retort to San Antonio was, Jeez, it's as if they've never seen a feminine blond boy before, which means they must never have seen *Titanic*."

—Gay actor Scott Thompson
**(*Kids In The Hall*) to
Salon magazine, July 23.**

"As gay culture has ascended, there's been this attempt to masculinize gay men, which I think is quite silly and very wrong-minded, and I'm hoping that [my character] Buddy Cole [who has written a new book] can slap a little sense into people. You know, I'd be slapping them with a handbag! But, I mean, come on—the sissy is the truth. The muscle queen is not. That is a false construct held up by wires, strings, steroids and the gym. It's not real. And if gay men aren't going to accept the sissy, then they're doomed."

—Gay actor Scott Thompson
**(*Kids In The Hall*) to
Salon magazine, July 23.**

"Monogamy means someone is lying ... If I had a lover who never turned an eye to anyone else, I'd be inclined to check for a pulse—or a personality."

—Columnist Lushus Lucy
writing in the Toronto gay
newspaper *Xtra!*, July 16.

"I'm impressed. I've never seen a community as friendly as this one. Everybody knows everybody and everybody waves to everybody and talks and everybody is friendly with everybody. This tour has taught me a lot. I've lead a very sheltered life. I didn't know anything about gay or anything else. But they're our community, and I'm the mayor and it's my job to make sure I understand them better and understand the community better."

—Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman
**on a recent stroll through the
city's main gay neighborhood.**

"Those standing up for sexual freedom are neither lost in a romanticized vision of the golden age of the 1970s, nor dick-hungry men selfishly seeking more power and male privilege as our critics have claimed. We have been condescendingly characterized as immature children who haven't grown up and who need to get with the times, put our pricks back in our pants, and apply our energies to the real challenges like gays in the military and gay marriage. Yet even a cursory look at the histories of our movement will show that sexual liberation has been inextricably bound with gay liberation, the women's movement, and the emancipation of youth."

—From Eric Rofes' new book
***Dry Bones Breathe: Gay Men
Creating Post-AIDS Identities
and Cultures.***

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\$1.25 Miller products

Friday, Sept. 4
MARLYS'
\$1.50 Miller products

Saturday, Sept. 5
CLUB ROXY
\$1.50 Miller draft &
\$2 Miller products

Sunday, Sept. 6
HARLEY'S TOO
\$1.50 Miller products



Aunt Rita's
Foundation

Tuesday, Sept. 8
WINK'S
\$1.50 Lite & MGD

Wednesday, Sept. 9
POOKIE'S
\$1 Miller products

Thursday, Sept. 10
307
\$1 Miller products
SHOOTERZ
\$1 Miller products
w/ Rainbow donation

Friday, Sept. 11
TRAX
\$1.50 Miller products
WATERHOLE
\$1 Miller draft
\$3 Miller pitchers &
\$1.75 Miller products

100% of all donations will benefit Aunt Rita's Foundation,
an organization dedicated to providing assistance to people with HIV and AIDS.
Miller Brands of Phoenix will donate a portion of beer sales during September.

Hollywood Deep Inside

By Romeo San Vicente, HeatStroke Contributor

Chad Allen Grows Up

The baby-faced star of *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman* is engineering a career makeover that has him starring as a gay, HIV-positive junkie in the new play, *Change at Babylon*, now showing in Los Angeles.

Twenty-three-year-old **Chad Allen**, outed by the *Globe* tabloid two years ago when it published pictures that vividly detailed his presence at an all-male pool party, dies nightly in the play, which explores life, love, drugs, drinking, sex and death among friends on New York's Fire Island. I'm sure Chad's done plenty of research for this one.

Speaking of teen idols, *Home Improvement* star **Jonathan Taylor Thomas** is leaving the long-running show to, according to his publicist, hit the books in order to gain acceptance to a top university. Why am I reporting this item?

File it in the rumors that just won't die department (thanks in large part to the internet). You may remember a few months ago when *The Advocate* issued a statement denying that Thomas had given an interview with the magazine in which he came out as a gay teen.

Speculation persisted that ABC forced the story to be quashed because it didn't want to stain the wholesome image of the **Tim Allen** (who served time in prison for dealing coke) program.

Thomas has, through his publicist, vehemently denied the rumor. But if there's any truth to the story (which requires the belief that *The Advocate* answers to Disney), the 17-year-old moppet is now free to speak.

Travolta on Trial

Questions about disco pioneer **John Travolta's** sexuality have dogged him through much of his career, though his high-profile marriage to actress **Kelly Preston** had put those rumors on the back burner.

Expect that to change, however, with the announcement of a potentially explosive lawsuit that targets Travolta and his beloved Church of Scientology.

Beverly Hills artist **Michael Pattinson** is suing the organization

over its handling of homosexuality, claiming he was duped into spending 25 years and \$500,000 by Scientology in an effort to "cure" his gayness.

Why was Travolta named in the suit? According to Pattinson's lawyer, **Graham Berry**, the movement founded by science fiction writer **L. Ron Hubbard** uses the '70s icon as an example of someone who was cured of what the church allegedly referred to as "his ruin."

A church spokesman calls the suit "meritless" while Travolta's attorney told a New York newspaper that "John Travolta is a happily married man."

Don't be surprised if some old photos that gay porn star **Paul Barresi** sold to the *National Enquirer* in 1991, which showed him and Travolta "palling around," resurface. Barresi claimed at the time he was the *Saturday Night Fever* star's lover, publicizing what many had only whispered.

Welcome Back, Gorgeous!

Is **Barbra Streisand** rediscovering her roots? Apparently Mrs. James Brolin is starting to take herself less seriously, at least when it comes to her career. The diva is said to be interested in returning to lighter comedy fare, a la *The First Wives Club*.

Babs was reportedly taken with that film, so much so that she was rumored to be up for a part in the *First Wives* follow-up, taking over the **Goldie Hawn** role (**Kurt Russell's** better half was reportedly being difficult in salary negotiations) in *Avon Lady of the Amazon*.

But that project, which was to reteam the trio of Hawn, **Diane Keaton**, and **Bette Midler**, is now in jeopardy due to the problems Warner Bros. is having finding a director to helm the movie.

So now La Streisand is being considered for a role in *The Meddlers* (also by Warner's), about three conniving women. The cast just might include **Midler** (who's dying to work with Streisand) and **Whoopi Goldberg**. This one could actually be interesting.

One last note about Babs. When asked recently by a magazine reporter about his worst jobs (and lately, he's had many), **Elliott Gould** responded

with this gem: "As you know, I was once married to **Barbra Streisand**."

Paging Wonderbra

Jamie Lee Curtis, who, like many of us can't understand why they're remaking *Psycho*, told a reporter that she's equally confused about the casting of **Anne Heche** in the role her

deserves some credit for passing on the troubled new **Nathan Lane** sitcom, *Encore! Encore!* The show is having problems in reconciling Lane's "feyness" with his role as a womanizing former opera singer.

Last spring, Tarses nixed purchase of the pilot by her network because she said the producers should just come out and say Lane's character is

queer. No one will buy that he isn't, she said. We'll find out next month.

Boytoy of the Year

Expect *I Know What You Did Last Summer* stud **Ryan Phillippe** to leap into sex symbol status with his role in the just-released *54*, which chronicles the heyday of the famed New York disco.

The Delaware-bred blond spends most of the movie in little more than a tight pair of shorts, showing off a body to die for. Phillippe plays one of those famed "barbacks" that



His greatest acting challenge yet: **Nathan Lane** will attempt to play a straight opera star in his new NBC series *Encore! Encore!*

mother, **Janet Leigh**, made famous.

Curtis said she can't see the *Return to Paradise* star filling out her mom's bra. And no, she wasn't approached for a role in the **Gus Van Sant** remake.

openly gay Studio 54 co-owner **Steve Rubell** (played in the movie by *Austin Powers* creator **Mike Myers**) hired as eye candy for his A-list clientele.

By the way, Phillippe's character is



The toothsome **Ryan Phillippe** plays a bisexual barback hired by **Steve Rubell** (**Mike Meyers**) in *54*.

Meanwhile, Anne's lover is returning to the stage. **Ellen** is currently working on a new HBO comedy special and plans to resume stand-up full-time.

Her former nemesis, **Jamie Tarses**, the deposed ABC-TV honcho,

and has a kissing scene with male co-star **Breckin Meyer** (who played the stoner in *Clueless*).

Romeo San Vicente, who, like **Monica Lewinsky**, saves all of his semen-stained dresses, can be reached care of *HeatStroke* or at Vicente@aol.com

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Out of Town

New Orleans —by Night

By Andrew Collins, HeatStroke Contributor

New Orleans is one of the world's most sensual and sybaritic cities. And so it makes sense that folks here pursue the pleasures of eating, boozing, and cruising with tireless vigor, often lingering for hours over a delicious meal before hopping among the city's many queer bars well into the next morning—or even afternoon.

You can count on a few things at most every New Orleans eatery: fresh ingredients, easygoing (i.e., slow) but congenial service, stellar seafood, and outstanding coffee (always chicory-laced) and desserts.

The city has a reputation for great sandwiches, everything from oyster and shrimp po'boys to thick deli sandwiches to classic muffuletta (Italian bread filled with cold cuts, provolone, and zesty olive salad).

Try Cafe Maspero for gargantuan chili burgers, turkey sandwiches, and the like; Johnny's Po'boys for outstanding po'boys made on the softest French bread and "dressed" with pickles, tomatoes, and lettuce; or Central Grocery for foot-in-diameter muffuletta.

At the other end of the spectrum, upscale sit-down restaurants appear throughout the French Quarter and have more recently begun to spring up elsewhere in the city.

In a yellow building near the gate to Louis Armstrong Park—a part of the Quarter that's well off the beaten path—Peristyle is a huge hit with

Little sets the two clubs apart except that at Oz, many of the bartenders and bouncers are rude, and the cover charge for women is higher than for guys. What decade are we in?

foodies. New American fare like seared grouper medallions with truffle-thyme butter are consistently remarkable.

The Pelican Club is a throwback to a bygone era, a good place to dress to the nines and sip cosmopolitans while checking out the ultrachic

crowd. The seafood-oriented Nouvelle Creole menu, though, speaks to '90s tastes; try the pecan-and-coconut-crusting Gulf fish with Gulf shrimp.

In the artsy Warehouse district, TV chef Emeril Lagasse's eponymous establishment captures the postmodern spirit of the neighborhood and offers New American takes on Creole



Frenchmen Street in Faubourg Marigny is lined with colorful music clubs, funky restaurants and queer-friendly lounges.

dishes—consider a corn crepe topped with Louisiana caviar, or sauteed crawfish over jambalaya cakes.

Despite a recent expansion, K-Paul's Louisiana Kitchen is still a place where waiting in line for a table is de rigeur; fans feel it's worth the

bother (and high prices) to sample the elaborately prepared and phenomenally filling fare created by portly celebrity chef Paul Prudhomme.

Most of the city's gay bars are in or near the French Quarter, within easy walking distance of the above-mentioned restaurants, and

nearly all are open 24 hours (leaving it, along with Las Vegas, one of only two major cities where such hours are common).

Many people scramble back and forth between the city's best-known two queer clubs, Oz and the Bourbon Pub/Parade Disco, which are in the

heart of the Bourbon Street action and across the street from one another. Both places consist of two levels, opposing exterior balconies that are ideal for scoping the crowds, and relatively small but wildly popular dance floors.

Stand-and-model types are the norm at both places. Little sets them apart except that at Oz, many of the

bartenders and bouncers are rude, and the cover charge for women is higher than for guys. What decade are we in?

Just down the street, Cafe Lafitte in Exile is the grandfather of gay bars—you may even spot a few grandfathers. But you'll see most every other type, too, from club kids to leather bears. Both levels are usually crowded, with more mingling around the first-floor cruise bar and a more cliquy crowd upstairs either playing pool or sitting around the bar.

Also close by, Good Friends is a casual pub that's less frenetic than its neighbors, the relatively new R.K.'s Rainbow employs dishy bartenders and draws a diverse range of ages and tastes, and MRB (Mississippi River Bottom) offers a festive courtyard and well-attended strip shows.

For drag acts, cabaret, and comedy shows, head to the Mint, which is set in one of the Quarter's most stately buildings.

The blocks above Bourbon Street, especially along Rampart Street, are characterized by trashy yet often fun

neighborhood bars—it's an area that's uniquely New Orleans in its demeanor but also a bit dicey at night, so consider heading up this way only if traveling as a group.

A favorite in this area is Rawhide 2010. If you bear in mind that it's difficult to walk into this extremely dark cruise bar and not end up in a compromising position, you'll do fine (about the only thing you won't find guys doing in the restrooms is resting).

A mostly African-American clientele patronizes Wolfendale's, which is crowded on weekends but quiet other times.

The frighteningly low-budget Corner Pocket may be the only strip bar in America where the go-go dancers must provide their own music by dropping quarters into the jukebox.

Bordering the French Quarter, the Faubourg Marigny neighborhood is home to the city's old-school dyke bar, Charlene's, which is by now a local institution.

What also began as a lesbian bar, Rubyfruit has developed into an alternative-minded mixed-gender hangout attracting hip young dykes and fags who favor its retro-lounge ambience.

You'll find some of the city's more colorful neighborhood joints in these parts. The Phoenix/Men's Room cultivates an "anything goes" mood, owing to its wound-up and wild crowd and dark touchy-feely confines.

The friendly Big Daddy's is popular with men and women; it has tall windows looking out onto the street. The Copper Top Bar is worth the trip from the Quarter for its fun beer blasts. It's also the home of the \$1 "cocksucker," which is apparently the nickname of a drink and not an employee.

No matter what time you down your last cocksucker, be sure to stagger toward the French Market to partake of the one New Orleans ritual no visitor should miss: cafe au lait and beignets (addictively delicious powdered doughnuts) at Cafe du Monde, a classic open-air hangout overlooking Jackson Square.

Andrew Collins recently authored the greatly expanded second edition of Fodor's Gay Guide to the USA, as well as six gay guides covering the West Coast, New York City, South Florida, and Amsterdam. He can be reached in care of HeatStroke or at gayfodors@aol.com



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FEAR OF BEING RECOGNIZED COMPELLED YOU TO LURK BEHIND THE CIGARETTE MACHINE...

A BEAUTIFUL GUY WAS DANCING WITHOUT HIS SHIRT. YOU FIGURED THAT GIVEN SEVERAL LIFETIMES YOU MIGHT WORK UP THE NERVE TO ASK SOMEONE OUT...

HEY! DON'T I KNOW YOU? SURE! YOU'RE IAN.. NO.. WAIT A MINUTE.. ETHAN, RIGHT? SURE IT IS! REMEMBER ME? HOWARD BURPSTONE - FROM TENTH GRADE.. HEY

WHAT A TRIP SEEING YOU HERE. WOW! WHO WOULD'VE GUESSED..

C'MON.. JUST ONE DANCE! YOU OWE YOURSELF! HEY-HOW'BOU' IF I ASK THE DJ TO PLAY SOME "RUFUS!!" TELL ME SOMETHIN' GOOD.. WA WA.. TELL ME THAT YOU LIKE IT "J WAANH-

KIR WITH LIME PLEASE

I NEED HIGHTOPS.. I NEED A LEATHER JACKET.. I NEED A NEW PHYSIQUE..

©1991 Eric Ottmar

A Couple of guys
by Dave Braverman

I GUESS YA GOT MY MESSAGE ABOUT WORKIN' LATE. HUH?

ERIC, I'M SO SORRY I HAD TO MISS YOUR OPENING NI-- WHAT'S WRONG?

OH, JOEY-SNIFF- IT WAS JUST AWFUL.

I LOST MY CONCENTRATION, AND HAD TROUBLE WITH MY LINES.

CLICK

e-mail: aploguys@aol.com

ALL MY LIFE I'VE WANTED TO ACT, BUT TONIGHT, KNOWING YOU WERENT IN THE AUDIENCE, IT JUST DIDN'T SEEM IMPORTANT.

CAN I MAKE IT UP TO YOU, ERIC?

CAN MY BROTHER ACT, OR WHAT?!

A FLAWLESS PERFORMANCE!

©1998 Dave Braverman

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel

Alison's on vacation. This is an archive episode of Dykes To Watch Out For.

FRIENDLY ADVICE

I'M GLAD YOU COULD COME OVER MO. I REALLY NEED TO TALK TO YOU... UH... WHAT WOULD YOU THINK IF I HAD AN AFFAIR WITH GINGER?

WHAT?

I'M SO ATTRACTED TO HER! I CAN'T DESCRIBE IT... IT'S LIKE... GRAVITY... FATE... DESTINY!

WHAT?!

SHE FEELS THE SAME TOWARD ME. WE TALKED ABOUT IT LAST NIGHT.

CLARICE, WHAT ABOUT TONI?

WHAT ABOUT HER? THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH MY COMMITMENT TO TONI! IN FACT, I THINK IT WOULD BE UNHEALTHY FOR OUR RELATIONSHIP IF I DIDN'T ACT ON THESE FEELINGS FOR GINGER! BESIDES, TONI'S STILL IN PUERTO RICO.

WHOA, CLARICE... CLARICE? ARE YOU IN THERE, OR HAVE YOU BEEN POSSESSED BY AN ALIEN?

MEANWHILE...

YEAH, I KNOW SHE'S INVOLVED WITH TONI. BUT I DON'T WANT TO MARRY HER, I JUST WANT TO SLEEP WITH HER!

WELL, I'VE NEVER BEEN ONE TO DISCOURAGE PEOPLE FROM FOLLOWING THEIR SEXUAL INCLINATIONS, BUT...

EXACTLY! IT WOULD BE WRONG TO REPRESS THESE FEELINGS FOR CLARICE!

LISTEN TO ME, GINGER! I SPEAK FROM EXPERIENCE. IT'S NOT A GOOD IDEA TO GET INVOLVED WITH MARRIED WOMEN!

BUT LOIS, THEY'RE NOT MONOGAMOUS! THAT'S ONE OF THE THINGS I ADMIRE ABOUT CLARICE. SHE DOESN'T JUST THEORIZE, SHE LIVES HER CONVICTIONS!

WE'RE HAVING DINNER TONIGHT. WHAT LOOK SHOULD I GO FOR? SCHOLARLY OR SEDUCTIVE?

HOW ABOUT SELF-DESTRUCTIVE?

WHAT EVENING...

I TONI! ¿QUÉEN LLAMAS POR TELÉFONO? ¿TU NOVIO?

RING! RING! RING!

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Dear Cowboy,
The 38-yr-old woman I've been seeing for the last six months hasn't had a breast exam, pap smear or any other kind of physical in nearly 20 years.
I think this is totally irresponsible and kind of scary in this day and age. I have tried to convince her to get a checkup but she doesn't like doctors and says she feels fine, so why worry?
She is self-employed and has no health care, so I even offered to pay—but she still won't budge. How can I convince her to at least get a mammogram?
Signed, Worried Woman

Dear Worried,
Isolate this gal somewhere away from the rest of the herd and see if you can't get her to open up—you need to find the real issues that keep her from seeing the Doc.
Maybe she's scared of getting bad news, which could be based on an incident in her history or having seen a family member who got a serious diagnosis. Talk it out and offer support.
Or maybe she's scared of the process itself. If that's the case, you can help locate a physician, make the appointment with her and go along as a hand-holder.

Round up a female Doc who is aware of your partner's reluctance and who will let the two of you plan the exam together, and will explain what to expect before, during and after. If the Doc isn't willing to work with you, keep looking 'till you find one who is.

Dear Cowboy,
My lover decided we needed another pet, so he brought home a kitten before we had thoroughly discussed the idea.
I told him the cat has to go. He says I'm just being mean because he picked it out without me. In a way he's right, because I kind of like it.
What do you think I should do?

We already have two dogs, a saltwater fish tank, a bird and a tortoise.
Signed, Zoo Keeper

Dear Keeper,
Sounds to me like you both have some real communication problems. Whether you have twenty critters or none at all is beside the point. You need to be sure you're both roping on the same team, and darned quick.
First, stick to your guns and get rid of the kitty. Next, get some joint counseling. It's important to make decisions that affect the household together, and if you can't express yourselves any better than you have been, I'm afraid you're facing a far bumpier trail ahead.

The 38-yr-old woman I've been seeing hasn't had a breast exam, pap smear, or any other kind of physical in nearly 20 years.

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4540 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 277-2121
- C. Tony & Maria's
Trattoria & Pizzeria
2814 N. 16th Street
Phoenix 266-7173

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Phoenix 224-9977
- 2. Amsterdam
718 North Central Ave.
Phoenix 258-6122
- 3. Apollo's
5749 N. 7th Street
Phoenix 277-9373
- 4. BS West
7125 5th Avenue
Scottsdale 945-9028
- 5. The Bunkhouse
4428 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix
- 6. Cash Inn
2140 E. McDowell
Phoenix 244-9943
- 7. Charlie's
727 W. Camelback
Phoenix 265-0224

- 8. Crowbar
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Phoenix 258-8343
- 9. Cruisin' Central
1011 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 253-3376
- 10. The Rose
44301 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix 265-3233
- 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
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Glendale 939-0528
- 14. Johnny Mc's
138 W. Camelback
Phoenix 266-0875
- 15. Marlys'
15615 Cave Creek
Phoenix 867-2463
- 16. Nasty's Sports Bar
3108 E. McDowell
Phoenix 267-8707
- 17. NuTowne
5002 E. Van Buren
Phoenix 267-9959
- 18. Paco Paco
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Phoenix 263-8424
- 19. The Park
3002 N. 24th Street
Phoenix 957-6055
- 20. Roscoe's on 7th
4531 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 285-0833
- 21. Shooterz
998 E. Indian School
Phoenix 266-5640

- 22. 307 Lounge
222 E. Roosevelt
Phoenix 252-0001
- 23. TRAX
1724 E. McDowell
Phoenix 254-0231
- 24. Waterhole
8830 N. 43rd Ave
Glendale 937-3139
- 25. Wink's
5707 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 265-9002
- 26. Yanks
4132 E. McDowell
Phoenix 275-3509

Staples

- 30. The Adult Shoppe
111 S. 24th Street
Phoenix 306-1130
- 31. The Barn Adult Shop
5021 W Indian School
Phoenix 245-3008
- 32. Book Cellar
4029 E. Washington
Phoenix 275-0015
(other Valley locations)
- 33. Castle Boutique
5501 E. Washington
Phoenix 231-9837
(3 other Valley locations)
- 34. Community Florist
4747 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 266-6648
- 35. Obelisk Books
24 West Camelback
Phoenix 266-Book
- 36. Movies on Central
4700 N. Central, #121
Phoenix 274-0994

- 37. Tuff Stuff
1714 E. McDowell Rd.
Phoenix 254-9651
- 38. StatScript Pharmacy
5501 N. 19th Ave.
Phoenix 433-1100

Tubs

- 40. Chute
1440 E. Indian School
Phoenix 234-1654
- 41. Flex
1517 S. Black Canyon
Phoenix 271-9011

Culture

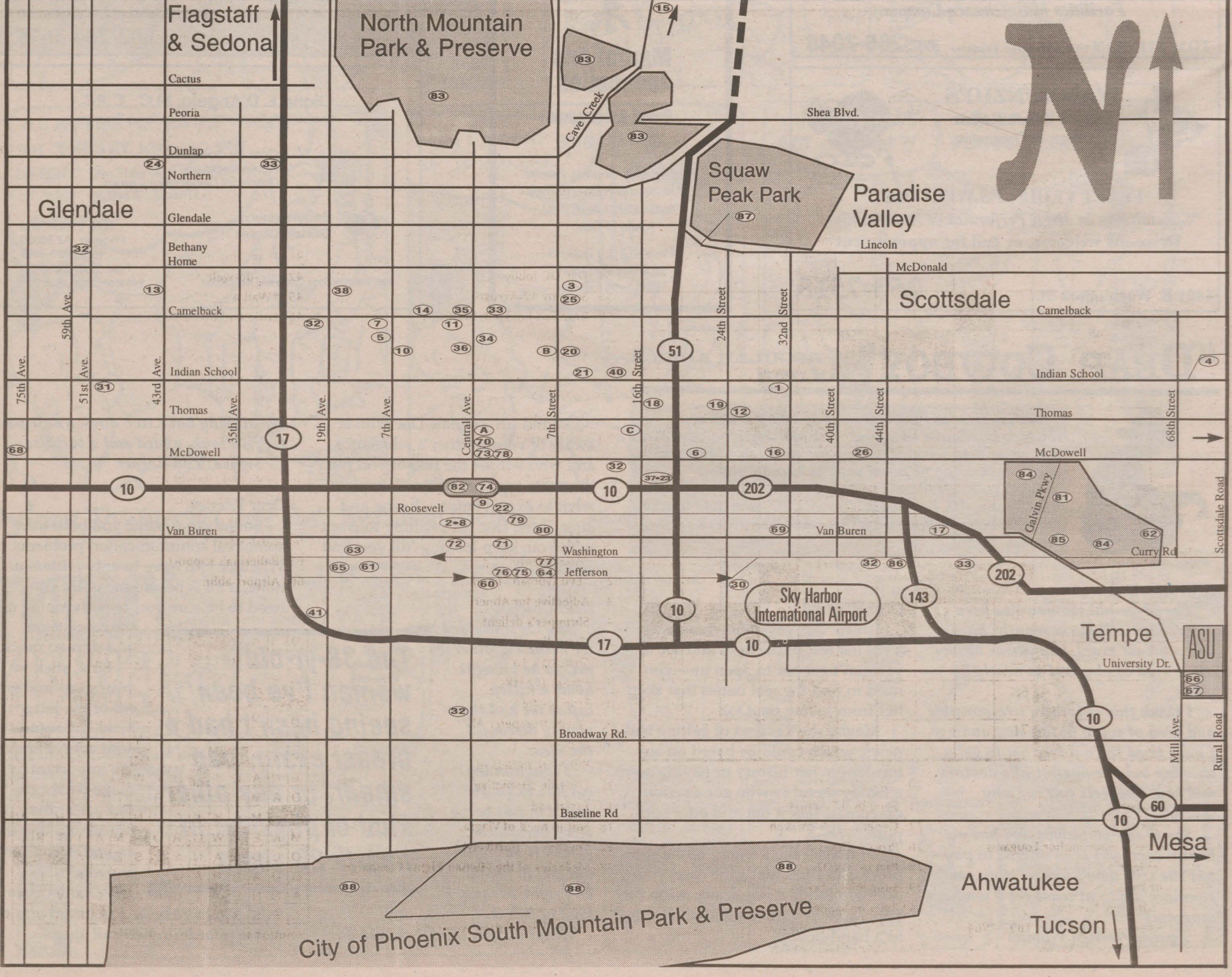
- 60. America West Arena
201 E. Jefferson
Phoenix 379-7800
- 61. AZ Hall of Fame Museum
1101 W. Washington
Phoenix 255-2110
- 62. AZ Historical Society
Museum
1300 N. College
Tempe 929-0292
- 63. AZ Mining & Mineral
Museum
1502 W. Washington
Phoenix 255-3791
- 64. AZ Science Center
600 E. Washington
Phoenix 716-2000
- 65. AZ State Capitol Museum
1700 W. Washington
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- 66. ASU Art Museum
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Mill Ave. & 10th Street
Tempe 965-2787

- 67. ASU Gammage Center
Apache & Mill Ave.
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- 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

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
10919 S. Central Ave.
Phoenix 495-0222

Finding it in Phoenix



Directory of Community Services

Aids Services

AGAPE Network
P.O. Box 32778
Phoenix, AZ 85064 234-6143

AIDS Project Arizona
111 E. Camelback
Phoenix, AZ 85012 265-2437

A Place Called Home
3431 W. Thunderbird #13-403
Phoenix, AZ 85023 942-1572

Arizona AIDS Information Line
24 W. Camelback Rd., Suite C
Phoenix, AZ 85013 234-2752

Arizona AIDS Policy Alliance
6523 N. 14th St., #112
Phoenix, AZ 85014 279-4805

AZ AIDS Services for the Deaf
111 E. Camelback
Phoenix, AZ 85012 265-9953

Aunt Rita's Foundation
5501 N. 7th Ave #215
Phoenix, AZ 85013 279-0716

Coalition of Meal Providers
992-6593

HIV Care Directions
1366 E. Thomas #105
Phoenix, AZ 85014 264-2273

Indian Community Health Serv.
1427 N. 3rd St. #100
Phoenix, AZ 85004 254-0456

Joshua Tree Feeding Program
P.O. Box 7056
Phoenix, AZ 85011 264-0223

MALTA Center
3033A N. 7th Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85013 212-0222

Maricopa County Health Dept.
1825 E. Roosevelt
Phoenix, AZ 85006 506-6900

Planned Parenthood
5651 N. 7th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85016 277-7526

Phx. Body Positive
4021 N. 30th St. #2
Phoenix, AZ 85016 955-4673

Phx. Shanti Group
2020 W. Indian School Rd. #53
Phoenix, AZ 85015 279-0008

Terros, Inc.
320 E. Virginia Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85004 234-8900

Volunteers in Direct Aid
P.O. Box 40476
Phoenix, AZ 85067 279-8432

Wellness Center
1840 W. Maryland, Suite E
Phoenix, AZ 85016 864-0710

Political Action & Education

American Civil Liberties Union
P.O. Box 17148
Phoenix, AZ 85011 650-1967

Arizona Central Pride
P.O. Box 26139
Tempe, AZ 85285 279-1771

Arizona Human Rights Fund
P.O. Box 25044
Phoenix, AZ 85002 530-1660

Arizonans for Fairness
P.O. Box 34766
Phoenix, AZ 85067 265-7283

AZ Democratic Party Gay & Lesbian Caucus
Rolando Betancourt, Coordin.
2005 N. Central #180
Phoenix, AZ 85004 257-9136

Feminist Lesbian Activist Coalition
P.O. Box 26031
Tempe, AZ 85285 966-4521

Lesbian & Gay Public Awareness Project
P.O. Box 60881
Phoenix, AZ 85082 351-3080

Social & Support Groups

Alpha Zeta—Crossdressers Supp
A Rose—Transgender Support
PO Box 1738
Tempe, AZ 85280 488-0959

APEX-AZ Power Exchange
apex@xroads.com 415-1123

Arizona 2-somes 678-4568

Arizona Nude Dudes
P.O. Box 32776
Phoenix, AZ 85064

Bears of the Arizona Desert
4133 E. Campbell Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85018 345-8755

Copperstate Leathermen
P.O. Box 40472
Phoenix, AZ 85067

Delta Lambda Phi - Phoenix
903 S. Rural Rd., Suite 101-317
Tempe, AZ 85281 248-5270

Desert Adventures
P.O. Box 2008
Phoenix, AZ 85001 266-2267

Entre Nosotros
546 E. Osborn, #22
Phoenix 85012 285-0970

Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America
Phoenix
864-6092; pglbva@aol.com

Girth and Mirth of AZ
P.O. Box 16605
Phoenix, AZ 85011 655-8229

The Leatherlords 254-9651

Lesbian & Gay Alanon
2622 N. 16th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85006 548-0936

Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays
P.O. Box 37525
Phoenix, AZ 85069 843-1404

The Phoenix Bears
PO Box 9627
Tempe, AZ 85068 216-8000

Project LifeGuard Project Q TRIBE
4700 N. Central, #204
Phoenix, AZ 85012 266-7233

The Community Center and Youth Services 265-7283

Lesbian & Gay Community Switchboard 234-2752

24 W. Camelback Rd., Suite C
PO Box 33367
Phoenix, AZ 85067-3367

Professional Organizations

Camelback Business & Professional Association
P.O. Box 2097
Phoenix, AZ 85001 225-8444

Religious & Spiritual Organizations

Affirmation (Gay Mormons)
P.O. Box 26601
Tempe, AZ 85285

Asbury United Methodist Church
1601W Indian School
Phoenix, AZ 85015 279-2369

AVIV of Arizona
4704 E. Paradise Village Pkwy N. #314
Phoenix, AZ 85032 996-8622

Casa De Cristo
1029 E. Tumey
Phoenix, AZ 85014 265-2831

Community Church of Hope
4400 N. Central
Phoenix, AZ 85014 234-2180

Dignity and Integrity
P.O. Box 60953
Phoenix, AZ 85082 222-8664

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

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

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

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

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

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

Music, Sports & Hobbies

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

Cactus Cities Softball League
PO Box 45101
Phoenix, AZ 85064 241-9224

Charlie's Renegades
P.O. Box 17602
Phoenix, AZ 85011 277-9142

Desert Adventures
PO Box 2008
Phoenix, AZ 85001 266-CAMP

Desert Valley Squares
P.O. Box 34615
Phoenix, AZ 85067 248-0048

Gay League Association of Darts
P.O. Box 63251
Phoenix, AZ 85082

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

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

Phoenix Unified Gay Bowling Alliance (PUGBA) 503-0974

Spartan Wrestling Club-340-8070
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'ny Band
Jayne: 947-0907; Terry: 954-9244

Q Puzzle

"Anything Goes"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15					16				
17			18						19				
		20				21			22				
23	24	25		26		27			28				
29			30			31	32	33			34		
35						36							
	37					38			39	40	41	42	
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46	47	48		49					50				
51			52					53			54		
55					56	57	58		59		60		
61					62			63			64	65	66
67					68					69			
70					71					72			

ACROSS

- 1 ___-stimulation
- 5 Blues singer Bessie
- 10 *Breaking the Surface* author Louganis
- 14 Nastase of tennis
- 15 Matisse of Paris
- 16 Clinton's Attorney General
- 17 Prolific American songwriter, 1893-1964
- 19 *And the Band Played On* star

DOWN

- 20 "Mazel ___!"
- 21 Song by 17-Across
- 23 General ___'s chicken
- 26 Private dick
- 28 Part of AWOL
- 29 Song by 17-Across
- 34 Ruby or Sandra
- 35 A Disney cross-dresser
- 36 Locale of Little Beach

- 37 Song by 17-Across
- 43 First fratricide victim
- 44 Hall's singing partner
- 46 Catchword in a B&D session
- 49 With "The," musical featuring 17-Across's "Night and Day"
- 51 Make a VCR error, perhaps
- 53 Bear's hangout
- 54 Gay DC lobby
- 55 Song by 17-Across
- 59 Brazilian hot spot, briefly
- 61 Ballerina Pavlova
- 62 Musical by 17-Across
- 67 Adjective for Clark Kent
- 68 Early video-game name
- 69 Stonewall event
- 70 Singer Arnold
- 71 "Always True to ___ My Fashion" (song from 62-Across)
- 72 Length x width

DOWN

- 1 "Attack, Fido!"
- 2 "Evil Woman" band
- 3 Adjective for Abner
- 4 Shrimper's delight
- 5 Gravedigger's need
- 6 Debussy's La ___
- 7 Part of IGLHRC
- 8 Fruit locale
- 9 "Java" trumpeter Al
- 10 D or F
- 11 Put more bullets in
- 12 Escarole alternative
- 13 Facial Fad
- 18 Not in need of Viagra
- 22 On the ___ (furtively)
- 23 McFeeley of the Human Rights Campaign Fund
- 24 Macho man
- 25 Where Dick Button won gold
- 27 Obtain

- 30 *Frazier's* Butler
- 31 Equipped with a wind indicator
- 32 Greek geometrician or Ohio city
- 33 It may be little and white
- 38 TWA overseer
- 39 Member of the Unification Church
- 40 Pencil holder?
- 41 It accompanies crabs
- 42 ___-do-well
- 45 "Wait a ___!"
- 46 Ernie and Bert's street
- 47 Took care of a pressing need?
- 48 Came down in buckets
- 49 Hair hardener
- 50 Exterminator's target
- 52 Like Medusa's hair
- 56 Authorize
- 57 *The Celluloid Closet* author Russo
- 58 Biblical birthright barterer
- 60 Gumbo vegetable
- 63 ___ Lanka
- 64 Earth enveloper
- 65 Ballerina's support
- 66 Airport abbr.

D	R	A	W		M	A	S	K		I	S	N	T		
O	U	G	H	T		E	L	I	A		S	T	I	R	
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R	I	M	E	D		R	O	U	E		B	Y	E		
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L	E	S	S		E	D	E	N		S	A	D	E		

Solution to last issue's Q Puzzle: "The Pretenders"

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H O R O S C O P E S

By Deane Jaye, HeatStroke contributor

Virgo (August 21 - September 20)

You feel like a perky little white birch, trying to hold your own and look special among a huge stand of massive pines. Guess what? It's working—we can all see both you and that white trunked tree from a long way off. You're making your points and earning your keep all over the place as the month progresses, so congratulate yourself for as long as you need to, then move on to the next problem. A social event on or near the 31st will open your eyes.

Libra (September 21 - October 20)

Patch up old clothes and old relationships as the cycle closes and your sign enters another phase. A cleansing attitude and reflective tone will take you far. Allow your sense of humor to bloom and the roughness of an uncomfortable situation will fall by the way-side. Strenuous exercise is a bad idea until after the 9th, and travel is not advised. Show a partner how responsive you can be and your creative ideas may come to fruition.

Scorpio (October 21 - November 20)

"Where's everybody goin'?" asked a pills-and-booze laden Miss Midler at the end of *The Rose*, right before she keeled over and died. That's the question burning into your Scorpion mind these days and, even though it isn't very likely you'll get an Oscar nomination for it, you'll do your darndest to put your curiosity on the line and ask the unanswerable, anyway. Look to a Cancer family member to soothe wounds incurred after the 7th.

Sagittarius (November 21 - December 20)

It's a good time to settle old arguments and make peace with family members or estranged mentors who've fallen out of view. Humble yourself if need be, and get a handle on your thoughts before proceeding. You'll know what to say and do when the moment arrives. Try not to dwell on the negative when your mood darkens around the 29th. Travel overland for a new way of seeing, and drink in whatever view the terrain has to offer.

Capricorn (December 21 - January 20)

Toot-tootle-ooo! Charge! You are Prince Valiant on his white horse, Popeye after downing a case of spinach, Clark Kent dashing out of phone booth as the caped crusader—or is that Batman? Anyway, you get the superhero idea. Withhold judgment for now. Everyone is looking up to you and praising your efforts to save the world. Bask in their thanks and don't ruin it until after the 6th, when you won't even be able to save yourself.

Aquarius (January 21 - February 20)

Your positive outlook will become the focus of other inquiring minds, and your innate cheeriness may even inspire a little jealousy in coming weeks. Keep things uncomplicated and honest when dealing with a new relationship, from the food and wine selection right down to the conversation. Take advantage of the moment and let yourself go. Things will almost surely go your way if you try harder to listen and less to impress.

Pisces (February 21 - March 20)

Do make an effort not to pick out the foibles and imperfections of others when it's really yourself you are unhappy with as the month begins. A new way of looking at old problems isn't the answer—you may need to enlist the help of a sympathetic pal who knows a few of your deeper secrets in order to work things out completely. An energetic period after the 3rd could put you in a better frame of mind. Let the waters flow.

Aries (March 21 - April 20)

Mary Ann was always getting mad at Ginger because The Movie Star never swept her half of the hut. Like that glamorous castaway, you rams generally assume that the tinier details of a project don't fall within the realm of your responsibility. Listen up; there are certain things that only you can handle and your concerns and attentions will pay off even when there's no sign of rescue. Avoid stimulants around the 6th—you'll be wound up enough.

Taurus (April 21 - May 20)

Dominance is the watchword for you bulls this month when all your sacrifices, stresses and strains go unappreciated. You'll find yourself pulling out the stops (did I say straps?) and taking over. You know best how it should be done—so plunge in and do it. Don't tie your helpmate's bonds too tightly, though, or you'll risk losing an ally. The influence of Venus' rule will be felt all the way down to your toes when romance blooms after the 1st.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

Your Mercurial instincts are pointing to the logic of it all and nothing seems impossible when you've got the facts on your side. The ignorance-is-bliss attitude you've been cultivating of late won't hold up much longer now that your mate, friend or lover is onto the game. Exploring your most sensual fantasies becomes almost a necessity after the 8th, when one who is normally timid takes the lead. An inquisitive Aquarian has a secret to share.

Cancer (June 21 - July 20)

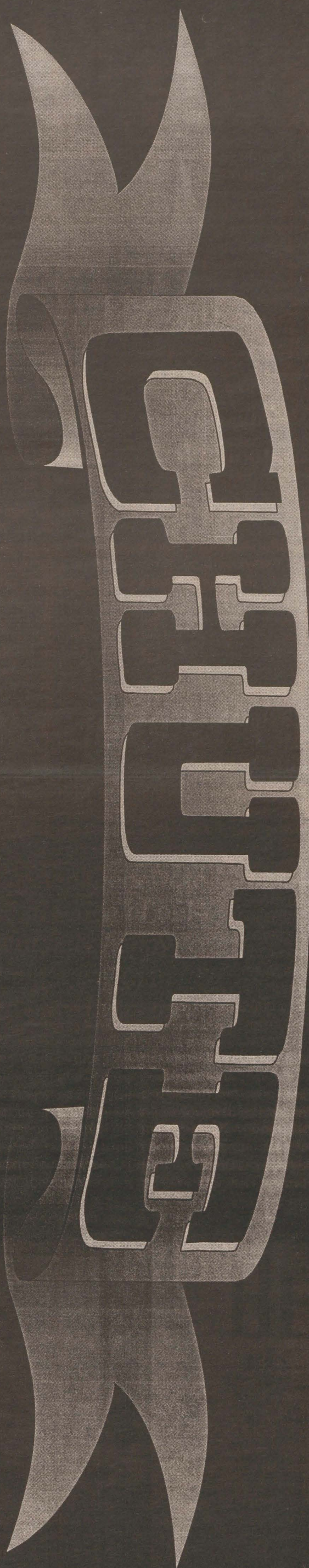
The clothes may make the man but you Cancers tend to go for comfort rather than convention when selecting those ensembles—even when the occasion warrants a little extra dolling-up. During a soiree coming your way over the weekend of the 5th, the focus may be on your appearance even more than you know, so a little attention to detail (like cut, color and season) could pay off. Wear it well—remember, getting noticed is not a bad thing.

Leo (July 21 - August 20)

Stress-related difficulties and a general lack of focus may leave you Leonine warriors feeling pooped, unpampered and just plain old hungry. You're looking to satisfy a number of appetites with as little effort as possible but you can't expect to be fully sated when you play that way. Luxuriate in your solitude after the 3rd and answers may come more easily. Beware a knock on the door that includes a travel invitation.

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GLAAD Alert

A View From the Other Side of the Closet Door

The premise of *San Jose Mercury News* staff writer Melinda Sacks' story was simple: when one spouse "comes out," the impact on his or her partner can be intense and traumatic.

Sacks quotes a man identified as Edward, 47, a computer consultant, as saying, "The people who come out of the closet feel liberated. The people who are left behind feel devastated. From the straight spouse's point of view, we're the ones left in the closet."

The writer interweaves individuals' personal stories with perspectives from psychologists and others.

She quotes Nan Breedlove, 54, a Walnut Creek mother of three daughters, as explaining, "Coming out to my husband was horribly painful. You make a huge change in your life and you hurt people you love. But for me, it was increasingly a matter of survival."

Citing the federal census and other statistics, Sacks writes, "Researchers estimate that more than 2 million heterosexual Americans either have lived or currently live with a gay, lesbian or bisexual spouse."

Sacks explores the impact on such spouses when their partners come out—including the little-published statistic that one in three of such couples decide to try to stay together. The article says psychologist Amity Pierce

Buxton found that "straight spouses often hid their situation from other family members and friends."

The writer also cites psychologist Pat Sherman as saying that children in such families often cope better than the straight spouses. Sacks concludes by recounting the difficulty some spouses have encountered finding support groups or other individuals in similar situations—then attaches a list of such organizations, including contact information.

This topic easily could have been allowed to veer into suggestions of homophobia; appearing critical of lgbt individuals who acknowledge their sexual orientation. Instead, Sacks presents a finely balanced, sensitive and comprehensive examination of a seldom-reported—but widely experienced—situation. She succeeds in conveying both that for many spouses, coming out is a matter of survival, and that for many of their heterosexual partners, it causes intense pain.

Contact: David Yarnold, Managing Editor, *San Jose Mercury News*, 750 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, CA 95190-0001, fax: 408.288.8060, e-mail: letters@sjmercury.com

Lesbian Lives on ABC.com

An Aug. 9 report on ABCNEWS.com, the online news branch of ABC News, includes an advice column by financial advisor Adriane G. Berg. Her subjects: Carol and Laura, a lesbian couple living in Dallas. The headline reads, "Financial Makeover: Partners for Life."

Berg wrote, "Carol is 50 years old. She considers her relationship with Laura a marriage partnership, and she wants them to have the same financial rights as legally married couples."

Carol listed these as among her financial goals: "To be able to retire at 65 to 70 and not have to depend on my children. To find a way to make as much as possible from what we can invest. As a lesbian couple, we need to protect ourselves in areas heterosexual couples are protected by law."

Berg began her advice to the pair by stating, "That the couple in that bedroom is lesbian makes no difference." She recapped several financial planning mainstays for gay couples, such as executing mutual powers of attorney.

Then she added, "They can adopt! Yes, it is perfectly legal for Carol to adopt Laura, making her an inheritress, family member and beneficiary by law, as well as final arbiter of her health care decisions."

Although the law deprives gay couples of standing to marry, it allows them to make a legal commitment to family through adult adoption."

Berg's column acknowledged that the two women are partners and plan to remain so. The financial advisor's recommendations proceeded from the assumption that the women wished, where it possible, to obtain the legal privileges of marriage.


While not intended to be encyclopedic, Berg's advice provided same-gender couples a rich introduction to the many financial planning options now available to them.

This is almost a textbook example of the most sophisticated type of news coverage. It includes lgbt persons in a story not specifically about an lgbt issue.

Please thank ABCNEWS.com for this matter-of-fact recognition that same-gender couples have relationships as valid and as potentially long-lasting as do their heterosexual counterparts—and that they share similar concerns, including the achievement of financial security.

Contact: ABC News, 47 W. 66th St., NY, NY 10023, feedback form: http://www.abcnews.com/service/bc_contactus.html

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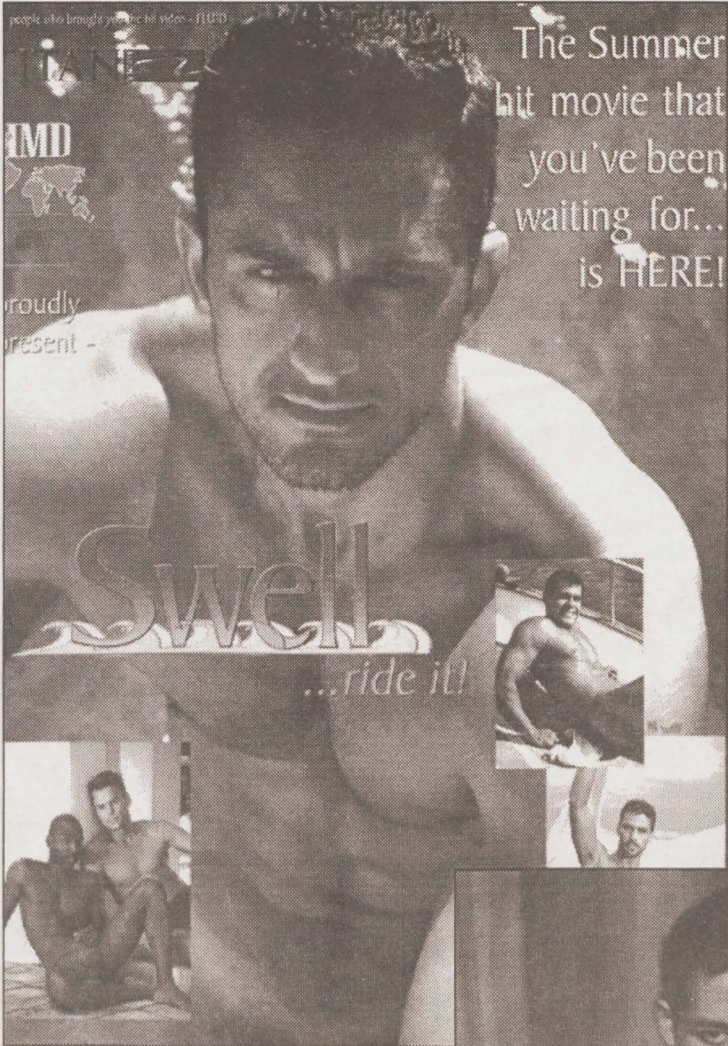
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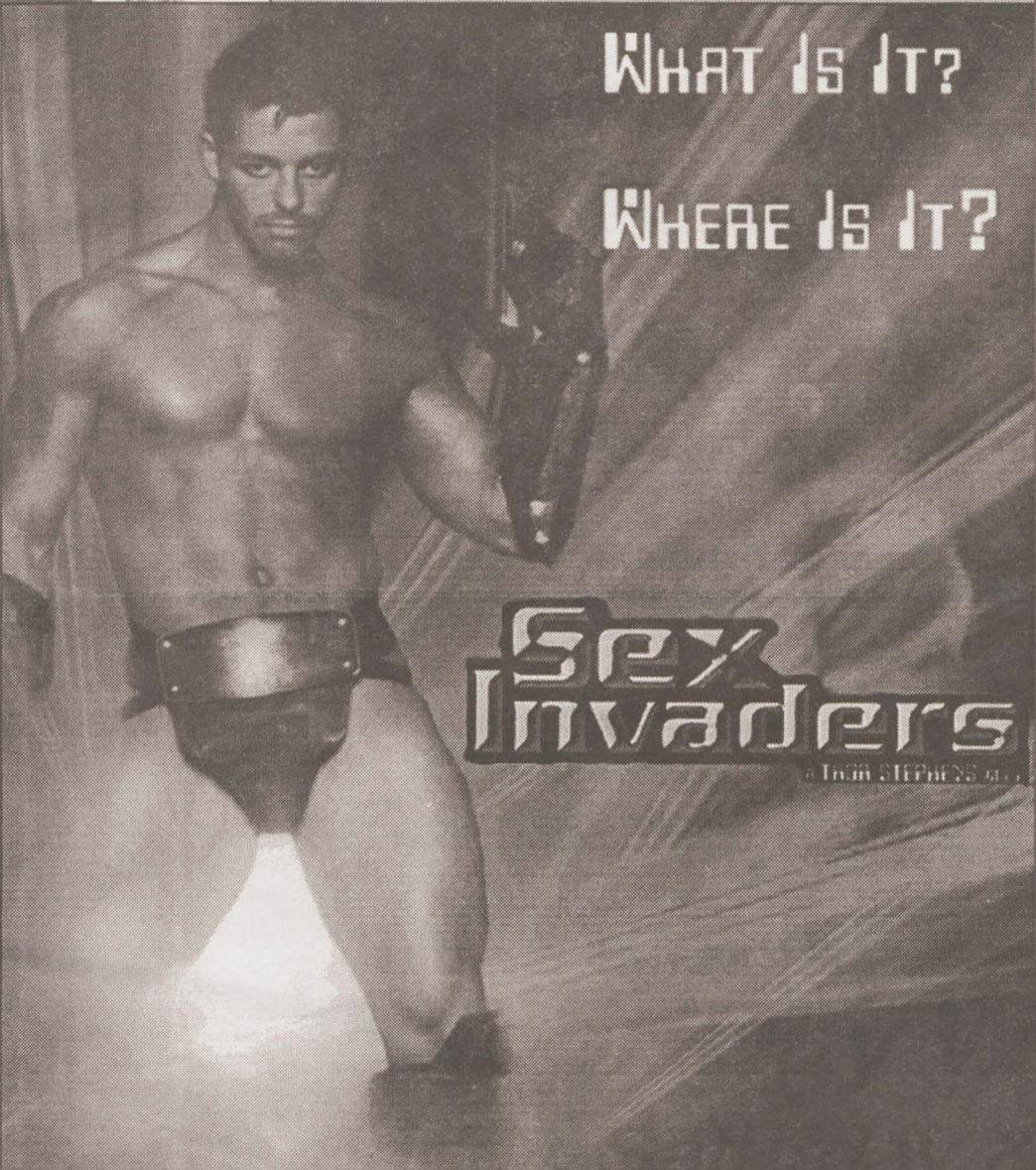
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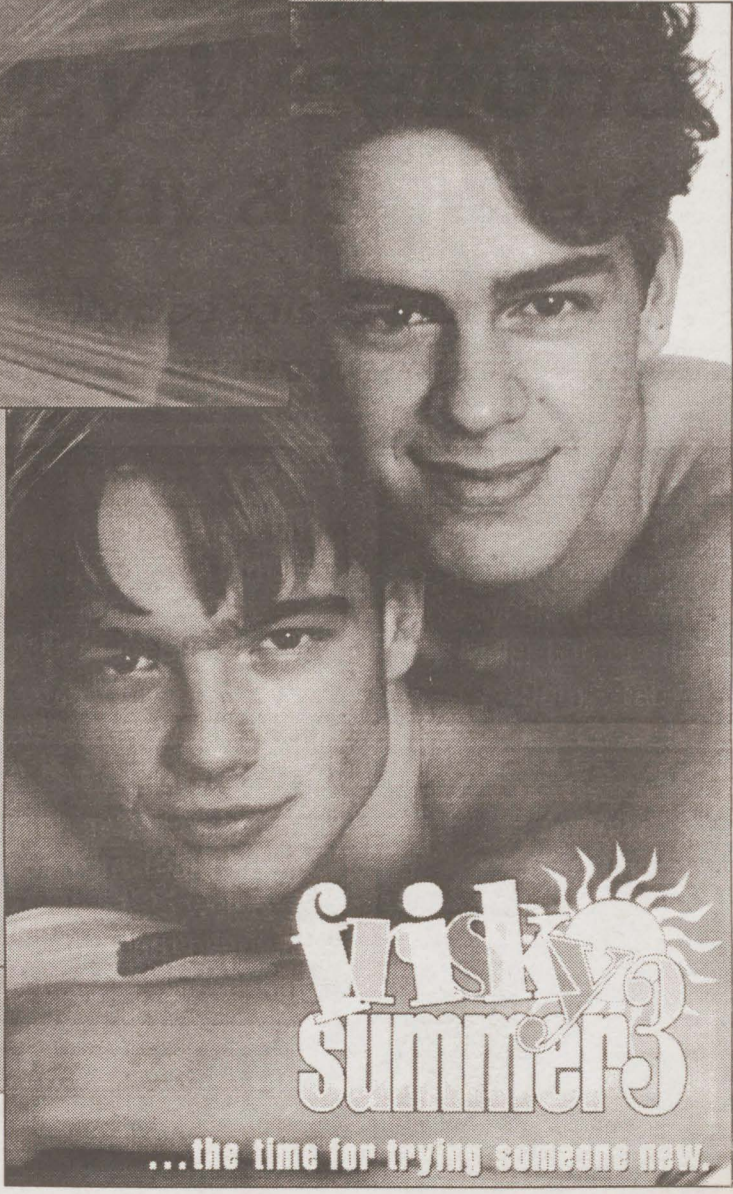
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- 3420 S. Central Avenue

Other Locations

- 2103 W. Camelback Road
- 402 W. Hatcher
- 1421 E. McDowell
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