

HeatStroke

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Supermodel W of the (Phoenix) WORLD

RuPaul talks about God, politics & the new TV movie he's been filming in the Valley—as a boy.

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

"Hi. My name is RuPaul. Cowboy supermodel of the world!"

It's a sunny Sunday morning in February. Swathed in denim, the Stetson-topped actor-cum-diva commandeers a microphone and steps behind a movie-prop podium to thank the 400 volunteer extras assembled on the Arizona Capitol plaza.

"Everybody say love," he urges in his trademark style, and everybody does. The man who wove the phrase "you better work," into '90s pop vernacular proves that—in or out of a wig and heels—he damned well knows how to work a crowd.

The wildly cheering non actors, most representing a variety of Phoenix-area gay and lesbian groups, have been invited onto the set to fill in the background of a climactic Pride Rally scene for the gay-themed TV movie, *Jane's Coming Out Party*.

The Lifetime Original movie explores a lesbian teenager's coming-out process. It is being filmed entirely in Phoenix this month to air sometime in August. Stockard Channing stars as the girl's mother, with James Naughton as dad and newcomer Ellen Muth as Jane.

RuPaul costars as Jimmy, a gay friend of the family who helps guide Channing's character through her crisis of conscience.

Playing Jimmy gives the entertainer another opportunity to act in his goatee and blue jeans, revealing more of what he labels his "male drag" side. It's a role created specifically for RuPaul by the movie's writer and director, Lee Rose, with whom he's worked in other TV films.

He is best known as the towering goddess with the hit singles, but there are many other facets to the still-unfolding career of RuPaul Andre Charles. To that end—and heeding his own advice—he has been working. A lot.

He's just back from the Sundance Film Festival, where two new movies in which he has roles were screened. He did the male-drag thing as Mike in *But I'm a Cheerleader*, a satirical look at ex-gays starring Natasha Lyonne. He also narrated the indie documentary, *The Eyes of Tammy Faye*, one of this year's festival highlights. He has more TV and film projects lined up throughout the spring.

On the musical front, he recently went into the studio to record a duet with Hip Hop artist L'il Kim. He's also putting together a new club act and will start touring this summer. He says he'd love to play Phoenix again if he can find the right venue to host his act.

As chronicled in his 1995 autobiography, *Lettin' It All Hang Out*, RuPaul was raised in San Diego in the '60s with three sisters. His Dad moved out when RuRu, as he was called, was seven. His mom was subject to manic mood swings and often doped up on shrink-prescribed Librium.

Freckled and effeminate, little Ru coped with poverty and an innate sense of being an outsider by smoking pot and by dreaming of stardom while mooning over the likes of Diana Ross on TV. In his late teens, he relocated to Atlanta with an older sister. There he helped sell used cars, attended a performing arts high school, and later foisted himself upon a



local sketch-comedy troupe that had its own variety show on Public Access.

From Atlanta, RuPaul moved to New York. He fast became a hard-core party-boy and a fixture on the city's club scene. He worked as a radio deejay and a gogo-box dancer in the '80s, while honing his performance skills and fashion flair. He experimented with a number of alternative looks before settling upon the fabulous blonde RuPaul Supermodel persona we know today.

It's an alter-ego for which he's recognized worldwide, mainly on the strength of the best-selling dance single *Supermodel: You Better Work (Bitch)*. His diva image has been bolstered further by his follow-up hits, including a duet with Elton John; several drag film roles and TV appearances; and a balls-to-the-wall talk show he hosted for three seasons on VH-1.

A few days prior to filming the rally at the Capitol, a more laid-back Ru settled down to chat with *HeatStroke* on a more subdued *Jane's Coming Out Party* location. This time, a backyard barbecue scene was

being shot at a residence in Phoenix's Encanto district. The house and grounds have been temporarily overtaken by Rose and her L.A.-based crew.

Himself a recent transplant to L.A., RuPaul has had a long and warm association with Rose. He is thrilled to be included in a project that was written by an out lesbian and that carries a gay-positive message.

His days of alcohol and chemical overindulgence a thing of the past, RuPaul chain smoked and stretched out on the dense lawn between takes. Not as tall in person as one might imagine and far better looking as a man than his publicity pictures often project, the super-entertainer talked about the movie, gay politics, and his future career plans—or the lack thereof.

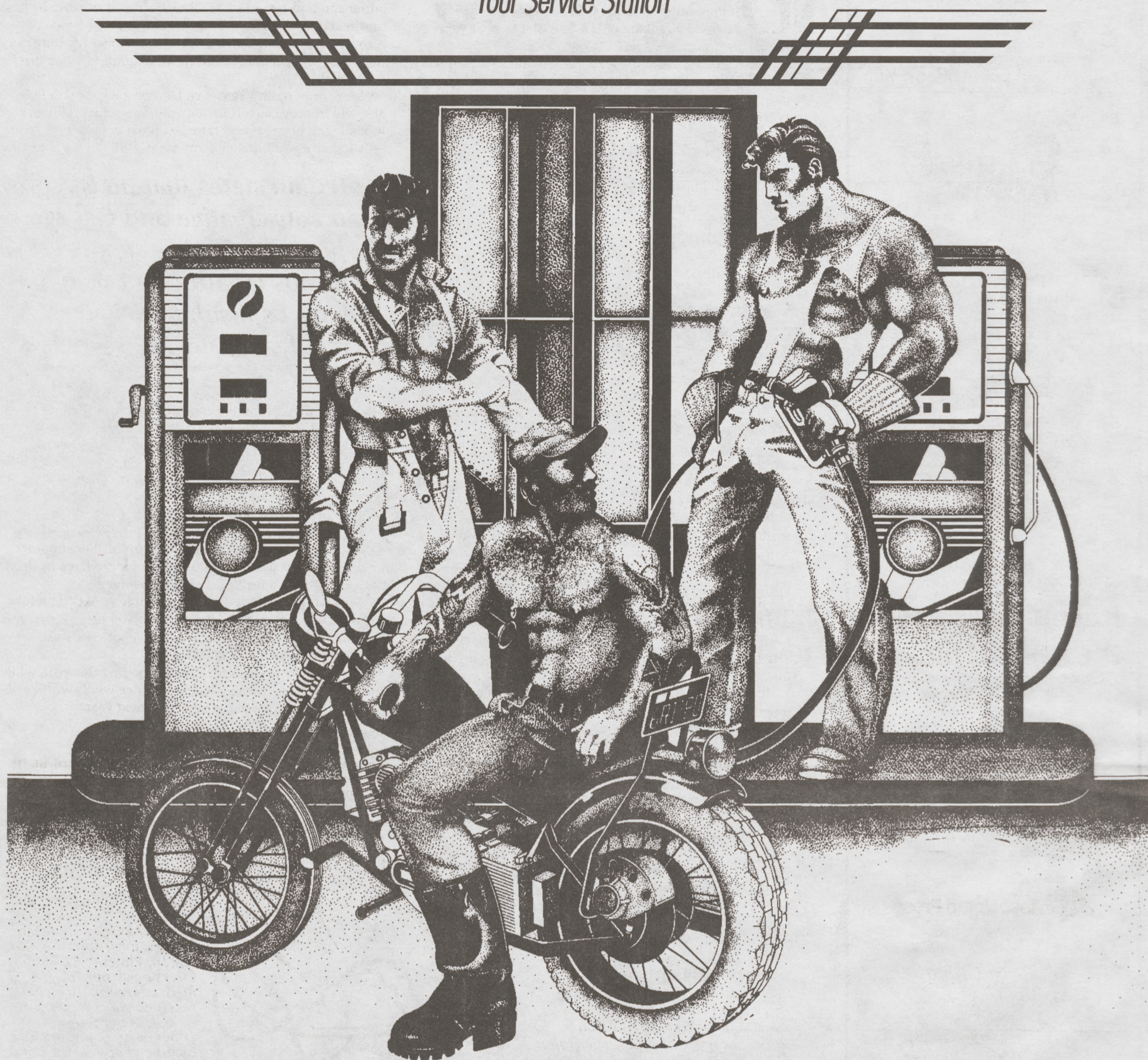
HeatStroke: What particularly appealed to you about the script for *Jane's Coming Out Party*?

RuPaul: Oh, Gee. I mean, it's like every kid out there needs to see this movie. And I was honored just to be asked to do it. It's a

See "RuPaul," page 16

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Horowitz:

His real legacy

On Presidents' Day, the C-SPAN cable network released a ranking of U.S. Presidents by 58 presidential historians.

The historians rated presidential performance based on a ten-point scale in ten categories. The categories included crisis leadership, economic management, public persuasion, international relations, administrative skills, relations with Congress, moral authority, vision/agenda setting, pursuit of equal justice for all and performance within the context of each president's times.

Abraham Lincoln, Franklin Roosevelt and George Washington topped the list. Franklin Pierce, Andrew Johnson and James Buchanan brought up the rear.

Of the modern presidents, John Kennedy ranked eighth, Lyndon Johnson tenth, Ronald Reagan eleventh, George Bush twentieth, Bill Clinton twenty-first, Jimmy Carter twenty-second, Gerald Ford twenty-third, and Richard Nixon twenty-fifth.

The modern presidents—with the exception of Clinton—all ranked higher than in previous academic surveys. Richard Nixon moved from his place at the bottom of many previous lists to well into the middle range on this one.

Clinton's legacy will also improve with time. History will show that he did far more good for this country than his detractors will give him credit for. Time will also diminish the significance of his extra-marital activities.

How sad that Reagan and Bush far outdistance Clinton's scores in the category of moral authority, where Clinton ranks at the bottom of the list.

The morality of idly watching legions of Americans die from AIDS with no national leadership response remains questionable at best. Under Reagan/Bush, racial tension and hate crimes couldn't find their way into the conservative political agenda. Addressing issues like poverty, health care and education didn't rank high among Reagan/Bush priorities.

It's clear that the historians who were polled equate moral authority with religious teaching even though, by the grace of God, the framers of our constitution chose to grant us freedom of and from religion.

Abraham Lincoln ranks deservedly high because he embraced rights and liberties for all Americans—or for more Americans than any president had previously dared.

Thankfully, Bill Clinton will not be helping the United States to emerge from civil war or an economic depression. Our lives have been relatively safe and prosperous during his administration. However, the era over which Clinton presides will ultimately become the human-rights equivalent of the civil war and the civil rights movement of the 1960s.

I suspect that in addition to the moral authority category, Clinton scored low in the areas of relations with Congress, international relations and crisis leadership.

I, for one, can't tell you how grateful I am that Clinton did not get along with a Congress led and often dominated by right-wing religious zealots who are out to impose their version of morality on

the rest of us. Fortunately, the number of crises during his administration remains low. Perhaps this is because he has presided over the largest and longest domestic economic recovery our nation has known. His personal-life imperfections are really all his enemies have to point to when disparaging his name.

More importantly, however, Clinton's legacy will live on and will improve as our nation embraces equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people.

Clinton will ultimately score very highly in the categories

As John McCain states that he is a pro-life Reagan conservative and George W. Bush shores up further support among religious fanatics that would prefer to have us dead, may Bill Clinton's real legacy begin to emerge.

of performance within the context of his times, vision setting, and PURSUIT OF EQUAL JUSTICE FOR ALL.

Years from now, as Bill Clinton ages, I hope we will not allow the country to forget that he was the first president to include all Americans in his grand vision. There will be more presidential candidates and presidents that will follow his courageous lead, but he was the first.

As John McCain states that he is a pro-life Reagan conservative and George W. Bush shores up further support among religious fanatics that would prefer to have us dead, may Bill Clinton's real legacy begin to emerge.

May women, racial, sexual and ethnic minorities refuse to go back to a more unfriendly time. And let's all remember that that unfriendly time was only eight years ago—when another Bush was president.

I was happy to celebrate Presidents' Day this year, while the United States has a president in office who's worth celebrating. I only hope the same is true next year.

David Horowitz is a Phoenix attorney and equal rights activist. He can be reached in care of HeatStroke or via e-mail at DashingDav@aol.com.

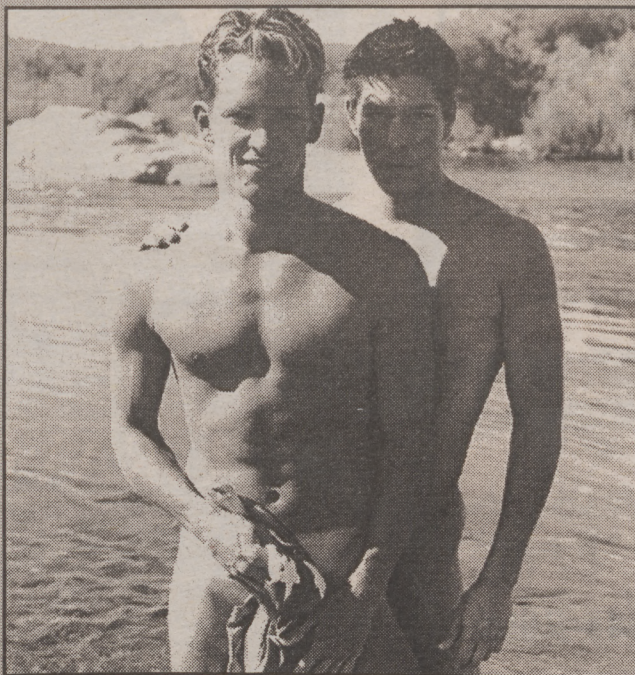


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Deb Price

Finding ways to minimize disruption— Pray for gay-friendly progress in our churches

Like a rare alignment of planets, three influential Protestant denominations that haven't met in the same year since 1988 will hold their conventions within weeks of one another this spring and summer.

The United Methodist Church, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Episcopal Church will be watching each other as they wrestle with persistent, growing demands to fully integrate openly gay individuals and couples into the life and work of the church. Although the clergy and lay people pushing their denominations forward aren't forecasting huge breakthroughs this year, they have faith that profound change is just over the horizon.

"Ultimately, the church is going to have to move to be faithful to itself," predicts Presbyterian elder Mitzi Henderson, co-moderator of More Light Presbyterians, a network of gay-friendly congregations.

By any measure, the Episcopal Church is far ahead of the Methodists and Presbyterians in exorcising anti-gay prejudice from its policies and practices. The question for Episcopal bishops and deputies is whether they will show leadership again this year by, for example, standardizing gay holy union ceremonies.

The Methodist general conference, meanwhile, will be a test of whether a full-scale civil war will break out over punishment of gay-friendly ministers. In the middle, Presbyterians must decide whether to keep stalling or squarely face the gay issues confronting them.

Here's a primer on what's ahead:

- Methodists: Set to meet May 2-12 in Cleveland, the nation's second-largest Protestant group calls homosexuality incompatible with Christian teaching and bars gay ministers. Four years ago, at its last conference, the 8.4 million-member denomination forbade ministers to conduct holy unions. Last year, it defrocked one minister and suspended another for violating that ban. Another 92 ministers blessed a California lesbian couple last year.

The gay-friendly Reconciling Congregation Program, which includes 14,500 Methodists, is feverishly attempting to educate conference delegates about the human costs of anti-gay rules. The Cleveland conference center is to be encircled by 2,000 Reconciling Methodists bearing witness to "God's

inclusive love."

Looking beyond 2000, Reconciling director Marilyn Alexander says, "We are so close to being able to get the church changed." She hopes the holy union ban will be relaxed this year.

- Presbyterians: When delegates of the 2.6 million-member group gather June 24 to July 1 in Long Beach, Calif., they will wade into a hot controversy some have tried to ignore. Quite a few churches are in open rebellion against a 1997 rule requiring fidelity in marriage and chastity in singleness—a rule taken to ban sexually active gay people from the ministry and church offices. One proposal would repeal that rule. Another would ban holy unions. And a "take-a-hike" initiative encourages progressives

By any measure, the Episcopal Church is far ahead of the Methodists and Presbyterians in exorcising anti-gay prejudice from its policies and practices. The question for Episcopal bishops and deputies is whether they will show leadership again this year by, for example, standardizing gay holy union ceremonies.

to leave.

"There's a lot of discussion over whether the denomination will split. And, basically, the gay and lesbian folks and their supporters are saying, 'We're not leaving,'" says Henderson, who has a gay son.

- Episcopalians: At its last convention, in 1997, the 2.4 million-member group, which has openly gay priests and allows holy union services, apologized for its historic mistreatment of gay people. It also authorized partner benefits for gay clergy and other church employees. A hot topic at the July 5-14 convention in Denver may be the call by Vermont Bishop Mary Adelia McLeod for the church to support legalizing same-sex marriage.

Louie Crew, who founded gay-friendly Integrity in 1974, credits Episcopal advances to the fact that for decades bishops have been "learning to live with the gay and lesbian people in their midst. And we've had gay priests coming out all over the place."

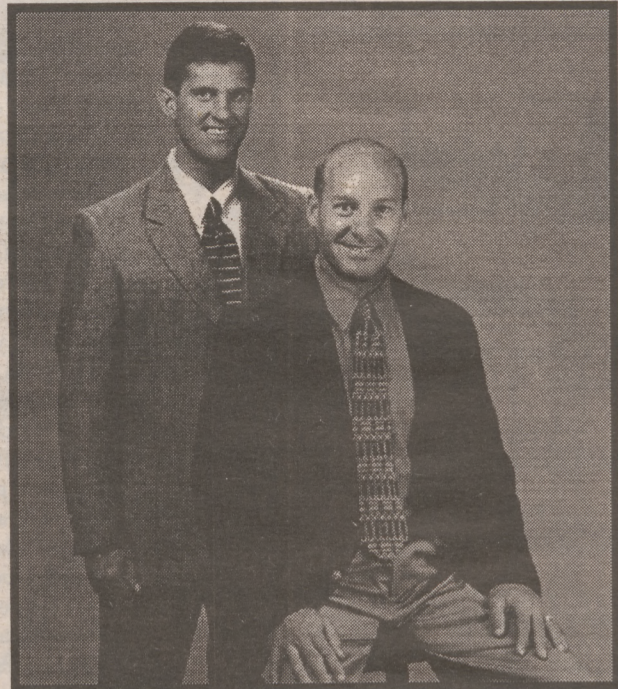
The religious conventions' agendas are just beginning to take shape, but it's never too early to pray for progress.

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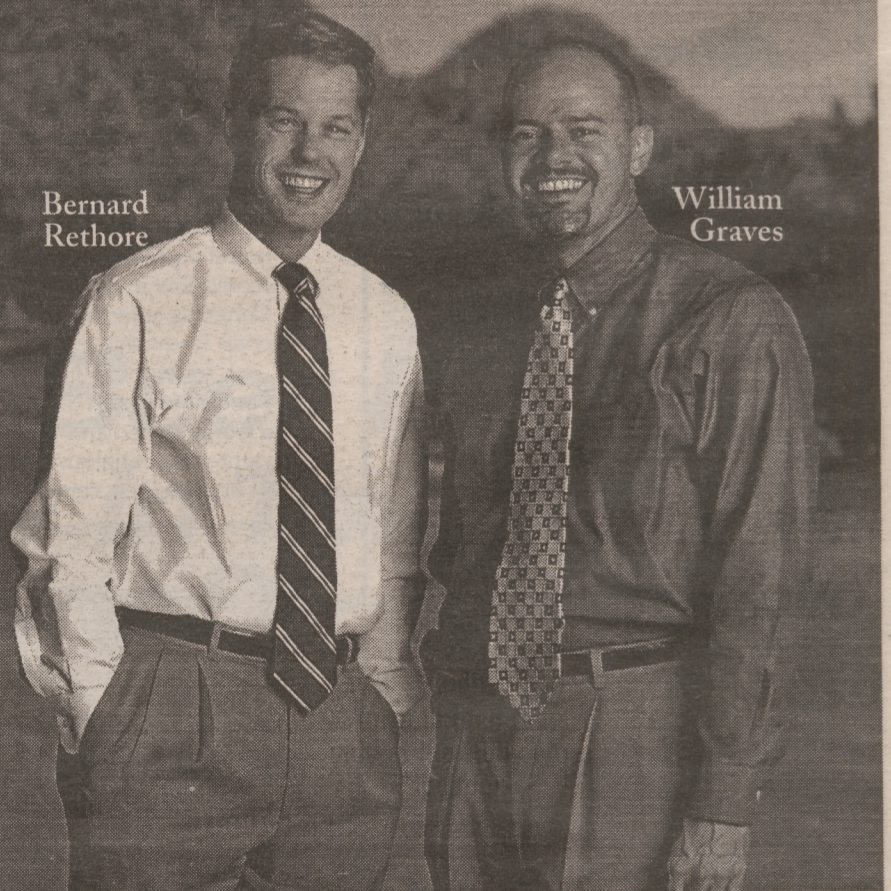


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Gay group lobbies Arizona Legislature

By Dave Braun, Contributor

More than 80 lesbians and gay men gathered at the Arizona state capitol on Wednesday, Feb. 16, to lobby for the repeal of three archaic sex laws.

The event, sponsored by the Equality Begins At Home coalition of gay community and political organizations, also presented the legislature with more than 2000 signed petitions demanding the abolition of the criminal statutes.

the event was to convince the legislature to pass the pending repeal bill, a second goal was to energize the gay community to engage in direct, hands-on participation in the political process.

The day's events began about 9:00 a.m. in the plaza area between the State Senate and the State House of Representatives.

After an orientation by Kobeta, those gathered split into legislative district groups based on the residency of each

avoid a reduction in social security benefits, but nobody believed they ought to be considered criminals.

Not all legislators were eager to meet with their gay constituents. One gay man had made an appointment with Rep. Linda Gray, Republican, Northwest Phoenix. When he attempted to attend that meeting he was advised by Gray's aide that she refused to see him based on the substance of the topic he planned to

houses of the legislature, he doubted the bill would become law. Representative Andy Nichols, Democrat, Tucson, indicated that the conservative Republican legislative leadership would likely prevent either the full House or Senate from voting on the bill, thus defeating the repeal effort.

Shortly thereafter May, Chevront, and Rep. Christine Weason, Democrat, Central Phoenix, introduced the Equality



Above left: on the grounds of the Arizona Capitol, Amy Kobeta, co-chair of the lobby day, addresses the 80 participants. Above center and right: Rep. Steve May welcomes the volunteer lobbyists to the gallery of the Arizona House of Representatives.

The three statutes criminalize private sexual relationships between consenting adults. The misdemeanors specifically prohibit "lewd and lascivious acts," "open and notorious cohabitation or adultery," and the "infamous crime against nature," sodomy.

Amy Kobeta, co-chair of the lobby day event, stated that although nobody is prosecuted for violating these laws, the statutes are often cited as justification for anti-gay discrimination in areas such as employment, housing, and adoption.

Kobeta and co-chair Travis Hussey said that while the immediate objective of

participant. Each group then attempted to meet with its state senator and representatives to urge them to vote for the pending repeal legislation.

The half-dozen residents of District 28, North Scottsdale, had a short but productive meeting with Republican Rep. Carolyn Allen in her office.

Allen indicated her enthusiastic support for the bill and expressed some delight that conservative Republican State Senator Ed Cirillo of Sun City was one of the primary sponsors of the bill. She speculated that some of his senior citizen constituents were cohabitating so as to

discuss.

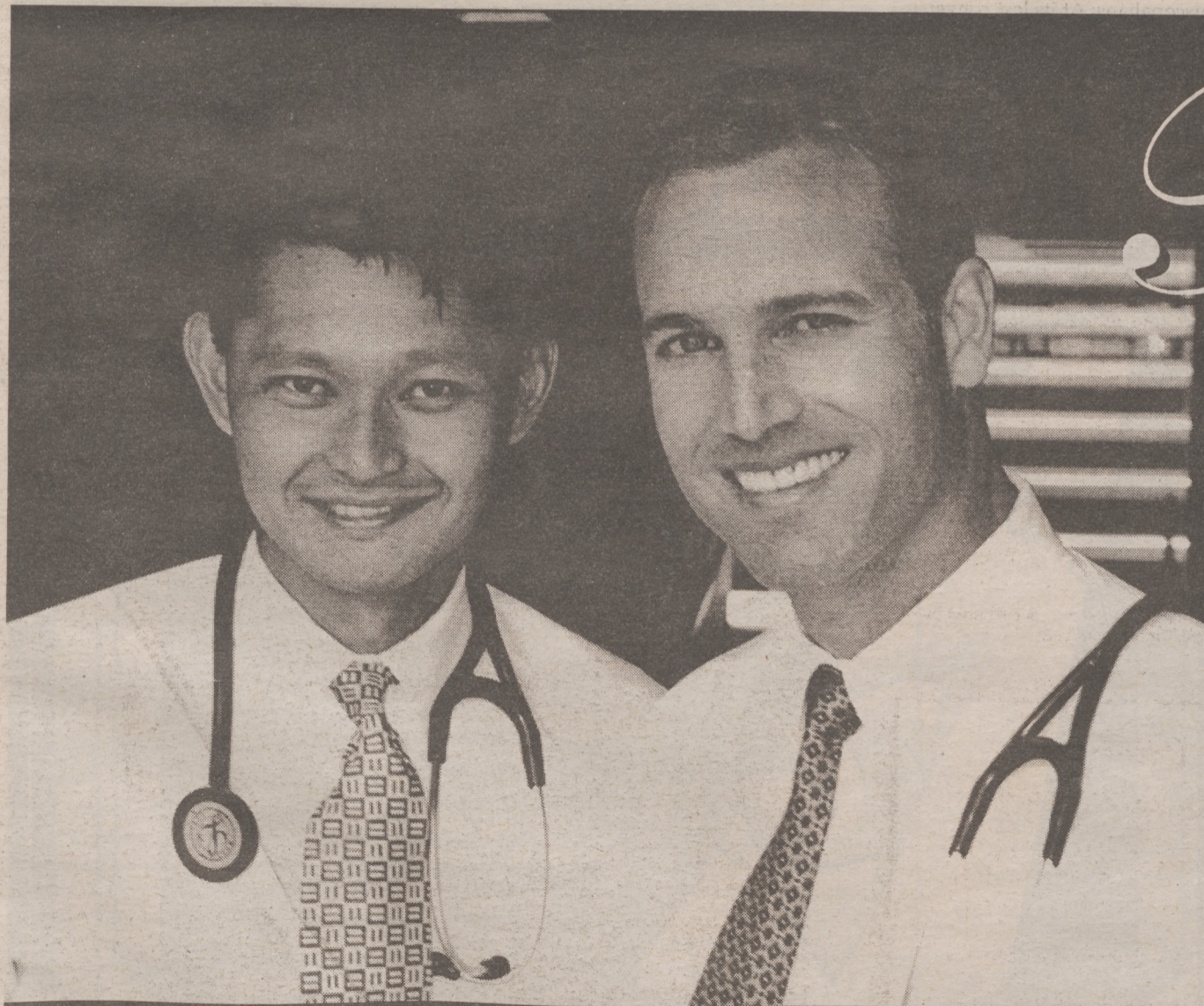
Throughout the morning about a dozen state senators and representatives were directly lobbied by the constituent groups.

At about 10:15 most of the EBAH participants gathered on the visitors balcony overlooking the House of Representatives. At that time they were briefly addressed by the two openly gay members of the legislature, Rep. Steve May, Republican, East Phoenix-Scottsdale, and Rep. Ken Chevront, Democrat, Central Phoenix.

Chevront stated that although the repeal bill has majority support in both

Begins At Home group to the members of the House. They received a polite round of applause.

To finish the morning, the gay group went across the plaza to the visitors balcony of the State Senate. They were introduced to that body by Sen. Chris Cumiskey, Democrat, Central Phoenix, and again received a polite round of applause.



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Vermont legislature continues its struggle with domestic partnership bill

MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP)—And now comes the vote counting in earnest. As the House Judiciary Committee wraps up its work on a domestic partnership bill for gay and lesbian couples, leaders began trying to figure out how lawmakers would decide the issue.

And the members of the committee, who expect to vote out a bill as early as Feb. 23, began making the rounds pitching the bill, answering questions and trying to garner support for a bill that has a fragile coalition behind it at best.

Vote counting is complicated because some people say they'll vote for the bill if it's broadened to include opposite-sex couples while others say that would be enough for them to vote against it. Others say their support would depend on whether the bill also included a definition of traditional marriage as a union between one man and one woman.

Besides those questions, one of the chief complaints advocates of the bill must confront is why they're seeking to move the bill this week so it can go before the full House next week. They say it's because the Senate will need as much as six weeks to work on the legislation, as the House has had.

But committee Vice Chairman William Lippert, D-Hinesburg, said there were other reasons to continue moving ahead.

"There are individuals and groups motivated by the fact they object to who gay and lesbian people are, that they carry and hold prejudice," Lippert, the Legislature's only openly gay member, told the Democratic caucus. "Some people and some individuals will not be swayed by any careful, deliberate work on our part or any work, whether it takes two weeks or four weeks, two years or five years."

Committee Chairman Thomas Little, R-Shelburne, in a tense exchange in the House Republican caucus, took a some-

what different tack. He conceded in response to a question that the issue was before the Legislature because of the Supreme Court's ruling that gays and lesbians were being unconstitutionally denied the rights and benefits of marriage.

"I also happen to think it's a good move for the state of Vermont in general," Little said.

Although the issue has not broken down along partisan lines, Little faced the toughest questions during his presentation before the GOP caucus. Several people wanted to know why the House leadership was pushing for a vote before Town Meeting Day, when many communities have questions on their agendas.

"Shouldn't there be a referendum of

some sort to find out what the people of Vermont want?" asked Rep. Henry Gray, R-Barre. "Most people believe (gays and lesbians) have the same rights. They have the right to marry the same as we do. They can marry someone of the opposite sex."

Little said he did not believe a public referendum by the majority on an issue of minority rights would be appropriate. "The same was said for 10 or 15 generations of black Americans," he said, referring to the prohibition against interracial marriage that lasted up to about 50 years ago.

There also were questions about why the committee wasn't simply calling the bill marriage. The domestic partnership scheme has been devised as a parallel to

existing civil marriage.

"To me it sounds like homosexual marriage and that's what I'm concerned about," said Rep. Nancy Sheltra, R-Derby.

Although the committee strongly believes that it is not pursuing gay marriage, it has been struggling with what to call its system. It's typically been called domestic partnership, but panel members believe that does not adequately describe what the bill would do. It tried out "civil domestic union" on Feb. 21 and shortened it to "civil union" on Feb. 22.

"The nomenclature and terminology is very important to people," Little said. "We're trying to come up with something reasonably descriptive that doesn't ring any bells that people don't want to ring. And people are hearing a lot of bells."

Colorado House sends ban on gay marriage to Senate

DENVER (AP)—A marriage between one man and one woman would be the only union recognized as legally valid by the state under a bill approved by House lawmakers.

The House, which approved the measure on a 36-29 vote, sent it to the Senate, where it probably would pass, according to Sen. Mark Hillman, R-Burlington. Senators approved a similar proposal earlier this month.

Gov. Bill Owens has said he would sign the bill if approved by the Legislature.

In its original version, House Bill 1249 would have authorized courts to enforce noneconomic provisions of prenuptial contracts.

Sponsoring Rep. Mark Paschall, R-Arvada, succeeded Feb. 21 in stripping all language from the bill and substituting it with provisions to ban same-sex marriages and to ensure the state would not recognize same-sex marriages performed

outside its borders.

As it did the previous day, the House on Feb. 22 rejected a motion to send the bill to the House Judiciary Committee for a public hearing. Moderate Republicans on that committee last year joined Democrats in killing a similar bill.

Committee members argued that they should be allowed to give the bill a public hearing, but Paschall and other supporters said the concept has had extensive public input.

"This is an obvious, transparent attempt to kill the bill," said House Majority Leader Doug Dean, R-Colorado Springs.

He and other supporters said the measure is necessary to avoid forcing Colorado to officially recognize same-sex marriages performed elsewhere.

Supporters said a recent ruling by the Vermont Supreme Court called for legislative action on same-sex marriages, and that action could mean official recognition

of such unions.

But Rep. Dan Grossman, D-Denver, and other opponents said the Vermont Legislature appears to be moving toward recognition of "domestic partnerships" rather than same-sex marriages.

The final vote came after opponents argued it was a simple attack on homosexuals.

"The bill is nothing more than something based on fear and I think it is an irrational fear," Grossman said. "What horrible thing would happen to us? It's gratuitous and mean-spirited."

Supporters denied that. "It's based on the accumulated wisdom and experience of cultures for 7,000 years," said Rep. Shawn Mitchell, R-Broomfield. "We always have recognized as self-evident that marriage is a joining of opposite members of the human species."

Paschall said he offered the measure as a reinforcement of "good public policy."

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MISS ANTEWENETTE
DINNER & CASINO NIGHT
Running for Miss AZ Central Pride
- FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 9pm
THE MISS ANTEWENETTE SHOW
Running for Miss AZ Central Pride
- FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 9 pm
THE MISS ANTEWENETTE SHOW
Running for Miss AZ Central Pride
- FRIDAY, MARCH 24
MISS LIZZ
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Tucson PFLAG rescues gay Siberian youth detained in U.S. seeking asylum in Canada

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP)—A gay Siberian youth who entered the United States illegally in an attempt to seek asylum in Canada is getting his chance, thanks to help from new friends.

Denis Dementiev, whose parents sold a car to finance his flight, hoped to join his sister, an applicant for refugee status in Canada who had resettled there last year.

When Dementiev, who turned 20 on Feb. 16, failed to qualify for a Canadian visa, he entered the United States from Mexico in December in hope of making it across the country to Canada.

Instead, he was caught and was held in a Florence detention center pending a deportation hearing set for next month at which he could have been sent back to Siberia.

During the past week, gay and Jewish groups in Tucson rallied to his defense and raised enough money to pay Dementiev's \$1,500 bond and get him to the Canadian border, where he may legally apply for asylum. The bond will be returned when Dementiev arrives in Canada.

Chris Nugent, director of the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project, a non-profit legal group that represented Dementiev, said immigrants increasingly are trying to cross the United States to reach Canada's more liberal refugee laws.

"The issue of bond for asylum seekers is very, very hard, because those are refugees usually fleeing with the clothes

on their back," Nugent said.

Nugent publicized Dementiev's plight. The Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays in Tucson responded, holding a fund-raiser for the Russian immigrant. More money was raised Sunday at a march protesting an assault on a gay University of Arizona student. Jewish groups also were approached for

In his U.S. asylum application, Dementiev said that "about 20 different students at the school would beat me, usually in gangs of four or five, almost every day for a period of about three months."

help and chipped in. All told, supporters collected more than \$2,000, said Lou Barsky, a Tucson lawyer on the board of the Florence immigrant project.

Dementiev was released Feb. 18. He was to fly from Tucson to Buffalo, N.Y., where he would be escorted to the Canadian border to apply for asylum.

In his U.S. asylum application, Dementiev said that "about 20 different students at the school would beat me, usually in gangs of four or five, almost every day for a period of about three months."

In November, Dementiev flew from Amsterdam, the Netherlands, to Mexico City, then on to Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico. In Tijuana, he walked to the border and two men mugged him, stealing all his possessions. He subsequently was caught as he tried to jump a border fence at Tijuana.

Gay candidate for California Assembly reveals arrest record

LOS ANGELES (AP)—State Assembly candidate Cesar Portillo revealed that he pleaded no contest to a charge of misdemeanor lewd conduct in 1991 but said he was innocent and alleged the arrest was the result of a proposition by an undercover officer.

Portillo, a gay activist who is director of governmental affairs at the AIDS Healthcare Foundation, said Sunday he chose to disclose the arrest because he "wanted to make sure people heard from me first rather than misinformation and smear."

"Nine years ago, I was approached by an undercover police officer who propositioned me and then arrested me. I was not guilty. I was in my 20s and I did not have the money to fight this in court," said Portillo, who is seeking the

45th District seat.

He said he was automatically suspended from his job as an elementary school teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District and resigned before the case concluded.

Portillo said he pleaded no contest and paid a fine of about \$200.

Portillo, 36, is campaigning for the seat being vacated by Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa, D-Los Angeles, who is running for mayor of Los Angeles.

Portillo alleged that he had to go public with his arrest record because his opponent in the March 7 primary, City Councilwoman Jackie Goldberg, had begun a whisper campaign about it.

Goldberg denied that her campaign spread information about the arrest.

Louisiana students suspended after anti-gay club protest

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP)—Thirty-six McKinley High School students were suspended for three days Feb. 22 because they disrupted the school day with a protest against a proposed club encouraging tolerance of homosexuals.

The protests occurred Feb. 18. The students gathered before school and at lunch time carrying signs in opposition to the efforts to start the club at McKinley. But according to school board officials, many of the protestors failed to return to class on time or didn't go at all. They were suspended for disrupting school.

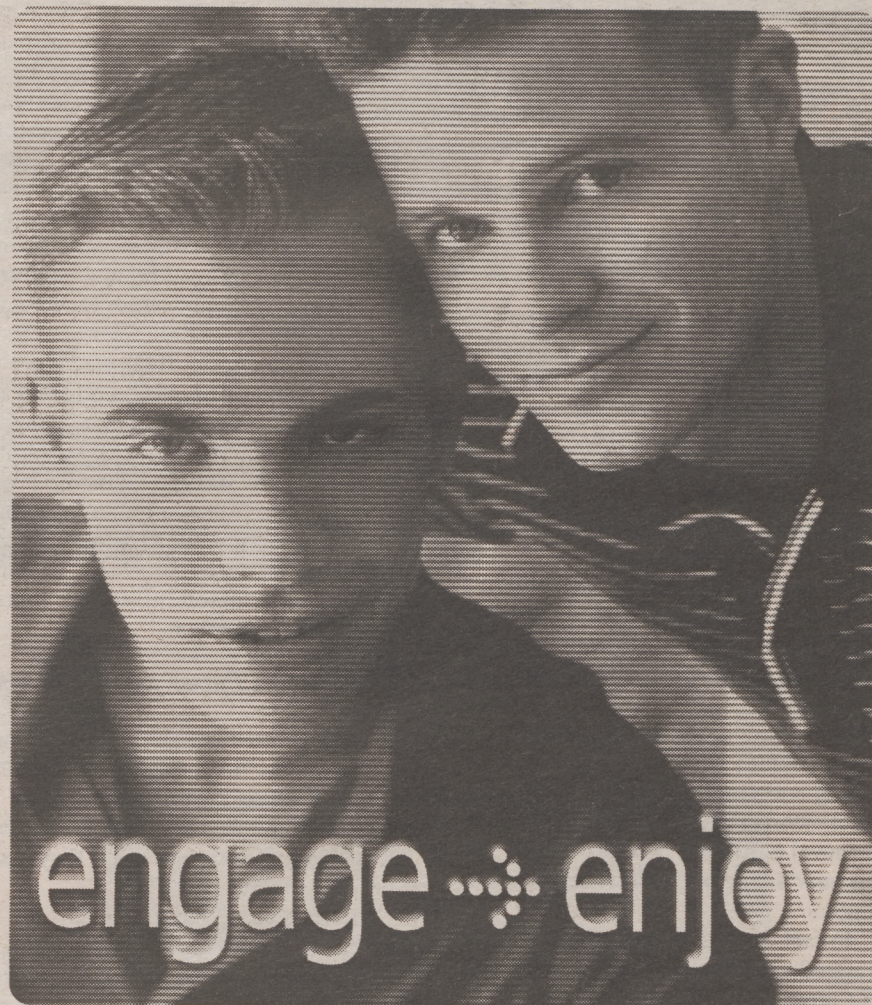
The suspended students were assigned to spend the three-day suspension at the parish's discipline center

where they can make up missed classwork and avoid the suspension from showing up on their record.

The suspended students can return to McKinley on Feb. 28.

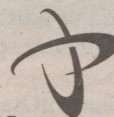
The suspensions came a day after a group of local ministers met with McKinley principal Almenia Freeman Warren and urged her not to approve formation of the proposed "Gay-Straight Alliance" club.

The club's application for a charter at McKinley is pending, but Warren has said that a chapter of the Gay Straight Alliance can open at the school if it follows the law and new school system rules for extracurricular clubs.



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CITY CHOOSES GAY CARNIVAL ROYALTY

The East German city of Wittenberg, pop. 55,000, chose a gay-male couple as its Carnival royalty this year.

The city is famous as the place where Martin Luther launched the Protestant Reformation by nailing his 95 Theses to the Catholic cathedral door.

The couple, Michael I and Thomas I (Michael Fonfara and Thomas Walter) have lived together in the city for several years operating a company called Image Design.

According to national television reports, which have shown the couple kissing and strolling through Wittenberg's cobble-stone streets in their elaborate Karneval costumes, no one has objected to this year's king and queen being two kings.

In fact, Mayor Eckhard Naumann bragged to reporters that even sophisticated Cologne—Germany's Karneval capital—has yet to crown a gay couple.

ISRAEL ACCEPTS FOREIGN PARTNERS

Israel this month granted permanent residency to the foreign lovers of two gay citizens.

"We agreed to their requests and they will now be considered as permanent residents," said Interior Ministry spokeswoman Tova Ellinson.

The foreign partners will have all privileges of Israeli citizenship except the right to vote and have an Israeli passport. The process of obtaining full citizenship for a foreign spouse takes about five

years.

The cases were championed by Member of the Knesset Yossi Paritzky who told the local Ha'aretz newspaper: "I advised the first couple who turned to me to get married because marriage is status. If the marriage was recognized in one country, another country cannot refuse to recognize it,

and the Ministry of the Interior is then obligated to register their marriage. In the case of [Israeli citizen] Shuki [Yatir] and [Belgian] Paul [Vanwinsberga], I suggested they go a step beyond. The country recognizes the status of common law spouse, even of the same sex, and thus there's no reason not to demand in the name of this status citizenship as well. I think that an important step for human rights has been taken."

MALAYSIAN PRIME MINISTER DISPARAGES GAYS

In his monthly newspaper column published in Tokyo's *Mainichi Daily News*, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said he tolerates foreign cultures up to a point but not if they accept homosexuality.

In the Feb. 15 edition of "Dr. Mahathir's World Analysis" column, the premier wrote: "I had lunch with [French President Jacques Chirac] for about two hours. For Malaysians, we respect French culture and have no objection to them drinking wine or liquor during meals with us. ... They respect us by not serving pork but we respect that in their culture they have wine with their meals. We don't go around saying, 'Your way is wrong. Our way is right!'"

"But there is a limit," Mahathir said. "For example, in Western culture they accept homosexuality, including promoting homosexual practices among school children. We cannot accept this. We admit that some people are born with their sexuality mixed up. That is not their fault. But

to promote homosexual practices actively as is being done in some European countries is to purposely promote abnormality."

GAY INDIANS UPSET PARENTS

Gays are coming out of the shadows in India, the Kyodo News Service reported Feb. 5.

Authorities are registering one new gay activist group about every six months and the eight-year-old New Delhi gay film festival was opened to the public for the first time this year.

"An increasing number of middle-class Indian gays are 'coming out of the closet,' much to the disapproval and consternation of their families," Kyodo said.

The agency credited the growth of gay life, in part, to satellite television and the Internet.

CANADIAN DOCTORS FACE HOMOPHOBIA

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) is urging medical schools to develop anti-homophobia programs in the wake of a McMaster University/CMA study which found gay physicians-in-training are afraid to come out of the closet.

The researchers also urged schools to hire faculty to be role models for gay students and to set up gay support groups.

The study appears in the current *Canadian Medical Association Journal*.

GROUP CAMPAIGNS FOR CRUISING SEX

In a submission to Britain's Home Office, the highly visible gay activist group OutRage! has called for legalization of gay sex in cruising locations and for reform of other anti-sex laws, British newspapers reported last week.

"We do not believe that consensual actions between adults, no matter how bizarre they might appear to the majority, are any concern of the law, or its agents," the group wrote. "Thus we seek to legitimize consenting actions in bath-houses

and saunas, 'backrooms' in pubs, and all group sex in private, including sado-masochistic games."

OutRage! continued: "We would also like to extend the concept of private to include public lavatory cubicles and after-dark 'cruising' areas. ... Since recreational sex is a natural activity and popular pursuit, all laws which seek to control it should be abolished. ... The whole basis of the current homosexual control laws is moralistic and based on a largely medieval concept of Christianity which we believe has no place in a pluralistic democratic society. Terms such as immoral, indecent, unnatural, sodomy and buggery have no place in a modern legal code."

The Home Office is in the midst of a review of sex-related laws.

FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION TARGETS HOMOPHOBIA

Britain's Football Association and the gay lobbying group Stonewall are working together to reduce homophobia in the sport, the *London Times* reported Feb. 14.

Among the first steps will be placing anti-homophobia ads in game-day programs and putting questions about homosexuality in the association's annual survey of supporters.

"The issue of homophobia is not being properly addressed," said Football Association Executive Director David Davies.

PRISONERS TO GET SEX-CHANGE OPERATIONS

Corrections Canada will let some transgender prisoners undergo sex-change operations, Canadian Press reported Feb. 17.

The new policy will settle a human-rights complaint filed by a transsexual murderer.

CP said there are 14 transsexual inmates in Canadian institutions at present.

The operation costs about \$30,000 (US\$20,000).

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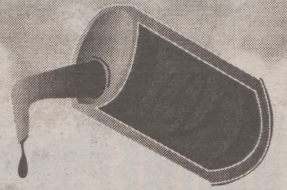
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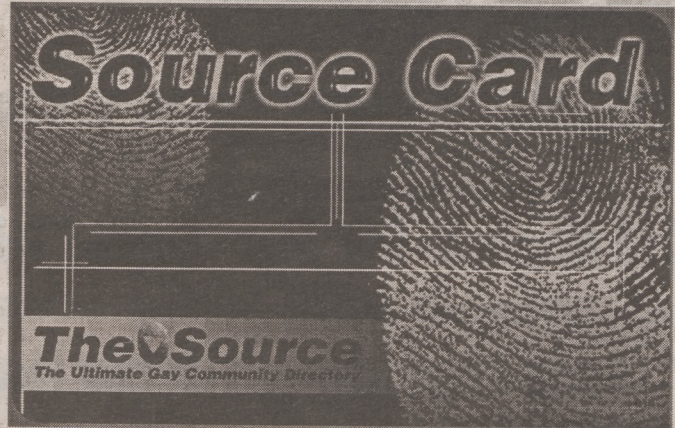


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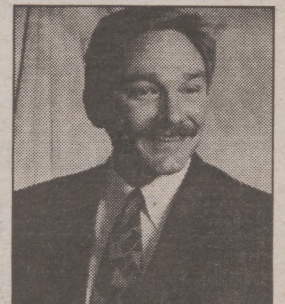


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Gore looking to bury Bradley, collects endorsement from gay lobbying group

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—For Al Gore, it's not enough to be far ahead of Bill Bradley in the polls. The vice president, piling up endorsements from abortion-rights, gay-rights and labor groups, is bent on not just beating his rival but burying him.

"All I'm concentrating on is pouring the gas on ... and making sure that I drive the message home," Gore said Thursday.

Talking tough, he has called Bradley a "special agent" for the Republicans and charged him with one of the worst sins a Democrat could commit: trying to "starve Medicare."

Bradley was sounding philosophical Feb. 17, addressing high school and college athletes in Providence, R.I.: "When you encounter those moments in life that are tough, those moments are not like a hammer hitting a clay pot, shattering it, but like a hammer hitting metal, tempering it and making it stronger."

But he knows he needs real victories, and soon.

"I clearly have to win a number of states on March 7 and 14, no question about that," Bradley said.

He told reporters in Boston that Gore could expect a two-week "bump" in support from the vice president's Feb. 1 victory in New Hampshire, and "now we're in the third week."

Bradley is concentrating on the Northeast, where he is strongest, and on California, where he is 40 percent behind in public opinion polls. His forays to Washington state, which holds a primary on Feb. 29 but does not elect delegates until March 7, suggest he's bidding for an invigorating, symbolic victory there.

Acknowledging Gore's lead, Bradley said, "I don't think it's impossible to overcome when the public focuses again." To try and command that focus, campaign strategist Anita Dunn promised sharper ads raising questions about Gore's record—on abortion and gun control, for example.

But, in the abortion ad he began airing Feb. 17 in Michigan, Ohio, Maryland and Washington, Bradley mentions only his own consistently pro-abortion-rights record.

Meanwhile, Gore, top-heavy with Democratic Party support but anxious for insulation, has wrangled endorsements from the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League and the gay-rights Human Rights Campaign—two groups that had planned to remain neutral in the Democratic primary.

"I'm campaigning as if I'm one vote

behind," Gore said. Asked this week how often he would be back campaigning in New York, Gore cracked that the better question was: "How often am I going to leave?"

New York, where Bradley was a pro basketball star with the Knicks, was a neck-and-neck race one month ago. The latest poll, on Feb. 10, put Gore ahead 56-32.

"It's hard to make a soufflé rise twice," Democratic consultant Bill Carrick observed. And getting Democrats to take a second look will be tough for Bradley.

Nick Record, a 21-year-old University of Rochester student leaning toward Gore, told a reporter this week all he knows about Bradley: "He used to play for the Knicks and he's not so much for education."

"Don't know anything about him. Never have," said New Orleans electrical worker Eddie Cordes.

Aside from personal feelings—confidants on both sides make clear that Gore thinks Bradley arrogant; to Bradley, Gore is a liar who "made my blood boil"—practical considerations drive Gore.

Having used up millions of dollars early last year on a campaign that even he now regards as a waste, Gore cannot afford a war of attrition.

Bradley can: He has \$2 million more in the bank than Gore and has already made some \$3 million in commitments to California TV ad time that Gore won't match.

Recognizing that most Americans still see Gore as President Clinton's No. 2, the vice president's advisers say blowout victories on March 7 and again on March 14 would show him as a winner in his own right.

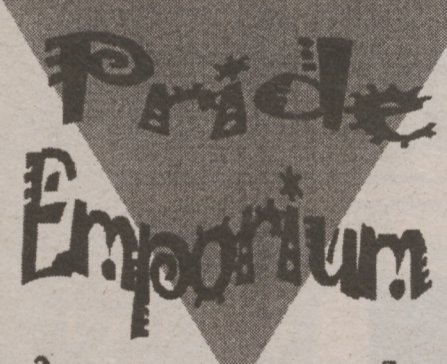
"A national fight is good for Al Gore. It increases his credentials with the American people and shows him as a fighter. That's the image that's important," said campaign chairman Tony Coelho, hastening to add, "It's the reality, too, of course."

Democratic consultant David Doak warned there is such a thing as overkill.

Doak was in the San Jose convention center, when Gore railed against Bradley as a Republican agent, not a "real Democrat."

"The only effect that speech would have is to cause Bradley to pick up the phone to his media person and say, 'Take off the Michael Jordan endorsement spot and put up the Buddhist temple ad,'" Doak said.

"The last thing he needs is to give Bradley, with his \$20 million, an excuse to go negative in TV ads."



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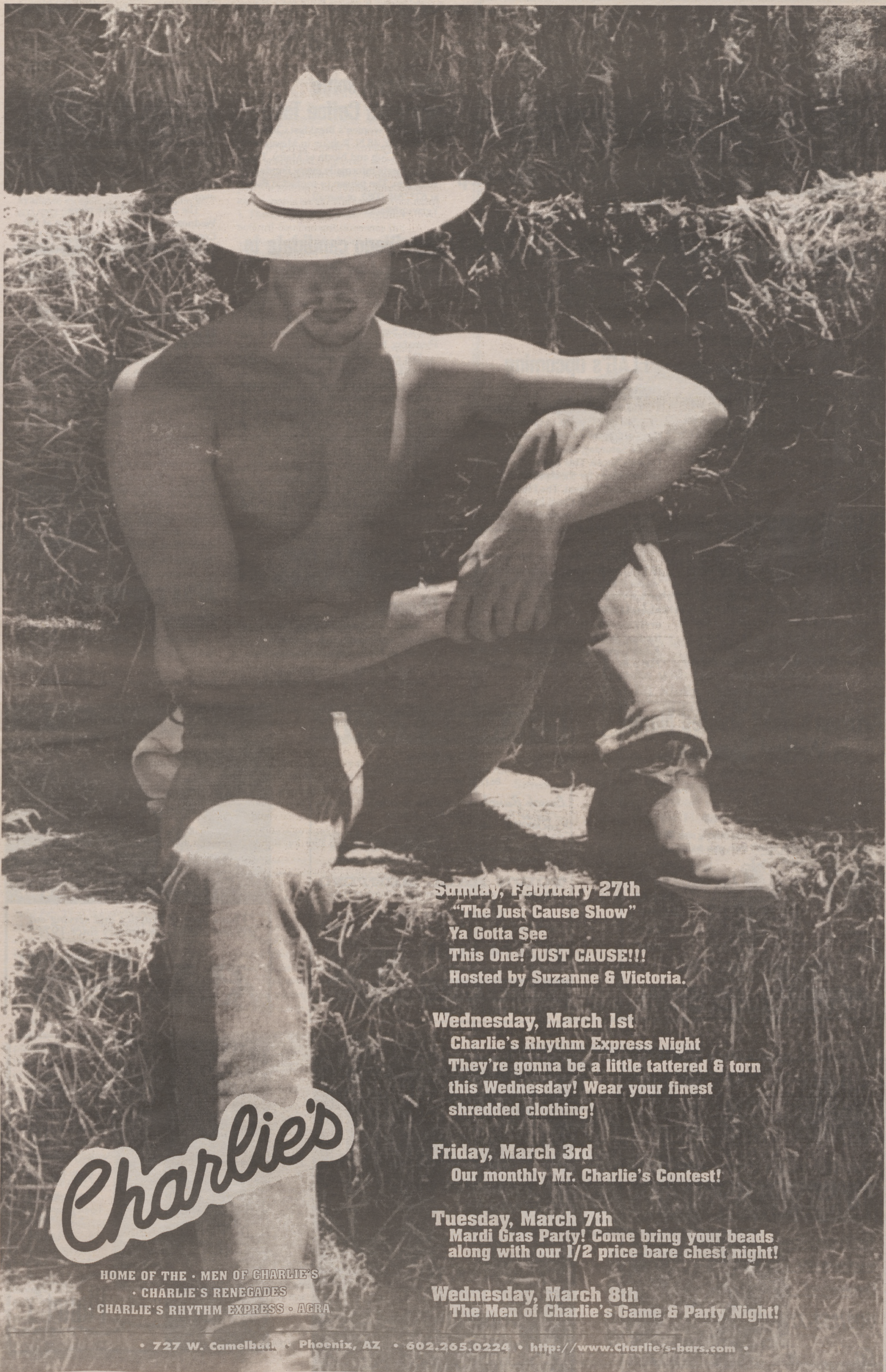
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Goings On

Women's dance party Feb. 26

Laughing Dawg Productions will present a "Women of the Millennium" party for the Valley women's community on Saturday, Feb. 26 at the Parkway Inn in north Phoenix. Doors will open at 9:00 p.m.

Tickets are only \$5 in advance or \$10 at the door. They are available at Obelisk bookstore or by calling 623/847-6868.

DA plans March events

Desert Adventures, the Valley's outdoor gay and lesbian social club, has several fun activities coming up.

On Saturday, March 4, DA will sponsor a four-wheel drive trip through the desert scenery. On Sunday, March 5, there will be a 20th Anniversary hike—right here in town, along Quartz Ridge at the Squaw Peak Loop. The trip leader is Larry Adams, who can be reached at 602/995-8008.

On Saturday, March 11, members will gather at the AZ Mills mall in Tempe to view the IMAX release of Disney's animated classic, *Fantasia*. To find out more about DA activities or to join the club, call 602/266-CAMP.

PLUS Weekend Feb. 26 & 27

AIDS Project Arizona has announced that the next edition of "PLUS Weekend" for HIV-positive people will be held Feb. 26 & 27 at The Phoenix Art Museum and Phoenix Theatre, just east of Central Ave. on McDowell in Phoenix.

With two days of informative seminars, workshops and information sharing,

News & Events of Interest to the Phoenix Queer Community

the twice-yearly PLUS Weekend is a free program of Being Alive, APAZ's early intervention arm.

Call 602/253-2437 to RSVP for PLUS Weekend, or to learn more about this or any of APAZ's other programs and services.

PBP Nutrition Workshop Feb. 26

Phoenix Body Positive has announced that it will host "Live Long & Prosper", a seminar on "Nutrition and HIV, eating for a healthier you", on Feb. 26 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The seminar will be presented by Dr. Karen Van Der Meer, NMD., and Dr. Chad Schroer, NMD. Dinner will be included. To RSVP, call 602-955-4673.

PFLAG's upcoming events

The Phoenix Chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays will hold a steering committee meeting on Saturday, March 4 at Ray and Ruth Grove's house. This meeting will be to discuss plans for the April 15 Pride Parade and Festival. The Phoenix Chapter meets at the Palo Cristi Presbyterian Church, 3535 E. Lincoln Dr. in Paradise Valley at 7:00 p.m. on the third Monday of every month.

In other PFLAG news, the West Valley PFLAG meets Sunday, February 27 at Sunland Mortuary, 15826 Del Webb Blvd. in Sun City. West Valley's PFLAG Chapter meets at 1:30 on the fourth Sunday of every month. East Valley PFLAG meets the first Friday of every month at the Pyle Adult Center, 655 E. Southern in Tempe at 7:00 p.m.. The next meeting is slated for

March 3.

For information on upcoming meetings or to learn more about PFLAG, call the local helpline at 602/843-1404.

Get in on some women's Coffee Talk

Join the women's Breakfast Club at Coffee Talk, 48 N. Robson in Mesa (east of Country Club and North of Main). The group meets informally every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. The person to contact is Robin at 623/848-0083, or e-mail Ygrwup3@aol.com.

San Diego candidate to be feted in Phoenix

A bi-partisan coalition of out gay public officeholders from the Valley will host a fundraiser here for Toni Atkins, candidate for San Diego City Council, on Thursday, March 2.

The event will be hosted by GOP Rep. Steve May, GOP Tempe Mayor Neil Giuliano, and Dem. Rep. Ken Chevront at the home of Jayne Goldstein and Barbara Poe. The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. and the suggested contribution is \$35 to \$250. Atkins is endorsed by the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, a national group that supports openly gay candidates for public office at all levels.

For location and further information, contact the Arizona Human Rights Fund at 602/650-0900.

AZ Women in Tune bringing Alix Dobkin to Phoenix

March is Women's History Month, and Arizona's lesbian chorus—Arizona Women in Tune—will celebrate with a

joint concert with legendary singer, songwriter and feminist activist Alix Dobkin.

The title for the March 29 event, *Watering Our Roots: The Legacy of Lavender Music*, pays tribute to Dobkin's pioneering album, *Lavender Jane Loves Women*, which came out in 1973 on Dobkin's own Women's Waxworks label. Melissa Etheridge was in grammar school when Alix Dobkin was planting the seeds of openly lesbian musical performance, and Women in Tune members are excited about sharing the stage with Dobkin, whose experiences match some of their own.

The concert will take place Wednesday, March 29 at 7:30 pm at the Community Church of Hope, 4400 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix. Tickets are \$15; season ticket and group discounts available. Call 623/878-5430 for information.

Get yourselves a new tiara, girls

MGPA Promotions announces that the day and location for the Miss Gay Phoenix-America Pageant 2001 will be Sunday, March 12, 2000 at the Crown Plaza Hotel Metrocenter. Pageant directors are seeking contestants to compete for the title.

The winner will receive more than \$700 in cash and prizes and will represent the city of Phoenix at Miss Gay Arizona 2001. This year, proceeds from the pageant will once again benefit AIDS Project Arizona.

For contestant information and an application, call MGPA Promotions at 602/266-6927.

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Travel Fest 2000

March 23rd at 5 p.m., CCH (Community Church of Hope)


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AIDS Project Arizona's Seventh Annual Awards Dinner on Friday, March 10 at Sak's Fifth Avenue in the Biltmore Fashion Park in Phoenix.

WOWfour, chaired by community leader Nancy Silver, will benefit the people served by AIDS Project Arizona. APAZ provides comprehensive services ranging from prevention and early intervention programs to family services. Its programs include a food pantry, a wholesale nutritional supplement Buyer's Club, and a camp for HIV-affected children and their families.

Ticket and sponsorship information is available by calling Louise Bowden at 602/253-2437.

New G&L running club formed

Arizona Frontrunners is a new gay and lesbian running club that has been formed in Phoenix. The runners have been meeting on Saturday mornings at 9:00 a.m. for a weekly run through Papago Park. Members are looking for new people to join and run for fun, and to participate as a group in local races as well.

If interested in jogging along, send an e-mail requesting information to: azfrontrunners@hotmail.com, or call 602/954-3983.

Team Arizona will hold month-long sports festival

Team Arizona, the statewide organization that supports Arizona athletes involved in the International Gay Games, and The Saguaro Cup International Softball tournament, sponsored by the Cactus Cities Softball League, have announced the Phoenix area's first-ever Saguaro Cup Spring Sports Festival.

This exciting queer sports festival will consist of a seven-weekend calendar, filled with different sports events for each weekend. The first event is a Bike Race and Ride at the northern end of lake Pleasant on Saturday, March 4. The Bike Ride is intended for racers as well as people who just enjoy biking. Next on the list is a bowling tournament slated for March 11.

Rita's Wreaths wrap another great season

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

A thank-you party for volunteers and supporters of Aunt Rita's Foundation's annual "Wreaths for Life" program was held Feb. 19 at the north Phoenix home of Tom Snyder, who chairs the project each holiday season for the Phoenix-based AIDS/HIV assistance organization.

Snyder reported that the project raised \$28,000 in 1999, chiefly through the sales of donated, decorated holiday wreaths. The wreaths are displayed throughout the Biltmore shopping area and are on view from Thanksgiving through Christmas. 1999 marked the annual program's eighth year.

Snyder said he was happy with the amount raised even though it was less than the \$35,000 goal he had set. He said the project would have benefited from more door sponsors. "We had fewer door sponsors than we had last year," he explained.

Door sponsors are corporations and

The next event will be a Spring Golf Tournament at the Mountain Shadows Resort in Scottsdale. This tournament will have a shotgun start with a team score, and will be followed by a sports party on the weekend of March 18. A slow-pitch softball day tournament is scheduled for March 23 at Eldorado park in Scottsdale. This day of play is intended for all softball players, whether on a CCSL team or not.

The Spring Tennis Tournament is next, scheduled for April 1 & 2 at Tennis Ranch in Paradise Valley. A welcoming party is planned for Friday, March 31, and a tennis banquet is planned for April 1. Then, the ever-popular Saguaro Softball Tournament (formerly the Cactus Cup) will be held April 7, 8 & 9. This tournament is one of the largest gay sports events held annually in the United States, with teams from all over the U.S. and Canada competing in three divisions.

The last event in the series is the 5K Run for Pride. This running event will be held early in the morning on April 15, kicking off the annual Pride Parade and Festival in Phoenix later that day. This will be Team Arizona's second annual 5K race.

The entire sports festival is intended to raise awareness for all sports in the GLBT community. All funds earned will be given to the Scholarship Fund for team Arizona, which helps local athletes attend the next gay games, scheduled for Sydney, Australia in November of 2002. To find out more about the festival and the scheduled events, contact Team Arizona at 602/408-4311.

Center seeks admin. asst

The Community Center in Phoenix is now taking applications for the position of a part-time Administrative Assistant (up to 24 hours a week).

Minimum requirements are a high school diploma; typing 35 wpm; Word, Excel, Access and basic desktop publishing knowledge. Must be organized, with a positive, "can-do" attitude. Job requires light filing and phone lines with three lines.

Call The Community Center at 602/265-7283 for further information. Or, fax a resume to 602/234-0873.

individuals that pay to have their donation recognized via a plaque mounted on one of the red painted doors on which the individual wreaths are hung. Snyder said he will seek more sponsorships when the 2000 program gets underway.

One major corporation with a strong local presence, Snyder said, has inquired about becoming the event's major sponsor. "That would really be wonderful," he said, adding that the management of the Biltmore is always 100 percent



Aunt Rita's volunteers Lisa Harville and Tom Snyder, who chaired this year's "Wreaths for Life" fund-raiser.

behind the project and is already excited about welcoming the wreaths back this fall.



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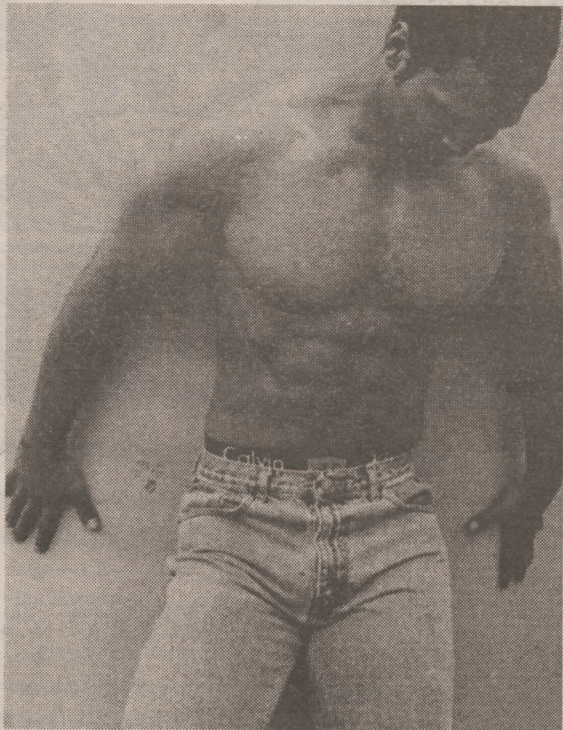


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Profile: the Metropolitan Community Church flourishes in the South

ASHEVILLE (AP)—They come from all kinds of Christian backgrounds, evangelical to Pentecostal to liturgical.

Many of them struggled with the doctrines of the churches of their childhood, but they couldn't walk away from their faith.

"It was the hardest journey of my life," admitted Sandi Rice, a Buncombe native and Southern Baptist who found a home in the Metropolitan Community Church of Asheville. "This church meets my spiritual needs. This is a very Christ-centered fellowship where I can be fully and totally myself."

In other Christian denominations that follow a literal interpretation of the Bible, their homosexuality is considered sinful. But on Sunday evenings, Rich and others come together to worship as a community that celebrates gays, lesbians and others who've often felt shunned by other churches.

Same-sex couples sit together, sharing hymnals and prayers for each other and those absent, who may be suffering from AIDS.

While many churches bill themselves as "welcoming" congregations for gays, the Metropolitan Community Church caters mainly to the gay, lesbian and bisexual community. Founded in 1968 in Los Angeles by a defrocked Pentecostal minister, the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches has grown into a denomination of some 300 churches in 17 countries with an estimated membership of 32,000.

Brent Pack, a native of Mars Hill, helped start the local church in Asheville in 1992. Now, Pack currently serves as worship director for the 30-member church, selecting hymns and liturgy each Sunday, and leading the weekly communion.

Coming out about his sexuality as a teen, Pack remained in the Southern Baptist church of his childhood. But he later moved into the Metropolitan Community Church. "Here I can be Christian and gay. They're not mutually exclusive."

After Pack's announcements and the community prayers led by Rice, the Rev. Carlene Wood stands before the congregation. She preaches a sermon on John the Baptist—emphasizing the need for repentance.

Wood grew up Baptist in California. Moving to Asheville 13 years ago, Wood soon found herself divorced, and slowly realized her sexuality as a lesbian. She also began attending various churches, exploring her spirituality.

"It came down to three churches, the MCC, the Episcopalians and the Quakers." But it was the Metropolitan church that quickened her spirit. "I felt at home the first time I walked in. I really wanted to be accepted at first, then I wanted to be affirmed for who I am. Now I want to be celebrated."

The Metropolitan Community Church is theologically conservative in its doctrine, following the Nicene and Apostles' creeds, proclaiming the Bible as divinely inspired, and the justification by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. The church recognizes two sacraments in baptism and holy communion.

What the Metropolitan Church does not preach is homosexuality as any kind of sin or sickness, running counter to a literal interpretation of scripture.

Wood calls these "the texts of terror," six verses in the Bible that have been used over the centuries to condemn homosexual acts.

Leviticus 18:22 reads, "You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female, it is

an abomination." In the New Testament, Paul also deplors homosexual behavior in Romans 1:24-27.

Wood believes those scriptures have been taken out of context and grossly exaggerated. The prohibitions in Leviticus may have referred to homosexual rape, while the New Testament verses may be talking about temple prostitution practiced by some religious cults in Paul's day.

The Rev. Ralph Sexton, senior pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, holds to a literal interpretation of those verses and the orthodox Christian view that homosexuality is a sin. "That's obviously based on the scriptures. The Bible is quite explicit that this particular sin is considered by the Lord God an abomination. Of course, God doesn't have big or little sins, and God doesn't hate the sinner. Scripture tells me I'm a sinner, that all of us are sinners. That's a common ground that we share."

Wood holds to the Baptist doctrine of the Priesthood of the Believer, allowing each person to read and interpret scriptures. "I may not agree with your interpretation, but we can disagree as brothers and sisters in Christ," said Wood.

While battling society's stereotypes of lesbians, Wood also endures suspicions in the gay community. "I've come out of the Christian closet," said Wood. "Being a gay Christian helps me to offer Christ to a group of people who have flat-out been denied access. They've been told that 'God abhors you, that God would rather you be dead than queer.'

"It's incredibly important to help people reconcile their faith and their sexuality, but my relationship with God is more significant than who I sleep with. I don't have gay values. I have Christian values."

While mindful of the issues facing the gay community, Wood and her church also seek to reach out to others facing exclusion from mainstream society, including the

"I've come out of the Christian closet," said Wood. "Being a gay Christian helps me to offer Christ to a group of people who have flat-out been denied access. They've been told that 'God abhors you, that God would rather you be dead than queer.'"

poor and minorities.

"Sunday morning remains the most segregated time in our society both racially and economically, and that's just pitiful."

Helping Christians from a variety of backgrounds feel comfortable, the Metropolitan church blends worship styles from traditional hymns and high liturgy.

Communion is served each Sunday either by intinction, where the wafer is dipped in the goblet, then placed on the communicant's tongue, or by drinking or dipping the wafer in the common cup. Each communicant is prayed over by Wood or another communion server. In a service, the congregation will hear more about the Gospel than about being gay.

"This is church," said the Rev. Dorri Sherrill, a Baptist visitor to the service. "You can see and feel the love they have for each other."

Only a few months ago, Wood lay close to death in an Asheville hospital, suffering from pancreatitis.

In her three months of recovery, Wood was visited by many of her church, and pastors from other denominations, whose prayers she is grateful for.

"We are a part of the Body of Christ, whether the Church Universal wants to accept that or not."

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Tipper Gore speaks at Human Rights Campaign gala

UNIVERSAL CITY, Calif. (AP)—Tipper Gore, campaigning for her husband and presidential candidate Vice President Al Gore, spoke Feb. 19 about issues faced by homosexuals at a Human Rights Campaign Foundation awards dinner.

The foundation, the country's largest gay political organization, held "Human Rights Campaign Gala 2000," awarding actress Sharon Stone a humanitarian honor for her "diligence, compassion and dedication to critical issues in our society." Stone was lauded for her support of AIDS and breast cancer research.

The event, sponsored by the Washington-based foundation, raised money for the organization.

Mrs. Gore delivered the keynote address. Gore is vying for the Democratic presidential nomination against former U.S. senator Bill Bradley.

Mrs. Gore spoke about workplace discrimination of homosexuals, support for AIDS research and revamping the nation's health care system.

Gore's California press secretary, David Chai, said Mrs. Gore's remarks echoed sentiments that are central to the vice president's campaign.

"Al Gore is going to be fighting the good fight for the critical issues" that are particularly important to the gay and lesbian community, such as

ensuring funding is maintained for Medicaid, including for those who have AIDS or the HIV virus.

Actress-comedian Ellen DeGeneres and her partner, actress Anne Heche, presented Stone with the humanitarian award.

Mrs. Gore was in Oakland earlier Saturday visiting a health clinic where she spoke about her husband's support of universal health care coverage.

Both she and Bradley's wife, Ernestine, were scheduled to attend a forum Feb. 20 sponsored by the New Frontier Democratic Club. The forum at the University of Southern California will focus on minorities and politics.

Mr. Padlock named Feb. 20

The first Mr. Padlock won that title as the night wound to a close on Feb. 20, beating out six other leatherman contenders. The judges' selection came after three days of friendly competition at the Phoenix leather bar on East Indian School Rd.

"Tony" was named Mr. Padlock, which means he will go on to represent the bar (and the city) at the



Above: Mr. Padlock, center, with the two runners up. Left: the Mr. Padlock contestants.

esteemed International Mister Leather (IML) competition to be held in Chicago this May.

IML takes place each year over Memorial Day weekend in the Windy City, and has become one of the country's major gay gatherings, particularly for celebrants of the leather lifestyle.



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An Interview with RuPaul

Continued from page 1

great script. I cried when I read it. It's just beautiful.

HS: When people our age were growing up, there were no TV movies about gay teens for us to watch. Is this movie's pro-gay message important for America's kids to hear today?

RP: Not only kids, but parents. There's only one of each of us here on this planet, and we all need to be educated about how beautiful we are. When we try to focus on what makes us different from one another, it defeats the purpose.

Ninety-nine-point-nine percent of us is exactly the same. Then there's that small, other percentage that makes us different. So, we all tend to focus on that, and it's not a good thing. We should focus on the fact that there's only one of us here, and that we're all going through the same thing.

HS: Stockard Channing plays the conflicted mother in this movie. You have acted with her in other TV movies, as well as in the feature *Too Wong Foo: Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar*, right?

RP: This my fourth project with Stockard Channing—although I didn't have any scenes with her in *Too Wong Foo*. I've never had that experience with any other actor, where we've done so many things together. She is great.

HS: When you and I were teenagers, she was in a bizarre TV movie called *The Girl Most Likely To*. She played a fat girl who got teased a lot in high school for her weight. Then she grew up, turned into a ravishing beauty and went back to kill all the people who made fun of her. It's a strange, black comedy. It really affected me as someone who was also picked on—though for another reason.

RP: Everybody remembers that! And for everybody I know, that movie means a lot to them. Did you know that movie was written by Joan Rivers? That was the movie that made Stockard Channing a star.

HS: In Jane's *Coming Out Party*, her character freaks when her 15-yr-old daughter tells her she's gay. You wrote in *Lettin' It All Hang Out* that your own parents were rather indifferent to that bit of information when it came from you—although you, too, were only a teenager at the time.

RP: Well, my parents were too self absorbed in their own things to really go there. Although I did have a minor confrontation with my father.

My sister told me that my father was going to approach me because someone told him that I was in [San Diego's] Balboa Park with two people who they knew to be gay. I'd had that warning from my sister, so I knew that it was coming up. So [my father and I] went to a park—not Balboa Park, but another park!—and we talked. He said, "You know, Ru, this is a lonely life that you've chosen." And I laid it out for him. I said, "Hey, I did not choose this. This is just me, and I'm always going to be who I am right now." So in that sense we did have a discussion.

But those discussions aren't bad, necessarily. It's an important thing for families to have those conversations. You want to know how I look at it? It is an opportunity to learn. Most people want to ignore all of that and just wallow in the pain of holding in all those different secrets. But I want to get it out there and deal with it.

HS: Isn't that what you are all about? Being absolutely open and candid, just

putting it all out there?

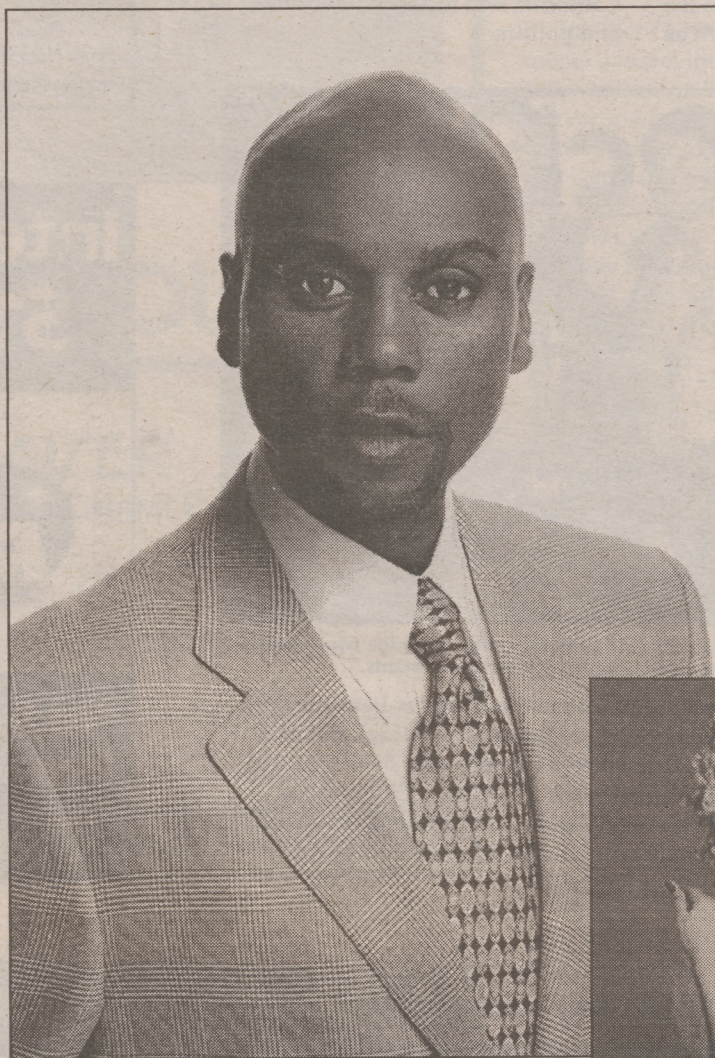
RP: I'm trying to be about that. I'm a human being just like everybody else.

HS: Is there anything that you aren't completely candid about?

RP: Oh, yeah—tons!

HS: It seems you rarely hold back—except maybe when it comes to your personal, intimate relationships with men.

RP: Yeah, well, that is an area where I do hold back. And that's because—you know, I'm not really sure why. But that is tough for me. I do want to be the kind of



"The thing is this: I'm brown skinned, gay, and a Democrat. I get it from all sides. The experience of brown-skinned people in this country is so similar to the plight of Jews, of gays, of everyone. And it amazes me that people still find it easy to not come together on this."

human being that doesn't hold back, but we all do it. I do, you do. I work on that. I think that I probably, in general, need to yell and scream more.

HS: People probably look at you and assume that you are a guy who knows how to yell and scream with no problem.

RP: Oh, no. Not at all. I am very easy going.

HS: When you are working on a project like this one—a TV movie with a pro-gay message for teens—do you ever consider the possible negative reaction from the religious right?

RP: I never worry about what other people think of me, because how other people react to whatever I'm doing has nothing to do with me, really. It has to do with them. So that's not my job.

HS: You burst onto the national consciousness in 1993 as a drag-queen-slash-recording artist. Then you were a drag-queen movie actor and recording artist, then a TV personality and talk show host on VH-1. So how do we describe you

now?

RP: As RuPaul. I'm really just me. Just Ru.

HS: Okay, right. But what's your job?

RP: That is my job. Being the best Ru that I can be. By the way—you left out product spokesperson.

HS: Oh, that's right—for MAC cosmetics.

RP: Not just makeup. I pitch lots of stuff.

HS: In your 1995 book, you said that one of your goals was to work both your male and female sides. Since then, you've done several movie appearances out of drag. How far will you go with what you call your male-drag side?

RP: You know what? I've gotten out of the habit of planning where my career is going to

"You know, I've been discriminated against by gay people. I've been to clubs where they would discriminate against women coming in. It's like: wait a minute—what did we learn from the whole experience? Discrimination is discrimination. So you know, let's get it together."



take me. I don't worry about what is coming next and I don't plan ahead. I also don't worry about the past. They say that if you've got one foot in the past, then you're pissing on the present.

So I'm just trying to be the best I can in this scene, and I'm just trying to collect my thoughts for this interview. I really do only worry about the moment.

HS: Will we ever see you pitching a product as a man, or appearing on talk shows out of drag?

RP: Sure. I've already done some talk shows out of drag. But I'm not sitting anywhere looking at what's coming up on a board, or looking at my planner and saying, "Okay, now I'm going to do this and then I'm going to do that"—it's just organically.

HS: And that has worked for you so far?

RP: Mmm hmm. I'm very lucky. And anyway, I've learned that whatever I've planned isn't usually what happens. So I have to just go with it. Go with it and flow with it.

HS: You're also doing an upcoming episode of the Lifetime Television drama *Any Day Now*?

RP: Yes, that's a really good show and I'm excited about that. And I'm also doing this new Tim Allen movie, starting in March. And I'm also going to be touring with my nightclub act.

HS: The popular image of you is that you have a lot of self confidence. Is that the real Ru? Or is extreme self confidence part of the fierce persona you've created in order to become successful?

RP: I don't know. Maybe it is a created self-confidence thing. Self confidence for me is something I'm working on. But you know what? I pray. I have faith. That's where the confidence comes from. Because I cannot do it with just this body and this brain—not without a higher power to guide my thoughts and guide my feelings.

HS: Are you going to get involved in the March on Washington this year?

RP: I hope so. We're trying to get some things worked out with the schedule. I sure want to be there. I was there at the last one and it was just a really special moment in my career.

HS: What do you think about the controversy over this year's march? People are saying that there is not enough input from

people of color, transgendered people, and other minority groups within the gay sub-culture.

RP: The thing is this: I'm brown skinned, gay, and a Democrat. I get it from all sides. The experience of brown-skinned people in this country is so similar to the plight of Jews, of gays, of everyone. And it amazes me that people still find it easy to not come together on this.

You know, I've been discriminated against by gay people. I've been to clubs where they would discriminate against women coming in. It's like: wait a minute—what did we learn from the whole experience? Discrimination is discrimination. So you know, let's get it together.

HS: Does your celebrity status make you immune to discrimination?

RP: Hell, no. I just saw Danny Glover on *20/20* last night talking about how he can't get a cab in New York City. Here's a huge actor—but he's a black man. Try hailing a cab on Fifth Avenue, you know?

The thing is, you are always up against other people's perceptions of who or what you are. And you have to reach the place where you understand that what other people think does not matter.

HS: If you were able to prioritize an agenda for the entire gay community, what would you list first? Gay marriage? ENDA? Letting queers in the military?

RP: There's only one agenda, and that one agenda is this: as human beings on this planet, [overcoming] the thought that we're separate from God—God being the universe, a higher power, whatever. That is the number one issue, and everything else is a by-product of that. When you realize that you are part of a huge, incredible source, you don't think of [other people] as being anything less than that. And that's it.

HS: Who are you going to vote for?

RP: I just get this really good feeling about Bill Bradley. It's my sense that he has a genuinely sweet soul.

HS: Why do you smoke so much?

RP: Because I'm a fighter. Not a quitter.



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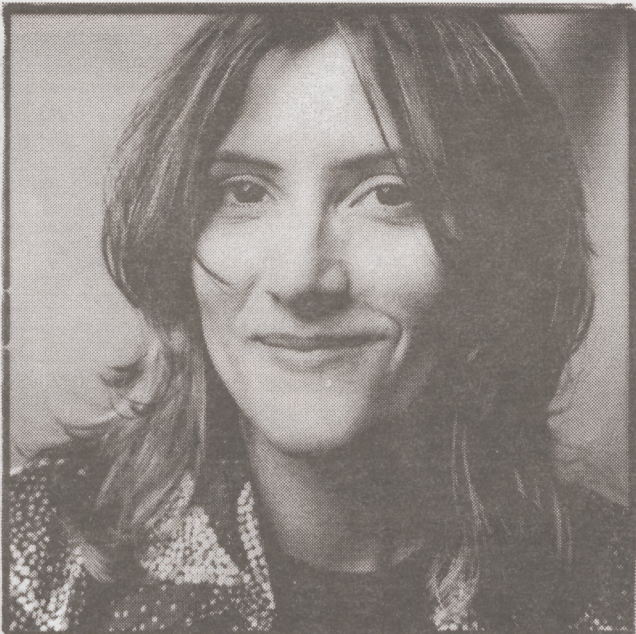
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Atlanta rocker at Nita's March 7

Michelle Malone has toured with Indigo Girls, Dave Matthews Band and the Patti Smith Group, among others. The Atlanta-based singer produces critically praised albums on her own label and will be in the Valley Tuesday, March 7 for a show at Nita's Hideaway



in Tempe. The show starts at 8:00 p.m. Call 480/966-7715 for information.

Men on the verge of an extension

The one-man comedy *Men on the Verge of a His-Panic Breakdown* by out local playwright Guillermo Reyes has been granted an extended run at downtown's Playwrights Theatre.

Starring Andres Alcala, the funny and

heartfelt collection of gay Latino monologues will play Thursdays through Saturdays until March 5. Tickets are \$12 and available by calling 602/253-5151. The theater is located at 1121 N. First St. in Phoenix.

Days of Charlemagne, nights in New Orleans onstage at ASU

Two ambitious spring productions out of ASU's College of Fine Arts promise a pair of exciting evenings in the theater, and you'll want to head over to the Tempe campus and check them both out.

The school's Lyric Opera Theatre is producing the Broadway musical, *Pippin*, opening Friday, Feb. 25 and running through March 4. With book by Roger Hirson and music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, *Pippin* tells the story of the son of Charlemagne. He's interpreted as a dreamer looking for his ideal place in life while destined for greatness. The show was directed by legendary showman Bob Fosse in its Broadway incarnation, and is also noted for having made Ben Vereen a star in the 1970s.

With lush costumes, a compelling



narrative and a pleasantly hummable score, the coming of age tale is as relevant today as when it premiered.

Equally relevant and even more daring, the ASU Theatre Dept. has taken on one of Shakespeare's most sociologically intriguing plays, *Measure for Measure*. Under the direction of Beverly Smith-Dawson, the darkly comic drama is set in contemporary New Orleans during Mardi Gras.

Exploring the issues of morality, loyalty, sexuality and jealousy—though not necessarily in that order—*Measure for Measure* will also open February 25. It runs through March 12 in the Nelson Arts Center's Galvin Playhouse.

For tickets to either show (or both), call 480/965-6447.

HeatStroke's Arts & Entertainment Calendar

- The classic tale of *Beauty & the Beast* is dramatized by Valley Youth Theater, opening Thursday, Feb. 24 and playing through March 12.
- The Old Possum is keeping it country. Hear *George Jones* at the Celebrity Theatre on Feb. 25. 602/267-1600
- Its theater for the kiddies when *Even Steven Goes To War*, presented by Childsplay, opens Friday, Feb. 25 and runs through March 12.
- Enchantment comes to Scottsdale when the musical *A Little Princess* is presented there by Stagebrush Theatre. The show runs Friday, Feb. 25 through March 5.
- She's unsinkable as well as unstoppable. Casino owner and movie legend Debbie Reynolds will do her one-woman show thing at the Chandler Center for the Arts on Saturday, Feb. 26. 480/782-2680.
- The Canada-based *Khac Chi Ensemble* performs its traditional and contemporary Vietnamese music at ASU's Gammage Auditorium from Monday, Feb. 28 through March 4. 480/965-3434.
- Life's been good so far to former Eagle guitarist Joe Walsh. Experience him solo at the Celebrity Theatre on Wednesday, March 1. 602/267-1600.
- They're lithe and limber and performing for you. *Danceworks III* will be presented by the ASU Dance Department from Wednesday, March 1 through March

- 5. 480/965-6447.
- Enjoy the music of *Gwen Harmon and The Players* at the Kerr Cultural Center on Wednesday, March 1. 480/965-5377.
- Childhood memories are turned into theater in *The Wallace & Ladmo Show*, presented by Desert Foothills Theatre from Thursday, March 2 through March 19.
- Naomi Iizuka's street-kid drama *Polaroid Stories* will open at the Planet Earth Theatre on Friday, March 3 and run through March 18. 602/252-8497.
- Neil Simon's new comedy *London Suite* will have its Arizona premiere at Fountain Hills Community Theatre, opening Friday, March 3 and playing through March 19. 480/837-9661.
- Get into the music of *Roberto Aussel* at Kerr Cultural Center on Friday, March 3. 480/965-5377.
- The "Best Jazz Band in the Land", New Orleans' *Preservation Hall Jazz Band*, will strut its musical stuff at the Orpheum Theatre on Saturday, March 4. 480/503-5555.
- Czech Piano virtuoso *Radoslav Kvapil* will perform in concert at Katzin Concert Hall on the ASU campus on Sunday, March 5. 602/252-4292.
- A musical tribute to the 1940s called *Radio Days* will be presented at the Sundome on Sunday, March 5. 623/975-1900.

Central Phoenix Animal Hospital

Alicia Ruiz, DVM

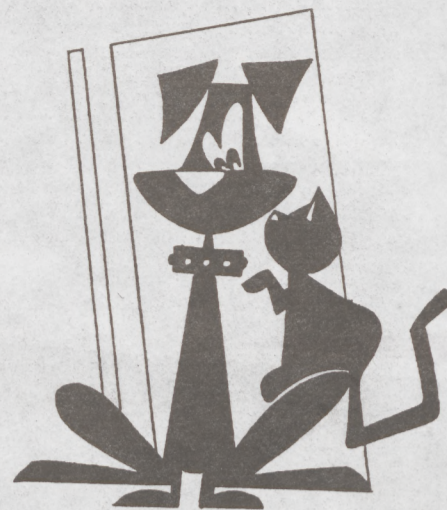
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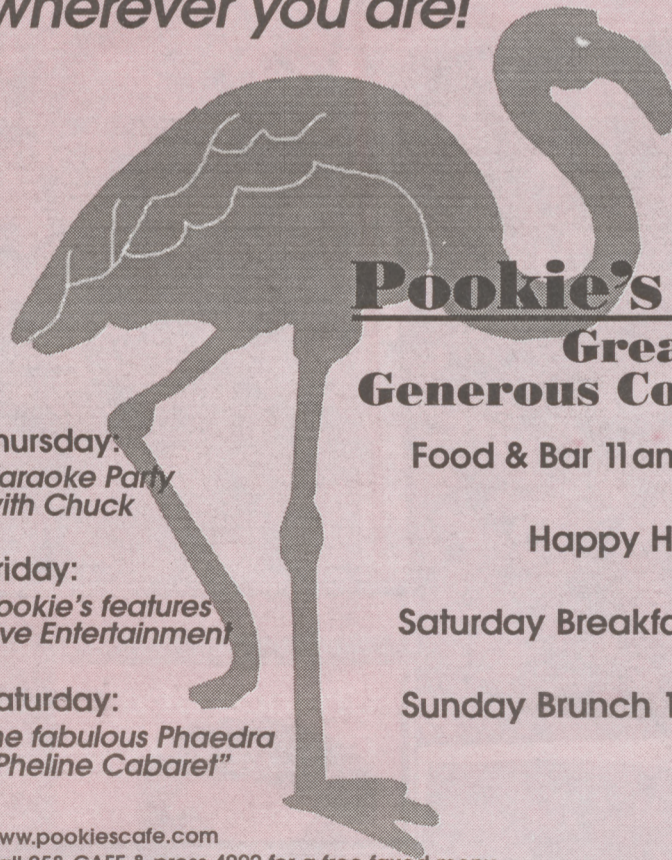
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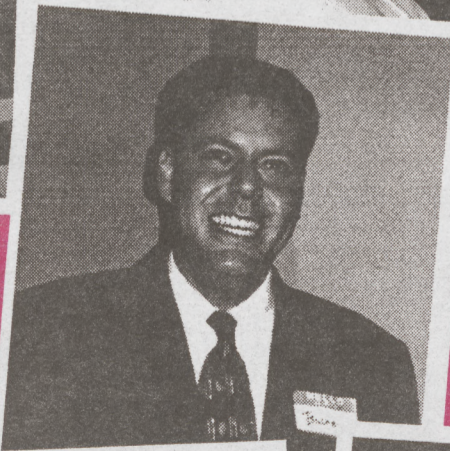
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Seeing/Being Scene at the
Chance of a Lifetime
Date Auction
Photos by Mario Rodriguez



Partying for art's sake

Masquerade Ball & erotic photo auction could help alternative gallery stay afloat

By Allen Kalchik, Editor

From Europe to Florida, California and New York, Lee Andrew's erotic photographs have been exhibited many times during his artistic career—but never before in Arizona.

That will change on Feb. 26, when the Phoenix resident lends a number of his newer prints—nearly all of them male nude studies—to a benefit showing and masquerade ball that he hopes will aid a flailing underground arts venue.

"I'm doing this to help Barbara," he says, referring to Barbara Brown, proprietor of SOHO 121. Of the year-old art-space at 121 East Camelback, Andrew says, "It's a great concept and we should try to keep it alive, because it's unique."

Brown's concept was to create an inexpensive, community-based gallery and studio space as an "art club" that accepts anyone with an interest in the arts and brings like-minded people together to share their ideas.

"Art is something that can unify all segments of society," Brown says. She founded SOHO 121 last March as a "Community Center for art. It's for artists, and for anybody who wants a place to belong, to introduce themselves to the arts community."

Her vision, however, is in financial trouble. Brown rented the commercial building hoping to sublet its gallery and

bagels, whatever, for a small donation." She has taken on some short-term renters and has managed to keep enough art displayed in the galleries to draw the interest of passers by, but says she is disappointed in the overall response to her project.

Part of the problem she's had, she admits, has been with marketing. "I'm not



Barbara Brown, owner of "art club" SOHO 121.



An example of Lee Andrew's erotic photography that will be shown at SOHO 121 on Feb. 26.

studio spaces to artists. She has also set up differing levels of membership for those who want to use the facility to read, gather ideas, preview films or chat over coffee.

"There is always coffee on and muffins,

good at that, and I guess I didn't do enough to let people know what this was and that I was here," she says.

Brown initially hoped that the gallery's close proximity to three busy gay bars and the city's gay community center and bookstore would generate more interest within the Phoenix gay community.

"The space is very conveniently located and accepting," says Andrew. "Some of the artists she has as members are established, but most are struggling." When Andrew learned that Brown may be forced to close, he says, he "wanted to help out."

The Feb. 26 all-day showing and silent auction of Andrew's photos is part of a fundraiser that includes a Masquerade ball that night and an after hours party until 4:00 a.m.

The suggested donation for the ball is \$10, \$5 in advance. DJ's Pretty Boy and Ishmael will start spinning at 10:00 p.m. The photo show opens for a preview at noon, \$3 suggested donation.

Brown is hoping that at least 200 people will show up to party and place bids on Andrew's work. For information or to buy an advance ticket, call 602/274-9225.



Known in Europe as an adult film director and erotic photographer, Lee Andrew has lived in Phoenix, La Jolla, Virginia, Texas and France on and off over the years. He first came to the Valley to attend Grand Canyon State College ten years ago.

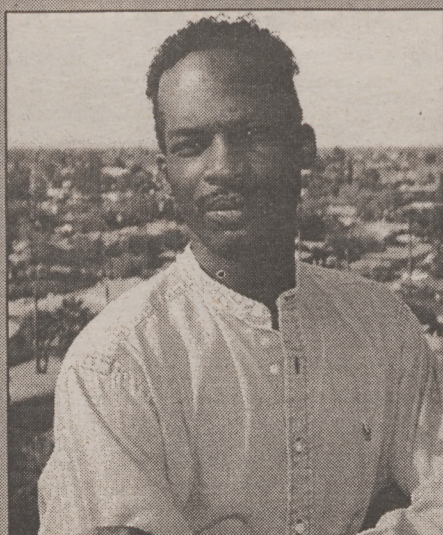
In the early '90s, he owned and later sold Parr of Arizona, a local swimsuit company. He has trained with renowned fashion and portrait photographer Herb Ritts. He moved back here two years ago, and currently works in the video production field. His X-rated action projects are limited to his frequent travels overseas.

Many of the models for Andrew's still photos, however, are local finds. He met several Valley policemen when he shot a beefcake calendar for the Phoenix Metro PD a few years ago, and one of the cops became a regular model.

He sometimes approaches men that he sees out shopping or in other public places, and tells them that he thinks they are hot and should be photographed by him.

"And you'd be surprised how many peo-

ple want you to take their picture," he says. Very often the models are straight, he says, which is no problem for him or for them. In fact, it's exciting. "I prefer to make love to men that way, with the camera, rather than physically," he says.



Phoenix photographer Lee Andrew.



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The LifeGuard Stand
By Frank Repice

PROJECT LIFE GUARD

An oral argument

Oral sex is risky? Can it be true? But didn't the Center for Disease Control (CDC) say it was safe?

These questions have been pretty common lately at the LifeGuard office. The recent news about a study of San Francisco gay men that showed 8% of HIV infections were from unprotected oral sex has people wondering about their own risk for HIV.

Many of us walk around with a shopping list of sexual activities that we feel comfortable doing and that we know are within the confines of how risky we want to be. This list can be one item long, it can keep you only in the produce section, or have you running amuck through the entire sexual grocery store.

We all have certain ideas in our head. When we get information that goes against what we have been thinking all

along, it can lead to panic.

We need something better than a shopping list. Besides, who ever has a pen handy to cross off the darned items when they get to them? Okay, I think maybe I have carried the shopping-list analogy too far.

When I really want to understand something, I try to break it down into its most basic form. Instead of going through each and every circumstance during which HIV can be transmitted sexually, I think of what all of those behaviors have in common.

Any sexual activity in which an infected person's blood, semen, vaginal fluids, or breast milk can enter an uninfected person's bloodstream is a risky behavior. Simple enough, right?

The complications come in when we start to talk about *how* risky a particular activity is. So many factors are involved with determining this that it is never exact. Generally, however, certain things hold true.

For one thing, any kind of sex with a condom is safer than the same activity without a condom. That, of course, is because those pesky above-mentioned fluids are kept at bay. That is pretty logical.

Also, anal sex without a condom is riskier than oral sex without a condom. There are simply more possible routes to

risk. So if you are wondering whether oral sex without a condom for 34 seconds after having brushed your teeth one hour

before is safe, then the answer is... how the heck do I know!

The other pattern is that everything goes back to that very basic concept described earlier. The one about the different fluids, and whether they are entering the bloodstream. If you're worried or confused, always refer back to this.

Many of us walk around with a shopping list of sexual activities that we feel comfortable doing and that we know are within the confines of how risky we want to be. This list can be one item long, it can keep you only in the produce section, or have you running amuck through the entire sexual grocery store.

the bloodstream. Not rocket science here, either.

Can you see a pattern here? Well, actually, there are two patterns.

First, as you get more specific with regard to behaviors, things get proportionally more technical with respect to

So now we're back to the first question: Is oral sex risky?

I think I answered that already.



For more information about Project LifeGuard and its programs, call 602/254-3233.

Head of New Mexico Catholic church disputes newspaper AIDS survey

SANTA FE (AP)—The head of the Roman Catholic church in New Mexico is disputing a newspaper survey that found priests in the United States are dying from AIDS-related illnesses at a rate four times higher than the general population.

Archbishop Michael Sheehan has denounced the January series by the *Kansas City Star*, which also suggests that priests who died of the illness often had it concealed on their death certificates, as "a hatchet job" and "outrageously unfair."

"It seems like the media picks on priests," Sheehan said. "I believe priests are overstudied, and more studies are done on priests than other professional groups. It's almost like they're trying to

put (priests) in an unfavorable light."

Sheehan, the leader of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe's 300,000 Roman Catholics, said he knows of no priest in his jurisdiction with AIDS or HIV, the virus that causes the disease. He also said none of the 100 or so priests in his archdiocese has died of the disease.

Sheehan said one priest he knew, who lived elsewhere, possibly died of AIDS. But he still urged readers to be "extremely cautious" about the survey's conclusions.

The *Star* received 801 responses to questionnaires that were sent last fall to 3,000 of the 46,000 priests in the United States. The margin of error of the survey

was 3.5 percentage points.

Six of 10 priests responding said they knew of at least one priest who had died of an AIDS-related illness, and one-third knew a priest living with AIDS. Three-fourths said the church needed to provide more education to seminarians on sexual issues.

Star reporter Judy Thomas, who wrote the AIDS series, said she worked with several polling experts in setting up the survey. She also said researchers from within the Catholic community assisted with the survey to word questions appropriately.

"I just think the fact that 801 priests responded to the survey shows that

priests across the country see this as an issue that needs to be addressed," Thomas said.

The *Star* said precise numbers of priests who have died of AIDS or become infected with HIV is unknown, partly because many suffer in solitude. When priests tell their superiors, the cases generally are handled quietly.

But Sheehan said the *Star's* conclusion that there is a much higher percentage of AIDS among priests than the national average is "simply not true."

"Our sexually permissive society has taken its toll on priests," he said. "Now there's an effort to correct the situation and recommit."

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Notable Quotes

Newsmakers, Celebrities & Others Speak Out

Compiled by Rex Wockner



"I can't imagine going back to South Beach. I can tell from my visit last weekend that the place is too shallow even for someone who can enjoy the escape the party scene offers. If I want to spend the weekend surrounded by emotionally neutered body boys, I can seek them out a lot closer to home. At least the body boys I know here [in Boston] can probably tell me the names of the congressperson, mayor, governor or city councilor who represents them, rather than just the names of the DJs appearing that week."

—Jeff Epperly, editor of *Boston's Bay Windows*, in a Jan. 6 editorial.

"Gaydar can lead to a social form of racial profiling. The police aren't stopping gays on the highway, but a gay who comes anywhere near the Richard Simmons profile still carries an added burden in the workplace. At its worst, gaydar is deadly. At the Army base in Kentucky where Private First Class Barry Winchell was beaten to death with a baseball bat last July 5, he hadn't told that he was gay, in strict compliance with regulations. It was gaydar that tracked him down."

—*Time* magazine columnist Margaret Carlson, Jan. 31. In reality, "gaydar" is gays' ability to recognize each other, not straight people's ability to spot effeminate homosexuals.

"If [Republican Presidential candidate John] McCain were to follow his comments [about having gaydar] to their logical conclusion, he would announce that his Administration will adopt a new approach to gays in the military, more consistent with his own experience on the U.S.S. Forrester. I suggest he call it Everyone Knows! Who Cares?"

—*Time* magazine columnist Margaret Carlson, Jan. 31.

"You look around, all these billions of people on this planet, and some of them are perfectly happy. And nobody knows their name. And they're perfectly happy. They eat great food. They listen to wonderful music. They have great families. They experience nature. They have God. They have all this stuff in their lives. ... So who's to say I'm any better off than they are? I just got trapped in a dream ... to be a big star. ... And they didn't but they're living, and they're happy. And they have just as much joy in their lives as I do in mine, probably more."

—Gay icon Bette Midler to the AP, Jan. 26.

"Only in a so weirdly superstitious and sectarian country as the U.S. could a personal identity be forged out of sexual desire, the most fluctuating of all transient emotion."

—Writer Gore Vidal to *Atlanta's Southern Voice*, Jan. 13.

"Monogamy is hardly normative in the male, particularly in youth. The marriage issue, however, is a great boon for homophobes because it lets them sidestep all the things that should be set right, from sodomy laws in various states, to discrimination in the workplace. Also marriage makes people think of God, who is so very important to our poor, bamboozled folks. The founders (and I) wanted God thrown out the window at Philadelphia, but the crazies breed like chiggers and he keeps slithering back in. He now dominates so much of radio and TV. Until a stake has been driven through the heart of monotheism, the U.S. will never come

within a continuum of civilization. That suits them chiggers real fine."

—Writer Gore Vidal to *Atlanta's Southern Voice*, Jan. 13.

"There are hundreds and thousands of people that I represent that are just like me—that don't happen to have two Grammys—that this affects. And this affects me deeply. What Proposition 22 does is tell me, my partner, my children, that we are less than my neighbor."

—Melissa Etheridge at a Jan. 28 Beverly Hills press conference against Proposition 22, California's anti-gay-marriage ballot initiative.

"Melissa [Etheridge] has revealed that they used the sperm of ageing rock star David Crosby of Crosby Stills Nash and Young. Oh dear. Let's pray that if Jodie Foster has a similar shock in store—Sonny Bono? Eric Clapton? Andrew Lloyd-Webber?—she'll keep it to herself. Please."

—London's *The Pink Paper*, Jan. 14.

"SHUT DOWN GLAAD. You started out as a group fighting for accurate media portrayals of gay people, but you turned into a sanctimonious band of free speech censors. Local media constantly misrepresents or ignores us and where do you spend your time? Complaining that 27 gay characters on TV isn't enough. I say resign, but not before you refund our donations."

—Atlanta columnist Michael Alvear, writing in the Jan. 13 issue of *Sacramento, California's Outword*.

"LESBIANS LOSE THE GOD-AWFUL NAME. 'Lesbian.' It sounds like the spooze oozing out of a bad Vincent Price movie. Try something with 'woman' in it while you're at it. It'll remind you you're still part of the human race."

—Atlanta columnist Michael Alvear, writing in the Jan. 13 issue of *Sacramento, California's Outword*.

"I don't see the Pet Shop Boys as a gay pop group. I mean, do you have to see Benjamin Britten as a gay composer?"

—Pet Shop Boys singer Neil Tennant to *Out* magazine, January issue.

"The songwriter part of my brain is always working, always writing a song. Even in a really tough emotional situation, I'll be thinking, That's a good idea! That's how the song 'I Don't Know What You Want but I Can't Give It Anymore' came about. I thought that!"

—Pet Shop Boys singer Neil Tennant to *Out* magazine, January issue.

"I don't care whether a person is gay. I judge people based on their capability, honesty, and merit. Being in the entertainment business—that is, owning casinos and ... several large beauty pageants—I've worked with many gay people. I have met some tough, talented, capable, terrific people. Their lifestyle is of no interest to me."

—Former Reform Party presidential candidate Donald Trump to the *Advocate*, Feb. 15.

"I like the idea of amending the 1964 Civil Rights Act to include a ban on discrimination based on sexual orientation. It would be simple. It would be straightforward. We don't need to rewrite the laws currently on the books, although I do think we need to address hate-crimes legislation. But amending the Civil Rights Act would grant the same protection to gay people that we give to other Americans—it's only fair."

—Former Reform Party presidential candidate Donald Trump to the *Advocate*, Feb. 15.

"I think the institution of marriage should be between a man and a woman. I do favor a very strong domestic-partnership law that guarantees gay people the same legal protection and rights as married people. I think it's important for gay couples who are committed to each other to not be hassled when it comes to inheritance, insurance benefits, and other simple everyday rights."

—Former Reform Party presidential candidate Donald Trump to the *Advocate*, Feb. 15.

"Don't ask, don't tell' has clearly failed. Gay people serve effectively in the military in a number of European countries. There is no reason why they can't serve in the United States."

—Former Reform Party presidential candidate Donald Trump to the *Advocate*, Feb. 15.

"I used to like Pat [Buchanan]. I was on *Crossfire* with him. I thought he was a nice guy. Then I read the things he had written about Hitler, Jews, blacks, gays, and Mexicans. I mean, I think it's disgusting. That speech he made at the '92 Republican convention was a disaster. He wants to divide Americans. Clearly, he has a love affair with Adolf Hitler, and that's sick. Buchanan actually said gay people had chosen 'satan[ism] and suicide.' Now he says he welcomes gay people into his campaign. The guy is a hypocrite."

—Former Reform Party presidential candidate Donald Trump to the *Advocate*, Feb. 15.

"Every [gay] stereotype is the basis of someone's lifestyle, and at any gay gathering large enough to be noticed by the

press, you'll see the violation of your most cherished belief on flagrant display."

—Village Voice Executive Editor Richard Goldstein writing in the Feb. 15 *Advocate*.

"I've gone out with some nuts. When I first met them, they seemed decent and regular and said they weren't big fans, but then they turn out to be crazy — mad, insane Madonna fans. Looking back, it's pretty funny. Nobody's ever caused any harm. Let's just say it was bad judgment on my part."

—Madonna's brother Christopher Ciccone to the *Advocate*, Feb. 15.

"We've made many efforts to educate Dr. Laura about our community, to challenge her position so she could respond with understanding and awareness, and we've found her to be impervious to reason."

—Joan Garry, head of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, to Los Angeles' *Fab*, Feb. 4.

"Being gay wasn't a prerequisite of being in the group, it was how well you sang and you danced. But it was basically a group formed to appeal to gay audiences."

—Village People construction worker David Hodo to London's *Gay Times*, February issue.

"Equality is a good start, but it is not sufficient. Equality for queers inevitably means equal rights on straight terms, since they are the ones who dominate and determine the existing legal framework. We conform—albeit equally—with their screwed up system. That is not liberation. It is capitulation."

—British gay leader Peter Tatchell (of OutRage! fame) to *gaytoday.badpuppy.com*, Feb. 3.

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Hollywood Deep Inside

By Romeo San Vicente, HeatStroke Contributor

EARTHA'S AN EVIL QUEEN

Sexy septuagenarian singer **Eartha Kitt**, famous as Catwoman in the '60s *Batman* TV show, will be playing evil once again, this time on the big screen. Kitt will be heard (but not seen) in the upcoming Disney animated release, *The Emperor's New Groove*.

Based loosely on Mark Twain's *The Prince and the Pauper*, *Groove* tells the tale of stuck-up Aztec Prince Kuzco (voiced by smarmy funnyman **David Spade**), who's set to take the throne of the empire on his 18th birthday, at which time his evil aunt Yzma (voiced by the sultry chanteuse) must step down.

But like all good villainesses, Yzma isn't about to cooperate. She enlists the help of henchman Kronk (**Patrick Warburton**, who played Puddy on *Seinfeld*) to kill the young prince. Needless to say, wacky antics ensue, most of which teach young Kuzco how to be a better ruler.

Disney has been working on *Groove*, originally titled *Kingdom of the Sun*, for over four years, and a rumored \$30 million worth of completed animation has been discarded in an attempt to work out the story's troubled plot. But the resulting film, including original songs by **Sting**, is rumored to be Disney's funniest flick since *Aladdin*. *Groove* is currently slated for release around Christmas.

WHAT WILL TREY PARKER WEAR?

While queer faves **Hilary Swank** and **Chloe Sevigny** (*Boys Don't Cry*), **Tom Cruise** (*Magnolia*), **Kevin Spacey** (*American Beauty*), and director **Pedro Almodovar** (*All About My Mother*) will all be going to the Academy Award ceremony on March 26, there will be one downer for gays.

The Academy has vowed to do away with those annoying **Debbie Allen**-choreographed interpretive dance numbers—and **Marc Shaiman** and **Trey Parker's** song "Blame Canada," from *South Park: Bigger, Longer and Uncut*, has been nominated for Best Original Song. What will **Brian Boitano** do? Bummer. (I'm guessing **Celine Dion** won't be the one picked to sing this *South Park* anthem.)

ED HARRIS JOINS GLAD

Actors (and real-life husband-and-wife team) **Ed Harris** and **Amy Madigan** have partnered with producers (and real-life couple) **Elton John** and **David Furnish** in an attempt to bring the Scottish novel *So I Am Glad* to the big screen.

Glad, written by **A.L. Kennedy**, tells the tale of a voice-over artist (to be played by **Madigan**) with a troubled past and a taste for sadism who finds true love when she meets a drug addict. The dark romance is said to be very funny.

Knopf plans to publish the novel this month in the United States, and the producers are expected to announce a screenwriter on the project shortly.

MOORE FOLLOWS IN FOSTER'S FOOTSTEPS

It looks like actress **Julianne Moore**, who just garnered an Oscar nomination



Hilary Swank lost out to **Julianne Moore** for the chance to play **Clarice** in *Hannibal*, the sequel to *Silence of the Lambs*.

for Best Actress for her turn in the high-end, soft-core porn flick—er, I mean classy movie—*The End of the Affair*, will take on the role of **Clarice Starling** in *Hannibal*, the much-anticipated sequel to *Silence of the Lambs*.

Moore, who beat out a host of other actresses for the role, including fellow Oscar nominee **Hilary Swank**, is perhaps the best choice in the age-appropriate sense.

The latest pass at the screenplay, by high-priced *Schindler's List* scribe **Steve Zaillian**, is said to leave the door open for yet another sequel—and some more fava beans and Chianti. *Hannibal* is expected to roll before cameras in June.

SEX AND THE SINGLE GUY

Rumor has it that **Darren Starr**, who created the HBO hit *Sex and the City*, is hard at work developing a gay version of the show.

The current series, which already has a

huge gay following, features lovelies **Sarah Jessica Parker**, **Kim Cattrall**, **Cynthia Nixon**, and **Kristin Davis** shamelessly enjoying their sexual prime—and talking about it a lot. The new series is said to be along the same lines: a core cast of guys compare notes on their sexual adventures.

There will be a few female supporting characters for interest, but none as romantic interests. No word from HBO yet about when the queer version will go into production.

JODIE HAS SOMETHING TO CROWE ABOUT

Tongues were wagging when Academy Award-winning actress **Jodie Foster** showed up at this year's Golden Globes arm in arm with Aussie hunk and *Insider* star **Russell Crowe**.

The two were sighted at parties slow-dancing and acting extremely cozy and couple-like. Inquiring minds also noted



Russell Crowe will star in *Flora Plum*, which will be directed by **Jodie Foster**.

that the duo had been shopping together earlier in the week for baby clothes (presumably for the single mama's son, **Charles**).

Now we know why they're such good buds. **Crowe** is about to sign on for a starring role in *Flora Plum*, the \$20 million drama **Jodie's** directing, producing and starring in. **Crowe** will play a 1930s circus freak who falls in love with a young girl (played by **Claire Danes**).

Meryl Streep will co-star in the *Phantom of the Opera*-like tale, which goes before cameras this spring.

LOST GIRLS?

Gay director **Joel Schumacher** is turning his slick 1987 vampire flick *Lost Boys* into a franchise by doing a little gender-switching.

The director, Warner Bros., and Village Roadshow (the hip production house behind *The Matrix*) are hard at work developing a female version of the film. The story idea for the retread is **Schumacher's**:

two sisters move to a California town only to discover that the local A-List girls are actually vampires.

But **Schumacher** is not expected to direct *The Lost Girls*, so everyone is currently searching for a hip writer-director type to come aboard. You can expect *The Lost Girls* to boast a hot soundtrack and even hotter cast, just like the original.

MORE BEANE ON THE BIG SCREEN

Gay screenwriter **Douglas Carter Beane**, who counts *To Wong Foo* among his credits, has another project inching to fruition.

How Life Is—originally titled *Rasputin's Penis*—focuses on a group of rich kids (called "trustafarians" by **Beane**) who lose their trust fund and pull an insurance scam by taking out a policy on a suicidal homeless man.

British commercial and music video directors **Andy Delaney** and **Monty Whitebloom**, known collectively as Big

TV!, have signed on to direct the dark comedy for New Line Cinema. The Big TV! team has worked on music videos for gay popster **George Michael**, **Lauryn Hill**, and current rage **Macy Gray**. The studio hopes to have the amorality tale in production later this year.

Romeo San Vicente has lots of ideas, based on personal experience, for episodes of the queer *Sex and the City*. You can reach **Romeo** in care of *HeatStroke* or via e-mail at **RomeoDeep@aol.com**.

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Out of Town

By
Andrew Collins



Planning the Perfect Road Trip

When people find out I'm on the road six to eight months of the year, they nearly always want to know how many frequent-flyer miles I've racked up. "You must spend half your life in airports," they muse, suddenly imagining the flip side of my job as a travel writer.

I'm always happy to report that, in fact, I fly no more than three or four times annually, usually when air travel is my only practical option (for example, to Europe or Australia). For North American destinations, I travel by car—there is no activity more exhilarating to me than taking to the open road.

Car travel is not for everybody. If time is tight, you're better off flying: with the most ambitious itinerary, you need to factor in at least a full day of travel for every 500 miles you plan to cover by car. It takes at least six days to drive across the country, above and beyond the time spent exploring each destination. And the best way to experience the terrain is to avoid the superhighways and stick to slower but more scenic roads.

I crisscross the continent at least once a year, typically taking in 30 to 40 cities and passing through 15 to 25 U.S. states and Canadian provinces. I take three to five months on such a trip and still usually wind up feeling rushed.

The most important decision to make before setting out is whether to use your own car, rent a car, or fly to a given destination and rent one on arrival. I use my own car, partly because as a travel writer on assignment I'm able to deduct most automobile expenses.

If your trip isn't work-related, using your own car may not be cost-effective. The money you spend on gas, tolls, and parking, combined with the wear and tear on your car (or the extra miles if you lease your car), can amount to a tremendous expense.

The best car for a long road trip is a late-model (still with its full factory warranty), mid-size sedan with a large trunk and a dependable car alarm—I drive a Saab, which I chose largely because of its excellent security features and its enormous cargo space.

A car with an expired warranty is a risk, given the myriad hazards you might encounter on the road. Sedans are roomier than coupes, and rear passenger doors make it easier to get to luggage stored on

the back seat.

A trunk is better than an open-bed storage space like the back of a sport-utility vehicle or a station wagon, because it's protected from the sun (which can damage film, food, beer and wine, and many toiletries) and is hidden from the covetous eyes of potential burglars.

A mid-size sedan, while not as handy and cost-effective as a compact car, gets much better mileage than a sport-utility vehicle, is fairly easy to park and maneuver, and ensures the smoothest and most comfortable ride.

If the car you own fails to meet most of the above requirements, consider either renting one locally for the entire trip or flying part of the way and renting a car once you arrive. The immediate expense may seem high (typically from \$150 to \$250 weekly for a mid-size), but the advantages can be tremendous, especially if the car-rental agency offers free unlimited mileage and roadside assistance. Remember, however, that most rental-car agencies charge a hefty premium if you return the car in a different city than where you started, so a loop itinerary may be your best strategy.

Before planning any road trip, pick up detailed maps covering the region that interests you. Bound, indexed atlases are more convenient than foldout maps. Better yet, buy a CD-ROM street atlas and/or trip planner and use it with a laptop computer if you have one.

My favorite program is Microsoft's Expedia Streets and Trip Planner, but both Rand McNally and Delorme also make excellent products. This software will allow you, with unbelievable ease, to pinpoint addresses, determine the exact length (in miles and hours) of your itinerary, and plot the most time-efficient route.

Packing for a long road trip, one that involves spending one or two nights in multiple cities, differs markedly from conventional packing. The best approach is to imagine the back of your car as a combination closet, kitchen cupboard, and office.

I strongly recommend you confine your luggage to one carry-on suitcase and, if necessary, a backpack or duffel bag—there's no reason to haul a massive suitcase between your car and your hotel every night or two. I use a standard-size carry-on manufactured by Andiamo, which I've found to be the best luggage-maker around.

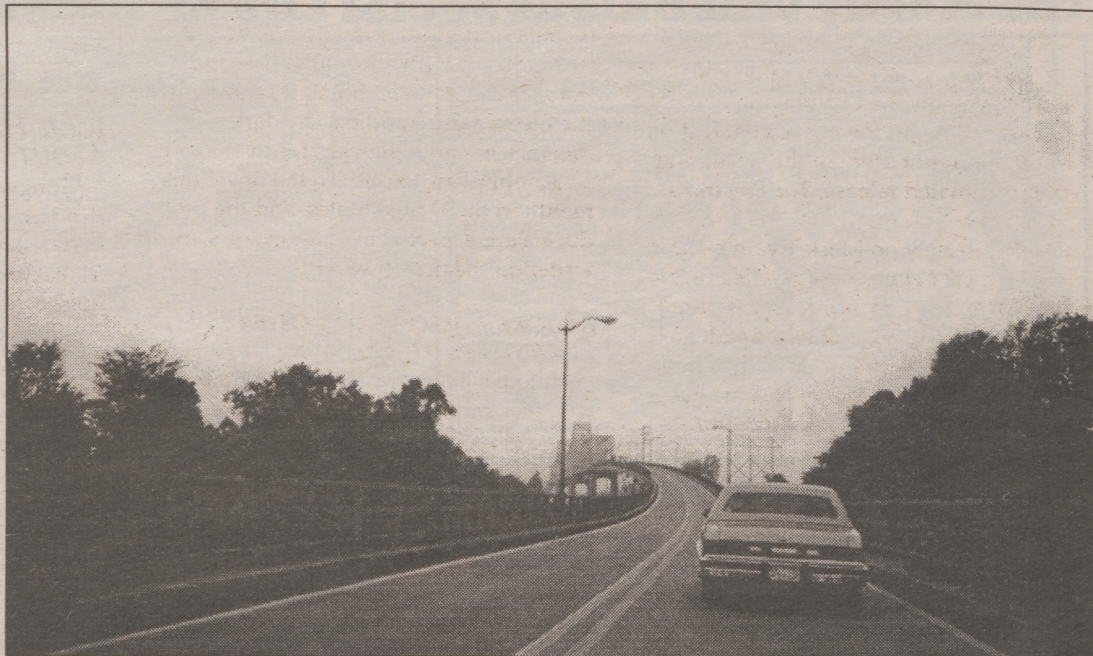
No matter the length of the trip, pack your two small bags with no more than the clothing and belongings you'll need for three or four days. Store your luggage on the backseat of your car, along with any other items you'll be taking into the hotel with you each night.

Use your trunk to store the many things you'll need at some point during

your trip but won't be using every day, such as extra clothing, travel guides and maps, and non-perishable food. Configure your trunk as follows: Depending on how much stuff you're bringing, buy some cheap plastic stackable storage drawers and line your trunk with them (use a bungee cord to keep them from flying open while in motion).

ing restaurant leftovers in your cooler and making lunch out of them the following day (most highway truck stops have microwaves, if the thought of cold, day-old shrimp pad Thai gives you the willies).

Such detailed road-tripping strategies may sound excessively anal-retentive, but good planning will actually enhance your



Anybody who's ever driven from coast to coast knows that crossing the mighty Mississippi River, in this case along U.S. 82 from Mississippi to Arkansas, inspires a great sense of accomplishment.

Open plastic milk crates work well for books, atlases, and music carrying cases, but at least one of these drawers is a must for smaller, easily misplaced items, such as batteries, a flashlight, a few basic tools, first-aid supplies, a portable umbrella, various office supplies, extra film and a disposable camera, spare toiletries, a sewing kit, and whatever else you might need.

Extra clothing should be folded and placed either in storage drawers or in an open laundry basket. Keep a large garbage bag beside your clean clothes, and a bottle of laundry detergent beside that. Each time you check out of a hotel, toss your dirty clothes into the garbage bag and restock your luggage with a fresh change of outfits, books, and other supplies. And don't worry when the clean clothes run out—laundromats are not only cheap and abundant, they're great places to meet people!

Lastly, invest in a dependable food cooler (and maybe a thermos), which you should always keep in your trunk. Hot cereals and soups that can be heated in their own containers work nicely in any hotel room with a coffeemaker, and high-carbohydrate snacks like Power Bars, peanut-butter crackers, and dried fruit travel well at any temperature.

But a cooler is ideal for perishables, wine, and beer. And it's amazing how much money you can save by stor-

ability to cut loose on the road. If you've got your belongings, atlases, and travel gear in order, you're in a much better position to throw caution to the wind in ways that really matter, like deciding at the last minute to add a Vegas side trip to that trek you've planned down the coast from Vancouver to San Diego. And remember, in the words of Robert Louis Stevenson, "it is better to travel hopefully than to arrive."

Andrew Collins authored 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 care of this publication or at GayFodors@aol.com.


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The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green...

...by Eric Orner

The Big Announcement

THIS CARD YOU MAILED CAME BACK. YOU FORGOT THE STAMP. SO, WHO'S "GAY"?

SIGH (LONG PAUSE) ... A FEW WEEKENDS AGO, WHEN YOU WERE AT THAT WEATHERMAN'S CONVENTION... I... I JUST WENT OUT FOR A BEER... AND MET THIS KID, GAV. AND I... I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT HIM AND... AND...

The Gory Details

AND YOU SLEPT WITH HIM?

NO! I DIDN'T! I NEVER EVEN TOUCHED HIM!

The Bottom Line

BUT YOU WANT TO...

NO I uh.. IT'S NOT ABOUT SEX.. WELL, IT IS ABOUT SEX, BUT.. OH ETHAN, DON'T INTERROGATE ME...

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The Bottom Line Refined

SO, WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

I DUNNO.. MAYBE I NEED SOME TIME TO UNDERSTAND WHAT I AM FEELING

MAYDAY MAYDAY

Preliminary Response

"UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE FEELING?" LET ME SEE IF I CAN HELP YOU OUT, DOUGIE, YOU'RE FEELING LUST. FOR A KID HALF YOUR AGE.

DOES THAT.. Y'KNOW, HELP BRING FOCUS TO YOUR PSYCHIC FRIGGING/ ETCH-A-SKETCH.

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Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel

Village Idiot

MO, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! THE DEAN'S RECEPTION IS AT EIGHT! I'M JUST GONNA CHANGE MY CLOTHES, THEN WE HAVE TO LEAVE!

I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD, SYDNEY.

LOOK, I KNOW YOU HATE THESE THINGS, BUT I HARDLY EVER ASK YOU TO COME, AND THIS ONE'S IMPORTANT!

I THINK IT'S THE FLU. GO WITHOUT ME. YOU'LL BE FINE.

GOD, THIS FOURTH YEAR SCRUTINY IS KILLING ME. I WAS HOPING YOU COULD HELP ME SCORE SOME POINTS WITH THE DEAN TONIGHT.

HOW WOULD YOUR LESBO GIRL-FRIEND POSSIBLY SCORE YOU POINTS?

BECAUSE MY PRESSED, STARCHED, LATIN PUN-SPEWING ARCHIVAL BETSY GILHOOLY WILL BE THERE WITH HER GIRLFRIEND.

OH, RIGHT. THE ONE YOU'RE COMPETING WITH FOR TENURE.

AND TO TOP IT OFF, NOW THE GIRLFRIEND'S PREGNANT. THE DEAN'S VERY BIG ON CHILDREN. EVEN BIOENGINEERED ONES.

MO, I THINK I HAVE THE FLU OR SOMETHING. I CAN'T GET OFF THE COUCH. CAN YOU COME OVER AND HELP WITH ISABEL?

OKAY, HARRIET. I'LL BE RIGHT THERE.

IF YOU'RE TOO SICK TO COME TO THE RECEPTION, YOU'RE TOO SICK TO GO PLAY HOUSE!

HARRIET, MO'S A MESS. YOU'LL HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER NANNY. ... OH, REALLY?... EVERYONE? YOU DON'T SAY...

LATER THAT EVENING...

WHAT A NICE WAY TO END THE WORKDAY THESE COLLEAGUE GATHERINGS ARE, DEAN. OR AS I ALWAYS SAY, SIC TRANSIT GLORIA TUESDAY! AH HAHAHAHA!

MS. KRUKOWSKI! WHO'S THIS LITTLE CHERUB? I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE A PARENT!

WELL, DEAN, TECHNICALLY I'M JUST HELPING OUT A SICK FRIEND, BUT YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY-- IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD.

A Couple of guys
Dave Grossman
"Clothes Call"

HELLO, MRS. ROMELLI...UH JOYCE?

YES?

THIS IS LOIS PARKER--ERIC'S MOTHER. I'M SO GLAD I REACHED YOU. I WAS JUST ON THE PHONE WITH ERIC, AND THE STRANGEST THING HAPPENED...

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NATHAN AND RICHARD GET TOGETHER FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE HOLIDAYS...

LOUELLA DOUCHE NOZZLE!

EGRETTE, QUEEN OF THE LIZARD PEOPLE! SO, HOW WAS YOUR NEW YEARS?

OH, RUBEN AND I DECIDED TO MAKE OUR OWN FIREWORKS... AT HOME!

HOW WAS "BABSTOCK"?

FABULOUS--

OF COURSE, I HADDA SCALP STEVE'S TICKET-- TO A FAT QUEEN FROM L.A. WHO FELT COMPELLED TO SING ALONG WITH BARBRA OUT LOUD... EVERY SONG.

ALL OF A SUDDEN, HE SAID HE HAD TO HANG UP--THAT JOEY HAD HAD AN ACCIDENT!

GASP!

OH MY GOD, JOEY'S HAD AN ACCIDENT!

NOW, I DON'T WANT TO ALARM YOU. IT MAY NOT BE ANYTHING...

HAVE YOU SPOKEN TO STEVE SINCE YOU GUYS GOT BACK?

NO... NOT YET... OH! LEMME SHOW YOU SOME OF THE INCREDIBLE STUFF I BOUGHT!!

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I'M THE GREATEST STAR!

BUT I COULD HEAR JOEY IN THE BACKGROUND. HE SOUNDED AS THOUGH HE WAS IN A LOT OF PAIN.

IT COULDN'T BEEN WORSE: IF IT WAS A TIGHTER WEAVE, IT MIGHT'VE TAKEN YOUR NIPPLE OFF!

NATHAN! I THOUGHT YOU MAXED OUT YOUR CREDIT CARDS PAYING FOR THE TRIP... HOW'D YOU AFFORD ALL THIS SHIT?!

I TOOK OUT A LOAN... I-- I HADDA HAVE IT...

ARE YOU KIDDING ME?! DON'T YOU SEE, THIS BARBRA OBSESSION IS DESTROYING YOUR LIFE?! YOU'RE RUINING A GREAT RELATIONSHIP AND NOW YOU'RE IN SERIOUS DEBT-- GET A GRIP ALREADY!!

YOU'RE RIGHT... SOB

THANK YOU...SNIFF? Y'KNOW THIS IS JUST LIKE WHEN NICK NOLTE CRIED ON DR. LOWENSTEIN'S SHOULDER IN "PRINCE OF TIDES"...

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Dear Cowboy,

This is more of an etiquette question, but maybe you can help me out. Last week, I went to lunch with a group of co-workers. We all ordered different things that were around the same price range on the menu. The sandwich I got turned out to be huge, so I asked for a box and had the waiter cut it in half for me to take home.

When the check came, my boss (who is also a friend) picked it up and announced that she was treating everybody. I didn't really expect her to, but she makes a lot more than the rest of us and she has done that before. So we all thanked her and then left.

When we got in the car, my friend told

me I was wrong not to offer the untouched half of my sandwich to our boss. She said that since someone else had paid, then technically the food belonged to them. She said that, according to proper etiquette, I was supposed to have asked and our boss was supposed to say no, and tell me to take it anyway. I never heard that before. Is it right?

Signed, Doggie Bagger in Phoenix

Dear Bagger,

No, no, no. I don't know where in thunderation this cowgirl is taking her rules of behavior from, but she's definitely got her reins twisted on this one. The half sandwich was abso-tively yours to keep. Making any reference to the fact

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that your boss paid for it would have been in very poor taste.

A classy host or hostess always pretends not to notice how much (or how little) his or her guests eat, whether treating at a highfalutin saloon, buying burgers at McDonald's, or dishing up a home-cooked gourmet meal back at the ranch. And classy guests learn not to pay any attention to those matters, either.

There's one basic rule when it comes to prices and restaurant treating, and that is that you should not order something more expensive than whatever the cowpoke who's treating you orders for his or herself. He or she is supposed to order first, and to purposely pick one of the more expensive items available. Of course, this rule only works when you all know that you're going to be treated before you choose your portions—so it would not have applied to you in this case, anyway. Hope this helps, and enjoy the sandwich!

Dear Cowboy,

My boyfriend is always trying to kiss me in parking lots or hold my hand when we are walking in a mall or somewhere else in public. He's a lot younger than me and thinks one way of getting straight

people used to the idea of two men together is by being open about our affection right in their faces.

I see his point, and yet I don't feel comfortable with public displays of affection. I never have, even in gay bars. I told him that, but that only made it worse. Now he likes to tease me by surprising me with kisses and squeezes, and he thinks it's funny to see me get angry. Am I just being too old fashioned?

Signed, Private Person

Dear Private,

I admire your pardner's proactive political sensibility. Maybe if there were more folks in same-sex pairings willing to be as physically open as he is, we'd see social changes come around a bit sooner.

BUT we all have a right to feel comfortable and safe when we are out in public, so I think he's way out of line not to respect your request to keep his hands on his own saddle when other folks are around.

And the idea that he likes to get you get riled up sounds plum crazy to me. He's only continuing to tease you 'cause you're continuing to let him. Make your wishes known, be serious about it, and draw the line.



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Story Historic District — 1920's English cottage. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, family room, hardwood floors, fireplace, 2-car garage, \$139,800 Mario Romero's Success Team, The Melcher Agency. 602/943-3003. www.MarioRomero.Realtor.Com

Charming Historic Coronado Home— Converted coach house, circa 1930; 1 bedroom/1 bath loft, 1200 sq. ft., wood floors, fireplace, fabulous kitchen & bath, remodeled by an architect, set back on a deep lot with tons of privacy & desert landscaping. Absolutely gorgeous. \$129,900 Call Chris Perez, 480/889-8718; Remax Realty.

Beautiful Historic Territorial Adobe— 4 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath, formal dining room, fireplace, wood beamed ceilings, polished flagstone floors on a double lot for \$339,800. Mario Romero's Success Team, The Melcher Agency, 602/943-3003. www.MarioRomero.com

Historic Property Specialist— Downtown Phoenix. Rod Whitt Realty Executives 602/956-5500

Story Historic District 2 bedroom/ 2 bath 1250 sqft, stone kitchen counters w/newer maple cabinets, awesome travertine tile in both bathrooms, wood floors! Rod Whitt Realty Executives 602/956-5500

\$210,000 Stunning 3 bedroom/2bath, w/guesthouse & bath. 2000 + sqft, Travertine flooring, granite kitchen counters, 2 car garage, Fireplace & room for a pool! Rod Whitt Realty Executives 602/956-5500 www.rodwhitt.com

Experience, Preparation, Performance... Put them to Work for You! Call Lisa L. Seeley at KLM Realty for all your Real Estate Needs— Residential Resale, Multi-Family, or Commercial. 602/252-7777

High Rise Living! Condos downtown \$75,000 to \$2,500,000. Yes, you can live in Phoenix in *Style!* Studios, 1, 2, 3+ bedrooms 300 to 4,000 sqft. Views, Views, Views! Rod Whitt Realty Executives 602/956-5500

\$166,000 Circa 1939—2 bedroom/ 1 bath great location on Ashland Street, 1250 sqft. granite kitchen counters, travertine tiled bath, brick walkways & patios, formal dining, french doors to the back yard. Rod Whitt Realty Executives 602/956-5500

Lofts Space—Downtown Phoenix! Turn of the century conversion! Granite/marble/ fireplaces/wood floors/+++ 900-1600 sqft, \$140s to \$270s Rod Whitt Realty Executives 602/956-5500

For Rent or Lease

Condo for Rent—Biltmore Reserve, 20th Street and Colter, 2br/2ba, 1400 sq ft remodeled condo, low-density complex with historical architecture and spectacular wall-to-wall view of Squaw Peak. Non smoking only, no pets. \$1175/mo. 602/406-3137.

1920's English Cottage Duplex— in the Story Historic District, 2 BR, formal dining room, wood floors, fireplace for \$775/mo. Mario Romero's Success Team, The Melcher Agency. 602/943-3003.

Willo District— 2 bedroom home, formal dining room, on a large lot for \$775/mo. Mario Romero's Success Team, The Melcher Agency 602/943-3003.

Central Phoenix — 2 BR home, formal din., new carpet, paint, AC & evap on a large lot for \$750/mo. Mario Romero's Success Team, The Melcher Agency. 602/943-3003.

Fierce Environment—Scottsdale 2bd/2ba condo—candles set the mood, poolside, w/balcony & furnished to a "T". Available daily, weekly, monthly. Rod Whitt Realty Executives 602/956-5500

Out-of-Town

Give Yourself a Break—Spend a relaxing weekend in the heart of Warm Sands, Palm Springs' gay ghetto. Call for reservations at Bacchanal, an intimate, clothing-optional resort for men. Luxurious accommodations, courtesy kitchens, heated pool and spa. 800/806-9059; www.Bacchanal.net

Services

Income Tax Preparation by Camelwest Tax Service, proudly serving our community since 1983. Days/evenings/weekends, near Bethany/43 Ave. E-file included in all fees. Call 602/841-5414 for appointment.

Straight Teeth Without Braces—With 3D computer graphics, we make removable, invisible appliances that effectively straighten your teeth without conventional braces. No metal. Removable. Invisible. Call Dr. John Cavanaugh for complimentary consultation. 602/971-4200.

Videos

Free Catalog—Gay XXX Videos. Over 30 videos reviewed each edition plus news, gossip and XXX images. Call 800/722-4336 or www.radvideo.com (free site/secure ordering).



Are your Marketing Expenses getting out of hand?

Every two weeks *HeatStroke Gay & Lesbian News* delivers award-winning features, commentary and humor to Phoenix's most lucrative market. *HeatStroke* offers an exceptionally affordable advertising value—display ads start at just \$29 per issue.

Call us. Your bottom line will thank you.

602.264.3646



Directory of Nonprofit Services for the Phoenix Metro Gay & Lesbian Community

HIV Services

AGAPE Network
P.O. Box 32778
Phoenix 85064 602/234-6143

AIDS Project Arizona
1427 N. 3rd Street, Suite 125
Phoenix 85004 602/253-2437

A Place Called Home
3431 W. Thunderbird #13-403
Phoenix 85023 602/942-1572

Arizona AIDS Information Line
24 W. Camelback Rd., Suite C
Phoenix 85013 602/234-2752

Arizona AIDS Policy Alliance
6523 N. 14th St., #112
Phoenix 85014 602/279-4805

AZ AIDS Services for the Deaf
111 E. Camelback
Phoenix 85012 602/265-9953

Aunt Rita's Foundation
5501 N. 7th Ave.#215
Phoenix 85013 602/279-0716

Coalition of Meal Providers
992-6593

HIV Care Directions
1366 E. Thomas#105
Phoenix 85014 602/264-2273

Native American Community Health Center
3008 N. 3rd Street, Suite 302
Phoenix 85012 602/279-5262

Joshua Tree Feeding Program
P.O. Box 7056
Phoenix 85011 602/264-0223

Maricopa County Health Dept.
1825 E. Roosevelt
Phoenix 85006 602/506-6900

Planned Parenthood
5651 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 85016 602/277-7526

Phx. Body Positive
4021 N. 30th St. #2
Phoenix 85016 602/955-4673

Phx. Shanti Group
2020 W. Indian School Rd.#53
Phoenix 85015 602/279-0008

Terros, Inc.
320 E. Virginia Ave.
Phoenix 85004 602/234-8900

Volunteers in Direct Aid
P.O. Box 40476
Phoenix 85067 602/279-8432

Wellness Center
1840 W. Maryland, Suite E
Phoenix 85016 602/864-0710

Political Action & Education

American Civil Liberties Union
P.O. Box 17148
Phoenix 85011 602/650-1967

Arizona Central Pride
P.O. Box 16847
Phoenix 85011 602/279-1771

Arizona Human Rights Fund
P.O. Box 25044
Phoenix 85002 602/650-0900

Arizonans for Fairness
P.O. Box 34766
Phoenix 85067 602/265-7283

AZ Democratic Party
Gay & Lesbian Caucus
2005 N. Central #180
Phoenix 85004 602/257-9136

Lesbian & Gay Public Awareness Project
P.O. Box 60881
Phoenix 85082 602/351-3080

Log Cabin Republicans
P.O. Box 60994
Phoenix 85082 602/428-3596

Maricopa Cty. Libertarian Party
P.O. Box 501
Phoenix 85001 602/248-8425

Social & Support Groups

Alpha Zeta—Crossdressers Supp.
A Rose—Transgender Support
P.O. Box 1738
Tempe 85280 480/488-0959

APEX-AZ Power Exchange
apex@xroads.com
602/415-1123

Arizona 2-somes 602/923-1666

Arizona Nude Dudes
www.aznudedudes.org
andes@swlink.net

Arizona Rainbow Veterans
602/864-6092;
AZRainbowVets@aol.com

Bears of the Arizona Desert
PO Box 25951
Tempe 85285 480/345-8755
www.bearsazdesert.com

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

Delta Lambda Phi - Phoenix
903 S. Rural Rd., Suite 101-317
Tempe 85281 602/248-5270

Desert Adventures
P.O. Box 2008
Phoenix, 85001 602/266-2267

Entre Nosotros
546 E. Osborn, #22
Phoenix 85012 602/285-0970

FATHOM
PO Box 83072
Phoenix 85029
www.psn.net/~damour

Gay Lesbian Yavapai Alliance
PO Box 3241
Prescott, AZ 86302-6558
520/541-6558

Girth and Mirth of AZ
P.O. Box 16605
Phoenix 85011 480/655-8229

The Leatherlords 602/254-9651

Lesbian & Gay Alanon
2622 N. 16th Street
Phoenix 85006 602/548-0936

Lesbian & Gay Overeaters Anon.
480/607-7640;
cave4bear@hotmail.com

Los Amigos del Sol (LADS)
PO Box 27335
Phoenix 85061 602/997-2411

Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays
P.O. Box 7625
Phoenix 85011 602/843-1404

Prime Timers of Phoenix
480/895-6906
www.primetimers.org/phoenix

Project LifeGuard
Project Q
TRIBE
1427 M/3rd Street, Suite 120
Phoenix 85004 602/254-3233

The Community Center and Youth Services 602/265-7283
Lesbian & Gay Community Switchboard 602/234-2752
24 W. Camelback Rd., Suite C
PO Box 33367
Phoenix, AZ 85067-3367

Valley of the Sun Community Church 602/564-7882

Valley Unitarian Universalist Ch. 1700 W. Warner Rd. Chandler 85224 480/899-4249

Arizona Frontrunners
azfrontrunners@hotmail.com
602/954-3983

Arizona Gay Rodeo Association
P.O. Box 16363
Phoenix 85011 602/265-0618

AZ Women in Tune
PO Box 37855
Phoenix 85069 623/878-5430

Cactus Cities Softball League
PO Box 45101
Phoenix 85064 602/287-9573

Charlie's Renegades
P.O. Box 17602
Phoenix 85011 602/277-9142

Desert Adventures
PO Box 2008
Phoenix 85001 602/266-CAMP

Desert Valley Squares
P.O. Box 34615
Phoenix, AZ 85067 480/990-2562

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

Grand Canyon Men's Choral
P.O. Box 16462
Phoenix 85011 602/340-7640

Lambda Car Club
P.O. Box 36211
Phoenix 85067 602/409-3160

Phoenix Tennis Alliance
602/359-0936

Phoenix Unified Gay Bowling Alliance (PUGBA)
PO Box 44422
Phoenix 85064 602/246-9643

Spartan Wrestling Club
602/340-8070
matbims@aol.com

Team Arizona
P.O. Box 36431
Phoenix 85067 602/408-4311
teamarizona.org

Valley of the Sun Comm'ty Band
Jayne: 480/947-0907;
Terry: 602/954-9244

Professional Enrichment & Networking

Greater Phoenix Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 2097
Phoenix 85001 602/225-8444

Religious & Spiritual Organizations

Affirmation (Gay Mormons)
P.O. Box 26601
Tempe, 85285 602/553-8674

Asbury United Methodist Church
1601W Indian School
Phoenix 85015 602/279-2369

AVIV of Arizona (Jewish Group)
PO Box 66904
Phoenix 85082 602/952-1612

Casa De Cristo
1029 E. Turney
Phoenix 85014 602/265-2831

Christ of the Desert Catholic Ch. of the Antioch 602/230-5358

Community Church of Hope
4400 N. Central
Phoenix 85014 602/234-2180

Dignity and Integrity
P.O. Box 60953
Phoenix 85082 602/222-8664

Gentle Shepherd MCC
7810 N. 27th Ave.
Phoenix 85051 602/864-6404

Healing Waters Ministries
225 W. University, 105
Tempe 85281 480/894-8681

Lutherans Concerned
P.O. Box 7519
Phoenix 85011 602/870-3611

More Light Presbyterians
P.O. Box 61162
Phoenix 85082 602/275-0506

Unitarian Universalist Congreg.
4027 E. Lincoln Dr.
Paradise Valley 85253
602/840-8400



MARKETPLACE

HeatStroke Advertisers—They Support Our Community!

Accountants

Doug Griffiore, CPA ----- 623/334-1101

Attorneys

William Graves ----- 602/381-6253
Kathie J. Gummere ----- 602/952-0293
Roger Rea ----- 602/248-7921
Bernard Rethore ----- 602/381-6253
Diane E. D'Angelo, MC, CPC --- 602/997-8199

Counselors

Conrad Egge, PhD ----- 602/230-2025
Bob Farnie, PhD ----- 602/230-2025
Jean Parsons, PhD ----- 602/230-2025
ManPower (Keith Thompson) --- 602-306-6857

Florists

Community Florist ----- 602/266-6648

Graphic Design

Steve Anderson ----- 602/263-7803
Jack A. Komnick ----- 602/254-6977

Hair Design

Bond Street Salon (Dennis) --- 602/212-1880
Salon Exodus (Eric or Robert) --- 602/955-2121

Health Care

Chad Schroer, NMD ----- 480/368-0808
Thames Vanig, MD ----- 480/368-0808

Home Services

All About Patio Furniture ----- 602/992-3533
Colt Heating & Cooling ----- 602/712-1244
Don Williams Builders, Inc. --- 602/246-8591
Facilities Maintenance Co. --- 602/956-8515
Rainbow Home Repair ----- 602/440-5367

Insurance

Murray Sullivan (Farmers) --- 480/860-0920

Internet

Rapid Media Technologies --- 480/855-4845

Nightlife

Apollo's ----- 602/277-9373
Bunkhouse ----- 602/200-9154
Cash Inn ----- 602/244-9943
Charlie's ----- 602/265-0224
Doc Gireaux ----- 602/997-9461
JC's Fun One Lounge ----- 623/393-0528
Johnny Mc's ----- 602/266-0875
Nu-Towne Saloon ----- 602/267-9959
Pumphouse II ----- 602/275-3509
The Water Hole ----- 623/937-3139

Out-of-Town

Bacchanal (Palm Springs) --- 800/806-9059

Pet Services

Most Valuable Pet (Joe) ----- 602/955-3471
Petland (Ed) ----- 480/844-2920
Alicia Ruiz, DVM ----- 602/277-5155

Realtors

Jack Addington ----- 602/228-3145
Larry Neaman ----- 480/922-6943
Mario Romero ----- 602/943-3003
Lisa L. Seeley ----- 602/252-7777
John Walsh ----- 480/922-6943
Sam Wercinski ----- 480/922-6943
Rod Whitte ----- 602/956-5500

Restaurants

Pookie's ----- 602/277-2121

Retail

Obelisk, The Bookstore ----- 602/266-800K
The Garden Walk ----- 480/423-9740
Aesthetique Image Enhance. --- 480/244-2868

Skin Care

Aesthetique Image Enhance. --- 480/244-2868
AZ Laser, Electrolysis & Skin --- 480/551-1416

Spiritual Groups

Casa de Cristo ----- 602/265-2831
Gentle Shepherd MCC ----- 602/864-6404
Valley/Sun Comm. Church --- 602/564-7882

Viatical Svcs.

Living Settlements, Inc. ----- 602/956-3770

Q Puzzle

"I'm not a lesbian but I play one on TV"

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ACROSS

- Boat for sailors who are into trash?
- RuPaul's schtick
- one's time
- mater
- Civil rights trailblazer Parks
- Neighbor of Saudi Arabia
- Richard Simmons plan
- Satisfies an oral fixation
- See 30-Down
- Portrayer of Stacy Bridges on *Nash Bridges*
- Started to gush; with "up"
- Where to find a stud
- Portrayer of Susan Bunch on *Friends*

- Color that means "slow down"
- 1998 Australian Open winner Petr _____
- Screen star DiCaprio, briefly
- It might be placed between buns
- Magical characters
- It'll harden your crock
- Dir. from L.A to N.Y.C.
- Andrews of *Victor/Victoria*
- Energetic in opening one's fly?
- Portrayer of Dr. Joan Golfinos on *Mad About You*
- Hillary Clinton, _____ Rodham
- _____ Heroes (un-PC sitcom)

- Portrayer of Talia Winters on *Babylon 5*
- Comedian Anderson
- "____ me yours..."
- "To Know Him _____ Love Him"
- Where Madonna has done her best work?
- Firemen go down on it
- What a bear obviously doesn't use
- Della's *Touched by an Angel* role
- Plaintiff
- "Auld Lang _____"

DOWN

- Egyptian Peace Prize-winner Anwar
- lang's role model
- Alpha's opposite
- It spurts in the hot tub
- Doesn't look forward to at all
- "Hit the _____, Jack!"
- Regarding
- Wound which may require stitches
- "Watch out for the dog"
- Somali supermodel
- Laura of Ellen's "Puppy" episode
- One might be tight or wide
- Producer of pianos and motorcycles
- Lustful look
- Enjoys *Playgirl* (for the articles, of course)
- Hard part of your head
- Region of ancient Greece
- Dawson's _____
- Trim one's body hair, in a way

- Lend a hand
- With 18-Across, Nathan Lane's prize
- Iowa State University locale
- A waiter may open it for you
- "Diamonds and Rust" singer Joan
- Calcutta coin
- Head men
- Stuck out one's tongue, perhaps
- Voyeur's lens
- West _____ (locale of the Virgin Islands)
- It may be cold or golden
- Analyze, as ore
- Out
- Make noise in bed
- First-rate
- Gists
- Egyptian cobras
- Holier-than-_____
- Putter's target
- Turned on

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| V | E | R | E | I | F | E | E | L | I | L | I | E | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

E**dibles**

A. Pookie's
4540 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 602/277-2121

L**ibations**

1. Ain't Nobody's Bizness
3031 E. Indian School
Phoenix 602/224-9977
2. Amsterdam
718 North Central Ave.
Phoenix 602/258-6122
3. **Apollo's**
5749 N. 7th Street
Phoenix 602/277-9373
4. Boot Camp
3702 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 602/212-9888
5. BS
7125 5th Avenue
Scottsdale 480/945-9028
6. **Bunkhouse**
4428 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix 602/200-9154
7. **Cash Inn**
2140 E. McDowell
Phoenix 602/244-9943
8. **Charlie's**
727 W. Camelback
Phoenix 602/265-0224
9. Crowbar
702 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 602/258-8343
10. Cruisin' Central
1011 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 602/253-3376

11. **Doc Gireaux**
12032 N. Cave Creek
Phoenix 602/997-9461
12. Harley's Club 155
Harley's Too!
155 / 125 W. Camelback
Phoenix 602/274-8505
13. **JC's Fun One**
5542 N. 43rd Ave.
Glendale 623/939-0528
14. **Johnny Mc's**
138 W. Camelback
Phoenix 602/266-0875
15. Marlys'
15615 Cave Creek
Phoenix 602/867-2463
16. Millennium 2001
3300 S. Price Rd.
Tempe 602/756-2445
17. Mine Shaft
4343 N. 7th Ave
Phoenix 602/230-2515
18. Nasty's Sports Bar
3108 E. McDowell
Phoenix 602/267-8707
19. **NuTowne**
5002 E. Van Buren
Phoenix 602/267-9959
20. Paco Paco
3045 N. 16th St.
Phoenix 602/263-8424
21. Padlock
998 E. Indian School
Phoenix 602/266-5640
22. The Park
3002 N. 24th Street
Phoenix 602/957-6055
23. **Pumphouse II**
4132 E. McDowell
Phoenix 602/275-3509

24. Roscoe's on 7th
4531 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 602/285-0833
25. The Rose
4301 N. 7th Ave.
Phoenix 602/265-3233
26. 307 Lounge
222 E. Roosevelt
Phoenix 602/252-0001
27. TRAX
1724 E. McDowell
Phoenix 602/254-0231
28. **Waterhole**
8830 N. 43rd Ave
Glendale 623/937-3139
29. Wink's
5707 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 602/265-9002

S**taples**

30. **The Adult Shoppe**
111 S. 24th Street
Phoenix 306-1130
2345 W. Holly St.
Phoenix 602/253-7126
5021 W Indian School
Phoenix 623/245-3008
32. **Book Cellar**
4029 E. Washington
Phoenix 602/275-0015
(other Valley locations)
33. Castle Boutique
5501 E. Washington
Phoenix 602/231-9837
(other Valley locations)
34. **Obelisk Books**
24 West Camelback
Phoenix 602/266-Book

35. Movies on Central
4700 N. Central, #121
Phoenix 602/274-0994
36. **Tuff Stuff**
1714 E. McDowell Rd.
Phoenix 602/254-9651

T**ubs**

40. **Chute**
1440 E. Indian School
Phoenix 602/234-1654
41. **Flex**
1517 S. Black Canyon
Phoenix 602/271-9011

C**ulture**

60. America West Arena
201 E. Jefferson
Phoenix 602/379-7800
61. AZ Hall of Fame Museum
1101 W. Washington
Phoenix 602/255-2110
62. AZ Historical Society
Museum
1300 N. College
Tempe 480/929-0292
63. AZ Mining & Mineral
Museum
1502 W. Washington
Phoenix 602/255-3791
64. AZ Science Center
600 E. Washington
Phoenix 602/716-2000
65. AZ State Capitol Museum
1700 W. Washington
Phoenix 602/542-4675

66. ASU Art Museum
Nelson Fine Arts Center
Mill Ave. & 10th Street
Tempe 480/965-2787
67. ASU Gammage Center
Apache & Mill Ave.
Tempe 480/965-3434
68. Blockbuster Desert Sky
Pavillion
2121 N. 83rd Ave.
Phoenix 623/254-7499
69. Celebrity Theater
440 N. 32nd Street
Phoenix 602/267-9373

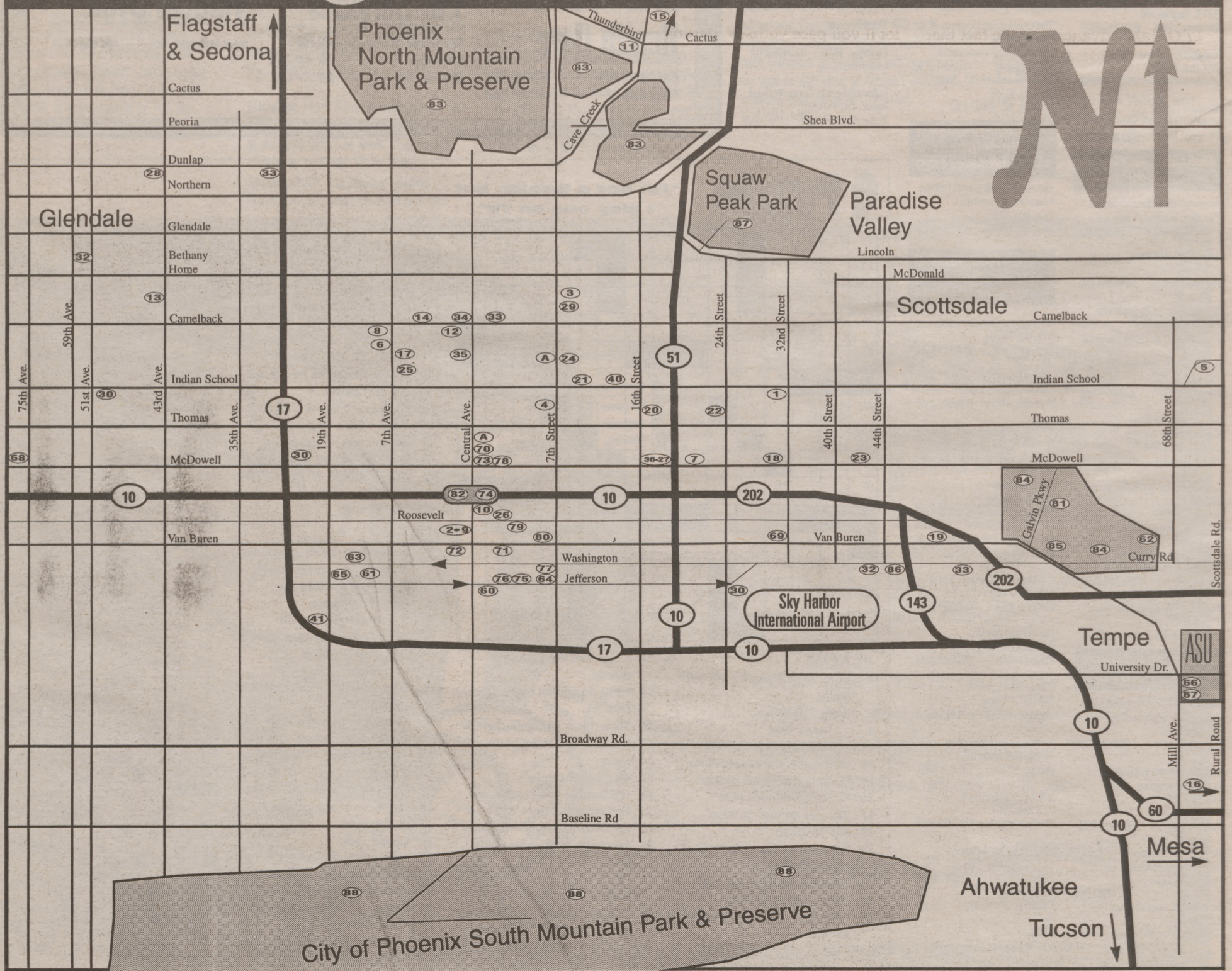
70. Heard Museum
22 E. Monte Vista
Phoenix 602/262-8848
71. Herberger Theater
222 E. Monroe
Phoenix 602/254-7399
72. Orpheum Theatre
203 W. Adams
Phoenix 602/262-7272
73. Phoenix Art Museum
1624 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 602/257-1222
74. Phoenix Central Library
1221 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix 602/262-4636
75. Phoenix Civic Plaza
225 E. Adams St.
Phoenix 602/262-6225
76. Phoenix Symphony Hall
225 E. Adams
Phoenix 602/262-6225
77. Phoenix Museum of History
105 N. 5th Street
Phoenix 602/253-2734
78. Phoenix Theatre
100 E. McDowell
Phoenix 602/254-2151

79. Planet Earth Multi-Cultural
Theatre
909 N. 3rd Street
Phoenix 602/241-1821
80. Union Hall
512 E. Van Buren
Phoenix 602/253-7100

O**utdoors**

81. Desert Botanical Garden
1201 N. Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 480/941-1217
82. Margaret T. Hance Park
3rd St. to 3rd Ave. between
McDowell & Roosevelt
Phoenix 602/534-2406
83. North Mountain Park &
Preserve
10600 N. 7th St.
Phoenix 602/262-6696
84. Papago Park
Van Buren & Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 602/256-3220
85. Phoenix Zoo
455 N. Galvin Pkwy
Phoenix 602/273-1431
86. Pueblo Grande Museum
4619 E. Washington
Phoenix 602/495-0900
87. Squaw Peak Park
2701 E. SquawPeak Dr
Phoenix 602/262-6696
88. South Mountain Park
10919 S. Central Ave.
Phoenix 602/495-0222

Finding it in Phoenix



Q Q Q Q Q Q S C O P E S

By Jill Dearman, Contributor

ARIES: The sun is currently transiting your house of the unconscious, so lots of weird stimuli could pop up in your dreaming and waking hours. This is a make-or-break time, sexually: there could be a major sensual breakthrough for you. Get in touch with your inner guru. A Virgo likes the way you channel your chi.

TAURUS: You could stand to show a little more patience with yourself and your crew, babe. You can get a lot done in late February if you ask your pals for some help. Group projects go well, but stick to what you know. An Aquarius will enrage and inspire you this week.

GEMINI: You are standing in your own way career-wise, Gemini. So move aside! Use your powers of attraction to discover something beautiful about yourself that you had long ago forgotten. A Virgo can be of assistance, doll.

CANCER: Right now, your life is full of chance meetings with people who can help you change how you live. Decide who you want to be and then reinvent yourself. An Aquarius could be your spin doctor, and will give you just the inner and outer examination you need.

LEO: Take advantage of the fact that so many people are looking up to you right now; so gather your resources, sweetheart. But be careful whom you sign contracts with or make promises to. Impulsiveness won't serve you well. But a Pisces would like to serve you slowly and luxuriously.

VIRGO: Love is on its way, dear Virgo! It may be only slightly delayed while your ruler, Mercury, is retrograde. Be patient and dream about what you want out of a relationship. This is a major time of emotional growth for you. A Capricorn can help you enjoy the wonderful things available to you.

LIBRA: Make a list of who's "for you" and "against you" and get together with those in Column A. You need someone to force you to be

the best you can be. Inspiration comes in many strange forms this week. A Scorpio really does have your best interests at heart.

SCORPIO: It's hard to figure out what people want from you right now, so don't even bother trying. Listen to your own instincts and the power of your own lust. This week put suspicions aside and go for the gusto. Your desire will not steer you wrong, if you're true to yourself. A Cancer is just waiting for you to make a bold move.

SAGITTARIUS: Venus is encouraging you to get more social. You don't have to make any commitments, just commit to expanding your network of friends. You can see God in the weirdest characters: use that penetrating vision of yours. An Aries can't help but dream about you.

CAPRICORN: Your ruler, Saturn, has teamed up with lucky Jupiter to make you take the artist within you more seriously. Use your talent and obvious people skills to bring more creativity into it. Business partners can help you become a lot richer. A Cancer wants a different sort of partnership.

AQUARIUS: You can accomplish a lot if you pace yourself, darling. You've been burning the candles at both ends for too long now. Take this time to ask yourself what you really want to accomplish in the next few years and what you are afraid of. A Leo wants to take care of you.

PISCES: Give yourself a break, Pisces. You are about to be on the receiving end of a lot of key emotional information. You could even meet someone you are sure you knew in a past life. Honey, you are more on the money than you realize. A Libra wants to know you better in this life!

Jill Dearman is the author of the best-selling *Queer Astrology for Men* and *Queer Astrology for Women* (both from St. Martin's Griffin). For information on charts and consultations, call 212-841-0177 or e-mail QScopes@aol.com.

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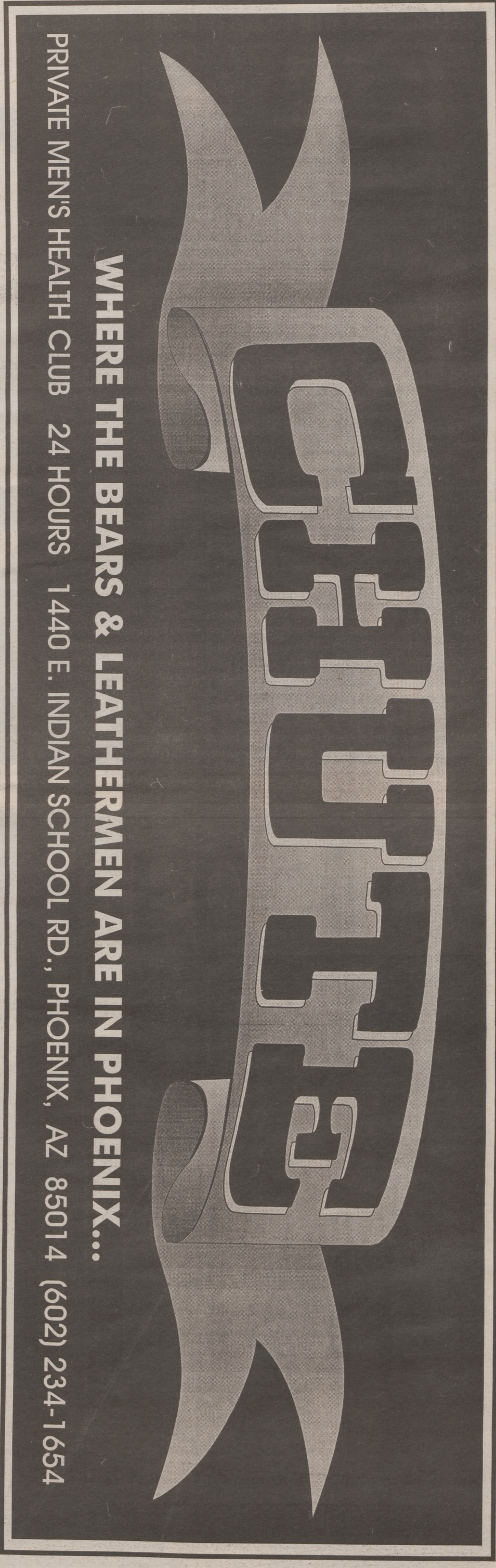
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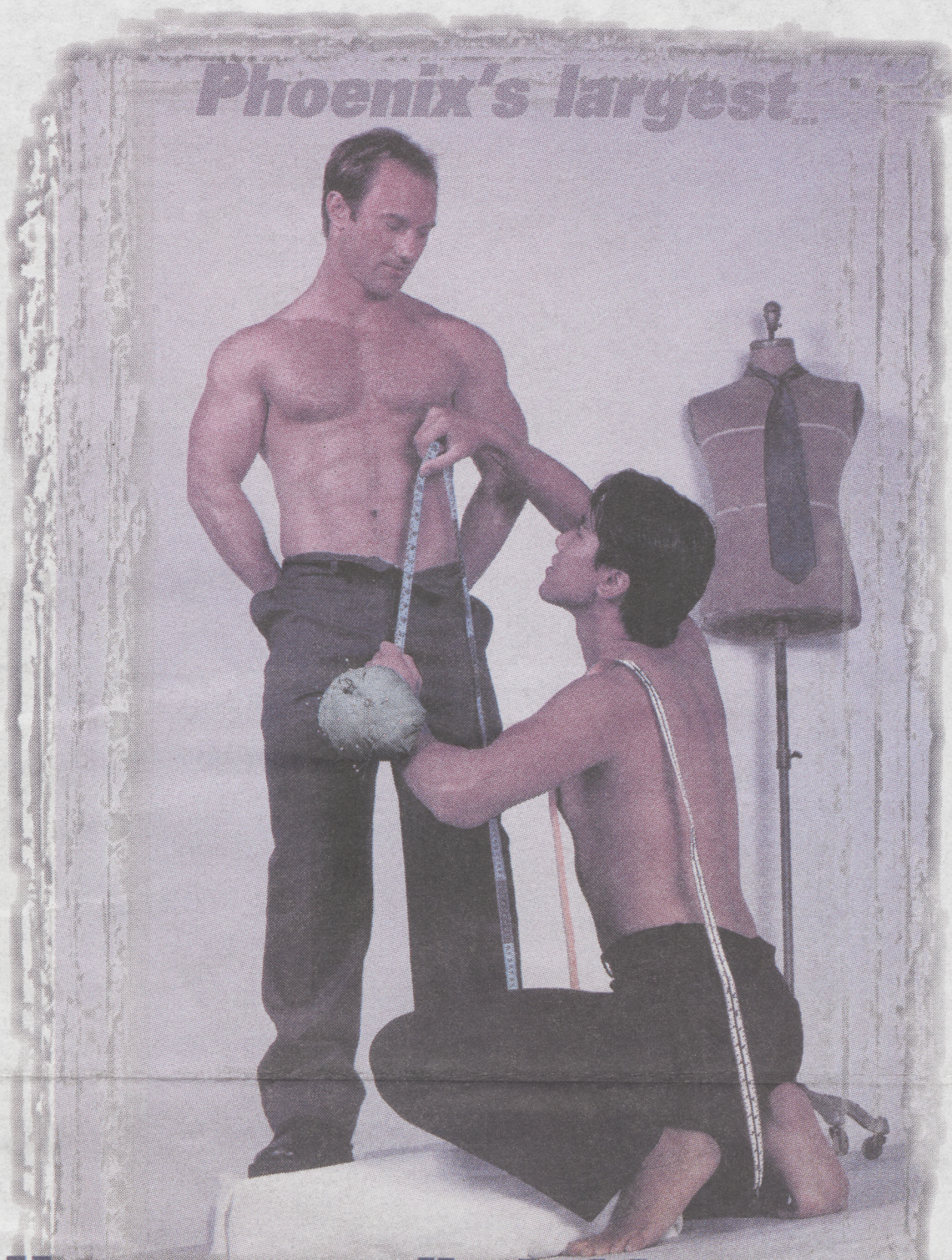
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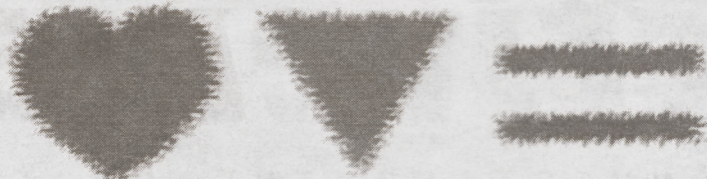
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